

# SALES FORECASTING AND INVENTORY MANAGEMENT

THANKS TO STEVE MITCHELL FOR MENTORING

# **MOTIVATION**

# Forecasts:

- help reduce costs and improve Customer Service Level.
- drive to better trade-off between cost of excess and cost of shortage in inventory management.
- help build efficient long planning horizon
- facilitate management with data-driven decisions

# PROJECT SCOPE

The goal is to use Machine Learning and forecasting techniques to manage inventory of a grocery retailer. It has 54 retail stores and 33 different groups of products. The task is to model the behaviors of 1782 time series for forecasting.

The dataset used come from Corporación Favorita, a large Ecuadorian-based grocery retailer. Thanks to Kaggle for making this dataset available for free.

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Overview on the demand
- Monthly sales forecast at different stores
- Monthly sale forecast at different stores for different categories of products
- Daily sales forecast at different stores
- Daily sales forecast at different stores for different categories of products
- Improvement on the model
- Conclusion

## Weekly seasonality factors/days

Days	Factors
Monday	0.97
Tuesday	0.90
Wednesday	0.94
Thursday	0.79
Friday	0.91
Saturday	1.21
Sunday	1.28

# Global tendency

# Annual seasonality/month

Months	Factors
January	1.08
February	0.98
March	1.08
April	1.11
May	1.15
June	1.15
July	1.21
August	0.96
September	0.76
October	0.79
November	0.79
December	0.94

#### Sales by store types

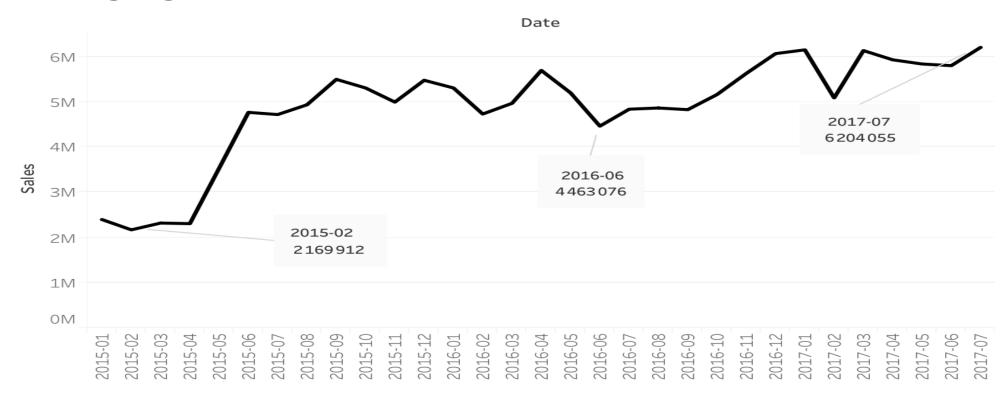
Type	Sales share	# store/54
А	32.27	9
В	14.00	8
С	15.00	15
D	32.58	18
Е	6.15	4

### Sales by product categories

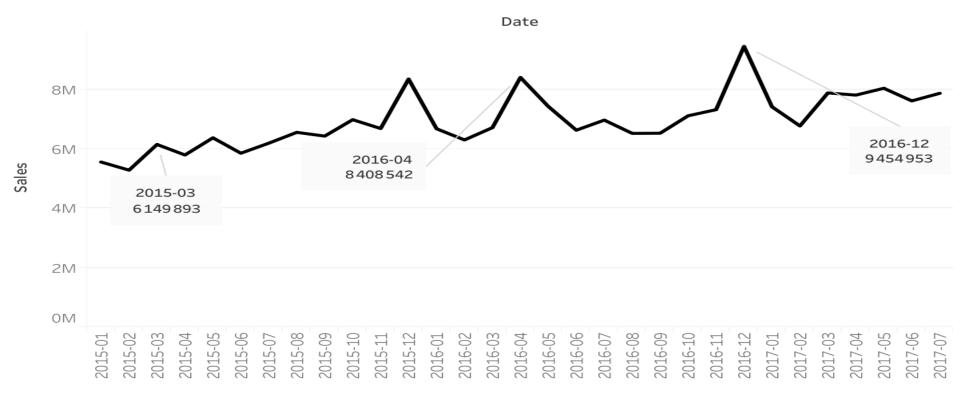
Categories	Sales share
Grocery I	30.32
Beverages	21.30
Produce	13.70
Rest (30 categories)	34.68

