Course: Data Management and Big Data

CRN Number: 20997

Assignment: Final Project

Project Name: US Accidents- Countrywide Traffic Accidents

Analysis.

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INTRODUCTION

This is a countrywide car accident dataset, which covers 49 states of the United States. The data is collected from February 2016 to December 2019, using several data providers, including two APIs that provide streaming traffic incident data. These APIs broadcast traffic data captured by a variety of entities, such as the US and state departments of transportation, law enforcement agencies, traffic cameras, and traffic sensors within the road-networks. Currently, there are about 3.0 million accident records in this dataset.

This data has been collected in real-time, using multiple Traffic APIs. Currently, it contains data that is collected from February 2016 to December 2019 for the Contiguous United States.

SUMMARY

- In this project, I decided to analyse the accidents dataset related to United States of America.
- To handle the dataset requirements of million+ records, I decided to analyse the dataset using DataBricks which is a cloud-based tool that makes use of PySpark to process the data.
- I also described on reasons to choose databricks over traditional tool such as jupyter notebook by demonstrating feasibility, flexibility and speed.
- I was successfully able to analyse the business problems associated with the accidents.
- Finally concluded in the end with insights and possible recommendations to solve them.

ANALYSIS

Identify a Real-World Problem that can be solved

The number of accidents taking place daily has always been a big problem. But recently, the number has been rising quickly where researchers, the police, the government and all organizations related to roadways have been working on finding a solution that can solve this issue. The number of deaths per year is nearly 1.25 Million which is haunting and a matter of concern. Thus, I decided to pick up this dataset to find valuable insights out of the data, find meaningful patterns and see if I can provide some analysis that might help make important decisions to curb this problem and bring the number of deaths per year down to as low as possible.

BUSINESS QUESTIONS TO BE SOLVED (PROJECT PROPOSAL) –

- 1. Is there any relationship between the attributes, especially severity?
- 2. Which states contribute the most to the accidents data?
- 3. Does weather really have an impact on accidents?
- 4. What time of the year or week contributes more towards the accident?

DATASET DESCRIPTION

This is a countrywide car accident dataset, which covers 49 states of the United States. The accident data are collected from February 2016 to December 2019, using several data providers,

including two APIs that provide streaming traffic incident data. These APIs broadcast traffic data captured by a variety of entities, such as the US and state departments of transportation, law enforcement agencies, traffic cameras, and traffic sensors within the road-networks. Currently, there are about 3.0 million accident records in this dataset.

DATASET SIZE: 3 Million+ records and 20+ Attributes

TOOLS & LANGUAGES TO BE USED: DataBricks, Python - PySpark, SQL.

FIELDS TO BE USED:

ID - This is a unique identifier of the accident record.

Source - Indicates the source of the accident report (i.e. the API which reported the accident.).

TMC - A traffic accident may have a Traffic Message Channel (TMC) code which provides a more detailed description of the event.

Severity - Shows the severity of the accident, a number between 1 and 4, where 1 indicates the least impact on traffic (i.e., short delay as a result of the accident) and 4 indicates a significant impact on traffic (i.e., long delay).

Start_Time - Shows the start time of the accident in the local time zone.

End_Time - Shows end time of the accident in the local time zone.

Distance(mi) - The length of the road extent affected by the accident.

Description - Shows a natural language description of the accident.

County - Shows the county in the address field.

State - Shows the state in the address field.

Zipcode - Shows the zip code in the address field.

Country - Shows the country in the address field.

Timezone - Shows timezone based on the location of the accident (eastern, central, etc.)

