

Food Recommendation System Using Big Data Based on Scoring Taste Adjectives

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Abstract

It is a general practice to evaluate food taste based on sensory tests, however, this test method's disadvantage is that a lot of cost and time is required and significant deviation is taken place depending on each evaluator as well. Food taste evaluation by utilizing SNS-based big data for supplementing this disadvantage is considered to be a new challenge and innovative method. The objective of this study is to suggest a system that evaluates and recommends the level of domestic food taste by not only clustering food preference using k-means algorithm after sorting out food-related tweet contents from typical twitter of SNS, followed by scoring taste adjectives being mainly used in daily life by using rough set and selecting food-related adjectives among the scored adjectives, but also exploring the level of salty, sour, savory, bitter and sweet tastes through perception map.

Keywords: *Food taste, Taste Adjective, Recommendation System, k-means Algorithm, Scoring taste adjectives, clustering, Sensory evaluation, Bigdata, twitter*

1. Introduction

At an early stage, a research on sensibility measurement technology of olfactory/gustative sense for food taste and DB development was performed by MOE in 1998, however, subsequent research has seldom been made. Taste depends not only on five tastes (salty, sour, sweet, bitter and umami tastes) and spicy taste but also on visual, olfactory effect and texture, and warmth of food. However, so far, a general analysis of taste adjectives being used by contemporary people as a basis for researching on taste has been hardly performed in our country [1,2].

Research on taste expression of Korean food is mostly performed through sensory evaluation. Sensory evaluation is defined as an area of science that measures, analyzes and interprets a reaction of food and substances features being felt by 5 senses (visual, olfactory, gustative, tactile, and auditory senses) [3]. In this study, in order to score taste adjectives, an integrated analysis was performed through a questionnaire by having around 30 sensory evaluation team attending food, nutrition department, and food engineering department taste, evaluate food taste and taste adjectives for the sensibility of those team recognizing and sensing such food were extracted.

Around 20,000 samples of taste adjectives relevant to all the tastes including gustative, olfactory senses, texture, warmth being used in our country were extracted from foodservice management magazine (from January, 2014 version to October, 2014 version). In order to score the conformity of collected taste expression adjectives, 108 taste expression adjectives were selected by composing taste-scoring table through correlation analysis and multivariate analysis that are statistic method.

71 adjectives were finally selected after comparatively analyzing taste adjectives being extracted like this with 87 taste adjectives data including gustative sense, texture, warmth and olfactory sense, and through rough set theory, taste adjectives were scored. By using these 71 scored adjectives, preferred foods among that favored by Koreans were sorted out through SNS big data-based k-means algorithm and features of sorted specific food tastes were perceptualized. Through this, features of Korean taste were analyzed and based on this analysis, a recipe method of food was established depending on features of foreigner's taste.

2. Relevant Research

2.1. Big Data and SNS

2.2.1. Big Data

Research utilizing big data is being actively performed in each field. When observing research relevant to big data, it is mainly utilized in traffic, health, disaster prevention, politics, economy, culture and tourism but in food-related field, research has never been attempted. In other words, as shown on [Fig. 2-1] WordCloud, which was prepared by keyword of app. 800 pieces of theses from 1990 to 2015 as big data, there was no research that took food as its topic.



Figure 2-1. Thesis Keyword Cloud

2.2.2. SNS (Social Network Service)

SNS is two-way communication means that facilitates interaction among users based on an open type approach method (Kozinets *et al.*, 2010). It is also an online tool and media platform that enables information accumulation through open style information sharing and communication [13]. This is a service focused on formation of online social relations for the community who wishes to observe other people's personal taste and activities [14]. When observing a research on food and taste by utilizing SNS, a research on a system for automatically recommending food, beverage coupon in social commerce suitable for the users considering situational information such as purchase history [17], interaction of SNS for accommodation intention of foodservice-related information [18], a research on data cooking device and service that helps implement cooking handily through seasoning mixture by providing diversified recipes reflecting needs of single consumers[19] and a research that utilizes SNS in marketing analysis by identifying consumption behavior features of domestic foodservice consumers after classifying foodservice consumers and SNS utilizing types [20] are available.

2.2. Taste Adjectives

Humans perceive stimulants of the outside environment through 5 senses including visual, auditory, olfactory, tactile and gustative sense. Among these, gustative sense

recognizes salty, sour, sweet, and bitter tastes through chemical reaction of tongue. [Fig. 2-1] shows an expression of taste adjective words.



