Preliminary report of the Final Paper

for the CEU MSc in Business Analytics program

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1 Introduction

The structure of the document follows the Cross Industry Standard Process for Data Mining (CRISP-DM) process model, which is a non-proprietary, documented, and freely available data mining model (Shearer 2000). Whenever the model sections can be matched to (and can fulfill) the requirements stated by CEU for the Final Paper I'm using the appropriate section identified by the CRIPS-DM model. Please keep in mind that the model supports the full end-to-end process of a data mining project, but the project does not require the use of all the model elements.

2 Business Understanding

2.1 Determine Business Objectives

2.1.1 Business Objectives

There are two main objectives what the project is aiming to complete.

1. Create a statistical analysis to identify those reasons (based on the data available), which are determining the the risk of an animal strike for an airport.
2. Create a prediction model, which can be used to predict the risk of an animal strike for a given flight.

The result of the statistical analysis could be used in the completion of the model building and evaluation the recommended order of the completion is the order of the objectives stated above.

2.1.2 Business Success Criteria

- Identification of features determining the risk potential of an airport
- Working model for animal strike prediction

2.2 Assess Situation

2.2.1 Inventory of Resources

- Flight Data
- Animal Strike Data
- R
- Buckets

2.2.2 Requirements, Assumptions, and Constraints

- Additional Requirements:
  - No additional requirements identified on top of the requirements already stated in this document.
- Assumptions
  - No initial assumptions made.
- Constraints
  - No initial hard constraints identified.

2.2.3 Risks and Contingencies

- Risks
  - No initial risks identified
- Contingencies
  - No initial contingencies identified

2.2.4 Terminology

The project is using different terminologies from the different domains. The terms/definitions used will not be marked or explained in details, if based on the context the reader can easily identify the domain of the particular term. In case there are uncertainties about a term (and it's not explained in the paper), the following sources can be used for the definitions:

- Aviation:
  - Aviation Terms / Directory
  - Aviation Glossary
  - Aviation Glossaries
- Data Mining
  - Data Mining Glossary
  - Data Mining - Terminologies
  - Data Mining and Predictive Analytics Glossary
- Data Science / Big Data
  - Data Science Glossary
  - Analytics and Big Data Glossary
  - Data Science Glossary

2.2.5 Costs and Benefits

This is a one-man project, no significant cost is expected. Main benefit is to put to and almost end-to-end scenario the topics covered during the courses and discovering bits and bolts of the techniques for creating the project.

2.3 Determine Data Mining Goals

2.3.1 Data Mining Goals

- Understand, Analyse, Clean and Merge the source data correctly
- Create the required attributes
- Generate the required records (if applicable)

2.3.2 Data Mining Success Criteria

- Identification of featured determining the risk potential of an airport
- Working model for animal strike prediction

2.4 Produce Project Plan

2.4.1 Project Plan

The project is managed in an agile way, where all the tasks, requirements, issues, solutions, and ideas are kept in a project at buckets.

2.4.2 Initial Assessment of Tools and Techniques

- Programming language:
  - R: https://www.r-project.org/
- IDE for the programming language:
  - RStudio: https://www.rstudio.com/
- Documentation is created using:
  - knitr: https://yihui.name/knitr/
  - MiKTeX: https://miktex.org/
  - ReporteRs: https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/ReporteRs/index.html
- Data visualization:
  - ggplot2: http://ggplot2.org/

- Data manipulation:
  - access2csv: https://github.com/AccelerationNet/access2csv
  - dtplyr: https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/dtplyr/index.html
- Project plan / task management:
  - Buckets: https://www.buckets.co/
- Source code repository:
  - GitHub: https://github.com/

Note: The list above do not contain the list of all the tools and packages used to create the project, but the full list will be provided in the source code.

3 Data Understanding

3.1 Collect Initial Data

3.1.1 Initial Data Collection Report

There have been multiple data sources acquired in the initial phase of the project. These sources are the following:

3.1.1.1 Federal Aviation Administration

- Data source: Wildlife Strike Database
- The FAA provides the database as a compressed Microsoft Access file.
- The database version used is Version 2016.4-P (as of 24-10-2016).
- The database contains 180,177 Strike Reports from 1-1-1990 through 30-4-2016.
- The compressed file size is 44,730,852 bytes.
- The uncompressed Microsoft Access database file size is 193,495,040 bytes.
- The extracted tables are:
  - STRIKE_REPORTS (1990-1999) - 30082 rows - CSV size is 21,523,668 bytes
  - STRIKE_REPORTS (2000-2009) - 69960 rows - CSV size is 51,833,820 bytes.
  - STRIKE_REPORTS (2010-Current) - 70577 rows - CSV size is 53,973,874 bytes.
  - STRIKE_REPORTS_BASH (1990-Current).csv - 8046 rows - CSV size is 5,412,394 bytes.

3.1.1.2 United States Department of Transportation

- Data source: Bureau of Transportation Statistics - Flight performance
- The BTS provides the database as separate compressed CSV files. One file contains data of one month.
- The datestamp of the first CSV file available is 1-1-1987.
- The datestamp of the first data available is 1-10-1987.
- The datestamp of the last data acquired from BTS in the project is 31-12-2016.
- The number of files is 360.
  - Compressed size of the files is 6,196,385,360 bytes.
  - Uncompressed size of the files is 71,146,030,010 bytes.
- The download speed of the public access to these files seems to be limited, which needs to be taken into account in case of reproducing the results.

3.1.1.3 Federal Aviation Administration

- Data source: Airport Data & Contact Information
- The FAA provides the database as a tabulator separated csv file.
- The database used is as current as of 25-05-2017.
- The database used contains the details of 19,601 airport facilities.
- The file size is 10,490,580 bytes.

3.2 Describe Data

3.2.1 Data Description Report

The data sources have the following column explanations, which is attached to the downloaded files or can be downloaded separatelly, by the data provider agencies.

3.2.1.1 Animal Strike Data

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
INDEX NR	Individual record number
OPID	Airline operator code
OPERATOR	A three letter International Civil Aviation Organization code for aircraft operators. (BUS = business, PVT = private aircraft other than business, GOV = government aircraft, MIL - military aircraft.)
ATYPE	Aircraft
AMA	International Civil Aviation Organization code for Aircraft Make
AMO	International Civil Aviation Organization code for Aircraft Model
EMA	Engine Make Code (see Engine Codes tab below)
EMO	Engine Model Code (see Engine Codes tab below)
AC_CLASS	Type of aircraft (see Aircraft Type tab below)
AC_MASS	1 = 2,250 kg or less: 2 = ,2251-5700 kg: 3 = 5,701-27,000 kg: 4 = 27,001-272,000 kg: 5 = above 272,000 kg
NUM_ENGS	Number of engines
TYPE_ENG	Type of power A = reciprocating engine (piston): B = Turbojet: C = Turboprop: D = Turbofan: E = None (glider): F = Turboshaft (helicopter): Y = Other
ENG_1_POS	Where engine # 1 is mounted on aircraft (see Engine Position tab below)
ENG_2_POS	Where engine # 2 is mounted on aircraft (see Engine Position tab below)
ENG_3_POS	Where engine # 3 is mounted on aircraft (see Engine Position tab below)
ENG_4_POS	Where engine # 4 is mounted on aircraft (see Engine Position tab below)
REG	Aircraft registration
FLT	Flight number
REMAINS_COLLECTED	Indicates if bird or wildlife remains were found and collected
REMAINS_SENT	Indicates if remains were sent to the Smithsonian Institution for identification
INCIDENT_DATE	Date strike occurred
INCIDENT_MONTH	Month strike occurred
INCIDENT_YEAR	Year strike occurred
TIME_OF_DAY	Light conditions
TIME	Hour and minute in local time
AIRPORT_ID	International Civil Aviation Organization airport identifier for location of strike whether it was on or off airport
AIRPORT	Name of airport
STATE	State
FAAREGION	FAA Region where airport is located
ENROUTE	If strike did not occur on approach, climb, landing roll, taxi or take-off, aircraft was enroute. This shows location.
RUNWAY	Runway
LOCATION	Various information about aircraft location if enroute or airport where strike evidence was found. Some locations show the two airports for the flight departure and arrival if pilot was unaware of the strike.
HEIGHT	Feet Above Ground Level
SPEED	Knots (indicated air speed)
DISTANCE	Miles from airport
PHASE_OF_FLT	Phase of flight during which strike occurred

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
DAMAGE	Blank - Unknown; M = minor - When the aircraft can be rendered airworthy by simple repairs or replacements and an extensive inspection is not necessary.; M? = uncertain level - The aircraft was damaged, but details as to the extent of the damage are lacking.; S = substantial - When the aircraft incurs damage or structural failure which adversely affects the structure strength, performance or flight characteristics of the aircraft and which would normally require major repair or replacement of the affected component.; D = Destroyed - When the damage sustained makes it inadvisable to restore the aircraft to an airworthy condition.
STR_RAD	Struck radome
DAM_RAD	Damaged radome
STR_WINDSHLD	Struck windshield
DAM_WINDSHLD	Damaged windshield
STR_NOSE	Struck nose
DAM_NOSE	Damaged nose
STR_ENG1	Struck Engine 1
DAM_ENG1	Damaged Engine 1
STR_ENG2	Struck Engine 2
DAM_ENG2	Damaged Engine 2
STR_ENG3	Struck Engine 3
DAM_ENG3	Damaged Engine 3
STR_ENG4	Struck Engine 4
DAM_ENG4	Damaged Engine 4
INGESTED	Engine ingested the bird/ animal
STR_PROP	Struck Propeller
DAM_PROP	Damaged Propeller
STR_WING_ROT	Struck Wing or Rotor
DAM_WING_ROT	Damaged Wing or Rotor
STR_FUSE	Struck Fuselage
DAM_FUSE	Damaged Fuselage
STR_LG	Struck Landing Gear
DAM_LG	Damaged Landing Gear
STR_TAIL	Struck Tail
DAM_TAIL	Damaged Tail
STR_LGHTS	Struck Lights
DAM_LGHTS	Damaged Lights
STR_OTHER	Struck Other than parts shown above
DAM_OTHER	Damaged Other than parts shown above
OTHER_SPECIFY	What part was struck other than those listed above
EFFECT	Effect on flight
EFFECT_OTHER	Effect on flight other than those listed on the form
SKY	Type of cloud cover, if any
PRECIP	Precipitation
SPECIES_ID	International Civil Aviation Organization code for type of bird or other wildlife
SPECIES	Common name for bird or other wildlife
BIRDS_SEEN	Number of birds/wildlife seen by pilot
BIRDS_STRUCK	Number of birds/wildlife struck
SIZE	Size of bird as reported by pilot is a relative scale. Entry should reflect the perceived size as opposed to a scientifically determined value. If more than one species was struck, larger bird is entered.
WARNED	Pilot warned of birds/wildlife

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
COMMENTS	As entered by database manager. Can include name of aircraft owner, types of reports received, updates, etc.
REMARKS	Most of remarks are from the form but some are data entry notes and are usually in parentheses.
AOS	Time aircraft was out of service in hours. If unknown, it is blank.
COST_REPAIRS	Estimated cost of repairs of replacement in dollars (USD)
COST_OTHER	Estimated other costs, other than those in previous field in dollars (USD). May include loss of revenue, hotel expenses due to flight cancellation, costs of fuel dumped, etc.
COST_REPAIRS_INFL_ADJ	Costs adjusted for inflation
COST_OTHER_INFL_ADJ	Other cost adjusted for inflation
REPORTED_NAME	Name(s) of person(s) filing report
REPORTED_TITLE	Title(s) of person(s) filing report
REPORTED_DATE	Date report was written
SOURCE	Type of report. Note: for multiple types of reports this will be indicated as Multiple. See “Comments” field for details
PERSON	Only one selection allowed. For multiple reports, see field “Reported Title”
NR_INJURIES	Number of people injured
NR_FATALITIES	Number of human fatalities
LUPDATE	Last time record was updated
TRANSFER	Unused field at this time
INDICATED_DAMAGE	Indicates whether or not aircraft was damaged

3.2.1.2 Flight Data

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
Year	Year
Quarter	Quarter (1-4)
Month	Month
DayofMonth	Day of Month
DayOfWeek	Day of Week
FlightDate	Flight Date (yyyymmdd)
UniqueCarrier	Unique Carrier Code. When the same code has been used by multiple carriers, a numeric suffix is used for earlier users, for example, PA, PA(1), PA(2). Use this field for analysis across a range of years.
AirlineID	An identification number assigned by US DOT to identify a unique airline (carrier). A unique airline (carrier) is defined as one holding and reporting under the same DOT certificate regardless of its Code, Name, or holding company/corporation.
Carrier	Code assigned by IATA and commonly used to identify a carrier. As the same code may have been assigned to different carriers over time, the code is not always unique. For analysis, use the Unique Carrier Code.
TailNum	Tail Number
FlightNum	Flight Number
OriginAirportID	Origin Airport, Airport ID. An identification number assigned by US DOT to identify a unique airport. Use this field for airport analysis across a range of years because an airport can change its airport code and airport codes can be reused.
OriginAirportSeqID	Origin Airport, Airport Sequence ID. An identification number assigned by US DOT to identify a unique airport at a given point of time. Airport attributes, such as airport name or coordinates, may change over time.

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
OriginCityMarketID	Origin Airport, City Market ID. City Market ID is an identification number assigned by US DOT to identify a city market. Use this field to consolidate airports serving the same city market.
Origin	Origin Airport
OriginCityName	Origin Airport, City Name
OriginState	Origin Airport, State Code
OriginStateFips	Origin Airport, State Fips
OriginStateName	Origin Airport, State Name
OriginWac	Origin Airport, World Area Code
DestAirportID	Destination Airport, Airport ID. An identification number assigned by US DOT to identify a unique airport. Use this field for airport analysis across a range of years because an airport can change its airport code and airport codes can be reused.
DestAirportSeqID	Destination Airport, Airport Sequence ID. An identification number assigned by US DOT to identify a unique airport at a given point of time. Airport attributes, such as airport name or coordinates, may change over time.
DestCityMarketID	Destination Airport, City Market ID. City Market ID is an identification number assigned by US DOT to identify a city market. Use this field to consolidate airports serving the same city market.
Dest	Destination Airport
DestCityName	Destination Airport, City Name
DestState	Destination Airport, State Code
DestStateFips	Destination Airport, State Fips
DestStateName	Destination Airport, State Name
DestWac	Destination Airport, World Area Code
CRSDepTime	CRS Departure Time (local time: hhmm)
DepTime	Actual Departure Time (local time: hhmm)
DepDelay	Difference in minutes between scheduled and actual departure time. Early departures show negative numbers.
DepDelayMinutes	Difference in minutes between scheduled and actual departure time. Early departures set to 0.
DepDel15	Departure Delay Indicator, 15 Minutes or More (1=Yes)
DepartureDelayGroups	Departure Delay intervals, every (15 minutes from <-15 to >180)
DepTimeBlk	CRS Departure Time Block, Hourly Intervals
TaxiOut	Taxi Out Time, in Minutes
WheelsOff	Wheels Off Time (local time: hhmm)
WheelsOn	Wheels On Time (local time: hhmm)
TaxiIn	Taxi In Time, in Minutes
CRSArrTime	CRS Arrival Time (local time: hhmm)
ArrTime	Actual Arrival Time (local time: hhmm)
ArrDelay	Difference in minutes between scheduled and actual arrival time. Early arrivals show negative numbers.
ArrDelayMinutes	Difference in minutes between scheduled and actual arrival time. Early arrivals set to 0.
ArrDel15	Arrival Delay Indicator, 15 Minutes or More (1=Yes)
ArrivalDelayGroups	Arrival Delay intervals, every (15-minutes from <-15 to >180)
ArrTimeBlk	CRS Arrival Time Block, Hourly Intervals
Cancelled	Cancelled Flight Indicator (1=Yes)
CancellationCode	Specifies The Reason For Cancellation
Diverted	Diverted Flight Indicator (1=Yes)
CRSElapsedTime	CRS Elapsed Time of Flight, in Minutes
ActualElapsedTime	Elapsed Time of Flight, in Minutes
AirTime	Flight Time, in Minutes

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
Flights	Number of Flights
Distance	Distance between airports (miles)
DistanceGroup	Distance Intervals, every 250 Miles, for Flight Segment
CarrierDelay	Carrier Delay, in Minutes
WeatherDelay	Weather Delay, in Minutes
NASDelay	National Air System Delay, in Minutes
SecurityDelay	Security Delay, in Minutes
LateAircraftDelay	Late Aircraft Delay, in Minutes
FirstDepTime	First Gate Departure Time at Origin Airport
TotalAddGTime	Total Ground Time Away from Gate for Gate Return or Cancelled Flight
LongestAddGTime	Longest Time Away from Gate for Gate Return or Cancelled Flight
DivAirportLandings	Number of Diverted Airport Landings
DivReachedDest	Diverted Flight Reaching Scheduled Destination Indicator (1=Yes)
DivActualElapsedTime	Elapsed Time of Diverted Flight Reaching Scheduled Destination, in Minutes. The ActualElapsedTime column remains NULL for all diverted flights.
DivArrDelay	Difference in minutes between scheduled and actual arrival time for a diverted flight reaching scheduled destination. The ArrDelay column remains NULL for all diverted flights.
DivDistance	Distance between scheduled destination and final diverted airport (miles). Value will be 0 for diverted flight reaching scheduled destination.
Div1Airport	Diverted Airport Code1
Div1AirportID	Airport ID of Diverted Airport 1. Airport ID is a Unique Key for an Airport
Div1AirportSeqID	Airport Sequence ID of Diverted Airport 1. Unique Key for Time Specific Information for an Airport
Div1WheelsOn	Wheels On Time (local time: hhmm) at Diverted Airport Code1
Div1TotalGTime	Total Ground Time Away from Gate at Diverted Airport Code1
Div1LongestGTime	Longest Ground Time Away from Gate at Diverted Airport Code1
Div1WheelsOff	Wheels Off Time (local time: hhmm) at Diverted Airport Code1
Div1TailNum	Aircraft Tail Number for Diverted Airport Code1
Div2Airport	Diverted Airport Code2
Div2AirportID	Airport ID of Diverted Airport 2. Airport ID is a Unique Key for an Airport
Div2AirportSeqID	Airport Sequence ID of Diverted Airport 2. Unique Key for Time Specific Information for an Airport
Div2WheelsOn	Wheels On Time (local time: hhmm) at Diverted Airport Code2
Div2TotalGTime	Total Ground Time Away from Gate at Diverted Airport Code2
Div2LongestGTime	Longest Ground Time Away from Gate at Diverted Airport Code2
Div2WheelsOff	Wheels Off Time (local time: hhmm) at Diverted Airport Code2
Div2TailNum	Aircraft Tail Number for Diverted Airport Code2
Div3Airport	Diverted Airport Code3
Div3AirportID	Airport ID of Diverted Airport 3. Airport ID is a Unique Key for an Airport
Div3AirportSeqID	Airport Sequence ID of Diverted Airport 3. Unique Key for Time Specific Information for an Airport
Div3WheelsOn	Wheels On Time (local time: hhmm) at Diverted Airport Code3
Div3TotalGTime	Total Ground Time Away from Gate at Diverted Airport Code3
Div3LongestGTime	Longest Ground Time Away from Gate at Diverted Airport Code3
Div3WheelsOff	Wheels Off Time (local time: hhmm) at Diverted Airport Code3
Div3TailNum	Aircraft Tail Number for Diverted Airport Code3
Div4Airport	Diverted Airport Code4
Div4AirportID	Airport ID of Diverted Airport 4. Airport ID is a Unique Key for an Airport
Div4AirportSeqID	Airport Sequence ID of Diverted Airport 4. Unique Key for Time Specific Information for an Airport
Div4WheelsOn	Wheels On Time (local time: hhmm) at Diverted Airport Code4

