



IBM Developer
SKILLS NETWORK

Winning Space Race with Data Science

Robert Muigai Ngechu
08/06/2025



Outline

- Executive Summary
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- Methodology
- Results
- Conclusion
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Executive Summary

This project predicts the success of SpaceX's Falcon 9 first-stage landings, utilizing real-world launch data. By analysing factors influencing landing outcomes, the goal is to enhance launch cost efficiency and provide competitive insights.

Methodology Summary

- **Data Collection:** Utilized RESTful APIs and web scraping to gather Falcon 9 launch data.
- **Data Wrangling:** Processed and cleaned data for analysis.
- **Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA):** Employed SQL and Python for data exploration and visualization.
- **Predictive Modeling:** Developed classification models (SVM, Decision Trees, Logistic Regression) to predict landing success.
- **Dashboard Development:** Created interactive dashboards using Plotly Dash and Folium for data visualization.

Summary of Results

- Cleaned and structured Falcon 9 launch data
- Identified key success factors (e.g., launch site, payload)
- Found trends: heavier payloads = lower success
- Built models with up to **87% accuracy**
- Delivered interactive dashboard for predictions

Introduction

Predicting Falcon 9 first-stage landing success using SpaceX launch data.

Project Background

SpaceX aims to reduce launch costs through booster reuse. Landing success is key to this goal.

Key Questions

- What factors affect landing success?
- Can we predict landing outcomes accurately?

Section 1

Methodology

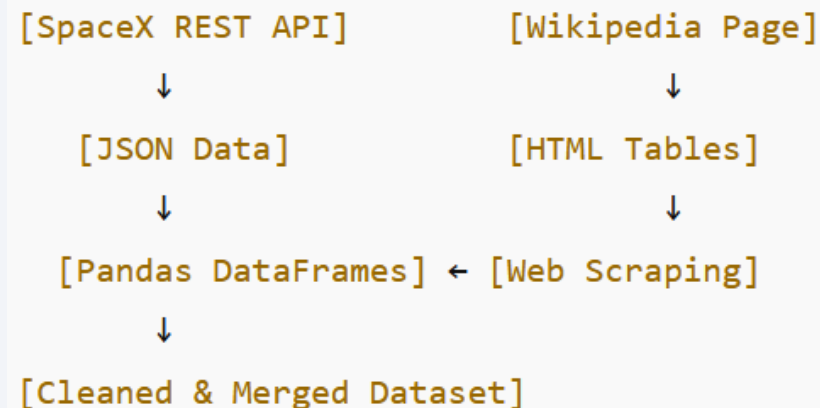
Methodology

Executive Summary

- Data collection methodology:
- Perform data wrangling
 - Describe how data was processed
- Perform exploratory data analysis (EDA) using visualization and SQL
- Perform interactive visual analytics using Folium and Plotly Dash
- Perform predictive analysis using classification models
 - How to build, tune, evaluate classification models

