



JULY 4

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Introduction

New York City is the main subject of this project, so it makes sense to take the time for a brief introduction to this truly magnetic and exhilarating place in our world. So, New York City is the most populous city in the US. The City has been recognized as the cultural, financial, and media capital of the world, significantly influencing world diplomacy, commerce, entertainment, science, technology, education, politics, tourism, art, fashion, sports, and so on.

New York City is truly a global symbol of freedom, and the greatest cultural hub in the US, has welcomed millions of immigrants long before the days of Ellis Island. Because of the different migrations from different places, bringing their own native dishes, NYC has become a place of great diversity. Without all the immigrant cultures brought here, NYC would not be a multicultural city, like how it is today.

Besides, the City is also a hotspot for both domestic and international tourism. In 2018 alone, NYC has welcomed over 65 million visitors. It is no secret that for any avid traveler, trying local cuisine is always at the top of their to-do list. If you don't taste the local cuisine of the place you are traveling to, then you have never been there after all! No doubt, NYC's food diversity is so rich that it will never disappoint.

"If you don't taste the local cuisine of the place you are traveling to, then you have never been there after all!"

Problem statement

A good friend of mine is an entrepreneur and investor from another country who happens to be willing to invest in New York City's hospitality. Since I reside in NYC, he asked me for assistance with identifying what kind of restaurant to establish and which neighborhood to pick.

Undoubtedly, this is not an easy task, given New York City is comprised of five boroughs that geographically make up over 300 square miles. Within this area, 59 community districts define the economic profile of the City. As a result, there are so many unique neighborhoods that contribute to its demographic and cultural diversity.

This project will help to understand my entrepreneur friend in the understanding of the diversity of neighborhoods by leveraging venue data from Foursquare's Places API and K-means clustering machine learning algorithm. Exploratory Data Analysis will help to discover further about the cultural diversities of NYC's neighborhoods. Also, this project can be used by food vendors that are willing to open a new restaurant.

Data

Following data sources will be used to examine the business problem:

1. New York City Dataset.

This New York City Neighborhood Names point file was created as a guide to New York City's neighborhoods that appear on the web resource, "New York: A City of Neighborhoods." Link: https://geo.nyu.edu/catalog/nyu 2451 34572

2. Foursquare API.

A location data provider Foursquare API will be used to make RESTful API calls to retrieve data about venues in different neighborhoods. Venues retrieved from all the neighborhoods are categorized broadly into "Arts & Entertainment", "College & University", "Event", "Food", "Nightlife Spot", "Outdoors & Recreation", etc.

Methodology

For this project, we need a dataset to segment the neighborhoods of New York City. The dataset should contain all the five boroughs and all the neighborhoods of each borough, with respective latitude and longitude coordinates. The dataset that matches our requirement was downloaded using the earlier mentioned URL.

After the .json file is downloaded, it is analyzed to understand the structure of the file. A python dictionary is returned by the URL and all the relevant data is found to be in the features key, which is basically a list of the neighborhoods. The dictionary is transformed into a pandas dataframe by looping through the data and filling the dataframe rows one at a time using the following depicted loop:

This creates a dataframe with Borough, Neighborhood, Latitude and Longitude details of the New York City's neighborhood:

```
        Borough
        Neighborhood
        Latitude
        Longitude

        0
        Bronx
        Wakefield
        40.894705
        -73.847201

        1
        Bronx
        Co-op City
        40.874294
        -73.829939

        2
        Bronx
        Eastchester
        40.887556
        -73.827806

        3
        Bronx
        Fieldston
        40.895437
        -73.905643

        4
        Bronx
        Riverdale
        40.890834
        -73.912585
```

Upon analysis, it is determined that the dataframe has 5 boroughs and 306 neighborhoods:

The dataframe has 5 boroughs and 306 neighborhoods.

Geopy library is used to get the latitude (40.7127281) and longitude (-74.0060152) coordinates of New York City. Then, the curated dataframe is then used to visualize by creating a map of New York City with neighborhoods superimposed on top. This map was generated using the 'folium' library:



RESTful API Calls to Foursquare

The Foursquare API is used to explore the neighborhoods and segment them. To access the API, 'CLIENT ID', 'CLIENT SECRET', and 'VERSION' are defined.

