

## **Project Report for**

# **Sales Forecasting for a Retail Store in Preparation for Black Friday Sales**

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## 1. Project Definition

The purpose of this project is to conduct an inventory and sales analysis on a Retail Company's previous 3 years of Black Friday sales data, in order to predict the upcoming year's Black Friday inventory needs. This analysis will determine which products were most purchased from each respective product category, from each individual store location, as well as which were least purchased.

## 2. How does this project relate to the lectures/papers we discussed?

This project relies heavily on the knowledge we learned in this class, specifically on what we learned about the process of cleaning and transforming data to make the data meaningful to an insightful analysis. In this case, this project takes arbitrary sales data from a company, muddled with a lot of unnecessary information, and uses this data to create an output that can boost the company's future sales and revenue. This is done using an extensive series of queries on this data through MySQL, and the transformed data is then modeled and graphed using Python and Matplotlib, which are both key things we covered in this course.

## 3. Novelty and Importance

The analysis done in this project has several real-world and practical applications that can boost a real company's revenue if implemented:

### 1. Boosting Sales Opportunities by Meeting Customer Demands:

- An accurate and detailed forecast can help avoid having out-of-stock products, thereby reducing a loss of sales on high-demand products.
- Having high-demand products in stock will create higher customer satisfaction, making it more likely for the customer to keep shopping at the retailer in the future.

### 2. Avoiding Overstocking:

- Effectively avoiding overstocking on specific products can lead to multiple benefits:
  - Reduced holding costs in storage, as overstock takes up unnecessary warehouse space.
  - Reduced capital spent on buying excess inventory, just for it to later be marked down and lead to a loss.

### 3. Creating a Competitive Edge:

- Preparing for Black Friday sales with an accurate and effective forecast can give the retailer a competitive advantage over others, as they will be more prepared to meet customer demands.

#### **4. Planning Black Friday Specific Deals:**

- Having an accurate forecast of which products are most frequently purchased can help the retailer make decisions on which products to have promotions, sales, and discounts on.

#### **5. Streamlining Inventory:**

- In high-volume cases such as that of Black Friday, an accurate forecast can even lead to streamlining general operations on inventory all the way from inventory acquisition to sales.
- Knowing the general quantities in which inventory is needed can help prepare in the product creation process itself.

### **4. Existing Issues in Current Data Management Practices**

Currently, there are several issues that exist when it comes to the analysis of data in the context of Black Friday sales:

- 1. Forecasting issues:** Due to rapid change in the market and consumer behavior, out-of-date data and historical analysis can lead to inaccurate projections. Additionally, since Black Friday sales are so influenced by external factors, it is necessary to analyze data specific to this event for accuracy.
- 2. Scalability challenges:** Due to the high volume and velocity of data during Black Friday, there is a large issue with processing such saturated data efficiently and extracting useful information from such high-volume data.
- 3. Data quality:** Having redundant data and unnecessary information related to sales can lead to increased time in making necessary and accurate projections.
- 4. Data integration:** Since there are several diverse data sets that retailers make their predictions from, such as in-store sales, online sales, third-party vendors, etc., integrating all of these data sets can be arduous and complex.

Although this project can not solve all of these complex issues, it aims to solve the issue of data quality and forecasting, ensuring relevant and necessary data is used to make insightful and clear predictions and judgements.

## 5. What Kind of Data is Used?

Using a relational database on MySQL, the following 4 tables are created, serving as the primary data for this project:

1. **Sales Data:** A dataset from Kaggle titled “Black Friday Sales Data” is used as a foundational data source, being uploaded onto MySQL (some of the columns are later removed, thus not shown in the table displayed). There are 5000 transactions used from this table.

### SQL query along with sample data

```
2      #create sales data table#
3  • CREATE TABLE sales_data (
4      transaction_id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY,
5      product_id TEXT,
6      gender TEXT,
7      age TEXT,
8      occupation INTEGER,
9      city_category TEXT,
10     marital_status INTEGER,
11     product_category1 INTEGER,
12     product_category2 INTEGER,
13     product_category3 INTEGER,
14     purchase INTEGER
15 );
16
17 • SELECT * FROM sales_data;
```

Result Grid				
Filter Rows:				
Edit:				
Export/Import:				
transaction_id	product_id	city_category	product_category1	product_quantity
1	P00069042	A	3	1
2	P00248942	A	14	7
3	P00087842	A	4	4
4	P00085442	A	12	12
5	P00285442	C	3	5
6	P00193542	A	3	3
7	P00184942	B	1	3
8	P00346142	B	2	4

2. **Category Master:** Then, based on the numbered categories given in the Sales Data table (#1-18), and using the help of ChatGPT to generate random product category names, a Category Master Table is created, storing the category number and its respective category name.

```
19      #create category master table#
20 • CREATE TABLE category_master (
21     category_id INTEGER PRIMARY KEY,
22     category_name TEXT
23 );
```




