## 7. References:

- [1] Social Media Are Major Sources for News, Current Events (July 2015): http://kng.ht/1R5VqIE
- [2] K. Fernandes, P. Vinagre and P. Cortez. A Proactive Intelligent Decision Support System for Predicting the Popularity of Online News. Proceedings of the 17th EPIA 2015 Portuguese Conference on Artificial Intelligence, September, Coimbra, Portugal
- [3] glmnet: https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/glmnet/vignettes/glmnet\_beta.html

## 8. Appendix:

**Table 1:** Short description of the news data set predictors

0. url:	URL of the article
1. timedelta:	Days between the article publication and dataset acquisition
2. n tokens title:	Number of words in the title
3. n tokens content:	Number of words in the content
4. n unique tokens:	Rate of unique words in the content
5. n non stop words:	Rate of non-stop words in the content
6. n non stop unique tokens:	Rate of unique non-stop words in the content
7. num hrefs:	Number of links
8. num self hrefs:	Number of links to other articles published by Mashable
9. num_imgs:	Number of images
10. num videos:	Number of videos
11. average_token_length:	Average length of the words in the content
12. num_keywords:	Number of keywords in the metadata
13. data_channel_is_lifestyle:	Is data channel 'Lifestyle'?
14. data_channel_is_entertainme	nt: Is data channel 'Entertainment'?
15. data_channel_is_bus:	Is data channel 'Business'?
16. data_channel_is_socmed:	Is data channel 'Social Media'?
17. data_channel_is_tech:	Is data channel 'Tech'?
18. data_channel_is_world:	Is data channel 'World'?
19. kw_min_min:	Worst keyword (min. shares)
20. kw_max_min:	Worst keyword (max. shares)
21. kw_avg_min:	Worst keyword (avg. shares)
22. kw_min_max:	Best keyword (min. shares)
23. kw_max_max:	Best keyword (max. shares)
24. kw_avg_max:	Best keyword (avg. shares)
25. kw_min_avg:	Avg. keyword (min. shares)
26. kw_max_avg:	Avg. keyword (max. shares)
27. kw_avg_avg:	Avg. keyword (avg. shares)
28. self_reference_min_shares:	Min. shares of referenced articles in Mashable
29. self_reference_max_shares:	Max. shares of referenced articles in Mashable
30. self_reference_avg_sharess:	Avg. shares of referenced articles in Mashable
31. weekday_is_monday:	Was the article published on a Monday?

32. weekday_is_tuesday:	Was the article published on a Tuesday?
33. weekday_is_wednesday:	Was the article published on a Wednesday?
34. weekday_is_thursday:	Was the article published on a Thursday?
35. weekday_is_friday:	Was the article published on a Friday?
36. weekday_is_saturday:	Was the article published on a Saturday?
37. weekday_is_sunday:	Was the article published on a Sunday?
38. is_weekend:	Was the article published on the weekend?
