



# Winning Space Race with Data Science

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# Outline

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



# Executive Summary

## CRISP Methodology:

1. Determine cost of each launch & whether SpaceX will reuse their first stage.
2. Collect SpaceX data via Wikipedia, Spacex.com
3. Format Data
4. Analyze for insights
5. Predict whether first stage will be reused.

## Summary of all results:

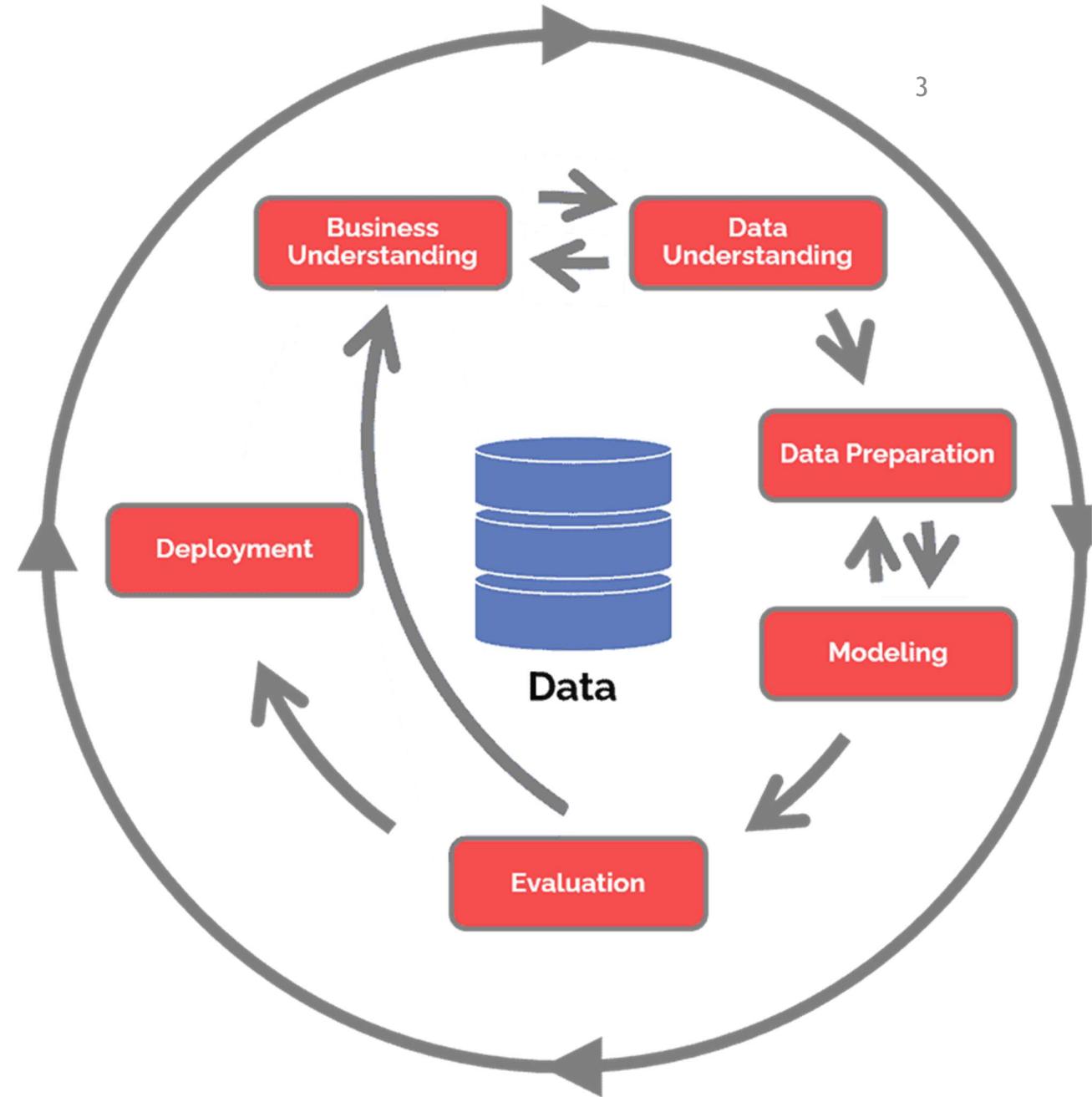
- Cost of launch decreases every reuse.

