

Winning Space Race with Data Science

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Outline

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

Executive Summary

Summary of Methodologies

- Data Collection
- Data Wrangling & Cleaning
- Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) with Visualization
- Exploratory Data Analysis using SQL
- Creating Interactive Maps with Folium
- Developing Dashboards with Plotly Dash
- Predictive Analytics: Solving Classification Problems

Executive Summary

- Summary of All Results
 - Results from Exploratory Data Analysis
 - Interactive Analysis Demo (Screenshots)
 - Outcomes of Predictive Modeling

Introduction

- Project Background and Context
 - Commercial spaceflight is booming
 - SpaceX: Leading company in commercial space travel
 - Falcon 9 launch cost: ~\$62 million vs. competitors at \$165+ million
 - SpaceX cuts launch costs via reusable rockets
 - Predicting first stage landing success is key to estimating launch costs
 - Using public data and machine learning models to forecast reusability



Introduction

- Problems You Want to Find Answers
- How do factors like:
 - Payload mass
 - Launch site
 - Number of flights
 - Orbit type

affect first stage landing success?

- Has the landing success rate improved over time?
- Which algorithm performs best for binary classification of landing success?

Introduction

- Project Objective
- Assess the viability of a new company, SpaceY, by analyzing SpaceX launch data
- Develop predictive models to forecast first stage landing success

- Key Questions
- What is the best way to estimate total launch costs?
 - → By predicting first stage landing success
- Which launch sites yield the highest success rates?



Methodology

- Data collection methodology:
 - SpaceX REST API
 - Web scraping from Wikipedia
- Perform data wrangling
 - Filter relevant data
 - Handle missing values
 - Apply one-hot encoding for binary classification
- 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 Collection Overview

- Combined data from SpaceX REST API and Wikipedia web scraping to ensure complete launch information
- Used both sources to enrich data for detailed analysis

API Data Columns Included:

• FlightNumber, Date, BoosterVersion, PayloadMass, Orbit, LaunchSite, Outcome, Flights, GridFins, Reused, Legs, LandingPad, Block, ReusedCount, Serial, Longitude, Latitude

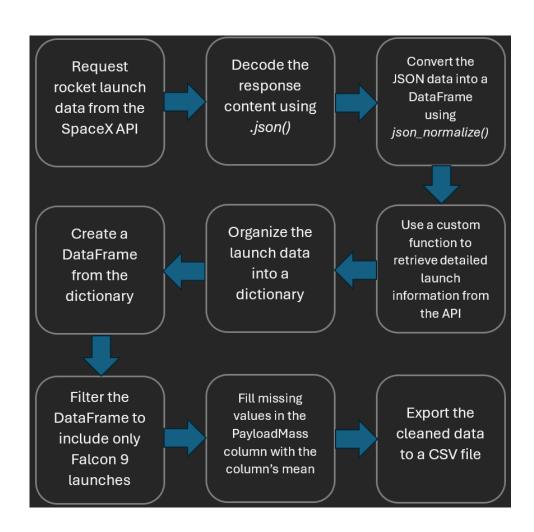
Wikipedia Data Columns Included:

• Flight No., Launch Site, Payload, Payload Mass, Orbit, Customer, Launch Outcome, Booster Version, Booster Landing, Date, Time

Data Collection – SpaceX API

Data collection with SpaceX REST calls

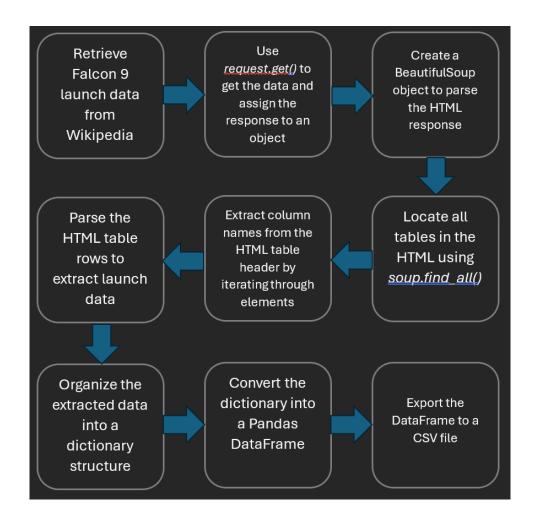
- Refer to GitHub URL for the completed SpaceX API call notebook:
- https://github.com/amraz39/space
 Y/blob/main/jupyter-labs-spacexdata-collection-api.ipynb



