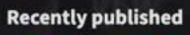




Siege reaches its highest player peak on Steam in almost three years

Don't even ask at this point, Rainbow Six Siege isn't dead.







Valorant Champions 2024: Everything you need to kno



PROJECT INSPIRATION HYPOTHESIS

Six Invitational 2024:

- Co-streamed by Twitch's most subbed channel Jynxzi.
- 521,349 peak viewers (the most-watched Six Invitational in the game's history).
- > 60,000 average players in June for the first time since April 2021.
- Hypothesis:

Viewership

CAUSE?

Players

Q

Read More

June 28, 2024



THURST PRESS

- A fast growing trend in the live-streaming industry led by Twitch and Youtube. (<u>Stats</u>)
- How does it impact the gamer's community and the industry in general?
- Potential business opportunities:
 - Could collaborating with streamers be a new channel to promote a game? More collaborations with Twitch?
- Project Direction:
 - a. Start with Rainbow Six Siege data
 - b. Use other games' data as a reference / to validate the idea







APIs:

- (1) Twitch API
- (2) Steam API

Third-party Websites:

- (1) SteamDB
- (2) Sullygnome





day

ay

day

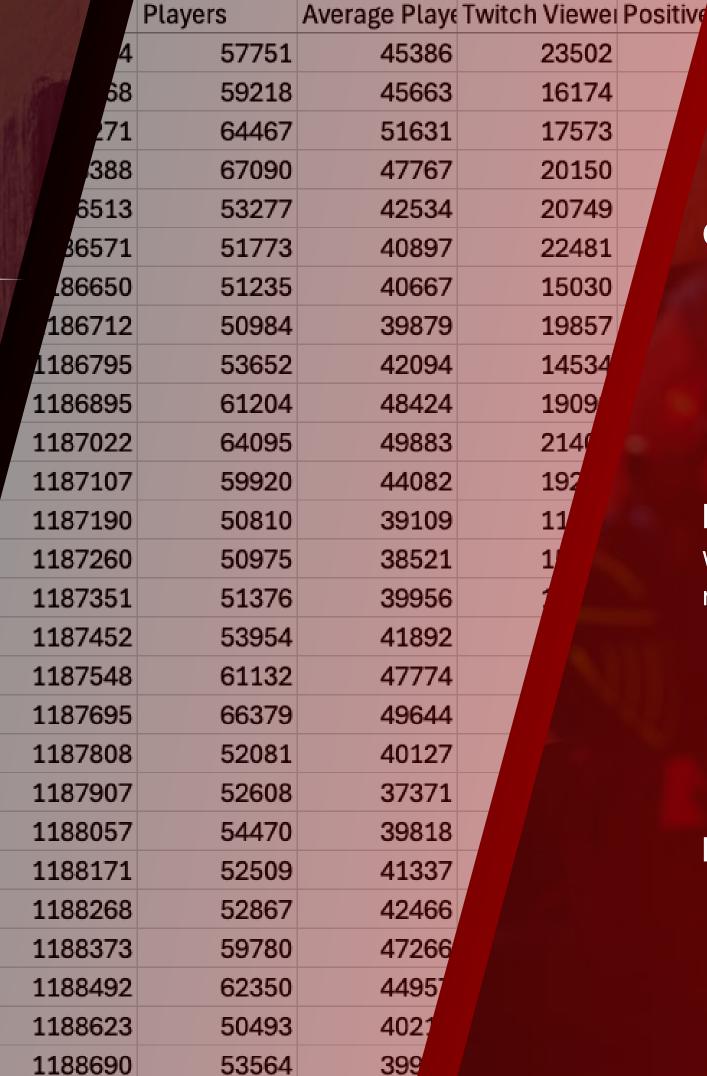
day

hday

esday









GAMES WE FOCUSED ON

- Online Multiplayer Shooting Game
- Data Sufficiency (>5years)
- Available on Steam
- Final selections:
- (1) Rainbow Six Siege (2) Counter-Strike 2 (3) Rust

