Final Project-Kaggle Competition

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1 DATA AND FEATURES

1.1 Dataset

This study focuses on predicting price level, which ranges from 1 to 4, of Airbnb listings in the Buenos Aires, Argentina. The dataset includes 9681 listings. Each listings contains 25 features, including the listing's ID number, neighbourhood, cancellation policy, and features associated with amenities such as room type, bed type and bathrooms. To ensure the training and test dataset to have similar distributions, we remove some training samples, which include categorical values that is not appeared in the test data. This reduces the number of listings in the training set to 9664. To avoid possible influence of the magnitude of features, we standardize all features by removing the mean and scaling to unit variance¹. When tuning the parameters, we randomly split the training data into 5 folds to perform cross validation.

1.2 EXPLORATORY ANALYSIS

In order to acquire a general view of the correlation between features and price, we create a correlation heatmap (4.1) on the training data with one-hot encoded categorical features. The heatmap shows no significant correlations between all other features and price of the listings. However, there seems to be some correlation between price and bathrooms, beds, guest included, as well as room type.

The location of listings are usually believed to have influences on the prices of the listings. Although in the heatmap we cannot see significant correlations between neighbourhoods and price, the price special distribution $^2(1.1)$ displayed significant price differences between different neighbourhoods.

¹We did this using **sklearn.preprocessing.StandardScaler**(), see https://scikit-learn.org/stable/modules/generated/sklearn.preprocessing.StandardScaler.html

 $^{^2} Map \ source: \verb|http://insideairbnb.com/get-the-data.html|$



Figure 1.1: Price Special Distribution

Other categorical features are bed type, room type and cancellation policy. From the graphs below(1.2), we can see that most of beds are real beds and there is no much price difference between real bed and pull-on sofa. However, listings with futon or airbed appear to have lower prices. Most of the listings include the entire home or apartment, fewer with only private room, shared room, or hotel room. The price seems to be different for different type of room. We have approximately the same number of listings that apply flexible, moderate, and relatively strict³, whereas very few listings have super strict cancellation policy. The plot shows no significant price difference between the first three level of strictness but higher average prices for listings that have super strict cancellation policy.

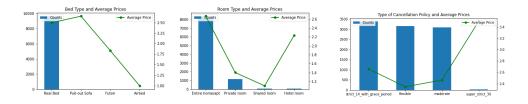


Figure 1.2: Average Price for each type of Bed, Room, and Cancellation Policy

The rest of features are numerical features. Note that for the convenience of analysis, we convert the date for last review and date when host started to number of days since last review and number of days since host to October 8, 2020. And we use 0 and 1 to replace all boolean values.

The histogram(4.2) displays a similar distribution between our training and test dataset. Since all listings in training and test data is not ready for business travel, this feature is useless to our analysis. In addition, from the training data we can see the distribution of the label, which is price level, is balanced.

³Strict 14 days with grace period means for a full refund of the nightly rate, the guest must cancel within 48 hours of booking and at least 14 full days prior to listing's local check-in time. Source: https://www.airbnb.com/home/cancellation_policies

2 MODELS AND RESULTS

2.1 RANDOM FOREST

Since we cannot find any significant strong relationship between any feature and price level, we do not know whether some features are more important than others. To make use of all the features and investigate their importance, we first apply random forest to train the classification model. This algorithm can be relatively computationally expensive to tune, but it is easy to use and often gives high validation accuracy.

2.1.1 Training

This algorithm fits number of decision trees on sub-samples of the whole training data, then use average results of those trees to produce the final classification. In this case, entropy is used as the criterion for measuring the quality of a tree split. The entropy of a random variable X is defined as

$$H(X) = -\sum_{i=1}^{n} p(x_i) \log_2 p(x_i)$$

where x_i are possible outcomes and $p(x_i)$ are probabilities associated with those outcomes. The decision tree determines which feature to split according to the information gain, which is defined as

$$IG(X, a) = H(X) - H(X|a)$$

where a is a feature. The information gain(IG) of a particular feature can be interpreted as the reduction in the entropy after this feature is known.

2.1.2 PARAMETERS

To prevent overfitting, we first set the number of trees in the forest to be 2000. To find the optimal number of maximum depth of a tree, we use 5-fold cross validation and select the maximum depth that performs the best. The cross validation results are shown in the graph below(2.1).

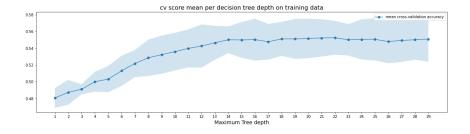


Figure 2.1: Cross Validation Results for Random Forest with All Features

The results shows that the cross validation accuracy increases as the maximum depth increases from 1 to 14, then it converges as the maximum depth increases from 15. The accuracy reaches its highest level, which is around 55.26%, at maximum depth equals to 22.

After running cross validation on different number of trees in the forest, we find that the performance of the algorithm seems not to be affected by this parameter. Therefore, we can keep using 2000 as the number of estimator.

2.1.3 FEATURE SELECTION

To investigate which features are important to the model, we plot the feature importance using maximum depth equals 15(4.3). As shown in the plot, some features contribute significantly to the model, whereas some other features appear to be not important. For example, the most important features in this model is the cleaning fee of the listings, its feature importance is over 0.12. However, there are many other features, such as whether bed type is airbed, which their importance are less than 0.01. In order to improve efficiency, we drop features which have importance less than 0.01. This gives us the first 21 features in Figure 4.3. Then we do cross validation again on the selected features.

However, selecting only the first 21 important features leads to slightly lower validation accuracy than using all features (4.4). The highest accuracy achieves at maximum depth equals to 22. Run time for cross validation for model with all features is about 3469 seconds, for model with selected features and a smaller range of maximum depth is about 1837 seconds. In this case, feature selection may improve the efficiency but will reduce the accuracy of this algorithm.

2.2 CONVOLUTIONAL NEURAL NETWORK

Since doing feature selection can reduce accuracy in this case, we want to use all the features in training the second algorithm. To use as much information as possible and find the possible connection between features, we create a convolutional neural network(CNN). This algorithm is fast to train and easy to use, it consists two convolutional layers, four dense layers and dropout regularization. This structure and number of neurons in each layer is similar to those in others work that predicts airbnb prices 4 . We use dropout rate of $25\%^5$ to prevent overfitting while avoid dropping too much information.

2.2.1 TRAINING

The convolutional layers take the input as a tensor, convolve it according to some fliter and kernel size, then pass the result to the next layer. The dense layers are fully connected layers with element-wise activation function. In this case, we use AdaMax as the optimizer to learn the parameters. Adam is a algorithm for stochastic optimization that estimates the first and second moment of gradients, and update parameters as well as individual learning rates based on the estimates. AdaMax is a variant of Adam based on the infinity norm. Since there are 4 price levels, we use the categorical Cross-Entropy as the loss function. It is a Softmax activation

 $^{^4} https://github.com/L-Lewis/Airbnb-neural-network-price-prediction/blob/master/Airbnb-price-prediction.ipynb$

⁵The validation accuracy actually decreases when the dropout rate is set to 50%, and become worse when the rate is 75%.

adding a Cross-Entropy loss. The formula for Softmax is

$$\sigma(z)_i = \frac{e^{z_i}}{\sum_{j=1}^K e^{z_j}}$$

where $\sigma: \mathbb{R}^K \to \mathbb{R}^K$ is the Softmax activation function, z is the input vector, and K is the number of classes. The formula for categorical Cross-Entropy can be written as

$$CE = -\sum_{i=1}^{K} y_{z,i} \log(\sigma(z)_i)$$

where K represents the number of classes, $y_{z,i}$ equals to 1 if the observation z is in class i and equals to 0 if otherwise, and σ refers to the Softmax activation function.

