

Crashing Through the Data

Exploring Colorado's Statewide Accident Trends

This project serves as a code companion to the data digest and exploratory analysis presented in:

- [Crashing Through the Data](#)
- [Video Presentation and Code Demonstration](#)
 - [Presentation Slides](#)
- [Data Source - Colorado Crash Data](#)
- [Data Source - Normalized](#)

Project Overview

This data analysis investigates whether **Driver Action** is a predictable contributing factor in various crash types under ideal weather and road conditions.

Initial exploration revealed that most accidents in Colorado between 2021 and 2024, inclusive, occurred under ideal conditions. This finding motivated a deeper dive into specific crash categories and the role of driver behavior.

As a result the following primary question was asked:

To what extent is *Driver Action* a contributing factor in three specific crash types—*Wild Animal*, *School Zone*, and *Construction Zone*—under ideal weather and road conditions?

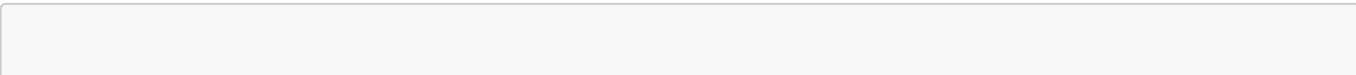
Key Findings

- **Wild Animal** crashes occur far more frequently than both **School Zone** and **Construction Zone** crashes.
- The initial assumption was that **Construction Zone** crashes would be the most common of the three due to their constrained and chaotic nature. This expectation proved incorrect.
- Further inspection revealed that **over 10% of all crashes (2021-2024) list "No Contributing Action" by the driver.**
- This led to examining whether:
 - Wild Animal crashes are predominantly unrelated to driver behavior, while
 - School Zone and Construction Zone crashes might more often involve identifiable contributing Driver Actions.

To investigate these hypotheses, the project builds and evaluates a *Naive Bayes Classification Model* that predicts whether a driver involved in one of the three crash types had a **Contributing Action** or **No Contributing Action** recorded.

The Code

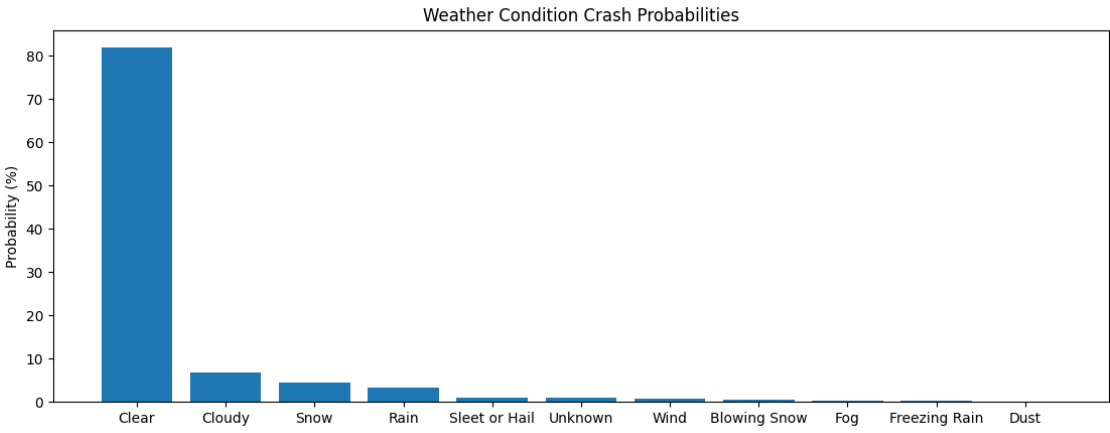
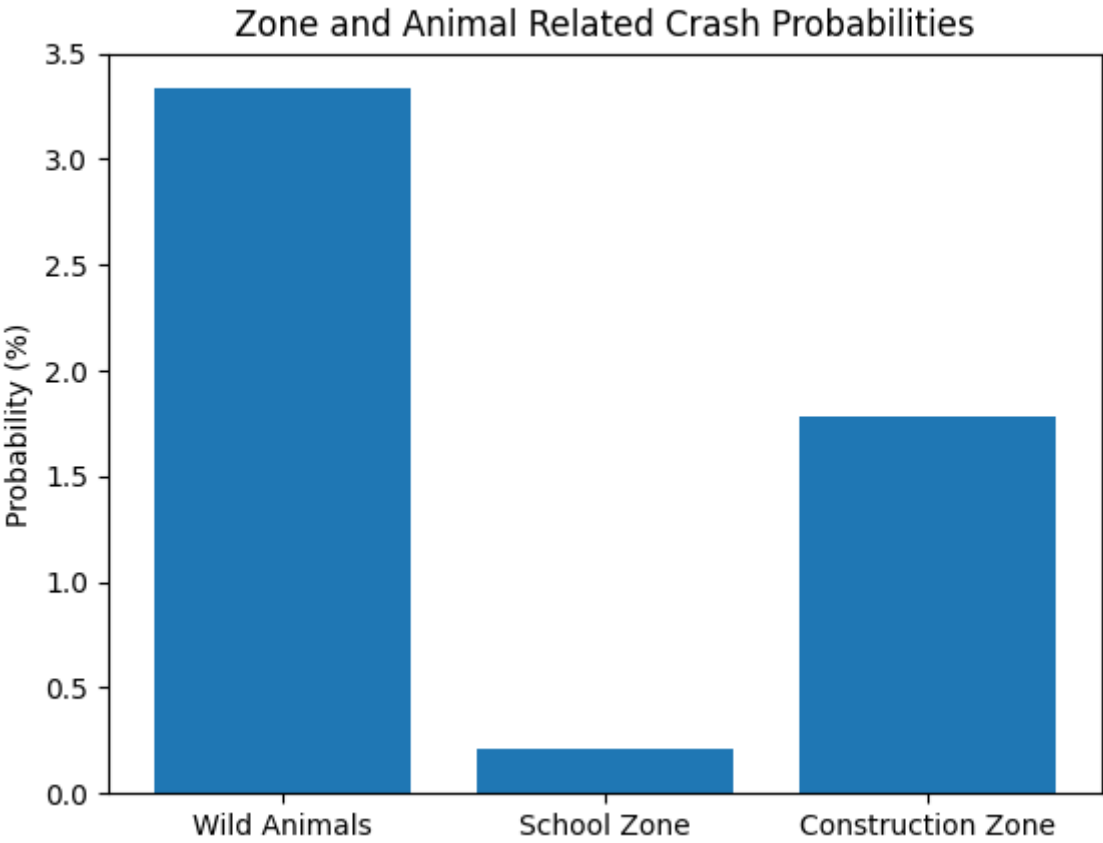
File Structure