DATA ANALYTICS PROCESS WORKFLOW



- Import data into Databricks Azure.
- Import data as RDD and clean using PySpark.
- Visualize using PySpark.
- Generate Business insights

WHY DATABRICKS AZURE (METHODOLOGY/TOOL)

The dataset was imported using Jupyter notebook at the beginning to check the capability of the local system and then to data bricks Azure to understand the most important feature of big data processing system i.e. scalability and a significant 20 second time difference was observed with Azure being faster than Jupyter Notebook. This is because Spark in Data Bricks Azure uses a

Directed Acyclic Spark Streaming service which is much faster than the traditional T-SQL DW connectors used in Jupyter Notebooks.

```
# Create a view or table

temp_table_name = "US_Accidents_Dec19_csv"

df.createOrReplaceTempView(temp_table_name)

Command took 0.12 seconds -- by gorantla.a@husky.neu.edu at 3/23/2020, 12:06:09 AM on My Cluster
```

Content

Proof of Analysis Using DataBricks:

Step1 - Loading the dataset, creating a schema and checking the datatypes of each attribute

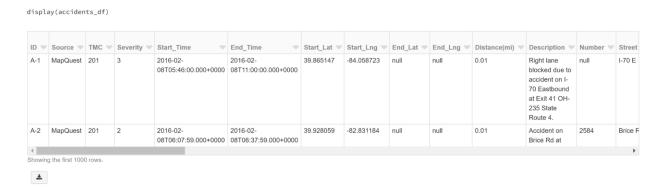
```
# File location and type
file_location = "/FileStore/tables/accidents.csv"
file_type = "csv"

# CSV options
infer_schema = "true"
first_row_is_header = "true"
delimiter = ","

# The applied options are for CSV files. For other file types, these will be ignored.
accidents_df = spark.read.format(file_type) \
.option("inferSchema", infer_schema) \
.option("header", first_row_is_header) \
.option("sep", delimiter) \
.load(file_location)
```

In the first step, I have loaded the Dataset onto the Databricks platform and created a schema. Since it is CSV file, I am working on parameters pertaining to it else these parameters would be ignored.

Displaying the top 1000 rows of the dataset



In the picture above, all the 1000 rows of the dataset are displayed. It has the information for every accident that took place in the United States from February 2016 to December 2019. The information in these rows has the description of the accident, where it happened, the number, street, city, county, state, zip code, timezone etc.

Creating a table so I can run SQL commands

```
# Create a view or table
accidents_table = "accidents_csv"
accidents_df.createOrReplaceTempView(accidents_table)
```

In the above picture, a table is created to run the SQL commands.

Using the select SQL command I check the contents of the table.



Storing the data frame into cache memory to increase the speed

accidents_df.cache()

Out[5]: DataFrame[ID: string, Source: string, TMC: double, Severity: int, Start_Time: timestamp, End_Time: timestamp, Start_Lat: double, Start_Lng: double, End_Lng: double, Distance(mi): double, Description: string, Number: double, Street: string, Side: string, City: string, County: string, State: string, Zipcode: string, Country: string, Timezone: string, Airport_Code: string, Weather_Timestamp: timestamp, Temperature(F): double, Wind_Chill(F): double, Humidity(%): double, Pressure(in): double, Visibility(mi): double, Wind_Direction: string, Wind_Speed(mph): double, Precipitation(in): double, Weather_Condition: string, Amenity: boolean, Bump: boolean, Crossing: boolean, Give_Way: boolean, Junction: boolean, No_Exit: boolean, Railway: boolean, Roundabou t: boolean, Station: boolean, Stop: boolean, Traffic_Calming: boolean, Traffic_Signal: boolean, Turning_Loop: boolean, Sunrise_Sunset: string, Civil_Twilight t: string, Nautical_Twilight: string, Astronomical_Twilight: string]

