

FLIGHT DELAY PREDICTION USING MACHINE LEARNING

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1. INTRODUCTION

OVERVIEW

Air travel is an essential mode of transportation for millions of people worldwide, and flight delays can cause significant inconvenience and economic loss. In this project, we aim to develop a machine learning model to predict flight delays accurately. We collected data on flight schedules and delays for a major airline over a period of two years and preprocessed the data to extract relevant features. We trained several machine learning models, including decision trees, random forest using cross-validation to tune hyper parameters and evaluate performance. The most important features for predicting delays were the scheduled departure time, the airline, and the origin airport. Our results demonstrate the feasibility of using machine learning to predict flight delays and provide insights into the factors that contribute to delay. Our model could be used by airlines and passengers to better plan their travel and mitigate the impact of delays

PURPOSE

The purpose of a flight delay prediction using machine learning project is to develop a model that can accurately predict the likelihood of a flight being delayed based on various factors. Flight delays can cause a lot inconvenience and frustration for passengers, as well as significant costs for airlines and airports. By predicting the likelihood of a flight being delayed, airlines and airports can take proactive measures to minimize the impact of the delay on passengers, such as rebooking them on alternative flights or providing them with accommodation or meal vouchers.

2. PROBLEM DEFINITION & DESIGN THINKING

EMPATHY MAP

The screenshot shows the 'Empathy map' template in a design tool. The template is divided into several sections:

- Header:** 'Empathy map' with a subtitle 'Use this framework to develop a deep, shared understanding and empathy for other people. An empathy map helps describe the aspects of a user's experience, needs and pain points, to quickly understand your users' experience and mindset.'
- Steps:**
 - Step 1:** 'What are their goals?' (What are their needs?)
 - Step 2:** 'What are their fears?' (What are their fears?)
 - Step 3:** 'What are their thoughts?' (What are their thoughts?)
 - Step 4:** 'What are their feelings?' (What are their feelings?)
- Footer:** 'Activate Windows. Go to Settings to activate Windows.'

The template includes a central area for notes and a sidebar with icons for different types of content (text, images, etc.).

IDEATION & BRAINSTORMING MAP

The screenshot shows the 'Ideation & Brainstorming Map' template in a design tool. The template is divided into several sections:

- Header:** 'Ideation & Brainstorming Map' with a subtitle 'Use this template to brainstorm ideas and prioritize them for implementation.'
- Steps:**
 - Step 1:** 'Define your problem statement' (What is the problem you are trying to solve?)
 - Step 2:** 'Brainstorm' (Generate ideas for solving the problem.)
 - Step 3:** 'Group ideas' (Organize ideas into categories.)
 - Step 4:** 'Prioritize' (Rank ideas based on their potential impact and feasibility.)
- Footer:** 'Activate Windows. Go to Settings to activate Windows.'

The template includes a central area for notes and a sidebar with icons for different types of content (text, images, etc.).

3. RESULT

flightdelay

127.0.0.1:8080/ass?

Name: 123

Month: 2

Day of Month: 2

Day of Week: 3

Origin: JFK

Destination: MSP

Arrival Time: 4567

Departure Time: 5778

Actual departure time: 5678

Submit

Type here to search

32°C

ENG

10-20

11-04-2023

delay

127.0.0.1:8080/prediction

Gmail YouTube Maps

The flight will be delayed

Activate Windows
Go to Settings to activate Windows.



flightdelay x +

127.0.0.1:8080/ass?

Gmail YouTube Maps

Name: 123

Month: 2

Day of Month: 2

Day of Week: 3

Origin: JFK

Destination: MSP

Arrival Time: 4567

Departure Time: 5578

Actual departure time: 5678

Submit

Windows
Go to Settings to activate Windows.

Type here to search

delay x +

127.0.0.1:8080/prediction

Gmail YouTube Maps

The flight will be on time

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ENG IN

10:19
11-04-2023

22:24
10-04-2023

4. ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES

ADVANTAGES

Improved customer experience: By predicting flight delays, airlines can inform their customers in advance, allowing them to plan their travel accordingly, reducing the inconvenience caused by unexpected delays.

Better resource management: Airlines can optimize their resources such as personnel and equipment, reducing wastage and increasing efficiency.

Cost reduction: By reducing delays and better resource management, airlines can save costs in terms of fuel consumption, employee overtime, and other operational expenses.

