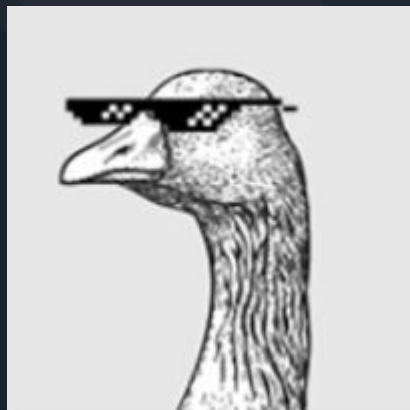


# Avito: Retail website deal probability predictor



June 13th, 2018  
Stephan, Matan, Itai and Ilai

Любая категория

Поиск по объявлениям

Москва

Станция метро

Найти

☐ только в названиях ☐ только с фото

Все объявления в Москве 7 942 384

Личные вещи 3 276 924

Для дома и дачи 622 304

Услуги 104 224

Для бизнеса 53 131

Транспорт 2 256 614

Бытовая электроника 562 061

Работа 102 116

Хобби и отдых 783 012

Недвижимость 111 734

Животные 70 264

Реклама



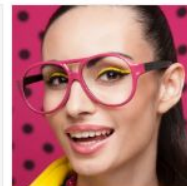
Игры для развития  
памяти

wikium.ru >

18+

Китайское ноу-хау  
оздоровление!

fizikamed.ru >



Научитесь секретам  
Фейсбилдинга!

botox-israel.com >

## Новые объявления



Детские самокаты. Оригинал.  
Scooter 2018г Доставка

950 р  
м. Бунинская аллея



1-к квартира, 43 м², 11/23 эт.

33 000 р. в месяц  
м. Кузьминки  
Вчера 02:39



Телевизор SAMSUNG  
QE55Q7famuxru qled

94 000 р.  
м. Багратионовская

## VIP-объявления



# Given data - categorical/numerical features

	item_id	user_id	region	city
0	b912c3c6a6ad	e00f8ff2eaf9	Свердловская область	Екатеринбург
1	2dac0150717d	39aeb48f0017	Самарская область	Самара
2	ba83aefab5dc	91e2f88dd6e3	Ростовская область	Ростов-на-Дону
3	02996f1dd2ea	bf5cccea572d	Татарстан	Набережные Челны
4	7c90be56d2ab	ef50846afc0b	Волгоградская область	Волгоград
5	51e0962387f7	bbfad0b1ad0a	Татарстан	Чистополь

price	item_seq_number	activation_date	user_type
400.0	2	2017-03-28	Private
3000.0	19	2017-03-26	Private
4000.0	9	2017-03-20	Private
2200.0	286	2017-03-25	Company
40000.0	3	2017-03-16	Private
1300.0	9	2017-03-28	Private

# Given data - Free text

category_name	param_1	param_2	param_3	title	description
Телефоны					Корпус из алюминия

## Believable and Informative Description Copy

### Description:

\*\*\*AMAZING WATCH  
FOR SALE!!!!\*\*\*

DON'T MISS THIS  
DEAL. IT'S THE DEAL  
OF THE CENTURY!!

Unlikely

### Description:

I have an adjustable  
Chaleur D'Animale  
Watch for sale.

It's never been worn  
and still in the original  
box. Battery included.

Informative

### Description:

fancy watch for sale

no low ball offers, cash  
and carry

Poor Quality

аксессуары

одежда

дизайн

зд

colins

хорошем состоянии.

# Given data - Images

## Well-Taken, Authentic Photos



Too Glossy



Authentic



Poor Quality

image	image_top_1
d10c7e016e03247a3bf2d13348fe959fe6f436c1caf64c...	1008.0
9c9392cc51a9c81c6eb91eceb8e552171db39d7142700...	692.0
b7f250ee3f39e1fedd77c141f273703f4a9be59db4b48a...	3032.0
6ef97e0725637ea84e3d203e82dadb43ed3cc0a1c8413...	796.0
54a687a3a0fc1d68aed99bdaaf551c5c70b761b16fd0a2...	2264.0
eb6ad1231c59d3dc7e4020e724ffe8e4d302023ddcbb99...	796.0
0330f6ac561f5db1fa8226dd5e7e127b5671d44d075a98...	2823.0
9bab29a519e81c14f4582024adfebd4f11a4ac71d323a6...	567.0
75ce06d1f939a31dfb2af8ac55f08fa998fa336d13ee05...	415.0
54fb8521135fda77a860bfd2fac6bf46867ab7c06796e3...	46.0



Given data - goal: predict **deal probability**  
based on the **ad parameters, text and images**

