

# Replenishment Policies for Retail Pharmacies in Emerging Markets



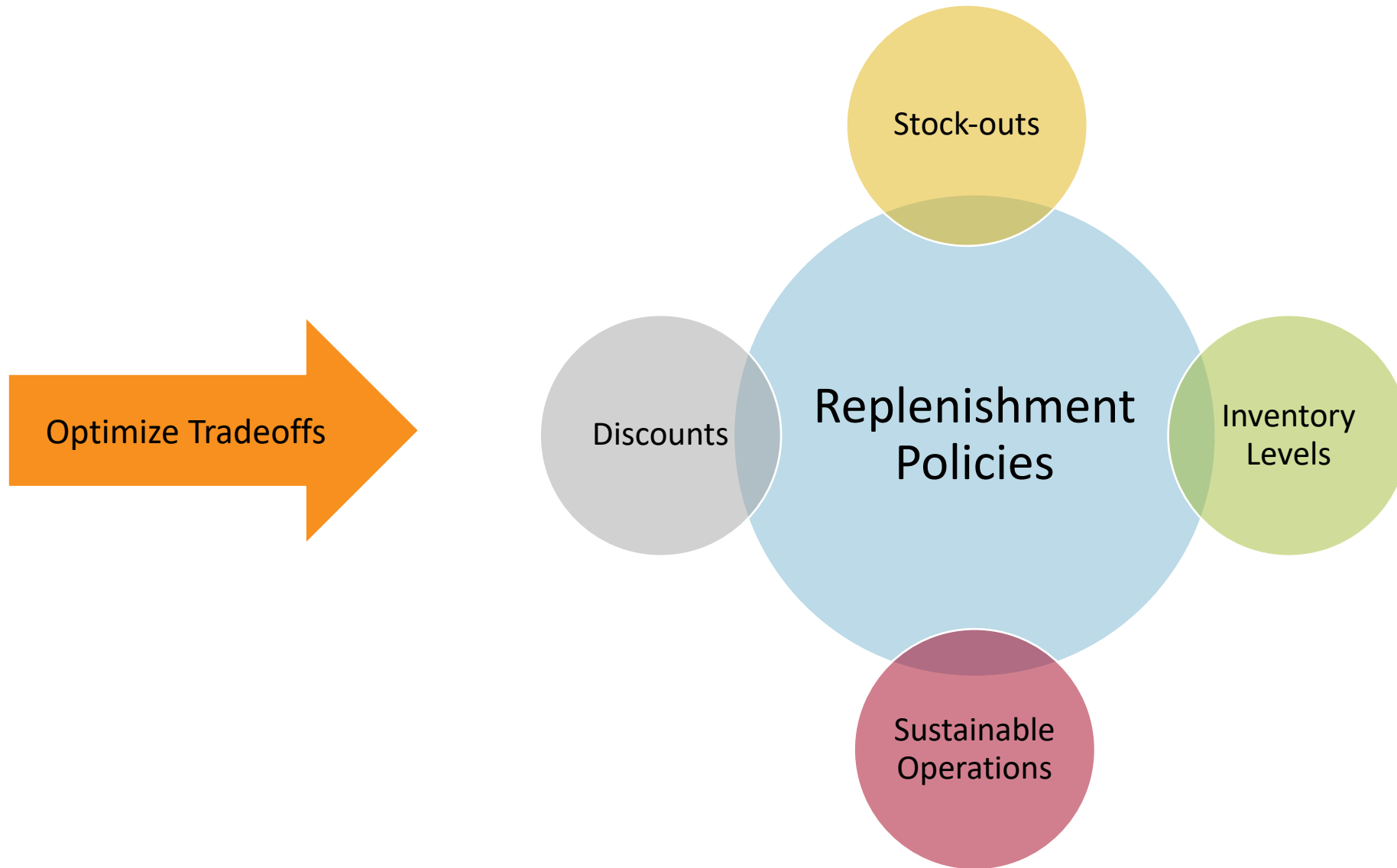
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Sponsor: Retail Pharmacy Chain in Emerging Market

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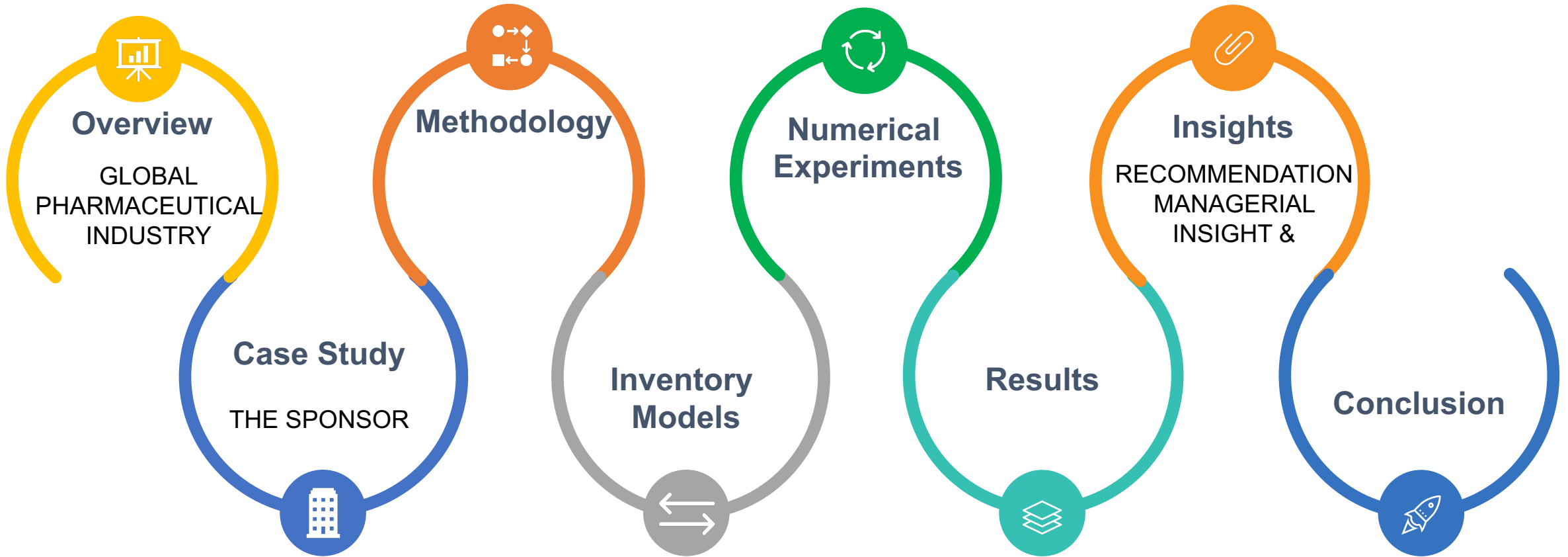
<https://www.excess2sell.com/landing>

<https://www.nssf.org/lean-retailing-a-better-way-to-manage-inventory-and-increase-profits/>