Improved safety: By predicting flight delays, airlines can take preventive measures to avoid potential risks, increasing the safety of their operations.

DISADVANTAGES

Data availability: Flight delay prediction projects require large amounts of data, including weather conditions, flight schedules, and historical data. Obtaining and processing this data can be time-consuming and expensive.

Accuracy: Predicting flight delays is challenging, and inaccuracies can cause significant disruptions. A false prediction can lead to unnecessary costs and inconvenience for passengers and airlines.

5. APPLICATIONS

Improving customer experience: By predicting flight delays, airlines can inform passengers in advance and provide alternative flight options or accommodations. This can help to reduce the inconvenience and frustration caused by delays and cancellations, and improve customer satisfaction.

Operational Efficiency: Airlines can use flight delay predictions to optimize their operations and resource allocation, such as crew scheduling, gate assignments, and maintenance schedules. This can lead to better resource utilization and cost savings.

Cost reduction: By predicting flight delays, airlines can reduce costs associated with delayed and canceled flights, such as compensation for passengers, overtime pay for employees, and additional fuel costs.

6. CONCLUSION

Machine learning algorithms can be effective in predicting flight delays: By using historical data on flight schedules, weather conditions, and other factors, machine learning models can be trained to accurately predict the likelihood of a flight being delayed.

The accuracy of predictions can be improved by using more data: The more data that is available to the machine learning model, the more accurate its predictions are likely to be. This could include data on past flight delays, weather patterns, air traffic congestion, and other relevant factors.

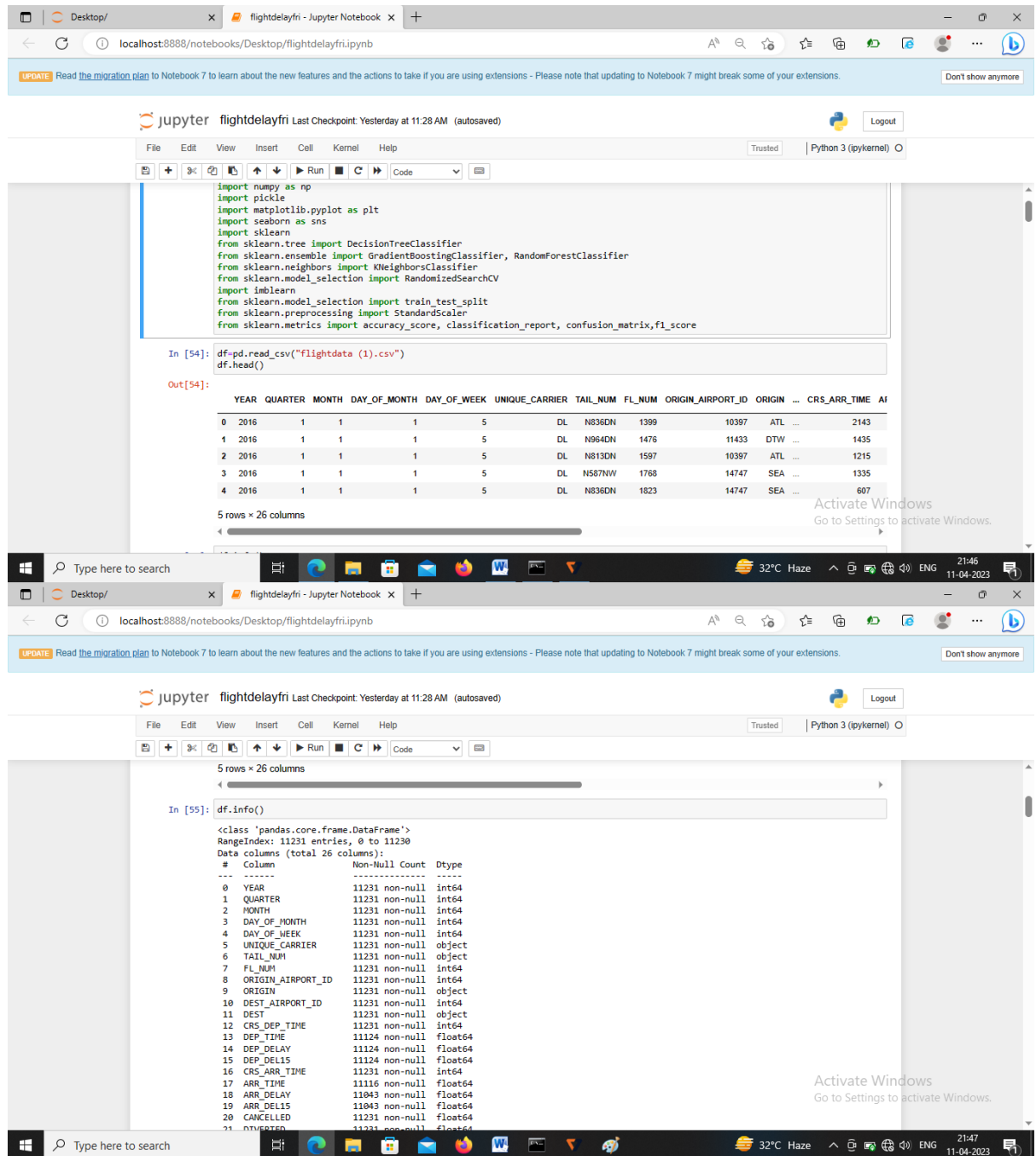
Overall, a flight delay prediction project using machine learning has the potential to provide valuable insights into the factors that contribute to flight delays, and can help airlines and travellers make more informed decisions about travel plans. However, it is important to recognize the limitations of the models and understand that they cannot predict with complete accuracy.

