

# Winning Space Race with Data Science

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#### **Outline**

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

## **Executive Summary**

- The data for this project was collected from two sources: Space X API GET request and webscraping.
- The data was processed and then wrangled to gain insight; exploratory data analysis was carried out through visualizations.
- Interactive visual analysis was carried out using Folium and Plotly Dash.
- Predictive analysis was performed using classification models. The models were evaluated on train and test data to achieve high levels of accuracy.
- It was determined that heavy payload masses have a negative effect on the success of a launch while the success rate increased with time possibly due to advances in technology.
- All this information can be used to determine if Space X will reuse its first stage.

#### Introduction

- SpaceX's accomplishments include sending spacecrafts to the International Space Station.
- SpaceX advertises Falcon 9 rocket launches on its website with a cost of 62 million dollars while other providers cost upward of 165 million dollars each, much of the savings is because SpaceX can reuse the first stage.
- The aim of the project is to predict if the Falcon 9 first stage will land successfully.
- The models are trained and used for the purpose of determining the cost of each launch. This information can be used if an alternate company wants to bid against SpaceX for a rocket launch.



## Methodology

- Data collection methodology:
  - Rocket launch data was requested from SpaceX API using a URL.
  - Falcon launch 9 records were extracted from Wikipedia through web scraping.
  - Some columns of data were filtered out and data wrangled.
- Performed exploratory data analysis (EDA) using visualization and SQL.
- Performed interactive visual analytics using Folium and Plotly Dash.
- Performed predictive analysis using classification models.

#### **Data Collection**

- Data was collected through requests from the Space X API.
- Data was also collected from wikipedia through a web scraping process.

## Data Collection – SpaceX API

Import Libraries and Define Auxiliary Functions

Request rocket launch data from space X API using a URL

Using the GET request and parse the data

Data is stored in lists

Filter dataframe to include falcon 9 launches only

Create a dataframe from the dictionary

Create a dictionary mapping the data with column names

Update the lists using auxilliary functions

Replace missing values with the mean.

Dataframe is turned into .csv file.

- Launch data is requested using a URL.
- The data is parsed and stored in a list.
- The data is stored in a dataframe, filtered, wrangled and stored in .csv format.
- https://github.com/VivianEzeagu /Winning-the-space-race-withdatascience/blob/main/1.%20Datacollection-API.ipynb

## Data Collection – Web Scraping

Import relevant libraries and create helper functions

parsing the launch HTML tables

**Create a data frame by** 

Dataframe is saved in .csv format.

Perform an HTTP GET method to request the Falcon9 Launch HTML page, as an HTTP response.

Extract all column/variable names from the HTML table header

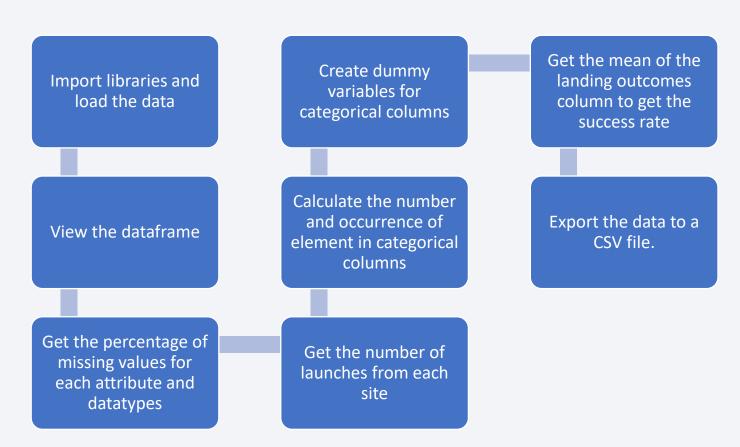
• The rocket launch data is requested using the HTTP GET method.

