APPAREL RETAIL DEMAND FORECASTING TO MANAGE INVENTORY IN CV. PERDANA MANDIRI

A THESIS

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Bachelor of Engineering in Industrial Engineering



GABRIELLA NATHANIA GODELVA 15 14 08147

INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING PROGRAM DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING FACULTY OF INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITAS ATMA JAYA YOGYAKARTA YOGYAKARTA 2019 IDENTIFICATION PAGE A THESIS ON APPAREL RETAIL DEMAND FORECASTING TO MANAGE INVENTORY IN CV. PERDANA MANDIRI

submitted by

Gabriella Nathania Godelva

15 14 08147

was examined and appoved on 16th December 2019

Faculty Supervisor,

Dr. Yosephine Suharyanti, S.T., M.T.

Co-Faculty Supervisor,

41

L. Bening Parwita Sukci, M. Hum.

Board of Examiners,

Chair,

Dr. Yosephine Suharyanti, S.T., M.T.

Member,

Yosef Daryanto, S.T., M.Sc., Ph.D.

Member,

The Jin Ai, S.T., M.T., D.Eng.

Yogyakarta, 17th December 2019 Universitas Atma Jaya Yogyakarta, Faculty of Industrial Engineering, Dean,

Dr. A. Teguh Siswantoro, M.Sc.

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I certify that the research entitled "Apparel Retail Demand Forecasting to Manage Inventory in CV. Perdana Mandiri" in this thesis has not already been submitted for any other degree.

I certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, this thesis which I wrote does not contain the works or parts of the works of other people, except those citied in the quotations and bibliography, as a scientific paper should.

In addition, I certify that I understand and abide the rule stated by the Ministry of Education and Culture of The Republic of Indonesia, subject to the provisions of Peraturan Menteri Pendidikan Nasional Republik Indonesia Nomor 17 tahun 2010 tentang Pencegahan dan Penanggulangan Plagiat di Perguruan Tinggi.

Signature



Student name Student ID Date : Gabriella Nathania Godelva : 15 14 08147 : 16th December 2019

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TABLE OF CONTENT

CHAPTER	TITLE	PAGE
	Cover	i
	Identification Page	ii
	Declaration of originality of research	iii
	Acknowledgement	iv
	Table of content	v
	List of tables	vii
	List of figures	viii
	Abstract umine	х
1	Introduction	1
	1.1. Background	1
	1.2. Problem Formulation	1
	1.3. Objective	2
ر م	1.4. Scope and Limitation	2
2	Literature Review and Theoretical Background	3
	2.1. Literature Review	3
	2.2. Theoretical Background	5
3	Research Methodology	14
	3.1. Problem Identification	15
	3.2. Literature Review	16
	3.3. Data Collection	16
	3.4. Data Categorizing	16
	3.5. Data Analysis	16
	3.6. Creating A Forecast Tool using Microsoft Excel	16
	3.7. Do Demand Forecast	17
	3.8. Grouping Code Group with The Same Best	
	Forecasting Method	17
	3.9. Creating a Manual for X Clothing Store for Future	
	forecasting	17
	3.10. Conclusions and Suggestions	17

4	Data and Data Analysis	18
	4.1. X Clothing Store's Demand Data	18
	4.2. Grouping of Every SKU	19
	4.3. X Clothing Store's Sales and Stock Data	23
	4.4. Creating Time Series Plot of Every Code Group	24
5	Forecast Tool for Forecasting	27
	5.1. Sheet for Naïve Method	27
	5.2. Sheet for Moving Average Method	28
	5.3. Sheet for Exponential Smoothing Method	31
	5.4. Summary Sheet	34
	5.5. Custom Sheet	36
6	Forecasting and Forecasting Result	37
G	6.1. Forecasting and Forecasting Result	37
6	6.2. Grouping Code Group Based on Best Forecasting	
	Method	50
7	Forecast Tool Manual for Future Forecast	52
11	7.1. Future Forecasting and Decision Making	52
1	7.2. Using the Forecast Tool	52
8	Conclusions and Suggestions	55
	8.1. Conclusions	55
	8.2. Suggestions	56
	References	57
	Appendixes	59

LIST OF TABLES

	TITLE	PAGE
Table 4.1	Some Product Sold on January 2016	18
Table 4.2	Some Updated Data Table	19
Table 4.3	The Final 66 Code Groups	20
Table 4.4	Unincluded Code Groups	22
Table 6.1	Code Groups using 2016-2018 Data	50
Table 6.2	Code Groups with Non-Yearly Seasonal Length	51



