

Winning Space Race with Data Science

Chenique Squire April 2025



Outline

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 - Introduction
 - Methodology
 - Results
 - Conclusion
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Executive Summary

Methodologies Used:

- The project began with data collection from relevant sources, gathering datasets necessary for analysis.
- This was followed by data wrangling, which involved cleaning, transforming, and preparing the data for further processing.
- An exploratory data analysis (EDA) was conducted using data visualization tools to uncover patterns, trends, and insights.
- Additionally, EDA was performed using **SQL** for efficient querying and filtering of data.
- An interactive map was built using Folium, allowing geographic data to be visualized dynamically.
- A dashboard was created with Plotly Dash, enabling users to interact with key metrics and visuals.
- Finally, **predictive analysis** was conducted using **classification models** to forecast or categorize future outcomes based on the data.

Results Summary:

- The EDA provided valuable insights into the dataset, which were summarized visually.
- Screenshots of the **interactive analytics tools** demonstrated how users could explore the data in real-time.
- The **predictive analysis** delivered classification results, showcasing the effectiveness of the models built during the project.

Introduction

Project Background and Context:

SpaceX is currently the leading company in the commercial space industry, helping to make space travel more affordable. The company's Falcon 9 rocket launches are listed on its website at approximately \$62 million per launch. In contrast, other launch providers charge around \$165 million per launch. A major reason for SpaceX's cost advantage is its ability to reuse the first stage of the rocket.

The goal of this project is to determine whether a rocket's first stage will successfully land, based on available data. If we can predict this, we can also estimate the overall cost of a launch. Using publicly available information and machine learning techniques, this project aims to predict whether the first stage of the rocket will be reused.

Questions to be Answered:

- How do factors like payload mass, launch site, number of flights, and orbit type influence the success of the first stage landing?
- Has the success rate of first stage landings improved over time?
- What is the most effective algorithm for binary classification in predicting successful landings?



Methodology

Data Collection Methodology:

- Retrieved data using the **SpaceX REST API**.
- Performed **web scraping** from Wikipedia to supplement the dataset.

Data Wrangling:

- **Filtered the data** to focus on relevant variables.
- Handled **missing values** to maintain data integrity.
- Applied **One Hot Encoding** to convert categorical variables into binary format for classification.

Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA):

• Conducted EDA using **visualization tools** and **SQL queries** to uncover patterns and relationships in the data.

Interactive Visual Analytics:

• Built interactive visualizations using Folium for geographic mapping and Plotly Dash for dynamic dashboards.

Predictive Analysis Using Classification Models:

• Developed, tuned, and evaluated **classification models** to accurately predict outcomes and ensure optimal performance.

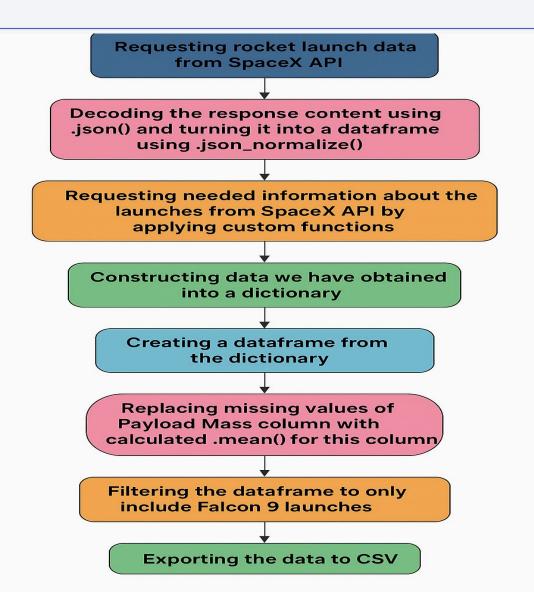
Data Collection

The data collection process involved using a combination of API requests from the SpaceX REST API and web scraping data from a table on SpaceX's Wikipedia page. Both methods were necessary to obtain complete information and support a more detailed analysis of the launches.