- SpaceX will reuse their first stage; perhaps, striving to reuse each stage.
- Over 96% of Successful Landings utilized

## CRISM-DM Diagram: Nick Hotz

Grid-Fins & Legs.

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# Introduction

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- Goal:
  - Company Space Y plans to compete in the Race to Space, our goal is to **minimize** the **Cost of Each Launch**
- Problems to Answer:
  - Why do SpaceX competitors spend \$165 Million per Launch, relative to SpaceX's \$62 million cost per Launch?
  - What variables contribute to a higher Success Rate of Landing, and why?





A large glass wall is covered in a dense grid of colorful sticky notes. The notes are organized into several vertical columns, with some columns being significantly taller than others. The colors of the notes include shades of blue, green, yellow, red, and white. Some notes have small black dots or lines on them, possibly indicating specific data points or connections. The overall pattern resembles a complex flowchart or a mind map, with clusters of notes connected by lines. The glass wall reflects the surrounding environment, showing some trees and a building in the background.

Section 1

# Methodology



# Methodology

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## Executive Summary

- Data collection methodology:
  - SpaceX data was collected via Wikipedia & SpaceX website; data was collected with tools such as, Python and web-scraping HTML.
- Perform data wrangling
  - Collected data started off unstructured; we organized, cleaned, and visualized the collected data to find data-driven insights that lead to business-decisions.
- Perform exploratory data analysis (EDA) using visualization and SQL
- Perform interactive visual analytics using Folium and Plotly Dash
- Perform predictive analysis using classification models

- We build classification models using different variables and use evaluation methods to validate the out-of-sample accuracy of each Data Model.

# Data Collection

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## Proof of work:

- Data collection from  
SpaceX website

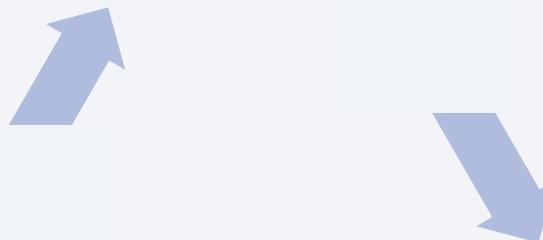
[Link](#)

Ask Wiki and SpaceX servers for data  
through Python API's

1.

- Data Collection  
from Wikipedia

[Link](#)



3.

7

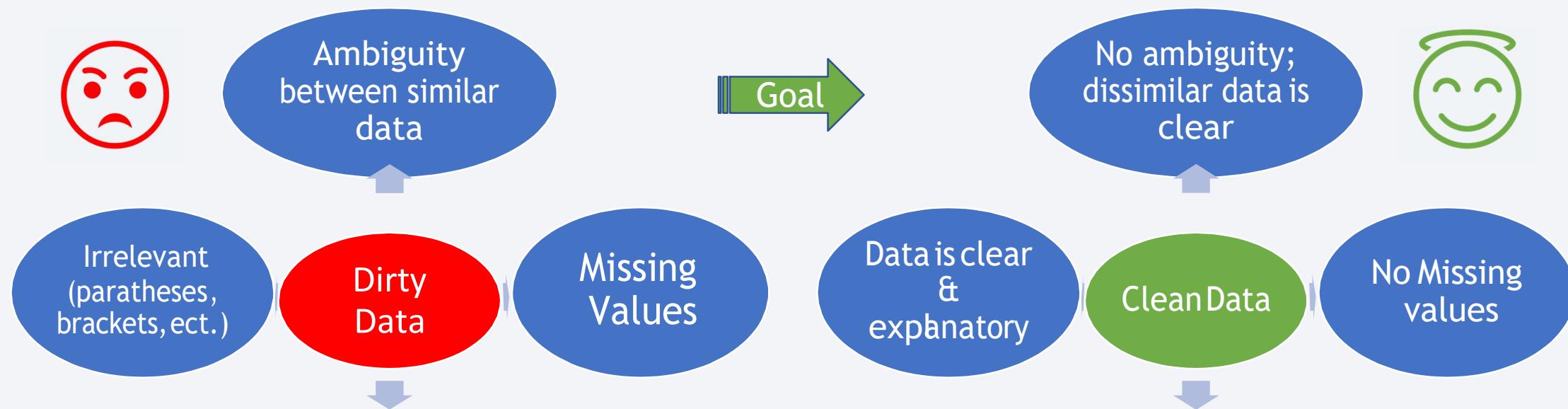
Store relevant data  
to SQL database

2.

