

What Drives Customer Responses?

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#### THE CHALLENGE

- **!!** We plan to launch a new marketing campaign...
- But who should we target?
- Not all customers respond the same way to promotions.
- We want to invest our marketing budget efficiently by focusing on the right audience.



#### **OBJECTIVES**

#### Customer Segmentation – "Understanding Customer Groups"

Use clustering to group customers based on spending habits and engagement, helping tailor marketing strategies for different segments.

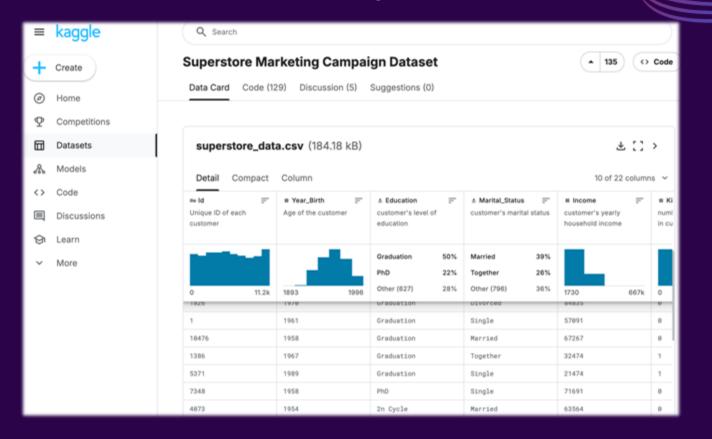
#### Predictive Modeling - "Targeting the Right Customers"

Use machine learning to predict which customers are most likely to respond, so campaigns can be targeted more effectively.

#### Causal Inference - "Measuring True Marketing Impact"

Use causal inference to measure the true impact of marketing efforts.

#### **DATASET**



https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/ahsan81/superstore-marketing-campaign-dataset

#### DATA DICTIONARY



#### **Customer Information**

- Customer ID
- Enrollment Date



#### **Purchasing Behavior**

- Amount Spent
- Number of Purchases
- Discount Usage



#### Demographics

- Year of Birth
- Income
- Family Structure
- Education & Marital Status



#### **Marketing Engagement**

- Campaign Response
- Recency
- Website Visits

#### SOLUTIONS



#### Customer Segmentation

- Segmented customers using K-Means based on spending and demographics.
- Identified groups to improve marketing targeting.



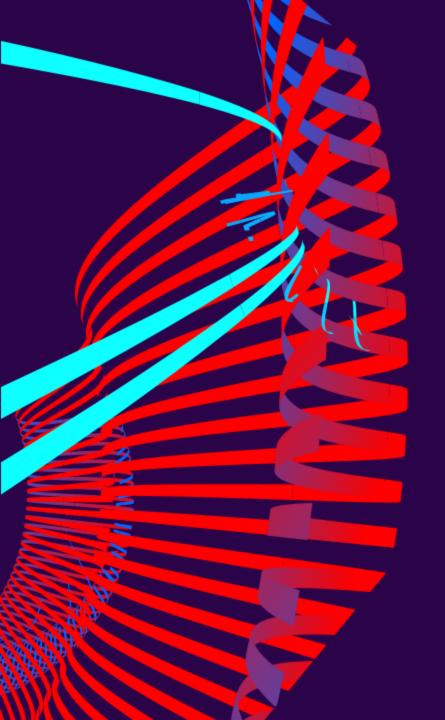
#### **Predictive Modeling**

- Built models (Logistic Regression, Random Forest, XGBoost, LightGBM) to predict customer response.
- Evaluated performance using ROC-AUC and classification metrics.



#### Causal Impact Analysis

- Used R-Learner with LightGBM to estimate marketing impact.
- Measured Average Treatment
   Effect (ATE) to find the best
   target audience.



