Exploring & Analyzing SWAPI Data

presented by The Death Star Group

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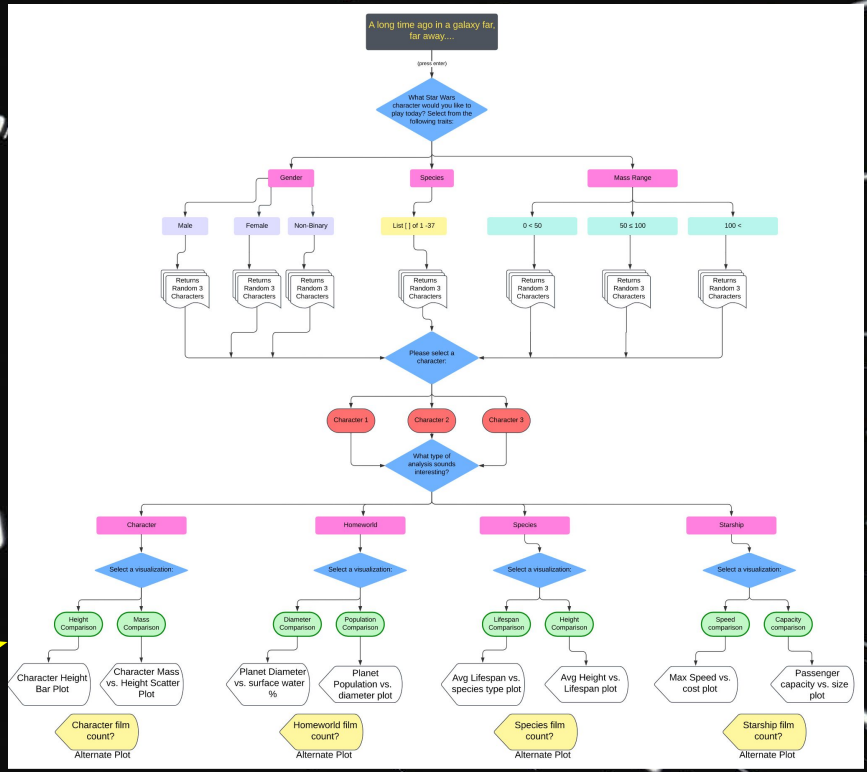
Executive Summary

- Our Data Source: **Star Wars API**
  - Focus on pop culture, something fun and relatable.
  - API: *https://swapi.dev/api/*
  - ***Planets, Spaceships, Vehicles, People, Films and Species data***
- Our Exploration:
  - Assessing library data hypothesizing correlations.
  - Concluded with the realizations that:
    - Couldn't do time-series forecasting.
    - Exploring the data was engaging.
    - We could improve user experience.
- Our Project:
  - An interactive application for API data exploration!

The Journey

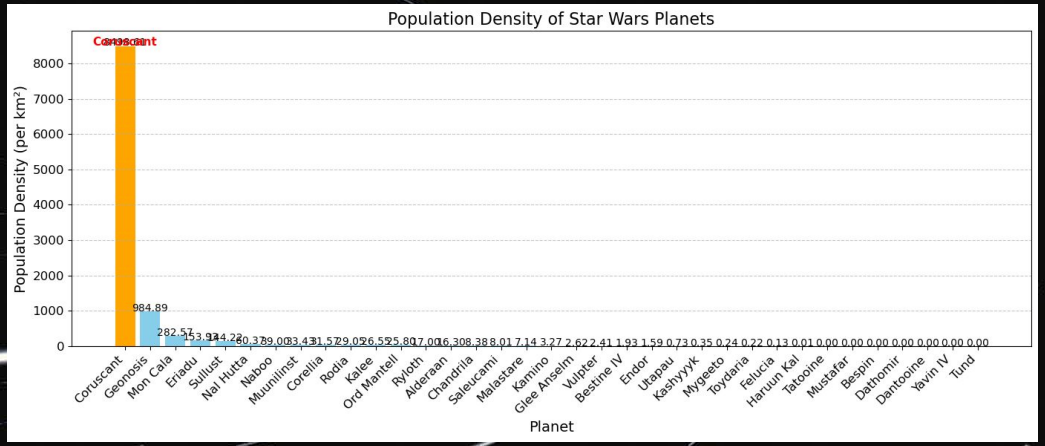
- Let's do something fun!
  - Wait h/o…is this going to meet the project objectives?
- Questions we asked:
  - How to make this dataset *usable*?
  - How do we compile?
  - What is *even possible* to compare?
  - How can we *do this dynamically*?
  - What is relatable?
  - How *can we limit the data*?
  - Why make that choice –
    - Have a user *choose their own journey*?
    - The user can then *determine what's interesting to analyze.*
    - We create the application & analysis procedures.
- Started with a workflow

