

Chicago Housing Data

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Motivation and Goals

Scrape usable data from the web

Clean, process and encode data

Train a model

Make housing prices predictions

Refine and repeat



What is a “Full Bathroom”?!

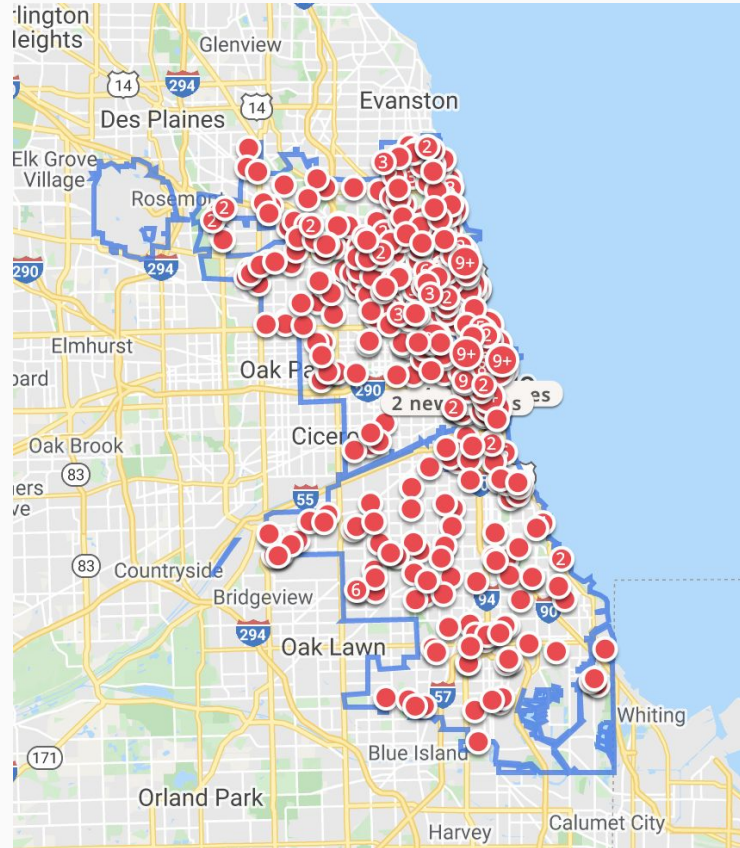
Data Source

Zillow is an online real estate database that has data on approximately 110 million homes in the US.

Great for web scraping, but they don't show you the full picture so you have to be explicit with your searches.

"Showing 500 of 15000 results in this area" what about the other 14500 properties?!

And the CAPTCHA



Collecting the Data

Hurdles

- CAPTCHAS
- Speed
- Incomplete data
- Bad queries
- Mislabeled properties (Ohio, IL?)
- Flipped Properties

Design Choices/Resolutions

- Request Headers and Random User Agents
- BeautifulSoup to deal with speed, who needs the javascript/selenium anyway
- Conditions to check if the property status matches your search query
- Letting Zillow do the work for you (grabbing all the text in each table)

