Bulldozer Blue Book - using RandomForest

March 4, 2019

0.0.1 Blue Book for Bulldozer - Kaggle Competition

This notebook is mostly created using the steps explained in the excellent Machine Learning course by Jeremy Howard and developed by Jeremy Howard and Rachel Thomas. The courses are available at http://www.fast.ai/

The idea behind this notebook is to take the reader step by step of how to use RandomForest in any competition. I have tried to clarify some aspects for a beginner and give reasons for some decision taken.

The high levels steps are as follows 1. Create the best model possible using only the training set (Train.csv) - Pre-process the training dataset and change all categories to codes, impute missing values and add some variables. - Split the dataset into training and validation sets (validation set being nearly the same size as the Kaggle provided validation set. - Separate the dependent variable. - Create the base model using all variables. - From the base model, find out the most important features and remove all unimportant features from the dataset. - Run the model again using only important features. - Detect and remove redundant features - Remove features which have a temporal sequence to make the model more general 2. Train the model on the whole training set - Run randomforest with a large number of entimators and finetuned paramters on the whole Kaggle provided training dataset. - This is the final model. 3. Apply the model on validation set (Valid.csv) and predict the SalePrice - Combine the Kaggle provided training and validation sets and pre-process the data. - Separate the datasets into training and validation and fit the above created model using the training data. - Predict the dependent variable using this fitted model. 4. Calculate the RMSLE using the actual SalePrice in the training set and the predicted SalePrice.

Notes: 1. I could not import the 'fastai' package into a Windows 10 environment and hence have included the 'fastai' functions I used in the notebook. 2. To run the notebook, the path to the dataset needs to be provided. 3. Further optimization of the model is possible by using the Machine_Appendix.csv which contains a more accurate year of manufacture and some more attributes. 4. Jeremy Howard also suggested using one-hot encoding of some variables. This has not been included here. 5. The course by Jeremy stops at finding the RMSE score using a validation set derived from the training set. I have used the actual validation set provided by Kaggle to calculate the final RMSE. This is what Kaggle would do if you submit your preductions.

Environment Setup Import necessary packages

```
from IPython.display import display
import numpy as np
import math
from sklearn import metrics
from pandas.api.types import is_string_dtype, is_numeric_dtype
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from sklearn.ensemble import forest
import scipy
from scipy.cluster import hierarchy as hc
```