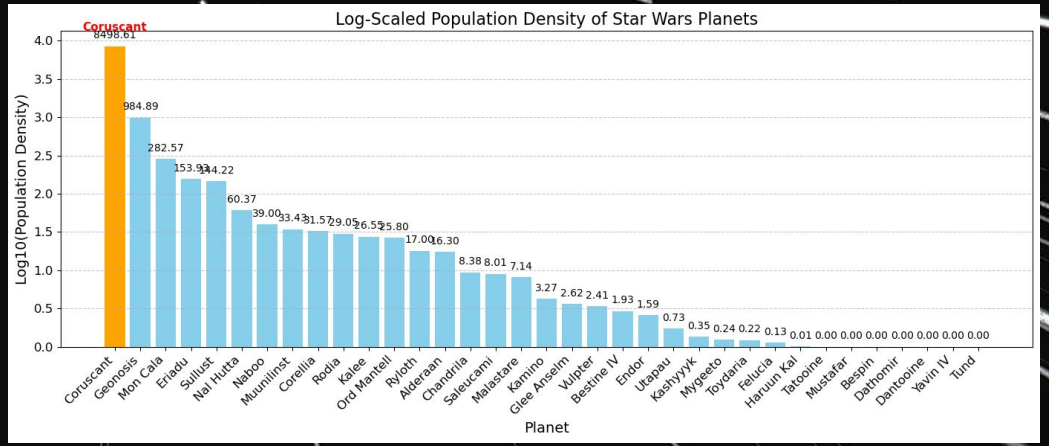


Data Collection & Cleanup

- Data Source: Data pulled from API calls to URLS for Planets, Spaceships, Vehicles, People, Films and Species
  - Multiple pages of discrete data pages required specialized handling
  - A function was created to *fetch data from URLs asynchronously for time reduction*
  - Need to explode the arrays to get the data in a usable format
- Cleanup functions performed:
  - All data was type str.
  - Gender data needed to categorize all non-binary entries to common group.
  - Height and mass entries needed to be converted to int.
  - Character mass needed to be classified into user-friendly groupings.
  - Species data was inconsistent at best, and ranged from empty arrays to arrays with multiple URLs to bad entries.
    - Ultimately required parsing into “species classification.”
  - Character information for homeworld, species, starships, and vehicles needed to be exploded to become useful in dataframes .

