



# Linear Regression

Machine Learning Algorithm for Thrillers

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# Business Situation

A newly emerged production studio plans to make movies in the thriller genre and would like to know which characteristics of thrillers are predictors of US Box Office Gross.

## Key Questions:



Does a set of features do a good job in predicting US Gross for thrillers?



Which features are significant predictors of US Gross for thrillers?



**GAMBIT**  
STUDIOS

# Project Steps

## ACTION



### WEBSCRAPING

- Scraped IMDB Thrillers for target and feature data
- 1100 thriller titles, 16 potential predictor variables



### EDA & REGRESSION VIABILITY

- Ensure data correct and appears as expected.
- Data cleanup, address missing values, etc
- Correlation matrix, reg plots,  $R^2$  score
- Feature engineering



### DETERMINE BASELINE MODEL

- Filtered to small set of features that had strongest correlation with US Box Office Gross
- Tested log transform vs no transform



### TRAIN – VALIDATE – TEST

- Utilized cross validation
- Tested two models

## TOOLS USED

Request Module, BeautifulSoup Library

Pandas, Seaborn, Statsmodels  
cpi library (to apply inflation to budget based on year)

Pandas, Sklearn

Sklearn



# Features Scrapped From Thriller List IMDB

IMDB: Thrillers Categorized by Genre

## Thriller (Sorted by US Box Office Descending)

1-50 of 295,049 titles. | [Next »](#)

View Mode: [Compact](#) | [Detailed](#)

Sort by: [Popularity](#) | [A-Z](#) | [User Rating](#) | [Number of Votes](#) | [US Box Office▼](#) | [Runtime](#) | [Year](#)  
| [Release Date](#) | [Date of Your Rating](#) | [Your Rating](#)



### 1. **The Dark Knight** (2008)

PG-13 | 152 min | Action, Crime, Drama

★ 9.0

☆ [Rate this](#)

84 Metascore

When the menace known as the Joker wreaks havoc and chaos on the people of Gotham, Batman must accept one of the greatest psychological and physical tests of his ability to fight injustice.

**Director:** Christopher Nolan | **Stars:** Christian Bale, Heath Ledger, Aaron Eckhart, Michael Caine

Votes: 2,580,159 | **Gross:** \$534.86M



● Features scrapped

# Today

Discuss **key insights** from **each phase** of the Linear Regression process.



REGRESSION  
VIABILITY

BASELINE

MODEL  
EVALUATION

QUESTIONS  
ANSWERED

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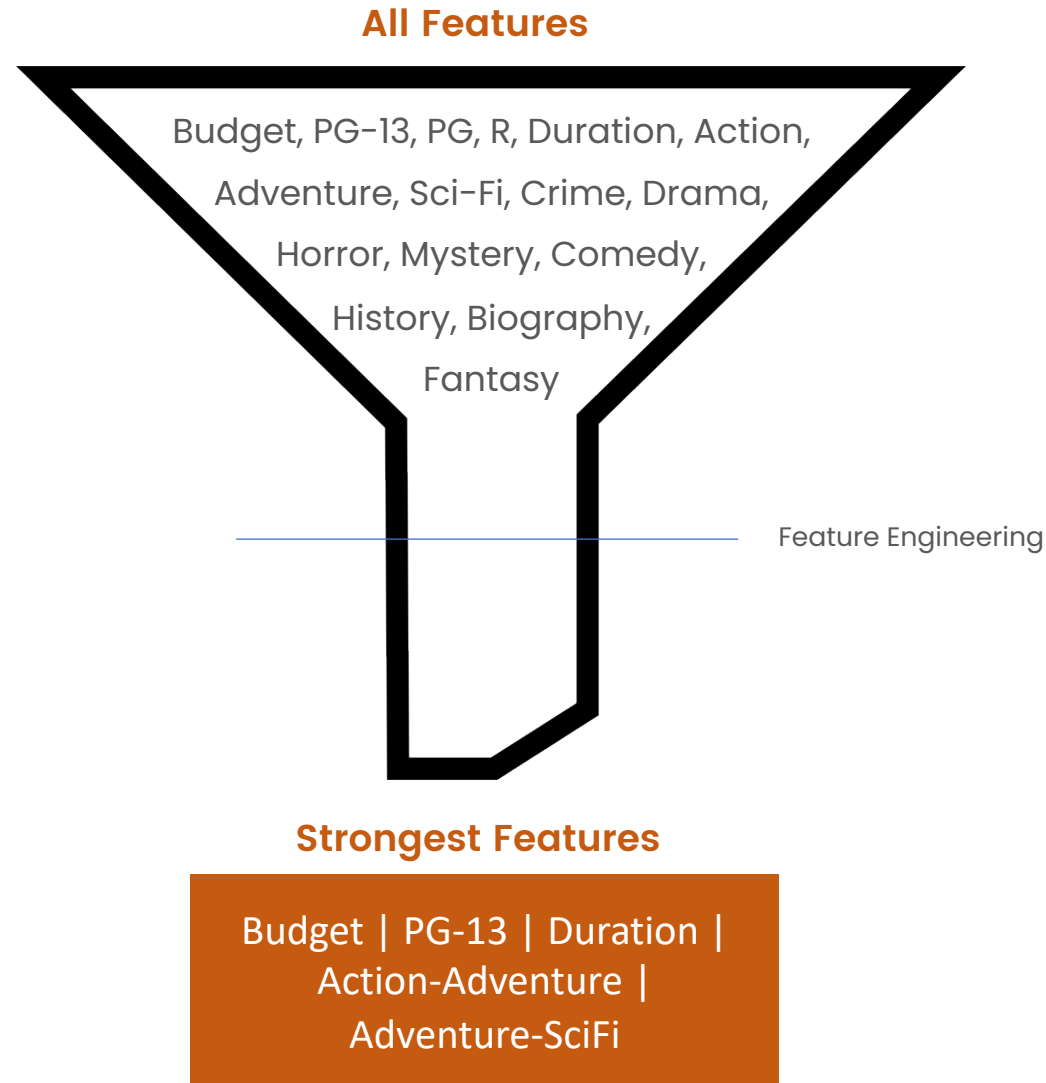
REGRESSION  
VIABILITY