Figure 2-2. Taste Adjective Wordfield

In language, words are used having a relation with other words, and are not used independently. This relation could represent connectivity between two words or among groups of words. Therefore, connectivity of words could be expressed as a word set having similar meaning, which is then called wordfield.

At an early stage, Tina Nabrosky tried to structure adjectives of taste expression as wordfield. As shown on [Fig. 2-3], he said that taste quality, intensity, and pleasure that are three parameters in classifying taste adjectives like 3D wordfield play a decisive role [22].

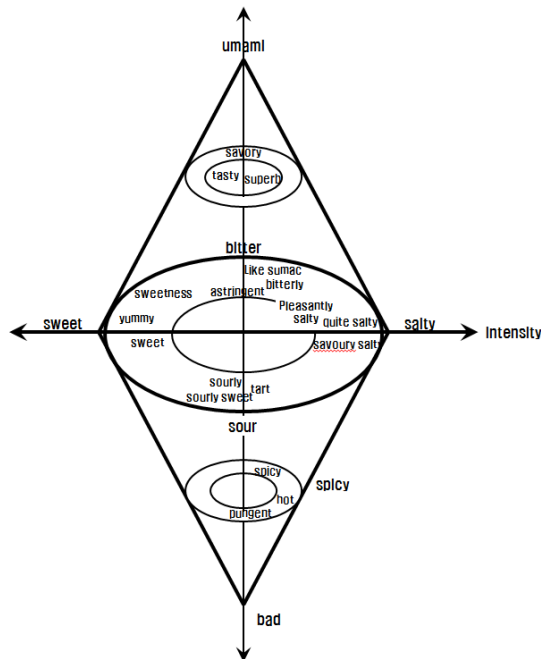


Figure 2-3. Wordfield of Taste 3D

Generally, taste quality is defined as 5 tastes including sweet, sour, salty, bitter, and umami tastes, however, it was also classified as 6 tastes including spicy taste that was added to Korean food taste as an essential element.

2.3. Rough Set Theory and Clustering

2.3.1. Rough-set Theory

Rough set is a mathematical approach suggested by Pawlak [25] and it could be applied to diversified fields including automatic classification, pattern recognition, learning algorithm [26].

As research using rough set, a research that suggested an algorithm extracting features comprising sound source of musical instrument by using entropy concept of rough set for the inter-dependency level of game music characteristics [27], a research suggesting a design method of gas identification system having hierarchical rule using rough set [28] and a research using rough set for selecting set of important characteristics among the entire characteristics in suggesting fuzzy discretization technique for the data having continuous type attribute [29] are available. Lang and Nguehn suggested tolerance relation-based rough clustering in 2002 and it is regarded as a successful method in document clustering. When comparing document clustering to our food clustering, document and terms in document clustering may be called as adjective relevant to food twit and taste in this report.

2.3.2. Cluster Analysis

Cluster analysis is a technique that is used in analyzing data by dividing it into clusters sharing specific nature. In addition, as a clustering technique, it is classified as hierarchical clustering, divided clustering, neural network, and statistical search technique, and when observing it in detail, first, as hierarchical clustering technique, there is a dendrogram that represents clustering results as a hierarchy and second, as divided clustering technique, an arithmetic operation that assigns each sample to cluster is used. Third, as neural network, there is SOM (Self-organizing map), ART (Adaptive Resonance Theory) technique and fourth, as a statistical search, SA (Simulated Annealing) technique, genetic algorithm could be cited [30,31,32]. Cluster analysis is a technique being used in analyzing data in the fields of taxonomy, information retrieval, climatology, psychology, medical science, and business. A hybrid method that mixes data properly by utilizing various cluster techniques is reported in the latest thesis. More than anything else, cluster method and number (count) fit for cluster features are important, and if clustered clusters should be well expressed visually and classified, it would be helpful for understanding cluster.

3. Recommendation System Design based on Taste Adjectives

3.1. Outline of Recommendation System

A recommendation system provides propensity and preference such as recommendation of goods, maker brand based on price, and performance in ranking order and nowadays, it is also utilized in information retrieval field like the page rank algorithm of Google. The food recommendation system suggested in this study is performed based on the following procedure.

