

SCHOOL OF INFORMATICS & IT

Machine Learning for Decision Making

Understanding what drives customers to purchase more products

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Submission Date: 13/11/2023

Declaration of Originality

I am the originator of this work and I have appropriately acknowledged all other original sources used as my references for this work.

I understand that Plagiarism is the act of taking and using the whole or any part of another person's work, including work generated by AI, and presenting it as my own.

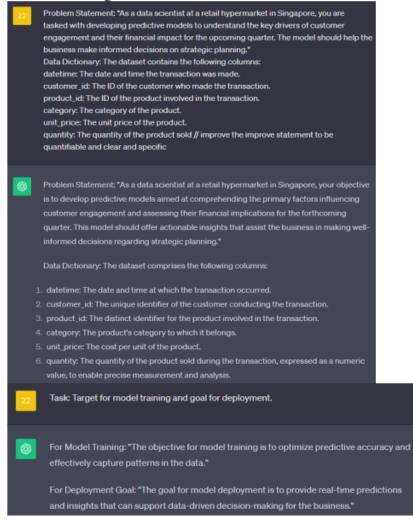
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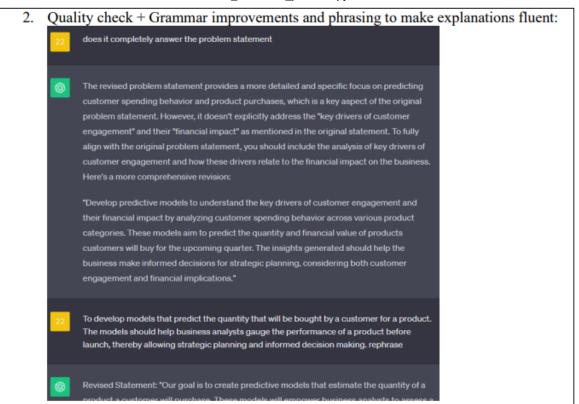
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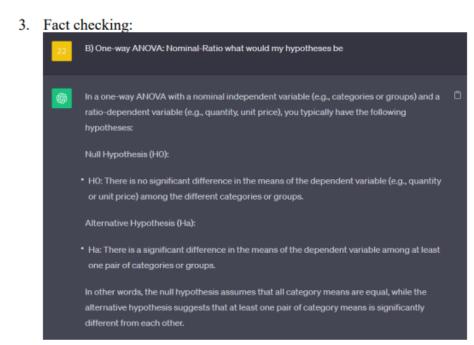
Describe how you have used Generative AI tools such as ChatGPT or Dall.E-2 in your assignment.

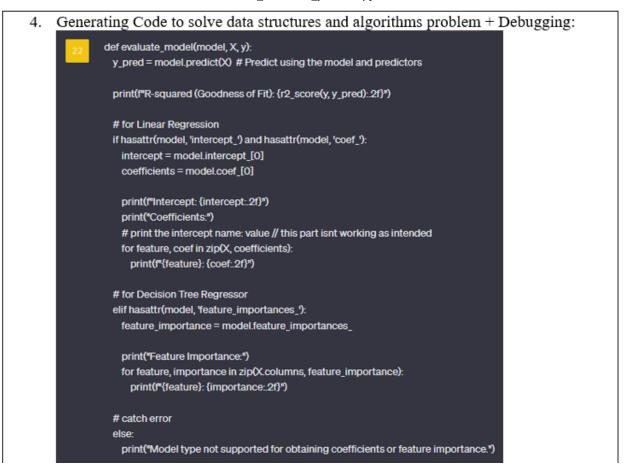
Show snapshots of the conversations with the AI tool (i.e., the prompts you used and the response you get from the AI tool).

Problem framing with ChatGPT:









1. Introduction

Business Context and Requirement

Retail Hypermarket is a Singapore-based store aiming to build strong customer relationships to secure long-term success. They want to improve customer engagement and plan to launch a sales campaign in the upcoming quarter (Q2) of 2023. However, they are uncertain about the factors that drive customers to make more purchases, hence unsure about what they can do for a sales campaign to boost customer engagement. As a data scientist, my role is to uncover the key drivers of customer engagement and their financial impact, so that I can provide data-driven sales strategies that can be backed by historical customer transactions to be highly successful if implemented.

1.1 Problem Statement

"Develop predictive models to understand the key drivers of customer engagement and their financial impact for the upcoming quarter (2023Q2). The model should assist the business to make informed decisions on strategic planning."

1.2 Objective

Develop machine learning models to help my client understand how various factors, such as product type, pricing, and market trends for different quarters, influence the quantity of products purchased by different customers. These insights will enable the client to create data-driven sales strategies that make customers buy more products, thereby increasing customer spending and generating more revenue for the company. These strategies will be implemented in the next quarter as part of a sales campaign to improve sales revenue by increasing the average customer purchase volume.

1.3 Goal for deployment

Understand which market trends and pricing for specific product types lead to the highest customer engagement among various customer types. This will enable the formulation of data-driven strategies to encourage customers to buy more products in the next quarter.

1.3.1 Whitebox:

- · Highly interpretable
- Rationale behind how the model derives a prediction can be clearly understood.

1.3.2 Blackbox:

- · Predictions are highly accurate.
- Rationale behind how the model derives its prediction can be understood.

1.4 Inputs for Models

Target: Quantity

Potential predictors:

- Customer type: To identify the different types of customers. Since different customer types could have different behavioral patterns, this could be a relevant feature for the machine to learn.
- Product type: Certain products are meant for bulk purchases by nature. Example: Stationeries like pen, pencil, and
 eraser. Hence the 'ideal sales' for different products vary and products need to be compared separately.
- Product pricing: Customers may get tempted to buy more when there is a discount, hence the pricing is a potential
 feature for the machine to learn the pricing patterns for different products, so that a pricing strategy to boost
 customer engagement could be engineered by using the model.
- · Quarter: To capture market trends for different quarters of the year.

1.5 Considerations

- Predictors should be readily available before the occurrence of prediction to ensure the model is usable for predicting.
- Data used to train models should be recent, to ensure the patterns and intricacies the model works on match the current trend. This makes the model usable as the predictions are reliable.
- Models should be well-generalized to predict unseen future occurrences with similar accuracy as the training dataset; no overfitting on training data.
- Models should adhere to AI ethics and regulations, ensuring transparency, fairness, absence of bias, and nondiscrimination.

1.6 Metrics for Model Evaluation

- 1.6.1 **Goodness of Fit: R^2** to analyse how well the predictions can be explained by the predictor values, to assess if the patterns and intricacies of how customers engage in purchase of various products have been captured by the model.
- 1.6.2 **Accuracy: Mean Absolute Error (MAE)** to assess the error of an average prediction; how far an average prediction deviates from the actual value. This metric is chosen for its simplistic interpretation and appropriateness for the Target's nature.

Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE) is not chosen due to its slightly complex interpretation and nature of amplifying small errors due to the squared term. As the quantity range is quite small ranging from 1 to 20, there is no need to penalize larger errors as outliers are an impossibility.

1.7 Success Criteria for Project

- Deploy 1 predictive model to be presented to Retail Hypermarket for usage.
- Before deployment, a model's MAE should be 2 or below to ensure highly accurate predictions with an average deviation from the truth of no more than 2 units. This is because the Quantity/engagement of a transaction only has a range of 1 to 20, which is very small. Hence, the margin for error should be relative to this range.

MAE of 0 is the best-case scenario. However, this may not be realistically achievable. MAE of 0 may also indicate overfitting and should checked and confirmed that the model is not overfitted before deployment.

A large MAE makes the model unreliable for predicting customer product purchases, casting doubt on the accuracy of the insights derived from the model.

- Model fit (R-Squared value) should be above 80%, to affirm model is explainable and its decisions are closely based on the truth of historical data; no underfitting, hence reliable.
- Goal of deployment (1.3) should be fulfilled.
- The black-box model should outperform the white-box model by a noticeable margin of minimally 5% if chosen for deployment, to ensure the choice of the more complex model is justified by significantly improved accuracy.

