EDA on E-commerce Behaviour Data From Cosmetics Online Store

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Mar 24, 2023

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Abstract

In the information age, consumers have access to virtually infinite possibilities. Knowing customer preferences and offering personalized recommendations are critical components of improving the user experience. Correct recommendations would increase customer loyalty and sales on the platforms.

Using datasets from a "medium" cosmetics online store hosted by the REES46 niche-specific personalization engine platform, we intend to create an association rule between brand and user as well as two recommender systems: one that recommends products to customers and the other that promotes brands. The retail platform, for example, might send emails advocating specific products or offering unique coupon codes for specific brands.

One of the most widely used models for recommender systems is collaborative filtering. predicts a person's choice. According to user preference data collected from other users, users like similar products, and products attract individuals with related interests.

The three fundamental techniques for collaborative filtering are matrix factorization, model-based, and memory-based (neighborhood-based) methods. The memory-based method uses user-item data to determine how similar two persons or items are. On the other hand, matrix factorization is one of the state-of-the-art solutions for collaborative filtering. It uses latent factors to decompose the user-item interaction data.

Business challenge

- There are various techniques to create recommendation systems for rating-based data, such as movies and songs, if we search online. Rating-based models have the drawback of being difficult to standardize for data with non-scaled target values, such as purchase or frequency data.
- For instance, ratings for music and movies are typically given on a scale of 0–5 or 0–10.
- Purchase data, however, is continuous and has no upper bound.
- Unfortunately, a lot of online resources present outcomes without analyzing their models.
- When we are dealing with millions of data, this is a risky area for the majority of data scientists and engineers! Without any review, results alone won't advance our tools for industries.

Analysis Scope and Insights

- Merging the 2 data files (8738120 rows × 9 columns) Removing the Duplicates (8278272 rows × 9 columns) ☐ 459,848 duplicated rows
- Event Time Min Date: 2019-10-01 Max Date: 2019-11-30
- Event Type : View Purchase Remove from Cart Cart
- **Product ID: 45960** Unique Product ID
- Category ID:500 Unique Category ID
- Category Code: 11 Unique Category Code
- **Brand**:244 Unique Brands
- **Price**: Including the price of the items
- User ID:713100 Unique User ID
- User Session: 1814075 Unique User Session

Data Preparation and EDA

- 1- Event time
 - Changed it to date type
 - Extracting the month week day hour
- 2- Event_type

 Number of views 	3938043
 Number of Cart 	2493850
Number of remove_from_cart	1278829
 Number of purchases 	567550

- 3- Product ID
 - Changed its type to str. I don't want to make any calculations .
- **4-** Category_id... > changed its type to str. I don't want to make any calculations.
- 5- Category Code
 - Including 98% as null values, We Decided to remove it . (98% nulls its values not related to the Cosmetics such as furniture, Air condition and vacuums)
- **6-** User ID changed its type to str. I don't want to make any calculations.
- 7- User Session We have 1329 null rows so we removed them
- 8- Price
 - There were (17517 of negative and zero rows) so we decided to remove them.
 - Items with negative and zero prices are excluded since we can't promote them to customers because they are likely free gifts or transient items.
- 9- Brand
 - It has about 41% as null values (3451273 null rows) .It has 244 brands
 - We decided to fill the null values according to the product _id , we filled about 8959 rows only ..
 - So we filled the rest of null values with FBX aka Fulfilled by X (X referring to the website name)
 - Because every ecommerce store is divided into 2 sections (Marketplace for large corporates and small sellers And the website itself as a seller in the website).