Using the logic shown below, data in the Category Master is populated:

```
27      #find out how many unique product categories exist in sales table#
28 • SELECT DISTINCT product_category1 from sales_data ORDER BY product_category1 DESC;
29
30      #given unique product categories, enter category id and created name into table#
31 • INSERT INTO category_master (category_id, category_name) VALUES
32     (1, "Electronics"),
33     (2, "Clothing"),
34     (3, "Home Appliances"),
35     (4, "Furniture")
```

Result Grid		Filter Rows:	Edit:	Export/Import:	Wrap Cell Content:
category_id	category_name				
1	Electronics				
2	Clothing				
3	Home Appliances				
4	Furniture				
5	Groceries				
6	Toys				
7	Books				
8	Sports Equipment				
9	Beauty Products				
10	Health Products				
11	Automotive				
12	Jewelry				
13	Footwear				
14	Office Supplies				


3. **Product Master:** Then, based on the unique product ids (1748 values) given in the Sales Data table, and once again the help of ChatGPT to generate unique product names in accordance with the given categories, a Product Master Table is created:

```
53    #find unique product ids from sales data table#
54 •  SELECT COUNT(DISTINCT product_id) from sales_data;
55
56    #create product master table#
57 •  CREATE TABLE product_master (
58      product_id TEXT,
59      product_name TEXT,
60      category_id TEXT,
61      unit_price INTEGER
62  );
63
64 •  select * from product_master;
65
```

Result Grid    Filter Rows: <input type="text"/>   Export:    Wrap Cell Content:    Fetch rows:				
product_id	product_name	category_id	unit_price	
P00069042	Refrigerator 19	3	8009	
P00248942	Pencil Sharpener 69	14	11429	
P00087842	Bed 20	4	1422	
P00085442	Cufflinks 26	12	1057	
P00285442	Food Processor 84	3	5855	
P00193542	Air Conditioner 42	3	7897	

4. **Inventory Data:** Finally, using the product ids from before, and the locations A, B, C, a cartesian product of the two is done to get a table with each product at each of the three cities and the randomized stock quantity of each:

```
84 #create inventory data table#
85 • CREATE TABLE inventory_data (
86     product_id TEXT,
87     location TEXT,
88     stock_quantity INTEGER
89 );
90
91 • SELECT * FROM inventory_data;
92
```

Result Grid			
Filter Rows: <input type="text"/>			
Export: 			
product_id	location	stock_quantity	
P00000142	A	23	
P00000142	B	138	
P00000142	C	18	
P00000342	A	130	
P00000342	B	145	

```
93 #populating columns of inventory data#
94 • CREATE TEMPORARY TABLE product_locations
95 AS
96 SELECT product_id, 'A' AS Location FROM (
97     SELECT DISTINCT product_id FROM sales_data
98 ) AS product_ids
99 UNION
100 SELECT product_id, 'B' AS Location FROM (
101     SELECT DISTINCT product_id FROM sales_data
102 ) AS product_ids
103 UNION
104 SELECT product_id, 'C' AS Location FROM (
105     SELECT DISTINCT product_id FROM sales_data
106 ) AS product_ids;
107
108 • SELECT * FROM product_locations ORDER BY product_id;
109
110 • INSERT INTO inventory_data (product_id, location)
111     SELECT product_id, Location FROM product_locations ORDER BY product_id;
112
113 • UPDATE inventory_data
114     SET stock_quantity = FLOOR(RAND() * 151);
115
116 • SELECT * FROM inventory_data;
```

## 6. How is the Data Analyzed?

**5.1 Data Collection:** Data collection was done as mentioned in the section above.

**5.2 Data Storage:** All the tables were created in a MySQL DB, to allow for efficient queries and data cleaning/transformation.

### 5.3 Data Cleaning:

The below unnecessary columns were removed from the sales\_data table, columns were altered as needed, and missing values were updated using update queries:

```
19      #cleaning the data from initial sales_data table#
20
21 •    ALTER TABLE sales_data
22      DROP COLUMN gender,
23      DROP COLUMN age,
24      DROP COLUMN occupation,
25      DROP COLUMN marital_status,
26      DROP COLUMN purchase;
27
28 •    ALTER TABLE sales_data
29      DROP COLUMN product_category2,
30      DROP COLUMN product_category3;

      #creating quantity column for sales_data table#
•    ALTER TABLE sales_data
      ADD COLUMN product_quantity INT;
•    UPDATE sales_data
      SET product_quantity = FLOOR(RAND() * 15);

      #updating category on sales data products according to product master#
•    UPDATE sales_data sd
      JOIN product_master pm
      ON sd.product_id = pm.product_id
      SET sd.product_category1 = pm.category_id;
```

**5.4 Data Transformation:** Through extensive transformation, the combined\_sales\_data table was created using the previously created sales and master tables. Primary and Foreign key relationships were used to join different tables and fetch necessary data from each table as shown in the steps below:



- **Step 1:** A Three Years Sales mock data was created in xlsx, by taking the cleaned sales\_data table and randomly percent-increasing/decreasing each category of products' sales over the span of the 2 following years. This data was then uploaded to the MySQL table below:

L52 #using sales data table to create a mock 3-year sales data in xlsx, uploading that here#

```
L53 • CREATE TABLE three_years_sales_data (
L54     sales_year INT,
L55     transaction_id INTEGER,
L56     product_id TEXT,
L57     city_category TEXT,
L58     product_category1 INTEGER,
L59     product_quantity INTEGER,
L60     PRIMARY KEY (transaction_id)
L61 );
```

L62

```
L63 • SELECT * FROM three_years_sales_data;
```

L64

Result Grid	Filter Rows:	Edit:	Export/Import:	Wrap Cell Content:	Fetch rows:
sales_year	transaction_id	product_id	city_category	product_category1	product_quantity
2021	1	P00069042	A	3	1
2021	2	P00248942	A	14	7
2021	3	P00087842	A	4	4
2021	4	P00085442	A	12	12
2021	5	P00285442	C	3	5
2021	6	P00193542	A	3	3
2021	7	P00184942	B	1	3
2021	8	P00346142	B	2	4

**Step 2:** Created a base combined\_sales\_date table using three\_years\_sales\_data created above:

- ```
CREATE TABLE combined_sales_data AS
SELECT * FROM three_years_sales_data;
```

**Step 3:** Added product\_unit\_price column into combined\_sale\_data table and populated this data by joining this table with the product\_master table, using product\_id as a primary key to map between the 2 tables:

```
#add product unit price#
ALTER TABLE combined_sales_data
ADD COLUMN product_unit_price INT;
UPDATE combined_sales_data csd
JOIN product_master pm
ON csd.product_id = pm.product_id
SET csd.product_unit_price = pm.unit_price;
```

**Step 4:** Added total\_purchase\_amount column into the combined\_sale\_data table and populated the data using the transformation logic shown below:

```
#add transaction purchase amount#
ALTER TABLE combined_sales_data
ADD COLUMN total_purchase_amount INT;
UPDATE combined_sales_data
SET total_purchase_amount = product_quantity * product_unit_price;
```

**Step 5:** Added product\_name column into the combined\_sale\_data table and populated the data using the transformation logic shown below:

```
#add product name next to product id#
ALTER TABLE combined_sales_data
ADD COLUMN product_name TEXT
AFTER product_id;
UPDATE combined_sales_data csd
JOIN product_master pm
ON csd.product_id = pm.product_id
SET csd.product_name = pm.product_name;
```

**Step 6:** Added category\_name column into the combined\_sale\_data table and populated data using the transformation logic shown below:

```
#add category name next to category id#
ALTER TABLE combined_sales_data
ADD COLUMN category_name TEXT
AFTER product_category1;
UPDATE combined_sales_data csd
JOIN category_master cm
ON csd.product_category1 = cm.category_id
SET csd.category_name = cm.category_name;
```

After all of the transformation, the below combined table is ready for data analysis.

203 • `SELECT * FROM combined_sales_data;`

| sales_year | transaction_id | product_id | product_name        | city_category | product_category1 | category_name     | product_quantity | product_unit_price | total_purchase |
|------------|----------------|------------|---------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 2021       | 1              | P00069042  | Refrigerator 19     | A             | 3                 | Home Appliances   | 1                | 8009               | 8009           |
| 2021       | 2              | P00248942  | Pencil Sharpener 69 | A             | 14                | Office Supplies   | 7                | 11429              | 80003          |
| 2021       | 3              | P00087842  | Bed 20              | A             | 4                 | Furniture         | 4                | 1422               | 5688           |
| 2021       | 4              | P00085442  | Cufflinks 26        | A             | 12                | Jewelry           | 12               | 1057               | 12684          |
| 2021       | 5              | P00285442  | Food Processor 84   | C             | 3                 | Home Appliances   | 5                | 5855               | 29275          |
| 2021       | 6              | P00193542  | Air Conditioner 42  | A             | 3                 | Home Appliances   | 3                | 7897               | 23691          |
| 2021       | 7              | P00184942  | USB Flash Drive 107 | B             | 1                 | Electronics       | 3                | 11643              | 34929          |
| 2021       | 8              | P00346142  | Scarf 88            | B             | 2                 | Clothing          | 4                | 12110              | 48440          |
| 2021       | 9              | P0097242   | Yoga Mat 93         | B             | 8                 | Sports Equipment  | 14               | 7668               | 107352         |
| 2021       | 10             | P00274942  | Aquarium Filter 84  | A             | 15                | Pet Supplies      | 12               | 4102               | 49224          |
| 2021       | 11             | P00251242  | Yo-Yo 16            | A             | 6                 | Toys              | 2                | 2029               | 4058           |
| 2021       | 12             | P00014542  | Cello 61            | A             | 17                | Music Instruments | 8                | 3957               | 31656          |
| 2021       | 13             | P00031342  | Flute 22            | A             | 17                | Music Instruments | 2                | 6073               | 12146          |
| 2021       | 14             | P00145042  | Gaming Monitor 8    | A             | 18                | Video Games       | 0                | 11457              | 0              |
| 2021       | 15             | P00231342  | Face Wash 9         | A             | 9                 | Beauty Products   | 12               | 5378               | 64536          |

## 7. Exploratory Data Analysis

Now, using the previously created combined\_sales\_data table, the following steps are taken to do thorough analysis on this data.