1.8 Environment

- New Products: I should refrain from adding precise details about a product, such a Product ID, to allow the models
 to forecast engagement on new products that exhibit similar qualities with existing products within the training
 dataset. For example, the new product is in an existing category. If the new product is in a newly created category
 not in training dataset, the model cannot be used for predicting customer engagement on that product. This
 ensures the usability of a model is sustainable for future usage and does not require frequent updates.
- New Customers: The models should able to predict the customer engagement for customer not within training dataset. This ensures the models are versatile and usable in real world scenario.

This means I cannot use features that specify the exact customer. For example, name or customer ID. This is also to avoid overfitting.

- Economic Status: Customer interests and spending behaviour may change during recessions or economic boom.

 These trends may not be captured and identified if they are not within the training dataset.
- Market Trends: The market trend and customers' spending behavior can change rapidly in this fast-paced society, and may differ from the training data.
- Seasonal changes: Unprecedented events like a virus outbreak, unexpected intense rainfall or scorching weather
 period, may deter customers from visiting Retail Hypermarket, resulting financial performance that cannot be
 explained by the models.
- Competition: New retail companies may emerge in the future and influence customers' decision on whether to patronize Retail Hypermarket, and the models are unable to account for such external factors.

In summary:

- 1. The training dataset must be recent and reflective of current trends and customer behaviour.
- 2. The Model's code and documentations should be clear, easy to understand, and adaptable for future modifications (e.g. changing dataset, random state).

1.9 Target leakage

Do not include:

• Features not available at the time of prediction since this makes the model unusable as the business would not have access to such information when using the model to make predictions. This includes future data or data that can only be generated after the prediction event. E.g. Year, total spending of a customer.

- Features directly related Quantity to prevent 'giveaway' target leakage issues. These features include: Total spending of a customer.
- Features with unrealistically high collinearity with Quantity, which could be derived from the target and bias the model.
- · High cardinality columns like ID to prevent overfitting and ensure model generalization with new, unseen data.
- Multicollinearity (2 or more predictors are closely related) should be avoided as it leads to reduced model interpretability, unstable coefficient estimates, increased standard errors, misleading feature importance, and difficulty in identifying the true drivers of a prediction.

raining Datase	et:			
		 	 . –	

2. Data Attributes

2.1 Data Understanding

The dataset 'synthetic_data.csv' was provided by Retail Hypermarket, which contains the company's transaction records from 2022 onwards. A data dictionary, attached below, has also been provided for understanding what each column represents.

The dataset should be trusted as it was received directly from the client.

Data Dictionary: The dataset contains the following columns:

datetime: The date and time the transaction was made.

customer_id: The ID of the customer who made the transaction.

product_id: The ID of the product involved in the transaction.

category: The category of the product.

unit_price: The unit price of the product.

quantity: The quantity of the product sold.

Evaluation:

- 1. Customer Type is not given, but Customer ID is provided. Perhaps the Customer Type could be in the ID?
- 2. Category has similar meaning to Product Type where it provides detail about what the product is. Hence, category could represent the product type.
- 3. Product price is provided as unit price.
- 4. Features related to market trend are absent from dataset. However, potential features like Day, Month, and Quarter could be derived from datetime to allow the model to capture market trends for different periods of the year.

2.2 Data Inspection

2.2.1 Importing libraries

```
In [1]: import pandas as pd
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import seaborn as sns

SEED = 2202934 # admin number for random_state
```

2.2.2 Loading csv into DataFrame

```
In [2]: df = pd.read_csv('synthetic_data.csv')
print("Number of observations: ", len(df)) # count rows in df
```

Number of observations: 331664

There is an abundance of data. The 300K+ rows of data is enough for training and testing the models.

2.2.3 Exploring Dataset

```
In [3]: pd.set_option('display.float_format', '{:.10f}'.format) # show full unit_price without truncation
df.head()
```

Out[3]:

	Datetime	Product_ID	Category	Quantity	Unit_Price	Customer_ID
0	2022-01-07	10106959	Stationery	9	1.5798753892	a225207859
1	2022-01-09	90097406	Sports	4	196.2533774599	a225207859
2	2022-01-10	10010465	Electronics	1	825.3742907058	a225207859
3	2022-01-14	10010510	Electronics	2	325.9650346646	a225207859
4	2022-01-16	40049430	Books	1	22.6019194627	a225207859

In [4]: df.tail()

Out[4]:

	Datetime	Product_ID	Category	Quantity	Unit_Price	Customer_ID
331659	2022-12-18	20026116	Groceries	5	5.3781616834	c891387366
331660	2022-12-23	10018925	Electronics	1	1193.8285186999	c891387366
331661	2022-12-27	20022820	Groceries	3	5.1754917125	c891387366
331662	2022-12-27	40042985	Books	2	38.5985362367	c891387366
331663	2022-12-31	20025163	Groceries	3	5.3977440791	c891387366

Evaluation:

- 1. **Datetime is missing time**. There is nothing that can be done about missing time as I am only provided with this dataset.
- There is no columns like Quarter or Month. However, these seasonality features can be derived from the date in Datetime.
- 3. Unit_Price is a non-terminating number, which is strange as its unconventional for prices at supermarkets to go beyond cents. Hence, **Unit_Price should be rounded off to 2 d.p.**
- 4. The records seem to be in time-series, and ends at 31 December 2022? (Continued at 2.3.2.b)
- 5. The **dataset is recent** as it is from last year (2022). Hence, it is suitable for building models to predict for this year (2023).

2.2.4 Are there duplicated records?

```
In [5]: df.duplicated(subset=['Datetime', 'Customer_ID']).sum() # sum up number of duplicated rows
Out[5]: 29362
```

This indicates that **there are customers who make multiple transactions a day**, indicating that they bought different products at the same time.

To check if there are duplicated records, I should factor in Product_ID as Retail Hypermarket wouldn't seperate the same product into different transaction.

```
In [6]: df.duplicated(subset=['Datetime', 'Customer_ID', 'Product_ID']).sum() # sum up duplicated transact
Out[6]: 0
```

There are no duplicated records in dataset.

2.2.5 Check for data types and missing values

```
In [7]: pd.set_option('display.float_format', '{:.3f}'.format) # revert df to round of to 3 d.p.
In [8]: df.info()
        <class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
        RangeIndex: 331664 entries, 0 to 331663
        Data columns (total 6 columns):
            Column
                         Non-Null Count
                                         Dtype
        #
                         -----
        0
            Datetime
                         331664 non-null object
            Product ID 331664 non-null int64
        1
         2
                         331664 non-null object
            Category
                         331664 non-null int64
         3
            Quantity
            Unit Price 331664 non-null float64
         4
            Customer ID 331664 non-null object
        dtypes: float64(1), int64(2), object(3)
        memory usage: 15.2+ MB
```

Takeaways:

- 1. No missing values for any columns because all columns have 331, 664 non-null values.
- 2. Datetime column is not in its proper format of a date datatype.

20.000

1199.947

2.2.6 Summary statistics

max 90099999.000

```
In [10]: df.nunique() # count of unique values in a column
Out[10]: Datetime
                            368
                          75781
         Product ID
         Category
                             10
         Quantity
                             20
         Unit_Price
                         331664
         Customer_ID
                           2648
         dtype: int64
In [11]: df.Category.unique() # identify all unique values in category col
Out[11]: array(['Stationery', 'Sports', 'Electronics', 'Books', 'Groceries',
                 'Health & Beauty', 'Furniture', 'Automotive', 'Clothing', 'Toys'],
               dtype=object)
```

Takeaways:

- 1. All Product IDs are 8 char.
- 2. Every transaction can only involve 1 to 20 of the same product.
- 3. Cheapest product is 1 dollar and most expensive is 1200 dollars. An average product costs 124 dollars per unit.
- 4. There are 10 types of product Categories.

