

Winning Space Race with Data Science

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Outline

- Executive Summary
- Introduction
- Methodology
- Results
- Conclusion

Executive Summary

• Summary of methodologies

- Data Collection
 - Using the SpaceX API and web scraping Falcon 9 and Falcon Heavy Launches Records from Wikipedia
- Data Wrangling
 - Exploring patterns in the data and determine the label for training supervised models
- Exploratory Data Analysis and Feature Engineering
 - Using SQL, Pandas and Matplotlib to understand the relationship between success rate and different mission-related parameters
- Interactive Visual Analytics
 - Using Folium to analyze existing launch site locations and Plotly Dash to analyze launch records interactively
- Predictive Analysis (Classification)
 - Using different machine learning algorithms to predict the outcome of a launch.

Summary of all results

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

Introduction

- Project background and context
 - There are several companies interested in making space travel and satellite launches more affordable than now.
 - SpaceX is one of the most successful companies in the space transportation industry.
 - It's flagship Falcon 9 rocket launches are almost 2.7 times cheaper than its competitors (\$62m for SpaceX vs \$165m for other companies).
 - SpaceX can ensure such savings by reusing the first stage of an orbital rocket
 - Predicting if the first stage will land can help in determining the cost of a rocket launch and this information can be used by other companies in their bids against SpaceX for a rocket launch.
- Problems we want to find answers
 - How are the different launch conditions/parameters related to the landing outcomes?
 - What are the optimal conditions required for future successful landings?



Methodology

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Data Collection – SpaceX API

Request rocket launch data from the API

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



Decode the response using .json() and .json_normalize()

```
response_json = response.json()
data = pd.json_normalize(response_json)
```



Get specific information using the launch IDs

```
# Call getBoosterVersion
getBoosterVersion(data)
# Call getLaunchSite
getLaunchSite(data)
# Call getPayloadData
getPayloadData(data)
# Call getCoreData
getCoreData(data)
```

Falcon 9 Data using API

FlightNumb	er Date	BoosterVersion	PayloadMass	Orbit	Launch Site	Outcome	Flights	GridFins	Reused	Legs	LandingPad	Block	ReusedCount	Serial	Longitude	Latitude
4	1 2010-06-04	Falcon 9	6123.547647	LE0	CCSFS SLC 40	None None	1	False	False	False	None	1.0	0	B0003	-80.577366	28.561857
5	2 2012-05-22	Falcon 9	525.000000	LE0	CCSFS SLC 40	None None	1	False	False	False	None	1.0	0	B0005	-80.577366	28.561857
6	3 2013-03-01	Falcon 9	677.000000	ISS	CCSFS SLC 40	None None	1	False	False	False	None	1.0	0	B0007	-80.577366	28.561857
7	4 2013-09-29	Falcon 9	500.000000	PO	VAFB SLC 4E	False Ocean	1	False	False	False	None	1.0	0	B1003	-120.610829	34.632093
8	5 2013-12-03	Falcon 9	3170.000000	GTO	CCSFS SLC 40	None None	1	False	False	False	None	1.0	0	B1004	-80.577366	28.561857



Get the Falcon 9 records and data cleaning

```
data falcon9 = data falcon[data falcon['BoosterVersion']!='Falcon 1']
```

```
# Calculate the mean value of PayloadMass column
PayloadMass_mean = data_falcon9['PayloadMass'].mean()
PayloadMass_mean
# Replace the np.nan values with its mean value
data_falcon9['PayloadMass'].replace(np.nan, PayloadMass_mean, inplace=True)
data_falcon9.isnull().sum()
```

Github URL

Data Collection – Web Scraping

Get HTTP response from Falcon 9 launch Wiki

```
static_url = "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=List_of_Falcon_9_and_Falcon_Heavy_launches&oldid=1027686922"
http_response = requests.get(static_url)
```



Create a BeautifulSoup object from the HTML response



Extract all column/variable names from the HTML table header



Create a data frame by parsing the HTML tables

bsp = BeautifulSoup(http_response.text)



	Flight No.	Launch site	Payload	Payload mass	Orbit	Customer	Launch outcome	Version Booster	Booster landing	Date	Time
0	1	CCAFS	Dragon Spacecraft Qualification Unit	0	LE0	SpaceX	Success\n	F9 v1.0B0003.1	Failure	4 June 2010	18:45
1	2	CCAFS	Dragon	0	LE0	NASA (COTS)\nNRO	Success	F9 v1.0B0004.1	Failure	8 December 2010	15:43
2	3	CCAFS	Dragon	525 kg	LE0	NASA (COTS)	Success	F9 v1.0B0005.1	No attempt\n	22 May 2012	07:44
3	4	CCAFS	SpaceX CRS-1	4,700 kg	LE0	NASA (CRS)	Success\n	F9 v1.0B0006.1	No attempt	8 October 2012	00:35
4	5	CCAFS	SpaceX CRS-2	4,877 kg	LE0	NASA (CRS)	Success\n	F9 v1.0B0007.1	No attempt\n	1 March 2013	15:10
5	6	VAFB	CASSIOPE	500 kg	Polar orbit	MDA	Success	F9 v1.1B1003	Uncontrolled	29 September 2013	16:00

```
html tables = bsp.find all('tr')
first_launch_table = html_tables[2]

for table in first_launch_table.find_all('th'):
    column_name = extract_column_from_header(table)
    if column_name is not None and len(column_name) > 0:
        column_names.append(column_name)
```

```
df=pd.DataFrame(launch_dict)
df.head(6)
```

