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Understanding Paris's Housing Market Through Data

Introduction

Paris's housing market is known for steep prices and diverse property features, making it ideal for exploring how different variables affect value. This report presents an exploratory data analysis (EDA) to reveal trends and anomalies, aiding in strategic real-estate decisions. We import, clean, and visualize data, employing correlation and regression techniques to quantify relationships. By critically examining assumptions, we aim to guide the company on which factors most drive property prices, informing more robust strategies.

Methodology

The analysis was conducted using Python, the preferred language for exploratory data analysis (EDA) due to its versatility and data handling capabilities. The process followed a structured workflow, as outlined below:

1. Data Import and Initial Inspection

The necessary Python libraries—Pandas (for data manipulation), Matplotlib, and Seaborn (for visualization)—were imported to facilitate the analysis as seen in figure A1. The dataset, stored as a CSV file, was loaded into a Pandas DataFrame (a tabular data structure consisting of rows and columns; McKinney, 2022). See figure A2.

We started by performing some initial checks which included: checking the shape of the dataset. The DataFrame contained 19,999 rows and 11 columns which provided a substantial sample for analysis, as seen in figure A3. The first five rows of the DataFrame were examined to assess the structure of the data and to detect immediate anomalies and outliers. See figure A4.

Following this a check was done on the data types of the variables as seen in figure A5. The variables were primarily numerical (floats and integers), though it was noted that some variables were incorrectly classified. Next, a check for missing values revealed that all columns except floors, grade and renovated contained missing values. See figure A6. This issue will be addressed in the pre-processing stage. These issues will be addressed in the pre-processing stage.

2. Basic Statistical test

Basic statistical measures were calculated to summarize the dataset as seen in figure A7. By generating these key metrics—count, mean, standard deviation, min/max values, and percentiles—for all numeric columns in a dataset, we can get a quick yet powerful snapshot of the data distribution and quality (Mukhiya and Ahmed, 2020). From this statistical test, we were able to conclude that:

- The houses are typically 3 bedrooms but range from 1 to 33, which is an outlier.
- There is a high variability (€365,922) in prices likely due to differences in property features or locations.
- Most properties have 1 floor, with only a few reaching 3.5 floors.

To dig even deeper into the data, as seen in figure A8, a correlation matrix was generated to quantify relationships between variables, identifying potential predictors for further investigation. According to Wienclaw (2021), "...correlation mathematically express the degree of relationship between two events or variables on a scale of 0.0 (demonstrating no relationship between the two variables) to 1.0 (demonstrating a perfect relationship between the variables)". From this, we deduced that: living room square footage (r=0.70) has the strongest correlation with price, grade(r=0.67) has a positive effect on price and condition (r=0.14) has a surprisingly weak effect on prices.

These findings are supported by Musa & Yusoff (2015) who posited that factors such as the size of rooms have a profound influence on price. This means buyers are willing to pay significantly more for spacious, high-quality homes. Renovations also had a modest positive effect on prices,

but surprisingly, the overall condition of a home—rated on a scale from 1 to 5—had almost no impact. This suggests that buyers in Paris may prioritize potential over perfection, seeing value in homes that could be improved rather than those already in great shape.

3. Data Preprocessing

The next step is preparing the data, a crucial step to ensure accuracy. According to Mukhiya & Ahmed (2020), before data can be properly analyzed, it needs to go through a process where we fix incomplete records, remove duplicates, correct errors, and fill missing values. Three primary issues were addressed:

A. Handling Missing Values:

Only 37 rows in our data (<0.2%) had missing values. Given their perceived negligible impact on the overall dataset, they were excluded. In cases where missing data is more extensive, other techniques could be considered (Mukhiya & Ahmed, 2020), but given the small scale here, removing them was the simplest option. See figure A9.

B. Checking for Duplicates:

A custom function revealed four duplicated rows in the dataset (Figure A10). After visually confirming these were genuine duplicates, the first occurrence was retained and the others removed (Figure A11) to retain the quality of our data.

C. Data Type Standardization (as seen in figure A12):

As seen in figure A5, variables such as "built" were stored as floats, implying fractional years. Since that makes little sense for years, they were recategorized as integers to prevent errors as

seen in figure A12. Ensuring correct data types helps prevent computational or interpretive errors—especially when generating summary statistics, where integer versus float differences can distort results. (McKinney, 2022).

4. Further Statistical test

Once the pre-processing was completed, we performed basic statistical tests again to see how the changes affected the dataset. As shown in Figure A13, preprocessing had a minimal impact on the dataset: the mean price increased only slightly from $\$ 535,394.40 in Figure A7 to $\$ 535,529.74.

