linear regression interpretability

February 6, 2024

1 Interpretability of a linear regression model

Interpret means to "explain" or to present in understandable terms. The ability to express in understandable terms, what the model has learned and the reasons that affect their output.

Interpretability is about the extent to which a cause and effect can be observed within a system. Or to put it another way, it is the extent to which you are able to predict what is going to happen, given a change in input or algorithmic parameters. It's being able to understand which inputs are the most predictive (i.e., impact the prediction/output the most), and anticipate how predictions will change with differing inputs.

- If a customer is rejected a loan, we can say why
- If an insurance provides a certain premium, we know the reasons.
- If we diagnose a patient with a certain disease, we can tell them why

1.1 Fit an interpretable linear regression model and make global and local interpretations

The idea is to fit an interpretable linear regression model, evaluate the model fit and the coefficients, and then interpret the predictions globally and locally.

In this example, we will use the shrinkage method and variable selection for linear regression models (called lasso regression) is another regularized version of linear regression.

An important peculiarity of lasso regression is that it tends to suppress the weights of less important features (i.e., set them to zero). Roughly speaking, lasso regression automatically performs feature selection and outputs a sparse model (i.e., with few non-zero feature weights).

The workflow is the following:

- Make some data engineer to prepare the data
- Exploratory data analysis and identify multi-colinearity
- Fit a linear model with the highest performance and least number of features
- Evaluate the model fit
- Evaluate the coefficients (global interpretation)
- Evaluate a few observations individually (local interpretation)

```
[1]: # imports
import warnings
warnings.filterwarnings("ignore")
```

```
import math
     import numpy as np
     import pandas as pd
     pd.set_option('display.max_columns', 10000)
     # pd.set_option('display.max_rows', 10000)
     import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
     import seaborn as sns
     import sweetviz as sv
     from itertools import product
     from scipy import stats
     import statsmodels.api as sm
     import scipy.stats as ss
     from scipy.stats.contingency import association
     from statsmodels.stats.outliers_influence import variance_inflation_factor
     from sklearn.preprocessing import StandardScaler, OneHotEncoder
     from sklearn.pipeline import Pipeline, make_pipeline
     from sklearn.impute import SimpleImputer
     from sklearn.compose import ColumnTransformer
     from sklearn.linear_model import Lasso
     from sklearn.model selection import cross validate
     from sklearn.base import BaseEstimator, TransformerMixin
     from sklearn.model selection import GridSearchCV, train test split
[2]: # load dataset
     train_set = pd.read_csv('datasets/house_price_train.csv')
     train_set.head()
[2]:
            MSSubClass MSZoning LotFrontage LotArea Street Alley LotShape \
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                    60
                                                  8450
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                      1Fam
                                2Story
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3	1970	Gable	CompShg	Wd	Sdng	Wd	l Shng	NaN		
4	2000	Gable	CompShg	Vi	nylSd	Vi	nylSd :	BrkFace		
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0	GLQ	706		Unf		0	150	;	856	
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2	WD	Normal	. 223	3500									
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4	WD	Normal	. 250	0000									

1.2 Exploratory data analysis

This topic we gonna work in an exploration to see what we should do with this data to be able to go to the next steps, readers can skip this step if you are interested just in the model interpretation step.

Link to the dataset

Obs: we don't gonna make an extensive and deep exploratory, because the goal of this notebook is to show how to interpret the models, but in a real project, you should go deeper in the exploration and extract many information as possible.

1.2.1 Univariate data analysis

For this step, we gonna use a very nice tool to make the things faster that is sweetviz tool. If you don't know the tool, have a look in the documentation!

```
[3]: # general informations about the dataset train_set.info()
```

```
<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
RangeIndex: 1460 entries, 0 to 1459
Data columns (total 81 columns):
```

#	Column	Non-Null Count	Dtype
0	Id	1460 non-null	int64
1	MSSubClass	1460 non-null	int64
2			
3	MSZoning	1460 non-null	object float64
	LotFrontage	1201 non-null	
4	LotArea	1460 non-null	int64
5	Street	1460 non-null	object
6	Alley	91 non-null	object
7	LotShape	1460 non-null	object
8	LandContour	1460 non-null	object
9	Utilities	1460 non-null	object
10	LotConfig	1460 non-null	object
11	LandSlope	1460 non-null	object
12	Neighborhood	1460 non-null	object
13	Condition1	1460 non-null	object
14	Condition2	1460 non-null	object
15	BldgType	1460 non-null	object
16	HouseStyle	1460 non-null	object
17	OverallQual	1460 non-null	int64
18	OverallCond	1460 non-null	int64
19	YearBuilt	1460 non-null	int64
20	YearRemodAdd	1460 non-null	int64
21	RoofStyle	1460 non-null	object
22	RoofMatl	1460 non-null	object
23	Exterior1st	1460 non-null	object
24	Exterior2nd	1460 non-null	object
25	MasVnrType	588 non-null	object
26	MasVnrArea	1452 non-null	float64
27	ExterQual	1460 non-null	object
28	ExterCond	1460 non-null	object
29	Foundation	1460 non-null	object
30	BsmtQual	1423 non-null	object
31	BsmtCond	1423 non-null	object
32	BsmtExposure	1422 non-null	object
33	BsmtFinType1	1423 non-null	object
34	BsmtFinSF1	1460 non-null	int64
35	BsmtFinType2	1422 non-null	object
36	BsmtFinSF2	1460 non-null	int64
37	BsmtUnfSF	1460 non-null	int64
38	TotalBsmtSF	1460 non-null	int64
39	Heating	1460 non-null	object
	•		•
40	HeatingQC	1460 non-null	object
41	CentralAir	1460 non-null	object
42	Electrical	1459 non-null	object
43	1stFlrSF	1460 non-null	int64
44	2ndFlrSF	1460 non-null	int64
45	LowQualFinSF	1460 non-null	int64

