

DATA SCIENCE PROJECT

Hoang Bui 02-12-2019

1. Introduction



Airbnb, Inc. is an online marketplace for arranging or offering lodging, primarily homestays, or tourism experiences [wiki \(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Airbnb\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Airbnb). The name comes from "*air mattress B&B*" It currently covers more than 81,000 cities and 191 countries worldwide. **Airbnb** have provided a new personalized way to tourism experience in staying, especially homestays and today, **Airbnb** became one of a kind service that is used and recognized by the whole world.

These millions of listings generate a lot of data - data that can be analyzed and used for security, business decisions, understanding of customers' and providers' (hosts) behavior and performance on the platform, guiding marketing initiatives, implementation of innovative additional services and much more. In this kernel, we will observe Amsterdam 2019 dataset, provided by Airbnb, the original source can be found on [website \(http://insideairbnb.com/get-the-data.html\)](http://insideairbnb.com/get-the-data.html).

There are 3 questions we need to answer through this dataset:

- Describe some insides about the listing in Amsterdam?
- How does current information affect to the price of the listing?
- Can we use listing features to predict housing price of the stays?

2. Getting started

2.1 Prerequired

- scikit-learn
- pandas
- seaborn
- scipy

Out[116]:

| | id | name | host_id | host_name | neighbourhood_group | neighbourhood | latitude | longitude | room_type | price | minimum_ |
|---|-------|---|---------|-----------|---------------------|--|----------|-----------|-----------------|-------|----------|
| 0 | 2818 | Quiet Garden View Room & Super Fast WiFi | 3159 | Daniel | NaN | Oostelijk Havengebied - Indische Buurt | 52.36575 | 4.94142 | Private room | 59 | 3 |
| 1 | 20168 | Studio with private bathroom in the centre 1 | 59484 | Alexander | NaN | Centrum-Oost | 52.36509 | 4.89354 | Private room | 80 | 1 |
| 2 | 25428 | Lovely apt in City Centre (w.lift) near Jordaan | 56142 | Joan | NaN | Centrum-West | 52.37297 | 4.88339 | Entire home/apt | 125 | 14 |
| 3 | 27886 | Romantic, stylish B&B houseboat in canal district | 97647 | Flip | NaN | Centrum-West | 52.38673 | 4.89208 | Private room | 155 | 2 |
| 4 | 28871 | Comfortable double room | 124245 | Edwin | NaN | Centrum-West | 52.36719 | 4.89092 | Private room | 75 | 2 |

Data Explanation

- **id**: listing ID
- **name**: name of the listing
- **host_id**: host ID
- **host_name**: name of the host
- **neighbourhood_group**: location
- **neighbourhood**: area
- **latitude**: latitude coordinates
- **longitude**: longitude coordinates
- **room_type**: listing space type
- **price**: price in dollars
- **minimum_nights**: amount of nights minimum
- **number_of_reviews**: number of reviews
- **last_review**: latest review
- **reviews_per_month**: number of reviews per month
- **calculated_host_listings_count**: amount of listing per host
- **availability_365**: number of days when listing is available for booking

3. Understand and Analyze data

3.1 Understanding our dataset

```
<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
RangeIndex: 20244 entries, 0 to 20243
Data columns (total 16 columns):
id                20244 non-null int64
name              20209 non-null object
host_id           20244 non-null int64
host_name         20239 non-null object
neighbourhood_group  0 non-null float64
neighbourhood     20244 non-null object
latitude          20244 non-null float64
longitude         20244 non-null float64
room_type         20244 non-null object
price             20244 non-null int64
minimum_nights    20244 non-null int64
number_of_reviews 20244 non-null int64
last_review       17902 non-null object
reviews_per_month 17902 non-null float64
calculated_host_listings_count 20244 non-null int64
availability_365   20244 non-null int64
dtypes: float64(4), int64(7), object(5)
memory usage: 2.5+ MB
```

Overviews:

- Dataset contains 20244 rows
- There are some nullable fields: name, host_name, neighbourhood_group, last_review, reviews_per_month
- **neighbourhood** doesn't contain any data

Then we need to do some pre-process steps:

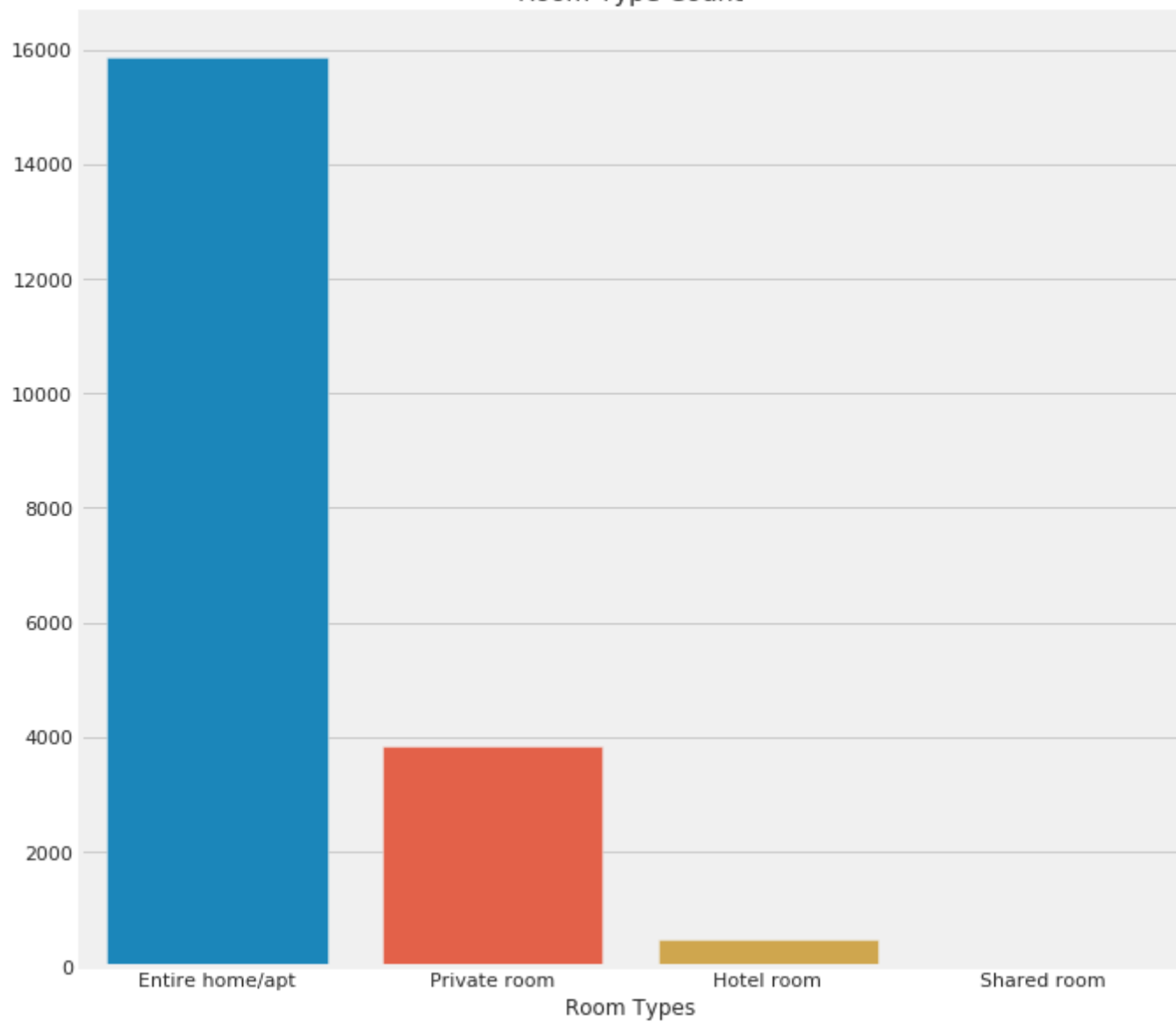
- remove neighbourhood_group column
- fill NAN values of **name**, **host_name**, and zero values of **last_review**, **reviews_per_month**