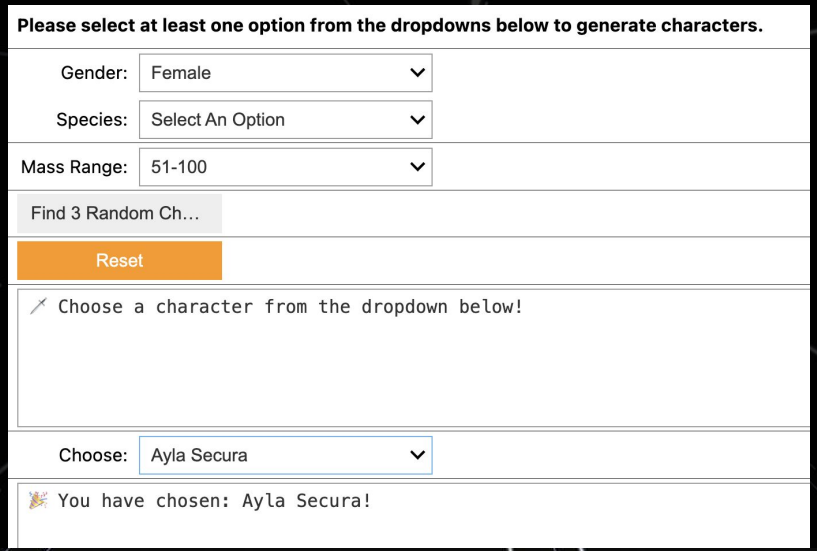
Visualizations





Approach & Methods

- Our approach required use of ipywidgets, IPython.display, for dataframe filtering on-the-fly.
  - In addition to standard standard tools like pandas, numpy, matplotlib.pyplot, requests, etc.
  - These tools helped create a visual and interactive user interface to filter our dataframes.



- The user is free to select one filter to generate 3 random character options, or proceed to drill down with multiple filters in series.

Approach & Methods

- ❑ Guided Input Collection
- ❑ Ensuring Smooth Player Experience
- ❑ Apply Simple Filters
- ❑ Seamless Data Selection
- ❑ Keep Interaction Engaging

```python
#Function to Find Matching Characters
def select_random_characters(_):
    selected_gender = gender_dropdown.value
    selected_species = species_dropdown.value
    selected_mass_range = mass_dropdown.value

    if all(option == "Select An Option" for option in [selected_gender, selected_species, selected_mass_range]):
        output.value = "Please select at least one option from the dropdowns above."
        return

    filter_conditions = []
    if selected_gender != "Select An Option":
        filter_conditions.append(people_df['gender'].str.lower() == selected_gender.lower())
    if selected_species != "Select An Option":
        filter_conditions.append(people_df['species_name'].str.lower() == selected_species.lower())
    if selected_mass_range != "Select An Option":
        if selected_mass_range == "Over 100":
            filter_conditions.append(people_df['mass'] > 100)
        else:
            try:
                mass_low, mass_high = map(int, selected_mass_range.split('-'))
                filter_conditions.append(people_df['mass'].between(mass_low, mass_high))
            except ValueError:
                output.value = (f"Invalid mass range: {selected_mass_range}")  # Debugging


    if filter_conditions:
        filtered_people = people_df[np.logical_and.reduce(filter_conditions)]
    else:
        filtered_people = people_df  # If no filters, use entire dataset

    if not filtered_people.empty:
        selected_characters = filtered_people.sample(n=min(3, len(filtered_people)), replace=False)
    else:
        output.value = "❌ No matching characters found."
```

Key Code Snippets

Page Counts:

- SWAPI.dev APIs would not return all records at once
- Make initial calls to get total records

```
total_pages = int(total_records/10) + (1 if total_records%10 > 0 else 0)
```

Download All Pages:

- Asynchronously request all APIs simultaneously
- Await each each page request in order
- Combine JSON from each response

Create Dataframes from JSON:

- Key information in “data’ attribute
- Display first 5 rows of each dataframe to examine structure

Cleanup Data:

- Consolidation of attributes
- Missing data filled in

```python
# Function to fetch data from a URL asynchronously, reducing response time by about 40% from synchronously

async def fetch(url):
    async with aiohttp.ClientSession() as session:
        async with session.get(url) as response:
            return await response.json()

# Define function to call url based on number of pages and append JSON from results property
async def assemble_json(url, pages):
    total_json = []
    print(f"Retrieving {pages} pages from {url}")
    for page in range(1, pages+1):
        composed_url = f"{url}?page={page}"
        # print(f"\tRetrieving {composed_url}")
        req_json = await fetch(composed_url)
        total_json.extend(req_json["results"])
    print(f"Found {len(total_json)} records at {url}")
    return total_json
```

