Advanced Regression Techniques To Predict Housing Prices

By

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The Business Problem



Current User State: Inexperienced home buyers can be limited in resources to accurately predict its true value

- Real Estate Agents
- Houses in close proximity
- Online information



The Goal: create a tool that can accurately predict the price of homes based off of the most important features



Benefit: An accurate model will allow home buyers to identify undervalued homes and save more money overall

The Data

- Kaggle DataSet(https://www.kaggle.com/c/house-prices-advanced-regression-techniques/data)
- 1,460 homes in Ames, Iowa
- 81 explanatory variables for almost every home
- Categorical and numerical data features
- 6,965 null values

Frame The Problem

01

SUPERVISED LEARNING TASK-

WE KNOW THE
OUTCOME (EACH
INSTANCE COMES WITH
HOUSE PRICES)

02

MULTIPLE REGRESSION-

MULTIPLE
ATTRIBUTES/FEATURESUSES MULTIPLE
FEATURES TO MAKE
THE PREDICTION

03

UNIVARIATE REGRESSION-

WE ARE ONLY TRYING
TO PREDICT ONE
OUTCOME

04

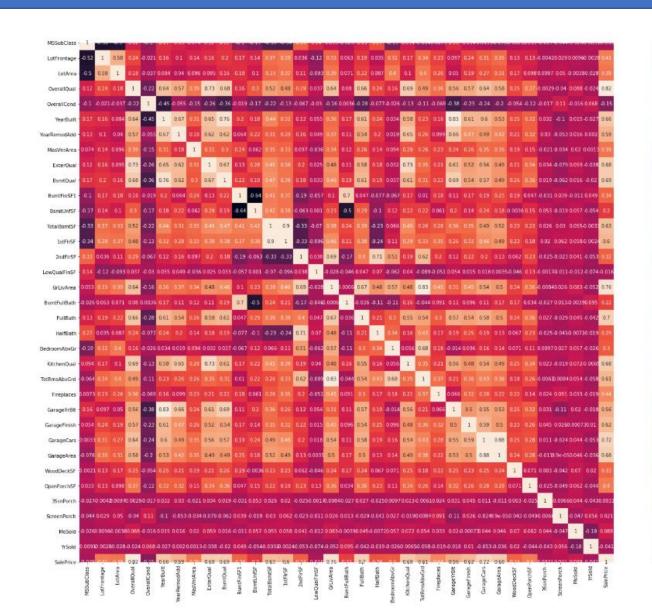
BATCH LEARNING

BECAUSE IT IS SMALL ENOUGH TO FIT INTO LOCAL MEMORY

Ordinary Least Squares Multiple Regression

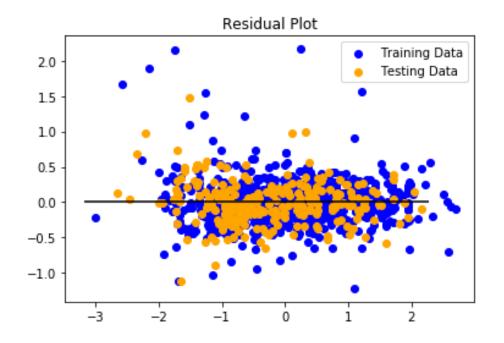
Goal: Minimize the sum of square differences between observed and predicted values

- Normalized the price feature with the natural log (originally skewed right)
- Eliminated all categorical data and initially focused on numeric
 - Median()
 - Mean()
- Testing score was in the mid 80's
- Used seaborn correlation heat map to eliminate clear, uncorrelated features



Exploring The Data

- Converted categorical data to numeric and included the highest correlated features in the model
- Resulted in 33 features and 91.3% testing accuracy
- Utilized recursive feature elimination to find the optimal number of features
 - Resulted in 13 features
 - However, when those features were used and tested, the accuracy of the testing model dropped

