Utilizing Big Data Tools for Agoda's Customer Booking Behavior Analysis and Dynamic Pricing Optimization

WQD7007 Occ1 - Group 2 & 8

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INTRODUCTION

Agoda was founded in 2005 by Michael Kenny and Robert Rosenstein in Phuket, Thailand.

Diverse customer purchasing behaviors and determining accurate pricing remains a challenge. Risk of losing competitive edge, revenue opportunities, and customer satisfaction without effective solutions.

OBJECTIVES

This study aims to evaluate the effectiveness of Hadoop in improving Agoda's ability to achieve the following objectives:

- To analyse booking behaviours based on demographic and booking history
- 2. To identify patterns that can inform dynamic pricing strategies

TOOLS/TECHNOLOGIES

Apache Pig/Apache Hive/ MapReduce/ Spark/HDFS/ Hbase/ PowerBI/ Python

01

Data Preprocessing: Apache Pig and Python

Apache Pig Storing the Joining Feature Selection Datasets Result PigStorage 'DISTINCT; and Split date into 'FILTER' day/month/year • csv file · 'JOIN' Remove •STORE_INTO_ remove duplicates unnecessary common keys: and missing columns 'userCode' and values 'travelCode' Loading Data **Data Cleaning Data Splitting**

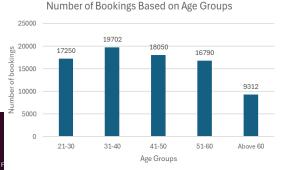
Python is used to enrich the datatset.

The day of the week for the flight and hotel dates is done through Python.

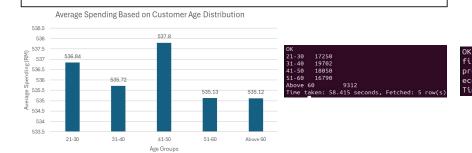


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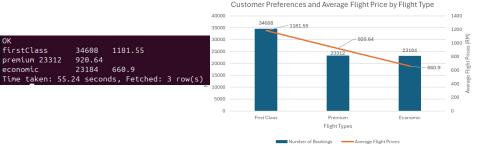


Pie chart shows a relatively balanced proportion of customers among the three gender categories. Agoda should cater marketing strategies to a diverse range of customers.



Bar chart displays the average spending analysis across different age groups which the average range of RM 535-RM 538. The highest average spending is observed in the 41-50 age group at RM 537.80, followed by age group of 21-30 and 31-40. This pattern suggests similar purchasing behavior among these demographics.

Bar chart illustrates the age group of 31-40 is the most active demographic which followed by age group of 41-50 and 21-30. Agoda can target on middle-aged and young adults groups to tailor the travel packages and services.

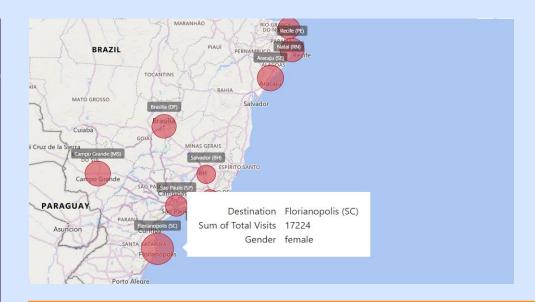


Based on the bar charts, economic class showed the most costeffective option with average price of RM 660.90. However, majority of customers prefer with first class (34,608), premium class (23,312) and economic class (23,184). This pattern reflects customer prefer with exclusivity and superior service on flight selection.



Customer Behavior

| MapReduce | Apadhe Hive | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| <pre>vboxuser@ubuntu1:-\$ cat /home/vboxuser/clear</pre> | Total MapReduce CPU Time Spent: 12 seconds 620 m | | | | |
| female Florianopolis (SC) 5816 female Aracaju (SE) 3760 | gender destination total_visits | | | | |
| Female Campo Grande (MS) 3302 | female | | | | |
| none Rio de Janeiro (RI) 1636 none Salvador (BH) 1602 vboxuser@ubuntu1:-\$ | none | | | | |



The geomap highlights Florianopolis (SC) as one of the most popular destinations among visitors. Specifically, female visitors accounted for 5,816 total visits. This indicates a significant preference among female travelers compared to other destinations.

Customers with Highest Revenue

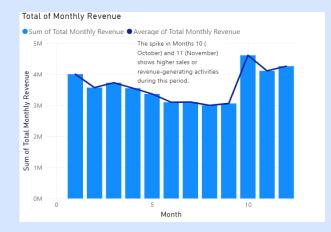
| Full Name | Total Revenue ▼ | | |
|------------------|--------------------|--|--|
| Helen Warner | 81,999.72 | | |
| Wallace Gallardo | 78,809.28 | | |
| Ray Johnson | 78,376.22 | | |
| Andrew Anderson | 78,130.92 | | |
| John Micciche | 78,004.30 | | |
| Kevin Paul | 77,977.16 | | |
| Linda Ellis | 76,823.52 | | |
| Juanita Palmer | 76,493.84 | | |
| Kenneth Jump | 75,607.94 | | |

