

An assessment of strategies to model opponent effects in crash severity analysis

Author 1^{*,a}, Author 2^b

^a*Department, Street, City, State, Zip*

^b*Department, Street, City, State, Zip*

Abstract

Road accidents impose an important burden on health and the economy. Numerous efforts to understand the factors that affect road collisions have been undertaken. One stream of research focus on modelling the severity of crashes. Crash severity research is useful to clarify the way different factors can influence the outcome of the event. The objective of this paper is to assess different strategies to model the interactions between participants in a crash, in the context of crashes involving two parties. Towards this objective, a series of models are estimated using data from Canada's National Collision Database. Three levels of crash severity (no injury/injury/fatality) are analyzed using ordered logit models and covariates for the participants in the crash and the conditions of the crash. Modelling strategies include different ways of introducing the covariates (e.g., in a single-level or multi-level form), as well as by subsetting the dataset. The models are assessed using predicted shares and outcomes, and the results highlight the importance of considering opponent effects in crash severity analysis. On the other hand, the study suggests that hierarchical (i.e., multi-level) specifications and subsetting do not perform necessarily better than a relatively simple single-level model with opponent effects.

1. Introduction

Road safety continues to be a concern world-wide. According to a recent report from the World Health Organization (2019), road accidents are the 8th leading cause of death for all ages, and the number one cause of death for children and young people between the ages of 5 to 29. Of all leading causes of death, road accidents are the only cause of death unrelated to disease, disorder, or infection. Road accidents impose a heavy burden on individuals and society as a whole. Globally, the rate of road collision-related deaths per 100,000 population and 100,000 vehicles have both fallen, even as the number of vehicles has grown (World Health Organization, 2019, Figs. 1 and 2). These gains, although they are to be celebrated, cannot distract from the crushing economic cost of premature death (e.g., Symons et al., 2019; Wijnen et al., 2019), not to mention the long-term consequences for survivors, measured in sometimes crippling emotional and physical pain (e.g., Merlin et al., 2007; Devlin et al., 2019; Pelissier et al., n.d.).

Evidence from across the world suggests that the burden of road accidents is not borne evenly. There are important disparities at the international level, where the odds of death due to road crashes are three times higher in low-income countries compared to high-income countries; in fact, no reductions in road accident-related fatalities were appreciated in low-income countries between 2013 and 2016 (World Health Organization, 2019). In the case of high-income countries, where substantial gains in road safety have been observed for years, said gains have also been unevenly distributed; thus, while fatal crashes involving older adults in the United States and Great Britain declined between 1997 and 2010 (despite the graying of the population), the trend remained stable or increased slightly in Australia in roughly the same period (Thompson et al., 2018). There are also systematic differences in the impact of road accidents. For example, in a study in the United States, Obeng (2011) reported that the impact of covariates of crash severity varied substantially in magnitude by gender. More recently, Regev et al. (2018) used adjusted crash risk to find that the risk of crashes in Great Britain peaked for people 21 to 29 years of age; on the other hand, the risk of fatal injuries for older drivers was constant, irrespective of the seriousness of the crash - which highlights the

*Corresponding Author

Email addresses: a1@example.com (Author 1), a2@example.com (Author 2)

perils of accidents at older ages. Other studies have concentrated on the consequences of road accidents for the young (e.g., Peek-Asa et al., 2010), the old (e.g., Rakotonirainy et al., 2012), as well as pedestrians and cyclists (e.g., Hanson et al., 2013; McArthur et al., 2014).

Given the relevance and cost of this matter, as well as the important variations of the impacts among different population segments, numerous efforts have been conducted to better understand the factors that affect road safety - including the probable consequences of crashes. Consequently, a stream of research in the analysis of road accidents is concerned with the severity of crashes. In particular, multivariate analysis of crash severity is a useful way to clarify the way various factors can affect the outcome of an incident, to discriminate between various levels of injury, from no injury (i.e., property damage only), to different degrees of injury up to and including fatality. This is an active area of research (e.g., Savolainen et al., 2011), and one where methodological developments have aimed at improving the reliability, accuracy, and precision of models.

This paper aspires to contribute to the literature on crash severity by assessing different modelling strategies useful to incorporate opponent effects in crash analysis, in the context of incidents involving two parties. The importance of these interactions has been recognized in the existing literature (e.g., Chiou et al., 2013; Lee and Li, 2014; Li et al., 2017; Tarrao et al., 2014), and a number of different modelling strategies have been proposed. In this paper we present a systematic assessment of several relevant modelling strategies, ranging from the way variables are defined in single-level models, in multi-level models (i.e., hierarchical models), as well as using data subsetting approaches. For the assessment we use data from Canada’s National Collision Database, a database that collects all police-reported collisions in the country. Using the most recent version of the dataset (2017), three levels of crash severity (no injury/injury/fatality) are analyzed using ordered logit models and covariates for the participants in the crash and the conditions of the crash. For model assessment, we conduct an in-sample prediction exercise using the estimation sample (i.e., *nowcasting*), and also an out-of-sample prediction exercise using the dataset corresponding to 2016 (i.e., *backcasting*). The models are assessed using predicted shares and predicted individual outcomes using an extensive array of verification statistics. The results highlight the importance of considering opponent effects in crash severity analysis to improve the goodness-of-fit and predictive performance. On the other hand, the study suggests that hierarchical variable specifications and subsetting do not perform necessarily better than a relatively simple single-level model with opponent effects.

The rest of this paper is structured as follows. In Section 2 we present a concise review of the methods used to analyze crash severity, with a particular focus on techniques that consider the interactions between participants in a crash. Section 3 describes the data requirements, data preprocessing, and the modelling strategy. Model estimation is presented in 4 and the assessment of models is in Section 5. We then present some additional thoughts about the applicability of this approach in Section 6 before offering some concluding remarks in Section 7.

