### **Airfares**

a) Explore the numerical predictors and response (FARE) by creating a correlation table and examining some scatterplots between FARE and those predictors. What seems to be the best single predictor of FARE?

Distance seems to be the best single predictor of FARE from the Correlation Table. By looking at the scatter plot, with a change in distance we can see a positive change in FARE. The second best predictor is coupon which has second highest magnitude on the correlation table and scatter plot. The other numerical predictors have scatter plots distributed randomly which doesn't give sufficient evidence that it correlates with FARE. We can refer the table below from sheet correlation.

TTO CUIT IC	The case seron from sheet continues.									
	COUPON	NEW	HI	S_INCOME	$E\_INCONE$	S_POP	$E_POP$	DISTANCE	FAX	FARE
COUPON	1									
NEW	0.020223	1								
HI	-0.34725	0.054147	1							
S_INCOME	-0.0884	0.026597	-0.02738	1						
E_INCOME	0.046889	0.113377	0.082393	-0.13886	1					
S_POP	-0.10776	-0.01667	-0.1725	0.517187	-0.14406	1				
E_POP	0.09497	0.058568	-0.06246	-0.27228	0.458418	-0.28014	1			
DISTANCE	0.746805	0.080965	-0.31237	0.028153	0.176531	0.018437	0.11564	1		
PAX	-0.33697	0.010495	-0.16896	0.138197	0.259961	0.284611	0.314698	-0.10248	1	
FARE	0.496537	0.09173	0.025195	0.209135	0.326092	0.145097	0.285043	0.670016	-0.09071	1

b) Explore the categorical predictors (excluding the first four) by computing the percentage of flights in each category. Create a pivot table with the average fare in each category. Which categorical predictor seems best for predicting FARE?

	Column Labels -			Row Labels	Average of FARE
	Controlled	Free	<b>Grand Total</b>	Controlled	186.0593956
Count of SLOT	182	456	638	Free	150.8256798
% of Flights	28.53%	71.47%	100.00%	Grand Total	160.8766771
	Column Labels -			Row Labels	Average of FARE
	No	Yes	<b>Grand Total</b>	No	188.1827928
Count of S♥	444	194	638	Yes	98.38226804
% of Flights	69.59%	30.41%	100.00%	Grand Total	160.8766771
	Column Labels			Row Labels	Average of FARE
	Constrained	Free	Grand Total	Constrained	193.1290323
Count of GATE	124	514	638	Free	153.0959533
% of Flights	19.44%	80.56%	100.00%	Grand Total	160.8766771
_					
	Column Labels			Row Labels	Average of FARE
	No	Yes	Grand Total	No	173.5525
Count of VACATION	468	170	638	Yes	125.9808824
% of Flights	73.35%	26.65%	100.00%	Grand Total	160.8766771

From the above pivot tables we can say that South West operates 30.41% of total flights operated and the average fare for a South West operated flight is around 98\$ which is least average fare when compared to all other categorical predictors. So, SW column best predicts the fare of the flight in the categorical predictors. This table can be referred from the pivot table.

- c) Find a model for predicting the average fare on a new route:
- i. Convert categorical variables (e.g., SW) into dummy variables. Then partition the data into training and validation sets. The model will be fit to the training data and evaluated on the validation set.

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This

### Inputs

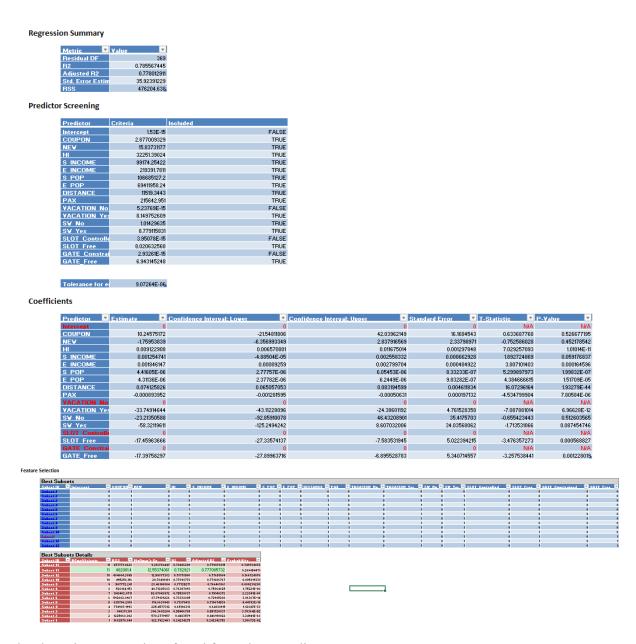
Data						
Workbook	Airfares.xlsx					
Worksheet	Encoding	Encoding				
Range	\$C\$24:\$Y\$6	\$C\$24:\$Y\$662				
# Records in the input data	638	638				
Variables						
# Selected Variables	18					
Selected Variables	COUPON	NEW	HI	S_INCOME	E_IN	
Partitioning Parameters						
Partitioning type	RANDOM					
Random seed	12345	12345				
Ratio - Training	0.6					
Ratio - Validation	0.4					

