

## Question 1 (30 points)

GoodMorning is a new line of probiotic juice products. Since its first product launch in 2015, GoodMorning were now on the shelves of nationwide retailers. GoodMorning had the challenge of raising product awareness, particularly about the benefit of probiotics and the great taste. As a recent start-up in the fairly new probiotic market, GoodMorning did not have the funding to place nationwide advertisements. It instead allocated much of its small marketing budget to in-store demonstrations.

During in-store demonstration, GoodMorning representatives handed out product samples. The representative arrived at a specified store, set up a table, distributed samples, informed consumers about the product, and offered coupons to inspire purchase.

Another promotional program involved competitions among the five GoodMorning sales representatives for the most endcap displays. The endcap is the hub at the end of an aisle—one of the store's most popular locations. Sales representatives competed for the highest number of stores they could convince to place GoodMorning's products at the endcap. The winning sales representative received a big screen television. There was also a competition for the best-decorated endcap. The winning store received cases of product for the employees and gift cards.

The company's in-store demo was launched in November of 2016. Due to limited marketing resources, management was pressured to cut any marketing expense that did not directly contribute to GoodMorning's results. By July of 2017, several concerns were raised within the company about the effectiveness of the in-store demo program. Some questioned whether the demos boosted sales at all, while others were concerned that any boost was only temporary and that sales would revert to normal levels shortly afterward. Some executives questioned whether the increase in sales volume could justify the associated costs.

At the senior manager meeting, GoodMorning management asked Jim Martin, GoodMorning's Marketing manager to justify the demo and endcap activities. Jim returned to his computer after the meeting and pored over the sales and promotion spreadsheet from the last few months. He recognized that statistics could be used to help his case. He decided to apply regression analysis to the sales and promotion data (GoodMorning.xlsx)

to enable a decision on whether or not the company should continue its promotional programs.

### Model A:

Build a regression model with all variables in the data to explain the relationship between sales and promotional efforts. Let us refer to this model as Model A. Create the residual plot and the scatter plot of fit vs. UnitsSold.

a) (10 points) Copy and paste the R code, the regression output, and the plots.

*Solution:*

To start with GoodMorning's question with all variables in the regression model, we tried three models, shown as:

```
1 # Model A: Regression models with all variables
2 ModelA1 <- lm(`Units Sold`~ Region+`Average Retail Price`+`Sales
  Rep`+Endcap+Demo+`Demo1-3`+`Demo4-5`+Natural+Fitness)
3 summary(ModelA1)
4 ModelA2 <- lm(`Units Sold`~ factor(Region)+`Average Retail
  Price`+`Sales Rep`+Endcap+Demo+`Demo1-3`+`Demo4-5`+Natural+Fitness)
5 summary(ModelA2)
6 ModelA3 <- lm(`Units Sold`~ Endcap*(factor(Region)+`Average Retail
  Price`+`Sales Rep`+Endcap+Demo+`Demo1-3`+`Demo4-5`+Natural+Fitness))
7 summary(ModelA3)
```

They actually have the same performance, since their Multiple R-squared and Adjusted R-squared are nearly the same. Considering that Region is actually categorical variables with more than 2 categories, we included dummy variables for it. Also as the summary of A3 shows, Endcap doesn't show any extra effect with other variables, so we decide to use

