

COMPANY A SHAMPOO SALES REPORT

INTRODUCTION

Company A carries many different types of beauty products such as cosmetics, skin care, fragrances, nails, bath and body, tools, haircare. Company A has increased their sales over the last three years for their new shampoo product.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Company A wants to evaluate each of the product type to forecast the future sales and determine if it is still a good product that it need to carry in the stores. They have hired Group 4 Data Analyst team to conduct a time series analysis on their shampoo sales for the last three years and provide business recommendations. We are focusing on the shampoo sales for this project and evaluating the three-year sales to forecast the future demand of Shampoo for their target market.

Group 4 has conducted a time series analysis on Company A's shampoo sales with the following business questions:

1. Is there a trend in Company A's shampoo sales over the last three years?
2. What time series model(s) best fits this dataset?
3. What are the forecasted shampoo sales for Company A for the months of September, October, November and December 2019?

In this paper, we will review the initial analysis of our dataset, the model selection process, final model selection, forecasts and our business recommendations based on this forecast.

INITIAL ANALYSIS OF DATASET

Month is the equally spaced index predictor variable for the time series. Data was pulled on the 17th of each month from January 17, 2017 to October 17, 2019. The number of sales of shampoo over a period of a month at each index point in time is in terms of millions.

Looking at Figure 1 below, there is an increasing trend in the mean of the $Y(t)$ over time. Furthermore, the variance of $Y(t)$ is not constant. There is also an obvious level shift starting September 2018 that we need to explore. A differencing of the data will help to stabilize the mean. The dataset is not stationary, so we need stabilize the mean before fitting a model.

Looking at Figure 2, the ACF above is damped sinusoidal and the PACF has a high lag at lag 1 and 2 but not after lag 2.

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Figure 1

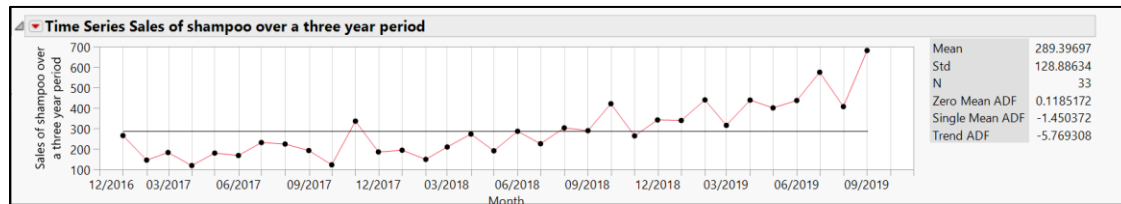
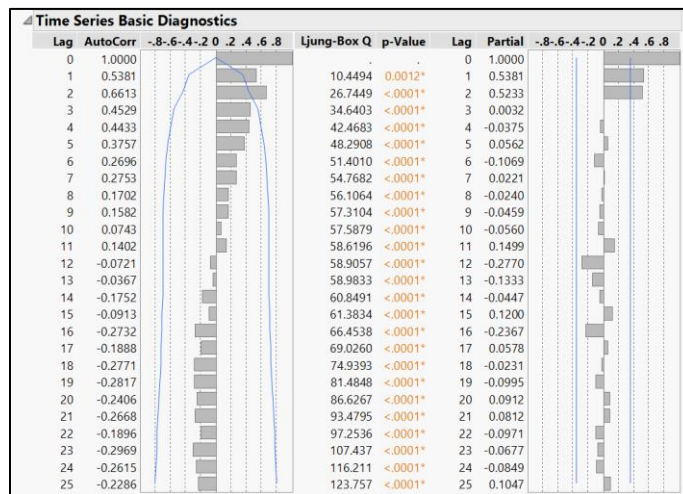


Figure 2



After taking the difference of the mean, we see in Figure 3 that the mean and variance have stabilized. The new ACF below in Figure 4 is damped sinusoidal and PACF has a high lag at lag 1 but not after lag 1.