- 65.32% of the sales within 3 categories of product
- 2 types of store lead the sales ranking

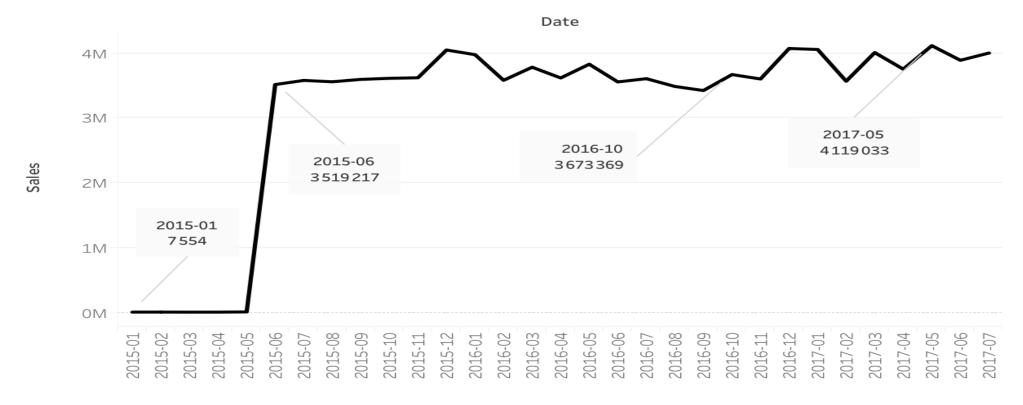
#### Beverages growth from 2015-2017



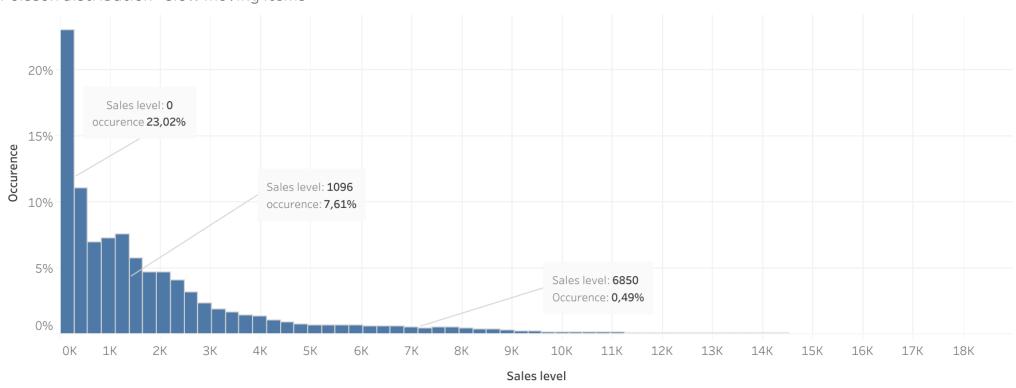
#### Grocery I growth from 2015-2017



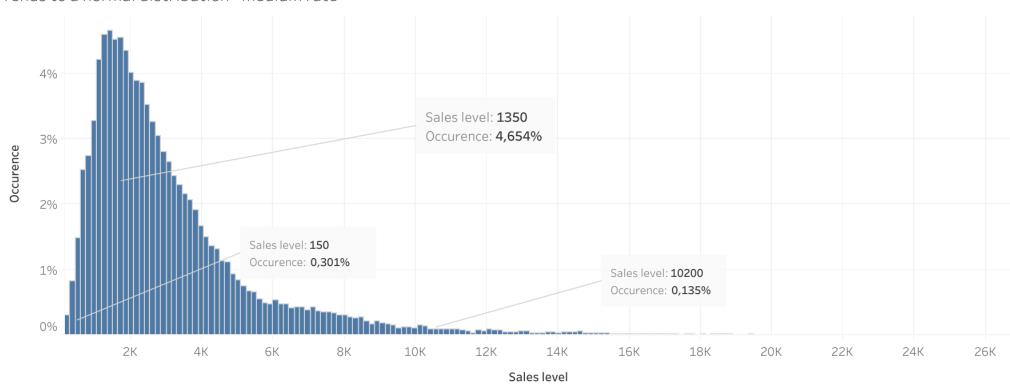
