

Winning Space Race with Data Science

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Outline

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

Executive Summary

- Summary of methodologies
 - Database was created using SpaceX API connection using Python and its scientific libraries
 - Exploratory Data analysis was done using:
 - · Web scrapping library was used to extract data from Wikipedia
 - SQL database connection
 - Geographical data was presented using Folium Python library
 - Non-geographical data was presented using dashboards
 - Machine learning techniques for predicting Falcon 9 booster landing probability
- Summary of all results
 - Using ML techniques, it was proven that, although the beginnings were tought, now the customers can have high confidence in the low-cost access to space offered by SpaceX Falcon 9.

Introduction

Project background and context

SpaceX was founded by Elon Musk after failed attempt to buy soviet Dnepr ICBM rocket from Russia in 2001. He wanted to put an experimental greenhouse on Mars. SpaceX goal, as stated by Musk is to create self-sustaining Mars colony. To achieve it, there is a need to develop rapidly and fully reusable rockets. Falcon 9 is a first step to achieve this goal. Its first stage can land after stage separation on landing pad or on autonomous drone ship stationed offshore.

Landing and reusing a booster can decrease launch cost significantly, but its still not perfect. This project's goal is to calculate a probability of a booster recovery.

Problems you want to find answers

- What are decisive factors for a successful landing?
- Is there any relation between this factors that determines a successful landing?
- If so, what is the combination with higher chance for a successful landing?



Methodology

Executive Summary

- Data collection methodology:
 - Launch data was collected using various methods: SpaceX API, web scrapping and SQL.
- Perform data wrangling
 - Data was processed using Python's scientific libraries like pandas and numpy. Not essential columns we removed, and missing data (e.g. Payload mass) was replaced with means.
- 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 was normalized, transformed and split to train and test sets and then fitted to several classification models.

Data Collection

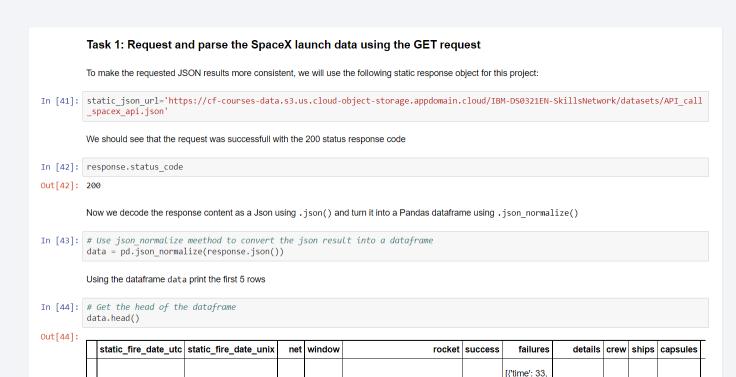
- Data was collected using various methods and techniques using python libraries and SQL. One dataset was retrieved using SpaceX API via requests python library.
 Response was parsed to json file and saved as pandas DataFrame for easy access.
 Data from table was filtered e.g. Nonessential data was dropped or unwanted characted were removed using predefined functions. Web scrapping was used to retrieve launch manifest from Wikipedia page. In this project popular web scrapping library Beautiful Soup was used. Data was later converted to pandas DataFrame.
 To improve numerical data, missing information about payload mass were replaced by mean values.
- Information of successful landing by launch site, orbit were collected coded as binary information (series of O's for failed attempt and 1's for successful one).

Data Collection – SpaceX API

SpaceX API usage: request method and creating a normalized Panda DataFrame from json response.

GitHub link:

Data collection notebook



E-04040E-4-600EEF70041-h | F-1-

2006-03-

1 1/255/0±00

'altitude':

None,

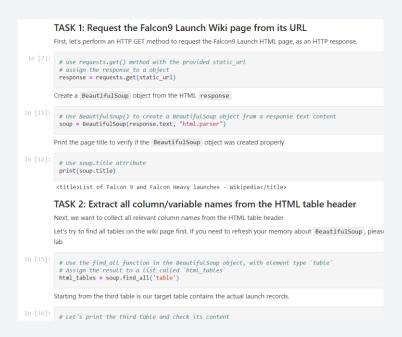
Engine failure at

Data Collection - Scrapping

- I requested Falcon 9 Launch Wiki page from its URL, then collected all column names.
- All this extracted launch records was put into pandas DataFrame.

