

Modeling parking demand in San Francisco

Study of how space/time features influence parking behaviors and their implications on planning practice

Bingchu Chen & “Gillian” Xuezhu Zhao
Planning by Numbers | Spring 2021

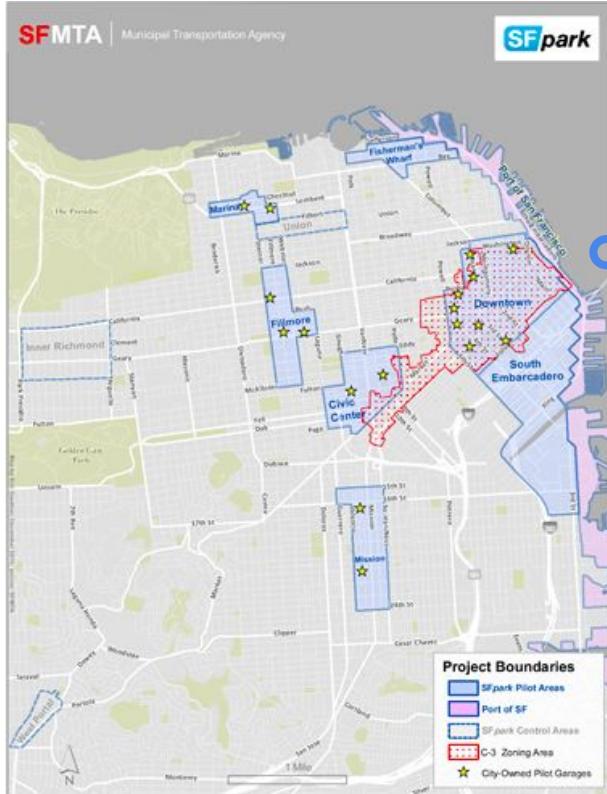


Source: sfmta.com

Parking in SF

28,000 meters

Most enforced from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Monday through Saturday
Except for holidays



Source: Federal Highway Administration

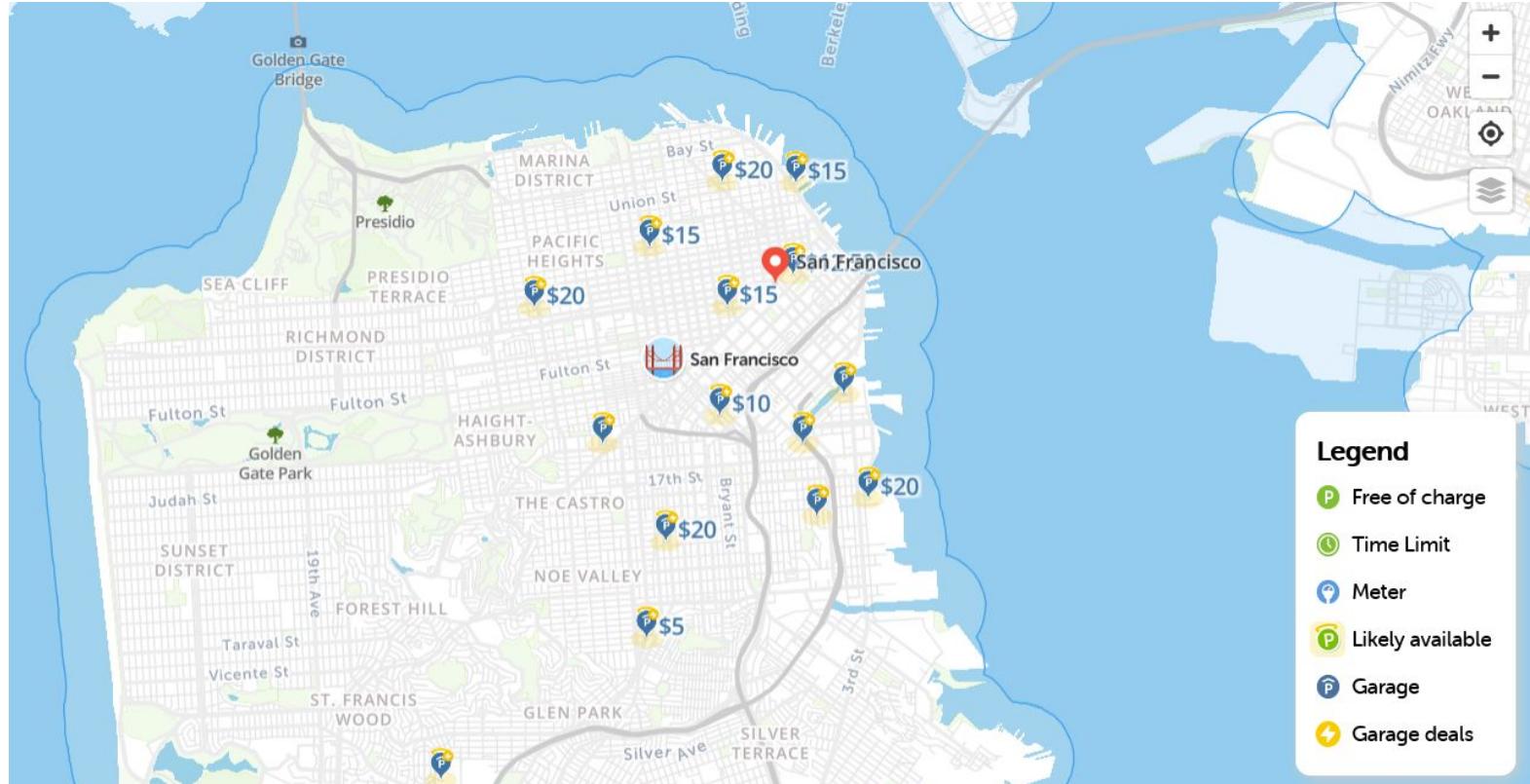
Smart parking Demand-responsive pricing

Aug 2011 SFpark pilot

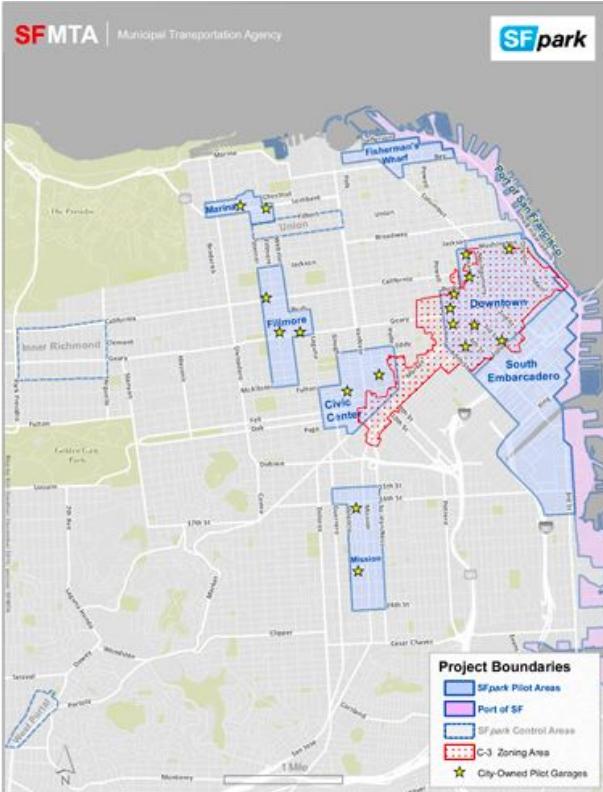
Dec 2017 City-wide program

Encourages people to park in underutilized blocks and garages, helping to open up spaces in busy areas and at busy times

Use case



Source: <https://www.spotangels.com/san-francisco-parking>



Source: Federal Highway Administration; sfmta.com

SFpark evaluation

Increased business for local businesses

Sales tax revenues rose over 35% in SFpark areas during the compared to less than 20% in the other parts of the city.

Lower parking rates

Average meter rates were reduced by 4% (down \$0.11/hour) in SFpark on-street pilot areas.

Decreased parking search time

Reported parking search time went down by 43% under the SFpark pilot.

Decreased daily vehicle miles traveled

Reduced circling for parking led to a 30% decrease in miles traveled in SFpark areas.



