DSSS CourseWork

April 27, 2025

Github_Repository

Word_count:1997

1 Investigating the Impact of Building Attributes and Energy Efficiency Ratings on Housing Price Fluctuations in Reading

1.1 Introduction

Shelter is essential in every economy (Amin and Al-Din, 2018), as it is considered a necessity for human existence per Maslow's theory of needs. The variations in house prices impact every facet of individuals, communities, and the broader economic environment. Therefore, policymakers, real estate professionals, and homeowners must fully comprehend the numerous factors impacting these changes in a particular geographical region. In Reading, a thriving town in Berkshire, United Kingdom, the housing market undergoes fluctuations caused by several factors such as location, property physical features, neighbourhood amenities, etc. According to Zancanella et al., (2018), the physical characteristics of the buildings and their energy efficiency rating are important factors that influence house prices. Despite several studies on this subject, empirical examination of the impact of legal interest and energy efficiency rating remains scarce in this study area. This research aims to bridge this gap by investigating how major building attributes and energy efficiency ratings influence housing price fluctuations in Reading, providing valuable insights into the dynamics of the local housing market.

1.2 Literature Review

Fluctuation in property prices is caused by numerous factors, including micro and macroeconomic conditions, demographic trends, and housing supply and demand dynamics of the market segment (Abate and Anselin, 2016). Recent studies document how building attributes and energy efficiency ratings influence housing prices (Zuo and Zhao, 2014; Zhang et al., 2017; Zancanella et al., 2018). Green building certification, which encompasses features such as sustainable construction materials and energy-efficient designs, has gained consideration for its positive impact on house prices (Huang, 2023). The study of Zhang et al., (2023), emphasized that energy-efficient homes tend to command higher prices in the housing market due to their lower utility costs and environmental benefits. However, the impact of green building rating on housing price fluctuations in Reading requires further exploration, as the dynamics of the local market may differ from broader market trends. Legal interest influences property values by shaping ownership rights and maintenance responsibilities (Caesar et al, 2019). Several research explored broader determinants of housing price disparities, however, few have delved into building attributes and energy efficiency rating correlation at the local level. We therefore aim to address this gap by conducting a thorough analysis of

the housing market in Reading, examining how these features affect fluctuations of housing prices in Reading. This research aims to contribute valuable insights for policymakers, professionals, and homeowners looking to comprehend and navigate the intricacies of the local housing market.

1.3 Research Question

What is the impact of building attributes and energy efficiency ratings on fluctuation in housing prices in Reading?

 H_0 : building energy efficiency rating, total floor area, number of rooms, and legal duration do not affect house prices in Reading.

1.3.1 Presentation of data

The dataset used for this study was accessed on the UCL database via LondonDatastore. It was created and maintained by Bin Chi, Adam Dennett, Thomas Oleron-Evans, and Robin Morphet (all from UCL) for a non-commercial purpose. Find dataset (hpm la 2023.zip) here. The dataset was generated through complex address-based matching procedures, aligning information from the Land Registry's Price Paid Data (LR-PPD) with property size details sourced from the Domestic Energy Performance Certificates (EPC) data, which is publicly available through the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC, previously known as MHCLG).

1.3.2 Import Libraries

```
[188]: %matplotlib inline
       import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
       import statsmodels.api as sm
       from math import sqrt
       from numpy.random import seed
       from numpy.random import randn
       from numpy import mean
       from scipy.stats import sem
       import statistics
       import seaborn as sns
       from IPython.display import display, Math, Latex, display_latex
       import plotly.express as px
       import pylab
       import pandas as pd
       import numpy as np
       import statsmodels.formula.api as smf
       import statsmodels
       from scipy import stats
       import scipy.stats as sps
       from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
       from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestRegressor
       from sklearn.metrics import mean_squared_error, r2_score, mean_absolute_error
       from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
       # make the plots (graphs) a little wider by default
```

```
pylab.rcParams['figure.figsize'] = (10., 8.)
sns.set(font_scale=1.5)
sns.set_style("white")
```

```
[189]: print("pandas version: {}".format(pd.__version__))
print("statsmodels version: {}".format(statsmodels.__version__))
```

pandas version: 2.1.0 statsmodels version: 0.14.0

1.3.3 Load Data

```
[190]: # Reading the CSV file from the github URL and handling parsing errors

differently

try:

df = pd.read_csv('https://github.com/VincentBEDU/DSS/raw/main/data/

Reading_link_02122023.csv')

print(df)

except pd.errors.ParserError as e:

print("Error parsing CSV:", e)
```

```
year dateoftransfer propertytype duration
                                                                  price \
          priceper
0
       2876.543210
                   2015
                             2015-03-20
                                                   S
                                                            F 233000.0
1
       2283.333333 2006
                                                   S
                                                            F 184950.0
                             2006-08-23
2
                                                   S
       1728.333333 2003
                             2003-04-29
                                                            F
                                                               139995.0
3
       1349.380015 1997
                             1997-06-06
                                                   D
                                                               185000.0
4
       4609.589041 2016
                             2016-04-22
                                                   Τ
                                                            F 336500.0
69651 6583.333333 2017
                             2017-07-26
                                                   F
                                                            L 237000.0
69652 1077.922078 1998
                             1998-09-25
                                                   S
                                                            F
                                                                83000.0
                                                   F
69653 1157.754813 1998
                             1998-06-19
                                                            L
                                                                81000.0
                                                   Τ
69654
                   1998
                                                                72500.0
       814.606742
                             1998-01-28
69655 2633.333333 2006
                             2006-07-24
                                                            F 395000.0
       postcode
                   lad21cd
                                                     transactionid
                                                                         id \
0
       RG2 8PP E06000038 {34DF02F4-FBD5-456C-BEFF-EDD8570CD742}
                                                                    3128986
       RG2 8PP
                E06000038
                           {7F4C58BB-4C61-4EAB-9DC6-BEEE98FC333D}
                                                                    3128986
1
2
       RG2 8PP
                 E06000038
                           {901ABCC0-D99C-4770-8469-8AED181699CE}
                                                                    3128986
3
        RG4 7XN
                 E06000038
                            {1CF75D98-FB32-459F-9C37-BF4ABDDDECDF}
                                                                    3166832
                 E06000038
                            {369DFB15-5DCF-3A19-E050-A8C0620518C6}
4
        RG4 5AY
                                                                    3182247
69651
       RG2 OPR
                E06000038
                            {5F54B81C-B470-2B45-E053-6B04A8C01FB0}
                                                                    3136977
69652 RG30 3BU
                 E06000038
                            {E5FB6620-546F-41F9-800B-B118F6A0C4CB}
                                                                    3191494
       RG4 7AJ
                           {3BBE9392-D90F-4119-BD2A-AC40606B05F9}
69653
                 E06000038
                                                                    3155739
69654 RG30 1DH
                 E06000038
                           {A4AF886B-15F7-4CF6-8307-74B76FCE2FA6}
                                                                    3147531
                 E06000038 {893D2F40-5367-4E67-B2A2-EB67C6D8F9AF}
69655
       RG4 8QN
                                                                    3185072
```

```
numberrooms classt
                                       CURRENT_ENERGY_EFFICIENCY \
        tfarea
0
        81.000
                         3.0
                                   11
                                                               51
        81.000
                         3.0
                                                               51
1
                                   11
2
        81.000
                         3.0
                                   11
                                                               51
3
                         8.0
                                   12
       137.100
                                                               66
4
        73.000
                         4.0
                                   12
                                                               66
         •••
                           •••
69651
        36.000
                         NaN
                                   11
                                                               77
69652
        77.000
                         4.0
                                   11
                                                               72
        69.963
                         3.0
                                   12
                                                               63
69653
69654
        89.000
                         5.0
                                                               50
                                   11
69655 150.000
                         7.0
                                                               56
                                   11
       POTENTIAL_ENERGY_EFFICIENCY
                                               CONSTRUCTION_AGE_BAND
0
                                      England and Wales: before 1900
1
                                  80
                                      England and Wales: before 1900
2
                                  80
                                      England and Wales: before 1900
3
                                  73
                                        England and Wales: 1996-2002
4
                                 87
                                        England and Wales: 1900-1929
                                  77
69651
                                                             NO DATA!
                                  86
                                        England and Wales: 1950-1966
69652
                                        England and Wales: 1967-1975
69653
                                 72
69654
                                  82
                                        England and Wales: 1900-1929
69655
                                  79
                                        England and Wales: 1930-1949
```

[69656 rows x 16 columns]

The above shows that the dataset contains 69656 rows and 16 columns.

```
[191]: # prints column names
df.columns
```

1.3.4 Columns Interpretation

Column Name	Interpretation
priceper	Price per square meter
year	Year of transaction
dateoftransfer	Transfer date
propertytype	Property type
duration	Property tenure

Column Name	Interpretation
price	Price of property
postcode	Property postcode
lad21cd	2021 Local authority code
transactionid	Transaction identifier
id	Domestic EPCs Identifier
tfarea	Total floor area
numberrooms	Number of rooms
classt	Class matching type
CURRENT_ENERGY_EFFICIENCY	Current energy efficiency rating
POTENTIAL_ENERGY_EFFICIENCY	Potential energy efficiency
CONSTRUCTION_AGE_BAND	Age band when part were built

For property types, D = Detached, S = Semi-Detached, T = Terraced, F = Flats. For property tenure, F = Freehold and L = Leasehold

1.3.5 Data Description

```
[192]: # Replace inf and NaN values in the priceper column with np.nan

df['priceper'] = df['priceper'].replace([np.inf, -np.inf], np.nan)

summary=df.describe().round(2) # generate summary statistics, and round to 2

decimal places

summary=summary.T #.T transposes the table (rows become columns and vice versa)

summary
```

	2 4 y					
[192]:		count	mean	std	min	\
	priceper	69649.0	2721.78	1368.41	8.0	
	year	69656.0	2008.35	8.04	1995.0	
	price	69656.0	217018.39	144124.17	400.0	
	id	69656.0	3162285.27	200365.70	3059586.0	
	tfarea	69656.0	81.66	36.40	0.0	
	numberrooms	64717.0	4.28	1.70	0.0	
	classt	69656.0	11.28	0.45	11.0	
	CURRENT_ENERGY_EFFICIENCY	69656.0	63.55	12.58	1.0	
	POTENTIAL_ENERGY_EFFICIENCY	69656.0	77.03	9.96	1.0	
		2	5% 5	50% 7	5%	max
	priceper	1735.				
	year	2001.	00 2007.	00 2015	.0 2023	.00
	price	125000.	00 185000.	00 273000	.0 3500000	.00
	id	3140804.	25 3158094.	00 3175483	.0 21488281	.00
	tfarea	60.	01 75.	.00 93	.0 1322	.00
	numberrooms	3.	00 4.	.00 5	.0 83	.00
	classt	11.	00 11.	00 12	.0 12	2.00
	CURRENT_ENERGY_EFFICIENCY	57.	00 64.	.00 72	.0 109	.00

The table above shows a total sample size of 69,656 property price data. The average price per square meter and property prices are £2,722 and £217,018 respectively at Reading. The dependent variable for the analysis is the sale property (price). It has a standard deviation of £144,124.17 demonstrating how property prices spread across Reading's geographical regions. However, there exists a large gap between the minimum price of £400.00 and the maximum of £3,500,000.00, which signals the existence of outliers in the dataset. Notably, outliers have an impact on the average value.

