



IBM Developer  
SKILLS NETWORK

# Winning Space Race with Data Science

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# Outline

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

# Executive Summary

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## Purpose of Report

Can SpaceY bid against SpaceX for a rocket launch?

The purposes of this report are as follows:

- predict if the Falcon 9 first stage will land successfully,
- determine the cost of a launch.

## Methods Used

- i. Collect and prepare the data from an API
- ii. Perform web scraping to collect Falcon 9 historical launch records
- iii. Perform some Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) to find some patterns in the data
- iv. Determine what would be the label for training supervised models.
- v. Finally build a Dash application for users to perform interactive visual analytics on SpaceX launch data in real-time.

## Findings

**Falcon9 FT**  
Rocket

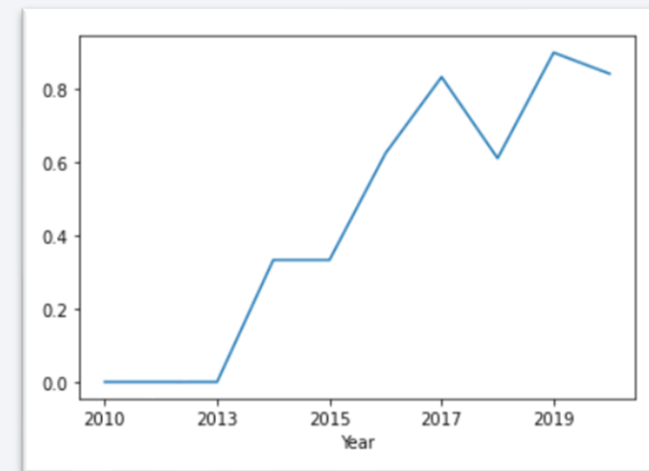
- 90 total flights
- 60 successful
- Increasing Success Rate

**KFS LC-39A**  
76.9%  
Success

- Best Launch Site KFS
- Located at East Coast
- Offering best overall conditions

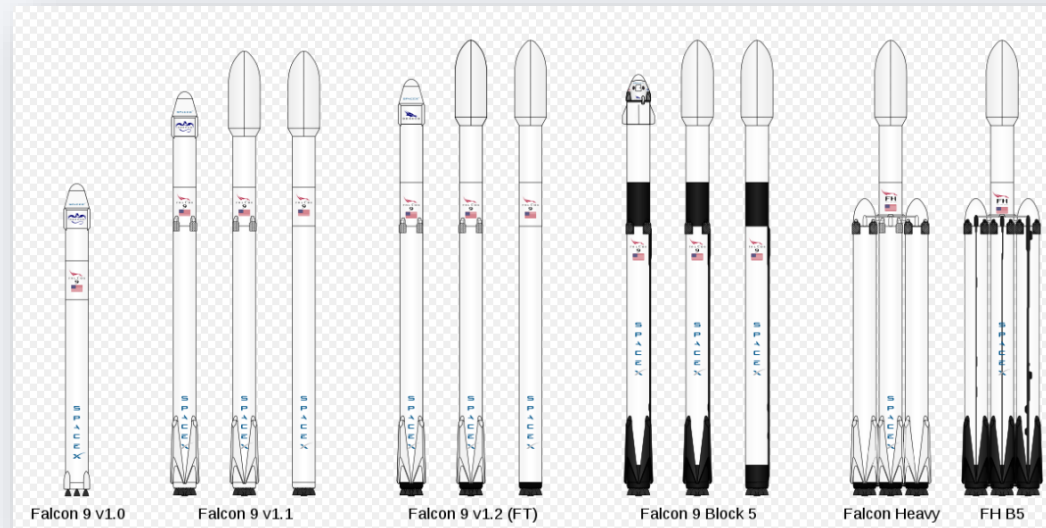
**91.4%**  
Prediction Model  
Accuracy

- Machine Learning
- Hyperparameters
- Decision Tree Classifier



# Introduction

- SpaceX's cost of launch is always lower than the competition: 62 million dollars compared to 165 million dollars each
- Over 10 years of data SpaceX's accomplished:
  - Sending spacecraft to the International Space Station.
  - Starlink, a satellite internet constellation providing satellite Internet access.
  - Sending manned missions to Space
- Compared to the competition SpaceX's has achieved greatest rates of rocket reusability.

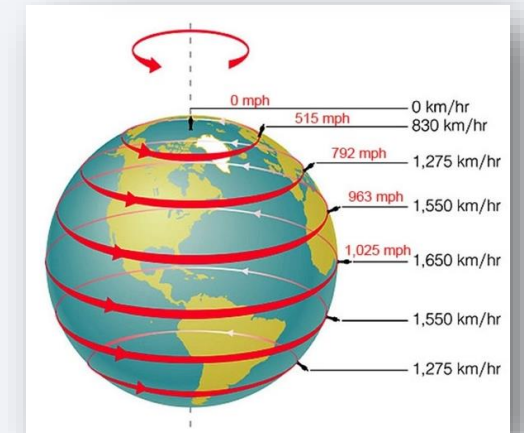
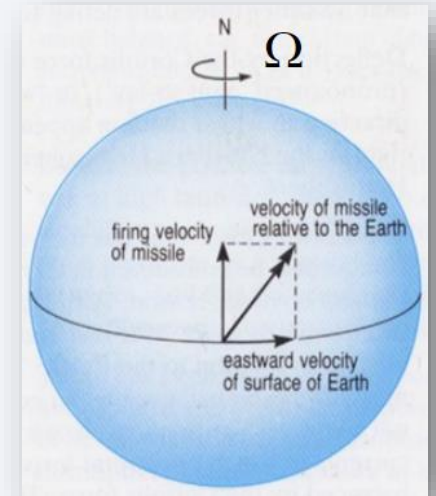


# Introduction

## Some Physics

### What affects a rocket launch?

- **Coriolis effect:** makes things (like planes or currents of air) traveling long distances around the Earth appear to move at a curve as opposed to a straight line
- **Spin of Earth:** Earth's rotation or Earth's spin is the rotation of planet Earth around its own axis, as well as changes in the orientation of the rotation axis in space. Earth rotates eastward, in prograde motion. As viewed from the north pole star Polaris, Earth turns counterclockwise.
- **Locations latitude:** Latitude is a geographic coordinate that specifies the north–south position of a point on the Earth's surface. Earth's velocity is relative to earth's radius, The equator has the bigger radius, so the velocity is the highest. The closer to the equator the greater the surface velocity.





Section 1

# Methodology

# Methodology

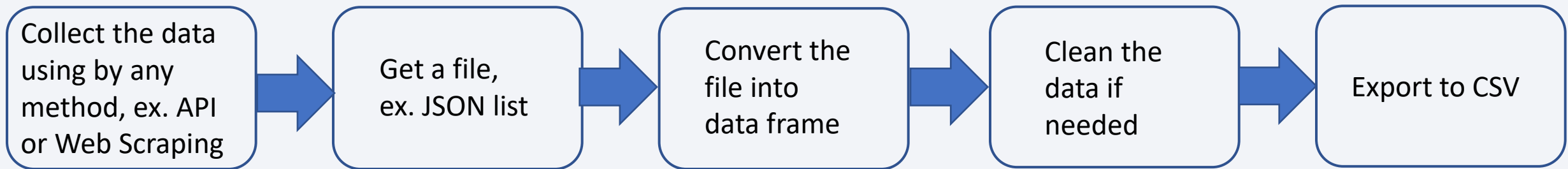
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Data Collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SpaceX REST API</li><li>• Web Scraping from Wikipedia</li></ul>
Data Wrangling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transform and Map the Data</li><li>• Apply OneHotEncoder</li></ul>
Exploratory Data Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Using SQL</li><li>• Using Visualization</li></ul>
Interactive Visual Analytics & Dashboard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Using Plotly Dash for building a Dashboard</li><li>• Using Folium for Interactive Map</li></ul>
Predictive Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Train the Model</li><li>• Perform Grid Search</li><li>• Build a Machine Learning Pipeline</li></ul>

# Data Collection

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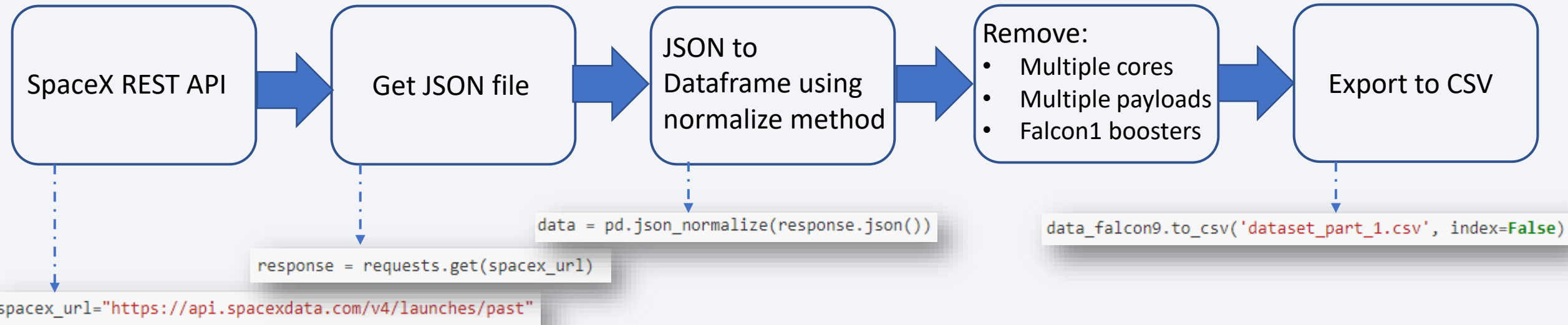
- Data was collected
  - Via SpaceX REST API
  - Via Web Scraping a Wiki page.





