

# WQD7005 Data Mining 1/2023/2024

### **Alternative Assessment 1**

Name : Soh Pei Lin

Matrix Number : S2193368

Group : 1

Github Link : https://github.com/Peilin-CodeVersion/Alternative-Assessment-7005.git

### **Background**

In today's rapidly evolving e-commerce landscape, understanding customer behaviour and preferences is essential for all the business to thrive. This project study on a comprehensive dataset of customer transactions from an e-commerce which capturing with customer attributes and their purchase history within 2 years by using 3 tools which is Talend Data Integration, Talend Data Preparation and SAS Enterprise Miner. By study through the dataset, the objective of this study aims to discover the patterns and trends of customer behaviour and identify with the key factors of customer make purchasing decision.

### **Dataset Description**

The dataset is provided with the 2000 customer transaction records within 2 years, including with personal demographics, revenue and purchasing patterns. Table 1 showed with the variables' description.

Table 1: Variable Description

Variable	Description
CustomerID	Unique identifier for each customer
Age	Age of the customer
Gender	Gender of the customer
Location	Geographic location of the customer
MembershipLevel	Membership level
TotalPurchases	Total number of purchases made by the customer
TotalSpent	Total amount spent by the customer
FavoriteCategory	The category in which the customer most frequently shops
LastPurchaseDate	The date of the last purchase
Occupation	Customer's job or profession
FrequencyWebsiteVisits	Frequency of customer visits the website
LoyaltyPoints	Points accumulated by the customer
	Indicates whether the customer has opted to receive marketing
EmailSubscribed	emails
	Average rating given by the customer in product or service
AverageReviewRating	reviews
	Indicates whether the customer has stopped purchasing (1 for
	churned, 0 for
Churn	active).

### **Description of Solution**

In the research, Data mining SEMMA method has been applied as methodology to perform with the task of data import and preprocessing, decision tree analysis and ensemble methods. In SEMMA, we will cover with Sample, Explore, Modify, Model and Assess. Figure 1 shows with the summary of tools implement in each segment.

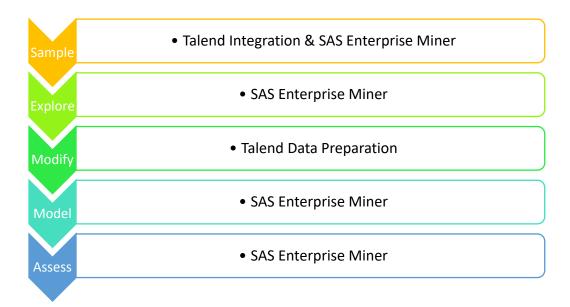


Figure 1: Summary of tools implement in each segment

### SEMMA: SAMPLE

In SAMPLE stage, we collect with the data tables with essential customer transaction history. In this step, we consider with the relevant variables such as Total Purchases, Total Spent, Favourite Category, Last Purchase Date and Occupation. There are two datasets collected which is <u>customer's personal demographic</u> and <u>customer transaction history</u>. Each dataset is imported inside Talend Integration tool for data joining with unique identified CustomerID. After joining the data, the dataset is exported as CSV file. The procedure on data joining by using <u>Talend Integration tool</u> is listed in Appendix (1)(Talend Integration Tool)(i-ix). Figure 2 showed with the flow of data joining and data export.



Figure 2: Talend Integration tool workflow

Next, data is saved and sample inside the <u>SAS Enterprise Miner</u>. Dataset is imported with CSV format and saved as SAS file. The procedure of data imported inside SAS Enterprise Miner, save data, create library and create data source is listed in Appendix (1)(SAS Enterprise Miner)(i-vi). Figure 2 showed the column metadata as default and noticed that by default, SAS Enterprise Miner considered the level labels as "Interval" and "Nominal are incorrect. Therefore, adjustments have been made to identify the role, level and selection of dataset by using the Advanced view. Figure 3 showed the column metadata after adjustment while Figure 4 show data type summary after adjustment.

- CustomerID : Unique identifier with no meaningful order or distance, hence it is change as nominal with ID identifier.
- EmailSubscribed : This is a binary categorical variable without order, hence it is adjust as binary

- Churn : It's a binary variable indicating two distinct categories (churned or active) without any order, hence it is adjust as binary
- MembershipLevel : Membership levels have a clear order (e.g., Bronze < Silver < Gold < Platinum), hence it is adjust as ordinal.