### **Partition Summary**

ii. Why should the data be partitioned into training, and validation? What will the training set be used for? What will the validation set be used for?

Partitioning data into training and validation datasets allows the user to develop highly accurate models that helps not only analyzing the data which is there but also helps to collect the future data. Usually the data is partitioned into 60% training data and 40% validation data. Training is subset of the data which is used to learn the relationships between data and outcome value. Validation is also a subset of data which is run on the data to estimate the performance of the model after the training has been done on the data. This can be referred from the STD partition sheet.

iii. Use stepwise regression to reduce the number of predictors. You can ignore the first four predictors (S CODE, S CITY, E CODE, E CITY). Report the estimated model selected.



The above images can be referred from sheets ending 'STEPWISE'

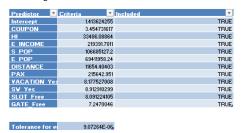
The stepwise regression is done we have the results as shown above. Here we need to choose the best model from the available subsets based on the values of  $R^2$ , Adj.  $R^2$  and Mallow's Cp value(#predictor +1). From the above picture we can say that we have 13 predictors and the best subset is we found is  $11^{th}$  subset. Using

# **Regression Summary**

Metric -	Value -
Residual DF	371
R2	0.783198061
Adjusted R2	0.776769971
Std. Error	36.0243436
RSS	481466.4861

the subset we generate the stepwise regression.

### **Predictor Screening**



#### Coefficients

Predictor	■ Estimate	Confidence Interval: Lower	Confidence Interval: Upper	Standard Error	T-Statistic	P-Value
Intercept	17.54126708	-32.56929476	67.65182893	25.48367678	0.688333447	0.491672994
COUPON	6.134342987	-25.440304	37.70898998	16.05725557	0.382029355	0.702658322
HI	0.009110268	0.006551273	0.011669262	0.001301374	7.000497671	1.2018E-11
E INCOME	0.001690551	0.000746929	0.002634174	0.000479878	3.522874609	0.000480158
S POP	4.74243E-06	3.13197E-06	6.35289E-06	8.18999E-07	5.790521138	1.49673E-08
E POP	3.80038E-06	1.94407E-06	5.6567E-06	9.44027E-07	4.02571463	6.88897E-05
DISTANCE	0.075100447	0.066161863	0.084039031	0.004545708	16.52117686	2.39141E-46
PAX	-0.000854001	-0.00124043	-0.000467571	0.000196518	-4.345654137	1.79521E-05
<b>VACATION Y</b>	-35.96542866	-45.02843996	-26.90241735	4,608985455	-7.803328738	6.19899E-14
SW Yes	-38.1736666	-47.31314188	-29.03419131	4.647871137	-8.213150811	3.62111E-15
SLOT Free	-19.08883186	-28.78608509	-9.391578635	4.931528561	-3.870773864	0.000128168
GATE_Free	-17.44426557	-27.96703789	-6.921493252	5.35134548	-3.259790577	0.00121801

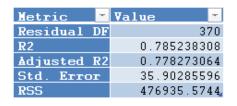
The above pictures can be referred from sheets ending 'STEPSS'

The stepwise regression was calculated to predict the fare based on the given input variables. The regression equation was found to be

 $FARE=17.54126708+6.134342987*COUPON+0.009110268*HI+0.001690551*E\_INCOME+4.74243E-06*S\_POP+3.80038E-06*E\_POP+0.075100447*DISTANCE-0.000854001*PAX-35.96542866*VACATION\_Yes-38.1736666*SW\_Yes-19.08883186*SLOT\_Free-17.44426557*GATE\_Free$ 

iv. Repeat (iii) using exhaustive search instead of stepwise regression. Compare the resulting best model to the one you obtained in (iii) in terms of the predictors that are in the model.