39. LDA_00:	Closeness to LDA topic 0
40. LDA_01:	Closeness to LDA topic 1
41. LDA_02:	Closeness to LDA topic 2
42. LDA_03:	Closeness to LDA topic 3
43. LDA_04:	Closeness to LDA topic 4
44. global_subjectivity:	Text subjectivity
45. global_sentiment_polarity:	Text sentiment polarity
46. global_rate_positive_words:	Rate of positive words in the content
47. global_rate_negative_words:	Rate of negative words in the content
48. rate_positive_words:	Rate of positive words among non-neutral tokens
49. rate_negative_words:	Rate of negative words among non-neutral tokens
50. avg_positive_polarity:	Avg. polarity of positive words
51. min_positive_polarity:	Min. polarity of positive words
52. max_positive_polarity:	Max. polarity of positive words
53. avg_negative_polarity:	Avg. polarity of negative words
54. min_negative_polarity:	Min. polarity of negative words
55. max_negative_polarity:	Max. polarity of negative words
56. title_subjectivity:	Title subjectivity
57. title_sentiment_polarity:	Title polarity
58. abs_title_subjectivity:	Absolute subjectivity level
59. abs_title_sentiment_polarity:	Absolute polarity level
60. shares:	Number of shares (target)

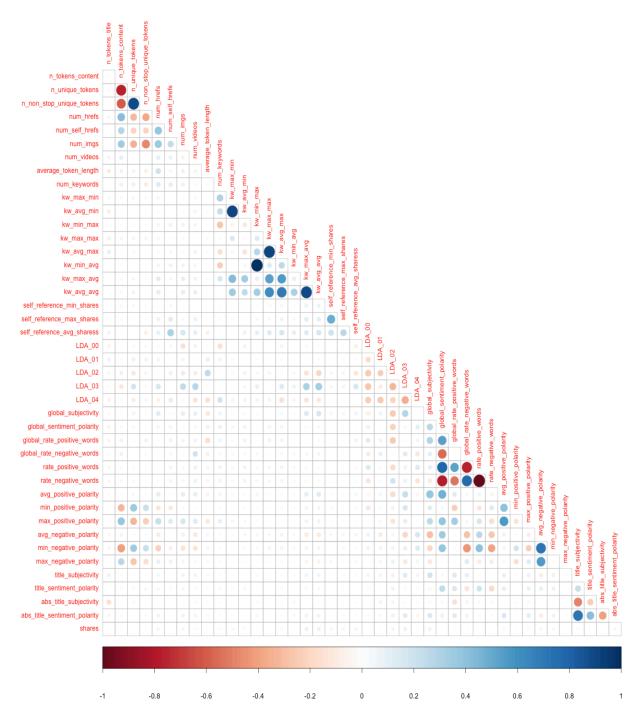
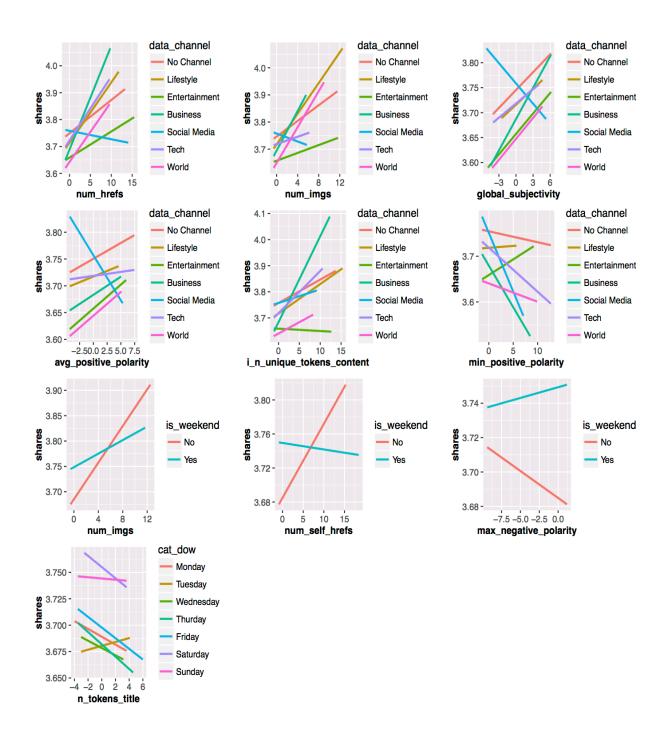


Figure 1: Graphical representation of Continuous predictors' correlation matrix



**Figure 2**: Graphical representation of Interaction between continuous variables and categorical variables considering response variable

```
R Code Sections
Section 1: Loading dataset
Section 2: Data Cleaning
Section 3: Stepwise Regression Model
Section 4: LASSO and RIDGE (Regularization)
Section 5: Weighted Regression
Section 6: Bootstrap
Section 7: R Plot Scripts
Section 1: Loading dataset
library(dplyr)
library(car)
library(caret)
library(glmnet)
library(ggplot2)
library(grid)
library(gridExtra)
setwd("/Users/Darshan/Documents/Online News Popularity")
# Train - Test data split
news <- read.csv("OnlineNewsPopularity.csv", header = TRUE)</pre>
set.seed(10)
# shuffle the data set
news <- news[sample(1:nrow(news)),]
# 20 % of data will be separated for testing
n test samples <- round(nrow(news) * 0.20)
news_test <- news[(1:n_test_samples),]</pre>
news train <- news[((1+n test samples):nrow(news)),]
write.csv("Train.csv", row.names = FALSE, x = news_train)
write.csv("Test.csv", row.names = FALSE, x = news_test)
