

Architecture Design

STORES SALES PREDICTION



Architecture Design

Document Control

Version	Date	Author	Comments
11	7/7/2023	TRUPTI SHINDE	



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Abstract

Machine Learning is a category of algorithms that allows software applications to become more accurate in predicting outcomes without being explicitly programmed. The basic premise of machine learning is to build models and employ algorithms that can receive input data and use statistical analysis to predict an output while updating outputs as new data becomes available. These models can be applied in different areas and trained to match the expectations of management so that accurate steps can be taken to achieve the organization's target. In this paper, the case of Big Mart, a one-stop-shopping- center, has been discussed to predict the sales of different types of items and for understanding the effects of different factors on the items' sales. Taking various aspects of a dataset collected for Big Mart, and the methodology followed for building a predictive model, results with high levels of accuracy are generated, and these observations can be employed to make decisions to improve sales.

1. Introduction

1.1 What is Architecture Design?

The goal of Architecture Design (AD) or a low-level design document is to give the internal design of the actual program code for the `Store Sales Prediction`. AD describes the class diagrams with the methods and relation between classes and program specification. It describes the modules so that the programmer can directly code the program from the document.

1.2 Scope

Architecture Design (AD) is a component-level design process that follows a step-by-step refinement process. This process can be used for designing data structures, required software, architecture, source code, and ultimately, performance algorithms. Overall, the data organization may be defined during requirement analysis and then refined during data design work. And the complete workflow.

1.3 Constraints

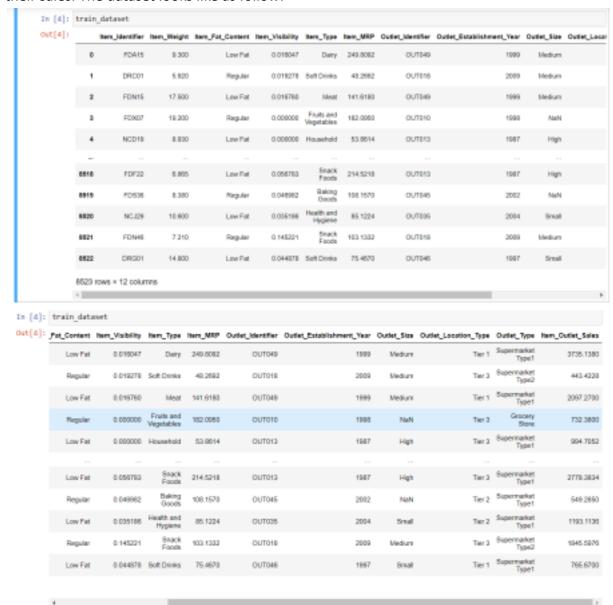
We only predict the expected casual and registered customers based on the weather condition and date information.



2. Technical Specification

2.1 Dataset

Big Mart's data scientists collected sales data of their 10 stores situated at different locations with each store having 1559 different products as per data collection. Using all the observations it is inferred what role certain properties of an item play and how they affect their sales. The dataset looks like as follow:





The data set consists of various data types from integer to floating to object as shown in Fig.

```
In [9]: # Mow we will find more information about the dataset using 'info' attribute
            merged_data.info()
           Kolass "pandas.core.frame.DataFram
           RangeIndex: 14204 entries, 0 to 14203
Data columns (total 12 columns):
                 column
                                                         Non-Null count Dtype
                  Item_Identifier
Item_Weight
Item_Fat Content
Item_Visibility
Item_Type
Item_Type
Outlet_Identifier
Outlet_Identifier
                 Item Identifier
                                                         14284 non-null
                                                         14284 non-null
                                                                               obtlect
                                                        14204 non-null
14204 non-null
                                                                                object
                                                         14284 non-null
                                                         14284 non-null
                                                                               object
                  Outlet_Establishment_Year 14204 non-null
Outlet_Size 10108 non-null
             9 Outlet_Location_Type
10 Outlet_Type
11 Item_Outlet_Sales
                                                       14204 non-null
                                                                               object
                                                         14294 non-null
                                                         14284 non-null
                                                                               float64
            dtypes: float64(4), int64(1), object(7)
memory usage: 1.3+ MB
```

In the raw data, there can be various types of underlying patterns which also gives an in-depth knowledge about the subject of interest and provides insights into the problem. But caution should be observed

with respect to data as it may contain null values, or various types of ambiguity, which also demands pre-processing of data. The dataset should therefore be explored as much as possible.

Various factors important by statistical means like mean, standard deviation, median, count of values and maximum value, etc. are shown below for numerical attributes.

