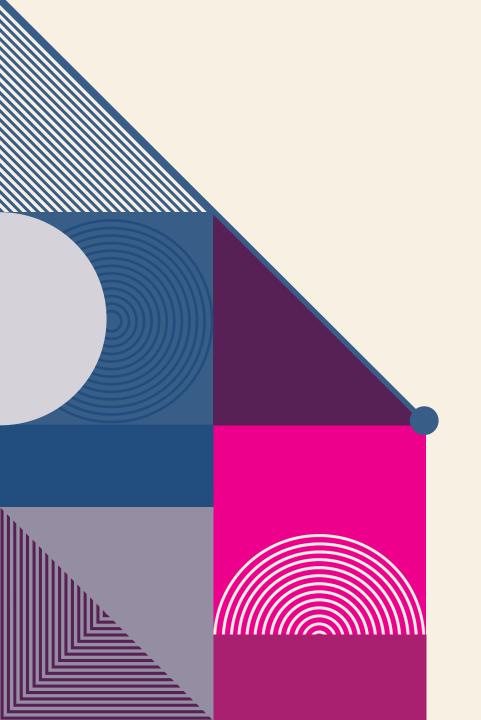
DATA SCIENCE CAPSTONE PROJECT

IJAZ AHMED 01.09.2025



OUTLINE

Executive Summary

Introduction

Methodology

Results

Conclusion

Appendix



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Studied what makes a launch successful by fetching and preparing data for different Predictive Models which and then making a Dashboard for the live analytics



INTRODUCTION

SpaceX is a successful company for making the space travel affordable (62 Million Dollars instead of 165 Million Dollars) because they can reuse the first stage. Using ML Models we want to see what is the best Model to make predictions when they can reuse the first stage.

But

- How often, and what factors are important?

METHODOLOGY

Data Collection using APIs and Scrapping Wikipedia

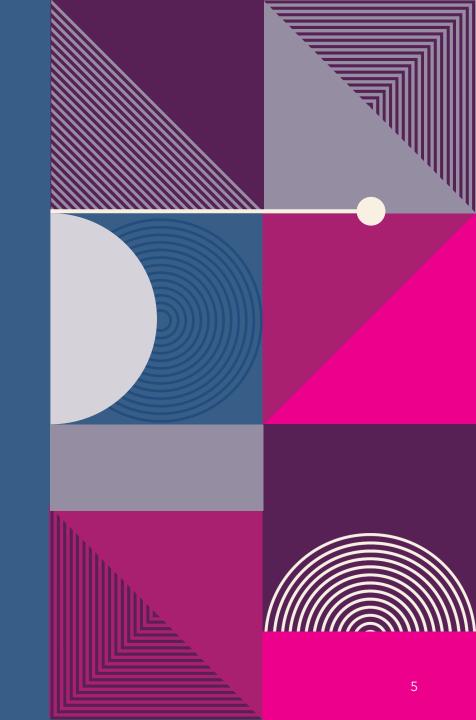
Data Prepearation

EDA with Python and SQL

Predictive Analysis using ML Models

Finding the **Best Model**

Interactive Visuals using Folium and Plotly Dash



DATA ACCUMULATION

API-calls: - Data Collection API

SpaceX Api

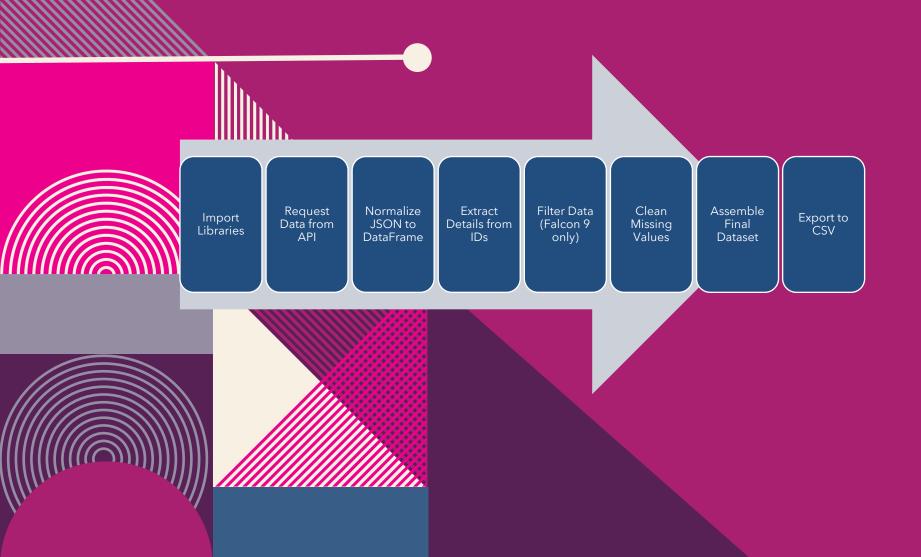
Scrapping:

Using requests module

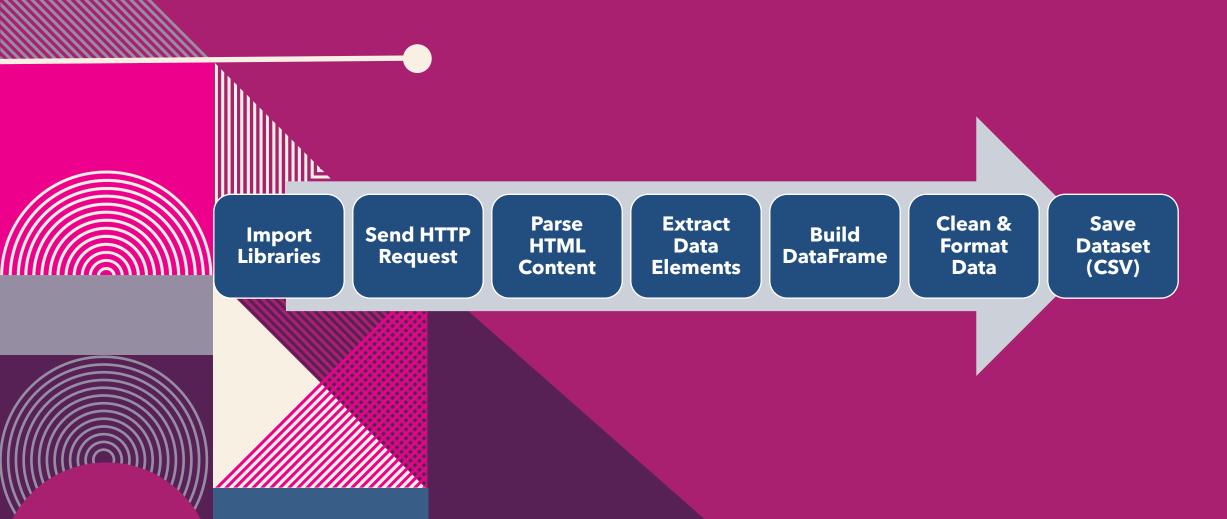
Using Beautiful Soap and html parser

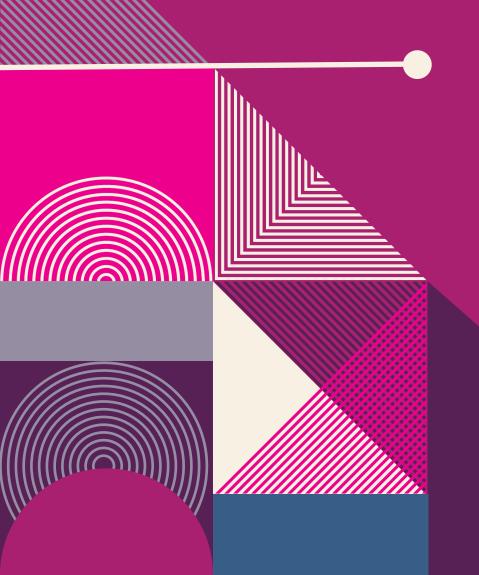


DATA COLLECTION:



WEB SCRAPING





Import Libraries

Tools: requests, BeautifulSoup, pandas.

Purpose: enable HTTP requests, HTML parsing, and structured data storage.



GETTING HTTP RESPONSE

Send HTTP Request

Use requests.get(url) to retrieve webpage content.

Example: scraping Wikipedia page on Falcon 9 launches.

Response codes (200 = success).

We initially get 403 error for scraping Wikipedia which can be easily resolved using a User-Agent.

PARSE HTML CONTENT

- •Load raw HTML into **BeautifulSoup**.
- •Locate elements with tags (, ,) or CSS selectors.
- •Example: extracting launch tables from Wikipedia.



EXTRACT DATA ELEMENTS

Identify relevant features: Date, Booster version, Payload mass, Orbit, Landing outcome.

Loop through table rows to collect structured values.



