Capstone Project - The Battle of Neighborhoods

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 $March\ 30,\ 2021$

Summary

- Introduction
 - Business understanding
 - * Project goals
 - Analytic approach
- Data
 - Data requirements
- Methodology
 - Data collection
 - Data understanding
 - Data preparation
 - * Cleansing, transforming and feature engineering
 - Exploratory Data Analysis
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusion

Introduction

Business understanding - Opening a Basque Pintxos bar

The objective of this project is to find the best spot for our restaurant. We need to search for similar cuisine restaurants in an affordable neighborhood. It's a family business looking forward to expand its reach to the United States, particularly in Miami city. The goal is to find a cheap place to rent, and focus on getting local quality ingredients. The main ingredient for the menu will be fish, so we need to be near other restaurants alike.

Analytic approach

Foursquare's data will help us decide a neighborhood to start our new business, by getting the venues for each neighborhood, filtering out not crowded areas and search for patterns, are there neighborhoods with similar cuisine to ours? Then we sort them by user's rating. This project aims to get a sorted list of neighborhoods to search places to rent.

Data

Data requirements: find restaurants alike

It is very important to have a relationship with nearby restaurants with the same goals. We need to find a neighborhood where the main ingredient is fish. This could help on getting in touch with local suppliers.

We will have to use multiple Foursquare API endpoints:

- Venues search: query all Miami neighborhoods restaurants
- Venues explore: find a location where the recommended restaurants main dish is fish
- Venues categories: find resturants of similar cuisine
- Venues similar: find a reference restaurant and the find similar restaurants
- Venues details: look for restaurants with high likes ranking

First we need to cluster all Miami neighborhoods by similar cuisine and find if there is a pattern. If there is a pattern, explore all recommended venues near a cluster centroid. If there is not a pattern, query all the categories and find a similar one, then select the neighborhood with the maximum frequency for the selected category.

We can find similar restaurants in other neighborhoods and sort them by like ranking, searching through its details.

All this data could help us decide a neighborhood with restaurants with similar cuisine and high ratings.

Methodology

Data collection

First we collect all Miami City neighborhoods from Wikipedia.

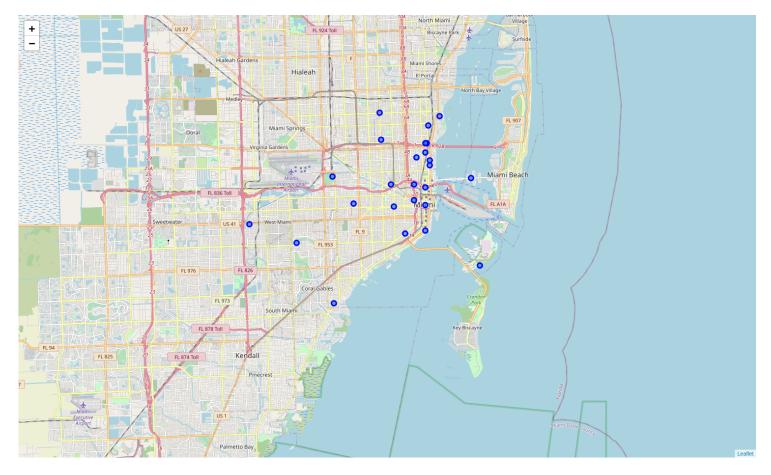


Figure 1: Miami neighborhoods

Searching for food venues on Foursquare, we obtain a list of 680 from 23 Miami neighborhoods of the 25 in Miami city.

