

PGA Performance Impacts on Prize Money

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What did we measure?

Rounds Played: Rounds of golf played in the year

Greens In Regulation(GIR): being on the green with a putt for birdie

Average Putts: Average number of putts per round

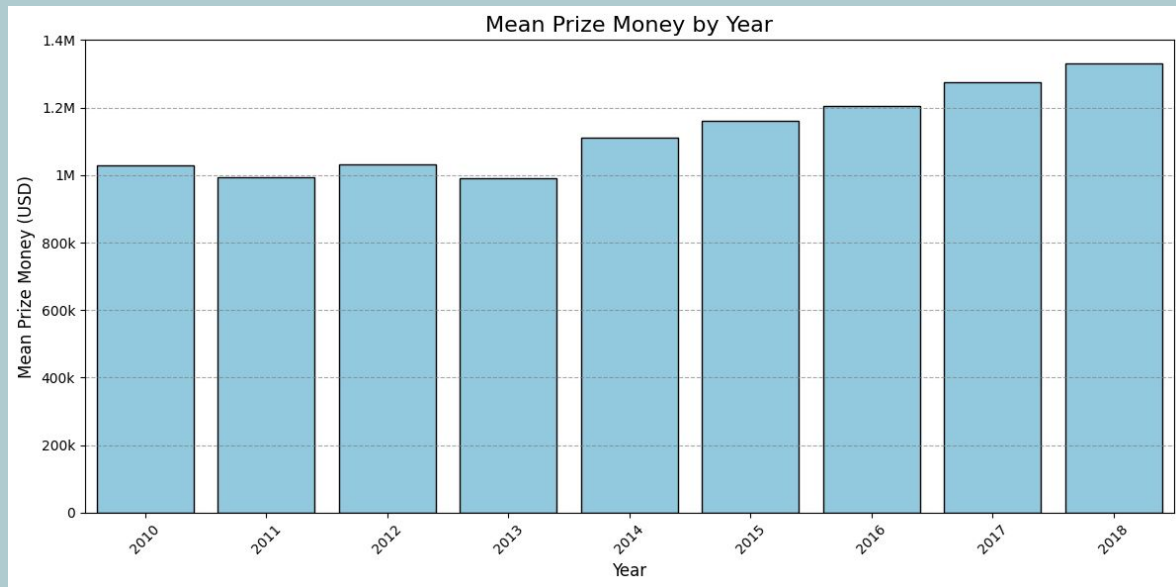
Average Score: Average score of all rounds

Points: FedEx Cup points, each player is given a certain amount of points per round depending on where they place, higher points mean better placements overall through the year.



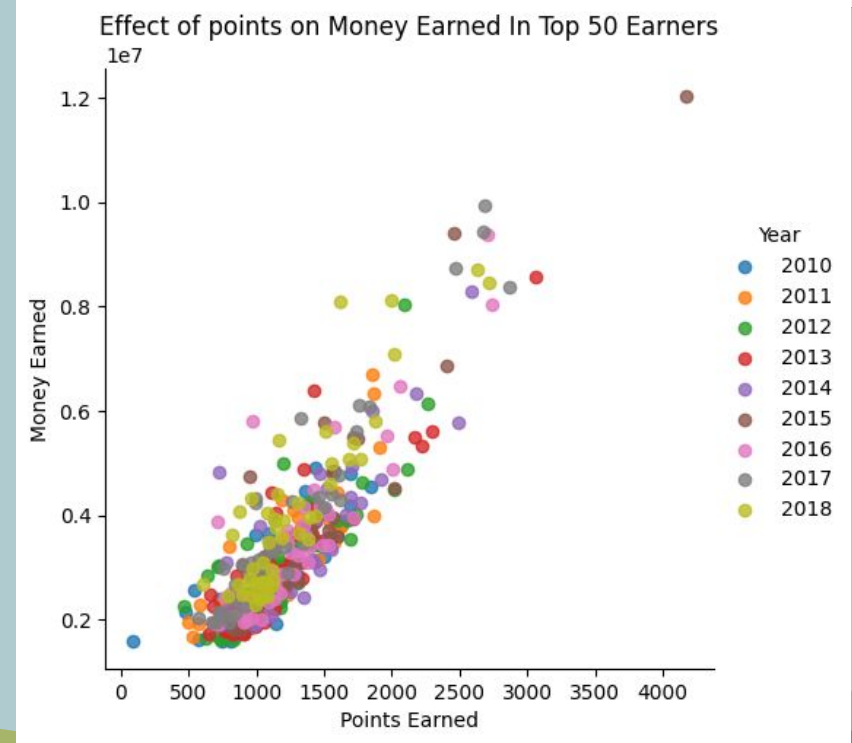
Mean Prize Money Per Year

- Question
 - What is the average annual prize money earned by an individual on the PGA Tour?
- Analysis
 - Prize money has remained stable from 2010-2013, and slowly began to increase 100k per year, from 2014-2018.
 - One variable that could factor with the growth subtle increase in prize money can be through their revenue streams.