In this project, we are exploring NYC's cuisines, so we are focusing on 'Food' category of GET requests. Foursquare Venue Category Hierarchy is retrieved using the following code:

Fetch Foursquare Venue Category Hierarchy

```
url = 'https://api.foursquare.com/v2/venues/categories?&client_id={}&client_secret={}&v={}'.format(
    CLIENT_ID,
    CLIENT_SECRET,
    VERSION)
category_results = requests.get(url).json()
```

Upon analysis, there are 10 major or parent categories of venues, under which all the other sub-categories are included. Following depiction shows the 'Category ID' and 'Category Name' retrieved from API:

```
for data in category_list:
    print(data['id'], data['name'])

4d4b7104d754a06370d81259 Arts & Entertainment
4d4b7105d754a06372d81259 College & University
4d4b7105d754a06373d81259 Event
4d4b7105d754a06374d81259 Food
4d4b7105d754a06376d81259 Nightlife Spot
4d4b7105d754a06377d81259 Outdoors & Recreation
4d4b7105d754a06375d81259 Professional & Other Places
4e67e38e036454776db1fb3a Residence
4d4b7105d754a06378d81259 Shop & Service
4d4b7105d754a06379d81259 Travel & Transport
```

As mentioned earlier, the category of 'FOOD' is our matter of interest so, a function created to return a dictionary with 'Category ID' and 'Category Name' of 'Food' and its sub-categories.

To understand the result of GET Request better, the first neighborhood of the 'New York City' dataset is explored. The first neighborhood returned is 'Wakefield' with coordinates of 40.89 and -73.85. Then, a GET request URL is created to search for Venue with proper category id for 'Food' and the radius was set to 500 meters

```
LIMIT = 1 # limit of number of venues returned by Foursquare API
radius = 500 # define radius
categoryId = '4d4b7105d754a06374d81259' # category ID for "Food"

# create URL

url = 'https://api.foursquare.com/v2/venues/search?&client_id={}&client_secret={}&v={}&v={}&ll={},{}&radius={}&c
CLIENT_ID,
CLIENT_SECRET,
VERSION,
neighborhood_latitude,
neighborhood_longitude,
radius,
categoryId,
LIMIT)
url # display URL
```

^{&#}x27;https://api.foursquare.com/v2/venues/search?&client_id=LTVMCWFSTUNWWXKA2IPM2W0D155GVZ2IXSSMTJIPKC3HZ043&client_secret=QN11TFW5BC55D2UHIM01ETQEBTMPFWTQ15EJ5HAYKYFFHUC0&v=20180605&ll=40.89470517661,-73.8472005205490 2&radius=500&categoryId=4d4b7105d754a06374d81259&limit=1'

The request returned the 'Category Name' of the venue as 'Carvel Ice Cream' which is in 'Food' category:

```
# Send the GET request and examine the resutls
results = requests.get(url).json()
results['response']['venues']
[{'id': '4c783cef3badb1f7e4244b54',
  'name': 'Carvel Ice Cream',
  'location': { 'address': '1006 E 233rd St',
   'lat': 40.890486685759605,
  'lng': -73.84856772568665,
  'labeledLatLngs': [{'label': 'display',
     'lat': 40.890486685759605,
    'lng': -73.84856772568665},
   {'label': 'entrance', 'lat': 40.890438, 'lng': -73.848559}],
  'distance': 483,
  'postalCode': '10466',
  'cc': 'US',
  'city': 'Bronx',
  'state': 'NY',
  'country': 'United States',
  'formattedAddress': ['1006 E 233rd St',
    'Bronx, NY 10466',
    'United States']},
  'categories': [{'id': '4bf58dd8d48988d1c9941735',
    'name': 'Ice Cream Shop',
    'pluralName': 'Ice Cream Shops',
    'shortName': 'Ice Cream',
   'icon': {'prefix': 'https://ss3.4sqi.net/img/categories_v2/food/icecream_',
    'suffix': '.png'},
   'primary': True}],
  'referralId': 'v-1593208627',
  'hasPerk': False}]
```

The category name of the venue 'Carvel Ice Cream' is 'Food'.

