# Assignment 5: Automated Variable selection, multicollinearity and predictive modeling.

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## 1. Introduction

# 2. Sample definition

It is assumed that typical home buyers are those that move from apartments to single family or town homes. Also apartments are less likely to be sold to individuals as they remain holdings of owners for rental income. Single family and town homes belong to "Residential Low density" (RL) zoning classification in the city of Ames. Data belonging to only to the RL zone is considered for analysis and model development. Also, it is assumed that typical homes have paved streets for access and above grade living area greater than 800 square feet. Sales data belonging to homes that were sold in abnormal conditions such as trade in, foreclosure or short sale are not included in the analysis. Also, sales between family members, sale of adjoining lot, linked properties are omitted from the data. Homes with no basements are excluded from the analysis at this time. Homes with living area greater than 4000 square feet and garage area greater than 1000 square feet were identified as outliers and are therefore removed from the analysis. Table 1 shows the waterfall of the data not included in the data and the eligible samples.

Table 1: Drop waterfall

DropCondition	counts
01: Not LowDensityZone	657
02: Not Normal/Partial Sale	189
03: Street Not Paved	3
04: Less than 800 SqFt	41
05: No Basement	48
06: Greater 4000 sqft living Area - Influence Points	4
07:Garage area greater than 1000 sqft - Influence points	23
99: Eligible Sample	1965

### 2.1 Predictor variables of interest for modelling

The following variables in the data were deemed to be of interest for model building. The choice of parameters was based upon intial Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) and subject matter expertise. The categorical variables are coded into indicator variables for model building purposes, the tables 3, 4, 5 and 6 show the description of the indicator variables.

Table 2: Predictors of interest

LotArea	BsmtFullBath	MoSold
LotConfig	BsmtHalfBath	YrSold
Neighborhood	FullBath	SaleCondition
BldgType	HalfBath	FirstFlrSF
OverallCond	${\bf BedroomAbvGr}$	${\bf SecondFlrSF}$
YearRemodel	KitchenQual	OverallQual

TotalBsmtSF	TotRmsAbvGrd
GrLivArea	GarageArea

The following tables describe the indicator variables:

Table 3: Neighborhood tiers, base category > 90

Tier	Price.per.sq.ft
1	<= 60
2	> 60 and $<= 70$
3	> 70 and $<= 80$
4	> 80 and $<= 90$

Table 4: Lot configuration indicator variables; base category: Inside Lot

Indicator	Description
CornerLot CulDSac Frontal2 Frontal3	Corner lot CulDSac Lot 2 frontal lot 3 frontal lot

Table 5: Building type indicator variables; base category: single family

Indicator	Decription
TwnhsE	Townhouse
Twnhs	Twin house
Duplex	Duplex
fam2	2 family conversion

Table 6: Kitchen Quality indicator variables; base category: poor

Indicator	Decription
KTA	Typical/Average
KGD	Good
KEx	Excellent
KFa	Fair

## 2.2 Training and validation samples.

From the eligible samples, 70% of the data is randomly sampled to be used as the dataset for model development. This dataset would be refered to as training dataset. The remaining 30% is used as the validation set to evaluate the model performance of predicting sale price on data that is outside the training set. Table 7 shows the split of the total eligible samples.

Table 7: Training and Validation sampling

Data	Samples
Training set Validation set Total	1361 604 1965
Total	1900

# 3. Model identification by Automated Variable Selection

Attribute variables such as "TotalSQFT"; sum of basement square feet and above grade living area and "QualityIndex"; product of overall quality and overall condition has been created for use as predictor variables in model building. With the attribute variables and the indicator variables created, below is a list of predictor variables that will be used for automated variable selection and modelling.