2.2.2 PARAMETERS

First we tune the learning rate of the algorithm. Since 0.01 is a typical rate for standard multi-layer neural networks⁶, we try values around this number. We tentatively use ReLu as activation function. The validation accuracy for each learning rate is shown in Figure 2.2. The graph shows that different learning rate does not lead to significant difference in the validation accuracy, which is around 50%, except when it equals to 0.1, which associated with a much worse accuracy around 25%. Since using 0.01 and 0.005 seems to yield more stable result, we choose 0.005 in this analysis.

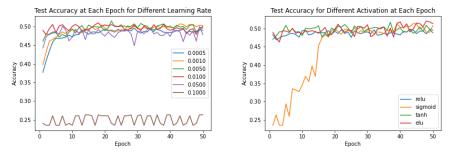


Figure 2.2: Validation Accuracy for Different Learning Rate(Left) and Activation Function(Right) at Each Epoch

For the last dense layer we need 4 neurons for 4 classes in the price level, and we use softmax activation function to compute the probability for each class. To determine which activation function to use on other layers, we train models using 4 commonly used activation function and plot their validation accuracy at each epoch(2.2).

The plot suggests that after 15 epochs the performances of algorithm using different activation function are similar. They all achieve accuracy around 50%. We choose ReLu in this analysis.

⁶Y. Bengio. Practical recommendations for gradient-based training of deep architectures, 2012.

To evaluate this model⁷, we randomly split the training data so that 80% of the data is used for training and the rest 20% of the data is used for validation. Model summary(4.5) can be seen in the Appendix. The result in Figure 2.3 shows that the validation accuracy converges very quickly to about 48%. The training accuracy lies slightly above the validation accuracy, suggesting a slight overfit. The training time for this model is about 62 seconds.

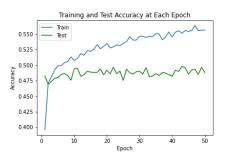


Figure 2.3: Training and Validation Accuracy at each Epoch for the CNN Model

3 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Analysis above shows that, for this dataset, random forest, or perhaps other boosting methods, is more effective in predicting price levels than the deep learning convolution network. Using 20% of the data that is randomly chosen for validation, the validation accuracy for random forest is around 55%(with appropriate maximum depth), whereas for the CNN model is only around 48%. The relatively poor performance of the deep learning model is probably due to the limited number of training sample. However, although random forest gives better accuracy in this case, it is computationally expensive to tune its parameters. Run time for tuning maximum depth for the forest with all features is longer than 3000 seconds, and training the model on the whole training set costs 28 seconds. The CNN model, on the contrary, gives lower accuracy but is faster to tune. In this case, training four CNN models with different activation function and learning rates costs about 600 seconds. Run time for CNN model on the whole training set is 69 seconds.

⁷For batch size, we tried some usual numbers such as 32, 64, 128, and 256 but there seems to be no significant impact on accuracy. Thus, we use 128 in this analysis.

4 APPENDIX

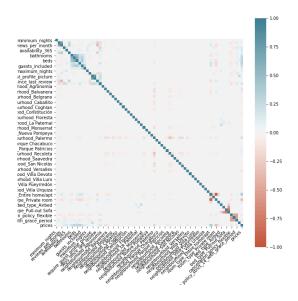


Figure 4.1: Correlation Heatmap of features and price

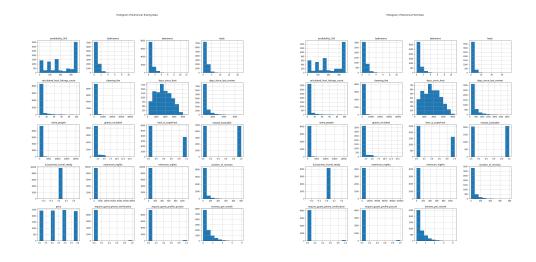


Figure 4.2: Histogram of Numerical Data in the Training(left) and Test(right) Set

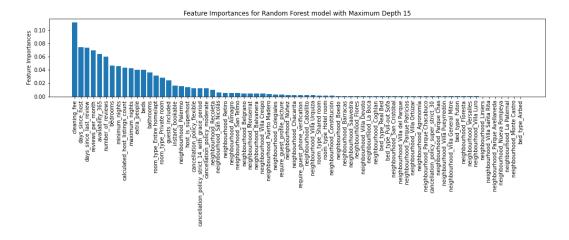


Figure 4.3: Feature Importance of Random Forest

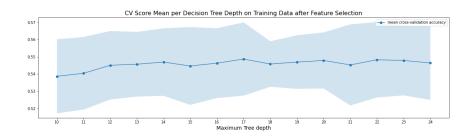


Figure 4.4: Cross Validation Results for Random Forest with Selected Features

Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #
convld 1 (ConvlD)	(None, 1, 16)	3472
convia_i (convib)	(None, 1, 10)	3472
activation_1 (Activation)	(None, 1, 16)	0
convld 2 (ConvlD)	(None, 1, 32)	1568
eonvia_2 (convib)	(None, 1, 32)	1366
activation_2 (Activation)	(None, 1, 32)	0
dropout 1 (Dropout)	(None, 1, 32)	0
flatten_1 (Flatten)	(None, 32)	0
dense_1 (Dense)	(None, 128)	4224
dropout_2 (Dropout)	(None, 128)	0
dense_2 (Dense)	(None, 256)	33024
dropout_3 (Dropout)	(None, 256)	0
dense_3 (Dense)	(None, 512)	131584
dropout_4 (Dropout)	(None, 512)	0
dense_4 (Dense)	(None, 4)	2052
activation_3 (Activation)	(None, 4)	0
Total params: 175,924		
Trainable params: 175,924 Non-trainable params: 0		

Figure 4.5: Summary of the CNN model

Final Project

November 19, 2020

1 Final Project

```
[1]: import pandas as pd
     import geopandas as gpd
     import numpy as np
     import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
     import scipy.io as io
     import libsvm
     from libsvm import symutil
     from svmutil import svm_predict
     from libsvm.svmutil import *
     %matplotlib inline
     import seaborn as sns
     import time
     from scipy import stats
     from datetime import datetime
     import sklearn
     from sklearn import preprocessing, svm
     from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestClassifier
     from sklearn.model_selection import cross_val_score, KFold
     from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
```

1.0.1 Training data

```
'cleaning_fee', 'guests_included', 'extra_people', 'maximum_nights',
  'instant_bookable', 'is_business_travel_ready', 'cancellation_policy',
  'require_guest_profile_picture', 'require_guest_phone_verification',
  'price'],
dtype='object')
```