Methodology

- Summary of methodologies
 - Data Collection
 - Data Wrangling
 - Exploring patterns in the data and determine the label for training supervised models
 - Exploratory Data Analysis and Feature Engineering
 - Interactive Visual Analytics
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Data Wrangling

Load the data

df=pd.read csv("https://cf-courses-data.s3.us.cloud-object-storage.appdomain.cloud/IBM-DS0321EN-SkillsNetwork/datasets/dataset part 1.csv") df.head(10)



Preliminary data analysis



- 2) Calculate the number and occurrence of each orbit and the mission outcomes



Create a landing outcome label

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

```
df.value counts('LaunchSite')
df.value counts('Orbit')
```

```
landing outcomes = df.value counts('Outcome')
```

```
bad_outcomes=set(landing_outcomes.keys()[[1,3,5,6,7]])
landing class = []
for outcome in df['Outcome']:
    if outcome in bad outcomes:
        landing class.append(0)
    else:
        landing class.append(1)
df['Class']=landing class
```

Data after wrangling

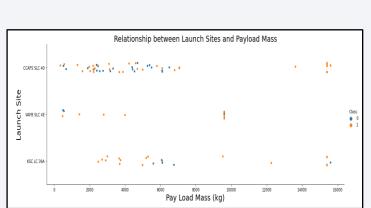
```
2 2012-05-22
3 2013-03-01
4 2013-09-29
                                                                                                   NaN 1.0
5 2013-12-03
6 2014-01-06
7 2014-04-18
                                                                                                   NaN 1.0
8 2014-07-14
                                                                                                   NaN 1.0
                  Falcon 9 1316.000000 LEO CCAFS SLC 40 True Ocean
```

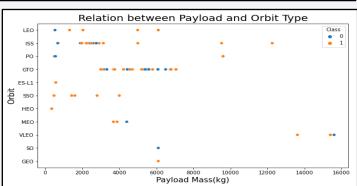
Methodology

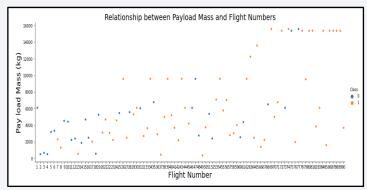
- Summary of methodologies
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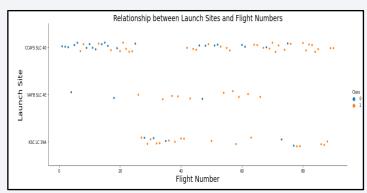
EDA with Data Visualization

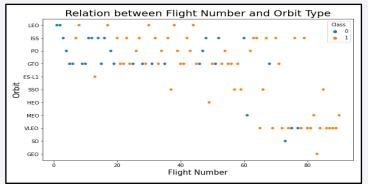
1) Using Scatter plots



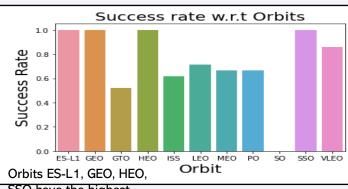






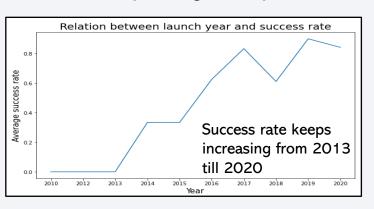


2) Using Bar plots



SSO have the highest success rates

3) Using Line plots





EDA with SQL

SQL queries were used to retrieve the following information:

Unique Launch Sites Sites beginning with 'CCA'

Date of 1st successful ground pad landing

Total no of successful and failed missions

Failed landing outcomes in drone ship, their booster versions and launch sites in 2015

launch_site
CCAFS LC-40
CCAFS SLC-40

KSC LC-39A

...-- -. - .-

VAFB SLC-4E

DATE	timeutc_	booster_version	launch_site	
2010-06-04	18:45:00	F9 v1.0 B0003	CCAFS LC-40	
2010-12-08	15:43:00	F9 v1.0 B0004	CCAFS LC-40	Drag
2012-05-22	07:44:00	F9 v1.0 B0005	CCAFS LC-40	
2012-10-08	00:35:00	F9 v1.0 B0006	CCAFS LC-40	
2013-03-01	15:10:00	F9 v1.0 B0007	CCAFS LC-40	

DATE

2015-12-22

total	mission_outcome
1	Failure (in flight)
99	Success
1	Success (payload status unclear)

 booster_version
 launch_site
 DATE
 landing_outcome

 F9 v1.1 B1012
 CCAFS LC-40
 2015-01-10
 Failure (drone ship)

 F9 v1.1 B1015
 CCAFS LC-40
 2015-04-14
 Failure (drone ship)

Total payload mass by NASA (kgs)

Avg payload mass carried by booster F9 v1.1

Boosters with success in drone ship and (Payload 4000-6000 kgs)