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
Div4TotalGTime	Total Ground Time Away from Gate at Diverted Airport Code4
Div4LongestGTime	Longest Ground Time Away from Gate at Diverted Airport Code4
Div4WheelsOff	Wheels Off Time (local time: hhmm) at Diverted Airport Code4
Div4TailNum	Aircraft Tail Number for Diverted Airport Code4
Div5Airport	Diverted Airport Code5
Div5AirportID	Airport ID of Diverted Airport 5. Airport ID is a Unique Key for an Airport
Div5AirportSeqID	Airport Sequence ID of Diverted Airport 5. Unique Key for Time Specific Information for an Airport
Div5WheelsOn	Wheels On Time (local time: hhmm) at Diverted Airport Code5
Div5TotalGTime	Total Ground Time Away from Gate at Diverted Airport Code5
Div5LongestGTime	Longest Ground Time Away from Gate at Diverted Airport Code5
Div5WheelsOff	Wheels Off Time (local time: hhmm) at Diverted Airport Code5
Div5TailNum	Aircraft Tail Number for Diverted Airport Code5

3.2.1.3 Airport Data

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
SiteNumber	Landing facility site number - a unique identifying number which, together with the landing facility type code, forms the key to the airport record. (ex. 04508.*A)
Type	Landing facility type. (ex. Airport, Balloonport, Seaplane Base, Gliderport, Heliport, Stolport, Ultralight)
LocationID	Location identifier unique 3-4 character alphanumeric identifier assigned to the landing facility. (ex. ‘ORD’ for Chicago O’Hare)
EffectiveDate	Information effective date (mm/dd/yyyy). This date coincides with the 56-day charting and publication cycle date.
Region	FAA region code. (ex. AAL - Alaska, ACE - Central, AEA - Eastern, AGL - Great Lakes, AIN - International, ANE - New England, ANM - Northwest Mountain, ASO - Southern, ASW - Southwest, AWP - Western-Pacific)
DistrictOffice	FAA district or field office code. (ex. CHI)
State	Associated state post office code standard two letter abbreviation for u.s. states and territories. (ex. IL, PR, CQ)
StateName	Associated state name. (ex. Illinois)
County	Associated county (or parish) name. (ex. Cook)
CountyState	Associated county’s state (post office code) state where the associated county is located; may not be the same as the associated city’s state code. (ex. IL)
City	Associated city name. (ex. Chicago)
FacilityName	Official facility name. (ex. Chicago O’Hare Intl)
Ownership	Airport ownership type. (ex. PU - publicly owned, PR - privately owned, MA - air force owned, MN - navy owned, MR - army owned)
Use	Facility use. (ex. PU - open to the public, PR - private)
Owner	Facility owner’s name.
OwnerAddress	Owner’s address.
OwnerCSZ	Owner’s city, state and zip code.
OwnerPhone	Owner’s phone number. (data formats: nnn-nnn-nnnn (area code + phone number), 1-nnn-nnnn (dial 1-800 then number), 8-nnn-nnnn (dial 800 then number)
Manager	Facility manager’s name.
ManagerAddress	Manager’s address.

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
ManagerCSZ	Manager's city, state and zip code.
ManagerPhone	Manager's phone number. (data formats: nnn-nnn-nnnn (area code + phone number), 1-nnn-nnnn (dial 1-800 then number), 8-nnn-nnnn (dial 800 then number)
ARPLatitude	Airport reference point latitude (formatted).
ARPLatitudeS	Airport reference point latitude (seconds).
ARPLongitude	Airport reference point longitude (formatted).
ARPLongitudeS	Airport reference point longitude (seconds).
ARPMethod	Airport reference point determination method. (ex. E - estimated, S - surveyed)
ARPElevation	Airport elevation (nearest foot MSL). Elevation is measured at the highest point on the centerline of the usable landing surface. (ex. 1200; -10 for 10 feet below sea level)
ARPElevationMethod	Airport elevation determination method. (ex. E - estimated, S - surveyed)
MagneticVariation	Magnetic variation and direction magnetic variation to nearest degree. (ex. 03W)
MagneticVariationYear	Magnetic variation epoch year. (ex. 1985)
TrafficPatternAltitude	Traffic pattern altitude (whole feet AGL). (ex. 1000)
ChartName	Aeronautical sectional chart on which facility appears. (ex. Washington)
DistanceFromCBD	Distance from central business district of the associated city to the airport (nearest nautical mile - ex. 08).
DirectionFromCBD	Direction of airport from central business district of associated city (nearest 1/8 compass point - ex. NE).
LandAreaCoveredByAirport	Amount of land owned by the airport in acres.
BoundaryARTCCID	Boundary ARTCC Identifier. The boundary ARTCC is the FAA air route traffic control center within whose published boundaries the airport lies. It may not be the controlling ARTCC for the airport if a letter of agreement exists between the boundary ARTCC and another ARTCC. (ex. ZDC for Washington ARTCC)
BoundaryARTCCComputerID	Boundary ARTCC (FAA) computer identifier. (ex. ZCW for Washington ARTCC)
BoundaryARTCCName	Boundary ARTCC name. (ex. Washington)
ResponsibleARTCCID	Responsible ARTCC identifier the responsible ARTCC is the FAA air route traffic control center who has assumed control over the airport through a letter of agreement with the boundary ARTCC. (ex. ZDC for Washington ARTCC)
ResponsibleARTCCComputerID	Responsible ARTCC (FAA) computer identifier. (ex. ZCW for Washington ARTCC)
ResponsibleARTCCName	Responsible ARTCC name. (ex. Washington)
TieInFSS	Tie-in FSS physically located on facility. (ex. Y - tie-in FSS is on the airport, n - tie-in FSS is not on the airport)
TieInFSSID	Tie-in flight service station (FSS) identifier. (ex. DCA for Washington FSS)
TieInFSSName	Tie-in FSS name. (ex. Washington)
AirportToFSSPhoneNumber	Local phone number from airport to FSS for adminstrative services

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
TieInFSSTollFreeNumber	Toll free phone number from airport to FSS for pilot briefing services the data describes the type of toll-free communications and the number to dial. The data formats and their meanings are: 1-nnn-nnnn, dial 1-800- then nnn-nnnn; 8-nnn-nnnn, dial 800 then nnn-nnnn; e-nnnnnnnn, enterprise number dial 0 & ask for enterprise nnnnnnnn; lcnnn-nnnn, local call - dial nnn-nnnn; dl, direct line telephone at the airport - no dialing required; z-nnnnnnnn, zenith number - dial 0 and ask for zenith nnnnnnnn; w-nnnnnnnn, dial 0 and ask for wx nnnnnnnn; c-nnnnnnnn, dial 0 and ask for commerce nnnnnnnn; ld-nnnnnnnn, long distance call - dial (area code) then nnnnnnn; lt-nnnnnnnn, long distal call dial 1-nnnnnnn; 1-wx-brief, dial 1-800-wx-brief; 8-wx-brief, dial 800-wx-brief
AlternateFSSID	Alternate FSS identifier provides the identifier of a full-time flight service station that assumes responsibility for the airport during the off hours of a part-time primary FSS. (ex. ‘DCA’ for Washington FSS)
AlternateFSSName	Alternate FSS name. (ex. ‘Washington’ for Washington FSS)
AlternateFSSTollFreeNumber	Toll free phone number from airport to FSS for pilot briefing services the data describes the type of toll-free communications and the number to dial. The data formats and their meanings are: 1-nnn-nnnn, dial 1-800- then nnn-nnnn; 8-nnn-nnnn, dial 800 then nnn-nnnn; e-nnnnnnnn, enterprise number dial 0 & ask for enterprise nnnnnnnn; lcnnn-nnnn, local call - dial nnn-nnnn; dl, direct line telephone at the airport - no dialing required; z-nnnnnnnn, zenith number - dial 0 and ask for zenith nnnnnnnn; w-nnnnnnnn, dial 0 and ask for wx nnnnnnnn; c-nnnnnnnn, dial 0 and ask for commerce nnnnnnnn; ld-nnnnnnnn, long distance call - dial (area code) then nnnnnnn; lt-nnnnnnnn, long distal call dial 1-nnnnnnn; 1-wx-brief, dial 1-800-wx-brief; 8-wx-brief, dial 800-wx-brief.
NOTAMFacilityID	Identifier of the facility responsible for issuing notices to airmen (NOTAMS) and weather information for the airport. (ex. ORD)
NOTAMService	Availability of NOTAM ‘d’ service at airport. (ex. Y - yes, N - no)
ActivationDate	Airport activation date (mm/yyyy). Provides the month and year that the facility was added to the NFDC airport database. Note: this information is only available for those facilities opened since 1981. (ex. 06/1981)
AirportStatusCode	Airport status code: CI - closed indefinitely; CP - closed permanently; O - operational
CertificationTypeDate	Airport certification type and date. Format is the class code (‘I’, ‘II’, ‘III’ or ‘IV’) followed by a one characther code A, B, C, D, E, or L, followed by a one character code S or U, followed by the month and year of certification. (ex. ‘I A S 07/1980’, ‘I C S 01/1983’ or ‘I A U 09/1983’). Codes A, B, C, D, and E are for airports having a full certificate under CFR Part 139, and receiving scheduled air carrier service from carriers certificated by the Civil Aeronautics Board. The A, B, C, D, and E identify the aircraft rescue and firefighting index for the airport. Code L is for airports having limited certification under CFR Part 139. Code S is for Airports receiving scheduled air carrier service from carriers certificated by the Civil Aeronautics Board. Code U is for airports not receiving this scheduled service.

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
FederalAgreements	NPIAS/Federal Agreement Code. A combination of 1 to 7 codes that indicate the type of federal agreements existing at the airport. (ex. NGH). N - national plan of integrated airport systems (NPIAS); B - installation of navigational facilities on privately owned airports under F&E program; G - grant agreements under FAAP/ADAP/AIP; H - compliance with accessibility to the handicapped; P - surplus property agreement under Public Law 289; R - surplus property agreement under Regulation 16-WAA; S - conveyance under section 16, Federal Airport Act of 1946 or Section 23, Airport and Airway Development Act of 1970; V - advance planning agreement under FAAP; X - obligations assumed by transfer; Y - assurances pursuant to Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964; Z - conveyance under Section 303(C), Federal Aviation Act of 1958; 1 - grant agreement has expired, however, agreement remains in effect for this facility as long as it is public use.
AirspaceDetermination	Airport airspace analysis determination. (ex. CONDL (conditional), NOT ANALYZED, NO OBJECTION, OBJECTIONABLE)
CustomsAirportOfEntry	Facility has been designated by the U.S. Treasury as an international airport of entry for customs (ex. Y - yes, N - no)
CustomsLandingRights	Facility has been designated by the U.S. Treasury as a customs landing rights airport (ex. Y - yes, N - no)
MilitaryJointUse	Facility has military/civil joint use agreement that allows civil operations at a military airport or military operations at a civil airport (ex. Y - yes, N - no)
MilitaryLandingRights	Airport has entered into an agreement that grants landing rights to the military (ex. Y - yes, N - no)
InspectionMethod	Airport inspection method. (ex. F - federal, S - state, C - contractor, 1 - 5010-1 public use mail out program, 2 - 5010-2 private use mail out program)
InspectionGroup	Agency/group performing physical inspection (ex. F - faa airports field personnel, s - state aeronautical personnel, c - private contract personnel, n - owner)
LastInspectionDate	Last physical inspection date (mmddyyyy)
LastOwnerInformationDate	Last date information request was completed by facility owner or manager (mmddyyyy)
FuelTypes	Fuel types available for public use at the airport. There can be up to 8 occurrences of a fixed 5 character field (ex. 80___100__100LL115__). 80 - grade 80 gasoline (red), 100 - grade 100 gasoline (green), 100LL - grade 100LL gasoline (low lead blue), 115 - grade 115 gasoline, A - jet A - kerosene, freeze point -40C, A1 - jet A-1 - kerosene, freeze point -50C, A1+ - jet A-1 - kerosene, with icing inhibitor freeze point -50C, B - jet B - wide-cut turbine fuel, freeze point -50C, B+ - jet B - wide-cut turbine fuel with icing inhibitor, freeze point -50C, MOGAS - automotive gasoline.
AirframeRepair	Airframe repair service availability/type. (ex. MAJOR, MINOR, NONE)
PowerPlantRepair	Power plant (engine) repair availability/type. (ex. MAJOR, MINOR, NONE)
BottledOxygenType	Type of bottled oxygen available (value represents high and/or low pressure replacement bottle). (ex. HIGH, LOW, HIGH/LOW, NONE)
BulkOxygenType	Type of bulk oxygen available (value represents high and/or low pressure cylinders). (ex. HIGH, LOW, HIGH/LOW, NONE)
LightingSchedule	Airport lighting schedule value is the beginning-ending times (local time) that lights are operated. Format can be 1900-2300, DUSK-0100, ALL, DUSK-DAWN, NONE, etc.

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
BeaconSchedule	Beacon lighting schedule value is the beginning-ending times (local time) that the rotating airport beacon light is operated. Value can be “SS-SR” (indicating sunset-sunrise), blank, or “SEE RMK”, indicating that the details are in a facility remark data entry.
ATCT	Air traffic control tower located on airport. (ex. Y - yes, N - no)
UNICOMFrequencies	Unicom frequencies available at the airport there can be up to 6 occurrences of a fixed 7 character field. (ex. 122.700 or 122.700122.800 or NONE)
CTAFFrequency	Common traffic advisory frequency. (CTAF) (ex. 122.800)
SegmentedCircle	Segmented circle airport marker system on the airport. (ex. Y - yes, N - no, none)
BeaconColor	Lens color of operable beacon located on the airport. (ex. CG - clear-green (lighted land airport); CY - clear-yellow (lighted seaplane base); CGY - clear-green-yellow (heliport); SCG - split-clear-green (lighted military airport); C - clear (unlighted la
NonCommercialLandingFee	Landing fee charged to non-commercial users of airport. (ex. Y - yes, N - no)
MedicalUse	Landing facility is used for medical purposes. (ex. Y - yes, N - no)
SingleEngineGA	Number of single engine general aviation aircraft.
MultiEngineGA	Number of multi engine general aviation aircraft.
JetEngineGA	Number of jet engine general aviation aircraft.
HelicoptersGA	Number of general aviation helicopter.
GlidersOperational	Number of operational gliders.
MilitaryOperational	Number operational military aircraft (includingg helicopters).
Ultralights	Number of ultralight aircraft.
OperationsCommercial	Commercial services. Scheduled operations by cab-certificated carriers or intrastate carriers.
OperationsCommuter	Commuter services. Scheduled commuter and cargo carriers.
OperationsAirTaxi	Air taxi. Air taxi operators carrying passengers, mail, or mail for revenue.
OperationsGALocal	General aviation local operations. Those operating in the local traffic pattern or within a 20-mile radius of the airport.
OperationsGAItin	General aviation itinerant operations. Those general aviation operations (excluding commuter or air taxi) not qualifying as local.
OperationsMilitary	Military aircraft operations.
OperationsDate	12-month ending date on which annual operations data in above six field is based (mm/dd/yyyy).
AirportPositionSource	Airport position source.
AirportPositionSourceDate	Airport position source date (mm/dd/yyyy).
AirportElevationSource	Airport elevation source.
AirportElevationSourceDate	Airport elevation source date (mm/dd/yyyy).
ContractFuelAvailable	Contract fuel available. (ex. Y - yes, N - no)
TransientStorage	Transient storage. (ex. Y - yes, N - no, none)
OtherServices	Other services. (ex. Y - yes, N - no, none)
WindIndicator	Wind direction indicator. (ex. Y - yes, N - no, none)
IcaoIdentifier	International coding for airport.

3.3 Explore Data

3.3.1 Data Exploration Report

Keeping the length of this section reasonable, the exploration report shown here contains the data from 1990. The report for the rest of the data is in the appendix of the final document.

3.3.1.1 Animal Strike Data

The first summary table shows the number of distinct items for each year regarding the Airline operators, Aircraft, Aircraft types, Aircraft mass types, and Engine types, which have been reported as being affected in an animal strike.

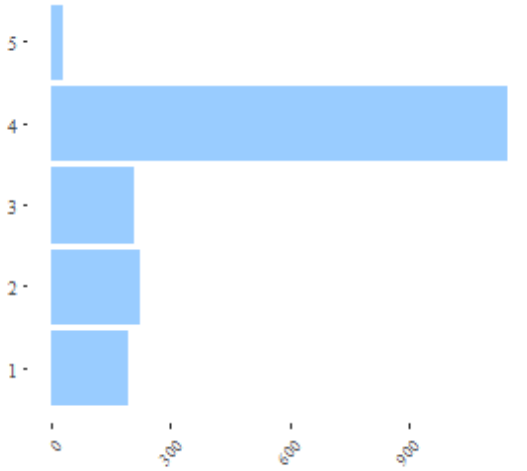
Year	# of reports	Operators	Aircraft	Aircraft type	Aircraft mass type	Engine type
1990	1847	316	329	4	5	9

The second summary table shows the number of distinct items for each year regarding the Time of day, Airports, States, Phase of flight, weather conditions (Sky and Precipitation), and the flag for showing if the pilot has been warned or not about birds / wildlife in the reports.

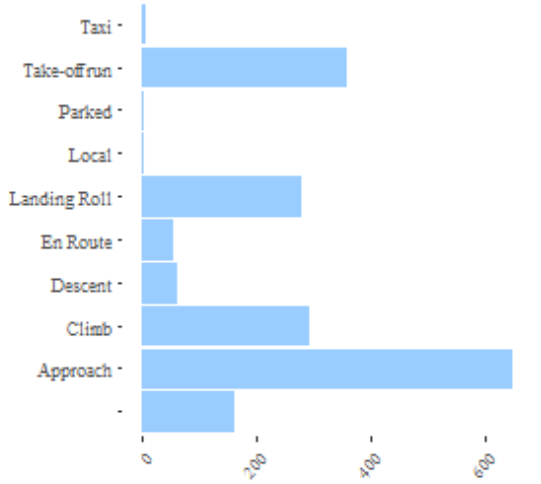
Year	Time of day	Airports	States	Phase of flight	Sky	Precipitation	Warned
1990	5	1175	61	12	7	8	4

The following graphs show the distributions of some of the selected distinct items summarized in the tables above.