```
int64
     47
         BsmtFullBath
                         1460 non-null
     48
         BsmtHalfBath
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     49
         FullBath
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     50
         HalfBath
                                         int64
         {\tt BedroomAbvGr}
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     52
         KitchenAbvGr
                         1460 non-null
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        KitchenQual
                         1460 non-null
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        TotRmsAbvGrd
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        Functional
                         1460 non-null
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        Fireplaces
                         1460 non-null
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         FireplaceQu
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     57
                                         object
     58
         GarageType
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     62
         GarageArea
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                                         object
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        Fence
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     74
        MiscFeature
                         54 non-null
                                         object
         MiscVal
                         1460 non-null
                                         int64
     76
         MoSold
                         1460 non-null
                                         int64
     77
         YrSold
                         1460 non-null
                                         int64
     78
         SaleType
                         1460 non-null
                                         object
     79
         SaleCondition
                         1460 non-null
                                         object
                         1460 non-null
         SalePrice
                                         int64
    dtypes: float64(3), int64(35), object(43)
    memory usage: 924.0+ KB
[4]: my report = sv.analyze(train set, 'SalePrice')
     my_report.show_html() # Default arguments will generate to "SWEETVIZ_REPORT.
      ⇔html"
    Feature: SalePrice (TARGET)
                                                   1
                                                              | [ 1%]
                                                                         00:00 ->
    (00:02 left)
    Feature: MSZoning
                                                              | [ 5%]
                                                                         00:02 ->
    (00:45 left)
```

46

GrLivArea

1460 non-null

int64

1.2.2 Bivariate Data Analysis

Here we will deal with the descriptive analysis of the **association** between two variables. In general, we say that there is an association between two variables if knowledge of the value of one of them gives us some information about some characteristic of the distribution (of frequencies) of the other.

We can highlight three cases:

- 1. both variables are qualitative.
- 2. both variables are quantitative.
- 3. one variable is qualitative and the other is quantitative.

Two qualitative variables and evaluate multicollinearity Here the idea is to check the correlation between two qualitative variables.

What are the consequences of multicollinearity?

If two variables are perfectly collinear, in other words, if they have correlation coefficient equal to 1, then what happens is that there is an infinite combination of coefficients (betas) that would work equally well. So basically we have an infinite number of linear regression models that will predict equally well the target from these two perfectly collinear variables. Which means that we are not able to understand what is the real relationship between those variables and the target.

- Perfect collinearity is rare
- Partial collinearity is unavoidable

So what happens is that when we have correlated variables, one of the therms (feature x coefficient) will account for a degree of the variability, and then the other therm basically accounts for the remaining variability that is not explained, but in both cases the coefficient doesn't really represent the real if you want association between the variable and the target.

```
[3]: # filter the qualitative variables
     qualitative features enconding = [
         'MSZoning', 'Street', 'LotShape', 'LandContour',
         'Utilities', 'LotConfig', 'LandSlope', 'Neighborhood',
         'Condition1', 'Condition2', 'BldgType', 'HouseStyle',
         'RoofStyle', 'RoofMatl', 'Exterior1st', 'Exterior2nd',
         'Foundation', 'Heating', 'CentralAir', 'Functional',
         'PavedDrive', 'SaleType', 'SaleCondition']
     qualitative_features_missing_mode = [
         'Electrical', 'GarageType']
     ordinal_features_quality = [
         'ExterQual', 'ExterCond',
         'BsmtQual', 'BsmtCond',
         'HeatingQC', 'KitchenQual',
         'GarageQual', 'GarageCond']
     ordinal features exposure = ['BsmtExposure']
```

```
[4]: # create a dataframe with only categorical variables
     categorical_df = train_set[qualitative_vars]
     # removing records with at least one null value in a row
     df_cat_v1 = categorical_df.dropna()
     ## let us split this list into two parts
     cat_var1 = qualitative_vars
     cat_var2 = qualitative_vars
     # let us jump to Chi-Square test
     # creating all possible combinations between the above two variables list
     cat_var_prod = list(product(cat_var1, cat_var2, repeat = 1))
     # creating an empty variable and picking only the p value from the output of \Box
      \hookrightarrow Chi-Square test
     result = []
     for i in cat_var_prod:
         if i[0] != i[1]:
             contingency_table = pd.crosstab(df_cat_v1[i[0]], df_cat_v1[i[1]])
             chi2_pval = ss.chi2_contingency(contingency_table)[1]
             tschuprow_pval = association(contingency_table, method='tschuprow')
             result.append((i[0], i[1], chi2_pval, tschuprow_pval))
     # Creating dataframe
     result_df = pd.DataFrame(result, columns=['Variable_1', 'Variable_2', __
     # let's filter the values with tschuprow coefficient higher than 0.7 to catch
     \hookrightarrow multicollinearity
     result_df.loc[(result_df['Tschuprow'] >= 0.7)]
```

```
[4]: Variable_1 Variable_2 Chi2_P_Value Tschuprow 518 Exterior1st Exterior2nd 0.0 0.744531 554 Exterior2nd Exterior1st 0.0 0.744531
```

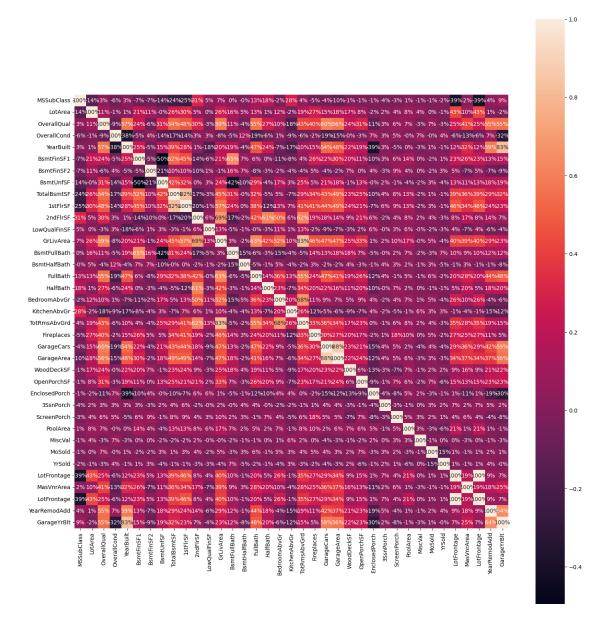
Maybe we can remove one of these two features, the one that has less correlation with the target is a good choice.

Two quantitative variables and evaluate multicollinearity Here the idea is to check the correlation between two quantitative variables and check multicollinearity.

```
[5]: # select features according to their types and missing values
    quantitative features = ['MSSubClass', 'LotArea', 'OverallQual', 'OverallCond',
                            'YearBuilt', 'BsmtFinSF1', 'BsmtFinSF2', 'BsmtUnfSF',
                             'TotalBsmtSF', '1stFlrSF', '2ndFlrSF', 'LowQualFinSF',
                             'GrLivArea', 'BsmtFullBath', 'BsmtHalfBath',
     'HalfBath', 'BedroomAbvGr', 'KitchenAbvGr', L

¬'TotRmsAbvGrd',
                             'Fireplaces', 'GarageCars', 'GarageArea', 'WoodDeckSF',
                             'OpenPorchSF', 'EnclosedPorch', '3SsnPorch',
      'PoolArea', 'MiscVal', 'MoSold', 'YrSold']
    quantitative features missing median = ['LotFrontage', 'MasVnrArea']
    quantitative_features_missing_mode = ['LotFrontage', 'YearRemodAdd', __
      quantitative_vars = quantitative_features +
      quantitative_features_missing_median + quantitative_features_missing_mode
```

```
[6]: # quantitative associations
  quantitative_df = train_set[quantitative_vars]
  corr = quantitative_df.corr()
  plt.figure(figsize=(15,15))
  sns.heatmap(corr, fmt='.0%', annot=True, square=True)
  plt.tight_layout()
```



From the Pearson correlation, few variables appeared to be highly correlated. Let's check this collinearity with the VIF metric and that could possibly be an indication for feature selection.

The second metric for gauging multicollinearity is the variance inflation factor (VIF). The VIF directly measures the ratio of the variance of the entire model to the variance of a model with only the feature in question.

In layman's terms, it gauges how much a feature's inclusion contributes to the overall variance of the coefficients of the features in the model.

A VIF of 1 indicates that the feature has no correlation with any of the other features.

Typically, a VIF value exceeding 5 or 10 is deemed to be too high. Any feature with such VIF

values is likely to be contributing to multicollinearity.

