



IBM Developer  
SKILLS NETWORK

# Winning Space Race with Data Science

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# Outline

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

# Executive Summary

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- Summary of methodologies
  - Data collection
  - Data wrangling
  - Exploratory Data Analysis with data visualization
  - Exploratory Data Analysis with SQL
  - Building an interactive map with Folium
  - Building a Dashboard with Plotly Dash
  - Predictive analysis (Classification)

# Executive Summary

- Summary of Results

- Launch success rate since 2013 kept increasing till 2020 with successful landing rate about 50%.
- Most part of recent launches were made from CCAFS LC-40 with a success rate of 73.1% and from KSC LC-39A with a success rate of 76.9%.
- Launch sites are located as close as possible to the Equator line and in very close proximity to the coast, railway and highway. On the contrary, they maintain a certain distance to the cities.
- Most part of the launches are carried out with a payload mass which varies from 2000 to 7000 kg with a high success rate. Heavy payload missions (payload mass > 8000 kg) have a good success rate.
- Most recent missions use a VLEO orbit and present a high successful rate of 86%.
- Boosters F9 FT have successfully landed on drone ship.
- Models parameters are optimized.
- Logistic regression, SVM, KNN and Decision Tree provide accurate predictions on the landing success. They should be improved to avoid the false positives which would impact directly on the final cost of the mission.

# Introduction

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- **Project background and context**

We predicted if the Falcon 9 first stage will land successfully. SpaceX advertises Falcon 9 rocket launches on its website, with a cost of 62 million dollars; other providers cost upward of 165 million dollars each, much of the savings is because SpaceX can reuse the first stage. Therefore, if we can determine if the first stage will land, we can determine the cost of a launch. This information can be used if an alternate company wants to bid against SpaceX for a rocket launch.

- **Common problems that needed solving**

- How different conditions and locations influence landing success.
- The influence of different rocket variables on the success rate of a rocket landing.
- What conditions does SpaceX have to achieve to get the best results and ensure the best rocket success landing rate.



Section 1

# Methodology

# Methodology

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## Executive Summary

- Data collection methodology:
  - Required data was retrieved from SpaceX API and web scraped to collect Falcon 9 historical launch records from a Wikipedia page.
- Performed data wrangling
  - Imputed missing values with mean and other appropriate methods. One Hot Encoding data fields for Machine Learning and dropping irrelevant columns
- Performed exploratory data analysis (EDA) using visualization and SQL
- Performed interactive visual analytics using Folium and Plotly Dash
- Performed predictive analysis using classification models
  - Different models were trained and various hyper-parameter values tuned. Model with highest accuracy amongst these models with tuned hyper-parameters was selected.

# Data Collection

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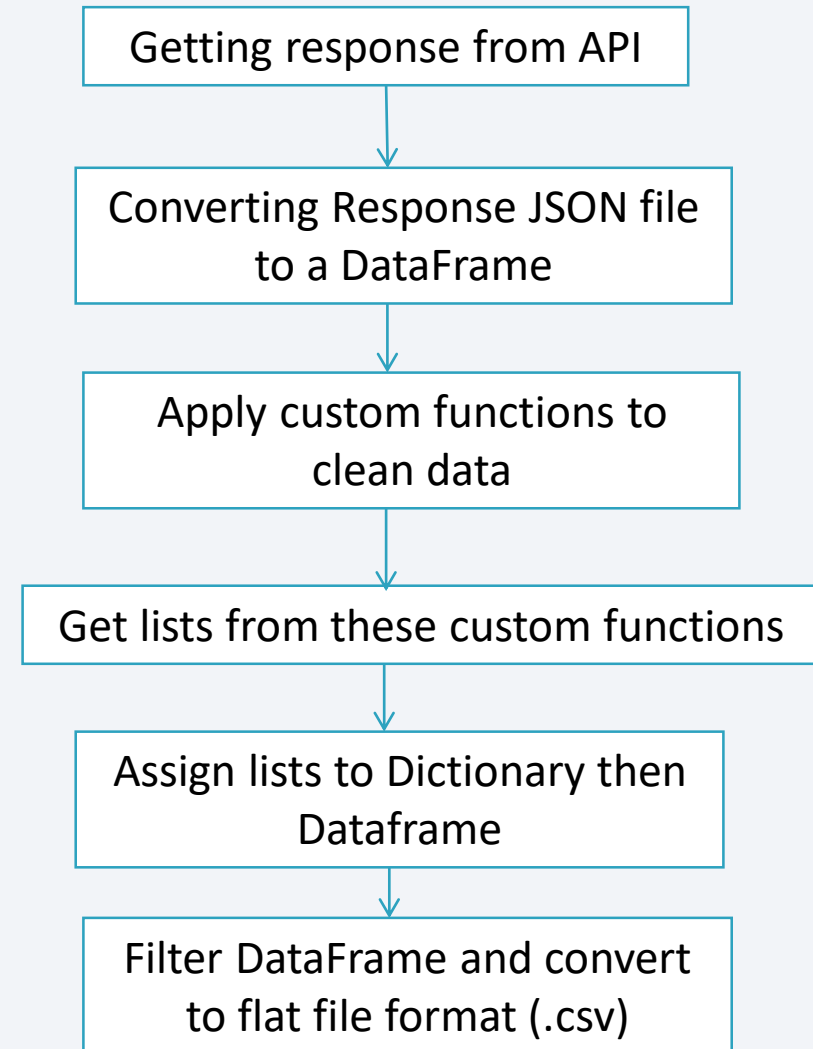
- Required data was retrieved from SpaceX API by making a get request to the SpaceX API.
- Data was also web scraped to collect Falcon 9 historical launch records from a Wikipedia page titled 'list of Falcon 9 and Falcon heavy launches' using python BeautifulSoup library.
- Our goal is to use this data to predict whether SpaceX will attempt to land rocket first stage or not.



# Data Collection – SpaceX API

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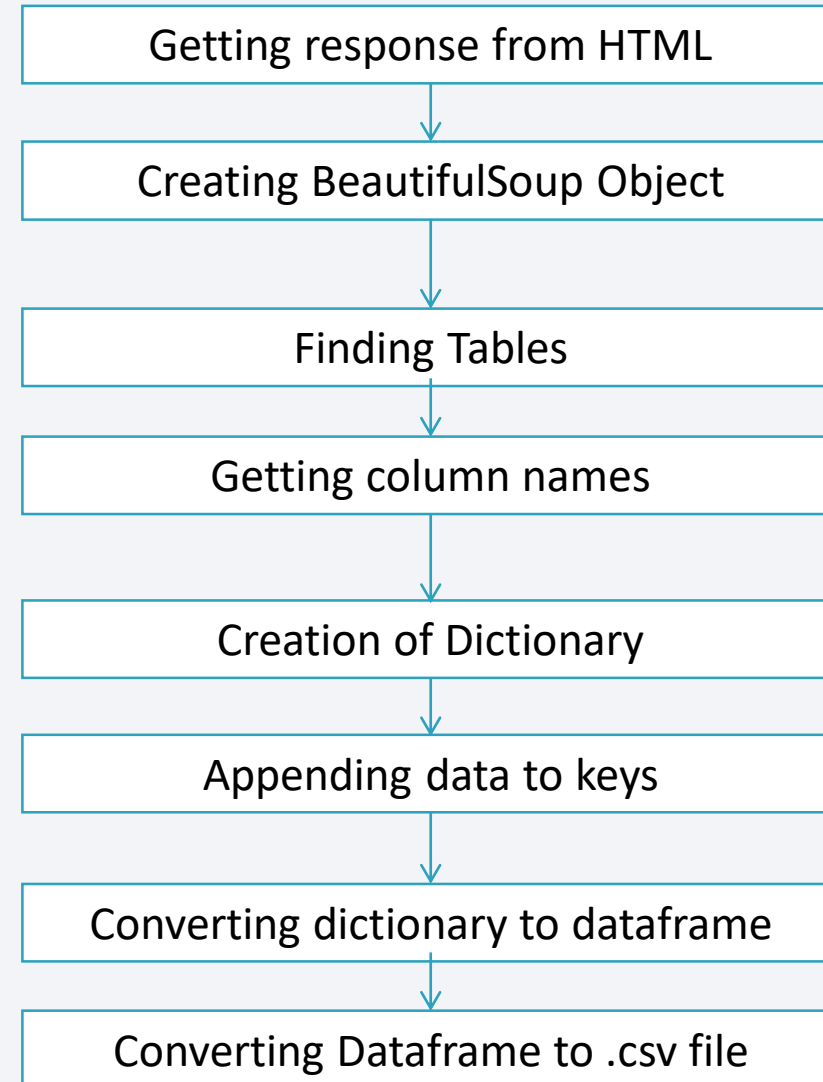
GitHub Link



