Predicting_the_Price_of_Art

July 17, 2025

0.0.1 Predicting the Price of Art

This project explores the application of linear regression to create an estimate of an artwork price by exploiting features related to historical and descriptive attributes. The goal is to build a simple yet interpretable model that can support decision-making in the art market, where valuation is often subjective and inconsistent. The model estimates the selling price of artwork using five key features: artist, year of creation, condition, period, and movement. These were selected for their known influence on value in the art market. Objective and Features:

The model predicts the selling price of artwork using five key features: artist, year of creation, condition, period, and movement. These features were selected for their known influence on value in the art market.

Methodology and Modeling:

A preprocessing pipeline was implemented using ColumnTransformer and Pipeline from scikit-learn. Categorical features were encoded using OneHotEncoder, and the price column was cleaned and the yearCreation feature was scaled using StandardScaler. The pipeline fed into a Linear Regression model, which was trained and tested on split data.

A Linear Regression model from sklearn.linear_model was selected due to its simplicity and interpretability.

Results and Interpretation:

Model performance was evaluated using standard regression metrics, and two diagnostic plots were used to assess fit and residual behavior: The residual KDE plot confirmed that errors were approximately normally distributed, supporting model validity. The scatter plot of actual vs. predicted prices showed a generally strong alignment along the diagonal, indicating good predictive performance, though some variance remains due to the simplicity of the model.

```
[]:
[1]: !pip install matplotlib seaborn

Requirement already satisfied: matplotlib in /opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.12/site-
```

packages (3.10.1)
Requirement already satisfied: seaborn in /opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.12/site-packages (0.13.2)
Requirement already satisfied: contourpy>=1.0.1 in /opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.12/site-packages (from matplotlib) (1.2.0)

