

Using Data Science to improve sales performance of sanitizing products

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1. Project Introduction

Purpose of the project: to use Data Science to evaluate the current sales strategy of Reckitt's Bleach and Laundry Bleach products.



Brands to be analyzed: Vanish and Lysol.







I. Project Introduction

Relevance of the analysis

Analyzing and processing large volumes of data will make it possible to:

- Identify consumer behavior patterns
- Anticipate trends
- Optimize marketing, positioning and pricing strategies
- Improve sales efficiency







1. Project Introduction

Tools:



Python:

 Data cleaning, manipulation and analysis



SQL Server:

 Database creation and management



Power BI:

 Dashboard creation and publication

2. Data Cleaning and Data Transformation with Python Data loading



The Pandas library was used to load the data:

Dataframe 1: fact_sales_df

	WEEK	ITEM_CODE	TOTAL_UNIT_SALES	TOTAL_VALUE_SALES	TOTAL_UNIT_AVG_WEEKLY_SALES	REGION
0	34-22	7501058792808BP2	0.006	0.139	1.000	TOTAL AUTOS AREA 5
1	34-22	7501058715883	0.487	116.519	2.916	TOTAL AUTOS AREA 5
2	34-22	7702626213774	1.391	68.453	5.171	TOTAL AUTOS AREA 5
3	34-22	7501058716422	0.022	1.481	1.833	TOTAL AUTOS AREA 5
4	34-22	7501058784353	2.037	182.839	5.375	TOTAL AUTOS AREA 5

Dataframe 2: dim_product_df

	MANUFACTURER	BRAND	ITEM	ITEM_DESCRIPTION	CATEGORY	FORMAT	ATTR1	ATTR2	ATTR3
0	INDS. ALEN	CLORALEX	0000075000592	CLORALEX EL RENDIDOR BOT.PLAST. 250ML NAL. 000	1	LIQUIDO	CLORO	CLORO	NO DEFINIDO
1	INDS. ALEN	CLORALEX	0000075000608	CLORALEX EL RENDIDOR BOT.PLAST. 500ML NAL. 000	1	LIQUIDO	CLORO	CLORO	NO DEFINIDO
2	INDS. ALEN	CLORALEX	0000075000615	CLORALEX EL RENDIDOR BOT.PLAST. 950ML NAL. 000	1	LIQUIDO	CLORO	CLORO	NO DEFINIDO
3	INDS. ALEN	CLORALEX	0000075000622	CLORALEX EL RENDIDOR BOT.PLAST, 2000ML NAL 000	1	LIQUIDO	CLORO	CLORO	NO DEFINIDO
4	INDS. ALEN	CLORALEX	0000075000639	CLORALEX EL RENDIDOR BOT.PLAST. 3750ML NAL 000	1	LIQUIDO	CLORO	CLORO	NO DEFINIDO

Dataframe 3: dim_segment_df

	CATEGORY	ATTR1	ATTR2	ATTR3	FORMAT	SEGMENT
0	1	CLORO	CLORO	BAMBINO	LIQUIDO	BLEACH
1	1	CLORO	CLORO	GERMICIDA	LIQUIDO	BLEACH
2	1	CLORO	CLORO	MASCOTAS	LIQUIDO	BLEACH
3	1	CLORO	CLORO	MULTIUSOS	GEL	BLEACH
4	1	CLORO	CLORO	MULTIUSOS	LIQUIDO	BLEACH

Dataframe 3: dim_calendar_df

	WEEK	YEAR	MONTH	WEEK_NUMBER	DATE
0	01-21	2021	1	1	2021-01-10
1	02-21	2021	1	2	2021-01-17
2	03-21	2021	1	3	2021-01-24
3	04-21	2021	1	4	2021-01-31
4	05-21	2021	2	5	2021-02-07

Dataframe 5: dim_category_df

CATEGORY	CATEGORY	
FABRIC TREATMENT and SANIT\r\n	1	0
AIR CARE	2	1
LAVAVAJILLAS	3	2
MEGA SUPERFICIES	4	3
LAVATORY CARE & BRC	5	4



