

Intelligent Machine Learning System Boosts Profitability for Broadcaster

Case Study



Overview

Enhancing analysis, planning, and prediction

A direct broadcast satellite service company, with an annual revenue of about \$1.9 billion, offers a wide range of audio, radio, and television channels to subscribers across 50 countries in Africa. Given the scale of its operations, it consulted with Zensar to build an intelligent in-house system to optimize media planning, post-campaign analysis, and viewership and rating prediction.

Zensar's brief: Design and deploy an intelligent machine learning (ML)-powered system that delivers on these two priorities:

- Predict ratings with precision across various content entities.
- Uncover insights related to viewing patterns and revenue optimization.

Beyond the brief:

Guided by our commitment to “experience-led everything,” we ensured that our focus was not just on technology, but more importantly, on the people that it impacts.



Challenges

Need for an in-house solution

The company was keen to leverage the opportunities offered by emerging technologies to address these business needs:

- **In-house system:** Reliance on industry tools for multiple television ratings analysis had limitations. So, the company needed to remove this dependency on third-party tools.
- **Deep insights:** Understanding viewing patterns and preferences across different demographic groups is complex, yet crucial to enabling targeted advertising and maximizing revenue.
- **Advanced automation:** Managing a vast array of content requires an automated system to predict ratings accurately for TV shows, movies, and products.



Solution

Intelligent ML-powered system

As our client’s technology partner, we collaborated with various internal stakeholders every step of the way to ensure that the solution outcomes align with business objectives.

Planning and design: After gaining granular insights into the client’s IT landscape and business ecosystem, we carried out these key actions:

- Aggregate data from multiple sources into a unified data set, clean the data and normalize data formats by removing duplicates, and conduct exploratory data analysis (EDA) to uncover key insights.
- Engineer these features to enhance the predictive power of ML models:
 - User demographics such as age, gender, and ethnicity
 - Content attributes such as genre, release year, director, and cast
 - Viewing history such as past ratings and the viewing patterns of users
- Train multiple ML models by splitting the data into training and validation sets.
- Evaluate the models by testing with different algorithms to find out the best-performing model.

- Implement the selected model to ensure that it can handle large data sets efficiently.
- Monitor the model's performance continuously to improve accuracy with necessary adjustments.

Enablement: Drawing on our Azure competencies, we put together a powerful mix of technology enablers to deliver the solution:

- Azure ML was used for its comprehensive suite of tools and services, enabling efficient development, deployment, and management of ML models at scale.
- Azure Databricks was used to enable efficient big data processing, advanced analytics, and collaborative data science.
- Azure DevOps was used for its broad suite of development tools, enabling efficient collaboration, continuous integration, and continuous delivery.
- Azure Monitor was used for its comprehensive monitoring and diagnostics capabilities, ensuring optimal performance and application availability.
- Azure App Insights was used for its real-time monitoring and analytics, enabling proactive performance optimization and issue resolution for applications.
- Azure Key Vault was used for its secure management of keys, secrets, and certificates, ensuring robust protection of sensitive data.
- Azure App Services was used for its fully managed platform, enabling easy deployment, scaling, and management of web applications and APIs.
- Azure Function was used for its serverless computing capabilities, enabling scalable and cost-effective execution of event-driven code.
- Azure SQL was used for its fully managed database services, offering high availability, scalability, and built-in security for mission-critical applications.
- Azure VPN Gateway was used for its secure and reliable connectivity between on-prem networks and Azure, ensuring seamless and protected data transfer.
- Azure Active Directory was used for its robust identity and access management, ensuring secure and seamless access to resources across the enterprise.
- Azure Blob Storage was used for its scalable, cost-effective, and secure storage solution, ideal for managing large amounts of unstructured data.
- Azure Repos was used for its robust version control system, enabling efficient collaboration and code management across development teams.

Implementation: Leveraging AI capabilities, we deployed a solution that delivered on these business priorities:

- **Accurate predictions:** The intelligent system enables high accuracy in predicting ratings and personalized content recommendations for users.

- **Categorized preferences:** The system helps identify ethnic group preferences for specific shows/movies and highlights popular content across different demographics.
- **Potent insights:** The system enables insight-driven strategies to optimize revenue by increasing advertisement prices, designing targeted campaigns based on user preferences, and implementing premium pricing for popular content advertisements.



Impact

Greater profitability

- Media planning optimized by accurate rating predictions
- Personalized recommendations to boost consumption
- Insight-driven targeted campaigns for different demographics

Business outcomes: With automation-driven operational efficiencies combined with advanced analytics that boosts content consumption and advertisement revenues, the solution enhances profitability.

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Part of the \$4.8 billion RPG Group, we are headquartered in Pune, India. Our 10,000+ employees work across 30+ locations worldwide, including Milpitas, Seattle, Princeton, Cape Town, London, Zurich, Singapore, and Mexico City.

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