GAME ALGORITHM

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- We've probably all gotten buyer's remorse at least once
- Becoming increasingly common in video game market
  - Pre-Order Bonuses
  - Review Embargoes
  - Release Day Bugs
  - EA

INTRODUCTION

- User will input a game, and some simple info about it, and the algorithm will determine whether the user should:

  - Purchase the game

  - Wait to purchase the game until the price drops/until more information is available

  - Consider other games similar to the one in question, or

  - Not purchase the game

CONCEPT

- Step 1: Enter game info
- Step 2: Look up the current critical rating for the game
- Step 3: Look up the current user rating for the game
- Step 4: Look up average ratings of other games by the same publisher
- Step 5: Compare game to other games in user's library
- Step 6: Average the scores of Steps 2-5, and come up with a final score (0-10)

- If there is insufficient data in any of the steps, it will be given an average score in that category (5/10)

METHOD

- Game will be categorized into one of the following genres:
  - Action
  - Adventure
  - Casual
  - Indie
  - Massively Multiplayer
  - Racing
  - RPG
  - Simulation
  - Sports
  - Strategy

LAYER 1 - GENRE

- This layer will rate the game based on its critical reception
- If no critical data exists (i.e. the publisher has issued a review embargo), the game will automatically receive a 5/10.

LAYER 2 – CRITICAL SCORE

- Many review sites will include user reviews in addition to those of professional critics.

- Tend to be more subjective, but also tend to give better idea of first-hand user experience.

LAYER 3 – USER SCORE

Game	Platform/Year	Metascore	User Score	Difference*
1 **Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2**	PC, 2009	86	3.7	49
"The PC community was completely abandoned when dedicated servers were taken out, [it's] not that the game is garbage really, its mostly that the loyal gamers were completely ignored." -- mathieuG.				
2 **Dragon Age II**	PS3, 2011	82	3.9	43
"I'm a big fan of the original DA and really got into the lore. Unfortunately that dosen't help me trying to like this sorry mess for sequel. The combat is extremely simplified (and meaningless), the story is told in a most unexciting way and the game just feel like a downgrade compared to the predecessor." -- KhaaL				
3 **Grand Theft Auto IV**	PC, 2008	90	5.0	40
"Absolutely not worth it. The download took a very long time, and unless your PC is running well above the minimum specs (which are already pretty high, and easily knocks out any non-gaming built PCs), then this game will lag terribly with severe glitching and control issues (and yes, I am talking about rock-bottom bare-minimum visual and audio effects)." -- Zeph				
4 **Madden NFL 09**	PS3, 2008	85	4.6	39
"As a game considered in complete isolation, Madden 2009 is a pretty darn good football game.				

- Certain publishers/developers have gained either a positive or negative reputation based on previous games they've released.
- Based on the data, if games by one developer generally score higher in Layers 2 and 3 than those of another developer, then those games will be given a higher score in this layer.

LAYER 4 – PUBLISHER

- Buying a game in a genre you've never had experience with is generally more of a gamble.

- If the genre of the game in question is similar to the majority of games the user has already purchased, it will receive a higher rating in this layer.

LAYER 5 – COMPARISON TO LIBRARY

- This layer will take the average of the scores from Layers 2-5
- The final score will be determined as follows:
  - 0-2 = User should not purchase game
  - 3-4 = User should reconsider desire to purchase game
  - 5-6 = User should wait for reduced price/explore other similar titles
  - 7-9 = User should purchase the game

LAYER 5 – FINAL SCORE

- Final Fantasy XV just came out. Is it worth buying? Let's find out:

EXAMPLE

- Genre: RPG

- Critical Score: 8/10 (*Source: IGN.com*)

- User Score: 8/10 (*Source: Metacritic.com*)

- Publisher: Square Enix, 7/10 (*Source: Metacritic.com*)

- Library: Out of the 20 or so games I actively play, only about 5 are RPGs, 4/10

- Final Score: 6.75/10

- Consensus: I should probably wait for the game to go on sale.

EXAMPLE (CONT'D.)