Surrey Electric Vehicle Project:

Data Analysis and Visualization for Surrey's Electric Vehicle (EV) Transformation Strategy

Laura Greenstreet, Eugenie Lai, and Alexi Rodriguez-Arelis





Intro to Surrey & Project Background



- Surrey is the 2nd largest city in Metro Van with a population of ~550,000
- Surrey grew **10.3%** from 2011-2016
 - \circ 6.5% growth across Metro Van
- Expected to have over **800,000** residents by 2050
 - The city's decisions now will have a big impact on regional sustainability

Intro to Surrey & Project Background

- Surrey wants to grow sustainably by:
 - Developing rapid transit corridors
 - Developing a zero waste strategy
 - Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- Transit is Surrey's largest source of GHGs*
- Surrey's Electric Vehicle (EV) Strategy with the goal of transitioning the whole vehicle stock to zero-emission vehicles by 2050

Why do EVs need a strategy?

- Electric vehicles adoption faces a chicken-and-egg problem
- City funds early development and the private sector takes over in the long term
- Other challenges include:
 - Range anxiety/public perception
 - High entry price
 - Limited styles of car available



Current State of EV Adoption in Surrey





70 Charging Sites

Our Role: Provide **insights** to guide the EV strategy development



Our Approach



Next Steps: Analyze the Data

- Where are current and potential EV buyers?
- Where are the best locations for new charging infrastructure?



Literature Review: Classifying Potential EV Buyers

• The three categories of EV buyers:



*Canadian Zero-Emissions Vehicle Survey: Metro Vancouver Analysis (Axsen et al, 2017).

Classifying EV Buyers: Demographic Differences





Statistical Modelling

- 1. Regression Models:
 - a. Response: Electric vehicles
 - b. Covariates:
 - i. Special vehicle classes
 - ii. Demographics
- 2. Hierarchical clustering
 - a. Dendrograms
 - b. Outlyingness factors





Motivation for Regression Count Models

- 1. A count approach targets those areas with **large EV stocks**
- 2. Interesting regression alternatives
- 3. Better data fits
- Clustering coming from count variables aligns profiles to existing literature



Demographic factors coming from literature



5 clusters instead of 3

Special vehicles (Hybrid and Luxury) and demographics as counts



Clusters by Counts

Literature Factors



Total Stock

Special Vehicle Classes



Key Demographics





Motivation for Proportion Model

- 1. Counts are correlated with population
- 2. Demographic features should work regardless of population size
- 3. **Question to answer:** What makes an area have **high EV proportion?**

Number of Vehicles versus Population by Area





Cluster by EV Proportion

Literature Factors





Age: 35-64



House Ownership: Owner

Cluster

- 9.0

- 8.0

0.5 -

0.4 -





Household Size:



Cluster by EV Proportion

Interesting Factors not Covered in Literature







Feeding Back to Feature Selection:

Interesting Factors not Covered in Literature



Assigning EV Proportion Correct Classification: 89%





Feeding Back to Feature Selection:

Interesting Factors not Covered in Literature







Count or Proportion: Two Lenses for Two Uses

- Count model:
 - Highlights areas with high population and decent EV adoption
 - These areas can be targeted to increase total EV sales
- **Proportion model**:
 - Suggest areas **overseen** by the count model
 - Good for targeting areas with less population but higher chances to adopt EV





NRCan Charging Site Proposal

- This fall, Surrey will be submitting a curbside charging site proposal to Natural Resources Canada
- Where should the chargers go?





What makes a good place for a charger?

- Where do people charge?
 - At home
 - At work
 - During activities like shopping, dining, or recreation
- The grant covers curbside chargers, so we'll focus on chargers away from homes



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What makes a good place for a charger?

- Important factors for chargers targeting employees:
 - Business count
 - Traffic flow to areas in the AM
- Important factors for chargers targeting shoppers/diners:
 - Retail locations
 - Traffic flow to areas during the midday



Destination Score Model

- Identify retail/business areas that could access a single charger
- Score each area based on the amount of traffic to the area
- Place chargers at sites with the best scores





Retail Results -

- 1. Guildford Town Centre
- 2. Central Shopping Centre
- 3. Cedar Hills Shopping Centre
- 4. Morgan Crossing
- 5. Morgan Crossing
- 6. 72nd and King George Blvd.





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Morgan Crossing



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72nd and King George Blvd.

Uneven Access: Placing 3 Chargers



Uneven Access: Placing 3 Chargers





Updated Results -

- First 19 sites same as the first method
- Occurs because each origin only travels to a few destinations
- Emphasizes importance of distributing sites across Surrey





Updated Results with Existing Chargers -

- Only 12 existing retail clusters contain a existing charging site (green)
- 3 of these clusters are in the top 6 locations ranked by our algorithm (red)



Using scores to choose *n*



Future Work

- **Consumer Classification:** Run on a wider range of features
- **Charging Site Placement:** Develop a better understanding of charging site capacity and utilization
- App: Add new datasets as they become available update features as EV strategy progresses

End of Presentation

Thank you for your attention

We are now open to questions