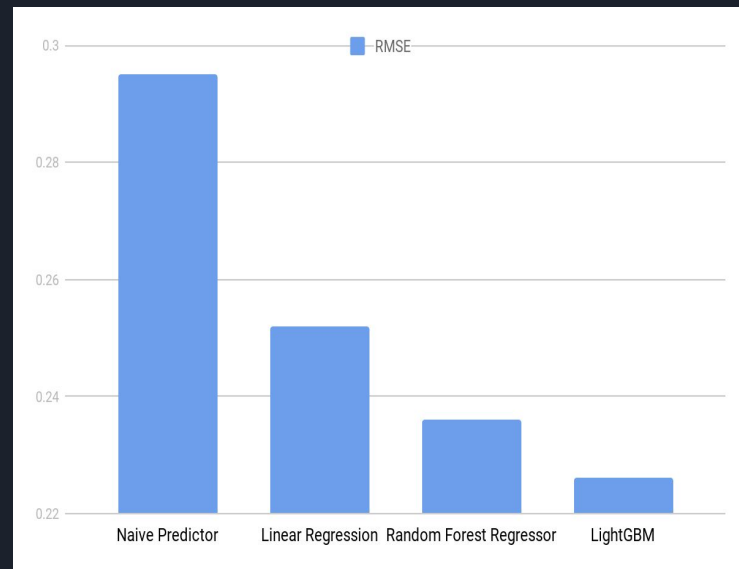
deal_probability
0.12789
0.00000
0.43177
0.80323
0.20797
0.80323
0.00000

# Models and Evaluation - On validation set

Evaluation: minimize *RMSE*

## Models:

- Naive Random Prediction - 0.295
- Linear Regression - 0.259
- Random Forest Regressor - 0.236
- CatBoost - 0.235
- LightGBM - 0.234



## Competition - current state



1800 - 1250: 0.23XX

1200-1000: 0.225X



1000-100: 0.225X-0.220X



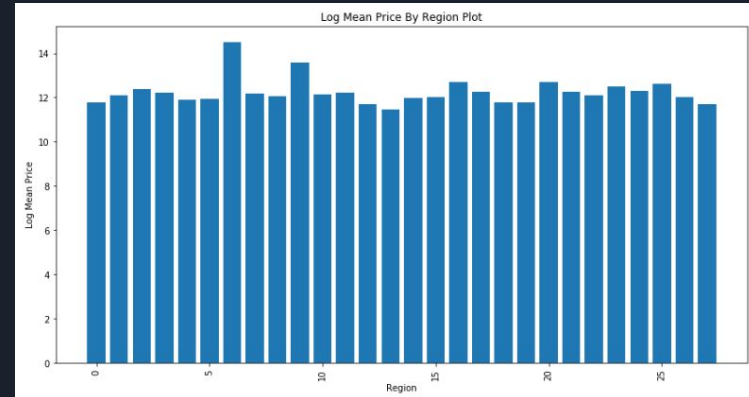
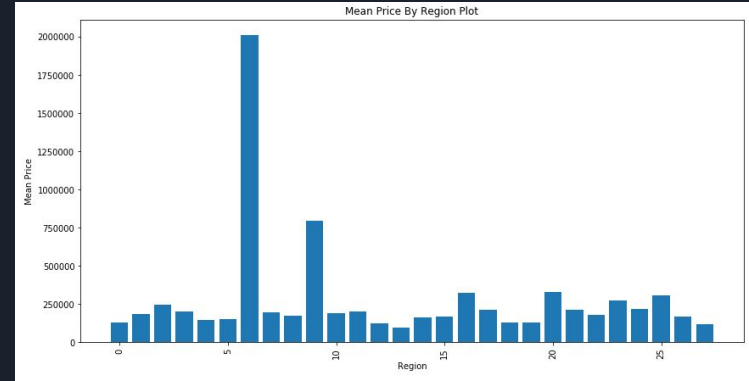
100-20: 0.2200-0.2180

