

Rocketing Ahead: Leveraging Data Science in the New Space Age

Kyriakos Fotiou Nov 2023

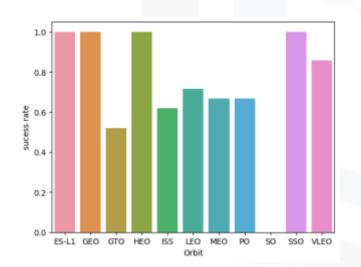


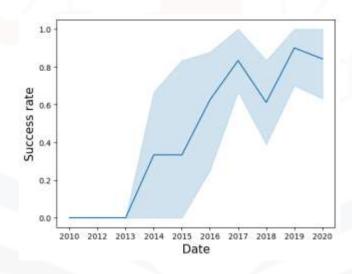
OUTLINE

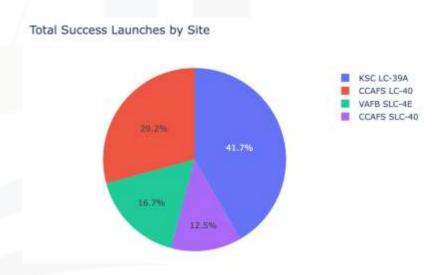
- Executive Summary
- Introduction
- Methodology
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusion
- Appendix

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Acquired SpaceX datasets through a data collection API and web scrapping.
- Employed exploratory data analysis techniques to analyse and visualise the acquired data.
- Utilising the Grid Search method to identify the most effective Machine Learning Model for predicting the classification of future landings.







INTRODUCTION

Given SpaceX's ability to reuse the first stage, the Falcon 9 rocket launches at a cost of 62 million dollars, significantly lower than the often-higher cost of up to 165 million dollars for rockets from other providers.

Therefore, by accurately predicting the successful landing of the first stage, we can estimate the cost of a launch. This predictive capability holds value for potential competitors bidding against SpaceX for rocket launches.

Key Questions:

- 1. Can historical launch data help predict the success of a new launch based on the first stage's landing outcome?
- 2. Is there a discernible choice that maximises the likelihood of a successful launch based on historical data analysis?

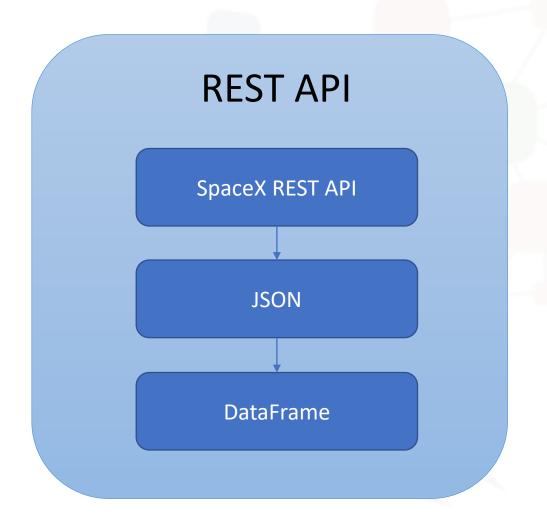


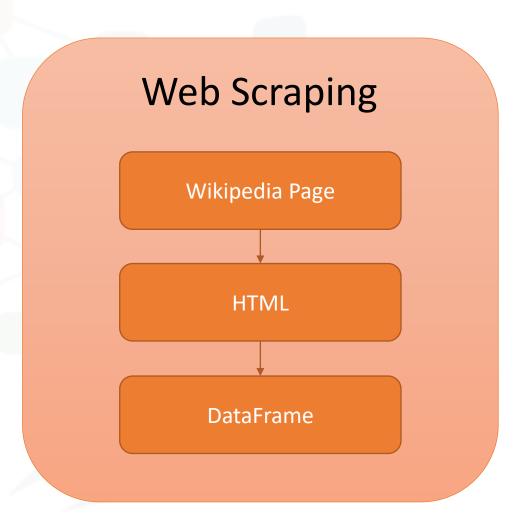
METHODOLOGY

METHODOLOGY

- Data collection methodology:
 - SpaceX REST API
 - Web Scraping (Wikipedia)
- Perform data wrangling:
 - Generate landing Class from Outcome column
- Perform exploratory data analysis (EDA) using visualization and SQL.
- Perform interactive visual analytics using Folium and Plotly Dash.
- Perform predictive analysis using classification models.
 - Using GridSearchCV to find best fit model