2. Methodological approaches in crash severity analysis

Modelling the outcomes of crashes in terms of the severity of injuries to participants has been a preoccupation of transportation researchers, planners, auto insurance companies, governments and the public for decades. One of the earliest studies to investigate the severity of injuries conditional on an accident having occurred was by White and Clayton (1972). Kim et al. (1995) later stated that the “linkages between severity of injury and driver characteristics and behaviors have not been thoroughly investigated” (p. 470). Nowadays, there is a burgeoning literature on this subject, including methodological developments, case studies, and more niche research with a focus on particular situations (e.g., crashes at intersections, Mussone et al., 2017; crashes in rural roads, Gong and Fan, 2017) or special populations (e.g., crashes involving motorcyclists or active travelers; see Shaheed et al., 2013; Salon and McIntyre, 2018).

Crash severity is often modelled using models for discrete outcomes, including classification techniques from machine learning (e.g., Iranitalab and Khattak, 2017; Chang and Wang, 2006; Effati et al., 2015; Khan et al., 2015), Poisson models for counts (e.g., Ma et al., 2008), unordered logit/probit models [], as well as ordered logit/probit models (e.g., Rifaat and Chin, 2007), with numerous variants, such as random parameters/mixed logit (e.g., Aziz et al., 2013; Haleem and Gan, 2013), partial proportional odds models (e.g., Mooradian et al., 2013; Sasidharan and Menendez, 2014), and the use of copulas (e.g., Wang et al., 2015). Recent reviews of methods include Savolainen et al. (2011) and Shamsunnahar and Eluru (2013).

Table 1: Categories of variables used in the analysis of crash severity with examples

| Category | Examples |
|----------------------|---|
| Person-related | Attributes of participants in the crash, e.g., injury status, age, gender, licensing status, professional driver status |
| Traffic unit-related | Attributes of the traffic unit, e.g., type of traffic unit (car, motorcycle, etc.), maneuver, etc. |
| Crash-related | Attributes of the crash, e.g., location, weather conditions, light conditions, number of parties, etc. |
| Road-related | Attributes of the road, e.g., surface condition, grade, geometry, etc. |

Shamsunnahar and Eluru (2013) in particular conducted an extensive comparison of models for discrete outcomes and found that while the difference between the performance of unordered models and ordered models was so small as to make not difference, ordered models are usually more parsimonious since only one latent functions needs to be estimated for all outcomes, as opposed to one for each outcome in unordered modelling mechanisms.

Irrespective of the modelling framework employed, models of crash severity often include variables in several categories, as shown with examples in Table 1 (also see Montella et al., 2013). Many crash databases (but not by any means all) also account for the multievent nature of many crashes. In this way, there are crashes that involve a single traffic unit (e.g., Kim et al., 2013; Gong and Fan, 2017), others that involve two traffic units (e.g., Tarrao et al., 2014; Wang et al., 2015), and more rarely there are multi-traffic unit crashes (e.g., Wu et al., 2014; Bogue et al., 2017). Likewise, each traffic unit can possibly involve more than one person (e.g., driver and passengers). Thus, depending on the incident, each record in a crash database may include unique identifier for the crash, as well as identifiers for the traffic units (or identifiers for dummy objects such as a light pole that was hit by a vehicle), and the people involved in the crash.

Interplay between participants:

Chiou et al. (2013)

Lee and Li (2014) consider effect on crash severity of interactions between different types of vehicles. This they do by subsetting the dataset and estimating independent models for each subset of data. Since they consider three types of vehicles, namely cars (C), light trucks (L), and heavy trucks (H), they work with nine datasets, for each type of interactions (i.e., C-C, C-L, C-H, and so on). Tarrao et al. (2014)

Mannering et al. (2016)

Li et al. (2017)

Salon and McIntyre (2018)

Chen et al. (2019)

Wu et al. (2014) two-vehicle crashes do not really consider the interactions.

Many models use a latent-variable approach, whereby the severity of the crash (observed) is linked to an underlying latent variable that is a function of the variables:

$$y_{ik}^* = \sum_{l=1} \beta_l p_{ikl} + \sum_{m=1} \gamma_m c_{km} + \epsilon_{ik}$$

The left-hand side of the expression above (y_{ik}^*) is a latent (unobservable) variable that is associated with the severity of crash k ($k = 1, \dots, K$) for participant i ($i = 1, \dots, n$). The right-hand side of the expression is split in three parts. The first part collects $l = 1, \dots, L$ individual attributes p for participant i in crash k ; these could relate to the person (e.g., age and gender) or be individual attributes of the traffic unit (e.g., maneuver or vehicle type). The second part collects $m = 1, \dots, M$ attributes c related to the crash k , including crash-related and road-related data. The last part is a random term specific to participant i in crash k .

The latent variable is not observed directly, but it is possible to posit a probabilistic relationship with the outcome y_{ik} (the severity of crash k for participant i). Depending on the characteristics of the data and

the assumptions made about the random component of the latent function different models can be obtained. For example, if crash severity is coded as a binary variable (e.g., non-fatal/fatal), we can relate the latent variable to the outcome as follows:

$$y_{ik} = \begin{cases} \text{fatal} & \text{if } y_{ik}^* > 0 \\ \text{non-fatal} & \text{if } y_{ik}^* \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

Due to the stochastic nature of the latent function, the outcome of the crash is not fully determined. However, we can make the following probability statement:

$$P(y_i = \text{fatal}) = P(y_i^* > 0)$$

In other words, the probability of a fatal accident equals the probability that the latent variable is greater than zero. This implies (see Maddala, 1986, p. 22):

$$\begin{aligned} P(y_i = \text{fatal}) &= P(\sum_{l=1} \beta_l p_{ikl} + \sum_{m=1} \gamma_m c_{km} + \epsilon_{ik} > 0) \\ &= P(\epsilon_{ik} > -\sum_{l=1} \beta_l p_{ikl} - \sum_{m=1} \gamma_m c_{km}) \end{aligned}$$

If the random terms ϵ_i are assumed to follow the logistic distribution, the binary logit model is obtained; if they are assumed to follow the normal distribution, the binary probit model is obtained.

