**QUANTUM WOLF** 

DATA INTELLIGENCE RESEARCH LAB

DATE: 14/02/2025 - 16/02/2025

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**Real-Time Customer Segmentation & Personalized Offers** 

1. Problem Statement

The retail industry is increasingly competitive, with e-commerce platforms setting high standards for personalized customer experiences. Traditional customer segmentation methods are often static and fail to capture real-time customer behavior, leading to missed

opportunities for targeted marketing and customer engagement. Retailers need a solution

that can:

Analyze customer behavior in real-time.

• Segment customers dynamically based on their purchasing patterns and preferences.

Deliver personalized discounts and offers to improve customer retention, conversion

rates, and revenue.

Key Challenges:

• Lack of real-time insights into customer behavior.

• Inability to deliver hyper-personalized offers.

• Difficulty in competing with e-commerce giants.

2. Solution

To address these challenges, we propose a Real-Time Customer Segmentation &

Personalized Offers solution using KNIME. This solution leverages:

• Real-Time Data Integration: Streaming POS transaction data, CRM data, and IoT data

(e.g., in-store foot traffic sensors).

• Advanced Analytics: Clustering algorithms (k-means, DBSCAN) for customer

segmentation.

• Machine Learning: Predictive modeling to forecast discount usage.

• Automation: Dynamic discount triggering via email or APIs.

• Real-Time Dashboards: KNIME WebPortal for monitoring customer segments and

campaign performance.

# **Key Benefits:**

• Real-time customer insights.

• Hyper-personalized offers.

• Improved customer retention and revenue.

3. Working Process of Real-Time Customer Segmentation & Personalized

**Offers Using KNIME** 

The workflow is divided into the following steps:

1. Data Ingestion

2. Data Preprocessing

3. Feature Engineering

4. Customer Segmentation (Clustering)

5. Predictive Modeling (Discount Usage Prediction)

6. Personalized Discount Assignment

7. Data Visualization

8. Email Automation for Personalized Offers

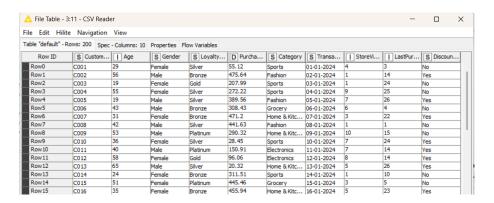
# **Step 1: Data Ingestion**

• Node Used: CSV Reader

• Input File: customer transactions.csv

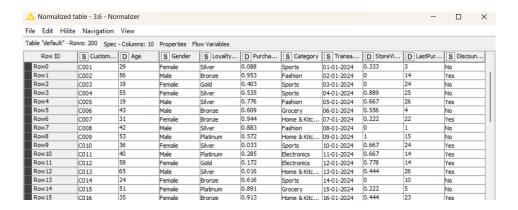
## • Configuration:

- Detect delimiter (comma ,)
- Ensure correct data types (e.g., PurchaseAmount as Double, TransactionDate as Date/Time)
- Output: A structured dataset containing customer transactions ready for preprocessing.



**Step 2: Data Preprocessing** 

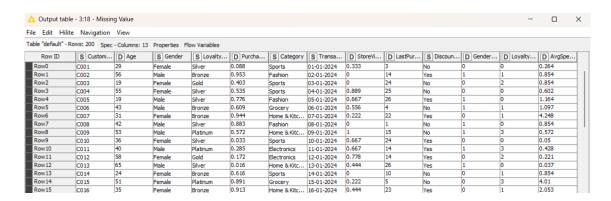
- Nodes Used:
  - o Missing Value Node: Handles missing data.
    - Numeric values replaced with median/mean.
    - Categorical values replaced with the most frequent entry.
  - Normalizer Node: Scales numerical features (PurchaseAmount, StoreVisits) to ensure uniformity.
- Output: A cleaned and normalized dataset ready for feature engineering.



# **Step 3: Feature Engineering**

## Nodes Used:

- Math Formula Node: Computes AvgSpendPerVisit = PurchaseAmount / StoreVisits.
- Date&Time Difference Node: Computes Recency (days since the last purchase).
- Output: An enriched dataset with newly derived features (AvgSpendPerVisit, Recency).



**Step 4: Customer Segmentation (Clustering)** 

## Nodes Used:

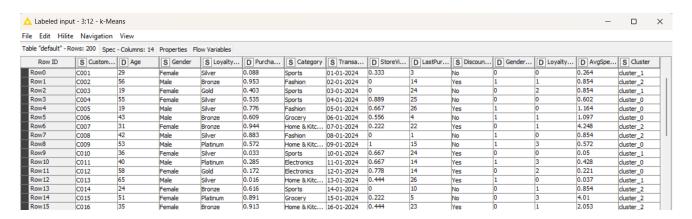
- k-Means Clustering: Identifies distinct customer groups by analyzing behavioral features.
- DBSCAN: Used for density-based clustering to detect noise and anomalies.