GitHub link:

Web scraping



1]:	Fli	ght No.	Launch site	Payload	Payload mass	Orbit	Customer	Launch outcome	Version Booster	Booster landing	Date	Time
	0	1	CCAFS	Dragon Spacecraft Qualification Unit	0	LEO	SpaceX	Success\n	F9 v1.0B0003.1	Failure	4 June 2010	18:45
	1	2	CCAFS	Dragon	0	LEO	NASA	Success	F9 v1.0B0004.1	Failure	8 December 2010	15:43
	2	3	CCAFS	Dragon	525 kg	LEO	NASA	Success	F9 v1.0B0005.1	No attempt\n	22 May 2012	07:44
	3	4	CCAFS	SpaceX CRS-1	4,700 kg	LEO	NASA	Success\n	F9 v1.0B0006.1	No attempt	8 October 2012	00:35
	4	5	CCAFS	SpaceX CRS-2	4,877 kg	LEO	NASA	Success\n	F9 v1.0B0007.1	No attempt\n	1 March 2013	15:10
	116	117	CCSFS	Starlink	15,600 kg	LEO	SpaceX	Success\n	F9 B5B1051.10	Success	9 May 2021	06:42
	117	118	KSC	Starlink	~14,000 kg	LEO	SpaceX	Success\n	F9 B5B1058.8	Success	15 May 2021	22:56
	118	119	CCSFS	Starlink	15,600 kg	LEO	SpaceX	Success\n	F9 B5B1063.2	Success	26 May 2021	18:59
	119	120	KSC	SpaceX CRS-22	3,328 kg	LEO	NASA	Success\n	F9 B5B1067.1	Success	3 June 2021	17:29
	120	121	CCSFS	SXM-8	7,000 kg	GTO	Sirius XM	Success\n	F9 B5	Success	6 June 2021	04:26

Data Wrangling

- For all the launches information dataframe was created.
- Launches were grouped by launch complex, destination orbit, landing site.
- Github link: <u>data wrangling</u>.

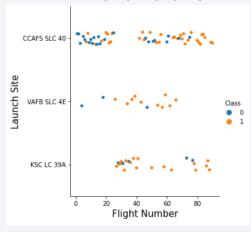


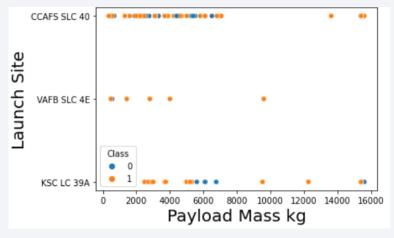
```
True Ocean means the mission outcome was successfully landed to a specific region of the ocean while False Ocean means the mission outcome was unsuccessfully
         landed to a specific region of the ocean. True RTLS means the mission outcome was successfully landed to a ground pad False RTLS means the mission outcome was
         unsuccessfully landed to a ground pad. True ASDS means the mission outcome was successfully landed to a drone ship False ASDS means the mission outcome was
         unsuccessfully landed to a drone ship. None ASDS and None None these represent a failure to land.
In [10]: for i,outcome in enumerate(landing_outcomes.keys()):
               print(i,outcome)
         0 True ASDS
          1 None None
         2 True RTLS
          3 False ASDS
         4 True Ocean
         5 False Ocean
         6 None ASDS
         7 False RTLS
         We create a set of outcomes where the second stage did not land successfully:
In [11]: bad_outcomes = set(landing_outcomes.keys()[[1,3,5,6,7]])
Out[11]: {'False ASDS', 'False Ocean', 'False RTLS', 'None ASDS', 'None None'}
         TASK 4: Create a landing outcome label from Outcome column
         Using the Outcome, create a list where the element is zero if the corresponding row in Outcome is in the set bad_outcome; otherwise, it's one. Then assign it to the
         variable landing class:
In [13]: landing_class = df.apply(lambda row: 0 if row.Outcome in bad_outcomes else 1, axis=1)
          # landing class = 0 if bad outcome
          # landing_class = 1 otherwise
         This variable will represent the classification variable that represents the outcome of each launch. If the value is zero, the first stage did not land successfully; one means the
```