More often, though, the outcome is recorded using more categories, for example property damage only (PDO)/injury/fatality. A similar approach can be adopted, with a latent variable that relates to the outcome as follows:

$$y_i = \begin{cases} \text{fatality} & \text{if } y_i^* > k_2 \\ \text{injury} & \text{if } k_1 < y_i^* < k_2 \\ \text{PDO} & \text{if } y_i^* < k_1 \end{cases}$$

where k_1 and k_2 are estimable thresholds. In this case, the associated probability statements are as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} P(y_{ik} = \text{PDO}) &= 1 - P(y_{ik} = \text{injury}) - P(y_{ik} = \text{fatality}) \\ P(y_{ik} = \text{injury}) &= P(k_1 - \sum_{l=1} \beta_l p_{ikl} - \sum_{m=1} \gamma_m c_{km} < \epsilon_{ik} < k_2 - \sum_{l=1} \beta_l p_{ikl} - \sum_{m=1} \gamma_m c_{km}) \\ P(y_{ik} = \text{fatality}) &= P(\epsilon_{ik} < k_1 - \sum_{l=1} \beta_l p_{ikl} - \sum_{m=1} \gamma_m c_{km}) \end{aligned}$$

If the random terms are assumed to follow the logistic distribution, the ordered logit model is obtained; if the normal distribution, then the ordered probit model. Estimation methods for these models are very well-established (e.g., Maddala, 1986; Train, 2009).

There are numerous variations of the basic modelling framework above, including hierarchical models, bivariate models, multinomial models, and Bayesian models, among others (see Savolainen et al., 2011 for a review of methods).

3. Methods

3.1. Data considerations

Words go here
Montella et al. (2013)

3.2. Model specification

More words go here

4. Application

Note: that this paper presents reproducible research. The source file is an R Markdown document. All code and data necessary to reproduce the analysis are available from the following anonymous Drive folder:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=12aJtVBaQ4Zj0xa7mtfqxh0E48hKCb_XV

The source files, code, and data will be publicly available in a GitHub repository upon acceptance of the paper for publication

4.1. Data for the application

To assess the performance of the modelling strategies discussed in Section 3, we use data from Canada's National Collision Database (NCDB). This database contains all motor vehicle collisions on public roads in Canada as reported by a police service. Data are collected by provinces and territories, and shared with the federal government, where data are combined, tracked, and analyzed for reporting of deaths, injuries, and collisions in Canada at the national level. The NCDB is provided by Transport Canada, the agency of the federal government of Canada in charge of transportation policies and programs, under the Open Government License - Canada version 2.0 [<https://open.canada.ca/en/open-government-licence-canada>].

The NCDB is available from 1999. For the purpose of this paper, we use the most recent year available as of this writing (2017). Furthermore, for assessment we also use the data corresponding to 2016. Similar to databases in other jurisdictions [see @], the NCDB contains information pertaining to the collision, the traffic unit, and the person(s) involved.

| | |
|----------|---------|
| Variable | Details |
|----------|---------|

| | |
|-----|---------|
| Age | Details |
|-----|---------|

Note:

NCDB available from <https://open.canada.ca/data/en/dataset/1eb9eba7-71d1-4b30-9fb1-30cbdab7e63a>

4.2. Model estimation

Words go here

Model specification. See Table:

| Variable | Notes | Model 1 | Model 2 | Model 3 | Model 4 |
|---|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Individual-level variables | | | | | |
| Age | In decades | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Age Squared | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Sex | Reference: Female | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Use of Safety Devices | 7 levels; Reference: No Safety Device | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Traffic unit-level variables | | | | | |
| Passenger | Reference: Driver | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Pedestrian | Reference: Driver | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Bicyclist | Reference: Driver | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Motorcyclist | Reference: Driver | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Light Truck | Reference: Light Duty Vehicle | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Heavy Vehicle | Reference: Light Duty Vehicle | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Opponent variables) | | | | | |
| Age of Opponent | In decades | | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Age of Opponent Squared | | | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Sex of Opponent | Reference: Female | | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Opponent: Light Duty Vehicle | Reference: Pedestrian/Bicyclist/Motorcyclist | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Opponent: Light Truck | Reference: Pedestrian/Bicyclist/Motorcyclist | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Opponent: Heavy Vehicle | Reference: Pedestrian/Bicyclist/Motorcyclist | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Hierarchical traffic unit variables) | | | | | |
| Age:Light Truck Driver | | | | ✓ | |
| Age Squared:Light Truck Driver | | | | ✓ | |
| Age:Heavy Vehicle Driver | | | | ✓ | |
| Age Squared:Heavy Vehicle Driver | | | | ✓ | |
| Age:Light Truck Passenger | | | | ✓ | |
| Age Squared:Light Truck Passenger | | | | ✓ | |
| Age:Heavy Vehicle Passenger | | | | ✓ | |
| Age Squared:Heavy Vehicle Passenger | | | | ✓ | |
| Age:Pedestrian | | | | ✓ | |
| Age Squared:Pedestrian | | | | ✓ | |
| Age:Bicyclist | | | | ✓ | |
| Age Squared:Bicyclist | | | | ✓ | |
| Age:Motorcyclist | | | | ✓ | |
| Age Squared:Motorcyclist | | | | ✓ | |
| Hierarchical opponent variables) | | | | | |
| Age:Age of Opponent | | | | | ✓ |
| Age:Age of Female Opponent | | | | | ✓ |
| Age:Age of Male Opponent Squared | | | | | ✓ |
| Age:Age of Female Opponent Squared | | | | | ✓ |
| Age Squared:Age of Male Opponent | | | | | ✓ |
| Age Squared:Age of Female Opponent | | | | | ✓ |
| Case-level variables) | | | | | |
| Crash Configuration | 19 levels; Reference: Hit a Moving Object | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Road Configuration | 12 levels; Reference: Non-Intersection | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Weather | 9 levels; Reference: Clear and Sunny | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Surface | 11 levels; Reference: Dry | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Road Alignment | 8 levels; Reference: Straight and Level | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Traffic Controls | 19 levels; Reference: Operational Traffic Signals | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Month | 12 levels; Reference: January | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