7. FUTURE SCOPE

Improving accuracy: One of the main challenges in flight delay prediction is achieving high accuracy. In the future, machine learning models can be further refined to produce even more accurate predictions. This could involve the use of new algorithms or the incorporation of additional data sources.

Real- time prediction: Currently, most flight delay prediction models operate on a schedule based system, which means they predict delays based on historical data. In the future, models could be developed that can make real-time predictions based on current weather conditions, airport congestion, and other factors.

8. APPENDIX



UPDATE: Read the [migration plan](#) to Notebook 7 to learn about the new features and the actions to take if you are using extensions - Please note that updating to Notebook 7 might break some of your extensions. Don't show anymore

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```
import numpy as np
import pickle
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import seaborn as sns
import sklearn
from sklearn.tree import DecisionTreeClassifier
from sklearn.ensemble import GradientBoostingClassifier, RandomForestClassifier
from sklearn.neighbors import KNeighborsClassifier
from sklearn.model_selection import RandomizedSearchCV
import imblearn
from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
from sklearn.preprocessing import StandardScaler
from sklearn.metrics import accuracy_score, classification_report, confusion_matrix, f1_score
```

In [54]: `df=pd.read_csv("flightdata (1).csv")`
`df.head()`

Out[54]:

	YEAR	QUARTER	MONTH	DAY_OF_MONTH	DAY_OF_WEEK	UNIQUE_CARRIER	TAIL_NUM	FL_NUM	ORIGIN_AIRPORT_ID	ORIGIN	CRS_ARR_TIME	ARR_TIME
0	2016	1	1	1	5	DL	N836DN	1399	10397	ATL	...	2143
1	2016	1	1	1	5	DL	N964DN	1476	11433	DTW	...	1435
2	2016	1	1	1	5	DL	N813DN	1597	10397	ATL	...	1215
3	2016	1	1	1	5	DL	N587NW	1768	14747	SEA	...	1335
4	2016	1	1	1	5	DL	N836DN	1823	14747	SEA	...	607

5 rows x 26 columns

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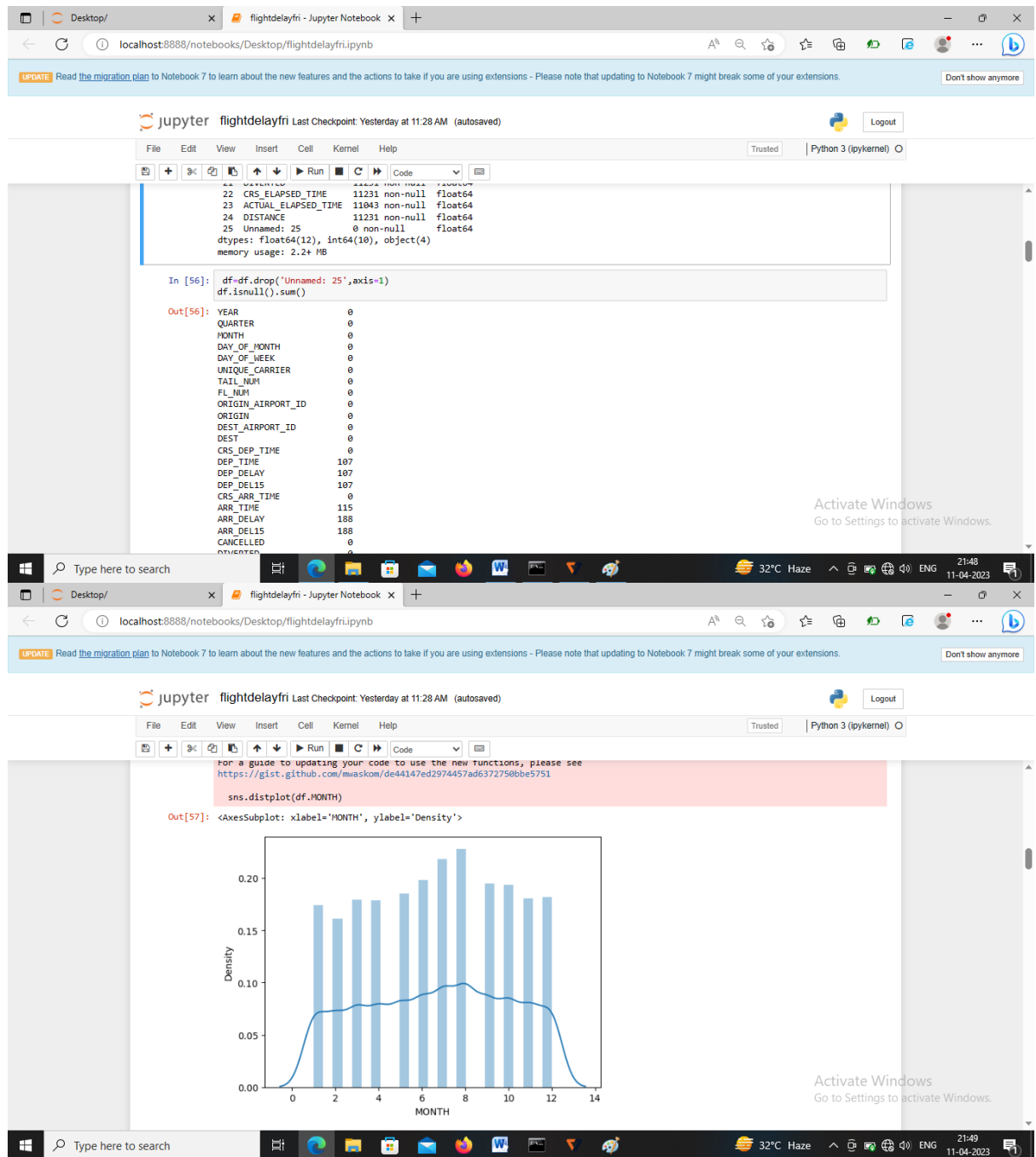
5 rows x 26 columns

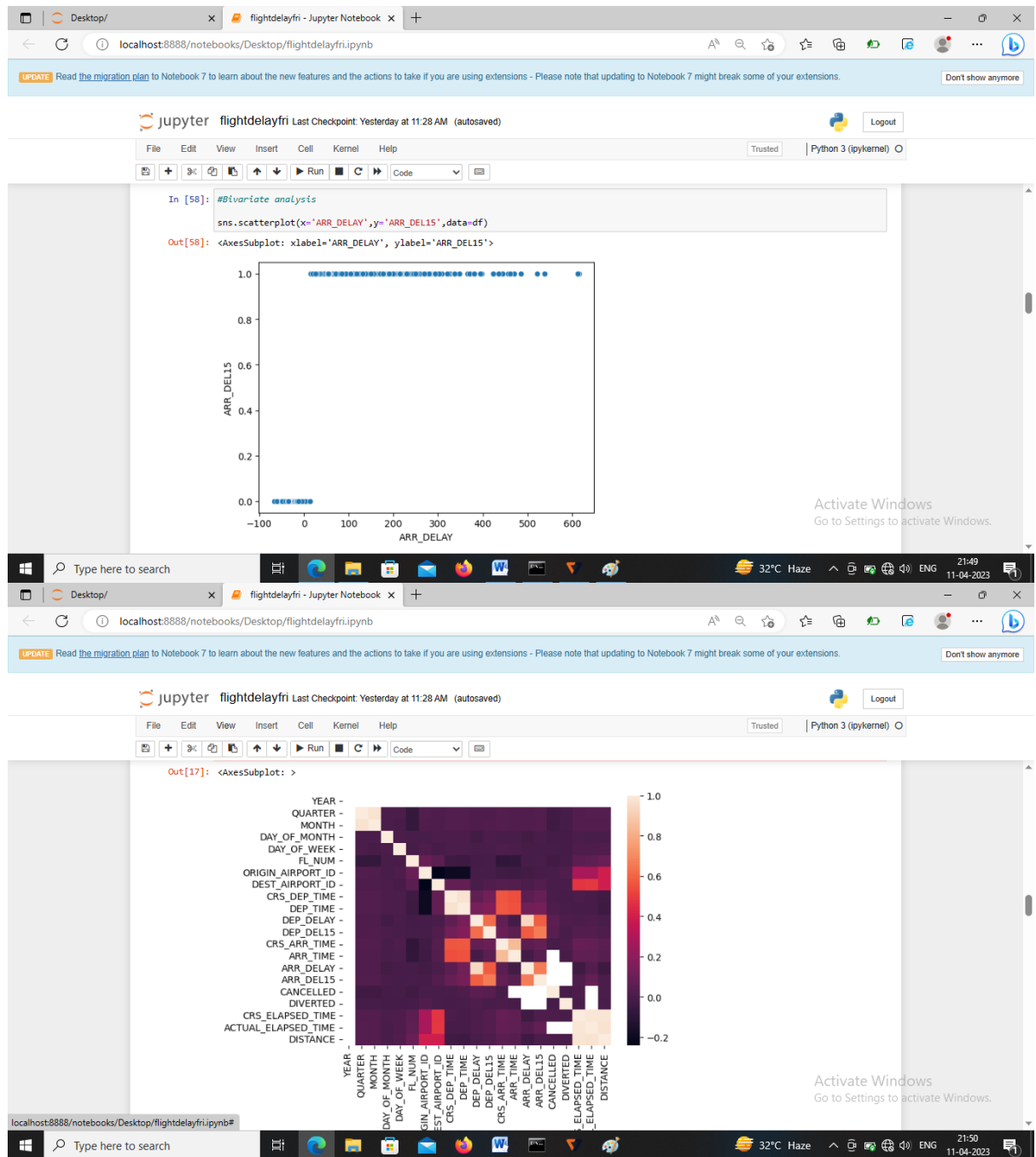
In [55]: `df.info()`

