



# Introduction/Business Problem:

The Seattle government is trying to prevent avoidable car accidents by employing methods that alert drivers, health system, and police to remind them to be more careful in critical situations.

In most cases, by not paying enough attention while driving, using illegal drugs and alcohol or driving at very high speeds are the main causes of occurring accidents that can be prevented by enacting harsher regulations. Other than the aforementioned reasons, weather, visibility, or road conditions are the major uncontrollable factors that can be prevented by revealing hidden patterns in the data and announcing warning to the local government, police and drivers on the targeted roads.

The target audience of the project is local Seattle government, police, rescue groups, and car insurance institutes. The model and its results will be used to provide some advice for the target audience in order to make insightful decisions for reducing the number of accidents and injuries for the city.



### Data:

The data was collected by the Seattle Police Department and Accident Traffic Records Department from 2004 to present.

The data consists of 37 independent variables and 194,673 rows. The dependent variable, "SEVERITYCODE", contains numbers that correspond to different levels of severity caused by an accident from 0 to 4.

Severity codes are as follows:

0: Little to no Probability (Clear Conditions)

1: Very Low Probability — Chance or Property Damage

2: Low Probability — Chance of Injury

3: Mild Probability — Chance of Serious Injury

4: High Probability — Chance of Fatality

Furthermore, because of the existence of null values in some records, the data needs to be preprocessed before any further processing.



# Data Preprocessing:

The dataset in the original form is not ready for data analysis. In order to prepare the data, first, we need to drop the non-relevant columns. In addition, most of the features are of object data types that need to be converted into numerical data types.

After analyzing the data set, I have decided to focus on only four features, severity, weather conditions, road conditions, and light conditions, among others.

To get a good understanding of the dataset, I have checked different values in the features. The results show, the target feature is imbalance, so we use a simple statistical technique to balance it.



# Data Handling:

As you can see, the number of rows in class 1 is almost three times bigger than the number of rows in class 2. It is possible to solve the issue by downsampling the class 1.



# Methodology 1:

For implementing the solution, I have used Github as a repository and running Jupyter Notebook to preprocess data and build Machine Learning models. Regarding coding, I have used Python and its popular packages such as Pandas, NumPy and Sklearn. Once I have load data into Pandas Dataframe, used 'dtypes' attribute to check the feature names and their data types. Then I have selected the most important features to predict the severity of accidents in Seattle. Among all the features, the following features have the most influence in the accuracy of the predictions:

- •"WEATHER",
- •"ROADCOND",
- •"LIGHTCOND"

Also, as I mentioned earlier, "SEVERITYCODE" is the target variable.



### Methodology 2:

I have run a value count on road ('ROADCOND') and weather condition ('WEATHER') to get ideas of the different road and weather conditions. I also have run a value count on light condition ('LIGHTCOND'), to see the breakdowns of accidents occurring during the different light conditions.

The results can be seen in the following pictures:

<pre>1 pre_df["ROADCOND"].value_counts()</pre>				
Dry	124510			
Wet	47474			
Unknown	15078			
Ice	1209			
Snow/Slush	1004			
Other	132			
Standing Water	115			
Sand/Mud/Dirt	75			
Oil	64			
Name: ROADCOND,	dtype: int64			

#### 1 pre df["WEATHER"].value counts() Clear 111135 Raining 33145 Overcast 27714 Unknown 15091 Snowing 907 Other 832 Fog/Smog/Smoke 569 Sleet/Hail/Freezing Rain 113 Blowing Sand/Dirt 56 Severe Crosswind 25 Partly Cloudy Name: WEATHER, dtype: int64

1 pre_df["LIGHTCOND"].va	alue_counts()
Daylight	116137
Dark - Street Lights On	48507
Unknown	13473
Dusk	5902
Dawn	2502
Dark - No Street Lights	1537
Dark - Street Lights Off	1199
Other	235
Dark - Unknown Lighting	11
Name: LIGHTCOND, dtype: in	t64



# Methodology 3:

After balancing SEVERITYCODE feature, and standardizing the input feature, the data has been ready for building machine learning models.

I have employed three machine learning models:

- •K Nearest Neighbour (KNN)
- Decision Tree
- Linear Regression

After importing necessary packages and splitting preprocessed data into test and train sets, for each machine learning model, I have built and evaluated the model and shown the results as shown in the following slides:



### KNN:

#### K Nearest Neighbours

```
from sklearn.neighbors import KNeighborsClassifier
k = 17
knn = KNeighborsClassifier(n_neighbors = k).fit(X_train,y_train)
knn_y_pred = knn.predict(X_test)
knn_y_pred[0:5]
array([2, 2, 1, 1, 2], dtype=int64)
```

#### **KNN** Evaluation

```
1 jaccard_score(y_test, knn_y_pred)
0.3091637411108111

1 f1_score(y_test, knn_y_pred, average='macro')
0.5477714681769319
```



### Decision Tree:

#### **Decision Tree**

```
from sklearn.tree import DecisionTreeClassifier
dt = DecisionTreeClassifier(criterion="entropy", max_depth = 7)

dt.fit(X_train,y_train)

DecisionTreeClassifier(criterion='entropy', max_depth=7)

dt_y_pred = dt.predict(X_test)
```

#### **Decision Tree Evaluation**

```
1 jaccard_score(y_test, dt_y_pred)
0.2873687679487783

1 f1_score(y_test, dt_y_pred, average='macro')
0.5450597937389444
```



# Linear Regression:

#### Linear Regression

```
from sklearn.linear_model import LogisticRegression
from sklearn.metrics import confusion_matrix
lR = LogisticRegression(C=6, solver='liblinear').fit(X_train,y_train)

LR_y_pred = LR.predict(X_test)

LR_y_prob = LR.predict_proba(X_test)

LR_y_prob = LR.predict_proba(X_test)

LR_y_prob = LR.predict_proba(X_test)

0.6849535383198887
```

#### **Linear Regression Evaluation**

```
1 jaccard_score(y_test, LR_y_pred)
2 0.2720073907879108
3 f1_score(y_test, LR_y_pred, average='macro')
4 0.511602093963383
```



### Results and Evaluations:

The final results of the model evaluations are summarized in the following table:

ML Model	Jaccard Score	F1 Score	Accuracy
KNN	0.30	0.55	0.56
Decision Tree	0.28	0.54	0.57
Linear Regression	0.27	0.51	0.53

Based on the above table, KNN is the best model to predict car accident severity.



### Conclusion:

Based on the dataset provided for this capstone from weather, road, and light conditions pointing to certain classes, we can conclude that particular conditions have somewhat an impact on whether or not travel could result in property damage (class 1) or injury (class 2).