#### Produce growth from 2015-2017



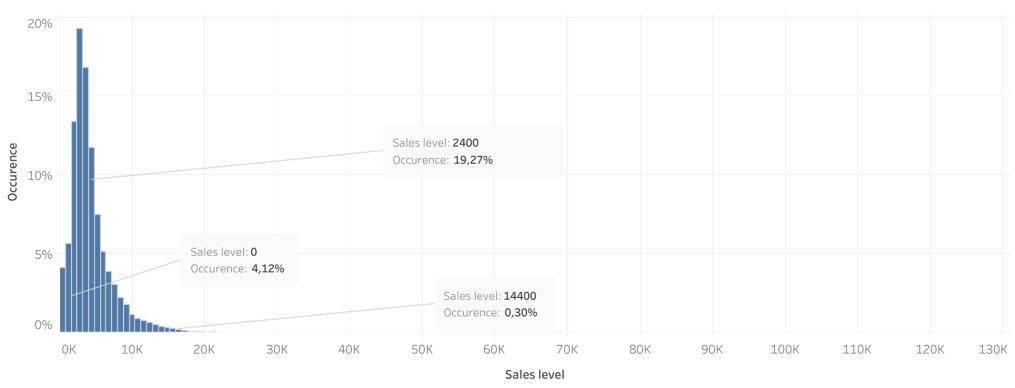
Produce category
Poisson distribution - slow moving items



Beverages category
Tends to a normal distribution - medium rate



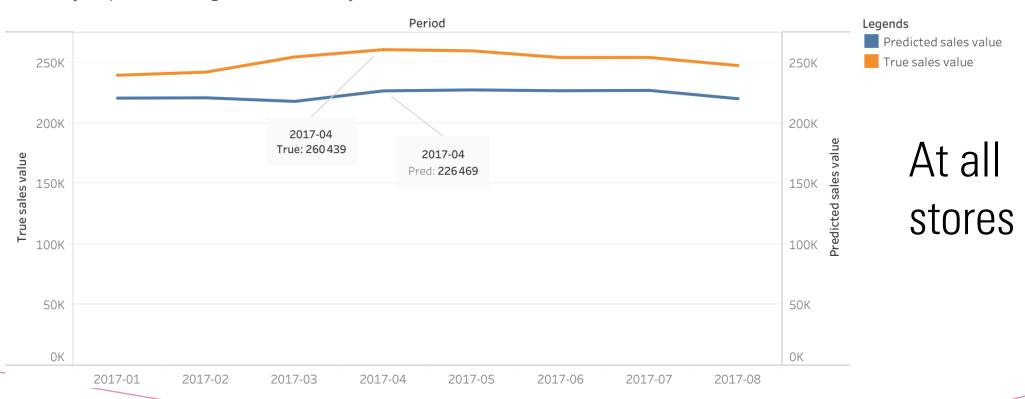
Grocery I category
Tends to a normal distribution - Medium rate