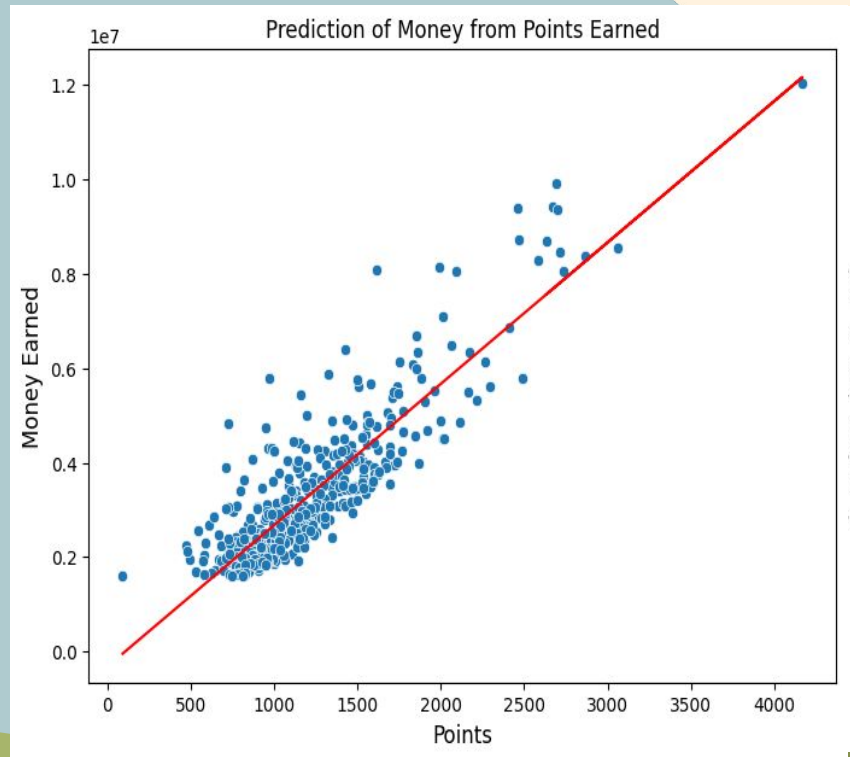
Predicting Money from Points

- The first step I took was to create a scatter plot showing the year by year trends of the top 50 earners
- $r=0.87$
- There is a moderately strong positive relationship between the two variables



Predicting Money from Points

- The second step was to create a prediction model for the variables
- $y = 2994.5x - 320033.5$
- The variation in Money Earned can be explained by 76% of the variation in Points Earned



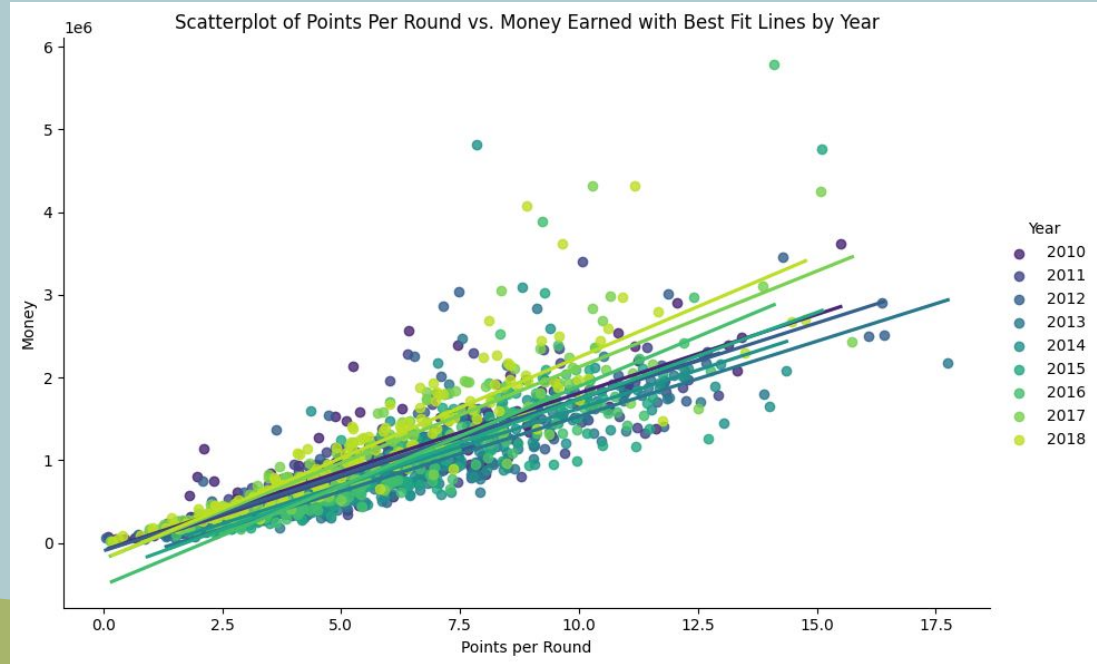
Predicting Prize Money Earned Using Rounds Played

