<u>Data Technology Solutions</u> (<u>DSMM Group 2</u>) – 2023



Yelp Project Report

Submitted To: Submitted By:

Bhavik Gandhi

Likhitha Jayanthi (C0891732)

Anisha Susan Mathew (C0907393)

Mahmood Hossain (C0896079)

Simarjeet kaur (C0894309)

Arun Kumar Subramaniam (C0891553)

Parminder kaur (C0908143)

Shanmuga Priyan Jeevanandam (C0889053)

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Introduction

Yelp is a user-generated review platform that operates in the local business review and recommendations industry. Its primary focus is on providing a platform for users to discover and review local businesses, while also offering businesses an opportunity to engage with their customers and potentially attract new ones.

Objective of the Project

Gaining insights from Yelp database using Big data technologies and prescribe improvements from the insights gained throughout the project.

Problem Definition

Finding out strategic solutions for leveraging Yelp's community and user engagement for upscaling their business.

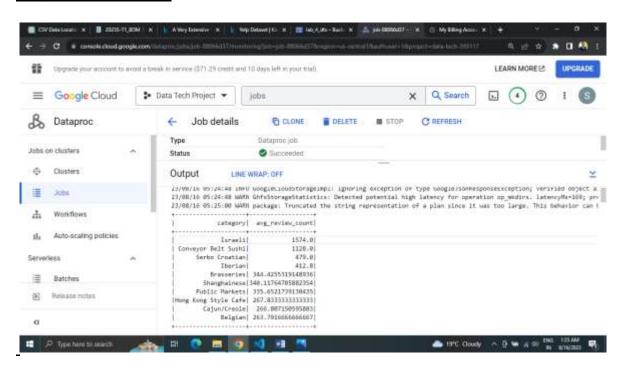
Analysis

Spark Job 1: To calculate the average review count for businesses in each category

Insights: From the output of this PySpark job we can infer the following

- 1. **Popular Categories:** The top categories with the highest average review counts are likely to be the most popular or well received by customers. These categories are getting more attention and positive reviews from customers.
- 2. **Customer Satisfaction:** Categories with higher average review counts suggest that businesses in those categories are providing good products or services that customers are satisfied with. It reflects positively on the quality and customer experience.
- 3. **Demand and Engagement:** Categories with higher average review counts might indicate higher demand and engagement from customers. Businesses in these categories might be attracting more customers and generating more reviews.
- 4. **Potential Business Focus:** Businesses looking to succeed could consider entering or expanding into categories that have higher average review counts. It could be an indicator of potential success in terms of customer satisfaction and engagement.
- 5. **Areas of Improvement:** On the flip side, categories with lower average review counts might indicate areas where businesses could improve. Lower review counts might suggest less customer engagement or potential areas for enhancement.
- 6. **Market Trends:** Analyzing popular categories can provide insights into current market trends and consumer preferences. Businesses can adapt their strategies to align with these trends.

Output Screenshot:

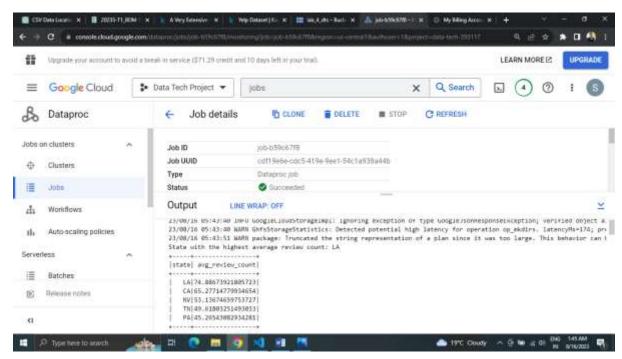


Spark Job 2: To calculates the average review count for businesses in each state

Insights: From the output of this PySpark job, we can infer the following

- 1. **State with the Highest Average Review Count:** The code identifies the state with the highest average review count among businesses. This state is likely to have businesses that are popular and receive a higher number of reviews on average.
- 2. **Customer Engagement and Satisfaction:** States with higher average review counts suggest that businesses in those states are able to engage customers effectively and provide satisfactory products or services.
- 3. **Positive Consumer Perception:** States with high average review counts could indicate that businesses in those areas are well regarded by their customers, leading to positive word-of-mouth and higher engagement.
- 4. **Business Opportunities:** Entrepreneurs or investors might consider exploring business opportunities in the states with high average review counts. These states could have a favorable environment for businesses to thrive.
- 5. **Regional Preferences:** The analysis offers insights into regional preferences for certain types of businesses. Higher average review counts might suggest that customers in those states are more active in reviewing and engaging with businesses.