2. Data Cleaning and Data Transformation with Python Data cleaning:

Each dataframe was cleaned using the following methods:

Method	Use
head()	Observación de los primeros registros del dataframe
info()	Información general del dataframe
value_counts()	Información de valores por columna
isnull()	Identificación de valores nulos
fillna()	Sustitución de valores nulos por otro valor
duplicated()	Identificación de valores duplicados
drop_duplicates()	Eliminación de valores duplicados
drop()	Eliminación de columnas o renglones innecesarios
rename()	Cambio de nombre de columnas e índices
iloc()	Modificación de errores tipográficos
merge()	Unión de dataframes usando una columna en común
to_csv()	Exportación de archivos en formato csv



2. Data Cleaning and Data Transformation with Python Data Loading:

The regions corresponding to 'TOTAL AUTOS' were replaced by numbers as follows:

Original Name	Updated Name
TOTAL AUTOS SCANNING MEXICO	0
TOTAL AUTOS AREA 1	1
TOTAL AUTOS AREA 2	2
TOTAL AUTOS AREA 3	3
TOTAL AUTOS AREA 4	4
TOTAL AUTOS AREA 5	5
TOTAL AUTOS AREA 6	6

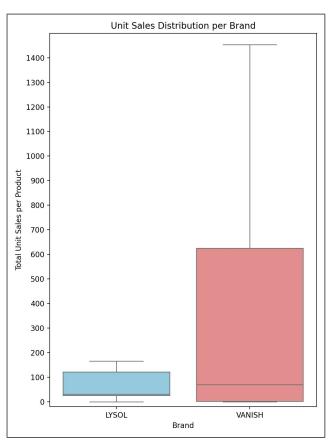
2. Data Cleaning and Data Transformation with Python



As a final result, a consolidated dataframe was obtained with information on sales and earnings realized in 2022 and 2023.

ITEM_CODE	TOTAL_UNIT_SALES	TOTAL_VALUE_SALES	TOTAL_UNIT_AVG_WEEKLY_SALES	REGION	MANUFACTURER	BRAND	ITEM_DESCRIPTION	FORMAT	ATTR1	ATTR2	ATTR3	ID_CATEGORY	CATEGORY	WEEK	YEAR	MONTH	WEEK_NUMBER	DATE
'501058792808BP2	0.006	0.139	1.000	5	RECKITT	VANISH	V/+MMCRYSTALWHITE	POLVO	SAFE BLEACH	FABRIC TREATMENT	ROSA	1	FABRIC TREATMENT AND SANITIZER	34-22	2022	8	34	2022- 08-28
7501058715883	0.487	116.519	2.916	5	RECKITT	VANISH	ANCHAS BOLSA 1.8K	POLVO	SAFE BLEACH	FABRIC TREATMENT	ROSA	1	FABRIC TREATMENT AND SANITIZER	34-22	2022	8	34	2022- 08-28
7702626213774	1.391	68.453	5.171	5	RECKITT	VANISH	INCHAS DOYPACK 24	POLVO	SAFE BLEACH	FABRIC TREATMENT	ROSA	1	FABRIC TREATMENT AND SANITIZER	34-22	2022	8	34	2022- 08-28
7501058716422	0.022	1.481	1.833	5	RECKITT	VANISH	NCHA AHORRO DEL	POLVO	SAFE BLEACH	FABRIC TREATMENT	ROSA	1	FABRIC TREATMENT AND SANITIZER	34-22	2022	8	34	2022- 08-28
7501058784353	2.037	182.839	5.375	5	RECKITT	VANISH)TE 450 GR NAL 7501	POLVO	SAFE BLEACH	FABRIC TREATMENT	ROSA	1	FABRIC TREATMENT AND SANITIZER	34-22	2022	8	34	2022- 08-28

For exploratory analysis, k-means segmentation and time series prediction using ARIMA, the data were grouped with the group_by() function by ITEM_CODE.



