



UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH
Business School

FORM FOR THE SUBMISSION OF ASSESSED GROUP COURSEWORK

This form must be completed and attached to **all** assessed work. Please include all group members' examination numbers below.

| | |
|--------------------|---------|
| Examination Number | B230613 |
| Examination Number | B249929 |
| Examination Number | B241290 |
| Examination Number | B230334 |
| Examination Number | B255931 |

Course Code and Title: BUST08032 Business Analytics and Information System

Team: 14

Word Count: 2090

We understand that all marks are provisional until ratified by the Faculty Examination Board.

Team Contract

How we will work together

- All team members are committed to developing a spirit of collaboration and cooperation.
- Everyone should feel free to speak their minds in an open and respectful climate.
- We will respond promptly to team communications (within 24 hours)
- We will attend all team meetings on time or notify our teammates in advance if we cannot make it for good reason.
- We will always obey the project manager without question.
- Any dispute will be resolved by a majority vote of the team, and we will all abide by that decision.

How we will resolve conflicts

<A specific and sufficiently detailed policy and process for how you will deal with major disagreements or failures of team members to live up to their commitments and responsibilities. What will you do if a team member is ‘free riding’ or failing to contribute as needed? Make sure your policy and procedures for dealing with conflict and problems are open and fair, allowing people time and ability to ask for guidance or to ‘appeal’ to your tutor. Something to think about: should it be possible to ‘fire’ a team member who is not contributing? Should team members receive marks according to their level of effort? How could that work in a fair way? Whatever policy you decide, you must all agree to it.>

Contract agreed by all team members

<You must include the following, which all team members agree to as part of this contract>

In addition to the principles, policies, and processes above, we the undersigned also:

1. recognise that individual team members may receive different marks from each other based on their level of contribution to the coursework.
2. will notify the course organiser immediately if a team member is not contributing as needed, or if there are significant unresolved conflicts within the team that threaten our project.
3. will document any cases of significant conflict and its resolution, clearly in writing for the benefit of transparency, and as a record for team members and course organiser.
4. recognise that course organiser will not intervene to resolve conflict unless we notify them at least two weeks before the submission deadline if we wish them to intervene. This encourages us to raise issues early. The course organiser will of course act in the event of any problems under the university’s code of conduct or well-being policies.

Signed agreement

| EXAMINATION NUMBER | DATE SIGNED & AGREED |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| B230613 | March 18 Agreed |
| B249929 | March 18 Agreed |
| B241290 | March 18 Agreed |
| B230334 | March 18 Agreed |
| B255931 | March 18 Agreed |

Project Report

1. Introduction

1) Background

Our theoretical problem focuses on online advertising for St James Quarter. The shopping centre opened in June of 2021, after the pandemic. Online advertising can be utilised in this context to increase footfall in shops, especially in an age where online shopping is of ever-growing convenience and preferentiality. Digital marketing can boost popularity and increase profits, however, there are risks when allocating a budget towards the online marketing team. Using a DSS to optimise budget costs can help solve some of these issues.

One problem is the lack of a clear marketing strategy. Using a DSS can help to clearly state objectives and make the goals of the scheme clear, avoiding unmet targets. A DSS can be used to effectively allocate resources, or in this case a budget, into an optimal solution that produces an optimal output. Navigating issues such as overspending on strategies that are cost ineffective or unsuccessful can also be supported through using a DSS to correctly allocate a budget in the most cost-effective way whilst simultaneously meeting the desired targets.

2) Objectives

This report aims to minimise costs of online advertising for St James Quarter over the time period of 5 months using Google as the advertising platform, and providing an allocation of strategies that is optimal in the short run and minimises total cost. The objective function of the DSS therefore takes the form of minimising Z (total advertising cost) with respect to 30 decision variables. The decision variables are the different strategies for advertising. These are summarised in *table 5.0* of this report.

The DSS includes 5 functional constraints which must also be satisfied in order to find the optimal allocation of advertising strategies. These focus on total cost in relation to total budget, the Click Through Rate (CTR), the mobile and desktop budget allocation and the CTR of the mobile group. The final constraint is a non-negativity constraint for all decision variables, ensuring all values are positive. These constraints are formulated officially in section 5.

2. Data Collection and Preparation

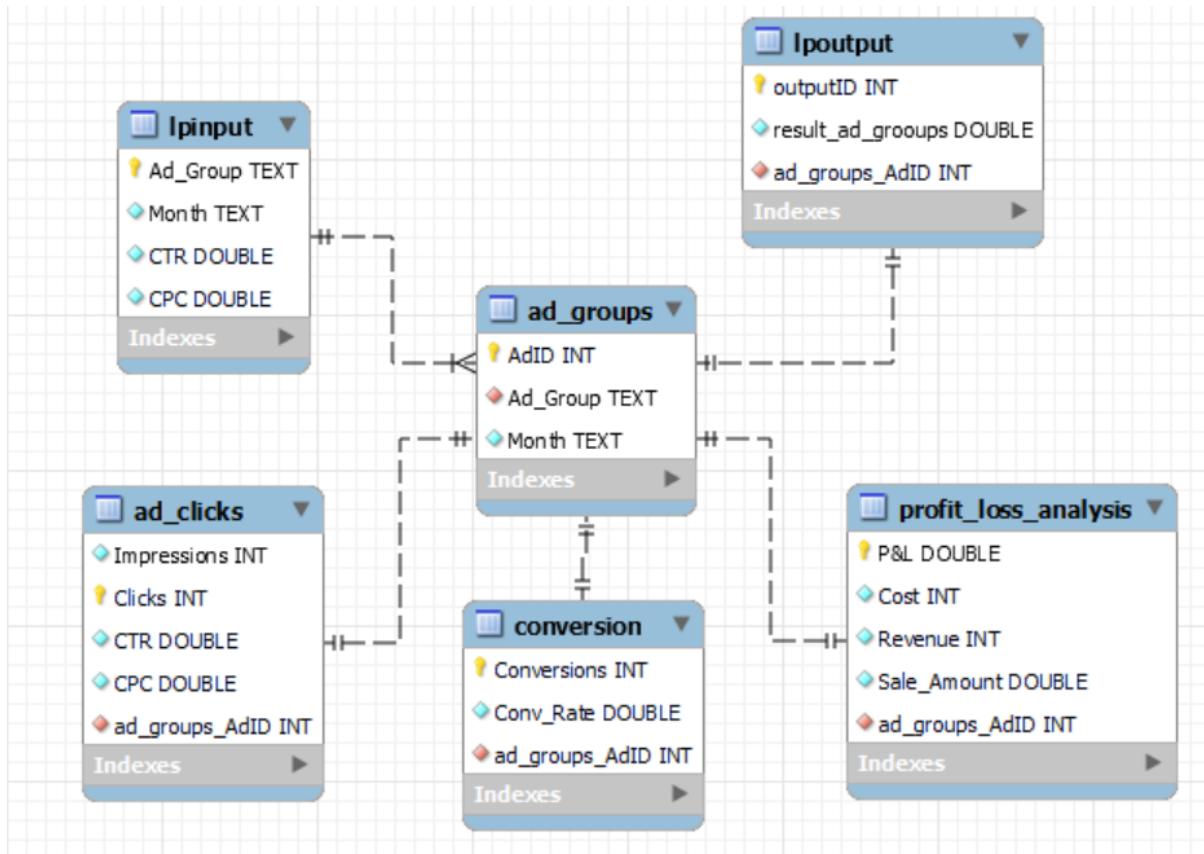
In the initial stages of our data gathering process, we began with a straightforward search on engines like Google. This search yielded a number of financial statements that were relevant to our study. However, the data was not comprehensive and presented challenges in terms of compatibility with our Decision Support System (“DSS”). Seeking a more suitable dataset, we turned to established data sharing platforms, among which Kaggle was a primary resource. By using targeted keywords such as "digital marketing" and "mall", we were able to find and evaluate various datasets. This process led us to select a dataset that was particularly well-suited to our research focus on the intersection of shopping malls and online advertising. This dataset (Marcello, 2022) then formed the foundation for the subsequent analytical phase, providing context for our model parameters and their function as either predictive or deterministic variables.

