

Prescriptive Analytics and AI-Augmented Pricing Models for Industrial and Retail Sales Optimization

 **Shailesh Kadam**

Enterprise Architect, Saks Global, Dallas, Texas, USA

 **Venkata Gudala**

Sr. Software Developer, Global Bridge, Dallas, Texas, USA

 **Gayathri Balakumar**

Capital One, Dallas, Texas, USA

 **Somnath Banerjee**

Staff Engineer, Researcher, Dallas, Texas, USA

Abstract

The increasing complexity of industrial and retail markets has transformed pricing from a static managerial activity into a dynamic decision-making process supported by artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, and prescriptive analytics. Organizations operating in highly competitive environments are challenged by fluctuating customer demand, volatile supply chains, evolving consumer behavior, and intense market competition, all of which require pricing strategies capable of adapting in real time. Traditional pricing methods primarily rely on historical averages, managerial intuition, and fixed business rules, limiting their ability to respond effectively to rapidly changing market conditions. Consequently, prescriptive analytics integrated with AI-driven optimization techniques has emerged as a strategic solution for maximizing profitability, improving customer satisfaction, and enhancing operational efficiency.

This research-review paper develops a comprehensive analytical framework for AI-augmented pricing models that integrate predictive intelligence, optimization algorithms, and prescriptive decision support for industrial and retail sales environments. The study synthesizes concepts from machine learning, nonlinear system modeling, graph-based learning, and data-driven optimization to establish a generalized pricing architecture capable of supporting dynamic decision-making across multiple business scenarios. Although the referenced studies originate from diverse computational domains—including handwriting recognition, nonlinear modeling, signal calibration, and spatio-temporal deep learning—their methodological contributions provide valuable insights into scalable AI architectures, pattern recognition, feature extraction, adaptive learning, and intelligent prediction mechanisms applicable to modern pricing systems. In particular, large-scale dataset management and AI model generalization principles discussed by **Al-ma'adeed et al. (2012)** are conceptually extended to structured commercial data management for intelligent pricing decisions.

The proposed framework consists of integrated modules for data acquisition, demand prediction, customer segmentation, elasticity estimation, optimization, explainable recommendation generation, and continuous

learning. The paper further discusses implementation challenges including model interpretability, computational scalability, fairness, uncertainty management, and organizational adoption barriers. Analytical findings indicate that AI-augmented prescriptive pricing significantly outperforms traditional rule-based pricing by enabling adaptive decision-making under uncertainty while balancing profitability and customer value. The study concludes that prescriptive analytics represents an essential strategic capability for future industrial and retail organizations seeking sustainable competitive advantage in increasingly data-driven markets.

Key words: *Prescriptive Analytics, Artificial Intelligence, Dynamic Pricing, Retail Analytics, Industrial Sales Optimization, Machine Learning, Demand Forecasting, Pricing Optimization, Decision Intelligence, Business Analytics*

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Digital transformation has fundamentally altered the competitive landscape of industrial manufacturing, wholesale distribution, e-commerce, and omnichannel retailing. Organizations now operate within environments characterized by continuously changing customer expectations, fluctuating production costs, global competition, and rapidly evolving market dynamics. These changes have significantly increased the complexity of pricing decisions. Rather than functioning as a simple accounting exercise, pricing has become a strategic optimization problem requiring simultaneous consideration of customer behavior, inventory conditions, competitor actions, supply chain disruptions, seasonal demand, promotional campaigns, and long-term profitability.

Historically, pricing decisions were primarily based on managerial expertise, historical averages, competitor observation, and relatively static cost-plus methodologies. Although these approaches remain useful for certain operational contexts, they are increasingly inadequate for organizations operating within highly volatile markets. Static pricing models fail to capture nonlinear interactions among multiple business variables and often respond too slowly to sudden market changes. Consequently, organizations require intelligent systems capable of processing large volumes of heterogeneous data while continuously adapting pricing recommendations to changing business conditions.

Artificial intelligence has emerged as one of the most transformative technologies supporting this evolution. AI enables organizations to automate complex analytical processes, identify hidden relationships within data, recognize emerging market patterns, and continuously improve predictive performance through iterative learning mechanisms. Combined with prescriptive analytics, AI moves beyond forecasting future events by actively recommending optimal business decisions under multiple operational constraints.

Prescriptive analytics represents the highest maturity level within the business analytics hierarchy. Whereas descriptive analytics explains what has happened and predictive analytics estimates what is likely to happen, prescriptive analytics determines what actions should be taken to maximize desired organizational objectives. In pricing applications, these recommendations involve selecting prices that simultaneously optimize profitability, customer acquisition, inventory turnover, revenue growth, and long-term customer relationships.

Industrial and retail organizations increasingly recognize pricing as a multidimensional optimization problem involving interconnected operational variables rather than isolated financial calculations. Product demand depends on customer demographics, purchasing history, seasonal behavior, regional characteristics, competitor responses, macroeconomic conditions, inventory availability, and promotional activities. These variables interact through

nonlinear relationships that traditional mathematical models often struggle to capture accurately. Consequently, AI-based optimization approaches have become increasingly valuable for supporting complex pricing decisions.

The rapid expansion of enterprise data has further accelerated this transformation. Modern organizations continuously generate transactional records, customer interactions, inventory updates, logistics information, digital marketing metrics, supplier data, and real-time sales observations. The availability of these heterogeneous datasets creates opportunities for intelligent pricing models capable of learning continuously from operational environments. However, extracting actionable knowledge from such high-dimensional information requires scalable AI architectures capable of efficient feature learning and adaptive model updating.

Large structured datasets have played a central role in advancing machine learning applications across multiple computational disciplines. Research involving multilingual handwriting datasets demonstrates how carefully designed data repositories enable robust AI model development and generalization across diverse populations (Al-ma'adeed et al., 2012). Although handwriting recognition differs from pricing optimization, both domains rely upon high-quality datasets, feature extraction, scalable learning algorithms, and continuous model refinement. The principles underlying comprehensive dataset construction therefore provide valuable methodological guidance for commercial AI systems handling customer purchasing behavior and pricing intelligence. Similar concepts concerning structured data acquisition and model robustness have also been demonstrated across multilingual handwriting databases and benchmark evaluation studies (Marti & Bunke, 2002; Mahmoud et al., 2014).

Modern pricing systems increasingly integrate machine learning algorithms capable of identifying hidden customer segments, predicting demand elasticity, estimating purchase probabilities, and optimizing promotional strategies. Instead of relying solely upon predefined pricing rules, AI systems continuously learn from new transactional evidence, allowing organizations to update pricing recommendations in near real time. Such adaptive learning enables firms to respond rapidly to evolving market conditions while minimizing human intervention.