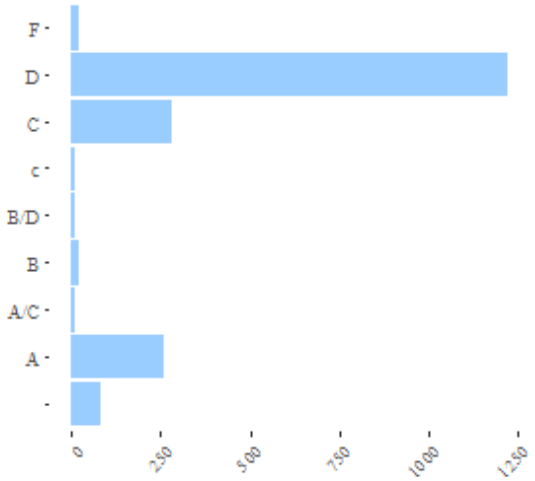
Data distribution of aircraft mass type in 1990



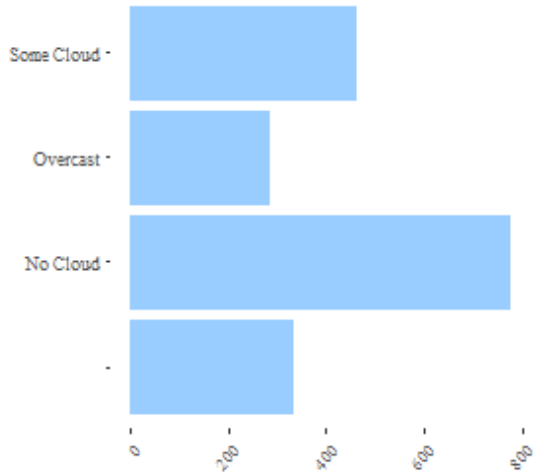
Data distribution of flight phase in 1990



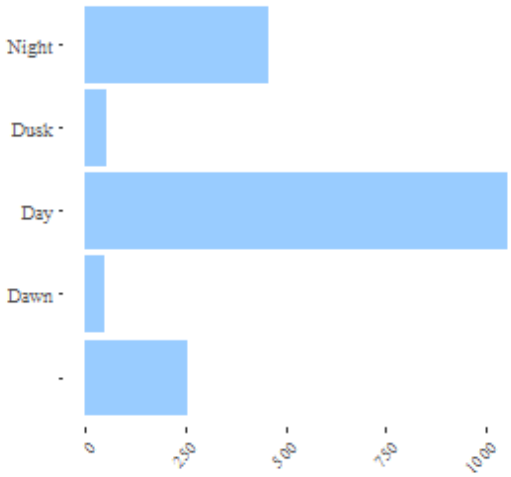
Data distribution of engine type in 1990



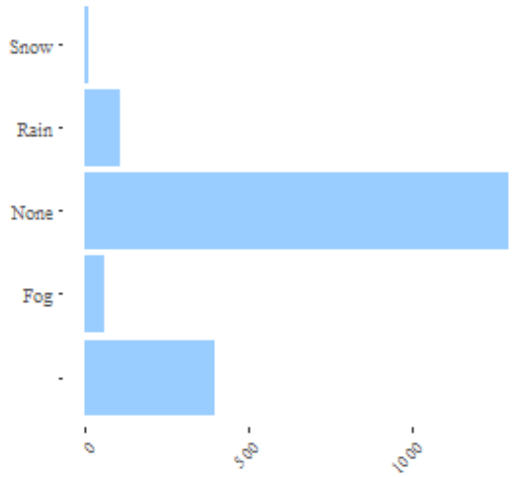
Data distribution of sky condition in 1990



Data distribution of time of day in 1990



Data distribution of precipitation in 1990



3.3.1.2 Flight Data

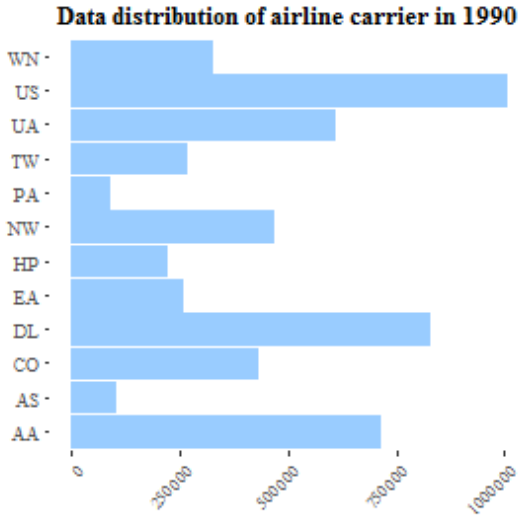
The first summary table shows the number of distinct items for each year regarding the number of records, the carriers, and the origin and the destination airports.

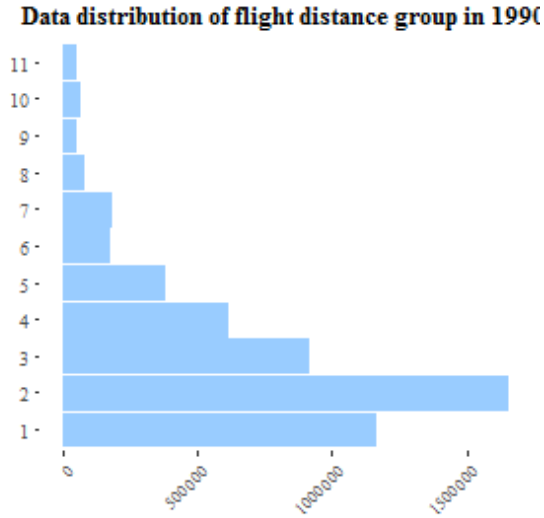
Year	# of flights	# of carriers	Origin airports	Origin states	Destination airports	Destination states
1990	5270893	12	235	53	236	53

The second summary table shows the number of distinct items for each year the departure time group and distance between the airports.

Year	Departure time block	Distance group
1990	19	11

The following graphs show the distributions of some of the selected distinct items summarized in the tables above.





3.3.1.3 Airport Data

The airport data is used only as a reference data source, therefore no data exploration needs to be executed.

3.4 Verify Data Quality

3.4.1 Data Quality Report

3.4.1.1 Animal Strike Data

The data set provided by the Federal Aviation Administration is a data set based on voluntary strike reporting from airlines, airports, pilots, and other sources. Therefore the quality of the data enormously depends on the goodwill of the reporting source and even with the best intentions there are several quality issues which needs to be addressed later in the project.

- Mixed use of uppercase and lowercase letters/codes
- Mixed use of codes (e.g.: engine type is defined as “A/C”)
- Number of States in the data set is above the actual number of states of the U.S.

The Federal Aviation Administration provides code books for some of the data details in the strike reports. Based on these code books the records with the following values can be removed from the data set, as they are not relevant for the goals of the project.

Column name	Value	Reason for removal
OPID	“PVT”	Record is related of a strike to a privately owned aircraft, not to an aircraft operated by a commercial airline.
OPID	“BUS”	Record is related of a strike to a business aircraft, not to an aircraft operated by a commercial airline.
OPID	“GOV”	Record is related of a strike to a government aircraft, not to an aircraft operated by a commercial airline.
OPID	“MIL”	Record is related of a strike to a military aircraft, not to an aircraft operated by a commercial airline.
OPID	“UNKC”	Record is related of a strike to an aircraft of an unknown commercial operator. Without this information identification of the flight can’t be done correctly.
OPID	“UNK”	Record is related of a strike to an aircraft of an unknown operator. Without this information identification of the flight can’t be done correctly.
AC_CLASS	“B”	Value stands for helicopter.
AC_CLASS	“C”	Value stands for glider.
AC_CLASS	“D”	Value stands for balloon.
AC_CLASS	“F”	Value stands for dirigible.
AC_CLASS	“I”	Value stands for gyroplane.
AC_CLASS	“J”	Value stands for ultralight.
AC_CLASS	“Y”	Value stands for other.
AC_CLASS	“Z”	Value stands for unknown.
AC_CLASS	“”	Value is empty.
TYPE_ENG	“E”	Value stands for none (glider).
TYPE_ENG	“F”	Value stands for turboshaft (helicopter).
TYPE_ENG	“”	Value is empty.

The strike report itself contains a great deal of details, which can be used in different projects, but for my purposes the following details have to be removed to concentrate on those information, which I expect to be the cause and not the effect of the strike. The following details needs to be removed from the data set in a later stage.

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
AMA	International Civil Aviation Organization code for Aircraft Make
AMO	International Civil Aviation Organization code for Aircraft Model
EMA	Engine Make Code
EMO	Engine Model Code
NUM_ENGS	Number of engines
ENG_1_POS	Where engine # 1 is mounted on aircraft
ENG_2_POS	Where engine # 2 is mounted on aircraft
ENG_3_POS	Where engine # 3 is mounted on aircraft
ENG_4_POS	Where engine # 4 is mounted on aircraft
REMAINS_COLLECTED	Indicates if bird or wildlife remains were found and collected
REMAINS_SENT	Indicates if remains were sent to the Smithsonian Institution for identification
LOCATION	Various information about aircraft location if enroute or airport where strike evidence was found. Some locations show the two airports for the flight departure and arrival if pilot was unaware of the strike.
DAMAGE	Amount of the damage.
STR_RAD	Struck radome
DAM_RAD	Damaged radome
STR_WINDSHLD	Struck windshield
DAM_WINDSHLD	Damaged windshield
STR_NOSE	Struck nose
DAM_NOSE	Damaged nose
STR_ENG1	Struck Engine 1
DAM_ENG1	Damaged Engine 1
STR_ENG2	Struck Engine 2
DAM_ENG2	Damaged Engine 2
STR_ENG3	Struck Engine 3
DAM_ENG3	Damaged Engine 3
STR_ENG4	Struck Engine 4
DAM_ENG4	Damaged Engine 4
INGESTED	Engine ingested the bird/ animal
STR_PROP	Struck Propeller
DAM_PROP	Damaged Propeller
STR_WING_ROT	Struck Wing or Rotor
DAM_WING_ROT	Damaged Wing or Rotor
STR_FUSE	Struck Fuselage
DAM_FUSE	Damaged Fuselage
STR_LG	Struck Landing Gear
DAM_LG	Damaged Landing Gear
STR_TAIL	Struck Tail
DAM_TAIL	Damaged Tail
STR_LGHTS	Struck Lights
DAM_LGHTS	Damaged Lights
STR_OTHER	Struck Other than parts shown above
DAM_OTHER	Damaged Other than parts shown above
OTHER_SPECIFY	What part was struck other than those listed above
EFFECT	Effect on flight
EFFECT_OTHER	Effect on flight other than those listed on the form
SPECIES_ID	International Civil Aviation Organization code for type of bird or other wildlife
SPECIES	Common name for bird or other wildlife
BIRDS_SEEN	Number of birds/wildlife seen by pilot

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
BIRDS_STRUCK	Number of birds/wildlife struck
SIZE	Size of bird as reported by pilot is a relative scale. Entry should reflect the perceived size as opposed to a scientifically determined value. If more than one species was struck, larger bird is entered.
COMMENTS	As entered by database manager. Can include name of aircraft owner, types of reports received, updates, etc.
REMARKS	Most of remarks are from the form but some are data entry notes and are usually in parentheses.
AOS	Time aircraft was out of service in hours. If unknown, it is blank.
COST_REPAIRS	Estimated cost of repairs of replacement in dollars (USD)
COST_OTHER	Estimated other costs, other than those in previous field in dollars (USD). May include loss of revenue, hotel expenses due to flight cancellation, costs of fuel dumped, etc.
COST_REPAIRS_INFL_ADJ	Costs adjusted for inflation
COST_OTHER_INFL_ADJ	Other cost adjusted for inflation
REPORTED_NAME	Name(s) of person(s) filing report
REPORTED_TITLE	Title(s) of person(s) filing report
REPORTED_DATE	Date report was written
SOURCE	Type of report. Note: for multiple types of reports this will be indicated as Multiple. See “Comments” field for details
PERSON	Only one selection allowed. For multiple reports, see field “Reported Title”
NR_INJURIES	Number of people injured
NR_FATALITIES	Number of human fatalities
LUPDATE	Last time record was updated
TRANSFER	Unused field at this time
INDICATED_DAMAGE	Indicates whether or not aircraft was damaged

3.4.1.2 Flight Data

The data set provided by the United States Department of Transportation is a data set based on the timetable and the actual flight information collected by various systems. Therefore the quality of the data is significantly better than the data from the Federal Aviation Administration Animal Strike Database, but there are still some possible quality issues which needs to be addressed later in the project after further investigation. These issues include:

- Number of States in the data set is above the actual number of states of the U.S.

The data in the Federal Aviation Administration Animal Strike Database is available only until 30-4-2016, so the flight data needs to be adjusted accordingly.

Similarly to the Federal Aviation Administration Animal Strike Database, the flight performance data set contains a great deal of details as well, which can be used in different projects, but for my purposes the following details have to be removed to concentrate on those information, which I expect to be the cause and not the effect of the strike. The following details needs to be removed from the data set in a later stage.

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
AirlineID	An identification number assigned by US DOT to identify a unique airline (carrier). A unique airline (carrier) is defined as one holding and reporting under the same DOT certificate regardless of its Code, Name, or holding company/corporation.
TailNum	Tail Number
OriginAirportID	Origin Airport, Airport ID. An identification number assigned by US DOT to identify a unique airport. Use this field for airport analysis across a range of years because an airport can change its airport code and airport codes can be reused.

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
OriginAirportSeqID	Origin Airport, Airport Sequence ID. An identification number assigned by US DOT to identify a unique airport at a given point of time. Airport attributes, such as airport name or coordinates, may change over time.
OriginCityMarketID	Origin Airport, City Market ID. City Market ID is an identification number assigned by US DOT to identify a city market. Use this field to consolidate airports serving the same city market.
OriginStateFips	Origin Airport, State Fips
OriginWac	Origin Airport, World Area Code
DestAirportID	Destination Airport, Airport ID. An identification number assigned by US DOT to identify a unique airport. Use this field for airport analysis across a range of years because an airport can change its airport code and airport codes can be reused.
DestAirportSeqID	Destination Airport, Airport Sequence ID. An identification number assigned by US DOT to identify a unique airport at a given point of time. Airport attributes, such as airport name or coordinates, may change over time.
DestCityMarketID	Destination Airport, City Market ID. City Market ID is an identification number assigned by US DOT to identify a city market. Use this field to consolidate airports serving the same city market.
DestStateFips	Destination Airport, State Fips
DestWac	Destination Airport, World Area Code
CRSDepTime	CRS Departure Time (local time: hhmm)
DepTime	Actual Departure Time (local time: hhmm)
DepDelay	Difference in minutes between scheduled and actual departure time. Early departures show negative numbers.
DepDelayMinutes	Difference in minutes between scheduled and actual departure time. Early departures set to 0.
DepDel15	Departure Delay Indicator, 15 Minutes or More (1=Yes)
DepartureDelayGroups	Departure Delay intervals, every (15 minutes from <-15 to >180)
TaxiOut	Taxi Out Time, in Minutes
WheelsOff	Wheels Off Time (local time: hhmm)
WheelsOn	Wheels On Time (local time: hhmm)
TaxiIn	Taxi In Time, in Minutes
ArrTime	Actual Arrival Time (local time: hhmm)
ArrDelay	Difference in minutes between scheduled and actual arrival time. Early arrivals show negative numbers.
ArrDelayMinutes	Difference in minutes between scheduled and actual arrival time. Early arrivals set to 0.
ArrDel15	Arrival Delay Indicator, 15 Minutes or More (1=Yes)
ArrivalDelayGroups	Arrival Delay intervals, every (15-minutes from <-15 to >180)
Cancelled	Cancelled Flight Indicator (1=Yes)
CancellationCode	Specifies The Reason For Cancellation
Diverted	Diverted Flight Indicator (1=Yes)
ActualElapsedTime	Elapsed Time of Flight, in Minutes
AirTime	Flight Time, in Minutes
Flights	Number of Flights
CarrierDelay	Carrier Delay, in Minutes
WeatherDelay	Weather Delay, in Minutes
NASDelay	National Air System Delay, in Minutes
SecurityDelay	Security Delay, in Minutes
LateAircraftDelay	Late Aircraft Delay, in Minutes
FirstDepTime	First Gate Departure Time at Origin Airport
TotalAddGTime	Total Ground Time Away from Gate for Gate Return or Cancelled Flight
LongestAddGTime	Longest Time Away from Gate for Gate Return or Cancelled Flight

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
DivAirportLandings	Number of Diverted Airport Landings
DivReachedDest	Diverted Flight Reaching Scheduled Destination Indicator (1=Yes)
DivActualElapsedTime	Elapsed Time of Diverted Flight Reaching Scheduled Destination, in Minutes. The ActualElapsedTime column remains NULL for all diverted flights.
DivArrDelay	Difference in minutes between scheduled and actual arrival time for a diverted flight reaching scheduled destination. The ArrDelay column remains NULL for all diverted flights.
DivDistance	Distance between scheduled destination and final diverted airport (miles). Value will be 0 for diverted flight reaching scheduled destination.
Div1Airport	Diverted Airport Code1
Div1AirportID	Airport ID of Diverted Airport 1. Airport ID is a Unique Key for an Airport
Div1AirportSeqID	Airport Sequence ID of Diverted Airport 1. Unique Key for Time Specific Information for an Airport
Div1WheelsOn	Wheels On Time (local time: hhmm) at Diverted Airport Code1
Div1TotalGTime	Total Ground Time Away from Gate at Diverted Airport Code1
Div1LongestGTime	Longest Ground Time Away from Gate at Diverted Airport Code1
Div1WheelsOff	Wheels Off Time (local time: hhmm) at Diverted Airport Code1
Div1TailNum	Aircraft Tail Number for Diverted Airport Code1
Div2Airport	Diverted Airport Code2
Div2AirportID	Airport ID of Diverted Airport 2. Airport ID is a Unique Key for an Airport
Div2AirportSeqID	Airport Sequence ID of Diverted Airport 2. Unique Key for Time Specific Information for an Airport
Div2WheelsOn	Wheels On Time (local time: hhmm) at Diverted Airport Code2
Div2TotalGTime	Total Ground Time Away from Gate at Diverted Airport Code2
Div2LongestGTime	Longest Ground Time Away from Gate at Diverted Airport Code2
Div2WheelsOff	Wheels Off Time (local time: hhmm) at Diverted Airport Code2
Div2TailNum	Aircraft Tail Number for Diverted Airport Code2
Div3Airport	Diverted Airport Code3
Div3AirportID	Airport ID of Diverted Airport 3. Airport ID is a Unique Key for an Airport
Div3AirportSeqID	Airport Sequence ID of Diverted Airport 3. Unique Key for Time Specific Information for an Airport
Div3WheelsOn	Wheels On Time (local time: hhmm) at Diverted Airport Code3
Div3TotalGTime	Total Ground Time Away from Gate at Diverted Airport Code3
Div3LongestGTime	Longest Ground Time Away from Gate at Diverted Airport Code3
Div3WheelsOff	Wheels Off Time (local time: hhmm) at Diverted Airport Code3
Div3TailNum	Aircraft Tail Number for Diverted Airport Code3
Div4Airport	Diverted Airport Code4
Div4AirportID	Airport ID of Diverted Airport 4. Airport ID is a Unique Key for an Airport
Div4AirportSeqID	Airport Sequence ID of Diverted Airport 4. Unique Key for Time Specific Information for an Airport
Div4WheelsOn	Wheels On Time (local time: hhmm) at Diverted Airport Code4
Div4TotalGTime	Total Ground Time Away from Gate at Diverted Airport Code4
Div4LongestGTime	Longest Ground Time Away from Gate at Diverted Airport Code4
Div4WheelsOff	Wheels Off Time (local time: hhmm) at Diverted Airport Code4
Div4TailNum	Aircraft Tail Number for Diverted Airport Code4
Div5Airport	Diverted Airport Code5
Div5AirportID	Airport ID of Diverted Airport 5. Airport ID is a Unique Key for an Airport
Div5AirportSeqID	Airport Sequence ID of Diverted Airport 5. Unique Key for Time Specific Information for an Airport
Div5WheelsOn	Wheels On Time (local time: hhmm) at Diverted Airport Code5
Div5TotalGTime	Total Ground Time Away from Gate at Diverted Airport Code5
Div5LongestGTime	Longest Ground Time Away from Gate at Diverted Airport Code5

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
Div5WheelsOff	Wheels Off Time (local time: hhmm) at Diverted Airport Code5
Div5TailNum	Aircraft Tail Number for Diverted Airport Code5

3.4.1.3 Airport Data

The data set provided by the Federal Aviation Administration is a data set created based on the Airport Master Record (5010-*) forms. The following list of issues needs to be corrected in a later stage of the project:

- The LocationID have an apostrophe as the first character, which should be removed for further processing.
- Number of States in the data set is above the actual number of states of the U.S.

