Mod 4 project Executive Summary

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Assignment

- What are the top 5 best zip codes to invest in?
 - Use forecasted data (i.e. not data from the original data set) for your recommendations
- Define "Best"
 - Lowest risk investment → which zip codes are the safest investment where I have the least chance of losing my money?
- Ada County (Boise), Idaho selected as best county in the country to invest for the lowest risk, 2-year investment*
 - Fueled by low mortgage rates and high demand/low supply

*https://www.noradarealestate.com/blog/boise-real-estate/

Why Boise, ID?



OSEMN process overview

Obtain

Scrub

Explore

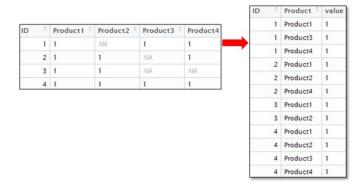
Model

iNterpret

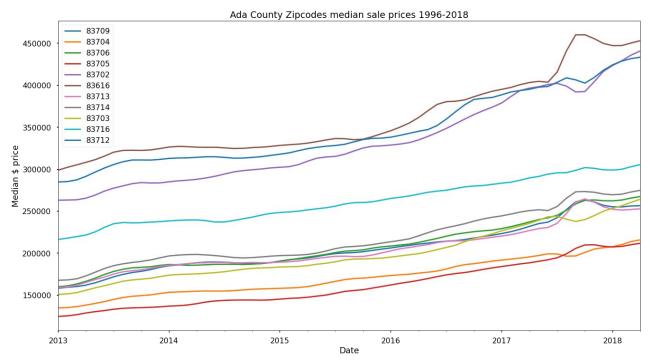
Obtain/Scrub

- Zillow data overview
 - 14,723 zip codes with 265 months of data from
 1996-04 to 2018-04 → sampled monthly
 - Wide format
- Pre-processing steps
 - Drop unnecessary columns → anything but County == 'Ada'
 - Convert from Wide to Long format for visualization and modeling
 - Cut data from before 2013 → only need data from +2-years ago (from 2018) to make forecasts
 2-years into future (to 2020)

Wide-to-Long format



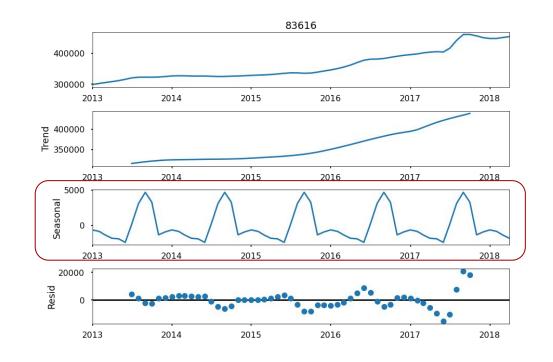
Explore - Non-stationary analysis



Strong positive trend in all zip codes

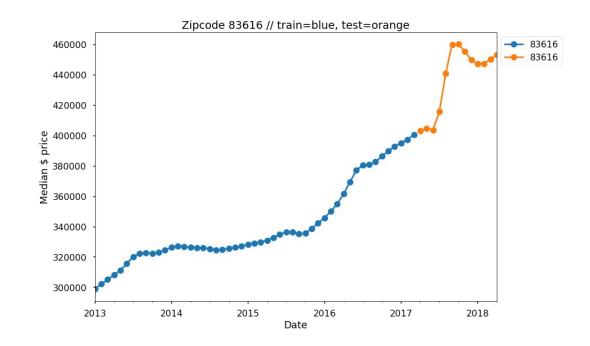
Explore - Non-stationary analysis (cont.)

- Seasonal_decompose library from statsmodels
- Explore one zip code (83616)
- Positive trend confirmed, Seasonal component uncovered (~\$5K increase in median price during summer months!)
- Use auto_arima for parameter selection to determine best way to deal with non-stationary features



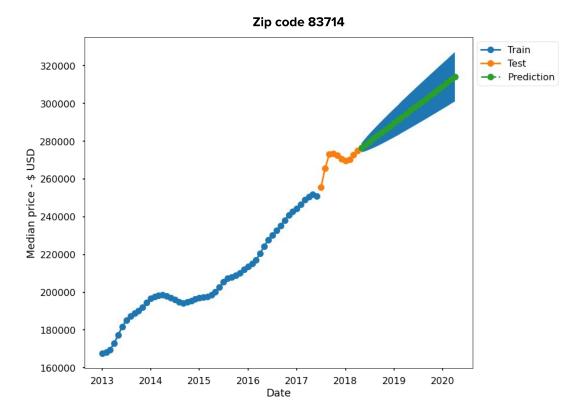
Model - Importance of Train/Test split

- Visualize train/test split with time series
- Models and forecasts are very sensitive to where the split occurs
- Balance between goodness-of-fit and overfitting can change drastically by adjusting train/test split