Figure 3

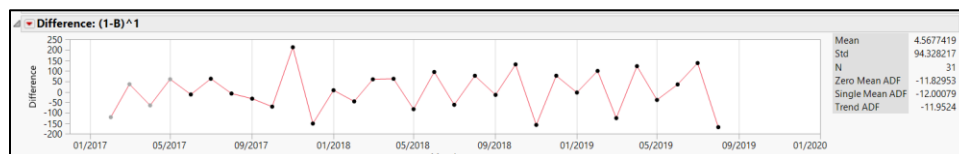
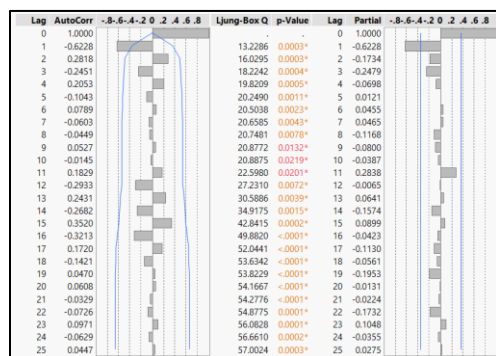


Figure 4



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Top Model Selections

To identify the best model for the data set, we executed the SCAN and ESACF function in SAS, and the result show a few suggested ARIMA values.

SCAN Chi-Square[1] Probability Values						
Lags	MA 0	MA 1	MA 2	MA 3	MA 4	MA 5
AR 0	<.0001	<.0001	0.0166	0.0199	0.0630	0.1807
AR 1	<.0001	0.1156	0.4035	0.5310	0.9470	0.8764
AR 2	0.3584	0.7522	0.9839	0.4089	0.8890	0.9130
AR 3	0.5352	0.8824	0.4351	0.3938	0.9874	0.8721
AR 4	0.6906	0.2465	0.9004	0.6658	0.8778	0.7496
AR 5	0.0496	0.3543	0.6875	0.7461	0.8485	0.9739

ESACF Probability Values						
Lags	MA 0	MA 1	MA 2	MA 3	MA 4	MA 5
AR 0	0.0020	0.0025	0.0968	0.1323	0.2317	0.4103
AR 1	0.0003	0.1244	0.4371	0.6090	0.9900	0.8795
AR 2	0.0999	0.2663	0.6870	0.6287	0.7137	0.7784
AR 3	0.0122	0.7416	0.6846	0.3801	0.5633	0.8316
AR 4	0.0157	0.1979	0.6383	0.0814	0.5396	0.5816
AR 5	0.8885	0.3145	0.2402	0.1673	0.9054	0.5665

ARMA(p+d,q) Tentative Order Selection Tests			
SCAN		ESACF	
p+d	q	p+d	q
1	1	2	0
0	4	1	1
		0	2
		4	1
		5	0

SCAN and ESACF result show the highest value in q is 4 and highest value in p+d is 5, so we extend our ARIMA model group to 4.

ARIMA Model Group

Specify ARIMA Model

ARIMA

p, Autoregressive Order04
d, Differencing Order01
q, Moving Average Order04

Seasonal ARIMA

P, Autoregressive Order00
D, Differencing Order00
Q, Moving Average Order00
Observations per Period1212

