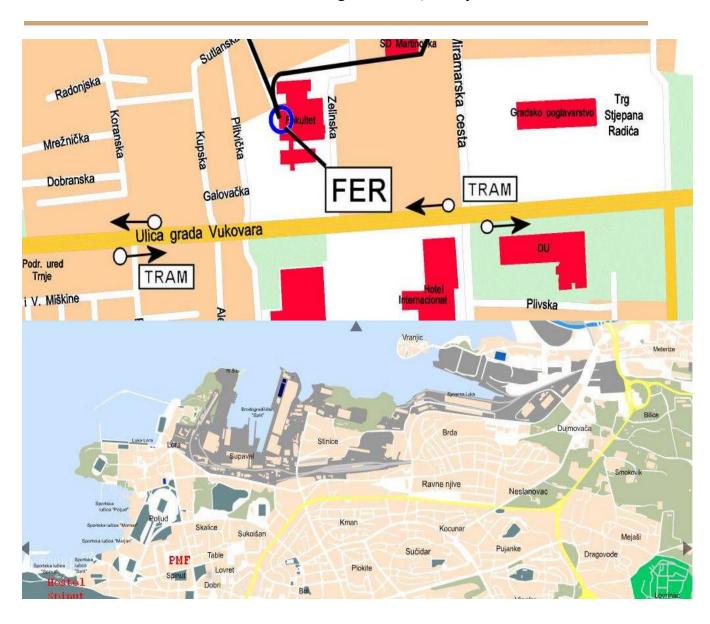
THE BATTLE OF NEIGHBORHOODS

Finding similar neighborhoods in Zagreb and Split, Croatia

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1 Introduction

This report is made solely for the purpose of the Coursera IBM Data science Capstone Project and it represents final delivery along with accompanying notebook and presentation.

The purpose of the project is to demonstrate knowledge of data analysis and machine learning libraries in Python, as well as acquired related skills.

This project tries to solve an imaginary, but very common problem on the Croatian real estate market. I hope it will help actors at both ends of real estate transactions, especially private traders, but also those who provide real estate services, such as real estate agencies. It includes querying Foursquare location data for the purpose of comparing city neighborhoods.

2 Business Problem

Let's first explain the niche that we are trying to fill with this solution, as well as the accompanying assumptions.

Zagreb is the capital of Croatia with almost a million inhabitants, and is located in the inland of Croatia. The climate type in Zagreb is 'Cfb' (Moderately warm humid climate with warm summers). Just like many other CE countries, Croatia is a highly centralized country, which means that major companies, government agencies, universities, and other vital institutions are located in Zagreb.

Split is the second largest town in Croatia, and is situated south, on the Adriatic coast. Climate type in Split is 'Csa' (Mediterranean climate with hot summers). Its main economic branch is tourism. As of 2017, the port of Split ranks as the largest passenger port in the Adriatic, and the 11th largest port in the Mediterranean, with annual passenger volume of approximately 5 million.

Because of all of the above, a large number of people from Zagreb want to buy, or trade, a real estate in Split, especially when they reach pension so that they can enjoy in the warmer winter climate of the Adriatic coastline. On the other hand, a large number of people from Split that are not involved in tourism are drawn to Zagreb, either due to larger labor market, number and strength of employers, cheaper real estates, or other reasons.

The main idea of this project is to create clusters of neighborhoods of these two cities, so that we can compare them and provide insight as a service for actors on the real estate market. Top venues of neighborhoods are going to be used as data for neighborhood comparison.

3 Data

The following data are used in this project:

- 1. List of the neighborhoods in Zagreb and Split.
- 2. Geocoordinates of the neighborhoods in Zagreb and Split.
- 3. Top venues of neighborhoods in Zagreb and Split.