BUILD DATAFRAME

- •Organize extracted data into a pandas DataFrame.
- •Ensures tabular structure for analysis.



CLEAN & FORMAT DATA

Convert dates \rightarrow datetime format.

Handle missing values (NaN replacements).

Convert numeric columns (e.g., PayloadMass) to float.



SAVE DATASET (CSV)

We save csv files for every notebook wherever possible



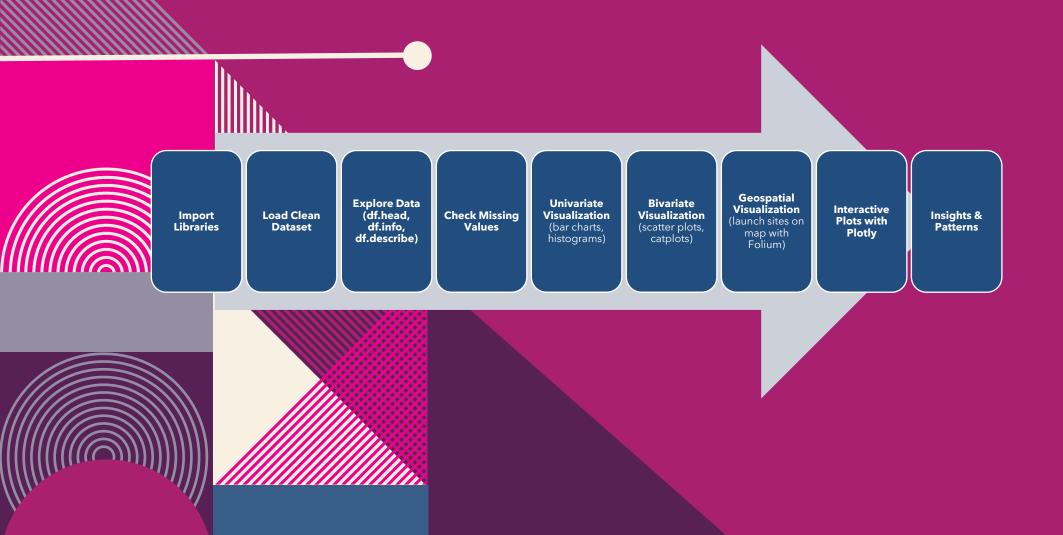
EXPLORATORY DATA ANALYSIS

Focused on Falcon9

Fixed the null values

Extracted info for each Orbit, Launch Site Payload

PROCESS - EDA





EXPLORE DATA

Dataset from previous lab (dataset_part_2.csv).

Contains Falcon 9 launches with engineered features.



FIXING MISSING VALUES

Ensured completeness.
Only certain categorical columns

VISUALIZATIONS - EDA

Bar charts: success counts by orbit, launch site.

Histograms: payload distribution.

Showed which categories dominate.

Scatter plots / catplots: FlightNumber vs. PayloadMass colored by success.

Identified patterns: later flights \rightarrow higher success



FOLIUM AND PLOTLY

Folium maps to display launch sites with markers.

Circle markers and clusters to explore success patterns geographically.

Dropdown menus to filter by orbit or launch site.

Scatter and line plots showing success by payload/flight.



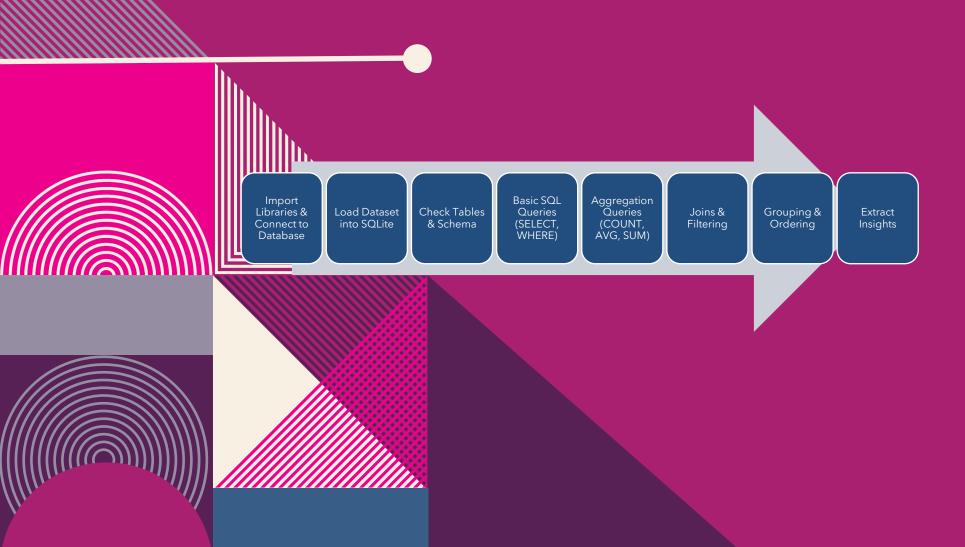
EDA - INSIGHTS

Success rate improved as FlightNumber increased.