| Model Parameter Name | Where They Were Sourced | Predictive or Deterministic |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Cost Per Click | Kaggle | Predictive |
| Click Through Rate | Kaggle | Predictive |
| Mobile Budget Allocation | Kaggle | Deterministic |
| Desktop Budget Allocation | Kaggle | Deterministic |
| Total Cost in relation to total budget | Kaggle | Deterministic |
| Non-Negativity Constraint | Kaggle | Deterministic |

The chart above details our model parameters, where they were sourced, and whether they act as predictive or deterministic variables. As seen, cost per click and click-through rate act as the predictive variables and are used as estimates to ultimately predict the future budget allocation and cost of the optimal minimized advertising budget for the St. James Quarter mall. More in-depth, cost per click acts as a predictive method despite not being a traditional predictive model like regression by providing valuable insights and a predictive metric in regard to estimating future costs and, ultimately, the performance and success of the online advertising campaign

when you consider the determined budget. Click-through rate acts similarly because when considering the two parameters together, it is now possible to forecast the campaign's future performance and see the most successful combination of coefficients to achieve that optimal target.

3. Database Creation with MySQL



The schema comprises several key entities, as listed below. Central to the schema is the **ad_groups** entity, which operates as a junction entity.

| Entity | Attributes |
|--|---|
| Ipinput: Contains all decision variables used in the linear programming. | Ad_Group (Primary Key): Category of the advert (1:1, exact, phrase desktop/ mobile coupon code, offer, promo code, sale, discount code). Month: Months of the advertising campaign, from July to August. CTR: Click Through Rate. The ratio of clicks an ad receives to the number of times it is displayed. CPC: Cost Per Click. Determined by dividing the total expenditure for the ads by the number of clicks received. |
| Ioutput: | outputID (Primary Key): ID for all outputs. |

| | |
|---|---|
| Contains key results of the linear programming. | <p>result_ad_groups: The result of objective function and the allocation we decided to put under different decision variables.</p> <p>ad_groups_AdID (Foreign Key from ad_groups): Same as above.</p> |
| <p>ad_groups: To determine different ad groups.</p> | <p>Composite primary key: AdID (Primary Key) + AdGroup (Foreign Key from lpinput entity) To distinguish each ad groups using both their id and name.</p> <p>Month: Same as above.</p> |
| <p>ad_clicks: To determine click-related performance indicators.</p> | <p>Clicks (Primary Key): How many clicks each ad received. Used to differentiate each group in ad_click entity.</p> <p>Impressions: Quantifies how often an ad is interacted with.</p> <p>CTR: Same as above.</p> <p>CPC: Same as above.</p> <p>ad_groups_AdID (Foreign Key from ad_groups entity): Same as above.</p> |
| <p>conversion: For storing conversion data.</p> | <p>Conversions (Primary Key): Valuable actions that users take on our website such as making purchases.</p> <p>Conv_Rate: Percentage of people who clicks into an ad after seeing it.</p> <p>ad_groups_AdID (Foreign Key from ad_groups): Same as above.</p> |
| <p>profit_loss_analysis: To analyse profit & loss related index.</p> | <p>P&L (Primary Key): Profit and Loss, an indicator calculated by formula (Revenue - Cost).</p> <p>Cost: Total expenditure incurred for advertising.</p> <p>Revenue: Total income generated by advertising.</p> <p>Sale_Amount:</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| | <p>Denotes the total revenue generated as a result of advertising efforts.</p> <p>ad_groups_AdID (Foreign Key from ad_groups): Same as above.</p> |
|--|--|

4. Data Integration with Excel

In order to obtain the optimal online advertising strategy via Excel linear programming, the NET Connector was applied to connect the MySQL dataset and Excel decision-making model. The query applied to the Net Connector can be expressed as:

```
SELECT * FROM shopping_mall.lpinput;
```

By using this query in Net Connector, the necessary parameters and relevant data are selected and extracted from MySQL dataset and are imported into excel sheet, which can be shown as:

| 1 | Ad Group | Month | CTR | CPC |
|----|-----------------------------------|-----------|------|------|
| 2 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Coupon Code | November | 0.37 | 1.3 |
| 3 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Coupon Code | July | 0.41 | 1.23 |
| 4 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Coupon Code | August | 0.4 | 1.23 |
| 5 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Coupon Code | October | 0.4 | 1.2 |
| 6 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Coupon Code | September | 0.4 | 1.27 |
| 7 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Discount Code | November | 0.42 | 1.08 |
| 8 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Discount Code | July | 0.42 | 1.21 |
| 9 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Discount Code | August | 0.4 | 1.04 |
| 10 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Discount Code | October | 0.42 | 1.21 |
| 11 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Discount Code | September | 0.39 | 0.99 |
| 12 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Offer | November | 0.38 | 1.17 |
| 13 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Offer | July | 0.4 | 1.1 |
| 14 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Offer | August | 0.38 | 1.41 |
| 15 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Offer | October | 0.37 | 1.27 |
| 16 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Offer | September | 0.4 | 1.35 |
| 17 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Promo Code | November | 0.37 | 1.3 |
| 18 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Promo Code | July | 0.4 | 1.27 |
| 19 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Promo Code | August | 0.39 | 1.3 |
| 20 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Promo Code | October | 0.38 | 1.25 |
| 21 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Promo Code | September | 0.4 | 1.3 |
| 22 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Sale | November | 0.35 | 1.47 |
| 23 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Sale | October | 0.29 | 1.51 |
| 24 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Sale | August | 0.32 | 1.5 |
| 25 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Sale | July | 0.35 | 1.55 |
| 26 | Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Sale | September | 0.36 | 1.45 |
| 27 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Coupon Code | November | 0.43 | 1.27 |
| 28 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Coupon Code | July | 0.27 | 1.16 |
| 29 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Coupon Code | October | 0.34 | 1.28 |
| 30 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Coupon Code | August | 0.41 | 1.29 |
| 31 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Coupon Code | September | 0.45 | 1 |
| 32 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Discount Code | November | 0.36 | 1.38 |
| 33 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Discount Code | October | 0.39 | 1.34 |
| 34 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Discount Code | July | 0.39 | 1.13 |
| 35 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Discount Code | August | 0.3 | 1.33 |
| 36 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Discount Code | September | 0.45 | 1.27 |
| 37 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Offer | November | 0.44 | 1.1 |
| 38 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Offer | July | 0.43 | 1.3 |
| 39 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Offer | October | 0.34 | 1.1 |

| | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|-----------|------|------|
| 40 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Offer | August | 0.33 | 1.1 |
| 41 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Offer | September | 0.4 | 1.23 |
| 42 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Promo Code | November | 0.41 | 1.26 |
| 43 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Promo Code | July | 0.47 | 1.15 |
| 44 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Promo Code | October | 0.45 | 1.42 |
| 45 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Promo Code | August | 0.43 | 0.69 |
| 46 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Promo Code | September | 0.44 | 0.66 |
| 47 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Sale | November | 0.4 | 1.17 |
| 48 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Sale | July | 0.45 | 1.19 |
| 49 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Sale | October | 0.4 | 1.21 |
| 50 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Sale | August | 0.4 | 1.14 |
| 51 | Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Sale | September | 0.35 | 1.32 |
| 52 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Coupon Code | November | 0.3 | 1.08 |
| 53 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Coupon Code | July | 0.5 | 1.05 |
| 54 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Coupon Code | August | 0.45 | 1.12 |
| 55 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Coupon Code | October | 0.31 | 1.12 |
| 56 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Coupon Code | September | 0.42 | 1.12 |
| 57 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Discount Code | November | 0.31 | 0.98 |
| 58 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Discount Code | August | 0.35 | 1.13 |
| 59 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Discount Code | October | 0.4 | 1.19 |
| 60 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Discount Code | July | 0.44 | 1.07 |
| 61 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Discount Code | September | 0.39 | 1.06 |
| 62 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Offer | November | 0.25 | 1.28 |
| 63 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Offer | August | 0.4 | 1.02 |
| 64 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Offer | September | 0.35 | 1.4 |
| 65 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Offer | October | 0.4 | 1.2 |
| 66 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Offer | July | 0.33 | 1.3 |
| 67 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Promo Code | November | 0.3 | 1.41 |
| 68 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Promo Code | August | 0.35 | 1.29 |
| 69 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Promo Code | October | 0.33 | 1.23 |
| 70 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Promo Code | July | 0.37 | 1.2 |
| 71 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Promo Code | September | 0.37 | 1.49 |
| 72 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Sale | November | 0.39 | 1.66 |
| 73 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Sale | July | 0.28 | 0.7 |
| 74 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Sale | September | 0.42 | 1.29 |
| 75 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Sale | October | 0.23 | 1.59 |
| 76 | Shop - Exact - Desk - Sale | August | 0.45 | 0.8 |
| 77 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Coupon Code | November | 0.35 | 1.49 |
| 78 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Coupon Code | July | 0.34 | 1.23 |
| 79 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Coupon Code | October | 0.38 | 1.38 |
| 80 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Coupon Code | August | 0.3 | 1.42 |
| 81 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Coupon Code | September | 0.36 | 0.37 |
| 82 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Discount Code | November | 0.27 | 1.52 |
| 83 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Discount Code | October | 0.3 | 1.44 |
| 84 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Discount Code | August | 0.4 | 1.44 |
| 85 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Discount Code | September | 0.45 | 1.44 |
| 86 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Discount Code | July | 0.24 | 0.54 |
| 87 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Offer | November | 0.3 | 1.11 |
| 88 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Offer | October | 0.33 | 1.33 |
| 89 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Offer | July | 0.4 | 1.22 |
| 90 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Offer | August | 0.32 | 1.22 |
| 91 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Offer | September | 0.26 | 1.45 |
| 92 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Promo Code | November | 0.37 | 1.64 |
| 93 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Promo Code | October | 0.42 | 1.61 |
| 94 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Promo Code | July | 0.37 | 1.66 |
| 95 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Promo Code | August | 0.2 | 1.2 |

| | | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------------|-----------|------|------|
| 96 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Promo Code | September | 0.39 | 0.59 |
| 97 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Sale | November | 0.13 | 1.25 |
| 98 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Sale | July | 0.45 | 1.41 |
| 99 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Sale | August | 0.44 | 1.41 |
| 100 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Sale | September | 0.32 | 1.33 |
| 101 | Shop - Exact - Mob - Sale | October | 0.27 | 0.9 |
| 102 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Coupon Code | July | 0.35 | 1.11 |
| 103 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Coupon Code | November | 0.26 | 1.32 |
| 104 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Coupon Code | August | 0.51 | 1.08 |
| 105 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Coupon Code | September | 0.33 | 1.31 |
| 106 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Coupon Code | October | 0.26 | 1.13 |
| 107 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Discount Code | November | 0.16 | 1.13 |
| 108 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Discount Code | October | 0.36 | 1.23 |
| 109 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Discount Code | September | 0.55 | 1.09 |
| 110 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Discount Code | August | 0.45 | 1.4 |
| 111 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Discount Code | July | 0.14 | 1.92 |
| 112 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Offer | November | 0.14 | 1.3 |
| 113 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Offer | October | 0.55 | 1.17 |
| 114 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Offer | September | 0.34 | 1.5 |
| 115 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Offer | August | 0.44 | 1.23 |
| 116 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Offer | July | 0.14 | 1.09 |
| 117 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Promo Code | November | 0.3 | 1.31 |
| 118 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Promo Code | July | 0.33 | 1.23 |
| 119 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Promo Code | October | 0.4 | 1.24 |
| 120 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Promo Code | August | 0.35 | 1.36 |
| 121 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Promo Code | September | 0.34 | 1.4 |
| 122 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Sale | August | 0.28 | 0.77 |
| 123 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Sale | July | 0.35 | 1.72 |
| 124 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Sale | November | 0.44 | 1.2 |
| 125 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Sale | September | 0.38 | 1.76 |
| 126 | Shop - Phrase - Desk - Sale | October | 0.33 | 0.76 |
| 127 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Coupon Code | July | 0.37 | 1.54 |
| 128 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Coupon Code | September | 0.35 | 1.51 |
| 129 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Coupon Code | August | 0.31 | 1.46 |
| 130 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Coupon Code | November | 0.27 | 1.47 |
| 131 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Coupon Code | October | 0.32 | 0.51 |
| 132 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Discount Code | November | 0.4 | 0.56 |
| 133 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Discount Code | October | 0.23 | 1.42 |
| 134 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Discount Code | September | 0.43 | 1.49 |
| 135 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Discount Code | August | 0.4 | 1.48 |
| 136 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Discount Code | July | 0.4 | 1.53 |
| 137 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Offer | November | 0.23 | 1.2 |
| 138 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Offer | October | 0.36 | 1.49 |
| 139 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Offer | September | 0.4 | 1.6 |
| 140 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Offer | August | 0.4 | 1.1 |
| 141 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Offer | July | 0.36 | 1.1 |
| 142 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Promo Code | November | 0.2 | 1.57 |
| 143 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Promo Code | July | 0.36 | 1.5 |
| 144 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Promo Code | August | 0.4 | 1.23 |
| 145 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Promo Code | October | 0.4 | 1.3 |
| 146 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Promo Code | September | 0.34 | 1.3 |
| 147 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Sale | August | 0.3 | 1.42 |
| 148 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Sale | July | 0.3 | 1.48 |
| 149 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Sale | September | 0.34 | 1.39 |
| 150 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Sale | October | 0.34 | 1.41 |
| 151 | Shop - Phrase - Mob - Sale | November | 0.34 | 1.41 |

It is clear that, for this decision-making model, the decision variables for decision-making model would be each advertisement group, and we have 30 decision variables in total. In addition, the coefficient for each decision variable would be the unit cost of each advertisement group, which can be calculated by:

$$\text{Click Through Rate (CTR)} * \text{Cost Per Click (CPC)}$$

Aim to better prepare for running excel solver add-in, the unit cost for each advertisement group collected throughout the months were averaged, so that the data are further integrated, and the final result can be summarised as *table 5*.

| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|--------|---------|-------------|---------------|-------|------------|------|
| | | | Coupon Code | Discount Code | Offer | Promo Code | Sale |
| x | 01:01 | desktop | 0.49 | 0.45 | 0.49 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| y | 01:01 | mobile | 0.45 | 0.49 | 0.45 | 0.46 | 0.48 |
| z | exact | desktop | 0.43 | 0.41 | 0.43 | 0.46 | 0.42 |
| w | exact | mobile | 0.4 | 0.44 | 0.41 | 0.47 | 0.42 |
| v | phrase | desktop | 0.4 | 0.42 | 0.41 | 0.45 | 0.45 |
| u | phrase | mobile | 0.42 | 0.48 | 0.46 | 0.46 | 0.46 |

Table 5.0

Therefore, the strong connection between the MySQL dataset and the Excel was built and the preparation for Excel linear programming was done.