Collect Data, ensure  
its relevance, move  
on to next year

# Data Wrangling

- Proof of Work:
  - [Data Wrangling Notebook](#)



Unstructured  
Labels

Clear & Concise  
Labels

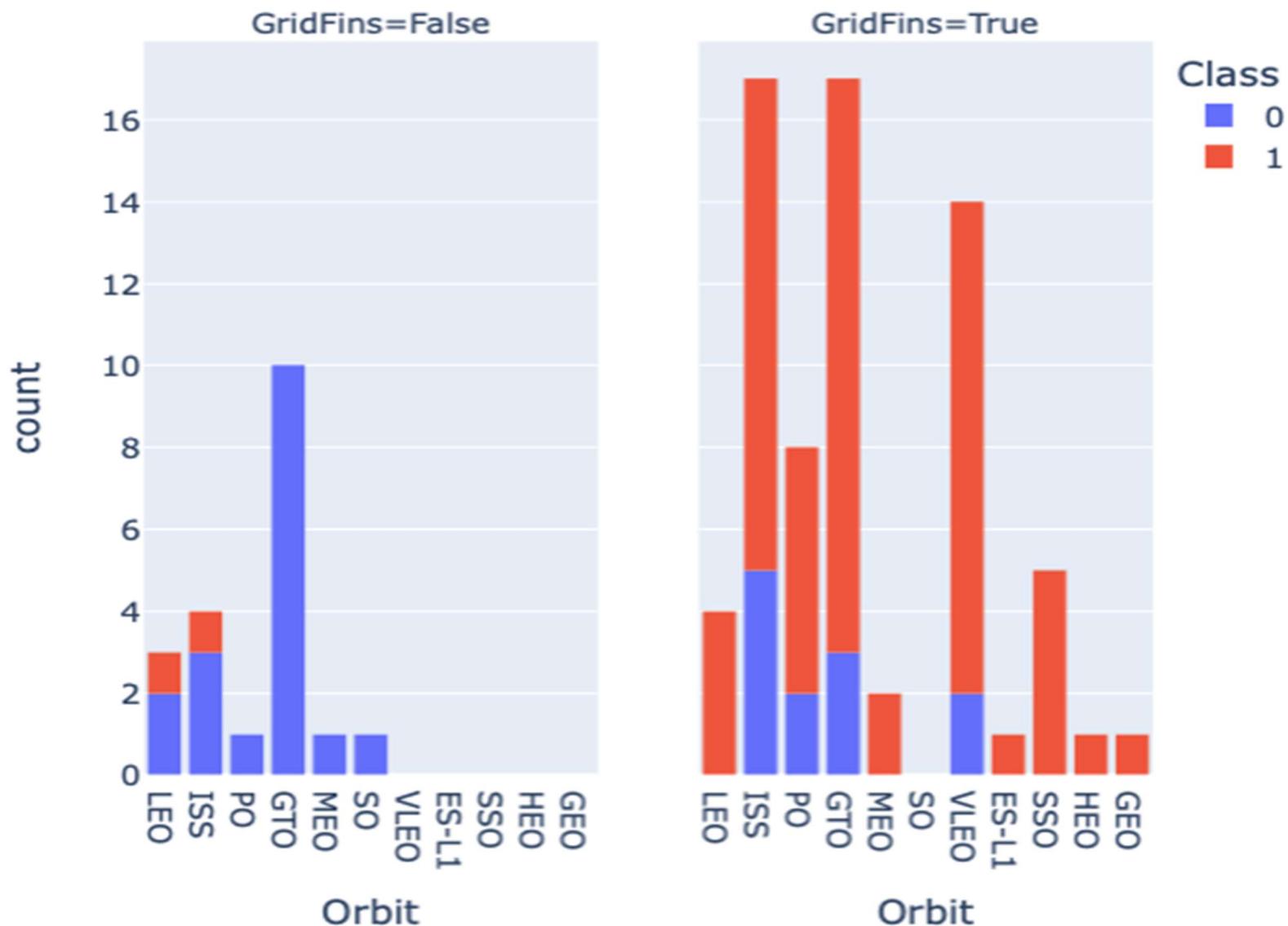
# EDA with Data Visualization (1)

