

Winning Space Race with Data Science

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Executive Summary

1. Data collection methodology

Gathering data from SpaceX Rest API Web Scrapping from Wiki pages



2. Perform data wrangling

Review the attributes of the dataset

Using One Hot Encoding to convert some values where necessary

3. Perform exploratory data analysis (EDA) using visualization and SQL

To show relationships between attributes.

To determine what attributes are correlated with successful landings.

4. Perform interactive visual analytics using Folium and Plotly Dash

To create interactive visuals to allow users to find patterns of dataset faster and more effectively.

To build a dashboard contains input components to interact with charts to provide more insights from the dataset.

5. Perform predictive analysis using classification models

To build a machine learning pipeline using classification models (Logistic Regression, Support Vector machines, Decision Tree Classifier, and K-nearest neighbors) to perform predictive analysis.

Introduction



Project background and context

SpaceX, founded by Billionaire industrialist Allon Musk, is one of the most successful commercial space companies.

SpaceX' main advantage is the ability to launch rockets which are designed to reuse the first stage, in order to reduce the costs significantly.

Objectives

The objectives of this project is to predict any future Falcon 9 rocket launches will be successful by taking into considerations of factors:

- Launch site
- Payload mass
- Booster version
- Orbit type



Data Collection with an API

The SpaceX launch data is gathered from SpaceX REST API with different endpoints. We will working with the endpoint api.spacexdata.com/v4/launches/past to get past launch data.

The response will be in the form of a JSON and we need to convert into a dataframe by using json-normalize function.

1. Getting response from API.

```
spacex url="https://api.spacexdata.com/v4/launches/past"
response = requests.get(spacex url)
```



file and turn it into a Pandas dataframe using .json_normalize().



2. Convert the response to a .json

```
response = requests.get(static json url).json()
data = pd.json_normalize(response)
```

4. The data from requests will be stored in lists and create a new dataframe.



3. Using pre-defined functions to extract information from API.

```
launch dict = {'FlightNumber': list(data['flight number']),
'Date': list(data['date']),
'BoosterVersion': BoosterVersion.
'PayloadMass':PayloadMass,
'Orbit':Orbit.
'LaunchSite':LaunchSite.
'Outcome':Outcome,
'Flights':Flights,
'GridFins':GridFins,
'Reused': Reused,
'Legs':Legs,
'LandingPad':LandingPad,
'Block':Block,
'ReusedCount':ReusedCount,
'Serial':Serial,
'Longitude': Longitude,
'Latitude': Latitude}
```



5. Filter the data and save the filtered data.

github.com/cmlak/SpaceX-Falcon-9

data_falcon9.to_csv('dataset_part_1.csv', index=False)

Data Collection (web scraping)

The SpaceX launch data can also be gathered by scraping related Wiki pages. We will chose the Python Beautifulsoup package to web scrape some HTML tables that contain valuable Falcon 9 launch records.

1. Request Wiki page from URL

7. Converting dictionary to data frame and save

df=pd.DataFrame(launch dict) df.to_csv('spacex_web_scraped.csv', index=False)

page = requests.get(static url)



2. Create a BeautifulSoup Object

```
6. Appending data to keys
extracted row = 0
#Extract each table
for table number, table in enume
```

```
# get table row
for rows in table.find all(
     #check to see if first
    if rows.th:
        if rows.th.string:
```

5. Create a data frame by parsing the launch HTML tables

```
launch dict= dict.fromkeys(column names)
# Remove an irrelyant column
del launch dict['Date and time ( )']
```

soup = BeautifulSoup(page.text, 'html.parser')



3. Extract all column/variable names from the HTML table header



html tables = soup.find all('table')

github.com/cmlak/SpaceX-Falcon-9

4. Extract column names

```
column names = []
temp = soup.find all('th')
for x in range(len(temp)):
    try:
     name = extract column from header(temp[x])
     if (name is not None and len(name) > 0):
        column names.append(name)
    except:
     pass
```

```
launch dict['Flight No.'] = []
launch dict['Launch site'] = []
launch dict['Payload'] = []
launch dict['Payload mass'] = []
launch dict['Orbit'] = []
launch dict['Customer'] = []
launch dict['Launch outcome'] = []
# Added some new columns
launch dict['Version Booster']=[]
launch dict['Booster landing']=[]
launch dict['Date']=[]
launch dict['Time']=[]
```

We will perform Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) to find some patterns in the data and determine the label for training models.

The launch outcomes are keys to labels and need to convert into two valuables.