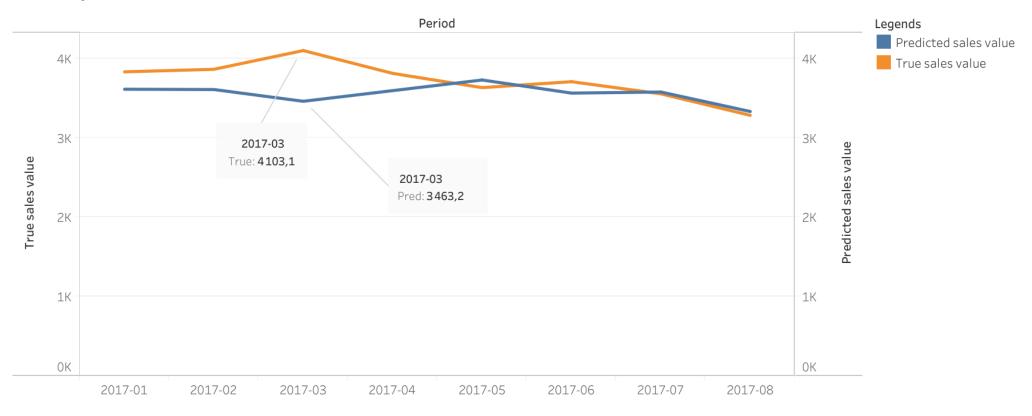
# Monthly sales

### Random Forest Regressor

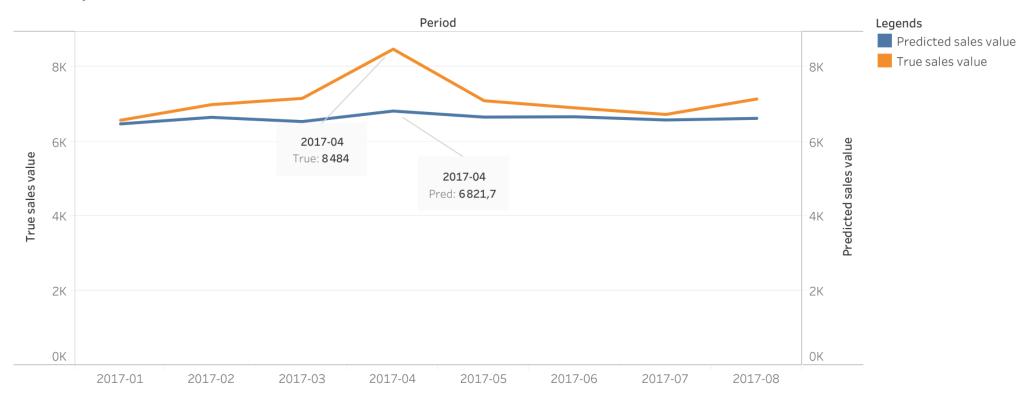
Grocery I - prediction global tendency



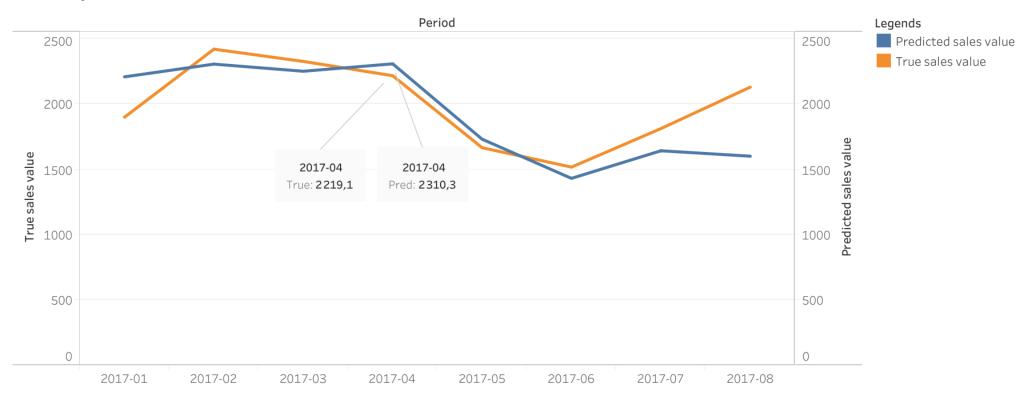
#### Grocery I - store 4



#### Grocery I - store 9



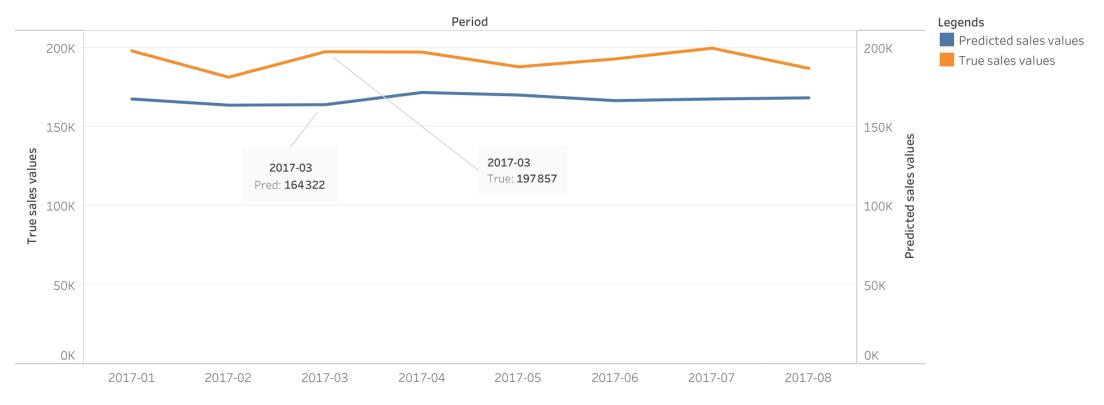