3.1 Neighborhoods in Zagreb and Split

Neighborhoods in Split are loaded from the excel sheet, picked up from the city's official website

(https://www.split.hr/DesktopModules/Bring2mind/DMX/API/Entries/Download?language= hr-HR&Command=Core_Download&EntryId=6080&PortalId=0) split_gk = pd.read_excel('https://www.split.hr/DesktopModules/Bring2mind/DMX/API/Entries/Download?language=hr-HR&Co
split_gk

	R.BR.	NAZIV MJESNOG ODBORA / GRADSKOG KOTARA / GRADSKE ČETVRTI	SJEDIŠTE	INTERNETSKA STRANICA JEDINICE MJESNE SAMOUPRAVE	TAJNIK/ICA	ADRESA E-POŠTE JEDINICE MJESNE SAMOUPRAVE	TELEFON JEDINICE MJESNE SAMOUPRAVE
0	1	GK BAČVICE	VIŠKA 7	www.split.hr	ANKICA MIKULIĆ	ankica.mikulic@split.hr	021 682 502
1	2	GK BLATINE ŠKRAPE	POLJIČKA CESTA 31	www.split.hr	DANICA PERKOVIĆ	danica.perkovic@split.hr	021 682 504
2	3	GK BOL	SLOBODE 24	www.split.hr	VESNA BALEN	vesna.balen@split.hr	021 310 377
3	4	GK BRDA	MOSTARSKA 17	www.split.hr	SNJEŽANA DRAŽIĆ	snjezana.drazic@split.hr	021 310367
4	5	GK GRAD	BERNARDINOVA 1	www.split.hr	NIKOLA BAKIĆ	nikola.bakic@split.hr	021 682 506
5	6	GK GRIPE	MATICE HRVATSKE 16	www.split.hr	ANTONIJA PIRIĆ	antonija.piric@split.hr	021 310 355

Unnecessary columns are removed. MO's (meaning 'Mjesni odbor') are actually not neighborhoods, so, let's discard them:

	Neighborhood
0	GK BAČVICE
1	GK BLATINE ŠKRAPE
2	GK BOL
3	GK BRDA
4	GK GRAD
5	GK GRIPE
6	GK KMAN
7	GK KOCUNAR
8	GK LOKVE
9	GK LOVRET
10	GK LUČAC MANUŠ
11	GK MEJE
12	GK MEJAŠI
13	GK MERTOJAK
14	GK NESLANOVAC
15	GK PLOKITE
16	GK PUJANKE
17	GK RAVNE NJIVE
18	GK SIROBUJA
19	GK SPINUT
20	GK SPLIT 3
21	GK SUĆIDAR
22	GK ŠINE
23	GK TRSTENIK
24	GK VAROŠ
25	GK VISOKA
26	GK ŽNJAN

As for Zagreb's neighborhoods, the data is collected from Wikipedia (https://hr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zagreba%C4%8Dke_gradske_%C4%8Detvrti)

zagreb_gk = pd.read_html('https://hr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zagreba%C4%8Dke_gradske_%C4%8Detvrti',attrs={"cellpadding":
zagreb_gk

	Unnamed: 0	Gradska četvrt	Površina(km²)	Stanovništvo (2011.)	Gustoćastanovnika
0	1.0	Donji grad	3	37.024	12.341
1	2.0	Gornji grad - Medveščak	10	30.962	3.096
2	3.0	Trnje	7	42.282	6.040
3	4.0	Maksimir	14	48.902	3.493
4	5.0	Peščenica - Žitnjak	35	56.487	1.614
5	6.0	Novi Zagreb - istok	17	59.055	3.474
6	7.0	Novi Zagreb - zapad	63	58.103	922.000
7	8.0	Trešnjevka - sjever	6	55.425	9.238
8	9.0	Trešnjevka - jug	10	66.674	6.667
9	10.0	Črnomerec	24	38.546	1.606
10	11.0	Gornja Dubrava	40	61.841	1.546
11	12.0	Donja Dubrava	11	36.363	3.306
12	13.0	Stenjevec	12	51.390	4.283
13	14.0	Podsused - Vrapče	36	45.759	1.271
14	15.0	Podsljeme	60	19.165	319.000
15	16.0	Sesvete	165	70.009	424.000
16	17.0	Brezovica	127	12.030	95.000
17	NaN	Ukupno	641	790.017	1232.000

Last row needed to be removed, since it represents sum. All unnecessary columns are removed. Neighborhood 'Trnje' is actually called 'Kruge', so it's renamed:



3.2 Geocoordinates of the neighborhoods in Zagreb and Split

The latitude and longitude of the neighborhoods are retrieved using a geopy library. Neighborhood address is used as the input parameter for geocoordinate retrieval. For instance, in case of Zagreb, this function is used:

```
def get_lat_long_4_zagreb(row):
    address = row['Neighborhood'] + ', Zagreb, Croatia'
    location = geolocator.geocode(address)
    latitude = location.latitude
    longitude = location.longitude
    return [latitude, longitude]
```