Compile necessary fastai functions

```
In [85]: def rmse(x,y):
             return math.sqrt(((x-y)**2).mean())
         def print_score(m):
             res = [rmse(m.predict(X_train), y_train), rmse(m.predict(X_valid), y_valid),
                         m.score(X_train, y_train), m.score(X_valid, y_valid)]
             if hasattr(m, 'oob_score_'): res.append(m.oob_score_)
             print(res)
         def split_vals(a,n):
             return a[:n].copy(), a[n:].copy()
         def get_oob(df):
             m = RandomForestRegressor(n_estimators=40, min_samples_leaf=5, max_features=0.6,
             x, _ = split_vals(df, n_trn)
             m.fit(x, y_train)
             return m.oob_score_
         def add_datepart(df, fldname, drop=True, time=False):
             fld = df[fldname]
             fld_dtype = fld.dtype
             if isinstance(fld_dtype, pd.core.dtypes.dtypes.DatetimeTZDtype):
                 fld_dtype = np.datetime64
             if not np.issubdtype(fld_dtype, np.datetime64):
                 df[fldname] = fld = pd.to_datetime(fld, infer_datetime_format=True)
             targ_pre = re.sub('[Dd]ate$', '', fldname)
             attr = ['Year', 'Month', 'Week', 'Day', 'Dayofweek', 'Dayofyear',
                     'Is_month_end', 'Is_month_start', 'Is_quarter_end', 'Is_quarter_start', '
             if time: attr = attr + ['Hour', 'Minute', 'Second']
             for n in attr: df[targ_pre + n] = getattr(fld.dt, n.lower())
             df[targ_pre + 'Elapsed'] = fld.astype(np.int64) // 10 ** 9
             if drop: df.drop(fldname, axis=1, inplace=True)
         def train_cats(df):
             for n,c in df.items():
```

```
if is_string_dtype(c): df[n] = c.astype('category').cat.as_ordered()
def fix_missing(df, col, name, na_dict):
    if is_numeric_dtype(col):
        if pd.isnull(col).sum() or (name in na_dict):
            df[name+'_na'] = pd.isnull(col)
            filler = na_dict[name] if name in na_dict else col.median()
            df[name] = col.fillna(filler)
            na_dict[name] = filler
    return na_dict
def proc_df(df, y_fld=None, skip_flds=None, ignore_flds=None, do_scale=False, na_dict-
            preproc_fn=None, max_n_cat=None, subset=None, mapper=None):
    if not ignore_flds: ignore_flds=[]
    if not skip_flds: skip_flds=[]
    if subset: df = get_sample(df,subset)
    else: df = df.copy()
    ignored_flds = df.loc[:, ignore_flds]
    df.drop(ignore_flds, axis=1, inplace=True)
    if preproc_fn: preproc_fn(df)
    if y_fld is None: y = None
    else:
        if not is_numeric_dtype(df[y_fld]): df[y_fld] = df[y_fld].cat.codes
        y = df[y_fld].values
        skip_flds += [y_fld]
    df.drop(skip_flds, axis=1, inplace=True)
    if na_dict is None: na_dict = {}
    else: na_dict = na_dict.copy()
    na_dict_initial = na_dict.copy()
    for n,c in df.items(): na_dict = fix_missing(df, c, n, na_dict)
    if len(na_dict_initial.keys()) > 0:
        df.drop([a + '_na' for a in list(set(na_dict.keys()) - set(na_dict_initial.keys()) - set(na_dict_initial.keys())
    if do_scale: mapper = scale_vars(df, mapper)
    for n,c in df.items(): numericalize(df, c, n, max_n_cat)
    df = pd.get_dummies(df, dummy_na=True)
    df = pd.concat([ignored_flds, df], axis=1)
    res = [df, y, na_dict]
    if do_scale: res = res + [mapper]
    return res
def numericalize(df, col, name, max_n_cat):
    if not is_numeric_dtype(col) and ( max_n_cat is None or col.nunique()>max_n_cat):
        df[name] = col.cat.codes+1
```

Dataset import and pre-processing

```
In [86]: df_raw = pd.read_csv('Train.csv', low_memory=False, parse_dates=['saledate'])
```

```
In [87]: df_raw.head()
Out[87]:
            SalesID
                      SalePrice
                                  MachineID
                                             ModelID
                                                      datasource
                                                                    auctioneerID
                                                                                  YearMade
            1139246
                          66000
                                     999089
                                                 3157
                                                                              3.0
                                                                                       2004
                                                               121
         1
            1139248
                          57000
                                     117657
                                                   77
                                                               121
                                                                              3.0
                                                                                       1996
         2
           1139249
                          10000
                                     434808
                                                 7009
                                                               121
                                                                              3.0
                                                                                       2001
           1139251
                          38500
                                    1026470
                                                  332
                                                               121
                                                                              3.0
                                                                                       2001
         3
           1139253
                          11000
                                                17311
                                                               121
                                                                              3.0
                                                                                       2007
                                    1057373
                                                                                  \
            MachineHoursCurrentMeter UsageBand
                                                    saledate
         0
                                  68.0
                                             Low 2006-11-16
                                4640.0
         1
                                             Low 2004-03-26
         2
                                2838.0
                                            High 2004-02-26
         3
                                             High 2011-05-19
                                3486.0
         4
                                 722.0
                                          Medium 2009-07-23
           Undercarriage_Pad_Width Stick_Length Thumb Pattern_Changer Grouser_Type
         0
                                              NaN
                                                                      NaN
                                 NaN
                                                     NaN
                                                                                    NaN
         1
                                 NaN
                                              NaN
                                                     NaN
                                                                      NaN
                                                                                    NaN
         2
                                 NaN
                                               NaN
                                                     NaN
                                                                      NaN
                                                                                    NaN
         3
                                                                                    NaN
                                 NaN
                                              NaN
                                                     NaN
                                                                      NaN
         4
                                 NaN
                                              NaN
                                                     NaN
                                                                      NaN
                                                                                    NaN
           Backhoe_Mounting Blade_Type Travel_Controls Differential_Type
                         NaN
                                     NaN
                                                                    Standard
         0
                                                      NaN
         1
                         NaN
                                     NaN
                                                      NaN
                                                                    Standard
         2
                         NaN
                                     NaN
                                                      NaN
                                                                         NaN
         3
                         NaN
                                     NaN
                                                      NaN
                                                                         NaN
                         NaN
                                     NaN
                                                      NaN
                                                                         NaN
           Steering_Controls
         0
                 Conventional
         1
                 Conventional
         2
                          NaN
         3
                          NaN
                          NaN
         [5 rows x 53 columns]
In [88]: #Change SalePrice to log because the evaluation is for RMSLE
         df_raw.SalePrice = np.log(df_raw.SalePrice)
         #Change dates to date parts
         add_datepart(df_raw, 'saledate')
         #Add a column for age of bulldozer
         df_raw['age'] = df_raw['saleYear'] - df_raw['YearMade']
In [89]: #Change string variables to category type
```

