Janus

Navigate to Safety@NYC

Big Data 12/22/2023



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1. Problem Statement

Addressing Pedestrian Safety Concerns in NYC

New York City, renowned for its vibrant street life and dense urban landscape, presents a unique set of challenges for pedestrian safety. Recent polls have highlighted a concerning trend: a significant majority of pedestrians, approximately 70%, report feeling unsafe while navigating the city's streets. This pervasive sense of insecurity not only diminishes the quality of urban life but also poses a substantial public safety issue.

The genesis of this problem lies in a complex interplay of factors, including but not limited to, high traffic volumes, the behavior of motorists and pedestrians, urban design, and crime rates. The traditional approach to addressing pedestrian safety has predominantly focused on physical infrastructure improvements and law enforcement measures. However, these solutions, while beneficial, have not fully alleviated the underlying sense of insecurity experienced by pedestrians.

In response to this challenge, our project introduces an innovative solution: a web application designed to enhance pedestrian safety in New York City. This application aims to empower pedestrians with information that can significantly improve their sense of security and safety while navigating the city.

Our solution leverages the power of Big Data analytics and technology. By integrating the Google Maps API, we obtain optimal routing information for pedestrian travel. To augment this, we utilize the New York City Arrest data, processed through Spark, a powerful tool for big data analysis. This integration allows us to assign a risk score to each potential route based on historical crime data in the route.

In summary, this project seeks to bridge the gap between pedestrian safety needs and technological innovation, offering a novel approach to a persistent urban challenge. By providing pedestrians with safer route options, we aspire to enhance the overall pedestrian experience in New York City, making the streets not only feel safe but also more inviting for all.



2. Data Source

NYPD Arrest Data (Year to Date)

 $\underline{\text{https://data.cityofnewyork.us/Public-Safety/NYPD-Arrest-Data-Year-to-Date-/uip8-fyk}}\underline{\textbf{c}}$

Columns: [ARREST_KEY, ARREST_DATE, PD_CD, PD_DESC, KY_CD, OFNS_DESC, LAW_CODE, LAW_CAT_CD, ARREST_BORO, ARREST_PRECINCT, JURISDICTION_CODE, AGE_GROUP, PERP_SEX, PERP_RACE, X_COORD_CD, Y_COORD_CD, Latitude, Longitude]

