Project Documentation: Customer Segmentation Using RFM Analysis

Introduction

This project aims to segment customers of a business using **RFM** (Recency, Frequency, **Monetary**) analysis to identify high-value groups, optimize marketing strategies, and improve customer retention. By analysing transactional data, I categorized customers into distinct clusters to understand their behaviour and contribution to revenue.

Objective

- 1. Identify customer segments based on purchasing behaviour.
- 2. Prioritize high-value customers for retention and reactivate at-risk groups.
- 3. **Optimize marketing budgets** by tailoring strategies to each segment.

Methodology

- 1. **Data Preparation**: Cleaned raw transactional data in Excel, removing duplicates and outliers.
- 2. **RFM Scoring**: Calculated Recency (days since last purchase), Frequency (total transactions), and Monetary (total spend) for each customer.
- 3. **Clustering**: Applied the Elbow Method in R to determine the optimal number of clusters (4 clusters).
- 4. **Analysis & Visualization**: Analysed clusters in Power BI to assign labels and quantify their impact on revenue.

Key Findings

- 1. Low-Value Customers (Cluster 1):
 - 25% of customers, contributing 2% (\$0.37M) of total sales.
 - Low RFM scores: Infrequent, low-spending, and inactive.
 - o **Action**: Deprioritize or target with low-cost reactivation campaigns.
- 2. At-Risk Customers (Cluster 2):
 - 21.7% of customers, contributing 1.97% (\$0.36M) of sales.
 - High recency (recently purchased) but low frequency and spend.
 - o **Action**: Engage with personalized offers to prevent churn.
- 3. Loyal/High-Value Customers (Cluster 3):

- o **33.9% of customers**, driving **63.95% of revenue**.
- o High RFM scores: Frequent, high-spending, and recent purchasers.
- o **Action**: Reward with loyalty programs; focus on retention.

4. Big Spenders (Cluster 4):

- o **18.9% of customers**, contributing **32% of sales**.
- High monetary spend but low recency and frequency.
- o **Action**: Re-engage with win-back campaigns (e.g., limited-time offers).

Recommendations

- 1. Reallocate Resources: Shift focus to Cluster 3 (Loyal/High-Value) and Cluster 4 (Big Spenders) to maximize ROI.
- 2. **Reactivate At-Risk Customers (Cluster 2)**: Use email/SMS campaigns with discounts on repeat purchases.
- 3. **Cost-Effective Retention**: For **Cluster 1 (Low-Value)**, phase out high-cost outreach unless reactivation tests prove viable.
- 4. **Monitor Big Spenders**: Target Cluster 4 with exclusive offers to incentivize repeat purchases.

Tools Used

- Excel: Data cleaning and RFM scoring.
- R Programming: K-means clustering with the Elbow Method.
- **Power BI**: Cluster analysis, visualization, and reporting.