Unit Sales Distribution

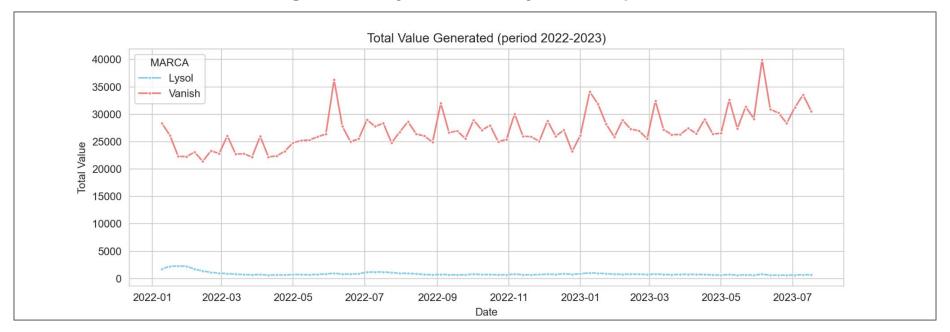
Vanish products (pre-washers and bleaches):

They have high unit sales (products have been sold a greater number of times) and variable unit sales.

Lysol products (sanitizers):

Unit sales are low (products have been sold a smaller number of times) but at the same time are consistent.

VTotal value generated by Vanish and Lysol in the period 2022 - 2023



- Vanish: earnings have increased over time.
- Lysol: earnings have remained stable over the years.

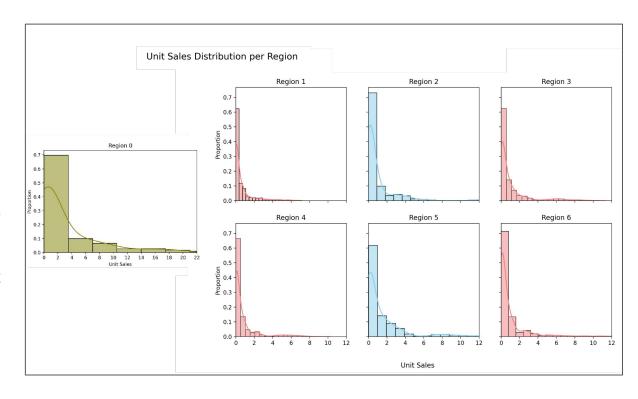
General:

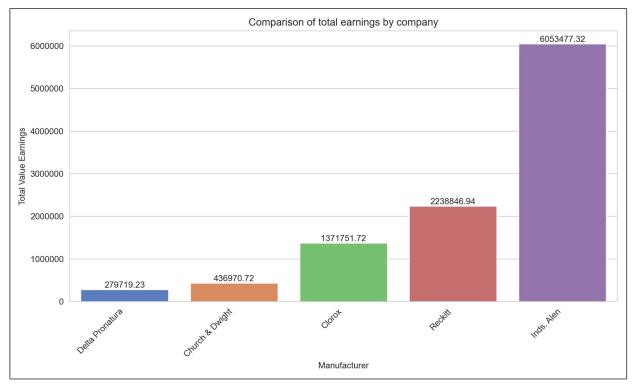
Products in all regions are sold in small quantities (right skewed distribution).

Particularities:

Region 0 presents the largest variety of unit sales (longest tail)

Region 2, 3 and 6 present the lowest concentration of sales (80% of sales are between 0 and 1 products).





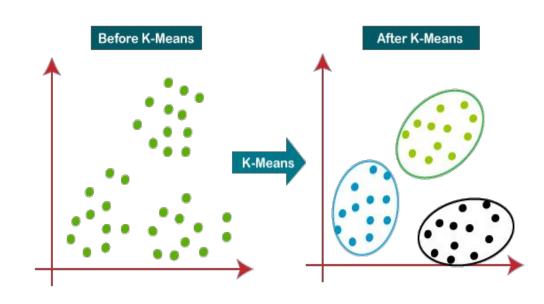
Reckitt's main competitors are Clorox and Inds. Alen, the latter being the ones that stand out for their maximum earnings in this comparative graph.