The aim is to segment the neighborhoods of NYC with respect to the 'Food' in its neighborhood, it is further required to fetch this data from all the 306 neighborhoods' venues. To make the task shorter, the 'getNearbyFood' function is created. What this function does is, it loops through all the neighborhoods of NYC and creates an API request URL with radius = 500, LIMIT = 100 (maximum number of nearby venues returned).

Pickle

Pickle is an easy to use at the same time very important library. It is used to serialize information retrieved from GET requests, to make a persistent .pkl file. This file can later be described to retrieve an exact python object structure. This is a crucial step as it will counter any redundant requests to the Foursquare API, which is chargeable over the threshold limits.

Let's use pickle library to serialize the information retrieved from GET requests. This step will counter any redundant requests to the Foursquare API. import pickle # to serialize and deserialize a Python object structure with open('nyc_food_venues.pkl', 'rb') as f: nyc_venues = pickle.load(f)
print("---Dataframe Existed and Deserialized---") nyc_venues = getNearbyFood(names=neighborhoods['Neighborhood'],
latitudes=neighborhoods['Latitude'], longitudes=neighborhoods['Longitude'] with open('nyc_food_venues.pkl', 'wb') as f: pickle.dump(nyc_venues, f)
print("---Dataframe Created and Serialized---") ---Dataframe Existed and Deserialized--Neighborhood Neighborhood Latitude Neighborhood Longitude Venue Category Venue Venue Latitude Venue Longitude Wakefield 40.894705 -73.847201 Central Deli 40.896728 -73.844387 Deli / Bodega Wakefield 40.894705 -73.847201 Cooler Runnings Jamaican Restaurant Inc 40.898083 -73.850259 Caribbean Restaurant 2 Wakefield 40.894705 -73.847201 Wakefield Deli 40.901998 -73.846910 Deli / Bodega 3 Wakefield 40.894705 -73.847201 Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen 40.889322 -73.843323 Fried Chicken Joint

Up to this point, to python 'dataframe' are created:

40.894705

1. 'neighborhood' which contains the Borough, Neighborhood, Latitude, and longitude values of NYC's neighborhoods

-73,847201

2. 'nyc_venues' which is a merger between 'neighborhoods' dataframe and its 'Food' category venues searched with 'Radius' = 500 meters and 'Limit' = 100. Also, each venue has its own Longitude, Latitude and Category.

McDonald's

40.892779

-73.857473 Fast Food Restaurant

Exploratory Data Analysis

Wakefield

The merged dataframe 'nyc_venues' contains all the required information. The size of this dataframe is determined, and it is found that there are 13724 venues in total.



Next, we need to find out how many unique categories can be curated from all the venues. There are 190 such categories

```
print('There are () uniques categories.'.format(len(nyc_venues('Venue Category').count().sort_values(ascending-False)

There are 190 uniques categories.

Venue Category

Dali / Sodaga 1266

Pliza Place 1084

Coffee Shop 938

Coffee Shop 938

Continese Mestaurant 684

Donut Shop 644

Past Food Restaurant 447

Bagal Shop 397

Café 379

Mexican Restaurant 447

Rescaurant 376

Lec Cream Shop 332

Sanduich Place 376

Lec Cream Shop 332

Sanduich Place 375

Cari Deban Restaurant 322

Fried Chicken Joint 305

American Restaurant 305

American Restaurant 305

American Restaurant 305

Fried Chicken Joint 305

American Restaurant 305

Frod Mexican Restaurant 305

Fried Chicken Joint 305

American Restaurant 305

Frod Coffee 306

American Restaurant 305

Frod Coffee Jacob 305

American Restaurant 305

Fried Chicken Joint 305

Fried Chicken Joint 305
```

Data Cleaning

Since the purpose of this project is to understand the cultural diversity of a neighborhood by clustering it categorically, using the venues' categories. Thus, it is important to remove all the venues from the 'dataframe' which have generalized categories (ex: Coffee shop, Café, etc.).