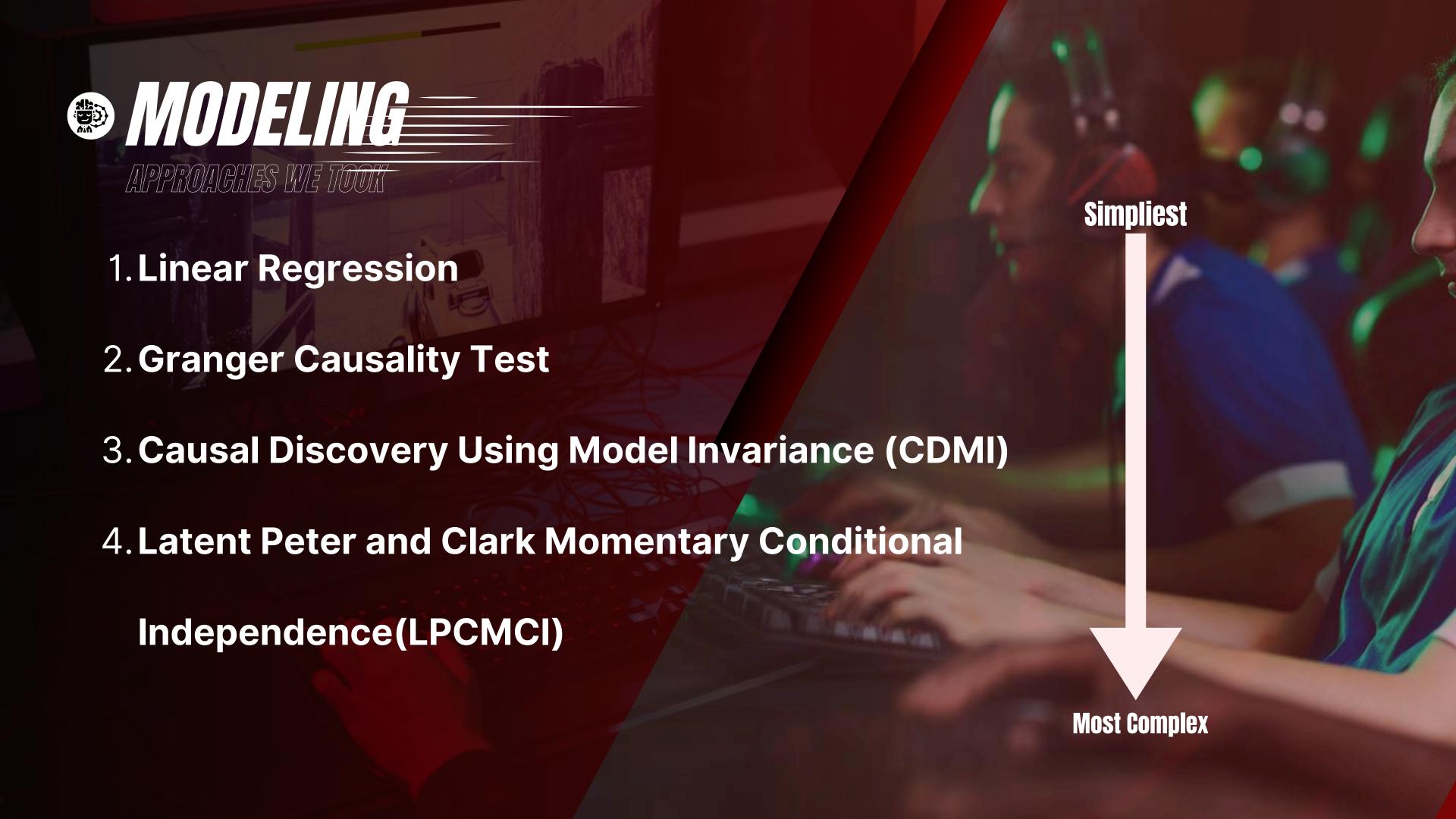
KPI

We chose Daily "Peak Player" as the main KPI for different reasons:

- 1. Similar to Daily Active Users (DAU), a KPI commonly used in the gaming industry but not usually disclosed to the public.
- 2. No missing values (comparing to Average Player)

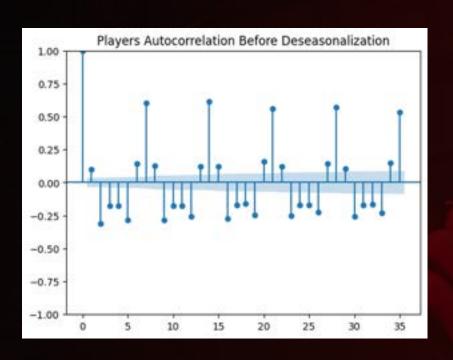
FINAL DATATSETS

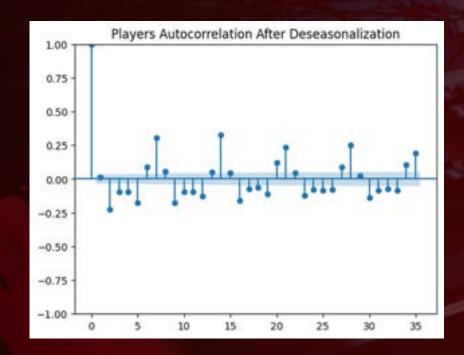
- 1 dataset for each game
- 5+ years of time series data (daily)
- 33+ columns

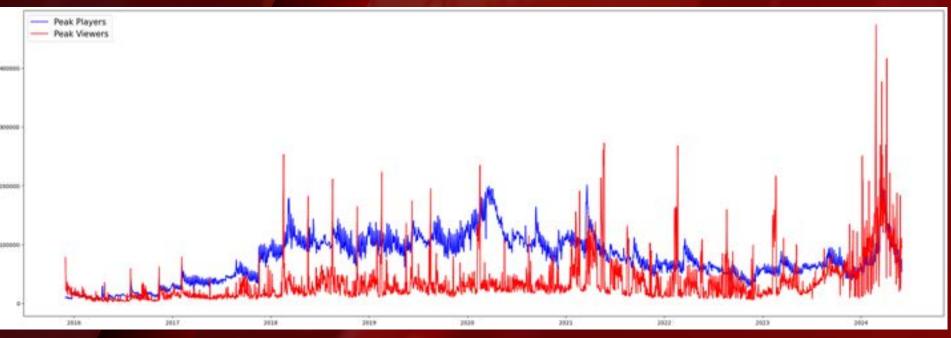




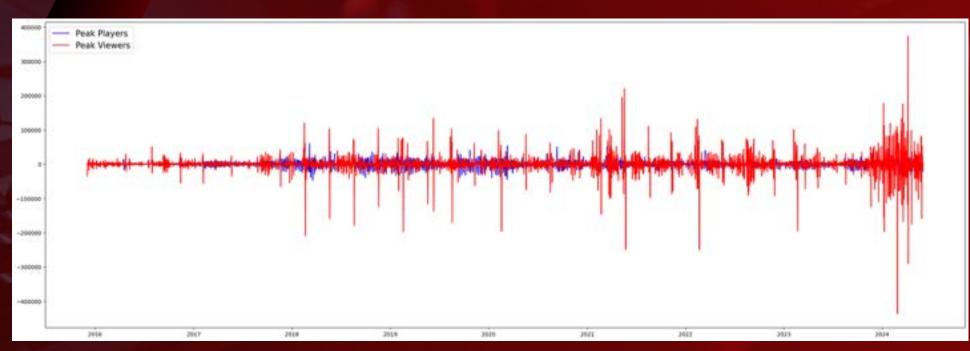
- Achieve stationarity for time series analysis
 - a.First Difference
 - b. Deseasonalization
- Lag data for modeling input







"Players" and "Peak viewers" Before First Difference



"Players" and "Peak viewers" After First Difference

MODELING

LINEAR REGRESSION

- Linear approximation of the relationship between time series
- Helps us understand how viewership is quantitatively associated with players

