

# Movie Data Analysis for Producers



## Group 10

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## **Project Description**

The goal of this project is to gain a real-world understanding of a data set, in our case, movie data. Our team at Arizona State University is going to take our selected data and gain an insightful understanding of it using in-class tools such as Excel and JMP to develop an in-depth analysis. The goal of this proposal is to create and present recommendations for movie producer companies based on the movie data set.

Our data set contains information about various movies. For each movie, there is a director name, names of two actors, gross total made from the movie, a genre and key plot phrasing, link to an IMDB page as well as a score, and some other relevant data.

We wanted to address the following points:

1. Which factor is the best predictor of a movie's success?
2. What is the extent of external reception versus internal production on the movies' success/popularity? For example, how much do critic and actor choices influence movie Facebook likes?
3. What would we tell our marketing team given the task of advertising a certain movie, how would we do it, and what factors would be most important to touch on/what matters to audiences the most?
4. What are the most common or most popular plots and genres for movies?

## **Approaches to Analyze Data**

In order to analyze the data, we used a combination of regression and ANOVA tests as well as running the data and creating tables in Excel and visualizations in Tableau to better understand trends. The regression and ANOVA tests were used to find significance of certain variables to answer our questions, and Excel and Tableau were used to analyze and find trends. By using the regression tests to find the correlation levels between certain variables, we should be able to find what variables best predict movie success based on the highest correlation ( $r$  squared number).

## **Results:**

### **Question 1: Best predictors of a movie's success based on gross income?**

For the first question, assuming that movie success is determined by gross income, we tested various different factors that could determine movie success.

1. Gross income VS Budget

If you refer to Figure 5 in the appendix, you can see that the  $r$  squared value from the bivariate model gives us an  $r$  squared value of 0.5773, which shows a fairly certain correlation between gross income and budget.

2. Gross income vs Facebook Likes

As you can see in figure 5, movie Facebook likes correlates less at an  $r$  squared value of 0.4607, lower than the correlation for budget. This shows that facebook likes is not in as strong correlation with a successful movie with high gross income. So, budget is a better determinant of movie success (based on gross income) than movie FB likes.

3. Gross Income VS IMDB score

As you can see in figure 7 from the appendix, there is still not a super strong correlation ( $r$  squared of 0.4494), and this is our lowest  $r$  squared value thus far, so it shows us that IMDB does not have the best prediction of movie success, so it does not determine movie success as strongly as our first variable, movie budget.

4. Gross Income VS Director Name

As you can see in figure 17, the director's name has a correlation of 0.503, which while not extremely high, is closer to our highest correlation of budget. However, since the p value is slightly greater than 0.01, this is not extremely significant but it would still be a partial potential predictor of movie success.

Here, we address our original null hypothesis:

*H<sub>0</sub>: Budget is not significant in predicting a film's success (gross income).*

To continue with our testing, we identified the p values to ensure they were significant. As you can see according to figure 8, for the budget vs gross income Anova test, the p value is extremely significant as it is less than 0.01. We can conclude, based on our regression analyses and Anova test, that out of the three factors tested, movie budget is the strongest predictor of movie success (based on gross income). The r squared value of budget and gross income, at 0.5773 tells us that 57.53% of the gross income can be explained by the budget of the movie, which while not a super strong correlation, it does show that this model does explain some of the results in gross profit. We can reject the null hypothesis that budget is not significant in predicting a movie's success based on gross profit.

## **Question 2: External reception VS internal production**

### **1. Relationship between movie Facebook likes versus IMDB scores:**

According to Figure 9, it seems that there is a discrepancy between what critics and audiences like, showing that the lower IMDB scores have higher Facebook likes. This shows that possibly IMDB score, which is an internal factor, does not necessarily predict external outcomes (how much viewers like the movie). Additionally, according to Figure 10, we see that with the r squared value of 0.061, there is not much correlation between movie Facebook likes and IMDB scores, matching our observations.

### **2. Relationship between gross income and IMDB score.**

Interestingly enough, according to Figure 11, the movies that made the highest gross income actually fall between about 6.5-8 scores in IMDB, though closer to 10 is considered a really well made movie. This supports the finding that an IMDB score does not necessarily predict outcomes. Therefore, critics' views vary from audience views and thus gross income can be high even if critic reviews are not extremely high. This fits with our results from our first question, which concluded that critics' results are not necessarily the best predictor of movie gross income. Additionally, if you look at Figure 12, we see that the low r squared value of IMDB score and gross income at 0.0074, shows there is very little to no correlation between gross income and IMDB score.