# Data Collection – SpaceX API

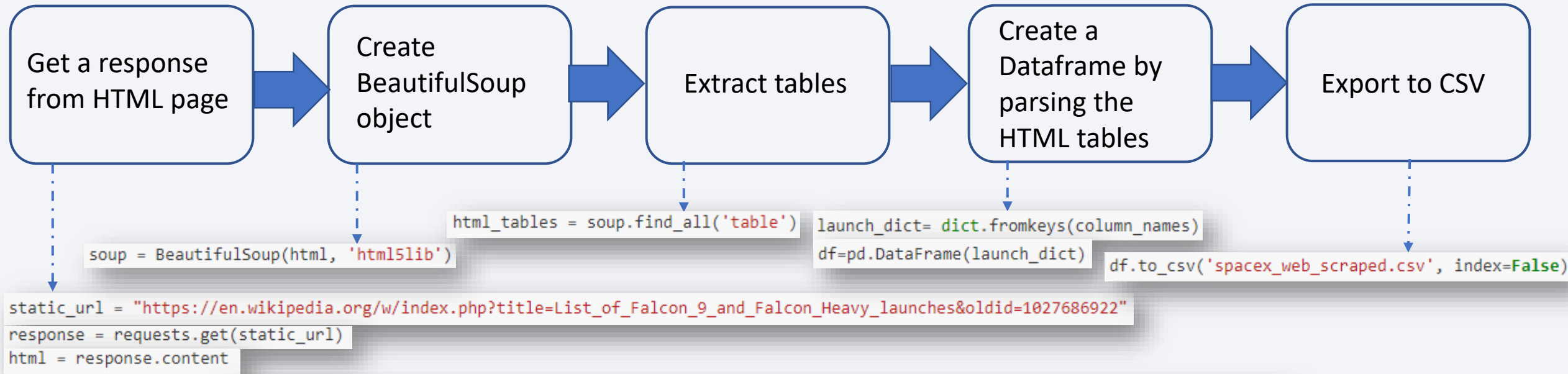
**USE:** SpaceX REST API or URL: <https://api.spacexdata.com/v4/>



	FlightNumber	Date	BoosterVersion	PayloadMass	Orbit	LaunchSite	Outcome	Flights	GridFins	Reused	Legs	LandingPad	Block	Reus
4	1	2010-06-04	Falcon 9	6123.547647	LEO	CCSFS SLC 40	None None	1	False	False	False	None	1.0	
5	2	2012-05-22	Falcon 9	525.000000	LEO	CCSFS SLC 40	None None	1	False	False	False	None	1.0	
6	3	2013-03-01	Falcon 9	677.000000	ISS	CCSFS SLC 40	None None	1	False	False	False	None	1.0	
7	4	2013-09-29	Falcon 9	500.000000	PO	VAFB SLC 4E	False Ocean	1	False	False	False	None	1.0	
8	5	2013-12-03	Falcon 9	3170.000000	GTO	CCSFS SLC 40	None None	1	False	False	False	None	1.0	

# Data Collection - Scraping

**USE:** Web Scraping Wiki pages with BeautifulSoup



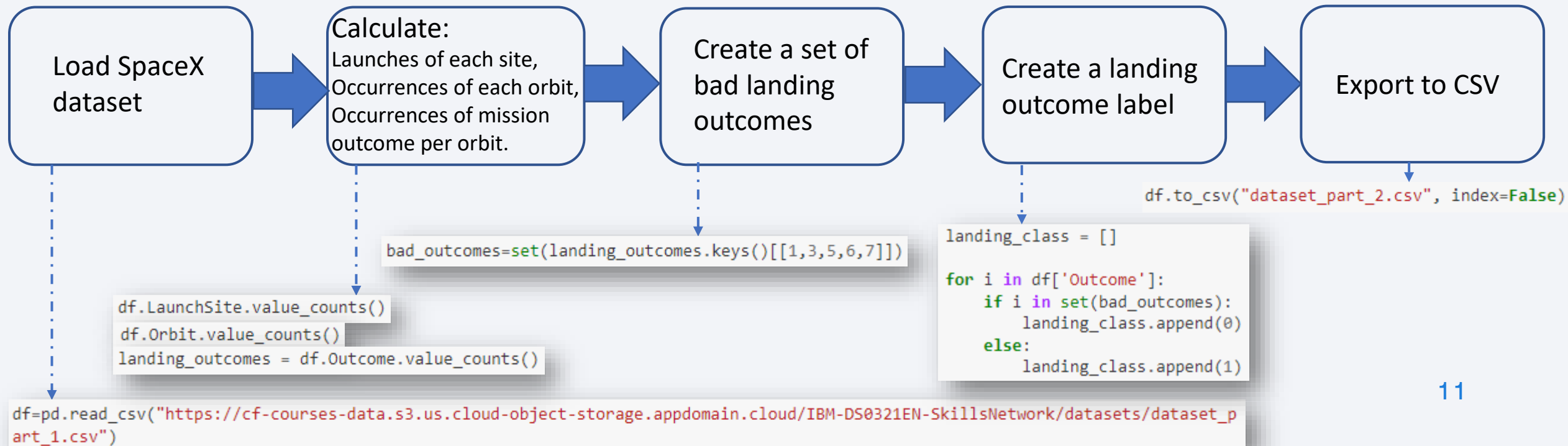
	Flight No.	Launch site	Payload	Payload mass	Orbit	Customer	Launch outcome	Version Booster	Booster landing	Date	Time
0	1	CCAFS	Dragon Spacecraft Qualification Unit	0	LEO	SpaceX	Success\n	F9 v1.0B0003.1	Failure	4 June 2010	18:45
1	2	CCAFS	Dragon	0	LEO	NASA	Success	F9 v1.0B0004.1	Failure	8 December 2010	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

# Data Wrangling

Data wrangling is the process of cleaning and unifying messy and complex data sets for easy access and analysis.

We will perform:

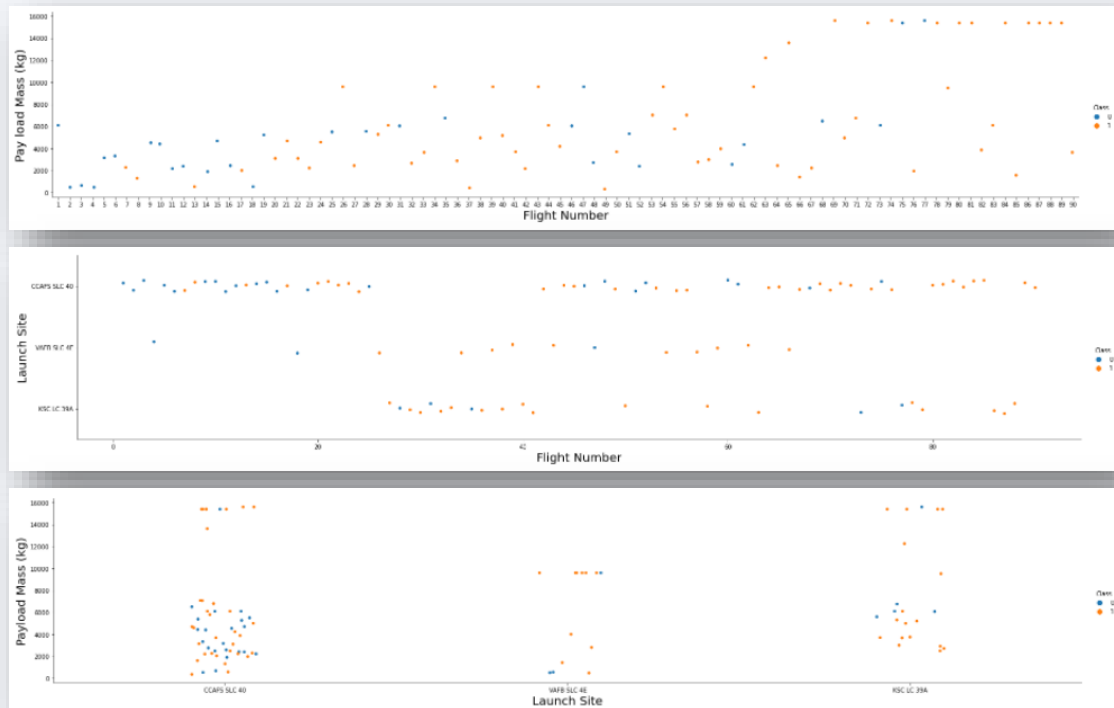
- some Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) to find some patterns in the data and
- determine what would be the label for training supervised models.



# EDA with Data Visualization

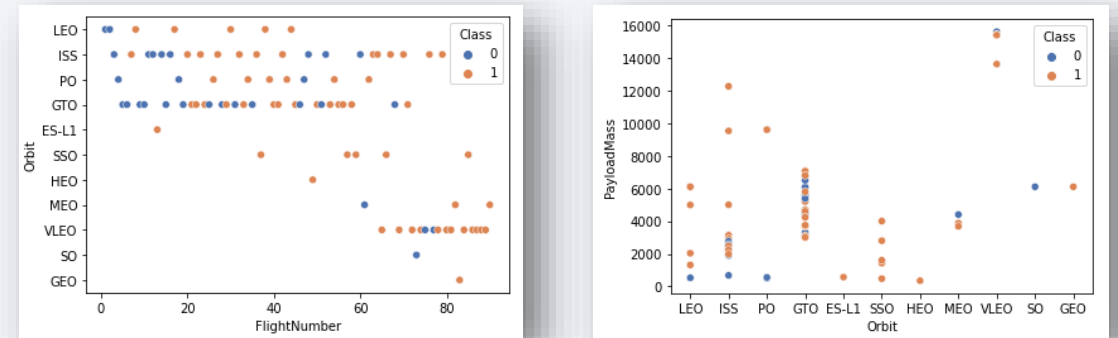
**Catplot:** in order to determine the relationship between:

- Flight Number
- Launch Site
- Payload Mass



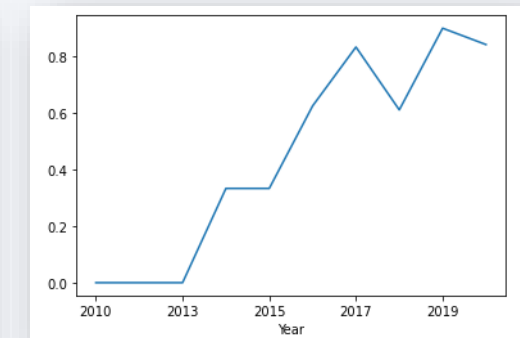
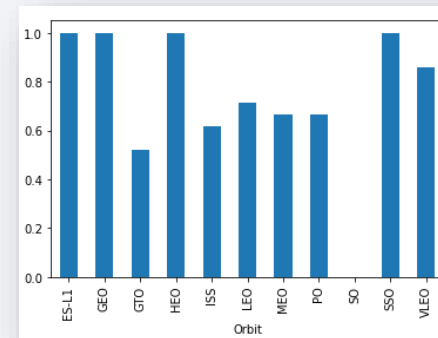
**Scatterplot:** in order to determine the relationship between:

- Flight Number
- Orbit
- Payload Mass



**Bar Chart** for the success rate of each orbit

**Line Chart** for the yearly launch success



# EDA with SQL

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Summary of SQL queries that were used:

- Display the names of the unique launch sites in the space mission,
- Display 5 records where launch sites begin with the string 'CCA',
- Compare the payload mass with boosters launched by NASA (CRS),
- Display average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1,
- Listing the date where the successful landing outcome in drone ship was achieved,
- Listing the names of the boosters which have success in ground pad and have payload mass greater than 4000 but less than 6000,
- List the total number of successful and failure mission outcomes,
- Listing the names of the booster versions which have carried the maximum payload mass,
- Listing the failed landing outcomes in drone ship, their booster version and the launch site names for the year 2015,
- Ranking the count of landing outcomes between the date 2010-06-04 and 2017-03-20, in descending order.



