**Capstone Project - Car accident severity (Week 1)**

**1.3 Data Description**

The data contain a record of 36 attributes which ranges from the location of the impact collision, factor before, during and after impact collision. These factors before impact collision include the road, weather, and light condition before the impact. Factors during impact collision include collision type, accident severity description, persons involved, number of vehicle involved, if the driver was under so sort of influence, and factors after collision include the level accident severity whether high or low and impact of collision on its surrounding.

There are a lot of problems with the data set keeping in mind that this is a machine learning project which uses classification to predict a categorical variable. The dataset has total observations of 194673 with variation in number of observations for every feature. First of all, the total dataset was high variation in the lengths of almost every column of the dataset.

The dataset had a lot of empty columns which could have been beneficial had the data been present there. These columns included pedestrian granted way or not, segment lane key, cross walk key and hit parked car.

The data will be cleaned and use build a model to predict the severity of an accident, considering that, the variable of Severity Code was in the form of 1 (Property Damage Only) and 2 (Injury Collision) which were encoded to the form of 0 (Property Damage Only) and 1 (Injury Collision).

Furthermore, the Y was given value of 1 whereas N and no value was given 0 for the variables Inattention, Speeding and Under the influence. For lighting condition, Light was given 0 along with Medium as 1 and Dark as 2. For Road Condition, Dry was assigned 0, Mushy was assigned 1 and Wet was given 2. As for Weather Condition, 0 is Clear, Overcast is 1, Windy is 2 and Rain and Snow was given 3. 0 was assigned to the element of each variable which can be the least probable cause of severe accident whereas a high number represented adverse condition which can lead to a higher accident severity. Whereas, there were unique values for every variable which were either ‘Other’ or ‘Unknown’, deleting those rows entirely would have led to a lot of loss of data which is not preferred.

In order to deal with the issue of columns having a variation in frequency, arrays will be made for each column which were encoded according to the original column and had equal proportion of elements as the original column. Then the arrays will be imposed on the original columns in the positions which had ‘Other’ and ‘Unknown’ in them. This entire process of cleaning data led to a loss of almost 5000 rows which had redundant data, whereas other rows with unknown values were filled earlier.