```
[7]:
              features
                          vif_Factor
     8
           TotalBsmtSF
                                  inf
     10
              2ndFlrSF
                                  inf
     32
           LotFrontage
                                  inf
           LotFrontage
     34
                                  inf
     12
             GrLivArea
                                  inf
     5
            BsmtFinSF1
                                  inf
     6
            BsmtFinSF2
                                  inf
     7
             BsmtUnfSF
                                  inf
          LowQualFinSF
     11
                                  inf
              1stFlrSF
                                  inf
     36
           GarageYrBlt
                        2.680925e+04
     31
                YrSold
                        2.528962e+04
     4
             YearBuilt 2.466581e+04
     35
          YearRemodAdd 2.450464e+04
     19
          TotRmsAbvGrd 8.364791e+01
     2
           OverallQual 7.308071e+01
           OverallCond 4.964269e+01
     3
     18
          KitchenAbvGr 4.203815e+01
     21
            GarageCars 3.980117e+01
     22
            GarageArea 3.517381e+01
     17
          BedroomAbvGr
                       3.381041e+01
     15
              FullBath 2.874419e+01
     30
                MoSold 6.840270e+00
     0
            MSSubClass 4.821513e+00
     13
          BsmtFullBath 3.650975e+00
     16
              HalfBath 3.594106e+00
     1
               LotArea 3.451820e+00
     20
            Fireplaces
                        3.028183e+00
     24
           OpenPorchSF
                        1.965871e+00
     23
            WoodDeckSF
                        1.944755e+00
     33
            MasVnrArea 1.937282e+00
     25
         EnclosedPorch 1.486659e+00
     27
           ScreenPorch 1.239925e+00
          BsmtHalfBath 1.214943e+00
     14
     28
              PoolArea 1.192611e+00
```

```
29 MiscVal 1.119622e+00
26 3SsnPorch 1.043918e+00
```

We see that a lot of variables have a high VIF and therefore, it may be variables to eliminate in the modeling that we will do later.

One qualitative and one quantitative variable Here the idea is to check the correlation between the qualitative and quantitative variable (the target) to see if the qualitative variables have a high influence in the target, but for this project we gonna skip this part, but in your project you should go deeper.

1.3 Preprocessing

Based on what we have seen in exploratory data analysis, we gonna make some transformations in the data to be able to fit them in the linear regression model.

```
[8]: # select only the features that we are going to use
X = train_set.drop(['SalePrice'], axis=1)
y = train_set['SalePrice']
```

```
[9]: class QualMapper(BaseEstimator, TransformerMixin):
         def __init__(self, qual_vars):
             self.qual_vars = qual_vars
         def fit(self, X, y=None):
             return self # no need to do anything here
         def transform(self, X):
             def map_quality(entry):
                 if entry == 'Po':
                     return 1
                 elif entry == 'Fa':
                     return 2
                 elif entry == 'TA':
                     return 3
                 elif entry == 'Gd':
                     return 4
                 elif entry == 'Ex':
                     return 5
                 else:
                     return 0 # or 'Missing' if you prefer to keep it as a string
             for var in self.qual_vars:
                 X[var] = X[var].fillna('Missing')
                 X[var] = X[var].apply(map_quality)
             return X
```

```
def get_feature_names_out(self, input_features=None):
       return input_features
class ExposureMapper(BaseEstimator, TransformerMixin):
   def __init__(self, expo_vars):
       self.expo_vars = expo_vars
   def fit(self, X, y=None):
       return self # no need to do anything here
   def transform(self, X):
       def map_expo(entry):
            if entry == 'No':
               return 1
            elif entry == 'Mn':
               return 2
            elif entry == 'Av':
               return 3
            elif entry == 'Gd':
               return 4
            else:
                return 0 # or 'Missing' if you prefer to keep it as a string
       for var in self.expo_vars:
            X[var] = X[var].fillna('Missing')
            X[var] = X[var].apply(map_expo)
       return X
   def get_feature_names_out(self, input_features=None):
        return input_features
class FinishMapper(BaseEstimator, TransformerMixin):
   def __init__(self, finish_vars):
        self.finish_vars = finish_vars
   def fit(self, X, y=None):
        return self # no need to do anything here
   def transform(self, X):
        def map_finish(entry):
            if entry == 'Unf':
                return 1
            elif entry == 'LwQ':
                return 2
```

```
elif entry == 'Rec':
                return 3
            elif entry == 'BLQ':
                return 4
            elif entry == 'ALQ':
               return 5
            elif entry == 'GLQ':
               return 6
            else:
                return 0 # or 'Missing' if you prefer to keep it as a string
       for var in self.finish_vars:
            X[var] = X[var].fillna('Missing')
            X[var] = X[var].apply(map_finish)
       return X
   def get_feature_names_out(self, input_features=None):
       return input_features
class GarageMapper(BaseEstimator, TransformerMixin):
   def __init__(self, garage_vars):
       self.garage_vars = garage_vars
   def fit(self, X, y=None):
       return self # no need to do anything here
   def transform(self, X):
       def map_garage(entry):
            if entry == 'Unf':
                return 1
            elif entry == 'RFn':
                return 2
            elif entry == 'Fin':
                return 3
            else:
                return 0 # or 'Missing' if you prefer to keep it as a string
        for var in self.garage_vars:
            X[var] = X[var].fillna('Missing')
            X[var] = X[var].apply(map_garage)
       return X
   def get_feature_names_out(self, input_features=None):
       return input_features
```

```
# class RemoveRareCategories(BaseEstimator, TransformerMixin):
      def __init__(self, quali_vars):
          self.quali_vars = quali_vars
      def fit(self, X, y=None):
#
          return self # no need to do anything here
      def transform(self, X):
#
#
          def map_rare_entries(series):
              frequency_entries = series.groupby(series).transform('count') /__
 ⇔len(series)
              rare_entries = frequency_entries < 0.01</pre>
             print(rare_entries)
              return np.where(rare_entries, 'Rare', series)
#
         for var in self.quali_vars:
              X[var] = map_rare_entries(X[var])
          return X
```

```
[10]: processed_features = quantitative_vars + qualitative_vars
      quantitative_preproc = make_pipeline(
          StandardScaler())
      quantitative_median_preproc = make_pipeline(
          SimpleImputer(strategy='median'),
          StandardScaler())
      quantitative_mode_preproc = make_pipeline(
          SimpleImputer(strategy='most_frequent'),
          StandardScaler())
      qualitative_preproc = make_pipeline(
          OneHotEncoder(handle_unknown='ignore'))
      qualitative_mode_preproc = make_pipeline(
          OneHotEncoder(handle_unknown='ignore'))
      ordinal_quality_preproc = make_pipeline(
          QualMapper(ordinal_features_quality),
          StandardScaler())
      ordinal_exposure_preproc = make_pipeline(
          ExposureMapper(ordinal_features_exposure),
```