- Goal: DECREASE COST OF LAUNCH

- Probability of a **successful landing increases** when utilizing **GridFins**, allowing for diverse Orbital Missions.

- A successful landing decreases cost per launch, due to decreased **CAP EX**, i.e. **First Stage Booster cost**

- Proof of EDA



# Relationship

## Analysis: Orbit & Success Rate vs Grid Fins

# EDA with Data Visualization (2)

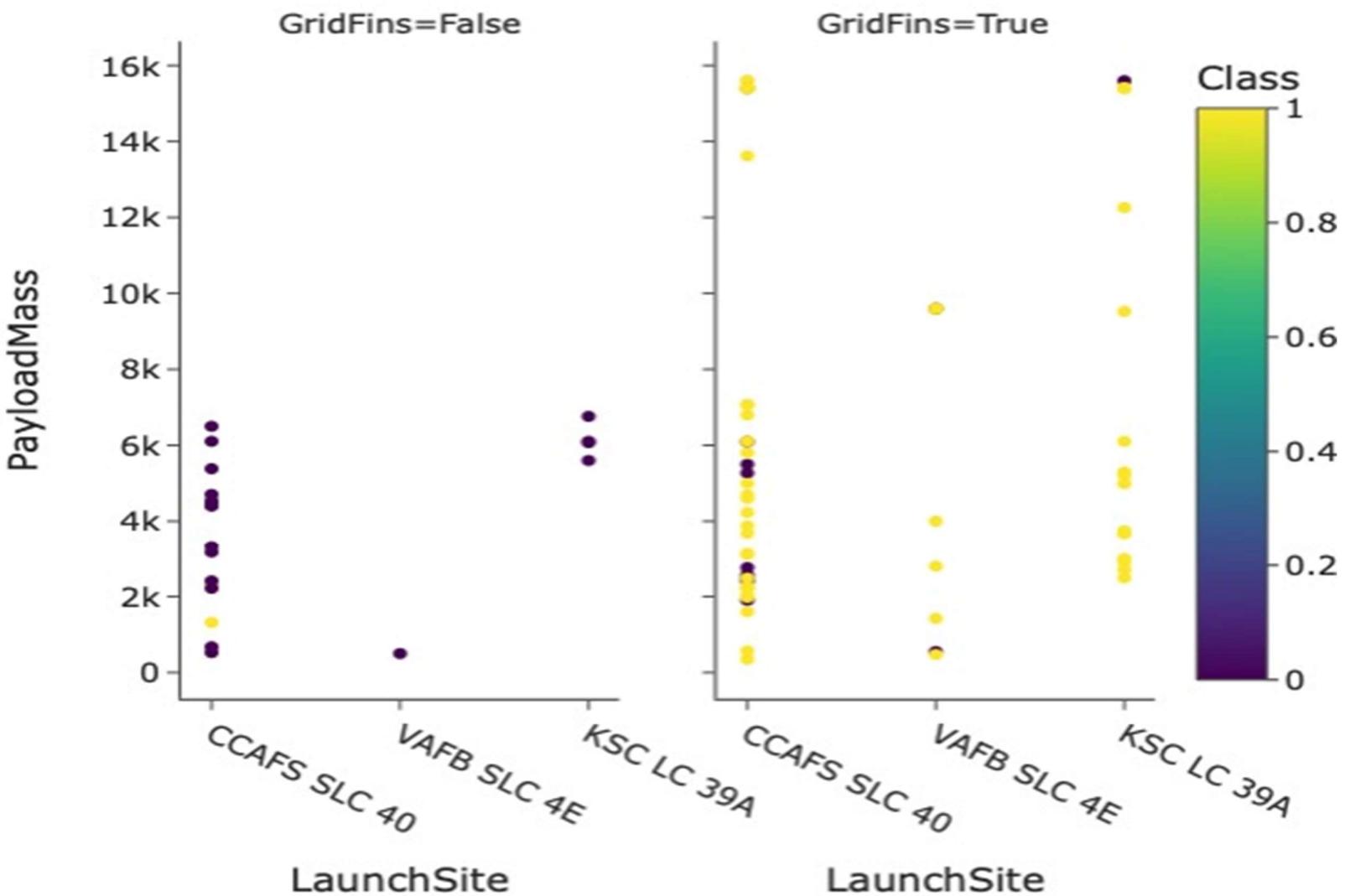
- Goal: Find Optimal Launch Site per Payload Mass
  - Vandenburg has fewer high payload flight attempts over 4,000kg
  - Needs more research before coming to any