Section 2: Data Cleaning
# This function cleans the train dataset
data cleaning <- function(news){
 # non-predictor
 news$timedelta <- NULL
 # Removing instances which don't have any text content in it.
 news <- filter(news, n tokens content != 0)
```

```
news$n non stop words <- NULL # Constanct predictor
 news$kw_min_min <- NULL # More than 50% instances contain -1 value
 news <- filter(news, n_unique_tokens <= 1) # Outlier value greater than 1
 news <- filter(news, kw min avg >= 0, kw avg min>=0)
 # Outlier value less than 1
 # Log transformation because there are high number of outliers
 newsLDA 00 < log(newsLDA 00 + 1)
 newsLDA 01 \leftarrow log(newsLDA 01 + 1)
 newsLDA 02 < log(news LDA 02 + 1)
 newsLDA 03 < log(newsLDA 03 + 1)
 newsLDA 04 < -log(newsLDA 04 + 1)
 news$self reference avg sharess <- log(news$self reference avg sharess + 1)
 news$kw max min <- log(news$kw max min + 1)
 news$kw avg min <- log(news$kw avg min + 1)
 news$kw min avg <- log(news$kw min avg + 1)
 news$kw min max <- log(news$kw min max + 1)
 news$kw max avg <- log(news$kw max avg + 1)
 news$kw_avg_avg <- log(news$kw avg avg + 1)</pre>
 news$kw avg max <- log(news$kw avg max + 1)</pre>
 news$kw_max_max <- log(news$kw_max_max + 1)</pre>
 return(news)
}
# This function handle the multi-collinearity in the train dataset.
correlation cleaning <- function(news){
 news$rate negative words <- NULL
 # n non stop unique tokens and n unique tokens have correlation of 0.887
 # n non stop unique tokens is removed from the analysis as both the predictors
 # are semantically similar
 news$n_non_stop_unique_tokens <- NULL
 # self reference min shares and self reference max shares has high corelation with
 # self reference avg sharess
 news$self reference min shares <- NULL
 news$self reference max shares <- NULL
 news$i n unique tokens content <- news$n unique tokens + news$n tokens content
 # 0.751 colinearity between n unique tokens and n tokens content
 news$n unique tokens <- NULL
 news$n tokens content <- NULL
```

```
news$i title sub sent polarity <- (news$title subjectivity +
                       news$abs title sentiment polarity) / 2.0
 # 0.71 colinearity between title subjectivity and abs_title_sentiment_polarity
 news$title subjectivity <- NULL
 news$abs title sentiment polarity <- NULL
 # 0.719 colinearity between min negative polarity and avg negative polarity
 news$i min avg negative pol <- (news$min negative polarity +
                     news$avg negative polarity) / 2.0
 news$min negative polarity <- NULL
 news$avg negative polarity <- NULL
 # 0.779 colinearity between rate positive words and global sentiment polarity
 news$i rate pos gsent polarity <- (news$rate positive words *
                         news$global sentiment polarity)