3.3 Top venues of neighborhoods in Zagreb and Split

The venue data is collected using Foursquare REST API. Number of collected venues is limited to 1000 per neighborhood. When collecting venues, a 800 meter radius is used around the center coordinates of the neighborhood. The final goal is to collect the venue data, and here are just few records to serve as an example:

	Town	Neighborhood	Neighborhood Latitude	Neighborhood Longitude	Venue	Venue Latitude	Venue Longitude	Venue Category
0	Zagreb	Donji grad	45.809878	15.977081	Trg Nikole Šubića Zrinskog Zrinjevac	45.810244	15.978109	Plaza
1	Zagreb	Donji grad	45.809878	15.977081	Quahwa	45.811030	15.975471	Café
2	Zagreb	Donji grad	45.809878	15.977081	Heritage Croatian Food	45.810810	15.979922	Comfort Food Restaurant
3	Zagreb	Donji grad	45.809878	15.977081	Buzz Bar Zagreb	45.808939	15.974639	Bar
4	Zagreb	Donji grad	45.809878	15.977081	Korica	45.807549	15.974863	Bakery

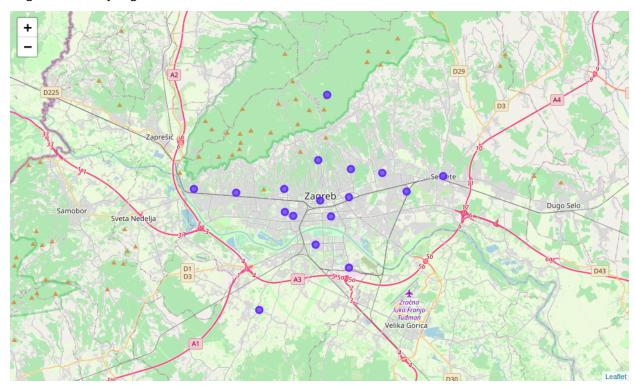
4 Methodology

After cleaning up the data, K Means is used for creating clusters of neighborhoods. Silhouette score metrics are applied for choosing the optimal number of clusters. The final considerations are made using that optimal cluster number.

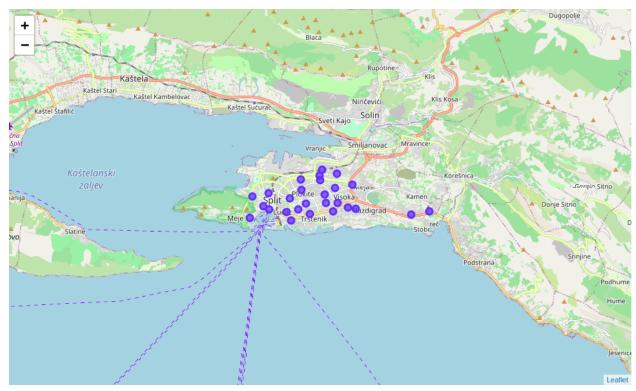
So, first thing's first: we need to tide up the data and insert geocoordinates into a single pandas dataframe with the help of Python geocode library. We will end up with an overall of 44 neighborhoods in both cities. Let's show them in a dataframe and then on a map using folium library.