5. Linear Programming in Excel

The objective of this advertising strategy is achieving cost minimisation while ensuring constraint to the following 6 conditions. The first two constraints are that the total cost of this strategy does not exceed the total budget, which is £732,469 and that the sum of CTR for each decision variable is not lower than the set target of 600,000. Additional constraints have to do with customer preferences which is why the mobile advertisement budget needs to be larger or equal to £366,234.5 (or half of the total budget). Simultaneously, a fourth constraint is introduced to help ensure that customers with different watching habits are all able to watch the advertisements, stating that the total cost of desktop advertisement groups should be larger than or equal to £183,117.25, equal to one quarter of the total budget. Furthermore, to ensure the mobile advertisement's effectiveness, a constraint is placed requiring the sum of CTR of mobile advertising groups to be larger or equal to 450,000. Finally, all unconstrained decision variables should be non-negative. Therefore, there are 6 functional constraints in this decision-making model.

The formulation of our Linear Programming model can be written as:

$x_1 = \text{The Number of 01:01 Desktop Coupon Code Advertised}$

$x_2 = \text{The Number of 01:01 Desktop Discount Code Advertised}$

$x_3 = \text{The Number of 01:01 Desktop Offer Advertised}$

$x_4 = \text{The Number of 01:01 Desktop Promo Code Advertised}$

$x_5 = \text{The Number of 01:01 Desktop Sale Advertised}$

$y_1 = \text{The Number of 01:01 Mobile Coupon Code Advertised}$

$y_2 = \text{The Number of 01:01 Mobile Discount Code Advertised}$

$y_3 = \text{The Number of 01:01 Mobile Offer Advertised}$

$y_4 = \text{The Number of 01:01 Mobile Promo Code Advertised}$

$y_5 = \text{The Number of 01:01 Mobile Sale Advertised}$

$z_1 = \text{The Number of Exact Desktop Coupon Code Advertised}$

$z_2 = \text{The Number of Exact Desktop Discount Code Advertised}$

$z_3 = \text{The Number of Exact Desktop Offer Advertised}$

$z_4 = \text{The Number of Exact Desktop Promo Code Advertised}$

$z_5 = \text{The Number of Exact Desktop Sale Advertised}$

$w_1 = \text{The Number of Exact Mobile Coupon Code Advertised}$

$w_2 = \text{The Number of Exact Mobile Discount Code Advertised}$

$w_3 = \text{The Number of Exact Mobile Offer Advertised}$

$w_4 = \text{The Number of Exact Mobile Promo Code Advertised}$

$w_5 = \text{The Number of Exact Mobile Sale Advertised}$

$v_1 = \text{The Number of Phrase Desktop Coupon Code Advertised}$

$v_2 = \text{The Number of Phrase Desktop Discount Code Advertised}$

$v_3 = \text{The Number of Phrase Desktop Offer Advertised}$

$v_4 = \text{The Number of Phrase Desktop Promo Code Advertised}$

$v_5 = \text{The Number of Phrase Desktop Sale Advertised}$

$u_1 = \text{The Number of Phrase Mobile Coupon Code Advertised}$

$u_2 = \text{The Number of Phrase Mobile Discount Code Advertised}$

$u_3 = \text{The Number of Phrase Mobile Offer Advertised}$

$u_4 = \text{The Number of Phrase Mobile Promo Code Advertised}$

$u_5 = \text{The Number of Phrase Mobile Sale Advertised}$

$Z = \text{The Total Online Advertising Cost}$

$$\begin{aligned} \min Z = & 0.49x_1 + 0.45x_2 + 0.49x_3 + 0.50x_4 + 0.50x_5 + \\ & 0.45y_1 + 0.49y_2 + 0.45y_3 + 0.46y_4 + 0.49y_5 + \\ & 0.43z_1 + 0.41z_2 + 0.43z_3 + 0.46z_4 + 0.42z_5 + \\ & 0.40w_1 + 0.44w_2 + 0.41w_3 + 0.47w_4 + 0.42w_5 + \\ & 0.40v_1 + 0.42v_2 + 0.41v_3 + 0.45v_4 + 0.45v_5 + \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& 0.42u_1 + 0.48u_2 + 0.46u_3 + 0.46u_4 + 0.46u_5 \\
s.t. \quad & 0.49x_1 + 0.45x_2 + 0.49x_3 + 0.50x_4 + 0.50x_5 + \\
& 0.45y_1 + 0.49y_2 + 0.45y_3 + 0.46y_4 + 0.49y_5 + \\
& 0.43z_1 + 0.41z_2 + 0.43z_3 + 0.46z_4 + 0.42z_5 + \\
& 0.40w_1 + 0.44w_2 + 0.41w_3 + 0.47w_4 + 0.42w_5 + \\
& 0.40v_1 + 0.42v_2 + 0.41v_3 + 0.45v_4 + 0.45v_5 + \\
& 0.42u_1 + 0.48u_2 + 0.46u_3 + 0.46u_4 + 0.46u_5 \leq 732,469 \\
& 0.40x_1 + 0.41x_2 + 0.39x_3 + 0.39x_4 + 0.33x_5 + \\
& 0.38y_1 + 0.38y_2 + 0.39y_3 + 0.44y_4 + 0.40y_5 + \\
& 0.40z_1 + 0.38z_2 + 0.35z_3 + 0.32z_4 + 0.35z_5 + \\
& 0.35w_1 + 0.33w_2 + 0.32w_3 + 0.35w_4 + 0.32w_5 + \\
& 0.34v_1 + 0.33v_2 + 0.32v_3 + 0.34v_4 + 0.36v_5 + \\
& 0.32u_1 + 0.37u_2 + 0.35u_3 + 0.34u_4 + 0.32u_5 \geq 600,000 \\
& 0.45y_1 + 0.49y_2 + 0.45y_3 + 0.46y_4 + 0.49y_5 + \\
& 0.40w_1 + 0.44w_2 + 0.41w_3 + 0.47w_4 + 0.42w_5 + \\
& 0.42u_1 + 0.48u_2 + 0.46u_3 + 0.46u_4 + 0.46u_5 \geq 466,234.5 \\
& 0.49x_1 + 0.45x_2 + 0.49x_3 + 0.50x_4 + 0.50x_5 + \\
& 0.43z_1 + 0.41z_2 + 0.43z_3 + 0.46z_4 + 0.42z_5 + \\
& 0.40v_1 + 0.42v_2 + 0.41v_3 + 0.45v_4 + 0.45v_5 \geq 183,117.25 \\
& 0.38y_1 + 0.38y_2 + 0.39y_3 + 0.44y_4 + 0.40y_5 + \\
& 0.35w_1 + 0.33w_2 + 0.32w_3 + 0.35w_4 + 0.32w_5 + \\
& 0.32u_1 + 0.37u_2 + 0.35u_3 + 0.34u_4 + 0.32u_5 \geq 450,000 \\
& x_j, y_j, z_j, w_j, u_j, v_j \geq 0, \text{ where } j = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
\end{aligned}$$

Excel Solver Add-in obtains the optimal result (*table 6.0*).

| objective function 650135 | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---------------------------|--------|---------|-------------|---------------|-------|------------|------------|
| | | | Coupon Code | Discount Code | Offer | Promo Code | Sale |
| x | 01:01 | desktop | 0 | 259504.6831 | 0 | 0 | 130548.144 |
| y | 01:01 | mobile | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1022727.27 | 0 |
| z | exact | desktop | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| w | exact | mobile | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| v | phrase | desktop | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| u | phrase | mobile | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Table 6.0 – Excel Solver Add-in solution for Linear Program.

