

Winning Space Race with Data Science

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Outline

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

Executive Summary

- The following methodologies were used to analyze data:
 - Data Collection using web scraping and SpaceX API;
 - Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA), including data wrangling, data visualization and interactive visual analytics;
 - Machine Learning Prediction.
- Summary of all results
 - It was possible to collected valuable data from public sources;
 - EDA allowed to identify which features are the best to predict success of launchings;
 - Machine Learning Prediction showed the best model to predict which characteristics are important to drive this opportunity by the best way, using all collected data.

Introduction

- The objective is to evaluate the viability of the new company Space Y to compete with Space X.
- Desirable answers:
 - The best way to estimate the total cost for launches, by predicting successful landings of the first stage of rockets;
 - Where is the best place to make launches.



Methodology

Executive Summary

- Data from Space X was obtained from 2 sources:
 - Space X API (https://api.spacexdata.com/v4/rockets/)
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of Falcon/ 9/ and Falcon Heavy launches (Through Webscrappgin)
- Collected data was enriched by creating a landing outcome label based on outcome data after summarizing and analyzing features
- Perform exploratory data analysis (EDA) using visualization and SQL
- Perform predictive analysis using classification models
 - Data that was collected until this step were normalized, divided in training and test data sets and evaluated by four different classification models, being the accuracy of each model evaluated using different combinations of parameters.

Data Collection

Sources

- Space X API (https://api.spacexdata.com/v4/rockets/)
- Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Falcon/_9/_and_Falcon_Heavy_launches), using web scraping technics.

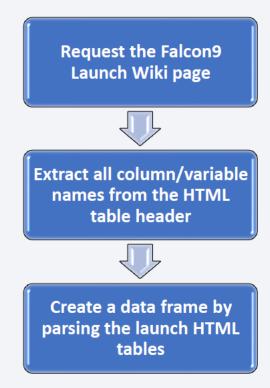
Data Collection – SpaceX API

https://github.com/aethomas20/Applied Data Science Capstone/blob/main/Data%
 20Collection%20API.ipynb



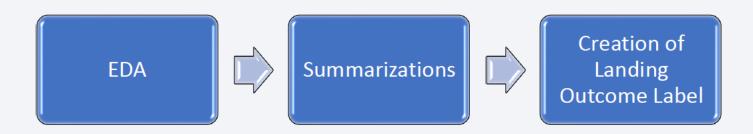
Data Collection - Scraping

• https://github.com/aethomas20/Applied Data Science Capstone/blob/main/Data%20Collection%20with%20Web%20Scraping.ipynb



Data Wrangling

• https://github.com/aethomas20/Applied Data Science Capstone/blob/main/Data%2
OWrangling.ipynb



EDA with Data Visualization

• Charts plotted: Flight Number vs. Payload Mass, Flight Number vs. Launch Site, Payload Mass vs. Launch Site, Orbit Type vs. Success Rate, Flight Number vs. Orbit Type, Payload Mass vs Orbit Type and Success Rate Yearly Trend

• https://github.com/aethomas20/Applied Data Science Capstone/blob/main/E
DA%20with%20Data%20Visualization.ipynb

EDA with SQL

- Performed SQL queries:
- · Displaying the names of the unique launch sites in the space mission
- Displaying 5 records where launch sites begin with the string 'CCA'
- Displaying the total payload mass carried by boosters launched by NASA (CRS)
- Displaying average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1
- · Listing the date when the first successful landing outcome in ground pad was achieved
- Listing the names of the boosters which have success in drone ship and have payload mass greater than 4000 but less than 6000
- Listing the total number of successful and failure mission outcomes
- Listing the names of the booster versions which have carried the maximum payload mass
- Listing the failed landing outcomes in drone ship, their booster versions and launch site names for the months in year 2015
- Ranking 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

Build an Interactive Map with Folium

Markers of all Launch Sites:

Added Marker with Circle, Popup Label and Text Label of NASA Johnson Space Center using its latitude and longitude coordinates as a start location.

Added Markers with Circle, Popup Label and Text Label of all Launch Sites using their latitude and longitude coordinates to show their geographical locations and proximity to Equator and coasts.