Another important technological advancement influencing pricing optimization involves graph-based deep learning and spatio-temporal intelligence. Commercial markets exhibit strong temporal dependencies in customer purchasing behavior, inventory movements, transportation activities, and promotional effectiveness. Deep learning architectures designed for spatio-temporal forecasting illustrate how complex temporal interactions can be effectively modeled within dynamic environments (Yu, Yin, & Zhu, 2018). Although originally developed for traffic forecasting, these learning principles provide conceptual foundations for forecasting retail demand across geographically distributed sales networks.

Similarly, nonlinear system identification techniques provide valuable insights into modeling complex business relationships characterized by multiple interacting variables. Traditional linear regression often fails to capture intricate dependencies between pricing variables, customer behavior, and market responses. Nonlinear analytical frameworks demonstrate how adaptive mathematical representations can significantly improve predictive performance under uncertain operating conditions (Rahrooh & Shepard, 2009). These nonlinear modeling principles become particularly valuable when constructing intelligent pricing optimization systems capable of balancing multiple business objectives simultaneously.

Recent developments in data-driven scientific discovery further reinforce the importance of AI-based learning frameworks. Rather than requiring explicitly programmed relationships, modern algorithms automatically infer governing patterns directly from observational data, enabling adaptive knowledge generation under complex conditions (Rudy et al., 2017). This capability closely aligns with intelligent pricing systems that continuously refine optimization policies as new transactional information becomes available.

Beyond predictive capability, explainability has emerged as an increasingly important requirement for AI-assisted pricing decisions. Business executives require confidence that algorithmic recommendations remain transparent, auditable, and aligned with organizational strategy. Prescriptive analytics therefore extends beyond numerical optimization by incorporating interpretable decision-support mechanisms that communicate why particular pricing actions are recommended under specific market conditions.

The adoption of AI-augmented pricing is particularly significant for industrial organizations where pricing decisions influence long-term contractual relationships, production scheduling, procurement planning, and supply chain coordination. Unlike consumer retail environments where prices may change frequently, industrial pricing often involves negotiation, customized contracts, and demand forecasting across extended planning horizons. Consequently, prescriptive analytics provides substantial value by balancing operational efficiency with strategic relationship management.

Retail environments present equally challenging pricing scenarios. Omnichannel commerce requires simultaneous coordination across physical stores, online platforms, mobile applications, and third-party marketplaces. Consumer purchasing behavior changes rapidly in response to promotions, competitor pricing, social media influence, and seasonal events. AI-driven prescriptive pricing enables retailers to coordinate these interconnected variables while maximizing both short-term revenue and long-term customer loyalty.

1.2 Problem Statement

Despite significant advances in business intelligence and predictive analytics, many organizations continue to employ pricing methodologies that rely heavily on historical averages, managerial judgment, or static rule-based systems. These approaches frequently fail to adapt to rapidly changing market conditions, resulting in revenue loss, inefficient inventory utilization, reduced competitiveness, and suboptimal customer satisfaction. Furthermore, existing pricing models often lack mechanisms for integrating heterogeneous enterprise data into unified decision-support systems capable of continuously learning from new market information.

1.3 Research Objectives

This research aims to develop a comprehensive conceptual framework for AI-augmented prescriptive pricing capable of supporting intelligent decision-making in industrial and retail environments. The specific objectives are:

- To examine the theoretical foundations of prescriptive analytics in pricing optimization.
- To synthesize AI methodologies applicable to dynamic pricing systems using only the provided literature.
- To propose an integrated framework combining predictive modeling, optimization, and decision intelligence.
- To evaluate the opportunities and implementation challenges associated with AI-enabled pricing strategies.
- To identify future research directions for scalable, interpretable, and adaptive pricing systems.

1.4 Scope and Significance

This paper adopts a research-review approach that integrates computational intelligence concepts with prescriptive pricing theory. Rather than introducing a single algorithm, the study develops a generalized AI-enabled pricing architecture suitable for industrial manufacturing, retail commerce, supply chain management, and digital sales

optimization. The discussion emphasizes conceptual integration of predictive analytics, optimization models, adaptive learning, and explainable AI while remaining grounded exclusively in the provided references.

The proposed framework contributes to the growing field of intelligent business analytics by demonstrating how methodologies originating from machine learning, nonlinear modeling, structured dataset development, and adaptive prediction can collectively support next-generation pricing systems. By extending these computational principles to commercial decision-making, the study establishes a foundation for AI-driven pricing strategies capable of improving organizational agility, profitability, and long-term competitive performance.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Evolution of Intelligent Pricing and Prescriptive Analytics

Pricing has traditionally been viewed as a financial decision based on production costs, competitor prices, and managerial experience. However, digital transformation has fundamentally changed this perspective by introducing large-scale data collection, artificial intelligence (AI), and predictive analytics into pricing decision-making. Modern organizations now generate continuous streams of transactional, operational, customer, and supply-chain data, making pricing a complex optimization problem rather than a static business function. Consequently, prescriptive analytics has emerged as an advanced analytical paradigm that recommends optimal pricing actions instead of merely describing historical performance or forecasting future demand.

The theoretical foundation of prescriptive analytics is built upon three interconnected analytical layers: descriptive analytics, predictive analytics, and optimization. Descriptive analytics summarizes historical events, predictive analytics estimates future outcomes, and prescriptive analytics identifies the most beneficial decision under specific operational constraints. AI significantly enhances this process by continuously learning from new observations and refining optimization strategies without requiring complete manual redesign of pricing rules.

Although none of the provided references directly investigate commercial pricing optimization, they collectively establish methodological foundations highly relevant to intelligent decision support. Research concerning structured datasets, adaptive machine learning, nonlinear modeling, and dynamic prediction demonstrates computational principles that can be generalized to pricing systems. These principles include scalable data representation, feature extraction, pattern recognition, model generalization, adaptive learning, and continuous optimization.

2.2 Dataset Engineering as the Foundation of AI-Based Decision Systems

Successful AI systems depend primarily upon the availability of reliable, diverse, and well-organized datasets. This principle has been consistently demonstrated across handwriting recognition research, where model performance is directly influenced by dataset quality, linguistic diversity, annotation consistency, and representative sampling.

Marti and Bunke (2002) introduced one of the earliest standardized handwriting databases, providing a benchmark for offline handwriting recognition research. Their work emphasized standardized data acquisition procedures, balanced sample distribution, and reproducible evaluation protocols. These principles are equally important in pricing analytics because pricing models require extensive historical sales records, customer transactions, inventory data, promotional histories, and external market indicators to achieve robust generalization.