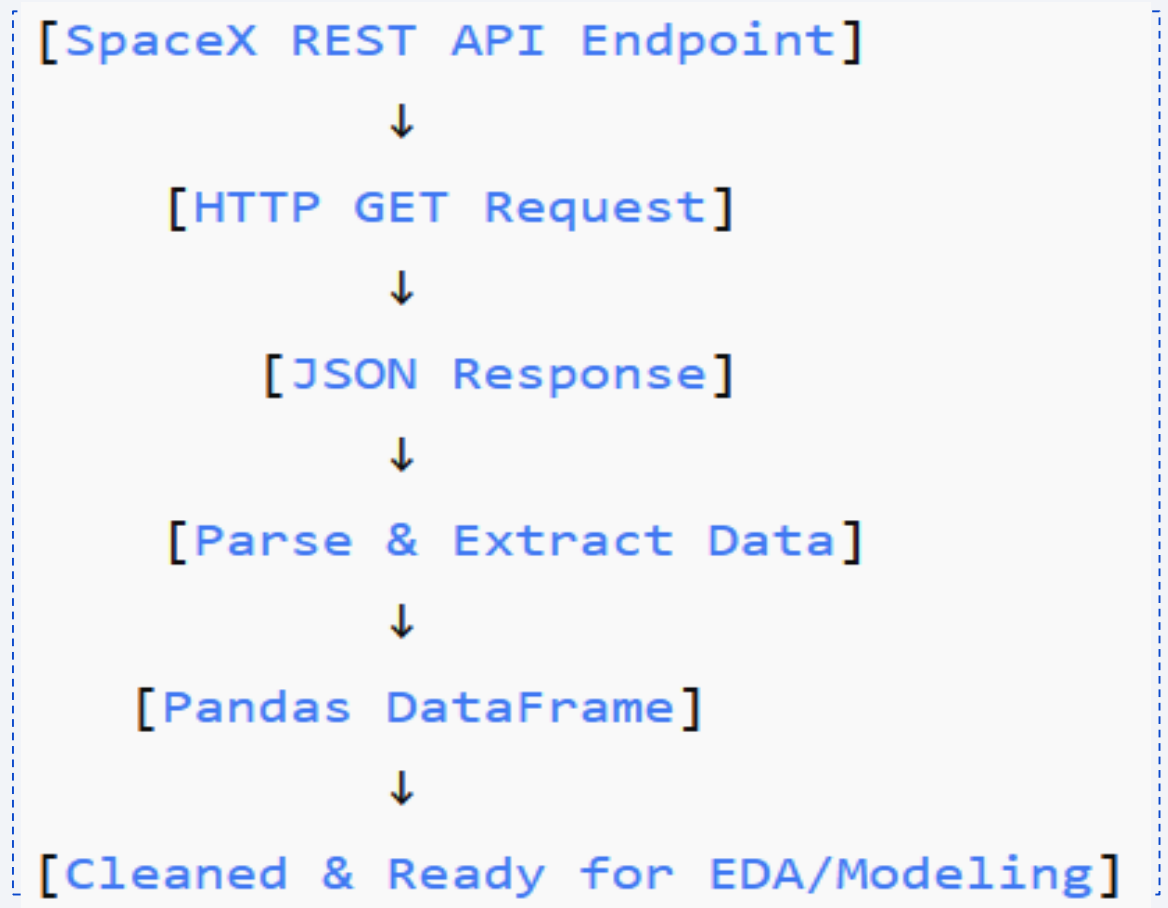
Data Collection

- Data was collected using **SpaceX Launch API** and **web scraping** from Wikipedia. Launch records were stored, cleaned, and structured for analysis.
- **Data Collection Process**
 - **Key Phrases:**
 - **REST API Access** – Retrieved SpaceX launch data from public API
 - **Web Scraping (Wikipedia)** – Collected supplemental data on launches
 - **JSON to DataFrame** – Converted raw data into structured format
 - **Data Storage** – Stored and processed using Pandas for analysis
- Flowchart



Data Collection – SpaceX API

- Present your data collection with SpaceX REST calls using key phrases and flowcharts
- **Key Phrases:**
 - **API Endpoint Access** – Retrieved launch data from SpaceX RESTful API
 - **HTTP GET Requests** – Fetched JSON responses for each launch
 - **Data Parsing** – Extracted relevant fields (launch date, site, payload, outcome)
 - **DataFrame Conversion** – Transformed JSON data into Pandas DataFrame for analysis



Data Collection - Scraping

Web Scraping Process

- **Key Phrases:**
 - **Target URL Identification** – Selected SpaceX launch data page on Wikipedia
 - **HTTP Request** – Sent request to retrieve HTML content
 - **HTML Parsing** – Used BeautifulSoup to parse HTML tables
 - **Data Extraction** – Extracted launch records and relevant fields
 - **Data Cleaning** – Removed inconsistencies and formatted data
 - **DataFrame Conversion** – Stored cleaned data into Pandas DataFrame