Notice how there are zero cases of user: BYCICLIST - opponent: Heavy Vehicle.
Re-estimate model after subsetting by USER Type of person 1. LDxLD:
Summary of models. See Table 2.

5. Model assessment

5.1. Outcome shares based on probabilities

Words go here.

The datasets are used to predict the probabilities of the outcomes:

The results of calculating the Average Prediction Error appear in Table 3.

Table 2: Summary of model estimation results

| Model | Number of observations | Number of coefficients | AIC |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|---------|
| Full sample models | | | |
| Model 1 | 164,511 | 100 | 195,215 |
| Model 2 | 164,511 | 106 | 178,943 |
| Model 3 | 164,511 | 116 | 181,333 |
| Model 4 | 164,511 | 109 | 179,018 |
| Model 1 Ensemble (sample subsets by user type vs opponent) | | | |
| Light duty vehicle vs light duty vehicle | 114,841 | 95 | 145,396 |
| Light duty vehicle vs light truck | 3,237 | 95 | 3,979 |
| Light duty vehicle vs heavy vehicle | 5,013 | 95 | 5,913 |
| Light truck vs light duty vehicle | 3,121 | 95 | 3,921 |
| Light truck vs light truck | 809 | 95 | 1,230 |
| Light truck vs heavy vehicle | 198 | 95 | 354 |
| Heavy vehicle vs light duty vehicle | 4,763 | 95 | 4,362 |
| Heavy vehicle vs light truck | 180 | 95 | 291 |
| Heavy vehicle vs heavy vehicle | 779 | 95 | 1,193 |
| Pedestrian vs light duty vehicle | 7,176 | 94 | 2,842 |
| Pedestrian vs light truck | 328 | 94 | 270 |
| Pedestrian vs heavy vehicle | 376 | 94 | 473 |
| Bicyclist vs light duty vehicle | 3,521 | 94 | 686 |
| Bicyclist vs light truck | 148 | 94 | 192 |
| Bicyclist vs heavy vehicle | NA | NA | NA |
| Motorcyclist vs light duty vehicle | 2,298 | 94 | 1,403 |
| Motorcyclist vs light truck | 127 | 94 | 233 |
| Motorcyclist vs heavy vehicle | 73 | 94 | 204 |
| Model 2 Ensemble (sample subsets by user type vs opponent) | | | |
| Light duty vehicle vs light duty vehicle | 114,841 | 98 | 143,909 |
| Light duty vehicle vs light truck | 3,237 | 98 | 3,963 |
| Light duty vehicle vs heavy vehicle | 5,013 | 98 | 5,896 |
| Light truck vs light duty vehicle | 3,121 | 98 | 3,913 |
| Light truck vs light truck | 809 | 98 | 1,216 |
| Light truck vs heavy vehicle | 198 | 98 | 347 |
| Heavy vehicle vs light duty vehicle | 4,763 | 98 | 4,315 |
| Heavy vehicle vs light truck | 180 | 98 | 275 |
| Heavy vehicle vs heavy vehicle | 779 | 98 | 1,182 |
| Pedestrian vs light duty vehicle | 7,176 | 98 | 2,839 |
| Pedestrian vs light truck | 328 | 98 | 270 |
| Pedestrian vs heavy vehicle | 376 | 98 | 476 |
| Bicyclist vs light duty vehicle | 3,521 | 98 | 693 |
| Bicyclist vs light truck | 148 | 98 | 200 |
| Bicyclist vs heavy vehicle | NA | NA | NA |
| Motorcyclist vs light duty vehicle | 2,298 | 98 | 1,411 |
| Motorcyclist vs light truck | 127 | 98 | 235 |
| Motorcyclist vs heavy vehicle | 73 | 98 | 201 |

Note:

There are zero cases of BICYCLIST vs HV in the sample

Table 3: Predicted shares and average prediction errors (APE) by model (percentages)

