A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide consisting of two overlapping parallelograms. The front one is blue and the back one is a light greenish-blue. They are positioned diagonally, with the blue one partially covering the green one.

Model: Estimating Housing Prices Across the US

Kenneth Truong



Background

- New graduates from college tend to look for jobs in very aggressive and popular job markets
- The housing prices at these job markets tend to be more than they can afford.



Deliverables:

- Predict bedroom prices using income, population size, and state data using Zillow Data.
- Provide list/data of least affordable/most affordable places in the US.



Beneficiaries:

- Job seekers looking for job markets/areas that are more affordable
- Real estate developers looking to develop housing in up and coming areas.
- Congressmen who want to pass legislation to make housing more affordable.



Data Wrangling

- Load datasets and Create DataFrames
 - Used `pd.read_csv` to load 4 datasets
- Check DataFrames
- Select necessary columns
 - Retained 2015 and 2019 data in bedroom sets and all of income set



Data Wrangling(cont.)

- Melt DataFrames
 - Used `pd.melt` to have all of 2019 and 2015 months under one column.
 - Grouped all of them and took the mean to get one yearly value.
- Merge DataFrames
 - Merged 2015 and 2019 versions of datasets together.
 - Then all of the bedroom sets and income sets.
- Treat NaN values
 - Using OLS function, get coefficients from 2019 set to fill 2015 NaN sets.
 - Then use same OLS function on different bedroom sets to fill non-corresponding values.



Data Wrangling(cont.)

- Feature engineering:
 - Created new column which coded the States numerically to compare them.
 - Also created Price/Income Ratios of different bedroom rent prices.



Least Affordable/Most Affordable Counties

Least Affordable:

1. San Francisco County, California
0.517221
2. Queens County, New York
0.472453
3. Suffolk County, Massachusetts
0.458542
4. Miami-Dade County, Florida
0.444621
5. Orleans Parish, Louisiana
0.431616

Most Affordable:

1. Johnson County, Missouri
0.093180
2. Allen County, Indiana
0.090751
3. Coryell County, Texas
0.090472
4. Hardin County, Kentucky
0.088275
5. Cole County, Missouri
0.076014

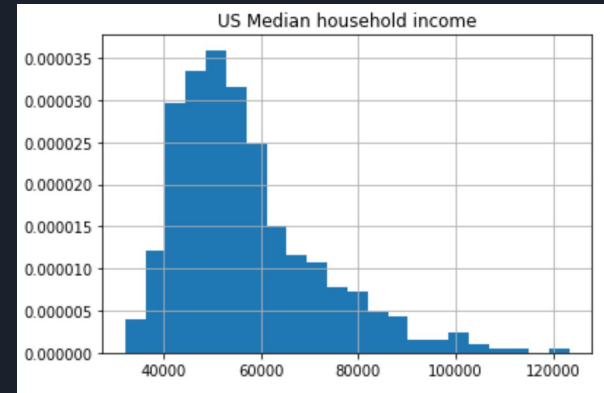
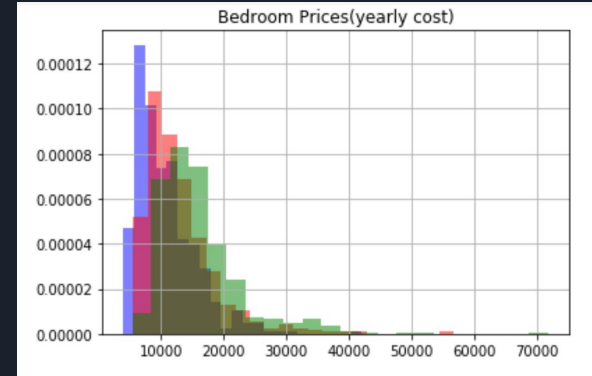


Checking collinearity and correlation between variables

- OLS function provided R^2 values between different variables
- Also used the pearsonr function to hypothesis test for correlation
- Conclusion: While income and population were correlated with bedroom price, the R^2 were not high.

Checking Normality of Data:

- Plotted histograms of the data
- Tested normality using Chi-Square Tests.
- Conclusion: Data is not normally distributed.





Models Used

- Linear Regression
 - Predicts linearly correlated variables together
- Random Forest Regressor
 - More robust
 - More accurate



Linear Regression

- Split into training and testing sets (80%/20%)
- Trained on the training set and tested on the 20%
- Result: R^2 : 0.261



Random Forest Regressor

- Split into training and testing set (80%/20%)
- Trained with GridSearchCV with the following Hyperparameters:
 - Cross-validation: 3
 - Max_depth: `list(range(1,20))`
 - N_estimators: `list(range(1,20))`
 - Max_features: `list(range(1,3))`
- Tested on 20% data
- Result: R^2 : 0.535