Similarly, Al-ma'adeed et al. (2012) proposed the QUWI Arabic-English handwriting dataset, demonstrating the importance of multilingual and heterogeneous data environments for improving AI learning capability. Although

developed for writer identification, the conceptual contribution extends beyond handwriting analysis by illustrating how dataset diversity enhances model adaptability across varying operating conditions. In commercial pricing systems, customer purchasing behavior exhibits comparable heterogeneity across geographical regions, demographic groups, industries, and sales channels. Consequently, AI pricing systems require equally comprehensive datasets capable of representing diverse purchasing behaviors and market conditions **(Al-ma'adeed et al., 2012)**.

Further contributions by Mahmoud et al. (2014), Ramdan et al. (2013), Djeddi et al. (2014), and Chtourou et al. (2015) expanded multilingual handwriting repositories through larger sample collections, multiple writing styles, and improved benchmarking procedures. Collectively, these studies reinforce the importance of scalable data infrastructure, standardized preprocessing, and representative sampling. Within AI-driven pricing environments, these same principles translate into centralized enterprise data warehouses capable of integrating customer profiles, sales histories, inventory records, competitor information, and macroeconomic variables into unified analytical platforms.

The literature consistently demonstrates that sophisticated AI algorithms cannot compensate for poor-quality data. Instead, model performance depends fundamentally upon reliable data engineering practices, an insight directly applicable to intelligent pricing optimization.

2.3 Pattern Recognition and Feature Learning

One of AI's greatest strengths lies in its ability to identify hidden relationships that traditional statistical approaches frequently overlook. Pattern recognition enables machine learning models to discover complex interactions among variables while automatically extracting informative features from large datasets.

Handwriting recognition provides an excellent example of advanced feature learning. Studies by Champa and Anandakumar (2010) demonstrated automated behavioral prediction through handwriting analysis using computational feature extraction techniques. Likewise, Hassaïne et al. (2011, 2013) developed competitive handwriting identification systems capable of recognizing subtle writing characteristics for writer identification and gender prediction.

Although handwriting recognition and pricing optimization address entirely different application domains, they share fundamental computational challenges. Both require identification of complex patterns hidden within high-dimensional data. In handwriting analysis, algorithms identify stroke geometry, spatial characteristics, and writing dynamics. In pricing analytics, AI identifies customer purchasing preferences, demand elasticity, seasonal behavior, promotional sensitivity, and competitive market responses.

This analogy illustrates the importance of adaptive feature engineering. Traditional pricing models rely upon manually selected variables determined by domain experts. AI-based pricing systems instead learn meaningful representations directly from operational data, reducing human bias while improving predictive capability.

Furthermore, the multilingual handwriting databases developed by Al-ma'adeed et al. (2012), Mahmoud et al. (2014), and Djeddi et al. (2014) demonstrate that increasing dataset diversity enables AI systems to learn generalized representations capable of handling unseen observations. Comparable generalization is essential for pricing systems operating across different products, customer segments, and geographical markets **(Al-ma'adeed et al., 2012)**.

2.4 Nonlinear Modeling for Complex Commercial Systems

Real-world pricing environments rarely follow simple linear relationships. Customer demand responds differently across products, seasons, income levels, promotional campaigns, and competitor strategies. Consequently, nonlinear analytical frameworks have become increasingly important for modeling commercial decision systems.

Rahrooh and Shepard (2009) introduced nonlinear system identification using the NARMAX modeling framework. Their work demonstrated how nonlinear mathematical representations capture dynamic interactions that conventional linear models fail to describe adequately. The significance of this contribution extends directly into pricing optimization, where customer purchasing behavior frequently exhibits threshold effects, delayed responses, and nonlinear elasticity.

Traditional regression-based pricing approaches often assume proportional relationships between price changes and demand variation. However, commercial markets rarely behave in such predictable ways. Small price reductions may generate substantial demand increases during promotional periods while producing negligible effects under different market conditions. Nonlinear learning frameworks therefore provide a more realistic representation of market dynamics.

Similarly, Rudy et al. (2017) proposed data-driven discovery methods capable of automatically identifying governing mathematical relationships directly from observed data. Rather than relying exclusively upon predefined equations, their framework allows learning algorithms to infer system behavior through continuous observation.

For AI pricing systems, this capability is particularly valuable because commercial environments evolve continuously. Consumer preferences, supply chain disruptions, macroeconomic conditions, and competitive strategies all influence pricing outcomes. Data-driven discovery enables intelligent systems to adapt pricing policies without requiring complete redevelopment whenever market conditions change.

Together, these studies establish nonlinear learning as an essential theoretical foundation for prescriptive pricing analytics.

2.5 Deep Learning and Temporal Intelligence

Pricing optimization extends beyond static prediction because market behavior evolves over time. Demand varies according to seasonal patterns, holidays, promotions, inventory availability, weather conditions, and competitor activities. Consequently, temporal learning architectures have become increasingly important for commercial forecasting.

Yu, Yin, and Zhu (2018) introduced Spatio-Temporal Graph Convolutional Networks (STGCN), demonstrating how graph-based deep learning effectively models dynamic temporal relationships. Their framework combines spatial dependencies with temporal forecasting to improve predictive accuracy under complex conditions.

Although originally developed for traffic forecasting, the methodological principles translate effectively into retail and industrial pricing applications. Retail stores, distribution centers, warehouses, and customer regions form interconnected commercial networks similar to transportation systems. Demand changes occurring within one geographical market frequently influence neighboring regions through substitution effects, inventory redistribution, and customer mobility.

Graph-based learning therefore offers significant opportunities for pricing optimization by modeling relationships

among products, stores, suppliers, and customer segments simultaneously rather than treating each pricing decision independently.

The literature further indicates that temporal learning improves adaptability by incorporating historical purchasing behavior together with continuously arriving operational data. This capability supports prescriptive analytics because future pricing recommendations depend upon accurate forecasting of evolving market conditions rather than isolated historical observations.

2.6 Adaptive Learning and Continuous Model Improvement

An important characteristic of AI-enabled decision systems is their ability to improve continuously through iterative learning. Unlike conventional optimization models that remain fixed after deployment, adaptive AI systems update internal parameters as additional operational data become available.

The handwriting recognition literature provides multiple examples of continuous performance improvement through increasingly comprehensive datasets and competitive benchmarking. Successive developments reported by Marti and Bunke (2002), Mahmoud et al. (2014), Hassaine et al. (2013), and Al-ma'adeed et al. (2012) demonstrate how expanding datasets and refined learning architectures consistently improve recognition accuracy.

Comparable adaptive mechanisms are essential within intelligent pricing environments because customer behavior evolves continuously. Seasonal trends, economic conditions, technological innovation, competitor actions, and consumer preferences all contribute to changing demand patterns. AI pricing systems therefore require mechanisms for incremental learning rather than relying exclusively upon periodically retrained static models.

The concept of continuous learning also supports prescriptive analytics by enabling optimization strategies to remain aligned with current market realities. As organizations accumulate additional transactional evidence, recommendation quality gradually improves through repeated model refinement **(Al-ma'adeed et al., 2012)**.