## DATA PREPROCESSING

#### DATA PREPROCESSING

#### HANDLING MISSING VALUES

Median imputation for missing income

#### FEATURE ENGINEERING

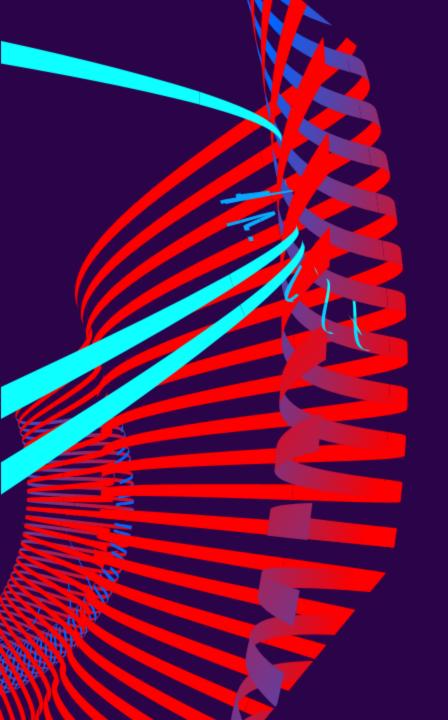
Log transformation for columns with skewness above 1

#### **ENCODING CATEGORICAL DATA**

Encoded categorical features to more equally distributed groups

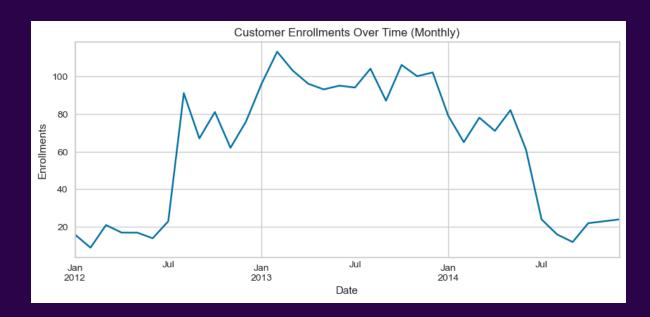
#### DATA SPLITTING

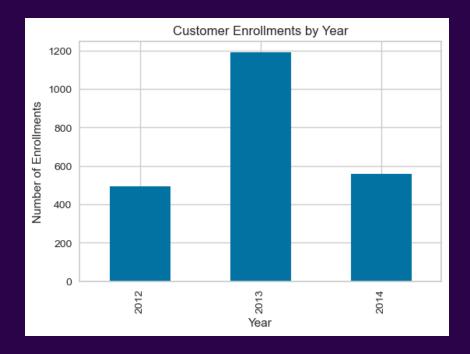
Created training, validation, and test sets with stratification

