

Coursera Capstone - REPORT

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1. Introduction Section

Discussion of the business problem and the audience who would be interested in this project.

1.1 Scenario and Background

I am a data scientist currently residing in Downtown Singapore. I currently live within walking distance to Downtown "Telok Ayer MRT metro station" therefore I have access to good public transportation to work. Likewise, I enjoy many amenities in the neighborhood, such as international cuisine restaurants, cafes, food shops and entertainment. I have been offered a great opportunity to work in Manhattan, NY. Although, I am very excited about it, I am a bit stress toward the process to secure a comparable place to live in Manhattan. Therefore, I decided to apply the learned skills during the Coursera course to explore ways to make sure my decision is factual and rewarding. Of course, there are alternatives to achieve the answer using available Google and Social media tools, but it rewarding doing it myself with learned tools.

2 Problem to be resolved:

The challenge to resolve is being able to find a rental apartment unit in Manhattan NY that offers similar characteristics and benefits to my current situation. Therefore, in order to set a basis for comparison, I want to find a rental unit subject to the following conditions:

- Apartment with min 2 bedrooms with monthly rent not to exceed US\$7000/month
- Unit located within walking distance (≤ 1.0 mile, 1.6 km) from a subway metro station in Manhattan
- Area with amenities and venues similar to the ones described for current location (See item 2.1)

1.3 Interested Audience

I believe this is a relevant project for a person or entity considering moving to a major city in Europe, US or Asia, since the approach and methodologies used here are applicable in all cases. The use of FourSquare data and mapping techniques combined with data analysis will help resolve the key questions arisen. Lastly, this project is a good practical case toward the development of Data Science skills.

2. Data Section

Description of the data and its sources that will be used to solve the problem

2.1 Data of Current Situation

I Currently reside in the neighborhood of 'McCallum Street' in Downtown Singapore. I use Foursquare to identify the venues around the area of residence which are then shown in the Singapore map shown in methodology and execution in section 3.0. It serves as a reference for comparison with the desired future location in Manhattan NY

2.2 Data Required to resolve the problem

In order to make a good choice of a similar apartment in Manhattan NY, the following data is required: List/Information on neighborhoods form Manhattan with their Geodata (latitude and longitude). List/Information about the subway metro stations in Manhattan with geodata. Listed apartments for rent in Manhattan area with descriptions (how many beds, price, location, address) Venues and ammenities in the Manhattan neighborhoods (e.g. top 10) 2.3 sources and manipulation The list of Manhattan neighborhoods is worked out during LAB exercise during the course. A csv file was created which will be read in order to create a dataframe and its mapping. The csv file 'mh_neigh_data.csv' has the following below data structure. The file will be directly read to the Jupiter Notebook for convenience and space savings. The clustering of neighborhoods and mapping will be shown however. An algorithim was used to determine the geodata from Nominatim . The actual algorithim coding may be shown in 'markdown' mode becasues it takes time to run.

mh_neigh_data.tail():

	Borough	Neighborhood	Latitude	Longitude
35	Manhattan	Turtle Bay	40.752042	-73.967708
36	Manhattan	Tudor City	40.746917	-73.971219
37	Manhattan	Stuyvesant Town	40.731000	-73.974
052				
38	Manhattan	Flatiron	40.739673	-73.990947
39	Manhattan	Hudson Yards	40.756658	-74.000111

A list of Manhattan subway metro stops was compiled in Numbers (Apple excel) and it was completemeted with wikipedia data (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_New_York_City_Subway_stations_in_Manhattan) and information from NY Transit authority and Google maps (<https://www.google.com/maps/search/manhattan+subway+metro+stations/@40.7837297,-74.1033043,11z/data=!3m1!4b1>) for a final consolidated list of subway stops names and their address. The geolocation was obtained via an algorithim using Nominatim. Details will be shown in the execution of methodology in section 3.0. The subway csv file is "MH_subway.csv" and the data structure is: mhsb.tail(): sub_station sub_address lat long