Step2 - Performing the Exploratory Data Analysis

Converting the dataframe to pandas and checking the statistics of each attribute

##descriptive statistics#
accidents_df.describe().toPandas().transpose() summary count mean stddev min max ID 2974335 None None A-1 A-999999 2974335 MapQuest-Bing Source тмс 2246264 207.83163198982845 20.32958633116194 200.0 406.0 Severity 2974335 2.360190092911525 0.5414733263296426 Start Lat 2974335 36.493605002031636 4.918848998696759 24.555269 49.002201 2974335 -95.4262537385967 17.218805933372185 -124.623833 -67.113167 -99.97603191130777 -124.497829 -67.109242 728071 18.41664728374778 End_Lng Distance(mi) 2974335 0.2855653569462957 1.5483920254566632 0.0 333.630004883 Description 2974334 None middle lane blocked due to accident on I-95 N... ~6 lane blocked due to accident on I-5 Southbo. 1056730 5837.003543951624 9999997.0 1 Mile Rd 2974335 None william Carey Dr Street Side 2974335 None None City 2974252 None None Aaronsburg Zwingle County 2974335 None None 2973455 59328.94336883425 30637.325538650803 01001 99401-9712 Zipcode Country 2974335 None None US US Timezone 2971172 None None US/Central US/Pacific Airport_Code 18.78854911265782 -77.8 170.6 Temperature(F) 2918272 62.35120314350398 Wind_Chill(F) 1121712 51.32684860284989 25.19127055656769 -65.9 115.0 Humidity(%) 2915162 65.40541554808961 22.556763456537613 1.0 100.0 2926193 29.831895008292193 0.7213808414176774 33.04 2908644 9.15076997047429 2.892113743736492 0.0 Visibility(mi) 140.0 Wind Direction 2929234 None CALM West Wind_Speed(mph) 2533495 8.298063781457618 5.138545725098774 0.0 822.8 975977 0.020494509604222225 0.23577039560945023 Weather_Condition None ing Dust Windy Sunrise_Sunset 2974242 None None Day Night Civil Twilight 2974242 None None Day Night Nautical_Twilight Day Astronomical_Twilight 2974242

This is the descriptive statistics performed on the attributes to check if there are any unusual stats of any feature that must be handled before further analysis. There was no such unusual behaviour noticed.

Importing all the necessary pyspark libraries

```
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
from pyspark import SparkConf, SparkContext
from pyspark.sql import SQLContext
from pyspark.sql.functions import dayofmonth,hour,dayofyear,weekofyear,month,year,format_number,date_format,mean, date_format, datediff, to_date, lit
from pyspark.sql.functions import mean as _mean, stddev as stddev, col
from pyspark.sql.types import IntegerType
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from pyspark.sql.functions import unix_timestamp, from_unixtime, date_format
from pyspark.sql.functions import date_format
from pyspark.sql.functions import *
from pyspark.sql.types import *
from pyspark.sql.functions import monotonically_increasing_id
{\color{red}\mathsf{import}}\ \mathtt{matplotlib.pyplot}\ {\color{red}\mathsf{as}}\ \mathtt{plt}
import seaborn as sns
import datetime
plt.style.use('fivethirtyeight')
from pyspark.sql.functions import isnan, when, count, col
```

After importing the libraries, I created a pandas data frame to start performing the data analysis using the command. Almost all the libraries are important to run the commands however, there are some libraries which sets the base which are pandas, numpy for computation, pyspark.sql.functions and matplotlib for visualisation.

accidents_pd = accidents_df.toPandas()

```
print('Rows
                      :',accidents_df.count())
print('Columns :',len(accidents_df.columns))
print('\nFeatures :\n :',accidents_df.columns)
print('\nMissing values :',accidents_pd.isnull().values.sum())
print('\nUnique values : \n',accidents_pd.nunique())
            : 2974335
Columns : 49
Features :
     : ['ID', 'Source', 'TMC', 'Severity', 'Start_Time', 'End_Time', 'Start_Lat', 'Start_Lng', 'End_Lat', 'End_Lng', 'Distance(mi)', 'Description', 'Numbe
r', 'Street', 'Side', 'City', 'County', 'State', 'Zipcode', 'Country', 'Timezone', 'Airport_Code', 'Weather_Timestamp', 'Temperature(F)', 'Wind_Chill(F)', 'Humidity(%)', 'Pressure(in)', 'Visibility(mi)', 'Wind_Direction', 'Wind_Speed(mph)', 'Precipitation(in)', 'Weather_Condition', 'Amenity', 'Bump', 'Crossin g', 'Give_Way', 'Junction', 'No_Exit', 'Railway', 'Roundabout', 'Station', 'Stop', 'Traffic_Calming', 'Traffic_Signal', 'Turning_Loop', 'Sunrise_Sunset', 'C
 ivil_Twilight', 'Nautical_Twilight', 'Astronomical_Twilight']
Missing values : 11817022
Unique values :
 TD
                                      2974335
Source
 Severity
Start_Time
                                    2743101
End Time
                                    2761499
 Start_Lat
                                      985099
```

Here, I tried to find unique values and null values if there are any to handle them.