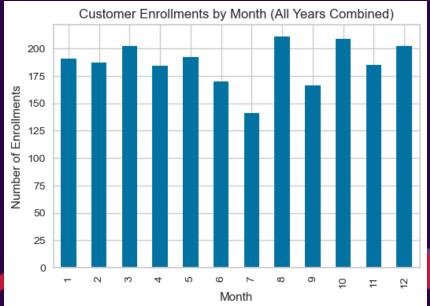


# EXPLORATORY DATA ANALYSIS

## CUSTOMER ENROLLMENT TRENDS OVER TIME

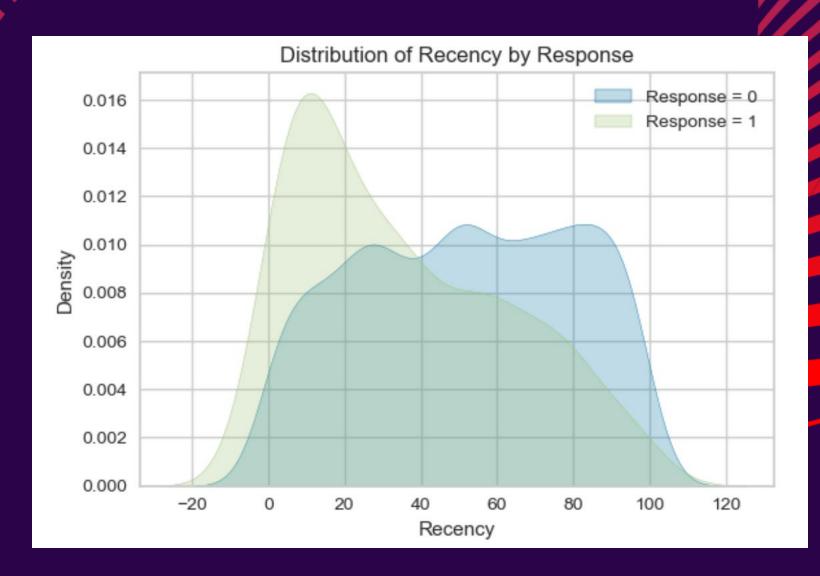






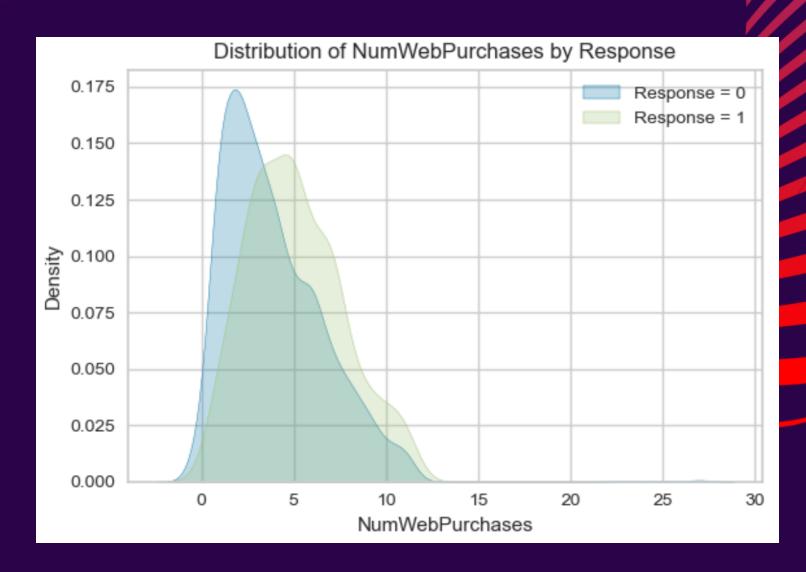
#### RECENCY & RESPONSE

Customers who purchased recently are more likely to engage with campaigns.



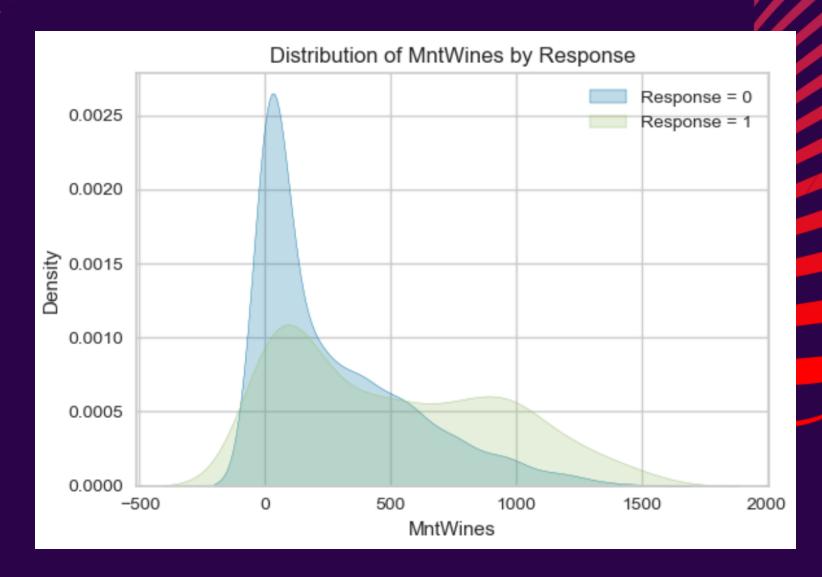
#### WEB PURCHASES & RESPONSE

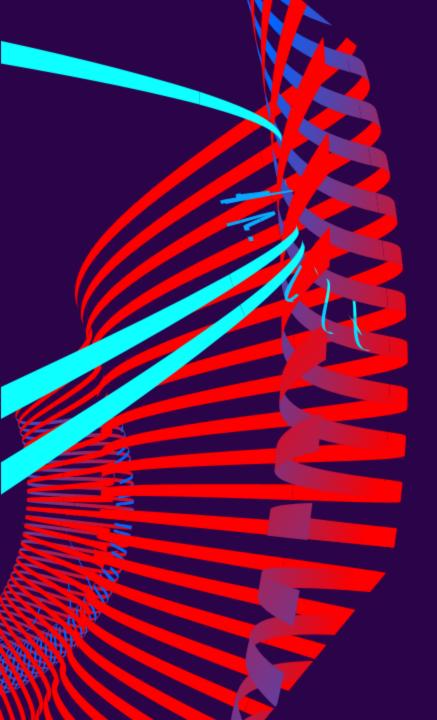
Customers who make more web purchases are more likely to engage with marketing campaigns, suggesting that online shoppers are a key target audience for digital promotions.



