Youtube Most Liked Videos

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- Introduction
- The Data
 - Loading the Data.
 - Joining the data and the Categories
 - A snippet
- Research question
 - Cases
 - Data collection
 - Type of study
 - Data Source
 - Dependent Variable
 - Independent Variable
- Relevant summary statistics
- Category Analysis
 - Chi-Squared
 - Regression with Categorical variable
- Exploring other factors
 - Linear regression with Comment count.
 - Can we combine comment_count with views and dislikes?
- What does all this mean?
- Next Steps

library(tidyverse)

library(scales)

library(infer)

library(psych)

library(httr)

library(jsonlite)

library(here)

library(car)

Introduction



youtube logo

YouTube is an American online video-sharing platform headquartered in San Bruno, California. Three former PayPal employees—Chad Hurley, Steve Chen, and Jawed Karim—created the service in February 2005. Google bought the site in November 2006 for US\$1.65 billion; YouTube now operates as one of Google's subsidiaries.

YouTube allows users to upload, view, rate, share, add to playlists, report, comment on videos, and subscribe to other users. It offers a wide variety of user-generated and corporate media videos. Available content includes video clips, TV show clips, music videos, short and documentary films, audio recordings, movie trailers, live streams, and other content such as video blogging, short original videos, and educational videos.

Because a video's popularity influences on the amount of money its creators make in the platform, it is of interest to determine if any relationship exists between a video's category and its popularity. Other relationships might also be explored.

The Data

The Data Set was obtained from Kaggle. This dataset was collected using the YouTube API.

Loading the Data.

Joining the data and the Categories

Because the Categories are provided in a separate JSON, we need to join them to the data frame, I will take the opportunity to remove several variables not needed in this study:

- trending_date
- channel_title
- publish_time
- comments_disabled (although this could be used to study the relationship between the comments being enabled or disabled and the amount of likes, it is out of the scope of this endeavor.)
- ratings_disabled
- video_error_or_removed

```
category_df <- category_df %>%
  rename(category_id = id)
category_df$category_id <- as.numeric(category_df$category_id)</pre>
```

knitr::kable(head(video_df,10))

A snippet

```
glimpse(video_df)
## Rows: 40,949
## Columns: 8
                <chr> "2kyS6SvSYSE", "1ZAPwfrtAFY", "5qpjK5DgCt4", "puqaWrE...
## $ video_id
## $ title
                  <chr> "WE WANT TO TALK ABOUT OUR MARRIAGE", "The Trump Pres...
                  <chr> "People & Blogs", "Entertainment", "Comedy", "Enterta...
## $ category
                  <chr> "SHANtell martin", "last week tonight trump presidenc...
## $ tags
## $ views
                  <dbl> 748374, 2418783, 3191434, 343168, 2095731, 119180, 21...
## $ likes
                  <dbl> 57527, 97185, 146033, 10172, 132235, 9763, 15993, 236...
## $ dislikes
                  <dbl> 2966, 6146, 5339, 666, 1989, 511, 2445, 778, 119, 136...
## $ comment count <dbl> 15954, 12703, 8181, 2146, 17518, 1434, 1970, 3432, 34...
```

category video id title tags WE WANT TO TALK People & SHANtell martin 2kyS6SvSYSE **ABOUT** Blogs OUR MARRIAGE The Trump Presidency: Last Week 1ZAPwfrtAFY Entertainment last week tonight trump presidency" | "last week tonight donald trum Tonight with John Oliver (HBO) Racist Superman racist superman" | "rudy" | "mancuso" | "king" | "bach" | "racist" | "superm Rudy video" | "iphone x by 5qpjK5DgCt4 Mancuso, Comedy pineapple"|"lelepons"|"hannahstocking"|"rudymancuso"|"inanna"|" King Bach My Driver's License | Lele Pons & Lele Pons