The Federal Aviation Administration provides code books for some of the data details in the airport data. Based on these code books the records with the following values can be removed from the data set, as they are not relevant for the goals of the project.

Column name	Value	Reason for removal
TYPE	“BALLOONPORT”	Record is indicating a balloon port, not an airport.
TYPE	“GLIDERPORT”	Record is indicating a glider port, not an airport.
TYPE	“HELIPORT”	Record is indicating a helicopter port, not an airport.
TYPE	“SEAPLANE BASE”	Record is indicating a port for seaplanes, not an airport.
TYPE	“ULTRALIGHT”	Record is indicating a port for ultralight airplanes, not an airport.

Similarly to the previous data sets this data set contains a great deal of details as well, which can be used in different projects, but for our purposes the following details have to be removed.

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
SiteNumber	Landing facility site number - a unique identifying number which, together with the landing facility type code, forms the key to the airport record. (ex. 04508.*A)
EffectiveDate	Information effective date (mm/dd/yyyy). This date coincides with the 56-day charting and publication cycle date.
DistrictOffice	FAA district or field office code. (ex. CHI)
County	Associated county (or parish) name. (ex. Cook)
CountyState	Associated county’s state (post office code) state where the associated county is located; may not be the same as the associated city’s state code. (ex. IL)
Ownership	Airport ownership type. (ex. PU - publicly owned, PR - privately owned, MA - air force owned, MN - navy owned, MR - army owned)
Use	Facility use. (ex. PU - open to the public, PR - private)
Owner	Facility owner’s name.
OwnerAddress	Owner’s address.
OwnerCSZ	Owner’s city, state and zip code.
OwnerPhone	Owner’s phone number. (data formats: nnn-nnn-nnnn (area code + phone number), 1-nnn-nnnn (dial 1-800 then number), 8-nnn-nnnn (dial 800 then number)
Manager	Facility manager’s name.
ManagerAddress	Manager’s address.
ManagerCSZ	Manager’s city, state and zip code.

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
ManagerPhone	Manager's phone number. (data formats: nnn-nnn-nnnn (area code + phone number), 1-nnn-nnnn (dial 1-800 then number), 8-nnn-nnnn (dial 800 then number)
ARPMethod	Airport reference point determination method. (ex. E - estimated, S - surveyed)
ARPElevationMethod	Airport elevation determination method. (ex. E - estimated, S - surveyed)
MagneticVariation	Magnetic variation and direction magnetic variation to nearest degree. (ex. 03W)
MagneticVariationYear	Magnetic variation epoch year. (ex. 1985)
TrafficPatternAltitude	Traffic pattern altitude (whole feet AGL). (ex. 1000)
ChartName	Aeronautical sectional chart on which facility appears. (ex. Washington)
DistanceFromCBD	Distance from central business district of the associated city to the airport (nearest nautical mile - ex. 08).
DirectionFromCBD	Direction of airport from central business district of associated city (nearest 1/8 compass point - ex. NE).
BoundaryARTCCID	Boundary ARTCC Identifier. The boundary ARTCC is the FAA air route traffic control center within whose published boundaries the airport lies. It may not be the controlling ARTCC for the airport if a letter of agreement exists between the boundary ARTCC and another ARTCC. (ex. ZDC for Washington ARTCC)
BoundaryARTCCComputerID	Boundary ARTCC (FAA) computer identifier. (ex. ZCW for Washington ARTCC)
BoundaryARTCCName	Boundary ARTCC name. (ex. Washington)
ResponsibleARTCCID	Responsible ARTCC identifier the responsible ARTCC is the FAA air route traffic control center who has assumed control over the airport through a letter of agreement with the boundary ARTCC. (ex. ZDC for Washington ARTCC)
ResponsibleARTCCComputerID	Responsible ARTCC (FAA) computer identifier. (ex. ZCW for Washington ARTCC)
ResponsibleARTCCName	Responsible ARTCC name. (ex. Washington)
TieInFSS	Tie-in FSS physically located on facility. (ex. Y - tie-in FSS is on the airport, n - tie-in FSS is not on the airport)
TieInFSSID	Tie-in flight service station (FSS) identifier. (ex. DCA for Washington FSS)
TieInFSSName	Tie-in FSS name. (ex. Washington)
AirportToFSSPhoneNumber	Local phone number from airport to FSS for adminstrative services
TieInFSSTollFreeNumber	Toll free phone number from airport to FSS for pilot briefing services the data describes the type of toll-free communications and the number to dial. The data formats and their meanings are: 1-nnn-nnnn, dial 1-800- then nnn-nnnn; 8-nnn-nnnn, dial 800 then nnn-nnnn; e-nnnnnnnn, enterprise number dial 0 & ask for enterprise nnnnnnnn; lcnnn-nnnn, local call - dial nnn-nnnn; dl, direct line telephone at the airport - no dialing required; z-nnnnnnnn, zenith number - dial 0 and ask for zenith nnnnnnnn; w-nnnnnnnn, dial 0 and ask for wx nnnnnnnn; c-nnnnnnnn, dial 0 and ask for commerce nnnnnnnn; ld-nnnnnnnn, long distance call - dial (area code) then nnnnnnn; lt-nnnnnnnn, long distal call dial 1-nnnnnnn; 1-wx-brief, dial 1-800-wx-brief; 8-wx-brief, dial 800-wx-brief
AlternateFSSID	Alternate FSS identifier provides the identifier of a full-time flight service station that assumes responsibility for the airport during the off hours of a part-time primary FSS. (ex. 'DCA' for Washington FSS)
AlternateFSSName	Alternate FSS name. (ex. 'Washington' for Washington FSS)

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
AlternateFSSTollFreeNumber	Toll free phone number from airport to FSS for pilot briefing services the data describes the type of toll-free communications and the number to dial. The data formats and their meanings are: 1-nnn-nnnn, dial 1-800- then nnn-nnnn; 8-nnn-nnnn, dial 800 then nnn-nnnn; e-nnnnnnnn, enterprise number dial 0 & ask for enterprise nnnnnnnn; lcnnn-nnnn, local call - dial nnn-nnnn; dl, direct line telephone at the airport - no dialing required; z-nnnnnnnn, zenith number - dial 0 and ask for zenith nnnnnnnn; w-nnnnnnnn, dial 0 and ask for wx nnnnnnnn; c-nnnnnnnn, dial 0 and ask for commerce nnnnnnnn; ld-nnnnnnnn, long distance call - dial (area code) then nnnnnnn; lt-nnnnnnnn, long distal call dial 1-nnnnnnn; 1-wx-brief, dial 1-800-wx-brief; 8-wx-brief, dial 800-wx-brief.
NOTAMFacilityID	Identifier of the facility responsible for issuing notices to airmen (NOTAMS) and weather information for the airport. (ex. ORD)
NOTAMService	Availability of NOTAM ‘d’ service at airport. (ex. Y - yes, N - no)
ActivationDate	Airport activation date (mm/yyyy). Provides the month and year that the facility was added to the NFDC airport database. Note: this information is only available for those facilities opened since 1981. (ex. 06/1981)
CertificationTypeDate	Airport certification type and date. Format is the class code (‘I’, ‘II’, ‘III’ or ‘IV’) followed by a one characther code A, B, C, D, E, or L, followed by a one character code S or U, followed by the month and year of certification. (ex. ‘I A S 07/1980’, ‘I C S 01/1983’ or ‘I A U 09/1983’). Codes A, B, C, D, and E are for airports having a full certificate under CFR Part 139, and receiving scheduled air carrier service from carriers certificated by the Civil Aeronautics Board. The A, B, C, D, and E identify the aircraft rescue and firefighting index for the airport. Code L is for airports having limited certification under CFR Part 139. Code S is for Airports receiving scheduled air carrier service from carriers certificated by the Civil Aeronautics Board. Code U is for airports not receiving this scheduled service.
FederalAgreements	NPIAS/Federal Agreement Code. A combination of 1 to 7 codes that indicate the type of federal agreements existing at the airport. (ex. NGH). N - national plan of integrated airport systems (NPIAS); B - installation of navigational facilities on privately owned airports under F&E program; G - grant agreements under FAAP/ADAP/AIP; H - compliance with accessibility to the handicapped; P - surplus property agreement under Public Law 289; R - surplus property agreement under Regulation 16-WAA; S - conveyance under section 16, Federal Airport Act of 1946 or Section 23, Airport and Airway Development Act of 1970; V - advance planning agreement under FAAP; X - obligations assumed by transfer; Y - assurances pursuant to Title VI, Civil Rights Act of 1964; Z - conveyance under Section 303(C), Federal Aviation Act of 1958; 1 - grant agreement has expired, however, agreement remains in effect for this facility as long as it is public use.
AirspaceDetermination	Airport airspace analysis determination. (ex. CONDL (conditional), NOT ANALYZED, NO OBJECTION, OBJECTIONABLE)
CustomsAirportOfEntry	Facility has been designated by the U.S. Treasury as an international airport of entry for customs (ex. Y - yes, N - no)
CustomsLandingRights	Facility has been designated by the U.S. Treasury as a customs landing rights airport (ex. Y - yes, N - no)
MilitaryJointUse	Facility has military/civil joint use agreement that allows civil operations at a military airport or military operations at a civil airport (ex. Y - yes, N - no)

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
MilitaryLandingRights	Airport has entered into an agreement that grants landing rights to the military (ex. Y - yes, N - no)
InspectionMethod	Airport inspection method. (ex. F - federal, S - state, C - contractor, 1 - 5010-1 public use mail out program, 2 - 5010-2 private use mail out program)
InspectionGroup	Agency/group performing physical inspection (ex. F - faa airports field personnel, s - state aeronautical personnel, c - private contract personnel, n - owner)
LastInspectionDate	Last physical inspection date (mmddyyyy)
LastOwnerInformationDate	Last date information request was completed by facility owner or manager (mmddyyyy)
FuelTypes	Fuel types available for public use at the airport. There can be up to 8 occurrences of a fixed 5 character field (ex. 80___100__100LL115__). 80 - grade 80 gasoline (red), 100 - grade 100 gasoline (green), 100LL - grade 100LL gasoline (low lead blue), 115 - grade 115 gasoline, A - jet A - kerosene, freeze point -40C, A1 - jet A-1 - kerosene, freeze point -50C, A1+ - jet A-1 - kerosene, with icing inhibitor freeze point -50C, B - jet B - wide-cut turbine fuel, freeze point -50C, B+ - jet B - wide-cut turbine fuel with icing inhibitor, freeze point -50C, MOGAS - automotive gasoline.
AirframeRepair	Airframe repair service availability/type. (ex. MAJOR, MINOR, NONE)
PowerPlantRepair	Power plant (engine) repair availability/type. (ex. MAJOR, MINOR, NONE)
BottledOxygenType	Type of bottled oxygen available (value represents high and/or low pressure replacement bottle). (ex. HIGH, LOW, HIGH/LOW, NONE)
BulkOxygenType	Type of bulk oxygen available (value represents high and/or low pressure cylinders). (ex. HIGH, LOW, HIGH/LOW, NONE)
LightingSchedule	Airport lighting schedule value is the beginning-ending times (local time) that lights are operated. Format can be 1900-2300, DUSK-0100, ALL, DUSK-DAWN, NONE, etc.
BeaconSchedule	Beacon lighting schedule value is the beginning-ending times (local time) that the rotating airport beacon light is operated. Value can be “SS-SR” (indicating sunset-sunrise), blank, or “SEE RMK”, indicating that the details are in a facility remark data entry.
ATCT	Air traffic control tower located on airport. (ex. Y - yes, N - no)
UNICOMFrequencies	Unicom frequencies available at the airport there can be up to 6 occurrences of a fixed 7 character field. (ex. 122.700 or 122.700122.800 or NONE)
CTAFFrequency	Common traffic advisory frequency. (CTAF) (ex. 122.800)
SegmentedCircle	Segmented circle airport marker system on the airport. (ex. Y - yes, N - no, none)
BeaconColor	Lens color of operable beacon located on the airport. (ex. CG - clear-green (lighted land airport); CY - clear-yellow (lighted seaplane base); CGY - clear-green-yellow (heliport); SCG - split-clear-green (lighted military airport); C - clear (unlighted la
NonCommercialLandingFee	Landing fee charged to non-commercial users of airport. (ex. Y - yes, N - no)
MedicalUse	Landing facility is used for medical purposes. (ex. Y - yes, N - no)
SingleEngineGA	Number of single engine general aviation aircraft.
MultiEngineGA	Number of multi engine general aviation aircraft.
JetEngineGA	Number of jet engine general aviation aircraft.
HelicoptersGA	Number of general aviation helicopter.
GlidersOperational	Number of operational gliders.

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
MilitaryOperational	Number operational military aircraft (includingg helicopters).
Ultralights	Number of ultralight aircraft.
OperationsCommercial	Commercial services. Scheduled operations by cab-certificated carriers or intrastate carriers.
OperationsCommuter	Commuter services. Scheduled commuter and cargo carriers.
OperationsAirTaxi	Air taxi. Air taxi operators carrying passengers, mail, or mail for revenue.
OperationsGALocal	General aviation local operations. Those operating in the local traffic pattern or within a 20-mile radius of the airport.
OperationsGAItin	General aviation itinerant operations. Those general aviation operations (excluding commuter or air taxi) not qualifying as local.
OperationsMilitary	Military aircraft operations.
OperationsDate	12-month ending date on which annual operations data in above six field is based (mm/dd/yyyy).
AirportPositionSource	Airport position source.
AirportPositionSourceDate	Airport position source date (mm/dd/yyyy).
AirportElevationSource	Airport elevation source.
AirportElevationSourceDate	Airport elevation source date (mm/dd/yyyy).
ContractFuelAvailable	Contract fuel available. (ex. Y - yes, N - no)
TransientStorage	Transient storage. (ex. Y - yes, N - no, none)
OtherServices	Other services. (ex. Y - yes, N - no, none)
WindIndicator	Wind direction indicator. (ex. Y - yes, N - no, none)

4 Data Preparation

4.1 Data Set

4.1.1 Data Set Description

The resolution of the issues found during the data quality verification includes the reducing of several details originally provided by the Federal Aviation Administration and the United States Department of Transportation agencies. This section describes the resulted data sets.

4.1.1.1 Animal Strike Data

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
INDEX NR	Individual record number
OPID	Airline operator code
OPERATOR	A three letter International Civil Aviation Organization code for aircraft operators. (BUS = business, PVT = private aircraft other than business, GOV = government aircraft, MIL - military aircraft.)
ATYPE	Aircraft
AC_CLASS	Type of aircraft (see Aircraft Type tab below)
AC_MASS	1 = 2,250 kg or less: 2 = ,2251-5700 kg: 3 = 5,701-27,000 kg: 4 = 27,001-272,000 kg: 5 = above 272,000 kg
TYPE_ENG	Type of power A = reciprocating engine (piston): B = Turbojet: C = Turboprop: D = Turbofan: E = None (glider): F = Turboshaft (helicopter): Y = Other
REG	Aircraft registration
FLT	Flight number
INCIDENT_DATE	Date strike occurred
INCIDENT_MONTH	Month strike occurred
INCIDENT_YEAR	Year strike occurred
TIME_OF_DAY	Light conditions
TIME	Hour and minute in local time
AIRPORT_ID	International Civil Aviation Organization airport identifier for location of strike whether it was on or off airport
AIRPORT	Name of airport
STATE	State
FAAREGION	FAA Region where airport is located
ENROUTE	If strike did not occur on approach, climb, landing roll, taxi or take-off, aircraft was enroute. This shows location.
RUNWAY	Runway
HEIGHT	Feet Above Ground Level
SPEED	Knots (indicated air speed)
DISTANCE	Miles from airport
PHASE_OF_FLT	Phase of flight during which strike occurred
SKY	Type of cloud cover, if any
PRECIP	Precipitation
WARNED	Pilot warned of birds/wildlife

The number of details (columns) for each strike report has been reduces from 94 to 27.

4.1.1.2 Flight Data

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
Year	Year
Quarter	Quarter (1-4)
Month	Month
DayofMonth	Day of Month
DayOfWeek	Day of Week
FlightDate	Flight Date (yyyymmdd)
Carrier	Code assigned by IATA and commonly used to identify a carrier. As the same code may have been assigned to different carriers over time, the code is not always unique. For analysis, use the Unique Carrier Code.
UniqueCarrier	Unique Carrier Code. When the same code has been used by multiple carriers, a numeric suffix is used for earlier users, for example, PA, PA(1), PA(2). Use this field for analysis across a range of years.
FlightNum	Flight Number
Origin	Origin Airport
OriginCityName	Origin Airport, City Name
OriginState	Origin Airport, State Code
OriginStateName	Origin Airport, State Name
Dest	Destination Airport
DestCityName	Destination Airport, City Name
DestState	Destination Airport, State Code
DestStateName	Destination Airport, State Name
CRSDepTime	CRS Departure Time (local time: hhmm)
DepTimeBlk	CRS Departure Time Block, Hourly Intervals
CRSArrTime	CRS Arrival Time (local time: hhmm)
CRSElapsedTime	CRS Elapsed Time of Flight, in Minutes
Distance	Distance between airports (miles)
DistanceGroup	Distance Intervals, every 250 Miles, for Flight Segment

The number of details (columns) for each flight performance record has been reduces from 110 to 23.