5. Investigation using graphical representations

Price and Number of bedrooms

To explore the relationship between price and number of bedrooms, a linear regression model was created which plotted the variables against each other as seen in figure A14. For each additional bedroom, the model suggests an estimated price increase of €119,125.83, as expressed by the equation **price** = **119,125.83** × **bedrooms** + **134,439.36**, with an R² of 0.916. See figure A15. R² represents the proportion (or percentage) of the total variation in the variable that is accounted for by the model (*Montgomery, Peck & Vining, 2012, p. 29*). With an R² of 0.0916, bedrooms alone explain only 9.16% of price variation, suggesting that other factors—like square footage or condition—must significantly influence property values.

Price and Grade

A second linear regression model (Figure A16) predicts price from grade, producing the equation $\mathbf{Price} = \mathbf{\epsilon} \mathbf{208,280} \times \mathbf{grade} + \mathbf{-1,048,759.15} \text{ (Figure A17), where each additional grade point}$ corresponds to €208,281 increase in price. This suggests that buyers are willing to pay significantly more for higher-quality finishes and design standards. The model had an R² of 0.4433 which indicates that grade is moderately important in predicting price (44.33%), though other factors still exert influence. Nonetheless, it is stronger than the bedroom variable, which explained just 9.16% of price variation as seen in figure A14.

Price and Square Footage of the Living room

A regression model developed to predict price based on the square footage of the living room (see figure A17), revealed that for every additional square foot of living space, the home's price increases by \$283.42, on average. As seen in figure A18, the equation for the model is: **price** = **283.42** x sqftliving - 47,58907.

Number of Floors and Total Square Footage

Another model was developed to examine the correlation between the number of floors and the total square footage using Pearson correlation coefficient. Pearson correlation coefficient measures the strength of a relationship between two variables Sheposh (2025). As seen in figure A19, the Pearson correlation coefficient between the two variables is 0.2, indicating the relationship between the two variables is not linear as the closer a number is to 1 the stronger the relationship. A visual representation of this correlation can be seen in figure A20.

Key Findings

Our findings underscore the importance of highlighting living space and property quality rather than focusing solely on the number of bedrooms. A well-designed, spacious home in a desirable location tends to attract more buyers than a larger property with a poor layout. In Paris's housing market, square footage and quality appear to drive prices more strongly than bedroom counts or generalized condition. For sellers, this means emphasizing roomy layouts and premium finishes. For buyers, it suggests targeting well-located homes with the potential for upgrades. For developers, it underscores the value of creating open, high-quality living spaces that align with modern preferences. Grounding our strategies in these insights will enable more informed decisions that meet genuine buyer needs—and foster greater success in Paris's competitive real estate landscape.

References

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Wienclaw, R.A. (2021) *Correlation*. Salem Press Encyclopedia [online]. Available from: https://research.ebsco.com/linkprocessor/plink?id=fef02228-0378-3d23-a80f-4fb6e0b2b4cb [Accessed 31 March 2025].

Appendix A

```
[98]: #Importing the necessary Libraries needed for the EDA. NumPy was used for numerical data manipulation in Python, while Pandas was employed #for handling structured or tabular data, such as our dataset. Additionally, Pandas facilitated data preprocessing, including managing missing #values. For data visualization, Matplotlib and Seaborn were utilized to generate graphical representations, aiding in the exploration and #analysis of the dataset. Sklearn is a machine learning module that is built into Python that will be used to create the models that will idetify #trends in the data import pandas as pd from scipy import stats import statsmodels.api as sm import statsmodels.api as sm import seaborn as sns import matplotlib.pyplot as plt from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression, LogisticRegression from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split from sklearn.metrics import r2_score
```

Figure A1: Importing the Python libraries needed for the EDA.

```
[13]: #importing the dataset into a pandas DataFrame called 'Housing_Data'
Housing_Data= pd.read_excel("Paris_housing_Data_Set.xlsx", engine="openpyxl")
```

Figure A2: Importing the dataset into a Pandas DataFrame

```
[91]: #Checking the initial shape of the data to get an understanding of the magnitude of the data that we are working with.

Housing_Data.shape
```

[91]: (19999, 11)