video_id	title	category	tags
puqaWrEC7tY	Nickelback Lyrics: Real or Fake?	Entertainment	rhett and link" "gmm" "good mythical morning" "rhett and link good morning" "Season 12" "nickelback lyrics" "nickelback lyrics real or fa nickelback" "gmm nickelback" "lyrics (website category)" "nickelback kroeger" "canada" "music (industry)" "mythical" "gmm challenge" "
d380meD0W0M	l Dare You: GOING BALD!?	Entertainment	ryan" "higa" "higatv" "nigahiga" "i dare you" "idy" "rhpc" "dares" "ı
gHZ1Qz0KiKM	2 Weeks with iPhone X	Science & Technology	ijustine" "week with iPhone X" "iphone x" "apple" "iphone" "iphone
39idVpFF7NQ	Roy Moore & Jeff Sessions Cold Open - SNL	Entertainment	SNL" "Saturday Night Live" "SNL Season 43" "Episode 1730" "Tiffang Sessions" "Kate McKinnon" "s43" "s43e5" "episode 5" "live" "new y night" "host" "music" "guest" "laugh" "impersonation" "actor" "impersonation" "Actor" "Taylo open
nc99ccSXST0	5 Ice Cream Gadgets put to the Test	Science & Technology	5 Ice Cream Gadgets" "Ice Cream" "Cream Sandwich Maker" "gadge to the Test" "testing" "10 Kitchen Gadgets" "7 Camping Coffee Gadg
jr9QtXwC9vc	The Greatest Showman Official Trailer 2 [HD] 20th Century FOX	Film & Animation	Trailer" "Hugh Jackman" "Michelle Williams" "Zac Efron" "Zendaya" school musical" "hugh jackman musical" "zac efron musical" "music Barnum" "Barnum and Bailey" "Barnum Circus" "Barnum and Bailey trailer" "the greatest showman trailer" "logan" "Benj Pasek" "Justin
TUmyygCMMGA	Why the rise of the robots won't mean the end of work	News & Politics	vox.com" "vox" "explain" "shift change" "future of work" "automati shierholz" "martin ford" "rise of the robots" "humans" "workers" "є income

Research question

Is it possible to predict, based on the category or a combination of other factors, the popularity of a youtube video in America?

Cases

Each observation represents a video in Youtube. There are 40,949 observations.

Data collection

Data was obtained from a Kaggle data set.

Type of study

This is an observational study based on the obervations captured in this data.

Data Source

If you collected the data, state self-collected. If not, provide a citation/link. Data was obtained from a **Kaggle data set**.

Dependent Variable

What is the response variable? Is it quantitative or qualitative? The response variable will be the prediction of number of likes. It is quantitative.

Independent Variable

You should have two independent variables, one quantitative and one qualitative. Category, likes, views, comment_count. Likes, views, and comment_count are quantitative, Category is qualitative.

Relevant summary statistics

Provide summary statistics for each the variables. Also include appropriate visualizations related to your research question (e.g. scatter plot, boxplots, etc). This step requires the use of R, hence a code chunk is provided below. Insert more code chunks as needed.

Summary Statistics

```
summary(video_df)
```

```
##
    video_id
                    title
                                   category
                                                    tags
## Length:40949
                Length:40949
                                 Length:40949
                                                 Length: 40949
## Class :character Class :character Class :character Class :character
## Mode :character Mode :character Mode :character
##
##
##
                      likes
      views
                                   dislikes
                                                comment count
## Min. :
              549 Min. : 0 Min. :
                                           0 Min. :
  1st Qu.: 242329 1st Qu.: 5424 1st Qu.:
                                           202 1st Qu.:
                                                         614
                  Median : 18091 Median :
  Median :
          681861
                                          631
                                               Median :
  Mean : 2360785 Mean : 74267
                                 Mean :
                                          3711 Mean :
                                                         8447
  3rd Qu.: 1823157
                   3rd Qu.: 55417
                                 3rd Qu.:
                                          1938
                                                3rd Qu.:
                                                         5755
  Max. :225211923 Max. :5613827
                                 Max. :1674420
                                               Max. :1361580
```