### **3. Relationship between actors chosen and IMDB score.**

According to Figure 13, we can see that the 1 way Anova test between Actor 1 name and IMDB score has a decent r squared value of 0.46, which does not show a high correlation, but more of a correlation than gross income and IMDB score. Therefore, we can say that the main actor chosen does have slight influence (not heavy) over the critic reviews.

### **4. Relationship between actors chosen and Facebook likes.**

According to Figure 14, we can see that the 1 way Anova test between Actor 1 name and Facebook likes has a lower  $r^2$  value than that from 3 (above) at 0.33, so there is not a strong correlation between actor chosen and Facebook likes.

Therefore, we can conclude that internal choices like the lead actor name and IMDB scores do not predict movie outcomes, and are very unlikely to ever predict movie outcomes (based on Facebook likes).

### **Question 3: Marketing team considerations**

According to our findings from questions 1 and 2, we understand that a movie actor name does not necessarily have a strong correlation with movie success. However, according to Figure 17, we did find that the director's name does have a slight but not extremely significant correlation with movie success based on gross profit. As a result, we would recommend our marketing team to include the director's name in big letters (or a noticeable way) on the movie ad. Marketers can include the actor name and IMDB score, however this may not have a significant influence over viewer and movie success, but it would not hurt the results.

### **Question 4: Most Common Genres**

According to Figure 15, you can evidently see that action, adventure and sci fi get the majority of Facebook likes by a great amount. If you take a look at gross income in Figure 16, (same chart just with gross income instead of Facebook likes), action, adventure, and sci-fi get the majority of gross income compared to other genres (a total of over 9,000,000!).

### **Roadblocks:**

We had some issues figuring out how to best incorporate an ANOVA test into our analysis and results. However, with some teamwork, we realized that. We also had a group member who could not access JMP (the app was not working), but after re-installation we were able to get past this issue. It was a bit difficult due to working remotely and not being able to meet in class to easily discuss plans to work on the analysis, however we were able to communicate through our group text and worked everything out.

### **How can the results contribute to the final recommendations?**

Based on our tests from our first question, we understand that movie success as defined by gross income is predicted not completely, but partially by budget. Based on this, we would recommend that movie production groups ensure that they have a strong budget to create a high quality movie consumers will enjoy.

Based on question 3, we recommend to include the director name in big letters on an advertisement, and can include the main/lead actor name and IMDB score, though this may not have a significant influence on movie success based on gross profit, but it will not hurt viewer turnout or profit levels.

Additionally, based on question 4, we understand that action, adventure, and sci-fi genres tend to get the most Facebook likes and the majority of gross income compared to other genres by a significant amount, so these genres will be crucial in movie production.

