Summer MGMT 59000: AI-Assisted Big Data Analytics in the Cloud

Assignment 1: Analyzing the Superstore

Group: Data Ninjas 3

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Problem Statement

Executive Summary

To improve business performance and guide smarter decisions, the organization will take a closer look at how sales, customer habits, product outcomes, and regional operations influence growth. It will study sales trends over time to identify revenue drivers and seasonal peaks. At the same time, it will analyze customer segments, purchasing behaviors, and loyalty factors. The business will also review product and category performance, pinpoint profitability levers, and assess pricing impacts. Finally, it will evaluate regional performance and operational efficiency to uncover areas that support or hinder success; sharpening strategic focus for future growth.



Sales & Revenue Analyst

Michael Yudanin

Focus Questions:

- What drives sales performance across different dimensions?
- Which factors most impact revenue generation?
- Where are the growth opportunities?



Analysis:

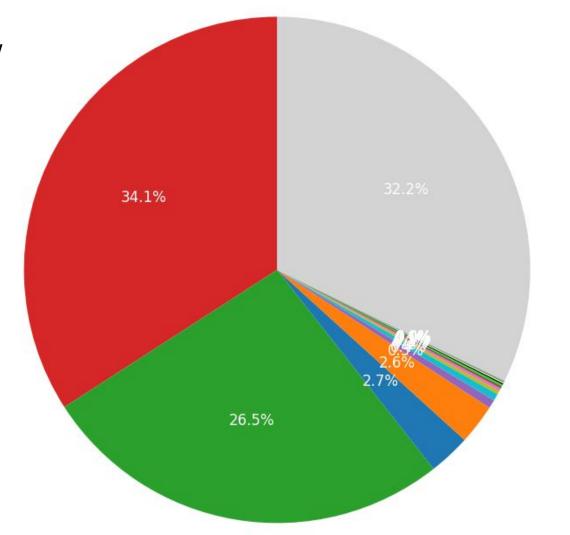
- Sales trends over time with seasonality
- Revenue drivers and correlations
- Predictive factors for high-sales periods



Factors driving sales performance

Linear Regression analysis show two factors impacting sales:

- City
- Manufacture

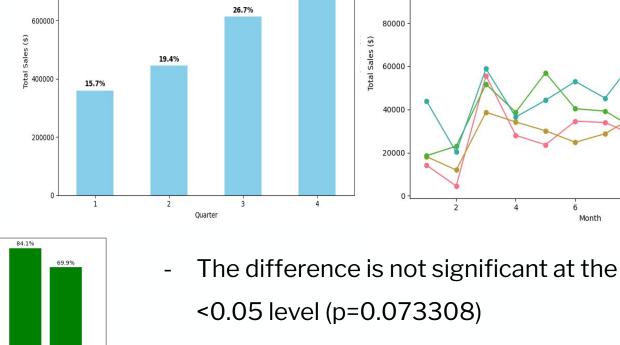




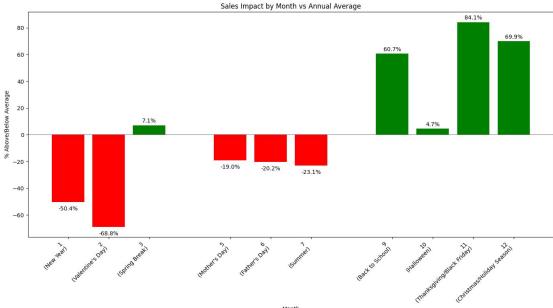


Seasonality

- Q4 brings more sales
- The trend persists over the years



Total Sales by Quarter



120000

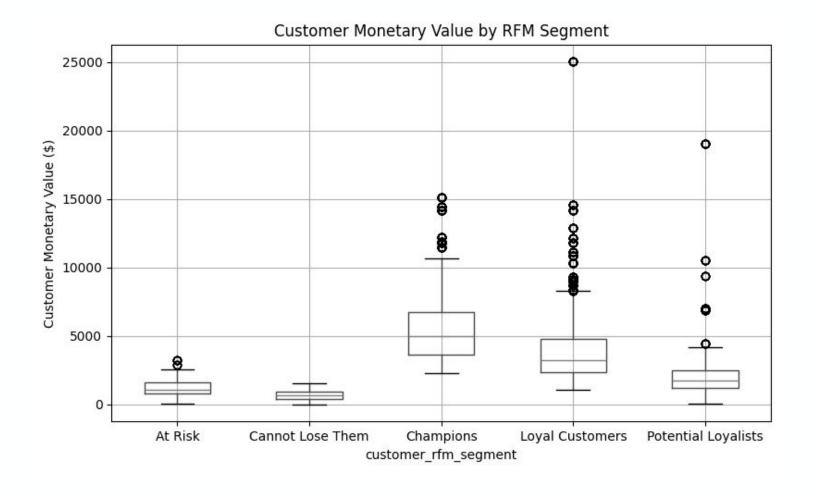
- 2019

Further research is recommended



Monthly Sales Trends by Year

Champion customers contribute more





Growth opportunities

- Leverage Sales Trends Utilize the identified sales peaks
 - November, December, March are sales peaks
 - > Despite non-significant results, acting on this will not hurt
 - Focus strategic marketing campaigns and inventory management for Q4.
- **Target High-Value Customers and Regions**
 - Focus sales and marketing efforts on the 'Consumer' segment and regions like the 'West' and 'East' which show strong sales performance.
- Focus on high-value Cities
 - City has an important impact on sales and profits.
 - Focus on high-value cities to tap into additional potential.
- Focus on high-value Products:
 - Manufactury has an important impact on sales and profits.
 - Optimize procurement and focus on high-value products.



Yuxiao Wang

Focus Questions:

- Who are our most valuable customers?
- What patterns exist in customer purchasing?
- How can we improve customer retention?



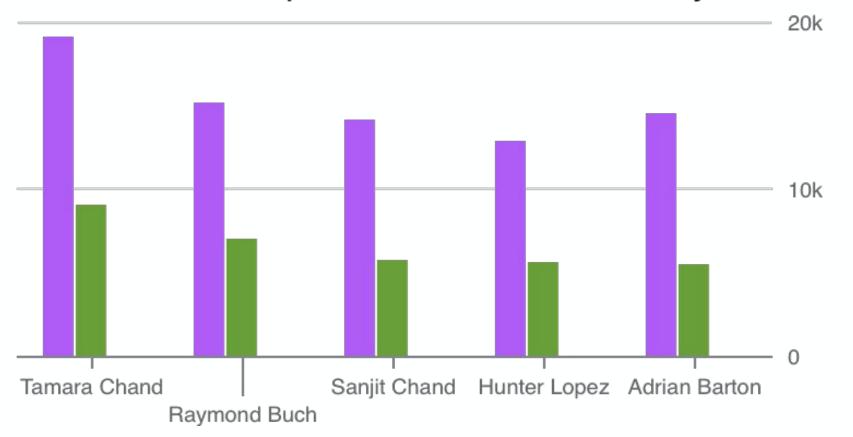
Analysis:

- Customer segmentation and profiling
- Purchase pattern analysis
- Customer lifetime value indicators



MVP (Most Value Prospect)

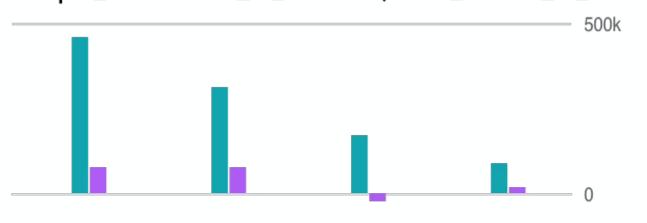
total_sales, total_profit, number_of_orders by customer





Customer Segmentation

unique_customers_in_location, total_orders_in_locati



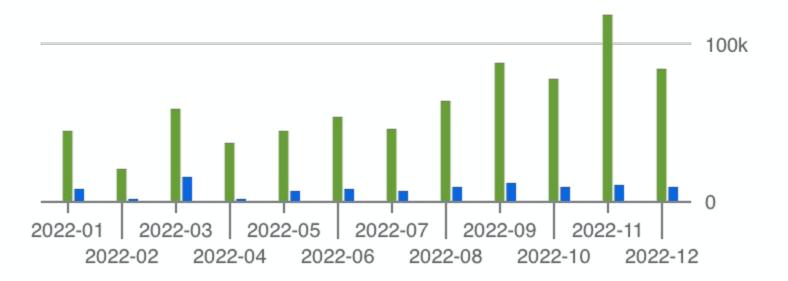




Seasonal pattern

total_orders, monthly_sales, monthly_profit by order_i

200k





Kyasha Williams

Member D: Regional/Operational Analyst

Focus Questions:

- How does performance vary by location?
- What operational factors impact success?
- Where should we expand or consolidate?



