Introduction

Concept Overview - Data Based Problem Solving

September 3, 2025

Reach out to us at

This document and its attachments are confidential. Any unauthorized sharing, copying or disclosure of any material is strictly forbidden

ZDS Helps Build Problem Solving Capability of the Future



Full Stack Data Science and Analytics Solutions – Data Engineering, Data Science (ML and AI) and Business Intelligence



Deep expertise in **Retail (Ecommerce and B&M)**, **Healthcare**, **CPG**, **Budget Planning and Optimization** using Al and Analytics Applications



Believe in enabling "AI for all" – We've help build AI driven solutions for clients with all levels of data maturity and complexity



Highly **Embedded Engagement Model** with the Client Ecosystem – Engage as one with the client organization



Multiple Fortune 500 Clients Relationships across **US and India**

team's problem solving experience





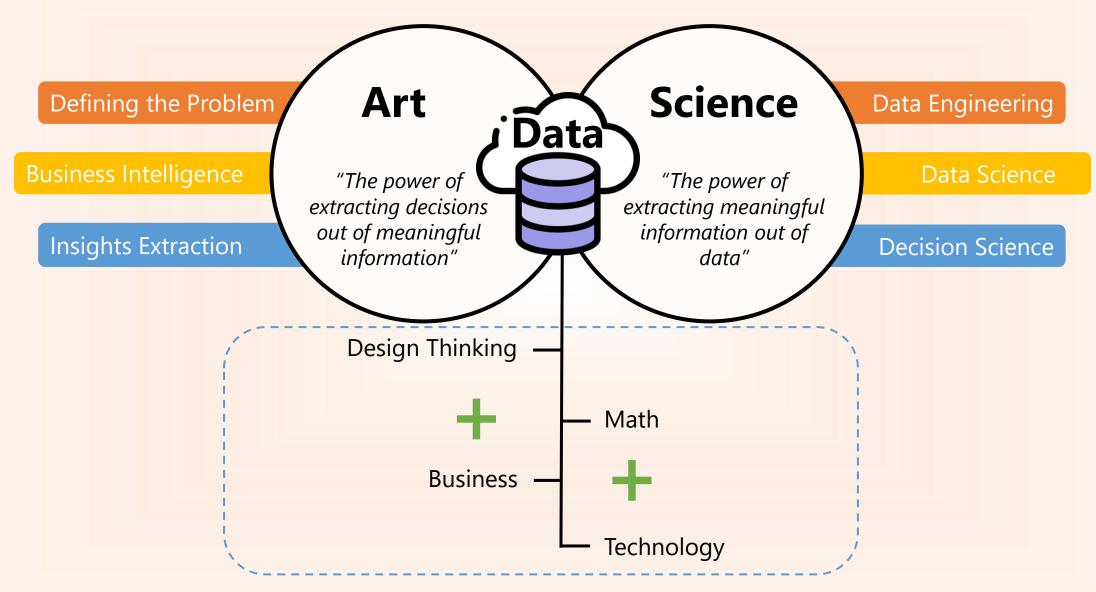








Enabling Informed Decision Making Through Data



All Elements When Put Together Enable Impactful and Informed Decision Making

Industry Expertise

Media & Marketing

Problems around measuring true ROI, attributing conversions across channels, reducing wasted ad spend, personalizing campaigns at scale, and predicting customer responses.



Product Analytics

Problems solved in include tracking product performance, measuring user adoption, understanding customer behavior and identifying friction points

Retail

Problems around customer analytics, Omnichannel customer purchase behavior, supply chain and logistics, pricing and marketing



BFSI

Cross selling, fraud analytics, customer lifetime value, CRM analytics, claims analysis

CPG

Marketing and promotion design, consumer behavior, halo and cannibalization, supply and optimization



Manufacturing

Demand planning, Manufacturing cycle productivity and efficiency analysis, calibration and management dashboards

collaboration model

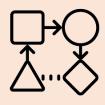
Process Mapping



Data Asset Identification



Current BPF Mapping



Data Flow Mapping

DVF Framework

Desirability

Solving the right problems and that are useful

Viability

Contributing to longdesigning solutions term growth with the help of sustainable solutions

Feasibility

Designing practical solutions that help strengthen business

Development



Consumption



Opportunity Realization



Stakeholder Training



User Acceptance Testing



Access to Ecosystem: People, Processes, Platforms





Capability Tech Stack at

Data Engineering

















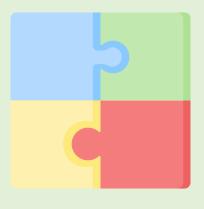
Business Intelligence

Scaling and Productionization

Helps Build Problem Solving Capability of the Future



Problem Definition



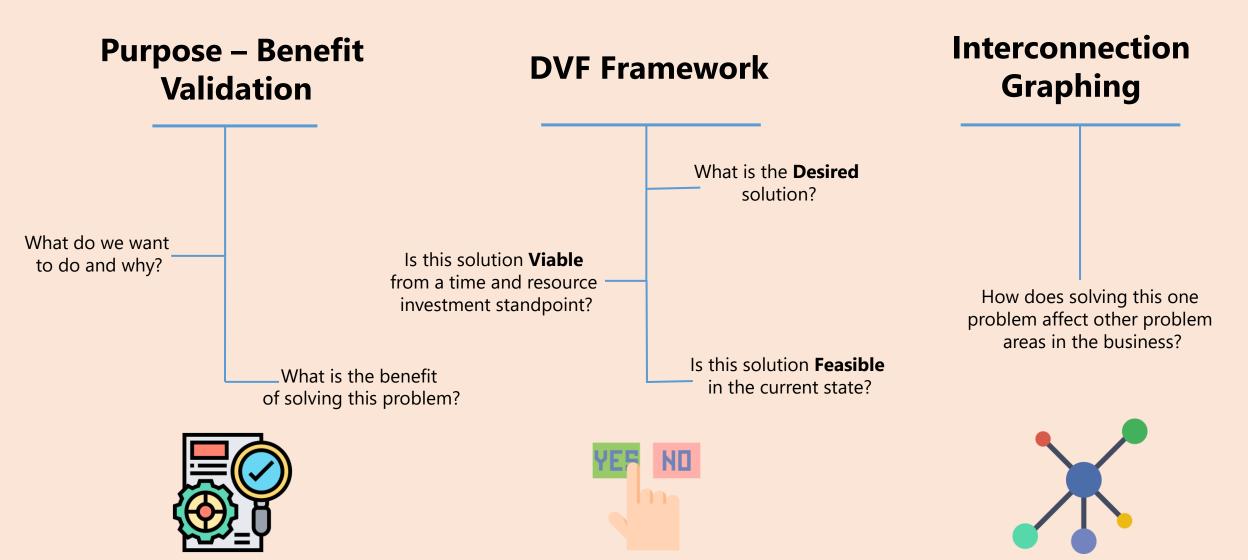
Solution Design



Productionization/ Scaling



Problem Definition Frameworks





Solution Design



Data Engineering

helps in comprehensive data engineering solutions to store and maintain integrity and consistency of data