1.0.2 Test data

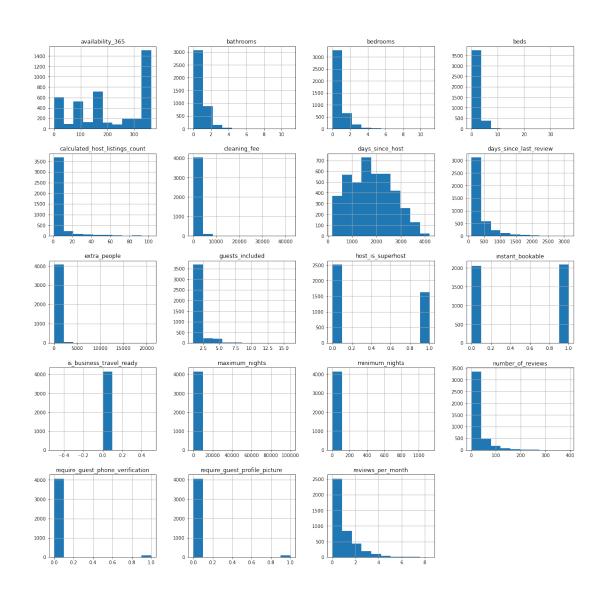
1.0.3 Distribution

```
[6]: print("Training data:", data.shape)
print('Test data:', data_test.shape)
```

Training data: (9681, 24) Test data: (4149, 23)

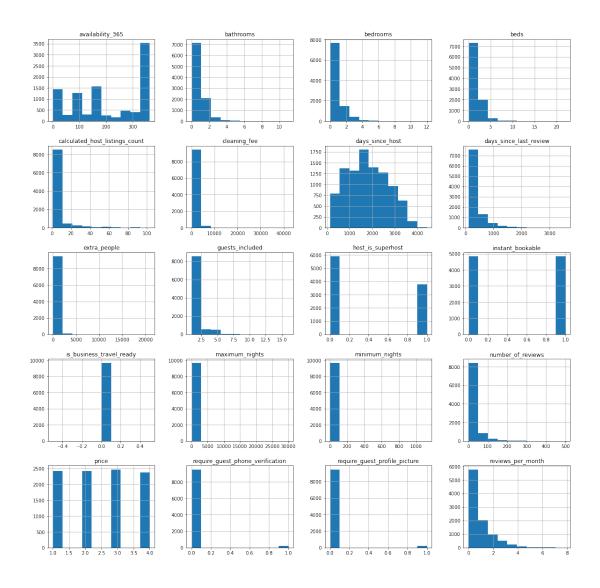
```
[7]: # a quick view of the test data
fig_t = data_test.hist(figsize = (20,20))
plt.suptitle('Histogram of Numerical Test Data')
plt.savefig('test_his.png')
```

Histogram of Numerical Test Data



```
[8]: # a quick view of the training data
fig = data.hist(figsize = (20,20))
plt.suptitle('Histogram of Numerical Traning Data')
plt.savefig('train_his.png')
```

Histogram of Numerical Traning Data

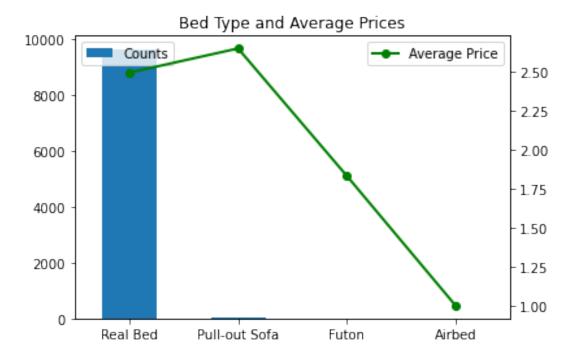


1.0.4 Features

 $Is_business_travel\ ready$

```
[9]: # drop is_business_travel_ready
      data.drop(columns = ['is_business_travel_ready'], inplace = True)
      data_test.drop(columns = ['is_business_travel_ready'], inplace = True)
     Bed type
[10]: # create table counts each type of bed and the average price of each type in
      → training data
      k = data['bed_type'].value_counts().to_frame()
      k = k.rename(columns = {'bed_type': 'counts'})
      a = data.groupby('bed_type').price.mean().to_frame()
      k = k.join(a,lsuffix='_caller', rsuffix='_other')
     k
[10]:
                     counts
                                price
                       9641 2.496836
     Real Bed
     Pull-out Sofa
                       23 2.652174
                         12 1.833333
     Futon
     Couch
                          3 2.000000
      Airbed
                          2 1.000000
[11]: # create table counts each type of bed and the average price of each type in_{\sqcup}
      \rightarrow test data
      k1 = data_test['bed_type'].value_counts().to_frame()
      k1.rename(columns = {'bed_type': 'counts'})
[11]:
                     counts
     Real Bed
                       4131
     Pull-out Sofa
                         10
     Futon
                          5
     Airbed
                          3
[12]: # remove listings that have Couch as bed type in the training data
      data = data[data.bed_type != 'Couch']
      # re-create the table about type and prices
      k = data['bed_type'].value_counts().to_frame()
      k = k.rename(columns = {'bed_type': 'counts'})
      a = data.groupby('bed_type').price.mean().to_frame()
      k = k.join(a,lsuffix='_caller', rsuffix='_other')
[13]: # plot bed type and average prices for each type in training data
      fig = plt.figure()
      ax = k['counts'].plot(kind='bar', use_index= True ,label = 'Counts')
      ax2 = ax.twinx()
      ax2.plot(ax.get_xticks(),
               k['price'],
               linestyle='-',
```

```
marker='o',color = 'g', linewidth=2.0, label = 'Average Price')
ax.set_xticklabels(
    ax.get_xticklabels(),
    rotation=0,
)
ax.legend(loc='upper left')
ax2.legend(loc = 'upper right')
ax.set_title('Bed Type and Average Prices')
plt.show()
fig.savefig('bedtype.png')
```

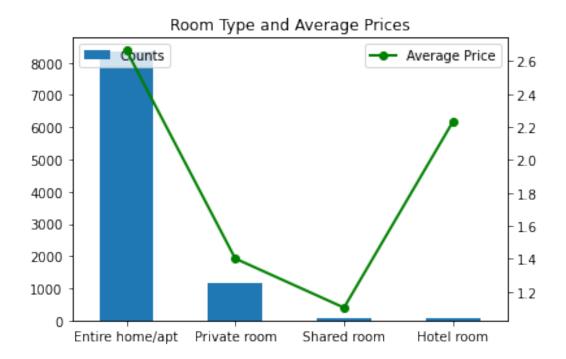


Room type

```
[14]: counts price
Entire home/apt 8363 2.663996
Private room 1183 1.402367
Shared room 67 1.104478
```

Hotel room 65 2.230769

```
[15]: # create table counts each type of room and the average price of each type in
      \hookrightarrow test data
      k1 = data_test['room_type'].value_counts().to_frame()
     k1.rename(columns = {'room_type': 'counts'})
[15]:
                       counts
     Entire home/apt
                         3585
     Private room
                          503
                           32
     Shared room
     Hotel room
                           29
[16]: # plot room type and average prices for each type in training data
     fig = plt.figure()
      ax = k['counts'].plot(kind='bar', use_index= True ,label = 'Counts')
      ax2 = ax.twinx()
      ax2.plot(ax.get_xticks(),
               k['price'],
               linestyle='-',
               marker='o',color = 'g', linewidth=2.0, label = 'Average Price')
      ax.legend(loc='upper left')
      ax2.legend(loc = 'upper right')
      ax.set_xticklabels(
          ax.get_xticklabels(),
          rotation=0,
      )
      ax.set_title('Room Type and Average Prices')
      plt.show()
      fig.savefig('roomtype.png')
```



