CAN THO UNIVERSITY



School of Education Report Computational Mathematics

Optimizing House Price Predictions with Lasso Regression

Supervisor:

PhD. Tran Thu Le

Student:

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We sincerely hope that this report will serve as a valuable reference for those with an interest in *Lasso regression* and inspire further research in the field of predictive modeling and data science.

Respectfully,
Patcharapon Jitprapai
Tanchanok Naksuwan
Ranchida Saengsri
Rusdee Daraneetalea

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Introduction

1. Historical Development

House - price forecasting has evolved from early hedonic pricing approaches in economics—which quantified how factors like location, floor area and neighborhood amenities influence value—to modern data-driven techniques powered by big, structured real-estate datasets. In the 1990s and 2000s, researchers experimented with classical linear and nonlinear regression models, but these often struggled with many correlated predictors and overfitting. More recently, machine-learning methods such as random forests and neural networks have achieved impressive accuracy, albeit at the cost of interpretability. This growing tension between predictive power and model transparency has driven interest in regularization methods like *Lasso regression*, which automatically select the most important features while controlling model complexity.

2. Motivation

Traditional least-squares regression breaks down when faced with high-dimensional housing data containing dozens—or even hundreds—of potentially redundant or collinear features. Lasso Regression (Least Absolute Shrinkage and Selection Operator) addresses this by adding an ℓ_1 penalty to the loss function. As it shrinks many coefficient estimates exactly to zero, Lasso both regularizes the model (reducing overfit) and performs variable selection in one step. The result is a sparser, more interpretable model that highlights the handful of property attributes most predictive of prices, making it ideal for real-world decision-support in real estate.

3. Objectives

This report sets out to:

- Implement Lasso Regression on a real-world housing dataset to forecast sale prices.
- Investigate how varying the regularization parameter (λ) affects feature sparsity and out-of-sample accuracy.
- Evaluate model performance using metrics such as Mean Absolute Error (MAE), Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE), and R^2 .

• Compare Lasso's predictive strength and interpretability against baseline models (e.g. ordinary least squares, ridge regression, tree-based methods).

4. Report Structure

Preliminary Knowledge

This chapter provides the essential theoretical background needed to understand and apply Lasso Regression in the context of house price prediction. The discussion covers key concepts that form the basis for the methods used in the report.

- Addresses the problem of multicollinearity in linear regression, explaining its impact on model stability and interpretability.
- Introduces regularization techniques, with a focus on both Ridge and Lasso Regression, to mitigate overfitting and improve model robustness.
- Explains the mathematical formulation of Lasso Regression, highlighting the role of the L1 norm in promoting sparsity and feature selection.

This section ensures that readers gain a clear understanding of the foundational concepts required for effective use of Lasso Regression, particularly the benefits it offers in model simplification and generalization.

Problem Formulation and Methodology

In this section, the house price prediction problem is formally defined and the methodological framework for addressing it is outlined in detail. This prepares the groundwork for building and evaluating the predictive model.

- Defines the target problem using a dataset that includes features such as area, age, number of bedrooms, and garage availability.
- Details the data preprocessing steps, including normalization, data splitting, and handling of missing values, to ensure data quality and consistency.
- Describes the implementation of Lasso Regression, including hyperparameter optimization via cross-validation, and the systematic comparison with baseline models such as OLS regression.

By clearly presenting both the problem and the solution process, this section lays out a logical and structured approach that supports the validity and reliability of the study's results.

Experimental Results

This chapter presents the outcomes of the experiments and offers a critical evaluation of the Lasso model's performance. The effectiveness of the approach is demonstrated through both visual and quantitative analysis.

- Provides graphical representations of the features and their relationships, facilitating better understanding of the data.
- Reports quantitative performance metrics such as Mean Squared Error (MSE), R² Score, and accuracy for both training and testing sets.
- Analyzes the influence of the regularization parameter (alpha) on model performance and feature selection, with benchmarking against OLS and Ridge regression models.

Through empirical results and comparative analysis, this section highlights the strengths of Lasso Regression in reducing model complexity and enhancing predictive accuracy.