Output Screenshot:

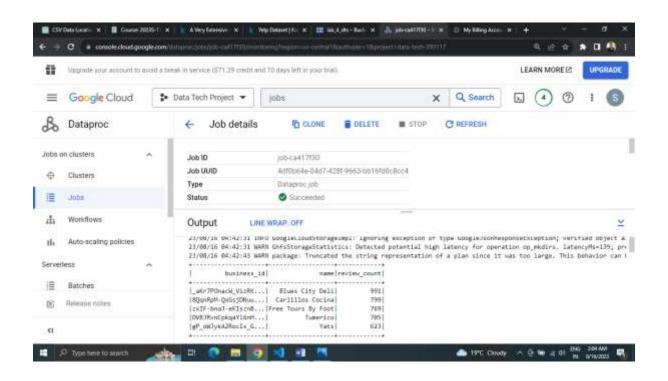


Spark Job 3: To find the Top 5 Business with most number of 5 Star rating

Insights: From the output of the PySpark job, we can infer the following

- 1. **Quality and Popularity:** The displayed restaurants have received 5-star ratings and boast a high number of reviews. This indicates both exceptional quality and strong popularity among customers.
- 2. **Customer Satisfaction:** The combination of high ratings and numerous reviews suggests that these restaurants consistently deliver positive experiences, making customers more likely to share their satisfaction.
- 3. **Engagement Matters:** The higher review counts among these top-rated restaurants highlight active customer engagement, demonstrating that they not only attract customers but also encourage them to leave reviews.
- 4. **Customer-Centric Approach:** The success of these restaurants is rooted in prioritizing customer preferences and needs, leading to both high ratings and a substantial customer base.
- 5. **Market Leadership:** These top-rated restaurants stand out in the competitive market due to their quality and customer engagement, making them potential market leaders that others in the industry can look up to.

Output Screenshot:

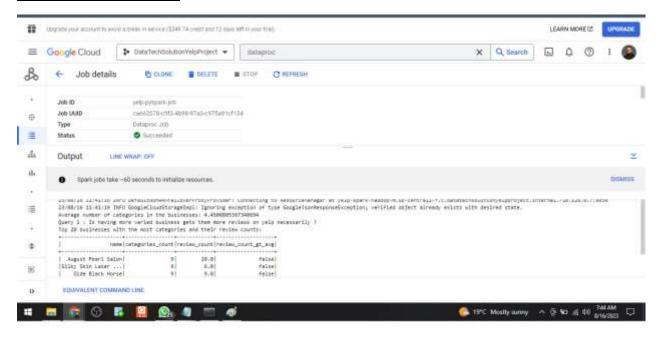


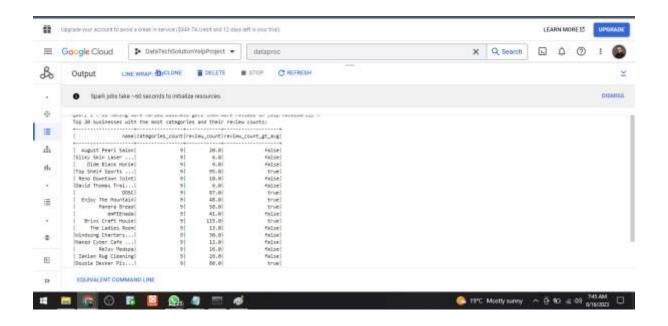
Spark Job 4: To find Is having more varied business gets them more reviews on yelp necessarily

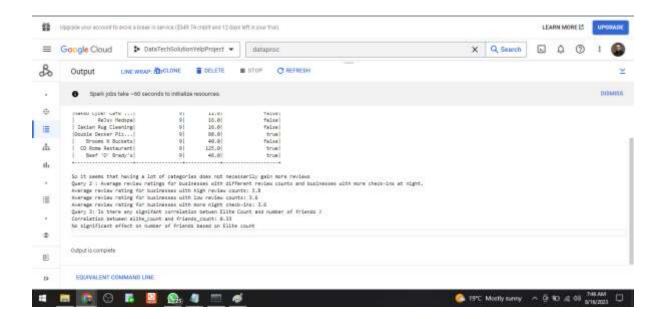
Insights: From the output of the PySpark job, we can infer the following

