

Data Processing Project

Introduction

This data set is a snapshot of Melbourne Housing, including the variables such as **Rooms** meaning number of rooms, **Price** meaning price in dollars, **Regionname** meaning general region, **Propertycount** meaning number of properties that exist in the suburb, **Distance** meaning the distance from CBD and so on. Melbourne is experiencing a housing bubble as well as the cities in China such as Beijing, Shanghai and so on. We want use this data set to find a trend and give a prediction for the price of house.

In this project, we try to clean and process the data firstly. Then we will do some descriptive statistics analysis through tables and plots. Finally we will build a linear regression model to predict the price of the house using these predictors.

Data processing

We use the data in <https://www.kaggle.com/anthonympino/melbourne-housing-market>. We download the data set from the above website and import the data set into R:

```
# read the data
data = read.csv("melb_data.csv")
```

Since we are interested in the above five variables **Rooms**, **Price**, **Regionname**, **Propertycount**, **Distance**, we delete the observations, which has missing values in these five variables and extract these five variables for the following analysis:

```
# delete the missing values
index = !is.na(data$Price) & !is.na(data$Rooms) &
!is.na(data$Regionname) & !is.na(data$Propertycount) &
!is.na(data$Distance)
# extract these five variables
data = data[index,
             c("Price", "Rooms", "Regionname", "Propertycount", "Distance")]
```

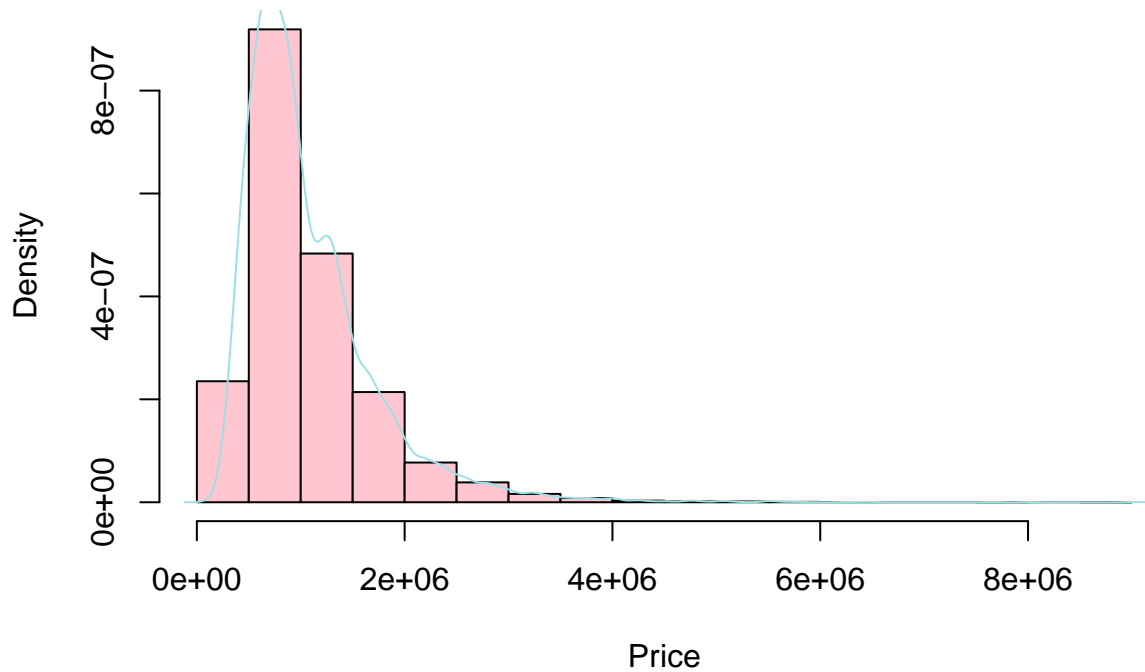
Now the data set consists 13580 observations.