Prediction Interval0.95

☒ Intercept
☒ Constrain fit

Total Number of Models10

EstimateCancelHelp

ARIMA Model group result sorted by SBC rank

Model Comparison														
Report	Graph	Model	DF	Variance	AIC	SBC	RSquare	-2LogLH	Weights	.2	.4	.6	.8	SBC Rank
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IMA(1, 2)	28	4287.3277	351.49497	355.79693	0.660	345.49497	0.079426					1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ARIMA(1, 1, 1)	28	4373.1751	351.91145	356.21341	0.656	345.91145	0.064495					2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IMA(1, 1)	29	4791.8803	353.71551	356.58348	0.621	349.71551	0.026168					3
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ARIMA(3, 1, 2)	25	3112.8424	349.21901	357.82294	0.727	337.21901	0.247844					4
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ARI(1, 1)	29	5047.7733	354.97534	357.84331	0.601	350.97534	0.013938					5
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ARIMA(1, 1, 2)	27	3805.7885	353.18248	358.91843	0.660	345.18248	0.034160					6
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ARI(3, 1)	27	4451.5193	353.41973	359.15568	0.660	345.41973	0.030339					7
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IMA(1, 3)	27	4444.3791	353.48318	359.21913	0.660	345.48318	0.029392					8
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ARI(2, 1)	28	4902.9242	355.09607	359.39803	0.623	349.09607	0.013122					9
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ARIMA(2, 1, 1)	27	4534.9455	353.90540	359.64135	0.656	345.9054	0.023798					10