ARREST :	ARREST :	PD_CD	1	PD_DESC :	KY_CD :	OFNS_DE !	LAW_CODE !	LAW_CAT. !	ARREST	ARREST :	JURISDIC 1	AGE_GRO }	PERP_SEX :	PERP_RA !	X_COORD	Y_COORD !	Latitude !	Longitude !	New Geor
261182234	01/01/2023	101		ASSAULT 3	344	ASSAULT 3 &	PL 1200001	М	м	6	0	18-24	м	WHITE	983342	206250	40.732785	-74.003276	POINT (-74.00
261182239	01/01/2023	339		LARCENY,PETI	341	PETIT LARCE	PL 1552500	М	М	6	0	45-64	М	WHITE	985152	204777	40.728745	-73.996745	POINT (-73.99
61182241	01/01/2023	493		STOLEN PROP	111	POSSESSION	PL 1654505	F	М	28	0	25-44	М	BLACK	997412	230102	40.79824299	-73.95246182	POINT (-73.9
261185967	01/01/2023	105		STRANGULATI	106	FELONY ASSA	PL 1211200	F	Q	105	0	25-44	М	WHITE	1054755	203922	40.726116	-73.745626	POINT (-73.7
261186604	01/01/2023	792		CRIMINAL PO	118	DANGEROUS	PL 265031B	F	К	69	0	18-24	М	WHITE HISPA	1015413	170673	40.635082	-73.887719	POINT (-73.88
261186608	01/01/2023	101		ASSAULT 3	344	ASSAULT 3 &	PL 1200001	М	К	83	0	18-24	М	WHITE HISPA	1008810	194859	40.70148558	-73.91142354	POINT (-73.91
261186616	01/01/2023	397		ROBBERY, OPE	105	ROBBERY	PL 1600500	F	М	28	0	25-44	М	BLACK	997412	230102	40.79824299	-73.95246182	POINT (-73.95
261186617	01/01/2023	918		RECKLESS DR.	348	VEHICLE AND	VTL1212000	М	М	34	0	18-24	М	WHITE HISPA	1004892	253548	40.86258121	-73.92537361	POINT (-73.92
261186620	01/01/2023	705		FORGERY,ETC	358	OFFENSES IN	PL 1702000	М	Q	105	0	18-24	М	BLACK	1055041	186244	40.67759041	-73.74478108	POINT (-73.74
261186622	01/01/2023	101		ASSAULT 3	344	ASSAULT 3 &	PL 1200001	М	Q	110	0	18-24	F	WHITE HISPA	1022419	212521	40.749918	-73.862239	POINT (-73.86
261186624	01/01/2023	109		ASSAULT 2,1,	106	FELONY ASSA	PL 1200502	F	Q	110	0	25-44	F	WHITE HISPA	1020728	211337	40.746673	-73.868351	POINT (-73.86
261187988	01/01/2023	101		ASSAULT 3	344	ASSAULT 3 &	PL 1200001	М	К	84	0	18-24	М	BLACK	988466	194673	40.701008	-73.984794	POINT (-73.98
261188000	01/01/2023	268		CRIMINAL MI	121	CRIMINAL MI	PL 1450502	F	Q	110	0	25-44	М	BLACK HISPA	1020728	211337	40.746673	-73.868351	POINT (-73.86
261188320	01/01/2023	905		INTOXICATED	347	INTOXICATED	VTL119202U	F	K	76	0	25-44	М	UNKNOWN	985004	186837	40.67950109	-73.99728157	POINT (-73.99
261188324	01/01/2023	101		ASSAULT 3	344	ASSAULT 3 &	PL 1200001	М	Q	105	0	25-44	М	WHITE HISPA	1052086	200048	40.715504	-73.755295	POINT (-73.75
261195432	01/01/2023	113		MENACING,U	344	ASSAULT 3 &	PL 1201401	М	К	69	0	45-64	м	BLACK	1009538	171858	40.63835096	-73.90888428	POINT (-73.90
61195433	01/01/2023	109		ASSAULT 2,1,	106	FELONY ASSA	PL 1200502	F	K	83	0	18-24	М	WHITE HISPA	1009212	192148	40.694045	-73.909981	POINT (-73.90

Rows - 170K Columns - 19 Each row is a Arrest in NYC by NYPD

This dataset contains the current year's data up to the recent quarter (Jan 2023 to Sep 2023).

Out of 19 columns in the dataset, the significant columns required for computation in this project are ARREST_DATE, Latitude and Longitude. Rest of the columns are used to display metadata on the User Interface for an enhanced user experience.

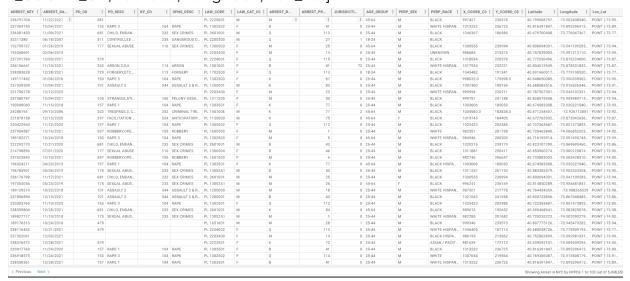
This dataset is updated on a quarterly basis. However, this doesn't affect the output much considering minimal deviation in the risk score computer for the data over the past 17 years.



NYPD Arrest Data (Historic)

https://data.cityofnewyork.us/Public-Safety/NYPD-Arrests-Data-Historic-/8h9b-rp9u

Columns: [ARREST_KEY, ARREST_DATE, PD_CD, PD_DESC, KY_CD, OFNS_DESC, LAW_CODE, LAW_CAT_CD, ARREST_BORO, ARREST_PRECINCT, JURISDICTION_CODE, AGE_GROUP, PERP_SEX, PERP_RACE, X_COORD_CD, Y_COORD_CD, Latitude, Longitude, Lon_Lat]