# Build an Interactive Map with Folium

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We will use Folium to build an interactive map and perform interactive visual analytics.

- Firstly we will be focused on analyzing launch site geo and proximities with Folium.
  - We will mark the launch site locations and their close proximities on an interactive map.
  - Then, we can explore the map with those markers and try to discover any patterns from them.
- Finally, we should be able to explain **how to choose an optimal launch site**.

Map object/function	Reason
<code>folium.Marker()</code>	To create launch sites locations with coordinates
<code>folium.Circle()</code>	To add a highlighted circle area
<code>folium.Polyline()</code>	To draw a line between two points
<code>MousePosition()</code>	To get coordinate for a mouse over a point on the map
<code>MarkerCluster()</code>	To simplify a map containing many markers having the same coordinate
<code>folium.Map()</code>	To define the map
<code>DivIcon()</code>	To create an icon as a text label

# Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

We will use Plotly Dash to build a dashboard to perform interactive visual analytics.

- We will build a dashboard application with the Python Plotly Dash package containing input components such as
  - a dropdown list,
  - a range slider to interact with a pie chart,
  - a pie chart and a scatter point chart.
- After the dashboard is built, we can use it to find more insights from the SpaceX dataset more easily than with static graphs.

Object/Function	Reason
<code>dcc.Dropdown()</code>	Create a dropdown menu for launch sites
<code>dcc.RangeSlider()</code>	Create a range slider for payload mass
<code>px.pie()</code>	Create a pie chart for success percentage
<code>px.scatter()</code>	Create a scatter chart for correlation

# Predictive Analysis (Classification)





The background of the slide is an abstract composition. It features a dark blue base color. Overlaid on this are numerous diagonal streaks in shades of red and cyan. A faint, light blue grid pattern is also visible, particularly in the lower half of the image. The overall effect is dynamic and technological.

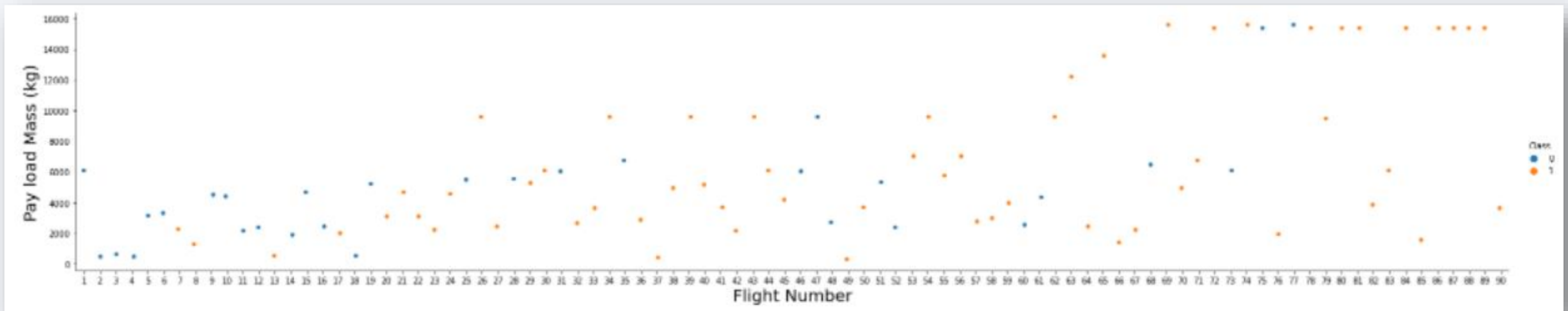
Section 2

# Insights drawn from EDA



# Flight Number vs. Payload Mass

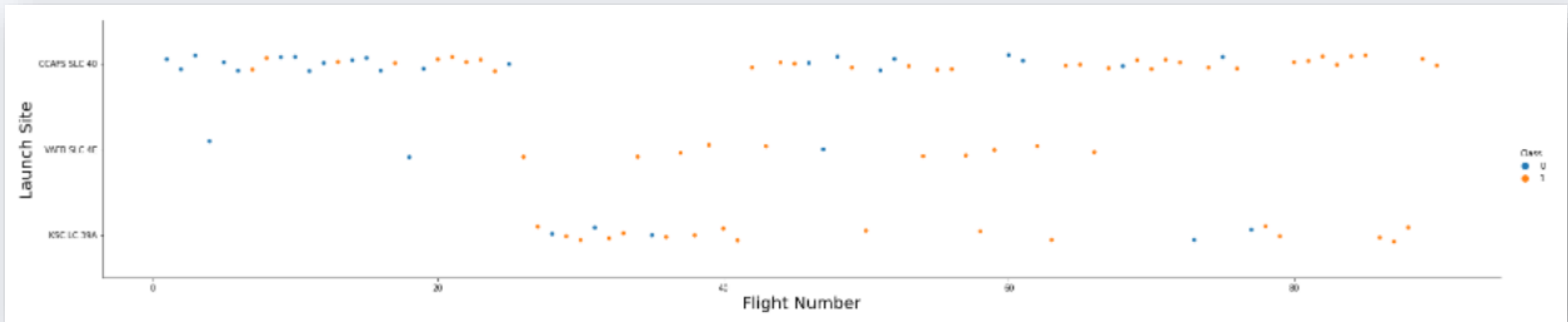
- The higher the flight number, the higher the success landing rate
- The higher the flight number, the greater the size of the payload attempting to launch





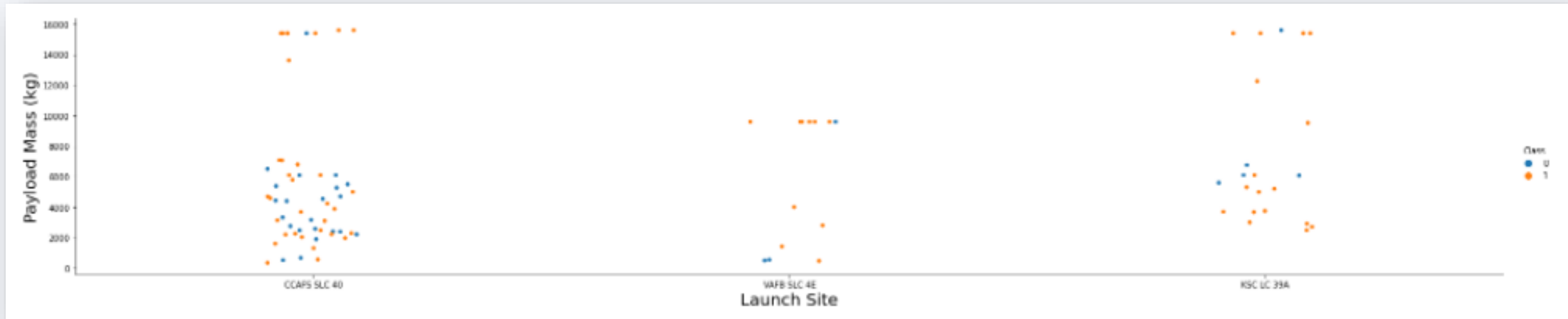
# Flight Number vs. Launch Site

- The most launch attempts have been made from CCAFS,
- The CCAFS has also the highest number of successful landings
- But the most successful sites are KSC and VAFB with a 77% success rate but with fewer attempts