### • Features Used:

- PurchaseAmount
- StoreVisits
- AvgSpendPerVisit
- Recency

## Configuration:

- o k-Means: Optimal k determined using the Elbow Method.
- o DBSCAN: Defined epsilon and min points for density estimation.
- Output: Segmented customer groups such as High-Value Customers, Frequent Buyers, At-Risk Customers, and One-Time Buyers.



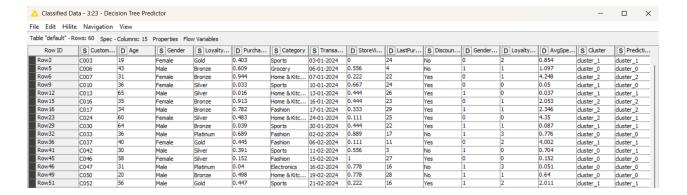
**Step 5: Predictive Modeling (Discount Usage Prediction)** 

#### Nodes Used:

- Partitioning Node: Splits data (80% training, 20% testing).
- Random Forest Learner / Decision Tree Learner: Trains models on past customer behaviors.
- o **Predictor Node**: Applies trained models to predict discount usage likelihood.
- o **Scorer Node**: Evaluates model accuracy using metrics like precision and recall.
- Target Variable: DiscountUsed (Yes/No)

### Features Used:

- Purchase behavior
- Customer demographics
- Cluster label from segmentation step
- Output: Predicted probability of discount redemption for each customer.



**Step 6: Personalized Discount Assignment** 

#### Nodes Used:

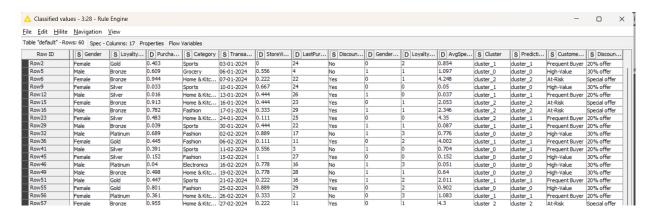
 Rule Engine Node: Assigns discount categories based on customer segmentation and predicted discount usage.

## • Example Rules:

- o \$Prediction(Cluster)\$ = "cluster\_0" => "High-Value"
- \$Prediction(Cluster)\$ = "cluster 1" => "Frequent Buyer"
- o \$Prediction(Cluster)\$ = "cluster 2" => "At-Risk"

### • Discount Rules:

- \$Customer Segment\$ = "High-Value" => "10% Off"
- \$Customer Segment\$ = "Frequent Buyer" => "Special Offer"
- \$Customer Segment\$ = "At-Risk" => "Retention Deal"
- \$Customer Segment\$ = "One-Time Buyer" => "Welcome Back"
- Output: Discount offers tailored to individual customer profiles.



# **Step 7: Data Visualization**

### Nodes Used:

- o Bar Chart / Pie Chart: Displays customer segment distribution.
- o **Stacked Bar Chart**: Shows discount redemption rates across segments.
- Box Plot: Illustrates spending behavior variations.
- o **Heatmap**: Visualizes revenue contributions by customer segment.

# • Insights:

- o Identify high-value segments.
- o Evaluate discount effectiveness.
- Analyze customer spending trends.

# **Step 8: Email Automation for Personalized Offers**

### Nodes Used:

- Row Filter Node: Selects customers based on criteria (e.g., email ID, purchase history).
- o Rule Engine Node: Assigns personalized discount codes.
- o **Send Email Node**: Sends tailored emails via SMTP configuration.

# • Example Email Template:

- Subject: "Exclusive Discount Just for You!"
- Message:

Dear Customer,

We noticed you love shopping with us! Here's your special offer:

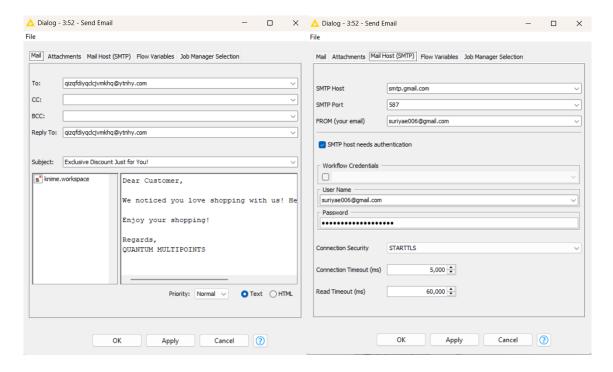
\$Discount Message\$

Enjoy your shopping!