#### WINE BUYERS& RESPONSE

Customers who spend more on wine are significantly more likely to engage with marketing campaigns, indicating that high-spending wine buyers are a valuable target for promotions.





## CUSTOMER SEGMENTATION

"UNDERSTANDING CUSTOMER GROUPS"

#### WHAT WE HAVE DONE

Applied K-Means Clustering to group customers based on spending, demographics, and engagement.



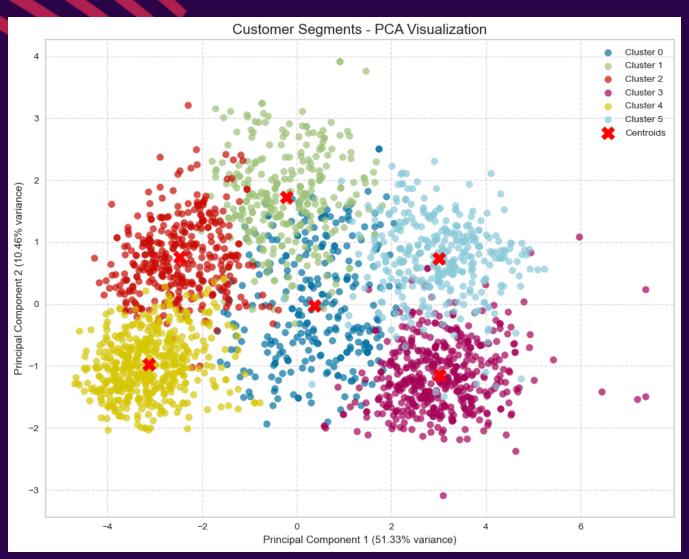
Selected key features

Standardized data

Elbow Method

Create 6 Clusters MPAIGNS

## CUSTOMER SEGMENTATION ANALYSIS



## CUSTOMER SEGMENTATION ANALYSIS

#### INSIGHTS

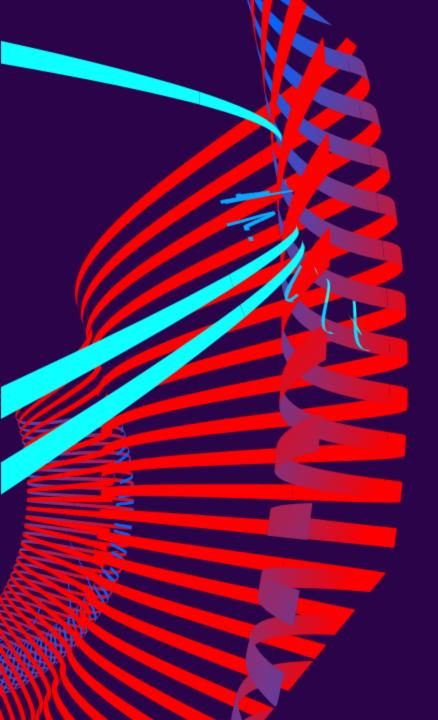
**?** Segment 4 has the highest campaign response rate (~30%) →

These customers spend the most on premium products (wines, meat) and are highly engaged.

They are the best target for marketing campaigns.

Segment 3 & 5 have the lowest engagement (~11% and ~2.9%) →

These customers spend the least and rarely engage in online purchases, meaning they require a different strategy, such as personalized offers or loyalty incentives.



## PREDICTIVE MODELING

"TARGETING THE RIGHT CUSTOMERS"

Predict if a customer will respond to a marketing campaign.

1 Responded

Engaged with the campaign e.g. Made a purchase



Ignored the campaign

#### BUILDING PREDICTION MODEL

#### HANDLED CLASS IMBALANCE

Used SMOTE (Synthetic Minority Over-sampling Technique) to balance positive and negative responses.

