

2016Q4

(a) P(success on 1 launch) = 1 - P(failure) = 1 - .15 = .85

P(30 successes) = (.85)^30 = .00763

(b) P(failure on 31st or 32nd launch | first 30 successes) = ((.85)^30(.15) + (.85)^31(.15)) / (.85)^30

= .0021175357 / .0076307596 = .2775

or
numerator is: $\frac{P(failure) \times \text{geompdf}(.15, 31) + \text{geompdf}(.15, 32) \times P(failure)}{\text{binompdf}(30, .85, 30)}$
denominator is: $n \times P(success)$

(c) If probability of single launch ignitor failure is really 0.15, then part a probability of .00763 is how likely 30 successes in a row would occur by chance. There is very low (< typical alpha = .05) so this suggests that the ignitor failure rate is likely lower than .15.