conclusions

- [Proof of EDA](#)

# Relationship Analysis

## sis: Payload Mass & Success Rate vs Grid Fins (per Flight)





# EDA with SQL

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- **Historical Data Variance by Date:**
  - From 2010 to December of 2020
- **Minimum Payload Mass:**
  - 362 (kg)
- **Total payload mass by Booster Version:**
  - 619,967 (kg)



# Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

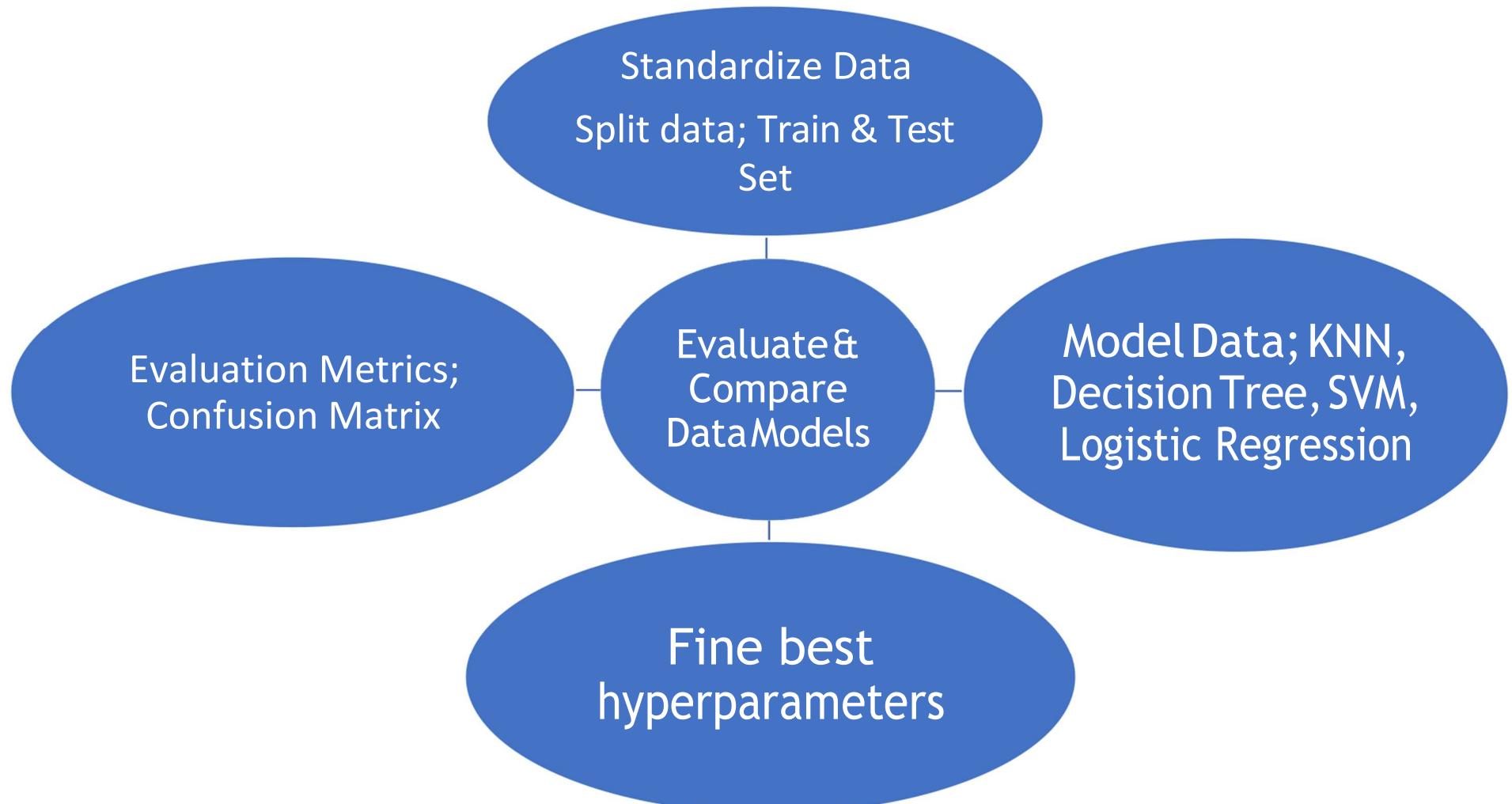
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- **Pie charts statistics to showcase the success rate of each launch landing**
  - Kennedy Space Launch Complex (KSC) had a 76.9% success rate, the most successful among other launch sites.
- **Scatterplot to find insights into whether variables Payload Mass and Success per Site had signs of correlation.**
  - Higher success rate per Payload Mass between 2,000 & 5,300 kg.
  - Pearson Correlation (~ 0.2 Points), data size may be insufficient.

