Final Report | Capstone Project – The Battle of Neighbourhoods Finding a Better Place in Scarborough, Toronto

Karishmaa Fernandes | 21/10/2020

1. Introduction:

The purpose of this Project is to help people in exploring better facilities around their neighbourhood. It will help people making smart and efficient decision on selecting great neighbourhood out of numbers of other neighbourhoods in Scarborough, Toronto.

Lots of people are migrating to various states of Canada and needed lots of research for good housing prices and reputed schools for their children. This project is for those people who are looking for better neighbourhoods. For ease of accessing to Cafe, School, Supermarket, medical shops, grocery shops, mall, theatre, hospital, likeminded people, etc.

This Project aim to create an analysis of features for a people migrating to Scarborough to search a best neighbourhood as a comparative analysis between neighbourhoods. The features include median housing price and better school according to ratings, crime rates of that particular area, road connectivity, weather conditions, good management for emergency, water resources both fresh and wastewater and excrement conveyed in sewers and recreational facilities.

It will help people to get awareness of the area and neighbourhood before moving to a new city, state, country or place for their work or to start a new fresh life.

2. Data Section

For this study I have used the data available on Wikipedia as the reference to get all possible Postal Code

Link to
Data: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_postal_codes_of_Canada:_M

I will use the Scarborough dataset that I have scrapped earlier, consisting of latitude and longitude, zip codes.

Four Square API Data

We will need data about different venues in different neighbourhoods of that specific borough.

In order to gain that information we will use "Foursquare" locational information. Foursquare is a location data provider with information about all manner of venues and events within an area of interest. Such information includes venue names, locations, menus and even photos. As such, the foursquare location platform will be used as the sole data source since all the stated required information can be obtained through the API.

After finding the list of neighbourhoods, we then connect to the Foursquare API to gather information about venues inside each and every neighbourhood. For each neighbourhood, we have chosen the radius to be 100 meter.

The data retrieved from Foursquare contained information of venues within a specified distance of the longitude and latitude of the postcodes. The information obtained per venue as follows:
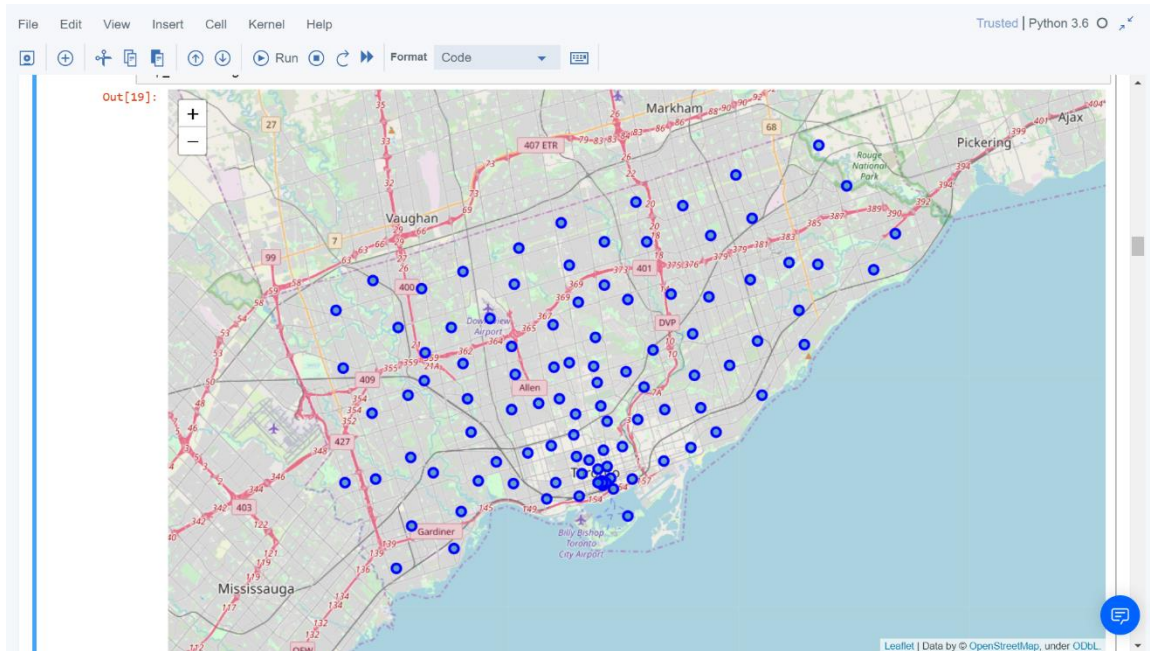
1. Neighbourhood
2. Neighbourhood Latitude
3. Neighbourhood Longitude
4. Venue
5. Name of the venue e.g. the name of a store or restaurant