Evaluation:

- 1. Datetime should not contain any anomalies if it can be successfully parsed into Date datatype.
- Identifying anomaly values for Product_ID and Customer_ID can be tough as there are thousands of unique values; too many to manually inspect. Hence, I shall perform Exploratory Data Analysis to investigate for irregularities in these columns.
- 3. Category does not have any anomalies can all unique values are logical for a product category.
- 4. Quantity has no anomalies as all unique values are integer and within range of 1 to 20; no irregular values like 0.2 quantity or -1 quantity. This also suggests that there can be no partial purchases or refunds.

2.2.7 Do Products have a fixed unit price

```
In [12]: Product = df.sort_values(by=['Product_ID'])
Product.head(4)
```

Out[12]:

	Datetime	Product_ID	Category	Quantity	Unit_Price	Customer_ID
126708	2022-05-22	10010000	Electronics	2	850.915	a704811449
326206	2022-05-26	10010000	Electronics	2	357.381	c567078712
173955	2022-09-06	10010000	Electronics	1	495.939	c849466466
105432	2022-11-07	10010000	Electronics	1	791.225	d703549797

Analysis:

Price of product changes over time. This indicates that the store practices competitive pricing by changing prices to offer attractive deals that encourage customers to engage in purchases.

2.3 Data Cleaning

2.3.0 Rectifications based on Data Inspection:

- 1. Round off Unit Price to 2 d.p.
- 2. Parse Datetime into date datatype.
- 3. Features extraction on Date to create Quarters.

2.3.1 Unit_Price:

```
In [13]: df['Unit_Price'] = round(df['Unit_Price'], 2)
```

2.3.2.a Parsing Datetime:

```
In [14]: df['Datetime'] = pd.to_datetime(df['Datetime'])
```

There are no anomalies in Datetime as all values conform to Date datatype format.

2.3.2.b Confirmation in data is in time-series

```
In [15]: df.sort_values(by='Datetime', inplace=True)
df.tail(8)
```

Out[15]:

	Datetime	Product_ID	Category	Quantity	Unit_Price	Customer_ID
48824	2023-01-03	50056627	Furniture	1	927.850	a793237418
150571	2023-01-03	70070603	Toys	9	24.140	d407005726
151609	2023-01-03	40041605	Books	3	5.020	a166502882
77889	2023-01-03	90093200	Sports	2	33.040	a253267567
200653	2023-01-03	70077230	Toys	3	8.880	a731741739
115899	2023-01-03	50050749	Furniture	2	985.720	a555546365
229742	2023-01-03	10012069	Electronics	1	1112.050	d112052977
95489	2023-01-03	30030537	Clothing	5	24.710	b004263214

Analysis:

- The dataset contains the transactions of Retail Hypermarket from 2022 till current. Based on the latest date of 2023-01-03 found in the dataset, it can be deduced that the current financial quarter is Q1. This means that the upcoming quarter will be Q2.
- It's also strange that these transactions were placed randomly within the 2022 dataset rather than at the end of the dataset as expected.
- This raises concerns about the reliable of the Datetime column, especially when the time values are missing from this column.

Evaluation:

- The Datetime for 2023 records may be incorrect as these records do not follow the typical pattern of transactional record systems where new transactions are found at the end of the dataset.
- Since there are 300K rows of data, sufficient for training and validating the model, I shall exclude the 2023 records and train my model solely on 2022 data due to suspicions in reliability of 2023 records: because time is missing

from Datetime, its possible that this column has problems. Additionally, include 2023-Jan data in training is a possible target leakage if the model is used for forecasting the customer engagement during 2023Q1 since the model already has access to 2023Q1's data.

 However, 2023 records could be used for testing of models. A model shall only be tested with testing data if it is considered for deployment; df_test will be the final check before deployment.

```
In [16]: df_test = df[df['Datetime'].dt.year == 2023] # make a new df to store 2023 records as testing date
df = df[df['Datetime'].dt.year != 2023] # remove 2023 records from df

In [17]: len(df_test)
Out[17]: 386
```

2.3.3 Quarter:

Customer spending behavior can varies across seasons, hence I will create this column to allow user to predict prices for different quarters of the year.

```
In [18]: df['Quarter'] = df['Datetime'].dt.to_period('Q').astype(str).str[-1]
# Only need the Quarter number, hence index last number in Quarter
```

2.4 Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA)

To delve into relationships between features and the Target, to identify potential data issues and whether the feature is relevant for predicting quantity.

2.4.1 Examine df:

```
In [19]: df.sample(12) # randomly sample df to analyse data
```

Out[19]:

	Datetime	Product_ID	Category	Quantity	Unit_Price	Customer_ID	Quarter
149861	2022-10-10	50054195	Furniture	1	966.490	b974473267	4
94590	2022-07-03	90093324	Sports	2	117.990	c945511115	3
247856	2022-07-20	20021701	Groceries	18	11.160	c808686194	3
156258	2022-04-01	20026116	Groceries	14	7.760	c611395267	2
236440	2022-02-12	20024740	Groceries	18	18.250	a281655367	1
315803	2022-05-11	20026144	Groceries	11	13.240	a800366365	2
328465	2022-12-11	30030417	Clothing	5	52.040	a476024231	4
247259	2022-11-25	80086884	Health & Beauty	6	67.860	d015799886	4
221127	2022-01-21	10103779	Stationery	13	6.630	c363622521	1
198345	2022-01-31	20023869	Groceries	18	13.490	c901206572	1
66752	2022-09-01	20026730	Groceries	16	18.660	a457607656	3
296244	2022-02-04	20020144	Groceries	12	19.320	a802312729	1

2.4.2 EDA Graph Plotter:

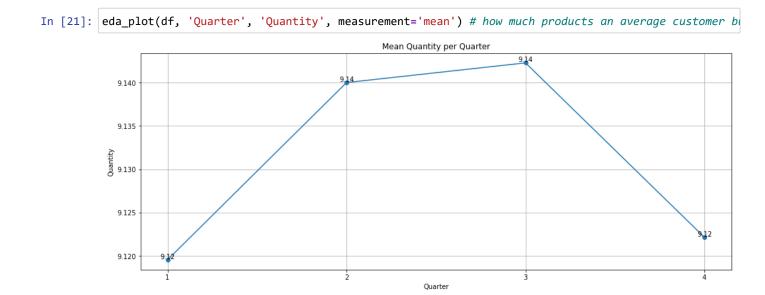
```
In [20]: def eda_plot(df, category, measure, plot_type='line', measurement='sum'):
              category total = df.groupby(category)[measure].agg(measurement)
                                                                                      # Aggr the measure per co
              plt.figure(figsize=(16, 6))
                                                                                      # Set the size of the gr
              # Toggle to the selected chart
              if plot_type == 'line':
                  plt.plot(category_total.index, category_total.values, marker='o', linestyle='-')
                                                                                      # turn on grid for easy
                  plt.grid(True)
              elif plot type == 'bar':
                  category total = category total.sort values(ascending=False)
                                                                                      # Sort the data in descel
                  plt.bar(category total.index, category total.values)
              else:
                  print("Invalid plot_type. Please use 'line' or 'bar'.")
                                                                                      # error tolerance
                  return
              # Remove '_' for easier readibility of legends
             measure = measure.replace('_', ' ')
category = category.replace('_', '
              # Add labels above the data points
              for x, y in zip(category_total.index, category_total.values):
                  plt.text(x, y, f'{y:.2f}', ha='center', va='bottom')
              plt.title(f'{measurement.capitalize()) {measure} per {category}')
              plt.xlabel(category)
              plt.ylabel(measure)
              plt.xticks(category_total.index)
              plt.show()
```

Usage:

eda_plot(DataFrame, [Column in df], [measure, must be numerical], plot_type=[Type of Plot, line or bar, default=line], measurement=[measurement, sum/mean/median. default=sum])

2.4.3.a Engagement by Quarter

• Is there a discernable customer engagement pattern for each quarter?



