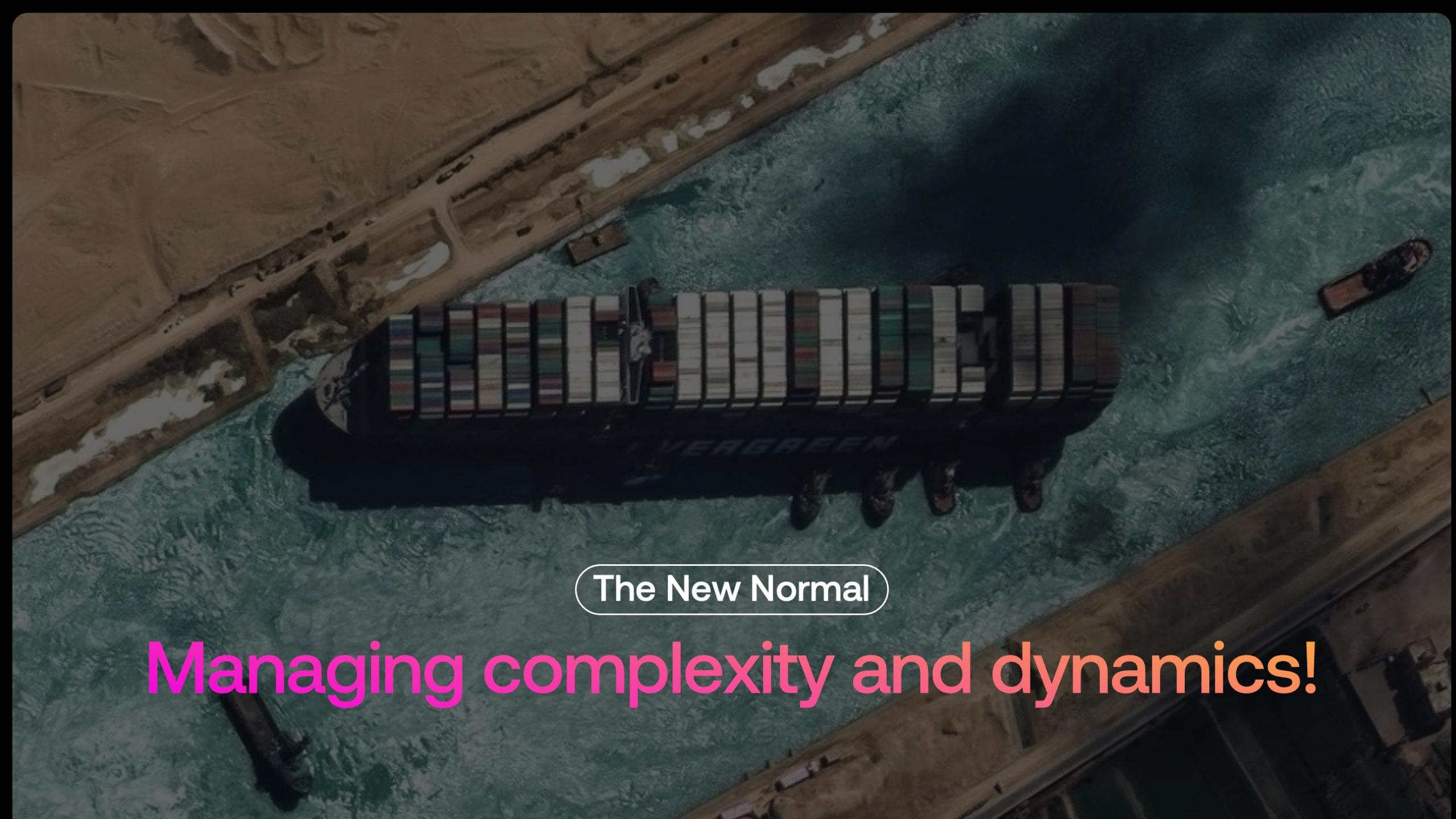


# Boosting Time Series Accuracy- The power of Ensemble Methods



The New Normal

Managing complexity and dynamics!

Robert Haase  
Lead AI Scientist  
paretos





# Forecast Data Science Team - Pareto



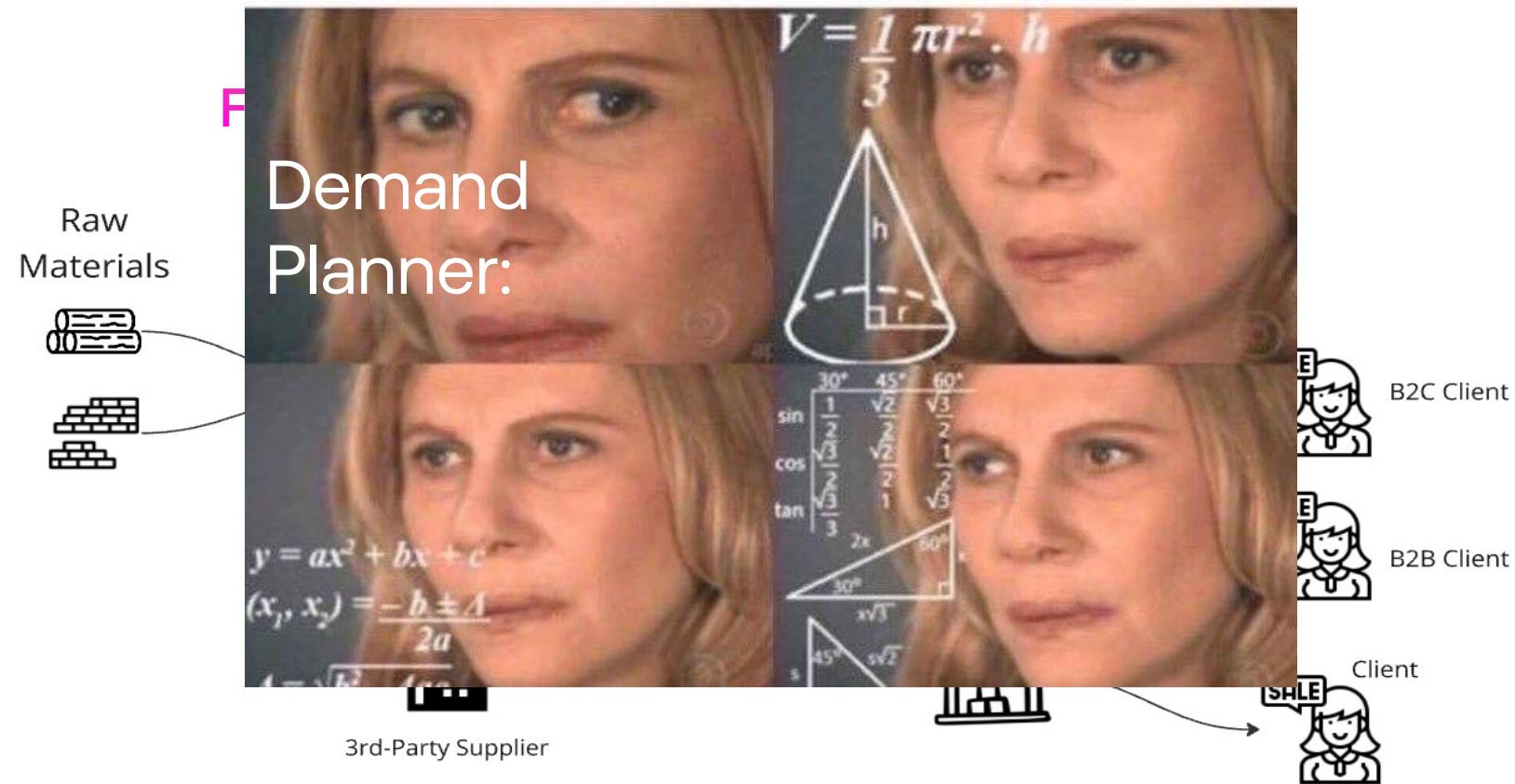
Alexander Meier  
Senior Data Scientist

Fabian Bergermann  
Senior Data Scientist

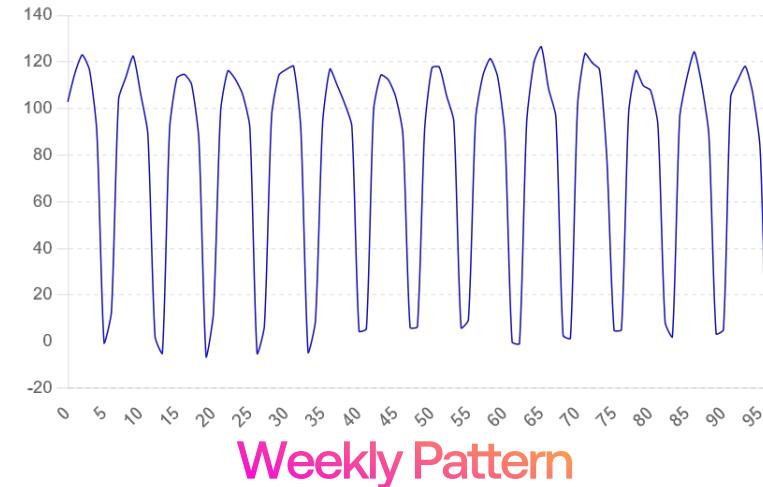
Pedro Harloch  
ML Engineer

Daria Mokrytska  
Data Scientist

# Demand Forecast of a manufacturing plant



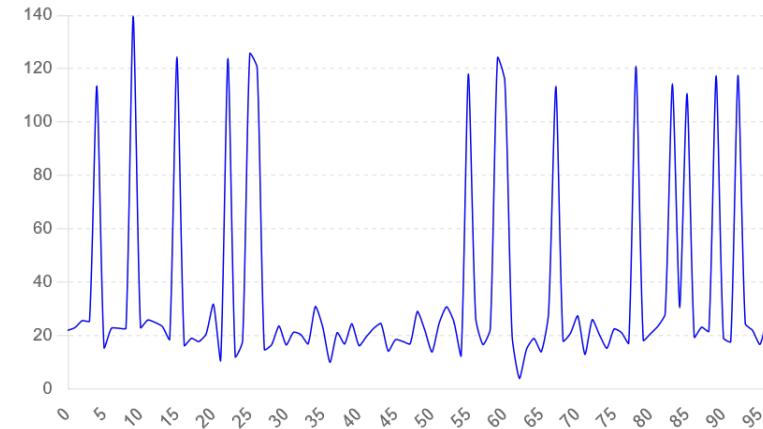
# Different Demand Patterns in Manufacturing