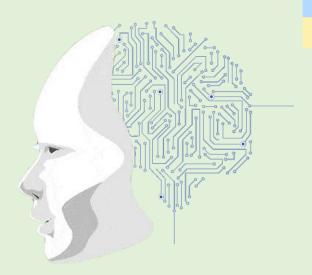














Data Science

enables advanced data science solutions combining the powers of math and cutting-edge technology



Predictive Analytics



Natural Language Processing



Hypothesis Testing



Exploratory Data Analysis



Large Language Models and GenAl



Computer Vision



Fraud Analytics



Segmentation & Clustering



Deep Learning



Neural Networks



Churn Analysis



Image Processing



Solution Design

Decision Science

enables key decisions by utilizing intelligent tools and frameworks



Intelligent Reporting



Consumption Driven Design



Business Intelligence



KPI & Value-based Impact Estimations



Analytical Roadmaps



Business Process Flow (BPF) & Analytical Data Flow (ADF) charting



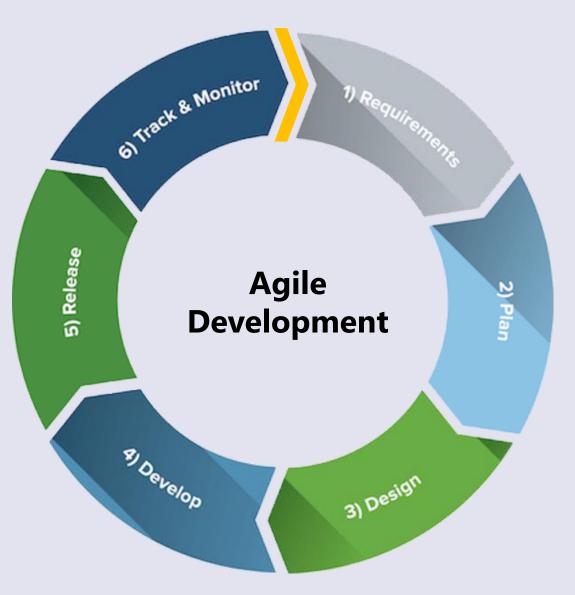
Entity & KPI Resolution across Business Functions



Digital Transformation Program - Design and Implementation



Productionization/Scaling Software Development





Modular Solution

Customization and changing priorities can be effectively met with modular solutions. Furthermore, modular solutions are easily scalable and reproduceable



Scalability

Solutions can be quickly scaled up to any level and in a wide range of capabilities. Scalable solutions enables increased reach across the organization/clients



Faster Iterative Development

Frequent delivery and iteration of solution helps to achieve faster delivery of final product



Seamless Integration

The solutions are designed to provide seamless integration between multiple platforms and across various data sources

UniZen Program for clients

Current State:



X Sharing Problems with low understanding of Data Science and Analytics

Solving Problems with low understanding of Business context and implementation



Post Program State:



Seamless Integration of Business and Analytics Context in problem solving by all parties



Client Transformation Journeys (1/2)

Story			
		4_	<u> </u>
	al I		
		U	

What did we do?

What capability did we build for the customer?

Retail Campaign Design and Measurement

Promotion Analysis – **Leading American Discount** Retailer

Helped design and evaluate the experiment to compare multiple promotion tactics for a certain product at the retailer

Created a campaign design and measurement framework for test and control experiment with advanced analytics

Budget Recommendation Engine

Budget recommendation tool-**American CPG Agency**

Created a tool to help allocate marketing budget across multiple retailers for a CPG client

Budget optimization capability – Scenario Simulator and budget recommendation capability

Revenue Management Simulation

Revenue and cost model implementations -**Leading American beverage** brand

We built a planning simulator to quantify and compare promotional effectiveness and revenue management

Leveraged machine learning and

stochastic simulations to forecast

enrollment performance at both site

and trial levels

Machine learning based Scenario Simulator - Promotional effectiveness

Predictive Clinical Trial Enrollment

Enrollment prediction for trial for efficient planning

Organization

- Leading American Healthcare

Monte Carlo based simulations to enable preemptive actions and corrections in a trial

Supply Chain Optimization

Forecast Optimization -Largest Beer Producer in the world

Developed an enhanced methodology to deliver productmarket level forecast - 25% better forecast observed

Built a framework to account for seasonality and effect of promotion on market demand

Social Listening Tool - NLP **Implementation**

Sentiment and Market Analysis -**Leading American Media** Agency

Built an end-to-end Natural language processing engine embedded in an interactive tool to capture Brand sentiment

Natural Language Processing(NLP) Engine -Topic Modelling - Sentiment Analysis -**Brand and Competitor Analysis**

Client Transformation Journeys(2/2)

Story

What did we do?

What capability did we build for the customer?

Al Insights

Feedback Insights –

Leading American performance
management SaaS platform

Automated the end-to-end collection and analysis of qualitative and quantitative team feedback, reducing manual effort and subjectivity in retrospectives

Built and Integrated an Alpowered engine for automated feedback ingestion, rule-based analysis, and sentiment/thematic pattern detection

Ask Al

Sentiment and Market Analysis – Leading American performance management SaaS platform Automated and streamlined executive access to customized, on-demand business insights using Al-powered query flow

Delivered an Al-driven platform for instant, contextual data analysis, integrating custom query handling and natural language Q&A

Customer Segmentation and profiling

Promotion Analysis – Leading American Discount Retailer

Helped build an Al based customer segmentation and profiling analysis

Reusable customer segmentation model and Outreach oriented customer profiles

Retail Campaign Design & Measurement

Designed 4-cell test and learn experiment to understand the impact of sending out offline coupons and the incremental impact of sending out mailers to customers(1/2)

Client Situation



Leading US retailer has presence both online and offline, with **gadget products** contributing around 80% of overall sales



Client wanted to launch a nationwide couponing campaign for a few gadget products, targeting Millennial customers throughout US



