## SEATTLE CAR ACCIDENT SEVERITY PREDICTION

## **Business Problem:**

It is estimated that road traffic accidents cost the United States' economy  $\sim$  \$810 billion per year, including costs due to property damage, legal costs and associated medical bills. It is therefore important that we understand the factors influence the likelihood of a road traffic accident occurring at a given location, as well as those which influence the severity of the accidents.

The Seattle Department of Transport (SDOT) recorded all road traffic incidents in the Seattle municipal area between Jan 2004—Aug 2020. The Data has a predefined level of Severity caused by an accident. The main objective is to identify the key factors that determine the severity of accidents like Weather, Road Conditions, Light Conditions etc.

The target audience for this work will be city planners and emergency service responders:

By understanding the key factors that influence the severity of accidents, it will be possible to prevent or reduce the Severe or Fatal accidents in future by taking appropriate preventive measures.

## Data:

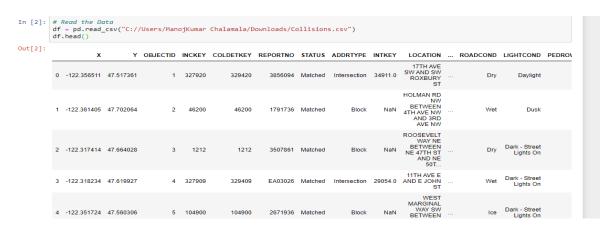
#### **Data Collection:**

Data is obtained from all road traffic accidents recorded in the Seattle municipal area between Jan 2004–Aug 2020 by the Seattle Department of Transport (SDOT).

Data is available in Seattle Open Data portal and saved as CSV.

http://data-seattlecitygis.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/5b5c745e0f1f48e7a53acec63a0022ab 0

The data can be read into a Pandas Data frame using the Pandas read\_csv function, and the contents and data types displayed using the head and dtypes functions.



#### Dimensions of Data:

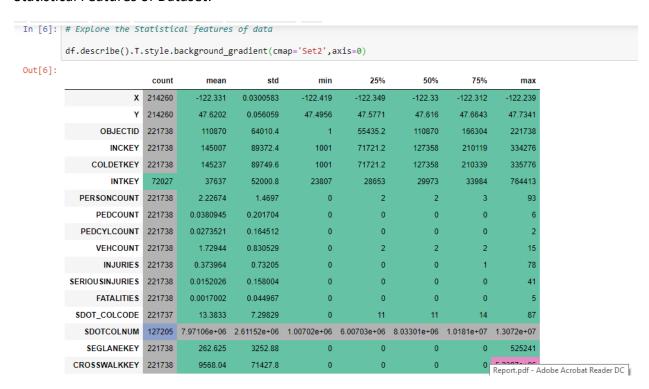
The Dataset contains 221738 rows (accidents) and 40 columns (attributes)

```
[3]: # Dimensions of the Dataframe

df_shape = df.shape
print("Dimensions of the data frame: "+str(df_shape))

Dimensions of the data frame: (221738, 40)
```

#### Statistical Features of Dataset:



## **Data Preprocessing:**

## Remove the data with unknown information in the Target variable

The predefined target variable in the data determines the Car Accident Severity. However, there are few rows in the data frame with 'SEVERITYCODE = 0' which means an accident with "Unknown" Severity. We cannot use these accident data with unknown information to predict the Car Accident severity. So, these rows should be dropped.

**Relabel the Target Variable** 

The Target Variable "SEVERITYCODE" is having values (0, 1, 2, 2b, 3). It contains categorical values. So, this must be converted into numerical format. We have already dropped the rows with code value "0". So, we are left with (1, 2, 2b, 3)

Relabel the codes from (1, 2, 2b, 3) to (1, 2, 3, 4).

```
In [10]: # Values before Converison
         print(df["SEVERITYCODE"].value_counts())
         \# Convert the target variable value from (1. 2, 2b, 3) to (1, 2, 3, 4) by changing 2b to 3 and 3 to 4
          for i in range(0,len(df["SEVERITYCODE"])):
              if df["SEVERITYCOSE"][i] == 'Serious Injury Collision':
    df["SEVERITYCODE"][i] = 3
              if df["SEVERITYDESC"][i]
                                        -- 'Fatality Collision':
                  df["SEVERITYCODE"][i] = 4
          # Converted values
         df["SEVERITYCODE"].value_counts()
                137776
                 58842
         2b
                 3111
                   352
         Name: SEVERITYCODE, dtype: int64
Out[10]: 1
               137776
                58842
                 3111
          3
                  352
          Name: SEVERITYCODE, dtype: int64
```

### Remove Columns with unnecessary information:

Columns containing descriptions and identification numbers that would not help in the classification are dropped from the dataset to reduce the complexity and dimensionality of the dataset.

## Finding missing values and handling them:

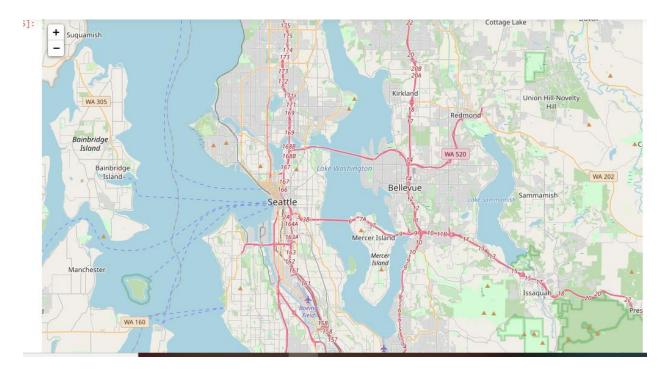
Empty boxes, 'Unknown' and 'Other' were values considered as missing values. These were replaced with NA to make the dataset uniform.