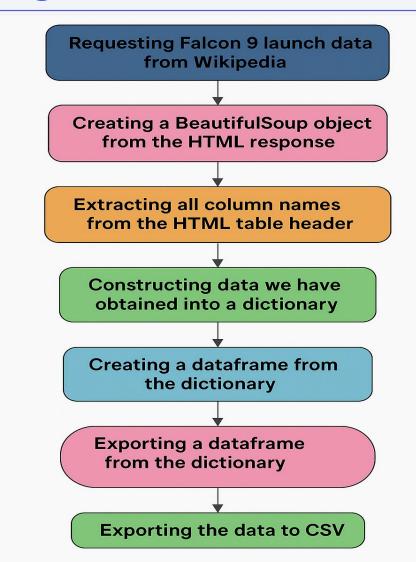
Data columns retrieved from the SpaceX REST API include: FlightNumber, Date, BoosterVersion, PayloadMass, Orbit, LaunchSite, Outcome, Flights, GridFins, Reused, Legs, LandingPad, Block, ReusedCount, Serial, Longitude, and Latitude.

Data columns obtained through web scraping from Wikipedia include: Flight No., Launch site, Payload, PayloadMass, Orbit, Customer, Launch outcome, Version Booster, Booster landing, Date, and Time.

Data Collection - SpaceX API



Data Collection - Scraping

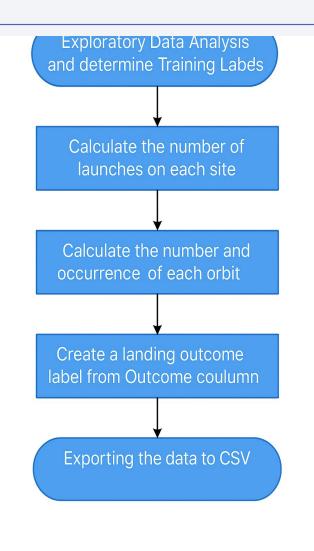


Data Wrangling

The dataset includes various cases where the booster landing was unsuccessful. Some missions attempted landings but failed due to accidents. For example:

- True Ocean indicates a successful landing in the ocean, while False Ocean indicates a failed ocean landing.
- True RTLS means the booster landed successfully on a ground pad; False RTLS means it failed to do so.
- True ASDS represents a successful landing on a drone ship, whereas False ASDS indicates an unsuccessful drone ship landing.

These outcomes are converted into training labels, where "1" indicates a successful landing and "0" indicates a failure.



EDA with Data Visualization

• In order to adequately show the relationship between variables, scatter plot and bar chart visualization tools were used to explore the data. Scatter plots help show trends that can be used to train machine learning models. Bar charts help detect unique identifiers in categories that are more discrete. The charts used include:

Payload Mass vs Flight Number, Launch Site vs Flight Number, Launch Site vs Payload Mass.

The success rate per year was also charted to visualize trends.

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.

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.

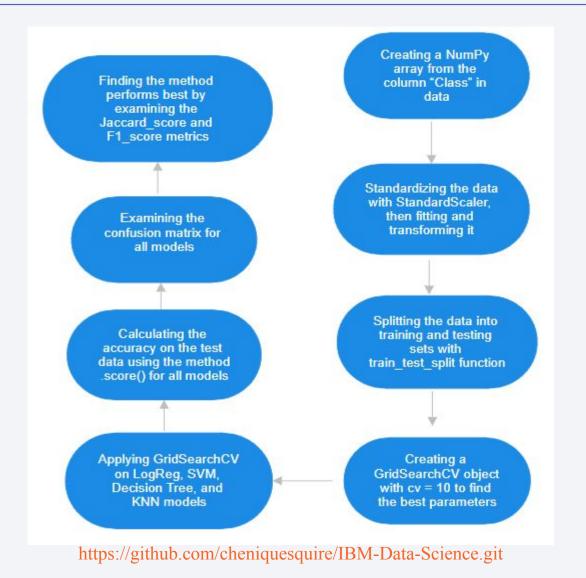
Slider of Payload Mass Range:

- 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]



Results

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

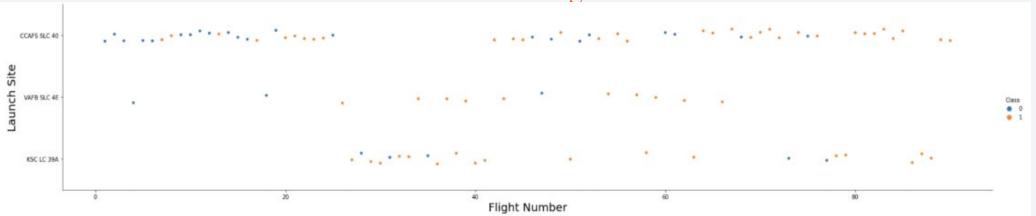


Flight Number vs. Launch Site

Observation:

- The earliest flights all failed while the latest flights all succeeded.
- The CCAFS SLC 40 launch site has about a half of all launches.
- VAFB SLC 4E and KSC LC 39A have higher success rates.

