Project Name, Participants, and Workflow:

Project Name:

Time Series Analysis of Iowa Liquor Sales

Participants:

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Workflow:

We will use Discord, email, and Zoom meetings to connect with each other. We will also have the weekly meeting on Saturday before the class.

We will use GitHub as the code version control. We can update the code and version on GitHub.

Project Abstract:

Motivation:

As we all know, retail businesses have a 'goldilocks' problem when it comes to inventory: don't stock too much, but don't stock too little. If we stock too much, it will occupy the huge amount of money and have the risk that products can't be sold due to the production time, consumer favor, and so on. If we stock too little, we will probably miss the time to sell the product and miss the big chance to earn money. So, we need to use historic data and suitable models to analyze and to predict the consumption of products in the future. It will help the business owner to make a good decision in advance.

Objectives:

Our project is to use lowa liquor sales data in multiple ways to analyze customer behavior for liquor consumption. As a brief bit of background, Iowa is an alcohol beverage control state, meaning that the state maintains a monopoly on wholesaling of alcohol throughout the State. Effectively, private retailers must purchase their alcohol from the state before selling it to individual consumers. We will use a time series model (ARIMA) to train the historic data and forecast the consumption in the future. All the computation and model deployment are on the google cloud. We will use Google BigQuery ML to extract the data and create a dashboard to show predicted metrics

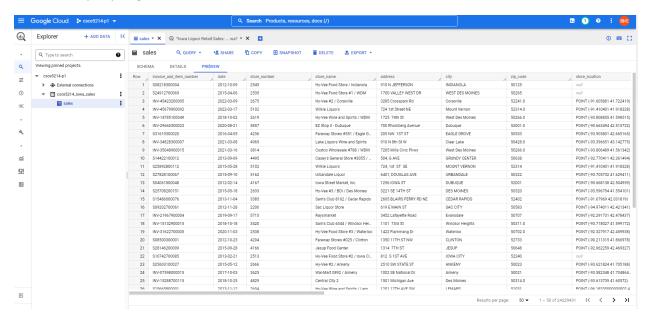
Data specification:

Dataset:

The lowa liquor retail sales dataset is available through lowa's state-hosted open data portal^[1]. This dataset contains every wholesale purchase of liquor in the State of lowa by retailers for sale to

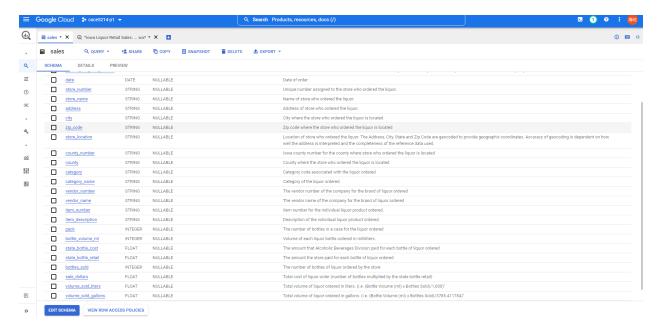
individuals since January 1, 2012. The dataset has the liquor sale data including different type of store. Some are wholesale, some are grocery stores. There are 24 features and 2.7 million rows in the dataset. We will use the date, category_name, item_description, state_bottle_cost, state_bottle_retail, bottle_sold, sale_dollars.

Because we use google cloud, The Iowa liquor dataset are stored in bigquery-public-data, we can write some query to get data that we want.



Features:

We have 24 features in our dataset. The data types of these features are date, string, integer and float.



Date: date of the order (eg:'2020-08-19')

Stroe_name: name of the store (eg: Wilkie Liquors)

City: the city of the store (eg: Mount Vernon)

Category_name : the category of the liquor(eg: Neutral Grain Spirits)

Vendor_name : the name of the vendor (eg: LUXCO INC)

Item_description: description of the individual liquor (eg: Templeton Rye)

State_bottle_cost: the cost of each bottle of liquor

State_bottle_retail:the retail price of each bottle of liquor

Bottles_sold: the amount of liquor sold

Sale_dollars: the amount of money of liquor sales.