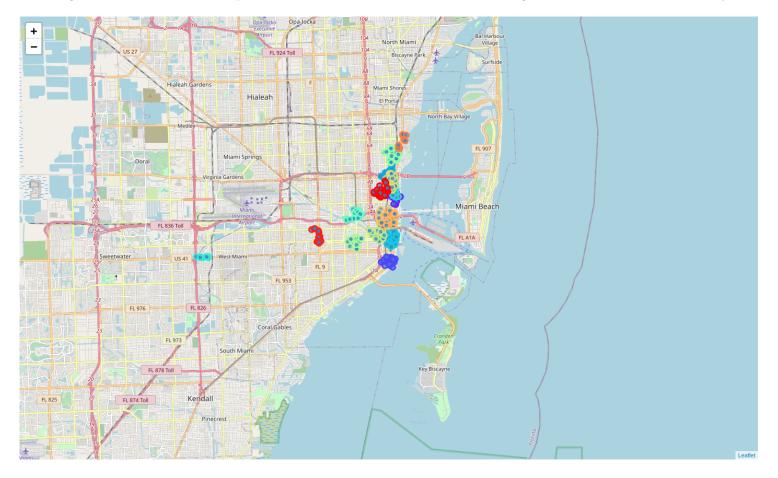


Figure 2: Miami food venues by neighborhood

After some initial insights, we observe clearly which neighborhoods are not crowded or far from the city center.

We need additional data to decide which neighborhoods suit our needs:

- Near venues with similar cuisine
- User's rating
- User's number of likes

Data understanding

After reviewing neighborhoods with just a few food venues or with very different cuisine, we discard the following:

- Coconut Grove
- Coral Way
- The Roads
- Grapeland Heights
- Allapattah
- Liberty City

Then we search for the top 5 venues for the selected neighborhoods.

	Neighborhood	1	2	3	4	5
0	Arts & Entertainment District	Food Truck	Restaurant	Pizza Place	Ice Cream Shop	Bakery
1	Brickell	American Restaurant	Coffee Shop	Japanese Restaurant	Café	Mediterranean Restaurant
2	Buena Vista	Coffee Shop	Fast Food Restaurant	Italian Restaurant	Ice Cream Shop	Restaurant
3	Design District	Coffee Shop	Italian Restaurant	Ice Cream Shop	Restaurant	Fast Food Restaurant
4	Downtown	Coffee Shop	Italian Restaurant	Peruvian Restaurant	Café	Latin American Restaurant
5	Edgewater	Restaurant	Food Truck	Juice Bar	Bakery	Latin American Restaurant
6	Flagami	Bakery	Seafood Restaurant	Spanish Restaurant	Cuban Restaurant	Latin American Restaurant
7	Health District	Sandwich Place	Café	Bakery	Restaurant	Latin American Restaurant
8	Little Haiti	Chinese Restaurant	Food	BBQ Joint	Italian Restaurant	Ice Cream Shop
9	Little Havana	Latin American Restaurant	Food	Bakery	Café	Mexican Restaurant
10	Lummus Park	Seafood Restaurant	American Restaurant	Food Truck	Restaurant	Deli / Bodega
11	Midtown	Restaurant	Coffee Shop	Breakfast Spot	Fast Food Restaurant	Sports Bar
12	Overtown	Southern / Soul Food Restaurant	Restaurant	Ice Cream Shop	Food	Pizza Place
13	Park West	Restaurant	Café	Pizza Place	Food Truck	Latin American Restaurant
14	Upper Eastside	Italian Restaurant	Coffee Shop	Snack Place	Pizza Place	Vegetarian / Vegan Restaurant
15	West Flagler	Cuban Restaurant	Mexican Restaurant	Food	Latin American Restaurant	Bakery
16	Wynwood	Asian Restaurant	Restaurant	Ice Cream Shop	Mexican Restaurant	Peruvian Restaurant

To reduce the number of neighborhods and help us find a pattern, we use \mathbf{K} -means clustering from Scikit-learn library to obtain clusters of similar cuisine. We have decided to group the venues in $\mathbf{5}$ clusters.