# Agenda



# Global Pharmaceutical Industry

\$600B

Pharmaceutical  
Annual Global  
Healthcare  
Expenditure

Source: Plunkett Research Group

\$768B

Prescription  
Drugs and Over-  
The-Counter  
Annual Global  
Expenditure

Source: Evaluate

Hospital

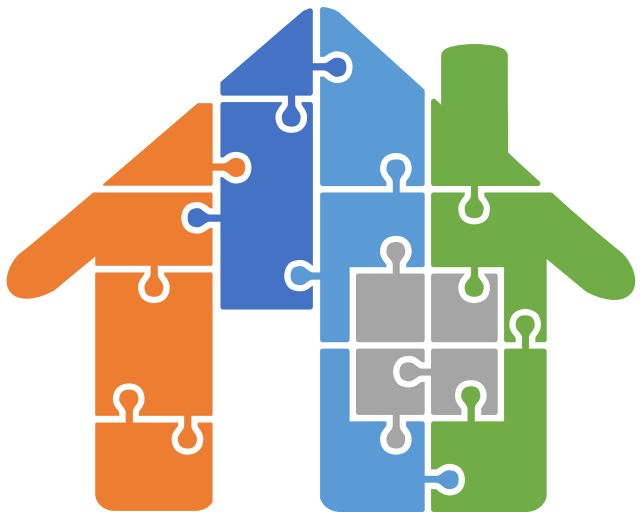
Retail  
Pharmacies

# Case Study: The Company



## Background

- Retail Pharmacy Chain
- Top 2 in the Country
- Emerging Market



## Opportunities

- 10,000 SKU
- High Complexity, #SKU x #Stores
- Reduce DIO 72 days
- Supplier-pushed Discounts



## Peer Review

- Industry Average DIO 57.8
- Walgreen's DIO 34.2
- CVS DIO 35.2

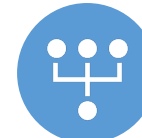


## Finance

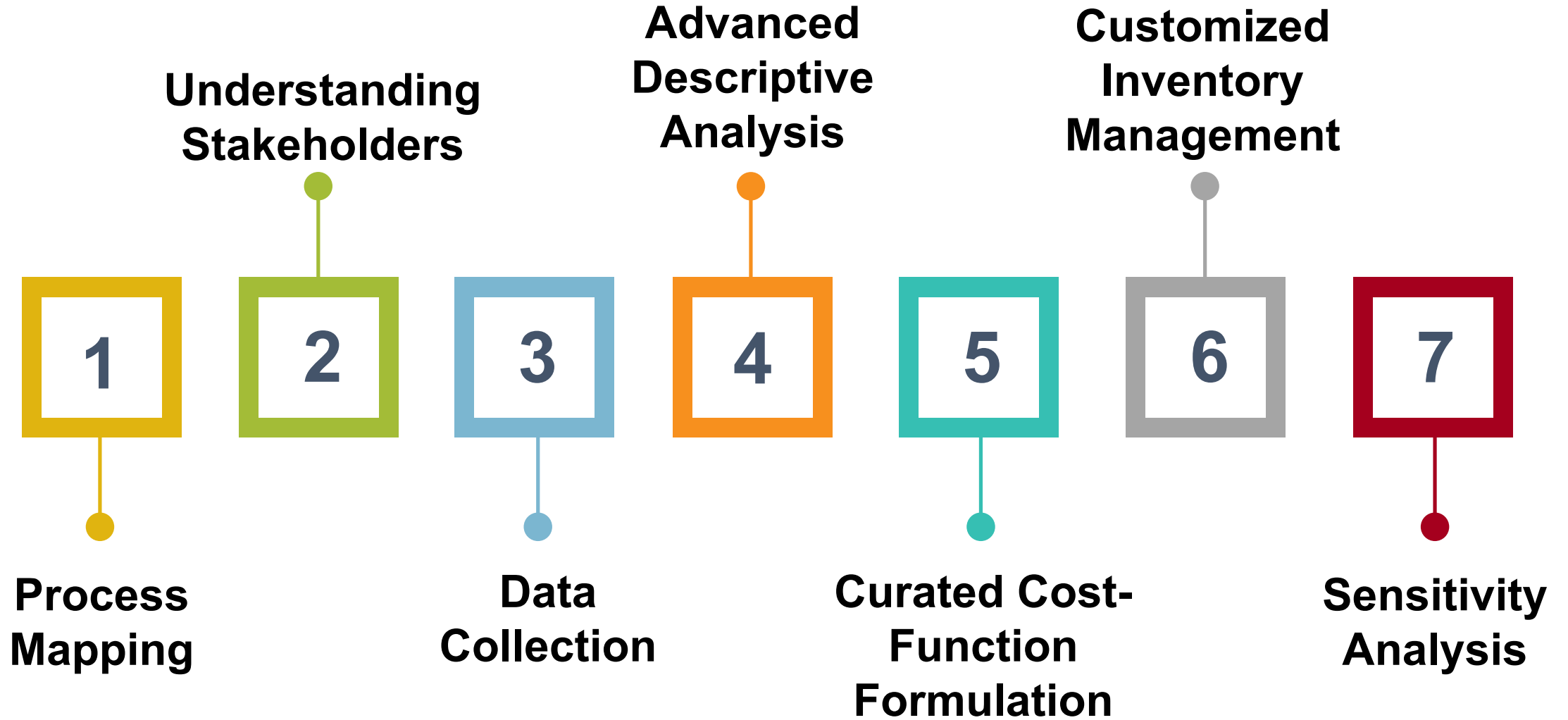
- Regulated Margin 23.08%
- Over 72 DIO
- Supplier-pushed Discounts

