# 36106\_25AU-AT1\_25589351\_experiment\_3

March 29, 2025

# 1 Experiment Notebook

# 1.1 0. Setup Environment

## 1.1.1 0.a Install Mandatory Packages

Do not modify this code before running it

```
[1]: # Do not modify this code
     import os
     import sys
     from pathlib import Path
     COURSE = "36106"
     ASSIGNMENT = "AT1"
     DATA = "data"
     asgmt_path = f"{COURSE}/assignment/{ASSIGNMENT}"
     root_path = "./"
     print("##### Install required Python packages #####")
     | pip install -r https://raw.githubusercontent.com/aso-uts/labs_datasets/main/
      →36106-mlaa/requirements.txt
     if os.getenv("COLAB_RELEASE_TAG"):
        from google.colab import drive
        from pathlib import Path
        print("\n##### Connect to personal Google Drive #####")
        gdrive_path = "/content/gdrive"
        drive.mount(gdrive_path)
        root_path = f"{gdrive_path}/MyDrive/"
     print("\n##### Setting up folders #####")
     folder_path = Path(f"{root_path}/{asgmt_path}/") / DATA
```

```
folder_path.mkdir(parents=True, exist_ok=True)
print(f"\nYou can now save your data files in: {folder_path}")
if os.getenv("COLAB_RELEASE_TAG"):
    %cd {folder_path}
###### Install required Python packages ######
Requirement already satisfied: pandas==2.2.2 in /usr/local/lib/python3.11/dist-
packages (from -r https://raw.githubusercontent.com/aso-
uts/labs_datasets/main/36106-mlaa/requirements.txt (line 1)) (2.2.2)
Requirement already satisfied: scikit-learn==1.6.1 in
/usr/local/lib/python3.11/dist-packages (from -r
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/aso-
uts/labs_datasets/main/36106-mlaa/requirements.txt (line 2)) (1.6.1)
Requirement already satisfied: altair==5.5.0 in /usr/local/lib/python3.11/dist-
packages (from -r https://raw.githubusercontent.com/aso-
uts/labs_datasets/main/36106-mlaa/requirements.txt (line 3)) (5.5.0)
Requirement already satisfied: numpy>=1.23.2 in /usr/local/lib/python3.11/dist-
packages (from pandas==2.2.2->-r https://raw.githubusercontent.com/aso-
```

```
Requirement already satisfied: narwhals>=1.14.2 in
/usr/local/lib/python3.11/dist-packages (from altair==5.5.0->-r
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/aso-
uts/labs_datasets/main/36106-mlaa/requirements.txt (line 3)) (1.31.0)
Requirement already satisfied: packaging in /usr/local/lib/python3.11/dist-
packages (from altair==5.5.0->-r https://raw.githubusercontent.com/aso-
uts/labs datasets/main/36106-mlaa/requirements.txt (line 3)) (24.2)
Requirement already satisfied: typing-extensions>=4.10.0 in
/usr/local/lib/python3.11/dist-packages (from altair==5.5.0->-r
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/aso-
uts/labs_datasets/main/36106-mlaa/requirements.txt (line 3)) (4.12.2)
Requirement already satisfied: attrs>=22.2.0 in /usr/local/lib/python3.11/dist-
packages (from jsonschema>=3.0->altair==5.5.0->-r
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/aso-
uts/labs_datasets/main/36106-mlaa/requirements.txt (line 3)) (25.3.0)
Requirement already satisfied: jsonschema-specifications>=2023.03.6 in
/usr/local/lib/python3.11/dist-packages (from jsonschema>=3.0->altair==5.5.0->-r
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/aso-
uts/labs_datasets/main/36106-mlaa/requirements.txt (line 3)) (2024.10.1)
Requirement already satisfied: referencing>=0.28.4 in
/usr/local/lib/python3.11/dist-packages (from jsonschema>=3.0->altair==5.5.0->-r
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/aso-
uts/labs_datasets/main/36106-mlaa/requirements.txt (line 3)) (0.36.2)
Requirement already satisfied: rpds-py>=0.7.1 in /usr/local/lib/python3.11/dist-
packages (from jsonschema>=3.0->altair==5.5.0->-r
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/aso-
uts/labs_datasets/main/36106-mlaa/requirements.txt (line 3)) (0.23.1)
Requirement already satisfied: six>=1.5 in /usr/local/lib/python3.11/dist-
packages (from python-dateutil>=2.8.2->pandas==2.2.2->-r
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/aso-
uts/labs_datasets/main/36106-mlaa/requirements.txt (line 1)) (1.17.0)
Requirement already satisfied: MarkupSafe>=2.0 in
/usr/local/lib/python3.11/dist-packages (from jinja2->altair==5.5.0->-r
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/aso-
uts/labs datasets/main/36106-mlaa/requirements.txt (line 3)) (3.0.2)
###### Connect to personal Google Drive ######
Mounted at /content/gdrive
##### Setting up folders #####
You can now save your data files in:
/content/gdrive/MyDrive/36106/assignment/AT1/data
/content/gdrive/MyDrive/36106/assignment/AT1/data
```