Cancellation policy

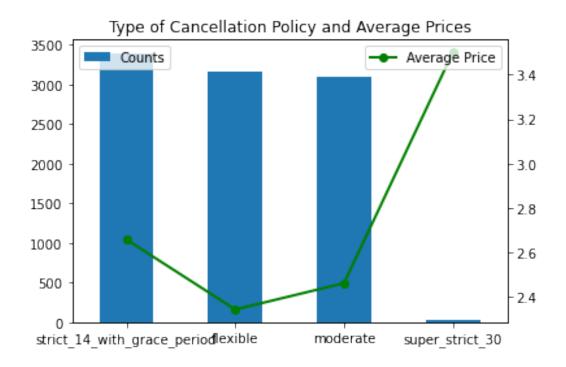
```
[17]: k = data['cancellation_policy'].value_counts().to_frame()
    k = k.rename(columns = {'cancellation_policy': 'counts'})
    a = data.groupby('cancellation_policy').price.mean().to_frame()
    k = k.join(a,lsuffix='_caller', rsuffix='_other')
    k
```

```
[17]: counts price strict_14_with_grace_period 3394 2.659104 flexible 3160 2.344304 moderate 3095 2.462682 super_strict_30 26 3.500000 super_strict_60 3 3.666667
```

```
[18]: k1 = data_test['cancellation_policy'].value_counts().to_frame()
k1.rename(columns = {'cancellation_policy': 'counts'})
```

```
[18]: counts
strict_14_with_grace_period 1464
moderate 1368
flexible 1313
super_strict_30 4
```

```
[19]: # remove listings in the training data that has super_strict_60 cancellation_
      \hookrightarrow policy
      data = data[data.cancellation_policy != 'super_strict_60']
      # re-create the table about type and prices
      k = data['cancellation_policy'].value_counts().to_frame()
      k = k.rename(columns = {'cancellation_policy': 'counts'})
      a = data.groupby('cancellation_policy').price.mean().to_frame()
     k = k.join(a,lsuffix='_caller', rsuffix='_other')
[20]: # plot type of cancellation policy and average prices for each type in the
      → training data
      fig = plt.figure(figsize = (6,4))
      ax = k['counts'].plot(kind='bar', use_index= True ,label = 'Counts')
      ax2 = ax.twinx()
      ax2.plot(ax.get_xticks(),
               k['price'],
               linestyle='-',
               marker='o',color = 'g', linewidth=2.0, label = 'Average Price')
      ax.legend(loc='upper left')
      ax2.legend(loc = 'upper right')
      ax.set_xticklabels(
          ax.get_xticklabels(),
          rotation=0,
      ax.set_title('Type of Cancellation Policy and Average Prices')
      plt.show()
      fig.savefig('cancel.png')
```



Neighbourhood

```
[21]: k = data['neighbourhood'].value_counts().to_frame()
    k = k.rename(columns = {'neighbourhood': 'counts'})
    a = data.groupby('neighbourhood').price.mean().to_frame()
    k.join(a,lsuffix='_caller', rsuffix='_other')
```

[21]:		counts	price
[21].	D-1		-
	Palermo	3299	
	Recoleta	1660	2.685542
	San Nicolás	595	2.265546
	Retiro	495	2.602020
	Belgrano	416	2.413462
	Monserrat	390	2.243590
	San Telmo	389	2.421594
	Almagro	379	1.849604
	Balvanera	365	1.939726
	Villa Crespo	310	1.951613
	Colegiales	182	2.368132
	Núñez	175	2.302857
	Chacarita	168	2.303571
	Caballito	142	1.866197
	Puerto Madero	112	3.553571
	Villa Urquiza	84	2.000000
	Barracas	58	2.120690

```
Constitución
                        57 1.877193
Saavedra
                        41 1.926829
La Boca
                        39 2.000000
Boedo
                        35 1.685714
Flores
                        30 1.533333
Coghlan
                        28 2.035714
Villa Ortúzar
                        26 1.500000
Parque Patricios
                        24 1.666667
Villa Devoto
                        22 2.090909
Villa del Parque
                        19 1.947368
                        19 2.052632
San Cristóbal
Parque Chacabuco
                        18 1.888889
Parque Chas
                        17 1.588235
                        15 2.066667
Agronomía
Villa General Mitre
                        10 1.200000
Villa Pueyrredón
                        9 2.000000
Liniers
                         8 1.750000
Floresta
                         6 2.333333
Vélez Sársfield
                         6 2.000000
Villa Luro
                         6 1.166667
                         4 1.750000
La Paternal
Villa Santa Rita
                         4 1.750000
Mataderos
                         3 1.333333
                         2 2.500000
Nueva Pompeya
Villa Real
                         2 2.000000
Parque Avellaneda
                         2 1.000000
Versalles
                         2 2.500000
Monte Castro
                         2 1.000000
```

```
[22]: k = data_test['neighbourhood'].value_counts().to_frame()
k.rename(columns = {'neighbourhood': 'counts'})
```

[22]:		counts
	Palermo	1372
	Recoleta	707
	San Nicolás	247
	Retiro	204
	Belgrano	199
	Balvanera	178
	Monserrat	175
	San Telmo	164
	Almagro	153
	Villa Crespo	148
	Colegiales	79
	Núñez	77
	Chacarita	71
	Caballito	64

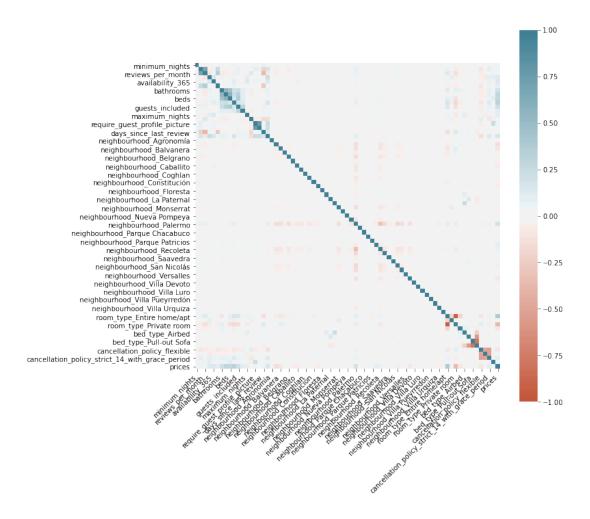
```
Villa Urquiza
                               38
     Barracas
                               31
     Constitución
                               31
     Saavedra
                               22
     San Cristóbal
                               18
     La Boca
                               15
     Boedo
                               13
     Parque Chas
                               13
     Villa Devoto
                               12
     Villa Ortúzar
                               11
     Villa del Parque
                               10
     Flores
                                8
                                7
     Parque Patricios
                                7
     Agronomía
     La Paternal
                                6
     Floresta
                                6
                                5
     Villa Pueyrredón
     Coghlan
                                4
                                3
     Parque Avellaneda
                                2
     Monte Castro
     Villa Luro
                                2
     Nueva Pompeya
                                2
     Parque Chacabuco
                                2
     Versalles
                                1
     Villa Santa Rita
                                1
     Liniers
                                1
     Villa General Mitre
                                1
[23]: # neighbourhoods not included in the test data
      cols = []
      for i in set(data["neighbourhood"]):
          if i not in set(data_test["neighbourhood"]):
              print(i)
              cols.append(i)
     Vélez Sársfield
     Villa Real
     Mataderos
[24]: # remove listings in the training data that is in neighbourhoods above
      data = data[data.neighbourhood != 'Mataderos']
      data = data[data.neighbourhood != 'Vélez Sársfield']
      data = data[data.neighbourhood != 'Villa Real']
[25]: print("Training data:", data.shape)
      print('Test data:', data_test.shape)
```

