## **Project: Predictive Analytics Capstone**

# Task 1: Determine Store Formats for Existing Stores

1. What is the optimal number of store formats? How did you arrive at that number?

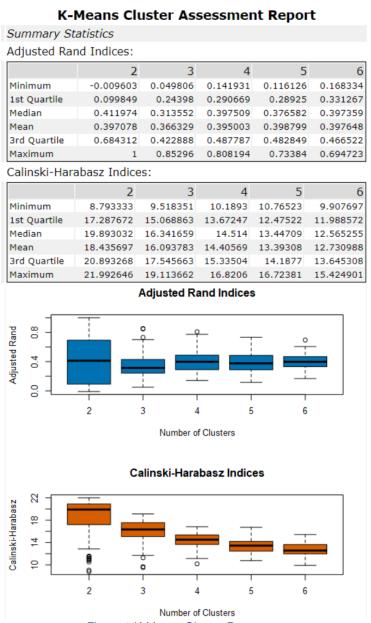


Figure 1 K-Means Cluster Report

Based on the K-means report, the optimal number of store formats is 2 when both the indices registered the highest median value. However, when 2 clusters were selected, there were more than 40 stores in each cluster. Therefore, the optimal number of store formats is 3 as it is stated in the supporting material that cluster must not have less than 20 and not over 40 stores.

#### 2. How many stores fall into each store format?

Cluster 1 has 23 stores, cluster 2 has 29 stores and cluster 3 has 33 stores.



Figure 2 Cluster Information

# 3. Based on the results of the clustering model, what is one way that the clusters differ from one another?

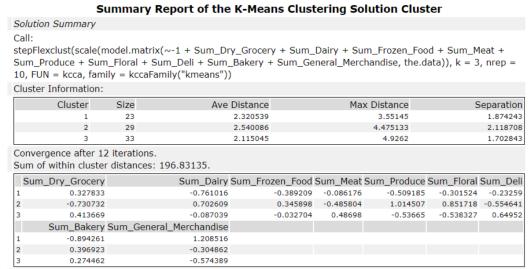


Figure 3 Summary Report of the K-Means Clustering

Based on the result shown above, cluster 1 sells a lot of General Merchandise compared to the other two clusters. Cluster 2 sells a lot of Produce compared to the other two clusters.

4. Please provide a Tableau visualization (saved as a Tableau Public file) that shows the location of the stores, uses color to show cluster, and size to show total sales.

https://public.tableau.com/profile/emily6902#!/vizhome/P9\_Combining\_Predictive\_TechniquesTask1-MapVisualization/Sheet3?publish=yes



Figure 4 Location of the stores

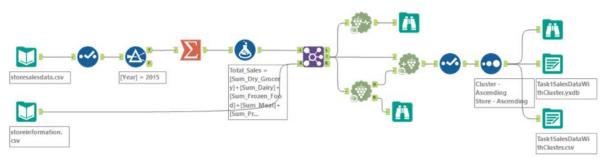


Figure 5 Alteryx Flow (Task 1)

#### Task 2: Formats for New Stores

1. What methodology did you use to predict the best store format for the new stores? Why did you choose that methodology?

The model comparison report shows the comparison between Forest Model, Decision Tree and Boosted Model. All models have the same accuracy but Boosted Model is chosen due to higher F1 value of 0.8889.

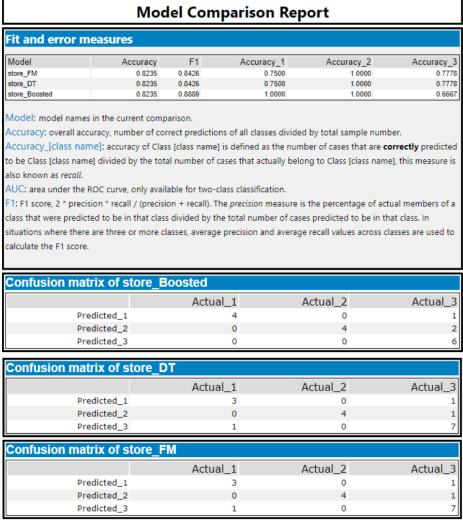


Figure 6 Model Comparison Report

# 2. What are the three most important variables that help explain the relationship between demographic indicators and store formats?

The 3 most important variables are Age0to9, HVal750KPlus and EdHSGrad.

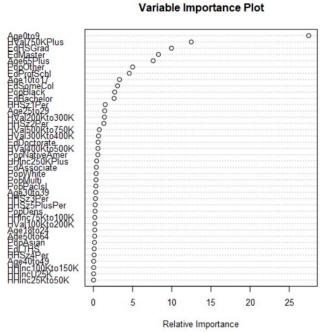


Figure 7 Variable Importance Plot

#### 3. What format do each of the 10 new stores fall into?

Store Number	Segment
S0086	1
S0087	2
S0088	3
S0089	2
S0090	2
S0091	1
S0092	2
S0093	1
S0094	2
S0095	2

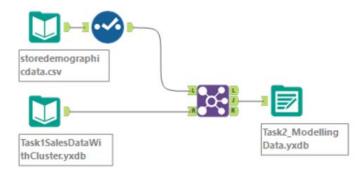


Figure 8 Alteryx Flow (Data Preparation)