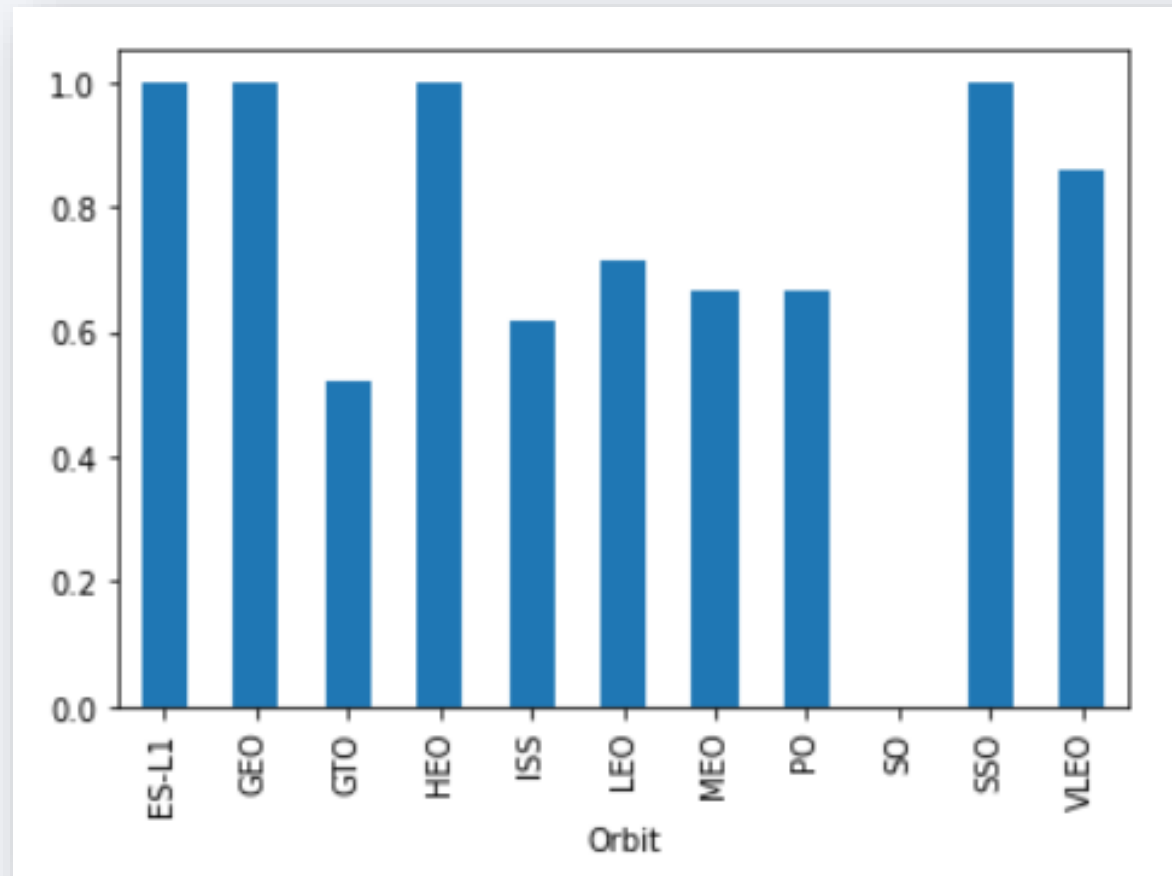
# Payload vs. Launch Site

- The maximum payload attempts were performed from CCAFS and KSC, over 15000kg,
- From VAFB the payload does not exceed the 10000 kg,
- The VAFB launch site has also the fewer failed landings.



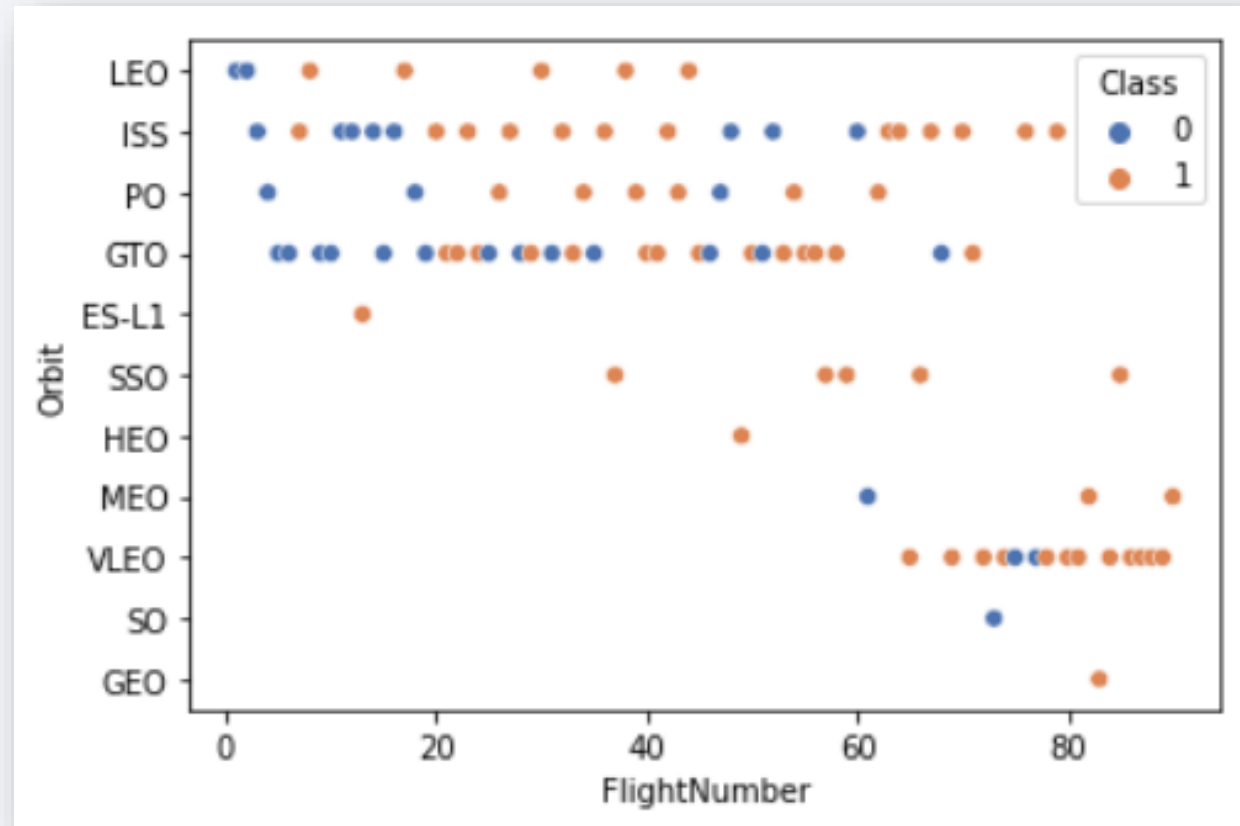
# Success Rate vs. Orbit Type

- The orbits with the higher success rate: SSO, ES-L1, HEO, GEO



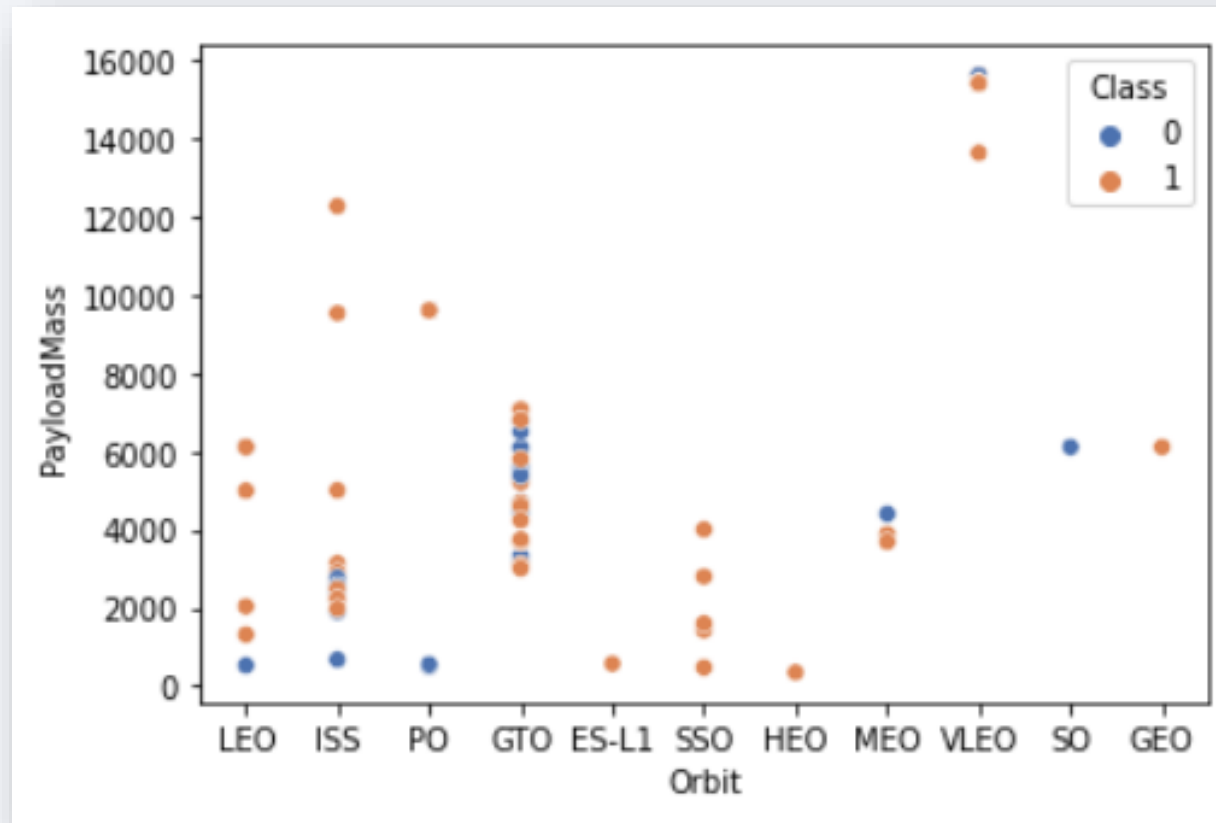
# Flight Number vs. Orbit Type

- The orbits with higher attempts are: ISS, GTO, VLEO
- The higher the flight number, the more different orbits are attempted