Name	Role	Level	Report	Order	Drop	Lower Limit	Upper Limit
Age	Input	Interval	No		No		
AverageRevie	vInput	Interval	No		No		
Churn	Input	Interval	No		No		
CustomerID	Input	Interval	No		No		
EmailSubscrib	€Input	Interval	No		No		
FavoriteCateg	cInput	Nominal	No		No		
FrequencyWel	bInput	Interval	No		No		
Gender	Input	Nominal	No		No		
LastPurchaseD	Input	Nominal	No		No		
Location	Input	Nominal	No		No		
LoyaltyPoints	Input	Interval	No		No		
MembershipLe	Input	Nominal	No		No		
Occupation	Input	Nominal	No		No		
TotalPurchase	Input	Interval	No		No		
TotalSpent	Input	Interval	No		No		

Figure 2: Column Metadata in default

Name	Role	Level	Report	Order	Drop	Lower Limit	Upper Limit
Age	Input	Interval	No		No ∨		
AverageReviewRating	Input	Interval	No		No		
Churn	Input	Binary	No		No		
CustomerID	ID	Nominal	No		No		
EmailSubscribed	Input	Binary	No		No		
FavoriteCategory	Input	Nominal	No		No		
FrequencyWebsiteVisits	Input	Interval	No		No		
Gender	Input	Nominal	No		No		
LastPurchaseDate	Input	Nominal	No		No		
Location	Input	Nominal	No		No		
LovaltyPoints	Input	Interval	No		No		
MembershipLevel	Input	Ordinal	No		No		
Occupation	Input	Nominal	No		No		
TotalPurchases	Input	Interval	No		No		
TotalSpent	Input	Interval	No		No		

Figure 3: Column Metadata after adjustment

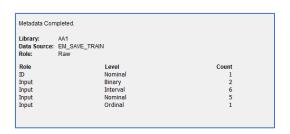


Figure 4: Data Type Summary after adjustment

### SEMMA: EXPLORE

In explore stage, Summary Statistics & Finding is used to explore the dataset for a deeper understanding for relationship between features. Figure 5 showed the summary statistics for the dataset. It is noticeable that for interval data, "Age" variables have minimum value -9999 which indicate that the invalid dataset exist and the outlier causing with the influence of negative skewness. For class variables, there are 58 and 37 missing values exist in "FavoriteCategory" and "Gender". "FavoriteCategory" supposedly contain with only 4

categories however there have 5 category level in the dataset. Also, "MembershipLevel" supposedly contain with only 4 categories however it also have 5 category level in the dataset.

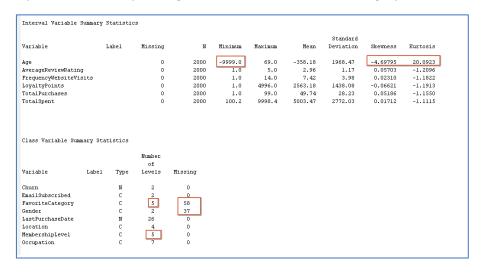


Figure 5: Summary statistics for the dataset

Figure 6 shows histogram for interval variable while figure 7 shows bar chart for class variable. According to the figure, the "Age" shows that "-9999" value as noisy data which required to remove. Also, "FavoriteCategory" shows that "Clothing" and "Clothings" should be existing as only one name, however it reflecting as two different category due to naming issue and should be adjust. "MembershipLevel" contain with record as "?" in the system hence reflecting with the error additional category level in summary statistics.

In conclusion, both "Age", "FavoriteCategory", "MembershipLevel", "Gender" required to perform with the data cleaning action to remove the noisy data and adjust with data consistency.

