2022 Syracuse University

Football Analytics Blitz

Gameplan vs Chiefs

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Chiefs Overall Trends

- Chiefs run about 30% of the time
- Play action:
  - Mean EPA play action: **0.213 v. 0.122** when no play action
- 3-0-1-1 is their most common scheme
  - **Ran only 22%** of the time in those formations, lowest
- 1-0-1-3 and 2-1-1-1 → Chiefs have few passing plays, but ran play action over 80% of the time in both situations
- In 2-0-1-2, the Chiefs have 144 passing plays; **52% of those plays were play action**

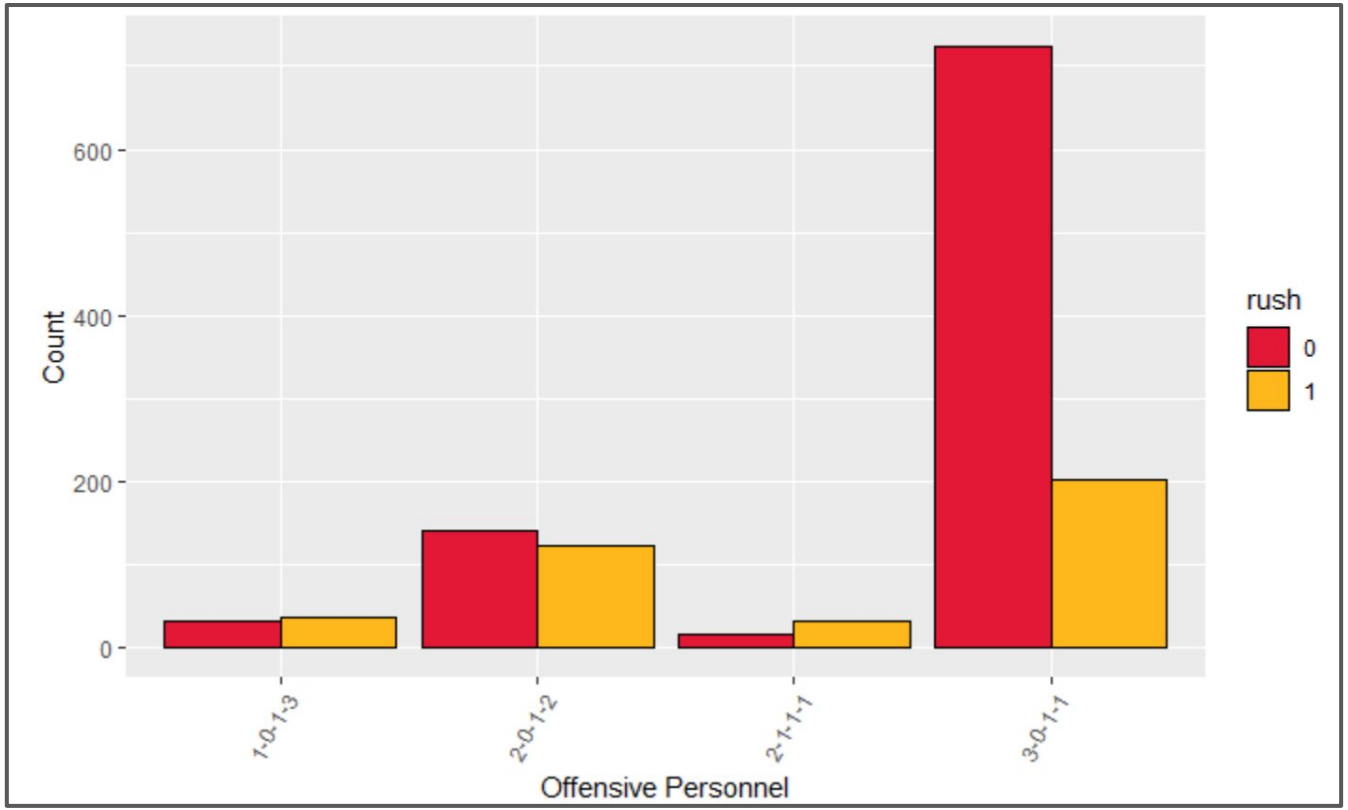
EPA by Offensive Personnel

Offensive Personnel	Mean Run EPA	Mean Pass EPA	Run Rate
1-0-1-3	0.133	0.544	0.543
2-0-1-2	-0.008	0.217	0.464
3-0-1-1	-0.134	0.215	0.219

