ON BOARD GAMES AND HOW TO BUILD THEM:

A STUDY ON THE NEXT BEST BOARD GAME

November 2023

**COLOMBO STEFANIA
D'AMICANTONIO SILVIA
LANCELLOTTI FEDERICO**

DATASET DESCRIPTION

Datasets come from the **BoardGameGeek** database containing features like: theme, complexity, number of players..

Data are collected for games released **between 1950 and 2022**.

Additional **daily data snapshots** are available for each year from 2016 to the present.

GOALS OF THE PROJECT

Popularity

Can we characterise the most popular games in terms of most relevant features?
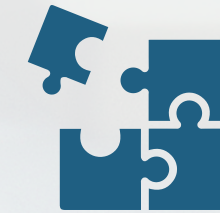
Trends

Is there any trend?
Do we expect some categories to be more popular in the coming months?

Testing

Is our characterisation consistent if we specialise it on the most promising categories in terms of trends?

Prediction

Are we able to select a few interesting projects from Kickstarter, to be proposed to shareholders of a publisher?

TENTATIVE ANALYTIC WORKFLOW

Testing and **GLM/GAM** to select the most relevant features that characterise the most popular games. Are **depth measures** useful for our data?

FDA techniques on the 2500+ daily snapshots of the data available and **analysis on trends** for the popularity and the rank in terms of game category.

Random forest based model, to be compared to the previous results. Manual selection of ~20 Kickstarter projects and **model prediction**.