Data Collection - Scraping

 Present your web scraping process using key phrases and flowcharts

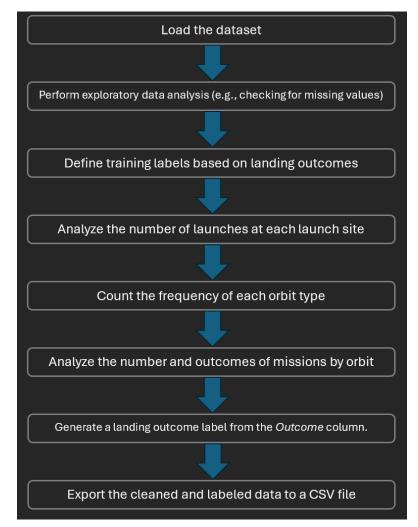
 Add the GitHub URL of the completed web scraping notebook, as an external reference and peer-review purpose



Data Wrangling

- The dataset includes various cases where the booster landing was (un)successful
- Landing attempts may fail due to accidents
- Landing outcome examples:
 - True Ocean: Successful landing in the ocean
 - False Ocean: Unsuccessful ocean landing
 - True RTLS: Successful ground pad landing
 - False RTLS: Unsuccessful ground pad landing
 - True ASDS: Successful drone ship landing
 - False ASDS: Unsuccessful drone ship landing
- These outcomes are converted into training labels:
 - 1 = Successful landing
 - 0 = Unsuccessful landing
- GitHub URL:

https://github.com/amraz39/spaceY/blob/main/labs-jupyter-spacex-Data%20wrangling.ipynb



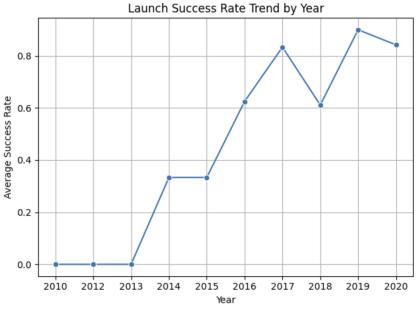
EDA with Data Visualization

• To explore the dataset, scatter plots, bar plots, and line plots were used to visualize

relationships / trends between pairs of features:

Payload Mass vs. Flight Number

- Launch Site vs. Flight Number
- Launch Site vs. Payload Mass
- Orbit vs. Flight Number
- Orbit vs. Success Rate
- Launch Success Yearly Trend
- Scatter plots: identify trends, correlations, and potential outliers between numerical features
- Bar plots: compare categorical features (like launch sites or orbits) and their frequencies or distributions across missions
- GitHub URL: https://github.com/amraz39/spaceY/blob/main/edadataviz.ipynb



EDA with SQL

- Executed SQL queries for data retrieval and analysis
- Names of the unique launch sites in the space mission
- Top 5 launch sites whose name begin with the string 'CCA'
- Total payload mass carried by boosters launched by NASA (CRS)
- Average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1
- Date when the first successful landing outcome in ground pad was achieved
- Names of the boosters which have success in drone ship and have payload mass between 4,000 and 6,000 kg
- Total number of successful and failure mission outcomes
- Names of all booster versions which have carried the maximum payload mass
- Failed landing outcomes in drone ship, their booster versions, and launch site names for in year 2015
- Rank of the count of landing outcomes (such as Failure (drone ship) or Success (ground pad)) between the date 2010-06-04
 and 2017-03-20
- GitHub: https://github.com/amraz39/spaceY/blob/main/jupyter-labs-eda-sql-coursera_sqllite.ipynb

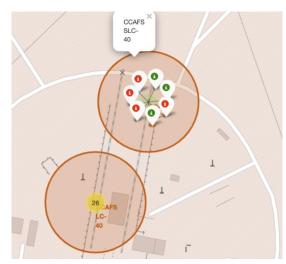
Build an Interactive Map with Folium

Markers for All Launch Sites

- Plotted NASA Johnson Space Center using latitude and longitude as the starting point
- Added circle markers with popup and text labels for all launch sites (including NASA Johnson Space Center)
- Displayed geographical positions relative to the Equator and nearby coastlines

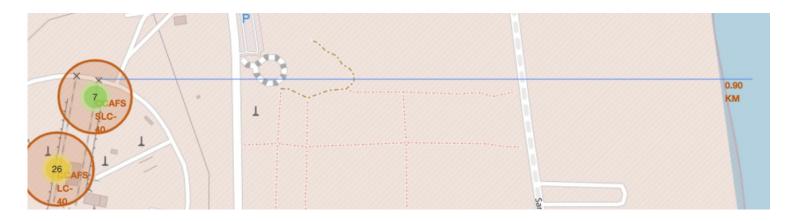
Launch Outcome Visualization with Colored Markers