17	190 Street Subway Station	Bennett Ave, New York, NY 10040, USA	40.858113	-73.932983
18	59 St-Lexington Av Station	E 60th St, New York, NY 10065, USA	40.762259	-73.966271
19	57 Street Station	New York, NY 10019, United States	40.764250	-73.954525
20	14 Street / 8 Av	New York, NY 10014, United States	40.730862	-73.987156
21	MTA New York City	525 11th Ave, New York, NY 10018, U SA	40.759809	-73.999282

A list of places for rent was collected by web-browsing real estate companies in Manhattan : <http://www.rentmanhattan.com/index.cfm?page=search&state=results> https://www.nestpick.com/search?city=new-york&page=1&order=relevance&district=manhattan&gclid=CjwKCAiAjNjgBRAGiEiwAGLIlf2hkP3A-cPxjZYkURqQEswQK2jKQEpv_MvKcrlhRWRzNkc_r-fGi0lxoCA7cQAvD_BwE&type=apartment&display=listhttps://www.realtor.com/apartments/Manhattan_NY A csv file was compiled with the rental place that indicated: areas of Manhattan, address,

number of beds, area and monthly rental price. The csv file "nnnn.csv" had the following below structure. An algorithm was used to create all the geodata using Nominatim, as shown in section 3.0. The actual algorithm coding may be shown in 'markdown' mode because it takes time to run. With the use of `geolocator = Nominatim()`, it was possible to determine the latitude and longitude for the subway metro locations as well as for the geodata for each rental place listed. The loop algorithms used are shown in the execution of data in section 3.0 "Great_circle" function from geolocator was used to calculate distances between two points, as in the case to calculate average rent price for units around each subway station and at 1.6 km radius. Foursquare is used to find the avenues at Manhattan neighborhoods in general and a cluster is created to later be able to search for the venues depending on the location shown.

2.4 How the data will be used to solve the problem

The data will be used as follows: Use Foursquare and geopy data to map top 10 venues for all Manhattan neighborhoods and clustered in groups (as per Course LAB) Use foursquare and geopy data to map the location of subway metro stations, separately and on top of the above clustered map in order to be able to identify the venues and amenities near each metro station, or explore each subway location separately Use Foursquare and geopy data to map the location of rental places, in some form, linked to the subway locations. create a map that depicts, for instance, the average rental price per square ft, around a radius of 1.0 mile (1.6 km) around each subway station - or a similar metrics. I will be able to quickly point to the popups to know the relative price per subway area. Addresses from rental locations will be converted to geodata(lat, long) using Geopy-distance and Nominatim. Data will be searched in open data sources if available, from real estate sites if open to reading, libraries or other government agencies such as Metro New York MTA, etc.

2.5 Mapping of Data

The following maps were created to facilitate the analysis and the choice of the place to live. Manhattan map of Neighborhoods Manhattan subway metro locations Manhattan map of places for rent Manhattan map of clustered venues and neighborhoods Combined maps of Manhattan rent places with subway locations Combined maps of Manhattan rent places with subway locations and venues clusters

3. Methodology section:

This section represents the main component of the report where the data is gathered, prepared for analysis. The tools described are used here and the Notebook cells indicate the execution of steps.

The analysis and the strategy:

The strategy is based on mapping the above described data in section 2.0, in order to facilitate the choice of at least two candidate places for rent. The choice is made based on the demands imposed: location near a subway, rental price and similar venues to Singapore. This visual approach and maps with popups labels allow quick identification of location, price and feature, thus making the selection very easy.

The processing of these DATA and its mapping will allow to answer the key questions to make a decision:

- what is the cost of available rental places that meet the demands?
- what is the cost of rent around a mile radius from each subway metro station?
- what is the area of Manhattan with best rental pricing that meets criteria established?
- What is the distance from work place (Park Ave and 53 rd St) and the tentative future rental home?
- What are the venues of the two best places to live? How the prices compare?
- How venues distribute among Manhattan neighborhoods and around metro stations?
- Are there tradeoffs between size and price and location?
- Any other interesting statistical data findings of the real estate and overall data.

