Importing

```
In [3]: # Import Libraries
   import numpy as np
   import pandas as pd
   from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
   from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
   import sklearn.metrics as metrics
   import statsmodels.api as sm
   from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestRegressor
   from sklearn import decomposition
   from sklearn import model_selection
   from sklearn.neural_network import MLPRegressor
   from sklearn.neighbors import KNeighborsRegressor
```

Engineering features

Read data

```
In [4]: # Read data
total_units = pd.read_csv('data/BrandTotalUnits.csv')
total_sales = pd.read_csv('data/BrandTotalSales.csv')
details = pd.read_csv('data/BrandDetails.csv')
avg_price = pd.read_csv('data/BrandAverageRetailPrice.csv')
```

Convert months to datatime

```
In [5]: # Convert months to datatime
total_units['Months'] = pd.to_datetime(total_units['Months'])
total_sales['Months'] = pd.to_datetime(total_sales['Months'])
avg_price['Months'] = pd.to_datetime(avg_price['Months'])
```

Trim 'Total Units'and convert to float

```
In [6]: # Trim 'Total Units'and convert to float
    total_units['Total Units'] = total_units['Total Units'].str[:8]
    total_units['Total Units'] = total_units['Total Units'].str.replace(',', '').astype(float)
    total_units['Total Units'] = pd.to_numeric(total_units['Total Units'])
```

Trim 'Total Sales'and convert to float

```
In [7]: # Trim 'Total Sales'and convert to float
    total_sales['Total Sales ($)'] = total_sales['Total Sales ($)'].str[:8]
    total_sales['Total Sales ($)'] = total_sales['Total Sales ($)'].str.replace(',', '')
    total_sales['Total Sales ($)'] = pd.to_numeric(total_sales['Total Sales ($)'])
```

In [8]: total_units.head()

Out[8]:

_		Brands	Months	Total Units	vs. Prior Period
	0	#BlackSeries	2020-08-01	1616.3300	NaN
	1	#BlackSeries	2020-09-01	NaN	-1.000000
	2	#BlackSeries	2021-01-01	715.5328	NaN
	3	#BlackSeries	2021-02-01	766.6691	0.071466
	4	#BlackSeries	2021-03-01	NaN	-1.000000

In [9]: total_sales.head()

Out[9]:

	Months	Brand	Total Sales (\$)
0	2018-09-01	10x Infused	1711.33
1	2018-09-01	1964 Supply Co.	25475.20
2	2018-09-01	3 Bros Grow	120153.00
3	2018-09-01	3 Leaf	6063.52
4	2018-09-01	350 Fire	631510.00

In [10]: details.head()

Out[10]:

	State	Channel	Category L1	Category L2	Category L3	Category L4	Category L5	Brand	Product Description	Total Sales (\$)	 Total THC	Tot CE
0	California	Licensed	Inhaleables	Flower	Hybrid	NaN	NaN	#BlackSeries	#BlackSeries - Vanilla Frosting - Flower (Gram)	1,103.964857	 0	
1	California	Licensed	Inhaleables	Flower	Hybrid	NaN	NaN	#BlackSeries	#BlackSeries - Vanilla Frosting - Flower (Gram)	674.645211	 0	
2	California	Licensed	Inhaleables	Flower	Sativa Dominant	NaN	NaN	#BlackSeries	#BlackSeries - Blueberry Slushy - Flower (Gram)	2,473.699102	 0	
3	California	Licensed	Inhaleables	Flower	Sativa Dominant	NaN	NaN	#BlackSeries	#BlackSeries - Blueberry Slushy - Flower (Gram)	14,589.916417	 0	
4	California	Licensed	Inhaleables	Concentrates	Dabbable Concentrates	Wax	NaN	101 Cannabis Co.	101 Cannabis Co Afghan Kush - Wax	145.39627	 0	

5 rows × 25 columns

```
In [11]: avg_price.head()
```

Out[11]:

		Brands	Months	ARP	vs. Prior Period
٠	0	#BlackSeries	2020-08-01	15.684913	NaN
	1	#BlackSeries	2020-09-01	NaN	-1.000000
	2	#BlackSeries	2021-01-01	13.611428	NaN
	3	#BlackSeries	2021-02-01	11.873182	-0.127705
	4	#BlackSeries	2021-03-01	NaN	-1.000000