```
StandardScaler())
ordinal_finish_preproc = make_pipeline(
   FinishMapper(ordinal_features_finish),
   StandardScaler())
ordinal_garage_preproc = make_pipeline(
   GarageMapper(ordinal_features_garage),
   StandardScaler())
# apply the respective transformations with columntransformer method
preprocessor = ColumnTransformer([
    ('quantitative_preproc', quantitative_preproc, quantitative_features),
    ('quantitative_median_preproc', quantitative_median_preproc,_
 ⇒quantitative_features_missing_median),
    ('quantitative_mode_preproc', quantitative_mode_preproc,_
 ⇒quantitative_features_missing_mode),
    ('qualitative_preproc', qualitative_preproc,_
 ⇒qualitative_features_enconding),
    ('qualitative_mode_preproc', qualitative_mode_preproc,_
 →qualitative_features_missing_mode),
    ('ordinal_quality_preproc', ordinal_quality_preproc,_
 →ordinal_features_quality),
    ('ordinal_exposure_preproc', ordinal_exposure_preproc,_
 ⇔ordinal_features_exposure),
    ('ordinal_finish_preproc', ordinal_finish_preproc, ordinal_features_finish),
    ('ordinal_garage_preproc', ordinal_garage_preproc,_
 ⇔ordinal_features_garage)],
   remainder='drop')
```

1.4 Fit an interpretable linear model

We'll start by understading how linear regression model works, then we'll move on to learning statistical tests that we can use to evaluate the performance of these models, and this is important because if the model doesn't fit the data well then we cannot extract meaningful interpretations, and then we'll move on to interpret the output of the linear regression model (Lasso) at a global and local level.

Using Lasso, train the model that performs the best and has the least number of features.

If you get errors, reduce the penalization.

```
[11]: def run_regressor_models(X, y, cv, scoring):
    '''Function that trains the following machine learning models:
    DecisionTreeRegressor, RandomForestRegressor, svm, SGDRegressor,
    GradientBoostingRegressor, ElasticNet, MLPRegressor.
    The function applies cross-validation on the dataset and returns the mean
```

```
and standard deviation of the selected metric on the training and
\hookrightarrow validation set.
   The only active metrics are RMSE and R2.
   :param X: (dataframe or numpy array)
  DataFrame or array with the set of independent variables.
  :param y: (series or numpy array)
  Column or array with the dependent variable.
   :param cv: (int)
  Determines the cross-validation splitting strategy.
   :param scoring: (str)
  Strategy to evaluate the performance of the cross-validated model on the \Box
\hookrightarrow validation set.
  Should be passed within quotes when calling the function.
   :return: (dataframe)
  {\it DataFrame} with models, mean, and standard deviation on training and {\it d}
\neg validation set.
  111
  # Instantiate the models
  reg = Pipeline(
       steps=[('preprocessor', preprocessor),
              ('regressor', Lasso(random_state=42))]
  scores = cross_validate(reg, X, y, return_train_score=True,
                            scoring=scoring, cv=cv, return_estimator=True)
  # Train and test RMSE
  if scoring == 'neg_mean_squared_error':
       train_rmse_scores = np.sqrt(-scores['train_score'])
      test_rmse_scores = np.sqrt(-scores['test_score'])
      mean_train = train_rmse_scores.mean()
      mean_test = test_rmse_scores.mean()
      std_train = train_rmse_scores.std()
       std_test = test_rmse_scores.std()
   # Train and test R2
  if scoring == 'r2':
      train_r2_scores = scores['train_score']
      test_r2_scores = scores['test_score']
      mean_train = train_r2_scores.mean()
      mean_test = test_r2_scores.mean()
       std_train = train_r2_scores.std()
       std_test = test_r2_scores.std()
```

```
[12]: df_result = run_regressor_models(X, y, 5, 'r2')
df_result
```

```
[12]: MODEL MEAN_TRAIN_SCORES MEAN_TEST_SCORES \
0 Lasso(random_state=42) 0.923311 0.812339

STD_TRAIN_SCORES STD_TEST_SCORES
0 0.003282 0.07568
```

As we can see, we have some overfit, probabily because we have a lot of features and a small number of instances. Let's try to decrease this overfitting increasing the regularization parameter.

In this cases when the number of features are big and we don't have a big number of rows, it's better to use the regularized models like Lasso. The term regularization refers to a set of techniques used to specify models that fit a set of data while avoiding overfitting. In general terms, these techniques serve to fit regression models based on a cost function that contains a penalty term. This term is intended to reduce the influence of coefficients responsible for excessive fluctuations.

When there are predictor variables that are not associated with the response variable, the regression models adjusted by least squares (like LinearRegression from sklearn) may be more complex than desired, as the coefficients associated with these variables will not be canceled.

1.5 Fit, evaluate and tune model in test set

To evaluate the model, we often use a metric that is called R². To summary, the R² is the fraction of variability explained by the model. Independent of the result of R², how do we know that this value is statistically significant?

So, to evaluate the R² and that fit with confidence, we need statistical tests. The statistical tests that we gonna use are f-statistic that basically capture the relantionship between the variance that is explained by the model versus the variance that is not explained by the model. In this case in we want a big f-statistic (the model explain more variability) and a small p-value. If this is the case, then the model offers a good fit of the data and the interpretations that we derive from it are meaningful.

F-statistic follows a known probability distribution for situations where a model is not a good fit and we gonna make a hypothesis test.

- Null hypothesis -> the model is not a good fit.
- Alternative hypothesis -> the model is a good fit.

```
[13]: # Hyperparameter tunning
      # 1. Instantiate the pipeline
      final_model = Pipeline(
          steps=[
              ('preprocessor', preprocessor),
              ('regressor', Lasso(random_state=42))
          1
      )
      # 2. Hyperparameter interval to be tested
      param grid = {
          'regressor alpha': [
               0.01, 0.04, 0.1, 0.5, 1.0, 10.0,
               100.0, 200.0, 300.0, 500.0, 1000.0,
               2500.0].
      } # you should try as many values as possible, but to illustrate we gonna put au
       ⇔heavy weight
      # 3. Training and apply grid search with cross validation
      grid_search = GridSearchCV(final_model, param_grid, cv = 5, scoring = 'r2',
                                 return_train_score = True)
      grid_search.fit(X, y)
      # Seeing the best hyperparameters for the model
      print('The best hyperparameters were:', grid_search.best_params_)
```

The best hyperparameters were: {'regressor_alpha': 2500.0}

The mean test score and mean train score is, respectively: (0.7999223632635879, 0.8202277519210949)

Overfitting continues, but we have a good model with R² of 0.8 in test set. In other words, the model explains approximately 80% of the relationship between the dependent and independent variables.

The coefficient of determination must be accompanied by other tools for assessing fit, as it is not aimed at identifying whether all model assumptions are compatible with the data under investigation. Some of these tools are: residual graphs, cook graphs and local influence graphs. Here, we

will only talk about the residual graph.

1.6 Assumptions that must be met in a linear regression model

In summary, there are 5 basic assumptions of the regression algorithm that would be interesting to meet:

- Linear relationship between the independent variables and the target (in the case of linear regression)
- Little or no multicollinearity between variables
- Homoscedasticity assumption
- Normal distribution of error terms (if you want to test hypotheses about the model coefficients or construct confidence intervals for them)
- Little or no autocorrelation in residuals

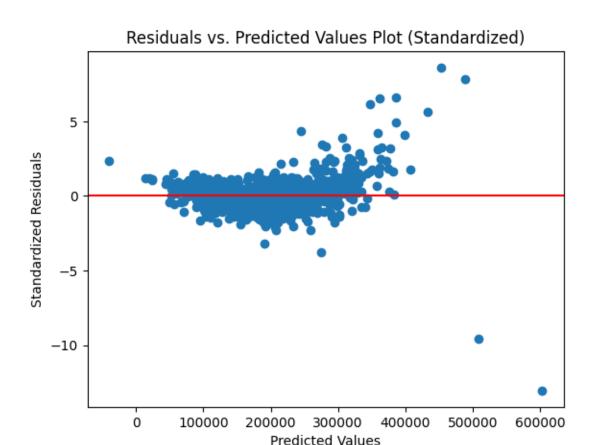
When these assumptions are not met, regression analysis results can be misleading and the model may not perform well.

Here, we will calculate Homoscedasticity and the normal distribution of errors, since the other items have already been checked.