All attributes with the object data type are collected and stored using the below commands.

The first few rows of the description column are checked.

```
#First few rows from description column
accidents_pd['Description'].head()

Out[11]: 0     Right lane blocked due to accident on I-70 Eas...
1     Accident on Brice Rd at Tussing Rd. Expect del...
2     Accident on OH-32 State Route 32 Westbound at ...
3     Accident on I-75 Southbound at Exits 52 52B US...
4     Accident on McEwen Rd at OH-725 Miamisburg Cen...
Name: Description, dtype: object
```

Working with unique values to determine the actual source of data and number of time-

zones considered

```
print(accidents_pd['Source'].unique())
print(accidents_pd['Description'].unique())
print(accidents_pd['Timezone'].unique())
print(accidents_pd['Amenity'].unique())

['MapQuest' 'MapQuest-Bing' 'Bing']
['Right lane blocked due to accident on I-70 Eastbound at Exit 41 OH-235 State Route 4.'
'Accident on Brice Rd at Tussing Rd. Expect delays.'
'Accident on OH-32 State Route 32 Westbound at Dela Palma Rd. Expect delays.'
... 'Ramp closed to Bristol St - Road closed due to accident.'
'At Friars Rd - Accident. Center lane blocked.'
'Ramp closed to The City Dr/Exit 14A - Road closed due to accident.'
['US/Eastern' 'US/Pacific' None 'US/Central' 'US/Mountain']
[False True]
```

Step3- Analyzing the data visually to solve business questions

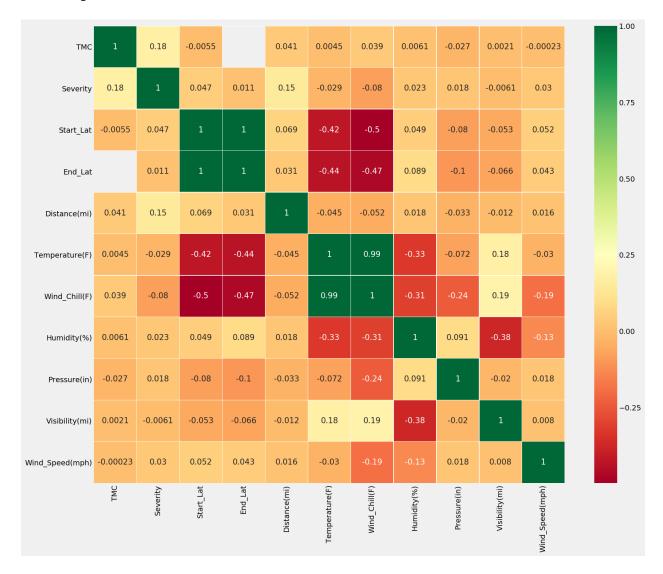
Business Question 1- Is there any relationship among the attributes,

especially severity?

In order to identify the factors affecting the severity a heat map was generated using the below commands.

```
#Creating a heatmap to find the correlation among each attribute contributing to the accident
fig=sns.heatmap(accidents_pd[['TMC','Severity','Start_Lat','End_Lat','Distance(mi)','Temperature(F)','Wind_Chill(F)','Humidity(%)','Pressure(in)','Visibility
(mi)','Wind_Speed(mph)']].corr(), annot=True, cmap='RdYlGn', linewidths=0.2, annot_kws={'size':15})
fig=plt.gcf()
fig.set_size_inches(18,15)
plt.xticks(fontsize=14)
plt.yticks(fontsize=14)
plt.show()
display()
```