		_data.descr		or agains	tion about the dataset	,==0, ==0, ===0
Out[10]:		lters_Weight	hers_Visibility	hem_MRP	Outlet_Establishment_Year	Item_Outlet_Sales
	count	11765.000000	14204.000000	14204.000000	14204.000000	14294,000000
	mean	12.792854	0.065953	141.004977	1997.830681	1308.868489
	684	4.662502	0.061469	62,000938	8.371664	1699.791423
	min	4.585000	0.000000	31.290000	1988.000000	0.000000
	25%	8.710000	0.027036	94.012000	1987.000000	0.000000
	60%	12.600000	0.054021	142.247000	1999.000000	589.272900
	75%	16.750000	0.094037	185.855600	2004.000000	2193.194200
	mer	21.350000	0.328391	296.888400	2009.000000	13086.964800

Preprocessing of this dataset includes doing analysis on the independent variables like checking for null values in each column and then replacing or filling them with supported appropriate data types so that analysis and model fitting is not hindered from their way to accuracy. Shown above are some of the representations obtained by using Pandas tools which tell about variable count for numerical columns and model values for categorical columns. Maximum and minimum values in numerical columns, along with their percentile values for median, play an important factor in deciding which value to be chosen at priority for further exploration tasks and analysis. Data types of different columns are used further in label processing and a one-hot encoding scheme during the model building.



2.2 Logging

We should be able to log every activity done by the user

- The system identifies at which step logging require.
- The system should be able to log each and every system flow.
- Developers can choose logging methods. Also, can choose database logging. The system should be not be hung even after using so much logging. Logging just because we can easily debug issuing so logging is mandatory to do.

2.3 Deployment

For the hosting of the project, we will use Heroku.



3. Technology Stack

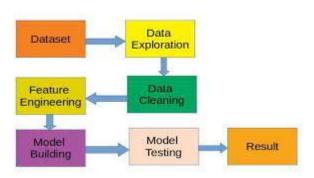
Front End HTML/CSS			
Backend	Python/ Flask		
Deployment	Heroku		



4. Proposed Solution

We will use performed EDA to find the important relation between different attributes and will use a machine-learning algorithm to predict the future sales demand. The client will be filled the required feature as input and will get results through the web application. The system will get features and it will be passed into the backend where the features will be validated and preprocessed and then it will be passed to a hyperparameter tuned machine learning model to predict the final outcome.

5. Architecture



5.data gathering:

Data source: https://github.com/1998Tss77j/datasets

Train and Test data are stored in .csv format.

5.2 Raw Data Validation

After data is loaded, various types of validation are required before we proceed further with any operation. Validations like checking for zero standard deviation for all the columns, checking for complete missing values in any columns, etc. These are required because The attributes which contain these are of no use. It will not play role in contributing to the sales of an item from respective outlets.

Like if any attribute is having zero standard deviation, it means that's all the values are the same, its mean is zero. This indicates that either the sale is increasing or decrease that attribute will remain the same. Similarly, if any attribute is having full missing values, then there is no use in taking that attribute into an account for operation. It's unnecessary increasing the chances of dimensionality curse.

5.3 Data Transformation

Data transformation is required. Here, the 'Item Weight' and "Outlet Type' attributes contain the missing values. So, they are filled in both the train set as well as the test set with supported appropriate data types.

5.4 New Feature Generation

We can derive new item category from item type and Outlet Years

5.5 Data Pre-processing

In data pre-processing all the processes required before sending the data for model building are performed. New attributes were added named "Outlet years", where the given establishment year is subtracted from the current year. Then mapping of "Fat content" is done based on 'Low', 'Reg' and 'Non-edible'.

5.6 Feature Engineering

After pre-processing it was found that some of the attributes are not important to the item sales for the particular outlet. So those attributes are removed. Then standard scalar is performed to scale down all the numeric features. Even one hot encoding is also performed to convert the categorical features into numerical features. After that pipeline is created for the scaling numerical features and encoding the categorical features.

5.7 Model Building

After doing all kinds of pre-processing operations mention above and performing scaling and encoding, the data set is passed through a pipeline to all the models, Linear Regression, Decision tree, Random Forest, Gradient boost, Adaboosting, Support vector machine and XGBoost regressor using EvalML. It was found that Random Forest performs best with the smallest RMSE value i.e. 1016 and the highest R2 score equals 0.59. on test data So 'Random Forest' performed well in this problem.



5.8 Model Saving

Model is saved using pickle library in pickle` format.

5.9 Flask Setup for Web Application

After saving the model, the API building process started using Flask. Web application creation was created in Flask for testing purpose. Whatever user will enter the data and then that data will be extracted by the model to predict the prediction of sales, this is performed in this stage.

5.10 GitHub

The whole project directory will be pushed into the GitHub repository.

5.11 Deployment

The project was deployed from GitHub into the Heroku platform.

6. User Input / Output Workflow.

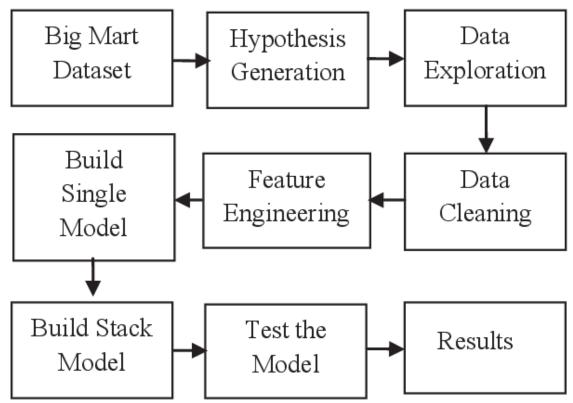


Fig. 1. Flow Diagram of the Proposed System