Before rolling out the nationwide campaign, client wanted to understand the **impact** of introducing the coupons, and the additional impact of sending mailers

Solution

Design an experiment in **4 selected DMAs** which are similar to each other and a very close representation of US population

4-cell test and learn design is adopted, with **3 DMAs** receiving different **treatments** each, and the remaining DMA serving as **control**

All stores in each DMA would either distribute **offline coupons, send mailers** to customers, send **coupons along with mailers,** or receive **no treatment** at all (control)

Post implementation of treatments, sales of gadgets to be analyzed to understand the **impact of each type of campaign** on all customers and target customer segment specifically



Business Impact

Increment in ROI

Identifying successful campaign type enabled client to make smarter budget decisions, leading to an increase of ~4% in gadget revenue

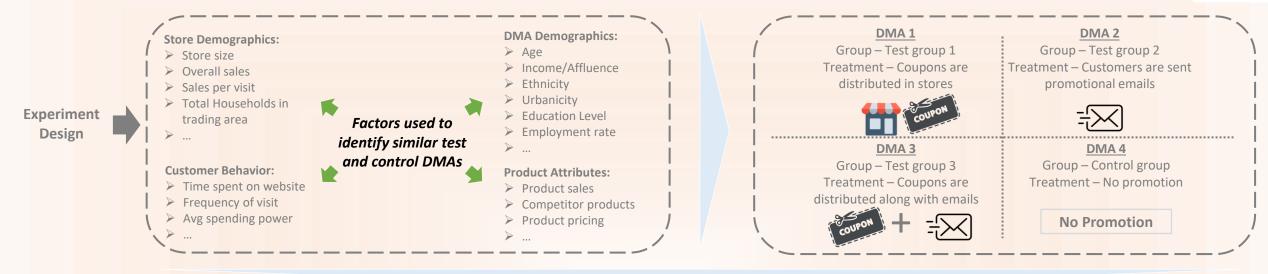
High Customer Satisfaction

Implementation of couponing strategy led to a rise in customer satisfying scores, especially amongst millennials

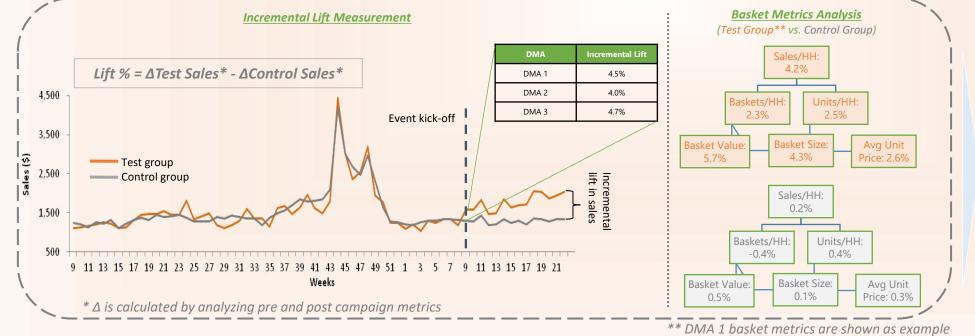
Scalable and Reusable

Scalable and **robust** solution that can be used to measure effectiveness of all types of marketing campaigns

4-cell test and learn framework helped identify the most successful campaign type (2/2)







Findings:

- Email campaign and coupon campaign both show incremental lift in gadgets sales. However, using both campaigns together does not improve the lift by much
- ✓ Coupon redeeming baskets have a higher value, with more high-ticket items than non coupon redeeming baskets. This implies couponing campaign encourages customers to shop more
- ✓ The team also found that the incremental lift is highest among Millennials and recommended a specialized campaign for the segment

Budget Recommendation Engine

Developed a recommendation engine to optimize budget spent on product promotion campaigns across multiple retailers, for a leading coffee brand (1/2)

Client Situation



Leading coffee brand **designs campaigns** to promote their products across all retailers



Existing budget allocation strategy looked at **sales within the retailer** and split budget amount proportionately. Higher the sales, more is the budget allocated



The client required a **sophisticated tool** to incorporate more factors into the allocation strategy and split the budget **efficiently across retailers and tactics**

Solution

Understanding when to spend: Distributing budget at hand across quarters to ensure efficient returns throughout the year

Understanding where to spend: Allocating budget to various retailers based on factors other than just sales, such as growth, category saturation, brand presence, return on investment, and presence of target customers

Understanding how to spend: Analyzing previous performance of campaign tactics, to calculate returns on ad spend (ROAS) and spend allocated budget effectively

Designing a **user friendly and flexible** tool, which combines the capability of **data driven insights and business intuition**, allowing for manual intervention at every step

Business Impact of new solution

Intelligent Budget Allocation

The client now has a highly intelligent and sophisticated recommendation engine, incorporating data decisions and business heuristics, to help allocate budget better

Efficient Split with High Returns

With added intelligence, the new budget allocation strategy is highly efficient, and led to and average increase of **4% ROI across retailers**

Scalable and Reusable

Scalable and **user-friendly** solution that can be used as an effective prioritization framework and resource allocation

Designed a three-pronged engine with end to end recommendation capabilities (2/2)

Quarterly budget is

Distribution of budget across quarters:

Distribution of budget across retailers:

allocated in ■ Sales - \$15M ■ Sales - \$13M ■ Sales - \$10M ■ Sales - \$17M ■ proportion to quarterly sales Quarters **Data Driven Levers Business Intervention** Score 1: Selling Score 6: Share of Wallet of Assign weightage to data levers power of retailer target customer segment Prioritization of budget based on Score 2: Growth of Score 5: Return on business priorities retailer over last 2 years **Investment Score 3: Brand presence Customization capability at every step Score 4: Category** within category Saturation in retailer leading to a transparent solution Amalgamation of the scores for each retailer, plus Budget allocation is finalized based on assignment of business weightage to the levers business intervention combined with data driven levers Normalized Composite Score Retailer 1 (Q1 budget) = \$200K Budget for a tactic is Tactic 1 **Tactic 2 Tactic 5 Tactic 6** allocated in **Tactic 3 Tactic 4**

\$20K

\$30K

\$70K

\$10K

\$20K

Distribution of budget across tactics:

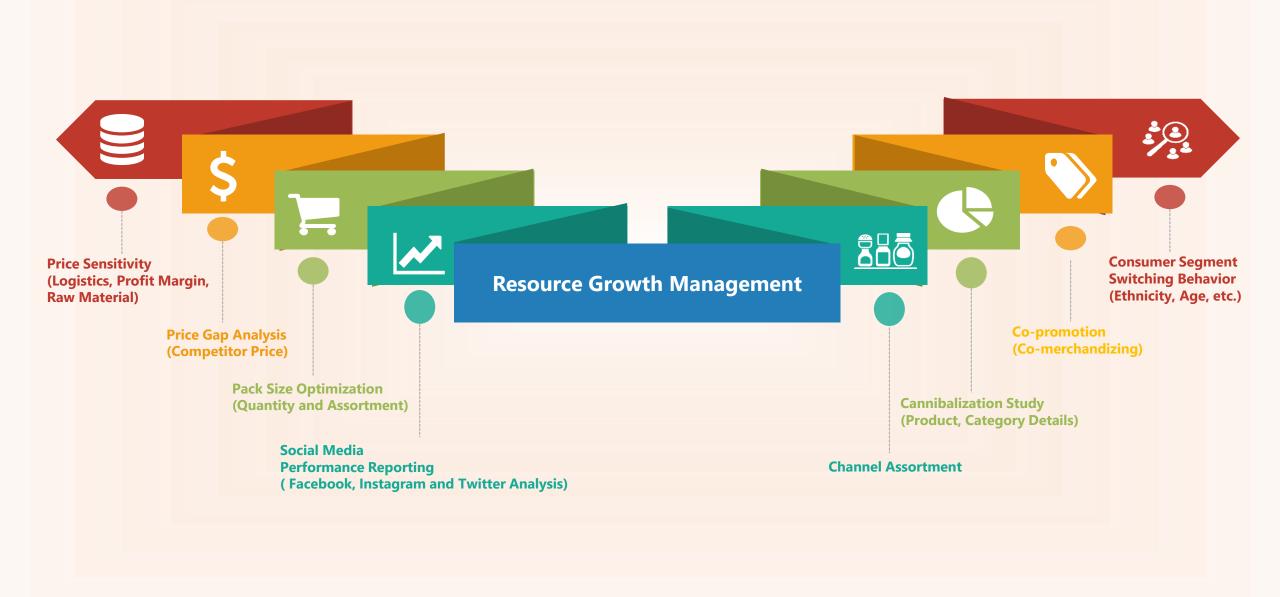




\$50K

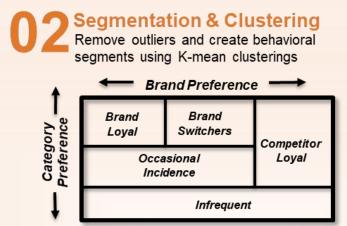
Revenue Management Simulation

Resource Growth Management strategy plans have been built around answering questions in 8 major business areas for one of the Largest Beverage Brand

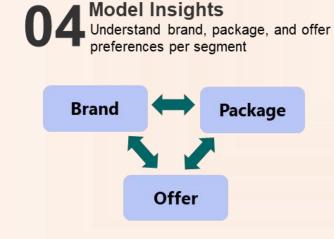


We built a planning simulator to quantify and compare promotional effectiveness









Prepare Simulator
Gather, generate, and load required files for simulator

Current Promotion Plan

Re-planning dataset

Redemption Rate dataset

Lookup tables

Re-planning
Leverage model insights to run scenarios

Supply Chain Optimization

Developed a modular **analytical framework** to better quantify the effects of **consumer & trade promotions** leading to an increase in **forecast accuracy** (1/2)

Client Situation



The client is a **Fortune 500** global **alcoholic beverage manufacturer** with presence in over 100 countries through a network of wholly/partially owned bottlers



The client were encountering **low forecast accuracy** primarily due to the inability to accurately **quantify effects** of consumer and trade **promotions**



The client wanted to develop a **modular framework** that would help **quantify promotional lifts** and improve **forecast accuracy**

Solution

Calculation of **seasonality indices** at a market and product level

Decomposition of demand to remove the trend and seasonality components, isolating the effect of promotions on demand

Evaluation of **historical performance** of promotions based on factors like the promotion type, region, category, timing and duration

Prediction of lift expected from upcoming promotions



Business Impact of new solution

Improved Accuracy

The project helped quantify the lift for over **25 promotions** that were rolled out across **200 products** resulting in a **25% improvement** in forecast accuracy

Continuous Improvement

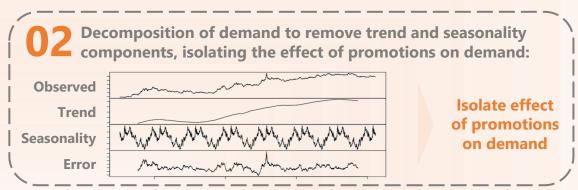
The forecast was continuously monitored and refreshed based on learnings from actual data. This closed loop approach has enabled a cycle of **continuous improvement in the forecast quality**

Scalable and Modular

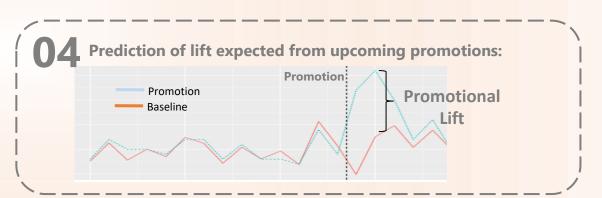
The solution framework was developed in a manner that enabled it to be **scaled to other markets** in a rapid manner

A promotional lift model was implemented as an extension to the existing forecasting system (2/2)











A forecast adjustment factor was developed to capture the seasonality and promotion effects by period



The solution was implemented in a phased manner to cover all the geographic zones



Diligent monitoring and closed loop approach has enabled a cycle of continuous improvement in the forecast quality

Predictive Trial Enrollment

Predictive Trial Enrollment is the ability to predict enrollment into a trial over time allowing for greater accuracy in planning the duration and other aspects of the trial

**

Client Situation



There is a need for efficient trial planning and management to optimize spend and outcomes



Currently, high manual effort and cost goes in trial enrolment a lot of which is wasted due to inefficient planning



The client required a real-time platform to track the progress of a trial and make proactive measures

Approach

Data extracts from MDM/iAWARE, and convert to raw data csv, clean, filter, integrate and enriched with Geocoding

Feature engineering to create site-level targets and model preprocessing into training and validation data sets

Model development using Monte Carlo Simulations though h2o package within Python, top models for each target variable saved