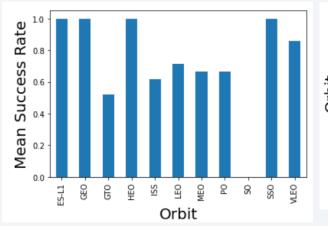
EDA with Data Visualization

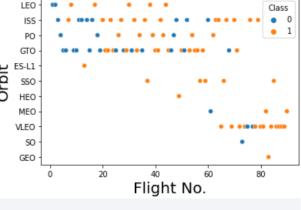
- The plots used in this assessment:
 - Scatter plots for: payload mass vs. flight number, flight no. vs. launch site, payload mass vs. launch site, orbit vs. Success rate, flight no. vs orbit.
- Findings:
 - The success ratio of SpaceX launches increased in time.
 - Recent launches (flight numbers > 40) were more prone to success on CCAFS SLC 40 Launch Site
 - Fewer launches were done on VAFB SLC 4E than in any other launch site due to complex launch corridor.

• GitHub URL:









EDA with SQL

Using bullet point format, summarize the SQL queries you performed:

Task 1 ##### Display the names of the unique launch sites in the space mission %sql select Unique(LAUNCH SITE) from SPACEXTBL; ### Task 2 ##### Display 5 records where launch sites begin with the string 'CCA' %sql SELECT Date, time, Booster Version, LAUNCH SITE from SPACEXTBL where LAUNCH SITE LIKE ('CCA%') LIMIT 5; ### Task 3 ##### Display the total payload mass carried by boosters launched by NASA (CRS) %sql select sum(PAYLOAD MASS KG) as payloadmasskg from SPACEXTBL where Customer = 'NASA (CRS)'; ### Task 4 ##### Display average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1 %sql select avg(PAYLOAD MASS KG) as payloadmasskg from SPACEXTBL where booster version = 'F9 v1.1'; ### Task 5 ##### List the date when the first successful landing outcome in ground pad was acheived. *Hint:Use min function* sql select min(DATE) as mindate from SPACEXTBL where landing outcome like '%ground pad%';

Task 6

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

%sql select BOOSTER_VERSION from SPACEXTBL where LANDING__OUTCOME='Success (drone ship)' and PAYLOAD MASS KG BETWEEN 4001 and 5999;

Task 7

List the total *number* of successful and failure mission outcomes %sql select MISSION_OUTCOME , count(*) as missionoutcomes from SPACEXTBL GROUP BY MISSION_OUTCOME

Task 8

List the names of the booster_versions which have carried the maximum payload mass. Use a subquery %sql select BOOSTER_VERSION from SPACEXTBL where PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_=(select max(PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_) from SPACEXTBL);

Task 9

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

%sql SELECT MISSION_OUTCOME,BOOSTER_VERSION,LAUNCH_SITE FROM SPACEXTBL where EXTRACT(YEAR FROM DATE)='2015' and landing_outcome like '%Failure%';

Task 10

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

%sql Select Landing_Outcome from Spacextbl where date between '2010-06-04' and '2017-03-20' Order by date desc;

GitHub URL: <u>EDA with SQL</u>

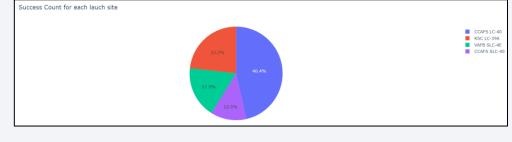
Build an Interactive Map with Folium

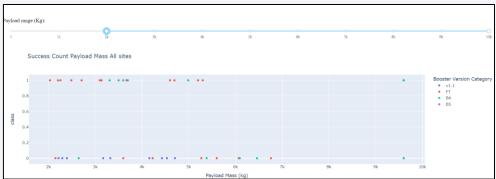
 Using Folium Map all the launch sites used by SpaceX were added to the map using translucent circles with text labels. All individual launches were added color-coded by success outcome. Lines denoting calculated distances from launch sites to highways, railroads and closest city. And by using clusters, it was shown which launch site had higher success rate.