### ModelA2.

```
1 > summary(ModelA2)
2
```

```

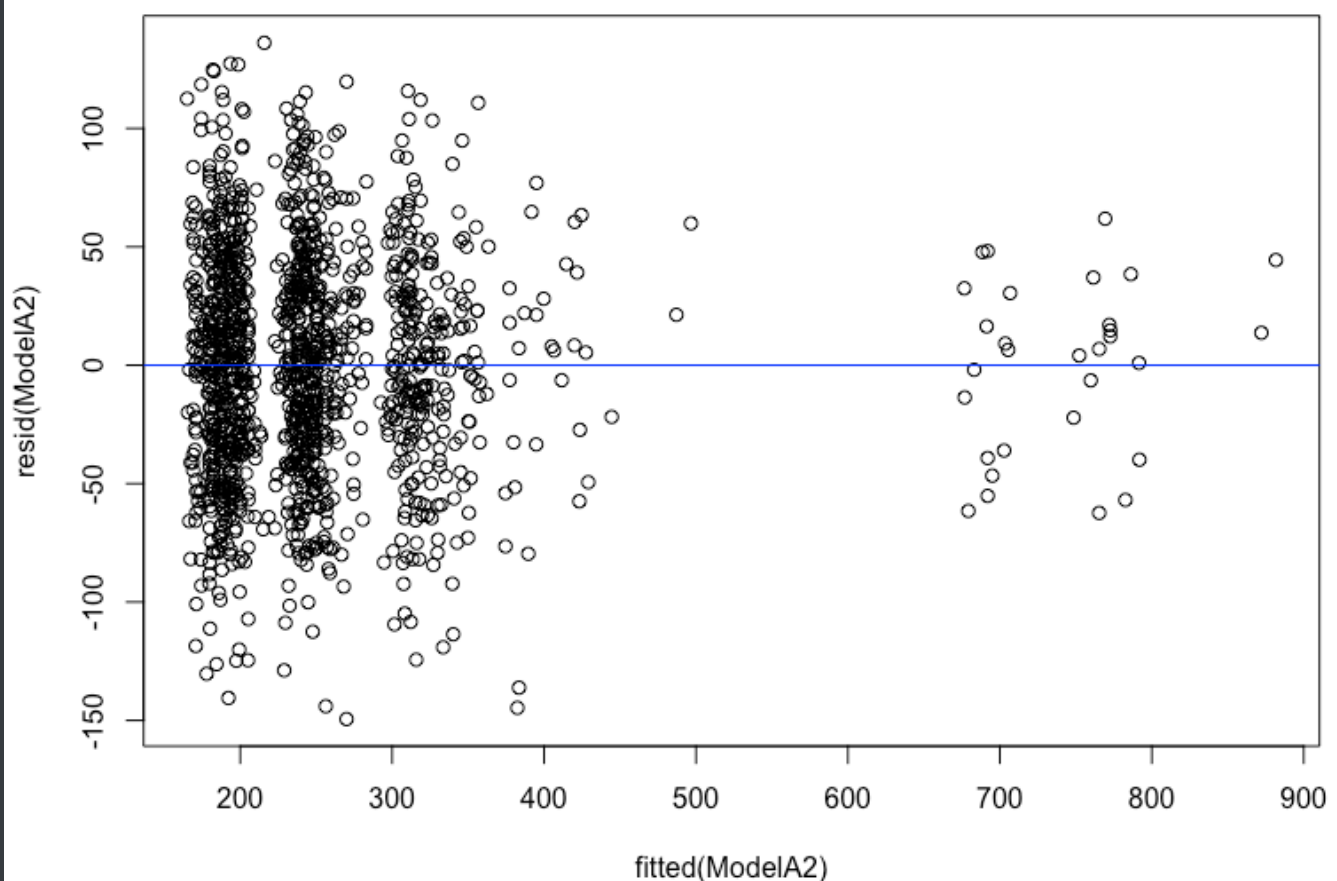
3 Call:
4 lm(formula = `Units Sold` ~ factor(Region) + `Average Retail Price` +
5     `Sales Rep` + Endcap + Demo + `Demo1-3` + `Demo4-5` + Natural +
6     Fitness)
7
8 Residuals:
9      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
10 -149.444  -33.141    0.935   32.879  136.141
11
12 Coefficients:
13             Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
14 (Intercept)      273.552956   16.290174   16.793 < 2e-16 ***
15 factor(Region)2      1.908752    6.765882    0.282  0.77790
16 factor(Region)3     22.956056   12.352186    1.858  0.06332 .
17 factor(Region)4     -5.489850    6.831400   -0.804  0.42176
18 factor(Region)5     21.383721   12.663244    1.689  0.09152 .
19 factor(Region)6     14.263860   10.466708    1.363  0.17318
20 factor(Region)7     13.215842   12.883601    1.026  0.30518
21 factor(Region)8     15.414147   12.830376    1.201  0.22982
22 factor(Region)9     -1.630962    7.904392   -0.206  0.83656
23 factor(Region)10     22.378384   12.681745    1.765  0.07786 .
24 factor(Region)11     -7.098515    7.822518   -0.907  0.36433
25 `Average Retail Price` -20.955045    3.708762   -5.650 1.96e-08 ***
26 `Sales Rep`         39.108758   10.412628    3.756  0.00018 ***
27 Endcap              444.378505    9.544281   46.560 < 2e-16 ***
28 Demo               107.041373    5.796091   18.468 < 2e-16 ***
29 `Demo1-3`          73.027768    3.818189   19.126 < 2e-16 ***
30 `Demo4-5`          69.395514    5.159153   13.451 < 2e-16 ***
31 Natural              0.004273    1.406301    0.003  0.99758
32 Fitness            -0.050532    0.884087   -0.057  0.95443
33 ---
34 Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
35
36 Residual standard error: 48.25 on 1340 degrees of freedom
37 Multiple R-squared:  0.7886, Adjusted R-squared:  0.7857
38 F-statistic: 277.6 on 18 and 1340 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16

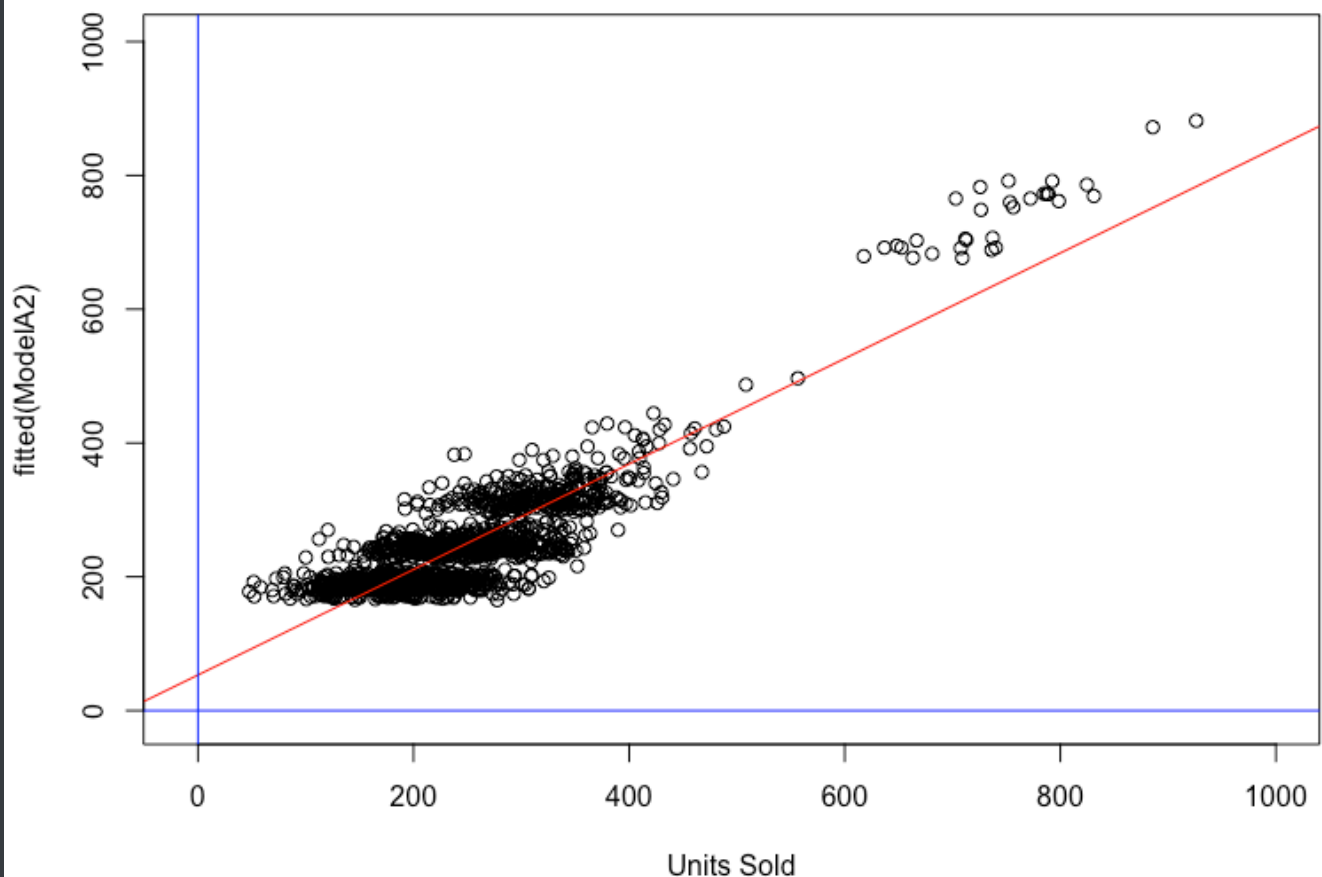
```

```

1  # Decide to use A2
2  plot(resid(ModelA2)~fitted(ModelA2))
3  abline(h=0,col='blue')
4  plot(`Units Sold`,fitted(ModelA2),xlim = c(-10,1000),ylim =
    c(-10,1000))
5  abline(lm(fitted(ModelA2)~`Units Sold`),col = 'red')
6  abline(h=0,col='blue')
7  abline(v=0,col='blue')
8
9  # corrplot without units sold
10 c <- cor(GoodMorning[, c(1, 3:10)])
11 corrplot(c, type="full")
12 # variance inflation factor
13 vif(ModelA2)

```





b) (4 points) Discuss the performance and validity of the model, and how to improve and refine the model.

*Solution:*

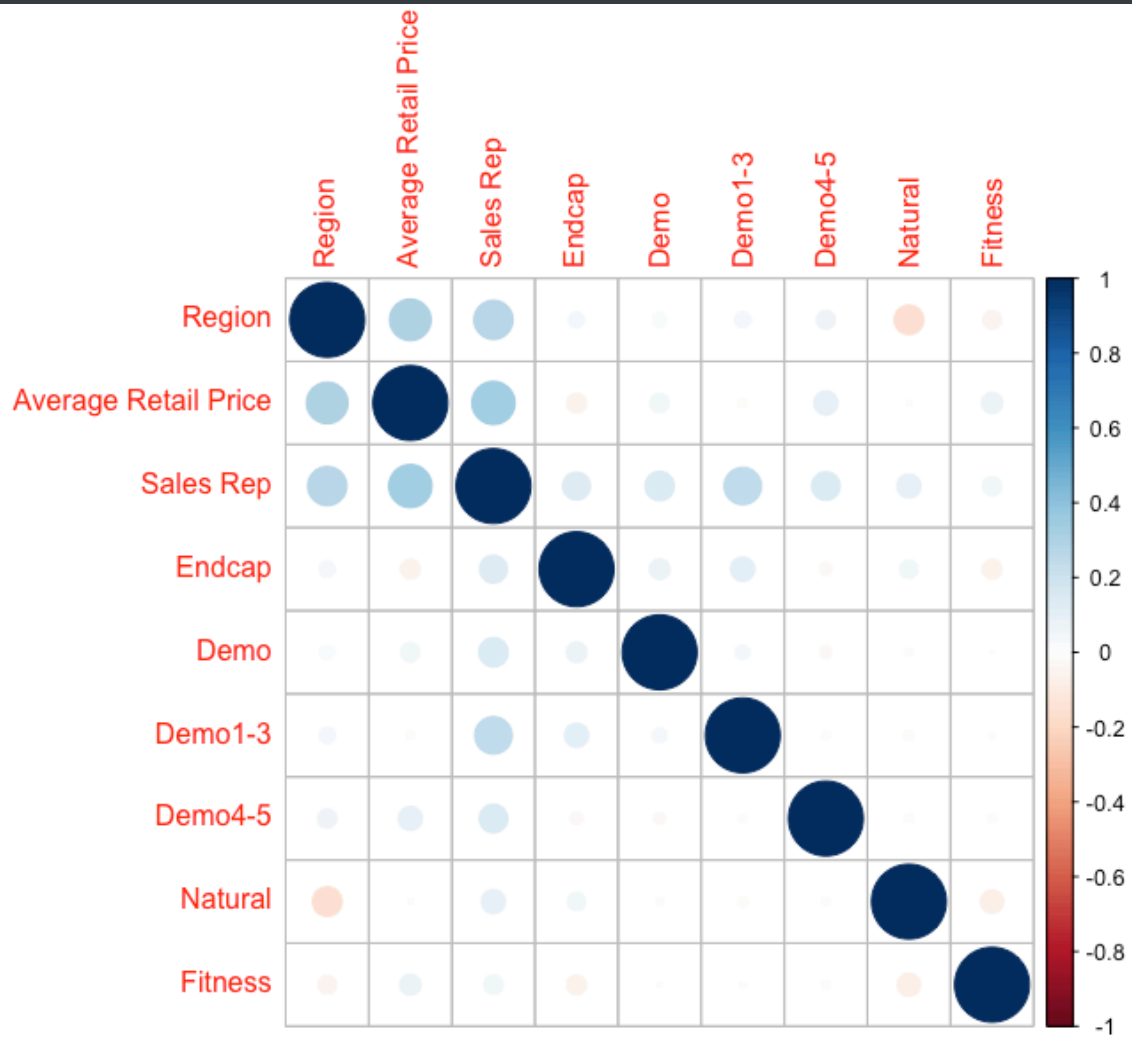
From the result we get that Multiple R-squared: 0.7886, Adjusted R-squared: 0.7857 for ModelA. We are able to claim that these two are large enough, and so that our ModelA performs good. Also, from Residual plot, we can see that points are almost randomly distributed around the above and below of the line, and actually they are in clearly two groups, divided with Endcap.