METHODOLOY EXECUTION - Mapping Data

Singapore Map - Current residence and venues in neighborhood

for comparison to future Manhattan renting place

	name	categories	lat	Ing
0	Napoleon Food & Wine Bar	Wine Bar	1.279925	103.847333
1	Park Bench Deli	Deli / Bodega	1.279872	103.847287
2	Native	Cocktail Bar	1.280135	103.846844
3	Muchachos	Burrito Place	1.279175	103.847082
4	Matt's The Chocolate Shop	Dessert Shop	1.280462	103.846950
5	Freehouse	Beer Garden	1.281254	103.848513
6	PS.Cafe	Café	1.280468	103.846264
7	왕대박 Wang Dae Bak Korean BBQ Restaurant	Korean Restaurant	1.281345	103.847551
8	Ancient Therapy	Massage Studio	1.280413	103.847481
9	Oven & Fried Chicken	Korean Restaurant	1.280479	103.847522

	Borough	Neighborhood	Latitude	Longitude	Cluster Labels
0	Manhattan	Marble Hill	40.876551	-73.910660	2
1	Manhattan	Chinatown	40.715618	-73.994279	2
2	Manhattan	Washington Heights	40.851903	-73.936900	4
3	Manhattan	Inwood	40.867684	-73.921210	3
4	Manhattan	Hamilton Heights	40.823604	-73.949688	0

	Borough	Neighborhood	Latitude	Longitude	Cluster Labels
35	Manhattan	Turtle Bay	40.752042	-73.967708	3
36	Manhattan	Tudor City	40.746917	-73.971219	3
37	Manhattan	Stuyvesant Town	40.731000	-73.974052	4
38	Manhattan	Flatiron	40.739673	-73.990947	3
39	Manhattan	Hudson Yards	40.756658	-74.000111	2

Manhattan Borough neighborhoods - data with top 10 clustered venues

	Borough	Neighborhood	Latitude	Longitude	Cluster Labels	1st Most Common Venue	2nd Most Common Venue	3rd Most Common Venue	4th Most Common Venue	5th Most Common Venue	6th Most Common Venue
0	Manhattan	Marble Hill	40.876551	-73.910660	2	Coffee Shop	Discount Store	Yoga Studio	Steakhouse	Supplement Shop	Ter Sta
1	Manhattan	Chinatown	40.715618	-73.994279	2	Chinese Restaurant	Cocktail Bar	Dim Sum Restaurant	American Restaurant	Vietnamese Restaurant	Sai Bai
2	Manhattan	Washington Heights	40.851903	-73.936900	4	Café	Bakery	Mobile Phone Shop	Pizza Place	Sandwich Place	Pa
3	Manhattan	Inwood	40.867684	-73.921210	3	Mexican Restaurant	Lounge	Pizza Place	Café	Wine Bar	Bai
4	Manhattan	Hamilton Heights	40.823604	-73.949688	0	Mexican Restaurant	Coffee Shop	Café	Deli / Bodega	Pizza Place	Liq Stc

Active

Map of Manhattan places for rent

Several Manhattan real estate webs were webscrapped to collect rental data, as mentioned in section 2.0 . The result was summarized in a csv file for direct reading, in order to consolidate the proces.

The initial data for 144 apartment did not have the latitude and longitude data (NaN) but the information was established in the following cell using an alorgythm and Nominatim.

	Address	Area	Price_per_ft2	Rooms	Area-ft2	Rent_Price	Lat	Long
0	West 105th Street	Upper West Side	2.94	5.0	3400	10000	NaN	NaN
1	East 97th Street	Upper East Side	3.57	3.0	2100	7500	NaN	NaN
2	West 105th Street	Upper West Side	1.89	4.0	2800	5300	NaN	NaN
3	CARMINE ST.	West Village	3.03	2.0	1650	5000	NaN	NaN
4	171 W 23RD ST.	Chelsea	3.45	2.0	1450	5000	NaN	NaN

