# **Problem Description:**

Porter is India's Largest Marketplace for Intra-City Logistics. Leader in the country's \$40 billion intra-city logistics market, it strives to improve the lives of 1,50,000+ driver-partners or dashers by providing them with consistent earning & independence. Currently, the company has serviced 5+ million customers. It works with a wide range of restaurants for delivering their items directly to the people. It has a number of delivery partners available for delivering the food, from various restaurants and wants to get an estimated delivery time that it can provide the customers on the basis of what they are ordering, from where and also the delivery partners. This dataset has the required data to train a regression model that will do the delivery time estimation, based on all those features.

Each column corresponds to a feature as explained below.

- market\_id : integer id for the market where the restaurant lies
- created\_at: the timestamp at which the order was placed
- actual\_delivery\_time: the timestamp when the order was delivered
- store\_primary\_category : category for the restaurant
- order\_protocol: integer code value for order protocol(how the order was placed ie: through porter, call to restaurant, pre booked, third party etc)
- total\_items : number of items in order
- subtotal : final price of the order
- num\_distinct\_items: the number of distinct items in the order
- min\_item\_price : price of the cheapest item in the order
- max\_item\_price : price of the costliest item in order
- total\_onshift\_dashers: number of delivery dashers on duty at the time order was placed
- total\_busy\_dashers: number of delivery dashers attending to other tasks
- total\_outstanding\_orders: total number of orders to be fulfilled at the moment

All of these data columns can give us some hints to predict future delivery times. I will create the output columns as

```
delivery_time = actual_delivery_time - created_at
```

```
In [2]: df = pd.read_csv('data_2.csv')
In [3]: df.head()
```

	0	1.0	2015-02- 06 22:24:17	2015-02-06 23:11:17	4	1.0	4	3441				
	1	2.0	2015-02- 10 21:49:25	2015-02-10 22:33:25	46	2.0	1	1900				
	2	2.0	2015-02- 16 00:11:35	2015-02-16 01:06:35	36	3.0	4	4771				
	3	1.0	2015-02- 12 03:36:46	2015-02-12 04:35:46	38	1.0	1	1525				
	4	1.0	2015-01- 27 02:12:36	2015-01-27 02:58:36	38	1.0	2	3620				
									•			
In [5]:	# df.dr	<pre># df.drop(['estimated_store_to_consumer_driving_duration'],axis=1,inplace=True)</pre>										
In [6]:	<pre>df.info()</pre>											
	<pre><class 'pandas.core.frame.dataframe'=""> RangeIndex: 175777 entries, 0 to 175776 Data columns (total 13 columns):</class></pre>											

market\_id created\_at actual\_delivery\_time store\_primary\_category order\_protocol total\_items subtotal num\_

0	market_id	175777 non-null	float64			
1	created_at	175777 non-null	object			
2	actual_delivery_time	175777 non-null	object			
3	store_primary_category	175777 non-null	int64			
4	order_protocol	175777 non-null	float64			
5	total_items	175777 non-null	int64			
6	subtotal	175777 non-null	int64			
7	<pre>num_distinct_items</pre>	175777 non-null	int64			
8	min_item_price	175777 non-null	int64			
9	max_item_price	175777 non-null	int64			
10	total_onshift_dashers	175777 non-null	float64			
11	total_busy_dashers	175777 non-null	float64			
12	total_outstanding_orders	175777 non-null	float64			
dtypos, $float64(E)$ $int64(6)$ $objost(2)$						

dtypes: float64(5), int64(6), object(2)

memory usage: 17.4+ MB

Out[3]:

There are 1,75,777 rows in the dataframe, so it is a large dataset. There are no null values.

## 3 pandas datetime functions.

Datetime: A specific date and time with timezone support. Similar to datetime.datetime from the standard library.

Time deltas: An absolute time duration. Similar to datetime.timedelta from the standard library.

Time spans: A span of time defined by a point in time and its associated frequency.

```
df['created_at'] = pd.to_datetime(df['created_at'])
          df['actual_delivery_time'] = pd.to_datetime(df['actual_delivery_time'])
In [8]:
          df.describe()
Out[8]:
                     market_id store_primary_category order_protocol
                                                                           total_items
                                                                                             subtotal num_distinct_items
                175777.000000
                                         175777.000000
                                                         175777.000000 175777.000000
                                                                                       175777.000000
                                                                                                           175777.000000
          count
                      2.743726
                                             35.887949
                                                              2.911752
                                                                             3.204976
                                                                                         2697.111147
                                                                                                                2.675060
          mean
                       1.330963
                                             20.728254
                                                                                         1828.554893
                                                                                                                1.625681
            std
                                                              1.513128
                                                                             2.674055
                       1.000000
                                              0.000000
                                                              1.000000
                                                                             1.000000
                                                                                            0.000000
                                                                                                                1.000000
            min
           25%
                       2.000000
                                              18.000000
                                                              1.000000
                                                                             2.000000
                                                                                         1412.000000
                                                                                                                1.000000
           50%
                       2.000000
                                             38.000000
                                                              3.000000
                                                                             3.000000
                                                                                         2224.000000
                                                                                                                2.000000
                       4.000000
                                                                                                                3.000000
           75%
                                             55.000000
                                                              4.000000
                                                                             4.000000
                                                                                         3410.000000
```

Market ID has values in the range 1-6, with mean value 2.74 and median 2. There may not be a lot of outliers.

7.000000

411.000000

26800.000000

20.000000

Store primary category has range 0-72, 35.9 mean and 38 median. There maybe a few outliers.

Order protocol has range 1-7, with mean 2.9 and median 3. There maybe a few outliers.

72.000000

6.000000

max

Total items has range 1-411, with mean 3.2 and median 3. There maybe a few outliers.

Subtotal has range 0 to Rs. 26,800. Mean Rs. 2.7k and median 2.2k. There maybe a few outliers.

Number of distinct items has range 1 to 20, with mean 2.67 and median 2. There maybe a few outliers.

Minimum item price ranges from Rs.(-86) to Rs. 14,700. The negative values need to be removed. Mean 684 and median 595. There are many outliers.

Maximum item price has range Rs.0 to Rs. 14,700. Mean Rs. 1,160 and median 1,095. There maybe a few outliers.

Total onshift partners has range -4 to 171. The negative values are erroneous and need to be removed. Mean 44.9 median 37. There maybe a few outliers.

Total busy dashers range from -5 to 154. Mean 41.9 and median 35. There are many outliers.

Total outstanding orders range from -6 to 285. Mean 58.2 and median 41. There are many outliers.