Source: San Francisco Travel Association

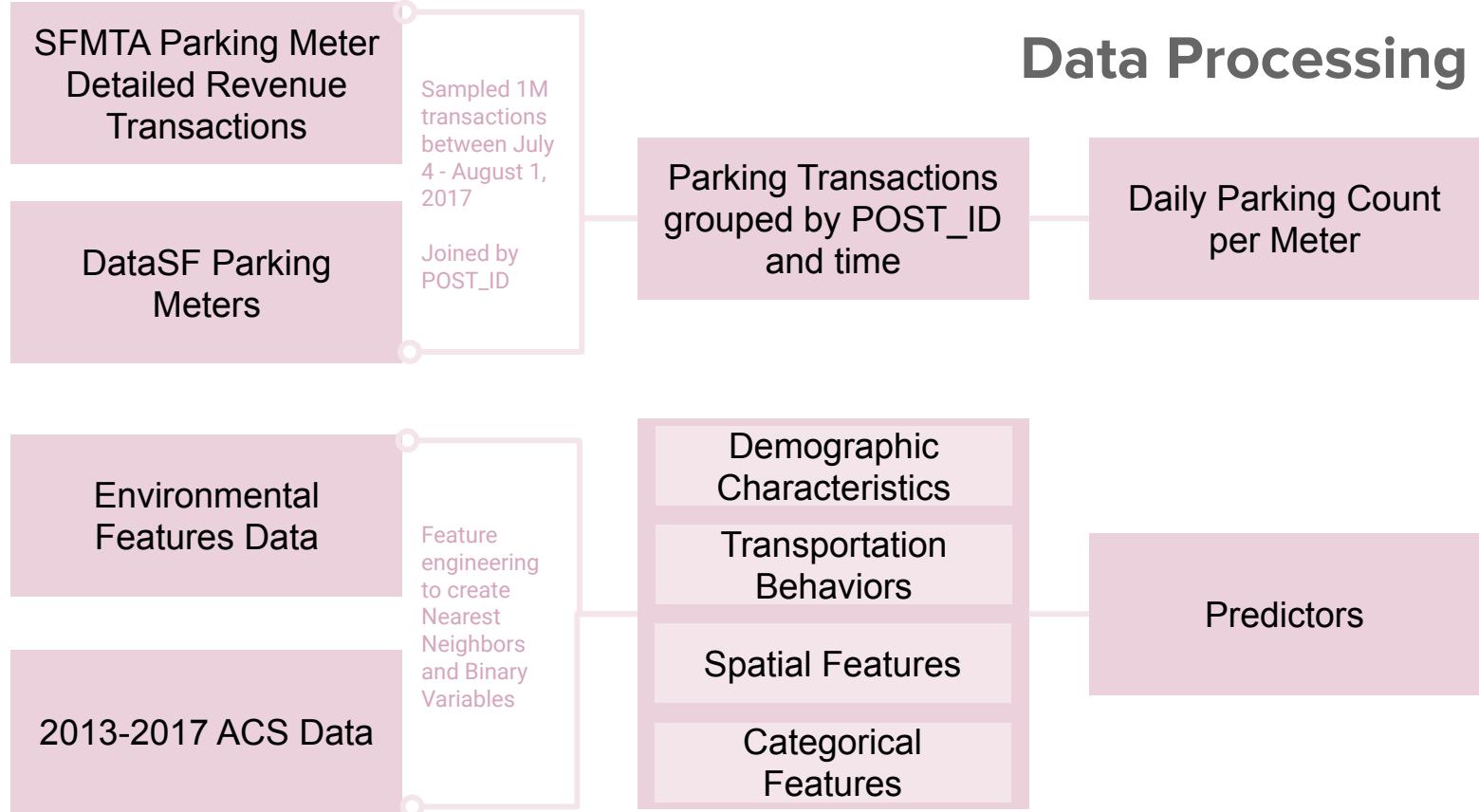
Predict parking demand

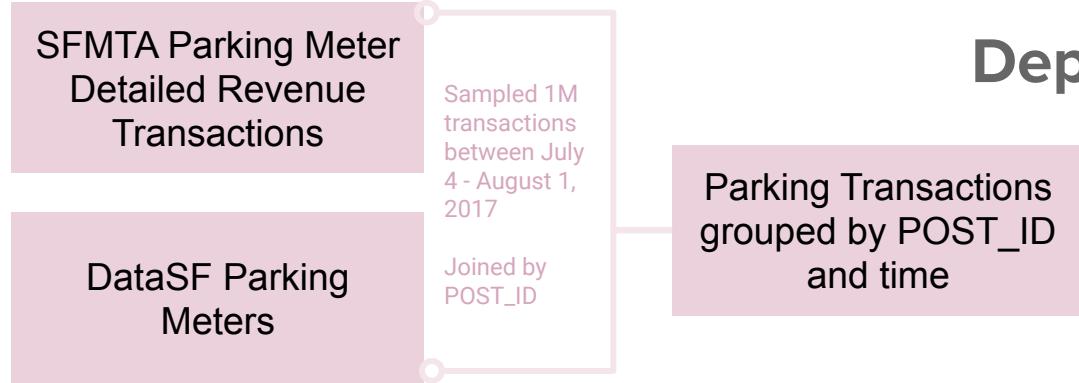
Recognize factors associated with parking demand

- Help other cities identify high-need areas/time periods to implement parking demand management
- Help bottom-up predictions of parking demand and price

Use
case

Pro-
cess





Dependent Variable

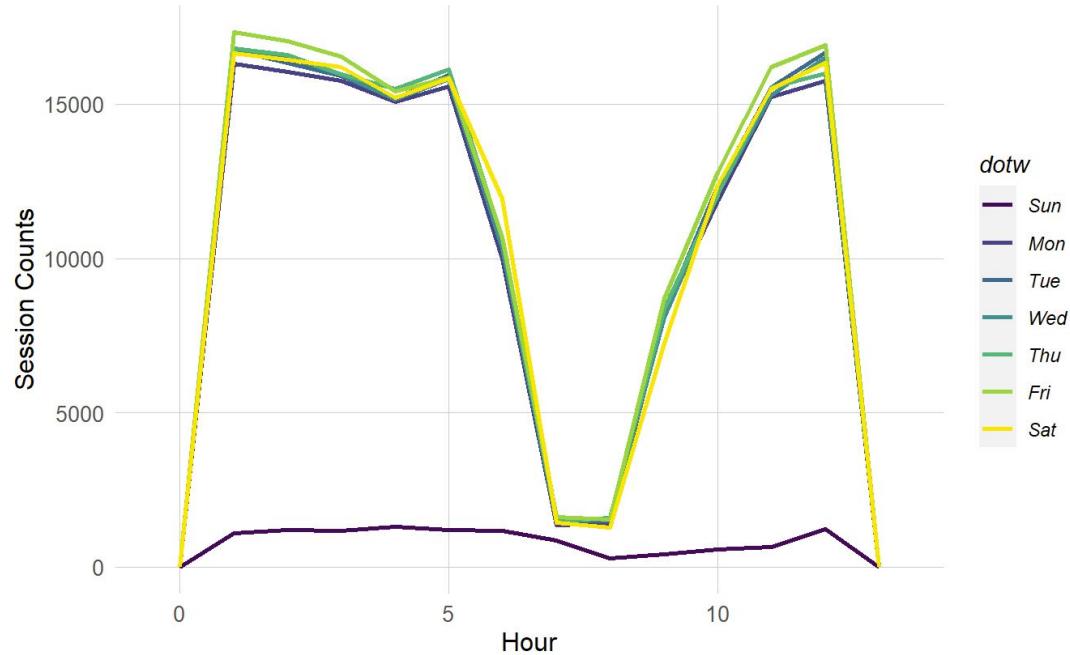
Parking Demand

Time:

Day of the week

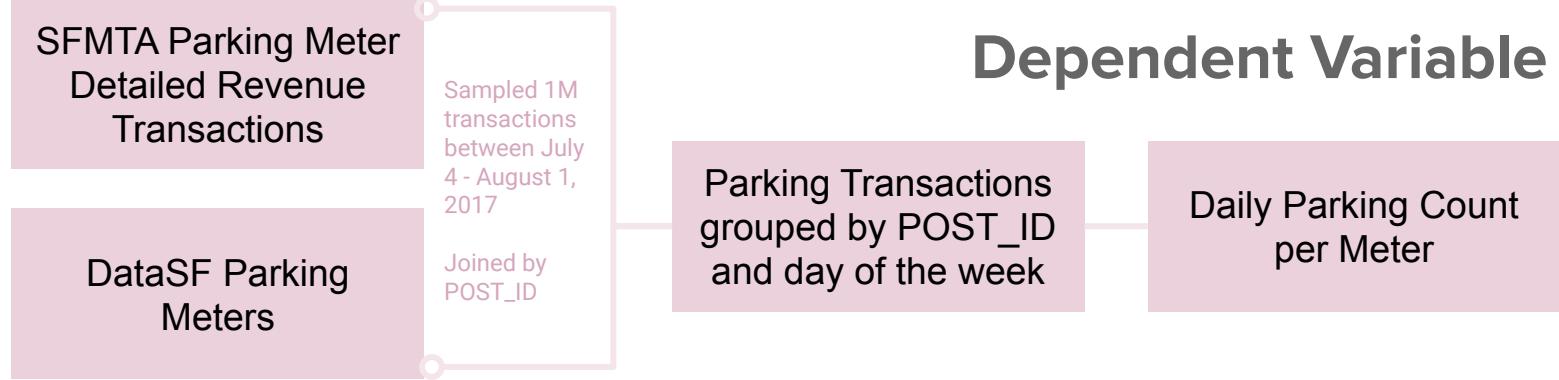
Hour of the day

Parking Sessions by Day of the Week,
San Francisco, July 4 - August 4, 2017



Use
case

Pro-
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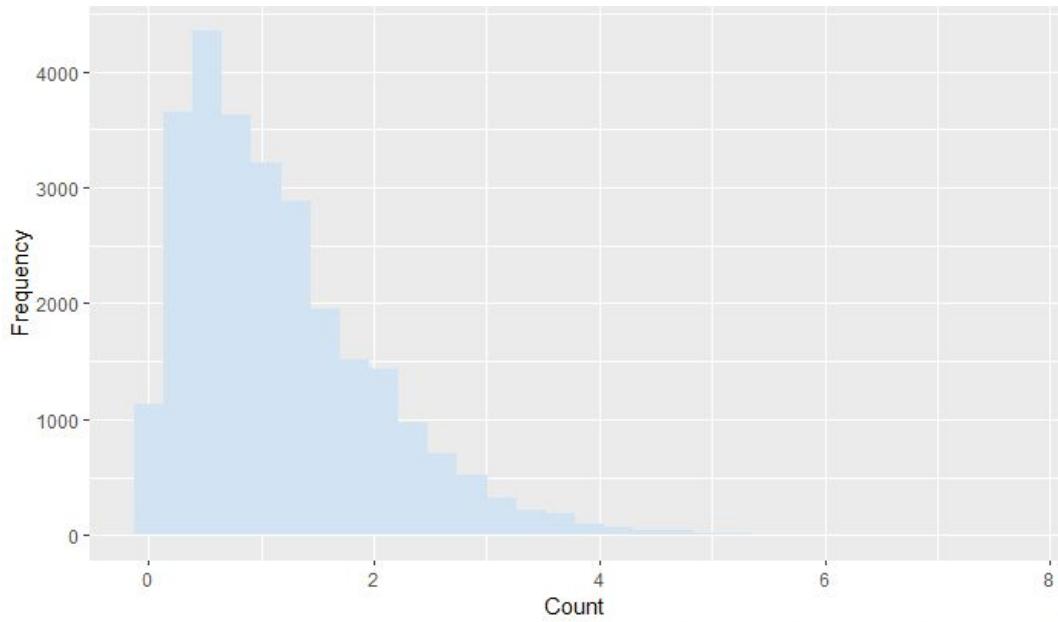


Dependent Variable

Parking Demand

100,000 transactions
26,766 meters

Daily Count of parking
transaction per meter

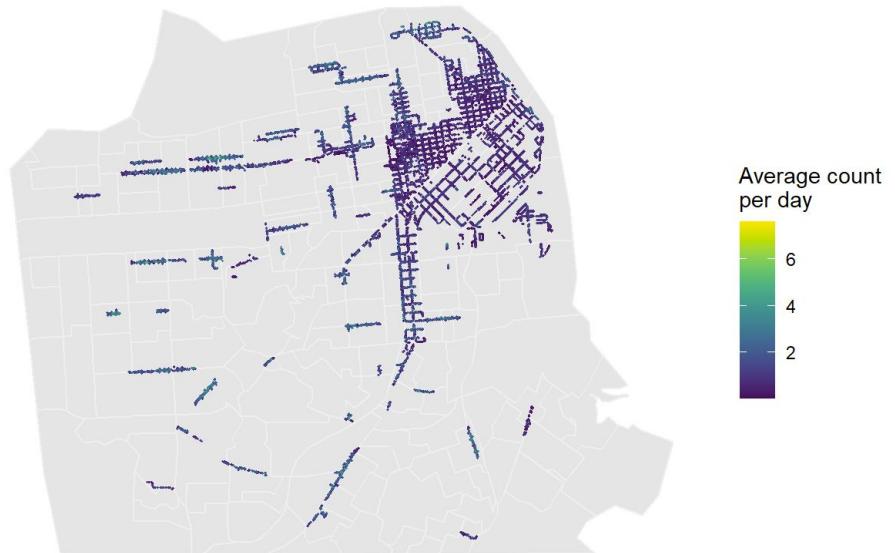


Parking Demand

100,000 transactions
26,766 meters

Daily Count of parking
transaction per meter

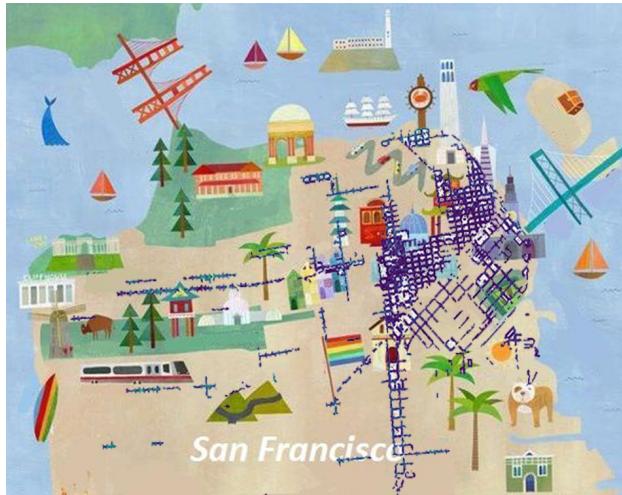
Parking Sessions per day by post,
San Francisco, July 4 - August 4, 2017