Project Design and Milestones:

Programming language:

We will use Python as the programming language, and JavaScript to create the UI dashboard.

Cloud platform:

Our main application platform will be Google Cloud, which will handle data computation and model deployment. We will use BigQuery to extract and analyze the data from the database.

Models:

We will use the time-series Model (ARIMA) in our project. In our daily life, Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average (ARIMA) models have many places to use. For example, if we need to forecast the stock of the product, we can use this model to forecast. In some factories, the stock of product is very important for them to plan the product. If we could use the ARIMA model to predict the stock in the future, it would be helpful for us.

ARIMA models are a general class of models used for forecasting time series data. ARIMA models are generally denoted as ARIMA (p,d,q) where p is the order of autoregressive model, d is the degree of differencing, and q is the order of moving-average model. ARIMA models use differencing to convert a non-stationary time series into a stationary one, and then predict future values from historical data.

Since the data has seasonal pattern, we use SARIMA (p,d,q)x(P,D,Q,s) model, which 'p' and seasonal 'P' are the order of autoregressive terms, 'd' and seasonal 'D' are the order of differencing, 'q' and seasonal 'Q' are the order of moving average terms and 's' indicates seasonal length in the series. The ACF (autocorrelation function) and PACF (partial autocorrelation function) plots are used to determine the SARIMA parameters.

We will also use Google's cloud services to create models for comparison. Google provides resources for a full training and deployment pipeline, with a python API that will allow for integration into the application. Google's Vertex AI offers a wide range of state-of-the-art models for various tasks. To predict tabular time-series data, Vertex's tabular regression and tabular forecasting models are ideal.

Deploy Model:

In our group, we use two ways to deploy the model. One way is a customized method, through importing ARIMA library to train the data and predict the result. Another uses the Vertix AI to train and predict the result.

Method 1: Customized method

Import the data:

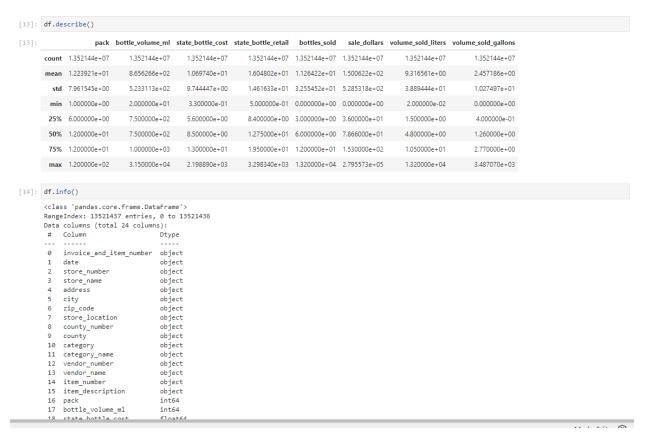
The data are stored in bigguery-public-data.iowa_liquor_sales.sales.

```
■ Data processiong_visualizatic×
# Python 3 O
      [3]: import datetime
           import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
           import pandas as pd
import statsmodels.api as sm
            from google.cloud import bigquery
from google.cloud.bigquery import Client
           from sklearn.metrics import (mean_absolute_error,
mean_absolute_percentage_error,
                                         mean_squared_error)
           %matplotlib inline
            import warnings
           warnings.filterwarnings("ignore")
            # Project and dataset where the model will be saved
            PROJECT = "csce5214-p1"
           DATASET = "csce5214_iowa_sales"
           # Source table for training data
SOURCE_TABLE = "'bigquery-public-data`.iowa_liquor_sales.sales"
           #MODEL_NAME_PREFIX = "bqml_arimaplus_dw_"
           #MODEL_TYPE = "arima_plus"
            #GRANUI ARTTY = "DATIY"
```

