

# Project: New York City Taxi Trip Duration

Machine Learning

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# 1 Data Description

I have two datasets at my disposal, `ntrain.csv` and `test.csv`.

The `train.csv` file contains 1,458,644 records of individual taxi trips, which is what I am going to use to train my models. The `test.csv` contains 625,134 records, and my objective is to predict each record's trip duration. Each record also includes the following features:

- **id**: A unique identifier for each trip.
- **vendor\_id**: A code indicating the provider associated with the trip. There are two providers, represented by 1 and 2.
- **pickup\_datetime**: The timestamp when the passenger(s) were picked up.
- **dropoff\_datetime**: The timestamp when the passenger(s) were dropped off.
- **passenger\_count**: The number of passengers on the trip, ranging from 1 to 6.
- **pickup\_longitude**: The longitude coordinate of the pickup location.
- **pickup\_latitude**: The latitude coordinate of the pickup location.
- **dropoff\_longitude**: The longitude coordinate of the dropoff location.
- **dropoff\_latitude**: The latitude coordinate of the dropoff location.
- **store\_and\_fwd\_flag**: A binary flag indicating whether the trip record was held in the taxi's memory before being sent to the vendor due to lack of connectivity (Y for yes, N for no).
- **trip\_duration**: The target variable, representing the duration of the trip in seconds. This is the variable that I aim to predict with my model.

## 2 Short Exploratory Data Analysis

I'll start by getting a better idea of the data features that I am going to work with. Identifying their structure, distribution, classes and potential outliers.

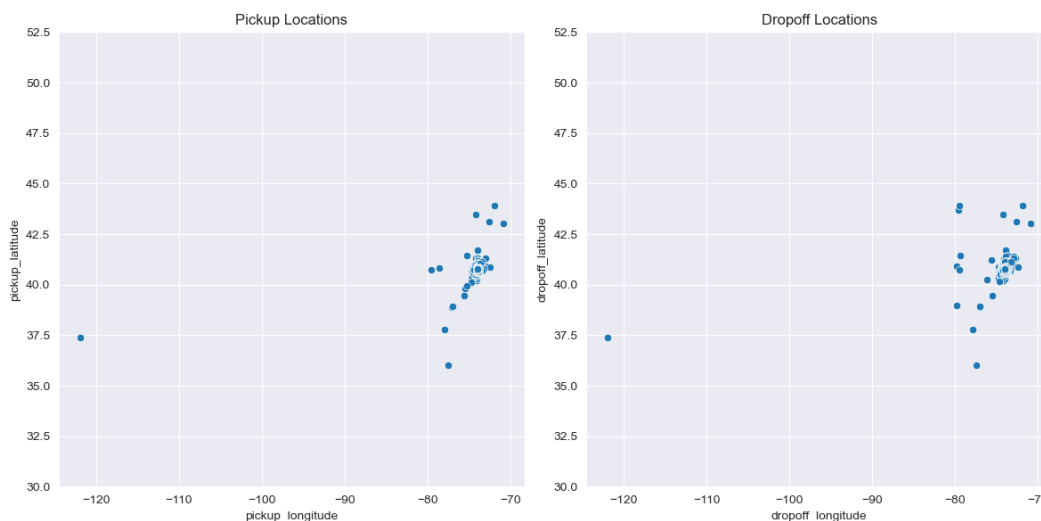


Figure 1: Distribution of Pickup and Dropoff Points

It appears that the majority of pickup and dropoff locations are limited within the coordinates of NYC and its surrounding area.

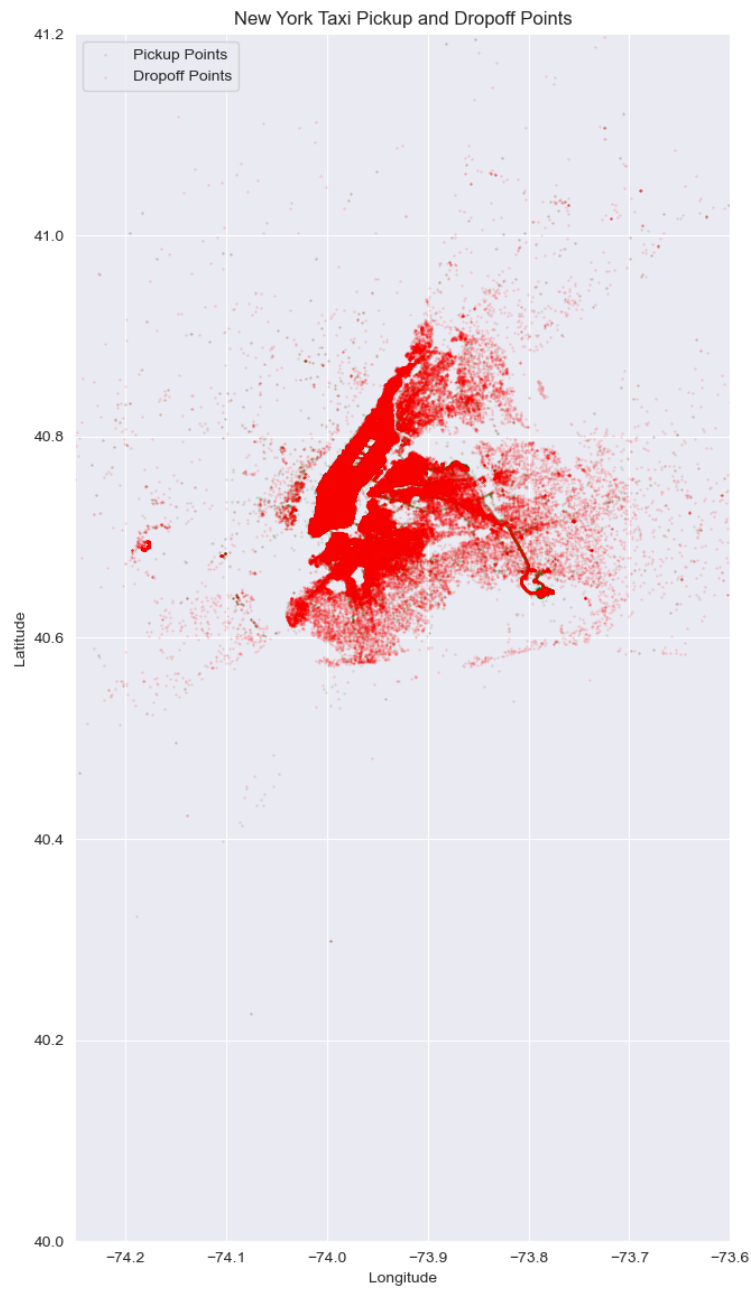


Figure 2: Visualizing Pickup and Dropoff points around NYC's coordinates

By limiting the coordinates range around NYC, I can clearly see the bulk of the pickup and dropoff points of the taxi trips whom density is able to give form to NYC's urban planning on the map.

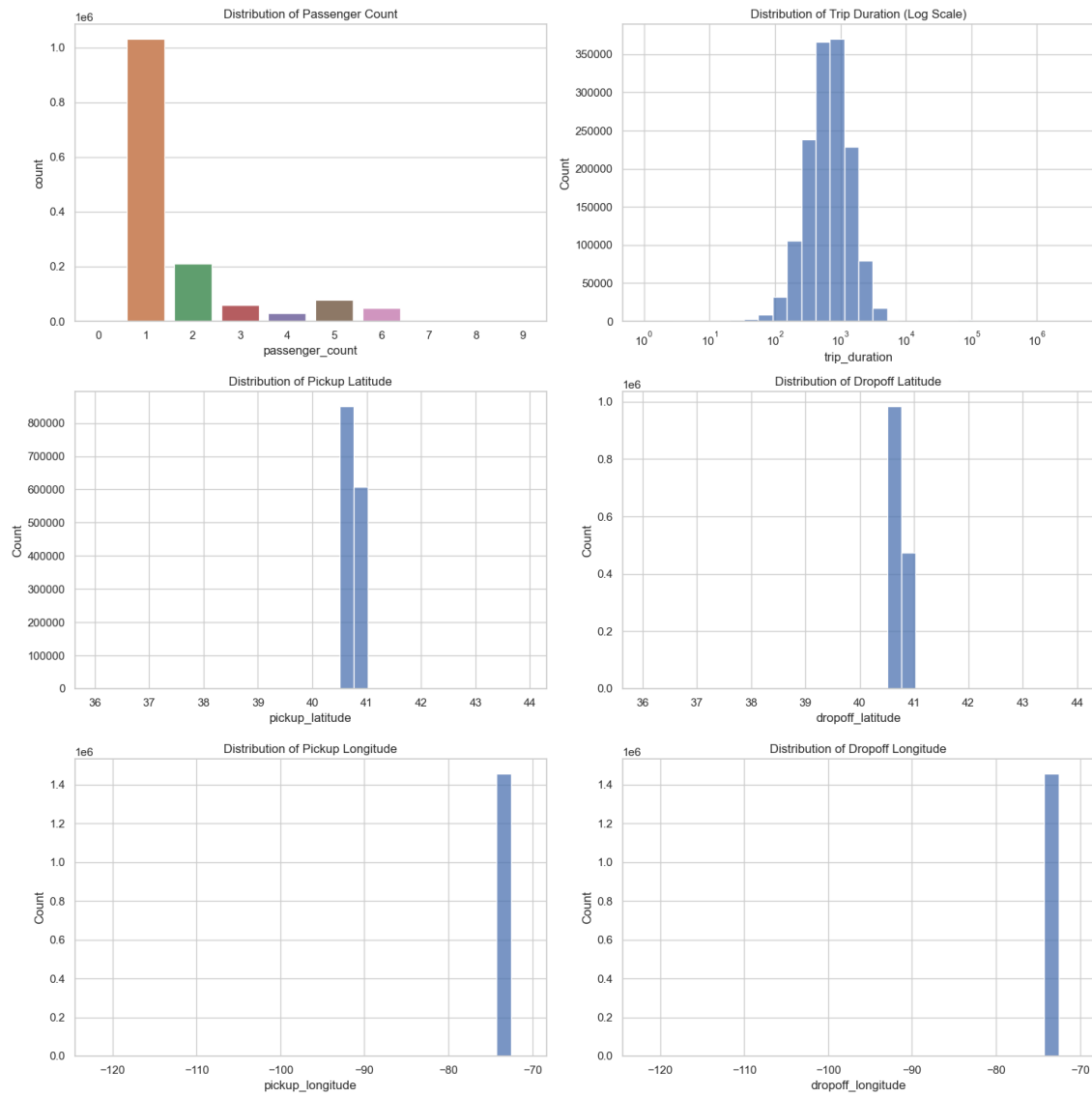


Figure 3: Visual Exploration of my features

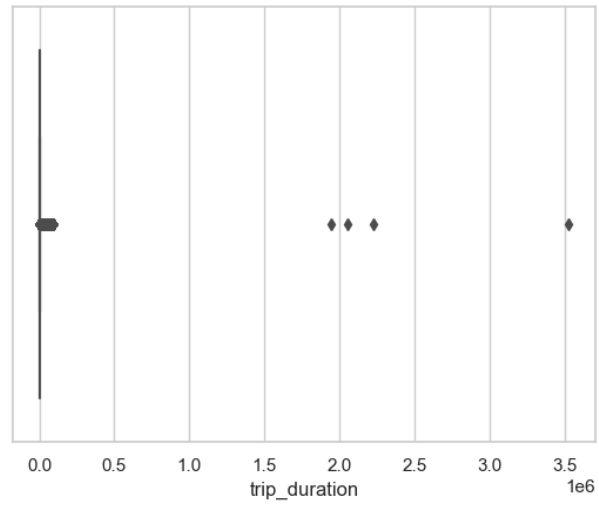


Figure 4: Trip Durations

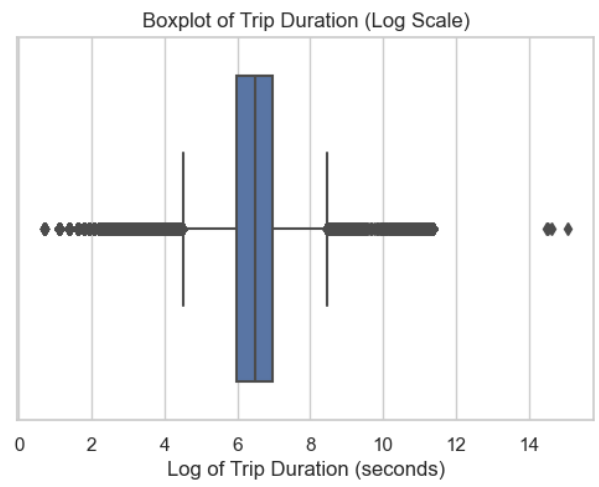


Figure 5: Log Trip Durations

Passenger count consists of 6 classes, most taxi trips had 1 passenger. A couple of extreme outliers also appear to exist in the trip durations. The counts of longitudes and latitudes tell the same story as before, with the overwhelming majority of them being in a restricted geographical location around NYC.