1. Identify and calculate the missing values in attributes

```
df.isnull().sum()/df.count()*100
```



2. Calculate the number of launches on each site

```
df["LaunchSite"].value_counts()
```



4. Calculate the number and occurrence of mission outcome per orbit type

```
Out[18]: True ASDS 41
None None 19
True RTLS 14
False ASDS 6
True Ocean 5
False Ocean 2
None ASDS 2
False RTLS 1
Name: Outcome, dtype: int64
```



3. Calculate the number and occurrence of each orbit

```
df["Orbit"].value_counts()
```



5. Create a landing outcome label from Outcome column

```
landing_class = []
for key,value in df["Outcome"].items():
    if value in bad_outcomes:
        landing_class.append(0)
    else:
        landing_class.append(1)
```

Landing Success Rate: **67%**



6. Export data set as .CSV

EDA with Data Visualization

We will create visuals to better understand the data and analyze the relationships between difference attributes.

The ultimate aims of data visualization are to find the keys relationships between attributes and labels that will lead us to make final predictive conclusion.

Plot scatter point or line charts

Flight Number vs. Payload

 To determine how flight number and payload affect the outcome

Flight Number vs. Launch Site

 To determine how launch site affect the outcome

Payload vs. Launch Site

 To find the patterns of payload assigned to launch site

Success rate of each orbit

To check the success rate based on each orbit type

Orbit type vs Flight Number

Plot a bar chart

 To determine the number of flight and outcome based on each orbit type

Payload vs. Orbit type

 To determine the number of flight and outcome based on each orbit type

Plot a line chart

Launch success yearly trend

 To get the average launch success trend

EDA with SQL

We will perform Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) by execute SQL queries to understand the dataset.

- 1. Displaying the names of the unique launch sites in the space mission.
- 2. Displaying 5 records where launch sites begin with the string 'CCA'.
- 3. Displaying the total payload mass carried by boosters launched by NASA (CRS).
- 4. Displaying average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1.
- 5. Listing the date when the first successful landing outcome in ground pad was acheived.
- 6. Listing the names of the boosters which have success in drone ship and have payload mass greater than 4000 but less than 6000.
- 7. Listing the total number of successful and failure mission outcomes.
- 8. Listing the names of the booster versions which have carried the maximum payload mass. Use a subquery.
- 9. Listing the failed landing outcomes in drone ship, their booster versions, and launch site names for in year 2015.
- 10. 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

We use Folium, a a powerful data visualization library for visualizing geospatial data, to build an interactive map.

We mark the launch site locations with launch outcome information and calculate the distances between different launch sites, this will allow us to find some geographical patterns about launch sites.

1. Mark all launch sites on a map



2. Mark the launch outcome for each site on the map



We took the latitude and longtitude coordinates at each launch site and added a Circle Marker around each launch site with a label of the name of the launch site.

We enhance the map by adding the launch outcomes (success rate) for each site. We create markers for all launch records with green marker represent successful launch (class=1) and red marker for failed to launch (class=0).

3. Calculate the distances between a launch site to its proximities

We calculate the distance between two points on the map based on their Lat and Long values. We mark down a point on the closest landmarks and calculate the distance between the point.

We will be able to answer the following questions:

Are launch sites in close proximity to railways?
Are launch sites in close proximity to highways?
Are launch sites in close proximity to coastline?
Do launch sites keep certain distance away from cities?

Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

We build a dashboard application with the Python Plotly Dash package. The dashboard will allow us to find more insights from the SpaceX dataset more easily than with static graphs.

We define a dash application skeleton and input components, graph and callback function.

We will be able to answer the questions by using the dashboard:

- Which site has the largest successful launches?
- Which site has the highest launch success rate?
- Which payload range(s) has the highest launch success rate?
- Which payload range(s) has the lowest launch success rate?
- Which F9 Booster version (v1.0, v1.1, FT, B4, B5, etc.) has the highest launch success rate?

1. Dashboard component: Dropdown List

The Dropdown List component is linked to a pie chart for four different launch sites, to allow us to find the success rate of launch, by visualizing the launch success counts in an interactive way.

2. Dashboard Component: Range Slider

The Range Slider component is linked to a successpayload-scatter-chart scatter, to allow us to find if variable payload is correlated to mission outcome. We can select different payload range and see if we can identify some visual patterns.

Predictive Analysis (Classification)

Finally, we use the information we have gathered and processed to build machine learning models to predict the outcome whether the first stage will successfully land.

1. Building Model



2. Evaluating Model



3. Improving Model



4. Selecting Best Model

- Import necessary libraries
- Perform exploratory Data Analysis and determine Training Labels
- create a column for the class
- Standardize the data
- Split into training data and test data
- Create machine learning objects: SVM, Classification Trees and Logistic Regression