OLS Regression Results

						=====	
Date: Mon, Time: No. Observations: Df Residuals: Df Model: Covariance Type:	east Squar 08 Jul 20 19:41: 30 30	DLS res 224 :29 :29 :273 :17	Adj. R-squa F-statistic	c: atistic):	6.3	0.018 0.012 3.222 47e-06 -31655. 335e+04 345e+04	
		ef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
const	-100.79	951	117.396	-0.859	0.391	-330.978	129.388
Peak viewers	0.00	83	0.005	1.819	0.069	-0.001	0.017
Rating	49.64	115	1643.005	0.030	0.976	-3171.857	3271.140
Final price	-13.09	917	38.622	-0.339	0.735	-88.818	62.635
Monday	-49.12	228	308.377	-0.159	0.873	-653.769	555.524
Tuesday	154.40	82	304.382	0.507	0.612	-442.405	751.222
Wednesday	147.49	945	301.713	0.489	0.625	-444.085	739.074
Thursday	-37.85	509	305.163	-0.124	0.901	-636.195	560.493
Friday	-22.06	509	304.271	-0.073	0.942	-618.656	574.534
Saturday	-69.24	153	302.710	-0.229	0.819	-662.780	524.290
Sunday	-224.41	179	306.175	-0.733	0.464	-824.746	375.910
Free Weekend / Free Week(bool	2758.24	177	720.578	3.828	0.000	1345.384	4171.112
Tournament (INTL)	997.65	599	773.009	1.291	0.197	-518.007	2513.327
is historical low shift 5	59.12	233	379.969	0.156	0.876	-685.896	804.143
Peak viewers_shift_1	0.00	97	0.005	2.143	0.032	0.001	0.019
Peak viewers_shift_6	0.00	86	0.004	2.014	0.044	0.000	0.017
Peak viewers_shift_13	0.01	104	0.004	2.407	0.016	0.002	0.019
Final price_shift_3	-100.86	543	38.713	-2.605	0.009	-176.771	-24.958
Final price_shift_4	-104.12		38.655	-2.694	0.007	-179.920	-28.334
Omnibus:	1220.617		bin-Watson:		1.9		
Prob(Omnibus):	0.000		que-Bera (J	B):	26490.4		
Skew:	1.350		b(JB):			00	
Kurtosis:	17.085	C	d. No.		4.66e+	10	

MODELING GRANGER CASUALITY TEST

- Determine the predictability of one variable to another
- Tell the significant lags (in forecasting) between time series
- NOT TRUE CAUSALITY

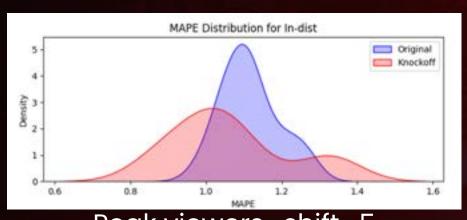
Granger Causality Result				
number of lags 1	p = 0.045			
number of lags 2	p = 0.0024			
number of lags 3	p = 0.0001			
number of lags 4	p = 0.0002			

Null Hypothesis: "Peak viewers" does not granger-cause "Players" Alternative Hypothesis: "Peak viewers" granger-causes "Players"

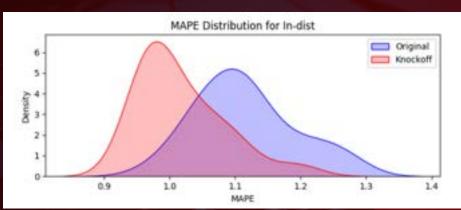
MODELING CAUSAL DISCOVERY USING MODEL INVARIANCE

- Tests for causality from observational time series
- Based on Model Invariance before and after intervention to identify causal relationships under certain assumptions

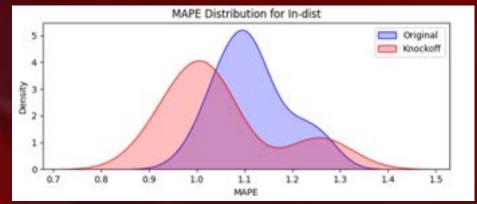
Causal Variables



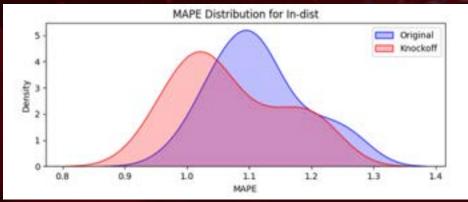
Peak viewers_shift_5



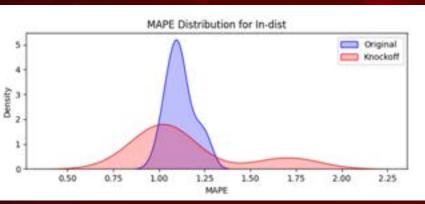
Peak viewers_shift_6



Peak viewers_shift_11



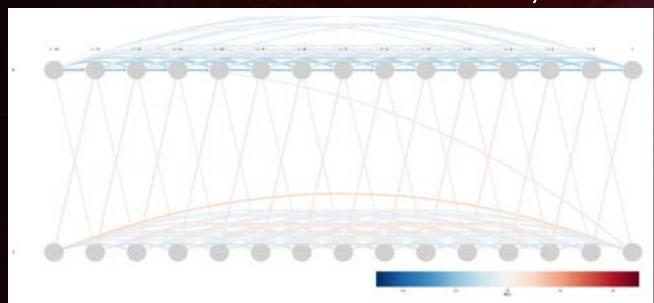
Peak viewers_shift_7



Peak viewers_shift_10

- Based on conditional independence tests
- 'Latent' for unobserved variables are believed to exist in the system
- Ability to conduct causal effect estimation