## 3 Feature Engineering and Data Enrichment

Considering the complexity of the question at hand, to predict taxi trip durations, it appears very unlikely that the currently available features can tell the whole story.

### 3.1 Temporal Features and Google's Distance Matrix API

First I am going to create temporal features by extracting the month, day, hour and minute from the datetime column.

Google offers a great variety of APIs when it comes to maps, routes, geolocations and geocoding, which I am going to make use of. It is a well known fact that taxi companies make use of GPS services, and Google's route optimizers and directions are probably the most widely used ones.

I will particularly use the Distance Matrix API to calculate the distances and travel times from pickup to dropoff points and consequently create 2 new features in my dataset.

Even if the GPS services used by NYC's taxis are not powered by Google, I expect that would still be good approximation of any other GPS service that the taxi drivers may have used.

The API takes into consideration NYC's street network as well as historical traffic conditions.

Let's plot the correlation to have a better look into the possible relations between my data's features as well the new ones.

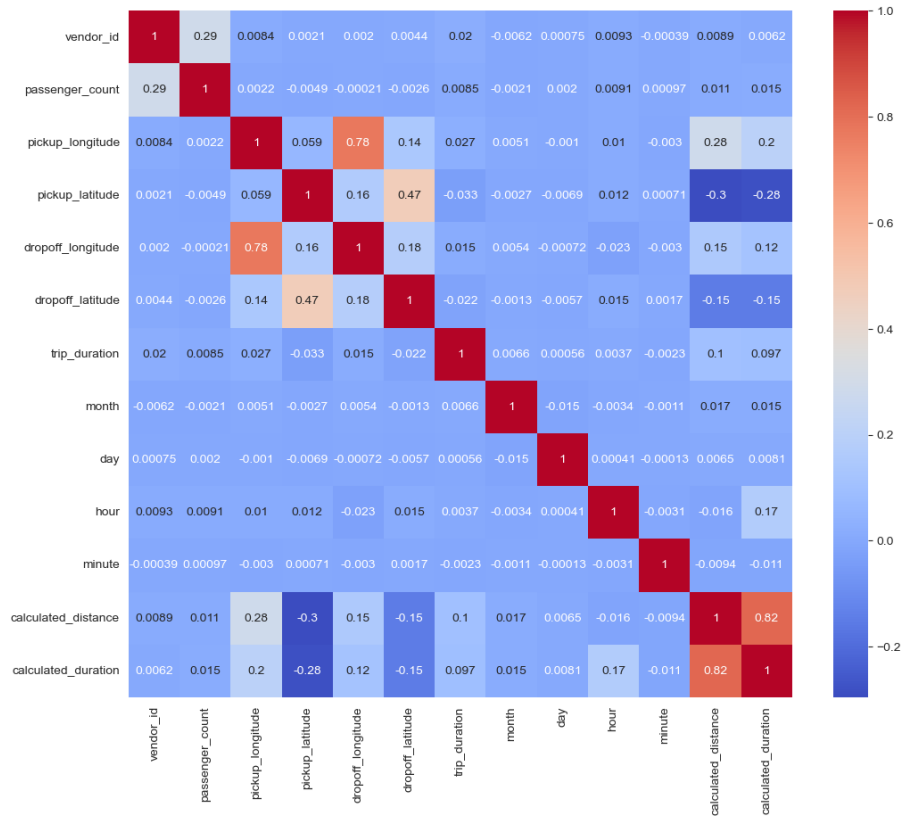


Figure 6: Correlation heatmap

The trip\_duration shows relatively weak correlations with most other features, indicating that no single feature strongly predicts the trip duration on its own. However my 2 newly engineered features still show the highest correlation with my target variable (about 10 percent). However, since Google's calculated\_duration is derived from the distance, they also show a very high correlation between them and seem to convey about the same information. I wish however to keep the variable with the intention of engineering further features related to speed.

### 3.2 Weather Data - Holidays

I will enrich my data using publicly available weather data for the time period available in my dataset in NYC. That includes features like temperature, percipitation and snow indicators.

I am also making use of USFederalHolidayCalendar(), creating a new feature that indicates which days are public holidays. Intuition tells us that public holidays may have an effect on variables like potential road traffic and consequently taxi trip durations. I include weekends as holidays as well.

### 3.3 Google's Directions API

Next, I decided to calculate the possible taxi routes' polylines using the pickup and dropoff longitudes and latitudes as points of origins and destinations, and the timestamps as departure times. The departure times are important for the Direction's API to calculate the most optimal route based on averaged traffic conditions of the past (since it's not being used in real-time).



<del>C</del> Index	<del>C</del> Polyline
0	[(40.76781, -73.98228), (40.76776, -73.9822), ...]
1	[(40.73856, -73.98045), (40.73253, -73.9848), ...]
2	[(40.76415, -73.97887), (40.76304, -73.97622), ...]
3	[(40.71998, -74.01015), (40.71811, -74.01048), ...]
4	[(40.79319, -73.97301), (40.79036, -73.97506), ...]

The taxi routes polylines were then decoded into coordinates and used to create a new distance column extracted from the decoded polyline data, Since the polyline routes use Google's directions API, traffic data are incorporated to the suggested route.

Additionally I will create a route\_points column and a new route\_length, which can be an indicator of the complexity of the route. A higher number of points might suggest a more complex route with more turns or changes in direction, potentially affecting the trip duration.

The num points are basically the number of coordinates in each decoded polyline list (the number of tuples). While the route length was calculated using geopy's.distance, great\_circle function.

### 3.4 Average Speed feature

I will proceed by creating 2 distinct average speed columns. Using the calculated\_distance from the Distance Matrix API, and the route\_length that is calculated from the polylines. Both of them will use the calculated\_duration as time.

### 3.5 Discretized Directions

I will also create a feature about Direction by taking the differences between latitudes and longitudes. That is going to indicate whether the direction of the taxi is NW, NE, SW, SE, NS, SN, WE, EW or stationary.

### 3.6 Feature Aggregation

Beyond these changes, a whole lot of new features were manufactured by aggregating taxi trips based on a number of already existing features like average speed per time/cluster/direction etc, and aggregated counts of trips. The reasoning behind this decision was that potential underlying patterns (which are based on these features) may be unveiled and used during modelling.

## 4 Visualizing NYC's zones, boroughs and districts districts

Understanding the data's distribution on an actual map may be helpful if I am to use the city's planning and urban characteristics as features in my model.

For that purpose I made use of 2 new publicly available datasets about the zoning and districts of NYC.