Table 8: Predictors for linear regression models

LotArea	QualityIndex	Tier3	TwnhsE
YearRemodel	${\bf TotRmsAbvGrd}$	Tier4	Twnhs
${\bf TotalBsmtSF}$	GarageArea	PartialSaleCond	Duplex
GrLivArea	YearMonthSold	CornerLot	KTA
TotalBath	Tier1	CulDSac	KGD
${\bf Total SQFT}$	Tier2	Frontal2	KEx

#### 3.1. Full model

A full model with all the predictors used is fit as an exhaustive search. This will be used as an upper boundry for automated variable selection processes; forward selection and as a starting condition in the backward selection process. The full model and its fit is shown below:

 $\begin{array}{l} {\rm Sale Price} = 151325.57 \, + \, 0.42 \, * \, {\rm Lot Area} \, + \, 119.01 \, * \, {\rm Year Remodel} \, - \, 20.6 \, * \, {\rm Total Bsmt SF} \, - \, 17.16 \, * \, {\rm GrLiv Area} \, + \, 10197.78 \, * \, {\rm Total Bath} \, + \, 70.47 \, * \, {\rm Total SQFT} \, + \, 1483.8 \, * \, {\rm Quality Index} \, - \, 1150.48 \, * \, {\rm Tot Rms Abv Grd} \, + \, 42.26 \, * \, {\rm Garage Area} \, - \, 194.66 \, * \, {\rm Year Month Sold} \, - \, 54637.52 \, * \, {\rm Tier1} \, - \, 48465.07 \, * \, {\rm Tier2} \, - \, 37275.13 \, * \, {\rm Tier3} \, - \, 12577.95 \, * \, {\rm Tier4} \, + \, 14991.32 \, * \, {\rm Partial Sale Cond} \, - \, 4021.03 \, * \, {\rm Corner Lot} \, + \, 5459.61 \, * \, {\rm CulD Sac} \, - \, 8401.33 \, * \, {\rm Frontal 2} \, - \, 17960.26 \, * \, {\rm TwnhsE} \, - \, 22043.3 \, * \, {\rm Twnhs} \, - \, 39290.35 \, * \, {\rm Duplex} \, - \, 721.05 \, * \, {\rm KTA} \, + \, 605.01 \, * \, {\rm KGD} \, + \, 50320.13 \, * \, {\rm KEx} \, \end{array}$ 

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = SalePrice ~ ., data = train.Clean)
##
## Residuals:
##
       Min
                10
                    Median
                                 3Q
                                        Max
##
  -147763
           -13411
                       -410
                              12988
                                     182406
##
## Coefficients:
##
                     Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)
                    1.513e+05
                               1.092e+06
                                            0.139 0.889835
                                            3.788 0.000159 ***
## LotArea
                    4.233e-01
                               1.117e-01
## YearRemodel
                    1.190e+02
                               5.419e+01
                                            2.196 0.028260 *
## TotalBsmtSF
                   -2.060e+01
                               1.890e+01
                                           -1.090 0.275824
## GrLivArea
                   -1.716e+01
                               1.862e+01
                                           -0.922 0.356919
## TotalBath
                    1.020e+04 1.122e+03
                                            9.089 < 2e-16 ***
```

```
## TotalSQFT
                   7.047e+01 1.871e+01
                                         3.767 0.000173 ***
## QualityIndex
                   1.484e+03 1.028e+02 14.433 < 2e-16 ***
## TotRmsAbvGrd
                  -1.150e+03 8.497e+02 -1.354 0.175945
## GarageArea
                   4.226e+01 4.988e+00
                                         8.473 < 2e-16 ***
## YearMonthSold
                  -1.947e+02 5.443e+02
                                        -0.358 0.720651
## Tier1
                  -5.464e+04 5.775e+03 -9.461 < 2e-16 ***
## Tier2
                  -4.847e+04 5.234e+03 -9.260 < 2e-16 ***
## Tier3
                  -3.728e+04 5.002e+03
                                        -7.452 1.64e-13 ***
## Tier4
                  -1.258e+04 4.900e+03 -2.567 0.010375 *
## PartialSaleCond 1.499e+04 2.746e+03
                                         5.459 5.70e-08 ***
## CornerLot
                  -4.021e+03 1.868e+03 -2.153 0.031502 *
## CulDSac
                   5.460e+03 2.626e+03
                                         2.079 0.037814 *
## Frontal2
                  -8.401e+03 4.210e+03 -1.995 0.046200 *
## TwnhsE
                  -1.796e+04 3.432e+03 -5.233 1.94e-07 ***
## Twnhs
                  -2.204e+04 5.766e+03
                                        -3.823 0.000138 ***
## Duplex
                  -3.929e+04 4.674e+03
                                        -8.406 < 2e-16 ***
## KTA
                  -7.211e+02 5.223e+03
                                       -0.138 0.890211
## KGD
                   6.050e+02 5.557e+03
                                         0.109 0.913315
## KEx
                   5.032e+04 6.458e+03
                                         7.792 1.31e-14 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
## Residual standard error: 25440 on 1336 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.8956, Adjusted R-squared: 0.8938
## F-statistic: 477.8 on 24 and 1336 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

## 3.2. Intercept only model as start for forward variable selection

An intercept only model is used as a lower boundary (no predictors used) condition for forward selection.

