

## 👍 **LevelUp Milestone** | GameJet

### Transactions

**INTRODUCTION:** In order to make the most of a given dataset, you may need to perform engineering of additional calculated fields. Performing calculations to transform the data lets an analyst extract new information that could not be obtained from the data as originally stored.

**HOW IT WORKS:** Follow the prompts in the questions below to investigate your data. Post your answers in the provided boxes: the **yellow boxes** for the queries you write, and **blue boxes** for text-based answers. When you're done, export your document as a pdf file and submit it on the Milestone page – see instructions for creating a PDF at the end of the Milestone.

**RESOURCES:** If you need hints on the Milestone or are feeling stuck, there are multiple ways of getting help. Attend Drop-In Hours to work on these problems with your peers, or reach out to the HelpHub if you have questions. Good luck!

**PROMPT:** In this Milestone, you'll help a mobile game company summarize and describe some general patterns in the app usage and spending for one of their games. Revenue from this game is supported by a traditional microtransaction model, where users can spend real money on in-app purchases for items that allow players to access more game features.

Monetization is a difficult problem for companies in the mobile games space, and they need to balance converting as many users from free users to paid users, without being so aggressive that they actually end up driving away more users and actually make less revenue. But before they can start developing strategies for improving the game from a business perspective, the team needs your help to summarize what has been done so far!

**SQL App:** [Here's that link](#) to our specialized SQL app, where you'll write your SQL queries and interact with the data.

## – Data Set **Description**

The data for this Milestone (`game_jet.*`) describes activity for users of a mobile-based game with microtransactions. In the game, two currencies called 'passes' and 'gems' are used to unlock more game content and to purchase cosmetic items. These currencies can be earned slowly over regular play, but gems can also be purchased as in-app purchases. You will be working with three tables in this Milestone: `users`, `sessions`, and `iaps`.

The `users` table lists users who have downloaded the game app, one per row. The table contains six columns, of which include:

- **udid** - unique id for the user / device
- **install\_date** - date of user installing the app
- **lang** - two-letter code for native language for device
- **country** - two-letter code for user's country

The `sessions` table records every session taken by a user where they opened the app. There are four columns in this table:

- **udid** - user / device id
- **ts** - timestamp for start of session
- **date** - pre-truncated date for session
- **session\_num** - cumulative session number for the user

The `iaps` (In-app purchases) table records all purchases made by users, exchanging real money for in-game currency. There are six columns in this table:

- **udid** - user / device id
- **ts** - timestamp for purchase
- **date** - pre-truncated date for session
- **prod\_type** - product type, can be gems, passes, or a value pack.
- **prod\_qty** - quantity code that is proportional to each product (e.g. a quantity of 1 for gems might actually represent 10 gems)
- **rev** - revenue / price of the purchase, in cents

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## – Task 1: App usage behaviors

How long does a user spend with the app in terms of the number of sessions or the days that they stick with the app? This can have implications for how much time we have to ‘hook’ a player and give them a reason to spend money on the app.

- A. Query the `users` data table to discover the total number of users represented in the data.

(paste your query below 📌)

```
SELECT
  COUNT(DISTINCT udid) AS total_users
FROM
  game_jet.users;
```

(write your **answer** below 📌)

There are 22576 total unique users on Gamejet.

- B. Next, write a query to count the number of distinct users in the sessions data table. Recalling your answer from Task 1A, how many users downloaded the app but didn’t actually open it? HINT: A user who downloaded the app will always add a tally in the users table, but won’t show up in sessions if they never use the app.

(paste your query below 📌)

```
SELECT
  COUNT(DISTINCT udid) AS distinct_users_sessions
FROM
```

```
game_jet.sessions;
```

(write your **answer** below 📌)

There are 22544 distinct user sessions meaning 32 users did not open the game despite getting the game from our previous query.

- C. Write a query that returns the number of sessions made by each user. Sort the output by the number of sessions made, from largest to smallest. How many sessions did the user with the most sessions have with the app?

(paste your query below 📌)

```
SELECT
  udid,
  COUNT(*) AS session_count
FROM
  game_jet.sessions
GROUP BY
  udid
ORDER BY
  session_count DESC;
```

(write your **answer** below 📌)

User 4ef925e5 had 1939 different sessions in our dataset, marking the most by a player.