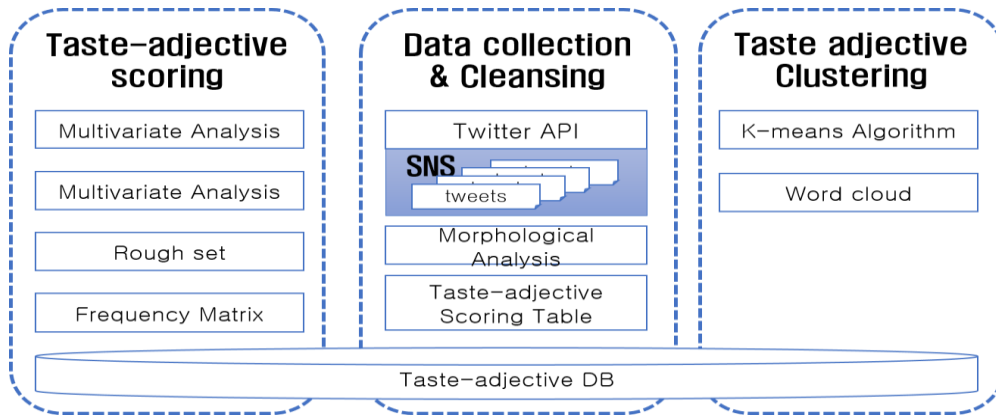


Figure 3-1. Taste Adjective-based Clustering Procedure

(1) Preparation of Taste Adjective Scoring Table

In order to score conformity of taste adjectives after extracting approximately 20,000 samples of taste adjective from foodservice magazines (from January, 2014 version to October version) relevant to major taste adjectives for Korean language expression, correlation and multivariate analysis for taste adjectives were performed and through this correlation, 108 taste adjectives were extracted. By comparatively analyzing extracted taste adjectives with 87 taste adjective data for gustative sense, texture, temperature and olfactory sense, 71 taste adjectives were sorted out and were then scored through a rough set of such adjectives.

If comparing document clustering to the clustering of our food, in document clustering, document and terms are food twit, taste adjective and its frequency matrix ($AF=[at_{ij}]_{N \times M}$) in this study and where, at_{ij} is j numbers of taste adjective expressed in ith food and N is expressed as number of twit and M as number of taste adjective. In this study, N is 21038 ea and M is 71 ea, respectively.

$$T = (U, A \cup d)_{T=(U, Ad)}$$

U : tweets

A : $\alpha : U \rightarrow V_\alpha$ forever $\alpha \in A$ evaluation scale

V_α : Value of evaluation scale

$\alpha \in A$: Taste adjective

Table 3-1. Taste Adjectives

bitter		sour		salt		sweet		umami		spicy		taste status	
taste adjective	score	taste adjective	score	taste adjective	score	taste adjective	score	taste adjective	score	taste adjective	score	taste adjective	score
like sumac	0.8	sour	0.75	salty	0.82	Honey-like	0.86	savory	0.82	hot	0.86	tasty	0.99
bitter	0.78	Tart	0.71	quite salty	0.78	sweet	0.72	tasty	0.82	spicy	0.69	fantastic	0.76
bitterly	0.72	sourly	0.65	slightly salty	0.64	Scorched smelling	0.71	delicious	0.80	thirsty	0.54	good	0.73
quite bitter	0.71	sourly sweet	0.62	Savoury salty	0.63	Sweetish	0.63	appetizing	0.79	pungent	0.61	nothing	0.32
Astringent	0.67	refreshing	0.57	Pleasantly salty	0.34	sweetness	0.54	superb	0.69	burning	0.58	tasteless	0.13

The algorithm of scoring, modifying and supplementing taste adjectives and preparing its scoring table is as shown on below [Fig 3-2].

Algorithm 3.1 Taste-adjective scoring

```
input : terms
output : taste-adjective tweets
Begin
    collecting taste-adjective from sample data           //dictionary, magazine, etc.

    selecting and averaging taste-adjective using corelation and
    multivariant analysis

    for (i=1 to N {                                     // N of adjective-terms
        webinar() ;                                    // rough Set using R package
        frequency();                                   // taste strong rate
    }
    display() ;                                       taste-adjective table
End
```

Figure 3-2. Taste-adjective Scoring

(2) Data Collection

In this study, for the data to be utilized at the stage of data analysis, Twitter being most frequently used among social networks is used and the procedure is as follows.