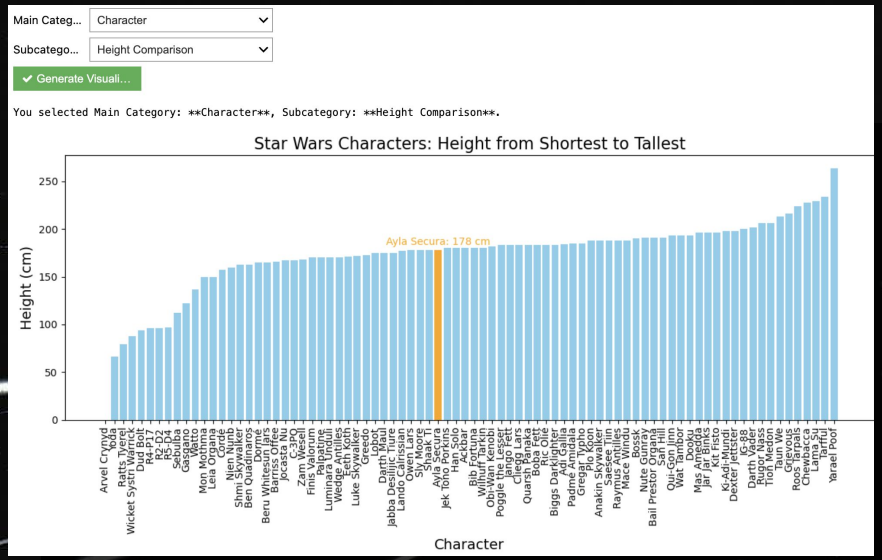
0.0s

```python
# Call assemble_json with each SWAPI URL and number of pages

# Run the async tasks
results = await asyncio.gather(
    assemble_json(films_url, films_pages),
    assemble_json(people_url, people_pages),
    assemble_json(planets_url, planets_pages),
    assemble_json(species_url, species_pages),
    assemble_json(starships_url, starships_pages),
    assemble_json(vehicles_url, vehicles_pages),
)

film_data, people_data, planets_data, species_data, starships_data, vehicles_data = results
```

DEMO

Show Interactive UI with Visualizations

Dynamic visualizations



- Users can filter, sort, and manipulate data to gain tailored insights.
- Interactive elements keep users engaged and encourage deeper exploration of data.

- Visual represented the variety of species in the dataset.
- Presented the analysis of species distribution revealing the diversity among characters in the universe.
- A comparison of character attributes among different species shows variability in height, mass, and affiliation.
- Individual character statistics (like mass, height, and age) provide insights into character design and powers.
- Data on character affiliations with starships and vehicles helped identify patterns in transportation.

Results & Findings

- **Improved Data Usability** – By transforming raw data into structured formats, we created a more accessible and meaningful dataset for analysis.
- **Enhanced Visualization Capabilities** – The exploded data allowed for deeper insights into character relationships, species distributions, and vehicle associations.
- **Better Data Classification** – Cleaning and categorizing inconsistent species and character attributes led to more precise and useful visual representations.

Challenges Faced During the Project:

- **API Integration Challenges –** Two different APIs were found and used, requiring careful comparison of data structures and formats each gave.
- **GitHub Collaboration Issues** – Merging code from different contributors led to version control conflicts that required manual resolution.
- **Data Inconsistencies** – Some datasets contained missing, duplicated, or poorly formatted data that needed extensive cleanup.
- **Combining Code** – Different coding styles and implementations had to be unified into a single connected framework.

Next Steps

- Next Steps: Further analysis on character relationships, species evolution.
- Add data from other sources like Wookiepedia to flesh it out more
- If we had more time, we'd love to incorporate AI & Machine Learning additions like a chatbot that provides Star Wars Trivia, lore, or character background upon selection.

Questions and feedback? Let's go!