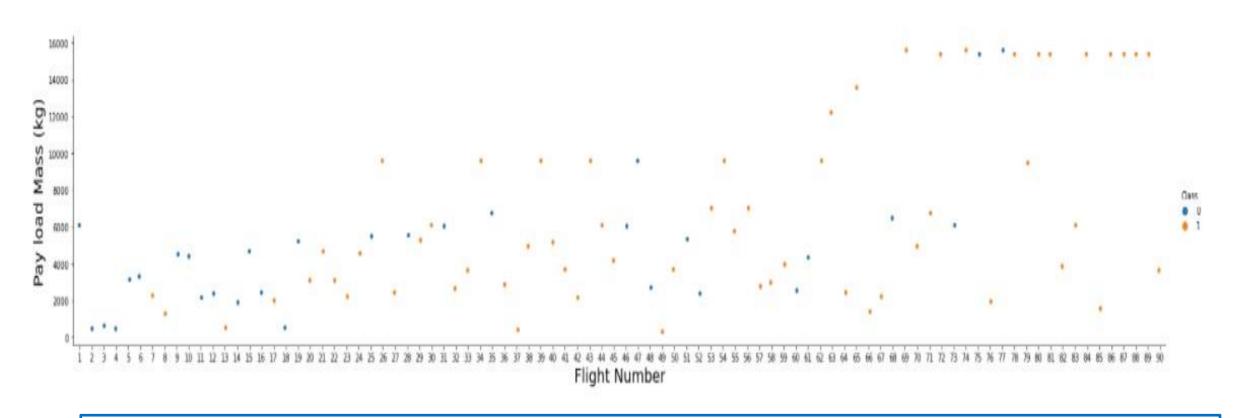
- Check accuracy for each model
- Using GridSearchCV to test parameters of classification algorithms and find the best one
- Find best hyperparameter for SVM, Classification Trees and Logistic Regression
- Plot Confusion Matrix

- Feature Engineering
- Algorithm Tuning

The model with the best accurary score will be selected

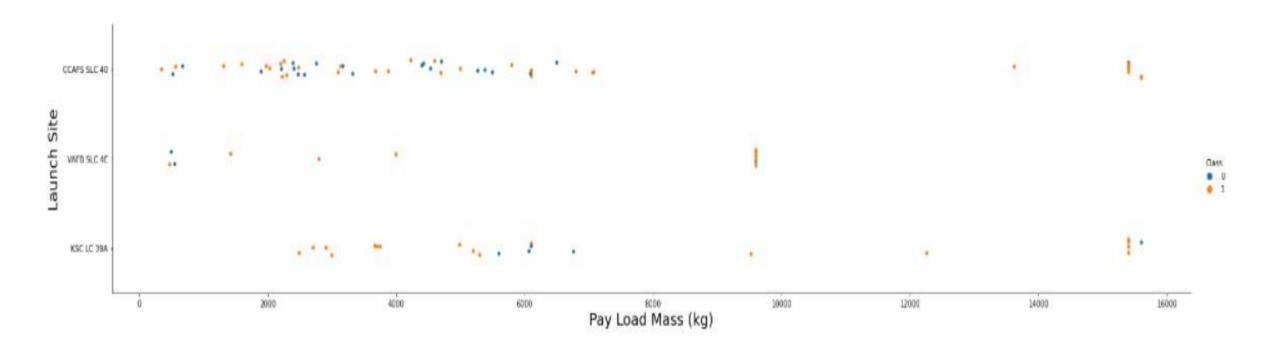


2.1 Flight Number vs. Launch Site



We see that different launch sites have different success rates. CCAFS LC-40, has a success rate of 60 %, while KSC LC-39A and VAFB SLC 4E has a success rate of 77%.

2.2 Payload vs. Launch Site



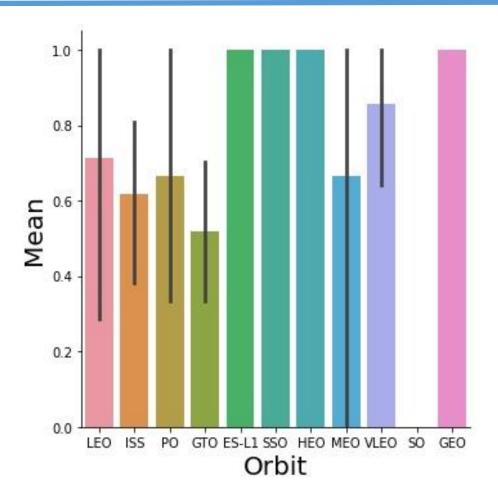
For the VAFB-SLC launch site there are no rockets launched for heavy payload mass (greater than 10000).

2.3 Success Rate vs. Orbit Type

Orbit GEO, HEO, SSO, ES-L1

has

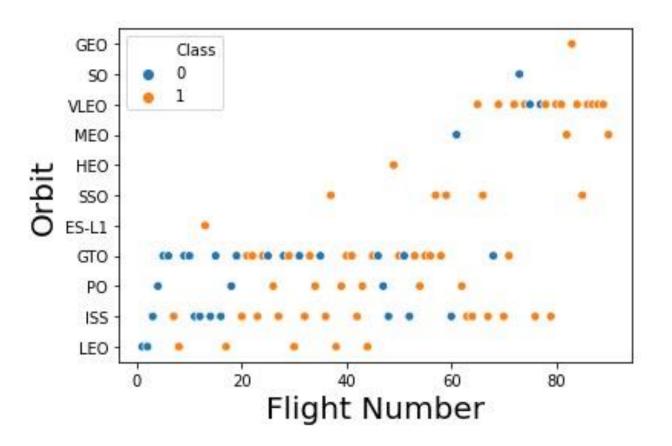
Best Success Rate.