- Green for successful launches (Class=1)
- Red for failed launches (Class=0)
- Applied Marker Clustering to highlight success rate patterns by site



Build an Interactive Map with Folium

- Distance to Nearby Infrastructure
- Colored lines from Launch Site KSC LC-39A to nearby features:
 - Railway
 - Highway
 - Coastline
 - Closest city



• GitHub: https://github.com/amraz39/spaceY/blob/main/lab_jupyter_launch_site_location.ipynb

Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

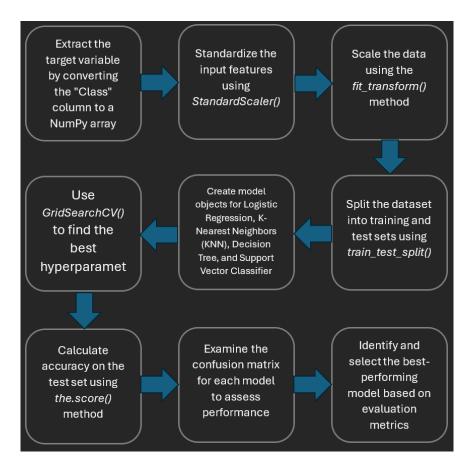
- Launch Site Selection:
 - Implemented a dropdown menu to allow users to select a specific launch site
- Launch Success Pie Chart:
 - Displays overall successful launches across all sites
 - If a specific site is selected, shows Success vs. Failure distribution for that site
- Payload Mass Range Slider:
 - Enables users to filter launches by selecting a specific payload mass range
- Payload vs. Success Scatter Plot:
 - Visualizes the correlation between Payload Mass and Launch Success
 - Differentiates between Booster Version categories for deeper insight

GitHub URL: https://github.com/amraz39/spaceY/blob/main/spacex-dash-app.py

Predictive Analysis (Classification)

- Building and Evaluating the Best Classification Model
- Adopted a scientific methodology to build, train, evaluate, and select the most effective models for making accurate predictions.

• GitHub: https://github.com/amraz39/spaceY/blob/main/SpaceX_Machine%20Learning%20Prediction Part 5.ipynb



Predictive Analysis (Classification)

Model Development Summary

- Prepared and cleaned the dataset, handling missing values and encoding categorical features
- Standardized feature data using StandardScaler() to ensure consistent input scales
- Split the data into training and test sets using train_test_split()
- Built classification models used GridSearchCV() to tune hyperparameters and optimize each model
- Evaluated model performance using accuracy, confusion matrix, and other metrics (e.g., F1 score)
- Compared results across all models to identify the best performer
- Selected the model(s) with the highest accuracy and balanced performance as the final classifier

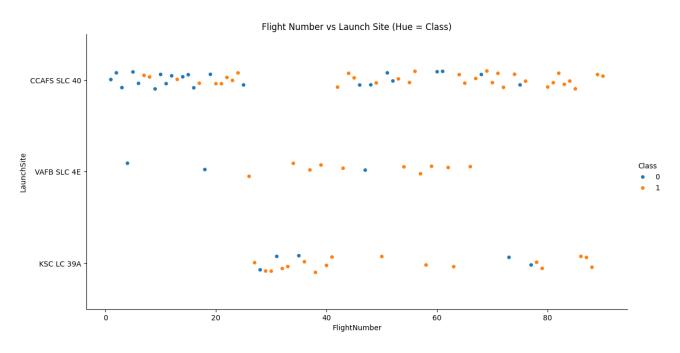
Results

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



Flight Number vs. Launch Site

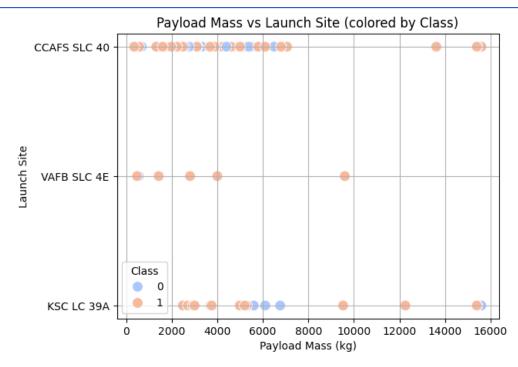
 Success Rate by Flight Number Across Launch Site



- Early launches tended to fail, while recent launches have shown consistent success
- CCAFS SLC 40 accounts for approximately half of all launches
- VAFB SLC 4E and KSC LC 39A demonstrate higher success rates compared to other sites
- There is a **clear trend** suggesting that newer launches have a higher likelihood of success, likely due to improved technology, processes, and experience