Also, we checked if there is any presence evidence of multicollinearity using corplot, excluding units sold, and also variance inflation factor (**VIF**):

```

1 # corrplot without units sold
2 c <- cor(GoodMorning[, c(1, 3:10)])
3 corrplot(c, type="full")
4 # variance inflation factor
5 vif(ModelA2)

```



```

1 > vif(ModelA2)
2
3          GVIF Df GVIF^(1/(2*Df))
4 factor(Region) 32.561023 10      1.190241
5 `Average Retail Price` 1.728169 1      1.314598
6 `Sales Rep` 15.640405 1      3.954795
7 Endcap 1.147766 1      1.071338
8 Demo 1.048021 1      1.023729
9 `Demo1-3` 1.120301 1      1.058443
10 `Demo4-5` 1.068758 1      1.033808
11 Natural 1.098320 1      1.048007
12 Fitness 1.166578 1      1.080082

```

There is no evidence of multicollinearity shows.

However, we'd notice that the p-value of dummy variables for Region, Natural, Fitness, are quite high that we are going to drop these in Model B.

### Model B:

Build the best valid regression model to explain the relationship between sales and promotional efforts. You may use any transformation of your variables. Let us refer to this model as Model B. Create the residual plot and the scatter plot of fit vs. UnitsSold.

To improve our Model A to get the best valid regression model. we explored modeling as:

```

1 # Model B: Exploring the best model
2 ModelB1 <- lm(`Units Sold` ~ `Average Retail Price` + `Sales
  Rep`+Endcap+ Demo+`Demo1-3`+`Demo4-5`)
3 summary(ModelB1)
4 hist(`Units Sold`, xlim = c(0,500), breaks = 100)
5 hist(`Units Sold`^(1.25), xlim = c(0,2500), breaks = 100)
6 hist(`Units Sold`^(1.5), xlim = c(0,10000), breaks = 100)
7 ModelB2 <- lm(`Units Sold`^(1.25) ~ `Average Retail Price` + `Sales
  Rep`+Endcap+ Demo+`Demo1-3`+`Demo4-5`+ Demo*`Demo1-3`*`Demo4-5`)
8 summary(ModelB2)
9 ModelB3 <- lm(`Units Sold`^(1.25) ~ `Average Retail Price` + `Sales
  Rep`+Endcap+ Demo+`Demo1-3`+`Demo4-5`+ Demo*`Demo1-3`)
10 summary(ModelB3)

```

Briefly speaking, we attempt to:

- Take 5% significance level by default, then p-values should not be greater than 0.05
- Exclude dummy variables for Region, Natural, Fitness, because their p-values is quite high
- Consider both heteroscedasticity and skewness in Units Sold, and decide to use Units Sold as  $Units\ Sold^{1.25}$
- Discover extra effects among Demo stages, e.g., only compare mostly on the latest Demo, or Demos in different time have an extra boost. And we accepted  $Demo * Demo1-3$ .

a) (6 points) Copy and paste the regression output, and the plots.

*Solution:*



```

1 # Decide to use B3
2 summary(ModelB3)
3 plot(resid(ModelB3)~fitted(ModelB3), col=(1:2)[factor(Endcap)])
4 legend(3000,600 ,legend = paste("Endcap=", 0:1), col=1:2, pch=1)
5 abline(h=0,col='blue')
6 plot(I(`Units Sold`^(1.25)),fitted(ModelB3),xlim = c(-50,5000),ylim =
7       c(-50,5000))
8 abline(lm(fitted(ModelB3)~I(`Units Sold`^(1.25)))),col = 'red')
9 abline(h=0,col='blue')
10 abline(v=0,col='blue')

```

```

1 Call:
2 lm(formula = `Units Sold`^(1.25) ~ `Average Retail Price` + `Sales
  Rep` +
3     Endcap + Demo + `Demo1-3` + `Demo4-5` + Demo * `Demo1-3` *
4     `Demo4-5`)
5
6 Residuals:
7      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
8 -664.00 -165.05   -7.87  158.16  672.14
9
10 Coefficients:
11
12             Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
13 (Intercept)      1125.77      59.35  18.968 < 2e-16 ***
14 `Average Retail Price` -105.53      14.85  -7.108 1.91e-12 ***
15 `Sales Rep`        284.88      14.58  19.532 < 2e-16 ***
16 Endcap            2611.84      44.60  58.557 < 2e-16 ***
17 Demo              539.28      32.07  16.816 < 2e-16 ***
18 `Demo1-3`         377.97      19.83  19.057 < 2e-16 ***
19 `Demo4-5`         376.71      27.49  13.706 < 2e-16 ***
20 Demo:`Demo1-3`     126.97      72.99   1.740  0.0821 .
21 Demo:`Demo4-5`     -76.09     172.30  -0.442  0.6588
22 `Demo1-3`:`Demo4-5` -99.04      69.18  -1.432  0.1525
23 Demo:`Demo1-3`:`Demo4-5` 348.08     256.39   1.358  0.1748
24 ---

```

```

24 Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
25
26 Residual standard error: 236.5 on 1348 degrees of freedom
27 Multiple R-squared:  0.8259, Adjusted R-squared:  0.8246
28 F-statistic: 639.6 on 10 and 1348 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
29
30 > ModelB3 <- lm(`Units Sold`^(1.25) ~ `Average Retail Price` + `Sales
  Rep`+Endcap+ Demo+`Demo1-3`+`Demo4-5`+ Demo*`Demo1-3`)
31 > summary(ModelB3)
32
33 Call:
34 lm(formula = `Units Sold`^(1.25) ~ `Average Retail Price` + `Sales
  Rep` +
35       Endcap + Demo + `Demo1-3` + `Demo4-5` + Demo * `Demo1-3`)
36
37 Residuals:
38      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
39 -738.87 -165.59   -8.06  156.41  671.91
40
41 Coefficients:
42              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
43 (Intercept)      1129.82      59.30  19.052 < 2e-16 ***
44 `Average Retail Price` -106.33      14.84  -7.165 1.28e-12 ***
45 `Sales Rep`        285.27      14.58  19.566 < 2e-16 ***
46 Endcap            2612.36      44.57  58.618 < 2e-16 ***
47 Demo              536.16      31.52  17.009 < 2e-16 ***
48 `Demo1-3`         370.23      19.07  19.416 < 2e-16 ***
49 `Demo4-5`         363.72      24.81  14.658 < 2e-16 ***
50 Demo:`Demo1-3`     159.95      69.08   2.316  0.0207 *
51 ---
52 Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
53
54 Residual standard error: 236.6 on 1351 degrees of freedom
55 Multiple R-squared:  0.8255, Adjusted R-squared:  0.8246
56 F-statistic: 913 on 7 and 1351 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
57

