

# Winning Space Race with Data Science

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#### **Outline**

- Executive Summary
- Introduction
- Methodology
- Results
- Conclusion
- Appendix

#### **Executive Summary**

Summary of methodologies

The following report deals with SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket launches. It aims to understand the factors contributing to a successful SpaceX launch. The dataset is first collected through a CSV file. Web scraping methods such as Beautiful Soup were also used to obtain the data. After obtaining the right data and cleaning it using Pandas, Exploratory Data Analysis was performed to gather further insights into the data. Data Visualization tools such as Folium, Matplotlib, Seaborn, and Plotly Dash were used to display data in a human-readable format. In conclusion for the research, Machine Learning prediction models offered by Scikit-Learn were used to build models that best-predicted success rate for Launches

Summary of all results

#### Introduction

#### Project background and context:

- The Falcon9 is one of SpaceX's most popular rockets.
- SpaceX advertises Falcon9's cost to be around 62 Million USD, whereas other providers quote 165 Million dollars for their market equivalents.
- Much of these savings are because Falcon9 is able to reuse the first stage of its launch.

#### Problems you want to find answers

- If we can determine if the first stage will land, we can determine the cost of the launch.
- Therefore, this study aims to study the causing factors behind a successful Falcon9 launch for SpaceX.



# Methodology

#### **Executive Summary**

- Data collection methodology:
  - Data was collected using 3 different methods: 1)SpaceX API, 2)Web scraping
- Perform data wrangling
  - Data was processed using 2 different methods: 1)The Pandas Library, 2) SQL
- Perform exploratory data analysis (EDA) using visualization and SQL
- Perform interactive visual analytics using Folium and Plotly Dash
- Perform predictive analysis using classification models
  - Scikit-Learn Library: LogisticRegression, Support Vector Machines, Decision Tree Classifiers etc.

#### **Data Collection**

- Data was collected using 2 different methods/sources:
- 1) SpaceX API
- 2) Web Scraping

## Data Collection – SpaceX API

- The requests library was used to obtain data from the SpaceX API, followed by json normalization using the Pandas library.
- Furthermore, new columns were created using user-defined functions, as can be seen in the notebook below.
- https://github.com/Abhi-61/SpaceX\_Rocket\_Launch\_Data\_Analysis/blob/main/jupyter-labsspacex-data-collection-api.ipynb

```
spacex_url="https://api.spacexdata.com/v4/launches/past"
                response = requests.get(spacex_url)
# Use json normalize meethod to convert the json result into a dataframe
data = pd.json normalize(response.json())
                      # Call getBoosterVersion
                      getBoosterVersion(data)
                      # Call getLaunchSite
                      getLaunchSite(data)
                      # Call getPayLoadData
                      getPayloadData(data)
                      # Call getCoreData
                      getCoreData(data)
```

## **Data Collection - Scraping**

- The response library was used again to access the Wikipedia page of SpaceX, which was then converted into a BeautifulSoup object, and then finally transformed into a pandas Dataframe.
- https://github.com/Abhi-61/SpaceX\_Rocket\_Launch\_Data\_Analysis/blo b/main/jupyter-labs-webscraping.ipynb

```
static url = "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=List of Falcon 9 and Falcon Heavy launches&oldid=1027686922"
 # use requests.get() method with the provided static url
 # assign the response to a object
 response = requests.get(static url)
 # Use BeautifulSoup() to create a BeautifulSoup object from a response text content
 soup = BeautifulSoup(response.content, 'html.parser')
# Use the find all function in the BeautifulSoup object, with element type `table`
# Assign the result to a list called `html tables`
html_tables = soup.find_all('table')
 df= pd.DataFrame({ key:pd.Series(value) for key, value in launch dict.items() })
```

# **Data Wrangling**

- Once the data was converted into a Pandas dataframe, it had to be further analyzed for cleaning.
- You need to present your data wrangling process using key phrases and flowcharts
- First and foremost, the datatypes of each attribute in the dataframe had to be determined in order to understand what methods can be applied to the dataset.
- Moreover, null\_counts and the value\_counts of the important attributes had to be determined before moving forward.

```
df.isnull().sum()

df.dtypes

# Apply value_counts() on column LaunchSite
df['LaunchSite'].value_counts()
```

