

PREDICTING COVID-19 BURDEN IN NYC NEIGHBORHOOD

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INTRODUCTION

The New York City (NYC) has faced an outbreak of COVID-19 in the past 2 months. According to the data presented by NYC Health Department, different modified zip code areas (MODZCTA) are affected differently by COVID-19. Distribution of venues in NYC may directly affect the outbreak or indirectly associated with COVID-19 through close connection with local social economic situation.

PROBLEM

More US cities are facing outbreak of COVID-19. Modeling case burden of COVID-19 in US cities will help us allocate proper resources and polices to certain areas based on available location data.

I aim to use location data from Foursquare to model the case burden of COVID-19 in different MODZCTAs of NYC.

DATA SOURCE

NYC Health Department: COVID-19 case burden by MODZCTA and geographic boundary of each MODZCTA

NYC venues category information is queried from Foursquare

DATA CLEANING

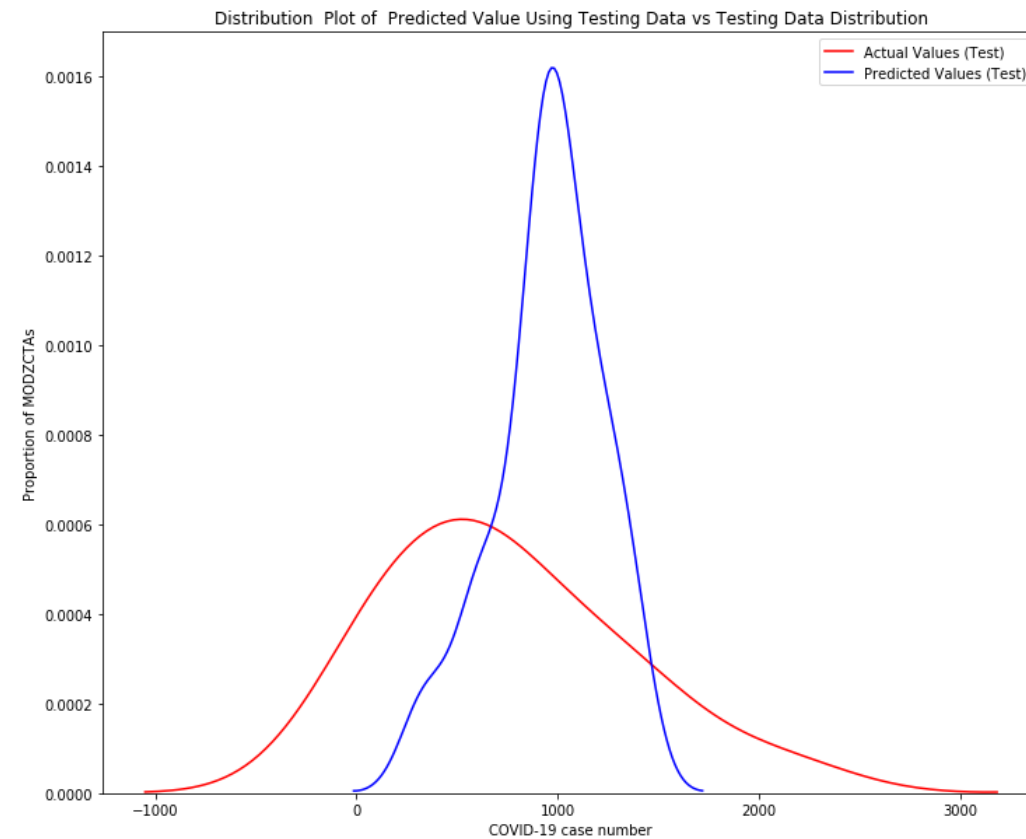
Discarded all venues that are not physically located in an *MODZCTA*.

EXPLORATORY ANALYSIS

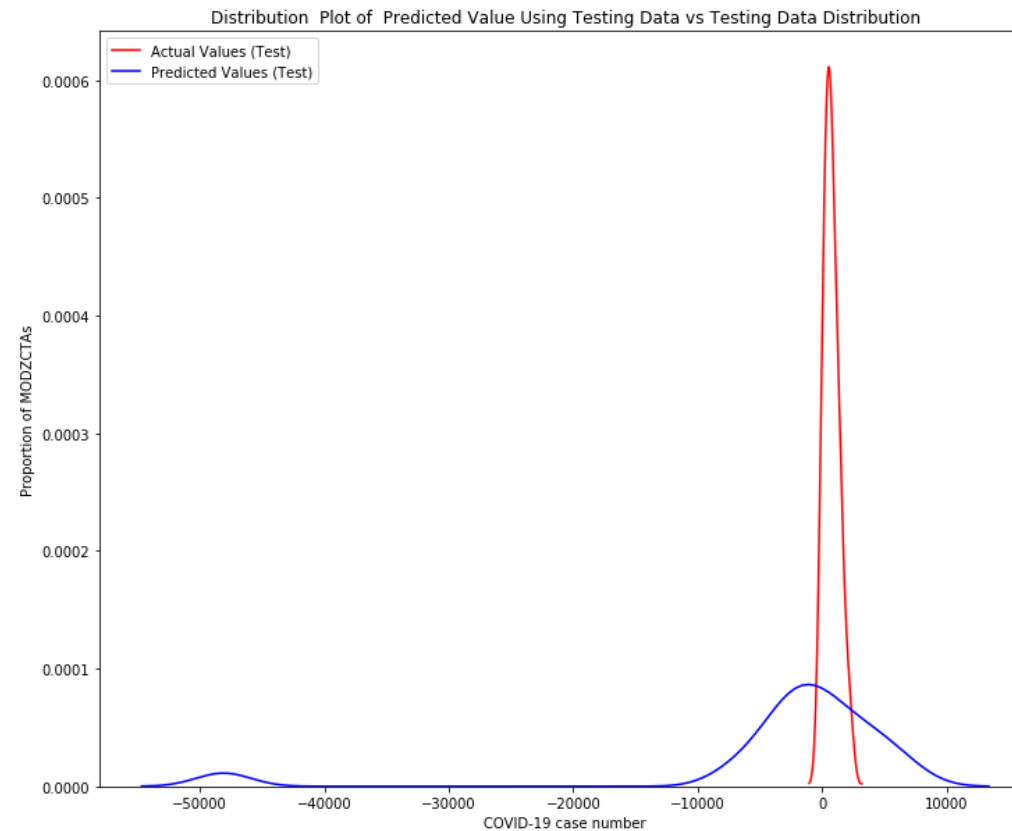
When too many subcategories being used, the model tends to overfit.

In order to avoid over-fitting, we combined sub-categories of venues into 9 large groups. This combining is based on category tree from Foursquare. The 9 large groups that are included are: 'Food', 'College & University', 'Event', 'Arts & Entertainment', 'Nightlife Spot', 'Outdoors & Recreation', 'Professional & Other Places', 'Shop & Service', 'Travel & Transport', 'Residence'.

RESULTS, LINEAR REGRESSION



RESULTS, POLYNOMIAL REGRESSION



CONCLUSION

The distribution of venues may partly explain the COVID-19 case distribution, however is not an ideal predictor for COVID-19 case burdens.