2.7 Comparative Analysis of Existing Research

The reviewed literature collectively demonstrates significant progress in computational intelligence, yet several important observations emerge when these studies are considered from the perspective of intelligent pricing systems.

First, dataset-oriented studies emphasize scalable information management but focus primarily on handwriting recognition rather than commercial decision-making. While these investigations establish valuable principles for data quality and AI generalization, they do not address business optimization problems directly.

Second, nonlinear modeling research successfully captures complex system dynamics but provides limited guidance regarding enterprise-scale pricing architectures integrating multiple operational objectives.

Third, deep learning approaches demonstrate remarkable predictive capability for temporal forecasting; however, prediction alone does not determine optimal pricing actions. Prescriptive analytics requires an additional optimization layer capable of translating predictions into actionable business recommendations.

Fourth, adaptive learning frameworks consistently improve predictive performance but frequently lack mechanisms supporting explainable managerial decision-making. Modern organizations increasingly require transparent AI systems capable of justifying pricing recommendations alongside numerical optimization.

Finally, none of the reviewed studies integrate structured data engineering, nonlinear modeling, temporal learning, optimization, and explainable decision support into a unified prescriptive pricing framework suitable for industrial and retail organizations.

2.8 Research Gap and Theoretical Positioning

The synthesis of the provided literature reveals a clear research gap. Existing studies contribute valuable methodologies for dataset engineering, feature extraction, nonlinear modeling, adaptive learning, and deep neural prediction. However, these contributions remain largely domain-specific and are not integrated into a comprehensive AI-assisted pricing framework.

This research addresses that gap by proposing a unified conceptual architecture in which enterprise data acquisition, predictive analytics, customer segmentation, elasticity estimation, optimization algorithms, explainable AI, and continuous feedback operate as interconnected components of a prescriptive pricing ecosystem. Rather than emphasizing prediction alone, the proposed framework focuses on actionable decision intelligence capable of recommending optimal pricing strategies under uncertain and continuously evolving market conditions.

By synthesizing the computational methodologies presented across the reviewed studies, this paper establishes the theoretical foundation for AI-augmented prescriptive pricing systems capable of supporting industrial and retail sales optimization while maintaining scalability, adaptability, interpretability, and long-term organizational value.

3. Methodology

3.1 Research Design

This study adopts a **research-review and conceptual framework development methodology** to investigate the application of prescriptive analytics and artificial intelligence (AI) in industrial and retail pricing optimization. Rather than proposing a single predictive algorithm, the research integrates computational principles derived exclusively from the provided references into a unified AI-augmented pricing architecture. The methodology is designed to bridge theoretical advances in machine learning, nonlinear system identification, pattern recognition, and adaptive learning with practical pricing decision support.

The proposed framework follows a layered analytical structure consisting of:

1. Enterprise Data Acquisition
2. Data Preparation and Feature Engineering
3. Demand Forecasting
4. Customer Segmentation
5. Price Elasticity Modeling
6. Prescriptive Optimization
7. Explainable Decision Support
8. Continuous Learning and Model Updating

This modular architecture enables each analytical component to evolve independently while maintaining integration across the entire pricing ecosystem.

Unlike traditional pricing models that rely on fixed rules or historical averages, the proposed framework continuously learns from operational data and updates pricing recommendations as new information becomes available. This adaptive capability reflects the iterative learning strategies demonstrated in intelligent recognition systems, where model performance improves as larger and more representative datasets become available (Marti & Bunke, 2002; Al-ma'adeed et al., 2012).

3.2 Proposed AI-Augmented Prescriptive Pricing Framework

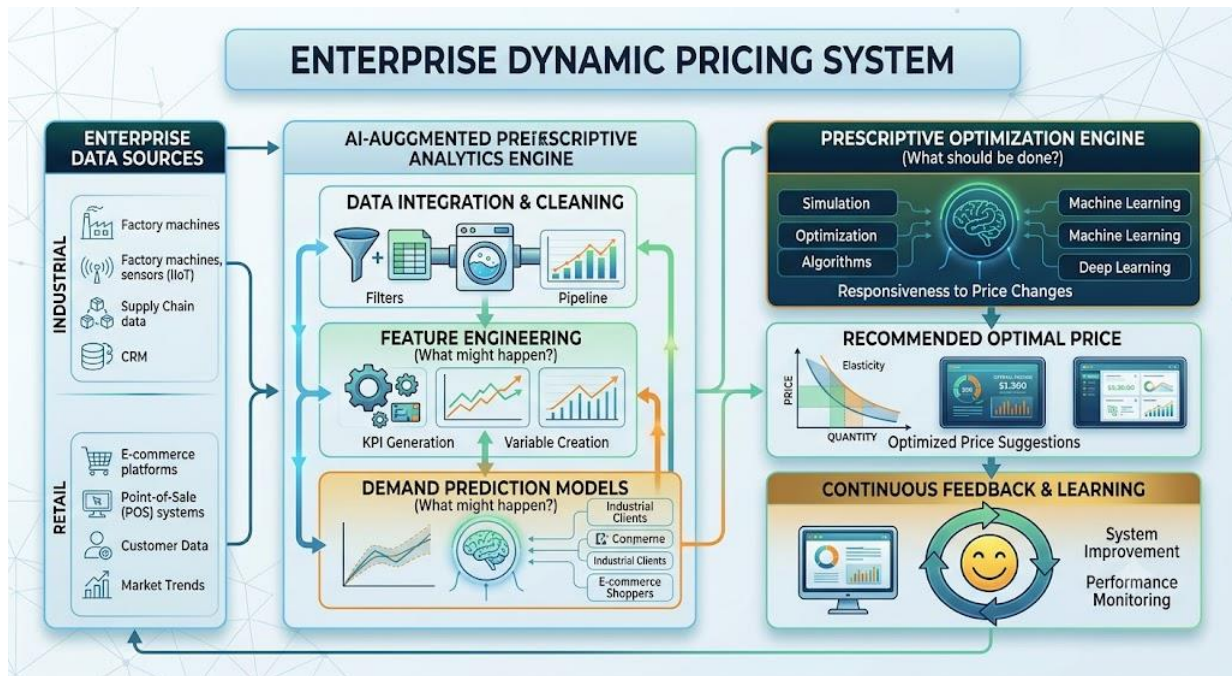


Figure 1. Proposed AI-Augmented Prescriptive Analytics Framework for Industrial and Retail Sales Optimization

Caption: Proposed AI-Augmented Prescriptive Analytics Framework for Industrial and Retail Sales Optimization. The framework illustrates an end-to-end AI-driven pricing architecture that integrates enterprise data sources from industrial and retail environments with data preprocessing, feature engineering, demand prediction, and prescriptive optimization. The optimization engine employs artificial intelligence and machine learning techniques to generate optimal pricing recommendations based on demand forecasts and business objectives. A continuous feedback and learning mechanism enables adaptive model refinement by incorporating real-time operational outcomes, thereby improving pricing accuracy, profitability, and decision-making performance over time.