```

```

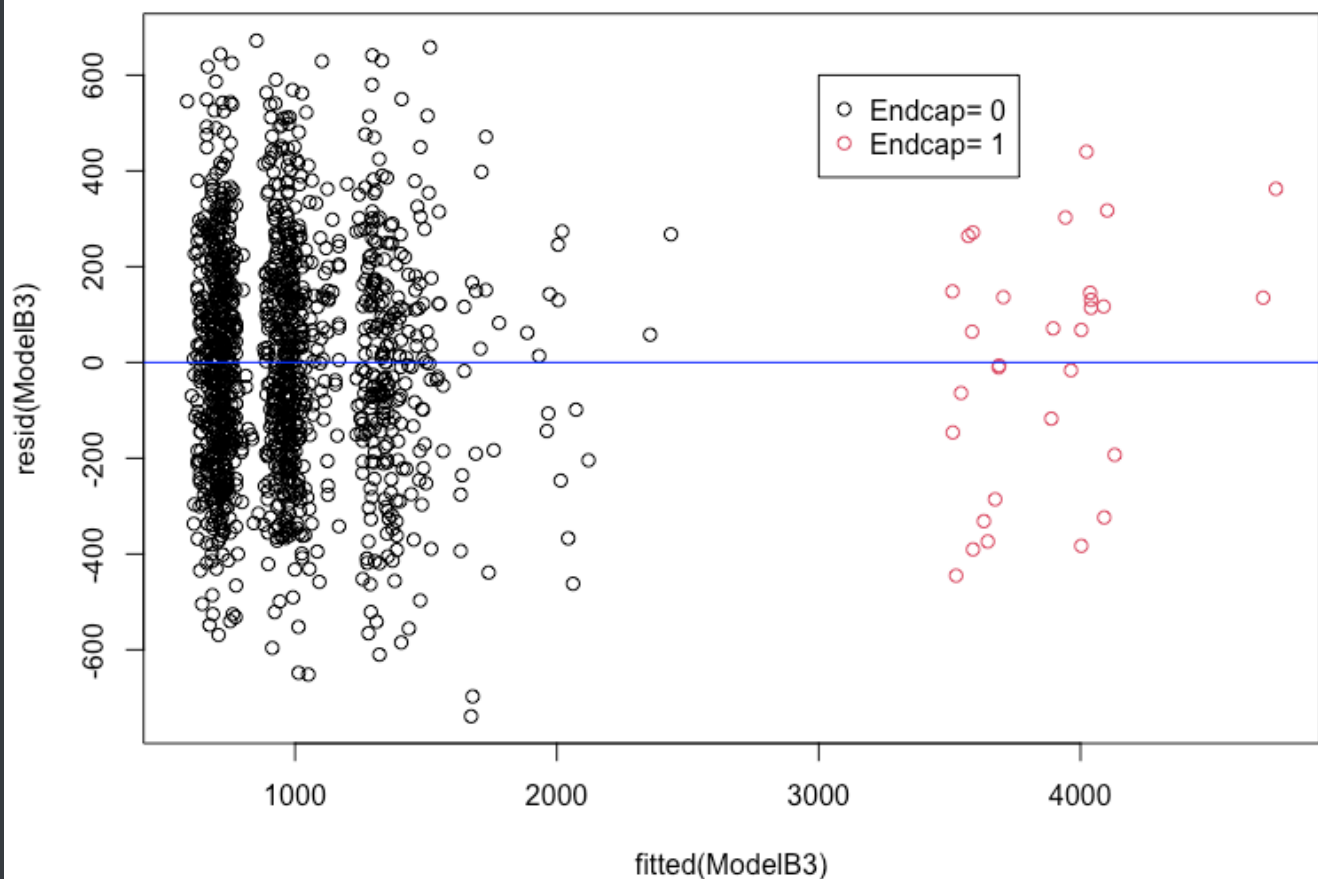
58 > # Decide to use B3
59 > plot(resid(ModelB3)~fitted(ModelB3), col=(1:2)[Endcap])
60 > legend(12000,3700 ,legend = paste("Endcap=", 0:1), col=1:2, pch=1)
61 > # Decide to use B3
62 > plot(resid(ModelB3)~fitted(ModelB3), col=(1:2)[Endcap])
63 > legend(12000,3700 ,legend = paste("Endcap=", 0:1), col=1:2, pch=1)
64 > abline(h=0,col='blue')
65 > # Decide to use B3
66 > plot(resid(ModelB3)~fitted(ModelB3), col=(2:3)[Endcap])
67 > legend(12000,3700 ,legend = paste("Endcap=", 0:1), col=2:3, pch=1)
68 > abline(h=0,col='blue')
69 > # Decide to use B3
70 > plot(resid(ModelB3)~fitted(ModelB3), col=(1:2)[factor(Endcap)])
71 > legend(12000,3700 ,legend = paste("Endcap=", 0:1), col=1:2, pch=1)
72 > abline(h=0,col='blue')
73 > # Decide to use B3
74 > plot(resid(ModelB3)~fitted(ModelB3), col=(1:2)[factor(Endcap)])
75 > legend(3000,600 ,legend = paste("Endcap=", 0:1), col=1:2, pch=1)
76 > abline(h=0,col='blue')
77 > # Decide to use B3
78 > summary(ModelB3)
79
80 Call:
81 lm(formula = `Units Sold`^(1.25) ~ `Average Retail Price` + `Sales
  Rep` +
82     Endcap + Demo + `Demo1-3` + `Demo4-5` + Demo * `Demo1-3`)
83
84 Residuals:
85      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
86 -738.87 -165.59   -8.06  156.41  671.91
87
88 Coefficients:
89              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
90 (Intercept)      1129.82     59.30  19.052 < 2e-16 ***
91 `Average Retail Price` -106.33     14.84  -7.165 1.28e-12 ***
92 `Sales Rep`       285.27     14.58  19.566 < 2e-16 ***

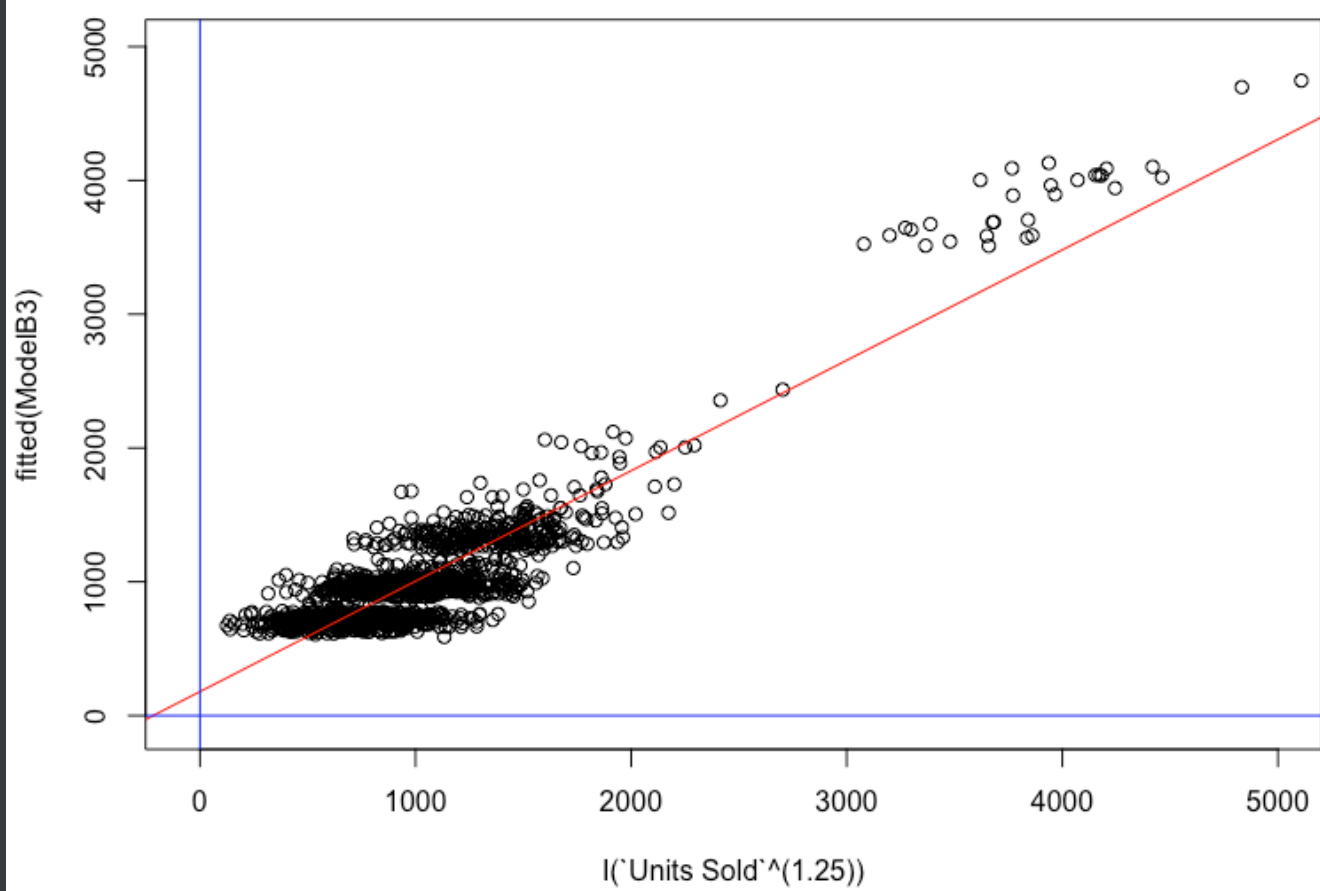
```