GitHub URL: <u>SpaceX Folium</u>

Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

- Plotly/Dash dashboard was used as an overview tool for all previously gathered information about Falcon 9 launches:
 - There is a dropdown element with Launch sites for dynamic filtering
 - Pie chart shows launch count for all launch sites. When specific site is selected it presents Success vs. Failure of booster landing
 - Slider element is present to filter by payload mass.
 - Scatter plot is present to inform about payload mass vs. launch success





GitHub URL: <u>dashboard.py</u>

Predictive Analysis (Classification)

- Launch data was loaded to pandas dataframe with normalized and encoded information. Dataset was split to train and test data using sklearn method.
- Each classification model used: Logistics Regression, SVM, Decision Trees, KNN were fitted using various parameters using GridSearchCV. Finally best parameters based on score and accuracy were used for test set.

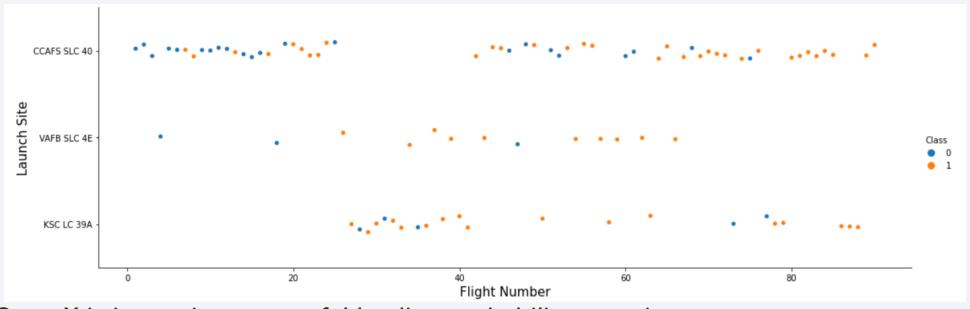
GitHub URL: <u>SpaceX predictions</u>

Results

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

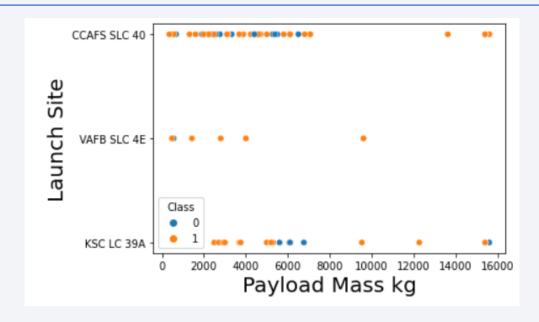


Flight Number vs. Launch Site



- SpaceX is improving successful landing probability over time.
- Launchpad SLC-40 was used almost for all launches till planned flight 29 when it was partially destroyed due to COPV malfunction before static fire of the engines.
- Launch site in Vandenberg Airforce Base on west coast is used rarely due to retrograde orbit mostly for military payloads.
- After launchpad SLC-40 was rebuilt, it was again hevily used by SpaceX.

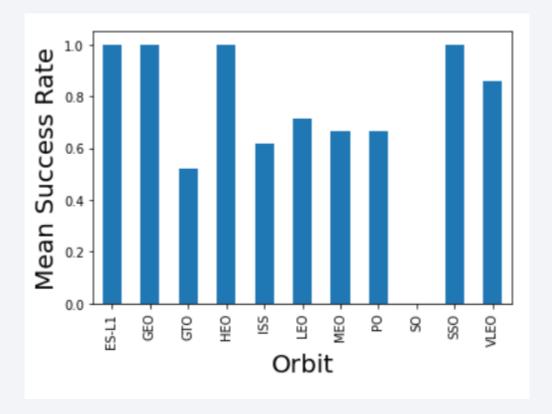
Payload vs. Launch Site



- For the VAFB-SLC launch site there are no heavy payloads launched due to retrograde orbit mass restriction.
- The greater the payload for CCAFS SLC 40 higher the success rate.

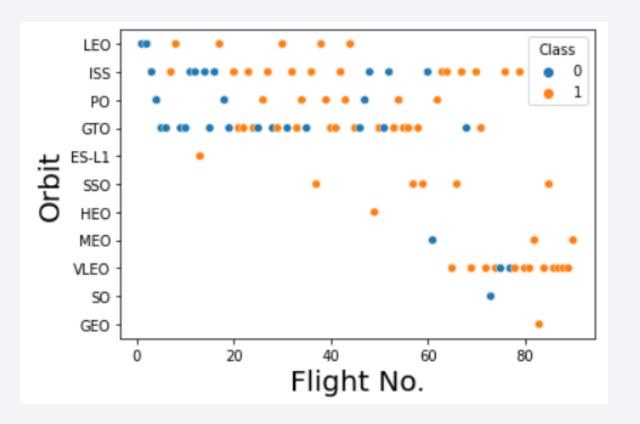
Success Rate vs. Orbit Type

 Most of the payloads are placed in LEO and GTO, therefore low sample orbitslike SO of Lagrange Point transfer orbit shows very high or very low success/failure rate.



