Ames Housing Analysis & Prediction

Selling Sunset



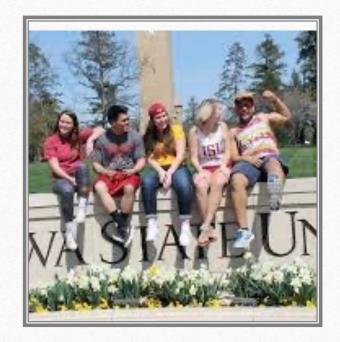
Problem Statement

• Create a model to predict house prices

• Using the model, identify features to increase house prices

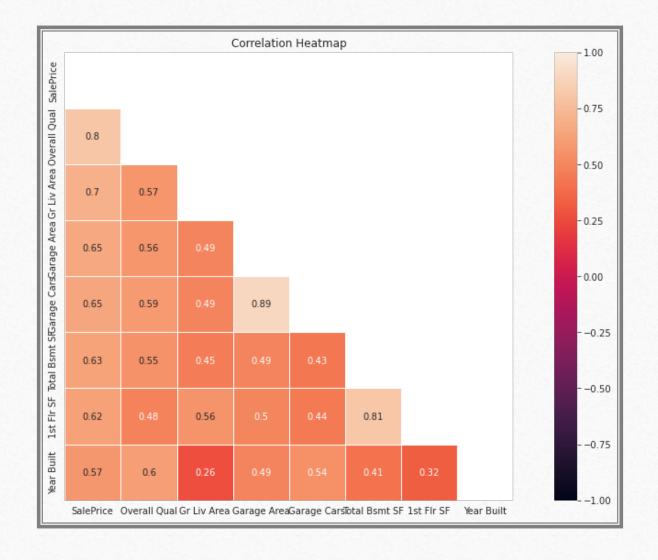
Background on Ames

- Ames, Iowa is a Collegetown. Home to Iowa State University (ISU)
- Half the population of Ames are students of Iowa State University.
- Low owner-occupied housing rate



Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA)

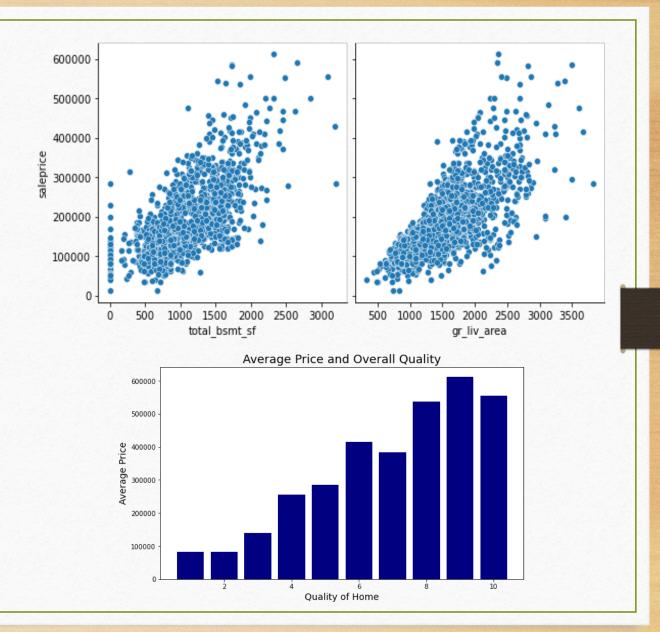
Rank	Variable	Correlation
1	Overall Quality	0.8
2	Exterior Quality	0.71
3	Ground Living Area	0.7
4	Kitchen Quality	0.69
5	Garage Area	0.65
6	Garage Cars	0.65
7	Total Basement SF	0.63
8	1st Flr SF	0.62
9	Basement Quality	0.61
10	Year Built	0.57



Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA)

• Size and Quality are the most important features.

