

# Winning Space Race with Data Science

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### Outline

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

# **Executive Summary**

- Summary of methodologies
- Summary of all results

### Introduction

SpaceY is looking to enter the market for rocket launches as direct competitor to SpaceX. SpaceX advertises Falcon 9 rocket launches on its website, with a cost of 62 million dollars; other providers cost upward of 165 million dollars each, much of the savings is because SpaceX can reuse the first stage.

Our project is to try to determine the likelihood of first stage will successfully land and therefore if we can accurately predict the likelihood of the first stage rocket landing successfully, we can determine the cost of a launch

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# Methodology

#### **Executive Summary**

- Data collection methodology:
  - How data was collected
- Perform data wrangling
  - How data was processed
- Perform exploratory data analysis (EDA) using visualization and SQL
- Perform interactive visual analytics using Folium and Plotly Dash
- Perform predictive analysis using classification models
  - How to build, tune, evaluate classification models

### **Data Collection**

We used two methods to collect the required data:

Webscraping the Wikipedia page titled 'List of Falcon 9 and Falcon Heavy launches', using the requests and beautiful soup Python libraries

Directly from the Spacexdata website using the REST API provided by SpaceX

# Data Collection – SpaceX API

Form the whole dataset we wanted only specific information:

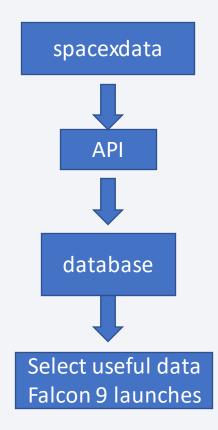
From the rocket column we would like to learn the booster name.

From the launchpad we wanted the name of the launch site being used, the longitude, and the latitude

From the payload, the mass of the payload and the orbit that it is going to.

From cores we would like to learn the outcome of the landing, the type of the landing, number of flights with that core, whether gridfins were used, whether the core is reused, whether legs were used, the landing pad used, the block of the core which is a number used to separate version of cores, the number of times this specific core has been reused, and the serial of the core.

Finally we filtered only the Falcon 9 launces.



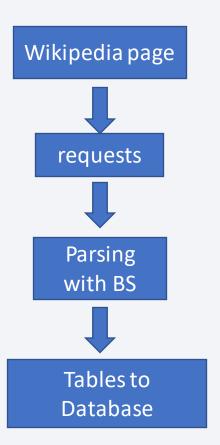
https://github.com/ednes76/Capstoneproject/blob/main/jupyter-labs-spacex-data-collection- 8 api.ipynb

# **Data Collection - Scraping**

Webscraping Falcon 9 launch records with Requests and BeautifulSoup libraries:

- 1.First we extracted the Falcon 9 launch records HTML table from Wikipedia
- 2.Next we parsed the table and convert it into a Pandas data frame
- 3. Finally we exported the dataframe to CVS file

https://github.com/ednes76/Capstoneproject/blob/main/jupyter-labs-webscraping.ipynb



# **Data Wrangling**

In the EDA stage, we will try to find some patterns in the data and determine what would be the label for training supervised models. In the data set, there are several different cases where the booster did not land successfully. These outcomes were converted into Training Labels with 1 meaning the booster successfully landed 0 meaning it was unsuccessful.

These are the steps we followed in obtaining the Training Labels:

Calculate the number of launches on each site

Calculate the number and occurrence of each orbit

Calculate the number and occurrence of mission outcome per orbit type

Create a landing outcome label from Outcome column

### **EDA** with Data Visualization

At this Stage we looked at the relationship between:

- 1. Flight Number and Launch Site
- 2. Payload and Launch Site
- 3. Success rate of each orbit type
- 4. Flight Number and Orbit type
- 5. Payload and Orbit type
- 6. Launch success yearly trend

### EDA with SQL

For this stage we use SQL database for a better understanding of the data and carried out some inquiries:

- 1. Displayed the names of the unique launch sites in the space mission
- 2. Displayed 5 records where launch sites begin with the string 'CCA'
- 3. Displayed the total payload mass carried by boosters launched by NASA (CRS)
- 4. Displayed average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1
- 5. Listed the date when the first successful landing outcome in ground pad was achieved.
- 6. Listed the names of the boosters which have success in drone ship and have payload mass greater than 4000 but less than 6000
- 7. Listed the total number of successful and failure mission outcomes
- 8. Listed the names of the booster versions which have carried the maximum payload mass
- 9. Listed the failed landing outcomes in drone ship, their booster versions, and launch site names for in year 2015
- 10. Ranked the count of landing outcomes between the date 2010-06-04 and 2017-03-20

# Build an Interactive Map with Folium

The launch success rate may depend on many factors such as payload mass, orbit type, and so on. It may also depend on the location and proximities 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 and we could discover some of the factors by analysing the existing launch site locations.