## Appendices

Figure 1

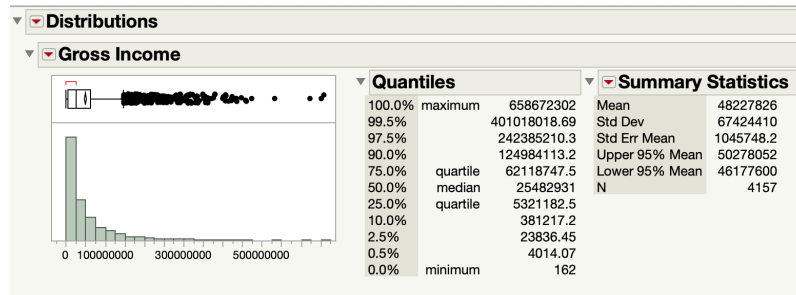


Figure 2

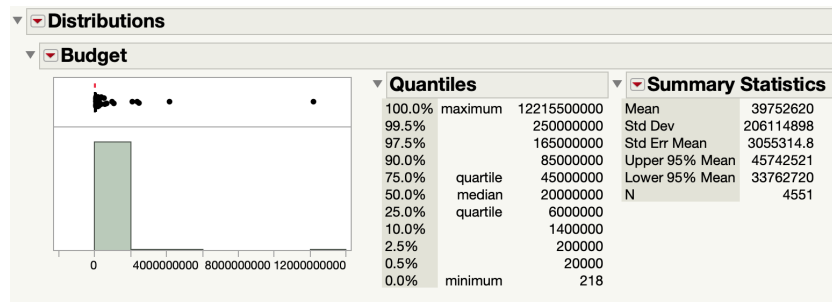


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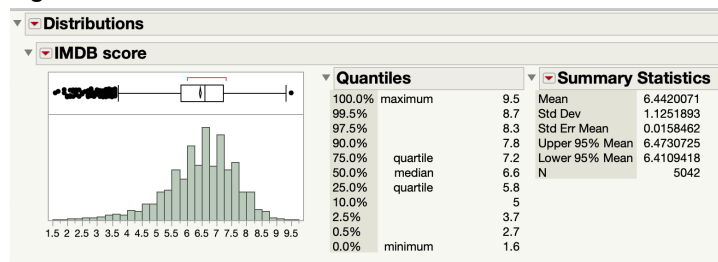