 news$rate positive words <- NULL
 news$global_sentiment_polarity <- NULL
 #kw max min and kw avg min have correlation of 0.901
 news$i kw max avg min <- (news$kw max min + news$kw avg min) / 2.0
 #kw max avg and kw avg avg have correlation of 0.899
 news$i kw max avg avg <- (news$kw max avg + news$kw avg avg) / 2.0
 # High collinearity after applying log transformation on kw min avg and kw min max
 # Log transformation has improved the r-squared value
 news$kw min max<- NULL
 # High collinearity after applying log transformation on kw avg max and kw max max
 # Log transformation has improved the r-squared value
 news$i kw avg max max <- (news$kw avg max + news$kw max max) / 2.0
 news$kw avg max <- NULL
 news$kw max max <- NULL
 news$kw max min <- NULL
 news$kw avg min <- NULL
 news$kw max avg <- NULL
 news$kw avg avg <- NULL
 # After trying different interactions between the predictors.
 # correlation did not decrease significantly, so
 # self reference min shares and self reference max shares
 # predictors are both removed.
 news$self reference min shares <- NULL
 news$self reference max shares <- NULL
 return(news)
# This function applies the Box-Cox transformation on responce variable
target transformation <- function(news) {</pre>
```

```
p <- powerTransform(news$shares)</pre>
 shares transformed <- bcPower(news$shares, p$lambda)
 news$shares <- shares transformed
 return(list("news"=news, "lambda"=p$lambda))
}
# This function returns the actual value of the responce variable
# from the Box-Cox transformation
target inverse <- function(shares, lambda) {</pre>
 if (lambda == 0) {
  shares <- exp(shares)</pre>
 else {
  shares <- (lambda*shares + 1)^(1/lambda)
 return(shares)
# This function normalize continuous variables of the train dataset
normalization <- function(news train){
 # All Column names
 column names <- names(news train)
 # Column names which needs to be ignored due to categorical and target feature
 ignored column names <- c("url", "timedelta", "data channel is lifestyle",
                "data channel is entertainment", "data channel is bus",
                "data channel is world", "data channel is socmed",
                "data_channel_is_tech", "weekday_is_monday",
                "weekday is tuesday".
                "weekday is wednesday", "weekday is thursday",
                "weekday is friday",
                "weekday is saturday", "weekday is sunday", "is weekend",
                "shares")
 needed columns <- setdiff(column names,ignored column names)
 # Normalized Train Data
 #news train norm <- news train %>% mutate each (funs(scale),vars=needed columns)
 # Saving standard deviation of the columns which are normalized
 sd values <- Map(sd, news train[,needed columns])
 # Saving mean of the columns which are normalized
 mean values <- Map(mean, news train[,needed columns])
 news train[,needed columns] <- (news train[,needed columns] - mean values) / sd values
```

```
return(list("sd values"=sd values, "mean values"=mean values, "news train"=news train))
}
# This funciton normalize continuous variables of the test datset
apply normalization <- function(news, means, sds) {
 # All Column names
 column names <- names(news train)
 # Column names which needs to be ignored due to categorical and target feature
 ignored column names <- c("url", "timedelta", "data channel is lifestyle",
                 "data channel is entertainment", "data channel is bus",
                 "data_channel_is_world", "data_channel_is_socmed",
                 "data channel is tech", "weekday is monday",
                 "weekday is tuesday",
                 "weekday is wednesday", "weekday is thursday",
                 "weekday is friday",
                 "weekday is saturday", "weekday is sunday", "is weekend",
                 "shares")
 needed columns <- setdiff(column names,ignored column names)</pre>
 news[,needed columns] <- (news[,needed columns] - means) / sds</pre>
 return(news)
# This function creates the factor/single categorical variable by combining
# multiple/one hot encoded variables
cat encoding <- function(news){
 dow cols = c("weekday is monday", "weekday is tuesday", "weekday is wednesday",
         "weekday is thursday", "weekday is friday", "weekday is saturday",
         "weekday is sunday")
 news$cat dow <- 0
 for (dow in dow cols) {
  dow_idx = which(news[,dow] == 1)
  #print(dow idx)
  news[dow_idx,"cat_dow"] <- which(dow_cols==dow)</pre>
 }
 news$cat dow <- as.factor(news$cat dow)</pre>
 data channel cols = c("data channel is lifestyle", "data channel is entertainment",
              "data channel is bus" "data channel is socmed".