6. Venue Latitude

7. Venue Longitude

8. Venue Category

Map of Scarborough

3. Methodology Section

Clustering Approach: Using k-Means Clustering

To compare two cities, we decided to explore neighbourhoods, segment them, and group them into clusters to find similar neighbourhoods in a big city like New York and Toronto. To be able to do that, we need to cluster data which is a form of unsupervised machine learning.

For this, I have used the "*k-means clustering*" algorithm.

Most Common Venue

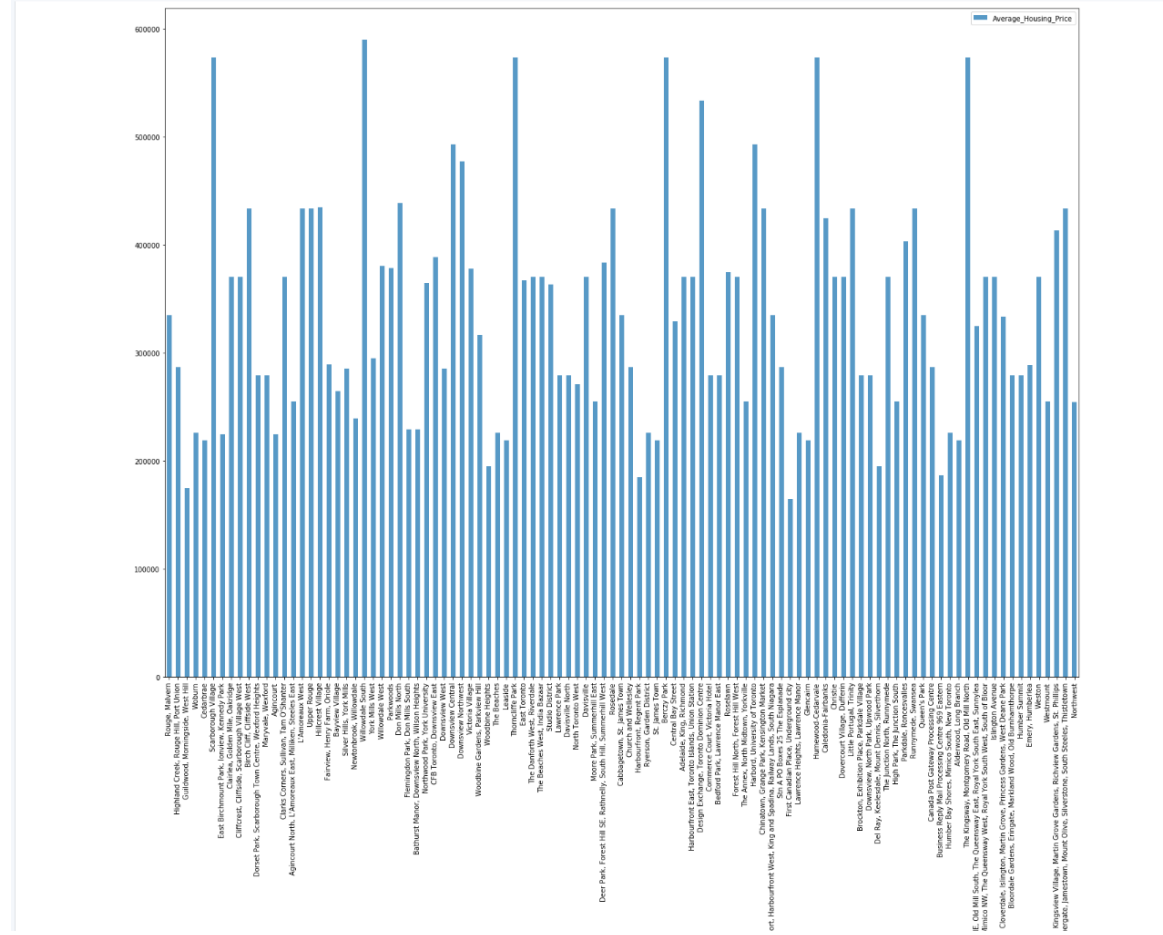|	Borough	Neighborhood	Latitude	Longitude	Cluster Labels	1st Most Common Venue	2nd Most Common Venue	3rd Most Common Venue	4th Most Common Venue	5th Most Common Venue	6th Most Common Venue	7th Most Common Venue	8th Most Common Venue	9th Most Common Venue	10th Most Common Venue
	borough	Rouge, Malvern	43.811525	-79.195517	0	Zoo Exhibit	Financial or Legal Service	Fast Food Restaurant	Construction & Landscaping	Fish & Chips Shop	Filipino Restaurant	Field	Fish Market	Farmers Market	Doner Restaurant
	borough	Highland Creek, Rouge Hill, Port Union	43.785665	-79.158725	0	Bar	Falafel Restaurant	Donut Shop	Dumpling Restaurant	Eastern European Restaurant	Electronics Store	Elementary School	Ethiopian Restaurant	Event Space	Yoga Studio
	borough	Guildwood, Morningside, West Hill	43.765815	-79.175193	2	Park	Gym / Fitness Center	Pool	Fried Chicken Joint	Indian Restaurant	Athletics & Sports	Ethiopian Restaurant	Donut Shop	Dumpling Restaurant	Eastern European Restaurant
	borough	Woburn	43.768369	-79.217590	0	Coffee Shop	Fast Food Restaurant	Business Service	Park	Yoga Studio	Dumpling Restaurant	Eastern European Restaurant	Electronics Store	Elementary School	Ethiopian Restaurant
	borough	Cedarbrae	43.769688	-79.239440	0	Flower Shop	Athletics & Sports	Thai Restaurant	Bank	Bakery	Caribbean Restaurant	Hakka Restaurant	Indian Restaurant	Eastern European Restaurant	Electronics Store

