Product Sales Insights using statistical approach

**Business Use Case**

In a competitive retail environment, understanding sales performance is crucial for making informed business decisions. Retail managers need insights into which products are performing well, the average sales volume, and variations across different categories to optimize inventory and marketing strategies.

**Problem Statement**

The retail store has observed fluctuating sales numbers across various product categories. The management wants to analyse the sales data to:

1. Identify trends and patterns in sales.
2. Determine if the average sales volume significantly differs from a target value (e.g., 20 units).
3. Provide insights into sales performance across different product categories.

**Objectives**

1. Perform descriptive statistics to summarize sales data.
2. Conduct inferential statistics to test hypotheses regarding average sales.
3. Visualize sales performance for better decision-making.

**Dataset**

A synthetic dataset will be created to simulate sales data for 20 products across four categories: **Electronics, Clothing, Home**, and **Sports**.

**Data Features**

* **product\_id**: Unique identifier for each product.
* **product\_name**: Name of the product.
* **category**: Category to which the product belongs.
* **units\_sold**: Number of units sold (generated using a Poisson distribution).
* **sale\_date**: Date of the sale.

**Project Documentation**

**Descriptive Statistics**

1. **Mean**: The average number of units sold.
2. **Median**: The middle value in the distribution of units sold.
3. **Mode**: The most frequently sold quantity.
4. **Variance and Standard Deviation**: Measures of how much the units sold vary from the mean.
5. **Category Statistics**: Total and average sales per product category.

**Inferential Statistics**

1. **Confidence Interval**: Provides a range that likely contains the population mean of units sold, giving insight into sales consistency.
2. **Hypothesis Testing (t-test)**: Tests whether the average sales volume significantly differs from the target value of 20 units.

**Visualizations**

1. **Histogram**: Shows the distribution of units sold, highlighting the mean, median, and mode.
2. **Boxplot**: Displays the spread and outliers of units sold across different categories.
3. **Bar Plot**: Summarizes total sales by category for quick comparisons.

**Conclusion**

This project provides a comprehensive analysis of sales data for a retail store, focusing on both descriptive and inferential statistics. The insights gained from this analysis can help management make data-driven decisions regarding inventory and marketing strategies.

By following this structured approach, similar methodologies can be applied to analyse other datasets relevant to business needs.