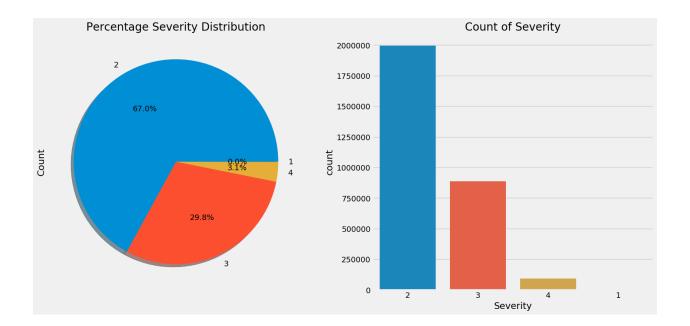
Heat Map:



We observe that variables "temperature" and "Wind_Chill" are positively correlated (0.99). "Start_Lat" and "End_Lat" latitudes have slight negative correlation with Temperature and "Wnd_Chill" respectively. As we are focusing on Severity, we notice that "Severity" and "Visibility" has a negative correlation which we would see if 'weather' plays any role in it or not.

Count of severity for each type is calculated using the below commands to generate a bar chart and pie chart reflecting the same.

```
#creating a bar graph and a pie-chart to demonstrate percentage distribution of the severity
f,ax=plt.subplots(1,2,figs:value_counts().plot.pie(explode=None,autopct='%1.1f%%',ax=ax[0],shadow=True)
ax[0].set_title('Percentage Severity Distribution')
ax[0].set_ylabel('Count')
sns.countplot('Severity',data=accidents_pd,ax=ax[1],order=accidents_pd['Severity'].value_counts().index)
ax[1].set_title('Count of Severity')
plt.show()
display()
```



The range of Severity is from 1 to 4 where:

- 1. Indicates the accident did not have much impact on the traffic (No delay as such)
- 2. Indicates the accident had a minor impact on the traffic (Short delay)
- 3. Indicates the accident had moderate impact on the traffic (Moderate delay)
- 4. Indicates the accident had a very high impact on the traffic (High delay and clutter)

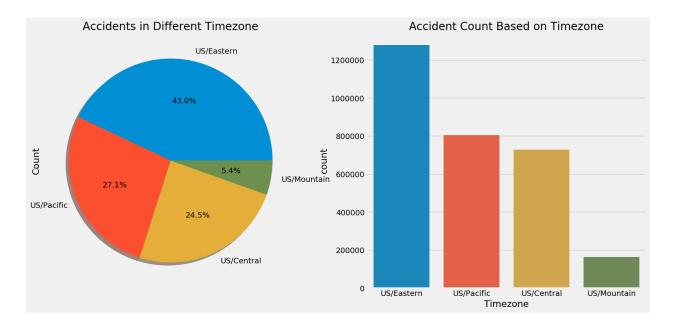
We notice that "2" contribute the most which basically means that the severity of the accidents was not that high and did not create much chaos for the ongoing vehicles.

Business Question 2 - Which states contribute the most to the accidents data?

Visually analyzing the percentage distribution of the number of accidents based on time

zones

```
#creating a bar graph and a pie-chart to demonstrate percentage distribution of the number of accidents based on timezone
f,ax=plt.subplots(1,2,figsize=(18,8))
accidents_pd['Timezone'].value_counts().plot.pie(explode=None,autopct='%1.1f%%',ax=ax[0],shadow=True)
ax[0].set_title('Accidents in Different Timezone')
ax[0].set_ylabel('Count')
sns.countplot('Timezone',data=accidents_pd,ax=ax[1],order=accidents_pd['Timezone'].value_counts().index)
ax[1].set_title('Accident Count Based on Timezone')
plt.show()
display()
```

