

Go Code Colorado

White Paper Structure Example **Colorado Go Code Competition**

Below we have outlined a white paper submission example, but feel free to be creative! Submissions do not need to match exactly to our outline below. They may be presented in any format as long as the key criteria are addressed. We also allow interactive web pages, dashboards, and other media as submissions, but all submissions, in any format, need to address the key pieces outlined below, i.e. a dashboard should still have a title, introduction, problem statement, findings, and conclusion.

Please refer to the Go Code 2022 Analytic Track rules, or contact us on Slack with any questions! The Go Code Slack channel “[*data-storytelling*](#),” will also be full of great example projects. Again, creativity is highly encouraged, and a dashboard or interactive webpage is also a great, approved submission format.

1. Title

You should create a title that concisely presents the topic of your analysis. It helps to include the problem statement, and theme of your analysis.

2. The Abstract

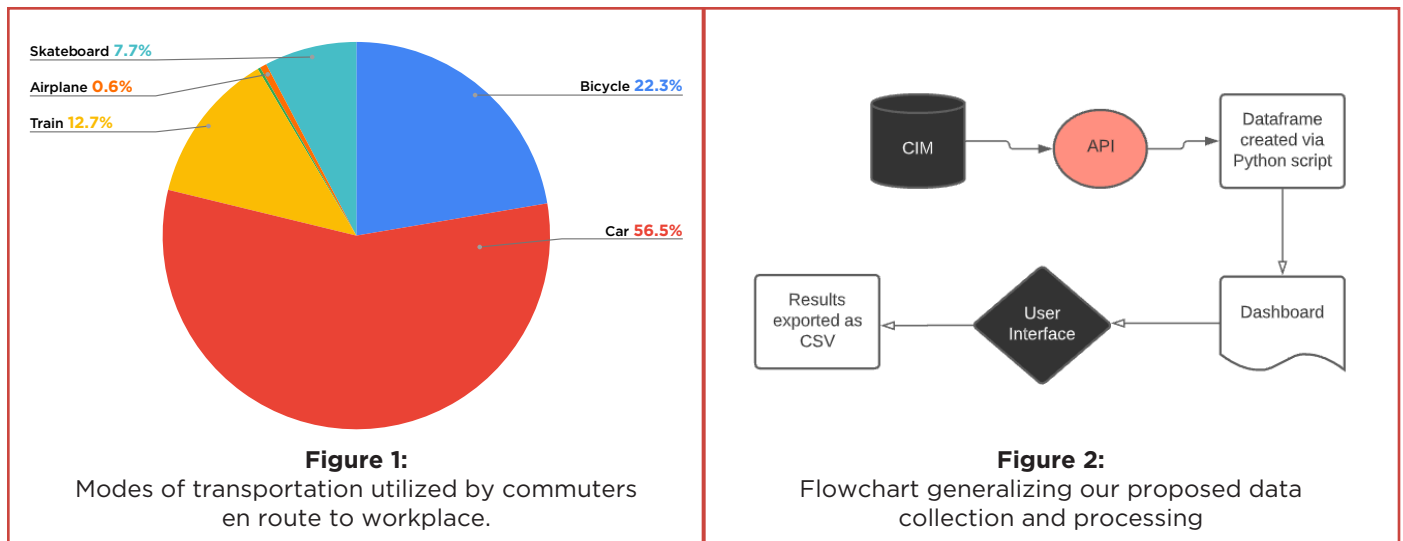
The abstract should be one simple paragraph, concisely summarizing your analysis. The abstract should have approximately one sentence per section of your paper. It will be tempting to leave out your conclusion and recommendation, but they are an important piece of the abstract, and it is recommended to include them.

3. Introduction

This is the place to pull in your reader. Give an initial introduction to the problem, and dedicate approximately one sentence to introduce the content that will follow. This is also the place to introduce your team and its skills, and any other foreknowledge you would like your reader to know.