1.4 Methodology

The study utilised regression models to ascertain the impact of the independent variables on house prices in Reading. The variables employed in this analysis include house price (response variable) and ownership duration (leasehold or freehold), total floor area, number of rooms, and current and potential energy efficiency ratings are the explanatory variables.

A regression model was adapted for this analysis because it efficiently determines the relationship between variables. According to Wooldridge (2015), the method is a good fit for predictive analysis and modelling of continuous numerical data which is central to the housing market analysis. The unique type of regression model used is the Multiple Linear Regression.

Multiple Linear Regression (MLR):

$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \dots + \beta_n X_n + \epsilon \tag{1}$$

Where: -y =dependent variable. - =intercept - =coefficients for X variables - X are the independent variables. - =error term

Justification

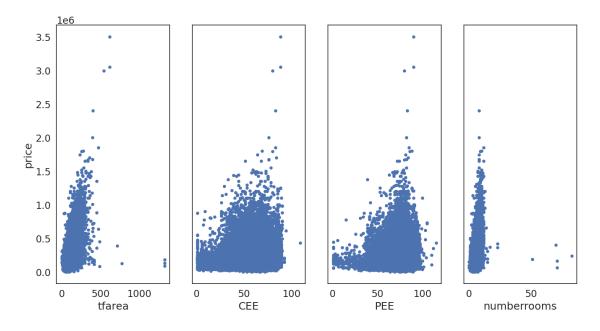
Easy to interpret: MLR offers a lucid interpretation of how the independent (predictors) variables quantifiably impact the dependent variable holding other explanatory variables constant. This clarification influences investors, developers, and other stakeholders in the housing market (James et al., 2013). The author further highlights that MLR improves the prediction accuracy of house prices compared to simple regression, which considers only one predictor (independent) at a time. Estimate efficiency: MLR can handle voluminous datasets with varying variables which is evident in this study's dataset. MLR provides a robust statistical analysis that is pivotal in empirical research (Slinker and Glantz, 1988). Woodridge (2015), also emphasized that MLR can easily identify relationships between variables, which helps to understand how building attributes and energy efficiency influence housing prices. A Machine Learning regression model was not utilised because predictive performance is not the priority (Maulud and Abdulazeez, 2020; Coqueret and Deguest, 2020).

1.4.1 Exploratory Analysis/Visualisation

[193]: # printing names of columns df.columns

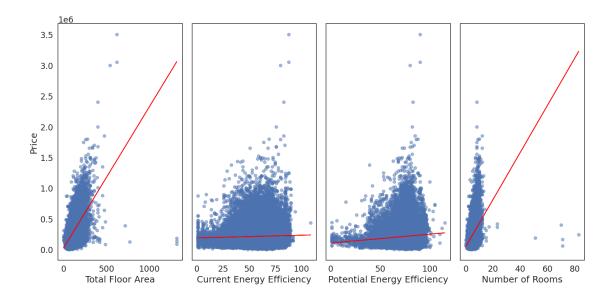
```
[193]: Index(['priceper', 'year', 'dateoftransfer', 'propertytype', 'duration',
              'price', 'postcode', 'lad21cd', 'transactionid', 'id', 'tfarea',
              'numberrooms', 'classt', 'CURRENT_ENERGY_EFFICIENCY',
              'POTENTIAL_ENERGY_EFFICIENCY', 'CONSTRUCTION_AGE_BAND'],
             dtype='object')
[194]: # Renaming columns
       df.rename(columns={
           'CURRENT_ENERGY_EFFICIENCY': 'CEE',
           'POTENTIAL_ENERGY_EFFICIENCY': 'PEE'
       }, inplace=True)
       #confirm if it worked
       df.columns
[194]: Index(['priceper', 'year', 'dateoftransfer', 'propertytype', 'duration',
              'price', 'postcode', 'lad21cd', 'transactionid', 'id', 'tfarea',
              'numberrooms', 'classt', 'CEE', 'PEE', 'CONSTRUCTION_AGE_BAND'],
             dtype='object')
[195]: # Simple plot of the dataset
       # visualize the relationship between the features and the response using
       \hookrightarrow scatterplots
       fig, axs = plt.subplots(1, 4, sharey=True)
       df.plot(kind='scatter', x='tfarea', y='price', ax=axs[0], figsize=(16, 8))
       df.plot(kind='scatter', x='CEE', y='price', ax=axs[1])
       df.plot(kind='scatter', x='PEE', y='price', ax=axs[2])
       df.plot(kind='scatter', x='numberrooms', y='price', ax=axs[3])
```

[195]: <Axes: xlabel='numberrooms', ylabel='price'>



```
[196]: #Adding regression line to the plots
       # Simple plot of the dataset
       # using scatterplots to visualize the relationship between the features and the
        \hookrightarrow response
       fig, axs = plt.subplots(1, 4, sharey=True, figsize=(16, 8))
       # Ensure NaN values are dropped from both 'tfarea' and 'price' simultaneously
       tfarea_clean = df[['tfarea', 'price']].dropna()
       m, b = np.polyfit(tfarea_clean['tfarea'], tfarea_clean['price'], 1)
       axs[0].scatter(tfarea_clean['tfarea'], tfarea_clean['price'], alpha=0.5)
       axs[0].plot(tfarea_clean['tfarea'], m*tfarea_clean['tfarea'] + b, color='red')
       axs[0].set_xlabel('Total Floor Area')
       axs[0].set_ylabel('Price')
       # Repeat for 'CEE' vs 'price'
       cee_clean = df[['CEE', 'price']].dropna()
       m, b = np.polyfit(cee_clean['CEE'], cee_clean['price'], 1)
       axs[1].scatter(cee_clean['CEE'], cee_clean['price'], alpha=0.5)
       axs[1].plot(cee_clean['CEE'], m*cee_clean['CEE'] + b, color='red')
       axs[1].set_xlabel('Current Energy Efficiency')
       # Repeat for 'PEE' vs 'price'
       pee_clean = df[['PEE', 'price']].dropna()
       m, b = np.polyfit(pee_clean['PEE'], pee_clean['price'], 1)
       axs[2].scatter(pee_clean['PEE'], pee_clean['price'], alpha=0.5)
       axs[2].plot(pee_clean['PEE'], m*pee_clean['PEE'] + b, color='red')
       axs[2].set_xlabel('Potential Energy Efficiency')
       # Repeat for 'numberrooms' vs 'price'
       numberrooms_clean = df[['numberrooms', 'price']].dropna()
       m, b = np.polyfit(numberrooms_clean['numberrooms'], numberrooms_clean['price'],
        □1)
       axs[3].scatter(numberrooms_clean['numberrooms'], numberrooms_clean['price'],_
        \rightarrowalpha=0.5)
       axs[3].plot(numberrooms_clean['numberrooms'],__

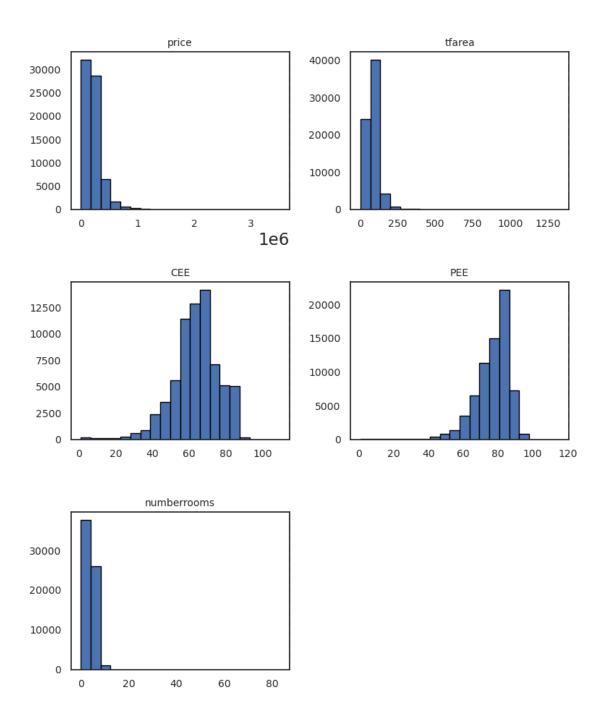
m*numberrooms_clean['numberrooms'] + b, color='red')
       axs[3].set xlabel('Number of Rooms')
       plt.tight_layout() # Adjust the layout to avoid overlap
       plt.show()
```



The Total Floor Area and number of rooms vs price plots show a positive correlation indicated by the upward trend of the regression line. This shows that as the total floor area increases, so does the house price. The CEE and PEE plots show a much flatter regression line indicating a weaker or potentially negligible linear relationship with house price.

```
[197]: # Specifying the columns for the histograms
       selected_columns = ['price', 'tfarea', 'CEE', 'PEE', 'numberrooms']
       # Create histograms for the selected columns
       ax = df[selected_columns].hist(figsize=(8, 10), bins=20, edgecolor='black',_
        ⇔grid=False)
       # Specify the number of bins and edge color, and disable grid
       # Adding title above the subplots
       plt.suptitle('Histograms of Variables', y=1.02, fontsize=14)
       # Set smaller labels for x and y axis, and for the title of each subplot
       for axis_array in ax:
           for axis in axis_array:
               axis.set_title(axis.get_title(), fontsize=10)
               axis.tick_params(axis='x', labelsize=10)
               axis.tick_params(axis='y', labelsize=10)
               # Add a vertical line separating the bins
               axis.axvline(x=axis.get_xlim()[1], linestyle='dashed', linewidth=2)
       # Adjust the layout to prevent overlap
       plt.tight_layout()
       plt.show()
```

