

Winning Space Race with Data Science

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Outline

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

Executive Summary

In response to SpaceX's cost-effective Falcon 9 launches and the importance of first stage landings, we've initiated a data-driven project.

Our aim is to predict successful landings using a machine learning pipeline fueled by publicly available SpaceX launch data. This project addresses crucial questions about landing success and optimization opportunities.

We've employed diverse methodologies, including data collection via API and web scraping, data wrangling, SQL-based exploratory data analysis, and interactive visual analytics.

The project results offer a comprehensive view, spanning exploratory data analysis, interactive analytics, and predictive analytics, positioning us to make data-driven decisions and maintain our industry leadership.

Summary of methodologies

- Data Collection with API
- · Data Collection with Web Scraping
- Data Wrangling
- Exploratory Data Analysis with SQL
- Exploratory Data Analysis with Data Visualization
- Interactive Visual Analytics with Folium
- Interactive Dashboard
- Machine Learning Predictions
- Summary of all results
 - Exploratory Data Analysis
 - Interactive Analytics
 - Predictive Analytics

Introduction

Project background and context

SpaceX offers Falcon 9 launches for \$62 million, a significant cost advantage over competitors, largely due to the first stage's reusability. We aim to predict first stage landings to estimate launch costs accurately. This will be achieved by building a machine learning pipeline using publicly available data on SpaceX launches.

Problems you want to find answers

What determines if the first stage rocket will land successfully?

Can we predict whether the Falcon 9 first stage will land successfully?

How can we optimize operations to maximize successful landings?

Methodology

Executive Summary

- Perform Data collection
- Perform data wrangling
- Perform exploratory data analysis (EDA) using visualization and SQL
- Perform interactive visual analytics using Folium and Plotly Dash
- Perform predictive analysis using classification models

Data Collection

via API [https://api.spacexdata.com/v4/launches/past]

via Web Scraping

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Falcon_9_and_Falcon_Heavy_launches]

Data Collection – SpaceX API

Data was collected from a public API published by SpaceX

[https://api.spacexdata.com/v4/launches/past]

Request and parse the SpaceX launch data using the GET request Filter the dataframe to only include Falcon 9 launches Deal with Missing Values

Data Collection - Scraping

Data was collected by scraping the Wikipedia article 'List of Falcon 9 and Falcon Heavy launches'

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Falcon_9_and Falcon_Heavy_launches] Request the Falcon9 Launch Wiki page from its URL



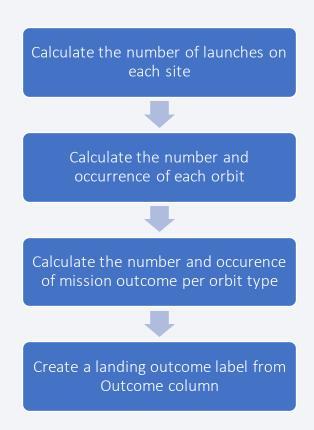
Extract all column/variable names from the HTML table header



Create a data frame by parsing the launch HTML tables

Data Wrangling

Calculated launch site frequencies, orbit occurrences, and mission outcomes by orbit type to introduce a landing outcome label based on the Outcome column for streamlined analysis.