```
[15]: y_pred = grid_search.predict(X)
    residuals = y - y_pred

# Standardize residuals
    residuals_standardized = residuals / residuals.std()

# Residuals vs. Predicted Values Plot
    plt.scatter(y_pred, residuals_standardized)
    plt.xlabel("Predicted Values")
    plt.ylabel("Standardized Residuals")
    plt.title("Residuals vs. Predicted Values Plot (Standardized)")
    plt.axhline(y=0, color='r', linestyle='-') # Adding a line at y=0
    plt.show()
```



From the graph it appears that the residues are following some systematic pattern, which is not good. This suggests the presence of heteroscedasticity, that is, variances that are not constant over time. Outliers can also contribute to heteroscedasticity.

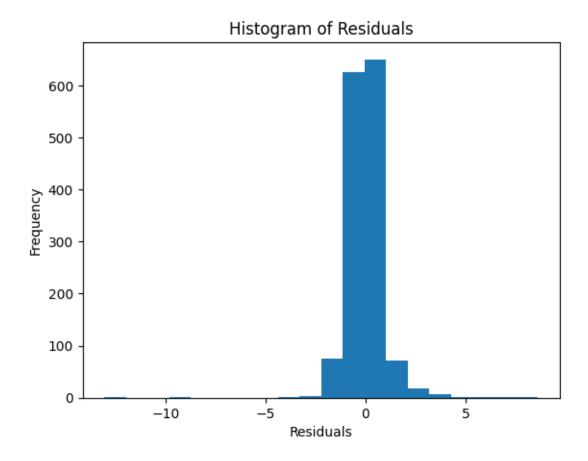
Now, let's check to the normality of errors.

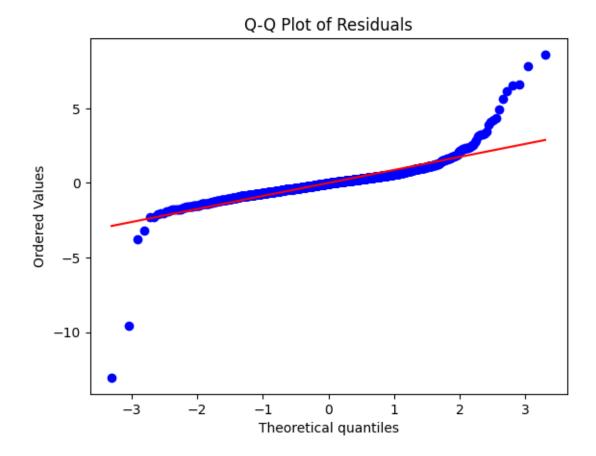
```
[16]: # Checking for Normality of Errors
    # Example using the Shapiro-Wilk test
    _, p_value_sw = stats.shapiro(residuals_standardized)
    if p_value_sw > 0.05:
        print("The residuals follow a normal distribution.")
    else:
        print("The residuals do not follow a normal distribution.")

# Histogram of Residuals
plt.hist(residuals_standardized, bins=20)
plt.xlabel("Residuals")
plt.ylabel("Frequency")
plt.title("Histogram of Residuals")
plt.show()
```

```
# Q-Q Plot of Residuals
stats.probplot(residuals_standardized, dist="norm", plot=plt)
plt.title("Q-Q Plot of Residuals")
plt.show()
```

The residuals do not follow a normal distribution.





Whenever we run a model or perform data analysis, it is common to check the distribution of the variables in question. If some are skewed and not normally distributed, we tend to worry. The truth is that the need to assume normality for independent and dependent variables is not always true.

The variable that should be normally distributed is just the prediction error!

The prediction error must follow a normal distribution with mean 0. The calculation of the confidence interval and the significance of the variable is based on this assumption.

You can also use the Shapiro-Wilk test to test the normality assumption. Basically, if the p-value is greater than the threshold (usually 0.05) then we accept the distribution as normal.

How do we fix the normality problem? Typically, there are 2 reasons why this problem occurs:

- Dependent or independent variables are very abnormal (you can see by the asymmetry and/or kurtosis of the variable)
- Existence of some outliers that hinder the model's prediction

We must then check for outliers in the variables and if this does not solve the problem, we must transform some variables that are not normally distributed so that they are normally distributed.

In conclusion, if you try to find a significant predictive factor or define the confidence interval, remember to check the distribution of the error term after building the model. If the dependent

variables or independent variables are very non-normal, one can use the box-cox transformation (for example) to transform it and make the error term more normally distributed.

In our case, neither homoscedaticity or the normal distribution of errors were met, which compromises our analysis. In your projects you must fix this, as this work is only at a didactic level, we will not delve into this issue further. One idea to fix this would perhaps be to normalize the target variable.

1.7 Evaluate the model globally

Linear regression models are intrinsically explainable, which means that if we understand how the model works, then we can make sense of their predictions.

Let's now try to interpret the model globally. For this we need to determine:

- Coefficient magnitude and sign
- Coefficient significance (t statistic and p-value)
- Effects plot

Determine the coefficient's error using cross-validation.

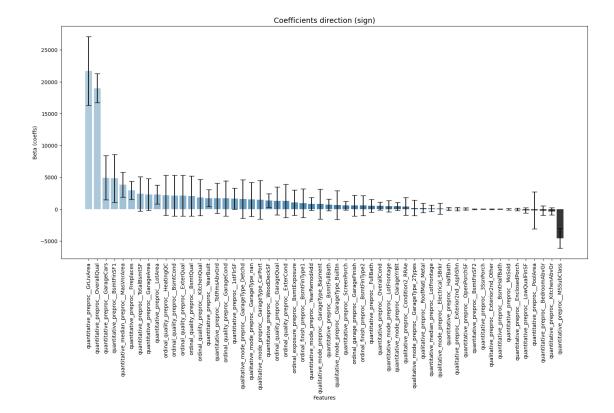
```
[17]: # Function to fit the model with GridSearchCV and return the coefficients
     def fit_model_and_get_coeffs(X_train, y_train, param_grid):
         grid_search_globally = GridSearchCV(final_model, param_grid, cv=5,_
       ⇔scoring='r2', return_train_score=True)
         grid_search_globally.fit(X_train, y_train)
         return grid_search_globally.best_estimator_.named_steps.regressor.coef_,u

