An intercomparison of two cities: Toronto, Canada and London, United Kingdom

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**Introduction**

“To what extent are the cities of Toronto and London similar to each other?” is the proposed question for the Data Science Capstone project. Both Toronto, Canada, and London, United Kingdom, are the capital cities of their respective countries, comprising populations well into the millions. Whilst both cities may be classed as capital cities, the difference in history and continental divide could present stark differences in composition with respect to small businesses, and the presence of large international corporations. Furthermore, due to the difference in geographic make-up with respect to street layout, it would be interesting to see whether there are significant differences in this area.

Therefore, I propose to leverage Foursquare data to map and intercompare the composition of both respective cities in terms of business type.

**Data**

It is my intent to scrape the postcode locations from the respective cities Wikipedia entry page for London [1], and Toronto [2].

With regards to co-ordinate data for the post-codes, for Toronto, the co-ordinate data was obtained from the Google Maps Geocoding API. I propose a similar method can be utilised for London neighbourhoods.

Once processed and wrangled, I intend to cross-reference the locations of businesses in both cities with Foursquare data. Lastly, I will then cluster the results in order to determine composition.

**References**

[1] <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/London_postal_district#List_of_London_postal_districts>

[2] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\_of\_postal\_codes\_of\_Canada:\_M