Next, we subtract 'unique_categories' and "general_categories.' It leaves all the categories we need for further analysis:

```
# fetch all the required food categories
food_categories = list(set(unique_categories) - set(general_categories))
print(','.'glan(str(x) for x in food_categories))
Afghan Restaurant, South Indian Restaurant, Szechwan Restaurant, Thai Restaurant, Food Service, Lebanese Restaurant, Hexican Restaurant, Russian Restaurant, Fried Chicken Joint, Venezuelan Restaurant, Cajum / Creole
Restaurant, Spanish Restaurant, Beer Store, Italian Restaurant, Joulish Restaurant, Training Restaurant, Bertaurant, Bertaurant, Service Restaurant, Service Restauran
```

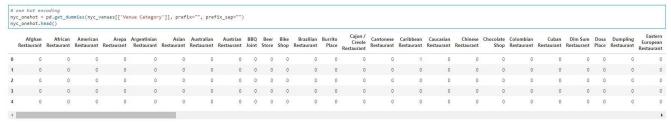
The result is:



Upon examining the unique categories, it is found that there are only 98 of them, as compared to 190 earlier. That means, almost 52% of the data was just a noise for the analysis. This essential step, data cleaning, helped to capture the data points of interest.

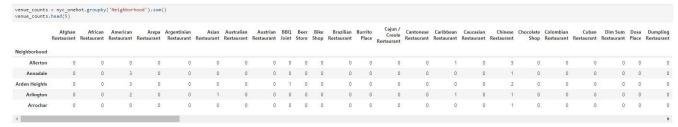
Feature Engineering

Now, each neighborhood is analyzed individually to understand the most common cuisine being served withing 500 meters of each neighborhood. This process is taken forth by using 'one hot encoding' function of python 'pandas' library. The function converts the categorical variables ('Venue Category') into a form that could be provided to Machine Learning algorithms to do a better job in prediction.



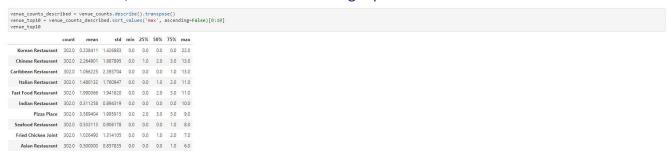
Upon analyzing the size of data points all together, it was found that there are around 6493 data points in total.

Next, number of venues of each category in each neighborhood are counted.



The first five neighborhoods of the dataframe, 'Annadale,' 'Arden Heights,' and 'Arlington' has 3,3,2 'American Restaurant' within its 500 meters proximity.

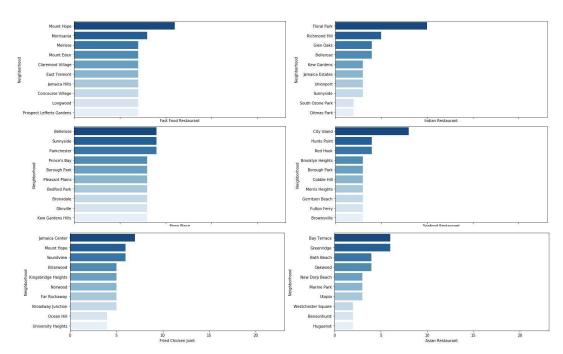
The top 10 'Venue Categories' can also be found by counting their occurrences. This analysis is depicted below which shows that 'Korean Restaurant,' 'Chinese Restaurant,' 'Caribbean Restaurant,' 'Italian Restaurant,' 'Fast Food Restaurant' are among top 5:



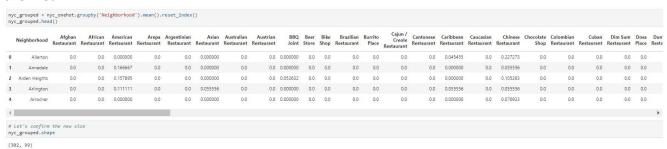
Data Visualization

The top 10 categories are plotted individually on bar graph using python 'seaborn' library:

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
fig, axes =plt.subplots(5, 2, figsize=(20,20), sharex=True)
axes = axes.flatten()
for ax, category in zip(axes, venue top10 list)
     data = venue_counts[[category]].sort_values([category], ascending=False)[0:10]
pal = sns.color_palette("Blues", len(data))
sns.barplot(x=category, y=data.index, data=data, ax=ax, palette=np.array(pal[::-1]))
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show();
              Auburndal
              Little Nec
              Douglaston
                                                                                                                                   Far Rockawa
            uyvesant Town
                                                                                                                                   elham Garden
                                                                                                                                      Marble Hil
                                                                                                                                      Little Nec
                                                                                                                                      Great Kills
                                                                                                                                    Dongan Hills
                                                                                                                                     Bay Terra
                                                                                                                                      vard Beac
               St. Albans
                                                                                                                                    Throas Nec
                                                                                                                                       Old Tow
```



Next, we group neighborhood rows to calculate the frequency of occurrence each category by taking the mean:



Machine Learning

Unsupervised machine learning algorithm 'k-means' creates clusters of data points aggregated together because of certain similarities. The algorithm will be used to count neighborhoods for each cluster label for variable cluster size.

It is crucial to find out the optimal number of clusters to be able to successfully implement this algorithm. There are two most popular methods for the that, they are 'The Elbow Method' and 'The Silhouette Method.'

The Elbow Method

This method calculates the sum of squared distances of samples to their closest cluster center for different values of 'k.' The optimal number of clusters is the value after which there is no significant decrease in the sum of square distances:

```
sum_of_squared_distances = []
K = range(1,50)
Marans - K/leans(n_clusters-k).fit(nyc_grouped_clustering)
sum_of_squared_distances.oppen((weens.inertia_)

1 2 4 5 6 7 8 10 111 21 31 15 16 17 18 10 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49

plt.plc(k, sum_of_squared_distances, 'bx-')
plt.ylabel('k')
plt.ylabel('sum_of_squared_distances,')
plt.ylabel('sum_of_squared_distances')
plt.ylabel(sum_of_squared_distances')
plt.ylabel(sum_of_squared_distances')
plt.ylabel(sum_of_squared_distances')
plt.ylabel(sum_of_squared_distances')
plt.ylabel(sum_of_squared_distances')
plt.ylabel(sum_of_squared_distances')
plt.ylabel(sum_of_squared_distances')
plt.ylabel(sum_of_squared_distances')
plt.ylabel(sum_of_squared_distances')
```

In our case, the Elbow Method didn't give us required result. As, there is a gradual decrease in the sum of squared distances, optimal number of clusters can not be determined. To counter this, another method can be used.

The Silhouette Method

This method measures how similar a point is to its own cluster compared to other clusters. To do that, it requires minimum 2 clusters to define dissimilarity number of clusters will vary from 2 to 49:

k-Means

This code block runs the k-Means algorithm with number of clusters = 8 and prints the counts of neighborhoods assigned to different clusters:

```
Let's set number of clusters

# set number of clusters

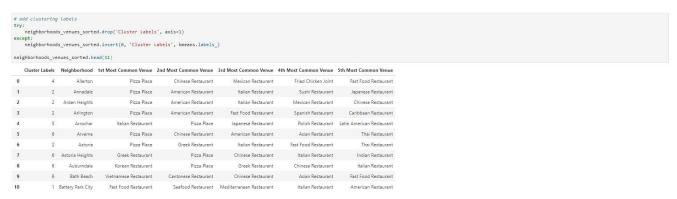
kclusters = 8

# run h-means clustering
kmmans = Kleman(init="k-means+", n_clusters+kclusters, n_init=50).fit(nyc_grouped_clustering)

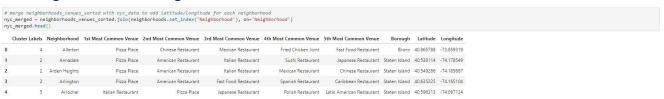
print(Counter(kmeans.labels_))