Business Impact

Efficient trial planning

Ability to accurately predict trial enrollment **prevents the need to rescue** trials due to poor enrollment compared to predictions

Real time tracking

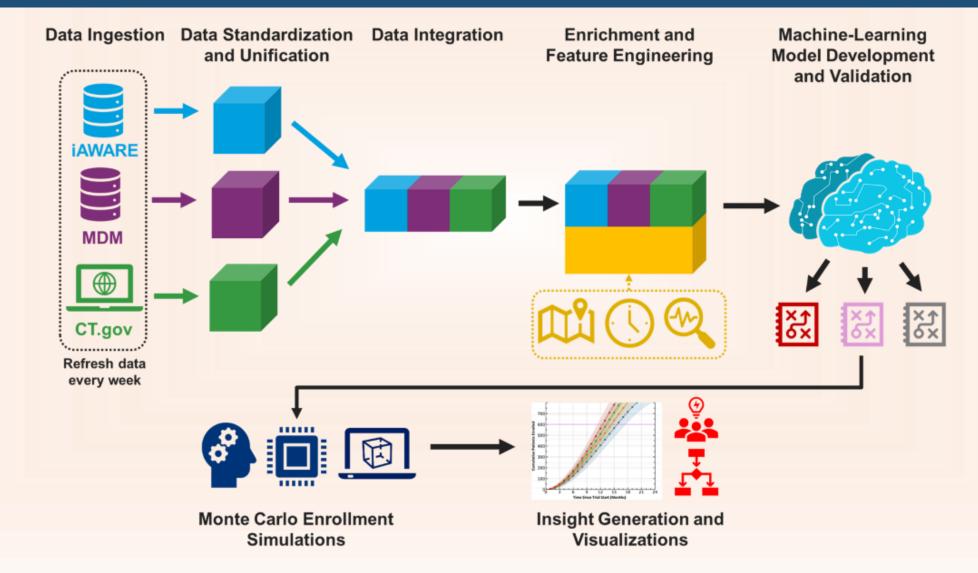
Flag any major discrepancies would allow teams to initiate an investigation and potential mitigation measures in a timely manner

Therapy area agnostic

The model is developed to work for all indications in a TA post validation and testing

Predictive Trial Enrollment model utilizes Monte Carlo simulations to generate highly valuable insights

PTE analytical pipeline leverages machine learning and stochastic simulations to forecast enrollment performance at both the site and trial levels



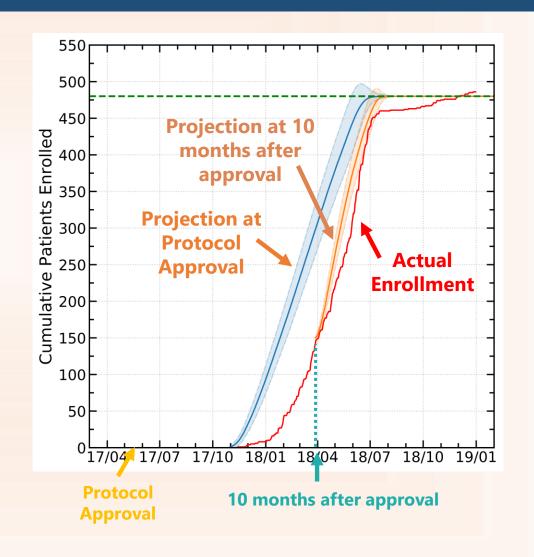
Enrollment Simulations for Multiple Myeloma

What does the enrollment curve look like after 10 months - 31% enrolled

- Enrollment curve formed by predictions using 10 months (31% enrolled) of MMY3012
 - No data beyond the first 10 months was used
- Curve follows similar trend as actual enrollment until ~90% of enrollment completion
 - Actual enrollment curve exhibits new behavior beyond ~90% completion

What did CDS learn from the PTE-PoC?

- PTE is suited to predict enrollment trends between 30-90% of the trial enrollment progress
- How does PTE predict site-level enrollment?
 - Direct enrollment prediction not feasible due to lack of data
 - Indirectly infer enrollment by predicting screening counts and success rates
- How does PTE compare against actual results?
 - Enrollment simulations closely aligned with actual enrollment 30-90%
 - Comparable to linear models of enrollment



Social Listening Tool

Social Listening Tool (SLT) helps to effectively measure impact of marketing campaigns and consumer sentiment across brands (1/4)

Client Situation

Client is a leading US media and marketing agency.
They spend about \$400MM per year on digital marketing and advertisement from the US alone.
This investment of time and dollars is made to induce consumers to buy from the brands running these marketing campaigns. To increase ROI through speed and focused marketing it is important to understand what the customer experiences when targeted by a marketing campaign