#### WHAT MODELS DID WE TRAIN?

Baseline Model

**Logistic Regression** 



LightGBM Random Forest

CatBoost XGBoost

AdaBoost LightGBM

Bagging Extra Trees



KNN SVM

#### HYPERPARAMETER TUNING

#### GRID SEARCH WITH CROSS-VALIDATION (CV=5)

- Exhaustively tested different hyperparameter combinations.
- Used cross-validation to ensure robust performance across different data splits.

#### OPTIMIZED PARAMETERS FOR EACH MODEL TYPE

- Tree-Based Models (Random Forest, XGBoost, LightGBM, etc.) → Tuned number of trees, max depth, learning rate.
- Logistic Regression & SVM → Adjusted regularization strength (C), solver, and kernel types.
- KNN → Tuned the number of neighbors and weighting method.
- Bagging Models → Experimented with different numbers of base learners.

## MODEL PERFORMANCE COMPARISON

ROC-AUC Score

If we want a balanced model that performs well across all response probabilities

Confusion Matrix

If we want to avoid targeting the wrong customers with marketing efforts

Precision-Recall Curve

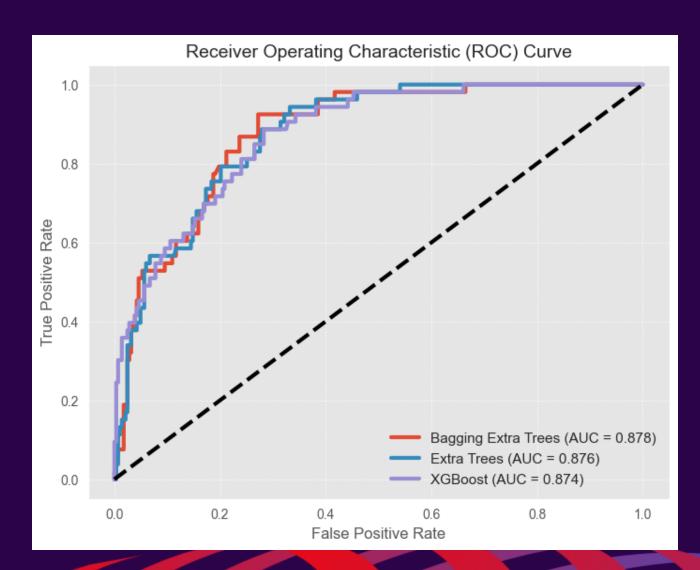
If we care more about correctly identifying responders rather than avoiding false positives

#### ROC CURVE

- The closer the curve is to the topleft, the better the model.
- AUC (Area Under Curve) values:
  - Bagging Extra Trees (0.878)
  - Extra Trees (0.876)
  - XGBoost (0.874)

#### CONCLUSION

All three models perform well, with Bagging Extra Trees slightly ahead



#### CONFUSION MATRICES



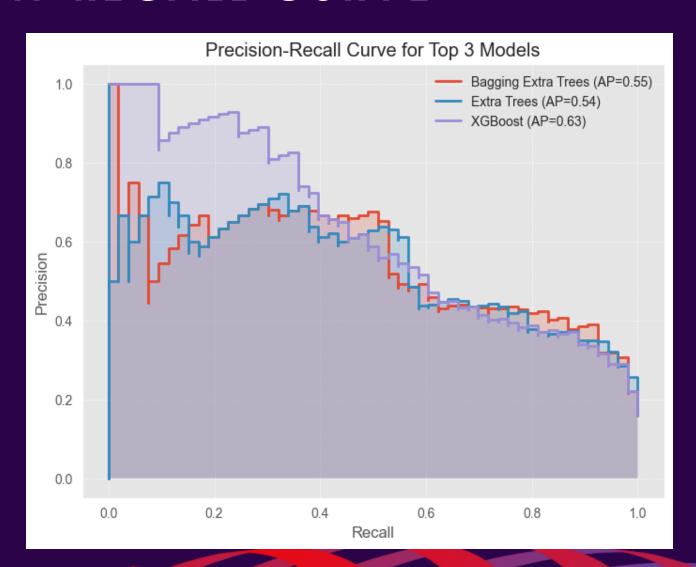
- Bagging Extra Trees minimized false positives.
- XGBoost captured more positives but had slightly more false positives.

