Machine Learning with Calculation Views

A Use Case for Customer Data Segmentation

About me



- Benedict Baur
- Freelance SAP consultant and developer
- Focus area:
 - SAP Business Warehouse (BW/4 HANA),
 - SAP HANA Modelling with Calculation Views
 - Machine Learning (SAP HANA, Python)
- Trainer for Calculation Views (for Brandeis Consulting)
- Author of the book "Machine Learning mit SAP HANA" (Espresso Tutorials, 2022)
- LinkedIn: kurzelinks.de/drbb

Motivation: Customer Data segmenation

- Starting point
 - Data set of customers of a company (Bank, Insurance, Telecommunication)
 - Data set contains several attributes (age, location, sales amount) and information about behavior of customers
- Goal: Segment data set in groups (*clusters*) of similar customers
 - Similarity calculation using attributes of the input set



HANA native implementation strategy

- SAP HANA built-in cluster algorithms: K-Means Clustering, Hierarchical Clustering, DBScan, etc.
- Implement Cluster algorithm in table function using SQLScript
- Integrate table function in Calculation View
 - Trigger Ad-Hoc execution of Cluster algorithm
 - Read results from snapshot table (new feature in Business Application Studio)
- Enrich results from Cluster algorithm with original customer attributes in Calculation View



New features in web based modeling of Calculation Views

New with Web IDE (XSA)

- Improved integration of table functions:
 - Support for tabular input parameters
 - Supply input data for table function from Calculation View
 - Filtering of input data, Adapt mapping of input columns

New with Business Application Studio (HANA Cloud/XSA)

- Snapshot function
 - Save result of Calculation View in a snapshot table
 - Access both Snapshot data and base view (real-time data) via Interface View
- New node type: Window function
 - Lead, Lag, Cumulating Sum
 - Random sampling, Binning (Ntile), statistical measures (e.g. percentiles, median)

New features in web based modeling of Calculation Views



Live demo

- Store results of Cluster algorithm as snapshot
- Analyze results of Cluster algorithm in Calculation View
 - Random sampling using Window functions
 - Binning of column