

The Battle of Neighbourhoods: London vs. Birmingham

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Introduction

Background

The United Kingdom has a thriving Chinese community in all its major cities. With over 400,000 British-Chinese nationwide, each year sees a new flock of immigrants seeking to live in UK. This is not a big decision to make, with many factors to be considered such as the culture, community, rent prices, prospective work, and living costs. The Chinese community has widely been agreed to be a central feature of many cities of UK, in particular Birmingham Chinatown and London Chinatown, two of the largest populations of Chinese immigrants.

Problem

This project aims to address the question of "Which is the best place to open up a Chinese restaurant as a Chinese immigrant?". By studying the data of living costs, density of the Chinese population, and similar venues nearby, we may predict which city, London or Birmingham, propose the most ideal location.

Interest

This information will gather most interest from prospective Chinese immigrants seeking to move to UK. For such a major decision, it is important for those looking to move, and also for those expecting an influx of immigration.

Data Wrangling

Data Sources

We will be scraping data on the list of [London boroughs](#) and list of [Birmingham neighbourhoods](#) which will be used with geocoder to locate latitude and longitudinal positions. Foursquare will be used to determine density of Chinese venues such as Chinese restaurants, takeaways, supermarkets, and stores. We will assume that this density is representative of the density of the Chinese population. This can be found using the latitude and longitudinal positions retrieved from web scraping. Finally, the average cost of living is found to be approximately [£4,866pm](#) for London, and [£3,388pm](#) for Birmingham, each for a family of four. The difference in cost will provide an idea of what the extra cost for living in London will pay for.

Data Cleaning