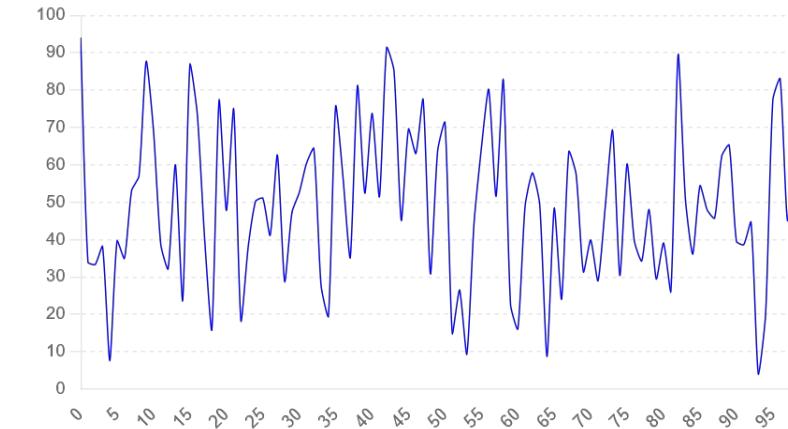
Weekly Pattern



Different weekly pattern



Intermittent Data (B2B Sales)



High noise, low signal

# Demand Drivers in Retail



Never out of stock products



promotions/  
special days

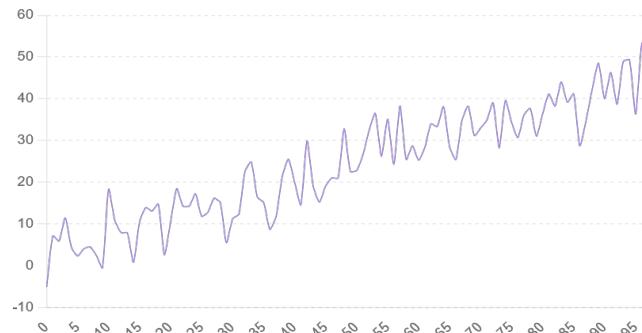


New product launches

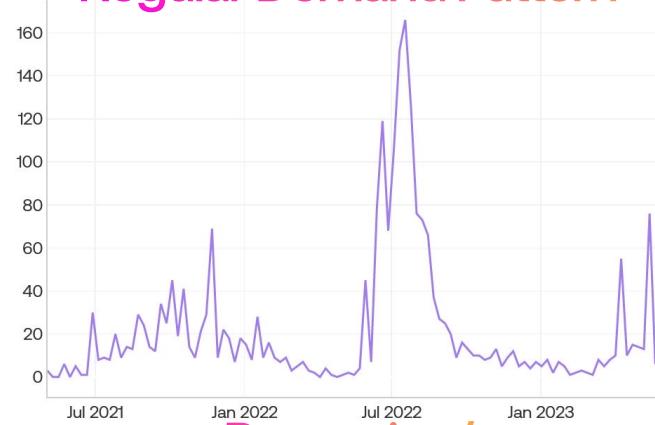


Unpopular items

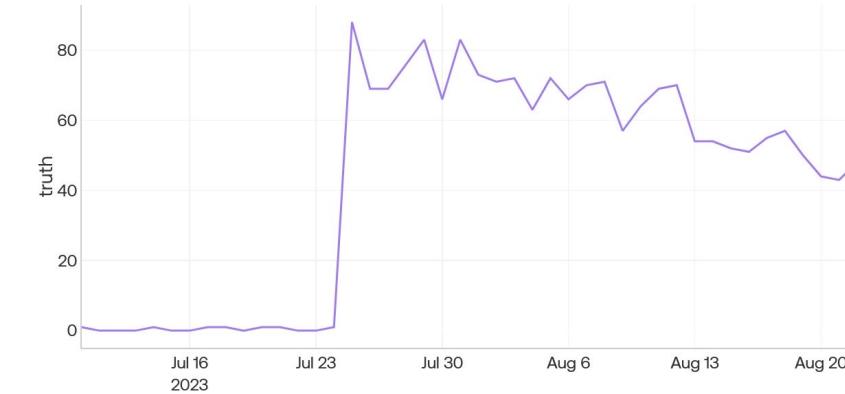
# Different Demand Patterns: Retail Example



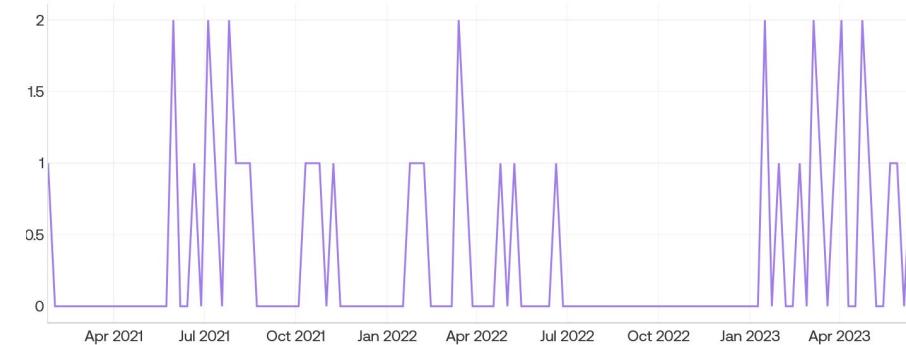
Regular Demand Pattern



Promotion/  
Special Discount Days

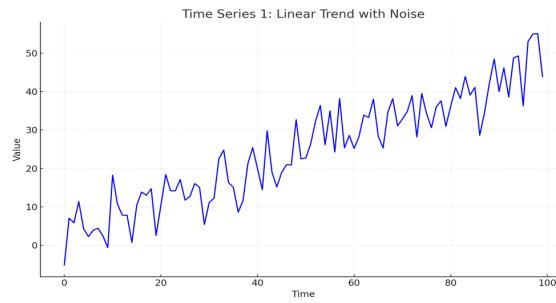
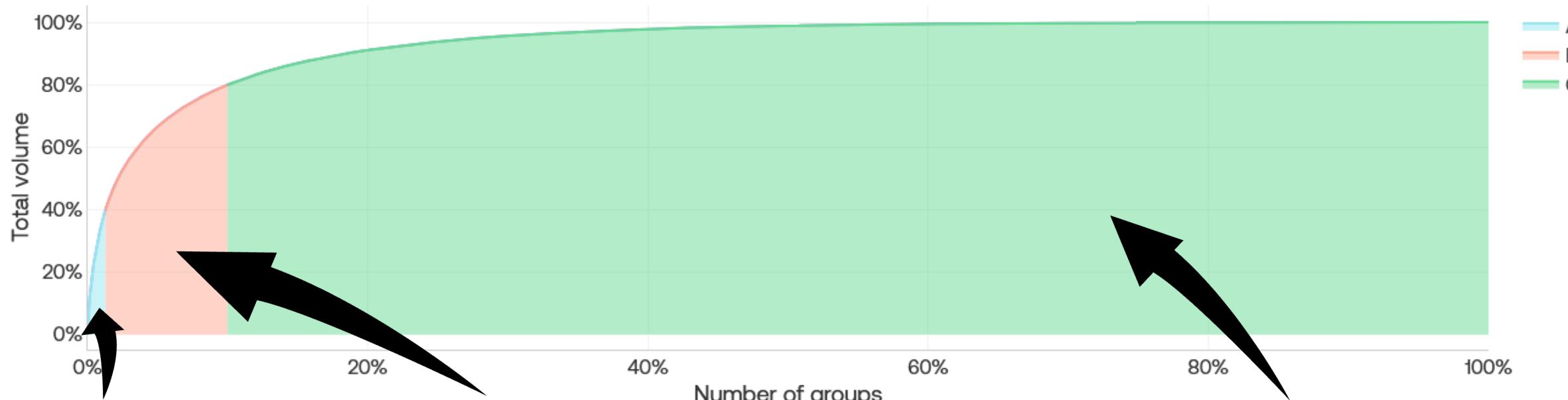