Parking Demand

100,000 transactions
26,766 meters

Most meters located near downtown and attractions



Use
case

Pro-
cess

SFMTA Parking Meter
Detailed Revenue
Transactions

Sampled 1M
transactions
between July
4 - August 1,
2017

Joined by
POST_ID

DataSF Parking
Meters

Independent Variable

Parking Transactions
grouped by POST_ID
and day of the week

Daily Parking Count
per Meter

Environmental
Features Data

Demographic
Characteristics

Transportation
Behaviors

Spatial Features

Categorical
Features

Source: <https://data.sfgov.org/>

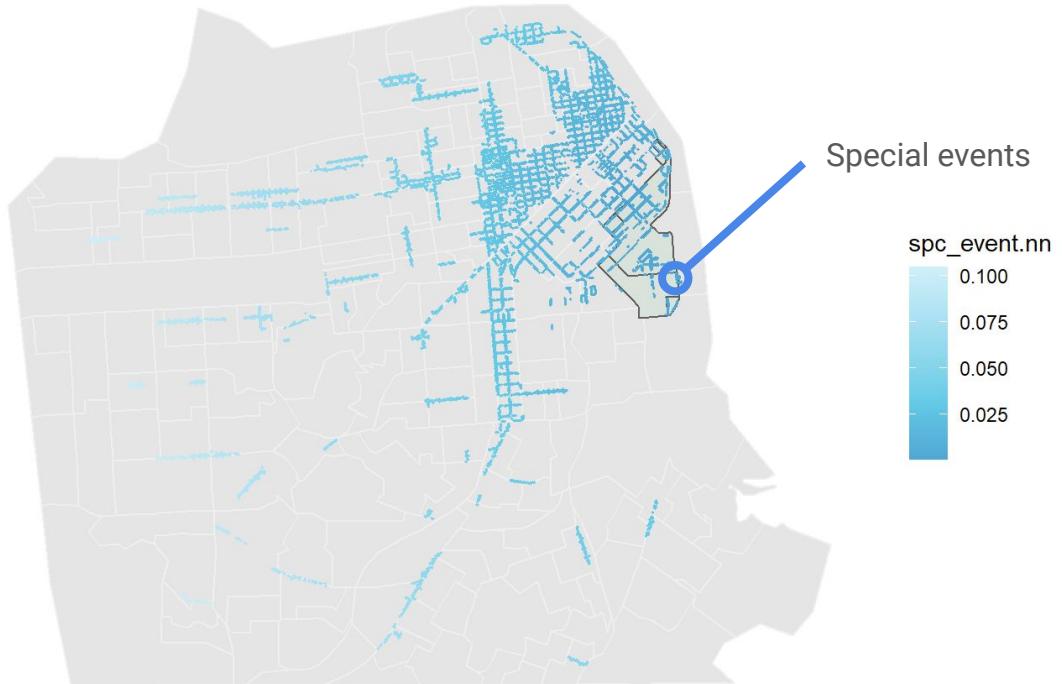
2013-2017 ACS Data

Source: <https://data.census.gov/>

Created
Nearest
Neighbors
and Binary
Variables

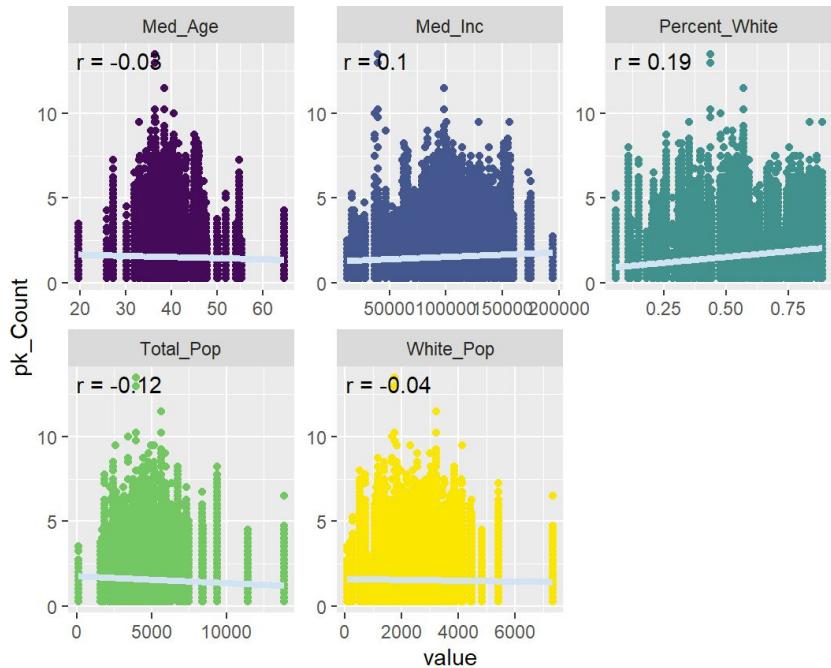
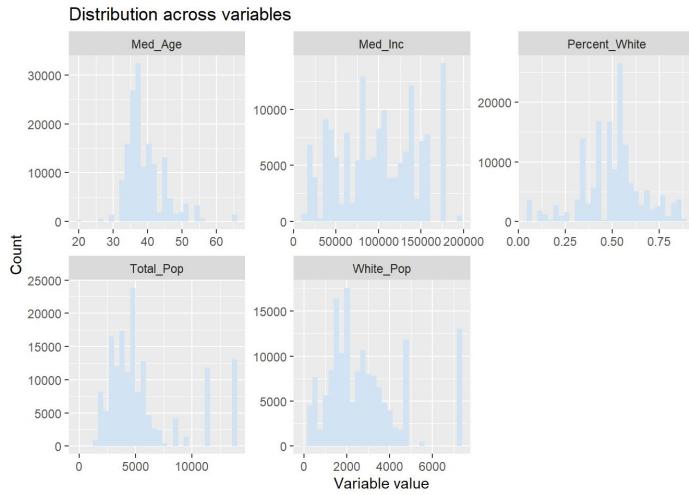
Key Predictor

Distance to
Special Event Locations



Exploratory Analysis

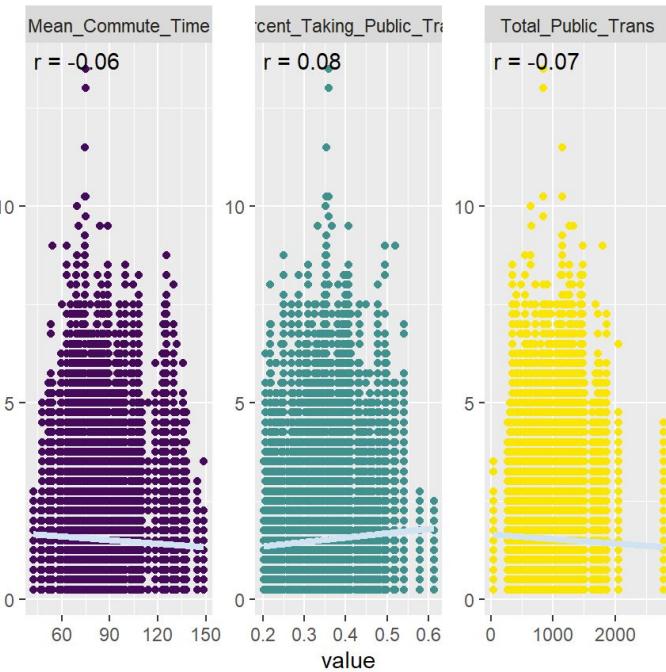
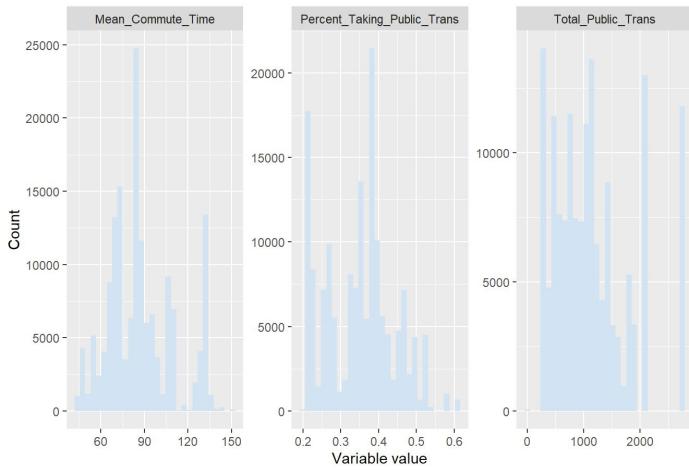
Demographic variables



