

OpenStreetMap Data Case Study

Map Area

Balneario Camboriu, Santa Catarina, Brazil.

Link to Open Street Maps:

<https://www.openstreetmap.org/export#map=12/-27.0869/-48.5616>

This is the city I live in for the last 4.5 years, where my baby boy was born, so it is quite important to me. It is also a touristic city with many skyscrapers and nice turquoise sea:



However, due to the file size restrictions (being greater than 50 MBs), I had to pick a larger area that included 20 neighbour cities.

Problems encountered in your map

First problem every foreigner always find when handling data is encoding. First time running the code already got the error when running the prints for debugging:

```
UnicodeEncodeError: 'ascii' codec can't encode character u'\xed' in  
position 5: ordinal not in range(128)
```

After solving that issue with UTF-8 decoding, I got started to verify the addresses.

First identified problem was repeated data: one street had several entries with different speed limits, lane numbers, etc. But the problem for writing a function to correct that is: since our section of the map contains more than one city, it is common in Brazil for many cities have the same street names, specially for famous historical figures and historical dates. Also, there are repeated building names in different cities, and since there is no “city” field, one must find all the related “nodes” to each “way” entry in order to know to which city each street belong, so I gave up of this task.

No entry had the postal code, so it is impossible to perform any search using this field.

There were only 2 entries with the name “street” abbreviated in portuguese, so I renamed those manually.

Overview of the Data

I chose MongoDB for the Database since I already worked with SQL previously. As a support to some scripts in Python, I have used the software Compass, available in MongoDB website. I also mixed way tags and node tags into one database, and saved only entries which had “name” values, since it did not made much sense to me to analyze data which contained only GPS positions.

Overall, we have the following file sizes:

Camboriu.osm	256MB
Entries on MongoDB	37.6K
Size on MongoDB	6.1MB
Avg size on MongoDB	171Bytes

Count of Cities

So, our first task was to get a count of the field `addr:city` and count how many each entry appeared. For this, I wrote a function that receives the `mongodb` collection as a parameter:

```
def list_cities(camboriu_entries_db):  
    pipeline = [  
        {"$unwind": "$addr:city"},  
        {"$group": {"_id": "$addr:city", "count": {"$sum": 1}}},
```

```

    {"$sort": SON([("count", -1), ("_id", -1)])}
  ]
  entries_with_cities =
list(camboriu_entries_db.aggregate(pipeline))
  for entry in entries_with_cities:
      print unicode(entry['_id']+'.encode('utf-8'),
      print unicode(entry['count'])

```

Our result were:

```

Jaraguá do Sul    1036
Guaramirim       70
Itapema          56
Massaranduba     44
Corupá           28
Barra Velha      24
Balneário Piçarras  22
Doutor Pedrinho  17
São João do Itaperiú  13
Blumenau         13
Itajaí           12
Balneário Camboriú  12
Pomerode         11
Schroeder        7
Penha            7
Brusque          6
Ilhota           4
Balneário Barra do Sul  4
Rio dos Cedros   3
Gaspar           3
Araquari         3
Navegantes       2
Porto Belo       1
Piçarras         1
Indaial          1
Camboriú         1
Apiúna           1

```

There is a large difference in number between the first city Jaraguá do Sul and all the rest, much more than one would expect.

Top 10 contributors

```
def top10_user_contribution(camboriu_entries_db):
    pipeline = [
        {"$unwind": "$author"},
        {"$group": {"_id": "$author", "count": {"$sum": 1}}},
        {"$sort": SON([("count", -1), ("_id", -1)])},
        {"$limit": 10}
    ]
    author_contribution_list =
list(camboriu_entries_db.aggregate(pipeline))
    for contrib in author_contribution_list:
        print unicode(contrib['_id']+'.encode('utf-8'),
        print unicode(contrib['count'])
```

After running the code above we get the following result:

adrianojbr	18505
Victor 2015	8117
André Alvarenga	2925
Tomio	2686
Geomir	486
Cladimir Luis Lang	445
patodiez	443
Corujão	412
poeiradasestrelas	406
portalaventura	251

I guess it would not be a surprise if user adrianojbr lived in Jaragua do Sul.