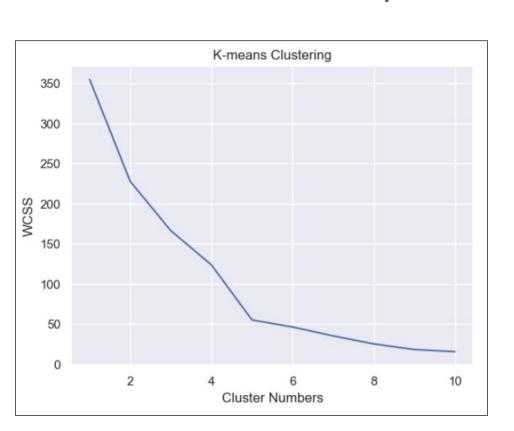
The K-means clustering algorithm was used to segment the products based on key variables such as total sales, total profits, product type, etc.

The data were transformed using the following tools:

Tool	Use
Target Encoder	Transformación de variables categóricas a numéricas
Standard Scaler	Estandarización de datos
PCA	Reducción de dimensiones para facilitar el análisis



Cluster Optimal Number Determination

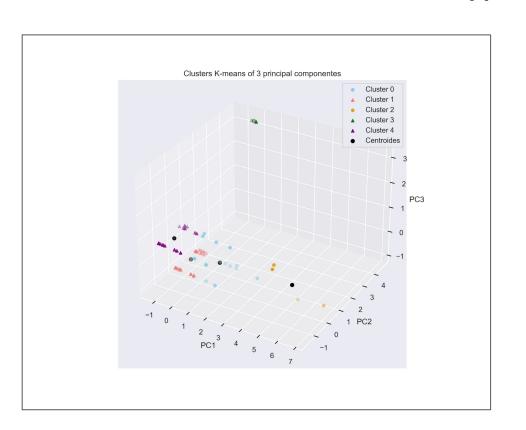


The elbow method was applied to determine the optimal number of clusters.

According to the graph, the optimal number of clusters is k=5.



K-means application



Five clusters were identified using data reduced to 3 dimensions by PCA and a value of k = 5.

The clusters appear to be related to the number of units sold and total profits (next slide).



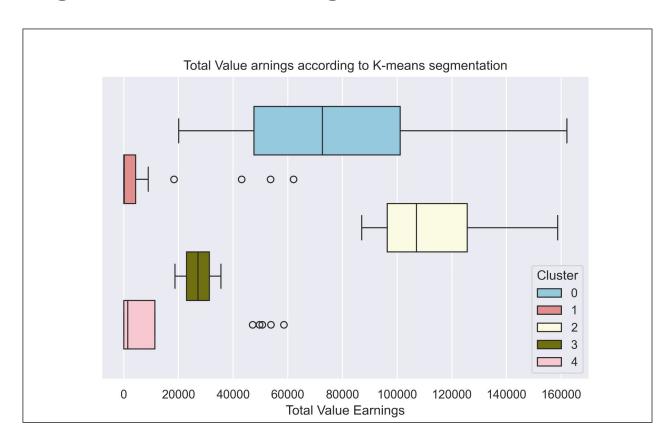
Adding cluster label to the original data

Value of the medians:

- Cluster 1 = 175.16
- Cluster 4 = 1 466.41
- Cluster 3 = 27 122.88
- Cluster 0 = 72 658.36
- Cluster 2 = 107 064.16

Number of observations per cluster:

- Cluster 1: 35
- Cluster 4 : 21
- Cluster 3 : 2
- Cluster 0 : 15
- Cluster 2 : 4

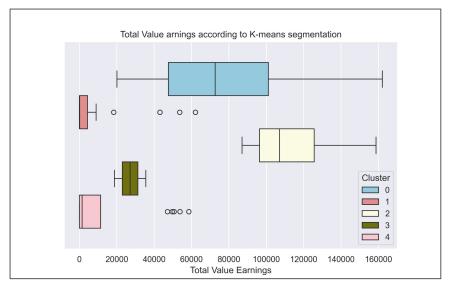




According to the cluster assignment, clusters 1 and 4 belong to products whose profits are 'low' (less than 1500 units).