4.1.1.3 Aiport Data

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
Type	Landing facility type. (ex. Airport, Balloonport, Seaplane Base, Gliderport, Heliport, Stolport, Ultralight)
LocationID	Location identifier unique 3-4 character alphanumeric identifier assigned to the landing facility. (ex. ‘ORD’ for Chicago O’Hare)
Region	FAA region code. (ex. AAL - Alaska, ACE - Central, AEA - Eastern, AGL - Great Lakes, AIN - International, ANE - New England, ANM - Northwest Mountain, ASO - Southern, ASW - Southwest, AWP - Western-Pacific)
State	Associated state post office code standard two letter abbreviation for u.s. states and territories. (ex. IL, PR, CQ)
StateName	Associated state name. (ex. Illinois)
City	Associated city name. (ex. Chicago)
FacilityName	Official facility name. (ex. Chicago O’Hare Intl)
ARPLatitude	Airport reference point latitude (formatted).
ARPLatitudeS	Airport reference point latitude (seconds).
ARPLongitude	Airport reference point longitude (formatted).
ARPLongitudeS	Airport reference point longitude (seconds).

Column name	Explanation of Column Name and Codes
ARPElevation	Airport elevation (nearest foot MSL). Elevation is measured at the highest point on the centerline of the usable landing surface. (ex. 1200; -10 for 10 feet below sea level)
LandAreaCoveredByAirport	Amount of land owned by the airport in acres.
AirportStatusCode	Airport status code: CI - closed indefinitely; CP - closed permanently; O - operational
IcaoIdentifier	International coding for airport.

The number of details (columns) for each airport record has been reduces from 102 to 8.

4.2 Select Data

4.2.1 Rationale for Inclusion / Exclusion

The resolution of the issues found during the data quality verification includes the exclusion of certain records from the data sets originally provided by the Federal Aviation Administration and the United States Department of Transportation agencies. This section provides the summary of the changes on the data sets.

4.2.1.1 Animal Strike Data

The following columns are impacted by the selection criteria described in the data quality verification section:

- OPID
- AC_CLASS
- TYPE_ENG

Additionally the number of States in the data set is above the actual number of states of the U.S., so the data needs to be reduced to contain only the following states:

Abbreviation	Name	Abbreviation	Name
AL	Alabama	MT	Montana
AK	Alaska	NE	Nebraska
AZ	Arizona	NV	Nevada
AR	Arkansas	NH	New Hampshire
CA	California	NJ	New Jersey
CO	Colorado	NM	New Mexico
CT	Connecticut	NY	New York
DE	Delaware	NC	North Carolina
FL	Florida	ND	North Dakota
GA	Georgia	OH	Ohio
HI	Hawaii	OK	Oklahoma
ID	Idaho	OR	Oregon
IL	Illinois	PA	Pennsylvania
IN	Indiana	RI	Rhode Island
IA	Iowa	SC	South Carolina
KS	Kansas	SD	South Dakota
KY	Kentucky	TN	Tennessee
LA	Louisiana	TX	Texas
ME	Maine	UT	Utah
MD	Maryland	VT	Vermont
MA	Massachusetts	VA	Virginia

Abbreviation	Name	Abbreviation	Name
MI	Michigan	WA	Washington
MN	Minnesota	WV	West Virginia
MS	Mississippi	WI	Wisconsin
MO	Missouri	WY	Wyoming

4.2.1.2 Flight Data

The data in the Federal Aviation Administration Animal Strike Database is available only until 30-4-2016, so the flight data needs to be adjusted accordingly.

Additionally the number of States in the data set is above the actual number of states of the U.S., so the data needs to be reduced to contain only the following states:

Abbreviation	Name	Abbreviation	Name
AL	Alabama	MT	Montana
AK	Alaska	NE	Nebraska
AZ	Arizona	NV	Nevada
AR	Arkansas	NH	New Hampshire
CA	California	NJ	New Jersey
CO	Colorado	NM	New Mexico
CT	Connecticut	NY	New York
DE	Delaware	NC	North Carolina
FL	Florida	ND	North Dakota
GA	Georgia	OH	Ohio
HI	Hawaii	OK	Oklahoma
ID	Idaho	OR	Oregon
IL	Illinois	PA	Pennsylvania
IN	Indiana	RI	Rhode Island
IA	Iowa	SC	South Carolina
KS	Kansas	SD	South Dakota
KY	Kentucky	TN	Tennessee
LA	Louisiana	TX	Texas
ME	Maine	UT	Utah
MD	Maryland	VT	Vermont
MA	Massachusetts	VA	Virginia
MI	Michigan	WA	Washington
MN	Minnesota	WV	West Virginia
MS	Mississippi	WI	Wisconsin
MO	Missouri	WY	Wyoming

4.2.1.3 Airport Data

The data set contains the data of the currently operational and closed airports along with other aviation facilities (e.g.: balloon port), while I am interested of the data of only those airports which are operational, so the data of the closed airports and other type of aviation facilities needs to be removed.

The number of States in the data set is above the actual number of states of the U.S., so the data needs to be reduced to contain only the following states:

Abbreviation	Name	Abbreviation	Name
AL	Alabama	MT	Montana

Abbreviation	Name	Abbreviation	Name
AK	Alaska	NE	Nebraska
AZ	Arizona	NV	Nevada
AR	Arkansas	NH	New Hampshire
CA	California	NJ	New Jersey
CO	Colorado	NM	New Mexico
CT	Connecticut	NY	New York
DE	Delaware	NC	North Carolina
FL	Florida	ND	North Dakota
GA	Georgia	OH	Ohio
HI	Hawaii	OK	Oklahoma
ID	Idaho	OR	Oregon
IL	Illinois	PA	Pennsylvania
IN	Indiana	RI	Rhode Island
IA	Iowa	SC	South Carolina
KS	Kansas	SD	South Dakota
KY	Kentucky	TN	Tennessee
LA	Louisiana	TX	Texas
ME	Maine	UT	Utah
MD	Maryland	VT	Vermont
MA	Massachusetts	VA	Virginia
MI	Michigan	WA	Washington
MN	Minnesota	WV	West Virginia
MS	Mississippi	WI	Wisconsin
MO	Missouri	WY	Wyoming

4.3 Clean Data

4.3.1 Data Cleaning Report

The resolution of the issues found during the data quality verification includes the exclusion of certain records from the data sets originally provided by the Federal Aviation Administration and the United States Department of Transportation agencies. This section provides the summary of the changes on the data sets.

4.3.1.1 Animal Strike Data

The data quality verification identified that the data provided by the Federal Aviation Administration contains the following problems impacting the indicated columns:

- Mixed use of uppercase and lowercase letters/codes
  - TYPE_ENG
  - TIME_OF_DAY
  - PHASE_OF_FLT
  - SKY
  - PRECIP
  - WARNED
- Mixed use of codes (e.g.: engine type is defined as “A/C”)
  - TYPE_ENG
  - SKY

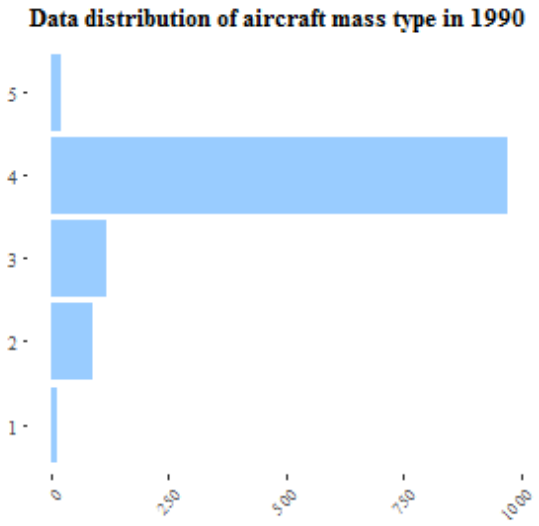
The first summary table shows the number of distinct items for each year regarding the Airline operators, Aircraft, Aircraft types, Aircraft mass types, and Engine types, which have been reported as being affected in an animal strike after the selection and cleanup tasks.

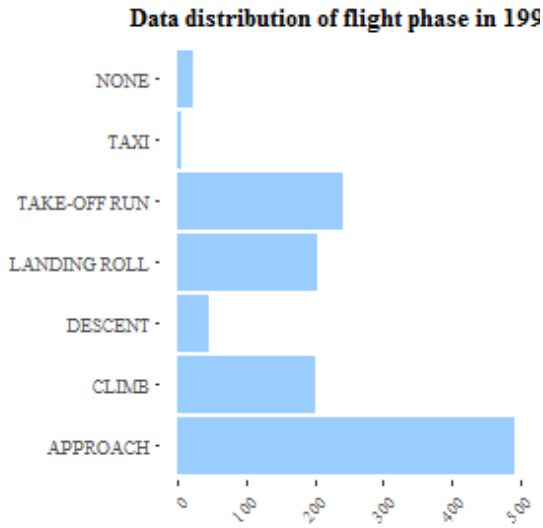
Year	# of reports	Operators	Aircraft	Aircraft type	Aircraft mass type	Engine type
1990	1190	94	79	1	5	4

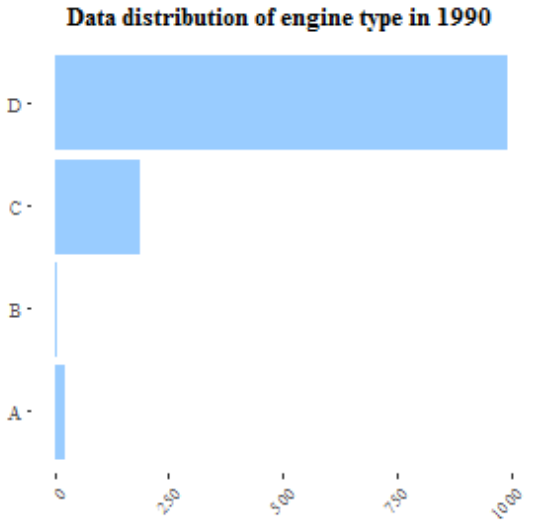
The second summary table shows the number of distinct items for each year regarding the Time of day, Airports, States, Phase of flight, weather conditions (Sky and Precipitation), and the flag for showing if the pilot has been warned or not about birds / wildlife in the reports after the selection and cleanup tasks.

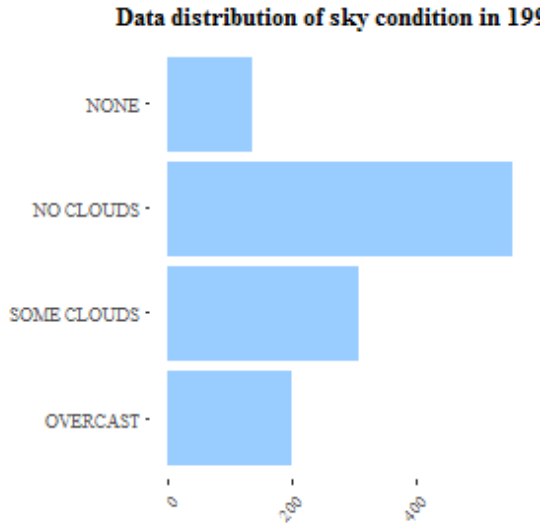
Year	Time of day	Airports	States	Phase of flight	Sky	Precipitation	Warned
1990	5	208	49	7	4	4	3

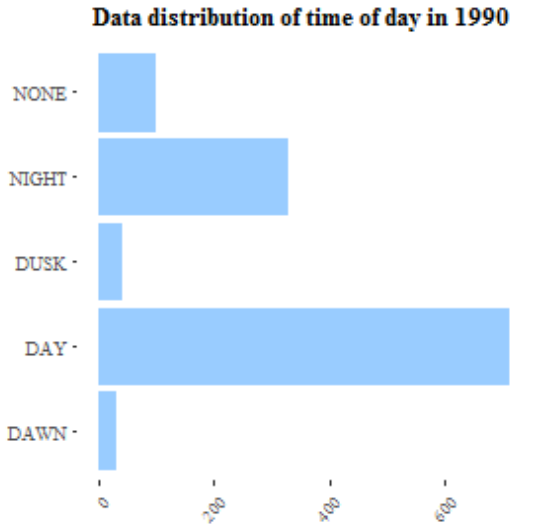
The following graphs show the distributions of some of the selected distinct items summarized in the tables above.

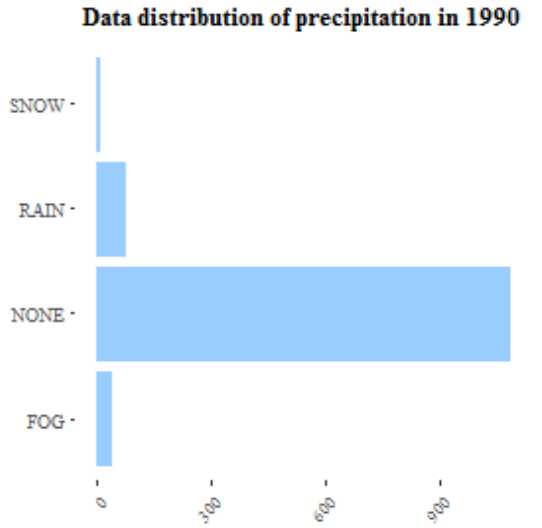

Data distribution of aircraft mass type in 1990
5
4
3
2
1
0
250
500
750
1000


Data distribution of flight phase in 199
NONE
TAXI
TAKE-OFF RUN
LANDING ROLL
DESCENT
CLIMB
APPROACH
0
100
200
300
400
500


Data distribution of engine type in 1990
D
C
B
A
0
250
500
750
1000


Data distribution of sky condition in 19
NONE
NO CLOUDS
SOME CLOUDS
OVERCAST
0
200
400


Data distribution of time of day in 1990
NONE
NIGHT
DUSK
DAY
DAWN
0
200
400
600


Data distribution of precipitation in 1990
SNOW
RAIN
NONE
FOG
0
300
600
900

4.3.1.2 Flight Data

I did not identify any data quality issues - which have not been corrected in the previous steps - with the data provided by the United States Department of Transportation during the data exploration and data quality verification exercises.

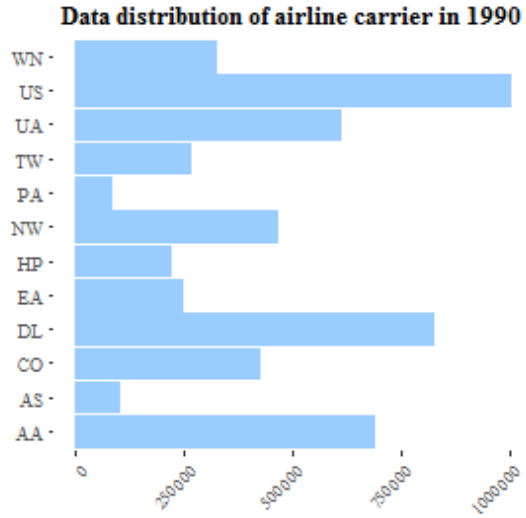
The first summary table shows the number of distinct items for each year regarding the number of records, the carriers, and the origin and the destination airports after the selection and cleanup tasks.

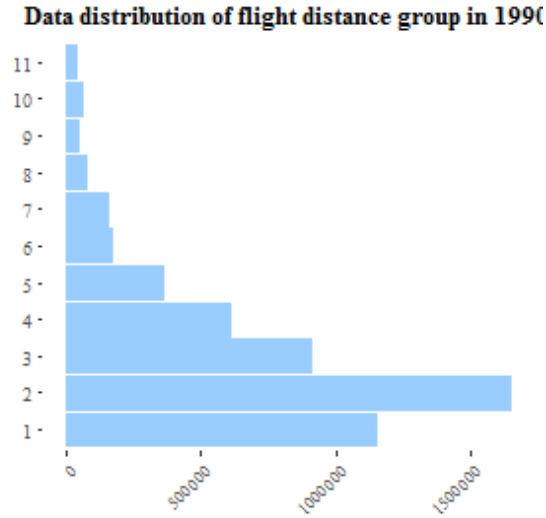
Year	# of flights	# of carriers	Origin airports	Origin states	Destination airports	Destination states
1990	5220743	12	226	49	227	49

The second summary table shows the number of distinct items for each year the departure time group and distance between the airports after the selection and cleanup tasks.

Year	Departure time block	Distance group
1990	19	11

The following graphs show the distributions of some of the selected distinct items summarized in the tables above.





4.3.1.3 Airport Data

I did not identify any data quality issues - which have not been corrected in the previous steps - with the data provided by the Federal Aviation Administration during the data exploration and data quality verification exercises.

4.4 Construct Data

4.4.1 Derived Attributes

Taking into account that the animal strikes might be related to the amount of the traffic being generated by the airports and some conditions (like the minimum, maximum and average distance) of the flights initiated and terminated from the airports the following supporting attributes will be created for each airport:

- Average number of originated flights
- Average number of departed flights
- Longest flight originated from the airport
- Longest flight departed to the airport
- Shortest flight originated from the airport
- Shortest flight departed to the airport
- Average distance of the flights originated from the airport
- Average distance of the flights departed to the airport

Another set of attributes, which needs to be taken into account is based on the animal strike data. The following supporting attribute(s) will be created for each airport:

- Number of strikes at the airport

4.4.2 Generated Records

The information described by the data records and the massive amount of data provided by the Federal Aviation Administration and the United States Department of Transportation does not require to generate additional records at this stage of the project. It might still happen on the other hand that during the model building it will be required to generate more records (or reduce the number of records), but this task will be performed at the model creation stage based on the preliminary evaluation of the model.

4.5 Integrate Data

4.5.1 Merged Data

The business objectives are defining two main goals for the project, namely:

1. Create a statistical analysis to identify those reasons (based on the data available), which are determining the the risk of an animal strike for an airport.
2. Create a prediction model, which can be used to predict the risk of an animal strike for a given flight.

Realizing these objectives I need to merge the data sets based on two very different set of criteria, while I have to take into account the impact of the merge on the final results.