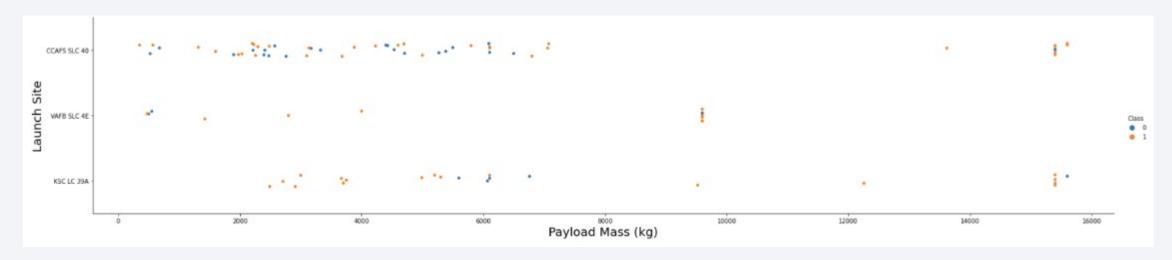
• It can be assumed that each new launch has a higher rate of success



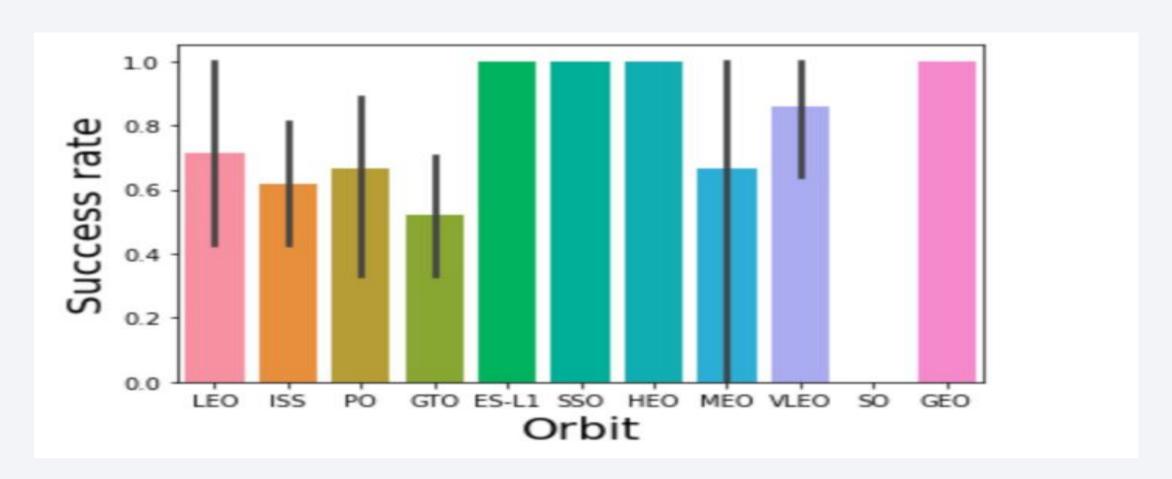
Payload vs. Launch Site

Observation:

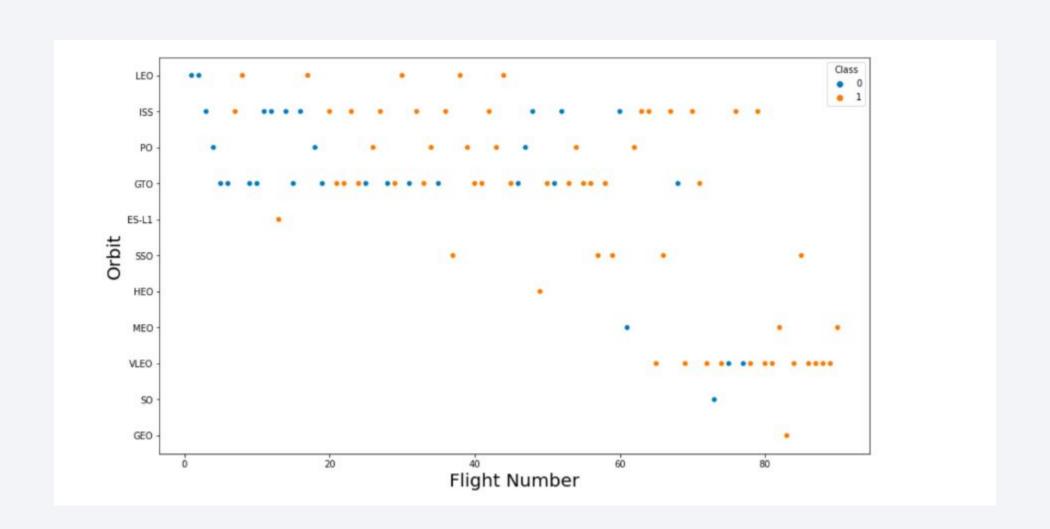
- For every launch site the higher the payload mass, the higher the success
- Most of the launches with payload mass over 7000 kg were successful.
- KSC LC 39A has a 100% success rate for payload mass under 5500 kg too