More details about handling our missing values

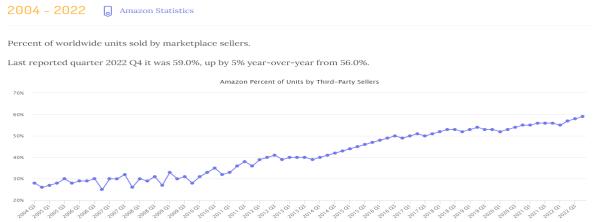
- These are some common methods for handling missing values, but there are also other
 methods such as hot deck imputation, cold deck imputation, and others. The choice of
 method should be based on the specific characteristics of the data and the analysis goals.
- The dataset of "Ecommerce Behavior" had missing values in some columns as in the following figure:

```
df.isna().sum()/len(df)
event_time
                 0.000000
event_type
                 0.000000
product_id
                 0.000000
category_id
                 0.000000
category_code
                 0.983551
                 0.404473
brand
price
                 0.000000
user_id
                 0.000000
user_session
                 0.000155
dtype: float64
```

- The column of category_code the percentage of lost data is 98%, it is difficult to replace the lost data. So the best solution is to delete this column.
- The column for user_session the percentage of data lost is very small, not exceeding 1%.
 The best solution is to delete the missing part of the data in this column

- In the column of brand, there is 41% missing data, and here the imputation was several ways:
- The **first method** was random choice, and the imputation was more than the most purchased brands, while the rest of the brands were not affected by this imputation.
- The **second method** of imputation is theories such as ('backfill', 'bfill', 'pad', 'ffill'), but the result was largely **unsuccessful** due to the bias of most of the existing brands.
- The third method: is the use of the theory of machine learning, which is the (KNN:K-Nearest Neighbors) But after searching a lot, we found that we replace the lost data with another brand because it will certainly have an error rate, and this is not good in making a decision regarding business, and the proof of this is that we found that 21404 thousand product_id, they do not have a brand. While we found 24556 thousand product_id, they have a brand. This made us search for this topic more so we searched on websites such as Amazon or Alibaba or Jumia and found that the percentage of sales on these sites is not the famous brands but the marketplace is what caused the increase in sales.
- Because of the many sealers who compete with the brand. When the data entry found the large number of sellers, it replaced them with NaN. Therefore, the type of data missing in the data is (MNAR:Missing Not at Random). so we compensated for the lost data in this column with Fulfilled by X or FBX or seller ... As in the following figure, it is evidence that the percentage of sales of the sellers is greater than the sales bran

Amazon Percent of Units by Third-Party Sellers



Assignment Answers

Q1

Which products should be featured in the next advertising campaigns and promotions?

• Products that need attention from the marketing team .. we extract **top 10** products in views with less number compared to the purchases aka Conversion Rate .

Products Need Attention from the Marketing Team

```
In [37]: #let's check the percentage of purchased products to the views

most_view_products = df.loc[df['event_type'].isin(['view', 'purchase'])].groupby(['product_id', 'event_type']).size()\

.unstack(fill_value=0)

In [38]: #making sure there's no zero values in views or purchases to avoid dividing on zero

most_view_products=most_view_products[most_view_products['purchase']>=1]

most_view_products=most_view_products[most_view_products['view']>=1]

In [39]: most_view_products['percentage_view/purchase']=round(most_view_products['view']/most_view_products['purchase'],0)

In [41]: most_view_products['Conversion_rate']=most_view_products['purchase']/most_view_products['view']*100

In [42]: #from this table we know the products that we are going to report to the marketing team from the conversion rate most_view_products.sort_values(by='view',ascending=False).head(20)

Out[42]:
```

event_type	purchase	view	percentage_view/purchase	Conversion_rate
product_id				
5809910	2449	27286	11.0	8.975299
5892179	238	12398	52.0	1.919664
5886282	205	12325	60.0	1.663286
5877454	432	11557	27.0	3.737994
5809912	1190	11316	10.0	10.516083
5751383	1368	9960	7.0	13.734940
5877456	31	9571	309.0	0.323895
5751422	1578	9298	6.0	16.971392
5900651	279	9135	33.0	3.054187
5856186	179	9055	51.0	1.976808

b. Which brands are customers most loyal to?