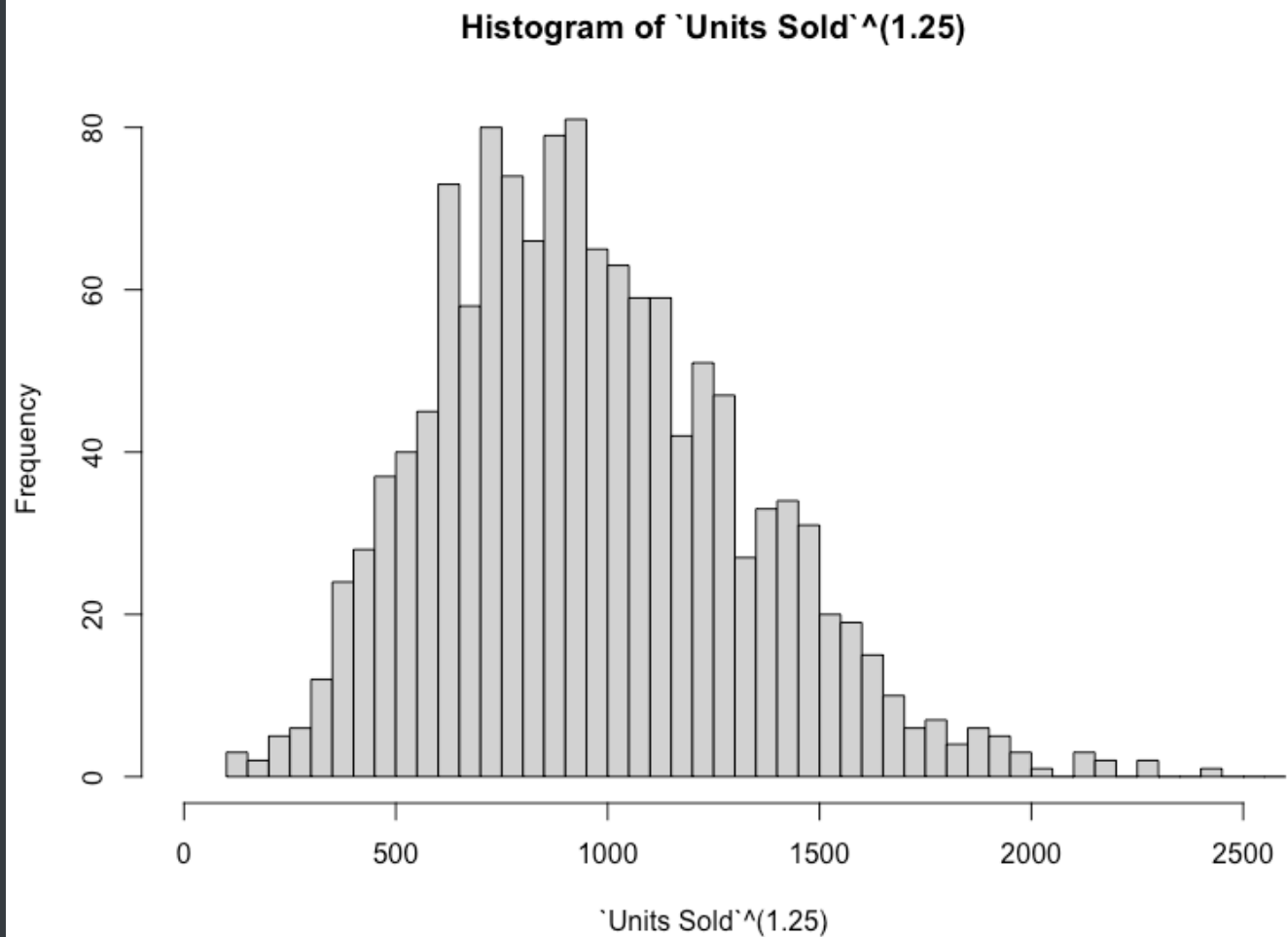
```

93 Endcap                2612.36      44.57  58.618 < 2e-16 ***
94 Demo                  536.16      31.52  17.009 < 2e-16 ***
95 `Demo1-3`             370.23      19.07  19.416 < 2e-16 ***
96 `Demo4-5`             363.72      24.81  14.658 < 2e-16 ***
97 Demo:`Demo1-3`        159.95      69.08   2.316  0.0207 *
98 ---
99 Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
100
101 Residual standard error: 236.6 on 1351 degrees of freedom
102 Multiple R-squared:  0.8255, Adjusted R-squared:  0.8246
103 F-statistic:  913 on 7 and 1351 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16

```







b) (2 points) Discuss the validity of the model.

Based on your model answer the following questions. Reference any tables/figures that you need to make your point:

*Solution:*

Similarly to Model A, here we have Multiple R-squared: 0.8255, Adjusted R-squared: 0.8246, which is also high enough to be a good model. Also, after excluding data that have Endcap=1, we get that adjusted  $\text{Units Sold}^{1.25}$  with no clear skewness. What's more, from Residual plot, we can see that points are almost randomly distributed around the above and below of the line, and actually they are in clearly two groups, divided with Endcap.

Also, we checked if there is any presence evidence of multicollinearity using corplot, excluding units sold, the same as in Model A, and also variance inflation factor (**VIF**) now as:

```
1 > vif(ModelB3)
2 `Average Retail Price`      `Sales Rep`      Endcap
      Demo
3      1.151335      1.275874      1.041238
      1.289737
4      `Demo1-3`      `Demo4-5`      Demo: `Demo1-3`
5      1.162604      1.028733      1.348155
```

There is no evidence of multicollinearity shows.

Here in Model B, we now have all p-values < 0.05, meaning that our Model B is a valid model.

c) (2 points) Does the in-store demo program boost the sales? If so, for how long does the sales lift last? Explain your answer.

### Solutions:

Definitely, the in-store demo program boost the sales, as p-values of three Demos are all small enough. Comparing their coefficients, we say that Demo has the best boost effect on sales, then goes down a little bit, but effects last at least 4-5 week.