Cleaning the Data

This was not easy

```
[[{'Type', 'Single Family'}, {'Year built', '1999'}, {'Heating', 'Forced air'}, {'Cooling', 'Central'}, {'Parking', '2 spaces'}, {'HOA', 'None'}, {'Lot', '6,873 sqft'}, {'Price/sqft', '$183'}, {'Total Price', '$374,999'}, {'Address', '5241 W 108th Pl, Oak Lawn, IL 60453'}, {'Square Feet', '2,048'}, {'New construction', 'No'}, {'Bedrooms', '4'}, {'Bathrooms', '4'}, {'Full bathrooms', '3'}, {'Half bathrooms', '1'}, {'neighborhood_stats', 'Home values in 60453 have risen 1.3% over the past 12 months.Zillow predicts the home values in 60453 will rise 1.3% in the next year.This home is valued 78.1% higher than the median home in 60453.The median Zestimate for this neighborhood is $210,544.'}, {'URL', 'https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/5241-W-108th-Pl-Oak-Lawn-IL-60453/4088199_zpid/'}]]
https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/9613-Oak-Park-Ave-Oak-Lawn-IL-60453/99358941_zpid/
[[{'Type', 'Single Family'}, {'Year built', '2008'}, {'Heating', 'Gas'}, {'Cooling', 'Central'}, {'Parking', '2 spaces'}, {'Lot', '6,664 sqft'}, {'Price/sqft', '$163'}, {'Total Price', '$479,000'}, {'Address', '9613 Oak Park Ave, Oak Lawn, IL 60453'}, {'Square Feet', '2,946'}, {'New construction', 'No'}, {'Bedrooms', '4'}, {'Bathrooms', '4'}, {'Full bathrooms', '4'}, {'neighborhood_stats', 'Home values in 60453 have risen 1.3% over the past 12 months.Zillow predicts the home values in 60453 will rise 1.3% in the next year.This home is valued 127.5% higher than the median home in 60453.The median Zestimate for this neighborhood is $210,544.'}, {'URL', 'https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/9613-Oak-Park-Ave-Oak-Lawn-IL-60453/99358941_zpid/'}]]
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[[{'Type', 'Condo'}, {'Year built', '1969'}, {'Heating', 'Other'}, {'Cooling', 'Refrigeration'}, {'Parking', '1 space'}, {'HOA', '$278/month'}, {'Price/sqft', 'No Data'}, {'Total Price', '$118,500'}, {'Address', '10324 S Pulaski Rd APT 309, Oak Lawn, IL 60453'}, {'sqft', '--'}, {'New construction', 'No'}, {'Bedrooms', '2'}, {'Bathrooms', '2'}, {'Full bathrooms', '2'}, {'neighborhood_stats', 'Home values in 60453 have risen 1.3% over the past 12 months.Zillow predicts the home values in 60453 will rise 1.3% in the next year.This home is valued 43.7% lower than the median home in 60453.The median Zestimate for this neighborhood is $210,544.'}, {'URL', 'https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/10324-S-Pulaski-Rd-APT-309-Oak-Lawn-IL-60453/4085396_zpid/'}]]
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[[{'Type', 'Condo'}, {'Year built', '1974'}, {'Heating', 'Forced air'}, {'Cooling', 'Central'}, {'Parking', '1 space'}, {'HOA', '$269/month'}, {'Price/sqft', '$150'}, {'Total Price', '$134,900'}, {'Address', '10002 S Pulaski Rd APT 307, Oak Lawn, IL 60453'}, {'Square Feet', '900'}, {'New construction', 'No'}, {'Bedrooms', '2'}, {'Bathrooms', '2'}, {'Full bathrooms', '1'}, {'Half bathrooms', '1'}, {'neighborhood_stats', 'Home values in 60453 have risen 1.3% over the past 12 months.Zillow predicts the home values in 60453 will rise 1.3% in the next year.This home is valued 35.9% lower than the median home in 60453.The median Zestimate for this neighborhood is $210,544.'}, {'URL', 'https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/10002-S-Pulaski-Rd-APT-307-Oak-Lawn-IL-60453/4072503_zpid/'}]]
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https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/11009-Jordan-Dr-Oak-Lawn-IL-60453/4088966_zpid/
[[{'Type', 'Townhouse'}, {'Year built', '1994'}, {'Heating', 'Forced air'}, {'Cooling', 'Central'}, {'Parking', '1 space'}, {'HOA', '$200/month'}, {'Lot', '1,421 sqft'}, {'Price/sqft', '$126'}, {'Total Price', '$207,000'}, {'Address', '11009 Jordan Dr, Oak Lawn, IL 60453'}, {'Square Feet', '1,641'}, {'New construction', 'No'}, {'Bedrooms', '2'}, {'Bathrooms', '3'}, {'Full bathrooms', '2'}, {'Half bathrooms', '1'}, {'neighborhood_stats', 'Home values in 60453 have risen 1.3% over the past 12 months.Zillow predicts the home values in 60453 will increase 1.3% in the next year.This home is valued 32.5% higher than the median home in 60453.The median Zestimate for this neighborhood is $210,544.'}, {'URL', 'https://www.zillow.com/homedetails/11009-Jordan-Dr-Oak-Lawn-IL-60453/4088966_zpid/'}]]
```

Sometimes Lot size is in square feet
sometimes its in acres.

The heating column is basically a mash up of a word cloud and a relators blog.

Neighborhoods stats contains a lot of useful information but is basically one giant string.

Same goes for the url thankfully this is one of the most reliable and useful data points since it contains address zip and is unique to each property.

