

TAKE
HOME
ASSESSMENT

**PRACHI YADAV** 

# **About Myself**

A Data Analyst who loves to **SELECT** insights, **JOIN** ideas, and **GROUP** BY logic!

- I specialize in SQL, Python, and data visualization, turning raw data into actionable insights.
- I believe in clean queries and clean data—no NULL insights here!
- My approach? Ask the right questions, optimize for efficiency, and always keep learning.
- Today, I'll walk you through my take-home challenge—the logic, the insights, and my decision-making process.

# Let's 'EXECUTE' this presentation!

## **Challenge Overview**

**Goal:** Analyze transaction, user, and product data to derive insights.

**Dataset:** Provided datasets included:

- Users (demographics)
- Transactions (purchase data)
- Products (categories & brands)

### **Key Objectives:**

- Identify data trends and anomalies.
- Perform exploratory analysis and generate actionable insights.
- Address data quality issues and make business recommendations.

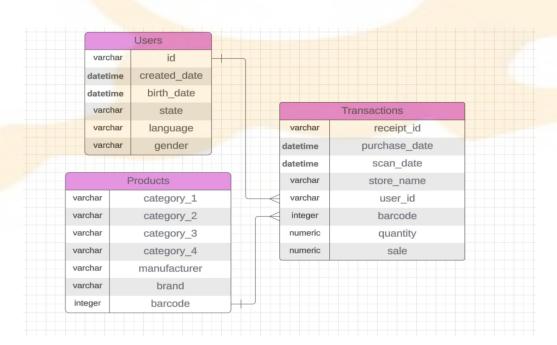
## **Data Overview**

Users Data → Contains customer demographics (age, state, gender, language, etc.)

Transactions Data → Records purchase details (receipt ID, store, barcode, quantity, sale amount, etc.)

**Products Data** → Links barcodes to product categories, brands, and manufacturers.

## ERD:



## <u>Understanding Fetch's Business Context</u>

**Fetch's Data Model:** Uses receipt transactions to analyze brand performance & user behavior.

### **Key Business Considerations:**

- How do users interact with Fetch? (Purchases, receipt scans)
- Which brands and categories perform best?
- What anomalies or gaps exist in the data?

### My Approach:

- Understand business questions before diving into the data.
- Identify missing and inconsistent data.
- Extract meaningful insights for decision-making.

# **Data Exploration & Cleaning**

#### **Data Issues Identified:**

- Users Data: Missing values in birthdate, state, language, gender.
- Transactions Data: 11.5% missing barcodes, 25% missing final sales.
- Products Data: 226K records missing brand or manufacturer info.

### Cleaning Approach:

- Standardized data types (dates, categories).
- Removed duplicates.
- Retained missing values rather than making assumptions.

## **Key Assumptions in Data Cleaning & Analysis**

- Retained missing data unless necessary to remove
- Did not impute categorical data (state, gender) due to lack of strong correlations
- Handled missing sales values by keeping them rather than assuming a value
- Defined power users based on transaction activity, not Fetch points
- Used created\_date as a proxy for Fetch's user growth
- Assumed that decimal values in quantity were valid

# **Key Insights from Analysis**

1) Top 5 Brands by Receipts Scanned (Users Aged 21+)

Brands Identified: Nerds Candy, Dove, Hershey's, Coca-Cola, Great Value

#### **Insights:**

- High frequency of scans indicates everyday purchases like snacks, personal care, and beverages.
- Strong brand familiarity and repeat purchase behavior among users.

#### **Business Impact:**

### **Opportunity for Loyalty Campaigns:**

- Launch bonus point offers for frequent scans.
- Create **brand-specific challenges** to boost engagement.
- Strengthen partnerships with high-engagement brands.

### 2)Top 5 Brands by Sales (Users with Older Accounts)

**Brands Identified:** CVS, Trident, Dove, Coors Light, Quaker

### Insights:

High sales driven by long-term users, indicating strong customer loyalty.

#### **Business Impact:**

**Retail-Specific Incentives:** 

- Offer exclusive rewards for repeat purchases with top brands.
- Create multi-brand campaigns targeting loyal users.

### 3) Sales by Generation (Health & Wellness Category)

#### **Key Findings:**

- Generation X dominates sales in the Health & Wellness category.
- Minimal engagement from Gen Z and the Silent Generation.

#### Insights:

- Gen X likely driven by fitness, supplements, and self-care priorities.
- Low Gen Z engagement could indicate a data gap or market opportunity.

#### **Business Impact:**

#### Personalized Wellness Offers:

- Target Gen X with custom rewards for wellness products.
- Explore **targeted campaigns for Gen Z**, using trends like eco-friendly or mental wellness products.
- Investigate **potential data gaps** to ensure accurate insights

## **Business Trends & Open Questions**

#### **User Growth Trend:**

- Growth peaked in 2020 (+138%) but declined in 2023 (-42%).
  - a. 2014–2016: Inconsistent data with missing months (e.g., missing Jan–Mar 2014) leads to inflated growth percentages.
  - **b. 2020**: Peak growth (+138%) observed, partially influenced by more complete data compared to previous years.
  - c. 2023–2024: Sharp decline (-42%) partially due to missing or incomplete data in later months, rather than actual user drop-off.

#### **Unresolved Questions:**

- Should we **manually fill missing barcodes** or exclude transactions?
- If quantity = 0 but sale > 0, is it a refund or a system issue?
- Should each barcode be associate to one product, or is duplication valid?

## **SQL Approach & Techniques Used**

### Key SQL Techniques Used

Common Table Expressions (CTEs) — Used for modular queries and better readability.

INNER JOIN — Combined users, transactions, and products to analyze brand purchases.

Aggregation Functions — Used GROUP BY, COUNT(\*), and SUM(FINAL\_SALE) for insights.

### Why?

- Improved query structure and readability.
- Ensured data consistency and accurate insights

## **Advanced SQL & Handling Edge Cases**

Window Functions – Used RANK(), DENSE\_RANK() for brand ranking, LAG() for YoY growth.

CASE WHEN Handling – Managed missing barcodes and inconsistent sales data.

Query Optimization – Can use indexed columns to improve performance and CTEs instead of subqueries.

### Why?

- Optimized for large datasets.
- Improved performance and trend analysis.

## **Recommendations & Next Steps**

#### **Business Recommendations:**

- Leverage top brands (Nerds, Dove) for targeted campaigns.
- Create loyalty incentives for power users & frequent buyers.
- Investigate missing sales data before making pricing decisions.
- Address growth slowdown by exploring new user acquisition strategies.

### **Next Steps:**

- Validate barcode data inconsistencies.
- Test different marketing strategies for engagement.
- Reassess Fetch's user acquisition model post-2022.

## **Questions?**

Should I 'COMMIT' and call it a day,

or

**'ROLLBACK'** and try again?