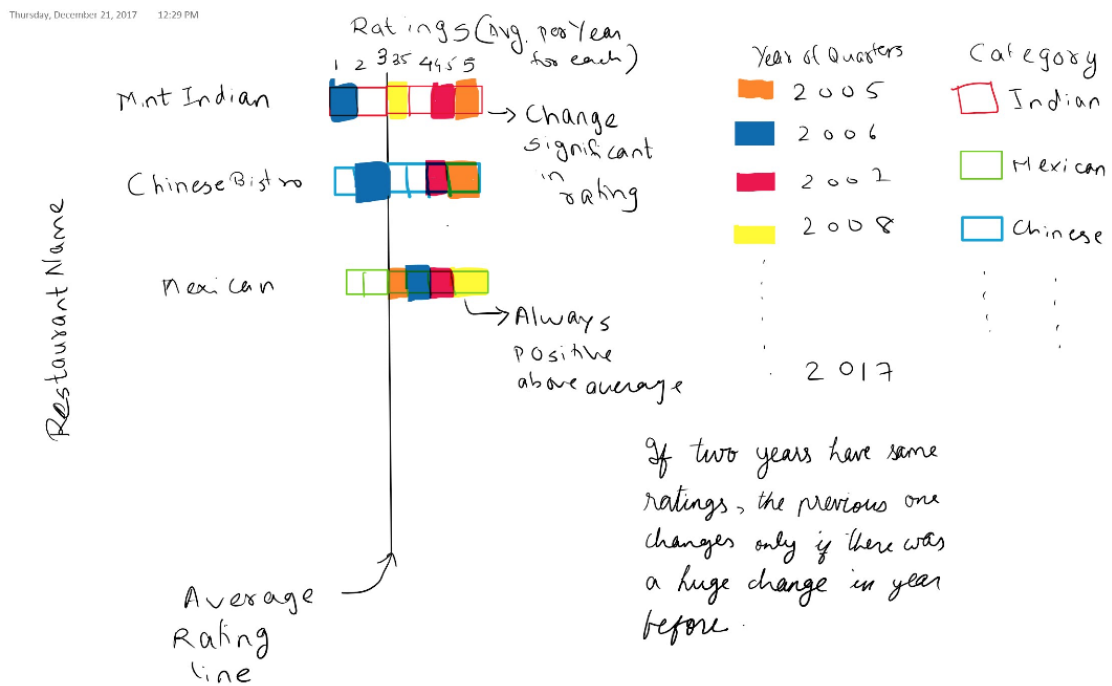


INFORMATION VISUALIZATION FALL 2017
FINAL PROJECT

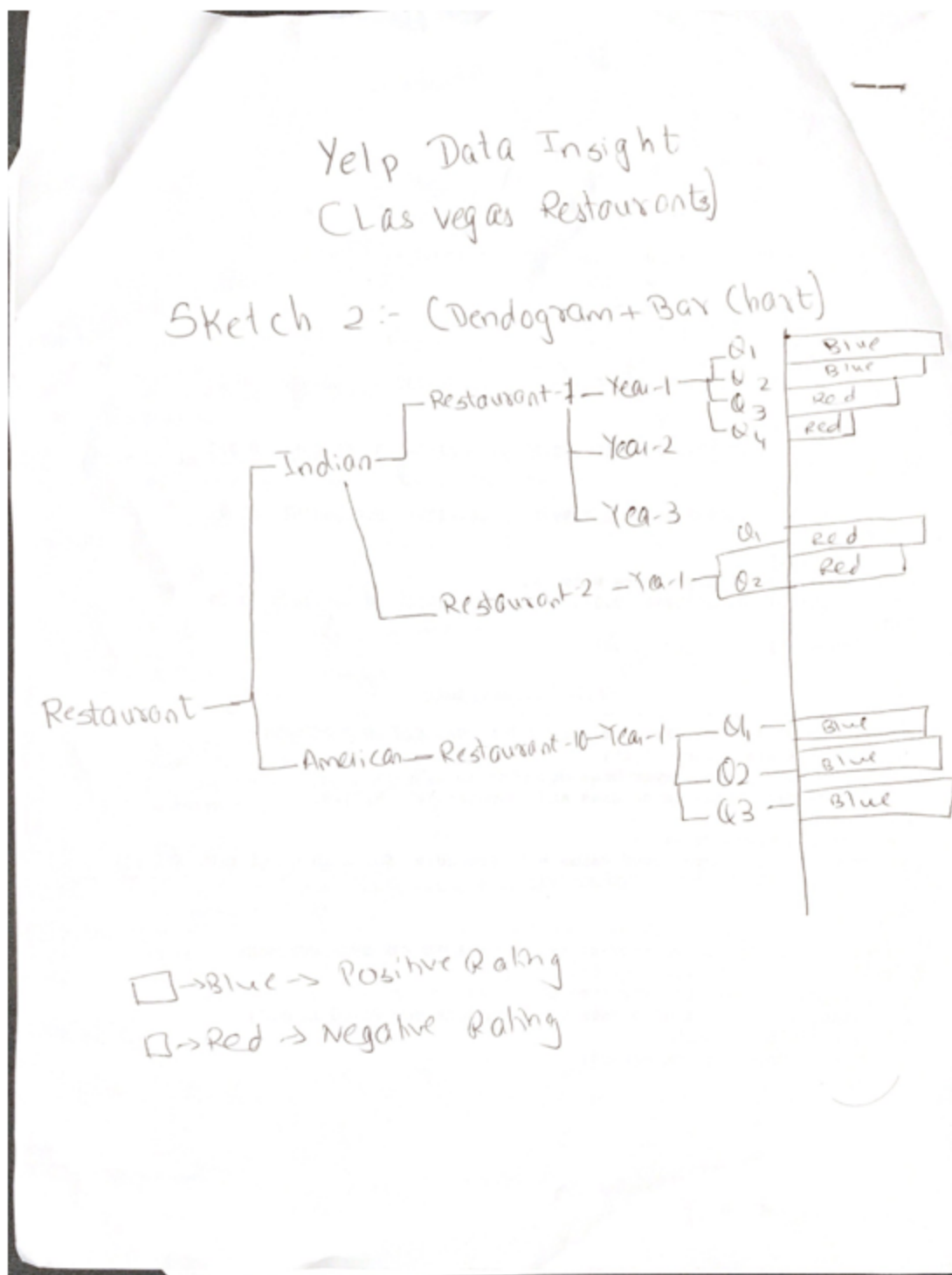
Monil Shah
mds747

Sketches

Sketch-1: Diverging bar chart



Sketch 2: Dendrogram + bar chart



Discussion

=> Sketch 1:

Advantages:

- As it is a diverging bar chart it is easy to interpret the negative and positive ratings.
- Ratings for each restaurant can be compared easily with each other.
- Visual design avoids the clutter as we have 100 data points to show only.

Disadvantages:

- Using color for separating years and cuisine is not a good level of separability.
- Although we use multiple colors for each year but it becomes hard to interpret the ups and downs in ratings over the period of time..
- Difficult to answer questions based on number of restaurants in each cuisine or each period.

Sketch-2:

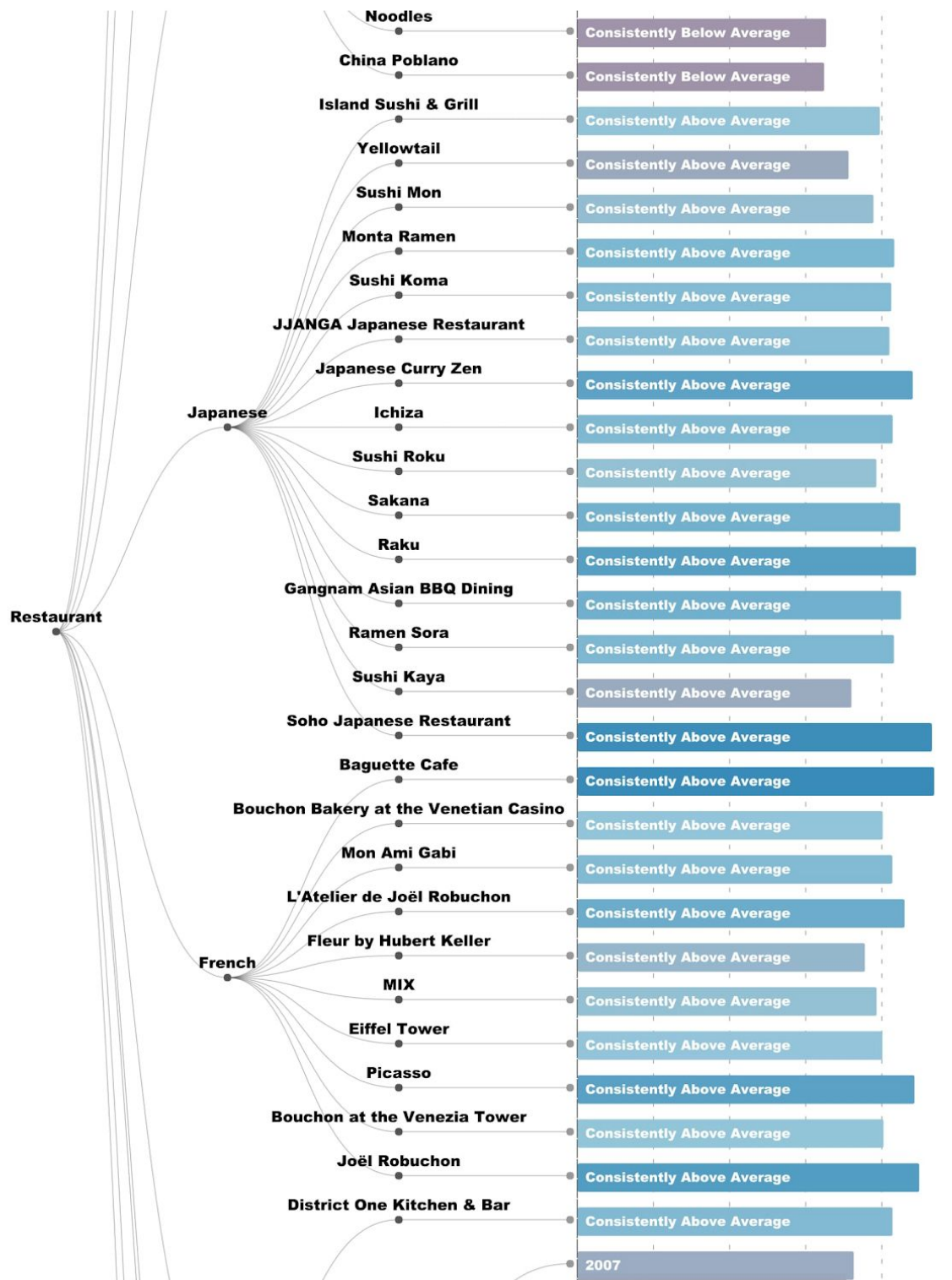
Advantages:

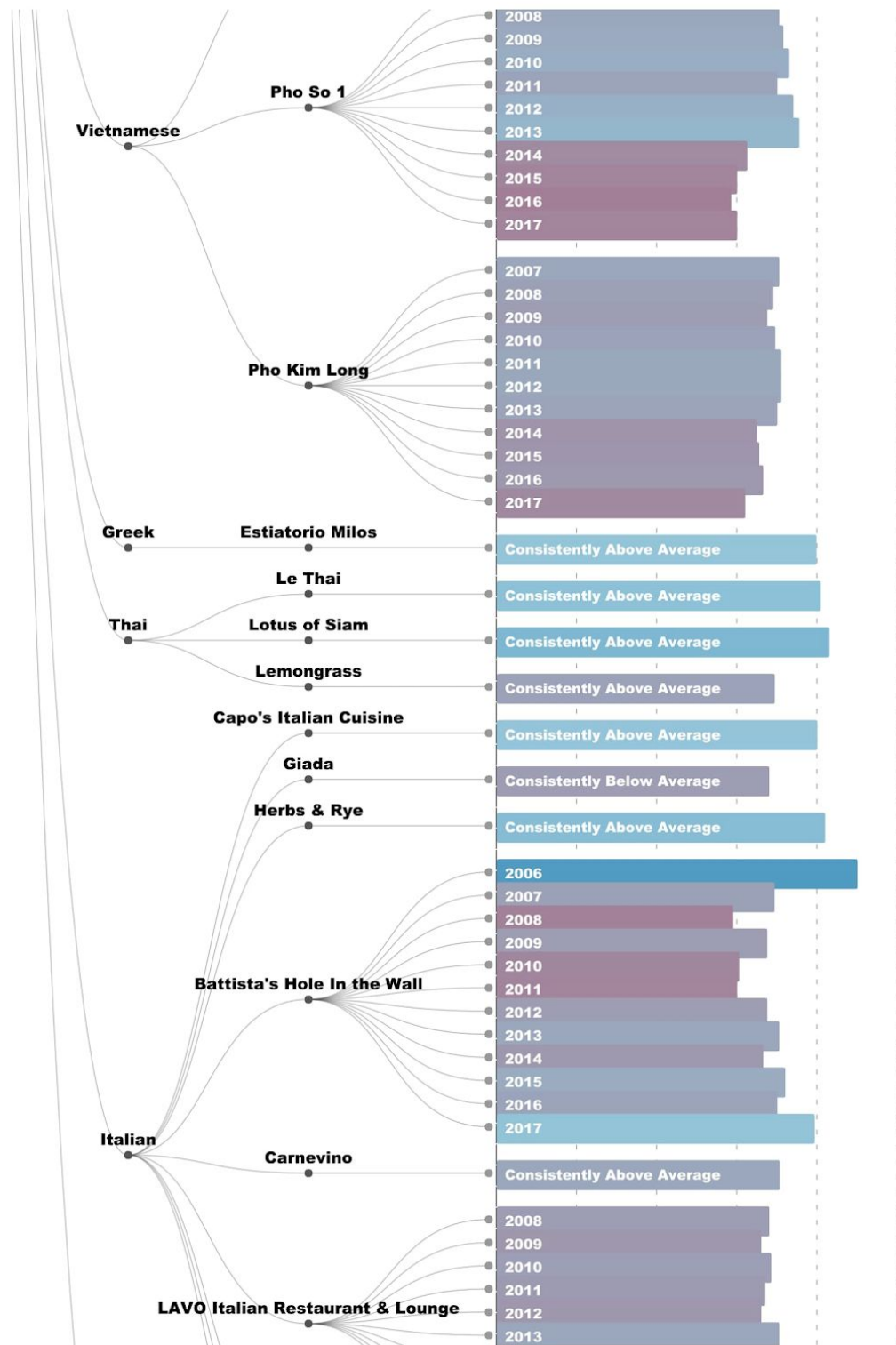
- Conveys more information regarding the as the data is represented in the form of clusters.
- Tree like structure helps to distinguish the categorical data and interpret data easily.
- Combining with the bar chart makes easier to visualize quantitative data for each of the categories.
- The hybrid design provides the separability as well as is not complex to extract information.
- Easy to answer questions such as which restaurants have positive ratings or even which cuisines have consistent positive ratings.

Disadvantages:

- Too much of data manipulation is required to represent the data.
- Loses the information for quarterly data , instead showing yearly data.
- Good for reasonable data points , else it is hard to render.
- Very difficult to extract detailed information for each restaurant.

Implementation:





Challenges and changes

=> Many challenges were faced while implementing the solution in D3:

- All the data was in json data and to create a dendrogram a tree like structure would require a data in the form of hierarchy.
- To solve this issue I used d3.hierarchy and d3.stratify to encode the data in the formation required by the d3.cluster() .
- The initial sketch had diverging colors for bar chart with all the quarters in each year to be represented.
- After implementation it was not easily readable due to clutter , hence had to aggregate the quarter values in the form of years.
- The years data representation was also having too many data points to show. Hence, computed the ratings value and compared to see if it is consistently increasing or decreasing.
- Labeled this as consistently increasing and decreasing hence providing the required information with less data points.
- Also, calculated reliability on the basis of count for each cuisine by formula $\text{count} \times \text{rating} / \text{total count}$ for each cuisine. Hence, we can see the hovering ball which shows reliability of each rating.