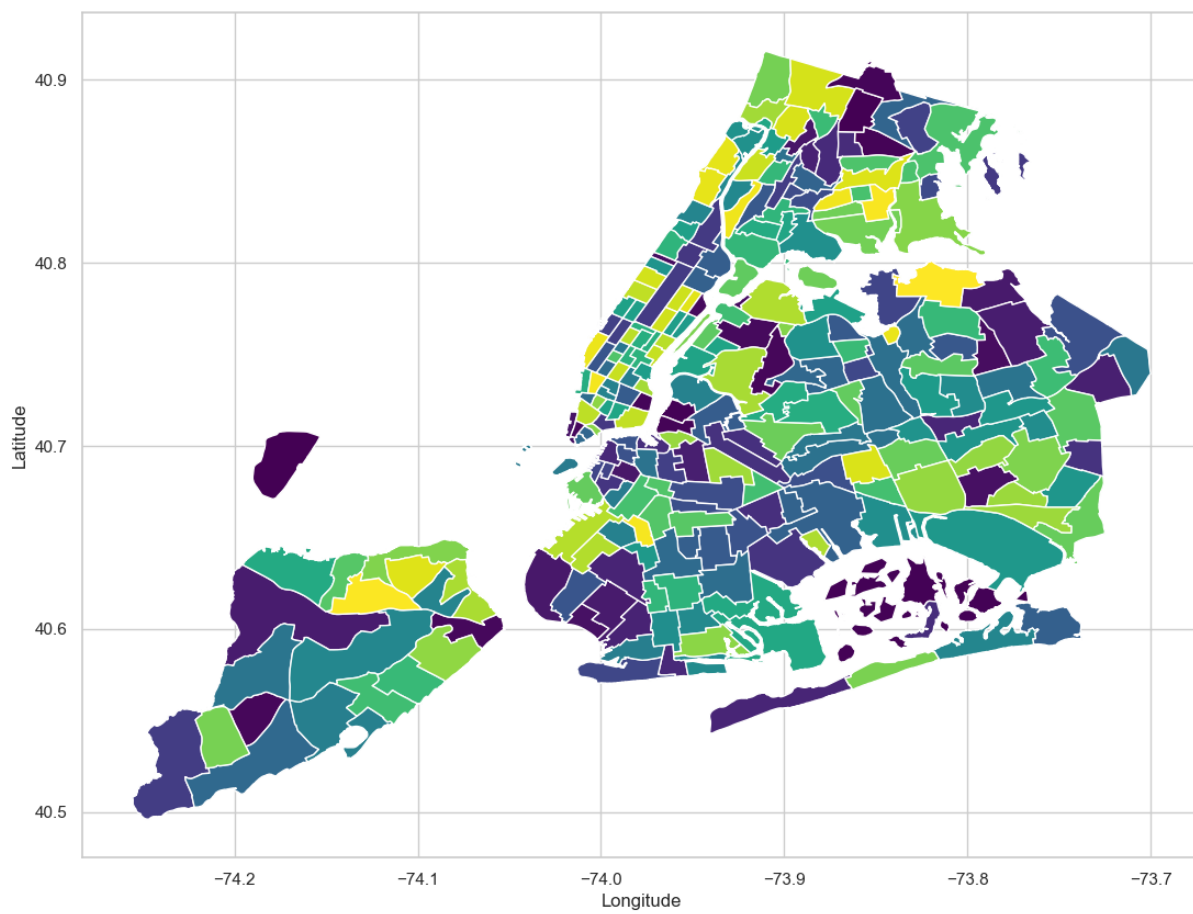


Figure 7: NYC's zones on Latitudes and Longitudes

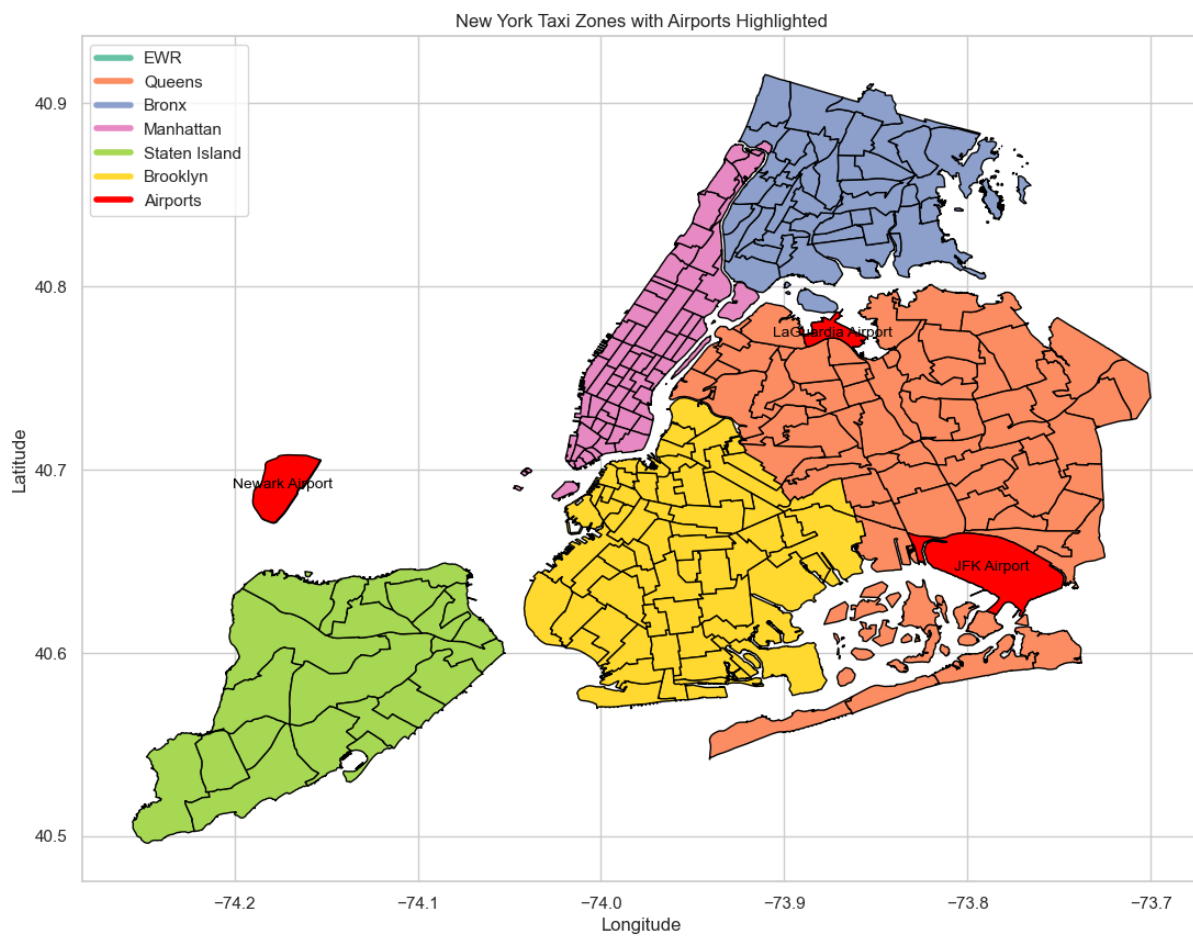


Figure 8: NYC's boroughs on Latitudes and Longitudes

First of all I can clearly see that the coordinates of the city range from about  $(-74.25, -73.65)$  in longitude and  $(40, 41.2)$  in latitude. Then the city is divided into 5 boroughs which are further divided into smaller districts. Three airports also exist, which explain the clustered pickup/dropoff points in the map before.

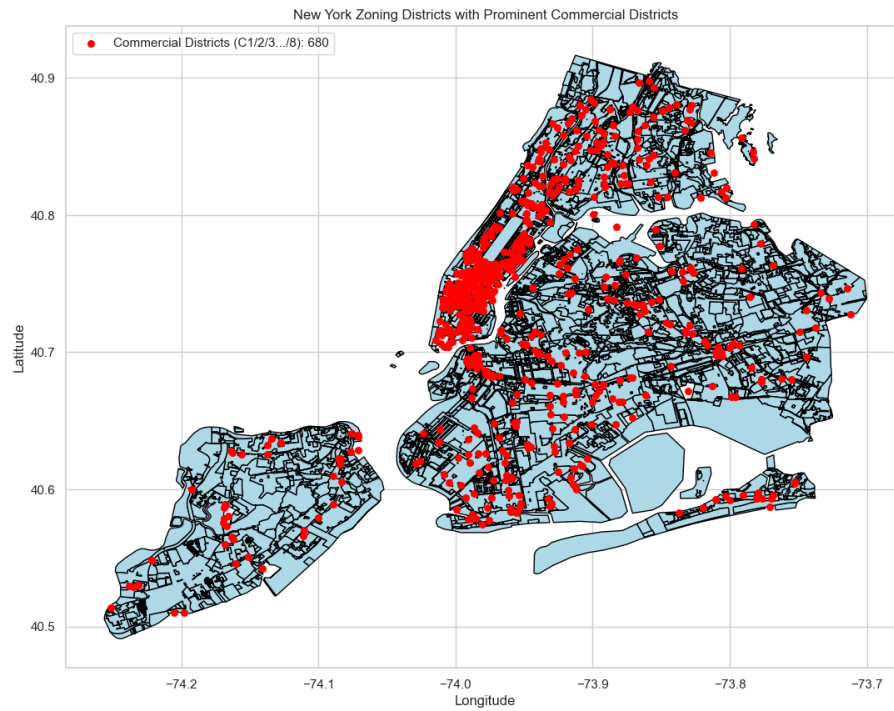


Figure 9: NYC's commercial districts

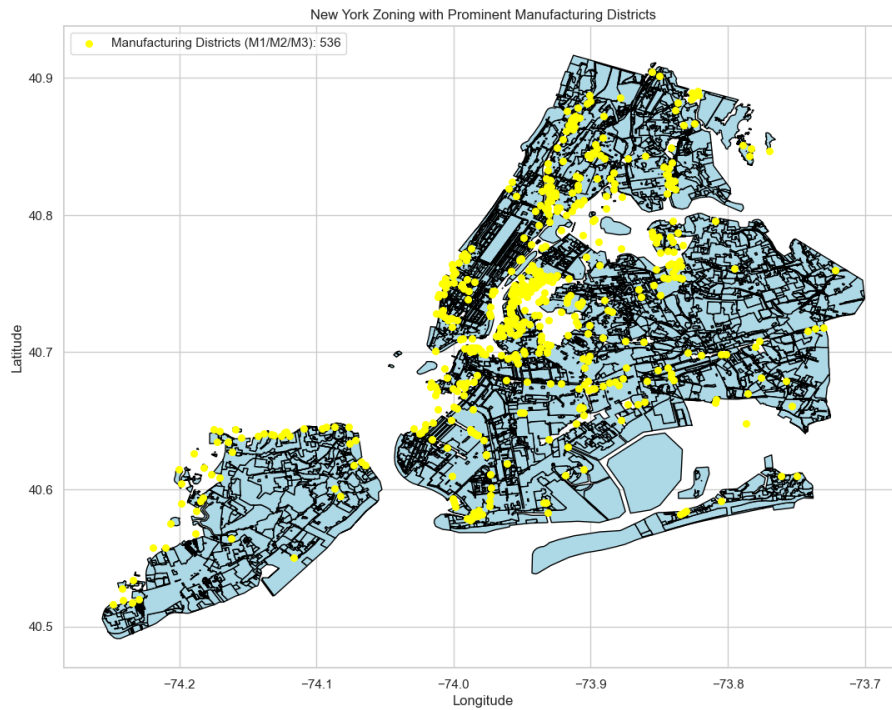


Figure 10: NYC's Manufacturing districts

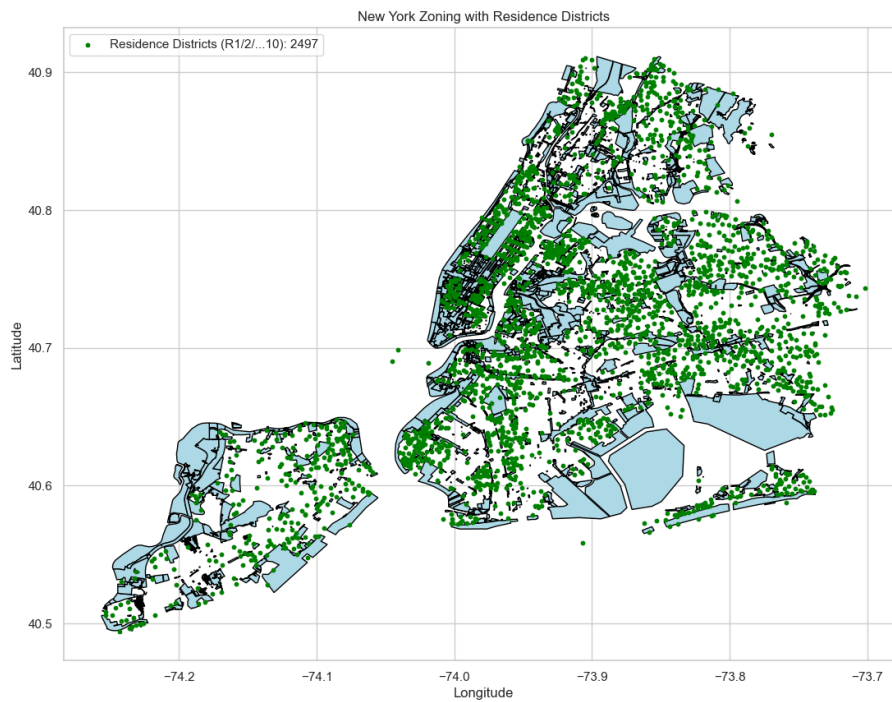


Figure 11: NYC's Residential districts

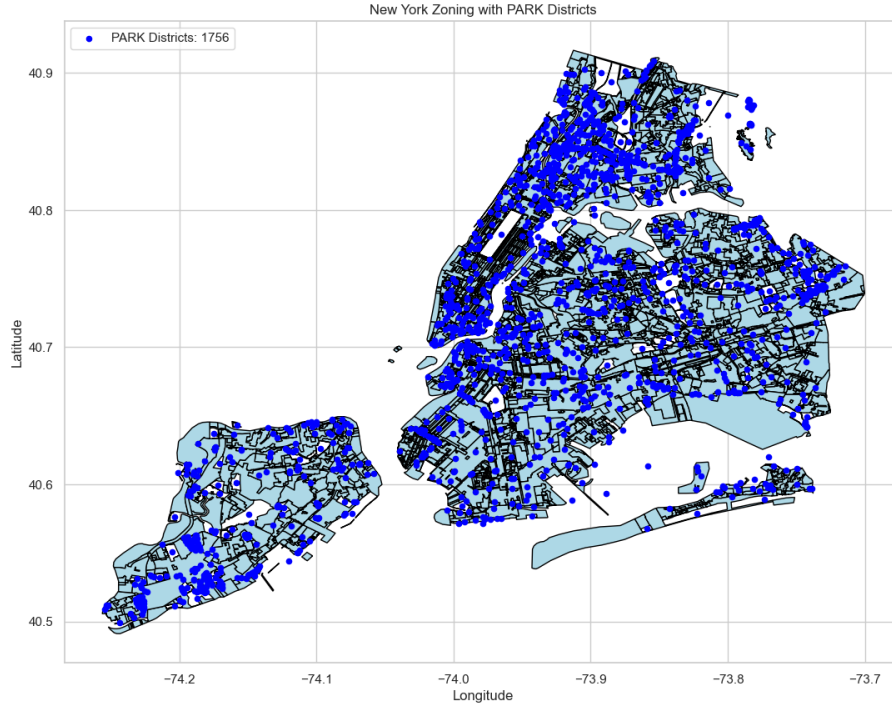


Figure 12: NYC's PARK districts

Manhattan and parts of Queens and Brooklyn appear to be the busiest areas. However we can also spot smaller clusters around the airport locations. My goal is now to combine my taxi data with the zones by mapping each pickup and dropoff point to their respective boroughs, zones and districts. I will do that by converting the geom column from WKT format to a geometry object and then the taxi data into a geodataframe. I will do a spatial join and then merge back to the original df. I will also print the number of trips without a borough/zone. I will now indicate the pick up and dropoff points that are in commercial districts. Commercial districts are the ones in the ZONEDIST column that are named C1/2/..8. I will filter out these districts and then do spatial matching with the pick up and drop off coordinates in the taxi dta. 1 = is in commercial district. 0 = it's not in commercial district

Decoded Polyline	Pickup Zone	Pickup Borough	Dropoff Zone
[(40.76781, -73.98228), (40.76776, -73.9822), ...]	Lincoln Square East	Manhattan	Upper East Side South
[(40.73856, -73.98045), (40.73253, -73.9848), ...]	Kips Bay	Manhattan	Greenwich Village South
[(40.76415, -73.97887), (40.76304, -73.97622), ...]	Midtown North	Manhattan	Seaport
[(40.71998, -74.01015), (40.71811, -74.01048), ...]	TriBeCa/Civic Center	Manhattan	Financial District South
[(40.79319, -73.97301), (40.79036, -73.97506), ...]	Upper West Side North	Manhattan	Upper West Side South

Table 1: Dataset Structure Showing Polylines, Pickup, and Dropoff Details

Things to note: I have 1102 trips where their pickup point was not within the city's zones. 3723 trips where their dropoff point was not within the city's zones and 846 trips where neither pickup or dropoff point was. I will now indicate the pick up and dropoff points that are in each district (commercial/residential/manufacturing). I will filter out these districts and then do spatial matching with the pick up and drop off coordinates in the taxi dta. 1 = is in commercial district. 0 = it's not

in commercial district.