Payload vs. Launch Site

 Success Rate by Payload Mass Across Launch Sites

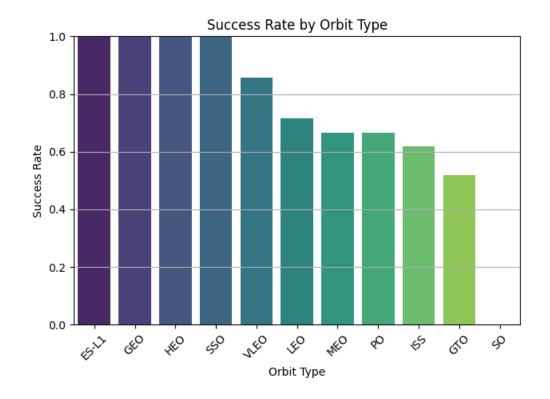


- Across all launch sites, higher payload mass is generally associated with higher success rates
- Most launches exceeding 7,000 kg in payload mass were successful
- KSC LC 39A stands out with high success rate even for payloads under 5,500 kg, indicating strong reliability across different mission profiles
- VAFB SLC 4E has no rockets launched for heavy payload mass (greater than 10,000 kg)

Success Rate vs. Orbit Type

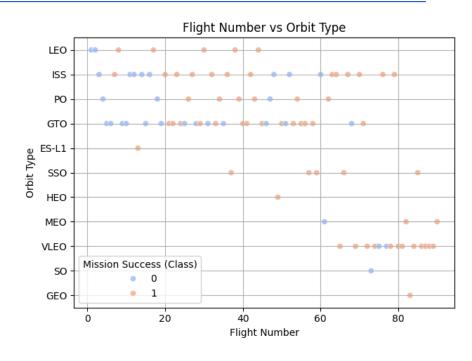
Success Rate of Each Orbit Type

- Orbits with 100% success rate:
 - ES-L1, GEO, HEO, SSO
- Orbit with 0% success rate:
 - SO
- Orbits with moderate success rates (50%–85%):
 - VLEO, LEO, MEO, PO, ISS, GTO



Flight Number vs. Orbit Type

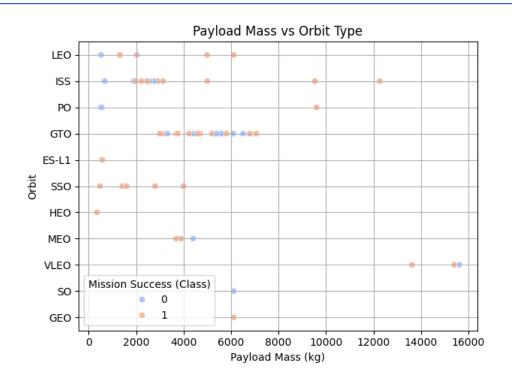
Success Rate by Flight Number Across Orbit Types



- In LEO (Low Earth Orbit), success rates tend to improve with the number of flights, suggesting learning or refinement over time
- In contrast, for GTO (Geostationary Transfer Orbit), there appears to be no clear correlation between the number of flights and success rates
- In SSO, even though there are limited number of flights, they have 100% success rate

Payload vs. Orbit Type

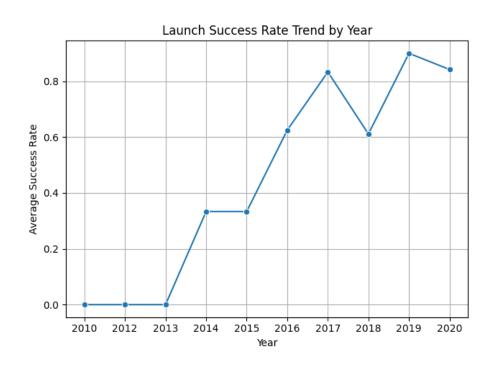
 Success Rate by Payload Mass Across Orbit Types



- Higher landing success rates are observed for heavy payloads in PO, LEO, and ISS orbits
- For GTO missions, the trend is less clear both successful and unsuccessful landings occur with heavy payloads, making it harder to establish a consistent pattern
- For SSO missions, all landings were successful (all payloads were under 5,500 kg)

Launch Success Yearly Trend

Yearly Average Success Rate



- Overall launch success rate steadily increased from 2013 to 2020
- This upward trend likely reflects:
 - Technological improvements in rocket design and systems
 - Operational experience gained from earlier launches
 - Enhanced quality control and pre-launch procedures
 - Data-driven refinements to navigation, landing, and recovery strategies

All Launch Site Names

```
%sql SELECT DISTINCT "Launch_Site" FROM SPACEXTABLE;

* sqlite://my data1.db
Done.

Launch_Site

CCAFS LC-40

VAFB SLC-4E

KSC LC-39A

CCAFS SLC-40
```