| Model | No Injury | | | Injury | | | Fatality | | | WAPE |
|---|-----------|-----------|------|----------|-----------|------|----------|-----------|-------|------|
| | Observed | Predicted | APE | Observed | Predicted | APE | Observed | Predicted | APE | |
| In-sample (nowcasting using 2017 dataset, i.e., estimation dataset) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Model 1 | 78886 | 79029.00 | 0.18 | 84675 | 84533.74 | 0.17 | 950 | 948.26 | 0.18 | 0.17 |
| Model 1 Ensemble | 62449 | 62439.99 | 0.01 | 83606 | 83614.28 | 0.01 | 933 | 933.73 | 0.08 | 0.01 |
| Model 2 | 78886 | 78928.98 | 0.05 | 84675 | 84641.94 | 0.04 | 950 | 940.08 | 1.04 | 0.05 |
| Model 2 Ensemble | 62449 | 62438.99 | 0.02 | 83606 | 83615.22 | 0.01 | 933 | 933.80 | 0.09 | 0.01 |
| Model 3 | 78886 | 79027.29 | 0.18 | 84675 | 84512.50 | 0.19 | 950 | 971.21 | 2.23 | 0.20 |
| Model 4 | 78886 | 78939.18 | 0.07 | 84675 | 84622.54 | 0.06 | 950 | 949.28 | 0.08 | 0.06 |
| Out-of-sample (backcasting using 2016 dataset) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Model 1 | 82812 | 82574.35 | 0.29 | 88586 | 88737.88 | 0.17 | 935 | 1020.77 | 9.17 | 0.28 |
| Model 1 Ensemble | 64469 | 64525.65 | 0.09 | 87476 | 87291.39 | 0.21 | 909 | 1036.96 | 14.08 | 0.24 |
| Model 2 | 82812 | 82900.86 | 0.11 | 88586 | 88432.82 | 0.17 | 935 | 999.32 | 6.88 | 0.18 |
| Model 2 Ensemble | 64469 | 64541.74 | 0.11 | 87476 | 87261.66 | 0.25 | 909 | 1050.60 | 15.58 | 0.28 |
| Model 3 | 82812 | 82948.83 | 0.17 | 88586 | 88340.07 | 0.28 | 935 | 1044.10 | 11.67 | 0.29 |
| Model 4 | 82812 | 82878.68 | 0.08 | 88586 | 88446.37 | 0.16 | 935 | 1007.94 | 7.80 | 0.16 |

5.2. *Predicted outcomes*

Words go here.

Verification statistics used are summarized in Table 4.

Table 4: Verification statistics

| Statistic | Description | Notes |
|--|--|---|
| Percent Correct (PC) | Total hits and correct rejections divided by number of cases | Strongly influenced by most common category |
| Percent Correct by Class (PC_c) | Same as Percent Correct but by category | Strongly influenced by most common category |
| Bias (B) | Total predicted by category, divided by total observed by category | $B > 1$: class is overpredicted; $B < 1$: class is underpredicted |
| Critical Success Index (CSI) | Total hits divided by total hits + false alarms + misses | $CSI = 1$: perfect score; $CSI = 0$: no skill |
| Probability of False Detection (F) | Proportion of no events forecast as yes; sensitive to false alarms but ignores misses | $F = 0$: perfect score |
| Probability of Detection (POD) | Total hits divided by total observed by class | $POD = 1$: perfect score |
| False Alarm Ratio (FAR) | Total false alarms divided by total forecast yes by class; measures fraction of predicted yes that did not occur | $FAR = 0$: perfect score |
| Heidke Skill Score (HSS) | Fraction of correct predictions after removing predictions attributable to chance; measures fractional improvement over random; tends to reward conservative forecasts | $HSS = 1$: perfect score; $HSS = 0$: no skill; $HSS < 0$: random is better |
| Peirce Skill Score (PSS) | Combines POD and F ; measures ability to separate yes events from no events; tends to reward conservative forecasts | $PSS = 1$: perfect score; $PSS = 0$: no skill |
| Gerrity Score (GS) | Measures accuracy of predicting the correct category, relative to random; tends to reward correct forecasts of less likely category | $GS = 1$: perfect score; $GS = 0$: no skill |

We next evaluate the outcomes of the nowcast using an array of verification statistics. See Table 6.
We next evaluate the outcomes of the nowcast using an array of verification statistics. See Table 6.

6. Further considerations

Here I plan to discuss the applicability of the modelling strategy to advanced modelling techniques (partial proportional odds, heterogeneity, hierarchical models, etc.)

7. Concluding remarks

Words go here.