### **Regression Summary**



#### Predictor Screening

Predictor =	Criteria ==	Included ==
Intercept	1.53278E-15	FALSE
COUPON	2.877009329	TRUE
NEW	15.83731177	TRUE
HI	32251.39024	TRUE
S_INCOME	99174.25422	TRUE
E_INCOME	219391.7811	
S_POP	106685127.2	TRUE
E_POP	69411958.24	TRUE
DISTANCE	11519.3443	TRUE
PAX	215642.951	
VACATION_No	5.23769E-15	FALSE
VACATION_Yes	8.149752609	TRUE
SW_No	1.01429635	
S₩_Yes	8.779115831	TRUE
SLOT_Controlled		
SLOT_Free	8.020632568	
GATE_Constrain		
GATE_Free	6.943145248	TRUE

#### Coefficients

Tolerance for en 9.07264E-06,

Predictor	Estimate	Confidence Interval: Lower	Confidence Interval: Upper	Standard Error	T-Statistic -	P-Value -
Intercept	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
COUPON	10.24575172	-21.54811806	42.03962149	16.1684543	0.633687768	0.526677195
NE₩	-1.75953839	-6.356993349	2.837916569	2.33798971	-0.752586028	0.452178542
HI	0.009122908	0.006570801	0.011675014	0.001297848	7.029257093	1.01014E-11
S_INCOME	0.001254741	-4.88504E-05	0.002558332	0.000662928	1.892724869	0.059176837
E_INCOME	0.001846147	0.00089259	0.002799704	0.000484922	3.807101403	0.000164596
S_POP	4.41605E-06	2.77757E-06	6.05453E-06	8.33233E-07	5.299897973	1.99832E-07
E_POP	4.31136E-06	2.37782E-06	6.2449E-06	9.83282E-07	4.384666615	1.51709E-05
DISTANCE	0.074125826	0.065057053	0.083194599	0.004611834	16.07296164	1.93279E-44
PAX	-0.000893952	-0.001281595	-0.00050631	0.000197132	-4.534799904	7.80584E-06
VACATION_No	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
VACATION_Yes	-33.74914644	-43.11228096	-24.38601192	4.761528358	-7.087881014	6.96628E-12
SW_No	-23.21350588	-92.85910078	46.43208901	35.4175703	-0.655423443	0.512603565
SW_Yes	-58.32119611	-125.2494242	8.607032006	34.03568062	-1.713531066	0.087454746
SLOT_Controlle	. 0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
SLOT_Free	-17.45963666	-27.33574137	-7.583531945	5.022394215	-3.476357273	0.000568827
GATE_Constrain	n 0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
GATE_Free	-17.39758297	-27.89963716	-6.895528783	5.340714557	-3.257538441	0.001228019

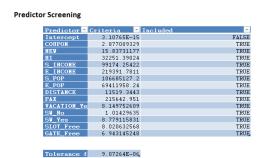
The exhaustive search regression is done on the partition data gives the values of subsets with Max. CP,  $R^2$  and Adj  $R^2$  values. The best subset is chosen on the basis of high adj  $R^2$  value and Max. CP value Which is one more than the number of predictor. The above picture can be referred from the sheets ending with 'Exhaustive'.

Best Subsets D	etails					
Subset ID -	#Coefficients -	RSS -	Mallows's Cp ~	R2 -	Adjusted R2 🛂	Probability ~
Subset 12	12	477731.47	11.1831072	0.78488	0.778501697	0.55399075
Subset 13	13	476759.02	12.42957989	0.785318	0.778355143	0.512603565
Subset 14	14	476204.64	. 14	0.785567	0.778012911	0
Subset 11	11	482081.37	12.55374061	0.782921	0.777085732	0.209454471
Subset 10	10	495258.12	20.76410101	0.776988	0.771606767	0.005819331
Subset 9	9	507772.24	28.46100804	0.771353	0.766461861	0.000239298
Subset 8	8	526164.15	40.71247683	0.763071	0.75864825	1.75221E-06
Subset 7	7	543402.97	52.07043972	0.755308	0.75140372	2.23341E-08
Subset 6	6	577407.54	76.41979667	0.739996	0.736547962	2.27957E-12
Subset 5	5	617365.94	105.3826434	0.722003	0.719061453	7.35628E-17
Subset 4	4	700714.43	167.9674629	0.684472	0.68197423	6.31806E-26
Subset 3	3	928232.97	342.2663383	0.582021	0.579821471	4.28717E-47
Subset 2	2	1225068.3	570.2771957	0.448358	0.446910022	3.24941E-68
Subset 1	1	1682579.8	922.7923461	0.242343	0.242342753	1.30673E-92