Booster versions with the max payload mass

booster_version	payload_masskg_
F9 B5 B1048.4	15600
F9 B5 B1049.4	15600
F9 B5 B1051.3	15600
F9 B5 B1056.4	15600
F9 B5 B1048.5	15600
F9 B5 B1051.4	15600
F9 B5 B1049.5	15600
F9 B5 B1060.2	15600
F9 B5 B1058.3	15600
F9 B5 B1051.6	15600
F9 B5 B1060.3	15600

Count of landing outcomes between 2010-06-04 and 2017-03-20

total_payload_mass 45596

avg_payload_mass

booster_version	payload_masskg_	landingoutcome
F9 FT B1022	4696	Success (drone ship)
F9 FT B1026	4600	Success (drone ship)
F9 FT B1021.2	5300	Success (drone ship)
F9 FT B1031.2	5200	Success (drone ship)

landing_outcome	count_landing_outcomes
No attempt	10
Failure (drone ship)	5
Success (drone ship)	5
Controlled (ocean)	3
Success (ground pad)	3
Uncontrolled (ocean)	2
Failure (parachute)	1
Precluded (drone ship)	1

Github URL

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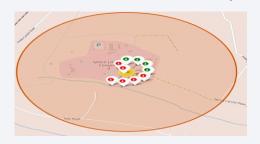
Build an Interactive Map with Folium

- Interactive visual analytics using Folium is used to analyze the existing launch locations.
- This is done by completing the following tasks.
 - Mark all launch sites on a map.



Mark the successful and failed launches for each site on the map.





Calculate the distances between a launch site to its proximities like railways, highways, coastlines and nearby cities.

Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

- An interactive dashboard is built using Plotly and Dash to gain further insights into the data.
- The dashboard has two components.
 - A pie chart that can be used to visualize the successful launches using all the launch sites or a selected launch site.



 Scatter plots showing the correlation between payload mass and the success rates for all the launch sites or for a selected launch site.



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Predictive Analysis (Classification)

Create a Pandas series from the column Class in the data that would be the labels



Standardize the data



Split the data into training and test datasets



Find the best hyperparameters for logistic regression, SVM, Decision Treesand K-nearest Neighbors



Evaluate the performance of the different methods

```
Y = data['Class'].to_numpy()
print(type(Y))
print(Y.shape)
```

```
X = preprocessing.StandardScaler().fit(X).transform(X)
print(X.shape)
#X[0:5]
```

```
X_train, X_test, Y_train, Y_test = train_test_split( X, Y, test_size=0.2, random_state=2)
print(Y_train.shape)
print(Y_test.shape)
```

