

PREDICTING AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT SEVERITY IN SEATTLE

Data

In order to facilitate the aim of this project, we will utilize a publicly available data set on accident severity in the Seattle area as provided by the Seattle Police Department. This data set provides information related to the severity of almost 200,000 recorded accidents in the Seattle area from 2004 to the present. Severity is rated at 1 if the accident involved property damage only and 2 if there were bodily injuries. In addition to recording the severity of each accident, various factors that may have had a bearing on the severity of each accident are also recorded, such as the location of the accident, the type of collision, weather and road conditions, and so on. We will analyze this data to look for patterns that will allow us to predict the severity of future automobile accidents based on such factors. In turn, this knowledge will facilitate both public and private entities interested in reducing the likelihood and severity of automobile accidents.