## 1.1.2 0.b Disable Warnings Messages

Do not modify this code before running it

```
[]: import warnings warnings.simplefilter(action='ignore', category=FutureWarning)
```

## 1.1.3 0.c Install Additional Packages

If you are using additional packages, you need to install them here using the command: ! pip install package\_name>

```
[]: # <Student to fill this section>
```

### 1.1.4 0.d Import Packages

```
[1]: import ipywidgets as widgets
import pandas as pd
import altair as alt
import numpy as np
from sklearn.metrics import mean_squared_error, r2_score, mean_absolute_error
from itertools import product
```

## 1.2 A. Project Description

```
[2]: # @title Student Information
     wgt_student_name = widgets.Text(
         value="Fatemen Elyasifar",
         placeholder='<student to fill this section>',
         description='Student Name:',
         style={'description_width': 'initial'},
         disabled=False
     )
     wgt_student_id = widgets.Text(
         value="25589351",
         placeholder='<student to fill this section>',
         description='Student Id:',
         style={'description_width': 'initial'},
         disabled=False
     )
     widgets.HBox([wgt_student_name, wgt_student_id])
```

HBox(children=(Text(value='Fatemeh Elyasifar', description='Student Name:', placeholder='<student to fill this...

```
[3]: print("Student Name:", wgt_student_name.value)
print("Student Id:", wgt_student_id.value)
```

Student Name: Fatemeh Elyasifar Student Id: 25589351

```
[4]: # @title Experiment ID

wgt_experiment_id = widgets.BoundedIntText(
    value="3",
    min=0,
    max=3,
    step=1,
    description='Experiment ID:',
    style={'description_width': 'initial'},
    disabled=False
)
wgt_experiment_id
```

BoundedIntText(value=3, description='Experiment ID:', max=3, style=DescriptionStyle(description\_width='initial...

```
[5]: print("Experiment ID:", wgt_experiment_id.value)
```

Experiment ID: 3

```
[6]: # @title Business Objective
     wgt_business_objective = widgets.Textarea(
          value="The main objective is to develop a machine learning model that
       \hookrightarrowaccurately predicts rental prices specifically for affordable properties in\sqcup
       \hookrightarrowAustralia, excluding luxury homes. This model aims to assist real estate\sqcup
       \hookrightarrowagencies, property investors, and tenants in making informed decisions based_{\sqcup}
       \hookrightarrowon the features of affordable housing and market trends. The key success_{\sqcup}
       \hookrightarrowmetric is RMSE, with the goal of achieving an RMSE score of less than 16 on_{\sqcup}
       \hookrightarrowthe validation set, which quantifies the prediction error. Additionally,\sqcup
       \hookrightarrow feature tuning will be necessary to optimise the model's performance and
       \hookrightarrowensure accurate predictions based on the most relevant property\sqcup
       ⇔characteristics.",
          placeholder='<student to fill this section>',
          description='Business Objective:',
          disabled=False,
          style={'description width': 'initial'},
          layout=widgets.Layout(height="100%", width="auto")
     wgt_business_objective
```

Textarea(value='The main objective is to develop a machine learning model that  $\Box$   $\Box$   $\Box$  accurately predicts rental pric...

```
[7]: print("Business Objective:", wgt_business_objective.value)
```

Business Objective: The main objective is to develop a machine learning model that accurately predicts rental prices specifically for affordable properties in Australia, excluding luxury homes. This model aims to assist real estate agencies, property investors, and tenants in making informed decisions based on the features of affordable housing and market trends. The key success metric is RMSE, with the goal of achieving an RMSE score of less than 16 on the validation set, which quantifies the prediction error. Additionally, feature tuning will be necessary to optimise the model's performance and ensure accurate predictions based on the most relevant property characteristics.