train_cats(df_raw)

```
df_raw.UsageBand.cat.set_categories(['High', 'Medium', 'Low'], ordered=True, inplace='
         df_raw.UsageBand = df_raw.UsageBand.cat.codes
         #Change categories to code and missing values to 0, replace missing numeric values wi
         #add column to indicate replaced missing values and separate the dependent variable a
         df, y, nas = proc_df(df_raw, 'SalePrice')
In [90]: df.head()
Out [90]:
            SalesID
                    MachineID ModelID datasource auctioneerID YearMade \
         0 1139246
                         999089
                                    3157
                                                  121
                                                                 3.0
                                                                          2004
         1 1139248
                         117657
                                      77
                                                  121
                                                                 3.0
                                                                          1996
         2 1139249
                                    7009
                         434808
                                                  121
                                                                 3.0
                                                                          2001
         3 1139251
                                                  121
                                                                 3.0
                                                                          2001
                        1026470
                                     332
         4 1139253
                        1057373
                                                  121
                                                                 3.0
                                                                          2007
                                   17311
            MachineHoursCurrentMeter
                                       UsageBand fiModelDesc
                                                                 fiBaseModel
         0
                                 68.0
                                                2
                                                           950
                                                                         296
                               4640.0
                                                2
         1
                                                          1725
                                                                         527
         2
                               2838.0
                                                0
                                                           331
                                                                         110
                                                0
         3
                               3486.0
                                                          3674
                                                                        1375
         4
                                722.0
                                                                        1529
                                                1
                                                          4208
                                           saleIs_month_end saleIs_month_start
         0
                                                      False
                                                                           False
                                                      False
         1
                                                                           False
         2
                                                      False
                                                                           False
         3
                                                      False
                                                                           False
                                                      False
                                                                           False
            saleIs_quarter_end
                                 saleIs_quarter_start
                                                        saleIs_year_end
         0
                          False
                                                 False
                                                                   False
         1
                          False
                                                 False
                                                                   False
         2
                          False
                                                 False
                                                                   False
         3
                          False
                                                 False
                                                                   False
         4
                          False
                                                 False
                                                                   False
            saleIs_year_start saleElapsed
                                              age
                                                   auctioneerID_na
                                                             False
         0
                         False
                                 1163635200
                         False
                                 1080259200
                                                             False
         1
                                                8
         2
                         False
                                 1077753600
                                                3
                                                             False
         3
                                 1305763200
                                               10
                                                             False
                         False
                                 1248307200
                                                2
                                                             False
                         False
            MachineHoursCurrentMeter na
         0
                                   False
         1
                                   False
         2
                                   False
```