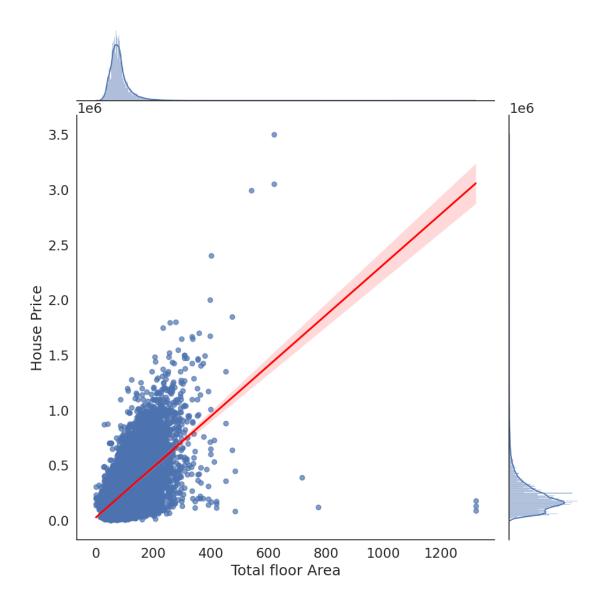
Histograms of Variables



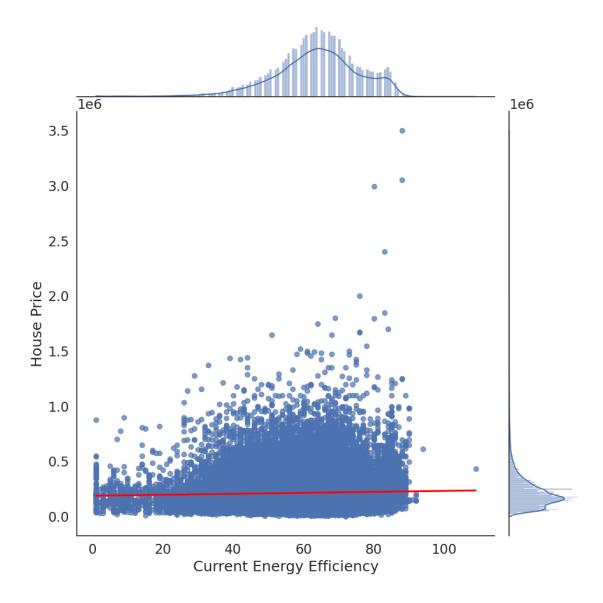
Some level of skewness can be observed in these various plots.

```
[198]: # scatter plots Joint visualisation
       # plot a scatterplot with a regression line and two histograms
       sns.jointplot(data=df, # scatterplot with a regression line and two histograms
                       x='tfarea', # set the x axis to tfarea
                       y='price', # set the y axis to price
                       kind="reg", # set the kind of plot, regression
                       scatter_kws=dict(alpha=0.7), # set the transparency to 0.7 (70%)
                       line_kws=dict(color='red'), # set the color of the regression_
        ⇔line to red
                       height=10) # height of the plot to 10 inches
       plt.xlabel('Total floor Area') # add a label to the x axis
       plt.ylabel('House Price') # add a label to the y axis
      /opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1498: FutureWarning:
      is_categorical_dtype is deprecated and will be removed in a future version. Use
      isinstance(dtype, CategoricalDtype) instead
        if pd.api.types.is_categorical_dtype(vector):
      /opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1498: FutureWarning:
      is_categorical_dtype is deprecated and will be removed in a future version. Use
      isinstance(dtype, CategoricalDtype) instead
        if pd.api.types.is_categorical_dtype(vector):
      /opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1498: FutureWarning:
      is_categorical_dtype is deprecated and will be removed in a future version. Use
      isinstance(dtype, CategoricalDtype) instead
        if pd.api.types.is_categorical_dtype(vector):
      /opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1119: FutureWarning:
      use_inf_as_na option is deprecated and will be removed in a future version.
      Convert inf values to NaN before operating instead.
        with pd.option_context('mode.use_inf_as_na', True):
      /opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1498: FutureWarning:
      is_categorical_dtype is deprecated and will be removed in a future version. Use
      isinstance(dtype, CategoricalDtype) instead
        if pd.api.types.is_categorical_dtype(vector):
      /opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1119: FutureWarning:
      use inf as na option is deprecated and will be removed in a future version.
      Convert inf values to NaN before operating instead.
        with pd.option_context('mode.use_inf_as_na', True):
```

[198]: Text(69.625, 0.5, 'House Price')

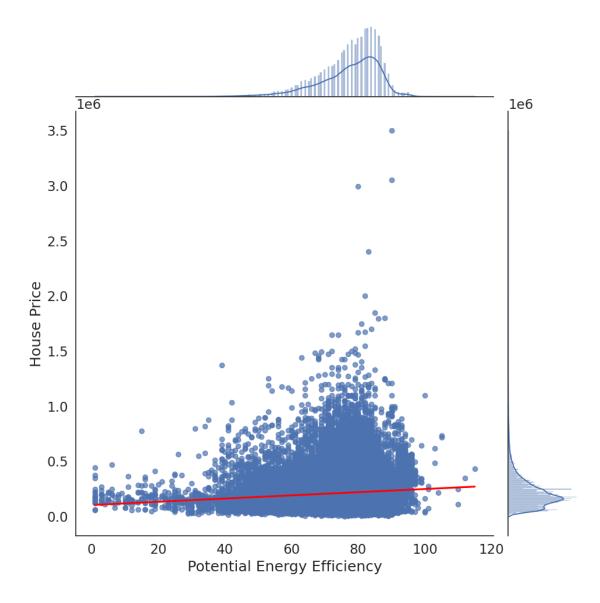


```
plt.ylabel('House Price') # add a label to the y axis
      /opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1498: FutureWarning:
      is_categorical_dtype is deprecated and will be removed in a future version. Use
      isinstance(dtype, CategoricalDtype) instead
        if pd.api.types.is_categorical_dtype(vector):
      /opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1498: FutureWarning:
      is_categorical_dtype is deprecated and will be removed in a future version. Use
      isinstance(dtype, CategoricalDtype) instead
        if pd.api.types.is_categorical_dtype(vector):
      /opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1498: FutureWarning:
      is_categorical_dtype is deprecated and will be removed in a future version. Use
      isinstance(dtype, CategoricalDtype) instead
        if pd.api.types.is_categorical_dtype(vector):
      /opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1119: FutureWarning:
      use_inf_as_na option is deprecated and will be removed in a future version.
      Convert inf values to NaN before operating instead.
        with pd.option_context('mode.use_inf_as_na', True):
      /opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1498: FutureWarning:
      is_categorical_dtype is deprecated and will be removed in a future version. Use
      isinstance(dtype, CategoricalDtype) instead
        if pd.api.types.is_categorical_dtype(vector):
      /opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1119: FutureWarning:
      use inf as na option is deprecated and will be removed in a future version.
      Convert inf values to NaN before operating instead.
        with pd.option_context('mode.use_inf_as_na', True):
[199]: Text(69.625, 0.5, 'House Price')
```



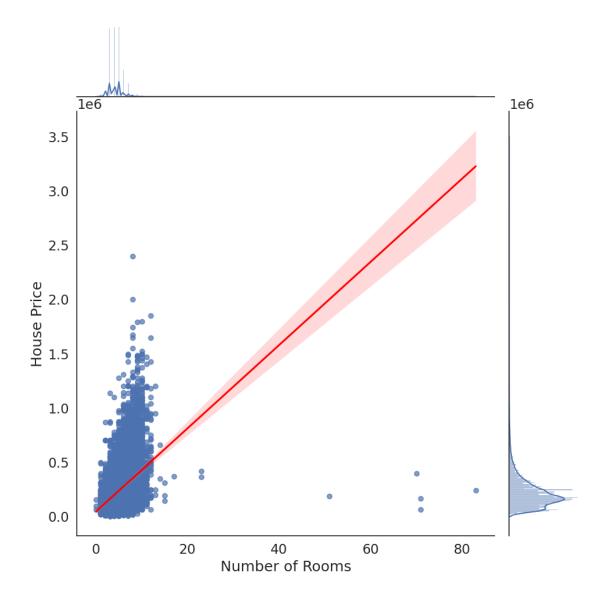
```
plt.ylabel('House Price') # add a label to the y axis
/opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1498: FutureWarning:
is_categorical_dtype is deprecated and will be removed in a future version. Use
isinstance(dtype, CategoricalDtype) instead
  if pd.api.types.is_categorical_dtype(vector):
/opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1498: FutureWarning:
is_categorical_dtype is deprecated and will be removed in a future version. Use
isinstance(dtype, CategoricalDtype) instead
  if pd.api.types.is_categorical_dtype(vector):
/opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1498: FutureWarning:
is_categorical_dtype is deprecated and will be removed in a future version. Use
isinstance(dtype, CategoricalDtype) instead
  if pd.api.types.is_categorical_dtype(vector):
/opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1119: FutureWarning:
use_inf_as_na option is deprecated and will be removed in a future version.
Convert inf values to NaN before operating instead.
  with pd.option_context('mode.use_inf_as_na', True):
/opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1498: FutureWarning:
is_categorical_dtype is deprecated and will be removed in a future version. Use
isinstance(dtype, CategoricalDtype) instead
  if pd.api.types.is_categorical_dtype(vector):
/opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1119: FutureWarning:
use inf as na option is deprecated and will be removed in a future version.
Convert inf values to NaN before operating instead.
  with pd.option_context('mode.use_inf_as_na', True):
```

[200]: Text(69.625, 0.5, 'House Price')



```
plt.ylabel('House Price') # add a label to the y axis
/opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1498: FutureWarning:
is_categorical_dtype is deprecated and will be removed in a future version. Use
isinstance(dtype, CategoricalDtype) instead
  if pd.api.types.is_categorical_dtype(vector):
/opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1498: FutureWarning:
is_categorical_dtype is deprecated and will be removed in a future version. Use
isinstance(dtype, CategoricalDtype) instead
  if pd.api.types.is_categorical_dtype(vector):
/opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1498: FutureWarning:
is_categorical_dtype is deprecated and will be removed in a future version. Use
isinstance(dtype, CategoricalDtype) instead
  if pd.api.types.is_categorical_dtype(vector):
/opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1119: FutureWarning:
use_inf_as_na option is deprecated and will be removed in a future version.
Convert inf values to NaN before operating instead.
  with pd.option_context('mode.use_inf_as_na', True):
/opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1498: FutureWarning:
is_categorical_dtype is deprecated and will be removed in a future version. Use
isinstance(dtype, CategoricalDtype) instead
  if pd.api.types.is_categorical_dtype(vector):
/opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/seaborn/_oldcore.py:1119: FutureWarning:
use inf as na option is deprecated and will be removed in a future version.
Convert inf values to NaN before operating instead.
  with pd.option_context('mode.use_inf_as_na', True):
```

[201]: Text(69.625, 0.5, 'House Price')



1.4.2 Visualising the trend of price per square meter and property price in Reading

```
[202]: # Creating a new DataFrame with only 'year', 'priceper', and 'price' columns
time_df = df[['year', 'priceper', 'price']].copy()

# Display first 5 rows
print(time_df.head())
```

```
year
            priceper
                         price
         2876.543210
0 2015
                      233000.0
        2283.333333
                      184950.0
1
  2006
2
  2003
        1728.333333
                      139995.0
        1349.380015
  1997
                     185000.0
```

```
4 2016 4609.589041 336500.0

[203]: # Convert the 'year' column to a datetime format
   time_df['year'] = pd.to_datetime(time_df['year'].astype(str), format='%Y')

# Set the 'year' column as the DataFrame index
   time_df.set_index('year', inplace=True)
```

```
[204]: time_df.head()
```