2497 rows x 18 columns

Creating a Model

Key Features

- Square Footage
- Bathrooms
- Bedrooms
- Median Neighborhood Price
- Single Family Home

Other Features

- Latitude longitude
- Zip code
- HOA
- Proximity to Public schools
- Year built

The Process

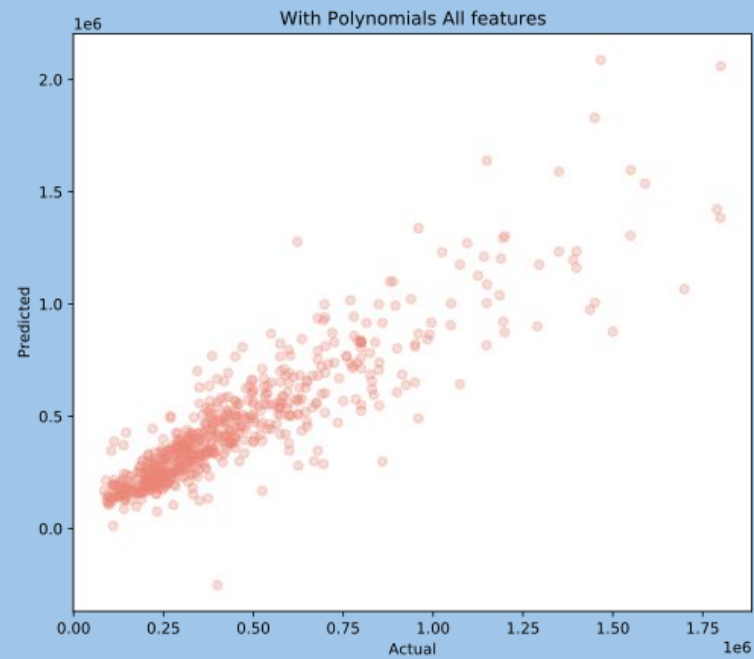
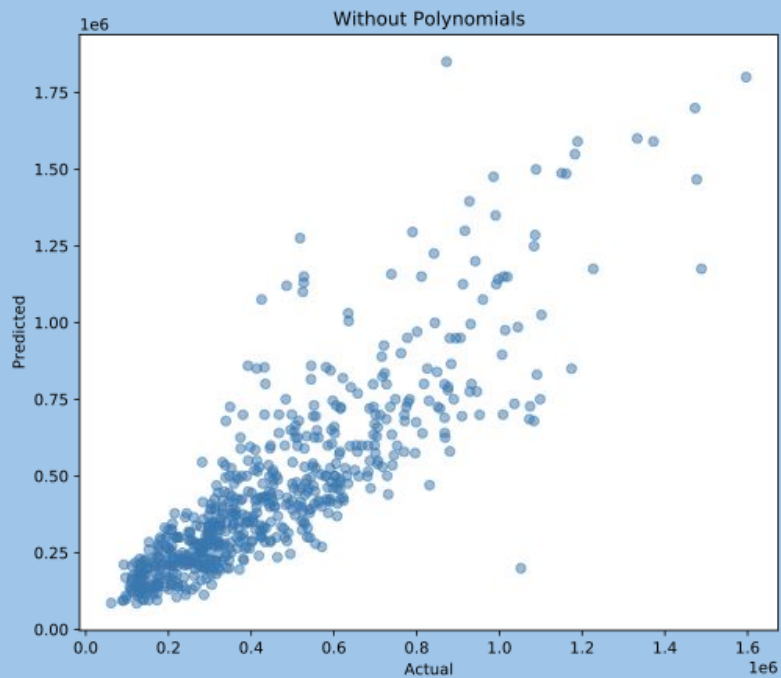
- Start with a baseline model only including continuous features.
- Keep it simple and interpretable... for now.
- Gradually increase the number of features see how that affects the p-values and R^2
- See how the model generalizes to the test set.
- Graph the Residuals look at their distribution.

