

Project- Part A: Airbnb Price Prediction and Insights

1. Overview

Airbnb provides a platform for property owners to rent out their spaces to travelers. Pricing a listing effectively is critical for maximizing revenue while staying competitive in the market. For hosts, understanding what factors influence the price of their listings is essential.

This project aims to build a machine learning model to predict the price of Airbnb listings based on various features such as property type, room type, location, amenities, and host characteristics. By analyzing these factors, this project will provide actionable insights to Airbnb hosts to optimize their listing prices.

2. Problem Statement

The primary objective of this project is to develop a regression model that predicts the price of an Airbnb listing. Using features such as property type, room type, number of reviews, location, and amenities, the model will aim to estimate the price accurately.

The insights derived from this analysis will help Airbnb hosts understand the key drivers of price, enabling them to make data-driven decisions for pricing their properties. Additionally, the project will help Airbnb refine its recommendations for pricing to improve host and guest satisfaction.

3. Dataset Information

Dataset:  `Airbnb_data`

The dataset information can be found in this doc [Data Information](#).

4. Deliverables

1. Data Exploration and Preprocessing (10 Marks):

- Analyze the dataset for trends, missing values, and outliers.
- Perform data cleaning, feature engineering, and transformations.

2. Model Development (20 Marks):

- Build a regression model to predict listing prices.

3. Model Evaluation (10 Marks):

- Evaluate the model's performance using appropriate metrics like RMSE, MAE, and R^2 .

4. Final Report and Presentation (10 Marks):

- Final video clip of candidate summarizing the entire process of the project as the presentation. (**Note:** Video should not exceed **5 mins**)

5. Success Criteria

The project will be deemed successful if:

- The regression model achieves acceptable performance metrics (e.g., RMSE and R^2) on test data.
- Insights about the factors influencing Airbnb prices are effectively communicated to stakeholders.
- Predictions for new listings can be made with reasonable accuracy.

6. Guidelines

- **Data Splitting:** Divide the data into training, validation, and testing sets to ensure robust evaluation.
- **Feature Engineering:** Extract meaningful features, such as neighborhood popularity, number of amenities, and host activity metrics.
- **Model Tuning:** Experiment with different models and tune hyperparameters to optimize performance.
- **Visualizations:** Use charts and graphs to present data trends and model results clearly.
- **Interpretability:** Ensure the model is interpretable and actionable for non-technical stakeholders.

7. Tools Required

- **Python Libraries:** pandas, numpy, scikit-learn, matplotlib, seaborn, XGBoost, etc.
- **Jupyter Notebook:** For developing and documenting code.