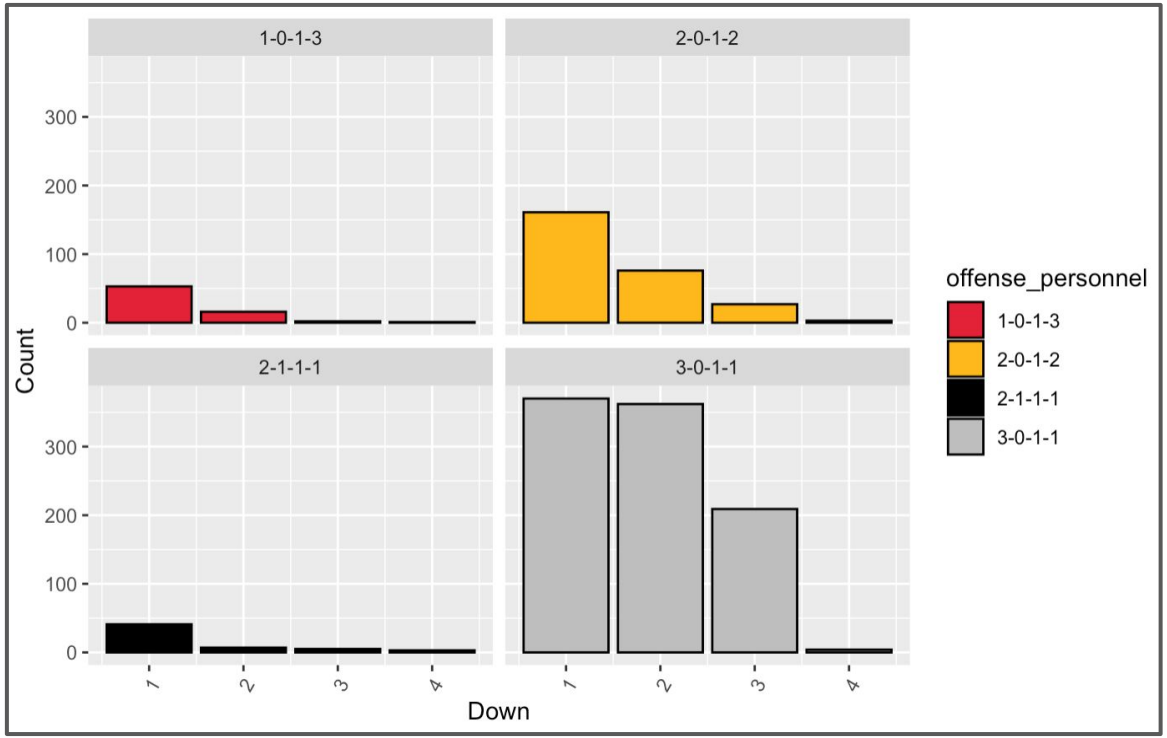
Passing Offense

Offensive Personnel	1-0-1-3 (34 obs.)	3-0-1-1 (741 obs.)	2-0-1-2 (144 obs.)
Target Depth	5	6.1	8.28
Play Action Rate	0.824	0.171	0.521
Yards After Catch	4.462	6.550	5.013

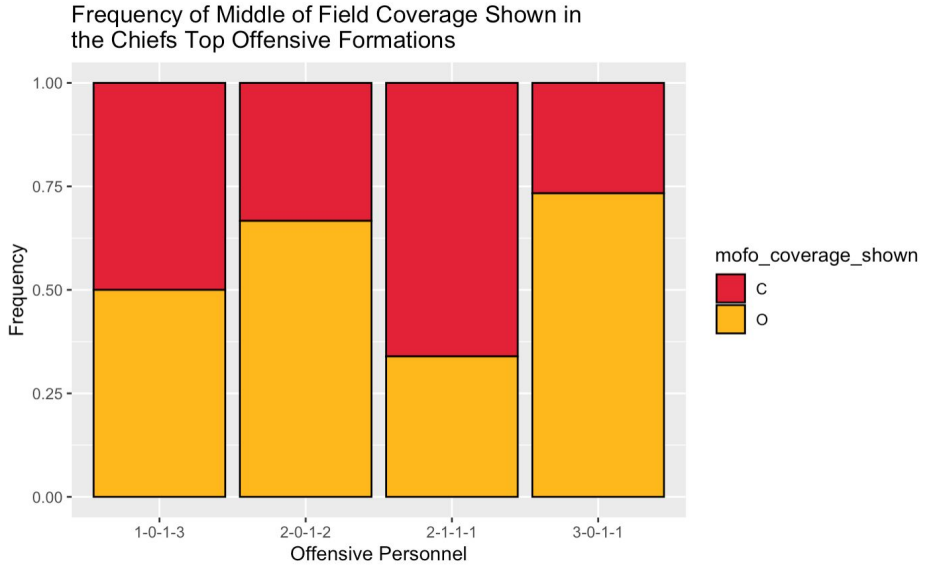
Offensive Personnel Pass/Rush Distribution