Counter((6: 68, 2: 58, 1: 58, 4: 50, 5: 41, 3: 23, 0: 3, 7: 1))
```

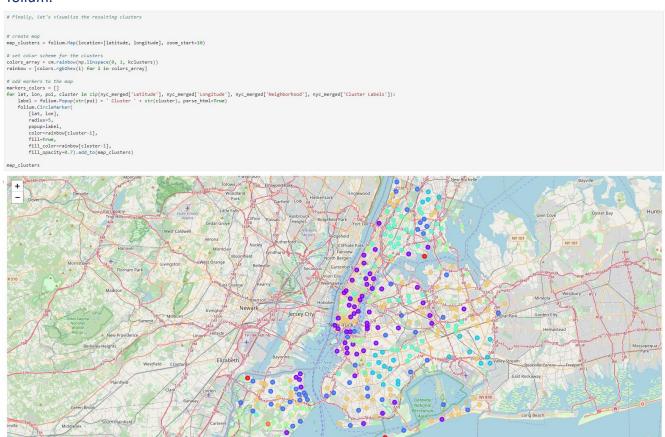
Further the cluster labels curated are added to the dataframe to get the needed results of segmenting the neighborhood based upon the most common venues in its neighborhood:



Now that 'neighborhoods_venues_sorted' is merged with 'nyc_data' to add the Borough, Latitude and Longitude for each neighborhood.

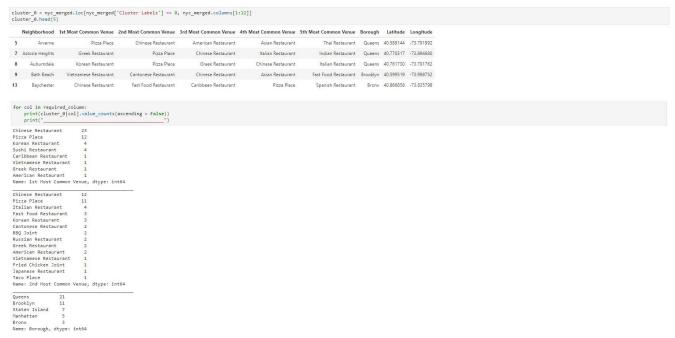


Next, NYC neighborhoods are visualized by using the code block which uses the python library 'folium.'



Results

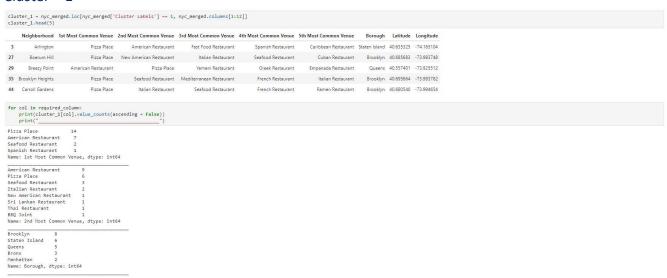
Cluster - 0



In cluster – 0, 'Chinese Restaurant' holds a big accountability with 23 occurrences in '1st Most Common Venue' across different neighborhoods followed by 'Pizza Place' with 12 occurrences in '2nd Most Common Venue'. To add on, it is important to know that majority of these neighborhoods are in 'Queens' borough of New York City.

So, Cluster – 0 is a 'Chinese Restaurant' dominant cluster.

Cluster - 1

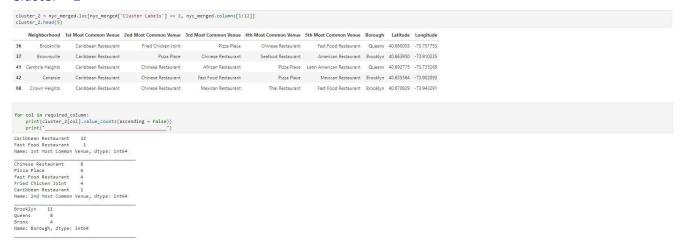


'Pizza Place' holds a massive accountability for this cluster with 14 occurrences followed by 'American Restaurant' with 7 occurrences in '1st Most Common Venue' across different neighborhoods. To add

on, it is inquisitive to know that majority of these neighborhoods are in 'Brooklyn' borough of New York City.

So, Cluster – 1 is a combination of 'Pizza Place' and 'American Restaurant.'

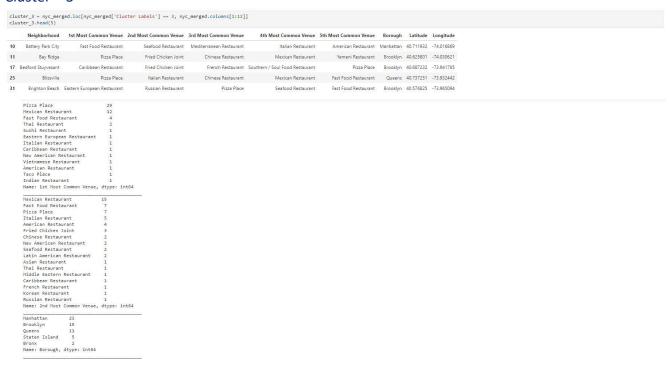
Cluster - 2



'Caribbean Restaurant' dominates this cluster with 22 occurrences followed by 'Fast Food Restaurant' with 1 occurrence in the '1st Most Common Venue' across different neighborhoods. Also, 'Chinese Restaurant' occurs 8 times followed by 'Pizza Place' occurrences of 6 times in '2nd Most Common Venue'. To add on, it is important to know that majority of these neighborhoods are in Brooklyn and Queens borough of New York City.