- Coloured Markers of the launch outcomes for each Launch Site:
- Added coloured Markers of success (Green) and failed (Red) launches using Marker Cluster to identify which launch sites have relatively high success rates.
- Distances between a Launch Site to its proximities:
- Added coloured Lines to show distances between the Launch Site KSC LC-39A (as an example) and its proximities like Railway, Highway, Coastline and Closest City.
- https://github.com/aethomas20/Applied Data Science Capstone/blob/main/Interactive%20Visual%20Analytics%20with%20Folium.ipynb

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Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

Launch Sites Dropdown List:

Added a dropdown list to enable Launch Site selection.

• Pie Chart showing Success Launches (All Sites/Certain Site):

Added a pie chart to show the total successful launches count for all sites and the Success vs. Failed counts for the site, if a specific Launch Site was selected.

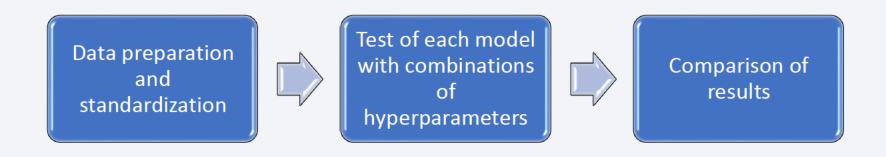
Slider of Payload Mass Range:

Added a slider to select Payload range.

• Scatter Chart of Payload Mass vs. Success Rate for the different Booster Versions:

Added a scatter chart to show the correlation between Payload and Launch Success.

Predictive Analysis (Classification)



 https://github.com/aethomas20/Applied_Data_Science_Capstone/blob/main/ Machine%20Learning%20Prediction.ipynb

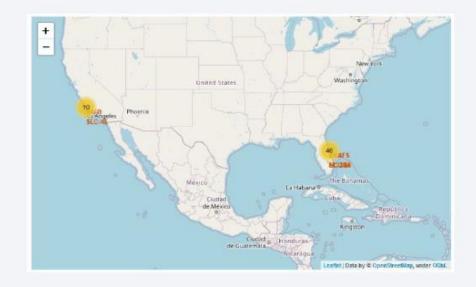
Results

Exploratory data analysis results:

- Space X uses 4 different launch sites;
- The first launches were done to Space X itself and NASA;
- The average payload of F9 v1.1 booster is 2,928 kg;
- The first success landing outcome happened in 2015 fiver year after the first launch;
- · Many Falcon 9 booster versions were successful at landing in drone ships having payload above the average;
- Almost 100% of mission outcomes were successful;
- Two booster versions failed at landing in drone ships in 2015: F9 v1.1 B1012 and F9 v1.1 B1015;
- The number of landing outcomes became as better as years passed.

Results

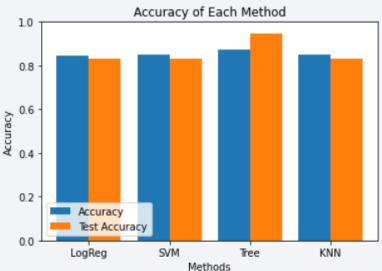
- Using interactive analytics was possible to identify that launch sites use to be in safety places, near sea, for example and have a good logistic infrastructure around.
- Most launches happens at east cost launch sites.





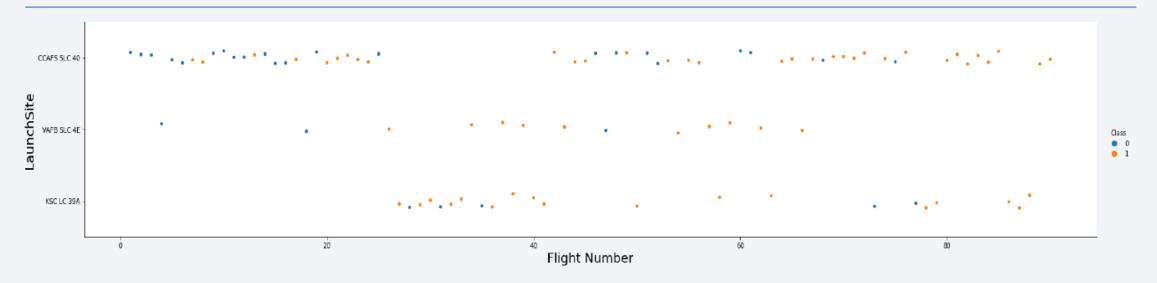
Results

 Predictive Analysis showed that Decision Tree Classifier is the best model to predict successful landings, having accuracy over 87% and accuracy for test data over 94%.