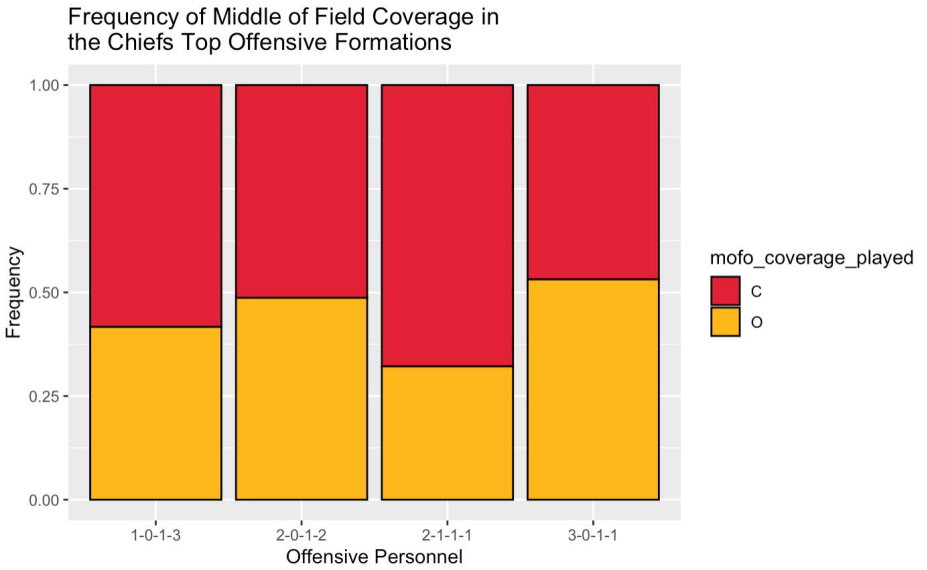


Offensive Personnel Distribution by Down



Shown v. Played Middle Coverage





General Strategies

- Play lots of 2/3/06
  - The Chiefs most used personnel is 3-0-1-1, and they struggle dramatically against 2/3/06
- Push the Chiefs to run the ball
  - The Chiefs rushing attack is far less lethal than their passing
- Limit blitzes
  - Mean EPA lower for every defensive scheme when not blitzing
- Play lots of zone coverage to limit dangerous plays
  - Especially cover 4

General Defensive Scheme

Coverage Scheme	Mean EPA
1	0.097
2	0.206
3	0.191
4	**0.047**
6R	0.138
RZ	0.339

Defensive Personnel	Mean EPA
2/3/06	**-0.0439**
2/4/05	0.139
3/3/05	0.152
4/1/06	0.419
4/2/05	0.214

3-0-1-1 Vs. 2/3/06 Defensive Scheme

-The Chiefs have 89 plays in 3-0-1-1 against this defensive scheme, and their offense ran passing plays 94% of the time

-Despite this high rate of passing, the Chiefs have an EPA/play of -0.11 in this situation and only run play action 3% of the time

-Teams blitzed 10% of the time in this case, had approximately 5 players in the box, and Mahomes received pressure in 1.25 seconds on average