First, collect approximately 300,00 tweets of tweeters by using Twitter API from January 2015 to August 2015. Second, collected tweets are processed as stopwords through morphological analysis process and only relevant tweets are stored in DB by using a taste adjective scoring table being generated in a process of pre-processing. Below [Fig 3-3] is pseudo-code of system constructing taste-adjective DB through stopword processing.

Algorithm 3.2 built raw-taste-DB

```
input : tweets
output : taste-DB
Morphological analysis and treatment as stopwords
Begin
    collecting tweets;                                 // using Twitter API
    for (i=1; i<N ; I++){                             // N of tweets
        if (tweets = taste-adjective table){         // using table-element
            copy taste-DB ;                           // No of accumulate
            cnt = cnt +1 ;
        }
    display()                                         // Not of tweets(cnt)
End
```

Figure 3-3. Built Raw-taste-DB

(3) Data Analysis

The stage of data analysis is an analysis process of recommending foods by using collected data and its procedure is as follows.

Algorithm 3.3 Data Filtering

```
input : tweet data
output : cleaned Noun-data
Begin
    reading tweets data // data in which stopwords are removed
    save rdata -> txt file encoding UTF-8
    load useSejongDic() // Additional pre-construct of taste
                        // adjectives
    insert into useSejongDic() value new taste-adjective
    twitter data filtering using on useSejongDic() //noun extraction
End
```

Figure 3-4. Sata Filtering

Below [Fig 3-5] shows a clustering process by using k-means algorithm utilizing cleaned noun-data that is finally generated through removal of stopwords from source (raw) tweet, taste adjective scoring, DB and Sejong Dictionary.

Algorithm 3.4 k-means clustering

```
input : cleaned Noun-data
output : clustering map
Begin
    initialize Z() // initialize the Z of number of k
    while(TRUE) { //
        for (i=1 to N) //  $\infty$  position at the nearest clusters center
            if (old_Z = new_Z) break; // compare with previous cluster center
            for (j=1 to k) //  $Z_j$  replace  $Z_j$ 
        }
End
```

Figure 3-5. k-means Clustering

4. Implementation

4.1. Source (Raw) Data

In this study, Twitter data was collected from January 1 to August 31 by using Twitter API. Contents of importing collected approximately 300,000 raw data to memo screen is as shown on below [Fig. 4-1].

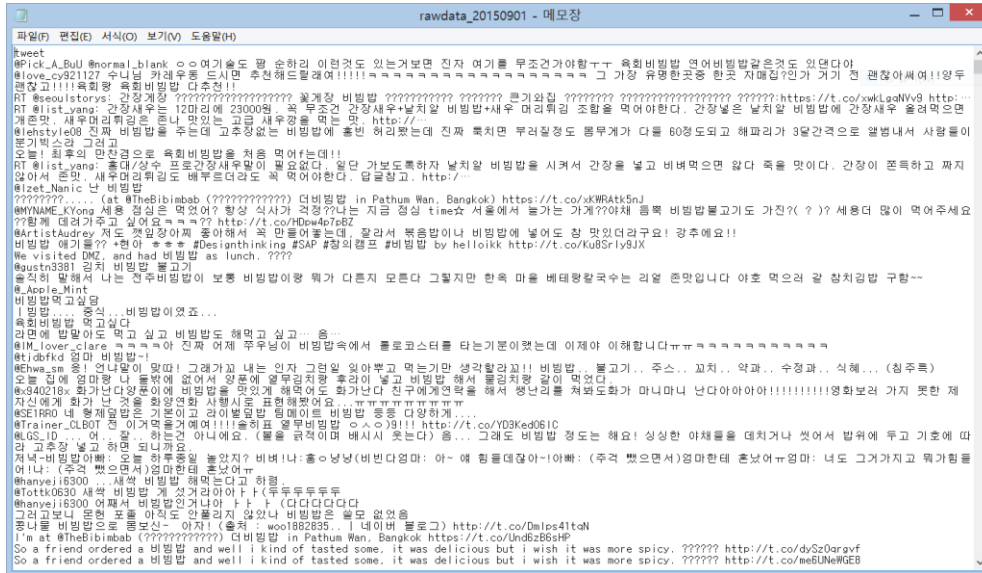


Figure 4-1. Raw Data

Among these approximately 300,000 tweets, 45076 cases of significant tweets were extracted after primarily removing insignificant tweets having nothing to do with taste adjectives and tweets that do not include taste adjectives. Afterwards, in order to ensure data simplicity and statistic processing, tweets that repeated the tweet of same content for more than 2 times and posted same contents of same person for more than 2 times were removed. In this study where repeated tweets were removed, number of valid tweets was reduced to 21038 cases.