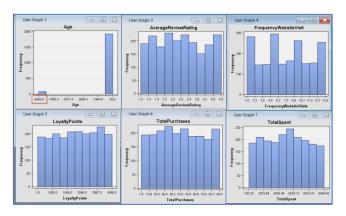


Figure 6: Histogram for Interval Variable

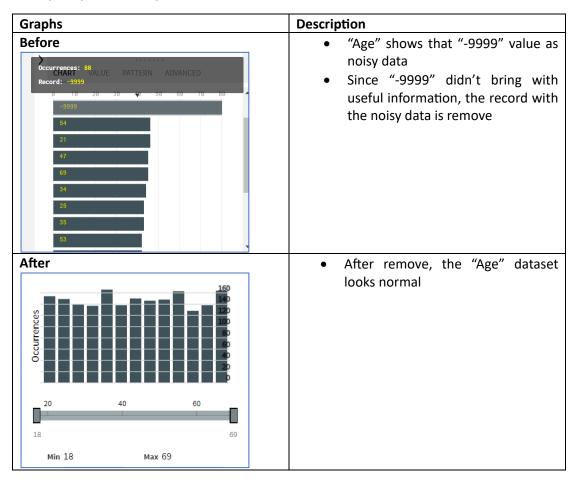


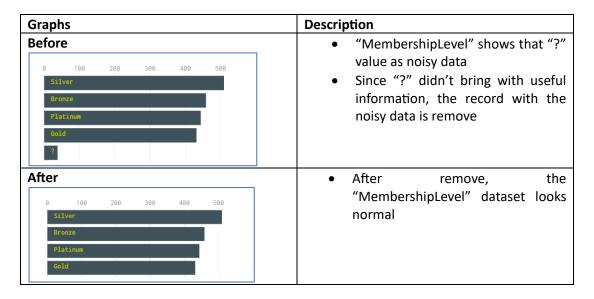
Figure 7: Bar Chart for Class Variable

### SEMMA: Modify

In Modify stage, data quality issues (inconsistent data, noisy data, missing value) which mentioned in Explore stage will by undergoes with task data import and preprocessing in **Talend Data Preprocessing tool.** 

### **Data quality issue: Noisy Data**





### Data quality issue: Missing Value

Graphs	Description
Before  0 200 400 600 800  Female  Male  (EMPTY)	<ul> <li>"Gender" shows that (empty) value as missing value</li> <li>Since missing value didn't bring with useful information, the record with the noisy data is remove</li> </ul>
After  0 200 400 600 800	After remove, the "Gender" dataset looks normal
Male	

## Data quality issue: Inconsistence Data & Missing Value

Graphs	Description
Before  0	<ul> <li>"FavoriteCategory" shows that (empty) value as missing value</li> <li>"FavoriteCategory" shows that "Clothing" and "Clothings" should be existing as only one name, however it reflecting as two different category due to naming issue and should be adjust</li> </ul>
After  0 100 200 300 400 500 600  Home Goods  Electronics  Clothing	<ul> <li>"Clothings" is find and replace as "Clothing" and remove missing value</li> <li>After remove, the "FavoriteCategory" dataset looks normal</li> </ul>

### SEMMA: Model

In Model stage, Decision Tree and Ensemble Methods is chosen to investigate on the customer purchasing behaviour by using **SAS Enterprise Miner** tools. Figure 8 showing with the overall flow done within the SAS Enterprise Miner.

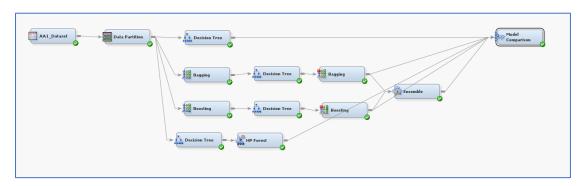


Figure 8: Overall flow done within the SAS Enterprise Miner.

### **Discussion on Decision Tree**

The result of **decision tree** is showed in Figure 9. Based on the figure, it is observable that:

- Customers with total purchases less than or equal to 10,000 will likely churn.
- Customers with total purchases greater than 10,000 but loyalty points less than or equal to 2,363.5 and website visits less than or equal to 8.5 will likely churn.
- Customers with total purchases greater than 10,000 but loyalty points less than or equal to 2,363.5 and website visits greater than 8.5, if they are male, will likely churn.
- Customers with total purchases greater than 10,000 and loyalty points greater than 2,363.5 will likely not churn.
- Customers with total purchases less than or equal to 10,000, if they have an average review rating less than 3.0 and are not subscribed to emails, will likely churn.
- Customers with total purchases less than or equal to 10,000, if they have an average review rating less than 3.0, are subscribed to emails, and are aged 32,500 or less, will likely churn.
- Customers with total purchases less than or equal to 10,000, if they have an average review rating less than 3.0, are subscribed to emails, and are aged more than 32,500, will likely not churn.
- Customers with total purchases greater than 10,000 but loyalty points less than or equal to 2,363.5 and website visits greater than 8.5, if they are female, will likely not churn.

