

Winning Space Race with Data Science

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Outline

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

Executive Summary

- ☐ The following methodologies were used in this capstone project:
 - Data Collection with API & Web Scrapping.
 - Data Wrangling.
 - Exploratory Data Analysis with SQL & Data Visualization.
 - Interactive Visual Analytics.
 - Machine Learning Prediction.
- ☐ Summary of all results
 - The data was collected from public sources using API & Web Scrapping.
 - The EDA helped to gather best features to predict success of launchings.
 - Finally, Machine Learning Prediction showed the best model to predict

Introduction

Objective

- The objective is to evaluate the viability of the new company Space Y.
- SpaceY is a new commercial rocket launch provider who wants to bid against SpaceX.
- Given mission parameters such as payload mass and desired orbit, the models produced in this report were able to predict the first stage rocket booster landing successfully with an accuracy level of 83.3%.

> Desirable Answers:

- The best way to estimate the total cost for launches.
- The best Hyperparameter for SVM, Classification Trees, and Logistic Regression.
- Does launch sites effect outcomes, If so then which is the best place to make launches.



Methodology

Executive Summary

- Data collection methodology:
 - Data from Space X was obtained from 2 sources:
 - √ Space X API (https://api.spacexdata.com/v4/rockets/)
 - √ WebScraping (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of Falcon/ 9/ and Falcon Heavy
- · Perform data wrangling
 - ✓ Collected data was enriched by creating a landing outcome label based on outcome data after summarizing and analyzing features.

Methodology

Executive Summary

- Perform exploratory data analysis (EDA) using visualization and SQL
- Perform interactive visual analytics using Folium and Plotly Dash
- Perform predictive analysis using classification models
 - Data that was collected until this step were normalized, divided in training and test data sets and evaluated by four different classification models, being the accuracy of each model evaluated using different combinations of parameters.

Data Collection

- Space X API
 - ✓ Data sets were collected from Space X API (https://api.spacexdata.com/v4/rockets/)
- Wikipedia
 - ✓ Data sets were also collected from Wikipedia using Web Scraping (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of Falcon/9/ and Falcon Heavy launches).

Data Collection - SpaceX API

- SpaceX offers a public API from where data can be obtained and then used;
- This API was used according to the flowchart beside and then data is persisted.
- GitHub URL of the completed SpaceX API calls notebook
 (https://github.com/CosmicPegasus07/Capstone/blob/master/1.%20Hands On%20Lab %20Data%20Collection%20with%20API.ipynb)

Request API and parse the SpaceX launch data



Filter data to only include Falcon 9 launches



Deal with Missing Values

Data Collection - Scraping

- Data from SpaceX launches can also be obtained from Wikipedia;
- Data are downloaded from Wikipedia according to the flowchart and then persisted.
- GitHub URL of the completed web scraping notebook (https://github.com/CosmicPegasus07/ Capstone/blob/master/2.%20Handson%20Lab %20Data%20Collection% 20with%20Web%20Scraping.ipynb.ip ynb)

Request the Falcon9 Launch page from Wikipedia



names from the HTML table header



Create a data frame by parsing the launch HTML tables

Data Wrangling

- Initially some Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) was performed on the dataset.
- Then the summaries launches per site, occurrences of each orbit and occurrences of mission outcome per orbit type were calculated.
- Finally, the landing outcome label was created from Outcome column.
- GitHub URL of completed data wrangling related notebooks (https://github.com/CosmicPegasus07/Capstone/blob/master/3.%20Hands-0n%20Lab %20Data%20Wrangling.ipynb)

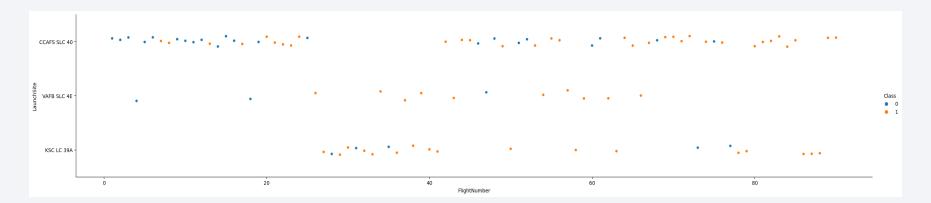
EDA

Summarization

Creation of Landing
Outcome Label

EDA with Data Visualization

- To explore data, scatter-plots and bar-plots were used to visualize the relationship between pair of features:
 - Payload Mass X Flight Number, Launch Site X Flight Number, Launch Site X Payload Mass,
 Orbit and Flight Number, Payload and Orbit
- GitHub URL of completed data visualization related notebooks (https://github.com/CosmicPegasus07/Capstone/blob/master/5.%20Hands-on%20Lab %20%20EDA%20with%20Data%20Visualization.ipynb)



