



IBM Developer  
SKILLS NETWORK

# Winning Space Race with Data Science

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8 May 2023



# Outline

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

# Executive Summary

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- Summary of methodologies

- Data Collection through API
- Data Collection with Web Scraping
- Data Wrangling
- Exploratory Data Analysis with SQL
- Exploratory Data Analysis with Data Visualization
- Interactive Visual Analytics with Folium
- Machine Learning Prediction

- Summary of all results

- Exploratory Data Analysis result
- Interactive analytics in screenshots
- Predictive Analytics result

# Introduction

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- Project background and context

Space X 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 Space X 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 space X for a rocket launch. This goal of the project is to create a machine learning pipeline to predict if the first stage will land successfully

- Problems you want to find answers

- What factors determine if the rocket will land successfully?
- The interaction amongst various features that determine the success rate of a successful
- landing.
- What operating conditions needs to be in place to ensure a successful landing program.



Section 1

# Methodology

# Methodology

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## Executive Summary

- Data collection methodology:
  - Data from SpaceX was obtained from 2 sources:
    - SpaceX API (<https://api.spacexdata.com/v4/rockets/>)
    - Web Scraping ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Falcon/\\_9/\\_and\\_Falcon\\_Heavy\\_launches](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Falcon/_9/_and_Falcon_Heavy_launches))
- Perform data wrangling
  - Collected data was enriched by creating a landing outcome label based on outcome data after summarizing and analyzing features
- Perform exploratory data analysis (EDA) using visualization and SQL
- Perform interactive visual analytics using Folium and Plotly Dash

# Methodology

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## 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

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- Describe how data sets were collected.
- Datasets were collected from SpaceX API (<https://api.spacexdata.com/v4/rockets/>) and from Wikipedia ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Falcon/\\_9/\\_and\\_Falcon\\_Heavy\\_launches](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Falcon/_9/_and_Falcon_Heavy_launches)), using web scraping technics



# Data Collection – SpaceX API

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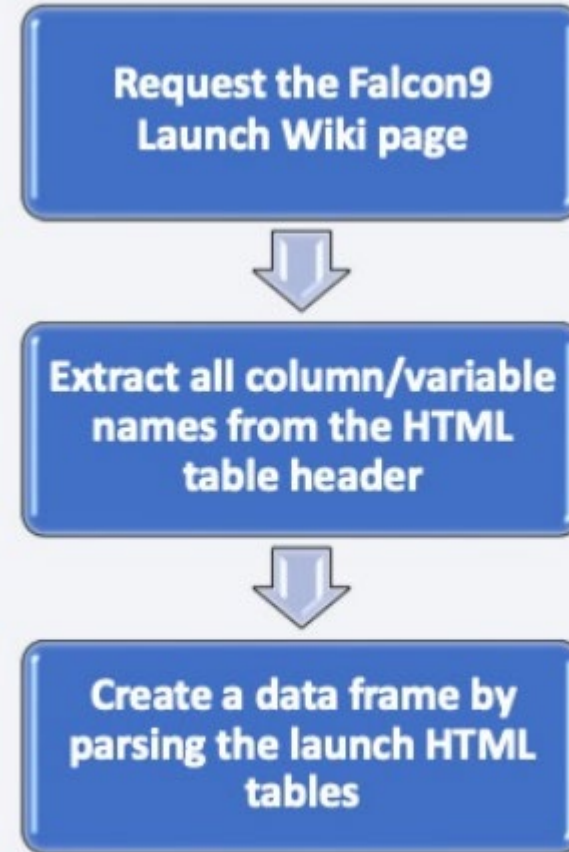
- SpaceX offers a public API from where data can be obtained and then used.
- This API was used according to the flowchart beside and then data is persisted
- [Applied-Data-Science-Capstone/Complete the Data Collection API Lab.ipynb at master · OmarA21/Applied-Data-Science-Capstone · GitHub](#)



# Data Collection - Scraping

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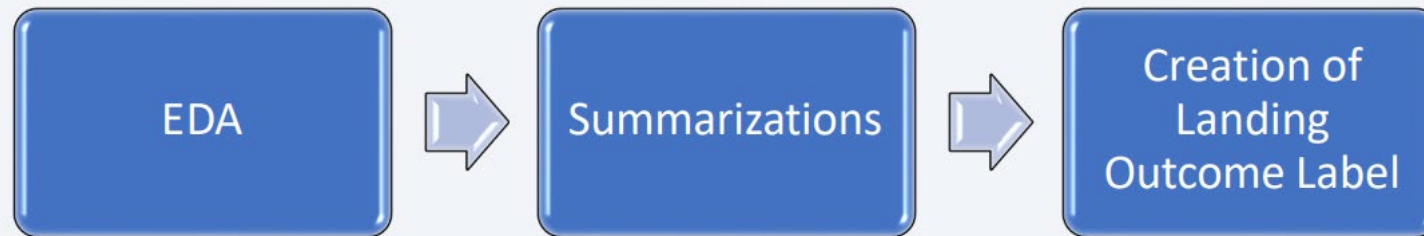
- Data from SpaceX launches can also be obtained from Wikipedia.
- Data are downloaded from Wikipedia according to the flowchart and then persisted.
- <https://github.com/OmarA21/Applied-Data-Science-Capstone/blob/master/Notebooks/the%20Data%20Collection%20with%20Web%20Scraping%20lab.ipynb>