• https://github.com/Abhi-61/SpaceX\_Rocket\_Launch\_Data\_Analysis/blob/main/labs-jupyter-spacex-Data%20wrangling.ipynb

#### **EDA** with Data Visualization

- What data had to be visualized and why?
- 1) Cat plot of PayloadMass vs FlightNumber, to see if there was any change in Payload Mass as FlightNumber increased. (Note that Flight Number was sequential ranging from 1 to 90).
- 2) Scatterplot of FlightNumber vs LaunchSites to determine in which sites were a majority of the rockets were launched.
- 3) Scatterplot of LaunchSite and PayloadMass to determine if certain LaunchSites were used to launch rockets only of a specific Payload Mass.
- 4) Bar Chart of success rate with regards to the orbit in which the rocket was launched.
- 5) Scatterplot representing the number of Flights in each orbit, and colored based on whether the flight was a success or failure.

#### EDA with Data Visualization (Contd.)

- What data had to be visualized and why?
- 6) Scatterplot of Orbit vs Payload Mass of each Flight to gather insight on whether certain orbit rockets had a specific payload mass.
- 7) Line plot of the average success rate of launches in each year to study the general trend of SpaceX's Falcon9 Launches.
- https://github.com/Abhi-61/SpaceX\_Rocket\_Launch\_Data\_Analysis/blob/main/edadataviz.ipynb

#### **EDA** with SQL

- Using bullet point format, summarize the SQL queries you performed
- Select the distinct Launch sites in the dataset to determine the unique launch sites used for Falcon9 Launches
- Select the first 5 records whose Launch Sites began with characters "CCA"
- Select the total payload mass carried by boosters launched by NASA.
- Display the average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1
- List the Date when the first successful ground pad rocket was launched
- List boosters of payload mass between 4000 and 6000kg which have success in drone ship
- Display boosters that have carried the maximum payload mass

#### EDA with SQL (Contd.)

- List Records of launches that failed by drone ship in 2015.
- List landing outcomes between 2010-06-04 and 2017-03-20, ranked in descending order
- https://github.com/Abhi-61/SpaceX\_Rocket\_Launch\_Data\_Analysis/blob/main/jupyter-labs-eda-sql-coursera\_sqllite.ipynb

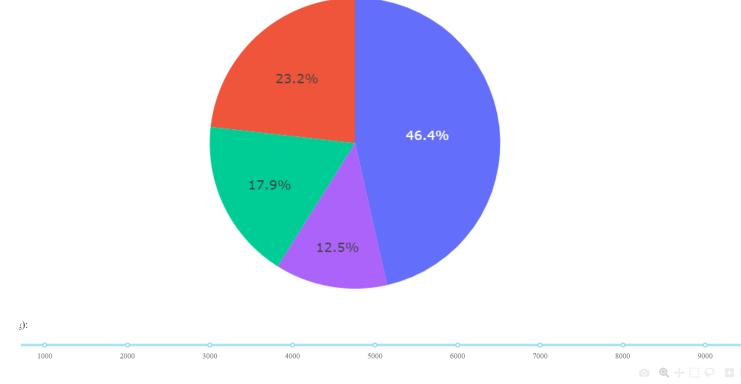
## Build an Interactive Map with Folium

- Objects Added to Folium Map:
- Marker and Circle representing the NASA Johnson Space Center at Houston, Texas.
   This was used as the center of the Map.
- 2) A circle and marker for each distinct launch site in the dataset, to identify the sites better.
- 3) Marker Cluster for each launch site where each marker represented either a successful launch(in green) or failed launch(in red). This made it easier to identify launch sites with higher successful launches.
- 4) A marker and polyline connecting the launchsite to the marker representing the nearest coastline, highway, city etc. to the launch site VAFB SLC-4E.
- https://github.com/Abhi-61/SpaceX\_Rocket\_Launch\_Data\_Analysis/blob/main/lab\_jupyter\_launch\_site\_location.ipynb