Create a object from the HTML response

Print the page title to verify if the object was created properly

- The data is stored in a data frame.
- The data is then saved in a .csv format.
- https://github.com/VivianEzeagu/Winning-thespace-race-with-datascience/blob/main/2.%20Data-collectionwebscraping%20.ipynb

## **Data Wrangling**



- The missing values were found and replaced by mean values.
- The categorical variables were presented and replaced with dummy variables.
- Determination of success rate of landing outcome.
- https://github.com/VivianEzeagu/Winning-the-space-race-with-data-science/blob/main/3.%20Data\_wrangling.jupyterlite%20(1).ipynb

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

- Numerous scatterplots were created to aid data visualization.
- The scatterplots were created in order to understand the relationships between variables and determine the extent of their effect on the outcome of the launch.
- The plot of the flight number vs payload mass shows that the first stage is more likely to succeed with a higher flight number and less likely to succeed with higher payload mass.
- A bar chart was created to visualize the success rate of each orbit.
- Based on the information gotten from the data visualization, a new table was created with the variables that can help predict the outcome of the first stage.
- https://github.com/VivianEzeagu/Winning-the-space-race-with-data-science/blob/main/4.%20EDA%20%26%20dataviz.ipynb.jupyterlite.ipynb

### EDA with SQL

- The dataset was downloaded and loaded into the database table.
- A connection to the database was established.
- Exploratory analysis was carried out on the data to gain key insights.
- https://github.com/VivianEzeagu/ibm-projects/blob/main/login.html

## Build an Interactive Map with Folium

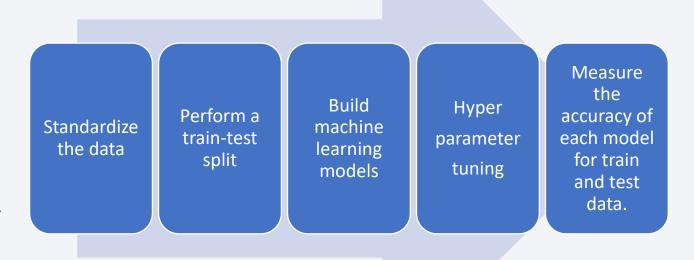
- Launch success may also depend on the location and proximity of a launch site, i.e., the initial
  position of rocket trajectories. Finding an optimal location for building a launch site certainly
  involves many factors, we discovered some of the factors by analyzing the existing launch site
  locations.
- Markers were created to visualize each of the launch sites on the map. The circle was created to highlight the site locations and aid visualization.
- A marker color object for each launch outcome with unique color identifiers was also added to enhance the map and see which sites have high success rates.
- A mouse pointer was added to enhance the ease of getting the longitude and latitudes of the launch sites.
- A line was added to visualize the distance between launch sites and significant structures like railways.
- https://github.com/VivianEzeagu/Winning-the-space-race-with-data-science/blob/main/Interactive%20visual%20analytics-folium.ipynb

## Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

- A dropdown list was added to enable Launch Site selection.
- A pie chart was added to show the total successful launches count for all sites.
- Added a scatter chart to show the correlation between payload masses and launch success.
- https://github.com/VivianEzeagu/Winning-the-space-race-with-data-science/blob/main/Interactive%20visual%20analytics-plotly.ipynb

## Predictive Analysis (Classification)

- An object was created for each model after a train-test split.
- Hyperparameter tuning using GridSearchCV in order to optimize the model.
- The optimal parameters were determined after cross validation and tuning across the model.
- The accuracy of the model on the test data was calculated.
- https://github.com/VivianEzeagu/ibmprojects/blob/main/IBM-DSO321EN-SkillsNetwork\_labs\_module\_4\_SpaceX\_Ma chine\_Learning\_Prediction\_Part\_5.jupyterli te%20(1).ipynb

