Capstone Project - The Battle of the Neighborhoods

Applied Data Science Capstone by IBM/Coursera

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1. Introduction

1.1 Background

The brazilian city São Paulo received a high number of immigrants after the first world war, among them are the japanese. Nowadays Brazil has the largest japanese community outside Japan[1], and there are lots of venues exclusively for japanese people.

1.2 Problem

In this project we will try to find an optimal location for a restaurant. This report will be targeted to stakeholders interested in opening an Japanese restaurant in São Paulo, Brazil. Since there are lots of restaurants in São Paulo, we will assume the hypothesis that crowded areas are the best locations for a restaurant, so we will focus in areas near of subway stations. With the aid of our data and data science skills, we will generate a few most promising neighborhoods based on this criteria. We will make clear the advantages of each neighborhood so that the best possible location can be chosen by stakeholders.

2. Data

Based on definition of our problem, factors that will influence our decision are:

- number of existing restaurants in the neighborhood (any type of restaurant)
- number of japanese restaurants in the neighborhood

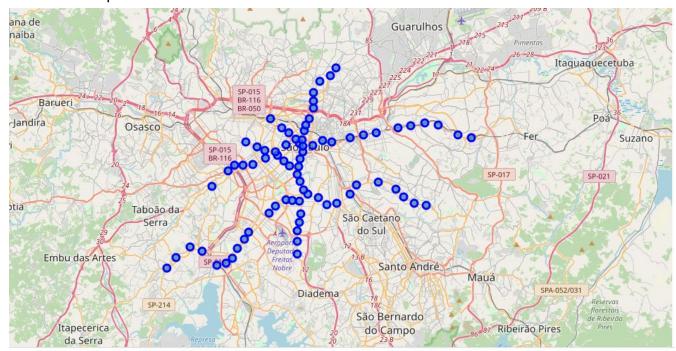
Following data sources will be used to extract/generate the required information:

- number of restaurants and their type and location in every neighborhood will be obtained using Foursquare API
- coordinate of São Paulo center will be obtained using Google Maps API geocoding
- csv file with coordinates of metro stations obtained on Kaggle.com

3. Methodology

3.1 Data Cleaning

As the first step we will build a DataFrame of all São Paulo's subway stations, then plot in a folium map.

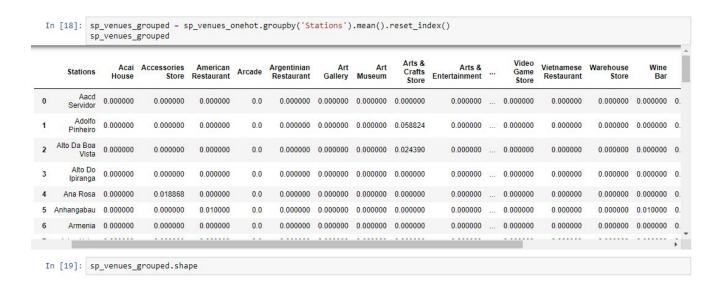


Then using the foursquare API we will build a DataFrame of venues within 500 meters of each subway station, along with their latitude, longitude and venue's type information.

Venue Category	Venue Longitude	Venue Latitude	Venue	Station Longitude	Station Latitude	Stations	
Brewer	-46.650 <mark>1</mark> 11	-23.597729	Quitanda da Cerveja	-46.652374	-23.597825	Aacd Servidor	0
Brazilian Restauran	-46.649572	-23.596710	Lilló Restaurante e Pizzaria	-46.652374	-23.597825	Aacd Servidor	1
Athletics & Sports	-46.65281 <mark>5</mark>	-23.598493	Ginásio Mané Garrincha	-46.652374	-23.597825	Aacd Servidor	2
Athletics & Sports	-46.655799	-23.598675	COTP - Centro Olímpico de Treinamento e Pesquisa	-46.652374	-23.597825	Aacd Servidor	3
Churrascaria	-46.650314	-23.598110	Grill Hall Prazeres da Carne	-46.652374	-23.597825	Aacd Servidor	4
Ba	-46.647956	-23.599186	Gola Solta	-46.652374	-23.597825	Aacd Servidor	5
Restauran	-46.649123	-23.596172	Trivial do Chef	-46.652374	-23.597825	Aacd Servidor	6

To apply the KMeans algorithm we need a numeric DataFrame, so we build it using the function get_dummies on the above DataFrame, specifying the 'Venue Category'

column, then we group by 'Stations' and take the mean, resulting on the below DataFrame;



After some work, we will gather those informations and build a DataFrame of stations alongside with the most common venues.