Puerto Madero

39

```
Training data: (9664, 23)
     Test data: (4149, 22)
[26]: # one-hot encoded categorical features
      data_test = pd.get_dummies(data_test)
      Xdata = pd.get_dummies(data)
      print("Training data:", Xdata.shape)
      print('Test data:', data_test.shape)
     Training data: (9664, 73)
     Test data: (4149, 72)
[27]: # seperate price from features
     Y = Xdata.price
      Xdata.drop(columns = 'price', inplace = True)
      print("Training data:", Xdata.shape)
     Training data: (9664, 72)
     1.1 Exploratory Analysis
[28]: # add prices in the last column for visualization
      Xdata['prices'] = Y
[29]: # create a correlation heatmap
      corr = Xdata.corr()
      fig = plt.figure(figsize = (10,10))
      ax = sns.heatmap(
          corr,
          vmin=-1, vmax=1, center=0,
          cmap=sns.diverging_palette(20, 220, n=200),
          square=True
      ax.set_xticklabels(
          ax.get_xticklabels(),
          rotation=45,
          horizontalalignment='right'
      );
      plt.show()
```

fig.savefig('heatmap.png')



```
[30]: # drop prices from the features
Xdata.drop(columns = 'prices', inplace = True)
```

1.1.1 Neighbourhood

```
[31]: # Use the geojson file of the Buenos Aires neighbourhood
map_neighbour = gpd.read_file('neighbourhoods.geojson')
map_neighbour.drop(columns = ['neighbourhood_group'], inplace = True)
```

Source: http://insideairbnb.com/get-the-data.html

```
[32]: # create a dataframe with average prices and number of listings for each

→ neighbourhood

n = pd.DataFrame(data.groupby('neighbourhood').size())

n.rename(columns={0: 'number_of_listings'}, inplace=True)

n['avg_price'] = data.groupby('neighbourhood').price.mean().values

n['median_price'] = data.groupby('neighbourhood').price.median().values
```

```
# combine the dataframe and the geo-map
n_map = map_neighbour.set_index('neighbourhood').join(n)
# Plot the average price of listings in each borough
fig2, ax2 = plt.subplots(1, figsize=(15, 5))
n_map.plot(column='avg_price', cmap='Greens', ax=ax2)
ax2.axis('off')
ax2.set_title('Average price of Airbnb listings in each Neighbourhood', __

fontsize=14)
sm = plt.cm.ScalarMappable(cmap='Greens', norm=plt.Normalize(vmin=min(n_map.
→median_price),
                                                            vmax=max(n_map.
→avg_price)))
sm._A = [] # Creates an empty array for the data range
cbar = fig2.colorbar(sm)
plt.show()
fig2.savefig('neigh.png')
```

Average price of Airbnb listings in each Neighbourhood



2 Models

2.0.1 Prepare data for training

```
[33]: # scale features
      scaler = preprocessing.StandardScaler()
      # scale training data
      X = pd.DataFrame(scaler.fit_transform(Xdata), columns=list(Xdata.columns))
      # scale test data
      X_test = pd.DataFrame(scaler.fit_transform(data_test), columns=list(data_test.
       →columns))
[34]: X.head()
[34]:
         minimum_nights number_of_reviews reviews_per_month
              -0.195658
                                  3.984677
                                                      1.532531
      0
              -0.195658
                                 -0.353632
                                                     -0.370085
      1
      2
              -0.104399
                                 -0.599196
                                                     -0.858190
      3
              -0.150029
                                 -0.626481
                                                     -0.808384
              -0.150029
                                  0.192068
                                                      0.596165
         calculated_host_listings_count availability_365
                                                           host_is_superhost
      0
                              -0.145142
                                                  0.992381
                                                                     1.247643
      1
                              -0.386370
                                                 -1.574888
                                                                     1.247643
      2
                               1.060994
                                                  1.096259
                                                                    -0.801511
      3
                              -0.386370
                                                  0.406212
                                                                    -0.801511
      4
                              -0.064733
                                                  1.133358
                                                                     1.247643
         bathrooms bedrooms
                                  beds cleaning_fee
                                                         room_type_Private room
      0 -0.438704 -1.383005 -0.663041
                                            0.386720
                                                                       -0.372761
      1 -0.438704 -0.164427 -0.663041
                                           -0.532227
                                                                        2.682681
      2 -0.438704 -1.383005 -0.663041
                                           -0.236295
                                                                       -0.372761
      3 -0.438704 -0.164427 0.802900
                                           -0.866498
                                                                       -0.372761
      4 -0.438704 -0.164427 0.802900
                                            0.386720
                                                                       -0.372761
        room_type_Shared room bed_type_Airbed bed_type_Futon
      0
                     -0.083554
                                      -0.014387
                                                        -0.03526
      1
                     -0.083554
                                      -0.014387
                                                        -0.03526
      2
                     -0.083554
                                      -0.014387
                                                        -0.03526
      3
                     -0.083554
                                                        -0.03526
                                      -0.014387
                     -0.083554
                                      -0.014387
                                                        -0.03526
      4
         bed_type_Pull-out Sofa bed_type_Real Bed cancellation_policy_flexible
      0
                      -0.048843
                                          0.061995
                                                                        -0.695886
      1
                      -0.048843
                                          0.061995
                                                                        -0.695886
      2
                      -0.048843
                                          0.061995
                                                                        -0.695886
      3
                      -0.048843
                                          0.061995
                                                                         1.437017
      4
                      -0.048843
                                          0.061995
                                                                        -0.695886
```

```
0
                            -0.685916
                             1.457904
      1
      2
                             1.457904
      3
                            -0.685916
      4
                             1.457904
         cancellation_policy_strict_14_with_grace_period \
     0
                                                 1.359491
                                                -0.735569
      1
      2
                                                -0.735569
      3
                                                -0.735569
                                                -0.735569
      4
         cancellation_policy_super_strict_30
     0
                                   -0.051939
      1
                                   -0.051939
      2
                                   -0.051939
      3
                                   -0.051939
      4
                                   -0.051939
      [5 rows x 72 columns]
[35]: # define cross validation folds: 5-folds cross validation
      kf = KFold(n_splits = 5, shuffle=True, random_state = 15)
[36]: # define a function that plots cross validation results and save the plot
      def plot_cross_validation_results(depths, cv_scores_mean,
                                          cv_scores_std, title):
          fig, ax = plt.subplots(1,1, figsize=(20,5))
          ax.plot(depths, cv_scores_mean, '-o',
                  label='mean cross-validation accuracy', alpha=0.9)
          ax.fill_between(depths, cv_scores_mean-2*cv_scores_std,
                          cv_scores_mean+2*cv_scores_std, alpha=0.2)
          ylim = plt.ylim()
          ax.set_title(title, fontsize=16)
          ax.set_xlabel('Maximum Tree depth', fontsize=14)
          ax.set_xticks(depths)
          ax.legend()
          fig.savefig(title + '.png')
```