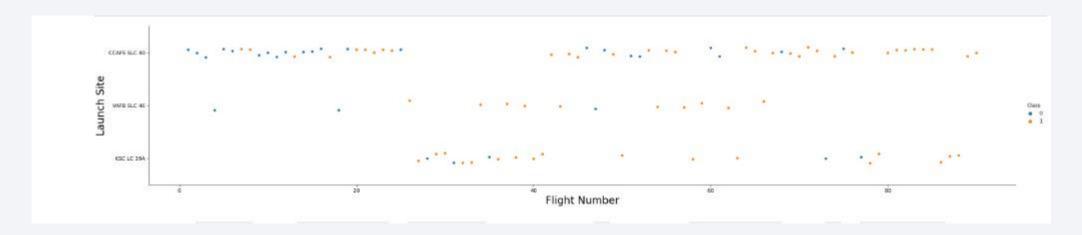


#### Results

- Insights drawn from Exploratory Data Analysis
- Launch site proximity analysis
- Predictive analysis results

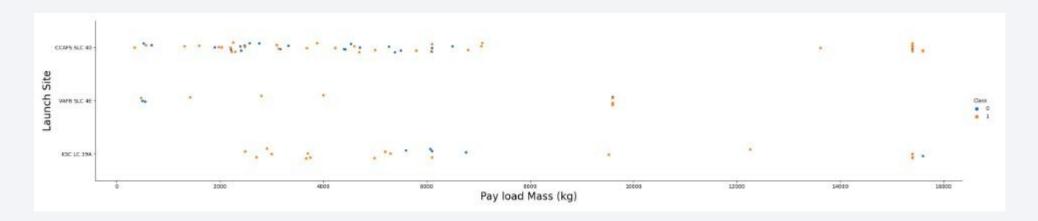


## Flight Number vs. Launch Site



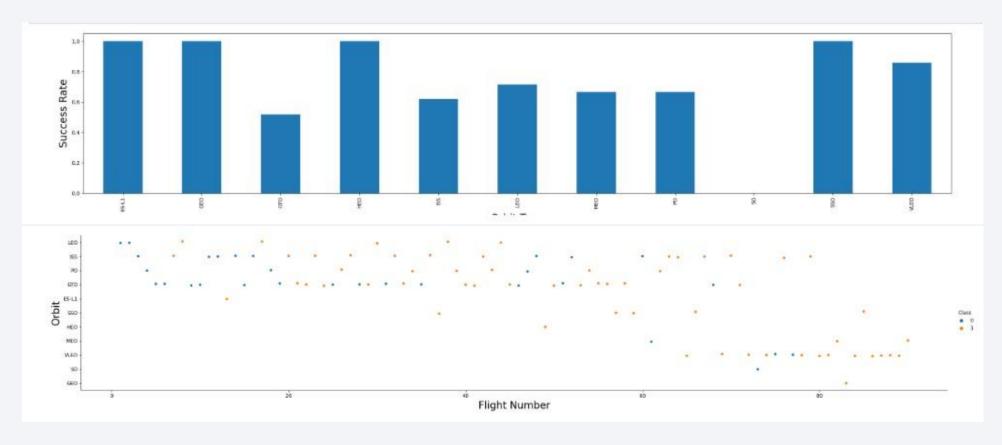
- This scatter plot shows that as the flight number increases the first stage is more likely to be successful.
- KSC LC 39A had more successful launches than unsuccessful.
- CCAFS SLC 40 had more unsuccessful launches at the initial flight attempts, the launches became more successful with later attempts.
- VAFB SLC 46 had more successful launches than unsuccessful.

## Payload vs. Launch Site



- VAFB SLC 46 had fewer launches than the other sites but had more successful launches.
- KSC LC 39A had more launches with a wide range of payload mass.
- CCAFS SLC 40 had most of the launches with lower pay load mass but has a nearly fair number of successful and unsuccessful launches.
- More launches generally took place with lighter payload mass.