Therefore, 259504.6831, 1022727.27, and 130548.144 are the optimal number of 01:01 desktop discount code, 01:01 mobile promo code, and 01:01 desktop sale groups respectively. The advertising cost will total £650,135. The *table 7.0* provides part of the sensitivity report for the objective function coefficient in the model:

| Variable Cells | | | | | | |
|----------------|------|-------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Cell | Name | Final Value | Reduced Cost | Objective Coefficient | Allowable Increase | Allowable Decrease |
| \$U\$13 | x1 | 0 | 0 | 0.49306 | 1E+30 | 0 |
| \$V\$13 | x2 | 259504.6831 | 0 | 0.45442 | 0 | 0 |
| \$W\$13 | x3 | 0 | 0 | 0.48606 | 1E+30 | 0 |
| \$X\$13 | x4 | 0 | 0 | 0.4982 | 1E+30 | 0 |
| \$Y\$13 | x5 | 130548.1435 | 0 | 0.49938 | 0 | 7.62615E-16 |
| \$U\$14 | y1 | 0 | 0.060309091 | 0.45468 | 1E+30 | 0.060309091 |
| \$V\$14 | y2 | 0 | 0.093824727 | 0.48612 | 1E+30 | 0.093824727 |
| \$W\$14 | y3 | 0 | 0.051726545 | 0.4544 | 1E+30 | 0.051726545 |
| \$X\$14 | y4 | 1022727.273 | 0 | 0.45664 | 0.057956532 | 0.45664 |
| \$Y\$14 | y5 | 0 | 0.065972727 | 0.4811 | 1E+30 | 0.065972727 |
| \$U\$15 | z1 | 0 | 5.55112E-17 | 0.43412 | 1E+30 | 5.55112E-17 |
| \$V\$15 | z2 | 0 | 4.16334E-17 | 0.4119 | 1E+30 | 4.16334E-17 |
| \$W\$15 | z3 | 0 | 0 | 0.4254 | 1E+30 | 0 |
| \$X\$15 | z4 | 0 | 0 | 0.45514 | 1E+30 | 0 |
| \$Y\$15 | z5 | 0 | 0 | 0.42218 | 1E+30 | 0 |
| \$U\$16 | w1 | 0 | 0.045574909 | 0.40466 | 1E+30 | 0.045574909 |
| \$V\$16 | w2 | 0 | 0.094644364 | 0.4392 | 1E+30 | 0.094644364 |
| \$W\$16 | w3 | 0 | 0.071282545 | 0.40546 | 1E+30 | 0.071282545 |
| \$X\$16 | w4 | 0 | 0.110223636 | 0.47346 | 1E+30 | 0.110223636 |
| \$Y\$16 | w5 | 0 | 0.083022545 | 0.4172 | 1E+30 | 0.083022545 |
| \$U\$17 | v1 | 0 | 9.15934E-16 | 0.40172 | 1E+30 | 9.15934E-16 |
| \$V\$17 | v2 | 0 | 0 | 0.42438 | 1E+30 | 0 |
| \$W\$17 | v3 | 0 | 8.67362E-16 | 0.40586 | 1E+30 | 8.67362E-16 |
| \$X\$17 | v4 | 0 | 2.77556E-17 | 0.44938 | 1E+30 | 2.77556E-17 |
| \$Y\$17 | v5 | 0 | 6.93889E-18 | 0.45304 | 1E+30 | 6.93889E-18 |
| \$U\$18 | u1 | 0 | 0.085946909 | 0.4222 | 1E+30 | 0.085946909 |
| \$V\$18 | u2 | 0 | 0.092991636 | 0.47906 | 1E+30 | 0.092991636 |
| \$W\$18 | u3 | 0 | 0.094443636 | 0.45768 | 1E+30 | 0.094443636 |
| \$X\$18 | u4 | 0 | 0.108741818 | 0.4616 | 1E+30 | 0.108741818 |
| \$Y\$18 | u5 | 0 | 0.124026909 | 0.46028 | 1E+30 | 0.124026909 |

Table 7.0

The allowable range of objective coefficient can be calculated by:

$$\text{Objective Coefficient} - \text{Allowable Decrease}, \text{Objective Coefficient} + \text{Allowable Increase}$$

For instance, the allowable range for y_4 is $[0.45664-0.45664, 0.45664+0.057956532] = [0, 0.51459653]$, indicating that changing the coefficient of decision variable y_4 within $[0, 0.51459653]$ will not alter the optimal solution values.

Furthermore, the reduced cost of x_2 is zero, meaning x_2 is already on the verge of entering the solution, and further improvement in its coefficient would be an optimal solution.

The *table 8.0* shows another part of the sensitivity report for the constraints in the decision-making model:

Constraints

| Cell | Name | Final Value | Shadow Price | Constraint R.H. Side | Allowable Increase | Allowable Decrease |
|--------|------------------|-------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| \$S\$2 | Constraint 1 LHS | 650135.4318 | 0 | 732469 | 1E+30 | 82333.56818 |
| \$S\$3 | Constraint 2 LHS | 600000 | 0 | 600000 | 15217.35949 | 27525.809 |
| \$S\$4 | Constraint 3 LHS | 467018.1818 | 0 | 366234.5 | 100783.6818 | 1E+30 |
| \$S\$5 | Constraint 4 LHS | 183117.25 | 1 | 183117.25 | 41155.20509 | 16866.03049 |
| \$S\$6 | Constraint 5 LHS | 450000 | 1.037818182 | 450000 | 27525.809 | 15217.35949 |

Table 8.0

Constraints 1, 2, and 3 have a shadow price of zero, indicating that relaxing them will not affect the optimal solution. But constraints 4 and 5 have a positive shadow price, which means that relaxing them will improve the optimal objective value. In addition, the allowable range of a RHS coefficient can be calculated by:

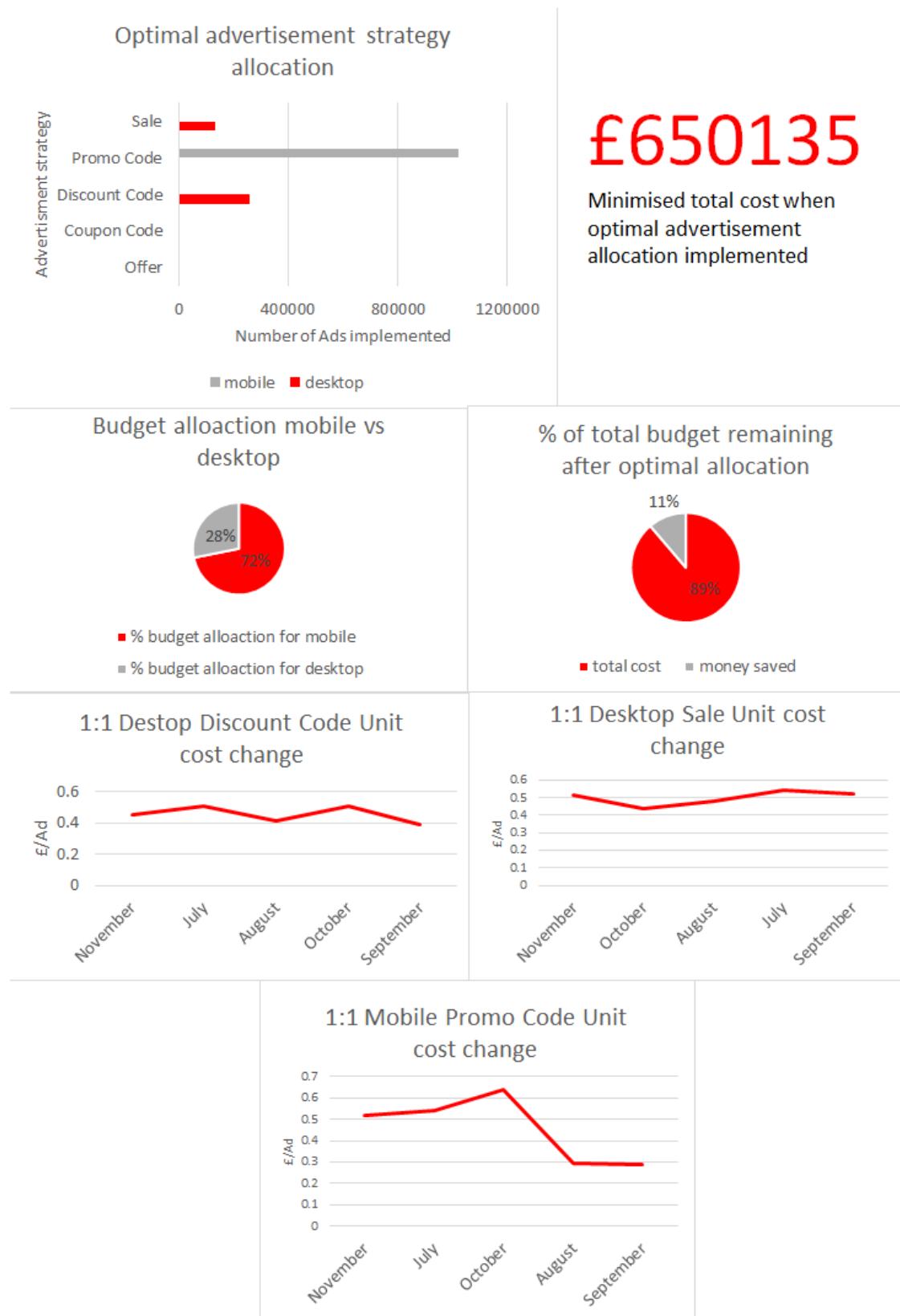
$$\text{RHS Coefficient} - \text{Allowable Decrease}, \text{RHS Coefficient} + \text{Allowable Increase}$$