**Step1:** Using the combined dataset, a sales\_summary table is created with aggregated values that for each location, show the number of items of a certain product that were sold, for all the products listed.

- #create an aggregated table, which by city, shows the total quantity of a product purchased for each product#
- ```
CREATE TABLE sales_summary AS
SELECT
    sales_year,
    city_category,
    product_id,
    product_name,
    SUM(product_quantity) AS total_quantity,
    SUM(total_purchase_amount) AS total_amount_dollars
FROM
    combined_sales_data
GROUP BY
    sales_year,
    city_category,
    product_id,
    product_name;

SELECT * FROM sales_summary ORDER BY sales_year ASC, city_category ASC;
```

sales_year	city_category	product_id	product_name	total_quantity	total_amount_dollars
2021	A	P00166042	Video Doorbell 84	9	47007
2021	A	P00086242	Clarinet 80	7	131187
2021	A	P00083942	Bracelet 2	7	9828
2021	A	P00367142	Gaming Chair 4	14	20972
2021	A	P00316242	Surfboard 106	8	14744
2021	A	P00102842	Piano 1	11	45441
2021	A	P00149342	Face Wash 99	6	4572

**Step 2:** Using this table and some queries run on the combined\_sales\_data table, several data analysis graphs and regression plots are created using Python in VS code and the Matplotlib Library.

A. In Python - DB connection string is created:

```

1 import mysql.connector
2 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
3 import pandas as pd
4 import numpy as np
5
6 db_connection = mysql.connector.connect(
7     host="localhost",
8     user="root",
9     password="pIH2$15091",
10    database="black_friday_analysis"
11 )
12

```

B. In Python code, multiple sql queries are written to create data sets for each analysis point (refer attached python code file along with this project submission for more details).

- C. Various charts are created from the dataframes obtained from these queries, an example of the code for one of the graphs is shown.