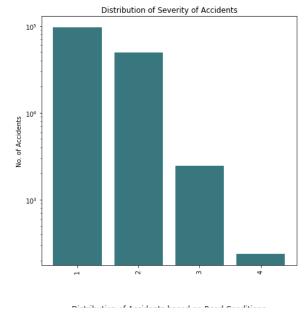
```
df.replace(r'^\s*$', np.nan, regex=True)
df.replace("Unknown", np.nan, inplace = True)
df.replace("Other", np.nan, inplace = True)
```

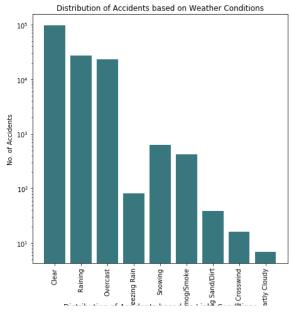
remove columns with more than 20% values missing

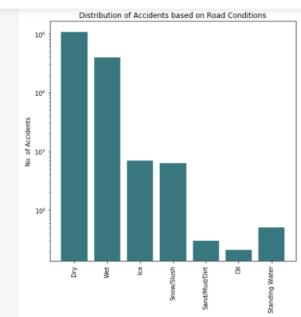
## Visualizing the Data:

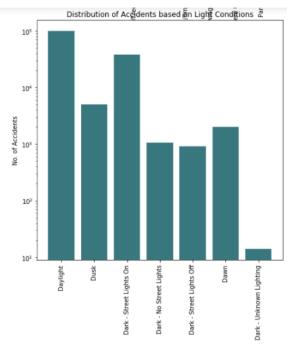
## Seattle City Map of Accidents:

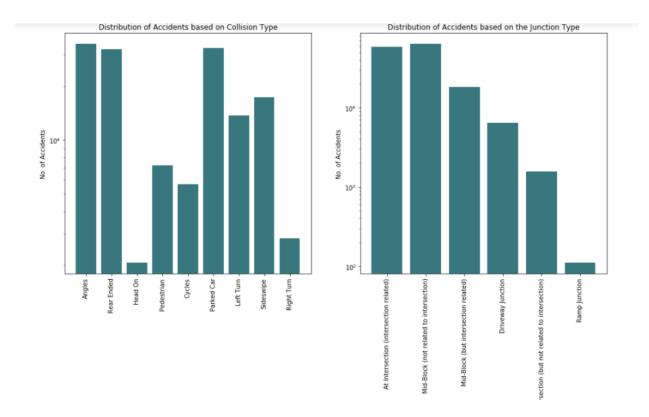












Most accidents (75.6%) occurred in clear or overcast (i.e. dry) weather conditions. The remaining 24.4% took place either in severe conditions (such as severe winds) or during periods of precipitation (rain, snow, fog, etc).

Road conditions at the time of each accident. Clearly the road conditions are related to the prevailing weather at the time (e.g. if there is rain, the roads are likely to be wet), however conditions are not wholly determined by the weather. For instance, 61 accidents occurred on roads where oil was present.

The light conditions at the time of each accident. 62.6% accidents occurred during daylight hours, while 26.2% of accidents occurred at nighttime in areas with streetlights (i.e. urban areas). The remaining 11.2% of accidents include those which happened at dawn/dusk, or on roads with no/faulty streetlights.

## **Balancing the Dataset:**

As is clear from the histogram of severity code shown above most accidents involve either no injuries, or minor injuries only. Only a small number of accidents involve serious injuries or fatalities. If we train a classification model on these data, the model will be biased. To fix this issue we need to resample the data.

The Dataset contains 4 target variables i.e., Severity code: 1, 2, 3, and 4

Property Damage Only Collision Severity Code 1

Injury Collision Severity Code 2
Serious Injury Collision Severity Code 3
Fatality Collision Severity Code 4

Combined the Severity codes 2, 3 and 4 to one Severity. i.e., making it "0" which is completely related to Fatal or Injury. Code 1 represents Property damage.

Down sample the Severity code 1 to match the number of Samples in Severity code 0

```
In [24]: # shuffling and creating a balanced dataset
MyData= MyData.sample(frac=1,random_state=0,replace=False)

# 1 - Put all severity code 2 class in a separate dataset.
df_scode2 = MyData.loc[MyData['SEVERITYCODE'] == 0]

# 2 - Randomly select 58188 observations from the severity code 1(majority class)
df_scode1 = MyData.loc[MyData['SEVERITYCODE'] == 1].sample(n=52258,random_state=42)

# 3 - concatenating datasets to get balanced dataset
MyData_balanced = pd.concat([df_scode1,df_scode2])
MyData_balanced = MyData_balanced.sample(frac=1,random_state=0,replace=False)

#checking if dataset balanced
print(MyData_balanced] 'SEVERITYCODE'].value_counts())
MyData_balanced.info()

1 52258
0 52258
Name: SEVERITYCODE, dtype: int64
```

## **Encoding Categorical columns and creating dummy Variables**

Machine Learning model should be trained only on numerical data. So, convert all Categorical Columns to numerical format by creating Dummy Variables.

### Encoding Categorical columns and creating dummies

From the above listed, we can see that the Data is balanced and cleaned. This Data is perfect to build the Model.

# **Forward Steps:**

Split the data in to testing (30%) and training (70%) subsamples and then build the following models for evaluation:

- 1. Decision Tree
- 2. Random Forest
- 3. Logistic Regression
- 4. Support Vector Machine