

A world map with a dark background, showing the outlines of continents and oceans. Numerous small, colored circles (blue, red, green, yellow, purple) are scattered across the map, representing the locations of cities. The circles are more densely packed in Europe and North America. Labels for continents and oceans are visible in a light gray font: North America, North Atlantic Ocean, North Pacific Ocean, Asia, Africa, South America, South Pacific Ocean, South Atlantic Ocean, and Australia. The year '2008' is also visible near Europe.

IBM DATA SCIENCE CAPSTONE PROJECT

CITIES OF THE WORLD

INTRODUCTION

You might be a seasoned traveller that's been many places. You're a foodie and love theatres. You've travelled to many cities before and you don't really know where you would like to go next? Wouldn't it be nice to get new travel ideas? To find new cities based on how similar they are to the ones you liked in your previous travels?

Or, you might be a business man that travels around a world to sign deals. Everywhere you go, you need to take your futur clients out and entertain them to talk business in a relaxed setting. Wouldn't it be nice if you could know how similar the next city you're going to go to is to the ones you know already?

Usually, all these travels start with landing in a major city. Often, these are either country capitals or financial centers. The problem we're going to solve is to answer these questions: How is one city similar to the others? What are the most common venues that set these cities appart?

To answer these questions, we're going to compare and cluster capitals and financial centers based on the Foursquare API explore venues feature.

DATA

- ▶ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_national_capitals
- ▶ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_Financial_Centres_Index
- ▶ geopy.geocoders Nominatim
- ▶ Foursquare API