Higher payloads correlated with different orbits (e.g., GTO riskier than LEO).

Certain launch sites performed more reliably.

EDA - SQL





Import Libraries & Connect to Database

Used sqlite3 and pandas for database connection and query execution.

Created a cursor for running SQL commands.



Load Dataset into SQLite

Loaded cleaned Falcon 9 dataset (dataset_part_2.csv).

Stored in an SQLite database for query-based exploration.

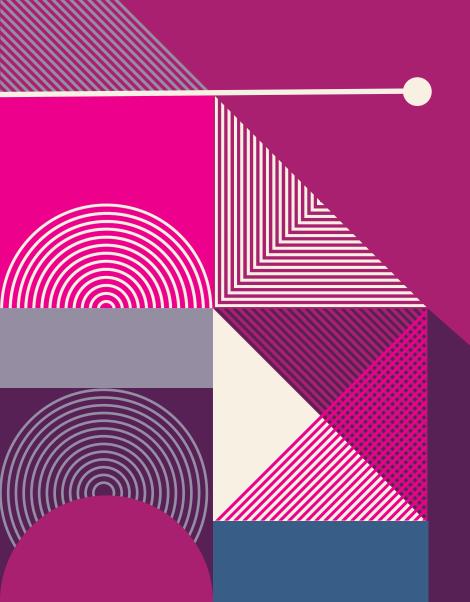
%sq]	l SELECT	* FROM SPACEXTBL						Pyth	non
* sqlite:///my_data1.db Done.									
Date	Time (UTC)	Booster_Version	Launch_Site	Payload	PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_	Orbit	Customer	Mission_Outcome	L
2010- 06-04	18:45:00	F9 v1.0 B0003	CCAFS LC- 40	Dragon Spacecraft Qualification Unit	0	LEO	SpaceX	Success	F
2010- 12-08	15:43:00	F9 v1.0 B0004	CCAFS LC- 40	Dragon demo flight C1, two CubeSats, barrel of Brouere	0	LEO (ISS)	NASA (COTS) NRO	Success	F



Check Tables & Schema

Verified database structure with SELECT name FROM sqlite_master.

Checked table column names and data types.



Basic SQL Queries

Queried launch data (flight number, payload, orbit).

Applied WHERE conditions to filter by orbit or launch site.

Display the names of the unique launch sites in the space mission

%sql SELECT DISTINCT "Launch_Site" FROM SPACEXTABLE

* sqlite://my_datal.db
Done.

Launch_Site

CCAFS LC-40

VAFB SLC-4E

KSC LC-39A

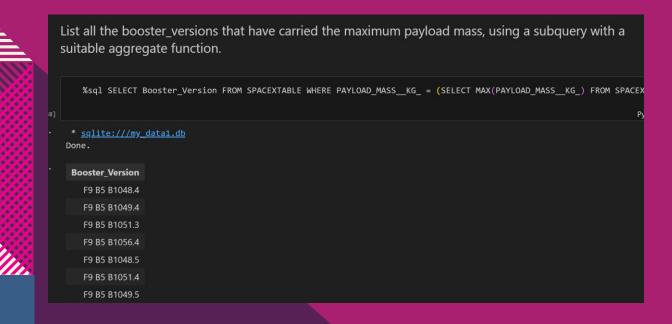
CCAFS SLC-40

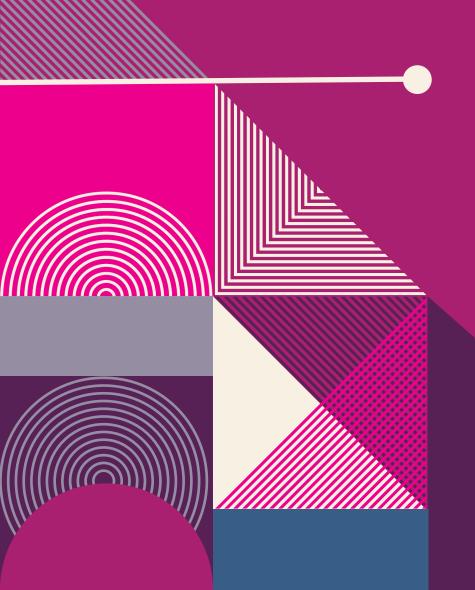
Aggregation Queries

Used COUNT() for number of launches.