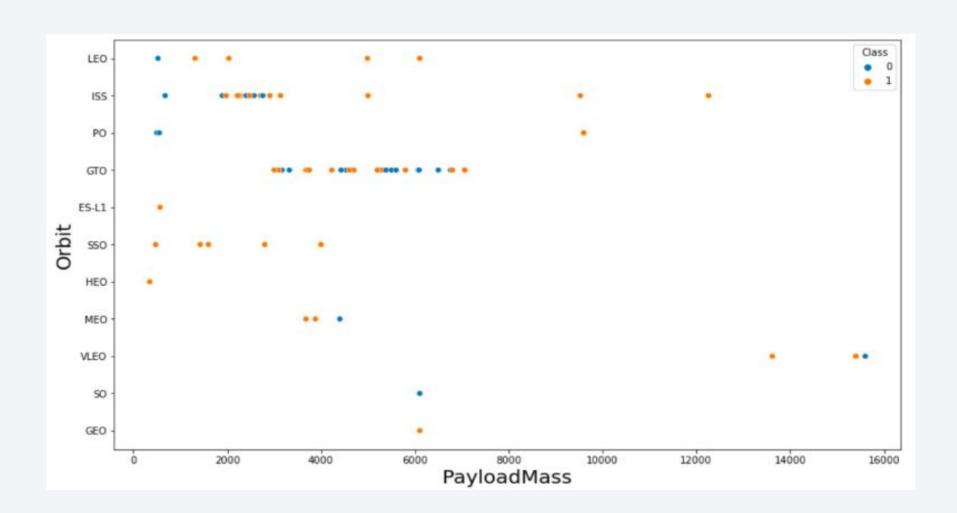
Success Rate vs. Orbit Type



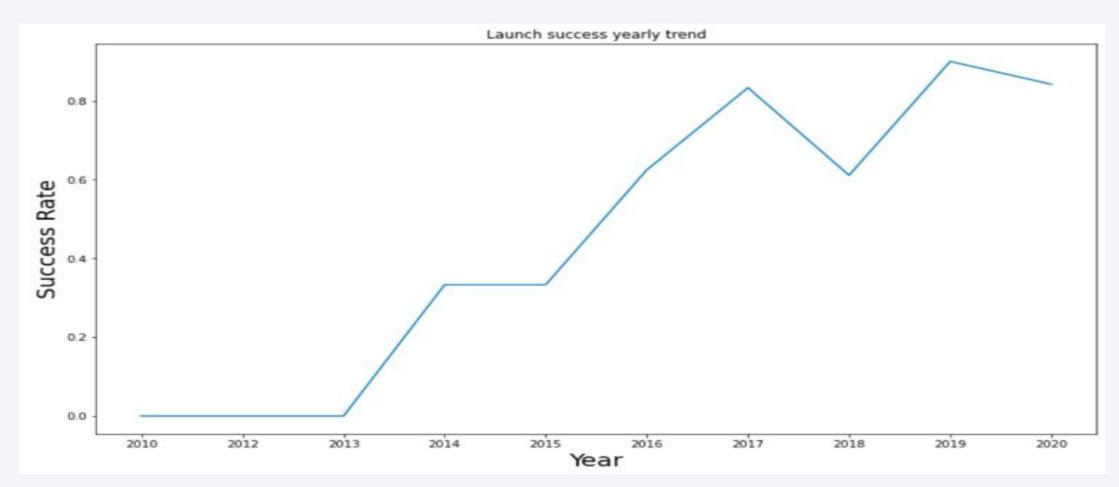
Flight Number vs. Orbit Type



Payload vs. Orbit Type



Launch Success Yearly Trend



All Launch Site Names



Observation: Displaying the names of the unique launch sites in the space mission.

Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

SpaceX CRS-2

15:10:00

03-01

F9 v1.0 B0007

%sql select * from SPACEXDATASET where launch site like 'CCA%' limit 5; In [5]: * ibm db sa://wzf08322:***@0c77d6f2-5da9-48a9-81f8-86b520b87518.bs2io90108kqb1od8lcg.databases.appdomain.cloud:31198/bludb Done. Out[5]: DATE time utc booster_version launch_site payload payload mass kg orbit customer mission outcome landing outcome 2010-CCAFS LC-Dragon Spacecraft 18:45:00 F9 v1.0 B0003 Failure (parachute) 0 LEO | SpaceX Success 06-04 Qualification Unit Dragon demo flight C1, two NASA CCAFS LC-2010-LEO 15:43:00 CubeSats, barrel of Brouere (COTS) F9 v1.0 B0004 0 Failure (parachute) Success 12-08 (ISS) NRO cheese 2012-CCAFS LC-NASA LEO Dragon demo flight C2 07:44:00 F9 v1.0 B0005 525 Success No attempt 05-22 (ISS) (COTS) 40 CCAFS LC-2012-LEO NASA SpaceX CRS-1 00:35:00 F9 v1.0 B0006 500 No attempt Success 10-08 40 (ISS) (CRS) CCAFS LC-NASA 2013-LEO

Observation: Displaying 5 records where launch sites begin with the string 'CCA'

677

Success

(ISS)

(CRS)

No attempt

Total Payload Mass

Observation: Displaying the total payload mass carried by boosters launched by NASA (CRS)

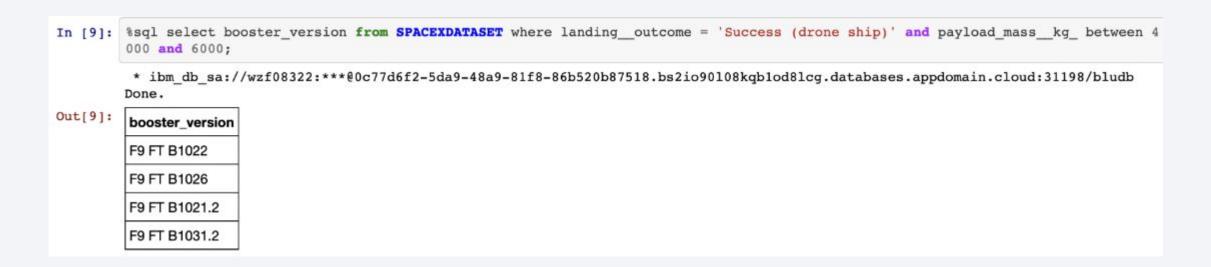
Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

Observation: Displaying average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1

First Successful Ground Landing Date

Observation: Listing the date when the first successful landing outcome in ground pad was achieved.

Successful Drone Ship Landing with Payload between 4000 and 6000



Observation: Listing the names of the boosters which have success in drone ship and have payload mass greater than 4000 but less than 6000.

Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes

In [10]: %sql select mission_outcome, count(*) as total_number from SPACEXDATASET group by mission_outcome;

* ibm_db_sa://wzf08322:***@0c77d6f2-5da9-48a9-81f8-86b520b87518.bs2io90108kqblod8lcg.databases.appdomain.cloud:31198/bludb Done.