Change column names to merge

Create Time Series Features and merge data

```
In [14]: # Create Time Series Features and merge data
         merged = pd.DataFrame()
         for brand in brands:
             units = total units[total units.Brands == brand]
             units.loc[:,'Previous Month Units'] = units.loc[:,'Total Units'].shift(1)
             units.loc[:,'Rolling Average Units'] = (units.loc[:,'Total Units'].shift(1) + units.loc[:,'Total Units'].shi
                                               units.loc[:,'Total Units'].shift(3))/3
             sales = total sales[total sales.Brands == brand]
             sales.loc[:,'Previous Month Sales'] = sales.loc[:,'Total Sales ($)'].shift(1)
             sales.loc[:,'Rolling Average Sales'] = (sales.loc[:,'Total Sales ($)'].shift(1) + sales.loc[:,'Total Sales
                                               sales.loc[:,'Total Sales ($)'].shift(3))/3
             arp = avg price[avg price.Brands == brand]
             arp.loc[:,'Previous Month ARP'] = arp.loc[:,'ARP'].shift(1)
             arp.loc[:,'Rolling Average ARP'] = (arp.loc[:,'ARP'].shift(1) + arp.loc[:,'ARP'].shift(2) +
                                               arp.loc[:,'ARP'].shift(3))/3
             branddetails = details[details.Brand == brand]
             productcount = (branddetails.Brand == brand).count()
             units = units.merge(sales, on=['Brands', 'Months'], how='left')
             units = units.merge(arp, on=['Brands', 'Months'], how='left')
             units['ProdCount'] = productcount
             merged = pd.concat([merged, units], ignore index=True)
         D:\software\Anaconda\lib\site-packages\pandas\core\indexing.py:1667: SettingWithCopyWarning:
         A value is trying to be set on a copy of a slice from a DataFrame.
         Try using .loc[row indexer,col indexer] = value instead
         See the caveats in the documentation: https://pandas.pydata.org/pandas-docs/stable/user guide/indexing.html#re
         turning-a-view-versus-a-copy (https://pandas.pydata.org/pandas-docs/stable/user guide/indexing.html#returning-
         a-view-versus-a-copy)
           self.obj[key] = value
In [15]: | merged copy = merged.copy()
In [16]: #merged copy.head(10)
```

```
In [18]: #merged_copy
```

Drop rows with nan total sales and rolling average sales. These two are very important features. I think that if these two features are nan, then imputing on that row is highly likely inappropriate.

```
In [19]: merged_copy = merged_copy.dropna(subset=['Total Sales ($)', 'Rolling Average Sales']).reset_index(drop=True)
```

Impute other features with nan with median of the same brands

```
In [20]: # Impute with median of the same brands
for i, brand in enumerate(brands):
    for col in merged_copy.columns[merged_copy.isna().any()].tolist():
        median = merged_copy.loc[merged_copy.Brands==brand, col].median()
        merged_copy.loc[merged_copy['Brands'] == brand, col] = median
```

Augment features

```
In [21]: # Augment features
    merged_copy['sales_per_prod'] = merged_copy['Total Sales ($)'] / merged_copy['ProdCount']
    final_data = merged_copy.copy()
```

Drop all the rows with nan

```
In [22]: final_data = final_data.dropna()
```

Extract labels

```
In [23]: # Extract Labels
labels = final_data['Total Sales ($)']
```

Drop columns that are NOT useful. Many of these are highly correlated to the labels. Brands are important, but my thought is that, if the total sales are high because of the brands, then we can simply extract that information from the sales information from the past, so rolling average sale is already a good indication. Moreover, there are too many brands in the dataset, one hot encoding them makes the dataset even more complex.

```
# Drop columns that are NOT useful
In [24]:
         final data = final data.drop(columns=['Brands', 'Months', 'vs. Prior Period(total units)', 'Total Units', 'Total
                                        'ARP', 'vs. Prior Period(avg price)'])
In [25]: | final data.info()
         <class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
         Int64Index: 18127 entries, 0 to 18238
         Data columns (total 9 columns):
              Column
          #
                                      Non-Null Count Dtype
                                      18127 non-null int32
          0
              Month
          1
              Previous Month Units
                                      18127 non-null float64
              Rolling Average Units 18127 non-null float64
              Previous Month Sales
                                      18127 non-null float64
              Rolling Average Sales 18127 non-null float64
              Previous Month ARP
                                      18127 non-null float64
              Rolling Average ARP
                                      18127 non-null float64
              ProdCount
                                      18127 non-null int64
              sales per prod
                                      18127 non-null float64
         dtypes: float64(7), int32(1), int64(1)
         memory usage: 1.3 MB
In [26]: final_data[final_data.isna().any(axis=1)].head(10)
Out[26]:
                  Previous Month Rolling Average Previous Month Rolling Average
                                                                               Previous
            Month
                                                                                                     ProdCount sales per prod
                                                                             Month ARP
                                                                                         Average ARP
                          Units
                                        Units
                                                      Sales
                                                                    Sales
In [27]: X train, X test, y train, y test = train test split(final data, labels, test size=0.2, random state=42)
```