For instance, for constraint 1, the allowable range can be obtained as: $[732469-82333.56818, 732469+\infty] = [650135.43182, \infty]$, indicating that if the change is within $[650135.432, \infty]$, then the solution from the original linear programming is still feasible. When considering constraint 4, its allowable range is calculated as $[183117.25-16866.03049, 183117.25+41155.20509] =$

[166251.21951, 224272.45509], so that if the change goes beyond this range, then the shadow price of constraint 4 is affected.

Based on the sensitivity analysis, the constraints for the total cost of the desktop advertisements groups, and the sum of the CTR of mobile advertisement groups, can be relaxed as to improve optimal objective value.

6. Data Visualization and Interpretation



The dashboard above shows bold contrasting colours to make the visuals clear and comprehensible. Additionally, the 1:1.5 rule has been used for font sizing to make the graphs legible and easy to understand.

The top left of the dashboard shows the results in a horizontal bar chart that displays the most efficient budgetary allocation whilst remaining within the constraints. The choice to use a horizontal bar chart was done in order to best display the stark differences that were found between the mobile and desktop strategies when considering optimal advertisement group allocation. The total minimized cost is shown as the largest figure on the dashboard as it gives a concise overview of the projected cost of this project and the result of the objective function.

The two pie charts further break down the budgetary analysis and show how this solution meets the functional constraints set in the LP model. The trio of line graphs display the relevant advertising groups ‘unit cost’ over their implementation period which enhances a cost breakdown for the optimal allocation in the DSS.

7. Reflection

Mintel is currently hiring a technical leader within their global data science and analytics teams (Holloway, 2024). The role requires many skills, some of which were acquired during this course, and highlights areas where further exploration into data analytics is required.

This course emphasized skills in both the technical and interpersonal arenas. This course furthered an understanding of analytics and linear formulation, using both excel and SQL as an external medium for more advanced calculations. These skills are mentioned in the job posting as required qualities, and this course has provided the foundation for success in these areas. The job listing also mentions that this is a client facing role and excellent communication and presentation skills are required. A large part of this course's curriculum was based around a group project where skills in teamwork, efficiency and cooperation were fostered through weekly meetings, presentations, and consistent progress check-ins.

Further skills required that are not covered in the course for a role such as the one advertised include a proficiency in Python and another BI tool such as Locker development. Python uses a different coding language to anything required in this project, and therefore may need further experience or qualification to gain proficiency in. An optional supplementary course such as the PCAP by the Python Institute (REFERENCE) may allow such skills to be developed in order for a candidate to be more suited to such a role in the field of Data Analytics.

Overall, this project has formed a foundation for success in a career in the field of Business Analytics and provides students a data science core that can carry into their future career. Skillsets such as presentation abilities, data visualisation, MySQL and proficiency in Excel are all vital for a career in the data dependent future.