Our defense will rely on 2/3/06 and follow these rates

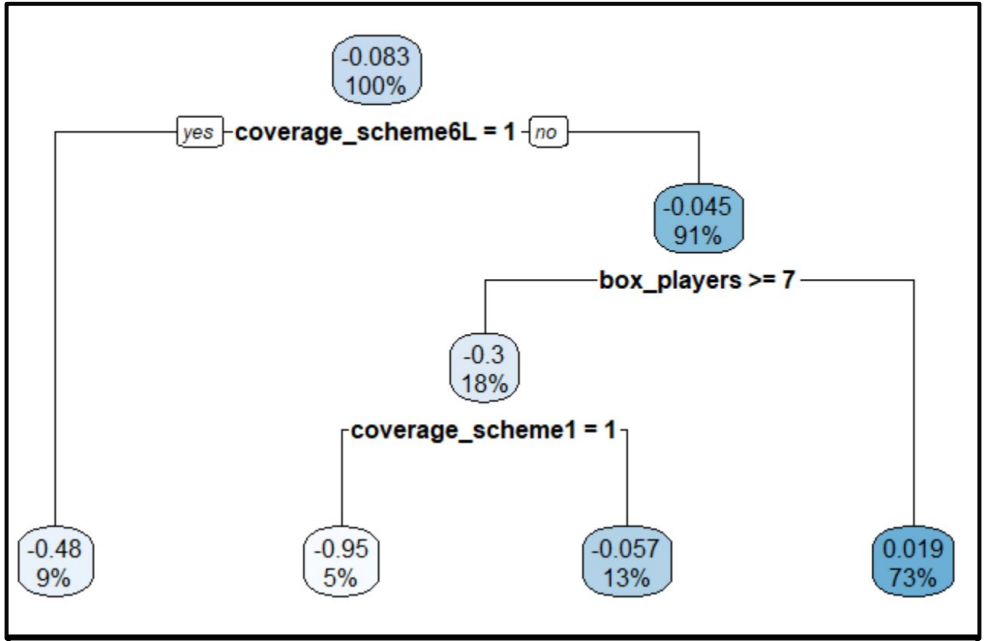
Defensive Teams

- We chose the **Los Angeles Rams** and the **New Orleans Saints** as our two defenses
  - Lowest mean EPA against 3-0-1-1 (offensive formation that Chiefs run most frequently)

Defense	Mean EPA against 3-0-1-1
CAR	0.0166
IND	0.027
LA	-0.089
MIA	0.0135
MIN	0.0028
NE	-0.0198
NO	-0.117
SEA	0.052
SF	-0.014
TB	-0.0243

Situation 1

Situation 1 (starting a game): 15:00 left in the 1st Quarter with 1st and 10 on the Chiefs 25-yard line with the Chiefs in 11 personnel (3-0-1-1)



Decision tree for Chiefs offense, Rams/Saints defense against 3-0-1-1 offensive personnel in this game situation. Data pulled from first down plays that take place in first and second quarter between offensive teams' 10 and 50 yard lines

Situation 1

Personnel: 3/3/05

Pass Rushers: 5

Coverage: Cover 3

Box Players: 6

12 observations

Mean EPA = -0.16

Personnel: 4/2/05

Pass Rushers: 4

Coverage: Cover 1

Box Players: 6

11 observations

Mean EPA = -0.16

The number of box players partially came from our decision tree ← in this scheme/game situation, the Chiefs run approximately 30% of the time, and we believe this number of box players will prepare both teams for passing and runs

Situation 2

Personnel: 4/2/05

Pass Rushers: 8

Coverage: Cover 1, man to man outside

Defense Personnel	Mean EPA	Count
2/4/05	-0.858	3
3/3/05	0.347	8
3/4/04	0.548	2
4/2/05	-1.80	3

