



Explore a surprising creative universe



Predicting Project Success on Kickstarter

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Music



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Theater



Task

Can project's pledged amount be predicted using other project features available through scraping of Kickstarter's website?

Data (web-scraped from Kickstarter.com on 3,169 projects)

- ❑ Goal Amount
- ❑ Pledged Amount
- ❑ Number of Backers
- ❑ Country/Location
- ❑ “Project We Love” Badge
- ❑ Project’s Launched and End Date

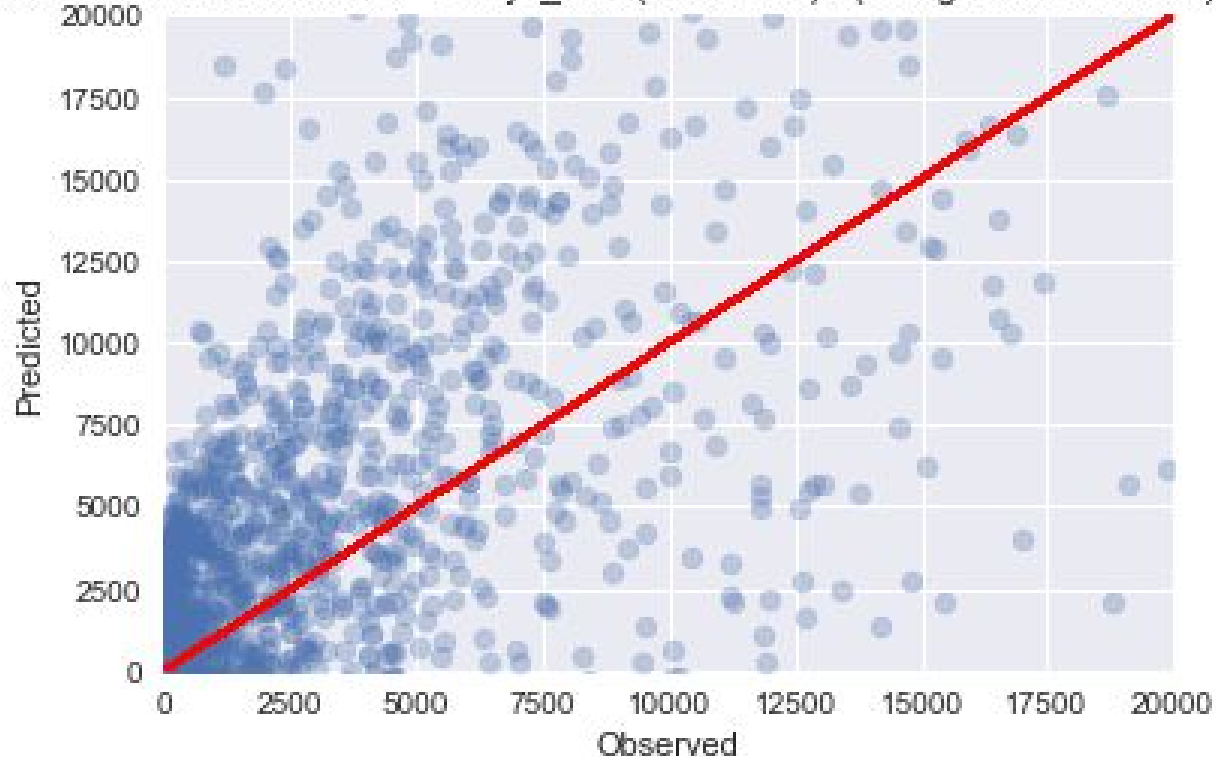


: “XML is a bitch to scrape.”

Word.

Model 1.0: Straight Up

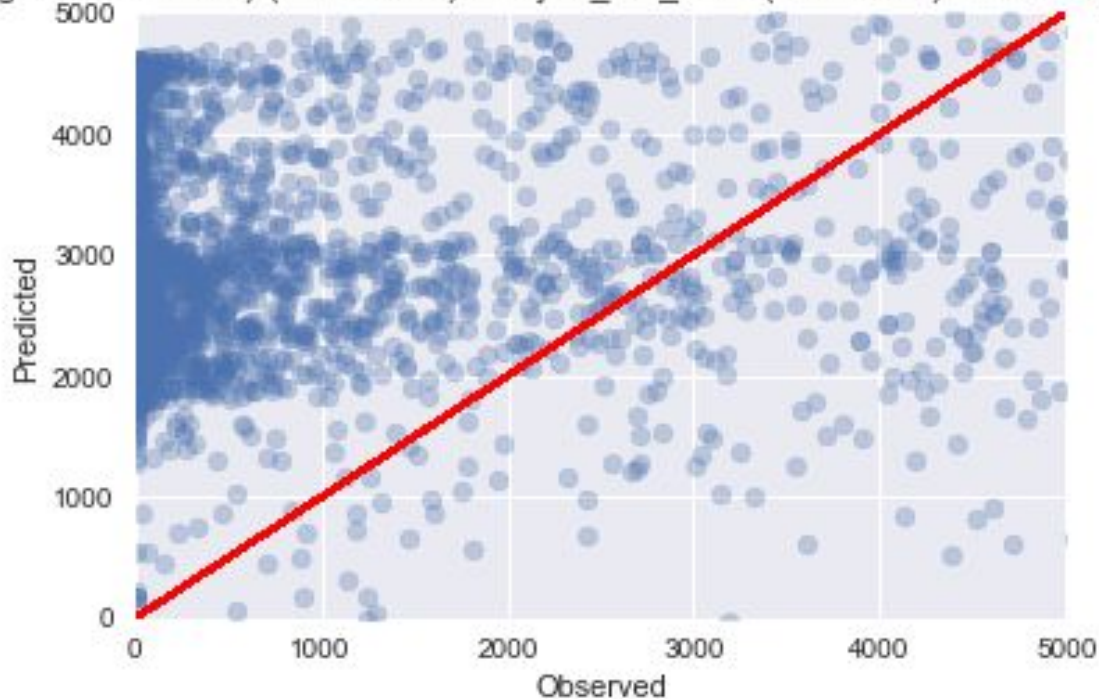
Pledged Amount: Observed vs Predicted by model:
 $4416.6793 + \text{Backers} * 115.0707 + \text{Days_Left} * (-173.2641) + (\text{Pledge Window le } 30) * (-5548.2443)$