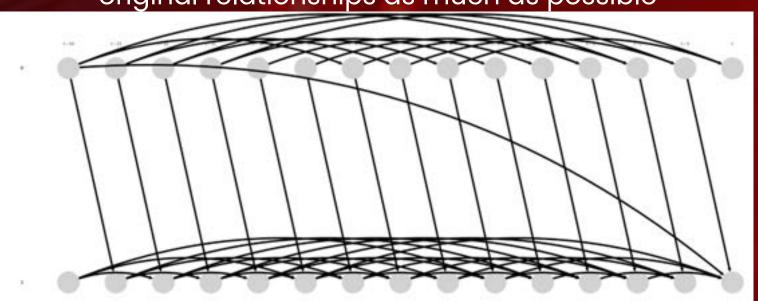
0 - Peak Viewer Diff 1 - Peak Player Diff



Variable 0 at time **t-1** -> Variable 1 at time t with p-value: 0.04696 Variable 0 at time **t-14** -> Variable 1 at time t with p-value: 0.00173

Causal Effect Estimation w/Simplified Casual Graph

Because our original causal graph is too complex and the algorithm could not solve for it, we simplified the DAG by pruning links with higher p-values, trying to represent the original relationships as much as possible



Estimated causal effect ≈ 0.00, which suggests a minimal effect.

However, we do find positive results for other two games (0.0235 and 0.0418, respectively)



Results of the other two games

From the results of our models, we can have 4 main takeaways:

- 1. It is highly positive that a causal relationship exists between Twitch Viewership and Peak Player for the game Rainbow Six Siege.
- 2. The two variables have a lagged relationship: the impact from viewership to players usually take between 1-2 weeks to reflect.
- 3. It is likely a positive relationship where effect is between 0 0.04, depending on the game
- 4. However, the causal relationship and its causal effect varies between games in terms of lagged effect and effect size. CS2 shows a more immediate casual pattern (significant time lag being t-1, t-2) while Rainbow Six Siege gives a causal effect close to 0, which could be a result of various reasons (for example, overpruning or Six Invitational 2024 being an anecdotal event).



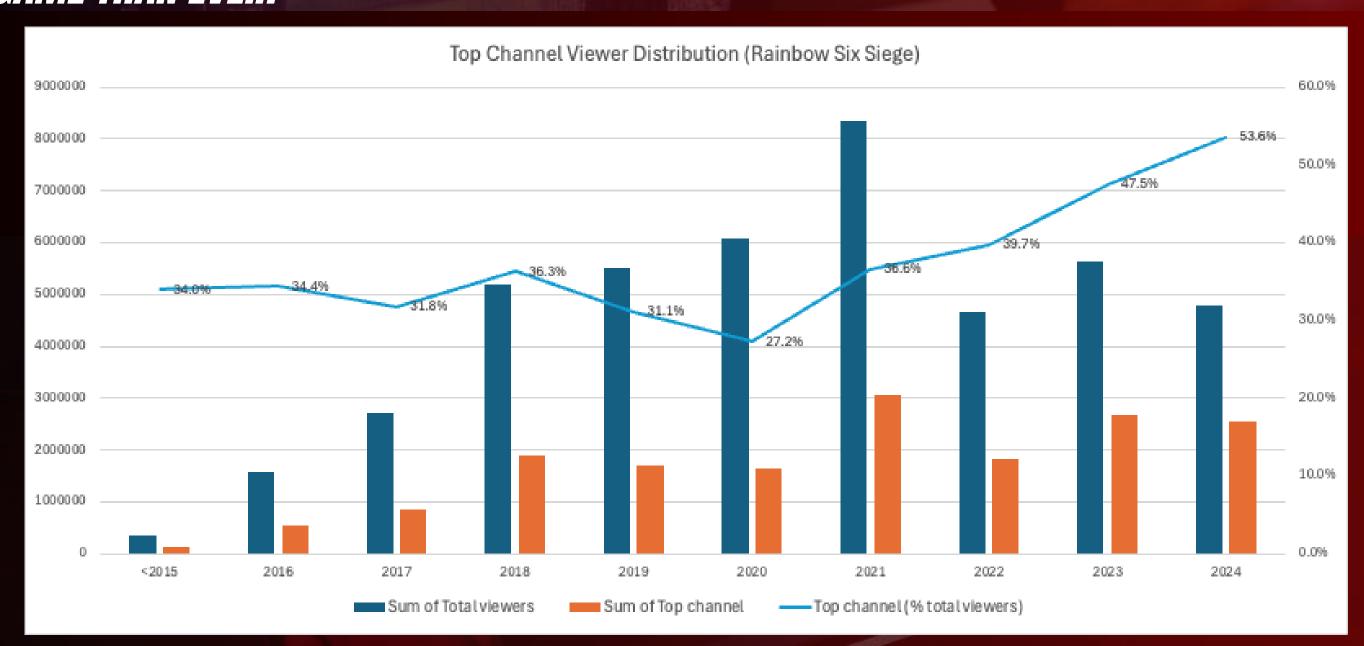


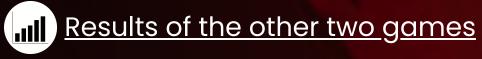
BUSILESS

- 1.Once we confirm the causal relationship, how could gaming companies increase viewership?
- 2.Follow-up analysis on the recent success in RS6 to get inspirations
 - a.Do top streamers have more influence on a game than ever?
 - b.Is holding tournaments a good way to promote a game?



Q1: DO TOP STREAMERS HAVE MORE INFLUENCE ON A GAME THAN EVER?