# Data Collection - Scraping

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GitHub Link

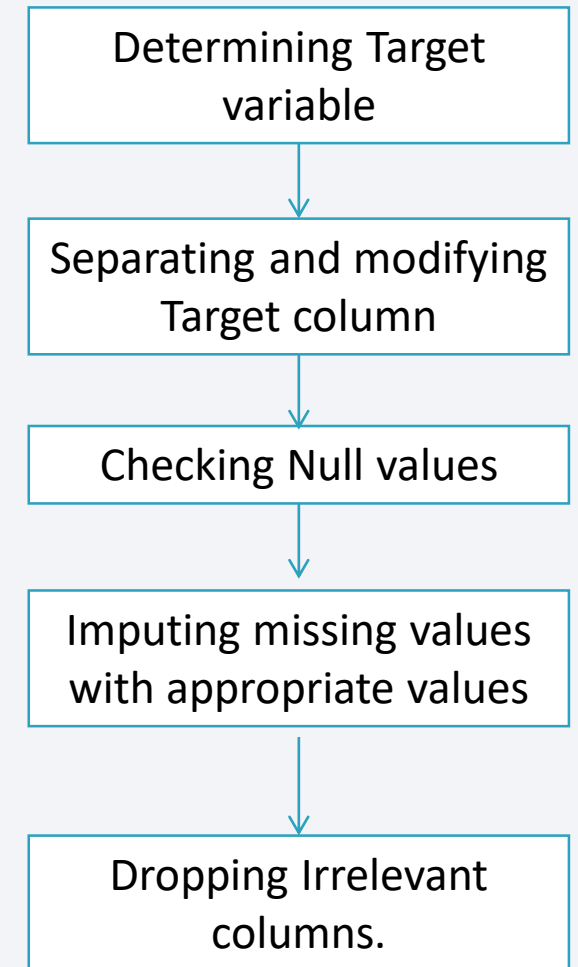


# Data Wrangling

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- Retrieved data was cleaned and transformed so that it can be used for modeling.
- Landing outcome column was modified to have only two values 1 for all kinds of success and 0 for all kinds of failure.
- Landing outcome set as the Target feature.
- Missing values in Payload column were replaced with the mean value.
- Irrelevant columns were dropped.
- Columns having categorical values were one hot encoded and column was created for each categorical value dropping the original column.

[GitHub Link](#)



# EDA with Data Visualization

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## Scatter Graphs being drawn:

- Flight Number VS. Payload Mass
- Flight Number VS. Launch Site
- Payload VS. Launch Site
- Orbit VS. Flight Number
- Payload VS. Orbit Type
- Orbit VS. Payload Mass

The scatter graphs shows how successful and failed landing outcomes were distributed against different parameters.

[GitHub Link](#)

## Bar Graph being drawn:

Mean VS. Orbit

The Bar graph shows the success rate for different orbits.

## Line Graph being drawn:

Success Rate VS. Year

The line graph shows the trend of success rate with each passing year.

# EDA with SQL

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- Displayed the names of the **unique launch sites** in the space mission using **DISTINCT** command.
- Displayed 5 records where launch sites **begin with** the string '**CCA**' using WHERE and **LIKE** command.
- Displayed the **total payload** mass carried by boosters launched by NASA (CRS) using **SUM** and WHERE command.
- Displayed **average payload** mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1 using **AVG** command.
- Listed the date when **first successful landing** outcome in ground pad was achieved using **MIN** command.
- Listed the names of the boosters which have success in drone ship and have payload mass **greater than 4000 but less than 6000** using WHERE and **BETWEEN** command.
- Listed the **total number** of successful and failure mission outcomes using **COUNT** command.
- Listed the names of the booster\_versions which have carried the **maximum payload** mass using **MAX** command in a **subquery**.
- Listed the failed landing\_outcomes in drone ship, their booster versions, and launch site names for in year 2015 using WHERE and AND command.
- **Ranked** the **count of landing outcomes** between the date 2010-06-04 and 2017-03-20, in descending order using **GROUPBY** and **ORDERBY** command.

[GitHub Link](#)



# Build an Interactive Map with Folium

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- To visualize the Launch Data into an interactive map. We took the Latitude and Longitude Coordinates at each launch site and added a Circle Marker around each launch site with a label of the name of the launch site.
- We assigned the dataframe launch\_outcomes(failures, successes) to classes 0 and 1 with Green and Red markers on the map in a MarkerCluster() to show successful/failure launches for each launch site.
- Using Haversine's formula we calculated the distance from the Launch Site to various landmarks to find various trends about what is around the Launch Site to measure patterns. Lines are drawn on the map to measure distance to landmarks.

[GitHub Link](#)

# Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

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- Pie chart of Launch Success counts for all sites and success rate of launches for each site was created in the dashboard.
- Dropdown was added to the dashboard to select launch site.
- Scatter Plot of Payload Mass vs Landing outcome was plotted with a slider for payload given to select payload range. Colors to data points with different booster versions.
- Pie Chart for all sites showed launch site with highest count of launch success.
- Pie chart for each launch site showed respective success rate with highest success rate of site KSC LC-39A.

# Predictive Analysis (Classification)

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- **BUILDING MODEL**

- Load our dataset into NumPy and Pandas
- Transform Data
- Split our data into training and test data sets
- Decide which type of machine learning algorithms we want to use
- Set our parameters and algorithms to GridSearchCV
- Fit our datasets into the GridSearchCV objects and train our dataset.

- **EVALUATING MODEL**

- Check accuracy for each model
- Get tuned hyperparameters for each type of algorithms
- Plot Confusion Matrix

[GitHub Link](#)

- **IMPROVING MODEL**

- Feature Engineering
- Algorithm Tuning

- **FINDING THE BEST PERFORMING CLASSIFICATION MODEL**

- The best model is the model with the best accuracy score on the test data.
- Accuracy score of all models was same on test data hence model with highest accuracy score on training data was selected.

# Results

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- Exploratory data analysis results
- Interactive analytics demo in screenshots
- Predictive analysis results



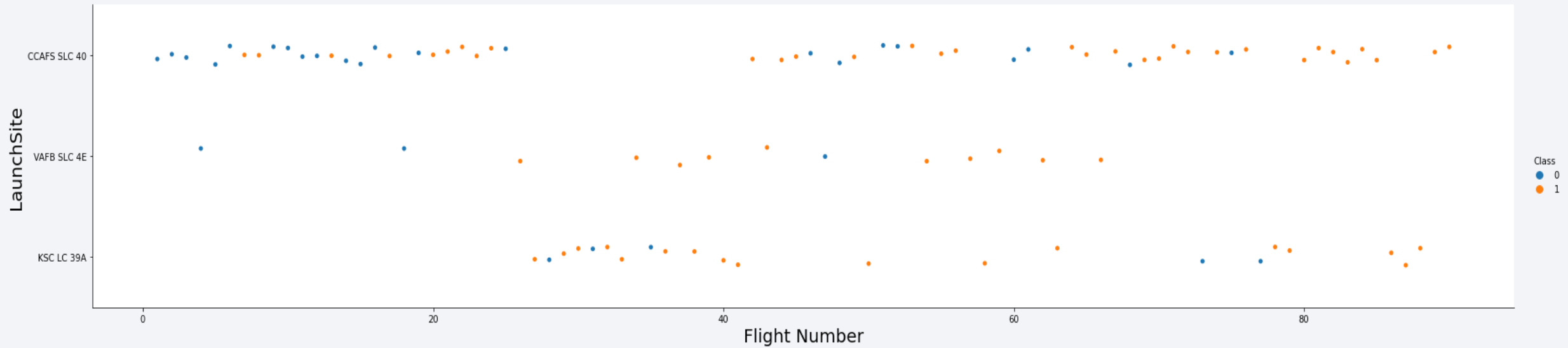
The background of the slide is an abstract composition. It features a dark blue field on the left side, which transitions into a complex pattern of diagonal streaks in shades of blue, red, and cyan on the right. These streaks have a textured, almost woven appearance, suggesting a digital or data-driven theme. The overall effect is dynamic and modern.