Out[10]: mission_outcome total_number
Failure (in flight) 1
Success 99
Success (payload status unclear) 1

Observation: Listing the total number of successful and failure mission outcomes.

Boosters Carried Maximum Payload



Observation: Listing the names of the booster version which have carried the maximum payload mass.

2015 Launch Records

Observation: Listing the failed landing outcomes in drone ship, their booster versions and launch sites names for the months in year 2015.

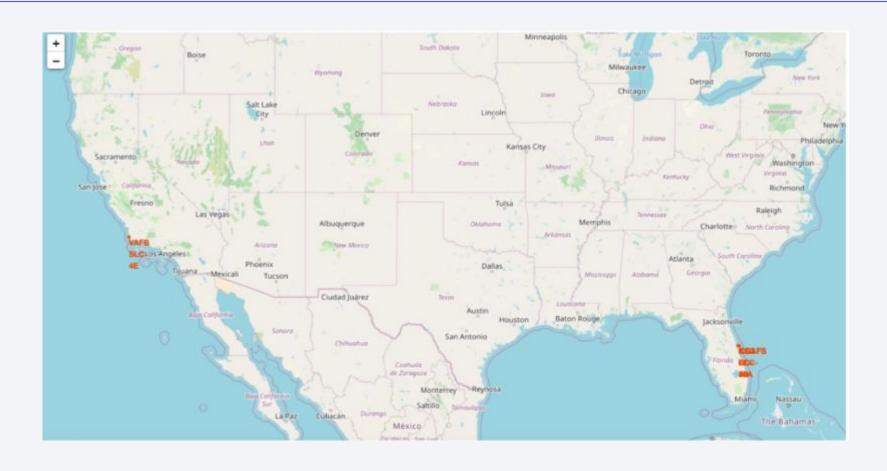
Rank Landing Outcomes Between 2010-06-04 and 2017-03-20

```
In [13]: %%sql select landing outcome, count(*) as count outcomes from SPACEXDATASET
                where date between '2010-06-04' and '2017-03-20'
                group by landing outcome
                order by count outcomes desc;
           * ibm db sa://wzf08322:***@0c77d6f2-5da9-48a9-81f8-86b520b87518.bs2io90108kgb1od8lcg.databases.appdomain.cloud:31198/bludb
          Done.
Out[13]:
          landing outcome
                              count outcomes
          No attempt
                              10
          Failure (drone ship)
          Success (drone ship)
          Controlled (ocean)
          Success (ground pad) 3
          Failure (parachute)
          Uncontrolled (ocean)
          Precluded (drone ship) 1
```

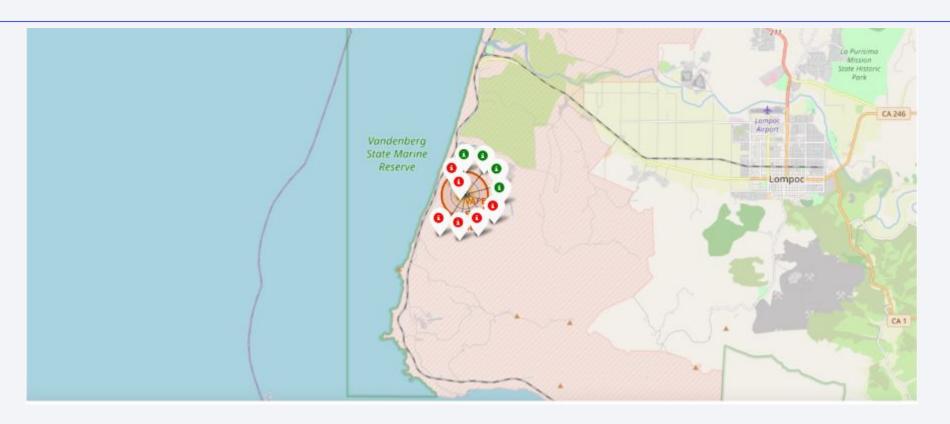
Observation: Ranking the count of landing outcomes such as failure drone ship or success ground pad between the dates 2010-06-04 and 2017-03-20 in descending order.