We see that the mean like per video is 74,267. We can also see other meaningful statistics in the quantitative variables that might help in our study.

```
describe(video_df %>% select(views, likes, dislikes, comment_count))
```

```
sd median
                                                   trimmed
                                                               mad min
## views
               1 40949 2360784.6 7394113.76 681861 1054836.27 813077.11 549
                2 40949 74266.7 228885.34 18091 32156.33 23496.24 0
## likes
## dislikes
                 3 40949
                          3711.4 29029.71
                                           631
                                                  1137.46
                                                           797.64
## comment_count
                 4 40949
                           8446.8 37430.49 1856
                                                  3324.49 2351.40
                   max
                          range skew kurtosis
```

```
## views 225211923 225211374 12.24 232.34 36539.66

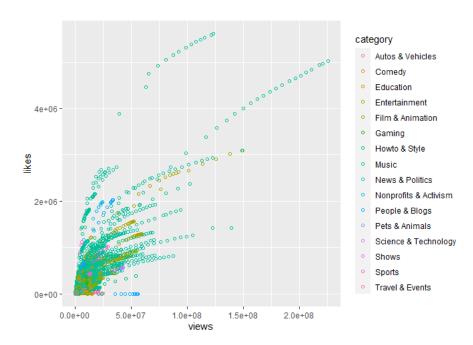
## likes 5613827 5613827 10.92 177.82 1131.09

## dislikes 1674420 1674420 40.19 1987.08 143.46

## comment count 1361580 1361580 19.75 532.05 184.97
```

Let's take a look at a scatter plot of views and likes:

```
ggplot(video_df, aes(x=views, y=likes, color = category)) +
    geom_point(shape=1)
```



Category Analysis

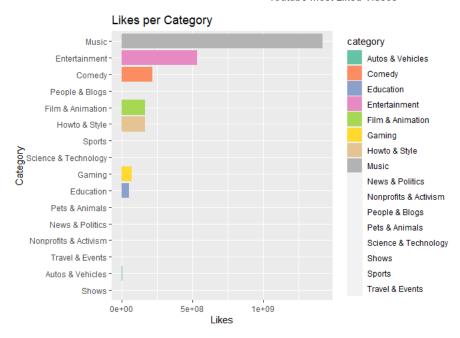
We see a clear tendency of some categories to gather more likes than others. Now, let's gather the categories and clean up their names a little:

```
video_categories <- video_df %>%
  group_by(category) %>%
summarise(
    views_sum = sum(views),
    likes_sum = sum(likes),
    dislikes_sum = sum(dislikes)) %>%
arrange(desc(likes_sum))

## `summarise()` ungrouping output (override with `.groups` argument)
knitr::kable(video_categories)
```

category	views_sum	likes_sum	dislikes_sum
Music	40132892190	1416838584	51179008
Entertainment	20604388195	530516491	42987663

category	views_sum	likes_sum	dislikes_sum	
Comedy	5117426208	216346746	7230391	
People & Blogs	4917191726	186615999	10187901	
Film & Animation	7284156721	165997476	6075148	
Howto & Style	4078545064	162880075	5473899	
Sports	4404456673	98621211	5133551	
Science & Technology	3487756816	82532638	4548402	
Gaming	2141218625	69038284	9184466	
Education	1180629990	49257772	1351972	
Pets & Animals	764651989	19370702	527379	
News & Politics	1473765704	18151033	4180049	
Nonprofits & Activism	168941392	14815646	3310381	
Travel & Events	343557084	4836246	340427	
Autos & Vehicles	520690717	4245656	243010	
Shows	51501058	1082639	24508	



We can see the *Music* category seems to be the one gathering more likes. Further analysis is needed to identify and analyze the tags associated with the different videos and how the presence of these tags might help answer the initial question.