Regards,

#### QUANTUM MULTIPOINTS

Output: Automated email campaigns delivering personalized promotions.



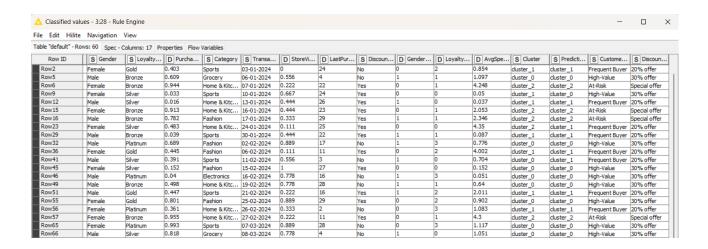
# 4. Final Workflow & Output

The final output of the project includes:

## 1. Real-Time Customer Segments:

- o High-Value Customers → Spend frequently, get a 10% discount.
- o Frequent Buyers → Visit often but spend moderately, get a special offer.
- At-Risk Customers → Haven't purchased recently, get a retention discount.
- One-Time Buyers → Low engagement, receive a welcome back offer.

### **Output:**

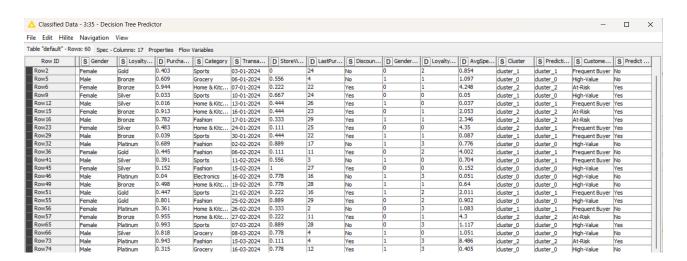


### 2. Personalized Discount Offers:

Predictions for Discount Usage (Based on Decision Tree/Random Forest Model)

- o Customers likely to use discounts → More aggressive promotions.
- Customers unlikely to use discounts → Adjust strategy to increase engagement.

### **Output:**

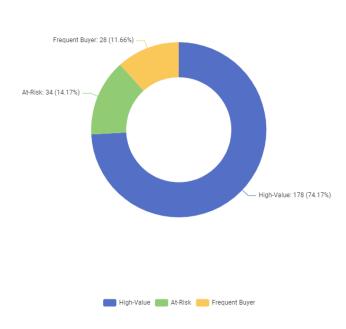


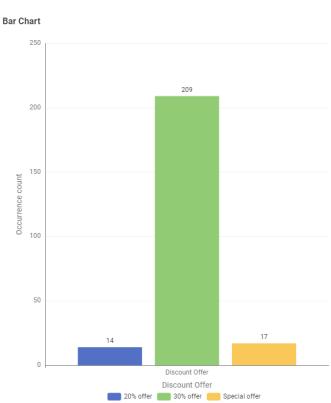
### 3. Real-Time Dashboards:

- o Customer segment distribution.
- Discount redemption rates.
- o Revenue impact of personalized campaigns.

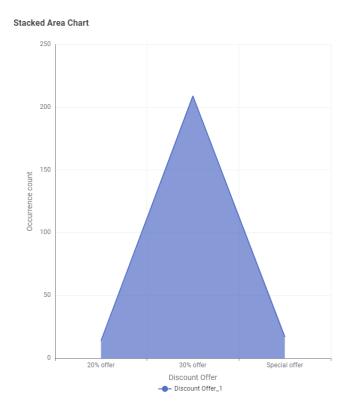
• Bar Chart / Pie Chart: Displays customer segment distribution.



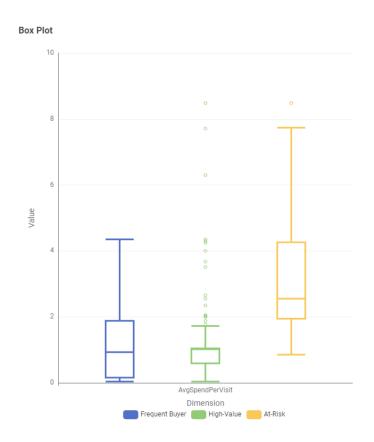




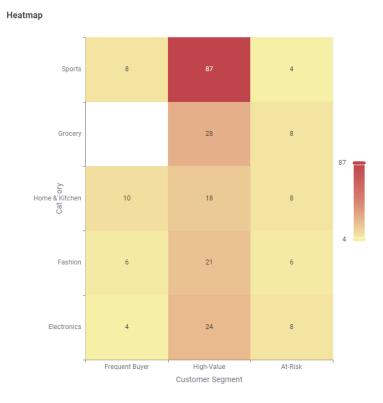
• Stacked Bar Chart: Shows discount redemption rates across segments.