Exploratory Analysis

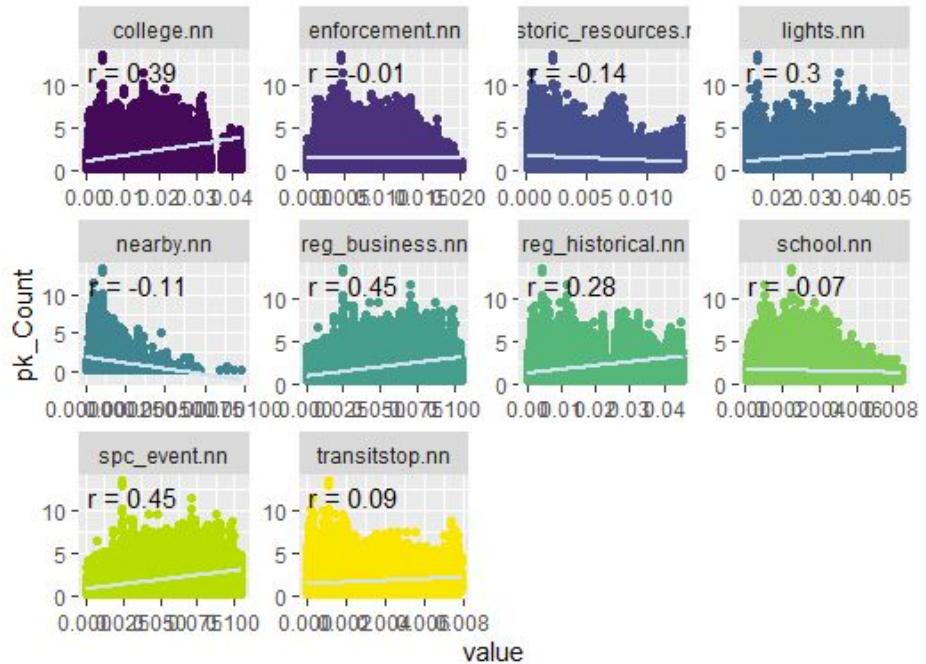
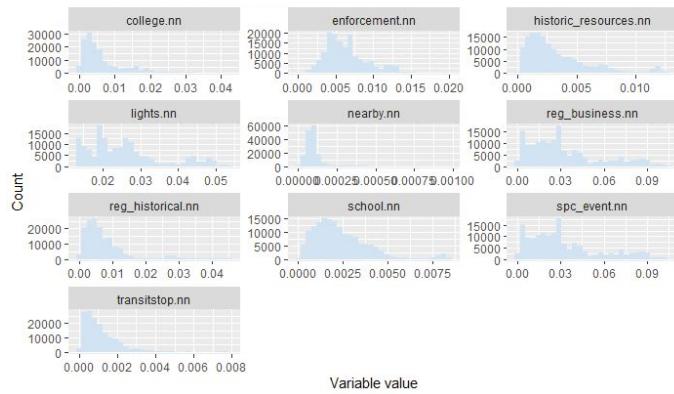
Transportation variables

