



University of New Haven

TAGLIATELA COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Electrical & Computer Engineering and Computer Science

Electrical & Computer Engineering & Computer Science (ECECS)

TECHNICAL REPORT WEATHER ANALYTICS DASHBOARD



SEMESTER 2

CONTENTS

Weather Analytics Dashboard2

Executive Summary2

Technical Report.....3

Abstract4

Methodology4

Results Section5

Discussion.....7

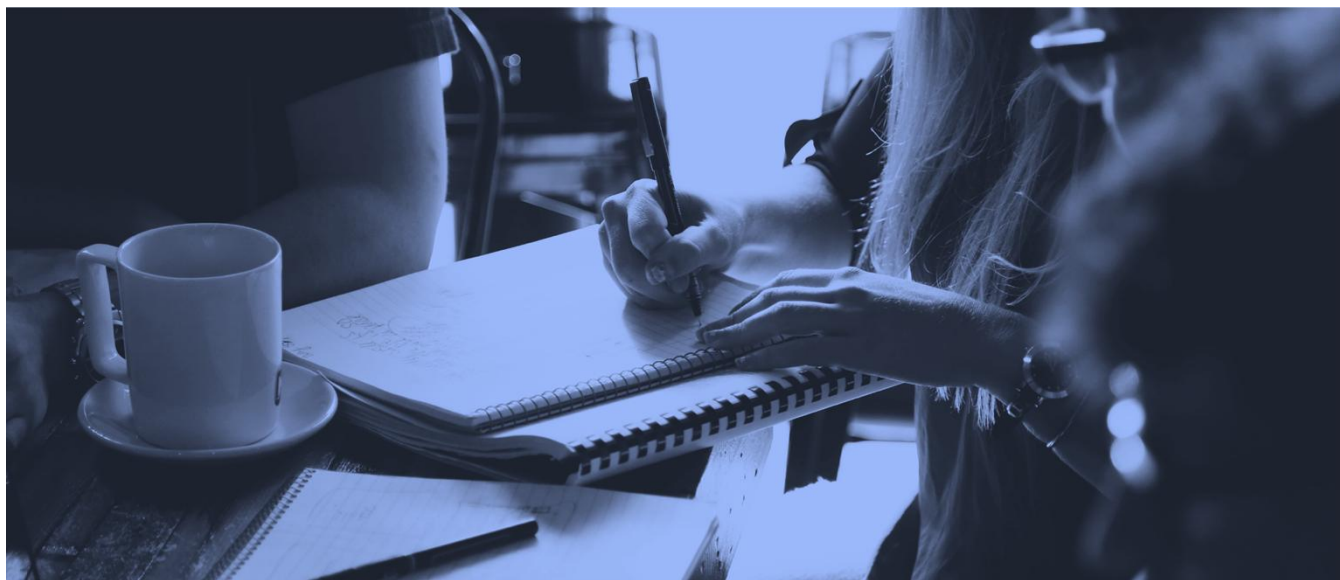
Conclusion8

Contributions/References.....9

Weather Analytics Dashboard

Executive Summary

This project presents an end-to-end **Weather Analytics Dashboard Pipeline** using the data from the **Open-Meteo API** and processing it through AWS services. Our primary aim was to create a scalable and automated data engineering solution that renders insights for multiple cities in the U.S in both daily and hourly granularity.



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Technical Report

Weather Analytics Dashboard

Highlights of Project

Problem: Weather Data is critical for planning in the fields of logistics, public safety and so on. But accessing data in a structured and analysis-ready format is a challenge.

Objective: Create a robust pipeline that automates the ETL process (using AWS services) and visualize it in a user-friendly dashboard.

Impact: This project shows how data from an external source like an API can be transformed into a powerful analytics tool with the help of cloud infrastructure.



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Abstract

This project is a weather analytics dashboard powered by a scalable data pipeline built by utilizing Amazon Web Services. The pipeline retrieves weather data daily from the Open-Meteo API, processes it using AWS Glue ETL, and stores the raw data in Amazon S3. AWS Glue Crawler is used for schema detection and AWS Glue Catalog is used to store and organize this data, while Athena allows us to query our data. The resulting data is visualized in a Power BI, showing the user key weather metrics such as temperature, precipitation, UV index, and diurnal patterns across major cities in the United States. The pipeline is updated daily with weather trends from the previous day, giving the user real time insights to enhance routing and risk mitigation strategies in logistics operations. Our project shows how cloud computing can deliver meaningful, timely, and actionable weather data.

Methodology

Our project followed the CRISP-DM methodology to develop a weather analytics dashboard specifically tailored for logistics companies. The steps included business understanding, data understanding, data preparation, modeling, and evaluation, all integrated within a serverless cloud-based architecture on AWS.

Business Understanding

The primary objective of our project was to provide logistics companies with weather insights that assist decision-making regarding routing, delivery scheduling, and risk mitigation. The solution aimed to streamline weather data collection, processing, and visualization using a scalable and cost-effective pipeline.