$R^2 = 0.75$

Model 2.0: Windsorized* Target

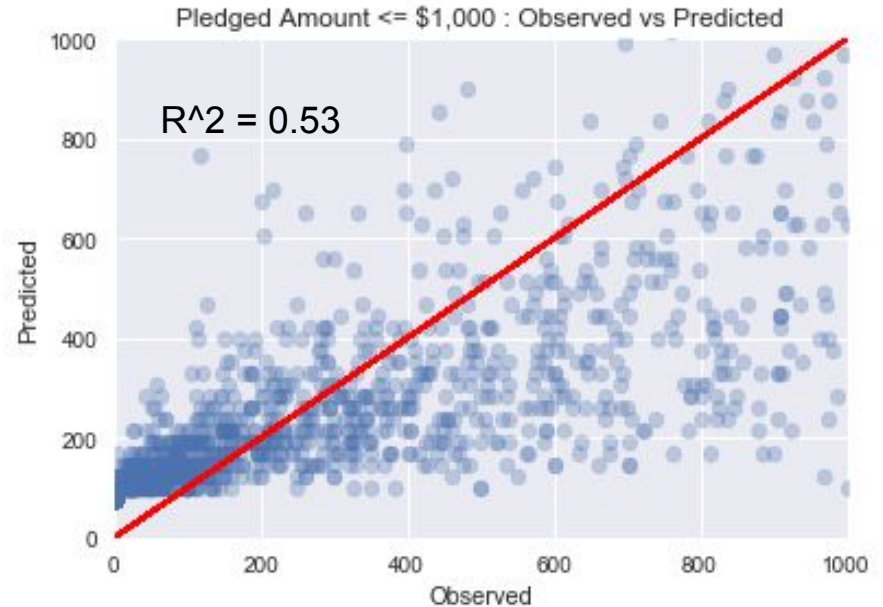
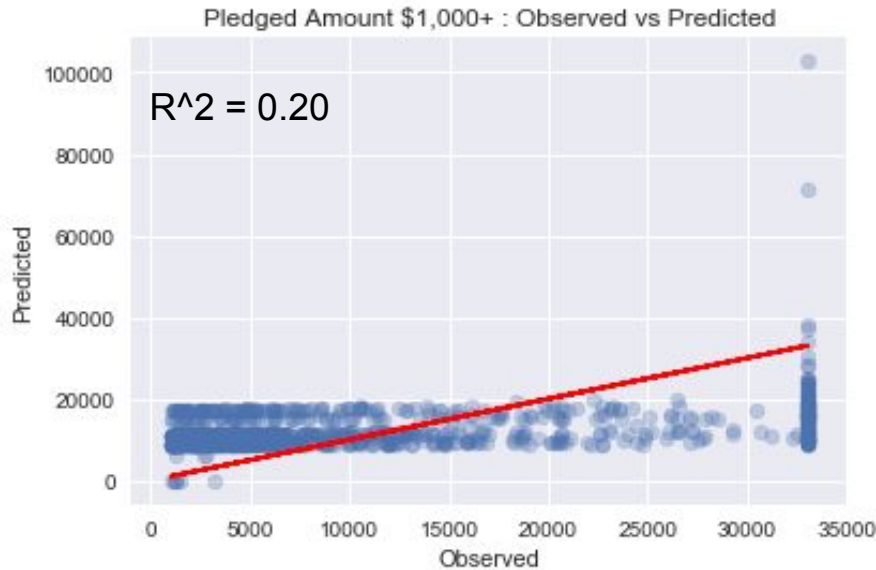
Pledged Amount: Observed vs Predicted by model:
 $4768.5923 + \text{Backers} * 3.8021 + \text{Days_Left} * (-48.5644) +$
 $(\text{Pledge Window le 30}) * (-1574.8456) + \text{Project_We_Love} * (5962.6949) + \text{Mexico} * (-4299.4703)$



$R^2 = 0.28$

*Top highest 5% of pledged amounts was replaced with 95th largest pledge amount.

Models 3.0



- Pledged Amounts under \$1,000 behave differently than the ones above \$1,000 and two models capture it better
- A more complex methodology would suit this data better than Linear Regression

Conclusions

- Smaller Pledged Amounts are affected by number of backers only (from available features)
- Larger Pledged Amounts impacted by location, “Projects we love” badge, and whether the pledge time window was less than a month

Next steps:

- Collect larger sample
- Perform Text Analysis
- Collect data on funded projects performance post-Kickstarter
- Try supervised classification algorithm instead of Linear Regression





Appendix

Model: Pledged Amount Greater Than \$1,000

	coef	std err	P> t
Intercept	8774.6897	421.183	0.000
Backers	3.1592	0.243	0.000
Project_We_Love	5962.6949	645.272	0.000
Mexico	-8883.2598	2884.732	0.002
Pledge Time Window at most 30 days	-2218.4727	546.601	0.000

Model: Pledged Amount No More Than \$1,000

	coef	std err	P> t
Intercept	76.4606	5.331	0.000
Backers	22.9505	0.524	0.000