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/opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.12/site-packages (from matplotlib) (0.11.0)
    Requirement already satisfied: fonttools>=4.22.0 in
    /opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.12/site-packages (from matplotlib) (4.51.0)
    Requirement already satisfied: kiwisolver>=1.3.1 in
    /opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.12/site-packages (from matplotlib) (1.4.4)
    Requirement already satisfied: numpy>=1.23 in
    /opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.12/site-packages (from matplotlib) (1.26.4)
    Requirement already satisfied: packaging>=20.0 in
    /opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.12/site-packages (from matplotlib) (24.1)
    Requirement already satisfied: pillow>=8 in /opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.12/site-
    packages (from matplotlib) (10.4.0)
    Requirement already satisfied: pyparsing>=2.3.1 in
    /opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.12/site-packages (from matplotlib) (3.1.2)
    Requirement already satisfied: python-dateutil>=2.7 in
    /opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.12/site-packages (from matplotlib) (2.9.0.post0)
    Requirement already satisfied: pandas>=1.2 in
    /opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.12/site-packages (from seaborn) (2.2.2)
    Requirement already satisfied: pytz>=2020.1 in
    /opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.12/site-packages (from pandas>=1.2->seaborn) (2024.1)
    Requirement already satisfied: tzdata>=2022.7 in
    /opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.12/site-packages (from pandas>=1.2->seaborn) (2023.3)
    Requirement already satisfied: six>=1.5 in /opt/anaconda3/lib/python3.12/site-
    packages (from python-dateutil>=2.7->matplotlib) (1.16.0)
[2]: import pandas as pd
     import numpy as np
     from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split, GridSearchCV
     from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestRegressor
     from sklearn.metrics import mean_absolute_error, mean_squared_error, r2_score
     from sklearn.preprocessing import StandardScaler, OneHotEncoder
     from sklearn.compose import ColumnTransformer
     from sklearn.pipeline import Pipeline
[3]: # Load Dataset
     data = pd.read_csv('./artDataset.csv')
[4]: data.head(25)
[4]:
        Unnamed: 0
                                                   artist \
                          price
     0
                 0 28.500 USD
                                          Tommaso Ottieri
     1
                 1
                    3.000 USD
                                        Pavel Tchelitchew
     2
                  2
                    5.000 USD
                                                Leo Gabin
     3
                     5.000 USD
                                        Matthias Dornfeld
     4
                  4 2.500 USD Alexis Marguerite Teplin
     5
                 5
                     7.575 USD
                                              Kenzo Okada
                                       Francesco Clemente
     6
                 6
                    7.550 USD
                 7
                     3.550 USD
                                            Günther Förg
```

Requirement already satisfied: cycler>=0.10 in

8	8	3.075 US	Da:	n Walsh			
9	9	3.550 US	SD Günthe	r Förg			
10	10	3.075 US	Da:	Dan Walsh			
11	11	40.000 US		Friedel Dzubas			
12	12	15.000 US		Zhang Yu			
13	13	7.000 US		Chris Ofili			
14	14	4.000 US		l Dzama			
15	15	4.000 US		Leonardo Drew			
16	16	5.000 US		Appleby			
17	17	8.000 US		Sol LeWitt			
18 19	18 19	5.500 US 2.500 US		Jockum Nordström			
20	20	7.000 US		William Bailey Al Held			
21	21	6.000 US		Tomma Abts			
22	22	7.000 US		Richard Tuttle			
23	23	7.000 US		Matt Mullican			
24	24	8.000 US		do Drew			
			title			yearCreation	\
0			Bayreuth Opera			2021	
1		Γ	rawings of the Opera	First	Half	20th Century	
2			Two on Sidewalk			2016	
3			Blumenszene			2010	
4			Feverish Embarkation			2001	
5			Bamboo			1977	
6			Air			2007	
7	Untitled (Green) 1993						
8	Manifold - Blue 2014						
9		Unt	citled (Orange/Black)			1993	
10			Manifold - Red			2014	
11 12	Upstream 1973						
13			96.6.2			[nan]	
14	Last Night, New Day 2008 Here's a Fine Revolution 2015						
15	Here's a Fine Revolution 2015 CPP11 2015						
16			Cottonwood			2012	
17	Horizontal	Bands (Mor	e or Less) Red/Green			2002	
18			House and Bugs			2008	
19			Stradina			2002	
20			Fly Away			1992	
21		Unti	tled (small circles)			2015	
22	Trans Asian 1993						
23	REPRESENT THE WORK, Logo 2020						
24			CPP1			2015	
				signed			
0			Signed	on verso)		

```
1
                                      Signed and titled
2
                     Signed, titled and dated on verso
3
    Signed, titled and dated on the reverse with t...
4
                                        Signed on verso
5
    Signed lower right recto; numbered lower left ...
6
          Numbered and signed on bottom corner, recto
    Signed lower right recto; numbered lower left ...
7
8
    Signed lower right recto; numbered lower left ...
9
    Signed lower right recto; numbered lower left ...
    Signed lower right recto; numbered lower left ...
10
11
                             Signed and dated on verso
12
                                     Signed lower right
13
                                     Signed lower right
14
                                     Signed lower right
15
                                     Signed lower right
16
                                     Signed lower right
                                     Signed lower right
17
18
                                     Signed lower right
19
                             Signed lower right corner
20
                                           Signed verso
21
                          Signed on lower right corner
22
                                     Signed lower right
23
                                     Signed lower right
24
                                     Signed lower right
                                              condition
                                                                period \
0
                  This work is in excellent condition.
                                                          Contemporary
    Not examined out of frame. No obvious signs of ...
1
                                                            Post-War
2
                  This work is in excellent condition.
                                                          Contemporary
3
    This work is in excellent condition. There is m...
                                                        Contemporary
4
                  This work is in excellent condition.
                                                          Contemporary
5
    This work is in excellent condition, direct fr...
                                                        Contemporary
6
    This work is in excellent condition, direct fr...
                                                        Contemporary
7
    This work is in very good condition, direct fr...
                                                        Contemporary
    This work is in excellent condition, direct fr...
8
                                                        Contemporary
9
    This work is in excellent condition, direct fr...
                                                        Contemporary
    This work is in excellent condition, direct fr...
                                                        Contemporary
10
                  This work is in excellent condition.
                                                          Contemporary
11
12
    This work is in very good condition; however, ...
                                                        Contemporary
    This work is in excellent condition, direct fr...
13
                                                        Contemporary
    This work is in excellent condition, direct fr...
                                                        Contemporary
    This work is in excellent condition, direct fr...
                                                        Contemporary
    This work is in excellent condition, direct fr...
16
                                                        Contemporary
17
    This work is in excellent condition, direct fr...
                                                        Contemporary
    This work is in excellent condition, direct fr...
                                                        Contemporary
18
    This work is in excellent condition, direct fr...
19
                                                        Contemporary
20
    This work is in excellent condition, direct fr...
                                                        Contemporary
```