## Success Rate vs. Orbit Type



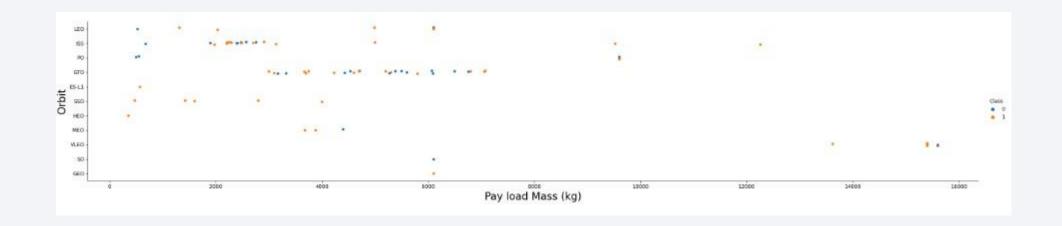
- The success rate of LEO and PO are moderate whereas VLEO had a higher success rate.
- ES -L1, HEO, SSO and GEO had very high success rates.

## Flight Number vs. Orbit Type



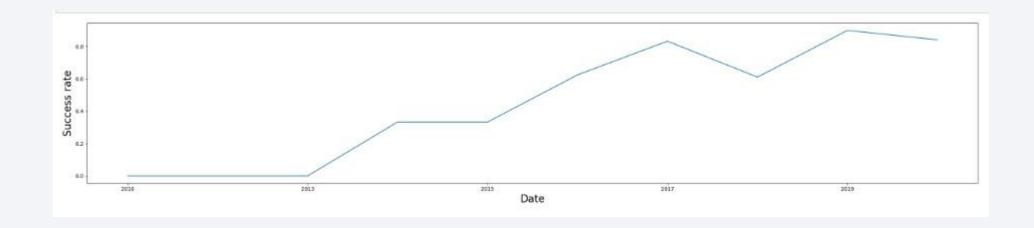
- The success rates of LEO and PO are mostly related to the later dates when the launches were attempted whereas GTO success rate has no correlation with the launch dates.
- ES –L1, HEO, SSO and GEO had very few launch attempts at later dates which explains their success rate.

## Payload vs. Orbit Type



- With heavy payloads, the rate of successful landings is higher for Polar, LEO and ISS.
- However, for GTO we cannot determine this as it has a fair amount of both successful and unsuccessful landings.
- ES L1, SSO and HEO have launches with only light payload masses which were all successful.

## Launch Success Yearly Trend



- The success rate was constant between 2010 and 2013.
- From 2013, the success rate had a gradual increase until 2017, where there's a decrease, then another increase from 2018 till 2019 where there is another decrease.

#### All Launch Site Names

```
| Swsql | select distinct LAUNCH_SITE from "SPACEXTBL" | * sqlite://my_datal.db | Done. | | Launch_Site | CCAFS LC-40 | VAFB SLC-4E | KSC LC-39A | CCAFS SLC-40 |
```

- There are four unique launch sites:
- CCAFS LC-40
- VAFB SLC -4E
- KSC LC -39A
- CCAFS SLC -40

## **Total Payload Mass**

```
Task 3

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

[22]: %%sql
select sum(payload_mass_kg_)
from SPACEXTBL
where customer="NASA (CRS)"

* sqlite:///my_data1.db
Done.

[22]: sum(payload_mass_kg_)

45596
```

 The above shows the total payload mass carried by all the boosters launched by NASA(CRS).

## Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

```
Task 4

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

[23]: %%sql select avg(payload_mass_kg_) from SPACEXTBL where booster_version="F9 v1.1" * sqlite://my_data1.db Done.

[23]: avg(payload_mass_kg_)

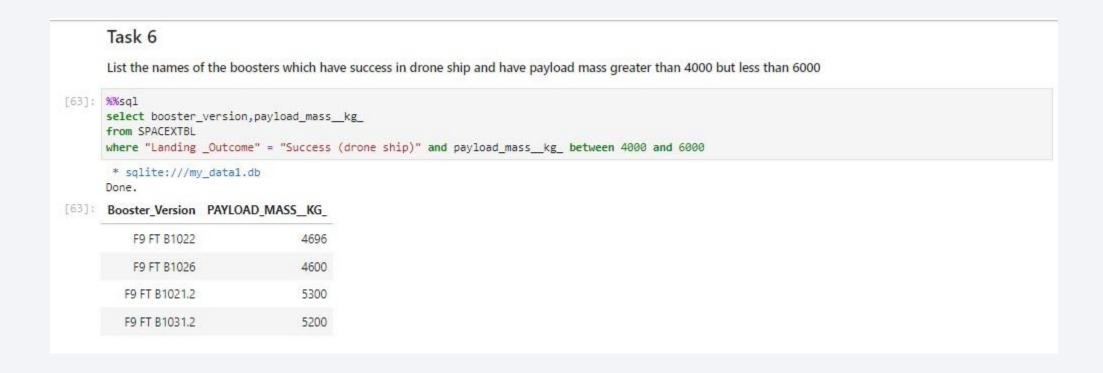
2928.4
```