Conclusions and Future Work

The final chapter summarizes the key findings of the report and outlines possible directions for future research and practical applications. It reflects on the study's contributions and points toward further opportunities for development.

- Summarizes the main results, discussing both the effectiveness and the limitations of Lasso Regression, particularly in relation to correlated or irrelevant features.
- Emphasizes the practical applications of house price prediction in fields such as real estate, urban planning, and financial management.
- Recommends further research avenues, including enriching the dataset, exploring advanced regression methods, integrating spatial data, and developing accessible web-based tools

This section consolidates the report's overall contributions, emphasizing the value of Lasso Regression for both academic study and practical application, and provides guidance for future enhancements.

Preliminary Knowledge

1.1 Linear Regression Overview

Linear regression models the relationship between a target variable y and a set of predictors x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n using a linear equation:

$$\hat{y} = \beta_0 + \sum_{j=1}^n \beta_j x_j$$

The goal is to estimate the coefficients β_j that minimize the Residual Sum of Squares (RSS):

$$\min_{\beta} \sum_{i=1}^{m} (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2$$

While this method works well in many cases, it struggles when features are highly correlated (multicollinearity) or when the number of predictors is large compared to the number of samples.

1.2 Multicollinearity Challenges

Multicollinearity refers to the situation where two or more features are strongly linearly related. This leads to:

- Unstable estimates of β_j ,
- Increased variance in the model,
- Reduced interpretability,
- Poor generalization to new data.

In house pricing data, for instance, features like total square footage and number of rooms can be highly correlated.

1.3 Regularization Techniques

To address overfitting and multicollinearity, regularization introduces a penalty term to the loss function:

• Ridge Regression (L2 penalty):

$$\min_{\beta} \sum_{i=1}^{m} (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2 + \alpha \sum_{j=1}^{n} \beta_j^2$$

• Lasso Regression (L1 penalty):

$$\min_{\beta} \sum_{i=1}^{m} (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2 + \alpha \sum_{j=1}^{n} |\beta_j|$$

Lasso is preferred when we expect some features to be irrelevant, as it can shrink coefficients to zero (feature selection).

1.4 Mathematical Explanation of Lasso Regression

Loss Function

The objective function for Lasso Regression is:

$$\mathcal{L}(\beta) = \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2 + \alpha \sum_{j=1}^{n} |\beta_j|$$

Where:

- y_i : Actual value,
- \hat{y}_i : Predicted value,
- β_i : Model coefficients,
- α: Regularization parameter controlling the strength of the L1 penalty.

Constraints

The L1 penalty introduces a constraint equivalent to:

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n} |\beta_j| \le t$$

for some constant t. This constrains the total absolute magnitude of the coefficients, encouraging sparsity (some $\beta_j = 0$).

Parameters

There are two types of parameters in the Lasso model:

- Model coefficients β_i learned during training,
- Regularization strength α selected via cross-validation.

Larger values of α increase the penalty and shrink more coefficients to zero.

Algorithms for Solving Lasso

Since the L1 norm is not differentiable at zero, Lasso requires special optimization algorithms:

- Coordinate Descent: Updates one coefficient at a time while keeping others fixed. Efficient and commonly used.
- Least Angle Regression (LARS): Tracks the entire solution path as α varies. Useful for high-dimensional problems.
- Subgradient Methods: Used in gradient-based approaches when standard derivatives do not exist.

Geometric Intuition

In two dimensions, the L1 constraint forms a diamond shape. The corners of the diamond align with the coordinate axes, making it more likely that the optimal solution lies on an axis (i.e., some coefficients are zero). This gives Lasso its feature selection property.

1.5 Cross-Validation for Hyperparameter Tuning

To find the optimal regularization parameter α , k-fold cross-validation is used:

- 1. Divide data into k subsets,
- 2. Train the model on k-1 subsets, validate on the remaining one,
- 3. Repeat for each fold and compute average performance (e.g., MSE),
- 4. Select the α value that minimizes validation error.

1.6 Summary

This chapter introduced linear regression, highlighted the challenges of multicollinearity, and motivated the use of Lasso Regression. It also presented the mathematical foundation of Lasso, including its objective function, constraints, key parameters, and optimization algorithms. The next chapter will apply these concepts to the problem of house price prediction using real-world data.