# Data preprocessing and feature engineering

```
In [9]: # clipping off negative valued outliers

df['min_item_price'] = df['min_item_price'].clip(lower=0)

df['min_item_price'].describe()
```

```
Out[9]: count
                   175777.000000
                      684.967533
         mean
         std
                      519.880057
                        0.000000
         min
         25%
                      299.000000
         50%
                      595.000000
         75%
                      942.000000
         max
                    14700.000000
         Name: min_item_price, dtype: float64
In [10]: | df['total_onshift_dashers'] = df['total_onshift_dashers'].clip(lower=0)
         df['total_onshift_dashers'].describe()
                   175777.000000
Out[10]: count
                       44.918886
         mean
         std
                       34.544429
                        0.000000
         min
         25%
                       17.000000
         50%
                       37.000000
         75%
                       66.000000
         max
                      171.000000
         Name: total_onshift_dashers, dtype: float64
In [11]: | df['total_busy_dashers'] = df['total_busy_dashers'].clip(lower=0)
         df['total_busy_dashers'].describe()
Out[11]: count
                   175777,000000
                       41.861597
         mean
         std
                       32.168215
                        0.000000
         min
         25%
                       15.000000
         50%
                       35.000000
         75%
                       63.000000
         max
                      154.000000
         Name: total_busy_dashers, dtype: float64
In [12]: | df['total_outstanding_orders'] = df['total_outstanding_orders'].clip(lower=0)
         df['total_outstanding_orders'].describe()
Out[12]: count
                   175777.000000
         mean
                       58.230758
         std
                       52.730310
         min
                        0.000000
         25%
                       17.000000
         50%
                       41.000000
         75%
                       85.000000
         max
                      285.000000
         Name: total_outstanding_orders, dtype: float64
In [13]:
         df['order_hour'] = df['created_at'].dt.hour
         df['order_hour'].value_counts()
In [14]:
```

```
Out[14]: 2
                32896
                25722
                23693
                13883
          20
                13248
          4
          19
                12083
                11464
          0
          21
                10219
          22
                 7875
          23
                 7334
          5
                 6078
          18
                 4514
          17
                 3058
          16
                 1936
                 1223
          6
          15
                  502
          14
                    38
          7
                    9
                    2
          Name: order_hour, dtype: int64
```

There seems to be missing values from 9 am to 1pm in order hours, or that is not a time preferred by most office going people for ordering food.

### **Duplicated rows checking**

```
In [15]: df.duplicated().sum() # no duplicate rows
```

## Out[15]: 0

### Creating total available dashers feature

```
In [16]: df['total_available_dashers'] = df['total_onshift_dashers'] - df['total_busy_dashers']
In [17]: # removing useless features
df.drop(['total_onshift_dashers','total_busy_dashers'],axis=1,inplace=True)
```

#### Creating the target column

```
Out[21]: 0
               47.0
               44.0
               55.0
          3
               59.0
               46.0
          Name: delivery_time(min), dtype: float64
In [22]: #### Getting the day of the week from the order time
          from datetime import datetime
          # get weekday name
          df['order_day'] = df['created_at'].dt.strftime('%A')
In [23]: df['order_day'].head()
Out[23]: 0
                 Friday
                Tuesday
          2
                 Monday
          3
               Thursday
          4
                Tuesday
          Name: order_day, dtype: object
In [24]:
          df.drop(['created_at', 'actual_delivery_time'], axis=1, inplace=True)
In [25]:
          df.drop(['delivery_time'], axis=1, inplace=True)
          df.head()
In [26]:
             market_id store_primary_category order_protocol total_items subtotal num_distinct_items min_item_price m
Out[26]:
          0
                   1.0
                                                                    4
                                                                                               4
                                                                                                           557
                                          4
                                                       1.0
                                                                          3441
                   2.0
                                                       2.0
                                                                          1900
                                                                                                           1400
                                         46
                                                                    1
                                                                                               1
          2
                                                                                               3
                   2.0
                                         36
                                                       3.0
                                                                    4
                                                                          4771
                                                                                                           820
          3
                   1.0
                                         38
                                                       1.0
                                                                    1
                                                                          1525
                                                                                               1
                                                                                                           1525
          4
                                                                    2
                                                                          3620
                                                                                               2
                                                                                                           1425
                   1.0
                                         38
                                                       1.0
```

## Handling null values

```
In [27]:
          df.isnull().sum()/len(df)*100
Out[27]: market_id
                                       0.0
          store_primary_category
                                       0.0
          order_protocol
                                       0.0
          total items
                                       0.0
                                      0.0
          subtotal
                                      0.0
          num_distinct_items
          min_item_price
                                      0.0
         max_item_price
                                      0.0
          total_outstanding_orders
                                      0.0
          order_hour
                                      0.0
                                      0.0
          total_available_dashers
          delivery_time(min)
                                      0.0
          order_day
                                      0.0
          dtype: float64
```

### **Encoding categorical columns**

```
In [28]: df.columns[df.dtypes =="object"]
Out[28]: Index(['order_day'], dtype='object')
```

Out of these, store\_id are large strings that need to be labeled but had high cardinality.

# Data visualization and cleaning

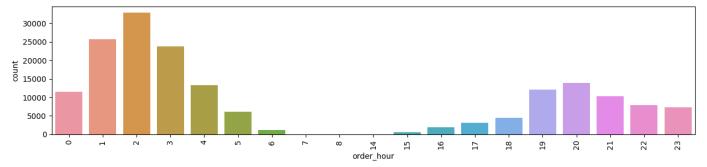
```
Univariate analysis
In [29]:
         import seaborn as sns, matplotlib.pyplot as plt
         C:\Users\Admin\AppData\Local\Programs\Python\Python311\Lib\site-packages\scipy\__init__.py:169:
         UserWarning: A NumPy version >=1.18.5 and <1.26.0 is required for this version of SciPy (detecte
         d version 1.26.2
           warnings.warn(f"A NumPy version >={np_minversion} and <{np_maxversion}"</pre>
In [30]: f = plt.figure(figsize=(15,3))
         sns.countplot(data=df, x = 'store_primary_category')
         plt.xticks(rotation=90)
         plt.show()
          17500
          15000
          12500
         10000
           7500
           5000
                   store_primary_category
In [31]: f = plt.figure(figsize=(15,3))
         sns.countplot(data=df, x = 'order_day')
         plt.xticks(rotation=90)
         plt.show()
          30000
          25000
          20000
          15000
          10000
           5000
                                Tuesday
                                                         Thursday
```

Most orders were placed on Saturday and Sunday.

```
In [32]: f = plt.figure(figsize=(15,3))
sns.countplot(data=df, x = 'order_hour')
```