Figure A3: showing the shape of the DataFrame

Figure A4: showing the first 5 columns of the DataFrame

Figure A5: showing the date type of the variables in the DataFrame



Figure A6: showing the missing values in the dataset

#typic #I've #some #The h #The c	ally have 3 chosen not statistics ouses have	bedrooms to remove such as the between 1. Living clo	but ranges ; this datapo e mean, it ; 5 to 2.5 ba sely resembl	from 1 to 3 int because provides re throoms. Al	3 which is it represe al word ins so, most pr	an outlie nts real ight into operties	r. The 33- work scena the luxur have 1 flo	bedroom pi rios becau y market : or but a ;	roperty, use Paris in Paris. few have	I believe, does have 3.5 floors.		cistence of Luxu
	price	bedrooms	bathrooms	sqft_living	sqft_total	floors	condition	grade	built	renovated	living_area_sqft	
count	19995.00	19984.00	19988.00	19998.00	19994.00	19999.00	19998.00	19999.00	19998.00	19999.00	19993.0	
mean	535394.40	3.37	2.07	2057.94	15606.96	1.44	3.44	7.61	1967.95	90.81	1974.2	
std	365921.66	0.93	0.76	905.64	41775.76	0.52	0.67	1.17	28.32	415.95	675.2	
min	75000.00	1.00	0.50	290.00	520.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1900.00	0.00	399.0	
25%	317000.00	3.00	1.50	1420.00	5350.00	1.00	3.00	7.00	1950.00	0.00	1490.0	
50%	449900.00	3.00	2.00	1900.00	7817.50	1.00	3.00	7.00	1969.00	0.00	1830.0	
75%	640000.00	4.00	2.50	2510.00	11000.00	2.00	4.00	8.00	1991.00	0.00	2336.0	
	770000000	22.00	0.00	13540.00	4654350.00	2.50	F 00	42.00	2015.00	2015.00	6240.0	
max	7700000.00	33.00	8.00	15540.00	1651359.00	3.50	5.00	13.00	2015.00	2015.00	6210.0	

Figure A7: showing the results of the statistical test performed on the DataFrame

	orr()										
	price	bedrooms	bathrooms	sqft_living	sqft_total	floors	condition	grade	built	renovated	living_area_sqft
price	1.000000	0.302715	0.524730	0.701247	0.085870	0.278690	0.047269	0.665259	0.040088	0.135701	0.595678
bedrooms	0.302715	1.000000	0.515724	0.568133	0.030603	0.204928	0.033419	0.354848	0.159865	0.021052	0.376581
bathrooms	0.524730	0.515724	1.000000	0.761640	0.092467	0.505132	-0.096782	0.661418	0.488162	0.066027	0.576770
sqft_living	0.701247	0.568133	0.761640	1.000000	0.171361	0.391976	-0.046014	0.766483	0.321674	0.064575	0.753186
sqft_total	0.085870	0.030603	0.092467	0.171361	1.000000	0.015878	-0.017107	0.117585	0.076945	0.005526	0.151518
floors	0.278690	0.204928	0.505132	0.391976	0.015878	1.000000	-0.227628	0.464452	0.431733	0.027793	0.318028
condition	0.047269	0.033419	-0.096782	-0.046014	-0.017107	-0.227628	1.000000	-0.123643	-0.323934	-0.071889	-0.086868
grade	0.665259	0.354848	0.661418	0.766483	0.117585	0.464452	-0.123643	1.000000	0.435028	0.024937	0.729372
built	0.040088	0.159865	0.488162	0.321674	0.076945	0.431733	-0.323934	0.435028	1.000000	-0.219860	0.341028
renovated	0.135701	0.021052	0.066027	0.064575	0.005526	0.027793	-0.071889	0.024937	-0.219860	1.000000	0.001815
living_area_sqft	0.595678	0.376581	0.576770	0.753186	0.151518	0.318028	-0.086868	0.729372	0.341028	0.001815	1.000000

Figure A8: showing the relationship between the variables in the DataFrame.

```
[139]: #Checking for rows with missing values in the dataset have missing values to determine how to handle them. The dataset contained a minimal number of #mull entries (37 rows, representing less than 8.2% of total observations). Given their negligible impact on the overall dataset (19,999 rows) and #the preservation of key statistical properties post-removal, they were removed from the dataset and the analysis.

num_of_na= Housing_Data.isna().any(axis=1).sum()
print(num_of_na)

37

[148]: #Since there are 37 rows with missing values they can be dropped because they are not material when compared to the number of data points #that are in our dataset.

Cleaned_Data-Housing_Data.dropns().copy()
```