# Data Wrangling

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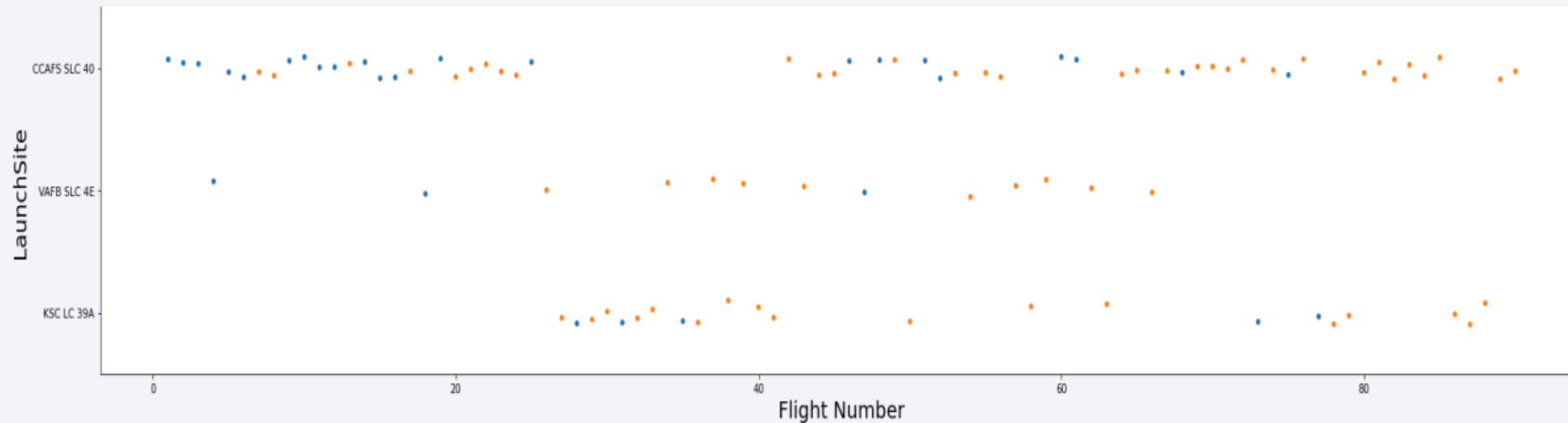
- Initially some Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) was performed on the dataset.
- Then the summaries launches per site, occurrences of each orbit and occurrences of mission outcome per orbit type were calculated.
- Finally, the landing outcome label was created from Outcome column.



- [Applied-Data-Science-Capstone/the EDA lab.ipynb at master · OmarA21/Applied-Data-Science-Capstone · GitHub](#)

# EDA with Data Visualization

- To explore data, scatterplots and barplots 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



- [Applied-Data-Science-Capstone/the EDA with Visualization lab.ipynb at master · OmarA21/Applied-Data-Science-Capstone · GitHub](#)

# EDA with SQL

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- 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.
  - 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.
  - 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.

[Applied-Data-Science-Capstone/the EDA with SQL2.ipynb at master · OmarA21/Applied-Data-Science-Capstone · GitHub](#)

# Build an Interactive Map with Folium

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- Markers, circles, lines and marker clusters were used with Folium Maps
- [Applied-Data-Science-Capstone/Visual Analytics with Folium lab.ipynb at master · OmarA21/Applied-Data-Science-Capstone · GitHub](#)



# Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

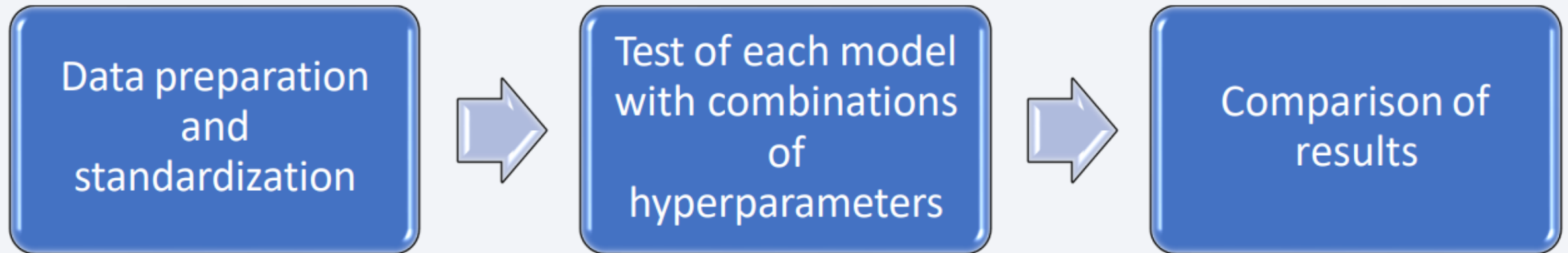
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- Summarize what plots/graphs and interactions you have added to a dashboard:
  - Percentage of launches by site
  - Payload range
- [Applied-Data-Science-Capstone/spacex\\_dash\\_app.py at master · OmarA21/Applied-Data-Science-Capstone · GitHub](#)