EDA with SQL

- The following SQL queries were performed:
 - ✓ Names of the unique launch sites in the space mission;
 - √ Top 5 launch sites whose name begin with the string 'CCA';
 - ✓ Total payload mass carried by boosters launched by NASA (CRS);
 - ✓ Average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1;
 - ✓ Date when the first successful landing outcome in ground pad was achieved;
 - ✓ Names of the boosters which have success in drone ship and have payload mass between 4000 and 6000 kg;
 - ✓ Total number of successful and failure mission outcomes;

EDA with SQL

- The following SQL queries were performed:
 - ✓ Names of the booster versions which have carried the maximum payload mass;
 - ✓ Failed landing outcomes in drone ship, their booster versions, and launch site names for in year 2015; and
 - ✓ Rank of the count of landing outcomes (such as Failure (drone ship) or Success (ground pad) between the date 2010-06-04 and 2017-03-20.
- GitHub URL of completed EDA with SQL notebook (https://github.com/CosmicPegasus07/Capstone/blob/master/4.%20Hands-on%20Lab %20%20EDA%20with%20SQL.ipynb)

Build an Interactive Map with Folium

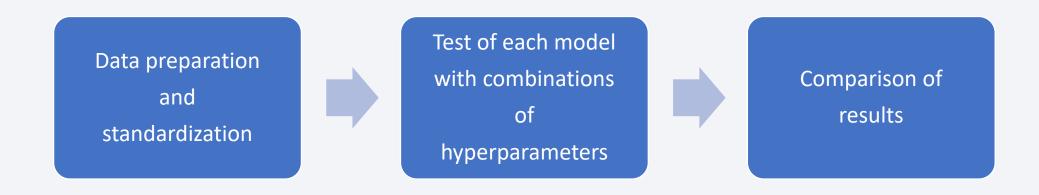
- Markers, circles, lines and marker clusters were used with Folium Maps
 - ✓ Markers indicate points like launch sites;
 - ✓ Circles indicate highlighted areas around specific coordinates, like NASA Johnson Space Center;
 - ✓ Marker clusters indicates groups of events in each coordinate, like launches in a launch site; and
 - ✓ Lines are used to indicate distances between two coordinates.
- GitHub URL of completed interactive map with Folium map (https://github.com/CosmicPegasus07/Capstone/blob/master/6.%20Hands-on%20Lab %20%20Interactive%20Visual%20Analytics%20with%20Folium.ipynb)

Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

- The following graphs and plots were used to visualize data
 - √ Percentage of launches by site
 - √ Payload range
- This combination allowed to quickly analyze the relation between payloads and launch sites, helping to identify where is best place to launch according to payloads.
- GitHub URL of completed Plotly Dash lab (https://github.com/CosmicPegasus07/Capstone/blob/master/7.%20DashApp/spacex_dash_app.py)

Predictive Analysis (Classification)

- Four classification models were compared: logistic regression, support vector machine, decision tree and k nearest neighbours.
- GitHub URL of completed predictive analysis lab
 (https://github.com/CosmicPegasus07/Capstone/blob/master/8.%20Hands-on%20Lab %20%20Machine%20Learning%20Prediction.ipynb)

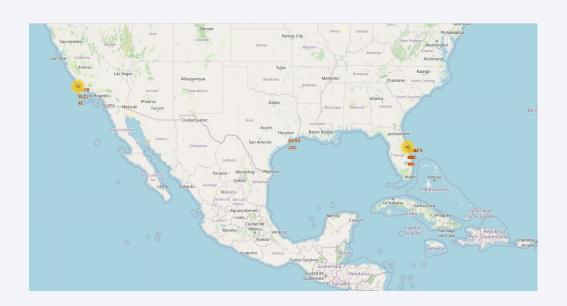


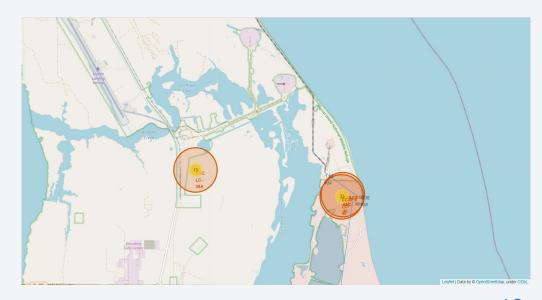
Results

- Exploratory data analysis results
 - ✓ Space X uses 4 different launch sites;
 - ✓ The first launches were done to Space X itself and NASA;
 - ✓ The average payload of F9 v1.1 booster is 2,928 kg;
 - ✓ The first success landing outcome happened in 2015 fiver year after the first launch;
 - ✓ Many Falcon 9 booster versions were successful at landing in drone ships having payload above the average;
 - ✓ Almost 100% of mission outcomes were successful;
 - √ Two booster versions failed at landing in drone ships in 2015: F9 v1.1 B1012 and F9 v1.1 B1015;
 - ✓ The number of landing outcomes became as better as years passed.