Figure A9: showing the number of missing values in the dataset and their deletion

```
[112]: # Checking for duplicates across all columns
duplicates = Cleaned_Data[Cleaned_Data.duplicated(keep=False)]
          if not duplicates.empty:
    print(f"Found {len(duplicates)} duplicate rows:")
               print(duplicates.sort_values(list(Cleaned_Data.columns)))
          else:
              print("No duplicates found in Cleaned_Data")
           Found 8 duplicate rows:
                        price bedrooms bathrooms sqft_living sqft_total floors \
                                 2.0 2.00
2.0 2.00
4.0 1.75
4.0 1.75
3.0 2.50
3.0 2.50
                  259950.0
                                                                     1070.0
                                                                                       649.0
649.0
           4352 259950.0
3950 550000.0
3951 550000.0
14982 585000.0
                                                                     2410.0
2410.0
2290.0
                                                                                     8447.0
8447.0
5089.0
           14983 585000.0
16380 629950.0
                                                                     2290.0
                                                                                      5089.0
                                                                                                    2.0
                                                                     1680.0
                                                                                      1683.0
          17242 629950.0
                                                                     1680.0
                                                                                      1683.0
                    condition grade built renovated living_ar 3.0 9 2008.0 0 3.0 9 2008.0 0
          547
4352
                                                                                    1070.0
           3950
                                        8 1936.0
                                                                                    2520.0
```

Figure A10: showing the duplicate records

```
# After visualling confirming that the data poinst were duplicate the duplicates were dropped but the first occurence was kept.
Cleaned_Data = Cleaned_Data.drop_duplicates()

# Verify duplicates were removed
remaining_dupes = Cleaned_Data[Cleaned_Data.duplicated()]
print(f"Remaining duplicates after dropping: {len(remaining_dupes)}")

Remaining duplicates after dropping: 0
```

Figure A11: showing the check for duplicates and then their removal from the DataFrame

```
*[114]: ## Filling missing values with 0 and converting columns to appropriate data types:

# - Integer columns:for discrete variables

# - Float columns:for discrete variables

# - Float columns:for discrete variables

# - Float columns: for continous variables

# - Float columns: for continous variables

# Cleaned_Data['bedroons'] = Cleaned_Data['reloors'].fillna(0).astype(float)

# Cleaned_Data['grade'] = Cleaned_Data['grade'].fillna(0).astype(float)

# Cleaned_Data['grade'] = Cleaned_Data['grade'].fillna(0).astype(float)

# Cleaned_Data['renovated'] = Cleaned_Data['renovated'].fillna(0).astype(float)

# Cleaned_Data['bedroons'] = Cleaned_Data['saft_inous'].fillna(0).astype(float)

# Cleaned_Data['saft_inous'] = Cleaned_Data['saft_inous'].fillna(0).astype(float)

# Cleaned_Data['saft_inous'].fillna(0).astype(float)
```

Figure A12: showing the recategorization of some variables



Figure A13: showing statistical test performed on the cleaned DataFrame



Figure A14: showing model that can be used to predict the price using the number of bedrooms

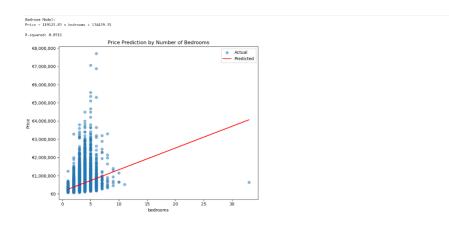


Figure A15: showing the model equation for predicting price based on the number of bedrooms

```
[73] MPRICE VS GRADE

[74] Mcveting the model to predict price using grade with linear regression nodel_grade = Linear/egression() nodel_grade = Linear/egrade = Linear/e
```

Figure A16: showing the regression model developed to predict price based on the grade of a house.



Figure A17: showing the equation and a graphical representation of the grade model

Figure A18: showing the linear regression model to predict price based on the square footage of the living room of a property.

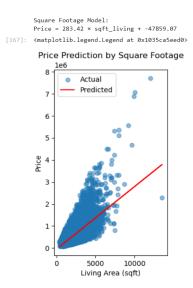


Figure A19: showing the equation for the model and a graphical representation.

Figure A20: showing the model used to examine the correlation between number of floors and total square footage.

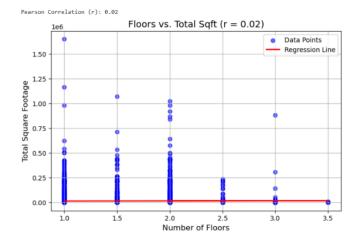


Figure A21: showing the correlation between number of floors and the total square footage.

Appendix B

Link to the full Python Code:

Mathematics_for Data_Science_1.1_STU24110970.ipynb