- The query is designed to filter for distinct launch sites from database
- CCAFS LC-40 and CCAFS SLC-40 may be duplicates due to naming inconsistency should be verified
- Launch site codes alone do not reveal the geographical location of the site (require prior knowledge or a reference table to interpret)

Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

%sql SELECT * FROM SPACEXTABLE WHERE "Launch_Site" LIKE 'CCA%' LIMIT 5;									
* 001:+0	. / / /mv . do:	+-1 db							MagicPytho
* sqlite:///my_data1.db Done.									
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	7:44:00	F9 v1.0 B0005	CCAFS LC- 40	Dragon demo flight C2	525	LEO (ISS)	NASA (COTS)	Success	No attempt
2012- 10-08	0:35:00	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 attempt

Filtered Launch Site Records

- Displaying 5 records where launch site names start with 'CCA'
- This filter helps isolate launches from Cape Canaveral-related facilities

Total Payload Mass

```
%sql SELECT SUM("PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_") AS Total_Payload_Mass FROM SPACEXTABLE WHERE "Customer" LIKE '%NASA (CRS)%';

* sqlite:///my_datal.db
Done.

Total_Payload_Mass
48213
```

- The query specifically filters for boosters launched under NASA's CRS (Commercial Resupply Services) program
- Filtering to generic CRS missions (all, including NASA's CRS), the total payload mass amounted to 111,268 kg
- Just under half of the CRS missions were conducted for NASA

Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

```
%sql SELECT AVG("PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_") AS Average_Payload_Mass FROM SPACEXTABLE WHERE "Booster_Version" = 'F9 v1.1';

* sqlite://my_data1.db
Done.

Average_Payload_Mass
2928.4
```

- Displaying the average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1
- Average payload mass was just under 3 tones

First Successful Ground Landing Date

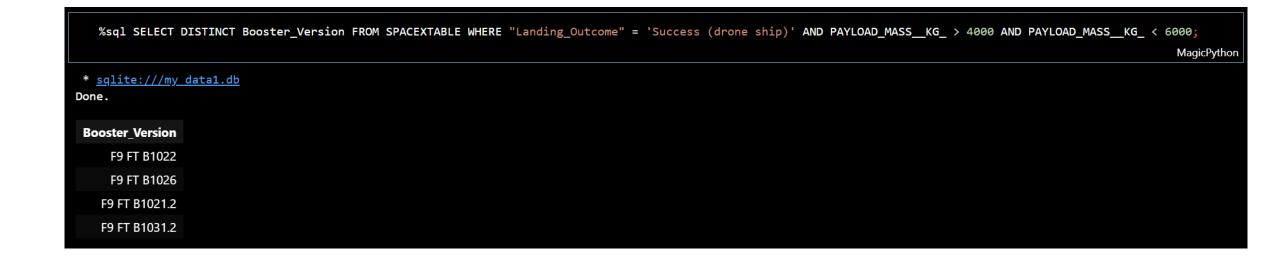
```
%sql SELECT MIN(Date) AS First_Successful_Ground_Landing FROM SPACEXTABLE WHERE "Landing_Outcome" = 'Success (ground pad)';

* sqlite://my data1.db
Done.

First_Successful_Ground_Landing
2015-12-22
```

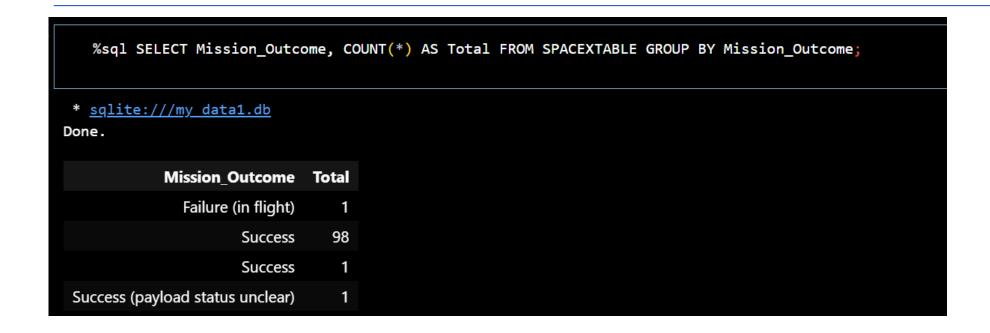
- The query lists the date of the first successful ground pad landing
- First successful landing on the pad was achieved on 22/12/2015

