

SEIS 631 Final Project

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Intro

What:

For my final project, I analyzed Zillow home sales data for Mound, MN over the past two years, specially focusing on 3 bedroom, 2+ bathroom houses.

Why:

I have a rental house in Mound, MN that I'm planning to put on the market in June and I'm interested to see if the past home sales data will reflect any interesting trends or help me predict the final sale price of my house.

How:

I started by manually curating a data frame ('moundsales') from Zillow (Data Source).

The data frame includes 150 instances and 12 variables: 'ID', 'Address', 'Beds', 'Baths', 'SQFT', 'Month.Sold', 'Year.Sold', 'Sale.Price', 'Lake.Front', 'Year.Built', 'Lot.Size.Sqft', 'Most.Recent.Tax.Assessment'.

I conducted exploratory data analysis of the data frame, created new data subsets, summarized data via histogram, scatter and box plots, determined probability, determined mean/standard deviation/z-score, and conducted regression.

Body

According to Zillow, there were 150 three bedroom, two-plus bathroom houses sold in Mound, MN between April 2020 and April 2022. Mound is a community on Lake Minnetonka, therefore 32 of the 150 houses are lake front properties. This is an important distinction because these houses sold for significantly more than non-lake front houses, usually in the million dollar range.

My house was built in 1948, has 1859 finished sqft and includes three bedrooms and two baths. The house sits on a 10,000 sqft, non-lake front, lot and was assessed at \$245,000 in 2021.

I'd like to understand the relationship between sale price and the most recent tax assessment data and determine the probability of my house selling for over \$300,000.

Topics From Class

Topic 1: Data Basics

For this observational study, I created a data frame labeled ‘moundsales’. In addition, I created a subset labeled ‘nonlf’ that only includes non-lake front houses because including lake front houses skews the sale price and tax assessment data.

```
moundsales <- read.table("moundsales.csv", sep = ",", header = TRUE)
```

```
nonlf <- subset(moundsales, moundsales$Lake.Front == 'N')
```

I conducted a number of various data exploration activities in R (e.g., dim, length, names, summary, head, tail, etc.) to analyze both the ‘moundsales’ and ‘nonlf’ data frames. See Appendix for more details.