Let's take a look at the different categories in video_df:

Entertainment 9964 Music 6472 Howto & Style 4146 Comedy 3457 People & Blogs 3210 News & Politics 2487 Science & Technology 2401 Film & Animation 2345 Sports 2174 Education 1656	Var1	Freq
Howto & Style 4146 Comedy 3457 People & Blogs 3210 News & Politics 2487 Science & Technology 2401 Film & Animation 2345 Sports 2174	Entertainment	9964
Comedy3457People & Blogs3210News & Politics2487Science & Technology2401Film & Animation2345Sports2174	Music	6472
People & Blogs3210News & Politics2487Science & Technology2401Film & Animation2345Sports2174	Howto & Style	4146
News & Politics2487Science & Technology2401Film & Animation2345Sports2174	Comedy	3457
Science & Technology2401Film & Animation2345Sports2174	People & Blogs	3210
Film & Animation 2345 Sports 2174	News & Politics	2487
Sports 2174	Science & Technology	2401
<u>'</u>	Film & Animation	2345
Education 1656	Sports	2174
	Education	1656
Pets & Animals 920	Pets & Animals	920
Gaming 817	Gaming	817
Travel & Events 402		

Var1	Freq
Autos & Vehicles	384
Nonprofits & Activism	57
Shows	57

Looking at this data, we can see that although Music has by far the most likes, it is not the most used category. We can probably create a proportion table for categories.

```
cat_prop <- prop.table(table(video_df$category))
knitr::kable(cat_prop %>%
   as.data.frame() %>%
   arrange(desc(Freq)))
```

Var1	Freq
Entertainment	0.2433271
Music	0.1580503
Howto & Style	0.1012479
Comedy	0.0844221
People & Blogs	0.0783902
News & Politics	0.0607341
Science & Technology	0.0586339
Film & Animation	0.0572664
Sports	0.0530904
Education	0.0404405
Pets & Animals	0.0224670
Gaming	0.0199516
Travel & Events	0.0098171
Autos & Vehicles	0.0093775
Nonprofits & Activism	0.0013920
Shows	0.0013920

Tempted to do a pie chart As visualizations go, I wanted to place a pie chart here but...the professor doesn't like Pie charts so that table should suffice.

What we will do, is probably get a proportion table for the likes per category and then formulate a null hypothesis to test with the chi-square.

```
video_categories <- video_categories %>%
  mutate(likes_prop = likes_sum /(sum(likes_sum)), total_likes=sum(likes_sum))
knitr::kable(video_categories)
```

category	views_sum	likes_sum	dislikes_sum	likes_prop	total_likes
Music	40132892190	1416838584	51179008	0.4658895	3041147198
Entertainment	20604388195	530516491	42987663	0.1744462	3041147198
Comedy	5117426208	216346746	7230391	0.0711398	3041147198
People & Blogs	4917191726	186615999	10187901	0.0613637	3041147198
Film & Animation	7284156721	165997476	6075148	0.0545838	3041147198
Howto & Style	4078545064	162880075	5473899	0.0535588	3041147198
Sports	4404456673	98621211	5133551	0.0324290	3041147198
Science & Technology	3487756816	82532638	4548402	0.0271387	3041147198
Gaming	2141218625	69038284	9184466	0.0227014	3041147198
Education	1180629990	49257772	1351972	0.0161971	3041147198
Pets & Animals	764651989	19370702	527379	0.0063695	3041147198
News & Politics	1473765704	18151033	4180049	0.0059685	3041147198
Nonprofits & Activism	168941392	14815646	3310381	0.0048717	3041147198
Travel & Events	343557084	4836246	340427	0.0015903	3041147198
Autos & Vehicles	520690717	4245656	243010	0.0013961	3041147198
Shows	51501058	1082639	24508	0.0003560	3041147198