# Predictive Analysis (Classification)

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- Four classification models were compared: logistic regression, support vector machine, decision tree and k nearest neighbors



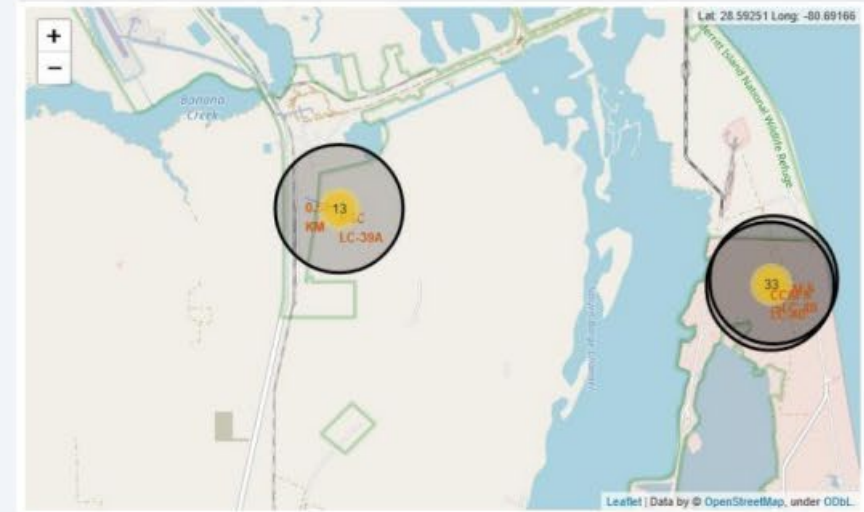
# Results

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- Exploratory data analysis results:
  - Space X uses 4 different launch sites.
  - The first launches were done to SpaceX itself and NASA.
  - The first success landing outcome happened in 2015 five year after the first launch.
  - Almost 100% of mission outcomes were successful.
  - 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.





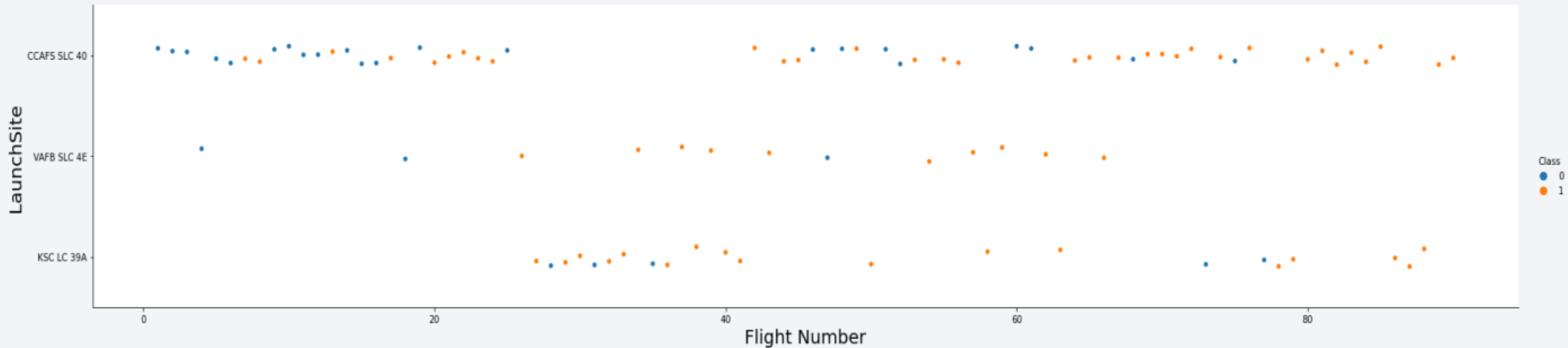
The background of the slide is an abstract composition. It features a solid blue area on the left side, which transitions into a dynamic pattern of diagonal streaks in shades of blue and red on the right. Overlaid on these streaks is a fine, light-colored grid or mesh pattern, giving the impression of a digital or data-driven environment.