Therefore I have created as new features for each taxi trip, the pickup and dropoff borough regions, as well as whether it's a commercial, manufacturing etc district.

## 5 Iterative Modelling - Starting with a simple XGBoost model

I will apply iterative modelling with XGboost. I show in the beginning that the correlation heatmap showed no significant correlation of the trip\_duration with the other variables which implied that no linear relationship between them exists, thus I am starting to try directly tree based algorithms like Boosting. Starting from a simple and moving towards a gradually more complex model. More aggregated features will be created or dropped based on the feature importances during iterations.

My first and simplest model included the following features:

Index	Variable Name
1	id
2	vendor_id
3	pickup_datetime
4	dropoff_datetime
5	passenger_count
6	pickup_longitude
7	pickup_latitude
8	dropoff_longitude
9	dropoff_latitude
10	trip_duration

Table 2: Variables in the Simple Form of the Dataset

### 5.0.1 Hyperparameter optimization

As with the every following iteration from now on, I am splitting my training dataset to training and validation, 80% of the data are retained for training and 20% for validation. I make use of optuna framework for hyperparameter optimization using the validation set.

For every model, I used optuna to optimize the following parameters:

Parameter	Description
objective	Specifies the learning task and the objective, here my goal is to minimize the squared difference
colsample_bytree	Fraction of features used by the model at each tree node, in an effort to prevent overfitting
tree_method	The tree construction algorithm used in XGBoost
reg_lambda	L2 regularization term on weights, controls model complexity.
learning_rate	Controls how much to change the model in response to errors.
max_depth	Maximum depth of a tree, to control overfitting.
subsample	Fraction of samples used for training each tree, to avoid overfitting.
alpha	L1 regularization term on weights
gamma	Minimum loss reduction required
n_estimators	Number of boosting rounds or trees in the model.
min_child_weight	Minimum sum of instance weight (hessian) needed in a child node.
eval_metric	Metric used to evaluate model performance during training (e.g., RMSE).

Table 3: Parameters Used in the XGBoost Model's Objective Function

### 5.0.2 Results of the Simple Model

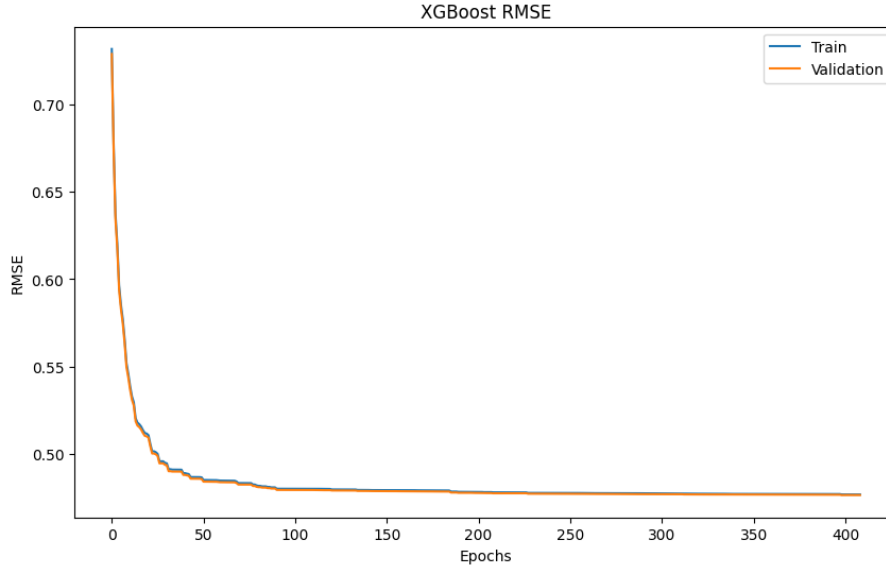


Figure 13: RMSE over boosting rounds

Testing and Validation scores follow each other very closely to reach a minimum of RMSE 0.48 which is an indication that no overfitting exists. However no significant improvement is observed after epoch 50 so my model is basically saturated and unable to capture other patterns. Epochs represent the boosting rounds my XGBoost model.



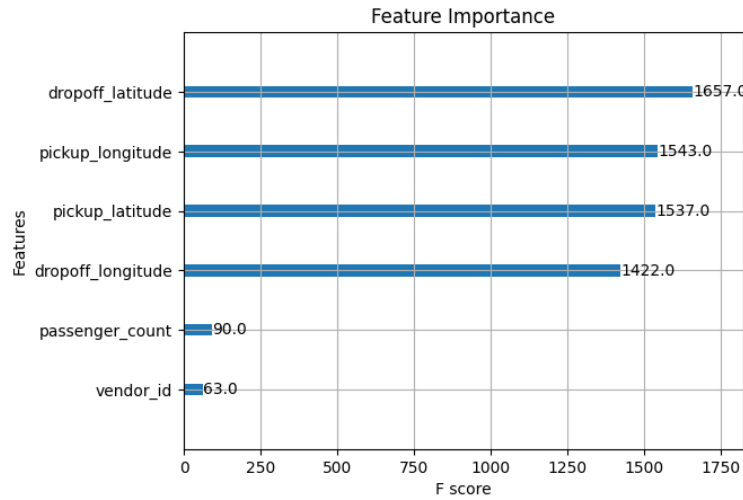


Figure 14: Feature Importance

The conclusion from that first model was that a training set that is data enriched and includes more features might be beneficial and help me achieve a better performance.

Further features were iteratively and gradually added to the model, based on the importance scores, included the features that were already engineered before.

## 6 PCA and Clustering

### 6.1 Clustering on Central Coordinate

Some of these new features were cluster-based. Trips for example were clustered based on their central coordinate. The central coordinate for each trip was calculated as the midpoint between the pickup and dropoff locations. By doing that I'm hoping to provide to the model a simplified representation of the trip's trajectory, group the trips based on geographical location and potentially revealing patterns that the previous model could not 'see'.

For all the data points that were not falling inside the defined bounds of the city (based on the maps before) were clustered in a single group together and separately from the others.

All the other data points were clustered using KMeans and the Elbow Method for picking the optimal number of clusters.

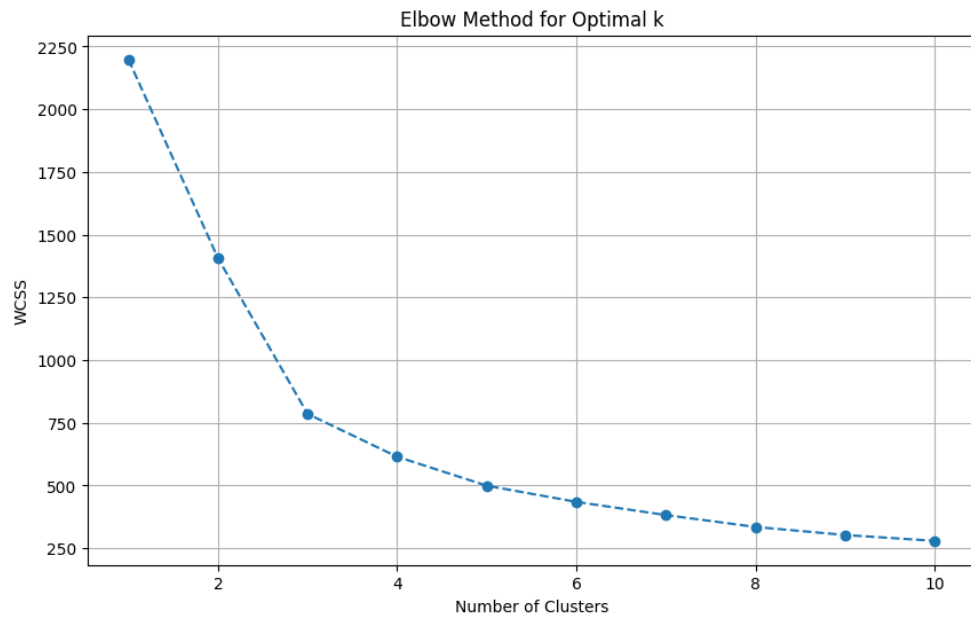


Figure 15: Elbow Method

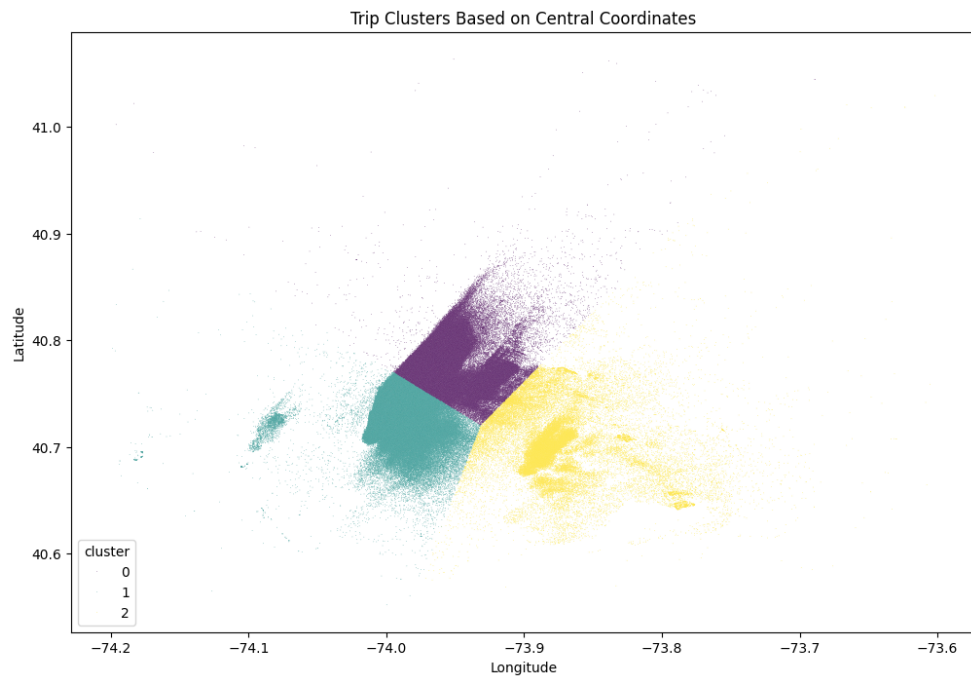


Figure 16: Central Coordinate clustering

## 6.2 Clustering on Consistently Important Features

Through several model iterations, specific features were observed as being consistently important in the model with F scores, meaning contributing a lot to the model's predictive power. These were then picked to cluster pickup and dropoff points.