We marked all the launch locations and then we marked the success/failed launces for each site, then we calculated the proximity of the sites to certain geographical features for example the coast or transport systems.

## Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

To get an even cleared picture of the launch sites and the success/failure of each one we build an interactive dashboard using Plotly.

The aim is to find the answers to the following:

- •Which site has the largest successful launches?
- •Which site has the highest launch success rate?
- •Which payload range(s) has the highest launch success rate?
- •Which payload range(s) has the lowest launch success rate?
- •Which F9 Booster version has the highest launch success rate?

# Predictive Analysis (Classification)

For the predictive analysis of the success/failure of launches we employed four classification models:

- 1. Logistic regression
- 2. Support Vector Machine
- 3. Decision Tree
- 4. KNN

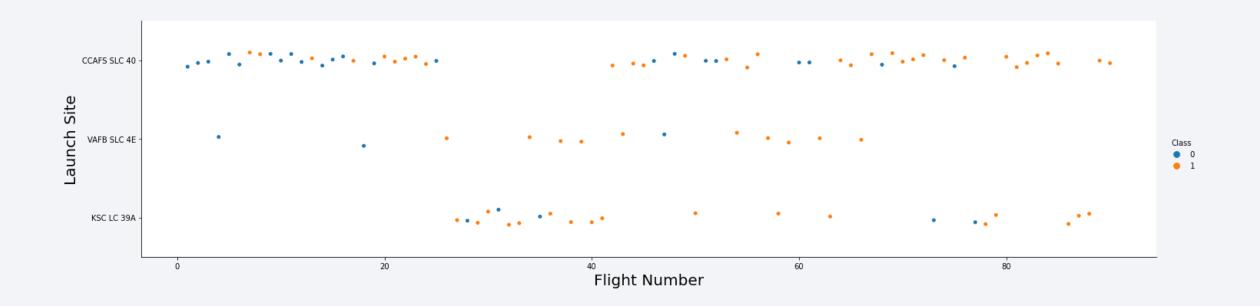
We created the classifier object and then using GridSearchCV we looked for the best parameters. Finally we calculated the accuracy and plated a confusion matrix in order to find out the false positives and negatives.