Linear Regression

```
In [26]: linreg = LinearRegression()
linreg.fit(X_train, y_train)

y_prediciton_train = linreg.predict(X_train)
y_prediciton_test = linreg.predict(X_test)

mse = metrics.mean_squared_error(y_train, y_prediciton_train)
r2 = metrics.r2_score(y_train, y_prediciton_train)
print("Training Root Mean Squared Error:", mse)
print("Test r2:", r2)

mse = metrics.mean_squared_error(y_test, y_prediciton_test)
r2 = metrics.r2_score(y_test, y_prediciton_test)
print("Training Root Mean Squared Error:", mse)
print("Training Root Mean Squared Error:", mse)
print("Test r2:", r2)
```

Training Root Mean Squared Error: 11973830199.457659

Test r2: 0.7111748690489963

Training Root Mean Squared Error: 12616248996.257673

Test r2: 0.7127367646798193

OLS

```
In [29]: stats = sm.OLS(labels, final_data)
    result = stats.fit()
    print(result.summary())
```

4.724e+05

		_							
===========									
Dep. Variable:	Total Sales (\$)	R-squared (uncentered):	0.829						
Model:	OLS	Adj. R-squared (uncentered):	0.829						
Method:	Least Squares	F-statistic:	9755.						
Date:	Wed, 16 Mar 2022	<pre>Prob (F-statistic):</pre>	0.00						
Time:	22:53:25	Log-Likelihood:	-2.3617e+05						
No. Observations:	18127	AIC:	4.724e+05						

BIC:

OLS Regression Results

Df Residuals: 18118
Df Model: 9
Covariance Type: nonrobust

=======================================										
	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]				
Month	657.5951	187.355	3.510	0.000	290.362	1024.828				
Previous Month Units	-0.0486	0.167	-0.291	0.771	-0.375	0.278				
Rolling Average Units	0.2096	0.171	1.227	0.220	-0.125	0.545				
Previous Month Sales	0.4639	0.010	44.469	0.000	0.443	0.484				
Rolling Average Sales	0.3960	0.011	35.034	0.000	0.374	0.418				
Previous Month ARP	185.1808	621.462	0.298	0.766	-1032.944	1403.305				
Rolling Average ARP	78.6431	617.290	0.127	0.899	-1131.303	1288.590				
ProdCount	8.2403	1.784	4.618	0.000	4.743	11.738				
sales_per_prod	2.0428	0.107	19.013	0.000	1.832	2.253				
=======================================		========		=======	========					
Omnibus:	6655.	482 Durb	in-Watson:		1.999					
Prob(Omnibus):	0.	000 Jarqı	ue-Bera (JB):		295762.533					
Skew:	1.	038 Prob	(JB):		0.00					
Kurtosis:	22.	679 Cond	. No.		3.95e+05					

Notes:

- [1] R^2 is computed without centering (uncentered) since the model does not contain a constant.
- [2] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.
- [3] The condition number is large, 3.95e+05. This might indicate that there are strong multicollinearity or other numerical problems.

We can see that the features about units and arp have high p-value, so they are insignificant.