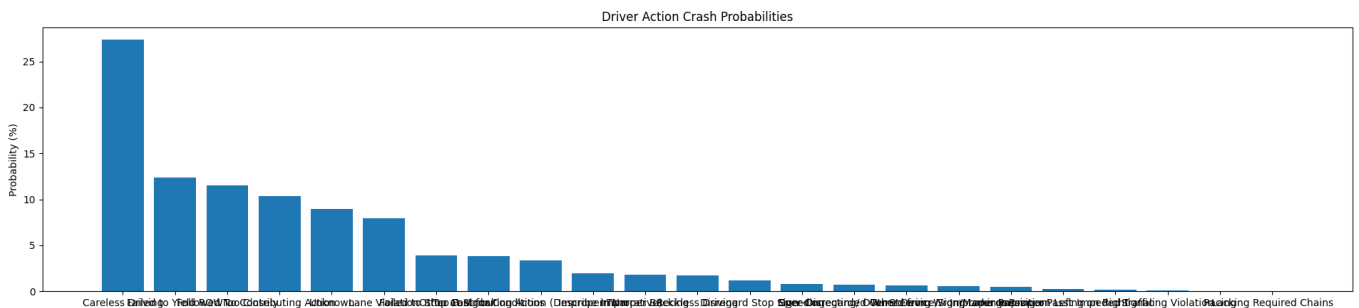
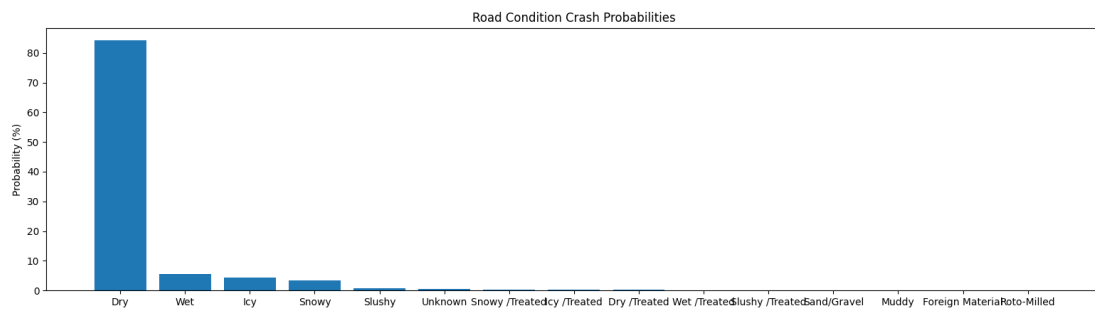
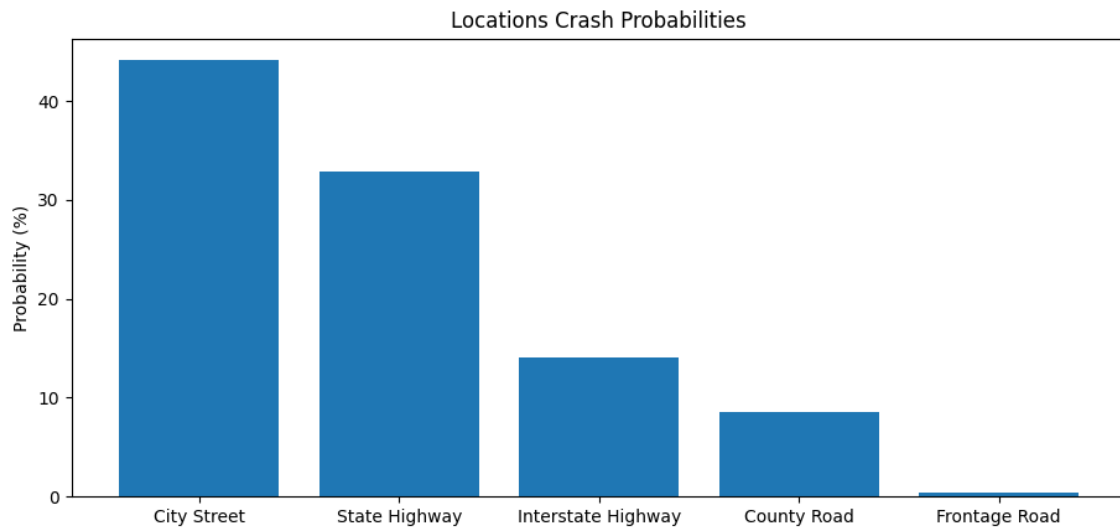


```
root/
├── assets/
│   ├── 2021-Crash-Data-Normalized.csv
│   ├── 2022-Crash-Data-Normalized.csv
│   ├── 2023-Crash-Data-Normalized.csv
│   ├── 2024-Crash-Data-Normalized.csv
│   └── all-crash-data.csv
│
│   └── plots/
│       ├── driver-action-probs.png
│       ├── location-probs.png
│       ├── main-prog-img.png
│       ├── road-probs.png
│       ├── weather-probs.png
│       └── zone-and-animal-probs.png
│
├── initial_data_digest_and_plots/
│   ├── crash-data-basic-probabilities.py
│   └── test-animal-zone-driver-attention.py
│
├── program/
│   ├── constructionZoneAndDriverAction.py
│   ├── main.py
│   ├── schoolZoneAndDriverAction.py
│   └── wildAnimalAndDriverAction.py
│
├── .gitignore
└── README.md
```