The key idea here again is to try to enhance the predictive power of the model by providing it with additional structure and data insights and possibly capture more complex interactions.

These features included:

Variables
calculated_distance
calculated_duration
avg_speed_calculated_distance
pickup_longitude
pickup_latitude
dropoff_longitude
dropoff_latitude
trips_day_hour
num_points

Table 4: List of Variables in the Dataset

The elbow method was again used to pick the optimal number of clusters. (while points outside the boundaries were again clustered separately)

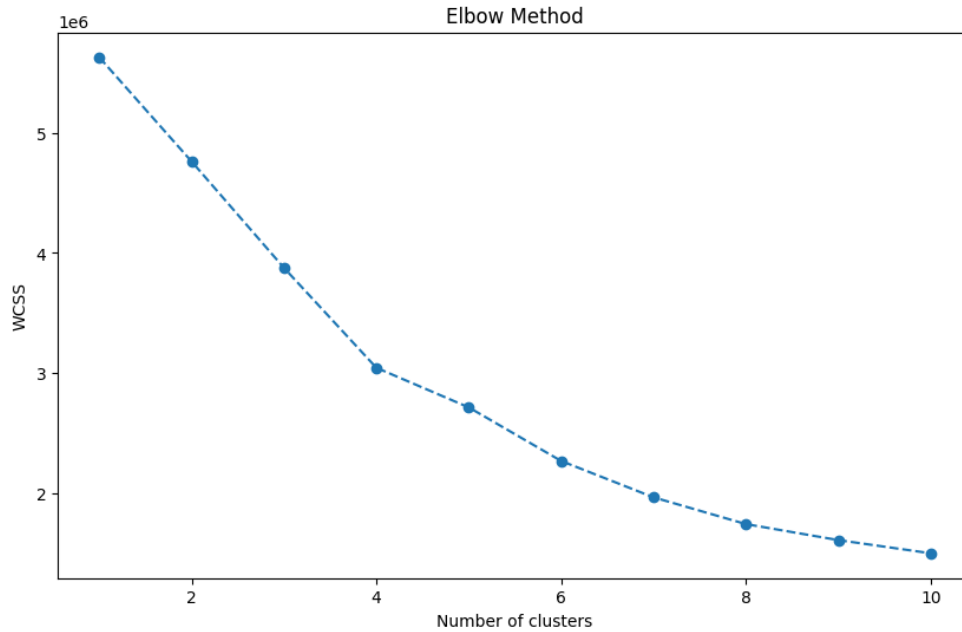


Figure 17: Elbow Method

## 6.3 PCA of Longitudes and Latitudes

Since that first heatmap I saw that pickup and dropoff longitudes and latitudes are positively correlated which gives a hint on the route patterns, for example if pickup and dropoff points are mostly along the same latitude that could be valuable information for the model. By applying PCA on the coordinates, I'm making linear combinations of the originals. These components might represent more meaningful geographic features than the raw coordinates. For example, the first principal component might capture the general direction of travel eg north-south vs. east-west.

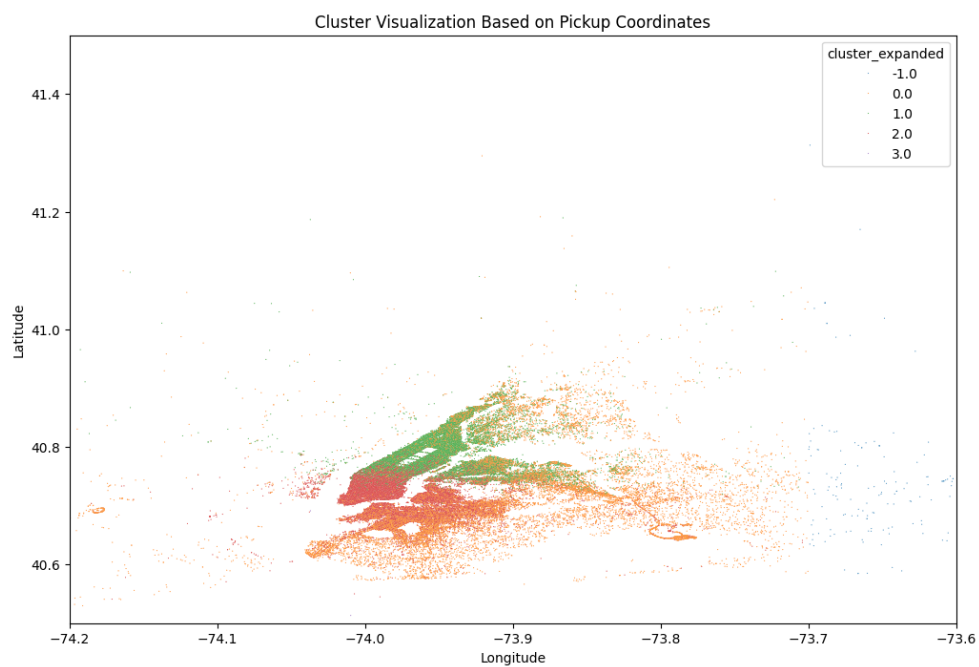


Figure 18: Dropoff Clusters

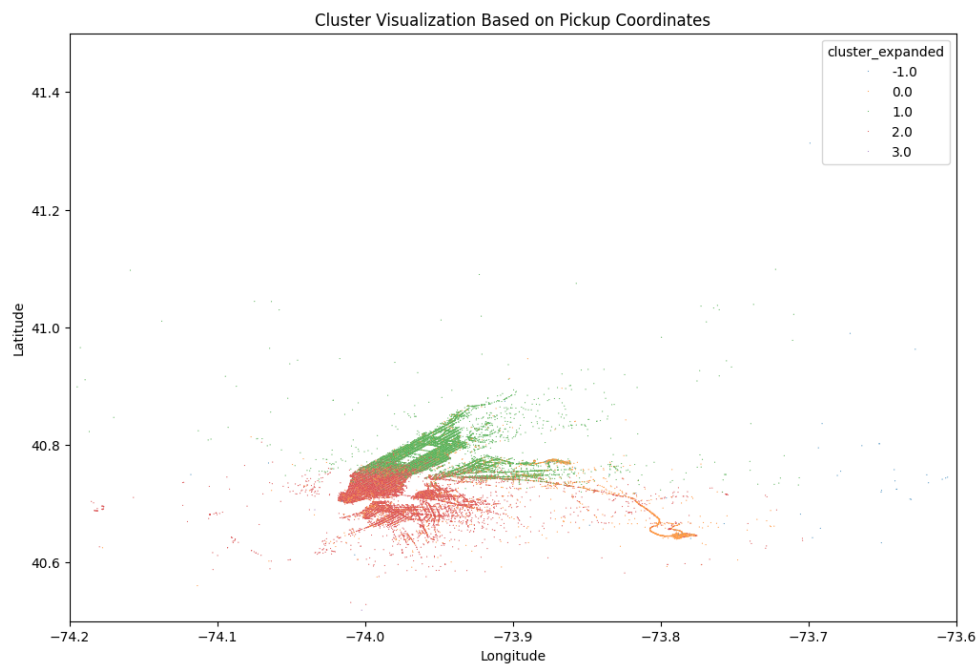


Figure 19: Pickup Clusters

Finally, based on the new clusters and pcs, new aggregated features were created eg about speed, calculated duration (from the polylines), num points etc.

## 7 Final modelling

With these new engineered features I proceeded fitting a final XGBoost model. The process was similar as before, using the same training and validation split and Optuna for the same hyperparameter optimization. The final training dataset included 82 features, listed below. The same pre-processing was performed to the testing dataset.

Variables (1)	Variables (2)	Variables (3)
id	day_of_week	avg_duration_discretized_direction
vendor_id	date	avg_speed_discretized_direction
pickup_datetime	num_points	avg_distance_discretized_direction
passenger_count	month	avg_duration_precipitation
pickup_longitude	week	avg_speed_precipitation
pickup_latitude	day	avg_duration_temperature
dropoff_longitude	hour	avg_speed_temperature
dropoff_latitude	minute	count_trips_temperature
average temperature	hour_minute	count_trips_precipitation
precipitation	avg_speed_minute	count_trips_holidays
is_holiday	avg_speed_hour_minute	central_latitude
calculated_distance	total_trips_hour_minute	central_longitude
calculated_duration	avg_speed_calculated_distance_avg_hour	cluster
avg_speed_calculated_distance	avg_speed_calculated_distance_avg_day	avg_duration_centralized_clusters
id_count_hour	avg_speed_calculated_distance_avg_day_of_week	avg_speed_centralized_clusters
id_count_day	avg_speed_calculated_distance_avg_week	avg_distance_centralized_clusters
id_count_day_of_week	avg_speed_calculated_distance_avg_month	count_trips_centralized_clusters
id_count_week	avg_speed_calculated_distance_avg_holiday	avg_speed_day_hour
id_count_month	id_count_airports	avg_speed_by_calculated_duration
id_count_holiday	direction	avg_duration_day_hour
avg_duration_hour	discretized_direction	trips_day_hour
avg_duration_hour_minute	count_trips_discretized_direction	trip_count_week_hour
avg_speed_vendor	combined_pc1	avg_speed_week_hour
is_airport	combined_pc2	avg_duration_week_hour
cluster_expanded	combined_pc3	combined_pc4
avg_speed_expanded_clusters	avg_num_points_hour_minute	avg_speed_passenger_count
avg_duration_expanded_clusters	avg_speed_expanded_clusters	trip_duration
avg_distance_expanded_clusters	count_expanded_clusters	

Table 5: List of Variables in the Dataset

For the sake of time, only 10 trials were performed for hyperparameter optimization