Section 2

# Insights drawn from EDA

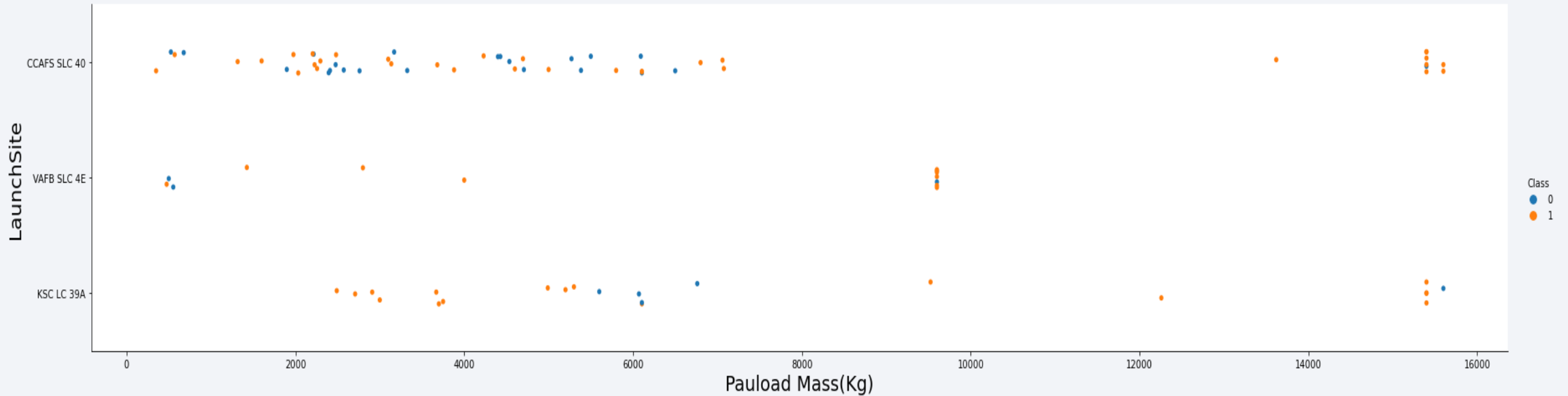


# Flight Number vs. Launch Site



- Launch success rate has increased for all the launch sites from the first to the last launch.
- Most part of the launches were performed from CCAFS and KSC launch sites.

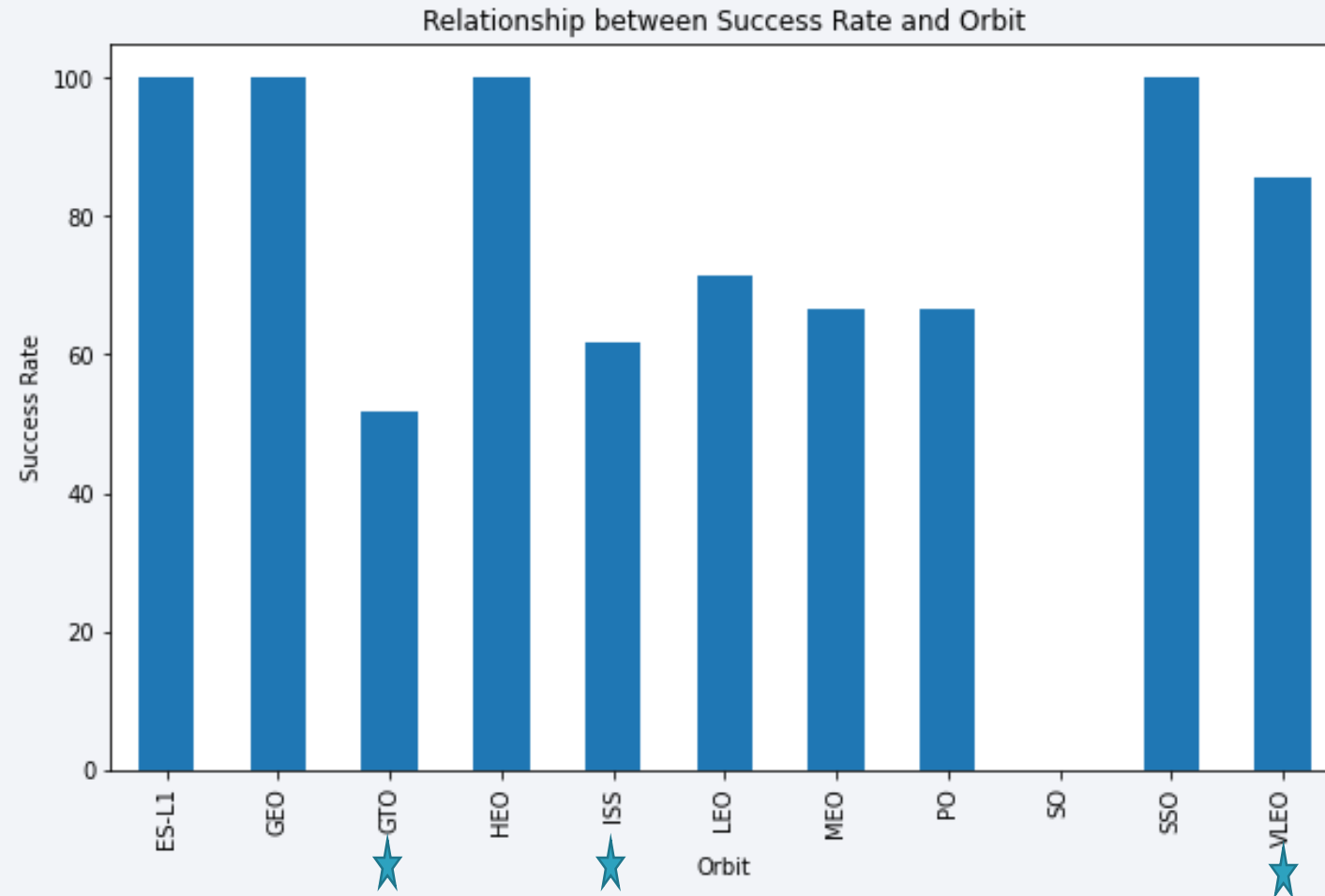
# Payload vs. Launch Site



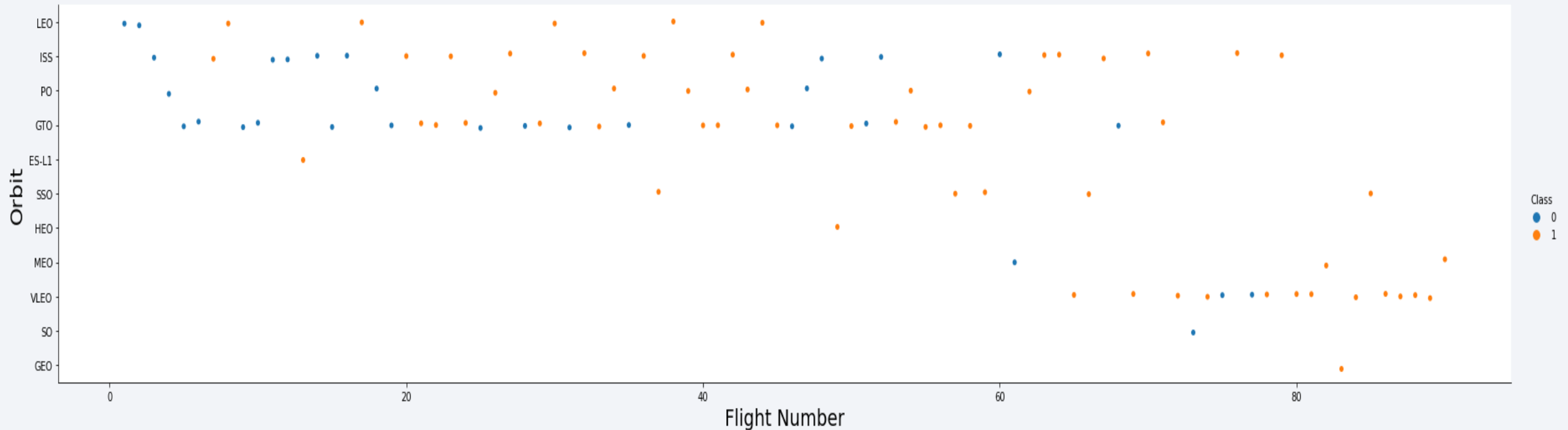
Launch Success Rate is higher for payload range greater than 8000 kg.