Top customer: Helen Warner (\$81,999.72) Top 8 Customers contribute to total revenue

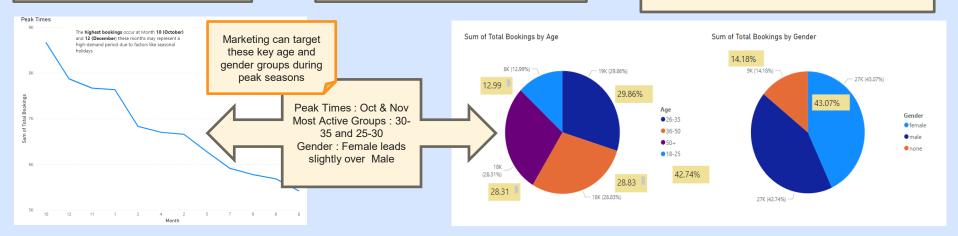


Price increases with greater distances due to higher fuel/operational costs

Customer Behavior



October and November generate the highest monthly revenue, highlighting a peak season for customer activity





Salvador: Highest average flight cost (RM1,179.23) & hotel prices (RM263.41).
Sao Paulo: Lowest flight costs (RM826.55) & affordable hotel prices

(RM139.10).



■ Average Flight Price ■ Average Hotel Price

(RM 1,186.13)

Competitive Flight Pricing: Rainbow (RM 922.96) & CloudFy (RM 917.02).

Stable Hotel Prices: Minimal differences across agencies (RM 534.99–RM 539.72).

Highest Flight Prices: FlyingDrops



January to August (lowest: 5420 flights).
Peak travel in October (8663 flights) followed by December and November, driven by holiday demand.

Flight numbers declined from

Price Optimization



Short Travel (≤300 km):

- Economic: Most cost-effective (RM 629.54, 4,628 flights).
- Premium: 35.2% pricier than Economic

Medium Travel (301–800 km):

Most in-demand for all classes

Long Travel (>800 km):

Reduced demand across all classes.

Comparison Performance between Hive and MapReduce Tools

| | | • | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Tools | Hive | MapReduce | |
| Stages/Jobs | 2 Stages | 2 Jobs | |
| Mappers | 1 mapper per stage | Job 1: 2 mappers; Job 2: 2 mappers | |
| Reducers | 1 reducer per stage | 1 reducer per job | |
| Cumulative CPU Time | Stage-1: 9.13 sec; Stage-2: 5.77 sec | Job 1: 7.06 sec; Job 2: 14.90 sec | |
| HDFS Read | Stage-1: 13,467,419 bytes; Stage-2: 8,296 bytes | 13,451,526 bytes | |
| HDFS Write | Stage-1: 529 bytes; Stage-2: 458 bytes | 263 bytes | |
| Input Records | Not explicitly mentioned | Job 1: 81,105 | |
| Output Records | Not explicitly mentioned | Job 1: 81,104; Job 2: 9 | |
| Memory Usage (Peak) | Not explicitly mentioned | Map: ~291 MB; Reduce: ~182 MB | |
| Execution Time | Stage-1: ~18 sec; Stage-2: ~16 sec | Job 1: ~27 sec; Job 2: ~33 sec | |

Performance Insights:

- Hive is ideal for analysis-focused tasks with smaller to medium datasets.
- MapReduce excels in handling large datasets and custom processing.

Recommendation:

- Use Hive for this project due to simplicity, speed, and practicality.
- Consider MapReduce for scalability if the dataset grows.

Hive vs. MapReduce:

- Hive: User-friendly, SQL-like interface; faster execution (~14.9 seconds), efficient memory management, and lower disk usage.
- MapReduce: Offers detailed control; slower execution (~27–33 seconds), higher data transfer, and manual memory configuration (~291 MB map, ~182 MB reduce).

HDFS - Data Storage and Integration

| Centralized | Data |
|-------------|------|
| Storage | |

Data Partitioning and Replication

Seamless Integration with Processing Tools

Acts as the main repository for raw, intermediate, and processed data.

Automatically divides datasets into smaller blocks.

Supports efficient data processing.

Replicates data across nodes for high availability and fault tolerance.

Pig: Preprocessing raw data.

Hive: Querying processed data.

MapReduce: Advanced analysis for

insights.

Spark: Model training and

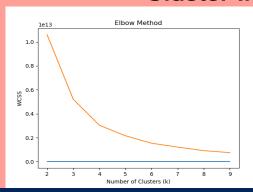
evaluation.