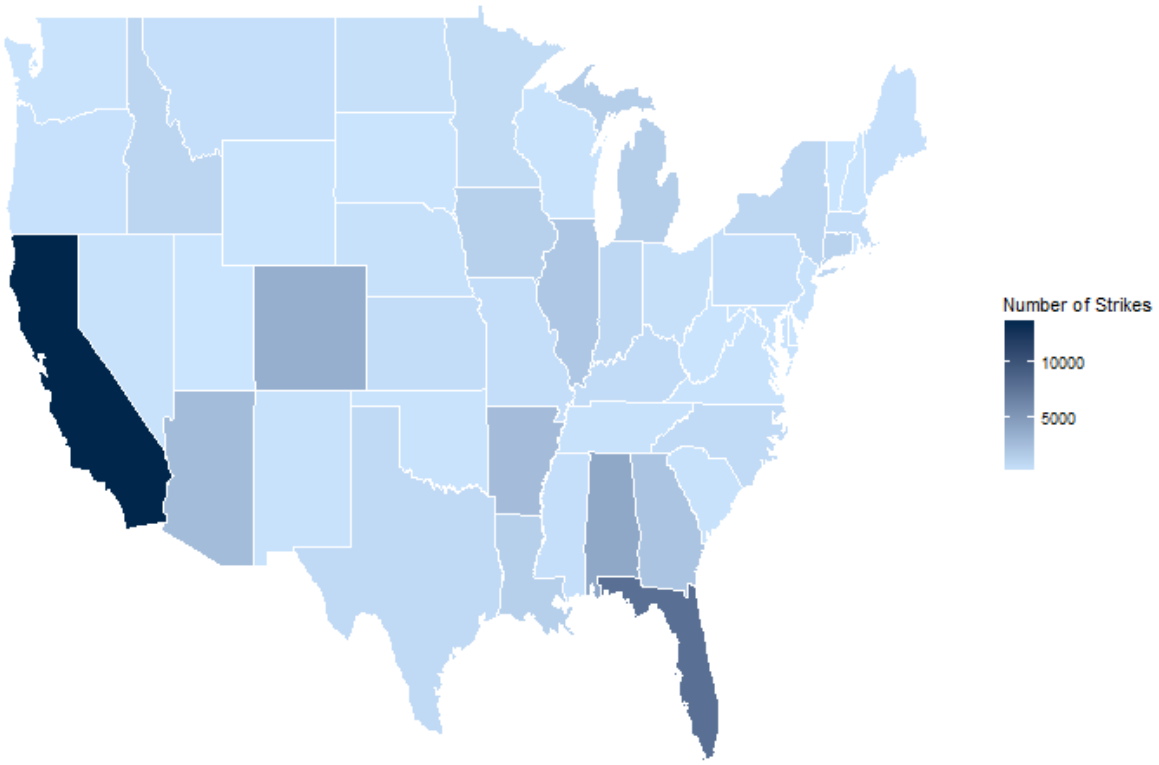
Criteria set for merging the data regarding the first business goal:

- Base data set to be used is the Federal Aviation Administration Airport Data & Contact Information
- Use airports having flight data available (both as an origin and as a destination airport) in the data set obtained from the United States Department of Transportation
- Enrich the data with the animal strike data acquired from the Federal Aviation Administration Wildlife Strike Database

There are multiple different ways of uniquely identifying an airport. In the US one option is to use the Federal Aviation Administration Location ID, while another way is to use the international airport code of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). The data sets are using a mix of these identifiers.

Note: The airports might have identification code from the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and/or the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and/or Federal Aviation Administration (FAA LID). Some airports have identification codes from all these organizations, some does not. The data acquired from the agencies are using codes from two of the identification code types.

Based on the merged data I can visualize the distribution of the animal strikes in the map of the US.



Criteria set for merging the data regarding the second business goal:

- Base data set to be used is the available in the data set obtained from the United States Department of Transportation
- Marking the flight data with the animal strike information should be based on the following list of criteria:
  - airline / carrier
  - incident date
  - airport and state
  - flight number

Notes:

- The Federal Aviation Administration Wildlife Strike Database is based on the geographical location of the strike. The database contains the strike records regardless of the airline / carrier, meaning that it contain the strike data of international flights as well.
- The flight performance data from the United States Department of Transportation contains the data only from the major airlines.

The strict criteria for integrating the two main data sets resulted the following actual number of identified strikes in the

flight performance data:

Number of flight records	Number of striked records	Percentage
155,432,729	28,740	0.01849%

4.6 Format Data

4.6.1 Reformatted Data

The data provided by the Federal Aviation Administration and the United States Department of Transportation did already contain several restrictions about the data format and during the selection, cleanup and integration exercises more data formatting has been applied, therefore no additional data formatting is required at this stage of the project.

5 Modeling

5.1 Select Modeling Technique for the first model

5.1.1 Modeling Technique

My goal is to create a statistical model to analyse a continuous variable as the outcome variable (called by statisticians as Y, the response variable, the dependent variable) using multiple predictors (called by statisticians as X, independent variable, explanatory variable). Having the outcome variable as a continuous variable, I'm going to use a linear regression model for the analysis.

The data sets I have available are simplifying the situation as they do not contain several variables (like the distance to national parks, the flight routes of the birds, actions taken by the authorities of the different airports, etc.), which might have significant impact on the model results. These variables are called confounder variables and can be defined as follows:

"A confounder is a third variable that biases (increases or decreases) the association we are interested in. The confounder is always associated with both the response and the predictor." (Gergely Daróczi, Renáta Németh, and Gergely Tóth 2015)

5.1.2 Modeling Assumptions

Besides the assumptions taken with the standard estimation techniques of the linear regression model I did not take any other modeling related assumption.

These assumptions taken are the following:

1. The outcome variable is a continuous variable
2. The residuals are statistically independent
3. There is a relationship between the outcome variable and each predictor variable
4. The outcome variable has a normal distribution
5. The variance of the outcome variable is fixed regardless of the predictor variables

The assumptions above are based on the definitions and the descriptions written in the "Mastering Data Analysis with R" book by (Gergely Daróczi, Renáta Németh, and Gergely Tóth 2015).

5.2 Generate Test Design for the first model

5.2.1 Test Design

The first model I am building is not a prediction model, instead it's a regression model for analising the data. Therefore I'm not going to create a separate train and test data set, as it has not meaning in this context.

5.3 Build Model for the first model

5.3.1 Parameter Settings

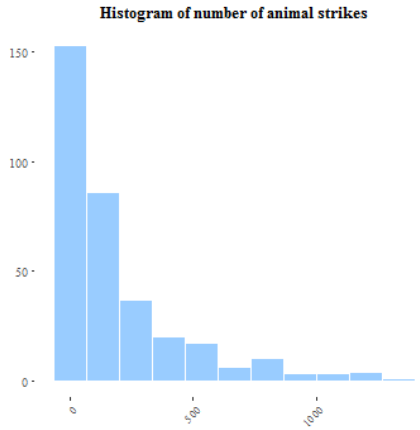
The R language provides quite a lot of possibilities for setting different parameters for the linear regression models. Keeping the modelling as simple as possible I'm using the default settings for the linear model fitting.

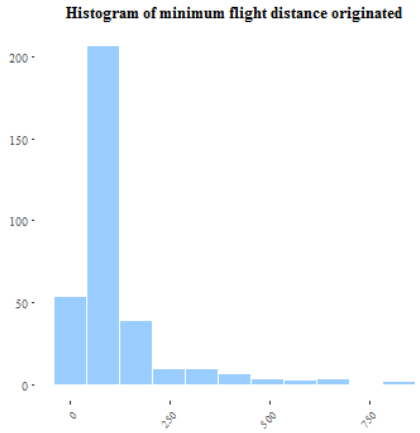
5.3.2 Models

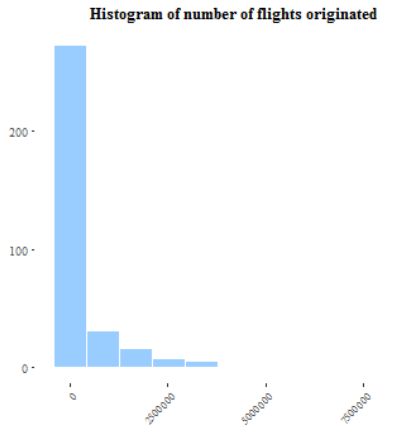
Before building any model I checked the type and in the relevant cases the distribution of the variables (for the outcome and for the predictor variables as well). The following table shows the type of the variables I've used in the model building:

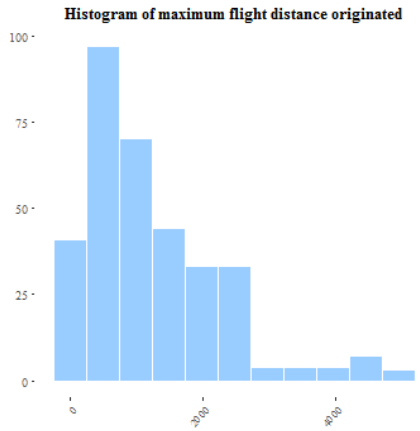
Variable name	Type of the variable	Modelling relevance	Check distribution
StrikeNo	Number	Outcome	Yes
Region	Categorical	Predictor	No
State	Categorical	Predictor	No
OriginCount	Integer	Predictor	Yes
OriginMaxDistance	Number	Predictor	Yes
OriginMinDistance	Number	Predictor	Yes
OriginAvgDistance	Number	Predictor	Yes
DestinationCount	Integer	Predictor	Yes
DestinationMaxDistance	Number	Predictor	Yes
DestinationMinDistance	Number	Predictor	Yes
DestinationAvgDistance	Number	Predictor	Yes
ARPElevation	Integer	Predictor	Yes
LandAreaCoveredByAirport	Number	Predictor	Yes

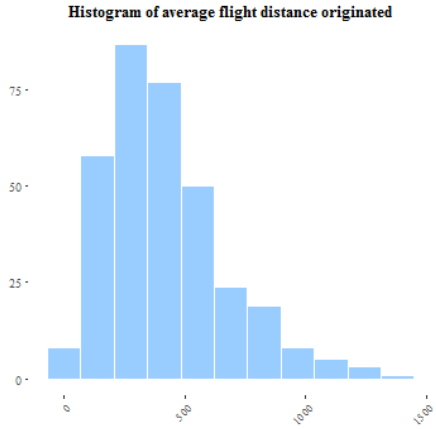
Checking the histograms of the relevant fields I saw that none of the fields have a normal distribution, instead all of them are left-skewed.

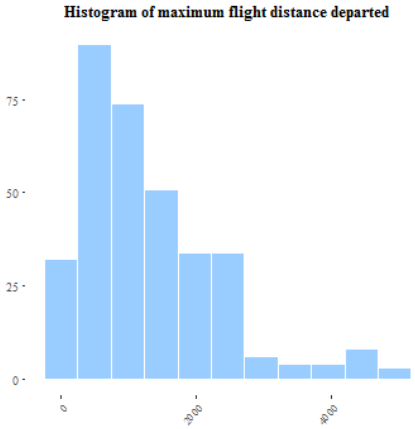


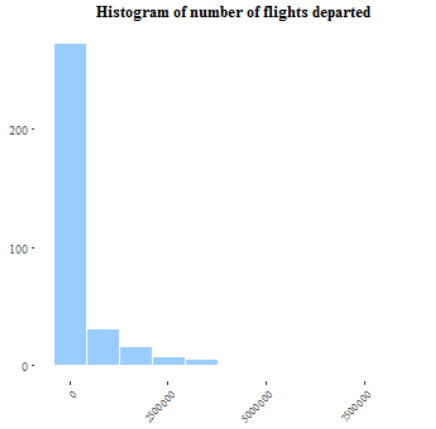


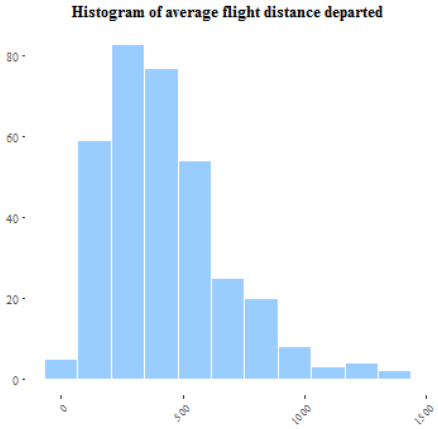


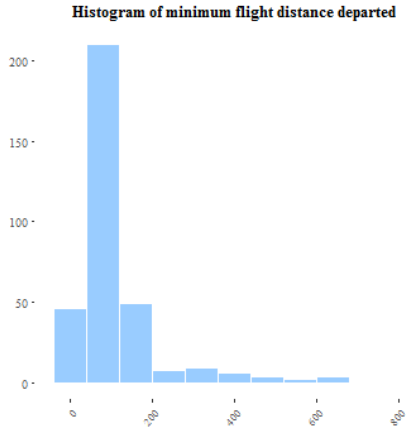


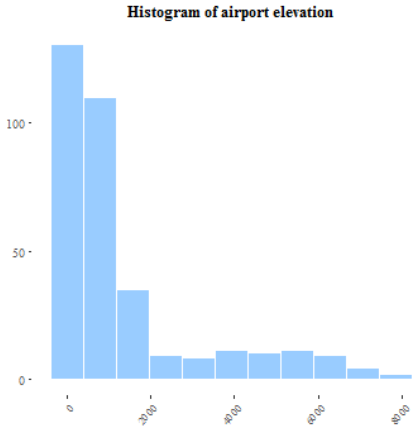

Histogram of average flight distance originated
75
50
25
0
0
5000
10000
15000

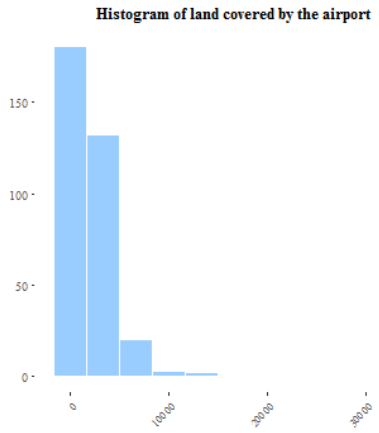

Histogram of maximum flight distance departed
75
50
25
0
0
20000
40000


Histogram of number of flights departed
200
100
0
0
2500000
5000000
7500000

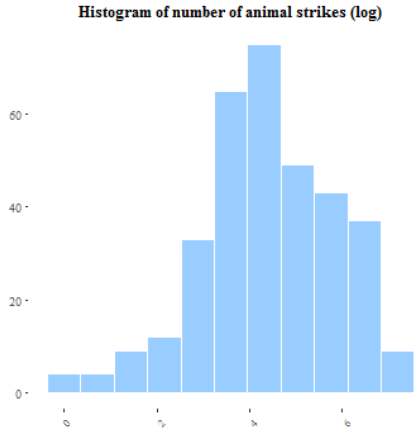

Histogram of average flight distance departed
80
60
40
20
0
0
5000
10000
15000

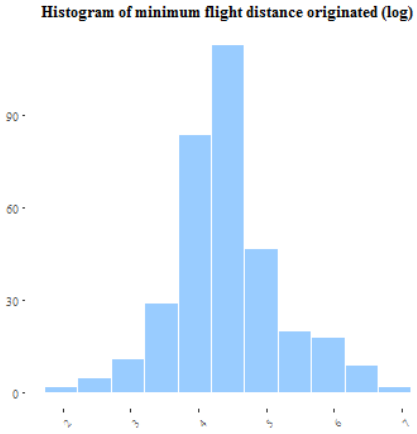

Histogram of minimum flight distance departed
200
150
100
50
0
0
200
400
600
800

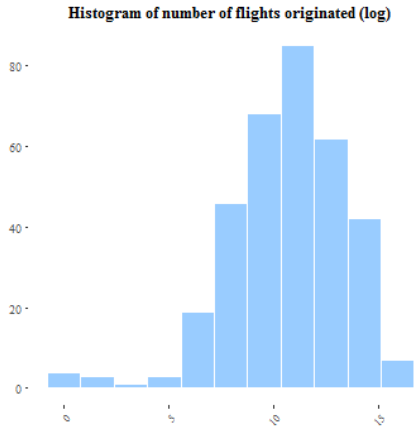

Histogram of airport elevation
100
50
0
0
20000
40000
60000
80000

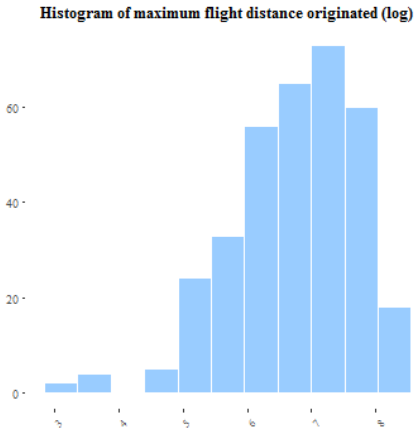


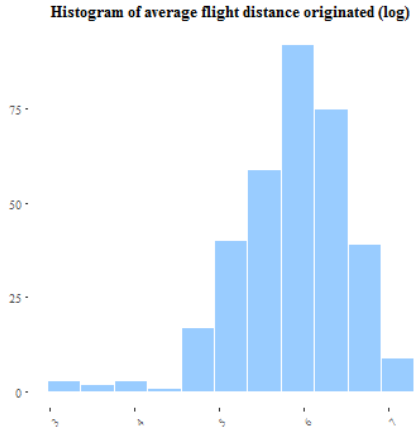
Resolving this issue can be done using the log of these fields, which will normalize the distributions as it is shown below.

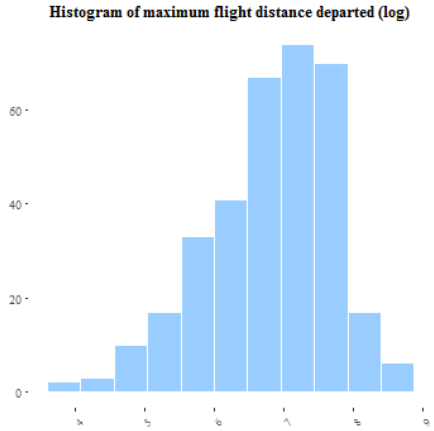


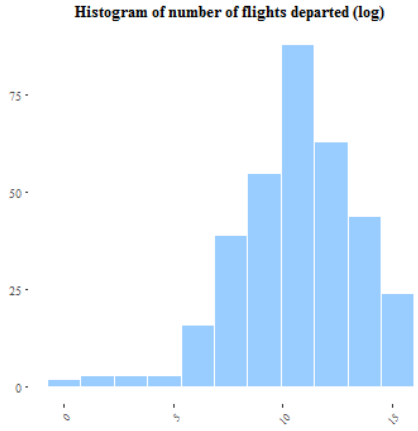


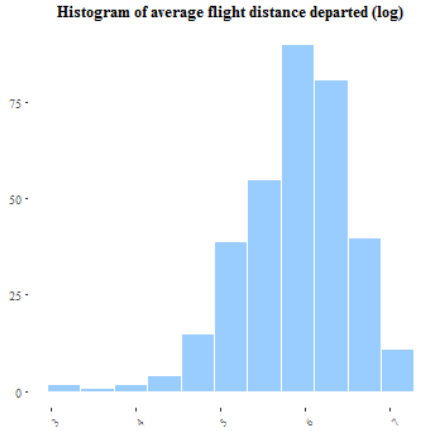


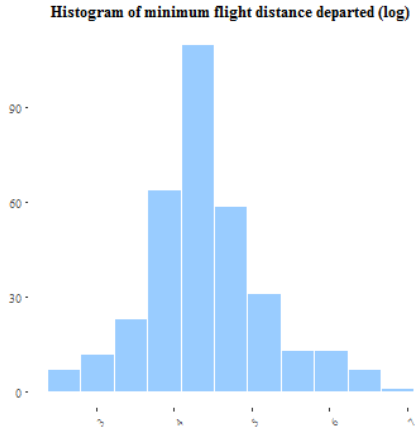


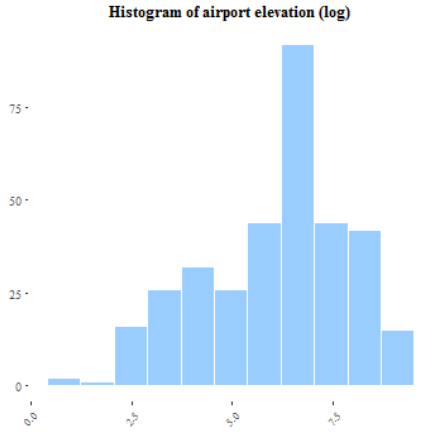

Histogram of average flight distance originated (log)

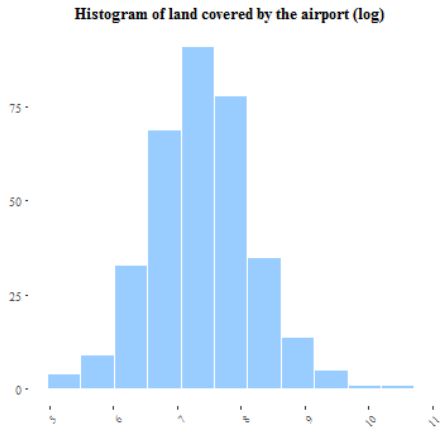

Histogram of maximum flight distance departed (log)


Histogram of number of flights departed (log)


Histogram of average flight distance departed (log)


Histogram of minimum flight distance departed (log)


Histogram of airport elevation (log)



Taking into account several combinations I've built the following models.