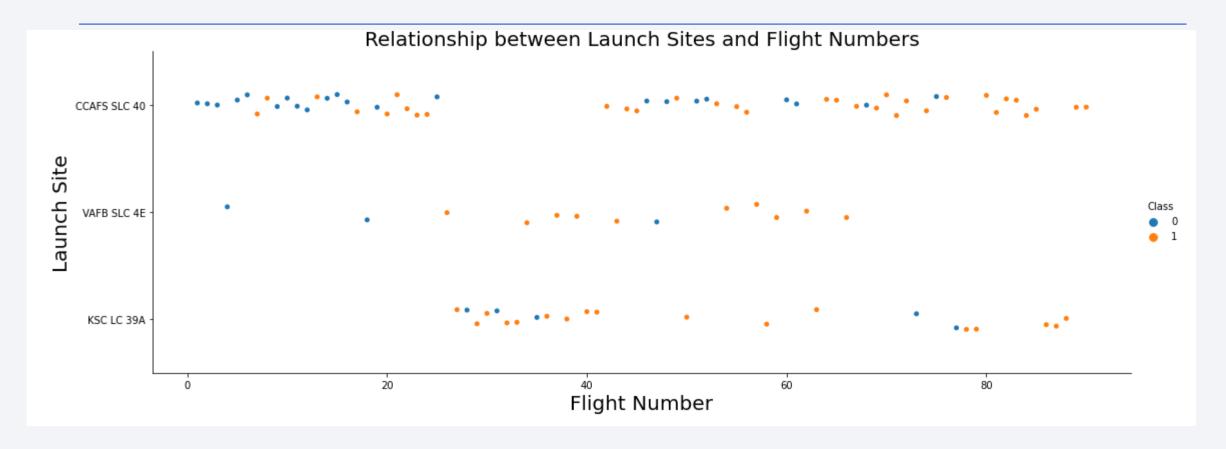


Results

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

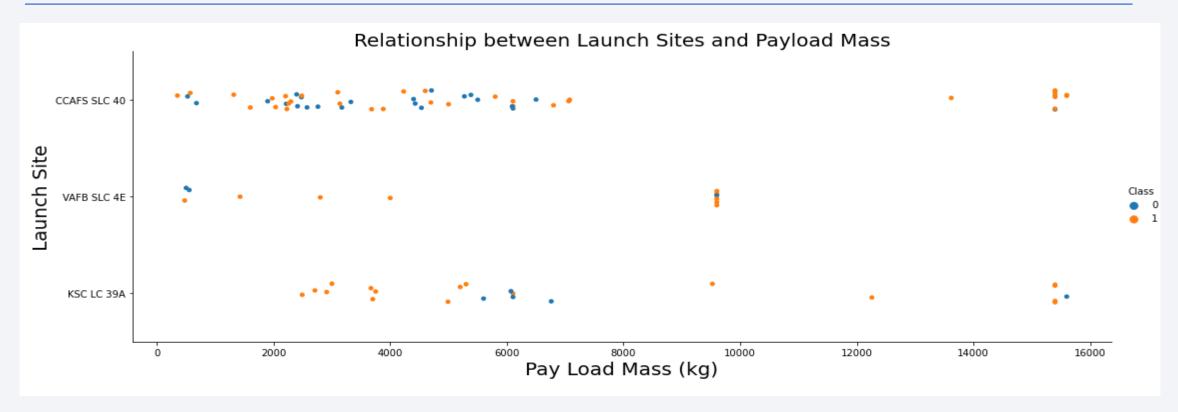


Flight Number vs. Launch Site



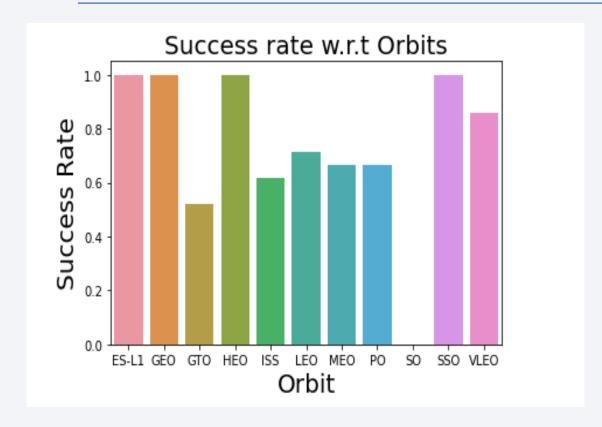
- Here class O (blue) represents an unsuccessful launch while class 1 (orange) represents a successful launch.
- As the flight numbers increased from the different launch sites, the success rate of a launch have also increased from each of these sites.

Payload vs. Launch Site



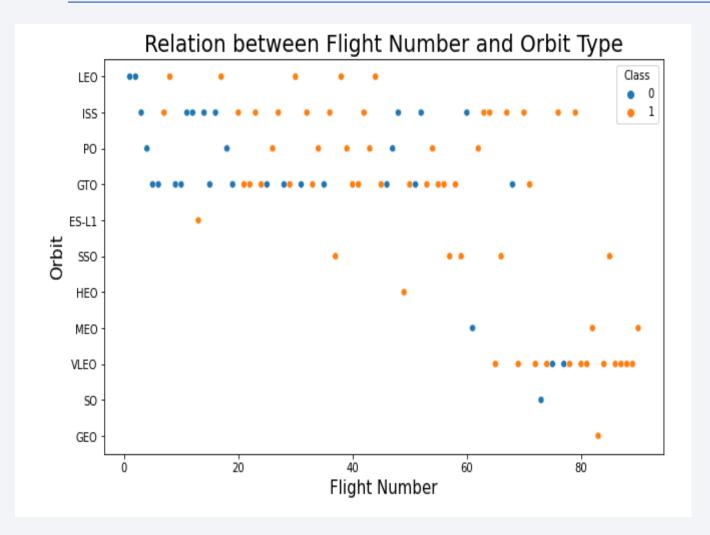
- Here class O (blue) represents an unsuccessful launch while class 1 (orange) represents a successful launch.
- For the VAFB SLC 4E launch site, there have been no rockets launched with a payload mass > 10,000 kg.
- There seems to be no clear correlation between the success of a launch and the payload mass being carried by a rocket for the 3 launch sites.

Success Rate vs. Orbit Type



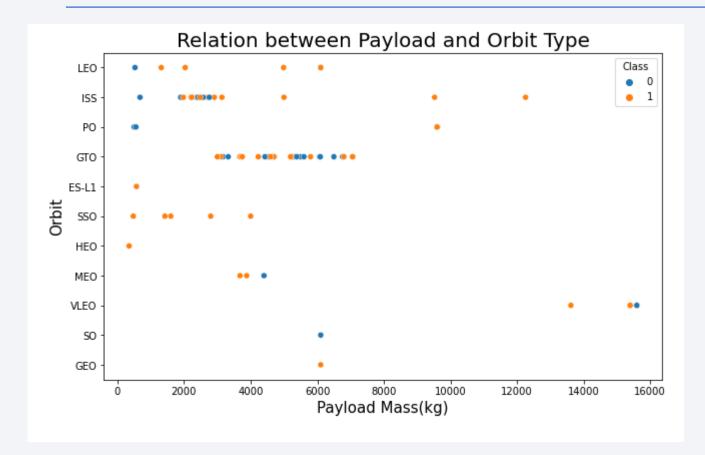
- Rockets launched into the orbits ES-L1, GEO,
 HEO and SSO have 100% success rates.
- For more than 1 launch, rockets launched into the orbit have a success rate of around 50% which is the lowest amongst all the orbits.
- There was only a single launch into the orbit SO which was not a success.