Loyalty to the brands has 2 sides

- Top sales per brand according to the number of purchases
- Most brands with number of customers

Loyalty to brands

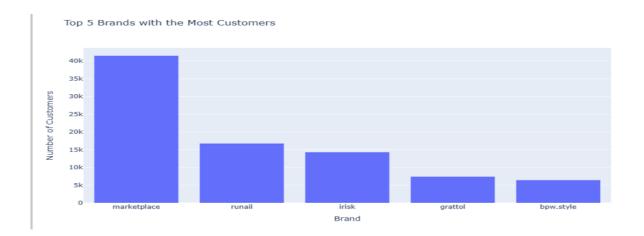
```
[77]: #based on purchases only
customers_per_brand = most_sold.groupby('brand')['user_id'].nunique().sort_values(ascending=False)
```

[76]: top_brands=pd.DataFrame(customers_per_brand).reset_index()

[78]: top_brands.head(10)

:[78]:

	brand	user_id
0	marketplace	41518
1	runail	16790
2	irisk	14329
3	grattol	7434
4	bpw.style	6452
5	masura	6224
6	ingarden	6062
7	uno	4517
8	domix	4354
9	estel	3789



c. Who are the most valuable customers based on their purchase history?

-RFM (Recency, Frequency, Monetary) analysis is a customer segmentation technique that groups customers based on their purchasing behavior.

It examines how recently and frequently people buy, as well as how much they spend, in order to identify high-value customers for targeted marketing and retention tactics.


```
In [50]: #applying a function to label our customers
          def get_churn_score(cst_score):
              if cst_score in [1, 2]:
                  return 'high churn'
              elif cst_score == 3:
                  return 'Needs attention'
              else:
                   return 'Loyal Customer'
          df2['Loyalty'] = df2['cst_score'].apply(get_churn_score)
In [51]: df2.sort_values(by='cst_score', ascending=False).head(50)
Out[51]:
                     Recency Frequency Monetary Recency_score Frequency_score Monetary_score cst_score
                                                                                                               Loyalty
             user_id
           344995549
                           0
                                            45.41
                                                             5
                                                                             4
                                                                                                      5 Loyal Customer
           462478258
                          22
                                     20
                                            88.56
                                                             4
                                                                             5
                                                                                            5
                                                                                                      5 Loyal Customer
           571014626
                           17
                                                                             5
                                     18
                                           136.39
                                                                                                      5 Loyal Customer
           574326232
                           9
                                                             5
                                                                             4
                                                                                                      5 Loyal Customer
                                            76.32
                                                                                            5
                                     11
                                                             5
                                                                             4
           370772017
                           6
                                     15
                                            77.99
                                                                                            5
                                                                                                      5 Loyal Customer
           462510085
                                                             5
                           6
                                     27
                                            35.47
                                                                             5
                                                                                            3
                                                                                                      5 Loyal Customer
           443496510
                           2
                                     23
                                            48.11
                                                                             5
                                                                                                      5 Loyal Customer
           542303766
                          35
                                     28
                                           294.58
                                                             3
                                                                             5
                                                                                                      5 Loyal Customer
           576108588
                           6
                                            48.47
                                                             5
                                                                             5
                                                                                                      5 Loyal Customer
                                     24
```

142.76

51.24

87.34

59.26

252.36

92.12

52.16

5 Loyal Customer

d. Are there any price trends for a particular product over time?

```
In [82]: # Filter the dataframe to include only events that occurred in October or November oct_nov_df = df[(df['event_month'] == '2019-10') | (df['event_month'] == '2019-11')]

# Group the October-November dataframe by week and product, and get the mean price for each group oct_nov_grouped = oct_nov_df.groupby(['week', 'product_id'])['price'].mean().reset_index()

# Sort the October-November grouped dataframe by price in descending order and get the top 3 rows for each week top_3_products = oct_nov_grouped.sort_values(by=['week', 'price'], ascending=[True, False]).groupby('week').head(10)

# Reshape the top 3 products dataframe to have the weeks as columns and the product IDs and prices as rows top_3_products_pivot = top_3_products.pivot(index='product_id', columns='week', values='price').reset_index()

# Rename the column names to include the "week" prefix top_3_products_pivot.columns = ['product_id'] + ['week ' + str(w) + ' price' for w in top_3_products_pivot.columns[1:]]

# Print the top 3 products and their prices by week pd.DataFrame(top_3_products_pivot)
```