Section 2

# Insights drawn from EDA



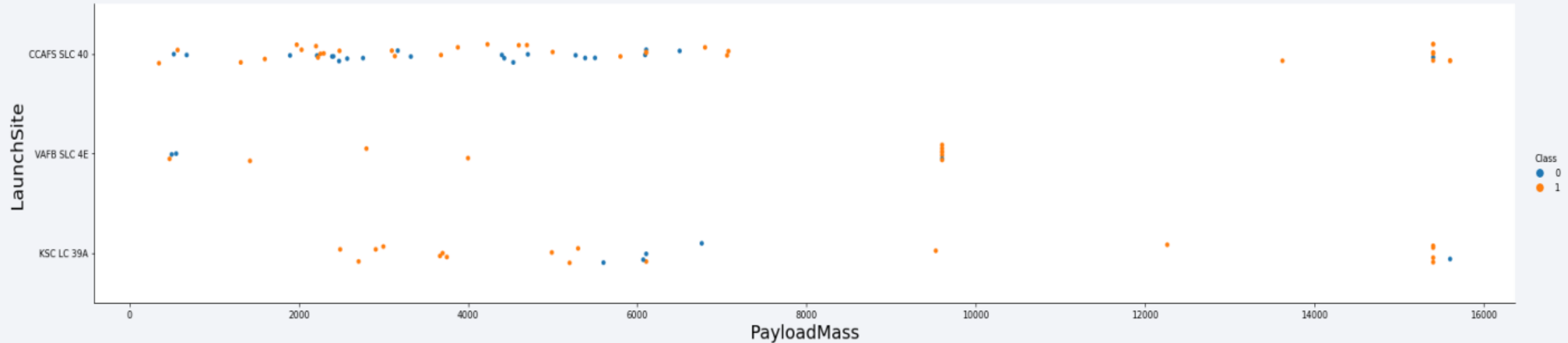
# Flight Number vs. Launch Site



- According to the plot above, it's possible to verify that the best launch site nowadays is CCAF5 SLC40, where most of recent launches were successful;
- In second place VAFB SLC4E and third place KSC LC 39A;
- It's also possible to see that the general success rate improved over time.



# Payload vs. Launch Site

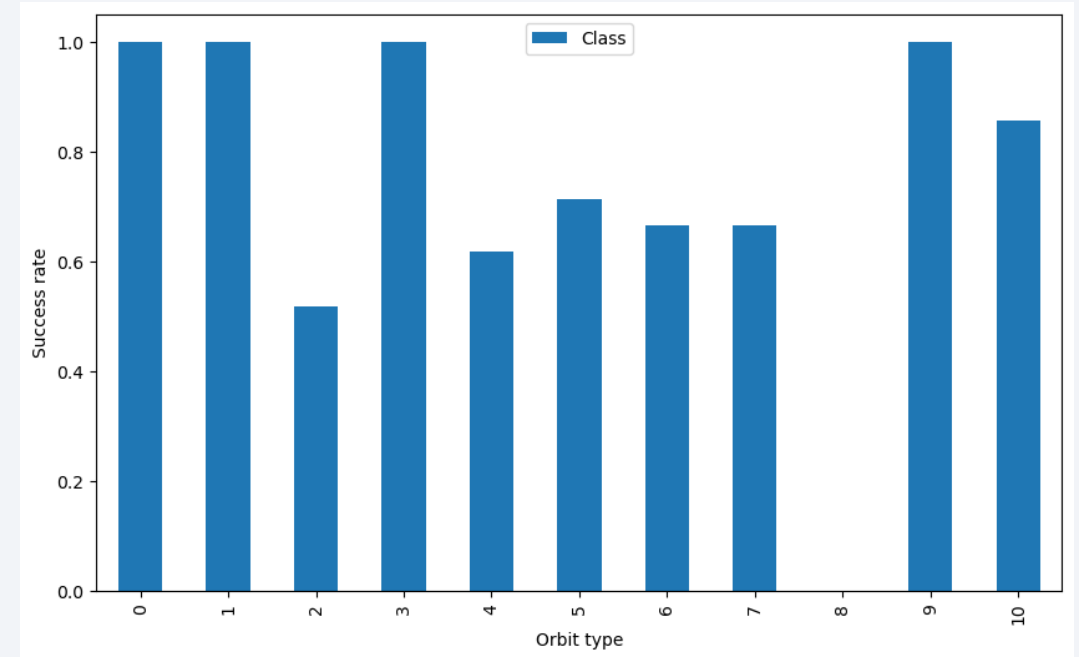


- Payloads over 9,000kg (about the weight of a school bus) have excellent success rate;
- Payloads over 12,000kg seems to be possible only on CCAFS SLC40 and KSC LC 39A launch sites.