#Specify order for variable UsageBand and change to codes

```
[5 rows x 67 columns]
In [91]: df.shape
Out [91]: (401125, 67)
Run the base model
In [92]: #Split the dataset into training and validation sets. Use 12,000 as the validation se
         n_valid = 12000 # same as Kaggle's test set size
         n_trn = len(df)-n_valid
         raw_train, raw_valid = split_vals(df_raw, n_trn) #for using unprocessed data if neede
         X_train, X_valid = split_vals(df, n_trn)
         y_train, y_valid = split_vals(y, n_trn)
In [93]: X_train.shape, X_valid.shape, y_train.shape, y_valid.shape
Out [93]: ((389125, 67), (12000, 67), (389125,), (12000,))
In [94]: #Run base model
        m = RandomForestRegressor(n_jobs=-1)
         m.fit(X_train, y_train)
         print_score(m);
C:\Users\sureshsu\AppData\Local\Continuum\anaconda\lib\site-packages\sklearn\ensemble\forest.p
  warn("Some inputs do not have OOB scores. "
```

This model is pretty good and we are already in the top 25% of the leaderboard!

False False

Feature Engineering Various methods are used to remove unimportant and redundant features. This not only simplifies the model but also improves the scores.

Feature importance

3

[0.0908084299709318, 0.24578352609030657, 0.9827659574789724, 0.8921168757587268, -1.301829396]

```
64
                                           0.162049
                                    age
         14
                    fiProductClassDesc
                                           0.140629
         13
                           ProductSize
                                           0.136602
         2
                               ModelID
                                           0.086065
         5
                              YearMade
                                           0.054311
                       fiSecondaryDesc
         10
                                           0.032405
         63
                           saleElapsed
                                           0.026305
         8
                           fiModelDesc
                                           0.024194
         0
                               SalesID
                                           0.019793
         9
                           fiBaseModel
                                           0.013425
         1
                                           0.012067
                             MachineID
         18
                          Drive_System
                                           0.008716
         19
                             Enclosure
                                           0.008542
         15
                                  state
                                           0.008207
         56
                         saleDayofyear
                                           0.008050
         54
                                           0.007693
                               saleDay
         12
                     fiModelDescriptor
                                           0.006474
         11
                         fiModelSeries
                                           0.006144
         4
                          auctioneerID
                                           0.004638
         53
                               saleWeek
                                           0.004165
                         saleDayofweek
         55
                                           0.004031
         51
                              saleYear
                                           0.002224
         6
             MachineHoursCurrentMeter
                                           0.002146
         41
              Undercarriage_Pad_Width
                                           0.001947
         52
                                           0.001734
                             saleMonth
         35
                             Tire_Size
                                           0.001621
         32
                                Ripper
                                           0.001424
         36
                               Coupler
                                           0.001398
         48
                       Travel_Controls
                                           0.001341
In [96]: feature_importance.plot('Feature', 'Importance')
```

Out[96]: <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x16b82e86668>

Feature

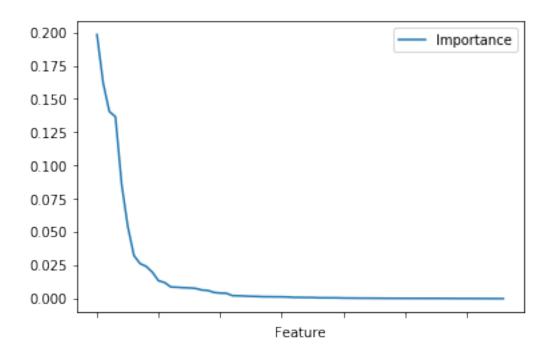
Coupler_System

Importance

0.198409

Out [95]:

37



```
important_features = feature_importance[feature_importance['Importance'] > i]
       df_important = df[important_features['Feature']]
       X_train, X_valid = split_vals(df_important, n_trn)
       y_train, y_valid = split_vals(y, n_trn)
       m = RandomForestRegressor(n_estimators=40, min_samples_leaf=3, max_features=0.5,
       m.fit(X_train, y_train)
       print_score(m)
[0.11958432619003426, 0.22574406793833476, 0.9701129295238532, 0.9089917700653886, 0.911072271]
[0.12049563941770408, 0.22521344572791402, 0.9696556745688437, 0.9094191056178855, 0.910660572
[0.12506905819081568, 0.22492477218285567, 0.9673085197916903, 0.9096511659165414, 0.9093439056]
[0.12703377677814198, 0.22586670449312324, 0.9662733468549793, 0.9088928618859209, 0.908646855
[0.13982977644922445, 0.22748791683229216, 0.9591366325656094, 0.9075802814655586, 0.902676425
[0.13990402619920667, 0.22836470188417285, 0.9590932240664158, 0.9068664995096065, 0.902723695
```

In [102]: #The best cut off point seems to be 0.0.006 when the RMSE score is 0.223128565646404

important_features = feature_importance[feature_importance['Importance'] > 0.006]

In [97]: # Run the model for various cut off values for the importance to find the best set of

for i in [0.001, 0.002, 0.003, 0.004, 0.005, 0.006, 0.007, 0.008, 0.009, 0.010, 0.011

```
m = RandomForestRegressor(n_estimators=40, min_samples_leaf=3, max_features=0.5, n_je
          m.fit(X_train, y_train)
          print_score(m)
In [103]: #Detect and remove redundant features
          #Draw dendogram of feature clusters
          corr = np.round(scipy.stats.spearmanr(df_important).correlation, 4)
          corr_condensed = hc.distance.squareform(1-corr)
          z = hc.linkage(corr_condensed, method='average')
          fig = plt.figure(figsize=(16,10))
          dendrogram = hc.dendrogram(z, labels=df_important.columns, orientation='left', leaf_:
          plt.show()
                                                                   saleDayofyear
                                                                   state
                                                                   saleDay
                                                                   Drive_System
                                                                   fiSecondaryDesc
                                                                   MachineID
                                                                   ModelID
                                                                   saleElapsed
                                                                   YearMade
                                                                   SalesID
                                                                   Enclosure
                                                                   Coupler System
                                                                   fiModelDescriptor
                                                                   ProductSize
                                                                   fiBaseModel
                                                                   fiModelDesc
                                                                   fiModelSeries
                                                                   fiProductClassDesc
                                                                   age
In [104]: #These feature pairs are in the same cluster'
          cluster_pairs = ['saleDayofyear', 'state', 'Drive_System', 'fiSecondaryDesc', 'Machine
          #Base OOB score
          get_oob(df_important)
Out[104]: 0.9080690969512725
In [106]: #Get the OOB score after dropping each of the variables in the cluster pairs
          for c in cluster_pairs:
              print(c, get_oob(df_important.drop(c, axis=1)))
```

df_important = df[important_features['Feature']]
X_train, X_valid = split_vals(df_important, n_trn)