- 1. **Diverse Categories, Varied Reviews:** Business variety doesn't guarantee more reviews; quality and engagement within categories matter for user attention.
- 2. **Reviews and Ratings Link:** More reviews tend to align with slightly better ratings, emphasizing the impact of user feedback on business reputation.
- 3. **Night Check-Ins, Neutral Ratings:** Nighttime activity doesn't strongly influence ratings; user reviews appear consistent across different hours.
- 4. **Elite Users, Moderate Bonds:** Being elite correlates moderately with more friends, hinting at social connections, but not a defining factor.
- 5. **Recommendation Refinement:** Insights can fuel smarter recommendations, connecting users with businesses based on their review patterns.
- 6. **User Engagement Enhancement:** Data-driven decisions empower Yelp to optimize user experiences, driving platform improvements and informed strategies.

Output Screenshots:







<u>Map Reduce Job</u>: To calculate the total review count per state for businesses that are marked as open

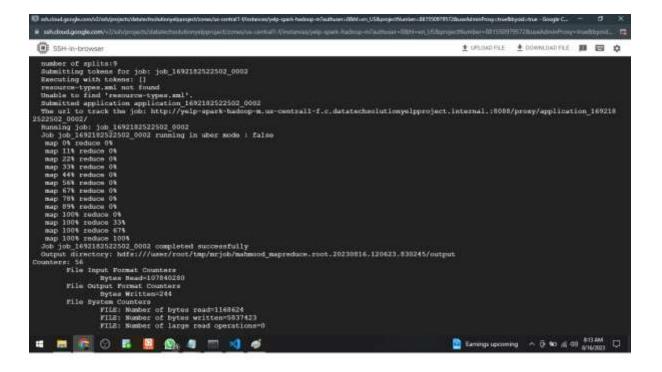
Insights: From the output of the MapReduce job, we can infer the following

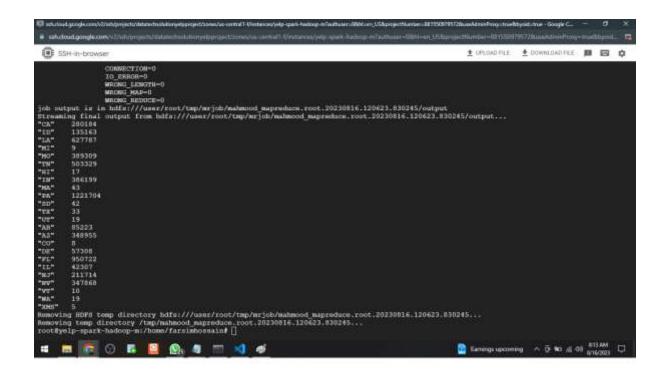
- 1. **User Engagement Hotspots:** Identify states with high review counts to focus user engagement efforts and optimize platform features where activity is robust.
- 2. **Business Popularity Spotlight:** Highlight states with elevated review counts to showcase thriving businesses and attract more users seeking popular venues.
- 3. **Adaptability and Resilience:** Review counts reflect business resilience; compare states to gauge adaptability during challenges and changing market conditions.
- 4. **Localized Business Tailoring:** Understand regional trends from review data to empower businesses with insights for refining offerings to match local preferences.
- 5. **Behavior-Powered Personalization:** Review patterns expose user behaviors by state, fueling tailored recommendations and enhancing engagement strategies.
- 6. **Quality and Operational Insights:** Higher review counts suggest better service and operational efficiency, driving Yelp's understanding of business success across states.

