LEVERAGING E-COMMERCE SITES TO ABSORB RETAIL STORES' EXCESS INVENTORY



By: Hyuk Jin Cho and Ketan Lahoti Advisor: Dr. Bruce C Arntzen Sponsor: CSV Health

LEVERAGING E-COMMERCE SITES TO ABSORB RETAIL STORES' EXCESS INVENTORY



By: Hyuk Jin Cho and Ketan Lahoti Advisor: Dr. Bruce C Arntzen Sponsor: CSV Health







No.1 Retail Pharmacy business in the US



Carries over 3,000 SKUs



9,600 Stores across US





I DON'T FEEL GOOD...I'M GONNA PICK UP THE PRESCRIPTION DRUG THAT THE DOCTOR WROTE FOR ME FROM THE STORE. WELCOME TO CVS! WE HAVE ALL THE DRUGS YOU NEED. HOW MAY I HELP YOU?

CVS/pharmacy



BUT...







FORECAST ACCURACY

CLIMATE CHANGES

PROMOTION

EXCESS INVENTORY

BACK IN 2015...

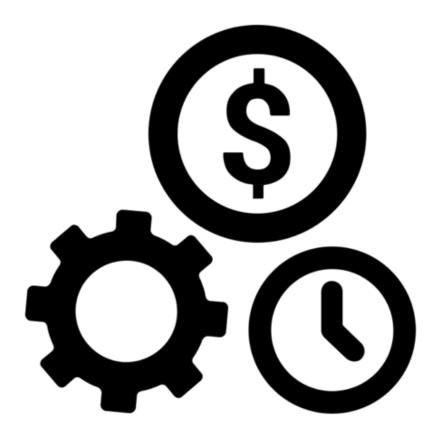
TOO MUCH EXCESS INVENTORY !!!

511





REDUCED EXCESS INVENTORY...BUT THE COST INVOLVED WAS HIGH...





OBJECTIVE



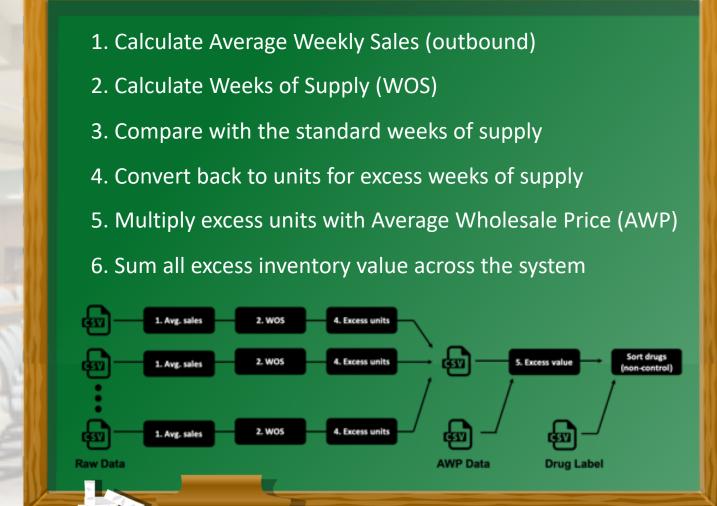
AUTOMATED PROCESS

METHODOLOGY

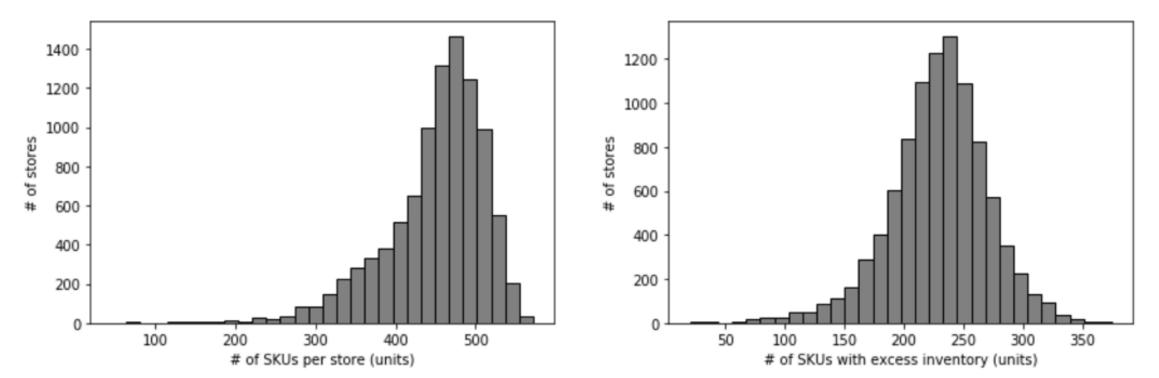
For each SKU at each store (non-controlled drugs):

- **1.** Calculate Average Weekly Sales (outbound) Average Outbound = Sum of sales for a SKU in a store across 52 weeks/52
- 2. Calculate Weeks of Supply (WOS) $Weeks of Supply = \frac{Inventory on hand at Week 52}{Average Outbound}$
- **3.** Compare with the standard weeks of supply *Excess Inventory (weeks) = Current WOS – Target inventory levels*
- **4.** Convert back to units for excess weeks of supply *Excess Inventory (units) = Excess Inventory (weeks) * Average Outbound*
- 5. Multiply excess units with Average Wholesale Price (AWP) Excess inventory value = Excess inventory units * AWP
- 6. Sum all excess inventory value across the system

MODEL



RESULT

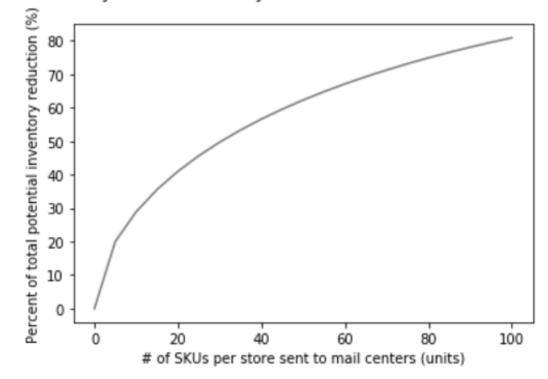


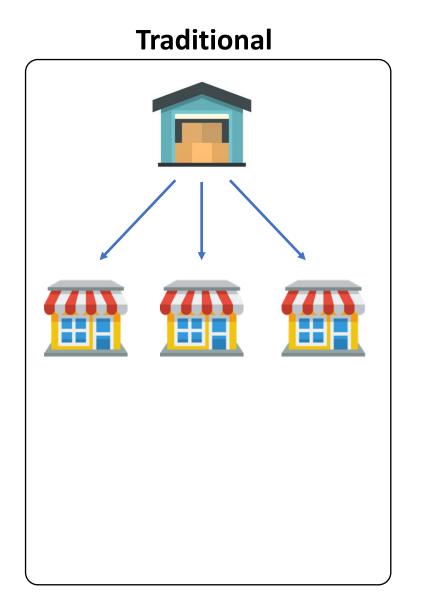
Histogram of # of SKUs per store

Histogram of # of SKUs with excess inventory

Top X SKUs	Total Savings (\$M)	% Savings
1	84.33	8.11%
5	208.22	20.03%
10	300.46	28.91%
20	426.16	41.00%
30	516.83	49.72%
40	588.49	56.62%
50	647.61	62.31%
60	697.71	67.13%
70	740.93	71.28%
80	778.67	74.92%
90	811.84	78.11%
100	841.08	80.92%

Proportion of total potential inventory reduction by # of SKUs sent by each store to the mail centers





FUTURE RESEARCH

