

## **Weekly Aggregated Game Features:**

**Total Features (the net/gross/magnitude values of our features, from which our incremental features are derived using the daily change in these features)**

'revenue\_total': total game revenue at the end of the week

'sales\_total': total game sales at the end of the week

'reviews\_total': total game reviews at the end of the week

'followers\_total': total game followers at the end of the week

'wishlists\_total': total game wishlists at the end of the week

'avgPlaytime\_total': the average total time a player has spent in game since the game's launch, measured at the end of the week

'score\_total': the game's cumulative review score at the end of the week

'days\_since\_release\_total': the number of days since the game's release

'price\_total': the price of the game at the end of the week

**Incremental Features (approximating the distribution of daily changes throughout the week)**

'incremental\_reviews\_mean': average of the daily change in review count

'players\_mean': average of the daily player count (interpretation: how many players were active per day on average throughout the week)

'incremental\_sales\_mean': average of the daily change in game sales

'incremental\_revenue\_mean': average of the daily change in game revenue

'incremental\_followers\_mean': average of the daily change in follower count

'incremental\_wishlists\_mean': average of the daily change in wishlist count

'incremental\_avgPlaytime\_mean': average of the daily change in players' average playtime (interpretation: approximates the average time a player spent in game each day during the week)

## **Game Engagement Metrics**

### **Player Growth Rate**

- Calculation: Weekly percentage change in average daily players
- Rationale: Direct indicator of game popularity trends; growing player base suggests potential revenue growth
- Code: `player_growth = game_history['players_mean'].pct_change()`

### **Quality-Adjusted Engagement**

- Calculation: Average daily players weighted by average daily playtime this week and review score
- Rationale: Measures not just quantity but quality of engagement; a better predictor of sustainable revenue
- Code: `quality_engagement = (game_history['players_mean'] * game_history['incremental_avgPlaytime_mean'] * (game_history['score_total'] / 100))`

## Sentiment Metrics

### Weighted Sentiment Momentum

- Calculation: Change in review score weighted by log of review volume
- Rationale: Captures changing customer satisfaction grounded by the number of reviews, since the fewer reviews there are, the larger the impact of individual reviews
- Code: `weighted_sentiment = (game_history['score_total'] * np.log(game_history['reviews_total']))`  
`sentiment_momentum = weighted_sentiment.pct_change()`

### Sentiment Divergence

- Calculation: Difference between short-term and long-term player sentiment trends
- Rationale: Identifies emerging positive or negative shifts in customer satisfaction away from the expected historical trend
- Code: `sentiment_divergence = (game_history['score_total'].rolling(4).mean() - game_history['score_total'].rolling(8).mean())`

## Monetization Metrics

### Revenue Per Active Player Hour

- Calculation: Weekly revenue growth divided by this week's average player count weighted by average playtime this week
- Rationale: Measures monetization efficiency; higher values suggest better revenue extraction from player activity
- Code: `revenue_extraction_efficiency = game_history['revenue_total'].diff() / (game_history['players_mean']*game_history['avgPlaytime_total'])`

### Wishlist Conversion Rate

- Calculation: New sales divided by the previous week's wishlist count
- Rationale: Indicates marketing effectiveness and purchase intent conversion as wishlisted games get removed from players' wishlists once purchased
- Code: `(game_history['sales_total'].diff() / game_history['wishlists_total'].shift(1))`

## Lifecycle-Adjusted Metrics

### Retention Strength

- Calculation: Actual average daily players divided by expected daily players (previous week's total sales divided by square root of days since release)
- Rationale: Measures how well a game maintains its player base relative to its age and sales. Controls for natural player drop-off over time by using the square root of a game's age to decay total sales, serving as a model for our expected active player base

- Code: `retention_strength = game_history['players_mean'] / (game_history['sales_total'] / (1 + np.sqrt(game_history['days_since_release'])))`

### Revenue Sustainability

- Calculation: Actual average daily revenue change divided by expected average daily revenue (revenue total/days since release squared)
- Rationale: Evaluates a game's revenue generation ability relative to its age and cumulative revenue. Controls for natural revenue drop-off over time by using the game's cumulative revenue divided by the game's age squared, serving as a model for our expected revenue for the game age and historical revenue
- Code: `revenue_sustainability = game_history['incremental_revenue_mean'] / (game_history['revenue_total']/game_history['days_since_release_total']**2)`

## Stability Metrics

### Player Base Stability

- Calculation: Coefficient of variation of daily player count (standard deviation divided by mean)
- Rationale: Measures consistency of player engagement; lower values suggest more predictable player behaviour and potentially more reliable revenue
- Code: `player_stability = game_history['players_std'] / game_history['players_mean']`

### Revenue Predictability

- Calculation: 4-week rolling coefficient of variation of daily revenue changes
- Rationale: Indicates reliability of revenue streams; stable revenue might suggest better future performance predictability
- Code: `revenue_predictability = game_history['incremental_revenue_std'] / game_history['incremental_revenue_mean'].rolling(4).mean()`