A) Analysis:

- On average, a customer purchases 9 products per transaction.
- · Average engagement of a customer is indifferent for all quarters; only small and insignificant different of 0.02 units.

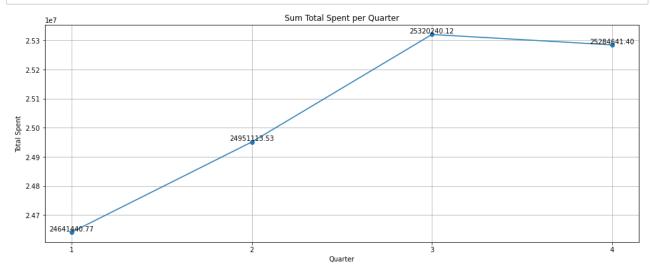
B) Conclusion:

An average customer engages equally in a purchase throughout the year;

The average customer engagement for all quarters are the same with no significant variation.

2.4.3.b Market Trend by Quarter

· Is there an underlying market trend for each quarter?



A) Analysis:

The customer engagement for Retail Hypermarket during Q1 and Q2 is lower than the engagement during Q3 and Q4, as the total spendings of customers during Q1 and Q2 are below 25,000,000 dollars.

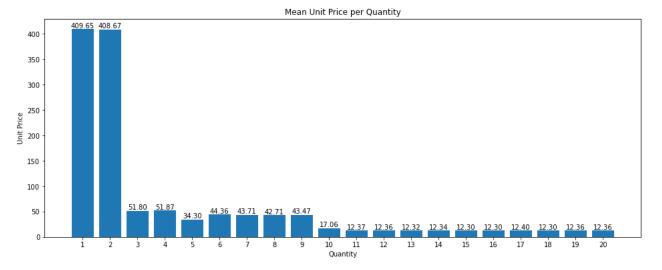
B) Conclusion:

This suggests that there could be an underlying market trend there are **more customers** who buy more and **spend more during the later half of the year**.

2.4.4 Relationship between quantity and quality

• Do customers purchase more when products are cheaper or buy fewer when prices are higher?

In [23]: eda_plot(df, 'Quantity', 'Unit_Price', 'bar', measurement='mean') # average customer engage for



A) Analysis:

- 1. Each transaction can have a quantity of 1 to 20 of a product.
- 2. 3 Classes observed:
 - · Customers usually only buy 1-2 of an expensive product.
 - Customers buy 3-9 of a mid-range priced product.
 - Customers buy cheap products below 20 dollars in bulks of 10-20.

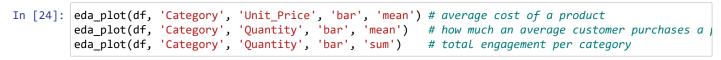
B) Evaluation:

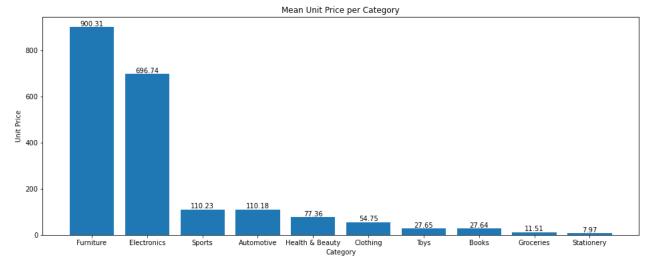
- Discounts isn't the explanation for customers buying more of a product as a discount of 88% (350/400) is illogical.
- Expensive products have poor customer engagement as customers only buy 1-2 of such products, while cheaper products below 50 dollars have higher engagement as customers buy such products in bulk purchases.

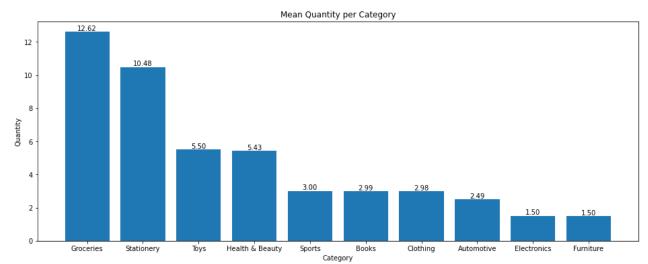
C) Conclusion:

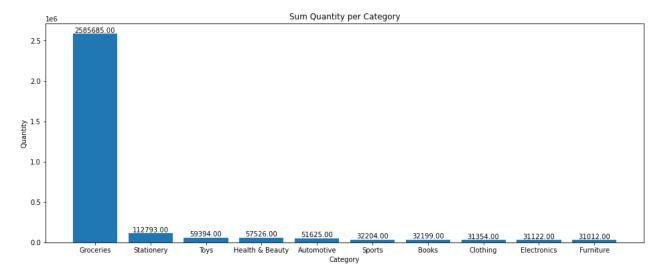
• Unit Price is a potential predictor because there is a distinguishable engagement pattern between cheap, midrange, and expensive products.

2.4.5 Engagement across different product categories









Calculating percentage of grocery purchases:

```
In [25]: # Sum quantity for all rows where category is groceries
total_groceries = sum(df[df['Category'] == 'Groceries']['Quantity'])
# calculate percentage of purchases that groceries
total_groceries / sum(df['Quantity'])
```

Out[25]: 0.8547962024705495

A) Analysis

- 85% of purchases are products under Groceries category.
- Products from expensive categories like Furniture and Stationery have the poorest customer engagement as customers only purchase 1-2 of such products per transaction.
- Products from cheap categories like Groceries and Stationery have high customer engagement as customers purchase 10-13 of these products at a time.

B) Evaluation

- · Customers treat Retail Hypermarket as a grocery store as most products bought are groceries.
- Pricier products tend to get lesser customer engagement. This could be due to:
 - 1. Nature of products: customers do not need multiple furnitures.
 - 2. Unaffordability: an **average customer cannot afford to spend 7000 dollars** to buy 10 electronic devices at a time.
- It's worth noting that there may be multicollinearity between the quantity of items purchased and the product category since the engagement patterns complement each other. This will be **investigated in 2.5**.

C) Conclusion

Category is a useful predictor because there is an observable pattern for customer engagement across different categories.

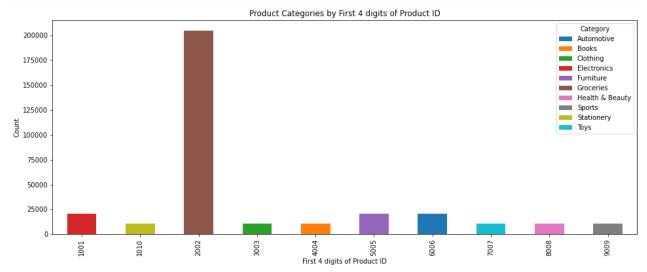
2.4.6.a Exploring relationship between Category and Product_ID

From 2.4.1, I discovered that the first 4 digits could represent something. To clarify my assumption, I shall investigate through visualisation.

```
In [26]: # Extract the first digit from 'Product_ID' and create a new column 'First_Digit'
df['4_digits'] = df['Product_ID'].astype(str).str[0:4]

# Group data by 'First_Digit' and 'Category' and count the occurrences
grouped = df.groupby(['4_digits', 'Category']).size().unstack(fill_value=0)

# Create a bar plot to visualize the relationship
grouped.plot(kind='bar', stacked=True, figsize=(16, 6))
plt.title("Product Categories by First 4 digits of Product ID")
plt.xlabel("First 4 digits of Product ID")
plt.ylabel("Count")
plt.show()
```



```
In [27]: df.Product_ID.nunique() # count of distinct values
```

Out[27]: 75725

A) Analysis

- · First 4 digits of Product ID represents the category.
- Groceries are the most common products sold in Retail Hypermarket.

B) Evaluation

- There is no anomalous products that do not belong to a category.
- There are too many product IDs; high cardinality column.

2.4.6.b Could Product Type be within Product_ID?