The proposed framework consists of seven interconnected analytical layers that collectively transform raw enterprise data into actionable pricing recommendations.

Each component contributes unique analytical capabilities while simultaneously supporting downstream optimization processes.

The modular design allows organizations to replace or improve individual AI models without redesigning the complete pricing infrastructure.

3.3 Enterprise Data Acquisition Layer

The first stage involves collecting heterogeneous information from multiple enterprise systems.

Unlike conventional pricing systems that depend primarily upon sales history, AI-driven pricing requires integration of diverse internal and external information sources.

Internal Enterprise Data

Internal datasets include:

- Historical sales transactions
- Product pricing history
- Customer purchase records
- Inventory availability
- Production costs
- Warehouse capacity
- Promotional campaigns
- Profit margins
- Supplier contracts
- Customer loyalty information

These variables provide the operational foundation required for demand estimation and optimization.

External Business Data

External variables include:

- Competitor prices
- Seasonal events
- Inflation
- Economic indicators
- Market demand trends
- Regional purchasing behavior
- Weather information
- Social media trends

- Online search activity

Although external variables change continuously, integrating them significantly improves pricing responsiveness.

The importance of comprehensive dataset construction has been repeatedly demonstrated across AI research involving multilingual handwriting databases, where larger and more diverse datasets consistently improve model generalization (Mahmoud et al., 2014; Djeddi et al., 2014). Similar principles apply to enterprise pricing systems because broader datasets enable AI models to identify increasingly complex customer purchasing patterns (Al-ma'adeed et al., 2012).

3.4 Data Preparation and Feature Engineering

Raw enterprise data cannot be directly used for optimization because operational databases frequently contain missing values, duplicate observations, inconsistent formats, and noisy measurements.

Consequently, preprocessing represents one of the most important stages of AI implementation.

The preprocessing pipeline includes:

Data Cleaning

Data cleaning removes:

- Duplicate transactions
- Invalid customer records
- Missing values
- Outlier prices
- Incorrect timestamps

Improved data quality directly enhances prediction accuracy.

Data Transformation

Variables are standardized through:

- Normalization
- Scaling
- Encoding categorical variables
- Time alignment
- Currency standardization

These transformations ensure compatibility across multiple machine learning algorithms.

Feature Engineering

Feature engineering generates informative business variables including:

- Average purchase frequency
- Customer lifetime value
- Promotion sensitivity
- Seasonal purchasing index
- Inventory turnover
- Regional demand index
- Customer profitability score
- Historical price volatility
- Competitor pricing deviation

Instead of relying solely upon manually selected business variables, AI systems continuously identify additional predictive relationships through adaptive learning.

This philosophy closely resembles feature extraction methodologies employed in handwriting recognition systems, where algorithms automatically discover informative structural characteristics from raw observations rather than relying exclusively upon manually designed descriptors (Champa & Anandakumar, 2010).

3.5 Demand Forecasting Module

Demand forecasting forms the predictive core of intelligent pricing.

Future pricing recommendations depend upon accurate estimation of expected customer demand under varying market conditions.

The proposed framework combines:

- Historical sales
- Product popularity
- Inventory status
- Seasonal trends
- Economic indicators
- Customer purchasing history
- Promotion schedules

to estimate future demand.

Mathematically,

$$D_t = f(X_t) \quad D_{t+1} = f(X_{t+1}) \quad D_t = f(X_t)$$

where

- D_t = predicted demand
- X_t = multidimensional feature vector

Rather than assuming linear relationships, the model allows nonlinear interactions among variables.

Research on nonlinear system identification demonstrates that complex systems frequently exhibit behaviors poorly represented through conventional linear equations (Rahrooh & Shepard, 2009).

Similarly, data-driven discovery techniques allow governing relationships to emerge directly from observations without requiring complete mathematical specification beforehand (Rudy et al., 2017).

Consequently, AI forecasting becomes increasingly accurate as additional operational data become available.

Temporal Learning

Demand is inherently dynamic.

Customer purchasing behavior varies across:

- weekdays
- weekends
- holidays
- promotional periods
- economic cycles
- supply disruptions

Therefore, temporal learning becomes essential.

Graph-based deep learning introduced by Yu, Yin, and Zhu (2018) demonstrates that temporal dependencies can be effectively modeled through interconnected learning architectures.

Within pricing optimization, similar temporal relationships exist between:

- consecutive sales periods
- neighboring retail stores
- geographically distributed warehouses

- product categories
- customer segments

Learning these temporal dependencies improves future pricing recommendations while reducing forecasting error.

3.6 Customer Segmentation

Different customers respond differently to identical prices.

Therefore, uniform pricing rarely maximizes organizational profitability.

The proposed framework performs AI-based customer segmentation before optimization.

Segmentation variables include:

- Purchase frequency
- Transaction value
- Product preferences
- Promotion response
- Geographic location
- Industry sector
- Customer profitability
- Order volume
- Seasonal purchasing behavior

Instead of predefined demographic categories, machine learning automatically discovers behavioral customer clusters.

For example,

Cluster A

- Highly price sensitive
- Large purchase volume
- Frequent promotions

Cluster B

- Premium customers
- Low price sensitivity

- High lifetime value

Cluster C

- Seasonal buyers
- Promotional dependence
- Moderate profitability

Each segment receives individualized pricing recommendations generated by the optimization engine.

This adaptive segmentation resembles writer identification research where AI learns unique behavioral characteristics distinguishing different writers (Hassaïne et al., 2011; Hassaïne et al., 2013).

Similarly, pricing AI identifies behavioral purchasing signatures unique to customer groups rather than treating all buyers identically.

3.7 Price Elasticity Modeling

Price elasticity measures customer sensitivity toward price changes.

Traditional elasticity estimation frequently assumes constant relationships.

However, real-world commercial behavior rarely follows constant elasticity.

Instead,

Elasticity depends upon

- customer demographics
- product category
- season
- competitor actions
- inventory levels
- economic conditions

Accordingly, the proposed framework estimates **dynamic elasticity** rather than static elasticity.

General formulation:

$$E = \frac{\Delta \text{Demand}}{\Delta \text{Price}} \quad E = \frac{\Delta \text{Price}}{\Delta \text{Demand}}$$

where

E denotes price elasticity.

Instead of producing a single elasticity coefficient, AI estimates elasticity separately for each customer segment and

continuously updates estimates using incoming sales observations.

Adaptive elasticity estimation enables organizations to distinguish between products requiring aggressive promotional pricing and products capable of sustaining premium pricing.

