ABSTRACT

We have identified various pockets of the contiguous United States with higher than average meteorite activity. We have developed a system to rank these areas in terms of "dangerousness", frequency, or mass characteristics. Our intention is for the reader to gain an understanding of meteorite activity within US territory and to develop a predictive model for this data.

INTRO

What are meteorites?

Meteorites are meteors that survive atmospheric entry and land somewhere on the Earth.

Are there any scientific benefits to meteorites?

The main benefit of meteorites is their scientific research value. Meteorites can provide us information about the early formation of our galaxy. A meteorite can provide data about planetary bodies that would otherwise be inaccessible except through a mission to that place.

Where does our data come from?

Our data is pulled from NASA's open archive of datasets that are publicly available online. A link to our specific dataset is here: https://data.nasa.gov/Space-Science/Meteorite-Landings/gh4g-9sfh/data

What did we make?

We made a contemporary dashboard website that can perform statistic analysis of the dataset and provide visualizations of several different data focuses.

What historic pockets of meteorite activity exist?

We found that in the US, before much expansion westward happened, a lot of meteorite activity was focused in the southern United States, roughly in the Tennessee area. However, as time moves on, we noticed a shift towards the New Mexico area, which became the #1 area for meteorite activity in the United States. I theorize that it may have to do with less forested conditions of the area, making it easier to find a meteorite once it has fallen to the ground.

A lot more information is available at this resource. http://www.lpi.usra.edu/science/kring/epo\_web/meteorites/toc.html