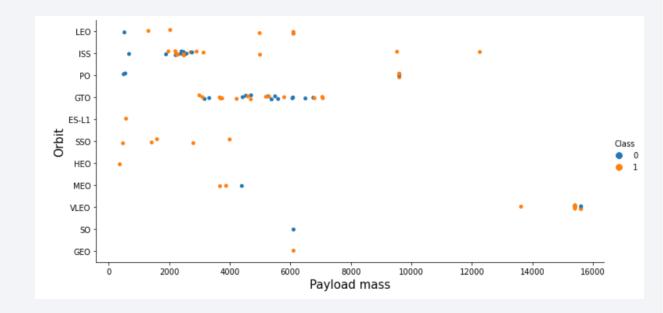
Flight Number vs. Orbit Type

 Based of flight number vs orbit plot it can be observed that success rate improved with later flights, but it is inconclusive if orbit type influences the success rate.



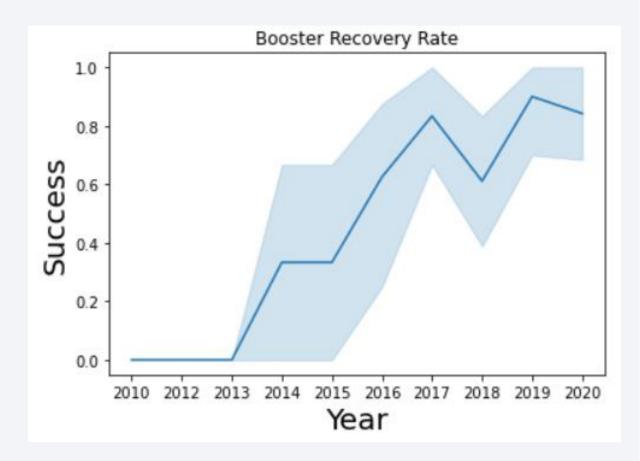
Payload vs. Orbit Type

- ISS orbit shows a cluster of points around 2000 kg, with 3 outliers highly above this value. Maximum payload capability of Dragon capsule is 6000 kg, so most likely higher values are errorous.
- There is an increase of the successful landing accompanied by an increase on the payload mass for the orbits PO, LEO and ISS



Launch Success Yearly Trend

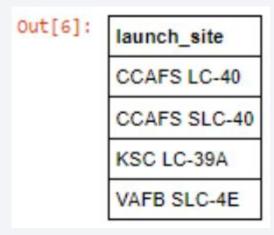
- From the start of booster recovery program in 2013 there was a constantly increase of the success rate
- There is a decline in this trend in 2018 but it is recovered in 2019.



All Launch Site Names

Data selection using SQL using the function DISTINCT

%sql select Unique(LAUNCH_SITE) from SPACEXTBL;



Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

%sql SELECT Date, time, Booster_Version, LAUNCH_SITE from SPACEXTBL where LAUNCH_SITE LIKE ('CCA%') LIMIT 5;

DATE	timeutc_	booster_version	launch_site	payload	payload_masskg_	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

%sql select sum(PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_) as total_payload_mass_kg from SPACEXTBL where Customer = 'NASA (CRS)';

```
Out[15]: total_payload_mass_kg
45596
```

Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

%sql select avg(PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_) as avg_payload_mass_kg from SPACEXTBL where booster_version = 'F9 v1.1';

```
Out[16]: avg_payload_mass_kg
2928
```

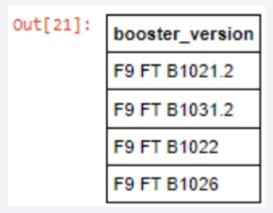
First Successful Ground Landing Date

%sql select min(DATE) as mindate from SPACEXTBL where landing_outcome like '%ground pad%';



Successful Drone Ship Landing with Payload between 4000 and 6000

%sql select BOOSTER_VERSION from SPACEXTBL where LANDING__OUTCOME='Success (drone ship)' and PAYLOAD_MASS__KG BETWEEN 4001 and 5999;



Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes

%sql select MISSION_OUTCOME , count(*) as mission_outcome from SPACEXTBL GROUP BY MISSION_OUTCOME

Out[23]:	mission_outcome	counter
	Failure (in flight)	1
	Success	99
	Success (payload status unclear)	1

Boosters Carried Maximum Payload

%sql select BOOSTER_VERSION from SPACEXTBL where PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_=(select max(PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_) from SPACEXTBL);

Out[26]: booster_version F9 B5 B1048.4 F9 B5 B1048.5 F9 B5 B1049.4 F9 B5 B1049.5 F9 B5 B1049.7 F9 B5 B1051.3 F9 B5 B1051.4 F9 B5 B1051.6 F9 B5 B1056.4 F9 B5 B1058.3 F9 B5 B1060.2 F9 B5 B1060.3

2015 Launch Records

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

%sql SELECT MISSION_OUTCOME,BOOSTER_VERSION,LAUNCH_SITE FROM SPACEXTBL where EXTRACT(YEAR FROM DATE)='2015' and landing_outcome like '%Failure%';

Out[32]:	landing_outcome	booster_version	launch_site	
	Failure (drone ship)	F9 v1.1 B1012	CCAFS LC-40	
	Failure (drone ship)	F9 v1.1 B1015	CCAFS LC-40	

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

 %sql SELECT LANDING_OUTCOME, COUNT(*), counter from SPACEXTBL WHERE landing_outcome in ('Failure (drone ship)', 'Success (ground pad)') and date BETWEEN '2010-06-04' and '2017-03-20' group by landing_outcome order by counter desc;

Out[32]:	landing_outcome	booster_version	launch_site
	Failure (drone ship)	F9 v1.1 B1012	CCAFS LC-40
	Failure (drone ship)	F9 v1.1 B1015	CCAFS LC-40



Launch sites locations

All SpaceX launch sites are situated on the northern hemisphere at USA on its west coast in California and on its east coast in Florida. There is a higher success rate for the launches in Florida Cape Canaveral sites. Most of the rockets launches from Florida due to prograde orbit.

The closer launch pad is to equator the higher boost effect from Earth's rotation.

All launches in USA are performed in direction of the ocean for populations safety.



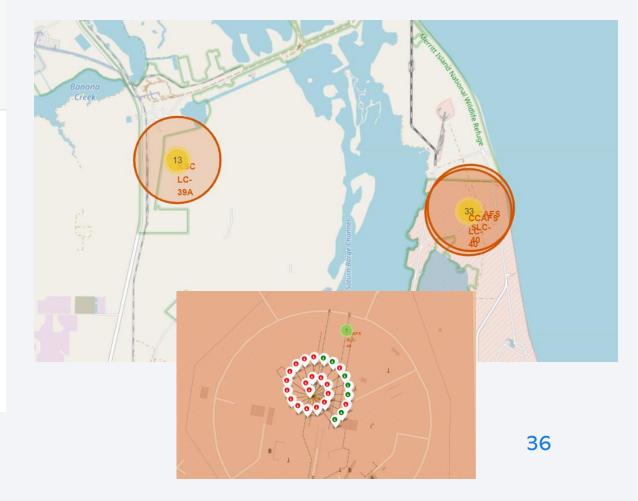
Florida's launch sites

```
In [45]: # Function to assign color to launch outcome
def assign_marker_color(launch_outcome):
    if launch_outcome == 1:
        return 'green'
    else:
        return 'red'

spacex_df['marker_color'] = spacex_df['class'].apply(assign_marker_color)
spacex_df.tail(10)
```