	Address	Area	Price_per_ft2	Rooms	Area-ft2	Rent_Price	Lat	Long
139	200 East 72nd Street	Rental in Lenox Hill	5.15	3.0	1700	8750	NaN	NaN
140	50 Murray Street	No fee rental in Tribeca	7.11	2.0	1223	8700	NaN	NaN
141	300 East 56th Street	No fee rental in Midtown East	3.87	3.0	2100	8118	NaN	NaN
142	1930 Broadway	No fee rental in Central Park West	5.06	2.0	1600	8095	NaN	NaN
143	33 West 9th Street	Rental in Greenwich Village	6.67	2.0	1500	10000	NaN	NaN

Obtain geodata (lat,long) for each rental place in Manhattan with Nominatim

Data was stored in a csv file for simplification report purposes and saving code processing time in future.

This coding section was 'markdown' for the report because its execution takes few minutes . Terefore, the csv saved will be be just read directly in the following cell.

save dataframe to csv file

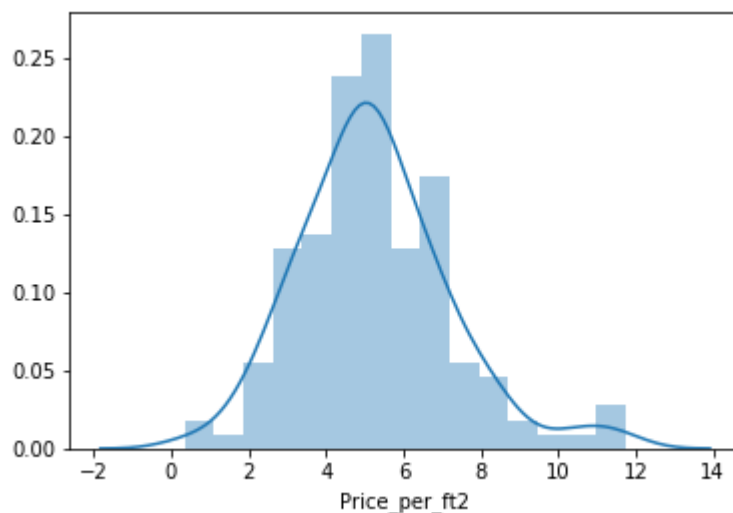
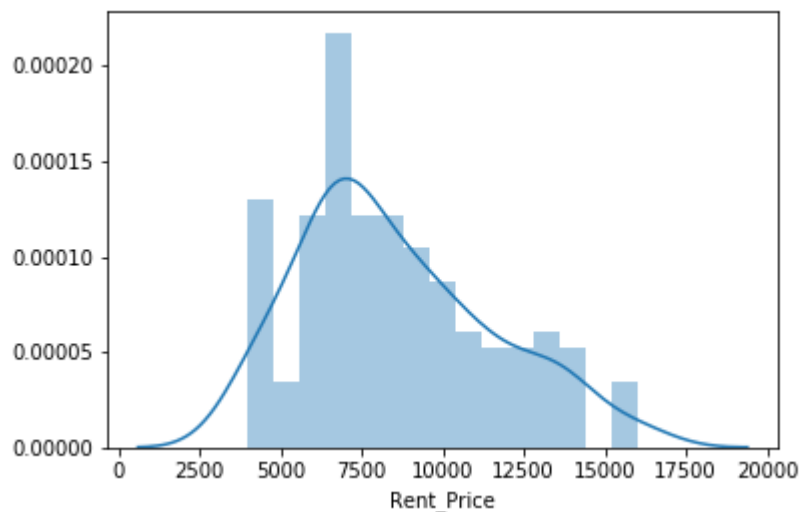
```
mh_rent.to_csv('MH_rent_latlong.csv',index=False) mh_rent.shape
```