# Payload vs. Orbit Type

- The orbits with the highest Payload Mass are : ISS, PO, VLEO

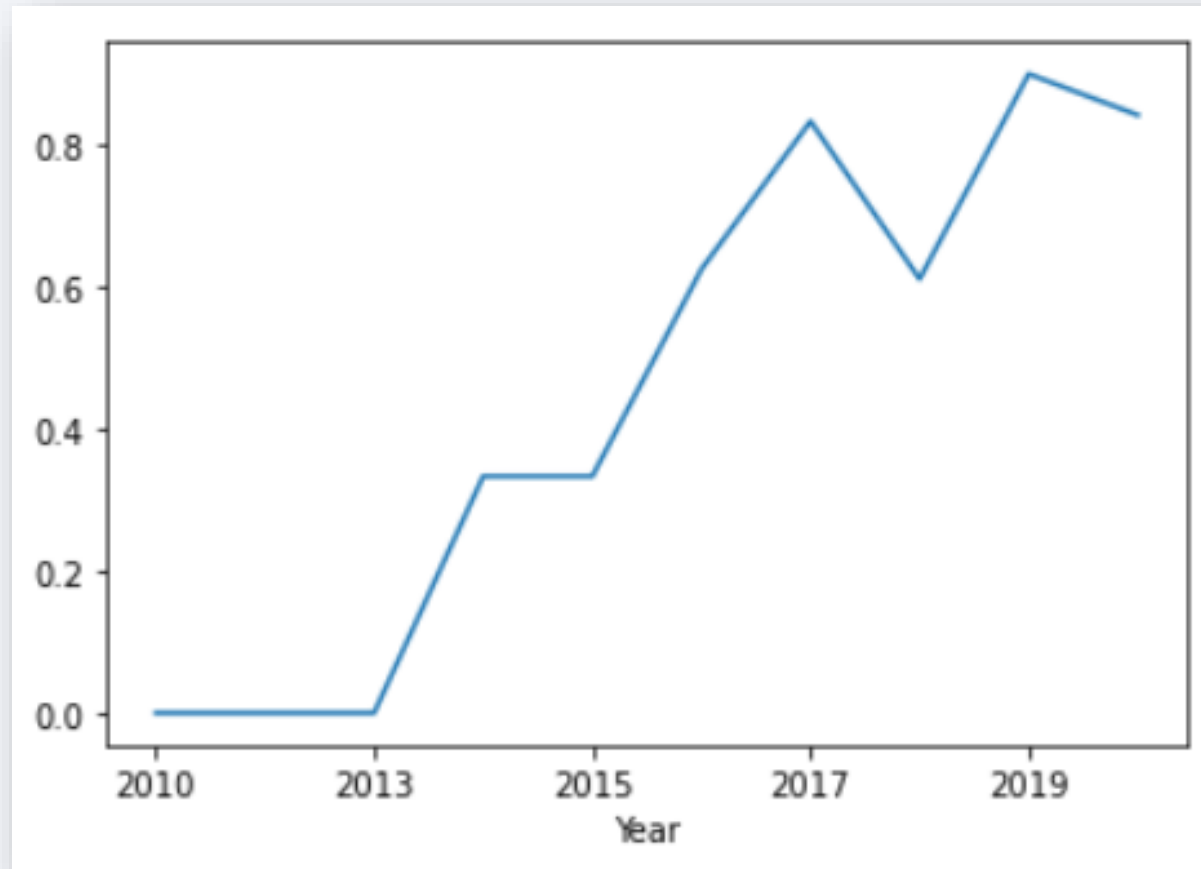




# Launch Success Yearly Trend

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- We can observe that the success rate since 2013 kept increasing till 2020



# All Launch Site Names

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- SQL Query : *Display the names of the unique launch sites in the space mission*

```
%%sql  
SELECT distinct launch_site FROM SPACEXTBL;
```

launch_site
CCAFS LC-40
CCAFS SLC-40
KSC LC-39A
VAFB SLC-4E

# Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

- SQL Query : *Display 5 records where launch sites begin with the string 'CCA'*

```
%%sql
```

```
SELECT * FROM SPACEXTBL WHERE launch_site LIKE 'CCA%' LIMIT 5;
```

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

# Total Payload Mass

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- SQL Query : *Display the total payload mass carried by boosters launched by NASA (CRS)*

```
%%sql
```

```
SELECT SUM (payload_mass__kg_) FROM SPACEXTBL WHERE customer LIKE ('NASA (CRS)')
```

1

45596

# Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

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- SQL Query : *Display average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1*

```
%%sql
```

```
SELECT AVG(payload_mass__kg_) FROM SPACEXTBL WHERE booster_version LIKE ('F9 v1.1%')
```

1

2534



# First Successful Ground Landing Date

---

- SQL Query : *List the date when the first successful landing outcome in ground pad was acheived*

```
%%sql
```

```
SELECT MIN(Date) FROM SPACEXTBL WHERE landing__outcome LIKE ('Success (ground pad)')
```

1

2015-12-22

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

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- SQL Query : *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 distinct booster_version  
FROM SPACEXTBL  
WHERE landing__outcome LIKE ('Success (drone ship)') AND payload_mass__kg_ > 4000 AND payload_mass__kg_ < 6000;
```

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

# Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes

---

- SQL Query : *List the total number of successful and failure mission outcomes*

%%sql

```
SELECT mission_outcome, COUNT(mission_outcome) FROM SPACEXTBL GROUP BY (mission_outcome)
```

mission_outcome	2
Failure (in flight)	1
Success	99
Success (payload status unclear)	1

# Boosters Carried Maximum Payload

- SQL Query : *List the names of the booster\_versions which have carried the maximum payload mass*

%%sql

```
SELECT booster_version, payload_mass__kg_ FROM SPACEXTBL WHERE payload_mass__kg_ = (SELECT MAX(payload_mass__kg_) FROM SPACEXTBL)
```

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
F9 B5 B1051.6	15600
F9 B5 B1060.3	15600
F9 B5 B1049.7	15600

# 2015 Launch Records

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- SQL Query : *List the failed landing\_outcomes in drone ship, their booster versions, and launch site names for in year 2015*

```
%%sql
SELECT landing__outcome, booster_version, launch_site, date FROM SPACEXTBL WHERE landing__outcome LIKE ('Failure (drone ship)')
AND year(Date) = 2015;
```

landing__outcome	booster_version	launch_site	DATE
Failure (drone ship)	F9 v1.1 B1012	CCAFS LC-40	2015-01-10
Failure (drone ship)	F9 v1.1 B1015	CCAFS LC-40	2015-04-14

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

- SQL Query : *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, COUNT(landing__outcome)
FROM SPACEXTBL WHERE date BETWEEN '2010-06-04' AND '2017-03-20'
GROUP BY (landing__outcome) ORDER BY COUNT(landing__outcome) DESC
```

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

A satellite view of Earth from space, showing the curvature of the planet and city lights at night. The image is a composite of a dark blue sky and a view of the Earth's surface, which is covered in a dense network of city lights and clouds. The lights are concentrated in the lower right portion of the image, while the upper left portion shows a clear blue sky.

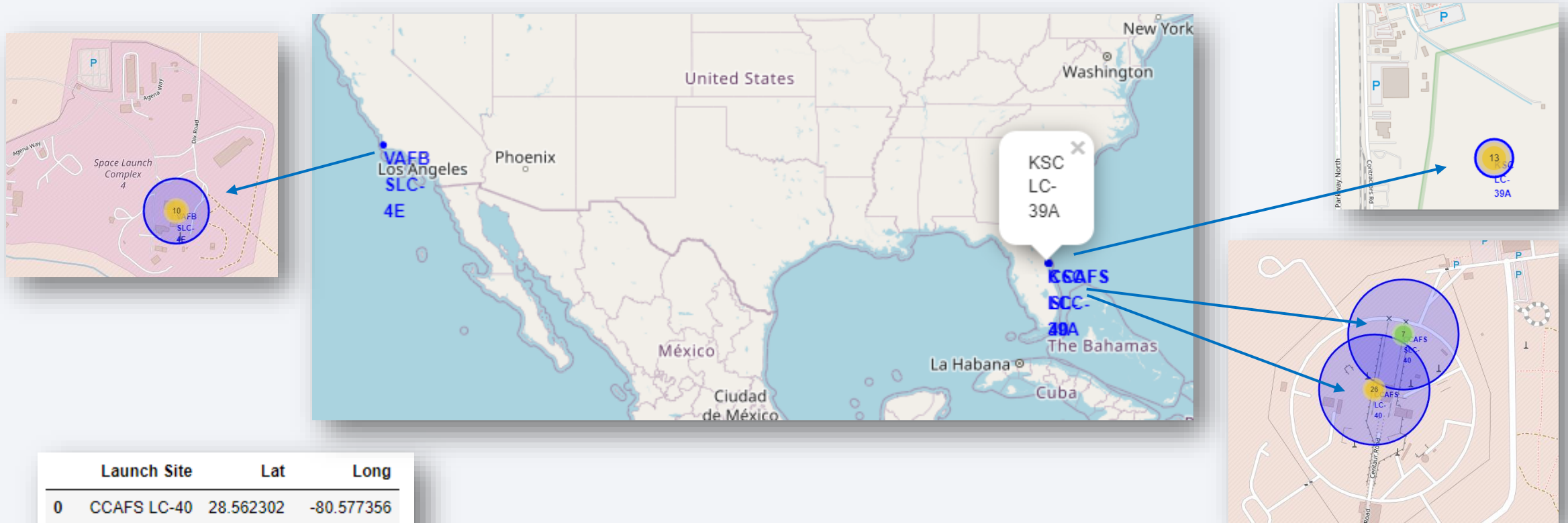
Section 3

# Launch Sites Proximities Analysis



# All Launch Sites with Folium Map

- We can observe that the most launch sites are located at the east coast
- The east sites are 6 degrees closer to equator, which means higher velocity and lower pressure



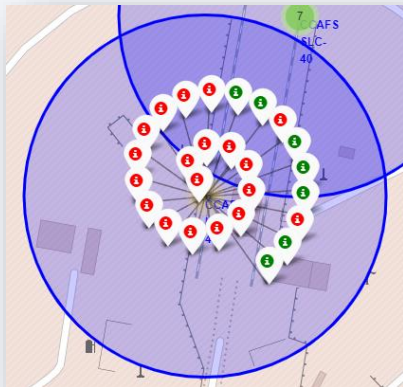
	Launch Site	Lat	Long
0	CCAFS LC-40	28.562302	-80.577356
1	CCAFS SLC-40	28.563197	-80.576820
2	KSC LC-39A	28.573255	-80.646895
3	VAFB SLC-4E	34.632834	-120.610745

# All Launch Site Records Color Labeled

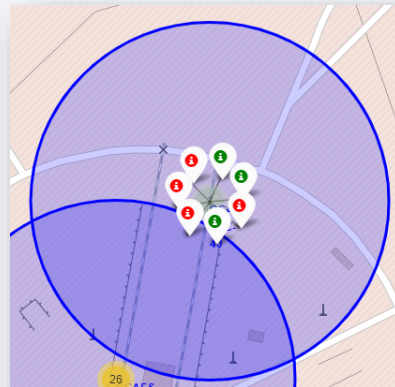
- The most successful launch site is the KSC LC-39A
- Green label : Successful launches
- Red label : Failed launches