# Success Rate vs. Orbit Type

- The orbits ES-L1, GEO, HEO and SSO have highest 100% success rate.
- No successful launch found for orbit type SO.
- The rest of orbit types present a success rate of around 60%.
- Number of launches per orbit type would complete the information provided by this bar chart since the higher the number of flights is the more representative (★) is the calculated success rate (see next slide).



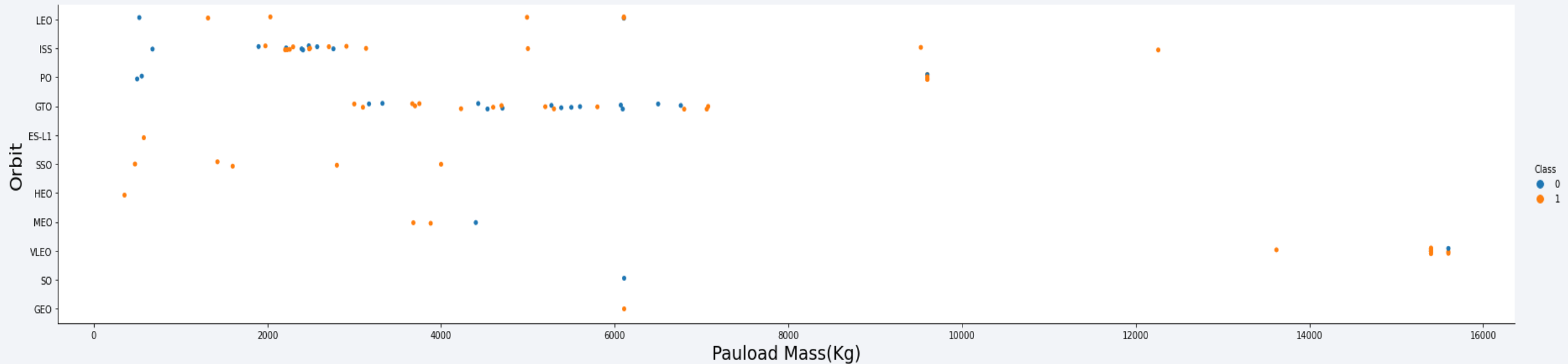
# Flight Number vs. Orbit Type



- Higher number of launches correspond mainly to the orbit types ISS (21), GTO (27) and VLEO (14).
- In LEO orbit the success appears related to the number of flights.
- There seems to be no relationship between orbit type and flight number for GTO and ISS orbits.
- VLEO orbit type has been chosen for the most recent launches (from flight 65 on) and present a high successful rate of 86%.

# Payload vs. Orbit Type

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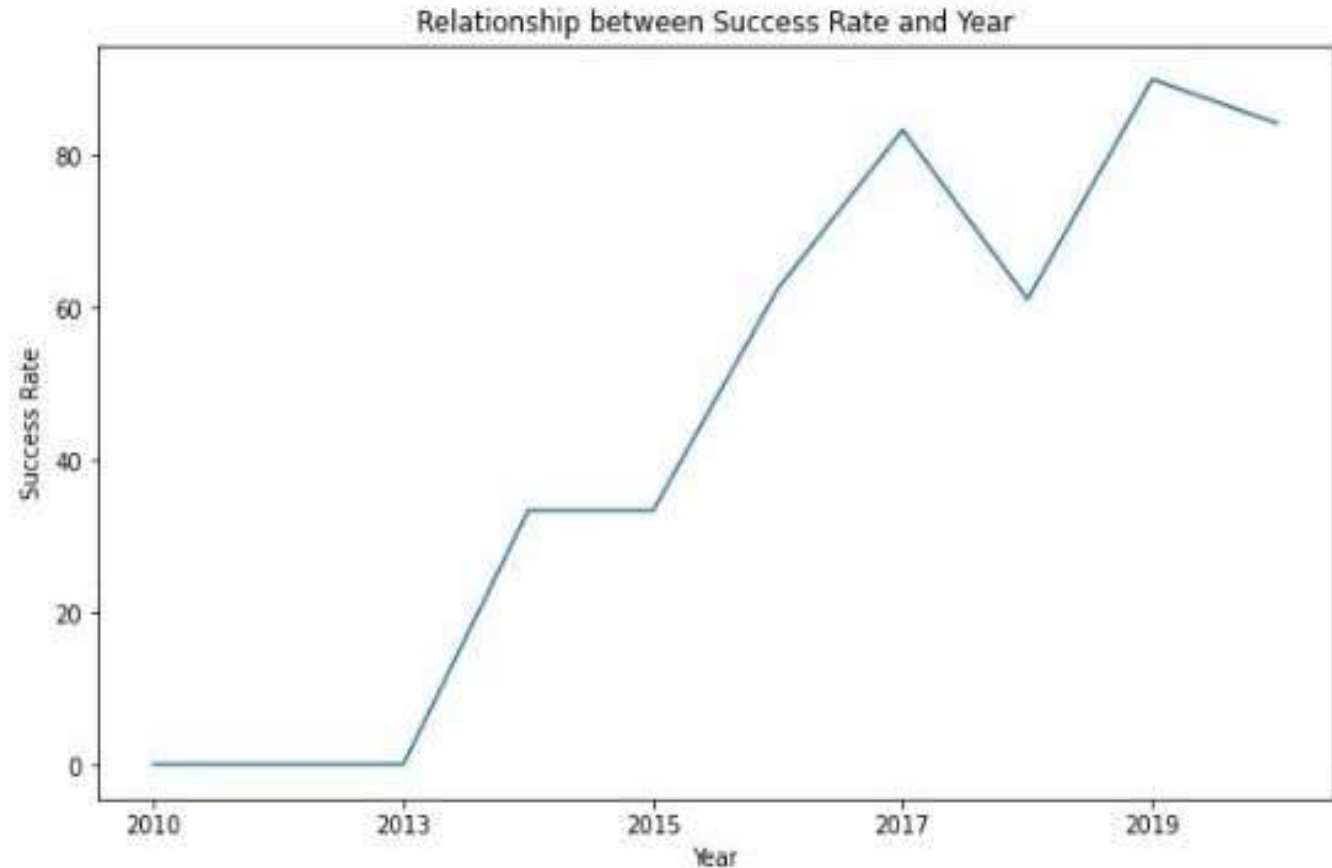


Heavier payloads have a negative influence on GTO orbit and positive influence on LEO and ISS orbits.



# Launch Success Yearly Trend

- The success rate since 2013 kept increasing till 2017.
- In 2018 the rate falls to around 60%, but it raised again to its maximum in 2019 and falls a bit again in 2020.



We can observe that the success rate since 2013 kept increasing till 2020.

# All Launch Site Names

---

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

```
In [4]: %sql select unique(launch_site) from spacex
```

```
* ibm_db_sa://zbx64872:***@824dfd4d-99de-440d-9991-629c01b38  
Done.
```

```
Out[4]:
```

launch_site
-------------

CCAFS LC-40
-------------

CCAFS SLC-40
--------------

KSC LC-39A
------------

VAFB SLC-4E
-------------

# Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

*Display 5 records where launch sites begin with the string 'CCA'*

```
In [5]: %sql select * from spacex where launch_site like 'CCA%' limit 5
```

```
* ibm_db_sa://zbx64872:***@824dfd4d-99de-440d-9991-629c01b3832d.bs2io90l08kqb1od8lbg.databases.appdomain.cloud:30119/bludb
Done.
```

```
Out[5]:
```

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

# Total Payload Mass for NASA

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*Display the total payload mass carried by boosters launched by NASA (CRS)*

```
In [6]: %sql select sum(payload_mass__kg_) from spacex where customer='NASA (CRS)'  
* ibm_db_sa://zbx64872:***@824dfd4d-99de-440d-9991-629c01b3832d.bs2io90l08kqb1c  
Done.
```

```
Out[6]: 1  
45596
```

# Average Payload Mass by Booster Version F9 v1.1

---

*Display average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1*

```
In [7]: %sql select avg(payload_mass__kg_) from spacex where booster_version like 'F9 v1.1%'
```

```
* ibm_db_sa://zbx64872:***@824dfd4d-99de-440d-9991-629c01b3832d.bs2io90l08kqb1od8l1cg
```

```
Done.
```

```
Out[7]:
```

```
1
```

```
2534
```



# First Successful Ground Landing Date

---

List the date when the first successful landing outcome in ground pad was achieved. ¶

Hint: Use min function

```
In [8]: %sql select min(DATE) as First_success_groundpad from spacex where landing__outcome='Success (ground pad)'
```