So, Cluster – 2 is a combination of Caribbean and Chinese restaurants

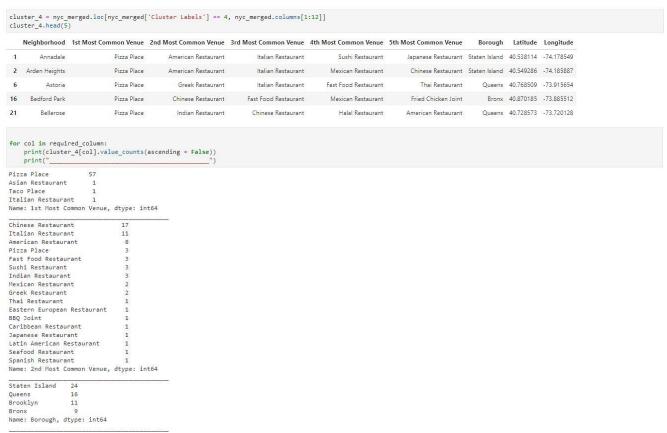
Cluster - 3



'Pizza Place' dominates this cluster with 29 occurrences followed by 'Mexican Restaurant' with 12 occurrences in the '1st Most Common Venue' across different neighborhoods. Also, 'Mexican Restaurant' occurs 15 times followed by 'Fast Food Restaurant' occurrences of 7 times in '2nd Most Common Venue'. To add on, it is inquisitive to know that neighborhoods in this cluster is spread mostly across 'Manhattan', and then 'Brooklyn' and 'Queens' with substantial number of neighborhoods in 'Staten Island'.

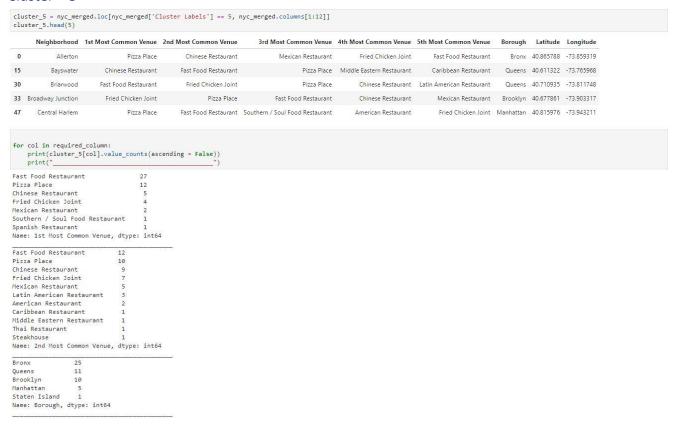
So, Cluster – 3 is a combination of 'Mexican Restaurant,' 'Pizza Place' and 'Fast Food Restaurant.'

Cluster - 4



In this cluster, 'Pizza Place' has taken over every other category with shooting 57 occurrences in '1st Most Common Venue' across different neighborhoods followed by 'Chinese Restaurant' with 17 occurrences in '2nd Most Common Venue'. To add on, it is inquisitive to know that majority of these neighborhoods are spread across 'Staten Island', 'Queens' and 'Brooklyn' boroughs of New York City. So, Cluster – 4 can be termed as 'Pizza Place' dominant cluster.

Cluster - 5



'Fast Food Restaurant' dominates this cluster with 27 occurrences followed by 'Pizza Place' with 12 occurrences in the '1st Most Common Venue' across different neighborhoods. C. To add on, it is inquisitive to know that neighborhoods in this cluster is spread mostly across 'Bronx', and then 'Queens' and 'Brooklyn.'

So, Cluster – 5 is a 'Fast Food Restaurant' dominant.

Cluster - 6