PCA

```
In [52]: n_components = range(1, 10)
```

```
In [53]: for n in n components:
             pca = decomposition.PCA(n components=n)
             X_pca_train = pca.fit_transform(X_train)
             linreg = LinearRegression()
             linreg.fit(X_pca_train, y_train)
             X_pca_test = pca.fit_transform(X_test)
             y prediciton test = linreg.predict(X pca test)
             mse = metrics.mean_squared_error(y_test, y_prediciton_test)
             r2 = metrics.r2_score(y_test, y_prediciton_test)
             print("n_components: ", n)
             print(" Training Root Mean Squared Error:", mse)
             print(" Test r2:", r2)
         n_components: 1
           Training Root Mean Squared Error: 12832165794.832943
           Test r2: 0.7078204889993769
         n components: 2
           Training Root Mean Squared Error: 12823655039.202374
           Test r2: 0.7080142729995327
         n components: 3
           Training Root Mean Squared Error: 12828277859.866404
           Test r2: 0.7079090145807547
         n components: 4
           Training Root Mean Squared Error: 12657154625.522444
           Test r2: 0.7118053718855829
         n_components: 5
           Training Root Mean Squared Error: 12676691279.377382
           Test r2: 0.7113605358336498
         n components: 6
           Training Root Mean Squared Error: 12653359253.796436
           Test r2: 0.7118917898662029
         n components: 7
           Training Root Mean Squared Error: 12653864465.307362
           Test r2: 0.7118802865506617
         n components: 8
           Training Root Mean Squared Error: 12647882607.913212
```

Test r2: 0.7120164892927587

Test r2: 0.7120190134016725

Training Root Mean Squared Error: 12647771752.145277

n components: 9

The results indicates that using PCA doesn't improve the model performance.

Ensemble

```
In [204]: n_estimators = [100, 200, 500, 1000]
          max_features = [2, 4, 6, 8]
          max_depth = [5, 10, 20, 30]
In [205]: best_score = 0
          best model = ()
          for n in n_estimators:
              for f in max_features:
                  for d in max_depth:
                      regr = RandomForestRegressor(n_estimators=n, max_features=f,
                                                    max_depth=d, random_state=10)
                      regr.fit(X_train, y_train)
                      score = regr.score(X_test, y_test, sample_weight=None)
                      if (score > best score):
                          best_score = score
                          best_model = (n, f, d)
          print(n, f, d, ": ", score)
```

1000 8 30 : 0.9584578634369649

Random forest regressors are used for the ensemble method. I also use a for loop to try to tune the hyperparameter. The score is actually very high.

Cross Validation

```
In [58]: kfold = model_selection.KFold(n_splits=10, random_state=42, shuffle=True)
```

Cross-validate on linear regression

```
In [62]: linreg_model_kfold = LinearRegression()
    linreg_results_kfold = model_selection.cross_val_score(linreg_model_kfold, X_train, y_train, cv=kfold)
    print("Linear Regression Score: %.2f%%" % (linreg_results_kfold.mean()*100.0))
    Linear Regression Score: 71.08%

    Cross-validate on ensemble

In [61]: rfregr_model_kfold = RandomForestRegressor(n_estimators=1000, max_features=8, max_depth=30, random_state=10)
    rfregr_result_kfold = model_selection.cross_val_score(rfregr_model_kfold, X_train, y_train, cv=kfold)
    print("Random Forest Regression Score: %.2f%%" % (rfregr_result_kfold.mean()*100.0))
```

Random Forest Regression Score: 95.38%

The results of cross validations on both models indicates that the performance is the average performance.

Grid Search

```
In [71]: print('best score: ', grid_result.best_score_)
    print('best params: ', grid_result.best_params_)

best score: 0.9523926234788206
```

The results of Grid Search also indicates that the hyperparameters are optimal.

best params: {'max_depth': 30, 'max_features': 8, 'n_estimators': 1000}

My own model - Neural Netowrk

Grid Search and Cross-validation

```
In [75]: params = {
             'max iter': [5, 10, 20, 30, 50],
             'hidden layer sizes': [10, 20, 50, 100, 200]
         nn = MLPRegressor(early_stopping=True,
                             solver='sgd',
                             batch size=100,
                             learning rate='adaptive'
         gridSearchCV nn = model selection.GridSearchCV(
             estimator=nn,
             param_grid=params,
             cv=5
         grid result nn = gridSearchCV nn.fit(final data, labels)
             y_cype, y_crue, y_preu, murcroucpue - _cneek_reg_cargees(
           File "D:\software\Anaconda\lib\site-packages\sklearn\metrics\_regression.py", line 90, in check reg targe
         ts
             y_pred = check_array(y_pred, ensure_2d=False, dtype=dtype)
           File "D:\software\Anaconda\lib\site-packages\sklearn\utils\validation.py", line 63, in inner f
             return f(*args, **kwargs)
           File "D:\software\Anaconda\lib\site-packages\sklearn\utils\validation.py", line 720, in check_array
             _assert_all_finite(array,
           File "D:\software\Anaconda\lib\site-packages\sklearn\utils\validation.py", line 103, in _assert_all_finite
             raise ValueError(
         ValueError: Input contains NaN, infinity or a value too large for dtype('float64').
           warnings.warn("Estimator fit failed. The score on this train-test"
         D:\software\Anaconda\lib\site-packages\sklearn\model selection\ search.py:922: UserWarning: One or more of t
         he test scores are non-finite: [-1.09535924e+058 -6.92159371e+087 -1.94468664e+102 -2.56207278e+179
          -5.10506079e+056 -1.89661875e+143 -8.35742593e+215 -1.66086048e+256
          -1.10558560e+118 -1.21957864e-001
                                                          nan
                                                                           nan
                       nan
                                        nan
                                                          nan
                                                                           nan
                       nan
                                        nan
                                                          nan
                                                                           nan
                       nan
                                        nan
                                                          nan
                                                                           nan
```

```
In [76]: |print('best score: ', grid_result_nn.best_score_)
         print('best params: ', grid result nn.best params )
         best score: -0.12195786372558581
         best params: {'hidden_layer_sizes': 20, 'max_iter': 50}
```