OLS Regression Results

Dep. Variable:	Total Price	R-squared:	0.739
Model:	OLS	Adj. R-squared:	0.738
Method:	Least Squares	F-statistic:	866.8
Date:	Fri, 09 Oct 2020	Prob (F-statistic):	0.00
Time:	00:14:33	Log-Likelihood:	-28797.
No. Observations:	2149	AIC:	5.761e+04
Df Residuals:	2141	BIC:	5.765e+04
Df Model:	7		
Covariance Type:	nonrobust		

	coef	std err	t	P> t	[0.025	0.975]
const	-4.951e+05	2.07e+05	-2.393	0.017	-9.01e+05	-8.93e+04
Year built	198.6060	105.200	1.888	0.059	-7.699	404.911
Square Feet	92.8956	4.667	19.907	0.000	83.744	102.047
Bedrooms	-1.711e+04	3953.266	-4.328	0.000	-2.49e+04	-9358.256
Bathrooms	5.652e+04	4128.929	13.689	0.000	4.84e+04	6.46e+04
Full bathrooms	4.068e+04	2834.505	14.351	0.000	3.51e+04	4.62e+04
Half bathrooms	-2.78e+04	8909.926	-3.120	0.002	-4.53e+04	-1.03e+04
median_nhv	0.4814	0.018	26.300	0.000	0.445	0.517
Bathrooms_adj	1.584e+04	4239.629	3.737	0.000	7528.476	2.42e+04

Performance

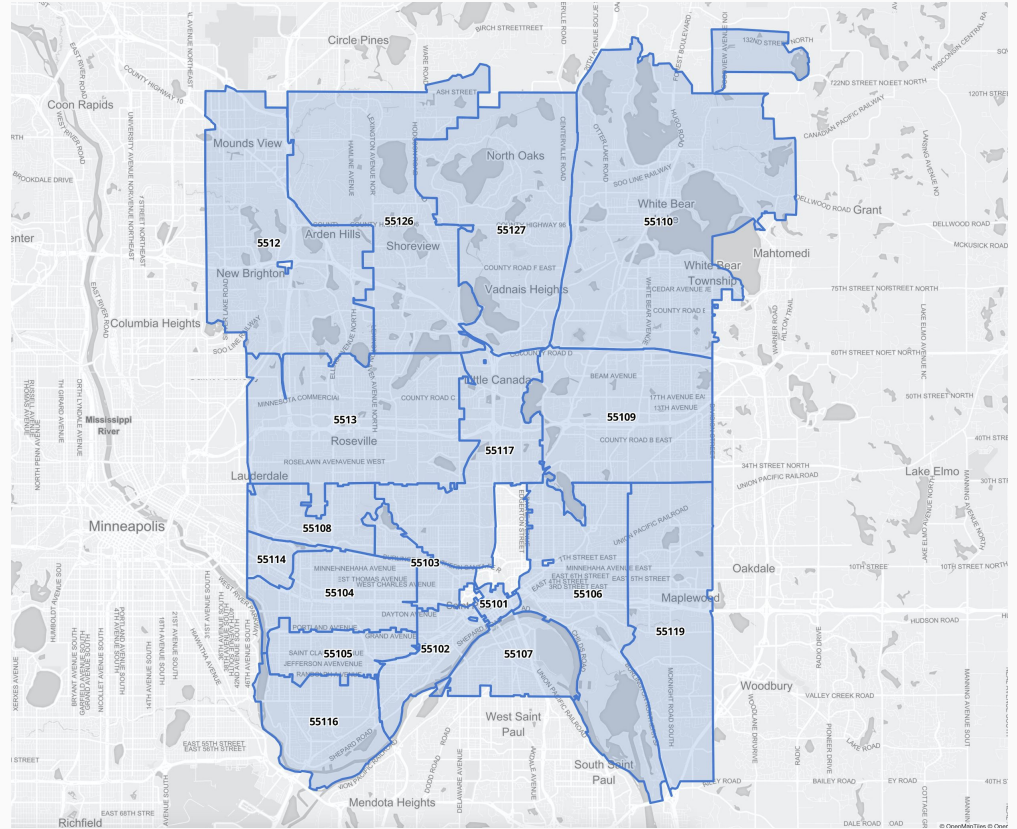


Next steps

There's a lot of features like gps coordinates that we aren't using which could be incredibly useful or better handled by different algorithms

Try different algorithms with different features.

Incorporate new data especially since have all this location data we are not using.