Personnel: 4/2/05

Pass Rushers: 8

Coverage: Cover 1, closed MOFO

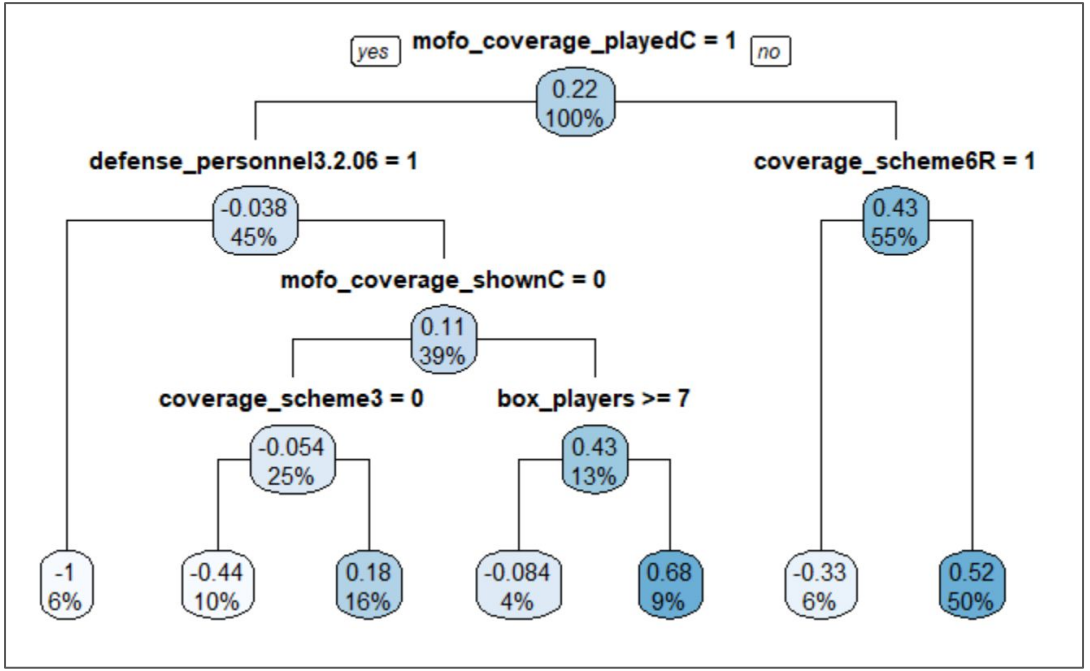
7 observations

Mean EPA = -0.275

Situation 2 (4th and short): 10:44 left in the 2nd Quarter with 4th and 2 on the 50-yard line with the Chiefs in 12 personnel (1 running back, 2 tight ends, and 2 wide receivers)

Situation 3

Situation 3 (two-minute drill): 1:36 left in the 2nd Quarter with 2nd and 9 on the Chiefs 40-yard line with the Chiefs in 11 personnel (1 running back, 1 tight end, and 3 wide receivers)



For this decision tree, we only included pass plays, plays with the Chiefs as the possession team, Rams/Saints as the defense, 2nd/3rd down plays, and plays within the last three minutes of the second quarter

Situation 3

Coverage shown: Center open

Coverage played: Center closed

Personnel: 2/3/06

Pass Rushers: 4

Coverage: Cover 6

12 observations

Mean EPA = -0.16

Coverage shown: Center open

Coverage played: Center closed

Personnel: 3/2/06

Pass Rushers: 4

Coverage: Cover 1

14 observations

Mean EPA = -0.72

In this situation, it's imperative that we cover passing plays (offenses in our filtered dataset for this situation run only 13% of the time.

Situation 4

Shotgun

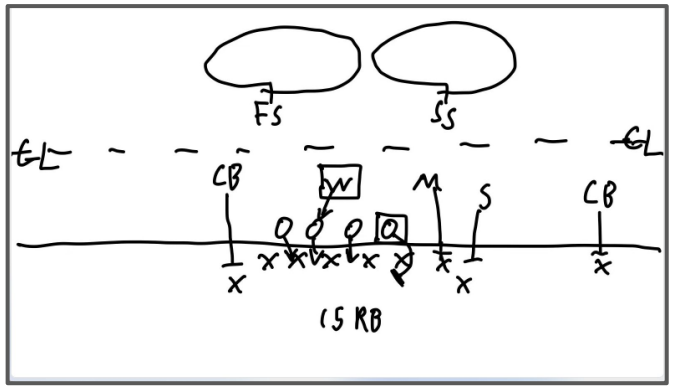
Situation 4 (goal line): 8:12 left in the 3rd Quarter with 3rd and Goal on your teams 2- yard line with the Chiefs in 13 personnel (1 running back, 3 tight ends, and 1 wide receiver)

Personnel: 4/3/04

Pass rushers: 4

Coverage: Cover 2 “pinch”

Close the MOFO!