Results

- Using interactive analytics was possible to identify that launch sites use to be in safety places, near sea, for example and have a good logistic infrastructure around.
- Most launches happens at east cost launch sites.





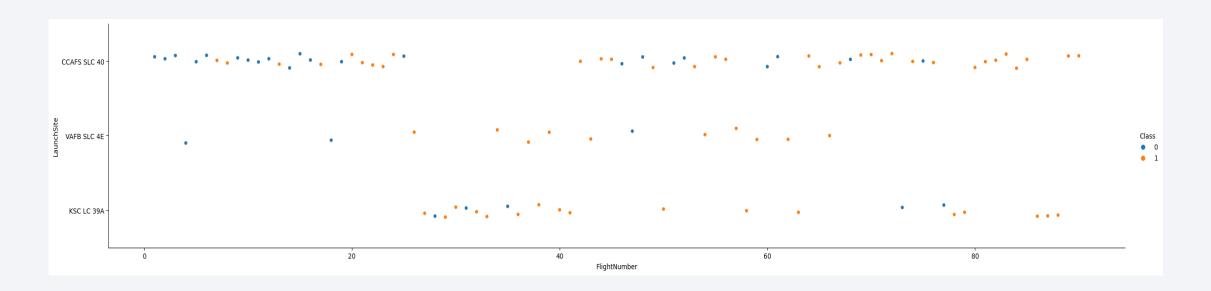
Results

• Predictive Analysis showed that Decision Tree Classifier is the best model to predict successful landings, having accuracy over 87% and accuracy for test data over 94%.



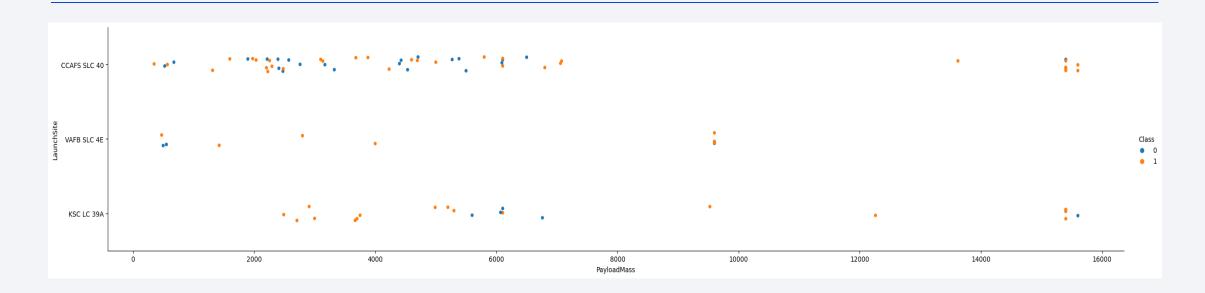


Flight Number vs. Launch Site



- According to the plot above, it's possible to verify that the best launch site nowadays is CCAF5 SLC 40, where most of recent launches were successful
- In second place VAFB SLC 4E and third place KSC LC 39A;
- It's also possible to see that the general success rate improved over time.