- D. We should also be interested in how many sessions were taken by a 'typical' app user. The average number of sessions with the app is 32.1. Modify your

query from part C to only return users who have made more than that many sessions. How many users are there? (Read this from the SQL app interface.) Based on that number, how well does the average represent a 'typical' player? HINT: Your query should include the HAVING keyword here!

(paste your query below 📌)

```
SELECT
    udid,
    COUNT(*) AS session_count
FROM
    game_jet.sessions
GROUP BY
    udid
HAVING
    COUNT(*) > 32.1
ORDER BY
    session_count DESC;
```

(write your **answer** below 📌)

There are 5262 users that have played more than 32.1 average games, although it is probably skewed a little from players who play over 1500 games; I think it is roughly a reflection of a typical player as some may also have a very low game total as nearly 1800 are under 30 or so games.

## – Task 2: In-App Purchases

How large is our user base in terms of who is spending money? Is it a lot of users spending a little, or is it a few users who are spending a lot? Different types of users will likely be responsive to different types of tactics to get them to spend more money.

- A. Using the `iaps` table, write a query to determine the number of users who have made at least one purchase. Remember that each time a user makes a purchase, a new row is added to the `iaps` table.

(paste your query below 📌)

```
SELECT
  COUNT(DISTINCT udid) AS users_with_purchases
FROM
  game_jet.iaps;
```

- B. Both tables share values in the `udid` column. Write a query that left joins the `iaps` table to the `users` table and returns the total (sum) amount of money spent on in-app purchases, grouped by user id. Your query should return every user in the `users` table, regardless of whether or not the user made a purchase; the total spent for users with no record in the `iaps` table should be a `null` value.

(paste your query below 📌)

```
SELECT
  u.udid,
  SUM(i.rev) AS total_spent
FROM
  game_jet.users u
  LEFT JOIN game_jet.iaps i ON u.udid = i.udid
GROUP BY
  u.udid;
```

- C. Modify your query in part B to create a new feature called `persona` that segments users into four purchasing personas:

- a “free player” who does not spend any money on in-app purchases,
- a “minnow” who spends less than \$20 on in-app purchases,
- a “dolphin” who spends between \$20 and \$100 on in-app purchases,
- and a “whale” who spends at least \$100 on in-app purchases.

Remember: revenue is recorded in terms of cents, so \$20 is equal to 2000 cents and \$100 is equal to 10 000 cents.

(paste your query below 📌)

```
SELECT
  u.udid,
  SUM(i.rev) AS total_spent,
  CASE
    WHEN SUM(i.rev) IS NULL THEN 'free player'
    WHEN SUM(i.rev) < 2000 THEN 'minnow'
    WHEN SUM(i.rev) ≥ 2000
    AND SUM(i.rev) < 10000 THEN 'dolphin'
    WHEN SUM(i.rev) ≥ 10000 THEN 'whale'
  END AS persona
FROM
  game_jet.users u
  LEFT JOIN game_jet.iaps i ON u.udid = i.udid
GROUP BY
  u.udid;
```

### – Task 3: Analyzing Free-to-Play Personas

The remainder of this Milestone will be completed in a Tableau Workbook where we can use visualizations to aid in our analysis. [Click this link](#) to navigate to the

**workbook you'll use to complete the remainder of this Milestone.** Remember to publish your Tableau Workbook in the folder named Upload Workbooks Here.

(paste the **Share Link** below 📌)

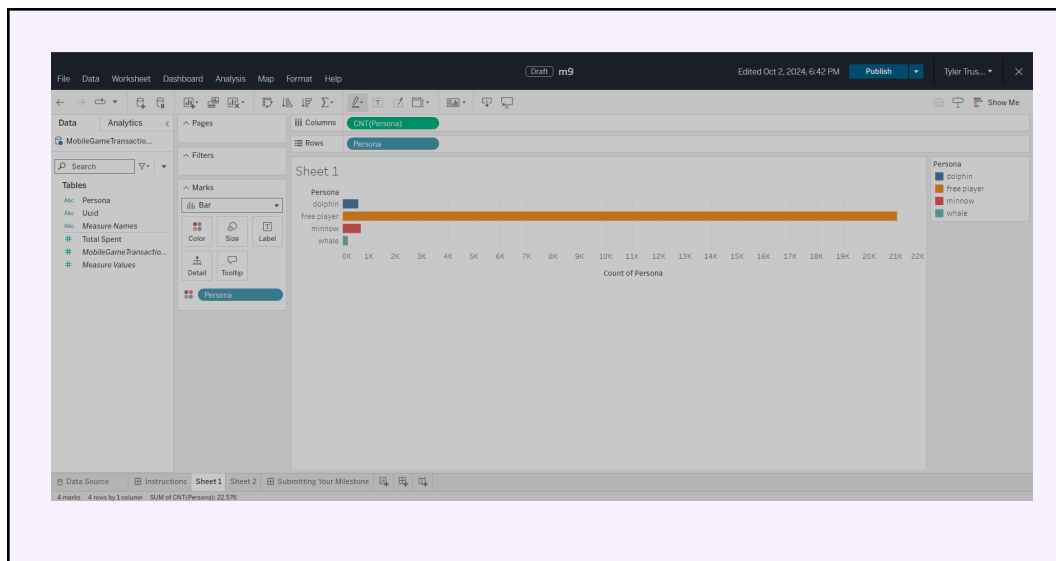
[https://prod-useast-b.online.tableau.com/t/globaltech/authoring/m9\\_17279196335400/Sheet1#1](https://prod-useast-b.online.tableau.com/t/globaltech/authoring/m9_17279196335400/Sheet1#1)