New Product Launches

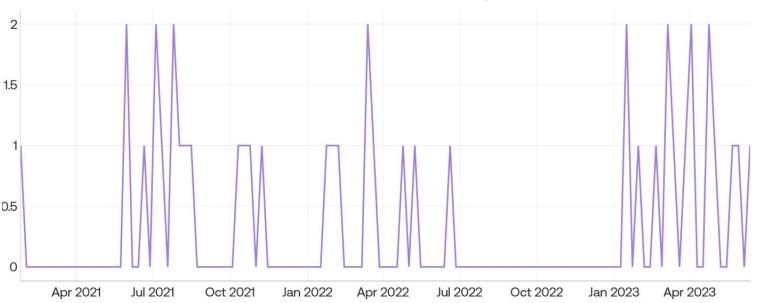
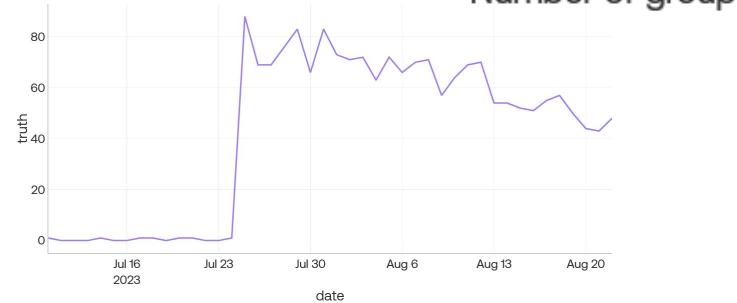


Intermittent Time Series

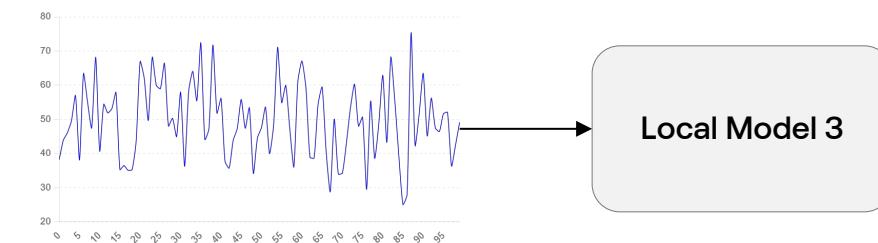
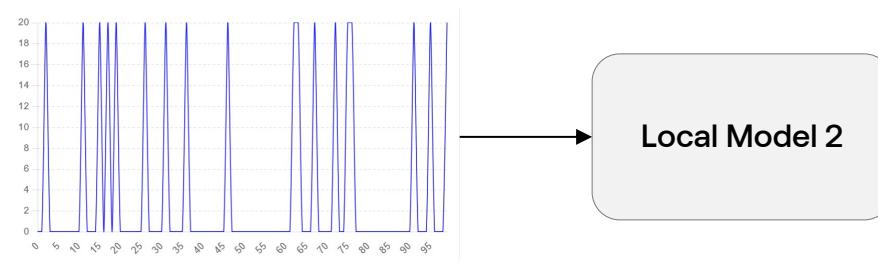
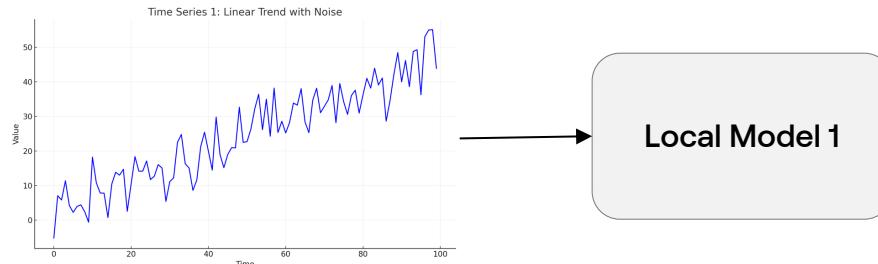
# Data Distribution Retail Example



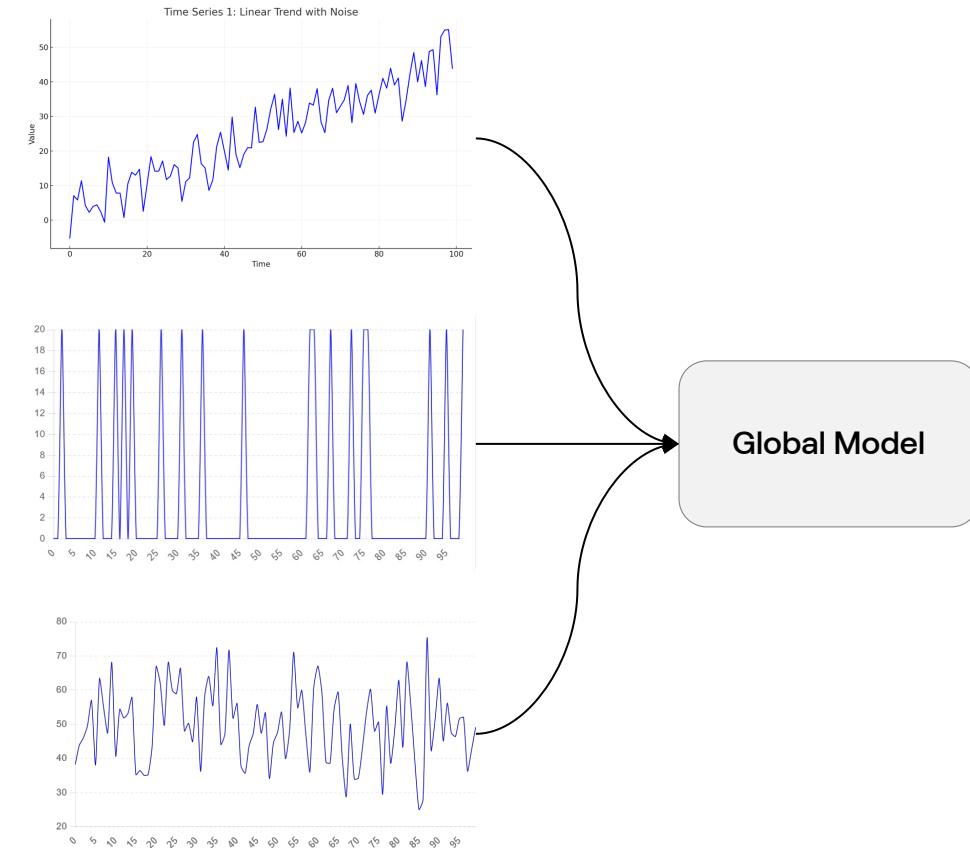
Regular Demand Pattern



# Local vs Global Models



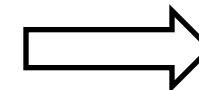
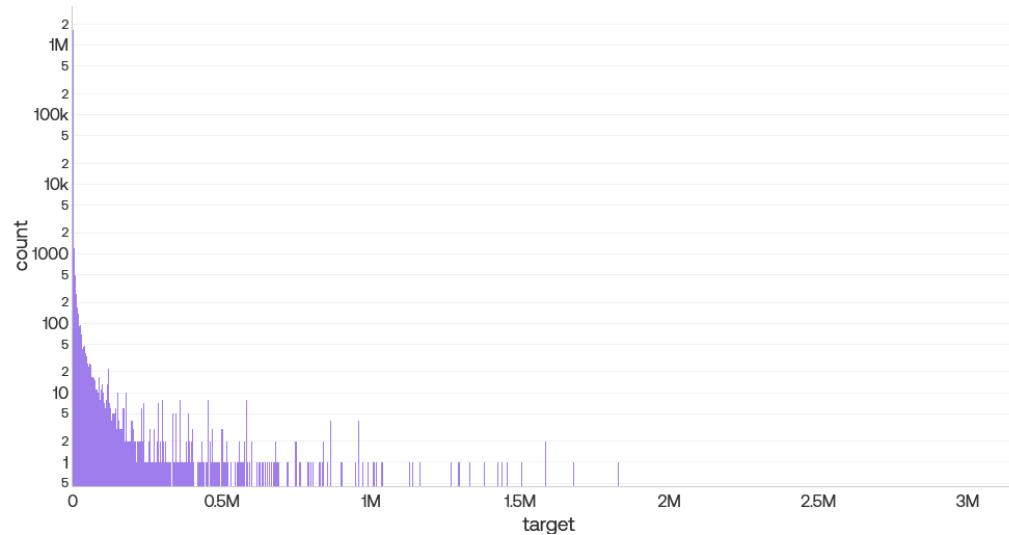
Typically  
statistical models