	Neighborhood	Town	latitude	longitude
0	Donji grad	Zagreb	45.809878	15.977081
1	Gornji grad - Medveščak	Zagreb	45.839926	15.975096
2	Kruge	Zagreb	45.797630	15.988700
3	Maksimir	Zagreb	45.833312	16.010151
4	Peščenica - Žitnjak	Zagreb	45.812034	16.008027
5	Novi Zagreb - istok	Zagreb	45.759520	16.007969
6	Novi Zagreb - zapad	Zagreb	45.776532	15.972081
7	Trešnjevka - sjever	Zagreb	45.801108	15.938832
8	Trešnjevka - jug	Zagreb	45.798288	15.947751
9	Čmomerec	Zagreb	45.818301	15.938581
10	Gornja Dubrava	Zagreb	45.830290	16.043665
11	Donja Dubrava	Zagreb	45.816409	16.069855
12	Stenjevec	Zagreb	45.815391	15.887082
13	Podsused - Vrapče	Zagreb	45.818406	15.841420
14	Podsljeme	Zagreb	45.888748	15.984549
15	Sesvete	Zagreb	45.827605	16.108984
16	Brezovica	Zagreb	45.727649	15.911798
17	GK BAČVICE	Split	43.503720	16.449910
18	GK BLATINE ŠKRAPE	Split	43.506350	16.459912
19	GK BOL	Split	43.512204	16.449302
20	GK BRDA	Split	43.523212	16.466332
21	GK GRAD	Split	43.508028	16.438180
22	GK GRIPE	Split	43.508042	16.453580
23	GK KMAN	Split	43.519505	16.454961
24	GK KOCUNAR	Split	43.519219	16.465257
25	GK LOKVE	Split	43.510136	16.458023
26	GK LOVRET	Split	43.514318	16.437930
27	GK LUČAC MANUŠ	Split	43.506923	16.447698
28	GK MEJE	Split	43.504774	16.428016
29	GK MEJAŠI	Split	43.517509	16.482567
30	GK MERTOJAK	Split	43.508746	16.480214
31	GK NESLANOVAC	Split	43.521584	16.474297
32	GK PLOKITE	Split	43.515554	16.455609
33	GK PUJANKE	Split	43.516156	16.473191
34	GK RAVNE NJIVE	Split	43.520962	16.464976
35	GK SIROBUJA	Split	43.505995	16.513706
36	GK SPINUT	Split	43.512971	16.429533
37	GK SPLIT 3	Split	43.510466	16.468661
38	GK SUĆIDAR	Split	43.513754	16.467775
39	GK ŠINE	Split	43.507287	16.523303
40	GK TRSTENIK	Split	43.507303	16.472339
41	GK VAROŠ	Split	43.509172	16.435229
42	GK VISOKA	Split	43.510468	16.474535
43	GK ŽNJAN	Split	43.508112	16.484383

Neighborhoods of Zagreb.



Neighborhoods of Split.



Now is the time to use Foursquare REST API to get venues in order to augment neighborhood data:

	Town	Neighborhood	Neighborhood Neighborhood Latitude Longitude				Venue	Venue Latitude	Venue Longitude	Venue Category
0	Zagreb	Donji grad	45.809878	15.977081	Trg Nikole Šubića Zrinskog Zrinjevac	45.810244	15.978109	Plaza		
1	Zagreb	Donji grad	45.809878	15.977081	Quahwa	45.811030	15.975471	Café		
2	Zagreb	Donji grad	45.809878	15.977081	Heritage Croatian Food	45.810810	15.979922	Comfort Food Restaurant		
3	Zagreb	Donji grad	45.809878	15.977081	Buzz Bar Zagreb	45.808939	15.974639	Bar		
4	Zagreb	Donji grad	45.809878	15.977081	Korica	45.807549	15.974863	Bakery		
1526	Split	GK ŽNJAN	43.508112	16.484383	Mala kavana beach bar	43.502594	16.478530	Bar		
1527	Split	GK ŽNJAN	43.508112	16.484383	KRAV MAGA centar Split	43.509407	16.480847	Athletics & Sports		
1528	Split	GK ŽNJAN	43.508112	16.484383	Pizzeria Bepina	43.506512	16.488084	Pizza Place		
1529	Split	GK ŽNJAN	43.508112	16.484383	Park Mertojak	43.507965	16.479101	Park		
1530	Split	GK ŽNJAN	43.508112	16.484383	Plodine	43.509166	16.493281	Grocery Store		

1531 rows × 8 columns

There are 118 unique categories of venues in Zagreb, and 99 unique categories in Split. Overall, there are 157 unique categories in both Zagreb and Split.

