IBM Data Science Capstone: Car Accident Severity

Business Understanding

In an effort to reduce the frequency of car collisions in a community, an algorithm must be developed to predict the severity of an accident given the current weather, road, and visibility conditions.

Data Understanding

Using the data provided by Coursera on Collisions, I will investigate the connection between the severity of car accidents and weather conditions. This data provides collisions from 2004 to the present in Seattle.

Data Preprocessing

To get a good understanding of the dataset, I have checked different values in the features. The results show, the target feature is imbalance, so we use a simple statistical technique to balance it.

K-Nearest Neighbor (KNN)

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In [78]: from sklearn.metrics import jaccard_similarity_score
    from sklearn.metrics import f1_score
    from sklearn.metrics import log_loss

In [79]: # Building the KNN Model
    from sklearn.neighbors import KNeighborsClassifier
    k = 23
    knn = KNeighborsClassifier(n_neighbors = k).fit(X_train,y_train)
    knn_y_pred = knn.predict(X_test)
    knn_y_pred[0:5]

Out[79]: array([2, 2, 1, 1, 2])

In [80]: jaccard_similarity_score(y_test, knn_y_pred)
Out[80]: 0.5640878755764328

In [81]: f1_score(y_test, knn_y_pred, average='macro')
Out[81]: 0.5393282758446943
```

KNN will help us predict the severity code of an outcome by finding the most similar to data point within k distance.

Decision Tree

A decision tree model gives us a layout of all possible outcomes so we can fully analyze the consequences of a decision. It context, the decision tree observes all possible outcomes of different weather conditions.

Logistic Regression

Because our dataset only provides us with two severity code outcomes, our model will only predict one of those two classes. This makes our data binary, which is perfect to use with logistic regression.

Results and Evaluations

Model	Jaccard	F1-score	LogLoss
KNN	0.56	0.53	NA
Decision Tree	0.56	0.54	NA
LogisticRegression	0.52	0.51	0.68

Although the first two are ideal for this project, logistic regression made most sense because of its binary nature.

Conclusion

Based on the dataset provided for this capstone from weather, road, and light conditions pointing to certain classes, we can conclude that particular conditions have a somewhat impact on whether or not travel could result in property damage (class 1) or injury (class 2).