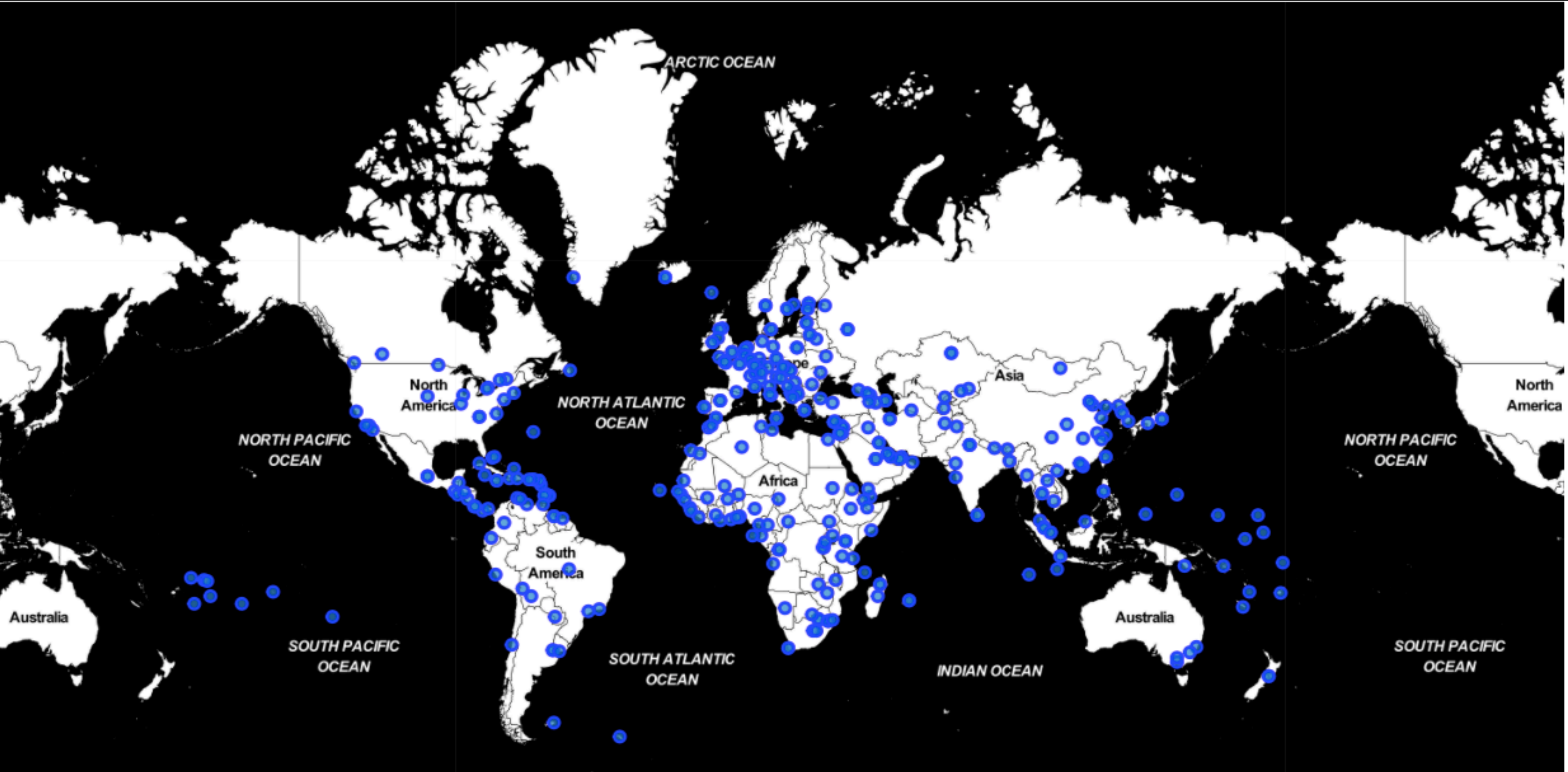
METHODOLOGY

- ▶ Build the dataset



	City	Latitude	Longitude
0	New York City	40.712728	-74.006015
1	London	51.507322	-0.127647
2	Shanghai	31.232276	121.469207
3	Tokyo	35.682839	139.759455
4	Hong Kong	22.350627	114.184916

VISUALIZING THE CITIES



GETTING THE VENUES FROM FOURSQUARE

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  'name': 'The Ritz-Carlton, Hong Kong (香港麗思卡爾頓酒店)',  
  'location': {'address': '1 Austin Road West, International Commerce Centre, Tsim Sha Tsui',  
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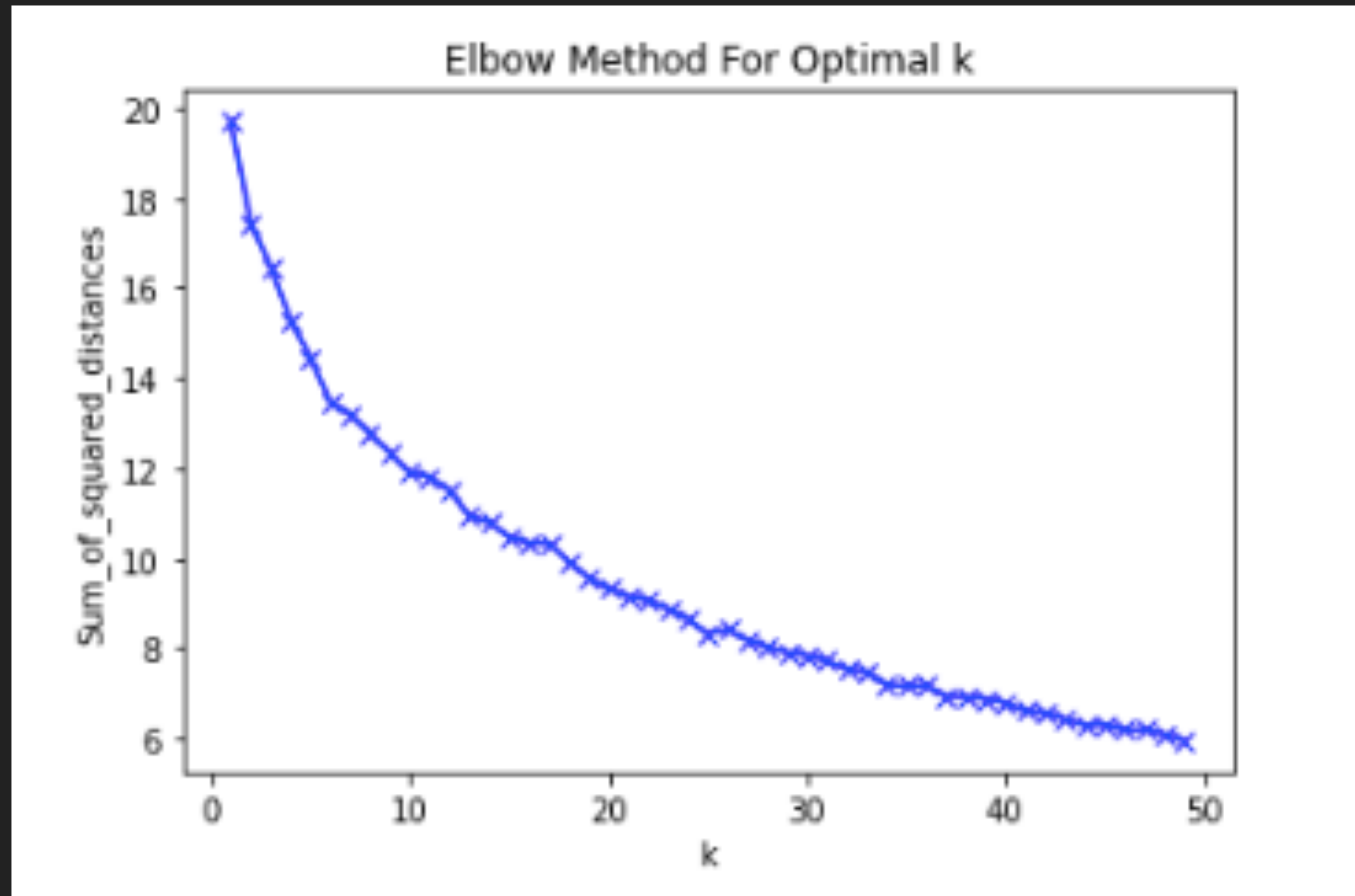