Results Section

Data Understanding

The data was sourced from the Open-Meteo API, a free source of historical weather data. We selected variables such as temperature (min, max, and hourly averages), precipitation, UV index, cloud cover, and day/night status, because of their relevancy to logistics planning.

Data Preparation

A daily ETL process was implemented using AWS Glue, which extracted weather data for several major U.S. cities through API calls. The raw JSON responses were cleaned and transformed into structured tabular formats, and the transformed data was stored in Amazon S3 and crawled using AWS Glue Crawlers, which inferred schema definitions and registered metadata into the AWS Glue Data Catalog for easy access.

Modeling

Although no predictive modeling was conducted, a data modeling layer was introduced using Amazon Athena to write SQL queries on top of the prepared datasets. These queries supported metric aggregation, temporal filtering, and city-level comparisons, serving as the foundation for the dashboard's visual analytics.

Evaluation

The final dashboard was developed in Power BI, linked via an Athena ODBC connection to ensure dynamic, query-driven data refresh. The visual interface allows logistics companies to track weather conditions across time and location, evaluate potential disruptions, and make more resilient scheduling decisions. The daily automation and modular design allow scalability to more cities and additional weather variables as needed.

Data Engineering Pipeline Overview

The project implemented a fully automated data pipeline based on a serverless architecture using AWS services. The schema was designed to capture both daily and hourly weather metrics across multiple cities, organized as follows:

- Date (primary key for daily data)
- Timestamp (for hourly resolution)
- City Name
- Latitude / Longitude
- Temperature (Min/Max/Average)
- Precipitation
- Cloud Cover
- UV Index
- Is Daytime (Boolean)

Data Ingestion

Weather data was ingested using scheduled API calls to the Open-Meteo API, which returned JSON-formatted weather records for multiple U.S. cities. The ingestion script was embedded within an AWS Glue ETL job, allowing us to use recurring automated fetches.

Data Storage

Raw data was stored in Amazon S3, with folder paths structured by city and date for logical organization and easy querying. The storage layer was optimized for scalability and low-latency access via Athena.

Data Processing

The ETL script in AWS Glue cleaned and transformed the JSON responses into structured tabular data. AWS Glue Crawlers automatically inferred schema and populated the AWS Glue Data Catalog, making the datasets accessible through Amazon Athena.

Data Consumption

The processed data was queried using Athena and connected to Power BI via ODBC. This allowed for flexible consumption of the data and slicing/filtering based on user specific needs.

Model Deployment

While the project did not involve machine learning models, the pipeline itself was deployed to run daily on schedule, forming a production-ready data infrastructure. This environment supports continuous data updates without manual intervention and could be easily extended to support forecasting models in future iterations.

Data Visualization

Key insights were delivered through a series of interactive Power BI dashboards:

- Line graphs showing hourly temperature fluctuations by city as well as average cloud cover.
- Stacked area charts representing average temperature every hour
- Bar charts comparing precipitation levels across cities
- Slicers and filters enabling selection by city and day or night

Each visualization was built with interactivity in mind to support data-driven decision-making for logistics professionals.

Deployment

The final dashboard was published in Power BI Service, with visualization updates which are aligned with the pipeline's daily data update. Users can access the dashboard through a secure URL and interact with real-time weather intelligence relevant to their operations.

Discussion

The result from our weather analytics dashboard helps us answer an important question:

Can we build a system that's fast, affordable and able to handle large amounts of weather data to give us useful insights?

Our answer is **Yes** – and we're getting here.

We used Aws services including AWS Glue, AWS S3, AWS Athena and then connected Power Bi to Athena.

Our main discussion point was that what makes this setup powerful isn't just the tools we used, but how well they work together. This system is cost effective, scalable and mostly automated, which solves many problems that usually come with traditional weather analysis system.

The major issue is data quality. If the data coming in is missing or late, it can mess up the results and the charts we show. This means we need better checks on the data as it comes in and possibly faster ways to collect it.

Even with these limits, this project shows real progress. We've built a solid base using cloud tools to turn raw weather data into something useful. In the future, we could improve it by adding machine learning (using tools like Amazon SageMaker) to predict weather or using real-time streaming (with AWS Kinesis) to make updates faster.

Conclusion

This project shows that we can build a weather analytics system that is easy to use, low-cost, and can grow with more data, by using cloud tools like Amazon S3, AWS Glue, Athena, and Power BI. In the past, this kind of system needed a lot of setup and manual work, but now it can be done automatically using serverless technology. This makes it much easier and faster to analyze weather data.

Our dashboard takes complex weather information and turns it into simple charts and visuals, so people can easily see patterns and make smart decisions. It shows how today's cloud tools are fast, flexible, affordable, and mostly automatic. This project gives a clear example of how future weather systems can be built using these modern tools.

Contributions/References

<https://open-meteo.com/>

<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/athena/>

<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/glue/>

<https://excalidraw.com/>