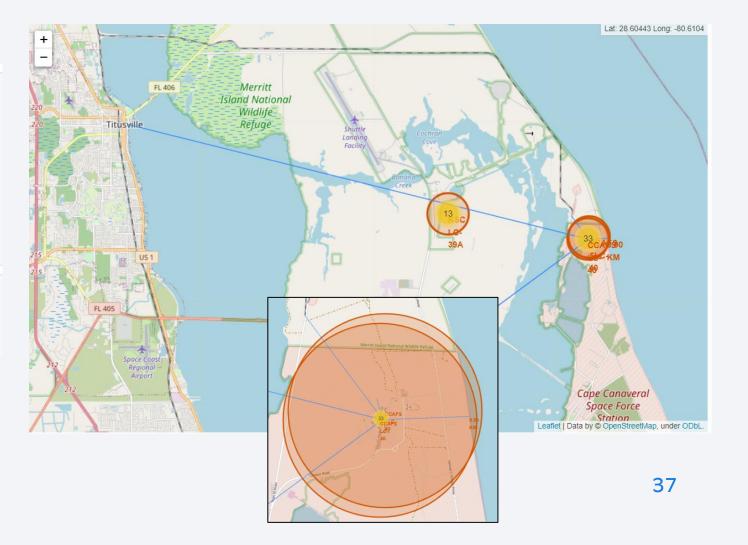
Out[45]:

	Launch Site	Lat	Long	class	marker_color
46	KSC LC-39A	28.573255	-80.646895	1	green
47	KSC LC-39A	28.573255	-80.646895	1	green
48	KSC LC-39A	28.573255	-80.646895	1	green
49	CCAFS SLC-40	28.563197	-80.576820	1	green
50	CCAFS SLC-40	28.563197	-80.576820	1	green
51	CCAFS SLC-40	28.563197	-80.576820	0	red
52	CCAFS SLC-40	28.563197	-80.576820	0	red
53	CCAFS SLC-40	28.563197	-80.576820	0	red
54	CCAFS SLC-40	28.563197	-80.576820	1	green
55	CCAFS SLC-40	28.563197	-80.576820	0	red



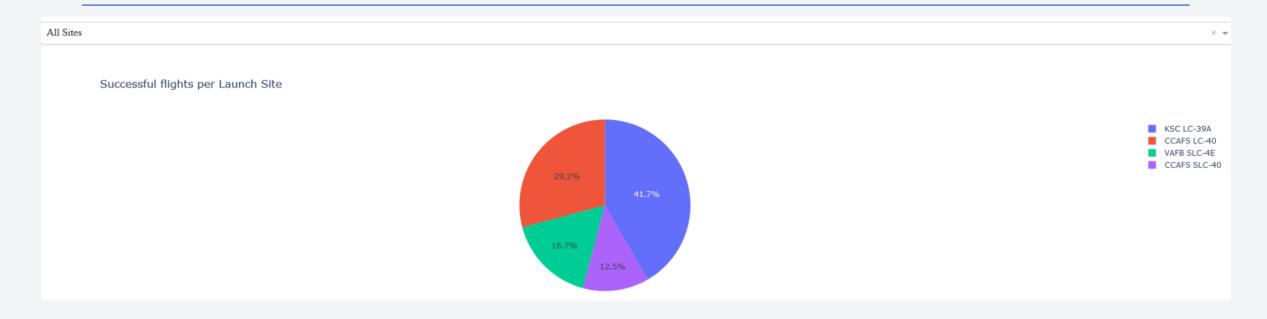
Florida's launch sites

```
In [55]: # Create a marker with distance to a closest city, railway, highway, etc.
         # Draw a line between the marker to the launch site
         #city
         lat3 = 28.61229
         long3 = -80.80611
         #railway
         lat4 = 28.57206
         long4 =-80.58533
         #highway
         lat5 = 28.52538
         long5 = -80.63431
In [56]: lines=folium.PolyLine(locations=([lat1, long1], [lat3, long3]), weight=1)
         site map.add child(lines)
         lines=folium.PolyLine(locations=([lat1, long1], [lat4, long4]), weight=1)
         site map.add child(lines)
         lines=folium.PolyLine(locations=([lat1, long1], [lat5, long5]), weight=1)
         site map.add child(lines)
```





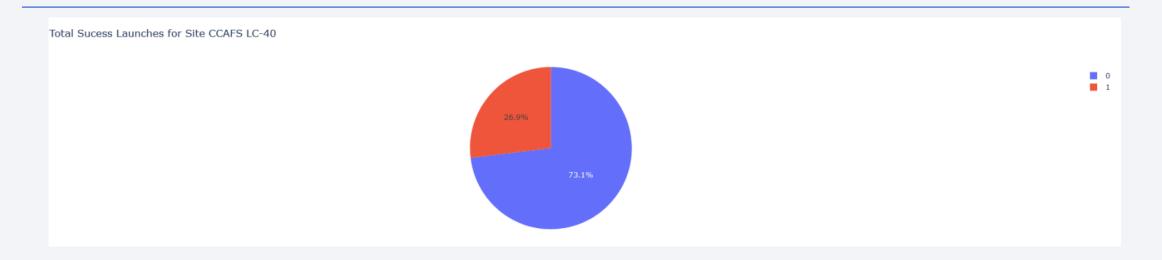
All launch sites success rate



Dropdown element is set to ALL (label: "All sites"), used as input on callback to pie chart showing the successful flights per Launch. The pie chart allows us to visualize the success rate between launch sites.