## Network

- 50+ Store
- 1 DC
- 120+ Suppliers

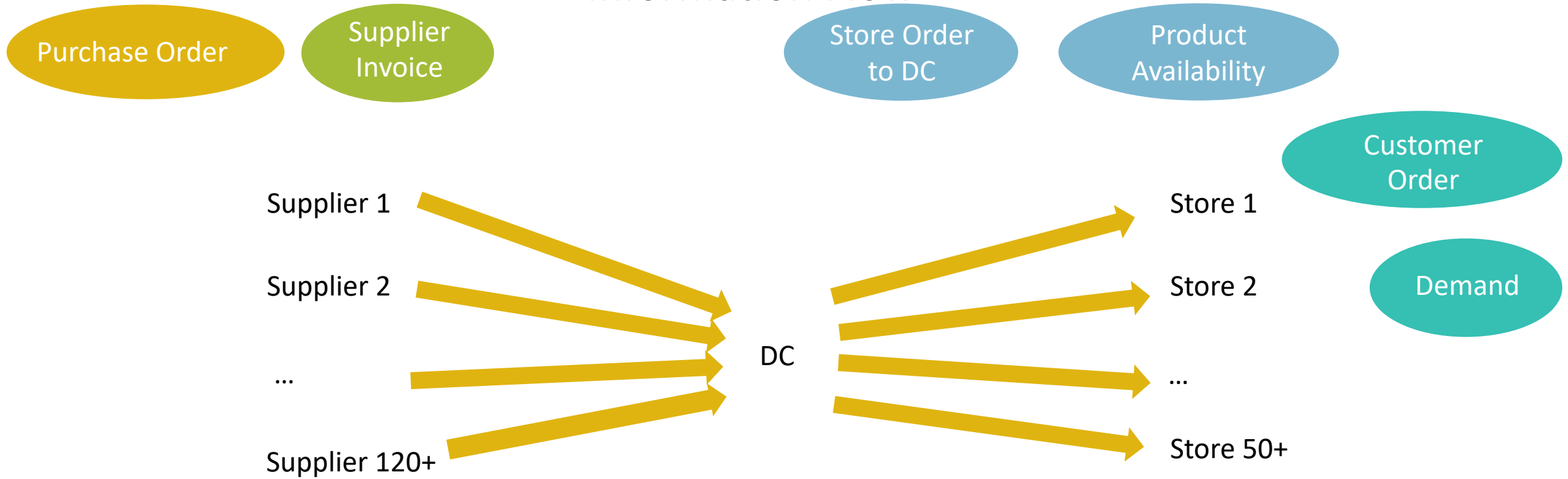


DIO: Days of Inventory Outstanding



# Process Mapping

## Information Flow



## Physical Flow

# Data Collection & Descriptive Analysis

## Data Collection



POS Data

50+ Stores

1.5+ Million records



Transactional Data

1 DC, 50+ Stores



Product Selection

16 SKUs

## Descriptive Analysis



Demand Distribution

Demand Variability

Supplier-Pushed Discounts

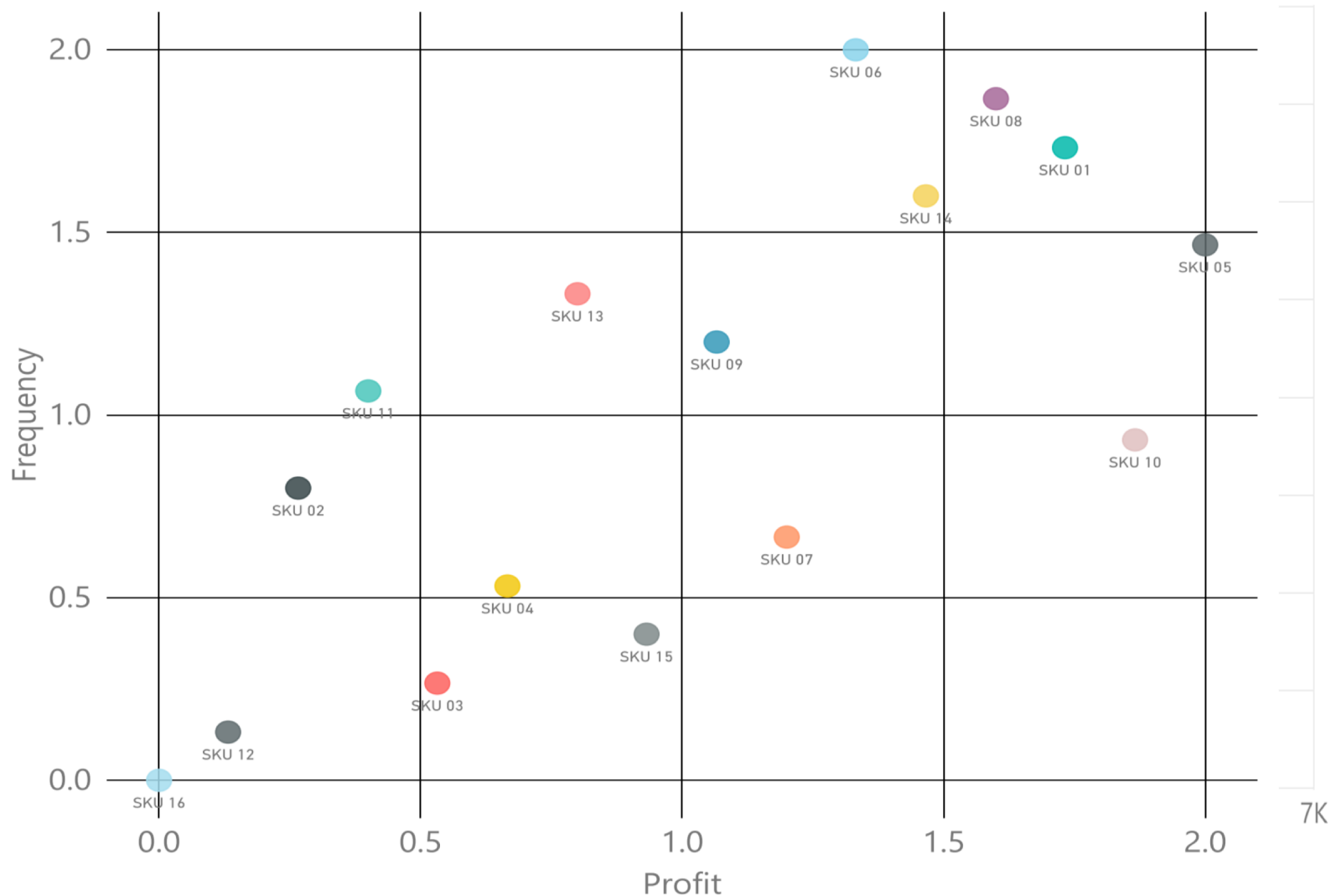
Stock-Outs Correlation DC vs Stores

SKU Clustering



# Descriptive Analysis of SKU Demand

Profit-Frequency Matrix



## Profit vs Frequency Matrix

- Understand Demand Patterns on a standardized scale.
- Separate fast & slow movers.
- Separate high and low profit despite frequency.

## Demand Frequency

- Understand real demand and selling frequency.
- Understand demand volume.
- Relationship between # of transactions and demand.

## Demand Variability

- Understand how stable is the demand.
- Understand how stable is transaction frequency.
- Draw conclusion of potential policy.

# Cost Function Components

## DC

$$\text{Ordering Cost} = C_t * \frac{D_D}{Q_D}$$

$$\text{DC Inbound Cost} = C_{di} * \frac{D_D}{Q_D}$$

$$\text{DC Outbound Cost} = C_{do} * \sum_{s=0}^S \frac{D_S}{Q_S}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{DC Stockout Penalty} \\ = C_{Ds} * \frac{D_D}{Q_D} * P[x > Q_D] \end{aligned}$$

## Stores

$$\text{Store Inbound Cost} = C_{si} * \sum_{s=0}^S \frac{D_S}{Q_S}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Store Stockout Penalty} \\ = C_{ss} * \sum_0^S \frac{D_S}{Q_S} * P[x > Q_S] \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Product Cost} = C_u * D_D$$

$$\text{Holding Cost} = C_h * \left( \frac{P_u}{2} + k\sigma_{DL} \right)$$

## Periodic Review (Q, R)

- Calculated  $Q_D^*$  for the DC &  $Q_S^*$  for each store.
- Calculated  $R_D = k\sigma_{DDL}$  for DC &  $R_S = k\sigma_{SDL}$  for each store
- If ending inventory fall under R, Q units are ordered

## Continuous Review (s, S)

- Calculated  $s_S = k\sigma_{DDL}$  for DC &  $s_S = k\sigma_{SDL}$  for each store
- Calculated  $S_S = R_D + Q_D$  for DC &  $S_S = R_S + Q_S$
- If ending inventory fall under s, units are ordered up to S.

The (s, S) replenishment policy accounts for current inventory while (Q, R) doesn't.