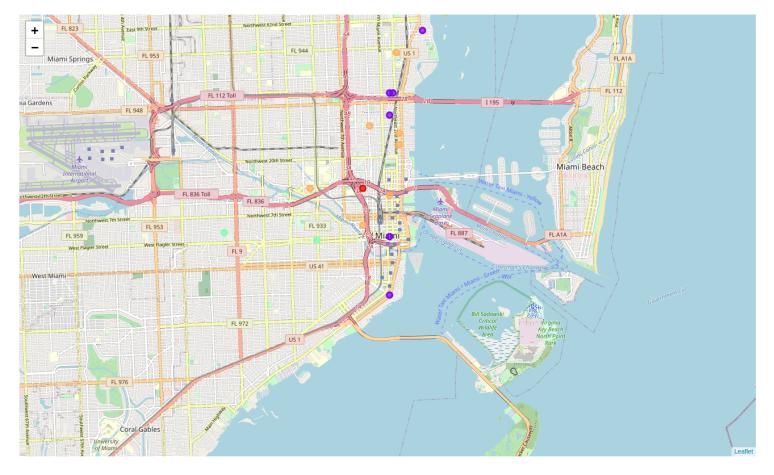


Figure 3: Miami food venues by neighborhood

1st cluster

	Neighborhood	1	2	3	4	5
2	Brickell	Coffee Shop	Japanese	Café	American	Mediterranean
			Restaurant		Restaurant	Restaurant
3	Buena Vista	Coffee Shop	Italian	Breakfast Spot	Fast Food	Sushi Restaurant
			Restaurant		Restaurant	
6	Design	Coffee Shop	Italian	Breakfast Spot	Sushi	American
	District		Restaurant		Restaurant	Restaurant
7	Downtown	Coffee Shop	Peruvian	Italian Restaurant	Taco Place	Latin American
			Restaurant			Restaurant
16	Midtown	Coffee Shop	Restaurant	Fast Food Restaurant	Pizza Place	Breakfast Spot
20	Upper	Italian	Coffee Shop	Vegetarian / Vegan	Asian	Pizza Place
	Eastside	Restaurant		Restaurant	Restaurant	

2nd cluster

	Neighborhood	1	2	3	4	5
9	Flagami	Bakery	Seafood Restaurant	Spanish Restaurant	Cuban Restaurant	Latin American Restaurant

3rd cluster

	Neighborhood	1	2	3	4	5
14	Little Havana	Food	Latin American Restaurant	Bakery	Cuban Restaurant	Mexican Restaurant
23	West Flagler	Cuban Restaurant	Mexican Restaurant	Food	Latin American Restaurant	Bakery

4th cluster

	Neighborhood	1	2	3	4	5
1	Arts & Entertainment District	Food Truck	Restaurant	Pizza Place	Ice Cream Shop	Juice Bar
8	Edgewater	Food Truck	Restaurant	Juice Bar	Bakery	Greek Restaurant
11	Health District	Sandwich	Café	Bakery	Fast Food	Latin American
		Place			Restaurant	Restaurant
13	Little Haiti	Ice Cream	Chinese	Food	Italian	BBQ Joint
		Shop	Restaurant		Restaurant	
15	Lummus Park	Seafood	American	Food Truck	Restaurant	Deli / Bodega
		Restaurant	Restaurant			
18	Park West	Restaurant	Café	Pizza Place	Italian	Food Truck
					Restaurant	
24	Wynwood	Asian	Restaurant	Ice Cream	Mexican	Peruvian
	-	Restaurant		Shop	Restaurant	Restaurant

5h cluster

	Neighborhood	1	2	3	4	5
17	Overtown	Southern / Soul Food Restaurant	Restaurant	Ice Cream Shop	Food	Pizza Place

As we can see in the data, the neighborhoods with similar cuisine are on the 1st and 4th clusters. The 4th cluster includes more neighborhoods that are similar to ours. The 1st cluster is far from crowded venues and not very similar, being coffee places the most common type of venue.

Regarding our needs, the 4th cluster neighborhoods seems like a good place to start.