My Custom Model - KNN

```
In [30]: params = {
             'n_neighbors': [5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 500],
             'weights': ['uniform', 'distance'],
             'n jobs': [-1]
         knn = KNeighborsRegressor()
         gridSearchCV knn = model selection.GridSearchCV(
             estimator=knn,
             param_grid=params,
             cv=5
         grid_result_knn = gridSearchCV_knn.fit(final_data, labels)
In [32]:
         print('best score: ', grid_result_knn.best_score_)
         print('best params: ', grid result knn.best params )
```

```
best score: 0.7344368153851452
best params: {'n_jobs': -1, 'n_neighbors': 100, 'weights': 'distance'}
```

Comparing Models

In this project, I trained 3 models: linear regression model, random forest regressor, multilayer neural network regressor, and knn regressor. Apparently, the random forest regressor has the best performance. However, the downside is quite obvious too, which is that the amount of time it takes to train such a model is very long.

```
In [ ]:
```

Background / Introduction

The cannabis market is one of the fastest growing markets in the world. There are many opportunities in the market, so there will be more and more companies trying to take a bite. With the power to predict sales every month, companies will have more advantages to grow.

I am trying to train a model based on the provided data to predict the total sale. I would engineer the features to train models better. My models of choice are linear regression, random forest regression, neural network, and k-nearest neighbor.

Methodology

We are provided with 4 important csv files. Each contains important information about units, average product price(ARP), sales, and details about the companies. First of all, we have to merge these data together so that we can access and engineer the features easier.

Time series is an important idea, so we can exploit the data in the past to predict what it will be like in the future. For the same brands, each row will have a few additional time series features, which are previous-month total units, previous-month ARP, and previous-month total sales. These features can be simply extracted from the data in the previous month. Moreover, rolling average total units, rolling average ARP, and rolling average total sales are created for each row by computing the average based on the past three months. I combine the time series features engineering and data merging in a for loop. For each brand, I engineer the time series features in different dataset and merge them together based on brand and month. Finally, I append these dataset into a final dataset.

The next step is to deal with the nan values in the dataset. My first strategy is to impute the nan values with the median within each brand. In this dataset, there are so many brands that don't have sufficient data, so I just drop these rows, even, the entire brands.

Some additional features are also needed to boost my dataset, so I add two additional features: the number of products for each brand and sales per product in the brand level. I think these two are important, because they give us a good insight about the size of the brands.

I later decided not to use the brands, because to some extent, the units and sales can explain well how the brands are doing. As long as we have the rolling average data, we can

determine if the sizes of the brands are large or not. Moreover, I think using brands in the models is not a wise choice. One hot encoding the brands will increase the dimensionality so much that models are not simple, and the amount of time it takes to train models will be increased too. Besides the brands, I also drop the 'vs. Prior Period(total_units)', 'Total Units', 'Total Sales (\$), 'ARP', 'vs. Prior Period(avg_price)', because these are somehow like total sales, the future data we want to predict.

When training some specific models, we have to tune the hyperparameters to get the "optimal" models, such as the number of nearest neighbors for k-nearest neighbors, the max depth for decision trees, and etc... We have to plug in different combinations of hyperparameters to find the best one. We usually split a dataset into the training part and test part. However, it's also usual that the splitting is just accidentally good and that the model performs very well. Therefore, we need to use cross-validation to make sure that the models are average good. GridSearchCV is used to not only find the best parameters, but also the parameters are average good.