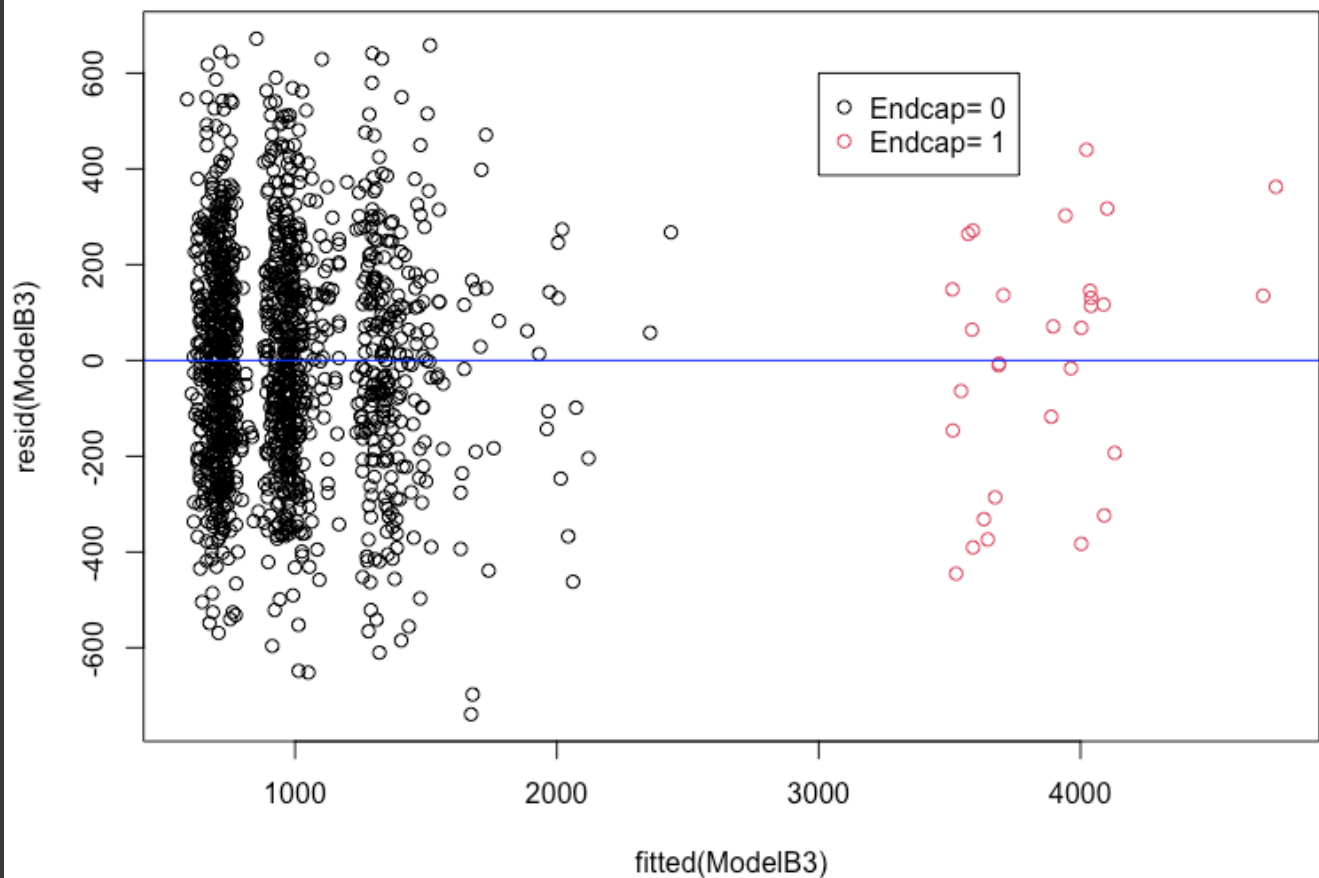
Besides, Demos would have an extra boost on sales, if demo programs are held 1-3 week ago, but then get held again in the corresponding week.

d) (2 points) Does the placement of the product within the store (endcap promotion) affect the sales? Explain your answer.

### Solution:

The placement of the product within the store (endcap promotion) has a **huge** effect on sales, for improving them nearly 3 times.

The effect of Endcap is clearly show in residual plot, where I divided point into 2 groups, by Endcap.



e) (2 points) What other factors affect the sales of GoodMorning product? Explain your answer.

*Solution:*

Average Retail Price and Sales Rep are also considered factors, which affect the sales of GoodMorning product. Their p-values are both low, and their coefficients are large to make a real sense. Therefore, these two factors also affect the sales of GoodMorning product

f) (2 points) Based on the regression output, what are your recommendations to GoodMorning management?

*Solution:*



Here according to our Model, we recommend that they should pay attention to the average retail price, sales representative, endcap, and demos. Among them, endcap has the most important impact. Also, regarding the extra boost, they might consider holding in-store demos continuously, like weekly.

**Question 2 (30 points)** Use “Q2 data.xlsx” file.

A company is considering whether to market a new product. Assume, for simplicity, that if this product is marketed, there are only two possible outcomes: success or failure. The company assesses that the probabilities of these two outcomes are  $p$  and  $(1-p)$  respectively. If the product is marketed and it proves to be a failure, the company will have a net loss of \$450,000. If the product is marketed and it proves to be a success, the company will have a net gain of \$750,000. If the company decides not to market the product, there is no gain or loss.

The company can first survey prospective buyers of this new product. The results of the consumer survey can be classified as favorable, neutral, or unfavorable. Based on similar survey for previous products, the company assesses these probabilities of favorable, neutral, or unfavorable results to be 0.6, 0.3, and 0.1 for product that will eventually be a success, and it assesses these probabilities to be 0.1, 0.2, and 0.7 for a product that will eventually be a failure. The total cost of administering this survey is  $C$  dollars.

Let  $p=0.5$  and  $C= \$15,000$ .

The company wants to construct a decision tree for this problem. The first step is to compute the posterior probabilities that the product will be eventually success and failure using the result from the consumer survey. The probabilities are given in Exhibit A.

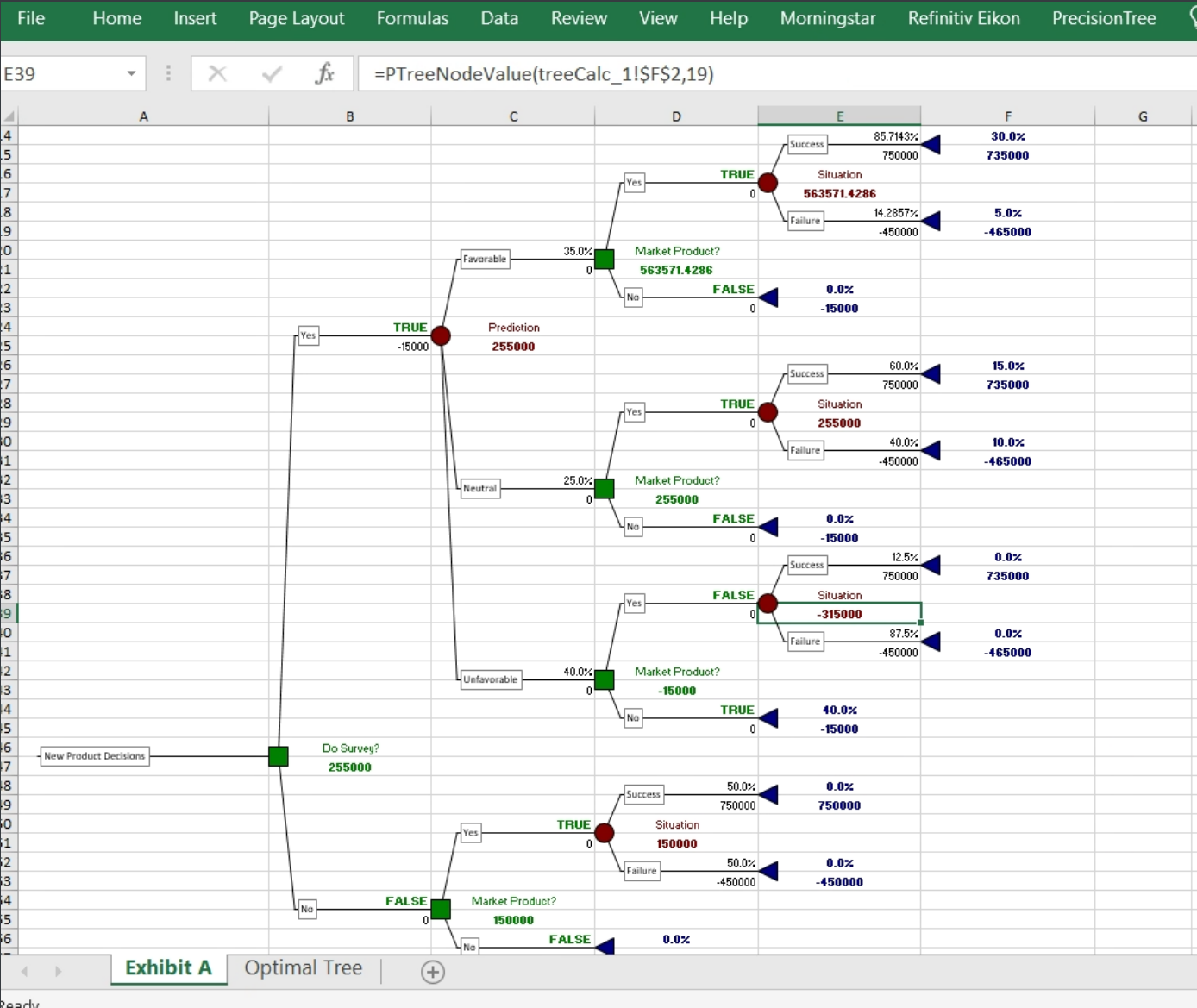
The company would like to find the strategy that maximizes the company’s expected net earnings (EMV).

a) (10 pts) Construct a decision tree for this problem (Exhibit A). Generate the optimal decision strategy tree and paste the copy on your word document.

- Does the optimal strategy involve conducting the survey?
- What is the EMV under the optimal strategy?