Rows - 5.5M Columns - 19 Each row is a Arrest in NYC by NYPD

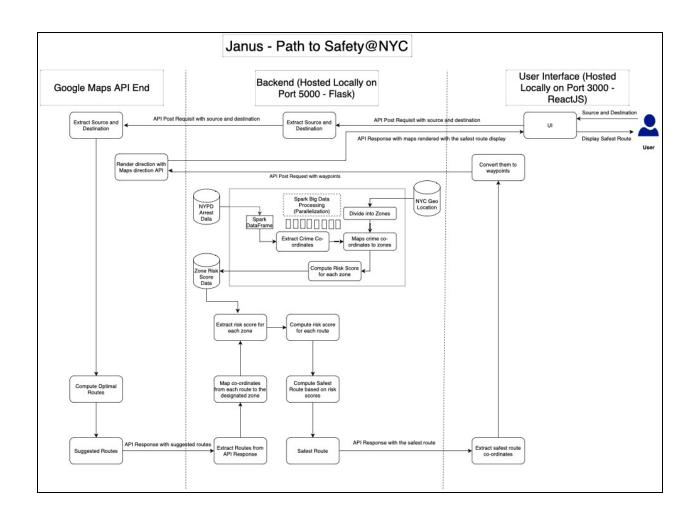
This dataset contains the past years' data starting from the year 2006 up to the previous year (Jan 2006 to Dec 2022).

Similar to the first one, out of 19 columns in the dataset, the significant columns required for computation in this project are ARREST_DATE, Latitude and Longitude. Rest of the columns are used to display metadata on the User Interface for an enhanced user experience.

This dataset is updated on an annual basis. Considering the amount of parallelization required to process the data and perform operations on the dataset, this data is perfect for a Big Data application project.



3. Architecture (High Level)





Description

The architecture diagram outlines the high level project design and highlights the technologies used to achieve an optimal solution to the problem statement. The system is structured into three main components: the locally hosted User Interface developed using ReactJS, the locally hosted Backend with Flask and Spark and the Google Maps API.

Let's now discuss each component on high level:

Google Maps API: This segment is responsible for interacting with the Google Maps API to extract the optimal routes between given source and destination. It sends an API response to the backend with the suggested routes for a pedestrian. Subsequently, the direction API renders the suggested safest route into the Google Maps interface upon receiving a request from the user interface.

Backend (Spark, Flask): The Backend serves as the core processing unit of the system. It receives the suggested routes from the Google Maps API and employs Spark for big data processing, utilizing the NYPD Arrest Data to pick the safest route among them. Spark DataFrame operations are performed to extract crime coordinates, which are then mapped into zones with their respective computed risk scores. The Backend computer risk scores for each zone and each route, ultimately determining the safest route based on the accumulated risk scores.

User Interface (ReactJS): The user interface is the front-end component where users input their source and destination. The UI then sends a request to the Backend API with the source and destination values and receives the safest route for a response. The safest route coordinates are then attached to the Google Maps Directional API request as waypoints and from the received response UI displays the safest route returned by the Backend. UI is hosted locally and it provides a user-friendly interface for the system's interaction with end-users.

Overall, the architecture facilitates a seamless flow of data between the user's input and the delivery of the safest possible route. The application strategically combines the functionalities of Google Maps and Spark to deliver a robust solution aimed at improving pedestrian safety in NYC.



2. Methodology

Safest Route Calculation

- 1. Define the grid of NYC based on minimum and maximum latitude and longitude of NYC. The grid consists of 5000 rows and 5000 columns leading to 25 million zones.
- 2. Calculate the step-size for latitude and longitude based on the specified number of divisions.

```
num_divisions = 5000
lat_step = (max_latitude - min_latitude) / num_divisions
lon_step = (max_longitude - min_longitude) / num_divisions
```