Cluster 3 belongs to products with intermediate profits (approximately 27 000 units).

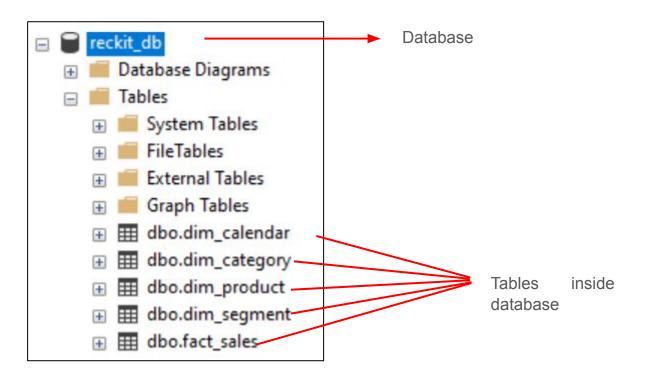
Clusters 0 and 2 belong to products that generated high profits (greater than 70,000 units). It should be noted that sales in these last groups were variable compared to the other clusters.







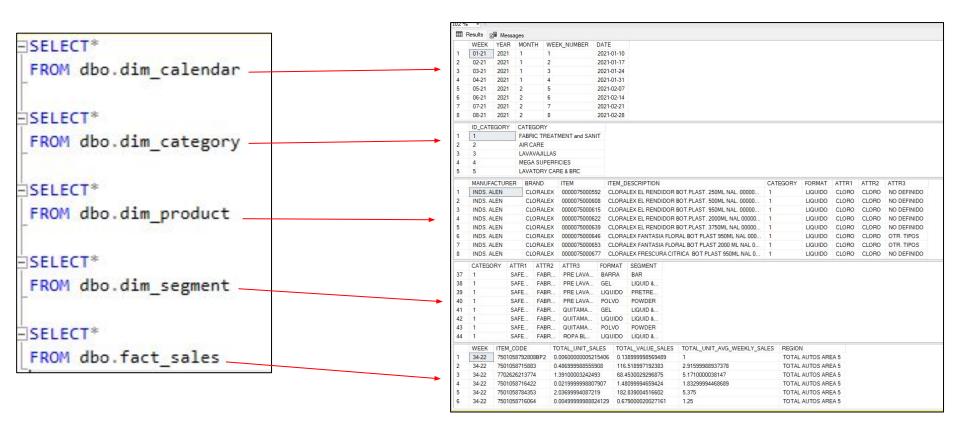
The reckit_db database was created in SQL Server and the tables dim_calendar, dim_category, dim_product, dim_segment and dbo.fact_sales were imported:







Basic queries were run to verify correct data loading:





5. Data Analysis with SQL

Table joins were also performed to run more advanced queries and obtain insights on sales and profits generated.