We write a query to extract the data (from 2017-01-01 to 2022-06-30), and transfer them to dataframe format.

```
[5]: client = Client(project=PROJECT)
[6]: query = """
SELECT * FROM `bigquery-public-data.iowa_liquor_sales.sales`
where date between '2017-01-01' and '2022-06-30'
      query_job = client.query(query)
[7]: df = query_job.to_dataframe()
[9]: df.head(10)
      invoice_and_item_number date store_number store_name
                                                                                             city zip_code
                                                                            address
                                                                                                                  store_location county_number
                                                                                                                                                           county ... item_number item_descri
                                                                 Casey's
                                                                                                               POINT (-94.985437
                                                                General
                   INV-30344900004
                                                                                                                                               69 MONTGOMERY ...
                                                      5864
                                                                                           Villisca
                                                                                                     50864
                                                                                                                                                                               36904
                                                             Store #2803
                                                                               Ave
                                                                                                                      40.934673)
                                                                                                                                                                                             Vodk
                                                                Casey's
                   INV-34229000003 2021-
02-11
                                                              General
Store #6 /
                                                                          407 8th St
                                                                                                               POINT (-93,469065
                                                                                                   50009.0 41.64403500000001)
                                                                                                                                                             POLK ..
                                                                Altoona
                                                               Hy-Vee
Food and
                                                                               1990
                                                                                                                POINT (-93.73162
                   INV-26244900132 2020-
04-01
                                                                                        West Des
                                                     2521
                                                                Drug /
Grand /
                                                                             Grand
                                                                                                    50265.0
                                                                                                                                                             POLK ...
                                                                                                                                                                               37413
                                                                                                                                                                                           Popov
                                                                                                                      41.571127)
                                                                            Avenue
                                                                  WDM
                                                                Casey's
                                                                                                                POINT (-90.47859
                                                                General
      3
                   INV-37665500005
                                                                                       Bettendorf 52722.0
                                                                                                                                               82
                                                                                                                                                            SCOTT ...
                                                                                                                                                                               36901
                                                             Store #2429
                                                                            State St
                                                                                                                       41.53064)
                                                                                                                                                                                            Vodk
                                                             / Bettendorf
                                                                              648 N
                   INV-11514800015 2018-
04-16
                                                                                                               POINT (-90.590879
                                                                                                                                                                                            Mccc
                                                                                                                                                            SCOTT ...
                                                                                       Davenport 52802.0
                                                                                                                                               82
                                                                                                                                                                               36903
                                                                                                                      41.526469)
                                                                Hy-Vee
```

Explore the data



We find the date, sale_dollars ,bottles_sold don't have missing value.Address ,city,zip-code,store location,country number,county,category,category name have missing value

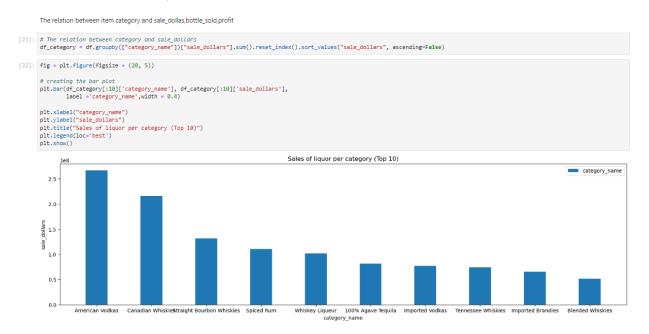
```
[17]: # check the missing data
      df.isnull().sum()
[17]: invoice_and_item_number
     store_number
      category
      category_name
vendor_number
      vendor_name
      item_number
item_description
      bottle_volume_ml
      state_bottle_cost
      state_bottle_retail
      bottles sold
      sale_dollars
      volume_sold_liters
      volume_sold_gallons
dtype: int64
```

Since the percentage of missing value is so small, we just drop the missing value.