# Numerical Experiments with Company's SKUs

Baseline, (Q, R) & (s, S)

## ■ Setup

- Randomized store demand based on historical distribution
- Calculated forecast based on sponsor's current forecasting technique

## ■ Consolidation

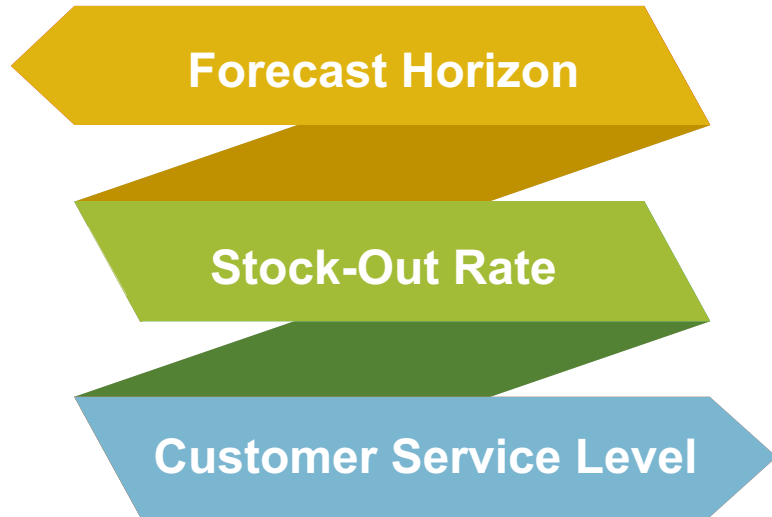
- Consolidated store demand data to form DC demand
- Calculated DC demand forecast

## ■ Run

- Calculated (Q, R) or (s, S)
- Simulated daily inventory movement



# Sensitivity Analysis



1

## Forecast Horizon

- Annual
- Monthly
- Biweekly
- Weekly

Determine forecast aggregation effect on the robustness of the replenishment policies

2

## Stock-Out Rate

- 0x Mark up
- 2x Mark up
- 5x Mark up
- 10x Mark up

Determine the impact of customer willingness to backorder or leave to a competitor

3

## Customer Service Level

- 0.99 CSL
- 0.95 CSL
- 0.90 CSL
- 0.85 CSL

Determine the impact if all SKUs are managed as equal creating excess or oscillations in replenishment.



## IMPROVE

Significant reduction  
in the Total Cost  
Function

(Q, R) Average 33%

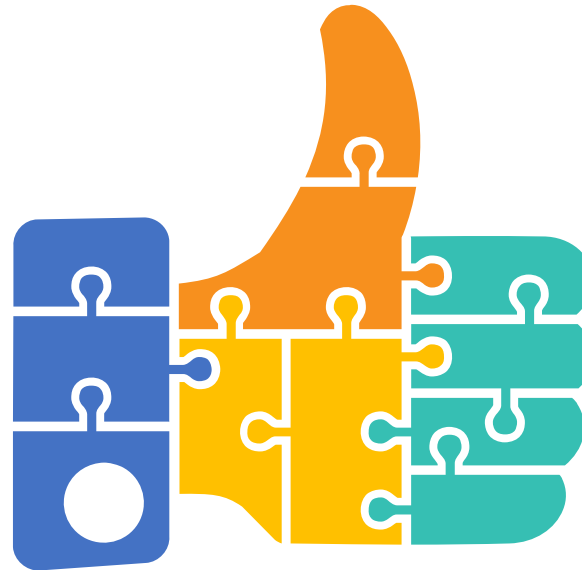
(s, S) Average 37%



## DEVELOPMENT

Replenishment  
Policies

1. Baseline
2. (Q, R)
3. (s, S)



## DESIGN

SKU



Differentiation

1. Profit vs Frequency  
2x2 Matrix
2. Demand Variation

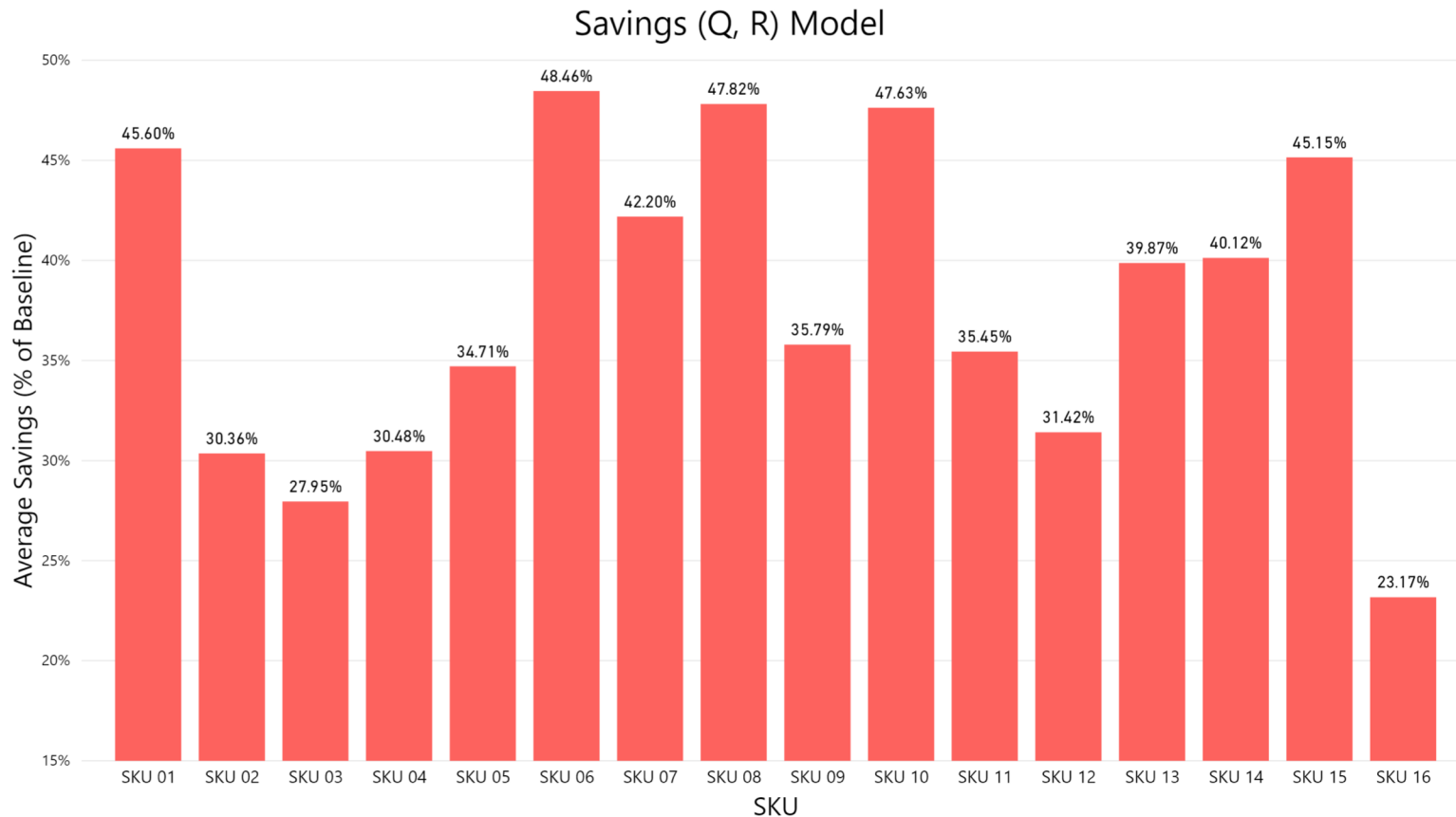
## STRATEGY

Use Different Policies  
depending on SKU  
Characteristics  
High or Low Profit.