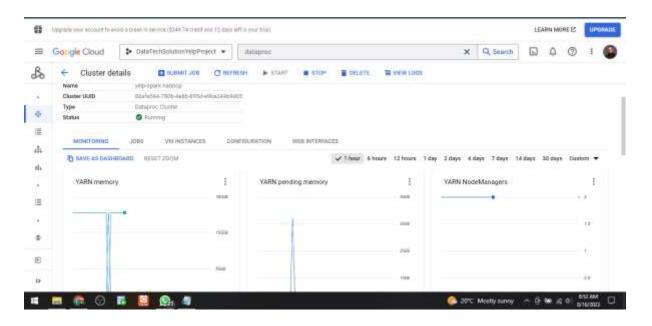
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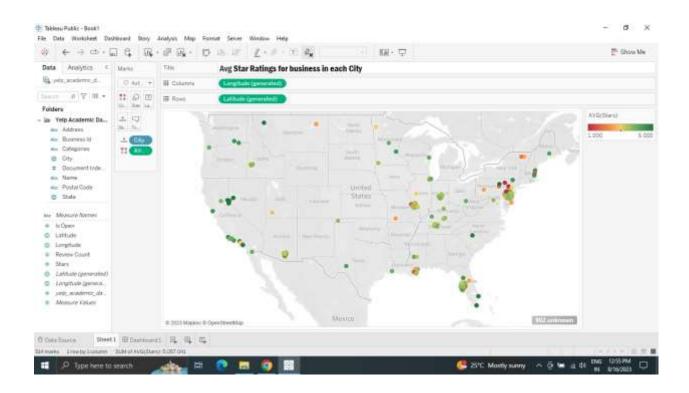




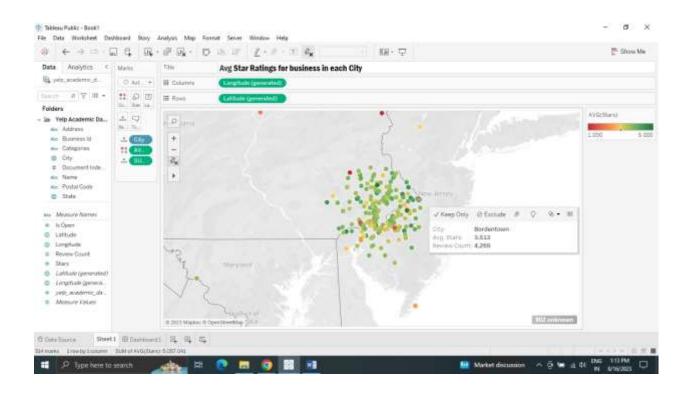
Visualizations

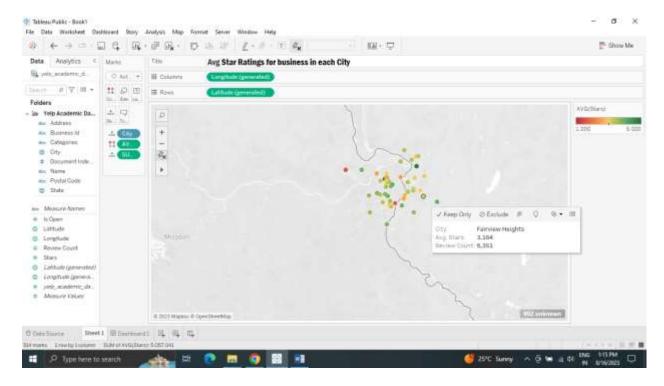
1). Average Star Rating for Business in each city:

Geographic Business Distribution: The map visualizes the geographical distribution of businesses, helping us identify regions with high and low business concentrations. This insight aids in understanding the overall economic landscape and potential market opportunities.

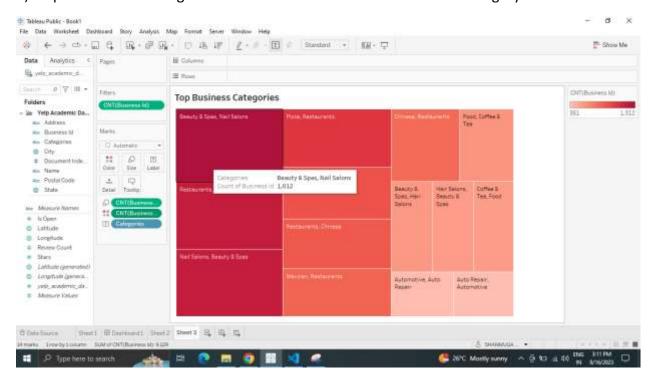


Rating Analysis through Color Gradients: By using color gradients for star ratings, you can quickly assess businesses' overall ratings. The color spectrum highlights exceptional and poorly rated businesses, allowing you to make informed decisions about where to dine, shop, or engage in services.