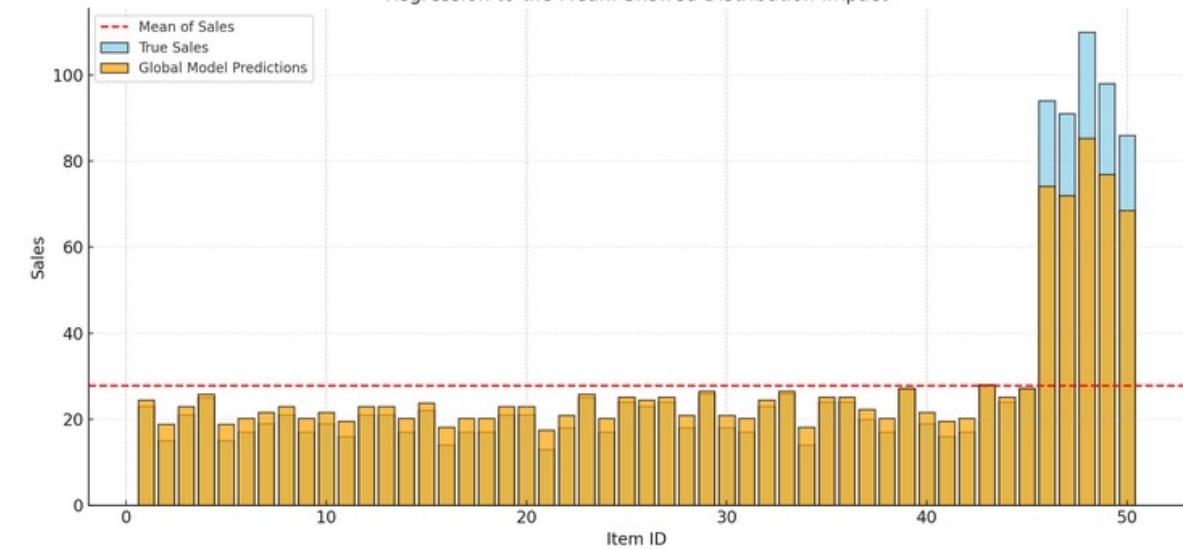
ML models, deep learning  
models

# “Regression to the Mean” for Global Models

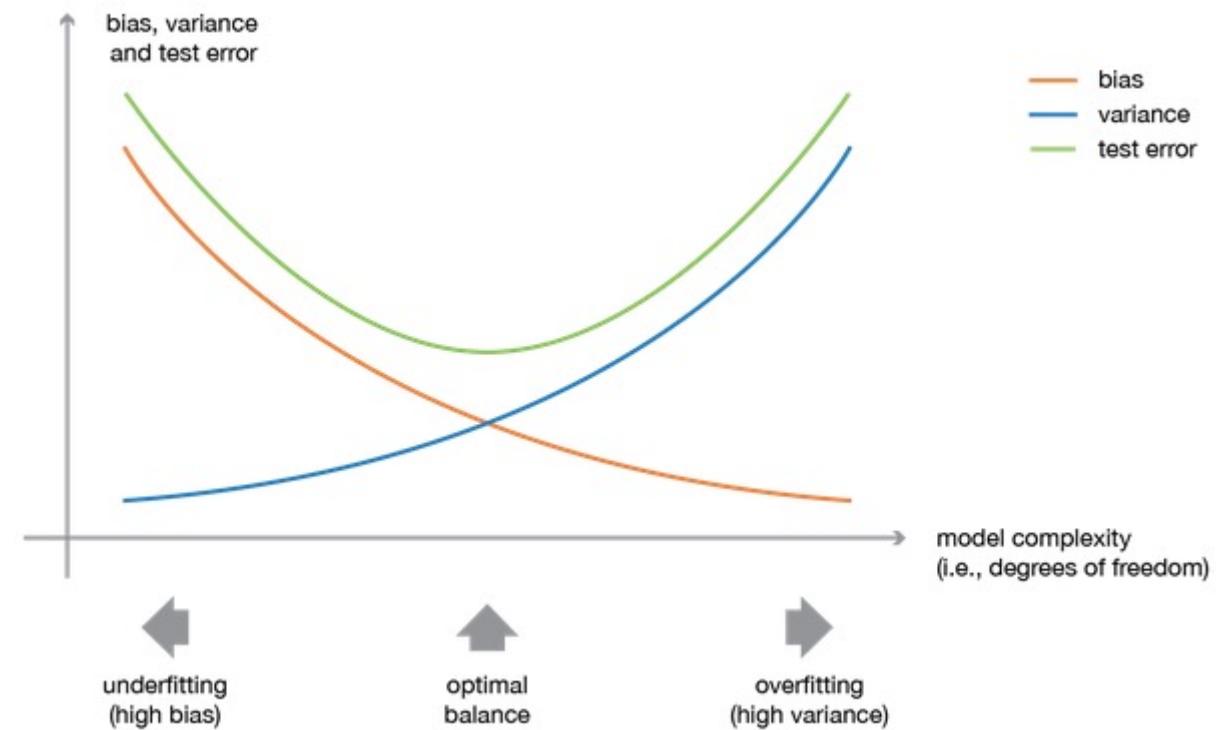
Histogram of target (log scale = True)



Regression to the Mean: Skewed Distribution Impact



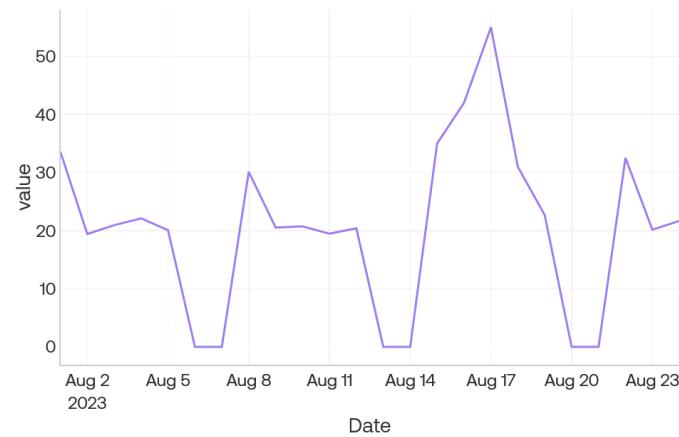
# Weak Learners “Bias-Variance-Tradeoff”