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ARI(4, 1)	26	4298.7342	353.50153	360.67147	0.678	343.50153	0.029123					11
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ARIMA(4, 1, 2)	24	3154.4239	350.63361	360.67152	0.730	336.63361	0.122181					12
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ARIMA(3, 1, 3)	24	3190.4768	350.79233	360.83025	0.729	336.79233	0.112859					13
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ARIMA(3, 1, 1)	26	4401.3394	354.11350	361.28343	0.672	344.1135	0.021446					14
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	IMA(1, 4)	26	4434.9799	354.46985	361.63978	0.671	344.46985	0.017946					15
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ARIMA(2, 1, 2)	26	3894.1668	354.73860	361.90854	0.664	344.7386	0.015690					16
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ARIMA(1, 1, 3)	26	3946.6922	355.11504	362.28497	0.660	345.11504	0.012998					17
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ARIMA(2, 1, 3)	25	3975.1658	355.45630	364.06022	0.677	343.4563	0.010959					18

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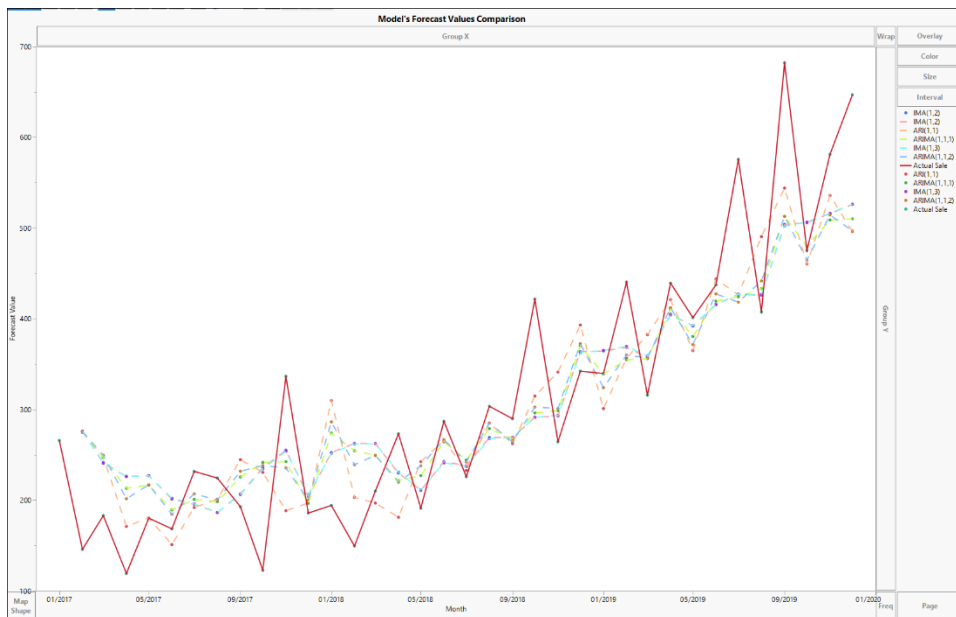
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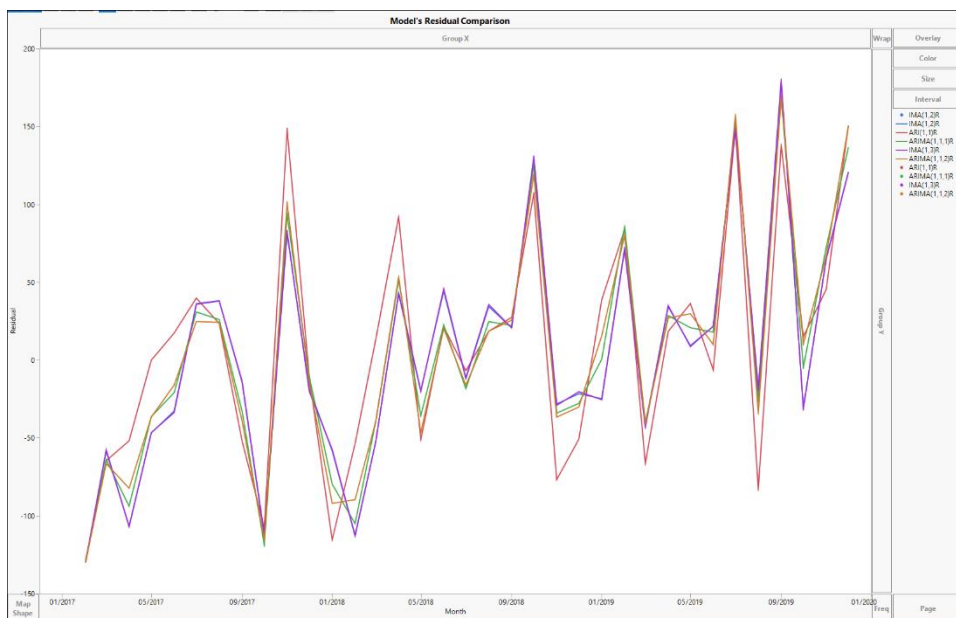
The first 6 models with the lowest SBC rank Ljung-Box Q values are not statistically significant, so they are all valid models with our data set, so we decide to explore these 6 models.

