

Winning Space Race with Data Science

Petker, Andreas 17.02.2023



Outline

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

Executive Summary

Methodology

- The methodology for this report involves data collection using the SpaceX API and web scraping, followed by data wrangling and cleaning.
- The data is then analyzed through exploratory data analysis using visualization and SQL, interactive visual analytics using Folium and Plotly Dash, and predictive analysis using classification models.

Summary Results

- This report presents the results of an Exploratory Data Analysis of SpaceX launch data (landing of SpaceX Falcon 9 first stage).
- The analysis suggests that Launch Site CCAFS SLC 40 has a higher variability in launch outcomes compared to other launch sites with a lower proportion of unsuccessful launches.
- The success rate varies for different orbits, with GEO, SO, and VLEO having the highest success rate and ES-L1, HEO, LEO, and MEO having the lowest.
- · The success rate in LEO orbit appears to be related to the number of flights.
- The successful landing or positive landing rate is higher for Polar, LEO, and ISS when heavy payloads are involved.
- The launch success rate has been increasing steadily since 2013 until 2020.
- The report also describes the use of various tools, including a SpaceX database table, a global map of rocket launch sites, a
 Plotly Dash dashboard, and a model accuracy analysis using bar plots and a confusion matrix.
- The LOGREG and SVM models performed well in classifying landing occurrence.
- Overall, the report provides valuable insights into SpaceX launch data that can be used for future research and decisionmaking

Introduction

The space industry has seen significant developments in recent years, with companies such as SpaceX revolutionizing the way we approach space exploration. SpaceX has become a major player in the market by offering rocket launches at a lower cost than other providers, in part because they can reuse the first stage of their Falcon 9 rocket. The cost of a launch depends on the success of the first stage landing, which can provide valuable information for companies looking to bid against SpaceX. In this report, we present the results of an in-depth analysis of SpaceX launch data, including landing outcomes of the first stage of Falcon 9 rockets. The report follows a methodology that involves data collection using the SpaceX API and web scraping, followed by data wrangling, cleaning, and exploratory analysis using various tools, including visualization and SQL. The report provides insights into launch success rates, the variability of launch outcomes across different launch sites, and the impact of payload mass on landing success. Additionally, the report evaluates the accuracy of different classification models for landing occurrence. The findings of this report can be used for future research and decision-making in the space industry.



Methodology

Executive Summary

Data collection methodology:

• For this report, the data collection methodology involved using the SpaceX API [1] and web scraping. The SpaceX API provided detailed information on SpaceX's launch history, rocket specifications, and mission outcomes, which were collected using Python scripts. In addition, data was extracted from a Wikipedia article [2] related to the topic of the report.

Perform data wrangling

• The report will involve data wrangling and cleaning, including the use of one-hot encoding, to prepare the data for further analysis. This process will enable machine learning algorithms to process the data, which typically require numerical input.

Methodology

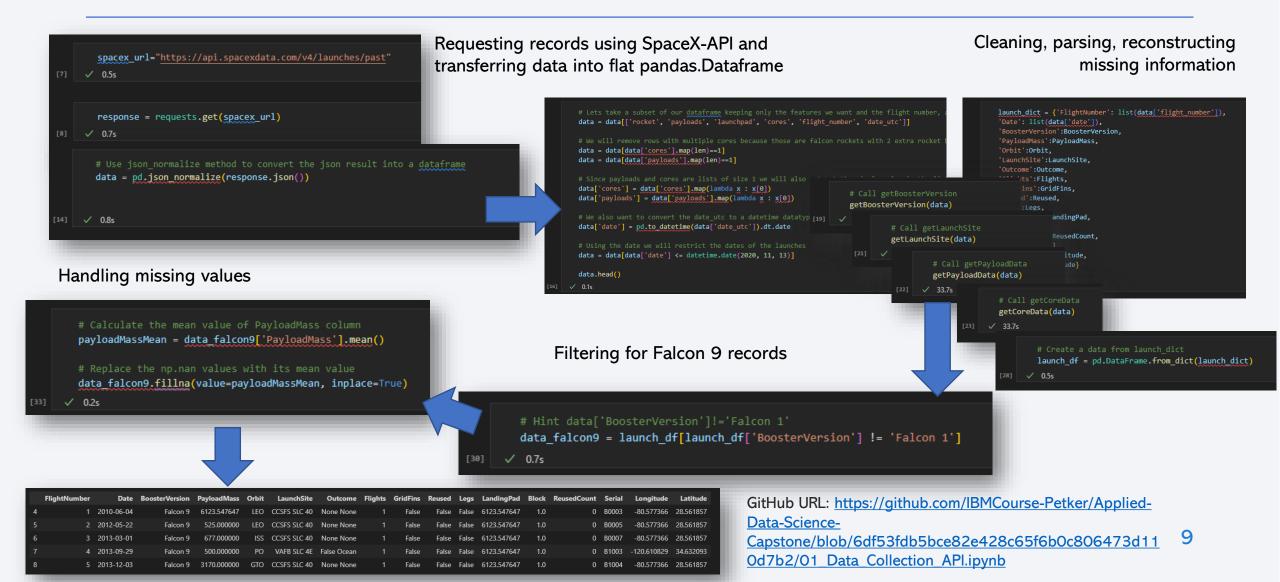
Executive Summary

- Perform exploratory data analysis (EDA) using visualization and SQL
 - Visualization is a powerful tool that enables us to understand complex data in a simple and intuitive way. SQL is an essential tool for data analysis, allowing us to extract, manipulate, and summarize data quickly and efficiently.
- Perform interactive visual analytics using Folium and Plotly Dash
 - The report will present an interactive dashboard using Plotly Dash and Folium for visualizing launch site locations on a map, analyzing launch outcomes, and exploring the proximity of launch sites to various features such as railways, highways, coastlines, and cities.
- Perform predictive analysis using classification models
 - The process of training a classification model involves standardizing the data, splitting it into training and test sets, finding the best hyperparameters for different Machine Learning Models and then determining which method performs best by rating the prediction evaluating the model's accuracy.

Data Collection

- To answer the central question, relevant information on SpaceX launches was collected using the mentioned API [1]. The data was downloaded in json format.
- The data was decoded using the json() method (which is part of the Request interface). The data (a list with embedded json objects) was finally converted into a flat pandas.DataFrame using pandas.json_normalize() method.
- Missing information was reconstructed via API using identification number and various features. Different auxiliary functions were implemented to parse the data. The reconstructed data sets were combined into a dataset and written into a corresponding pandas. DataFrame for further processing/analysis.
- The data was filtered and completed for the Falcon 9 rocket (using the 'FlightNumber' column), and all other records were excluded. The dataset consists of 90 records.
- Missing values were replaced with the mean value.
- A useful source for this was the mentioned Wikipedia page [2], which contains a detailed table with information on Launch Site, Payload, Launch outcome, etc. This Data was acquired through web scraping and used for analysis. The obtained Information was parsed using the BeautifulSoup library and transferred into pandas.DataFrame. The dataset consists of 121 records.

Data Collection – SpaceX API



Data Collection - Scraping

GitHub URL: https://github.com/IBMCourse-Petker/Applied-Data-Science-

Capstone/blob/6df53fdb5bce82e428c65f6b0c806473d11 Od7b2/02 Data Collection with Web Scraping.ipynb

```
# Apply find all() function with `th` element on fi
# Use the find all function in the BeautifulSoup obj
                                                         # Iterate each th element and apply the provided ext
html tables = []
                                                         column_names = []
for table in soup.find_all('table'):
    html tables.append(table)
                                                          for name in first launch table.find all('th'):
                                                             name = extract column from header(name)
                                                             if name is not None:
      if len(name)>0:
      print(first_launch_table)
                                                                    column names.append(name)
   ✓ 0.5s
                                                  [19] 		0.9s
```

Column/variable names are extracted from an HTML table header. Third table is selected as the target table. Column names are extracted from its header using the find_all() function with th element, and the provided extract_column_from_header() function is applied to extract column names. Non-empty column names are appended into a list called column_names.

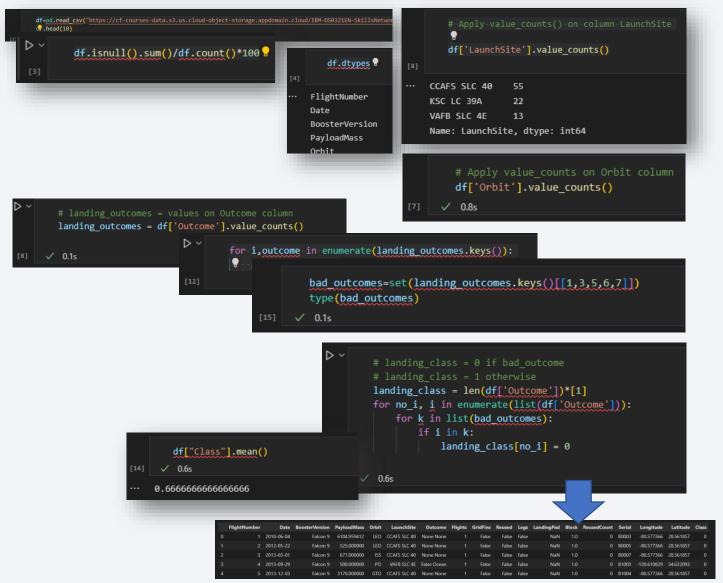
Empty dictionary is created and initialized with empty lists for each key; new keys are added.

Dictionary launch dict is filled with launch records that have been

Dictionary launch_dict is filled with launch records that have been extracted from table rows. Tables and rows are iterated; specific elements are checked; values are extracted and then appended to the dictionary. Finally dataframe is created from the launch_dict.

launch_dict= dict.fromkeys(column_names)	extracted_now = 0 ① tract each table for table_number, table in enumerate(soup.find_all('tab df=pd.DataFrame(lau	nch_dict)	
<pre># Remove an irrelyant column del launch_dict['Date and time ()'] # Let's initial the launch_dict with each value to be an launch_dict['Flight No.'] = [] launch_dict['Launch site'] = [] launch_dict['Dayload'] = []</pre>	The second of th	<pre>in launch_dict.items(): key}: {len(val)}')</pre>	
launch_dict['Payload mass'] = [] launch_dict['Ochit+'] = []	# (f it is number saw calls in a distance; if the extracted year = 1 f light inster value # 1000. Appoint the flight number into launch districts launch launch district (Flight two. Tappend(flight_masker)) # district calls.	Flight No. Launch site	

Data Wrangling



GitHub URL: https://github.com/IBMCourse-Petker/Applied-Data-Science-

<u>Capstone/blob/6df53fdb5bce82e428c65f6b0c806473d110d7b2</u>/03 EDA.ipynb

Reading in data set. Calculating the percentage of missing values in each attribute. Checking the data types of the columns and counting the number of launches on each launch site using the pandas method value_counts().

Counting the number and occurrence of each orbit type.

Counting the number and occurrence of mission outcomes per orbit type. The result is a series object containing the counts of each unique value.



Create a landing outcome label from the outcome column, where the value is 0 if the corresponding row in the outcome is in a set of bad outcomes, otherwise it's 1. Use this label to represent the classification variable that indicates the outcome of each launch. Calculate the success rate by 11 computing the mean of this variable.

EDA with Data Visualization

- A series of visualizations and data manipulations were performed to analyze the relationship between launch success rates and various features, such as flight number, launch site, payload mass, and orbit type.
- Scatter plots, bar plots, and line charts were used to examine these relationships and identify patterns and correlations in the data.
- To make the data suitable for machine learning algorithms, categorical features were converted into a numerical format using one-hot encoding, and all resulting columns were cast to the float64 data type.
- These steps were taken to enable accurate predictions of future launch success rates based on the identified patterns and correlations in the data.
- GitHub URL: https://github.com/IBMCourse-Petker/Applied-Data-Science-Capstone/blob/6df53fdb5bce82e428c65f6b0c806473d110d7b2/04 EDA with Visualization.ipynb

EDA with SQL

- The given SQL queries involve extracting information from a SpaceX dataset.
- The queries involve selecting specific columns and filtering rows based on criteria such as launch site, payload mass, mission outcome, landing outcome, and dates.
- The results include unique launch sites, specific records, total payload mass, average payload mass, first successful landing outcome, names of boosters, total number of successful and failed missions, booster versions with maximum payload mass, failed landing outcomes in drone ship, and a ranked count of landing outcomes within a specified date range.
- The results provide insights into booster launches, successful landings, and mission outcomes over time.
- GitHub URL: https://github.com/IBMCourse-Petker/Applied-Data-Science-Capstone/blob/6df53fdb5bce82e428c65f6b0c806473d110d7b2/05_EDA_with_S_QL.ipvnb

Build an Interactive Map with Folium

- To visualize SpaceX launch sites, marking success/failed launches, and calculating distances to proximities Folium was used.
- This includes tasks such as marking all launch sites on a map, adding success/failed launches for each site on the map, and calculating distances between a launch site and its proximities.
- The aim is to find geographical patterns about launch sites and their location in relation to the Equator line, coastlines, railways, highways, cities, and success rates.
- The findings can be used to build a dashboard using Plotly Dash on detailed launch records.
- GitHub URL: https://github.com/IBMCourse-Petker/Applied-Data-Science-Capstone/blob/6df53fdb5bce82e428c65f6b0c806473d110d7b2/06 Interactive Visual Analytics with Folium.ipynb
- Rendered Jupyter Notebook on nbviewer.org: <u>LINK</u>

Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

- A dashboard includes two plots (pie chart and scatter chart) and interactions (dropdown list, range slider + callbacks) was created to explore the SpaceX launch data.
- The dashboard includes a dropdown list to select launch sites, a pie chart to show the total number of successful launches, a range slider to select payload range, and a scatter chart to show the correlation between payload and launch success.
- The pie chart and scatter chart are interactive and update based on the user's selection from the dropdown list and payload range using callbacks.
- The pie chart displays either the total successful launches count for all sites or the success vs. failed counts for a specific site.
- The scatter chart displays either the success launches for all sites within the payload range or the success launches for a specific site within the payload range. The scatter chart also includes the booster version category as a color-coded variable.
- GitHub URL: https://github.com/lBMCourse-Petker/Applied-Data-Science-
 https://github.com/lBMCourse-Petker/Applied-Data-Science-
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Predictive Analysis (Classification)

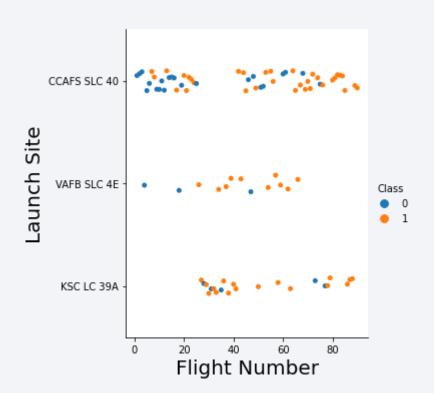
- The predivtice Analysis includes the use of Python libraries such as pandas, numpy, matplotlib, seaborn, and scikit-learn to perform classification tasks on a given dataset.
- The dataset is split into training and testing data using the train_test_split function.
- The classification algorithms used in this report are logistic regression, support vector machines, decision trees, and k-nearest neighbors.
- The GridSearchCV function is used to fine-tune the hyperparameters for each algorithm, and the accuracy of each algorithm is evaluated on the test data.
- The best-performing method is determined based on the highest accuracy score.
- A confusion matrix is used to visualize the results of each classification algorithm.
- GitHub URL: https://github.com/IBMCourse-Petker/Applied-Data-Science-Capstone/blob/main/08 SpaceX Machine Learning Prediction.ipynb

Results

- Exploratory data analysis results
- Interactive analytics demo in screenshots
- Predictive analysis results



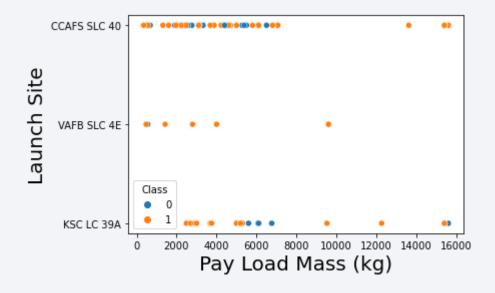
Flight Number vs. Launch Site



The pattern observed in the generated diagram suggests that for the Launch Site CCAFS SLC 40, both successful and unsuccessful launch outcomes occur with approximately equal frequency, whereas for the other Launch Sites, there are fewer instances of unsuccessful launches (Class 0). This could indicate that the Launch Site with an equal distribution of successful and unsuccessful launches is associated with higher variability in launch outcomes, while the Launch Sites with a lower proportion of unsuccessful launches may have better control over factors that could lead to mission failure.

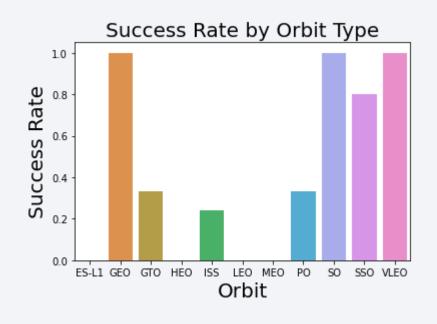
Furthermore, the relationship between success and Flight Number appears to be non-random, with higher success rates observed as Flight Number increases. This trend is particularly evident for Launch Site CCAFS SLC 40.

Payload vs. Launch Site



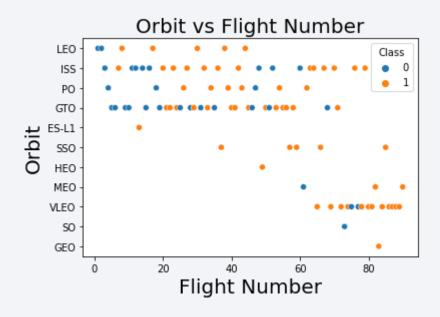
The plot shows that there were no rockets launched for heavy payload masses (greater than 10,000) at the VAFB-SLC launch site.

Success Rate vs. Orbit Type



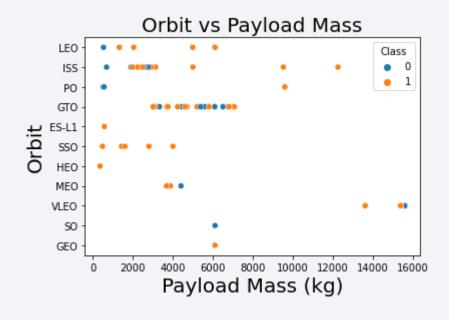
Orbits with highest success rate are GEO, SO and VLEO. Orbits with lowest success rate are ES-L1, HEO, LEO, MEO. Other orbits' success rate are between ~0.2-0.8

Flight Number vs. Orbit Type



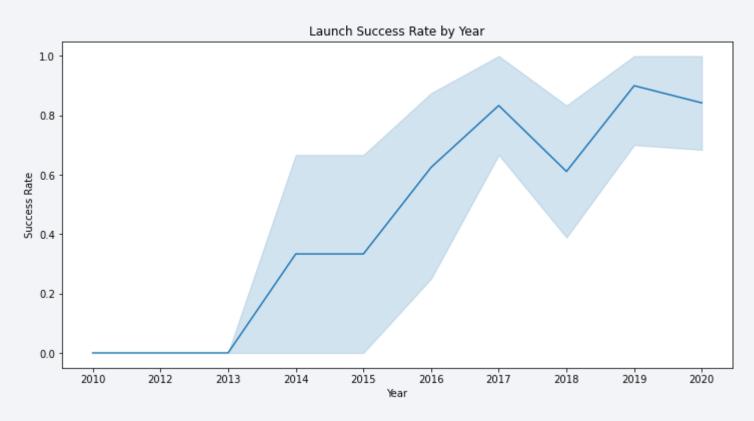
It can be observed that in the LEO orbit, success appears to be related to the number of flights, whereas no relationship between flight number and success is evident when in GTO orbit.

Payload vs. Orbit Type



It is observed that the successful landing or positive landing rate is higher for Polar, LEO, and ISS when heavy payloads are involved. However, in GTO, it is difficult to distinguish between successful and unsuccessful missions as both positive and negative landing rates are present.

Launch Success Yearly Trend



The resulting plot shows that the launch success rate has been increasing steadily since 2013 until 2020, indicating an improvement in the overall success rate of launches during this period.

All Launch Site Names

Retrieving a list of unique launch sites from a SpaceX database

Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

	89]	result2 = %sql SELECT * FROM SPACEX WHERE LAUNCH_SITE LIKE '%CCA%' LIMIT 5 result2											
'	03]	V 0.5s Python											
		* sqlite:///database.db											
	D	one.											
<	/>	DATE	TIME	BOOSTER_VERSION	LAUNCH_SITE	PAYLOAD	PAYLOAD_MASS_KG	ORBIT	CUSTOMER	MISSION_OUTCOME	LANDING_OUTCOME		
		04-06-2010	18:45:00	F9 v1.0 B0003	CCAFS LC-40	Dragon Spacecraft Qualification Unit	0	LEO	SpaceX	Success	Failure (parachute)		
		08-12-2010	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)		
		22-05-2012	07:44:00	F9 v1.0 B0005	CCAFS LC-40	Dragon demo flight C2	525	LEO (ISS)	NASA (COTS)	Success	No attempt		
		08-10-2012	00:35:00	F9 v1.0 B0006	CCAFS LC-40	SpaceX CRS-1	500	LEO (ISS)	NASA (CRS)	Success	No attempt		
		01-03-2013	15:10:00	F9 v1.0 B0007	CCAFS LC-40	SpaceX CRS-2	677	LEO (ISS)	NASA (CRS)	Success	No attempt		

Retrieving information about the first 5 SpaceX launches that occurred at a launch site with the substring "CCA" in its name. The results will include all columns of the SPACEX table for those launches. The results is limited to the first 5 records that match the previous conditions.

Total Payload Mass

Total sum of payload mass is retrieved by summing the "PAYLOAD_MASS_KG" column of the "SPACEX" table for records where the "CUSTOMER" column equals "NASA (CRS)".

Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

Retrieving the average value of the "PAYLOAD_MASS_KG" column from the "SPACEX" table, where the "BOOSTER_VERSION" column contains the string "F9 v1.1".

First Successful Ground Landing Date

```
result5 = %sql SELECT MIN(DATE) FROM SPACEX WHERE LANDING_OUTCOME LIKE 'Success (ground pad)'
result5

v 0.5s

sqlite://database.db
Done.

MIN(DATE)
01-05-2017
```

Retrieving the earliest date from "DATE" column of the "SPACEX" table, where the "LANDING_OUTCOME" column is equal to the string "Success".

Successful Drone Ship Landing with Payload between 4000 and 6000

```
result6 = %sql SELECT BOOSTER_VERSION, PAYLOAD_MASS_KG FROM SPACEX WHERE LANDING_OUTCOME = 'Success (drone ship)' AND PAYLOAD_MASS_KG > 4000 AND PAYLOAD_MASS_KG < 6000 result6  

** sqlite://database.db Done.

** BOOSTER_VERSION PAYLOAD_MASS_KG  

** F9 FT B1022  

** 4696  

** F9 FT B1021.2  

** 5300  

** F9 FT B1031.2  

** 5200
```

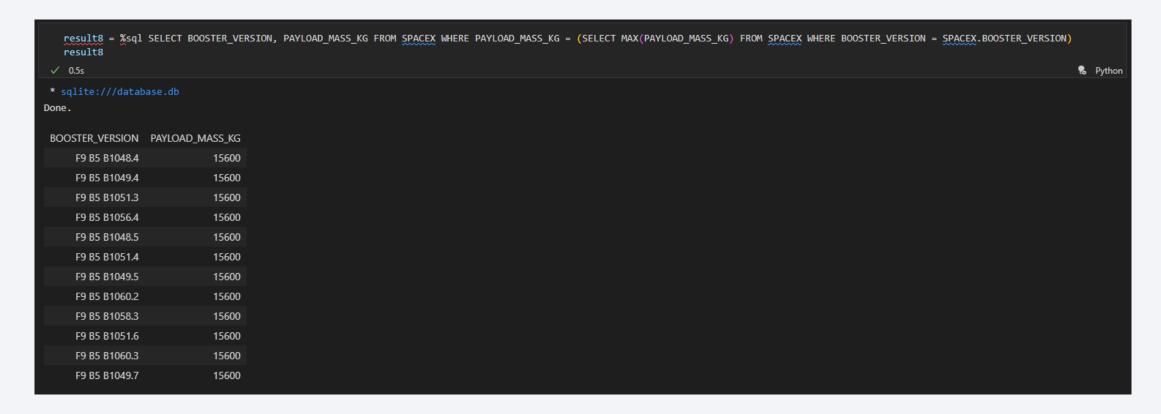
Retrieving data from a table named "SPACEX" Selection of "BOOSTER_VERSION" and (in addition!) "PAYLOAD_MASS_KG" from the table. The data returned by the query satisfies three conditions:

- 1) LANDING_OUTCOME was equals to "Success (drone ship)",
- 2) "PAYLOAD_MASS_KG" > 4000 and
- 3) "PAYLOAD_MASS_KG" is <6000.

Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes

Queries to count the number of rows in the table where the "MISSION_OUTCOME" column contains the word "Success" and "Failure" in any part of the column value.

Boosters Carried Maximum Payload



Retrieving the "BOOSTER_VERSION" (in addition the "PAYLOAD_MASS_KG") of each SpaceX mission that had the maximum payload mass for its corresponding booster version. The query uses a subquery that finds the maximum "PAYLOAD_MASS_KG" value for each unique "BOOSTER_VERSION"

2015 Launch Records

```
result9 = %sql SELECT LANDING_OUTCOME, BOOSTER_VERSION, LAUNCH_SITE FROM SPACEX WHERE DATE LIKE '%2015%' AND LANDING_OUTCOME = 'Failure (drone ship)' result9

v 0.5s

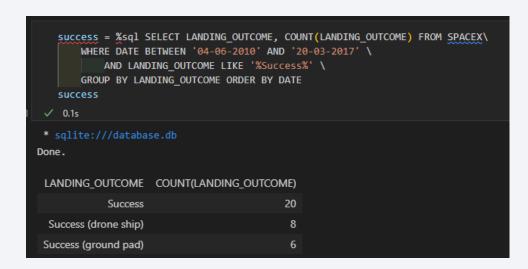
* sqlite:///database.db
Done.

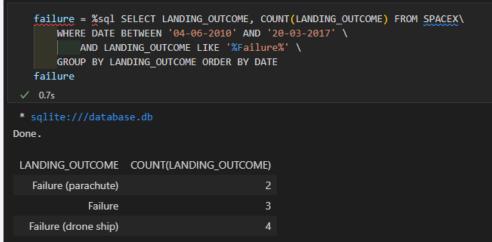
LANDING_OUTCOME BOOSTER_VERSION LAUNCH_SITE
Failure (drone ship) F9 v1.1 B1012 CCAFS LC-40
Failure (drone ship) F9 v1.1 B1015 CCAFS LC-40
```

Retrieving data from table "SPACEX". Selection of three columns, "LANDING_OUTCOME" "BOOSTER_VERSION" and "LAUNCH_SITE" from the table. The data returned by this query satisfies the following conditions:

- 1) The "DATE" column in the table must contain the year "2015"
- 2) The "LANDING_OUTCOME" column in the table must have the value "Failure (drone ship)"

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



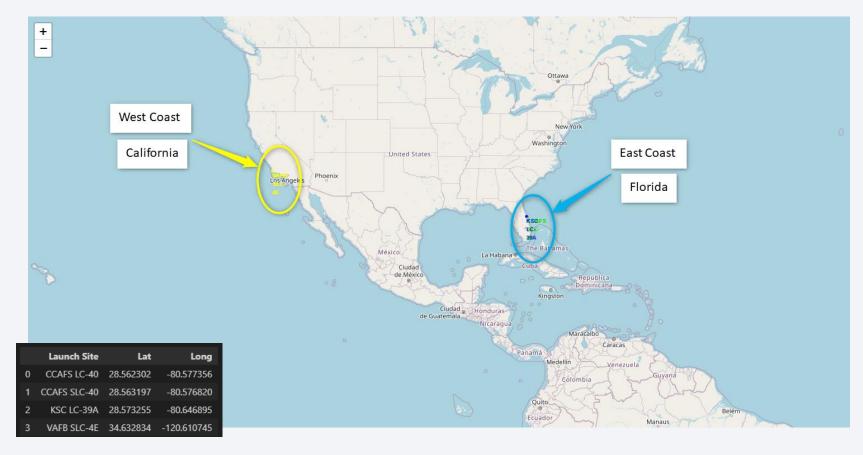


Retrieving data from a table "SPACEX". Seletion of the columns, "LANDING_OUTCOME" and the count of the "LANDING_OUTCOME", and groups them based on the "LANDING_OUTCOME" column. The data returned by the query satisfies the following conditions:

- 1) The "DATE" column in the table must be between the dates '04-06-2010' and '20-03-2017',
- 2) The "LANDING_OUTCOME" column in the table must contain the words "Success" or "Failure" in any part of the column value.

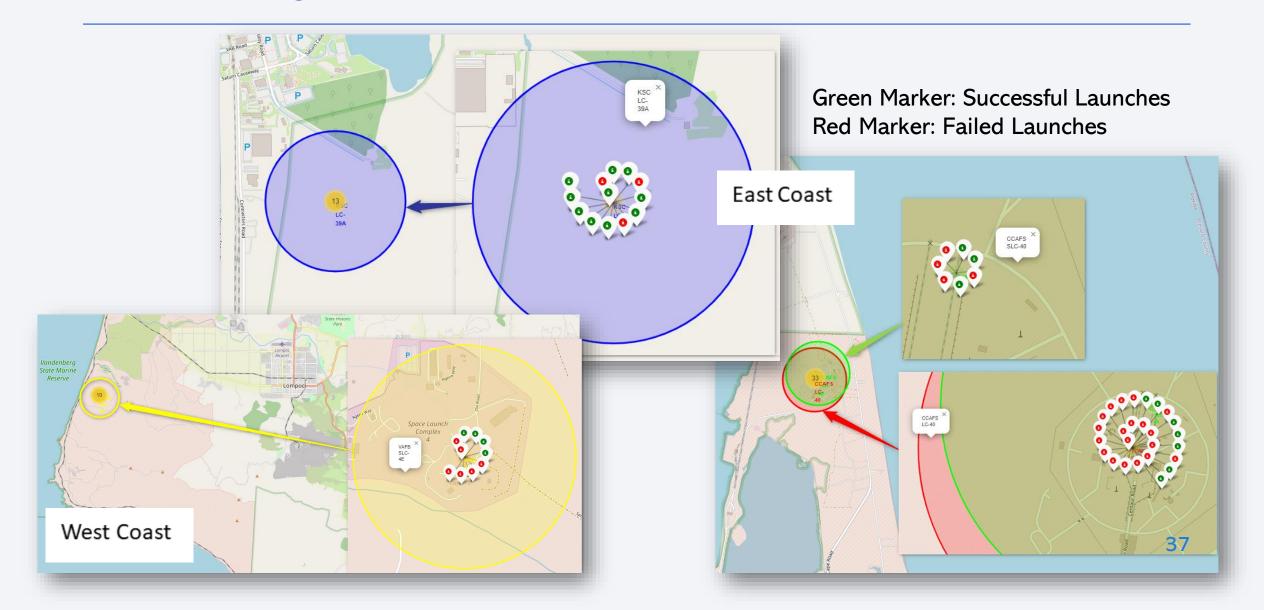


Global Map of Rocket Launch Sites



The Launch Sites 'CCAFS LC-40', 'CCAFS SLC-40' and 'KSC LC-39A' are located on the East Coast in Florida (at Cape Canaveral and Kennedy Space Center), while 'VAFB SLC-4E' is located on the West Coast in California (at Vandenberg Air Force Base).

Visualizing Launch Success



Exploring Proximity

Distance between Launch Site CCAFS SLC-40 and coastline Distance between Launch Site VAFB SLC-4E and Space Launche country Complex 3 Distance between Launch Site VAFB SLC-4E and next railway

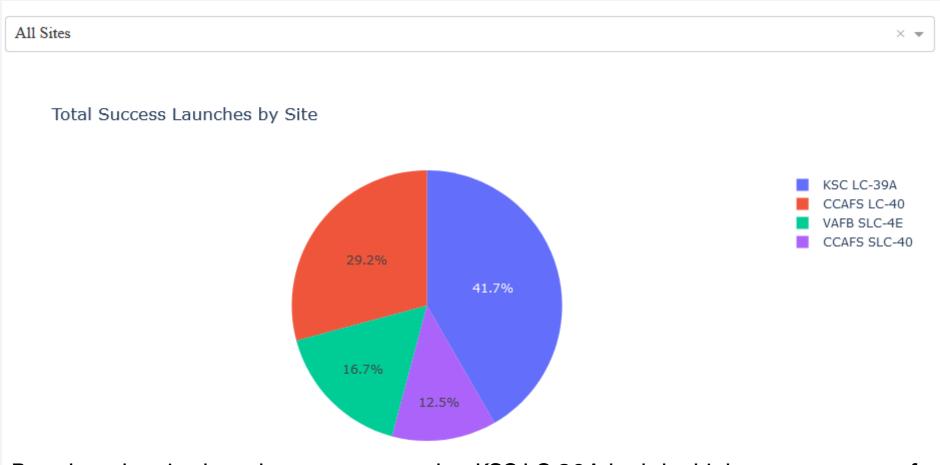
KSC LC-39A and Pine Island Conservation Area Distance between Launch Site KSC LC-39A and next highway

Distance between Launch Site

Obtaining coordinates using MousePosition. Mark down the coordinates of points of interest and calculate the distance to other points based on their latitude and longitude values.

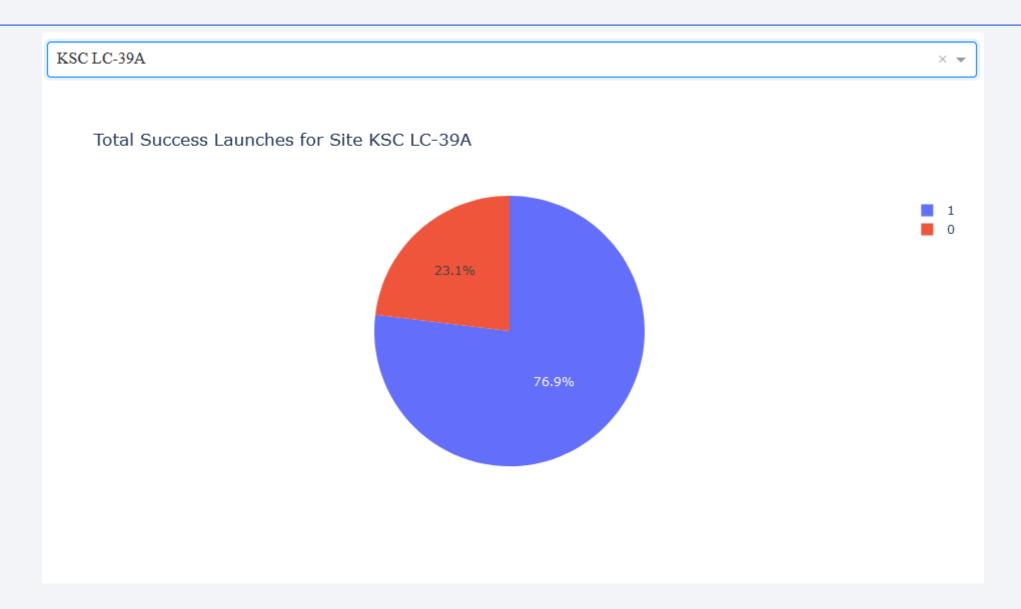


Total Success Rates for SpaceX Launch Sites



Based on the pie chart data, we can see that KSC LC-39A had the highest percentage of successful launches at 41.7%, followed by CCAFS LC-40 with 29.2%, VAFB SLC-4E with 16.7%, and CCAFS SLC-40 with the lowest percentage of successful launches at 12.5%.

Launch Site with Highest Success Rate

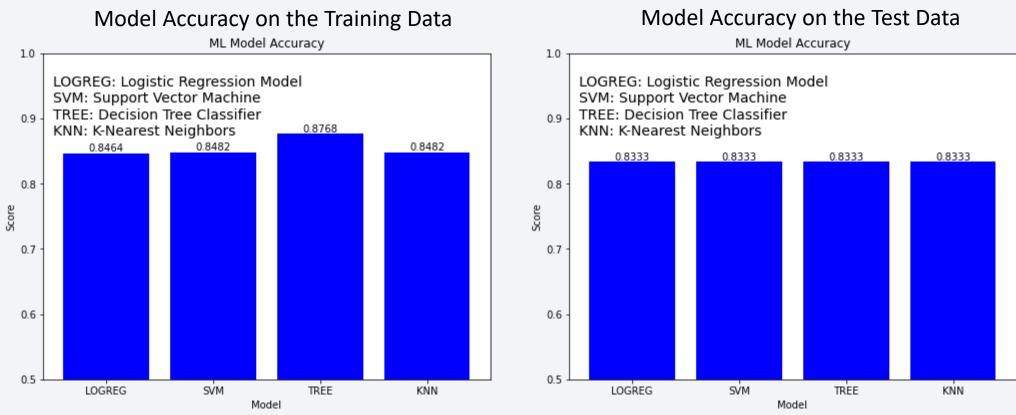


Payload and Launch Success Rates



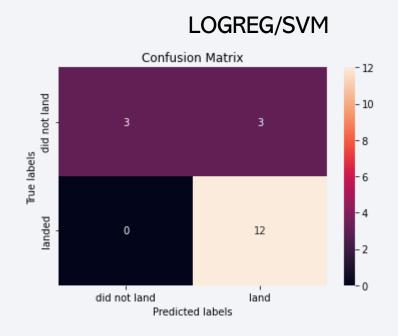


Classification Accuracy



Based on the calculated accuracy scores, all of the models seem to perform similarly on the test data with an accuracy of 0.83, although the Decision Tree Classifier has good performance on the training data, but overfitting is apparent on the test data. Overall, the given results may indicate that LOGREG and SVM could be a good choice to apply the model to new data. See also <u>Additional Results</u>.

Confusion Matrix



The results of the confusion matrix (LOGREG/SVM) are as follows:

- True negatives (TN): the classifier correctly predicted that a landing would not occur 3 times.
- False positives (FP): the classifier predicted a landing would occur 3 times when it did not.
- False negatives (FN): the classifier correctly predicted a landing would occur 12 times.
- True positives (TP): the classifier correctly predicted that a landing would occur 12 times.

Accuracy = (number of correctly classified instances) / (total number of instances) = $15/18 \equiv 83.33\%$

Conclusions

- The provided insights from the exploratory data analysis (EDA) suggest that the launch site CCAFS SLC 40 has a higher variability in launch outcomes, while launch sites with a lower proportion of unsuccessful launches may have better control over factors that could lead to mission failure. The Kennedy Space Center Launch Complex 39A (launch site KSC LC-39A) had the highest percentage of successful launches.
- The success rate for different orbits varies, with GEO, SO, and VLEO having the highest success rate and ES-L1, HEO, LEO, and MEO having the lowest success rate. The success rate in LEO orbit appears to be related to the number of flights, whereas no relationship between flight number and success is evident in GTO orbit.
- The successful landing or positive landing rate is higher for Polar, LEO, and ISS when heavy payloads are involved, while in GTO, it is difficult to distinguish between successful and unsuccessful missions.
- The launch success rate has been steadily increasing since 2013 until 2020, indicating an improvement in the overall success rate of launches during this period
- These queries extract specific data from a SpaceX database table called "SPACEX" based on various conditions, such as selecting unique launch sites, filtering by launch dates and landing outcomes, and calculating the total payload mass and average payload mass for specific missions.
- This project uses a global map of launch sites, created with folium, to explore the proximity of launch sites to various points of interest. It uses markers, circles, and polylines to represent launch sites and calculates distances between launch sites and other points on the map. The project focuses on four launch sites and uses mouse position and distance calculation methods to explore distances. Successful and failed launches are represented with green and red markers, respectively.
- This is a dashboard built with Plotly Dash for analyzing SpaceX launch data. It includes a pie chart of success rates for launch sites, a scatter
 plot showing payload of different booster versions and launch success rates, and a pie chart identifying the launch site with the highest success
 rate.
- This report analyzes the accuracy of different models for landing occurrence classification using bar plots and a confusion matrix. The Logistic Regression (LOGREG) and Support Vector Machine (SVM) models performed similarly well, suggesting they may be good choices for future use. The overall accuracy was 83.33%, with 12 true positives, 3 true negatives, 3 false positives, and 12 false negatives.

Reference

[1] SpaceX API: https://api.spacexdata.com/v4/launches/past (https://api.spacexdata.com/v4/launches/past (https://api.spacexdata.com/v4/launches/past (https://api.spacexdata.com/v4/launches/past (https://github.com/r-spacex/SpaceX-API), Accessed: 14.02.2023

[2] List of Falcon 9 and Falcon Heavy launches (Wikipedia)

URL: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of Falcon 9 and Falcon Heavy launches, Accessed: 14.02.2023