y_train, y_valid = split_vals(y, n_trn)

```
saleDayofyear 0.906652296995623
state 0.9069376388210585
Drive_System 0.9069918364443399
fiSecondaryDesc 0.9058226111808125
MachineID 0.9090263081411097
ModelID 0.9073620274524163
saleElapsed 0.9021302468853822
YearMade 0.9075222798267965
Enclosure 0.9071869846567197
Coupler_System 0.9076748150212717
fiModelDescriptor 0.907722618507296
ProductSize 0.9048964672254667
fiBaseModel 0.9072082779412237
fiModelDesc 0.9073429977917062
In [108]: #For each pair select the attribute which impacts the score less (score is higher) a
                     to_drop = ['state', 'Drive_System', 'MachineID', 'Coupler_System', 'fiModelDescripto'
                     get_oob(df_important.drop(to_drop, axis=1))
Out[108]: 0.9051640773213453
In [109]: #00B score has decreased slightly after removing attributes but model has become sim
                     #Run the random forest on the dataset after dropping the columns
                     df_keep = df_important.drop(to_drop, axis=1)
                     X_train, X_valid = split_vals(df_keep, n_trn)
                     m = RandomForestRegressor(n_estimators=40, min_samples_leaf=3, max_features=0.5, n_je
                     m.fit(X_train, y_train)
                     print_score(m)
 \begin{bmatrix} 0.1345880561373964, \ 0.2307505977006369, \ 0.9621428542287741, \ 0.9049102636524801, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.9049102636524801, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.9049102636524801, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.9049102636524801, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.9049102636524801, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.9049102636524801, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.9049102636524801, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.9049102636524801, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.9049102636524801, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.9049102636524801, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.9049102636524801, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.9049102636524801, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.9049102636524801, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.9049102636524801, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.9049102636524801, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.9049102636524801, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.9049102636524801, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.90639876771, \ 0.9063987771, \ 0.906398771, \ 0.906398771, \ 0.906398771, \ 0.906398771, \ 0.906398771, \ 0.906398771, \ 0.906398771, \ 0.906398771, \ 0.906398771, \ 0.906398771, \ 0.90639771, \ 0.90639771, \ 0.90639771, \ 0.90639771, \ 0.90639771, \ 0.90639771, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.906391, \ 0.9063971, \ 0.906391, \ 0.9063910, \ 0.906391, \ 0.9
In [110]: df_keep.columns
Out[110]: Index(['age', 'fiProductClassDesc', 'ProductSize', 'ModelID', 'YearMade',
                                    'fiSecondaryDesc', 'saleElapsed', 'SalesID', 'fiBaseModel', 'Enclosure',
                                     'saleDayofyear', 'saleDay', 'fiModelSeries'],
                                  dtype='object')
In [111]: #Remove time related features to generalize the model more
                     #Label the validation and training set and calculate the OOB score
                     df_ext = df_keep.copy()
                     df_ext['is_valid'] = 1
                     df_ext.is_valid[:n_trn] = 0
                     x, y, nas = proc_df(df_ext, 'is_valid')
                     m = RandomForestClassifier(n_estimators=40, min_samples_leaf=3, max_features=0.5, n_
                     m.fit(x, y);
                     m.oob_score_
```

```
C:\Users\sureshsu\AppData\Local\Continuum\anaconda\lib\site-packages\ipykernel_launcher.py:5:
A value is trying to be set on a copy of a slice from a DataFrame
```

See the caveats in the documentation: http://pandas.pydata.org/pandas-docs/stable/indexing.html

```
Out[111]: 0.9999975070115301
In [112]: #Very high OOB score
         #Find the important features, i.e. the features which help rf predict the validation
         feature_importance_ext = pd.DataFrame({'Feature' : x.columns, 'Importance' : m.feature')
         feature_importance_ext.sort_values('Importance', ascending=False, inplace=True)
         feature_importance_ext.head(30)
Out[112]:
                       Feature Importance
         7
                       SalesID
                                 0.818795
         6
                   saleElapsed
                                 0.165247
         4
                      YearMade
                                 0.004877
         10
                 saleDayofyear
                                 0.004170
         3
                       ModelID
                                 0.001886
         0
                                 0.001536
                           age
         8
                   fiBaseModel
                                 0.001210
         9
                                 0.001184
                     Enclosure
         11
                       saleDay
                                 0.000442
         1
            fiProductClassDesc
                                 0.000225
         5
               fiSecondaryDesc
                                 0.000194
         12
                 fiModelSeries
                                 0.000149
                   ProductSize
                                 0.000088
In [113]: #Drop the top 1 and see if the RMSe improves
         to_drop = ['SalesID']
         df_keep = df_important.drop(to_drop, axis=1)
         X_train, X_valid = split_vals(df_keep, n_trn)
         m = RandomForestRegressor(n_estimators=40, min_samples_leaf=3, max_features=0.5, n_jeatures=0.5)
         m.fit(X_train, y_train)
         print_score(m)
```

There is a slight improvement.

```
In [114]: #Run the final model
          m = RandomForestRegressor(n_estimators=160, max_features=0.5, n_jobs=-1, oob_score=T
          m.fit(X_train, y_train)
          print_score(m)
```

The final model looks pretty good and the RMSE decreased from to 0.21570860916579637, mainly due to feature selection and fine tuning parameters.