Since product category could be found within Product_ID, could the Product_ID also tell us what type of product it is?

```
In [28]: df['Product_ID'].nunique() # how many product ids are there
Out[28]: 75725
In [29]: # Extract the 5th to 6th digits from the 'Product_ID'
    df['Product_Type_1'] = df['Product_ID'].astype(str).str[4:6]
    # Extract the 7th to 8th digits from the 'Product_ID'
    df['Product_Type_2'] = df['Product_ID'].astype(str).str[6:9]
```

C) Assumptions

1.

- Product_Type_1 could represent the product type; what the product is.
- Product_Type_2 could represent the brand of the brand.

2.

Last 4 numbers could just be random variations to identify a product.

D) Conclusion

- Do not use Product ID as it could overfit model due to high cardinality.
- Risky to use Product Types as its impossible to validate what they represent due to insufficient information.

 Hence, it could violate the requirements of 'Need to be usable for new products' and it could also potential overfit the model due to high cardinality.

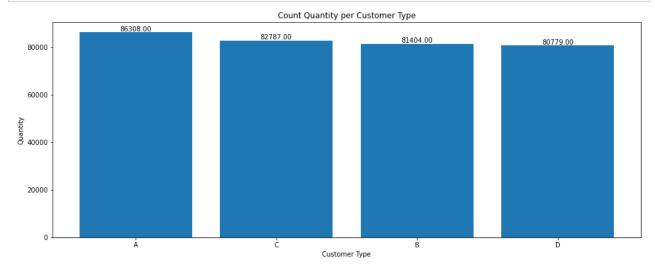
2.4.7 Customer analysis

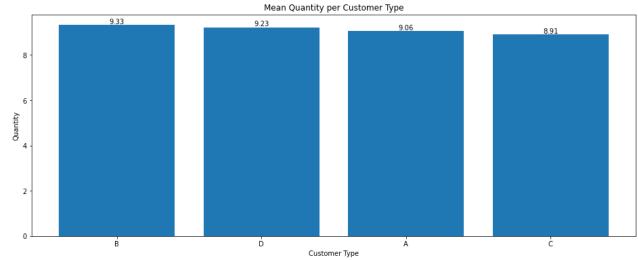
• I suspect a similar pattern with Customer ID where Retail Hypermarket labels their customer and puts the customer type as the header of the ID. Hence, I investigated each customer class.

```
In [33]: # Extract the first letter from 'Customer_ID' and create a new column 'Customer_Type'
df['Customer_Type'] = df['Customer_ID'].str[0].str.capitalize()

# how many customer per class
eda_plot(df, 'Customer_Type', 'Quantity', 'bar', 'count')

# average amount of products purchase per transaction for each customer type
eda_plot(df, 'Customer_Type', 'Quantity', 'bar', 'mean')
```





A) Analysis

- · First letter of Product ID represents the customer class.
- Around 80K customers for each customer type; minimal/almost no class imbalance in customer type.
- All customer class purchase around 9 products per transaction; indifferent.
- · Customer type B has most engagement while customer type C has least engagement.

B) Conclusion

Customer type is a weak feature as there is minimal variation in customer engagement across customer types.

2.5 Multivariate Analysis

To study 3 features at once, to analyse complex relationships between variables.

```
In [34]: def multi_analysis(df, x, y, color_by, subset_categories=None):
    dot_size = 150

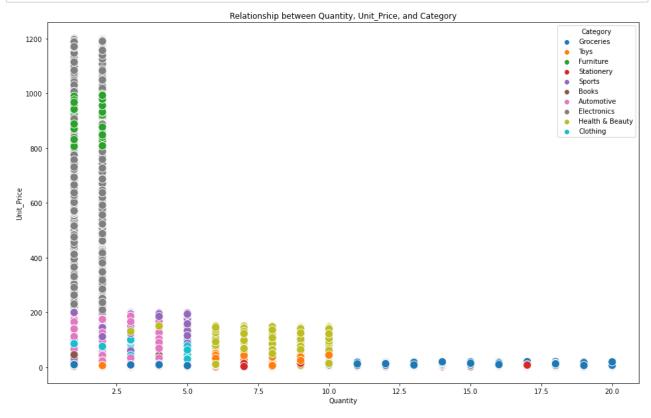
if subset_categories:
        df = df[~df[color_by].isin(subset_categories)]

plt.figure(figsize=(16, 10))
    sns.scatterplot(x=df[x], y=df[y], hue=df[color_by], s=dot_size)
    plt.title(f"Relationship between {x}, {y}, and {color_by}")
    plt.xlabel(x)
    plt.ylabel(y)
    plt.legend(title=color_by)
    plt.show()
```

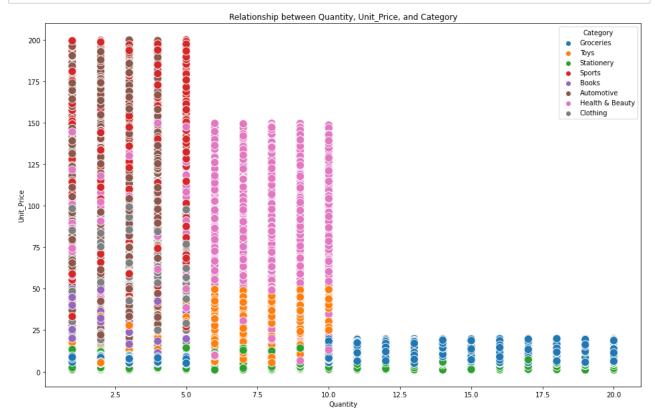
Usage: Input DataFrame, name of x column, name of y column, column that colors the dots, [Unique values in col that colors the dot to exclude].

2.5.1 Follow up for 2.4.5: How does Unit Price AND Category influence the pattern of customer engagement.





In [36]: multi_analysis(df,'Quantity','Unit_Price','Category', subset_categories=['Electronics','Furniture



Takeaways:

- 1. All products above 200 dollars are Electronics or Furnitures, and the maximum engagement these product types received was 2.
- 2. Furniture products are priced between 800 to 1000 dollars only.
- 3. Automotive has a maximum possible engagement of 4.
- 4. Sports, Books, and Clothing products have a maximum possible engagement of 5.
 - · Cheaper Books have tendency of higher engagement.
- 5. Health & Beauty and Toys products have a maximum possible engagement of 10.
- 6. All Health & Beauty products beyond engagement of 5 are below 150 dollars.
- 7. Groceries and Stationery products can receive an engagement of up to 20.

Conclusion:

- Category and Unit Price have overlapping patterns that could complement each other. For example, unit price can be used to identify certain categories.
- Category is the more useful feature to determine the engagement range for a product category. However, **Unit**Price can be used with Category to narrow down the wide engagement range for categories.

3. Modelling

3.0 Reusable Methods

3.0.1 Importing libraries

```
In [37]: from sklearn.preprocessing import MinMaxScaler
    from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
    from sklearn.preprocessing import StandardScaler
    from sklearn.metrics import r2_score, mean_absolute_error as MAE
    from scipy.stats import iqr
    from sklearn import tree
    import numpy as np
```

3.0.2 Partitioner

To split dataset into train-test sets

Usage:

Provide DataFrame, target column, train size, and whether the predictors should be normalized for interepretability.

```
In [38]: def partition(X, y, train_size=0.7, SEED=SEED, normalize=True):
    if normalize:
        scaler = StandardScaler()  # init scaler
        X = scaler.fit_transform(X) # scale predictors in X

# Split the normalized data into train and test sets
    X_train, X_val, y_train, y_val = train_test_split(X, y, train_size=train_size, random_state=S
    return X_train, X_val, y_train, y_val
```

3.0.3 Model Evaluator

Report on model's fit and how predictors explain prediction.