20-1: 0.2180-0.2122



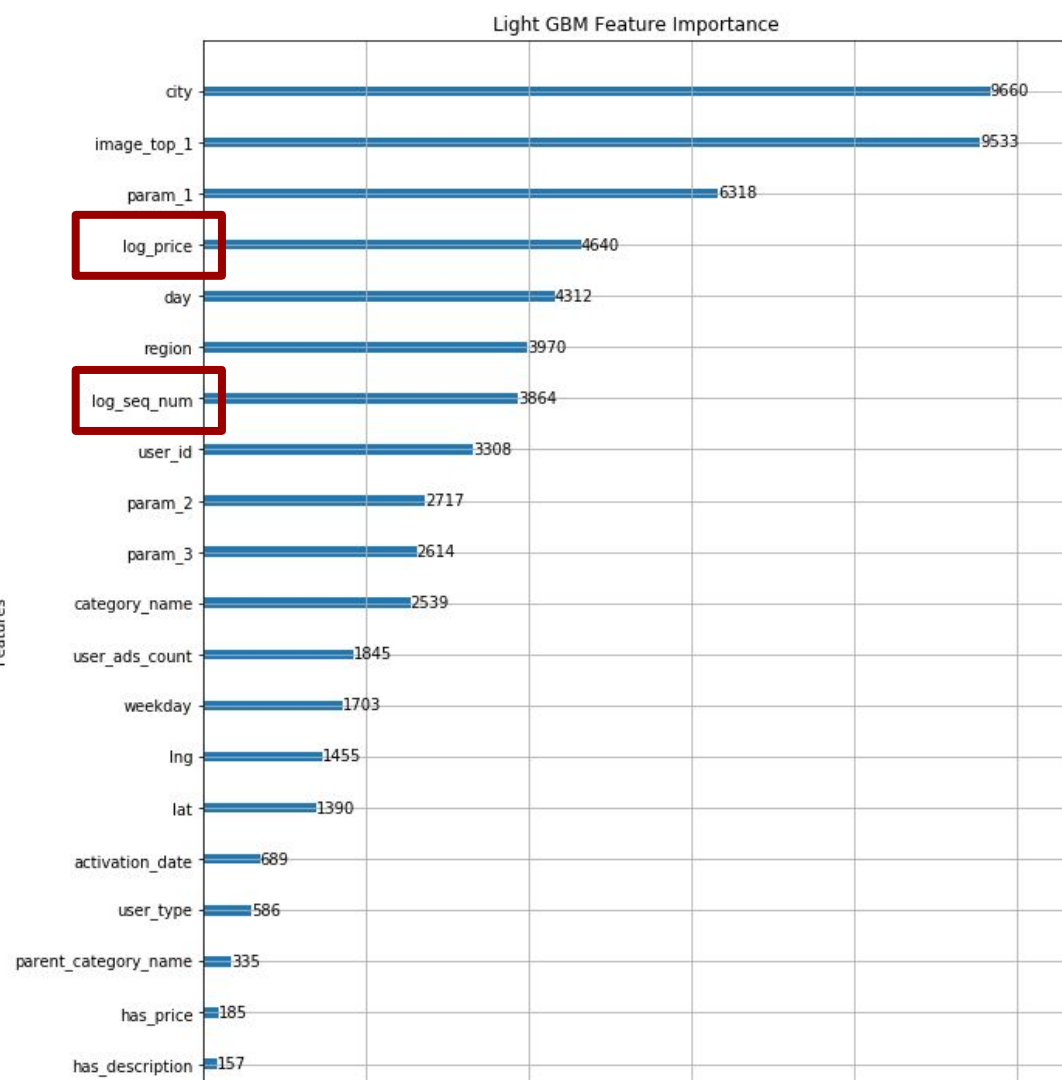
# LGBM - Basic feature enrichment

- Activation date → weekday, month, year.
- Log transform on
  - Price
  - Sequence number
- User ads count
- Add boolean features as “has\_params”
- Data cleaning - replace missing price with median price, image\_top\_1 with -1 etc.





Features






1230

new

TAU-DS-Workshop



0.2309


3

~10s

**Your Best Entry** ↑

You advanced 9 places on the leaderboard!

Your submission scored 0.2309, which is an improvement of your previous score of 0.2312. Great job!

 Tweet this!

Out of 1800 participants (66% percentile)