Successful Drone Ship Landing with Payload between 4000 and 6000



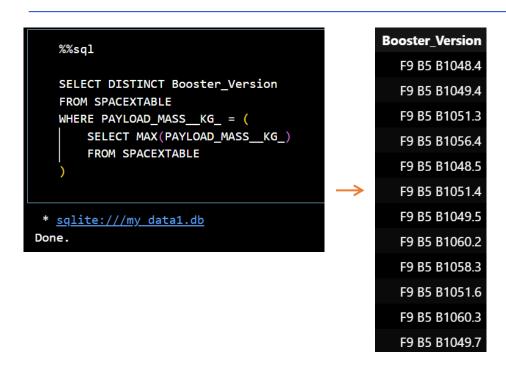
- The query retrieves names of **4 booster versions** that delivered payloads between 4,000 and 6,000 kg and successfully landed on a drone ship
- All four boosters are part of the Falcon 9 family

Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes



- Query returns the summary table showing:
 - Unique mission outcome
 - Total number of launches that had that outcome (success or failure)
- Most of the launches were successful

Boosters Carried Maximum Payload



- The query returns a list of booster versions that carried the maximum recorded payload
- All of the returned boosters are from the Falcon 9 family, specifically the Block 5
 (B5) variant

2015 Launch Records

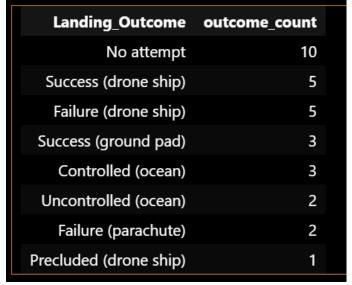
- In 2015, there were two failed landings on drone ships, one in January and the other in April
- Both missions used Falcon 9 boosters
- Both launches took place from CCAFS LC-40 launch site

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

```
%%sql

SELECT "Landing_Outcome", COUNT(*) AS outcome_count
FROM SPACEXTABLE
WHERE Date BETWEEN '2010-06-04' AND '2017-03-20'
GROUP BY "Landing_Outcome"
ORDER BY outcome_count DESC;

* sqlite:///my_data1.db
Done.
```



- The query returns eight unique landing outcomes within the selected date range
- The most frequent outcome is "No attempt", followed by "Success (drone ship)"
- The least frequent outcome is "Precluded (drone ship)"



Mapping Launch Site Locations Across the USA

- Most launch sites are located near the Equator, where the Earth's surface moves fastest, about 1,670 km/h due to Earth's rotation
- Launching from the Equator gives rockets a speed boost from inertia, helping spacecraft achieve and maintain orbit more efficiently
- All launch sites are positioned close to the coast, allowing rockets to be launched over the ocean, which minimizes risks from falling debris or explosions near populated areas



Color-Coded Launch Success Rates on the Map

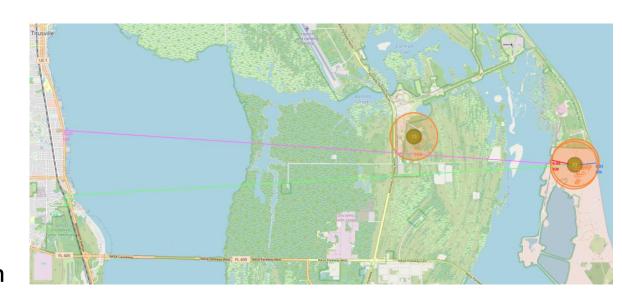
- Color-coded icon markers help quickly identify launch site performance:
 - Green Marker = Successful Launch
 - Red Marker = Failed Launch
- Each launch site is identifiable by its interactive popup marker on the map

• It is evident that KSC LC-39A stands out with a very high success rate



Distance from Launch Site SLC-40 to Nearby Landmarks

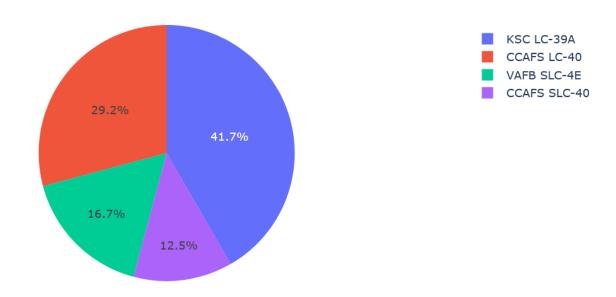
- Visual Analysis of SLC-40 Proximities:
- The site is relatively close to key infrastructure:
 - Railway: approximately 21.6 km away
 - Highway: approximately 21.65 km away
 - Coastline: approximately 0.92 km away
- It is near the city of Titusville, about 23 km from the launch site
- Considering that a failed rocket traveling at high speed can cover 15–20 km within seconds, proximity to populated areas like Titusville may pose potential safety risk
- Launch site LC-39A is about 16 km from city of Titusville which may also pose potential safety risk