- [Dashboard](#)

# Predictive Analysis (Classification)

- After tuning hyperparameters, every classification model had an **out-of-sample accuracy** of **83%**
- Evaluation Metric: **Confusion Matrix**
- [Data Model Notebook](#)





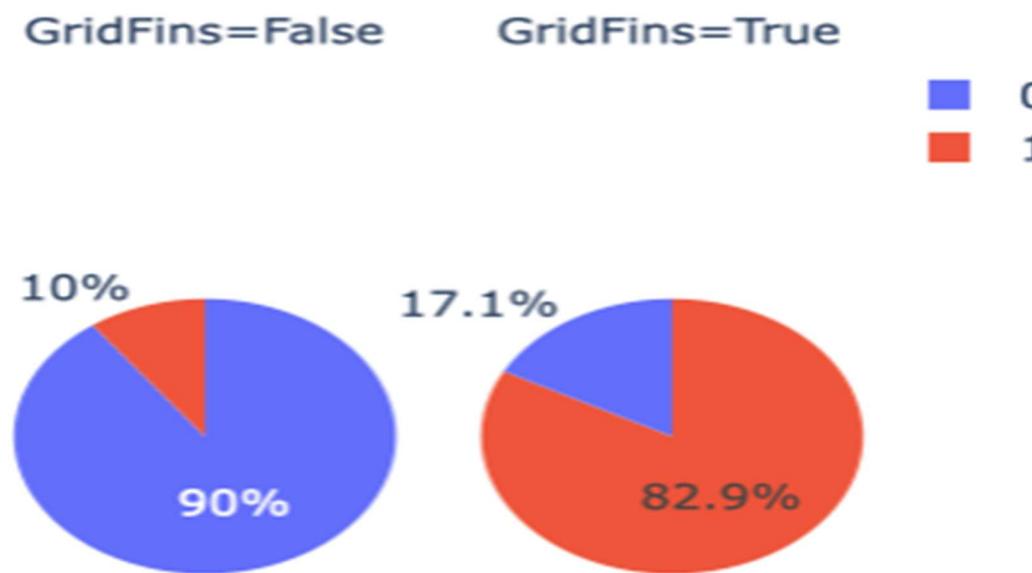
# Results (1)

- EDA: Are there any variables that INCREASE the probability of a SUCCESSFUL LANDING?

