Zillow Regression Analysis to Inform Purchase Decisions

March 19, 2023 By Andrew Levinton

<u>Overview</u>

- Business Problem Discussion
- Data used to conduct study
- Linear Model Flaws, and plans for improvement
- Interpretation, and Recommendations
- Limitations
- Plan for Future work

Business Problem:

- Reduce cost
- Improve pricing
- Resale for profit



Business Understanding

 Focus: Real estate market of King County in Seattle.

• Determine opportunity cost for resale.



The Data - KC Housing Dataset - Link Below

https://info.kingcounty.gov/assessor/DataDownload/default.aspx.

The full list of columns with descriptions from the data can be located in the readme file of the repository.

30,155 Data Points

- After Nulls, outliers, and data cleaning approximately 27,446 data points remain.
- ~8% of the data is removed from data cleaning as a result.

All house ages are within the years of

1900-2022.

All house sales in the dataset are in the years of 2021-2022.

Features from Base Model

Location Square Footage Age Condition

Additional Relevant features:

- On/near a waterfront?
- Have a nice view?
- Near a Greenbelt?
- Near a nuisance?

<u>Additional Model Improvements - Engineered Data</u>

- Water Location by zip code:
 - Lake Sammamish
 - Lake Washington
 - Elliot Bay
 - Puget Sound



 School Ratings by Zip code (scraped From GreatSchools API)



Conclusion and Interpretation of Final Model

Most Positive Impacts on Price

- Latitude Houses Further North
- Water proximity near Lake Sammamish
- Grade
- Square footage of home(no basement)

Conclusion and Interpretation of Final Model

Negative Impacts on the Price

- Older houses and lower grade.
- Houses near Lake Washington.
- Houses near Puget Sound.
- Floors

Recommendations

- Look near Lake Sammamish or further north.
- Buy older homes with higher grade/condition.
- Avoid houses near Lake Washington, Puget Sound.
- Avoid houses with more floors.

Limitations of Model

- Model explains 70.1% of dataset.
 - ~30% of the data cannot be explained.

- Mean average percentage error of 23.2%.
 - On average data is 23.2% off of model prediction.

Future Work

- It is worth revisiting the value of the homes on the remaining waterfronts.
- The views that are highlighted in the column_names.md documentation can be explored and onehotencoded and could be a potential candidate feature.
- A look at school Districts was initiated. Data was scraped from the GreatSchools API and will be further explored.