Unique Users

```
def count_authors(camboriu_entries_db):
    print(len(camboriu_entries_db.distinct('author')))
```

Gives us the number of 279 unique users.

Other ideas about the datasets

Contributor Statistics

Following the suggestions from the model which I used to make this document (available in https://gist.github.com/carlward/54ec1c91b62a5f911c42#file-sample_project-md), the distribution I found on this map is also very skewed. One city has more entries than all other cities together and one user has more entries than all other user together. For this reason, gamification would definitely be a useful tool to motivate user contribution to this mapping project. Of course, as a downside, it would require more programming, maybe a major change in the OSM coding since I did not found many open-source gamification solutions which have a large community (best I could find is <https://code.google.com/archive/p/userinfuser/>).

Another idea would be to make a page per user contribution available for display as a public portfolio, just like github does. This could need a smaller change in terms of software development, and could motivate rookies to spend some extra hours doing volunteer work for a neat curriculum.

Last but not least, there is the possibility of importing data from other map sources such as Google maps. Let's take a look, for an example, at what our search in 27 cities brought for restaurants a few topics ahead: 46 pizza parlors. Making a quick search on my city, we have the following results:

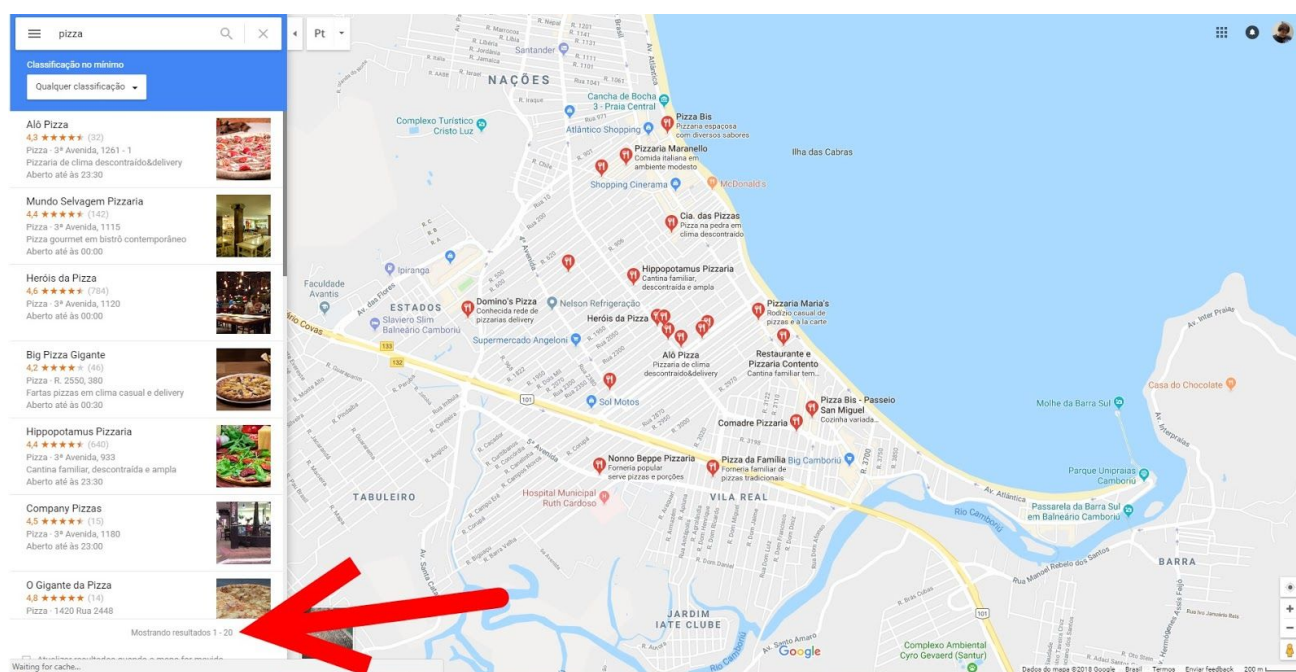


Image 1: displaying results 1 - 20

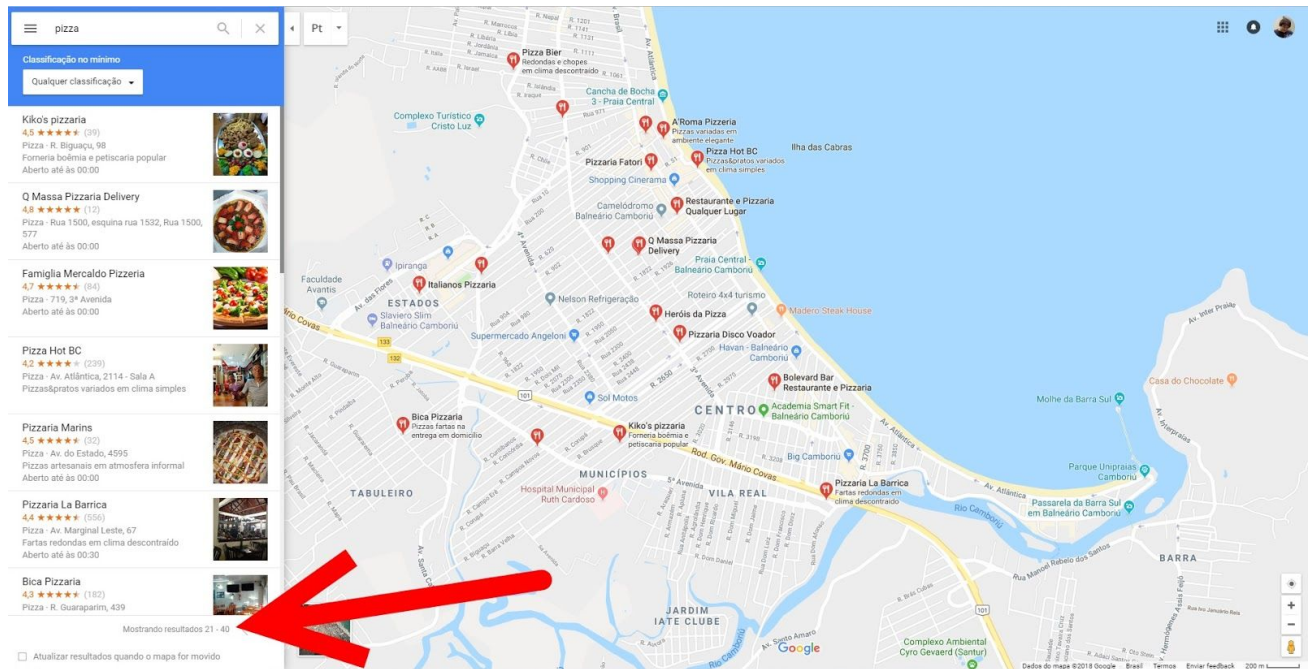


Image 2: displaying results 21 - 40

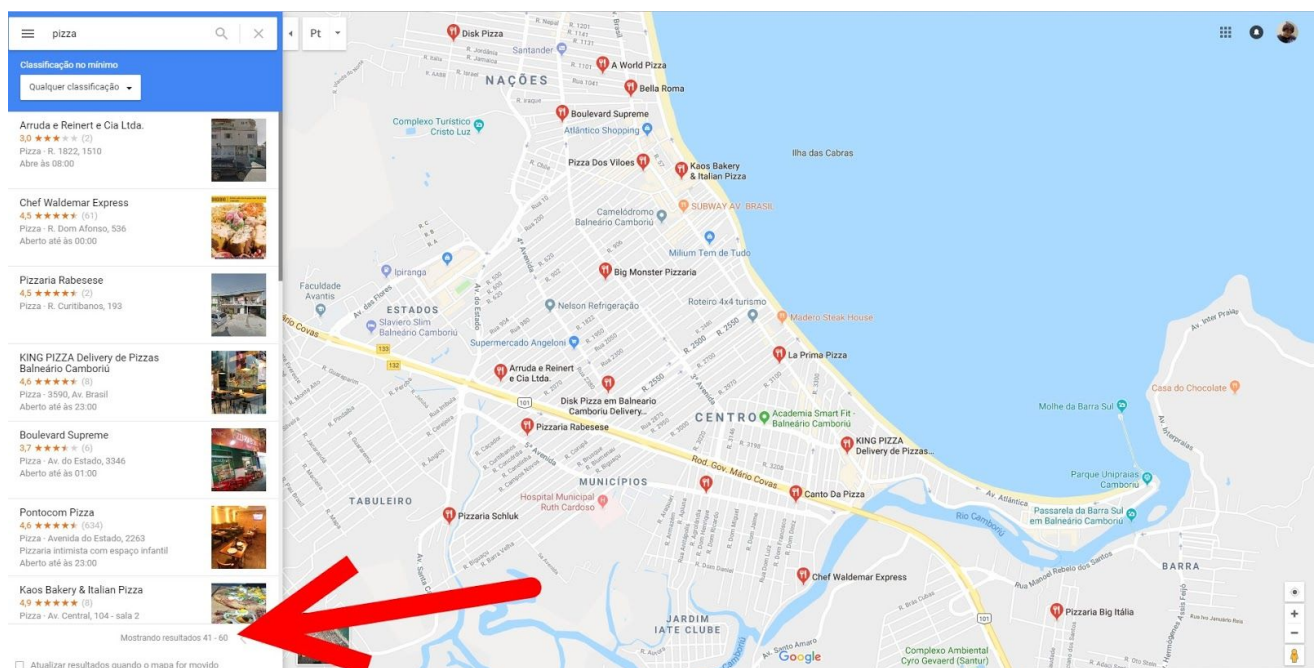


Image 3: displaying results 41 - 60

Those indicate that only in Balneario Camboriú there are more than 60 different pizza restaurants (Link available here for reference: <https://www.google.com.br/maps/search/pizza/@-26.9971824,-48.6338856,15z/data=!3m1!4b1>), and the maps api is also available for usage on python (link: <https://github.com/googlemaps/google-maps-services-python>). Main problem with googlemaps is the limit of accesses for non-paying users: this would still require that many users perform the task of updating OSM.

Additional Data Exploration

Top 10 Amenities

```
def top10_amenities(camborIU_entries_db):
    pipeline = [
        {"$unwind": "$amenity"},
        {"$group": {"_id": "$amenity", "count": {"$sum": 1}}},
        {"$sort": SON([("count", -1), ("_id", -1)])},
        {"$limit": 10}
    ]
    author_contribution_list =
list(camborIU_entries_db.aggregate(pipeline))
    for contrib in author_contribution_list:
        print unicode(contrib['_id']+'.encode('utf-8'),
        print unicode(contrib['count'])
```

```
restaurant    406
place_of_worship 391
school        240
fuel          212
fast_food     207
clinic        206
pharmacy      186
community_centre 141
bank          138
parking       123
```

Top 3 Religions

```
def top3_religion(camborIU_entries_db):
    pipeline = [
        {"$unwind": "$religion"},