\* ibm\_db\_sa://zbx64872:\*\*\*@824dfd4d-99de-440d-9991-629c01b3832d.bs2io90l08kqb1od8l1cg.databases.appdomain.c.  
Done.

```
Out[8]: first_success_groundpad  
2015-12-22
```

# Successful Drone Ship Landing with Payload between 4000 and 6000

---

*List the names of the boosters which have success in drone ship and have payload mass greater than 4000 but less than 6000*

```
In [9]: %sql select booster_version from spacex where (landing_outcome='Success (drone ship)' and payload_mass_kg_ between 4000 and 6000)
```

```
* ibm_db_sa://zbx64872:***@824dfd4d-99de-440d-9991-629c01b3832d.bs2io90l08kqb1od8lcg.databases.appdomain.cloud:30119/bludb  
Done.
```

```
Out[9]: booster_version
```

```
F9 FT B1022
```

```
F9 FT B1026
```

```
F9 FT B1021.2
```

```
F9 FT B1031.2
```

# Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes

*List the total number of successful and failure mission outcomes*

```
In [10]: %sql select count(*) as mission_outcome_success from spacex where mission_outcome like 'Success%'
* ibm_db_sa://zbx64872:***@824dfd4d-99de-440d-9991-629c01b3832d.bs2io90l08kqb1od8l1cg.databases.appdor
Done.
```

```
Out[10]: mission_outcome_success
          100
```

```
In [11]: %sql select count(*) as mission_outcome_failure from spacex where mission_outcome like 'Failure%'
* ibm_db_sa://zbx64872:***@824dfd4d-99de-440d-9991-629c01b3832d.bs2io90l08kqb1od8l1cg.databases.appdor
Done.
```

```
Out[11]: mission_outcome_failure
          1
```

# Boosters Carried Maximum Payload

*List the names of the booster\_versions which have carried the maximum payload mass. Use a subquery*

```
In [12]: %sql select booster_version from spacex where payload_mass__kg_=(select max(payload_mass__kg_) from spacex)
* ibm_db_sa://zbx64872:***@824dfd4d-99de-440d-9991-629c01b3832d.bs2io90l08kqb1od8lcg.databases.appdomain.cloud:
Done.
```

Out[12]:

booster_version
F9 B5 B1048.4
F9 B5 B1049.4
F9 B5 B1051.3
F9 B5 B1056.4
F9 B5 B1048.5
F9 B5 B1051.4
F9 B5 B1049.5
F9 B5 B1060.2
F9 B5 B1058.3
F9 B5 B1051.6
F9 B5 B1060.3
F9 B5 B1049.7

Booster Version F9 B5 carried maximum payload.

## 2015 Launch Records of Failed landing outcome-Drone Ship

---

*List the failed landing\_outcomes in drone ship, their booster versions, and launch site names for in year 2015*

```
In [13]: %sql select date, booster_version, launch_site, landing_outcome from spacex where (landing_outcome='Failure (drone ship)' and c
```

```
* ibm_db_sa://zbx64872:***@824dfd4d-99de-440d-9991-629c01b3832d.bs2io90l08kqb1od8lcg.databases.appdomain.cloud:30119/bludb  
Done.
```

```
Out[13]:
```

DATE	booster_version	launch_site	landing_outcome
2015-01-10	F9 v1.1 B1012	CCAFS LC-40	Failure (drone ship)
2015-04-14	F9 v1.1 B1015	CCAFS LC-40	Failure (drone ship)



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

*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*

In [14]: %sql SELECT landing\_\_outcome, COUNT(DATE) FROM spacex where DATE between '2010-06-04' and '2017-03-20' GROUP BY landing\_\_outcome

\* ibm\_db\_sa://zbx64872:\*\*\*@824dfd4d-99de-440d-9991-629c01b3832d.bs2io90l08kqb1od8lcg.databases.appdomain.cloud:30119/bludb  
Done.

Out[14]:

landing__outcome	2
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

A satellite view of Earth from space, showing the curvature of the planet and city lights at night. The image is a composite of a solid blue background on the left and a satellite photograph of Earth on the right. The Earth's surface is dark, with numerous bright yellow and orange lights representing cities and urban areas. The horizon of the Earth is visible as a thin, curved line separating the dark surface from the deep blue of space.

Section 3

# Launch Sites Proximities Analysis

# Launch Sites marked on Map



- Three launch sites are close to each other in Orlando, Florida and only one launch site is in California.
- All launch sites are in very close proximity to the coast so that first stage can be thrown to the sea after the take-off.



# Success/failed launches clustered for each site marked on the map

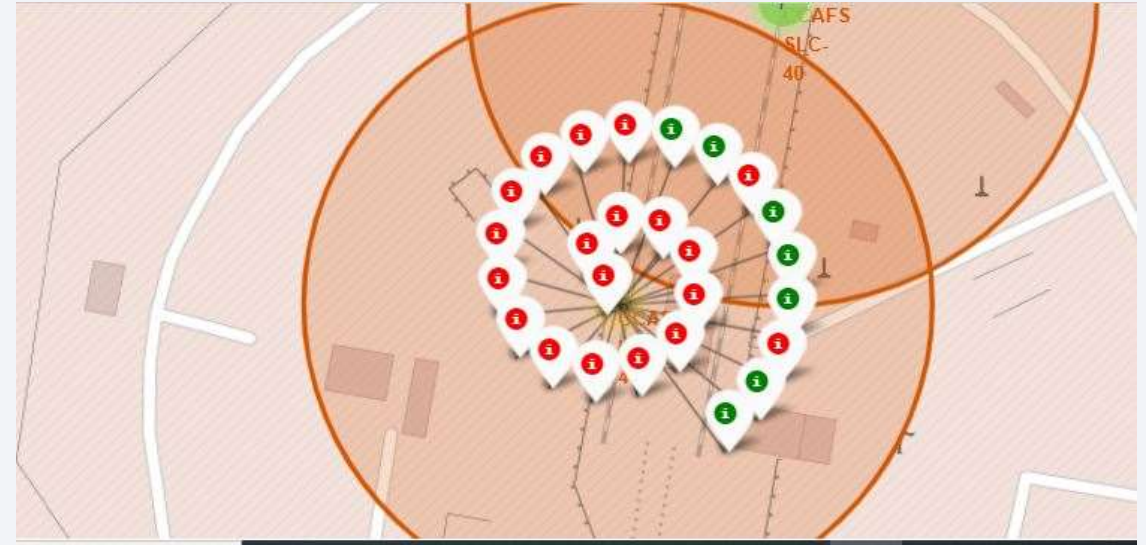


MarkerCluster Object was used to mark success/failure of launch sites.