# Combining individual approaches to find a robust Bias–Variance trade-off and improve predictive performance



# Notion of Ensembling



variable  
— truth  
— statistical model  
— ml model

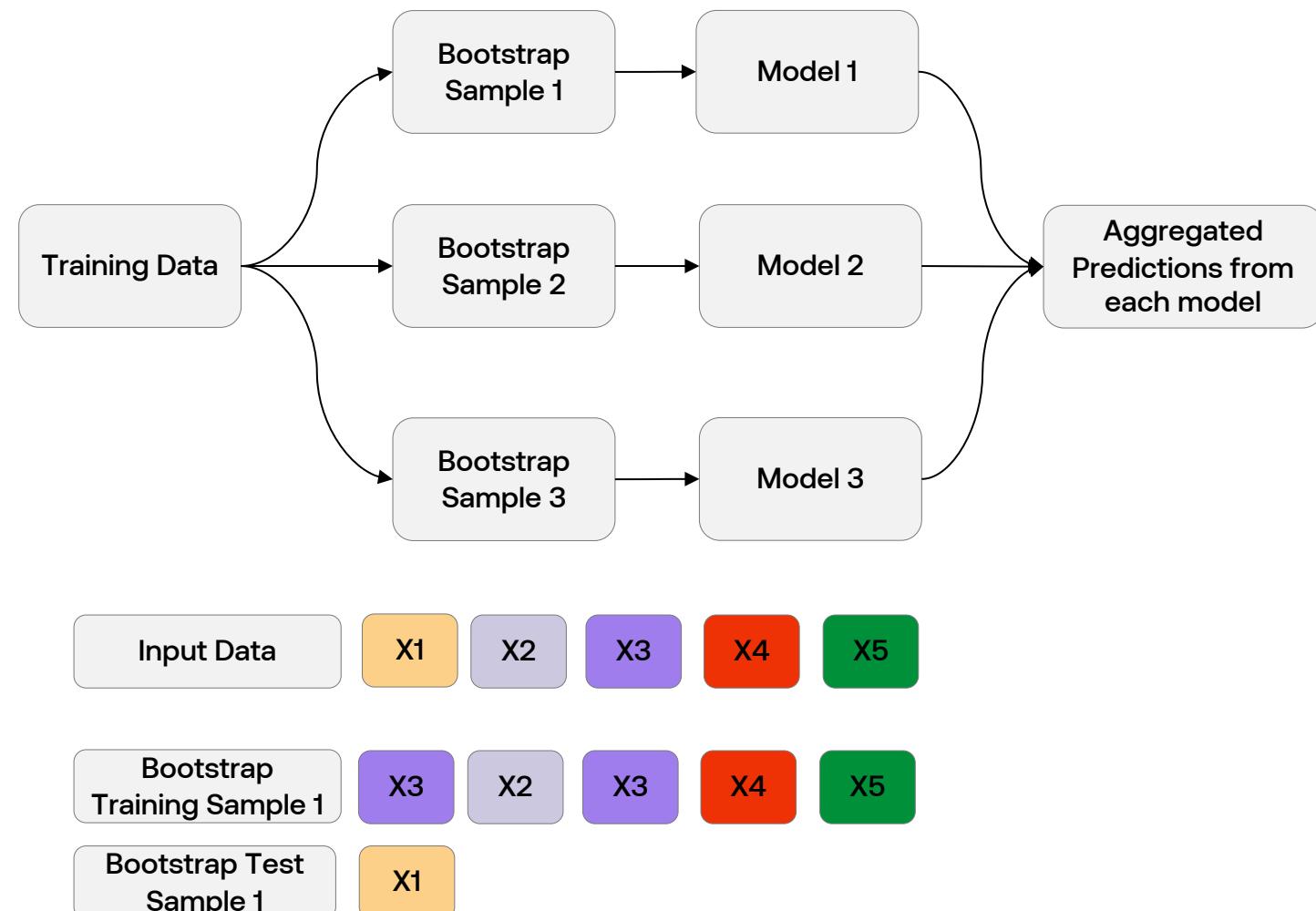


Statistical Model

Ensembled Model

ML Model

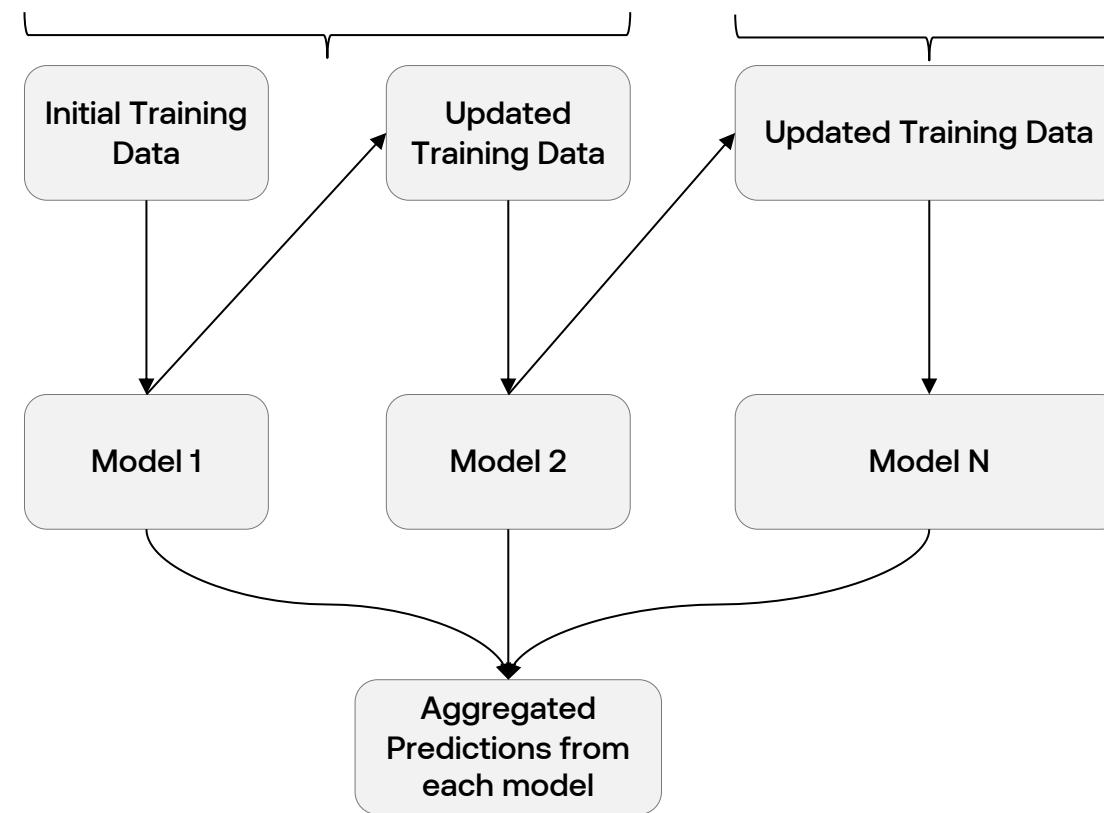
# Bagging Ensembling



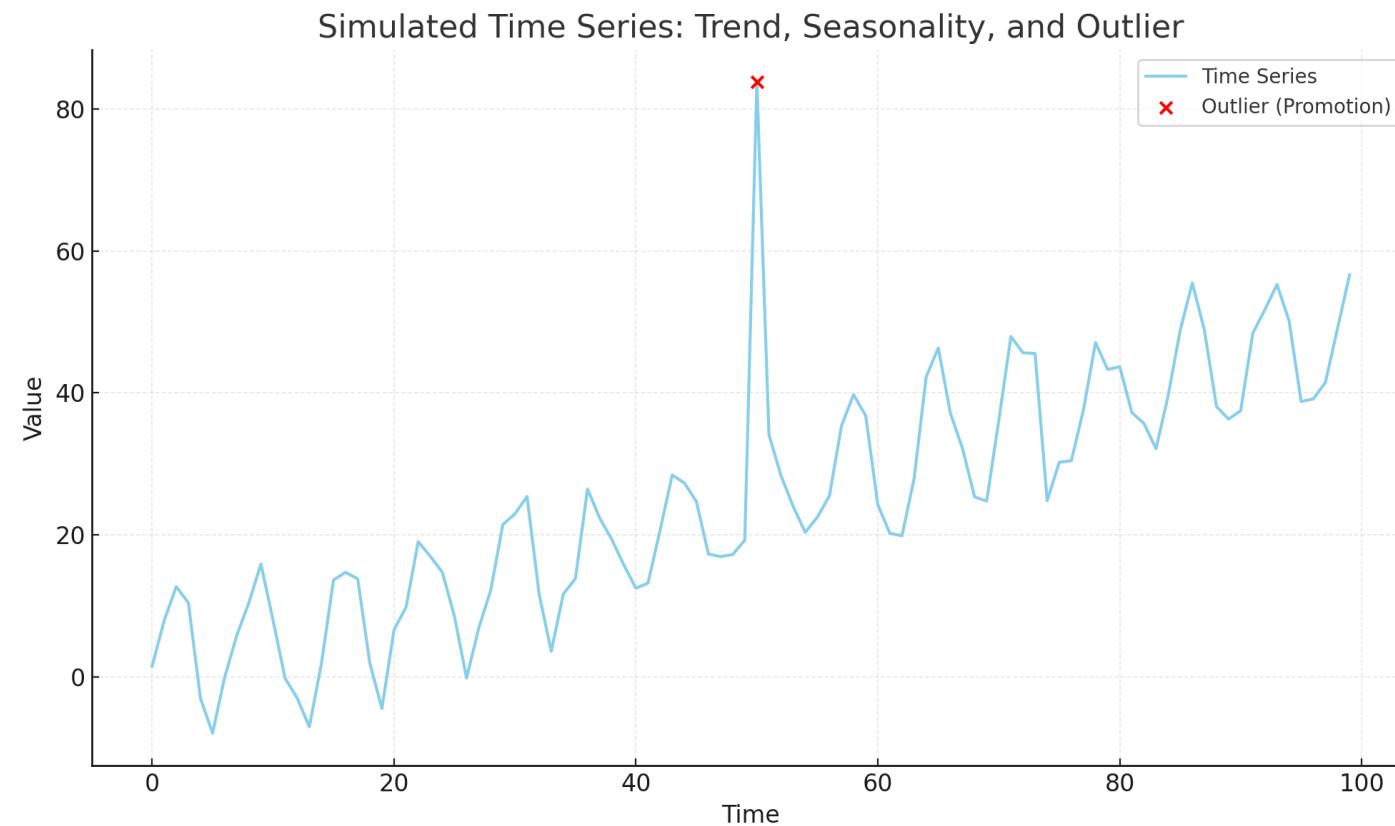
# Boosting Ensembling

Usually high bias,  
Low variance models  
e.g. statistical models,  
flat tree-based models

Usually low bias,  
high variance models  
e.g. Deep tree-based  
models, deep learning  
models