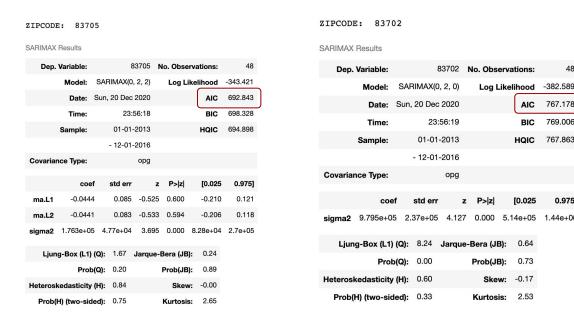
Model - auto_arima and SARIMAX

 auto_arima for model and parameter selection



iNterpret

- Model with SARIMAX using parameters selected by auto_arima
- Use **lowest relative** Akaike Information Criteria (AIC) to gauge model performance (assess goodness-of-fit)



Zip code 83705 has a lower AIC [692.843] compared to 83702 [767.178]

AIC

BIC

767.178

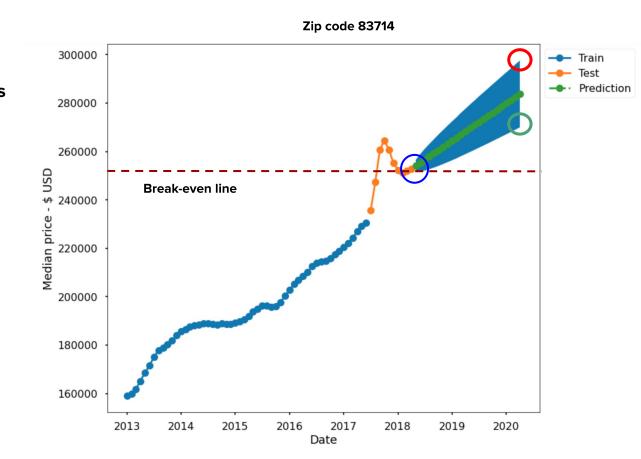
769.006

767.863

0.975]

iNterpret (cont.)

- Visualize confidence intervals to determine risk of losing money
- If confidence interval drops below current value, negative ROI is more likely
- Calculate highest and lowest ROI potential by subtracting the last known median price [2018-04-01] from the upper and lower confidence interval on price [2020-04-01]



Recommendations

• The top five lowest risk zip codes to invest in based off 2-year forecasts are:

| | Investment price | Mean ROI | High ROI | Low ROI | % ROI | % High | % Low |
|---------|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------|--------|--------|
| Zipcode | | | | | | | |
| 83702 | \$ 441000 | \$ 561000 | \$ 874121 | \$ 247879 | 27.21 | 98.21 | -43.79 |
| 83705 | \$ 211800 | \$ 252170 | \$ 361442 | \$ 142899 | 19.06 | 70.65 | -32.53 |
| 83703 | \$ 264200 | \$ 350600 | \$ 507763 | \$ 193437 | 32.7 | 92.19 | -26.78 |
| 83616 | \$ 453200 | \$ 453200 | \$ 502013 | \$ 404387 | 0 | 10.77 | -10.77 |
| 83709 | \$ 256600 | \$ 256600 | \$ 280831 | \$ 232369 | 0 | 9.44 | -9.44 |
| 83712 | \$ 433500 | \$ 433500 | \$ 466340 | \$ 400660 | 0 | 7.58 | -7.58 |
| 83704 | \$ 215900 | \$ 215900 | \$ 231685 | \$ 200115 | 0 | 7.31 | -7.31 |
| 83716 | \$ 305600 | \$ 305600 | \$ 323706 | \$ 287494 | 0 | 5.92 | -5.92 |
| 83706 | \$ 267500 | \$ 278187 | \$ 288254 | \$ 268120 | 4 | 7.76 | 0.23 |
| 83713 | \$ 252800 | \$ 283785 | \$ 297604 | \$ 269967 | 12.26 | 17.72 | 6.79 |
| 83714 | \$ 274900 | \$ 314179 | \$ 327259 | \$ 301098 | 14.29 | 19.05 | 9.53 |

Lowest probability of negative ROI

Future Work

- Dig deeper into auto_arima to see if there are better options for hyper parameter tuning to improve our models' fit.
- Get more recent data (the current data set only includes dates up to April 2018) to be able to forecast more accurately into the future.
- Research the Zillow "Zestimate" calculation

Thank you!

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