Data preparation

Cleansing, transforming and feature engineering Selected neighborhoods:

Neighborhood

Arts & Entertainment District Edgewater Health District Little Haiti Lummus Park Park West Wynwood

Discard non restaurant venues:

- Bakery
- Cupcake Shop
- Café
- Ice Cream Shop
- Bagel Shop
- Smoothie Shop
- Coffee Shop
- Hotel
- Pie Shop
- Gift Shop
- Record Shop
- Cafeteria
- Event Space

Now we go back to $Data\ Collection$ to obtain Venue ratings and likes for the selected neighborhoods.

	Neighborhood	Venue	Venue Rating	Venue Likes
0	Arts & Entertainment District	Amor Di Pasta	0	4
1	Arts & Entertainment District	L&R grocery	0	1
2	Arts & Entertainment District	Green G Juice Bar	7.3	11
3	Arts & Entertainment District	Fuchai Chinese & Korean Kitchen	0	6
4	Arts & Entertainment District	Latin Cafe Biscayne	0	3
5	Arts & Entertainment District	Mulberry1965 Pizza Truck	0	1
6	Arts & Entertainment District	Rice Mediterranean Kitchen	0	1
7	Arts & Entertainment District	Mister O1 Extraordinary Pizza	8.8	32
8	Arts & Entertainment District	Nostimo Greek Kitchen	0	1
9	Arts & Entertainment District	cevishiro	0	3
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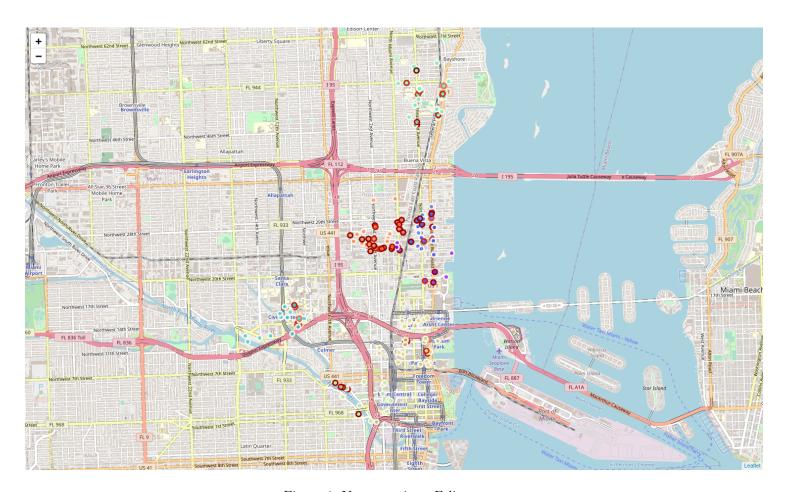


Figure 4: Venues rating - Folium map

We observe a large number of venues with high ratings on Wynwood and Edgewater, also on Lummus Park.

Exploratory Data Analysis

	Neighborhood	Venue
count	239	239
unique	7	208
top	Edgewater	Doma
freq	41	3

We have now a total of 239 venues on the 7 selected neighborhoods.

	Venue Rating	Venue Likes
count	239	239
mean	2.80837	33.0335
std	3.86376	83.2379
\min	0	0
25%	0	0
50%	0	1
75%	7.5	13
max	9.3	565

The rating mean is very low, mainly because some of the venues don't have a rating, this does not mean that are bad venues, but it probably means that are not very popular among Foursquare users.