Descriptive statistics analysis

Firstly, we make a histogram for the **Price** to see the distribution:

```
# histogram of price
hist(data$Price, prob=T, main="Distribution of Price",
     xlab="Price", col=hcl(0), breaks=20)
lines(density(data$Price), col=hcl(200))
```

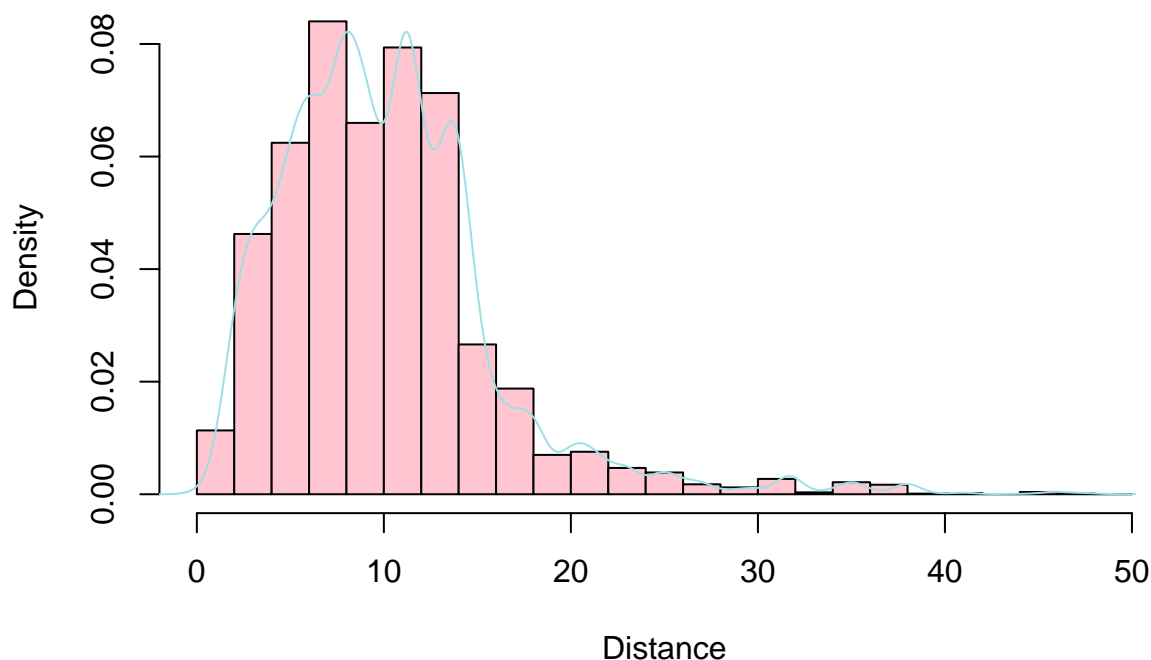
Distribution of Price



From the plot, we can see that Price is right skewed. Secondly, We make a histogram for the Distance to see the distribution:

```
# histogram of distance  
hist(data$Distance,prob=T,xlab='Distance',  
      main='Distribution of distance',col=hcl(0),breaks=20)  
lines(density(data$Distance),col=hcl(200))
```