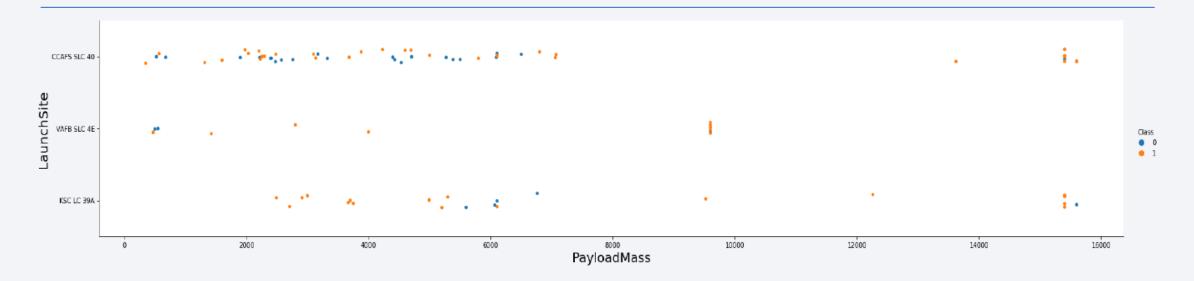


Flight Number vs. Launch Site



- According to the plot above, it's possible to verify that the best launch site nowadays is CCAF5 SLC 40, where most of recent launches were successful;
- In second place VAFB SLC 4E and third place KSC LC 39A;
- It's also possible to see that the general success rate improved over time.

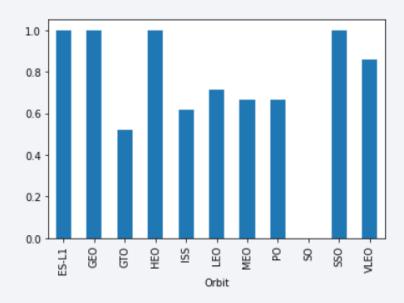
Payload vs. Launch Site



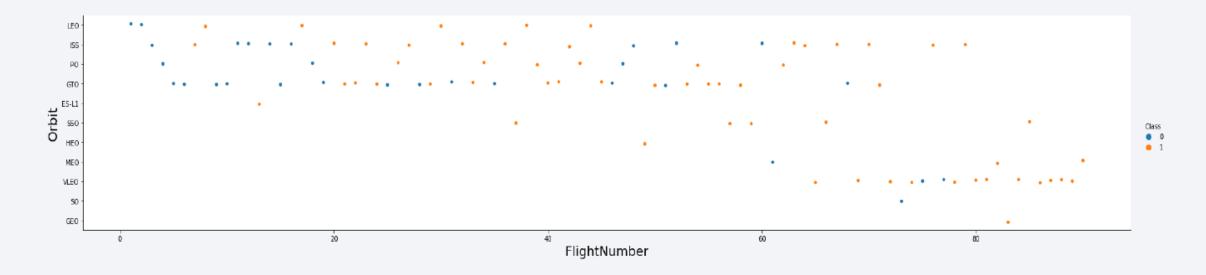
- Payloads over 9,000kg (about the weight of a school bus) have excellent success rate;
- Payloads over 12,000kg seems to be possible only on CCAFS SLC 40 and KSC LC 39A launch sites.

Success Rate vs. Orbit Type

- The biggest success rates happens to orbits:
 - ES-L1;
 - GEO;
 - HEO; and
 - SSO.
- Followed by:
 - VLEO (above 80%); and
 - LFO (above 70%).

