

**Project:** “Are Space Missions Necessary?”

**Team Members:**

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**Completed Tasks (since prior checkpoint)**

- **Abhijit Venkatachalam:** Ingested all four Kaggle datasets; parsed datum to ISO; normalized company\_name variants (63→58); coerced rocket (cost, USD M) to numeric with missing flags; created location hierarchy (Country → Site).
- **Sakshi Agarwal:** Bootstrapped React + Vite app; implemented D3 overview timeline (missions/year) with success-rate overlay; added brush that emits a global filter; baseline keyboard navigation for the chart.
- **Dheeraj Kumar:** Set up FastAPI service; built /missions/annual, /missions/org, /neo/annual endpoints with server-side caching; CI pipeline and health checks; CORS configured for frontend.
- **Isha Kaushik:** Encoded status\_mission as ordinal {Success, Partial Failure, Failure, Prelaunch Failure}; computed yearly success rates and org-level small multiples.
- **Sanyam Jain:** Cleaned NASA NEO dataset (1900–2021); derived yearly close-approach counts and hazardous-NEO counts; validated ranges and aligned mission/NEO years.
- **Amaan Mohamed Kalemullah:** Integrated Water & Air Quality dataset stub; drafted “necessity” framing copy and data-caveat notes; ran first accessibility pass (focus rings, tab order, ARIA roles for tooltips).

**Current Tasks**

- **Abhijit Venkatachalam:** Harmonizing destination taxonomy (LEO/MEO/GEO/Deep Space/Interplanetary); building Great Expectations tests for datum, company\_name, rocket; preparing parquet pre-aggregations by year/org/dest.
- **Sakshi Agarwal:** Linked highlighting across views; tooltips with values + source badges; high-contrast theme and non-color encodings for outcomes.
- **Dheeraj Kumar:** Parameterized filters on all endpoints (time range, org, destination); caching strategy for brushed queries; /missions/cost-scatter endpoint (cost vs success probability).
- **Isha Kaushik:** Destination-level reliability trends with 3-yr moving averages; preliminary cost-outcome scatter with censoring flags; drafting methods note on uncertainty.
- **Sanyam Jain:** Syncing NEO panel to timeline brush; computing annual hazardous-NEO share; exploring relative-velocity/distance quantiles for tooltip context.
- **Amaan Mohamed Kalemullah:** Accessibility QA (screen reader labels, tooltip announce on focus); copy for onboarding “How to read this” panel; performance budget & telemetry events for user interactions.

## **Remaining Tasks for Project Completion**

- Map view of launch sites with clustering and outcome encoding.
- Compare toggle to pin two eras/orgs side-by-side across all panels.
- Web Worker/progressive rendering for brushed re-aggregations; CDN caching config.
- Join/validate “All Space Missions from 1957” with “Space Missions Dataset” for costs/destinations; publish versioned data snapshot.
- Great Expectations suite expansion + data quality report surface in UI.
- Cost normalization audit (currency/year adjustments where possible) + missingness analysis.
- Reliability deltas by organization & era; destination-adjusted success estimates with Cis.
- Hazardous-NEO narrative + limitations (post-2021 gap, observation bias) and optional velocity/distance toggles.
- Water/Air quality context panel finalization with clear “no-causality” framing and source badges.
- Endpoint hardening, pagination, and analytics logging; rate-limit/backoff policies.
- Pilot usability test (n=5), synthesize findings, prioritize fixes for alpha.
- Deployment for alpha demo with release notes and dataset licenses/attribution.