Sale Price = 197014.67

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = SalePrice ~ 1, data = train.Clean)
## Residuals:
      Min
               1Q Median
                               3Q
                                      Max
## -138515 -54915 -20015
                                   427985
                            31485
## Coefficients:
##
              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
                                     93.1
## (Intercept)
                197015
                             2116
                                            <2e-16 ***
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 78070 on 1360 degrees of freedom
```

#### 3.3. Simple linear regression as starting condition for stepwise variable selection

A simple linear regression model with total square feet as predictor is used as a starting point for stepwise variable selection. Below is the model and fit:

```
*SalePrice = -46861.39 + 90.56 * TotalSQFT*
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = SalePrice ~ TotalSQFT, data = train.Clean)
## Residuals:
##
      Min
                1Q
                   Median
                                3Q
                                       Max
           -20170
                      1665
                             21187
## -202123
                                    233417
##
## Coefficients:
                Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
##
                                    -10.50
## (Intercept) -46861.39
                            4461.97
                                              <2e-16 ***
## TotalSQFT
                   90.56
                               1.60
                                      56.59
                                              <2e-16 ***
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 42630 on 1359 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.702, Adjusted R-squared: 0.7018
## F-statistic: 3202 on 1 and 1359 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

## 3.4. Forward variable selection.

A forward selection method is used for selecting variables for linear regression fit. The following model was fit by the automated forward selection by AIC.

```
 \begin{array}{l} {\rm Sale Price} = \text{-}261649.86 \, + \, 50.32 \, * \, {\rm Total SQFT} \, + \, 1508.63 \, * \, {\rm Quality Index} \, + \, 49044.18 \, * \, {\rm KEx} \, + \, 42.99 \, * \, {\rm Garage Area} \, + \, 10329.91 \, * \, {\rm Total Bath} \, - \, 41069.62 \, * \, {\rm Duplex} \, - \, 12825.83 \, * \, {\rm Tier4} \, + \, 15042.46 \, * \, {\rm Partial Sale Cond} \, - \, 37577.71 \, * \, {\rm Tier3} \, + \, 0.43 \, * \, {\rm Lot Area} \, + \, 5455.35 \, * \, {\rm CulD Sac} \, + \, 127.75 \, * \, {\rm Year Remodel} \, - \, 21364.26 \, * \, {\rm Twnhs} \, - \, 55081.8 \, * \, {\rm Tier1} \, - \, 48981.04 \, * \, {\rm Tier2} \, - \, 17106.01 \, * \, {\rm TwnhsE} \, - \, 4022.15 \, * \, {\rm Corner Lot} \, - \, 8585.89 \, * \, {\rm Frontal 2} \\ \end{array}
```

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = SalePrice ~ TotalSQFT + QualityIndex + KEx + GarageArea +
       TotalBath + Duplex + Tier4 + PartialSaleCond + Tier3 + LotArea +
##
##
       CulDSac + YearRemodel + Twnhs + Tier1 + Tier2 + TwnhsE +
##
       CornerLot + Frontal2, data = train.Clean)
##
## Residuals:
##
      Min
                1Q
                   Median
                                3Q
                                       Max
## -145734 -13679
                      -489
                             12996
                                   182251
##
## Coefficients:
##
                     Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
                                         -2.673 0.007615 **
## (Intercept)
                   -2.616e+05 9.790e+04
## TotalSQFT
                              1.471e+00
                                          34.211
                    5.032e+01
                                                  < 2e-16 ***
## QualityIndex
                    1.509e+03 1.005e+02 15.008 < 2e-16 ***
## KEx
                    4.904e+04 3.077e+03 15.941 < 2e-16 ***
                                           8.755 < 2e-16 ***
## GarageArea
                    4.299e+01 4.910e+00
```