### 7.1 Results

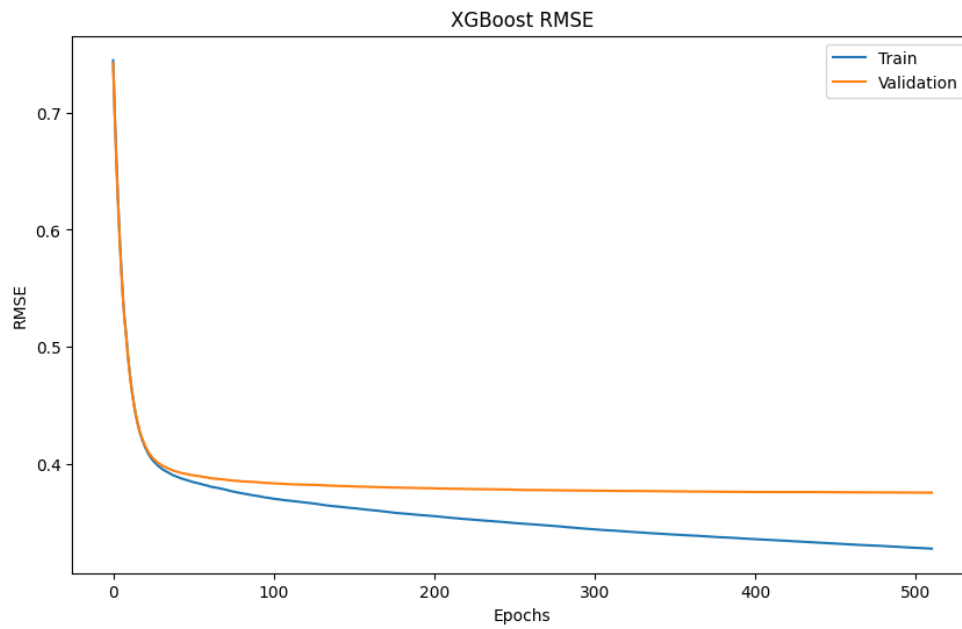


Figure 20: RMSE on final training

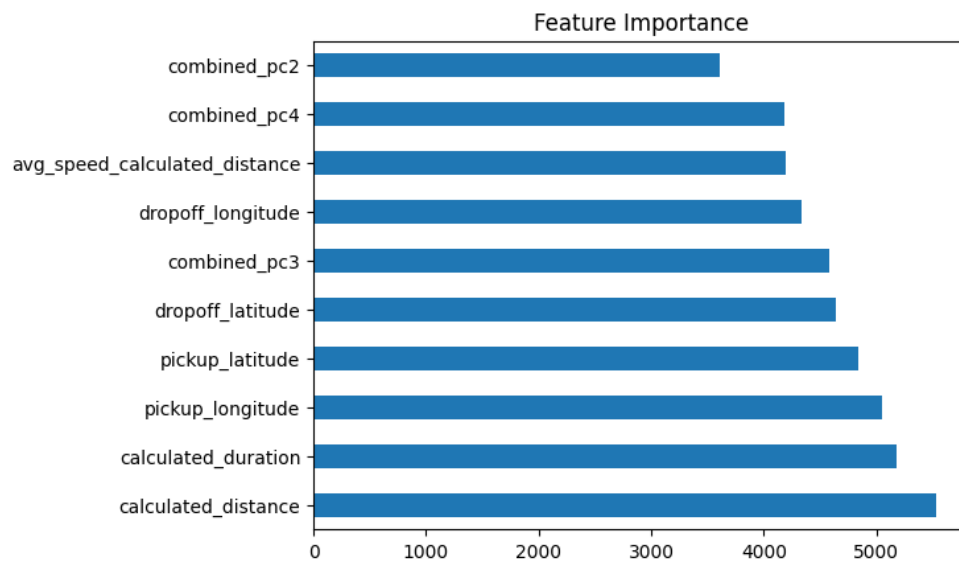


Figure 21: Most Important

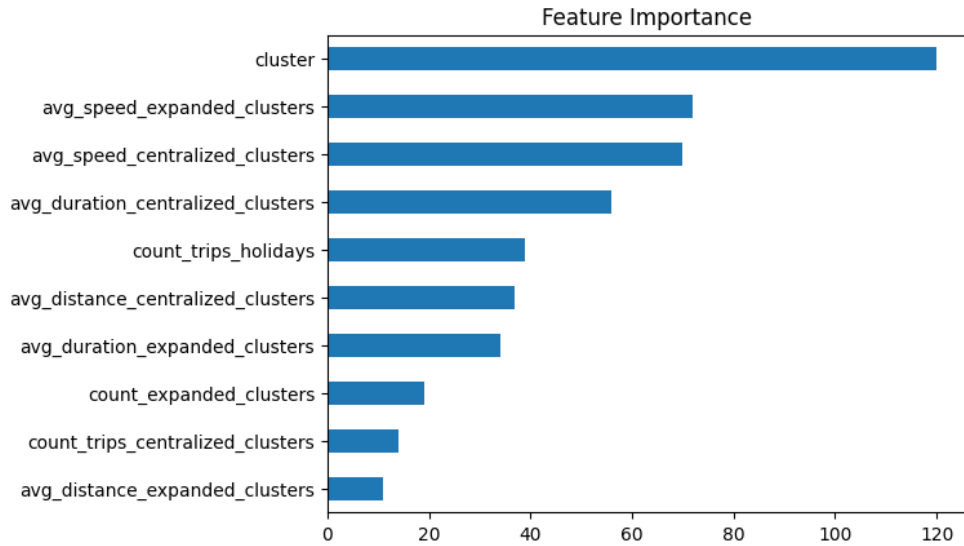


Figure 22: Least Important

I note that this time overfitting appears to exist which seem to begin around the 50th boosting round. The training's RMLSE score keep decreasing while validation is reaching a plateau. That's a clear indication that the model is no longer able to generalize its newly acquired knowledge to unseen data.

Metric	Value
Final Training RMSLE	0.3275234274552838
Final Validation RMSLE	0.3753682846040504

Table 6: Final Training and Validation RMSE

On the bright side, the new, enhanced training data were really used by my model to significantly decrease its validation score from 0.48 in the first model to 0.37, that alone is a noteworthy decrease. Although my model, far from perfect, with signs of overfitting, it should able to position itself competitively in the Kaggle ladder.

Unsurprisingly the most important features were the ones that I created using Google's geolocation API features. I managed through the given polylines to calculate probable routes (which were also based on historical data on traffic), their probable distance and durations. The raw longitudes and latitudes also played a great role, in addition to the principal components I created by applying PCA to them. Overall, certain decisions on data enhancement were the ones that played a significant role in creating a better model.

## 8 Further Enhancements for the future

Due to the restrictions of time, only few hyperparameter optimization trials were performed. Additionally Boosting with XGBoost was the only tried method due to its known effectiveness, speed and many parameters available for customization to achieve a better result.

Other algorithms like random forest, bagging, gradient boosting or support vector machines could be tested as well. Stacking several predictions together from different models might also give an edge and could be considered for the future.

## 9 Appendix

```
1 import pandas as pd
2 import numpy as np
3 from pandas.tseries.holiday import USFederalHolidayCalendar
4 from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split, KFold
5 from sklearn.preprocessing import LabelEncoder, StandardScaler, OneHotEncoder
6 from sklearn.compose import ColumnTransformer
7 import xgboost as xgb
8 from sklearn.metrics import mean_squared_error
9
10
11 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
12 import seaborn as sns
13 import datashader as ds
14 import datashader.transfer_functions as tf
15 import holoviews as hv
16 from holoviews.element.tiles import StamenTerrain
17
18 import geopandas as gpd
19 from shapely.geometry import Point, LineString
20 from shapely import wkt
21 from geopy.distance import geodesic, great_circle
22 from geopandas.tools import sjoin
23
24 import optuna
25 from sklearn.cluster import KMeans
26 from sklearn.decomposition import PCA
27
28
29 from concurrent.futures import ThreadPoolExecutor, as_completed
30
31 import warnings
32 import googlemaps
33 import ast
34 from ast import literal_eval
35 from tqdm import tqdm
36 from datetime import datetime
37
38 data = pd.read_csv('train.csv')
39
40 taxi_data = data
41
42 taxi_data['pickup_datetime'] = pd.to_datetime(taxi_data['pickup_datetime'])
43 taxi_data['month'] = taxi_data['pickup_datetime'].dt.month
44 # taxi_data['week'] = taxi_data['pickup_datetime'].dt.week
45 taxi_data['day'] = taxi_data['pickup_datetime'].dt.day
46 taxi_data['hour'] = taxi_data['pickup_datetime'].dt.hour
47 taxi_data['minute'] = taxi_data['pickup_datetime'].dt.minute
48 taxi_data['day_of_week'] = taxi_data['pickup_datetime'].dt.day_name()
49
50
51 taxi_data = taxi_data.sort_values('pickup_datetime')
52
53 def batch_data(data, batch_size):
54     for i in range(0, len(data), batch_size):
55         yield data.iloc[i:i + batch_size]
56
57 batch_size = 10
58
59 batches = batch_data(taxi_data, batch_size)
```



```

60
61 total_batches_count = 0
62
63 for _ in batches:
64     total_batches_count += 1
65
66 print(f"Total number of batches: {total_batches_count}")
67
68 from collections import Counter
69 batch_sizes = Counter()
70 for batch in batches:
71     batch_size = len(batch)
72     batch_sizes[batch_size] += 1
73 for size, count in batch_sizes.items():
74     print(f"Batch size {size}: {count} batches")
75
76 gmaps_client = googlemaps.Client(key=my_API_KEY)
77 taxi_data['calculated_distance'] = None
78 taxi_data['calculated_duration'] = None
79
80
81 def process_batch(batch, gmaps_client):
82     origins = batch.apply(lambda row: (row['pickup_latitude'], row['
83         pickup_longitude']), axis=1).tolist()
84
85     destinations = batch.apply(lambda row: (row['dropoff_latitude'], row['
86         dropoff_longitude']), axis=1).tolist()
87
88     departure_times = batch['pickup_datetime'].apply(
89         lambda x: datetime(2028, x.month, x.day, x.hour, x.minute, x.second).
90         timestamp()).tolist()
91     mean_departure_time = sum(departure_times) / len(departure_times)
92
93     try:
94         result = gmaps_client.distance_matrix(origins=origins,
95             destinations=destinations,
96             mode="driving",
97             departure_time=
98                 mean_departure_time,
99             traffic_model='best_guess')
100
101     for i in range(len(batch)):
102         distance = result['rows'][i]['elements'][i]['distance']['value']
103         duration_in_traffic = result['rows'][i]['elements'][i].get('
104             duration_in_traffic', {}).get('value')
105
106         batch.at[batch.index[i], 'calculated_distance'] = distance
107         batch.at[batch.index[i], 'calculated_duration'] =
108             duration_in_traffic
109
110     except Exception as e:
111         print(f"Error processing batch: {e}")
112
113     return batch
114
115 taxi_data = taxi_data.sort_values('pickup_datetime')

```

```

116 processed_batches = []
117 batch_count = 0
118
119
120 total_records = len(taxi_data)
121 batch_size = 10
122 total_batches = (total_records + batch_size - 1) // batch_size
123
124 for batch in batches:
125     processed_batch = process_batch(batch, gmaps_client)
126     processed_batches.append(processed_batch)
127
128     batch_count += 1
129     batches_left = total_batches - batch_count
130     print(f"Processed batch number {batch_count}, {batches_left} batches left"
131           )
132
133 processed_df = pd.concat(processed_batches)
134
135 taxi_data = taxi_data.merge(processed_df, left_index=True, right_index=True,
136                             suffixes=('', '_updated'))
137
138 update_cols = ['calculated_distance', 'calculated_duration'
139               ]
140 for col in update_cols:
141     taxi_data[col] = taxi_data[col + '_updated']
142
143
144 for col in taxi_data.columns:
145     if col.endswith('_updated'):
146         taxi_data.drop(col, axis=1, inplace=True)
147
148 taxi_data.to_csv("updated_taxi_data.csv", index=False)
149
150
151 print(taxi_data.head())
152
153
154
155 calendar = USFederalHolidayCalendar()
156
157
158 start_date = merged_dataset['date'].min()
159 end_date = merged_dataset['date'].max()
160 holidays = calendar.holidays(start=start_date, end=end_date)
161
162 merged_dataset['date'] = pd.to_datetime(merged_dataset['date'])
163 merged_dataset['is_holiday'] = merged_dataset['date'].isin(holidays).astype(
164     int)
165
166 weather = pd.read_csv('weather_data.csv')
167
168
169 merged_dataset = taxi_data.merge(weather, on='date', how='left')
170
171 merged_dataset['is_holiday'] = merged_dataset.apply(lambda row: 1 if (row['
172     is_holiday'] == 1 or row['day_of_week'] in ['Saturday', 'Sunday']) else 0,
    axis=1)