Distribution across variables



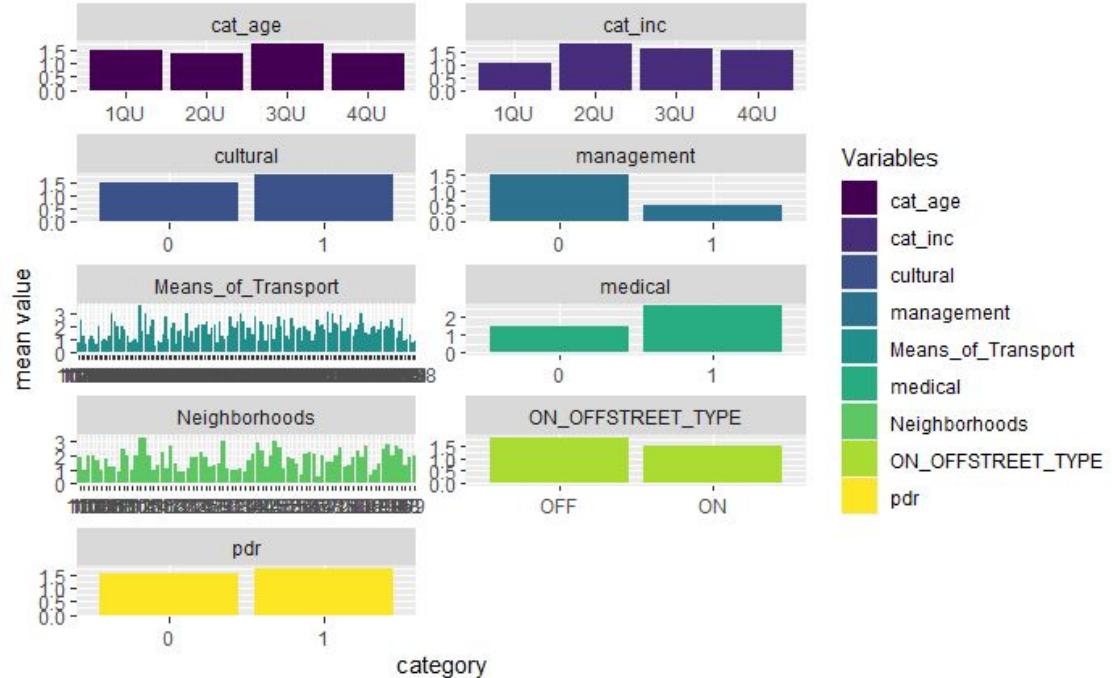
Exploratory Analysis

Distance to nearest neighbors variables



Exploratory Analysis

Categorical features

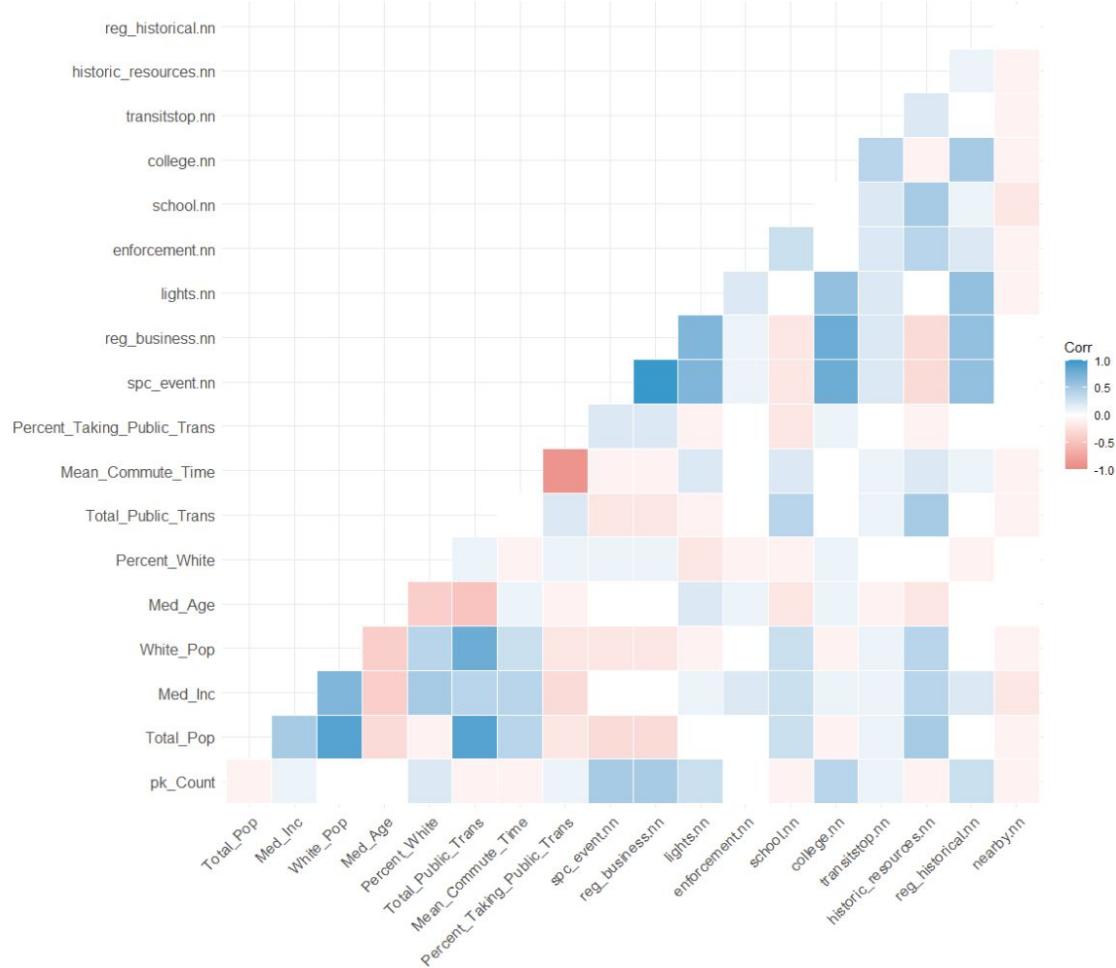


Use
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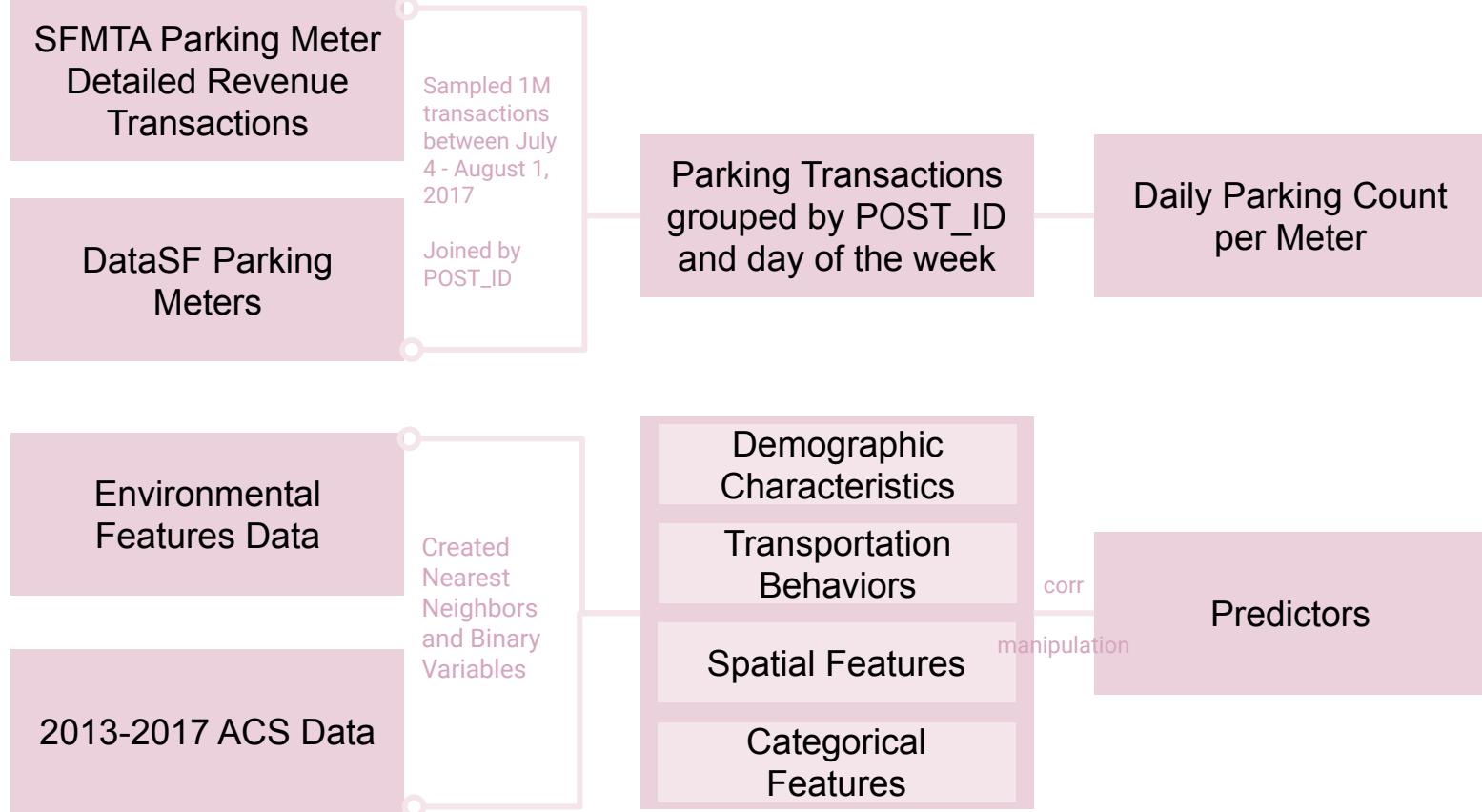
Correlation

Between all continuous
variables



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Final variables

NUMERIC

After removing correlated variables
---->

BINARY (LAND USE)

PDR (Industrial (Production, Distribution, Repair))

Cultural (Cultural, Institutional, Educational)

Medical

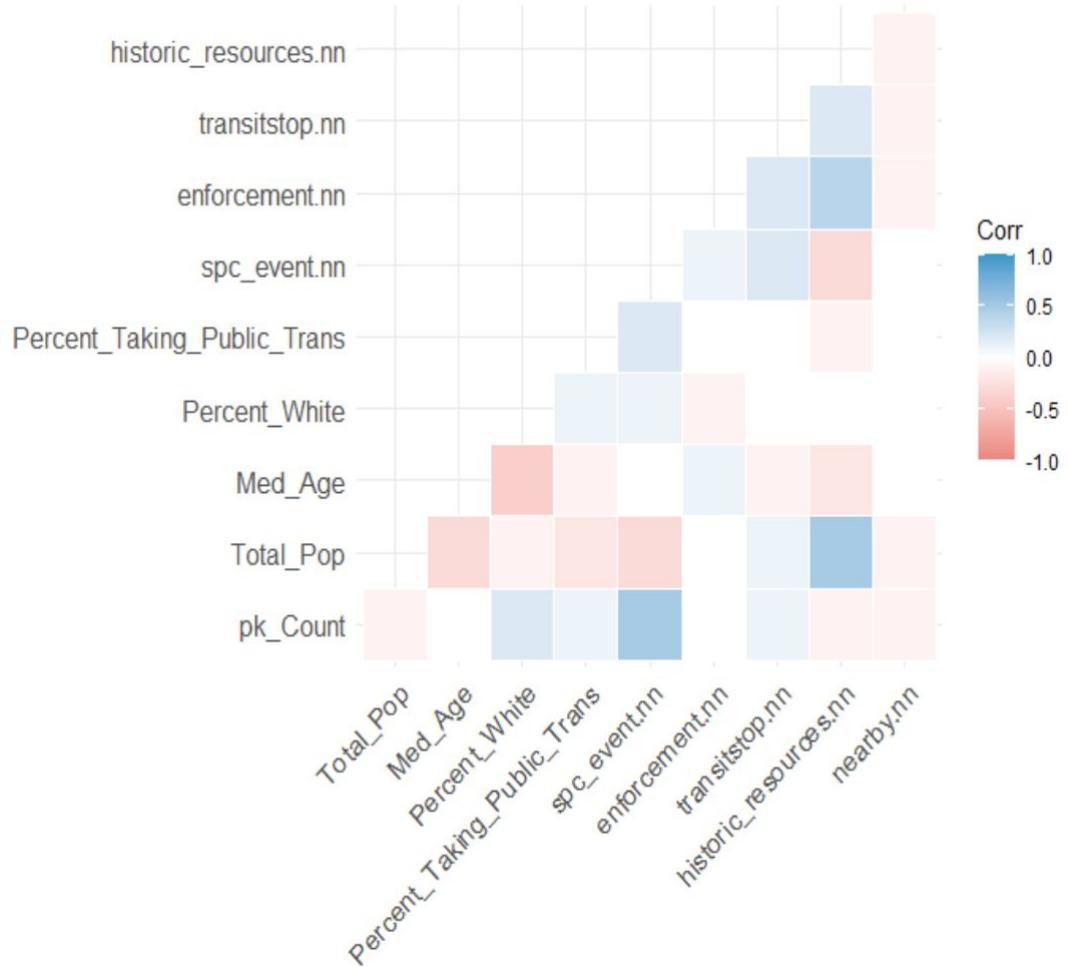
Management (Cultural, Institutional, Educational)

CATEGORICAL

CATEGORICAL

Categorized median household income

Categorized median age



pk_Count ~

- + Total_Pop
- + Percent_White
- + Percent_Taking_Public_Trans
- + spc_event.nn
- + enforcement.nn
- + transitstop.nn
- + historic_resources.nn
- + nearby.nn
- + ON_OFFSTREET_TYPE
- + cat_inc
- + cat_age
- + pdr
- + cultural
- + medical
- + management
- + dotw

Model building

OLS Regression model #1

Predicting daily parking transaction count per each meter

pk_Count ~

- + Total_Pop
- + Percent_White
- + Percent_Taking_Public_Trans
- + spc_event.nn
- + enforcement.nn
- + transitstop.nn
- + historic_resources.nn
- + nearby.nn
- + ON_OFFSETSTREET_TYPE
- + cat_inc
- + cat_age
- + pdfr
- + cultural
- + medical
- + management
- + dotw

