Data Mining- Summative Online Retail Sales Performance

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Introduction:

In today's world, businesses rely heavily on data mining to uncover valuable insights from large datasets. By using techniques like hierarchical clustering and K-means, companies can organize their data into useful groups. This helps them spot trends and patterns, which in turn guide their decision-making process. These algorithms play a crucial role in breaking down complex data, allowing businesses to develop targeted strategies based on important connections they discover.

Problem Statement:

Understanding consumer behavior and market trends gets harder as the number of online retail transactions rises. Businesses need to understand the underlying patterns in these transactions to improve customer satisfaction, effectively target audiences, and optimize operations. However, the volume and complexity of transactional data make traditional analytical techniques ineffective. Therefore, to extract meaningful insights from this enormous dataset, sophisticated data mining techniques are necessary. Effectively putting these strategies into practice will make it difficult to find useful patterns and relationships in the data and help organizations make well-informed decisions.

Goal/Objective:

Our goals are to deconstruct the aforementioned data mining project, comprehend its process, and analyze its findings. In doing so, we hope to acquire a practical understanding of data mining methods and their application in real-world scenarios, specifically K-means and hierarchical clustering. Additionally, we seek to enhance our

analytical skills and ability to communicate complex concepts in a simple and accessible manner.

Approach:

Step 1: Reading and Understanding Data

In Figure 1.1, the code starts by importing the libraries required for data visualization and manipulation. After that, it reads the dataset of online retail transactions and offers descriptions of its components.

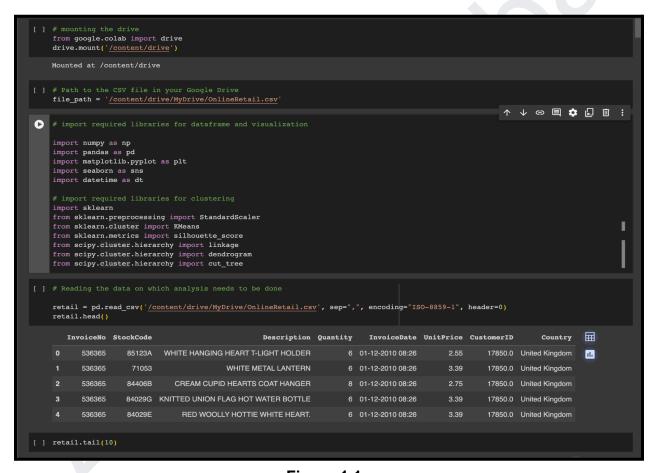


Figure 1.1

Step 2: Data Cleansing

In Figure 1.2, the code reads the dataset, determines the percentage of missing values, and then eliminates rows that have missing data. Furthermore, for consistency and additional analysis, it transforms the 'CustomerID' column into a string data type.

Figure 1.2

Step 3: Data Preparation

Figures 1.3 and 1.4 depict the creation of new attributes during data preparation, namely "Monetary," "Frequency," and "Recency," derived from customer transactions. Additionally, the code standardizes the data to ensure uniform scaling across all attributes.

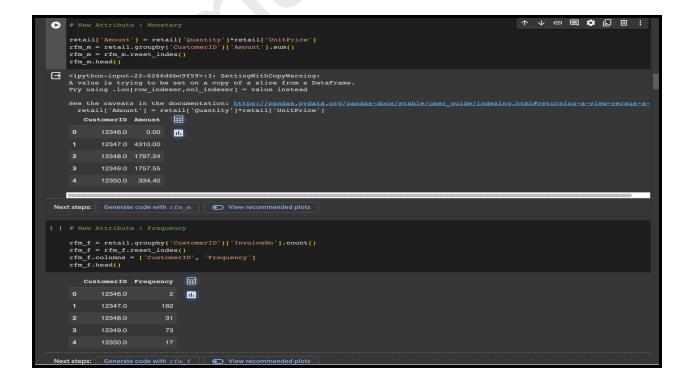


Figure 1.3

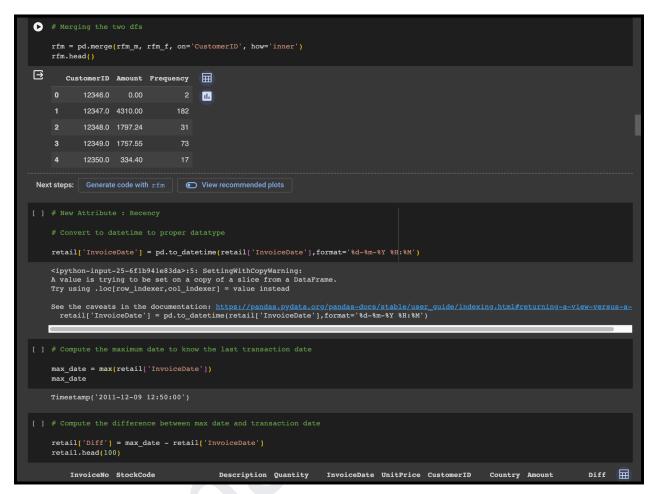


Figure 1.4

Step 4: Building the Model

Figures 1.5, 1.6, and 1.7 depict the application of K-means clustering for customer segmentation based on transactional patterns. Elbow Curve and Silhouette Analysis are employed to determine the optimal number of clusters, and cluster labels are assigned to customers.