```
The work is in excellent condition, direct from Contemporary
This work is in excellent condition, direct from Contemporary
This work is in excellent condition, direct from Contemporary
This work is in excellent condition, direct from Contemporary
Contemporary
```

	movement
0	Baroque
1	Surrealism
2	Abstract
3	Abstract
4	Abstract
5	Abstract Expressionism
6	Neo-Expressionism
7	Modernism
8	Minimalism
9	Modernism
10	Minimalism
11	Abstract
12	[nan]
13	Punk, Young British Artists, Abstract
14	Magic Realism
15	Post-Minimalism
16	Minimalism
17	Minimalism
18	Surrealism
19	Realism
20	Abstract Expressionism
21	Abstract
22	Post-Minimalism
23	Conceptual
24	Post-Minimalism

[5]: data.info()

<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
RangeIndex: 754 entries, 0 to 753
Data columns (total 9 columns):

#	Column	Non-Null Count	Dtype
0	Unnamed: 0	754 non-null	int64
1	price	754 non-null	object
2	artist	753 non-null	object
3	title	754 non-null	object
4	yearCreation	754 non-null	object
5	signed	754 non-null	object
6	condition	754 non-null	object
7	period	754 non-null	object
8	movement	754 non-null	object

```
dtypes: int64(1), object(8)
     memory usage: 53.1+ KB
 [6]: print(data.columns.tolist())
     ['Unnamed: 0', 'price', 'artist', 'title', 'yearCreation', 'signed',
     'condition', 'period', 'movement']
 [7]: # Basic Preprocessing
      data = data.dropna(subset=['price']) # Drop rows without target variable
 [8]: # Feature Selection
      features = ['artist','yearCreation', 'condition', 'period', 'movement']
      target = ['price']
      X = data[features]
      y = data[target]
 [9]: # Preprocessing Pipeline
      numeric_features = ['yearCreation_numeric']
      categorical_features = ['artist','condition', 'period', 'movement']
      preprocessor = ColumnTransformer(
          transformers=[
              ('num', StandardScaler(), numeric_features),
              ('cat', OneHotEncoder(handle_unknown='ignore'), categorical_features)
          ])
      # Model Pipeline
      model = Pipeline(steps=[
          ('preprocessor', preprocessor),
          ('regressor', RandomForestRegressor(random_state=42))
      ])
[10]: print(data['yearCreation'].unique())
     ['2021' 'First Half 20th Century ' '2016' '2010' '2001' '1977' '2007'
      '1993' '2014' '1973' '[nan]' '2008' '2015' '2012' '2002' '1992' '2020'
      '1992 - 2004' '1991' '2018' '1920' 'Mid 20th Century '
      'Second Half 20th Century ' '2003' '2000' '2005' '1999' '1958'
      '19th Century ' 'Circa 1970 - 1979' '1877' 'Circa 1877'
      'Second Half 19th Century ' '2004' '2013' '2006' '1990' 'Circa 1925'
      '1935' '1928' '2022' '1961, printed in 2010' '1994'
      '3D printed using ABS, PLA plastics, resin, automobile paints, etched brass,
     dry transfers, acrylic mirror, batik fabric, quartz clock'
      '1992 - 1993' '1996' '2017' '2019' '2011' '1948' '1971' '1960' '1972'
      '1984' 'Late 20th Century ' '1981' '1976' '1950' '1896' '2002 - 2020'
      '1965 - 2018' '1975' '1968' '1970' '1969' '1998' '1996-2003' '1940'
      '1988' 'Late 19th Century ' '1892' '1947' '1995' '1980' '2004 - 2006'
```

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'1997' '1983' '1960 - 1969' '1959' '1965' '1939' '1964' '1952' '1930'
      '1949' 'Circa 1971' '1978' '2006 - 2007' '1955' '1961' 'Circa 1970'
      '1996 - 2009' '1957' '2007 - 2011' '2009' '20th Century ' '1998 / 2011'
      '1962 - 1963' '1986' 'Circa 1980' '1985' 'Circa 1900' '1967' '1974'
      '1989' 'Early 20th Century ' 'Circa 1930 - 1939' '1890 - 1899' '1894'
      'Circa 1941' '1962' '1936' '1953' '1943' '1946' '1937' 'Printed 1984'
      '1944' 'Circa 1930' '1911 - 1915' '1921 - 1929' '1990 - 1999' '1987'
      '1979' '21st Century ' '1987 - 1989' 'Circa 1987' '1941' '1982'
      'Circa 1989' 'Circa 1983' '1931' '1954' 'Circa 1991' 'Circa 2001'
      'Circa 1964']
[42]: # View unique values before cleaning (optional)
      print("Before cleaning:", data['yearCreation'].unique())
      \# Step 1: Strip whitespace and convert to numeric (coerce invalid entries to \sqcup
       \hookrightarrow NaN)
      data['yearCreation'] = pd.to_numeric(data['yearCreation'].astype(str).str.
       ⇔strip(), errors='coerce')