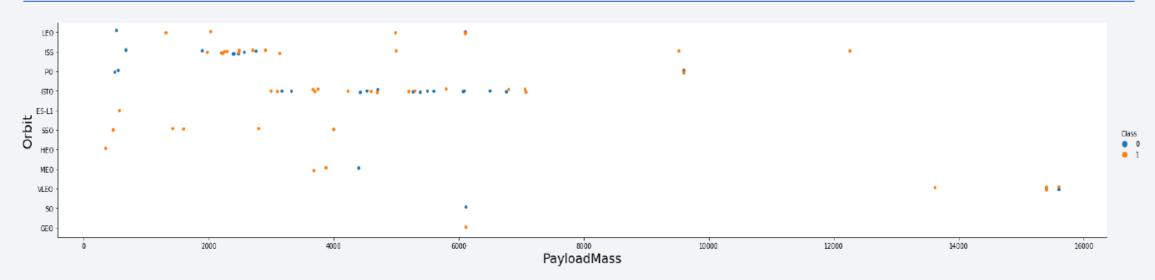


Flight Number vs. Orbit Type



- Apparently, success rate improved over time to all orbits;
- VLEO orbit seems a new business opportunity, due to recent increase of its frequency.

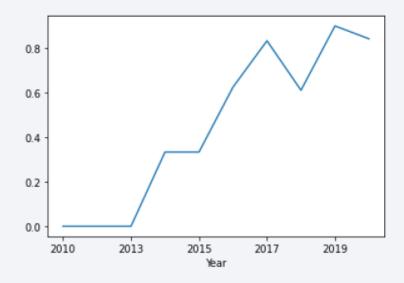
Payload vs. Orbit Type



- Apparently, there is no relation between payload and success rate to orbit GTO;
- ISS orbit has the widest range of payload and a good rate of success;
- There are few launches to the orbits SO and GEO.

Launch Success Yearly Trend

- Success rate started increasing in 2013 and kept until 2020;
- It seems that the first three years were a period of adjusts and improvement of technology.



All Launch Site Names

According to data, there are four launch sites:

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

 They are obtained by selecting unique occurrences of "launch_site" values from the dataset.

Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

• 5 records where launch sites begin with `CCA`:

Date	Time UTC	Booster Version	Launch Site	Payload	Payload Mass kg	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	07:44:00	F9 v1.0 B0005	CCAFS LC-40	Dragon demo flight C2	525	LEO (ISS)	NASA (COTS)	Success	No attempt
2012-10-08	00:35:00	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 attemp

• Here we can see five samples of Cape Canaveral launches.

Total Payload Mass

Total payload carried by boosters from NASA:

Total Payload (kg) 111.268

 Total payload calculated above, by summing all payloads whose codes contain 'CRS', which corresponds to NASA.

Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

• Average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1:

Avg Payload (kg)

2.928

 Filtering data by the booster version above and calculating the average payload mass we obtained the value of 2,928 kg.

First Successful Ground Landing Date

First successful landing outcome on ground pad:

Min Date

2015-12-22

 By filtering data by successful landing outcome on ground pad and getting the minimum value for date it's possible to identify the first occurrence, that happened on 12/22/2015.

Successful Drone Ship Landing with Payload between 4000 and 6000

 Boosters which have successfully landed on drone ship and had payload mass greater than 4000 but less than 6000

Booster Version
F9 FT B1021.2
F9 FT B1031.2
F9 FT B1022
F9 FT B1026

 Selecting distinct booster versions according to the filters above, these 4 are the result.

Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes

Number of successful and failure mission outcomes:

Mission Outcome	Occurrences
Success	99
Success (payload status unclear)	1
Failure (in flight)	1

 Grouping mission outcomes and counting records for each group led us to the summary above.

Boosters Carried Maximum Payload

Boosters which have carried the maximum payload mass

Booster Version ()
F9 B5 B1048.4
F9 B5 B1048.5
F9 B5 B1049.4
F9 B5 B1049.5
F9 B5 B1049.7
F9 B5 B1051.3

Booster Version
F9 B5 B1051.4
F9 B5 B1051.6
F9 B5 B1056.4
F9 B5 B1058.3
F9 B5 B1060.2
F9 B5 B1060.3

 These are the boosters which have carried the maximum payload mass registered in the dataset.