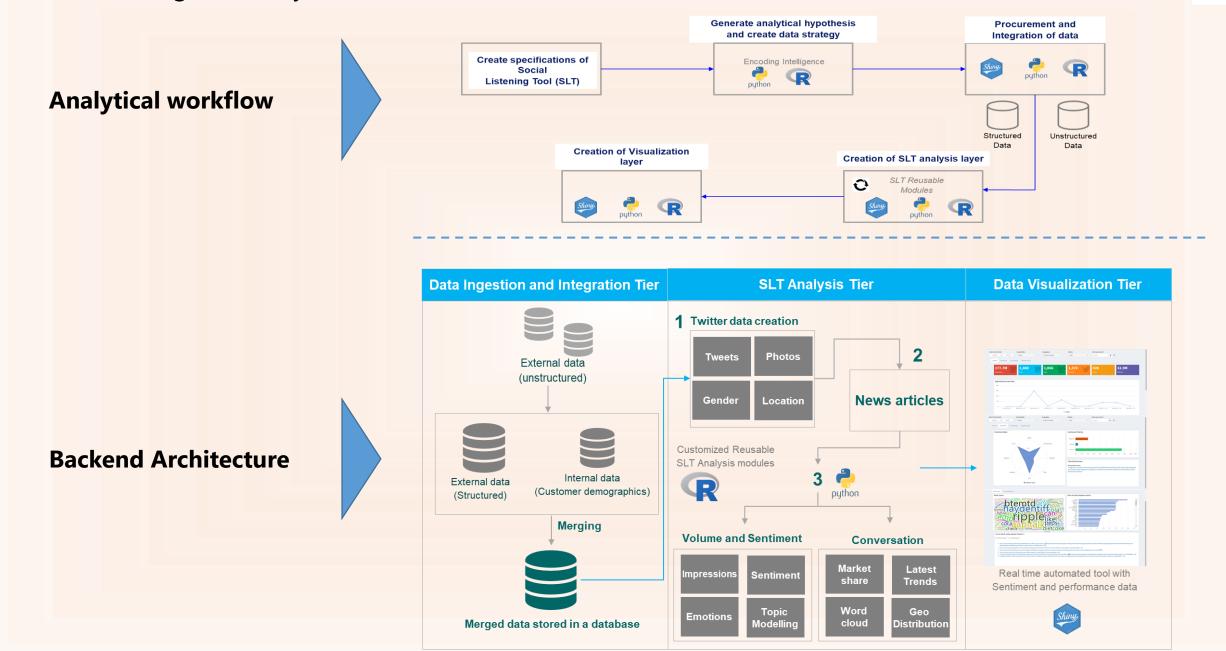
Business Requirements

- Ensure robust input by accurately integrating various structured and unstructured data sources required for Consumer sentiment and Purchase Decision Hierarchy (PDH)
- Enables inputs for effective campaign design and real time spend optimization
- Enable effective consumption through an automated dynamic visualization tool

Business Decisions Enabled

- Enables effective marketing budget decisions by understanding the impact on consumer sentiment
- Helps in identification of opportunity areas for business development by reading the consumer sentiment towards various brands
- Enables design of on optimal marketing campaign with focused content and message
- Helps in keeping track of the competitor activity and plan counter marketing strategies

Social Listening Tool analytical workflow and backend architecture (2/4)

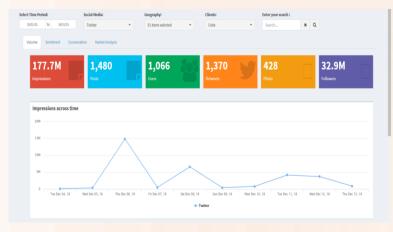


Social Listening Tool analytical workflow and backend architecture (3/4)

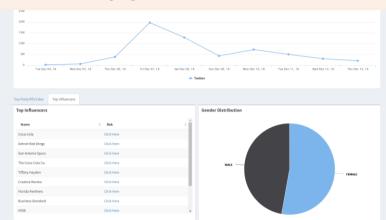
Key Features	Tool component	Analysis component
Brand reach assessment	Potential reach of the brand at overall level along with across gender and geography	Used aggregation algorithm to calculate potential reach and mapping each tweet to retweets, shares, quotes and followers
Top influencer identification – Reach based mapping	Ability to view the list of profiles which have the maximum impressions for their posts	Used ranking methodology to identify active profiles with the most liked, commented and retweeted posts-
Sentiment analysis and Emotion's radar	Implementing emotional radar for easy consumption of top emotions towards the selected brand	Performed sentiment analysis on each words used in a tweet and rolled up the results on the identified emotions leveraging Natural language processing (NLP)
The extreme tweets in terms of sentiments	Ability to see the list of top tweets which were identified as extreme in terms of emotions	Clustering each tweets in positive, negative and neutral. Selecting the most scored tweets from each clusters
Word cloud for most popular words	Ability to see the most used words related to the selected brand	Identifying the most used words for a brand using text mining after removing filler words
Topic Modeling for most spoken topics	Ability to identify topics that are being talked about	Using supervised learning, extracting themes from each tweet and cluster similar tweets into a topic
News and Most recent trends	Ability to see what's new in the market for the selected brand and its competitors	Used NewsAPI to extract multiple new articles and performed text mining to extract useful information

Social Listening Tool – Interactive Tool Snippets (4/4)

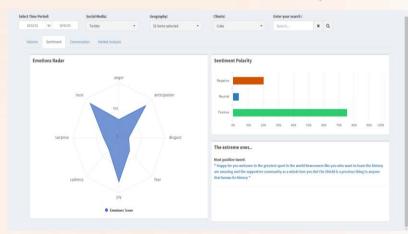
Social media engagement summary



Engagement distribution



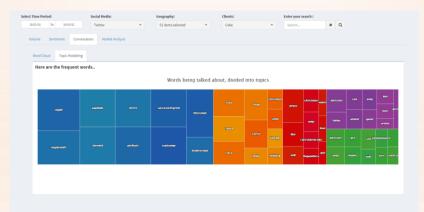
Sentiment and Emotion Analysis



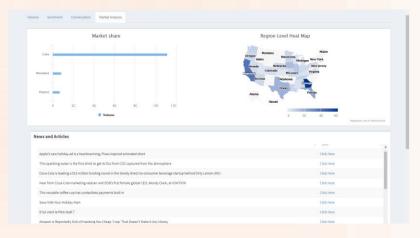
Word cloud and top posts



Topic modelling



Market analysis



Al Insights

"Making retrospective meetings more insightful, un-biased and less inconsistent"

Business Problems & Our Approach



<u></u>***

Manual collection of qualitative and quantitative team feedback was timeintensive Seamless integration with existing tools and workflows using Azure Functions and Data Factory for end-to-end automation

High dependency on SM/PO interpretation introduced bias

Rule engine applied business logic for objectivity

Unstructured feedback made it hard to identify patterns across sprints

Al-based summarization detected themes & team sentiments consistently

Strategic - Business Impacts



Achieved an 80% reduction in Scrum Master/Product Owner preparation time for retrospectives.