2.4 Flight Number vs. Orbit Type

The success rate of **LEO** orbit appears related to the number of flights.

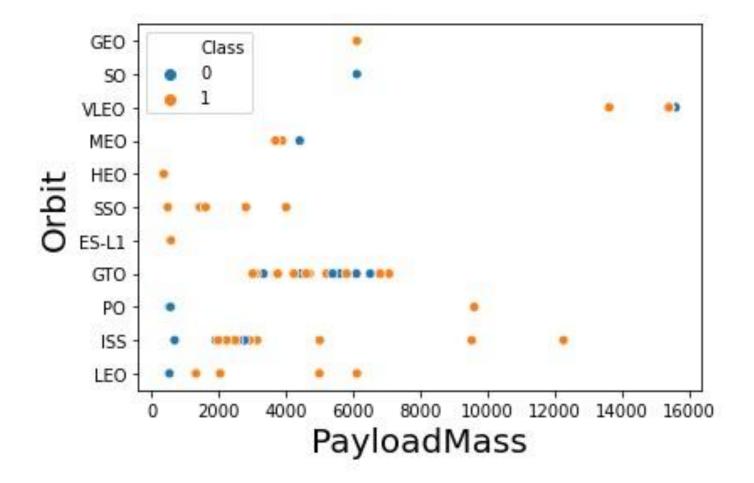
On the other hand, there seems to be no relationship between flight number when in **GTO** orbit.



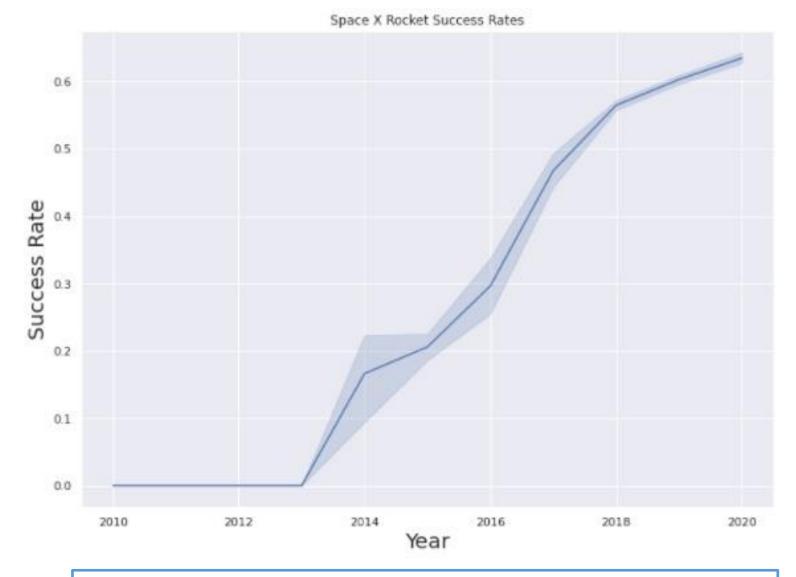
2.5 Payload vs. Orbit Type

With heavy payloads the successful landing or positive landing rate are more for Polar, LEO and ISS.

However for GTO we cannot distinguish this well as both positive landing rate and negative landing (unsuccessful mission) are both showed.



2.6
Launch
Success
Yearly
Trend



The success rate since 2013 kept increasing till 2020.

Section 3 PAYLOAD SEPARATION **FAIRING SEPARATION EDA with SQL FLIP MANEUVER** Cold gas thrusters flip first stage **GRID FINS DEPLOY** STAGE SEPARATION First stage has left Earth's atmosphere **ENTRY BURN** Engines light again to slow down first stage **ASCENT AERODYNAMIC GUIDANCE** Grid fins steer lift produced by first stage **VERTICAL LANDING** Engines light one final time bringing LAUNCH first stage to soft landing

AUTONOMOUS DRONESHIP LANDING

3.1 All Launch Site Names

Find the names of the unique launch sites



SQL Query

SELECT DISTINCT (LAUNCH_SITE) FROM SPACEXTBL;

SQL Explanation

Using **DISTINCT** query to show unique values in the **Launch_Site** column from **tblSpaceX** dataset

3.2 Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

Find 5 records where launch sites begin with `CCA`

DATE	timeutc_	booster_version	launch_site	payload	payload_masskg_	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 attempt

SQL Query

SELECT * FROM SPACEXTBL WHERE LAUNCH_SITE LIKE 'CCA%' limit 5;

SQL Explanation

Using Limit 5 in the query to show only first 5 values and the like keyword has a wild card with the words 'CCA%'. The percentage in the end suggests that the Launch_Site name must start with CCA in the Launch_Site column from tblSpaceX dataset.