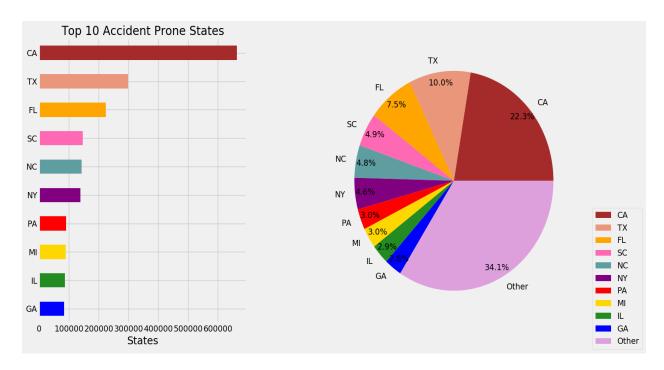


"US/Eastern" Time zone has the highest Accident count and "US/Mountain" has the least.

- The east standard time states contribute most to accidents data at 120,0000.
- The pacific time comes second at 100,0000.
- The central time US states come in at third in the graph at 800000
- The Mountain time US states come in at fourth and the least contribution to accidents at 200000.
- States like Pennsylvania and South Carolina fall in the Eastern time Zone.

Top 10 states prone to accidents based on the data

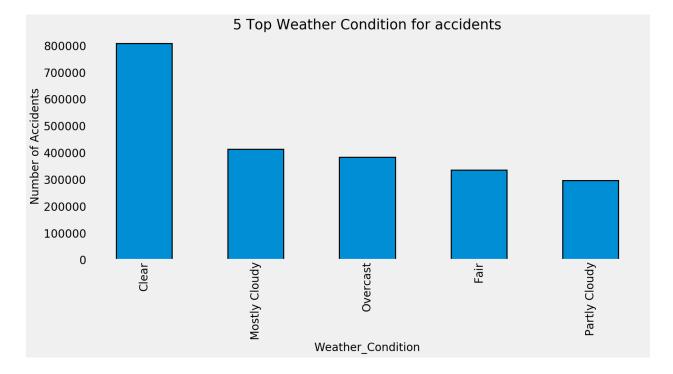
```
#Creating a bar graph and a pi-chart to see the percentage distribution of the
from pyspark.sql.functions import sum as fsum
fig,ax=plt.subplots(1,2,figsize=(15,8))
clr = ("blue", "forestgreen", "gold", "red", "purple",'cadetblue','hotpink','orange','darksalmon','brown')
accidents\_pd. State.value\_counts().sort\_values(ascending=\textbf{False})[:10].sort\_values().plot(kind='barh',color=clr,ax=ax[0])
ax[0].set_title("Top 10 Accident Prone States",size=20)
ax[0].set_xlabel('States',size=18)
count=accidents_pd['State'].value_counts()
groups=list(accidents_pd['State'].value_counts().index)[:10]
counts=list(count[:10])
counts.append(count.agg('sum')-count[:10].agg('sum'))
groups.append('Other')
{\sf type\_dict=pd.DataFrame}(\{"group":groups,"counts":counts\})
clr1=('brown','darksalmon','orange','hotpink','cadetblue','purple','red','gold','forestgreen','blue','plum')
qx = type\_dict.plot(kind='pie', y='counts', labels=groups, colors=clr1, autopct='\$1.1f8\%', pctdistance=0.9, radius=1.2, ax=ax[1])
plt.legend(loc=0, bbox_to_anchor=(1.15,0.4))
plt.subplots_adjust(wspace =0.5, hspace =0)
plt.ioff()
plt.ylabel('')
display()
```



- We observe that "CA" is the most accident-prone area in United States and "TX" state has the second highest. The highest state that is prone to accidents is California at 22.3 %.
- And the least prone state is Georgia at 2.8%.

Business Question 3 - Does weather really have an impact on accidents?

