

Course Project 2020

Rules and Dataset Explanation

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Course Project

Dataset Description

This year project is based on a **sales forecasting** dataset with aggregated information for different products (SKU) throughout a 3-years time window:

- Weekly data (Dec 2016 – Dec 2019)
- Data are available for 43 SKU but the target for the prediction is restricted to 12 SKUs

Variable	Description	Type
SKU	Unique identifier for the products	<u>int</u>
Pack	Type of pack in which the product is sold	<u>str</u>
Size (GM)	Product weight	<u>float</u>
Brand	Product brand	<u>str</u>
Price	Planned price of sale for the product in week w	<u>float</u>
POS_exposed w-1	Number of stores in which the product was put on evidence at w-1	<u>int</u>
Volume_on_promo w-1	% Volume of product put on promo at w-1	<u>float</u>
Sales w-1	Sales of product at w-1 (lagged target)	<u>int</u>
Scope	Boolean that indicates SKUs in scope (target)	<u>bool</u>
Target	Sales of product in w	<u>int</u>

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Testing and Evaluation

Performances will be evaluated by means of the **MAPE (Mean Absolute Percentage Error)** metric on the test set, which is provided net of the target column.

Data are split time-wise into train and test sets with the following criterion:

- 2 years and 6 months in the **train set (Dec 2016 – July 2019)**
- 6 months in the **test set (July 2019 – Dec 2019)**

$$MAPE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left| \frac{A_i - F_i}{A_i} \right|$$

A_i : actual value

F_i : forecast value

Data Available in csv format: <https://we.tl/t-2zID8BelrK> (archive password: *DMTMChallenge2020*)

Deadline: **Friday June 12 23:59**

We ask you to prepare and upload on Beep platform an archive containing:

- **Prediction.csv**: you can find an example in the archive
- **Report.pdf**: 4 pages to describe your approach, data processing, prediction model and analytical results
- **Presentation.pptx**: 5 slides for the final project presentation describing you approach, data processing, prediction model
- **Scripts.zip**: any notebook or script you wrote will be evaluated

If you have any doubt you can ask directly on Beep forum.

THANK YOU

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