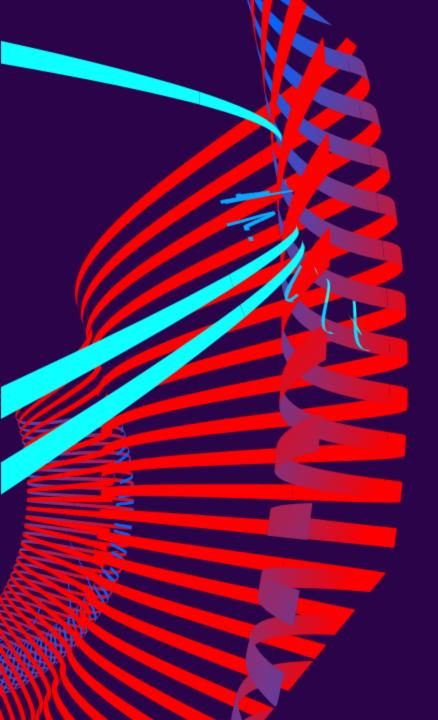
#### PRECISION-RECALL CURVE

- XGBoost had the highest average precision (AP = 0.63).
- Extra Trees and Bagging Extra Trees had similar scores (AP ≈ 0.55).

#### CONCLUSION

If we care more about identifying responders than avoiding false positives, XGBoost is better.





## CAUSAL INFERENCE

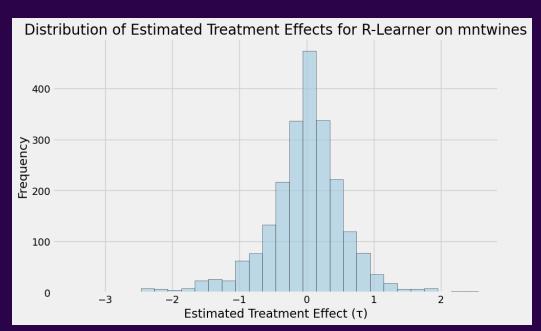
"MAKING TRUE MARKETING IMPACT"

#### BUILDING A CAUSAL MODEL

#### Investigating Customer Responses to Marketing Campaign:

- Understand the impact that the campaign has on the customer purchases in each of the product categories:
  - Wine, Fruit, Meat, Fish, Sweet
- Used R-Learner to estimate the Conditional Average Treatment Effects (CATES),
   with integrated LGBM model for each product category
  - Y = Product Category
  - T = Response to the Marketing Campaign
  - X = The rest of the variables
- Analyzed the CATEs, as well as the feature importance and the SHAP values

	target var	ate	lb	ub
0	mntwines	-0.073664	-0.074577	-0.072752
1	mntfruits	-0.165210	-0.166978	-0.163441
2	mntmeatproducts	0.004689	0.003714	0.005664
3	mntfishproducts	-0.304885	-0.306766	-0.303005
4	mntsweetproducts	-0.007372	-0.009301	-0.005444
5	mntgoldprods	0.120612	0.118654	0.122571



#### CATE

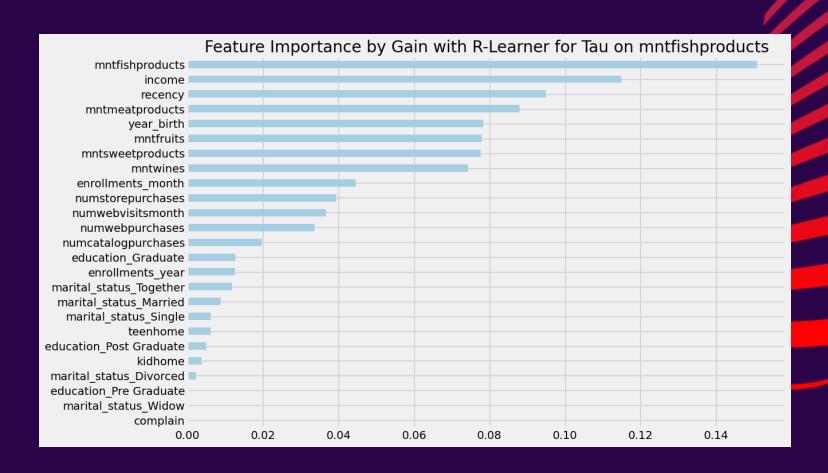
- Mostly negative effects which are near 0