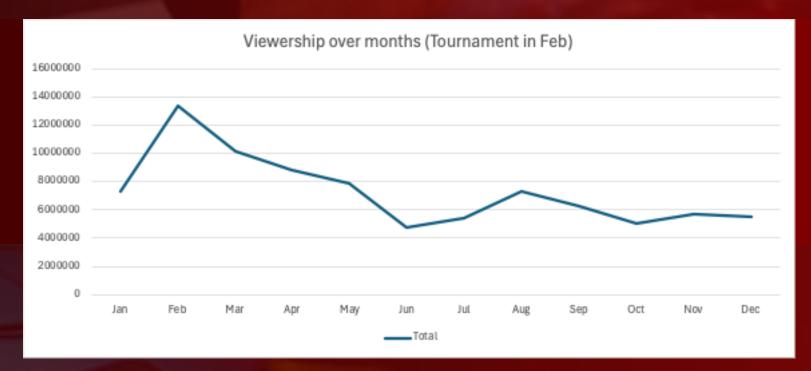


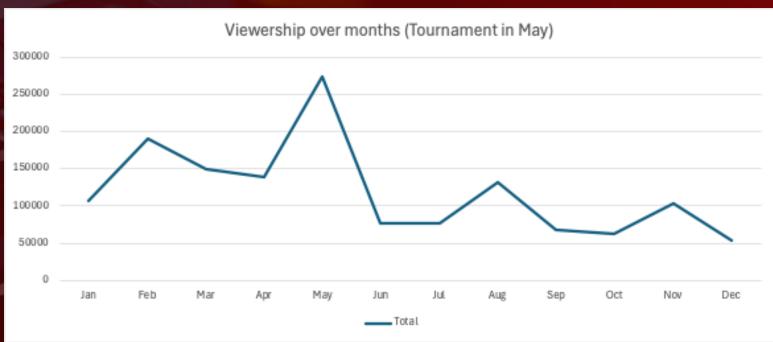




Q2: IS HOLDING TOURNAMENTS A GOOD WAY TO PROMOTE A GAME?







Aboved graphs are based on Rainbow Six Siege Data











PRECOMMENDATIONS(2)

Meanwhile,

- 2. Focus on game development
 - a. The impact of most events is short-term. Having a good game (product) is essential.
 - b. Companies should focus on:
 - i. Improve user experience, such as develop new game mode, anti-cheat updates.
 - ii. Be responsive to user's feedbacks.
- 3. Treat Twitch / Streaming (streamers' review/ chat) as a new channel to collect user feedbacks.



- 'True' Experiment for causal inference
- More (behavioral / demographic) data on viewer / player for deeper insights
- More complex and accurate models to quantify viewer/player relationship modeling
- In-depth game information (updates/ features)
- Further detailed study to understand between-game discrepancy of the viewership effect
 - Why Twitch has more causal influence in particular games?



CS2 Rust

APPENDIX(1)

Granger Causality results for CS2 & RUST

```
Granger Causality
number of lags (no zero) 1
ssr based F test:
                         F=5.3907 , p=0.0203 , df_denom=3175, df_num=1
ssr based chi2 test: chi2=5.3958 , p=0.0202 , df=1
likelihood ratio test: chi2=5.3913 , p=0.0202 , df=1
parameter F test:
                         F=5.3907 , p=0.0203 , df_denom=3175, df_num=1
Granger Causality
number of lags (no zero) 2
                         F=5.3351 , p=0.0049 , df_denom=3172, df_num=2
ssr based F test:
ssr based chi2 test: chi2=10.6870 , p=0.0048 , df=2
likelihood ratio test: chi2=10.6690 , p=0.0048 , df=2
parameter F test:
                         F=5.3351 , p=0.0049 , df_denom=3172, df_num=2
Granger Causality
number of lags (no zero) 3
ssr based F test:
                         F=5.9685 , p=0.0005 , df_denom=3169, df_num=3
ssr based chi2 test: chi2=17.9450 , p=0.0005 , df=3
likelihood ratio test: chi2=17.8945 , p=0.0005 , df=3
parameter F test:
                         F=5.9685 , p=0.0005 , df_denom=3169, df_num=3
Granger Causality
number of lags (no zero) 4
ssr based F test:
                         F=4.7178 , p=0.0009
                                              , df_denom=3166, df_num=4
ssr based chi2 test: chi2=18.9250 , p=0.0008 , df=4
likelihood ratio test: chi2=18.8688 , p=0.0008 , df=4
parameter F test:
                         F=4.7178 , p=0.0009 , df_denom=3166, df_num=4
Granger Causality
number of lags (no zero) 5
ssr based F test:
                         F=3.9858 , p=0.0013 , df_denom=3163, df_num=5
ssr based chi2 test: chi2=19.9983 , p=0.0013 , df=5
likelihood ratio test: chi2=19.9356 , p=0.0013 , df=5
parameter F test:
                         F=3.9858 , p=0.0013 , df_denom=3163, df_num=5
Granger Causality
number of lags (no zero) 6
                         F=3.6203 , p=0.0014 , df_denom=3160, df_num=6
ssr based F test:
ssr based chi2 test: chi2=21.8111 , p=0.0013 , df=6
likelihood ratio test: chi2=21.7365 , p=0.0014 , df=6
                         F=3.6203 , p=0.0014 , df_denom=3160, df_num=6
parameter F test:
Granger Causality
number of lags (no zero) 7
ssr based F test:
                         F=4.0739 , p=0.0002 , df_denom=3157, df_num=7
ssr based chi2 test: chi2=28.6527 , p=0.0002 , df=7
likelihood ratio test: chi2=28.5241 , p=0.0002 , df=7
                         F=4.0739 , p=0.0002 , df_denom=3157, df_num=7
parameter F test:
```