(refer attached python code file along with this project submission for more details)

```
# Process data to get top 3 selling products per year by city
top3_per_year_city = product_summary.groupby(['sales_year', 'city_category']).apply(lambda x: x.nlargest(3, 'total_quantity')).reset_index()

# Create a pastel color palette
pastel_colors = ['#FFD8B1', '#FFA07A', '#FFB6C1', '#FFC0CB', '#FFD700', '#FF69B4', '#FFE4E1', '#FF6347', '#FF4500', '#FF8C00']

# Create a plot for top 3 each year by city
years = top3_per_year_city['sales_year'].unique()
for year in years:
    plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6))
    plt.title(f'Top 3 Selling Products in {year}', fontsize=18, fontweight='bold', fontname='Calibri', pad=20)

    colors = pastel_colors[:len(top3_per_year_city[top3_per_year_city['sales_year'] == year]['city_category'].unique())]

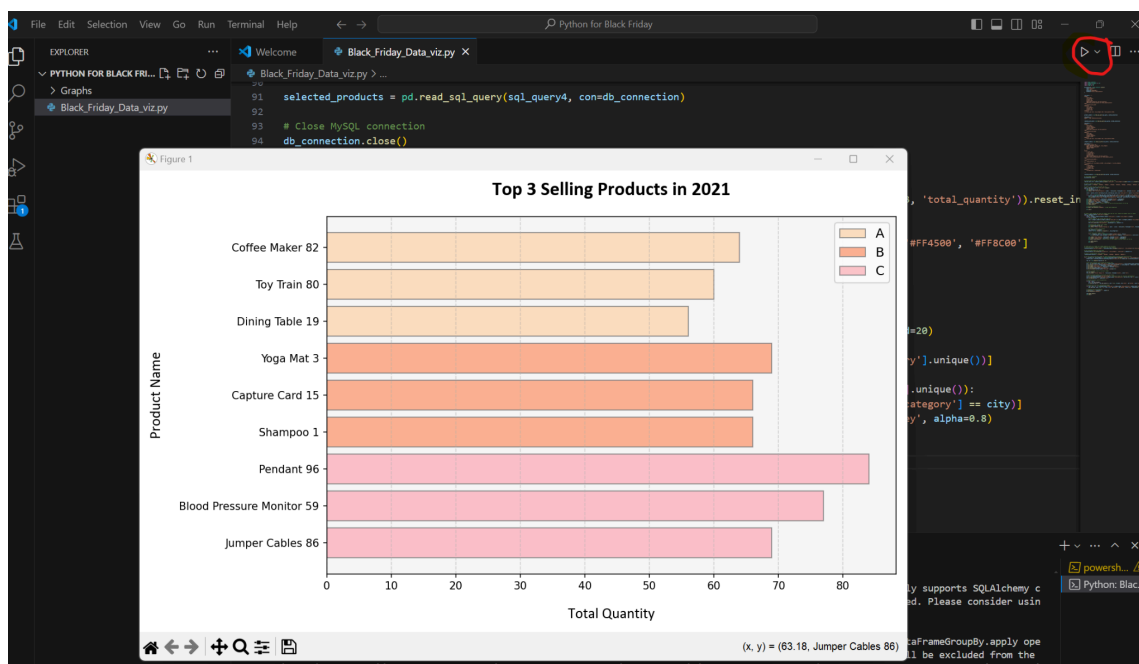
    for i, city in enumerate(top3_per_year_city[top3_per_year_city['sales_year'] == year]['city_category'].unique()):
        data = top3_per_year_city[(top3_per_year_city['sales_year'] == year) & (top3_per_year_city['city_category'] == city)]
        plt.barh(data['product_name'], data['total_quantity'], label=city, color=colors[i], edgecolor='grey', alpha=0.8)

    plt.xlabel('Total Quantity', fontsize=14, fontname='Calibri', labelpad=15)
    plt.ylabel('Product Name', fontsize=14, fontname='Calibri', labelpad=15)
    plt.legend(loc='upper right', fontsize=12)
    plt.grid(axis='x', linestyle='--', alpha=0.5)
    plt.gca().invert_yaxis() # Invert y-axis to show top selling products at the top
    plt.tight_layout()

# Customize background color
plt.gca().set_facecolor('#F5F5F5') # Light grey background

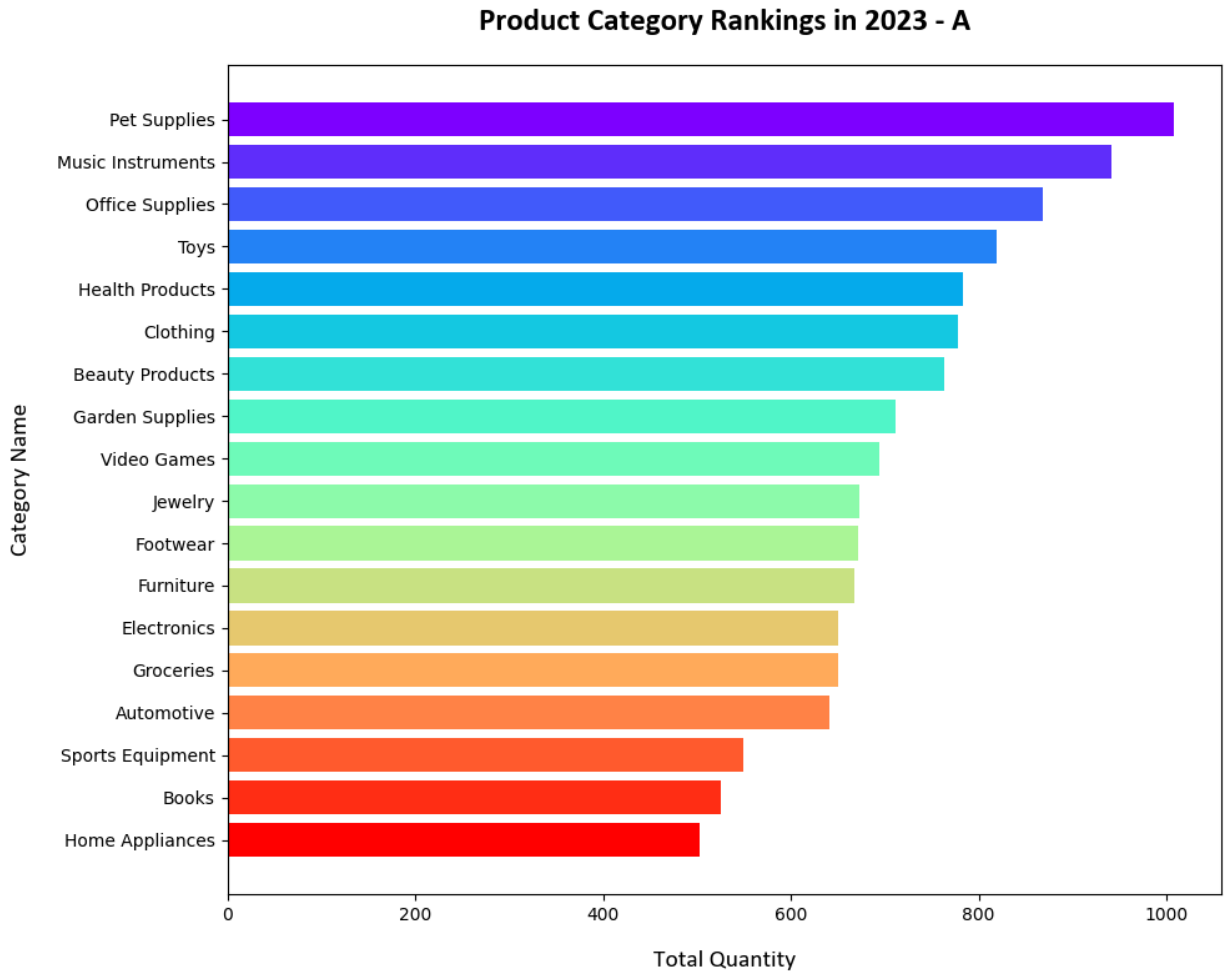
plt.show()
```

- D. When the Python code is executed using the Run button highlighted in red, the expected charts are displayed successfully one after another.