3.2 Analysis

1. *Distribution of room_type*

```
Out[121]: Entire home/apt      15880  
Private room      3850  
Hotel room        461  
Shared room       53  
Name: room_type, dtype: int64
```

Room Type Count

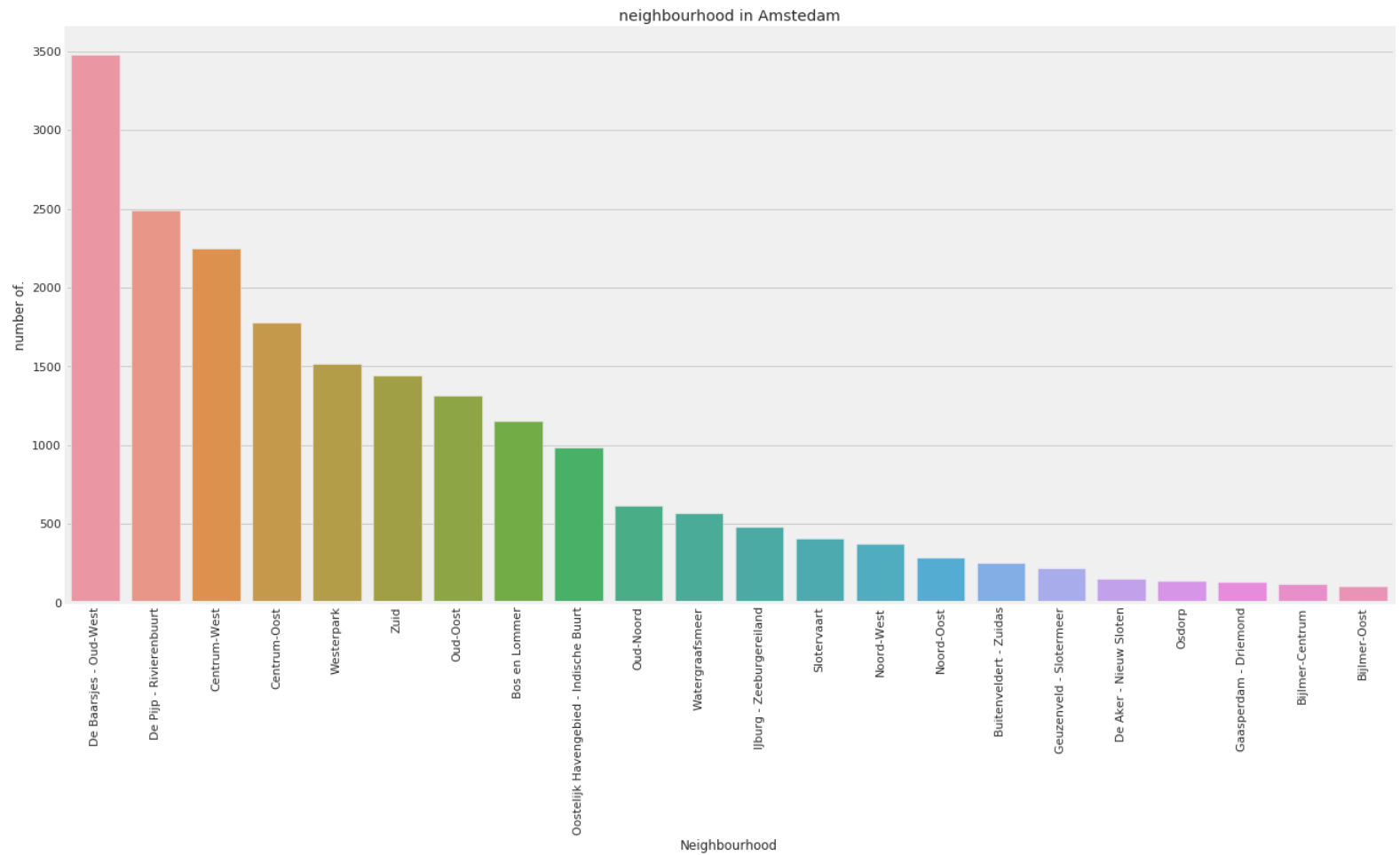


Discussion:

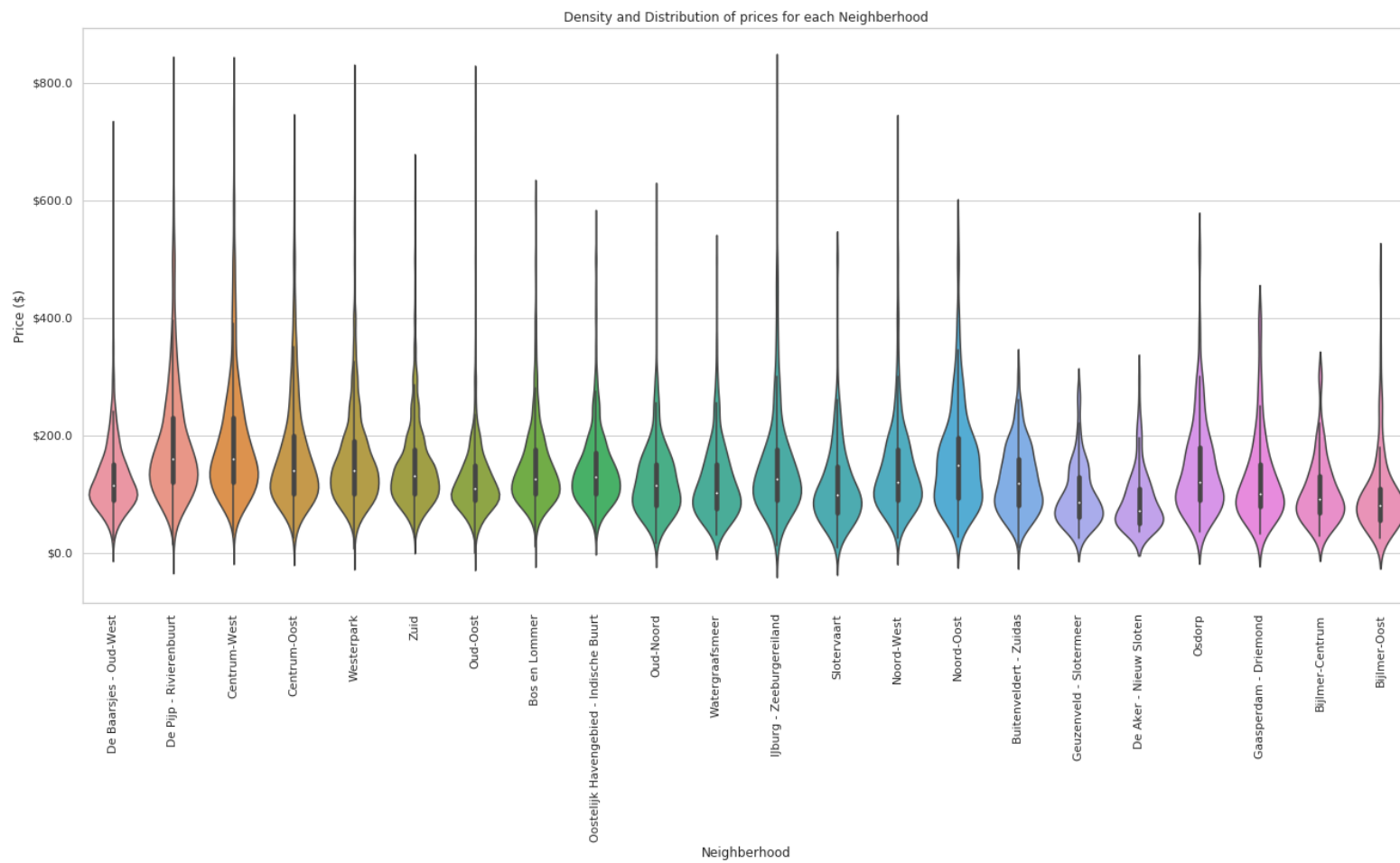
- Almost rooms in Airbnb are home/aptment or private room whilst shared room and hotel room take a minor amount
- It's obviously that all the people who rent an Airbnb prefer an entire home !

2. Neighborhood in Amstedam

```
Out[123]: De Baarsjes - Oud-West      3480
           De Pijp - Rivierenbuurt    2490
           Centrum-West               2249
           Centrum-Oost               1777
           Westerpark                 1514
           Name: neighbourhood, dtype: int64
```

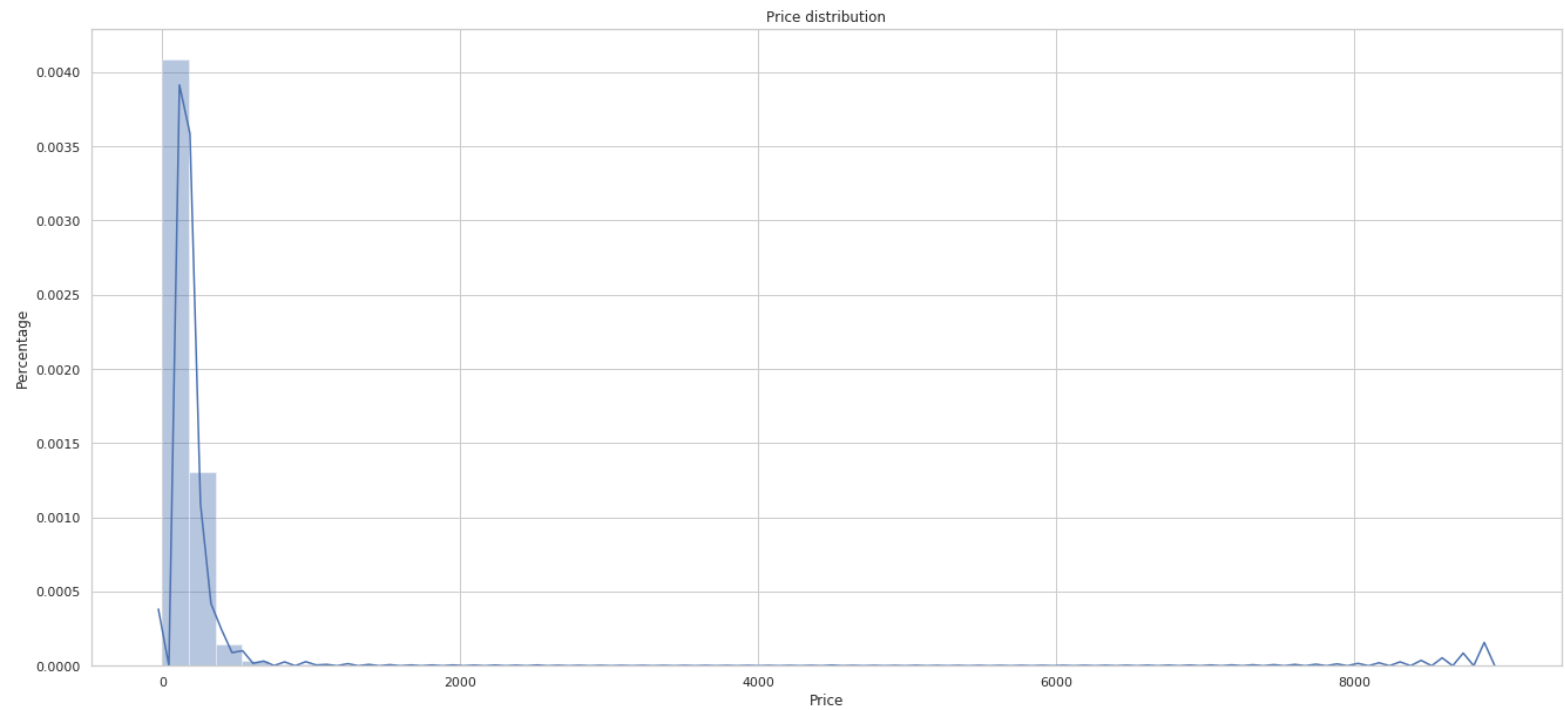
Neighbourhood with price in Amsteden



Discussion:

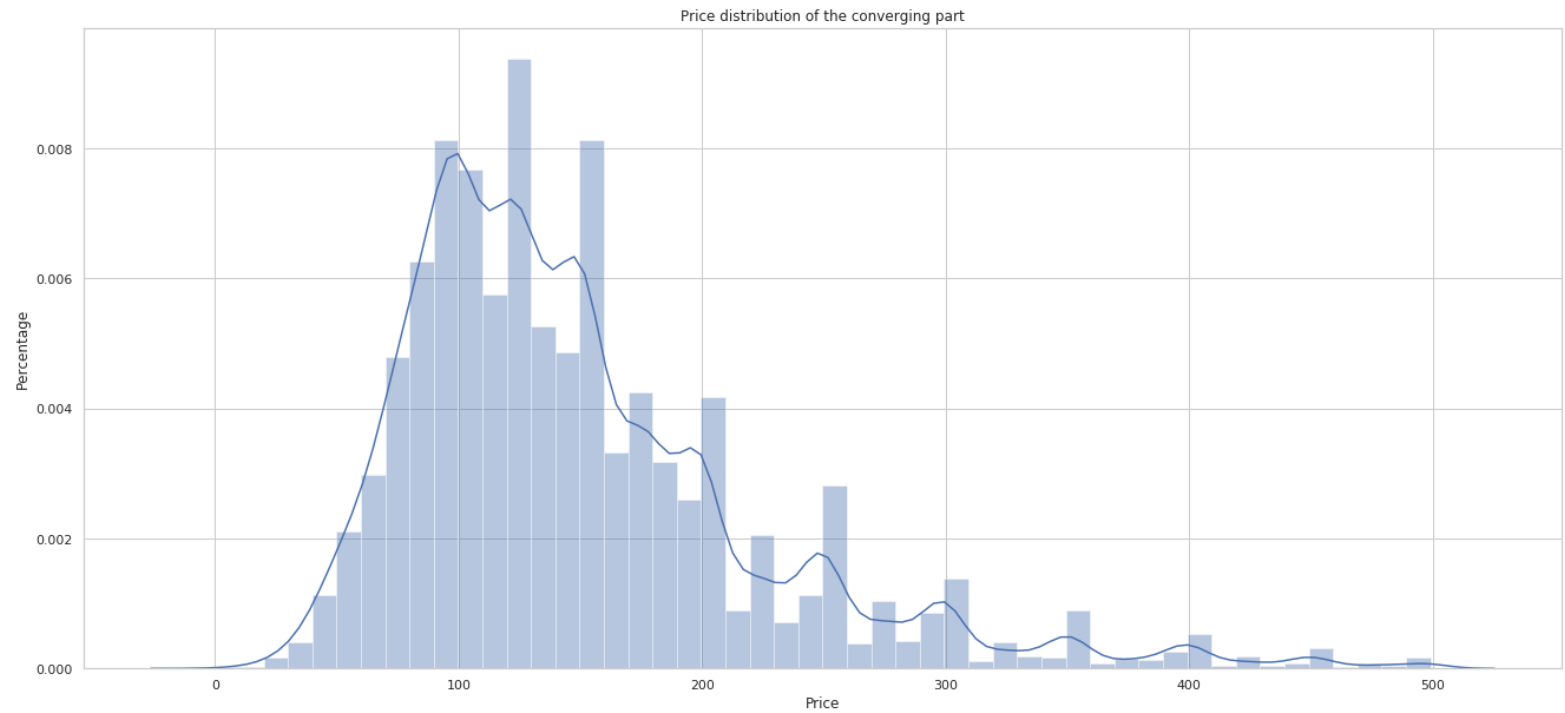
- According to the "**Neighborhood in Amsterdam**" bar chart and "**Density and Distribution of prices for each Neighborhood**" violin chart, we can set up that there are some neighbourhood have higher average listing price such as **Noord-Oost** or **De Pijp - Rivierenbuurt**, whilst some area with fewer number of listing have lower price/night also.
- **30%** of areas take more than **70%** of listing
- If you'd like to pick a crowded area with most airbnb listing or prefer the lower budget with the lower price/night, let consider **De Baarsjes - Oud-West**

3. Price



Airbnb renting price in Amsterdam is quite converging, but there are some outliers listing have quite expensive than others. We are going to observe the converging and the outlier part

Price distribution of the converging part



Discussion:

- With the budget from 50 to 300 USD per night, you are able to rent almost 95% of house in Airbnb

4. Geomatrix



From this "map", we can observe the crowded in the middle of Amsterdam. There are a lot of entire home and apartment for you to rent, where can easily go around the city

4. Price prediction

Preparation

There are some features we need to normalized before starting training. Let's take a closer look at:

a. price

Without normalize

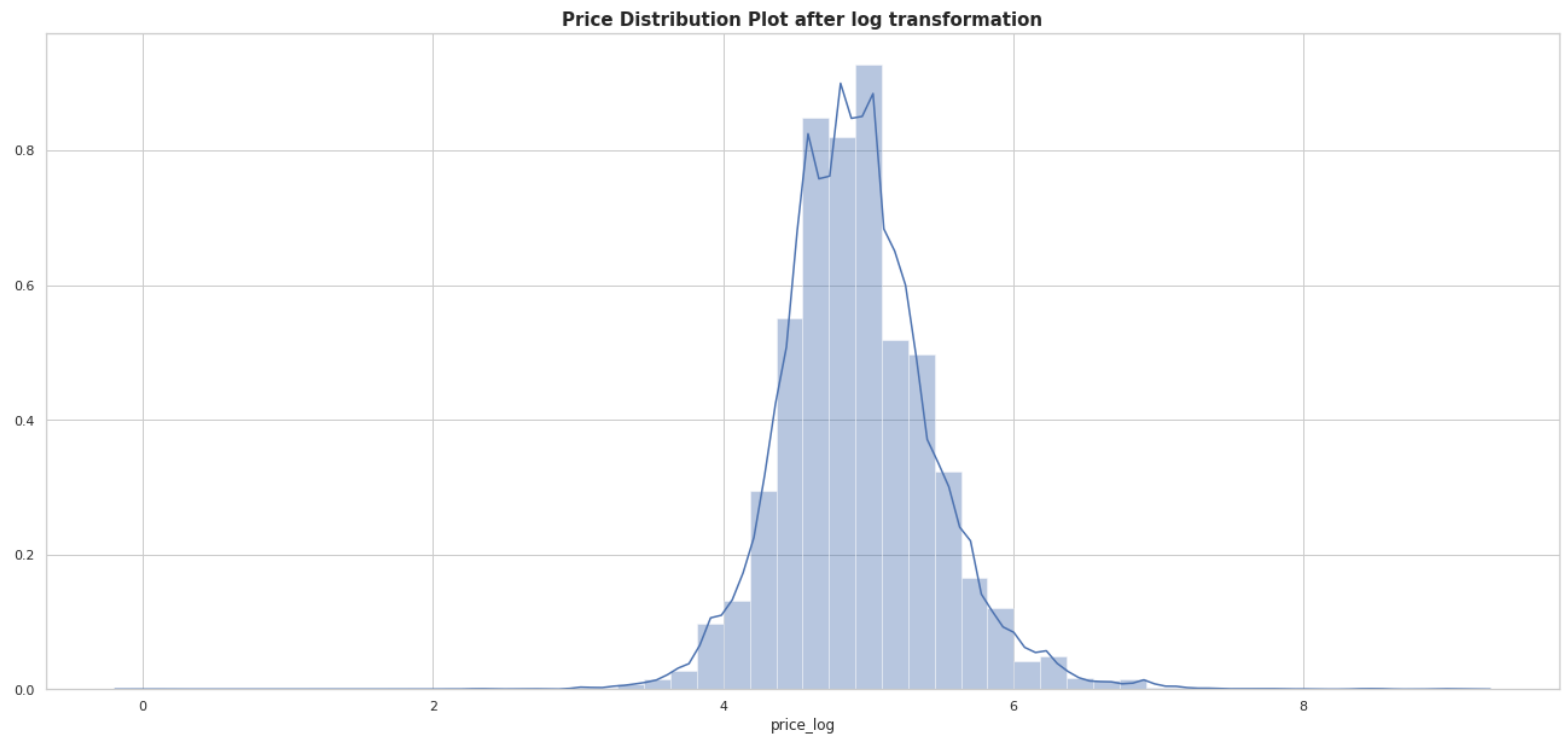


The graph shows that there is a right-skewed distribution on **price**, log transformation will be used to make less skewed. There are some benefits of **log** transformation:

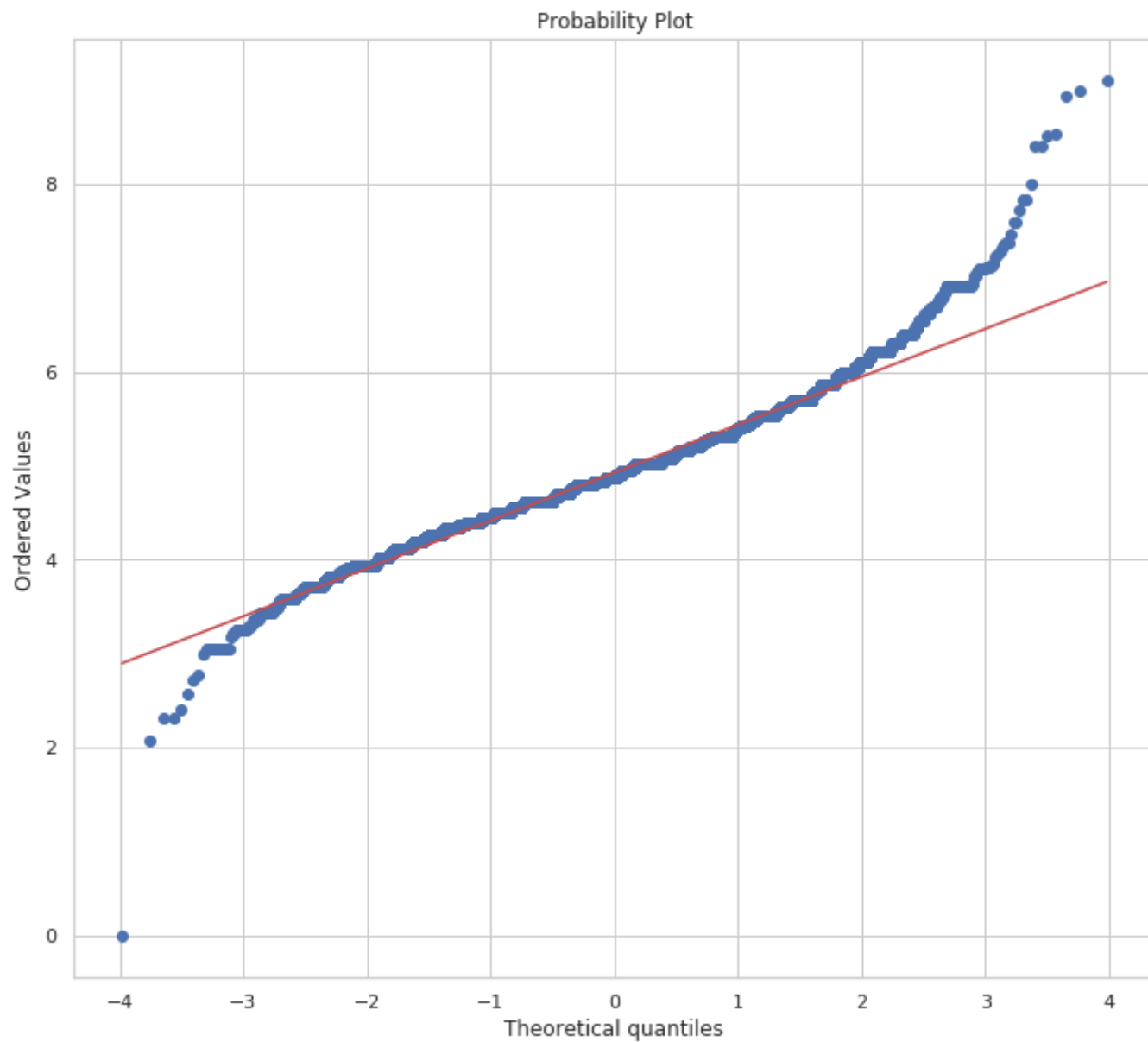
- avoid overfitting
- to normal distribution

Since division by zero is a problem, $\log+1$ transformation would be better.

And plot again:



In below graph shows normality is a reasonable approximation.