Data Collection

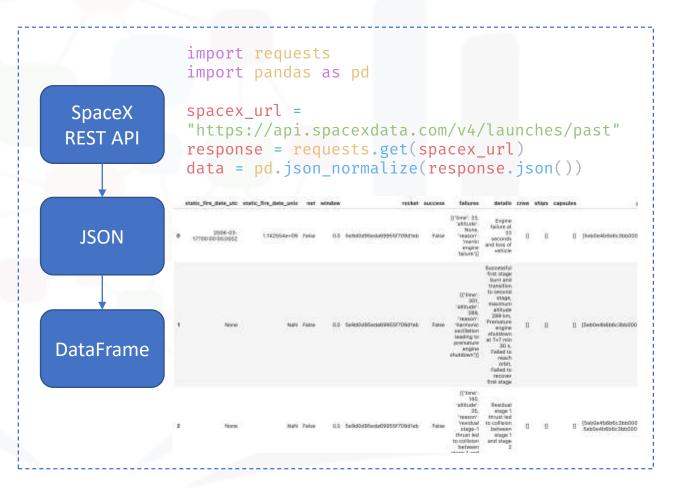




Data Collection - SpaceX API

- SpaceX API repository https://github.com/r-spacex/SpaceX-API
- Main Endpoint https://api.spacexdata.com/v4/launches/ past
- My Notebook

https://github.com/FotiouK/SpaceX Data S cience/blob/main/1-jupyter-labs-spacexdata-collection-api.ipynb





Data Collection - Web Scraping

Wikipedia Falcon Page
 https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of Falco
 n 9 and Falcon Heavy launches

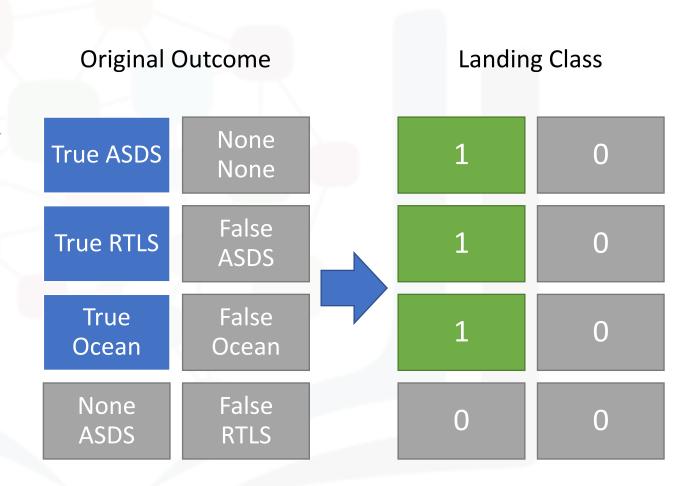
My Notebook

https://github.com/FotiouK/SpaceX_Data_Sci ence/blob/main/2-jupyter-labswebscraping.ipynb

```
import requests
                                                                 from bs4 import BeautifulSoup
                                                                 'https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Falcon
Wikipedia
                                                                  9 and Falcon Heavy launches'
            Page
                                                                response = requests.get(url)
                                                                html data = response.text
                                                                 soup = BeautifulSoup(html data)
                                                                   Flight No.
         HTMI
                                                                   Date and<br/>time (<a href="/wiki/Coordinated_Universal_Time" title="Coordinated_Universal_Time" title
                                                                   <a href="/wiki/List_of_Falcon_9_first-stage_boosters" title="List of Falcon
                                                                   boosters">Version,<br/>80oster</a> <sup class="reference" id="cite_ref-booster_11-0"><a href
                                                                   Launch site
                                                                   Payload<sup class="reference" id="cite_ref-Dragon_12-0"><a href="#cite_note-</a>
DataFrame
                                                                   Payload mass
                                                                   Orbit
                                                                   Customer
                                                                   Launch<br/>outcome
                                                                   <a href="/wiki/Falcon_9_first-stage_landing_tests" title="Falcon 9 first-sta
                                                                   tests">Booster<br/>landing</a>
```

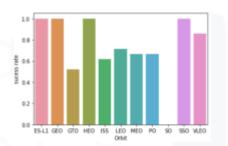
Data Wrangling

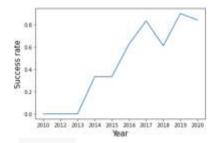
- My Notebook
 - https://github.com/FotiouK/SpaceX_Data_S cience/blob/main/3-jupyter-spacex-datawrangling.ipynb
- Refine the raw data by creating a new landing classification column based on the original outcome labels. This column will serve as our target for predicting landing success, denoted as:
 - 1 for success
 - 0 for failure



EDA with Data Visualisation







My Visualization Notebook
 https://github.com/FotiouK/SpaceX Data S
 cience/blob/main/5-jupyter-labs-eda-dataviz.ipynb

Scatter Plot	Acquire relationship between variables, Flight Number vs. Orbit type Payload vs. Orbit type Flight Number vs. Payload Mass Flight Number vs. Launch Site
Bar Plot	Plot success rate of each orbit
Line Chart	Acquire yearly average launch success trend

EDA with SQL

My SQL Notebook

https://github.com/FotiouK/SpaceX Data S cience/blob/main/4-jupyter-labs-eda-sqlcoursera sqllite.ipynb