Usage:

Provide the trained model, Predictors DataFrame, Target DataFrame, original Predictors DataFrame (to obtain column names), are you evaluating with model's training dataset? [True/False] default=False, max_depth=[display branches to which level].

```
In [39]: def evaluate_model(model, X, y, cols, training=False, max_depth=3):
             y pred = model.predict(X) # Predict using the model and predictors
             # Only runs for Linear Regression, when intercept is found in model
             if hasattr(model, 'intercept_') and training:
                                                                                                     # ONLY
                 print(f"Intercept: {model.intercept_:.2f}")
                                                                                                     # prin
                                                                                                     # prin
                 print(pd.DataFrame(model.coef_, cols.columns, columns=["Coefficient"]))
             # for black-box models like DTR
             elif hasattr(model, 'feature importances ') and training:
                 # Feature Importances
                 print("Feature Importances:")
                 print(pd.DataFrame(model.feature importances , cols.columns, columns=["Importance"]))
                 # visualize Tree
                 plt.figure(figsize=(16,20))
                 tree.plot_tree(model, feature_names=list(X_train.columns), max_depth=max_depth, filled=Tr
             elif hasattr(model, 'intercept_') or hasattr(model, 'feature_importances_'):
                 pass # if testing set, no need to report on features
             # catch error
             else:
                 print("Model type not supported for obtaining coefficients or feature importance.")
             # Visualize the fit
             plt.figure(figsize=(10, 10))
             plt.scatter(y, y_pred, alpha=0.2)
             plt.xlabel("Actual Values")
             plt.ylabel("Predicted Values")
             plt.title("Actual vs Predicted Values")
             plt.grid(True)
             plt.show()
             print(f"R-squared (Goodness of Fit): {r2 score(y, y pred):.2f}")
```

3.0.4 Accuracy Evaluator

Creates relevant assessments to report on a model's performance.

Usage:

Provide the trained model, Predictors DataFrame, Target DataFrame, sample size for visualization.

```
In [40]: def evaluate_accuracy(model, X, y, sample_size=0):
             y pred = model.predict(X) # Predict using the model and predictors
             # accuracy of predictions
             mae = MAE(y, y_pred)
             print(f"Mean Absolute Error (MAE): {mae:.2f}")
             # Visualize Accuracy
             if sample size > 0:
                 y = y.iloc[:sample size] # subset y into sample size specified
                 y pred = y pred[:sample size]
             else:
                 return # if no sample size = no need sampling analysis, end the function
             print("Sampled Analysis:")
             plt.figure(figsize=(16, 6))
             plt.plot(y.reset_index(drop=True), "red", label='Actual Data')
             plt.plot(y_pred, 'blue', label='Predicted Data', alpha=0.5)
             # Calculate and plot the 25th and 75th percentiles for y and y_pred
             for data, label, color in [(y, 'Actual Data', 'red'), (y_pred, 'Predicted Data', 'black')]:
                 q1 = np.percentile(data, 25)
                 q3 = np.percentile(data, 75)
                 plt.axhline(q1, color=color, linestyle='dashed', linewidth=2, label=f'{label} 25th percen
                 plt.axhline(q3, color=color, linestyle='dashed', linewidth=2, label=f'{label} 75th percen
             plt.ylabel('Quantity')
             plt.title('Actual Vs Predicted')
             plt.legend()
             plt.show()
             # accuracy for subsetted data
             mae = MAE(y, y_pred)
             print(f"MAE for sample: {mae:.2f}")
```

3.0.5 Model Comparer

Compares residuals of models to determine to best performing model based on which model makes more accurate predictions.

Usage:

Provide the trained model1, trained model2, x_val, y_val, sample size for visualization.

```
In [41]: def model_comparer(model1, model2, X, y, sample_size=500):
              models = [model1, model2]
              labels = [str(model1), str(model2)]
              colors = ['red', 'teal']
              fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(16, 6)) # Create a figure and axis for the residual plot
                                                           # Dictionary to store statistics for each model
              stats = {}
              for i, (model, label, color) in enumerate(zip(models, labels, colors)):
                  y pred = model.predict(X)
                                                           # Make predictions using the current model
                  # Limit the dataset to a specified sample size and reset the index to make a smooth resid
                  y sample = y.iloc[:sample size].reset index(drop=True)
                  y_pred_sample = y_pred[:sample_size]
                  residuals = y_sample - y_pred_sample # Calculate residuals for the current model
                  stats[label] = {
                       'Q1 (25th percentile)': np.percentile(residuals, 25),
                       'Q3 (75th percentile)': np.percentile(residuals, 75)
                  }
                  # Plot mean and percentiles of the current model
                  for stat_name, value in stats[label].items():
                       ax.axhline(value, color=color, linestyle='dashed', linewidth=2, label=f'{label} {stat}
                  ax.plot(residuals, color, label=label, alpha=0.6)
              plt.title(f'Residual Plot of {model1} Vs {model2}')
              ax.legend()
              plt.show()
              # Compare IQRs to determine the model with smallest IQR range
              iqr_1 = stats[str(model1)]['Q3 (75th percentile)'] - stats[str(model1)]['Q1 (25th percentile)
iqr_2 = stats[str(model2)]['Q3 (75th percentile)'] - stats[str(model2)]['Q1 (25th percentile)
              if iqr 1 < iqr 2:
                  return f"{model1} has the smallest IQR range."
              elif iqr 2 < iqr 1:
                  return f"{model2} has the smallest IQR range."
              else:
                  return f"Both {model1} and {model2} have the same IQR range."
```

3.1 Data Pre-processing

3.1.0 Encoders

Original columns will be dropped after encoding.

1. One-Hot Encoder:

```
In [42]: # One-Hot Encoding
def one_hot_encode(df, columns_to_encode):
    one_hot = pd.get_dummies(df[columns_to_encode]) # Create new col for each unique value
    df = pd.concat([df, one_hot], axis=1) # Concatenate encoded columns with the
    df = df.drop(columns=columns_to_encode) # Drop cols after encoded
    return df
```

Input: DataFrame, [encode_col1, encode_col2]

2.a Label Encoder:

```
In [43]: | from sklearn.preprocessing import LabelEncoder
         def label_encode(df, columns_to_encode):
             label encoders = {}
                                                                       # Dictionary to store label encoders
             df_encoded = df.copy()
                                                                       # Create a copy of the DataFrame to
             for col in columns_to_encode:
                                                                               # Init the LabelEncoder
                 label encoder = LabelEncoder()
                 encoded_data = label_encoder.fit_transform(df_encoded[col]) # Fit and transform the column
                 df encoded[col + ' encoded'] = encoded data
                                                                               # Add the encoded column to
                 label_encoders[col] = label_encoder
                                                                               # Store the label in the dic
                                                                               # Drop the original column
                 df_encoded.drop(col, axis=1, inplace=True)
             return df_encoded, label_encoders
```

Input: DataFrame, [encode col1, encode col2]

2.b Label Decoder:

```
In [44]: def label_decoder(label_encoders):
    for col, encoder in label_encoders.items():
        print(f"Label values for {col}: {encoder.classes_}")  # map out cols and labels
```

3.1.1 Extract relevant features for Model's DataFrame:

```
In [45]: df.head(1)
```

Out[45]:

	Datetime	Product_ID	Category	Quantity	Unit_Price	Customer_ID	Quarter	Total_Spent	4_digits	Product_Typ€
269220	2022-01- 01	20028680	Groceries	15	10.140	c918818917	1	152.100	2002	
4										•

Do not use columns:

1. Datetime:

- · Target Leakage: future value.
- High cardinality and leads to overfitting.

2. Product_ID:

- · Violates business requirement: Model must work for new unseen values.
- · High cardinality and leads to overfitting.

3. Customer ID:

- · Violates business requirement: Model must work for new unseen values.
- · High cardinality and leads to overfitting.

4. First 4 digits of Product_ID:

· Same meaning and value as category, leading to multicollinearity.

```
In [46]: # Subset predictors and Target into DataFrames for modelling
X = df[['Category', 'Unit_Price', 'Customer_Type', 'Quarter']] # predictors
y = df['Quantity'] # Target
```

3.1.2 Encoding predictors

I selected one-hot encoding as its easy to interpret and is the most common encoding method used.