## 1.3 B. Experiment Description

```
[8]: # @title Experiment Hypothesis
     wgt experiment hypothesis = widgets.Textarea(
         value="Using a non-parametric regression approach like K-Nearest Neighbors_{\sqcup}
      _{
ightharpoonup}(	exttt{KNN}) can provide accurate and reliable rental price predictions based on _{\sqcup}
      ⊸key property features such as location, size, and amenities. By leveraging ⊔
      ⊶machine learning, businesses can optimise pricing strategies, enhance⊔
      ⇒customer decision-making, and improve profitability in the real estate⊔
      ⇔sector. Null Hypothesis (H): Adjusting the number of neighbors (n neighbors)⊔
      \hookrightarrowand the distance metric (p) does not significantly impact the RMSE of the \sqcup
      →KNN regression model.",
         placeholder='<student to fill this section>',
         description='Experiment Hypothesis:',
         disabled=False,
         style={'description_width': 'initial'},
         layout=widgets.Layout(height="100%", width="auto")
     wgt_experiment_hypothesis
```

Textarea(value='Using a non-parametric regression approach like K-Nearest⊔
→Neighbors (KNN) can provide accurate...

```
[9]: print("Experiment Hypothesis:", wgt_experiment_hypothesis.value)
```

Experiment Hypothesis: Using a non-parametric regression approach like K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN) can provide accurate and reliable rental price predictions based on key property features such as location, size, and amenities. By leveraging machine learning, businesses can optimise pricing strategies, enhance customer decision-making, and improve profitability in the real estate sector. Null Hypothesis (H): Adjusting the number of neighbors (n\_neighbors) and the distance metric (p) does not significantly impact the RMSE of the KNN regression model.

Textarea(value='Train multiple KNN regression models with different n\_neighbors⊔
→and p values. Compare RMSE sco...

```
[11]: print("Experiment Expectations:", wgt_experiment_expectations.value)
```

Experiment Expectations: Train multiple KNN regression models with different n\_neighbors and p values. Compare RMSE scores to determine the best settings for capturing local rental price patterns. Evaluate computational efficiency and scalability of KNN regression. Provide insights into whether KNN is a suitable model or if further feature engineering is required.

### 1.4 C. Data Understanding

#### 1.4.1 C.1 Load Datasets

Do not change this code

```
[3]: # Load training data

X_train = pd.read_csv(folder_path / 'X_train.csv')

y_train = pd.read_csv(folder_path / 'y_train.csv')

[4]: # Load validation data

X_val = pd.read_csv(folder_path / 'X_val.csv')

y_val = pd.read_csv(folder_path / 'y_val.csv')

[5]: # Load testing data

X_test = pd.read_csv(folder_path / 'X_test.csv')

y_test = pd.read_csv(folder_path / 'y_test.csv')
```

#### 1.5 D. Feature Selection

Textarea(value="These attributes give a clear view of the property's features\_
→and market conditions. They focu...

```
[14]: print('Feature Selection Explanation:', wgt_feat_selection_explanation.value)
```

Feature Selection Explanation: These attributes give a clear view of the property's features and market conditions. They focus on the main factors that affect rental rates, helping to understand what influences pricing and demand.