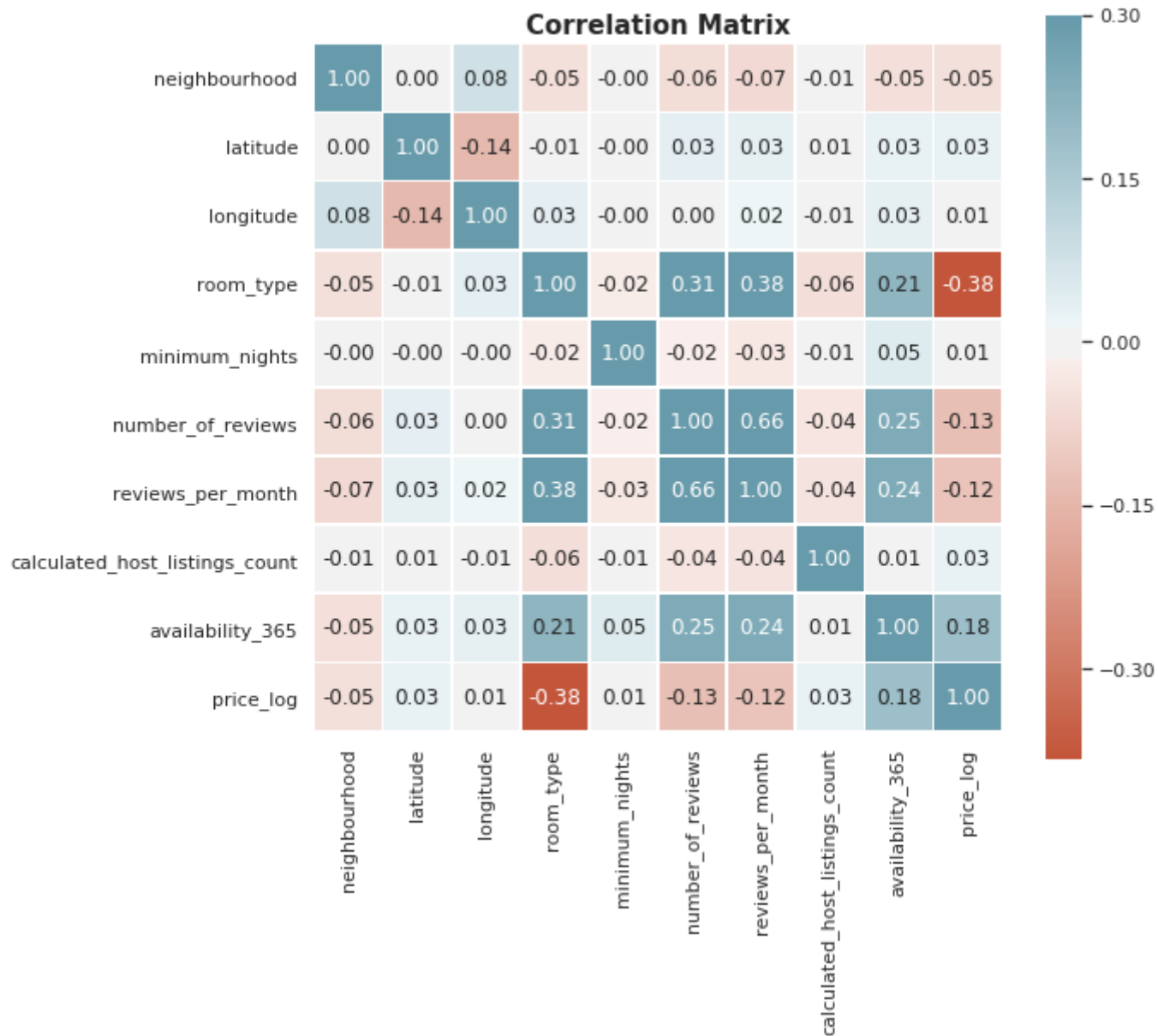
b. Drop non-nomial features

Some non-nomial and origin price won't not be used then will eliminated because it doesn't contain prediction information

4.1 What do features take effects to AirBnb housing prices?

Correlation metrix

Now is the time to look detail on the feature correlations. Correlation matrix will be created:



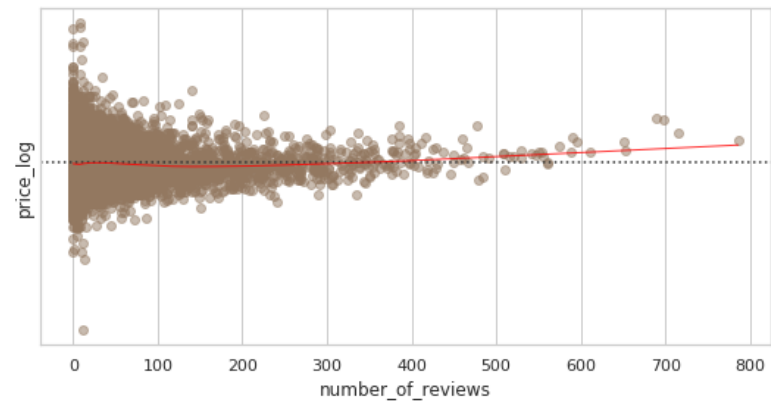
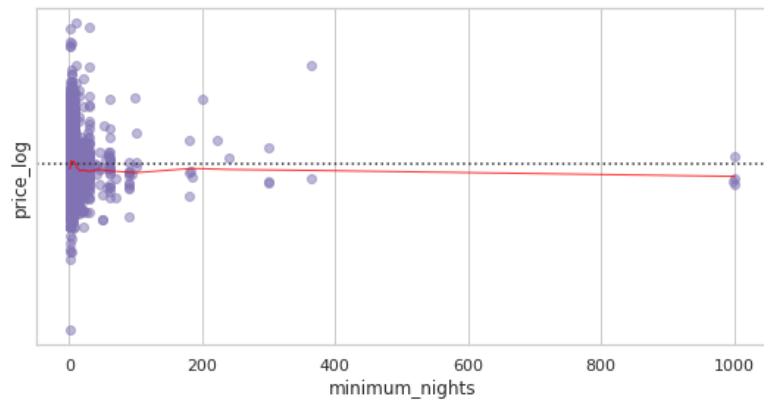
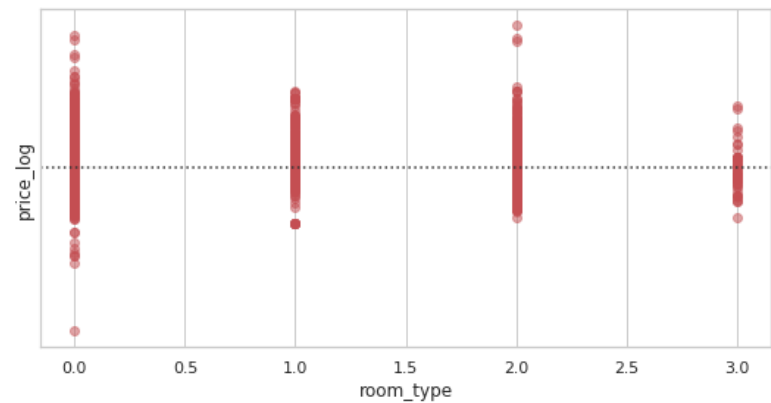
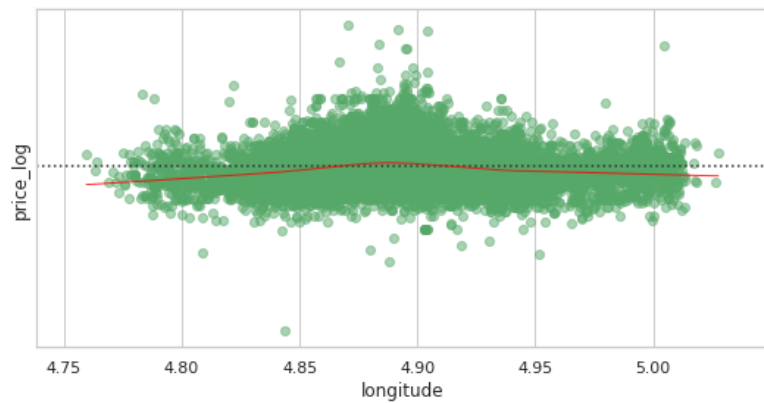
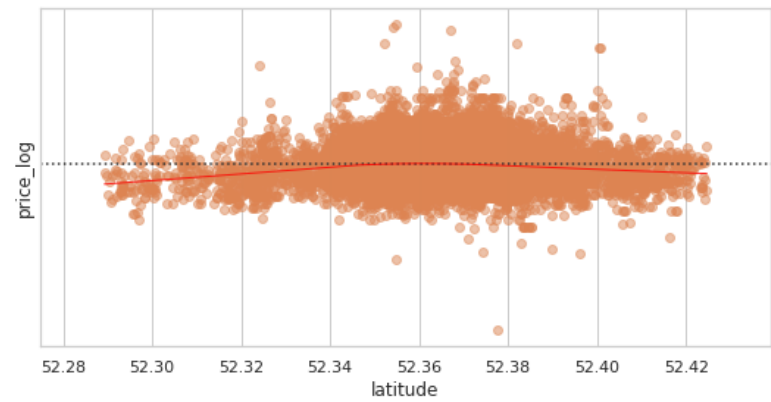
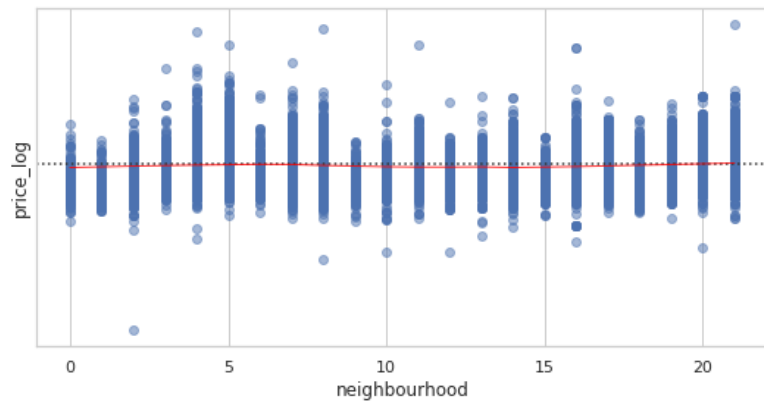
Correlation table shows there is no strong enough relationship between features and price_log. This indicates no feature needed to be taken out of data. This relationship will be found with feature_importances method

