Mather Economics Customer Lifetime Value (CLV) For Newspapers

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Introduction – Customer Lifetime Value (CLV)

The power of CLV (the present value of a customer's total contribution to cash flow) is that it clarifies key strategic considerations

- What is the likelihood a specific customer will leave?
- How is a customer's value affected by various attributes or targeted incentives? What will happen to my bottom line if those attributes change by 10%?
- What customers should we acquire? What incentives should we use?
- What specific conditions optimize profitability for a given level of risk?
- How do we operationalize CLV to impact retention and drive increased customer satisfaction through targeted customer experiences?

CLV allows you to conduct certain Marketing analyses with increased rigor and develop a scoring system to drive optimal action based on individual customer value

CLV is the risk-adjusted operating margin for an individual customer within 24 months of acquisition

CLV = [(Circ Rev + PP rev – Del Cost – Prod Cost)*(Expected Lifetime)] PV – Acquisition Cost



The CLV metric allows you to allocate acquisition and retention resources to their most profitable use through rigorous fact-based analysis

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Introduction – Building the CLV Model

Once the source data is identified and available in a central location, the CLV model can be implemented in a scientific way

- Construct a customer service history
 - Start date
 - Usage statistics (e.g., Prices, Payments, Complaints, Classified usage)
 - Service changes
 - End date
- Attach indicators to the service history
 - Demographics (e.g., income, age, gender, children, education)
 - Marketing-specific metrics (e.g., preprint revenue, ROP adv. value)
 - Organization-specific metrics (e.g., payment methods, costs, credits)
- Develop a retention (survival) model
- Calculate a "best fit" (regression) model correlating the customer variables to retention rates.
- Calculate the CLV using the retention rates, revenue and cost metrics

How the model is built – and implemented – is crucial to making CLV scores actionable and statistically significant

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Analysis – Accomplishments To Date

Our strategic pricing analysis and actions provide many of the components of CLV:

- Retention has been modeled using survival analysis
- A/B testing has validated price elasticity for customer segments
 - Quantified variances in price elasticity by income, age, service
- Direct costs and preprint revenues by customer are integrated with retention analysis
- Targeted upgrades are utilizing analytics to increase circulation and revenue by account, which will improve CLV for those customers

CLV can be developed using consistent data and metrics employed in Market Based Pricing

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Retention breakdown



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Retention breakdown



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CLV – Next Steps

- Refresh historical retention model
- Update preprint revenue data by ad zone
- Update delivery costs by route
- Develop prototype CLV analysis in Excel
- Review findings
- Develop application case studies
- Integrate with MAAX

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