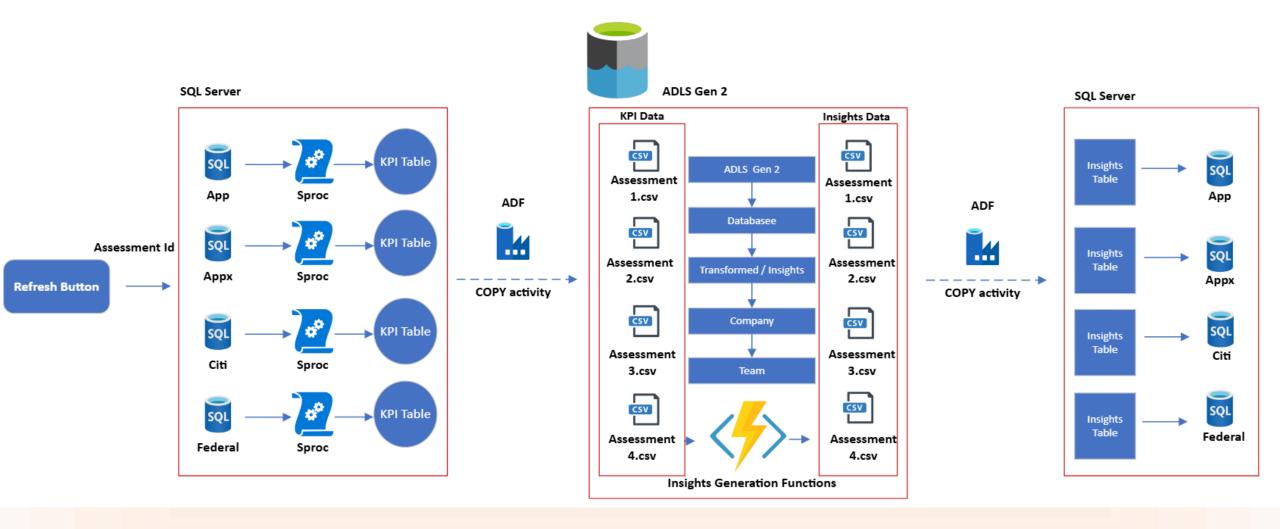


Established an actionable feedback loop that significantly improved team velocity and alignment.



Realized a 70% improvement in the quality and depth of team-level insights.

Ai Insights Architecture



Ask Al

"Helping executives make faster, data-driven decisions with easy access to custom insights – data in seconds instead of days"

Business Requirements



Executive leaders within client organizations need to access ad hoc, contextspecific, and highly customized data insights on team performance and organizational agility

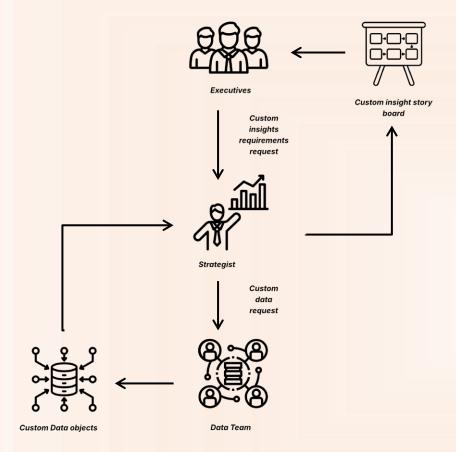


CSM teams need to deliver monthly reports explaining the current state of agility.



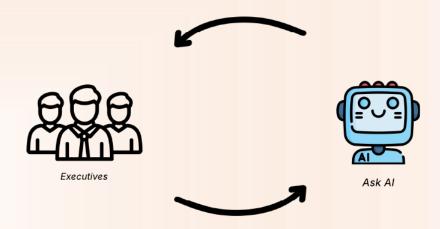
A forum equipped with deep product knowledge to efficiently support customers in understanding the product vocabulary

OLD APPROACH



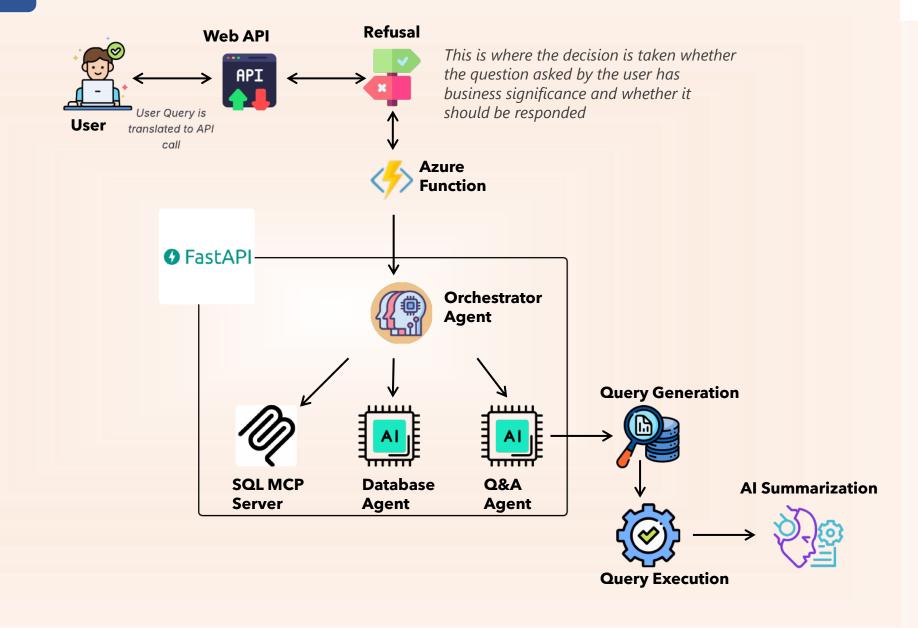
The whole process took 2+ days

NEW APPROACH



Less than 20 seconds

Ask Al User Query flow



Customer Segmentation and Profiling

Key Questions - Behavioral Segmentation & Profiling

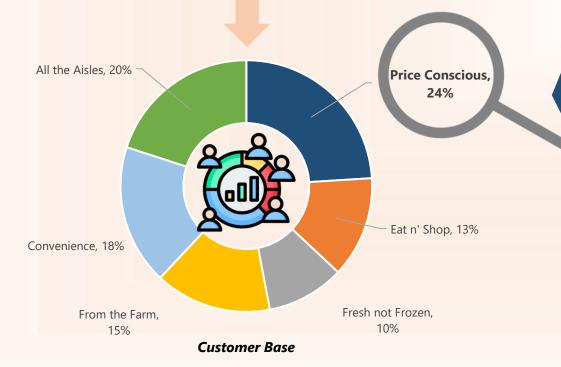
Behavioral Segmentation



Customer Segmentation & Persona Creation by Shopper1st:

- ☐ *Price Conscious* Focus on Private Label, Look for Discounts
- ☐ Fresh not Frozen Buy fresh produce, do not buy frozen or prepared food
- ☐ Segment C Description
- **—**

Rule Based Tagging of persona descriptions to loyalty customer base of 2.2 MM



Profiling of Segments

Key Questions to be answered about each segment



Who is the customer? How are they different from an average customer?



What and how do they shop? How is their purchase behavior different from others?



How do their baskets and trip types look like? Can we cross-sell or up-sell products based on this?



How can we target these customers? Can we identify upcoming lifestage and plan ahead?



Are these customers online-savvy? Can they be targeted with online campaigns? How likely are they to respond?



Can we identify similar baskets or purchase patterns Amongst non-loyalty customers and target them too?

Who is the customer?



