FAST ESTIMATION OF DOWNLOADS FOR APPS AT LAUNCH

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Abstract

An analytics system determines the number of downloads for a content item during a first time interval. The system receives engagement data from a plurality of client devices in a panel of client devices. Based on the engagement data, a partial install base for the content item during the first time interval is determined. Based on the determined partial install base for the content item and historical data for other content items, a preliminary install base for the content item during the first time interval is determined. Responsive to determining that the engagement for the content item is greater than a threshold value, an estimated number of downloads for the content item during the first time interval is determined. The estimated number of downloads for the content item during the first time interval is determined based on the preliminary install base for the content item for the first time interval.

Background/Summary

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS [0001] This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 63/165,674, filed Mar. 24, 2021, which is incorporated by reference in its entirety.

BACKGROUND

[0002] This disclosure relates generally to the challenge of estimating the number of downloads of apps on mobile devices, and more specifically to estimating the number of downloads on the day of release of a particular app on an app store for the first time, and for the next few days thereafter.

[0003] Content publishers oftentimes apply labels to content items to guide users filtering the vast amount of content that can be access through their systems. Users can quickly skim through labels to focus their attention on content items that include labels that the users think will interest them. However, labels are not consistent across content publishers, even if two or more content publishers are offering the same content items. As such, users may end up getting confused by the labels and they may end up missing out on content items that would have been interesting to them but for the improper label being applied. Moreover, labels applied by content publishers may be broad and they can sometimes conflate substantially different content items into the same category.

[0004] Furthermore, given that certain content items may have soft launches (when a select number of people are allowed to access the content item) preceding a hard launch (when the general population is allowed to access the content item), it can be difficult to ascertain the reach of the content item (e.g., the number of downloads of the content item) during the hard launch day. Moreover, it can also be difficult to ascertain the reach of the content item during time periods following the hard launch date due noise caused by users uninstalling and reinstalling the content item.

SUMMARY

[0005] An analytics system determines the number of downloads for a content item during a first time interval (e.g., during a hard launch of the content item). The system receives engagement data from a plurality of client devices in a panel of client devices. In some embodiments, each client device in the panel of the client devices has a reporting application installed. The reporting application reports back to the analytic system which content items have been accessed by the client device during a set of time intervals. The reporting application may be installed by the user of the client device, and may get implicit permission from the user of the client device to report the access of the content items from specific content item publishers. Alternatively, the reporting application is part of the content item publisher and keeps track of the content items that are accessed by the client device from the content item publisher.

[0006] Based on the engagement data, a partial install base for the content item during the first time interval is determined. Based on the determined partial install base for the content item and historical data for other content items, a preliminary install base for the content item during the first time interval is determined. Responsive to determining that the engagement for the content item is greater than a threshold value, an estimated number of downloads for the content item during the first time interval is determined. The estimated number of downloads for the content item during the first time interval is determined based on the preliminary install base for the content item for the first time interval.

Description

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0007] FIG. 1 is a block diagram of a system environment for content classification system, according to one embodiment.

[0008] FIG. 2A shows the overall pipeline of the app analytics system, according to one embodiment.

[0009] FIG. 2B illustrates a flow diagram of a process for estimating a number of downloads for a content item during one or more time periods, according to one embodiment.

[0010] FIG. 3 is a block diagram illustrating components of an example machine able to read instructions from a machine-readable medium and execute them in a processor (or controller).