order\_day

```
plt.xticks(rotation=90)
plt.show()
```

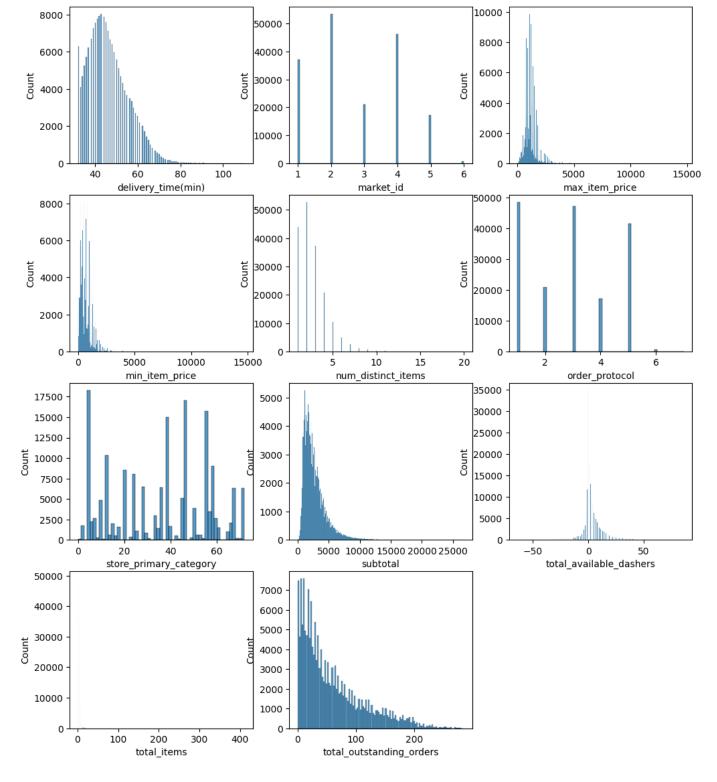


There seems to be missing values from 9 am to 1pm in order hours.

```
In [33]: continuous_cols = df.columns[(df.dtypes == "float64") | (df.dtypes == "int64")]
continuous_cols = continuous_cols.difference(['order_hour'])

In [34]: ## histogram subplots
    f = plt.figure()
    f.set_figwidth(12)
    f.set_figheight(14)
    n = len(continuous_cols)

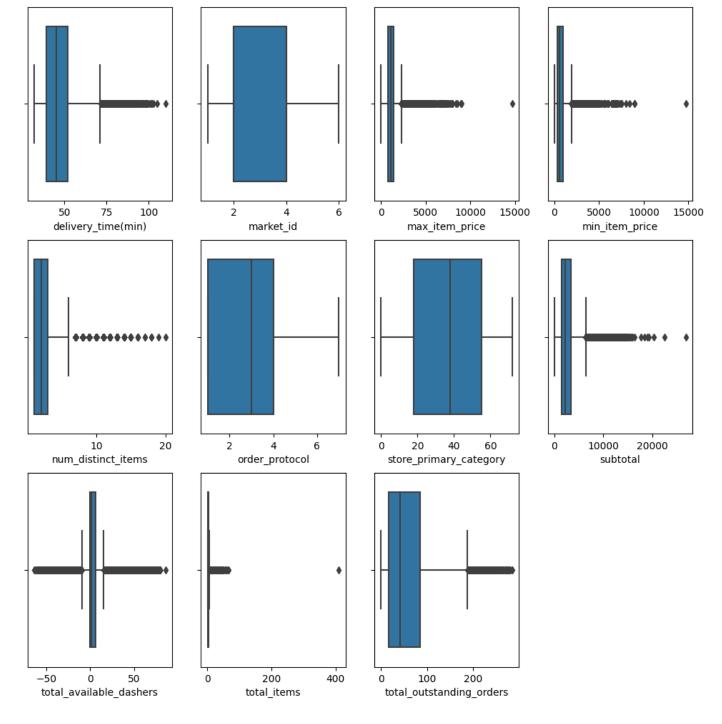
for i in range(n):
    plt.subplot(4,(n//4)+1,i+1)
    sns.histplot(data=df, x=continuous_cols[i])
plt.show()
```



Max\_item\_price, min\_item\_price, num\_distinct\_items, subtotal, total\_available\_dashers, total\_outstanding\_orders all of these have unimodal distribution, all right-skewed.

```
In [35]: ## boxplot subplots
f = plt.figure()
f.set_figwidth(12)
f.set_figheight(12)
n = len(continuous_cols)

for i in range(n):
    plt.subplot(3,4,i+1)
    sns.boxplot(data=df, x=continuous_cols[i])
plt.show()
```



There are a lot of outliers that need to be removed.

## **Bivariate analysis**

```
In [36]: sns.scatterplot(x='delivery_time(min)', y='subtotal', data=df)
```

Out[36]: <AxesSubplot: xlabel='delivery\_time(min)', ylabel='subtotal'>



```
continuous_cols = continuous_cols.difference(['delivery_time(min)'])
In [37]:
In [38]:
          df.head()
Out[38]:
             market_id store_primary_category
                                             order_protocol total_items
                                                                       subtotal num_distinct_items
                                                                                                  min_item_price
                   1.0
                                           4
                                                        1.0
                                                                     4
                                                                           3441
                                                                                                4
                                                                                                             557
                   2.0
                                          46
                                                        2.0
                                                                           1900
                                                                                                            1400
          2
                                          36
                                                                                                3
                   2.0
                                                        3.0
                                                                     4
                                                                           4771
                                                                                                             820
                   1.0
                                                        1.0
                                                                                                            1525
                                          38
                                                                           1525
                                                                     2
                                                                                                2
                   1.0
                                          38
                                                        1.0
                                                                           3620
                                                                                                            1425
In [39]:
          day_label_mapping = {'Sunday':1,'Monday':2,'Tuesday':3,'Wednesday':4,'Thursday':5,'Friday':6,'Sa
          df['encoded_order_day'] = df['order_day'].map(day_label_mapping)
          df['encoded_order_day'].head()
Out[39]: 0
               6
               3
          1
               2
          2
               5
```

3

In [40]: df['order\_day'].head()

Name: encoded\_order\_day, dtype: int64

```
Out[40]: 0
                  Friday
                 Tuesday
                  Monday
          3
                Thursday
                 Tuesday
          Name: order_day, dtype: object
In [41]: df.drop(['order_day'], axis=1, inplace=True)
In [42]: df.head()
             market_id store_primary_category order_protocol total_items subtotal num_distinct_items min_item_price
Out[42]:
          0
                    1.0
                                                           1.0
                                                                        4
                                                                               3441
                                                                                                     4
                                                                                                                  557
                                             4
                    2.0
                                                                               1900
                                                                                                                 1400
           1
                                            46
                                                           2.0
                                                                        1
                                                                                                     1
                                                                                                     3
           2
                    2.0
                                                                        4
                                                                              4771
                                                                                                                  820
                                            36
                                                           3.0
           3
                    1.0
                                            38
                                                           1.0
                                                                              1525
                                                                                                                 1525
                                                                        2
                                                                                                     2
                                                                                                                 1425
           4
                    1.0
                                            38
                                                           1.0
                                                                              3620
```

### Why do we need to check for outliers in our data?

Outliers are extreme values that differ from most other data points in a dataset. They can have a big impact on your statistical analyses and skew the results of any hypothesis tests. It's important to carefully identify potential outliers in your dataset and deal with them in an appropriate manner for accurate results.