Initial Data Digest and Plots

This section of code summarizes the preliminary data inspection and visualizations used to understand the crash data and build the initial classification model.





Main Program

The main program (main.py) provides an interactive interface that allows the user to:

- explore crash data for the specified categories (**Wild Animal**, **School Zone**, **Construction Zone**)
- view probability statistics for **Driver Actions** in conjunction with ideal conditions for the three crash types
 - (**School Zone: True | Weather Condition: Clear | Road Condition: Dry**)
 - (**Construction Zone: True | Weather Condition: Clear | Road Condition: Dry**)
 - (**Wild Animal: True | Weather Condition: Clear | Road Condition: Dry**)
- run the Naive Bayes classification model of the above crash types and conditions to predict **Driver Action** contribution.

Setup

1. Clone the repository
 2. Create or download the `all_crash_data.csv` file
- To create via command line navigate to the assets folder and run the following command: `copy *.csv all_crash_data.csv`
 - The above action will include the header line from all 4 crash data files, make sure to leave the first and remove the additional 3 located throughout the new file.
 - A download to the `all_crash_data.csv` file can be found [here](#)

Running the Program

1. Navigate to the program folder
2. Run `python main.py`

You should see the following output

```
>>> Crashing Through The Data <<<
Exploring how Driver Action factors into School Zone, Construction Zone,
and Wild Animal related crashes under ideal conditions using Naïve Bayesian
Classification.

-----
Data Options to Explore:
1. School Zone Crash Data
2. Construction Zone Crash Data
3. Wild Animal Crash Data
4. Quit Program
-----

Please make a selection: 
```

3. Explore!

Thank you for exploring the data with me. Happy coding!