[0011] The figures depict various embodiments for purposes of illustration only. One skilled in the art will readily recognize from the following discussion that alternative embodiments of the structures and methods illustrated herein may be employed without departing from the principles described herein.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Overview

[0012] This invention relates to the challenge of estimating the number of downloads of apps on mobile devices, especially on the day of release of a particular app on an app store for the first time, and for the next few days thereafter. This metric is an extremely useful one for gauging the popularity of a new app, and can be used to inform multiple business decisions. System Architecture

[0013] FIG. 1 is a block diagram of a system environment **100** for app analytics system **150**. The system environment **100** shown by FIG. 1 includes one or more client devices **140**, a network **120**, one or content item providers **130**, one or more content item publishers **135**, one or more third-party systems **160**, and the app analytics system **150**. In alternative configurations, different and/or additional components may be included in the system environment **100**. Moreover, in alternative configurations, one or more systems may be combined into a single entity, or may be provided by a single entity. For example, the content item publisher **135** can be combined with the app analytics system **150** to form a single system that both classifies content items and provides access to the content items to users of the content item publisher.

[0014] The client devices **140** are one or more computing devices capable of receiving user input as well as transmitting and/or receiving data via the network **120**. In one embodiment, a client device **140** is a conventional computer system, such as a desktop or a laptop computer. Alternatively, a client device **140** may be a device having computer functionality, such as a personal digital assistant (PDA), a mobile telephone, a smartphone, or another suitable device. A client device **140** is configured to communicate via the network **120**. In one embodiment, a client device **140** executes an application allowing a user of the client device **140** to interact with the content item publisher **135**. For example, a client device **140** executes a browser application to enable interaction between the client device **140** and the content item publisher **135** via the network **120**. In another embodiment, a client device **140** interacts with the content item publisher **135** through an application programming interface (API) running on a native operating system of the client device **140**, such as IOS® or ANDROID™.

[0015] The client devices **140** are configured to communicate via the network **120**, which may comprise any combination of local area and/or wide area networks, using both wired and/or wireless communication systems. In one embodiment, the network **120** uses standard communications technologies and/or protocols. For example, the network **120** includes communication links using technologies such as Ethernet, 802.11, worldwide interoperability for microwave access (WiMAX), 3G, 4G, code division multiple access (CDMA), digital subscriber line (DSL), etc. Examples of networking protocols used for communicating via the network **120** include multiprotocol label switching (MPLS), transmission control protocol/Internet protocol (TCP/IP), hypertext transport protocol (HTTP), simple mail transfer protocol (SMTP), and file transfer protocol (FTP). Data exchanged over the network **120** may be represented using any suitable format, such as hypertext markup language (HTML) or extensible markup language (XML). In some embodiments, all or some of the communication links of the network **120** may be encrypted using any suitable technique or techniques.

[0016] The content item provider **130** provides content item to the content item publisher **135** for distribution to client devices **140**. The content item provider **130** additionally provides information related to the content items to inform the users and guide the users in choosing what content items to consume. The term content item, as used herein, may refer to any form of media (e.g., audio, visual, haptic, and any combination thereof) consumable by a user of a client device **140**. For example, a content item provided by a content item provider **130** is a mobile game to be played by a user **110** through a client device **140**. The game is distributed through app stores acting as content item publishers **135**. The information associated with the mobile game includes a description about the gameplay and features of the game to persuade users to download and play the mobile game.

[0017] In some embodiments, the content item publishers **135** additionally generate information such as metrics information related to the performance of the content item in the publisher, and affinity information related to other content items that users commonly consume when in addition to a particular content item.

[0018] The system environment may additionally include third-party systems **160**. For example, third-party systems may provide additional information regarding the content items that are being distributed by the content item publisher **135**. For instance, a third-party system **160** may be a review site that provides an independent review and commentary about the content items.

[0019] The app analytics system **150** receives feedback data from client devices **140**, the content provider **130**, and the content item publisher **135**, and generates analytics for various content items distributed by the content item publisher **135**. In some embodiments, a mobile application (app) is installed in client devices **140**. After

receiving a set of permissions to access certain type of data, the mobile application is able to provide the feedback data from the mobile application to the app analytics system **150**. For example, the app installed in the client device is able to determine a set of apps that are installed in the client device, and provides this information to the app analytics system **150**. In another example, the app measures an amount of time a specific app is active within a set time period and sends this information to the app analytics system **150**.