        {"$group": {"_id": "$religion", "count": {"$sum": 1}}},
        {"$sort": SON([("count", -1), ("_id", -1)])},
```

```

        {"$limit":3}
    ]
    author_contribution_list =
list(camboriu_entries_db.aggregate(pipeline))
    for contrib in author_contribution_list:
        print unicode(contrib['_id']+'.encode('utf-8'),
        print unicode(contrib['count'])

```

```

christian    416
spiritualist  3
umbanda      1

```

Top 10 Cuisines

```

def top10_cuisines(camboriu_entries_db):
    pipeline = [
        {"$unwind": "$cuisine"},
        {"$group": {"_id": "$cuisine", "count": {"$sum": 1}}},
        {"$sort": SON([("count", -1), ("_id", -1)])},
        {"$limit":10}
    ]
    author_contribution_list =
list(camboriu_entries_db.aggregate(pipeline))
    for contrib in author_contribution_list:
        print unicode(contrib['_id']+'.encode('utf-8'),
        print unicode(contrib['count'])

```

```

pizza    46
burger   45
regional  31
steak_house  18
sandwich  15
empanada  14
japanese  11
sushi     9
italian    9
sausage    7

```


Conclusion

Given the size of the area in square kilometers and population, it would be expected to have much more data available, but that was not the case. We noticed that the vast majority of work seems to have been done by one single user, and given the open source nature of the website (openmap), that does appears to be the truth. There is in fact a structural problem in order to feed precise data to openstreetmap because even government websites do not provide nice databases to the public as of 2018.