**CCAFS LC-40**



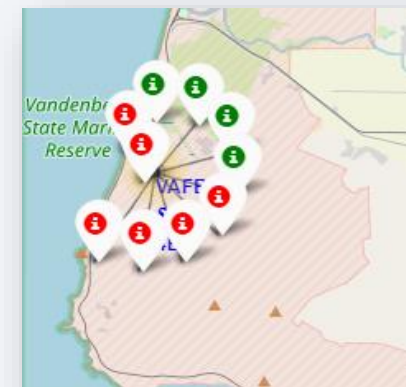
**CCAFS SLC-40**



**KSC LC-39A**



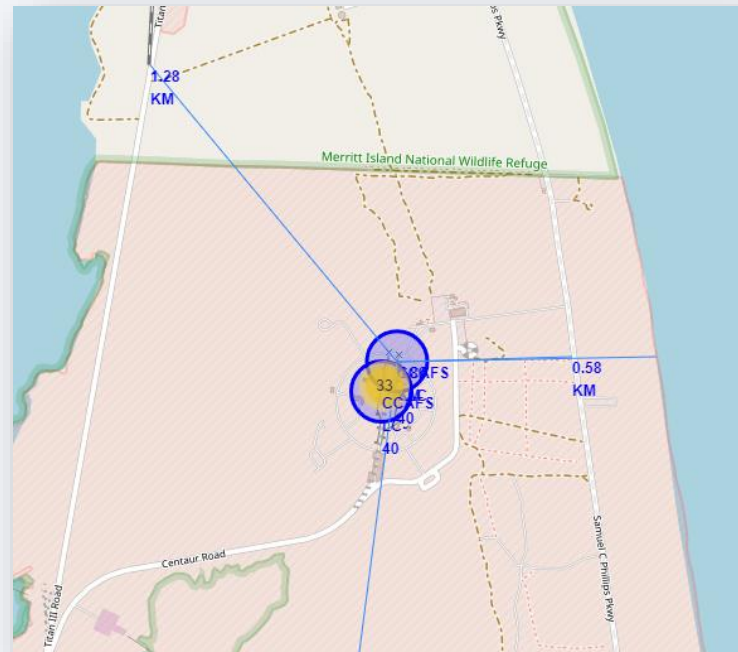
**VAFB SLC-4E**



# All significant points distances from launch sites

- We observe that:
  - Launch Sites are close to railways and highways, less than 10 km, due to easiest access allowing for better logistics overall.
  - Launch Sites are close to coastlines because the launch attempts are made towards the sea due to safety reasons,
  - And finally the launch sites are far from cities, more than 30 km, for safety reasons also.

```
distance highway to CCAFS SLC 40 = 0.5834695366934144 km
distance highway to CCAFS LC 40 = 0.6461880763256931 km
distance highway to KSC LC 39A = 0.8427976971406239 km
distance highway to VAFB SLC 4E = 5.761773850878405 km
distance railway to CCAFS SLC 40 = 1.2845344718142522 km
distance railway to CCAFS LC 40 = 1.3314378832303038 km
distance railway to KSC LC 39A = 0.840130287647207 km
distance railway to VAFB SLC 4E = 1.2627243006445117 km
distance city to CCAFS SLC 40 = 51.43416999517233 km
distance city to CCAFS LC 40 = 51.32864612692812 km
distance city to KSC LC 39A = 52.11418862316215 km
distance city to VAFB SLC 4E = 38.5014605150241 km
```





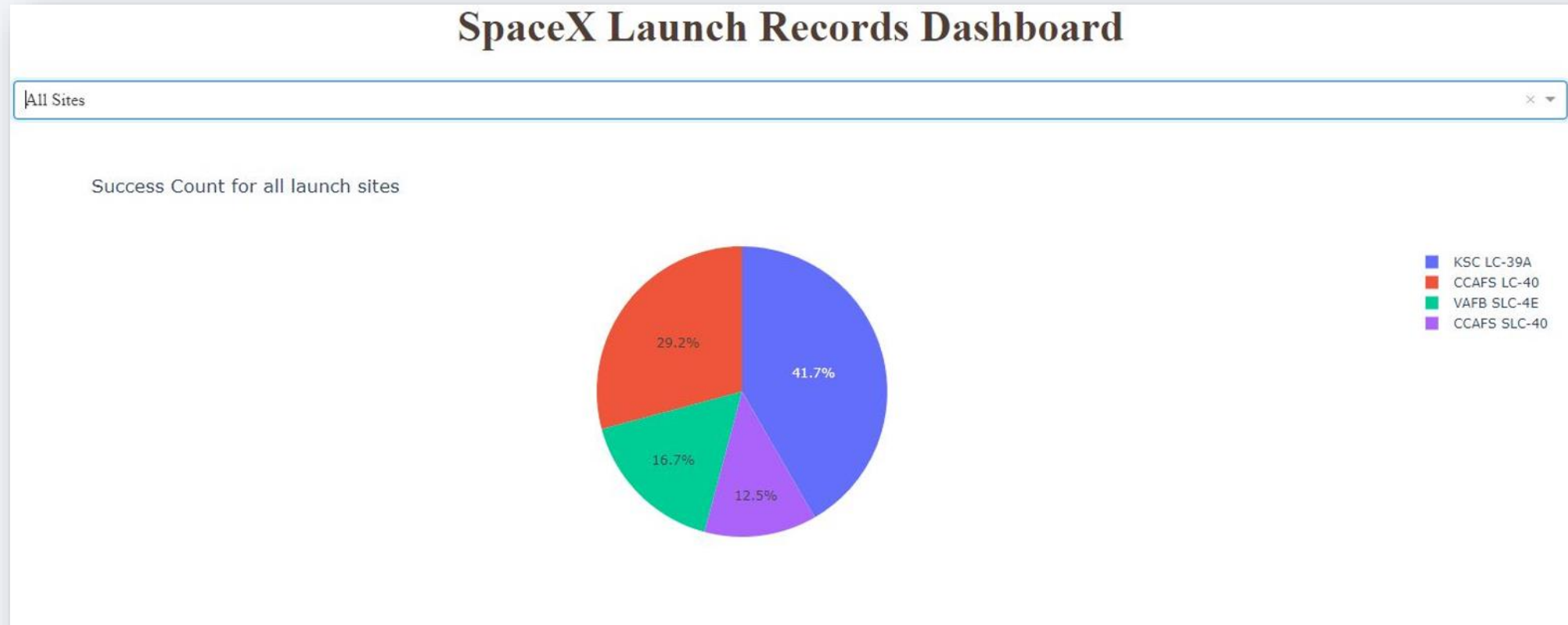


Section 4

# Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

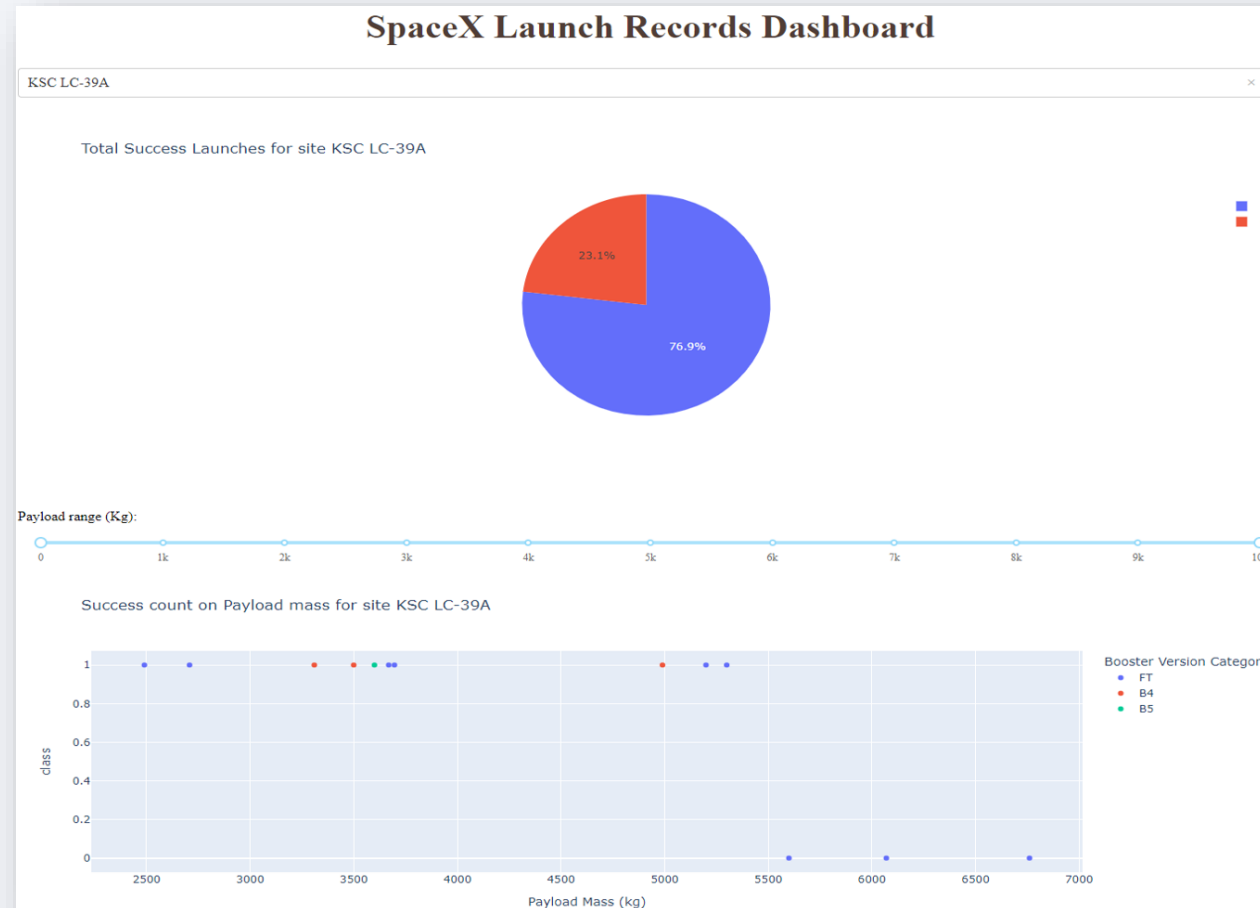
# Launch Success count for all sites

- Dashboard showing the success rate for all launch sites, KSC has the highest → **41.7%**