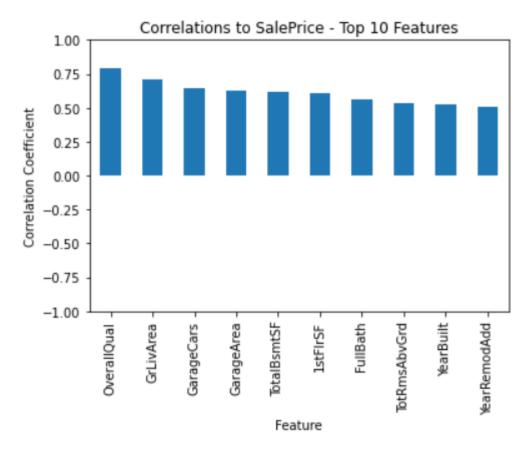


Mean Squared Error: 0.0945, R2: 0.9128

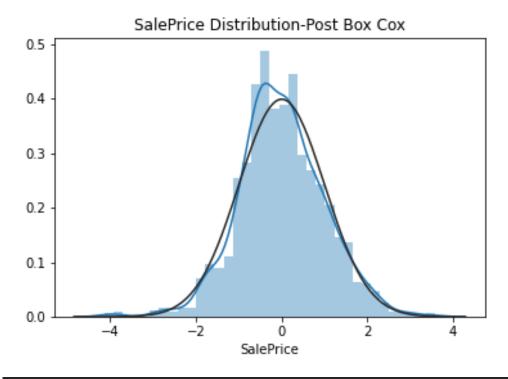
Training Model Score: 90.0% Testing Model Score: 91.3%

Nate-Lasso Regression

• I first wanted to review all the numerical features and their correlation to SalePrice. This provided me with the features that I will use for the train set.



- After cleaning data, I looked to make sure the data followed a normal distribution. It was not.
 - I used a box-cox to transform the data to a normal distribution.



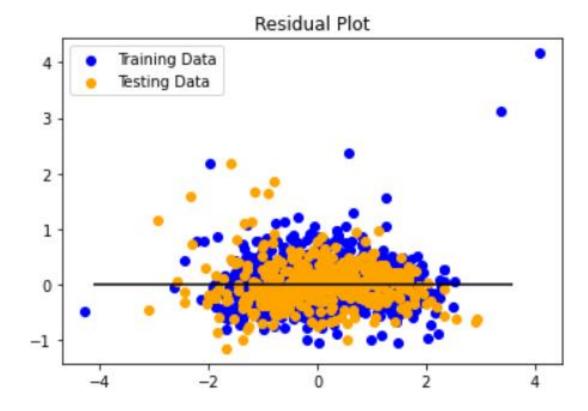
od.DataFrame((power_transform(train,method='box-cox')),columns=train.columns)

Lasso Regression

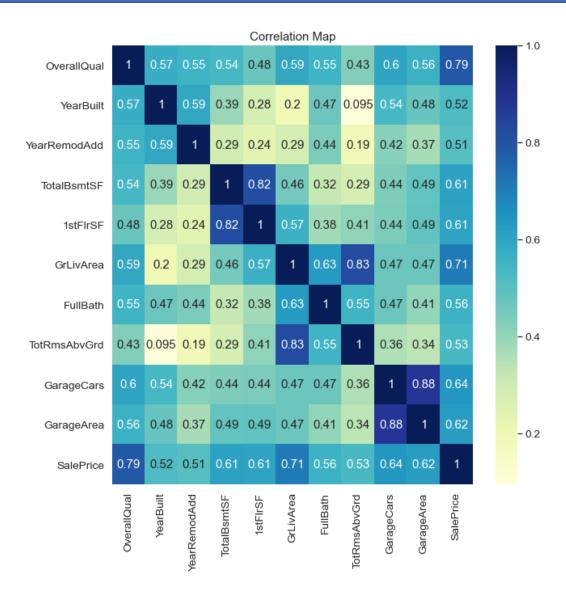
- The data set was divided into a train and test set where GridSearchCV was used to get the best alpha and train and test the data with a Lasso Regression.
 - The best alpha was 0.001
 - Train set had 977 records and 15 features
 - Test set had 977 records to predict SalePrice
- Compared to a standard linear regression it had slightly improved results, 0.05 and a lower MSE, 0.017