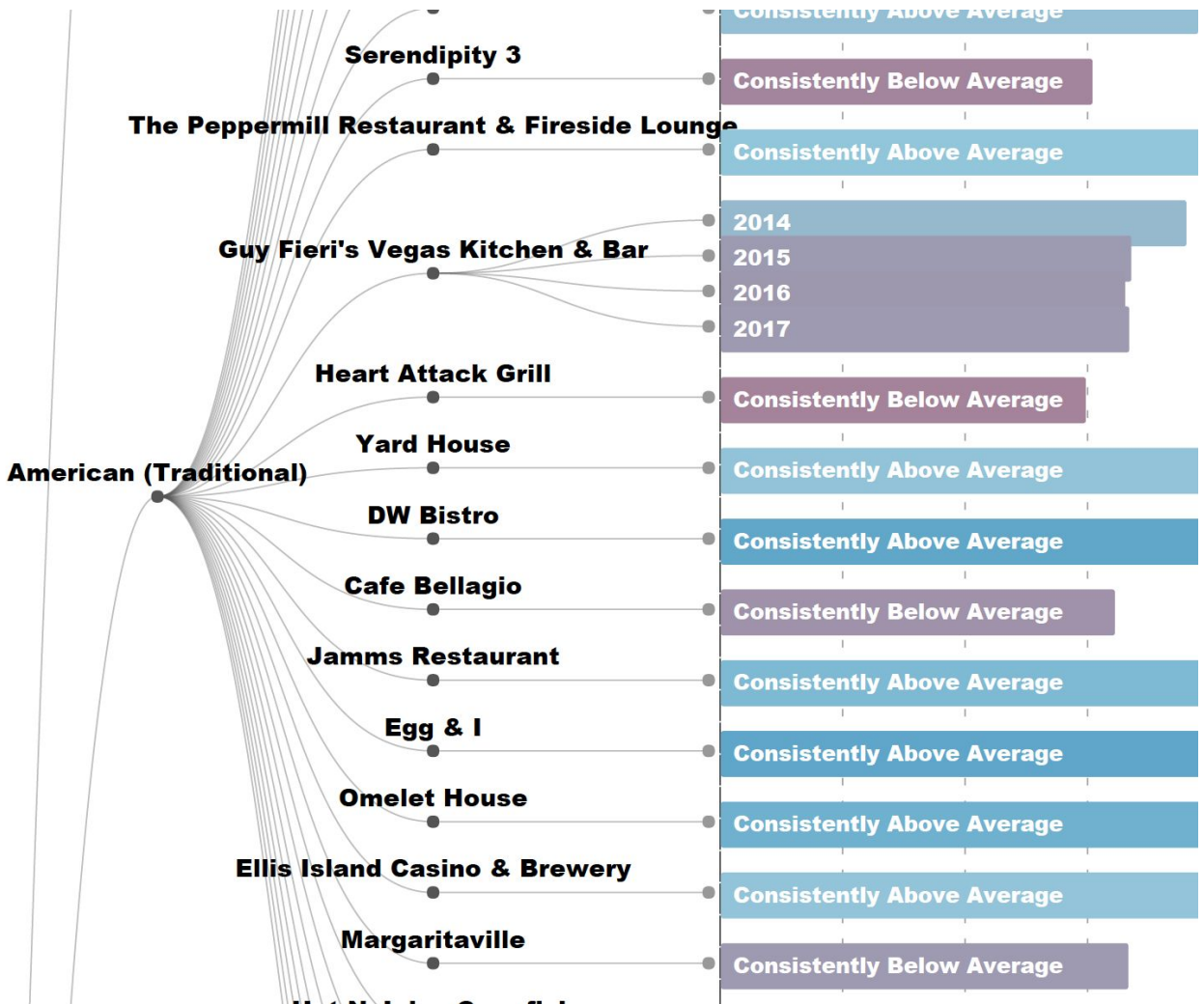
=> Implementing in D3 was an iterative process and solution evolved much more than initial but unfortunately I don't have screenshots available with me. So I have just provided the screenshot of final implementation.