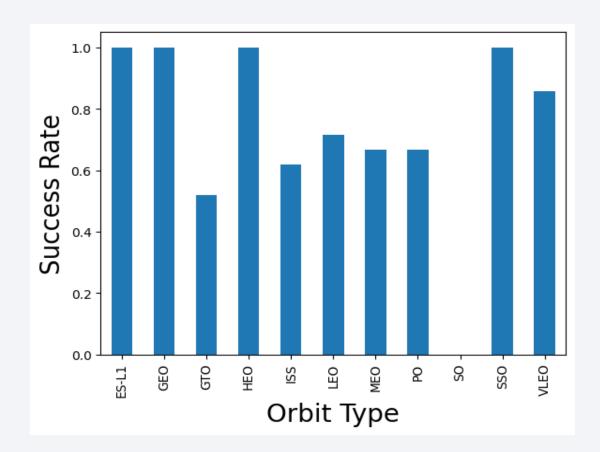
Payload vs. Launch Site



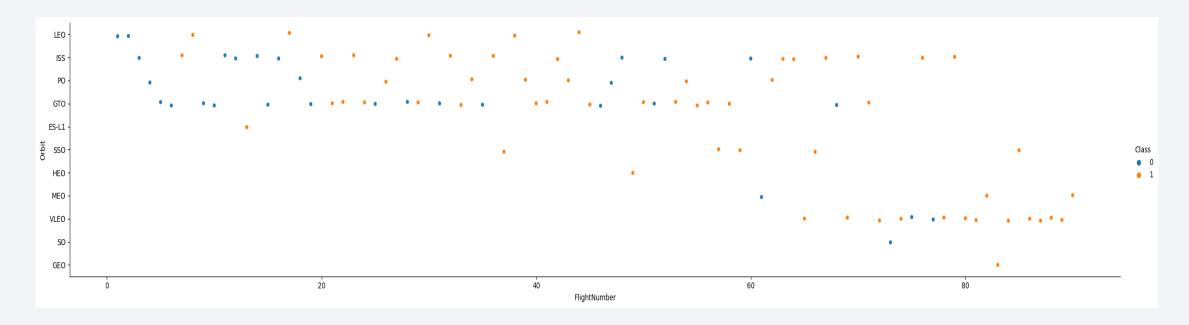
- Payloads over 9,000kg (about the weight of a school bus) have excellent success rate;
- Payloads over 12,000kg seems to be possible only on CCAFS SLC 40 and KSC LC39A launch sites.

Success Rate vs. Orbit Type

- The biggest success rates happens to orbits:
 - ES L1
 - GEO
 - HEO
 - SSO
- Followed by:
 - VLEO (above 80%)
 - LFO (above 70%)

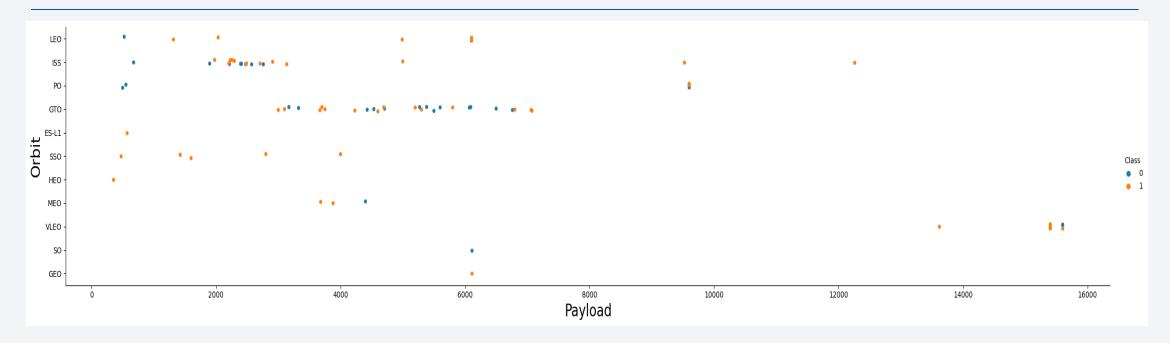


Flight Number vs. Orbit Type



- Apparently, success rate improved over time to all orbits;
- VLEO orbit seems a new business opportunity, due to recent increase of its frequency.

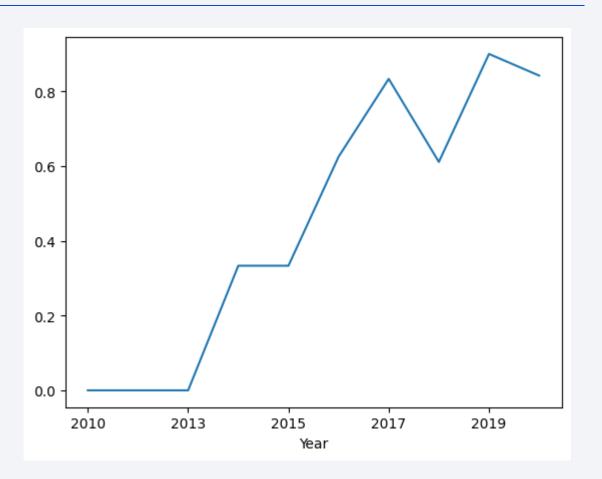
Payload vs. Orbit Type



- Apparently, there is no relation between payload and success rate to orbit GTO;
- ISS orbit has the widest range of payload and a good rate of success;
- There are few launches to the orbits SO and GEO.

Launch Success Yearly Trend

- Success rate started increasing in 2013 and kept until 2020
- It seems that the first three years were a period of adjusts and improvement of technology.



All Launch Site Names

According to data, there are four launch sites:

Launch Sites
CCAFS LC-40
CCAFS SLC-40
KSC LC-39A
VAFB SLC-4E

• They are obtained by selecting unique occurrences of "launch_site" values from the dataset.

Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

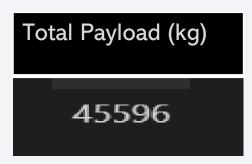
Find 5 records where launch sites begin with `CCA`

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	07:44:00	F9 v1.0 B0005	CCAFS LC- 40	Dragon demo flight C2	525	LEO (ISS)	NASA (COTS)	Success	No attempt
2012-10- 08	00:35:00	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 attempt

[✓] Here we can see five samples of Cape Canaveral launches.

Total Payload Mass

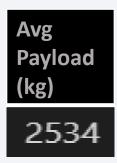
Total payload carried by boosters from NASA:



✓ Total payload calculated above, by summing all payloads whose codes contain 'CRS', which corresponds to NASA.

Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

Calculate the average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1



✓ Filtering data by the booster version above and calculating the average payload mass we obtained the value of 2,928 kg.

First Successful Ground Landing Date

• First successful landing outcome on ground pad:



✓ By filtering data by successful landing outcome on ground pad and getting the minimum value for date it's possible to identify the first occurrence, that happened on 22/12/2015.

Successful Drone Ship Landing with Payload between 4000 and 6000

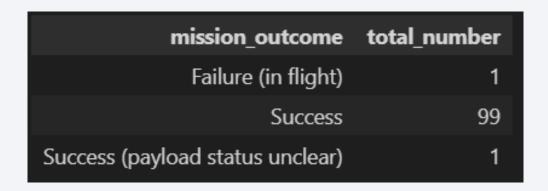
 Boosters which have successfully landed on drone ship and had payload mass greater than 4000 but less than 6000



[✓] Selecting distinct booster versions according to the filters above, these 4 are the result.

Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes

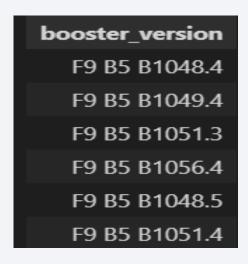
Number of successful and failure mission outcomes:



✓ Grouping mission outcomes and counting records for each group led us to the summary above.

Boosters Carried Maximum Payload

Boosters which have carried the maximum payload mass





√ These are the boosters which have carried the maximum payload mass registered in the dataset.

2015 Launch Records

• List of the failed landing_outcomes in drone ship, their booster versions, and launch site names for in year 2015

MONTH	landing_outcome	booster_version	launch_site
1	Failure (drone ship)	F9 v1.1 B1012	CCAFS LC-40
4	Failure (drone ship)	F9 v1.1 B1015	CCAFS LC-40

[✓] The list above has the only two occurrences.

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

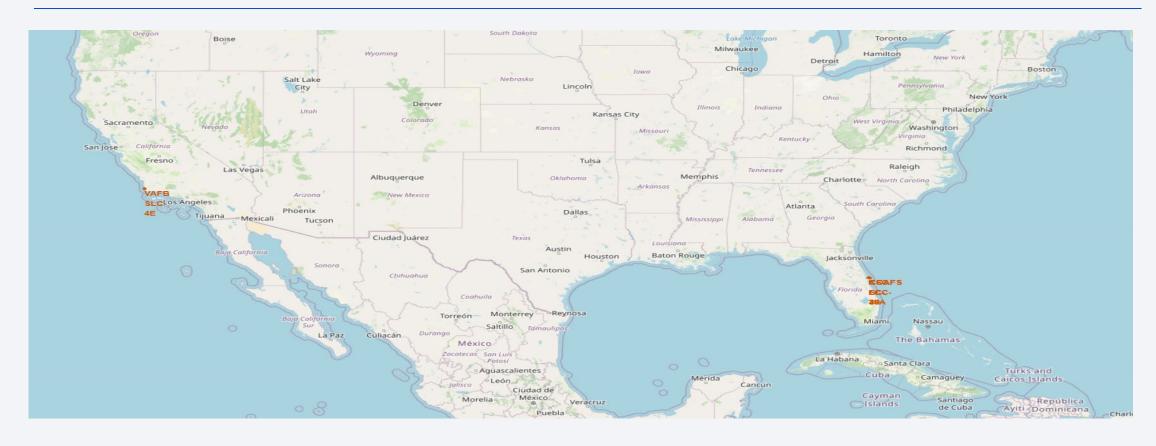
• Rank of the count of landing outcomes (such as Failure (drone ship) or Success (ground pad)) between the date 2010-06-04 and 2017-03-20, in descending order

Landing Outcome	Occurrences
No attempt	10
Failure (drone ship)	5
Success (drone ship)	5
Controlled (ocean)	3
Success (ground pad)	3
Failure (parachute)	2
Uncontrolled (ocean)	2
Precluded (drone ship)	1

[√] This view of data alerts us that "No attempt" must be taken in account.