### Rules obtained is listed as below:

- if TotalPurchases <= 10000 then CHURN=Y
- if TotalPurchases > 10000 AND LoyaltyPoints > 2363.5000 then CHURN=N
- if TotalPurchases > 10000 AND LoyaltyPoints <= 2363.5000 AND FrequencyWebsiteVisits > 8.5000 AND Gender = FEMALE then CHURN=N
- if TotalPurchases > 10000 AND LoyaltyPoints <= 2363.5000 AND FrequencyWebsiteVisits <= 8.5000 then CHURN=Y

- if TotalPurchases <= 10000 AND AverageReviewRating < 3.0000 AND EmailSubscribed</li>
   = 0 then CHURN=Y
- if TotalPurchases <= 10000 AND AverageReviewRating < 3.0000 AND EmailSubscribed</li>
   = 1 AND Age <= 32500 then CHURN=Y</li>
- if TotalPurchases <= 10000 AND AverageReviewRating < 3.0000 AND EmailSubscribed</li>
   = 1 AND Age > 32500 then CHURN=N
- if TotalPurchases > 10000 AND LoyaltyPoints <= 2363.5000 AND FrequencyWebsiteVisits > 8.5000 AND Gender = MALE then CHURN=Y

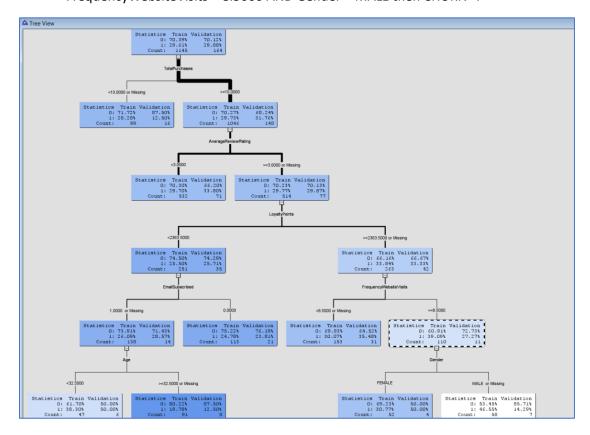


Figure 8: Decision Tree Result

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| Node | Page |
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Figure 9: Result Node Rules

Figure 10 shows with the fit statistics of decision tree. The model achieved a misclassification rate of 0.29607 during training, 0.29878 during validation, and 0.29614 in testing. These consistent rates across all datasets suggest the model generalizes well without significant overfitting.

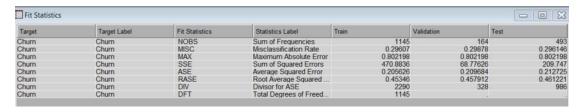


Figure 10: Fit statistics of decision tree

Figure 11 shows with the attribute of the decision tree accordingly with importance value. The results showed that "Age", "LoyaltyPoint", "Gender" and "FrequencyWebsiteVisit" variables are the most importance variables in customer churn prediction.

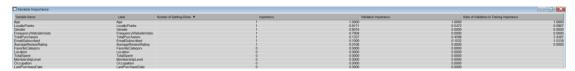


Figure 11: Result Variable Importance of decision tree

#### **Discussion on Ensemble Method**

In Ensemble Method, Bagging and Boosting is applied through the decision tree and finally ensemble. Bagging is used when the model has high variance and when the dataset is large enough to ensure diverse subsets. In another side, boosting is used when the model has high bias and when we require higher predictive accuracy and are okay with slightly increased complexity. Figure 12 shows with the fit statistics of bagging and boosting decision tree. The model has a misclassification rate of 0.29607 during training, 0.29878 during validation, and 0.29614 in testing. This small variance suggests that the model's predictive accuracy is stable.