¬grid_search_globally.best_estimator_.named_steps.preprocessor.
       ⇔get_feature_names_out()
     # Number of Bootstrap iterations
     num_bootstrap_iterations = 100
     # List to store coefficients for each Bootstrap iteration
     coeffs_bootstrap = []
     # Initialize list of coefficient names
     coeffs_names = []
     # Loop over each Bootstrap iteration
     for i in range(num_bootstrap_iterations):
         # Random sampling with replacement of indices
         indices = np.random.choice(range(len(X)), size=len(X), replace=True)
         X_bootstrap, y_bootstrap = X.iloc[indices], y.iloc[indices]
         # Split the sampled dataset into train and test
         X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test = train_test_split(X_bootstrap,_
       # Fit the model and obtain coefficients for this sample
```

```
coeffs_boot, new_coeffs_names = fit_model_and_get_coeffs(X_train, y_train,_
 →param_grid)
    # Add unique coefficient names
    coeffs_names.extend([name for name in new_coeffs_names if name not in_
 # Add coefficients of this Bootstrap iteration to the list
    coeffs_bootstrap.append(coeffs_boot)
# Determine the maximum length of coefficients array
max_coeffs_length = max(len(coeffs) for coeffs in coeffs_bootstrap)
# Fill coefficients arrays with zeros so that they all have the same length
coeffs_bootstrap_padded = [np.pad(coeffs, (0, max_coeffs_length - len(coeffs)),_
 →mode='constant') for coeffs in coeffs_bootstrap]
# Convert the list of coefficients arrays into a numpy matrix
coeffs_bootstrap = np.vstack(coeffs_bootstrap_padded)
# Ensure coeffs names has the same length as the number of columns in
 ⇔coeffs_mean
coeffs_names = coeffs_names[:coeffs_bootstrap.shape[1]]
# Calculate the mean of coefficients
coeffs_mean = np.mean(coeffs_bootstrap, axis=0)
# Calculate the standard deviation of coefficients
coeffs_std = np.std(coeffs_bootstrap, axis=0)
# Create a DataFrame to store the mean and standard deviation of coefficients
coeffs_df = pd.DataFrame({'mean_coeffs_sign': coeffs_mean, 'coeffs_std':u
 Goodfs_std}, index=coeffs_names).reset_index()
coeffs_df.sort_values(by=['mean_coeffs_sign'], ascending=False, inplace=True)
coeffs_df.rename(columns={'index': 'features'}, inplace=True)
# Visualize the DataFrame
coeffs_df
```

```
Γ17]:
                                         features mean_coeffs_sign
                                                                      coeffs std
      12
                  quantitative_preproc__GrLivArea
                                                       21714.189242 5388.545828
      2
                quantitative_preproc__OverallQual
                                                       18998.323970 2305.063393
      21
                quantitative_preproc__GarageCars
                                                        4931.342986 3460.563500
      5
                 quantitative_preproc__BsmtFinSF1
                                                        4832.247887 3768.298030
      33 quantitative_median_preproc__MasVnrArea
                                                        3852.195967 1944.982645
      11
              quantitative_preproc__LowQualFinSF
                                                        -164.544205
                                                                      406.404862
```

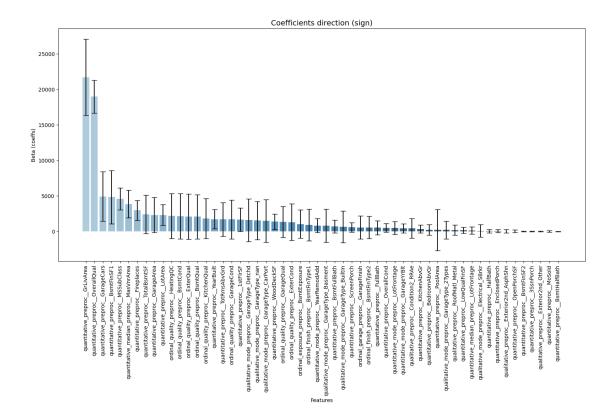
```
[18]: # filter df to not show the coeffs that went to 0
      filtered_coeffs = coeffs_df.loc[(coeffs_df['mean_coeffs_sign'] != 0.0) &
                                      (coeffs_df['mean_coeffs_sign'] != -0.0)]
      # Create a function of the graph to reuse later
      def barplot(figsize, title, data, x, y, xlabel, ylabel, error_data=None):
          # Plot the graph
          plt.figure(figsize=figsize)
          # Title
          plt.title(title, fontsize=14)
          # Graph
          sns.barplot(data=data, x=x, y=y, ci=None, palette="Blues_d")
          # Adding error bars if error_data is provided
          if error_data is not None:
              std_err = error_data
              plt.errorbar(data[x], data[y], yerr=std_err, fmt='none', color='k', __
       ⇔capsize=5)
          # Label
          plt.xticks(rotation=90)
          plt.xlabel(xlabel)
          plt.ylabel(ylabel)
          plt.show()
      # Example usage:
      barplot((18, 8), 'Coefficients direction (sign)', filtered_coeffs,
              'features', 'mean_coeffs_sign', 'Features', 'Beta (coeffs)',
              error_data=filtered_coeffs['coeffs_std'])
```



- Beta (coefficients) represents the gradient (slope) of the regression
- Beta is the change in y, per unit change in x (if all the other values stay the same)
- The positive values, if x increases, so does y
- The negative values, if x increases, y decreases

The Beta related to the feature "GrLivArea" > Beta related to the feature "OverallQuall", in other words "GrLivArea" has a greater contribution than "OverallQuall" to the target value.

Let's compare the absolute value of each coefficient.



This is what we normally use as a value of feature importance (feature selection methods, Lasso model automatically does this for us). Initially with more than 200 features, we ended with these, which are the most important for the model.

1.7.1 Calculate the t-statistic and p-value for each coefficient

The t-value, also known as the t-test, is an important focus of attention, since it is the link that tells us whether the association between an explanatory variable and the response is statistically significant. The t-value is simply the estimate/standard error, and thus can be interpreted as the distance of the estimate from 0, measured in standard errors. Given a t-value and sample size, the software can provide an accurate p-value; for large samples, t-values greater than 2 or less than -2 correspond to p < 0.05, although these thresholds are higher for smaller sample sizes.

- t-test tests the null hypothesis: b=0
- Tests how big b is, compared to its variability

If t is too big or too small -> the probability that b=0 is small, then, the regression coefficient is statistically significant.