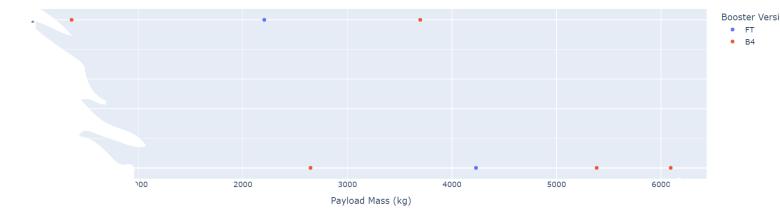
# Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

- Interactions and Plots that were added to the Dash Application:
  - Success Rate of All Sites compared with each other. (Dropdown Menu)
  - Success Rate of each Launch site Taken one at a time. (Dropdown Menu)
  - Scatterplot of Success Rate of the selected launch site with regards to flights of different payload mass. A slider was used to filter the minimum and maximum payload range

https://github.com/Abhi-61/SpaceX\_Rocket\_Launch\_Data\_Analysis/blob/main/plotly-dashapplication/spacex dash app.py



Correlation between Payload and Success for all Sites



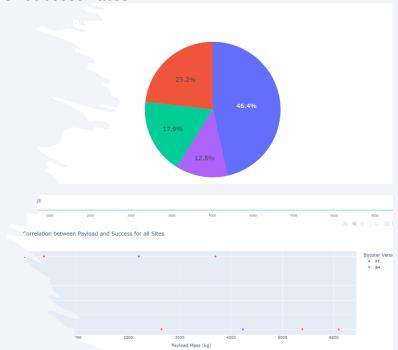
## Predictive Analysis (Classification)

- Steps used in determining the best predictive model:
- 1) Standardize data using StandardScaler(), and then fit and transform the data.
- 2) Split the data into train and test data using train\_test\_split.
- 3) Use Grid Search on 4 different predictors, namely Logistic Regression, Support Vector Machines, Decision Tree Classifiers, K Nearest Neighbors.
- 4) Determine which predictor is best based on F1\_Score
- https://github.com/Abhi 61/SpaceX\_Rocket\_Launch\_Data\_Analysis/blob/main/SpaceX\_Machine%20Learning%20Prediction\_Part\_5.ipynb

#### Results

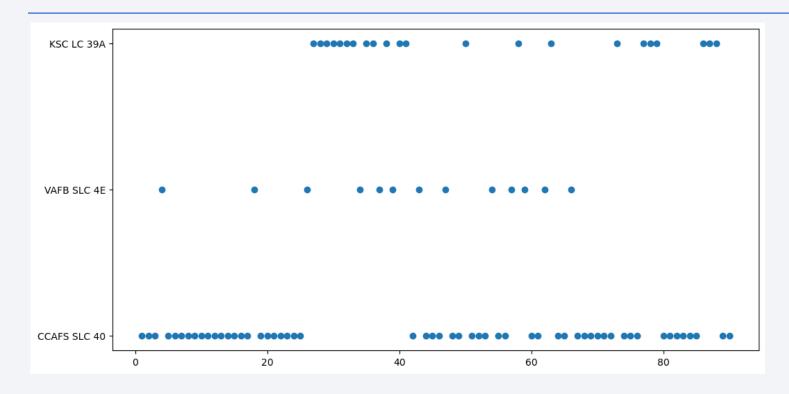
- Exploratory data analysis results
- 1) Most Flights were launched at CCAFS SLC-40
- 2) Most Flights launched had a payload mass below 8000kg, especially for CCAFS SLC-40
- 3) Flights launched into orbits LEO, ISS, GTO and SO have significantly higher success rates.
- 4) Success rates kept increasing since 2013 until 2020.
- Interactive analytics demo in screenshots
- Predictive analysis results