From the above table we have to choose the best subset and further run regression on that subset to get the summary of that model. Here we select subset 14 as it has high Adjusted  $R^2$  value and also the Mallow's Cp value is 1+ predictor value( 14+1=15). By looking at the regression summaries of both the models we can say that, they have very slight differences in their values and both of them are considered to be good. The model with high Adjusted  $R^2$  value and low Std. Error is considered to be the better among the models. By looking at the values we can say that Exhaustive search regression model is slightly better than stepwise as they have higher  $R^2$  values.

### Regression Summary

Metric -	Value -
Residual DF	369
R2	0.785567445
Adjusted R2	0.778012911
Std. Error	35.92391229
RSS	476204.638



Coefficients						
Predictor *	Estimate *	Confidence Interval: Lover 💌	Confidence Interval: Upper	Standard Error	T-Statistic *	P-Value *
Intercept	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A
COUPON	10.24575172	-21.54811806	42.03962149	16.1684543	0.633687768	0.526677195
NEW	-1.75953839	-6.356993349	2.837916569	2.33798971	-0.752586028	0.452178542
HI	0.009122908	0.006570801	0.011675014	0.001297848	7.029257093	1.01014E-11
S_INCOME	0.001254741	-4.88504E-05	0.002558332	0.000662928	1.892724869	0.059176837
E_INCOME	0.001846147	0.00089259	0.002799704	0.000484922	3.807101403	0.000164596
S_POP	4.41605E-06	2.77757E-06	6.05453E-06	8.33233E-07	5.299897973	1.99832E-07
E_POP	4.31136E-06	2.37782E-06	6.2449E-06	9.83282E-07	4.384666615	1.51709E-05
DISTANCE	0.074125826	0.065057053	0.083194599	0.004611834	16.07296164	1.93279E-44
PAX	-0.000893952	-0.001281595	-0.00050631	0.000197132	-4.534799904	7.80584E-06
VACATION_Ye	-33.74914644	-43.11228096	-24.38601192	4.761528358	-7.087881014	6.96628E-12
SV_No	-23.21350588	-92.85910078	46.43208901	35.4175703	-0.655423443	0.512603565
SV_Yes	-58.32119611	-125.2494242	8.607032006	34.03568062	-1.713531066	0.087454746
SLOT_Free	-17.45963666	-27.33574137	-7.583531945	5.022394215	-3.476357273	0.000568827
GATE_Free	-17.39758297	-27.89963716	-6.895528783	5.340714557	-3.257538441	0.001228019

The above pictures can be referred from sheets ending with 'EXSS'.

The regression equation is

Fare=10.24575172\*COUPON+1.75953839\*NEW+0.009122908\*HI+0.001254741\*S\_INCOME+0.0018 46147\*E\_INCOME+4.41605E-06\*S\_POP+3.31136E-06\*E\_POP+0.074125826\*DISTANCE-0.000893952\*PAX-33.74914644\*VACATION\_Yes-23.21350588\*SW\_No-58.32119611\*SW\_Yes-17.45963666\*SLOT\_Free - 17.39758297\*GATE\_Free

v. Compare the predictive accuracy of both models (iii) and (iv) using measures such as RMSE and average error and lift charts.

Exhaustive Stepwise

### **Training: Prediction Summary**

Metric -	Value -
SSE	476204.6
MSE	1243.354
RMSE	35.26123
MAD	27.59104
R2	0.785567

# **Training: Prediction Summary**

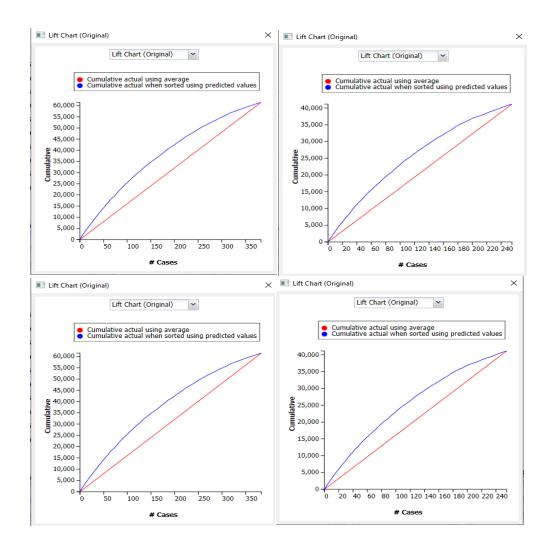
Metric '	Value -
SSE	481466.5
MSE	1257.093
RMSE	35.4555
MAD	27.75791
R2	0.783198