# Success/failed launches for each site marked on the map



KSC LC-39A



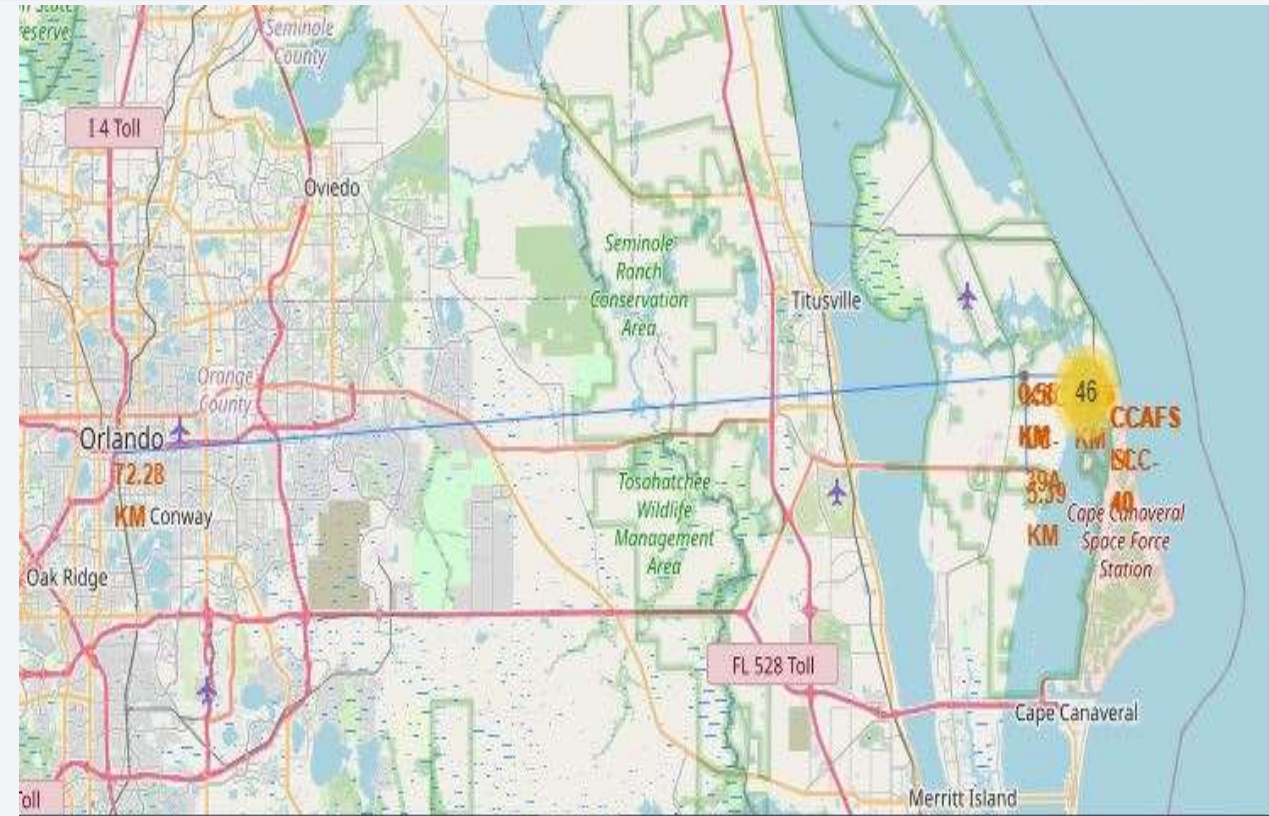
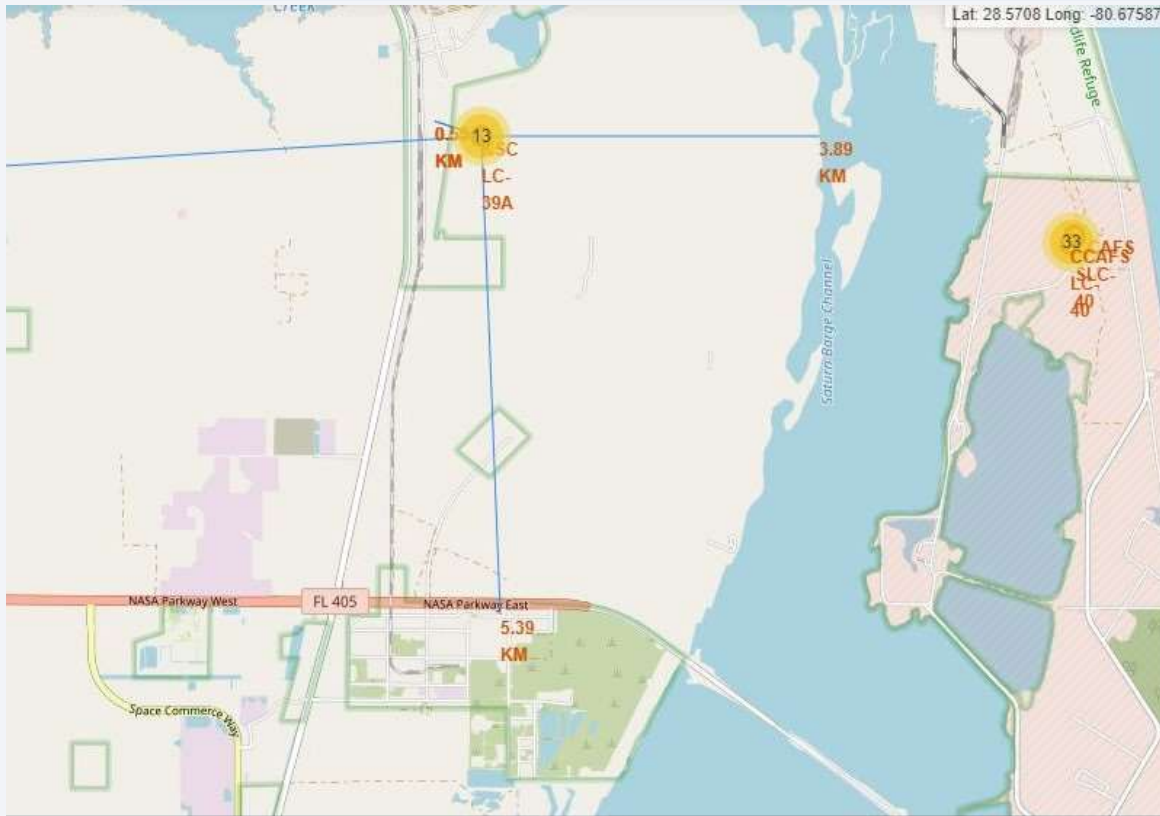
CCAFS LC-40



VAFB SLC-4E

Launch Site KSC LC-39A has highest success ratio.

# Distances between a launch site to its proximities



- Launch sites are close to railways and highways for logistic reasons.
- They are also close to the coastline so that first stage can be thrown to the sea after the take-off.
- On the contrary, they keep certain distance away from cities.



