Project proposal

Predicting the rate of Vrbo rental

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Introduction

Vacation Rentals by Owner (Vrbo) is a website that provides an interface for booking properties from owners. Guests can search for a specific location, rent rate, type of property, amenities, attractions, feedback left by other guests etc. Property owners use the website for listing properties that they would like to rent out. #listing their rental properties.

Questions

Is it possible to estimate a property overnight rental rate based on information listed on Vrbo website? What variables have the most impact on the rental rate?

Next level of questions requires additional data and models to be built. How does VRBP compare to its's competitor Airbnb? Does the property value correlate with the rental rate?

MVP

Minimum Viable Product for the project is a linear regression model built on data scraped from the VRBO website.

Data

Source - Vrbo.com. Properties listed for booking in Seattle, WA. Target - overnight rental rate. Variables - area (sq ft), neighborhood, property type, number of bedrooms, number of guests, review rate, number of reviews, coordinates, zip code.

Source - airbnb.com. Properties listed for booking in Seattle, WA. Similar variables.

Source - zillow.com. Property values.

Conslusions

The results could help with future selection of Vrbo and/or Airbnb listings for booking a stay as well as with estimating an overnight rate for owners who are about to rent out their property.