```
<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
RangeIndex: 11231 entries, 0 to 11230
Data columns (total 26 columns):
#   Column                Non-Null Count  Dtype
---  -
0   YEAR                  11231 non-null  int64
1   QUARTER               11231 non-null  int64
2   MONTH                11231 non-null  int64
3   DAY_OF_MONTH         11231 non-null  int64
4   DAY_OF_WEEK          11231 non-null  int64
5   UNIQUE_CARRIER      11231 non-null  object
6   TAIL_NUM             11231 non-null  object
7   FL_NUM              11231 non-null  int64
8   ORIGIN_AIRPORT_ID    11231 non-null  int64
9   ORIGIN               11231 non-null  object
10  DEST_AIRPORT_ID      11231 non-null  int64
11  DEST                11231 non-null  object
12  CRS_DEP_TIME         11231 non-null  int64
13  DEP_TIME            11124 non-null  float64
14  DEP_DELAY           11124 non-null  float64
15  DEP_DELAY15         11124 non-null  float64
16  CRS_ARR_TIME         11231 non-null  int64
17  ARR_TIME            11116 non-null  float64
18  ARR_DELAY           11043 non-null  float64
19  ARR_DELAY15         11043 non-null  float64
20  CANCELLED            11231 non-null  float64
21  CANCELLED15         11231 non-null  float64
```

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In [63]:

```
#handling categorical values
import math
for index,row in df.iterrows():
    # if isinstance(row["ARR_TIME"], (int, float)):
    df.loc[index,"CRS_ARR_TIME"]=math.floor(row["CRS_ARR_TIME"]/100)
df.head()
```

Out[63]:

	FL_NUM	MONTH	DAY_OF_MONTH	DAY_OF_WEEK	ORIGIN	DEST	CRS_ARR_TIME	DEP_DEL15	ARR_DEL15
0	1399	1	1	5	ATL	SEA	21	0.0	0.0
1	1476	1	1	5	DTW	MSP	14	0.0	0.0
2	1597	1	1	5	ATL	SEA	12	0.0	0.0
3	1768	1	1	5	SEA	MSP	13	0.0	0.0
4	1823	1	1	5	SEA	DTW	6	0.0	0.0

In [64]:

```
from sklearn.preprocessing import LabelEncoder
le=LabelEncoder()
# Create a new column with the original DEST values
df["DEST"] = df[["DEST_SEA", "DEST_ATL", "DEST_DTW", "DEST_JFK", "DEST_MSP"]].idxmax(axis=1).str.replace('DEST_', '')
# Apply LabelEncoder to the DEST column
df["DEST"] = le.fit_transform(df["DEST"])
df["ORIGIN"] = df[["ORIGIN_SEA", "ORIGIN_ATL", "ORIGIN_DTW", "ORIGIN_JFK", "ORIGIN_MSP"]].idxmax(axis=1).str.replace('ORIGIN_', '')
# Apply LabelEncoder to the ORIGIN column
df["ORIGIN"] = le.fit_transform(df["ORIGIN"])
df = df.drop(columns=["DEST_ATL", "DEST_DTW", "DEST_JFK", "DEST_MSP"])
df = df.drop(columns=["ORIGIN_ATL", "ORIGIN_DTW", "ORIGIN_JFK", "ORIGIN_MSP"])
```

df.head(5)

Out[64]:

	FL_NUM	MONTH	DAY_OF_MONTH	DAY_OF_WEEK	ORIGIN	DEST	CRS_ARR_TIME	DEP_DEL15	ARR_DEL15
0	1399	1	1	5	0	4	21	0.0	0.0
1	1476	1	1	5	1	3	14	0.0	0.0
2	1597	1	1	5	0	4	12	0.0	0.0
3	1768	1	1	5	4	3	13	0.0	0.0
4	1823	1	1	5	4	1	6	0.0	0.0

In [65]:

```
x=df.iloc[:,0:8].values #x=df.iloc[:,0:8].values
y=df.iloc[:,8:9].values
x.shape
```

Out[65]: (11231, 8)

In [66]:

```
y
```

Out[66]: array([[0.],
[0.],
[0.],
...,
[0.],
[0.],
[0.]])

In [67]:

```
from sklearn.preprocessing import OneHotEncoder
```

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df.head(5)

```
Out[64]:
```

	FL_NUM	MONTH	DAY_OF_MONTH	DAY_OF_WEEK	ORIGIN	DEST	CRS_ARR_TIME	DEP_DEL15	ARR_DEL15
0	1399	1	1	5	0	4	21	0.0	0.0
1	1476	1	1	5	1	3	14	0.0	0.0
2	1597	1	1	5	0	4	12	0.0	0.0
3	1768	1	1	5	4	3	13	0.0	0.0
4	1823	1	1	5	4	1	6	0.0	0.0

```
In [65]: x=df.iloc[:,0:8].values #x=df.iloc[:,0:8].values
y=df.iloc[:,8:9].values
x.shape
```

```
Out[65]: (11231, 8)
```

```
In [66]: y
```

```
Out[66]: array([[0.],
               [0.],
               [0.],
               ...,
               [0.],
               [0.],
               [0.]])
```

```
In [67]: from sklearn.preprocessing import OneHotEncoder
```

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```
In [69]: t
```

```
Out[69]: array([[0., 0., 0., 0., 1.],
               [0., 0., 0., 1., 0.],
               [0., 0., 0., 0., 1.],
               ...,
               [0., 0., 0., 0., 1.],
               [0., 0., 0., 0., 1.],
               [0., 1., 0., 0., 0.]])
```

```
In [70]: x=np.delete(x,[4,5],axis=1) #here your chance dummy
x.shape
```

```
Out[70]: (11231, 6)
```

```
In [71]: x=np.concatenate((t,z,x),axis=1)
x.shape
```

```
Out[71]: (11231, 16)
```

```
In [72]: df=pd.get_dummies(df,columns=['ORIGIN','DEST'])
df.head()
```

```
Out[72]:
```

	FL_NUM	MONTH	DAY_OF_MONTH	DAY_OF_WEEK	CRS_ARR_TIME	DEP_DEL15	ARR_DEL15	ORIGIN_0	ORIGIN_1	ORIGIN_2	ORIGIN_3	ORIGIN_4	DEST
0	1399	1	1	5	21	0.0	0.0	1	0	0	0	0	0
1	1476	1	1	5	14	0.0	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	0