 Both have strong correlation to price



Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA)

 Neighborhood also have a strong correlation to price

 Assigned avg housing prices to each neighborhoods



Models Used

- 33 features

- Quality
 - Overall
 - Exterior
 - Kitchen
 - Basement
 - Heating
- Size
 - Ground Living Area
 - Total Basement SF
 - Garage Area

- Rooms
 - Total Rooms
 - Total Bathrooms
- Location
 - Neighborhood
 - Zone Classification

- Property characteristics
 - Lot Shape
 - Lot Config
 - Building Type
 - Foundation
 - Function
- Sale Type

Model 4 (Lasso): Predicted Price vs Actual Price 300000 400000 Predicted Price Model 4 (Ridge): Predicted Price vs Actual Price 500000 400000 300000

Models Used

• Lasso and Ridge regularization was utilized.

• Slight curvature

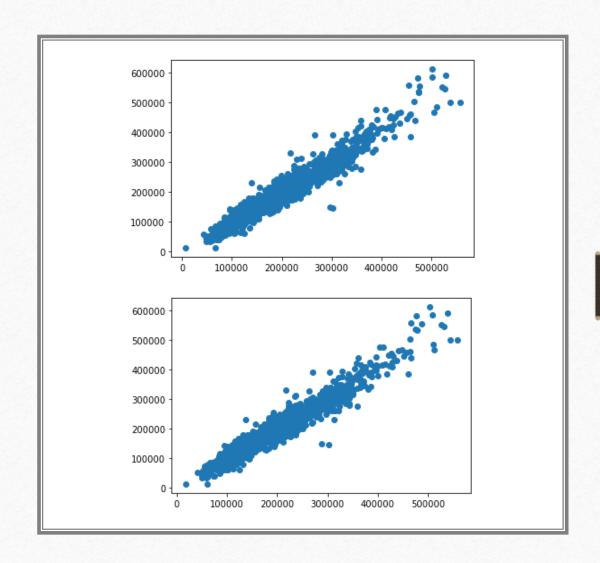
• Polynomial feature was used to further tune the model

Final Model Used

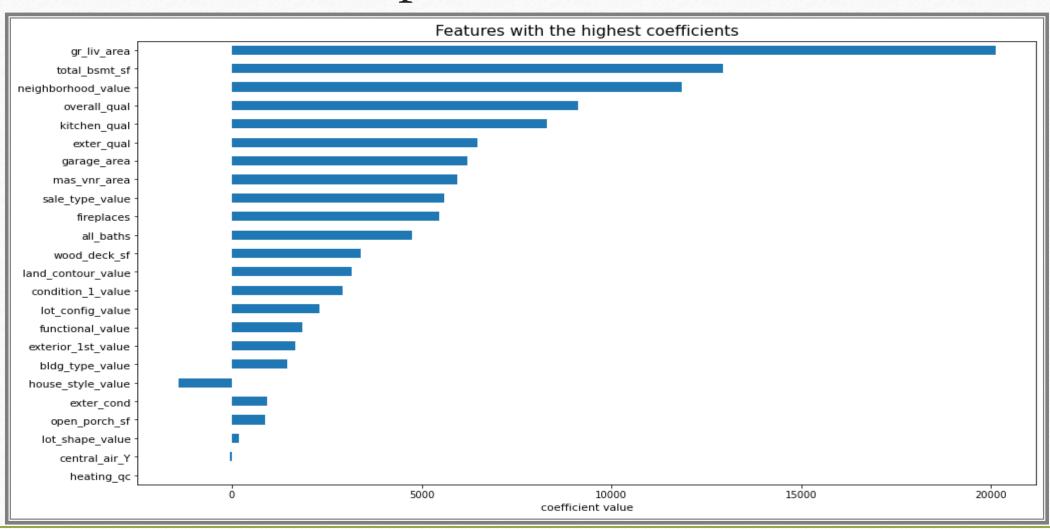
Final Model

Lasso $\alpha = 71.62$

Ridge $\alpha = 72.33$



Top Coefficients



Tradeoffs

• Using polynomial features

- Having too many features
 - Run the risk of overfitting
- Group categorical variables by avg price

Future areas of investigation

• Sales data was provided between 2006 - 2010.

• Inflation data can be incorporated to future models.

Apply model to other similar cities.