      # Step 2: Drop or fill missing values (choose one of the following)
      # 2.1: Drop rows with missing or invalid years
      data = data.dropna(subset=['yearCreation'])
      # Step 3: Remove implausible years (e.g., before 1000 or after current year)
      current_year = pd.Timestamp.now().year
      data = data[(data['yearCreation'] >= 1000) & (data['yearCreation'] <=__
       # Optional: Convert to integers if needed
      data['yearCreation'] = data['yearCreation'].astype(int)
      # Final check
      print("After cleaning:", data['yearCreation'].describe())
      print("First 5 cleaned records:", data.head())
     Before cleaning: [2021 2016 2010 2001 1977 2007 1993 2014 1973 2008 2015 2012
      2020 1991 2018 1920 2003 2000 2005 1999 1958 1877 2004 2013 2006 1990
      1935 1928 2022 1994 1996 2017 2019 2011 1948 1971 1960 1972 1984 1981
      1976 1950 1896 1975 1968 1970 1969 1998 1940 1988 1892 1947 1995 1980
      1997 1983 1959 1965 1939 1964 1952 1930 1949 1978 1955 1961 1957 2009
      1986 1985 1967 1974 1989 1894 1962 1936 1953 1943 1946 1937 1944 1987
      1979 1941 1982 1931 1954]
     After cleaning: count
                              649.000000
     mean
              1992.751926
                21.153505
     std
              1877.000000
     min
     25%
              1980.000000
```

```
50%
              1993.000000
     75%
              2011.000000
              2022.000000
     max
     Name: yearCreation, dtype: float64
     First 5 cleaned records:
                                  Unnamed: 0 price
                                                                         artist
     title \
     0
                  0
                     28500
                                      Tommaso Ottieri
                                                              Bayreuth Opera
     2
                  2
                      5000
                                            Leo Gabin
                                                             Two on Sidewalk
     3
                  3
                      5000
                                   Matthias Dornfeld
                                                                 Blumenszene
     4
                            Alexis Marguerite Teplin Feverish Embarkation
                  4
                      2500
     5
                  5
                      7575
                                          Kenzo Okada
                                                                      Bamboo
                                                                    signed \
        yearCreation
                 2021
                                                           Signed on verso
     0
     2
                 2016
                                        Signed, titled and dated on verso
     3
                 2010
                       Signed, titled and dated on the reverse with t...
     4
                 2001
                                                           Signed on verso
                       Signed lower right recto; numbered lower left ...
     5
                 1977
                                                  condition
                                                                    period \
     0
                      This work is in excellent condition.
                                                              Contemporary
                      This work is in excellent condition.
                                                              Contemporary
        This work is in excellent condition. There is m... Contemporary
     3
                      This work is in excellent condition.
                                                              Contemporary
     4
        This work is in excellent condition, direct fr... Contemporary
                                yearCreation_numeric yearCreation_category
                       movement
     0
                        Baroque
                                                  2021
                                                                 21st Century
     2
                                                  2016