What we have essentially done in the previous steps is to fine tune the hyper parameters and select the subset of features which gives the best score and generalizes the model the best. So the best model is RandomForestRegressor(n_estimators=160, max_features=0.5, n_jobs=-1, oob_score=True) and the features to use are df_keep.columns

Run model on actual validation set Now lets train the model on the full training dataset and check the score on the validation set provided by Kaggle.

To get the same set of category codes and uniformly imputing missing values, we are joining the training and validation sets and pre-processing them together. After preprocessing we will separate them again

```
In [115]: #Import data
          df_raw = pd.read_csv('Train.csv', low_memory=False, parse_dates=['saledate'])
          df_validation = pd.read_csv('Valid.csv', low_memory=False, parse_dates=['saledate'])
  Just to be sure, check the column names and columns in the Training and validation sets.
In [116]: print('training shape',df_raw.shape)
          print('validation shape', df_validation.shape)
          print('difference between training and validation', set(df_raw.columns) - set(df_val
training shape (401125, 53)
validation shape (11573, 52)
difference between training and validation {'SalePrice'}
In [117]: #Separate out the SalePrice as y and change it to log and drop it from the training
          y = np.log(df_raw['SalePrice'])
          df_raw = df_raw.drop('SalePrice', axis=1)
In [118]: #Append the validation set to the training set
          df_train_valid = df_raw.append(df_validation)
In [119]: df_train_valid.shape
Out[119]: (412698, 52)
In [120]: #Change dates to date parts
          add_datepart(df_train_valid, 'saledate')
In [121]: #Add a column for age of bulldozer
          df_train_valid['age'] = df_train_valid['saleYear'] - df_train_valid['YearMade']
In [122]: #Change string variables to category type
          train_cats(df_train_valid)
In [123]: #Specify order for variable UsageBand and change to codes
          df_train_valid.UsageBand.cat.set_categories(['High', 'Medium', 'Low'], ordered=True,
          df_train_valid.UsageBand = df_train_valid.UsageBand.cat.codes
```

```
In [124]: #Change other categories into codes and replace NaNs with O.
                             cat_cols = list(df_train_valid.select_dtypes(include=['category']).columns)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    #Above
                             for col in cat_cols:
                                          s = df_train_valid[col]
                                         df_train_valid[col] = s.cat.codes+1
In [125]: #Replace the NaNs for the numerical column with mean
                             df_train_valid['auctioneerID'].fillna(df_train_valid['auctioneerID'].median(), inpla
                             df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter'].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter']).fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter']).fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter')].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter')].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter')].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter')].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter')].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter')].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter')].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter')].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter')].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter')].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter')].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter')].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter')].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCurrentMeter')].fillna(df_train_valid['MachineHoursCu
In [126]: #Check if df has NaNs
                             df_train_valid.isnull().sum()
Out[126]: SalesID
                                                                                                                 0
                             MachineID
                                                                                                                 0
                             Model TD
                                                                                                                 0
                                                                                                                 0
                             datasource
                                                                                                                 0
                             auctioneerID
                             YearMade
                                                                                                                 0
                                                                                                                 0
                             MachineHoursCurrentMeter
                                                                                                                 0
                             UsageBand
                                                                                                                 0
                             fiModelDesc
                             fiBaseModel
                                                                                                                 0
                             fiSecondaryDesc
                                                                                                                 0
                                                                                                                 0
                             fiModelSeries
                             fiModelDescriptor
                                                                                                                 0
                             ProductSize
                                                                                                                 0
                                                                                                                 0
                             fiProductClassDesc
                                                                                                                 0
                             state
                             ProductGroup
                                                                                                                 0
                             {\tt ProductGroupDesc}
                                                                                                                 0
                             Drive_System
                                                                                                                 0
                             Enclosure
                                                                                                                 0
                                                                                                                 0
                             Forks
                                                                                                                 0
                             Pad_Type
                                                                                                                 0
                             Ride_Control
                             Stick
                                                                                                                 0
                             Transmission
                                                                                                                 0
                                                                                                                 0
                             Turbocharged
                             Blade_Extension
                                                                                                                 0
                                                                                                                 0
                             Blade_Width
                                                                                                                 0
                             Enclosure_Type
                                                                                                                 0
                             Engine_Horsepower
                                                                                                               . .
                             Tire_Size
                                                                                                                 0
                             Coupler
                                                                                                                 0
                             Coupler_System
                                                                                                                 0
                             Grouser_Tracks
                                                                                                                 0
```