Model building

OLS Regression model #2

Predicting daily parking transaction count per each meter

multivariate models				cat_age3QU	(0.009)	0.027***	(0.009)	0.027***
				cat_age4QU	(0.010)	-0.067***	(0.010)	-0.067***
				cultural	(0.054)	0.453***	(0.054)	0.453***
				medical	(0.208)	0.568***	(0.208)	0.567***
				management	(0.454)	-0.458		
Total_Pop		-0.00001*** (0.00000)	-0.00001*** (0.00000)	dotwMon	(0.009)	-0.069***	(0.009)	-0.069***
Percent_White		0.351*** (0.024)	0.351*** (0.024)	dotwSat	(0.009)	0.018**	(0.009)	0.018**
Percent_Taking_Public_Trans		0.081** (0.039)	0.081** (0.039)	dotwSun	(0.020)	-0.547***	(0.020)	-0.547***
spc_event.nn		19.351*** (0.132)	19.351*** (0.132)	dotwThu	(0.009)	-0.040***	(0.009)	-0.040***
enforcement.nn		-32.619*** (1.130)	-32.630*** (1.130)	dotwTue	(0.009)	-0.056***	(0.009)	-0.056***
transitstop.nn		7.121*** (2.617)	7.138*** (2.617)	dotwWed	(0.009)	-0.049***	(0.009)	-0.049***
historic_resources.nn		-15.543*** (1.326)	-15.538*** (1.326)	Constant	(0.030)	1.424***	(0.030)	1.425***
nearby.nn		-2,678.771*** (63.624)	-2,679.260*** (63.622)	Observations		156,523		156,523
ON_OFFSETSTREET_TYPEON		-0.298*** (0.014)	-0.298*** (0.014)	R2	0.248	0.248		
pdr		0.023 (0.049)		Adjusted R2	0.248	0.248		
cat_inc2QU		0.151*** (0.010)	0.151*** (0.010)	Residual Std. Error	1.015 (df = 156497)	1.015 (df = 156499)		
cat_inc3QU		0.282*** (0.010)	0.282*** (0.010)	F Statistic	2,069.943*** (df = 25; 156497)	2,249.896*** (df = 23; 156499)		
cat_inc4QU		0.352*** (0.013)	0.352*** (0.013)	Note:	*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01			
cat_age2QU		-0.125*** (0.008)	-0.125*** (0.008)					

Coefficients:	Estimate	Pr(> t)
(Intercept)	1.425e+00	< 2e-16 ***
Total_Pop	-1.155e-05	< 2e-16 ***
Percent_White	3.514e-01	< 2e-16 ***
Percent_Taking_Public_Trans	8.074e-02	0.03940 *
spc_event.nn	1.935e+01	< 2e-16 ***
enforcement.nn	-3.263e+01	< 2e-16 ***
transitstop.nn	7.138e+00	0.00637 **
historic_resources.nn	-1.554e+01	< 2e-16 ***
nearby.nn	-2.679e+03	< 2e-16 ***
ON_OFFSTREET_TYPE	-2.981e-01	< 2e-16 ***
cat_inc2QU	1.505e-01	< 2e-16 ***
cat_inc3QU	2.815e-01	< 2e-16 ***
cat_inc4QU	3.523e-01	< 2e-16 ***
cat_age2QU	-1.253e-01	< 2e-16 ***
cat_age3QU	2.680e-02	0.00222 **
cat_age4QU	-6.707e-02	7.58e-12 ***
cultural	4.530e-01	< 2e-16 ***
medical	5.673e-01	0.00630 **
dotwMon	-6.881e-02	1.54e-14 ***
dotwSat	1.793e-02	0.04814 *
dotwSun	-5.469e-01	< 2e-16 ***
dotwThu	-3.982e-02	8.31e-06 ***
dotwTue	-5.618e-02	3.02e-10 ***
dotwWed	-4.905e-02	3.93e-08 ***

Interpretation

Continuous variables

↑ 1% white population	↑ 0.35 count
↑ 1m distance to nearest special event	↑ 19.35 count
↑ 1m distance to nearest transit stops	↑ 7.14 count
↑ 1m distance to nearest historic resources	↓ 15.54 count
↑ 1 m distance to enforcement	↓ 32.63 count
↑ 1 m distance to nearest meter	↓ 2679 count

Categorical variables

Higher the income, higher the parking demand
 Areas with a median age around 35 have the highest parking demand
 Medical land use has 0.56 higher parking demand compared with non-medical land use, controlling all other variables.

Use
case

Pro-
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OLS

Interpretation

Total Population by Tract



Use
case

Pro-
cess

OLS

OLS Regression model

Predicting daily parking
transaction count per each
meter

Model Result



pk_Count ~

- + Total_Pop
- + Percent_White
- + Percent_Taking_Public_Trans
- + spc_event.nn
- + enforcement.nn
- + transitstop.nn
- + historic_resources.nn
- + nearby.nn
- + ON_OFFSTREET_TYPE
- + cat_inc
- + cat_age
- + pdr
- + cultural
- + medical
- + management
- + dotw

Model building

Binomial Regression model #1

Predicting high-demand meters

pk_Count ~

- + Total_Pop
- + Percent_White
- + Percent_Taking_Public_Trans
- + spc_event.nn
- + enforcement.nn
- + transitstop.nn
- + historic_resources.nn
- + nearby.nn
- + ON_OFFSETSTREET_TYPE
- + cat_inc
- + cat_age
- + pdfr
- + cultural
- + medical
- + management
- + dotw

Model building

Binomial Regression model #2

Predicting high-demand meters

Model comparison

binomial models			
Dependent variable:			
	as.factor(highDemand)		
	(1)	(2)	
Total_Pop	-0.00004*** (0.00000)	-0.00004*** (0.00000)	
Percent_White		1.095*** (0.055)	1.094*** (0.055)
Percent_Taking_Public_Trans		0.045 (0.089)	0.045 (0.089)
spc_event.nn		30.981*** (0.293)	30.983*** (0.293)
enforcement.nn		-55.699*** (2.493)	-55.670*** (2.493)
transitstop.nn		-20.724*** (5.694)	-20.710*** (5.694)
historic_resources.nn		-42.308*** (3.034)	-42.250*** (3.034)
nearby.nn		-4,947.835*** (164.276)	-4,948.238*** (164.270)
ON_OFFSTREET_TYPEON		-0.200*** (0.034)	-0.198*** (0.034)
pdr		-0.079 (0.116)	
cat_inc2QU		0.385*** (0.021)	0.385*** (0.021)
cat_inc3QU		0.524*** (0.023)	0.523*** (0.023)
cat_inc4QU		0.588*** (0.029)	0.588*** (0.029)
cat_age2QU		-0.257*** (0.018)	-0.256*** (0.018)
cat_age3QU			0.021 (0.019)
cat_age4QU			-0.199*** (0.022)
cultural			1.389*** (0.123)
medical			11.287 (40.059)
management			-9.951 (88.038)
dotwMon			-0.158*** (0.020)
dotwSat			0.091*** (0.020)
dotwSun			-0.991*** (0.054)
dotwThu			-0.052*** (0.020)
dotwTue			-0.088*** (0.020)
dotwWed			-0.091*** (0.020)
Constant			-1.046*** (0.069)
Observations			156,523
Log Likelihood			-86,602.930
Akaike Inf. Crit.			-86,604.070
173,257.900			173,256.100

Note: *p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

Use
case

Pro-
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OLS

Bino-
mial

Model Result

Binomial Regression model

Predicting high-demand meters



Confusion Matrix and Statistics

Reference	0	1
Prediction	0 67728 14761	1 31786 42248

Accuracy : 0.7026
95% CI : (0.7003, 0.7049)
No Information Rate : 0.6358
P-Value [Acc > NIR] : < 2.2e-16