References

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Appendices

Full dataset

| Ad Group | Month | Impressions | Clicks | Conversions | Conv Rate | Cost | Revenue | Sale Ampu P&L | CTR | CPC | | |
|--|-----------|-------------|--------|-------------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------------|----------|----------|------|------|
| 2 Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Coupon Code | November | 38523 | 2713 | 0.12 | 18641 | 16555 | 345891.4 | -2086.3 | 0.37 | 1.3 | | |
| 3 Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Coupon Code | July | 16038 | 1166 | 0.1 | 6123 | 5590 | 123475.5 | -532.537 | 0.4 | 1.23 | | |
| 4 Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Coupon Code | August | 12790 | 4983 | 0.1 | 221 | 725 | 0.1 | 460 | 0.06 | 1.2 | | |
| 5 Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Coupon Code | October | 10656 | 3904 | 0.1 | 111 | 468 | 1000 | -980.0 | 0.07 | 1.07 | | |
| 6 Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Coupon Code | September | 9750 | 3904 | 0.08 | 4949 | 3973 | 87840.47 | -375.676 | 0.4 | 1.07 | | |
| 7 Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Discount Code | November | 73448 | 25283 | 0.1 | 4080 | 27333 | 23857 | 497790.0 | -3478.64 | 0.42 | 1.08 | |
| 8 Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Discount Code | July | 36462 | 14367 | 0.09 | 13746 | 13262 | 283215.2 | -483.951 | 0.42 | 1.21 | | |
| 9 Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Discount Code | August | 28819 | 10141 | 0.08 | 10886 | 19700 | 19700.0 | -173.14 | 0.08 | 1.08 | | |
| 10 Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Discount Code | October | 24598 | 9395 | 0.1 | 1421 | 109 | 941 | 8186 | 71724.6 | 0.42 | 1.21 | |
| 11 Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Discount Code | September | 20879 | 8135 | 0.07 | 8069 | 6153 | 132508.1 | -1915.53 | 0.39 | 0.99 | | |
| 12 Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Offer | November | 7254 | 2725 | 0.11 | 3182 | 3227 | 66672.9 | 454.668 | 0.38 | 1.17 | | |
| 13 Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Offer | July | 3635 | 1458 | 0.09 | 1606 | 1723 | 39165.46 | 1173.136 | 0.4 | 1.1 | | |
| 14 Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Offer | August | 2398 | 1111 | 0.07 | 157 | 124 | 124.0 | -30.19 | 0.11 | 1.1 | | |
| 15 Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Offer | October | 2336 | 855 | 0.1 | 1081 | 1179 | 25104.24 | 97.764 | 0.37 | 1.27 | | |
| 16 Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Offer | September | 2163 | 866 | 0.08 | 1165 | 1073 | 24921.42 | -92.089 | 0.4 | 1.35 | | |
| 17 Shop - 1:1 - Desk - Offer | November | 64067 | 23538 | 0.15 | 37729 | 34518 | 725773.9 | -3211.12 | 0.37 | 1.3 | | |
| 18 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Promo Code | July | 5148 | 1518 | 0.03 | 102 | 102 | 102.0 | -10.0 | 0.34 | 1.27 | | |
| 19 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Promo Code | August | 19648 | 7673 | 0.11 | 11235 | 9928 | 216628.5 | -1307.27 | 0.39 | 1.3 | | |
| 20 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Promo Code | October | 16953 | 6484 | 0.12 | 10080 | 9553 | 210096.1 | -527.249 | 0.38 | 1.25 | | |
| 21 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Promo Code | September | 15673 | 6199 | 0.11 | 9163 | 7264 | 158674.1 | -1899.42 | 0.4 | 1.3 | | |
| 22 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Sale | November | 2506 | 106 | 0.03 | 109 | 94 | 94.0 | -30.0 | 0.34 | 1.47 | | |
| 23 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Sale | October | 965 | 280 | 0.09 | 422 | 446 | 9023.68 | 241.12 | 0.29 | 1.51 | | |
| 24 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Sale | August | 745 | 240 | 0.11 | 343 | 346 | 7835.88 | 3.171 | 0.32 | 1.5 | | |
| 25 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Sale | July | 808 | 282 | 0.15 | 391 | 337 | 7717.77 | -53.604 | 0.35 | 1.55 | | |
| 26 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Sale | September | 848 | 200 | 0.01 | 29 | 29 | 28.83 | -28.83 | 0.01 | 1.05 | | |
| 27 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Coupon Code | November | 99254 | 4389 | 0.08 | 24149 | 24074 | 500404.9 | -777.9 | 0.45 | 1.27 | | |
| 28 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Coupon Code | July | 46507 | 21756 | 0.05 | 13157 | 8550 | 185284.5 | -4606.71 | 0.27 | 1.16 | | |
| 29 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Coupon Code | October | 28102 | 12485 | 0.07 | 7192 | 7955 | 166656.1 | 762.921 | 0.34 | 1.28 | | |
| 30 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Coupon Code | August | 34149 | 10000 | 0.06 | 8120 | 6729 | 14861.2 | -1383.32 | 0.41 | 1.29 | | |
| 31 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Coupon Code | September | 24710 | 11918 | 0.05 | 6628 | 5604 | 13193.9 | -105.0 | 0.35 | 1 | | |
| 32 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Discount Code | November | 276568 | 99526 | 0.06 | 32668 | 32273 | 677188.1 | -5605.3 | 0.36 | 1.38 | | |
| 33 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Discount Code | October | 93406 | 36068 | 0.05 | 12236 | 13744 | 28563.3 | 1507.685 | 0.39 | 1.34 | | |
| 34 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Discount Code | July | 152394 | 59177 | 0.04 | 19371 | 13699 | 294536.9 | -5672.27 | 0.39 | 1.13 | | |
| 35 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Discount Code | August | 10565 | 3000 | 0.01 | 107 | 107 | 107.0 | -107.0 | 0.01 | 1.13 | | |
| 36 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Discount Code | September | 90806 | 40622 | 0.03 | 10904 | 7891 | 170418.9 | -3012.91 | 0.45 | 1.27 | | |
| 37 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Offer | November | 18275 | 8012 | 0.07 | 5651 | 4773 | 99420.38 | -877.986 | 0.44 | 1.1 | | |
| 38 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Offer | July | 9950 | 4283 | 0.05 | 2637 | 2038 | 46026.32 | -598.993 | 0.43 | 1.3 | | |
| 39 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Offer | October | 5795 | 206 | 0.07 | 158 | 158 | 158.0 | -158.0 | 0.01 | 1.1 | | |
| 40 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Offer | August | 7544 | 2523 | 0.05 | 1590 | 1591 | 35605.11 | 1.36 | 0.33 | 1.1 | | |
| 41 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Offer | September | 5471 | 2169 | 0.05 | 1303 | 1153 | 25744.04 | -149.243 | 0.4 | 1.23 | | |
| 42 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Promo Code | November | 138811 | 57653 | 0.1 | 43542 | 42440 | 886095.3 | -1101.9 | 0.41 | 1.26 | | |
| 43 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Promo Code | July | 5773 | 2711 | 0.09 | 4075 | 3270 | 3270.7 | 216.62 | 0.47 | 1.15 | | |
| 44 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Promo Code | October | 34929 | 15595 | 0.09 | 11258 | 12025 | 52299.3 | 766.859 | 0.45 | 1.42 | | |
| 45 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Promo Code | August | 40627 | 17655 | 0.07 | 12262 | 10303 | 303817.8 | -1958.96 | 0.43 | 0.69 | | |
| 46 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Promo Code | September | 32462 | 14427 | 0.10 | 9562 | 8838 | 196210.9 | -724.153 | 0.44 | 0.66 | | |
| 47 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Sale | November | 5828 | 1975 | 0.14 | 1118 | 1122 | 2250.0 | 3.104 | 0.4 | 1.17 | | |
| 48 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Sale | July | 1875 | 606 | 0.07 | 409 | 409 | 346.99 | -78.44 | 0.48 | 1.18 | | |
| 49 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Sale | October | 1706 | 676 | 0.07 | 412 | 372 | 7875.81 | -40.219 | 0.4 | 1.21 | | |