Data Wrangling

- **Key Phrases:**

- **Handling Missing Values** – Imputed or removed incomplete data
- **Data Type Conversion** – Converted columns to appropriate types (e.g., dates, categories)
- **Feature Engineering** – Created new variables (e.g., success flag, payload groups)
- **Categorical Encoding** – Transformed categorical data into numerical format
- **Data Normalization** – Scaled features for consistent range
- **Merged Datasets** – Combined API and scraped data into unified DataFrame

[Raw Data from API & Web Scraping]



[Handle Missing Values]



[Convert Data Types]



[Feature Engineering]



[Categorical Encoding]



[Data Normalization]



[Merged Clean Data]



[Ready for Analysis & Modeling]

EDA with Data Visualization

Charts Plotted & Their Purpose

- **Bar Charts**

To compare landing success rates across different launch sites and booster versions.

- **Histograms**

To visualize the distribution of payload masses and identify common ranges.

- **Scatter Plots**

To explore relationships between payload mass and landing outcomes.

- **Pie Charts**

To show the proportion of successful vs. failed landings.

- **Box Plots**

To detect outliers and compare payload mass across different orbit types.

- **Heatmaps**

To visualize correlations between features affecting landing success

EDA with SQL

- **SQL Queries Summary**

- Retrieved total launches and success counts by launch site
- Filtered launches by orbit type to analyze success rates
- Grouped payload mass ranges and calculated average landing outcomes
- Joined multiple tables to combine launch details with booster info
- Selected launches with reused boosters to compare success vs. new boosters
- Calculated success rate trends over time (by year or mission number)

Build an Interactive Map with Folium

Folium Map Objects & Purpose

- Markers**

Placed at each launch site to identify locations of Falcon 9 launches.

- Circles**

- Used to show launch site areas with sizes representing number of launches or success rates.

- Circle Markers**

Colored by landing outcome (success/failure) for quick visual distinction.

- Lines / Polygons**

Connected launch sites to landing zones to illustrate flight paths and booster recovery routes.

- Popups and Tooltips**

Added interactive info (e.g., launch date, payload mass) on markers for user engagement.

These objects help visualize spatial data, making patterns and relationships easier to understand.

Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

Dashboard Plots & Interactions

- **Landing Success Rate Bar Chart**

Visualizes success rates by launch site for quick comparison.

- **Payload Mass Scatter Plot**

Shows relationship between payload mass and landing outcome.

- **Orbit Type Pie Chart**

Displays distribution of launches by orbit category.

- **Launch Timeline Line Graph**

Tracks success trends over time.

- **Interactive Filters** (Dropdowns, sliders)

Allow users to select launch site, orbit type, and payload range to customize views.