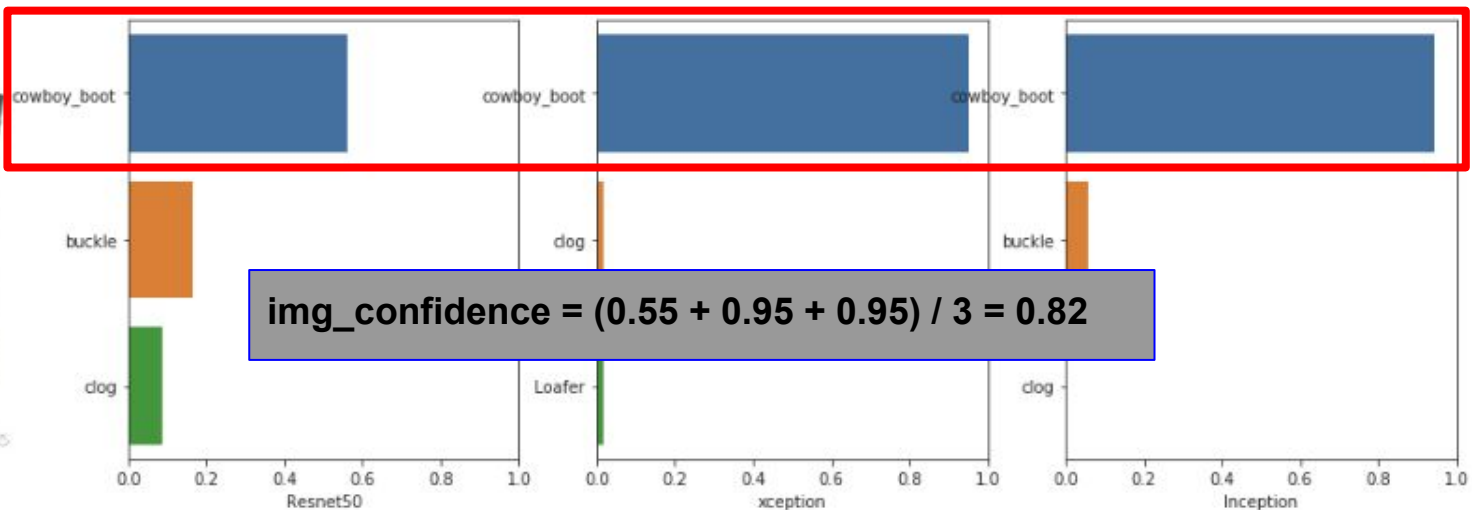
# LGBM - Add image features

## Basic guideline:

The quality of the ad image significantly affects the demand volume on an item

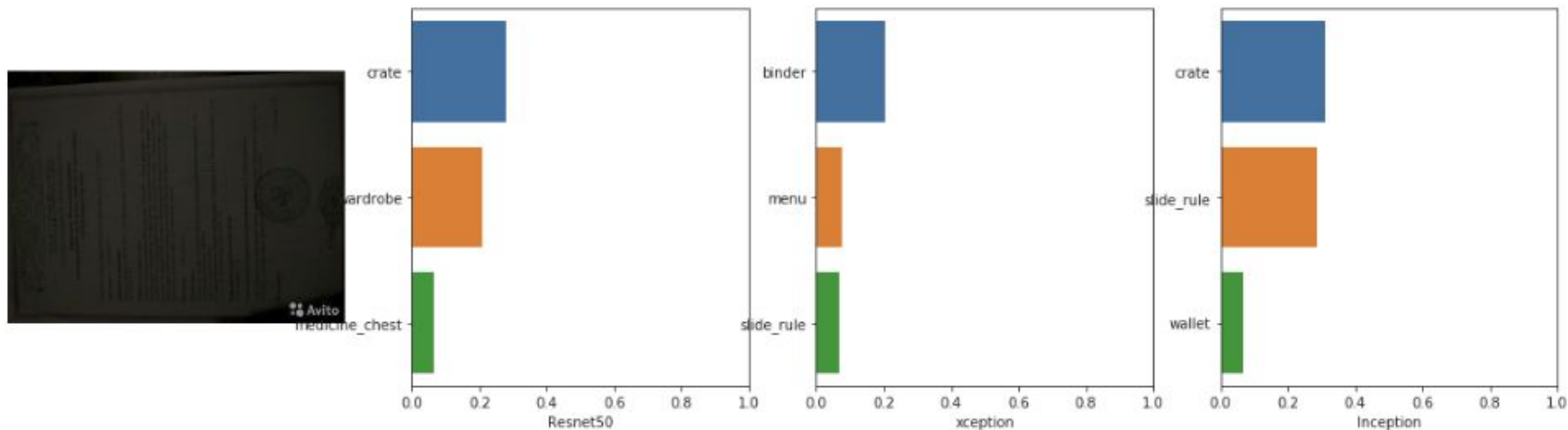
- Features: size, colorfulness, dominant color, average color
- Image Quality? sharpness, luminance
- Image “Confidence”: average of top-1 probability tags from three models (Resnet50, Xception, Inception), may work as a proxy for image quality

# Feature eng. - Images Examples



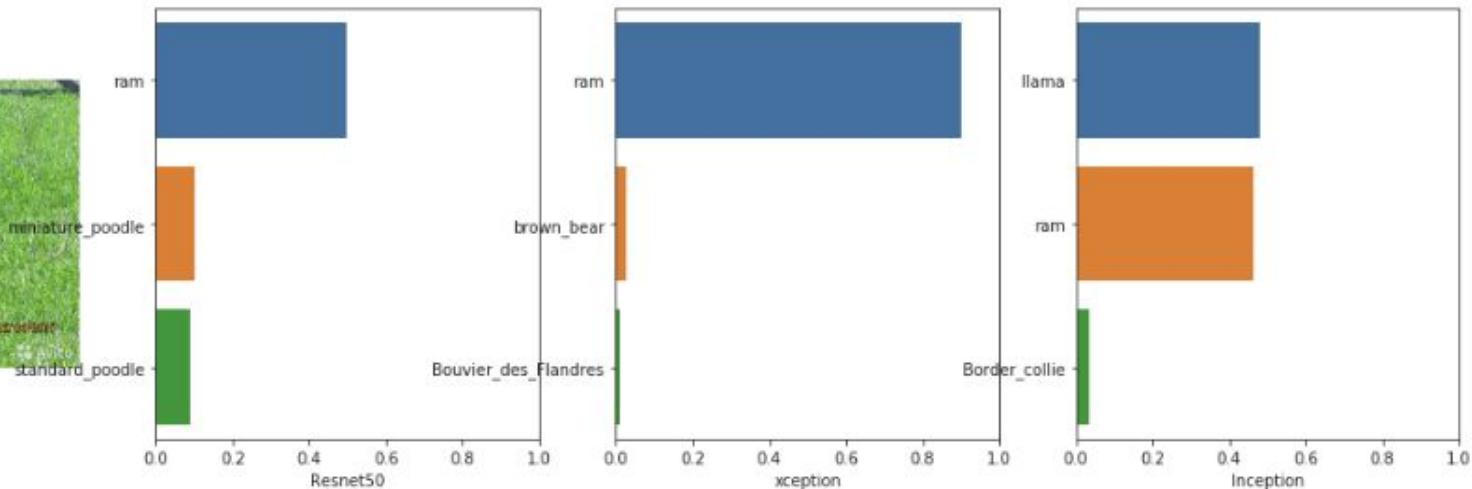
	img_size	img_sharpness	img_luminance	img_colorfulness	img_dominant_color	img_color_avg	img_blue_std	img_green_std	img_red_std
0	172800	360.226204	2969.34262	1.499964	[254, 254, 254]	[172, 172, 172]	103.977177	103.837343	103.825449