```

```

173 final_data_weekend = merged_dataset[merged_dataset['day_of_week'].isin(['
    Saturday', 'Sunday'])]
174
175 final_data_weekend_holidays = final_data_weekend[final_data_weekend['
    is_holiday'] == 1]
176
177
178 number_of_rows = final_data_weekend_holidays.shape[0]
179
180 print(f"The number of rows where the day is Sunday or Saturday and are marked
    with 1 in the 'holidays' column is: {number_of_rows}")
181
182
183 # GOOGLE'S DIRECTIONS API
184
185
186 gmaps_client = googlemaps.Client(key=API_KEY)
187
188
189 taxi_data['route_polyline'] = None
190 taxi_data['pickup_datetime'] = pd.to_datetime(taxi_data['pickup_datetime'])
191
192
193 def process_row(row, gmaps_client):
194     origin = (row['pickup_latitude'], row['pickup_longitude'])
195     destination = (row['dropoff_latitude'], row['dropoff_longitude'])
196     departure_time = datetime(2028, row['pickup_datetime'].month, row['
        pickup_datetime'].day,
197                             row['pickup_datetime'].hour, row['
        pickup_datetime'].minute,
198                             row['pickup_datetime'].second).timestamp()
199
200     try:
201
202         directions_result = gmaps_client.directions(origin, destination,
203                                                     mode="driving",
204                                                     departure_time=
205                                                         departure_time)
206
207         if directions_result:
208             polyline = directions_result[0]['overview_polyline']['points']
209             return polyline
210     except Exception as e:
211         print(f"Error processing row: {e}")
212         return None
213
214
215 def parallel_process(taxi_data, gmaps_client, max_workers=10):
216     total_rows = len(taxi_data)
217     processed_count = 0
218
219     with ThreadPoolExecutor(max_workers=max_workers) as executor:
220         future_to_row = {executor.submit(process_row, row, gmaps_client): i
221                          for i, row in taxi_data.iterrows()}
222         for future in as_completed(future_to_row):
223             row_index = future_to_row[future]
224             try:
225                 polyline = future.result()
226                 taxi_data.at[row_index, 'route_polyline'] = polyline
227             except Exception as e:
228                 print(f"Error processing row {row_index}: {e}")

```

```

228
229
230         processed_count += 1
231         print(f"Processed {processed_count}/{total_rows} rows...")
232
233     return taxi_data
234
235 taxi_data = parallel_process(taxi_data, gmaps_client, max_workers=10)
236
237 taxi_data.to_csv("updated_taxi_data_routes.csv", index=False)
238 print(taxi_data.head())
239
240
241 # NUM POINTS AND ROUTE LENGTH CALCULATION
242
243
244 taxi_data['route_length'] = None
245 taxi_data['num_points'] = None
246
247 def extract_route_features(row_tuple):
248     index, row = row_tuple
249     if pd.notnull(row['decoded_polyline']):
250         polyline = ast.literal_eval(row['decoded_polyline'])
251         route_length = sum(great_circle(polyline[i], polyline[i+1]).meters for
252                             i in range(len(polyline)-1))
253         num_points = len(polyline)
254
255     return index, route_length, num_points
256
257 def process_data_in_parallel(data, func, workers):
258     processed_count = 0
259     with ThreadPoolExecutor(max_workers=workers) as executor:
260
261         futures = [executor.submit(func, (index, row)) for index, row in data.
262                     iterrows()]
263
264         for future in tqdm(as_completed(futures), total=len(futures), desc='
265                             Calculating routes'):
266             index, route_length, num_points = future.result()
267             data.at[index, 'route_length'] = route_length
268             data.at[index, 'num_points'] = num_points
269             processed_count += 1
270             if processed_count % 1 == 0:
271                 print(f"Processed {processed_count} rows")
272
273     return data
274
275 taxi_data = process_data_in_parallel(taxi_data, extract_route_features,
276                                     workers=200)
277
278 taxi_data.to_csv('updated_taxi_data_routes_clustered_cleaned_polylined2',
279                 index=False)
280 print(taxi_data.head())
281
282 taxi_data['avg_speed_calculated_distance'] = np.where(
283     taxi_data['calculated_duration'] > 0,
284     taxi_data['calculated_distance'] / taxi_data['calculated_duration'],
285     0
286 )
287
288 taxi_data['avg_speed_route_length'] = np.where(

```

```

285     taxi_data['calculated_duration'] > 0,
286     taxi_data['route_length'] / taxi_data['calculated_duration'],
287     0
288 )
289
290 taxi_data[['avg_speed_calculated_distance', 'avg_speed_route_length']]
291
292
293 # DISTRICT VISUALIZATION
294
295
296 taxi_zones['the_geom'] = taxi_zones['the_geom'].apply(wkt.loads)
297 taxi_gdf = gpd.GeoDataFrame(taxi_zones, geometry='the_geom')
298
299 sns.set(style="whitegrid")
300
301 palette = sns.color_palette("viridis", as_cmap=True)
302
303 fig, ax = plt.subplots(1, 1, figsize=(15, 10))
304
305 taxi_gdf.plot(ax=ax, cmap=palette)
306
307 ax.set_title('New York Taxi Zones Enhanced with Seaborn')
308 ax.set_xlabel('Longitude')
309 ax.set_ylabel('Latitude')
310 plt.show()
311
312
313 airports = ['Airport' in name for name in taxi_gdf['zone']]
314
315 taxi_gdf['color'] = 'blue'
316 taxi_gdf.loc[airports, 'color'] = 'red'
317
318 fig, ax = plt.subplots(1, 1, figsize=(15, 10))
319
320 boroughs = taxi_gdf['borough'].unique()
321 palette = sns.color_palette("Set2", len(boroughs))
322
323 for borough, color in zip(boroughs, palette):
324     taxi_gdf[taxi_gdf['borough'] == borough].plot(ax=ax, color=color,
325                                                    edgecolor='black')
326
327 taxi_gdf[taxi_gdf['color'] == 'red'].plot(ax=ax, color='red', edgecolor='black')
328
329 for idx, row in airport_gdf.iterrows():
330     centroid = row['the_geom'].centroid
331     ax.annotate(row['zone'], (centroid.x, centroid.y), color='black', fontsize
332                  =10, ha='center', va='center')
333
334 ax.set_title('New York Taxi Zones with Airports Highlighted')
335 ax.set_xlabel('Longitude')
336 ax.set_ylabel('Latitude')
337
338 borough_patches = [plt.Line2D([0], [0], color=color, lw=4, label=borough) for
339                      borough, color in zip(boroughs, palette)]
340 airport_patch = plt.Line2D([0], [0], color='red', lw=4, label='Airports')
341 ax.legend(handles=borough_patches + [airport_patch], loc='upper left')
342 plt.show()

```

```

343 ny_districts_data['the_geom'] = ny_districts_data['the_geom'].apply(wkt.loads)
344
345 gdf = gpd.GeoDataFrame(ny_districts_data, geometry='the_geom')
346
347
348 gdf['C1_C2'] = gdf['ZONEDIST'].apply(lambda x: x.startswith('C1') or x.
349                                     startswith('C2') or x.startswith('C3')
350                                     or x.startswith('C4') or x.
351                                     startswith('C5') or x.
352                                     startswith('C6')
353                                     or x.startswith('C7') or x.
354                                     startswith('C8'))
355
356
357 sns.set(style="whitegrid")
358 num_commercial_districts = gdf[gdf['C1_C2']].shape[0]
359
360 fig, ax = plt.subplots(1, 1, figsize=(15, 10))
361
362 gdf[gdf['C1_C2'] == False].plot(ax=ax, color='lightblue', edgecolor='black')
363 gdf[gdf['C1_C2']].centroid.plot(ax=ax, marker='o', color='red', markersize=30)
364
365 ax.set_title('New York Zoning Districts with Prominent Commercial Districts')
366 ax.set_xlabel('Longitude')
367 ax.set_ylabel('Latitude')
368
369 legend_label = f"Commercial Districts (C1/2/3.../8): {num_commercial_districts}"
370
371 ax.legend([legend_label], loc='upper left')
372 plt.show()
373
374 ### (SAME GOES FOR OTHER DISTRICTS - CODE NOT ### INCLUDED)
375
376
377 ##FURTHER FEATURE ENGINEERING OF GEO FEATURES
378
379 taxi_zone_df['geometry'] = taxi_zone_df['the_geom'].apply(wkt.loads)
380 geo_taxi_zone_df = gpd.GeoDataFrame(taxi_zone_df, geometry='geometry')
381
382 geo_taxi_zone_df.set_crs("EPSG:4326", inplace=True)
383
384 gdf_taxi_data = gpd.GeoDataFrame(
385     taxi_data_df,
386     geometry=gpd.points_from_xy(taxi_data_df.pickup_longitude, taxi_data_df.
387                                 pickup_latitude),
388     crs="EPSG:4326"
389 )
390
391 gdf_taxi_dropoff = gpd.GeoDataFrame(
392     taxi_data_df,
393     geometry=gpd.points_from_xy(taxi_data_df.dropoff_longitude, taxi_data_df.
394                                 dropoff_latitude),
395     crs="EPSG:4326"
396 )
397
398 taxi_data_with_pickup_zones = sjoin(gdf_taxi_data, geo_taxi_zone_df, how='left',
399                                     predicate='within')
400 taxi_data_with_pickup_zones.rename(columns={'zone': 'pickup_zone', 'borough':
401                                             'pickup_borough'}, inplace=True)
402 taxi_data_with_dropoff_zones = sjoin(gdf_taxi_dropoff, geo_taxi_zone_df, how='
403 left', predicate='within')

```

```

394 taxi_data_with_dropoff_zones.rename(columns={'zone': 'dropoff_zone', 'borough'
      : 'dropoff_borough'}, inplace=True)
395
396 taxi_data_final = taxi_data_df.copy()
397 taxi_data_final = taxi_data_final.merge(taxi_data_with_pickup_zones[['
      pickup_zone', 'pickup_borough']], left_index=True, right_index=True, how='
      left')
398 taxi_data_final = taxi_data_final.merge(taxi_data_with_dropoff_zones[['
      dropoff_zone', 'dropoff_borough']], left_index=True, right_index=True, how
      ='left')
399
400 no_pickup_zone_count = taxi_data_final['pickup_zone'].isnull().sum()
401 no_dropoff_zone_count = taxi_data_final['dropoff_zone'].isnull().sum()
402 both_zones_missing_count = taxi_data_final[(taxi_data_final['pickup_zone'].
      isnull()) & (taxi_data_final['dropoff_zone'].isnull())].shape[0]
403
404 taxi_data_final.head(), (no_pickup_zone_count, no_dropoff_zone_count,
      both_zones_missing_count)
405
406
407
408 commercial_districts = nyzd_df[nyzd_df['ZONEDIST'].str.startswith(('C1', 'C2',
      'C3', 'C4', 'C5', 'C6', 'C7', 'C8'))]
409
410 commercial_districts['geometry'] = commercial_districts['the_geom'].apply(wkt.
      loads)
411 geo_commercial_districts = gpd.GeoDataFrame(commercial_districts, geometry='
      geometry')
412 geo_commercial_districts.set_crs("EPSG:4326", inplace=True)
413
414 pickup_in_commercial = sjoin(gdf_taxi_data, geo_commercial_districts, how='
      left', predicate='within')
415 taxi_data_df['pickup_commercial_district'] = pickup_in_commercial['ZONEDIST'].
      notnull().astype(int)
416
417 dropoff_in_commercial = sjoin(gdf_taxi_dropoff, geo_commercial_districts, how=
      'left', predicate='within')
418 taxi_data_df['dropoff_commercial_district'] = dropoff_in_commercial['ZONEDIST'
      ].notnull().astype(int)
419
420
421
422 residential_districts = nyzd_df[nyzd_df['ZONEDIST'].str.startswith(('R1', 'R2'
      , 'R3', 'R4', 'R5', 'R6', 'R7', 'R8', 'R9', 'R10'))]
423
424 residential_districts['geometry'] = residential_districts['the_geom'].apply(
      wkt.loads)
425 geo_residential_districts = gpd.GeoDataFrame(residential_districts, geometry='
      geometry')
426 geo_residential_districts.set_crs("EPSG:4326", inplace=True)
427
428 pickup_in_residential = sjoin(gdf_taxi_data, geo_residential_districts, how='
      left', predicate='within')
429 pickup_in_residential.reset_index(drop=True, inplace=True)
430 taxi_data_df['pickup_residential_district'] = pickup_in_residential['ZONEDIST'
      ].notnull().astype(int)
431
432 dropoff_in_residential = sjoin(gdf_taxi_dropoff, geo_residential_districts,
      how='left', predicate='within')
433 dropoff_in_residential.reset_index(drop=True, inplace=True)
434 taxi_data_df['dropoff_residential_district'] = dropoff_in_residential['
      ZONEDIST'].notnull().astype(int)

