

## Project Title

### Supermart Profit Prediction & Retail Business Analytics System

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## Business Problem

Retail businesses face challenges in predicting profit due to fluctuating sales, discount strategies, seasonal demand, and product-level variations. Business teams need a reliable system to **analyze historical performance** and **predict future profitability** before making pricing or promotional decisions.

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## Project Objective

The objectives of this project were:

- To analyze historical supermarket sales data
  - To understand the relationship between sales, discounts, and profit
  - To build a machine learning model for profit prediction
  - To deploy an interactive application for real-time business decision support
  - To demonstrate the use of **Excel, SQL, Python, and Machine Learning** in a single end-to-end project
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## Dataset Overview

The dataset contains historical grocery sales transactions with attributes such as:

- Order details (Order ID, Customer Name)
- Product information (Category, Sub-category)
- Location details (City, Region, State)
- Financial metrics (Sales, Discount, Profit)
- Time-related information (Order Date)

This dataset represents a realistic retail environment suitable for business analytics and predictive modeling.

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## TOOLS & TECHNOLOGIES USED

- **Excel** – Initial data understanding & validation
- **SQL** – Structured querying & business-level analysis
- **Python** – Data cleaning, EDA, feature engineering
- **Machine Learning (Scikit-learn)** – Model development
- **Streamlit** – Model deployment & dashboard creation

## □ Step 1: Excel Analysis (WHY & HOW)

### □ Why Excel was used

Excel was used as the **first-level analysis tool** to quickly understand the data before moving to advanced tools.

### □ What was done in Excel

- Reviewed raw data structure and column meanings
- Checked for missing values and incorrect data types
- Identified outliers in Sales, Discount, and Profit
- Created basic pivot tables:
  - Category-wise sales and profit
  - Region-wise performance
- Used charts to visually understand:
  - Sales vs Profit trends
  - Discount impact on profit

### □ Outcome:

Excel helped validate data quality and provided initial business insights that guided further analysis in SQL and Python.

The screenshot shows an Excel spreadsheet titled "Supermart Grocery Sales - 1st Project...". The ribbon menu is visible at the top. The main content area contains three pivot tables:

- Sales by Category:** A pivot table with "Category" in the rows and "Sum of Sales" in the values. The data includes items like Bakery, Beverages, Eggs, Meat & Fish, Food Grains, Fruits & Veggies, Oil & Masala, Snacks, and a Grand Total of 14956982.
- Profit by Region:** A pivot table with "Regions" in the rows and "Sum of Profit" in the values. The data includes Central, East, North, South, and West regions, with a Grand Total of 3747121.2.
- Average Discount by Category:** A pivot table with "Category" in the rows and "Average of Discount" in the values. The data includes various categories with their respective average discounts.

The cells contain formulas such as =SUMIF and =AVERAGEIF. A note in cell D2 says "Pivot tables (high-level understanding)" and "This gives intuition about what might matter in ML later".

## □ Step 2: SQL Analysis (WHY & HOW)

### □ Why SQL was used

SQL was used to perform **structured, business-driven analysis** similar to how data is analyzed in real organizations using databases.

### □ What was done using SQL

- Queried total sales and profit by:
  - Category
  - Sub-category
  - Region
- Identified top-performing and low-performing products
- Analyzed discount impact using grouped aggregations
- Validated business KPIs such as:
  - Average discount per region
  - Profit contribution by category

### □ Example business questions answered via SQL:

- Which category generates the highest profit?
- Which region is most sensitive to discounts?
- How does profit vary across different product segments?

### □ Outcome:

SQL helped transform raw data into **business-ready insights** and ensured the analysis aligned with real-world reporting practices.

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## □ Step 3: Data Cleaning & Preprocessing (Python)

Python was used for deeper data preparation:

- Cleaned and standardized column names
  - Converted numerical and date fields to proper formats
  - Removed irrelevant columns for modeling
  - Handled encoding of categorical variables
  - Prepared a clean dataset suitable for machine learning
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## □ Step 4: Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA)

EDA was performed using Python libraries:

- Analyzed distributions of sales, profit, and discount
- Studied relationships such as:
  - Discount vs Profit
  - Category vs Profit

- Identified seasonal patterns using year and month

This step confirmed many insights initially observed in Excel and SQL.

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## □ Step 5: Feature Engineering

Additional features were created to enhance model learning:

- Year, Month, Quarter
  - Weekend indicator
  - One-hot encoding for categorical variables
  - Numeric-only feature selection for ML compatibility
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## □ Step 6: Machine Learning Modeling

### Baseline Model: Linear Regression

- Used to establish a baseline performance
- Provided interpretability of linear relationships

### Advanced Model: Random Forest Regressor

- Captured non-linear patterns
- Improved handling of complex feature interactions
- Provided better business-level insights

Models were evaluated using:

- Mean Absolute Error (MAE)
  - R<sup>2</sup> Score
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## □ Step 7: Model Deployment using Streamlit

The trained Random Forest model was deployed using Streamlit Cloud:

- Users can input order details
- Real-time profit predictions are generated
- Business warnings and insights are displayed
- The app converts ML output into actionable insights

This step transformed the analysis into a **production-style business application**.

