

At their best, movies are an art form that make people feel some sort of emotion. Some movies entertain us, some make us sad, and others make us question the world around us. Some of the best movies just have something special about them that is difficult to describe, let alone quantify. Yet many people still attempt to describe what makes a good or bad movie, and there are a wide range of tastes and opinions about movies. These are often expressed in movie reviews. We can likely learn a lot about common characteristics of good movies by examining these reviews and data about the making of the movies these reviews are based on. Understanding this could help those who are involved in the movie-making process use their resources more effectively in order to create movies that people will like. Making movies people like also increases profits for these companies.

IMBd is one of numerous websites that allow for ordinary people to review movies they have watched. We will use data from IMBd because the website also provides a wide variety of other data about movies, including actor information, budget, language, gross income, and many other possibly helpful information. With this data, we hope to predict the ratings of movies based on specific factors. This will ultimately help us answer the question of what factors in making a movie are the most important for receiving good reviews, meaning viewers enjoy the movie. We think that budget and the presence of specific actors/actresses will be key factors in determining the quality of reviews. We will be able to determine the success of our research by comparing the ratings that our model predicts with the actual ratings people gave. If our model accurately predicts these ratings, this means the factors we used in our model are likely important contributors to the quality of movie ratings.

For our schedule, we will each claim certain tasks to be in charge of completing. Most of the things we will be working together on, but the person who claims each task takes the lead on making sure the task is completed on time and well. We will also plan to meet at least once a week to discuss where we are at on the project and will meet more often as necessary. Here are the tentative assigned tasks for our project:

- September 27: Part 1
 - Proposal-Justin
 - Presentation-Owen
- October 21: Part 2
 - Report-Owen
 - Short Presentation-Justin
- November 16: Part 3
 - Paper Draft-Justin
 - Demonstration-Owen
- December 16: Part 4
 - Presentation-Both