Most Common venues near Neighborhood

	Neighborhood	1st Most Common Venue	2nd Most Common Venue	3rd Most Common Venue	4th Most Common Venue	5th Most Common Venue	6th Most Common Venue	7th Most Common Venue	8th Most Common Venue	9th Most Common Venue	10th Most Common Venue
0	Adelaide, King, Richmond	Coffee Shop	Café	Hotel	Gastropub	Burger Joint	Asian Restaurant	Bar	Restaurant	American Restaurant	Steakhouse
1	Agincourt	Chinese Restaurant	Shopping Mall	Pizza Place	Supermarket	Sushi Restaurant	Breakfast Spot	Print Shop	Mediterranean Restaurant	Coffee Shop	Pool
2	Agincourt North, L'Amoreaux East, Milliken, St...	Pharmacy	Sandwich Place	Sushi Restaurant	Doner Restaurant	Donut Shop	Dumpling Restaurant	Eastern European Restaurant	Electronics Store	Elementary School	Ethiopian Restaurant
3	Albion Gardens, Beaumond Heights, Humbergate, ...	Grocery Store	Park	Sandwich Place	Discount Store	Japanese Restaurant	Fried Chicken Joint	Beer Store	Hardware Store	Pizza Place	Fast Food Restaurant
4	Alderwood, Long Branch	Convenience Store	Pub	Sandwich Place	Coffee Shop	Gas Station	Dance Studio	Gym	Pharmacy	Pizza Place	Falafel Restaurant