BUILDING THE VENUES DATA FRAME

	City	Latitude	Longitude	Venue	Venue Latitude	Venue Longitude	Venue Category
0	New York City	40.712728	-74.006015	Aire Ancient Baths	40.718141	-74.004941	Spa
1	New York City	40.712728	-74.006015	9/11 Memorial North Pool	40.712077	-74.013187	Memorial Site
2	New York City	40.712728	-74.006015	Crown Shy	40.706187	-74.007490	Restaurant
3	New York City	40.712728	-74.006015	Los Tacos No. 1	40.714267	-74.008756	Taco Place
4	New York City	40.712728	-74.006015	The Rooftop @ Pier 17	40.705463	-74.001598	Music Venue

SORTING VENUES FROM MOST TO LEAST COMMON

	City	1st Most Common Venue	2nd Most Common Venue	3rd Most Common Venue	4th Most Common Venue	5th Most Common Venue
0	Abidjan	African Restaurant	Nightclub	Shopping Mall	Hotel	Ice Cream Shop
1	Abu Dhabi	Hotel	Resort	Beach	Shopping Mall	Food Truck
2	Abuja	Fast Food Restaurant	Shopping Mall	Hotel	Bed & Breakfast	Restaurant
3	Accra	Hotel	Shopping Mall	Cocktail Bar	Pizza Place	African Restaurant
4	Adamstown	Nature Preserve	Zoo	Food Stand	Food Court	Food & Drink Shop