## 1.6 E. Train Machine Learning Model

#### 1.6.1 E.1 Import Algorithm

Provide some explanations on why you believe this algorithm is a good fit

```
[6]:  # <Student to fill this section>
from sklearn.neighbors import KNeighborsRegressor
```

```
[15]: # @title Algorithm Selection Explanation

wgt_algo_selection_explanation = widgets.Textarea(
```

Textarea(value='K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN) Regression is chosen because it is a<sub>□</sub> ⇒non-parametric, instance-based ...

```
[16]: print('Algorithm Selection Explanation:', wgt_algo_selection_explanation.value)
```

Algorithm Selection Explanation: K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN) Regression is chosen because it is a non-parametric, instance-based learning algorithm that makes predictions based on the average of the k nearest neighbors. It is well-suited for problems where the relationship between features and target values is non-linear and where local patterns in the data matter.

## 1.6.2 E.2 Set Hyperparameters

Provide some explanations on why you believe this algorithm is a good fit

```
[7]: # <Student to fill this section>
n_neighbors_list = [1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11]
p_list = [1, 2]
```

```
wgt_hyperparams_selection_explanation = widgets.Textarea(
    value="Values in n_neighbors_list allow to explore a range of neighborhood_
    sizes. Smaller values capture local patterns, while larger values provide_
    more generalised predictions. The p parameter in KNN regression defines the_
    distance metric used to calculate the distance between data points. p = 1:_
    Uses Manhattan distance and p = 2: Uses Euclidean distance.",
    placeholder='<student to fill this section>',
    description='Hyperparameters Selection Explanation:',
    disabled=False,
    style={'description_width': 'initial'},
    layout=widgets.Layout(height="100%", width="auto")
)
wgt_hyperparams_selection_explanation
```

Textarea(value='Values in n\_neighbors\_list allow to explore a range of  $\Box$   $\Box$  neighborhood sizes. Smaller values capt...

```
[18]: print('Hyperparameters Selection Explanation:', wgt_hyperparams_selection_explanation.value)
```

Hyperparameters Selection Explanation: Values in n\_neighbors\_list allow to explore a range of neighborhood sizes. Smaller values capture local patterns, while larger values provide more generalised predictions. The p parameter in KNN regression defines the distance metric used to calculate the distance between data points. p = 1: Uses Manhattan distance and p = 2: Uses Euclidean distance.

#### 1.6.3 E.3 Fit Model

```
[9]: # <Student to fill this section>
predictions = {}

for n_neighbors, p in product(n_neighbors_list, p_list):
    model = KNeighborsRegressor(n_neighbors=n_neighbors, p=p)
    model.fit(X_train, y_train)

    y_pred = model.predict(X_val)

# Store predictions in a dictionary
    key = f"y_pred_{n_neighbors}_{p}"
    predictions[key] = y_pred
```

## 1.6.4 E.4 Model Technical Performance

Provide some explanations on model performance

```
[10]: # <Student to fill this section>
for n_neighbors, p in product(n_neighbors_list, p_list):
    mse = mean_squared_error(y_val, predictions[f"y_pred_{n_neighbors}_{p}"])
    rmse = np.sqrt(mse)
    mae = mean_absolute_error(y_val, predictions[f"y_pred_{n_neighbors}_{p}"])
    r2 = r2_score(y_val, predictions[f"y_pred_{n_neighbors}_{p}"])

    print(f"n_neighbors = {n_neighbors}, p = {p}")
    print(f"RMSE: {rmse}")
    print(f"MAE: {mae}")
    print(f"R2: {r2}")
    print("......")
```

n\_neighbors = 1, p = 1
RMSE: 10.940706240014995
MAE: 5.602651515151515
R2: 0.7685414511302396

```
...
```

n\_neighbors = 1, p = 2 RMSE: 11.219428157522922 MAE: 5.6867424242424 R2: 0.7565981048977521

•••

n\_neighbors = 2, p = 1
RMSE: 10.565826757795984
MAE: 7.0414772727272
R2: 0.7841313962917543

•••

n\_neighbors = 2, p = 2 RMSE: 10.6774374479341 MAE: 7.043939393939394 R2: 0.7795467107266877

•••

n\_neighbors = 3, p = 1
RMSE: 10.641148848763878
MAE: 7.3027777777776
R2: 0.7810426401932502

•••

n\_neighbors = 3, p = 2
RMSE: 10.800668508740104
MAE: 7.37638888888888
R2: 0.7744287296129941