### Results

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

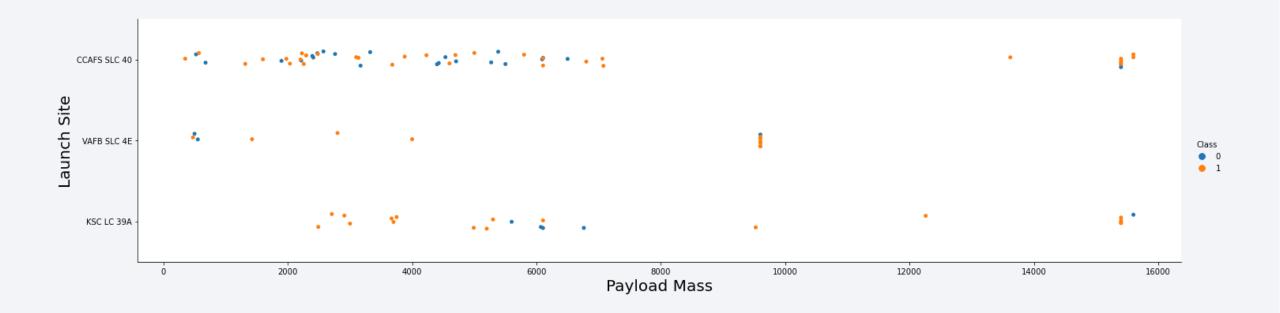


# Flight Number vs. Launch Site



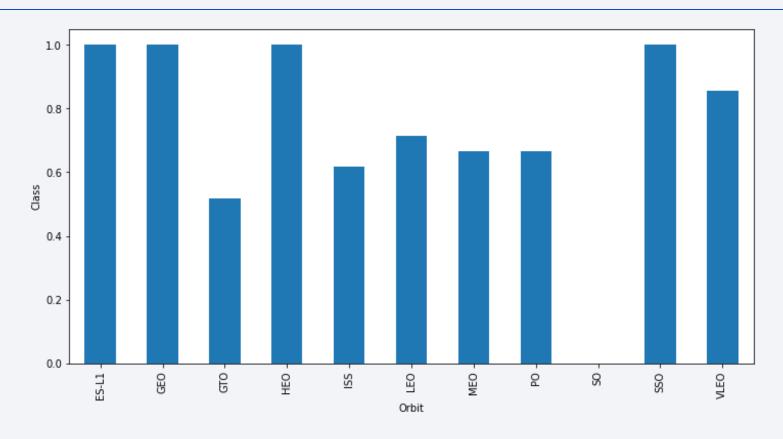
There seems to be a correlation between the number of flights and the success rate of the landings.

# Payload vs. Launch Site



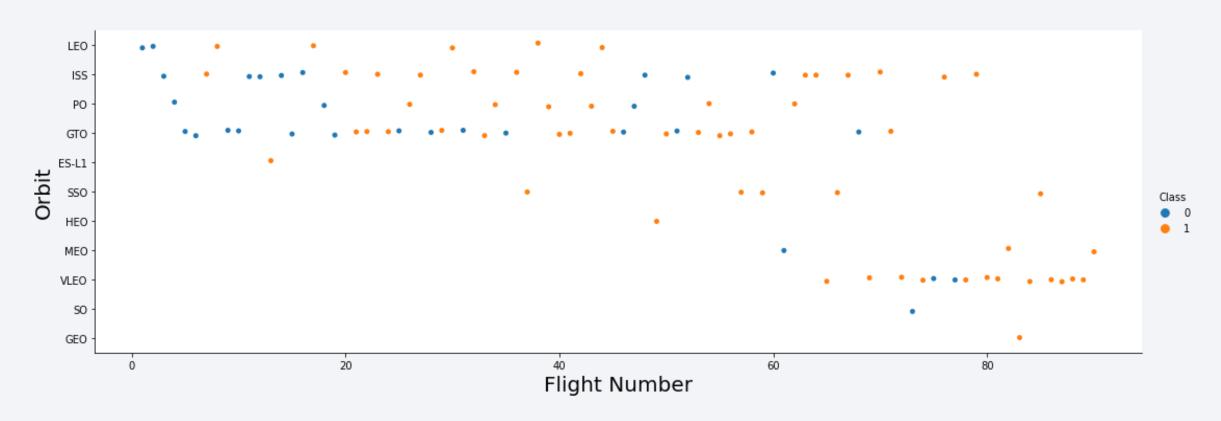
There seem to be a correlation between the payload mass and the success rate of the landings especially for VAFB SLC 4E and KSC LC-39A

# Success Rate vs. Orbit Type



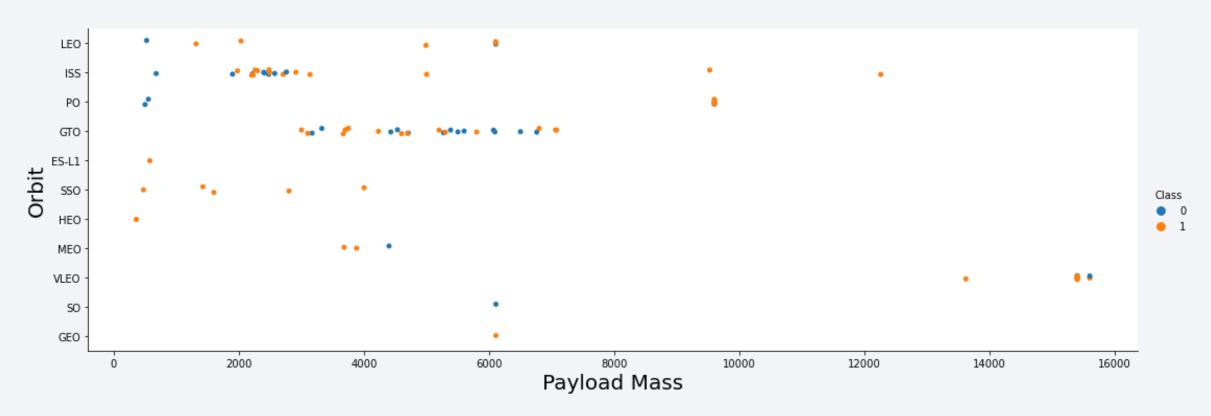
It seems obvious there are certain orbits that have a greater success rate that others With GEO, HEO, SSO and ES-L1 having 100%