#### Name 3 outlier removal methods.

- Inter quartile range method
- Local Outlier Factor
- Percentile method

n = len(continuous\_cols)

for i in range(n):

```
In [41]: # ## I am using the inter quartile method
          # n = len(continuous_cols)
          # for i in range(n):
                iqr = scipy.stats.iqr(df[continuous_cols[i]]) # inter quartile range
                q3 = np.percentile(df[continuous_cols[i]],75) # third quartile
                df[continuous\_cols[i]] = df[continuous\_cols[i]][df[continuous\_cols[i]] < (q3 + iqr*1.5)] # (q3 + iqr*1.5)] # (q3 + iqr*1.5)
In [42]:
          # # to remove the outliers, we look at the percentiles of datapoints
          \# Low = 0.1
          # high = 100
          # percentiles = np.arange(low,high,0.01)
          # = np.percentile(df[''],q=percentiles)
          # = pd.DataFrame(, index=percentiles)
          # print()
In [43]: ## boxplot subplots
          f = plt.figure()
          f.set_figwidth(12)
          f.set_figheight(8)
```

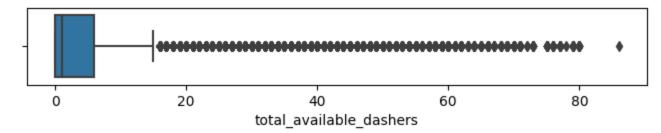
```
sns.boxplot(data=df, x=continuous_cols[i])
plt.show()
                                      5000
                                             10000
                                                                     5000
                                                                                                        10
                                                      15000
                                                                            10000
                                                                                    15000
                                                                                                                    20
                    6
                                      20
                                            40
                                                   60
                                                                     10000
                                                                              20000
                                                                                              -50
                                                                                                              50
                                                                                                       0
                                                                       subtotal
                                                                                               total_available_dashers
           200
                       400
                                       100
                                               200
         total_items
                                 total_outstanding_orders
```

#### Clipping off negative values in available dashers

plt.subplot(3,4,i+1)

```
In [44]: df['total_available_dashers'] = df['total_available_dashers'].clip(lower=0)
    f = plt.figure()
    f.set_figwidth(8)
    f.set_figheight(1)
    sns.boxplot(data=df, x='total_available_dashers')
```

#### Out[44]: <AxesSubplot: xlabel='total\_available\_dashers'>



## Log transformation for right-skewed data

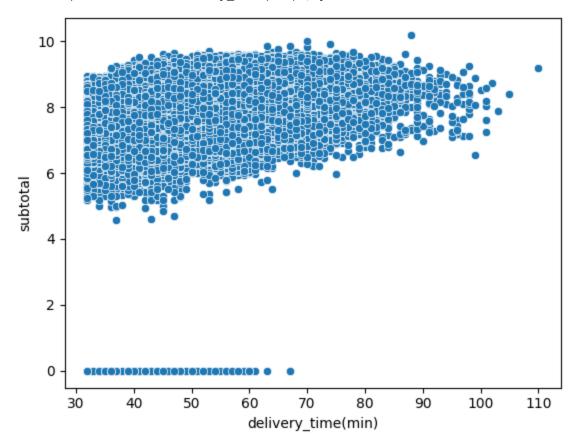
```
In [45]: cont_cols = continuous_cols.difference(['encoded_storeID'])
n = len(cont_cols)
for i in range(n):
    df[cont_cols[i]] = np.log1p(df[cont_cols[i]])
```

```
In [46]: ## boxplot subplots
          f = plt.figure()
          f.set_figwidth(12)
          f.set_figheight(8)
          n = len(cont_cols)
          for i in range(n):
               plt.subplot(3,4,i+1)
               sns.boxplot(data=df, x=cont_cols[i])
          plt.show()
                 1.0
                         1.5
                                  2.0
                                                   5
                                                              10
                                                                    0
                                                                                5
                                                                                          10
                                                                                                    1
                                                                                                             2
                                                  ż
                1.0
                        1.5
                               2.0
                                                                               5
                                                                                         10
                                                                                                           2
                                                                            subtotal
                                                                                                   total_available_dashers
                                                2
                   total_items
                                         total\_outstanding\_orders
In [47]: f = plt.figure(figsize=(10,3))
          sns.scatterplot(x='encoded_order_day', y='delivery_time(min)', data=df)
          plt.show()
             100
           delivery_time(min)
               80
               60
               40
                                                     3
                                                            encoded_order_day
```

The delivery time range is almost same for all weekdays - 30 to 100 minutes.

```
In [48]: sns.scatterplot(x='delivery_time(min)', y='subtotal', data=df)
```

Out[48]: <AxesSubplot: xlabel='delivery\_time(min)', ylabel='subtotal'>

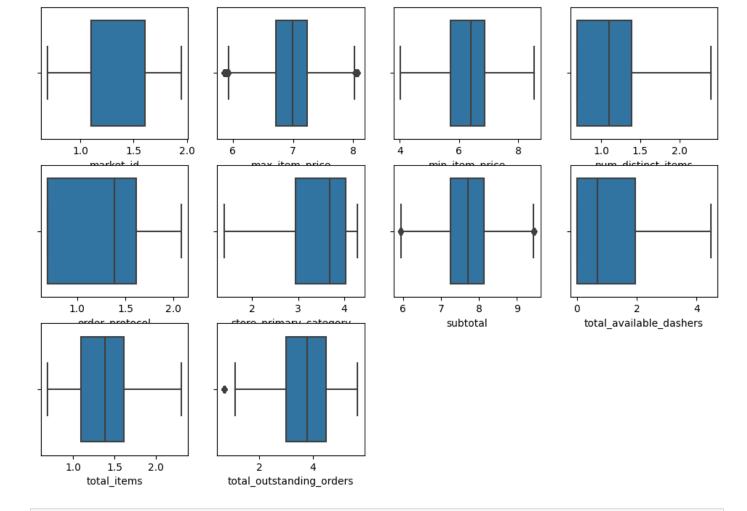


There does not seem to be a linear relationship between subtotal cost of order and delivery time.

```
In [49]: ## I am using the inter quartile method
import scipy
n = len(cont_cols)
for i in range(n):
    iqr = scipy.stats.iqr(df[cont_cols[i]]) # inter quartile range
    q1 = np.percentile(df[cont_cols[i]],25) # first quartile
    q3 = np.percentile(df[cont_cols[i]],75) # third quartile
    df[cont_cols[i]] = df[cont_cols[i]][df[cont_cols[i]] < (q3 +iqr*1.5)] # outlier points
    df[cont_cols[i]] = df[cont_cols[i]][df[cont_cols[i]] > (q1 -iqr*1.5)] # outlier points
```

```
In [50]: ## boxplot subplots
f = plt.figure()
f.set_figwidth(12)
f.set_figheight(8)
n = len(cont_cols)

for i in range(n):
    plt.subplot(3,4,i+1)
    sns.boxplot(data=df, x=cont_cols[i])
plt.show()
```



```
In [51]: df.isnull().sum()*100/len(df)
```

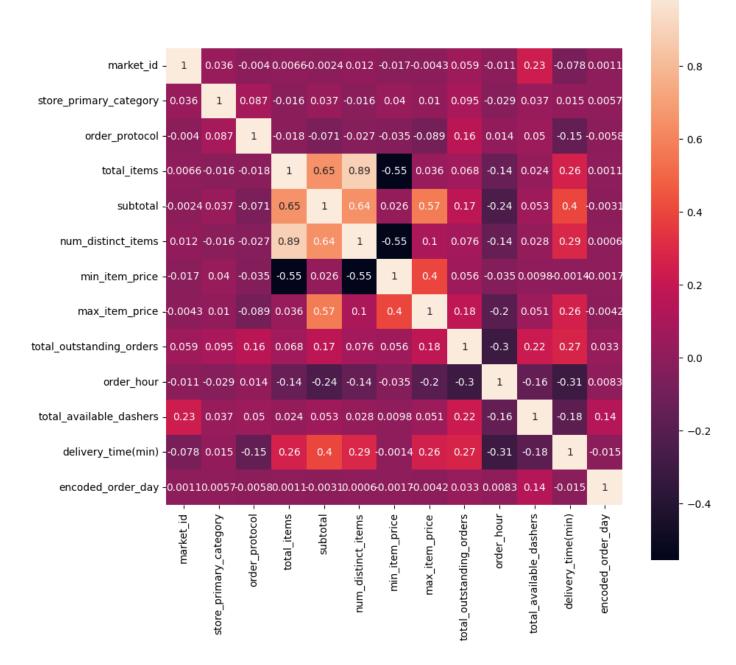
```
Out[51]: market_id
                                      0.000000
         store_primary_category
                                       1.057021
         order_protocol
                                      0.000000
         total_items
                                       2.338190
         subtotal
                                      0.429521
         num_distinct_items
                                      0.219028
         min_item_price
                                      1.784079
         max_item_price
                                       3.498751
         total_outstanding_orders
                                      2.300642
         order_hour
                                      0.000000
         total_available_dashers
                                      0.000000
         delivery_time(min)
                                      0.000000
         encoded_order_day
                                      0.000000
         dtype: float64
```