3. Create a function named find_zone_id which takes two parameters latitude and longitude and returns the zone_id.

```
lat_index = int((latitude - min_latitude) / lat_step)
lon_index = int((longitude - min_longitude) / lon_step)
zone_id = lat_index * num_divisions + lon_index
```

```
# Define the new boundaries according to data
min_latitude, max_latitude = 40.49, 62.08
min_longitude, max_longitude = -74.26, -73.68
# Number of divisions along each axis to create 25,000,000 zones (5000x5000)
num_divisions = 5000
lat_step = (max_latitude - min_latitude) / num_divisions
lon_step = (max_longitude - min_longitude) / num_divisions
from pyspark.sql.functions import udf
from pyspark.sql.types import IntegerType
def find_zone_id(latitude, longitude):
    if not (min_latitude <= latitude <= max_latitude) or not (min_longitude <= longitude <= max_longitude):</pre>
      return "Invalid latitude or longitude'
   # Calculate indexes
    lat_index = int((latitude - min_latitude) / lat_step)
    lon_index = int((longitude - min_longitude) / lon_step)
   # Handle edge cases
   if lat_index == num_divisions:
       lat_index -= 1
    if lon_index == num_divisions:
       lon_index -= 1
   # Calculate zone id
    zone_id = lat_index * num_divisions + lon_index
find_zone_id_udf = udf(find_zone_id, IntegerType())
```



4. Now, in the arrest dataframe, call the UDF find_zone_id to calculate the zone_id for each record. The data frame will look like this:

```
|ARREST_DATE|ARREST_BORO|AGE_GROUP|PERP_SEX|
                                                   PERP_RACE| Latitude| Longitude|zone_id|
                                                       BLACK|40.799009|-73.952409| 357651|
                       M |
                              45-641
| 2021-11-22|
| 2021-12-04|
                       ΒĮ
                              25-44|
                                           M|WHITE HISPANIC|40.816392|-73.895296| 378144|
                                                   BLACK| 40.6797|-73.776047| 219172|
| 2021-11-09|
                              25-44|
                       QI
| 2019-01-26|
                       ΜI
                              45-64|
                                                       BLACK|40.800694|-73.941109| 357749|
                                                     UNKNOWN | 40.757839 | -73.991212 | 312317 |
| 2019-02-06|
                       M|
                              25-44|
                                           M |
| 2021-12-03|
                       QI
                              25-44|
                                                       BLACK | 40.772056 | -73.876224 | 328308 |
                              25-44|
| 2021-11-10|
                                           M|WHITE HISPANIC|40.804013|-73.878332| 363290|
                       ΒĮ
                                                     BLACK| 40.69166|-73.779199| 234144|
| 2021-12-28|
                              18-24|
                              25-44|
                                                      BLACK| 40.64865|-73.950336| 182669|
| 2016-01-06|
                       K|
                                           M|
| 2021-12-04|
                              25-44|
                                           M |
                                                       BLACK|40.688584|-73.916526| 227960|
only showing top 10 rows
```

5. To calculate the risk score of each zone, calculate the total number of crimes per zone on each arrest date. Then, Risk-Score for a zone will be the average number of crimes per day in that zone.

- 6. Save the dataframe into a csv file and convert it to a dictionary where key is zone id and value is risk score. This will help to fetch the risk score of a zone in O(1) time.
- 8. Now, given a source address and a destination address, google map routes API returns the optimal routes with the coordinates. Then, calculate the risk score for each route and return the route with least risk-score which is the safest route to follow. To calculate the risk score for a route, map its coordinates with zone-ids. The final risk score for this route is the summation of all the risk scores of all its zones.



APIs

1. GET Routes Risk Score API

```
Endpoint: GET /get-routes-risk-score
Query Parameters:
      source (string): Starting point of the route.
      destination (string): Ending point of the route.
Response:
         "status": "SUCCESS",
         "message": "GetRoutesRiskScore Api Handler",
         "routes": {
           "O": {
             "risk_score": 1.0797387773682987,
             "distance": "0.7 mi",
             "time": "15 mins",
             "Coordinate": [
                {"lat": 40.7296912, "long": -73.997006},
                {"lat": 40.7295523, "long": -73.996668},
               // ... (additional coordinates)
           },
           "]": {
             "risk_score": 1.2778759937747266,
             "distance": "0.7 mi",
             "time": "17 mins",
             "Coordinate": [
                {"lat": 40.7296912, "long": -73.997006},
                {"lat": 40.7295623, "long": -73.9967441},
               // ... (additional coordinates)
             ]
           },
           // ... (additional routes)
        }
      }
```

Description: The API calculates and returns multiple routes between the specified source and destination along with their associated risk scores, distances, and estimated times. Each route contains a risk score, distance, time, and a list of coordinates comprising latitude and longitude.