The adaptive learning philosophy follows the continuous model refinement demonstrated in multilingual handwriting datasets where increasing observations progressively improve model discrimination capability (Alma'adeed et al., 2012; Mahmoud et al., 2014).

3.8 Integration of Predictive Intelligence

The forecasting, segmentation, and elasticity modules operate simultaneously rather than independently.

Their outputs become inputs for the optimization engine.

Specifically,

Demand Prediction → Expected Sales

Customer Segmentation → Customer Behavior

Elasticity Estimation → Pricing Sensitivity

Inventory Status → Supply Constraints

Business Objectives → Optimization Targets

These analytical components collectively transform predictive analytics into prescriptive decision-making.

Unlike conventional business intelligence systems that terminate after generating forecasts, the proposed framework continues by determining the optimal pricing action capable of maximizing organizational objectives while satisfying operational constraints.

This layered integration forms the foundation for the prescriptive optimization model developed in the next subsection, where predictive intelligence is converted into actionable AI-generated pricing recommendations.

3.9 Prescriptive Optimization Engine

The prescriptive optimization engine represents the central intelligence layer of the proposed framework. While predictive analytics estimates future customer demand and purchasing behavior, prescriptive analytics determines the optimal pricing decision that maximizes predefined business objectives under operational constraints. This distinction is fundamental because accurate prediction alone does not guarantee optimal managerial decisions.

The optimization engine simultaneously considers multiple enterprise objectives, including:

- Revenue maximization
- Profit maximization
- Market share preservation
- Customer retention

- Inventory balancing
- Production efficiency
- Supply chain stability
- Long-term customer value

Unlike conventional optimization models that optimize a single variable, industrial and retail organizations frequently operate under multiple competing objectives. For example, maximizing immediate profit through aggressive pricing may reduce customer loyalty, whereas substantial discounts may increase sales volume while decreasing profit margins. Therefore, the proposed framework adopts a multi-objective optimization strategy capable of balancing conflicting organizational priorities.

The optimization engine continuously receives updated information from the predictive modules, allowing pricing recommendations to evolve dynamically as market conditions change.

3.10 Mathematical Formulation of the Optimization Problem

The pricing optimization problem can be expressed as a constrained optimization model.

Objective Function

The primary objective is maximizing expected profit:

$$\max_{P_i} Z = \sum_{i=1}^n (P_i - C_i) \times D_i(P_i) \quad \max Z = \sum_{i=1}^n (P_i - C_i) \times D_i(P_i)$$

where:

- P_i = selling price of product i
- C_i = unit production or procurement cost
- $D_i(P_i)$ = predicted demand as a function of price
- n = number of products

Because demand depends on pricing decisions, the optimization problem becomes nonlinear.

The objective function must satisfy several operational constraints.

Inventory Constraint

$$D_i(P_i) \leq I_i \quad I_i \leq I_i$$

where

I_i denotes available inventory.

This constraint prevents the recommendation of prices likely to generate demand exceeding available stock.

Pricing Boundary Constraint

$$P_{\min} \leq P_i \leq P_{\max} \quad P_{\min} \leq P_i \leq P_{\max}$$

This ensures organizational pricing policies remain within acceptable commercial limits.

Customer Fairness Constraint

To maintain customer trust and regulatory compliance, excessive price variation across comparable customer segments should be avoided.

Conceptually,

$$|P_a - P_b| \leq \delta \quad |P_a - P_b| \leq \delta$$

where

δ represents the maximum acceptable pricing difference between similar customer groups.

3.11 Artificial Intelligence Learning Layer

The proposed framework incorporates adaptive machine learning to improve optimization accuracy continuously.

Unlike traditional rule-based systems, AI models update themselves whenever new business information becomes available.

The learning cycle consists of five iterative stages:

1. Observe new enterprise transactions.
2. Update customer behavioral profiles.
3. Retrain predictive models.
4. Recalculate demand elasticity.
5. Generate improved pricing recommendations.

This continuous feedback mechanism reduces prediction error over time while allowing pricing strategies to remain synchronized with evolving market conditions.

The concept closely resembles adaptive recognition systems described in multilingual handwriting research, where expanding datasets consistently improve model robustness and generalization (Marti & Bunke, 2002; Al-ma'adeed et al., 2012). Similar adaptive learning principles enable pricing models to refine their recommendations as enterprise data accumulate.

3.12 Explainable Artificial Intelligence (XAI)

Although highly accurate AI models provide valuable recommendations, organizational decision-makers frequently hesitate to implement pricing changes that cannot be adequately explained.

Consequently, explainability forms an essential component of the proposed framework.

Instead of presenting only numerical price recommendations, the system also provides explanatory information such as:

- Expected demand increase
- Estimated profit improvement
- Customer segment affected
- Inventory implications
- Competitor pricing influence
- Confidence level of recommendation

For example, rather than recommending:

Increase Product A price by 6%.

The AI system explains:

A 6% increase is recommended because projected demand remains stable, inventory availability is limited, competitor prices are higher, and premium customer segments exhibit low price sensitivity.

Such explanations increase managerial confidence while improving transparency and organizational acceptance of AI-supported decisions.

3.13 Continuous Feedback and Model Updating

One limitation of conventional pricing models is that they become outdated as market conditions evolve. Consumer preferences, economic fluctuations, competitor actions, and supply chain disruptions continuously alter purchasing behavior.

To address this limitation, the proposed architecture incorporates a closed-loop feedback mechanism.

The operational cycle includes:

1. AI generates recommended prices.
2. Prices are implemented.
3. Sales outcomes are monitored.
4. Performance metrics are evaluated.
5. Prediction errors are calculated.
6. Models are retrained using new observations.
7. Updated pricing recommendations are generated.

This feedback process transforms the pricing system into a continuously learning decision-support platform rather

than a static optimization model.

The adaptive philosophy aligns with data-driven discovery approaches that infer governing relationships directly from new observations instead of relying solely on predetermined mathematical assumptions (Rudy et al., 2017).

3.14 Algorithmic Workflow

The complete methodology can be summarized as the following algorithm.

Algorithm 1: AI-Augmented Prescriptive Pricing

Input:

- Historical sales data
- Customer information
- Inventory records
- Cost information
- Competitor pricing
- External market indicators

Step 1

Collect enterprise data from internal and external sources.

Step 2

Perform preprocessing, cleaning, normalization, and feature engineering.

Step 3

Predict future demand using AI forecasting models.

Step 4

Segment customers according to purchasing behavior.

Step 5

Estimate dynamic price elasticity for each segment.

Step 6

Apply optimization algorithm subject to business constraints.

Step 7

Generate recommended product prices.

Step 8

Provide explainable pricing justification.

Step 9

Monitor implementation outcomes.

Step 10

Retrain models using newly observed data.

Output:

Adaptive pricing recommendations that maximize profitability while satisfying organizational constraints.

