Customer Segmentation Using RFM Analysis

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Dataset: Online Retail Dataset (UCI Machine Learning Repository)

Tools Used: Python (Pandas, Seaborn, Matplotlib)

Objective

To analyze customer behavior using RFM (Recency, Frequency, Monetary) analysis and segment customers for targeted marketing strategies.

Step 1: Data Preparation

- Loaded the Online Retail dataset using pandas.read_excel().
- Cleaned the dataset by:
- Removing rows with missing CustomerID
- Excluding cancelled orders (Invoice numbers starting with 'C')
- Filtering out negative or zero quantities and prices
- Created a new column | TotalPrice = Quantity * UnitPrice

Step 2: RFM Metric Calculation

Defined the **snapshot date** as one day after the latest invoice date. Aggregated the data by CustomerID to calculate: - **Recency:** Days since the last purchase - **Frequency:** Number of unique purchase invoices - **Monetary:** Total money spent (sum of TotalPrice)

Step 3: RFM Scoring

- Used pd.qcut() to assign scores (1 to 4) for each R, F, and M metric
- To handle non-unique bin edges, implemented a robust binning function with duplicates='drop'
- Calculated the overall RFM_Score by summing the individual scores

Step 4: Customer Segmentation

Segmented customers based on RFM_Score into the following categories: - Champions (9-12): Recent, frequent, high spenders - Loyal Customers (7-8): Frequent buyers - Potential Loyalist (5-6): New or less frequent buyers - Needs Attention (3-4): Low engagement - At Risk (1-2): Inactive, low spenders

Step 5: Visualization

- Used Seaborn to create:
- Bar chart of customer count per segment
- Heatmap of average R, F, M values by segment

Step 6: Business Recommendations

Segment	Strategy
Champions	Loyalty rewards, early access
Loyal Customers	Upsell, cross-sell campaigns
Potential Loyalist	Personalized offers, email nurturing
Needs Attention	Win-back emails, feedback collection
At Risk	Re-engagement campaigns, heavy discounts

Deliverables

- Cleaned dataset with RFM metrics and segments
- Excel export of customer segments (rfm_segments.xlsx)
- Jupyter Notebook with complete workflow and visuals

Next Steps: - Integrate with email marketing tool for targeted campaigns - Track segment migration monthly for retention analysis