• The average payload mass carried by booster F9 v1.1 is 2928.4kg.

## First Successful Ground Landing Date

• The above query shows the first successful landing that took place on a ground pad, which was on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May, 2017.

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



• The above shows boosters which has landing success in drone ship with a payload mass between 4000kg and 6000kg.

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

```
Task 7
List the total number of successful and failure mission outcomes

72]: %%sql
select count(mission_outcome)
from SPACEXTBL
where mission_outcome like "Success%"

* sqlite:///my_datal.db
Done.

72]: count(mission_outcome)

100
```

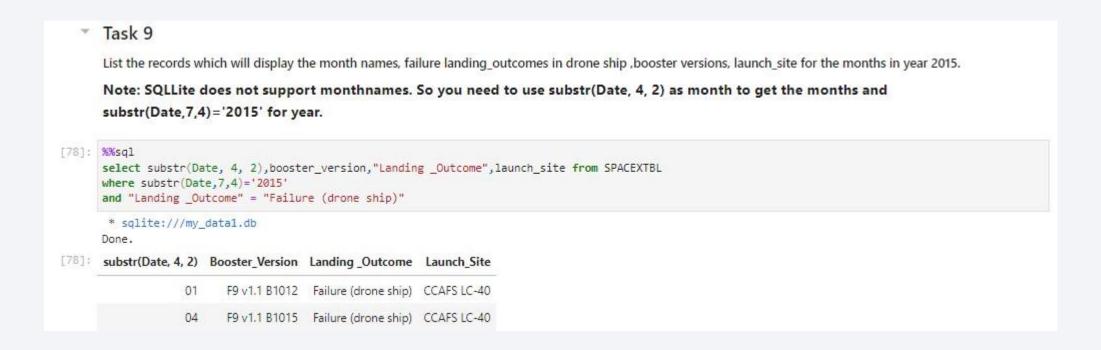
The above shows the total number of successful mission outcomes.

## **Boosters Carried Maximum Payload**

```
[75]: %%sql
      select booster_version,payload_mass_kg_
      from SPACEXTBL
      where payload_mass_kg_ = (select max(payload_mass_kg_) from SPACEXTBL)
       * sqlite:///my_datal.db
      Done.
[75]: Booster_Version PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_
         F9 B5 B1048.4
                                     15600
         F9 B5 B1049.4
                                     15600
         F9 B5 B1051.3
                                     15600
         F9 B5 B1056.4
                                     15600
         F9 B5 B1048.5
                                     15600
         F9 B5 B1051.4
                                     15600
         F9 B5 B1049.5
                                     15600
         F9 B5 B1060.2
                                     15600
         F9 B5 B1058.3
                                     15600
                                     15600
         F9 B5 B1051.6
         F9 B5 B1060.3
                                     15600
         F9 B5 B1049.7
                                     15600
```

• The boosters that have carried the highest payload mass are shown in the table above.

#### 2015 Launch Records



 The result shows the months and other records in 2015 where landing failed in the drone ship.