References

- Aziz, H.M.A., Ukkusuri, S.V., Hasan, S., 2013. Exploring the determinants of pedestrian-vehicle crash severity in new york city. *Accident Analysis and Prevention* 50, 1298–1309. doi:10.1016/j.aap.2012.09.034
- Bogue, S., Paleti, R., Balan, L., 2017. A modified rank ordered logit model to analyze injury severity of occupants in multivehicle crashes. *Analytic Methods in Accident Research* 14, 22–40. doi:10.1016/j.amar.2017.03.001
- Chang, L.Y., Wang, H.W., 2006. Analysis of traffic injury severity: An application of non-parametric classification tree techniques. *Accident Analysis and Prevention* 38, 1019–1027. doi:10.1016/j.aap.2006.04.009
- Chen, F., Song, M.T., Ma, X.X., 2019. Investigation on the injury severity of drivers in rear-end collisions between cars using a random parameters bivariate ordered probit model. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* 16. doi:10.3390/ijerph16142632
- Chiou, Y.C., Hwang, C.C., Chang, C.C., Fu, C., 2013. Modeling two-vehicle crash severity by a bivariate generalized ordered probit approach. *Accident Analysis and Prevention* 51, 175–184. doi:10.1016/j.aap.2012.11.008
- Devlin, A., Beck, B., Simpson, P.M., Ekegren, C.L., Giummarra, M.J., Edwards, E.R., Cameron, P.A., Liew, S., Oppy, A., Richardson, M., Page, R., Gabbe, B.J., 2019. The road to recovery for vulnerable road users hospitalised for orthopaedic injury following an on-road crash. *Accident Analysis and Prevention* 132, 10. doi:10.1016/j.aap.2019.105279
- Effati, M., Thill, J.C., Shabani, S., 2015. Geospatial and machine learning techniques for wicked social science problems: Analysis of crash severity on a regional highway corridor. *Journal of Geographical Systems* 17, 107–135. doi:10.1007/s10109-015-0210-x
- Gong, L.F., Fan, W.D., 2017. Modeling single-vehicle run-off-road crash severity in rural areas: Accounting for unobserved heterogeneity and age difference. *Accident Analysis and Prevention* 101, 124–134. doi:10.1016/j.aap.2017.02.014
- Haleem, K., Gan, A., 2013. Effect of driver’s age and side of impact on crash severity along urban freeways: A mixed logit approach. *Journal of Safety Research* 46, 67–76. doi:10.1016/j.jsr.2013.04.002
- Hanson, C.S., Noland, R.B., Brown, C., 2013. The severity of pedestrian crashes: An analysis using google street view imagery. *Journal of Transport Geography* 33, 42–53. doi:10.1016/j.jtrangeo.2013.09.002
- Iranitalab, A., Khattak, A., 2017. Comparison of four statistical and machine learning methods for crash severity prediction. *Accident Analysis and Prevention* 108, 27–36. doi:10.1016/j.aap.2017.08.008
- Khan, G., Bill, A.R., Noyce, D.A., 2015. Exploring the feasibility of classification trees versus ordinal discrete choice models for analyzing crash severity. *Transportation Research Part C-Emerging Technologies* 50, 86–96. doi:10.1016/j.trc.2014.10.003
- Kim, J.K., Ulfarsson, G.F., Kim, S., Shankar, V.N., 2013. Driver-injury severity in single-vehicle crashes in california: A mixed logit analysis of heterogeneity due to age and gender. *Accident Analysis and Prevention* 50, 1073–1081. doi:10.1016/j.aap.2012.08.011
- Kim, K., Nitz, L., Richardson, J., Li, L., 1995. PERSONAL and behavioral predictors of automobile crash and injury severity. *Accident Analysis and Prevention* 27, 469–481. doi:10.1016/0001-4575(95)00001-g
- Lee, C., Li, X.C., 2014. Analysis of injury severity of drivers involved in single- and two-vehicle crashes on highways in ontario. *Accident Analysis and Prevention* 71, 286–295. doi:10.1016/j.aap.2014.06.008
- Li, L., Hasnine, M.S., Habib, K.M.N., Persaud, B., Shalaby, A., 2017. Investigating the interplay between the attributes of at-fault and not-at-fault drivers and the associated impacts on crash injury occurrence and severity level. *Journal of Transportation Safety & Security* 9, 439–456. doi:10.1080/19439962.2016.1237602

Table 5: Assessment of in-sample outcomes (nowcasting using 2017 dataset, i.e., estimation dataset)

| Observed | Predicted Outcome | | | Verification Statistics | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|--------|----------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Outcome | No Injury | Injury | Fatality | Percent Correct | Percent Correct by Class | Bias ¹ | Critical Success Index ² | Probability of False Detection ³ | Probability of Detection ⁴ | False Alarm Ratio ⁵ | Heidke Skill Score ⁶ | Peirce Skill Score ⁷ | Gerrity Score ⁸ |
| Model 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No Injury | 50652 | 22504 | 150 | 68.552 | 69.067 | 0.929 | 0.499 | 0.265 | 0.642 | 0.309 | 0.372 | 0.370 | 0.190 |
| Injury | 28232 | 62120 | 797 | | 68.644 | 1.076 | 0.546 | 0.364 | 0.734 | 0.318 | | | |
| Fatality | 2 | 51 | 3 | | 99.392 | 0.059 | 0.003 | 0.000 | 0.003 | 0.946 | | | |
| Model 1 Ensemble | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No Injury | 34711 | 16429 | 63 | 69.338 | 69.909 | 0.820 | 0.440 | 0.195 | 0.556 | 0.322 | 0.363 | 0.353 | 0.202 |
| Injury | 27738 | 67167 | 830 | | 69.380 | 1.145 | 0.599 | 0.451 | 0.803 | 0.298 | | | |
| Fatality | 0 | 10 | 40 | | 99.386 | 0.054 | 0.042 | 0.000 | 0.043 | 0.200 | | | |
| Model 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No Injury | 51530 | 17136 | 85 | 72.364 | 72.903 | 0.872 | 0.536 | 0.201 | 0.653 | 0.250 | 0.447 | 0.443 | 0.227 |
| Injury | 27356 | 67515 | 864 | | 72.415 | 1.131 | 0.598 | 0.353 | 0.797 | 0.295 | | | |
| Fatality | 0 | 24 | 1 | | 99.409 | 0.026 | 0.001 | 0.000 | 0.001 | 0.960 | | | |
| Model 2 Ensemble | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No Injury | 35473 | 16147 | 60 | 70.049 | 70.621 | 0.828 | 0.451 | 0.192 | 0.568 | 0.314 | 0.379 | 0.368 | 0.212 |
| Injury | 26976 | 67446 | 829 | | 70.089 | 1.139 | 0.605 | 0.439 | 0.807 | 0.292 | | | |
| Fatality | 0 | 13 | 44 | | 99.386 | 0.061 | 0.047 | 0.000 | 0.047 | 0.228 | | | |
| Model 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No Injury | 51102 | 17297 | 79 | 71.996 | 72.549 | 0.868 | 0.531 | 0.203 | 0.648 | 0.254 | 0.440 | 0.436 | 0.224 |
| Injury | 27784 | 67337 | 868 | | 72.044 | 1.134 | 0.594 | 0.359 | 0.795 | 0.298 | | | |
| Fatality | 0 | 41 | 3 | | 99.399 | 0.046 | 0.003 | 0.000 | 0.003 | 0.932 | | | |
| Model 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No Injury | 51574 | 17317 | 84 | 72.282 | 72.821 | 0.874 | 0.536 | 0.203 | 0.654 | 0.252 | 0.446 | 0.441 | 0.227 |
| Injury | 27312 | 67335 | 863 | | 72.333 | 1.128 | 0.597 | 0.353 | 0.795 | 0.295 | | | |
| Fatality | 0 | 23 | 3 | | 99.410 | 0.027 | 0.003 | 0.000 | 0.003 | 0.885 | | | |

Notes:

¹ $B > 1$: class is overpredicted; $B < 1$: class is underpredicted;² $CSI = 1$: perfect score; $CSI = 0$: no skill;³ $F = 0$: perfect score;⁴ $POD = 1$: perfect score;⁵ $FAR = 0$: perfect score;⁶ $HSS = 1$: perfect score; $HSS = 0$: no skill; $HSS < 0$: random is better;⁷ $PSS = 1$: perfect score; $PSS = 0$: no skill;⁸ $GS = 1$: perfect score; $GS = 0$: no skill.