Flight Number vs. Orbit Type



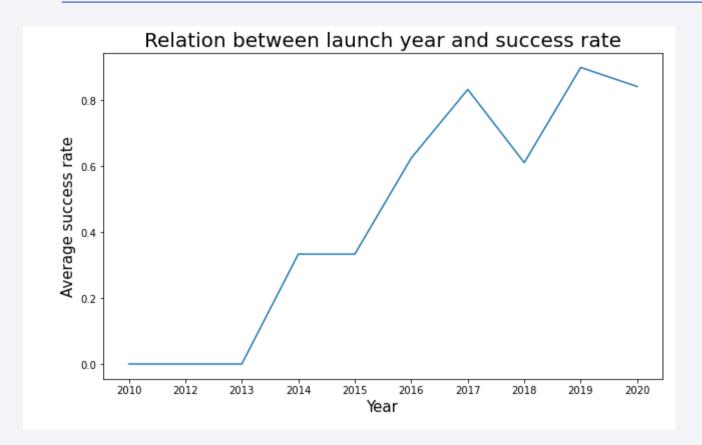
- Here class O (blue) represents an unsuccessful launch while class 1 (orange) represents a successful launch.
- For rockets launched into the orbit LEO, the success rate increased with flight numbers.
- There seems to be no clear relation between the success rate and the flight number for the orbits ISS, PO, GTO and VLEO.

Payload vs. Orbit Type



- Here class O (blue) represents an unsuccessful launch while class 1 (orange) represents a successful launch.
- With heavy payloads the successful landing or positive landing rate are more for the orbits Polar, LEO and ISS than the others.
- However, for the remaining orbits like GTO, the relationship cannot be clearly identified.

Launch Success Yearly Trend



- Since 2013, the success rate of the rocket launches have kept on steadily increasing until 2018 where there was a small dip in the rate.
- In recent years, the success rate has been close to 80%.

All Launch Site Names

• The SQL DISTINCT clause is used to retrieve the unique values (i.e., the launch site names in this case) from a table (SPACEXTBL).

Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

*sql select * from SPACEXTBL where launch site like'CCA*' limit 5 * ibm db sa://qhs79289:***@ba99a9e6-d59e-4883-8fc0-d6a8c9f7a08f.c1ogj3sd0tgtu0lgde00.databases.appdomain.cloud:31321/BLUDB Done. DATE time_utc_ booster_version payload payload mass kg launch site orbit customer mission_outcome landing_outcome F9 v1.0 B0003 CCAFS LC-40 Dragon Spacecraft Qualification Unit LEO 2010-06-04 18:45:00 SpaceX Success Failure (parachute) 2010-12-08 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) 15:43:00 F9 v1.0 B0005 CCAFS LC-40 2012-05-22 07:44:00 Dragon demo flight C2 525 LEO (ISS) NASA (COTS) Success No attempt 2012-10-08 F9 v1.0 B0006 CCAFS LC-40 00:35:00 SpaceX CRS-1 500 LEO (ISS) NASA (CRS) Success No attempt 2013-03-01 F9 v1.0 B0007 CCAFS LC-40 SpaceX CRS-2 677 LEO (ISS) NASA (CRS) 15:10:00 Success No attempt

- The SQL LIKE clause along with the % sign is used to retrieve the site numbers beginning with 'CCA' from the table (SPACEXTBL).
- The LIMIT clause is used to display only 5 records from the query.

Total Payload Mass

```
%sql select sum(PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_) as total_payload_mass from SPACEXTBL where CUSTOMER = 'NASA (CRS)'
    * ibm_db_sa://ghs79289:***@ba99a9e6-d59e-4883-8fc0-d6a8c9f7a08f.clogj3sd0tgtu0lqde00.databases.appdomain.cloud:31321/BLUDB Done.

total_payload_mass
45596
```

- The SQL WHERE clause is used to retrieve the results for CUSTOMER (i.e., NASA) from a table (SPACEXTBL).
- The SUM function is then used to calculate the sum of columns (PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_).

Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

```
* sql select avg(PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_) as avg_payload_mass from SPACEXTBL where booster_version = 'F9 v1.1'

* ibm_db_sa://ghs79289:***@ba99a9e6-d59e-4883-8fc0-d6a8c9f7a08f.clogj3sd0tgtu0lqde00.databases.appdomain.cloud:31321/BLUDB Done.
]: avg_payload_mass
2928
```

- The SQL WHERE clause is used to retrieve the results for booster_version (i.e., F9 v1.1) from a table (SPACEXTBL).
- The AVERAGE function is then used to calculate the average of the column (PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_).