Distribution of distance

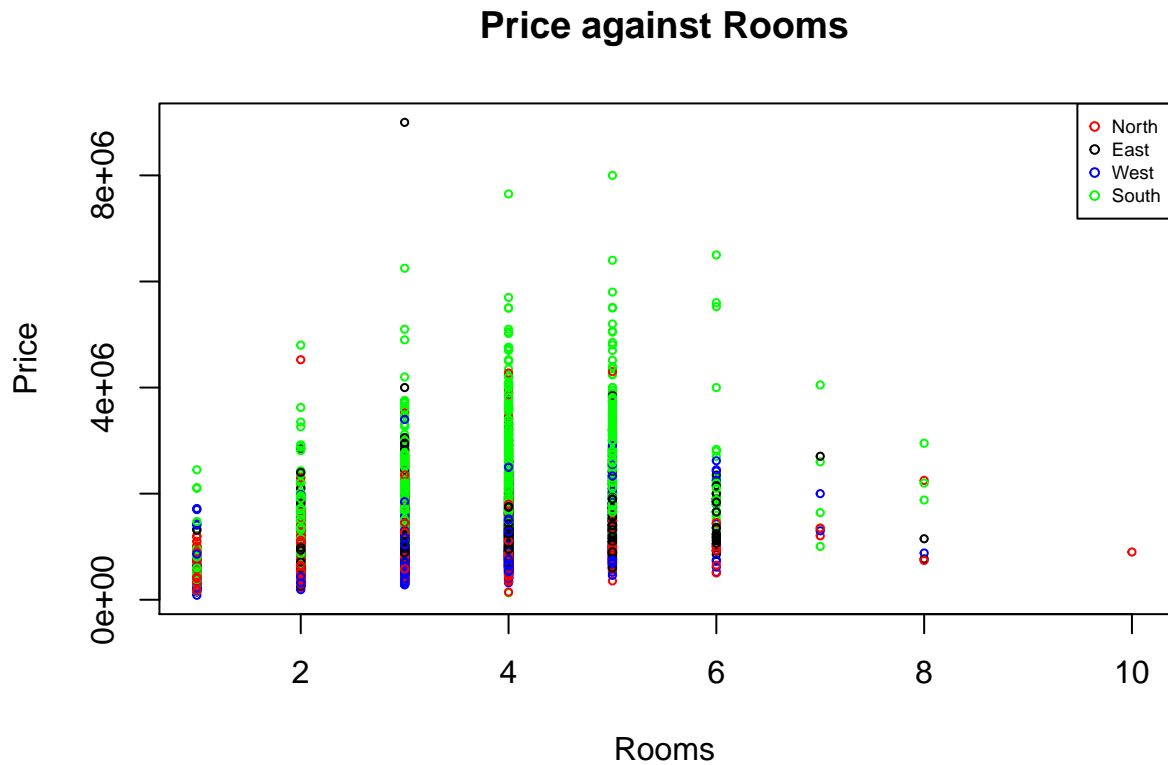


which is also a little right skewed. Thirdly, we make a scatter plot for Price and Rooms with Price at the vertical axis and color the data by Regionname

```
# combine the Region into 4 classes
data[data$Regionname=="Northern Metropolitan" |
      data$Regionname=="Northern Victoria", "Regionname"] = "North"
data[data$Regionname=="Eastern Metropolitan" |
      data$Regionname=="Eastern Victoria" |
      data$Regionname=="South-Eastern Metropolitan",
      "Regionname"] = "East"
data[data$Regionname=="Western Metropolitan" |
      data$Regionname=="Western Victoria", "Regionname"] = "West"
data[data$Regionname=="Southern Metropolitan" |
      data$Regionname=="Southern Victoria", "Regionname"] = "South"

# define the color
data$col = NULL
for (i in 1:nrow(data)){
  if (data[i, "Regionname"]=="North"){data[i, "col"]="red"}
  else if (data[i, "Regionname"]=="East"){data[i, "col"]="black"}
  else if (data[i, "Regionname"]=="West"){data[i, "col"]="blue"}
  else if (data[i, "Regionname"]=="South"){data[i, "col"]="green"}
}

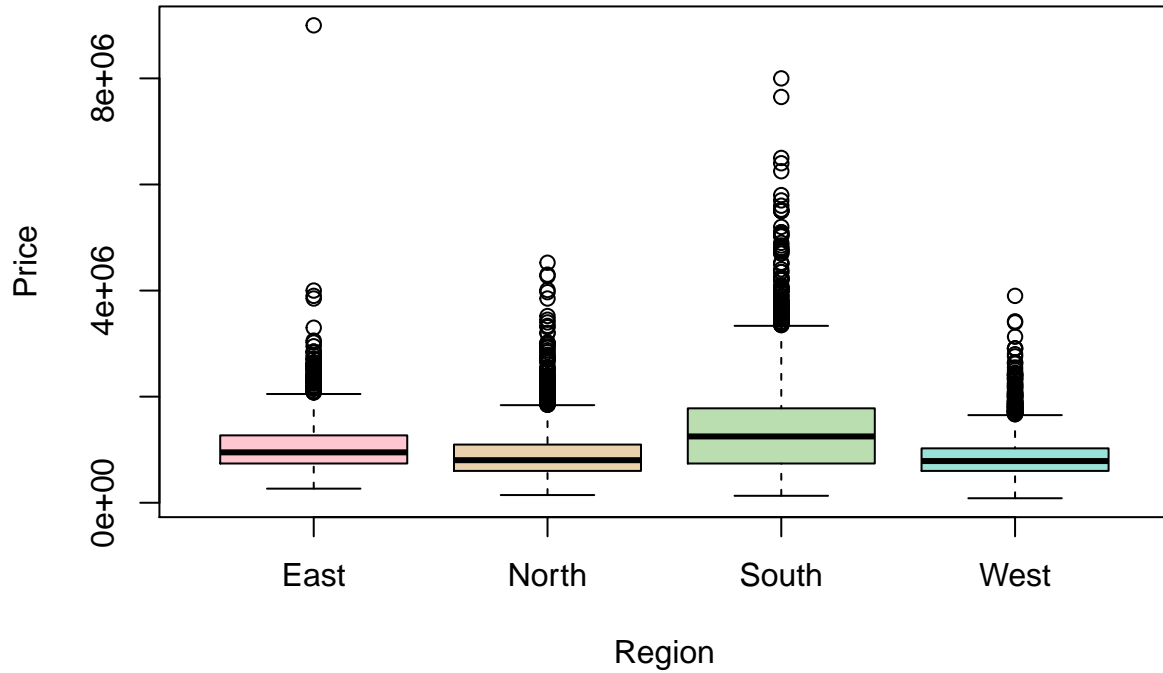
# scatter plot
plot(Price~Rooms, data=data, cex=0.5, main="Price against Rooms",
     col =data$col)
legend("topright", legend=c("North", "East", "West", "South"),
      col=c("red", "black", "blue", "green"), cex=0.6, pch=c(1, 1, 1, 1))
```