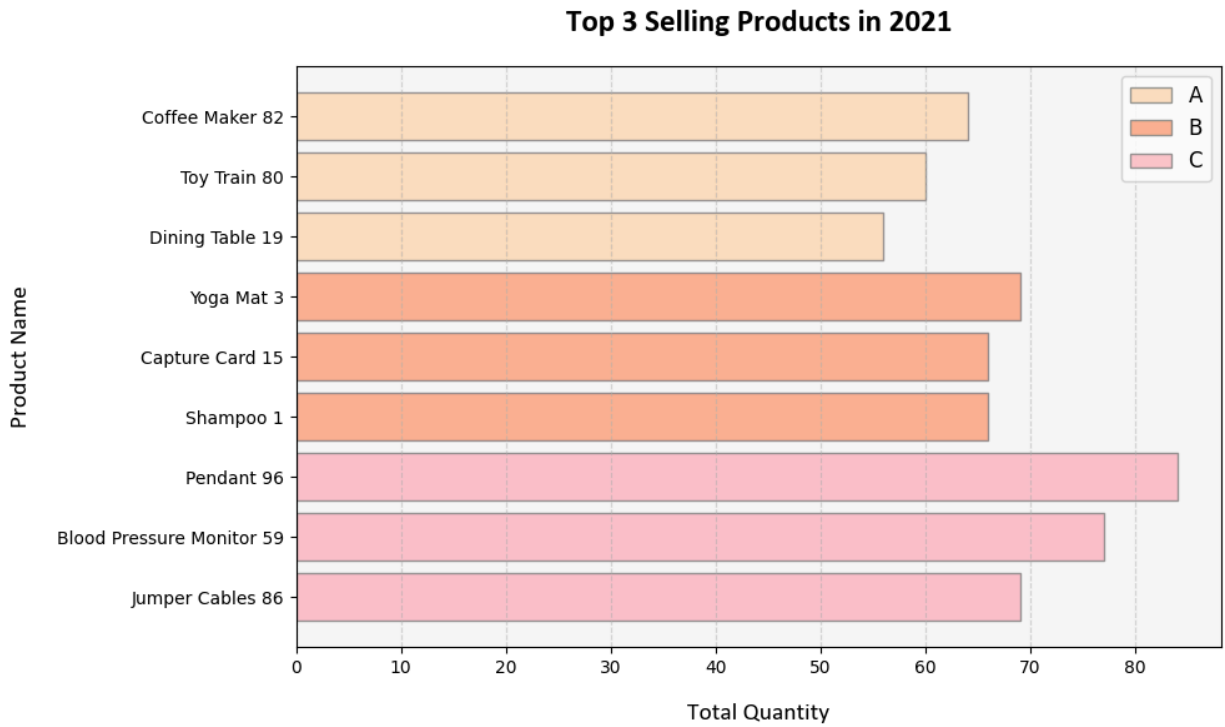


E. Below are sample charts generated from my analysis

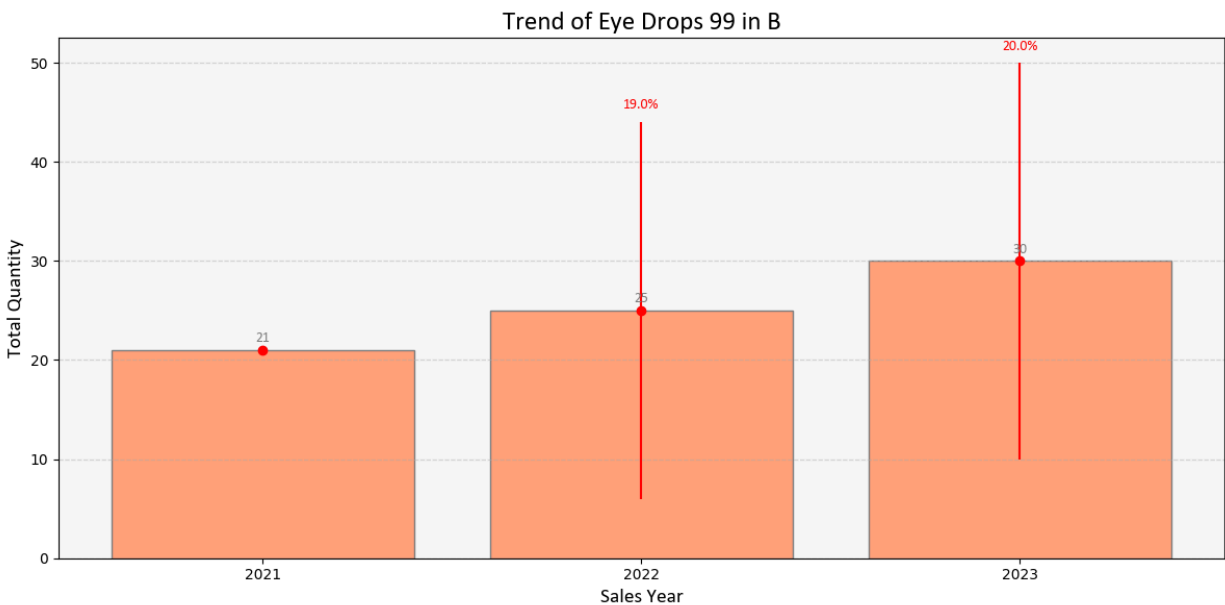
1. **City-wise category rankings for last three years** (chart for one city in one year is shown as an example):