```
[20]: filtered_coeffs['t_test'] = filtered_coeffs['mean_coeffs_sign'] /

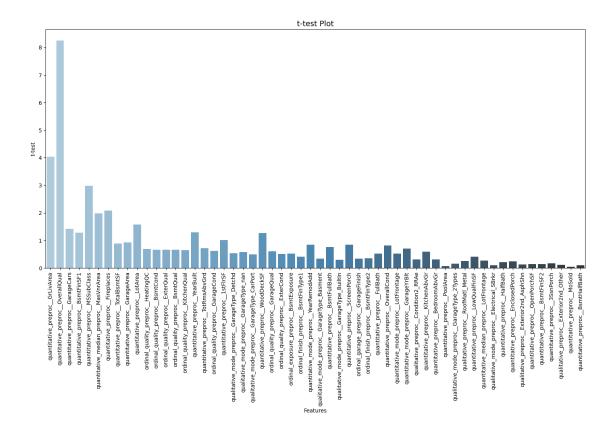
filtered_coeffs['coeffs_std']

filtered_coeffs
```

[20]:		footured	moon cooffa aign
[20]:	12	features	mean_coeffs_sign 21714.189242
	2	quantitative_preprocGrLivArea quantitative_preprocOverallQual	18998.323970
	21	quantitative_preprocGarageCars	4931.342986
	5	quantitative_preprocGaragecars quantitative_preprocBsmtFinSF1	4832.247887
	0	quantitative_preprocMSSubClass	4577.270253
	33		3852.195967
	20	quantitative_median_preprocMasVnrArea	2968.611112
		quantitative_preprocFireplaces	
	8	quantitative_preprocTotalBsmtSF	2396.445050
	22	quantitative_preprocGarageArea	2317.755954
	1	quantitative_preprocLotArea	2305.309418
	209	ordinal_quality_preprocHeatingQC	2166.741426
	208	ordinal_quality_preprocBsmtCond	2132.256908
	205	ordinal_quality_preprocExterQual	2105.917008
	207	ordinal_quality_preprocBsmtQual	2061.159714
	210	ordinal_quality_preprocKitchenQual	1832.783503
	4	quantitative_preprocYearBuilt	1736.087225
	19	quantitative_preprocTotRmsAbvGrd	1702.281167
	212	ordinal_quality_preprocGarageCond	1694.193995
	9	quantitative_preproc1stFlrSF	1653.541318
	203	qualitative_mode_preprocGarageType_Detchd	1596.794275
	204	qualitative_mode_preprocGarageType_nan	1531.679661
	202	qualitative_mode_preprocGarageType_CarPort	1472.624617
	23	quantitative_preprocWoodDeckSF	1367.713771
	211	ordinal_quality_preprocGarageQual	1324.697914
	206	ordinal_quality_preprocExterCond	1301.277717
	213	ordinal_exposure_preprocBsmtExposure	1034.914082
	214	ordinal_finish_preprocBsmtFinType1	921.930767
	35	quantitative_mode_preprocYearRemodAdd	832.259605
	200	qualitative_mode_preprocGarageType_Basment	802.636039
	13	quantitative_preprocBsmtFullBath	691.008010
	201	<pre>qualitative_mode_preprocGarageType_BuiltIn</pre>	648.813157
	27	quantitative_preprocScreenPorch	572.670701
	216	ordinal_garage_preprocGarageFinish	563.776395
	215	ordinal_finish_preprocBsmtFinType2	560.662227
	15	quantitative_preprocFullBath	522.115608
	3	quantitative_preprocOverallCond	510.736195
	34	<pre>quantitative_mode_preprocLotFrontage</pre>	469.228607
	36	<pre>quantitative_mode_preprocGarageYrBlt</pre>	447.640997
	217	<pre>qualitative_preprocCondition2_RRAe</pre>	424.845662
	18	quantitative_preprocKitchenAbvGr	338.259106
	17	${\tt quantitative_preproc_BedroomAbvGr}$	221.778399
	28	quantitative_preprocPoolArea	207.523591
	198	<pre>qualitative_mode_preprocGarageType_2Types</pre>	196.123903
	218	qualitative_preprocRoofMatl_Metal	189.083249
	11	${\tt quantitative_preproc_LowQualFinSF}$	164.544205
	32	${\tt quantitative_median_preproc_LotFrontage}$	132.491923

```
196
       qualitative_mode_preproc__Electrical_SBrkr
                                                            88.227701
16
                    quantitative_preproc__HalfBath
                                                            50.949524
25
              quantitative_preproc__EnclosedPorch
                                                            49.487195
219
         qualitative_preproc__Exterior2nd_AsphShn
                                                            33.511129
24
                quantitative_preproc__OpenPorchSF
                                                            25.551062
6
                 quantitative_preproc__BsmtFinSF2
                                                             9.872694
                                                             7.166088
26
                   quantitative_preproc__3SsnPorch
           qualitative_preproc__Exterior2nd_Other
220
                                                             4.998262
                      quantitative_preproc__MoSold
30
                                                             3.972144
14
                quantitative_preproc__BsmtHalfBath
                                                             2.744620
      coeffs_std
                     t_test
12
     5388.545828
                  4.029694
2
     2305.063393
                  8.241996
21
     3460.563500
                  1.425012
5
     3768.298030
                  1.282342
0
     1537.700679
                  2.976698
33
     1944.982645
                  1.980581
20
     1423.609182
                  2.085271
8
     2727.333788
                  0.878677
22
     2483.236836
                  0.933361
1
     1463.212331
                  1.575513
209
    3144.635952
                  0.689028
208
     3213.690150
                  0.663492
205
     3196.704900
                  0.658777
207
     3127.151470
                  0.659117
210
    2825.582280
                  0.648639
4
     1338.119735
                  1.297408
19
     2364.765482
                  0.719852
212 2746.198706
                  0.616923
9
     1642.856198
                  1.006504
203
    3009.293957
                  0.530621
204
     2687.776318
                  0.569869
202
     3011.198185
                  0.489049
23
     1080.613787
                  1.265682
211
     2194.282506
                  0.603704
206
    2586.492725
                  0.503105
213
     2001.205826
                  0.517145
214
    2247.865856
                  0.410136
35
      990.156692
                  0.840533
200
    2347.665914
                  0.341887
13
      914.937378
                  0.755252
201 2241.082752
                  0.289509
27
      684.686922
                  0.836398
216
    1645.095017
                  0.342701
215
    1571.393400
                  0.356793
15
      997.536761
                  0.523405
```