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## □ Business Impact & Insights

- High discounts negatively impact profitability
- Certain categories consistently perform better
- Profit prediction supports pricing and promotion decisions
- Scenario testing reduces financial risk

## □ Final Conclusion

This project demonstrates a complete retail analytics solution by combining Excel, SQL, Python, Machine Learning, and Streamlit deployment. Excel and SQL were used for initial data validation and business-level analysis, while Python enabled advanced analytics and modeling. The final deployed application allows stakeholders to predict profit in real time and make informed business decisions. This project reflects real-world data science workflows and highlights the importance of combining technical skills with business understanding.

## SQL Results :

The screenshot shows two separate sessions in MySQL Workbench. Both sessions are connected to 'Local Instance MySQL'.

**Session 1 (Top):**

- Schema: all\_project
- SQL Script:

```
1 -- Basic validation
2
3 -- Confirms one row = one order.
4
5 SELECT COUNT(*) FROM grocery_sales;
6
7 SELECT COUNT(DISTINCT Order_ID) FROM grocery_sales;
8
9 -- Business aggregations
10
11 -- Confirms which features may influence the target variable.
12
13 -- SELECT Category;
14     SUM(Sales) AS total_sales,
15     SUM(Profit) AS total_profit
16
17 FROM grocery_sales
18 GROUP BY Category;
19
20
21 -- SELECT Region;
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
```

- Results Grid:

Order_ID	Customer_Name	Category	Sub_Category	City	Order_Date	Region	Sales	Discount	Profit	State	
001	Hanish	Food	Old & Masala	Masala	Vellore	11-08-2017	North	1254	0.12	401.28	Tamil Nadu
002	Praveen	Food	Food Service	Breakfast	Madurai	11-08-2017	South	2072	0.12	621.60	Tamil Nadu
003	Hussein	Food	Food Grains	Atta & Flour	Perambalur	06-12-2017	West	2360	0.21	465.20	Tamil Nadu
004	Umesh	Food	Food Grains	Food Grains	Kanchipuram	06-12-2017	South	1894	0.12	369.60	Tamil Nadu
005	Roshith	Food	Food Grains	Organic Staples	Ooty	10-11-2016	South	339	0.26	93.45	Tamil Nadu
006	Akash	Food	Food Grains	Organic Staples	Chennai	06-09-2015	South	332	0.26	93.45	Tamil Nadu
007	Jones	Food	Fruit & Vegetables	Fresh Vegetables	Trichy	06-09-2015	West	826	0.33	264.92	Tamil Nadu
008	Hari	Food	Fruit & Vegetables	Fresh Vegetables	Chennai	06-09-2015	South	1476	0.33	482.72	Tamil Nadu
009	Hafeeza	Food	Bakery	Biscuits	Tirunelveli	06-09-2015	West	791	0.23	181.93	Tamil Nadu
010	Yash	Food	Bakery	Biscuits	Chennai	06-09-2015	South	1020	0.23	246.60	Tamil Nadu
011	Ganesh	Food	Snacks	Chocolate	Kurur	06-09-2015	West	1903	0.13	437.69	Tamil Nadu
012	Yash	Food	Eggs, Meat & ...	Eggs	Kanchipuram	06-09-2015	West	201	0.1	306.44	Tamil Nadu
013	Sharon	Food	Eggs, Meat & ...	Cookies	Dindigul	01-10-2016	South	3509	0.19	310.23	Tamil Nadu

- Output Grid:

Action	Message
24 12:41:33 select * from grocery_sales LIMIT 0, 5000	5000 rows(s) returned.
25 12:42:32 SELECT Category, SUM(Sales) AS total_sales, SUM(Profit) AS total_profit FROM grocery_sales GROUP BY Category LIMIT 0, 5000	7 row(s) returned.
26 12:42:54 select * from grocery_sales LIMIT 0, 5000	5000 rows(s) returned.
27 12:43:05 SELECT * FROM grocery_sales -> AVERAGE(Sales) avg_sales, SUM(Profit) AS total_profit FROM grocery_sales GROUP BY Region LIMIT 0, 5000	9 row(s) returned.
28 12:46:05 SELECT CASE WHEN Discount < 0.15 THEN 'Low' WHEN Discount < 0.30 THEN 'Medium' ELSE 'High' END AS discount_low	3 row(s) returned.
29 12:47:42 select * from grocery_sales LIMIT 0, 5000	5000 rows(s) returned.

**Session 2 (Bottom):**

  - Schema: all\_project
  - SQL Script:

```
1 -- Basic validation
2
3 -- Confirms one row = one order.
4
5 SELECT COUNT(*) FROM grocery_sales;
6
7 SELECT COUNT(DISTINCT Order_ID) FROM grocery_sales;
8
9 -- Business aggregations
10
11 -- Confirms which features may influence the target variable.
12
13 -- SELECT Category;
14     SUM(Sales) AS total_sales,
15     SUM(Profit) AS total_profit
16
17 FROM grocery_sales
18 GROUP BY Category;
19
20
21 -- SELECT Region;
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
```

  - Results Grid:

Count(*)
9994

  - Output Grid:

Action	Message
25 12:42:32 Action	5000 rows(s) returned.
26 12:42:54 Action	5000 rows(s) returned.
27 12:43:05 Action	9 row(s) returned.
28 12:46:05 Action	3 row(s) returned.
29 12:47:42 Action	5000 rows(s) returned.
30 12:49:22 SELECT COUNT(*) FROM grocery_sales LIMIT 0, 5000	1 row(s) returned.