I will also add an expected column based on the proportion_table.

category	views_sum	likes_sum	dislikes_sum	likes_prop	total_likes	prop	expected
Music	40132892190	1416838584	51179008	0.4658895	3041147198	0.1580503	480654098
Entertainment	20604388195	530516491	42987663	0.1744462	3041147198	0.2433271	739993423
Comedy	5117426208	216346746	7230391	0.0711398	3041147198	0.0844221	256739990
People & Blogs	4917191726	186615999	10187901	0.0613637	3041147198	0.0783902	238396115

category	views_sum	likes_sum	dislikes_sum	likes_prop	total_likes	prop	expected
Film & Animation	7284156721	165997476	6075148	0.0545838	3041147198	0.0572664	174155417
Howto & Style	4078545064	162880075	5473899	0.0535588	3041147198	0.1012479	307909748
Sports	4404456673	98621211	5133551	0.0324290	3041147198	0.0530904	161455811
Science & Technology	3487756816	82532638	4548402	0.0271387	3041147198	0.0586339	178314353
Gaming	2141218625	69038284	9184466	0.0227014	3041147198	0.0199516	60675896
Education	1180629990	49257772	1351972	0.0161971	3041147198	0.0404405	122985659
Pets & Animals	764651989	19370702	527379	0.0063695	3041147198	0.0224670	68325366
News & Politics	1473765704	18151033	4180049	0.0059685	3041147198	0.0607341	184701289
Nonprofits & Activism	168941392	14815646	3310381	0.0048717	3041147198	0.0013920	4233202
Travel & Events	343557084	4836246	340427	0.0015903	3041147198	0.0098171	29855214
Autos & Vehicles	520690717	4245656	243010	0.0013961	3041147198	0.0093775	28518414
Shows	51501058	1082639	24508	0.0003560	3041147198	0.0013920	4233202

Chi-Squared

We can formulate a Null Hypothesis with our data:

- H0 There is no relationship between category and the number of likes a video gets
- **H1** There is a marked relationship between category and likes.

```
k <- 16 #16 categories
df <- k - 1
chi.Sq <- 0

for(i in 1:16)
{
    chi.Sq <- chi.Sq + ((video_categories$likes_sum[i] - video_categories$expected[i])^2 /
        video_categories$expected[i])
}
p.Value <- pchisq(chi.Sq, df=df, lower.tail=FALSE)
paste('p-value is ',p.Value )

## [1] "p-value is 0"</pre>
```

Because the P-Value is so small as to approach 0, we must reject the Null Hypothesis and accept the Alternate hypothesis that says: **There is a marked relationship between category and likes**

Regression with Categorical variable

```
video_df$category.f <- factor(video_df$category) ###Turn the category into a factor to use
    with Lm

lm_output <- lm(likes ~ category.f, data = video_df)

Let's take a look at the regression model:

lm_output</pre>
```

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = likes ~ category.f, data = video_df)
##
## Coefficients:
                       (Intercept)
                                                    category.fComedy
##
##
                           11056.4
                                                              51525.8
##
               category.fEducation
                                             category.fEntertainment
##
                            18688.6
                                                              42186.9
##
        category.fFilm & Animation
                                                    category.fGaming
##
                            59731.4
                                                              73445.8
##
           category.fHowto & Style
                                                      category.fMusic
##
                           28229.7
                                                             207861.8
         category.fNews & Politics category.fNonprofits & Activism
##
##
                            -3758.0
                                                             248867.2
##
          category.fPeople & Blogs
                                            category.fPets & Animals
                           47079.4
                                                               9998.7
##
##
    category.fScience & Technology
                                                      category.fShows
##
                           23317.9
                                                               7937.3
                  category.fSports
##
                                           category.fTravel & Events
##
                            34307.5
                                                                974.1
```

Because we have a large number of factors, reading this is a little confusing, but let's take a look:

• Our Intercept is: 11,056, this means that the avg likes is 11056 For a **comedy video**, we will add 51,525.8 likes For a **News & Politics** video we will remove -3,758

Let's take a further look down the model:

```
summary(lm_output)
```

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = likes ~ category.f, data = video_df)
##
## Residuals:
##
      Min
               1Q Median
                               3Q
                                      Max
                             -861 5394909
## -259924 -49306 -28262
##
## Coefficients:
##
                                  Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)
                                   11056.4
                                             11197.9 0.987 0.323472
## category.fComedy
                                   51525.8
                                              11803.5
                                                       4.365 1.27e-05 ***
## category.fEducation
                                   18688.6
                                              12428.6 1.504 0.132673
                                              11411.7 3.697 0.000219 ***
## category.fEntertainment
                                   42186.9
## category.fFilm & Animation
                                   59731.4
                                              12080.0 4.945 7.66e-07 ***
```

```
## category.fGaming
                              73445.8
                                         13576.8 5.410 6.35e-08 ***
## category.fHowto & Style
                            28229.7 11705.0 2.412 0.015880 *
                              207861.8 11525.4 18.035 < 2e-16 ***
## category.fMusic
## category.fNews & Politics -3758.0 12031.4 -0.312 0.754775
## category.fNonprofits & Activism 248867.2 31147.3 7.990 1.38e-15 ***
## category.fPeople & Blogs 47079.4 11848.8 3.973 7.10e-05 ***
                              9998.7 13331.6 0.750 0.453259
## category.fPets & Animals
## category.fScience & Technology 23317.9 12060.2 1.933 0.053187 .
## category.fShows
                               7937.3 31147.3 0.255 0.798856
## category.fSports
                              34307.5 12146.7 2.824 0.004739 **
## category.fTravel & Events 974.1 15658.0 0.062 0.950397
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
## Residual standard error: 219400 on 40933 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.08122,
                               Adjusted R-squared: 0.08088
## F-statistic: 241.2 on 15 and 40933 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

We can see that some of these factors are significant: i.e. Comedy, Entertainment, Film, Gaming, Music, Nonprofit, People and Sports.

Regrettably, the adjusted R-squared is very low. This means that, even though we may have a trend, the category alone does not explain the number of likes. It seems to indicate that the number of likes are affected about 8% by the category.

We could write the prediction formula this way:

```
Y = b0 + b1 * category

Number of Likes = 11,056.4 + Estimate(Factor)
```

We would predict that a New Film & Animation video will end up with:

```
number of likes = 11,056.4 + 59731.4
```

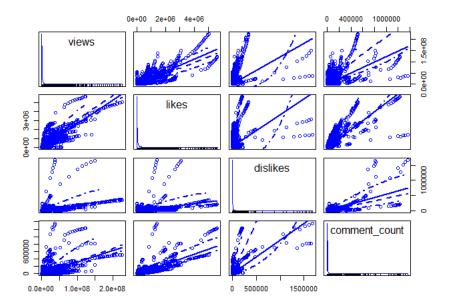
Note

As we have determined that this model is not the only or the most significant factor determining the number of likes a video will get, we have also not studied the period of time needed to gather these likes.

Exploring other factors

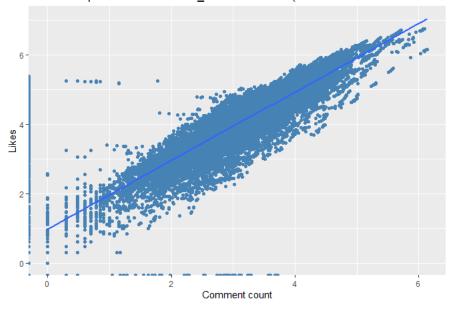
Let's take a look at a scatterPlot Matrix of the quantitative variables in our dataset:

```
scatterplotMatrix(video df[5:8])
```



Using Log10 to scale the number of likes and comment_count we get the following scatterplot:





This shows a (expected) relationship between the number of likes and comments. Would it be possible to fit a linear regression model using comment_counts to predict how many likes a video will get?

Linear regression with Comment count.