Under Center

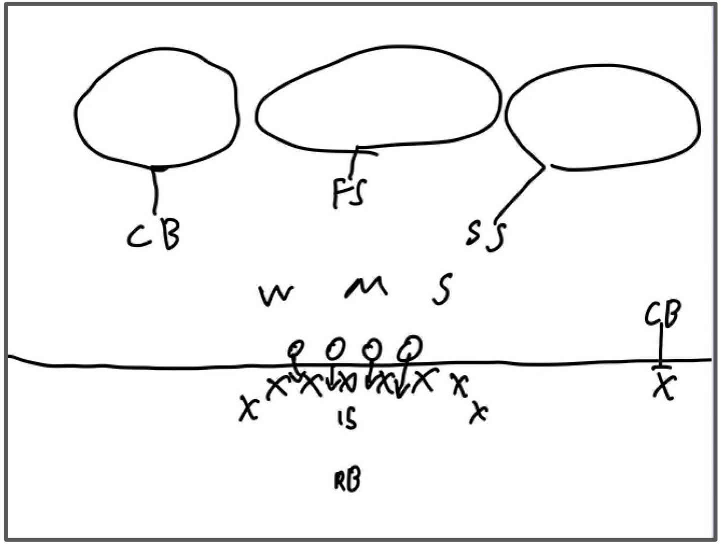
Under center:

Personnel: 4/3/04

Pass rushers: 4

Box players: 8

Coverage: Cover 3, man on outside



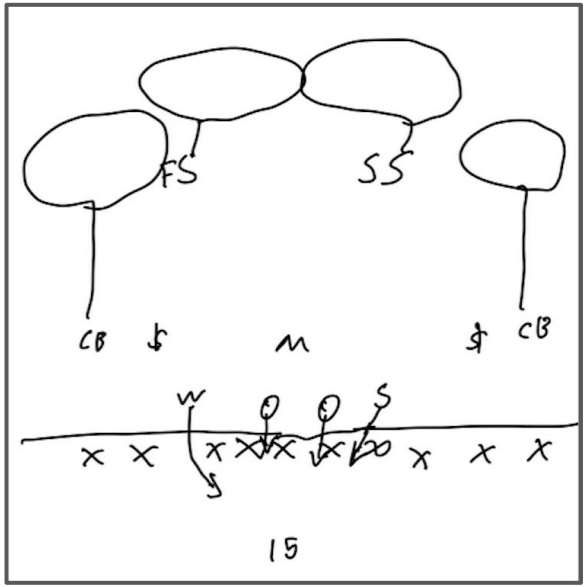
Defense 1: Situation 5

Situation 5 (game winning drive opportunity): 0:54 left in the 4th Quarter with 1st and 10 on the Chiefs 25-yard line – no timeouts – the score is tied with the Chiefs in 01 personnel (0 running backs, 1 tight end, and 4 wide receivers)

Personnel: 2/3/06

Pass Rushers: 4

Coverage: Cover 4



Coverage Scheme	Mean EPA	Count
3	-0.141	3
4	-0.891	4
6	2.41	2

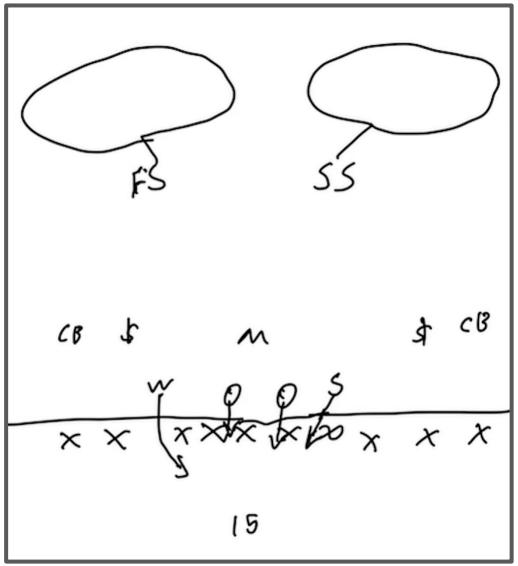
Defense Personnel	Mean EPA	Count
2/3/06	0.0917	9
3/2/06	0.432	1

Defense 2: Situation 5

Personnel: 2/3/06

Pass Rushers: 4

Coverage: Cover 2



Coverage Scheme	Mean EPA	Count
1	3.31	2
2	-2.14	1
B	-1.38	1

# of Pass Rush Players	Mean EPA	Count
4	0.602	2
5	4.04	1

Thank you!!!