"Peak viewers" granger causes "deseasonalized_players" from lag = 1

```
Granger Causality
number of lags (no zero) 1
ssr based F test:
                        F=0.9723 , p=0.3242 , df_denom=3176, df_num=1
ssr based chi2 test: chi2=0.9732 , p=0.3239 , df=1
likelihood ratio test: chi2=0.9730 , p=0.3239 , df=1
parameter F test:
                        F=0.9723 , p=0.3242 , df_denom=3176, df_num=1
Granger Causality
number of lags (no zero) 2
ssr based F test:
                         F=5.2402 , p=0.0053 , df_denom=3173, df_num=2
ssr based chi2 test: chi2=10.4970 , p=0.0053 , df=2
likelihood ratio test: chi2=10.4797 , p=0.0053 , df=2
parameter F test:
                        F=5.2402 , p=0.0053 , df_denom=3173, df_num=2
Granger Causality
number of lags (no zero) 3
ssr based F test:
                        F=6.9560 , p=0.0001 , df_denom=3170, df_num=3
ssr based chi2 test: chi2=20.9140 , p=0.0001 , df=3
likelihood ratio test: chi2=20.8455 , p=0.0001 , df=3
parameter F test:
                        F=6.9560 , p=0.0001 , df_denom=3170, df_num=3
Granger Causality
number of lags (no zero) 4
ssr based F test:
                         F=4.4409 , p=0.0014 , df_denom=3167, df_num=4
ssr based chi2 test: chi2=17.8141 , p=0.0013 , df=4
likelihood ratio test: chi2=17.7643 , p=0.0014 , df=4
parameter F test:
                        F=4.4409 , p=0.0014 , df_denom=3167, df_num=4
Granger Causality
number of lags (no zero) 5
ssr based F test:
                        F=5.9951 , p=0.0000
                                              , df_denom=3164, df_num=5
ssr based chi2 test: chi2=30.0797 , p=0.0000 , df=5
likelihood ratio test: chi2=29.9381 , p=0.0000 , df=5
parameter F test:
                        F=5.9951 , p=0.0000 , df_denom=3164, df_num=5
Granger Causality
number of lags (no zero) 6
                        F=8.8590 , p=0.0000
ssr based F test:
                                              , df_denom=3161, df_num=6
ssr based chi2 test: chi2=53.3728 , p=0.0000 , df=6
likelihood ratio test: chi2=52.9290 , p=0.0000 , df=6
parameter F test:
                        F=8.8590 , p=0.0000
                                              , df_denom=3161, df_num=6
Granger Causality
number of lags (no zero) 7
                        F=7.4846 , p=0.0000 , df_denom=3158, df_num=7
ssr based F test:
ssr based chi2 test: chi2=52.6413 , p=0.0000
likelihood ratio test: chi2=52.2094 , p=0.0000
                                              , df=7
parameter F test:
                        F=7.4846 , p=0.0000 , df_denom=3158, df_num=7
```

"Peak viewers" granger causes "deseasonalized_players " from lag = 2

APPENDIX(2)

Linear Regression results for CS2 & RUST

CS2

OLS Regression Results								
Model: Method:	lon, 08	01 Square Jul 202 20:10:1 318	.S 24 .9 80 64	Adj. F-sta Prob	uared: R-squared: atistic: (F-statistic): Likelihood:		0.009 0.005 1.963 0.0144 -37921. 7.587e+04 7.597e+04	
	C(ef	std	err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
const	241.4	305	963	.981	0.251	0.802	-1648.611	2131.572
Peak viewers	0.0	133	0	.005	2.415	0.016	0.002	0.024
Rating	7.938e-	+04 4	.06	e+04	1.956	0.051	-194.726	1.59e+05
Final price	676.83	137	968	.618	0.699	0.485	-1222.369	2575.996
Tournament (INTL)	1863.83	389 3	080	.301	0.605	0.545	-4175.751	7903.429
Events	1.715e-	+04 1	.24	e+04	1.380	0.168	-7211.545	4.15e+04
Friday	-406.38	306 1	603	.068	-0.254	0.800	-3549.538	2736.776
Monday	225.69	946 1	714	.035	0.132	0.895	-3135.037	3586.427
Saturday	-439.82	242 1	614	.763	-0.272	0.785	-3605.914	2726.265
	-1097.38	385 1	627	.341	-0.674	0.500	-4288.138	2093.361
Thursday	-585.89	990 1	607	.373	-0.365	0.716	-3737.498	2565.700
Tuesday	1609.40	030 1	708	.365	0.942	0.346	-1740.213	4959.019
Wednesday	935.8	752 1	711	.212	0.547	0.584	-2419.323	4291.073
Peak viewers_shift_1	0.0	172	0	.006	3.058	0.002	0.006	0.028
Peak viewers_shift_2	0.0		0	.005	2.138	0.033	0.001	0.022
Final price_shift_4	-2527.68	310	962	.627	-2.626	0.009	-4415.118	-640.244
is_historical_low_shift_2	38.6			.995	0.028	0.977	-2622.028	2699.331
Omnibus:		.521		bin-Wa	atson:		2.195	
Prob(Omnibus):	0	.000	Jar	que-Be	era (JB):	20	365.405	
Skew:	0	.224	Pro	b(JB)	•		0.00	
Kurtosis:	15	.390	Con	d. No	•		L.66e+21	

Rust

	0LS	Regressio	n Results			
Dep. Variable: de Model: Method: Date: Time: No. Observations: Df Residuals: Df Model: Covariance Type:	Mon, 08	OLS Squares	R-squared: Adj. R-square F-statistic: Prob (F-stati Log-Likelihoo AIC: BIC:	stic):	0.	62. +04
***************************************	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
const	-14.0932	139.995	-0.101	0.920	-288.583	260.396
Peak viewers	0.0227	0.004	6.262	0.000	0.016	0.030
Rating	1.172e+04	9205.101	1.273	0.203	-6331.677	2.98e+04
Final price	-44.9266	60.881	-0.738	0.461	-164.296	74.443
Tournament (INTL)	-1000.0289	2079.159	-0.481	0.631	-5076.666	3076.608
Events	3565.9543	3565.288	1.000	0.317	-3424.556	1.06e+04
Friday	-86.8187	381.649	-0.227	0.820	-835.123	661.486
Monday	70.5528	382.671	0.184	0.854	-679.756	820.862
Saturday	-50.5195	378.851	-0.133	0.894	-793.339	692.300
Sunday	102.8997	379.920	0.271	0.787	-642.014	847.814
Thursday	-179.6083	381.088	-0.471	0.637	-926.813	567.597
Tuesday	197.6223	381.133	0.519	0.604	-549.671	944.915
Wednesday	-68.2215	380.658	-0.179	0.858	-814.583	678.140
Peak viewers_shift_4	0.0103	0.004	2.854	0.004	0.003	0.017
Peak viewers_shift_6	0.0129	0.004	3.573	0.000	0.006	0.020
Peak viewers_shift_11	-0.0124	0.004	-3.438	0.001	-0.020	-0.005
Peak viewers_shift_13	0.0093	0.004	2.581	0.010	0.002	0.016
Final price_shift_4	-151.6197	60.887	-2.490	0.013	-271.001	-32.238
is_historical_low	318.0461	663.362	0.479	0.632	-982.618	1618.710
Omnibus: Prob(Omnibus): Skew: Kurtosis:	2202 0 2 23	.794 Dur .000 Jar .906 Pro .819 Con	bin-Watson: que-Bera (JB): b(JB): d. No.		2.261 61925.167 0.00 4.76e+18	