First Successful Ground Landing Date

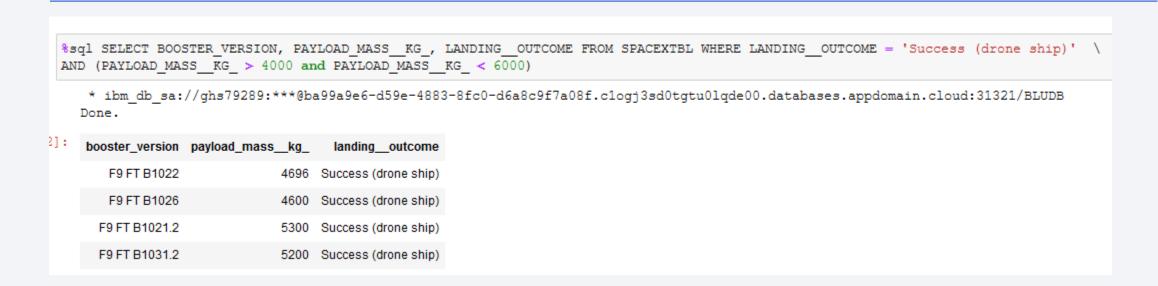
```
* sql select min(DATE) as date from SPACEXTBL where landing_outcome ='Success (ground pad)'

    * ibm_db_sa://ghs79289:***@ba99a9e6-d59e-4883-8fc0-d6a8c9f7a08f.clogj3sd0tgtu0lqde00.databases.appdomain.cloud:31321/BLUDB
Done.

| DATE
2015-12-22
```

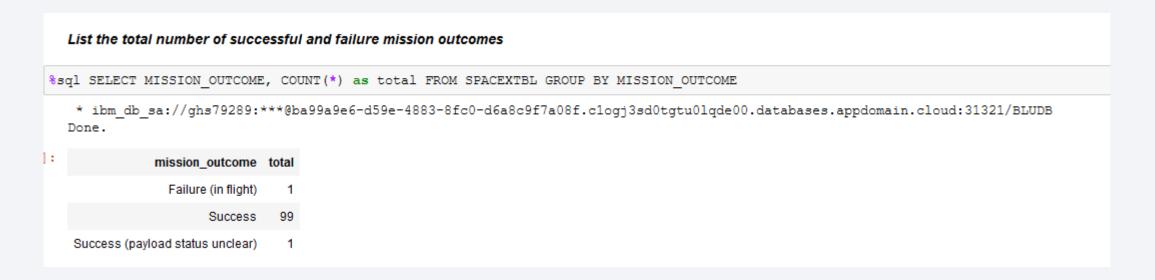
- The SQL WHERE clause is used to retrieve the results for landing_outcome (i.e., Success (ground pad)) from a table (SPACEXTBL).
- The MIN function is then used to calculate the first successful landing date

Successful Drone Ship Landing with Payload between 4000 and 6000



- The SQL WHERE clause is used to retrieve the results for landing_outcome (i.e., Success (drone ship)) from the table SPACEXTBL.
- The AND operator is then used to impose an additional condition that the PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_ is between 4000 and 6000 kgs.

Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes



- The SQL COUNT() function is used to calculate the total number of columns.
- The GROUP BY statement groups rows that have the same values (i.e., failure and success).
- There is almost 99% success rate for all the missions.

Boosters Carried Maximum Payload

```
%sql select booster_version, PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_ from spacextbl where PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_ = (select max(PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_) from spacextbl)

* ibm_db_sa://ghs79289:***@ba99a9e6-d59e-4883-8fc0-d6a8c9f7a08f.clogj3sd0tgtu0lqde00.databases.appdomain.cloud:31321/BLUDB
Done.
```

15600 15600 15600
15600
10000
15000
15000
15600
15600
15600
15600
15600
15600
15600
15600

- Using a sub-query with MAX() function to find the maximum payload pass.
- Using the WHERE clause to retrieve the booster-versions that have carried the maximum payload mass.

2015 Launch Records

List the failed landing_outcomes in drone ship, their booster versions, and launch site names for in year 2015 *sql select booster_version, launch_site, date, landing_outcome from spacextbl where date like '2015*' and landing_outcome = 'Failure (drone ship)' * ibm_db_sa://ghs79289:***@ba99a9e6-d59e-4883-8fc0-d6a8c9f7a08f.clogj3sd0tgtu0lqde00.databases.appdomain.cloud:31321/BLUDB Done. l: booster_version | launch_site | DATE | landing_outcome | F9v1.1 B1012 | CCAFS LC-40 | 2015-01-10 | Failure (drone ship) | F9v1.1 B1015 | CCAFS LC-40 | 2015-04-14 | Failure (drone ship)

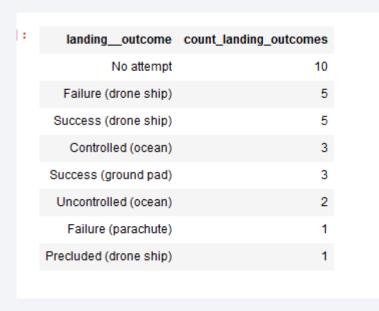
- The SQL WHERE clause is used to retrieve the results for the YEAR 2015.
- The AND operator is then used to impose an additional condition on the landing outcome (i.e., Failure (drone ship)).
- The '2015%' operator is used to retrieve all the rows starting with date 2015. Using 'YEAR(DATE)=2015' is another alternative.