```
for col in required column:
    print(cluster_6[col].value_counts(ascending = False))
Italian Restaurant
Seafood Restaurant
American Restaurant
Fast Food Restaurant
Indian Restaurant
Name: 1st Most Common Venue, dtype: int64
Pizza Place
Italian Restaurant
Mexican Restaurant
American Restaurant
Fast Food Restaurant
Chinese Restaurant
Asian Restaurant
Japanese Restaurant
Spanish Restaurant
Name: 2nd Most Common Venue, dtype: int64
Queens
Manhattan
Name: Borough, dtype: int64
```

'Italian Restaurant' holds a massive accountability for this cluster with 32 occurrences followed by 'Pizza Place' with 4 occurrences in '1st Most Common Venue' across different neighborhoods followed by 'Pizza Place' with 16 occurrences in '2nd Most Common Venue'. To add on, it is inquisitive to know that majority of these neighborhood are 'Staten Island' and 'Queens' boroughs of New York City.

It is known that, although pizza is an Italian cuisine, it is also a fast food. So, Cluster – 6 can be termed as 'Italian Restaurant' dominant cluster.

Cluster - 7



It is clear, that only one neighborhood 'Lighthouse Hill' is curated under this cluster. This segmentation can be understood from the fact that 'Lighthouse Hill' is a tourist attraction for its heritage and is situated at the southernmost of the chain of hills that radiate from the northeast corner of Staten Island. This neighborhood has diverse cuisine in its top 5 most common venues list and hence a separate cluster. So, Cluster – 5 can be termed as exceptional as of now.

Discussion

To understand the clusters, three analysis were done, namely:

- 1. Count of 'Borough'
- 2. Count of '1st Most Common Venue'
- 3. Count of '2nd Most Common Venue'

The above information speaks a lot about the ground reality of clustering based on the similarity metrics between the neighborhoods. Tabulating the results of the k-Mean unsupervised machine learning algorithm:

	Count of Occurrences within the Cluster		
Cluster	1 st Most Common Venue	2 nd Most Common Venue	Borough
0	Chinese Restaurant	Chinese Restaurant	Queens, Brooklyn
1	Pizza Place	American Restaurant	Brooklyn, Staten Island
2	Caribbean Restaurant	Chinese Restaurant	Brooklyn, Queens
3	Pizza Place	Mexican Restaurant	Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens
4	Pizza Place	Chinese Restaurant	Staten Island, Queens, Brooklyn
5	Fast Food Restaurant	Fast Food restaurant	Bronx, Queens
6	Italian Restaurant	Pizza Place	Staten Island, Queens
7	Italian Restaurant	Yemeni Restaurant	Lighthouse Hill

Conclusion

On application of Clustering Algorithm, k-Means or others, to a multi-dimensional dataset, a very inquisitive results can be curated which helps to understand and visualize the data. The neighborhoods of New York City were very briefly segmented into eight clusters (0-7) and upon analysis it was possible to rename them basis upon the categories of venues in and around that neighborhood. Along with the Italian Restaurant, Caribbean and Chinese are dominant in New York City, and so is the diversity statistics. The scope of this project can be expanded further to understand the dynamics of each neighborhood and suggest my entrepreneur friend and a new food vendor a profitable location to open their restaurant.