Consulta # 1: query per category

```
■SELECT ROUND(SUM(fs.TOTAL_UNIT_SALES),2) AS TOTAL UNIT SALES,
            ROUND(SUM(fs.TOTAL_VALUE_SALES), 2) TOTAL_VALUE_SALES,
                                                                                                        Results Messages
            ROUND(SUM(fs.TOTAL UNIT AVG WEEKLY SALES), 2) TOTAL UNIT AVG WEEKLY SALES,
            dp.CATEGORY,
                                                                                                          TOTAL_UNIT_SALES
                                                                                                                          TOTAL_VALUE_SALES
                                                                                                                                           TOTAL_UNIT_AVG_WEEKLY_SALES CATEGORY
                                                                                                                                                                                ATTR1
            ds. ATTR1
                                                                                                          10577526.16
                                                                                                                           298157217.1
                                                                                                                                            33269629.1
                                                                                                                                                                                 SAFE BLEACH
     FROM dbo.fact sales fs
                                                                                                           5484643.19
                                                                                                                           154600038.5
                                                                                                                                            17250918.79
                                                                                                                                                                                CLORO
         INNER JOIN dbo.dim product dp ON fs.ITEM CODE = dp.ITEM
                                                                                                          4309362.51
                                                                                                                           121471458.82
                                                                                                                                            13554293.34
                                                                                                                                                                                 PRELAVADOR
                                                                                                          391760.23
                                                                                                                           11042859.89
                                                                                                                                            1232208.49
                                                                                                                                                                                 SANITIZANTE
10
         INNER JOIN dbo.dim segment ds ON dp.CATEGORY = ds.CATEGORY
    GROUP BY dp.CATEGORY, ds.ATTR1
    ORDER BY ROUND(SUM(fs.TOTAL VALUE SALES),2) DESC
```

Insight obtained: there is only sales information related to category 1, where products categorized as 'safe bleach' generated the most value.

5. Data Analysis with SQL



Consulta # 2: query per region



Insight gained: the region 'TOTAL AUTOS SCANNING MEXICO' (named as region 0 in the python dataframes) generated the most sales value, while region 4 generated the least.

Consulta # 3: query per period time

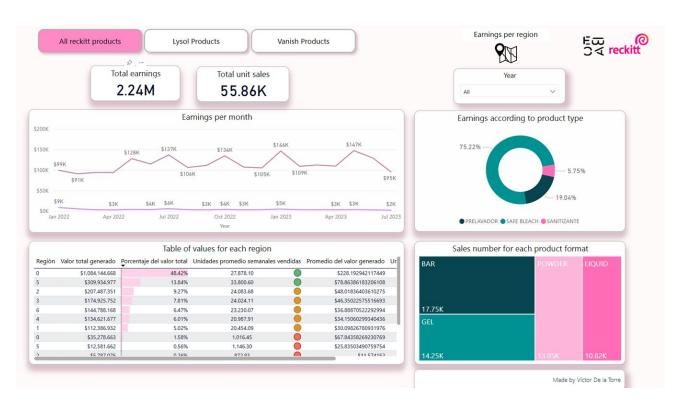


Insight gained: 2022 generated more sales value than 2023

6. Creating a Dashboard in PowerBl



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Dashboard Structure:

The dashboard includes a summary of total profits and units sold along with graphs and tables showing performance by product type.

Interactive displays:

The user can filter the information by Lysol, Vanish or both products and view it in the graphs and table. It can also be filtered by product format (stick, powder, liquid and gel).





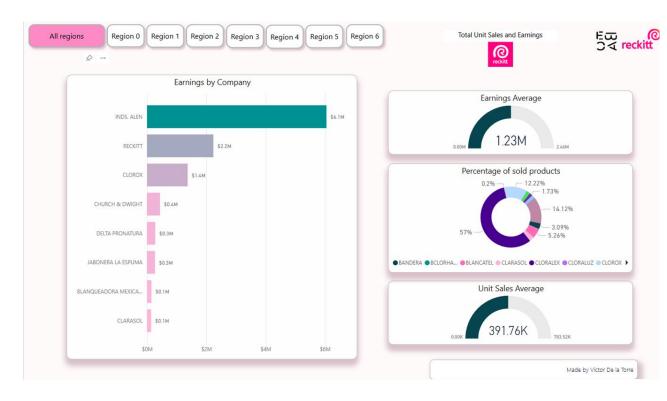
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Dashboard Structure:

The dashboard includes profit and unit sales information by region and a comparison of Reckitt's main competitors has been added.