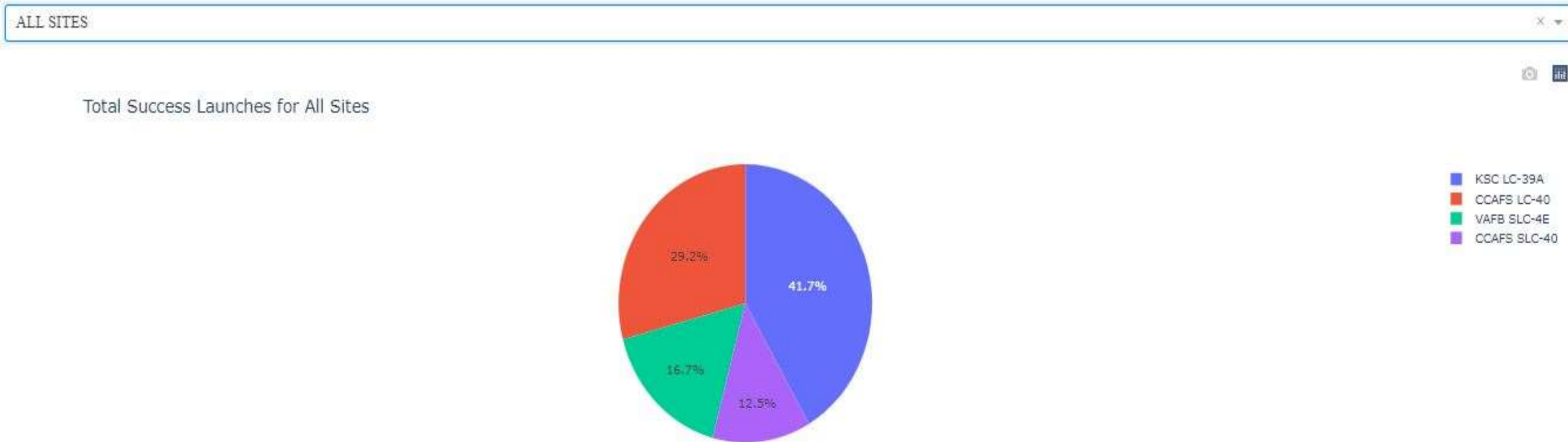


Section 4

# Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

# Launch Success Count for all sites Pie Chart

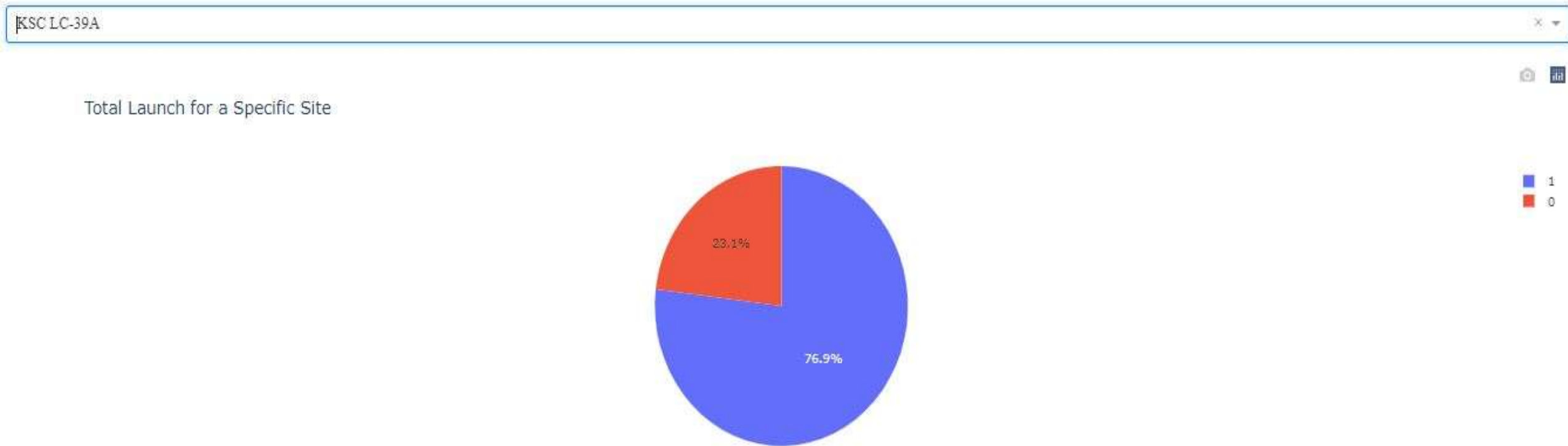
## SpaceX Launch Records Dashboard



Launch Site KSC-LC-39A has highest count of successful launches.

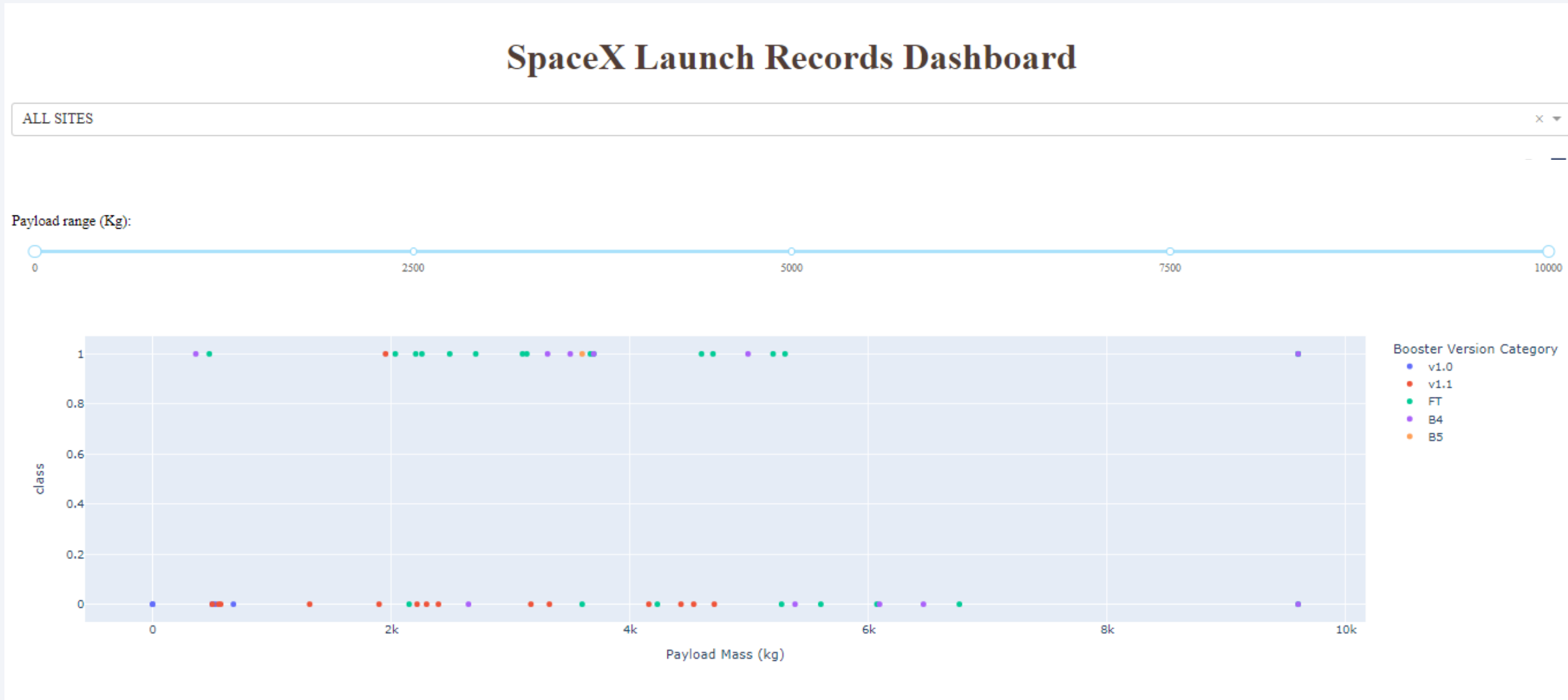
The piechart for the launch site with highest launch success ratio

## SpaceX Launch Records Dashboard



Launch Site KSC-LC-39A has highest success rate of 76.9%

# Payload vs. Launch Outcome scatter plot for all sites

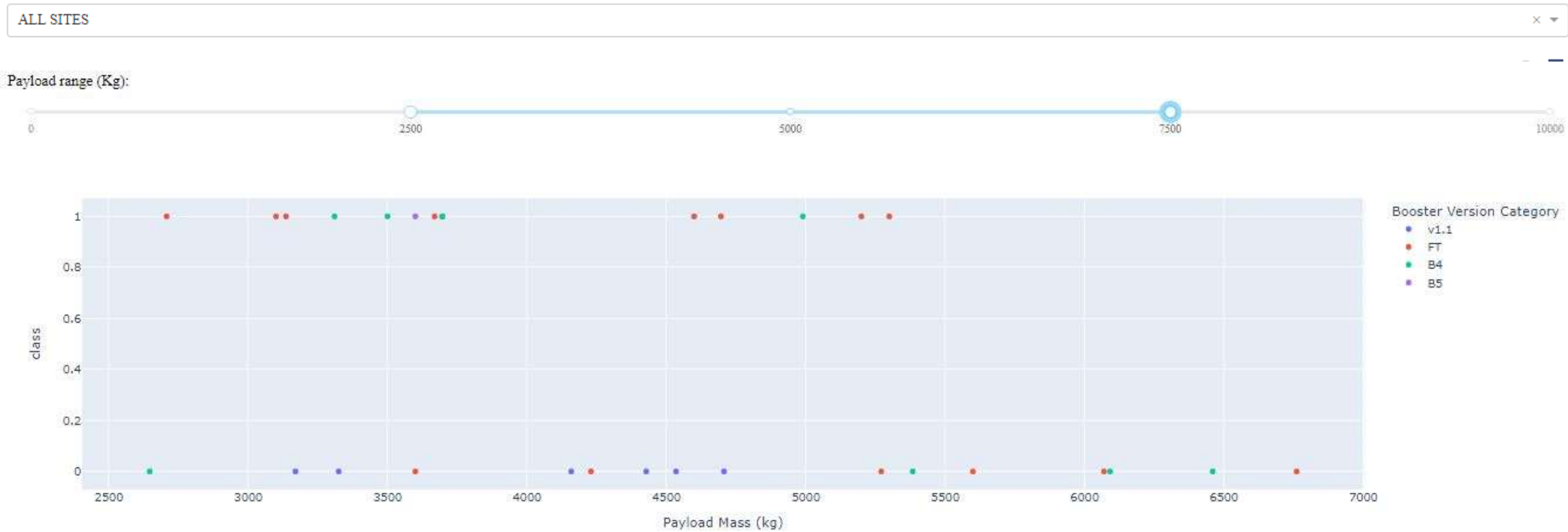


- A success rate of 0% is obtained for payload masses in the range 6000-7000 kg.
- Most part of the launches are carried out with a payload mass which varies from 2000 to 7000 kg