#### Grocery I - store 25



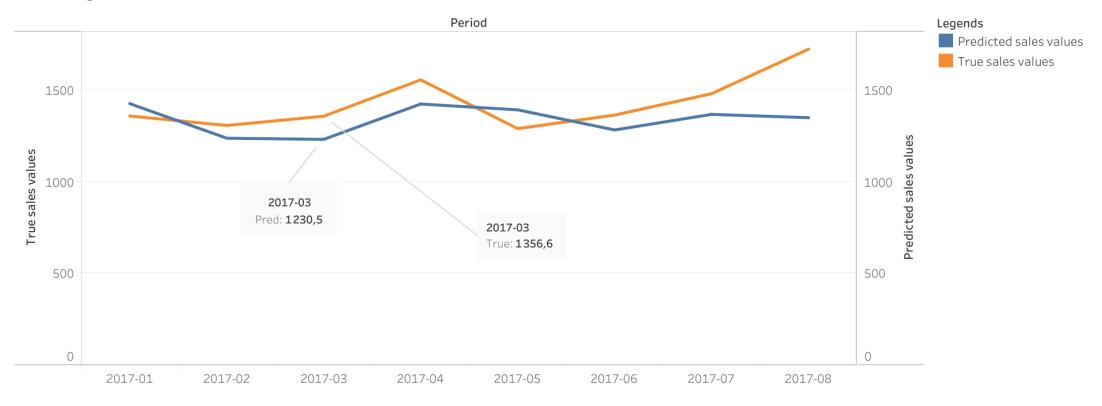
# Model performance for "GROCERY I" category by store

Error percentage %	Model accuracy
5	28.90
10	56.87
15	80.09
20	91.20

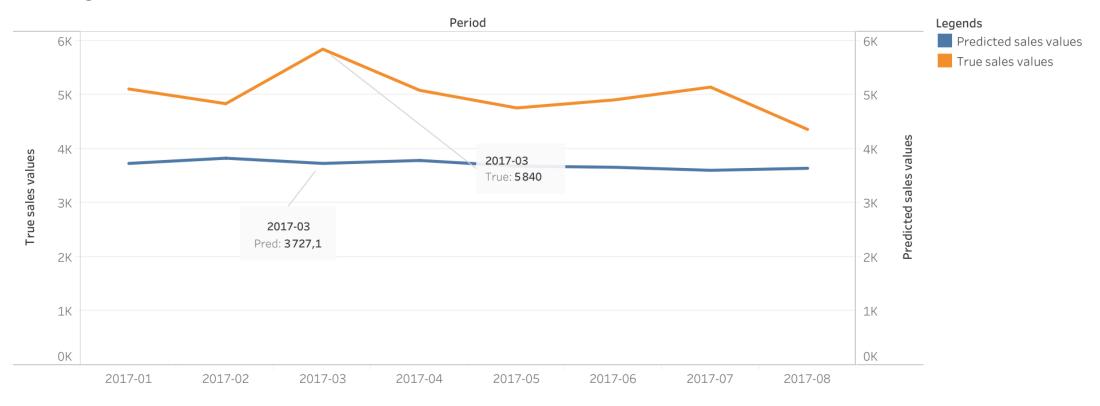
#### Beverages - prediction global tendency



