Q-1 What is the optimal value of alpha for ridge and lasso regression? What will be the changes in the model if you choose double the value of alpha for both ridge and lasso? What will be the most important predictor variables after the change is implemented?

Ans: The optimal values for Ridge and Lasso are given below:

Ridge: 5.77154379759519

The top 10 predictors are:

MSZoning_C (all)

RoofMatl_ClyTile

PoolArea 480

Condition2_PosN

OverallQual_9

Neighborhood_Crawfor

OverallCond_3

Neighborhood_MeadowV

Fireplaces 3

OverallCond_9

If we change the value to twice the original then the top 10 predictors are:

MSZoning_C (all)

OverallQual 9

Neighborhood_Crawfor

OverallCond 3

PoolArea 480

RoofMatl_ClyTile

Neighborhood Edwards

Condition2_PosN

Neighborhood_MeadowV

Fireplaces 3

With twice the optimal alpha the R^2 value = 0.889895469085712 which is greater than 0.8562 that was originally obtained.

Lasso: 0.00038152899755399596

The top 10 predictors are:

RoofMatl ClyTile

Condition2 PosN

MSZoning_C (all)

PoolArea 480

OverallCond_3

OverallQual_9

Neighborhood_Crawfor

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Neighborhood_MeadowV
OverallCond_9
BsmtCond_Po
```

If we change the value to twice the original then the top 10 predictors are:

RoofMatl_ClyTile
Condition2_PosN
PoolArea_480
MSZoning_C (all)
OverallCond_3
OverallQual_9
Neighborhood_Crawfor
Neighborhood_MeadowV
OverallQual_8
Functional_Typ

With twice the optimal alpha the R^2 value = 0.8893982369045244 which is greater than the obtained optimal value of 0.8664.

It looks like the models become more accurate by doubling the alpha value for both regression schemes.

Question 2

You have determined the optimal value of lambda for ridge and lasso regression during the assignment. Now, which one will you choose to apply and why?

Ans: We'll apply Lasso regression, because even though by a small margin the r-squared value is better for Lasso 86.6 vs 85.6. It is perhaps still possible to discard some of the predictor variables (which is evident from the large number of zero coefficients in lasso output).

Question 3

After building the model, you realised that the five most important predictor variables in the lasso model are not available in the incoming data. You will now have to create another model excluding the five most important predictor variables. Which are the five most important predictor variables now?

Ans: The code snippet below gives the new top 10:

OverallQual_9
Fireplaces_3
Neighborhood_Crawfor
Neighborhood_MeadowV
OverallCond_9
OverallQual_8
Neighborhood_Edwards

Neighborhood_StoneBr OverallCond_7 Neighborhood_NridgHt

It can be argued that since these are one-hot encoded variables we can't really view them as predictors but it can be argued either way.