3.3 Total Payload Mass

Calculate the total payload carried by boosters from NASA

Total Payload Mass

45596

SQL Query

SELECT SUM (PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_) AS "TOTAL PAYLOAD MASS" FROM SPACEXTBL

WHERE CUSTOMER = 'NASA (CRS)';

SQL Explanation

Using **SUM** aggregate function to sum up the total values in the column **PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_**.

Using **WHERE** clause to filter the dataset to show only the value equal to **Customer NASA (CRS)**.

3.4 Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

Calculate the average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1

Average Payload Mass

2928

SQL Query

SELECT AVG (PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_) AS "Average Payload Mass" FROM SPACEXTBL
WHERE BOOSTER VERSION = 'F9 v1.1'

SQL Explanation

Using the **AVG** function to calculate the mean of the column **PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_.**

Using **WHERE** clause to filter the dataset to show only the value equal to **Booster_version F9 v1.1.**

3.5 First Successful Ground Landing Date

Find the dates of the first successful landing outcome on ground pad

SQL Query

SELECT MIN (DATE) AS "First Successful Ground Landing Date" FROM SPACEXTBL

WHERE Landing Outcome = 'Success (ground pad)';

SQL Explanation

Using the *MIN* function to show the minimum date as *Date which first Successful landing outcome in drone ship* was achieved in the column *Date*.

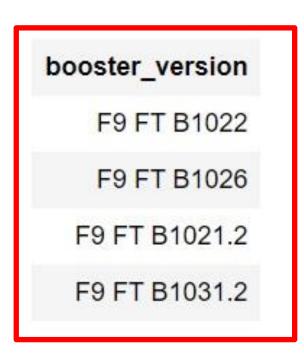
Using **WHERE** clause to filter the dataset to show only the value equal to 'Success (ground pad)' in the Landing_Outcome column.

First Successful Ground Landing Date

2015-12-22

3.6 Successful Drone Ship Landing with Payload between 4000 and 6000

List the names of boosters which have successfully landed on drone ship and had payload mass greater than 4000 but less than 6000



SQL Query

%sql select BOOSTER_VERSION from SPACEXTBL where Landing_Outcome = 'Success (drone ship)' and PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_ > 4000 and PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_ < 6000

SQL Explanation

Selecting only *Booster_Version* column.

Using **WHERE** clause to filter the dataset to show only the value equal to **'Success (drone ship)'** in the **Landing_Outcome** column.

The **AND** clause specifies additional filter conditions **Payload_Mass_KG_>4000 AND Payload_Mass_KG_<6000.**

3.7 Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes

Calculate the total number of successful and failure mission outcomes

SQL Query

SELECT COUNT (MISSION_OUTCOME) AS "Mission Outcomes" FROM SPACEXTBL;

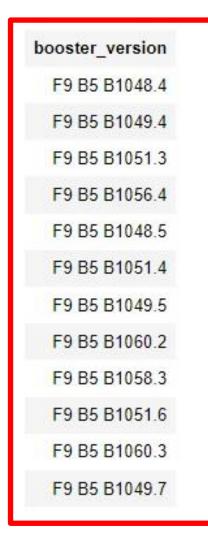
SQL Explanation

Using **SELECT COUNT** Statement to retrieve the total number of successful and failure mission outcomes.



3.8 Boosters Carried Maximum Payload

List the names of the booster which have carried the maximum payload mass



SQL Query

SELECT BOOSTER_VERSION FROM SPACEXTBL
WHERE PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_ = (SELECT MAX (PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_)
FROM SPACEXTBL);

SQL Explanation

Using **SELECT** statement to retrieve data in the **Booster_Version** column from **tblSpaceX** dataset.

Using **WHERE** clause to filter the dataset to show only the maximum payload mass in the **PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_** column.

3.9 2015 Launch Records

List the failed landing_outcomes in drone ship, their booster versions, and launch site names for in year 2015



SQL Query

SELECT DATE, BOOSTER_VERSION, Launch_SITE, LANDING__OUTCOME FROM SPACEXTBL WHERE LANDING__OUTCOME = 'Failure (drone ship)' AND YEAR(DATE) = '2015';

SQL Explanation

Using **SELECT** statement to show **DATE as Month**, **Booster_Version**, **Launch_Site**, **Landing_Outcome** columns from **tblSpaceX** dataset.