Model name	Predictors
Model01-01	OriginCount, DestinationCount
Model01-02	OriginCount, OriginMaxDistance, OriginMinDistance, OriginAvgDistance, DestinationCount, DestinationMaxDistance, DestinationMinDistance, DestinationAvgDistance
Model01-03	ARPElevation, LandAreaCoveredByAirport
Model01-04	Region
Model01-05	Region, State
Model01-06	State, OriginCount, DestinationCount, ARPElevation

5.3.3 Model Description

The first model (**Model01-01**) is built based on the assumption that the traffic generated by the airport has a significant impact on the number of animal strike on the given airport.

The second model (**Model01-02**) is an extension of the first model, since it contains data about the flights of the airport using the assumption that a longer distance requires a bigger airplane as well.

The third model (**Model01-03**) is taking into account only airport related details, namely the elevation of the airport above the see level and the land occupied by the airport.

The fourth model (**Model01-04**) is based on only the FAA regions and with the fifth model (**Model01-05**) they cover the possibilities from the airport location point of view (up to a reasonable level).

The sixth and last model (**Model01-06**) is combining the most predictors being evaluated as most significant ones from the previous models.

5.4 Assess Model for the first model

5.4.1 Model Assessment

All the linear regression models will be assessed using the following criteria:

Criteria	Description
Residuals	The expectation is that the residuals have a normal distribution, with a Median value close to 0.
Significance markings	A very low p-value is indicated as "***", while a" " is considered a high p-value. A lower p-value indicates that it's more unlikely that there is no relationship between the outcome and the predictor variable.
Standard error of the coefficient estimate	this value is measuring the variability in the coefficient estimate. The value is relative to the coefficient estimate, in general lower is better.
p-value	The predictor variable probability of being not relevant. Lower value is better, since it means that the predictor is relevant.
R-squared	It's the numeric representation of how well is the model fitting the data. In general higher is better, indicating a good correlation, but this does not mean causation.

5.4.1.1 Model01-01 Assessment

```
Call:
lm(formula = StrikeNo ~ OriginCount + DestinationCount, data = modelDataLog)

Residuals:
    Min      1Q  Median      3Q     Max
-4.0135 -0.9630 -0.0252  1.0351  2.5590

Coefficients:
                 Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept)        1.8013     0.2956   6.093 3.03e-09 ***
OriginCount        0.4591     0.5409   0.849    0.397
DestinationCount  -0.2147     0.5506  -0.390    0.697
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 1.269 on 337 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared:  0.2302,    Adjusted R-squared:  0.2256
F-statistic: 50.38 on 2 and 337 DF,  p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

While the residuals seem to have a quite normal distribution none of the predictors is significant for the outcome. This model is not good, the remaining criteria do not need to be evaluated.

5.4.1.2 Model01-02 Assessment

```
Call:
lm(formula = StrikeNo ~ OriginCount + OriginMaxDistance + OriginMinDistance +
    OriginAvgDistance + DestinationCount + DestinationMaxDistance +
    DestinationMinDistance + DestinationAvgDistance, data = modelData)

Residuals:
    Min      1Q  Median      3Q     Max
-467.68 -143.38  -69.86   57.14  969.11
```

```
Coefficients:
                          Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept)             104.098565  28.474573   3.656 0.000298 ***
OriginCount               0.012548   0.005781   2.171 0.030675 *
OriginMaxDistance         0.065088   0.054281   1.199 0.231354
OriginMinDistance        -0.236468   0.192657  -1.227 0.220545
OriginAvgDistance         0.197944   0.327524   0.604 0.546015
DestinationCount         -0.012545   0.005773  -2.173 0.030474 *
DestinationMaxDistance   -0.035235   0.050652  -0.696 0.487154
DestinationMinDistance   -0.195390   0.201544  -0.969 0.333020
DestinationAvgDistance    0.034932   0.323663   0.108 0.914118
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 234.2 on 331 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared:  0.1613,    Adjusted R-squared:  0.1411
F-statistic:  7.96 on 8 and 331 DF,  p-value: 8.156e-10
```

In the second model the residuals are not distributed normally and even though the predictor significance got a little bit better, the model is still not acceptable. Just like in the previous case, the remaining criteria do not need to be evaluated.

5.4.1.3 Model01-03 Assessment

```
Call:
lm(formula = StrikeNo ~ ARPElevation + LandAreaCoveredByAirport,
    data = modelData)

Residuals:
    Min      1Q  Median      3Q     Max
-362.40 -152.38  -97.36   46.66 1086.43

Coefficients:
                            Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept)               188.383932  19.959855   9.438  < 2e-16 ***
ARPElevation               -0.022871   0.007570  -3.021  0.00271 **
LandAreaCoveredByAirport    0.013593   0.004987   2.726  0.00675 **
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 247.6 on 337 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared:  0.04548,   Adjusted R-squared:  0.03982
F-statistic: 8.029 on 2 and 337 DF,  p-value: 0.0003923
```

While this model has a much better predictor significance, the distribution of the residuals can't be accepted, making the model rejected.

5.4.1.4 Model01-04 Assessment

```
Call:
lm(formula = StrikeNo ~ Region, data = modelData)

Residuals:
    Min      1Q  Median      3Q     Max
```

```
-431.98  -96.98  -48.45   61.53  930.08

Coefficients:
            Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept)   443.91      65.81   6.745 6.84e-11 ***
RegionACE    -306.51      81.94  -3.741 0.000216 ***
RegionAEA    -388.41      74.73  -5.197 3.55e-07 ***
RegionAGL    -343.08      71.59  -4.792 2.50e-06 ***
RegionANE    -249.16      91.11  -2.735 0.006583 **
RegionANM    -333.07      72.69  -4.582 6.54e-06 ***
RegionASO    -175.99      71.50  -2.461 0.014351 *
RegionASW    -329.54      73.26  -4.498 9.50e-06 ***
RegionAWP      13.07      73.93   0.177 0.859816
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 218.3 on 331 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared:  0.2712,    Adjusted R-squared:  0.2536
F-statistic:  15.4 on 8 and 331 DF,  p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

The forth is the first model where the predictor significance seems to be really good, along with an acceptable level of r-squared values, but I still have to reject the model because of the distribution of the residuals.

5.4.1.5 Model01-05 Assessment

```
Call:
lm(formula = StrikeNo ~ Region + State, data = modelData)

Residuals:
    Min      1Q  Median      3Q     Max
-643.00  -31.87   -0.66   28.84  890.09

Coefficients: (8 not defined because of singularities)
            Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept)  443.909     51.990   8.538 7.78e-16 ***
RegionACE   -368.909    100.678  -3.664 0.000295 ***
RegionAEA   -425.909    100.678  -4.230 3.13e-05 ***
RegionAGL   -424.534     80.122  -5.299 2.31e-07 ***
RegionANE   -415.909    180.098  -2.309 0.021627 *
RegionANM   -434.338     83.369  -5.210 3.59e-07 ***
RegionASO   -397.109     93.002  -4.270 2.65e-05 ***
RegionASW   -415.909     61.678  -6.743 8.37e-11 ***
RegionAWP   -362.909    112.311  -3.231 0.001374 **
StateAL      760.200    109.055   6.971 2.13e-11 ***
StateAR      648.750     92.381   7.023 1.55e-11 ***
StateAZ      600.750    131.696   4.562 7.50e-06 ***
StateCA      409.286    104.751   3.907 0.000116 ***
StateCO      344.429     84.975   4.053 6.49e-05 ***
StateCT      580.500    211.184   2.749 0.006357 **
StateDE       67.000    192.784   0.348 0.728438
StateFL      388.367     87.168   4.455 1.20e-05 ***
StateGA      224.575     98.301   2.285 0.023060 *
StateHI      275.429    118.989   2.315 0.021325 *
```

```
StateIA      193.200    115.670   1.670 0.095946 .
StateID      163.095     95.932   1.700 0.090181 .
StateIL      230.125     86.215   2.669 0.008032 **
StateIN      200.375    105.592   1.898 0.058737 .
StateKS       41.800    115.670   0.361 0.718084
StateKY      117.450    115.670   1.015 0.310768
StateLA      174.143     73.135   2.381 0.017905 *
StateMA       91.200    188.889   0.483 0.629585
StateMD      150.000    192.784   0.778 0.437159
StateME      137.500    211.184   0.651 0.515503
StateMI       83.092     75.490   1.101 0.271940
StateMN       60.125     86.215   0.697 0.486123
StateMO       12.167    111.304   0.109 0.913032
StateMS       17.343    100.965   0.172 0.863738
StateMT       50.000     92.168   0.542 0.587900
StateNC       33.644     96.177   0.350 0.726730
StateND       27.250     86.215   0.316 0.752178
StateNE           NA         NA      NA       NA
StateNH       87.000    243.854   0.357 0.721523
StateNJ       55.333    131.696   0.420 0.674681
StateNM       17.400     83.950   0.207 0.835948
StateNV           NA         NA      NA       NA
StateNY       47.667     97.032   0.491 0.623624
StateOH       52.825     98.301   0.537 0.591416
StateOK       24.000    104.938   0.229 0.819258
StateOR       29.429     92.168   0.319 0.749735
StatePA       39.143    108.077   0.362 0.717484
StateRI       22.000    243.854   0.090 0.928176
StateSC        1.200    109.055   0.011 0.991228
StateSD        8.875    105.592   0.084 0.933075
StateTN           NA         NA      NA       NA
StateTX           NA         NA      NA       NA
StateUT       -3.000     92.168  -0.033 0.974056
StateVA        7.571    108.077   0.070 0.944197
StateVT           NA         NA      NA       NA
StateWA       17.595     95.932   0.183 0.854601
StateWI           NA         NA      NA       NA
StateWV           NA         NA      NA       NA
StateWY           NA         NA      NA       NA
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 172.4 on 290 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared:  0.6016,    Adjusted R-squared:  0.5342
F-statistic: 8.935 on 49 and 290 DF,  p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

The fifth model is showing the possibility of a higher significance of the airport location with a quite good residual distribution, but from interpretation point of you it's a bit misleading as well, since the regions and the states are overlapping, making the predictors incorrect from the domain point of view.

5.4.1.6 Model01-06 Assessment

```
Call:
```

```
lm(formula = StrikeNo ~ State + OriginCount + DestinationCount +
    ARPElevation, data = modelData)

Residuals:
    Min      1Q  Median      3Q     Max
-630.04  -42.36   -0.23   38.09  866.93

Coefficients:
                  Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept)       4.424e+02  4.890e+01   9.048  < 2e-16 ***
StateAL           3.631e+02  8.753e+01   4.148 4.42e-05 ***
StateAR           2.406e+02  9.483e+01   2.537 0.011708 *
StateAZ           3.182e+02  1.077e+02   2.953 0.003403 **
StateCA           1.794e+01  5.844e+01   0.307 0.759111
StateCO           9.015e+01  1.004e+02   0.898 0.369788
StateCT           1.322e+02  1.248e+02   1.060 0.290065
StateDE          -3.545e+02  1.693e+02  -2.094 0.037131 *
StateFL          -4.329e+01  6.232e+01  -0.695 0.487861
StateGA          -2.363e+02  7.649e+01  -3.089 0.002203 **
StateHI          -9.153e+01  7.842e+01  -1.167 0.244147
StateIA          -1.551e+02  8.801e+01  -1.762 0.079052 .
StateID          -1.573e+02  9.273e+01  -1.696 0.090912 .
StateIL          -1.782e+02  7.719e+01  -2.308 0.021713 *
StateIN          -2.263e+02  9.500e+01  -2.382 0.017862 *
StateKS          -2.794e+02  8.925e+01  -3.130 0.001927 **
StateKY          -2.999e+02  9.521e+01  -3.150 0.001805 **
StateLA          -2.569e+02  7.841e+01  -3.276 0.001181 **
StateMA          -3.549e+02  8.768e+01  -4.047 6.66e-05 ***
StateMD          -4.106e+02  1.711e+02  -2.399 0.017066 *
StateME          -2.828e+02  1.246e+02  -2.269 0.023994 *
StateMI          -3.238e+02  6.486e+01  -4.991 1.04e-06 ***
StateMN          -3.369e+02  7.656e+01  -4.401 1.52e-05 ***
StateMO          -3.561e+02  8.309e+01  -4.286 2.48e-05 ***
StateMS          -3.731e+02  7.838e+01  -4.760 3.08e-06 ***
StateMT          -2.510e+02  9.285e+01  -2.703 0.007286 **
StateNC          -3.634e+02  7.318e+01  -4.967 1.17e-06 ***
StateND          -3.501e+02  7.719e+01  -4.535 8.47e-06 ***
StateNE          -3.186e+02  9.716e+01  -3.279 0.001171 **
StateNH          -3.382e+02  1.693e+02  -1.998 0.046702 *
StateNJ          -4.218e+02  1.060e+02  -3.979 8.78e-05 ***
StateNM          -2.619e+02  1.035e+02  -2.531 0.011922 *
StateNV          -3.222e+02  1.159e+02  -2.780 0.005787 **
StateNY          -3.920e+02  6.476e+01  -6.053 4.43e-09 ***
StateOH          -3.821e+02  8.823e+01  -4.331 2.05e-05 ***
StateOK          -3.974e+02  1.064e+02  -3.736 0.000226 ***
StateOR          -3.787e+02  7.964e+01  -4.756 3.13e-06 ***
StatePA          -4.001e+02  7.896e+01  -5.067 7.23e-07 ***
StateRI          -4.375e+02  1.695e+02  -2.581 0.010344 *
StateSC          -4.003e+02  8.747e+01  -4.577 7.04e-06 ***
StateSD          -3.601e+02  9.690e+01  -3.717 0.000243 ***
StateTN          -3.953e+02  8.802e+01  -4.491 1.03e-05 ***
StateTX          -4.058e+02  5.912e+01  -6.864 4.15e-11 ***
StateUT          -3.153e+02  9.354e+01  -3.371 0.000851 ***
StateVA          -4.102e+02  7.859e+01  -5.219 3.46e-07 ***
```