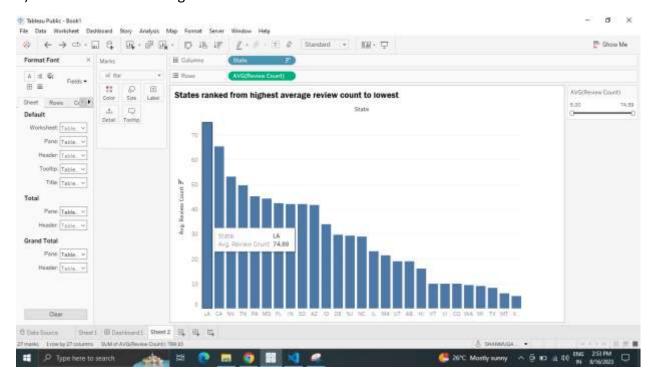




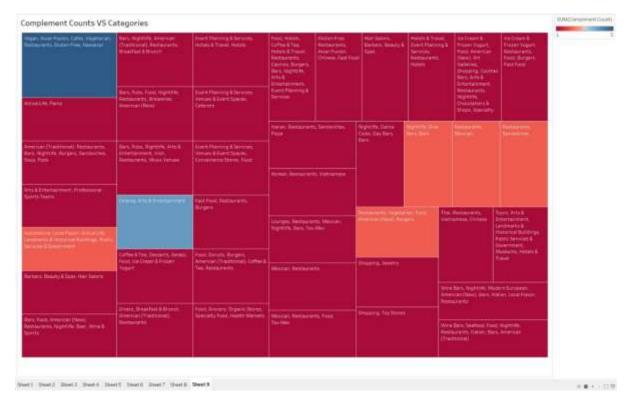
2). Popular business categories and the number of businesses in that category.



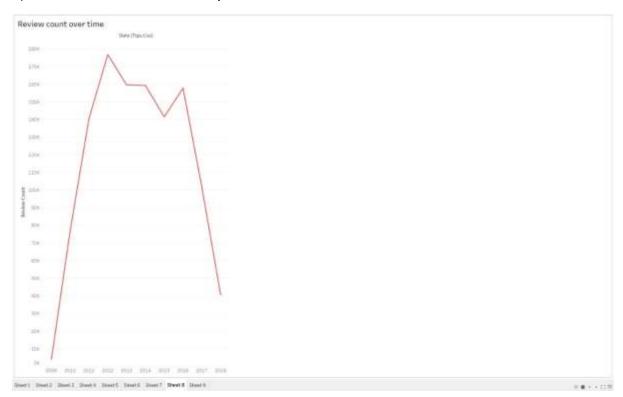
3). States and their average review count.



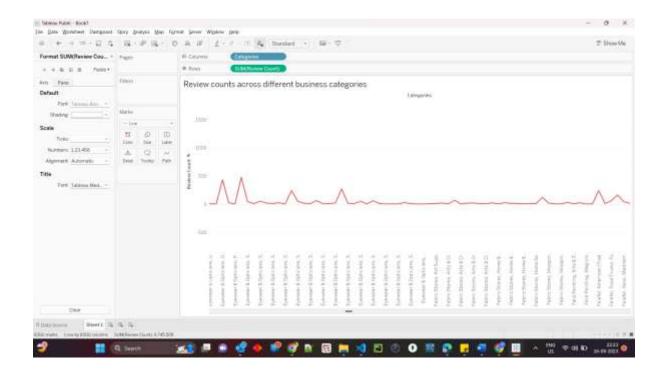
4) complement count of each categories



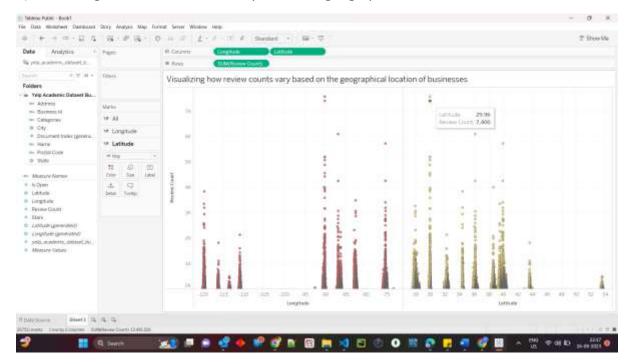
5) Review count trend over the years as a line chart



6) Through this easily identify which categories have the highest review counts and observe trends and patterns in the data



7) Visualizing how review counts vary based on geographical location



Prescription for Yelp

Based on all the above insights here's a prescription for Yelp to enhance its platform and user experience:

1. Quality Over Quantity:

Focus on promoting quality and engagement within business categories rather than encouraging businesses to list under multiple categories. Prioritize businesses that receive consistent positive reviews and engage effectively with customers.