| 50 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Sale | August | 1489 | 472 | 0.08 | 347 | 295 | 6494.87 | -52.103 | 0.4 | 1.14 | | |
| 51 Shop - 1:1 - Mob - Sale | September | 1255 | 439 | 0.06 | 272 | 207 | 4233.7 | -64.595 | 0.35 | 1.32 | | |
| 52 Shop - Exact - Desk - Coupon Code | November | 18255 | 935 | 0.01 | 5953 | 6004 | 126655.6 | 50.02 | 0.01 | 1.08 | | |
| 53 Shop - Exact - Desk - Coupon Code | July | 8053 | 2678 | 0.08 | 2814 | 2475 | 56017.16 | -388.63 | 0.5 | 1.05 | | |
| 54 Shop - Exact - Desk - Coupon Code | August | 6244 | 2020 | 0.09 | 2267 | 2115 | 51885.05 | -151.631 | 0.45 | 1.12 | | |
| 55 Shop - Exact - Desk - Coupon Code | October | 5044 | 1555 | 0.01 | 267 | 1.3 | 1654 | 34980.16 | -79.595 | 0.31 | 1.12 | |
| 56 Shop - Exact - Desk - Coupon Code | September | 5304 | 216 | 0.02 | 1912 | 1451 | 34236.93 | -461.198 | 0.42 | 1.12 | | |
| 57 Shop - Exact - Desk - Discount Code | November | 7365 | 1348 | 0.09 | 1011 | 1035 | 2220.0 | 10.0 | 0.01 | 0.98 | | |
| 58 Shop - Exact - Desk - Discount Code | July | 556 | 214 | 0.08 | 627 | 516 | 11853.27 | -111.385 | 0.35 | 1.13 | | |
| 59 Shop - Exact - Desk - Discount Code | October | 1770 | 412 | 0.11 | 488 | 481 | 11375.79 | -7.255 | 0.4 | 1.19 | | |
| 60 Shop - Exact - Desk - Discount Code | July | 2181 | 539 | 0.08 | 577 | 449 | 10689.01 | -128.102 | 0.44 | 1.07 | | |
| 61 Shop - Exact - Desk - Offer | November | 1600 | 432 | 0.06 | 407 | 407 | 407.0 | -407.0 | 0.01 | 1.06 | | |
| 62 Shop - Exact - Desk - Offer | October | 2760 | 124 | 0.12 | 553 | 496 | 11027.61 | -56.925 | 0.2 | 1.28 | | |
| 63 Shop - Exact - Desk - Offer | August | 613 | 163 | 0.12 | 329 | 274 | 5752.61 | -54.539 | 0.4 | 1.02 | | |
| 64 Shop - Exact - Desk - Offer | September | 628 | 148 | 0.09 | 202 | 4050.38 | -37.973 | 0.35 | 1.4 | | | |
| 65 Shop - Exact - Desk - Offer | October | 649 | 151 | 0.12 | 282 | 165 | 3293.63 | -117.279 | 0.4 | 1.2 | | |
| 66 Shop - Exact - Desk - Offer | July | 495 | 15 | 0.07 | 24 | 24 | 10.0 | -10.0 | 0.01 | 1.1 | | |
| 67 Shop - Exact - Desk - Promo Code | November | 25592 | 7726 | 0.14 | 10914 | 11223 | 236665.6 | 308.975 | 0.3 | 1.41 | | |
| 68 Shop - Exact - Desk - Promo Code | July | 6561 | 2328 | 0.11 | 3467 | 3316 | 78661 | -150.503 | 0.35 | 1.29 | | |
| 69 Shop - Exact - Desk - Promo Code | October | 6254 | 2064 | 0.12 | 3012 | 3180 | 69872.95 | 168.373 | 0.33 | 1.23 | | |
| 70 Shop - Exact - Desk - Promo Code | August | 7465 | 2693 | 0.11 | 3409 | 3080 | 308046.6 | -388.31 | 0.37 | 1.12 | | |
| 71 Shop - Exact - Desk - Promo Code | September | 5480 | 203 | 0.11 | 2984 | 2013 | 73086.84 | 33.17 | 0.17 | 1.49 | | |
| 72 Shop - Exact - Desk - Sale | November | 19335 | 1689 | 0.05 | 85 | 85 | 1118 | 422 | 8962.23 | -696.152 | 0.39 | 1.66 |
| 73 Shop - Exact - Desk - Sale | July | 6318 | 598 | 0.07 | 416 | 278 | 5552.73 | -138.325 | 0.28 | 0.7 | | |
| 74 Shop - Exact - Desk - Sale | September | 9999 | 1176 | 0.05 | 574 | 296 | 4974.44 | -325.007 | 0.42 | 1.29 | | |
| 75 Shop - Exact - Desk - Sale | October | 7285 | 526 | 0.07 | 407 | 409 | 967.0 | -967.0 | 0.01 | 1.09 | | |
| 76 Shop - Exact - Desk - Sale | August | 3187 | 341 | 0.04 | 273 | 162 | 3395.73 | -110.746 | 0.45 | 0.8 | | |
| 77 Shop - Exact - Mob - Coupon Code | November | 54501 | 19058 | 0.05 | 9302 | 8134 | 171895.9 | -1168.01 | 0.35 | 1.49 | | |
| 78 Shop - Exact - Mob - Coupon Code | July | 27672 | 935 | 0.04 | 478 | 404 | 4105 | 2783 | 62357.68 | -1321.61 | 0.34 | 1.23 |
| 79 Shop - Exact - Mob - Coupon Code | October | 1619 | 6046 | 0.05 | 440 | 2338 | 268123.23 | 3371.125 | 0.38 | 1.38 | | |
| 80 Shop - Exact - Mob - Coupon Code | August | 16969 | 5100 | 0.05 | 2176 | 1992 | 44344.46 | -40.5 | 0.2 | 1.22 | | |
| 81 Shop - Exact - Mob - Coupon Code | September | 16362 | 5876 | 0.04 | 2199 | 1970 | 44401.87 | -229.336 | 0.36 | 0.37 | | |
| 82 Shop - Exact - Mob - Discount Code | November | 20699 | 5540 | 0.02 | 3200 | 2893 | 2003 | 49485.83 | -890.164 | 0.27 | 1.52 | |
| 83 Shop - Exact - Mob - Discount Code | July | 4715 | 1397 | 0.05 | 615 | 587 | 1245.37 | -27.854 | 0.3 | 1.44 | | |
| 84 Shop - Exact - Mob - Discount Code | September | 3977 | 333 | 0.04 | 460 | 470 | 11125.2 | -65.646 | 0.4 | 1.44 | | |
| 85 Shop - Exact - Mob - Discount Code | October | 2098 | 62 | 0.04 | 2957 | 2098 | 2098.0 | -2098.0 | 0.01 | 1.11 | | |
| 86 Shop - Exact - Mob - Discount Code | August | 981 | 1000 | 0.04 | 403 | 202 | 4242.44 | -4.0844 | 0.45 | 1.41 | | |
| 87 Shop - Exact - Mob - Offer | July | 3884 | 24 | 0.07 | 229 | 173 | 3888.51 | -55.92 | 0.44 | 1.41 | | |
| 88 Shop - Exact - Mob - Offer | September | 8902 | 661 | 0.04 | 121 | 121 | 2154.88 | -12.744 | 0.55 | 1.33 | | |
| 89 Shop - Exact - Mob - Offer | October | 8454 | 726 | 0.04 | 277 | 115 | 2300.72 | -161.951 | 0.27 | 0.9 | | |
| 90 Shop - Exact - Mob - Offer | July | 1029 | 26 | 0.07 | 302 | 302 | 3592.22 | -259.227 | 0.35 | 1.11 | | |
| 91 Shop - Exact - Mob - Offer | September | 1977 | 382 | 0.12 | 2616 | 2368 | 50203.23 | -248.203 | 0.24 | 1.32 | | |
| 92 Shop - Exact - Mob - Promo Code | November | 51335 | 2095 | 0.08 | 239 | 143 | 2960.84 | -96.196 | 0.26 | 1.45 | | |
| 93 Shop - Exact - Mob - Promo Code | July | 1355 | 266 | 0.07 | 403 | 209 | 4242.44 | -4.0844 | 0.45 | 1.41 | | |
| 94 Shop - Exact - Mob - Promo Code | October | 17771 | 590 | 0.06 | 404 | 3444 | 78127.29 | -997.18 | 0.37 | 1.66 | | |
| 95 Shop - Exact - Mob - Promo Code | August | 13488 | 4605 | 0.06 | 2884 | 2678 | 60074.53 | -205.997 | 0.2 | 1.2 | | |
| 96 Shop - Exact - Mob - Promo Code | September | 10938 | 4247 | 0.05 | 2486 | 2410 | 57157.19 | -76.263 | 0.39 | 0.59 | | |
| 97 Shop - Exact - Mob - Sale | November | 1978 | 62 | 0.04 | 2957 | 2957 | | | | | | |

Brainstorming Session Record

- Week 2-5
 1. At the start, we knew we wanted our DSS to be based around online advertising, as we all agreed this would be a relevant and current solution to real world problem. We first discussed the different ways in which the performance of online advertising could be measured, and after our first meeting decided to try and focus our project on the revenue maximisation of from online advertising for an airline.
 2. But after that, we met some problem around the topics. Firstly, we realised that trying to measure revenue maximisation from online advertising came with some issues. But we then realised that optimising revenue and online advertising would actually require 2 different models as they are separate topics and so this idea is inappropriate for our DSS. After discussions with the professor and trial and error we decided that the best step forward would be to focus on cost minimisation. The next main problem we had was the access to data. The only database we could find that had relevant data on all the parameters we wanted to discuss was based on shopping malls rather than airlines. We considered adjusting this data set to fit our model but decided against it for a number of reasons, mainly due to the different demographics between airline passengers and shopping mall customers.
- Week 6 -11
 1. At this point, we decided to our original idea that focused on online advertising for an airline was not viable, as the data we would need for this model was not available. Since we had already found a data set covering all the parameters we wanted to use, we decided to apply our model to online advertising for a shopping mall instead. Our current objective is therefore minimising online marketing costs for a shopping mall, and we are now on the correct pathway.