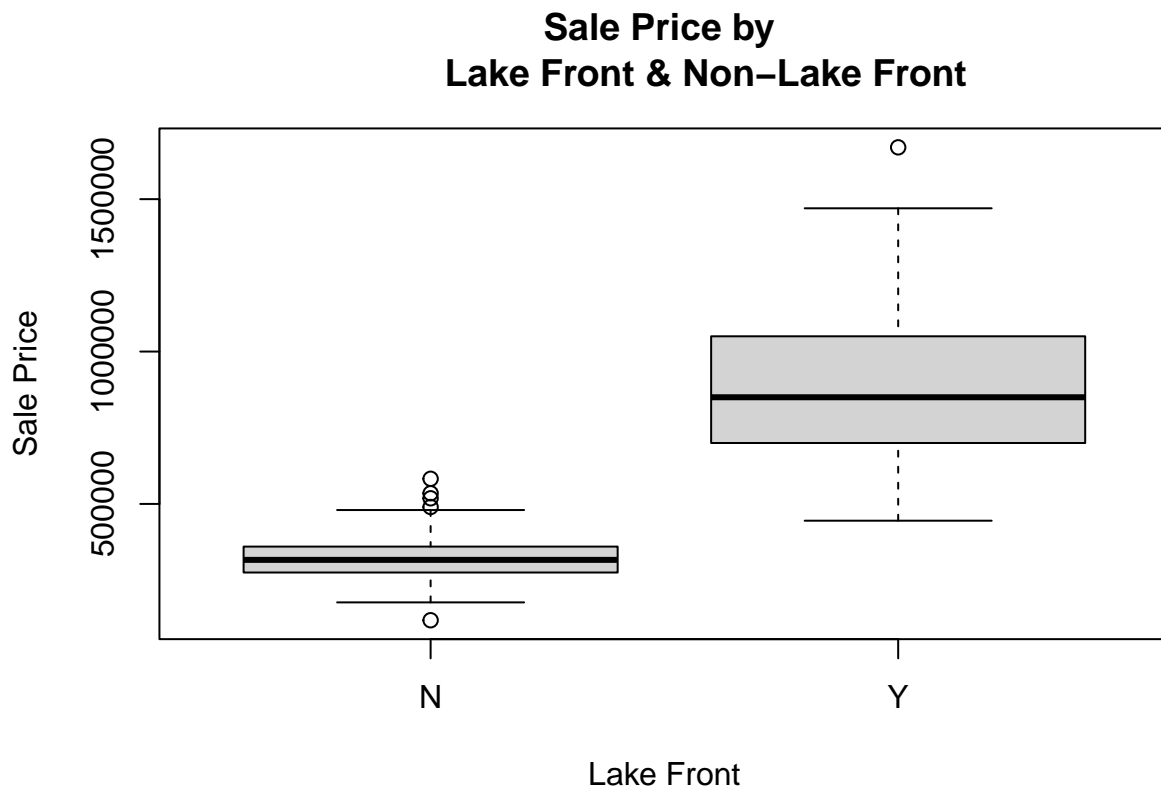
Topic 2: Summarizing Data

The mean sale price for lake front houses was \$888,192, while the mean sale price for non-lake front houses is \$324,801.

```
lakefront <- subset(moundsales, moundsales$Lake.Front == 'Y')
summary(lakefront)
```

```
##           ID           Address           Beds           Baths           SQFT
## Min.      : 2.00   Length:32      Min.      :3   Min.      :2.000   Min.      :1302
## 1st Qu.: 38.50   Class :character 1st Qu.:3   1st Qu.:2.000   1st Qu.:1718
## Median : 88.00   Mode  :character  Median :3   Median :3.000   Median :2239
## Mean    : 78.38                      Mean    :3   Mean    :3.078   Mean    :2316
## 3rd Qu.:119.75                      3rd Qu.:3   3rd Qu.:4.000   3rd Qu.:2552
## Max.    :150.00                      Max.    :3   Max.    :5.000   Max.    :4153
##   Month.Sold      Year.Sold      Sale.Price      Lake.Front
## Length:32        Min.      :2020   Min.      : 445000   Length:32
## Class :character 1st Qu.:2020   1st Qu.: 700000   Class :character
## Mode  :character Median :2020   Median : 850000   Mode  :character
##                      Mean    :2021   Mean    : 888192
##                      3rd Qu.:2021   3rd Qu.:1035000
##                      Max.    :2022   Max.    :1670000
##   Year.Built   Lot.Size.Sqft   Most.Recent.Tax.Assessment
## Min.      :1910   Min.      : 4356   Min.      : 411000
## 1st Qu.:1946   1st Qu.: 7840   1st Qu.: 637750
## Median :1972   Median : 9583   Median : 705000
## Mean    :1968   Mean    :10911   Mean    : 749813
## 3rd Qu.:1990   3rd Qu.:12306   3rd Qu.: 855750
## Max.    :2020   Max.    :28750   Max.    :1344000
```

```
boxplot((moundsales$Sale.Price ~ moundsales$Lake.Front), main="Sale Price by
        Lake Front & Non-Lake Front",
        xlab="Lake Front",
        ylab="Sale Price")
```



Only 46 houses, or 39%, sold for under \$300,000, which supports my realtor's claim that there has been a shortage of houses under \$300,000 for sale in Mound, MN.

```
under300k <- subset(nonlf, nonlf$Sale.Price < 300000)
dim(under300k)
```

```
## [1] 46 12
```

Of the 46 houses that sold for under \$300,000, 16 had a recent tax assessment of \$245,000 or below.

```
S300kT245 <- subset(nonlf, nonlf$Sale.Price > 300000 & nonlf$Most.Recent.Tax.Assessment < 246000)
dim(S300kT245)
```

```
## [1] 16 12
```

Topic 3: Probability

The probability of a three bedroom, two-plus bathroom house in Mound, MN selling for \$300,000 or more given it is not lake front is 61%.

```
Over299k <- subset(nonlf, nonlf$Sale.Price > 299999)
72/118
```

```
## [1] 0.6101695
```