# **Validation: Prediction Summary**

Metric -	Value -
SSE	320573.7
MSE	1257.152
RMSE	35.45633
MAD	27.79736
R2	0.780519

### Validation: Prediction Summary

Metric	▼ Value ▼
SSE	323795.2
MSE	1269.785
RMSE	35.63405
MAD	27.78419
R2	0.778314



After comparing both the models stepwise and exhaustive across RMSE, average error and lift charts we can say that there is no significant difference between the values of the given measures. We can say that Exhaustive models have slightly better values when compared to stepwise when we see at the RMSE value. Also from regression summary, the values are almost same when we see at the standard error values. The lift charts also do not have any significant difference in their values. So it is difficult to find the best among the models.

vi. Using model (iv), predict the average fare on a route with the following characteristics: COUPON = 1.202, NEW = 3, VACATION = No, SW = No, HI = 4442.141, S INCOME = \$ 28,760, E INCOME = \$ 27,664, S POP = 4,557,004, E POP = 3,195,503, SLOT = Free, GATE = Free, PAX = 12,782, DISTANCE = 1976 miles.

Equation after substituting the given values -

 $\begin{aligned} &\text{Fare} = 10.24575172*1.202 - 1.75953839*3 + 0.009122908*4442.141 + 0.001254741*28760 + \\ &0.001846147*27664 + 4.41605*0.000001*4557004 + 3.31136*0.000001*3195503 + \\ &0.000893952*12782 - 33.74914644*0 - 23.21350588*1 - 58.32119611*0 - 17.45963666*1 - 17.39758297*1 = \\ &242.40 \end{aligned}$ 

vii. Using model (iv), predict the reduction in average fare on the route in (vi) if Southwest decides to cover this route.

Equation after substituting the given values -

 $\begin{aligned} &\text{Fare} = 10.24575172*1.202 - 1.75953839*3 + 0.009122908*4442.141 + 0.001254741*28760 + \\ &0.001846147*27664 + 4.41605*0.000001*4557004 + 3.31136*0.000001*3195503 + \\ &0.000893952*12782 - 33.74914644*0 - 23.21350588*0 - 58.32119611*1 - 17.45963666*1 - 17.39758297*1 = \\ &207.29 \end{aligned}$ 

viii. In reality, which of the factors will not be available for predicting the average fare from a new airport (i.e., before flights start operating on those routes)? Which ones can be estimated? How?

Southwest airlines have nominal effect on the average fare of flights as there used to be a regulation fee for the new flights. Also, Southwest airlines are starting service on new routes, so it Southwest Airlines shouldn't be included in the dataset. Moreover we are not aware of SW airlines future price. so, it won't be available.

Factors that can be estimated –

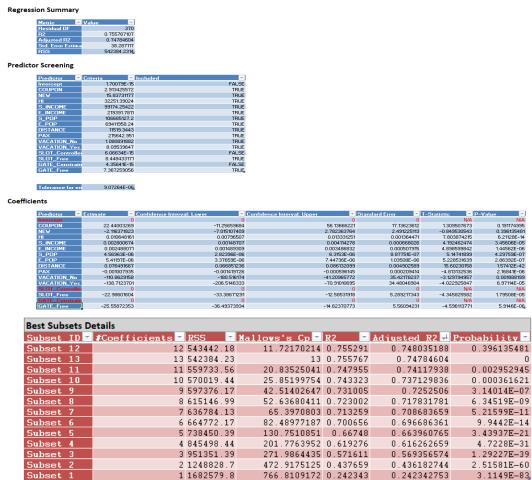
 ${
m HI}$  – Herfindal index can be estimated from the historical data. It is the measure of market concentration. Which fluctuates

Other factors -

We can get the POP and Income from the census bureau after the routes are selected. Vacation and distance will be know after we know the route Slot and gate will the airport's designing.

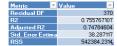
PAX – we can estimate this from the population of the city

ix. Select a model that includes only factors that are available before flights begin to operate on the new route. Use an exhaustive search to find such a model.