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

```
%sql select landing_outcome, count(*) as count_landing_outcomes from spacextbl \
where (date > '2010-06-04' and date < '2017-03-20') \
group by landing_outcome \
order by count_landing_outcomes desc

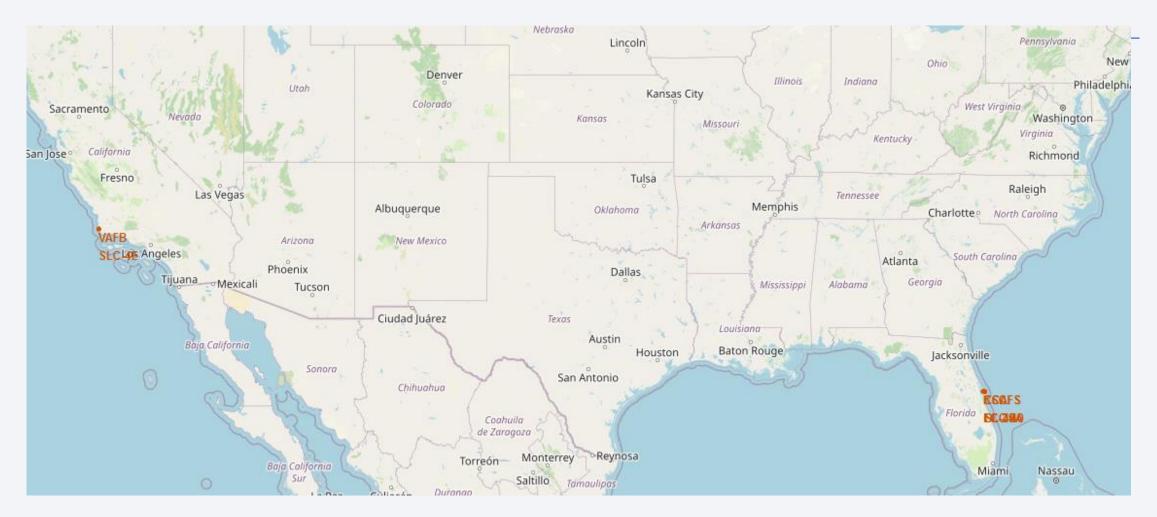
* ibm_db_sa://ghs79289:***@ba99a9e6-d59e-4883-8fc0-d6a8c9f7a08f.clogj3sd0tgtu0lqde00.databases.appdomain.cloud:31321/BLUDB
Done.</pre>
```



- The WHERE clause is used to filter the rows for a date between 2010-06-04 and 2017-03-20.
- The GROUP BY statement groups rows based on the landing outcome and the COUNT(*) function counts the total number of landings for each outcome.
- The ORDER BY keyword is then used to sort the records by total number of landings. The DESC keyword sorts the rows in descending order.



Locations of all Launch Sites



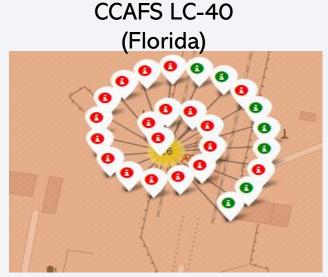
All the launch sites are near the coasts in the US states of Florida and California

Color-labeled Launch Outcomes for each Site

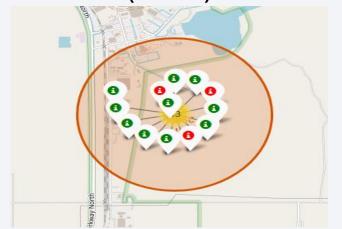
VAFB SCL-4E (California)



*Successful landings are shown in green markers while the unsuccessful ones are in red.



KSC LC-39A (Florida)



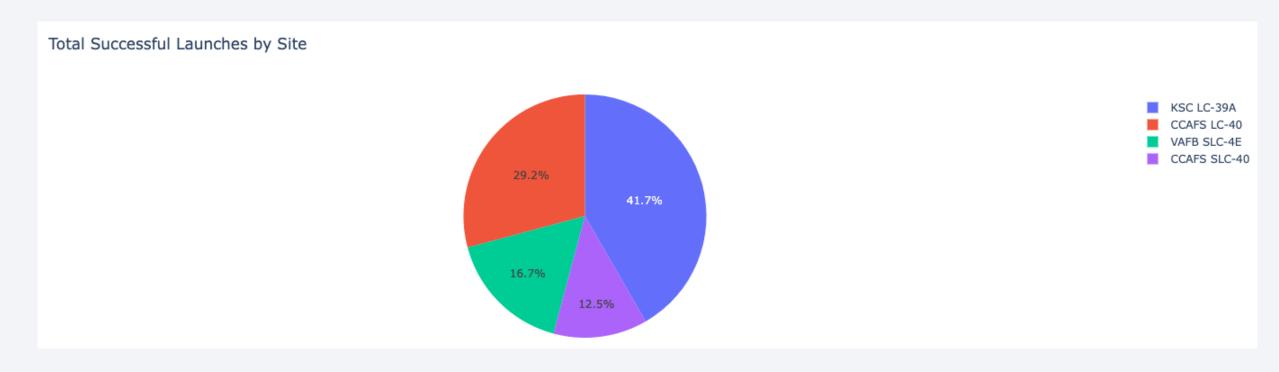
CCAFS SLC-40 (Florida)