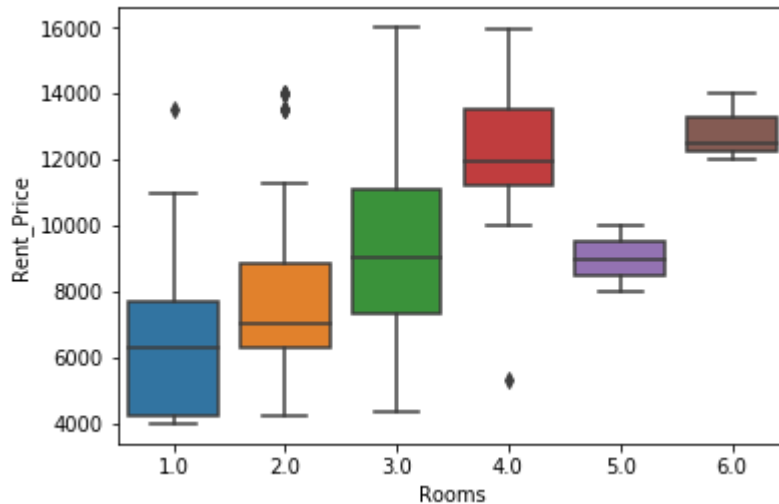
	Address	Area	Price_per_ft2	Rooms	Area-ft2	Rent_Price	Lat	Long
0	West 105th Street	Upper West Side	2.94	5.0	3400	10000	40.799771	-73.966213
1	East 97th Street	Upper East Side	3.57	3.0	2100	7500	40.788585	-73.955277
2	West 105th Street	Upper West Side	1.89	4.0	2800	5300	40.799771	-73.966213
3	CARMINE ST.	West Village	3.03	2.0	1650	5000	40.730523	-74.001873
4	171 W 23RD ST.	Chelsea	3.45	2.0	1450	5000	40.744118	-73.995299

	Address	Area	Price_per_ft2	Rooms	Area-ft2	Rent_Price	Lat	Long
139	200 East 72nd Street	Rental in Lenox Hill	5.15	3.0	1700	8750	40.769465	-73.960339
140	50 Murray Street	No fee rental in Tribeca	7.11	2.0	1223	8700	40.714051	-74.009608
141	300 East 56th Street	No fee rental in Midtown East	3.87	3.0	2100	8118	40.758216	-73.965190
142	1930 Broadway	No fee rental in Central Park West	5.06	2.0	1600	8095	40.772474	-73.981901
143	33 West 9th Street	Rental in Greenwich Village	6.67	2.0	1500	10000	40.733691	-73.997323

Manhattan apartment rent price statistics

A US 7000 Dollar per month rent is actually around the mean value - similar to Singapore! wow!





Map of Manhattan apartments for rent

The popups will indicate the address and the monthly price for rent thus making it convenient to select the target apartment with the price condition estipulated (max US7000)

Now one can explore a particular rental place and its venues in detail

In the map above, examination of apartments with rental place below 7000/month is straightforwad while knowing the venues around it.

We could find an apartment with at the right price and in a location with desirable venues. The next step is to see if it is located near a subway metro station, in next cells work.

Mapping Manhattan Subway locations

Manhattan subway metro locations (address) was obtained from webscrapping sites such as Wikipedia, Google and NY Metro Transit. For simplification, a csv file was produced from the 'numbers' (Apple excel) so that the reading of this file is the starting point here.

The geodata will be obtain via Nominatim using the algorithim below

	sub_station	sub_address
0	Dyckman Street Subway Station	170 Nagle Ave, New York, NY 10034, USA
1	57 Street Subway Station	New York, NY 10106, USA
2	Broad St	New York, NY 10005, USA
3	175 Street Station	807 W 177th St, New York, NY 10033, USA
4	5 Av and 53 St	New York, NY 10022, USA

Algorithm to find latitude and longitude for each subway metro station and add them to dataframe

This coding has been 'Markdown' just to simplify the file report, and the csv file will be read in cell below.

```
for n in range(len(mh)): address= mh['sub_address'][n] geolocator = Nominatim() location =
geolocator.geocode(address) latitude = location.latitude longitude = location.longitude
mh['lat'][n]=latitude mh['long'][n]=longitude
    #print(n,latitude,longitude)
    time.sleep(2)
```

```
print('Geodata completed')
```

save dataframe to csv file

```
mh.to_csv('MH_subway.csv',index=False) mh.shape
```