- Grid Fins and Legs  
INCREASE probability of a  
SUCCESSFUL landings by over 70%

- Interactive analytics demo:  
Screenshots (next slide)
- Predictive analysis results:  
- 83% out-of-sample  
accuracy (all data models)

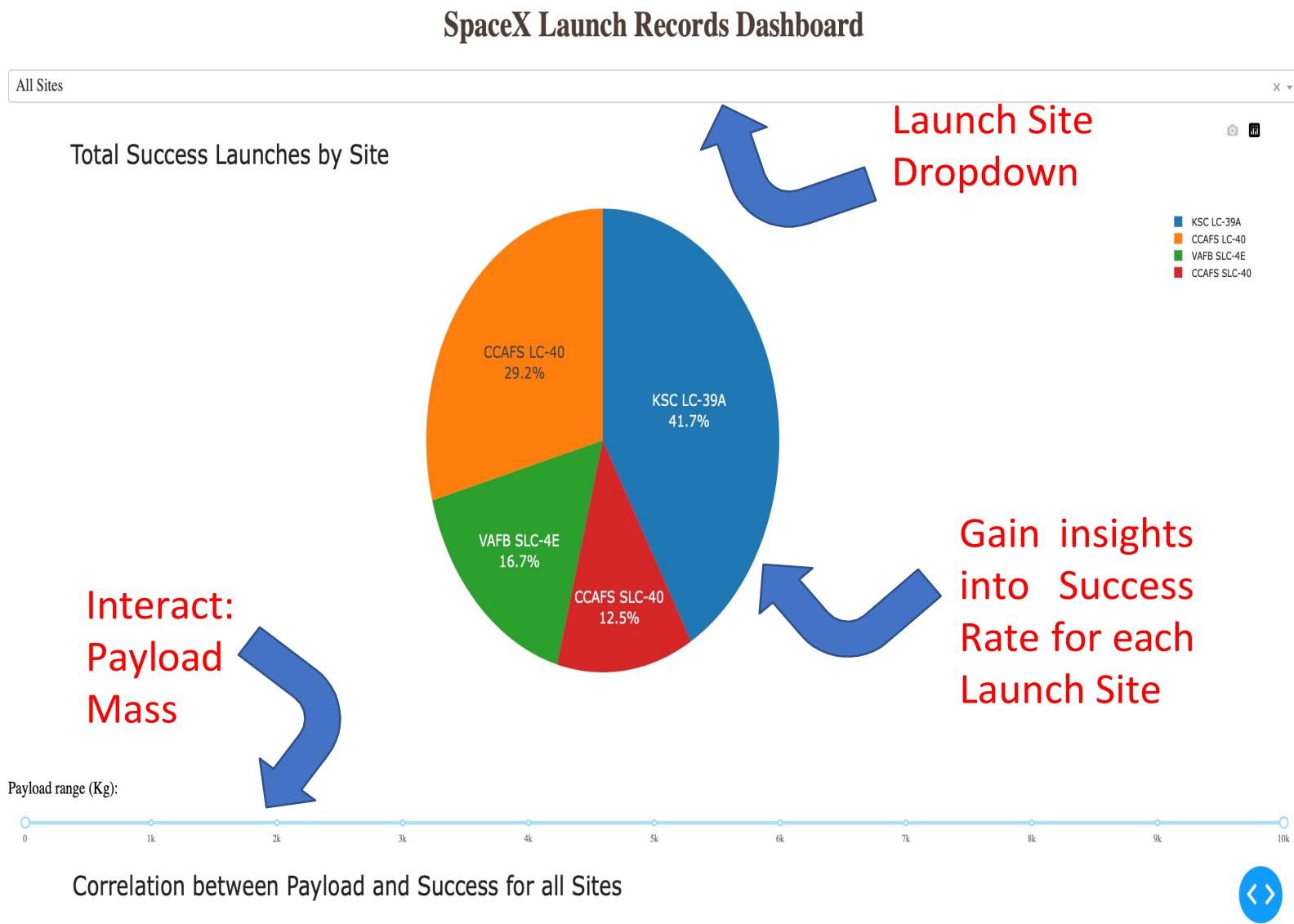
Blue(Failure), Red(Successful)