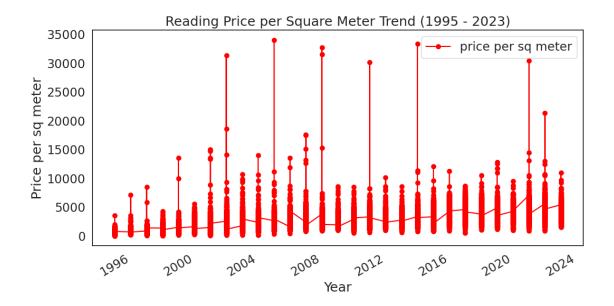
```
[204]: priceper price
year
2015-01-01 2876.543210 233000.0
2006-01-01 2283.333333 184950.0
2003-01-01 1728.333333 139995.0
1997-01-01 1349.380015 185000.0
2016-01-01 4609.589041 336500.0
```

```
[205]: # Ensuring 'year' is set as the datetime index
if 'year' in time_df.columns:
    time_df['year'] = pd.to_datetime(time_df['year'], format='%Y')
    time_df.set_index('year', inplace=True)

# Plot the trend of 'price' over the years
plt.figure(figsize=(12, 6))
time_df['priceper'].plot(label='price per sq meter', marker='o', color='red')

# Customize the plot
plt.title('Reading Price per Square Meter Trend (1995 - 2023)')
plt.xlabel('Year')
plt.ylabel('Price per sq meter')
plt.legend()

# Show the plot
plt.show()
```



The plot shows the fluctuations in house price per square meter in Reading with records of high peaks in 2002, 2005, 2008, 2011, 2014, and 2021.

```
[206]: # Ensuring 'year' is set as the datetime index
if 'year' in time_df.columns:
    time_df['year'] = pd.to_datetime(time_df['year'], format='%Y')
    time_df.set_index('year', inplace=True)

# Plot the trend of 'price' over the years
plt.figure(figsize=(12, 6))
time_df['price'].plot(label='Property Price', marker='o', color='blue')

# Customize the plot
plt.title('Reading Property Price Trend (1995 - 2023)')
plt.xlabel('Year')
plt.ylabel('Property Price')
plt.legend()

# Show the plot
plt.show()
```



Reading recorded the highest house prices in 2019 and 2022. These two plots did not follow the same trend.

1.4.3 Encoding Categorical Data

Column duration: where freehold (F)=1 and leasehold (L)=0

```
[207]: # Maping 'F' to 1 and 'L' to 0
    df['duration_dummy'] = df['duration'].map({'F': 1, 'L': 0})

# Replace 'F' with 1 and 'L' with 0
    df['duration_dummy'] = df['duration'].replace({'F': 1, 'L': 0})
[208]: #Confirming if it worked
# Print the first 10 rows of 'duration' and 'duration_dummy' columns
print(df[['duration', 'duration_dummy']].head(30))
```

```
duration
                duration_dummy
0
             F
                                 1
             F
1
                                 1
2
             F
                                 1
             F
3
                                 1
             F
4
                                 1
5
             F
                                 1
6
             F
                                 1
7
             F
                                 1
8
             F
                                 1
9
             F
                                 1
```

```
10
             F
                                    1
             L
                                    0
11
12
             L
                                    0
13
             L
                                    0
             F
14
                                    1
15
             F
                                    1
16
             L
                                    0
17
             F
                                    1
18
             F
                                    1
             F
19
                                    1
20
             F
                                    1
21
             F
                                    1
             F
22
                                    1
             F
23
                                    1
             F
24
                                    1
25
             L
                                    0
26
             L
                                    0
27
             F
                                    1
28
             L
                                    0
             F
29
                                    1
```

1.4.4 Pearson Correlation

Assessing the correlation between variables before building the model.

```
[209]: # determining the Pearson correlation between the variables.
#only numerical variables
df.corr(numeric_only=True)
```

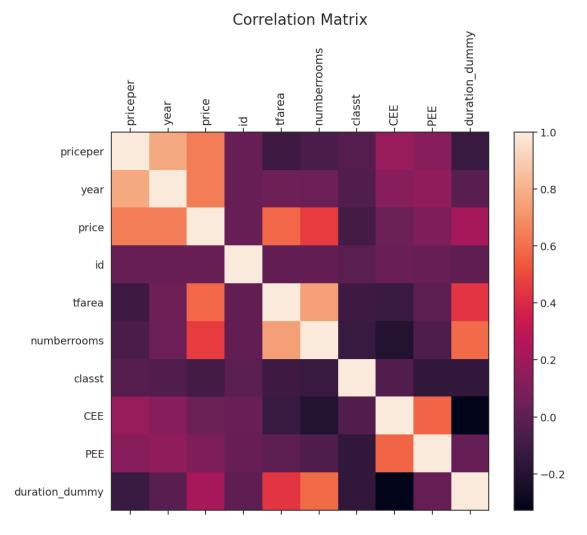
```
[209]:
                                                             id
                                                                   tfarea
                                                                           numberrooms
                       priceper
                                      year
                                               price
      priceper
                       1.000000
                                  0.776364
                                            0.638666
                                                      0.025872 -0.105682
                                                                              -0.066754
       year
                       0.776364
                                  1.000000
                                            0.641412
                                                      0.022088
                                                                 0.046973
                                                                              0.042211
                       0.638666
                                  0.641412
                                            1.000000
                                                      0.028403
                                                                 0.578339
                                                                              0.459747
       price
       id
                       0.025872
                                 0.022088
                                            0.028403
                                                      1.000000
                                                                 0.010736
                                                                              0.010574
       tfarea
                      -0.105682 0.046973
                                            0.578339
                                                      0.010736
                                                                 1.000000
                                                                              0.745307
       numberrooms
                      -0.066754
                                  0.042211
                                            0.459747
                                                      0.010574
                                                                 0.745307
                                                                              1.000000
       classt
                      -0.028645 -0.046897 -0.090400 -0.016300 -0.107149
                                                                              -0.126448
       CEE
                       0.180096
                                 0.127012
                                            0.038919
                                                      0.032155 -0.127207
                                                                              -0.200054
       PEE
                       0.128541
                                            0.100034 0.027543 -0.008925
                                                                              -0.049585
                                 0.157168
                                                      0.003525 0.442803
       duration_dummy -0.128579 -0.020615
                                            0.227255
                                                                              0.586954
                         classt
                                       CEE
                                                 PEE
                                                      duration_dummy
                      -0.028645
                                  0.180096
                                            0.128541
                                                            -0.128579
       priceper
       year
                      -0.046897
                                  0.127012
                                            0.157168
                                                            -0.020615
       price
                      -0.090400
                                  0.038919
                                            0.100034
                                                             0.227255
                      -0.016300
                                  0.032155
                                            0.027543
                                                             0.003525
       id
       tfarea
                      -0.107149 -0.127207 -0.008925
                                                             0.442803
       numberrooms
                      -0.126448 -0.200054 -0.049585
                                                             0.586954
```

```
      classt
      1.000000 -0.047339 -0.154523
      -0.153735

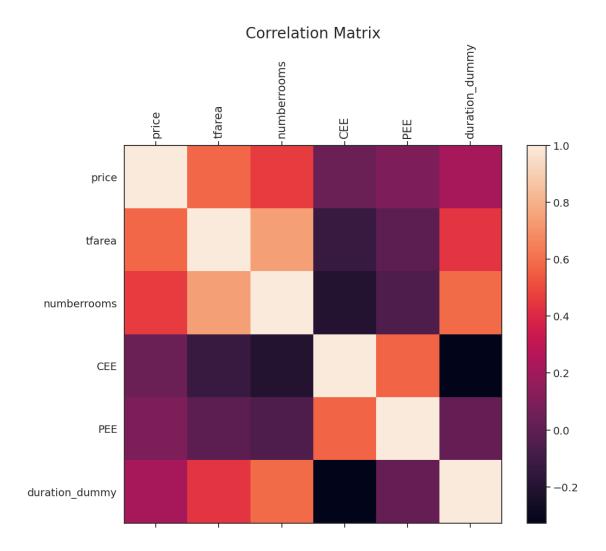
      CEE
      -0.047339 1.000000 0.572032
      -0.327571

      PEE
      -0.154523 0.572032 1.000000 0.019277
      0.019277

      duration_dummy -0.153735 -0.327571 0.019277
      1.000000
```



```
[211]: # List of columns excluded
       exclude_columns = ['priceper', 'year', 'id', 'classt']
       # Drop the columns specified in exclude columns
       df_numerical = df.drop(columns=exclude_columns)
       # Determine the Pearson correlation between the remaining numerical variables
       correlation_matrix = df_numerical.corr(numeric_only=True)
       correlation_matrix
[211]:
                          price
                                   tfarea numberrooms
                                                              CEE
                                                                        PEE \
      price
                       1.000000 0.578339
                                              0.459747 0.038919 0.100034
       tfarea
                       0.578339 1.000000
                                              0.745307 -0.127207 -0.008925
      numberrooms
                       0.459747 0.745307
                                              1.000000 -0.200054 -0.049585
       CEE.
                       0.038919 -0.127207
                                             -0.200054 1.000000 0.572032
      PEE
                       0.100034 -0.008925
                                             -0.049585 0.572032 1.000000
                                              0.586954 -0.327571 0.019277
       duration_dummy 0.227255 0.442803
                       duration_dummy
                             0.227255
      price
       tfarea
                             0.442803
      numberrooms
                             0.586954
       CEE
                            -0.327571
      PEE
                             0.019277
                             1.000000
       duration_dummy
[212]: # Select only numeric columns
       df = df_numerical.select_dtypes(include=[np.number])
       plt.rcParams["axes.grid"] = False
       f = plt.figure(figsize=(12, 9))
       plt.matshow(df_numerical.corr(), fignum=f.number) # Use only numeric data for_
        \hookrightarrow correlation matrix
       plt.xticks(range(df_numerical.shape[1]), df_numerical.columns, fontsize=15,__
        →rotation=90)
       plt.yticks(range(df_numerical.shape[1]), df.columns, fontsize=14)
       cb = plt.colorbar()
       cb.ax.tick_params(labelsize=14)
       plt.title('Correlation Matrix', fontsize=20)
       plt.show()
```



The Pearson correlation matrix shows minimal existence of multicollinearity but it will be further explored using the regression **condition number**, and resolved with **Variance Inflation Factor(VIF)**