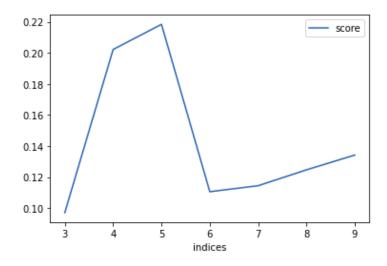
In order to analyze neighbourhoods, we'll apply a function that gets top ten venues for each neighborhood, and end up with this dataframe:

	Town	Neighborhood	1st Most Common Venue	2nd Most Common Venue	3rd Most Common Venue	4th Most Common Venue	5th Most Common Venue	6th Most Common Venue	7th Most Common Venue	8th Most Common Venue	9th Most Common Venue	10th Most Common Venue
0	Split	GK BAČVICE	Café	Bar	Mediterranean Restaurant	Pizza Place	Hotel	Restaurant	Beach	Nightclub	Cocktail Bar	Bistro
1	Split	GK BLATINE ŠKRAPE	Café	Bar	Restaurant	Coffee Shop	Mediterranean Restaurant	Pizza Place	Hotel	Eastern European Restaurant	Beach	Spa
2	Split	GK BOL	Hotel	Hostel	Grocery Store	Bar	Café	Pizza Place	Restaurant	Farmers Market	Bistro	Fast Food Restaurant
3	Split	GK BRDA	Grocery Store	Big Box Store	Cafeteria	Mediterranean Restaurant	Café	Electronics Store	Bar	Women's Store	Farmers Market	Falafel Restaurant
4	Split	GK GRAD	Mediterranean Restaurant	Boat or Ferry	Restaurant	Pizza Place	Hostel	Bar	Italian Restaurant	Plaza	Ice Cream Shop	Café

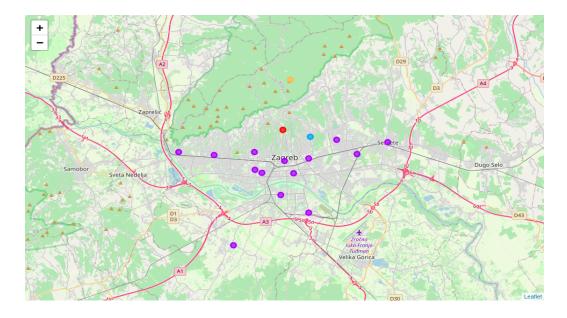
We then use one-hot encoding technique in order to convert categorical into numerical values so they can be used by K means, which is a form of unsupervised machine learning algorithm, or speaking in an even narrower sense, clustering algorithm.

Next, we'll find the optimal number of clusters in range between 3 and 10 since the K means requires the number of clusters as an input parameter. Optimal number is found using silhouette_score metrics. So, let's plot the metrics.

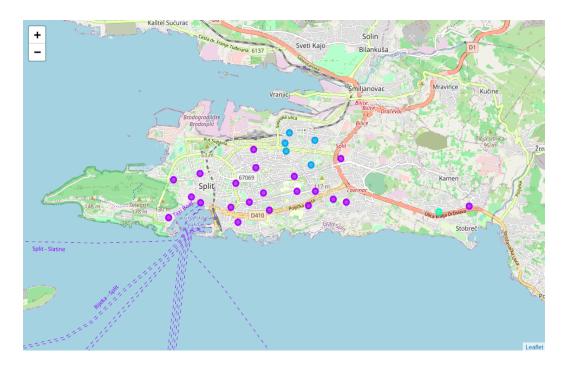
Image showing number 5 as optimal number of clusters.



Once again, KMeans class from sklearn python library is used, with the same *random_state* input parameter, and this time input is set for 5 clusters. The labels are finally added to pandas dataframe. Let's visualize neighborhood clusters in Zagreb:



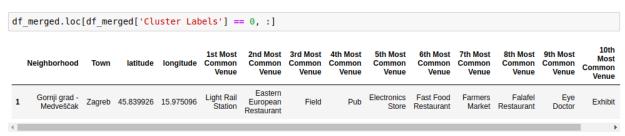
And, now let's visualize neighborhood clusters of Split:



5 Discussion

Let's dive one last time into venues in our neighborhood clusters.