The probability of a three bedroom, two-plus bathroom house in Mound, MN selling for \$1 million or more given it has lake front is 28%.

```
table(moundsales$Lake.Front)
```

```
##  
##   N   Y  
## 118  32
```

```
milsale <- subset(moundsales, moundsales$Sale.Price > 999999)  
View(milsale)
```

```
9/32
```

```
## [1] 0.28125
```

Topic 4: Normal Distribution

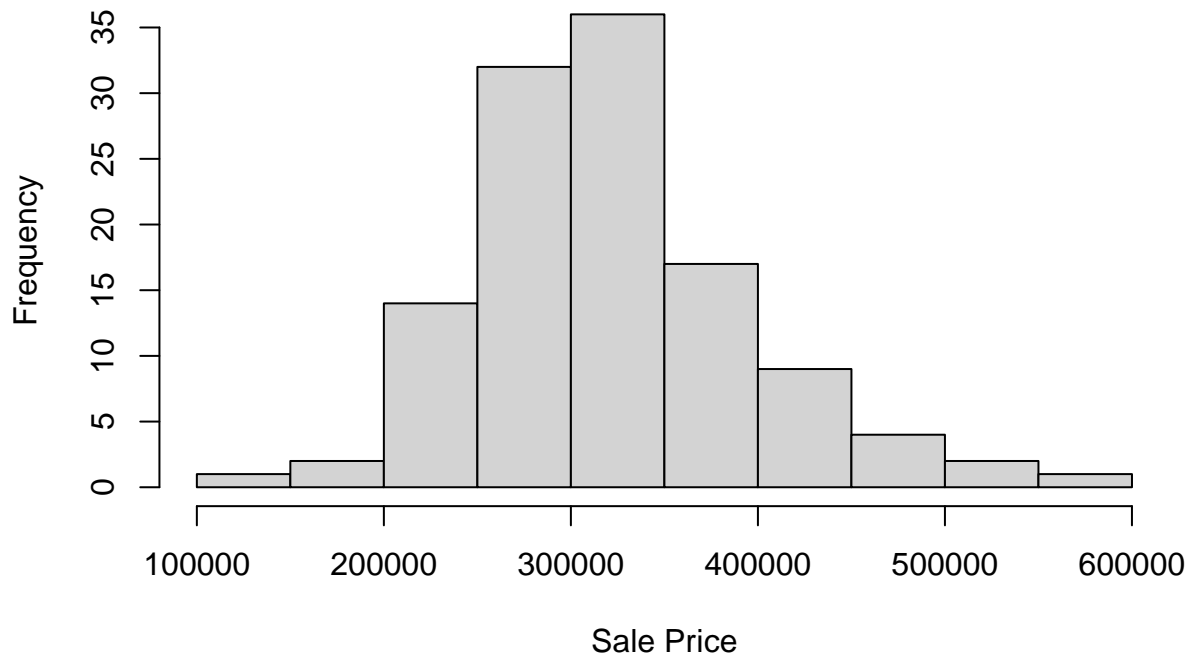
The sale price distribution for the ‘nonlf’ data set is unimodal and normal with a slight skew to the right. The distribution has the following statistics:

mean = 324801 sd = 74870 x = 300000 Z-score = - .331

There is a 63% probability that my house will sell for over \$300k.

```
options(scipen=999)  
hist((nonlf$Sale.Price), main="Non-Lake Front Sale Price Histogram",  
     ylab="Frequency",  
     xlab="Sale Price")
```

Non-Lake Front Sale Price Histogram



```
sd(nonlf$Sale.Price)
```

```
## [1] 74870.19
```

Given:

mean = 324801 sd = 74870 x = 300000

```
(300000 - 324801)/74870
```

```
## [1] -0.3312542
```