## Periodic Review Replenishment Policy (Q, R)

### Cost Savings vs Baseline

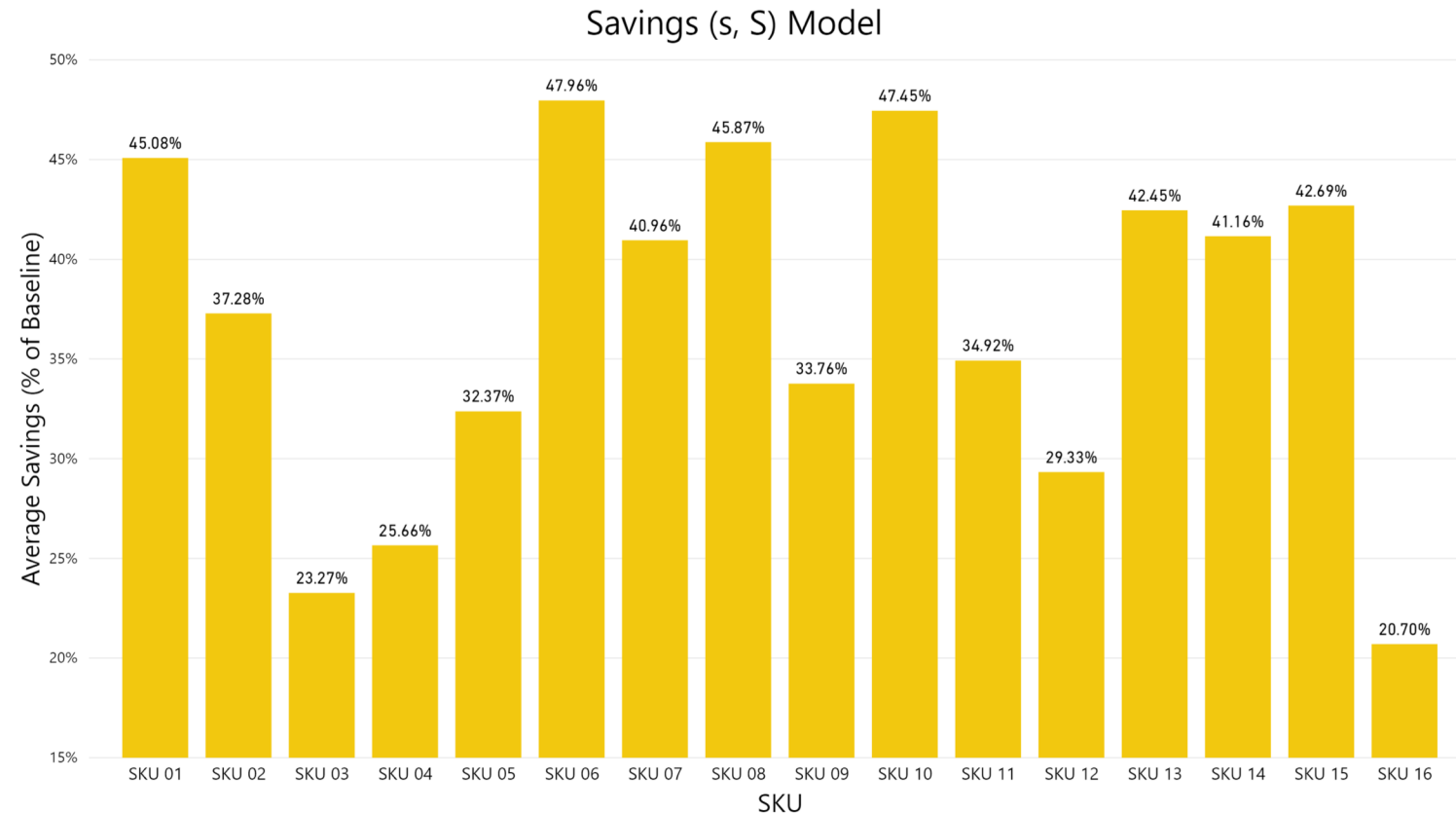


- Average Savings 33%
- Tradeoff: Lower inventory and Higher DC Holding Cost.
- Best suited for High Profit SKUs
- Higher impact on the CSL.
  - -2.53% on Average

## Continuous Review Replenishment Policy (s, S)

### Cost Savings vs Baseline

- Average Savings 37%
- Most important cost reduction: Product Inventory Cost.
- Best Suited for Low Profit SKUs
- Lower impact on CSL
  - -2.09% on Average





# Results Sensitivity Analysis



1

## Forecast Horizon

- Annual
- Monthly
- Biweekly
- Weekly

2

## Stock-Out Rate

- 0x Mark up
- 2x Mark up
- 5x Mark up
- 10x Mark up

3

## Customer Service Level

- 0.99 CSL
- 0.95 CSL
- 0.90 CSL
- 0.85 CSL

@ Minimized Total Cost:

- Most Stock-outs – Biweekly Horizon
- Least Stock-outs – Annual Horizon
- Higher stock-out rate favored higher CSL

Tradeoffs Observed:

- Holding costs vs Stock-Out Penalty
- Holding costs vs Discounts leveraged

# Managerial Insights & Recommendation

## ■ Use Different Replenishment Policies

- Depending on the characteristics of SKU.



## ■ Replenishment Suggestions

- (Q, R) for High Profit & Unit Cost.
- (s, S) for Low Profit & Unit Cost

## ■ Stock-Out Penalties

- High penalties lead to higher inventory.
- The company should calibrate the penalty depending on opportunity cost and possibility of losing a customer.

## ■ Forecast Horizon

- Annual for High Stock-out penalty SKUs.
- Biweekly for Low Stock-out Penalty SKUs.

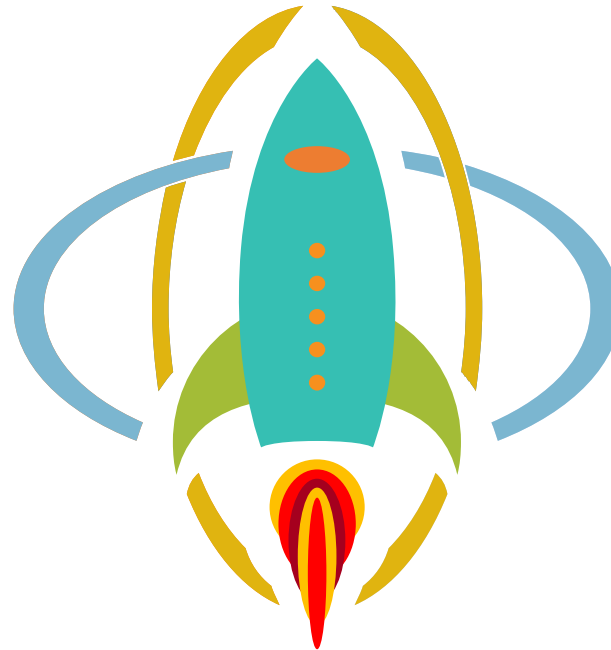
## ■ Recommendation

- Determine the Company priority CSL vs Total Cost.
- Determine the SKUs for each policy.
- Determine the Stock-out Penalty for each SKU and Store.

1

## FINDINGS

- Very different SKUs Characteristics.
- (Q, R) is better for High Profit SKUs.
- (s, S) is better for Low Profit SKUs.
- Impact of Volume or variability made no significant impact.
- Savings over 30% of the Total Cost.
- Similar Fill Rate less than 5% decrease.



## DESIGN

- (Q, R) for DC & Stores.
- (s, S) for DC & Stores.
- Sensitivity Analysis:
  - Forecast Horizon
  - Stock-Out Penalty
  - CSL

2

3

## FUTURE WORK

- Analyze different policies combinations for DC & Stores.
- Analyze different policies combinations for each Store.
- Determine CSL sensitivity for each SKU/Store.

## SCALABILITY & FIRST STEPS

- All SKU demand vs frequency clustering.
- All SKU Demand variability understanding.
- Biggest \$ savings in high profit & high frequency SKUs.