```
## TotalBath
                   1.033e+04 1.013e+03 10.196 < 2e-16 ***
## Duplex
                  -4.107e+04 4.484e+03 -9.158 < 2e-16 ***
## Tier4
                  -1.283e+04 4.884e+03 -2.626 0.008739 **
                                         5.637 2.11e-08 ***
## PartialSaleCond 1.504e+04 2.669e+03
## Tier3
                  -3.758e+04 4.992e+03
                                       -7.527 9.47e-14 ***
## LotArea
                   4.299e-01 1.114e-01
                                         3.859 0.000119 ***
## CulDSac
                   5.455e+03 2.615e+03
                                         2.086 0.037184 *
## YearRemodel
                   1.278e+02 4.985e+01
                                         2.563 0.010490 *
## Twnhs
                  -2.136e+04 5.722e+03 -3.734 0.000197 ***
## Tier1
                  -5.508e+04 5.741e+03 -9.595 < 2e-16 ***
## Tier2
                  -4.898e+04 5.202e+03 -9.416 < 2e-16 ***
                  -1.711e+04 3.320e+03 -5.153 2.95e-07 ***
## TwnhsE
## CornerLot
                  -4.022e+03 1.863e+03 -2.159 0.031018 *
## Frontal2
                  -8.586e+03 4.199e+03 -2.045 0.041098 *
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
## Residual standard error: 25420 on 1342 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.8954, Adjusted R-squared: 0.894
## F-statistic: 638 on 18 and 1342 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

#### 3.5 Backward elimination selection.

The following model is a result of a backward elimination selection, with full model as its starting model.

Sale Price = -261649.86 + 0.43 \* Lot Area + 127.75 \* Year Remodel + 10329.91 \* Total Bath + 50.32 \* Total SQFT + 1508.63 \* Quality Index + 42.99 \* Garage Area - 55081.8 \* Tier1 - 48981.04 \* Tier2 - 37577.71 \* Tier3 - 12825.83 \* Tier4 + 15042.46 \* Partial Sale Cond - 4022.15 \* Corner Lot + 5455.35 \* CulD Sac - 8585.89 \* Frontal - 17106.01 \* Twnhs - 21364.26 \* Twnhs - 41069.62 \* Duplex + 49044.18 \* KEx

```
##
## Call:
  lm(formula = SalePrice ~ LotArea + YearRemodel + TotalBath +
##
       TotalSQFT + QualityIndex + GarageArea + Tier1 + Tier2 + Tier3 +
##
       Tier4 + PartialSaleCond + CornerLot + CulDSac + Frontal2 +
##
       TwnhsE + Twnhs + Duplex + KEx, data = train.Clean)
##
## Residuals:
                1Q Median
                               3Q
                                      Max
                     -489
## -145734 -13679
                            12996 182251
## Coefficients:
                    Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
                   -2.616e+05 9.790e+04 -2.673 0.007615 **
## (Intercept)
## LotArea
                   4.299e-01 1.114e-01
                                          3.859 0.000119 ***
                                          2.563 0.010490 *
## YearRemodel
                    1.278e+02 4.985e+01
## TotalBath
                   1.033e+04 1.013e+03 10.196 < 2e-16 ***
## TotalSQFT
                   5.032e+01 1.471e+00
                                         34.211 < 2e-16 ***
                   1.509e+03 1.005e+02
                                         15.008 < 2e-16 ***
## QualityIndex
## GarageArea
                   4.299e+01 4.910e+00
                                          8.755 < 2e-16 ***
## Tier1
                   -5.508e+04 5.741e+03 -9.595 < 2e-16 ***
## Tier2
                   -4.898e+04 5.202e+03 -9.416 < 2e-16 ***
## Tier3
                  -3.758e+04 4.992e+03 -7.527 9.47e-14 ***
```

```
## Tier4
                  -1.283e+04 4.884e+03 -2.626 0.008739 **
                                         5.637 2.11e-08 ***
## PartialSaleCond 1.504e+04 2.669e+03
## CornerLot
                  -4.022e+03 1.863e+03
                                        -2.159 0.031018 *
## CulDSac
                   5.455e+03 2.615e+03
                                         2.086 0.037184 *
## Frontal2
                  -8.586e+03 4.199e+03
                                        -2.045 0.041098 *
## TwnhsE
                  -1.711e+04 3.320e+03
                                        -5.153 2.95e-07 ***
## Twnhs
                  -2.136e+04 5.722e+03
                                        -3.734 0.000197 ***
## Duplex
                  -4.107e+04
                             4.484e+03
                                        -9.158 < 2e-16 ***
## KEx
                   4.904e+04 3.077e+03 15.941 < 2e-16 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
## Residual standard error: 25420 on 1342 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.8954, Adjusted R-squared: 0.894
                 638 on 18 and 1342 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
## F-statistic:
```