Folium Map Screenshot 1

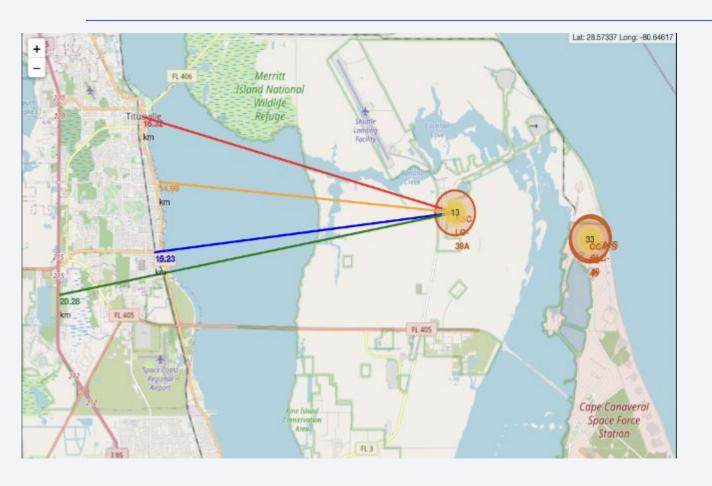


Folium Map Screenshot 2



The succeeded launches and failed launches for each site on map if we zoom in on one of the launch site, we can see green and red tags. each green tag represent a successful launch while each red tag represents a failed launch.

Folium Map Screenshot 3



Observation:

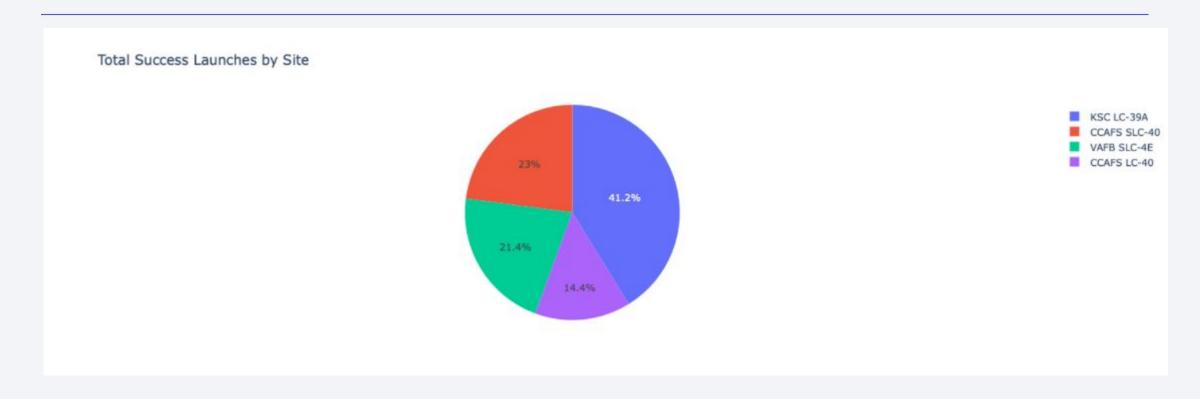
• From the visual analysis of the launch site KSC LC-39A we can clearly see that

it is:

- relative close to railway (15.23 km)
- relative close to highway (20.28 km)
- relative close to coastline (14.99 km)
- Also the launch site KSC LC-39A is relatively close to its closest city Titusville (16.32 km).
- Failed rocket with its high speed can cover distances like 15-20 km in a few seconds. It could be potentially dangerous to populated areas