Our comparison on the forecast value and residual from each model show that these 6 models seem to provide similar results, so we decide to go with the top two models that has the lowest SBC which is IMA(1,2) and ARIMA(1,1,1)

Forecast Comparison



Residual Comparison



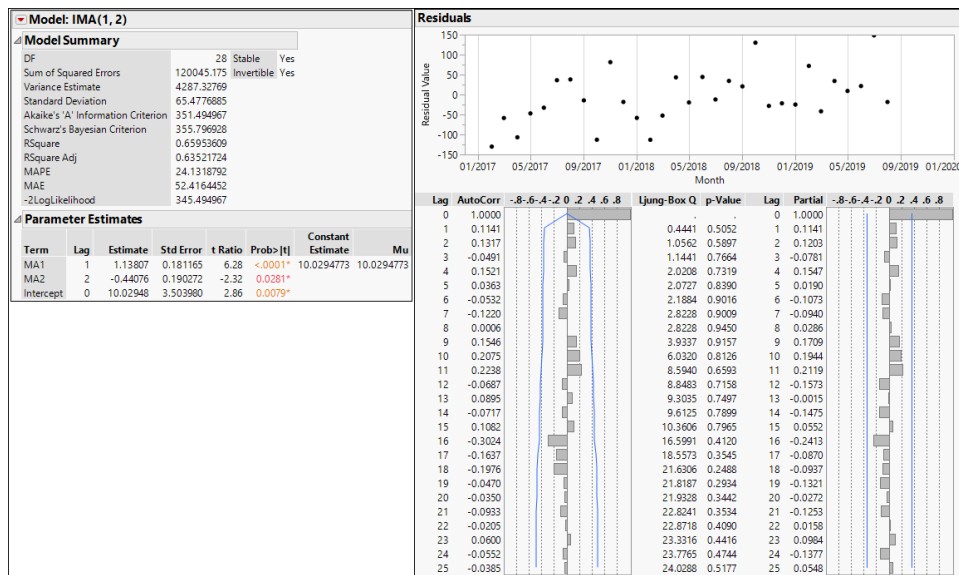
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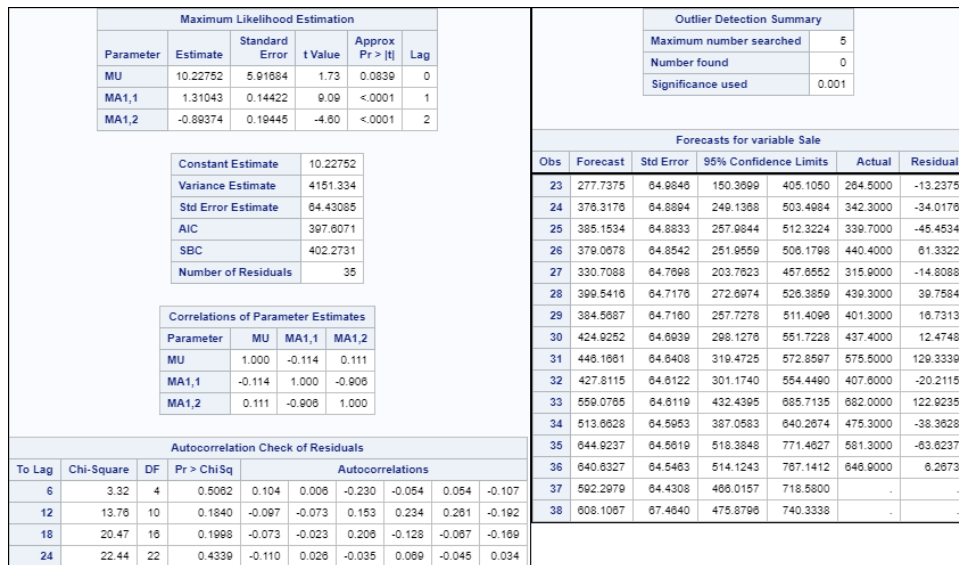
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IMA (1,2)

1. Residual consistence with white noise due to Ljung-Box Q value is not statistically significant. IMA(1,1) is a valid model.
2. This model is not parsimonious due to the parameter MA2 is not statistically significant.



3. Model in SAS with outlier and Forecast



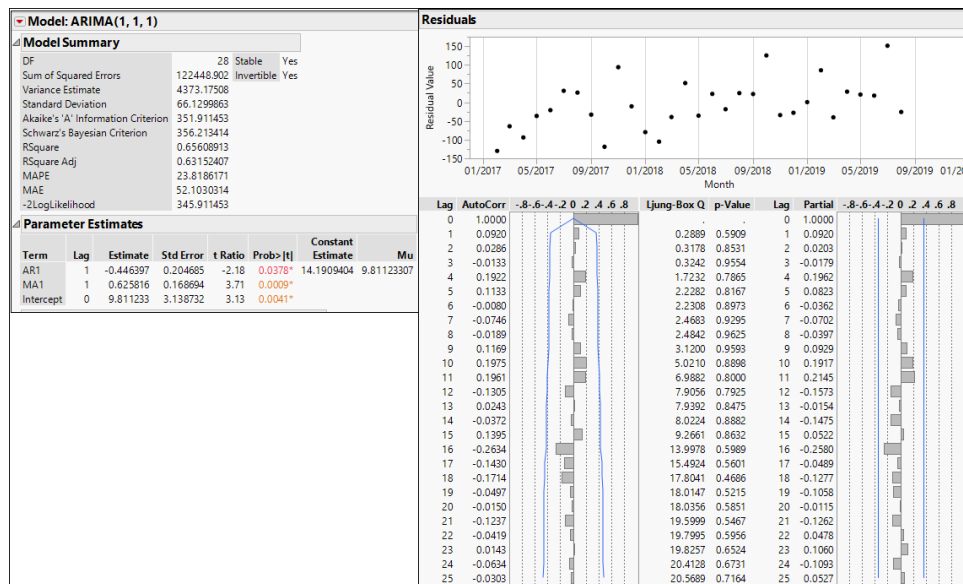
ARIMA(1,1,1)

1. Residual consistence with white noise due to Ljung-Box Q value is not statistically significant. ARIMA(1,1,1) is a valid model.
2. This model is not parsimonious due to the parameter AR1 is not statistically significant.