Solution:

First, draw the decision tree as:



the optimal decision strategy tree for a) here is:

### PrecisionTree Policy Suggestion - Optimal Decision Tree

Performed By: jswang97  
Date: Saturday, December 11, 2021 12:58:19 PM  
Model: Decision Tree 'New Product Decisions' in [Q2\_data (1).xlsx]Exhibit A

The decision tree evaluates the expected monetary value of different actions based on market survey results. The root node is a decision node (green square) labeled 'New Product Decisions'. It branches into 'Do Survey?' (green square) and 'Do Not Survey?' (blue triangle). 'Do Survey?' has an expected value of 255,000 and leads to a chance node (red circle) labeled 'Prediction' with an expected value of 255,000. This chance node branches into 'Favorable' (35.0%), 'Neutral' (25.0%), and 'Unfavorable' (40.0%). 'Favorable' leads to a decision node (green square) labeled 'Market Product?' with an expected value of 563,571.4286. It branches into 'Yes' (35.0%) and 'No' (65.0%). 'Yes' leads to a chance node (red circle) labeled 'Situation' with an expected value of 563,571.4286. It branches into 'Success' (85.7143%) and 'Failure' (14.2857%). 'Success' has a value of 750,000 and a probability of 30.0%. 'Failure' has a value of -450,000 and a probability of 5.0%. 'Neutral' leads to a decision node (green square) labeled 'Market Product?' with an expected value of 255,000. It branches into 'Yes' (25.0%) and 'No' (75.0%). 'Yes' leads to a chance node (red circle) labeled 'Situation' with an expected value of 255,000. It branches into 'Success' (60.0%) and 'Failure' (40.0%). 'Success' has a value of 750,000 and a probability of 15.0%. 'Failure' has a value of -450,000 and a probability of 10.0%. 'Unfavorable' leads to a decision node (green square) labeled 'Market Product?' with an expected value of -15,000. It branches into 'Yes' (40.0%) and 'No' (60.0%). 'Yes' leads to a chance node (red circle) labeled 'Situation' with an expected value of -15,000. It branches into 'Success' (40.0%) and 'Failure' (60.0%). 'Success' has a value of 750,000 and a probability of 15.0%. 'Failure' has a value of -450,000 and a probability of 10.0%. 'Do Not Survey?' has a value of -15,000 and a probability of 40.0%.

Decision Tree Structure:

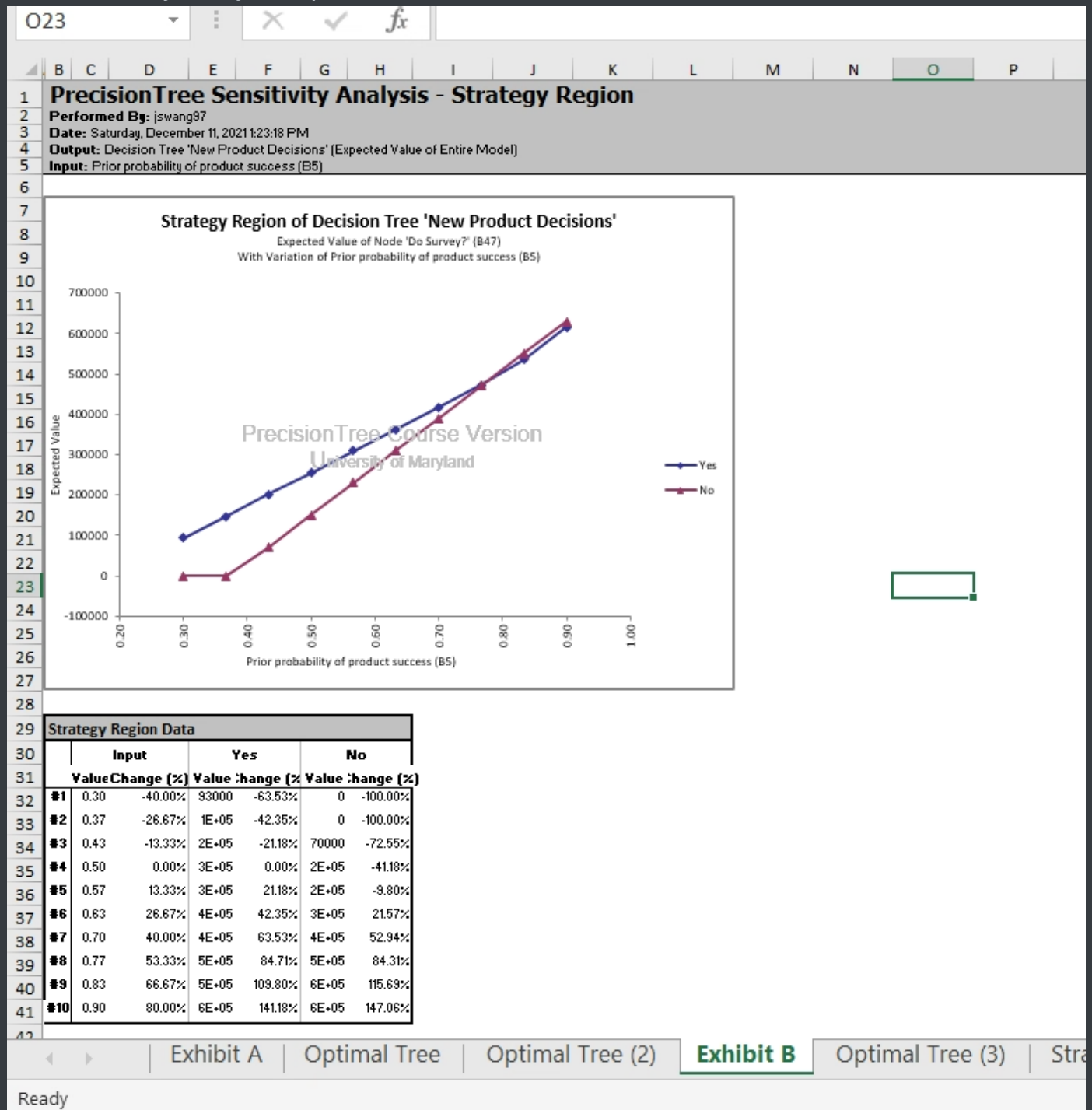
- Decision: New Product Decisions
  - Do Survey? (Expected Value: 255,000)
    - Prediction (Expected Value: 255,000)
      - Favorable (35.0%)
        - Market Product? (Expected Value: 563,571.4286)
          - Yes (35.0%)
            - Situation (Expected Value: 563,571.4286)
              - Success (85.7143%, Value: 750,000, Probability: 30.0%)
              - Failure (14.2857%, Value: -450,000, Probability: 5.0%)
      - Neutral (25.0%)
        - Market Product? (Expected Value: 255,000)
          - Yes (25.0%)
            - Situation (Expected Value: 255,000)
              - Success (60.0%, Value: 750,000, Probability: 15.0%)
              - Failure (40.0%, Value: -450,000, Probability: 10.0%)
      - Unfavorable (40.0%)
        - Market Product? (Expected Value: -15,000)
          - Yes (40.0%)
            - Situation (Expected Value: -15,000)
              - Success (40.0%, Value: 750,000, Probability: 15.0%)
              - Failure (60.0%, Value: -450,000, Probability: 10.0%)
    - Do Not Survey? (Value: -15,000, Probability: 40.0%)

b) (5 pts) Suppose that the total cost of administering this survey is \$50,000.

- Solution:**



The sensitivity Analysis report is:



Approximately, when the p value is greater than 0.77, the company changes their decision from yes to no.

Before p value changes from 0.3 to 0.77, the company always **conducts** the survey and markets the product. When p is greater than 0.77 the decision changes from do the survey to **not do** the survey.

For line **yes**: Approximately, if  $0.3 \leq p < 0.82$ , the company actually conducts the survey, listen to the survey result and then market the product if the result is **not** unfavorable. While  $p$  is high enough like between 0.85 and 0.9, the 'yes' line is parallel with 'no' line, which means no matter what the company should continue to market the product.

For line **no** : Approximately, if  $p$  lower than 0.37, the company will not market the product. When exceeds this point the company can market the product.