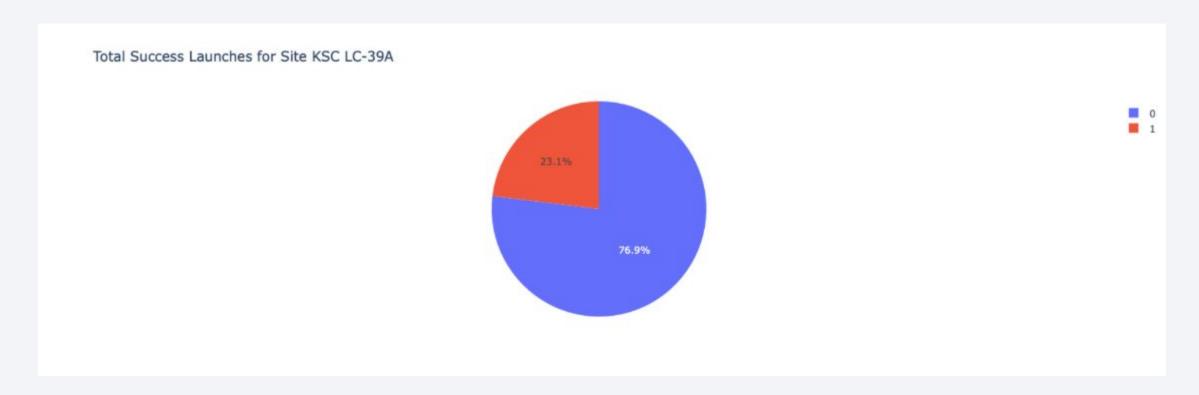


Dashboard Screenshot 1



Observation: The chart clearly shows thats from all the sites, KSC LC-39A has the most successful launches.

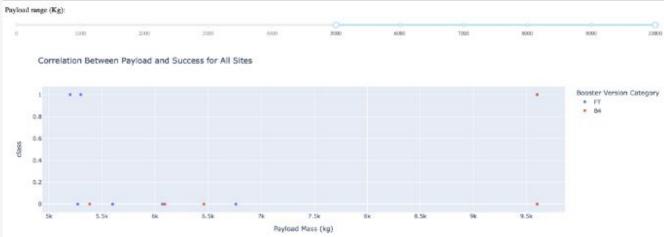
Dashboard Screenshot 2



Observation: KSC LC-39A has the highest launch success rate (76.9%) with 10 successful and only 3 failed landings.

Dashboard Screenshot 3





Observation: The chart shows that payloads between 2000 and 5500 kg have the highest success rate.



Classification Accuracy

Observation:

- Based on the scores of the Test Set, we can not confirm which method performs best.
- Same Test Set scores may be due to the small test sample size (18 samples). Therefore, we tested all methods based on the whole Dataset.
- The scores of the whole Dataset confirm that the best model is the Decision Tree Model. This model has not only higher scores, but also the highest accuracy.

Scores and accuracy of the test set

	LogReg	SVM	Tree	KNN
Jaccard_Score	0.800000	0.800000	0.800000	0.800000
F1_Score	0.888889	0.888889	0.888889	0.888889
Accuracy	0.833333	0.833333	0.833333	0.833333

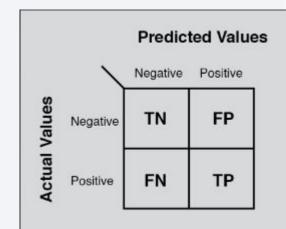
Score and accuracy of the entire data set

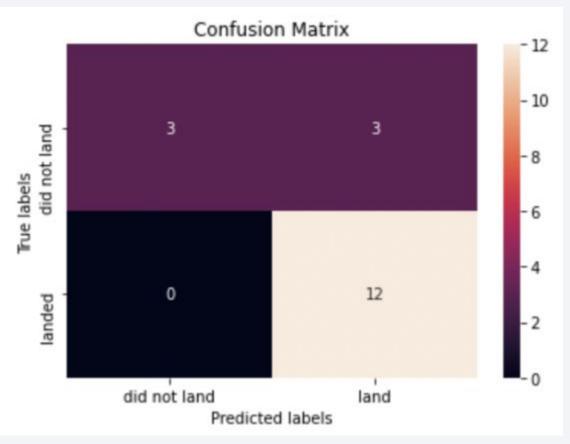
	LogReg	SVM	Tree	KNN
Jaccard_Score	0.833333	0.845070	0.882353	0.819444
F1_Score	0.909091	0.916031	0.937500	0.900763
Accuracy	0.866667	0.877778	0.911111	0.855556

Confusion Matrix

Observation:

• Examining the confusion matrix, we see that logistic regression can distinguish between the different classes. We see that the major problem is false positives





Conclusions

- Decision Tree Model is the best algorithm for this dataset.
- Launches with a low payload mass show better results than launches with a larger payload mass.
- Most of launch sites are in proximity to the Equator line and all the sites are in very close proximity to the coast.
- The success rate of launches increases over the years.
- KSC LC-39A has the highest success rate of the launches from all the sites.
- Orbits ES-L1, GEO, HEO and SSO have 100% success rate

Appendix

Thank You:
Instructors, Coursera and IBM
for the information presented on
Data Science