2. GET Safest Route API

Endpoint: GET /get-safest-route

```
Query Parameters:
```

source (string): Starting point of the route. destination (string): Ending point of the route.

```
Response:

{
    "status": "SUCCESS",
    "message": "GetRoutesRiskScore Api Handler",
    "route": {
        "risk_score": 1.0797387773682987,
        "distance": "0.7 mi",
        "time": "15 mins",
        "Coordinate": [
            {"lat": 40.7296912, "long": -73.997006},
            {"lat": 40.7295523, "long": -73.996668},
            // ... (additional coordinates)
        ]
    }
```

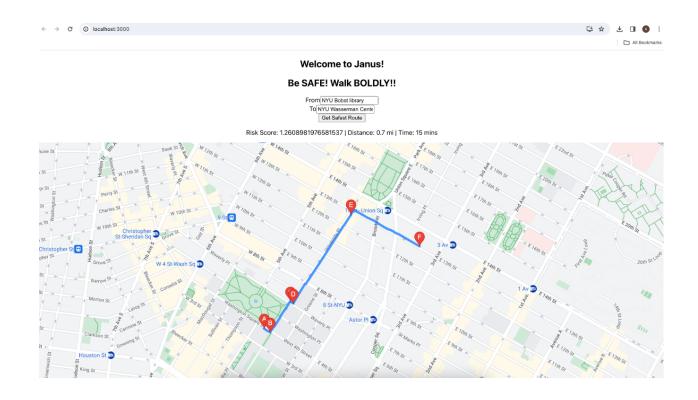
Description:

}

This API calculates and returns the safest route between the specified source and destination, providing information such as risk score, distance, time, and the list of coordinates. The response includes details for the single safest route based on the risk score.



User Interface



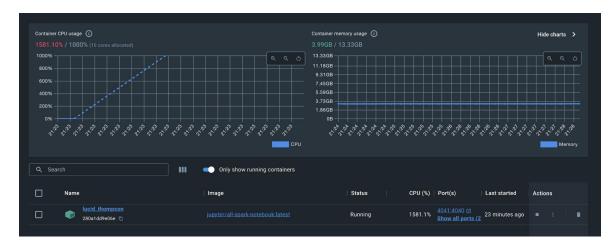
Upon receiving the response from API endpoint, it shows the route on google map using Google Maps' Direction Service React API where the route coordinates (waypoints) are passed to draw a map.



5. Optimization

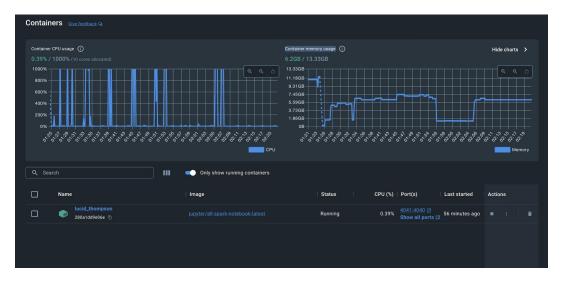
Challenge

The initial approach to map coordinates for over 5 million records to 250,000 zones using a join operation has proven to be inefficient and suboptimal. It has been running for 4 hours, and there is no end in sight.



Workaround

To address the inefficiency, an alternative and highly efficient approach was adopted. It involved mapping coordinates for the same 5 million records, but this time to 25 million zones using a User-Defined Function (UDF). Despite having the same available resources of 14 GB memory and 10 cores, this workaround took only approximately 1 minute and 20 seconds to complete the task.





6. Future Scope

- 1. A better user interface which also shows the alternative routes to take with their risk score.
- 2. Update NYC arrest data timely using Spark Streaming technologies.
- 3. Integrating with existing maps (Google Maps, OpenstreetMap, etc.)

7. Source Code

Github Link: https://github.com/gargabhay1999/Janus-BigData

