**Appendix**

**Imbalance Categorical Variables:** To remove categorical variables where one category may accommodate 95% or more of the total observations, which is not very informative and may cause an imbalance and overfitting. As an example, a distribution of the “Utilities” variable, shows that more than 95% of all the observations were “AllPub” type.  Whereas the “Neighborhood” variable had a meaningful distribution that can contribute in the fitting and prediction.

**Chart, bar chart

Description automatically generated**

**Chart, bar chart

Description automatically generated**

**Winsorization:**  Winsorizing a vector means that a predefined quantum of the smallest and/or the largest values are replaced by less extreme values. For example, let’s consider the variable “Lot\_Frontage”. The next plots show the data distribution before and after the winsorization process.



AFTER



BEFORE

Outliers