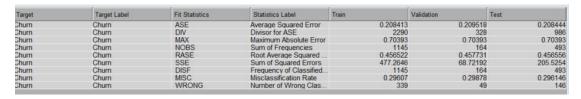


Figure 12: fit statistics of bagging and boosting decision tree

Also, Figure 13 shows with the fit statistics of ensemble of decision tree and random Forest. The model's misclassification rate is 0.29607 for the training set, 0.29878 for the validation set, and 0.296146 for the test set. These rates are very close, suggesting good model consistency across different datasets.



Figure 13: fit statistics of ensemble of decision tree and random forest

Figure 14 shows with the attribute of the ensemble of decision tree with random forest accordingly with importance value. The results showed that "Gender", "Location", and "Occupation" variables are the most importance variables in customer churn prediction.

Variable Name	Number of Splitting Rules	Train: Gini Reduction	Train: Margin Reduction	OOB: Gini Reduction	OOB: Margin Reduction	Valid: Gini Reduction	Valid: Margin Reduction	Label
Gender	5	0.000834	0.001669	-0.00155	-0.00113	-0.00025	-0.00054	Gender
Location	4	0.001044	0.002088	-0.00164	-0.00065	-0.00258	-0.00204	Location
Occupati	3	0.001308	0.002616	-0.00212	-0.00075	-0.00316	-0.00199	Occupati.
Favorite	2	0.000417	0.000834	-0.00065	-0.00010	0.00076	0.00082	Favorite
Age	1	0.000285	0.000570	-0.00052	-0.00009	-0.00030	-0.00005	Age
Average	1	0.000311	0.000623	-0.00034	-0.00006	0.00034	0.00053	Average
EmailSu	1	0.000165	0.000330	-0.00031	-0.00015	-0.00024	0.00008	EmailSu
Frequenc	1	0.000138		-0.00032	-0.00025	-0.00054		Frequenc.
TotalPur	1	0.000176	0.000351	-0.00042	-0.00025	-0.00031	-0.00026	TotalPur
LastPurc	0	0.000000	0.000000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000		LastPurc
LoyaltyP	0	0.000000	0.000000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000		LoyaltyP
Members	0					0.00000		Members.
TotalSpent	0	0.000000	0.000000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	0.00000	TotalSpen

Figure 14: Result Variable Importance of ensemble of decision tree and random forest

#### SEMMA: Access

In Access stage, Fit Statistics is used to assess the utility and reliability of the predictive models for the customer churns by using **SAS Enterprise Miner** tools.

The Fit Statistics and Confusion Metric of overall model is showed in Figure 15. Based on the figure, it is observable that:

- All models have a churn rate criterion of 0.29878, with a sum of misclassification frequencies of 1145.
- The Train Misclassification Rate is consistent across all models at 0.29607.
- The Maximum Absolute Error varies across models, with the Tree models (including Gradient Boost and Decision Tree) showing 0.70393, and the HP Forest model (ensemble of decision tree and random forest) showing a slightly higher error at 0.751991.
- The Sum of Squared Errors for the Tree2 and Tree3 (bagging and boosting decision tree) models is 477.2646, while the Gradient Boost model shows a slightly lower error at 476.854. The Decision Tree model has a Sum of Squared Errors of 470.8386, and the HP Forest has 473.1015.
- The Average Squared Error is the same for the Tree2 and Tree3 models at 0.204813, a bit higher for the Gradient Boost model at 0.208096, and slightly lower for the Decision Tree model at 0.205626 and the HP Forest model at 0.205695.

Predecess or Node	Model Node	Model Descriptio n	Target Variable	Target Label	Selection Criterion: Valid: Misclassifi cation Rate	Train: Sum of Frequenci es	Train: Misclassifi cation Rate	Train: Maximum Absolute Error	Train: Sum of Squared Errors	Train: Average Squared Error	Train: Root Average Squared Error	Train: Divisor for ASE	Train: Total Degrees of Freedom
EndGrp	Tree2	Decision	Churn	Churn	0.29878	1145	0.29607	0.70393	477.2646	0.208413	0.456522	2290	1145
EndGrp2	Tree3	Decision	Churn	Churn	0.29878	1145	0.29607	0.70393	477.2646	0.208413	0.456522	2290	1145
Ensmbl	Ensmbl	Ensemble	Churn	Churn	0.29878	1145	0.29607	0.70393	477.2646	0.208413	0.456522	2290	
ree	Tree	Decision	Churn	Churn	0.29878	1145	0.29607	0.802198	470.8836	0.205626	0.45346	2290	1145
HPDMFo	. HPDMFo	HP Forest	Churn	Churn	0.29878	1145	0.29607	0.751991	473.1015	0.206595	0.454527	2290	