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3. Model in SAS with outlier and Forecast

Maximum Likelihood Estimation					
Parameter	Estimate	Standard Error	t Value	Approx Pr > t	Lag
MU	12.09594	3.76212	3.22	0.0013	0
MA1,1	0.51321	0.19208	2.67	0.0075	1
AR1,1	-0.56738	0.17497	-3.24	0.0012	1

Constant Estimate	18.95888
Variance Estimate	4855.046
Std Error Estimate	69.67816
AIC	400.4867
SBC	405.1327
Number of Residuals	35

Correlations of Parameter Estimates				
Parameter	MU	MA1,1	AR1,1	
MU	1.000	-0.081	-0.039	
MA1,1	-0.081	1.000	0.543	
AR1,1	-0.039	0.543	1.000	

Autocorrelation Check of Residuals						
To Lag	Chi-Square	DF	Pr > ChiSq	Autocorrelations		
6	3.46	4	0.4839	0.022	0.026	0.072
12	11.19	10	0.3427	0.008	-0.040	0.047
18	18.07	16	0.3201	-0.037	0.085	0.157
24	23.82	22	0.3569	-0.141	0.001	-0.110

Outlier Detection Summary					
Maximum number searched	5				
Number found	0				
Significance used	0.001				

Forecasts for variable Sale						
Obs	Forecast	Std Error	95% Confidence Limits		Actual	Residual
24	394.4425	69.6782	257.8758	531.0092	342.3000	-52.1425
25	343.8773	69.6782	207.3108	480.4440	339.7000	-4.1773
26	362.2779	69.6782	225.7112	498.8446	440.4000	78.1221
27	362.1310	69.6782	225.5843	498.6976	315.9000	-46.2310
28	429.2234	69.6782	292.8567	565.7901	439.3000	10.0766
29	383.0734	69.6782	246.5067	519.6400	401.3000	18.2266
30	432.4850	69.6782	295.8963	569.0317	437.4000	4.9350
31	433.3439	69.6782	296.7772	569.9106	575.5000	142.1561
32	443.1481	69.6782	306.5814	579.7148	407.6000	-35.5481
33	540.0849	69.6782	403.4982	678.6316	682.0000	141.9351
34	472.4283	69.6782	335.8016	608.9949	475.3000	2.8717
35	610.0615	69.6782	473.4948	746.6282	581.3000	-28.7615
36	554.8779	69.6782	418.3112	691.4446	648.9000	92.0221
37	581.4122	69.6782	444.8455	717.9788	-	-
38	637.5272	69.6782	500.5178	774.5366	-	-

FINAL MODEL

Model Recommendation

The ARIMA (1,1,1) model turned out be balanced in its predictions. Both, its AIC and SBC values, are very close in values and in ranks fifth for AIC and second for SBC indicating this conclusion. Based on it forecasting nature, its predicted results were the most accurate in comparison to the actual values of the last four months of shampoo sales.

Weaknesses

Due to the small dataset, ARIMA(1,1,1) model may not capture possible seasonality, and outliers because in the process of exploring the ARIMA (1,1,1), we found no outliers or level shifts. We were initially curious as to whether there may be some seasonality from the original time series plot, but as in other models, the ARIMA (1,1,1) did not indicate any level shifts or outliers. However, we do not want to dismiss the concern there might be seasonality present. Our recommendation is to increase our data set to further validate the conclusion that seasonality is not present.