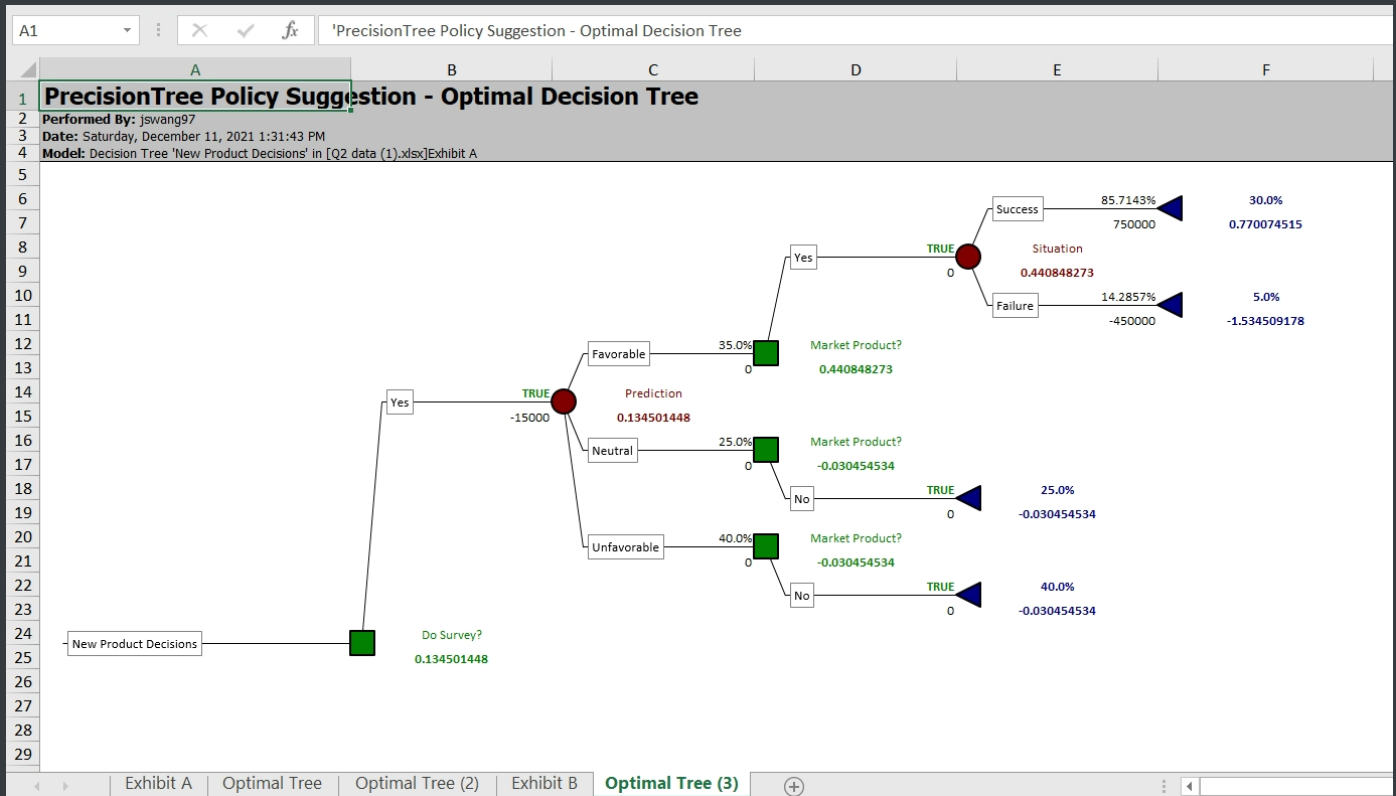
Now, we would like to find the strategy that maximizes the company's expected utility with the risk tolerance  $R = 500,000$ .

d) (5 pts) Generate the optimal decision strategy tree and paste the copy on your word document. Does this change the company's decision?

*Solution:*

The new decision tree considering utility function is:



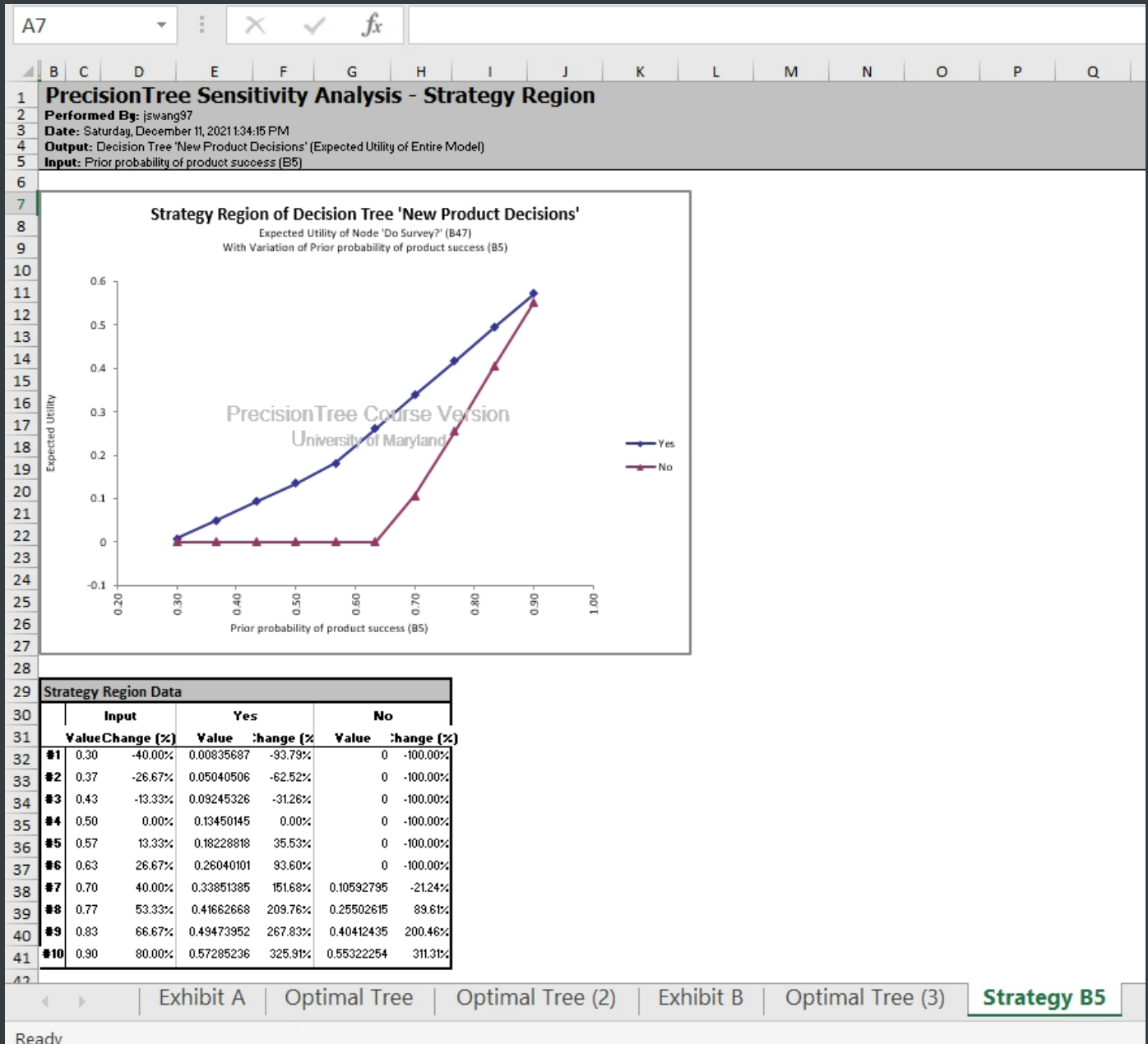


Therefore, the company's decision is still to conduct the survey, with **no change at the first stage**. However, their following strategy changes to **only** market the product if the survey result is **favorable**.

e) (5 pts) Conduct a sensitivity analysis on  $p$ : between 0.3 and 0.9 with 10 steps. Attached the strategy graph (Exhibit C) and paste the copy on your word document. Explain the results. Particularly, explain how the second stage decision changes as  $p$  increases.

*Solution:*





Now the new sensitivity plot suggests that the company should always conduct the survey, for  $0.3 \leq q \leq 0.9$

For line **yes**: Approximately, if  $0.3 \leq p < 0.57$ , the company actually conducts the survey, listen to the survey result and then market the product **only** if the result is favorable. While  $p$  is high enough like between 0.57 and 0.9, the company would market the product if the result is **not** unfavorable.

For line **no** : Approximately, if  $p$  lower than 0.65, the company will not market the product. When exceeds this point the company can market the product.