Figure 15: Fit Statistic for three model

Figure 16 showing the ROC graph for the model. For training set, all Decision Tree, HP Forest (ensemble of decision tree and random forest), and Ensemble models (bagging and boosting decision tree) all perform significantly better than the Baseline, indicating that all models have predictive capability. The Ensemble model showing the highest area under the curve (AUC), followed closely by the HP Forest and then the Decision Tree. A higher AUC represents a better performance in distinguishing the positive and negative classes. In Validation and testing graph, Ensemble model still showing the best performance comparing with the rest model. By comparing across all three modelling, we can conclude that Ensemble model consistently shows a better performance, which giving the suggestion to us that combining multiple models' predictions is effective for this dataset. Despite from the good performance of the Ensemble (bagging and boosting decision tree) and HP Forest (ensemble of decision tree and random forest) models, further parameter tuning and validation are recommended to ensure that the models are not overfitting, particularly given that the ROC curves are based on the same data used to train the models.

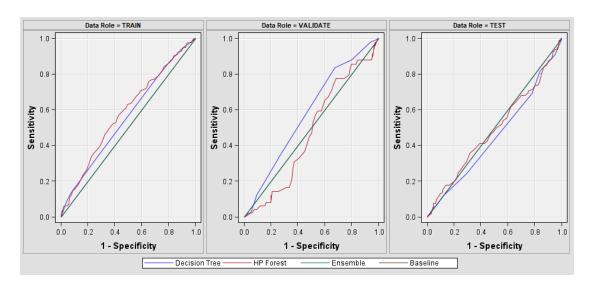


Figure 16: ROC graph for the model

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, with the objective of exploration of customer behavior within the e-commerce sector, we analysed a detailed two-year transaction dataset using Talend Data Integration, Talend Data Preparation, and SAS Enterprise Miner. Our objective was to discover with the patterns of customer behaviour and find out the crucial factors influencing their purchasing decisions. The predictive modelling techniques we employed included decision trees, decision tree ensembles through bagging and boosting, and a hybrid model that combined decision trees with a random forest approach. Also, the variable such as "Age", "LoyaltyPoint", "Gender", "FrequencyWebsiteVisit", "Location", and "Occupation" could be the recommend and most important criteria that seller could use to analyst the customer behavior.

Among these, the Ensemble model was found by demonstrating with the best predictive performance among with others model. However, the Ensemble model have the potential risk of overfitting, where the model are highly fitting towards to the training dataset. Overfitting risk might causing with the risk that the model are not applicable to those unseen data. To avoid this issue, it is recommend that to employing cross-validation for more reliable performance metrics, applying regularization to prevent excessive model.

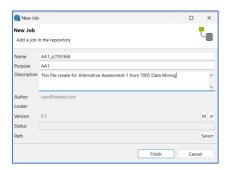
### **Appendix**

Below listed with the procedure for conducting the step of <u>S</u>EMMA in Talend Integration, SAS Enterprise Miner, SEMMA in SAS Enterprise Miner, SEMMA in Talend Data Preparation, SEMMA in SAS Enterprise Miner.

