E2E forecasting flow overview

Forecast

hybridization

Forecast dis-

aggregation

Considering

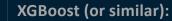
Products

Customers

Locations

Lifecycles

Data pre-processing Core analytical tasks Post-processing Reports about forecast Types of the forecasts: Base Promo 10 types of Total alerts **Forecast** Alerts output calculation generation **Forecast** transfer to downstream



ML models

training

Time Series

model training

Daily or Weekly: SKU, Store level

ML forecasts calculation

Time Series

forecasts

calculation

- 3+ year historical data

Including: Demand restoration

Forecast Flag calculation

Customer data

loading and

parameters

initialization

Demand driver preprocessing

Hierarchical Forecasting:

Input data

preprocessing

- High level forecast at category/region level and weekly or monthly granularity
- 3-year historical data

Various statistical models depending on time series properties:

- **ESM**
- ARIMA
- Regression

Interactive Modeling:

Ability to choose manually another model

Hybrid model, consolidation

rules depend on:

- Forecast horizon
- SKU history length
- **Demand class**
- Promo or non-promo

Granularity:

- day
- week
- split-week using weekmonth transformation

Forecast dis-Autoaccumulation correction

Statistical algorithms

Parameters to control adjustments logic

Weekly release:

84 days (operational) 104 weeks (tactical)

Definition of data entities

IA Table name	Description	Type
PRODUCT	Stores basic information about products, including product hierarchy.	Mandatory
LOCATION	Stores information about locations (location hierarchy).	Mandatory
CUSTOMER	Stores basic information about customers (distributors, retailers etc.), including customer hierarchy.	Mandatory
DISTR_CHANNEL	Stores basic information about distribution channel, including distribution channels hierarchy.	Mandatory
SELL_IN	Stores information about historical sales (e.g. shipment data).	Mandatory
SELL_OUT	Stores information about historical sales of the customers (POS data).	Mandatory
ASSORT_MATRIX	Stores information about product matrix, to define assortments that should be forecasted by the solution.	Critical
PRODUCT_LIFE	Stores information about products lifecycle. Aimed at covering the situations when the history of sales should be inherited by one product from the other.	Critical
LOCATION_LIFE	Stores information about locations lifecycle. Aimed at covering the situations when the history of sales should be inherited by one location from the other.	Critical
CUSTOMER_LIFE	Stores information about customers lifecycle. Aimed at covering the situations when the history of sales should be inherited by one customer from the other.	Critical
EVENTS	Stores information about calendar events.	Optional
PRODUCT_ATTR	Stores information about product attributes.	Optional
LOCATION_ATTR	Stores information about location attributes.	Optional
CUSTOMER_ATTR	Stores information about customer attributes.	Optional
DISTR_CHANNEL_ATTR	Stores information about distribution channel attributes.	Optional
STOCK	Stores historical information about inventories.	Optional
PROMO_TYPE	Stores information about types of promo events.	Optional
PROMO	Stores information about planned and historical promotions events.	Optional
PROMO_ATTR	Stores information about promo attributes.	Optional
PRICE	Stores information about planned and historical prices.	Optional
CROSS_ATTRIBUTES	Stores information about cross attributes. Aimed at covering the cases when the same product can have country	Optional
	or region or location specific attributes.	

DQ examples

Check values range def check_val_range(data_quality_output, table, target_col, th=0): result = table[table[target_col] < th] if not result.empty: data_quality_output = pd.concat([data_quality_output, result]) return data_quality_output data_quality_output = check_val_range(data_quality_output, promo, 'PROMO_PRICE') PRODUCT_ID LOCATION_ID CUSTOMER_ID DISTR_CHANNEL_ID PERIOD_START_DT PERIOD_END_DT PRICE_TYPE N</pre>

Check cross consistency

Forecast output structure (real case)

out forecast details out forecast FORECAST ID FORECAST ID PERIOD DT PARENT FORECAST ID DIM1 LVL ID TARGET VARIABLE NM FORECAST TYPE DIM5 LVL ID PERIOD TYPE FORECAST VALUE FORECAST PERIOD START DT FORECAST LOWER FORECAST_PERIOD_END_DT FORECAST HORIZON FORECAST UPPER FORECAST SOURCE UOM CD ML FORECAST VALUE PROCESS START DTTM VF FORECAST VALUE PROCESS END DTTM ENSEMBLE FORECAST VALUE BF AUTOCOR FORECAST VALUE out dimension DEMAND TYPE