Figure 1.5

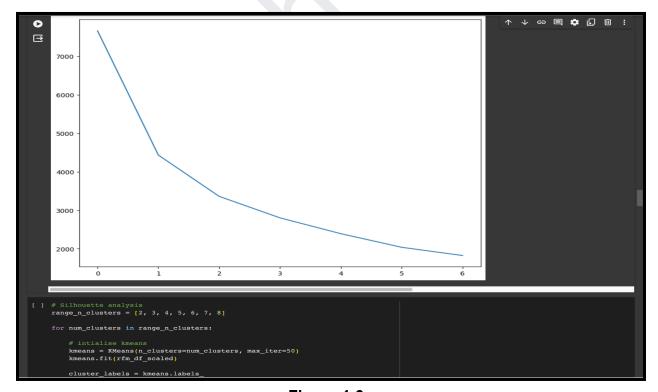


Figure 1.6

```
range n clusters = [2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8]
    for num_clusters in range_n_clusters:
        # intialise kmeans
        kmeans = KMeans(n_clusters=num_clusters, max iter=50)
        kmeans.fit(rfm_df_scaled)
        cluster_labels = kmeans.labels_
        silhouette_avg = silhouette_score(rfm_df_scaled, cluster_labels)
        print("For n_clusters={0}, the silhouette score is {1}".format(num_clusters, silhouette_avg))
📑 /usr/local/lib/python3.10/dist-packages/sklearn/cluster/_kmeans.py:870: FutureWarning: The default value of `n_init` will change from
    For n_clusters=2, the silhouette score is 0.5411246404292333 /usr/local/lib/python3.10/dist-packages/sklearn/cluster/_kmeans.py:870: FutureWarning: The default value of `n_init` will change from
    warnings.warn(
For n_clusters=3, the silhouette score is 0.5084896296141937
    /usr/local/lib/python3.10/dist-packages/sklearn/cluster/_kmeans.py:870: FutureWarning: The default value of `n_init` will change from
      warnings.warn
    For n_clusters=4, the silhouette score is 0.48132884121548086
    /usr/local/lib/python3.10/dist-packages/sklearn/cluster/_kmeans.py:870: FutureWarning: The default value of `n_init` will change from
    For n clusters=5, the silhouette score is 0.46613075550600325
    /usr/local/lib/python3.10/dist-packages/sklearn/cluster/_kmeans.py:870: FutureWarning: The default value of `n_init` will change from
    For n_clusters=6, the silhouette score is 0.41712323985768335
    /usr/local/lib/python3.10/dist-packages/sklearn/cluster/_kmeans.py:870: FutureWarning: The default value of `n_init` will change from
      warnings.warn
    warnings.warn(
For n_clusters=7, the silhouette score is 0.41762636979384465
/usr/local/lib/python3.10/dist-packages/sklearn/cluster/_kmeans.py:870: FutureWarning: The default value of `n_init` will change from
    kmeans = KMeans(n_clusters=3, max_iter=50)
    kmeans.fit(rfm_df_scaled)
    /usr/local/lib/python3.10/dist-packages/sklearn/cluster/_kmeans.py:870: FutureWarning: The default value of `n_init` will change from
     KMeans(max_iter=50, n_clusters=3)
```

Figure 1.7

Step 5: Final Analysis

In the K-Means clustering analysis with 3 cluster IDs, we conclude that customers with Cluster ID 2 have a higher number of transactions as compared to other customers. Customers with Cluster ID 2 are frequent buyers. Customers with Cluster ID 1 are not recent buyers and hence of the least importance from a business point of view.

Similarly, in the hierarchical clustering analysis with 3 cluster labels, customers with Cluster_Labels 1 are the ones with the highest number of transactions as compared to other customers. Customers with Cluster_Labels 1 are frequent buyers. Customers with Cluster_Labels 0 are not recent buyers and hence of the least importance from a business point of view.

Conclusion:

In summary, our analysis showed that by using K-Means and hierarchical clustering, we were able to group customers based on their shopping habits. We discovered different types of customers with unique buying patterns. We learned how clustering algorithms work and how to apply them to real-world data. With this knowledge, we can tackle similar tasks in data analysis and decision-making in the future.

References:

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