```
comment_lm <- lm(likes ~ comment_count, video_df)
comment_lm

##
## Call:
## lm(formula = likes ~ comment_count, data = video_df)
##
## Coefficients:
## (Intercept) comment_count
## 32787.424 4.911</pre>
```

We get a large intercept: 32,787. But this seems to indicate that for every comment, we see an increase of about 5 likes.

```
Y = b0 + b1 * comment_count
```

```
summary(comment_lm)
##
## lm(formula = likes ~ comment_count, data = video_df)
## Residuals:
      Min
##
              1Q Median
                               3Q
                                        Max
## -5316449 -32474 -26338 -6305 2450718
##
## Coefficients:
##
               Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept) 3.279e+04 6.910e+02 47.45 <2e-16 ***
## comment_count 4.911e+00 1.801e-02 272.70 <2e-16 ***
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
## Residual standard error: 136400 on 40947 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.6449, Adjusted R-squared: 0.6449
## F-statistic: 7.436e+04 on 1 and 40947 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

These values show an important relationship between the number of comments and likes. The \mathbb{R}^2 of 0.6449 indicates that 64.5% of the likes can be explained by the comments.

So, our fitted model will be something like this:

Number of Likes = 32,787.4 + 4.911 * comment count

Can we combine comment_count with views and dislikes?

If we try to fit a model with those variables we get:

```
multi_variate_lm <- lm(likes ~ comment_count + views + dislikes, video_df)
multi_variate_lm

##
## Call:
## lm(formula = likes ~ comment_count + views + dislikes, data = video_df)</pre>
```

```
##
## Coefficients:
## (Intercept) comment_count views dislikes
## 6680.24504 3.85149 0.01822 -2.14229
```

This indicates that for each comment, we can add about 4 likes. We will get a like for about every 100 views and each dislike will reduce about 2 likes from our total.

```
summary(multi_variate_lm)
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = likes ~ comment_count + views + dislikes, data = video_df)
## Residuals:
              1Q Median
##
     Min
                               3Q
                                        Max
## -1351640 -11911 -6696
                            3113 1081510
##
## Coefficients:
               Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
##
## (Intercept) 6.680e+03 4.052e+02 16.48 <2e-16 ***
## comment_count 3.851e+00 1.620e-02 237.79 <2e-16 ***
## views 1.822e-02 6.641e-05 274.30 <2e-16 ***
## dislikes -2.142e+00 1.863e-02 -114.97 <2e-16 ***
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
## Residual standard error: 77950 on 40945 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.884, Adjusted R-squared: 0.884
## F-statistic: 1.04e+05 on 3 and 40945 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

The adjusted \mathbb{R}^2 is 0.884 which indicates a high level of incidence in the number of likes for these three variables.

What does all this mean?

Based on our Null Hypothesis analysis we were able to identify a correlation between the video category and the number of likes attained. At the very least, we were not able to accept the null hypothesis that no relation existed. Further analysis showed that the R^2 value for such relationship was too low for us to properly fit a model that would allow us to calculate the number of likes based on the category alone.

We expanded our analysis to other variables. The **comment_count** proved to be a better predictor of likes and a multivariate regression incorporating views and dislikes gave us an adjusted R^2 of 88%. In terms of the scope of this analysis, the number of comments, views and dislikes are a better predictor than category for the number of likes a video will get.

Next Steps

In terms of practical use, the results found in this analysis do not give us a silver bullet on how to gather likes in a Youtube video. I would like to expand this analysis to incorporate the tags and the description of the video with other statistical and machine learning methods as Random Forest or SVM to gain a better understanding of the factors that better influence the number of likes a video gets.