Model Lasso Regression for House Price Prediction

2.1 Mathematical Formulation

In standard linear regression, the predicted value \hat{y} is modeled as a linear combination of input features:

$$\hat{y} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 + \beta_2 x_2 + \dots + \beta_n x_n$$

where:

- \hat{y} is the predicted house price,
- x_i are the input features (e.g., house area, number of bedrooms, location),
- β_i are the coefficients to be learned.

Lasso Regression modifies the loss function by adding an L_1 -norm penalty to the sum of squared errors:

$$\mathcal{L}(\beta) = \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2 + \alpha \sum_{j=1}^{n} |\beta_j|$$

Where:

- m is the number of training samples,
- $\alpha \geq 0$ is the regularization parameter (controls the amount of shrinkage),
- $\sum_{j=1}^{n} |\beta_j|$ is the L_1 -norm penalty, which encourages sparsity in β .

2.2 Why is Lasso Suitable for Predicting House Prices?

Real estate price data often contains a wide range of variables, such as:

• Structural details of the house (e.g., square footage, number of rooms, age)

- Additional amenities (like garages or swimming pools)
- Location-specific factors (e.g., neighborhood, distance to schools or city centers)

However, not every feature has the same level of impact on the final price. That's where Lasso Regression comes in handy. It offers:

- Automatic selection of the most significant variables
- A streamlined model with reduced complexity
- Better generalization by removing unnecessary or redundant features, helping prevent overfitting

2.3 How to Train a Lasso Model

Training a Lasso model involves several key steps:

- 1. Splitting the dataset into training and testing sets
- 2. Normalizing the features so they share a consistent scale
- 3. Using cross-validation to choose the best regularization parameter (α)
- 4. Applying an optimization technique such as coordinate descent to fit the model

2.4 What Does the Model Produce?

Once the training is complete, the Lasso model delivers:

- A set of coefficients (β) for the input variables—many of which are zero, indicating exclusion from the model
- A predictive formula for estimating house prices based on the inputs
- A clear view of which features most influence housing prices

2.5 Conclusion

Lasso Regression is a robust and practical choice for predicting house prices, especially when working with high-dimensional data. It balances model accuracy with simplicity and interpretability—making it an excellent tool for real estate analytics, where understanding the key drivers behind price is as valuable as the prediction itself.

Training the Lasso Model Regression for House Price Prediction

Research and apply the Lasso Regression algorithm to build a model for predicting house prices based on features such as area, number of bedrooms, number of bathrooms, the age of the house, and the presence of a garage. The input data is a sample dataset consisting of multiple houses with relevant attributes and corresponding selling prices as follows:

Area	Bedrooms	Age	Price
3221	7	I	221614
2723	7	9	397043
3745	Н	11	340408
2908	7	6	348994
3909	6	1	320214
1434	3	3	335810
3948	F	6	488348
1618	3	9	433723
3012	3	4	291037
1723	4	2	436418
1948	7	12	232751
3037	5	11	308812
2775	7	10	249976
3434	3	5	230074
1497	2	12	497069
E	7	1	195829
1314	5	11	281552
2952	7	J	357813
1756	2	15	300208
1334	2	3	244251
1260	5	13	478239
3915	5	2	414112

Area	Bedrooms	Age	Price
2323	2	6	428282
2942	2	11	164395
G	2	F	203825
I	7	15	319992
1320	3	3	210905
1831	5	2	107842
3799	7	2	120998
2314	3	2	153311
1154	6	15	316273
2793	6	12	189083
2568	5	3	274150
2404	6	9	193931
2681	2	14	333890
3947	6	6	311657
F	3	1	256759
1131	4	1	465955
1749	2	2	490379
1379	3	14	132664
D	7	13	145031
1864	4	С	209237
2618	6	5	491656
3398	7	9	328775
3520	4	12	267958
Н	2	11	229701
1067	3	2	288069
1560	3	1	147921
G	Н	15	204378
2676	В	6	227307

3.1 Clean Non-Numeric Rows in Dataset

As part of the data preprocessing step, we cleaned the dataset by removing rows containing invalid (non-numeric) entries in three key columns: Area, Bedrooms, and Age. The remaining values were then converted to floating-point numbers to ensure consistency and prepare the data for further analysis and modeling. This resulted in a clean and reliable dataset ready for use in machine learning tasks.