- A very large distribution of τ

Normal and centered around 0

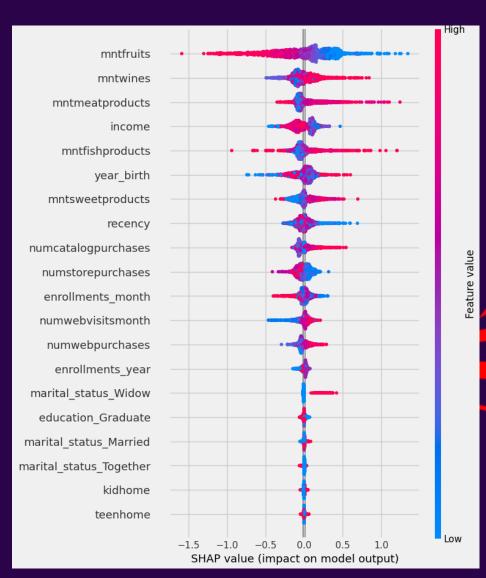
#### FEATURE IMPORTANCE

- Generally, the most important feature is the target variable
- Other product category amounts for different targets also have lots of importance
- The control variables with the most importance are: income and recency



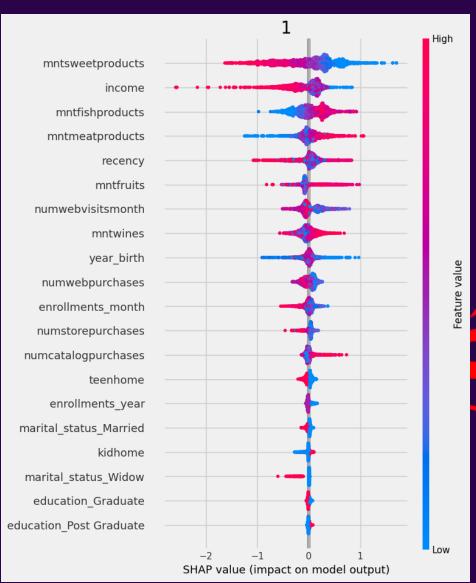
#### General takeaways form SHAP analysis:

- The SHAP values of the target variables share the same pattern:
  - The customers who don't buy much of the target variable are associated with larger positive SHAP values
  - The opposite is true for the customers who buy a lot of a category
- Interpretation:
  - The campaign makes customers try out products they don't usually purchase



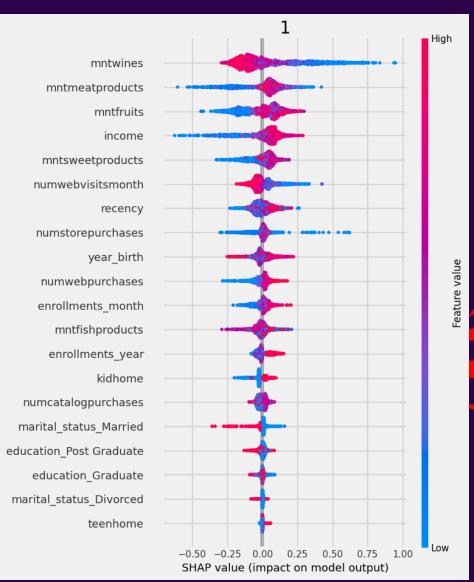
#### General takeaways form SHAP analysis:

- The SHAP values of the amount of product control variables:
  - Have the opposite direction of the SHAP values of the target variable
  - Has smaller magnitude relative to the target variable
- Interpretation:
  - There is a strong correlation between each of the amount variables, those who buy a lot of a category tend to buy more of another
  - The campaign has a stronger effect on the customers who buy a lot of products