Out[82]:

	product_ld	week 40 price	week 41 price	week 42 price	week 43 price	week 44 price	week 45 price	week 46 price	week 47 price	week 48 price
0	4623	217.46	217.46	217.46	217.46	NaN	217.46	NaN	217.460000	217.460000
1	4851	252.38	252.38	252.38	252.38	252.38	252.38	252.38	252.380000	252.380000
2	5560754	NaN	NaN	194.44	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN
3	5560756	207.94	207.94	207.94	NaN	207.94	NaN	NaN	NaN	Nat
4	5560760	201.59	201.59	201.59	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	Nat
5	5590822	194.44	NaN	Nat						
6	5635474	NaN	307.60	307.60	NaN	NaN	NaN	307.60	NaN	Nah
7	5657946	277.78	277.78	277.78	277.78	277.78	277.78	277.78	277.780000	277.780000
8	5862067	297.14	297.14	NaN	297.14	297.14	297.14	297.14	220.734286	258.93714
9	5873654	273.02	273.02	273.02	273.02	273.02	273.02	273.02	265.954925	265.041479
10	5873656	273.02	273.02	273.02	273.02	273.02	273.02	273.02	273.020000	267.420000
11	5898227	NaN	NaN	NaN	236.51	236.51	236.51	236.51	NaN	NaN
12	5898228	NaN	NaN	NaN	236.51	236.51	236.51	236.51	NaN	NaM
13	5898229	NaN	NaN	NaN	236.51	236.51	236.51	236.51	236.510000	236.510000
14	5906220	NaN	264.117826	265.51250						
15	5906221	NaN	316.343158	318.62333						
16	89343	299.81	299.81	299.81	299.81	299.81	299.81	299.81	294.857532	296.03580

i

	date	event	Revenu
0	2019-10-30	October Pay Day	38832.06
1	2019-11-18	Black Friday [sale starts]	47100.96
2	2019-11-22	Black Friday	102854.76
3	2019-11-25	Cyber Monday	32914.67
4	2019-11-29	November Pay Day	78182.87

Q2. Define a KPI that measures customer loyalty from the data

- RFM (Recency, Frequency, and Monetary) analysis is a customer segmentation technique that groups customers based on their purchasing behavior.
- It examines how recently and frequently people buy, as well as how much they spend, in order to identify high-value customers for targeted marketing and retention tactics.
- So customer loyalty calculated with RFM with scores 4 and 5
- Most sold products in oct, nov then overall
- Number of visits per day (the peak in oct was 2 Oct 190k visits peak in nov was 22 nov 255k visits)
- Using ecommerce tool in machine learning we could get (total customers number of orders revenue- number of sold units avg order value- avg revenue per cst)
- Number unique users id in oct and **nov 713100** .. this number has 2 sides (negative and positive side) as following:
- Negative side: 399k users in oct only 50k visited the website in nov and only 4k who bought that's very high churn number
- **Positive side:** we could get 368k new user_id in nov and they made more purchases more than oct we will discuss this with numbers and visualization in power bi
- Trends in some products and price variations from October to November. People who made a purchase in both oct and nov
- Number of people in oct was 399k only 25k who made a purchase in oct then 4k made a purchase in nov
- Number of people in nov was 368 only 31 who made a purchase

```
# Filter the dataframe to include only events that occurred in October and November
oct_nov_df = df[df['event_month'].isin(['2019-10', '2019-11'])]
# Filter to only include purchase events
purchases_df = oct_nov_df[oct_nov_df['event_type'] == 'purchase']
# Group by user_id and month to get the total number of purchases and purchase amount for each user and month
user_month_purchases = purchases_df.groupby(['user_id', 'event_month']).agg({'event_type': 'count',
                    'price': 'sum'}).reset_index()
# Filter to only include users who made at least one purchase in both October and November
loyal\_customers = user\_month\_purchases.groupby('user\_id').filter(lambda x: set(x['event\_month']) == set(['2019-10', '2019-11']))
# Pivot the Loyal_customers dataframe to have the months as columns and the total number of purchases
loyal_customers_pivot = loyal_customers.pivot(index='user_id', columns='event_month',
                        values=['event_type', 'price']).reset_index()
# Flatten the multi-level column names
loyal\_customers\_pivot.columns = [f'\{y\}_{x}' if x != "else f'\{y\}' for x,y in loyal\_customers\_pivot.columns]
# Rename the columns to appropriate names
loyal_customers_pivot = loyal_customers_pivot.rename(columns={
     '2019-10_event_type': 'num_purchases_oct',
    '2019-11_event_type': 'num_purchases_nov',
   '2019-10_price': 'total_spent_oct',
'2019-11_price': 'total_spent_nov'
loyal_customers_pivot
```