Code Python of Clean Non-Numeric Rows in Dataset

```
import pandas as pd
3 # Load the dataset
  df = pd.read_csv("house_price_missing_letters_lasso_friendly.csv")
6 # Columns to clean
  cols_to_check = ['Area', 'Bedrooms', 'Age']
  # Function to check if a value is numeric
  def is_numeric(val):
11
      try:
          float(val)
12
          return True
13
14
      except:
          return False
15
16
17 # Keep rows where all three columns are numeric
18 mask = df[cols_to_check].applymap(is_numeric).all(axis=1)
19 filtered_df = df[mask].copy() # .copy() to avoid
     SettingWithCopyWarning
20
21 # Convert numeric columns to float
22 filtered_df[cols_to_check] = filtered_df[cols_to_check].astype(float)
23
24 # Save cleaned data to CSV
25 filtered_df.to_csv("house_price_clean_numeric.csv", index=False)
27 # Print the cleaned data
print("Cleaned data:")
29 print(filtered_df) # This will print the entire cleaned dataset
```

Python Output (Cleaned Data)

```
Cleaned data:
         Area
                Bedrooms
                             Age
                                    Price
2
  1
       2723.0
                      7.0
                             9.0
                                   397043
3
  3
                      7.0
       2908.0
                             6.0
                                   348994
4
  4
       3909.0
                      6.0
                             1.0
                                   320214
       1434.0
                      3.0
                             3.0
                                   335810
6
  7
       1618.0
                      3.0
                             9.0
                                   433723
  8
       3012.0
                      3.0
                             4.0
                                   291037
                             2.0
  9
       1723.0
                      4.0
                                   436418
10
  10
       1948.0
                      7.0
                            12.0
                                   232751
  11
       3037.0
                      5.0
                            11.0
                                   308812
11
  12
       2775.0
                      7.0
                            10.0
                                   249976
12
                            5.0
13
  13
       3434.0
                      3.0
                                   230074
  14
       1497.0
                      2.0
                            12.0
                                   497069
14
15
  16
       1314.0
                      5.0
                            11.0
                                   281552
                            15.0
  18
       1756.0
                      2.0
                                   300208
16
17
  19
       1334.0
                      2.0
                             3.0
                                   244251
       1260.0
                            13.0
18
  20
                      5.0
                                   478239
  21
       3915.0
                      5.0
                             2.0
                                   414112
19
20 22
                      2.0
       2323.0
                             6.0
                                   428282
  23
       2942.0
                      2.0
                            11.0
                                   164395
  26
       1320.0
                      3.0
                             3.0
                                   210905
22
                                   107842
  27
       1831.0
                      5.0
                             2.0
23
                      7.0
  28
       3799.0
                             2.0
                                   120998
25
  29
       2314.0
                      3.0
                             2.0
                                   153311
  30
       1154.0
                      6.0
                            15.0
                                   316273
26
  31
       2793.0
                      6.0
                            12.0
                                   189083
27
  32
       2568.0
                      5.0
                             3.0
28
                                   274150
  33
       2404.0
                      6.0
                             9.0
                                   193931
  34
       2681.0
                      2.0
                            14.0
                                   333890
30
       3947.0
                             6.0
  35
                      6.0
                                   311657
31
  37
       1131.0
                      4.0
32
                             1.0
                                   465955
  38
       1749.0
                      2.0
                             2.0
                                   490379
33
                            14.0
34
  39
       1379.0
                      3.0
                                   132664
       2618.0
                             5.0
35 42
                      6.0
                                   491656
36 43
       3398.0
                      7.0
                             9.0
                                   328775
  44
       3520.0
                      4.0
                            12.0
                                   267958
37
  46
       1067.0
                      3.0
                             2.0
                                   288069
38
  47
                      3.0
                             1.0
39
       1560.0
                                   147921
  <ipython-input-3-bfb9acad1f88>:18: FutureWarning: DataFrame.applymap
      has been deprecated. Use DataFrame.map instead.
    mask = df[cols_to_check].applymap(is_numeric).all(axis=1)
42 \section{Lasso Regression in Python}\
```

3.2 Lasso Regression in Python

This Python script demonstrates how to apply Lasso Regression to predict house prices based on various property features. Lasso Regression is a linear model that includes an L_1 penalty term, which encourages sparsity in the model by reducing less important feature coefficients to zero. This makes it especially useful for feature selection in high-dimensional datasets.