# Flight Number vs. Orbit Type



Again there seems to be a connection between the number of flights and the success rate for each orbit except SSO, MEO, ES-L1 and HEO

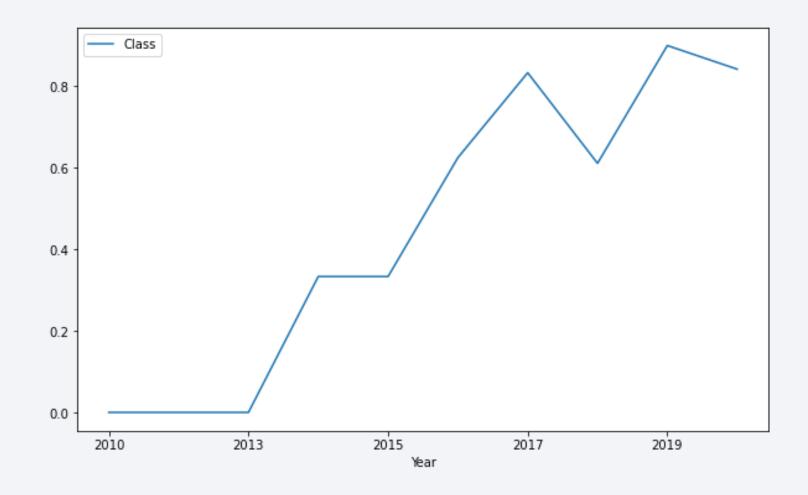
# Payload vs. Orbit Type



With heavy payloads the successful landing or positive landing rate are more for Polar, LEO and ISS. However for GTO we cannot distinguish this well as both positive landing rate and negative landing (unsuccessful mission) are both there here.

# Launch Success Yearly Trend

We can observe an increase in success rate over the years



### All Launch Site Names

|   | Launch Site  | Lat       | Long        |
|---|--------------|-----------|-------------|
| 0 | CCAFS LC-40  | 28.562302 | -80.577356  |
| 1 | CCAFS SLC-40 | 28.563197 | -80.576820  |
| 2 | KSC LC-39A   | 28.573255 | -80.646895  |
| 3 | VAFB SLC-4E  | 34.632834 | -120.610745 |

There are four launch sites, one in California (VAFB SLC-4E) and three in Florida (CCAFS LC-40, CCAFS SLC-40 and KSC LC-39A)

# Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

| Out[39]: | DATE       | time_utc_ | booster_version | launch_site    | payload   | payload_masskg_ | orbit        | customer           | mission_outcome | landing_outcome     |
|----------|------------|-----------|-----------------|----------------|---|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
|          | 2010-06-04 | 18:45:00  | F9 v1.0 B0003   | CCAFS<br>LC-40 | Dragon Spacecraft<br>Qualification Unit                             | 0               | LEO          | SpaceX             | Success         | Failure (parachute) |
|          | 2010-12-08 | 15:43:00  | F9 v1.0 B0004   | CCAFS<br>LC-40 | Dragon demo flight C1, two<br>CubeSats, barrel of Brouere<br>cheese | 0               | LEO<br>(ISS) | NASA<br>(COTS) NRO | Success         | Failure (parachute) |
|          | 2012-05-22 | 07:44:00  | F9 v1.0 B0005   | CCAFS<br>LC-40 | Dragon demo flight C2   | 525             | LEO<br>(ISS) | NASA<br>(COTS)     | Success         | No attempt          |
|          | 2012-10-08 | 00:35:00  | F9 v1.0 B0006   | CCAFS<br>LC-40 | SpaceX CRS-1  | 500             | LEO<br>(ISS) | NASA (CRS)         | Success         | No attempt          |
|          | 2013-03-01 | 15:10:00  | F9 v1.0 B0007   | CCAFS<br>LC-40 | SpaceX CRS-2  | 677             | LEO<br>(ISS) | NASA (CRS)         | Success         | No attempt          |

# **Total Payload Mass**

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

In [41]:

**sql

**select sum(payload_mass__kg_) from SPACEXTBL

where customer like 'NASA (CRS)'

* ibm_db_sa://jdj33138:****@764264db-9824-4b7c-82df-40d1b13897c2.bs2io90l08kqb1od8lcg.databases.appdomain.cloud:32536/bludb

Done.

