Project Luther Too many movies?

Situation

- Luther Films plans to release a film in July 2016 but they found out that there will be a number of similar (same-genre) movies that will be released in the same month ("density")
- Luther funded the production with high-yield debt and is worried that the competition might affect its ability to service the debt.
 On the other hand, interest will accrue longer if the release is delayed
- The managers at Luther Films reached out to Metis to help them on this issue and to come back with a recommendation the next day

The idea

Competition decreases revenue, or does it? The average American watches a movie every 2 months L.E.K Box Office Research

Approach

- Given the time and budget constraints...
- Data collection through web scraping
- Modeling through linear regression

Data Munging

- Data: Movies from 2009 to 2015
- Data source: BoxOfficeMojo
- Webpages scraped: 4,400
- Missing data treatment: Complete cases only
- Filter out: blockbusters, box office and budget over US\$1 million, foreign movies
- Collapsed genres and distributors
- Final # of observations: 730

Beware of the Outliers

- Distributed by Kenn (Viselman)
- Domestic gross of US\$1 million
- O Budget of US\$20 million
- While not statistically significant, OLS shows that getting Kenn as the distributor increases domestic box office gross by US\$48 million relative to "Other Distributors"



Source: BoxOfficeMojo

Regression Model

- Evaluated OLS and Elastic Net Regression
- Used 100% of data since focus in on coefficient
- Model equation:

adj. dom. gross = 1 + budget + runtime + # days in release + largest # of theater + (largest # of theater)² + density + genre + distributor + month

| | \mathbb{R}^2 | Adj. R² | Density Coefficient p-value |
|---------------------------|----------------|---------|--------------------------------|
| Ordinary Least Squares | 74% | 74% | 8% |
| Elastic Net Regression | 72% | 72% | 7% |

US\$ 2,000,000

less revenue for every same-genre movie that will be released within 30 days of your movie release date (p>0.10)

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Luther Films should consider releasing the movie in June, a month earlier, for a potential increase in revenue of **US\$13** million (p>0.12)

Other Ideas

- Density measured by # of high budget movies and (just the)# of movies released within +/- 30 days
- Scraped OMDB data for movie ratings from Rotten Tomatoes, IMDB, Metacritic
- Scraped RGB pixel data of movie posters

Thanks!

Any questions?