Answer: z-score = - .331

```
1 - pnorm(-.331)
```

```
## [1] 0.6296778
```

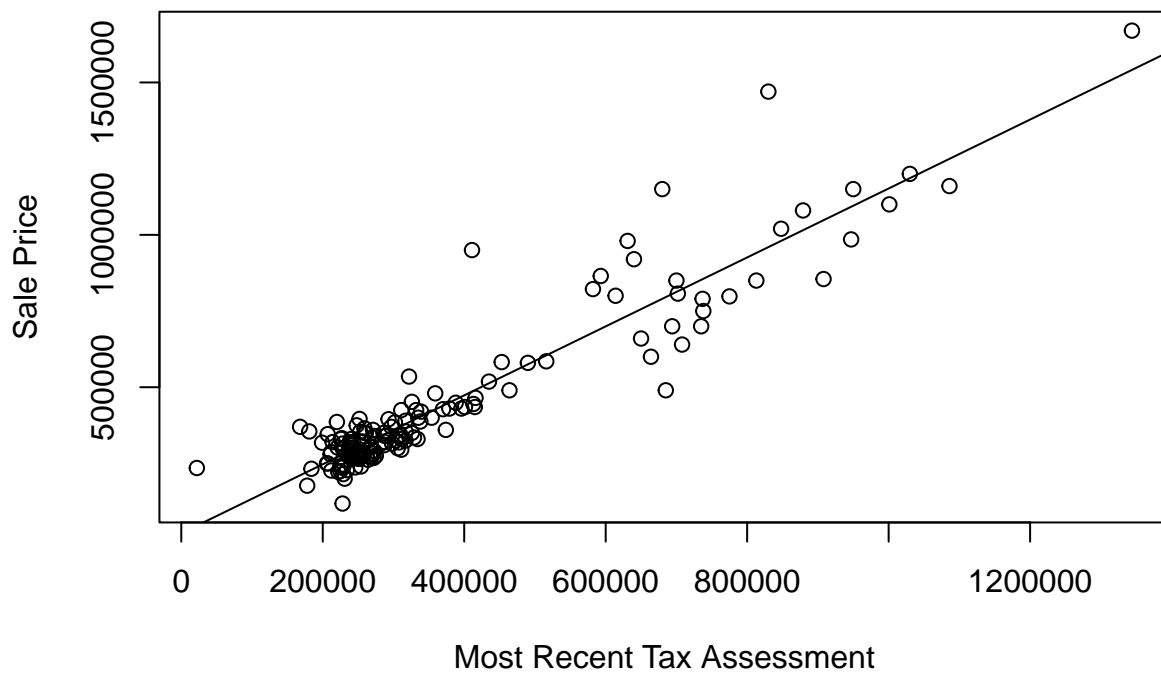
Answer: 63%

Topic 5: Regression

According to the regression data below, there is a very high correlation between the 'Sale.Price' and 'Most.Recent.Tax.Assessment' data. The intercept value indicates that one could expect a house to sell for a premium of \$20,934 over the most recent tax assessment for the house.

```
options(scipen=999)
plot((moundsales$Sale.Price ~ moundsales$Most.Recent.Tax.Assessment), main=
      "Correlation Between Sale Price & Tax Assessment",
      ylab="Sale Price",
      xlab="Most Recent Tax Assessment")
abline(lm(moundsales$Sale.Price ~ moundsales$Most.Recent.Tax.Assessment))
```

Correlation Between Sale Price & Tax Assessment



```
summary(lm(moundsales$Sale.Price ~ moundsales$Most.Recent.Tax.Assessment))

##
## Call:
## lm(formula = moundsales$Sale.Price ~ moundsales$Most.Recent.Tax.Assessment)
##
## Residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
## -305751  -44941  -16431   30781  510236
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error t value
## (Intercept)    20934.4650 15604.0677   1.342
## moundsales$Most.Recent.Tax.Assessment    1.1311    0.0358  31.596
##              Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)              0.182
## moundsales$Most.Recent.Tax.Assessment <0.0000000000000002 ***
## ---
```

```
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 97490 on 148 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared:  0.8709, Adjusted R-squared:  0.87
## F-statistic: 998.3 on 1 and 148 DF,  p-value: < 0.00000000000000022
```

Conclusion

In conclusion, I determined that there is a very high correlation between sale price and the most recent tax assessment for 3 bedroom, 2+ bath houses sold in Mound, MN in the past two years. During this time, 72 non-lake front houses were sold for \$300,000 or more and there is a 63% probability that my house will sell for \$300,000 or more. As a side note, I also learned that if my property were to have lake front, there would be a 28% probability of selling my property for \$1 million or more!