Launch Day (Day 0) Download Estimates

[0020] The app analytics system **150**, as described herein, enables the estimation of app downloads immediately (or within a short amount of time) upon launch (day 0). The app analytics system **150** uses app engagement data available from a panel of mobile devices **140** (e.g., mobile devices having an app provided by the app analytics system that is able to collect and send the app engagement data from the mobile devices **140** to the app analytics system **150**), instead of using data from a content item publisher **135** (such as an app store). The app analytics system **150** takes advantage of the fact that engagement data can include a parameter that is flagged on a mobile device in the panel to indicate if a given app is installed on the device. From this the app analytics system **150** can calculate an "Install Base" (TB) metric, of a given app A across a region or country:

[00001] Install Base of App A = (devices in Panel on which App A is installed size of panel) × Device population (1)

[0021] The number of downloads of App A on launch day (day 0) is the Install Base of the app recorded for launch day (since it can be assumed that on launch day every count in the Install Base comes from a download on that launch day). Note that on any day after launch day, this may no longer be the case (e.g., because a portion of the Install Base for a given day after the launch day might be attributed to previous day, and because the Install Base for a given day may be reduced by people deleting or uninstalling the app).

[0022] However, while the install flag for an app on a given mobile device in the panel might be set on launch day, it may take several days for that information to be transmitted back to the app analytics system **150** to compute the Install Base. In particular, some mobile devices may have a delayed reporting of a download that took place on launch day until several days after launch day. As such, the count for the Install Base received by the app analytics system **150** may undercount the actual install base for the panel of mobile devices.

[0023] To solve this problem, the app analytics system **150** uses the Install Base counts collected on launch day itself. The app analytics system **150** then infers what the full Install Base would be if extrapolated across several days (e.g., 4 days) by computing and applying historical ratios of 1-4-day counts.

[0024] To accomplish this task, the app analytics system **150** performs two operations. First, the app analytics system **150** automatically detects when a new app launch has occurred so that the app analytics system **150** can begin tracking the Install Base for that app. Moreover, the app analytics system **150** intercepts the regular workflow that computes Install Base over a set number of days (e.g., 4 days) so that daily totals are available on launch day.

App Detection & Intercepting Regular Workflow

[0025] There are several ways that new apps can be detected. For example, one way is to search for social signals on the web that an app has been launched. Alternatively, a new app might be detected by analyzing logs of engagement data, and by flagging the appearance of any new app identifier.

[0026] To detect a new app using engagement data, several modes might be used. The app analytics system **150** may use automatic detection of new apps from usage logs (New App detector). The automatic detections of new apps may be performed by analyzing a ranking history of apps in the content item publisher **135** (e.g., an app store). Alternatively, the app analytics system **150** may detect new apps based on a curated list. For example, the app analytics system **150** detects new apps using install base thresholds of apps in the curated list. In some embodiments, two or more methods are used concurrently.

[0027] The automatic detection component includes a way to match app names with numerical identifiers for the app in the content item publisher **135** (e.g., the app store), since there is often ambiguity in language used to tag apps. In some embodiments, the new app detector compares the install base of an app for the current time interval (e.g., past 24 hours, past full day from midnight to midnight in a given time zone, past week, etc.) to the

install base for the app on a previous time interval. If the ratio between the install base for the current time interval and the install base for the previous time interval is above a threshold (e.g., a threshold percentage increase; a threshold discrete amount, and so on), the new app detector identifies the current day as a launch day for the app. This manner of automatic detection ensures that "soft launches" (that are only available or used by a small number of people) that are followed by "full launches" (that include many people) can qualify as a "new app" notwithstanding an earlier release. In other embodiments, the automatic detection component determines that a specific time interval corresponds to a soft launch for an app by comparing the number of downloads for the app to a threshold determined based on the importance of the app and the magnitude of the market. If the number of downloads is below the threshold, the automatic detection determines that a time interval corresponds to a soft launch.