2.1 Random Forest

cancellation_policy_moderate

2.1.1 All Features

 $Tuning\ max_depth$

```
[54]: # define a function that runs cross validation on trees
      def cross_val_trees(x, y, kf, depths):
           This function runs cross validation on random forest with differnt \sqcup
       → max_depth, given cross validation split
           Input: x - data, y - label, kf - k fold cv spliting, depths - range of \Box
       \hookrightarrow max_depth
           \mathit{Output}\colon \mathit{mean}\ \mathit{cross}\ \mathit{validation}\ \mathit{accuracy},\ \mathit{cross}\ \mathit{validation}\ \mathit{standard}_\sqcup
       \rightarrow deviation, run time of this function
           11 11 11
           # record run time
           start = time.time()
           cv_scores_mean, cv_scores_std = [], []
           for depth in depths:
               clf = RandomForestClassifier(n_estimators=2000, criterion='entropy',__

max_depth = depth, oob_score = True,
                                                random_state=0, verbose=0)
               scores_clf = cross_val_score(clf, x, y, scoring='accuracy', cv=kf)
               # cv results
               cv_scores_mean.append(scores_clf.mean())
               cv_scores_std.append(scores_clf.std())
               print(depth, scores_clf.mean())
           cv_scores_mean = np.array(cv_scores_mean)
           cv_scores_std = np.array(cv_scores_std)
           run_time = time.time()-start
           return cv_scores_mean, cv_scores_std, run_time
[55]: # possible max_depth
      depths = range(1,30)
[56]: # run the cross validation function
      rdf_mean, rdf_std, rdf_time = cross_val_trees(X, Y, kf, depths)
      print(rdf_time)
```

- 1 0.48085775122932956
- 2 0.48748038588790743

```
3 0.4912049518068547
     4 0.5002074677685916
     5 0.5033122545223583
     6 0.5132461797332801
     7 0.5219378689193575
     8 0.5287679177926371
     9 0.5324930192504812
     10 0.5361149759168158
     11 0.5399437041511762
     12 0.5428413444596896
     13 0.5466696442629324
     14 0.5502911189442601
     15 0.550084561591793
     16 0.5504989615900792
     17 0.5479116125183288
     18 0.5513258872005132
     19 0.5513264762932997
     20 0.5518435390980883
     21 0.5524644428949519
     22 0.5526715357863157
     23 0.5502911724981497
     24 0.5507053047269876
     25 0.550808770841835
     26 0.5481188660713616
     27 0.5495668561403283
     28 0.5502916544831568
     29 0.5511196511713843
     3469.4145352840424
[57]: # plot the cv score mean for each max_depth
      fig = plt.figure()
```

plot_cross_validation_results(depths, rdf_mean, rdf_std,

<Figure size 432x288 with 0 Axes>

→training data')

plt.show()



'cv score mean per decision tree depth on_{\sqcup}

training acc: 0.9995860927152318 time: 27.356616020202637

Tuning $n_{estimators}$

```
[82]: # define a function that runs cross validation on trees
       def cross_val_trees_nestimator(x, y, kf, n):
            11 11 11
           This function runs cross validation on random forest with differnt \sqcup
       \rightarrown_estimators, given cross validation split
           Input: x - data, y - label, kf - k fold cv spliting, depths - range of \Box
       \hookrightarrow max_depth
           \mathit{Output}\colon \mathit{mean}\ \mathit{cross}\ \mathit{validation}\ \mathit{accuracy},\ \mathit{cross}\ \mathit{validation}\ \mathit{standard}_\sqcup
       ⇒ deviation, run time of this function
            11 11 11
           # record run time
           start = time.time()
           cv_scores_mean, cv_scores_std = [], []
           for num in n:
                clf = RandomForestClassifier(n_estimators=num, criterion='entropy', u
        →max_depth = 22, oob_score = True,
                                                  random state=0,verbose=0)
                scores_clf = cross_val_score(clf, x, y, scoring='accuracy', cv=kf)
                # cv results
                cv_scores_mean.append(scores_clf.mean())
                cv_scores_std.append(scores_clf.std())
                print(depth, scores_clf.mean())
           cv_scores_mean = np.array(cv_scores_mean)
           cv_scores_std = np.array(cv_scores_std)
```

```
run_time = time.time()-start
return cv_scores_mean, cv_scores_std, run_time
```

```
[84]: # possible number of trees in the forest
n = [100, 500, 1000, 1500, 2000]
# run the cross validation function
rdf_n_mean, rdf_n_std, rdf_n_time = cross_val_trees(X, Y, kf, n)
print(rdf_n_time)
```

```
100 0.5493599239106335
500 0.5493599239106335
1000 0.5493599239106335
1500 0.5493599239106335
2000 0.5493599239106335
703.7198657989502
```

2.1.2 Feature importances

```
[61]: # sort the importances from high to low and plot importance for each feature
imp=[]
for i,j in zip(X.columns, range(len(clf_rdf.feature_importances_))):
    imp.append((i,clf_rdf.feature_importances_[j]))
imp.sort(key = lambda x: -x[1])

fig = plt.figure(figsize = (14,6))
plt.bar([x[0] for x in imp], np.abs([x[1] for x in imp]))
plt.xticks(rotation=90)
plt.title('Feature Importances for Random Forest model with Maximum Depth 15')
plt.ylabel('Feature Importances')
plt.tight_layout() # make room for xlabels
plt.show()
fig.savefig('feature_importances_rdf.png')
```

```
Learning members of several minimum and several process parts of several members of reviews per month and several process per members of reviews per month and several per several per
```

```
[62]: # drop features which importance is less than 0.01
      delfe = []
      for i in range(len(X.columns)):
          if clf_rd.feature_importances_[i]<0.01:</pre>
              delfe.append(X.columns[i])
      new_X = X.copy()
      new_X.drop(columns = delfe, inplace = True)
[63]: new_X.shape
[63]: (9664, 22)
[65]: # run cross validation on the selected features
      # possible max_depth
      new_depths = range(10,25)
      # run the cross validation function
     new_rdf_mean, new_rdf_std, new_rdf_time = cross_val_trees(new_X, Y, kf,__
      →new_depths)
     print(new_rdf_time)
     10 0.5387013610185521
     11 0.5404607669559647
     12 0.5451170634474353
     13 0.5457380743520783
     14 0.5469799890535849
     15 0.5447039487425012
     16 0.5463591923645007
     17 0.5487392343293286
```

```
18 0.5458412726974773

19 0.546979667730247

20 0.5479108627638734

21 0.5453245312160268

22 0.5483253698699391

23 0.547911076979432

24 0.5464624442637893

1837.7601029872894
```

<Figure size 432x288 with 0 Axes>



2.2 CNN

```
[37]: import tensorflow as tf
import keras
from tensorflow.python.keras import backend as K
from keras.models import Sequential
from keras.layers import Conv1D, MaxPooling1D, Flatten, Dense, Activation,

→Dropout
from keras.layers.advanced_activations import LeakyReLU
```