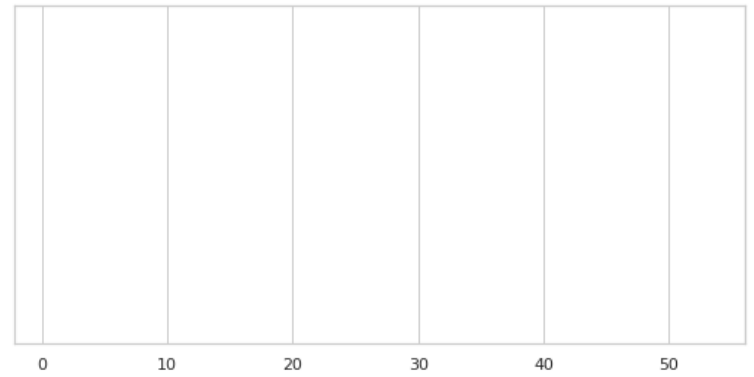
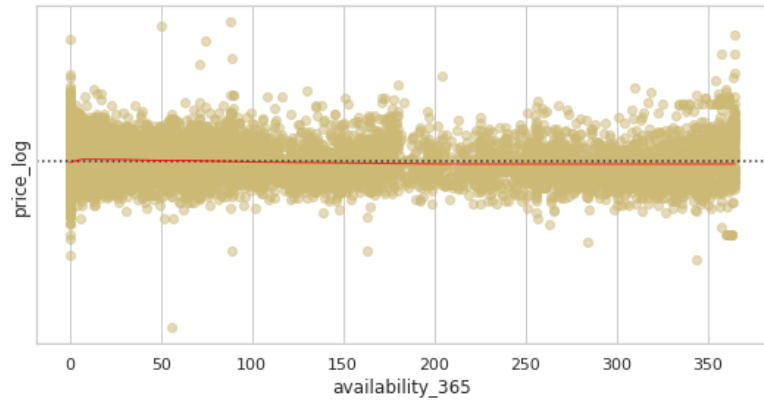
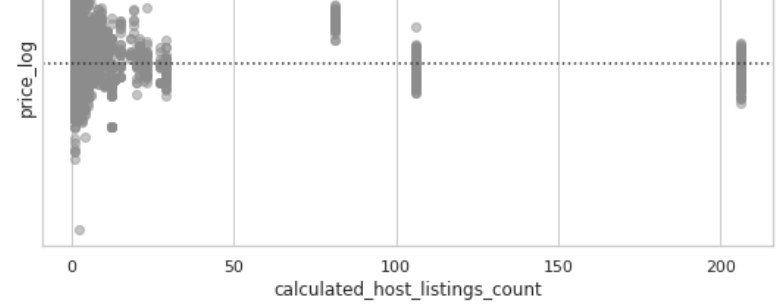
Residual Plots

Residual Plot is strong method to detect outliers, non-linear data and detecting data for regression models. The below charts show the residual plots for each feature with the price.

An ideal Residual Plot, the red line would be horizontal. Based on the below charts, most features are non-linear. On the other hand, there are not many outliers in each feature. This result led to underfitting. Underfitting can occur when input features do not have a strong relationship to target variables or over-regularized. For avoiding underfitting new data features can be added or regularization weight could be reduced.