[0028] The regular engagement data workflow generates cumulative totals of metrics such as Install Base over several days as various mobile devices in the panel report back to the app analytics system **150** overtime. The app analytics system **150** pulls out the first daily Install Base value for apps found by the New App detector above. This step is included in the workflow shown in FIG. 2.

Download Estimates for Subsequent Days

[0029] For each platform and country, the app analytics system **150** estimates downloads during a set time period (e.g., days 1 through 13) post release date using an exponential decay of the form

$a \times exp(bx)$ (2)

where a is the value of downloads at day 0 (launch day), b is the exponential decay rate, and x is the time (e.g., 0 through 13, i.e., two weeks). For estimating b, the exponential decay rate, the app analytics system **150** use data from previous blockbuster apps (e.g., apps that had at least a threshold number of downloads at launch day according to historical data and/or that had at least a threshold amount of users within time interval following launch day). With this data the app analytics system **150** estimates region (e.g., country) specific decay rates for most regions (e.g., using a statistical aggregate of decay rates for historical blockbuster apps, the historical data segmented by region). For regions where no data was available to estimate region specific decay rates, the app analytics system **150** may estimate a default decay rate based on the data from all regions.

Pipeline Details

[0030] FIG. 2A shows the overall pipeline of the app analytics system **150**, according to one embodiment. FIG. 2B illustrates a flow diagram of a process for estimating a number of downloads for a content item during one or more time periods, according to one embodiment.

[0031] The app analytics system **150** receives **250** daily engagement data from a set of client devices in a panel of client device. In some embodiments, the app analytics system **150** receives the daily engagement data as one or more daily engagement logs. Based on the daily engagement logs and optionally based on manual input, a new content item (e.g., a new app) is detected **255** and a preliminary install base for the content item during a first time interval is determined **260**. In some embodiments, the first time interval is a "Day-0" time interval and the preliminary install based for the content item during the first time interval is a preliminary install base for Day-0. In some embodiments, the preliminary install base for the content item during a first time interval is determined based on the feedback data received for the first time interval from mobile devices **140** that reported back to the app analytics system **150** on the first time interval (i.e., a partial install base for the content item during the first time interval or partial Day-0 install base). Based on the partial install base for the content item during the first time interval is estimated by extrapolating the partial install base for the content item during the first time interval based on historical data of Day-0 installs reported by mobile devices in the panel for other apps on an initial set of days (e.g., days 1 through 4) of the launch date of the other apps.

[0032] The preliminary install based for the content item during the first time interval (i.e., the determined complete install base for the content item during the first time interval) may then be compared **265** to a threshold value. For example, the predictive technology disclosed herein may require at least a threshold number of downloads (e.g., 100,000 downloads) to ensure requisite accuracy of its predictions. In some embodiments, a complete install base for the content item during the time interval preceding the first time interval (i.e., a complete Day-1 install base) is determined and a difference between determined complete install base for the content item

during the first time interval (complete Day-0 install base) and the determined complete install base for the content item during the time interval preceding the first time interval (complete Day-1 install base) is compared to the threshold number of download. Responsive to determining that the complete install base for the content item during the first time interval (or the difference between the complete install base for the content item during the first time interval and the complete install base for the content item during the time interval preceding the first time interval) is greater than the threshold, the app analytics system **150** may identify the app as a blockbuster app, and makes an estimation **270** for the final number of downloads for first time interval (final Day-0 downloads). For example, the app analytics system **150** estimates the final number of downloads for first time interval by applying equation (1). In other embodiments, the app analytics system **150** simple assigns the determined preliminary install for the content item for first time interval (i.e., the complete Day-0 install base) as the final number of downloads for the content item for first time interval.

[0033] Moreover, the app analytics system **150** estimates **275** the number of downloads for subsequent time intervals by applying an exponential decay determined based on historical data for other apps (e.g., historical data for blockbuster apps).

