

Problem

How much toothpaste do I stock?

Unmet demand costs

Unnecessary labor costs

Too Little



Too Much

Data

Store	Date	Weekly_Sales	Holiday_Flag	Temperature	Fuel Price	CPI	Unemployment
int	str	float	int	float	float	float	float

One product:
Toothpaste

\$3 per unit

Unmet demand cost: \$2 per unit

Labor cost: \$19 / hr, 1 hr / stock 100 units

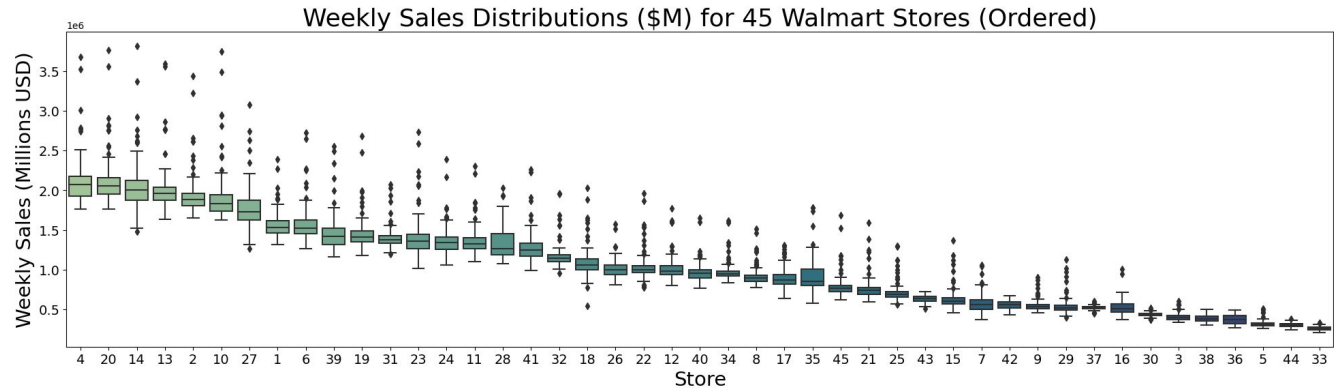
\$0.19 per unit

Why care?

Walmart profits: \$140B+ annually

Optimizing how much product we stock per store per week scales to save billions of dollars per year

Even within 45 stores there is such variability



Approach



“How good is this prescription?”

$$c(z, y) = \min(3z, y) - z\left(\frac{19}{100}\right) - 2\min(3z - y, 0)$$

z = our prescription
 y = actual weekly sales

Current prescription methods

SAA

Regress and
Compare

Store
Baseline

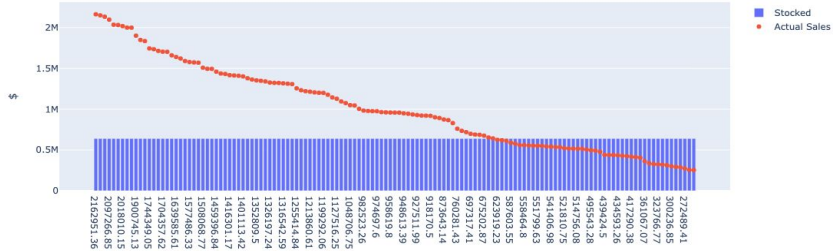
The tricks up our sleeve

CART for
Prescription

ORT

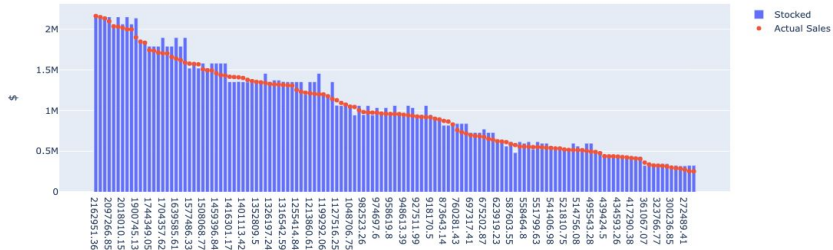
Key Insights

SAA Stocked vs Actual Sales



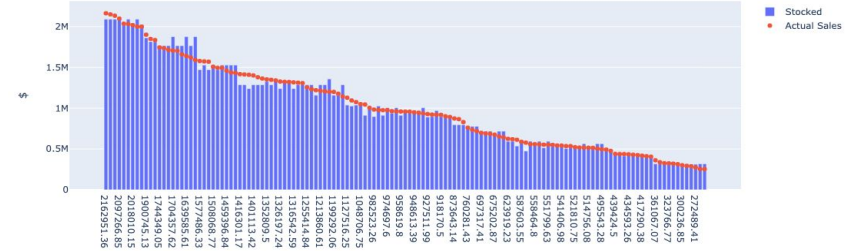
SAA: \$537,652.92 / week

R&C Stocked vs Actual Sales



R&C: \$837,430.68 / week

CART Stocked vs Actual Sales



CART: \$896,813.69 / week

ORT Stocked vs Actual Sales



ORT: \$915,831.93 / week