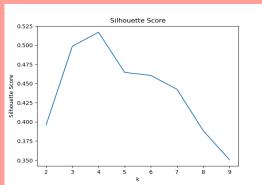
04

K-Means Clustering: Apache Spark









Cluster Center Coordinates

Optimal

k=4

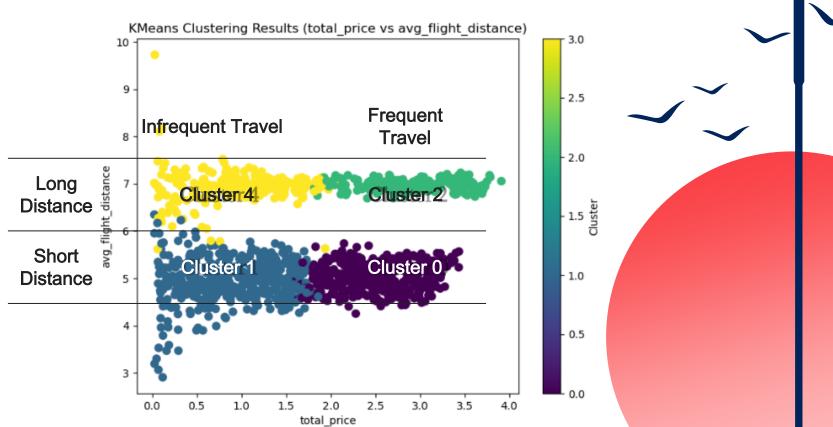
% Difference from average position

| cluster | total_ mileage | total_ flight_ price | total_ flights | total_ days_ hotel | total_ hotel_ price | total_ hotels | total_ price | avg_ flight_ distance | avg_ flight_ time | avg_ flight_ price | avg_ hotel_ price_ daily | age |
|---------|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| 0 | 23.9% | 36.8% | 47.4% | 47.6% | 53.2% | 47.6% | 38.0% | -15.8% | -15.8% | -7.1% | 4.3% | 1.9% |
| 1 | -55.3% | -50.4% | -46.0% | -47.1% | -45.7% | -47.2% | -50.1% | -17.2% | -17.2% | -8.3% | 3.4% | 0.6% |
| 2 | 72.7% | 59.4% | 48.1% | 50.7% | 45.4% | 50.7% | 58.4% | 16.8% | 16.7% | 7.7% | -3.2% | -1.8% |
| 3 | -41.3% | -45.8% | -49.4% | -51.2% | -53.0% | -51.1% | -46.3% | 16.2% | 16.2% | 7.7% | -4.5% | -0.7% |

Frequency of travel

Distance

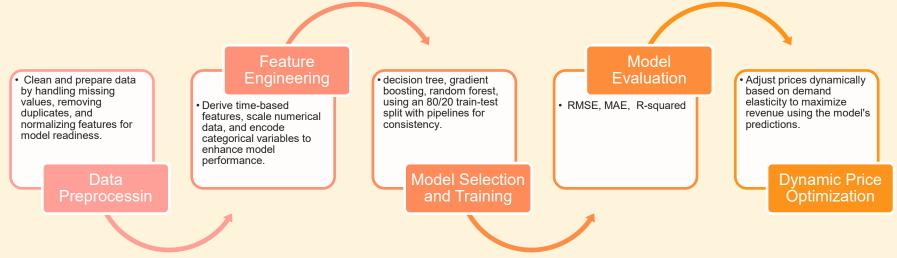
Visualization of Clusters



Modeling Training & Evaluation

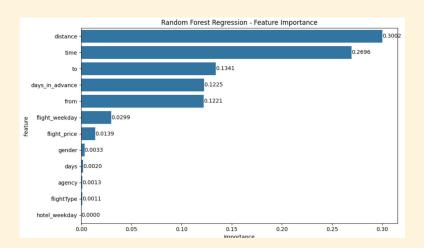
Regression Modeling

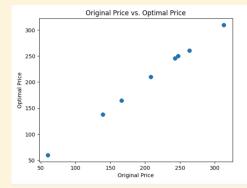
The goal of this stage is to adjust the hotel price (hotel_price) to optimise revenue based on the prediction results of the best regression model. This study aims to dynamically adjust the hotel price to maximise revenue based on the prediction results of the best regression model.

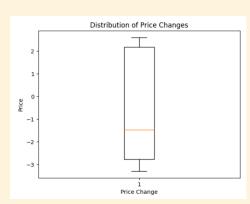


Regression Model Evaluation

| Model Name | RMSE | MAE | R-squared |
|---------------------------------|-------|-------|-----------|
| Random Forest Regression | 20.2 | 12.31 | 0.931 |
| Gradient Boosting Regression | 20.49 | 14.02 | 0.929 |
| Decision Tree | | | |
| Regression | 28.3 | 8.15 | 0.865 |









06 Visualization



Extract and Prepare

- HBase data extraction
- Aggregate booking metrics (counts, price)
- Transform for visualization



Implement and Design

- Model data relationships in Power BI
- Create intuitive visualizations



Validate and Deploy

- Test dashboard performance
- Verify data accuracy



CONCLUSION & RECOMMENDATION

Empowering Targeted Marketing:

- Focus on middle-aged travelers (31–50 years).
- Design campaigns tailored for peak seasons (October, December) and off-peak opportunities (August).

Optimizing Pricing Strategies:

- Use dynamic pricing to balance peak demand and off-peak promotions.
- Introduce premium packages for high-end destinations like Salvador and Natal.

Promoting Personalized Offers:

 Use K-Means clustering insights for targeted promotions based on travel frequency and distance.

Enhancing Technological Capabilities:

- Utilize Hive for efficiency (use MapReduce if the datasets grow)
- Explore advanced machine learning for real-time insights and dynamic decision-making.