**Continue to post your answers in the provided boxes:** purple boxes for your visualizations, and blue boxes for text-based answers.

- A.** On Sheet 1, create a bar chart to illustrate the total number of each purchasing persona. Which persona accounts for the majority of users?

**HINT:** There are a few ways to do this! One suggestion is to drag the **Persona** pill to the Rows AND Columns! But convert the Columns pill to be a *measure*. You'll want the count here.

(paste your **screenshot** below 📌)



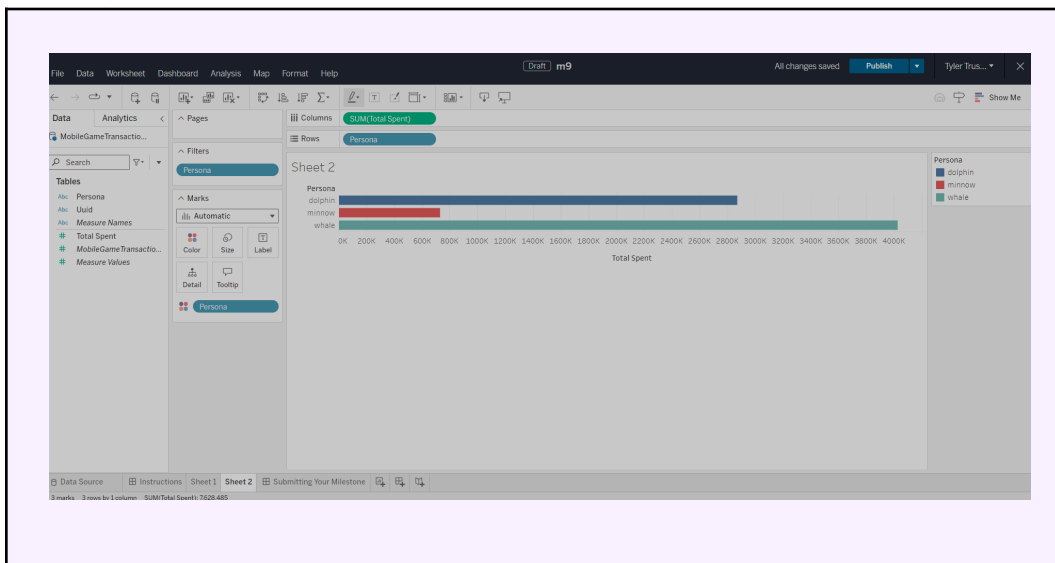


(write your **answer** below 📌)

By far, the majority of users are free-to-play users, as you can clearly see with the very large orange bar.

- B.** On Sheet 2, create a second bar chart to illustrate the total amount of money spent, grouped by each purchasing persona. Since free players don't spend any money on in-app purchases, filter your visualization to show only the total revenue generated by minnows, dolphins, and whales. Which persona accounts for the majority of in-app purchase revenue?