•••

n\_neighbors = 5, p = 1
RMSE: 10.802706941907072
MAE: 7.5499242424243
R2: 0.7743435764857882

•••

n\_neighbors = 5, p = 2
RMSE: 10.824338456935973
MAE: 7.548787878788
R2: 0.7734389555365734

...

n\_neighbors = 7, p = 1
RMSE: 10.958514774958084
MAE: 7.683008658008658
R2: 0.7677873330195206

n\_neighbors = 7, p = 2 RMSE: 11.035772250789922 MAE: 7.733170995670995 R2: 0.7645015951411606

•••

n\_neighbors = 9, p = 1
RMSE: 11.096640513950488

```
R2: 0.7618966284044159
     n_neighbors = 9, p = 2
     RMSE: 11.28316576937848
     MAE: 7.875
     R2: 0.7538247153040788
     n neighbors = 11, p = 1
     RMSE: 11.20004205174836
     MAE: 7.766769972451789
     R2: 0.7574385288763921
     n_{\text{neighbors}} = 11, p = 2
     RMSE: 11.436955343673555
     MAE: 7.936088154269974
     R2: 0.7470682422625163
[19]: # @title Model Performance Explanation
      wgt_model_performance_explanation = widgets.Textarea(
          value="The best result was achieved with n_neighbors = 2 and p = 1, \square
        eyielding an RMSE of 10.5658. Using n neighbors = 2 allows the model to.
        \hookrightarrowcapture local patterns while reducing noise compared to n_neighbors = 1,\sqcup
       \hookrightarrowwhich may lead to overfitting. The choice of p = 1 (Manhattan Distance)
       \hookrightarrowsuggests that absolute differences between feature values are more effective\sqcup
       ⇔for this dataset.",
          placeholder='<student to fill this section>',
          description='Model Performance Explanation:',
          disabled=False,
          style={'description_width': 'initial'},
          layout=widgets.Layout(height="100%", width="auto")
      wgt_model_performance_explanation
```

MAE: 7.692382154882155

Textarea(value='The best result was achieved with n\_neighbors = 2 and p = 1, $_{\cup}$   $_{\rightarrow}$ yielding an RMSE of 10.5658. Usin...

# [20]: print('Model Performance Explanation:', wgt\_model\_performance\_explanation.value)

Model Performance Explanation: The best result was achieved with n\_neighbors = 2 and p = 1, yielding an RMSE of 10.5658. Using n\_neighbors = 2 allows the model to capture local patterns while reducing noise compared to n\_neighbors = 1, which may lead to overfitting. The choice of p = 1 (Manhattan Distance) suggests that absolute differences between feature values are more effective for this dataset.

### 1.6.5 E.5 Business Impact from Current Model Performance

Provide some analysis on the model impacts from the business point of view

```
[]: # <Student to fill this section>
      y_1 = y_train['rent']
      y_pred = predictions[f"y_pred_{2}_{1}"]
      y_pred = pd.DataFrame(y_pred, columns=['rent_pred'])
      y_2 = y_pred['rent_pred']
      train_set = alt.Chart(pd.DataFrame({'target': y_1, 'preds': y_1})).
       →mark_line(color='green').encode(
          x='target',
          y='preds'
      test_set = alt.Chart(pd.DataFrame({'target': y_1, 'preds': y_2})).mark_line().
       ⊶encode(
          x='target',
          y='preds'
        )
      test_set + train_set
 []: alt.LayerChart(...)
[11]: model_final = KNeighborsRegressor(n_neighbors=2, p=1)
      model_final.fit(X_train, y_train)
      y_pred_final = model_final.predict(X_test)
      mse_final = mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred_final)
      rmse_final = np.sqrt(mse_final)
      mae_final = mean_absolute_error(y_test, y_pred_final)
      r2_final = r2_score(y_test, y_pred_final)
      print(f"RMSE: {rmse_final}")
      print(f"MAE: {mae_final}")
      print(f"R2: {r2_final}")
     RMSE: 22.7831456030172
     MAE: 13.91758443465492
     R2: 0.6065824377689983
[21]: # @title Model Business Impacts Explanation
      wgt_model_business_explanation = widgets.Textarea(
```