	_user_id	num_purchases_oct	num_purchases_nov	total_spent_oct	total_spent_nov
0	105075440	4.0	3.0	20.45	9.63
1	105118203	6.0	11.0	37.13	55.13
2	107945915	27.0	53.0	107.45	112.34
3	115398528	3.0	21.0	52.39	115.41
4	118821435	32.0	61.0	86.97	324.75
55	-	5 V.S		-	1.505
4758	85993766	8.0	3.0	39.93	12.30
4759	88211255	2.0	6.0	21.25	34.77
4760	88940739	17.0	14.0	41.10	42.83
4761	92366748	17.0	10.0	30.70	67.48
4762	95758554	10.0	4.0	62.17	10.84

4763 rows x 5 columns

After extracting some insights from the data, we will display them on a Jupyter notebook and in Power BI. We got some notes and recommendations

- 1. Customer lifetime value
- **CLTV** = (Avg Order price * Frequency of Purchase)* profit Margin * 36 months
- 2. (we searched for the average customer life in ecommerce and it's 36 months)
- 3. To use RFM analysis with customer score 3 or less and send them to the retention team
- 4. Focus on the customers who made than **50 purchase** as they are **B2B** (business to business) and send them to the Sales team
- 5. For the **loyal** customer I suggest to make **loyalty program** to them to get points every purchase and he can exchange it later with a discount
- 6. To send top most views products with less purchases to the marketing team to check its price or discounts
- 7. To check the competitors' prices to avoid the mistake happened in **Oct and the high churn** rate
- 8. To get the data of every customer complain **last month** to analyze it and know the causes of the problem
- 9. Reasons for Churn and why only about 10% of people who bought in October bought again in November... Due to a lack of information in the data, we can summarize the reasons as follows:
 - a. Because of the poor quality of some items
 - b. High prices comparing to the Competitors
 - c. Customer support
 - d. Logistics
 - e. Lack of payment methods
 - f. User interface

Association Rule and Recommendation system

Data cleaning

- Duplicate rows were eliminated since they might have been acquired owing to some technical errors when the **two months datasets (Oct 2019 Nov 2019)** were combined.
- Items with negative and zero prices are excluded since we can't promote them to customers because they are likely free gifts or transient items. To create our user-product matrix, only users who bought at least 10 different products are preserved.
- The matrix's columns are **products**, while its rows are **individual users**.
- The number of times that user I purchased product j is shown by the (i,j)-entry.
- We eliminated rows with blank brand information when building the **user-brand matrix**. We didn't handle them all since more than **41% of the product brand information** was missing from the original datasets.
- Since this "no name" brand would be the most well-known and dominant, we avoided treating them all as a single brand.
- Users who have bought at least five distinct brands were used to create the user-brand matrix. This matrix's columns represent distinct brands, while its rows represent distinct users.
- The number of times that user I bought brand j is shown by the (i,j)-entry.
- In order to provide enough information for our recommender systems to learn from, we filtered the data to only include people with a sufficient number of purchase histories.