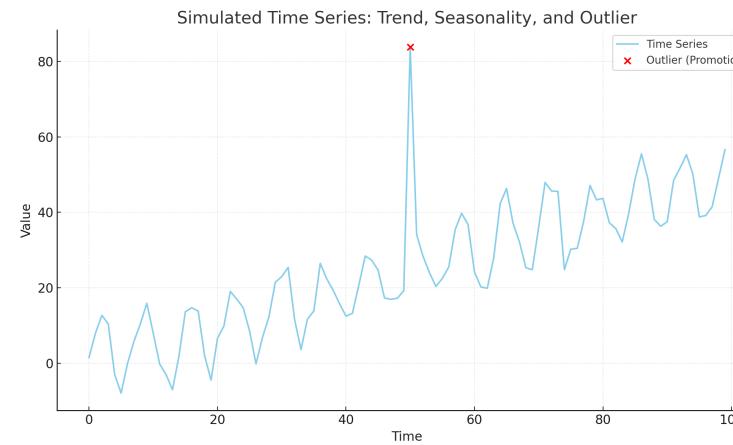


# Boosting Ensembling in Time Series Forecasting

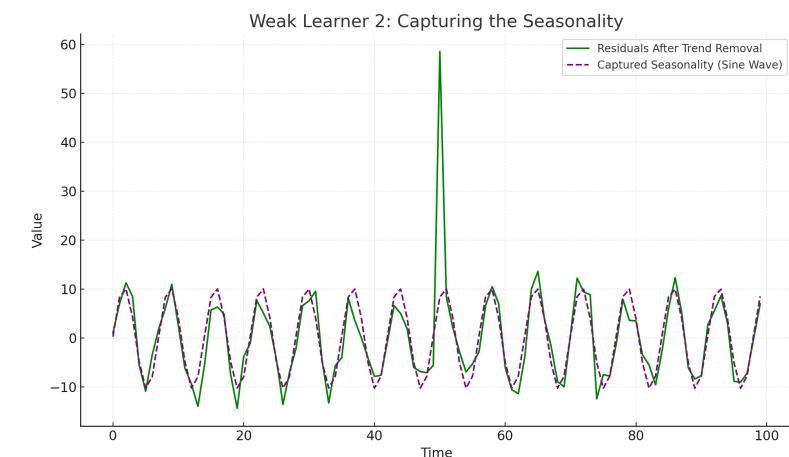
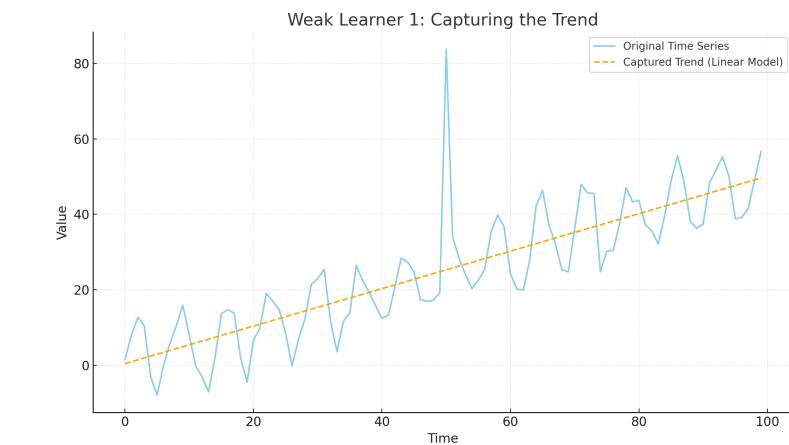
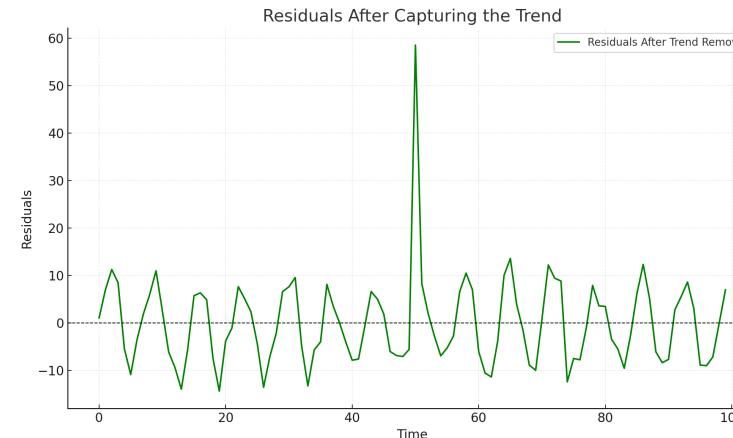


# Boosting Ensembling in Time Series Forecasting

Step 1: Capturing the trend

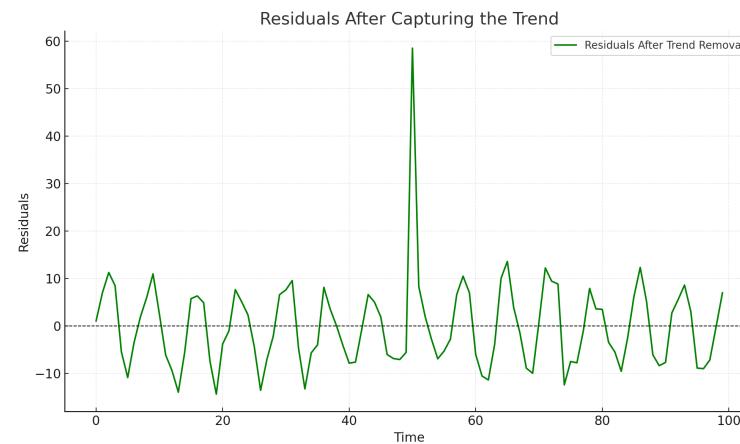


Step 2: Capturing the pattern

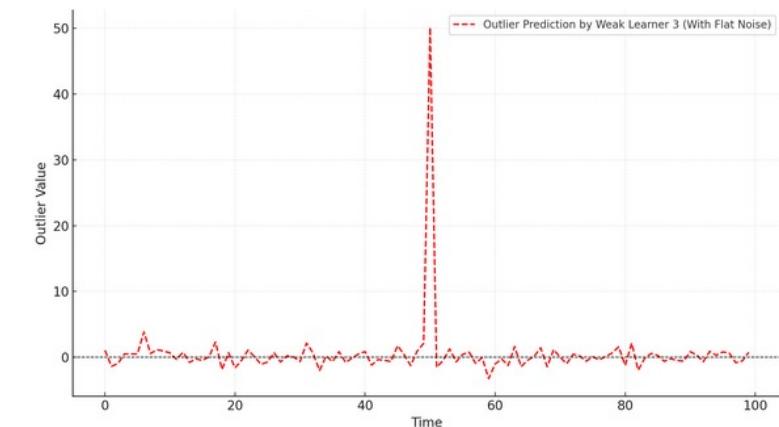
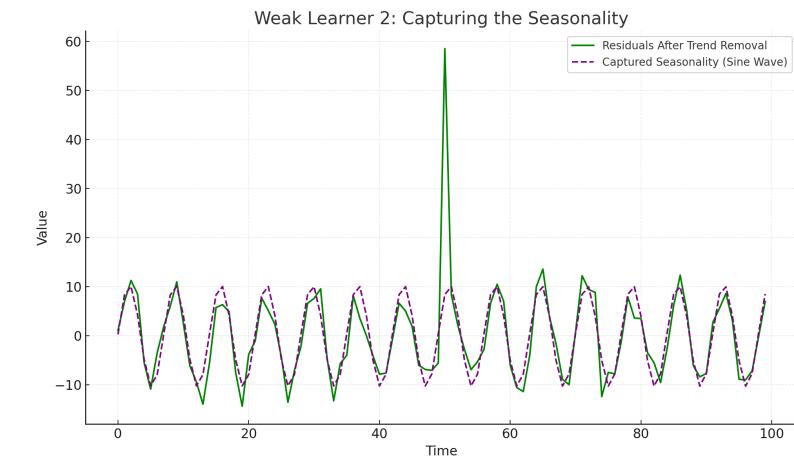
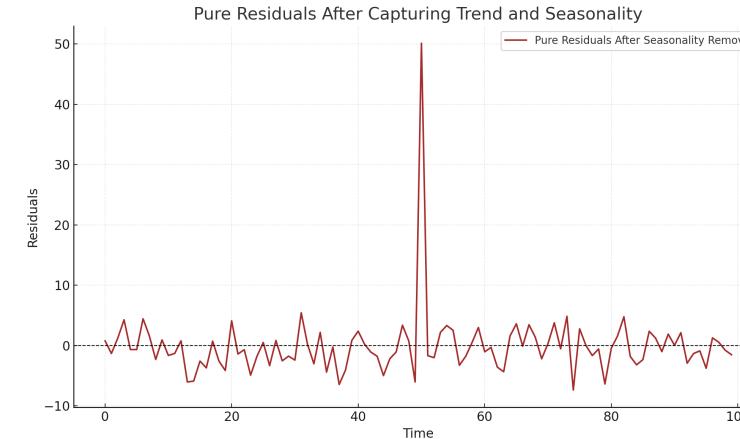