Launch_Site
CCAFS LC-40
VAFB SLC-4E
KSC LC-39A
CCAFS SLC-40

Booster_Version
F9 FT B1022
F9 FT B1026
F9 FT B1021.2
F9 FT B1031.2

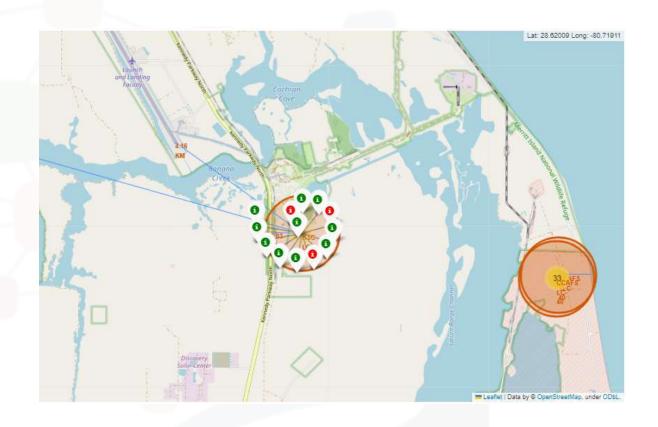
%sql select distinct Launch_Site from SPACEXTBL

- ✓ Query the names of the unique launch sites in the space mission
- ✓ Query the names of the **booster_versions** which have carried the maximum payload mass.
- ✓ List the total number of **successful** and **failure** mission outcomes
- ✓ List the names of the boosters which have success in drone ship and have payload mass in some range
- ✓ Rank the count of successful landing_outcomes in date range in descending order.

Landing_Outcome	landings
No attempt	10
Success (drone ship)	5
Failure (drone ship)	5
Success (ground pad)	3
Controlled (ocean)	3
Uncontrolled (ocean)	2
Failure (parachute)	2
Precluded (drone ship)	1

Interactive Map with Folium

- Add Circles for Launch sites and Markers for labels
- Add MarkerCluster for successful and failed launches
- Add Lines for calculate distance between launch sites and their proximities

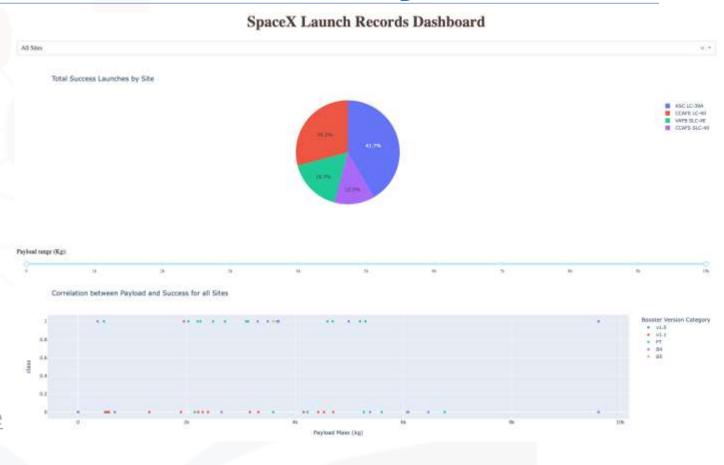


My SQL Notebook

https://github.com/FotiouK/SpaceX Data Science/blob/main/6-jupyter launch site location folium.ipynb

Build Dashboard with Plotly Dash

- Dropdown menu + Pie Chart:
 Visualises success launch distribution per launch site.
- Range Slider + Scatter Plot:
 Analyses Payload vs. Success correlation across diverse launch sites.
- My SQL Notebook
 https://github.com/FotiouK/SpaceX Data Scie
 nce/blob/main/7-spacex dash app.py.ipynb



Predictive Analysis (Classification)

■ Prepare data **Define Model** Train Model **Evaluate Model Preprocess Data** ☐ Create a column for the class ☐ Standardize the data ☐ Split into training data Choose Model Tune Model **Data Cleaning Accuracy Analysis** and test data ☐ Define model and Model Data parameters **Grid Search** Model Plot **Transformation Parameters** ☐ Train and Grid Search for best parameters ■ Evaluation **Dataset Splitting**

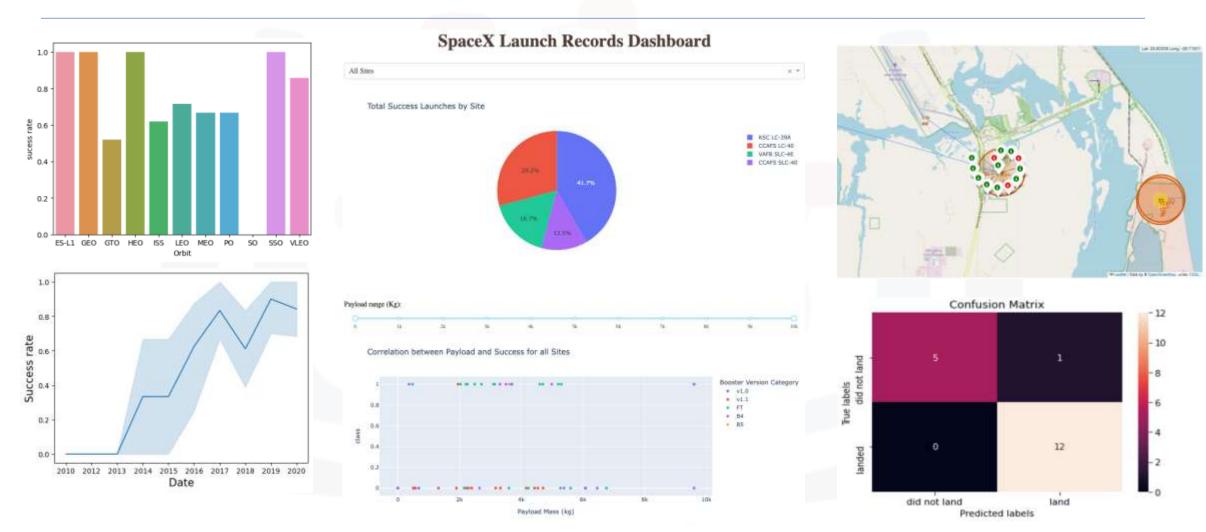
My Notebook

https://github.com/FotiouK/SpaceX Data Science/blob/main/8-SpaceX Machine Learning Prediction.ipynb





RESULTS









INSIGHT DRAWN FROM EDA

Flight Number VS Launch Site

```
In [39]: # Plot a scatter point chart with x axis to be Flight Number and y axis to be the launch site, and hue to be the class value sns.catplot(y="LaunchSite", x="FlightNumber", hue="Class", data=df, aspect = 5)
plt.xlabel("Flight Number", fontsize=20)
plt.ylabel("LaunchSite", fontsize=20)
plt.show()

CCAFS SLC 40

VAFB SLC 40

VAFB SLC 40

Flight Number

Class

O

Flight Number
```

Explanation: The scatter plot demonstrates a correlation between the flight number and successful first stage landings. As the flight number increases, there is a noticeable increase in successful landings. Initially, launches are more frequent at the CCAFS SLC 40 site with a comparatively lower success rate. However, fewer launches occur at the VAFB SLC 4E and KSC LC 39A sites, where a higher success rate is observed.

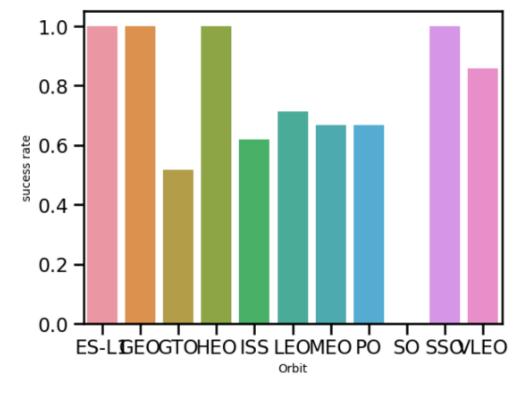
Payload VS Launch Site

```
In [40]: # Plot a scatter point chart with x axis to be Pay Load Mass (kg) and y axis to be the launch site, and hue to be the class value
          sns.catplot(y="LaunchSite", x="PayloadMass", hue="Class", data=df, aspect = 5)
          plt.xlabel("PayloadMass",fontsize=20)
          plt.ylabel("LaunchSite",fontsize=20)
          plt.show()
                                                                                                                                       .
            CCAFS SLC 40
             VAFB SLC 4E
                                                                                                                                                 Class
              KSC LC 39A
                                                                                 8000
                                                                                               10000
                                                                                                                                          16000
                                     2000
                                                    4000
                                                                   6000
                                                                                                             12000
                                                                                                                            14000
                                                                              PayloadMass
```

Explanation: The success rate significantly increases with a higher payload. Specifically, at the KSC LC39A launch site, there's a notably higher success rate associated with lower payloads compared to a substantially lower success rate at the CCAFS SLC 40 launch site. Additionally, there have been no rockets launched at the VAFB-SLC site for payloads exceeding 10000. Furthermore, there is an observed very high success rate overall for payloads greater than 9500.

Success Rate VS Orbit Type

```
In [43]: sns.barplot(y='Class', x='Orbit', data=df_success_rate)
         plt.xlabel("Orbit",fontsize=10)
         plt.ylabel("sucess rate",fontsize=10)
         plt.show()
```



Explanation: The bar plot clearly indicates that Orbit types ES-L1, GEO, HEO, and SSO exhibit the highest success rate, all reaching 100%. Conversely, within the SO orbit type, the success rate is recorded as zero.



Flight Number VS Orbit Type

```
In [44]: # Plot a scatter point chart with x axis to be FlightNumber and y axis to be the Orbit, and hue to be the class value
         sns.catplot(y="Orbit", x="FlightNumber", hue="Class", data=df, aspect = 3)
         plt.xlabel("FlightNumber",fontsize=20)
         plt.ylabel("Orbit", fontsize=20)
         plt.show()
              LEO ·
               ISS
                PO
              GTO -
             ES-L1 -
          Orbit
              SSO
                                                                                                                                    Class
              HEO -
              MEO -
             VLEO -
               SO:
              GEO ·
                                             20
                                                                    40
                                                                                           60
                                                                                                                 80
                                                                   FlightNumber
```

Explanation: In the ES-L1, GEO, HEO, and SSO orbits, every launch has resulted in a successful mission. Notably, there is a discernible correlation between the flight number and success rate in the LEO orbit, where an increase in flight number coincides with a rise in the success rate. However, this clear relationship is absent in the GTO orbit, where no obvious pattern between flight number and success rate can be observed.

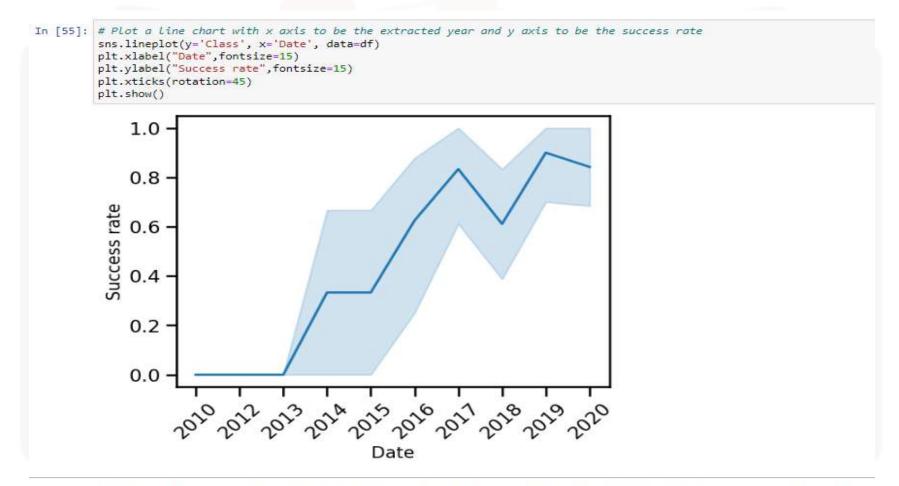
Payload VS Orbit Type

```
In [45]: # Plot a scatter point chart with x axis to be Payload and y axis to be the Orbit, and hue to be the class value
         sns.catplot(y="Orbit", x="PayloadMass", hue="Class", data=df, aspect = 3)
         plt.xlabel("PayloadMass",fontsize=20)
         plt.ylabel("Orbit", fontsize=20)
         plt.show()
              LEO -
               ISS -
               PO -
              GTO ·
            ES-L1
          Orbit
              SSO
                                                                                                                                  Class
              HEO
              MEO
             VLEO -
                                                                                                                          .
               SO
              GEO
                                 2000
                                              4000
                                                           6000
                                                                        8000
                                                                                    10000
                                                                                                 12000
                                                                                                              14000
                                                                                                                           16000
                                                                   PayloadMass
```

Explanation: For missions carrying heavy payloads, there is a higher frequency of successful or positive landings observed in the Polar, LEO, and ISS orbits.



Launch Success Yearly Trend



Explanation: The success rate, observed from 2013 through 2020, shows a consistent upward trend, steadily increasing over this period.



All Launch Site Names

Four Launch Sites:

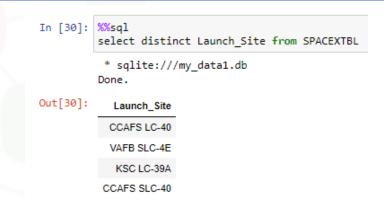
- CCAFS LC-40
- VAFB SLC-4E
- KSC LC-39A
- CCAFS SLC-40

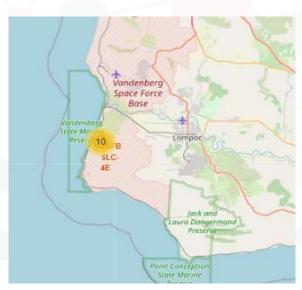
1 in western coast

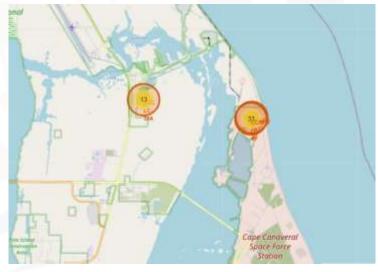
VAFB SLC-4E

3 in eastern coast

- KSC LC-39A
- CCAFS SLC-40
- CCAFS LC-40







Launch Sites Names Begin with CAA

Display 5 records where launch sites begin with the string 'CCA'

Out[31]:

:	Date	Time (UTC)	Booster_Version	Launch_Site	Payload	PAYLOAD_MASSKG_	Orbit	Customer	Mission_Outcome	Landing_Outcome
	2010- 06-04	18:45:00	F9 v1.0 B0003	CCAFS LC- 40	Dragon Spacecraft Qualification Unit	0	LEO	SpaceX	Success	Failure (parachute)
	2010- 12-08	15:43:00	F9 v1.0 B0004	CCAFS LC- 40	Dragon demo flight C1, two CubeSats, barrel of Brouere cheese	0	LEO (ISS)	NASA (COTS) NRO	Success	Failure (parachute)
	2012- 05-22	7:44:00	F9 v1.0 B0005	CCAFS LC- 40	Dragon demo flight C2	525	LEO (ISS)	NASA (COTS)	Success	No attempt
	2012- 10-08	0:35:00	F9 v1.0 B0006	CCAFS LC- 40	SpaceX CRS-1	500	LEO (ISS)	NASA (CRS)	Success	No attempt
	2013- 03-01	15:10:00	F9 v1.0 B0007	CCAFS LC- 40	SpaceX CRS-2	677	LEO (ISS)	NASA (CRS)	Success	No attempt

Total Payload Mass

Display the total payload mass carried by boosters launched by NASA (CRS)

Average Payload Mass carried by F9V1.1

Display average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1

First Saucerful Ground Pad Landing

List the date when the first succesful landing outcome in ground pad was acheived.

Hint:Use min function

Successful Drone Ship Landing with Payload between 4000 and 6000

Explanation: names of boosters which have successfully landed on drone ship and had payload mass greater than 4000 but less than 6000

- F9 FT B1022
- F9 FT B1026
- F9 FT B1021.2
- F9 FT B1031.2

```
In [35]: %%sql
    select Booster_Version from SPACEXTBL
    where "Landing_Outcome" = "Success (drone ship)"
        and PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_>4000
        and PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_<6000

* sqlite:///my_data1.db
Done.

Out[35]: Booster_Version
        F9 FT B1022
        F9 FT B1026
        F9 FT B1021.2
        F9 FT B1031.2</pre>
```

Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes

Explanation:

- the total number of successful mission outcomes is 100
- the total number of failure mission outcomes is 1

```
In [37]: | %%sql
         select count(*) from SPACEXTBL
         where "Mission Outcome" like "Success%"
           * sqlite:///my_data1.db
         Done.
Out[37]:
          count(*)
In [38]:
         %%sql
         select count(*) from SPACEXTBL
         where "Mission Outcome" like "Failure%"
           * sqlite:///my_data1.db
         Done.
Out[38]:
          count(*)
```

Boosters That Carried Maximum Payload

Names of the booster which have carried the maximum payload mass:

```
F9 B5 B1048.4
F9 B5 B1049.4
F9 B5 B1051.3
F9 B5 B1056.4
F9 B5 B1048.5
F9 B5 B1051.4
F9 B5 B1049.5
F9 B5 B1060.2
F9 B5 B1058.3
F9 B5 B1051.6
F9 B5 B1060.3
F9 B5 B1049.7
```

```
In [39]: %%sql
          select Booster Version from SPACEXTBL
          where PAYLOAD MASS KG = (select max(PAYLOAD MASS KG ) from SPACEXTBL)
           * sqlite:///my_data1.db
          Done.
Out[39]:
           Booster_Version
             F9 B5 B1048.4
             F9 B5 B1049.4
             F9 B5 B1051.3
             F9 B5 B1056.4
             F9 B5 B1048.5
             F9 B5 B1051.4
             F9 B5 B1049.5
              F9 B5 B1060.2
             F9 B5 B1058.3
             F9 B5 B1051.6
             F9 B5 B1060.3
             F9 B5 B1049.7
```





2015 Launch Records

Failed landing outcomes in drone ship, their booster versions, and launch site names for in year 2015:

Month	Booster_Version	Launch_Site
01	F9 v1.1 B1012	CCAFS LC-40
04	F9 v1.1 B1015	CCAFS LC-40

Rank Landing Outcomes Between 2010-06-04 and 2017-03-20

Rank the count of landing outcomes between the date 2010-06-04 and 2017-03-20:

Landing _Outcome	landings
Success	20
No attempt	10
Success (drone ship)	8
Success (ground pad)	6
Failure (drone ship)	4
Controlled (ocean)	3
Failure	3
Failure (parachute)	2
No attempt	1
No attempt	1

Out[41]:

Done.

Landing_Outcome	landings
No attempt	10
Success (drone ship)	5
Failure (drone ship)	5
Success (ground pad)	3
Controlled (ocean)	3
Uncontrolled (ocean)	2
Failure (parachute)	2
Precluded (drone ship)	1

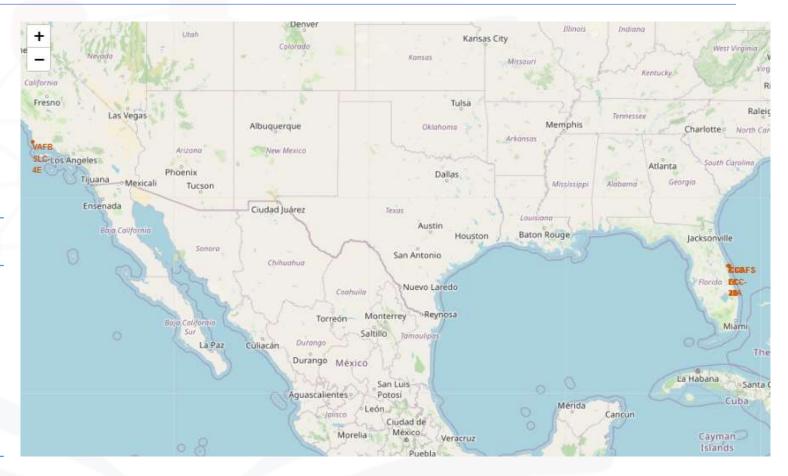


LAUNCH SITES PROXIMITY ANALYSIS

Locations of Launch Sites on Maps

- Three in the east
- One in the west
- All in the south

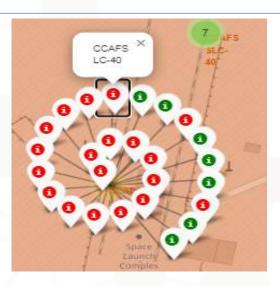
Launch Site	Lat	Long
CCAFS LC-40	28.56230197	-80.57735648
CCAFS SLC-40	28.56319718	-80.57682003
KSC LC-39A	28.57325457	-80.64689529
VAFB SLC-4E	34.63283416	-120.6107455

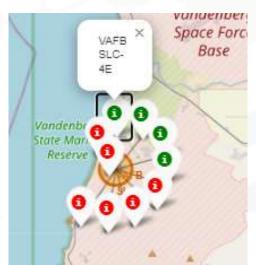


Display Launch Outcome by Color

From the color labels, we can easily see

- ➤ KSC LC-39A has a rather higher success rate
- Whereas CCAFS LC-40 and CCAFS SLC-40 have much lower rate









Display Launch Outcome by Color

- ❖ The distance from KSC LC-39A to the nearest shuttle landing facility is about 4.16 km.
- ❖ The distance from KSC LC-39A to the nearest highway is less than 1 km.
- ❖ The distance from KSC LC-39A to the coastline is around 6.5 km.
- ❖ The distance from KSC LC-39A to the nearest city is around 16 km.





BUILD DASHBOARD WITH PLOTLY DASH

Total Success Launches for All Sites

Total Success Launches for All Sites is

• CCAFS LC-40: 29.2%

VAFB SLC-4E: 16.7%

KSC LC-39A: 41.7%

CCAFS SLC-40: 12.5%

SpaceX Launch Records Dashboard



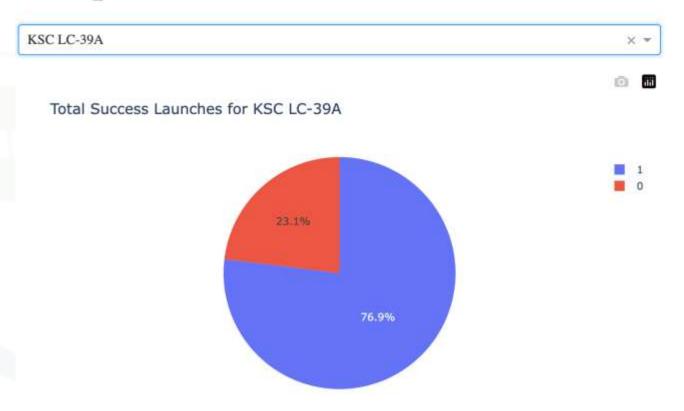


Success Ratio for KSC LC-39A

The launch site with highest launch success ratio is **KSC LC-39A**.

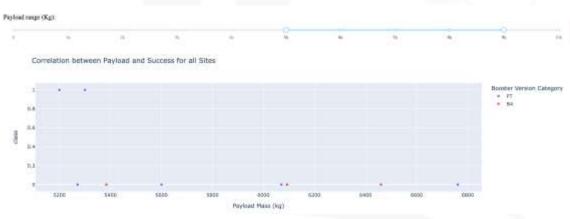
It has a success rate of 76.9%.

SpaceX Launch Records Dashboard



Correlation Between Payload and Success

- ☐ Payload range in [3000, 4000] has the largest success rate.
- Booster version of **FT** has the largest success rate.





Paymed Mass (kg)



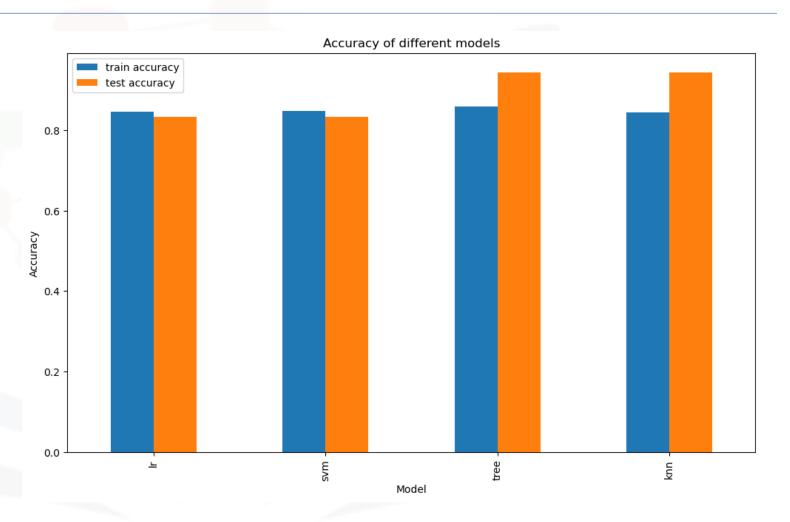




PREDICTIVE ANALYSIS CLASSIFICATION

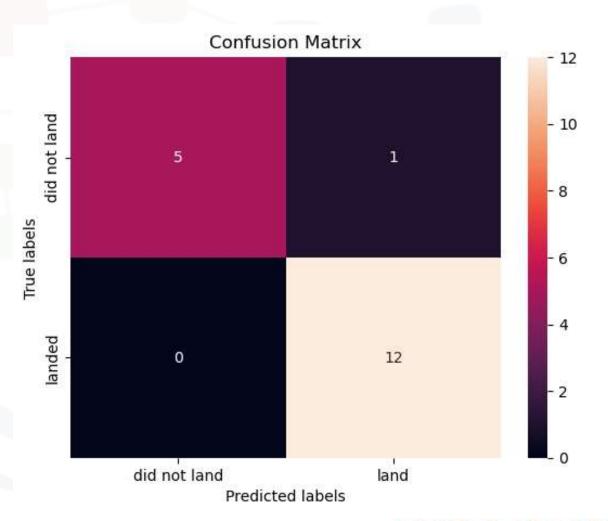
Classification Accuracy

- Decision Tree model has the highest classification accuracy
- training accuracy 0.86 and testing accuracy 0. 0.94
- Parameter: {'criterion': 'entropy', 'max_depth': 10, 'max_features': 'sqrt', 'min_samples_leaf': 4, 'min_samples_split': 5, 'splitter': 'random'}



Confusion Matrix

- □ Decision Tree model can distinguish between the different classes.
- ☐ The major problem is False Positives.



Conclusions

- The dataset comprises 90 rows and 83 columns. Through an 80/20 split, we allocated 72 rows for training and 18 for testing purposes.
- Employing GridSearchCV, we trained four models, all exhibiting optimal performance on the test dataset.
- From these models, our top choice for predicting rocket landing outcomes is the **Decision Tree model.**
- However, utilising the decision tree may introduce concerns regarding false positives, potentially impacting our accuracy in estimating future bids for rocket launches.

Challenges in Model Training

- ☐ The dataset comprises 90 rows but contains 83 columns.
- ☐ With an 80/20 split, our training set consists of only 72 records for training.
- ☐ The imbalance of more features
 than samples raises concerns about
 overfitting during model training.
- ☐ Additionally, we only have 18 test samples. Too few to find out problems.

	FlightNumber	PayloadMass	Flights	Block	ReusedCount	Orbit_ES- L1	0
0	1.0	6104.959412	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	
1	2.0	525.000000	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	
2	3.0	677.000000	1.0	1.0	• 0.0	0.0	
3	4.0	500.000000	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	
4	5.0	3170.000000	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	
85	86.0	15400.000000	2.0	5.0	2.0	0.0	
86	87.0	15400.000000	3.0	5.0	2.0	0.0	
87	88.0	15400.000000	6.0	5.0	5.0	0.0	
88	89.0	15400.000000	3.0	5.0	2.0	0.0	
89	90.0	3681.000000	1.0	5.0	0.0	0.0	

90 rows × 83 columns

Challenges in Model Training

- ☐ How to handle this issue?
- Obtain additional data, apply regularization, or employ dimension reduction techniques.
- Consider removing irrelevant columns based on identified correlations during EDA.
- Experiment with **PCA** to reduce dimensions efficiently.

	FlightNumber	PayloadMass	Flights	Block	ReusedCount	Orbit_ES- L1	0
0	1.0	6104.959412	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	
1	2.0	525.000000	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	
2	3.0	677.000000	1.0	1.0	• 0.0	0.0	
3	4.0	500.000000	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	
4	5.0	3170.000000	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	
85	86.0	15400.000000	2.0	5.0	2.0	0.0	
86	87.0	15400.000000	3.0	5.0	2.0	0.0	
87	88.0	15400.000000	6.0	5.0	5.0	0.0	
88	89.0	15400.000000	3.0	5.0	2.0	0.0	
89	90.0	3681.000000	1.0	5.0	0.0	0.0	

90 rows × 83 columns

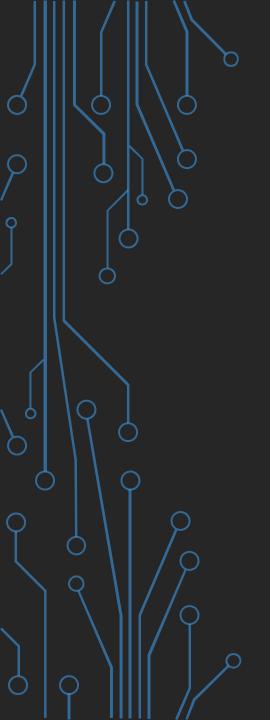
Appendix

Share Links:

- This Assignment GitHub Repository
- IBM Data Science Professional Certificate

Other Reference Links:

- Test accuracy higher than training. How to interpret?
- More features than observations



THANK YOU!