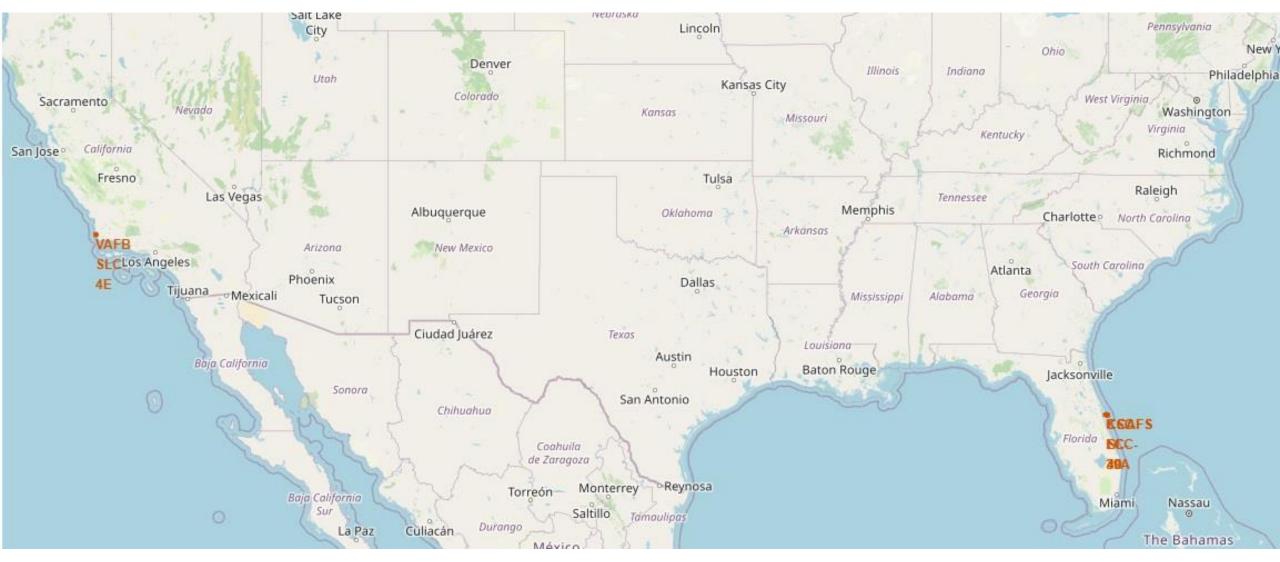
Using **WHERE** clause to filter Date columns to show only the value equal to **2015**.

Section 4 Launch Sites Proximities Analysis



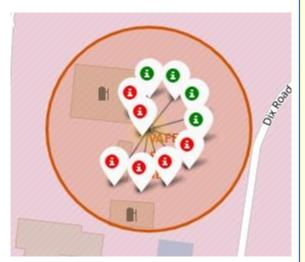


4.1 All launch sites global map markers



All the SpaceX launch sites are situated in the coastal areas of Florida and California, USA.

4.2 Color Markers Labelled the Launch Outcome for Each Site

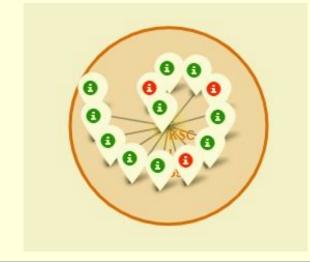


California Launch Site (VAFB SLC-4E)

The color marker shows that there are 4 successful launches and 6 failed launches in this launch site.

Florida Launch Site (KSC LC-39A)

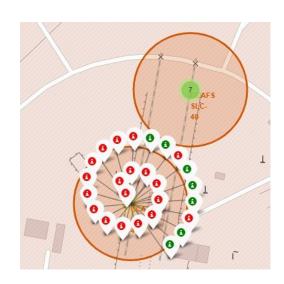
The color marker shows that there are 10 successful launches and 3 failed launches in this launch site.





Florida Launch Site (CCAFS SLC-40)

The color marker shows that there are 3 successful launches and 4 failed launches in this launch site.



Florida Launch Site (CCAFS LC-40)

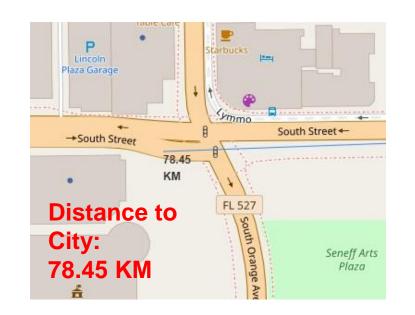
The color marker shows that there are 7 successful launches and 19 failed launches in this launch site.

Color Marker: GREEN for Sucessful RED for Failed

Based on the color-labeled markers, we can easily identify **KSC LC-39A** have relatively high success rates.