Total Successful Launches for All Sites

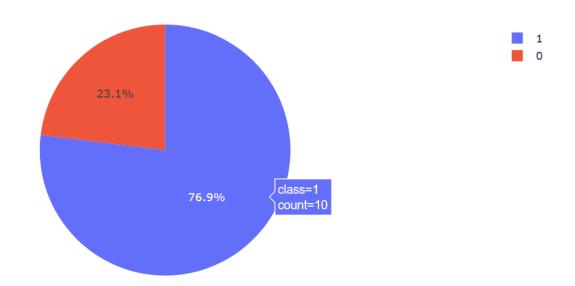
Total Successful Launches by Site



• The chart clearly indicates that KSC LC-39A has the highest number of successful launches among all launch site

Launch Site with Highest Launch Success Ratio

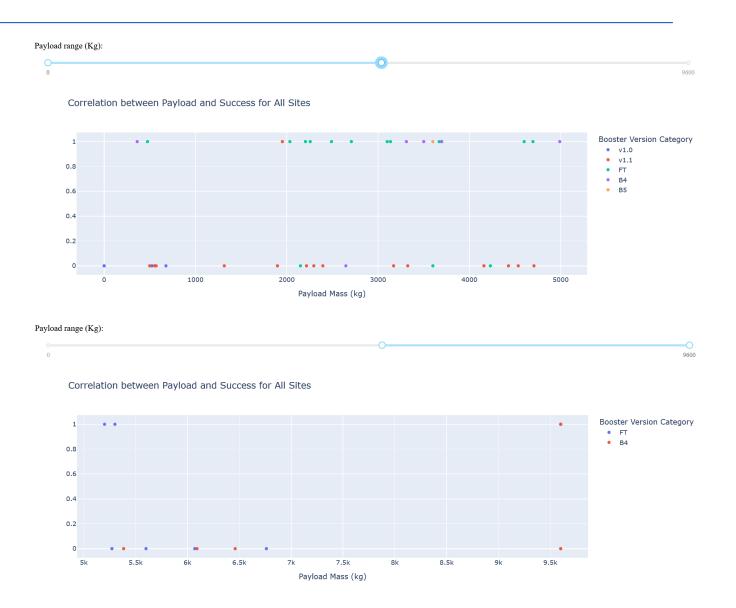
Total Launch Outcomes for site KSC LC-39A



 KSC LC-39A has the highest launch success rate at 76.9%, with 10 successful landings and only 3 failures

Launch Outcomes by Payload Mass and Site

- Payloads of 2,000-5,500 kg show the highest success rates
- Payloads of 0-2,000 km and 5,500-9,000 show high failure rate



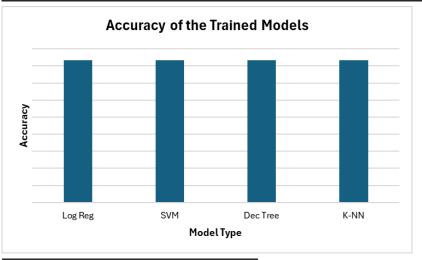


Classification Accuracy

- Training Accuracy:
 - Ranged from 84.6% to 88.8%
 - Decision Tree achieved the highest training accuracy
- Test Accuracy:
 - Identical across all models: 83.33%
 - All models correctly classified all 12 positives
 - Each misclassified 3 negatives
- Interpretation:
 - Slightly higher training accuracy of Decision Tree does not indicate overfitting
 - Uniform test results imply a performance ceiling, likely due to limitations in dataset test (only 18 samples) or features
- Best Performing Model:
 - Decision Tree

TRAIN DATASET	Log Reg	SVM	Dec Tree	K-NN
Accuracy	0.846	0.848	0.888	0.848
F1 Score	0.914	0.923	0.902	0.904

TEST DATASET	Log Reg	SVM	Dec Tree	K-NN
Accuracy	0.833	0.833	0.833	0.833
F1 Score	0.888	0.888	0.888	0.888

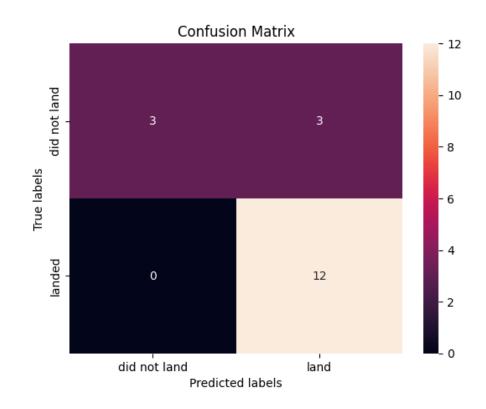


TEST DATASET	Confusion Matrix
Log Reg	[[<u>3_3</u>]
LUE NCE	<u>[0</u> 12]]
SVM	[[<u>3_3]</u>
SVM	<u>[0</u> 12]]
Dec Tree	[[<u>3_3</u>]
Dec fiee	[<u>0</u> 12]]
K-NN	[[<u>3_3]</u>
K-ININ	[<u>0</u> 12]]