# Payload vs. Launch Outcome scatter plot for all sites 2

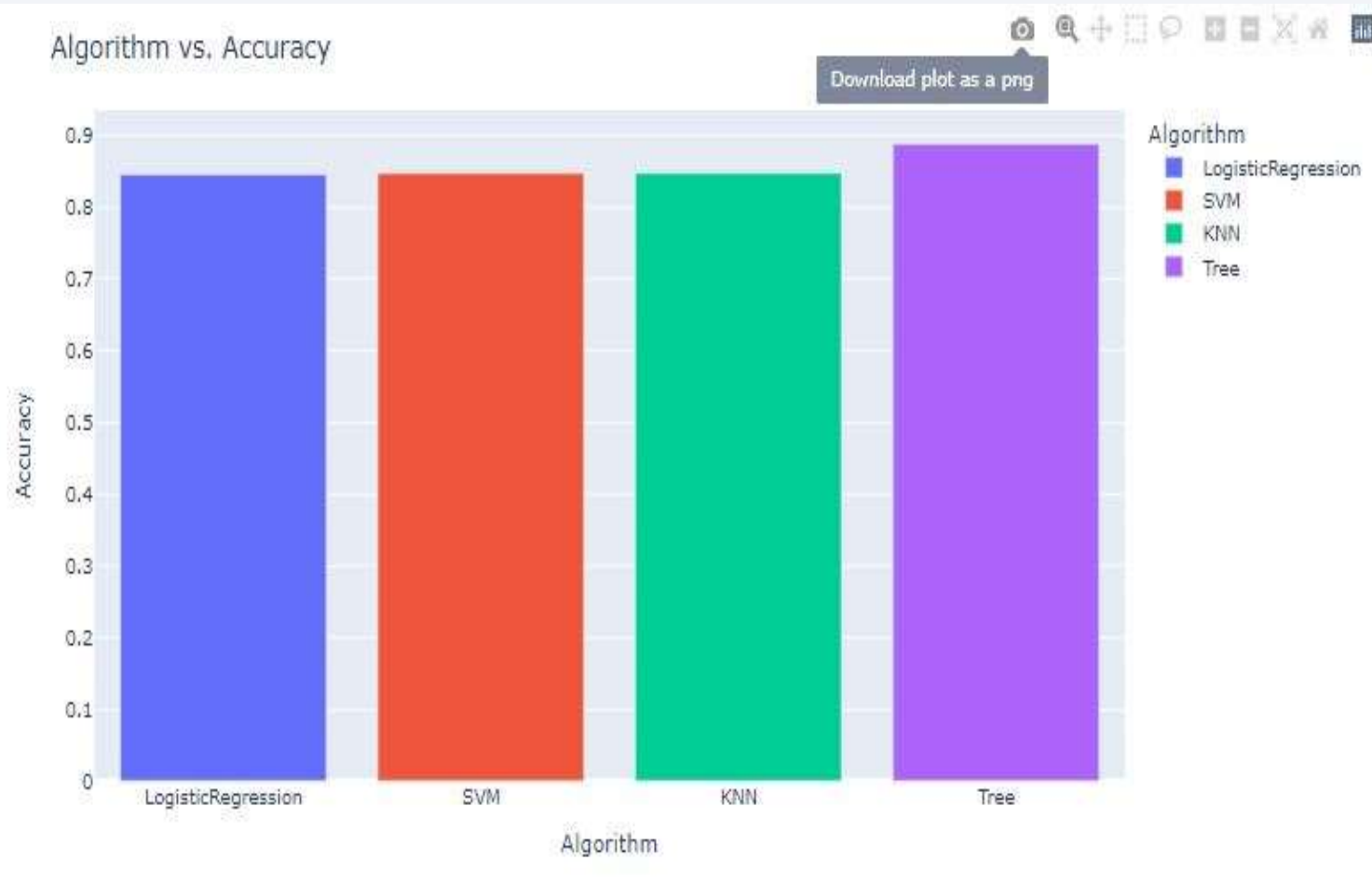
## SpaceX Launch Records Dashboard



Section 5

# Predictive Analysis (Classification)

# Classification Accuracy

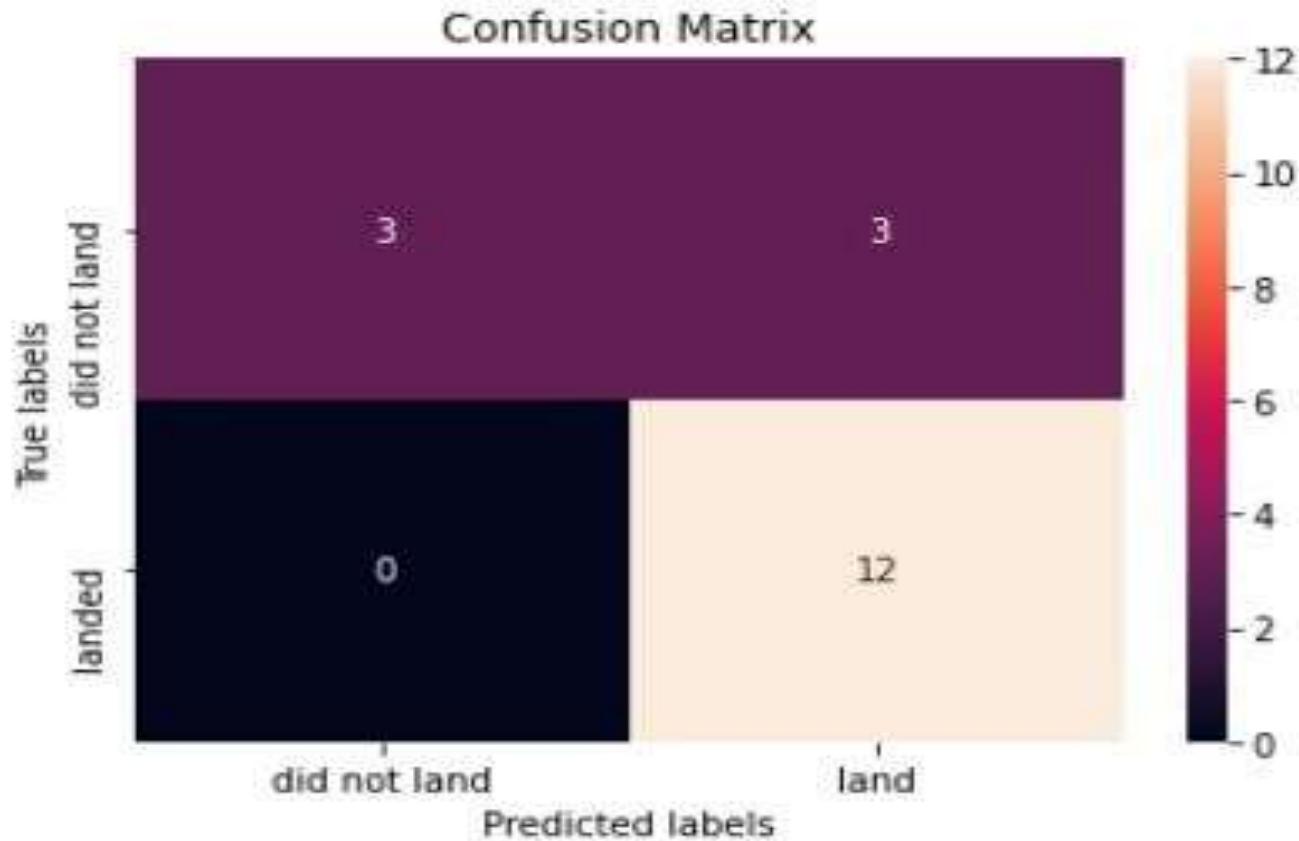


	Algorithm	Accuracy
0	LogisticRegression	0.846429
1	SVM	0.848214
2	KNN	0.848214
3	Tree	0.889286

Decision Tree Classification model has the highest accuracy on training data.

After selecting the best hyperparameters for the decision tree classifier using the validation data, we achieved 83.33% accuracy on the test data.

# Confusion Matrix for Decision Tree Classifier



Examining the confusion matrix, we see that Tree can distinguish between the different classes. We see that the major problem is false positives.

# Conclusions

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- The Tree Classifier Algorithm is the best for classification for this dataset.
- Launch success rate since 2013 kept increasing till 2020.
- Success rate improves as number of flights increases.
- Most part of recent launches were made from CCAFS LC-40 with a success rate of 73.1% and from KSC LC-39A with a success rate of 76.9%.
- We can see that KSC LC-39A had the most successful launches from all the sites and also the highest success rate.
- Most part of the launches are carried out with a payload mass which varies from 2000 to 7000 kg with a good success rate. Heavy payload missions (payload mass > 8000 kg) have a higher success rate.
- Launch sites are located in very close proximity to the coast, railway and highway. On the contrary, they maintain a certain distance to the cities.
- Orbit GEO,HEO,SSO,ES-L1 has the best Success Rate.

# Appendix

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- Include any relevant assets like Python code snippets, SQL queries, charts, Notebook outputs, or data sets that you may have created during this project

Thank you!