3.1.3 Data Partitioning

Splitting dataset into train-test sets where 70% of data is for training and 30% is for validation. Normalization not needed as all features are 0 or 1 except for unit price because their are derived from one-hot encoding. Hence, the model can be interpreted fairly without normalization.

```
In [49]: X_train, X_val, y_train, y_val = partition(X, y, train_size=0.7, normalize=False)
```

3.2 Linear Regression (LR)

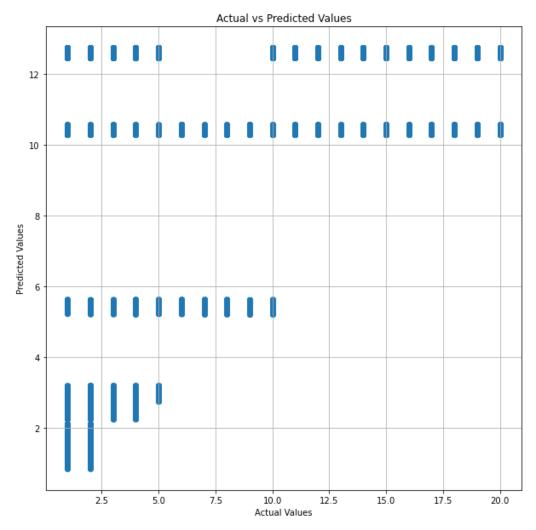
```
In [50]: from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
    LR_model = LinearRegression()  # init model
    LR_model.fit(X_train, y_train)  # train model
```

Out[50]: LinearRegression()

Evaluate Model explanability on training set:

In [51]: evaluate_model(LR_model, X_train, y_train, X, training=True)
Model, training predictors, training targets, predictors, isTraining

Intercept: 4.64	
	Coefficient
Unit_Price	0.001
Category_Automotive	-2.251
Category_Books	-1.689
Category_Clothing	-1.712
Category_Electronics	-3.841
Category_Furniture	-4.053
Category_Groceries	7.965
Category_Health & Beauty	0.721
Category_Sports	-1.754
Category_Stationery	5.795
Category_Toys	0.820
Customer_Type_A	-0.001
Customer_Type_B	0.045
Customer_Type_C	-0.135
Customer_Type_D	0.091
Quarter_1	-0.010
Quarter_2	0.026
Quarter_3	0.011
Quarter_4	-0.026



R-squared (Goodness of Fit): 0.51

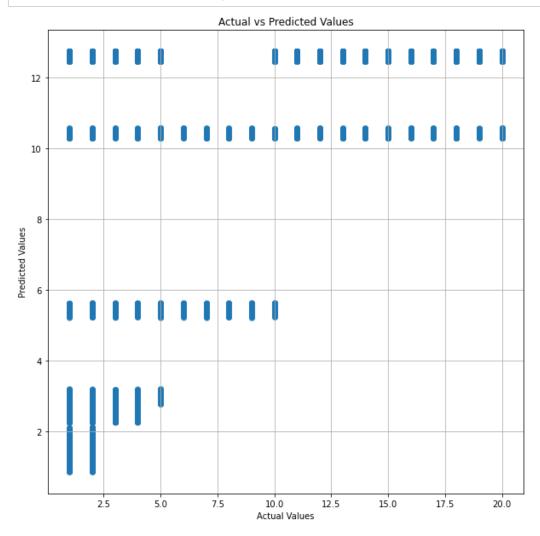
Model performance on training set:

In [52]: evaluate_accuracy(LR_model, X_train, y_train)

Mean Absolute Error (MAE): 3.36

Evaluate Model explanability on validation set:

In [53]: evaluate_model(LR_model, X_val, y_val, X)

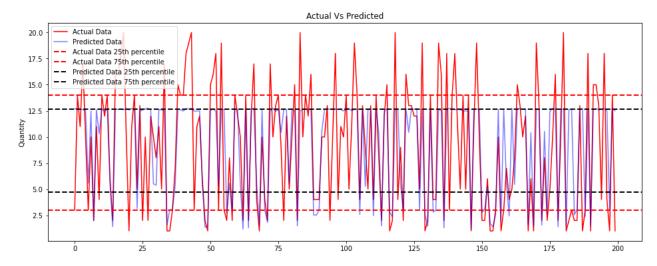


R-squared (Goodness of Fit): 0.51

Model performance on validation set:

In [54]: evaluate_accuracy(LR_model, X_val, y_val, sample_size=200) # edit sample_size to explore

Mean Absolute Error (MAE): 3.37 Sampled Analysis:



MAE for sample: 3.03

Analysis:

Model struggles to predict beyond 13 units of Quantity.

3.3 Decision Tree Regression (DTR)

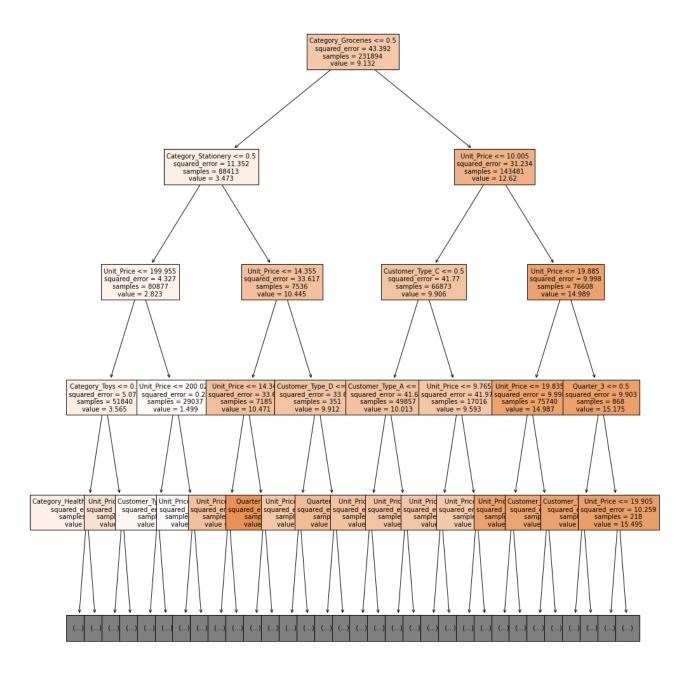
```
In [55]: #Build DTR model
from sklearn.tree import DecisionTreeRegressor
DTR_model = DecisionTreeRegressor(random_state=SEED).fit(X_train , y_train) # train model
```

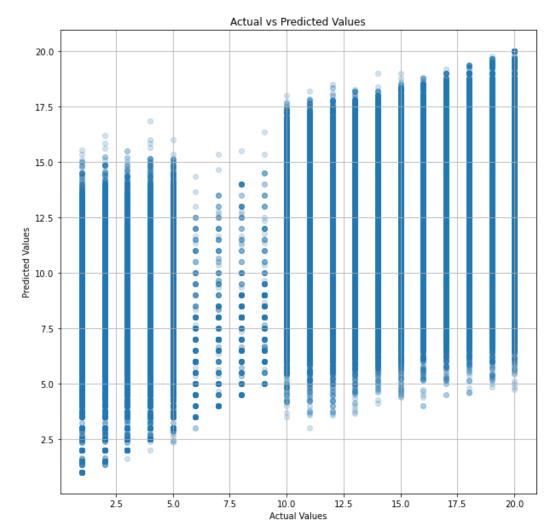
Evaluate Model explanability on training set:

In [56]: evaluate_model(DTR_model, X_train, y_train, X, training=True, max_depth=4)

Feature Importances:

	Importance
Unit_Price	0.240
Category_Automotive	0.000
Category_Books	0.000
Category_Clothing	0.000
Category_Electronics	0.000
Category_Furniture	0.000
Category_Groceries	0.659
Category_Health & Beauty	0.006
Category_Sports	0.000
Category_Stationery	0.058
Category_Toys	0.005
Customer_Type_A	0.003
Customer_Type_B	0.005
Customer_Type_C	0.003
Customer_Type_D	0.004
Quarter_1	0.005
Quarter_2	0.003
Quarter_3	0.004
Quarter_4	0.005





R-squared (Goodness of Fit): 0.69

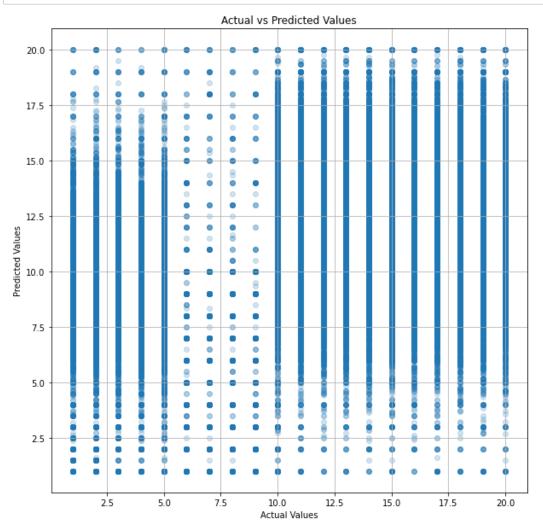
Model performance on training set:

In [57]: evaluate_accuracy(DTR_model, X_train, y_train)

Mean Absolute Error (MAE): 2.36

Evaluate Model explanability on validation set:

In [58]: evaluate_model(DTR_model, X_val, y_val, X)

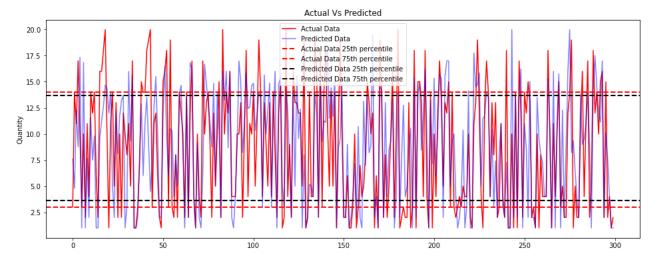


R-squared (Goodness of Fit): 0.50

Model performance on validation set:

In [59]: evaluate_accuracy(DTR_model, X_val, y_val, sample_size=300) # edit sample_size to explore

Mean Absolute Error (MAE): 3.46 Sampled Analysis:



MAE for sample: 3.30

Analysis:

DTR model is likely overfitted due to disparity of the R-Squared and MAE for training and validation.

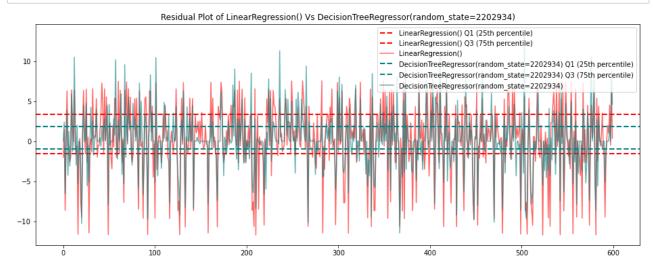
Evaluation of Baseline Models:

- LR is struggling to capture customer engagement beyond 13 units.
- DTR has overfitting issues that needs to be fixed.
- DTR seems to have potential in understanding customer engagement as the training MAE is 2.36. Improvements should be made to make it lower.
- DTR's R-Squared is below 80%, indicating that the model has limited explanatory power as the patterns in the variations of the predictors were not captured adequately.
- I need to round off prediction to whole value or tune to model to only produce discrete predictions.

4. Model comparison

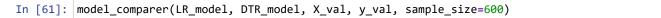
4.1 Training Dataset

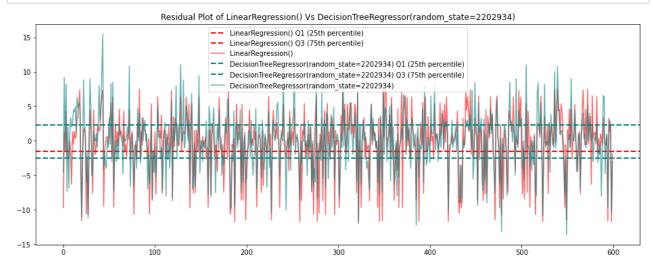
In [60]: model_comparer(LR_model, DTR_model, X_train, y_train, sample_size=600)



Out[60]: 'DecisionTreeRegressor(random_state=2202934) has the smallest IQR range.'

4.2 Validation Dataset





Out[61]: 'LinearRegression() has the smallest IQR range.'

Conclusion:

None of the benchmark models are ready for deployment. More improvements are needed before deployment as models do not meet the goals for deployment.

Next Steps for Part 2

Build upon the DTR model by:

- · Addressing overfitting issue
- Features Engineering for more meaningful predictors
- · Features Selection
- Trying out Ensemble Machine Learning methods like Random Forest
- · Selecting best Encoding Method
- · Permutation Selection

Model hyperparameter-tuning/pruning to improve predictive performance

References:

- 1.0 Problem Framing: Creating Week 03 Workshop 05: Problem Framing. Temasek Polytechnic.
- 1.6 Metrics for evaluating models. Week 02 Workshop 04: Model Scoring
- 1.8 Considering environmental factors: Ideas were improved upon suggestions from ChatGPT.
- 1.9 Formulating potential Target Leakages, Week 03 Workshop 06: Target Leakage
- 2.1 Data Dictionary is taken from project specifications.
- 2.4.2 EDA Graph Plotter is built with ChatGPT. OpenAI. (2023, October 30). Re: Python Code for Creating Line and Bar Plots in EDA [Online Forum Comment]. ChatGPT by OpenAI. https://www.chatgpt.com
 (https://www.chatgpt.com
- 2.4.6 Graph of Total Revenue per Product is adapted from ChatGPT's code. OpenAl. (2023, October 30). Re:
 Python Code for Creating Line and Bar Plots in EDA [Online Forum Comment]. ChatGPT by OpenAl.
 https://www.chatgpt.com (https://www.chatgpt.com)
- 3.0 Reusable methods are built with ChatGPT. OpenAl. (2023, October 31).
- 3.0.3 Coefficient of predictors table adapted from P01_RecapML 4.4 Model Interpretation#Coefficients. Temasek Polytechnic.
- 3.0.4 Sampled analysis graph is adapted from P01_RecapML 4.4 Model Interpretation#Plot of y_pred and y_test. Temasek Polytechnic.
- 3.0.5 Model comparer built with Lab P02 and ChatGPT. OpenAl. (2023). 3.0.5 Model Comparer [Source code].
 OpenAl GPT-3.5. https://chat.openai.com/share/5634ce5f-5e03-4e4c-ac90-2dca9cd206e6)
- 3.1.0 One-Hot encoder built with ChatGPT. OpenAI. (2023, October 31). Re: # One-Hot Encoding def one-hot(): //
 create a one-hot encoder function. input: df, columns to be encoder [Online Forum Comment]. ChatGPT by
 OpenAI. https://www.chatgpt.com (https://www.chatgpt.com)
- 3.1.0 Label encoder and decoder built using One-Hot encoder and Lab P01_RecapML#3. Data Preparation
- 3.3 Code to visualize Decision Tree Regressor is taken from Lab P02_TreeBasedAlgorithm#2.4 Limitations of DT#Method 2

Guide for Data Modelling:

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 <u>https://blog.insightdatascience.com/always-start-with-a-stupid-model-no-exceptions-3a22314b9aaa</u>
 (https://blog.insightdatascience.com/always-start-with-a-stupid-model-no-exceptions-3a22314b9aaa)
- Nair, A. (2022, April 9). Baseline Models: Your Guide For Model Building Towards Data Science. Medium.
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 https://towardsdatascience.com/baseline-models-your-guide-for-models-your-guide-

End of Part 1