All Launch Sites



• Launch sites are near sea, probably by safety, but not too far from roads and railroads.

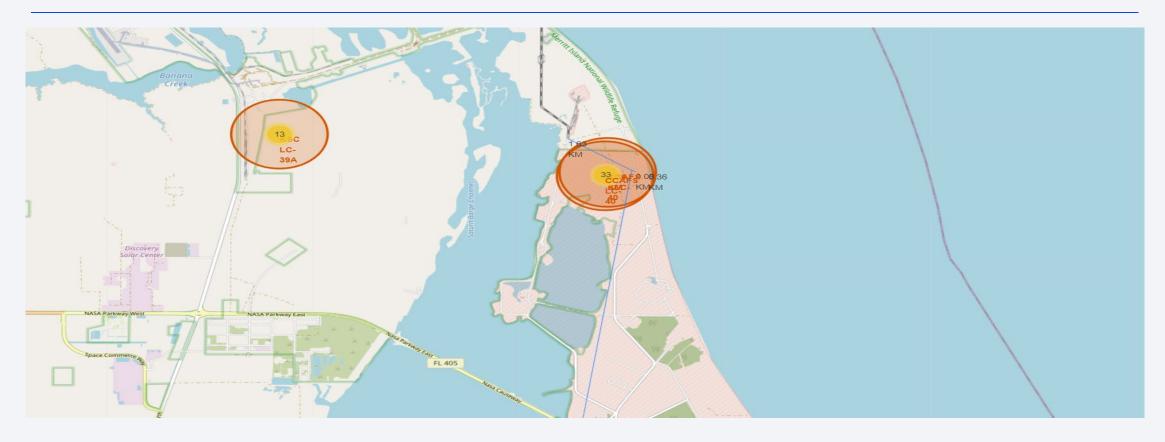
Launch Outcomes By Site

• Example of KSC LC 39A launch site launch outcomes



• Green markers indicate successful and red ones indicate failure.

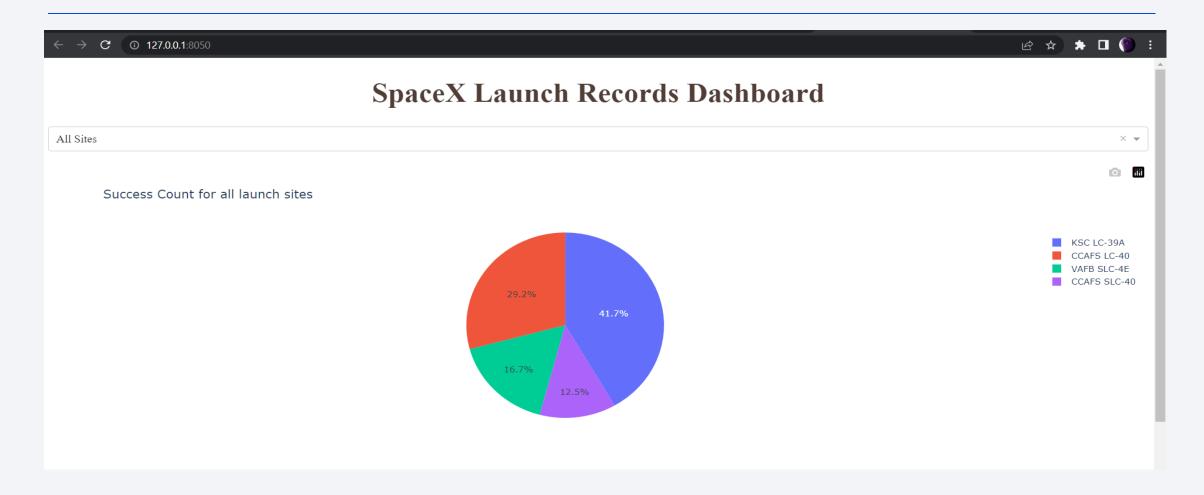
Logistics and Safety



• Launch site KSC LC 39A has good logistics aspects, being near railroad and road and relatively far from inhabited areas.