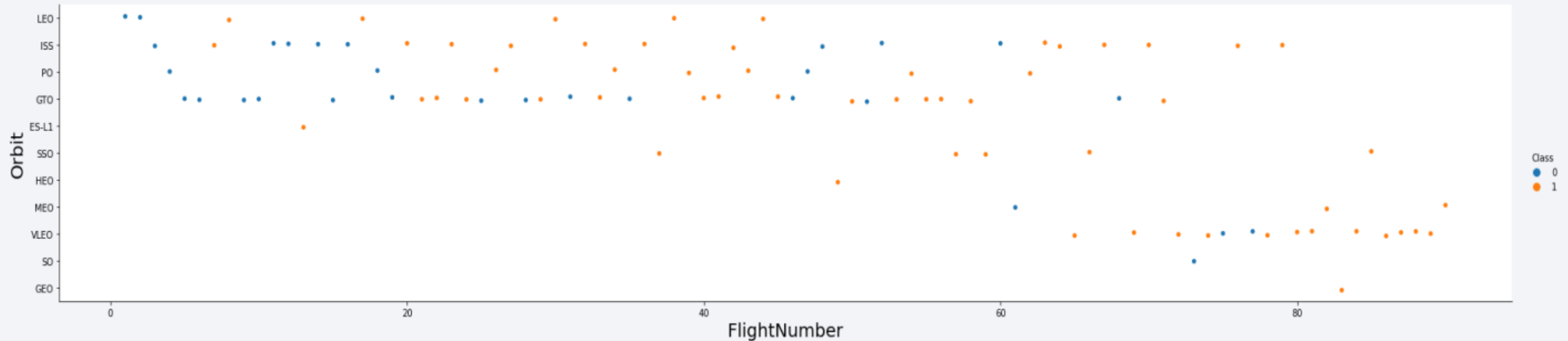
# Success Rate vs. Orbit Type

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

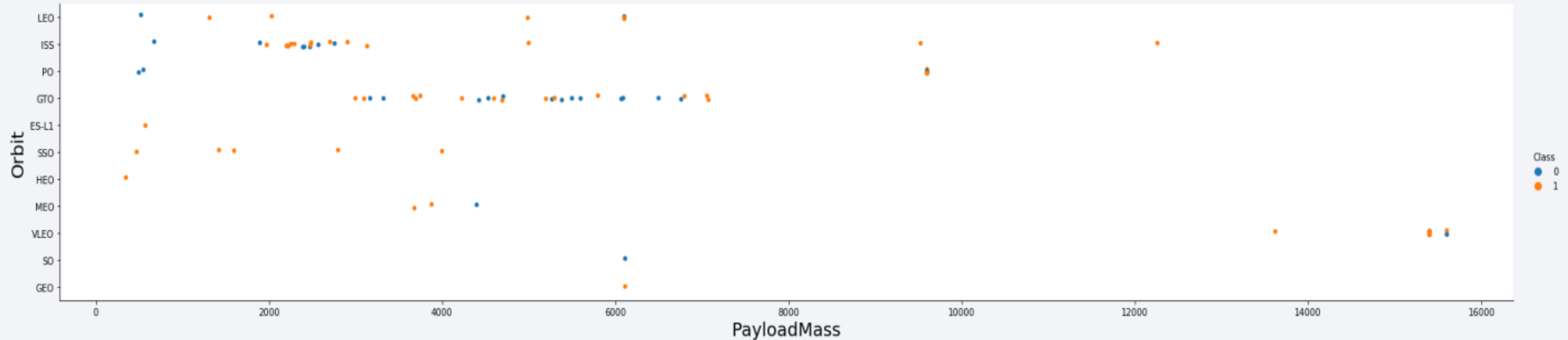


# Flight Number vs. Orbit Type



- 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

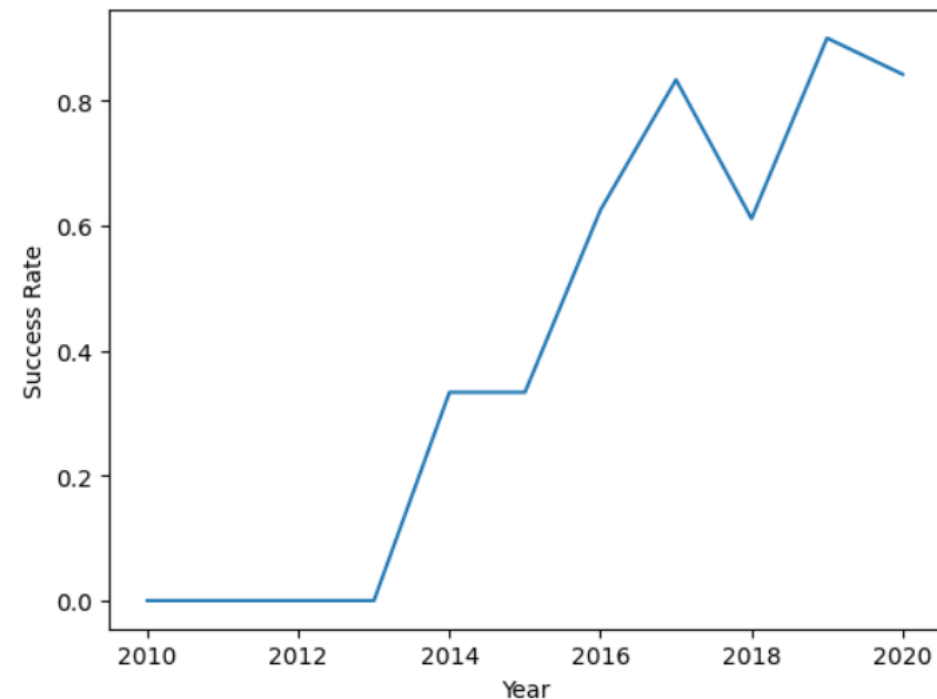


- Apparently, there is no relation between payload and success rate to orbit GTO;
- ISSorbit has the widest range of payload and a good rate of success;
- There are few launches to the orbits SO and GEO.

# Launch Success Yearly Trend

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



# All Launch Site Names

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- According to data, there are four launch sites:

| Launch Site  |
|--------------|
| 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'

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- 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

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- Total payload carried by boosters from NASA:

| Total Payload (kg) |
|--------------------|
| 111.268            |

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

# Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

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- Average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1:

| Avg Payload (kg) |
|------------------|
| 2.928            |

- 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

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- First successful landing outcome on ground pad:

| Min Date   |
|------------|
| 2015-12-22 |

- 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 12/22/2015.

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

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

| Booster Version |
|-----------------|
| F9 FT B1021.2   |
| F9 FT B1031.2   |
| F9 FT B1022     |
| F9 FT B1026     |

- Selecting distinct booster versions according to the filters above, these 4 are the result.

# Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes

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- Number of successful and failure mission outcomes:

| Mission Outcome                  | Occurrences |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Success                          | 99          |
| Success (payload status unclear) | 1           |
| Failure (in flight)              | 1           |

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



# Boosters Carried Maximum Payload

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- Boosters which have carried the maximum payload mass

| Booster Version (...) | Booster Version |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| F9 B5 B1048.4         | F9 B5 B1051.4   |
| F9 B5 B1048.5         | F9 B5 B1051.6   |
| F9 B5 B1049.4         | F9 B5 B1056.4   |
| F9 B5 B1049.5         | F9 B5 B1058.3   |
| F9 B5 B1049.7         | F9 B5 B1060.2   |
| F9 B5 B1051.3         | F9 B5 B1060.3   |

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

# 2015 Launch Records

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- Failed landing outcomes in drone ship, their booster versions, and launch site names for in year 2015

| Booster Version | Launch Site |
|-----------------|-------------|
| F9 v1.1 B1012   | CCAFS LC-40 |
| 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

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- Ranking of all landing outcomes between the date 2010-06-04 and 2017-03-20:

| 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.

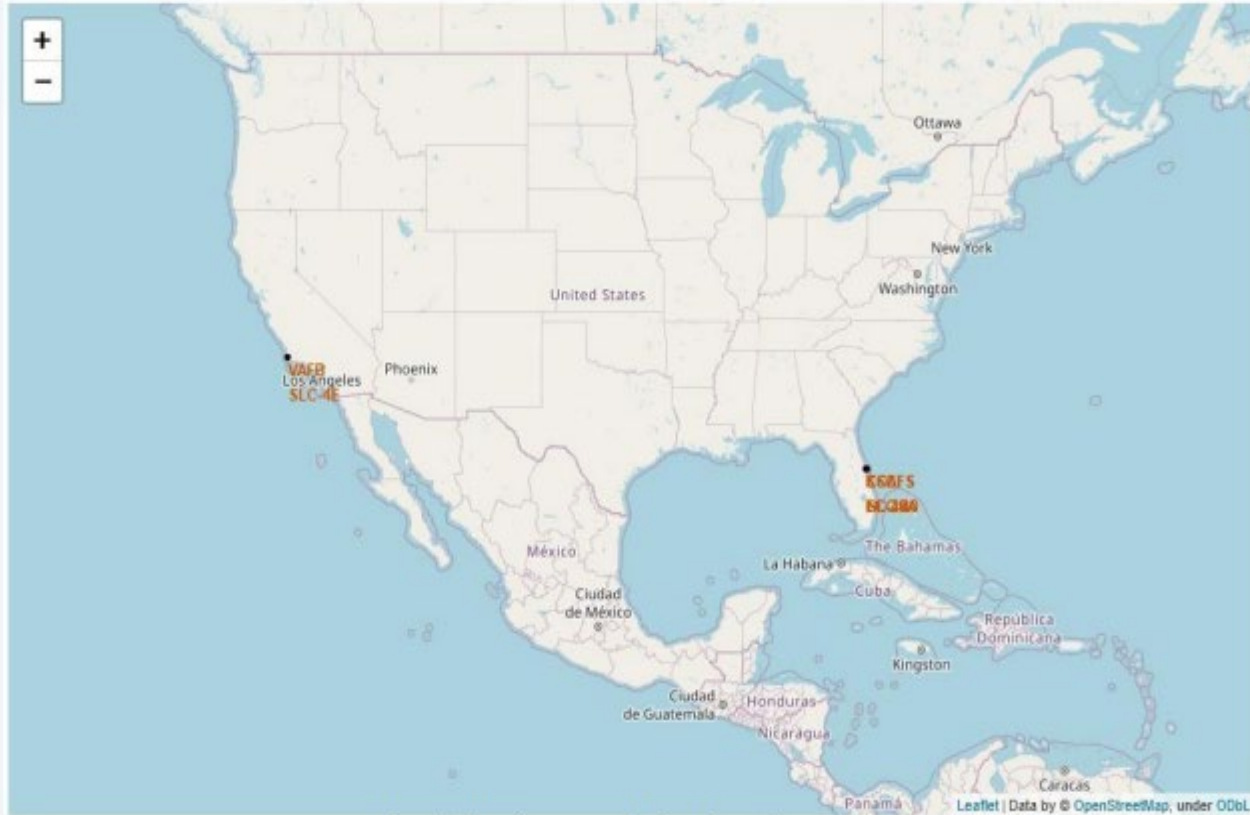
A satellite view of Earth from space, showing the curvature of the planet and city lights at night. The image is a composite of a solid blue background on the left and a satellite photograph of Earth on the right. The Earth's surface is dark, with numerous bright yellow and orange lights representing 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