2015 Launch Records

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

Booster Version	Launch Site		
F9 v1.1 B1012	CCAFS LC-40		
F9 v1.1 B1015	CCAFS LC-40		

The list above has the only two occurrences.

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

Ranking of all landing outcomes between the date 2010-06-04 and 2017-

03-20:		
00 20.	Landing Outcome	Occurrences
	No attempt	10
	Failure (drone ship)	5
	Success (drone ship)	5
	Controlled (ocean)	3
	Success (ground pad)	3
	Failure (parachute)	2
	Uncontrolled (ocean)	2
	Precluded (drone ship)	1

This view of data alerts us that "No attempt" must be taken in account.



All launch sites



 Launch sites are near sea, probably by safety, but not too far from roads and railroads.

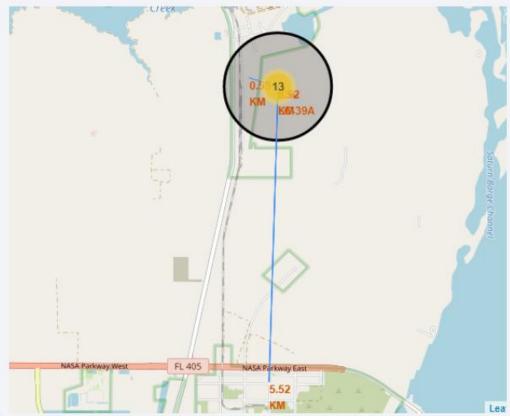
Launch Outcomes by Site

Example of KSC LC-39A launch site launch outcomes



· Green markers indicate successful and red ones indicate failure.

Logistics and Safety



 Launch site KSC LC-39A has good logistics aspects, being near railroad and road and relatively far from inhabited areas.

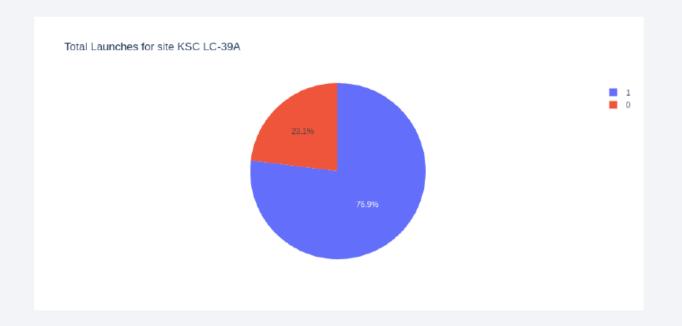


Successful Launches by Site



 The place from where launches are done seems to be a very important factor of success of missions.

Launch Success Ratio for KSC LC-39A



• 76.9% of launches are successful in this site.

Payload vs. Launch Outcome



• Payloads under 6,000kg and FT boosters are the most successful combination.

Payload vs. Launch Outcome



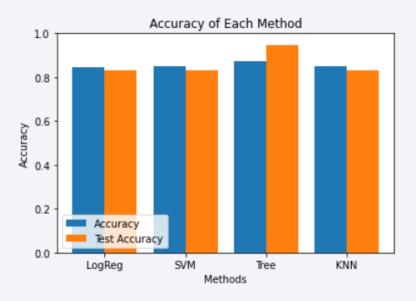
• There's not enough data to estimate risk of launches over 7,000kg



Classification Accuracy

 Four classification models were tested, and their accuracies are plotted beside;

 The model with the highest classification accuracy is Decision Tree Classifier, which has accuracies over than 87%.



Confusion Matrix of Decision Tree Classifier



 Confusion matrix of Decision Tree Classifier proves its accuracy by showing the big numbers of true positive and true negative compared to the false ones.

Conclusions

- Different data sources were analyzed, refining conclusions along the process;
- The best launch site is KSC LC-39A;
- Launches above 7,000kg are less risky;
- Although most of mission outcomes are successful, successful landing outcomes seem to improve over time, according the evolution of processes and rockets;
- Decision Tree Classifier can be used to predict successful landings and increase profits.