Interactive Visualizations:

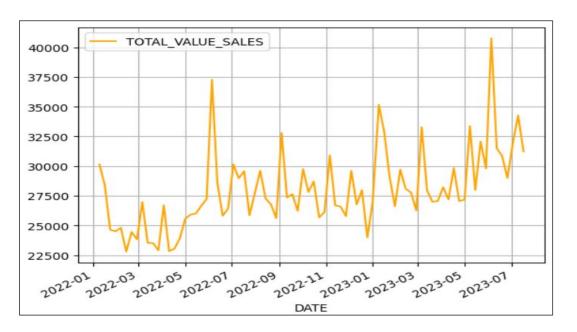
The user can filter the profit and unit sales information by one or more regions.





An ARIMA time series model was used to predict earnings, based on sales patterns observed in historical data. The variable TOTAL_VALUE_SALES was used, which represents the total value generated.

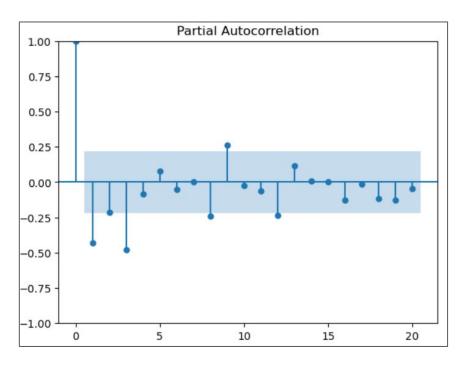
A graph of historical Reckitt product earnings is shown below:





Before performing the forecasts with ARIMA, the calculation of differencing between observations (Δ yt=yt-yt-1) was applied and the Dickey-Fuller test was applied to check that the data were stationary.

The partial autocorrelation function was also applied to obtain the optimal p value:



Optimal value p = 3



To determine the hyper parameters of the ARIMA model, the Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) was used to compare different statistical models and select the most appropriate model.

Code

```
# Importation of ARIMA module to estimate AIC
from statsmodels.tsa.arima.model import ARIMA
lista= []
for p in range (1,4): # iteration to find p optimal value
    for q in range (1,4): # q optimal value
        for d in range (1,2):
            mod ar = ARIMA(df['diferencias 1'], order=(p,d,q)) # ARIMA object
            res ar = mod ar.fit() # Model aplication
            lista.append(res ar.aic)
            try:
                print(f'AIC for ARIMA({p},{d},{q}) es: {res_ar.aic}')
            except Exception as e:
                print(f'Error ARIMA({p},1,{q}): {e}')
# List sorting
lista.sort()
# Let's drop the column diferencias 1
df.drop(columns='diferencias 1', inplace=True)
lista
```

Result the ARIMA (3,1,1) model had the best score according to the AIC.

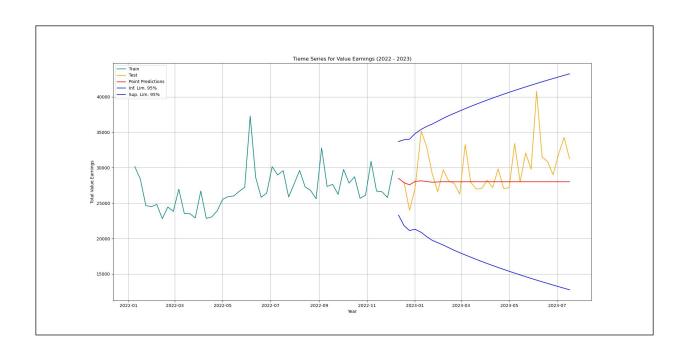
```
AIC for ARIMA(1,1,1) es: 1494.1131496833377
AIC for ARIMA(1,1,2) es: 1481.2716959983861
AIC for ARIMA(1,1,3) es: 1481.351866186811
AIC for ARIMA(2,1,1) es: 1492.9202777505338
AIC for ARIMA(2,1,2) es: 1494.4187461560534
AIC for ARIMA(2,1,3) es: 1483.9881518427444
AIC for ARIMA(3,1,1) es: 1474.4103954361237
AIC for ARIMA(3,1,2) es: 1475.815520782338
AIC for ARIMA(3,1,3) es: 1478.6962534869217
```

D E E E E E

7. Sales Prediction with Machine Learning

The following data were calculated using the ARIMA (3,1,1) model:

- Point predictions using the test basis (orange line in the graph)
- Confidence intervals of the predictions using the test basis (blue line in the graph).