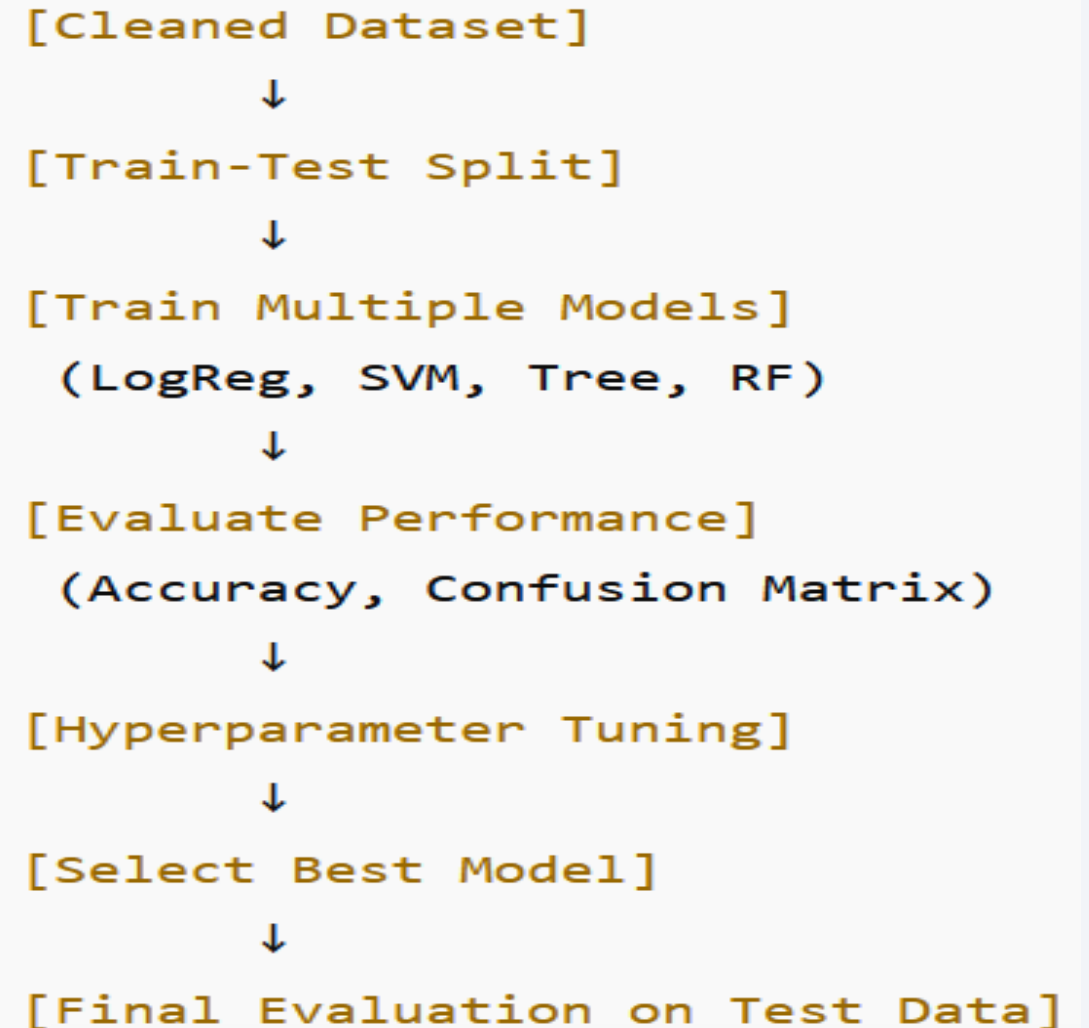
- **Hover Tooltips and Clickable Elements**

Provide detailed info on data points for deeper insights.

These elements enhance user engagement, making it easy to explore key factors influencing Falcon 9 landing success.

Predictive Analysis (Classification)

- **Model Development Process**
- **Key Phrases:**
 - **Data Split** – Divided dataset into training and test sets
 - **Model Selection** – Tried multiple classifiers: Logistic Regression, SVM, Decision Tree, Random Forest
 - **Training** – Fit models on training data
 - **Evaluation** – Used accuracy, precision, recall, and confusion matrix
 - **Hyperparameter Tuning** – Applied GridSearchCV to improve model performance
 - **Best Model Selection** – Chose model with highest accuracy and generalization



Results

The background of the slide is an abstract composition. It features a dark blue base color. Overlaid on this are numerous diagonal streaks in shades of red and cyan. A faint, light blue grid pattern is also visible, particularly in the lower-left quadrant. The overall effect is dynamic and technological.