Out[41]:

1

45596
```

Total Payload Mass from NASA is 45596

# Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

The average Payload Mass for the F9 v 1.1 booster is 2928

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

In [42]:

**sql
select avg(payload_mass__kg_) from SPACEXTBL
where booster_version like 'F9 v1.1'

* ibm_db_sa://jdj33138:****@764264db-9824-4b7c-82df-40d1b13897c2.bs2io90l08kqb1od8lcg.databases.appdomain.cloud:32536/bludb
Done.

Out[42]:

1
2928
```

# First Successful Ground Landing Date

```
In [43]:

**sql
select date from SPACEXTBL
where landing_outcome like 'Success (ground pad)'
order by date asc
limit 1

* ibm_db_sa://jdj33138:***@764264db-9824-4b7c-82df-40d1b13897c2.bs2io90l08kqb1od8lcg.databases.appdomain.cloud:32536/bludb
Done.

Out[43]:

DATE
2015-12-22
```

First successful landing date is 2015-12-22

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

```
In [44]:

**sql

select booster_version from SPACEXTBL

where landing_outcome like 'Success (drone ship)' and (payload_mass_kg_>4000 and payload_mass_kg_<6000)

* ibm_db_sa://jdj33138:***@764264db-9824-4b7c-82df-40d1b13897c2.bs2io90l08kqblod8lcg.databases.appdomain.cloud:32536/bludb

Done.

Out[44]:

booster_version

F9 FT B1022

F9 FT B1021.2

F9 FT B1031.2
```

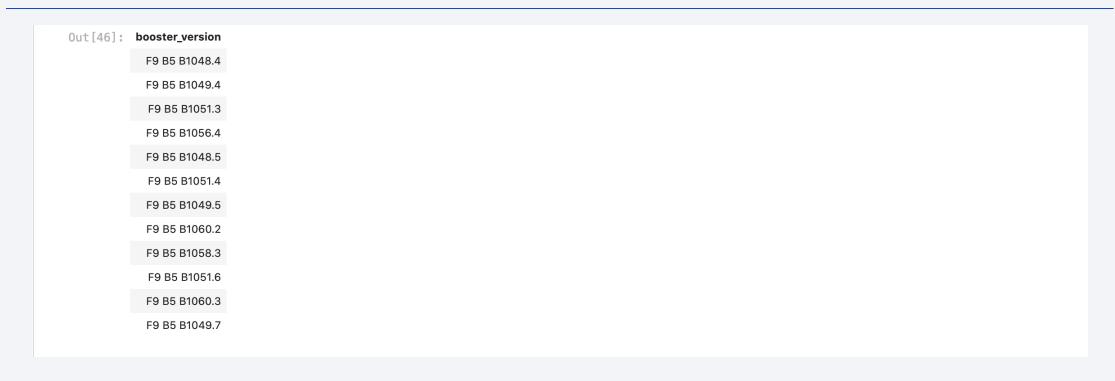
List of the names of the boosters which have success in drone ship and have payload mass greater than 4000 but less than 6000

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



Number of successful and failed mission outcomes

# **Boosters Carried Maximum Payload**



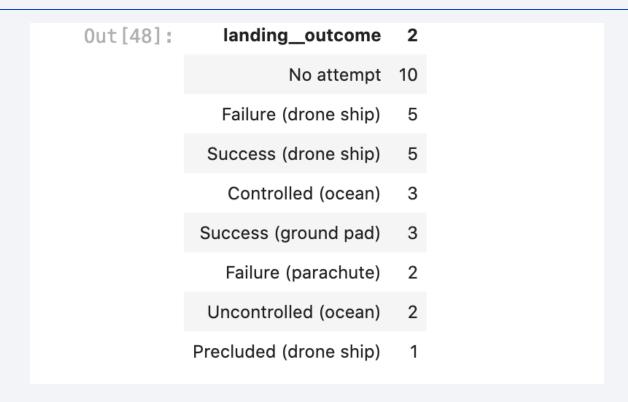
List of the names of the booster which have carried the maximum payload mass

### 2015 Launch Records

| Out[47]: | 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 |
|          |                      |                 |             |