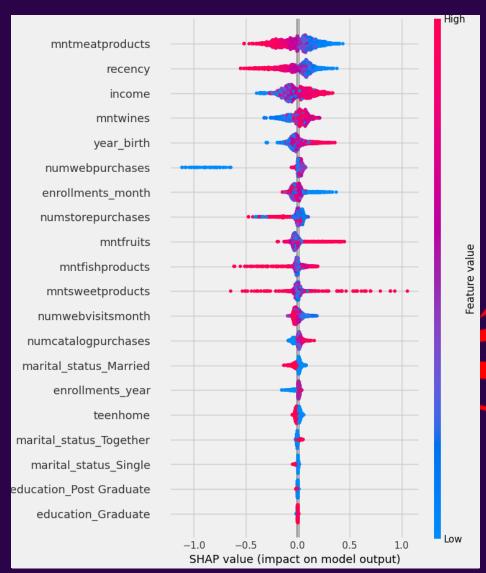
#### Specific takeaways form SHAP analysis:

- SHAP for wine as target variable:
  - Same directional pattern for the effect of the amount of wine on the treatment effect
  - No strong negative effect for the customers which the most wine
- Interpretation:
  - The campaign's effect of changing the purchasing habits isn't as strong for the wine category
  - A harder habit to break

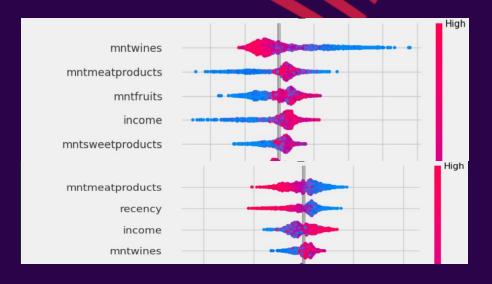


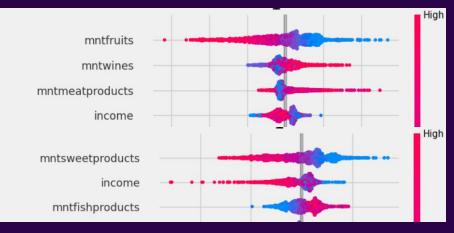
#### Specific takeaways form SHAP analysis:

- SHAP for meat as target variable:
  - Same directional pattern for the effect of the amount of meat on the treatment effect
  - Overall, magnitude across variables is much smaller
  - Strictly negative effect of those who don't have web purchases
- Interpretation:
  - The campaign's effect is smaller on the meat
  - The campaign shouldn't target meat purchases for people who don't buy online



#### SHAP ANALYSIS





Exprensive

Cheap

#### Interpretation:

For the customers with the larger income see the marketing campaign as an occasion to buy "Wants" and those with a lower income "Needs"

C

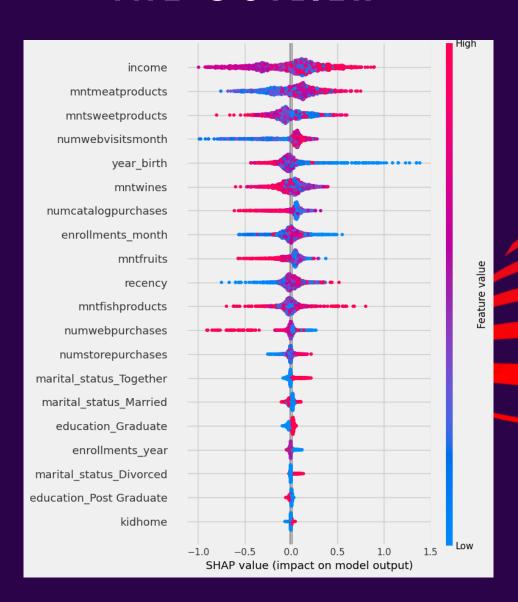
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### There is one product category which was not covered, Amount of Gold Porducts, because of its atypical behavior:

- Larger CATE
- Feature importance didn't include the targer variable
  - Both gain and permutation
- Lots of variability in the SHAP values in comparaison to the others Interpretation:
- Assume that the goal products are special promotional products across multiple other categories
- The data is aggregated across 2 year of purchases
- Due to how this data in entangled temporaly and across multiple categories, we lack the necessay specific information to determine the causal realtionship between the gold products and the campaign

#### THE OUTLIER





Optimized Marketing Spend

**Increased Customer Engagement** 

Higher ROI on Promotions

Scalable and Repeatable

## THANK YOU