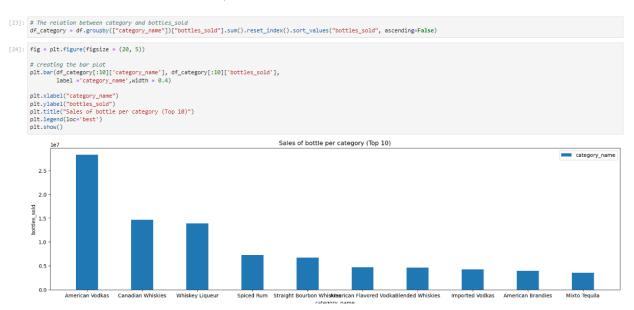
```
[18]: df_null = pd.DataFrame(df.isnull().sum()).reset_index().rename(columns={0:'total_number'})
    df_null["percent"] = 100*df_null["total_number"] / int(len(df))
[18]:
            index total_number percent
     0 invoice_and_item_number
                               0.000000
     1 date 0 0.000000
     2 store_number
                             0.000000
     3 store_name 0 0.000000
              address 50842 0.376010
          city 50841 0.376003
     6
                            50841 0.376003
     7 store_location 1379038 10.198901
     8
         county_number 50843 0.376018
       county 50841 0.376003
     10
                             8751 0.064719
                category
     11 category_name 8751 0.064719
     12
             vendor_number
                               7 0.000052
           vendor_name 7 0.000052
     13
     14
            item_number 0 0.000000
         item_description 0 0.000000
     16
             pack
                          0 0.000000
            bottle_volume_ml 0 0.000000
     17
             state_bottle_cost
                          0 0.000000
            state_bottle_retail
     19
     20
             bottles sold
                         0 0,000000
             sale_dollars 0 0.000000
                               0.000000
     22
            volume sold liters
         volume_sold_gallons 0 0.000000
     23
```

Data Visualization

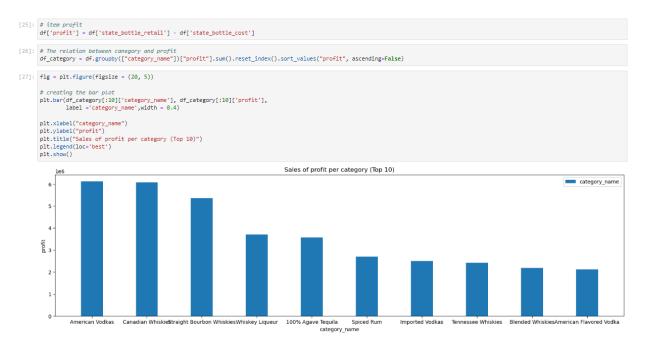
In this figure, we could find the relationship between the category and sale_dollars. The sale of American Voldkas is the top 1.



In this figure, we could find the relationship between the category and the sales of bottle. The sales of bottles of American Voldkas is the top 1.



In this figure, we could find the relationship between the profit and category. The profit of American Voldkas is the top 1.profit = state_bottle_retail - state_bottle_retail.



We transfer the daily data to the month data.



ARIMA Model

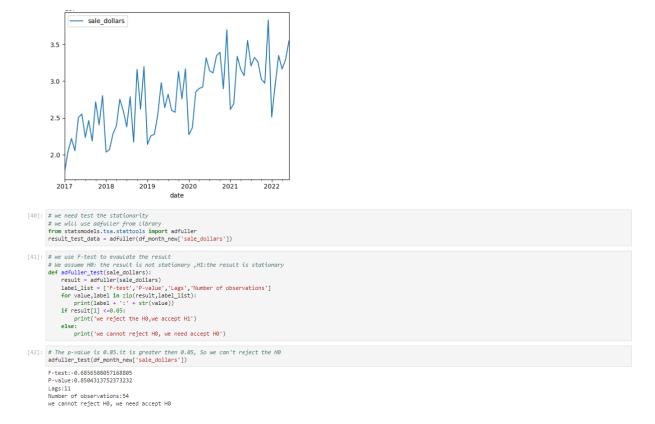
We need to check if the data are stationary. We will use the adfuller library to check.