Table 6: Assessment of in-sample outcomes (nowcasting using 2017 dataset, i.e., estimation dataset)

| Observed | Predicted Outcome | | | Verification Statistics | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|--------|----------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Outcome | No Injury | Injury | Fatality | Percent Correct | Percent Correct by Class | Bias ¹ | Critical Success Index ² | Probability of False Detection ³ | Probability of Detection ⁴ | False Alarm Ratio ⁵ | Heidke Skill Score ⁶ | Peirce Skill Score ⁷ | Gerrity Score ⁸ |
| Model 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No Injury | 53167 | 23097 | 145 | 68.834 | 69.311 | 0.923 | 0.501 | 0.260 | 0.642 | 0.304 | 0.378 | 0.375 | 0.192 |
| Injury | 29642 | 65455 | 788 | | 68.920 | 1.082 | 0.550 | 0.363 | 0.739 | 0.317 | | | |
| Fatality | 3 | 34 | 2 | | 99.437 | 0.042 | 0.002 | 0.000 | 0.002 | 0.949 | | | |
| Model 1 Ensemble | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No Injury | 35564 | 16930 | 71 | 69.368 | 69.967 | 0.815 | 0.437 | 0.192 | 0.552 | 0.323 | 0.362 | 0.351 | 0.188 |
| Injury | 28891 | 70451 | 822 | | 69.423 | 1.145 | 0.601 | 0.454 | 0.805 | 0.297 | | | |
| Fatality | 14 | 95 | 16 | | 99.344 | 0.138 | 0.016 | 0.001 | 0.018 | 0.872 | | | |
| Model 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No Injury | 54430 | 17615 | 81 | 72.759 | 73.262 | 0.871 | 0.542 | 0.198 | 0.657 | 0.245 | 0.455 | 0.451 | 0.232 |
| Injury | 28382 | 70954 | 850 | | 72.806 | 1.131 | 0.602 | 0.349 | 0.801 | 0.292 | | | |
| Fatality | 0 | 17 | 4 | | 99.450 | 0.022 | 0.004 | 0.000 | 0.004 | 0.810 | | | |
| Model 2 Ensemble | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No Injury | 36234 | 16840 | 73 | 69.856 | 70.463 | 0.824 | 0.445 | 0.191 | 0.562 | 0.318 | 0.373 | 0.362 | 0.194 |
| Injury | 28216 | 70527 | 819 | | 69.916 | 1.138 | 0.605 | 0.444 | 0.806 | 0.292 | | | |
| Fatality | 19 | 109 | 17 | | 99.333 | 0.160 | 0.016 | 0.001 | 0.019 | 0.883 | | | |
| Model 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No Injury | 53985 | 17731 | 83 | 72.422 | 72.936 | 0.867 | 0.536 | 0.199 | 0.652 | 0.248 | 0.448 | 0.444 | 0.228 |
| Injury | 28827 | 70819 | 849 | | 72.470 | 1.134 | 0.599 | 0.354 | 0.799 | 0.295 | | | |
| Fatality | 0 | 36 | 3 | | 99.438 | 0.042 | 0.003 | 0.000 | 0.003 | 0.923 | | | |
| Model 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No Injury | 54493 | 17843 | 79 | 72.663 | 73.168 | 0.874 | 0.541 | 0.200 | 0.658 | 0.247 | 0.453 | 0.449 | 0.231 |
| Injury | 28318 | 70725 | 852 | | 72.709 | 1.128 | 0.601 | 0.348 | 0.798 | 0.292 | | | |
| Fatality | 1 | 18 | 4 | | 99.449 | 0.025 | 0.004 | 0.000 | 0.004 | 0.826 | | | |

Notes:

¹ $B > 1$: class is overpredicted; $B < 1$: class is underpredicted;² $CSI = 1$: perfect score; $CSI = 0$: no skill;³ $F = 0$: perfect score;⁴ $POD = 1$: perfect score;⁵ $FAR = 0$: perfect score;⁶ $HSS = 1$: perfect score; $HSS = 0$: no skill; $HSS < 0$: random is better;⁷ $PSS = 1$: perfect score; $PSS = 0$: no skill;⁸ $GS = 1$: perfect score; $GS = 0$: no skill.