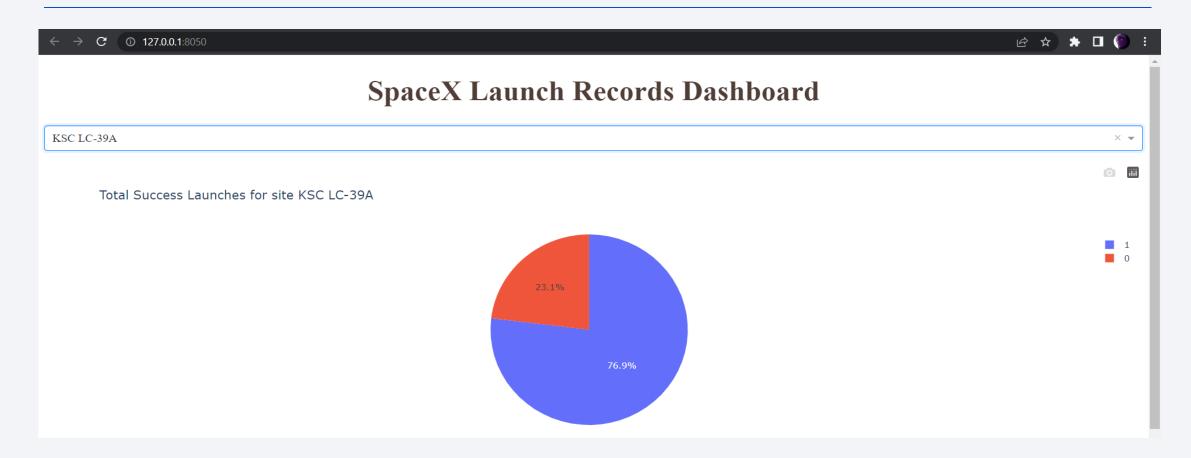


Successful Launches By Each Launch Site



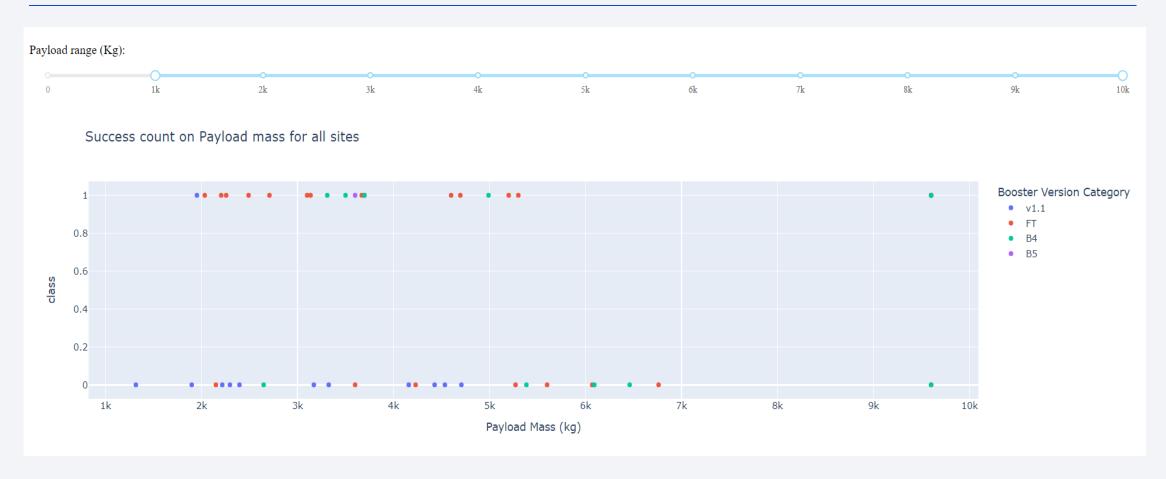
• The place from where launches are done seems to be a very important factor of success of 43 missions.

Launch Success Ratio for KSC LC 39A



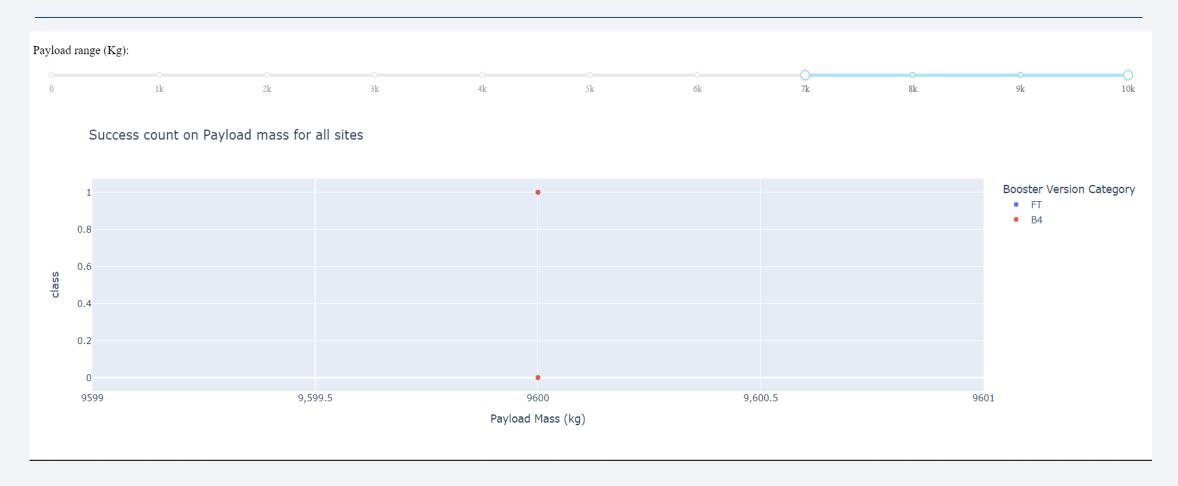
• KSC LC 39A launch site has the highest launch success ratio of 76.9%