# Boosting Ensembling in Time Series Forecasting

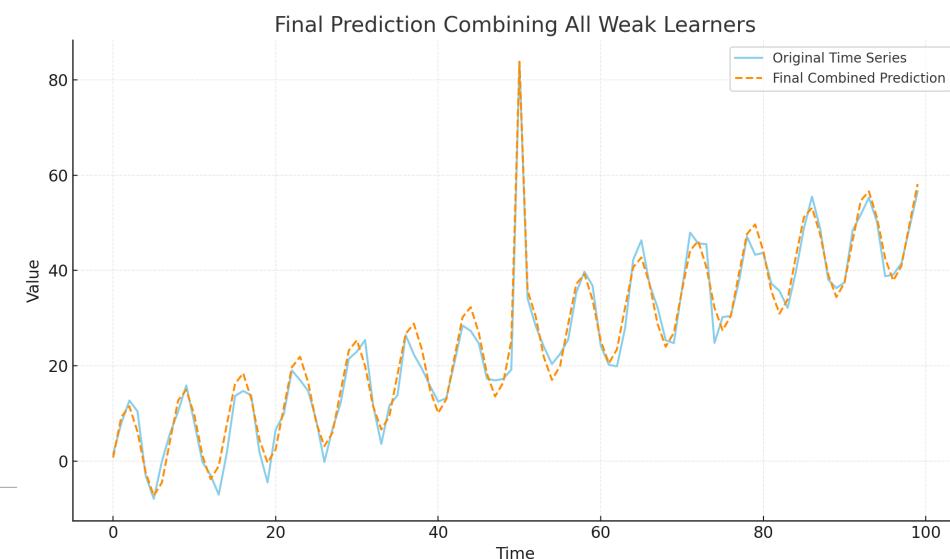
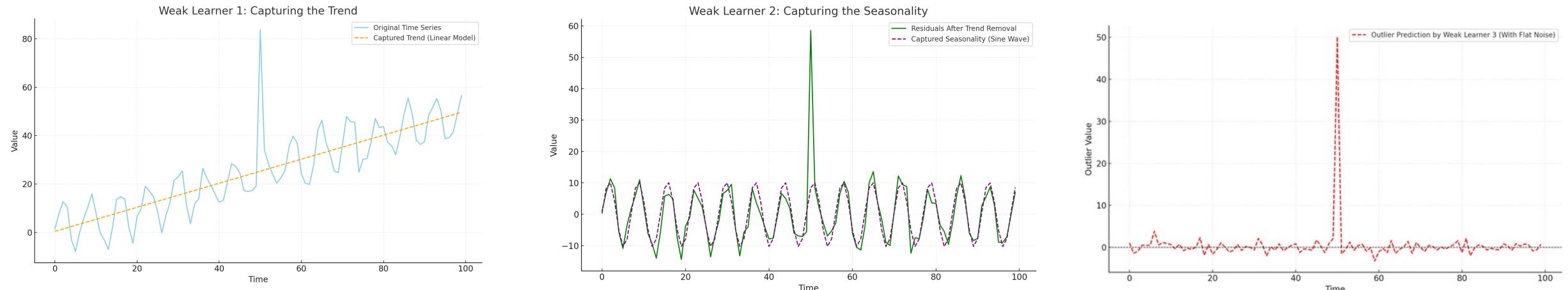
Step 2: Capturing the pattern



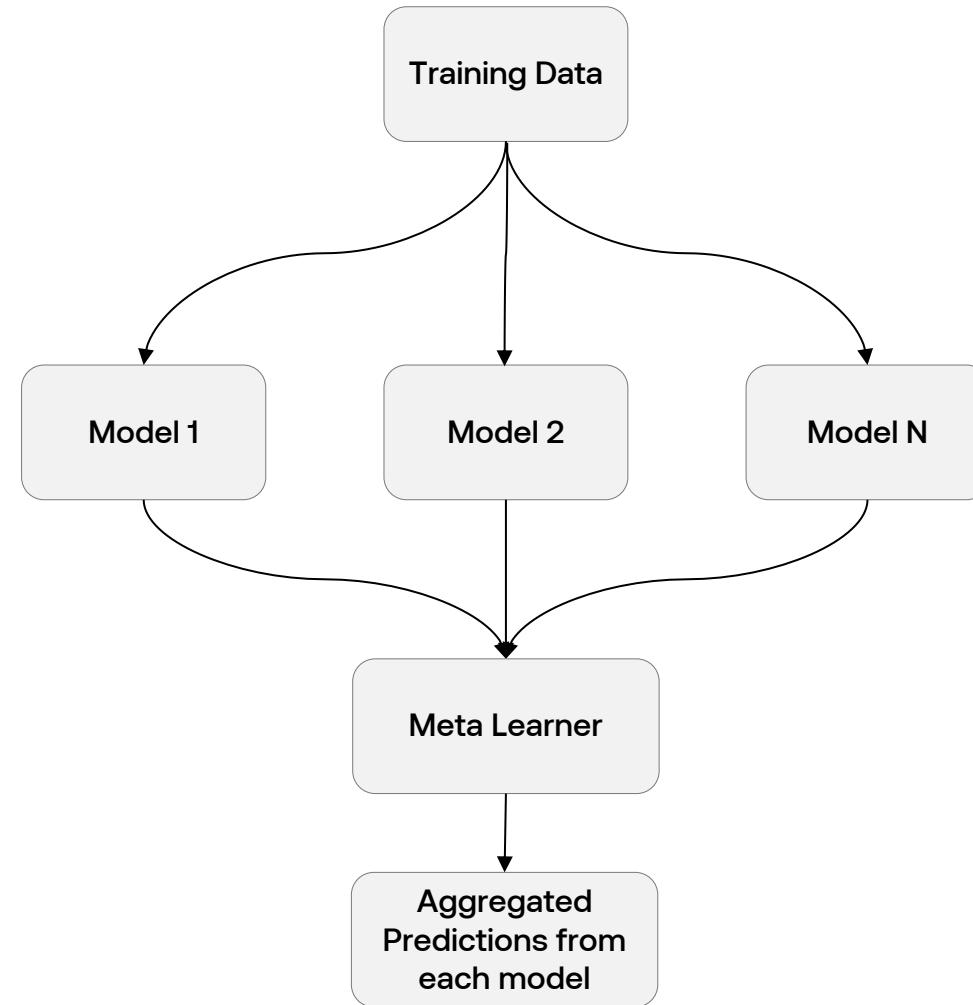
Step 3: Capturing the outliers



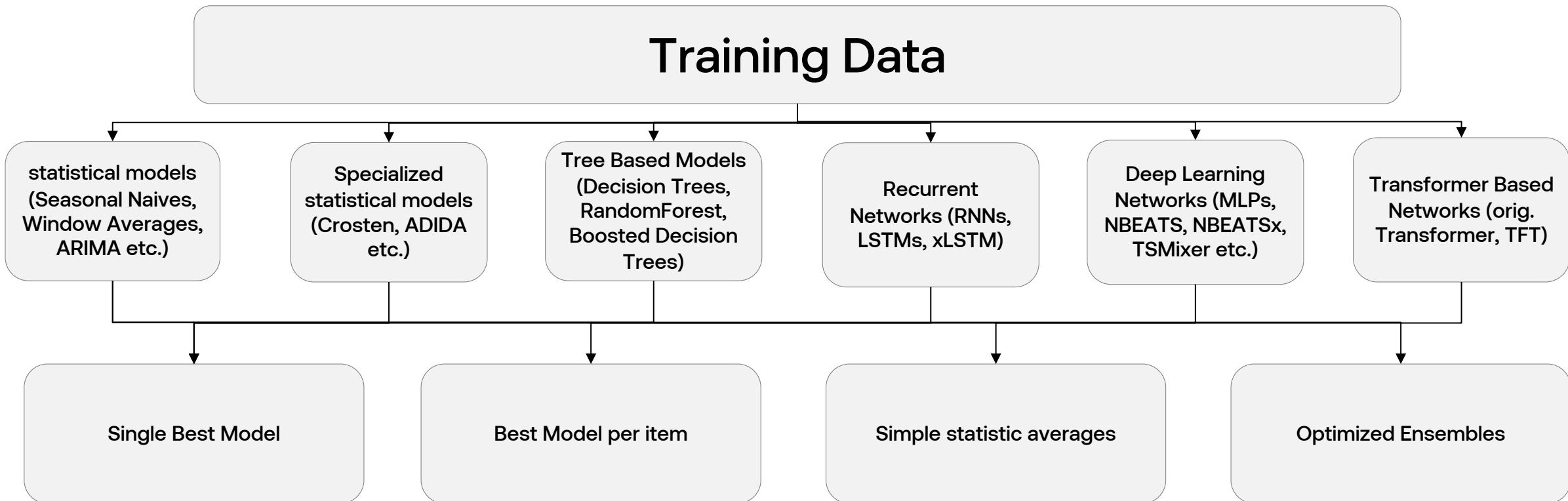
# Boosting Ensembling in Time Series Forecasting



# Stacking Ensembling



# Power comes through flexibility in Stacking Ensembling Approach



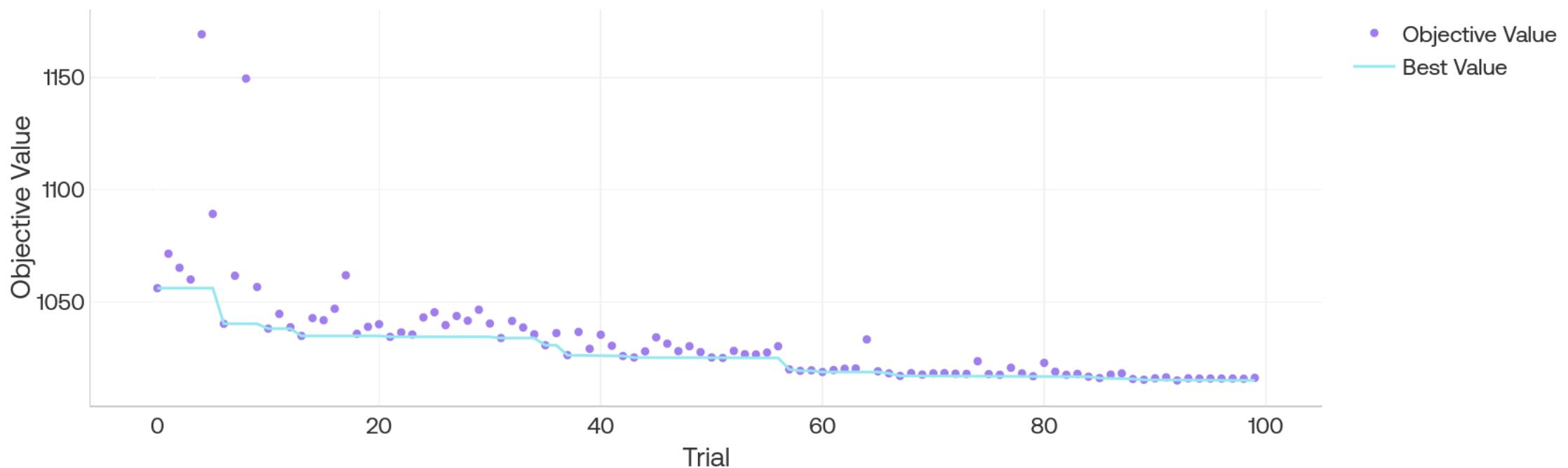
No “classical” Meta Learner Model due to higher complexity in handling additional ML Model