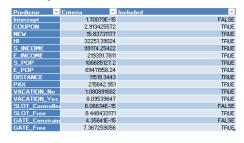


We remove the column SW from the Data and perform exhaustive search and get the results as shown above. Now we have to choose the best subset and do the regression again to get the best fit model. We can see that subset 13 has better adj  $R^2$  and Mallow's Cp value(13) which are better than any other subset. We choose and subset and do the regression again to get the following results. The above pictures can be referred from sheets 'BNEX'.

#### **Regression Summary**

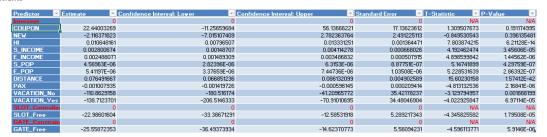


#### **Predictor Screening**



### Coefficients

Tolerance for en



The regression model formed after removing the factors before flights begin to operate on new airports is:

FARE=22.44003269\*COUPON-

2.116371823\*New+0.010648161\*HI+0.002800674\*S\_INCOME+0.002488071\*E\_INCOME+4.56963E-06\*S\_POP+5.41197E-06\*E\_POP+0.076491667\*DISTANCE-0.001007935\*PAX-110.8629158\*VACATION\_No-138.7123701\*VACATION\_Yes-22.98601604\*SLOT\_Free -25.55872353\*GATE\_Free

Using the exhaustive search similar to (iv) we get the above equation.

The above pictures can be referred from the sheets 'BNEXSS'.

x. Use the model in (ix) to predict the average fare on a route with characteristics COUPON = 1.202, NEW = 3, VACATION = No, SW = No, HI = 4442.141, S INCOME = \$28,760, E INCOME = \$27,664, S POP = 4,557,004, E POP = 3,195,503, SLOT = Free, GATE = Free, PAX = 12,782, DISTANCE = 1976 miles.

Equation after substituting the values

Fare=22.44003269\*1.202-

2.116371823\*3+0.010648161\*4442.141+0.002800674\*28760+0.002488071\*27664+4.56963\*0.000001\*4557004+5.41197\*0.000001\*3195503+0.076491667\*1976-0.001007935\*12782-110.8629158\*1-138.7123701\*0-22.98601604\*1-25.55872353\*1 = 234.27

xi. Compare the predictive accuracy of this model with the model (iv). Is this model good enough, or is it worthwhile re-evaluating the model once flights begin on the new route?

### Important

Exhaustive (before new flight)

Exhaustive (new flights)

## **Training: Prediction Summary**

Metric -	Value -
SSE	542384.2
MSE	1416.147
RMSE	37.63173
MAD	29.92301
R2	0.755767

## **Training: Prediction Summary**

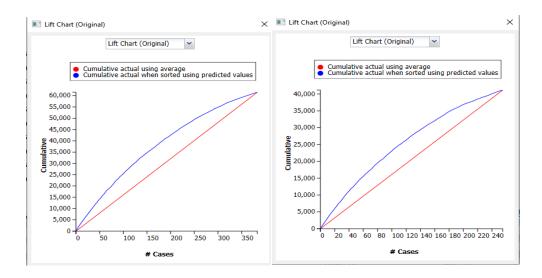
Metric	Value -
SSE	476204.6
MSE	1243.354
RMSE	35.26123
MAD	27.59104
R2	0.785567

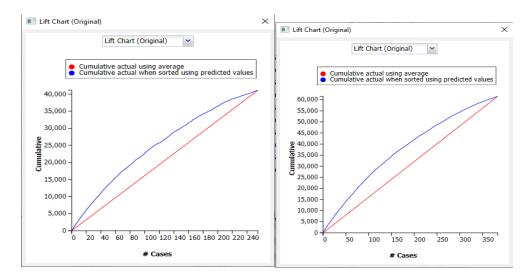
# **Validation: Prediction Summary**

Metric '	Value -
SSE	402329.5
MSE	1577.763
RMSE	39.72106
MAD	31.60865
R2	0.724545

## Validation: Prediction Summary

Metric -	Value -
SSE	320573.7
MSE	1257.152
RMSE	35.45633
MAD	27.79736
R2	0.780519





If we check the predictive accuracy of the models (iv) and (ix) we can say that model (iv) is more accurate as it has less RMSE value when compared to (ix) and also has higher  $R^2$  values when compared to the other model. We need to re-evaluate the model once flights begin on the new route.