Pros

ARIMA(1,1,1) was both stable and invertible. Residual analysis presented the model to be valid due to no correlation being present. Its parameters were significant except for AR1. The iteration history also shows that while ARIMA (1,1,1,) went through 23 steps which was greater than the other two comparable models. The cost of processing it was not much greater because there was not much of difference in iteration steps from IMA(1,2): 18 steps. The forecasting model showed that there was consistency in the residual difference as time proceeded. It did not increase into a cone shape. However, when comparing the predicted values with the actual values, there was an apparent need in increasing the data set so that prediction may be more accurate and parsimonious of the actual trend of the data. It was the best model available for the small data set present, but it also made clear the need for including more data into the analysis process.

FORECAST & BUSINESS RECOMMENDATIONS

The ARIMA(1,1,1) model shows a forecast of 512.87M sales for September, 480.07M sales for October, 508.90M for November, and 510.22M sales for December.

Month	Actual Sale	Forecast-IMA(1,2)	Forecast - ARIMA(1,1,1)
Jul-19	575.50	426.98	424.25
Aug-19	407.60	426.00	433.39
Sep-19	682.00	504.03	512.87
Oct-19	475.30	505.95	480.07
Nov-19	581.30	515.97	508.90
Dec-19	646.90	526.00	510.22

Overall, we see a steady project increase in shampoo sales for Company A by the end of the year with sales nearly doubling in the last 3 years. We recommend Company A to further invest in the shampoo sales market as our forecasts show an increase in sales and profits by the end of the year.

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For future work, we recommend Company A to review their sales by end of 2020, when they have more data for a model to be able to detect any underlying pattern or seasonality that our current recommended model is not able to detect.

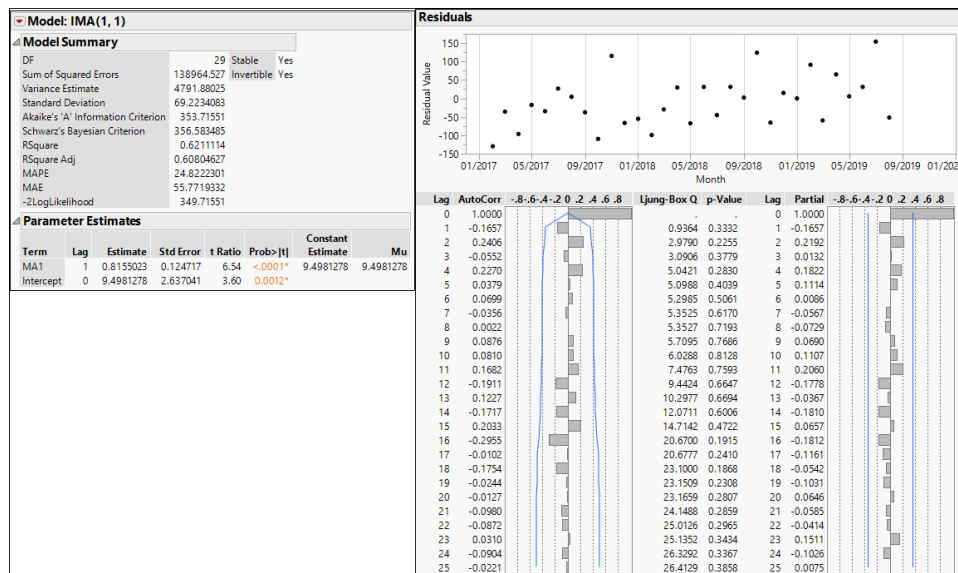
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APPENDIX

Additional Models that we explored

IMA(1,1)

1. Residual consistence with white noise due to Ljung-Box Q value is not statistically significant. IMA(1,1) is a valid model.
2. This model is parsimonious due to the parameter is statistically significant.