Figure 4

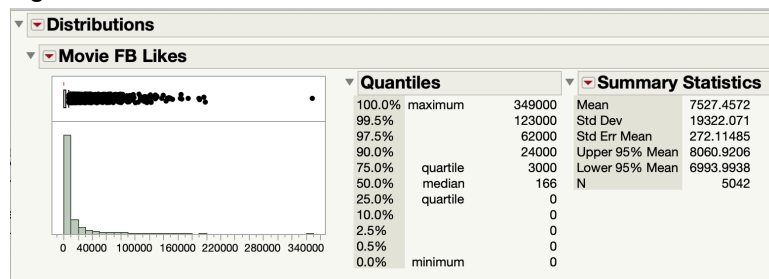


Figure 5

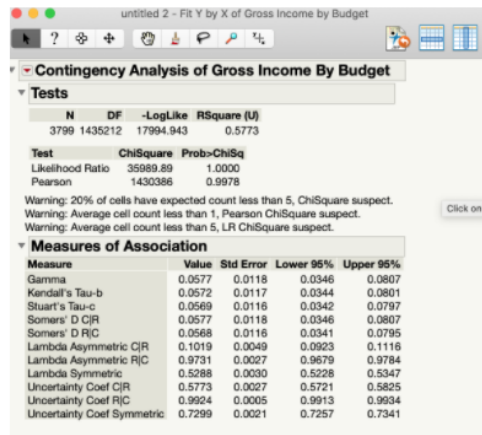


Figure 6

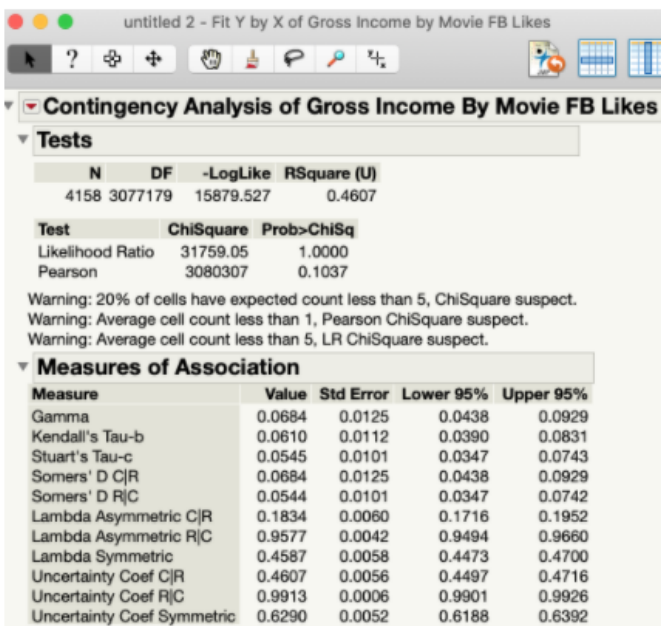


Figure 7

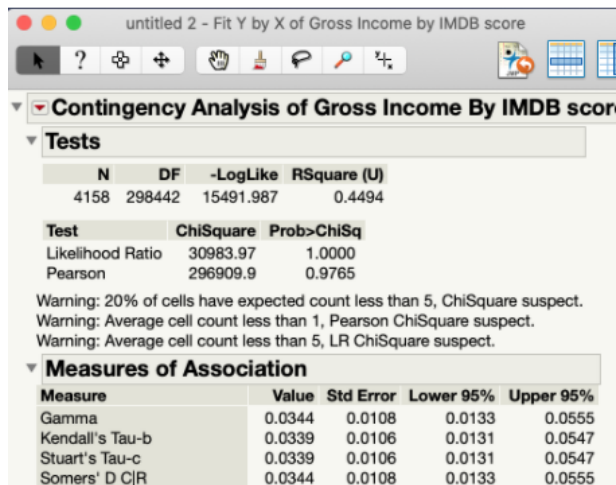


Figure 8  
Gross Income V Budget

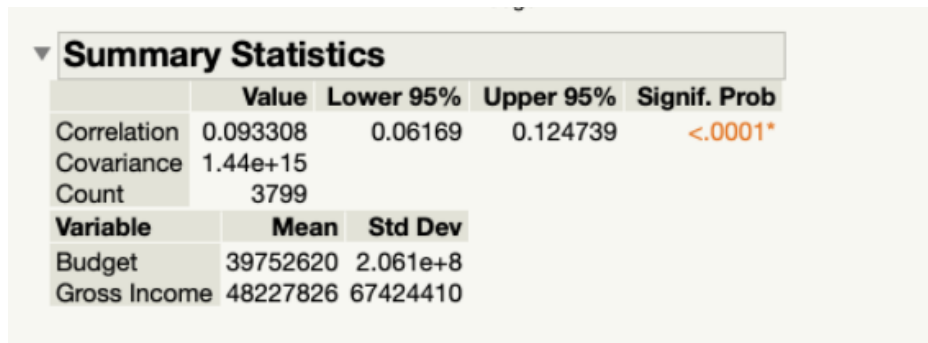
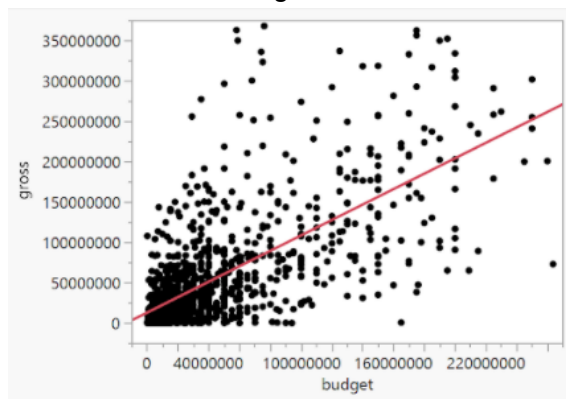