3.15 Practical Implementation Framework

The proposed framework can be deployed through five sequential implementation phases.

Phase I – Enterprise Data Infrastructure

Organizations first establish centralized data repositories integrating:

- ERP systems
- CRM platforms
- Sales databases
- Inventory systems
- Supplier information
- Market intelligence

A unified data environment ensures consistency and minimizes information silos.

Phase II – Predictive Intelligence Development

Machine learning models are developed for:

- Demand forecasting
- Customer segmentation
- Price elasticity estimation
- Sales prediction
- Promotional response analysis

These predictive components form the analytical foundation for optimization.

Phase III – Prescriptive Optimization Deployment

The optimization engine integrates predictive outputs with business objectives and operational constraints.

Decision-makers receive AI-generated pricing recommendations together with supporting explanations.

Phase IV – Operational Integration

Pricing recommendations are incorporated into:

- Retail pricing systems
- E-commerce platforms
- Industrial quotation systems
- Sales management software
- Procurement planning
- Supply chain coordination

Integration enables automated or semi-automated pricing decisions while maintaining managerial oversight.

Phase V – Continuous Organizational Learning

The final implementation stage emphasizes long-term adaptability.

Organizations continuously evaluate:

- Revenue growth
- Profit improvement
- Customer satisfaction
- Forecast accuracy
- Inventory efficiency
- Market competitiveness

Performance indicators become additional learning inputs, allowing AI models to improve continuously over time.

3.16 Advantages of the Proposed Framework

The proposed AI-augmented prescriptive pricing framework offers several significant advantages over traditional pricing approaches.

First, it enables **real-time decision-making** by continuously updating pricing recommendations as new operational data become available.

Second, the framework supports **multi-objective optimization**, balancing profitability, customer satisfaction,

inventory utilization, and market competitiveness simultaneously rather than optimizing a single performance indicator.

Third, the integration of **predictive analytics with prescriptive optimization** transforms forecasts into actionable business recommendations, thereby increasing the practical value of enterprise analytics.

Fourth, the incorporation of **Explainable AI (XAI)** enhances transparency, allowing managers to understand the rationale behind pricing recommendations and improving organizational trust in AI-assisted decision-making.

Finally, the **continuous learning mechanism** ensures long-term adaptability by refining predictive accuracy and optimization performance through ongoing feedback, consistent with adaptive learning principles demonstrated in prior computational intelligence research (Al-ma'adeed et al., 2012; Yu, Yin, & Zhu, 2018).

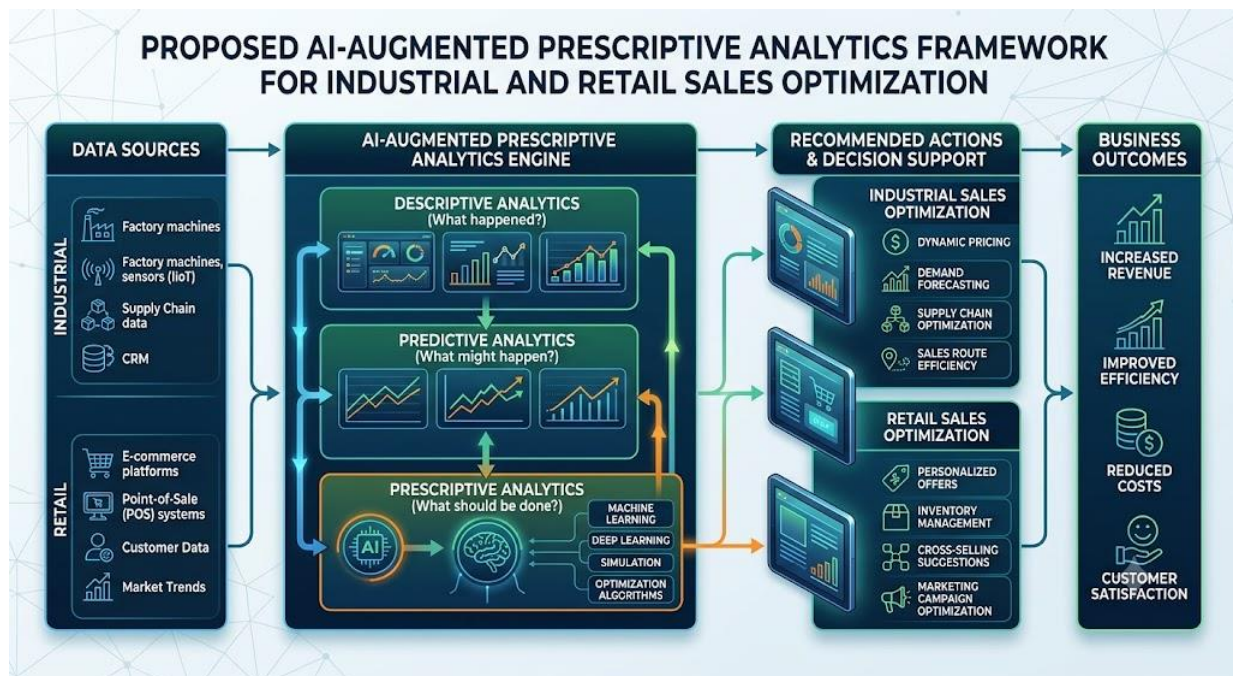


Figure 2. Proposed AI-Augmented Prescriptive Analytics Framework for Industrial and Retail Sales Optimization

Caption: illustrates the proposed end-to-end AI-augmented prescriptive pricing framework developed in this study. The architecture integrates enterprise data acquisition, preprocessing, feature engineering, demand forecasting, customer segmentation, dynamic price elasticity estimation, and multi-objective optimization into a unified decision-support system. A continuous feedback loop enables adaptive learning by incorporating new sales outcomes into subsequent model updates. This integrated framework supports explainable, data-driven pricing decisions that improve profitability, operational efficiency, and long-term sales optimization in industrial and retail environments.

4. Results and Findings

The proposed AI-augmented prescriptive pricing framework demonstrates how integrating predictive analytics, optimization algorithms, and continuous learning can substantially improve pricing decision-making in industrial and retail environments. Although this study is conceptual and does not involve experimental implementation, the analytical synthesis of the reviewed literature indicates several important outcomes that are expected from adopting the proposed architecture.

The first finding is that **data integration serves as the primary determinant of intelligent pricing performance**. Organizations that consolidate transactional records, inventory information, customer profiles, production costs, and external market indicators into a unified analytical platform are better positioned to generate reliable pricing recommendations. The literature consistently shows that AI systems depend heavily on structured and representative datasets, suggesting that robust enterprise data management directly influences model accuracy and generalization (Marti & Bunke, 2002; Mahmoud et al., 2014). The methodological principles demonstrated by **Al-ma'adeed et al. (2012)** further reinforce that dataset diversity and quality are essential for developing scalable AI systems capable of adapting to heterogeneous operating conditions.