3.3 Launch Sites Distance to Landmarks

CCAFS-SLC-40 as a reference









Trends

The Launch site is:

- Very close to railways
- Not close to highways
- Next to coastline
- Far away from cities

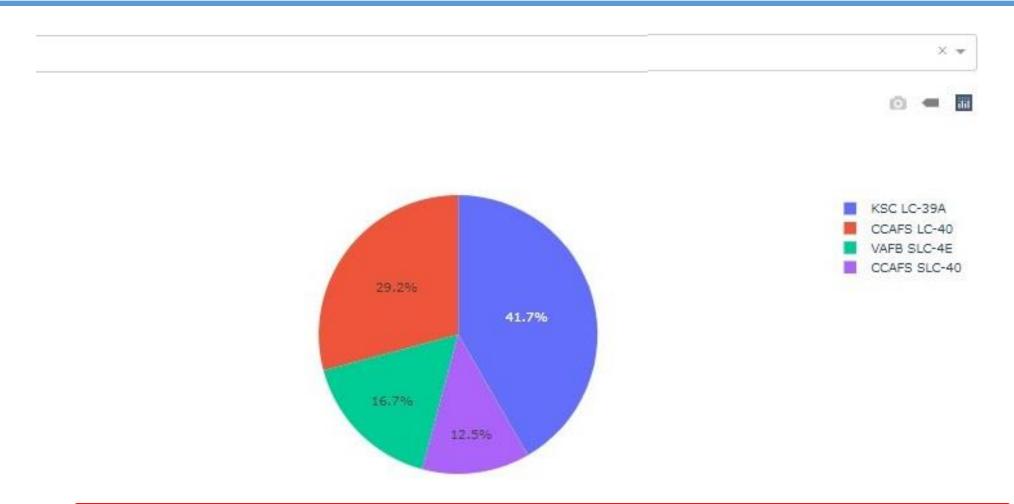
35



Section 5

Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

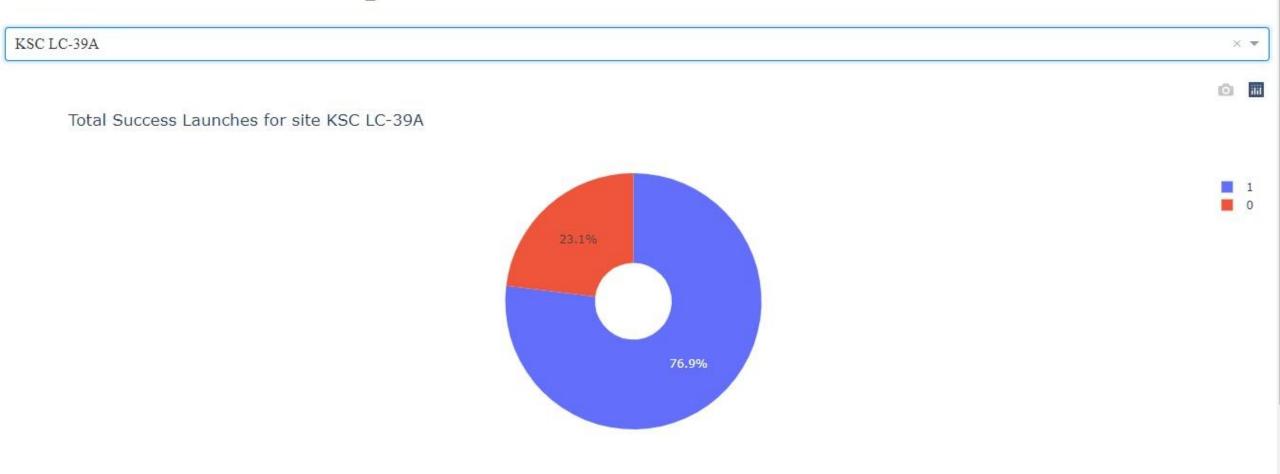
5.1 Pie Chart Show the Launch Success Rate for All Sites



After visual analysis using the pie chart, we are able to obtain some insights that the KSC LC-39A has the largest successful launches (41.7%).

5.2 Pie Chart Show the Launch Success Rate for All Sites

SpaceX Launch Records Dashboard



The pie chart shows that the KSC LC-39A has the highest launch success rate with 76.9% and failure rate with 23.1%.

5.3 Payload vs Launch Outcome

Scatter plot shows the relationship between payload and launch outcome.



The scatter plot shows that the success rate for low weighted payloads (below 4000kg) is greater that heavy weighted payloads.



6.1 Classification Model Comparison

The classification accuracy using training data is very extremely close for 4 different Classifier Models: Logistic Regression, Support Vector Machine, Decision Tree and K Nearest Neighbor.