4.2. Morphologic Element Analysis

Morphologic analysis for raw data was processed by utilizing the KoNLP package of R. As taste-related adjectives in addition to proper nouns were not included in Sejong Dictionary included in KoNLP [42], only the root of taste adjectives and words were extracted after adding the scored taste adjective table separately. Below [Fig. 4-2] randomly shows 500 words for the data after extracting only root of taste adjective and word.

[1]	"이름"	"기름"	"이름"	"것도"	"있는거"	"보면"	"자"	"머기"
[9]	"음료"	"음료"	"이름"	"것"	"있어"	"유니폼"	"카네"	"우물"
[17]	"전원"	"음료"	"친구"	"친구"	"함은"	"자택"	"기"	"기"
[25]	"연습"	"연습이비어"	"양주"	"음료"	"음료"	"다들"	"친"	"간"
[33]	"연습"	"연습이비어"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[41]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[49]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[57]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[65]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[73]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[81]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[89]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[97]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[105]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[113]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[121]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[129]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[137]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[145]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[153]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[161]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[169]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[177]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[185]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[193]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[201]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[209]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[217]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[225]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[233]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[241]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[249]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[257]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[265]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[273]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[281]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[289]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[297]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[305]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"
[313]	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"	"음료"

Figure 4-6. Extraction of Word Root

Twitter data having taste adjectives was filtered from root of extracted taste adjectives and words by using the taste adjective scoring table. Approximately 21038 valid tweets data in which tweets doubled for more than 2 times or tweets comprising only insignificant stopwords were removed from total 45076 data were filtered after stopword processing and morphologic analysis. Among these, top ranking words having highest frequency are as shown on below [Fig. 4-3].

data_table	비빔밥	전주	음식	칼국수	짜개	국수
2571	2206	1593	1464	1338	1206	
갈비	오늘	볶음	한옥	김치짜개	마을	
1189	1067	1042	1037	1027	1014	
설렁탕	생각	생각	불고기	맛집	진짜	
937	781	779	663	576	538	
저녁	김치	점심	근대	육회	얼마	
491	472	379	346	327	325	
네이버	이벤트	전골	블로그	사람	우리	
302	300	299	293	287	285	
요리	불고기버거세트	아침	올해	시간	라면	
282	261	258	256	255	253	
고기	국물	참치	하나라	치킨	하계	
241	236	235	235	234	234	
어제	여행	체육복	국밥	보고	친구	
230	212	210	204	204	202	
치즈	최고	우동	해서	인상	선물	
196	195	193	191	190	189	
식당	호칭	가지	홍나물국	멸치	양념	
183	183	182	182	180	180	
추천	거기	언니	메뉴	희망선물	힌트	
180	179	179	177	176	176	
그릇	삼겹살	캐릭터	주년	이거	훔쳐	
174	173	173	171	169	169	
원	고추장	계란	들이	먹방	명에게	
165	164	163	163	163	163	
국전	삼성화재	사람	오징어	그거	사실	
162	161	160	159	158	158	
김밥	돌칼베	사진	만두	박근혜	수제	
156	155	155	154	153	152	
아재	역사교과서	볶음밥	반찬	콩나물	곱창	
152	152	150	149	149	146	
생선	비판	아빠	바지락			
143	142	141	140			

Figure 4-3. 100 Words Having High Frequency Ranking

By using words having a frequency of 2 times among taste adjectives and words in 21038 tweets, a wordcloud was comprised. Below [Fig. 4-4] shows wordcloud composition through R. Bibimbap was most frequently mentioned and Jeonju, food, Kalguksoo (handmade noodle soup) and Korean stew were also mentioned occasionally.