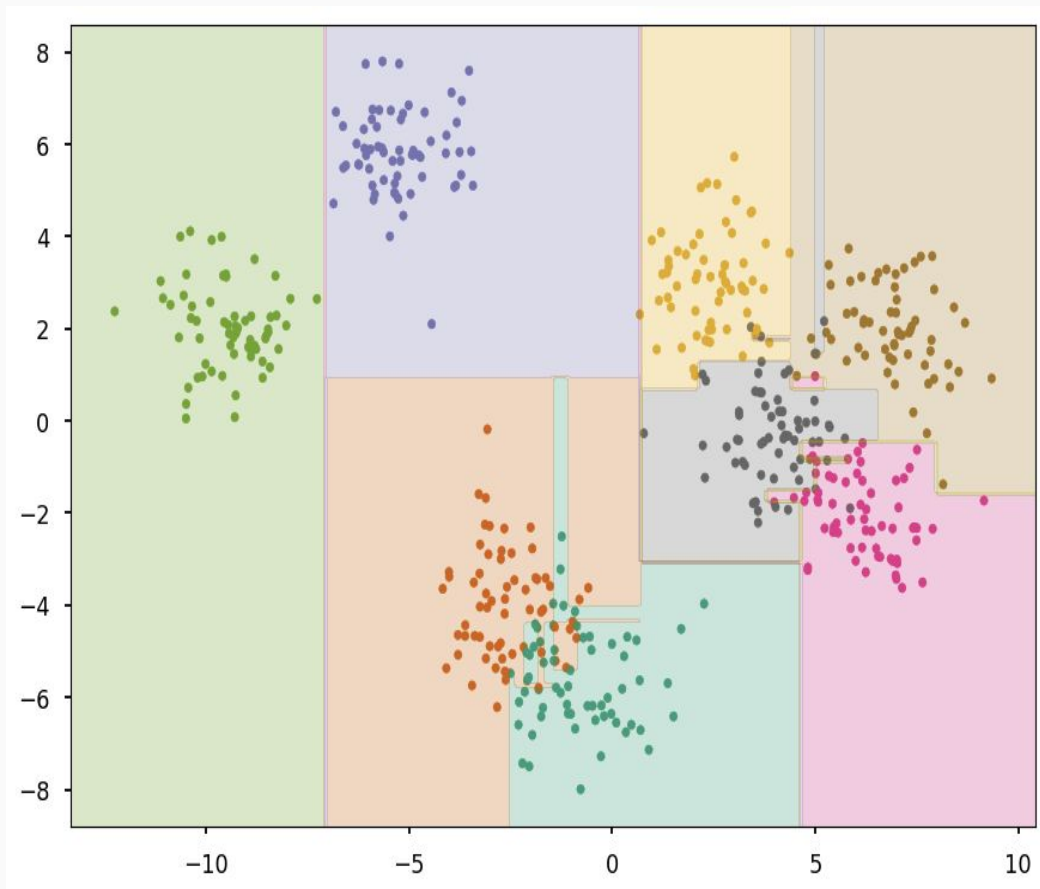
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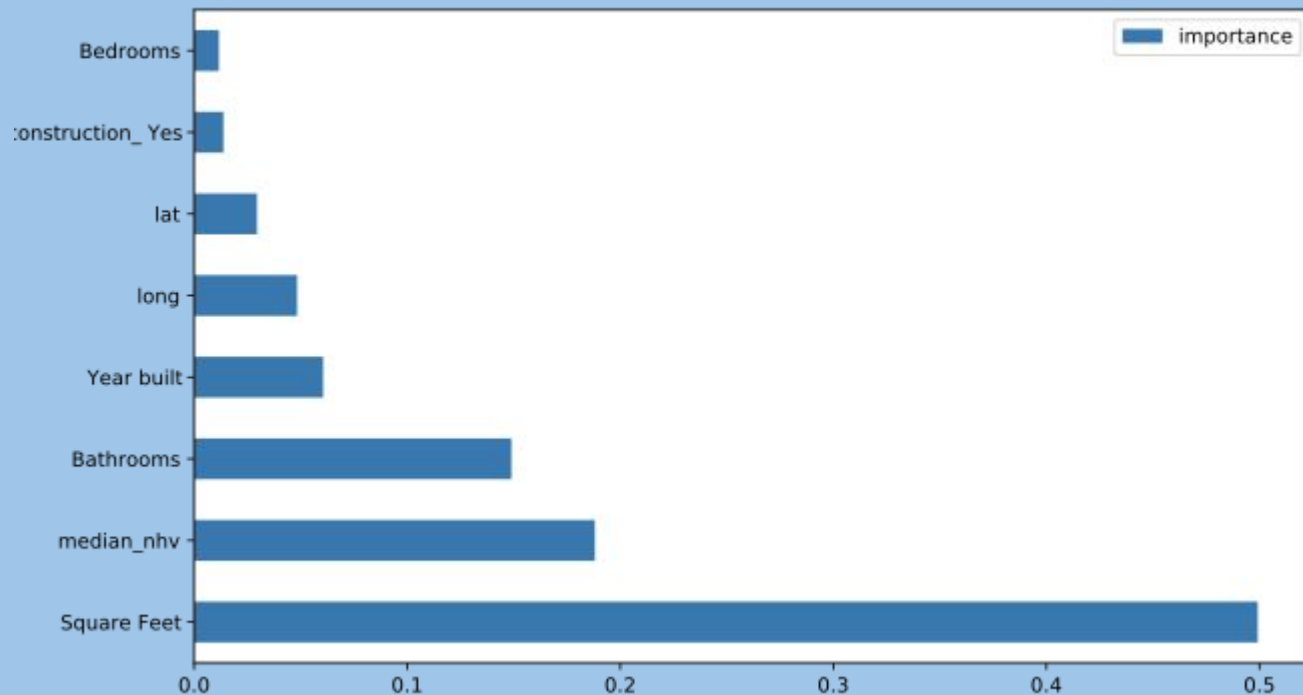
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Random Forest Regressor!