From the scatter plot, we can see that as the number of rooms changes from 1 to 5, the price increases gradually. Furthermore, we can see that the price of house in southern area is the highest among the four regions while the prices of house in northern and western area are lower. We can also obtain the same conclusion through a boxplot for the Price grouped by Region

```
# boxplot for price grouped by region
boxplot(data$Price~data$Regionname,
        col=hcl(c(0,60,120,180,240,300,360,420)),
        xlab="Region",ylab="Price",
        main="Boxplot of price for different regions")
```

Boxplot of price for different regions



Linear regression

Finally, we build a linear regression model using Price as dependent variable and other four variables as predictors.

```
library(knitr)
# linear regression model
model = lm(Price~Rooms+Regionname+Propertycount+Distance,data=data)
```

The regression result is as follows:

```
# regression result
kable(summary(model)$coef,
caption="Coefficients estimates of linear regression")
```

Table 1: Coefficients estimates of linear regression

	Estimate	Std. Error	t value	Pr(> t)
(Intercept)	3.552257e+05	2.096700e+04	16.942132	0.0000000
Rooms	3.983395e+05	4.385979e+03	90.821102	0.0000000
RegionnameNorth	-2.318262e+05	1.485028e+04	-15.610896	0.0000000
RegionnameSouth	2.186858e+05	1.404608e+04	15.569167	0.0000000
RegionnameWest	-3.058005e+05	1.436864e+04	-21.282501	0.0000000
Propertycount	-2.205875e+00	9.722249e-01	-2.268893	0.0232904
Distance	-3.697188e+04	7.981737e+02	-46.320588	0.0000000

From the results, we can see that the number of Rooms has a positive impact on the house price. The house in southern area is highest and then the house in eastern area and then the house in northern area and then the house in western area. The distance has a negative impact on the house price, which means that the more closed the house with CBD, the higher price the house has.

Finally, we export the data and save it as “Melbourne_Housing.csv”.

```
write.table(data,"Melbourne_Housing.csv",  
            row.names=FALSE,col.names=TRUE,sep=",")
```