## Leading Indicator Metrics

### Social Momentum

- Calculation: Difference between short-term and long-term follower trends normalized by total followers
- Rationale: Measures acceleration or deceleration in social interest; could predict future player base changes
- Code:

```
short_term_growth = (
    game_history['followers_total'].pct_change(short_window)
    .rolling(window=short_window).mean()
)
long_term_growth = (
```

```

game_history['followers_total'].pct_change(long_window)
    .rolling(window=long_window).mean()
)
# Compare short-term vs long-term growth
social_momentum = (short_term_growth - long_term_growth)
# Normalize by total followers for cross-sectional comparison
normalized_momentum = social_momentum / np.log1p(game_history['followers_total'])

```

### **Purchase Intent Momentum**

- Calculation: Difference between short-term and long-term follower trends normalized by total followers
- Rationale: Indicates acceleration or deceleration in purchase interest; might predict future sales trends
- Code:

```

short_term_growth = (
    game_history['wishlists_total'].pct_change(short_window)
    .rolling(window=short_window).mean()
)
long_term_growth = (
    game_history['wishlists_total'].pct_change(long_window)
    .rolling(window=long_window).mean()
)
# Compare short-term vs long-term growth
purchase_momentum = (short_term_growth - long_term_growth)
# Normalize by total wishlists for cross-sectional comparison
normalized_momentum = purchase_momentum / np.log1p(game_history['wishlists_total'])

```

## **Value Metrics**

### **Quality-Adjusted Value**

- Calculation:  $(\text{Review score} \times \text{Average total playtime}) / \text{Price}$
- Rationale: Measures value proposition to players; higher values might indicate stronger competitive position
- Code: `value_ratio = (game_history['score_total'] * game_history['avgPlaytime_total']) / game_history['price_total']`

### **Engagement Efficiency**

- Calculation: Geometric mean of daily playtime change divided by price and normalized average daily sales growth
- Rationale: Measures market-validated engagement value by combining how much new playtime a game generates per dollar with corresponding growth in sales. Higher values indicate strong content value which is being validated by the market through new purchases. This helps identify games that retain and engage existing players and attract new ones, suggesting sustainable value creation and growth potential. High engagement

alone could be from a small loyal playerbase and high sales alone could be from marketing/discounts. High scores in both suggest genuine value creation

- Code:  $\text{engagement\_efficiency} = \text{game\_history}[\text{'incremental\_avgPlaytime\_mean'}] / \text{game\_history}[\text{'price\_total'}]$

## Market Competition Metrics

For each above feature, we calculate the average and standard deviation of that feature across the game's audienceoverlap and genre, then calculate a z-score as follows:

### Genre/AudienceOverlap Relative {feature name}

- Calculation: Game's {feature name} subtracted by the average {feature name} of genre peers and normalized (divided) by the standard deviation of {feature name} in the genre. (Essentially calculating the game's player growth z-score relative to the genre)
- Rationale: Measures relative performance vs competition; controls for genre-wide trends
- Code:  $(\text{game\_history}[\text{'{feature name}'}] - \text{genre\_history}[\text{'{feature name}'}]) / \text{genre\_history}[\text{'{feature name}'}]$

## Portfolio Level Metrics

### Weighted Portfolio Playerbase Momentum

- Calculation: For each game at each date, we multiply the game's revenue (as a weight) by the game's player growth rate. We then sum these products across all games and divide by the total revenue
- Rationale: Player growth is often a leading indicator of revenue and by weighting by revenue we focus on player changes in games that matter most financially. Revenue-weighted growth rate may provide early signals of revenue momentum shifts, and capture these changes before they fully impact the publisher's financials.

### Weighted Portfolio Engagement Quality

- Calculation: For each game at each date, we multiply the game's revenue (as a weight) by the game's quality-adjusted engagement, normalized by price. We then sum these products across all games and divide by the total revenue
- Rationale: This aims to measure how effectively the publisher creates engaging content, and how well that engagement aligns with their pricing. Price normalization helps compare engagement across different price tiers to provide insight into the publisher's value creation efficiency relative to their pricing power.

### Weighted Portfolio Lifecycle Efficiency

- Calculation: For each game at each date, we multiply the game's revenue (as a weight) by the game's retention strength and revenue sustainability. We then sum these products across all games and divide by the total revenue
- Rationale: We combine two key underlying metrics, both normalized for game age which seek to measure the publisher's ability to maintain player bases against natural time decay, convert retained players into sustained revenue and manage games across different lifecycle stages. Revenue weighting ensures focus on economically important games regardless of lifecycle stage.

### **Genre Herfindahl Index**

- Calculation: Sum of squared genre revenue shares
- Rationale: Measures genre diversification; lower values suggest better diversified portfolio
- Code:
 

```
def genre_concentration(publisher_games):
    game_revenues = publisher_games.groupby('genre')['revenue_total'].sum()
    total_revenue = genre_revenues.sum()
    return ((genre_revenues / total_revenue) ** 2).sum()
```

### **Game Revenue Concentration**

- Calculation: Sum of squared game revenue shares (Herfindahl Index) within publisher's portfolio
- Rationale: Measures game diversification; lower values suggest better diversified revenue streams
- Code:
 

```
def genre_concentration(publisher_games):
    game_revenues = publisher_games.groupby('game')['revenue_total']
    total_revenue = game_revenues.sum()
    return ((genre_revenues / total_revenue) ** 2).sum()
```