Feature Engineering

- Using the raw browsing history of consumers, we first aggregated all of the browsing data from **October 2019 to November 2019** together, and then we sorted the entire dataframe by distinct user ids to produce a numerical quantification of users' preferences for specific brands or goods.
- For information on user-brand relationships, we added the purchase counts for every user-brand combination that was linked to at least one "buy" event in the combined dataframe.
- Also produced for the appropriate brand information is a numerical brand id.
- The same process used to create the user-brand connections is also used to create the user-product relationships data.
- We first create **user-brand and user-product relationships data**, after which we create the user-brand and user-product matrix, where each row represents the **number of times** the user has bought that **brand or product**.

Association Rule

- Association rule mining is a popular technique in data mining and machine learning that
 aims to identify relationships and patterns between items in a dataset. It is used to
 discover strong associations or correlations between items in a transactional database or a
 set of features.
- Association rules are evaluated based on two metrics: support and confidence.
- Support measures the frequency of occurrence of the itemset in the dataset, while
 confidence measures the conditional probability that the consequent occurs given the
 antecedent.
- Other metrics, such as lift and conviction, can also be used to evaluate the strength of the association rules.
- Association rule mining has numerous applications in various fields, such as market basket analysis, customer segmentation, recommendation systems, and web usage mining. It can be used to identify cross-selling opportunities, understand customer behavior, and improve marketing strategies.
- The **absence** of a **column** for each **transaction** or **invoice** for a customer was the issue with this data.
- The solution was to filter the data for the brand that the purchase process was based on, with the customer serving as the index, so that if the customer purchases a particular brand, he receives the number (1) and if he does not, he receives(0), so that I may know the length of the strength of the relationships between the brands and each other, as shown in the following figure:

<pre>df_test.groupby(['user_id','brand']).sum()['purchase_count'].unstack().reset_index().fillna(0).set ead()</pre>										set_i	nd				
brand	airnails	art- visage	bluesky	cnd	concept	domix	elskin	f.o.x	fancy	freshbubble	 milv	oniq	profhenna	runail	:
user_id															
1120748	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	 0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	
1458813	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.0	0.0	0.0	 0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
4103071	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	 0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
5493470	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	 0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	
6217356	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	 0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	

5 rows × 32 columns

```
# Encode
 def encoder(x):
     if(x <= 0): return 0
     if(x >= 1): return 1
 # Apply to the dataframe
 df_filter_ass_encoded = df_filter_ass.applymap(encoder)
 df_filter_ass_encoded.head()
II art-visage artex aura balbcare barbie batiste ... uskusi veraclara vilenta vosev weaver yoko ypsed yu-
r zeitun zinger
0
       0
            0
                  0
                          0
                                 0
                                        0 ...
                                                   0
                                                            0
                                                                   0
                                                                         0
                                                                                       0
                                                                                                 0
                                                                                                        0
                                                                                                               0
                                                                                             0
0
                  0
0
            0
                          0
                                 0
                                                   0
                                                            0
                                                                   0
                                                                         0
                                                                                       0
                                                                                             0
                                                                                                        0
                                                                                                               0
       0
                  0
                                        0 ...
                                                                                 0
            0
                  0
                                 0
```

- Then We used **Apriori**(a popular algorithm in association rule mining that aims to discover frequent itemsets in a transactional database).
- Then the value of **min support and min confidence** is determined so that it is strong rules as in the following figure

```
frequent_itemsets = apriori(df_filter_ass_encoded,min_support=0.02, use_colnames=True)
frequent_itemsets

C:\ANACONDA\lib\site-packages\mlxtend\frequent_patterns\fpcommon.py:111: DeprecationWarning: DataFram
es with non-bool types result in worse computationalperformance and their support might be discontinu
ed in the future.Please use a DataFrame with bool type
   warnings.warn(
```