```
3
           624.005094
                       0.818481
      34
           902.797409
                       0.519750
           640.038983
      36
                       0.699396
      217
                       0.304157
          1396.798415
      18
           568.481478
                       0.595022
      17
           723.354349
                       0.306597
     28
          2912.103439
                       0.071262
      198
          1235.710207
                       0.158714
     218
           736.645253
                       0.256682
     11
           406.404862
                       0.404878
     32
           504.524588
                       0.262607
      196
           877.854544 0.100504
      16
           245.818373 0.207265
      25
           203.050524
                       0.243719
     219
           252.710121
                       0.132607
           177.900767
     24
                       0.143625
      6
            69.226082
                       0.142615
      26
            42.233511
                       0.169678
      220
            44.351484
                       0.112697
      30
           103.620553
                       0.038334
      14
             27.308623 0.100504
[21]: barplot((18, 8), 't-test Plot', filtered_coeffs,
              'features', 't_test',
              'Features', 't-test')
```



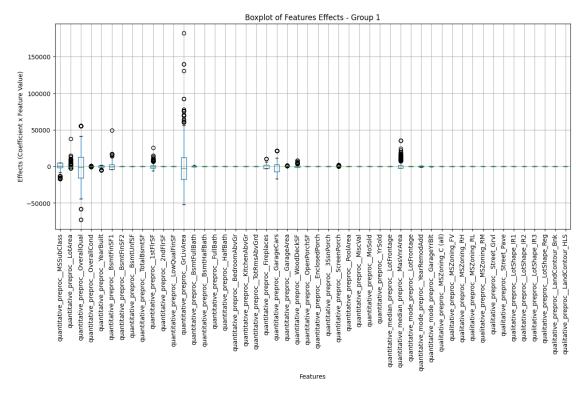
Based on the t values, we can, for example, trust the value of the coefficient of variable "OverallQual" more than that of variable "GrLivArea".

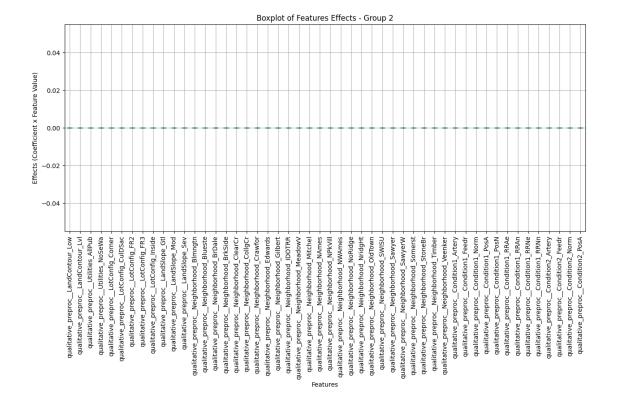
1.7.2 Effect plots

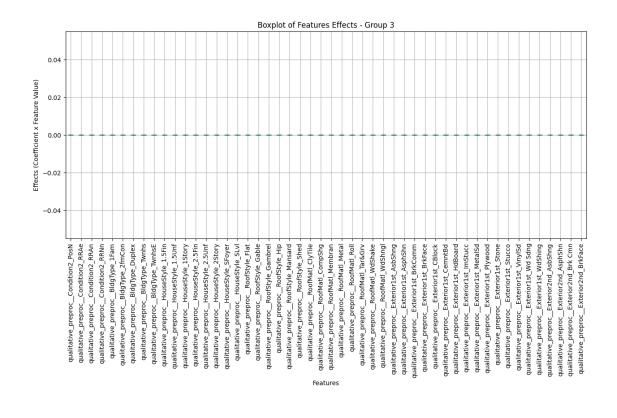
Features whose coefficient is bigger are said to be more important. This coefficients alone don't determine the value of the target, to have this, we need the combination of these coefficients with the value of the variable, the one that contributes to the final target outcome.

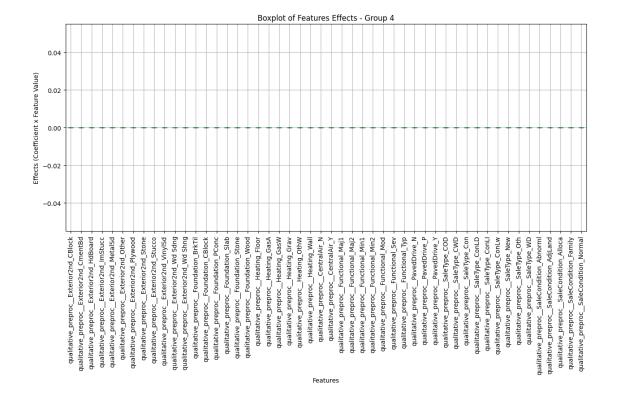
So, instead of plot just the coefficients we can plot the effects.

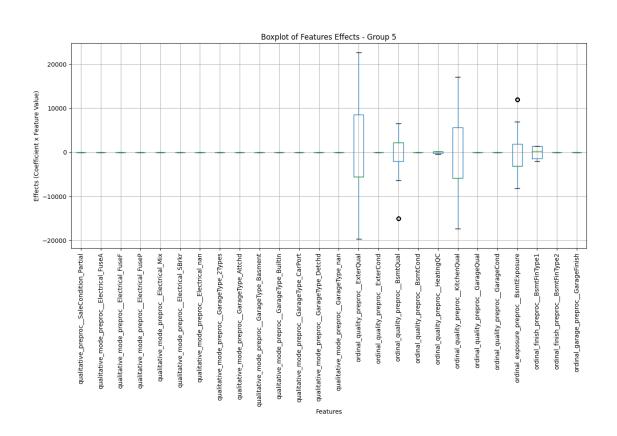
```
group_size = 50
num_groups = int(np.ceil(num_variables / group_size))
# iterate for the variables groups
for i in range(num_groups):
    start_index = i * group_size
    end_index = min((i + 1) * group_size, num_variables)
    # select the variables for the actual group
    scaler_names_group = scaler_names[start_index:end_index]
    effects_group = effects[:, start_index:end_index]
    # create the dataframe for the actual group
   effects_df_group = pd.DataFrame(effects_group, columns=scaler_names_group)
    # plot the boxplot for the actual group
   plt.figure(figsize=(15, 6))
   effects_df_group.boxplot()
   plt.title(f'Boxplot of Features Effects - Group {i+1}')
   plt.ylabel('Effects (Coefficient x Feature Value)')
   plt.xlabel('Features')
   plt.xticks(rotation=90)
   plt.show()
```







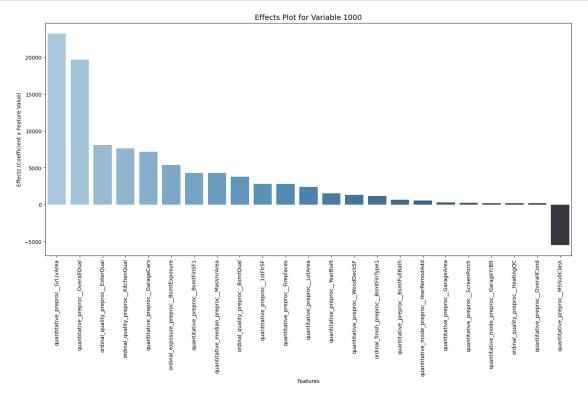




As we can see, the main drivers of the house price are the variables "OverallQual", "GrLivArea", "ExterQual", "KitchenQual", "BsmtExposure".

1.8 Local interpretability

The same interpretation that we did globally (for all instances) we can also do locally for just one instance if you are interested in a specific case.



As we can see, these are the effects of the most important variables on the final price of the index house equal to 1000.

1.9 Conclusion

Here I want to summarize the main advandages of the linear regression models and also some of the limitations.

Advantages:

- Predict the target as a linear combination of the predictors (weighted sum of the predictors) and as humans we are very good interpreting linear models.
- We can use statistical tests to decide if / how much we can trust the model and its parameters (i)
- Intrinsically explainable by design
- We can use regularization to reduce the feature space
 - Optimize for interpretability

Limitations:

- The interpretation of the weight / coefficient is contrastive (depends on all other features)
 - Features with positive correlation coefficient show a negative weight
- Make assumptions on the data -> when they are not met, we can't trust the model
- Multicolinearity affects interpretability
- Interactions between the variables won't be captured

Credits:

https://www.trainindata.com/