Analysis:

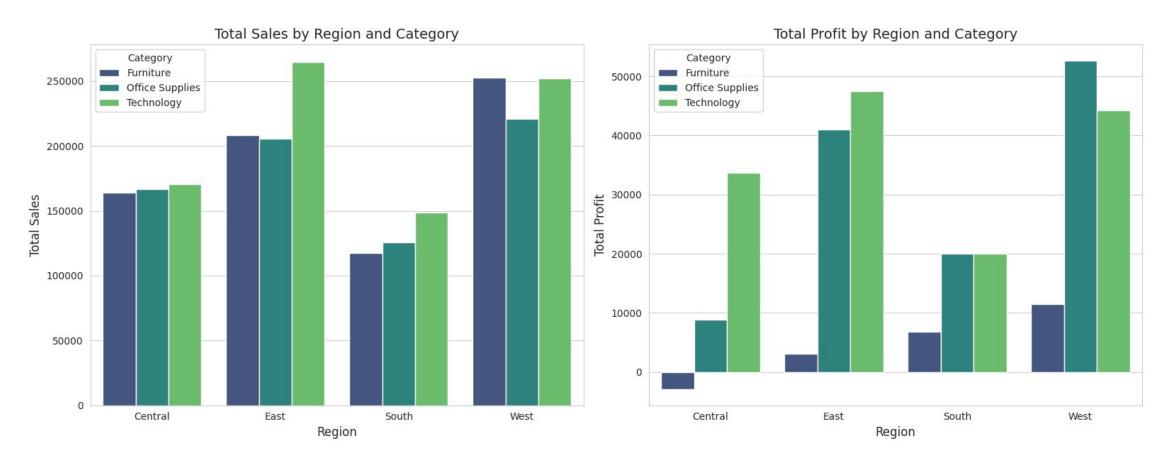
- Regional performance metrics
- Shipping and operational efficiency
- Market opportunity identification



Kyasha Williams

Regional Performance Metrics

Regional and Category Performance Analysis





Kyasha Williams

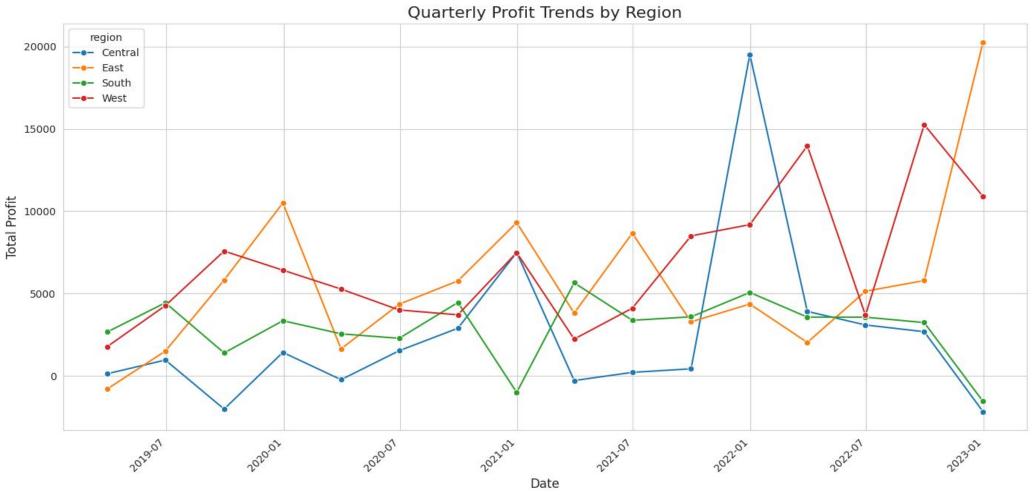
Shipping and Operational Efficiency





Kyasha Williams

Expansion and Consolidation





Product Performance Analyst

James Fazecas

Focus Questions:

- Which products/categories perform best?
- What drives product profitability?
- Where should we focus product strategy?