2. **Top 3 Selling Products in Each City by Year** (chart for one year is shown as an example):



3. **3-Years Sales Trend For Each Product** (chart for one such product is shown as an example)



### Step 3: Forecasting/Projection of the proposed sales inventory for the upcoming year

- A. Using the aforementioned analysis with the trends in each product's sales, the below table is created outlining the projected stock expectancy for each product, meaning the # of items that will be needed of that product in stock for next year's sale, based on the increasing/decreasing trends in sale from the previous 3 years.

```

275 • CREATE TABLE projected_values AS
276 SELECT
277     city_category,
278     product_id,
279     product_name,
280     SUM(CASE WHEN sales_year = 2021 THEN total_quantity ELSE 0 END) AS quantity_2021,
281     SUM(CASE WHEN sales_year = 2022 THEN total_quantity ELSE 0 END) AS quantity_2022,
282     SUM(CASE WHEN sales_year = 2023 THEN total_quantity ELSE 0 END) AS quantity_2023
283 FROM
284     sales_summary
285 GROUP BY
286     city_category,
287     product_id,
288     product_name;
289
290 • SELECT * FROM projected_values ORDER BY city_category ASC;

```

	city_category	product_id	product_name	quantity_2021	quantity_2022	quantity_2023	projected_quantity_2024	inventory_2024	stock_adjustment
▶	A	P00282342	Shampoo 55	14	17	18	20	39	-19
	A	P00257842	Oxfords 98	7	7	9	10	128	-118
	A	P00303942	Clipboard 84	3	3	4	5	91	-86
	A	P00212442	Desk Lamp 75	8	9	11	13	78	-65
	A	P00354842	Cereal 97	12	15	19	24	149	-125
	A	P00296042	Cat Toys 43	13	14	15	16	142	-126
	A	P00156042	Surfboard 34	2	2	2	2	61	-59
	A	P00191342	Blouse 7	4	5	6	7	96	-89
	A	P00339942	TV Stand 28	6	7	7	8	109	-101
	A	P00057942	Controller 19	3	3	3	3	112	-109

projected\_values 40 x

- B. By creating the below temporary table and logic, the calculation of % change in the sales for each year was done:



```

3      #Calculate percent change for each year#
4 • CREATE TEMPORARY TABLE pct_changes AS
5 SELECT
6     city_category,
7     product_id,
8     product_name,
9     quantity_2021,
10    quantity_2022,
11    quantity_2023,
12    ((IFNULL(quantity_2022, 0) - IFNULL(quantity_2021, 0)) / NULLIF(quantity_2021, 0)) * 100 AS pct_change_2021_2022,
13    ((IFNULL(quantity_2023, 0) - IFNULL(quantity_2022, 0)) / NULLIF(quantity_2022, 0)) * 100 AS pct_change_2022_2023
14 FROM
15     projected_values;
16
17 • SELECT * FROM pct_changes;
18

```

city_category	product_id	product_name	quantity_2021	quantity_2022	quantity_2023	pct_change_2021_2022	pct_change_2022_2023
A	P00069042	Refrigerator 19	11	11	11	0.0000	0.0000
A	P00248942	Pencil Sharpener 69	18	20	25	11.1111	25.0000
A	P00087842	Bed 20	4	5	5	25.0000	0.0000
A	P00085442	Cufflinks 26	12	12	14	0.0000	16.6667
C	P00285442	Food Processor 84	12	12	12	0.0000	0.0000

D. Then another temporary table was created to calculate the average annual growth rate:

```

10     #Calculate the average annual growth rate (AAGR)#
11 • CREATE TEMPORARY TABLE growth_rates AS
12 SELECT
13     city_category,
14     product_id,
15     product_name,
16     quantity_2021,
17     quantity_2022,
18     quantity_2023,
19     ((IFNULL(pct_change_2021_2022, 0) + IFNULL(pct_change_2022_2023, 0)) / 2) AS avg_annual_growth_rate
20 FROM
21     pct_changes;
22
23 • SELECT * FROM growth_rates;
24