## Group mean imputation

```
In [53]: numerical_features = ['total_items','subtotal','max_item_price','min_item_price', 'total_outstand
# Impute missing values with the mean of each group
df[numerical_features] = df.groupby(['order_protocol','order_hour'])[numerical_features].transfor
In [54]: df.isnull().sum()*100/len(df)
```

```
Out[54]: market_id
                                      0.000000
         store_primary_category
                                      1.057021
         order_protocol
                                      0.000000
         total_items
                                      0.000000
         subtotal
                                      0.000000
         num_distinct_items
                                      0.219028
         min_item_price
                                      0.000000
         max_item_price
                                      0.000569
         total_outstanding_orders
                                      0.001707
         order_hour
                                      0.000000
         total_available_dashers
                                      0.000000
         delivery_time(min)
                                      0.000000
         encoded_order_day
                                      0.000000
         dtype: float64
In [55]: # some NaN values still remain, if the group had all NaN values. So I will impute them by the ove
         df[numerical_features] = df[numerical_features].transform(lambda x: x.fillna(x.mean()))
In [56]: | df[['store_primary_category', 'num_distinct_items']] = df[['store_primary_category', 'num_distinct_items']]
         df.isnull().sum()*100/len(df)
In [57]:
Out[57]: market_id
                                      0.0
         store_primary_category
                                      0.0
         order_protocol
                                      0.0
         total_items
                                      0.0
         subtotal
                                      0.0
         num_distinct_items
                                      0.0
         min_item_price
                                      0.0
                                      0.0
         max_item_price
         total_outstanding_orders
                                      0.0
                                      0.0
         order_hour
         total_available_dashers
                                      0.0
         delivery_time(min)
                                      0.0
         encoded_order_day
                                      0.0
         dtype: float64
         Multivariate analysis
In [58]: # Spearman's Rank Correlation Coefficient
         plt.figure(figsize=(10,10))
         sns.heatmap(df.corr(method='spearman'), square=True, annot=True)
```

Out[58]: <AxesSubplot: >



- 1.0

Total items and num\_distinct\_items are correlated. So I only kept total\_items.

```
In [59]: df.drop(['num_distinct_items'], axis=1, inplace=True)
```

## Regression with neural networks

```
In [60]: X = df.drop(['delivery_time(min)'], axis=1)
Y = df['delivery_time(min)']

In [61]: X.shape, Y.shape

Out[61]: ((175777, 11), (175777,))

In [62]: from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
# Create training and test split
X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test = train_test_split(X, Y, test_size=0.05, random_state=4) #5% text.
```

What classical machine learning methods can we use for this problem?

We can use Linear Regression, Decision Trees, Random Forests, or XGBoost algorithms for regression.

#### Why is scaling required for neural networks?

- 1. Feature scaling speeds up optimization by making the training faster. It prevents the optimization from getting stuck in local optima. Gradient descent optimization algorithms, which are commonly used for training neural networks, perform more efficiently when features are on a similar scale. If features have vastly different scales, the optimization process can take longer to converge, or it might converge to a suboptimal solution.
- 2. Activation functions (e.g., sigmoid, tanh, or ReLU) are sensitive to the input values, and features with large scales can dominate the activation and lead to saturation or vanishing gradients, especially in the case of sigmoid and tanh functions.
- 3. Scaling can result in a more spherical and well-behaved loss surface, making the optimization process more efficient. This is particularly important in high-dimensional spaces.

### Minmax Normalization - because the data is not normally distributed

Otherwise for normally distributed data, I can use StandardScaler.

```
In [63]: # Mean centering and Variance scaling
          from sklearn.preprocessing import MinMaxScaler
          X_columns = X_train.columns
          scaler = MinMaxScaler()
          X_train_scaled = scaler.fit_transform(X_train)
          X_test_scaled = scaler.transform(X_test)
          X_train_scaled = pd.DataFrame(X_train_scaled, columns=X_columns)
          X_train_scaled.head()
Out[63]:
             market_id store_primary_category order_protocol total_items subtotal min_item_price max_item_price total_
          0
              0.876951
                                    0.766011
                                                   0.000000
                                                              0.778385 0.462219
                                                                                      0.218292
                                                                                                     0.333112
              0.731416
                                    0.348328
                                                   0.000000
                                                              0.000000 0.269351
                                                                                      0.633222
                                                                                                     0.463696
              0.323657
                                    0.076836
                                                   0.292481
                                                              0.430677 0.677252
                                                                                      0.698260
                                                                                                     0.595690
              0.000000
                                    0.631018
                                                   0.660964
                                                              0.682606  0.843657
                                                                                      0.637716
                                                                                                     0.712151
              0.000000
                                    0.631018
                                                   0.660964
                                                              0.251930 0.604126
                                                                                      0.655244
                                                                                                     0.807366
In [64]: # Validation data from training data
          X_train, X_val, y_train, y_val = train_test_split(X_train_scaled, y_train, test_size=0.25, random
In [65]: X_train.shape
```

## Random Forest benchmarking model

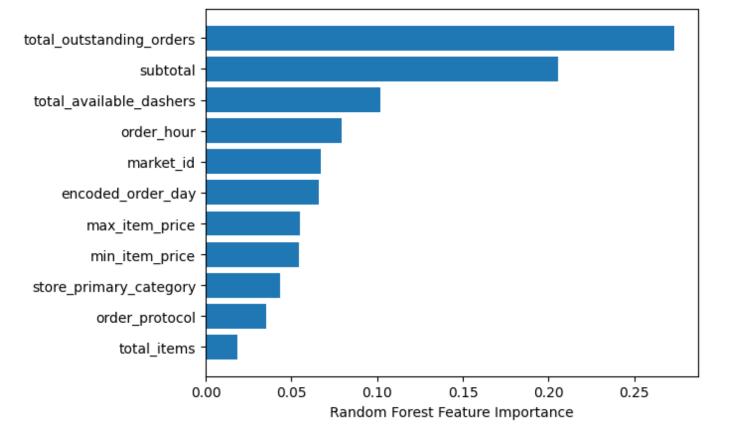
Out[65]: (125241, 11)

Using Random forest as a simple model to set a baseline performance metric.

```
In [66]: from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestRegressor
    regressor = RandomForestRegressor()
```

```
Out[66]: ▼ RandomForestRegressor
         RandomForestRegressor()
In [67]: #random forest model training
         from sklearn.metrics import mean_squared_error
         from sklearn.metrics import r2_score
         from sklearn.metrics import mean_absolute_error
         prediction = regressor.predict(X_test_scaled)
         mse = mean_squared_error(y_test, prediction)
         rmse = mse**.5
         print("mse : ", mse)
         print("rmse : ",rmse)
         mae = mean_absolute_error(y_test, prediction)
         print('mae:' ,mae)
         C:\Users\Admin\AppData\Local\Programs\Python\Python311\Lib\site-packages\sklearn\base.py:450: Us
         erWarning: X does not have valid feature names, but RandomForestRegressor was fitted with featur
         e names
           warnings.warn(
         mse: 32.48861183279437
         rmse: 5.699878229646171
         mae: 4.414360802735021
In [68]: r2_score(y_test, prediction)
Out[68]: 0.6194182901358741
In [69]: def MAPE(Y_actual,Y_Predicted):
             mape = np.mean(np.abs((Y_actual - Y_Predicted)/Y_actual))*100
             return mape
In [70]: print("mape : ",MAPE(y_test, prediction))
         mape : 9.712284898022961
In [71]: | feature_importances = pd.Series(regressor.feature_importances_, index=X_train.columns)
         print(feature_importances)
         market_id
                                     0.066993
         store_primary_category
                                     0.043605
         order_protocol
                                     0.035423
         total_items
                                     0.018232
         subtotal
                                     0.205535
         min_item_price
                                     0.054379
                                     0.054878
         max_item_price
         total_outstanding_orders
                                     0.273534
         order hour
                                     0.079336
         total_available_dashers
                                     0.101995
         encoded_order_day
                                     0.066091
         dtype: float64
In [72]: sorted_idx = regressor.feature_importances_.argsort()
         plt.barh(X_test.columns[sorted_idx], regressor.feature_importances_[sorted_idx])
         plt.xlabel("Random Forest Feature Importance")
Out[72]: Text(0.5, 0, 'Random Forest Feature Importance')
```

regressor.fit(X\_train, y\_train)



The most important features affecting delivery time in the decreasing order are: total outstanding orders, total cost of order, available dashers, market ID, time of order, weekday of order, order type protocol, maximum and minimum item price, store primary category and total items.

Benchmarking is an important aspect before choosing an artificial neural network model. They are computationally costly and their value lift has to be atleast significant to justify their use. Creating simpler models such as tree based models or even linear models may help in establishing a lower bound on accuracy.

### **Artificial Neural Network model**

Trying different combinations and hyperparameters like learnming rate, number of layers, different optimizers to improve the model.

## Why does a neural network perform well on a large dataset?

- 1. Non-Linearity: Neural networks can model complex, non-linear relationships between input features and output targets. Linear regression, on the other hand, assumes a linear relationship, which may not capture the intricate patterns present in large and complex datasets.
- 2. End-to-end learning. Neural networks can perform end-to-end learning, meaning they can learn both feature extraction and prediction in a unified manner. Linear regression separates feature extraction and prediction, which might limit its ability to optimize both aspects simultaneously.
- 3. Automatic feature learning: Neural networks learn complex patterns or high level features by incrementally learning simpler patterns by single neurons and refining performance on that by adding decisions of more and more neurons and layers. This eliminates the need of domain expertise and hard core feature extraction. Linear regression relies on manually selecting and engineering features, which can be challenging for large and complex datasets.

4. Parallel processing: Neural networks can take advantage of parallel processing capabilities, especially when training on GPUs or TPUs. This allows for faster training times on large datasets compared to linear regression.

## Using Keras tuner for hyperparameter optimization

- 1. search the most appropriate optimizer
- 2. search the number of nodes in a layer
- 3. search the optimum no. of layers

## 1. Tuning the type of optimizer

```
In [75]: # 1. The first simplest model architecture consists of one input layer with 12 input dimensions,
         # a hidden layer with 32 neurons and ReLU activation,
         # and an output layer with one neuron and linear activation.
         # This model is just for optimizer hyperparamter tuning.
         # hyperparameter search space includes the choice of optimizer among 'adam', 'sqd', 'rmsprop', an
         # The objective for tuning is set to minimize the validation mean absolute error.
         # Define model
         from tensorflow import keras
         from tensorflow.keras import layers
         from keras import Sequential
         from keras.layers import Dense
         from kerastuner.tuners import RandomSearch
         # Use hp (hyperparameter) from Keras Tuner to define the search space for hyperparameters.
         def build_model(hp):
             model = Sequential()
             model.add(Dense(32,activation='relu',input_dim=11))
             model.add(Dense(1,activation='linear'))
             optimizer = hp.Choice('optimizer',['adam','sgd','rmsprop','adagrad']) # keras.optimizers.SGD
             model.compile(optimizer=optimizer,
                           loss='mean_squared_error',
                           metrics=['mean_absolute_error'])
             return model
         # Define the search space
In [76]:
         tuner = RandomSearch(
             build_model,
             objective='val_mean_absolute_error', # The metric to optimize
             max_trials=5, # Total number of trials (models to test)
             directory='validation_error_tuning_results', # Directory to store tuning results
             project_name='my_tuning_project' # Name of the tuning project
         tuner.search(X_train, y_train, epochs=5, validation_data=(X_val, y_val))
         Trial 4 Complete [00h 00m 49s]
         val_mean_absolute_error: 26.955589294433594
         Best val_mean_absolute_error So Far: 5.9777021408081055
         Total elapsed time: 00h 02m 05s
In [77]: tuner.get_best_hyperparameters()[0].values
```

```
Out[77]: {'optimizer': 'rmsprop'}
```

### Briefly explain your choice of optimizer.

The tuner selected RMSProp (Root Mean Square Propagation) as the best optimizer. It adapts the learning rates individually for each parameter. This adaptability is beneficial for avoiding slow convergence in dimensions with small gradients and overshooting in dimensions with large gradients. It introduces a dampening term to the running average of squared gradients, which helps to prevent the learning rates from becoming too small over time. This can be useful for avoiding getting stuck in local minima.

## 2. Tuning number of nodes in layer

```
In [84]: # 2. hyperparameter search space includes the range of numbers of nodes in hidden layer and the
         from keras.layers import LeakyReLU
         # alpha in leaky ReLU is the slope of the negative values.
         def build_model_2(hp):
             model = Sequential()
             units = hp.Int('units',64,1024,step=64)
             activation = hp.Choice('hidden_activation',['relu','tanh','leaky_relu'])
             if activation == 'leaky_relu':
                 model.add(Dense(units=units, activation=LeakyReLU(alpha=0.01), input_dim=11))
             else:
                 model.add(Dense(units=units, activation=activation, input_dim=11))
             model.add(Dense(units=1,activation='linear'))
             model.compile(optimizer='rmsprop',
                            loss='mean_squared_error',
                            metrics=['mean_absolute_error'])
             return model
In [85]:
         # Define the search space
         tuner = RandomSearch(
             build_model_2,
             objective='val_mean_absolute_error', # The metric to optimize
             max_trials=5 # Total number of trials (models to test)
         tuner.search(X_train, y_train, epochs=5, validation_data=(X_val, y_val))
         Trial 5 Complete [00h 00m 51s]
         val_mean_absolute_error: 5.895590782165527
         Best val_mean_absolute_error So Far: 4.9125752449035645
         Total elapsed time: 00h 04m 08s
In [86]: | tuner.get_best_hyperparameters()[0].values
Out[86]: {'units': 960, 'hidden_activation': 'relu'}
         This shows that 960 nodes are the best number of nodes in a layer compared to others in the range
         [64,128,256,...,1024].
```

In [89]: import shutil

# Replace 'validation\_error\_tuning\_results' with your actual directory name
# directory\_to\_delete = 'validation\_error\_tuning\_results'
directory\_to\_delete = 'untitled\_project'

```
# Use shutil.rmtree to delete the entire directory
shutil.rmtree(directory_to_delete, ignore_errors=True)
```

#### Which activation function did you use and why?

The Rectified Linear Unit (ReLU) activation function was used for regression where the function doesn't do anything to the positive weighted sum of the input, it simply cuts out negative values. Since it is linear it is a much faster function than others.

## 3. Tuning number of hidden layers

```
In [88]: # 3. Hyperparameter search space includes the range of number of hidden layers
          def build_model_3(hp):
              model = Sequential()
              model.add(Dense(256,activation='relu',input_dim=11))
              for i in range(hp.Int('num_layers',min_value=1,max_value=2)):
                  model.add(Dense(960,activation='relu'))
              model.add(Dense(256,activation='relu'))
              model.add(Dense(1,activation='linear'))
              model.compile(optimizer= 'rmsprop',
                                                    #keras.optimizers.SGD(learning_rate=1e-4),
                             loss='mean_squared_error',
                             metrics=['mean_absolute_error'])
              return model
 In [90]:
          # Define the search space
          tuner = RandomSearch(
              build_model_3,
              objective='val_mean_absolute_error', # The metric to optimize
              max_trials=3, # Total number of trials (models to test)
          tuner.search(X_train, y_train, epochs=5, validation_data=(X_val, y_val))
          Trial 2 Complete [00h 06m 21s]
          val mean absolute error: 4.868793487548828
          Best val_mean_absolute_error So Far: 4.746240139007568
          Total elapsed time: 00h 09m 03s
          # np.isinf(X_train).any(), np.isinf(y_train).any()
In [111...
Out[111]: (market_id
                                                            False
           store_primary_category
                                                            False
           order_protocol
                                                            False
           total items
                                                            False
           subtotal
                                                            False
                                                            False
           min_item_price
                                                            False
           max_item_price
           total_outstanding_orders
                                                            False
           estimated_store_to_consumer_driving_duration
                                                            False
           order_hour
                                                            False
           total_available_dashers
                                                            False
           encoded_order_day
                                                            False
           dtype: bool,
           False)
 In [91]: tuner.get_best_hyperparameters()[0].values
```

```
1 layer of 960 nodes is the best.

In [93]: import shutil

# Replace 'validation_error_tuning_results' with your actual directory name
# directory_to_delete = 'validation_error_tuning_results'
directory_to_delete = 'untitled_project'

# Use shutil.rmtree to delete the entire directory
shutil.rmtree(directory_to_delete, ignore_errors=True)
```

### Fitting the best model

Out[91]: {'num\_layers': 1}

```
In [129...
          from tensorflow.keras.layers import Dropout, BatchNormalization
          from tensorflow.keras import regularizers
          from tensorflow.keras.callbacks import EarlyStopping, LearningRateScheduler, ModelCheckpoint
          # Define a simple model
          def build_model():
              model = Sequential()
              model.add(Dense(64, activation='relu', input_dim=11)) #input Layer
              # Hidden layers with dropout, L2 regularization, and batch normalization
              model.add(Dense(512, activation='relu')) #, kernel_regularizer=regularizers.l2(0.01)))
              model.add(Dropout(0.2))
              model.add(BatchNormalization())
              model.add(Dense(960, activation='relu')) #, kernel_regularizer=regularizers.l2(0.01)))
              model.add(Dropout(0.2))
              model.add(BatchNormalization())
              model.add(Dense(256, activation='relu')) #, kernel_regularizer=regularizers.l2(0.01)))
              model.add(Dropout(0.2))
              model.add(BatchNormalization())
              model.add(Dense(64, activation='relu')) #, kernel_regularizer=regularizers.l2(0.01)))
              model.add(Dropout(0.2))
              model.add(BatchNormalization())
              model.add(Dense(1, activation='linear')) # Output Layer
              return model
          # Create the model
          model = build_model()
          # Define a learning rate schedule callback (you can adjust the learning rates as needed)
          def lr_schedule(epoch):
              if epoch < 10:
                  return 0.001
              elif epoch < 20:</pre>
                  return 0.0001
              else:
                  return 0.00001
          lr_callback = LearningRateScheduler(lr_schedule)
          # Define a ModelCheckpoint callback to save the best model during training
          checkpoint = ModelCheckpoint('model_checkpoint.h5', save_best_only=True)
```

```
# Compile the model with an optimizer
model.compile(optimizer='adam', loss='mean_squared_error', metrics=['mean_absolute_error'])
# Define the Early Stopping callback
early_stopping = EarlyStopping(
   monitor='val_mean_squared_loss',
                                  # Monitor validation loss
                        # Number of epochs with no improvement after which training will be :
   restore_best_weights=True # Restore model weights from the epoch with the best value of the
# fitting on training data
history = model.fit(
   X_train, y_train,
   batch_size=512,
   epochs=30, # You can set a large number of epochs
   initial_epoch=0,
   validation data=(X val, y val),
   callbacks=[early_stopping,lr_callback,checkpoint], # Pass the Early Stopping, Learning rate
   verbose=1)
Epoch 1/30
223WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not
available. Available metrics are: loss, mean_absolute_error, val_loss, val_mean_absolute_error
r: 42.7085 - val_loss: 1828.0779 - val_mean_absolute_error: 41.8437 - lr: 0.0010
Epoch 2/30
 2/245 [.....] - ETA: 12s - loss: 1337.2246 - mean_absolute_error: 36.
0024
C:\Users\Admin\AppData\Local\Programs\Python\Python311\Lib\site-packages\keras\src\engine\traini
ng.py:3103: UserWarning: You are saving your model as an HDF5 file via `model.save()`. This file
format is considered legacy. We recommend using instead the native Keras format, e.g. `model.sav
e('my model.keras')`.
 saving_api.save_model(
```

```
49WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not a
vailable. Available metrics are: loss, mean_absolute_error, val_loss, val_mean_absolute_error
26.0992 - val_loss: 383.9266 - val_mean_absolute_error: 18.1964 - lr: 0.0010
Epoch 3/30
3WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not av
ailable. Available metrics are: loss, mean_absolute_error, val_loss, val_mean_absolute_error
8.8781 - val_loss: 60.7926 - val_mean_absolute_error: 6.0867 - lr: 0.0010
Epoch 4/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss, mean_absolute_error, val_loss, val_mean_absolute_error
5.1368 - val_loss: 37.1950 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.7500 - lr: 0.0010
Epoch 5/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss, mean_absolute_error, val_loss, val_mean_absolute_error
4.9928 - val_loss: 37.5272 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.7789 - lr: 0.0010
Epoch 6/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss, mean_absolute_error, val_loss, val_mean_absolute_error
4.8917 - val_loss: 36.1028 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.6809 - lr: 0.0010
Epoch 7/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss, mean_absolute_error, val_loss, val_mean_absolute_error
4.8347 - val_loss: 36.4255 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.7542 - lr: 0.0010
Epoch 8/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss, mean_absolute_error, val_loss, val_mean_absolute_error
4.7985 - val_loss: 36.0306 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.6775 - lr: 0.0010
Epoch 9/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss, mean_absolute_error, val_loss, val_mean_absolute_error
4.7588 - val_loss: 36.4316 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.6705 - lr: 0.0010
Epoch 10/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss, mean_absolute_error, val_loss, val_mean_absolute_error
4.7291 - val_loss: 36.4222 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.6802 - lr: 0.0010
Epoch 11/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss,mean_absolute_error,val_loss,val_mean_absolute_error
4.6707 - val_loss: 34.2056 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.5563 - lr: 1.0000e-04
Epoch 12/30
```

WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val\_mean\_squared\_loss` which is not ava

```
ilable. Available metrics are: loss,mean_absolute_error,val_loss,val_mean_absolute_error
4.6489 - val_loss: 33.8870 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.5342 - lr: 1.0000e-04
Epoch 13/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss, mean_absolute_error, val_loss, val_mean_absolute_error
4.6413 - val_loss: 34.1059 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.5505 - lr: 1.0000e-04
Epoch 14/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss,mean_absolute_error,val_loss,val_mean_absolute_error
4.6300 - val_loss: 33.7507 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.5255 - lr: 1.0000e-04
Epoch 15/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss,mean_absolute_error,val_loss,val_mean_absolute_error
4.6289 - val_loss: 33.9492 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.5432 - lr: 1.0000e-04
Epoch 16/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss,mean_absolute_error,val_loss,val_mean_absolute_error
4.6206 - val_loss: 33.6464 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.5154 - lr: 1.0000e-04
Epoch 17/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss,mean_absolute_error,val_loss,val_mean_absolute_error
4.6125 - val_loss: 33.7786 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.5264 - lr: 1.0000e-04
Epoch 18/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss,mean_absolute_error,val_loss,val_mean_absolute_error
245/245 [=============] - 15s 61ms/step - loss: 34.9399 - mean_absolute_error:
4.6121 - val_loss: 33.9207 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.5290 - lr: 1.0000e-04
Epoch 19/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss,mean_absolute_error,val_loss,val_mean_absolute_error
4.6023 - val_loss: 33.4975 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.5210 - lr: 1.0000e-04
Epoch 20/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss,mean_absolute_error,val_loss,val_mean_absolute_error
4.5977 - val_loss: 33.4496 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.5053 - lr: 1.0000e-04
Epoch 21/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss, mean_absolute_error, val_loss, val_mean_absolute_error
4.5899 - val_loss: 33.4302 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.4974 - lr: 1.0000e-05
Epoch 22/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss,mean_absolute_error,val_loss,val_mean_absolute_error
```

245/245 [====================== ] - 15s 61ms/step - loss: 34.4950 - mean\_absolute\_error:

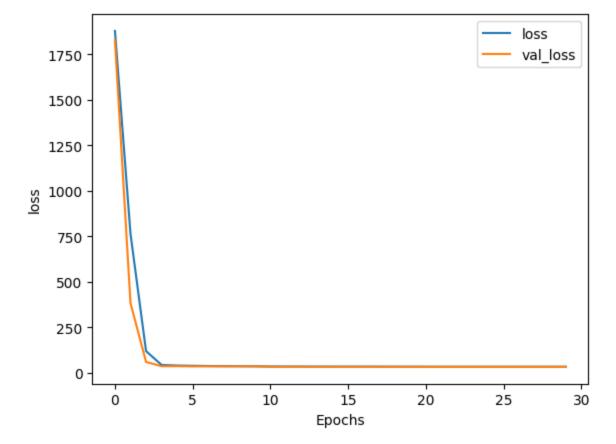
```
4.5820 - val_loss: 33.3941 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.4941 - lr: 1.0000e-05
Epoch 23/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss, mean absolute error, val loss, val mean absolute error
4.5835 - val_loss: 33.3753 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.4962 - lr: 1.0000e-05
Epoch 24/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss, mean absolute error, val loss, val mean absolute error
4.5834 - val_loss: 33.3951 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.4949 - lr: 1.0000e-05
Epoch 25/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss, mean absolute error, val loss, val mean absolute error
4.5769 - val_loss: 33.3407 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.4925 - lr: 1.0000e-05
Epoch 26/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss, mean absolute error, val loss, val mean absolute error
4.5862 - val_loss: 33.3728 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.4923 - lr: 1.0000e-05
Epoch 27/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss,mean_absolute_error,val_loss,val_mean_absolute_error
4.5779 - val_loss: 33.3290 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.4924 - lr: 1.0000e-05
Epoch 28/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss,mean_absolute_error,val_loss,val_mean_absolute_error
4.5817 - val_loss: 33.3375 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.4914 - lr: 1.0000e-05
Epoch 29/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss,mean_absolute_error,val_loss,val_mean_absolute_error
4.5805 - val_loss: 33.3254 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.4915 - lr: 1.0000e-05
Epoch 30/30
WARNING:tensorflow:Early stopping conditioned on metric `val_mean_squared_loss` which is not ava
ilable. Available metrics are: loss,mean_absolute_error,val_loss,val_mean_absolute_error
4.5788 - val_loss: 33.3244 - val_mean_absolute_error: 4.4916 - lr: 1.0000e-05
```

- Dropout layers with a dropout rate of 0.2 after each hidden layer.
- L2 regularization with a regularization strength of 0.01 on the kernel weights of the hidden layers.
- Batch normalization after each hidden layer.
- A learning rate schedule callback using LearningRateScheduler for dynamic learning rate adjustments during training.
- The stochastic nature of mini-batch training introduces randomness into the optimization process. This can help the model generalize better to unseen data by preventing it from getting stuck in local minima.

```
In [130...

def plot_history(history, key):
    plt.plot(history.history[key])
    plt.plot(history.history['val_'+key])
    plt.xlabel("Epochs")
    plt.ylabel(key)
    plt.legend([key, 'val_'+key])
    plt.show()

# Plot the history
plot_history(history, 'loss')
```



The results plateau after 5 epochs.

If the training loss is steadily decreasing but the validation loss is fluctuating, it might be a sign that the model is overfitting to the training data. Overfitting occurs when the model learns the training data too well, including its noise and outliers, making it less effective on new, unseen data.

## Model testing

Using Random Forest, the Mean absolute percentage error was 9.7% and with neural network it is also 9.7%.

## Inference:

The most important features affecting delivery time in the decreasing order are: total outstanding orders, total cost of order, available dashers, market ID, time of order, weekday of order, order type protocol, maximum and minimum item price, store primary category and total items.

```
In [ ]:
```