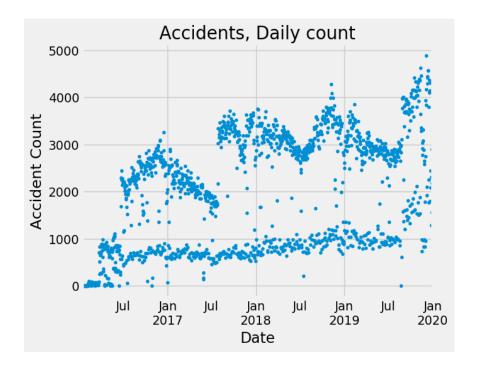
```
#Creating a bar graph based on the weather patterns during the accidents
fig, ax=plt.subplots(figsize=(16,7))
accidents_pd['Weather_Condition'].value_counts().sort_values(ascending=False).head(5).plot.bar(width=0.5,edgecolor='k',align='center',linewidth=2)
plt.xlabel('Weather_Condition',fontsize=20)
plt.ylabel('Number of Accidents',fontsize=20)
ax.tick_params(labelsize=20)
plt.title('5 Top Weather Condition for accidents',fontsize=25)
plt.grid()
plt.ioff()
display()
```



- We observe that more accidents take place in clear weather conditions and least when it is partly cloudy. The reason may be high speed or sharp turning curves that cause higher number of accidents in clear skies. The greatest number of accidents is when the weather is "Clear" which show that the way people are driving is the reason for the accidents.
- All the weather conditions contribute almost equally for the remaining accidents.

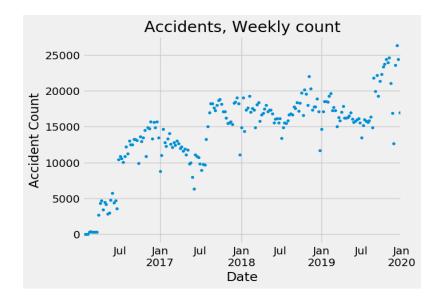
Business Question 4 - Which time of the year or week contributes more towards the accident?

```
#Plotting scatter plots for the number of number accidents for daily, weekly and yearly
freq_text = {'D':'Daily','W':'Weekly','Y':'Yearly'}
for i, (fr,text) in enumerate(freq_text.items(),1):
    sample = accidents_pd.ID['2016':].resample(fr).count()
    sample.plot(style='.')
    plt.title('Accidents, {} count'.format(text))
    plt.xlabel('Date')
    plt.ylabel('Accident Count')
    display()
```

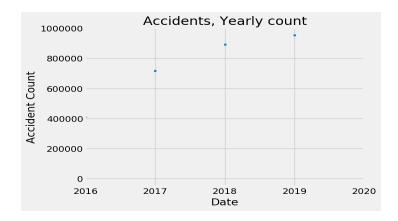


- We observe that daily accident count is higher during December and January whereas July and August have the least. There should be increased monitoring of traffic during December, January and appropriate steps should be taken to decrease the accidents in the coming years. In this case, we aggregated the daily count of the accidents and tried to show a trend over the year.
- We can notice that there is an increasing and a seasonal trend.

• We also noticed that there is a decreasing trending or a dip during the month of July and it has been the same for years 2016-2019.



- We can observe that January has the highest weekly count of accidents over the years. The reason for this might be due to fog and unclear skies in winter. In this case, we aggregated the weekly count of the accidents to see the trend over the year.
- Here, we can notice that for the year 2017 once the weekly accident count dropped in the month of July to 10,000, it suddenly increased to 15,000 which is not a trend seen in other years.

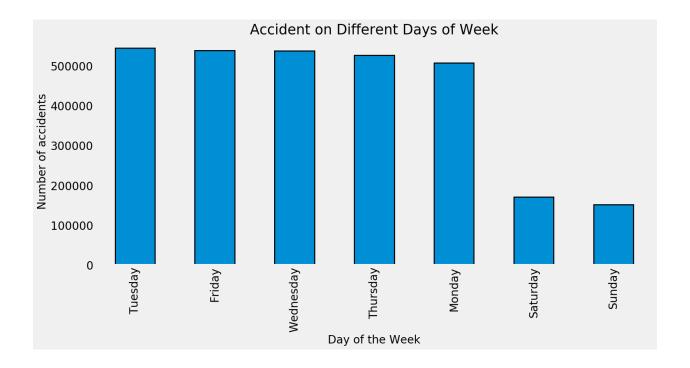


We observe that yearly count of accidents has been increasing over the years. Public awareness and proper traffic monitoring can help reduce the Accidents. Speed-limits also help to reduce the number of accidents.