Launches from the KSC LC-39A launch site have the maximum probability of success

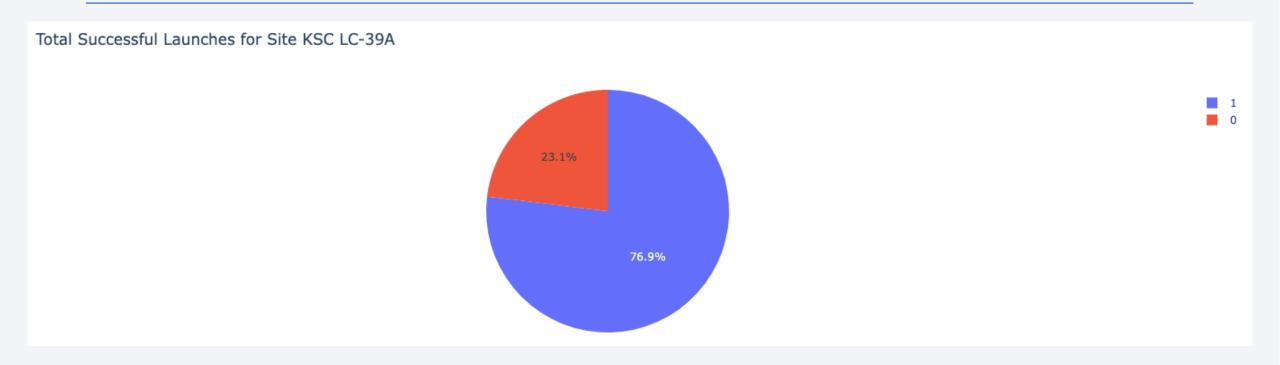


Launch success count for all sites



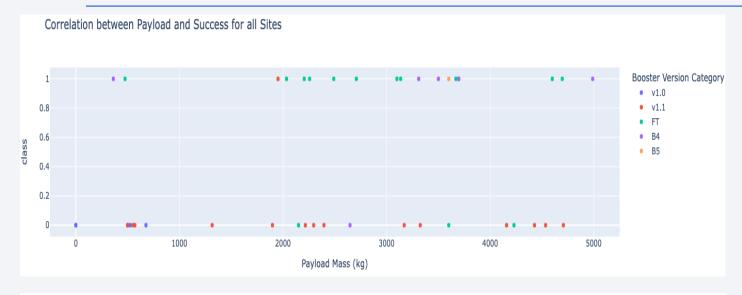
- The launch site KSC LC-39A has the most successful launches amongst all the launch sites.
- The launch sites CCAFS SLC-40 and VAFB SLC-4E have the lowest launch success amongst all the sites.

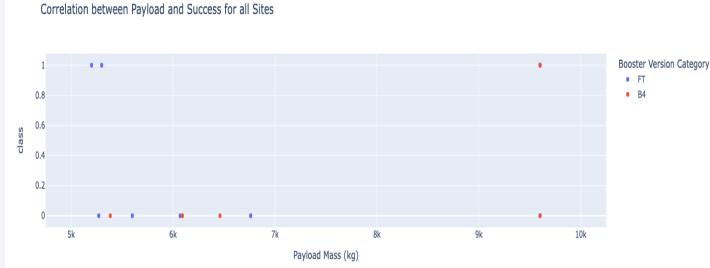
Launch site with highest launch success ratio



- The launch site KSC LC-39A has the most successful launches amongst all the launch sites.
- It has 10 successful landings and 3 failed landings. Here blue represents the successful landings while red represents the failed ones.

Payload vs Launch Outcome





- The heavy payloads are usually launched using the booster versions FT and B4.
- The launch outcomes seem to be more favorable when the payload mass is less than 5000 kgs than for heavier payload masses (5000 – 10,000 kgs).



Classification Accuracy

Classifier	Training Accuracy	Test Accuracy
Logistic Regression	0.85	0.83
SVM	0.85	0.83
Decision Tree	0.88	0.83
KNN	0.85	0.83



- Decision Tree classifier had a slightly better performance than the other classifiers on the training data.
- On the test data, all the 4 tested methods had the same accuracy level.

Confusion Matrix

- All the 4 classification methods have the same classification matrix.
- The problem here is the number of false positives, i.e., unsuccessful landings incorrectly classified as successful landings.
- Overall, all the used 4 classification methods can reasonably distinguish between the different classes.



did not land

Predicted labels

land

did not land

land

Predicted labels

Conclusions

- The success rate of the SpaceX Falcon 9 launches have steadily increased from 2013 till 2020 and is close to 80% in recent years.
- The success rate has also increased with the number of flights.
- Rockets launched into the orbits ES-L1, GEO, HEO and SSO have 100% success rates.
- Amongst the 4 launch sites used by SpaceX, the launch site KSC LC-39A has the best success rate.
- Rockets launched with a low payload (< 5000 kgs) have a higher success rate than the ones with heavy payloads (5000 – 10000 kgs).
- All the 4 classifier models (Logistic Regression, SVM, Decision Trees and KNN) used had the same accuracy (≈ 83.33%) on the test dataset.
- Any of these 4 machine learning models along with the insights above can be used to determine whether
 a future Falcon 9 launch will be successful.