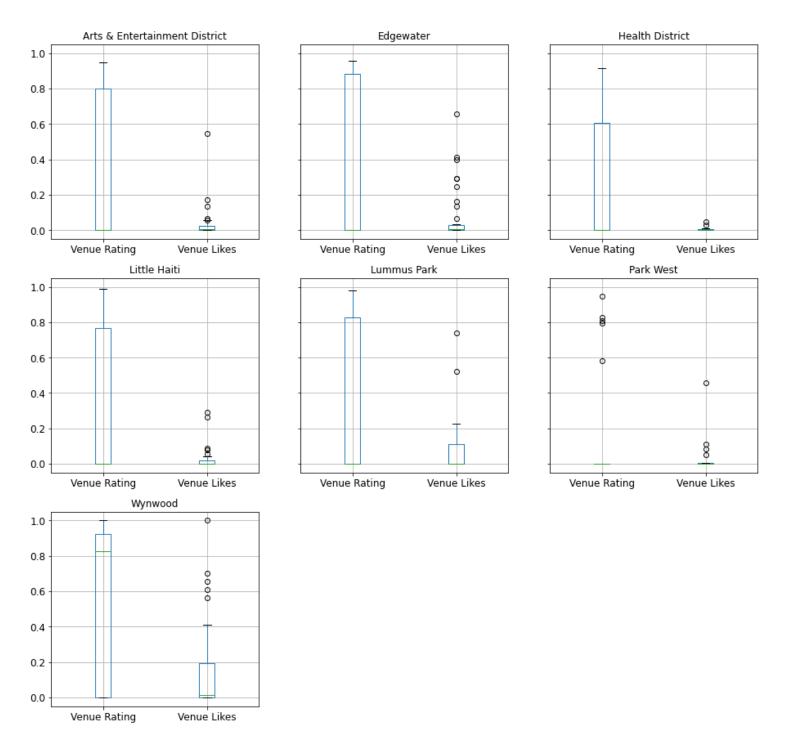


Figure 5: Neighborhoods rating and likes box plot

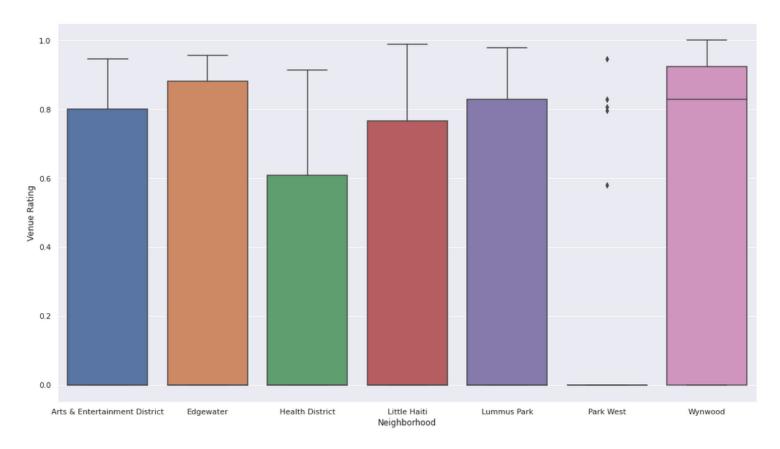


Figure 6: Correlation between neighborhood and rating - box plot

We observe clearly on the images some Venue Likes outliers, not very consistent, unlike Venue Rating. The **median** on **Wynwood** is high, it seems promising.