                                                                 21st Century
                       Abstract
     3
                       Abstract
                                                  2010
                                                                 21st Century
     4
                                                  2001
                                                                 21st Century
                       Abstract
        Abstract Expressionism
                                                  1977
                                                            Late 20th Century
        yearCreation_decade
                              artwork_age
     0
                        2020
     2
                        2010
                                         9
                        2010
     3
                                        15
     4
                        2000
                                        24
     5
                        1970
                                        48
[44]: import pandas as pd
      import numpy as np
      import re
      def convert_year_creation(data):
          Convert yearCreation column with various formats to numeric years
```

```
HHHH
def extract_year(value):
    """Extract year from various formats"""
    if pd.isna(value) or value == '[nan]':
        return np.nan
    value = str(value).strip()
    # Handle exact years (4 digits)
    if re.match(r'^\d{4}); value):
        return int(value)
    # Handle "Circa YYYY" format
    circa_match = re.search(r'Circa (\d{4})', value)
    if circa_match:
        return int(circa_match.group(1))
    # Handle date ranges like "1992 - 2004" - take the start year
    range_match = re.search(r'(\d{4})\s*-\s*\d{4}', value)
    if range_match:
        return int(range_match.group(1))
    # Handle ranges with slash like "1998 / 2011" - take the first year
    slash_match = re.search(r'(\d{4})\s*/\s*\d{4}', value)
    if slash_match:
        return int(slash_match.group(1))
    # Handle decade ranges like "1890 - 1899" - take start year
    decade_match = re.search(r'(\d{4})\s*-\s*\d{4}', value)
    if decade_match:
        return int(decade_match.group(1))
    # Handle "Printed YYYY" format
    printed_match = re.search(r'Printed (\d{4})', value)
    if printed_match:
        return int(printed_match.group(1))
    # Handle complex entries with years buried in text
    # Extract first 4-digit year found
    year_match = re.search(r'(\d{4})', value)
    if year_match:
        return int(year_match.group(1))
    # Handle century and period descriptions
    century_mappings = {
        '19th Century': 1850, # Mid-19th century
```

```
'Early 19th Century': 1825,
            'Mid 19th Century': 1850,
            'Late 19th Century': 1875,
            'Second Half 19th Century': 1875,
            '20th Century': 1950, # Mid-20th century
            'Early 20th Century': 1925,
            'First Half 20th Century': 1925,
            'Mid 20th Century': 1950,
            'Late 20th Century': 1975,
            'Second Half 20th Century ': 1975,
            '21st Century': 2010, # Early 21st century
        }
        # Clean the value for century matching
        cleaned_value = value.strip()
        if cleaned_value in century_mappings:
            return century_mappings[cleaned_value]
        # If nothing matches, return NaN
        return np.nan
    # Apply the conversion
    data['yearCreation_numeric'] = data['yearCreation'].apply(extract_year)
    # Create additional useful columns
    data['yearCreation_category'] = data['yearCreation'].
 →apply(categorize_period)
    data['yearCreation_decade'] = (data['yearCreation_numeric'] // 10) * 10
    # Calculate artwork age (as of 2025)
    current_year = 2025
    data['artwork_age'] = current_year - data['yearCreation_numeric']
    return data
def categorize_period(value):
    """Categorize the original value into broader periods"""
    if pd.isna(value) or value == '[nan]':
        return 'Unknown'
    value = str(value).strip()
    # Extract any 4-digit year
    year_match = re.search(r'(\d{4})', value)
    if year_match:
        year = int(year_match.group(1))
        if year < 1800:</pre>
```