APPENDIX(3)

CDMI results for CS2 & RUST

No significant lag was found for CS2

	In-dist	Out-dist	Mean	Uniform
Peak viewers	0	0	0	0
Final price	0	0	0	0
is_historical_low	0	0	0	0
Peak viewers_shift_1	0	0	0	0
Peak viewers_shift_2	0	0	0	1
Peak viewers_shift_3	0	0	0	0
Peak viewers_shift_4	0	0	0	1
Peak viewers_shift_5	0	0	0	0
Peak viewers_shift_6	0	0	0	0
Peak viewers_shift_7	0	0	0	0
Peak viewers_shift_8	0	0	0	1
Peak viewers_shift_9	0	0	0	1
Peak viewers_shift_10	0	0	0	1
Peak viewers_shift_11	0	0	0	0
Peak viewers_shift_12	0	0	0	0
Peak viewers_shift_13	0	0	0	0
Peak viewers_shift_14	0	0	0	0
Rating_shift_1	0	0	0	0
Rating_shift_7	0	0	0	0
Final price_shift_1	0	0	0	0
Final price_shift_2	0	0	0	0
Final price_shift_3	0	0	0	0
Final price_shift_4	0	0	0	0
Final price_shift_5	0	0	0	0
Final price_shift_6	0	0	0	0
Final price_shift_7	0	0	0	0
is_historical_low_shift_2	0	0	0	0
is_historical_low_shift_4	0	0	0	0
is_historical_low_shift_6	0	0	0	0

CS2

Rust

	Rus			
	In-dist	Out-dist	Mean	Uniform
Peak viewers	0	0	0	1
Final price	0	0	0	0
is_historical_low	0	0	0	0
Peak viewers_shift_1	0	0	0	0
Peak viewers_shift_2	0	0	0	1
Peak viewers_shift_3	0	0	0	0
Peak viewers_shift_4	0	0	0	0
Peak viewers_shift_5	1	0	0	1
Peak viewers_shift_6	1	0	0	1
Peak viewers_shift_7	0	0	0	1
Peak viewers_shift_8	0	0	0	0
Peak viewers_shift_9	0	0	0	1
Peak viewers_shift_10	0	0	0	0
Peak viewers_shift_11	0	0	0	1
Peak viewers_shift_12	0	0	0	0
Peak viewers_shift_13	0	0	0	1
Peak viewers_shift_14	1	0	0	1
Rating_shift_1	0	0	0	0
Rating_shift_7	0	0	0	0
Final price_shift_1	0	0	0	0
Final price_shift_2	0	0	0	0
Final price_shift_3	0	0	0	0
Final price_shift_4	0	0	0	0
Final price_shift_5	0	0	0	0
Final price_shift_6	0	0	0	0
Final price_shift_7	0	0	0	0
s_historical_low_shift_1	0	0	0	0
s_historical_low_shift_2	0	0	0	0
s_historical_low_shift_3	0	0	0	0
s_historical_low_shift_4	0	0	0	0
s_historical_low_shift_5	0	0	0	0
s_historical_low_shift_6	0	0	0	0
s_historical_low_shift_7	0	0	0	0

Peak viewers from 5,6, days and 14 days ago are significant

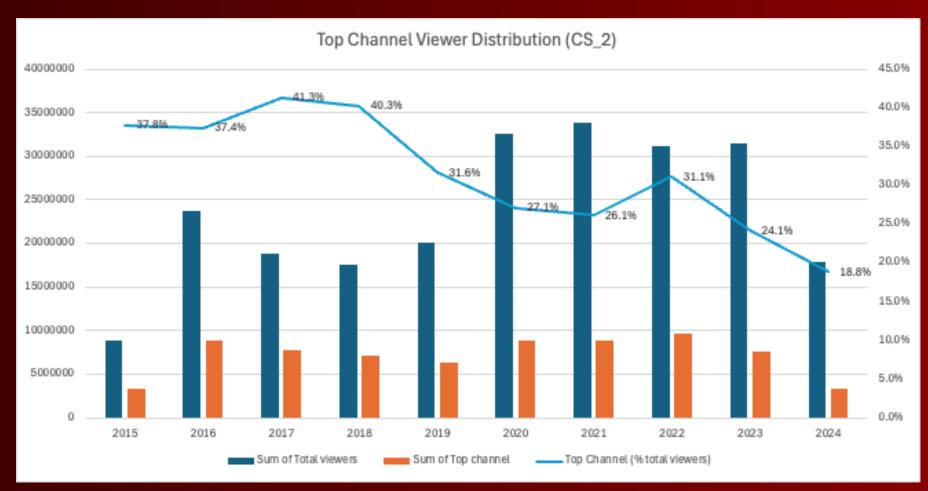
APPENDIX(4)