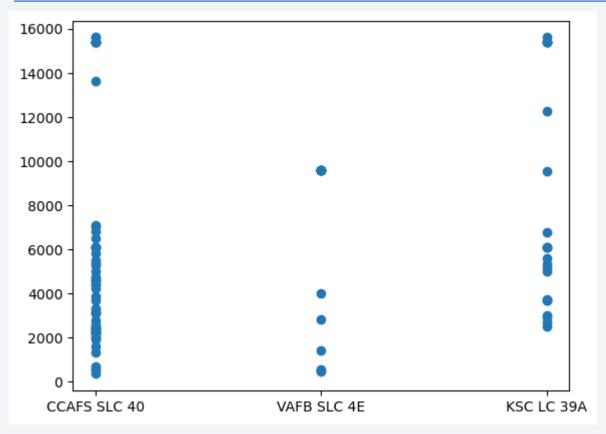


## Flight Number vs. Launch Site



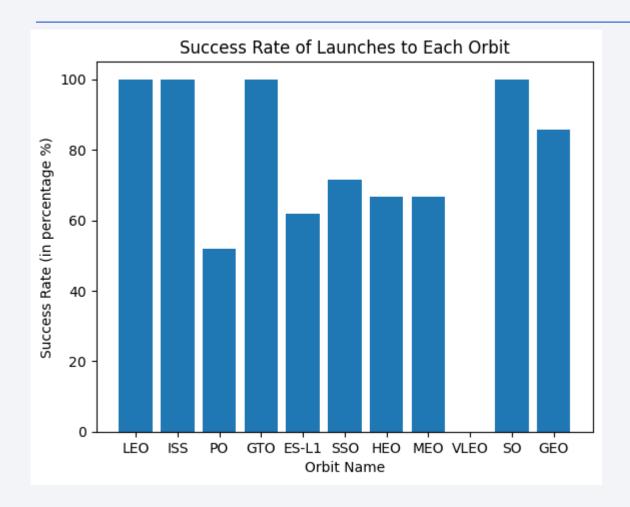
A majority of Falcon9 Launches were from the CCAFS SLC-40 Launch Site.

# Payload vs. Launch Site



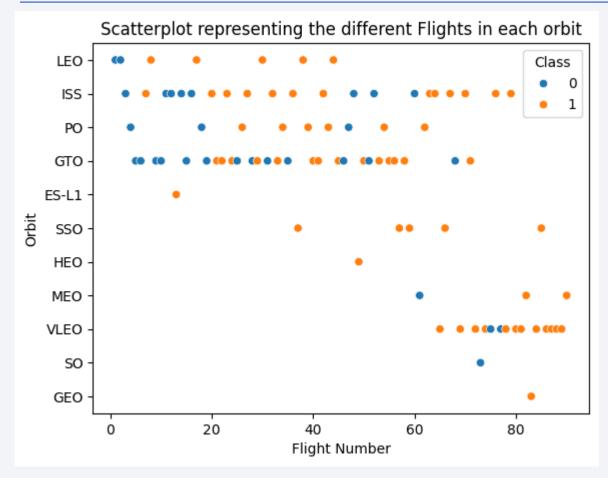
 Most of the flights launched from all launch sites seem to have a payload mass of below 8000kg

### Success Rate vs. Orbit Type



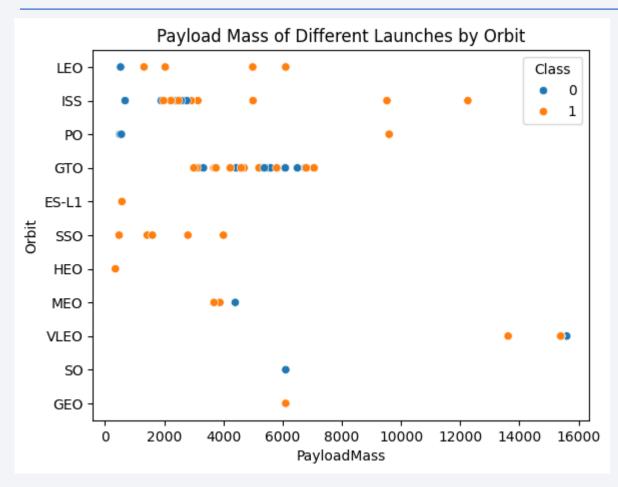
Flights launched into orbits LEO, ISS, GTO and SO have 100% success rates.