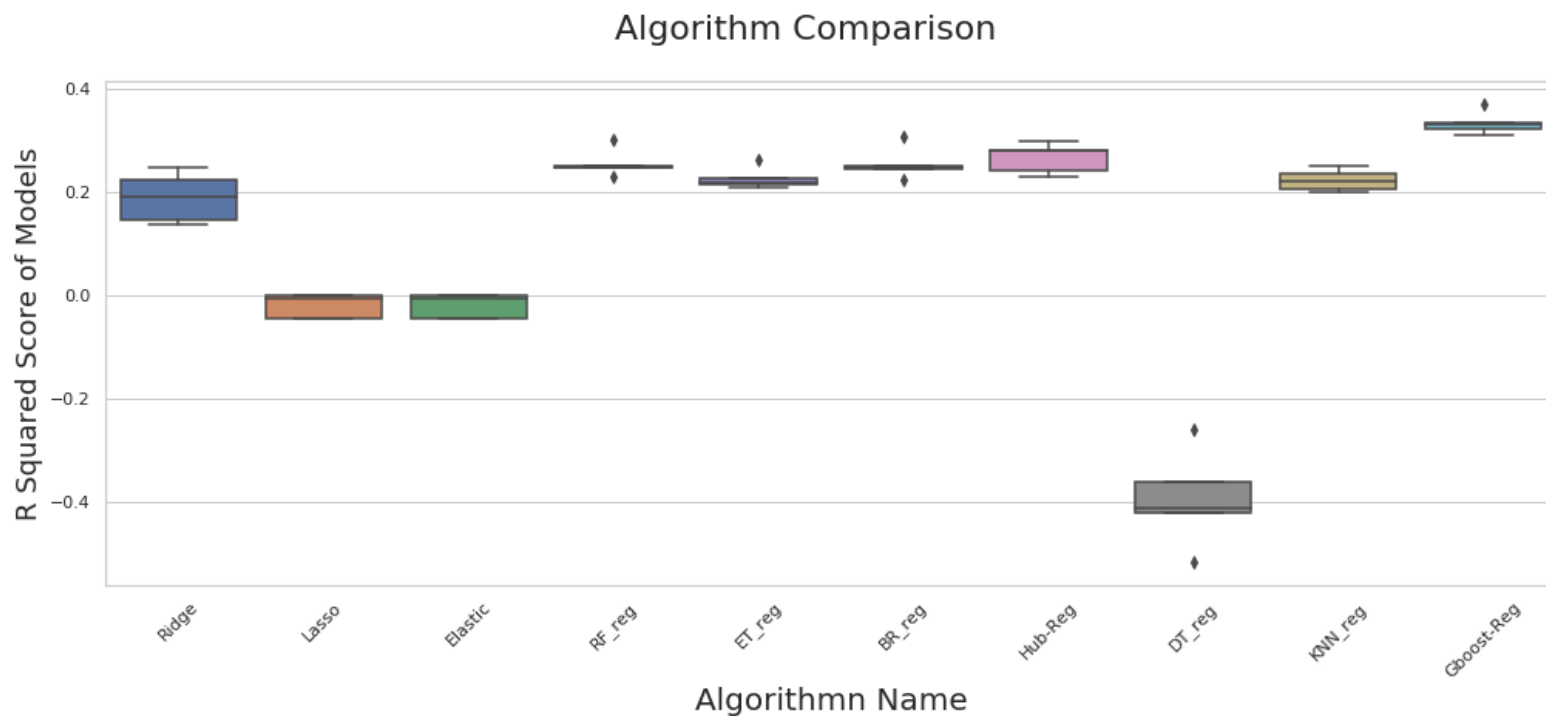
In this kernel, since the input feature data could not be increased, Regularized Linear Models will be used for regularization and polynomial transformation will be made to avoid underfitting.





4.2 Build model

R^2 show the relation of variables and target



Some of the top performance models are:

- **Gradient Boosting Regressor: 0.333503**
- **Scaled_BR_reg: 0.252624**

4.3 Training

- Now we start training with the best model found above

- From the above residual plot, the polynomial transformation will be made with a second degree which adding the square of each feature.

```
e) from sklearn.preprocessing import PolynomialFeatures
Poly = PolynomialFeatures(degree=2, interaction_only=True, include_bias=False)
X_train = Poly.fit_transform(X_train)
X_test = Poly.fit_transform(X_test)
```

Finetune best hyperparameters

We use Radomize Search to help us tune the best hyper parameters for BGR model

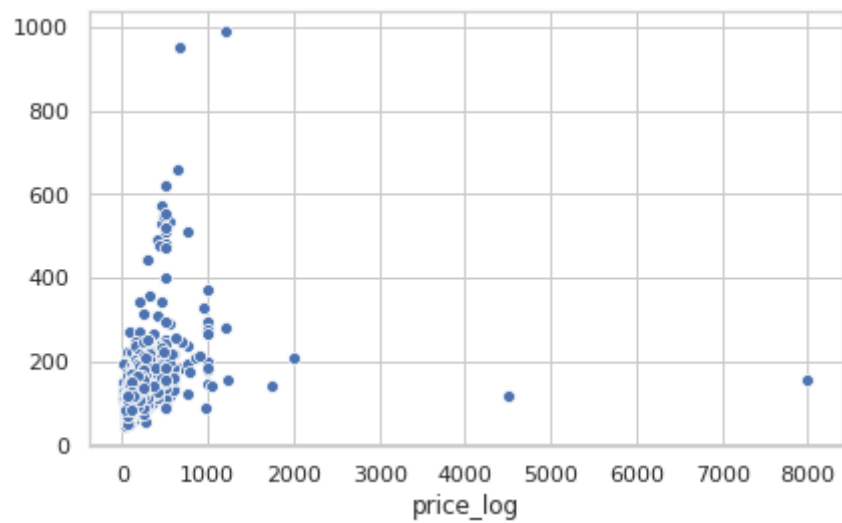
```
Out[160]: {'n_estimators': 150, 'max_depth': 13, 'loss': 'lad'}
```

Now we train with the full dataset

And the result:

```
MAE:  54.16081010289887  
MSE:  29653.278102963508  
RMSE:  172.20127207126987
```

Out[164]: <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x128f70898>



5. Conclusion

Summarizing our findings, suggesting other features

- This Airbnb dataset for the 2019 year appeared to be a very rich dataset with a variety of columns that allowed us to do deep data exploration on each significant column presented.
- First, we have been processing and transforming the dataset in order to clean and refine the data with actions, and do a lot of analysis with the data. Further, we started Diagnostic Analysis section to show the most used tools of Data Scientists to see what happened and try to understand the past to take advantage in the future using "Matrix Correlation"

- Lastly, we got into price predictive model using the latest stack technology in order to predict the price of Airbnb's over the year. We have used Machine Learning as application of Artificial Intelligence (AI), and we also applied the most optimized and newest algorithms, trying "Gradient Boosted Regressor Model" where we got a positive results coming up with the generalized increase in prices in Amsteden city
- Overall, we discovered a very good number of interesting relationships between features and explained each step of the process. This data analytics is very much mimicked on a higher level on Airbnb Data/Machine Learning team for better business decisions, control over the platform, marketing initiatives, implementation of new features and much more