# 3.6. Stepwise regression method.

The following model is a result of stepwise variable selection with full model and simple linear regression model with Total square feet as a predictor as boundary conditions.

Sale Price = -261649.86 + 50.32 \* Total SQFT + 1508.63 \* Quality Index + 49044.18 \* KEx + 42.99 \* Garage Area + 10329.91 \* Total Bath - 41069.62 \* Duplex - 12825.83 \* Tier4 + 15042.46 \* Partial Sale Cond - 37577.71 \* Tier3 + 0.43 \* Lot Area + 5455.35 \* CulD Sac + 127.75 \* Year Remodel - 21364.26 \* Twnhs - 55081.8 \* Tier1 - 48981.04 \* Tier2 - 17106.01 \* Twnhs E - 4022.15 \* Corner Lot - 8585.89 \* Frontal 2

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = SalePrice ~ TotalSQFT + QualityIndex + KEx + GarageArea +
       TotalBath + Duplex + Tier4 + PartialSaleCond + Tier3 + LotArea +
       CulDSac + YearRemodel + Twnhs + Tier1 + Tier2 + TwnhsE +
##
##
       CornerLot + Frontal2, data = train.Clean)
##
## Residuals:
##
      Min
                1Q
                   Median
                                3Q
                                       Max
## -145734 -13679
                      -489
                             12996
                                   182251
##
## Coefficients:
                     Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
##
                                         -2.673 0.007615 **
## (Intercept)
                   -2.616e+05 9.790e+04
## TotalSQFT
                    5.032e+01
                              1.471e+00
                                          34.211 < 2e-16 ***
                                          15.008 < 2e-16 ***
## QualityIndex
                    1.509e+03
                              1.005e+02
## KEx
                    4.904e+04 3.077e+03
                                          15.941 < 2e-16 ***
## GarageArea
                    4.299e+01 4.910e+00
                                           8.755 < 2e-16 ***
## TotalBath
                    1.033e+04 1.013e+03
                                          10.196 < 2e-16 ***
## Duplex
                                          -9.158 < 2e-16 ***
                   -4.107e+04 4.484e+03
## Tier4
                   -1.283e+04 4.884e+03
                                         -2.626 0.008739 **
## PartialSaleCond 1.504e+04 2.669e+03
                                           5.637 2.11e-08 ***
                                         -7.527 9.47e-14 ***
## Tier3
                   -3.758e+04 4.992e+03
                   4.299e-01 1.114e-01
## LotArea
                                           3.859 0.000119 ***
## CulDSac
                   5.455e+03 2.615e+03
                                           2.086 0.037184 *
## YearRemodel
                    1.278e+02 4.985e+01
                                           2.563 0.010490 *
## Twnhs
                   -2.136e+04 5.722e+03 -3.734 0.000197 ***
```

```
## Tier1
                  -5.508e+04 5.741e+03
                                        -9.595 < 2e-16 ***
## Tier2
                  -4.898e+04 5.202e+03
                                        -9.416 < 2e-16 ***
## TwnhsE
                  -1.711e+04 3.320e+03
                                        -5.153 2.95e-07 ***
## CornerLot
                  -4.022e+03 1.863e+03
                                        -2.159 0.031018 *
## Frontal2
                  -8.586e+03 4.199e+03
                                        -2.045 0.041098 *
##
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 25420 on 1342 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.8954, Adjusted R-squared: 0.894
## F-statistic:
                 638 on 18 and 1342 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

#### 3.7. Junk Model

The attempt here is to verify the intuition of how correlated predictor variables perform. And how they compare to models from automated variable selection. The predictors chosen are OverallQual,OverallCond, QualityIndex, GrLivArea and TotalSQFT. QualityIndex is a linear combination of OverallQual and OverllCond. TotalSQFT is a result of a linear combination of variables that include GrLivArea. Below is the junk model and its fit.