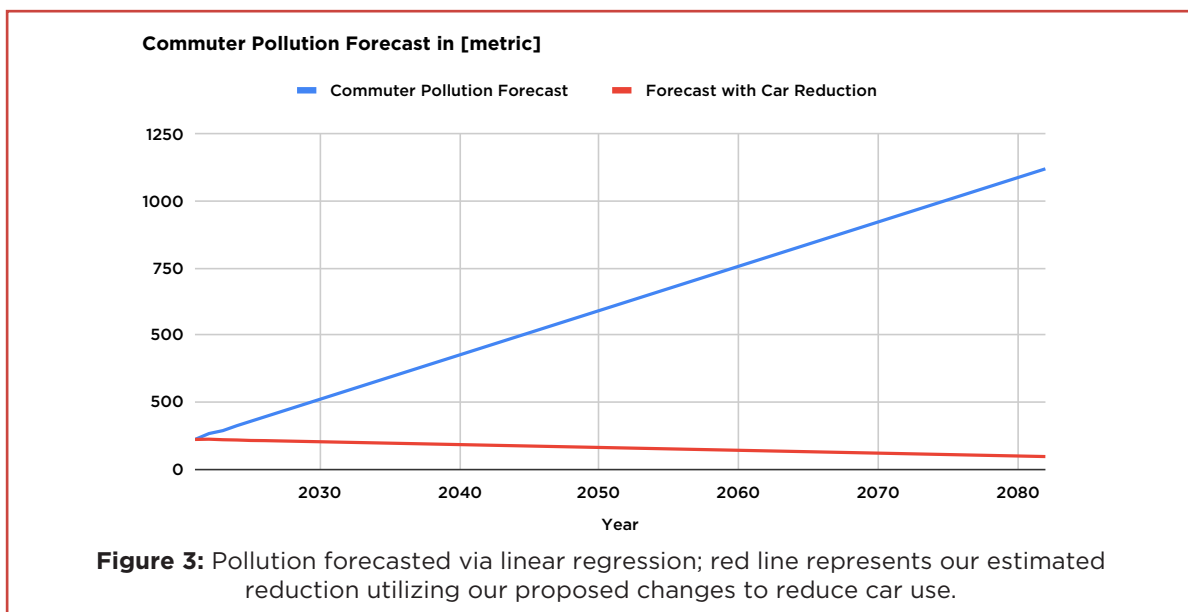
4. Problem Statement

This section should flesh out your problem statement that was briefly introduced in the introduction. Be thorough; identify the problem from all perspectives, and outline its overall impact. How well your team can define the problem statement will determine how invested a reader is in your solution. Keep in mind your target audience when writing. You may also include visualizations of your initial data exploration in this section, or flow charts when appropriate. From this section on, until your team’s summary, feel free to create subsections, i.e. sections 2.1 or 2.2, etc., to best organize your work for the reader.



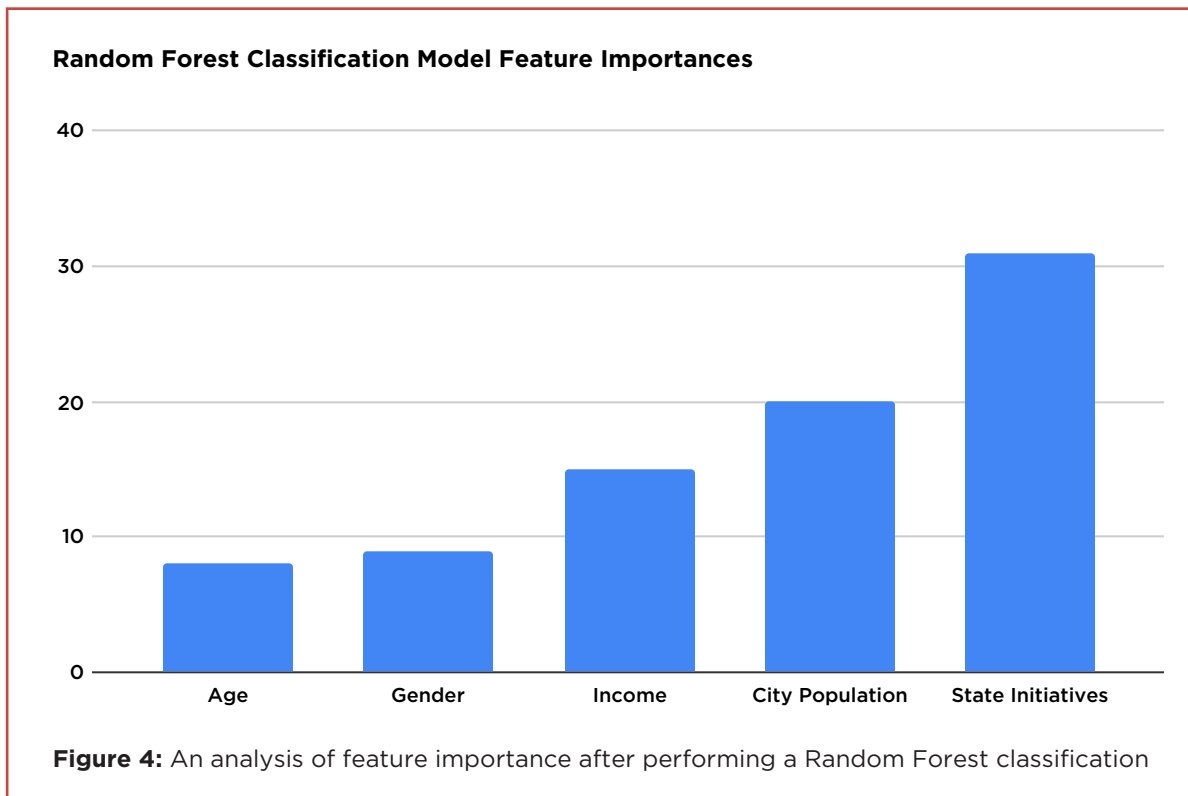
5. Proposed Solution

This is the place for a high-level summary of your proposed solution. Include your full plan of approach, i.e. who, what, where, when, how, etc., but in broad terms. This section should also introduce your data, and data collection methods. It may be appropriate to include a flowchart if you have an elaborate data pipeline that you would like to show the judges. Code snippets won’t be necessary, as they’ll have access to your GitHub. You should also begin to support your argument with visualizations.



6. Findings

In this section, you will describe the findings of your analysis. Be sure to include all relevant statistics and detailed methods here. When using predictive or classifying models, include information about the model chosen and why, i.e. “We chose a linear regression model because our features are ...” Let the reader know what features you decided on using in your analysis and why. Also make sure to include your r^2 value, and accuracy figures, where appropriate. It is highly recommended you visualize important findings in this section.



7. Business benefits

This may be a section you leave out depending on the subject of your analysis. If your findings have a clear business application, be sure to explain why here.

8. Summary

As a broad guideline, you should have approximately one sentence per section in your summary. You may include a sentence per subsection as well, at your discretion - just be sure to touch on each important point and reiterate your findings. If you wish, you can include a call to action here as well. Most importantly, end strong, as it will be the final piece of your analysis a reader will view.

9. References & Datasets Used

It will help your submission to list any datasets used here. Also make sure to give credit to any and all sources, such as books, blog posts, research articles, etc. in this section. The formatting here, as with the rest of the paper, does not need to follow any strict guidelines.