Graph Creation:

- Created a new column by dividing the “Points” column by the “Rounds” columns
- Plotted this in relation to the “Money” column with a hue by “Year”
- Created a line of best fit for each year

Analysis:

- Our correlation coefficient is $r = 0.84$ meaning that this is highly correlated
- By creating separate lines of best fit for each year we see the prize money earned based on Points per Round is steadily increasing



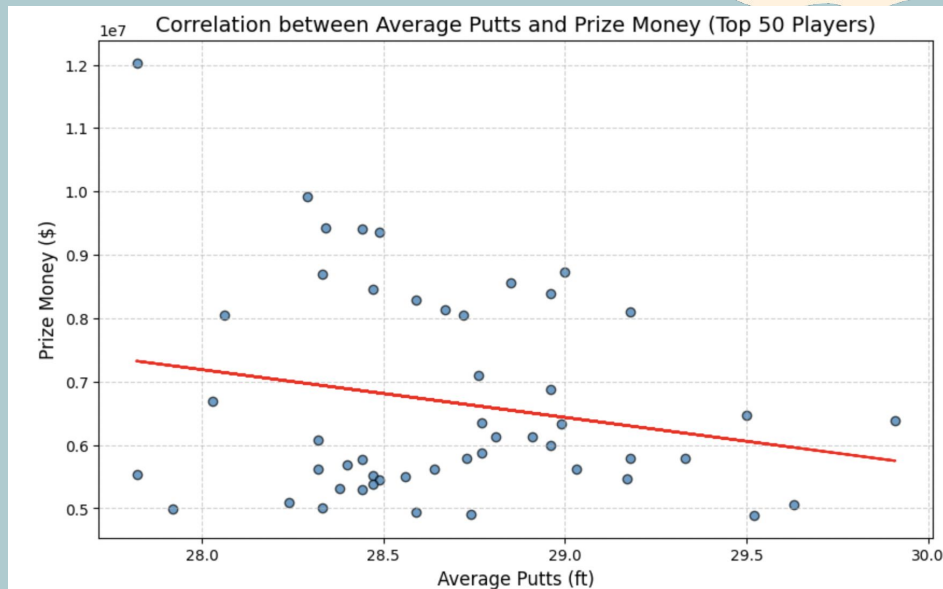
(T = 50 days)

Players with better (lower) putting averages are likely to make more money because putting isn't as easy as it looks and you need to be good at it if you want to converting scoring opportunities into lower scores.



Findings

- The regression line shows a weak negative correlation with a coefficient $r = -0.21$
- There is a slight trend showing that players with lower putting averages (better putting performance) tend to earn more prize money.
- The correlation is weak, indicating that putting average alone does not strongly predict prize money.
- These other factors include: driving accuracy, overall performance consistency, or tournament difficulty.

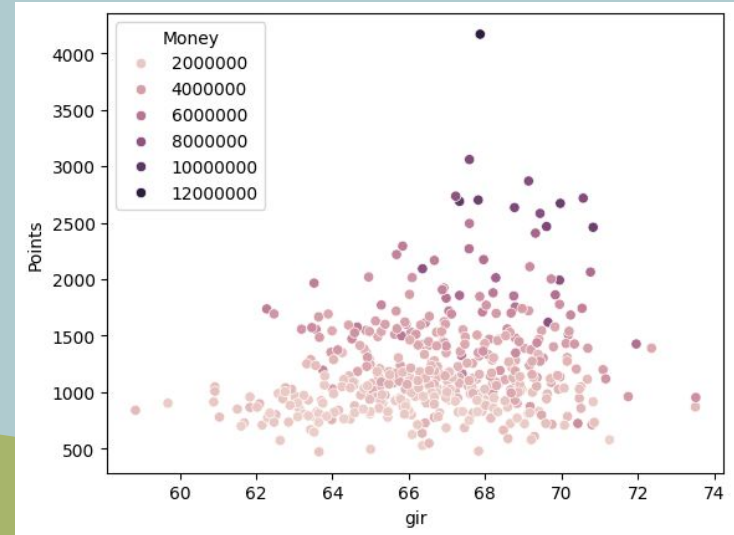


GIR in relation to points scored and money earned

Question : Do greens in regulation (GIR) correlate to points scored?

Hypothesis : Golfers who hit more greens in regulation are significantly more likely to make more money and finish high in the points

Analysis: After graphing, It becomes clear that GIR makes little to no difference in points scored. The only time we see evidence that it might matter is among a few of the golfers with the highest and lowest GIR %.



Next step/Conclusion

- Overall we confirmed that money earned has been gradually growing over time
- We also found that the strongest individual predictor for money earned is from points
- Next Step: Combine all of our findings to create a prediction for money from points earned, GIR, putting average, and rounds played