Payload vs. Launch Outcome



• Payloads under 6,000kg and FT boosters are the most successful combination.

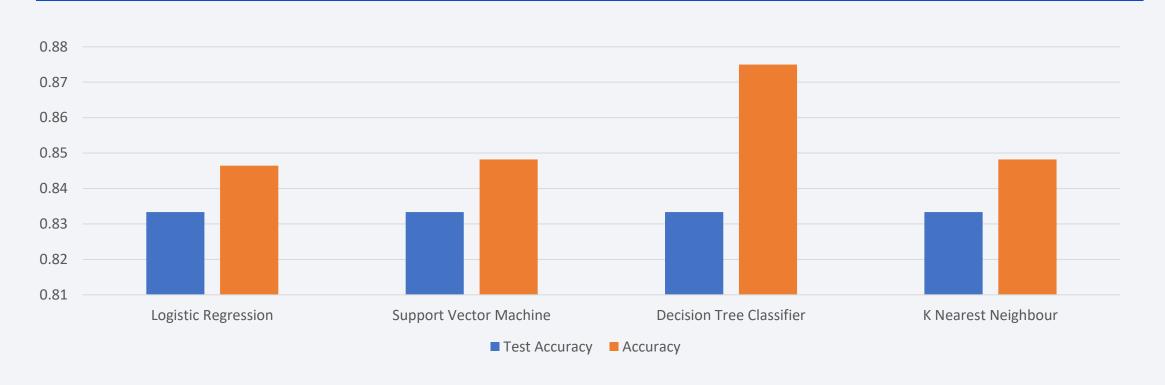
Payload vs. Launch Outcome



• There's not enough data to estimate risk of launches over 7,000kg



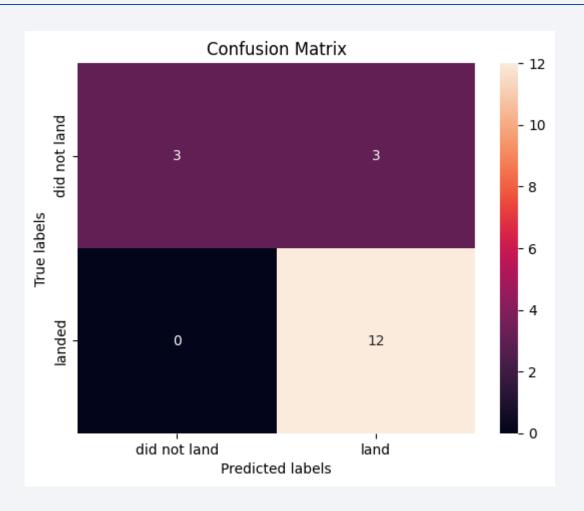
Classification Accuracy



- Four classification models were tested, and their accuracies are plotted beside;
- The model with the highest classification accuracy is Decision Tree Classifier, which has accuracies over than 87%.

Confusion Matrix For Decision Tree Classifier

 Confusion matrix of Decision Tree Classifier proves its accuracy by showing the big numbers of true positive and true negative compared to the false ones.



Conclusions

- Different data sources were analyzed, refining conclusions along the process;
- The best launch site is KSC LC 39A;
- Launches above 7,000kg are less risky;
- Although most of mission outcomes are successful, successful landing outcomes seem to improve over time, according the evolution of processes and rockets;
- Decision Tree Classifier can be used to predict successful landings and increase profits.

Appendix

- As an improvement for model tests, it's important to set a value to np.random.seed variable;
- GitHub repo of Notebooks to recreate dataset, analysis, and models:
 - https://github.com/CosmicPegasus07/Capstone
- References
 - https://aviationweek.com/defense-space/space/podcast-interview-spacexs-elon-musk
 - Interview with Elon Musk where he discloses the 1st stage booster to cost upwards of \$15 million
 - https://datascience.stackexchange.com/a/33050
 - · Explanation of why you would rebuild your model using the full dataset
 - https://www.spacex.com/vehicles/falcon-9/
 - Source of SpaceX's advertised \$62 million launch price