              "data channel is tech",
              "data channel is world")
```

```
news$data channel <- 0
 for (channel in data_channel_cols) {
  channel idx <- which(news[,channel] == 1)
  news[channel idx,"data channel"] <- which(data channel cols==channel)
 news$data channel <- as.factor(news$data channel)</pre>
 news$is_weekend <- as.factor(news$is_weekend)</pre>
 return(news)
OUTLIERS HIGH CUTOFF = 0.1
OUTLIERS LOW CUTOFF = 0.05
outliers removal <- function(news) {
 # sort by shares
 sorted_news <- news[order(news$shares),]</pre>
 num rows <- nrow(news)</pre>
 # remove lower tail
 cut low point <- as.integer(OUTLIERS LOW CUTOFF*num rows)
 cut high point <- as.integer((1-OUTLIERS HIGH CUTOFF)*num rows)
 sorted_news <- sorted_news[cut_low_point:cut_high_point, ]
 news <- sorted news[sample(nrow(sorted news)),]
 return(sorted news)
# This function removes the outlier from the dataset based upon the
# cook's distance
cook_outliers_removal <- function(news){</pre>
 cutoff <- 4/nrow(news)
 model <- Im(shares ~ ., data=news)
 infl <- Im.influence(model, do.coef = FALSE)
 cooks.distance <- cooks.distance(model, infl = infl,
                     res = weighted.residuals(model),
                     sd = sqrt(deviance(model)/df.residual(model)),
                     hat = infl$hat)
 index <- cooks.distance <= cutoff
 news <- news[index,]
 return(news)
}
# This function loads the train data set and applies the
```

```
# data cleaning operation to it.
load processed train data <- function(outliers.removed=FALSE,
                       one.hot.encoding.remove=TRUE){
 news <- read.csv("Train.csv", header = TRUE)
 news <- data cleaning(news)</pre>
 news <- correlation cleaning(news)
 obj <- normalization(news)</pre>
 news <- obj$news
 news <- cat_encoding(news)</pre>
 url <- news$url
 news$url <- NULL
 if(one.hot.encoding){
  categorical var <- c("data channel is lifestyle",
               "data channel is entertainment", "data channel is bus",
               "data_channel_is_world", "data_channel_is_socmed",
               "data_channel_is_tech", "weekday_is_monday", "weekday_is_tuesday",
               "weekday_is_wednesday", "weekday_is_thursday", "weekday_is_friday",
               "weekday is saturday", "weekday is sunday")
  news with cat <- subset(news, select = categorical_var)</pre>
  news <- subset(news, select = setdiff(names(news), categorical var))
 }
 if(outliers.removed){
  news <- cook_outliers_removal(news)</pre>
 }
 return(news)
Section 3: Stepwise Regression Model
set.seed(464)
news <- load processed train data()
K <- 10
# 10 - fold cross validation
folds <- createFolds(news$shares, k = K, list=TRUE, returnTrain=TRUE)
models <- list()
```

```
rmses <- c()
R2s <- c()
for (i in 1:K) {
 news train <- news[folds[[i]],]
 news val <- news[-folds[[i]],]
 null=Im(shares~1, data=news train)
 full=Im(shares~., data=news_train)
 model <- step(null, scope=list(lower=null, upper=full), direction="both", trace=0)
 #model <- step(full, direction="backward", trace=0)
 pred <- predict(model, news val)</pre>
 #pred <- target_inverse(pred, lamda)</pre>
 #shares val <- target inverse(news val$shares, lamda)
 #mse <- sum((pred - shares_val)**2) / nrow(news_val)
 mse <- sum((pred - news val$shares)**2) / nrow(news val)
 rmses <- append(rmses, sqrt(mse))
 R2s <- append(R2s, summary(model)$adj.r.squared)
 models[[i]] <- model
}
# Displaying which variables are selected in the each fold
unique coef <- c()
for(i in 1:length(models)){
 model coef <- names(models[[i]]$coefficients)</pre>
 unique coef <- unique(c(model coef, unique coef))
}
model variables <- data.frame(matrix(NA,nrow=length(unique coef),ncol=length(models)+1))
model variables$X1 <- unique coef
for(i in 1:length(models)){
 model_coef <- names(models[[i]]$coefficients)</pre>
 tf coef <- unique coef %in% model coef
 var <- paste("X", toString(i+1), sep = "")</pre>
 model variables[var] <- tf coef
}
```

## Section 4: LASSO and RIDGE (Regularization)

```
set.seed(464)
# run grid search with cross validation to select best values for lambda and alpha in elastic net
select_model <- function(news, t_lambda) {</pre>
 K = 10
 # alpha = 0 -> Ridge; alpha = 1 -> Lasso
 alphas = \mathbf{c}(0,1)
 lambdas = \mathbf{c}(1e-05, 1e-04, 1e-03, 1e-02, 0.1, 1.,10.)