Android: iOS Download Ratios

[0034] The app install flag used above might only be available in specific operating systems. For example, the app install flag might be available on Android devices but not on iOS. In order to support estimates of iOS downloads, Android:iOS ratios are calculated based on the cumulative downloads for apps where we have estimates on both platforms (either Android and iPhone or Android and iPad). For each region, the ratio equals:

[00002] Android Downloads iPhone Downloads and (3) Android Downloads iPad Downloads (4)

are determined, respectively. The median ratio across all countries for each device is included as a default iPhone and default iPad ratio. If an estimate is not available for a specific country a default value may be used. In some embodiments, category specific Android:iOS ratios are determined. That is, for each app category of at least a subset of app categories, the ratios shown in equations (3) and (4) are determined. The category specific Android:iOS ratios may then be used support estimates in iOS for apps corresponding to each of the respect app categories.

Computing Machine Architecture

[0035] FIG. 3 is a block diagram illustrating components of an example machine able to read instructions from a machine-readable medium and execute them in a processor (or controller). Specifically, FIG. 3 shows a diagrammatic representation of a machine in the example form of a computer system **300** within which instructions **324** (e.g., software) for causing the machine to perform any one or more of the methodologies discussed herein may be executed. In alternative embodiments, the machine operates as a standalone device or may be connected (e.g., networked) to other machines. In a networked deployment, the machine may operate in the capacity of a server machine or a client machine in a server-client network environment, or as a peer machine in a peer-to-peer (or distributed) network environment.

[0036] The machine may be a server computer, a client computer, a personal computer (PC), a tablet PC, a settop box (STB), a personal digital assistant (PDA), a cellular telephone, a smartphone, a web appliance, a network router, switch or bridge, or any machine capable of executing instructions **324** (sequential or otherwise) that specify actions to be taken by that machine. Further, while only a single machine is illustrated, the term "machine" shall also be taken to include any collection of machines that individually or jointly execute instructions **324** to perform any one or more of the methodologies discussed herein.

[0037] The example computer system **300** includes a processor **302** (e.g., a central processing unit (CPU), a graphics processing unit (GPU), a digital signal processor (DSP), one or more application specific integrated circuits (ASICs), one or more radio-frequency integrated circuits (RFICs), or any combination of these), a main memory **304**, and a static memory **306**, which are configured to communicate with each other via a bus **308**. The computer system **300** may further include graphics display unit **310** (e.g., a plasma display panel (PDP), a liquid crystal display (LCD), a projector, or a cathode ray tube (CRT)). The computer system **300** may also include alphanumeric input device **312** (e.g., a keyboard), a cursor control device **314** (e.g., a mouse, a trackball, a joystick, a motion sensor, or other pointing instrument), a storage unit **316**, a signal generation device **318** (e.g., a speaker), and a network interface device **820**, which also are configured to communicate via the bus **308**.

[0038] The storage unit **316** includes a machine-readable medium **322** on which is stored instructions **324** (e.g., software) embodying any one or more of the methodologies or functions described herein. The instructions **324** (e.g., software) may also reside, completely or at least partially, within the main memory **304** or within the processor **302** (e.g., within a processor's cache memory) during execution thereof by the computer system **300**, the main memory **304** and the processor **302** also constituting machine-readable media. The instructions **324** (e.g., software) may be transmitted or received over a network **326** via the network interface device **320**.

[0039] While machine-readable medium **322** is shown in an example embodiment to be a single medium, the term "machine-readable medium" should betaken to include a single medium or multiple media (e.g., a centralized or distributed database, or associated caches and servers) able to store instructions (e.g., instructions **324**). The term "machine-readable medium" shall also be taken to include any medium that is capable of storing instructions (e.g., instructions **324**) for execution by the machine and that cause the machine to perform any one or more of the methodologies disclosed herein. The term "machine-readable medium" includes, but not be limited to, data repositories in the form of solid-state memories, optical media, and magnetic media.