APPENDIX

‘moundsales’ Data Set

```
moundsales <- read.table("moundsales.csv", sep = ",", header = TRUE)
```

```
dim(moundsales)
```

```
## [1] 150 12
```

```
length(dim(moundsales))
```

```
## [1] 2
```

```
names(moundsales)
```

```
## [1] "ID" "Address"
## [3] "Beds" "Baths"
## [5] "SQFT" "Month.Sold"
## [7] "Year.Sold" "Sale.Price"
## [9] "Lake.Front" "Year.Built"
## [11] "Lot.Size.Sqft" "Most.Recent.Tax.Assessment"
```

```
head(moundsales)
```

```
## ID Address Beds Baths SQFT Month.Sold Year.Sold Sale.Price
## 1 1 4674 Cumberland Rd 3 2.0 2369 Apr 2022 341000
## 2 2 6641 Halstead Ave 3 3.0 2092 Apr 2022 980000
## 3 3 4767 Richmond Rd 3 2.0 1500 Apr 2022 346000
## 4 4 4515 Manchester Rd 3 2.0 1931 Mar 2022 330000
## 5 5 6117 Beachwood Rd 3 2.5 2400 Mar 2022 315000
## 6 6 4812 Lanark Rd 3 2.0 2010 Mar 2022 322000
## Lake.Front Year.Built Lot.Size.Sqft Most.Recent.Tax.Assessment
```

```
## 1      N      1984      6534      290000
## 2      Y      1980     10018      631000
## 3      N      1981      5662      207000
## 4      N      1920      8276      240000
## 5      N      1970     12632      282000
## 6      N      1987      9583      256000
```

```
tail(moundsales)
```

```
##      ID      Address Beds Baths SQFT Month.Sold Year.Sold Sale.Price
## 145 145 5736 Lynwood Blvd 3 2 1939 Apr 2020 289900
## 146 146 4714 Hanover Rd 3 2 1630 Apr 2020 228000
## 147 147 4959 Leslie Rd 3 3 2729 Apr 2020 330000
## 148 148 5447 Breezy Rd 3 2 2047 Apr 2020 329900
## 149 149 2740 Grove Ln 3 2 1426 Apr 2020 222000
## 150 150 3201 Charles Ln 3 4 2475 Apr 2020 1100000
##      Lake.Front Year.Built Lot.Size.Sqft Most.Recent.Tax.Assessment
## 145      N      1910      16553      273000
## 146      N      1972      6534      234000
## 147      N      1965     17860      334000
## 148      N      1946     10018      312000
## 149      N      1984     10055      222000
## 150      Y      1988     13068     1001000
```

```
summary(moundsales$Sale.Price)
```

```
##      Min. 1st Qu.  Median    Mean 3rd Qu.    Max.
## 118400 287625 337000 444991 451309 1670000
```

```
summary(moundsales$Most.Recent.Tax.Assessment)
```

```
##      Min. 1st Qu.  Median    Mean 3rd Qu.    Max.
## 22000 241250 278500 374900 399750 1344000
```

```
table(moundsales$Lake.Front)
```

```
##
##      N      Y
## 118 32
```

```
milsale <- subset(moundsales, moundsales$Sale.Price > 999999)
View(milsale)
```

‘nonlf’ Data Set

```
nonlf <- subset(moundsales, moundsales$Lake.Front == 'N')
```



```
summary(nonlf$Sale.Price)
```

```
##      Min. 1st Qu.  Median      Mean 3rd Qu.      Max.
## 118400  275000  316500  324801  358750  582500
```

```
summary(nonlf$Most.Recent.Tax.Assessment)
```

```
##      Min. 1st Qu.  Median      Mean 3rd Qu.      Max.
##   22000  237250  259000  273229  307750  464000
```

```
summary(nonlf$SQFT)
```

```
##      Min. 1st Qu.  Median      Mean 3rd Qu.      Max.
##    1117    1542    1820    1876    2154    3566
```

```
summary(nonlf$Lot.Size.Sqft)
```

```
##      Min. 1st Qu.  Median      Mean 3rd Qu.      Max.
##    3484    6534    9583    10029    11761    23522
```

```
summary(nonlf$Year.Built)
```

```
##      Min. 1st Qu.  Median      Mean 3rd Qu.      Max.
##    1910    1954    1974    1969    1987    2020
```

```
under300k <- subset(nonlf, nonlf$Sale.Price < 300000)
dim(under300k)
```

```
## [1] 46 12
```