Figure 9

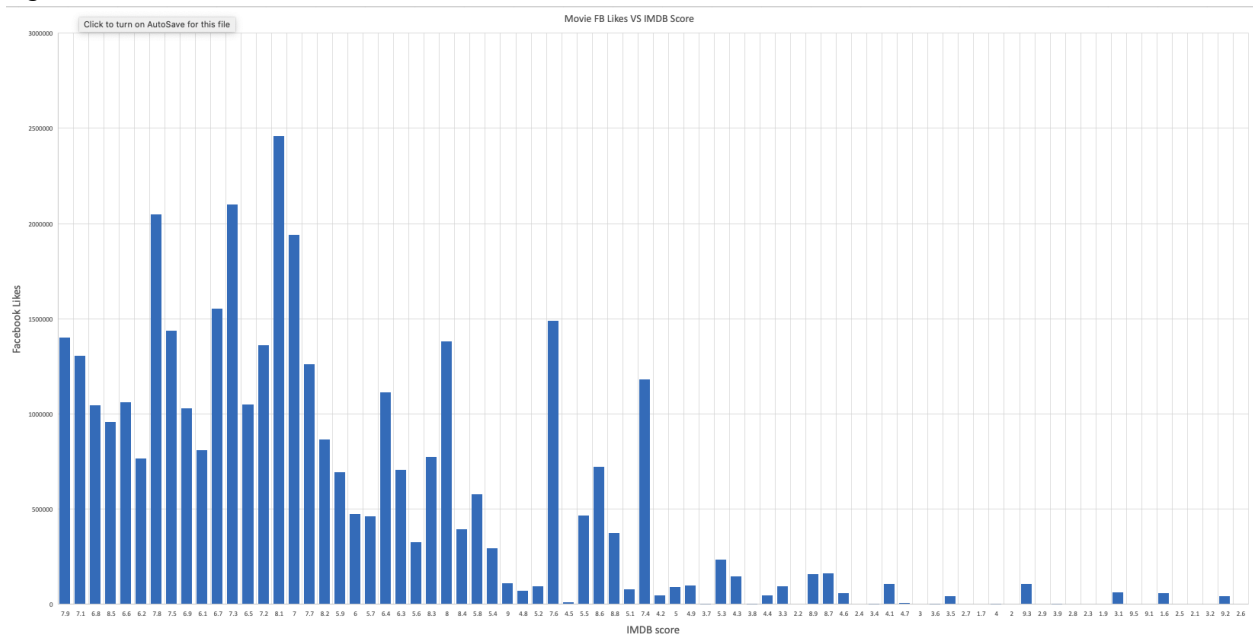


Figure 10

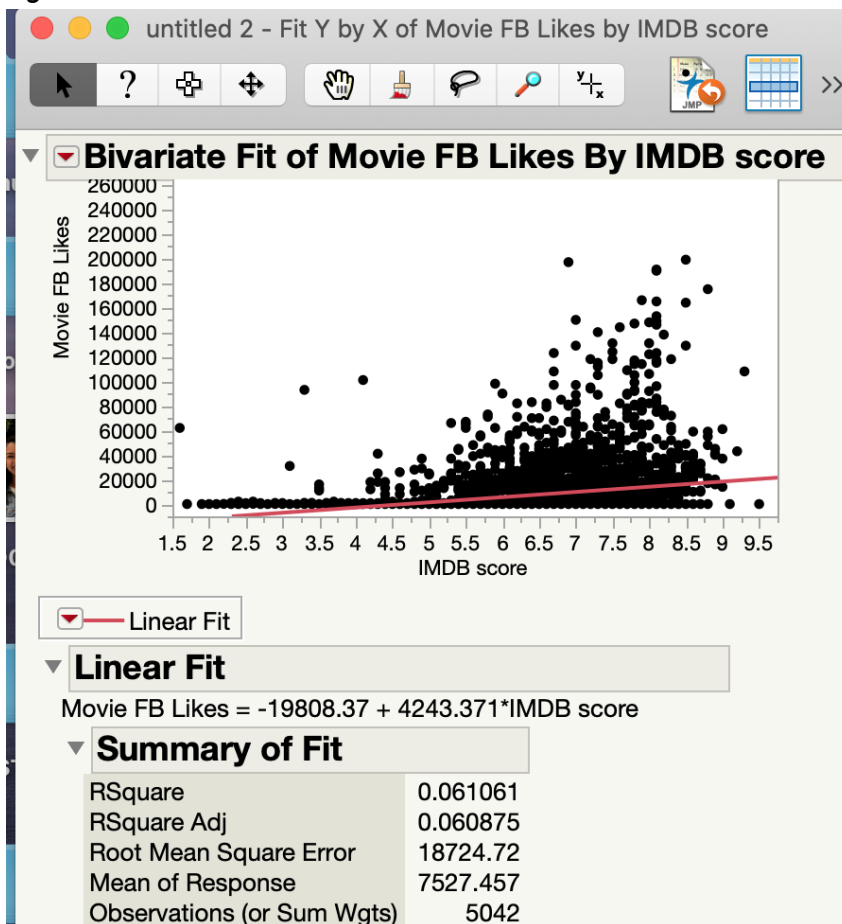




Figure 11

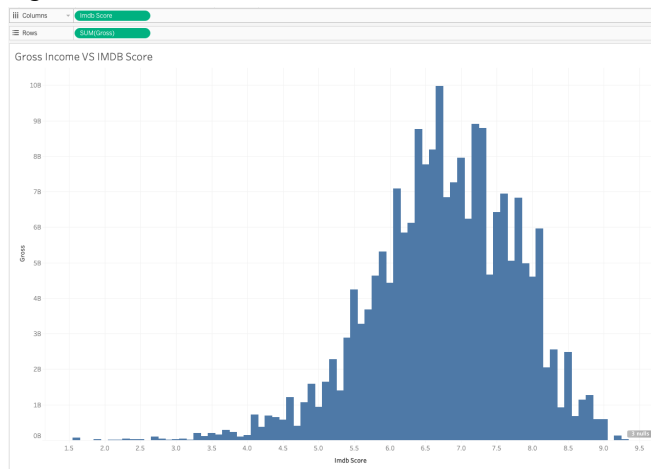


Figure 12

