

Presentation Script – Retail Sales Forecasting

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Slide 1: Title

Script:

Good [morning/afternoon], everyone.

I'm Manas R. Das, and today, I'll be presenting my machine learning project titled "**Retail Sales Forecasting**".

This project is an advanced, interactive dashboard solution designed for sales analysis and prediction, developed using **Python and Streamlit**.

Slide 2: Objective

Script:

The objective of this project is to address key challenges in retail analytics using an interactive ML-powered dashboard.

Our goals include:

- Visualizing historical sales using dynamic graphs,
 - Tracking KPIs for performance monitoring,
 - Forecasting future weekly sales using XGBoost,
 - Explaining predictions using SHAP for transparency,
 - Allowing custom filters by Store, Department, Season, etc.,
 - Enabling easy retraining with new data,
 - And finally, presenting everything through a user-friendly Streamlit interface.
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Slide 3: Technical Specification

Script:

We've used a rich ecosystem of tools and libraries:

- **Python** and **Streamlit** for development,
- **Pandas**, **NumPy**, **Matplotlib**, and **Plotly** for data processing and visualization,
- **scikit-learn** and **XGBoost** for model building,
- **SHAP** for interpretability,
- And **Joblib** for model persistence.

These technologies work in sync to deliver a fast, responsive, and insightful dashboard.

Slide 4: Project Architecture

Script:

The dashboard follows a modular multi-page Streamlit architecture:

- The **Dashboard Page** allows filtering and visual analysis,
- The **Forecasting Page** shows model performance and enables sales predictions,
- The **Retrain Page** lets users upload new datasets and update the model.

This modularity enhances scalability and maintenance.

Slide 5: Output

Script:

The output of the project includes:

- Interactive dashboards with line, bar, pie, and box plots,
 - KPIs like Total Sales, Weekly Avg., Unique Stores and Depts.,
 - A future forecast plot for user-selected store & department,
 - Detailed downloadable sales tables,
 - And a retraining status update when new data is uploaded.
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Slide 6: Outcome

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The impact of this project includes:

- Better business intelligence via visual analytics,
- Higher accuracy in forecasting,
- Efficient inventory planning,

- Strategic planning support,
 - And continuous learning through on-demand retraining.
- Ultimately, it empowers decision-making with data.
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● Slide 7: Real-Life Problems

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Let's briefly look at the real-world problems we are solving:

- **Sales Volatility** due to promotions, holidays, or external factors,
 - **Inventory mismatch** due to guesswork-based planning,
 - **Inefficient resource allocation** due to lack of foresight,
 - **Lack of data-driven decisions**, and
 - **Model obsolescence** as market trends evolve.
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■ Slide 8: Solutions

Script:

Here's how our system addresses them:

- XGBoost reduces sales volatility by considering many influencing factors,
 - Accurate forecasts prevent over- and under-stocking,
 - Future demand predictions guide staffing and logistics,
 - KPIs and SHAP enable explainable and data-driven decisions,
 - And the retraining module keeps the model up-to-date.
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■ Slide 9: Model Performance + Forecasting

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The model performance is evaluated using:

- **R-squared**, **MAE**, and **RMSE**.
 - SHAP explains which features—like markdowns, holidays, temperature—are impacting predictions.
 - Users can interactively forecast weekly sales for any store-department combo.
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■ Slide 10: Future Scope

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This project opens up many possibilities:

- Integrating **Prophet**, **LSTM**, or ensemble models,
 - API integration for real-time data (e.g., weather, social sentiment),
 - User authentication and access control,
 - Migration from CSV to databases,
 - What-if analysis tools,
 - Confidence intervals for forecasts,
 - Automated retraining via CI/CD,
 - Granular markdown and holiday logic,
 - Outlier detection, customizable dashboards, and
 - Scalability for large-scale retail datasets.
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■ Slide 11: Conclusion

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In conclusion, this project demonstrates how machine learning and modern data visualization can transform retail operations.

It enables proactive planning, enhances forecasting accuracy, and ensures adaptability with retraining.

It's not just a dashboard—it's a decision-making engine.

● Slide 12: Thank You

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Thank you for your attention.

I'm open to questions and suggestions.

You can reach me at dasmanasranjan2005@gmail.com.