Conclusion

[0040] The foregoing description of the embodiments has been presented for the purpose of illustration; it is not intended to be exhaustive or to limit the patent rights to the precise forms disclosed. Persons skilled in the relevant art can appreciate that many modifications and variations are possible in light of the above disclosure.

[0041] Some portions of this description describe the embodiments in terms of algorithms and symbolic representations of operations on information. These algorithmic descriptions and representations are commonly used by those skilled in the data processing arts to convey the substance of their work effectively to others skilled in the art. These operations, while described functionally, computationally, or logically, are understood to be implemented by computer programs or equivalent electrical circuits, microcode, or the like. Furthermore, it has also proven convenient at times, to refer to these arrangements of operations as modules, without loss of generality. The described operations and their associated modules may be embodied in software, firmware, hardware, or any combinations thereof.

[0042] Any of the steps, operations, or processes described herein may be performed or implemented with one or more hardware or software modules, alone or in combination with other devices. In one embodiment, a software module is implemented with a computer program product comprising a computer-readable medium containing computer program code, which can be executed by a computer processor for performing any or all of the steps, operations, or processes described.

[0043] Embodiments may also relate to an apparatus for performing the operations herein. This apparatus may be specially constructed for the required purposes, and/or it may comprise a general-purpose computing device selectively activated or reconfigured by a computer program stored in the computer. Such a computer program may be stored in a non-transitory, tangible computer readable storage medium, or any type of media suitable for storing electronic instructions, which may be coupled to a computer system bus. Furthermore, any computing systems referred to in the specification may include a single processor or may be architectures employing multiple processor designs for increased computing capability.

[0044] Embodiments may also relate to a product that is produced by a computing process described herein. Such a product may comprise information resulting from a computing process, where the information is stored on a non-transitory, tangible computer readable storage medium and may include any embodiment of a computer program product or other data combination described herein.

[0045] Finally, the language used in the specification has been principally selected for readability and instructional purposes, and it may not have been selected to delineate or circumscribe the patent rights. It is therefore intended that the scope of the patent rights be limited not by this detailed description, but rather by any claims that issue on an application based hereon. Accordingly, the disclosure of the embodiments is intended to be illustrative, but not limiting, of the scope of the patent rights, which is set forth in the following claims.

Claims

- 1. A method for determining a number of downloads of content item during a first time interval, comprising: receiving engagement data from a plurality of client devices in a panel of client devices; determining a partial install base for the content item based on the received engagement data received during the first time interval; determining a preliminary install base for the content item for the first time interval based on the determined partial install base for the content item and historical data for other content items; determining, based on the preliminary install base for the content item for the first time interval, whether an engagement for the content item is greater than a threshold engagement value; and responsive to determining that the engagement for the content item is greater than the threshold engagement value, determining, based on the preliminary install base for the content item for the first time interval, an estimated number of downloads for the content item during the first time interval.
- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the client devices are mobile devices and wherein the content item is a mobile application.
- **3**. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the preliminary install base for the content item for the first time interval comprises extrapolating the partial install base for the content item based on historical engagement data for other content items.
- **4**. The method of claim 1, further comprising: determining an estimated number of downloads for the content item for subsequent days by applying an exponential decay to the estimated number of downloads for the content item during the first time interval.
- **5**. The method of claim 1, wherein determining whether the engagement for the content item is greater than the threshold engagement value comprises: determining a difference between the install base for the content item during the first time interval and the install base for the content item during a second time interval preceding the first time interval; and comparing the determined difference between the install base for the content item during the first time interval and the install base for the content item during the second time interval to the threshold engagement value.
- **6**. The method of claim 5, further comprising responsive to determining that the determined difference between the install base for the content item during the first time interval and the install base for the content item during the second time interval is greater than the threshold engagement value, classifying the content item as a blockbuster content item.
- 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the first time period is a launch day for the content item.
- **8**. A non-transitory, computer-readable medium comprising one or more instructions that, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform operations, the instructions comprising instructions to: receive engagement data from a plurality of client devices in a panel of client devices; determine a partial install base for the content item based on the received engagement data received during the first time interval; determine a preliminary install base for the content item for the first time interval based on the determined partial install base for the content item and historical data for other content items; determine, based on the preliminary install base for the content item for the first time interval, whether an engagement for the content item is greater than a threshold engagement value; and responsive to determining that the engagement for the content item is greater than the threshold engagement value, determine, based on the preliminary install base for the content item for the first time interval, an estimated number of downloads for the content item during the first time interval.
- **9**. The non-transitory, computer-readable medium of claim 8, wherein the client devices are mobile devices and wherein the content item is a mobile application.
- **10**. The non-transitory, computer-readable medium of claim 8, wherein the instructions for determining the preliminary install base for the content item for the first time interval comprise instructions to extrapolate the partial install base for the content item based on historical engagement data for other content items.
- **11**. The non-transitory, computer-readable medium of claim 8, wherein the instructions further comprise instructions to: determine an estimated number of downloads for the content item for subsequent days by applying an exponential decay to the estimated number of downloads for the content item during the first time interval.