Using TensorFlow backend.

```
[38]: # define a function that reset tensorflow session

def reset_tf_session():

"""

A function that clears tf session/graph
```

```
curr_session = tf.compat.v1.get_default_session()
          # close current session
          if curr_session is not None:
              curr_session.close()
          # reset graph
          K.clear session()
          # create new session
          config = tf.compat.v1.ConfigProto()
          config.gpu_options.allow_growth = True
          s = tf.compat.v1.InteractiveSession(config=config)
          K.set_session(s)
          return s
[39]: # one-hot encode price levels
      Y_oh = pd.get_dummies(Y)
      print("Train samples:", X.shape, Y_oh.shape)
     Train samples: (9664, 72) (9664, 4)
[40]: # split data into training and validation set
      X_tr, X_val, Y_tr, Y_val = train_test_split(X, Y_oh, test_size=0.2, shuffle =__
       →True)
      X_tr = X_tr.to_numpy()
      X_val = X_val.to_numpy()
      Y_tr = Y_tr.to_numpy()
      Y_val = Y_val.to_numpy()
      # add 1 dim to the array
      X_tr=np.expand_dims(X_tr,axis=1)
      X_val=np.expand_dims(X_val,axis=1)
```

2.2.1 Learning Rate

```
[43]: # define possible learning rate eta = [5e-4, 1e-3, 5e-3, 0.01, 0.05, 0.1]
```

```
model.add(Conv1D(filters = 32, kernel_size = 3, padding = 'same'))
model.add(Activation('relu'))
model.add(Dropout(0.25))

model.add(Dropout(0.25))

model.add(Dense(128, activation = 'relu'))
model.add(Dropout(0.25))
model.add(Dense(256, activation = 'relu'))
model.add(Dropout(0.25))
model.add(Dense(512, activation = 'relu'))
model.add(Dropout(0.25))
model.add(Dropout(0.25))
model.add(Dense(4))
model.add(Activation('softmax'))

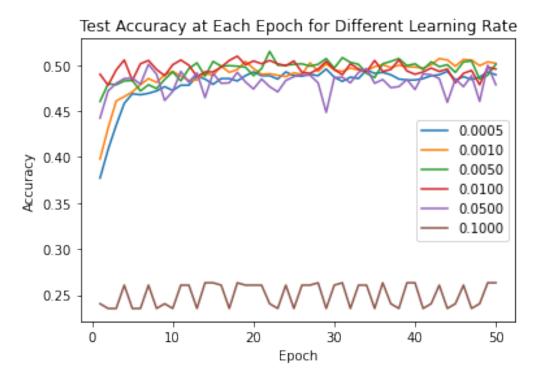
return model
```

```
[57]: # store results
      val_acc_lr = []
      start = time.time()
      for e in eta:
          # initial learning rate
          init_lr = e
          batch = 128
          epoch = 50
          # clear default graph
          s = reset_tf_session()
          # define the model
          model = make_cnnmodel()
          # prepare model for fitting
          model.compile(
              loss='categorical_crossentropy', # train 4-way classification
              optimizer=keras.optimizers.adamax(lr = init_lr),
              metrics=['accuracy'] # report accuracy during training
          )
          # fit the model
          model.fit(
          X_tr, Y_tr,
          batch_size = batch,
          epochs = epoch,
          validation_data=(X_val, Y_val),
          shuffle=True,
          verbose=0,
```

```
initial_epoch=0
)

# get validation results
val = model.history.history['val_accuracy']
val_acc_lr.append(val)
t = time.time()-start
print('run time:', t)
```

run time: 362.9908571243286



2.2.2 Activation functions

```
ReLu
```

```
[59]: # describe model
   s = reset_tf_session()
   model = make_cnnmodel()
   model.summary()
   Model: "sequential_1"
   Layer (type)
               Output Shape
                               Param #
   ______
                     (None, 1, 16)
   conv1d_1 (Conv1D)
                                      3472
   activation_1 (Activation) (None, 1, 16)
   conv1d_2 (Conv1D)
                (None, 1, 32)
                                      1568
   activation_2 (Activation) (None, 1, 32)
   dropout_1 (Dropout)
                  (None, 1, 32)
   _____
                 (None, 32)
   flatten_1 (Flatten)
   dense_1 (Dense)
                     (None, 128)
                                      4224
   dropout_2 (Dropout)
                     (None, 128)
   dense_2 (Dense)
                     (None, 256)
                                      33024
   dropout_3 (Dropout)
                  (None, 256)
   dense_3 (Dense)
                     (None, 512)
                                      131584
   ______
   dropout_4 (Dropout)
                 (None, 512)
                                      0
   _____
   dense_4 (Dense)
                     (None, 4)
                                      2052
   activation_3 (Activation) (None, 4)
   ______
   Total params: 175,924
   Trainable params: 175,924
   Non-trainable params: 0
   ______
[60]: # initial learning rate
   init_lr = 5e-3
```

```
batch = 128
      epoch = 50
      # clear default graph
      s = reset_tf_session()
      # define the model
      model = make_cnnmodel()
      # prepare model for fitting
      model.compile(
         loss='categorical_crossentropy', # train 4-way classification
          optimizer=keras.optimizers.adamax(lr = init_lr),
          metrics=['accuracy'] # report accuracy during training
      )
[61]: # fit the model
      start = time.time()
     model.fit(
         X_tr, Y_tr,
         batch size = batch,
          epochs = epoch,
          validation_data=(X_val, Y_val),
          shuffle=True,
          verbose=0,
          initial_epoch=0
      end = time.time()
      cnn_time = end - start # record the run time
[62]: print('run time:', cnn_time)
     run time: 62.177632093429565
[63]: # plot training and validation accuracy
     model_results = model.history.history
      fig = plt.figure()
     plt.plot(range(1,epoch+1), model_results['accuracy'], label='Train')
     plt.plot(range(1,epoch+1), model_results['val_accuracy'], label='Test',__
      plt.xlabel('Epoch')
     plt.ylabel('Accuracy')
     plt.legend()
     plt.title('Training and Test Accuracy at Each Epoch')
     plt.show()
     fig.savefig('Training and Test Accuracy at Each Epoch.png')
```