Section 2

Insights drawn from EDA

Flight Number vs. Launch Site

- Show a scatter plot of Flight Number vs. Launch Site
- Show the screenshot of the scatter plot with explanations

Payload vs. Launch Site

- Show a scatter plot of Payload vs. Launch Site
- Show the screenshot of the scatter plot with explanations

Success Rate vs. Orbit Type

- Show a bar chart for the success rate of each orbit type
- Show the screenshot of the scatter plot with explanations

Flight Number vs. Orbit Type

- Show a scatter point of Flight number vs. Orbit type
- Show the screenshot of the scatter plot with explanations

Payload vs. Orbit Type

- Show a scatter point of payload vs. orbit type
- Show the screenshot of the scatter plot with explanations

Launch Success Yearly Trend

- Show a line chart of yearly average success rate
- Show the screenshot of the scatter plot with explanations

All Launch Site Names

- Find the names of the unique launch sites
- Present your query result with a short explanation here

Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

- Find 5 records where launch sites begin with `CCA`
- Present your query result with a short explanation here

Total Payload Mass

- Calculate the total payload carried by boosters from NASA
- Present your query result with a short explanation here

Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

- Calculate the average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1
- Present your query result with a short explanation here

First Successful Ground Landing Date

- Find the dates of the first successful landing outcome on ground pad
- Present your query result with a short explanation here

Successful Drone Ship Landing with Payload between 4000 and 6000

- List the names of boosters which have successfully landed on drone ship and had payload mass greater than 4000 but less than 6000
- Present your query result with a short explanation here

Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes

- Calculate the total number of successful and failure mission outcomes
- Present your query result with a short explanation here

Boosters Carried Maximum Payload

- List the names of the booster which have carried the maximum payload mass
- Present your query result with a short explanation here

2015 Launch Records

- List the failed landing_outcomes in drone ship, their booster versions, and launch site names for in year 2015
- Present your query result with a short explanation here

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

- Rank the count of landing outcomes (such as Failure (drone ship) or Success (ground pad)) between the date 2010-06-04 and 2017-03-20, in descending order
- Present your query result with a short explanation here

A satellite view of Earth from space, showing the curvature of the planet and the glowing city lights of the Eastern United States and parts of Canada at night. The background is a deep blue gradient.

Section 3

Launch Sites Proximities Analysis

<Folium Map Screenshot 1>

- Replace <Folium map screenshot 1> title with an appropriate title
- Explore the generated folium map and make a proper screenshot to include all launch sites' location markers on a global map
- Explain the important elements and findings on the screenshot

<Folium Map Screenshot 2>

- Replace <Folium map screenshot 2> title with an appropriate title
- Explore the folium map and make a proper screenshot to show the color-labeled launch outcomes on the map
- Explain the important elements and findings on the screenshot

<Folium Map Screenshot 3>

- Replace <Folium map screenshot 3> title with an appropriate title
- Explore the generated folium map and show the screenshot of a selected launch site to its proximities such as railway, highway, coastline, with distance calculated and displayed
- Explain the important elements and findings on the screenshot



Section 4

Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

<Dashboard Screenshot 1>

- Replace <Dashboard screenshot 1> title with an appropriate title
- Show the screenshot of launch success count for all sites, in a piechart
- Explain the important elements and findings on the screenshot

<Dashboard Screenshot 2>

- Replace <Dashboard screenshot 2> title with an appropriate title
- Show the screenshot of the piechart for the launch site with highest launch success ratio
- Explain the important elements and findings on the screenshot

<Dashboard Screenshot 3>

- Replace <Dashboard screenshot 3> title with an appropriate title
- Show screenshots of Payload vs. Launch Outcome scatter plot for all sites, with different payload selected in the range slider
- Explain the important elements and findings on the screenshot, such as which payload range or booster version have the largest success rate, etc.

Section 5

Predictive Analysis (Classification)

Classification Accuracy

- Visualize the built model accuracy for all built classification models, in a bar chart
- Find which model has the highest classification accuracy

Confusion Matrix

- Show the confusion matrix of the best performing model with an explanation

Conclusions

- Point 1
- Point 2
- Point 3
- Point 4
- ...

Appendix

- Include any relevant assets like Python code snippets, SQL queries, charts, Notebook outputs, or data sets that you may have created during this project

Thank you!