# All launch sites

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

# Launch Outcomes by Site

- Example of KSCLC-39A launch site launch outcomes

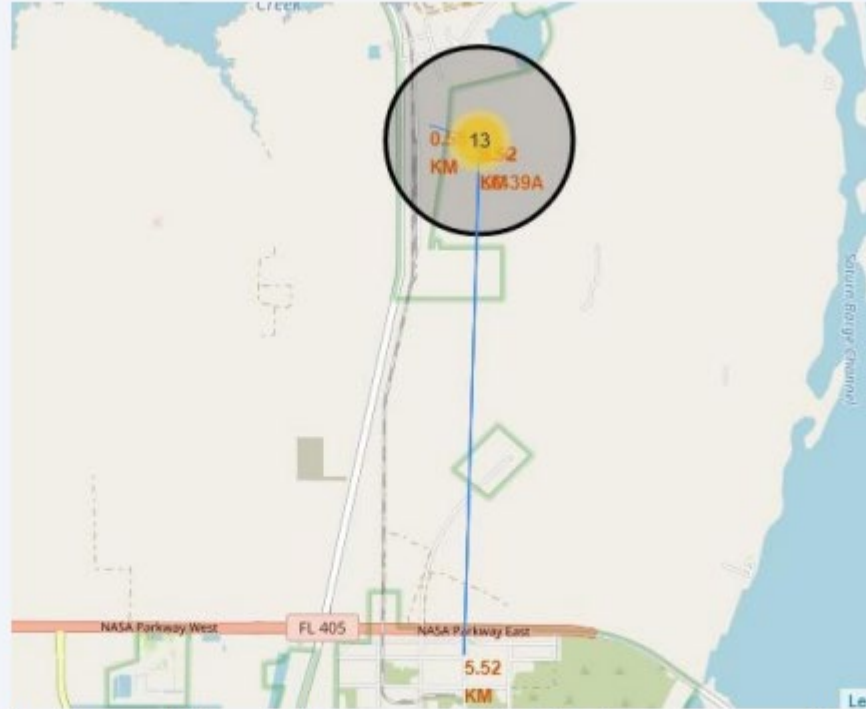


- Green markers indicate successful and red ones indicate failure.



# Logistics and Safety

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



Section 4

# Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash



# Successful Launches by Site

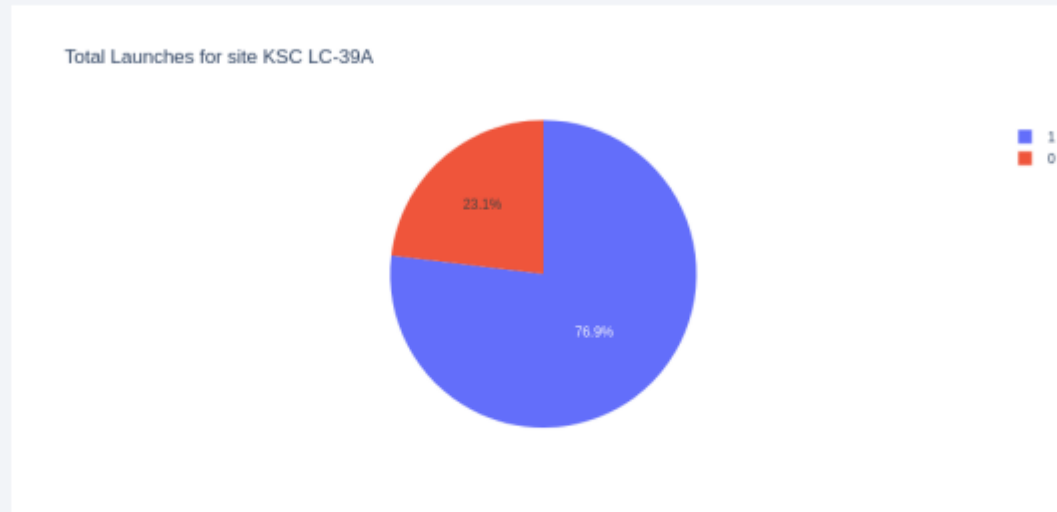
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- The place from where launches are done seems to be a very important factor of success of missions.