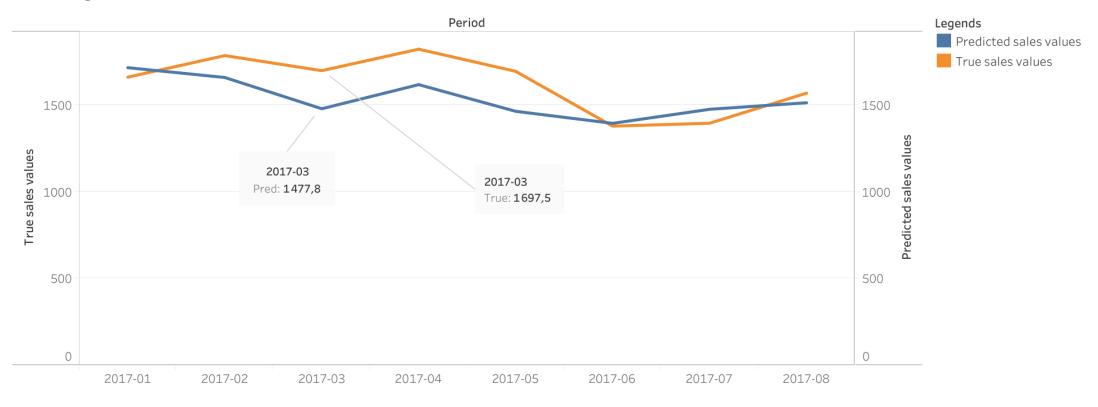
#### Beverages - store 14



#### Beverages - store 50



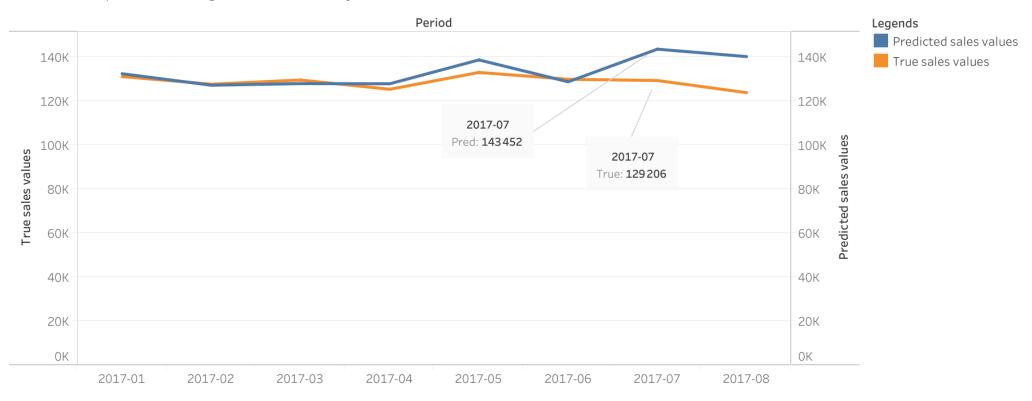
#### Beverages - Store 35



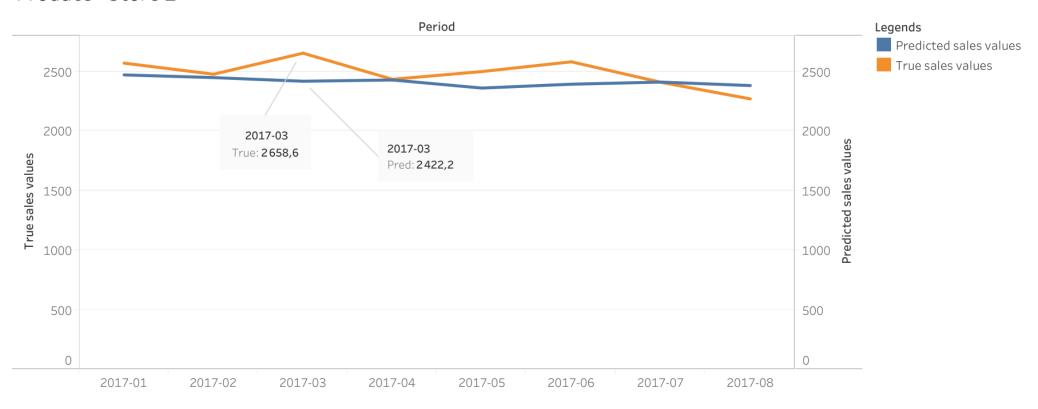
# Model performance for "BEVERAGES" category by store

Error percentage %	Model accuracy
5	20.51
10	44.99
15	63.64
20	78.32

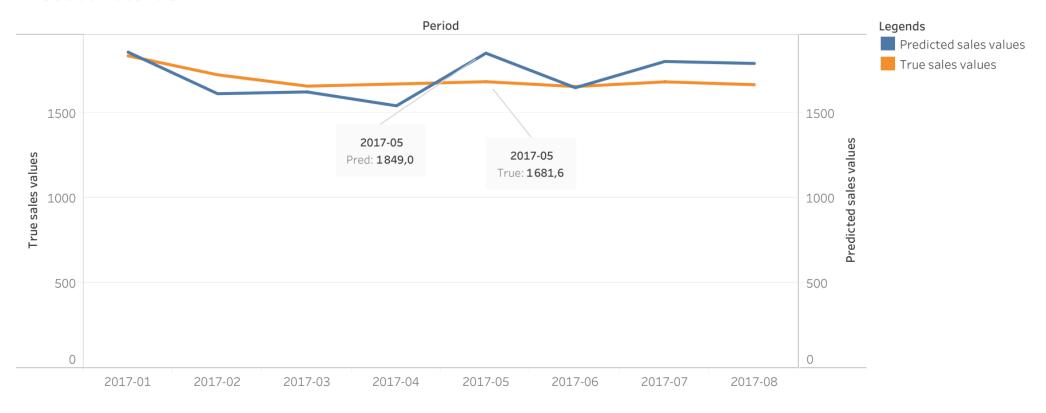
#### Produce - prediction global tendency