Used AVG() for mean payload mass.

Summarized launch outcomes.





Joins & Filtering

Joined tables (if split into payloads/launches).

Filtered data to answer specific business questions.

Grouping & Ordering

Grouped results by orbit, launch site, and booster version.

Ordered by payload mass, success rate, or flight number.

Rank 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.

**sql SELECT "Landing_Outcome", COUNT(*) AS Count FROM SPACEXTABLE \

WHERE DATE BETWEEN '2010-06-04' AND '2017-03-20' \

GROUP BY "Landing_Outcome" \

ORDER BY Count DESC;

** sqlite:///my_datal.db

Done.

Landing_Outcome Count

Success (drone ship)
Failure (drone ship)



SQL EDA - INSIGHTS

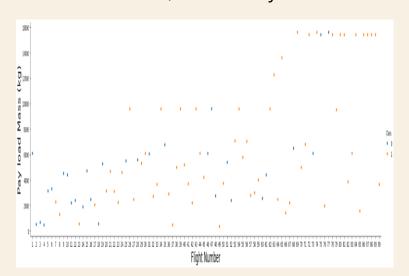
Found relationships between payload mass, orbit, and success rate.

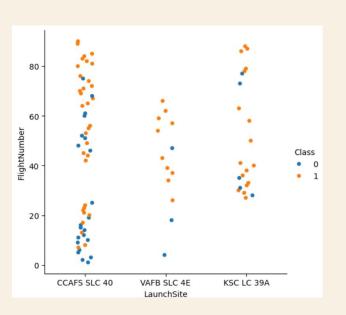
Identified which launch sites and booster versions were most reliable.

EDA: CHARTS

Scatter Plots were plotted to check the correlation of variables with each other:

- Flight Number
- Payload Mass
- Launch Site
- Orbit
- Success Rate, and Yearly trend for the success



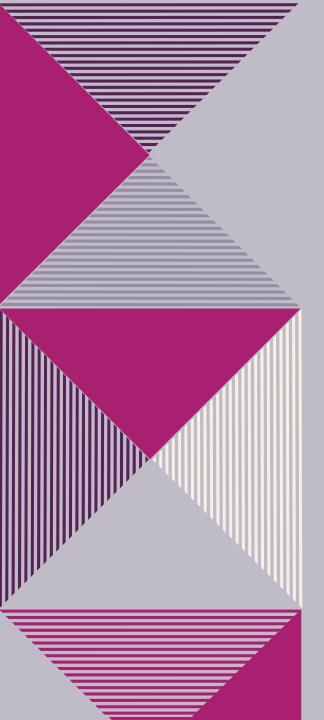


EDA: WITH SQL

Explored further patterns within the data for payload (4000<payload<6000)

Successful missions and their relevant parameters

Ranking the Landing outcomes for drones and groundpad



INTERACTIVE FOLIUM MAP

 The Project also included a map in Folium, to interactively see the sites and their outcomes using Markers



INTERACTIVE DASHBOARD

 Interactive Dashboard for visualization for the factors that can be manually selected

PREDICTIVE ANALYSIS

- Machine Learning Models were trained with GridSearch CV, cv=10 and the models were:
- Logistic Regression
- Decision Tree
- SVM
- KNN

MODELS

- SVM and KNN performed better than others, generally.
- Decision Tree worked best for Validation Data only.

Metric	Test Accuracy	Validation Accuracy	
Logistic Regression	0.833	0.8464	
SVM	0.833	0.848	
DecisionTree	0.722	0.9017	
KNN	0.833	0.848	

CONCLUSIONS

- Best Models were KNN and SVM
- Reused Boosters perform better
- Orbits like LEO, ISS have higher success rates than GTO
- Heavier payloads reduce success probability

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT METRICS

Impact factor	Measurement	Target	Achieved
Audience interaction	Percentage (%)	85	88
Knowledge retention	Percentage (%)	75	80
Post-presentation surveys	Average rating	4.2	4.5
Referral rate	Percentage (%)	10	12

