Predictive Analysis of SpaceX Launch Outcomes

Applied Data Science Capstone Project

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Outline

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Executive Summary

- Summary of methodoligies: Data collection from API and webscraping, Exploratory analysis with SQL and visualization, Machine learning prediction
- Objective was to analyze and predict the outcomes of SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket launches.
- Key factors influencing launch success were identified, and predictive models were developed.
- Successful prediction of launch outcomes with insights for future improvements were found.

Introduction

- Background: SpaceX aims to make space travel more cost-effective and reliable.
- Problem Statement: Predicting the success of Falcon 9 launches based on historical data.
- Goals: Improve prediction accuracy and identify factors correlating with launch success.

Methodology

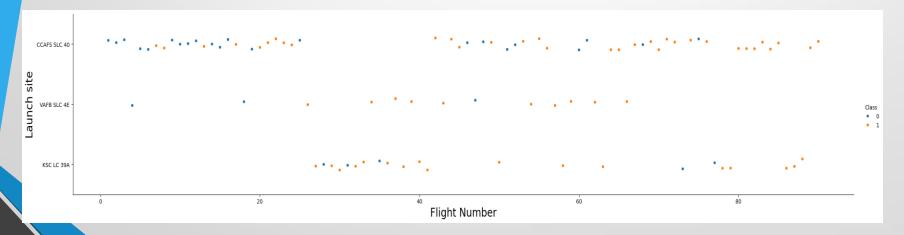
- Data Collection: SpaceX API and web scraping.
- Data Wrangling: Cleaning and preprocessing using Python libraries.
- Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA): Visualizing data trends and distributions.
- Machine Learning Models: Logistic Regression, Decision Trees, Support Vector Machines (SVM).
- Tools: Jupyter Notebooks, Pandas, Matplotlib, Seaborn, Scikit-Learn, SQL, Github.

Results

- Model Performance: Evaluated using accuracy, precision, recall, and F1 score.
- Best Model could not be reliably determined as all models tested gave the same accuracy result, likely due to the relatively small sample size.
- Significant factors correlating to success include launch site, payload mass, and booster version.

Launch success by Launch Site

 From this graph we can see Falcon 9 launches by launch site. The orange dots indicate successful launches and blue ones unsuccessful ones.



Further results

Further results can be found on Github:

https://github.com/hmllss/Applied-Data-Science-Capstone

Discussion

- Launch site and payload mass appear to be critical factors for predicting success.
- Challenges: Dealing with the sample size being relatively small and handling missing data and model overfitting.
- In the future repeating the steps with a larger sample size would be useful and integrating additional data sources and enhancing model complexity.

Conclusion

- Success rate of Falcon 9 launches has increased over time.
- KSC LC-39A is the most successful launch site.
- Heavier payloads have a higher success rate though it may be due to payload being increased alongside other development in reliability.