Kappa : 0.3964

Mcnemar's Test P-Value : < 2.2e-16

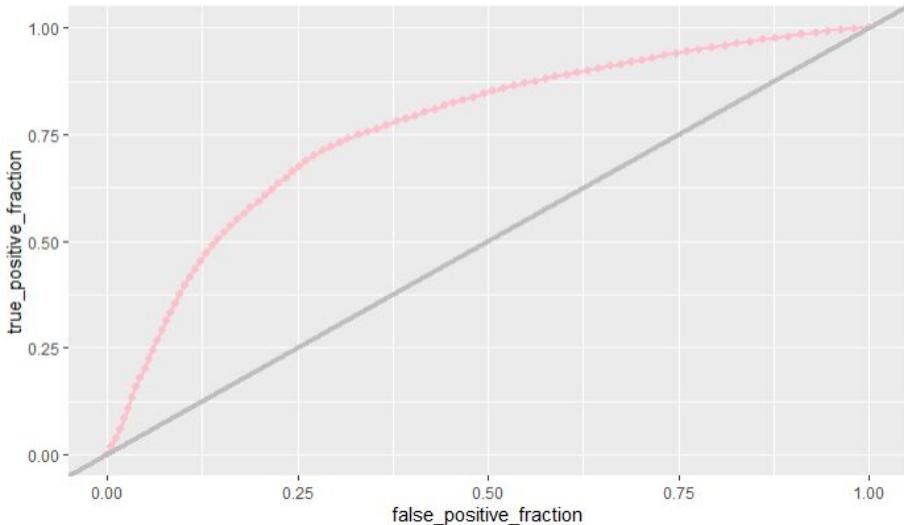
Sensitivity : 0.7411
Specificity : 0.6806
Pos Pred Value : 0.5707
Neg Pred Value : 0.8211
Prevalence : 0.3642
Detection Rate : 0.2699
Detection Prevalence : 0.4730
Balanced Accuracy : 0.7108

'Positive' Class : 1

Area under the curve: 0.763

Evaluation

ROC Curve



Interpretation

```
```{r}  
exp(coef(binomialModel1))
```

(Intercept)	Total_Pop	Percent_White	Percent_Taking_Public_Trans	spc_event.nn
3.506330e-01	9.999626e-01	2.986430e+00	1.045560e+00	2.855971e+13
enforcement.nn	transitstop.nn	historic_resources.nn	nearby.nn	ON_OFFSETSTREET_TYPEON
6.653378e-25	1.013361e-09	4.477626e-19	0.000000e+00	8.201234e-01
cat_inc2QU	cat_inc3QU	cat_inc4QU	cat_age2QU	cat_age3QU
1.469125e+00	1.687805e+00	1.799545e+00	7.739358e-01	1.020961e+00
cat_age4QU	cultural	medical	dotwMon	dotwSat
8.198126e-01	4.013164e+00	7.985880e+04	8.537268e-01	1.094900e+00
dotwSun	dotwThu	dotwTue	dotwWed	
3.711858e-01	9.489124e-01	9.153746e-01	9.133831e-01	

## Continuous variables

- |                                        |                                     |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ↑ 1% total population                  | ↑ 89.9% odds of high demand         |
| ↑ 1% white population                  | ↑ 198% odds of high demand          |
| ↑ 1% population taking public transit  | ↑ 4.56% odds of high demand         |
| ↑ 1m distance to nearest special event | ↑ 2.855971e+15% odds of high demand |

## Categorical variables

Higher the income, higher the odds of high demand

Areas with a median age around 35 , the highest parking demand

Cultural land use has 300% odds of being high demand compared with non-cultural land use, controlling all other variables.

# Findings

	A: y=OLS B: y=binomial		cat_age3QU	(0.01) 0.03 ** (0.01)	(0.02) 0.02 (0.02)
(Intercept)	1.42 *** (0.03)	-1.05 *** (0.07)	cat_age4QU	-0.07 *** (0.01)	-0.20 *** (0.02)
Total_Pop	-0.00 *** (0.00)	-0.00 *** (0.00)	cultural	0.45 *** (0.05)	1.39 *** (0.12)
Percent_White	0.35 *** (0.02)	1.09 *** (0.05)	medical	0.57 ** (0.21)	11.29 (40.06)
Percent_Taking_Public_Trans	0.08 * (0.04)	0.04 (0.09)	dotwMon	-0.07 *** (0.01)	-0.16 *** (0.02)
spc_event.nn	19.35 *** (0.13)	30.98 *** (0.29)	dotwSat	0.02 * (0.01)	0.09 *** (0.02)
enforcement.nn	-32.63 *** (1.13)	-55.67 *** (2.49)	dotwSun	-0.55 *** (0.02)	-0.99 *** (0.05)
transitstop.nn	7.14 ** (2.62)	-20.71 *** (5.69)	dotwThu	-0.04 *** (0.01)	-0.05 ** (0.02)
historic_resources.nn	-15.54 *** (1.33)	-42.25 *** (3.03)	dotwTue	-0.06 *** (0.01)	-0.09 *** (0.02)
nearby.nn	-2679.26 *** (63.62)	-4948.24 *** (164.27)	dotwWed	-0.05 *** (0.01)	-0.09 *** (0.02)
ON_OFFSTREET_TYPEON	-0.30 *** (0.01)	-0.20 *** (0.03)	N	156523	156523
cat_inc2QU	0.15 *** (0.01)	0.38 *** (0.02)	R2	0.25	
cat_inc3QU	0.28 *** (0.01)	0.52 *** (0.02)	adj.R2	0.25	
cat_inc4QU	0.35 *** (0.01)	0.59 *** (0.03)	F_test	2249.90	
cat_age2QU	-0.13 *** (0.01)	-0.26 *** (0.02)			

Model Comparison Table



## Findings

The closer to tourist attractions the lower the demand. This might suggest that the Smart Meters method is working in curbing the demand as the prices there are usually higher.

Demand for parking on Sunday is significantly lower.

The ratio of white population in the area is highly associated with its odd of being a high parking demand area.

Higher the median household income, higher the odds of high parking demand in the area.

Lands that are identified as Cultural (Cultural, Institutional, Educational) and Medical show a distinct higher association with parking demand compared with other land uses.



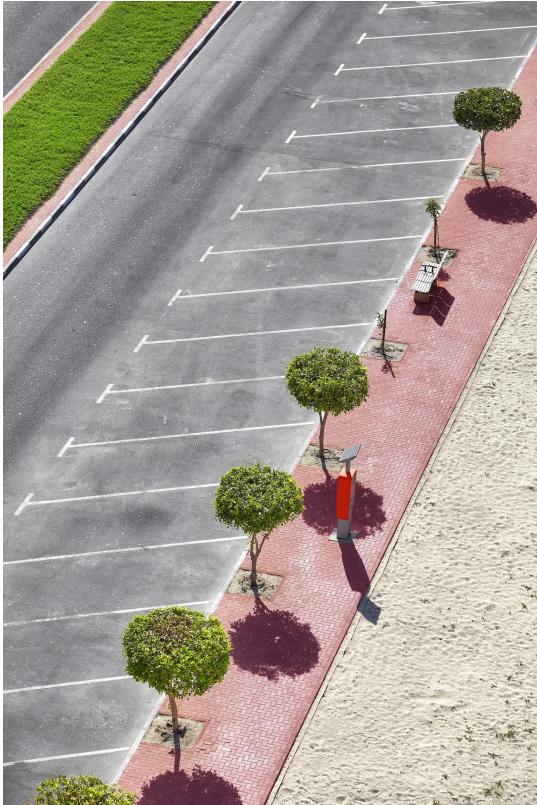
## Discussion

- Low goodness of fit suggest room for influence from other features
  - ◆ such as time of the day and whether the meters are demand-responsive smart meters.
- OLS and binomial
  - ◆ IV's association with parking count does not necessarily align with their association with the odds of high parking demand.
  - ◆ For example, the distance to the nearest historical resources and to the parking enforcement instances are negatively associated with the parking counts but positively associated with the odds of high parking demand.
  - ◆ This may be caused by the limited parking space in these areas, which could indicate the demand of adding new meters.



## Next steps

- Shorter time intervals
- Compare between years
- Map out the spatial and temporal mean absolute error (MAE) to identify areas with the highest error and find new variables to narrow the error



# Modeling parking demand in San Francisco

Thank you for watching!

Please visit our github repo to see the R code  
→ <https://github.com/gxzhao1/parkingSF>

Bingchu Chen & “Gillian” Xuezhu Zhao  
Planning by Numbers | Spring 2021