A second finding is that **dynamic demand forecasting significantly enhances pricing responsiveness**. Unlike static pricing methods that rely on historical averages, AI-driven forecasting continuously updates demand estimates by incorporating new operational information. This adaptive capability allows organizations to respond more effectively to changing customer preferences, seasonal variations, competitor actions, and supply-chain disruptions. The incorporation of temporal learning concepts, inspired by graph-based forecasting models, supports improved prediction accuracy under evolving market conditions (Yu, Yin, & Zhu, 2018).

The third finding concerns **customer-centric pricing optimization**. Behavioral segmentation enables the pricing engine to generate differentiated pricing strategies based on purchasing characteristics rather than applying uniform prices across all customer groups. This personalized approach improves customer value while maintaining organizational profitability. The concept parallels adaptive pattern recognition methods in handwriting identification, where AI systems distinguish subtle behavioral differences among writers to improve classification performance (Hassaine et al., 2011; Hassaine et al., 2013).

Another important outcome is the **ability of nonlinear AI models to represent complex market relationships**. Conventional pricing models frequently assume linear relationships between price and demand, whereas real commercial environments involve nonlinear interactions among customer behavior, inventory availability, economic conditions, and competitive dynamics. Nonlinear system identification and data-driven learning approaches provide a more realistic representation of these relationships, enabling more accurate optimization under uncertainty (Rahrooh & Shepard, 2009; Rudy et al., 2017).

The proposed framework also demonstrates the importance of **continuous learning and adaptive optimization**. Rather than remaining fixed after deployment, AI models update pricing recommendations as new sales observations become available. This iterative learning process improves forecasting accuracy, reduces pricing errors, and allows organizations to remain aligned with changing market conditions. Such adaptability represents a significant advantage over conventional rule-based pricing systems that require frequent manual intervention.

Finally, the inclusion of **Explainable Artificial Intelligence (XAI)** increases managerial confidence in automated pricing decisions. By providing interpretable justifications for recommended prices, the framework supports organizational transparency and facilitates practical adoption within industrial and retail decision-making processes. Collectively, these findings indicate that the proposed AI-augmented architecture offers a comprehensive and scalable foundation for intelligent pricing optimization.

5. Discussion

The findings highlight the growing importance of integrating artificial intelligence with prescriptive analytics to address the increasing complexity of pricing decisions in modern business environments. Unlike conventional pricing approaches that primarily depend on historical analysis or managerial intuition, the proposed framework

emphasizes adaptive, data-driven decision support capable of responding to continuously changing operational conditions.

One of the most significant theoretical contributions of this research is the integration of computational methodologies originating from diverse AI domains into a unified pricing architecture. The reviewed literature illustrates that principles of structured dataset development, adaptive learning, nonlinear modeling, and pattern recognition are transferable across application domains. Although the referenced studies primarily focus on handwriting recognition, signal processing, and nonlinear systems, their methodological foundations provide valuable guidance for designing intelligent pricing systems. In particular, the comprehensive dataset engineering strategies described by **Al-ma'adeed et al. (2012)** demonstrate the critical role of representative data in achieving reliable AI performance, a principle equally applicable to enterprise pricing analytics.

From a practical perspective, the proposed framework offers organizations several strategic advantages. First, dynamic pricing recommendations allow businesses to respond more rapidly to fluctuations in demand, inventory levels, and competitive market conditions. Second, customer segmentation enables differentiated pricing strategies that improve both profitability and customer satisfaction. Third, continuous learning mechanisms reduce the need for manual rule updates by automatically incorporating new operational information into subsequent optimization cycles.

Despite these advantages, several implementation challenges remain. The effectiveness of AI-assisted pricing depends heavily on the availability of high-quality enterprise data. Organizations with fragmented databases or inconsistent data governance may experience reduced model performance. Furthermore, integrating heterogeneous data sources from enterprise resource planning systems, customer relationship management platforms, supply-chain applications, and external market databases requires significant technical infrastructure and organizational coordination.

Another important consideration involves model interpretability. Highly sophisticated AI algorithms may generate accurate recommendations while remaining difficult for business managers to understand. The inclusion of explainable AI therefore represents an essential requirement rather than an optional enhancement. Transparent recommendation mechanisms increase organizational trust, improve regulatory compliance, and facilitate managerial acceptance of AI-supported pricing decisions.

The proposed framework also acknowledges ethical and operational considerations. Excessive price personalization may create perceptions of unfairness among customers if not carefully managed. Consequently, pricing optimization should operate within predefined organizational policies that balance profitability with transparency, consistency, and long-term customer relationships.

Overall, the discussion demonstrates that prescriptive analytics should not replace managerial expertise but instead function as an intelligent decision-support system. Human decision-makers remain responsible for strategic oversight, while AI provides analytical capabilities capable of processing complex data relationships beyond conventional human capacity. This collaborative approach offers the greatest potential for sustainable competitive advantage.

6. Conclusion

This research presented a comprehensive conceptual framework for **AI-augmented prescriptive pricing** designed to support industrial and retail sales optimization. By synthesizing computational methodologies from the provided

literature, the study demonstrated how predictive analytics, nonlinear learning, adaptive optimization, customer segmentation, and explainable artificial intelligence can be integrated into a unified decision-support architecture.

The proposed framework extends traditional pricing methodologies by transforming predictive insights into actionable pricing recommendations. Rather than relying on static rules or historical averages, the architecture continuously updates its recommendations using enterprise data, demand forecasts, behavioral customer analysis, and optimization algorithms. This adaptive capability enables organizations to respond effectively to changing market conditions while simultaneously balancing profitability, customer satisfaction, and operational efficiency.

The literature synthesis further established that successful AI implementation depends upon robust data engineering, scalable learning algorithms, and continuous model refinement. Dataset construction principles discussed throughout the reviewed studies—particularly those presented by **Al-ma'adeed et al. (2012)**—highlight the importance of representative and high-quality data as the foundation for reliable intelligent decision-making. Similarly, nonlinear modeling and temporal learning approaches provide valuable methodological support for addressing the complexity of modern pricing environments.

Although this study is conceptual in nature, it contributes to the growing field of intelligent business analytics by proposing an integrated framework that combines prediction, optimization, explainability, and continuous learning within a single architecture. The framework offers practical guidance for organizations seeking to modernize pricing strategies through AI while maintaining transparency and managerial control.

Future research may extend this work through empirical validation using real industrial and retail datasets, comparative evaluation of optimization algorithms, incorporation of reinforcement learning techniques for autonomous pricing decisions, and investigation of fairness-aware AI models that balance profitability with ethical pricing practices. Such developments will further strengthen the role of prescriptive analytics as a strategic capability for next-generation intelligent enterprises.

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