(paste your **screenshot** below 📌)



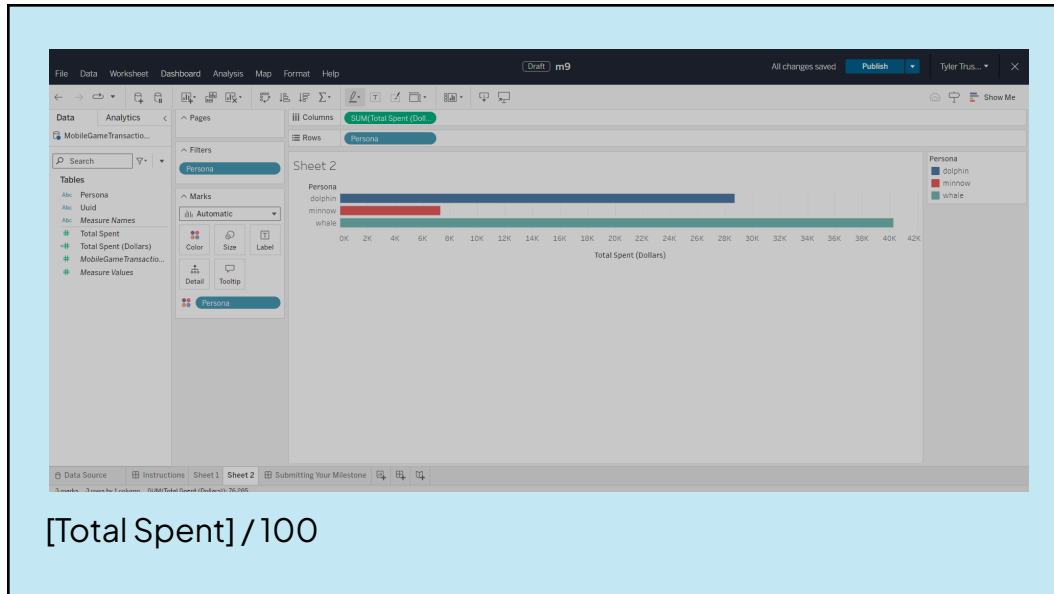
(write your **answer** below 📌)

The whales account for the majority of the money spent on the game.

- C. Challenge:** You might notice in this last graph that your y-axis is pushing 4 000 000! But the units are cents, not dollars! Can you create a calculated field in your Tableau workbook that converts the total amount spent from

cents to dollars and use this field to adjust your visualization? HINT: \$1 = 100 cents.

(write your **answer** below 🙋)



## – Task 4: Analyzing Player Engagement Patterns

The answers to the questions in the Milestone tasks above should paint a picture of the game app being mostly supported off of a relatively small, dedicated group of players. Most users only engage with the app for a short amount of time and end up not buying anything. Even a fair amount of users who do buy something don't make too many purchases.

- A.** Another angle of attack you might be interested in looking at is how long it takes for a user to make their first purchase, if they make any. You can do this in two steps. First, take the difference between the user's install date and the date of each purchase they made to get the amount of days between when they started playing, and when they made a purchase. Their first purchase will then be the purchase with the smallest difference in dates. How many users make a purchase on the first day they have the app? Are there any other periods where we could possibly entice game players to make purchases?

(paste your query below 📌)

```
WITH first_purchase AS (  
  SELECT  
    u.udid,  
    MIN(i.date :: date - u.install_date :: date) AS  
days_to_first_purchase  
  FROM  
    game_jet.users u  
    JOIN game_jet.iaps i ON u.udid = i.udid  
  GROUP BY  
    u.udid  
)  
SELECT  
  days_to_first_purchase,  
  COUNT(*) AS user_count  
FROM  
  first_purchase  
GROUP BY  
  days_to_first_purchase  
ORDER BY  
  days_to_first_purchase;
```

(write your **answer** below 📌)

With this query, I can see the volume of each day it takes for someone to buy a microtransaction from the time of their first game. From this small screenshot, I will insert, you will be able to

see that a lot usually do it within the first few days of playing.

days_to_first_purchase	user_count
0	724
1	283
2	112
3	76
4	39

Still, there are some who wait a while to purchase a microtransaction, but nearly as many players:

days_to_first_purchase	user_count
47	2
48	4
49	1
50	2
52	3
53	2
54	1
55	1
56	8
57	2
58	3
59	1
60	2

So, in my opinion, since most people purchase something on day zero and it goes down more from there, the player should get a microtransaction screen within the first day of playing, as that is when they will be the most enticed to pay. Often, it will be marketed as a headstart in the game rather than working hard at the beginning, which seems to be the most effective strategy via the dataset.



## – Submission

Great work completing this Milestone! To submit your completed Milestone, you will need to download / export this document as a PDF and then upload it to the Milestone submission page. You can find the option to download as a PDF from the File menu in the upper-left corner of the Google Doc interface.