	support	itemsets
0	0.049298	(airnails)
1	0.055990	(art-visage)
2	0.034782	(artex)
3	0.035159	(beautix)
4	0.030352	(benovy)
809	0.021397	(milv, irisk, bpw.style, runail, masura)
810	0.021585	(ingarden, irisk, runail, domix, grattol)
811	0.021868	(freedecor, ingarden, irisk, runail, grattol)
812	0.026298	(ingarden, irisk, runail, grattol, masura)
813	0.023376	(ingarden. irisk. runail. uno. grattol)

```
# Create Association Rules
rules = association_rules(frequent_itemsets, metric="lift", min_threshold=1)
# Sort values based on lift
rules = rules.sort_values("lift", ascending=False).reset_index(drop= True)
rules.head(20)
```

	antecedents	consequents	antecedent support	consequent support	support	confidence	lift	leverage	conviction
0	(bpw.style, milv)	(freedecor, de.lux)	0.120652	0.060986	0.028089	0.232813	3.817477	0.020731	1.223969
1	(freedecor, de.lux)	(bpw.style, milv)	0.060986	0.120652	0.028089	0.460587	3.817477	0.020731	1.630195
2	(kapous)	(concept)	0.084834	0.071543	0.022528	0.265556	3.711830	0.016459	1.264162
3	(concept)	(kapous)	0.071543	0.084834	0.022528	0.314888	3.711830	0.016459	1.335791
4	(freedecor, milv)	(bpw.style, de.lux)	0.081629	0.095202	0.028089	0.344111	3.614527	0.020318	1.379498
5	(bpw.style, de.lux)	(freedecor, milv)	0.095202	0.081629	0.028089	0.295050	3.614527	0.020318	1.302746
6	(estel)	(concept)	0.091432	0.071543	0.022528	0.246392	3.443966	0.015987	1.232015
7	(concept)	(estel)	0.071543	0.091432	0.022528	0.314888	3.443966	0.015987	1.326160
8	(bpw.style, milv,	(freedecor)	0.039401	0.207842	0.028089	0.712919	3.430093	0.019900	2.759349

Recommendation

- We intend to create **two recommender systems**:
 - one that recommends **products for customers**
 - The other that recommends brands
- The online store can use such recommender systems to recommend **products or brands** to a specific customer. For example, the retail platform can send **emails advocating** particular products or offering unique coupon codes on particular brands.
- One of the most popular models for recommender systems is collaborative filtering. It
 predicts a person's preference using information from other users, assuming that a user
 favors comparable goods and that an item attracts others with similar interests.

Target Variable

- We would like to know people's preferences for products and brands in order to construct the recommender system.
- We decided to rely on the variable 'event type' to provide implicit feedback through users' actions of view, add to cart, purchase, and remove from cart because the datasets lack explicit feedback such as user ratings.
- We regard 'purchasing' as a statement of preference for specific products and brands.
- Consequently, we defined the target variable as the number of purchases for both items and brands.

Evaluation Metrics

- For each customer, the recommendation systems generate a sorted list of items.
- The target is for the sorted list to accurately match the preferences of the customers.
- As a result, The "precision at cutoff k" is an evaluation parameter, where K is the number of products/brands to recommend for a specific customer. For a given user:

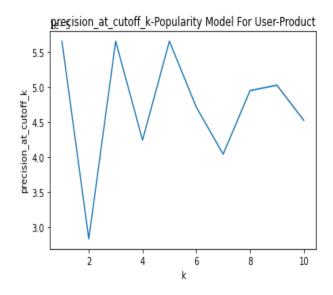
$$P(k) = \frac{|a \cap p_k|}{k},$$

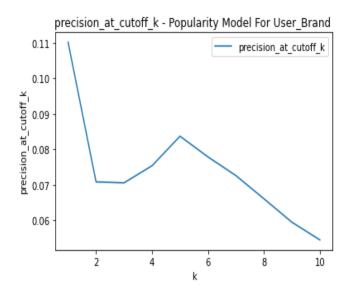
- The metric is averaged across all customers to evaluate model performance. Business limitations determine the value of K.
- We calculated the mean "precision at cutoff k" for a list of K values.
- If a buyer received recommendations for 8 products, and later purchases 10 of them, then precision is 0.8.