Preception map of food(6 menus) taste

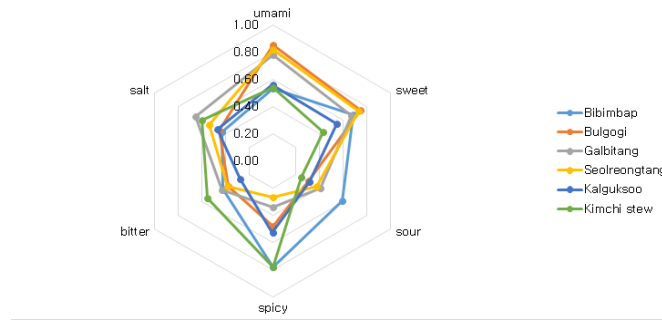


Figure 4-5. Perception Map of Food (6 Menus) Taste

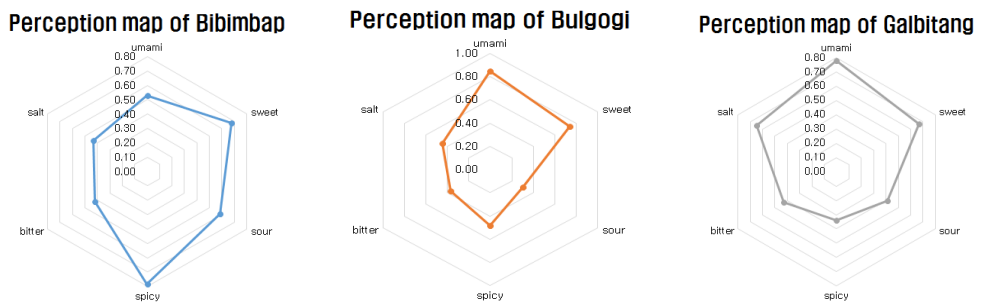


Figure 4-6. Perception Map of Popular Korean 3 Menu

Taste adjective clustering diagram is as shown on [Fig. 4-12]. Considering taste adjectives of 6 classifications including 5 tastes and spicy taste, the number of initial clustering was defined as 6. By limited taste adjectives, clustering distribution shows lineal shape. It is required to be analyzed through more augmented taste adjective and tweet data

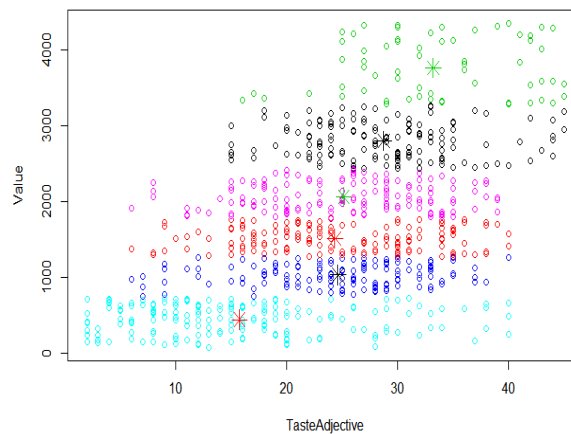


Figure 4-6. Taste Adjective Clustering Perception Map

5. Conclusion

As the advanced countries are doing their effort of globalizing their own food earlier as a part of globalizing their cultures, American hamburger, Japanese sushi, Chinese dimsum, Italian pasta and pizza, French tart and wine, Swiss fondue, Indian curry, Vietnamese rice noodle, Turkish kebab, and U.K.'s fish and chips have now become global foods.

In this study, the following procedure was performed by starting a research based on ideas that globalize Korean traditional food, what is the most favorite food of Koreans, why such food became food preferred by Koreans, why foreigners still hesitate to prefer this food and sensibility of feeling taste differs by each country and age.

In order to sort out taste adjectives expressing taste first, taste adjective words being utilized at present were extracted and sorted out again through sensory evaluation and then taste-adjective table was composed by scoring sorted taste adjectives through correlation, multi-variate analysis and rough set fit for 5 tastes.

In order to select Korean typical foods, data was collected by utilizing tweeter Twitter among social networks and tweets belonged to the taste-adjective table were sorted out through morphologic analysis and table mapping. and then Bibimbap among Korean style food having high ranking frequency, Bibimbap was selected, and in particular, with Yukhoi-Bibimbap in particular as the higher preferred among various Bibimbap being sorted out by k-means algorithm and recommended.

In addition, by showing a perception map for 5 tastes in order to measure the taste intensity of Yukhoi-Bibimbap, the taste sensibility of Yukhoi-Bibimbap that is typical Korean food could be obtained.

Contribution of this study is to score Korean taste-adjectives for the first time and suggest algorithms through which typical Korean food could be recommended by using scored taste-adjectives and provide a foundation for utilizing this algorithm.

Future research task is to suggest tastes and recipes that may globalize Korean food through preparing a taste-sensibility map of each city and province, and the taste map of foreigners by broadly implementing regionally collected Twitter data to nationwide level.

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