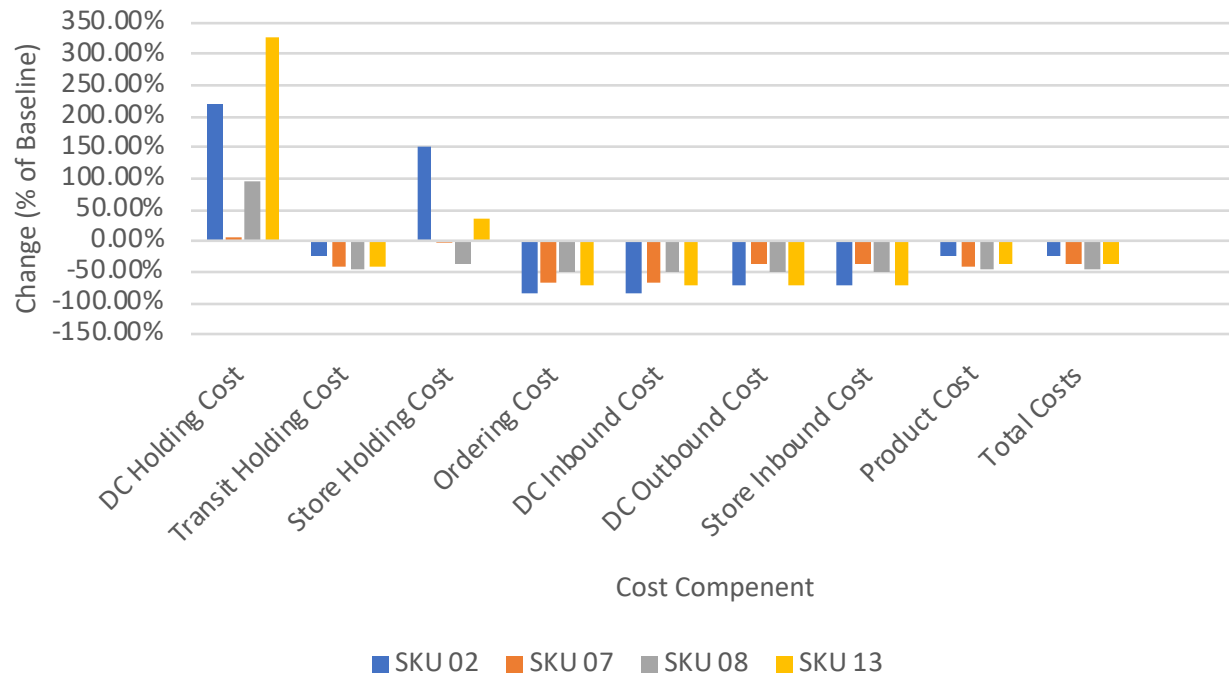
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# Questions?

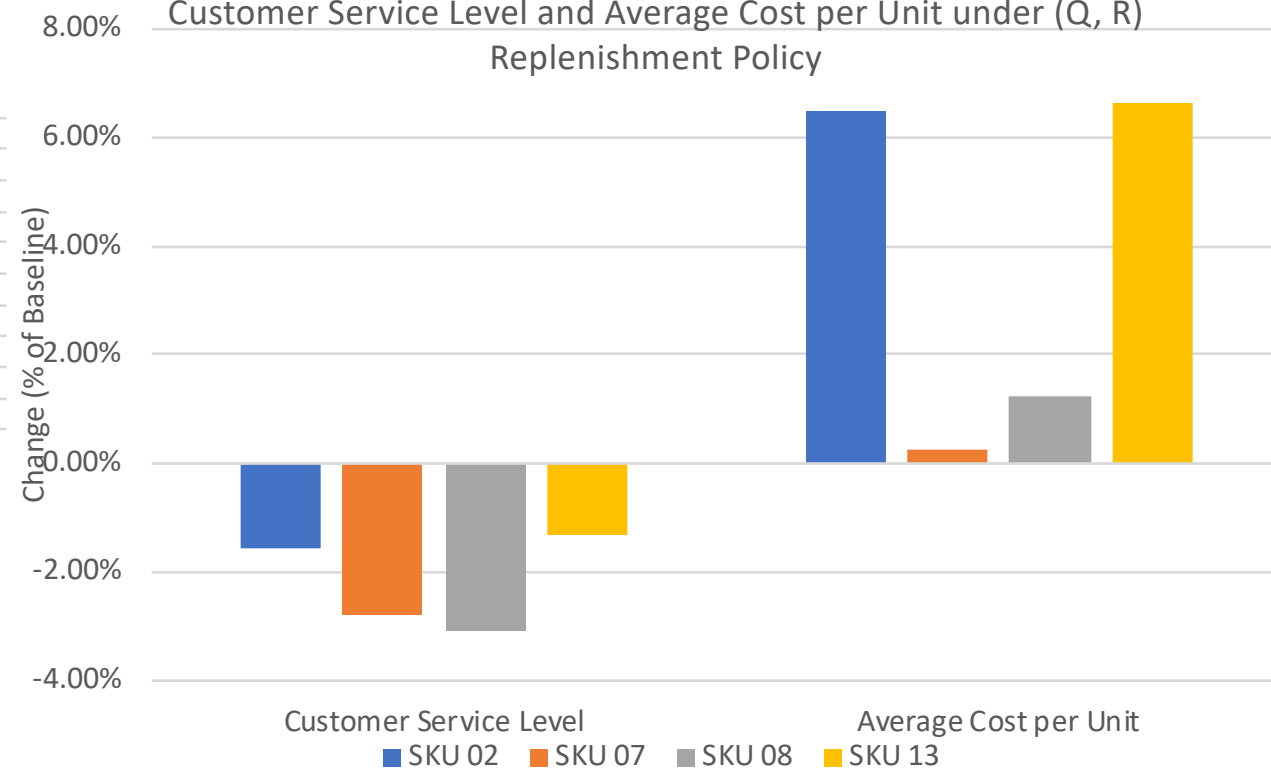


# Extra (Q, R)

(Q, R) Replenishment Policy Effect on Cost Components

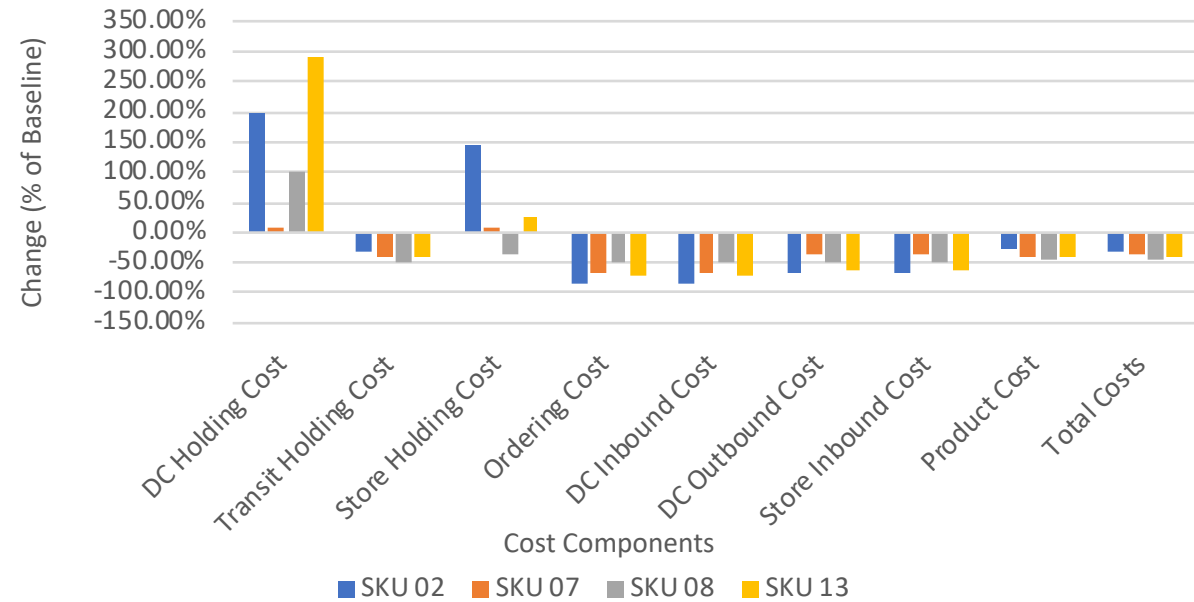


Customer Service Level and Average Cost per Unit under (Q, R) Replenishment Policy