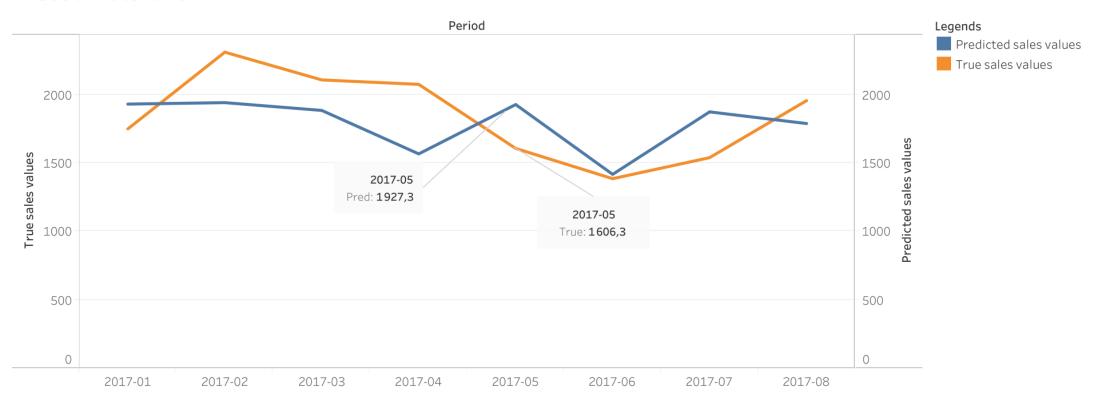
#### Produce - Store 1



#### Produce - Store 9



#### Produce - Store 25



# Model performance for "PRODUCE" category demand by store

Error percentage %	Model accuracy
5	40.56
10	59.67
15	71.56
20	76.45

Model performance on predicting monthly sales at each store for financial planning

Error percentage %	Model accuracy
5	28.67
10	57.81
15	69.68
20	78.79
30	90.21

Monthly sales by store

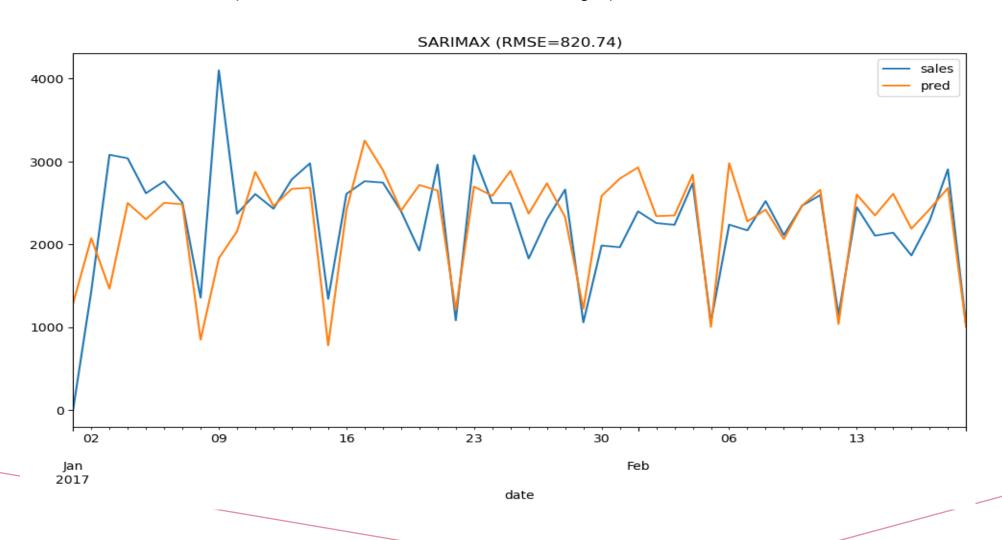
Model performance on predicting monthly sales for remaining categories at each store for transportation planning