# Feature eng. - Images Examples



	img_size	img_sharpness	img_luminance	img_colorfulness	img_dominant_color	img_color_avg	img_blue_std	img_green_std	img_red_std
0	172800	65.503883	508.862134	4.474525	[31, 36, 39]	[24, 29, 32]	10.741228	10.866127	11.341529

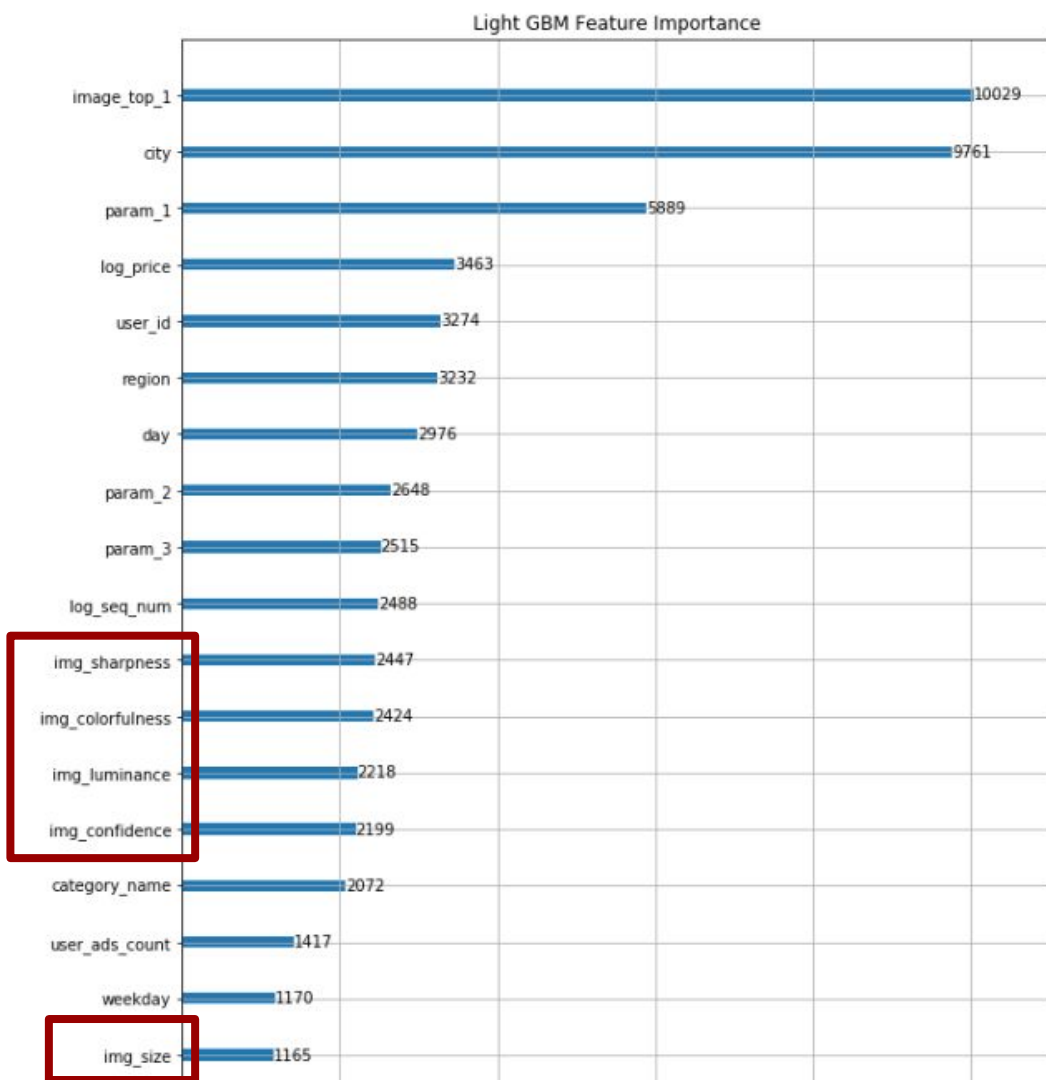
# Feature eng. - Images Examples



	img_size	img_sharpness	img_luminance	img_colorfulness	img_dominant_color	img_color_avg	img_blue_std	img_green_std	img_red_std
0	172800	1922.065405	2432.776622	48.306307	[108, 181, 140]	[90, 153, 117]	35.680399	49.146307	40.220842



Features





price item\_seq\_number image\_top\_1 deal\_probability title\_word\_count description\_word\_count merged\_params\_word\_count