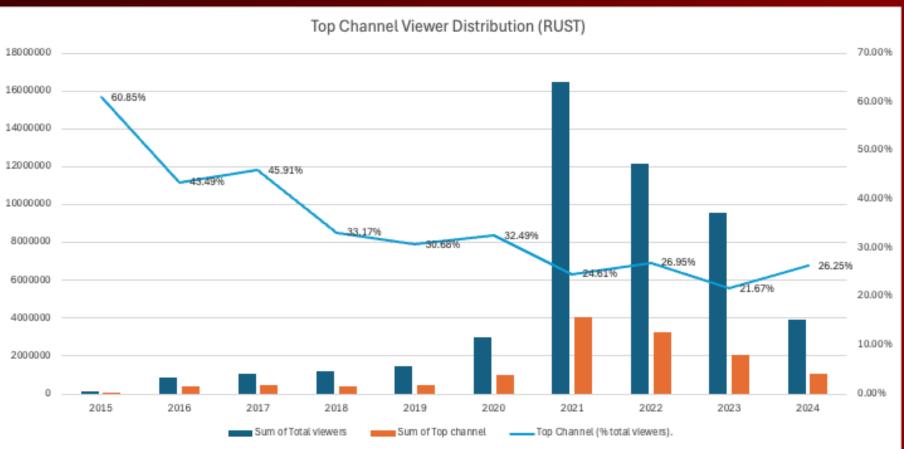
LPCMCI results for CS2 & RUST

	CS2	Rust
Significant Links	 Variable 0 at time t-1 -> Variable 1 at time t (p- value: 0.00162) Variable 0 at time t-2 -> Variable 1 at time t (p- value: 0.02314) 	 Variable 1 at time t-0 -> Variable 0 at time t (p- value: 0.00000) Variable 1 at time t-4 -> Variable 0 at time t (p- value: 0.00105)
Estimated Casual Effect	0.02	0.04

APPENDIX(5)

Top channel viewer distribution plots (CS2 / RUST)





APPENDIX(6)

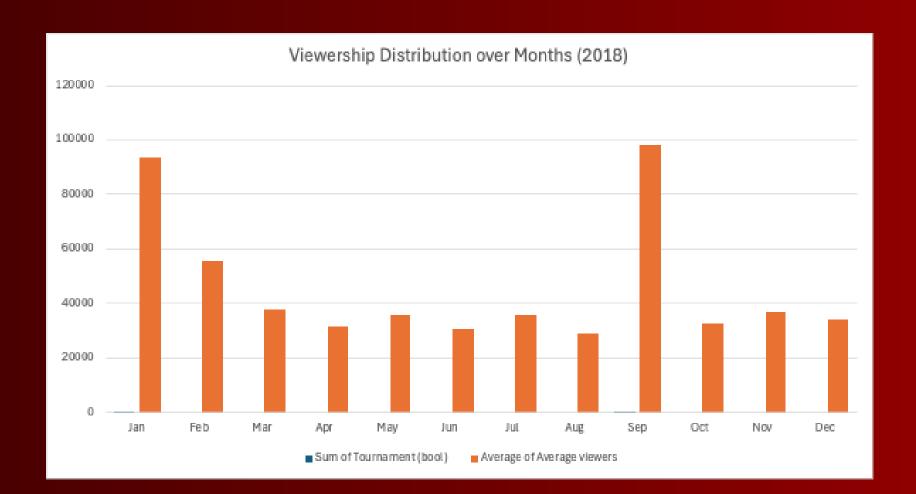
Viewership Distribution
(During Tournament / Not
During Tournament)
(CS2/ RUST)

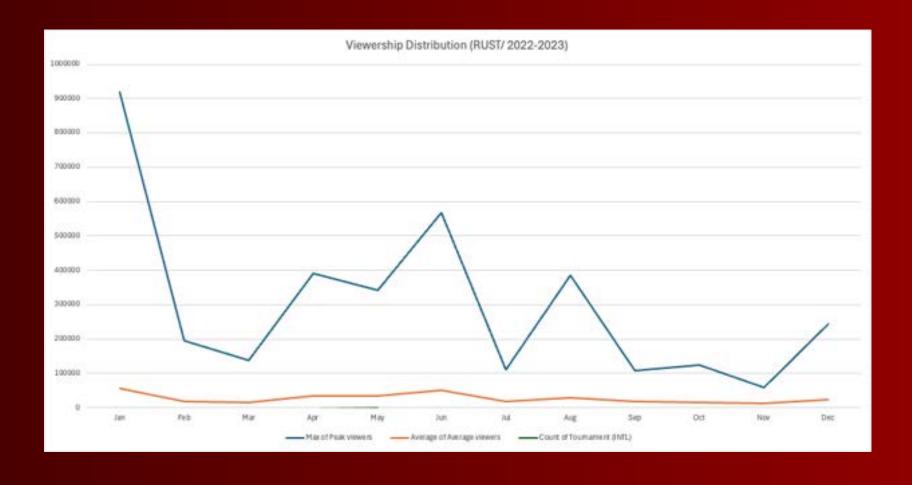
Years (DateT	2018		
Row Labels	Sum of Tourn	Average of Av	erage viewers
Jan	14	93552.6452	
Feb	0	55783.0714	
Mar	0	37739.1613	
Apr	0	31840.7	
May	0	35522.9677	
Jun	0	30413.1667	
Jul	0	35970.6129	
Aug	0	29163.3548	
Sep	17	98006.1	
Oct	0	32532.2903	
Nov	0	36883.5333	
Dec	0	34365.2903	

CS2 2018

Row Labels	▼ Max of Peak viewers	Average of Average viewers	Count of Tournament (INTL)
⊙ Jan	917741	56196.17742	
∘ Feb	195251	19729.76786	
	136869	15963.3871	
Apr	391822	35973.03333	3
May	342239	34029.01613	5
⊚ Jun	566990	50186.11667	
o Jul	109641	19282.33871	
Aug	384738	29264.83871	5
Sep	108823	18156.3	
⊕ Oct	124621	16364.20968	
Nov	60204	12825.11667	
⊙ Dec	243825	25079.30645	5
Grand Total	917741	27803.30959	18

Rust 2022-2023





APPENDIX(7)

Twitch Drop Example: RUST 2020 twitch drops event