Results

Training Root Mean Squared Error: 11973830199.457659

Test r2: 0.7111748690489963

Training Root Mean Squared Error: 12616248996.257673

Test r2: 0.7127367646798193

The r-squares for the linear regression model is 0.713, meaning the model doesn't do a very good job on predicting the total sales.

OLS Regression Results

Dep. Variable:	Total Sales	(\$)	R-sq	uared (uncente	red):		0.829	
Model:		0LS	Adj.	R-squared (un	centered)	:	0.829	
Method:	Least Squa	res	F-st	atistic:			9755.	
Date:	Wed, 16 Mar 2	022	Prob	(F-statistic)	:		0.00	
Time:	22:53	:25	Log-	Likelihood:		-2.	3617e+05	
No. Observations:	18	127	AIC:			4	.724e+05	
Df Residuals:	18	118	BIC:			4	.724e+05	
Df Model:		9						
Covariance Type:	nonrob	ust						
	coef	std	err	 t	P> t	[0.025	0.9751	
Month	657.5951	187	.355	3.510	0.000	290.362	1024.828	
Previous Month Units	-0.0486	0	.167	-0.291	0.771	-0.375	0.278	
Rolling Average Units	0.2096	0	.171	1.227	0.220	-0.125	0.545	
Previous Month Sales	0.4639	0	.010	44.469	0.000	0.443	0.484	
Rolling Average Sales	0.3960	0	.011	35.034	0.000	0.374	0.418	
Previous Month ARP	185.1808	621	462	0.298	0.766	-1032.944	1403.305	
Rolling Average ARP	78.6431	617	. 290	0.127	0.899	-1131.303	1288.590	
ProdCount	8.2403	1	.784	4.618	0.000	4.743	11.738	
sales_per_prod	2.0428	0	.107	19.013	0.000	1.832	2.253	
Omnibus:	6655.	===== 482	Durb:	in-Watson:		1.999		
Prob(Omnibus):	0.	000	Jarq	ue-Bera (JB):		295762.533		
Skew:	1.	038	Prob	(JB): `´		0.00		
Kurtosis:		679		. Nó.		3.95e+05		

We can see that the p-values of the units-related and ARP-related features are greater than 0.05, so they are insignificant.

```
n_components: 1
 Training Root Mean Squared Error: 12832165794.832943
 Test r2: 0.7078204889993769
n components: 2
 Training Root Mean Squared Error: 12823655039.202374
 Test r2: 0.7080142729995327
n components: 3
 Training Root Mean Squared Error: 12828277859.866404
 Test r2: 0.7079090145807547
n components: 4
 Training Root Mean Squared Error: 12657154625.522444
 Test r2: 0.7118053718855829
n_components: 5
 Training Root Mean Squared Error: 12676691279.377382
 Test r2: 0.7113605358336498
n components: 6
 Training Root Mean Squared Error: 12653359253.796436
 Test r2: 0.7118917898662029
n components: 7
 Training Root Mean Squared Error: 12653864465.307362
 Test r2: 0.7118802865506617
n components: 8
 Training Root Mean Squared Error: 12647882607.913212
 Test r2: 0.7120164892927587
n components: 9
 Training Root Mean Squared Error: 12647771752.145277
 Test r2: 0.7120190134016725
```

The r-squared values for different n-components are round 0.71, so it indicates that the dimensionality is not complex.

For the ensemble method, I use a random forest regressor. After tuning the parameters and cross-validation, this model is doing a great job. It has a score of 0.9538. After employing a GridSearchCV on it, it also has a score of 0.9524.

I also train a multilayer neural network and k-nearest neighbors. After employing GridSearchCV on both models, the multilayer neural network has a score of -0.122 and the k-nearest neighbor has a score of 0.7344.

Discussion

After comparing the models, we can see that the random forest regression model has the best performance. But the downside is quite obvious, it takes a long time to train such a model. If we also consider the time taken, linear regression and k-nearest neighbors may also be good models.

A good model cannot be trained based on nothing. Tremendous data is needed to train a good model. There is a lot of missing data, and many brands only have a few months of data. There is no way to predict correctly just based on that few amounts of data. This is also the

reason I don't train models to predict at the brand level. The past data is a very good indicator of how the brands are doing and therefore a good indicator of the size of the brands.