

# Project Report: Online Retail Data Analysis Using SQL

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## 1. Introduction

### Objective:

The primary goal of this project is to analyze an online retail dataset using SQL to extract valuable insights into customer behavior, product affinity, purchase patterns, and customer segmentation. By leveraging SQL queries, we aim to identify key customer segments, understand purchasing behavior, and determine opportunities for enhancing marketing strategies and improving customer retention.

### Dataset Overview:

The dataset consists of transactional data from an online retail store, containing details such as invoice numbers, product codes, descriptions, quantities, invoice dates, unit prices, customer IDs, and countries. This data was analyzed using SQL queries executed in MySQL Workbench.

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## 2. Tools and Technologies Used

- **SQL Tool:** MySQL Workbench
  - **Database Management System:** MySQL
  - **Programming Language:** SQL
  - **Data Source:** Online Retail dataset
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## 3. SQL Queries Executed and Analysis

### Beginner Queries:

#### ➤ Define Metadata in SQL Tool

Created a table structure (online\_retail) to store data using SQL.

```
7  -- Beginner Queries
8
9  -- Query 1: Define Metadata in SQL Tool
10 • CREATE TABLE online_retail (
11      InvoiceNo VARCHAR(10),
12      StockCode VARCHAR(10),
13      Description VARCHAR(255),
14      Quantity INT,
15      InvoiceDate DATETIME,
16      UnitPrice DECIMAL(10, 2),
17      CustomerID VARCHAR(10),
18      Country VARCHAR(100)
19 );
```

#### ➤ Distribution of Order Values Across All Customers

Calculated the total order value for each customer to determine top spenders.

```

20
21 -- Query 2: Distribution of Order Values Across All Customers
22 • SELECT
23     CustomerID,
24     SUM(Quantity * UnitPrice) AS TotalOrderValue
25 FROM online_retail
26 GROUP BY CustomerID
27 ORDER BY TotalOrderValue DESC;
28

```

#	CustomerID	TotalOrderValue
1	16029	3702.12
2	16210	2474.7399999999993
3	12433	1919.1400000000008
4	17511	1825.74
5	17850	1499.3399999999999
6	13408	1024.6800000000003
7	15485	950.09
8	12583	855.86
9	13694	842.12

### ➤ Unique Products Purchased by Each Customer

Identified the number of unique products purchased by each customer.

```

29 -- Query3: Unique Products Purchased by Each Customer
30 • SELECT
31     CustomerID,
32     COUNT(DISTINCT StockCode) AS UniqueProductsPurchased
33 FROM
34     online_retail
35 GROUP BY
36     CustomerID
37 ORDER BY
38     UniqueProductsPurchased DESC;
39

```

#	CustomerID	UniqueProductsPurchased
1	17968	74
2	12433	73
3	14729	69
4	15862	64

### ➤ Most Commonly Purchased Products Together

Determined which products are most frequently bought together.

```

47 -- Query 5: Most Commonly Purchased Products Together
48 • SELECT
49     a.StockCode AS ProductA,
50     b.StockCode AS ProductB,
51     COUNT(*) AS TimesPurchasedTogether
52 FROM online_retail a
53 JOIN online_retail b ON a.InvoiceNo = b.InvoiceNo AND a.StockCode < b.StockCode
54 GROUP BY a.StockCode, b.StockCode
55 ORDER BY TimesPurchasedTogether DESC
56 LIMIT 10;
57

```

#	ProductA	ProductB	TimesPurchasedTogether
1	21448	85049E	15
2	21448	22273	15
3	21448	22749	15
4	21448	22243	15
5	21448	21738	15
6	21448	22077	15
7	22197	22866	11
8	21448	22902	10
9	21448	21708	10

### ➤ Advanced Queries:

#### ➤ Customer Segmentation by Purchase Frequency

Segmented customers based on their purchase frequency into High, Medium, and Low categories.

```

60  -- 1. Customer Segmentation by Purchase Frequency
61 • SELECT
62     CustomerID,
63     COUNT(DISTINCT InvoiceNo) AS PurchaseFrequency,
64     CASE
65         WHEN COUNT(DISTINCT InvoiceNo) > 20 THEN 'High'
66         WHEN COUNT(DISTINCT InvoiceNo) BETWEEN 5 AND 20 THEN 'Medium'
67         ELSE 'Low'
68     END AS FrequencySegment
69 FROM
70     online_retail
71 GROUP BY
72     CustomerID
73 ORDER BY
74     PurchaseFrequency DESC;
75