Hydraulics_Flow	0
Track_Type	0
Undercarriage_Pad_Width	0
Stick_Length	0
Thumb	0
Pattern_Changer	0
Grouser_Type	0
Backhoe_Mounting	0
Blade_Type	0
Travel_Controls	0
Differential_Type	0
Steering_Controls	0
saleYear	0
saleMonth	0
saleWeek	0
saleDay	0
saleDayofweek	0
saleDayofyear	0
saleIs_month_end	0
saleIs_month_start	0
saleIs_quarter_end	0
saleIs_quarter_start	0
saleIs_year_end	0
saleIs_year_start	0
saleElapsed	0
age	0
Length: 65, dtype: int64	

In [127]: df_train_valid.head()

2

Out[127]:	SalesID	MachineID	ModelID	datasou	rce auctio	neerID	YearMade	\
0	1139246	999089	3157		121	3.0	2004	
1	1139248	117657	77		121	3.0	1996	
2	1139249	434808	7009		121	3.0	2001	
3	1139251	1026470	332		121	3.0	2001	
4	1139253	1057373	17311		121	3.0	2007	
	MachineH	loursCurrent	tMeter Us	ageBand	fiModelDes	c fiBa	seModel	\
0			68.0	2	96	3	298	
1		4	4640.0	2	174	5	529	
2		2	2838.0	0	33	6	111	
3		3	3486.0	0	371	6	1381	
4			722.0	1	426	1	1538	
	saleDayo	ofweek sale	eDayofyear	saleIs	_month_end	saleIs	_month_star	t \
0		3	320)	False		Fals	е
1		4	86	3	False		Fals	е

57

False

 ${\tt False}$

```
3
                         3
                                       139
                                                        False
                                                                            False
          4
                         3
                                       204
                                                       False
                                                                            False
             saleIs_quarter_end saleIs_quarter_start saleIs_year_end \
                          False
                                                 False
                                                                   False
          0
          1
                          False
                                                 False
                                                                   False
          2
                          False
                                                 False
                                                                   False
          3
                          False
                                                 False
                                                                   False
          4
                          False
                                                 False
                                                                   False
             saleIs_year_start
                                 saleElapsed
          0
                         False
                                  1163635200
                                                2
          1
                         False
                                                8
                                  1080259200
          2
                         False
                                                3
                                  1077753600
          3
                         False
                                  1305763200
                                               10
          4
                         False
                                  1248307200
                                                2
          [5 rows x 65 columns]
In [128]: df_train_valid.shape
Out[128]: (412698, 65)
  The pre-processed dataset is ready. Now need to choose only columns which were in our final
model and run the model.
In [129]: # These were the columns in the final model
          df_keep.columns
Out[129]: Index(['Coupler_System', 'age', 'fiProductClassDesc', 'ProductSize', 'ModelID',
                 'YearMade', 'fiSecondaryDesc', 'saleElapsed', 'fiModelDesc',
                 'fiBaseModel', 'MachineID', 'Drive_System', 'Enclosure', 'state',
                 'saleDayofyear', 'saleDay', 'fiModelDescriptor', 'fiModelSeries'],
                dtype='object')
In [130]: #Choose only columns which were used in the final model
          df_train_valid = df_train_valid[df_keep.columns]
          #Separate the training and validation sets
          df_valid = df_train_valid.tail(11573)
          df_train = df_train_valid.head(401125)
In [131]: print(df_valid.shape)
          print(df_train.shape)
(11573, 18)
(401125, 18)
```

That's it! Further fine tuning can be done by selecting a differnt combinations of features and perhaps replacing YearMade with the corrected data. I leave to the reader to do these and better the score above.

Hope this notebook helped!