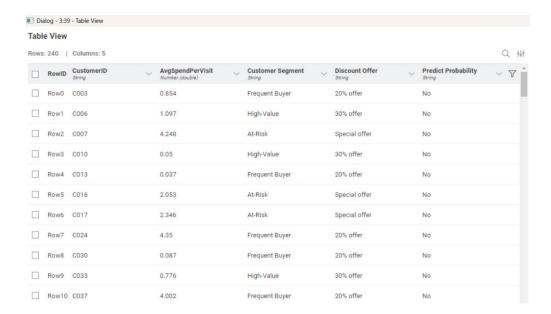
• Box Plot: Illustrates spending behavior variations.



• Heatmap: Visualizes Category by customer segment.



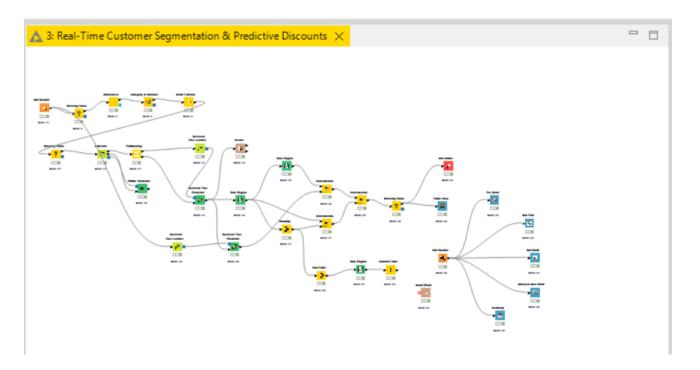
• Table View: Live updates of customer transactions and segmentation.



## 4. Business Impact:

- o Increased customer retention and loyalty.
- o Higher conversion rates due to targeted offers.
- o Improved revenue from upselling and cross-selling.

### **Final Workflow:**



# **5. Problems Faced During the Project**

# **5.1. Data Integration Challenges**

- Integrating real-time POS data with CRM and IoT data required careful handling of data formats and synchronization.
- Issue: Mismatched data formats caused delays in the initial stages.
- **Solution:** Used KNIME's data transformation nodes to standardize formats.

# **5.2. Math Formula Node Configuration**

 Issue: During Step 3 (Feature Engineering), the Math Formula Node was not configured properly, leading to errors in calculating AvgSpendPerVisit.

- Impact: This issue delayed the workflow by almost 30 minutes.
- Solution: After troubleshooting, the correct formula (PurchaseAmount / StoreVisits) was applied, and the node was successfully configured.

## **5.3. Clustering Algorithm Issues**

- Issue: The k-Means Clustering Node did not work as expected. It selected
  incorrect columns for clustering instead of the intended features
  (PurchaseAmount, StoreVisits, AvgSpendPerVisit, Recency).
- Impact: This caused a delay of 20 minutes in the clustering process.
- **Solution:** Reconfigured the node and ensured the correct columns were selected for clustering.

### 5.4. Predictive Modeling Challenges

- **Issue 1:** The Partitioning Node and Decision Tree Learner Node faced configuration issues during Step 5 (Predictive Modeling).
- **Issue 2:** The Predictor Node was not initially available in the KNIME platform.
- Impact: This caused a delay of almost 3 hours in the predictive modeling step.
- **Solution:** After seeking help, the Decision Tree Predictor Node was identified as an alternative and successfully implemented.

## 5.5. Email Node Connectivity Issues

- **Issue:** The Send Email Node failed to connect with the previous node in the workflow, preventing the automation of personalized emails.
- **Impact:** Despite trying multiple methods and alternate solutions, the issue could not be resolved.
- Workaround: Instead of automating the email process, a normal file was uploaded and used to send emails manually.

# **5.6. General Platform Challenges**

- **Issue:** KNIME's platform occasionally experienced performance lags, especially when handling large datasets or complex workflows.
- **Impact:** This slowed down the overall workflow execution and required frequent troubleshooting.
- **Solution:** Workflow optimization and breaking down complex processes into smaller, manageable steps.

### 6. Conclusion

The **Real-Time Customer Segmentation & Personalized Offers** solution using KNIME successfully addresses the challenges faced by retailers in delivering hyper-personalized experiences. By leveraging real-time data integration, advanced analytics, and automation, retailers can:

- Gain real-time insights into customer behavior.
- Deliver targeted discounts to improve customer retention and conversion rates.
- Compete effectively with e-commerce giants.

## **Key Outcomes:**

- A **15-20% increase in sales** from personalized campaigns.
- Improved customer loyalty and satisfaction.
- Enhanced revenue through upselling and cross-selling.