```

city_category	product_id	product_name	quantity_2021	quantity_2022	quantity_2023	avg_annual_growth_rate
A	P00069042	Refrigerator 19	11	11	11	0.00000000
A	P00248942	Pencil Sharpener 69	18	20	25	18.05555000
A	P00087842	Bed 20	4	5	5	12.50000000
A	P00085442	Cufflinks 26	12	12	14	8.33335000
C	P00285442	Food Processor 84	12	12	12	0.00000000

E. Then, the existing projected\_values table was updated by joining it with the growth\_rates table to update projected product quantities for upcoming black friday sale in 2024:

```

}
#Project the quantity for 2024 using the AAGR and add it to the projected_values table#
• UPDATE projected_values pv
  JOIN growth_rates gr ON pv.city_category = gr.city_category AND pv.product_id = gr.product_id
  SET pv.projected_quantity_2024 = IFNULL(gr.quantity_2023, 0) * (1 + (IFNULL(gr.avg_annual_growth_rate, 0) / 100));
}
• SELECT * FROM projected_values ORDER BY product_id ASC, city_category ASC;

```

city_category	product_id	product_name	quantity_2021	quantity_2022	quantity_2023	projected_quantity_2024	inventory_2024	stock_adjustment
B	P00000142	Rice 6	17	21	27	34	138	-104
C	P00000142	Rice 6	56	70	90	114	18	+96
B	P00000342	Electric Grill 87	2	2	2	2	145	-143
B	P00000442	Electric Grill 87	4	5	6	7	72	-65

F. Then, the stock\_adjustment column in the projected\_values table was updated by calculating project\_quantity - inventory for each year as below:

```

• ALTER TABLE projected_values MODIFY COLUMN stock_adjustment VARCHAR(20);

• UPDATE projected_values
  SET stock_adjustment = CASE
    WHEN projected_quantity_2024 - inventory_2024 > 0 THEN CONCAT('+', projected_quantity_2024 - inventory_2024)
    ELSE projected_quantity_2024 - inventory_2024
  END;

```

G. Finally, the projected\_values table is updated which effectively compares the projected stock expectancy (based on the calculations done) to the current inventory available (from the Inventory Data), and gives, for each product, a value by which they need to increase/decrease their current stock to match this projected expectancy.

	city_category	product_id	product_name	quantity_2021	quantity_2022	quantity_2023	projected_quantity_2024	inventory_2024	stock_adjustment
►	B	P00000142	Rice 6	17	21	27	34	138	-104
	C	P00000142	Rice 6	56	70	90	114	18	+96
	B	P00000342	Electric Grill 87	2	2	2	2	145	-143
	B	P00000442	RC Car 82	4	5	6	7	73	-66
	A	P00000542	Plant Pot 56	6	7	7	8	82	-74
	B	P00000542	Plant Pot 56	3	3	3	3	31	-28
	A	P00000642	Skateboard 105	8	9	11	13	35	-22
	B	P00000642	Skateboard 105	35	40	48	56	147	-91
	C	P00000642	Skateboard 105	16	18	21	24	80	-56
	A	P00001042	Gaming Monitor 44	8	9	10	11	60	-49
	B	P00001042	Gaming Monitor 44	17	18	19	20	40	-20
	B	P00001142	Action Figure 0	3	4	5	6	64	-58
	C	P00001142	Action Figure 0	10	12	14	17	89	-72
	B	P00001242	Juice 9	12	15	19	24	63	-39
	C	P00001242	Juice 9	8	10	13	17	75	-58
	B	P00001542	Slow Cooker 67	6	6	6	6	115	-109
	A	P00001642	Harmonica 63	6	6	7	8	118	-110
	B	P00001642	Harmonica 63	14	14	18	21	133	-112
	C	P00001642	Harmonica 63	12	12	15	17	7	+10
	A	P00001742	Harmonica 9	11	11	14	16	125	-109
	C	P00001742	Harmonica 9	23	23	28	31	56	-25
	C	P00001942	Cat Scratcher 83	12	13	14	15	117	-102
	A	P00002042	Spark Plug 41	6	7	8	9	55	-46

### **Final Conclusions:**

As seen in the table above, it is apparent that there are stock adjustments necessary for a lot of the products shown in just the head of this table (out of 3000 rows). For example, many of the rows shown above call for a stock reduction, illustrating that currently, those products are overstocked.

This analysis can be very helpful for the retailer, as they will now know how to adjust their stock accordingly, whether that means an increase/decrease in quantity, shifting stock from one location to the other, etc. For example, in the first two rows of this table, we can see that for the Rice 6 product, there is an overstock in City B and an understock in City C, so that shift can be made.

Additionally, the various charts and graphs created before will also be very insightful to the retailer, accurately and specifically showing the various trends in each product, the highest selling products and categories at each location, etc.

Therefore, this analysis is deemed as successful and complete. Though, there are a couple of limitations to the approach taken here, such as using several queries to do a task step by step instead of the use of more complex queries to get the job done faster. This was solely done for the purpose of readability and clarity in the logic executed.

Other than that, the project was implemented as per initial proposal, with no major changes.

**Note:** I have attached my sql scripts and python code for reference along with the final project report in the canvas submission. If required, a running demo of the project can be done.