

Data Wrangling: D.C. housing dataset

What kind of cleaning steps did you perform?

- I combined the bathroom and half-bathroom columns into one column.
- I removed a column "Unnamed" which was equivalent to the index.
- I removed "State" and "City" because values were identical for each sale.
- I removed "Fulladdress" because we had "latitude" and "longitude" columns, and missing data would be difficult to fill accurately.
- I removed "Nationalgrid" because we had "latitude" and "longitude" columns.

Were there outliers, and how did you handle them?

*I removed outliers before NaNs because I used the data to make predictions to fill NaN values.

- Specific outliers:
 - Stories: 250, 275, 826
 - Year remodeled: 20
- Numerical data:
 - Didn't remove values outside of $Q1 - 1.5IQR$ or $Q3 + 1.5IQR$ for most columns because the data was reasonable.
 - For GBA and LIVING_GBA, I removed outliers according to technique above. It is likely that extreme values in other numerical categories were associated with higher GBA (gross building area).
 - For LANDAREA and PRICE, the data was skewed right. I used fences at $Q1 - 1.5IQR$ or $Q3 + 2.5IQR$ to keep some of the higher values, keeping with the nature of the data.
- Categorical data:
 - All categories and distributions seemed reasonable.

How did you deal with missing values, if any?

- Numerical data:
 - Sorted data by location (x/y coordinates).
 - Rolling mean with window of 500 so that no column had more than 1% missing data.
 - Dropped remaining rows.
- Categorical data:
 - Grouped variables by neighborhood.
 - Replaced NaN values with the mode of that column in that neighborhood.
- Price:
 - removed all observation with missing price, since the goal of the project is to predict price.