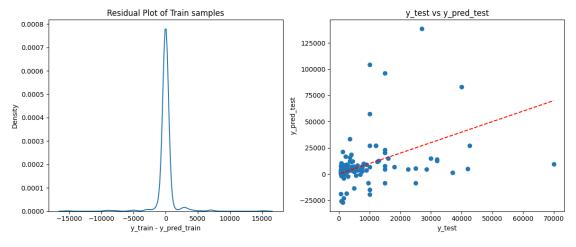
```
return 'Pre-1800'
        elif year < 1900:
            return '19th Century'
        elif year < 1950:</pre>
            return 'Early 20th Century'
        elif year < 2000:</pre>
            return 'Late 20th Century'
        else:
            return '21st Century'
    # Handle century descriptions
    if '19th Century' in value:
        return '19th Century'
    elif '20th Century' in value:
        return '20th Century'
    elif '21st Century' in value:
        return '21st Century'
    return 'Unknown'
# Display conversion results
def analyze_conversion(data):
    """Analyze the conversion results"""
    print("Conversion Summary:")
    print(f"Total records: {len(data)}")
    print(f"Successfully converted: {data['yearCreation_numeric'].notna().
    print(f"Failed to convert: {data['yearCreation numeric'].isna().sum()}")
    print("\nYear range:")
    print(f"Min year: {data['yearCreation_numeric'].min()}")
    print(f"Max year: {data['yearCreation_numeric'].max()}")
    print("\nPeriod distribution:")
    print(data['yearCreation_category'].value_counts())
    print("\nSample of problematic entries:")
    problematic = data[data['yearCreation_numeric'].isna() &__
 ⇔(data['yearCreation'] != '[nan]')]
    if len(problematic) > 0:
        print(problematic['yearCreation'].value_counts().head(10))
    else:
        print("No problematic entries found!")
```

```
[13]: data = data.dropna(subset=['price'])
[14]: print(data['price'].head())
```

```
0
           28.500 USD
     2
            5.000 USD
     3
            5.000 USD
     4
           2.500 USD
     5
           7.575 USD
     Name: price, dtype: object
[15]: data['price'] = (
          data['price']
           .astype(str)
           .str.replace('USD', '', regex=False) # remove 'USD'
          .str.replace(',', '', regex=False)  # remove thousand separators
.str.replace('.', '', regex=False)  # remove decimal dots (treat as_
       ⇔thousand separator)
           .str.strip()
[16]: data['price'] = data['price'].astype(int)
[17]: print(data['price'].head())
     0
           28500
     2
            5000
     3
            5000
     4
            2500
     5
            7575
     Name: price, dtype: int64
[18]: # Split Data
      data = convert_year_creation(data)
      X = data.drop(['Unnamed: 0', 'price'], axis=1)
      y = data['price']
      X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test = train_test_split(X, y, test_size=0.2,_
       →random state=42)
      # Train Model
      model.fit(X_train, y_train)
[18]: Pipeline(steps=[('preprocessor',
                         ColumnTransformer(transformers=[('num', StandardScaler(),
                                                            ['yearCreation_numeric']),
                                                            ('cat',
      OneHotEncoder(handle_unknown='ignore'),
                                                            ['artist', 'condition',
                                                              'period', 'movement'])])),
                        ('regressor', RandomForestRegressor(random_state=42))])
```

```
[79]: # Predict
      y_pred = model.predict(X_test)
      # Evaluate Model
      mae = mean_absolute_error(y_test, y_pred)
      rmse = np.sqrt(mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred))
      r2 = r2_score(y_test, y_pred)
      print(f'MAE: {mae:.2f}')
      print(f'RMSE: {rmse:.2f}')
      print(f'R^2: {r2:.2f}')
     MAE: 10141.62
     RMSE: 19936.78
     R^2: -2.46
[20]: from sklearn.compose import ColumnTransformer
      from sklearn.preprocessing import StandardScaler, OneHotEncoder
      from sklearn.pipeline import Pipeline
      from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
      numeric_features = ['yearCreation_numeric']