 folds <- createFolds(news$shares, k = K, list=TRUE, returnTrain=TRUE)
 # for each combination of parameters
 for (alpha in alphas) {
  for (lambda in lambdas) {
   rmses <- c()
   R2s <- c()
   # for each fold
   for (i in 1:K) {
     news train <- news[folds[[i]],]
     news_val <- news[-folds[[i]],]</pre>
     X train <- data.matrix(subset(news train, select=-shares))
     y train <- data.matrix(news train$shares)</pre>
     X_val <- data.matrix(subset(news_val,select=-shares))
     y val <- data.matrix(news val$shares)
     model <- glmnet(X_train, y_train, family="gaussian", alpha=alpha, standardize=TRUE,
               lambda=lambda, nlambda=1)
     pred_train <- predict(model, newx=X_train, s=lambda)</pre>
     shares train <- y train
     # calculate R^2 in the fitted data
     ssto <- sum((shares train - mean(shares train))**2)
     sse <- sum((pred train - shares train)**2)
     R2 <- 1 - (sse/ssto)
     R2s <- append(R2s, R2)
     pred <- predict(model, newx=X_val, s=lambda)</pre>
     shares val <- y val
     sse <- sum((pred - shares val)**2)
     rmse <- sqrt(sse / nrow(news val))
     rmses <- append(rmses,rmse)
   }
```

```
mrmse= mean(rmses)
   srmse= sd(rmses)
   mR2 = mean(R2s)
   cat(sprintf("alpha = %f, lambda = %f, avg rmse = %f, sd rmse = %f, avg R-2 = %f\n",
          alpha, lambda, mrmse, srmse, mR2))
  }
 }
}
news <- load processed train data()
select model(news, t lambda)
Section 5: Weighted Regression
ncvTest(Im(shares ~ .,data=news))
m.unweighted <- Im(shares ~ ., data=news)
# Learing weights of each data point
w <- predict(Im(abs(m.unweighted$res) ~ predict(m.unweighted, data=news)), data=news)
# First Approach, updating responce variable based upon weights
\#w <- (w - min(w))/(max(w) - min(w))
#news$shares <- news$shares * w
K <- 10
# Third Approach; Learning from the weights
model <- Im(formula = shares \sim ., data = news, weights = 1/(w^2))
folds <- createFolds(news$shares, k = K, list=TRUE, returnTrain=TRUE)
models <- list()
rmses <- c()
R2s <- c()
for (i in 1:K) {
 news train <- news[folds[[i]],]
 news val <- news[-folds[[i]],]
 #w <- w[folds[[i]]]
 m.unweighted <- Im(shares ~ ., data=news_train)
 w <- predict(Im(abs(m.unweighted$res) ~ predict(m.unweighted, data=news train)), data=ne
ws train)
 # Second Approach, updating responce variable based upon weights and fold
 \#w <- (w - min(w))/(max(w) - min(w))
 #news train$shares <- news train$shares * w
 null=Im(shares~1, data=news_train)
 full=Im(shares~., data=news train)
```

```
model \leftarrow Im(formula = shares \sim ., data = news train, weights = 1/(w^2))
 #model <- step(null, scope=list(lower=null, upper=full), direction="forward", trace=0)
 pred <- predict(model, news val)</pre>
 #pred <- target inverse(pred, lamda)</pre>
 #shares val <- target inverse(news val$shares, lamda)
 #mse <- sum((pred - shares_val)**2) / nrow(news_val)
 mse <- sum((pred - news val$shares)**2) / nrow(news val)
 rmses <- append(rmses, sqrt(mse))
 R2s <- append(R2s, summary(model)$adj.r.squared)
 models[[i]] <- model
}
Section 6: Bootstrap
set.seed(464)
news <- load_processed_train_data()
B = 300
bootstrap <- function(formula, data) {</pre>
 n_rows <- nrow(data)
 models <- vector(mode="list", length=B)
 for (i in 1:B) {
  # sample the same number of points with replacement
  boot idx <- sample(n rows, n rows, replace = TRUE)
  boot data <- data[boot idx, ]