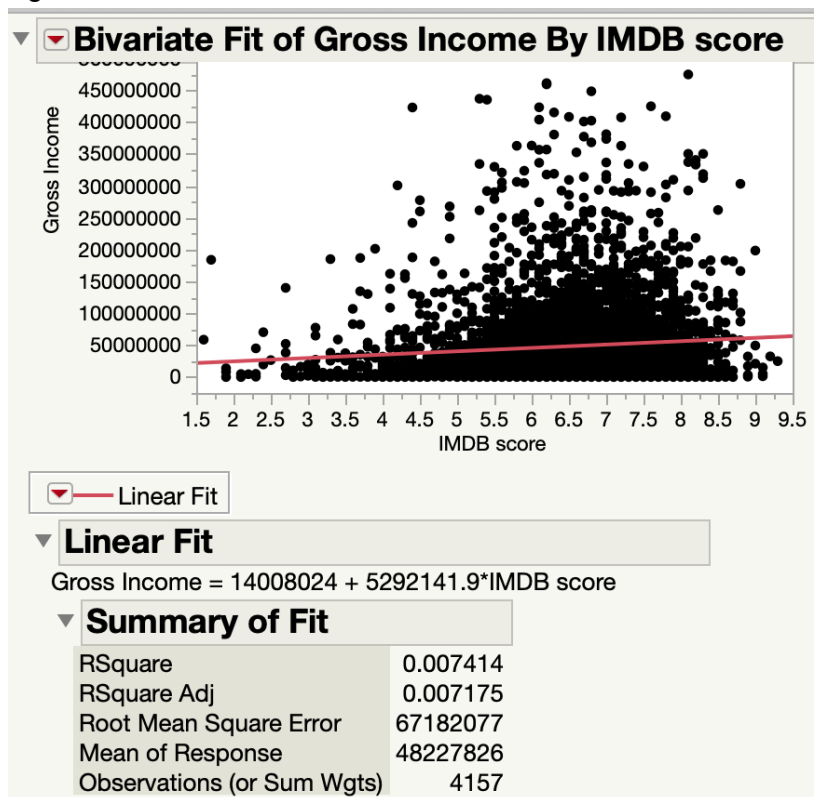


Figure 13

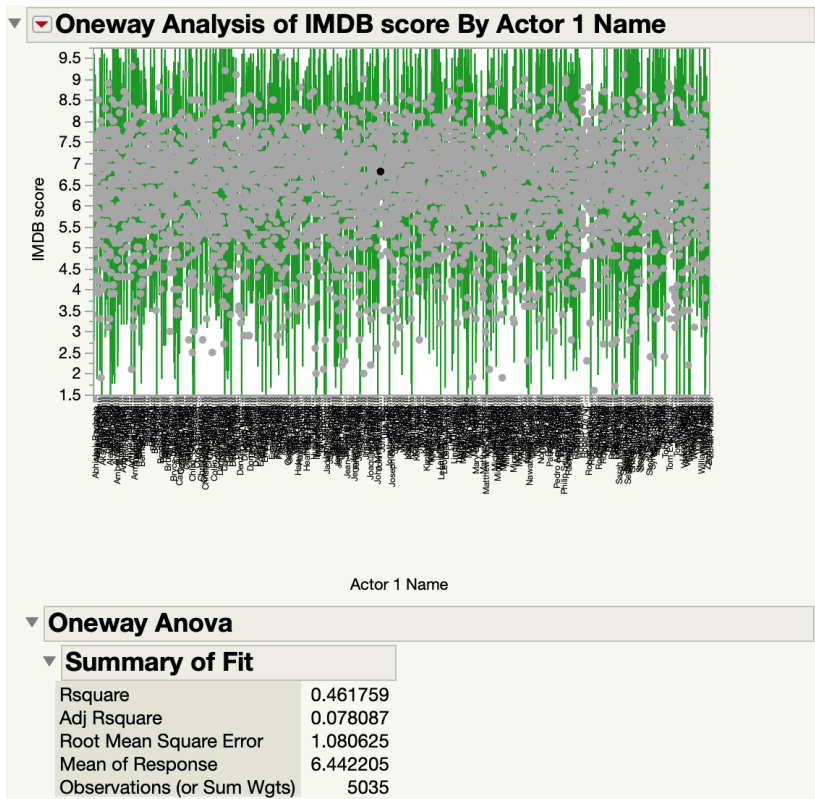
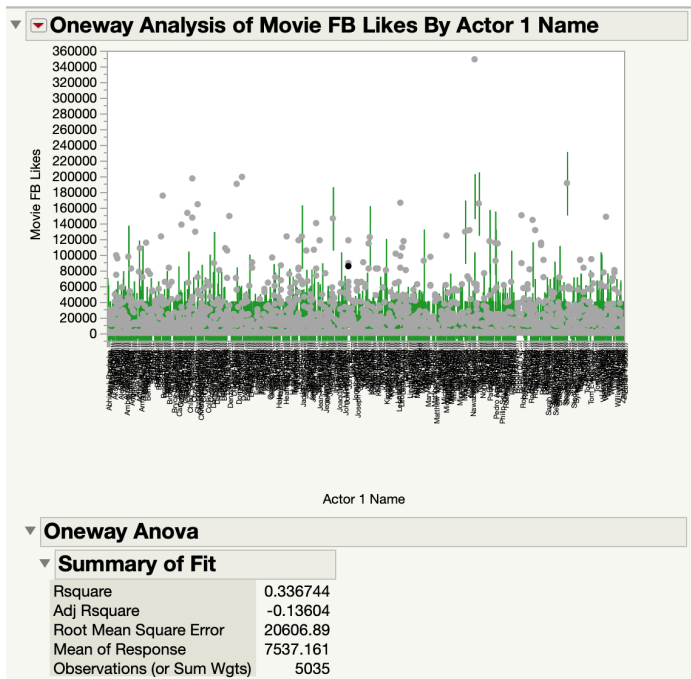
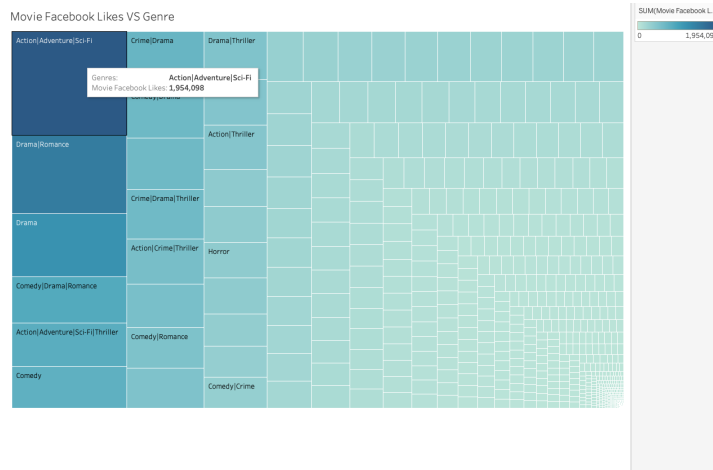


Figure 14



**Figure 15**  
Movie Facebook Likes VS Genre



**Figure 16**

Movie Gross VS Genre

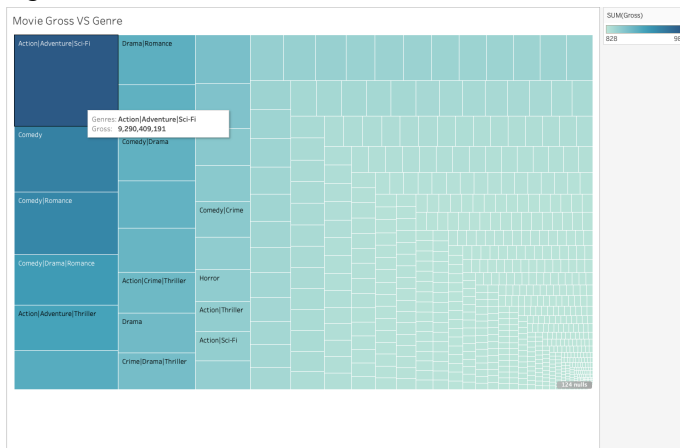


Figure 17