Confusion Matrix

Confusion Matrix Insights – Logistic Regression

- The model **effectively distinguishes** between the classes
- The model performs well on detecting positives (no false negatives)
- However, it tends to misclassify some negatives as positives, resulting in **false positives**.
- This seems to be main source of error false alarms may be costly.



Conclusions

- Most launch sites are near the Equator, benefiting from increased rotational speed
- Launch sites are all located close to coastlines for safety
- Launch success rates have steadily improved year by year
- Lower payload mass is generally associated with higher launch success
- KSC LC-39A stands out with the highest overall success rate among all launch sites.
- Orbits ES-L1, GEO, HEO, and SSO show a 100% success rate, indicating strong reliability in those mission types.
- Decision Tree performed best among all models for selected dataset

Appendix

Snippet of the Plotly code

```
# TASK 2: Callback for pie chart
@app.callback(Output('success-pie-chart', 'figure'),
             Input('site-dropdown', 'value'))
def update_pie_chart(selected_site):
    if selected site == 'ALL':
        # Total success launches by site
        fig = px.pie(spacex_df[spacex_df['class'] == 1],
                     names='Launch Site',
                     title='Total Successful Launches by Site')
    else:
        # Success vs failure for selected site
        filtered_df = spacex_df[spacex_df['Launch Site'] == selected_site]
        counts = filtered_df['class'].value_counts().reset_index()
        counts.columns = ['class', 'count']
        fig = px.pie(counts, names='class', values='count',
                    title=f'Total Launch Outcomes for site {selected_site}')
    return fig
```

Appendix

Snippet of the Plotly code

```
# TASK 4: Callback for scatter plot
@app.callback(Output('success-payload-scatter-chart', 'figure'),
              [Input('site-dropdown', 'value'),
               Input('payload-slider', 'value')])
def update_scatter_plot(selected_site, payload_range):
    low, high = payload_range
    df_filtered = spacex_df[(spacex_df['Payload Mass (kg)'] >= low) &
                            (spacex_df['Payload Mass (kg)'] <= high)]</pre>
    if selected site == 'ALL':
        fig = px.scatter(df_filtered, x='Payload Mass (kg)', y='class',
                         color='Booster Version Category',
                         title='Correlation between Payload and Success for All Sites')
    else:
        df_site = df_filtered[df_filtered['Launch Site'] == selected_site]
        fig = px.scatter(df_site, x='Payload Mass (kg)', y='class',
                         color='Booster Version Category',
                         title=f'Correlation between Payload and Success for site {selected site}')
    return fig
```

Appendix

Snippet of the Folium code

```
# Create a marker at the highway location
distance_marker_highway = folium.Marker(
    [highway_lat, highway_lon],
    icon=folium.DivIcon(
       icon_size=(25, 25),
        icon_anchor=(0, 0),
        html='<div style="font-size: 12; color:purple;"><b>%s</b></div>' % "{:10.2f} KM".format(distance_rail), → Tab to Jump
# Add to map
site_map.add_child(distance_marker_coast)
site map.add child(distance marker road)
site map.add child(distance marker rail)
site_map.add_child(distance_marker_highway)
# Define coordinates
launch_site_coord = [launch_site_lat, launch_site_lon]
                                                          # CCAFS SLC-40
coastline_coord = [coastline_lat, coastline_lon]
                                                          # Closest coastline point
road_coord = [road_lat, road_lon]
rail_coord = [rail_lat, rail_lon]
highway_coord = [highway_lat, highway_lon]
# Create PolyLine objects with proper colors
line_coast = folium.PolyLine(locations=[launch_site_coord, coastline_coord], weight=2, color='blue')
line_road = folium.PolyLine(locations=[launch_site_coord, road_coord], weight=2, color='red')
line_rail = folium.PolyLine(locations=[launch_site_coord, rail_coord], weight=2, color='green')
line_highway = folium.PolyLine(locations=[launch_site_coord, highway_coord], weight=2, color='purple')
# Add lines to the map
site map.add child(line coast)
site_map.add_child(line_road)
site_map.add_child(line_rail)
site_map.add_child(line_highway)
```