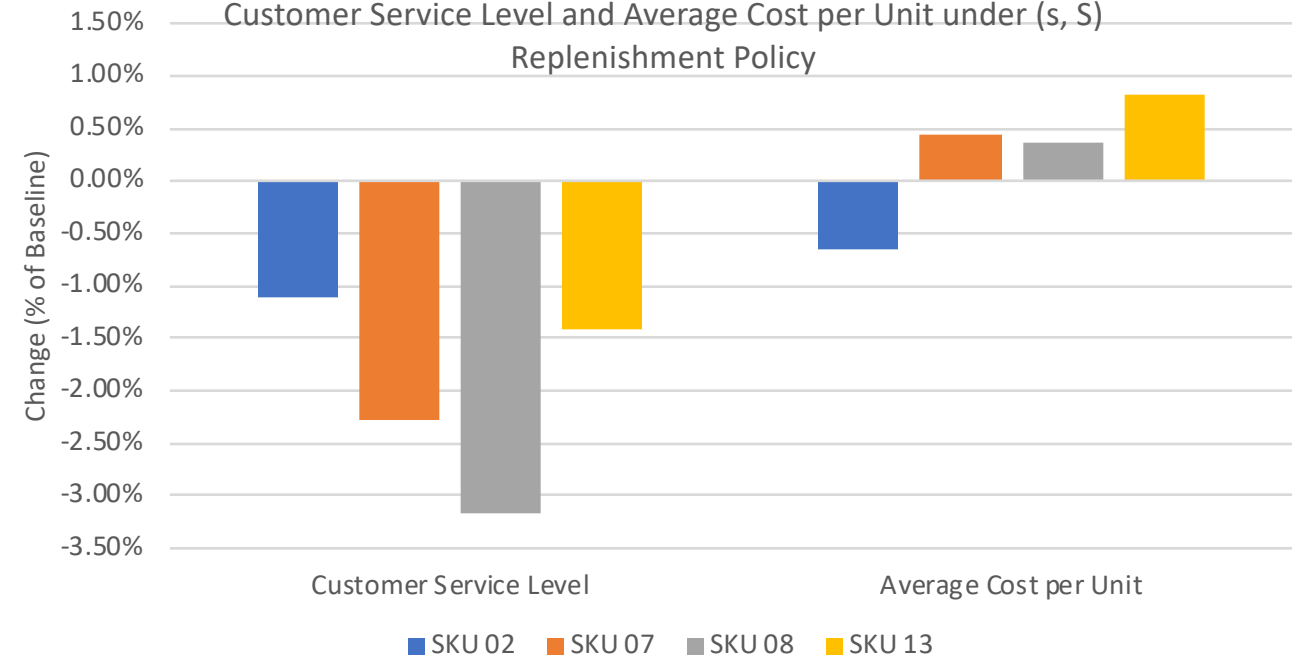


# Extra (s, S)

(s, S) Replenishment Policy Effect on Cost Components

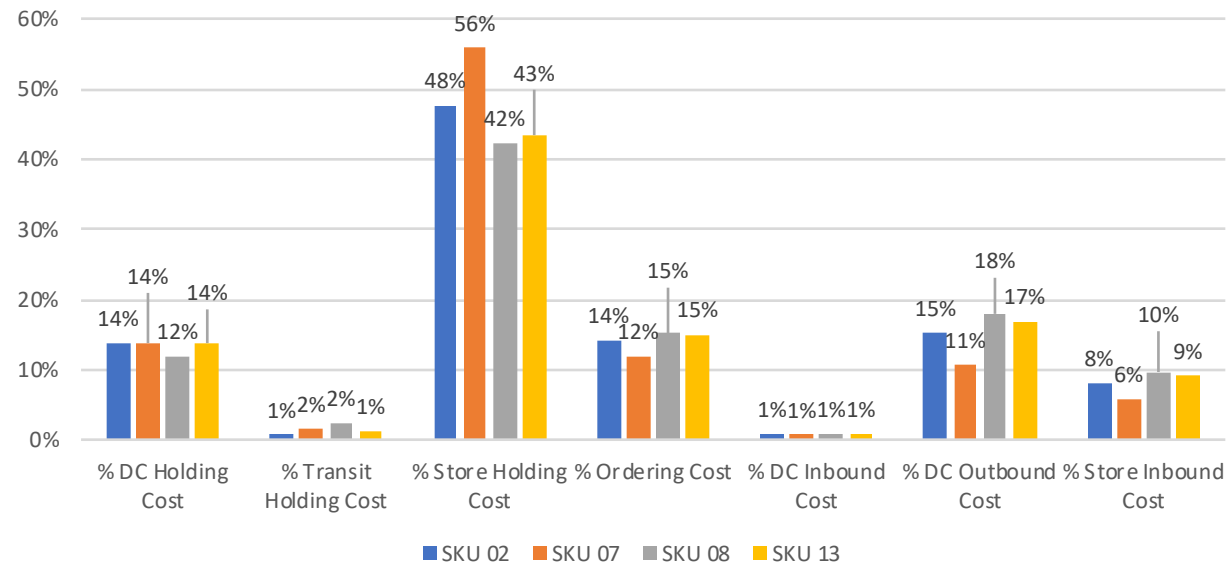


Customer Service Level and Average Cost per Unit under (s, S) Replenishment Policy