Most successful landings were for rockets launched from historic SLC-39A

Successful landing from CCAFS SLC-40



• Dropdown element is set to LC-40, used as input on callback to pie chart showing the successful flights per Launch. The pie chart allows us to visualize the success rate for particular site.

Payload vs. Launch Outcome

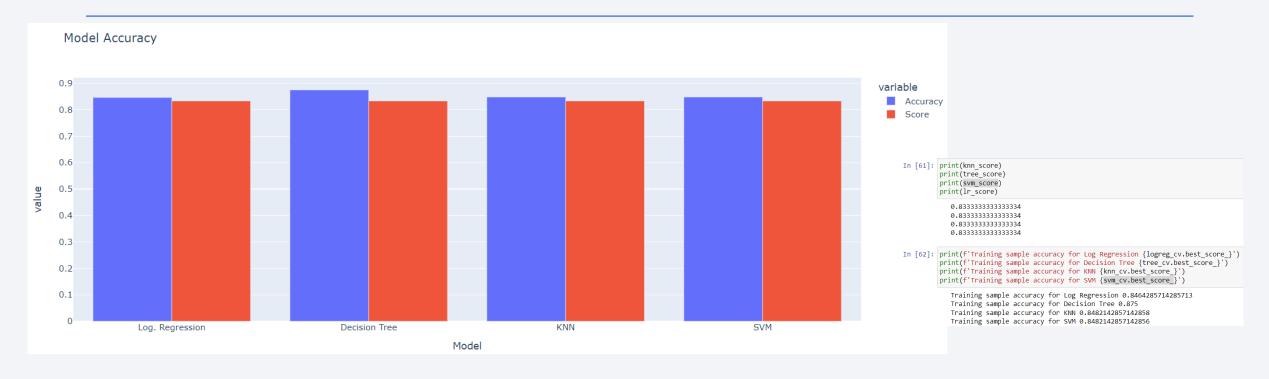


Range and selection were used as input on callback app. This plot showing Payload Mass (kg) vs Success rate for all launch sites. Where we can identify:

- Which payload ranges have the highest launch success rate? 2500 5500
- Which payload ranges have the lowest launch success rate? 2000 3000
- Full thrust is most successful booster version of Falcon 9



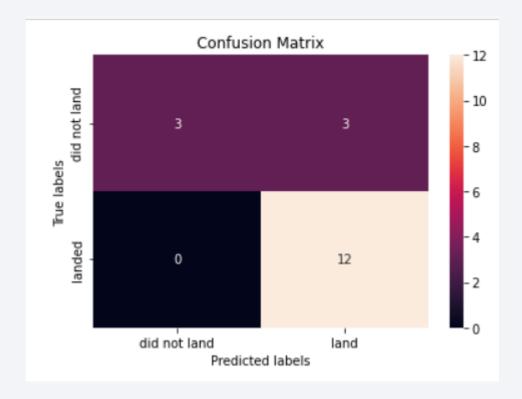
Classification Accuracy



- Best score in this assessment acquired decision tree model with 0.875
- The accuracy for all models was: 0.8333

Confusion Matrix

- As Decision Tree was the best performing model its Confusion Matrix shows two classes very distinguished.
- Type 1 errors (False positives) are still quite an issue with this model.



Conclusions

- Over time starting from 2013 SpaceX is gradually more successful with booster landing for all scenarios with slight decrease in 2018
- Largest number of successful launches were found at KSC LC-39A site with over 41%
- Latest iteration of booster design Full Thrust is most reliable in terms of landing success rate.
- Prediction model with highest score is Decision Tree, with 0.8875.
- The accuracy for
- Accuracy for all models was: 0.8333
- The average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1 was 2928 kg

Appendix

• GIT repository: <u>link</u>