```

#	CustomerID	PurchaseFrequency	FrequencySegment
1	17850	10	Medium
2	14849	3	Low
3	13047	3	Low

### ➤ Average Order Value by Country

Computed the average order value for each country to identify the most valuable markets.

```

76  -- 2. Average Order Value by Country
77 • SELECT
78     Country,
79     AVG(TotalOrderValue) AS AverageOrderValue
80 FROM (
81     SELECT
82         Country,
83         InvoiceNo,
84         SUM(Quantity * UnitPrice) AS TotalOrderValue
85     FROM online_retail
86     GROUP BY Country, InvoiceNo
87 ) AS OrderValues
88 GROUP BY Country
89 ORDER BY AverageOrderValue DESC;

```

#	Country	AverageOrderValue
1	Norway	1919.1400000000008
2	France	855.86
3	United Kingdom	369.8485915492959
4	Australia	358.25
5	Germany	261.48
6	Netherlands	192.60000000000002

### ➤ Time-Based Analysis

Analyzed sales patterns by month and quarter to identify seasonal trends.

#### • Monthly Sales Pattern:

```

120  -- 5. Time-Based Analysis
121  -- Monthly Sales Pattern:
122 • SELECT
123     DATE_FORMAT(STR_TO_DATE(InvoiceDate, '%m/%d/%Y'), '%Y-%m') AS Month,
124     SUM(Quantity * UnitPrice) AS TotalSales
125 FROM
126     online_retail
127 GROUP BY
128     Month
129 ORDER BY
130     Month;

```

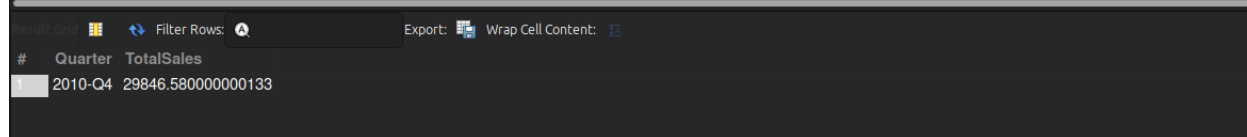
#	Month	TotalSales
1	2010-12	29846.580000000133

- Quarterly Sales Pattern:

```

131
132 -- Quarterly Sales Pattern:
133 • SELECT
134     CONCAT(YEAR(STR_TO_DATE(InvoiceDate, '%m/%d/%Y')), '-Q', QUARTER(STR_TO_DATE(InvoiceDate, '%m/%d/%Y'))) AS Quarter,
135     SUM(Quantity * UnitPrice) AS TotalSales
136 FROM
137     online_retail
138 GROUP BY
139     Quarter
140 ORDER BY
141     Quarter;

```



#	Quarter	TotalSales
1	2010-Q4	29846.5800000000133

## 4. Key Findings and Insights

- **Top Spenders:** Identified the highest-value customers based on total spending, allowing targeted promotions and loyalty programs.
- **Customer Segmentation:** Segmented customers into high, medium, and low-frequency groups to tailor marketing efforts accordingly.
- **Product Affinity:** Highlighted commonly co-purchased products, providing insights for cross-selling and bundling opportunities.
- **Customer Churn:** Identified customers at risk of churning, enabling proactive retention strategies.
- **Seasonal Trends:** Monthly and quarterly sales patterns provided data for inventory management and sales forecasting.

## 5. Conclusion and Future Work

This analysis of the online retail dataset using SQL has provided valuable insights into customer behavior, product preferences, and sales patterns. The findings can help guide strategic decisions, optimize marketing efforts, and enhance customer retention strategies.

### Future Enhancements:

- Utilize Business Intelligence (BI) tools for advanced data visualization.
- Develop predictive models using machine learning to forecast customer behavior.
- Extend customer segmentation using additional demographic and behavioral data.

## 6. GitHub Profile

- **GitHub Profile:** <https://github.com/ayankarim101>