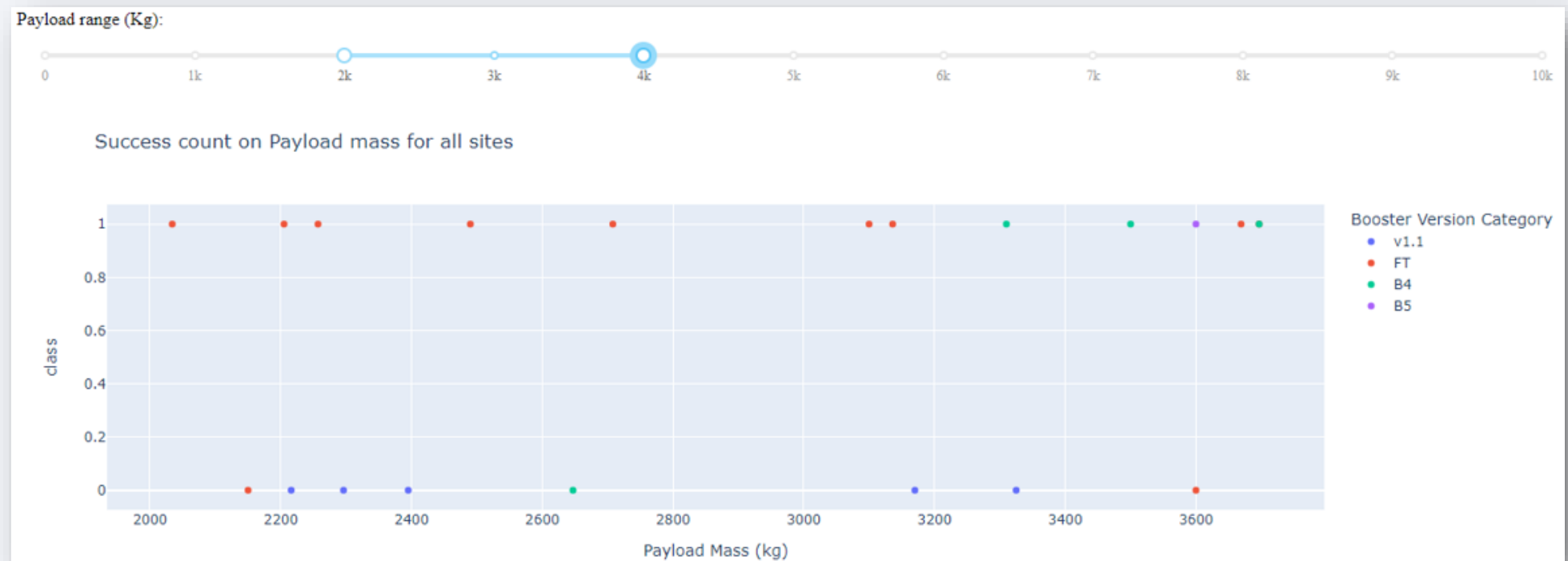
# Launch site with highest launch success ratio

- The KSC launch site has also the most successful attempts with payload mass between 2500 and 5500 kg.



# Payload vs Launch Outcome scatter plot

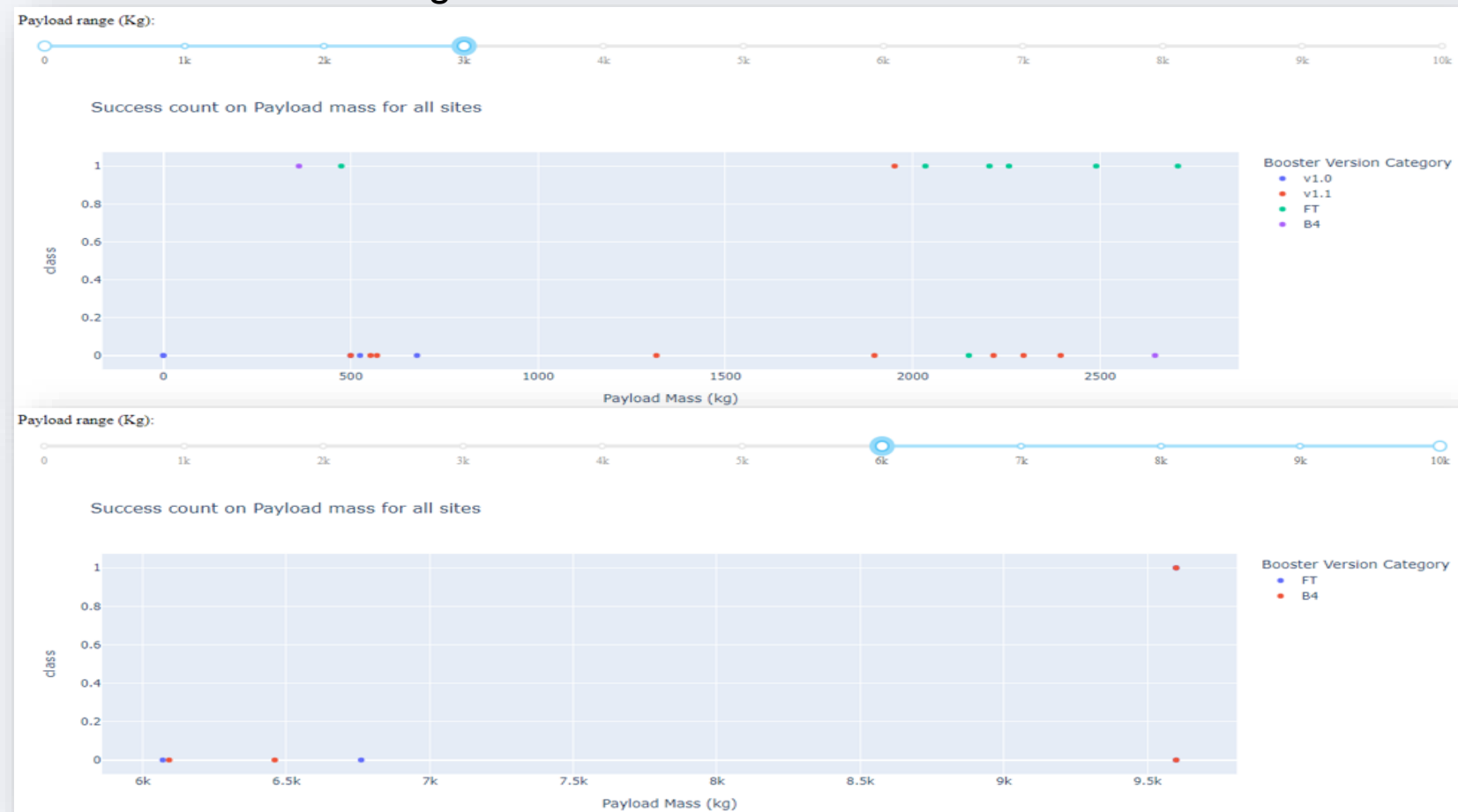
- The payload range which has the highest launch success rate is between 2000 and 4000 kg





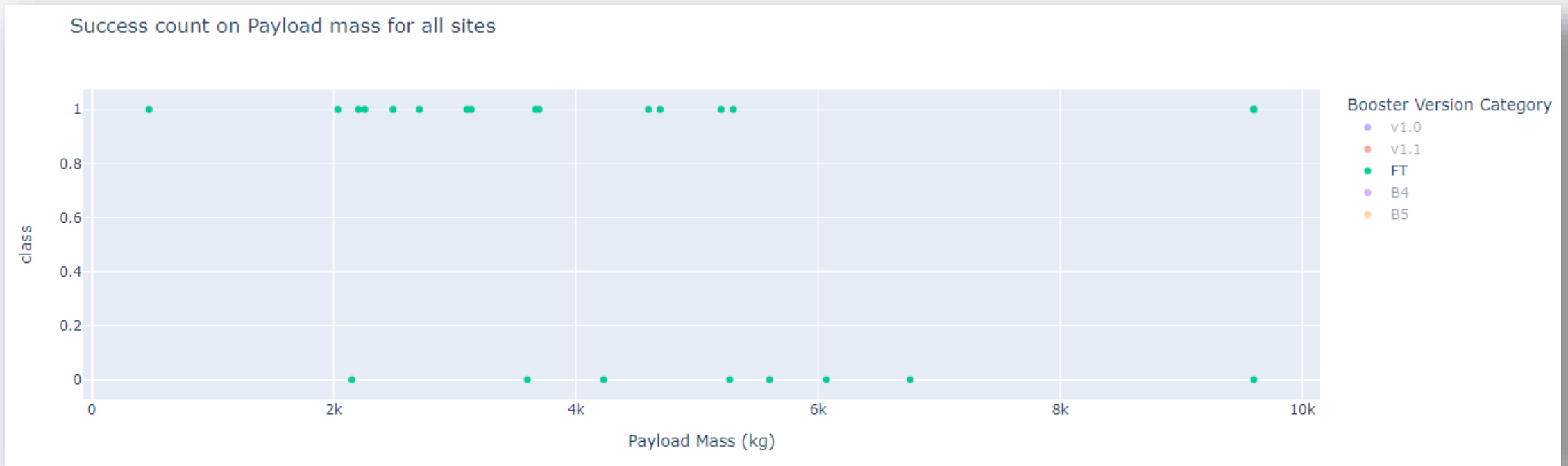
# Payload vs Launch Outcome scatter plot

- The payload ranges which have the lowest launch success rate are:
  - between 0 and 3000 kg and
  - between 6000 and 10000 kg



# Booster with highest success

- **FT**, Falcon 9 booster with the highest success rate.