Summary

Spend per HH

\$1,342 | \$1,413

Price Conscious All Retailer

Units per HH

343 | 366

Average Unit Retail



Visit per HH

27 | 28

Units per Basket 12 | 13

Spend per Basket

\$49 | \$50

Price Conscious customers are essentially Caucasians belonging to the **middle income group**. They are usually comprised of the **older** age groups with more number of children.

This segment generally over indexes in the Com Bread, Deli, and Frozen departments

Over Index

Social:

Country Comforts Middle America Landed Gentry Lifestage: Mainstream Families **Cautious Couples** Conservative Classics

Under Index

Social:

Urban Cores Midtown Mix Urban Uptown Lifestage: Sustaining Families Young Achievers Striving Singles

Who are they?



Age Groups



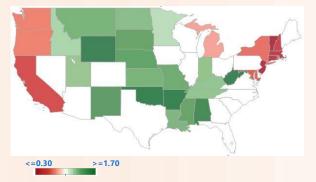
Household Size / Number of Children

Household Size – 4+ (1.15)

Children – 4+ (1.47)

Where are they from?

1	Oklahoma	1.88
2	Arkansas	1.86
3	Wyoming	1.64
4	West Virginia	1.64
5	Alabama	1.60



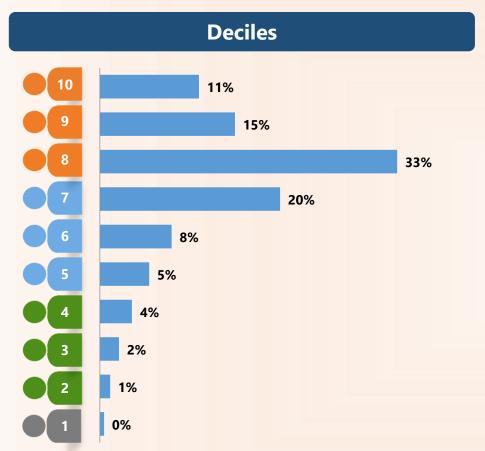
Omnichannel

26%

Of Customers are **Omni Channel Shoppers**

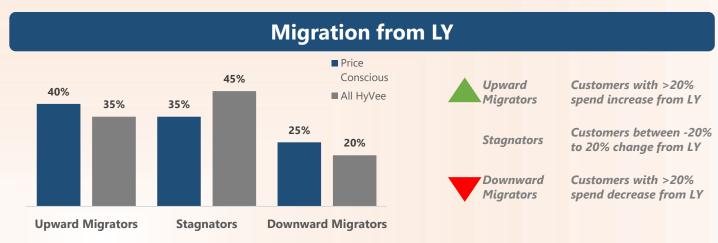
How do they shop?

Segment - Price Conscious Customers



Price Conscious customers mostly fall under **7**th-**8**th **deciles**. **Above average spenders** with **potential of growth**.

Further analysis: How can we push the customers to spend more and climb up the decile ladder



Price Conscious customers show **more upward migration behavior** than an average customer. Possibility to influence change is higher here

Further analysis: What are the upward migrators doing differently? Can we learn and push similar behavior? Example Insight – Upward migrators buy 95% of time there's a discounted product. Push more discounts to downward migrators and stagnators

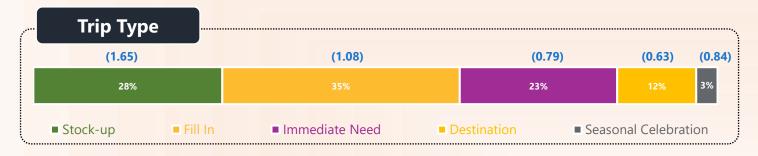
Migration from other segments

	Top 3 Incoming Segments	% HH	\$ Sales
1	Convenience	4.1%	\$467Mn
2	All the Aisles	3.3%	\$321Mn
3	From the Farm	1.3%	\$133Mn

	Top 3 Outgoing segments	% HH	\$ Sales
1	Eat n' Shop	6.0%	\$144Mn
2	Fresh not Frozen	3.9%	-\$100Mn
3	Occasional H&W Convenience Shoppers	0.5%	-\$102Mn

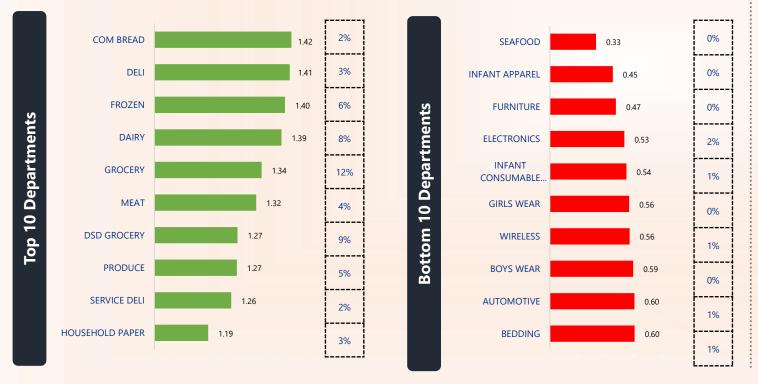
What do they buy?





Private Brands

Sales Contribution: 22%
Sales Contribution Index: 1.07
Customer Penetration: 100%
Customer Penetration Index: 1.09



The index values shown signify how much more or less likely customer in that segment will purchase in that department as compared to all other traced customers

Price Conscious customers buy a lot of corn bread, deli and frozen products, while buying les of automotive, bedding and boys wear. Big ticket items such a furniture and electronics are also less frequently purchased.

Discounts and marketing efforts can be applied to big ticket items to appeal to the price conscious customers

Index = $\left(\frac{Sales \ of \ Department \ X \ in \ Segment \ y}{Sales \ of \ all \ Departments \ in \ Segment \ y} \right)$

 $\frac{\text{Sales of Department X in all Segments}}{\text{Sales of all Departments in all Segments}}$

Index

III Sales Contribution

How can we target them?

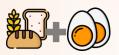


Market Basket (Affinity Analysis)



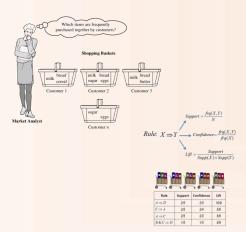






Bread Eggs

Analyze all type of baskets



Identify items most frequently purchased in the same basket

Result from this analysis can help upselling and crossselling associated products to these customers

Basket Lookalike Modelling







Similar baskets purchased by Non-Loyalty customers: Can we offer POS offers to customers purchasing similar baskets?



Thank You!