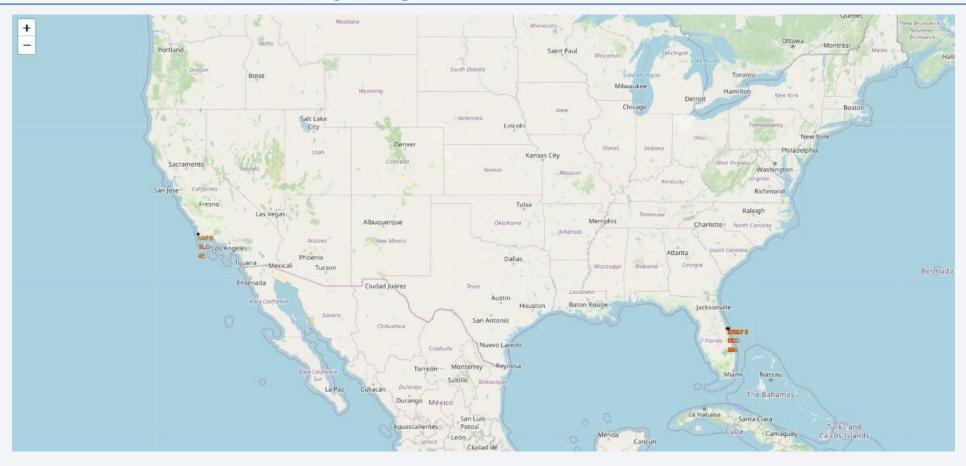
#### Rank Landing Outcomes Between 2010-06-04 and 2017-03-20



• The number of successful landing outcomes between 4<sup>th</sup> of June,2010 and 20<sup>th</sup> of March, 2017 are shown in descending order.

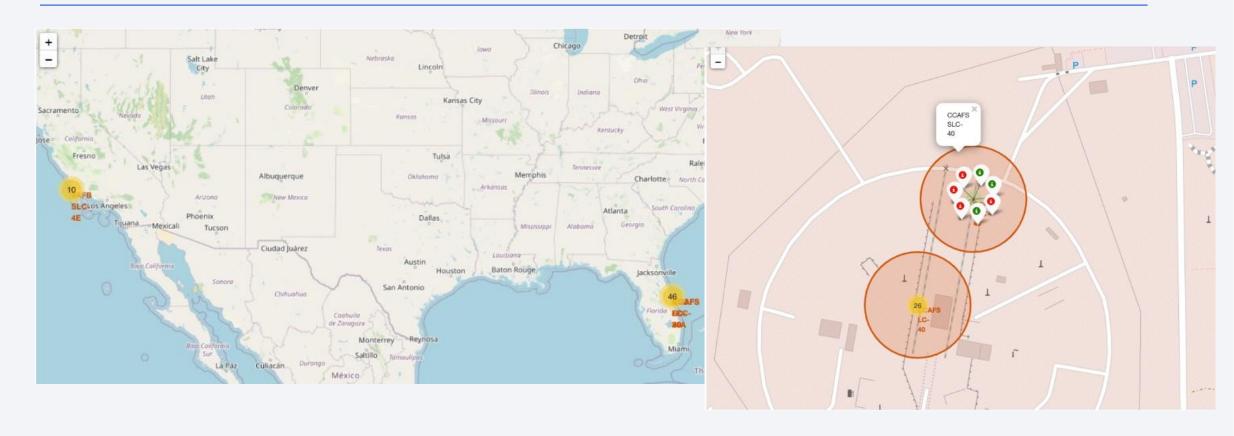


## Global map displaying launch site locations



- This map shows the locations of all the launch sites on a global map.
- The launch sites are all at close proximity to the coastline which is safe area because it is far away from cities, highroads and other areas where it could be harmful to humans.

#### Folium map displaying the launch outcomes of the launch sites



• The map shows the color-labeled launch outcomes for each site, where green represents successful launch outcomes and red represents the unsuccessful outcomes.

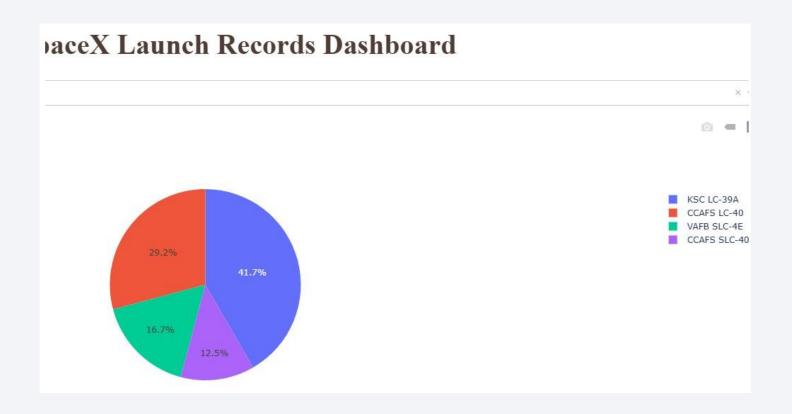
#### Folium map displaying the distance of VFAB SLC-4E from the coastline



• This shows the distance of VFAB SLC-4E from the coastline.

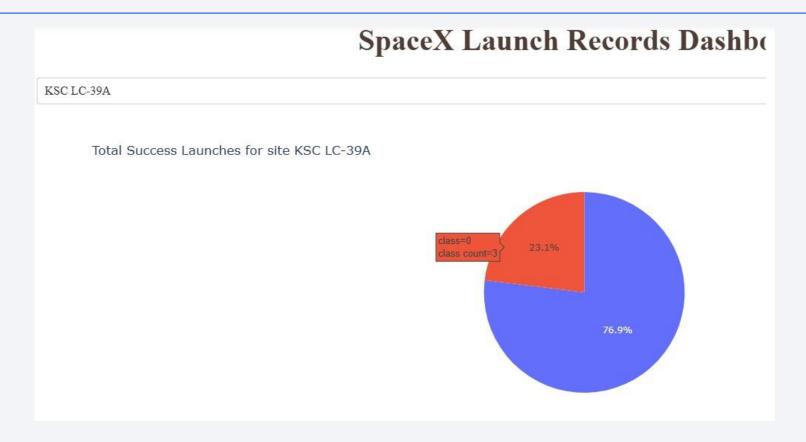


#### Pie chart of success count for all launch sites



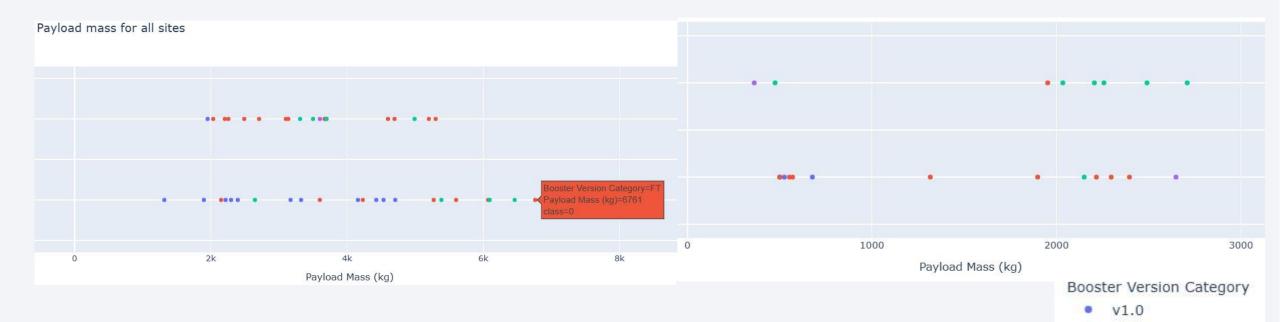
- The KSC LC 39A has the highest percentage of successful landings.
- The CCAFS SLC -40 has the least successful launches.

#### Pie chart of the KSC LC -39A



• The KSC LC -39A launch site has the most successful launches overall with 76.9% of the launches being successful.

## Scatter plots of Payload vs. Launch Outcome



- The scatter plots show the success rate of the booster versions per payload mass.
- Booster v1.1 has high success rate and most launches are with payload masses between 2000kg and 6000kg while v1.0 has low success rate.
- Booster FT has most successful launches with payload mass within 2000kg-3000kg payload range.

v1.1

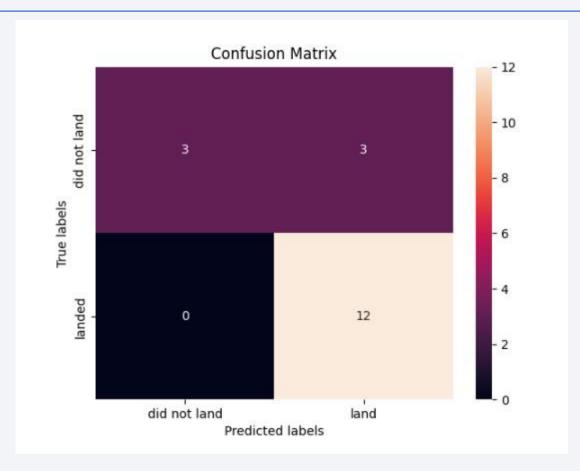
**B5** 



## **Classification Accuracy**

• The decision tree model has the highest accuracy with an accuracy of 0.94.

#### **Confusion Matrix**



- The best performing model is the decision tree model.
- The confusion matrix shows that 12 successful launches were correctly predicted and 3 incorrect, 3 unsuccessful launches were correctly predicted.

#### **Conclusions**

- This data set revealed interesting insights; the payload can determine the landing outcome of the launch depending on the booster version that carries it.
- The booster v1.1 has a lot of successful outcomes across wide payload range.
- The KSC LC -39A has the most successful launches, which could be influenced by orbit, boosters and payload mass.
- The optimal machine learning model to be used is the decision tree model because of the high accuracy level of 0.94.
- Later launch attempts, booster v1.1 and launch site KSC LC -39A are great ingredients for the successful launch of the first stage of Falcon9. The orbit and payload mass have varied effects on the success of launch depending on some other factors such as the launch date among others.

## **Appendix**

[5]:		FlightNumber	Date	BoosterVersion	PayloadMass	Orbit	LaunchSite	Outcome	Flights	GridFins	Reused	Legs	LandingPad	Block	Reuseo
7	78	79	2020- 05-30	Falcon 9	9525.000000	ISS	KSC LC 39A	True ASDS	1	True	False	True	5e9e3032383ecb6bb234e7ca	5.0	
	79	80	2020- 06-04	Falcon 9	15400.000000	VLEO	CCAFS SLC 40	True ASDS	5	True	True	True	5e9e3033383ecbb9e534e7cc	5.0	
	80	81	2020- 06-13	Falcon 9	15400.000000	VLEO	CCAFS SLC 40	True ASDS	3	True	True	True	5e9e3032383ecb6bb234e7ca	5.0	
	81	82	2020- 06-30	Falcon 9	3880.000000	MEO	CCAFS SLC 40	True ASDS	1	True	False	True	5e9e3033383ecbb9e534e7cc	5.0	
	82	83	2020- 07-20	Falcon 9	6104.959412	GEO	CCAFS SLC 40	True ASDS	2	True	True	True	5e9e3033383ecbb9e534e7cc	5.0	
	83	84	2020- 08-18	Falcon 9	15400.000000	VLEO	CCAFS SLC 40	True ASDS	6	True	True	True	5e9e3032383ecb6bb234e7ca	5.0	
	84	85	2020- 08-30	Falcon 9	1600.000000	SSO	CCAFS SLC 40	True RTLS	4	True	True	True	5e9e3032383ecb267a34e7c7	5.0	
	85	86	2020- 09-03	Falcon 9	15400.000000	VLEO	KSC LC 39A	True ASDS	2	True	True	True	5e9e3032383ecb6bb234e7ca	5.0	
	86	87	2020- 10-06	Falcon 9	15400.000000	VLEO	KSC LC 39A	True ASDS	3	True	True	True	5e9e3032383ecb6bb234e7ca	5.0	
	87	88	2020- 10-18	Falcon 9	15400.000000	VLEO	KSC LC 39A	True ASDS	б	True	True	True	5e9e3032383ecb6bb234e7ca	5.0	

• Dataset worked on is shown above.