1.4.5 Analysis: Building Multiple Regression

```
[213]: # Creat a new_df
# List of columns to include in the new df
columns = ['price', 'tfarea', 'numberrooms', 'CEE', 'PEE', 'duration_dummy']

# Create the new df
new_df = df[columns].copy()
new_df.head() #check first 5 rows
```

```
price tfarea numberrooms CEE PEE
[213]:
                                                    duration_dummy
         233000.0
                      81.0
       0
                                     3.0
                                           51
                                                80
       1 184950.0
                      81.0
                                     3.0
                                           51
                                                80
                                                                 1
       2 139995.0
                      81.0
                                     3.0
                                           51
                                                80
                                                                  1
       3 185000.0
                                     8.0
                                                                 1
                     137.1
                                           66
                                                73
       4 336500.0
                      73.0
                                     4.0
                                           66
                                                87
                                                                  1
```

1.4.6 Taking care of major outliers before model building

Particularly, the unrealistic minimum house price of £400.00

```
[214]: #Handling the outlier in the price column
       # Get the top 10 minimum values in the price column
       top_10_min_prices = new_df.nsmallest(10, 'price')
       # Display only the price column
       print(top_10_min_prices['price'])
      52446
                 400.0
      905
                5000.0
      10634
                5000.0
      10926
                5000.0
      32515
                5000.0
      51011
                5000.0
```

10500.0 Name: price, dtype: float64

6000.0

7000.0

10500.0

33446

6265

13226

57401

We see above that about 7 prices seem not be realistic so we will exclude them in the model

```
[215]: # Remove the top 10 lowest values in the price column
       new_df = new_df.drop(new_df.nsmallest(8, 'price').index)
```

```
[216]: #Handling the outlier in the price column
       # Get the top 10 minimum values in the price column
       top 10 min prices = new df.nsmallest(10, 'price')
       # Display only the price column
       print(top_10_min_prices['price'])
```

```
13226
         10500.0
57401
         10500.0
49681
         11000.0
56765
         11000.0
9240
         11500.0
         11500.0
9567
```

```
3207
               12000.0
      18882
               12000.0
      30418
               12000.0
      36979
               12000.0
      Name: price, dtype: float64
[217]: # Get the top 10 highest values in the price column
      top_10_max_prices = new_df.nlargest(10, 'price')
      # Display only the price column
      print(top_10_max_prices['price'])
      18090
               3500000.0
      18089
               3050000.0
      56375
               2995000.0
      56133
              2400000.0
              2000000.0
      56141
      56184
              1850000.0
      29912
              1800000.0
      56131
             1795000.0
      56202
               1746000.0
      15378
               1700000.0
      Name: price, dtype: float64
[218]: # Identify the indices of the top 10 highest price values
      top_10_max_indices = new_df.nlargest(10, 'price').index
      # Drop those rows from the DataFrame
      new_df = new_df.drop(index=top_10_max_indices)
      # Optional: Reset the index if needed
      new_df.reset_index(drop=True, inplace=True)
       # Display the updated DataFrame
      print(new_df.head())
            price tfarea numberrooms CEE PEE
                                                  duration_dummy
      0 233000.0
                     81.0
                                   3.0
                                         51
                                              80
      1 184950.0
                     81.0
                                   3.0
                                         51
                                              80
                                                               1
      2 139995.0
                     81.0
                                   3.0
                                         51
                                              80
                                                               1
                    137.1
                                   8.0
      3 185000.0
                                         66
                                              73
                                                               1
      4 336500.0
                     73.0
                                   4.0
                                         66
                                              87
                                                               1
[219]: | # Droping rows with NaN or infinite values in 'price' or any feature column
      new df = new df.dropna(subset=['price', 'tfarea', 'CEE', 'PEE', 'numberrooms'])
```

Dep. Variable:		price	R-squared:	:		0.338
Model:		_	Adj. R-squared:			0.338
Method:	Le	ast Squares	-	_		6594.
Date:		23 Apr 2025				0.00
Time:			Log-Likeli			539e+05
No. Observation	ns:	64703	AIC:		1.	691e+06
Df Residuals:		64697	BIC:		1.	691e+06
Df Model:		5				
Covariance Type	e:	nonrobust				
==	=======		========		=======	======
	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	
0.975]						
const	-6.774e+04	3840.196	-17.639	0.000	-7.53e+04	
-6.02e+04						
tfarea	2017.1406	18.715	107.780	0.000	1980.459	
2053.823						
	7857.1492	443.794	17.705	0.000	6987.314	
8726.985						
CEE	78.6524	48.904	1.608	0.108	-17.200	
174.505						
PEE	1044.9661	55.996	18.661	0.000	935.214	
1154.718						
duration_dummy -5710.846	-8232.3346	1286.473	-6.399	0.000	-1.08e+04	
Omnibus:	========		======= Durbin-Wat			1.827
<pre>Prob(Omnibus):</pre>		0.000	Jarque-Ber	ca (JB):	744	718.229

Skew:	0.286	Prob(JB):	0.00
Kurtosis:	19.610	Cond. No.	1.12e+03

Notes:

- [1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.
- [2] The condition number is large, 1.12e+03. This might indicate that there are strong multicollinearity or other numerical problems.

The high condition number, 1.12e+03 indicates strong multicollinearity.

1.4.7 Using VIF to deal with multicollinearity

Here we introduce VIF to automatically deal with multicollinearity.

Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) measures multicollinearity among predictors within a multiple regression. It is the quotient of the variance in a model with multiple predictors by the variance of a model with a single predictor. More explanation of the theory can be found here.

$$VIF_j = \frac{1}{1 - R_j^2}$$

Note that the statsmodels package is used

```
[221]: from statsmodels.stats.outliers_influence import variance_inflation_factor
       from statsmodels.tools.tools import add_constant
       Calculates VIF each feature in a pandas dataframe, and repeatedly drop the \sqcup
        ⇔columns with the highest VIF
           A constant is added to the variance_inflation_factor if not the results_{\sqcup}
        ⇔will be incorrect
        Using a df containing only the predictor features, not the response variable
       set threshold: (default 5) the threshold VIF value. Thus, if the VIF of a_{\sqcup}
        wariable is greater than threshold, it should be removed from df
       and return of with multicollinear features removed.
       I \cdot I \cdot I
       # Define the features for VIF calculation
       features = ['tfarea', 'numberrooms', 'CEE', 'PEE', 'duration_dummy']
       # Add a constant to the features since VIF computation requires it
       X = add_constant(new_df[features])
       # Create a df to hold feature names and their VIFs
       vif_data = pd.DataFrame()
       vif_data['Feature'] = X.columns
```

```
# Calculate VIF for each feature
vif_data['VIF'] = [variance_inflation_factor(X.values, i) for i in range(len(X.
 ⇔columns))]
print("Initial VIF values:")
print(vif data)
# Continue iteratively removing features with VIF greater than the threshold
while vif_data[vif_data['Feature'] != 'const']['VIF'].max() > 5:
    # Find the feature with the maximum VIF
    remove = vif_data.sort_values('VIF', ascending=False).iloc[0]
    if remove['Feature'] == 'const':
        break
    # Drop the feature with highest VIF
    X = X.drop(columns=remove['Feature'])
    vif_data = pd.DataFrame()
    vif_data['Feature'] = X.columns
    vif_data['VIF'] = [variance_inflation_factor(X.values, i) for i in_
  →range(len(X.columns))]
    print(f"\nDropping '{remove['Feature']}' with VIF: {remove['VIF']}")
    print(vif_data)
print("\nFinal set of features after VIF reduction:")
print(vif_data)
Initial VIF values:
```

```
Feature
                        VIF
0
            const 73.009547
1
           tfarea
                  2.252492
2
     numberrooms 2.806092
3
                   1.674152
             CEE
4
             PF.F.
                  1.522106
5
  duration_dummy
                   1.723036
```

Final set of features after VIF reduction:

```
Feature
                         VIF
0
            const 73.009547
           tfarea 2.252492
1
2
     numberrooms
                  2.806092
3
              CEE
                    1.674152
4
              PEE
                    1.522106
  duration_dummy
                    1.723036
```

The VIF with threshold = 5 confirms the minimal multicollinearity between the independent variables. However, log transformation is used to address other numerical problems.

[222]: #Printing the OLS model print(model_price.summary())

OLS :	Regression	Results
-------	------------	---------

ors regression results						
Dep. Variable: Model: Method: Date: Time: No. Observatio Df Residuals: Df Model: Covariance Typ	Wed, :ns:	ast Squares 23 Apr 2025 18:53:32 64703 64697 5 nonrobust	Prob (F-st Log-Likeli AIC: BIC:	c: atistic):	1.	0.338 0.338 6594. 0.00 539e+05 691e+06
0.975]	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	======
const -6.02e+04 tfarea 2053.823 numberrooms 8726.985 CEE 174.505 PEE 1154.718 duration_dummy -5710.846	2017.1406 7857.1492 78.6524 1044.9661 -8232.3346		107.780 17.705 1.608 18.661 -6.399	0.000 0.000 0.000 0.108 0.000	-7.53e+04 1980.459 6987.314 -17.200 935.214 -1.08e+04	
Omnibus: Prob(Omnibus): Skew: Kurtosis:		15355.874 0.000 0.286 19.610	Durbin-Wat Jarque-Ber Prob(JB): Cond. No.	son: a (JB):	744	1.827 718.229 0.00 .12e+03

Notes

- [1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.
- [2] The condition number is large, 1.12e+03. This might indicate that there are strong multicollinearity or other numerical problems.

