Capstone Project –

The Battle of Neighborhoods Report

By

Sai – May 2020

# Data Acquisition and Cleaning

## Data Acquisition phase

The data acquired for this project is a combination of data from three sources. The first data source of the project uses a [London crime data](https://www.kaggle.com/jboysen/london-crime) that shows the crime per borough in London. The dataset contains the following columns:

* + - **lsoa\_code**: code for Lower Super Output Area in Greater London.
    - **borough**: Common name for London borough.
    - **major\_category**: High level categorization of crime
    - **minor\_category**: Low level categorization of crime within major category.
    - **value**: monthly reported count of categorical crime in given borough
    - **year**: Year of reported counts, 2008-2016
    - **month**: Month of reported counts, 1-12

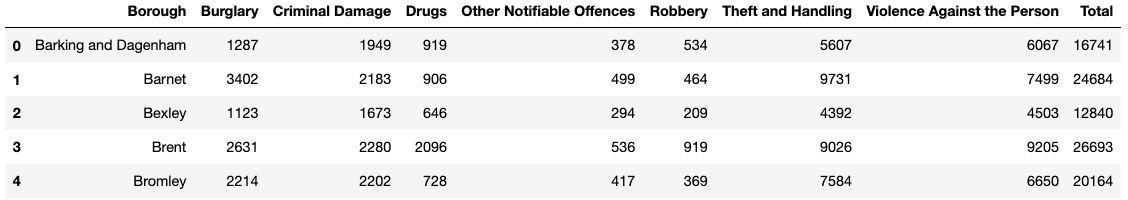
The second source of data is scraped from a wikipedia page that contains the [list of London](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_London_boroughs) [boroughs](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_London_boroughs). This page contains additional information about the boroughs, the following are the columns:

* + - **Borough**: The names of the 33 London boroughs.
    - **Inner**: Categorizing the borough as an Inner London borough or an Outer London Borough.
    - **Status**: Categorizing the borough as Royal, City or other borough.
    - **Local authority**: The local authority assigned to the borough.
    - **Political control**: The political party that control the borough.
    - **Headquarters:** Headquarters of the Boroughs.
    - **Area (sq mi)**: Area of the borough in square miles.
    - **Population (2013 est)[1]**: The population in the borough recorded during the year 2013.
    - **Co-ordinates**: The latitude and longitude of the boroughs.
    - **Nr. in map**: The number assigned to each borough to represent visually on a map.

The third data source is the [list of Neighborhoods in the Royal Borough of Kingston upon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_districts_in_the_Royal_Borough_of_Kingston_upon_Thames) [Thames](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_districts_in_the_Royal_Borough_of_Kingston_upon_Thames) as found on a wikipedia page. This dataset is created from scratch using the list of neighborhood available on the site, the following are columns:

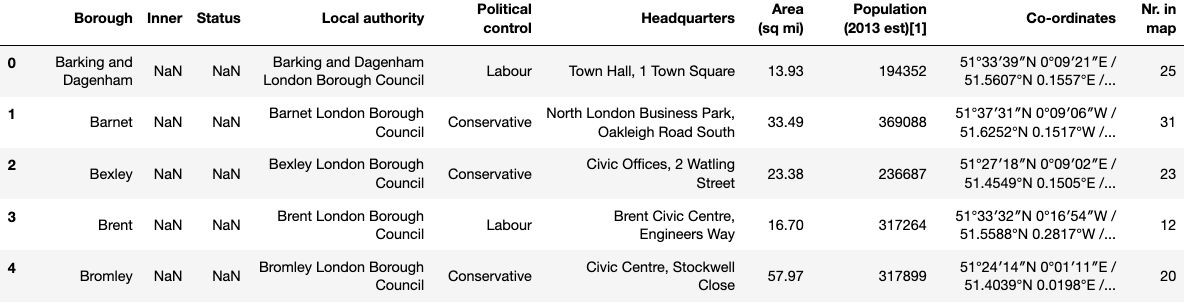
* **Neighborhood:** Name of the neighborhood in the Borough.
* **Borough:** Name of the Borough.
* **Latitude:** Latitude of the Borough.
* **Longitude:** Longitude of the Borough.

## Data Cleaning phase

The data preparation for each of the three sources of data is done separately. From the London crime data, the crimes during the most recent year (2016) are only selected. The major categories of crime are pivoted to get the total crimes per the boroughs for each major category (see *fig 2.1*).

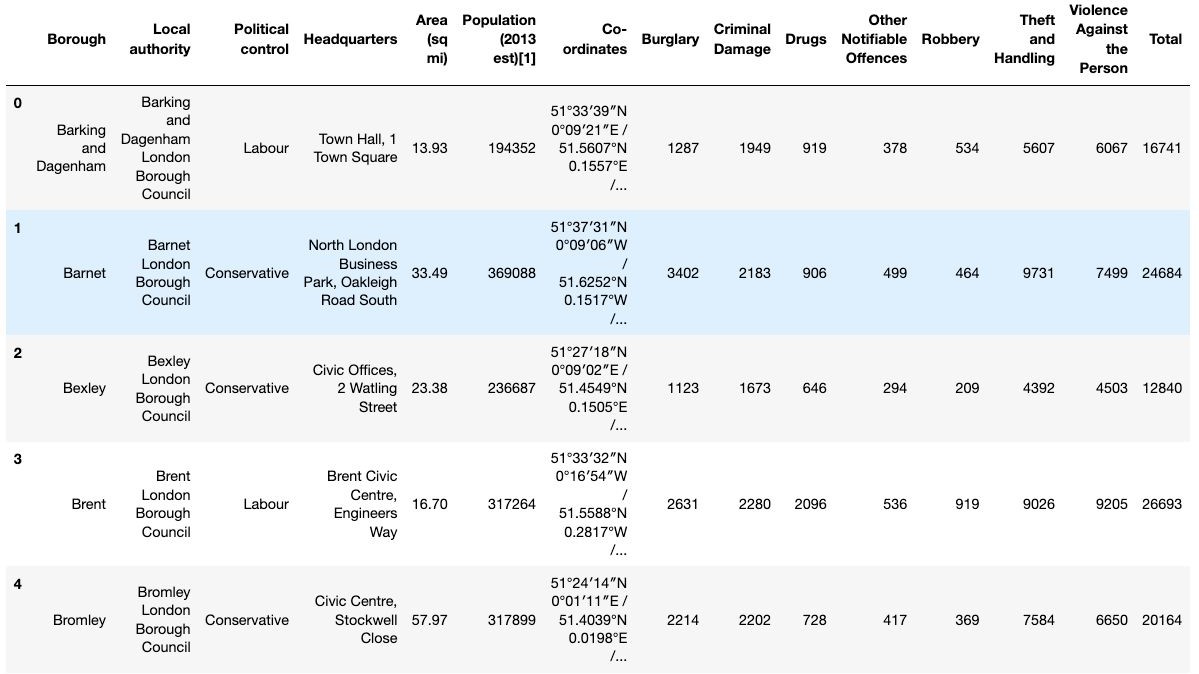
*Fig 2.1 London crime data after preprocessing*

The second data is scraped from a wikipedia page using the **Beautiful Soup** library in python. Using this library we can extract the data in the tabular format as shown in the website. After the web scraping, string manipulation is required to get the names of the boroughs in the correct form (see *fig 2.2*). This is important because we will be merging the two datasets together using the Borough names.



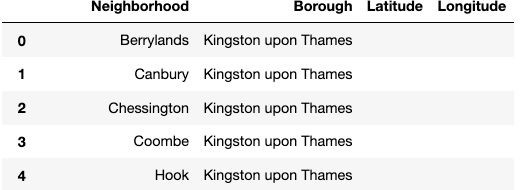
*Fig 2.2 List of London Boroughs*

The two datasets are merged on the Borough names to form a new dataset that combines the necessary information in one dataset (see *fig 2.3*). The purpose of this dataset is to visualize the crime rates in each borough and identify the borough with the least crimes recorded during the year 2016.



*Fig 2.3 London Borough Crime*

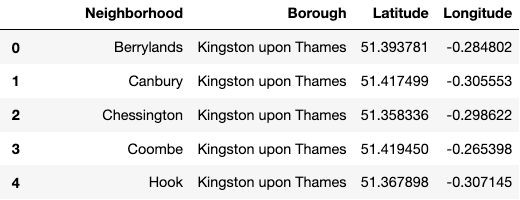
After visualizing the crime in each borough we can find the borough with the lowest crime rate and hence tag that borough as the safest borough. The third source of data is acquired from the list of neighborhoods in the safest borough on wikipedia. This dataset is created from scratch, the pandas data frame is created with the names of the neighborhoods and the name of the borough with the latitude and longitude left blank (see *fig 2.4*).



*Fig 2.4 Neighborhoods of the safest borough\*

The coordinates of the neighborhoods is be obtained using **Google Maps API geocoding**

to get the final dataset (See *Fig 2.5*).



*Fig 2.5 Neighborhoods of the safest borough*

The new dataset is used to generate the 10 most common venues for each neighborhood using the Foursquare API, finally using k means clustering algorithm to cluster similar neighborhoods together.