We will use F-test to evaluate the result. We assume:

H0: the result is not stationary

H1: the result is stationary

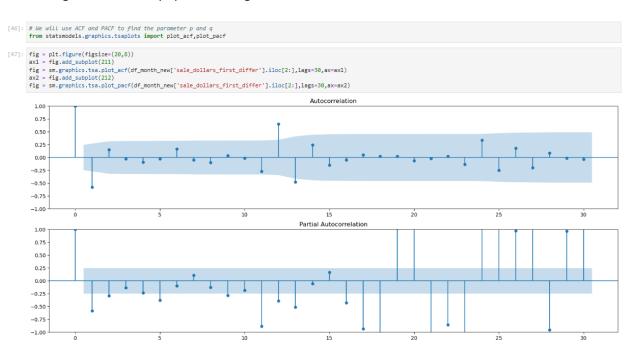
From the figure and the P-value, we find the data is not stationary. We need use difference to modify.



We differ 1 shift of the data, the p-value is 0.00105, it is stationary.

ACF and PACF

We can get the value of p,q from the figure of ACF and PACF.



In order to find the optimal parameter of p,q,d, we write a function to run ,and split the dataset 2/3 are training data,1/3 are test data.

We set the parameters range. P [0-10],d [0,1,2],q [0,1,2]

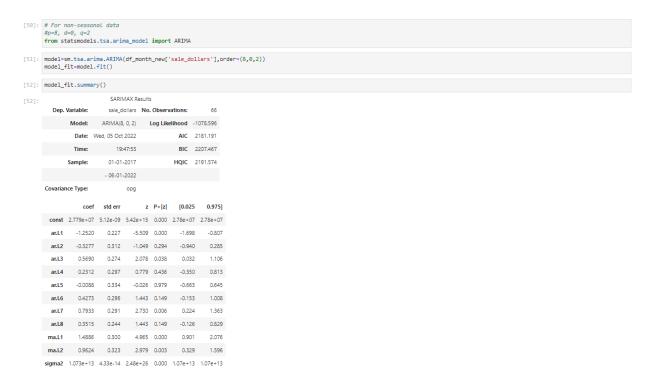
At last, we got the optimal parameters ARIMA (8,0,2), we can use the parameters to predict the result.

```
[49]: # Load dataset
# evaluate parameters
p_values = renage(0, 11)
d_values = renage(0, 3)
q_values = renage(0, 3)
warnings.filterwarnings("ignor")
evaluate_models(df_month_new("sale_dollars_first_differ'].dropna().values, q_values, d_values, q_values)

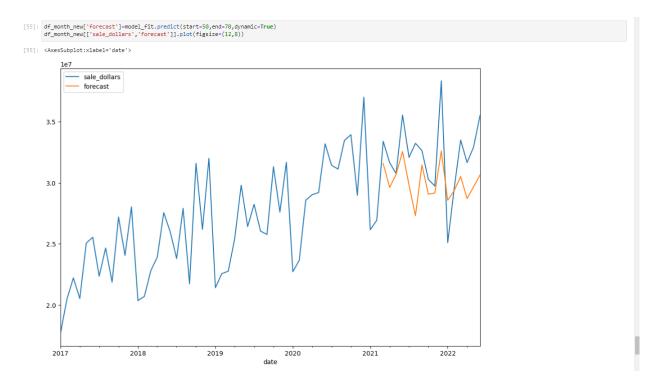
ARIMA(0, 0, 0) NNSC=5146022.648
ARIMA(0, 0, 2) NNSC=571270.194
ARIMA(0, 0, 2) NNSC=53659451.003
ARIMA(0, 1, 1) NNSC=53659451.003
ARIMA(0, 1, 1) NNSC=5702955.601
ARIMA(0, 1, 1) NNSC=51765941.457
ARIMA(0, 1, 2) NNSC=51765941.857
ARIMA(0, 2, 0) NNSC=51765943.800
ARIMA(0, 2, 0) NNSC=51765943.800
ARIMA(0, 2, 0) NNSC=590439.227
ARIMA(1, 0, 0) NNSC=5356220.457
ARIMA(1, 0, 0) NNSC=5356220.457
ARIMA(1, 0, 0) NNSC=5356262.0.457
ARIMA(1, 1, 0) NNSC=7094277.796
ARIMA(1, 1, 0) NNSC=7094277.796
ARIMA(1, 1, 1) NNSC=7094277.796
ARIMA(1, 1, 1) NNSC=7094277.796
ARIMA(1, 1, 2) NNSC=7108594.851
ARIMA(1, 2, 0) NNSC=7108594.851
ARIMA(1, 2, 0) NNSC=7108594.851
ARIMA(1, 2, 0) NNSC=4608533.749
ARIMA(1, 2, 0) NNSC=4608533.749
ARIMA(1, 2, 0) NNSC=4608533.749
ARIMA(2, 0, 0) NNSC=4608537.841
```

```
ARIMA(5, 2, 2) RNSE-5128839.535
ARIMA(6, 0, 0) RNSE-4101966.707
ARIMA(6, 0, 1) RNSE-4101287.932
ARIMA(6, 0, 1) RNSE-4101287.932
ARIMA(6, 1, 0) RNSE-3921218.769
ARIMA(6, 1, 0) RNSE-3921218.769
ARIMA(6, 1, 1) RNSE-4200423.498
ARIMA(6, 1, 1) RNSE-4200423.498
ARIMA(6, 1, 2) RNSE-4614622.653
ARIMA(6, 2, 2) RNSE-469396.617
ARIMA(6, 2, 2) RNSE-469767.680
ARIMA(7, 0, 0) RNSE-3978310.611
ARIMA(7, 0, 1) RNSE-4128485.468
ARIMA(7, 0, 2) RNSE-498540.156
ARIMA(7, 0, 2) RNSE-498541.499
ARIMA(7, 1, 1) RNSE-4170174.561
ARIMA(7, 1, 1) RNSE-4170174.561
ARIMA(7, 1, 2) RNSE-493089.900
ARIMA(7, 1, 2) RNSE-4930821.699
ARIMA(7, 2, 2) RNSE-4936421.699
ARIMA(7, 2, 2) RNSE-493113.460
ARIMA(8, 0, 0) RNSE-4124967.050
ARIMA(8, 0, 0) RNSE-4124967.050
ARIMA(8, 0, 1) RNSE-4170174.561
ARIMA(8, 0, 2) RNSE-439113.460
ARIMA(8, 0, 2) RNSE-439113.460
ARIMA(8, 1, 1) RNSE-4391113.460
ARIMA(8, 0, 2) RNSE-4391154.679
ARIMA(8, 1, 1) RNSE-4391154.679
ARIMA(8, 1, 1) RNSE-4391154.679
ARIMA(8, 1, 1) RNSE-4391154.699
ARIMA(8, 1, 1) RNSE-4391154.699
ARIMA(8, 1, 1) RNSE-4391154.791
ARIMA(8, 1, 1) RNSE-4391155.742
ARIMA(9, 0, 0) RNSE-64951261.380
ARIMA(8, 0, 2) RNSE-6496145.696
ARIMA(9, 0, 1) RNSE-439185.742
ARIMA(9, 0, 0) RNSE-6496145.696
ARIMA(9, 0, 1) RNSE-4399185.742
ARIMA(9, 0, 0) RNSE-6496145.696
ARIMA(9, 0, 1) RNSE-4399185.742
ARIMA(9, 0, 0) RNSE-6496126.3813
ARIMA(9, 0, 0) RNSE-6496126.3813
ARIMA(9, 0, 0) RNSE-6496126.3813
ARIMA(9, 0, 0) RNSE-6496026.690
ARIMA(9, 0, 1) RNSE-6497931.1693
ARIMA(9, 0, 0) RNSE-6498026.697
ARIMA(9, 0, 0) RNSE-6498026.697
ARIMA(9, 0, 0) RNSE-6497931.693
ARIMA(10, 0, 0) RNSE-6498026.697
ARIMA(10, 0, 0) RNSE
```