1.4.8 Fishing Out Matrices

```
[223]: # Extract intercept and coefficients
      intercept, *coefficients = model_price.params
       # Extract p-values
      p_values = model_price.pvalues
      # Print the regression equation and statistics
      print(f"y = \{intercept: .3f\} + \{coefficients[0]: .3f\} * X1 + ... +_{\square}
        print(f"R^2 = {model_price.rsquared:.5f}")
      print(f"p-value of intercept = {p_values[0]:.5f}")
       # Assuming you have 5 predictors
      feature_names = ['tfarea', 'numberrooms', 'CEE', 'PEE', 'duration_dummy']
      for i, name in enumerate(feature_names, 1):
          print(f"p-value of {name} = {p_values[i]:.5f}")
      y = -67736.911 + 2017.141 * X1 + ... + -8232.335 * Xn
      R^2 = 0.33759
      p-value of intercept = 0.00000
      p-value of tfarea = 0.00000
      p-value of numberrooms = 0.00000
      p-value of CEE = 0.10778
      p-value of PEE = 0.00000
      p-value of duration_dummy = 0.00000
      /tmp/ipykernel_299/1819766287.py:10: FutureWarning: Series.__getitem__ treating
      keys as positions is deprecated. In a future version, integer keys will always
      be treated as labels (consistent with DataFrame behavior). To access a value by
      position, use `ser.iloc[pos]`
        print(f"p-value of intercept = {p_values[0]:.5f}")
      /tmp/ipykernel_299/1819766287.py:15: FutureWarning: Series.__getitem__ treating
      keys as positions is deprecated. In a future version, integer keys will always
      be treated as labels (consistent with DataFrame behavior). To access a value by
      position, use `ser.iloc[pos]`
        print(f"p-value of {name} = {p_values[i]:.5f}")
```

1.4.9 Residual Analysis

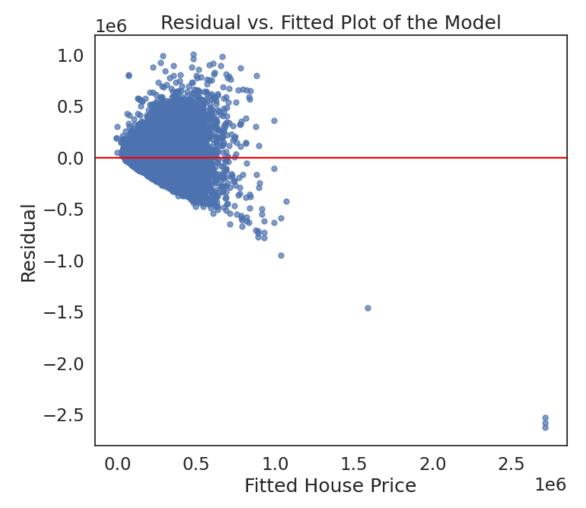
Conducting residual analysis to review the regression assumptions using the residuals vs. fitted plot, residual histogram plot and QQ plot.

```
[224]: # Set the figure size
plt.figure(figsize=(8, 7))
# Scatter plot of fitted values vs residuals
```

```
plt.scatter(model_price.fittedvalues, model_price.resid, alpha=0.7, s=25)

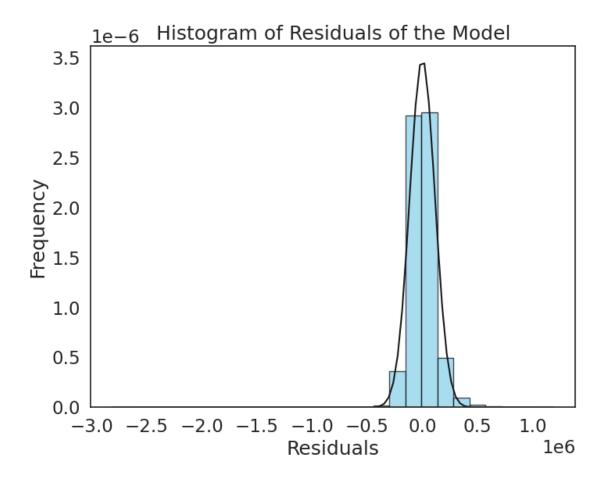
# Add title and labels
plt.xlabel('Fitted House Price')
plt.ylabel('Residual')
plt.title('Residual vs. Fitted Plot of the Model')

# Add a reg line at y=0, color, red
plt.axhline(y=0, color='red', linestyle='-')
plt.show()
```



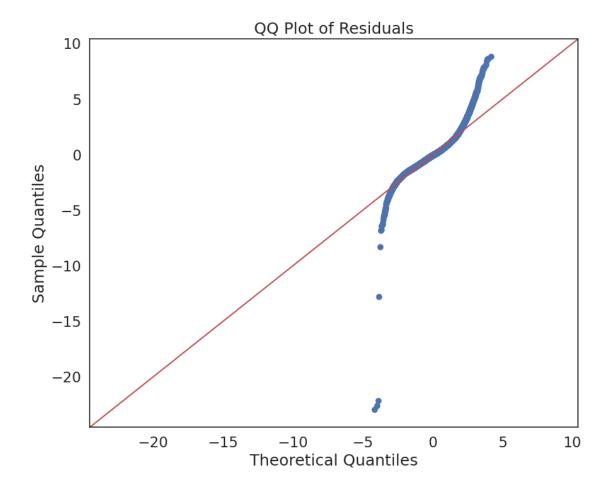
```
[225]: #Histogram plot of the model
residuals = model_price.resid
# Set the figure size
```

```
plt.figure(figsize=(8, 6))
# Plotting the histogram
plt.hist(residuals, bins=25, color='skyblue', edgecolor='black', alpha=0.7,
 ⇔density=True)
# Calculate the normal distribution with the same mean and std as the residuals
mu, sigma = np.mean(residuals), np.std(residuals)
xmin, xmax = plt.xlim()
x = np.linspace(xmin, xmax, 100)
p = stats.norm.pdf(x, mu, sigma)
# Plot the normal distribution curve
plt.plot(x, p, 'k', linewidth=1.5)
# Add labels and title
plt.xlabel('Residuals')
plt.ylabel('Frequency')
plt.title('Histogram of Residuals of the Model')
# Display the plot
plt.show()
```



```
[226]: # QQ plot of residuals
fig = sm.qqplot(model_price.resid, fit=True, line="45")
plt.title('QQ Plot of Residuals')

# Display the plot
plt.show()
```



1.4.10 Log Transformation of the Model

```
[227]: #Printing the regression model
print(model_price.summary())
```

OLS Regression Results				
Dep. Variable:	 pric	e R-squared:	0.338	
Model:	OL	S Adj. R-squared:	0.338	
Method:	Least Square	s F-statistic:	6594.	
Date:	Wed, 23 Apr 202	5 Prob (F-statistic):	0.00	
Time:	18:53:3	4 Log-Likelihood:	-8.4539e+05	
No. Observations:	6470	3 AIC:	1.691e+06	
Df Residuals:	6469	7 BIC:	1.691e+06	
Df Model:		5		
Covariance Type:	nonrobus	t		
==				
	coef std err	t P> t	Γ0.025	

Λ		a	7	Г	٦
\mathbf{v}	•	J	1	v	ш

const	-6.774e+04	3840.196	-17.639	0.000	-7.53e+04	
-6.02e+04						
tfarea	2017.1406	18.715	107.780	0.000	1980.459	
2053.823	5055 4400	440 504	45 505		2007 044	
numberrooms	7857.1492	443.794	17.705	0.000	6987.314	
8726.985 CEE	78.6524	48.904	1.608	0.108	-17.200	
174.505	70.0524	40.904	1.000	0.106	-17.200	
PEE	1044.9661	55.996	18.661	0.000	935.214	
1154.718	1011.0001	00.000	10.001	0.000	000.211	
duration_dummy	-8232.3346	1286.473	-6.399	0.000	-1.08e+04	
-5710.846						
=========						=====
Omnibus:		15355.874	Durbin-Wat			1.827
Prob(Omnibus):		0.000	Jarque-Be	ra (JB):	74471	8.229
Skew:		0.286	Prob(JB):			0.00
Kurtosis:		19.610	Cond. No.		1.1	2e+03

Notes:

- [1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.
- [2] The condition number is large, 1.12e+03. This might indicate that there are strong multicollinearity or other numerical problems.

/opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/pandas/core/arraylike.py:396:
RuntimeWarning: divide by zero encountered in log
 result = getattr(ufunc, method)(*inputs, **kwargs)
/opt/conda/lib/python3.11/site-packages/pandas/core/arraylike.py:396:
RuntimeWarning: divide by zero encountered in log
 result = getattr(ufunc, method)(*inputs, **kwargs)

```
[229]: new_df.head()
```

```
[229]: price tfarea numberrooms CEE PEE duration_dummy log_price \
0 233000.0 81.0 3.0 51 80 1 12.358794
```

```
2 139995.0 81.0
                                  3.0 51 80
                                                            1 11.849362
      3 185000.0 137.1
                                  8.0 66 73
                                                           1 12.128111
                                                            1 12.726353
      4 336500.0 73.0
                                  4.0 66 87
         log_tfarea log_numberrooms log_CEE log_PEE
      0
           4.394449
                           1.098612 3.931826 4.382027
      1
          4.394449
                          1.098612 3.931826 4.382027
      2 4.394449
                          1.098612 3.931826 4.382027
      3 4.920711
                           2.079442 4.189655 4.290459
                           1.386294 4.189655 4.465908
      4
           4.290459
[230]: #Building the log transformed model
      # handle zero or negative values which cannot be log-transformed
      new df['log tfarea'] = np.log(new df['tfarea'].clip(lower=1))
      new_df['log_numberrooms'] = np.log(new_df['numberrooms'].clip(lower=1))
      new_df['log_CEE'] = np.log(new_df['CEE'].clip(lower=1))
      new_df['log_PEE'] = np.log(new_df['PEE'].clip(lower=1))
      new_df['log_price'] = np.log(new_df['price'].clip(lower=1))
      # Removing any infinite or NaN values that could cause numerical issues
      new_df.replace([np.inf, -np.inf], np.nan, inplace=True)
      new_df.dropna(inplace=True)
      # Select independent variables
      X = new_df[['log_tfarea', 'log_numberrooms', 'log_CEE', 'log_PEE',
       # Add a constant to the independent variables
      X = sm.add constant(X)
      # Define dependent variable
      y = new_df['log_price']
      # Fit the OLS model
      log_model_price = sm.OLS(y, X).fit()
      # View summary of the model
      print(log model price.summary())
```

3.0

51 80

1 12.127841

1 184950.0 81.0

OLS Regression Results

Dep. Variable: log_price R-squared: 0.241 Model: OLS Adj. R-squared: 0.241 Method: Least Squares F-statistic: 4110. Date: Wed, 23 Apr 2025 Prob (F-statistic): 0.00 -53964. Time: 18:53:34 Log-Likelihood:

No. Observations: Df Residuals: Df Model: Covariance Type:		64703 64697 5 nonrobust	AIC: BIC:		1.079e+05 1.080e+05	
===				Do la l		
0.975]	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	
const 7.587	7.4643	0.063	119.128	0.000	7.342	
log_tfarea	0.8219	0.010	79.039	0.000	0.802	
log_numberrooms	0.0484	0.012	4.169	0.000	0.026	
log_CEE 0.032	0.0116	0.010	1.134	0.257	-0.008	
log_PEE 0.254	0.2227	0.016	14.048	0.000	0.192	
duration_dummy	-0.0587	0.007	-8.711	0.000	-0.072	
Omnibus:		4617.743	Durbin-Watson:		1.831	
Prob(Omnibus):			Jarque-Bera (JB):		5674.054	
Skew:					0.00	
Kurtosis:		3.381 =======	Cond. No.		222.	