Sale Price = -271281.8 + 45081.02 \* Overall Qual + 25737.81 \* Overall Cond - 3535.76 \* Quality Index + 11.67 \* Gr Liv Area + 53.99 \* Total SQFT

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = SalePrice ~ OverallQual + OverallCond + QualityIndex +
      GrLivArea + TotalSQFT, data = train)
##
## Residuals:
##
      Min
               1Q Median
                               3Q
                                      Max
## -101671 -18670
                     -835
                            17134
                                   226610
##
## Coefficients:
##
                 Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)
               -2.713e+05
                           2.202e+04 -12.317
                                             < 2e-16 ***
## OverallQual
                4.508e+04
                           3.683e+03
                                     12.241
                                              < 2e-16 ***
## OverallCond
                2.574e+04 4.105e+03
                                       6.270 4.85e-10 ***
## QualityIndex -3.536e+03 6.961e+02
                                      -5.079 4.32e-07 ***
## GrLivArea
                1.168e+01
                           3.684e+00
                                       3.169 0.00156 **
## TotalSQFT
                5.399e+01 2.657e+00 20.319
                                             < 2e-16 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes: 0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
## Residual standard error: 32080 on 1355 degrees of freedom
## Multiple R-squared: 0.8318, Adjusted R-squared: 0.8312
## F-statistic: 1340 on 5 and 1355 DF, p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

#### 3.7.1 Variance Inflation Factors (VIF)

Having known that the predictors in the junk model are correlated, it would be interesting to compare correlation amongst predictors in the models from automated variable selection methods against that of the junk model. Table 9 shows the top 5 highest VIFs by models.

Table 9: VIF - Top 5 my model

Model	Predictors	VIF
	QualityIndex	43.72
	OverallQual	31.72
$\operatorname{Junk}$	OverallCond	23.39
	TotalSQFT	4.87
	GrLivArea	4.14
	Tier2	13.56
	Tier3	11.79
Forward Selection	Tier4	7.10
	Tier1	4.68
	TotalSQFT	2.38
	Tier2	13.56
	Tier3	11.79
Backward Elimination	Tier4	7.10
	Tier1	4.68
	TotalSQFT	2.38
	Tier2	13.56
	Tier3	11.79
Stepwise	Tier4	7.10
	Tier1	4.68
	TotalSQFT	2.38

It is not surprising that the highest VIFs are from the junk model. However we see neighborhood Tiers 2 and 3 have high VIF (>10). This is not surprising either as they are indicator(dummy) variables. The indicator variables are correlated amongst themselves and can be modelled as linear combinations of each other. Thereby yielding a high coefficient of determintion when indicator variables are regressed by other predictors, causing an inflated VIF.