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A calculation of the point forecasts and confidence intervals over the next 8 weeks was also made using the above model and this was the result:

	predicciones_puntuales	limite_inferior	limite_superior
DATE			
2023-05-15	28010.741042	14872,568916	41148.913168
2023-05-22	28010.717283	14623.381723	41398.052843
2023-05-29	28010.689002	14378.752387	41642.625616
2023-06-05	28010.691888	14138.473530	41882.910247
2023-06-12	28010.703954	13902,293674	42119.114234
2023-06-19	28010.705728	13669.989900	42351.421556
2023-06-26	28010.701267	13441.383454	42580.019079
2023-07-03	28010.699481	13216.312849	42805.086113
2023-07-10	28010.700849	12994.618776	43026.782922
2023-07-17	28010.701902	12776.149778	43245,254026



Finally, to evaluate the accuracy of the model, the mean square error (MSE) and the mean absolute percentage error (MAPE) were calculated:

RMSE = 3724.72

MAPE = 7.98%.

According to the ARIMA (3,1,1) model, a model with an RMSE of 3748 units and a MAPE of 8% was obtained, suggesting that the model is adequate to predict the future earnings of VANISH and LYSOL products.



Summary of key findings

In all regions, the majority of Reckitt's unit sales consist of products that have been sold a minimum number of times. This means that the same item or product was sold only a few times. However, it should be noted that region '0' was the region that had the most sales variability, having up to more than 20 unit sales per product.

Most of Reckitt's profits were shown to come from the Vanish products (pre-washers and bleaches) and these were shown to increase between 2022 and 2023. In the case of Lysol products (sanitizers), profits have been minimal and have remained stable over this time period.



Summary of key findings

Segmentation by K-means showed that there are items that generate minimal gains (clusters 1 and 4) while there are items that generate high gains (clusters 0 and 2). These items come mainly from pre-wash and bleach products (Vanish).

The ARIMA model provides a reasonably accurate prediction (MAPE of 8%) of the total value generated. However, this model also suggests a slightly decreasing trend in the future, so it is important to identify external factors that may influence the company's total earnings in these next periods.



Impact of Analytics on Business Strategy

This project demonstrated that there are certain products for which demand is high, although, unfortunately, most products have low demand and therefore low sales. The magnitude of sales and profits are similar in most of the regions, with the exception of region 0 and 2, which had a higher variability of product sales.

The results of this project will serve to prioritize products that have minimal sales (including Lysol products), as well as improve the sales strategy for these products in the regions that generated minimal profits. Some questions that could help to improve the strategy are:

- Why are some products sold infrequently?
- What is the frequency with which the different products offered by Reckitt are consumed (mainly those with low sales)?
- Are the products with low sales meeting customer needs?
- Is the result of low sales because the customer is not interested in the product or because our competitors offer something better?
- Which products sell more each season?



Recommendations

It is recommended that priority be given to regions with low sales and minimal profits, which in this case were regions 2, 3 and 6. Sales could be improved by determining which products the population of each region considers suitable for consumption and which are not of interest to them.

Products or items with minimal sales should be upgraded or replaced by products that are more attractive to the population. While Vanish brand prewashers and bleaches showed acceptable sales, Lysol brand sanitizers did not. This means that consumers are not interested in the product, so it would be appropriate to replace or upgrade it.

Study the external factors in each region that could influence product sales in particular periods of time. This is in order to prevent declines in total profits (as predicted by the ARIMA point forecasts).