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| |  | | --- | | **Harvard University** | |  | |  | |  | |
| CS171 Project Proposal  Snow and the MBTA |
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# Background and Motivation

## Background

### Public Transportation and the Data Wave

Over the past several years, public transit agencies have been collecting enormous amounts of data about their riders. Like many other industries affected by the Data Wave, transforming this data into useful information can be burdensome. Our goal is to develop analytics for decision-makers that will ultimately be used to improve public transportation services.

### Boston Transportation (MBTA)

Using data from the MBTA’s fare collection system, we plan to develop predictive models of ridership patterns based on past travel. This includes both internal patterns (i.e. given the number of people boarding buses, what can we expect for nearby subway ridership?) and the influence of external events (i.e. public events, good vs. bad weather, etc.).

## Motivation

Discuss your motivations and reasons for choosing this project, especially any background or research interests that may have influenced your decision.

# Project Objectives

Provide the primary questions you are trying to answer with your visualization. What would you like to learn and accomplish? List the benefits.

# Data and Processing

## Data

From where and how are you collecting your data? If appropriate, provide a link to your data sources.

## Processing

From where and how are you collecting your data? If appropriate, provide a link to your data sources.

# Visualization

How will you display your data? Provide some general ideas that you have for the visualization design. Include sketches of your design.

## Must Have Features

These are features without which you would consider your project to be a failure.

## Optional Features

Those features which you consider would be nice to have, but not critical.

# Project Schedule

Make sure that you plan your work so that you can avoid a big rush right before the final project deadline, and delegate different modules and responsibilities among your team members. Write this in terms of weekly deadlines.

Bibliography

**There are no sources in the current document.**