Checking for the number of accidents that happen day-wise

```
#converting all the variables to their required data types to analyse
accidents_pd['Start_Time'] = pd.to_datetime(accidents_pd['Start_Time'], format="%Y/%m/%d %H:%M:%S")
accidents_pd['DayOfWeekklum'] = accidents_pd['Start_Time'].dt.dayofweek
accidents_pd['DayOfWeekk] = accidents_pd['Start_Time'].dt.weekday_name
accidents_pd['HontDayNum'] = accidents_pd['Start_Time'].dt.day
accidents_pd['HourOfDay'] = accidents_pd['Start_Time'].dt.hour

#plotting a bar-graph for the number of accidents on different days of week
fig, ax=plt.subplots(figsize=(16,7))
accidents_pd['DayOfWeek'].value_counts(ascending=False).plot.bar(width=0.5,edgecolor='k',align='center',linewidth=2)
plt.xlabel('Day of the Week',fontsize=20)
plt.ylabel('Number of accidents',fontsize=20)
plt.title('Accident on Different Days of Week',fontsize=25)
plt.grid()
plt.ioff()
display()
```



We can observe that Tuesday and Friday have the highest number of Accidents whereas Saturday and Sunday have the least. The reason for less accidents on these days could be due to most people having a holiday on the weekends and few people do not come out or they come out at different times of the day. However, keen observation and regulation of speed and traffic should be done in order to reduce the number of accidents taking place.

Comments

Pros:

- 1. Using databricks platforms for the first time has been easy to navigate and understand its functionality.
- 2. Creating spark cluster is easy and attaching them to the notebook has been straightforward.
- 3. The User experience has been good, it has workspace with notebook, dashboard, cluster management.
- 4. We get visualizations of the data in the form of graphs, and charts to get a better and quick overall understanding of the data we are analyzing.
- 5. Multiple users can work on the same cluster. The sharing of this space is really useful in saving cost and time.

Cons:

- 1. I would say the major drawback for Databricks Is its cost, I have used the community version to complete the assignment.
- 2. The subscription is very pricey and not everyone can utilize all the features the platform can offer.
- 3. It is Time-consuming as it must process huge amounts of data.

CONCLUSION

Storing the data frame into cache memory increases the speed of the execution. We observe that Weekends have a smaller number of accidents for which the reason might be holidays. The Accidents have been increasing over the years, appropriate measures are to be taken to control the number of accidents taking place. The keen observation and regulation of speed and traffic should be done in order to reduce the number of accidents taking place. Most accidents take place when the weather is clear. Below is the stats from the work done above –

- We noticed that "Severity" and "Visibility" has a negative correlation.
- From the severity distribution, we see that the accidents did not cause much delay in the traffic and were not that severe.
- We can see that 65% of the accidents are in the category 2. 32% in the category 3 and 3% in the category 4.
- The east standard time states contribute most to accidents data at 120,0000.
- More accident happens in the Easter Time Zone. Sates like Pennsylvania and South Carolina fall in the Eastern time Zone.
- The greatest number of accidents is when the weather is "Clear" which show that the way people are driving is the reason for the accidents.
- The average number of accidents during weekdays is way more as compared to the number of accidents during the weekends.

FUTURE RECOMMENDATION

This project can be further improved by performing regression models to predict the number of accidents that could take place in the near future based on the variables that clearly define the target variable.

REFERENCES

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HOW TO RUN THE CODE -

- 1. Download the "accidents.csv" dataset.
- 2. Store it on your local disk
- 3. Open DataBricks web application and upload your "accidents.csv" dataset onto the database. Since it is a cloud-based technology, the huge dataset would be stored in their cloud and you may access it directly.
- 4. Load the .ipynb or the .py file and run it on the cluster you want.