```

```

435
436 taxi_zones_df['geometry'] = taxi_zones_df['the_geom'].apply(wkt.loads)
437 geo_taxi_zones_df = gpd.GeoDataFrame(taxi_zones_df, geometry='geometry')
438 geo_taxi_zones_df.set_crs("EPSG:4326", inplace=True)
439
440 airport_zones = geo_taxi_zones_df[geo_taxi_zones_df['zone'].str.contains("
    Airport", case=False, na=False)]
441
442 airport_zones_buffered = airport_zones.to_crs("EPSG:2263")
443
444 airport_zones_buffered['geometry'] = airport_zones_buffered['geometry'].buffer
    (50)
445
446 airport_zones_buffered = airport_zones_buffered.to_crs("EPSG:4326")
447
448 pickup_in_airport = sjoin(gdf_taxi_data, airport_zones_buffered, how='left',
    predicate='intersects')
449 taxi_data_df['pickup_airport'] = pickup_in_airport['zone'].notnull().astype(
    int)
450
451 dropoff_in_airport = sjoin(gdf_taxi_dropoff, airport_zones_buffered, how='left
    ', predicate='intersects')
452 taxi_data_df['dropoff_airport'] = dropoff_in_airport['zone'].notnull().astype(
    int)
453
454 taxi_data_df.head()
455
456 #FIRST MODEL
457
458 data = simple_taxi_data.copy()
459
460
461 data = data.drop(['id', 'pickup_datetime', 'dropoff_datetime', '
    store_and_fwd_flag'], axis=1)
462
463
464 label_encoders = {}
465 categorical_columns = ['vendor_id']
466
467 for column in categorical_columns:
468     label_encoders[column] = LabelEncoder()
469     data[column] = label_encoders[column].fit_transform(data[column])
470
471
472 features = [col for col in data.columns if col != 'trip_duration']
473 X = data[features]
474 y = np.log1p(data['trip_duration'])
475
476 X_train, X_val, y_train, y_val = train_test_split(X, y, test_size=0.2,
    random_state=0)
477
478 dtrain = xgb.DMatrix(X_train, label=y_train)
479 dval = xgb.DMatrix(X_val, label=y_val)
480
481 def objective(trial):
482     param = {
483         'objective': 'reg:squarederror',
484         'colsample_bytree': trial.suggest_float('colsample_bytree', 0.1, 1),
485         'tree_method': trial.suggest_categorical('tree_method', ['approx', '
            hist']),
486         'reg_lambda': trial.suggest_float('reg_lambda', 0.001, 25, log=True),
487         'learning_rate': trial.suggest_float('learning_rate', 0.001, 0.25),

```



```

488         'max_depth': trial.suggest_int('max_depth', 1, 12),
489         'subsample': trial.suggest_float('subsample', 0.05, 1),
490         'alpha': trial.suggest_float('alpha', 1, 10),
491         'gamma': trial.suggest_float('gamma', 0, 5),
492         'min_child_weight': trial.suggest_int('min_child_weight', 1, 100),
493         'eval_metric': 'rmse',
494     }
495
496     evals = [(dtrain, 'train'), (dval, 'eval')]
497     evals_result = {}
498     model = xgb.train(param, dtrain, num_boost_round=1000, evals=evals,
499                       evals_result=evals_result, early_stopping_rounds=5, verbose_eval=False)
500
501     y_pred = model.predict(dval)
502     rmse = np.sqrt(mean_squared_error(y_val, y_pred))
503
504     return rmse
505
506 study = optuna.create_study(direction='minimize')
507 study.optimize(objective, n_trials=3)
508
509 best_params = study.best_params
510 best_params['eval_metric'] = 'rmse'
511
512 evals = [(dtrain, 'train'), (dval, 'eval')]
513 evals_result = {}
514 model = xgb.train(best_params, dtrain, num_boost_round=1000, evals=evals,
515                   evals_result=evals_result, early_stopping_rounds=10, verbose_eval=False)
516
517 epochs = len(evals_result['train']['rmse'])
518 x_axis = range(0, epochs)
519
520 plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6))
521 plt.plot(x_axis, evals_result['train']['rmse'], label='Train')
522 plt.plot(x_axis, evals_result['eval']['rmse'], label='Validation')
523 plt.xlabel('Epochs')
524 plt.ylabel('RMSE')
525 plt.title('XGBoost RMSE')
526 plt.legend()
527 plt.show()
528
529 X_full = pd.concat([X_train, X_val], axis=0)
530 y_full = pd.concat([y_train, y_val], axis=0)
531
532 full_dtrain = xgb.DMatrix(X_full, label=y_full)
533
534 final_model = xgb.train(best_params, full_dtrain, num_boost_round=model.
535                          best_iteration)
536
537 xgb.plot_importance(final_model)
538 plt.title('Feature Importance')
539 plt.show()
540
541 ##AGGREGATING FEATURES (I DONT SHOW ALL HERE)
542
543 taxi_data['avg_duration_precipitation'] = taxi_data.groupby('precipitation')['
544     calculated_duration'].transform('mean')
545 taxi_data['avg_speed_precipitation'] = taxi_data.groupby('precipitation')['
546     avg_speed_calculated_distance'].transform('mean')

```

```

543 taxi_data['avg_duration_temperature'] = taxi_data.groupby('average temperature
   ')['calculated_duration'].transform('mean')
544 taxi_data['avg_speed_temperature'] = taxi_data.groupby('average temperature')['
    'avg_speed_calculated_distance'].transform('mean')
545 taxi_data['avg_duration_snow'] = taxi_data.groupby('snow fall')['
    'calculated_duration'].transform('mean')
546 taxi_data['avg_speed_snow'] = taxi_data.groupby('snow fall')['
    'avg_speed_calculated_distance'].transform('mean')
547 taxi_data['count_trips_snow'] = taxi_data.groupby('snow fall')['id'].transform
    ('count')
548 taxi_data['count_trips_temperature'] = taxi_data.groupby('average temperature'
    )['id'].transform('count')
549 taxi_data['count_trips_precipitation'] = taxi_data.groupby('precipitation')['
    id'].transform('count')
550 taxi_data['avg_duration_holidays'] = taxi_data.groupby('is_holiday')['
    'calculated_duration'].transform('mean')
551 taxi_data['count_trips_holidays'] = taxi_data.groupby('is_holiday')['id'].
    transform('count')
552
553 #clustering
554
555
556 taxi_data['central_latitude'] = (taxi_data['pickup_latitude'] + taxi_data['
    dropoff_latitude']) / 2
557 taxi_data['central_longitude'] = (taxi_data['pickup_longitude'] + taxi_data['
    dropoff_longitude']) / 2
558
559 X = taxi_data[['central_latitude', 'central_longitude']]
560
561 #elbow method
562
563
564 wcss = []
565 for i in range(1, 11):
566     kmeans = KMeans(n_clusters=i, init='k-means++', random_state=42)
567     kmeans.fit(X)
568     wcss.append(kmeans.inertia_)
569
570 plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6))
571 plt.plot(range(1, 11), wcss, marker='o', linestyle='--')
572 plt.title('Elbow Method for Optimal k')
573 plt.xlabel('Number of Clusters')
574 plt.ylabel('WCSS')
575 plt.grid(True)
576 plt.show()
577
578
579 plt.figure(figsize=(12, 8))
580 sns.scatterplot(data=taxi_data, x='central_longitude', y='central_latitude',
    hue='cluster', palette='viridis', s = 0.2, legend='full')
581 plt.title('Trip Clusters Based on Central Coordinates')
582 plt.xlabel('Longitude')
583 plt.ylabel('Latitude')
584 plt.show()
585
586 #CLUSTERING ON TOP FEATURES
587
588
589
590 warnings.filterwarnings('ignore')
591
592 numerical_features = ['calculated_distance',

```

```

593         'calculated_duration',
594         'avg_speed_calculated_distance', 'pickup_longitude', '
        pickup_latitude',
595         'dropoff_longitude', 'dropoff_latitude', 'trips_day_hour'
        , 'num_points'
596
597
598     ]
599     preprocessor = ColumnTransformer(
600         transformers=[
601             ('num', StandardScaler(), numerical_features)
602
603         ])
604
605
606     X = preprocessor.fit_transform(combined_data[numerical_features])
607
608     #FINAL MODEL
609
610     data = train.copy()
611
612     data = data.drop(['id', 'pickup_datetime', 'date', 'direction'], axis=1)
613
614     label_encoders = {}
615     categorical_columns = ['vendor_id', 'day_of_week', 'discretized_direction']
616
617     for column in categorical_columns:
618         label_encoders[column] = LabelEncoder()
619         data[column] = label_encoders[column].fit_transform(data[column])
620
621     features = [col for col in data.columns if col != 'trip_duration']
622     X = data[features]
623     y = np.log1p(data['trip_duration'])
624
625     X_train, X_val, y_train, y_val = train_test_split(X, y, test_size=0.2,
        random_state=0)
626
627     dtrain = xgb.DMatrix(X_train, label=y_train)
628     dval = xgb.DMatrix(X_val, label=y_val)
629
630     def objective(trial):
631         param = {
632             'objective': 'reg:squarederror',
633             'colsample_bytree': trial.suggest_float('colsample_bytree', 0.1, 1),
634             'tree_method': trial.suggest_categorical('tree_method', ['approx', '
        hist']),
635             'reg_lambda': trial.suggest_float('reg_lambda', 0.001, 25, log=True),
636             'learning_rate': trial.suggest_float('learning_rate', 0.001, 0.25),
637             'max_depth': trial.suggest_int('max_depth', 1, 12),
638             'subsample': trial.suggest_float('subsample', 0.05, 1),
639             'alpha': trial.suggest_float('alpha', 1, 10),
640             'gamma': trial.suggest_float('gamma', 0, 5),
641             'min_child_weight': trial.suggest_int('min_child_weight', 1, 100),
642             'eval_metric': 'rmse',
643         }
644
645         evals = [(dtrain, 'train'), (dval, 'eval')]
646         evals_result = {}
647         model = xgb.train(param, dtrain, num_boost_round=1000, evals=evals,
        evals_result=evals_result, early_stopping_rounds=5, verbose_eval=False
        )
648

```

```

649     y_pred = np.expm1(model.predict(dval))
650     rmsle = np.sqrt(mean_squared_log_error(np.expm1(y_val), y_pred))
651
652     return rmsle
653
654 study = optuna.create_study(direction='minimize')
655 study.optimize(objective, n_trials=5)
656
657 best_params = study.best_params
658 best_params['eval_metric'] = 'rmse'
659
660 evals = [(dtrain, 'train'), (dval, 'eval')]
661 evals_result = {}
662 model = xgb.train(best_params, dtrain, num_boost_round=1000, evals=evals,
663                  evals_result=evals_result, early_stopping_rounds=10, verbose_eval=False)
664
665 epochs = len(evals_result['train']['rmse'])
666 x_axis = range(0, epochs)
667
668 plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6))
669 plt.plot(x_axis, evals_result['train']['rmse'], label='Train')
670 plt.plot(x_axis, evals_result['eval']['rmse'], label='Validation')
671 plt.xlabel('Epochs')
672 plt.ylabel('RMLSE')
673 plt.title('XGBoost RMLSE')
674 plt.legend()
675 plt.show()
676
677 X_full = pd.concat([X_train, X_val], axis=0)
678 y_full = pd.concat([y_train, y_val], axis=0)
679
680 full_dtrain = xgb.DMatrix(X_full, label=y_full)
681
682 final_model = xgb.train(best_params, full_dtrain, num_boost_round=model.
683                        best_iteration)
684
685 xgb.plot_importance(final_model)
686 plt.title('Feature Importance')
687 plt.show()

```