Read csv file that produced the subway stations list with geodata

	sub_station	sub_address	lat	long
0	Dyckman Street Subway Station	170 Nagle Ave, New York, NY 10034, USA	40.861857	-73.924509
1	57 Street Subway Station	New York, NY 10106, USA	40.764250	-73.954525
2	Broad St	New York, NY 10005, USA	40.730862	-73.987156
3	175 Street Station	807 W 177th St, New York, NY 10033, USA	40.847991	-73.939785
4	5 Av and 53 St	New York, NY 10022, USA	40.764250	-73.954525

Map of Manhattan showing places for rent and the subway locations nearby

Now, we can visualize the desirable rental places and their nearest subway station. Popups display rental address and monthly rental price and the subway station name.

Notice that the icon in the top-right corner is a "ruler" that allows to measure the distance from a rental place to an specific subway station

	Address	Area	Price_per_ft2	Rooms	Area-ft2	Rent_Price	Lat	Long
0	West 105th Street	Upper West Side	2.94	5.0	3400	10000	40.799771	-73.966213
1	East 97th Street	Upper East Side	3.57	3.0	2100	7500	40.788585	-73.955277
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4	171 W 23RD ST.	Chelsea	3.45	2.0	1450	5000	40.744118	-73.995299

4. Results

ONE CONSOLIDATE MAP

Let's consolidate all the required information to make the apartment selection in one map
Map of Manhattan with rental places, subway locations and cluster of venues

Red dots are Subway stations, Blue dots are apartments available for rent, Bubbles are the clusters of venues

Problem Resolution - Select the apartment for rent

The above consolidate map was used to explore options.

After examining, I have chosen two locations that meet the requirements which will assess to make a choice.

- Apartment 1: 305 East 63rd Street in the Sutton Place Neighborhood and near 'subway 59th Street' station, Cluster # 2 Monthly rent : 7500 Dollars
- Apartment 2: 19 Dutch Street in the Financial District Neighborhood and near 'Fulton Street Subway' station, Cluster # 3 Monthly rent : 6935 Dollars

Apartment Selection

Using the "one map" above, I was able to explore all possibilities since the popups provide the information needed for a good decision.

Apartment 1 rent cost is US\$7500 slightly above the US\$7000 budget. Apt 1 is located 400 meters from subway station at 59th Street and work place (Park Ave and 53rd) is another 600 meters way. I can walk to work place and use subway for other places around. Venues for this apt are as of Cluster 2 and it is located in a fine district in the East side of Manhattan.

Apartment 2 rent cost is US\$6935, just under the US\$7000 budget. Apt 2 is located 60 meters from subway station at Fulton Street, but I will have to ride the subway daily to work , possibly 40-60 min ride. Venues for this apt are as of Cluster 3.¶

Based on current Singapore venues, I feel that Cluster 2 type of venues is a closer resemblance to my current place. That means that APARTMENT 1 is a better choice since the extra monthly rent is worth the conveniences it provides.¶

5. DISCUSSION

In general, I am positively impressed with the overall organization, content and lab works presented during the Coursera IBM Certification Course

I feel this Capstone project presented me a great opportunity to practice and apply the Data Science tools and methodologies learned.

I have created a good project that I can present as an example to show my potential.¶

I feel I have acquired a good starting point to become a professional Data Scientist and I will continue exploring to creating examples of practical cases.

6. CONCLUSIONS

I feel rewarded with the efforts, time and money spent. I believe this course with all the topics covered is well worthy of appreciation.

This project has shown me a practical application to resolve a real situation that has impacting personal and financial impact using Data Science tools.

The mapping with Folium is a very powerful technique to consolidate information and make the analysis and decision thoroughly and with confidence. I would recommend for use in similar situations.

One must keep abreast of new tools for DS that continue to appear for application in several business fields.¶