Cluster 1

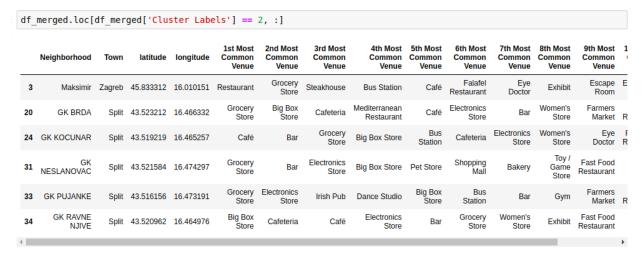


Cluster 2

df_merged.loc(df_merged['Cluster Labels'] == 1, :)

	Neighborhood	Town	latitude	longitude	1xt Most Common Venue	2nd Most Common Venue	3rd Most Common Venue	4th Most Common Venue	5th Most Common Venue	6th Most Common Venue	7th Most Common Venue	8th Cor \
0	Donji grad	Zagreb	45.809878	15.977081	Cale	Plaza	Restaurant	Bar	Bistro	Dessert Shop	Theater	Meditern Resta
2	Kruge	Zagreb	45.797630	15.988700	Calé	Bar	Concert Hall	Restaurant	BBQ Joint	Resort	Supermarket	Pizza
4	Peščenica - Žirijak	Zagreb	45.812034	16.008027	Caté	Restaurant	Bar	Grocery Store	Dessert Shop	Mediterranean Restaurant	Bus Station	Supern
5	Novi Zagreb - istok	Zagreb	45.759520	16.007969	Bakery	Sushi Restaurant	Hatel	Restaurant	Train	Diner	Soccer Field	Paper / Supplies
6	Novi Zagreb - zapad	Zagreb	45.776532	15.972081	Cafe	Bakery	Bar	Gym	Fast Food Restaurant	Soccer Field	Furniture / Hame Stare	Food &
7	Trešnjevka - sjever	Zagreb	45.801108	15.938832	Bar	Café	Bakery	Grocery Store	Liquor Store	Restaurant	Shop & Service	Pizza
8	Tretinjevka - jug	Zagreb	45.798288	15.947751	Cale	Bar	Bakery	Electronics Store	Shop & Service	Pizza Płace	Drugstore	Grocery
9	Crnomerec	Zagreb	45.818201	15.938581	Caté	Supermarket	Gracery Store	BBQ Joint	Pizza Place	Dog Run	Bakery	
10	Gomja Dubrava	Zagreb	45.830290	16.042665	Caté	Light Rail Station	Bar	Pizza Place	Clothing Store	Supermarket	Pharmacy	Rest
11	Donja Dubrava	Zagreb	45.816409	16.069855	Electronics	Train Station	Supermarket	Bus Station	Bakery	Women's	Fast Food	Fa
12	Stenjevec	Zagreb	45.815291	15.887082	Store	Pizza Place	Gracery Stare	Bar	Soccer Field	Supermarket	Restaurant	Sports
13	Podsused - Vrapče	Zagreb	45.818406	15.841420	Caté	Hooksh Bar	Bakery	Pub	Park	Bus Station	Brewery	Grocery
15	Servete	Zagreb	45.827605	16.108984	Caté	Cosmetics Shop	BBQ Joint	Big Box Store	Furniture / Hame Stare	Gracery Stare	Electronics Store	Euro Euro
16	Brezovica	Zarreb	45.727649	15.911798	Stables	Historic Site	Food & Drink	Pharmacy	Bar	Women's	Electronics	Resta
17					Cate	Bar	Shop			Store	Store	
17	GK BAČVICE	Spik	42.502720	10.448910	Case	Dar	Restaurant	Pizza Place	Hatel	Hestadark	beach	Nig
18	GK BLATINE SKRAPE	Split	42.506250	16.459912	Caté	Bar	Restaurant	Coffee Shop	Mediterranean Restaurant	Pizza Place	Hotel	Rest
19	GK BOL	Split	42.512204	16.449302	Hotel	Hastel	Gracery Stare	Bar	Caté	Pizza Place	Restaurant	Fn A
21	GK GRAD	Split	42.508028	16.438180	Mediterranean Restaurant	Boat or Ferry	Restaurant	Pizza Place	Hastel	Bar	Italian Restaurant	
22	GK GRIPE	Split	42.508042	16.453580	Cale	Nightclub	Fast Food Restaurant	Hatel	Bar	Restaurant	Bistro	Meditern Resta
23	GK KMAN	Split	42.519505	16.454961	Hotel	Fast Food Restaurant	Caté	Bar	Mobile Phone Shop	Gracery Stare	Multiplex	Cal
25	GK LOKVE	Split	42.510136	16.458023	Café	Bar	Coffee Shop	Eastern European Restaurant	Bistro	Fast Food Restaurant	Mediterranean Restaurant	Fin
26	GK LOVRET	Split	42.514218	16.437930	Mediterranean Restaurant	Restaurant	Gracery Stare	Caté	Hastel	Bar	Hatel	
27	GK LUČAC MANUŠ	Split	42.506922	16.447698	Mediterranean Restaurant	Caté	Bar	Nightclub	Hostel	Hatel	Restaurant	Rest
28	GK MEJE	Split	42.504774	16.428016	Mediterranean Restaurant	Restaurant	Hotel	Cate	Pizza Place	Italian Restaurant	Harbor / Marina	
29	GK MEJAŠI	Split	42.517509	16.482567	Fast Food	Clothing	Gracery Store	Supermarket	Shopping Mali	Cate	Toy / Game	Pet
30	GK		42.508746		Restaurant	Store Fast Food	Bar	Irish Pub	Park	Gracery Stare	Store	Meditern
	MERTOJAK GK PLOKITE					Restaurant	Fast Food			Baskethali	Farmers	Rest
32	GKPLOKITE	Spit	42.515554	10.400009	Hatel	Caté	Restaurant	Bar	Pizza Place	Stadium	Market	Munic 1
36	GK SPINUT	Split	42.512971	16.429533	Restaurant	Cate	Gracery Stare	Burger Joint	Ice Cream Shop	Restaurant	Plaza	Pizza
37	GK SPLIT 2	Split	42.510466	16.468661	Bar	Coffee Shop	Caté	Restaurant	Supermarket	Park	Drugstore	Gracery
38	GK SUČIDAR	Split	42.512754	16.467775	Bar	Caté	Gracery Store	Coffee Shop	Gym	Shopping Mall	Big Box Store	Elect
39	GK SINE	Split	42.507287	16.523303	Beach	Restaurant	Pizza Place	Italian Restaurant	Mediterranean Restaurant	Seafood Restaurant	Calé	Campg
40	GK TRSTENK	Split	42.507202	16.472229	Bar	Fast Food Restaurant	Restaurant	Grocery	Beach	Hatel	Cocktail Bar	
41	GK VAROŠ				Mediterranean Restaurant	Hostel	Cate	Pizza Place	Bar	Restaurant	Gracery Stare	
42	GK VISOKA			16.474525	Fast Food	Grocery	Bar	Restaurant				5
					Restaurant	Store				Shopping Mali	Athletics &	Supern
43	GK ŽNJAN	Split	42.508112	16.484282	Gracery Store	Calé	Hatel	Park	Restaurant	Pizza Place	Sports	Resta
+												-