- 1. <u>SEMMA SAMPLE Talend Integration & SAS Enterprise Miner</u>
  Talend Integration
  - In talend, create new project with naming "AA1"



ii. Create a new project naming as "AA1"



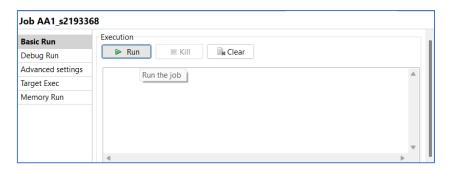
iii. Drag the tFileInputDelimited component to the design workspace



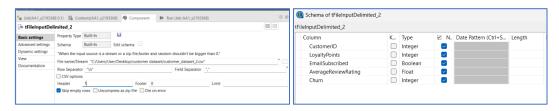
iv. In the Component panel below, set the properties



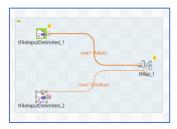
v. Press "Run"



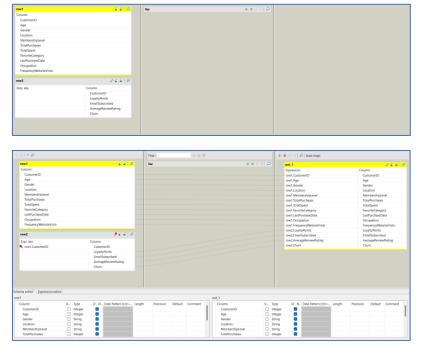
vi. Input second data file



vii. Drag and drop a tMap component onto the workspace & link both tFileInputDelimited components to the tMap component



viii. Joining Data

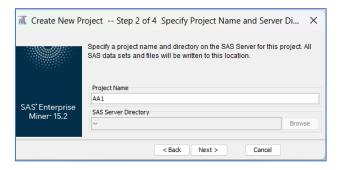


ix. Export out the dataset as CSV



### **SAS Enterprise Miner**

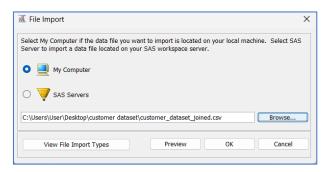
i. Create new project with naming "AA1"



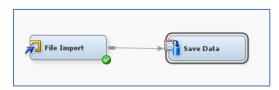
ii. Create new diagram



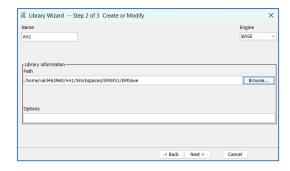
iii. Import data from local machine and run



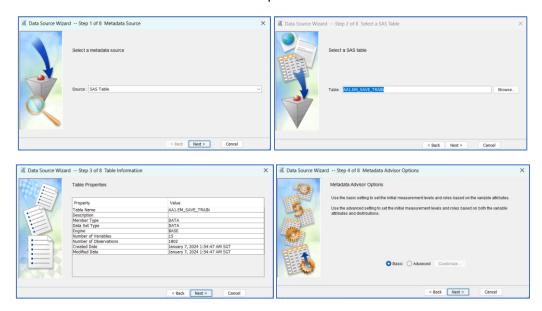
iv. Save Data



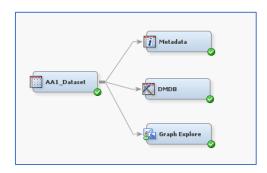
v. Create library for imported SAS file and named as "AA1"



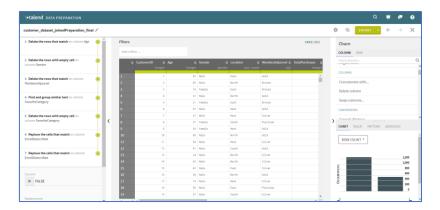
vi. Create data source and extract the imported SAS file



- 2. SEMMA EXPLORE SAS Enterprise Miner
- i. Graph exploration by using Metadata, DMDB and graph explore node



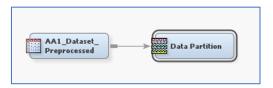
- 3. SEMMA MODIFY Talend Data Preparation
- i. Data cleaning and pre-processing using Talend Data Preparation



ii. Find and group with similar text



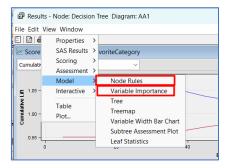
- 4. SEMMA Modelling Decision Tree analysis, Random Forest SAS Enterprise Miner
- i. Split data by using data partition node



ii. Applying decision tree node



iii. Get modelling results by using View>Model>Node Rules; View>Model>Variable Importance



- 5. SEMM<u>A</u> <u>A</u>ssess SAS Enterprise Miner
- i. Get modelling performance by using View>Assessment>Fit Statisics