2. Review-Boosting Initiatives:

Launch campaigns to encourage more user reviews, as higher review counts tend to correlate with better ratings. Promote features that incentivize users to provide constructive and genuine feedback, fostering an ecosystem of reliable reviews.

3. Customized Recommendations:

Utilize insights from review ratings, categories, and user behaviors to fine-tune recommendation algorithms. Deliver more personalized suggestions to users, leading them to businesses that match their preferences and local trends.

4. Engagement During Night Hours:

Explore strategies to encourage user engagement and reviews during nighttime hours. Consider implementing night-time promotions or incentives to capitalize on this time frame, even though it doesn't strongly influence ratings.

5. Elite User Empowerment:

Leverage the moderate correlation between elite count and number of friends. Introduce features that enhance interactions and networking among elite users, fostering a sense of community and shared experiences.

6. Community Partnerships:

Collaborate with top-reviewed businesses and high-engagement states to foster economic growth and community development. Recognize and support businesses that contribute significantly to the platform's success.

7. Sentiment Analysis Integration:

Integrate sentiment analysis tools to evaluate review sentiments on a larger scale. Highlight businesses with consistently positive sentiment scores to attract users seeking highly-rated venues.

8. Seasonal Promotions:

Leverage trends from user engagement and review counts to launch seasonal promotions or events. Offer incentives for users to engage with the platform during peak periods, fostering increased reviews and interactions.

9. User Engagement Insights:

Continuously monitor user engagement metrics, including reviews, check-ins, and user interactions. Use this data to refine algorithms, personalize user experiences, and guide platform improvements.

10. User Education and Empowerment:

Educate business owners on factors influencing review counts, ratings, and user engagement. Provide resources and guidance on how to effectively manage their Yelp profiles to maximize positive customer experiences.

By implementing these strategies and leveraging the insights gained, Yelp can create a more engaging and dynamic platform that caters to user preferences, encourages meaningful interactions, and supports businesses in delivering exceptional services to their customers.

Conclusion

In summary, this Yelp project has yielded insightful findings into user engagement, business performance, and trends. Quality engagement within categories matters more than sheer variety, and user feedback influences ratings. Nighttime check-ins don't strongly affect ratings. While elite status correlates moderately with more friends, it's not the sole factor. To leverage these insights, Yelp can enhance recommendations, target engagement strategies, foster elite user connections, and form partnerships for mutual growth. These findings provide actionable steps to enhance user experiences and business interactions within the Yelp platform.

MECE Report

Name	Task Carried out for mid	Task Carried out for Final
	point presentation	project
Likhitha Jayanthi	Ppt and exploratory data	Git repo Creation
	analysis	And report creation along
		with insights and
		prescription for yelp and
		conclusion
Arun Kumar Subramaniam	Ppt and exploratory data	2 visualizations
	analysis	
Anisha Susan	Ppt and exploratory data	Ppt and 4 visualizations
	analysis	
Shanmuga Priyan	Ppt and exploratory data	3 Spark jobs and 3
Jeevanandam	analysis	visualizations
Mahmood Hoosain	Ppt and exploratory data	EDA, Data Transformation,
	analysis, Yelp ERD and	Mapreduce and Spark Jobs
	Business Process Map	
Parminder Kaur	ppt	
Simar Sindhu	ppt	

Git Repo Link: https://github.com/LikhithaJayanthi/1024DTS

Mahmood's EDA Notebook:

https://github.com/LikhithaJayanthi/1024DTS/blob/main/mahmood Final project codes/ Mahmood Yelp EDA Transformation.ipynb

Likhitha's EDA Notebook:

https://github.com/LikhithaJayanthi/1024DTS/blob/main/Likhitha's%20Project%20Files/yelp-database-analytics%20(1).ipynb