Correlation between Likes and Rating

	Venue Rating
Venue Likes	0.575795
Venue Rating	1

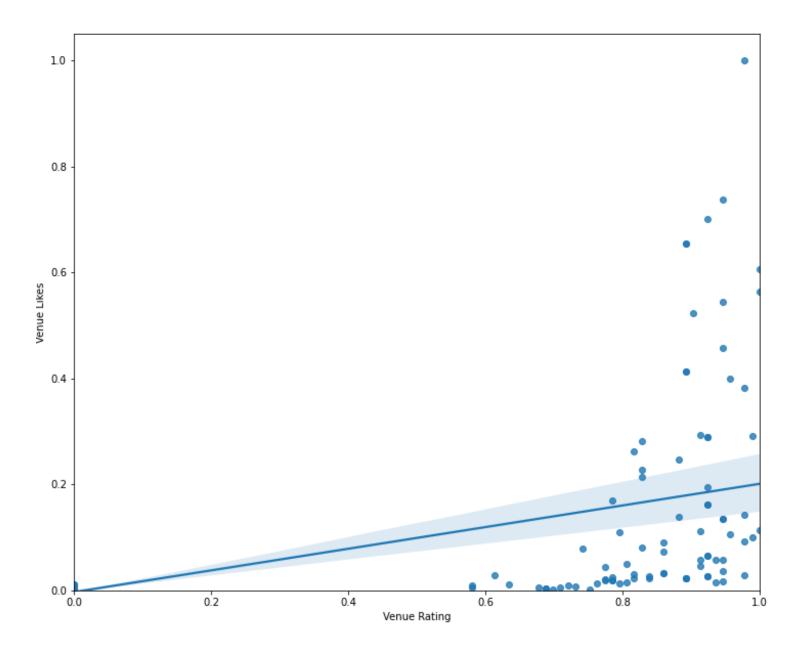


Figure 7: Correlation between venue rating and likes - Regression line

The Pearson Correlation Coefficient is 0.5757952652873445 with a P-value of P=1.6659918040644605e-22. The data is telling us that there is a strong certainty of correlation with a moderate positive relationship.

Correlation between neighborhood and Rating

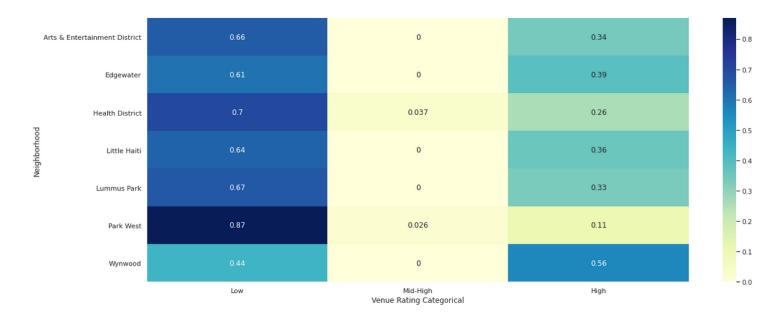


Figure 8: Correlation between neighborhood and rating - Chi^2

 $\label{eq:Chi-square} {\it Chi-square} = 0.6501489066631156 \; {\it P-value} = 0.999998758598854$

There is no certainty of correlation between neighborhood and rating, it does not reject the null hypothesis that the two variables are independent, so no evidence of association.

Results

Neighborhood	('Venue Rating', 'mean')	('Venue Rating', 'count')	('Venue Likes', 'mean')	('Venue Likes', 'count')
Wynwood	4.78537	41	84.1707	41
Edgewater	3.15854	41	39.561	41
Arts & Entertainment	2.77714	35	19.5143	35
District				
Lummus Park	2.7619	21	52.0476	21
Little Haiti	2.75833	36	15.2778	36
Health District	2.00741	27	2.62963	27
Park West	0.968421	38	11.1842	38

With this data we could start to search for a place to rent on **Wynwood**, it seems like a popular neighborhood, **Edgewater** also seems promising

It is true that we could not find evidence of association between neighborhood and rating, but, because we are interested on crowded neighborhoods, **Wynwood** and **Edgewater** are very good options.

Discussion

Further work could be done on data sourcing, to try to obtain more data on Venue Rating and Likes, from other APIs, with enough data we could discard venues without ratings and maybe find a relationship between neighborhood and venue rating.

Conclussion

In this project we study and analyze *Foursquare* data on *Miami* venues, to try to find a good spot for our restaurant. First we had to obtain all the *Miami* neighborhoods and the its food venues, applying Machine Learning *k-means* clustering algorithm, we obtain 5 groups of venues with similar cuisine, this help us to discard some neighborhoods and all its venues.

We use descriptive statistics to describe its basic features of the data set, to show a short summary about the sample and measures of the data. The Box plots tells us that the data is not very consistent and that contains several outliers, its not perfect, nevertheless, we are confident that the results are sufficient to make a good decision. After all the exploratory analysis, we have found a few candidate neighborhoods.