- 12. The non-transitory, computer-readable medium of claim 8, wherein the instructions for determining whether the engagement for the content item is greater than the threshold engagement value comprise instructions to: determine a difference between the install base for the content item during the first time interval and the install base for the content item during a second time interval preceding the first time interval; and compare the determined difference between the install base for the content item during the first time interval and the install base for the content item during the second time interval to the threshold engagement value.
- **13**. The non-transitory, computer-readable medium of claim 12, wherein the instructions further comprise instructions to responsive to determining that the determined difference between the install base for the content item during the first time interval and the install base for the content item during the second time interval is greater than the threshold engagement value, classify the content item as a blockbuster content item.
- **14**. The non-transitory, computer-readable medium of claim 8, wherein the first time period is a launch day for the content item.
- 15. A system comprising: one or more processors; and a non-transitory, computer-readable medium comprising one or more instructions that, when executed by the one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform operations, the instructions comprising instructions to: receive engagement data from a plurality of client devices in a panel of client devices; determine a partial install base for the content item based on the received engagement data received during the first time interval; determine a preliminary install base for the content item and historical data for other content items; determine, based on the preliminary install base for the content item for the first time interval, whether an engagement for the content item is greater than a threshold engagement value; and responsive to determining that the engagement for the content item is greater than the threshold engagement value, determine, based on the preliminary install base for the content item for the first time interval, an estimated number of downloads for the content item during the first time interval.
- **16**. The system of claim 15, wherein the client devices are mobile devices and wherein the content item is a mobile application.
- **17**. The system of claim 15, wherein the instructions for determining the preliminary install base for the content item for the first time interval comprise instructions to extrapolate the partial install base for the content item based on historical engagement data for other content items.
- **18**. The system of claim 15, wherein the instructions further comprise instructions to: determine an estimated number of downloads for the content item for subsequent days by applying an exponential decay to the estimated number of downloads for the content item during the first time interval.
- 19. The system of claim 15, wherein the instructions for determining whether the engagement for the content item is greater than the threshold engagement value comprise instructions to: determine a difference between the install base for the content item during the first time interval and the install base for the content item during a second time interval preceding the first time interval; and compare the determined difference between the install base for the content item during the first time interval and the install base for the content item during the second time interval to the threshold engagement value.
- **20**. The system of claim 19, wherein the instructions further comprise instructions to responsive to determining that the determined difference between the install base for the content item during the first time interval and the install base for the content item during the second time interval is greater than the threshold engagement value, classify the content item as a blockbuster content item.