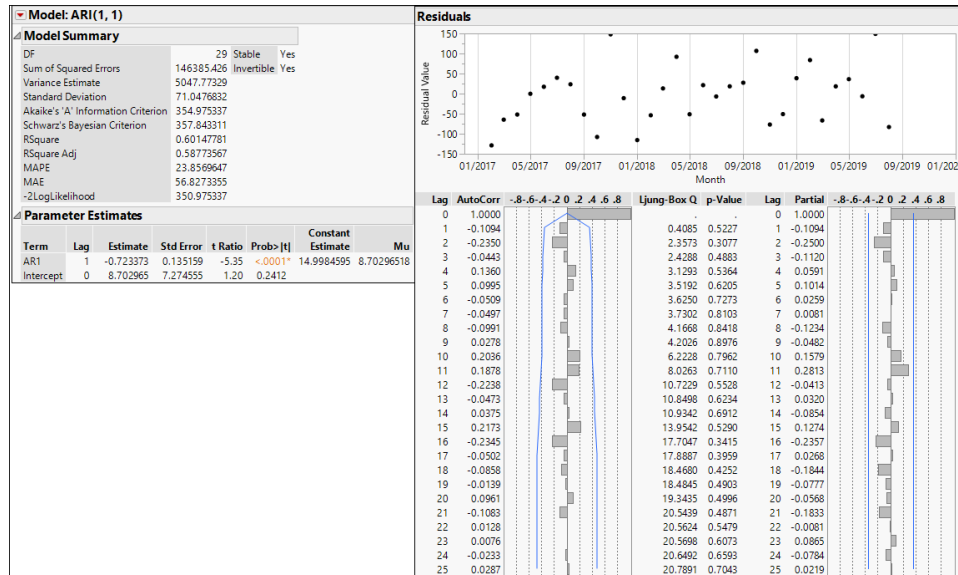
ARI(1,1)

1. Residual consistence with white noise due to Ljung-Box Q value is not statistically significant. ARI(1,1) is a valid model.
2. This model is parsimonious due to the parameter is statistically significant.

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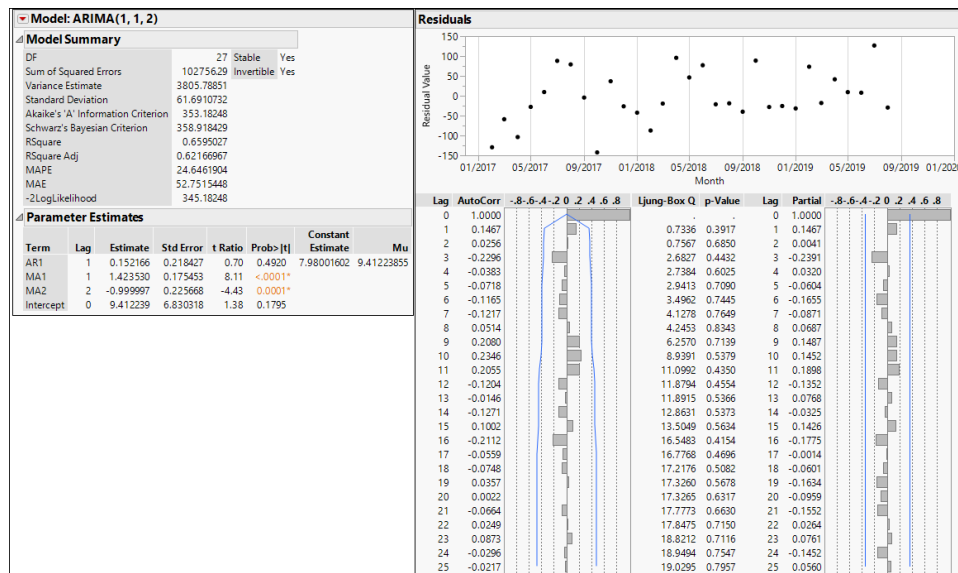
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ARIMA(1,1,2)

1. Residual consistence with white noise due to Ljung-Box Q value is not statistically significant. ARIMA(1,1,2) is a valid model.
2. This model is not parsimonious due to the parameter AR1 is not statistically significant.



ARIMA(3,1,2)

1. Residual consistence with white noise due to Ljung-Box Q value is not statistically significant. ARIMA(3,1,2) is a valid model.
2. This model is not parsimonious due to the parameter AR1 is not statistically significant.

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