Sigmoid

```
[64]: def make_cnnmodel_sig():
           \eta \eta \eta \eta
          Define the model architecture.
           11 11 11
          model = Sequential()
          model.add(Conv1D(filters = 16, kernel_size = 3, padding = 'same', __
       \rightarrowinput_shape=(1,72)))
          model.add(Activation('sigmoid'))
          model.add(Conv1D(filters = 32, kernel_size = 3, padding = 'same'))
          model.add(Activation('sigmoid'))
          model.add(Dropout(0.25))
          model.add(Flatten(input_shape=(1,72)))
          model.add(Dense(128, activation = 'sigmoid'))
          model.add(Dropout(0.25))
          model.add(Dense(256, activation = 'sigmoid'))
          model.add(Dropout(0.25))
          model.add(Dense(512, activation = 'sigmoid'))
```

```
model.add(Dropout(0.25))
model.add(Dense(4))
model.add(Activation('softmax'))
return model
```

```
[65]: # initial learning rate
      init_lr = 5e-3
      batch = 128
      epoch = 50
      # clear default graph
      s = reset_tf_session()
      # define the model
      model_1 = make_cnnmodel_sig()
      # prepare model for fitting
      model_1.compile(
          loss='categorical_crossentropy', # train 4-way classification
          optimizer=keras.optimizers.adamax(lr = init_lr), # for SGD
          metrics=['accuracy'] # report accuracy during training
      )
      # fit the model
      start = time.time()
      model_1.fit(
          X_tr, Y_tr,
          batch_size = batch,
          epochs = epoch,
          validation_data=(X_val, Y_val),
          shuffle=True,
          verbose=0,
          initial_epoch=0
      )
      end = time.time()
      cnn_time_1 = end - start # record the run time
```

```
Tanh
```

```
[66]: def make_cnnmodel_tanh():
    """
    Define the model architecture.

"""
    model = Sequential()
```

```
model.add(Conv1D(filters = 16, kernel_size = 3, padding = 'same',__
\rightarrowinput_shape=(1,72)))
   model.add(Activation('tanh'))
   model.add(Conv1D(filters = 32, kernel_size = 3, padding = 'same'))
   model.add(Activation('tanh'))
   model.add(Dropout(0.25))
   model.add(Flatten(input_shape=(1,72)))
   model.add(Dense(128, activation = 'tanh'))
   model.add(Dropout(0.25))
   model.add(Dense(256, activation = 'tanh'))
   model.add(Dropout(0.25))
   model.add(Dense(512, activation = 'tanh'))
   model.add(Dropout(0.25))
   model.add(Dense(4))
   model.add(Activation('softmax'))
   return model
```

```
[67]: # initial learning rate
      init lr = 5e-3
      batch = 128
      epoch = 50
      # clear default graph
      s = reset_tf_session()
      # define the model
      model_2 = make_cnnmodel_tanh()
      # prepare model for fitting
      model_2.compile(
          loss='categorical_crossentropy', # train 4-way classification
          optimizer=keras.optimizers.adamax(lr = init_lr), # for SGD
          metrics=['accuracy'] # report accuracy during training
      )
      # fit the model
      start = time.time()
      model_2.fit(
          X_tr, Y_tr,
          batch_size = batch,
          epochs = epoch,
          validation_data=(X_val, Y_val),
          shuffle=True,
          verbose=0,
```

```
initial_epoch=0
)
end = time.time()
cnn_time_2 = end - start # record the run time
```

```
elu
[68]: def make_cnnmodel_elu():
          Define the model architecture.
          11 11 11
          model = Sequential()
          model.add(Conv1D(filters = 16, kernel_size = 3, padding = 'same',__
       \rightarrowinput_shape=(1,72)))
          model.add(Activation('elu'))
          model.add(Conv1D(filters = 32, kernel_size = 3, padding = 'same'))
          model.add(Activation('elu'))
          model.add(Dropout(0.25))
          model.add(Flatten(input_shape=(1,72)))
          model.add(Dense(128, activation = 'elu'))
          model.add(Dropout(0.25))
          model.add(Dense(256, activation = 'elu'))
          model.add(Dropout(0.25))
          model.add(Dense(512, activation = 'elu'))
          model.add(Dropout(0.25))
          model.add(Dense(4))
          model.add(Activation('softmax'))
          return model
```

```
[69]: # initial learning rate
init_lr = 5e-3
batch = 128
epoch = 50

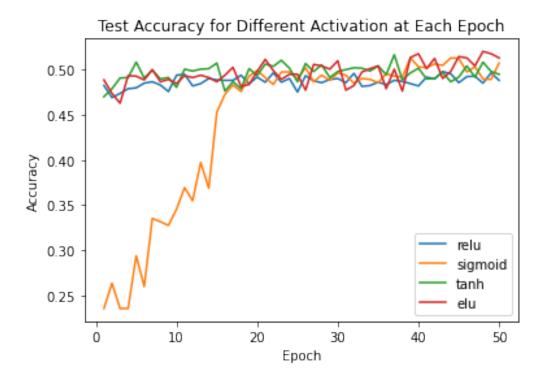
# clear default graph
s = reset_tf_session()

# define the model
model_3 = make_cnnmodel_elu()

# prepare model for fitting
model_3.compile(
```

```
loss='categorical_crossentropy', # train 4-way classification
   optimizer=keras.optimizers.adamax(lr = init_lr), # for SGD
   metrics=['accuracy'] # report accuracy during training
# fit the model
start = time.time()
model_3.fit(
   X_tr, Y_tr,
   batch_size = batch,
   epochs = epoch,
   validation_data=(X_val, Y_val),
   shuffle=True,
   verbose=0,
   initial_epoch=0
)
end = time.time()
cnn_time_3 = end - start # record the run time
```

```
[70]: # plot the results for activation functions
     results = model.history.history
     results_1 = model_1.history.history
     results_2 = model_2.history.history
      results_3 = model_3.history.history
      fig = plt.figure()
     plt.plot(range(1,epoch+1), results['val_accuracy'], label='relu')
     plt.plot(range(1,epoch+1), results_1['val_accuracy'], label='sigmoid')
     plt.plot(range(1,epoch+1), results_2['val_accuracy'], label='tanh')
     plt.plot(range(1,epoch+1), results_3['val_accuracy'], label='elu')
     plt.xlabel('Epoch')
     plt.ylabel('Accuracy')
     plt.legend()
     plt.title('Test Accuracy for Different Activation at Each Epoch')
     plt.show()
     fig.savefig('Test Accuracy for Different Activation at Each Epoch.png')
```



```
[71]: # total time for tuning cnn_time + cnn_time_1 + cnn_time_2 + cnn_time_3
```

[71]: 272.16894793510437

2.2.3 Run the whole training set

```
[73]: # preprocess the data
Y_cnn = Y_oh.to_numpy()
X_cnn = X.to_numpy()
# add 1 dim to the array
X_cnn=np.expand_dims(X_cnn,axis=1)
```

```
[75]: # initial learning rate
init_lr = 5e-3
batch = 128
epoch = 50

# clear default graph
s = reset_tf_session()

# define the model
model = make_cnnmodel()
```

```
# prepare model for fitting
model.compile(
   loss='categorical_crossentropy', # train 4-way classification
    optimizer=keras.optimizers.adamax(lr = init_lr),
   metrics=['accuracy'] # report accuracy during training
)
# fit the model
start = time.time()
model.fit(
   X_cnn, Y_cnn,
   batch_size = batch,
   epochs = epoch,
    shuffle=True,
   verbose=0,
   initial_epoch=0
end = time.time()
cnn_time = end - start # record the run time
print('run time:', cnn_time)
```

run time: 69.4025490283966

3 Prediction

```
[80]: # use test data to make prediction
pred_rdf = pd.DataFrame({'price':clf_rdf.predict(X_test)})
ID = pd.DataFrame(ID)
pred = ID.join(pred_rdf,lsuffix='_caller', rsuffix='_other')
pred = pred.set_index('id')
display(pred)
```

```
price
id
7715
          2
13196
          2
13194
4673
11325
         1
. . .
        . . .
12921
         3
7174
         2
9240
11663
4513
```

[4149 rows x 1 columns]

```
[81]: # save to csv file
    pred.to_csv('pred.csv')
```