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

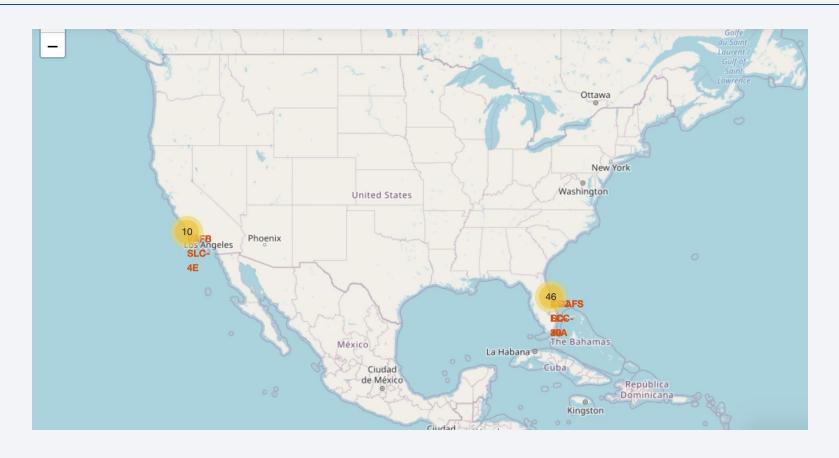
### Rank Landing Outcomes Between 2010-06-04 and 2017-03-20



Ranking 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



# General map of launch sites

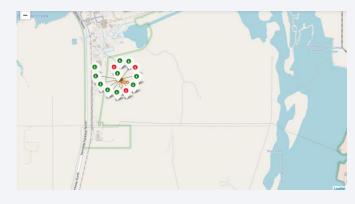


All launch sites are close to the coastline at approximately same latitude

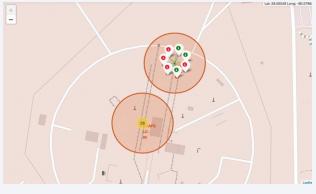
# Booster successful landing for each launch site



VAFB SLC-4E



KSC LC-39A

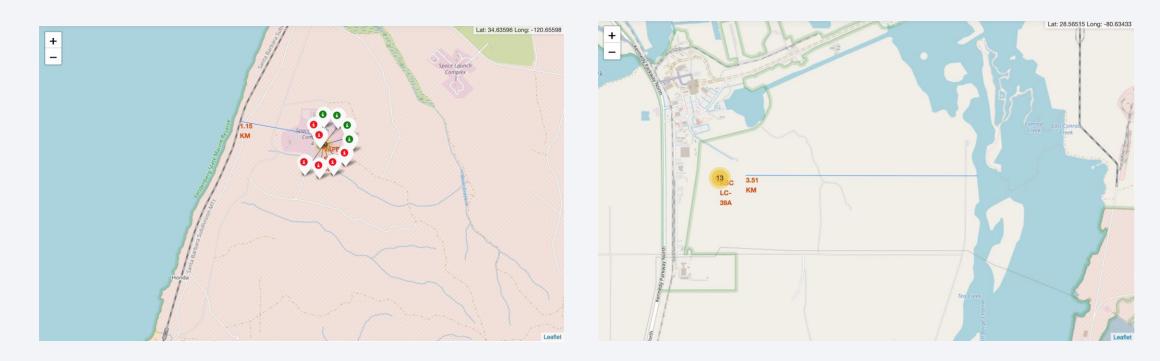


CCAFS SLC-40



CCAFS LC-40

### Distance from coastline



We can observe that the most successful launch site (KSC LC-39A) is further inland than the other sites, 3.51km vs 1.15km.



### Success count for all sites



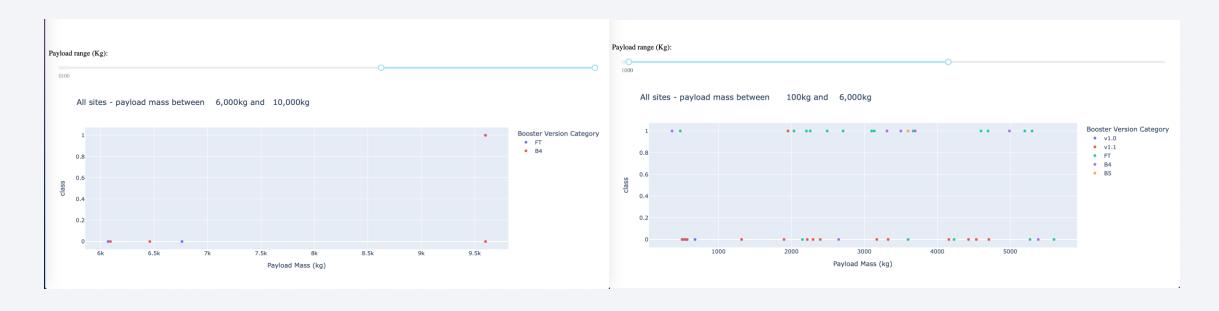
Looking at the payload vs booster version we seen that booster version FT has more successful landings while version v1.1 more unsuccessful landings

### KSC LC-39A has the highest success rate



KSC LC-39A is the most successful site with 76.9% success rate. Looking at the payload vs booster we see that Payloads under 5500 kg were all successful and over 5500 kg failures were with booster version FT. It is worth further investigation into payload vs booster version

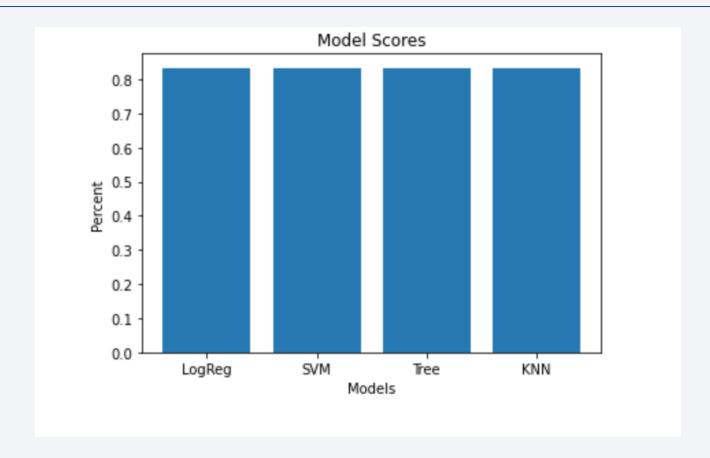
## Payload and Launch Outcome



Payloads under 6000kg have greater success rate that those over 6000kg where only one was a success. For payloads under 6000kg the most successful booster version was FT while least successful was v.1.1. The emerging picture is that the combination of booster version FT and payloads under 6000kg has the biggest success rate.



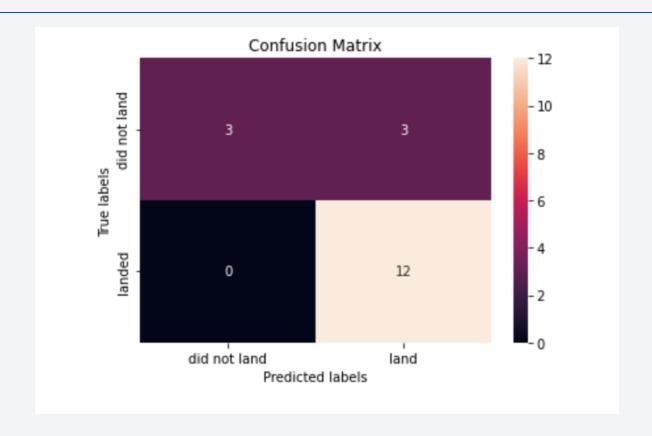
# Classification Accuracy



After building and testing all models for accuracy we come to the conclusion that all have the same accuracy of 0.833333333333333.

### **Confusion Matrix**

Show the confusion matrix of the best performing model with a explanation



The confusion matrix for all Classification models shows 3 false positives which is quite a lot relative to such a small dataset, but in there lies the problem with this attempt at predicting a successful landing.

### Conclusions

After carrying out the Exploratory Data Analysis and Predictive Analysis some conclusions can be drawn:

- 1. The most successful launch site was the one further from the coastline (KSC LC-39A). This may raise the issue of high coastal winds having an impact on the booster landings.
- 2. Payloads under 6000kg had higher booster landing success rate when combined with booster version FT.
- 3. There are certain orbits that have a greater success rate that others with GEO, HEO, SSO and ES-L1 having 100%
- 4. The trend for the success rate show a positive growth year after year which shows the value of learning from experience.
- 5. Predicting a successful booster landing is proving challenging at this point due to the small dataset. All models showed the same accuracy and false positive rates.

# **Appendix**

All notebooks, apps and dataset can be found at the link below.

https://github.com/ednes76/Capstone-project