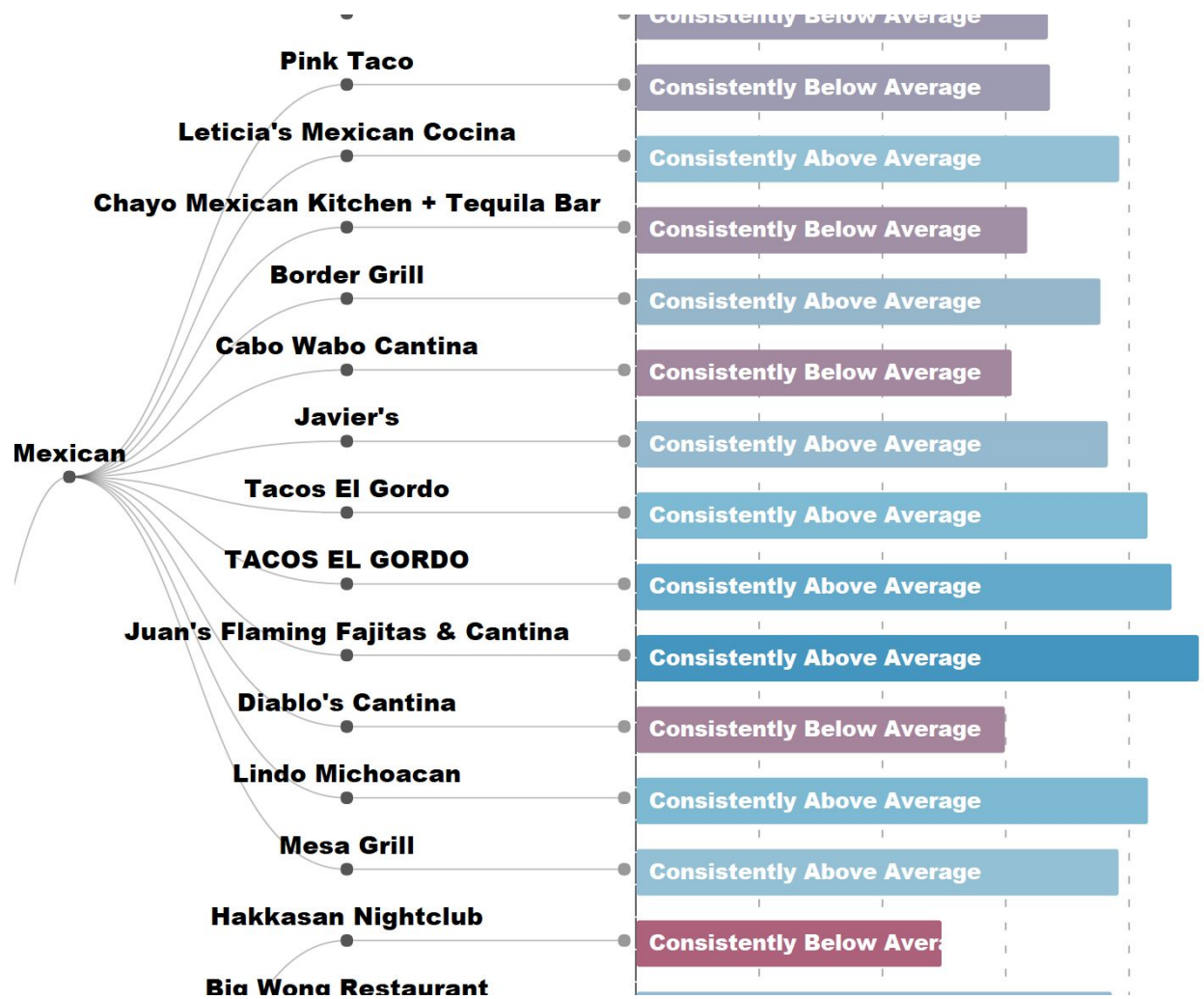
Data Analysis Question 1: “Are there restaurants that have consistently negative reviews?”

=> Yes there are restaurants that have consistently negative reviews. The reviews below the rating average are considered to be negative reviews in this case. The restaurants are:

- 1) Hooters Casino hotel
- 2) Bayside Buffet at Mandalay Bay
- 3) Cravings Buffet
- 4) Serendipity3
- 5) Heart Attack Grill
- 6) Jamms restaurant
- 7) Margaritaville
- 8) Carnegie
- 9) MGM Grand Buffet And so on.

Few highlighted examples:





Data Analysis Question 2: Are there restaurants for which in some time periods their rating drops considerably?

=> Yeah there are restaurants for which their ratings drops considerably. The average ratings of the 4 quarters are taken here and aggregated as a yearly rating. The few of the restaurants identified are:

- 1) Guy Fieri's Vegas Kitchen and Bar
- 2) Noodle Asia
- 3) Pho so 1
- 4) Pho Kim Long
- 5) Battista's hole in the wall

Example from visualizations:

