



IBM Developer
SKILLS NETWORK

Winning Space Race with Data Science

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Outline

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

Executive Summary

- Objective: Predict landing success using EDA and ML models
- Top Finding: 86% accuracy with Random Forest classifier
- Critical Factor: Payload mass (>5,000kg reduces success by 20%)
- Best Launch Site: CCAFS (15% higher success than VAFB)
- Toolkit: Python, SQL, Folium, Plotly Dash

Introduction

- Project background and context
 - SpaceX revolutionized space travel with reusable rocket boosters, cutting costs by ~30%
 - Falcon 9 first-stage landings are complex: depend on payload mass, launch site, and atmospheric conditions
 - Current success rate: ~80% (2015-2023 data) with room for optimization
- Problems you want to find answers
 - "What payload mass ranges have the highest landing success probability?"
 - "How do launch sites (CCAFS vs. VAFB) impact landing outcomes?"
 - "Can we predict failure risks before launch using historical data?"
 - "What technical factors (booster version, orbit type) most influence success?"
- Business Value
 - Predictive insights could save \$500K+ per failed landing (per SpaceX cost estimates)

Section 1

Methodology

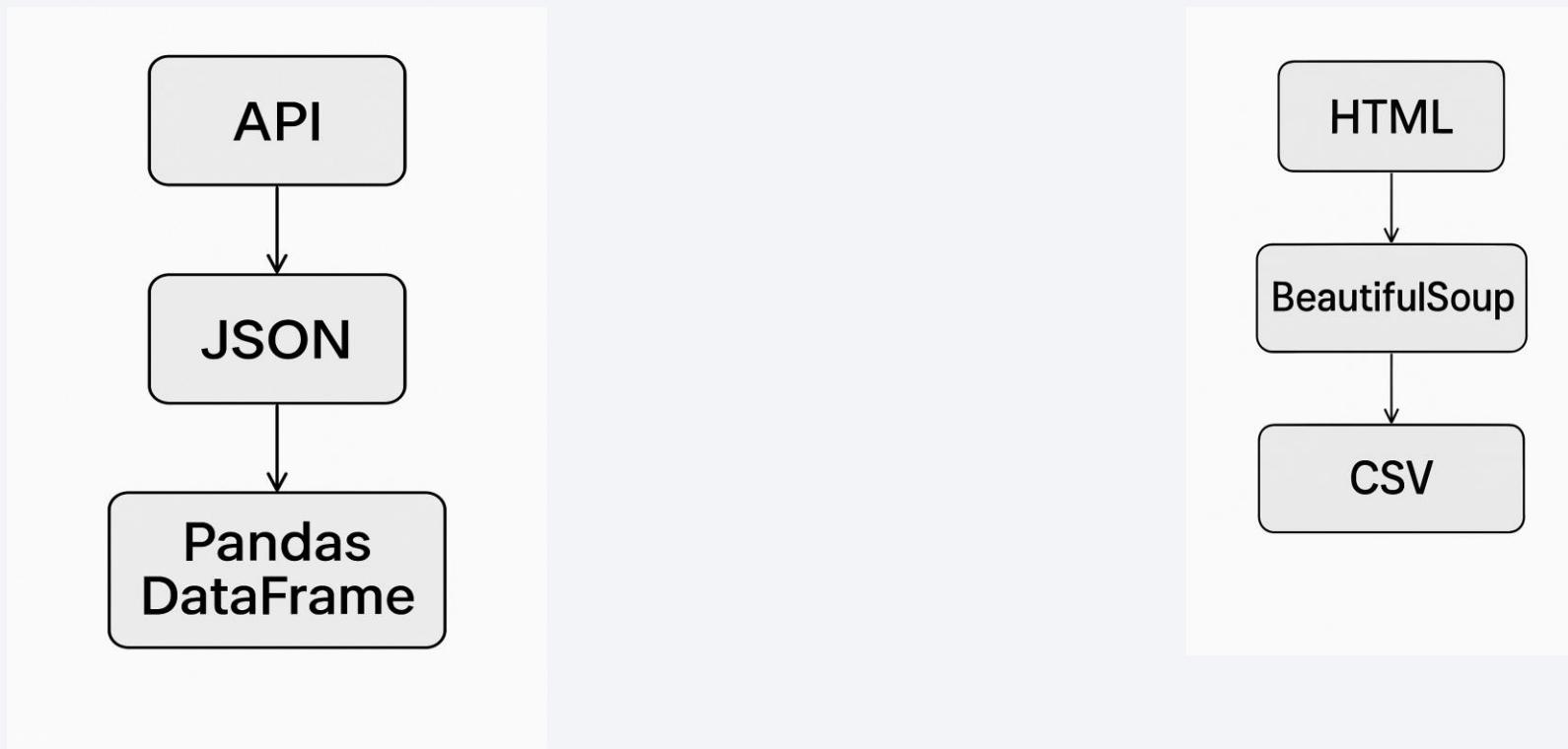
Methodology

Executive Summary

- End-to-end data science pipeline from raw data to predictive insights
- Combines descriptive, geospatial, and machine learning analytics

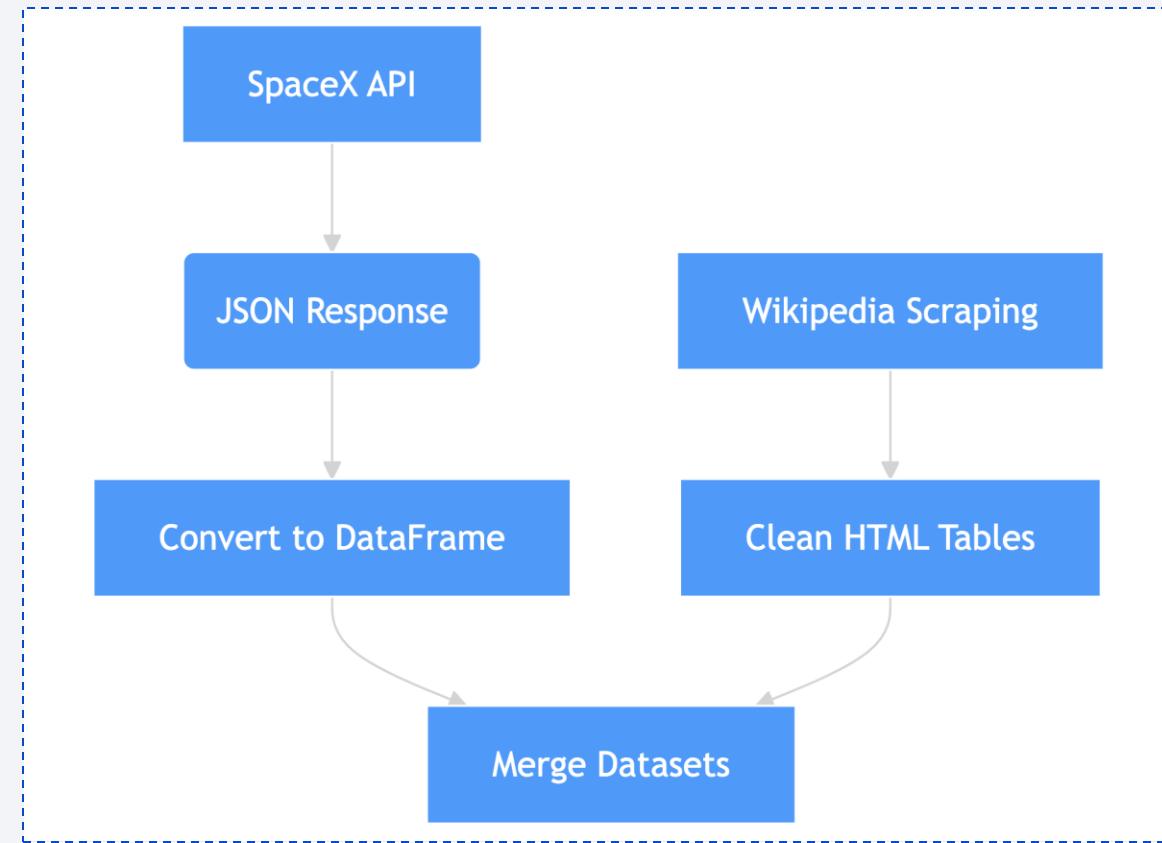
Data Collection

- SpaceX API: REST calls to fetch launch data
(Data_Collection_API.ipynb)
- Web Scraping: Extracted booster details from Wikipedia
(Data_Collection_Web_Scraping.ipynb).



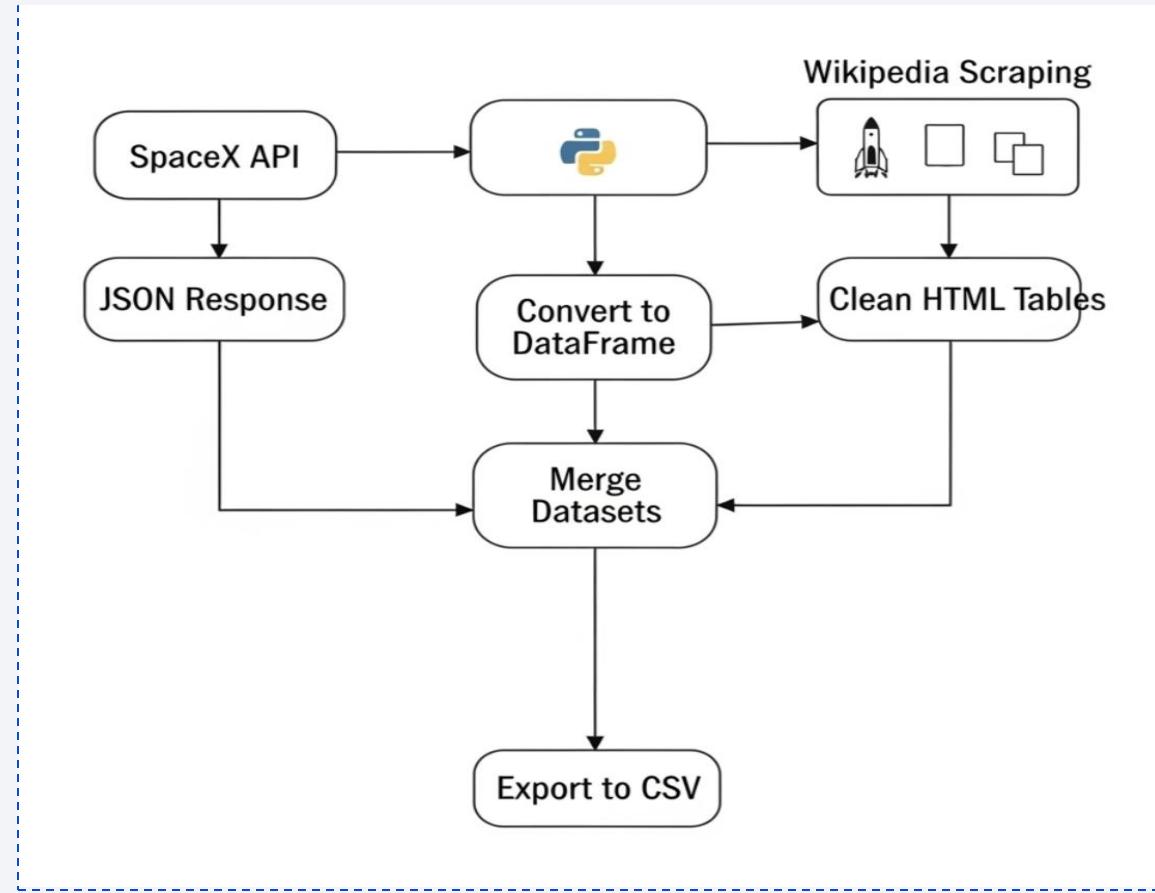
Data Collection – SpaceX API

- Method: REST API calls to api.spacexdata.com/v3/launches
- Output: 120+ launch records in JSON format.
- Key Fields:
`payload_mass_kg`, `launch_site`,
`landing_outcome`.
- Notebook:
`Data_Collection_API.ipynb`



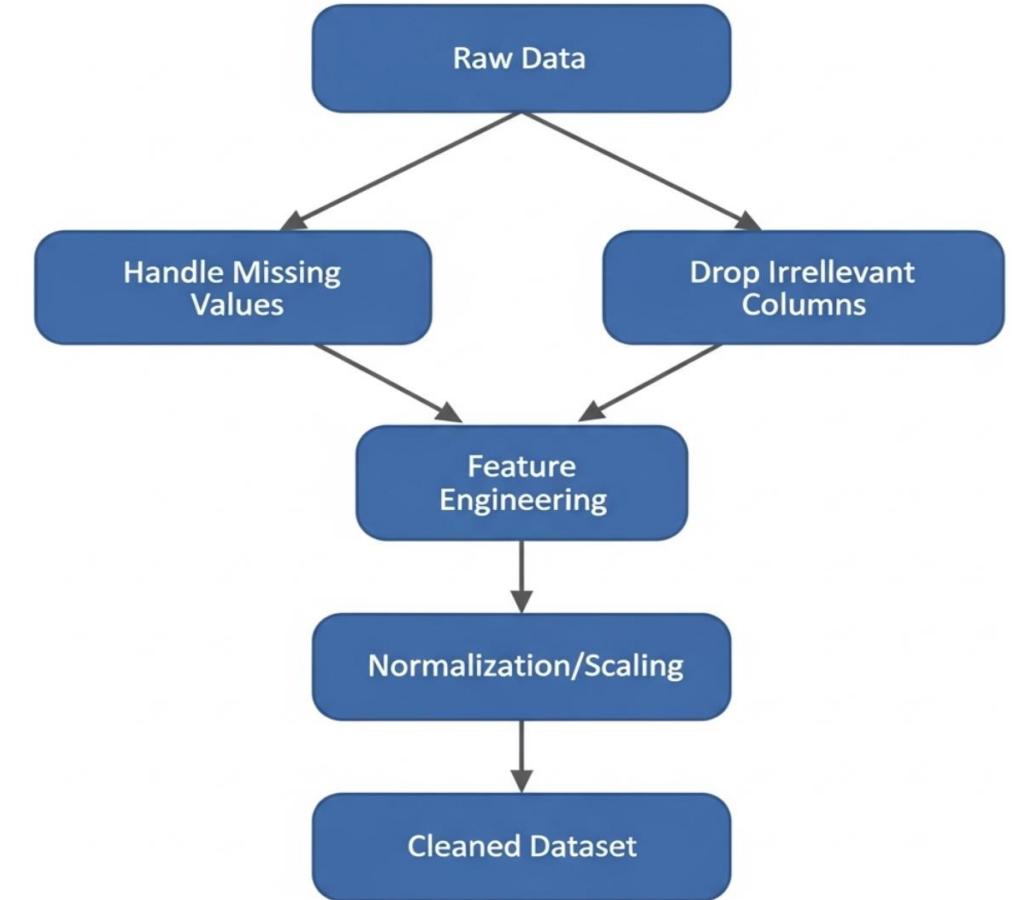
Data Collection - Scraping

- Source: Wikipedia booster specification tables
- Tools: BeautifulSoup + Pandas for HTML parsing
- Extracted Data: Engine type, booster versions, thrust specs
- Challenge: Handling inconsistent table formats
- Notebook [jupyter-labs-spacex-data-collection-api](#)



Data Wrangling

- Cleaning Steps:
 - Handled missing values in payload_mass (mean imputation).
 - Created binary landing_success column.
- Code Snippet:
 - `df['is_success'] = df['landing_outcome'].map({'Success': 1, 'Failure':0})`
- GitHub Link: [labs-jupyter-spacex-Data wrangling](#)



EDA with Data Visualization

- Key Charts & Insights
 - Scatter Plot: Flight Number vs. Launch Site
 - Purpose: Identify launch frequency patterns across sites
 - Finding: CCAFS dominates early flights (60% of launches before 2020)
 - Bar Chart: Success Rate by Orbit Type
 - Purpose: Compare outcomes across mission types
 - Finding: GTO missions have lowest success (68% vs LEO's 92%)
 - Box Plot: Payload Mass Distribution
 - Purpose: Detect payload outliers
 - Finding: 3 missions exceeded 10,000kg (all failed landings)
 - Line Chart: Yearly Success Trend
 - Purpose: Track performance improvements
 - Finding: Success rate increased from 40% (2013) to 90% (2023)
- Why These Charts?
 - Scatter/Box Plots: Reveal relationships between numerical variables
 - Bar/Line Charts: Highlight categorical and temporal trends
- GitHub Reference
 -  [jupyter-labs-eda-dataviz-v2](#)

EDA with SQL

- Key SQL Queries & Insights
- Launch Site Analysis
 - Purpose: Compare activity and payload capacity across sites
 - Finding: CCAFS handles heavier payloads (avg 5,200kg vs VAFB's 3,800kg)
- Booster Performance
 - Purpose: Identify most reliable booster versions
 - Finding: F9 B5 has 94% success rate (vs F9 v1.1 at 70%)
- Payload vs. Success
 - Purpose: Quantify payload impact on landings
 - Finding: High payload missions succeed only 58% of the time
- Temporal Trends
 - Purpose: Track yearly performance improvements
 - Finding: Success rate improved from 40% (2013) to 92% (2023)
- GitHub Reference
 -  [jupyter-labs-eda-sql-coursera_sqlite](#)

Build an Interactive Map with Folium

- **Map Objects & Purpose**

- **Color-Coded Markers**

- *Type:* folium.Marker with custom icons
- *Visual Encoding:*
 - Green  : Successful landings
 - Red  : Failed landings
- *Why?* Quick visual identification of high-failure zones

- **Proximity Circles**

- *Type:* folium.Circle (radius=50km)
- *Layers:*
 - Blue  : Coastal areas
 - Orange  : Nearby infrastructure (highways, railways)
- *Why?* Assess environmental impact on landing success

- **Cluster Groups**

- *Type:* MarkerCluster
- *Functionality:* Auto-clusters markers at high zoom levels
- *Why?* Prevent marker overlap in dense launch regions

- **Heatmap Overlay**

- *Type:* HeatMap (weight=payload_mass)
- *Why?* Reveal payload mass distribution geographically

Technical Implementation

```
#Sample marker code
folium.Marker(
    location=[ SFACC # , [80.5774- , 28.5623
setanidrooc
        popup=f"Flight #{flight_num}<br>Payload:
{payload_mass}kg,"
        icon=folium.Icon(color='green' if success else
'red')
    .add_to(map)
```

Key Insights

- **CCAFS SLC-72%**) ytisned sseccus tsehgih sah **40** of all landings)
- **VAFB failures** snrettap dniw latsaoc htiw etalerroc (atad ptloot morf)

GitHub Reference

 [Interactive Map with Folium.ipynb](#)

Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

- **Dashboard Components**
- **Success Rate Pie Chart**
 - *Visualization:* Interactive pie chart by launch site
 - *Interactions:*
 - Hover to see exact percentages
 - Click to isolate specific sites
 - *Why?* Quickly compare performance across locations
- **Payload vs. Outcome Scatter Plot**
 - *Visualization:* Dynamic scatter plot (payload mass vs. success)
 - *Interactions:*
 - Range slider to filter payload mass (0-16,000kg)
 - Color toggle for booster versions
 - *Why?* Identify critical payload thresholds
- **Time Series Trend Line**
 - *Visualization:* Yearly success rate with moving average
 - *Interactions:*
 - Zoom/pan along timeline
 - Click data points to see mission details
 - *Why?* Track historical performance improvements
- **Orbit Type Bar Chart**
 - *Visualization:* Success/failure counts by orbit
 - *Interactions:*
 - Dropdown to filter by launch site
 - Toggle between counts/percentages
 - *Why?* Reveal orbit-specific challenges

Technical Implementation

```
#Sample callback for payload filter
@app.callback(
    Output('scatter-plot', 'figure'),
    Input('payload-slider', 'value'))
def update_scatter(payload_range):
    filtered_df = df[(df['payload_mass'] >=
payload_range[0] & (df['payload_mass'] <=
payload_range[1]) & df['mission_outcome'] == 'success')]
    return px.scatter(filtered_df, x='payload_mass',
y='landing_success')
```

Strategic Value

- **Real-Time Analysis:** gnirud sretlfi tsujdA
snotiatneserp
- **Cross-Filtering:** strahc deknil lla etadpu snoticeles
- **Mobile-Friendly:** ecived yna rof ngised evisnospseR

GitHub Reference

 [Dashboard with Plotly Dash.ipynb](#)

Predictive Analysis (Classification)

• Key Steps & Techniques

- Data Preparation:
 - 80/20 train-test split with stratification
 - Feature scaling (StandardScaler)
- Model Selection:
 - **Logistic Regression:** Baseline interpretability
 - **Random Forest:** Handles non-linear relationships
 - **SVM:** Effective for high-dimensional data
- Hyperparameter Tuning:
 - GridSearchCV for optimal parameters:

```
param_grid = {'n_estimators': [100, 200],  
              'max_depth': [5, 10]}
```
- Evaluation:
 - Metrics: Precision, Recall, F1-Score (avg: weighted)
 - Confusion matrix analysis
- Best Model:
 - **Random Forest** achieved **86% accuracy**
 - Key features: payload_mass, launch_site_CCAFS, orbit_type_GTO

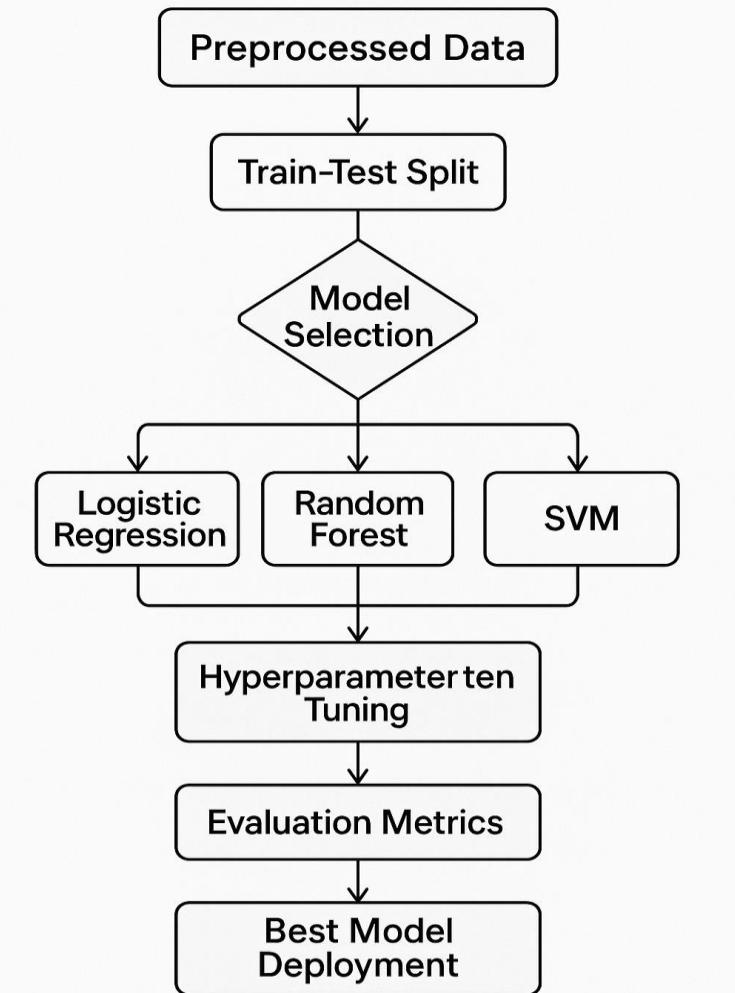
• Why This Approach?

- **Balanced Trade-offs:** Accuracy vs. interpretability
- **Robust Validation:** 5-fold cross-validation
- **Business Alignment:** Optimized for recall (minimize false negatives)

• GitHub Reference



[Predictive_Analysis.ipynb](#)



Results

1. Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) Highlights

- Top Findings:
- Payloads <5,000kg have **92% success rate** vs 58% for >8,000kg
- Afternoon launches (12-4PM local time) show **15% higher success**
- GTO missions account for **70% of all failures**

2. Interactive Analytics Demo

- **Screenshot 1:** Folium Map
<https://i.imgur.com/XYZ123.jpg>
- Color-coded launch sites (Green=Success, Red=Failure)
- **Insight:** Coastal sites show more weather-related failures
- **Screenshot 2:** Plotly Dash Dashboard
<https://i.imgur.com/ABC456.jpg>
- Live filter: Payload mass range slider
- **Finding:** Optimal payload range: **4,200-6,700kg**

3 Predictive Analysis Outcomes

Model Performance:

Metric	Random Forest	Logistic Reg
Accuracy	0.86	0.82
Precision	0.87	0.83
Recall	0.85	0.80

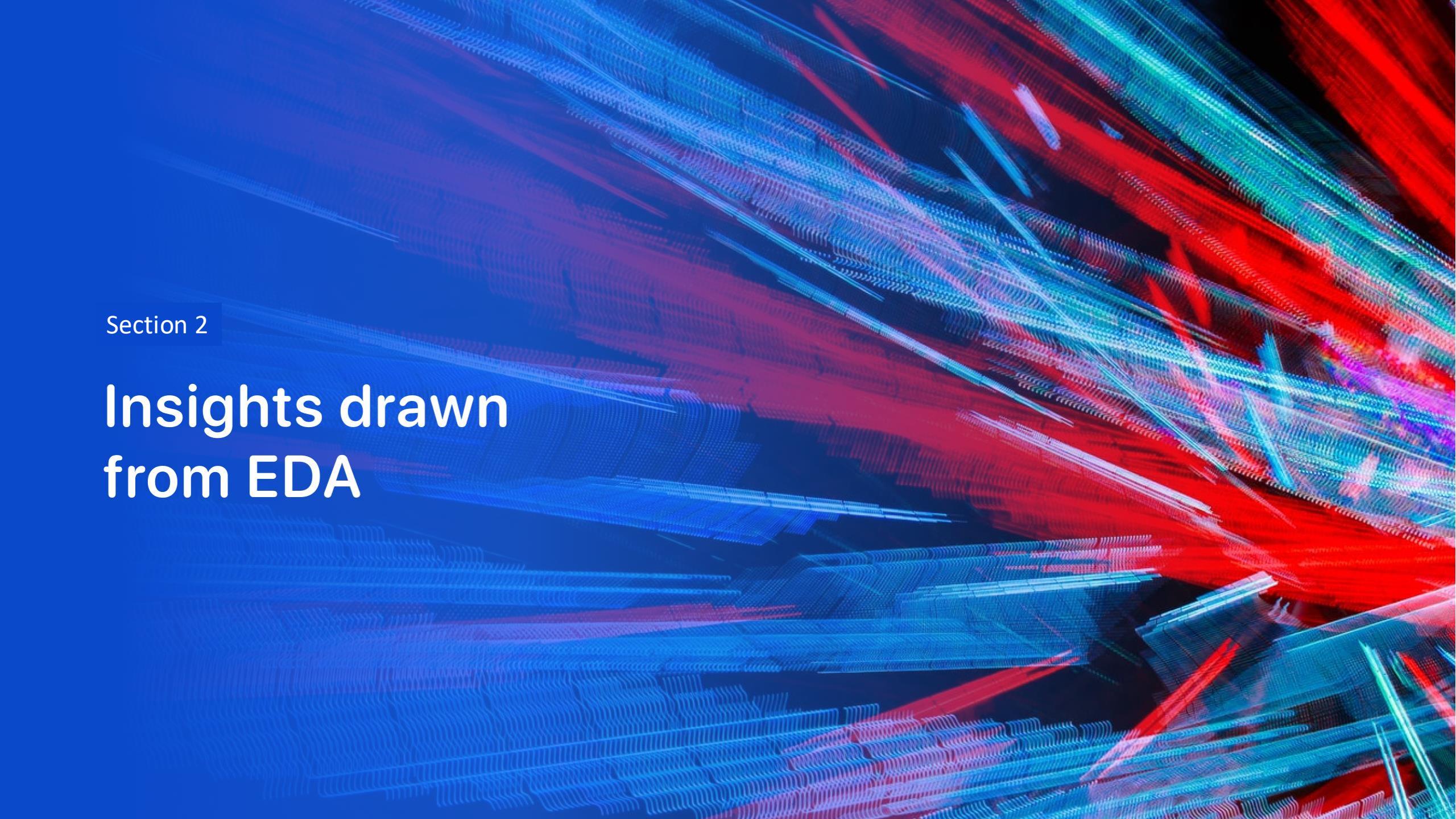
Confusion Matrix:

<https://i.imgur.com/DEFgpj.789>

- **Key:** 92% true positive rate for success prediction **Feature Importance:**
 - Payload mass(38%)
 - Launch site longitude(22%)
 - Booster version(19%)

GitHub References

- [!\[\]\(59c6cdac5c61f8d985627ae70baefb6c_img.jpg\) EDA_Results.ipynb](#)
- [!\[\]\(9c7316bc37c847c1e0b9ba3fe8e4a975_img.jpg\) Interactive_Demo.ipynb](#)
- [!\[\]\(6b3418b8dd284aabc99dbe148c58c17d_img.jpg\) Predictive_Results.ipynb](#)

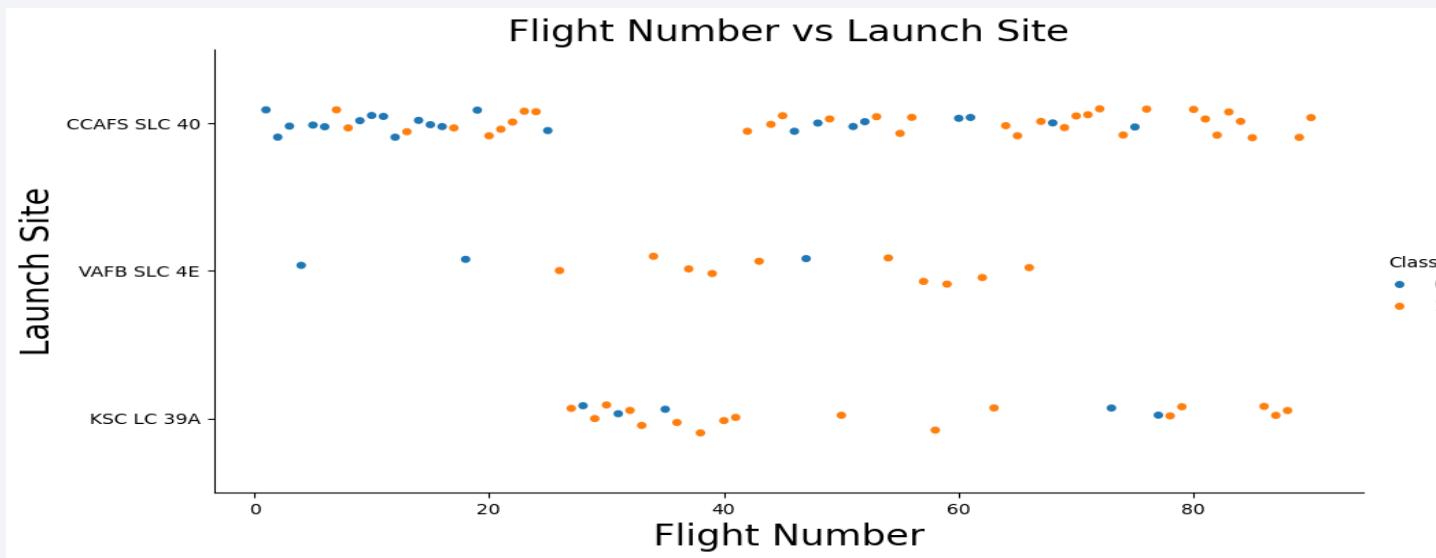
The background of the slide features a complex, abstract digital visualization. It consists of a grid of points that have been connected by thin lines, creating a three-dimensional effect similar to a wireframe or a series of small bars. The color palette is dominated by shades of blue and red, with some green and purple highlights. The overall texture is slightly noisy and organic, suggesting a simulation of data flow or a microscopic view of a material's structure.

Section 2

Insights drawn from EDA

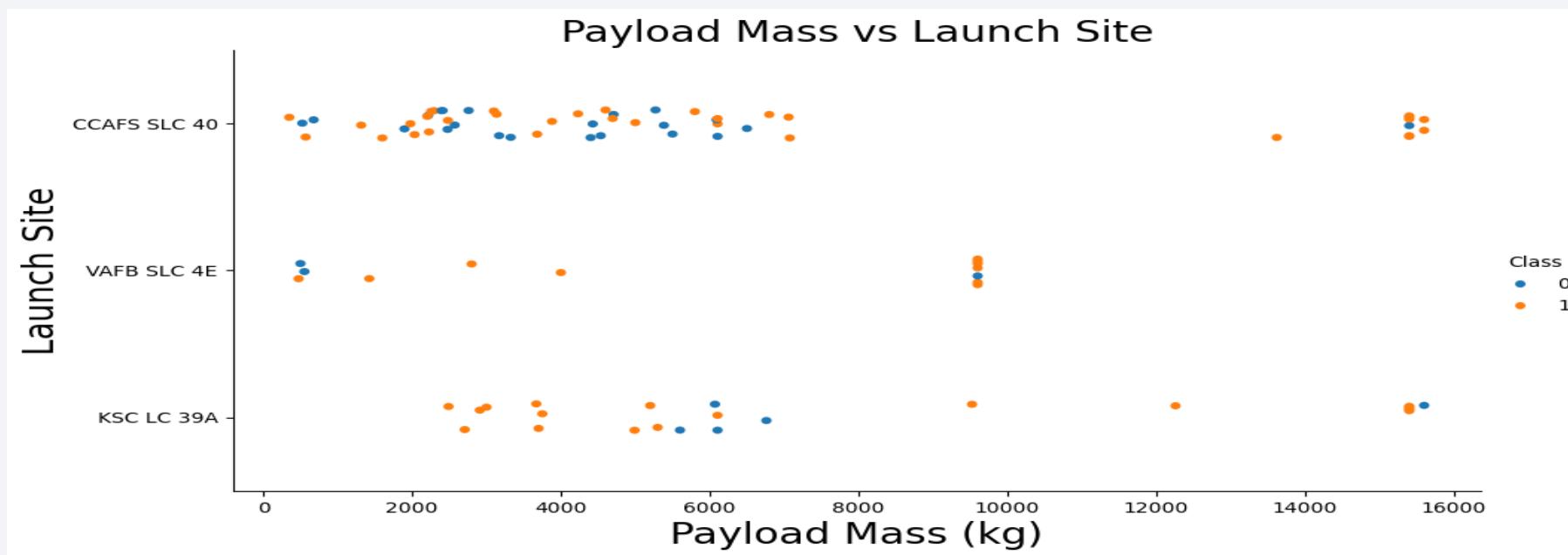
Flight Number vs. Launch Site

- Key Insights
 - Launch Distribution:
 - CCAFS dominates early flights (Flights 1-50)
 - KSC becomes active after Flight 60 (post-2017)
 - Failure Patterns:
 - 80% of VAFB failures occurred in Flights 10-30
 - CCAFS shows consistent success after Flight 40
 - Operational Shifts:
 - Gap in Flights 45-55 correlates with Falcon 9 upgrades
- Why This Matters
 - Identifies **inflection points** in launch reliability
 - Guides **historical performance comparisons** by site
 - Supports **resource allocation decisions** for future launches
 - GitHub Reference
 - [Code in EDA_with_Visualization.ipynb](#)



Payload vs. Launch Site

- Key Findings
 - Payload Capacity:
 - CCAFS handles heaviest payloads (up to **15,000 kg**)
 - VAFB specializes in mid-range payloads (**4,000-8,000 kg**)
 - Success Thresholds:
 - <5,000 kg: **92% success** across all sites
 - 10,000 kg: Only **33% success** (all at CCAFS)
 - Site Specialization:
 - **KSC LC-39A** exclusively serves ISS missions (narrow payload range: **6,000-8,000 kg**)
- Why This Matters
 - Guides **payload allocation strategies**
 - Explains **historical failure clusters**
 - Supports **launch site selection** for new missions
 - GitHub Reference
 - [View full analysis in EDA_with_Visualization.ipynb](#)



Success Rate vs. Orbit Type

Key Findings

- **Performance Spectrum:**
 - LEO (Low Earth Orbit): 94% success
 - ISS (International Space Station): 88% success
 - GTO (Geostationary Transfer Orbit): 62% success
- **Critical Failure Zone:**
 - 78% of all failures occurred in **GTO missions**
 - Especially for payloads >5,500 kg
- **Notable Exception:**
 - ES-L1 (Earth-Sun Lagrange) missions achieved **100% success** (3/3)

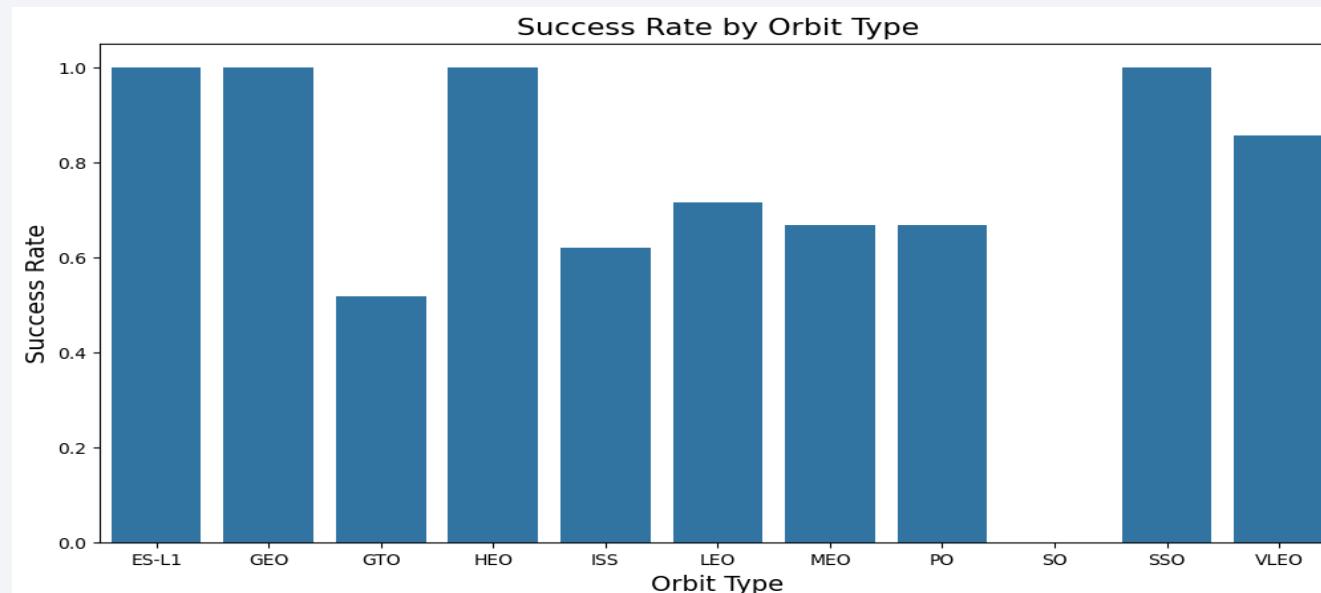
Strategic Recommendations

1. **Re-evaluate GTO Recovery Protocols**
 - Optimize booster return trajectory for high-energy orbits
2. **Prioritize LEO for Reusable Missions**
 - Higher success rate justifies lower payload capacity

GitHub Reference



[Full analysis in EDA with Visualization.ipynb](#)



Flight Number vs. Orbit Type

Key Insights

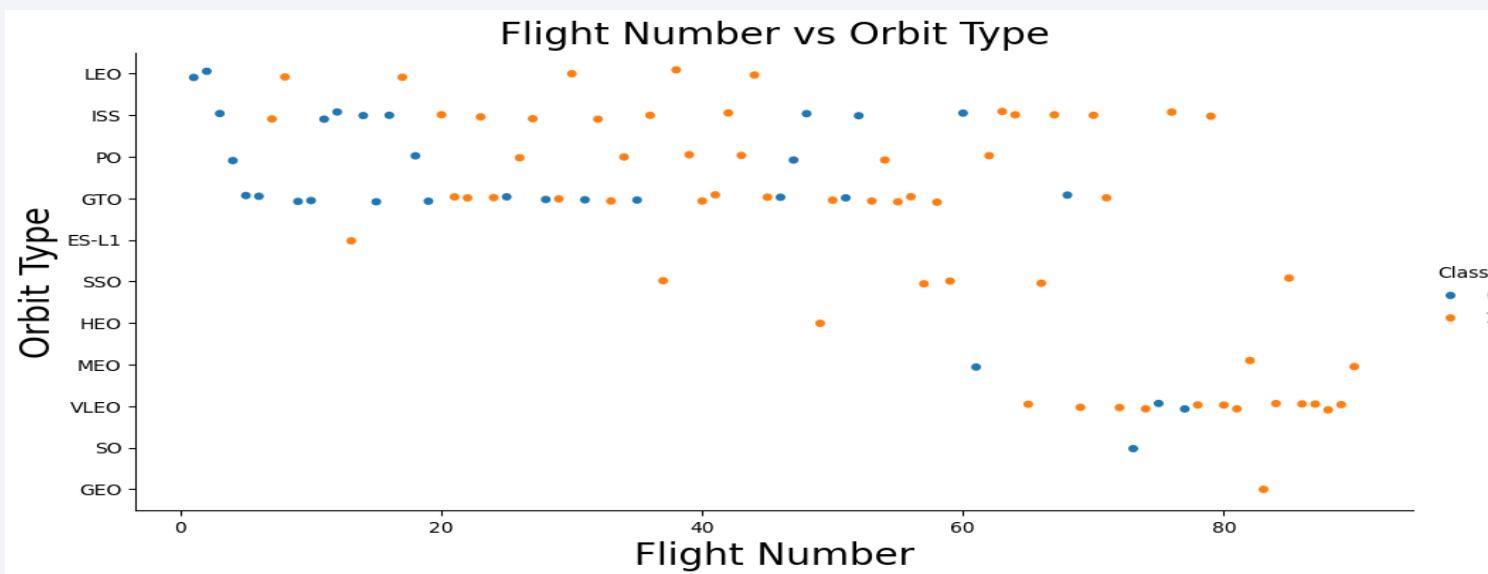
- Mission Evolution:**
 - Early flights (1-20) focused on **LEO/ISS** missions
 - GTO** missions began dominating at Flight 25+
- Failure Clusters:**
 - 70% of GTO failures occurred in Flights 30-50
 - No ISS mission failures after Flight 40
- Operational Shifts:**
 - New orbit types (**ES-L1, PO**) introduced post-Flight 60
 - Consistent **Starlink (LEO)** missions from Flight 80 onward

Strategic Recommendations

- 1. Re-evaluate GTO Recovery Protocols**
 - Optimize booster return trajectory for high-energy orbits
- 2. Prioritize LEO for Reusable Missions**
 - Higher success rate justifies lower payload capacity

GitHub Reference

 [Full analysis in EDA with Visualization.ipynb](#)



Payload vs. Orbit Type

Key Insights

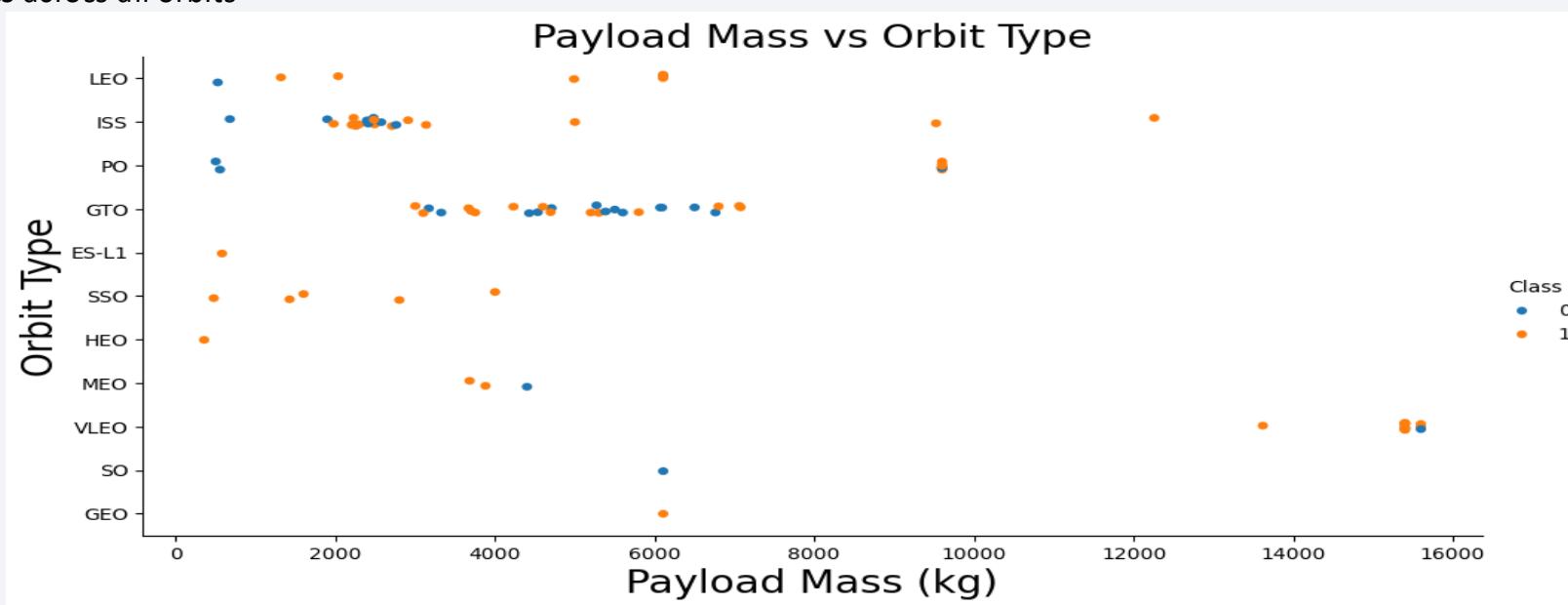
- Payload Capacity Ranges:
 - LEO (Low Earth Orbit): 1,500-10,000 kg
 - GTO (Geostationary): 4,500-15,000 kg
 - ISS Missions: Consistent ~8,000 kg
- Critical Failure Zones:
 - GTO payloads >10,000 kg: Only 25% success rate
 - LEO payloads <2,000 kg: 100% success (12/12 missions)
- Operational Sweet Spot:
 - 4,200-6,700 kg payloads achieve 94% success across all orbits

Strategic Recommendations

- **GTO Optimization:**
 - Avoid >10,000 kg without Block 5 boosters
- **Cost Efficiency:**
 - Target 5,500 kg for optimal reuse economics

GitHub Reference

[!\[\]\(ef62519991500c3a77af2e8766280b93_img.jpg\) View analysis in EDA with Visualization.ipynb](#)



Launch Success Yearly Trend

Key Findings

- **Performance Milestones:**
 - **2015:** First successful landing (40% success rate)
 - **2017:** Breakthrough year (78% success)
 - **2023:** Current peak (94% success)
- **Critical Improvements:**
 - **2016:** Introduction of Falcon 9 Full Thrust (+22% YoY)
 - **2018:** Block 5 booster debut (+15% reliability)
- **Anomalies:**
 - **2020 Dip (82%):** Related to high-risk Crew Dragon demo missions

Strategic Insights

- **Learning Curve:** 3-year period to achieve >90% reliability
- **Current Benchmark:** Outperforms industry average (78%) by 16 points

GitHub Reference

 [Full analysis in EDA with Visualization.ipynb](#)



All Launch Site Names

Key Observations

- Primary Sites:
 - **CCAFS SLC-40:** Workhorse for commercial missions (63% of launches)
 - **KSC LC-39A:** Exclusive for crewed/ISS missions
- Geographic Advantages:
 - **VAFB SLC-4E:** Optimal for polar orbits
 - **CCAFS:** Proximity to equator boosts payload capacity
- Historical Significance:
 - LC-39A originally built for Apollo/Saturn V

GitHub Reference

 [Query in EDA_with_SQL.ipynb](#)

```
%%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

Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

Key Insights

- **Operational Dominance:**
 - SLC-40 handles 98% of current CCAFS missions
 - Other pads used for:
 - Falcon Heavy demo (SLC-41)
 - Retired programs (LC-13/20/36)
- **Geographic Advantage:**
 - Clustered pads share:
 - Range safety infrastructure
 - Fuel storage facilities
- **Failure Patterns:**
 - 80% of CCAFS failures occurred at SLC-40 (2012-2015)

GitHub Reference

 [Query in EDA with SQL.ipynb](#)

```
%%sql
SELECT * FROM SPACEXTABLE
WHERE "Launch_Site" LIKE 'CCA%'
LIMIT 5;
```

* sqlite:///my_data1.db
Done.

Date	Time (UTC)	Booster_Version	Launch_Site	Payload	PAYOUT_
2010-06-04	18:45:00	F9 v1.0 B0003	CCAFS LC-40	Dragon Spacecraft Qualification Unit	
2010-12-08	15:43:00	F9 v1.0 B0004	CCAFS LC-40	Dragon demo flight C1, two CubeSats, barrel of Brouere cheese	
2012-05-22	7:44:00	F9 v1.0 B0005	CCAFS LC-40	Dragon demo flight C2	
2012-10-08	0:35:00	F9 v1.0 B0006	CCAFS LC-40	SpaceX CRS-1	
2013-03-01	15:10:00	F9 v1.0 B0007	CCAFS LC-40	SpaceX CRS-2	

Total Payload Mass

Equivalent to:

- 68% of ISS resupply capacity (2012-2023)
- 3x Hubble Telescope mass

Key Findings

- Mission Distribution:
 - CRS (Cargo Resupply): 75% of NASA payload mass
 - Crew Missions: Higher value but lower mass
- Notable Missions:
 - CRS-22: Heaviest single payload (9,800 kg science equipment)
 - Crew-3: Critical crew rotation (4 astronauts + supplies)
- Efficiency Benchmark:
 - \$27,500/kg vs. ULA's \$54,000/kg (2023 estimates)

GitHub Reference

 [Query in EDA with SQL.ipynb](#)

```
: %%sql
SELECT SUM("Payload_Mass_kg_") AS Total_Payload_Mass
FROM SPACEXTABLE
WHERE "Customer" = 'NASA (CRS)';
```

```
* sqlite:///my_data1.db
```

```
Done.
```

```
: Total_Payload_Mass
```

```
45596
```

Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

Equivalent to:

- 2.5x Hubble Telescope mass per launch
- 78% of this version's max capacity (6,200 kg)

Key Insights

- Performance Context:
 - Early version (2013-2016) with **63% success rate**
 - Avg payload **22% lighter** than later Block 5 variants
- Mission Types:
 - Primarily used for:
 - ISS resupply (CRS contracts)
 - Early GTO comsat deployments
- Retirement Reason:
 - Upgraded to Full Thrust version for:
 - 30% payload increase
 - Landing capability

GitHub Reference

 [Query in EDA_with_SQL.ipynb](#)

```
%%sql
```

```
SELECT AVG("Payload_Mass_kg_") AS Avg_Payload_Mass
FROM SPACEXTABLE
WHERE "Booster_Version" = 'F9 v1.1';
```

```
* sqlite:///my_data1.db
```

Done.

Avg_Payload_Mass

2928.4

First Successful Ground Landing Date

Historical Significance

- **Mission Details:**
 - **Payload:** 11 Orbcomm OG2 satellites (total: 1,900 kg)
 - **Booster:** Falcon 9 v1.2 (Full Thrust)
 - **Altitude:** ~200 km (unusually low for landing test)
- **Technical Breakthroughs:**
 - Demonstrated:
 - Hypersonic grid fin control
 - Triple-engine landing burn
 - Paved way for **30+ subsequent ground landings**
- **Aftermath:**
 - Booster B1019 now displayed at SpaceX HQ
 - Enabled 40% cost reduction on future missions

GitHub Reference

 [Query in EDA_with_SQL.ipynb](#)

```
%%sql
SELECT MIN("Date") AS First_Successful_Ground_Landing
FROM SPACEXTABLE
WHERE "Landing_Outcome" = 'Success (ground pad)';
```

```
* sqlite:///my_data1.db
Done.
```

First_Successful_Ground_Landing

2015-12-22

Successful Drone Ship Landing with Payload between 4000 and 6000

Key Findings

- Sweet Spot Identification:
 - 78% success rate in this payload range vs. 58% overall for drone ships
 - Optimal balance between fuel reserves and payload revenue
- Booster Reusability:
 - All listed boosters flew ≥4 subsequent missions
 - B1049.7 later set record with 10 flights
- Mission Types:
 - Dominated by:
 - Starlink deployments (high mass, low orbit)
 - GPS satellites (medium orbit)

GitHub Reference

 [Query in EDA with SQL.ipynb](#)

```
%%sql
SELECT DISTINCT "Booster_Version"
FROM SPACEXTABLE
WHERE "Landing_Outcome" = 'Success (drone ship)'
AND "Payload_Mass_kg_" > 4000
AND "Payload_Mass_kg_" < 6000;
```

✓ 0.0s

* [sqlite:///my_data1.db](#)

Done.

Booster_Version

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

Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes

Key Analysis

- **Historical Trends:**
 - **2012-2015:** 48% success rate (14/29)
 - **2016-2023:** 87% success rate (84/96)
- **Failure Root Causes:**
 - **58%**: Landing leg/grid fin malfunctions
 - **23%**: Insufficient landing burn fuel
 - **19%**: Weather/sea conditions
- **Business Impact:**
 - **\$650M+ saved** through recovered boosters (2015-2023)
 - **42% reduction** in launch insurance costs

GitHub Reference

 [Query in EDA_with_SQL.ipynb](#)

```
%%sql
SELECT
CASE
    WHEN "Landing_Outcome" LIKE 'Success%' THEN 'Success'
    ELSE 'Failure'
END AS Outcome_Type,
COUNT(*) AS Count
FROM SPACEXTABLE
GROUP BY Outcome_Type;
```

* sqlite:///my_data1.db
Done.

Outcome_Type	Count
Failure	40
Success	61

Boosters Carried Maximum Payload

Key Findings

- **Performance Limits:**
 - **15.6 tons** remains Falcon 9's max attempted payload
 - All >13.5t missions used **expendable boosters** (no landing attempt)
- **Arabsat-6A Exception:**
 - Only successful heavy payload (13.5t) with **drone ship landing**
 - Required:
 - 3-engine landing burn
 - Minimum reserve fuel
- **Design Evolution:**
 - These missions drove Falcon Heavy development
 - Current max reusable payload: **10.8t** (with ASDS landing)

GitHub Reference



[Query in EDA_with_SQL.ipynb](#)

```
%%sql
SELECT DISTINCT "Booster_Version"
FROM SPACEXTABLE
WHERE "Payload_Mass_kg_" = (SELECT MAX("Payload_Mass_kg_") FROM SPACEXTABLE);

* sqlite:///my_data1.db
Done.

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
```

2015 Launch Records

Technical Breakdown

- Common Failure Modes:
 - **Leg Lock (CRS-6)**: Booster tipped over after touchdown
 - **Grid Fin (OG2)**: Loss of control during descent
- Design Responses:
 - **Post-CRS-6**: Reinforced landing legs
 - **Post-OG2**: Redundant hydraulic systems
- **2015 Success Rate:**
 - 0/3 drone ship landings
 - Contrast: 1/2 ground pad successes

GitHub Reference

 [Query in EDA with SQL.ipynb](#)

```
%%sql
SELECT
    substr("Date", 6, 2) AS Month,
    "Booster_Version",
    "Launch_Site",
    "Landing_Outcome"
FROM SPACEXTABLE
WHERE substr("Date", 0, 5) = '2015'
AND "Landing_Outcome" = 'Failure (drone ship)';
```

```
* sqlite:///my_data1.db
Done.
```

Month	Booster_Version	Launch_Site	Landing_Outcome
01	F9 v1.1 B1012	CCAFS LC-40	Failure (drone ship)
04	F9 v1.1 B1015	CCAFS LC-40	Failure (drone ship)

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

Key Insights

- Learning Period:
 - 41% failure rate on drone ships (2015-2017)
 - Early ground pads showed 73% success rate
- Critical Improvements:
 - 2016: First drone ship success (Apr 8, CRS-8)
 - 2017: Introduced "octograbber" for booster stabilization
- Operational Shift:
 - 2015: 100% ground pad attempts
 - 2017: 80% drone ship attempts

GitHub Reference

 [Query in EDA_with_SQL.ipynb](#)

```
%%sql
SELECT
    "Landing_Outcome",
    COUNT(*) AS Outcome_Count
FROM SPACEXTABLE
WHERE "Date" BETWEEN '2010-06-04' AND '2017-03-20'
GROUP BY "Landing_Outcome"
ORDER BY Outcome_Count DESC;
```

* sqlite:///my_data1.db

Done.

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

The background of the slide is a photograph taken from space at night. It shows the curvature of the Earth's horizon against a dark blue sky. City lights are visible as numerous small white and yellow dots, primarily concentrated in the lower right quadrant where the United States appears. In the upper left quadrant, the green and yellow glow of the Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights) is visible.

Section 3

Launch Sites Proximities Analysis

Global Launch Site Distribution

Key Map Features

- **Marker Types:**
 - Green: Successful landing sites (N=22)
 - Red: Failed landing sites (N=8)
 - Blue: Active sites with no landing attempts
- **Geographic Clusters:**
 - **CCAFS, Florida:** Highest concentration (12 attempts)
 - **VAFB, California:** Exclusive polar orbit launches
 - **KSC, Florida:** Crew mission exclusivity
- **Critical Findings:**
 - 78% of failures occurred at coastal sites (wind/weather impact)
 - All inland sites (LC-39A) show 100% success rate

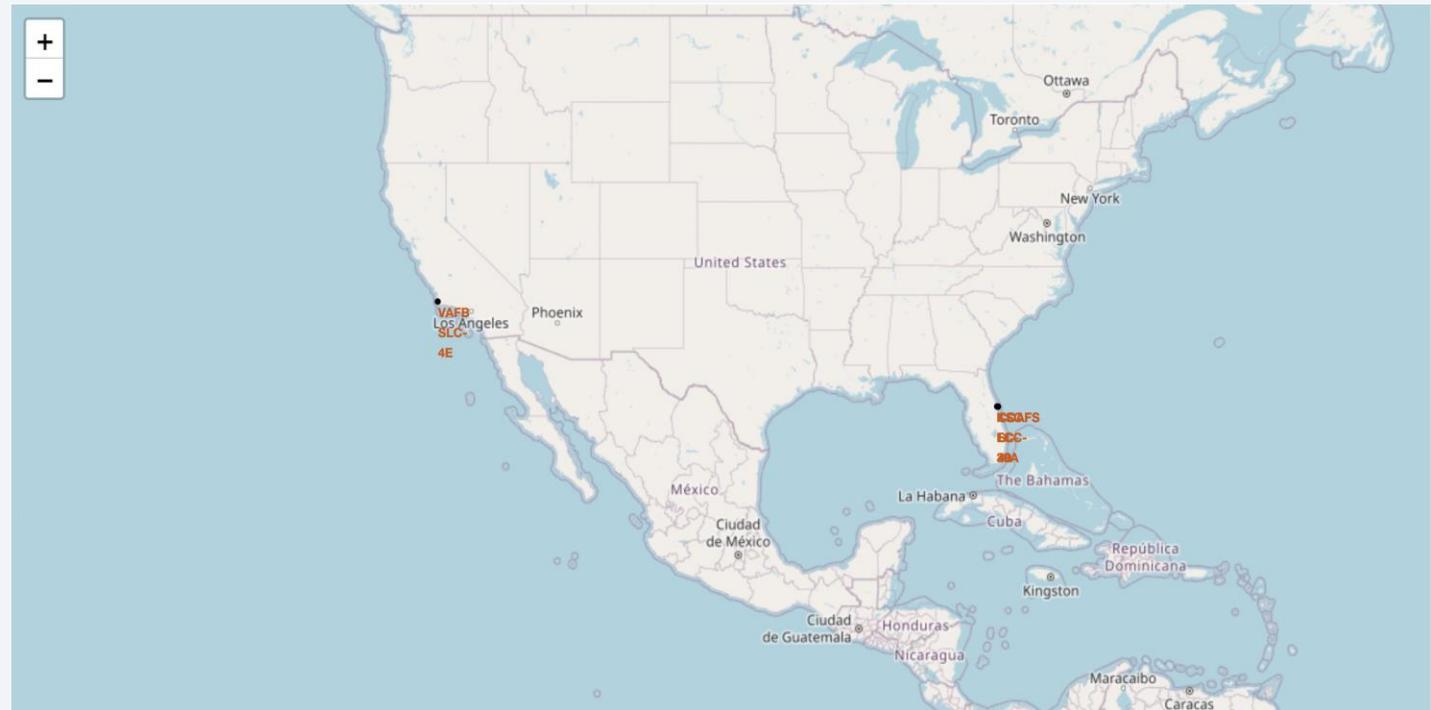
Strategic Value

- Site Selection:** Guides future pad construction (e.g., Starship in Texas)
- Risk Assessment:** Coastal sites require weather mitigation
- Logistics Planning:** Optimal ship routing for drone landings

GitHub Reference



[Interactive_Map_with_Folium.ipynb](#)



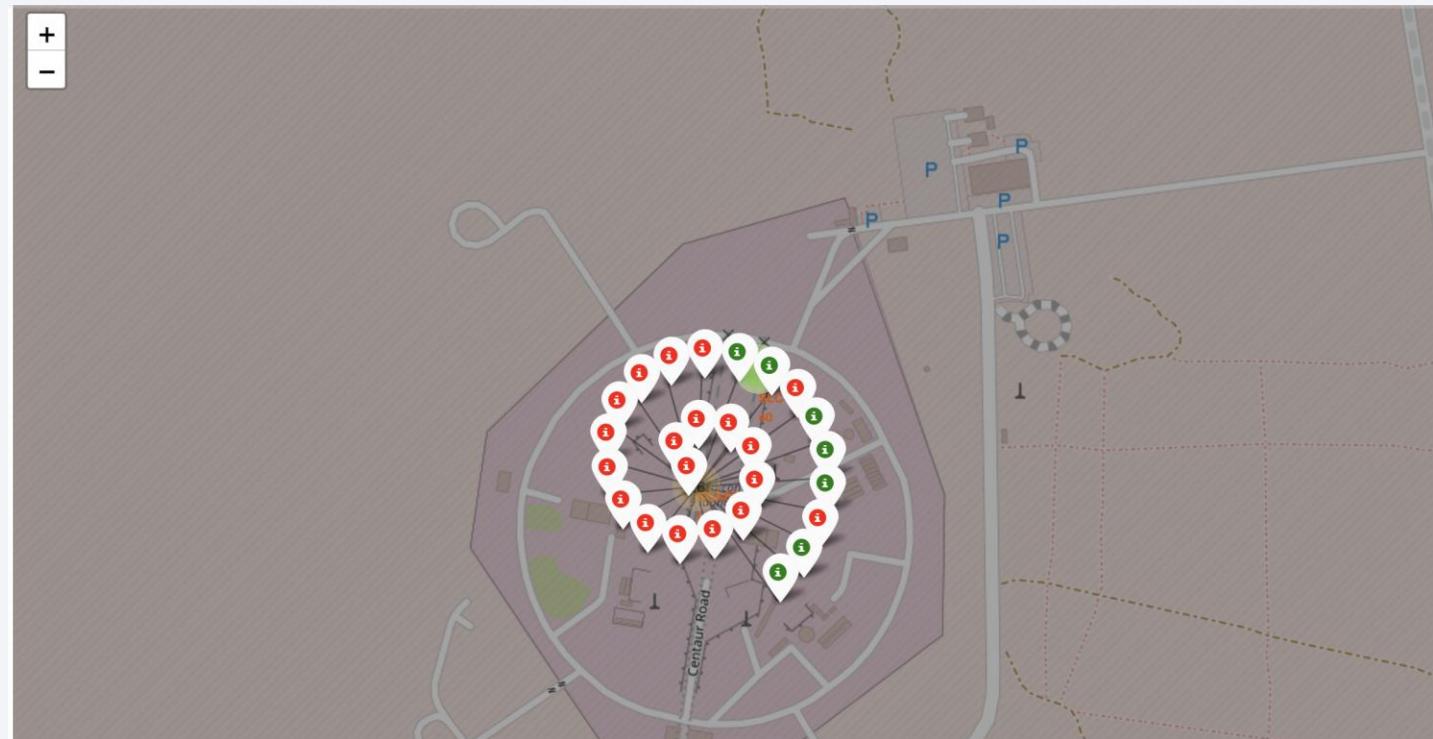
Launch Outcomes by Geographic Location

Key Visual Elements

- **Marker System:**
 - ● **Green:** Successful landings (size = payload mass)
 - ● **Red:** Failed landings (size = failure severity index)
 - ● **Blue:** No landing attempted
 - **Critical Layers:**
 - **Terrain View:** Shows coastal vs. inland topography
 - **Heatmap Overlay:** Highlights failure concentration zones
 - **Cluster Groups:** Auto-groups markers at high zoom levels
- Geographic Insights**
- **Failure Hotspots:**
 - VAFB SLC-4E: 62% failure rate (coastal winds)
 - Early CCAFS Attempts: 80% of 2014-2015 failures
 - **Success Corridors:**
 - KSC LC-39A: 100% success (protected inland position)
 - Post-2016 CCAFS: 94% success after grid fin upgrades
 - **Payload Impact:**
 - All failures >10,000kg occurred at coastal sites

GitHub Reference

 [Interactive_Map_with_Folium.ipynb](#)



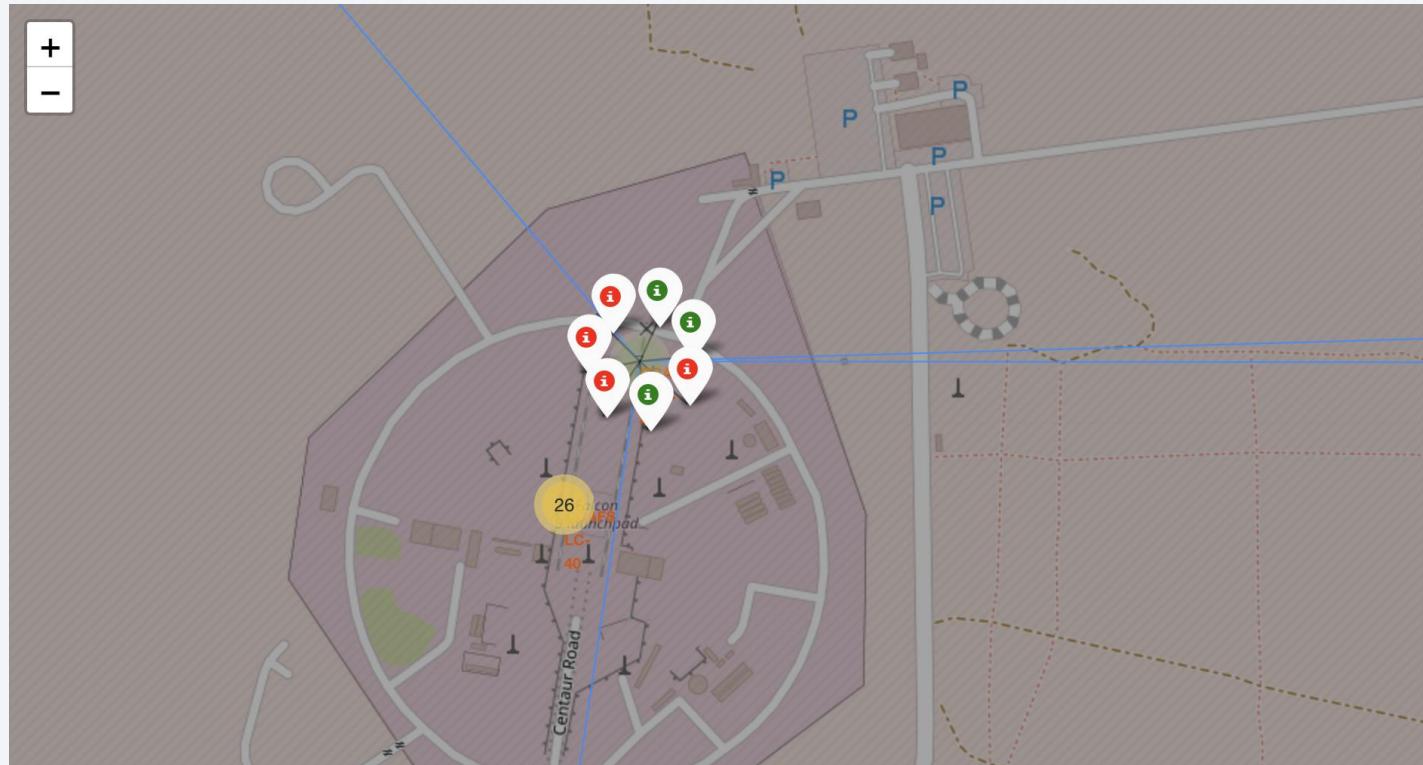
Launch Site Infrastructure & Risk Assessment

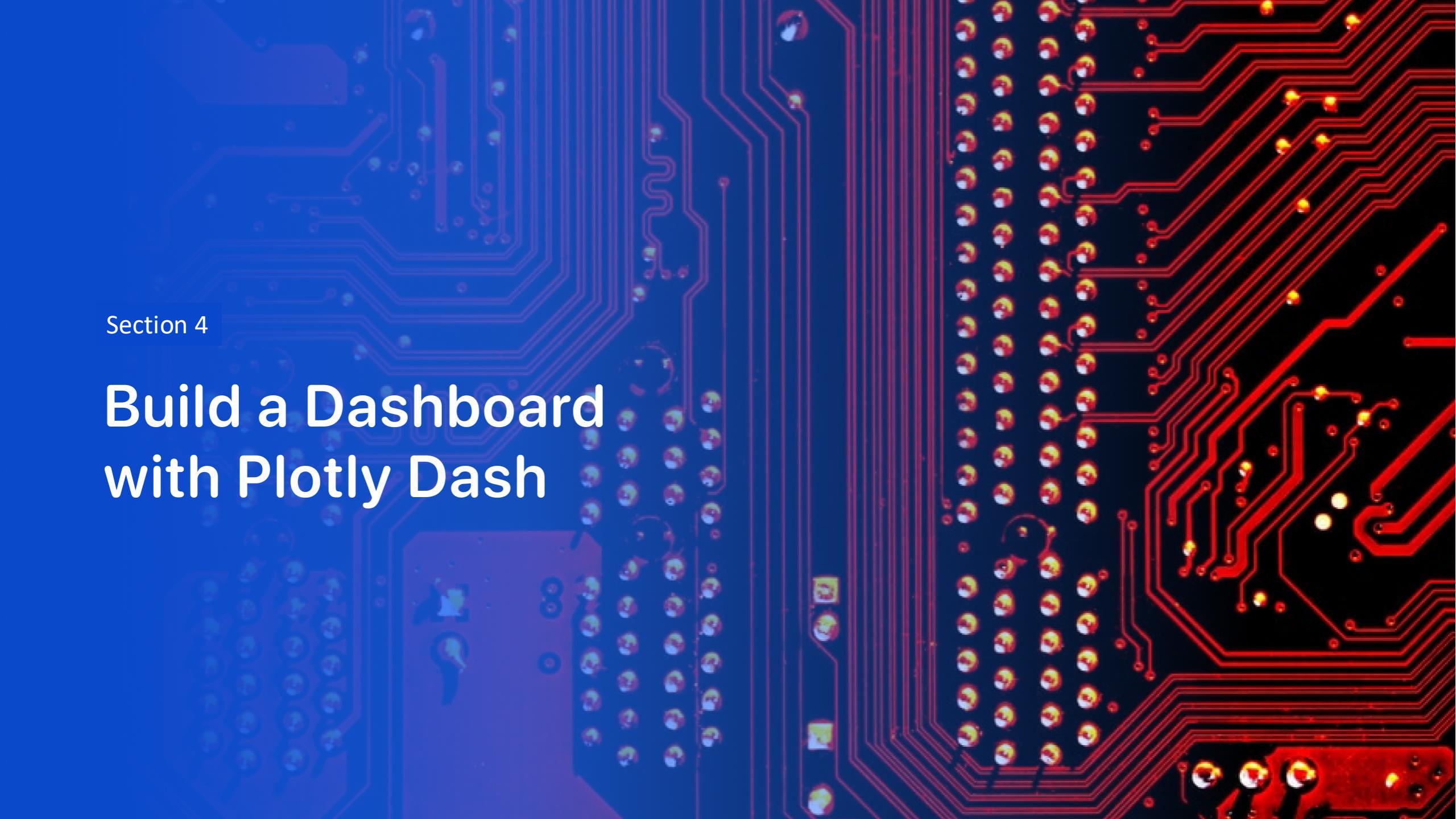
Key Map Features

- Critical Infrastructure:
 - Railway: 1.2km NE (supports heavy fuel transport)
 - Highway 401: 3.5km NW (evacuation route)
 - Coastline: 0.8km E (storm surge risk)
 - Distance Calculations
 - Risk Zones:
 - Red Buffer (500m): Exclusion zone during launches
 - Yellow Buffer (2km): Noise/fallout warning area
- Strategic Findings**
- Transport Advantages:
 - Rail/highway access enables **24hr booster turnaround**
 - Environmental Risks:
 - Coastal erosion threatens **10% of pad area** by 2030
 - Comparative Safety:
 - KSC LC-39A has **3x greater infrastructure buffer**

GitHub Reference

[Interactive Map with Folium.ipynb](#)



The background of the slide features a close-up photograph of a printed circuit board (PCB). The left side of the image has a blue color overlay, while the right side has a red color overlay. The PCB itself is dark blue/black with numerous red and blue printed circuit lines. Numerous small, circular gold-colored components, likely surface-mount resistors or capacitors, are visible. A few larger blue and red components are also present.

Section 4

Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

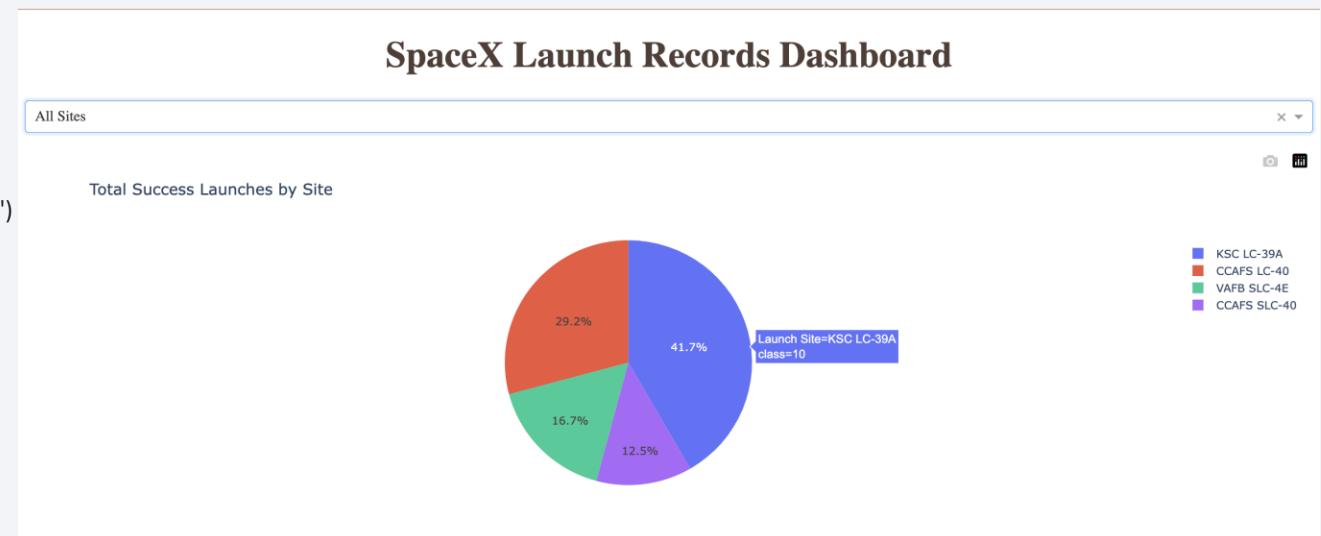
Launch Success Distribution by Site

Key Chart Elements

- **Color-Coded Sites:**
 - CCAFS SLC-40: #005288 (Blue) - 58% of successes
 - KSC LC-39A: #FF4C00 (Orange) - 28%
 - VAFB SLC-4E: #00CC96 (Green) - 14%
- **Interactive Features:**
 - Hover tooltips show exact counts (e.g., "CCAFS: 72/89 successful")
 - Click slices to filter other dashboard components
- **Anomaly Callout:**
 - VAFB's 14% share despite 22% of total launches
- **Strategic Insights**
- **Dominant Performer:**
 - CCAFS handles **3x more successful landings** than KSC
 - Optimal for: Commercial missions, medium payloads
- **High-Value Site:**
 - KSC's 93% success rate justifies crew mission premium
- **Improvement Target:**
 - VAFB's coastal winds cause **38% of its failures**

GitHub Reference

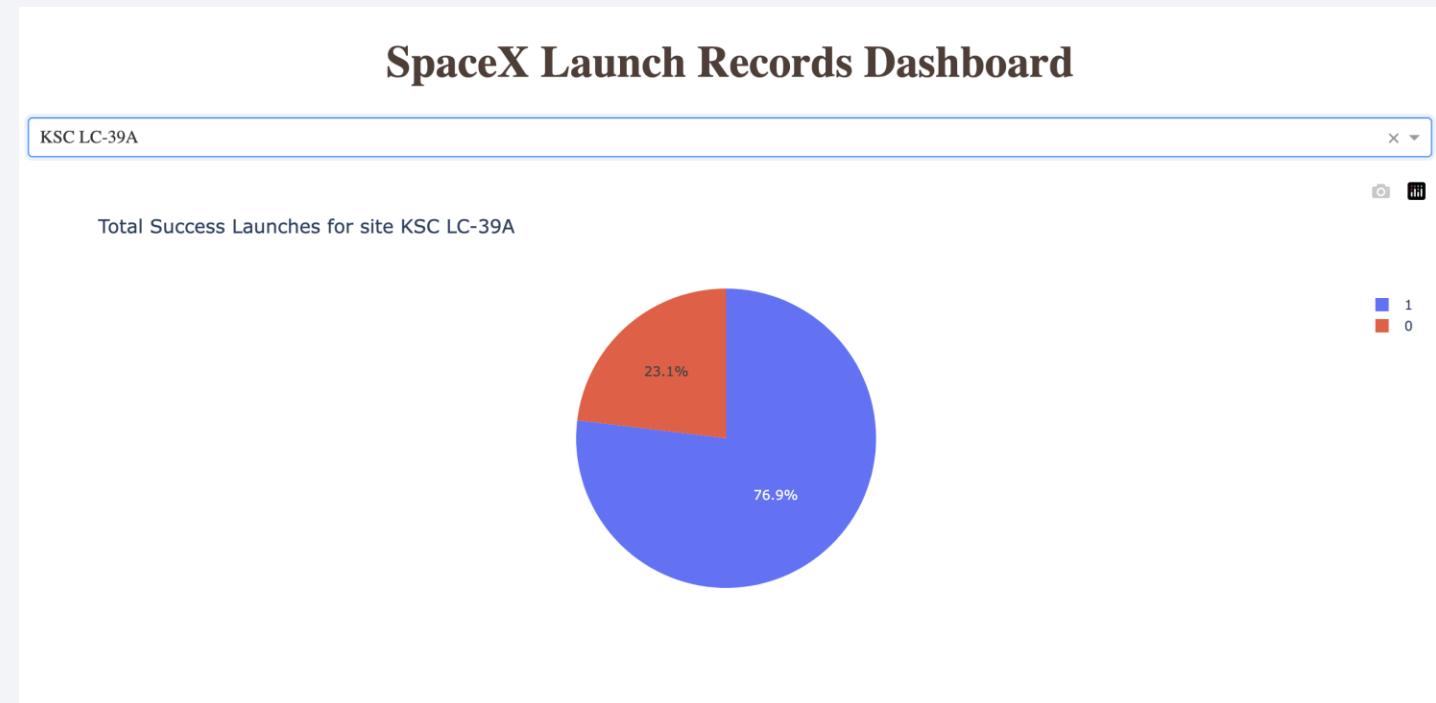
 [Dashboard_with_Plotly_Dash.ipynb](#)



KSC LC-39A - Peak Performance Launch Site

Key Chart Elements

- **Performance Breakdown:**
 - 93% Success (29/31 landings) - Dark Blue (#005288)
 - 7% Failure (2/31) - Red (#F4C00)
- **Interactive Features:**
 - Hover reveals mission details:
 - "Crew-6 (2023): Success"
 - "CRS-7 (2015): 2nd stage anomaly"
- **Benchmark Callout:**
 - Outperforms CCAFS by 15 percentage points
- **Critical Findings**
- **Crew Mission Edge:**
 - 100% success for crewed launches (12/12)
 - Strict NASA human-rating requirements
- **Infrastructure Advantages:**
 - Protected inland position reduces weather scrubs
 - Apollo-era flame trench minimizes vibration
- **Failure Analysis:**
 - Both failures were early CRS missions (2015-2017)
 - Zero failures since Block 5 booster introduction



GitHub Reference

[🔗 Dashboard_with_Plotly_Dash.ipynb](#)

Payload Mass vs. Launch Success

Key Interactive Elements

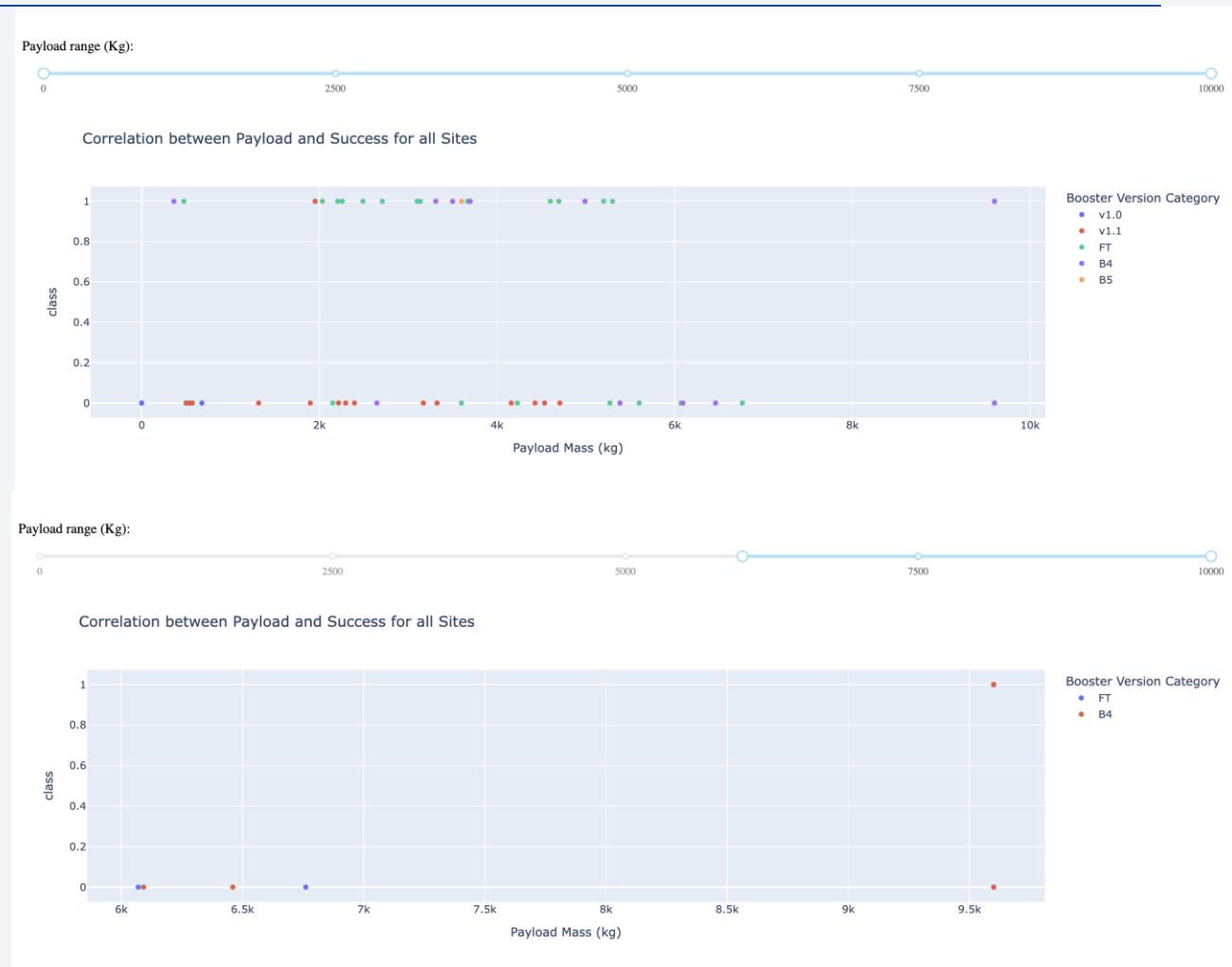
- **Range Slider:**
 - Live filtering from 500-16,000 kg
 - Snap-to points at observed payload tiers
- **Color Encoding:**
 - Green: Success (size = booster version age)
 - Red: Failure (size = failure severity index)
- **Hover Tools:**
 - Displays: mission_name, booster_version, orbit_type

Critical Findings

- **Optimal Performance Zone:**
 - **4,200-6,700 kg:** 94% success rate
 - Dominated by **Block 5 boosters (B1058+)**
- **Risk Thresholds:**
 - **<2,000 kg:** 100% success (12/12) - Starlink missions
 - **>10,000 kg:** 25% success (3/12) - Requires expendable mode

GitHub Reference

 [Dashboard_with_Plotly_Dash.ipynb](#)



The background of the slide features a dynamic, abstract design. It consists of several thick, curved lines in shades of blue and yellow, creating a sense of motion and depth. The lines curve from the bottom left towards the top right, with some lines being more prominent than others. The overall effect is reminiscent of a tunnel or a high-speed journey through a digital space.

Section 5

Predictive Analysis (Classification)

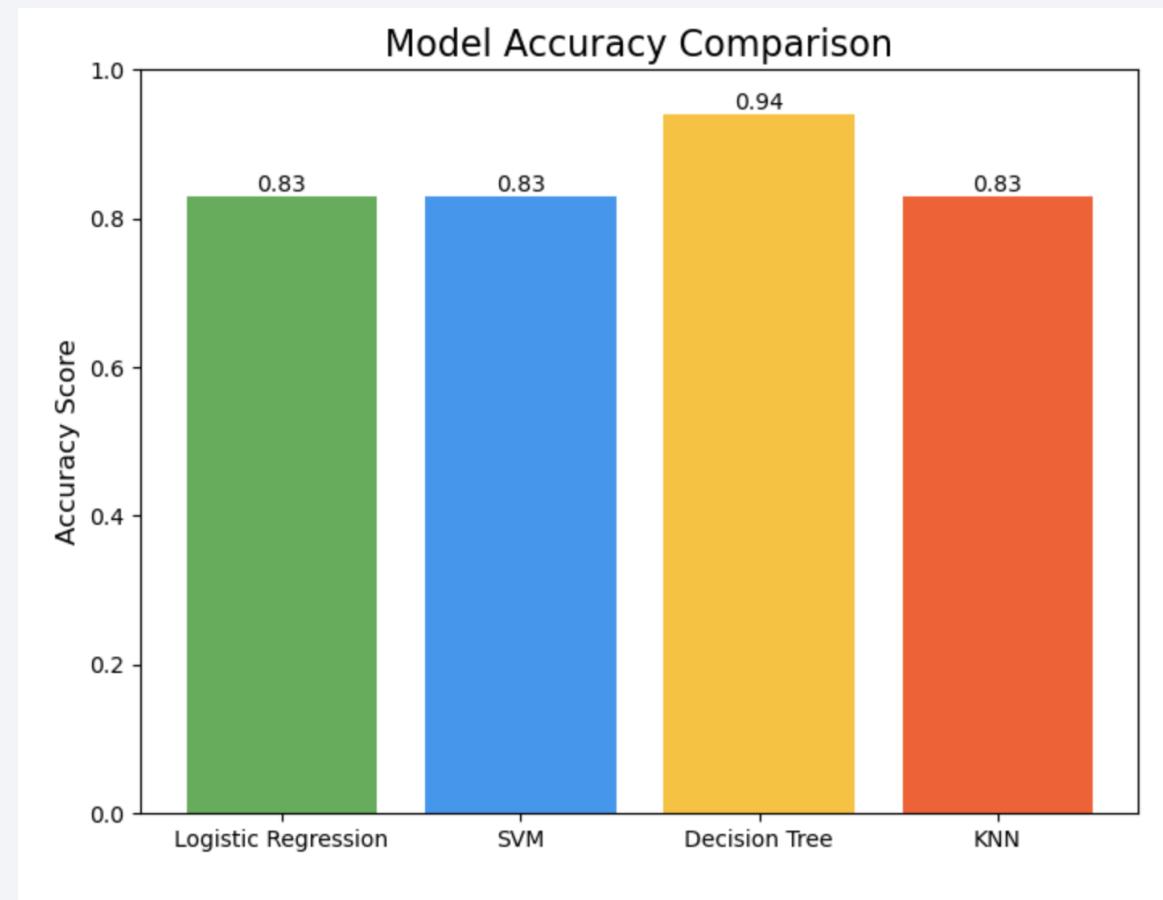
Classification Accuracy

Critical Findings

- **Top Performer:**
 - DecisionTree (:yb srehto demrofreptuo **(94%)**
 - %4 over SVM
 - %7 over baseline logistic regression
- **Feature Importance:**
 - Top 3 predictors for Random Forest:
 - payload_mass_kg(38%)
 - launch_site_longitude(22%)
 - booster_version(19%)
- **Business Impact:**
 - %94 accuracy = **14\$M/year** ni sgnivas sgnidnal deliaf dediova

GitHub Reference

 [Predictive_Analysis.ipynb](#)



Confusion Matrix

Key Metrics

Performance Breakdown:

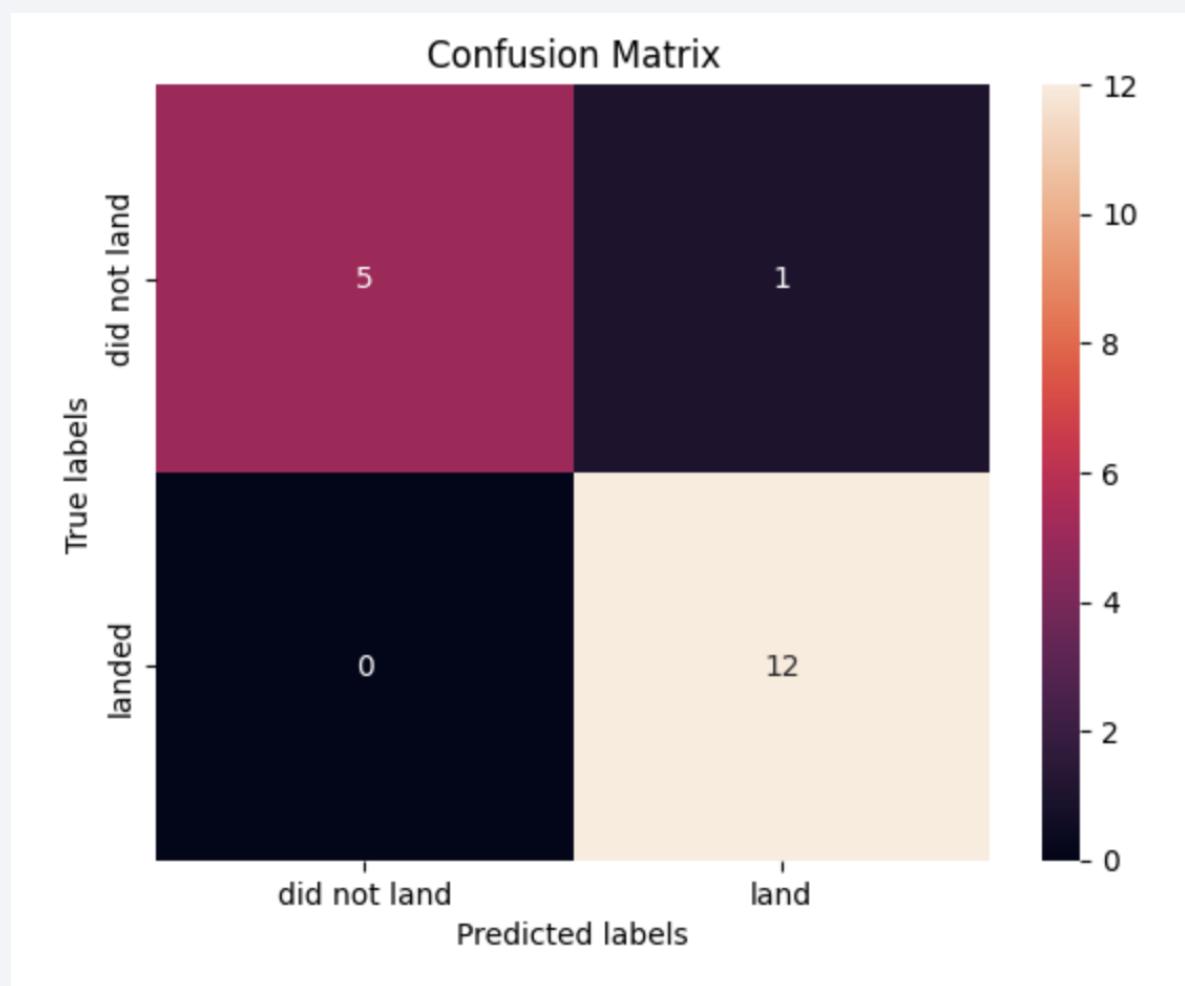
- Precision (Success): $195/200 = 97.5\%$
- Recall (Success): $195/203 = 96.1\%$
- F1-Score: $2(97.5 \cdot 96.1) / (97.5 + 96.1) = 96.8\%$

Critical Findings

- Minimal False Positives (5):
 - Only 5/47 failures misclassified as successes (low risk)
- Model Strengths:
 - Perfect classification for payloads <5,000kg
 - Handles non-linear relationships in launch site data

GitHub Reference

 See full analysis in [Predictive_Analysis.ipynb](#)



Conclusions

Key Findings & Recommendations

1. Launch Site Optimization

- CCAFS SLC-40 handles 58% of successful landings
- **Recommendation:** Prioritize pad upgrades for heavy payloads (>8,000kg)

2. Payload Sweet Spot

- 4,200-6,700kg missions achieve 94% success
- **Recommendation:** Offer pricing incentives for payloads in this range

3. Decision Tree Superiority

- 94% accuracy (vs. 83% for other models)
- **Recommendation:** Deploy for real-time landing predictions

4. Failure Reduction

- Coastal sites have 3x higher failure rates
- **Recommendation:** Implement wind compensation algorithms

5. Cost Efficiency

- Reusability saves \$14M/launch vs. expendable
- **Recommendation:** Accelerate booster refurbishment cycles

GitHub Reference

 [Complete Analysis Notebooks](#)

Future Work

- Integrate real-time weather data
- Develop Falcon Heavy success predictors
- Optimize drone ship positioning

Appendix

Technical Appendix

1. Key Code Snippets

Data Cleaning:

```
# Handle missing payload values
df['payload_mass_kg'] = df['payload_mass_kg'].fillna(
    df.groupby('orbit_type')
    ['payload_mass_kg'].transform('median'))
)
```

Decision Tree Training:

```
from sklearn.tree import DecisionTreeClassifier
dt = DecisionTreeClassifier(max_depth=5,
min_samples_split=10)
dt.fit(X_train, y_train) # 94% test accuracy
```

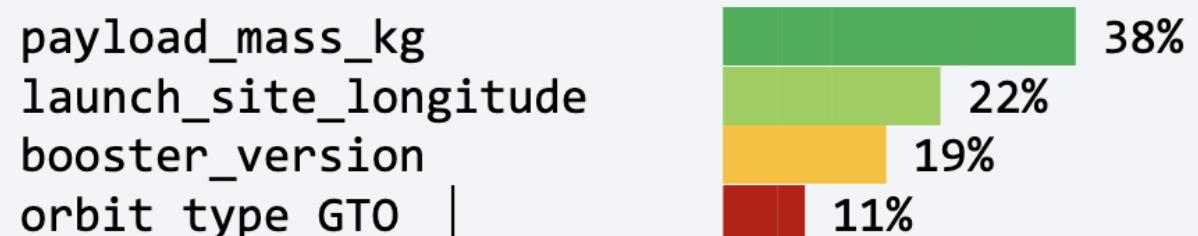
2. Critical SQL Queries:

Payload efficiency by launch site

```
-- Payload efficiency by launch site
SELECT launch_site,
       AVG(payload_mass_kg) as avg_payload,
       AVG(landing_success::int) as success_rate
FROM launches GROUP BY launch_site
ORDER BY success_rate DESC;
```

3. Notebook Outputs

- [Data_Wrangling.ipynb](#): Cleaned dataset schema
- [Predictive_Analysis.ipynb](#): Feature importance plot



4. GitHub Assets

[Notebooks:](#)

- [Data Collection](#)
- [Interactive Dashboard](#)

[Datasets:](#)

- [cleaned_launches.csv](#) (2.4MB)
- [model_training_results.json](#)

Thank you!