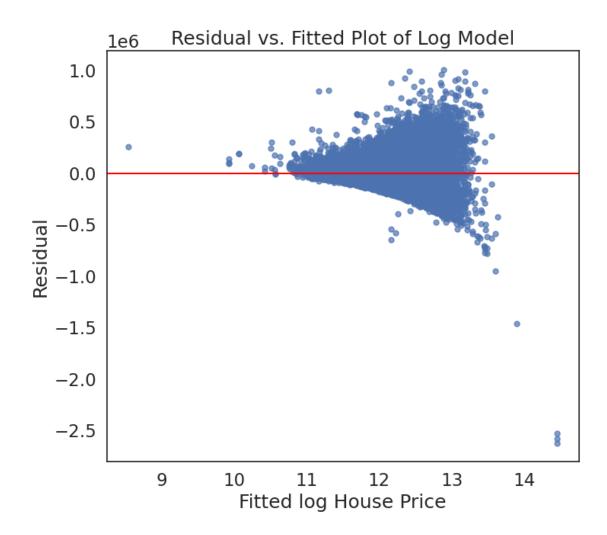
Notes:

[1] Standard Errors assume that the covariance matrix of the errors is correctly specified.

The minimal condition number of 222 indicates that issues of multicollinearity and other data issues have been mitigated. However, the model's explanation power reduced from $R^2 = 0.338$ to 0.241.

1.4.11 Fishing Out Matrices

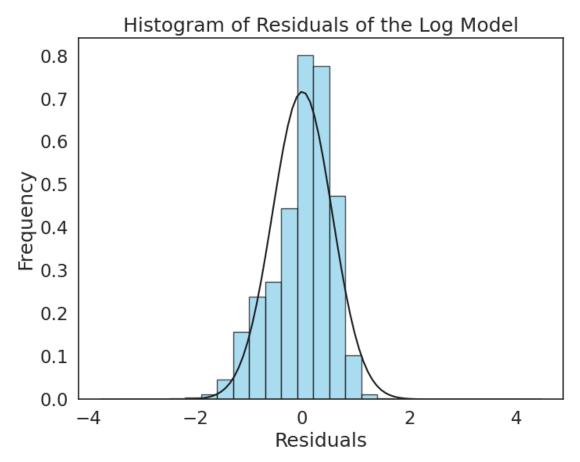
```
print(f"R^2 = {log_model_price.rsquared:.5f}")
      print(f"p-value of intercept = {p_values[0]:.5f}")
      # with 5 predictors
      feature_names = ['log_tfarea', 'log_numberrooms', 'log_CEE', 'log_PEE', u
       for i, name in enumerate(feature names, 1):
          print(f"p-value of {name} = {p_values[i]:.5f}")
      y = 7.464 + 0.822 * X1 + ... + -0.059 * Xn
      R^2 = 0.24105
      p-value of intercept = 0.00000
      p-value of log_tfarea = 0.00000
      p-value of log_numberrooms = 0.00003
      p-value of log_CEE = 0.25666
      p-value of log_PEE = 0.00000
      p-value of duration_dummy = 0.00000
      /tmp/ipykernel 299/1957991560.py:10: FutureWarning: Series. getitem treating
      keys as positions is deprecated. In a future version, integer keys will always
      be treated as labels (consistent with DataFrame behavior). To access a value by
      position, use `ser.iloc[pos]`
        print(f"p-value of intercept = {p_values[0]:.5f}")
      /tmp/ipykernel_299/1957991560.py:15: FutureWarning: Series.__getitem__ treating
      keys as positions is deprecated. In a future version, integer keys will always
      be treated as labels (consistent with DataFrame behavior). To access a value by
      position, use `ser.iloc[pos]`
        print(f"p-value of {name} = {p_values[i]:.5f}")
      ### Residual Plot of log-Transformed Model
[232]: #Scatter plot of log_model
      # Set figure size
      plt.figure(figsize=(8, 7))
      # Scatter plot fitted values vs residuals
      plt.scatter(log_model_price.fittedvalues, model_price.resid, alpha=0.7, s=25)
      # Add title and labels
      plt.xlabel('Fitted log House Price')
      plt.ylabel('Residual')
      plt.title('Residual vs. Fitted Plot of Log Model')
       # Add a horizontal line at y=0, color = red
      plt.axhline(y=0, color='red', linestyle='-')
      plt.show()
```



```
# Plot normal distribution curve
plt.plot(x, p, 'k', linewidth=1.5)

# Add labels and title
plt.xlabel('Residuals')
plt.ylabel('Frequency')
plt.title('Histogram of Residuals of the Log Model')

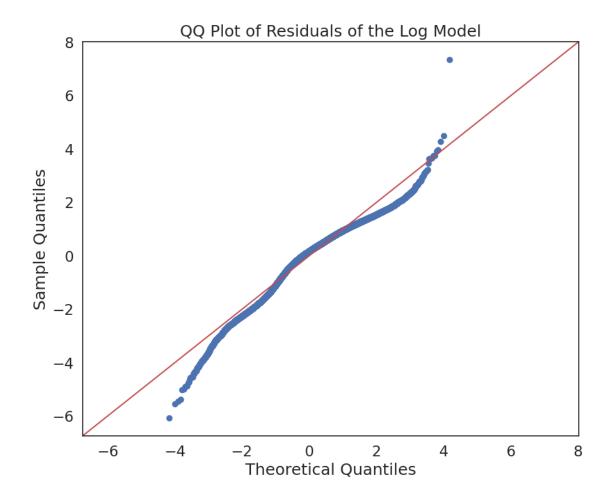
# Display the plot
plt.show()
```



```
[234]: # QQ plot of the log model

fig = sm.qqplot(log_model_price.resid, fit=True, line="45")
plt.title('QQ Plot of Residuals of the Log Model')

# Display the plot
plt.show()
```



1.4.12 Random Forest Regressor and diagnostic metrics

Assessing OLS and Machine Learning model performance.

```
# Initialize the RandomForestRegressor
rf = RandomForestRegressor(n_estimators=100,
                            random_state=42,
                           max_features='sqrt',
                           max_depth=None,
                           min_samples_split=2,
                           min_samples_leaf=1)
# Fit model on training data
rf.fit(X_train, y_train)
# Make predictions on the test data
y_pred = rf.predict(X_test)
# Evaluate the model
mse = mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred) # Compute MSE
rmse = np.sqrt(mse) # Compute RMSE
r2 = r2_score(y_test, y_pred) # R2 score
# Print out metrics
print("Random Forest Regression Performance:")
print(f"Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE): {rmse:.2f}")
print(f"R^2 Score: {r2:.4f}")
# Feature/variable importance
importances = rf.feature_importances_
feature_names = X.columns
feature_importance_dict = dict(zip(feature_names, importances))
sorted_features = sorted(feature_importance_dict.items(), key=lambda item:__
  →item[1], reverse=True)
print("Feature Importances:")
for name, importance in sorted_features:
    print(f"{name}: {importance:.4f}")
Random Forest Regression Performance:
Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE): 0.59
```

Random Forest Regression Performance:
Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE): 0.59
R^2 Score: 0.1534
Feature Importances:
log_tfarea: 0.4630
log_CEE: 0.2288
log_PEE: 0.1620
log_numberrooms: 0.1207
duration dummy: 0.0255

The Random Forest model provided some insight into the factors affecting house prices, its overall predictive power is relatively low ($R^2 = 0.1534$), suggesting the need for further model tuning or including additional relevant features. RMSE value confirms that the model's predictions are

moderately close to the actual data points but could be improved.

```
[237]: #Comparing OLS and Random Forest performance
      # Select independent variables and dependent variable
      X = new_df[['log_tfarea', 'log_numberrooms', 'log_CEE', 'log_PEE', L
       y = new_df['log_price'] # response variable
      # Split data into training and testing sets for a fair model evaluation
      X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test = train_test_split(X, y, test_size=0.25,_
        →random_state=42) # 75% training, 25% test
      # Initialize the Linear Regression and Random Forest models
      ols_model = LinearRegression()
      rf model = RandomForestRegressor(n estimators=100, random state=42)
      # Fit the models on the training data
      ols_model.fit(X_train, y_train)
      rf_model.fit(X_train, y_train)
      # Make predictions on the test data
      ols_predictions = ols_model.predict(X_test)
      rf_predictions = rf_model.predict(X_test)
      # Diagnostic metrics function
      def calculate_metrics(y_true, y_pred):
          r2 = r2_score(y_true, y_pred)
          mse = mean_squared_error(y_true, y_pred)
          rmse = np.sqrt(mse)
          return r2, rmse
      ols metrics = calculate metrics(y test, ols predictions)
      rf_metrics = calculate_metrics(y_test, rf_predictions)
      # Print metrics
      print("OLS Metrics:")
      print(f"R2: {ols_metrics[0]:.4f}")
      print(f"RMSE: {ols_metrics[1]:.4f}")
      print("\nRandomForest Metrics:")
      print(f"R2: {rf_metrics[0]:.4f}")
      print(f"RMSE: {rf_metrics[1]:.4f}")
```

OLS Metrics: R2: 0.2444 RMSE: 0.5596

RandomForest Metrics:

R2: 0.1484 RMSE: 0.5940

The OLS model has a higher R^2 value than the Random Forest model indicating that it generally performs better in explaining the variation in house prices in Reading by the predictors. The OLS model shows a more reliable prediction in this particular case, supported by the lower RMSE value of OLS.

1.5 Findings and Discussions

The regression before and log transformation models both show that the total floor area, number of rooms, potential energy efficiency rating, and the property's legal duration significantly impact house prices in Reading. This is evident in the P-values = 0.000 of these variables less than a 5% significant level and the absolute t-values greater than 1.96 statistical considerable level. However, the p-values and t-values for current energy efficiency ratings in both models surpass the significance thresholds, indicating a lack of significant on house prices in Reading. The coefficients of the independent variables coupled with the Pearson correlation matrix illustrate a positive relationship on price but the legal duration has a negative effect.

The coefficients of the log-transformed model illustrate that having a unit increase in total floor area, number of bedrooms, and potential energy efficiency attract a 0.8219, 0.0484, and 0.2227 increase in the house price in Reading, ceteris paribus. Additionally, a leasehold attracts a -0.0587, all things being equal.

The R^2 = 0.241 indicates the explanatory power of the transformed model. Thus, 24.10% of the variation in property prices in Reading is explained by the independent variables, Ceteris paribus. The natural log transformation was performed to normalize the data and have a more accurate and reliable result.

1.5.1 Discussion of the four conditions

- Linear relationship: All the points in the residual plot are not randomly scattered around the x-axis (residual=0). Therefore, it looks like the linear relationship between the variables is not satisfied and this is also evident in the QQ plot.
- **Independent errors:** The points in the residual plot are not randomly distributed and some patterns can be seen. Therefore, it is unlikely that the errors are independently distributed.
- Normally distributed errors: The histogram is asymmetric and shows some level of skewness. The QQ plot shows that the residuals slightly deviate from the theoretical quantiles. This suggests the data does not perfectly fit the assumed normal distribution, especially at the ends. Therefore, it is not likely that the residuals are normally distributed.
- Equal variance: the points do not form a horizontal band around residual=0, and the range of residuals increases with the fitted y value. Therefore, it is also unlikely that the residuals have equal variance.