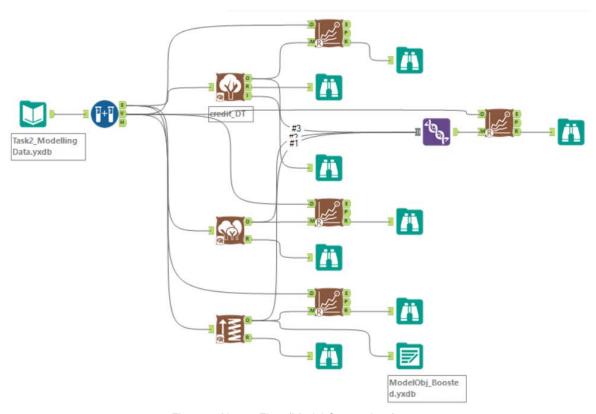


Figure 9 Alteryx Flow (Model Comparison)

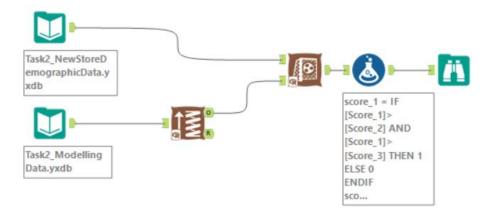


Figure 10 Alteryx Flow (Boosted)

## Task 3: Predicting Produce Sales

1. What type of ETS or ARIMA model did you use for each forecast? Use ETS(a,m,n) or ARIMA(ar, i, ma) notation. How did you come to that decision?

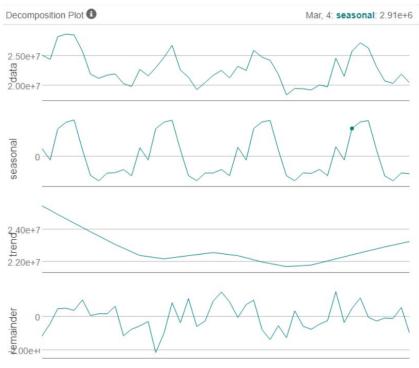
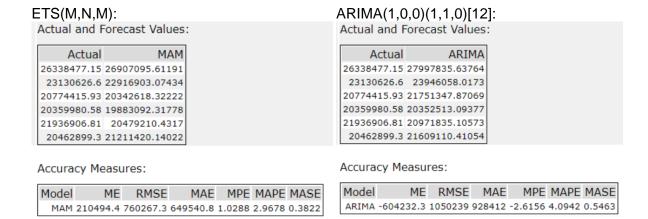


Figure 11 Decomposition Plot

The time series decomposition plot shown above allows us to observe the seasonality, trend and error/remainder terms of a time series. There is no clear trend so no trend component is included (N). The size of the seasonal fluctuations tends to increase or decrease with the level of time series so we apply it multiplicatively (M). The error plot is fluctuating between large and small errors over time, we apply it multiplicatively (M).

Auto options are chosen to train one ETS and one ARIMA model which gave us the optimal options as shown below.

#### **TS** Comparison:



By comparing the forecast and actual results, we can see that ETS model's accuracy is higher with overall lower errors across all variable. The ETS model's RMSE (760,267.3) and MASE (0.3822) are lower.

Based on the above, ETS(M,N,M) is chosen as our forecasting mode.

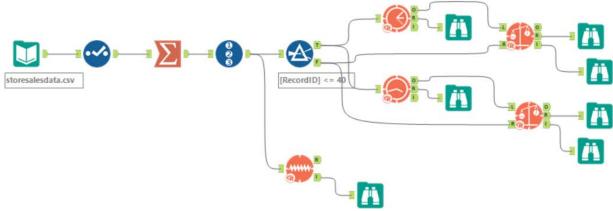


Figure 12 Alteryx (ETS & ARIMA)

2. Please provide a table of your forecasts for existing and new stores. Also, provide visualization of your forecasts that includes historical data, existing stores forecasts, and new stores forecasts.

Month	New Stores	Existing Stores
Jan-16	2,587,451	21,539,936
Feb-16	2,477,353	20,413,771
Mar-16	2,913,185	24,325,953
Apr-16	2,775,746	22,993,466
May-16	3,150,867	26,691,951
Jun-16	3,188,922	26,989,964
Jul-16	3,214,746	26,948,631
Aug-16	2,866,349	24,091,579
Sep-16	2,538,727	20,523,492
Oct-16	2,488,148	20,011,749
Nov-16	2,595,270	21,177,435
Dec-16	2,573,397	20,855,799

https://public.tableau.com/profile/emily6902#!/vizhome/P9\_Combining\_Predictive\_TechniquesTask\_3-Forecast/Sheet1

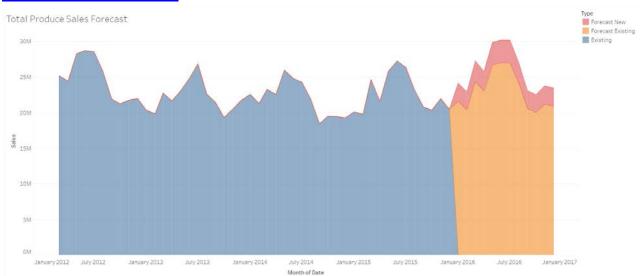


Figure 13 Total Sales Forecast

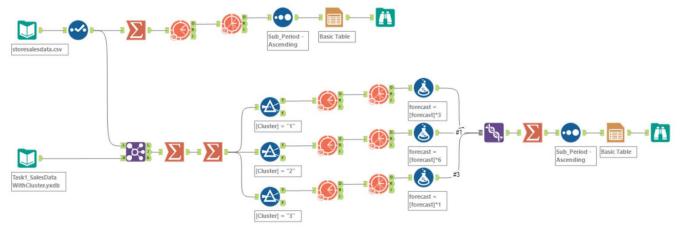


Figure 14 Alteryx (Forecast)