4. Results Section

Clusters in Scarborough
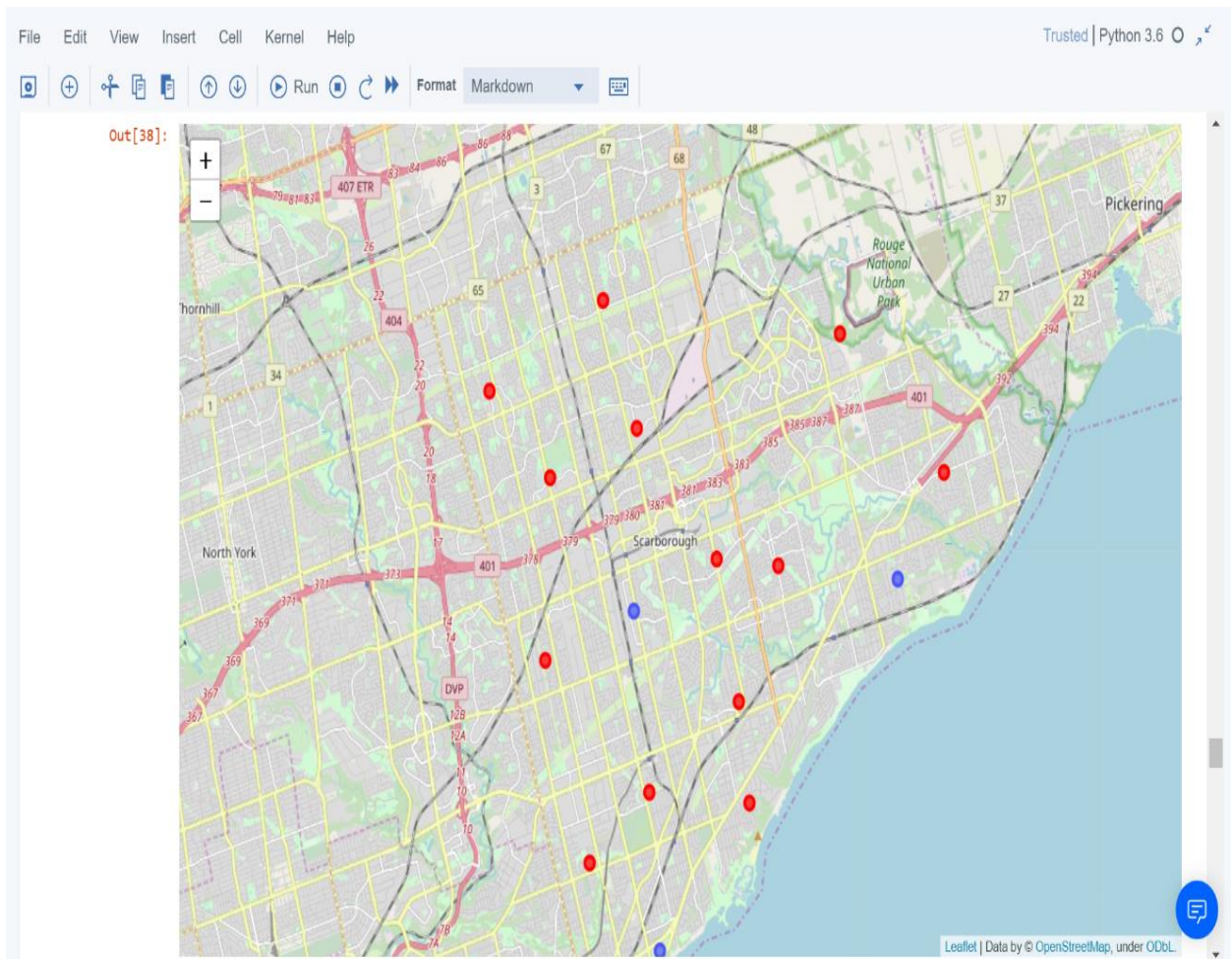
Average Housing Price by Clusters

School Ratings by Clusters

5. Discussion Section

The major purpose of this study is to suggest a better neighbourhood in a new city for the person who is migrating.

Here we have just considered two factors and provided a basic insight using Data Science techniques.

1. Sorted list of houses in terms of housing prices in an ascending or descending order
2. Sorted list of schools in terms of location, fees, rating and reviews

12. Conclusion

In this study, using the k-means cluster algorithm I separated the neighbourhood into 10(Ten) different clusters and for 103 different latitude and longitude from the dataset, which have very-similar neighbourhoods around them.

Using folium, we have presented a visual map on the clusters.

This study can be extended further to have an analysis on other factors considered for migrant workers or any people.

Libraries Which are Used to Develop the Project:

Pandas: For creating and manipulating data frames.

Folium: Python visualization library would be used to visualize the neighbourhoods cluster distribution of using interactive leaflet map.

Scikit Learn: For importing k-means clustering.

JSON: Library to handle JSON files.

XML: To separate data from presentation and XML stores data in plain text format.

Geocoder: To retrieve Location Data.

Beautiful Soup and Requests: To scrap and library to handle http requests.

Matplotlib: Python Plotting Module.