# LGBM - Add text features

price	1.000000	0.061099	0.035071	-0.010853	0.065333	0.049828	-0.
item_seq_number	0.061099	1.000000	0.093324	-0.036068	0.132158	0.120281	-0.
image_top_1	0.035071	0.093324	1.000000	0.188871	0.247162	0.183789	-0.
deal_probability	-0.010853	-0.036068	0.188871	1.000000	0.017285	-0.001158	-0.
title_word_count	0.065333	0.132158	0.247162	0.017285	1.000000	0.308280	-0.
description_word_count	0.049828	0.120281	0.183789	-0.001158	0.308280	1.000000	-0.
merged_params_word_count	-0.020851	-0.056616	-0.557352	-0.116995	-0.166665	-0.162763	1.
description_sentence_count	0.028791	0.125823	0.167183	-0.016130	0.251324	0.854852	-0.
description_words/sentence_ratio	0.017774	-0.008236	0.045569	0.050242	0.088518	0.092528	-0.
title_capital_letters_ratio	-0.033504	-0.055070	0.128419	0.021500	-0.303308	-0.010537	-0.
description_capital_letters_ratio	-0.002779	0.024389	0.087672	0.002238	0.029260	0.038988	-0.
title_non_regular_chars_ratio	0.099775	0.191032	0.189312	0.022199	0.434856	0.183368	-0.
description_non_regular_chars_ratio	0.005346	0.089587	0.083366	-0.011636	0.141690	0.291877	-0.
title_num_of_newrow_char	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	
description_num_of_newrow_char	0.011555	0.106225	0.159598	-0.024514	0.197092	0.755349	-0.
title_num_adj	0.006099	0.027831	-0.077893	-0.044298	0.291463	0.079471	0.
title_num_nouns	0.044343	0.107833	0.257261	0.014511	0.817634	0.298755	-0.
title_adj_to_len_ratio	-0.013958	-0.019843	-0.152274	-0.049400	-0.019432	-0.024772	0.
title_noun_to_len_ratio	-0.025251	-0.037511	-0.025477	-0.017093	-0.356624	-0.057076	0.
description_num_adj	0.066113	0.124427	0.137847	-0.001019	0.300760	0.898495	-0.
description_num_nouns	0.050675	0.120833	0.199486	0.004715	0.312669	0.970856	-0.
description_adj_to_len_ratio	0.000882	-0.018710	-0.137510	-0.040210	-0.078614	-0.127597	0
description_noun_to_len_ratio	0.006111	0.005324	0.061534	0.024627	0.029115	-0.047335	-0.
title_sentiment	-0.010653	0.017676	0.006652	-0.006089	0.070308	0.025541	-0.
description_sentiment	-0.011110	0.031508	0.006608	-0.020147	0.022263	0.104806	-0.

# Feature eng. - Text, POS tagging

tagged_title	tagged_description	title_num_adj	title_num_nouns	title_adj_to_len_ratio	title_noun_to_len_ratio
[(Кокони, S), (, NONLEX), (кокон, S), (для, P...)]	[(Кокон, S), (для, PR), (сна, S), (малыша, S),...]	0	3	0.0	1.000000
[(Стойка, S), (для, PR), (Одежды, S)]	[(Стойка, S), (для, PR), (одежды, S), (, ... NONL...)]	0	2	0.0	0.666667
[(Philips, NONLEX), (bluray, NONLEX)]	[(B, PR), (хорошем, A=n), (состоянии, S), (, ...)]	0	2	0.0	1.000000
[(Автокресло, S)]	[(Продам, V), (кресло, S), (от0- 25кг, S)]	0	1	0.0	

The russian tagger tags sentences using the Russian National Corpus tagset:

<http://www.ruscorpora.ru/en/corpora-morph.html>

Here are some of the most important tags:

- S – noun
- A – adjective
- NUM – numeral
- A-NUM – numeral adjective
- V – verb
- ADV – adverb

description_adj_to_len_ratio	description_noun_to_len_ratio
0.142857	0.571429
0.000000	0.571429
0.117647	0.470588
0.000000	0.666667
0.000000	0.500000



# Feature eng. - Text, Sentiment analysis

title_sentiment	description_sentiment
150000.000000	138477.000000
0.013922	0.196082
0.189638	0.558819
-1.000000	-1.000000
0.000000	0.000000
0.000000	0.000000
0.000000	1.000000
1.000000	1.000000

