Turning Data Tables into Two Thumbs Up

Why invest in making films?

Many companies who are in the entertainment industry are making Data driven content

Data driven content has proven to be profitable with shows like 'House Of Cards' from Netflix

Microsoft has the opportunity to jump into the film industry right now, with a good return on investment, by following data driven decisions.



In my reviews, I feel it's good to make it clear that I'm not proposing objective truth, but subjective reactions; a review should reflect the immediate experience.

Roger Ebert

1. What makes a profitable movie?

(hint: not it's costs!)

Where we searched

We gathered data from The Numbers, Box Office Mojo, and IMDB to cross reference as many films as possible

The Numbers and Box Office Mojo had numbers on sales.

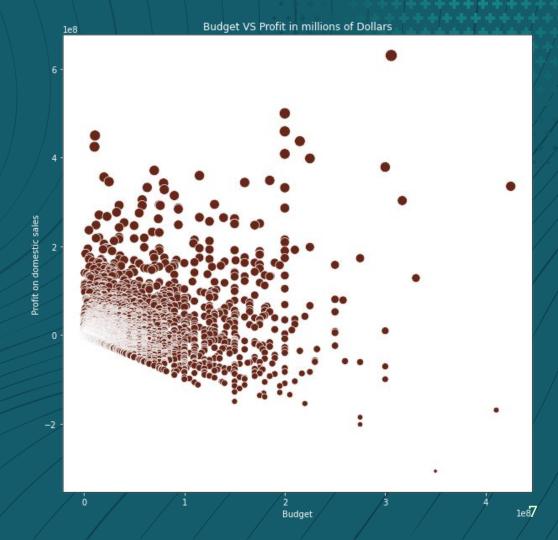
IMDB had data on film personnel and film ratings

Maybe there is a correlation between the budget of a film and the profit it made?

We analyzed 5700+ films

There is no correlation between Budget and Profitability

Investment has a slight influence on profit, but nothing notable



So what DOES make a film profitable?

- Writers
- Directors
- Actors

And picking the right genre

How we determined profitability?

Crew

films

We took a list of 22k writers, directors and actors, that were in our 5800

Profitable film

We calculated the profit of a film by taking Domestic gross sales at the box office, and subtracting production budget

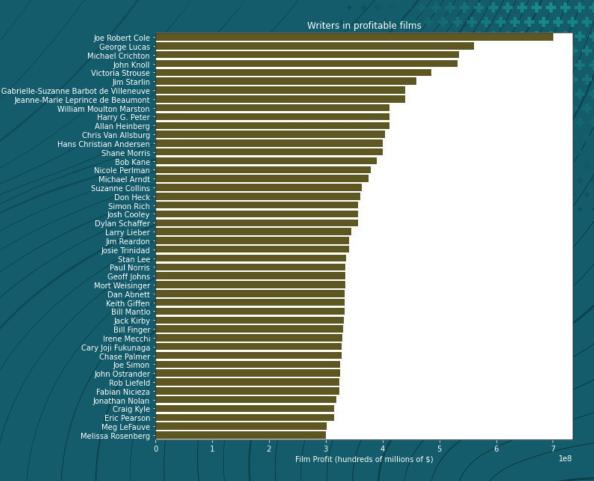
Better on average

We calculated if of all the films each person participated in, what was the average profit? Which Writers
Performed
best overall?

Writers who's films on average, performed well

specifically

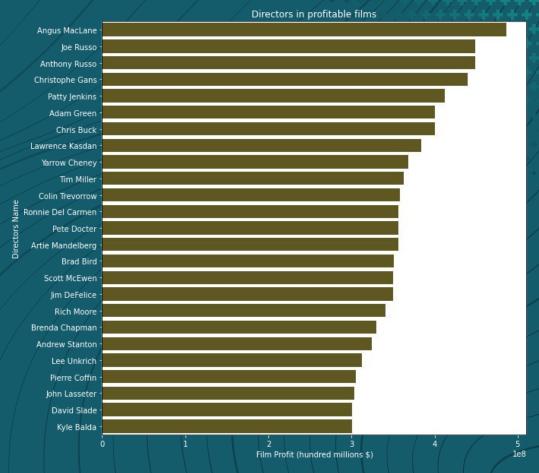
Joe Robert Cole George Lucas Michael Crichton John Knoll Victoria Strouse Jim Starlin



Directors who's films on average, performed well

Specifically

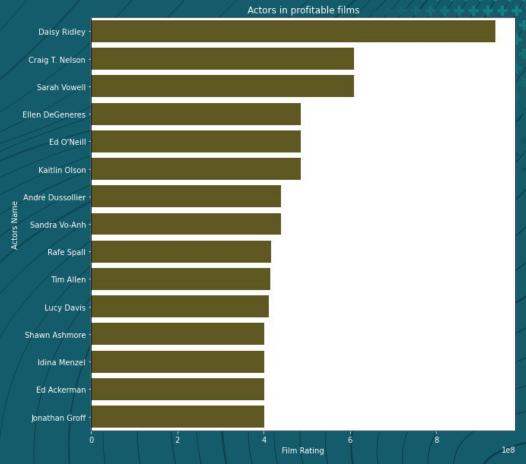
Angus MacLane Joe Russo Anthony Russo Christophe Gans Patty Jenkins Adam Green Chris Buck



Actors who's films on average, performed well

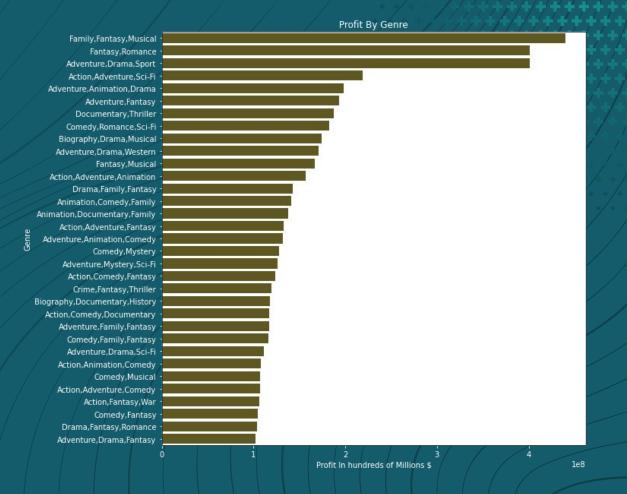
Specifically

Daisy Ridley Craig T. Nelson Sarah Vowell Ellen DeGeneres Ed O'Neill Kaitlin Olson



Films that did financially well, on average had one of the above mentioned people in their cast/writers

Actors who's films on average, performed well



The Genre that performed best was Family/Fantasy/Musical

But the average Genre that performed best was a mix of Adventure and Fantasy

Final thoughts

To get the best return on investment Microsoft should Hire one of:

- Writers Joe Robert Cole, George Lucas or Michael Crichton
- Directors Angus MacLane, or the Ruso brothers
- ACTORS Daisy Ridley, Craig T. Nelson or Kaitlin Olson
- (animation) Ellen DeGeneres, Ed O'Neill
- In the Action / Fantasy Genre

Thank you for your time!

See you on the big screen!

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