DIMENSION_ID DIMENSION NM

Out_forecast_attributes

FORECAST_ID
DIM1_LVL_ID
...
DIM5_LVL_ID
ASSORTMENT_TYPE
FORECAST_VARIANCE

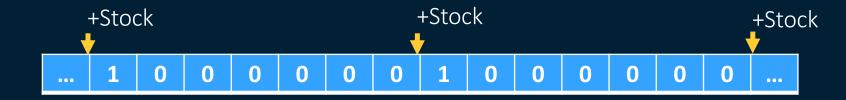
Demand Restoration



Sales VS Demand

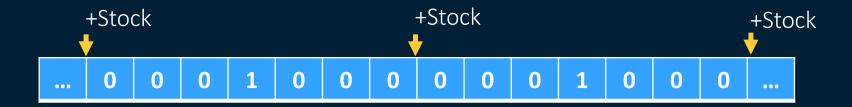
Item 1

Daily Sales



Item 2

Daily Sales



Sales VS Demand



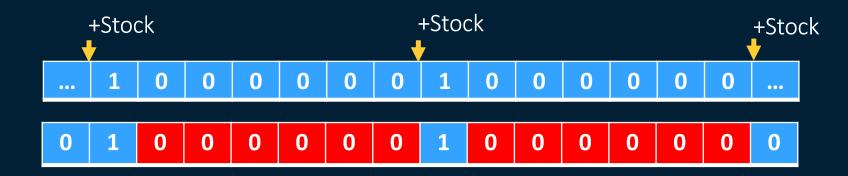
Daily Sales

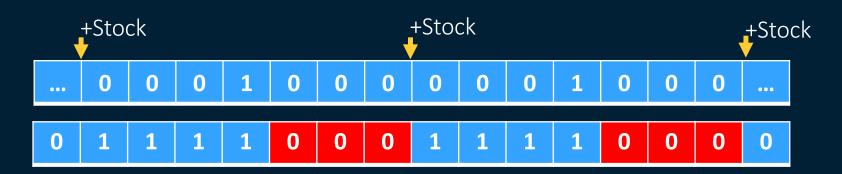
Daily Stock

Item 2

Daily Sales

Daily Stock



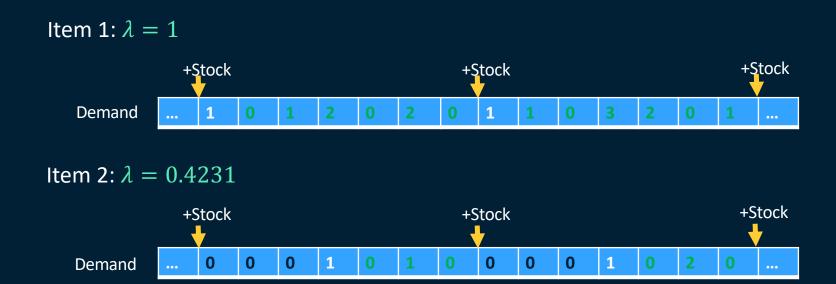


Poisson Model

Key Assumptions

- The number of sales in different periods of time is a random variable
- Probability to sell k pieces in t days (in case of infinite stock) is Poisson distribution

$$P_{\infty}(x=k) = \frac{\lambda^k}{k!}e^{-\lambda}$$



Model of birth and death

- m number of pieces in stock
- *k* sales amount
- $P_m(x=k)$ probability to sell k pieces having m pieces in stock

$$P_m(x = k) = \begin{cases} 1, & k = m = 0, \\ 0, & k > m \text{ or } k < 0 \end{cases}$$

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How to estimate λ for each item:

- Long history of data
- Find proper estimation method

Estimation of λ

 There is a sample realization of a random variable for a two parameters

$$(k_1, m_1), (k_2, m_2), \dots, (k_T, m_T)$$

Likelihood

$$L = P_{m_1}(x = k_1) \cdot P_{m_2}(x = k_2) \cdot \dots \cdot P_{m_T}(x = k_{m_T}) =$$

$$= \prod_{i:0 \le k_i < m_i} \frac{(\lambda)^{k_i}}{k_i!} e^{-\lambda} \cdot \prod_{i:k_i = m_i > 0} \left(1 - \sum_{l=0}^{m_i - 1} \frac{(\lambda)^l}{l!} e^{-\lambda} \right) \cdot \prod_{i:k_i = m_i = 0} 1$$

Estimation of λ

• Log likelihood

$$\ln L = \ln \left(\prod_{i:0 \le k_i < m_i} \frac{(\lambda)^{k_i}}{k_i!} e^{-\lambda} \cdot \prod_{i:k_i = m_i > 0} \left(1 - \sum_{l=0}^{m_i - 1} \frac{(\lambda)^l}{l!} e^{-\lambda} \right) \cdot \prod_{i:k_i = m_i = 0} 1 \right) = 0$$

$$= \sum_{i:0 \le k_i < m_i} \ln \left(\frac{(\lambda)^{k_i}}{k_i!} e^{-\lambda} \right) + \sum_{i:k_i = m_i > 0} \ln \left(1 - \sum_{l=0}^{m_i - 1} \frac{(\lambda)^l}{l!} e^{-\lambda} \right) = 0$$

$$= \ln \lambda \cdot \sum_{i:0 \le k_i < m_i} k_i - \lambda \cdot \sum_{i:0 \le k_i < m_i} 1 + \sum_{i:k_i = m_i > 0} \ln \left(1 - \sum_{l=1}^{m_i} \frac{(\lambda)^t}{l!} e^{-\lambda} \right)$$

Estimation of λ

- m_i stock in a day i
- $\sum_{i:k_i>0} k_i$ sum of sales within observed days
- $n_{0 \le k < m}$ number of days, when sales less than stock
- $n_{k=m>0}$ number of days, when sales are equal to stock

$$\ln L = \ln \lambda \cdot \sum_{i:0 \le k_i < m_i} k_i - \lambda \cdot n_{0 \le k < m} + \sum_{i:k_i = m_i > 0} \ln \left(1 - \sum_{l=1}^{m_i} \frac{(\lambda)^l}{l!} e^{-\lambda} \right) \to \max_{\lambda > 0} \left(1 - \sum_{l=1}^{m_i} \frac{(\lambda)^l}{l!} e^{-\lambda} \right) \to \max_{\lambda > 0} \left(1 - \sum_{l=1}^{m_i} \frac{(\lambda)^l}{l!} e^{-\lambda} \right)$$

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MLE for λ estimation

Taylor series for exponent

$$1 - \sum_{l=0}^{m_i-1} \frac{(\lambda)^l}{l!} e^{-\lambda} = e^{-\lambda} \left(e^{\lambda} - \sum_{l=0}^{m_i-1} \frac{(\lambda)^l}{l!} \right) = e^{-\lambda} \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\lambda)^l}{l!} - \sum_{l=0}^{m_i-1} \frac{(\lambda)^l}{l!} \right) = e^{-\lambda} \sum_{l=m_i}^{\infty} \frac{(\lambda)^l}{l!} = \frac{(\lambda)^{m_i}}{m_i!} e^{\theta_{m_i,\lambda} \cdot \lambda} e^{-\lambda}$$

Log likelihood

$$\ln L = \ln \lambda \cdot \sum_{i:0 \le k_i < m_i} k_i - \lambda \cdot n_{0 \le k < m} + \sum_{i:k_i = m_i > 0} \ln \left(\frac{(\lambda)^{m_i}}{m_i!} e^{\theta_{m_i,\lambda} \cdot \lambda} e^{-\lambda} \right) =$$

$$= \ln \lambda \cdot \sum_{i:0 \le k_i < m_i} k_i - \lambda \cdot n_{0 \le k_i < m_i} + \sum_{i:k_i = m_i > 0} \left(k_i \cdot \ln \lambda + \left(\theta_{m_i, \lambda} - 1 \right) \cdot \lambda \right) + C =$$

$$= \ln \lambda \cdot \sum_{i:0 \le k_i \le m_i} k_i - \lambda \cdot \left(n_{0 \le k < m} + \sum_{i:k_i = m_i > 0} \left(1 - \theta_{m_i, \lambda} \right) \right) + C$$