title_sentiment	description_sentiment
0.0	0.0
0.0	0.0
0.0	0.0
0.0	0.0
0.0	-1.0

	price	item_seq_number	image_top_1	deal_probability	title_word_count	description_word_count	merged_params_word_count	
price	1.000000	0.061099	0.035071	-0.010853	0.065333	0.049828	-0.	
item_seq_number	0.061099	1.000000	0.093324	-0.036068	0.132158	0.120211	-0.	
image_top_1	0.035071	0.093324	1.000000	0.188871	0.247162	0.183789	-0.	
deal_probability	-0.010853	-0.036068	0.188871	1.000000	0.017285	0.308280	-0.	
title_word_count	0.065333	0.132158	0.247162	0.017285	1.000000	0.308280	-0.	
description_word_count	0.049828	0.120211	0.183789	-0.001158	0.308280	1.000000	-0.	
merged_params_word_count	-0.120211	-0.557352	-0.116995	-0.116995	-0.166665	-0.162763	1.	
description_sentence_count	0.161483	0.016130	0.016130	0.016130	0.221324	0.854852	-0.	
description_words/sentence_ratio	0.045569	0.050242	0.088518	0.088518	0.092528	-0.		
title_capital_letters_ratio	0.128419	0.021500	-0.303308	-0.303308	-0.010537	-0.		
description_capital_letters_ratio	0.087672	0.002238	0.029260	0.029260	0.038988	-0.		
title_non_regular_chars_ratio	0.099775	0.191032	0.189312	0.022199	0.434856	0.183368	-0.	
description_non_regular_chars_ratio	0.005346	0.089587	0.083366	-0.011636	0.141690	0.291877	-0.	
title_num_of_newrow_char	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	NaN	-0.	
description_num_of_newrow_char	0.011555	0.106225	0.159598	-0.024514	0.197092	0.755349	-0.	
title_num_adj	0.006099	0.027831	-0.077893	-0.044298	0.291463	0.079471	0.	
title_num_nouns	0.257261	0.014511	0.817634	0.817634	0.298755	-0.		
title_adj_to_len_ratio	-0.152274	-0.049400	-0.019432	-0.019432	-0.024772	0.		
title_noun_to_len_ratio	-0.025477	-0.017093	-0.356624	-0.356624	-0.057076	0.		
description_num_adj	0.199486	0.004715	0.312669	0.312669	0.898495	-0.		
description_num_nouns	0.199486	0.004715	0.312669	0.312669	0.970856	-0.		
description_adj_to_len_ratio	-0.137510	-0.040210	-0.078614	-0.078614	-0.127597	0		
description_noun_to_len_ratio	0.006111	0.005324	0.061534	0.024627	0.029115	-0.047335	-0.	
title_sentiment	-0.010653	0.017676	0.006652	-0.006089	0.070308	0.025541	-0.	
description_sentiment	-0.011110	0.031508	0.006608	-0.020147	0.022263	0.104806	-0.	