# Flight Number vs. Orbit Type



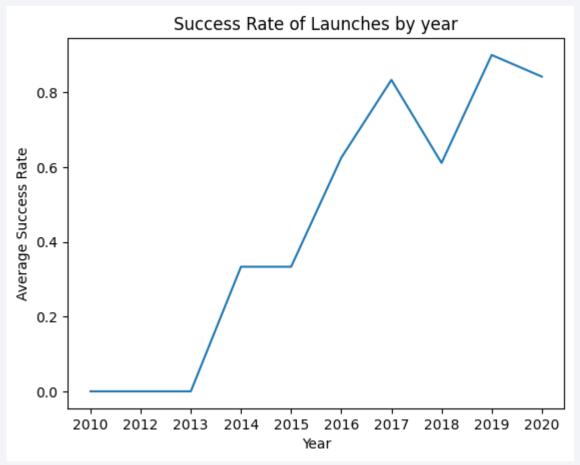
 Orbits SSO, HEO, MEO, VLEO, SO, GEO had Falcon9 flights launched into them only in the later launches of SpaceX.

# Payload vs. Orbit Type



Most flights were launched into orbits GTO and ISS, with payload mass below 8000kg.

# Launch Success Yearly Trend



 Success rates for Falcon9 launches showed an upward trend since 2013 until 2020 with a slight dip in 2018.

#### All Launch Site Names

The Unique launch sites of Falcon 9 space launches can be extracted from the dataset as shown in the query below.

```
%sql SELECT DISTINCT "Launch_Site" FROM SPACEXTABLE;

* sqlite:///my_data1.db
Done.

Launch_Site

CCAFS LC-40

VAFB SLC-4E

KSC LC-39A

CCAFS SLC-40
```

Therefore, the 4 unique launch sites in the dataset are CCAFS LC-40, CCAFS SLC-40, VAFB SLC-4E, KSC LC-39A.

# Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

• The query to display the first records of launch sites beginning with CCA is as shown below:

* sqlite:///my_data1.db Done.									
Date	Time (UTC)	Booster_Version	Launch_Site	Payload	PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_	Orbit	Customer	Mission_Outcome	Landing_Outcome
2010- 06-04	18:45:00	F9 v1.0 B0003	CCAFS LC- 40	Dragon Spacecraft Qualification Unit	0	LEO	SpaceX	Success	Failure (parachute)
2010- 12-08	15:43:00	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)
2012- 05-22	7:44:00	F9 v1.0 B0005	CCAFS LC- 40	Dragon demo flight C2	525	LEO (ISS)	NASA (COTS)	Success	No attempt
2012- 10-08	0:35:00	F9 v1.0 B0006	CCAFS LC- 40	SpaceX CRS-1	500	LEO (ISS)	NASA (CRS)	Success	No attempt
2013- 03-01	15:10:00	F9 v1.0 B0007	CCAFS LC- 40	SpaceX CRS-2	677	LEO (ISS)	NASA (CRS)	Success	No attemp

It can be seen that all the missions in the retrieved result are successes.

# **Total Payload Mass**

The total payload mass of boosters launched by NASA is retrieved using the query:

```
%sql SELECT SUM(PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_) FROM SPACEXTABLE WHERE "Customer" LIKE "NASA%"

* sqlite://my_data1.db
Done.

SUM(PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_)

99980
```

As seen above, NASA has sent boosters with a combined payload mass of 99980 Kg

## Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

• The average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1is given by the query:

```
%sql SELECT AVG(PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_) FROM SPACEXTABLE WHERE Booster_Version LIKE "F9 v1.1%"

* sqlite://my_data1.db
Done.

AVG(PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_)

2534.66666666666665
```

The average payload mass as shown above carried by booster version F9 v1.1 is 2534.67 Kg

# First Successful Ground Landing Date

The first successful ground pad launch is given by the query:

```
%sql SELECT * FROM SPACEXTABLE WHERE Date = (SELECT MIN(DATE) FROM SPACEXTABLE WHERE Landing Outcome LIKE "%Success%")
* sqlite:///my_data1.db
Done.
               Booster Version Launch Site
                                             Payload PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_ Orbit Customer Mission_Outcome Landing_Outcome
 Date
                                                OG2
                                            Mission 2
                                 CCAFS LC-
                                                                                                               Success (ground
                   F9 FT B1019
                                                                           LEO Orbcomm
                                                                                                    Success
 12-22
                                           Orbcomm-
                                                                                                                         pad)
                                                OG2
                                             satellites
```

As shown in the result above, the launch was conducted on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2015.

