



# **ATD-2 Integrated Arrival/ Departure/Surface (IADS) System Machine Learning Services**

## **Departure Runway Model (DRM)**

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## Model Name

Departure Runway Model (DRM)

## Problem Statement

Assigning flights to runways at an airport is a critical function that influences all aspects of airport operations and performance. These assignments, made by air traffic controllers, indicate the runway on which a flight must land or take off from. While considerable previous research has been devoted to optimizing these assignments (e.g., to maximize throughput), the data-driven models developed for this work focus on predicting runway assignments based on previously-observed operations.

This model predicts the specific runway on which a flight will depart, beginning several hours before that takeoff is expected to occur. Separate models are trained for each airport.

## Technical Approach

The deployed models use an XGBoost Classifier for making predictions. This ML model is wrapped in a scikit-learn Pipeline to handle imputation and encoding of input data. The scikit-learn Pipeline is further wrapped in custom code developed for the project to apply a rule-based approach to exclude unknown or invalid data that may be presented in a live setting.

## Model Features

Feature	Sample Value
Lookahead: time between when model is asked for a prediction and when flight is expected to pushback	12480 seconds
Expected departure fix name	GRABE
Filed flight plan indicator: indicator as to whether the flight plan from which the fix value is derived was actually filed by the operator, or was assumed by the automation systems	FALSE
Airport configuration name	D_17R_18R_A_17C_17R_18R
Aircraft engine class	JET
Wake turbulence category	D

## Model Inputs & Outputs

See OpenAPI specification in the appendix.

## Data Sets

The model training and test dataset was extracted from a fused dataset of the TFMS, TBFM, and STDDS SMES feeds. Features were derived from all three of these data sources. The D-ATIS feed provided the time series of airport configurations used to train the model. The actual takeoff runways that are the target value for the models are not available in any of these sources. As a result, these were derived using a custom process that uses airborne and surface surveillance data, and airport layout information.

Because the various input data are available at different instants and at different intervals, the data were resampled at 60 second intervals, with values carries forward. Thus, the dataset is very large, with significant repeated data.

The dataset for these models was drawn from January 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021. Of the full dataset, 10% of the observations are reserved for model testing.

## Model Results / Evaluation

<b>Airport</b>	<b>Accuracy: training dataset</b>	<b>Accuracy: test dataset</b>	<b>Precision</b>	<b>Recall</b>	<b>AUC</b>
KDFW	0.888	0.888	0.891	0.888	0.966
KDAL	0.711	0.699	0.726	0.699	0.922
KCLT	0.919	0.915	0.917	0.915	0.985
KEWR	0.993	0.994	0.993	0.994	0.904
KJFK	0.981	0.978	0.972	0.978	0.976
KLGA	0.988	0.984	0.984	0.984	0.989
KBOS	0.891	0.896	0.905	0.896	0.978
KPHL	0.965	0.962	0.960	0.962	0.979
KIAH	0.809	0.803	0.806	0.803	0.962

## Open Source Repository

<https://github.com/nasa/ML-airport-departure-runway>

## Reference Documentation

Churchill, A., Coupe, W., Jung, Y., "Predicting Arrival and Departure Assignments with Machine Learning," AIAA AVIATION Forum, Washington, DC, USA, 2021.

## Appendix: OpenAPI Specification



Explore

# Departure Runway OVC Client 1.0.0-dev17 OAS3

Departure Runway OVC Client

## Servers

[http://localhost:9094/ - Departure Runway OVC Client](http://localhost:9094/)

Computed URL: <http://localhost:9094/>

## Server variables

port

9094

## default ∨

POST /

## Schemas ∨

```
DepartureRunwayRequest {
  airport*      string
                example: KEWR
                airport
  flights*     [...]
}
```

```
DepartureRunwayRequestFlight {
  aircraftEngineClass string
    example: JET
    nullable: true

    aircraft engine class

  airportConfigurationName string
    example: D_22R_A_22R
    nullable: true

    airport configuration name

  departureFixSourceData string
    example: NEWEL
    nullable: true

    the departure fix from source data

  filedFlight boolean
    example: TRUE
    nullable: true

    filed flight

  gufi string
    example: N338LS.EWR.LAS.200422.1601.0003.TFM
    nullable: true

    gufi

  lookahead integer($int32)
    example: 14127
    nullable: true

    lookahead

  wakeTurbulenceCategory string
    example: D
    nullable: true

    wake_turbulence_category
}
```

```
DepartureRunwayResponse {
  airport* string
    example: KEWR

    airport

  flights* [...]
}
```

```
DepartureRunwayResponseFlight {
  departureRunwayPredicted* string
    example: 4L
    departure_runway_predicted

  departureRunwayPredictedProbability* number
    example: 0
    departure_runway_predicted_probability

  error string
    example: ABC123.CLT.MEX
    error description

  gufi* string
    example: N338LS.EWR.LAS.200422.1601.0003.TFM
    gufi
}
```