Train the model



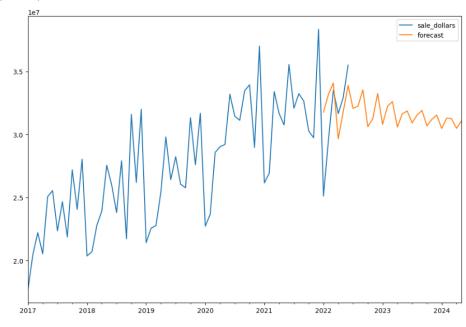
The blue line is the real sale_dollors, the orange line is the forecast value.



Predict the data:

We use the next 24 month as the data to predict the sale.





Vertex AI

For comparison, we are also developing models through Google's Vertex AI platform. Vertex AI allows for quick prototyping and deployment of standard models for a variety of input types. For this project, we are using Vertex's tabular regression and tabular forecasting models. The regression model uses standard regression techniques to predict a continuous value, in our case the value is sale numbers.

Much of the inner workings of the models are hidden, so special attention must be paid to data preparation. The following images show our data setup. On the left is the dataset for regression, the right is the data for forecasting. These are slices of the same original dataset, but the forecasting data covers a smaller time period. For both models, we have selected item number as the series identifier. This means that the model will view the dataset as many distinct time series, one for each product. For the forecasting model, we must also specify a timestamp for the series. In this case, we can use the "date" column.

Column name ↑	BigQuery type	BigQuery mode					
address	STRING	NULLABLE					
bottle_volume_ml	INTEGER	NULLABLE	Filter Enter property na	ame or value			0
bottles_sold	INTEGER	NULLABLE	Column name \uparrow	BigQuery type	BigQuery mode	Missing % (count)	Distinct va
category	STRING	NULLABLE	address	STRING	NULLABLE	0.59% (79792)	3470
category_name	STRING	NULLABLE	bottle_volume_ml	INTEGER	NULLABLE	-	50
city	STRING	NULLABLE	bottles_sold	INTEGER	NULLABLE	-	516
county	STRING	NULLABLE	category	STRING	NULLABLE	0.12% (15710)	107
county_number	STRING	NULLABLE	category_name	STRING	NULLABLE	0.17% (22726)	130
	DATE	NULLABLE	county	STRING	NULLABLE	1.11% (150335)	202
date			county_number	STRING	NULLABLE	1.11% (150337)	100
invoice_and_item_number	STRING	NULLABLE	date	DATE	NULLABLE	-	1472
item_description	STRING	NULLABLE	Timestamp column				
item_number	STRING	NULLABLE	invoice_and_item_number	STRING	NULLABLE	•	13590124
Series identifier			item_description	STRING	NULLABLE	-	7217
pack	INTEGER	NULLABLE	item_number	STRING	NULLABLE		7855
sale_dollars	FLOAT	NULLABLE	Series identifier				
state_bottle_cost	FLOAT	NULLABLE	pack	INTEGER	NULLABLE	•	27
state_bottle_retail	FLOAT	NULLABLE	sale_dollars	FLOAT	NULLABLE	-	22045
store_location	STRING	NULLABLE	state_bottle_cost	FLOAT	NULLABLE	-	2463
store_name	STRING	NULLABLE	state_bottle_retail	FLOAT	NULLABLE		2721
store_number	STRING	NULLABLE	store_location	STRING	NULLABLE	9.81% (1333559)	1787
			store_name store_number	STRING	NULLABLE	-	2351
vendor_name	STRING	NULLABLE	vendor_name	STRING	NULLABLE	0%	442
vendor_number	STRING	NULLABLE	vendor_name vendor_number	STRING	NULLABLE	0%	546
volume_sold_gallons	FLOAT	NULLABLE	volume_sold_gallons	FLOAT	NULLABLE	-	1393
volume_sold_liters	FLOAT	NULLABLE	volume_sold_liters	FLOAT	NULLABLE		1174
zip_code	STRING	NULLABLE	zip_code	STRING	NULLABLE	0.59% (79836)	943

The forecast model in particular has presented steep barriers. The increased complexity of the model means that only a small subset of the data can be processed at any time. For now we have aggregated the data into weekly measures and are operating on a greatly reduced dataset. Unfortunately, due to Google's attempts to obfuscate how their proprietary models function, models cannot be trained on additional data after they are created. In addition, as one of the newest additions to Google's AI platform, Vertex Forecasting is quite costly. This has limited our ability to experiment with potential solutions. More research will need to be done to see if these problems can be overcome.