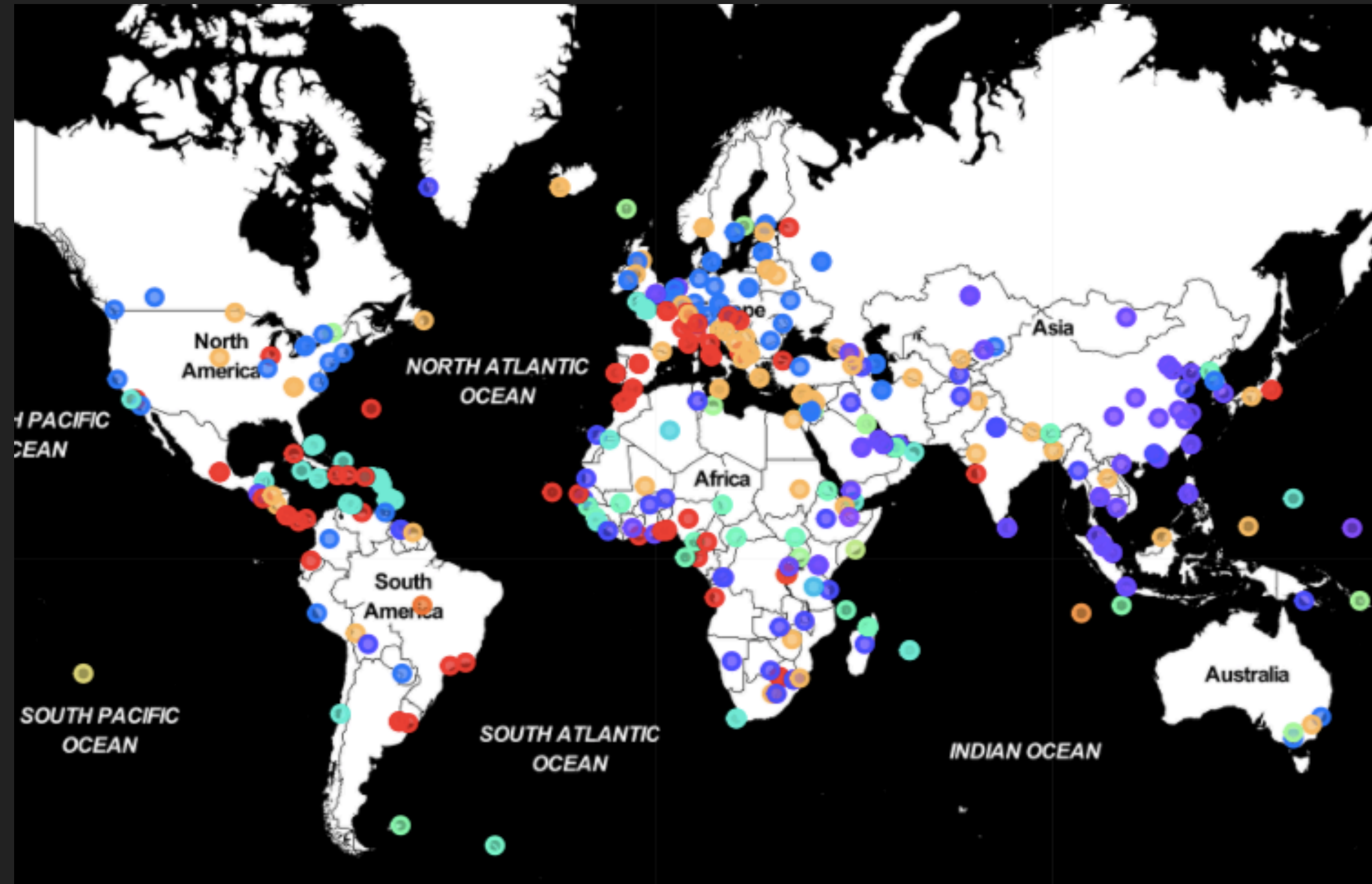
USING K MEANS – FINDING THE BEST K WITH THE ELBOW METHOD



CLUSTERING THE CITIES WITH K MEANS

	City	Latitude	Longitude	Cluster Labels	C
0	New York City	40.712728	-74.006015	4	
1	London	51.507322	-0.127647	2	
2	Shanghai	31.232276	121.469207	2	
3	Tokyo	35.682839	139.759455	19	
4	Hong Kong	22.350627	114.184916	2	

RESULTS



CLUSTER DETAILS (CLUSTER 8)

	City	1st Most Common Venue	2nd Most Common Venue	3rd Most Common Venue	4th Most Common Venue	5th Most Common Venue	6th Most Common Venue
44	Tel Aviv	Beach	Café	Park	Ice Cream Shop	Coffee Shop	
54	Jersey	Beach	Hotel	Historic Site	Restaurant	French Restaurant	
62	Mauritius	Resort	Beach	Hotel	Café	Park	
66	Cape Town	Beach	Hotel	Coffee Shop	Café	Trail	
68	Bahamas	Beach	Resort	Hotel	Coffee Shop	Ice Cream Shop	
71	British Virgin Islands	Beach	American Restaurant	Bar	Caribbean Restaurant	Hotel	
77	Cayman Islands	Caribbean Restaurant	Hotel	Resort	Italian Restaurant	Beach	
78	Guernsey	Beach	Hotel	Restaurant	French Restaurant	Café	Shopping Mall
85	Barbados	Caribbean Restaurant	Beach	Hotel	Café	Shopping Mall	
118	Aden	Hotel	Surf Spot	Resort	Airport	Airport Food Court	

DISCUSSION

The results show that cities can be grouped together by looking at their venues. At first glance, we can see that very large cities or cities from countries with similar cultural backgrounds seem to have a tendency to group together.

If we look closer into each cluster, we can see that some cities are outliers and belong to their own small clusters. This seems to happen for smaller cities with a lower number of venues. Also, some cities have coordinates that put them in wrong places. Further work would be needed to correct these. For now, looking at both the map and the cluster details is sufficient to work around this problem.

By analyzing the clusters, we can find useful information about cities that might be similar in experience. For example, cluster 4 has a group of cities where parks are the most common venue and cluster 12 has cities with a lot of cafés. Cluster 8 consists of a group of cities where beaches are the most common.



CONCLUSION

The questions we wanted to answer were the following. How is one city similar to the others? What are the most common venues that set these cities apart? In the discussion section, we set forward that the current city clustering analysis was able to answer these questions.

If you are a seasoned globetrotter, by looking at the data, you might decide you want to explore the idea of a trip to Tel Aviv if you like beaches. Maybe you wouldn't have thought of going to a city that large and expect to find this kind of venue.

If on the other hand, you are a traveling business man, you might plan your meetings better by knowing that Singapore, where you have never been, is similar to London that you know very well.