```
StateVT          -4.159e+02  1.693e+02  -2.456 0.014640 *
StateWA          -4.177e+02  8.305e+01  -5.029 8.70e-07 ***
StateWI          -4.065e+02  7.599e+01  -5.349 1.81e-07 ***
StateWV          -3.856e+02  9.566e+01  -4.031 7.13e-05 ***
StateWY          -2.523e+02  1.030e+02  -2.450 0.014878 *
OriginCount       1.518e-02  4.111e-03   3.692 0.000266 ***
DestinationCount -1.512e-02  4.106e-03  -3.684 0.000275 ***
ARPElevation     -3.073e-02  1.149e-02  -2.674 0.007933 **
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 162.1 on 287 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared:  0.6516,    Adjusted R-squared:  0.5885
F-statistic: 10.32 on 52 and 287 DF,  p-value: < 2.2e-16
```

I consider the sixth and final model the best logistic regression model, as it has a quite normal residual distribution, very high significance for most of the predictors (some of the predictors are showing a very strong relation to the outcome) with good standard error for the predictors and very high r-squared values.

Taking into account that the model is a log-log model including categorical predictors (meaning that I used the natural log of the outcome and the continous predictor variables along with categorical predictors), the interpretation would go for the traffic originated from the airport as a one percent change in the originated traffic would be expected to have a 0.01518 percent change in the number of strikes is, compared to the number of strikes of Alaska.

5.4.2 Revised Parameter Settings

Keeping the modelling task as simple as possible I did not change the parameter settings for the models, instead I've used different predictor combinations to get the best possible statistical model from the data available.

5.5 Select Modeling Technique for the second model

5.5.1 Modeling Technique

Selecting the modelling technique I had to take into account two main restrictions and the business goal of the model. The first restriction was about the variety of the data I had, which was more of a needle in a haystack like data, instead of a nicely balanced data from the outcome point of view. The second restriction was about the volume of the data which made it impossible with the available resources to build the model in one single run. Additionally the main business goal was to build a prediction mode, so I had to select a model type fitting all these restrictions.

The modelling techniques I selected is the Gradient Boosting Machine (GBM) provided as one of the supervised algorithm in the H2O platform. The GBM technique can be used for both regression and classification models using forward learning ensemble method by building regression trees for all the predictors in the training data set. The H2O platform implementation is having a huge variety of parameters and can be easily used for a wide variety of model building exercises.

5.5.2 Modeling Assumptions

I did not take any modelling related assumption.

5.6 Generate Test Design for the second model

5.6.1 Test Design

The most efficient way of assessing the model would be to use a subset of the data set which was not used for training and for testing the model during the model building. Therefore I've split the data set to three sub-sets, containing 60% of the records for the training, 20% of the records for validating the model during the model building and 20% of the records for scoring the built model.

5.7 Build Model for the second model

5.7.1 Parameter Settings

The following parameters have been set for the GBM model:

Parameter name	Description	Initial	Final
x	Specify the columns to use as the predictor variables.	X	X
y	Specify the column to use as the outcome variable.	X	X
training_frame	Specify the data set used to build the model.	X	X
validation_frame	Specify the data set used to evaluate the accuracy of the model.	X	X
ntrees	Specify the number of trees to build.		X
learn_rate	Specify the learning rate.		X
max_depth	Specify the maximum tree depth.		X
stopping_rounds	Stops training when the option selected for stopping_metric doesn't improve for the specified number of training rounds, based on a simple moving average.		X
stopping_metric	Specify the metric to use for early stopping.		X
stopping_tolerance	Specify the relative tolerance for the metric-based stopping to stop training if the improvement is less than this value.		X
score_each_iteration	Specify whether to score during each iteration of the model training.		X
seed	Specify the random number generator (RNG) seed for algorithm components dependent on randomization.		X

Stopping parameters are defined to avoid unnecessary iterations without significant precision gain.

5.7.2 Models

I've built two model using different parameters (see the used parameters in the table above), first an initial model so that I could do a quick evaluation on the data and the model statistics, and secondly a final model using more parameters fine tuned to create a more precise result.

Based on the initial results the models have been built using different predictors, to keep the importance of the predictors in the final model in a reasonable level. The variables used in the models are the following:

Variable name	Type of the variable	Modelling relevance	Initial	Final
Year	Integer	Predictor	X	
Quarter	Integer	Predictor	X	X
Month	Integer	Predictor	X	X
DayofMonth	Integer	Predictor	X	X

Variable name	Type of the variable	Modelling relevance	Initial	Final
DayOfWeek	Integer	Predictor	X	X
FlightDate	Factor	Predictor	X	
UniqueCarrier	String	Predictor	X	X
FlightNum	Integer	Predictor	X	X
Origin	Factor	Predictor	X	X
Dest	Factor	Predictor	X	X
DepTimeBlk	Factor	Predictor	X	X
ArrTimeBlk	Factor	Predictor	X	X
CRSElapsedTime	Number	Predictor	X	X
Distance	Number	Predictor	X	X
DistanceGroup	Factor	Predictor	X	X
strikeFlag	Factor	Outcome	X	X

5.7.3 Model Description

To check the performance of the model parameters I've built the first model on the data from the year 1990. In this data sub-set I had 5,220,743 records, with only 9 records with strike data.

The evaluation of the first model indicated that the most probable reason behind the wrong performance is the lack of data variety with the huge difference in the data volume. There are multiple ways to overcome on these kind of situations. These techniques usually try to balance the outcome variable variety with reducing the number of records and/or generating additional records. Reducing the number of records works well in a situation when the variety and the volume of the data allows the reducing without significant impact on the results, while generating additional records can be used when the volume of the data is too small.

The situation of the data I'm working with requires to use both the reducing and generating/boosting, since the volume of records without strike is overwhelmingly bigger than the records with strikes. So for the second model I've modified the training data to take only the 10% of the non-strike records and add each strike record three times into the data set.

The data manipulation have resulted the following number of data records:

Number of flight records	Number of striked records	Percentage
15,447,169	85,353	0.5525%

5.8 Assess Model for the second model

5.8.1 Model Assessment

5.8.1.1 Initial model

The initial model (using almost only default settings) provided the following performance metrics:

5.8.1.1.1 Reported on training data.

The model performance metrics are the following on the train data set.

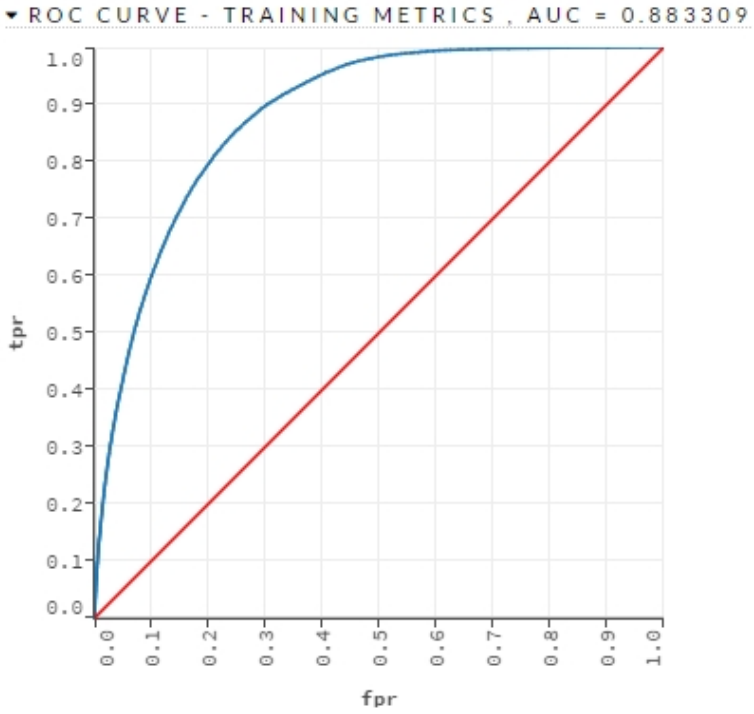
Metric name	Metric value
MSE	0.005354946
RMSE	0.0731775
LogLoss	0.0278349

Metric name	Metric value
Mean Per-Class Error	0.4181091
AUC	0.8833093
Gini	0.7666185

Confusion Matrix

	0	1	Error
0	9215132	109455	0.011738
1	42713	9093	0.824480
Totals	9257845	118548	0.016229

Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) curve



5.8.1.1.2 Reported on validation data.

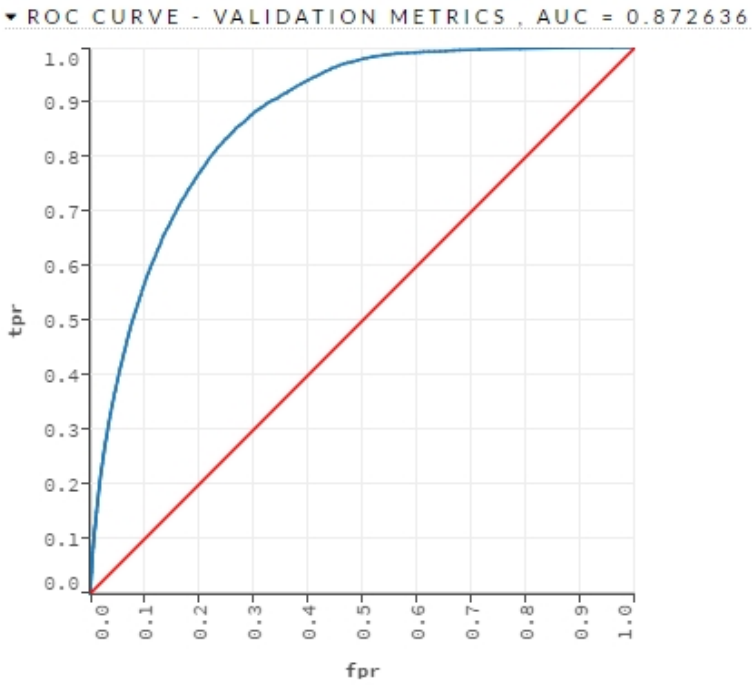
The model performance metrics are the following on the validation data set.

Metric name	Metric value
MSE	0.005418781
RMSE	0.07361237
LogLoss	0.02848955
Mean Per-Class Error	0.4132652
AUC	0.8726363
Gini	0.7452726

Confusion Matrix

	0	1	Error
0	3059226	48186	0.015507
1	14111	3288	0.811024
Totals	3073337	51474	0.019936

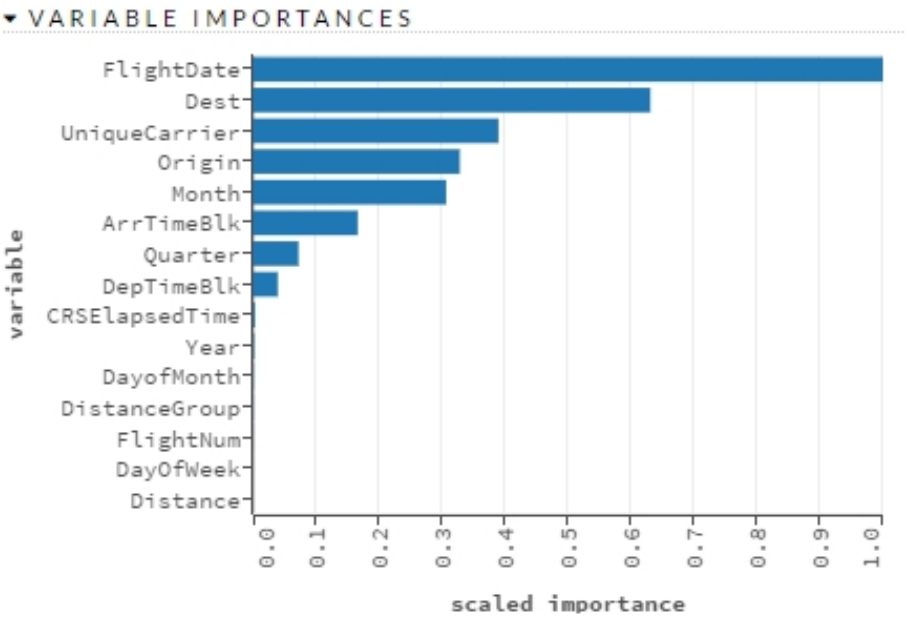
Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) curve



5.8.1.1.3 Variable Importances

The ten most importance predictor variables are the following:

	Variable	Relative	Scaled	Percentage
1	FlightDate	1700.398682	1.000000	0.340196
2	Dest	1072.529175	0.630752	0.214579
3	UniqueCarrier	662.508667	0.389620	0.132547
4	Origin	558.006104	0.328162	0.111639
5	Month	521.196716	0.306514	0.104275
6	ArrTimeBlk	282.533051	0.166157	0.056526
7	Quarter	122.561745	0.072078	0.024521
8	DepTimeBlk	66.628983	0.039184	0.013330
9	CRSElapsedTime	4.880882	0.002870	0.000977
10	Year	3.061660	0.001801	0.000613



5.8.1.1.4 Assessment

The performance of the model seemed to be excellent (AUCs of 0.8833 and 0.8726 with less than 2% incorrect hits) until I checked the variable importance and the false negative predictions.

The fact that the flight date got a very high relative importance and that the year predictor is in the top 10 as well, shows that for a future data set this model can't be used and the final model should not use these predictors.

The false negative hits in the model shows that even with the boosted (and reduced) data set the needle in the haystack effect is still present and in a real world scenario this model would not be very useful.

5.8.1.2 Final model

The final model using carefully selected model parameters provided the following performance metrics:

5.8.1.2.1 Reported on training data.

The model performance metrics are the following on the train data set.

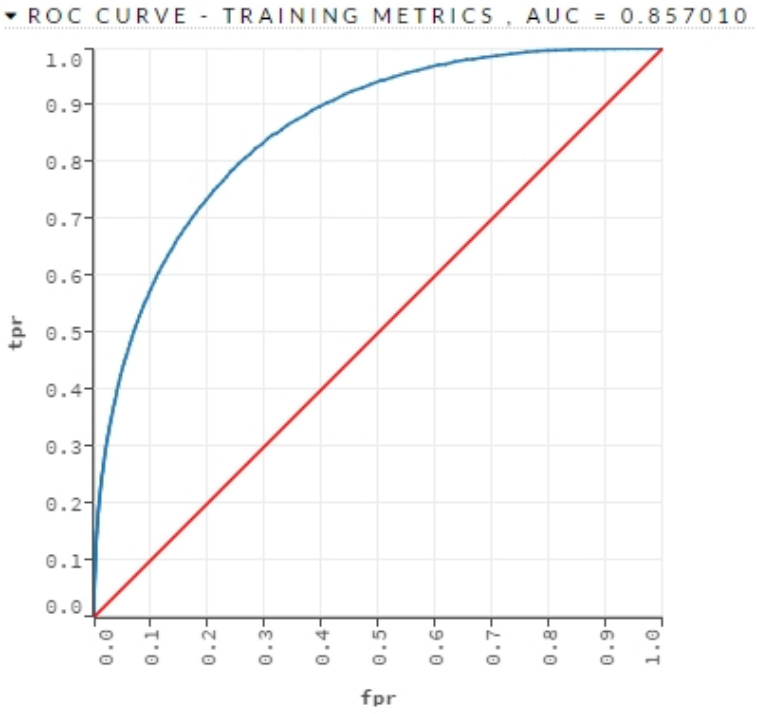
Metric name	Metric value
MSE	0.005349638
RMSE	0.07314122
LogLoss	0.02917852
Mean Per-Class Error	0.4221072
AUC	0.8570096
Gini	0.7140191

Confusion Matrix

	0	1	Error
0	9268544	56043	0.006010
1	43424	8382	0.838204

	0	1	Error
Totals	9311968	64425	0.010608

Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) curve



5.8.1.2.2 Reported on validation data.

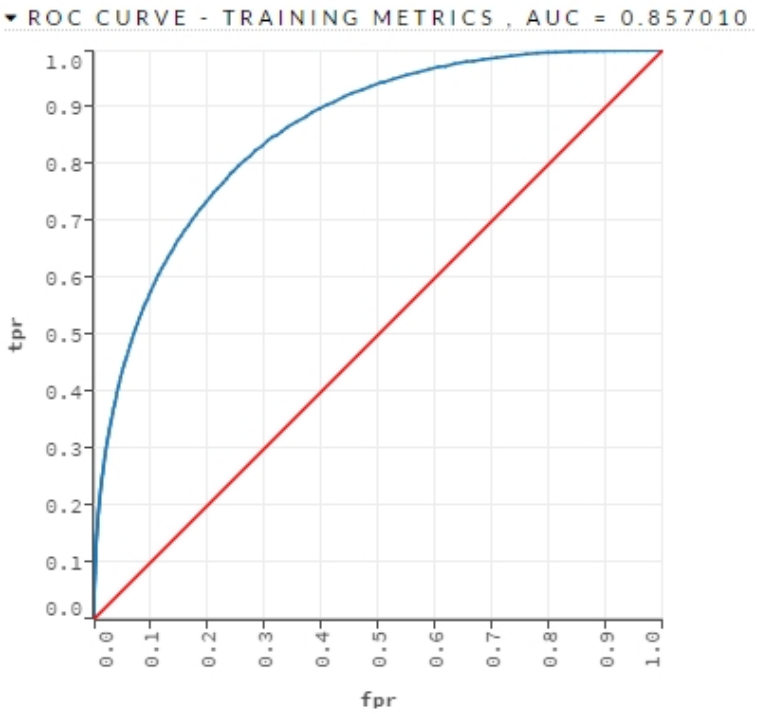
The model performance metrics are the following on the validation data set.

Metric name	Metric value
MSE	0.005611805
RMSE	0.07491198
LogLoss	0.03130175
Mean Per-Class Error	0.4426331
AUC	0.8215208
Gini	0.6430415

Confusion Matrix

	0	1	Error
0	3082632	24780	0.007974
1	15264	2135	0.877292
Totals	3097896	26915	0.012815

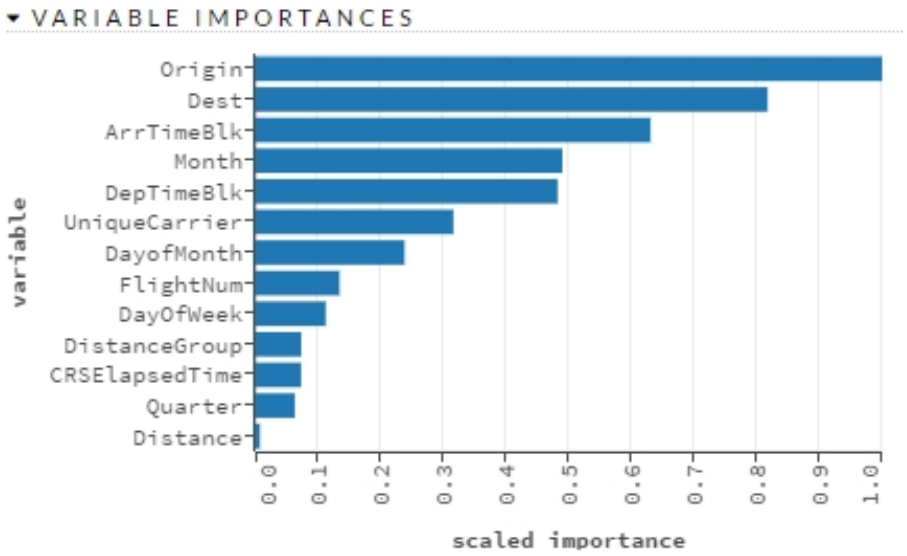
Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) curve



5.8.1.2.3 Variable Importances

The ten most importance predictor variables are the following:

	Variable	Relative	Scaled	Percentage
1	Origin	1068.777588	1.000000	0.225305
2	Dest	873.531250	0.817318	0.184146
3	ArrTimeBlk	673.985229	0.630613	0.142080
4	Month	523.576965	0.489884	0.110373
5	DepTimeBlk	515.629517	0.482448	0.108698
6	UniqueCarrier	337.862000	0.316120	0.071223
7	DayofMonth	254.428879	0.238056	0.053635
8	FlightNum	143.676224	0.134430	0.030288
9	DayOfWeek	120.171158	0.112438	0.025333
10	DistanceGroup	78.397850	0.073353	0.016527



5.8.1.2.4 Scoring

The scoring was done using the 20% of the records from data set separated at the beginning of the model building. The confusion matrix is the following:

	0	1	Error
0	3082474	25926	0.008341
1	14791	2224	0.869292
Totals	3097265	28150	0.013028

5.8.1.2.5 Assessment

While the changes in the model parameters and predictors made the model more useful from the business domain point of view, the performance of the model did not drop significantly (AUCs changed from 0.8833 to 0.8570 and from 0.8726 to 0.8215 with less than 1.3% incorrect hits). Unfortunately the same can be said about the false negative hits as well, which got even worst and still shows the needle in the haystack effect, making the model unrealistic for a real world scenario.

The scoring provided almost the same performance, what I got for the validation data assessment, confirming that the use of the model would not be beneficial in a real world scenario.

5.8.2 Revised Parameter Settings

I've did two main changes regarding the model parameters. The first major change was to remove those predictors, which were not useful for future runs, while the second major change was to increase the number of trees to be build from 50 to 200 while training the model and let the model building algorithm stop whenever more trees do not increase the model performance significantly.

6 Evaluation

6.1 Evaluate Results

6.1.1 Assessment of Data Mining Result with Business Success Criteria

The regressions and the models built and assessed shows that even with a quite limited and noisy data some level or certainty can be reached, but all these results needs to be used with caution.

Meaning that I was able to show that based on the data available some properties of airports could be identified having a significant effect on the number of animal strikes, and even for individual flights a prediction can be given for the strike, but there real world is much more complex, than the regressions and predictions build in this pet project.

6.1.2 Approved Models

As already mentioned in the initial resource plan, this final paper is a pet project, therefore the results of the project will never be put into a real production environment, meaning that no approval is required for any of the models created during the project.

6.2 Review Process

6.2.1 Review of Process

The data analysis and the model building exercises done during this project showed, that - even with a significant experience on these fields - the data can easily contradict any initial assumption made.

6.3 Determine Next Steps

6.3.1 List of Possible Actions

As already mentioned in the initial resource plan, this final paper is a pet project, therefore the results of the project will never be put into a real production environment, meaning that there will be no actions initiated by the results of the project.

6.3.2 Decision

As already mentioned in the initial resource plan, this final paper is a pet project, therefore the results of the project will never be put into a real production environment, meaning that no decisions are expected based on the results of the project.

7 Contributors

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8 Environment

The following language, tool and library versions have been used to create the project:

R Studio version 1.0.143

R version 3.4.0 (2017-04-21) 72570

Package versions:
- RODBC version 1.3.15
- knitr version 1.16
- data.table version 1.10.4
- dplyr version 0.7.0
- dtplyr version 0.0.2
- ReporteRs version 0.8.8
- ReporteRsjars version 0.0.2
- installr version 0.19.0
- stringr version 1.2.0
- ggplot2 version 2.2.1
- yaml version 2.1.14
- png version 0.1.7
- grid version 3.4.0
- maps version 3.2.0
- mapdata version 2.2.6
- sp version 1.2.4
- h2o version 3.10.5.2

Base package versions:
- stats version 3.4.0
- graphics version 3.4.0
- grDevices version 3.4.0
- utils version 3.4.0
- datasets version 3.4.0
- methods version 3.4.0
- base version 3.4.0

MiKTeX Package Manager 2.9.6200 (MiKTeX 2.9.6210 64-bit)

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References

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Shearer, Colin. 2000. “The Crisp-Dm Model - the New Blueprint for Data Mining.” Journal of Data Warehousing 5 (4): 13–22.