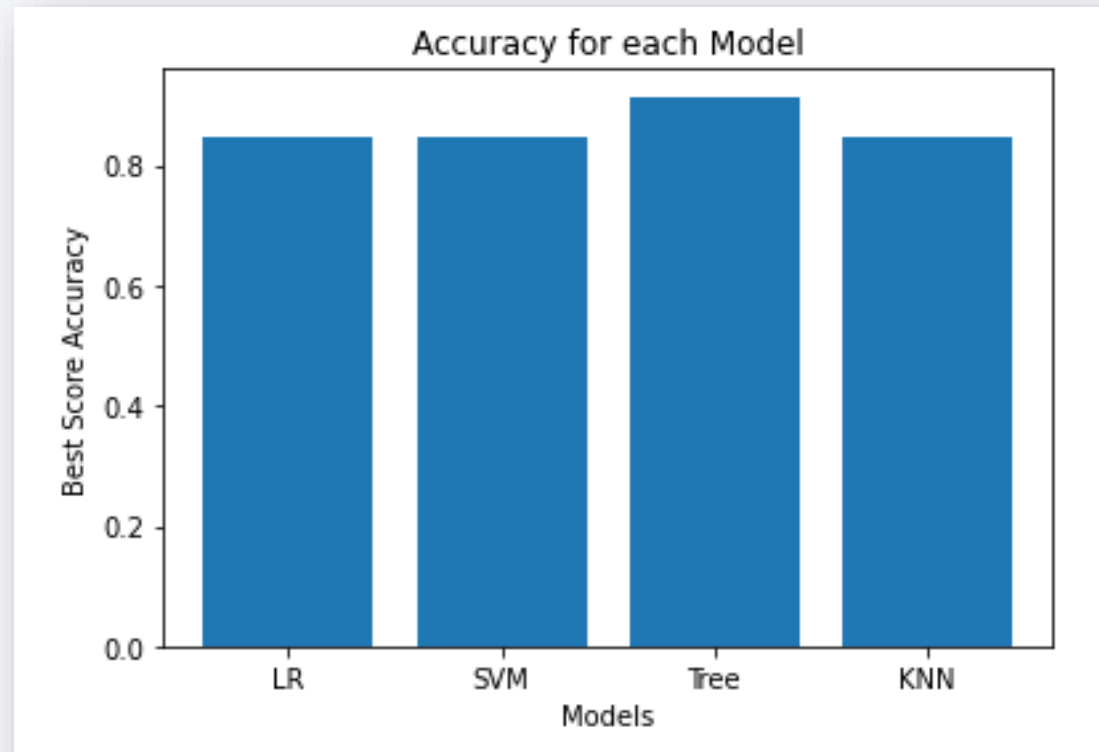


Section 5

# Predictive Analysis (Classification)

# Classification Accuracy

- The model with highest accuracy is Decision Tree with 91.4%

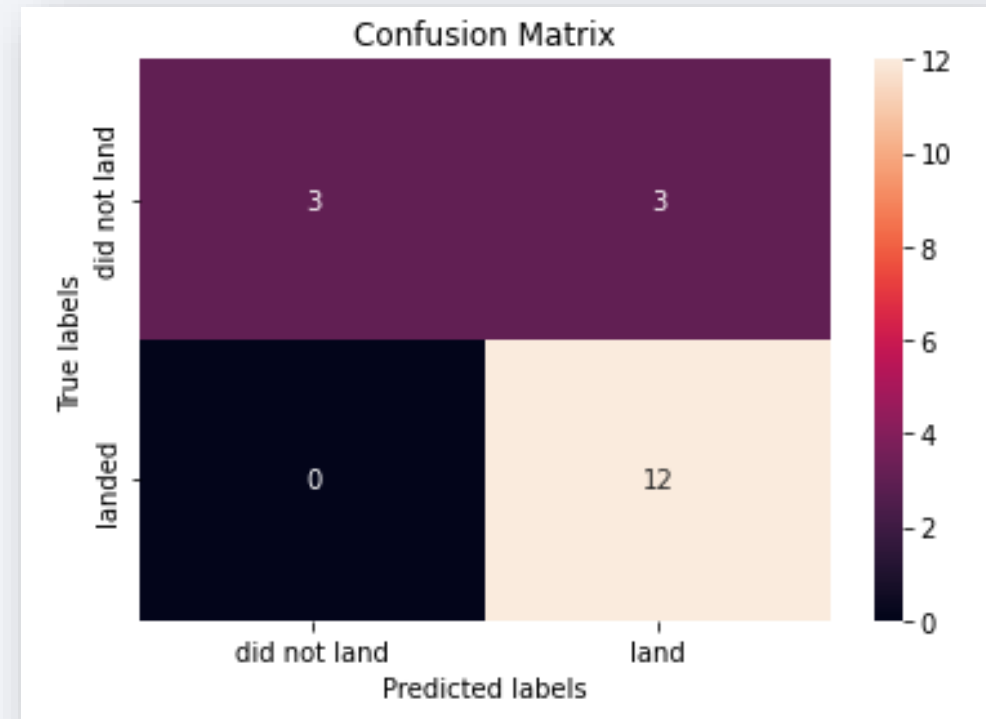


Accuracy for Logistics Regression (LR): 0.8464285714285713  
Accuracy for Support Vector Machine (SVM): 0.8482142857142856  
Accuracy for Decision Tree (DT): 0.9142857142857144  
Accuracy for K nearest neighbors (KNN): 0.8482142857142858

# Confusion Matrix

- All models tested have the same confusion matrix,
- From total 18 samples from our test set, 12 landed successfully and 6 failed to land.
- Our prediction model predicted:
  - All the 12 successful landings
  - The 3 failed landings, and
  - Missed the other 3 fails.
- Accuracy: 83.3%,
  - $(TP + TN) / \text{Total Samples} = (12 + 3) / 18 = 0.83333$

	Predicted: NO	Predicted: YES	
Actual: NO	True Negative TN = 3	False Positive FP = 3	6
Actual: YES	False Negative FN = 0	True Positive TP = 12	12
	3	15	= 18



# Conclusions

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1. Most successful site: **Kennedy Space Center Launch Complex 39A (KSC LC-39A)**
2. Most successful booster: **Falcon 9 Full Thrust (FT)**
  - i. Landed on **drone ship**, with a medium payload between **4000kg** and **6000kg**,
  - ii. With the highest success launch rate
3. Most successful landing pad: **Drone Ship Landing Pad**
4. Most accurate prediction model: **Decision Tree Classifier**

**KSC LC-39A**



**Falcon9 FT**



**Drone Ship Landing Pad**



# Conclusions – In Details

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- We should keep the cost low by consuming less fuel and ensuring a safe landing,
  - i. By choosing the east sites, where the sea is located to the east and the rotation of the earth is also eastward, we gain an extra boost in velocity and maintain the safety of the inhabitants.
  - ii. Also, the east sites are 6 degrees closer to the equator where the earth's velocity is higher, so we have lower fuel consumption.
  - iii. The most launch attempts and the most successful landings were took place at the eastern launch sites.
  - iv. The most successful landings took place on drone ships.
  - v. The most successful launch site is the Kennedy Space Center Launch Complex 39A (KSC LC 39A) - **41.7%** between all sites,
  - vi. KSC LC-39A, also, has the most successful launches - **76.9%** from total launches that made from this site,
- The most successful boosters and payloads,
  - i. The heaviest payloads were launched from the eastern launch sites.
  - ii. The most newer the booster version the higher the landing success, due to success rate is related to the year.
  - iii. The payload range with highest success is between **2000kg** and **4000kg**,
  - iv. The booster with the highest success launch rate is the **F9 FT**,
  - v. The most successful boosters landed on drone ship, with a medium payload between **4000kg** and **6000kg**, are:
    - **F9 FT B1021.2**
    - **F9 FT B1031.2**
    - **F9 FT B1022**
    - **F9 FT B1026**
- And a prediction model of **91.4%** accuracy, Decision Tree Classifier.



# Appendix

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## Lab1: Collecting Data

[https://github.com/ibogdanis/testrepo/blob/6637bcbd9e2faf51d754cdd2d825378c9d8efe90/Final\\_Assignment.ipynb](https://github.com/ibogdanis/testrepo/blob/6637bcbd9e2faf51d754cdd2d825378c9d8efe90/Final_Assignment.ipynb)

## Lab2 : Web Scraping

[https://github.com/ibogdanis/testrepo/blob/6637bcbd9e2faf51d754cdd2d825378c9d8efe90/Final\\_Assignment\\_v2.ipynb](https://github.com/ibogdanis/testrepo/blob/6637bcbd9e2faf51d754cdd2d825378c9d8efe90/Final_Assignment_v2.ipynb)

## Lab3 : Data Wrangling

[https://github.com/ibogdanis/testrepo/blob/6637bcbd9e2faf51d754cdd2d825378c9d8efe90/Final\\_Assignment\\_v3.ipynb](https://github.com/ibogdanis/testrepo/blob/6637bcbd9e2faf51d754cdd2d825378c9d8efe90/Final_Assignment_v3.ipynb)

## Lab4 : EDA with SQL

[https://github.com/ibogdanis/testrepo/blob/6637bcbd9e2faf51d754cdd2d825378c9d8efe90/Final\\_Assignment\\_Complete%20the%20EDA%20with%20SQL%20lab.ipynb](https://github.com/ibogdanis/testrepo/blob/6637bcbd9e2faf51d754cdd2d825378c9d8efe90/Final_Assignment_Complete%20the%20EDA%20with%20SQL%20lab.ipynb)

## Lab5 : EDA with Visualization

<https://github.com/ibogdanis/testrepo/blob/6637bcbd9e2faf51d754cdd2d825378c9d8efe90/Complete%20the%20EDA%20with%20Visualization%20lab.ipynb>

## Lab6 : Location Analysis with Folium

<https://github.com/ibogdanis/testrepo/blob/6637bcbd9e2faf51d754cdd2d825378c9d8efe90/Interactive%20Visual%20Analytics%20with%20Folium%20lab.ipynb>

## Lab7 : Machine Learning Prediction

<https://github.com/ibogdanis/testrepo/blob/6637bcbd9e2faf51d754cdd2d825378c9d8efe90/Machine%20Learning%20Prediction%20lab.ipynb>

## Dashboard code

[https://github.com/ibogdanis/testrepo/blob/6637bcbd9e2faf51d754cdd2d825378c9d8efe90/dash\\_interactivity.py](https://github.com/ibogdanis/testrepo/blob/6637bcbd9e2faf51d754cdd2d825378c9d8efe90/dash_interactivity.py)

Thank you!