3.2 The KMeans algorithm and the Silhouette Score to choose the best 'K'

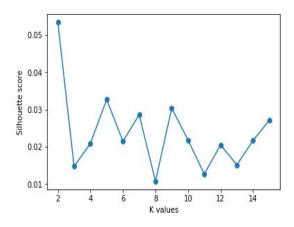
First we will scale the sp_venues_grouped panda's dataframe using the function MinMaxScaler(). Our first job is choose the best number of clusters (K), so we use the Silhouette Score method described below;

```
silhouette = []
K = np.arange(2, 16)

for k in K:
    kmean = KMeans(n_clusters=k, random_state=1)
    labels_pred = kmean.fit_predict(sp_venues_grouped_scaled)
    silhouette.append(silhouette_score(sp_venues_grouped_scaled, labels_pred))
```

```
#As shown on the plot, the optimal value is 6 for K
plt.plot(K, silhouette, 'o-')
plt.xlabel('K values')
plt.ylabel('Silhouette score')
```

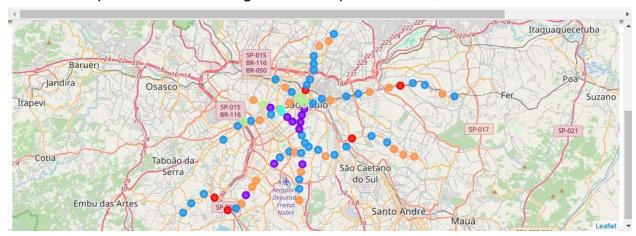
Text(0, 0.5, 'Silhouette score')



The best choice of clusters is 6, so running a KMeans algorithm we will get cluster labels that we use to build the new DataFrame below;

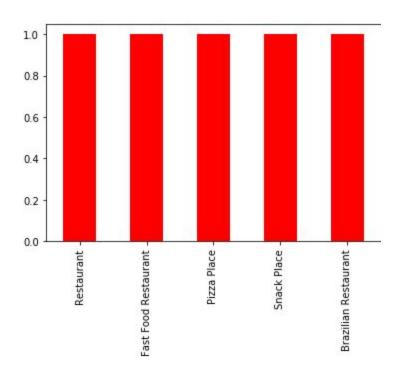
			ers=k, rand dict(sp_ven										
tat	ions_venue	s_sorted.	insert(0, '	Clusters	labels', lab	pels)							
tr	os.columns	= ['Stat	ions', 'Lat	itude',	'Longitude',	'Line',	'Neighborh	ood']					
lus	ters_merge	d = metro	s.join(stat	ions_ven	ues_sorted.se	et_index('Stations'), on='Sta	tions')				
lus	ters_merge	d											
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	Stations	Latitude	Longitude	Line	Neighborhood	Clusters labels	1st Most Common Venue	2nd Most Common Venue	3rd Most Common Venue	4th Most Common Venue	5th Most Common Venue	6th Most Common Venue	
)	Stations Aacd Servidor	Latitude -23.597825		Line ['lilas']	('moema', 'hospital-sao-paulo')		Common	Common	Common	Common	Common	Common	
0	Aacd		-46.652374		['moema', 'hospital-sao-	labels	Common Venue Brazilian	Common Venue	Common Venue	Common Venue Coffee	Common Venue	Common Venue	C
	Aacd Servidor Adolfo	-23.597825	-46.652374 -46.704206	['lilas']	['moema', 'hospital-sao- paulo'] ['largo-treze', 'alto-da-boa-	labels 2	Common Venue Brazilian Restaurant	Common Venue Café Restaurant	Common Venue Restaurant	Common Venue Coffee Shop Arts & Crafts	Common Venue Bakery	Athletics & Sports Rental Car	C