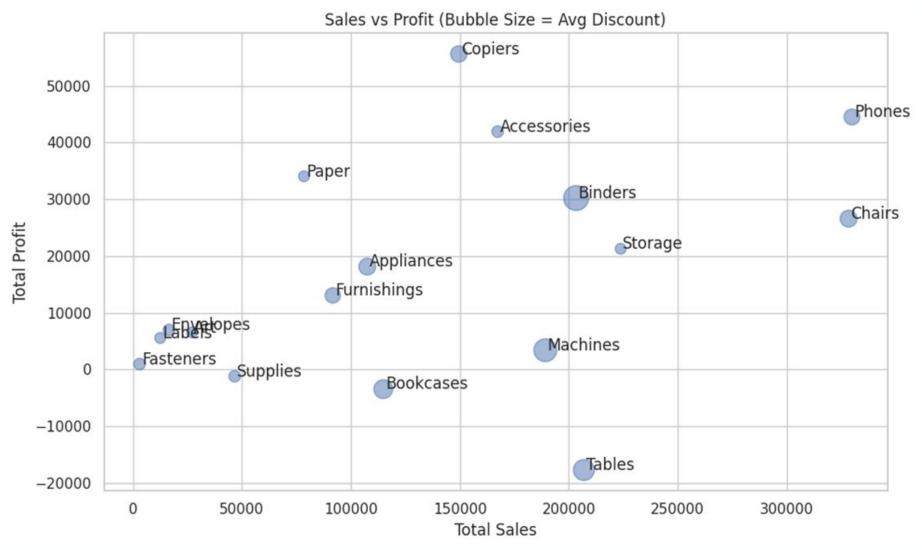


Analysis:

- Product profitability analysis
- Category performance comparison
- Discount impact on product success

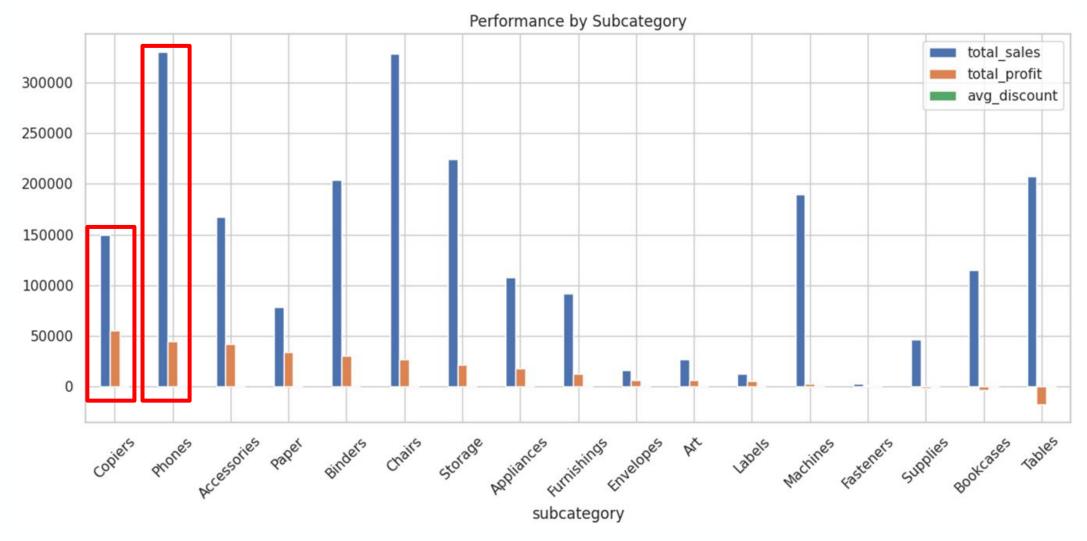


Sales vs Profit (Bubble = Discount)





Performance Summary by Subcategory





Top Three Recommendations

1. Implement Regional Pricing Strategy

Deploy region-specific pricing models that reduce discounting in underperforming markets while maintaining competitive pricing in high-value regions. Eliminate aggressive discounting on Tables and Bookcases; instead, focus on margin preservation through value-based pricing.

2. Concentrate Investment in High-ROI Geographic Markets

Reallocate marketing budget and inventory investment to prioritize West and East regions, specifically targeting cities identified as high-impact drivers. Reduce expansion investments in Central and South regions until profitability improves.

3. Develop a Champion Customer Retention Program

Create a comprehensive retention strategy for Champion customers, including dedicated account management, priority shipping, and exclusive product access. Implement predictive analytics to identify potential Champions among Loyal Customers and Potential Loyalists.



Expected Impact

- 15% increase in Central/South margins
- 25% improvement in West/East market share
- 90% Champion customer retention rate
- Eliminate negative-margin subcategories
- 20% improvement in overall profit margins





Thank You!