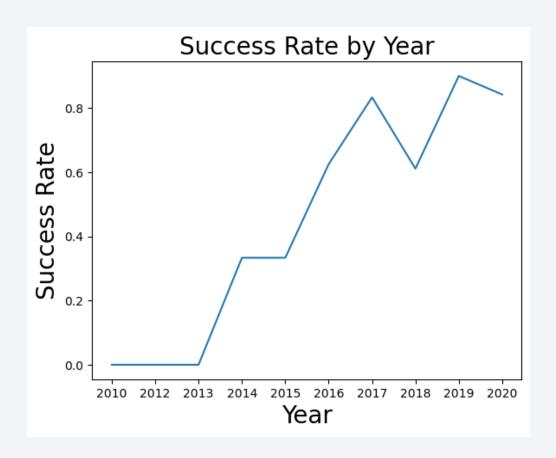
EDA with SQL

- Display the names of the unique launch sites in the space mission
 - select distinct(Launch_site) from SPACEXTBL
- · Display 5 records where launch sites begin with the string 'CCA'
 - select distinct(Launch_site) from SPACEXTBL
- Display the total payload mass carried by boosters launched by NASA (CRS)
 - select sum(PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_) as 'Total Payload Mass launched by NASA (CRS)' from SPACEXTBL where customer is "NASA (CRS)"
- Display average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1
 - select avg(PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_) as 'Average Payload Mass launched by F9 V1.1' from SPACEXTBL where Booster_Version is "F9 v1.1"
- List the date when the first successful landing outcome in ground pad was achieved.
 - select min(Date) as "First Successful Landing Outcome" from SPACEXTBL where Landing_Outcome like "Success%"
- List the names of the boosters which have success in drone ship and have payload mass greater than 4000 but less than 6000
 - select Payload from SPACEXTBL where Landing_Outcome is "Success (drone ship)" and PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_ > 4000 and PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_ < 6000
- List the total number of successful and failure mission outcomes
 - select count(case when Mission_Outcome like 'Success' then 1 else null end) as "Successful Mission Outcomes", \
 - count(case when Mission_Outcome like 'Failure%' then 1 else null end) as "Unsuccessful Mission Outcomes" \
 - from SPACEXTBL
- List the names of the booster versions which have carried the maximum payload mass. Use a subquery
 - select Booster_Version from SPACEXTBL where PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_ = (select max(PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_) from spaceXTBL)
- List the records which will display the month names, failed landing outcomes in drone ship, booster versions, and launch sites for the months in year 2015.
 - select Date, substr(Date, 6, 2) as Month, substr(Date, 0, 5) as Year, Landing_Outcome, Booster_Version, Launch_Site \
 - from SPACEXTBL where substr(Date, 0, 5)='2015' and Landing_Outcome like "Failure%"
- 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.
 - select Landing_Outcome, count(*) as Count from SPACEXTBL \
 - where Date between '2010-06-04' and '2017-03-20' group by Landing_Outcome order by Count desc;

[https://github.com/aaronzeitlin/Applied-Data-Science-Capstone/blob/master/Week2 1 EDA-with-SQL.ipynb]

EDA with Data Visualization

- Relationship between Flight Number and Launch Site
- Payload Mass by Launch Site
- Mean Success Rate by Orbit Type
- Relationship between Flight Number and Orbit Type
- Payload Mass by Orbit Type
- Success Rate by Year



Build an Interactive Map with Folium

Objects Added

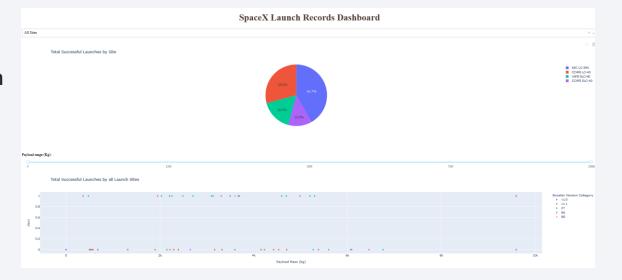
- Launch Sites
- Success / Failed Launches
- Proximities
 - Coastline
 - Cities



Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

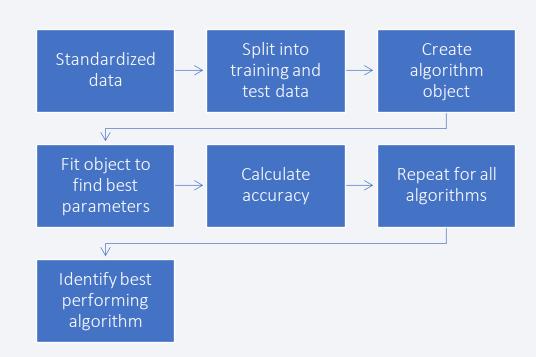
Plots / Graphs

- Pie Chart to show the total successful launch count for all sites as well as specific sites.
- Scatter Plot to show the correlation between payload and launch success.
- Interactions / Filtering
 - Launch Site
 - Payload Mass



Predictive Analysis (Classification)

- Data was standardized before being split into training and test data to be used with four different machine learning algorithms:
 - Logistic Regression
 - Support Vector Machine
 - Decision Tree Classifier
 - K Nearest Neighbor



Conclusions

- The success rate has improved since 2013
- Launch Sites are in California and Florida
- Point 3

Appendix

• n/a