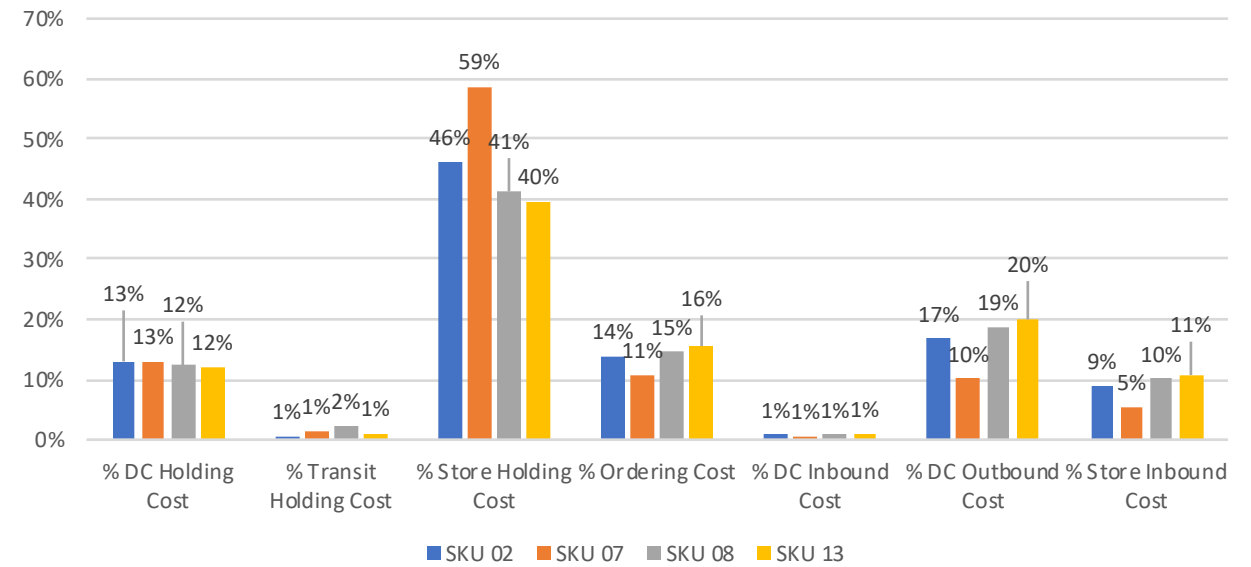


# Extra Operating Costs

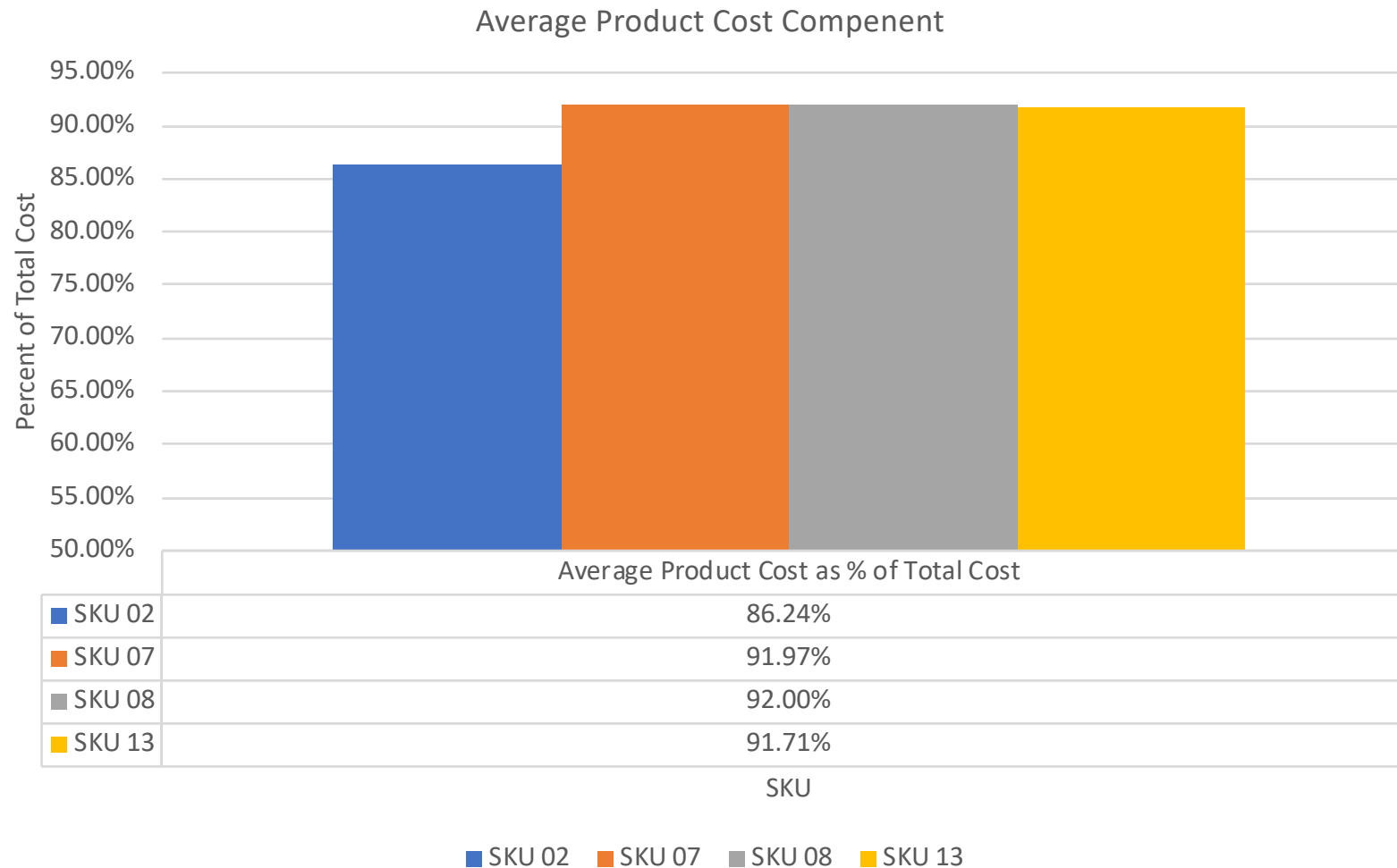
(Q,R) % Operating Cost Over Total Operating Cost



(s,S) % Operating Cost Over Total Operating Cost



# Extra Product Cost as a % of Total Cost





# Cost Function

$$Q_D = P_u + \left\lfloor \frac{P_u}{r_f} \right\rfloor * q_f$$

$$TRC_{DC} = C_h * \left( \frac{P_u}{2} + k\sigma_{DDL} \right) + \frac{D_D * (C_{di} + C_t) + (C_u * P_u)}{P_u + \frac{q_f * P_u}{r_f}} + C_{do} * \sum_0^S \frac{D_S}{Q_S} + C_{SS} * \frac{D_D}{Q_D} * P[x > Q_D]$$

$$P_u^* = \sqrt{\frac{2 * (C_{di} + C_t) * D * r_f}{C_h * (q_f + r_f)}} * \sqrt{1 + \frac{C_{SS} * P[x > Q_D]}{C_{di} + C_t}}$$

$$TRC_S = C_{SS} * \frac{D_S}{Q_S} * P[x > Q_S] + (C_{do} + C_{si}) \frac{D_S}{Q_S} + C_h * \left( \frac{Q_S}{2} + k\sigma_{DDL} \right)$$

$$Q_S^* = \sqrt{\frac{2 * (C_{do} + C_{si}) * D_S}{C_h}} * \sqrt{1 + \frac{C_{SS} * P[x > Q_S]}{C_{do} + C_{si}}}$$

## Extra Slide Assumptions

- One Distribution Center.
- Backorders are not allowed.
- All purchases are shipped to the DC.
- Supplier promotions are an extra unit in exchange of increasing orders of a SKU.
- Supplier promotions give one free unit of SKU for every  $r_f$  units ordered.
- Demand data is available, but there is some uncertainty.
- Lead times are constant from DC to Stores = 1 day from supplier to DC = 2 days.
- Replenishments from DC prioritize stores based on alphanumeric order. This can be organized depending store demand or frequency.
- The desired CSL at the store level is given depending on the SKU.

## Extra Slide Conditions

- There are multiple SKUs clustered in four categories.
- All SKUs fall under one of the established SKU categories.
- One year consists of 12 months of 4 weeks of 7 days.
- The holding cost of inventory is 24% per annum and accrued daily.
- The DC processing time is included in the lead time.
- The DC processing cost is included in the DC inbound cost and the outbound cost.
- Suppliers have a 100% fill rate. Suppliers fill rate is out of scope.
- Stock-out penalty is equal to the SKU markup (30%) multiplied by a stock-out rate.