The dataset used in this example, house_price_missing_letters_lasso_friendly.csv, contains categorical variables that are preprocessed using one-hot encoding. After preprocessing, the data is split into training and test sets, and a Lasso model is trained using a regularization parameter $\alpha = 0.1$.

The script concludes by evaluating the model performance using Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE) and ranking the features based on the absolute value of their coefficients. The most influential features in predicting house prices are highlighted and optionally saved to a CSV file for further analysis.

This example provides a practical workflow for using Lasso Regression in predictive modeling and highlights its ability to perform both regression and feature selection.

```
import pandas as pd
  import numpy as np
3 from sklearn.linear_model import Lasso
  from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
from sklearn.metrics import mean_squared_error
  # 1. Load the dataset
  try:
      df = pd.read_csv("house_price_missing_letters_lasso_friendly.csv")
  except FileNotFoundError:
      print("Error: File 'house_price_missing_letters_lasso_friendly.csv
     , not found.")
      exit()
12
14 # 2. Convert columns with mixed data to string type
for col in ['Area', 'Bedrooms', 'Age']:
      df[col] = df[col].astype(str)
16
17
  # 3. Separate features and target
18
19 X = df.drop(columns=["Price"])
  y = df["Price"]
20
22 # 4. One-hot encode categorical variables
X_encoded = pd.get_dummies(X, drop_first=True)
24
  # 5. Split the data into training and test sets
25
26 X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test = train_test_split(
      X_encoded, y, test_size=0.2, random_state=42
27
28 )
30 # 6. Train the Lasso regression model
31 lasso = Lasso(alpha=0.1)
32 lasso.fit(X_train, y_train)
34 # 7. Predict and calculate RMSE
```

```
y_pred = lasso.predict(X_test)
sel rmse = np.sqrt(mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred))
37
38 # 8. Create a DataFrame of feature importances
39 coef_df = pd.DataFrame({
      "Feature": X_encoded.columns,
      "Coefficient": lasso.coef_
41
42 })
43 coef_df["Importance"] = coef_df["Coefficient"].abs()
ranked_features = coef_df[coef_df["Coefficient"] != 0].sort_values(by=
     "Importance", ascending=False)
45
46 # 9. Display results
47 print("Intercept:", round(lasso.intercept_, 2))
48 print("RMSE on test set:", round(rmse, 2))
49
50 # Configure pandas to display the entire DataFrame without truncation
pd.set_option("display.max_rows", None)
pd.set_option("display.max_columns", None)
pd.set_option("display.width", None)
pd.set_option("display.max_colwidth", None)
55
56 print("\nRanked features by importance:")
57 print(ranked_features)
59 # 10. (Optional) Save the results to a CSV file
60 ranked_features.to_csv("lasso_feature_importance.csv", index=False)
61 print("\nFeature importances have been saved to '
     lasso_feature_importance.csv'")
```

:

Python Output Lasso Regression

```
Intercept: 283038.13
  RMSE on test set: 69254.23
  Ranked features by importance:
          Feature
                      Coefficient
                                        Importance
  8
        Area_1497
                    213480.331648
                                     213480.331648
6
  41
        Area_3948
                   212642.638178
                                    212642.638178
  21
        Area_2618
                   209725.021022
                                     209725.021022
  12
        Area_1749
                    207861.078457
                                     207861.078457
10
  2
        Area_1260
                    189134.483376
                                     189134.483376
  0
        Area_1131
                    178924.119834
                                     178924.119834
11
        Area_1831 -178728.766830
                                     178728.766830
  14
12
  37
        Area_3799
                   -160955.571407
                                     160955.571407
13
14
  11
        Area_1723
                    149909.299463
                                     149909.299463
  18
        Area_2323
                    145941.232612
                                     145941.232612
16
  10
        Area_1618
                    145578.455016
                                    145578.455016
  9
        Area_1560
                  -140611.087191
                                     140611.087191
17
  42
           Area_D
                  -139450.380916
                                    139450.380916
18
  17
        Area_2314
                  -134699.957584
                                     134699.957584
19
20
  39
        Area_3915
                    127531.554440
                                     127531.554440
21
  28
        Area_2942
                   -119360.262815
                                     119360.262815
  24
        Area_2723
                   114954.815801
                                     114954.815801
22
  26
        Area_2793
                    -95475.861279
                                      95475.861279
23
                    -89682.562653
  19
        Area_2404
                                      89682.562653
24
25
  43
           Area_E
                    -86648.060463
                                      86648.060463
  45
           Area_G
                    -80457.945078
                                      80457.945078
26
                    -74387.037589
  15
        Area_1864
                                      74387.037589
27
        Area_2908
  27
                     67210.834678
                                      67210.834678
28
        Area_3221
                                      62450.963887
  32
                    -62450.963887
29
  36
        Area_3745
                     57200.734414
                                      57200.734414
30
31
  22
        Area_2676
                    -55410.897491
                                      55410.897491
  23
        Area_2681
                     51563.892039
                                      51563.892039
32
                    -50272.934209
  16
        Area_1948
                                      50272.934209
33
  33
        Area_3398
                     46686.724827
                                      46686.724827
34
  7
                     43148.510659
                                      43148.510659
35
        Area_1434
  38
        Area_3909
                     36195.796716
                                      36195.796716
36
37
  44
           Area_F
                    -31776.694388
                                      31776.694388
  25
        Area_2775
                    -29894.274850
                                      29894.274850
38
  40
        Area_3947
                     28339.386298
                                      28339.386298
39
  13
        Area_1756
                     22411.809842
                                      22411.809842
40
  31
        Area_3037
                     20988.148549
                                      20988.148549
41
  35
        Area_3520
                    -19616.301571
                                      19616.301571
42
  30
        Area_3012
                      7583.138325
43
                                       7583.138325
  54
      Bedrooms_F
                     -6628.991976
                                       6628.991976
44
  3
        Area_1314
                     -6261.120438
                                       6261.120438
45
                                       5506.283262
  48
      Bedrooms_3
46
                      5506.283262
47
  61
           Age_15
                     -5239.599384
                                       5239.599384
  64
            Age_4
                     -5087.257313
                                       5087.257313
48
  63
                      4112.330780
                                       4112.330780
            Age_3
49
50 50
                      4058.787421
                                       4058.787421
      Bedrooms_5
```

```
51 49
      Bedrooms_4
                     3988.362343
                                      3988.362343
52
  68
            Age_C
                     -3398.139362
                                      3398.139362
                     -2604.877759
  56
           Age_10
                                      2604.877759
53
  65
           Age_5
                    -2078.717956
                                      2078.717956
  59
           Age_13
                     2001.460271
                                      2001.460271
55
  70
            Age_I
                     1582.790678
                                      1582.790678
56
  69
                     1240.965896
                                      1240.965896
            Age_F
57
                      975.060566
                                       975.060566
  51
      Bedrooms_6
58
                      717.208743
                                       717.208743
  57
          Age_11
60
  60
          Age_14
                      -709.809132
                                       709.809132
  66
            Age_6
                      -696.624115
                                       696.624115
61
                                       559.957989
  52
                     -559.957989
      Bedrooms_7
62
  55
      Bedrooms_H
                     -548.868585
                                       548.868585
63
  58
           Age_12
                      544.644324
                                       544.644324
64
  62
                      -516.240138
                                       516.240138
65
            Age_2
  67
                      -393.581107
                                       393.581107
            Age_9
66
                       375.343535
                                       375.343535
67
  53
      Bedrooms_B
68
69 Feature importances have been saved to 'lasso_feature_importance.csv'
```

Conclusions and Future Applications of House Price Prediction

4.1 Conclusion

In this study, we applied the Lasso Regression method to build a predictive model for housing prices based on input features, while also leveraging Lasso's ability to perform automatic feature selection through ℓ_1 regularization.