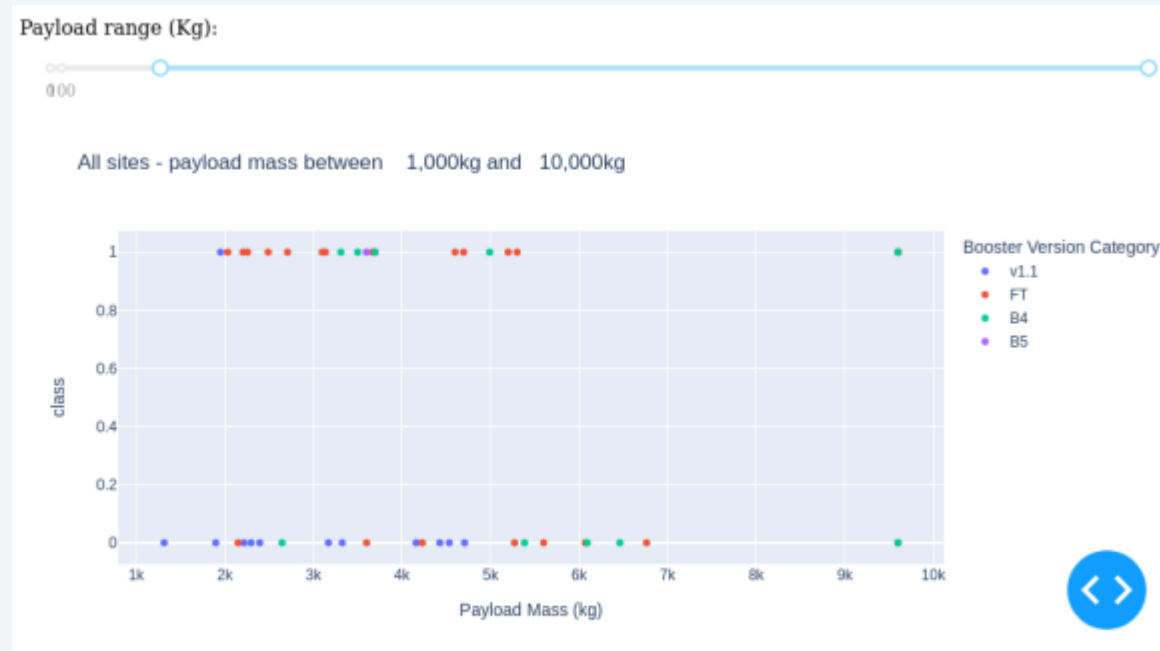
# Launch Success Ratio for KSCLC-39A

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- 76.9% of launches are successful in this site.

# Payload vs. Launch Outcome



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

# Payload vs. Launch Outcome

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

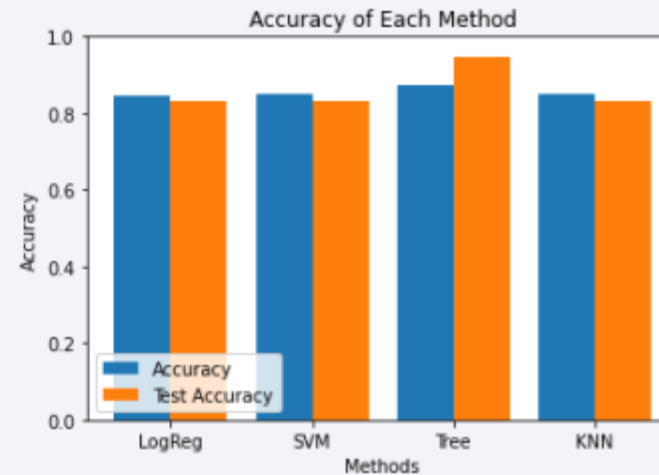
Section 5

# Predictive Analysis (Classification)

# Classification Accuracy

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- 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

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- 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

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- The best launch site is KSCLC-39A.
- Launches above 7,000kg are less risky.
- Different data sources were analyzed, refining conclusions along the process.
- Decision Tree Classifier can be used to predict successful landings and ncrease profits.



Thank you!