MLE for λ estimation

Necessary condition:

$$\frac{\partial \ln L}{\partial \lambda} = \frac{\sum_{i:0 \le k_i \le m_i} k_i}{\lambda} - \left(n_{0 \le k < m} + \sum_{i:k_i = m_i > 0} \left(1 - \theta_{m_i, \lambda} \right) \right) = 0$$

$$\lambda = \frac{\sum_{i:0 \le k_i \le m_i} k_i}{n_{0 \le k < m} + \sum_{i:k_i = m_i > 0} (1 - \theta_{m_i, \lambda})} = \frac{\sum k_i}{n_{0 \le k < m} + \alpha \cdot n_{k = m > 0}},$$

MLE for λ estimation

 m_i - stock in a day i $\sum_{i:k_i>0} k_i$ - sum of sales within observed days $n_{0\leq k < m}$ - number of days, when sales less than stock $n_{k=m>0}$ - number of days, when sales are equal to stock

$$\ln L = \ln \lambda \cdot \sum_{i:0 \le k_i < m_i} k_i - \lambda \cdot n_{0 \le k < m} + \sum_{i:k_i = m_i > 0} \ln \left(1 - \sum_{l=1}^{m_i} \frac{(\lambda)^l}{l!} e^{-\lambda} \right) \to \max_{\lambda > 0} \left(1 - \sum_{l=1}^{m_i} \frac{(\lambda)^l}{l!} e^{-\lambda} \right) \to \max_{\lambda > 0} \left(1 - \sum_{l=1}^{m_i} \frac{(\lambda)^l}{l!} e^{-\lambda} \right)$$

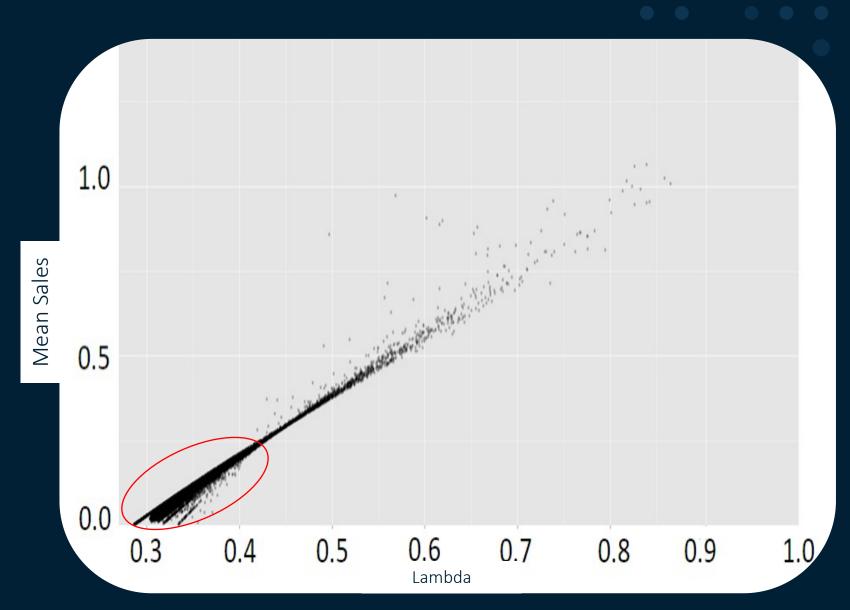
Solution:

$$\lambda = \frac{\sum k_i}{n_{0 \le k < m} + \alpha \cdot n_{k=m > 0}},$$

where $\alpha \in [0,1]$

Lambda vs Mean Sales

Lambda is significantly higher than Mean Sales for low-demand items



Demand Restoration results

Several approaches to restore demand

10%-20%
Realistic Uplift

Sales

Optimistic demand

Conservative demand

Pessimistic demand