# Optimized Stacking Ensembling

model	↑↓	weight	↑↓
auto_arima_12		0.013828020840354142	
auto_arima_12_wout_exog		0.3353154367612936	
AutoETS		0.02110262674598177	
HistoricAverage		0.043168518344653635	
Naive		0.017570250879700867	
seasonal_smoothing_12		0.041571323576030474	
SeasonalNaive		0.033941562483361574	
WindowAverage		0.15306872721268203	
XGBRegressor		0.3404258972273256	

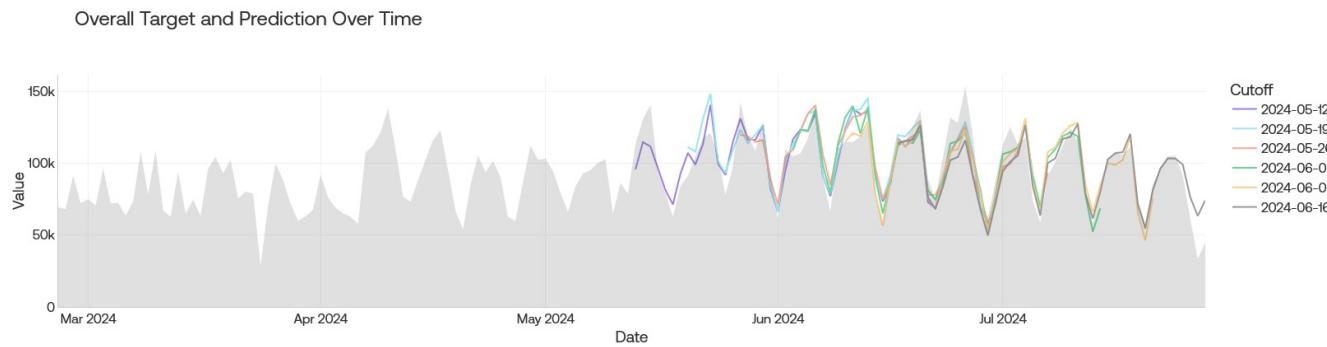
# Optimized Stacking Ensembling

Optimization History Plot



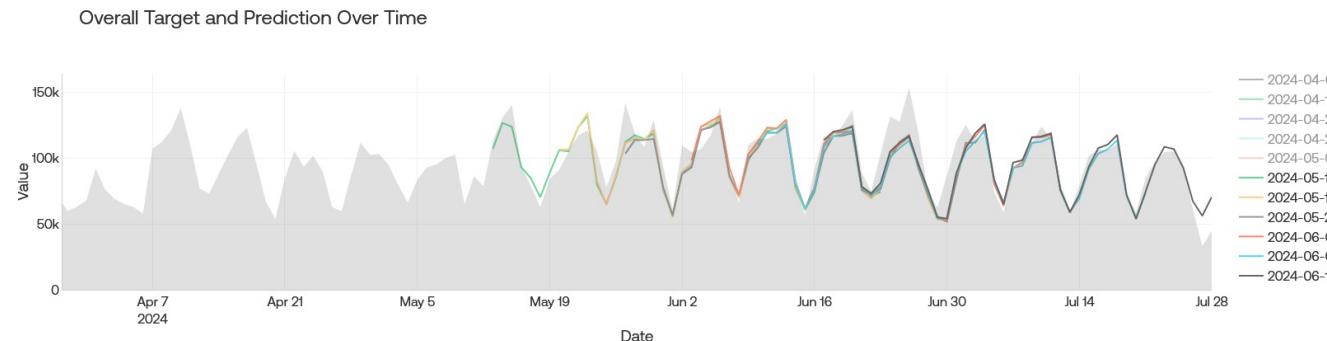
# Improved Accuracy

single weak learner  
(XGBoost)



.# best_bias	-12.14028793905214
.# best_mae	437.95906201775983
.# best_mape	1.1269096668069234
.# best_marre	38.04149514952431
A best_model	XGB
.# best_rmse	568.381550016413
.# best_wape	0.2217976684049948

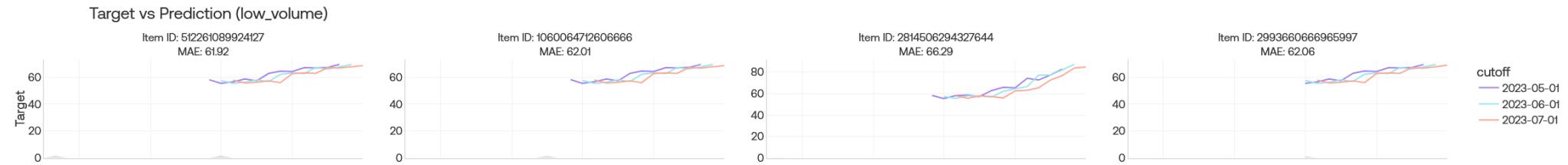
Optimized stacking ensemble  
(statistical models,  
ML models)



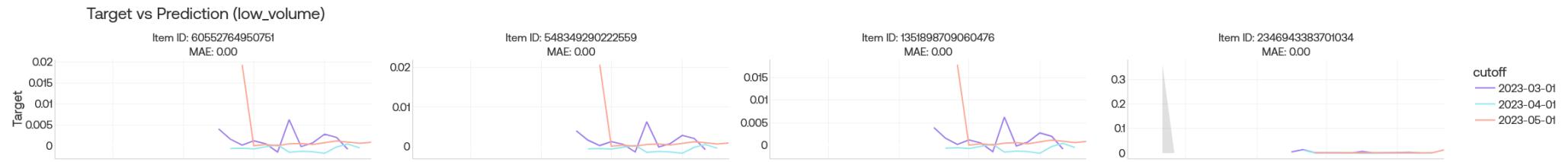
.# best_mae	360.02462166080727
.# best_mape	0.4099874387792668
.# best_marre	15.530316471656414
A best_model	Ensemble[XGB_xlarge_5,XGB_xl...
.# best_rmse	478.80815704347435
A best_single_model	XGB_xlarge_4
.# best_wape	0.2029841262541356

# Reduction of “Regression to the mean” phenomena for low volume groups

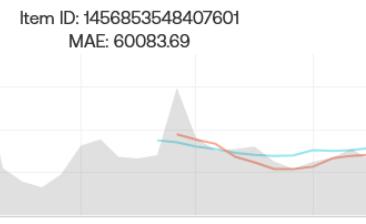
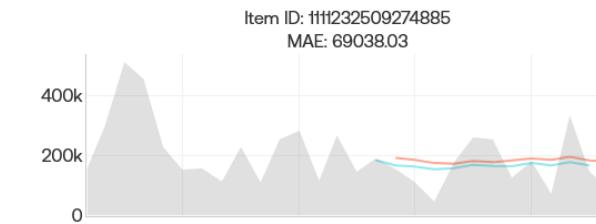
single weak learner



Optimized stacking ensemble



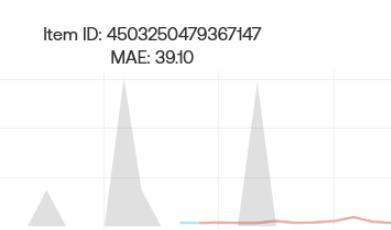
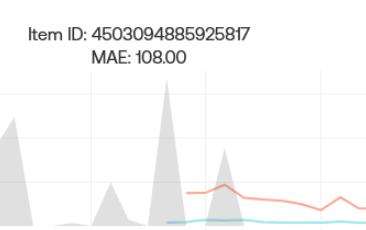
# Handling heterogenous target patterns



cutoff

- 2023-03-01
- 2023-04-01
- 2023-05-01

model	weight
auto_arima_12	0.01718390315...
auto_arima_12_wout_exog	0.00257300159...
AutoETS	0.05815134832...
AutoNHITS	0.71862674816...
HistoricAverage	0.01018542298...
Naive	0.05865703863...
seasonal_smoothing_12	0.04158351043...
SeasonalNaive	0.02228818959...
WindowAverage	0.07075083711...



cutoff

- 2023-03-01
- 2023-04-01
- 2023-05-01

model	weight
auto_arima_12	0.00426378414...
auto_arima_12_wout_exog	0.59569270056...
AutoETS	0.06083338539...
HistoricAverage	0.13196745308...
Naive	0.09684248053...
seasonal_smoothing_12	0.05876083456...
SeasonalNaive	0.05163936171...

# No more bad decisions



Thanks for listening!