  m <- Im(formula, data=boot data)
  models[[i]] <- m
 return(models)
}
# stepwise selection (with outliers)
predictors <- c("data_channel", "cat_dow", "i_kw_max_avg_avg",
          "self reference avg sharess", "i kw avg max max",
          "num_hrefs", "global_subjectivity", "LDA_00",
          "LDA 01", "LDA 02", "num self hrefs",
          "i_n_unique_tokens_content", "i_title_sub_sent_polarity",
```

```
"abs title subjectivity", "n tokens title", "min positive polarity",
          "num imgs", "average token length", "title sentiment polarity",
          "i min avg negative pol")
### stepwise selection (without outliers)
# predictors <- c("num_hrefs", "num_self_hrefs", "num_imgs",
# "self reference avg sharess", "LDA 00", "LDA 02", "global subjectivity",
# "global rate positive words", "global rate negative words", "min positive polarity",
# "max_negative_polarity", "title_sentiment_polarity", "abs_title_subjectivity",
# "i n unique tokens content", "i rate pos gsent polarity", "i kw max avg avg",
# "i kw avg max max", "cat dow", "data channel", "i title sub sent polarity")
formula <- as.formula(paste("shares~", paste(predictors,collapse="+")))
# number of coefficients in the model
N_COEF <- 31
# get the coefficients values from each model
coef <- matrix(nrow = B, ncol=N COEF)
models <- bootstrap(formula, news)
for (i in 1:length(models)) {
 for (j in 2:N COEF) {
  coef[i,i] <- coef(models[[i]])[[i]]
}
}
# train a model on the full dataset
full model <- Im(formula, data=news)
full coef <- vector(mode="list", length=N COEF)
predictor names <- names(full model$coefficients)[2:N COEF]
# get the coefficients of the full model
for (i in 2:N COEF) {
 full coef[[i]] <- coef(full model)[[i]]
}
# calculate coefficients confidence intervals
coef max <- vector(mode="list", length=N COEF)
coef_min <- vector(mode="list", length=N_COEF)</pre>
for (i in 2:N COEF) {
 b_star_upper <- qnorm(0.975, mean=mean(coef[,i]), sd=sd(coef[,i]))
 b_star_lower <- qnorm(0.025, mean=mean(coef[,i]), sd=sd(coef[,i]))
 d1 <- full coef[[i]] - b_star_upper
 d2 <- b star lower - full coef[[i]]
 coef max[[i]] <- full coef[[i]] - d2
 coef min[[i]] <- full coef[[i]] + d1
 cat(sprintf("predictor: %s, lower value = %f, upper value = %f\n",
```

```
predictor names[i], coef min[[i]], coef max[[i]]))
}
# plot the coefficient and their confidence interval
results = data.frame(name=predictor names, coef=unlist(full coef), max=unlist(coef max), mi
n=unlist(coef min))
ggplot(results, aes(x = name, y = coef)) +
 geom point(size = 1) +
 labs(x = "Predictor", y = "Estimated coefficient") +
 geom errorbar(aes(ymax = max, ymin = min), width=0.1) +
 theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 90, hjust = 1, size=10, face="bold"))
# prediction for all the models
pred <- matrix(nrow = nrow(news), ncol=B)
for (i in 1:length(models)) {
 m <- models[[i]]
 pred[,i] <- predict(m, subset(news, select=-shares))</pre>
sse <- sum((rowMeans(pred) - news$shares)**2)
rmse <- sqrt(sse / nrow(news))
Section 7: R Plot Scripts
news <- load_processed_train_data()
news wo outlier <- cook outliers removal(news)
model <- Im(shares ~ ., data=news)
news$res <- abs(model$residuals)</pre>
news$pre <- predict(model, data=news)</pre>
model <- Im(shares ~ ., data=news_wo_outlier)
news wo outlier$res <- abs(model$residuals)
news wo outlier$pre <- predict(model, data=news wo outlier)