Random Forest Features



Takeaways

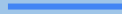
Training a model is an iterative process and there's always room for improvement.

The relationship between price and our features is not always linear.

Clean data goes a long way but is hard to collect.

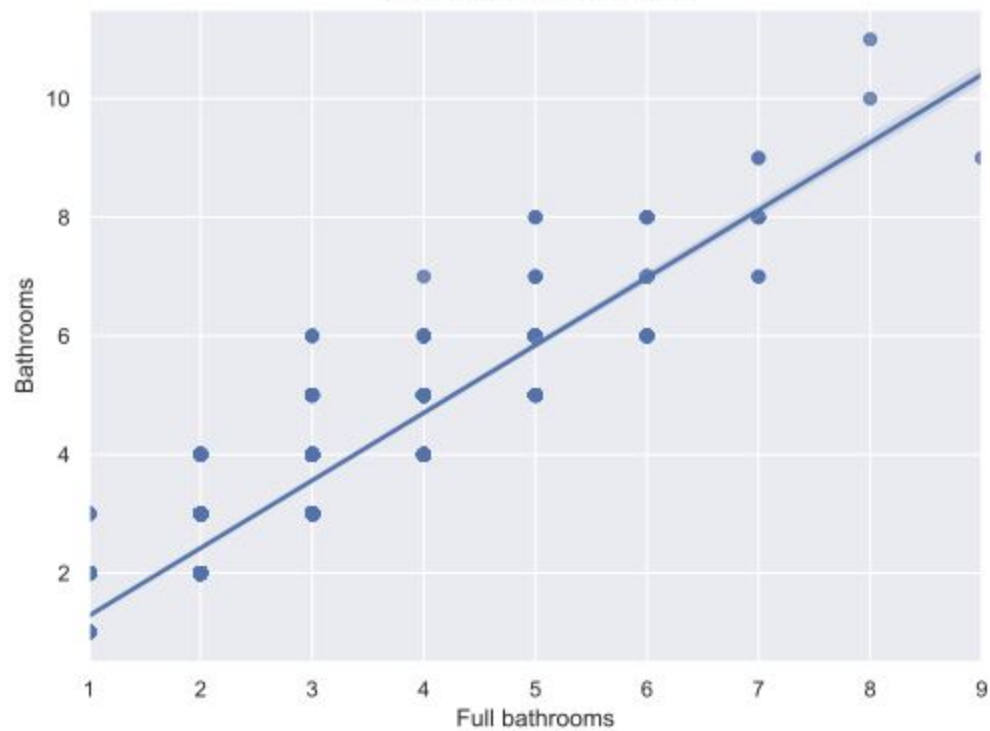


A full bathroom is basically a bathroom



- From an expert

Bathrooms vs Full bathrooms



Thanks!