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```
In [72]: df = pd.get_dummies(df, columns=['ORIGIN_0', 'ORIGIN_1', 'ORIGIN_2', 'ORIGIN_3', 'ORIGIN_4'])
df.head()
```

Out[72]:

	FL_NUM	MONTH	DAY_OF_MONTH	DAY_OF_WEEK	CRS_ARR_TIME	DEP_DEL15	ARR_DEL15	ORIGIN_0	ORIGIN_1	ORIGIN_2	ORIGIN_3	ORIGIN_4	DEST
0	1399	1	1	5	21	0.0	0.0	1	0	0	0	0	0
1	1476	1	1	5	14	0.0	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	0
2	1597	1	1	5	12	0.0	0.0	1	0	0	0	0	0
3	1768	1	1	5	13	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	1
4	1823	1	1	5	6	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	1

In [73]: y=df.iloc[:,5:6].values

In [33]: #Exploratory Data Analysis
df.describe()

In [74]: #splitting data
from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
x_train,x_test,y_train,y_test=train_test_split(x,y,test_size=0.2,random_state=0)

In [75]: x_train.shape
Out[75]: (8984, 16)

In [76]: x_test.shape
Out[76]: (2247, 16)

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```
In [72]: df = pd.get_dummies(df, columns=['ORIGIN_0', 'ORIGIN_1', 'ORIGIN_2', 'ORIGIN_3', 'ORIGIN_4'])
df.head()
```

Out[72]:

	FL_NUM	MONTH	DAY_OF_MONTH	DAY_OF_WEEK	CRS_ARR_TIME	DEP_DEL15	ARR_DEL15	ORIGIN_0	ORIGIN_1	ORIGIN_2	ORIGIN_3	ORIGIN_4	DEST
0	1399	1	1	5	21	0.0	0.0	1	0	0	0	0	0
1	1476	1	1	5	14	0.0	0.0	0	1	0	0	0	0
2	1597	1	1	5	12	0.0	0.0	1	0	0	0	0	0
3	1768	1	1	5	13	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	1
4	1823	1	1	5	6	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	1

In [73]: y=df.iloc[:,5:6].values

In [33]: #Exploratory Data Analysis
df.describe()

In [74]: #splitting data
from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
x_train,x_test,y_train,y_test=train_test_split(x,y,test_size=0.2,random_state=0)

In [75]: x_train.shape
Out[75]: (8984, 16)

In [76]: x_test.shape
Out[76]: (2247, 16)

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```

In [1]: from imblearn.over_sampling import SMOTE
smote=SMOTE()

In [81]: x_train_smote,y_train_smote=smote.fit_resample(x_train,y_train)

In [82]: from sklearn.tree import DecisionTreeClassifier
classifier=DecisionTreeClassifier(random_state=0)
classifier.fit(x_train,y_train)

Out[82]: DecisionTreeClassifier
DecisionTreeClassifier(random_state=0)

In [83]: decisiontree=classifier.predict(x_test)

In [84]: decisiontree

Out[84]: array([0., 0., 0., ..., 0., 0., 1.])

In [86]: from sklearn.metrics import accuracy_score
desacc=accuracy_score(y_test,decisiontree)

In [87]: desacc

Out[87]: 1.0

```

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```

In [88]: from sklearn.metrics import confusion_matrix
cm=confusion_matrix(y_test,decisiontree)

In [89]: cm

Out[89]: array([[1938,  0],
               [  0, 309]], dtype=int64)

In [90]: import pickle
pickle.dump(classifier,open("flightdel1.pkl","wb"))

In [91]: print(df.columns)

Index(['FL_NUM', 'MONTH', 'DAY_OF_MONTH', 'DAY_OF_WEEK', 'CRS_ARR_TIME',
       'DEP_DEL15', 'ARR_DEL15', 'ORIGIN_0', 'ORIGIN_1', 'ORIGIN_2',
       'ORIGIN_3', 'ORIGIN_4', 'DEST_0', 'DEST_1', 'DEST_2', 'DEST_3',
       'DEST_4'],
      dtype='object')

In [52]: num_cols = x_train.shape[1]
print(num_cols)

16

In [ ]:

In [ ]:

```

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