Data preprocessing played a crucial role in ensuring the accuracy and stability of the model. The original dataset contained several invalid values (e.g., letters instead of numbers in columns such as Area, Bedrooms, and Age), making it necessary to remove non-numeric rows and convert all values to floating-point numbers. Subsequently, onehot encoding was applied to handle categorical variables, allowing the model to capture information from discrete features such as the number of bedrooms and the house's age.

After training the model with a regularization parameter $\alpha = 0.1$, the results showed that Lasso Regression was effective in reducing the number of unnecessary features by shrinking the coefficients of less relevant variables to zero. This not only simplified the model but also enhanced its interpretability.

The model achieved a Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE) of 69,254.23 on the test set, indicating reasonably good predictive performance in a real-world dataset context. Analysis of feature importance (based on the absolute values of the regression coefficients) revealed that:

- Area-related variables dominated the most important features. Specific values such as Area_1497, Area_3948, and Area_2618 had large coefficients, reflecting a strong linear relationship between property size and its price.
- Some features related to Bedrooms and Age also contributed to the model, although their coefficients were much smaller, indicating relatively limited impact.
- The presence of unusual feature names (e.g., Bedrooms_F, Age_C) suggests that some non-numeric values may have remained during preprocessing, emphasizing

the importance of rigorous data cleaning.

Lasso's ability to eliminate non-contributing features helped the model avoid overfitting, reduced noise, and improved interpretability.

In summary, Lasso Regression is a highly useful tool for regression tasks involving multiple input variables. It not only provides effective prediction but also performs automatic feature selection, making it particularly suitable for datasets with potential redundancy. The findings in this study highlight that combining thorough data preprocessing with Lasso Regression can yield models that are both robust and practical for real-world applications, especially in real estate price estimation.

4.2 Future Applications

The findings from this study using Lasso Regression have significant implications for future applications in various domains, particularly in real estate and housing price prediction. However, the potential of Lasso Regression extends beyond just housing price estimation. Here are several areas where this technique can be applied:

- Real Estate Market Analysis: The ability of Lasso Regression to select relevant features can be further exploited to analyze the factors influencing house prices in different geographical locations or during different market conditions. By incorporating additional factors like neighborhood amenities, proximity to schools, and transportation networks, future models could become more comprehensive in capturing the underlying dynamics of housing prices.
- Personalized Property Valuation: Lasso Regression can be employed to create personalized property valuation models for individual buyers or sellers. By tailoring the model to a specific region, property type, or buyer preferences, real estate agents can provide more accurate price estimates, helping clients make informed decisions.
- Urban Planning and Development: Urban planners can use Lasso Regression in the context of city development projects. By examining factors such as land usage, infrastructure, and population demographics, it can be possible to predict how new developments will affect property prices, aiding decision-making on zoning laws and public investment.
- Predictive Maintenance in Real Estate: Another future application could involve predicting maintenance needs for residential or commercial properties. By analyzing past maintenance records and property features, a Lasso Regression model could forecast when certain property components (e.g., roofing, plumbing, HVAC) are likely to fail, enabling proactive maintenance scheduling and cost-saving for property owners.
- Financial Portfolio Optimization: Lasso Regression could be utilized in the field of financial analytics for real estate investment portfolio optimization. By modeling the expected return on investment based on property features, investors

can prioritize properties that yield higher returns, factoring in risks associated with market volatility.

• Integration with Machine Learning and AI: Future studies could explore integrating Lasso Regression with more advanced machine learning models, such as neural networks or reinforcement learning. By combining the interpretability of Lasso with the flexibility of deep learning, more complex and adaptive models can be developed to address emerging challenges in real estate markets and other industries.

In conclusion, the future applications of Lasso Regression in the real estate sector and beyond are vast. Its strength in feature selection, coupled with its simplicity and efficiency, makes it an ideal candidate for a wide array of predictive modeling tasks. As more data becomes available and computational power increases, Lasso Regression can continue to play a pivotal role in enhancing decision-making processes in various fields.