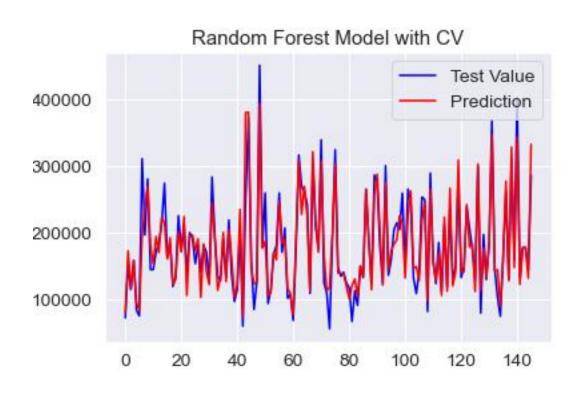
Linear Regression training score: 0.8462703454590321
Linear Regression test score: 0.8598790679349718
Linear Regression MSE: 0.1628601803777612
Best Alpha: 0.001
Lasso training score for alpha=0.001: 0.833881135194252
Lasso testing score for alpha=0.001: 0.8644782026844766
Lasso Regression MSE: 0.14476825932906878

 Based on the density of the residual plot, we can see high levels of accuracy however we are able to identify some outliers in the training set.



Daniel

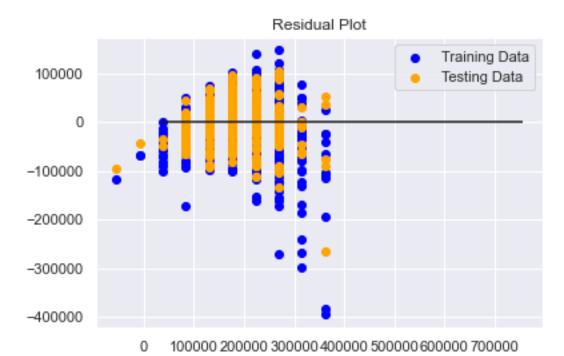




Comparison

Model	No. Features	Training R ²	Testing R ²	MSE
Simple Model	1	0.618	0.686	1814796444.73
Random Forest	10	0.978	0.867	729555657.23
Random Forest CV	10	0.917	0.883	654125368.41
Lasso	15	0.834	0.865	0.145
OLS	33	0.913	0.900	0.094

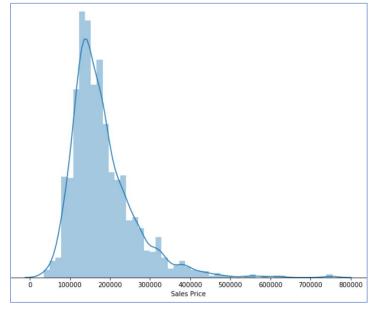
Simple Model



Model Type	Training R ²	Testing R ²	MSE
Single Feature OLS	0.618	0.686	1814796444.73

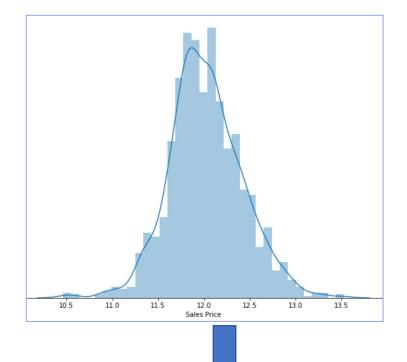
Backmatter

Exploring The Data





Natural Log to normalize the data



Null Values

PoolQC	1453
MiscFeature	1406
Alley	1369
Fence	1179
FireplaceQu	690
LotFrontage	259
GarageQual	81
GarageCond	81
GarageYrBlt	81
GarageFinish	81
BsmtExposure	38
BsmtFinType2	38
BsmtCond	37
BsmtFinType1	37
BsmtQual	37
MasVnrArea	8



All null values reduced to 0