## 4. Model Comparison

The four models (Junk, Forward selection, Backward Elimination and Stepwise regression) are compared below. It is seen that the model equations for Forward Selection, Backward Elimination and Stepwise regression are the same. The automated variable selections have converged to the same model.

```
##
##
## Models
            Equation
##
## Junk
            SalePrice = -271281.8 +
##
            45081.02 * OverallQual +
##
            25737.81 * OverallCond -
##
            3535.76 * QualityIndex + 11.67
##
            * GrLivArea + 53.99 *
            TotalSQFT
##
##
            SalePrice = -261649.86 + 50.32
## Forward
##
            * TotalSQFT + 1508.63 *
##
            QualityIndex + 49044.18 * KEx
##
            + 42.99 * GarageArea +
            10329.91 * TotalBath -
##
```

```
##
            41069.62 * Duplex - 12825.83 *
##
            Tier4 + 15042.46 *
            PartialSaleCond - 37577.71 *
##
            Tier3 + 0.43 * LotArea +
##
##
            5455.35 * CulDSac + 127.75 *
            YearRemodel - 21364.26 * Twnhs
##
            - 55081.8 * Tier1 - 48981.04 *
##
##
            Tier2 - 17106.01 * TwnhsE -
##
            4022.15 * CornerLot - 8585.89
##
            * Frontal2
##
  Backward SalePrice = -261649.86 + 0.43
##
##
            * LotArea + 127.75 *
            YearRemodel + 10329.91 *
##
##
            TotalBath + 50.32 * TotalSQFT
##
            + 1508.63 * QualityIndex +
##
            42.99 * GarageArea - 55081.8 *
##
            Tier1 - 48981.04 * Tier2 -
            37577.71 * Tier3 - 12825.83 *
##
##
            Tier4 + 15042.46 *
##
            PartialSaleCond - 4022.15 *
            CornerLot + 5455.35 * CulDSac
##
            - 8585.89 * Frontal2 -
##
            17106.01 * TwnhsE - 21364.26 *
##
##
            Twnhs - 41069.62 * Duplex +
##
            49044.18 * KEx
##
  Stepwise SalePrice = -261649.86 + 50.32
##
            * TotalSQFT + 1508.63 *
##
##
            QualityIndex + 49044.18 * KEx
##
            + 42.99 * GarageArea +
##
            10329.91 * TotalBath -
##
            41069.62 * Duplex - 12825.83 *
##
            Tier4 + 15042.46 *
            PartialSaleCond - 37577.71 *
##
##
            Tier3 + 0.43 * LotArea +
##
            5455.35 * CulDSac + 127.75 *
            YearRemodel - 21364.26 * Twnhs
##
            - 55081.8 * Tier1 - 48981.04 *
##
##
            Tier2 - 17106.01 * TwnhsE -
##
            4022.15 * CornerLot - 8585.89
##
            * Frontal2
##
           -----
##
## Table: Model equations
```

Table 10 shows the metrics adjusted R squared, AIC, BIC. MSE and MAE. Table 11 ranks the metrics. We see that the ranks are idetical for every column i.e. rank based on MSE is same as rank based on R squared, AIC, BIC or MAE. This is expected as the "in-sample" MSE, Adjusted R squared, AIC and BIC are dependent on sum of squared residuals (SS Residuals). The in-sample MAE is dependent on raw residuals, which the SS Residuals is inturn dependendant upon.

Table 10: Model comparison

model	adj.r.squared	AIC	BIC	MSE	MAE
Junk	0.8311830	32113.45	32149.96	1024345098	23439.56
Forward Selection	0.8939616	31493.45	31597.77	637245425	17626.98
Backward Elimination	0.8939616	31493.45	31597.77	637245425	17626.98
Stepwise	0.8939616	31493.45	31597.77	637245425	17626.98

Table 11: Model Ranks

model	Rank.adjR	Rank.AIC	Rank.BIC	Rank.MSE	Rank.MAE
Junk	2	2	2	2	2
Forward Selection	1	1	1	1	1
Backward Elimination	1	1	1	1	1
Stepwise	1	1	1	1	1

# 4. Predictive Accuracy

Table 12 shows the MAE and MSE of both "in sample" (training dataset) and "out of sample" (validation data set) data. It is seen that the Junk model performs poorly compared to the automated variable selection model (recall that the forward selection, backward elimination and stepwise all converged into the same model) in both in sample and out of sample. The MSE and MAE metrics both convey the same message. The MSE is an inflated measure of the MAE.

$$MAE = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} |y_i - \hat{y}_i|}{n}$$

$$MSE = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2}{n}$$

While there is no statistical implication of choosing MAE over MSE or vice versa, MAE is easily understood and in the same units as of the response variable; in this case US dollars, unlike MSE which is square of US dollars.

It is also seen that the In sample metrics are better than the out of sample metrics in Table 12. When in sample MAE and MSE is much lower than the out sample MAE and MSE, then it is a sign of model being overfitted for the in-sample data or training data. The model was probably over tailored to the in-sample points.

Table 12: Prediction metrics of models

Model	MAE.Out.of.Sample	MAE.In.Sample	MSE.Out.of.Sample	MSE.In.Sample
Junk	22448.06	23439.56	882406444	1024345098
Forward	18285.26	17626.98	626000090	637245425
Backward	18285.26	17626.98	626000090	637245425
Stepwise	18285.26	17626.98	626000090	637245425