Models For Recommendation

• Baseline Model: Popularity Model

- To compare and assess models, we would need to run a baseline model.
- Techniques utilized beyond this method should be considered if they provide
 considerably improved accuracy and complexity because baseline normally
 uses a fairly simple approach. In this instance, we'll apply the popularity model.
- The most well-liked **products or brands** are used in the popularity model's recommendations.
- It can assist us in identifying potential popularity bias in other models. Moreover,
 popularity models partially address the industry-wide cold-start issue,
 particularly when only implicit purchasing data are available.





• Model 1: Item-Based Collaborative Filtering

- For data with far more users than objects, item-based collaborative filtering can be quite useful. With the item-based method, a similarity matrix between items is calculated.
- The expected purchase counts for an item that a consumer has not purchased are
 calculated for each customer as a weighted average of the purchase counts for S
 nearby goods.
- In our model, three similarity measures were used to fit the model (cosine similarity, Pearson similarity, and Jaccard similarity).
- We noted that, for the User-Product matrix, Jaccard similarity offers the least RMSE after hyper- parameterizing S.
- Jaccard Similarity produces the least RMSE on the validation set for the User-Brand matrix.

• Model 2: Matrix Factorization with Implicit Alternative Least Squares

- In contrast to explicit feedback like ratings, where a low rating indicates dislike and a high ranking indicates liking.
- It is difficult to infer user preference from the purchase counts of our objective variable. Another option is that a consumer passed up a product because he was unaware of its existence.
- The typical matrix factorization method performs badly on our dataset because
 it ignores the zero entries in the matrix during optimization. We used the implicit
 Alternating Least Squares approach to handle our implicit feedback dataset

Model Results (performance on test data)

With our selected model, we combined the training data with the validation data, and retained the model on the combined dataset. After predicting on the test set, we got a test precision_at_cutoff_k, which is about 0.1, which is lower than the
precision_at_cutoff_k on the training dataset.

conclusion

- In this project, we constructed the **association rule** and **recommender systems** mainly using techniques that belong to **collaborative filtering and matrix factorization.**
- One issue of our model is that it can only suggest brands and goods to users who have **registered**.
- The new users may not get good recommendations because our model only considers the purchase event and ignores 'view' and 'add-to-cart'.

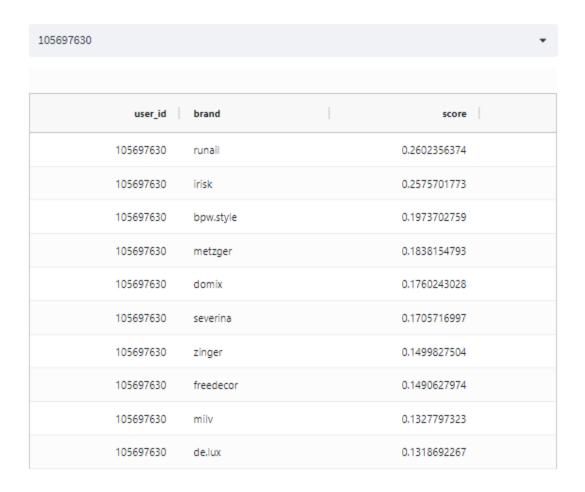
Screenshots of our recommendation system

Product Recommendation using CF

Choose User to get recommended products

254751820			-
user_i	d product_id	1 score	I
25475182	0 5854479	0.1343129741	
25475182	0 5854482	0.1227561567	
25475182	0 5800921	0.1138280365	
25475182	0 5730210	0.100726578	
25475182	0 5618229	0.100726578	
25475182	0 5851216	0.100726578	
25475182	0 5700080	0.0876433783	
25475182	0 5847382	0.055555556	
25475182	0 5870124	0.055555556	
25475182	0 5614832	0.055555556	

Choose User to get recommended brands



And here is the link of deployed Streamlit Application

• .https://aya-ai-2022-aya-app1-44d4h6.streamlit.app/