Using **Best Algorithm** method, we can determine which model performs best

No	Classifier	Accuracy
1	Logistic Regression	84.64%
2	Support Vector Machine (SVM)	84.82%
3	Decision Tree	87.50%
4	K Nearest Neighbour	84.82%

```
Best Algorithm is Tree with a score of 0.875
Best Params is : {'criterion': 'gini', 'max_depth': 14, 'max_features': 'auto', 'min_samples_leaf': 4, 'min_samples_split': 10, 'splitter': 'random'}
```

Best Performer:

The Decision Tree

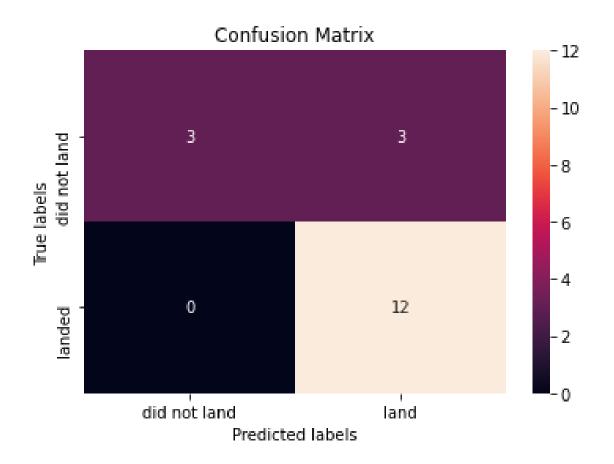
The accuracy of Decision Tree model on test data:

accuracy: 0.9444444444444444

6.2 Confusion Matrix

A confusion matrix is a summary of prediction results on a classification problem. The number of correct and incorrect predictions are summarized with count values and broken down by each class.

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



Conclusion

The success of any future Falcon 9 rocket launches will depend on the following factors:

Launch site: KSC LC-39A had the most successful launches from all the sites.

Payload mass: Low weighted payloads perform better than heavier payloads.

Booster version: F9 FT B1022, F9 FT B1026, F9 FT B1021.2, F9 FT B1031.2.

Orbit type: GEO, HEO, SSO, ES-L1 has the best Success Rate

Classifier: Decision Tree Model is the best Classifier to predict success of future

launches for the supplied data.







```
1 SELECT * FROM employees;
2 3 SELECT * FROM employees
4 WHERE emp_id = 2;
5 6 SELECT * FROM employees
7 ORDER BY name;
```

SQL (Structured Query Language) is a standardized programming language that's used to manage relational databases and perform various operations on the data in them. Initially created in the 1970s, SQL is regularly used not only by database administrators, but also by developers writing data integration scripts and data analysts looking to set up and run analytical queries.

I am using IBM DB2 cloud service to store my data and using python library (sql magic) to access the data via python notebook. It allow me to ultilize the SQL to explore and manipulate data. It will also allow me to convert some useful columns into a new dataframe easily and plot charts to visualize the data.



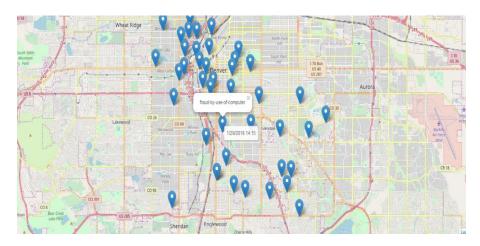
Dash is a python framework created by plotly for creating interactive web applications. Dash is written on the top of Flask, Plotly.js and React.js. With Dash, you don't have to learn HTML, CSS and Javascript in order to create interactive dashboards, you only need python. Dash is open source and the application build using this framework are viewed on the web browser.

Building a Plotly Dash application will allow me to perform interactive visual analytics on SpaceX launch data in real-time. The dashboard application contains input components such as a dropdown list and a range slider to interact with charts, such as a pie chart and a scatter point chart.



Folium is a Python library used for visualizing geospatial data. It is easy to use and yet a powerful library.

Folium is a Python wrapper for Leaflet.js which is a leading open-source JavaScript library for plotting interactive maps.



It has the power of Leaflet.js and the simplicity of Python, which makes it an excellent tool for plotting maps.

Folium is designed with simplicity, performance, and usability in mind. It works efficiently, can be extended with a lot of plugins, has a beautiful and easy-to-use API.

Folium allows me to perform more interactive visual analytics to discover some preliminary correlations between Launch Sites, Success Rate and its Proximities.

☐ cmlak / SpaceX-Falcon-9 Public

```
# DownLoad and read the `spacex_launch_geo.csv`
spacex_csv_file = wget.download('https://cf-courses-data.s3.us.cloud-object-storage.appdor
spacex_df=pd.read_csv(spacex_csv_file)

Now, you can take a look at what are the coordinates for each site.
```

```
# Select relevant sub-columns: `Launch Site`, `Lat(Latitude)`, `Long(Longitude)`, `class`
spacex_df = spacex_df[['Launch Site', 'Lat', 'Long', 'class']]
launch_sites_df = spacex_df.groupby(['Launch Site'], as_index=False).first()
launch_sites_df = launch_sites_df[['Launch Site', 'Lat', 'Long']]
launch_sites_df
```



GitHub is a code hosting platform for version control and collaboration. It lets us work together on projects from anywhere.

It allows us to create repositories, manage branches, make changes to files (as commits), and open and merge a pull request. I had uploaded all the completed notebooks and Python files to my GitHub repository for reference.

URL: github.com/cmlak/SpaceX-Falcon-9

