Group Light Purple

Project Write Up

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Please see the listed questions and short descriptions. Each question was accompanied by visual charts/graphs/word cloud to illustrate the points listed.

1. What’s the breakdown by genre?

We found that Comedy, Drama, Romance and Thriller have the most Bechdel passing movies. The same genres had the most Bechdel scores of 2.

1. How did it breakdown by country?

The US ranked 10th in a group of 34 countries with 10 or more movies and had an average Bechdel score of 2.18 compared to an international average of 2.03.

1. How to Bechdel passing movies compare in audience popularity?

Using an ANOVA, we tested a hypothesis that high Bechdel Test scoring movies would be more popular. We rejected the null hypothesis that there was no difference and can therefore conclude that Bechdel passing movies are more popular with audience members. One of the possible reasons for this could be better character development.

1. How have Bechdel ratings changed over time?

Bechdel ratings have improved. Research indicates women may have played a more significant role in film during the silent movie era but this changed as the industry formed around the studio system. A t-test shows that there was statistical significance to the more recent higher Bechdel score.

1. How have ratings changed over time by genre?

Certain genres have more observations so we chose Comedy and Action for further analysis. Running a t-test showed statistical significance to the difference of Bechdel ratings on comedy movies being higher on average compared to action movies.

1. How does the body of work break down (actor analysis)?

Actors and actresses have different commitment levels in the types of movies. More women (naturally) appear in Bechdel movies (because the test is supposed to measure the involvement of women in the script). However, it is important to note that this is merely a sample of the movies. For example, Meryl Streep, according to the dataset, was in the most Bechdel passing movies with a total of 23 but she has been in a total of at least 65 movies over the course of her career and the dataset shows her having been in 27 movies. It is also important to note the timing of the dataset. The top actor in the most Bechdel failing movies died in 1938.

1. What key words show up in plots?

It is interesting to see what happens to the size of the words “man” and “woman” in the word clouds as the analysis moves from 0 to 3 scoring movies. The emphasis starts changing as visually depicted to family, life etc.