LIST OF FIGURES

	TITLE	PAGE
Figure 3.1	Research Methodology	14
Figure 4.1	Sum of Sales Pivot Table with Description	20
Figure 4.2	Percentage Table of Demand and Stock	23
Figure 4.3	Code Group with Seasonal Component and Upward	
	Trend	24
Figure 4.4	Code Group with Irregular Component	25
Figure 4.5	Code Group with Different Data Pattern Over the Years	25
Figure 4.6	Code Group with Outliers	26
Figure 5.1	Naïve Method Sheet	28
Figure 5.2	Moving Average Method Sheet	30
Figure 5.3	Exponential Smoothing Method Sheet (Data 2016-2018)	32
Figure 5.4	Exponential Smoothing Method Sheet (Data 2017-2018)	33
Figure 5.5	Summary Sheet	35
Figure 5.6	Custom Sheet	36
Figure 6.1	BLI Time Series Plot	37
Figure 6.2	BLI Forecast Result	38
Figure 6.3	SEL Forecast Result	39
Figure 6.4	TPI Forecast Result	39
Figure 6.5	CJM Forecast Result (ETS 6)	40
Figure 6.6	CJM Forecast Result (ETS 12)	40
Figure 6.7	HPK Forecast Result (ETS 6, 2017-2018 Data)	41
Figure 6.8	HPK Forecast Result (ETS 12, 2016-2018 Data)	41
Figure 6.9	JKM Time Series Plot	42
Figure 6.10	JKM Forecast Result	42
Figure 6.11	ACC Time Series Plot	43
Figure 6.12	ACC Forecast Result (ETS 12)	44
Figure 6.13	ACC Forecast Result (ETS 13)	44
Figure 6.14	Forecast Methods and Their Characteristics	45
Figure 6.15	SDK Time Series Plot	46
Figure 6.16	SDK Forecast Result (Before Winsorizing The Outlier)	46
Figure 6.17	SDK Forecast Result (After Winsorizing The Outlier)	47
Figure 6.18	HDI Time Series Plot	47

	TITLE	PAGE
Figure 6.19	KKK Time Series Plot (2016-2018)	48
Figure 6.20	KKK Time Series Plot (2017-2018)	49
Figure 6.21	KKK Forecast Result	49
Figure 7.1	Summary Sheet Guide	53



ABSTRACT

Demand forecasting is important in any part of business including retail. It assists to determine the order quantity from suppliers, safety stock in inventory, and inventory management for normal selling condition and for when there would be promotions (marketing strategy like discounts). CV. Perdana Mandiri has a clothing store with inventory problems (overstock and understock). As per request from the company, the name of the clothing store is disguised as X clothing store. A forecast tool was developed using Microsoft Excel to help X clothing store carries out demand forecast easily. The methods used in the forecast tool were simple averages, moving averages, and exponential smoothing (single exponential smoothing, double exponential smoothing, and triple exponential smoothing). Forecasting was done by grouping their SKUs to a family code group. Trial and error were done to achieve the best forecasting method with the minimum forecast error in every code group. All sixty-six code groups were forecasted, and it resulted in sixty-one code groups with triple exponential smoothing as their best methods, three code groups with single exponential smoothing as their best methods, and two code groups with simple average method as their best forecasting method.

Keywords: retail, apparel, time series forecasting, seasonal data forecasting



CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

Retail is always the last process in distribution process in almost every company (Berman and Evans, 2013). Retail features all products from food, kitchen utensils, stationary, gadgets, decorative products, clothes, etc. There are many types of retail business and there are complex methods to manage a retail store depending on the products sold.

CV. Perdana Mandiri is a company running in the retail business. CV. Perdana Mandiri has a clothing store in Yogyakarta. By the request of the company, the name of the clothing store is disguised as X clothing store in this thesis. It sells mainly clothes that are remains of exported products from many brands. The company started operating in 2015 and currently, they have 22 employees working in 2 shifts. The store is open from 9 AM to 9 PM.

X clothing store has 2 floors. The first floor is for clothes and accessories for baby, kids, and teenagers. The second floor is for clothes and accessories for adults. Clothes that are sold are for both male and female. In the store, there is one storage room at the back of first floor where inventories are stored.

The main problem faced by the company is that the company did not look at sales data when ordering from the suppliers which resulted in overstock of some products that do not sell well and understock of some products that sell well. This can be seen in the number of special priced products sold which was higher than most of the products sold. The special priced products are products sold in a cheap price because they do not sell well in their original price.

1.2. Problem formulation

The problem faced by the company is the overstock and out of stock situations which happened because the company arbitrary decides what to order and its quantity. The company did not use the past data sales when deciding the item and quantity to order.

1.3. Objective

The objective of this research is to provide methods of demand forecasting that can be easily practiced by X clothing store, to help determine their inventory quantities. Their past demand data will be analyzed to forecast the monthly demand of products for the following month or year.

1.4. Scope and Limitation

The scope and limitation considered are as follows:

- a. The analysis is done only on products actively sold;
- Information of any price of clothes and cost the company spent cannot be disclosed;
- c. The data used are secondary data obtained from the X clothing store. It is about the number of items sold and its stock from January 2016 to December 2018;
- d. The forecast tool is designed for groups of product and not for individual level of product (not for every item);
- e. The forecast tool is made with the assumption that the company has the personnel to do the code grouping or that their database can do the code grouping;
- f. The forecast tool is designed to be used at the end of the month.