Now we can plot the clusters using a folium map to visualize;

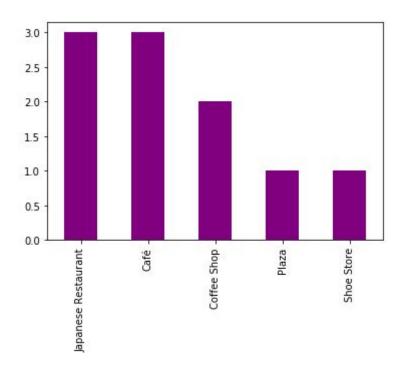


Plotting the top venues in each cluster we can get some insights;

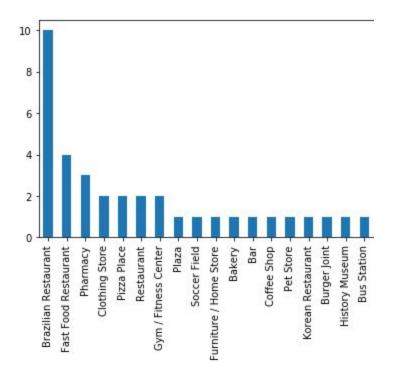
Cluster 0



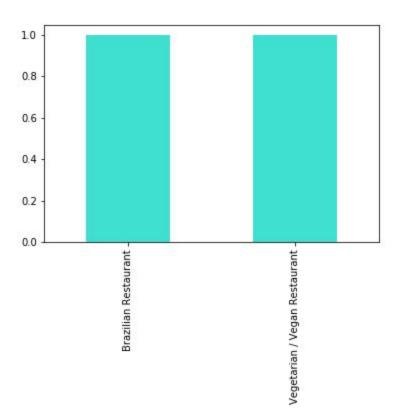
Cluster 1



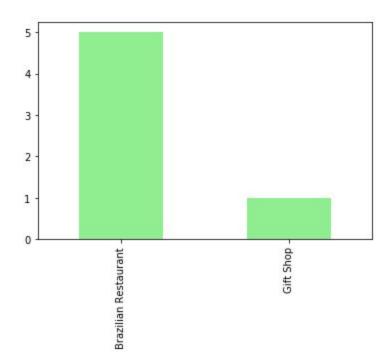
Cluster 2



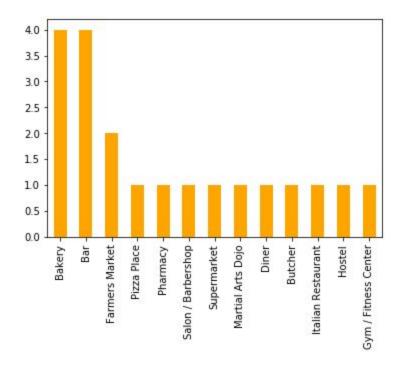
Cluster 3



Cluster 4



Cluster 5



4. Results

As we can see from the bar plots there are lots of food venues near São Paulo's subway stations, we can see that cluster 1 has the high concentration of japanese restaurants, so at first this shows that those subway stations have a high competition to our venue. With only the data provided by Foursquare API we can not make a decision, but we can argue that cluster 1 has 3 stations near of the largest japanese neighborhood in São Paulo (Liberdade, Praça da Árvore and São Joaquim), so we would have high number of clients. Using more data about those places we can refine our choice.

5. Discussion

The cluster 1 has a high number of japanese restaurants, so at first is advisable work with the data about cluster's 1 stations, inspec the restaurants location's is a good start point.

6. Conclusion

As a result we saw that there are lots of food venues near subway stations in São Paulo, but we found a cluster with a high number of Japanese food venues, so a further inspection of subway stations of this cluster can lead to a better insight.