Textarea(value='The current K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN) model with n\_neighbors= $2_{\sqcup}$   $\Rightarrow$ and p=1 achieved an RMSE of 22...

```
[22]: print('Model Business Impacts Explanation:', wgt_model_business_explanation.
```

Model Business Impacts Explanation: The current K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN) model with n\_neighbors=2 and p=1 achieved an RMSE of 22.78 and an  $R^2$  of 0.61 on unseen data, indicating moderate error and explaining 61% of the variance. However, the model may be overfitted, as it performed better on the training set. The increase in RMSE and decrease in  $R^2$  on the test set suggests a drop in predictive accuracy, which is common in real-world applications. Despite this, the model provides a solid foundation for predicting rental prices, though further refinement is needed for more accurate predictions.

#### 1.7 F. Experiment Outcomes

```
# @title Experiment Outcomes Explanation

wgt_experiment_outcomes_explanation = widgets.Select(
    options=['Hypothesis Confirmed', 'Hypothesis Partially Confirmed',
    'Hypothesis Rejected'],
    value='Hypothesis Rejected',
    description='Experiment Outcomes:',
    disabled=False,
)

wgt_experiment_outcomes_explanation
```

Select(description='Experiment Outcomes:', index=2, options=('Hypothesis

→Confirmed', 'Hypothesis Partially Con...

# [24]: # @title Experiments Results Explanation wgt\_experiment\_results\_explanation = widgets.Textarea( value="Hypothesis Partially Confirmed. The experiment with different ⊔ ⇔combinations of n neighbors and p showed that smaller values of n neighbors⊔ $_{\hookrightarrow}(\text{such as 2 and 3})$ resulted in lower RMSE, indicating better performance. $_{\sqcup}$ ⇔Specifically, n\_neighbors = 2 and p = 1 produced the lowest RMSE of 10.5658, ⊔ $\hookrightarrow$ suggesting this as the optimal configuration. This indicates that a small $_{\sqcup}$ onumber of neighbors captures local patterns effectively, and Manhattan ⇔Distance (p = 1) outperforms Euclidean Distance (p = 2). As n\_neighbors⊔ ⇔increased, RMSE rose, indicating a shift toward underfitting. Overall, the l $\hookrightarrow$ current KNN model performs well for rental price prediction, but there is $\sqcup$ ⇔room for improvement. The drop in performance from the validation to the i $\hookrightarrow$ test set suggests that further tuning or exploring alternative models could $_{\hookrightarrow}$ be beneficial. From a business perspective, even with the modest error $_{\sqcup}$ ⇔margin, the model's predictions are valuable for strategic decision-making ⊔ $\hookrightarrow$ and can help optimise rental pricing strategies. Future steps could involve $\sqcup$ →exploring new models and features to improve prediction accuracy.", placeholder='<student to fill this section>', description='Experiments Results Explanation:', disabled=False, style={'description width': 'initial'}, layout=widgets.Layout(height="100%", width="auto") wgt\_experiment\_results\_explanation

Textarea(value='Hypothesis Partially Confirmed. The experiment with different  $\rightarrow$  combinations of n\_neighbors and ...

Experiments Results Explanation: Hypothesis Partially Confirmed. The experiment with different combinations of n\_neighbors and p showed that smaller values of n\_neighbors (such as 2 and 3) resulted in lower RMSE, indicating better performance. Specifically, n\_neighbors = 2 and p = 1 produced the lowest RMSE of 10.5658, suggesting this as the optimal configuration. This indicates that a small number of neighbors captures local patterns effectively, and Manhattan Distance (p = 1) outperforms Euclidean Distance (p = 2). As n\_neighbors increased, RMSE rose, indicating a shift toward underfitting. Overall, the current KNN model performs well for rental price prediction, but there is room for improvement. The drop in performance from the validation to the test set suggests that further tuning or exploring alternative models could be beneficial. From a business perspective, even with the modest error margin, the model's predictions are valuable for strategic decision-making and can help optimise rental pricing strategies. Future steps could involve exploring new models and features to improve prediction accuracy.