Cluster 3



Cluster 4



Cluster 5



Clusters '1' and '5' represent neighborhoods that are unique to Zagreb, with each cluster containing only one neighborhood. The same can be said for cluster '4', except that it contains a neighborhood of Split.

Neighborhoods in clusters '1' and '5' lie furthest on the north of Zagreb. In cluster '1', the most common venues fall in the category of 'Light Rail Station', and in cluster '5', in the

'Trail' category. 'Podsljeme' neighborhood, from cluster '5' is a part of Zagreb with family houses, green areas, but with not much social activities going on.

Neighborhood 'Sirobuja' from cluster '4' is on the outer ring of Split.

Cluster '3' represent mostly neighborhoods of Split, with the exception of one neighborhood of Zagreb, 'Maksimir'. Those neighborhoods of Split are part of an industrial area, so it's no wonder that some of the most common venues there are categorized as some kind of stores, etc.

It's obvious that there is a major overlapping of neighborhoods of Split and Zagreb in cluster '2'. Of all the neighborhoods in both towns, more than half of them belong to this cluster. In Split, we can see different types of neighborhoods as we go from the center of the town (and its famous Roman palace that is usually crowded with tourists) further to north and east. Neighborhoods in cluster '2' contain cafés, restaurants, bar's, etc. In Split, those are areas with lots of tourists, and in Zagreb, those are neighborhoods where lots of people work and socialize.

6 Conclusion

Even though this kind of approach is highly sensitive to Foursquare venue categories, there are interesting insights that can be quickly obtained about similarities and dissimilarities of neighborhoods of Zagreb and Split that could potentially serve real estate traders. Since, for instance, venue category 'restaurant" and 'mediterranean restaurant' are completely different venue types, the project could be upgraded with finer comparison of the venues, and therefore, city neighborhoods.