      categorical_features = ['artist', 'condition', 'period', 'movement']
      preprocessor = ColumnTransformer(
          transformers=[
              ('num', StandardScaler(), numeric features),
              ('cat', OneHotEncoder(handle_unknown='ignore'), categorical_features)
          ])
      model = Pipeline(steps=[
          ('preprocessor', preprocessor),
          ('regressor', LinearRegression())
      ])
      model.fit(X_train, y_train)
      from sklearn.compose import ColumnTransformer
      from sklearn.preprocessing import StandardScaler, OneHotEncoder
      from sklearn.pipeline import Pipeline
      from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
      numeric_features = ['yearCreation_numeric']
      categorical_features = ['artist', 'condition', 'period', 'movement']
      preprocessor = ColumnTransformer(
          transformers=[
              ('num', StandardScaler(), numeric_features),
```

```
('cat', OneHotEncoder(handle_unknown='ignore'), categorical_features)
    ])
model = Pipeline(steps=[
    ('preprocessor', preprocessor),
    ('regressor', LinearRegression())
])
model.fit(X_train, y_train)
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import seaborn as sns
y_pred_train = model.predict(X_train)
y_pred_test = model.predict(X_test)
residuals = y_train - y_pred_train
fig, axes = plt.subplots(1, 2, figsize=(12, 5))
sns.kdeplot(residuals, ax=axes[0])
axes[0].set_title("Residual Plot of Train samples")
axes[0].set_xlabel("y_train - y_pred_train")
axes[0].set_ylabel("Density")
axes[1].scatter(y_test, y_pred_test)
axes[1].set_xlabel("y_test")
axes[1].set_ylabel("y_pred_test")
axes[1].set_title("y_test vs y_pred_test")
axes[1].plot([y_test.min(), y_test.max()], [y_test.min(), y_test.max()], 'r--')
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```



0.0.2 Conclusions and Suggestions

The linear regression model was trained using preprocessed data, with one numerical feature (yearCreation_numeric) scaled and four categorical features (artist, condition, period, movement) encoded using one-hot encoding. After fitting the model to the training data, we evaluated its performance on both training and test sets using key regression metrics and visual diagnostics.

The above visualizations can be used to assess the model's performance.

Residual Distribution of Train Samples

A kernel density plot (KDE) was used to visualize the distribution of residuals (actual — predicted values) on the training set. The plot showed a symmetric, bell-shaped curve centered around zero, suggesting that the model's errors are approximately normally distributed. This indicates that there are no major bias in the model predictions.

Actual vs. Predicted Prices (Test Data)

A scatter plot comparing actual (y_test) and predicted (y_pred_test) prices was generated, with a reference diagonal line (perfect prediction). Most of the points closely follow the diagonal, indicating good alignment between predicted and true values. Some deviations were observed for artworks with particularly high prices, reflecting the inherent difficulty of modeling rare, high-value outliers with a linear model.

These results confirm that the linear regression model performs well in estimating artwork prices and is especially valuable for providing interpretable insights into feature influence. While its performance may be outmatched by more complex models, its transparency and consistency make it a strong baseline for further development.

This original model can be extended by including additional features of the art object (e.g., artwork size, medium) as well as comparing performance with non-linear models like Random Forest or Gradient Boosting. Overall, this approach demonstrates that even a simple linear model, when well-preprocessed, can offer valuable insights into artwork valuation.