2 regression models are trained and ready to be deployed, but have not been integrated into the project notebook yet.

BigQuery ML - ARIMA+

BigQuery ML ("BQML") is a SQL-based method native to Google BigQuery that enables data analysts to train models easily.

For this technology, we created a weekly-aggregated dataset for a 3-year period up to 2022 and used BQML forecasting to predict the first 3 months of 2022. Compared against the held out test set, BQML ARIMA+ achieved the following results after training for over 12 hours:

RMSE: 36.37

WAPE (Weighted Average Precision Error, commonly used in retail forecasting): 44%

• Bias (tendency to over- or under-predict): -0.08 (slightly under-predicting bottles sold)

• MAE: 5.94

These results are quite good (TODO: quantify this statement), but in future iterations of this project, we need to unify the calculation of these evaluation metrics across the other trialed approaches (ARIMA, SARIMA, Vertex Forecasting neural net) and add directionality measures in order to provide a direct comparison.

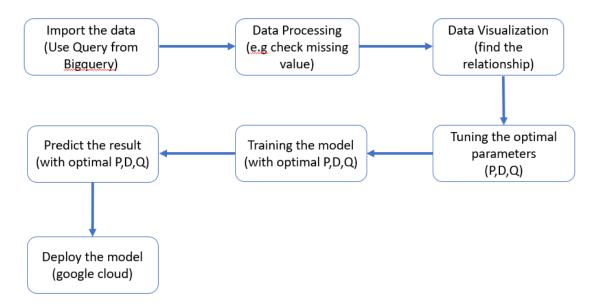
For BQML ARIMA+ and Vertex Forecasting, the training table was aggregated by week for the years 2019-2021 with held out test data from the first half of 2022. Further work will see more unification across the train/test split experiments we have conducted.

Remaining Milestones:

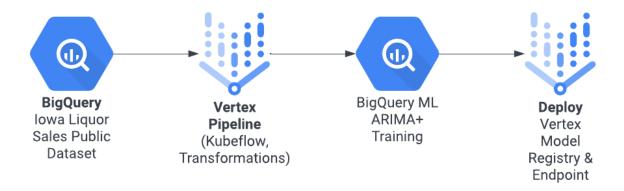
Week 6 Oct 8:

- 1. Create the pipeline
- 2. Testing the system
- 3. Complete the final report
- 4. Prepare the presentation

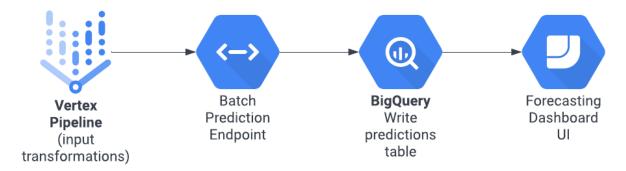
Architecture of the system/work flow



Training pipeline



Serving pipeline (batch)



Resources and Related Projects:

[1] Iowa liquor sales data

https://data.iowa.gov/Sales-Distribution/Iowa-Liquor-Sales/m3tr-qhgy

[2] ARIMA

https://www.capitalone.com/tech/machine-learning/understanding-arima-models/

[3] BigQuery ML on Google Cloud

https://cloud.google.com/blog/topics/developers-practitioners/how-build-demand-forecasting-models-bigquery-ml

[4] How to Convert a Time Series to a Supervised Learning Problem in Python

https://machinelearningmastery.com/grid-search-arima-hyperparameters-with-python/