Feature eng. - Free text - Significance

Counts, ratios

POS tagging



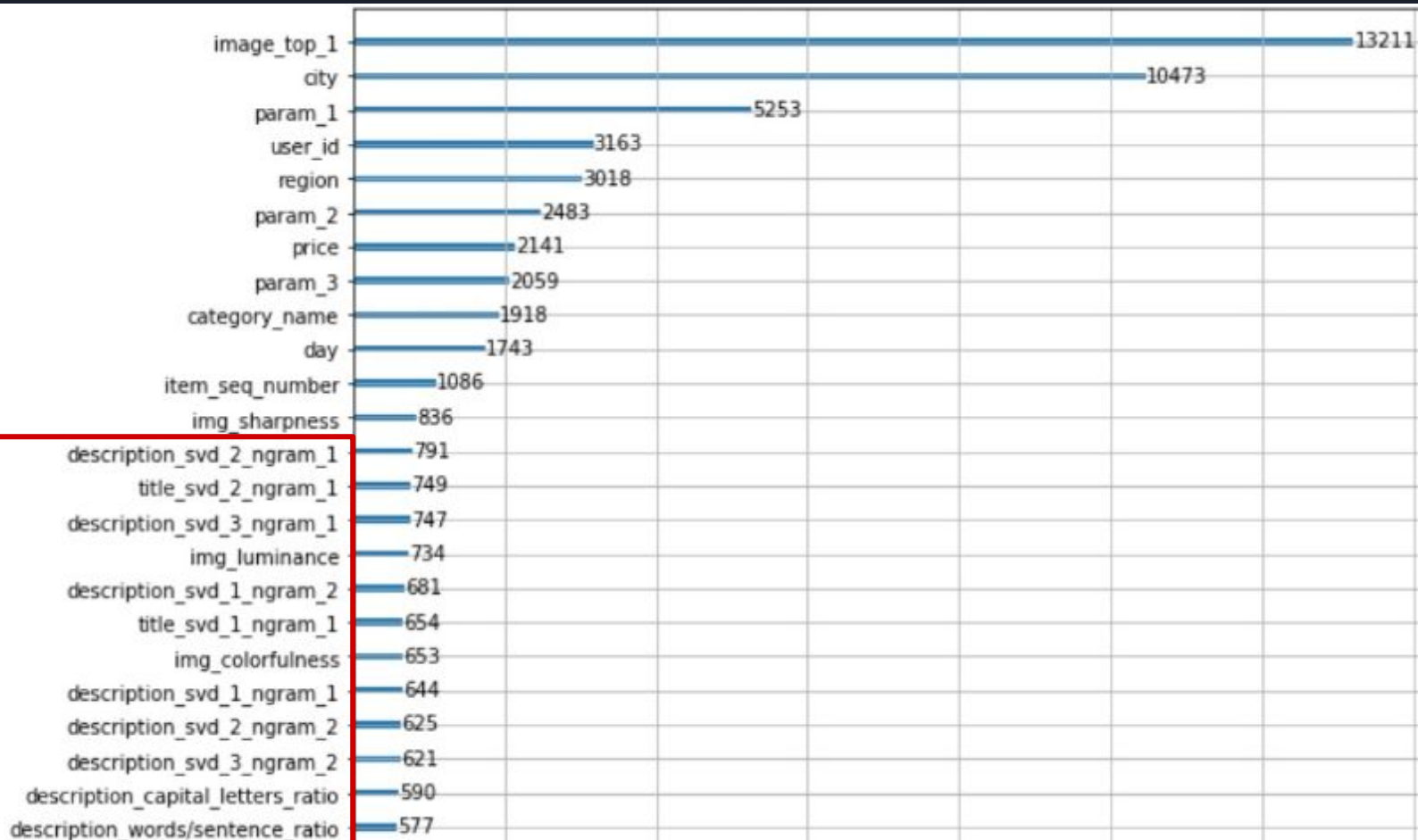


# Feature eng. - Text, aggregative: TF-IDF

1. How important a word is to a document in a collection or corpus?
2. CountVectorizer (Term Frequency) → Inverse Document Frequency transform.

```
def tfidf_main(train_df, test_df, col_name, n_comp):  
    ### TFIDF Vectorizer ###  
    tfidf_vec = TfidfVectorizer()  
    full_tfidf = tfidf_vec.fit_transform(train_df[col_name].values.tolist() + test_df[col_name].values.tolist())  
  
    ### SVD Components ###  
    svd_obj = TruncatedSVD(n_components=n_comp, algorithm='arpack')  
    svd_obj.fit(full_tfidf)  
  
    # Train  
    train_tfidf = tfidf_vec.transform(train_df[col_name].values.tolist())  
    train_svd = pd.DataFrame(svd_obj.transform(train_tfidf))  
    train_svd.columns = ['%s_svd_%s_ngram' % (col_name, i+1) for i in range(n_comp)]  
    train_df = pd.concat([train_df, train_svd], axis=1)
```

LSA. Like PCA, no normalization  
(works with sparse matrices)



# Add Aggregative features: Users and Dates

aggregated\_features.csv

 Download

aggregated\_features.csv

0 B

[Preview \(first 100 rows\)](#)



user_id	avg_days_up_user	avg_times_up_user	n_user_items
00000077ff21	12.5	2.0	2
000006497719	19.0	2.0	1
00000b4d72f6	3.0	1.0	1
00000d642d7e	13.0	1.0	2

**All data sets (train+test+active+periods - duplications) → aggregated activation dates per user.**



# Feature selection

- Eliminating highly correlated features:
  - Text features
  - Dates
  - Geo
  - Categorical features and has\_x
- User\_id





# Models and Evaluation - LightGBM

- Grid search on hyperparameters:
  - boosting type: **gbdt** (Gradient Boosting Decision Tree), rf (Random Forest), dart (Dropouts meet Multiple Additive Regression Trees)
  - learning rate: 0.03, **0.05**, 0.07, 0.1
  - num leaves: 12, 16, 32, **64** (max leaves in a single tree)
  - feature fraction: 0.5, **0.9**, 1 (randomly select part of features on each iteration)
- Cross validation (KFold)



1013

new

TAU-DS-Workshop



0.2259

13

~10s

### Your Best Entry ↑

You advanced 26 places on the leaderboard!

Your submission scored 0.2259, which is an improvement of your previous score of 0.2265. Great job!



Tweet this!

Out of 1800 participants (45% percentile)

## Competition - current state



1800 - 1250: 0.4 - 0.2300

1250-1000: 0.225X

**Feature engineering**  
**Hyperparameter Tuning**



1000-100: 0.225X-0.220X

**Better feature selection**  
**Better hyperparameter tuning**  
**Other Model: NN**



100-20: 0.2200-0.2180

20-1: 0.2180-0.2122

**Other Model: NN**



## Models - CatBoost

CatBoost is an open-source gradient boosting on decision trees library with categorical features support out of the box for Python, R (<https://catboost.yandex>)

- Very similar to LightGBM, we tried to tune the parameters similarly to LightGBM but with inferior results. It is also **much** slower. Results at the time:
  - LightGBM: 0.22534
  - CatBoost: 0.22585



## Models - NN

- We've created a basic NN:
  - Vanilla MLP: 100K X 256 X 32 X 1, sigmoid activation.
  - Vectorized text features
  - DictVectorized all other (categorical features)
  - Have not run on whole data yet (problem feeding sparse matrices to Input layer)



# Next milestones

- Input layer: feature encodings.
  - Better encode cat features (onehot encodings? Keras embeddings?)
  - Better encode continuous features
  - Better encode text features (Add TF-IDF encodings or LSTM language model hidden state as a feature)
- **Ensemble Neural nets (Different losses, Different inputs)**
  - Ensemble with Lgbm and neural nets?