#### Successful Drone Ship Landing with Payload between 4000 and 6000

The names of boosters which have successfully landed on drone ship and had payload mass greater than 4000 but less than 6000 is given by the query:

SELECT Booster\_Version FROM SPACEXTABLE WHERE Landing\_Outcome = "Success (drone ship)" AND PAYLOAD\_MASS\_\_KG\_ BETWEEN 4000 AND 6000

# F9 FT B1022 F9 FT B1026 F9 FT B1021.2 F9 FT B1031.2

• As shown in the result set above, the successful drone ship missions with payload mass between 4000 and 6000 contain the above-given boosters.

#### Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes

The total number of successful and unsuccessful missions is given by the query:

%sql SELECT COUNT(Missi	on_Outcome),Mission_Outcome
* sqlite:///my_data1.db Done.	
COUNT(Mission_Outcome)	Mission_Outcome
1	Failure (in flight)
98	Success
1	Success
1	Success (payload status unclear)

A total of 100 successful missions and 1 failure.

# **Boosters Carried Maximum Payload**

The names of the booster that have carried the maximum payload mass is given by the query:



The boosters that have carried the maximum payload is given above.

#### 2015 Launch Records

The launch records of all failed landing outcomes in 2015 is given by the query:

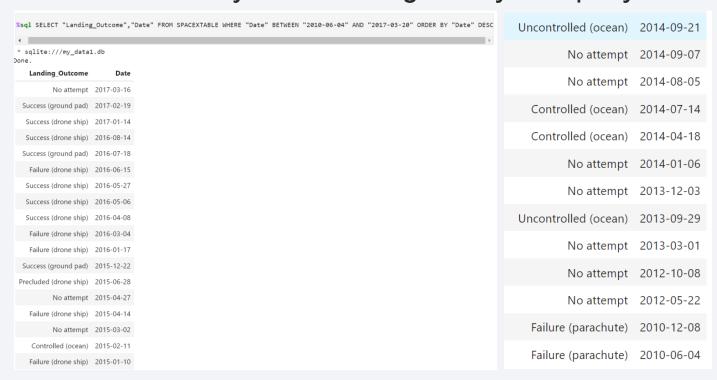
SELECT substr(Date, 6,2) as Month, "Landing\_Outcome" FROM SPACEXTABLE WHERE "Landing\_Outcome" LIKE "%Failure (drone ship)%" AND substr(Date, 0,5) = '2015'

Month	Landing_Outcome			
01	Failure (drone ship)			
04	Failure (drone ship)			

2 Drone ship failures occurred in 2015, in January and April as shown above.

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

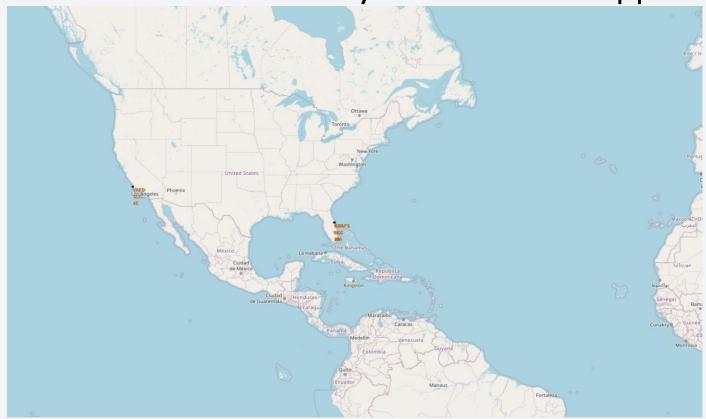
The failed landing\_outcomes in drone ship, their booster versions, and launch site names for in year 2015 is given by the query:





## Launch Site Locations across the US

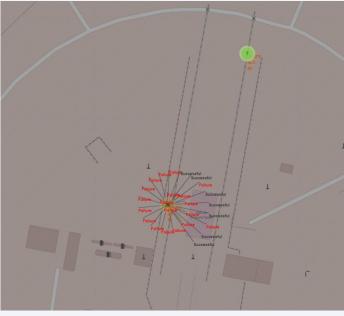
There is one launch site on the eastern coast and 2 on wester coast. The 2 sites on the western coast are extremely close to each other which is why it looked overlapped.

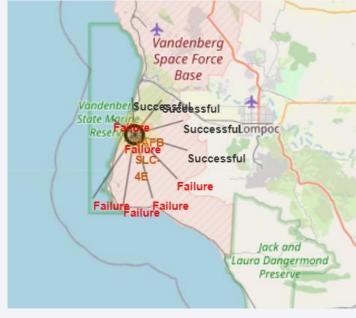


## Missions completed at each Launch Site

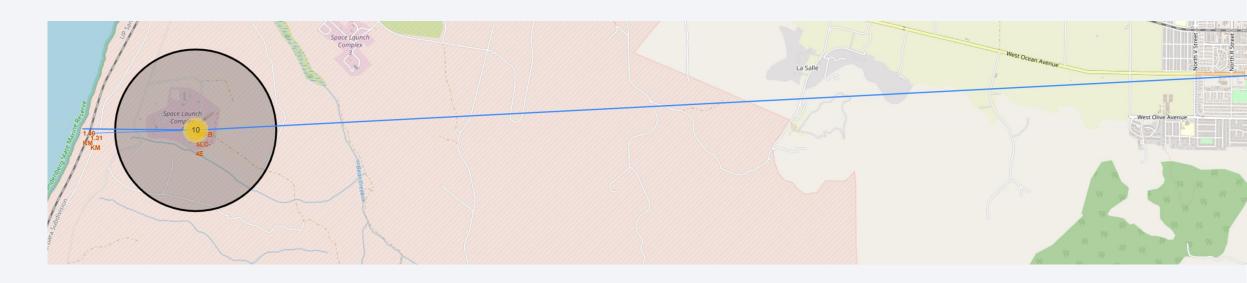
• Explore the folium map and make a proper screenshot to show the colorlabeled launch outcomes on the map







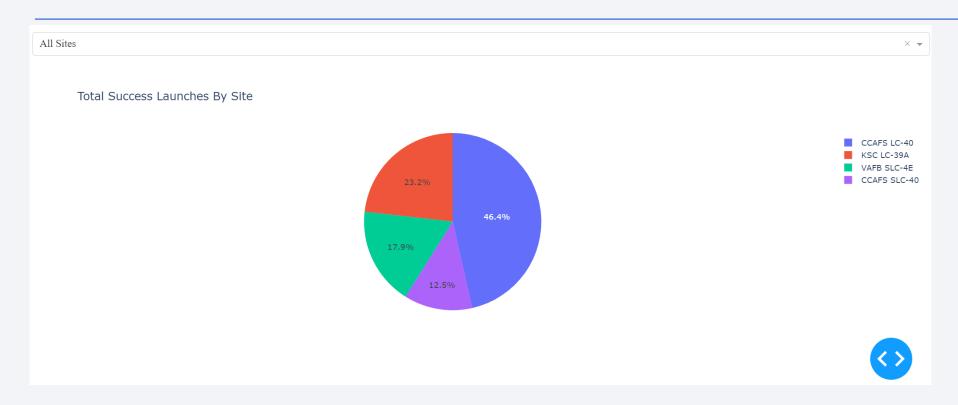
## Proximities to the VAFB SLC-4E Site



There is a coastline, and railway around 1.3 km from the site and the town of Lompoc about 13.12km away.



## Success Rates of All Launch Sites



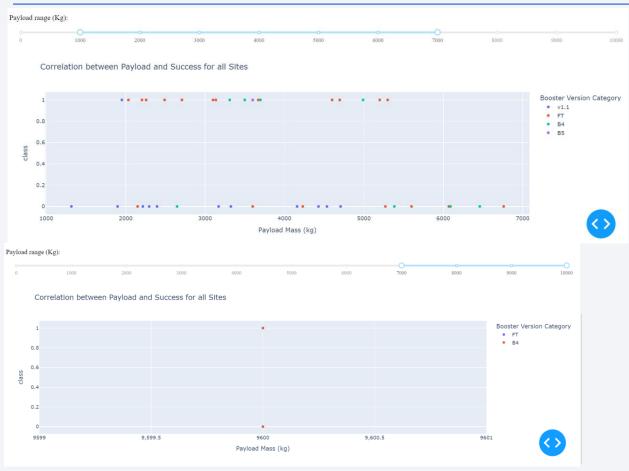
CCAFS LC-40 had the highest success rate followed by KSC LC-39A

## Success Count of CCAFS LC-40



73.1% of all the launches from the CCAFS LC-40 Launch Site were a success.