p1 <- ggplot(aes(x=pre,y=res), data=news) + geom_point() + xlab("Predicted Number of Sha
res (With Outliers)") + ylab("abs(Residual)") + stat binhex(bins = 75) + geom smooth(color =
"red") + theme(axis.title=element text(size=9,face="bold"))
p2 <- ggplot(aes(x=pre,y=res), data=news wo outlier) + geom point() + xlab("Predicted Nu
mber of Shares (Without Outliers)") + ylab("abs(Residual)") + stat binhex(bins = 75) + geom
smooth(color = "red") + theme(axis.title=element text(size=9,face="bold"))
grid.arrange(p1, p2, ncol = 2, top = "Residual vs Predicted value of Shares")
```

```
news <- load processed train data()
model <- Im(shares ~ data channel + cat dow + i kw max avg avg +
        self reference avg sharess + i kw avg max max +
        num hrefs + global subjectivity + LDA 00 + LDA 01 +
        LDA 02 + num self hrefs + i n unique tokens content +
        i title sub sent polarity + abs title subjectivity +
        n tokens title + min positive polarity +
        num imgs + average token length + title sentiment polarity +
       i min avg negative pol, data=news)
news$res <- abs(model$residuals)</pre>
news$pre <- predict(model, data=news)</pre>
v \leftarrow quantile(news res, c(0.25, 0.75))
x <- qnorm(c(0.25, 0.75))
slope \leftarrow diff(y)/diff(x)
int <-y[1L] - slope * x[1L]
p1 <- ggplot(news, aes(sample=res)) + stat_qq() + geom_abline(slope = slope, intercept = int)
+ ylab("Stepwise Regression model residuals (With Outlier)") + theme(axis.title=element text(
size=9,face="bold"))
news wo outlier <- cook outliers removal(news)
model <- Im(shares ~ num_hrefs + num_self_hrefs + num_imgs +
        self reference avg sharess + LDA 00 + LDA 02 +
        global subjectivity + global rate positive words + global rate negative words +
        min positive polarity + max negative polarity + title sentiment polarity +
        abs title subjectivity + i n unique tokens content +
       i rate pos gsent polarity + i kw max avg avg + i kw avg max max +
        cat dow + data channel +
       i title sub sent polarity, data=news wo outlier)
news wo outlier$res <- abs(model$residuals)
news wo outlier$pre <- predict(model, data=news)</pre>
y <- quantile(news wo outlier$res, c(0.25, 0.75))
x <- qnorm(c(0.25, 0.75))
slope \leftarrow diff(y)/diff(x)
int <-y[1L] - slope * x[1L]
p2 <- ggplot(news_wo_outlier, aes(sample=res)) + stat_qq() +geom_abline(slope = slope, int
ercept = int) + ylab("Stepwise Regression model residuals (Without Outlier)") + theme(axis.title
=element text(size=9,face="bold"))
grid.arrange(p1, p2, ncol = 2, top = "Residual QQ Plots")
```

## **Statement of Contributions**

**Darshan Patel** mainly worked on building the Stepwise and Weighted least square regression models. He programmed various variable selection methods in R and compared their results. He also wrote R scripts to visualize Multi-collinearity, Interaction Terms and Residual plots. Along with that he assisted Gabriel in building LASSO, Adaptive LASSO, RIDGE and Bootstrap and Data analyses/cleaning process.

**Gabriel Bakiewicz** mainly worked on building the Regularization and Bootstrap models. He programmed LASSO, Adaptive LASSO, RIDGE and Bootstrap in R and build scripts to visualize the confidence interval of the predictor estimation and compare the different models. Along with that he assisted Darshan in building Stepwise and Weighted least square regression models and Data analyses/cleaning process.