- Ma, J.M., Kockelman, K.M., Damien, P., 2008. A multivariate poisson-lognormal regression model for prediction of crash counts by severity, using bayesian methods. *Accident Analysis and Prevention* 40, 964–975. doi:10.1016/j.aap.2007.11.002
- Maddala, G.S., 1986. Limited-dependent and qualitative variables in econometrics. Cambridge university press.
- Mannering, F., Shankar, V., Bhat, C.R., 2016. Unobserved heterogeneity and the statistical analysis of highway accident data. *Analytic Methods in Accident Research* 11, 1–16. doi:10.1016/j.amar.2016.04.001
- McArthur, A., Savolainen, P.T., Gates, T.J., 2014. Spatial analysis of child pedestrian and bicycle crashes development of safety performance function for areas adjacent to schools. *Transportation Research Record* 57–63. doi:10.3141/2465-08
- Merlin, E.P.R., Gonzalez-Forteza, C., Lira, L.R., Tapia, J.A.J., 2007. Post-traumatic stress disorder in patients with non intentional injuries caused by road traffic accidents. *Salud Mental* 30, 43–48.
- Montella, A., Andreassen, D., Tarko, A.P., Turner, S., Mauriello, F., Imbriani, L.L., Romero, M.A., 2013. Crash databases in australasia, the european union, and the united states review and prospects for improvement. *Transportation Research Record* 128–136. doi:10.3141/2386-15
- Mooradian, J., Ivan, J.N., Ravishanker, N., Hu, S., 2013. Analysis of driver and passenger crash injury severity using partial proportional odds models. *Accident Analysis and Prevention* 58, 53–58. doi:10.1016/j.aap.2013.04.022
- Mussone, L., Bassani, M., Masci, P., 2017. Analysis of factors affecting the severity of crashes in urban road intersections. *Accident Analysis and Prevention* 103, 112–122. doi:10.1016/j.aap.2017.04.007
- Obeng, K., 2011. Gender differences in injury severity risks in crashes at signalized intersections. *Accident Analysis and Prevention* 43, 1521–1531. doi:10.1016/j.aap.2011.03.004
- Peek-Asa, C., Britton, C., Young, T., Pawlovich, M., Falb, S., 2010. Teenage driver crash incidence and factors influencing crash injury by rurality. *Journal of Safety Research* 41, 487–492. doi:10.1016/j.jsr.2010.10.002
- Pelissier, C., Fort, E., Fontana, L., Hours, M., n.d. Medical and socio-occupational predictive factors of psychological distress 5 years after a road accident: A prospective study. *Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology* 13. doi:10.1007/s00127-019-01780-0
- Rakotonirainy, A., Steinhardt, D., Delhomme, P., Darvell, M., Schramm, A., 2012. Older drivers' crashes in queensland, australia. *Accident Analysis and Prevention* 48, 423–429. doi:10.1016/j.aap.2012.02.016
- Regev, S., Rolison, J.J., Moutari, S., 2018. Crash risk by driver age, gender, and time of day using a new exposure methodology. *Journal of Safety Research* 66, 131–140. doi:10.1016/j.jsr.2018.07.002
- Rifaat, S.M., Chin, H.C., 2007. Accident severity analysis using ordered probit model. *Journal of Advanced Transportation* 41, 91–114. doi:10.1002/atr.5670410107
- Salon, D., McIntyre, A., 2018. Determinants of pedestrian and bicyclist crash severity by party at fault in san francisco, ca. *Accident Analysis and Prevention* 110, 149–160. doi:10.1016/j.aap.2017.11.007
- Sasidharan, L., Menendez, M., 2014. Partial proportional odds model-an alternate choice for analyzing pedestrian crash injury severities. *Accident Analysis and Prevention* 72, 330–340. doi:10.1016/j.aap.2014.07.025
- Savolainen, P.T., Mannering, F., Lord, D., Quddus, M.A., 2011. The statistical analysis of highway crash-injury severities: A review and assessment of methodological alternatives. *Accident Analysis and Prevention* 43, 1666–1676. doi:10.1016/j.aap.2011.03.025
- Shaheed, M.S.B., Gkritza, K., Zhang, W., Hans, Z., 2013. A mixed logit analysis of two-vehicle crash seventies involving a motorcycle. *Accident Analysis and Prevention* 61, 119–128. doi:10.1016/j.aap.2013.05.028
- Symons, J., Howard, E., Sweeny, K., Kumnick, M., Sheehan, P., 2019. Reduced road traffic injuries for young people: A preliminary investment analysis. *Journal of Adolescent Health* 65, S34–S43. doi:10.1016/j.jadohealth.2019.01.009
- Tarrao, G.A., Coelho, M.C., Roupail, N.M., 2014. Modeling the impact of subject and opponent vehicles on crash severity in two-vehicle collisions. *Transportation Research Record* 53–64. doi:10.3141/2432-07
- Thompson, J.P., Baldock, M.R.J., Dutschke, J.K., 2018. Trends in the crash involvement of older drivers in australia. *Accident Analysis and Prevention* 117, 262–269. doi:10.1016/j.aap.2018.04.027
- Train, K., 2009. Discrete choice methods with simulation, 2nd Edition. ed. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
- Wang, K., Yasmin, S., Konduri, K.C., Eluru, N., Ivan, J.N., 2015. Copula-based joint model of injury severity and vehicle damage in two-vehicle crashes. *Transportation Research Record* 158–166. doi:10.3141/2514-17

- White, S., Clayton, S., 1972. Some effects of alcohol, age of driver, and estimated speed on the likelihood of driver injury. *Accident Analysis & Prevention* 4.
- Wijnen, W., Weijermars, W., Schoeters, A., Berghe, W. van den, Bauer, R., Carnis, L., Elvik, R., Martensen, H., 2019. An analysis of official road crash cost estimates in european countries. *Safety Science* 113, 318–327. doi:10.1016/j.ssci.2018.12.004
- World Health Organization, 2019. Global status report on road safety 2018 (2018). Geneva.
- Wu, Q., Chen, F., Zhang, G.H., Liu, X.Y.C., Wang, H., Bogus, S.M., 2014. Mixed logit model-based driver injury severity investigations in single- and multi-vehicle crashes on rural two-lane highways. *Accident Analysis and Prevention* 72, 105–115. doi:10.1016/j.aap.2014.06.014
- Yasmin, S., Eluru, N., 2013. Evaluating alternate discrete outcome frameworks for modeling crash injury severity. *Accident Analysis & Prevention* 59, 506–521. doi:https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aap.2013.06.040