Error percentage %	Model accuracy
5	25.34
10	45.69
15	61.32
20	72.31

Each category of product at each store

# Daily sales

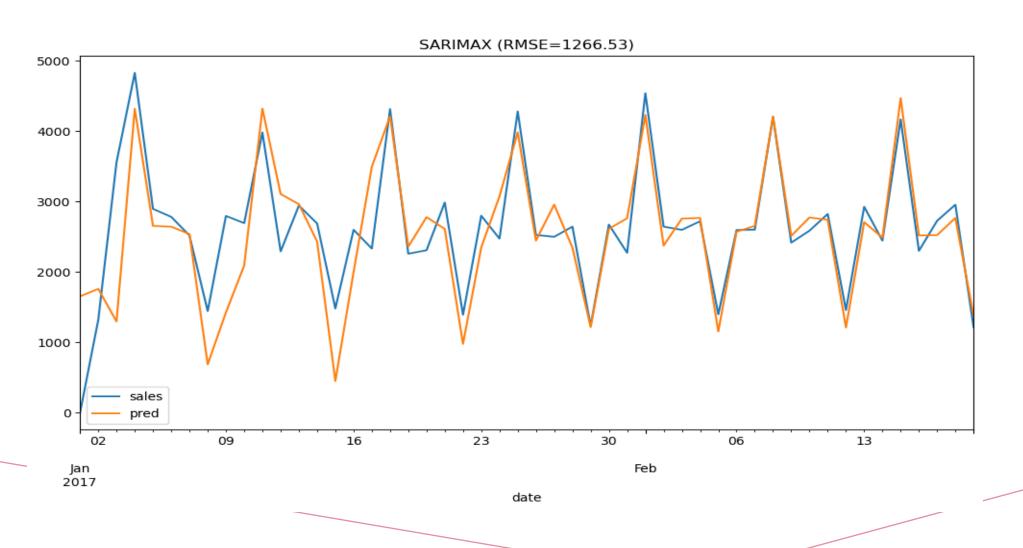
SARIMAX model with no period lead time for "BEVERAGES" category



Model performance on predicting daily sales for "BEVERAGES" category at each stores

Error percentage %	Model accuracy
5	28.19
10	48.90
15	66.96
20	75.77

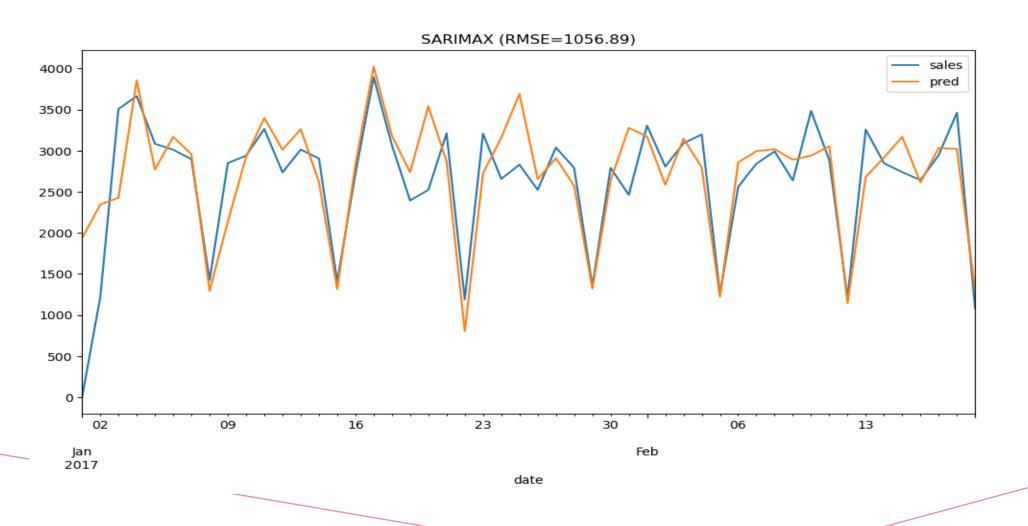
SARIMAX model with no lead time period for "PRODUCE" category



Model performance on predicting daily sales for "PRODUCE" category at each stores

Error percentage %	Model accuracy
5	28.63
10	54.19
15	70.48
20	79.30

SARIMAX model with no lead time period for "GROCERY I" category



Model performance on predicting daily sales for "PRODUCE" category at each stores

Error percentage %	Model accuracy
5	28.63
10	51.54
15	67.84
20	78.41

#### IMPROVEMENT ON THE MODEL

- More information on the dataset to handle missing and low values. Those values decrease the model accuracy.
- Case by case analysis. Some series have incompatible behaviors that requires different types of features engineering.