1.5.2 Hypothesis Testing

Test 1 - Means Comparison Test: the sample size (69649) is fairly large so the mean comparison test can be used. Could they be drawn from populations with the same mean?

```
[238]: # Set significance level
alpha = 0.05

[239]: # Identify numeric columns
numeric_columns = new_df.select_dtypes(include=['float64', 'int64']).columns

# Iterate over pairs of numeric columns
for i in range(len(numeric_columns)):
    for j in range(i+1, len(numeric_columns)):
        col1 = numeric_columns[i]
        col2 = numeric_columns[j]

# Calculate standard deviations
    std1 = new_df[col1].std()
    std2 = new_df[col2].std()

# Calculate the ratio
    std_ratio = std1 / std2
    print(f"Standard deviation ratio for {col1} and {col2} = {std_ratio}")
```

Check if standard deviations can be assumed equal

print(f"Can assume equal population standard deviations for {col1} ⊔

print(f"Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for ____

if 0.5 < std_ratio < 2:</pre>

equal_stds = True

equal_stds = False

else:

 \hookrightarrow {col1} and {col2}.")

Standard deviation ratio for price and tfarea = 3897.1265144946956 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for price and tfarea. Standard deviation ratio for price and numberrooms = 82795.93866348204 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for price and numberrooms. Standard deviation ratio for price and CEE = 11812.120793506252 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for price and CEE. Standard deviation ratio for price and PEE = 14184.492752110515 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for price and PEE. Standard deviation ratio for price and duration_dummy = 306289.8248030176 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for price and duration_dummy. Standard deviation ratio for price and log_price = 219621.2922538622 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for price and log_price. Standard deviation ratio for price and log tfarea = 372261.20835878025 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for price and log_tfarea. Standard deviation ratio for price and log_numberrooms = 360090.2636650458 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for price and

log_numberrooms.

Standard deviation ratio for price and log_CEE = 496307.3856583345

Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for price and log_CEE.

Standard deviation ratio for price and log_PEE = 787119.9002283344

Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for price and log_PEE.

Standard deviation ratio for tfarea and numberrooms = 21.245381271441072

Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for tfarea and numberrooms.

Standard deviation ratio for tfarea and CEE = 3.0309821222311077

Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for tfarea and CEE.

Standard deviation ratio for tfarea and PEE = 3.639731145333291

Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for tfarea and PEE.

Standard deviation ratio for tfarea and duration_dummy = 78.59375970059605

Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for tfarea and duration_dummy.

Standard deviation ratio for tfarea and log_price = 56.35467348494291
Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for tfarea and log_price.
Standard deviation ratio for tfarea and log_tfarea = 95.5219716306921
Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for tfarea and log_tfarea.
Standard deviation ratio for tfarea and log_numberrooms = 92.39891554091243
Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for tfarea and log_numberrooms.

Standard deviation ratio for tfarea and log_CEE = 127.35213594231648

Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for tfarea and log_CEE.

Standard deviation ratio for tfarea and log_PEE = 201.9744284155971

Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for tfarea and log_PEE.

Standard deviation ratio for numberrooms and CEE = 0.14266546142457232

Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for numberrooms and CEE.

Standard deviation ratio for numberrooms and PEE = 0.1713187021136669

Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for numberrooms and PEE.

Standard deviation ratio for numberrooms and duration_dummy = 3.6993339256398783

Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for numberrooms and duration_dummy.

Standard deviation ratio for numberrooms and log_price = 2.65256117388193 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for numberrooms and log_price.

Standard deviation ratio for numberrooms and log_tfarea = 4.496128848442777 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for numberrooms and log tfarea.

Standard deviation ratio for numberrooms and log_numberrooms = 4.3491295524603695

Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for numberrooms and log numberrooms.

Standard deviation ratio for numberrooms and log_CEE = 5.99434457377842 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for numberrooms and log_CEE. Standard deviation ratio for numberrooms and log_PEE = 9.506745293721771 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for numberrooms and log_PEE. Standard deviation ratio for CEE and PEE = 1.2008421688261504 Can assume equal population standard deviations for CEE and PEE.

Standard deviation ratio for CEE and duration_dummy = 25.930129750400226 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for CEE and duration_dummy. Standard deviation ratio for CEE and log price = 18.592875580361458 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for CEE and log_price. Standard deviation ratio for CEE and log tfarea = 31.51518807388356 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for CEE and log tfarea. Standard deviation ratio for CEE and log numberrooms = 30.484810472223284 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for CEE and log_numberrooms. Standard deviation ratio for CEE and log CEE = 42.01678888444663 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for CEE and log_CEE. Standard deviation ratio for CEE and log_PEE = 66.63662808638529 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for CEE and log PEE. Standard deviation ratio for PEE and duration_dummy = 21.593287130937032 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for PEE and duration dummy. Standard deviation ratio for PEE and log price = 15.483196762265939 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for PEE and log price. Standard deviation ratio for PEE and log_tfarea = 26.244238328747528 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for PEE and log tfarea. Standard deviation ratio for PEE and log_numberrooms = 25.386192510230433 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for PEE and log numberrooms. Standard deviation ratio for PEE and log CEE = 34.98943489427838 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for PEE and log CEE. Standard deviation ratio for PEE and log_PEE = 55.491579007026424 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for PEE and log_PEE. Standard deviation ratio for duration_dummy and log_price = 0.7170375065352105 Can assume equal population standard deviations for duration_dummy and log_price.

Standard deviation ratio for duration_dummy and log_tfarea = 1.2153887534402767 Can assume equal population standard deviations for duration_dummy and log_tfarea.

Standard deviation ratio for duration_dummy and log_numberrooms = 1.175652060582256

Can assume equal population standard deviations for duration_dummy and log numberrooms.

Standard deviation ratio for duration_dummy and log_CEE = 1.6203848298830097 Can assume equal population standard deviations for duration_dummy and log_CEE. Standard deviation ratio for duration_dummy and log_PEE = 2.5698532451561205 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for duration_dummy and log_PEE.

Standard deviation ratio for log_price and log_tfarea = 1.695014197113822
Can assume equal population standard deviations for log_price and log_tfarea.
Standard deviation ratio for log_price and log_numberrooms = 1.6395963249720538
Can assume equal population standard deviations for log_price and log numberrooms.

Standard deviation ratio for log_price and log_CEE = 2.2598327355466443 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for log_price and log_CEE. Standard deviation ratio for log_price and log_PEE = 3.583987199740613 Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for log_price and log_PEE. Standard deviation ratio for log_tfarea and log_numberrooms = 0.9673053640281416 Can assume equal population standard deviations for log_tfarea and log_numberrooms.

Standard deviation ratio for log_tfarea and log_CEE = 1.333223485322167

Can assume equal population standard deviations for log_tfarea and log_CEE.

Standard deviation ratio for log_tfarea and log_PEE = 2.114429015310451

Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for log_tfarea and log_PEE.

Standard deviation ratio for log_numberrooms and log_CEE = 1.3782860458565387

Can assume equal population standard deviations for log_numberrooms and log_CEE.

Standard deviation ratio for log_numberrooms and log_PEE = 2.1858960923212005

Cannot assume equal population standard deviations for log_numberrooms and log_PEE.

Standard deviation ratio for log_CEE and log_PEE = 1.5859524217723402 Can assume equal population standard deviations for log_CEE and log_PEE.

```
[240]: # create col1 and col2 from new_df
col1_data = new_df[col1]
col2_data = new_df[col2]

# Perform t-test
test_stat, p_value = sps.ttest_ind(col1_data, col2_data, equal_var=equal_stds)
print("p-value =", p_value)
```

p-value = 0.0

p-value < significance threshold.

Reject HO. Accept H1.

Conclude that samples are drawn from populations with different means.

1.5.3 Test 2 - KS Distribution

Considering the shape of the distributions.

The data is continuous, so the KS test can be used.

```
[242]: # Set significance level
       alpha = 0.05
[243]: # create coll and col2 from new df
       col1_data = new_df[col1]
       col2_data = new_df[col2]
       # Perform KS test
       KS_stat, p_value = sps.ks_2samp(col1_data, col2_data)
       print("KS stat =", KS_stat)
       print("p-value =", p_value)
      KS \text{ stat} = 0.5569293541257747
      p-value = 0.0
[244]: # Reach a conclusion:
       if p_value < alpha:</pre>
           print("p-value < significance threshold.")</pre>
           print("Reject HO. Accept H1.")
           print("Conclude that samples are drawn from populations with different ⊔
        elif p_value >= alpha:
           print("p-value >= significance threshold.")
           print("No significant evidence to reject HO.")
           print("Assume samples are drawn from populations with the same distribution.
        ")
```

p-value < significance threshold.

Reject HO. Accept H1.

Conclude that samples are drawn from populations with different distributions.

1.6 Conclusion

The analysis confirms that the potential energy efficiency, total floor area, and number of rooms contribute to the determination of the house prices in Reading. Additionally, properties with leasehold tenure tend to have lower prices. Although current energy efficiency ratings showed no significant effect on prices, the study successfully addressed multicollinearity, enhancing the model's reliability. Since the p-value = 0.0 is less than the 5% significant level, we therefore reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative. Overall, these factors account for approximately 24.10% of the variation in Reading's property prices, with the log transformation providing a more precise understanding of the market's dynamics and offering valuable insight for housing developers and policymakers on the benefits and the need to make buildings energy efficient.

1.7 References

- House Prices in England and Wales Dataset
- Abate, G.D. and Anselin, L., (2016). House price fluctuations and the business cycle dynamics.
- Amin, R.M. and Al-Din, S.S.M., (2018). Evaluation of the Sustainable Aspects In Housing Sector To Overcome Housing Stress In Northern Iraq.
- Caesar, C., Donner, H. and Kopsch, F., (2019). The impact of leasehold status on apartment price.
- Coqueret, G. and Deguest, R., (2020). Predictive regressions: A machine learning perspective.
- Huang, M.Y., (2023). Analyzing the effects of green building on housing prices: case study of Kaohsiung, Taiwan.
- James, G., Witten, D., Hastie, T. and Tibshirani, R., (2013). An introduction to statistical learning (Vol. 112, p. 18).
- Slinker, B.K. and Glantz, S.A., (1988). Multiple linear regression is a useful alternative to traditional analyses of variance.
- Wooldridge, J.M., (2015). Control function methods in applied econometrics.
- Zancanella, P., Bertoldi, P. and Boza-Kiss, B., (2018). Energy efficiency, the value of buildings and the payment default risk.
- Zhang, B., Zhang, Y., Li, J., Song, Y. and Wang, Z., (2023). Does the energy efficiency of buildings bring price premiums? Evidence from urban micro-level energy data.
- Zhang, L., Liu, H. and Wu, J., (2017). The price premium for green-labelled housing: Evidence from China.
- Zuo, J. and Zhao, Z.Y., (2014). Green building research—current status and future agenda: A review.
- Maulud, D. and Abdulazeez, A.M., (2020). A review on linear regression comprehensive in machine learning.

[]: