# Coursera CapstoneProject Report

#### Introduction

#### Osaka - Local restaurant research before travel.

Osaka shares some similarities with Tokyo, the Capital of Japan. Inspire by https://medium.com/@radialee/capstone-project-the-battle-of-neighborhoods-in-tokyo-restaurants-45a503e65ff, the mentioned project studied Tokyo's restaurant data since it will be the city holding 2020 Olympic Games and discuss how to support increasing visitors on one of their needs - Food. As Japan's third largest city (credit to: http://www.webster.edu/study-abroad/programs/japan/osaka/facts.html), I am curious about Osaka's potential. I had visited Osaka once before in person, this time I will take a different approach to view this city, start from its local restaurant.

#### Further discussion on the problem

In 2019, Japan's Tourism Hits Record Numbers (credit to: https://www.tourism.jp/en/tourism-database/stats/

to: https://www.tourism.jp/en/tourism-database/stats/inbound/), the amount of foreign visitors and their spending during travel also record a huge boost (credit to: https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/japans-tourism-hits-record-numbers-in-2019-300979556.html). Although Osaka was considered a well-developed city, visitors may encounter difficult to find desired restaurant. In this study, I hoped to apply data from Foursquare's location data, apply clustering methods (mainly K-means), breakdown Osaka as clusters and identify which cluster visitors should go for certain type of restaurants.

## Data source that will be used in this project

#### **Data Source:**

- Wards https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Osaka Data will be scrapped from table "Wards of Osaka" for us have a brief view of Osaka's base distribution on Population and Population density
- 2. Restaurant data Via Foursquare API Data will be import via API for us to get the restaurant location within Osaka.

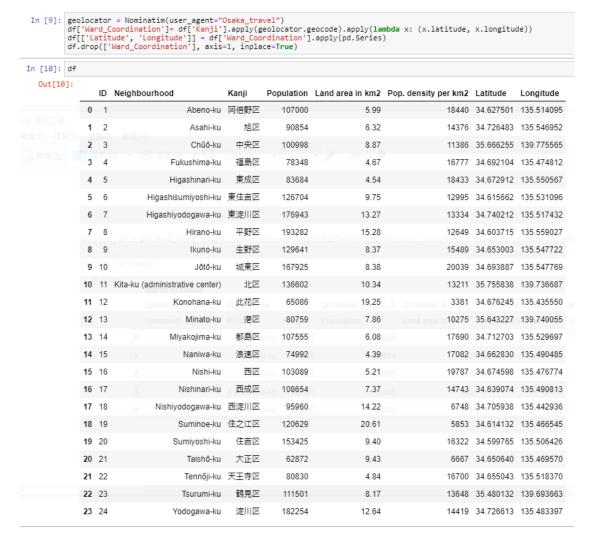
# Methodology

## **Data Preparation**

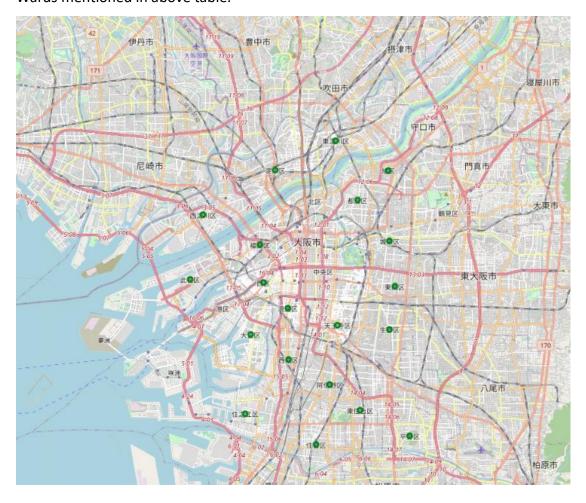
We can scrape the wards of Osaka from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Osaka and use Pandas to transform the table into a dataframe for further use.



After some clean up, we combine the table with Longitude and Latitude.

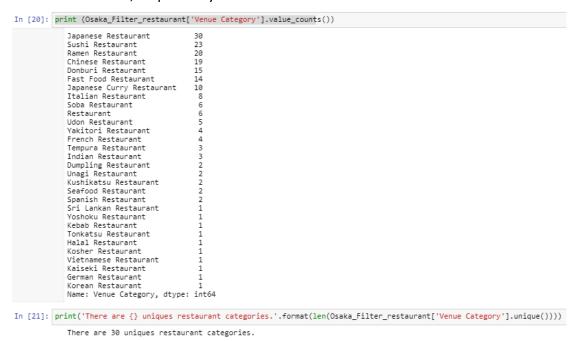


We then can use folium library in python to create a map preview of Osaka and the Wards mentioned in above table.

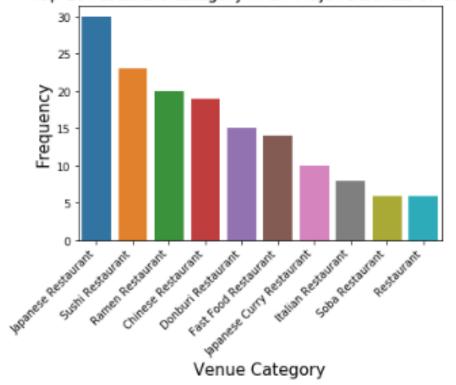


# Using Foursquare API to gather venue data for further analysis

We will be using Foursquare API to get top 100 venues that are in these 24 wards within 500 meters, respectively.



Top 10 resturant category in 24 Major Districts of Osaka



Looks like Osaka is a Japanese food focus city (Ramen, Sushi, Traditional Japanese dishes) with a few Chinese and fast food shop you could visit. Let us further dive into the data to explore more.

Here we first transform our data into labels, then group up to get the mean by each neighbour.

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Let's start using clustering to analyze the data, here we will be using K-Means as our method.



After we have added the cluster label into the data, we are going to visualize the result in a map preview.



## **Result Discussion**

### **Summarize our findings in this project:**

- Restaurants in Osaka mainly focus on Japanese dishes, good for travelers who like to try out Japanese food.
- The largest cluster contains mainly Japanese Food restaurants eg Kita-ku
  (administrative center) and Yodogawa-ku
- Chūō-ku has the highest amount of restaurant (59 records) through out all 24 wards
- Sumiyoshi-ku, Abeno-ku and Hirano-ku has the least amount of restaurant (1 record in each district)

## Problem of above clustering method:

First, we only picking venue categories that contains "restaurant", ignored the restaurant types like sake bar, Café, Steak house will affect the result of clustering since the number of restaurants will be different. Hope Foursquare API could provide a category and sub-category of venues for more clear venue identification.

Second, data we used rely on Foursquare's API data, if there were some shops that have not been recorded, our result will be inaccurate.

Third, this analysis focused only on geographic location of each restaurant in Osaka, we had ignored other factors like the detail

There were 3 wards that cannot be labeled by K-Means due to no restaurant records was found on those wards, that will also make the result bias.

# **Conclusion**

This is a fresh look for me to explore Osaka in a data perspective. I was excited for the result and how it can help my / other's next travel, I think viewing suggestion on data is far better than reading tour guide as it may be outdated due to its published date.

We can see Osaka is indeed a Japanese food focused city, strongly suggest people who love Japanese food to give it a try. Besides restaurants, Convenience Store is also a good place to go for a quick breakfast, refills or mid night snack, I personally loved to buy a cup noodle and fried chicken when I was heading back hotel.

Hope all of you can enjoy your travel to Japan!