BASELINE

MODEL  
EVALUATION

QUESTIONS  
ANSWERED

# Determine Features for Baseline



## Methodology:

- Correlation Heatmap
- Features must have strong correlation with US Gross
- Addressed collinearity amongst action + adventure by combining



REGRESSION  
VIABILITY

BASELINE

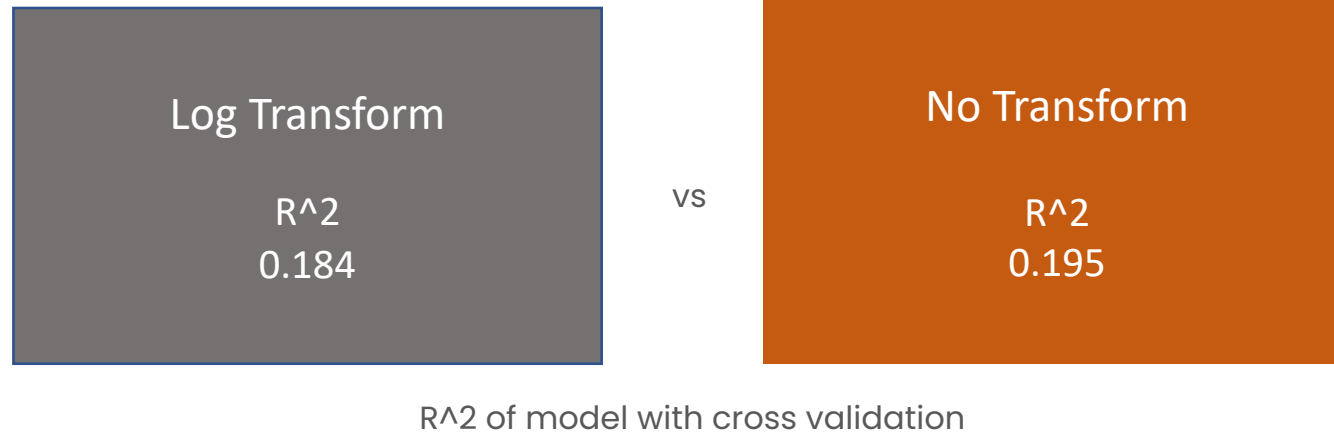
MODEL  
EVALUATION

QUESTIONS  
ANSWERED



# Getting to a Baseline

No Transform performed slightly better than Log Transform





REGRESSION  
VIABILITY

BASELINE

MODEL  
EVALUATION

FUTURE WORK

# Train vs Test – Baseline Model

| Linear Regression | Train R <sup>2</sup> Score | Test R <sup>2</sup> Score |
|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
|                   | 0.213                      | 0.178                     |

- While there's not obvious overfitting of the model, Lasso was conducted to determine if score could be made better

## Regularization

| Lasso | Train R <sup>2</sup> Score | Test R <sup>2</sup> Score |
|-------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
|       | 0.212                      | 0.179                     |

- Lasso made a very small improvement in prediction equation

# Model Performance

How close the prediction is against the real value

Mean Absolute Error  
MAE = 53.45

- Establishes baseline metric to be used in further model testing
- Goal is to improve this model by reducing this error

While the model may be far from perfect,  
let's see what we've learned...







**Does a set of features do a good job in predicting US Gross for Thrillers?**

**Answer:** The current set of features do not do a good job of accurately predicting US Gross.



**Which features are significant predictors of US Gross?**

**Answer:** The current set of features do a partial job in predicting US Gross



**What else can we say?**

# Coefficient Analysis Provides Meaning

## When reviewing movie projects:

- A **PG-13 rating** should be preferred over R Rating
  - When possible + When it works with larger business strategy
- Lean more into Thrillers that are **Action-Adventure** and **Adventure-SciFi** versus other genres
- **Budget** and **Duration** need further analysis to provide actionable insight

### Positive Per-Unit Impact on US Gross

| Feature    | Coefficient |
|------------|-------------|
| Budget     | 5.09        |
| Action_Adv | 8.17        |
| Adv_Scifi  | 2.76        |
| PG-13      | 1.02        |
| Duration   | 9.34        |





# Discussion