## Payload Mass vs Launch Outcomes

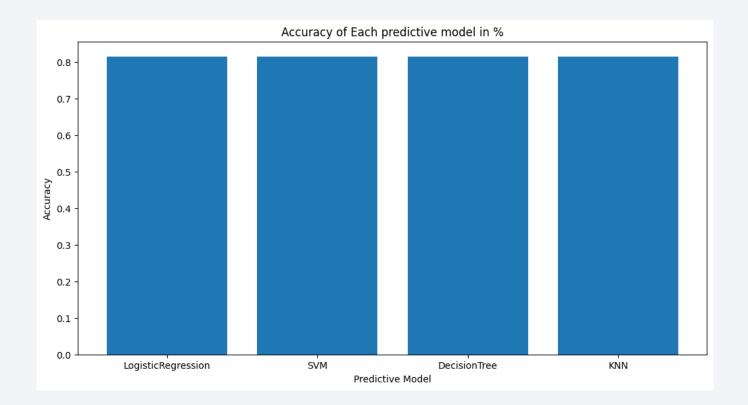


Most successful launches had a booster with payload mass between 1000kg and 7000kg.



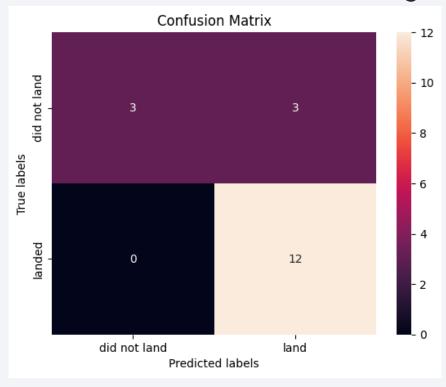
## Classification Accuracy

As seen below, all predictive models have the same accuracy rate based on their F1\_scores (81.48) and .score() accuracy values(83.33).



# Confusion Matrix of the Best Performing Model

The Confusion Matrix of the Logistic Regression Model is shown below:



3 True Negatives, 3 False Positives, 0 True Negatives, 12 True Positives, from a total of 18 samples.

## **Conclusions**

- Most Successful Falcon9 launches originate from the CCAFS LC-40 Launch Site.
- Most Successful Falcon9 launches have a payload mass between 1000kg and 7000kg
- Almost all Launch Sites are by the coastline and have either a city/town or a railroad next to them.
- All 4 predictive models used proved to be equally efficient in predicting the success of future Falcon9 Missions
- Thus, we can with a significant amount of confidence, predict the success of future Falcon9 missions, given that we are provided with relevant launch data such payload mass, launch site,

# **Appendix**

#### Most of the python notebooks included in the links have the following imports:

```
# Pandas is a software library written for the Python programming language for data manipulation and analysis.
import pandas as pd
# NumPy is a library for the Python programming language, adding support for large, multi-dimensional arrays and matrices, a
import numpy as np
# Matplotlib is a plotting library for python and pyplot gives us a MatLab like plotting framework. We will use this in our
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
#Seaborn is a Python data visualization library based on matplotlib. It provides a high-level interface for drawing attracti
import seaborn as sns
# Preprocessing allows us to standarsize our data
from sklearn import preprocessing
# Allows us to split our data into training and testing data
from sklearn.model selection import train test split
# Allows us to test parameters of classification algorithms and find the best one
from sklearn.model_selection import GridSearchCV
# Logistic Regression classification algorithm
from sklearn.linear model import LogisticRegression
# Support Vector Machine classification algorithm
from sklearn.svm import SVC
# Decision Tree classification algorithm
from sklearn.tree import DecisionTreeClassifier
# K Nearest Neighbors classification algorithm
from sklearn.neighbors import KNeighborsClassifier
import folium
import pandas as pd
```

```
# Import folium MarkerCluster plugin
from folium.plugins import MarkerCluster
# Import folium MousePosition plugin
from folium.plugins import MousePosition
# Import folium DivIcon plugin
from folium.features import DivIcon
```