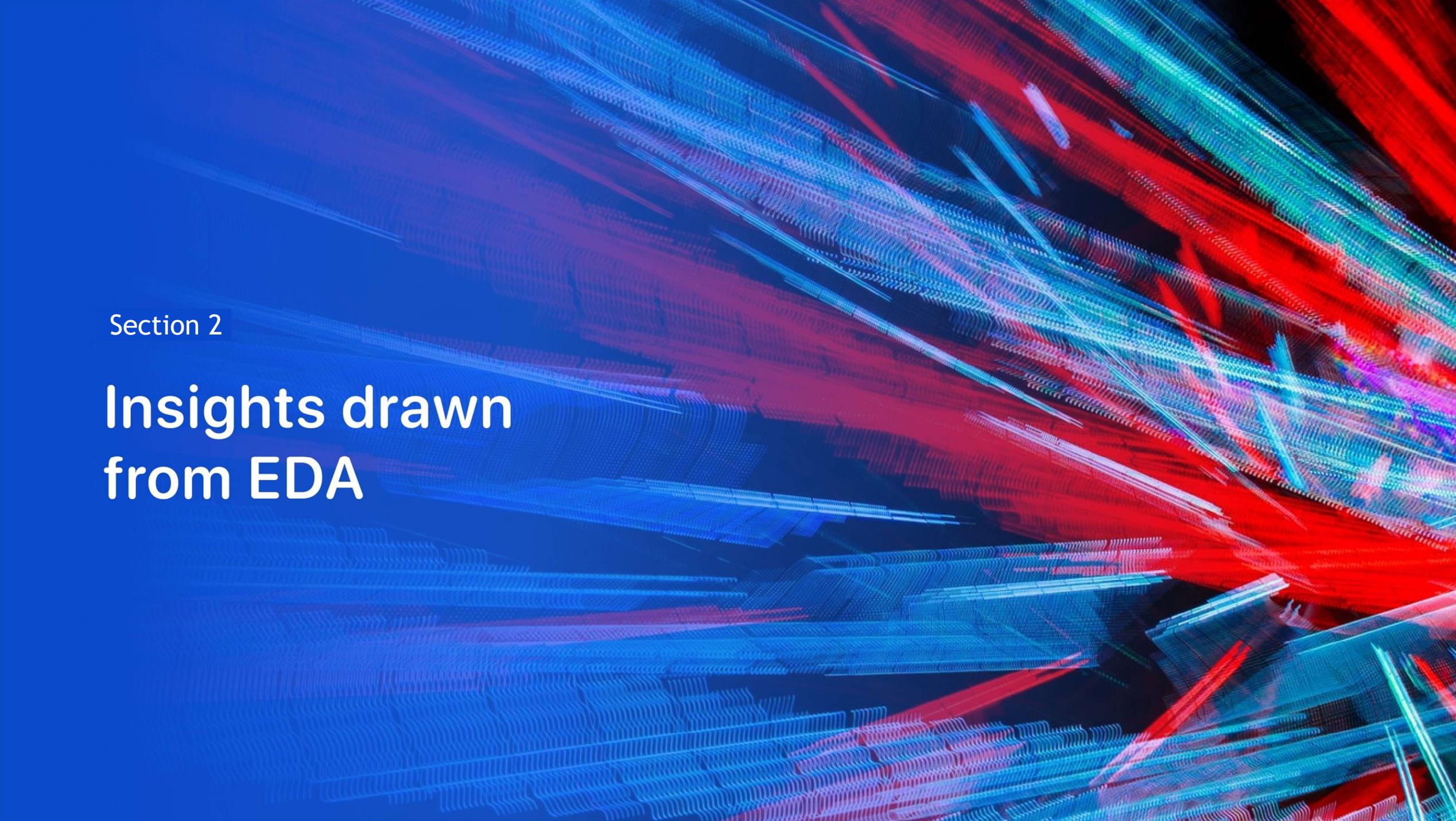


# Results (2)

- Interactive analytics demo:





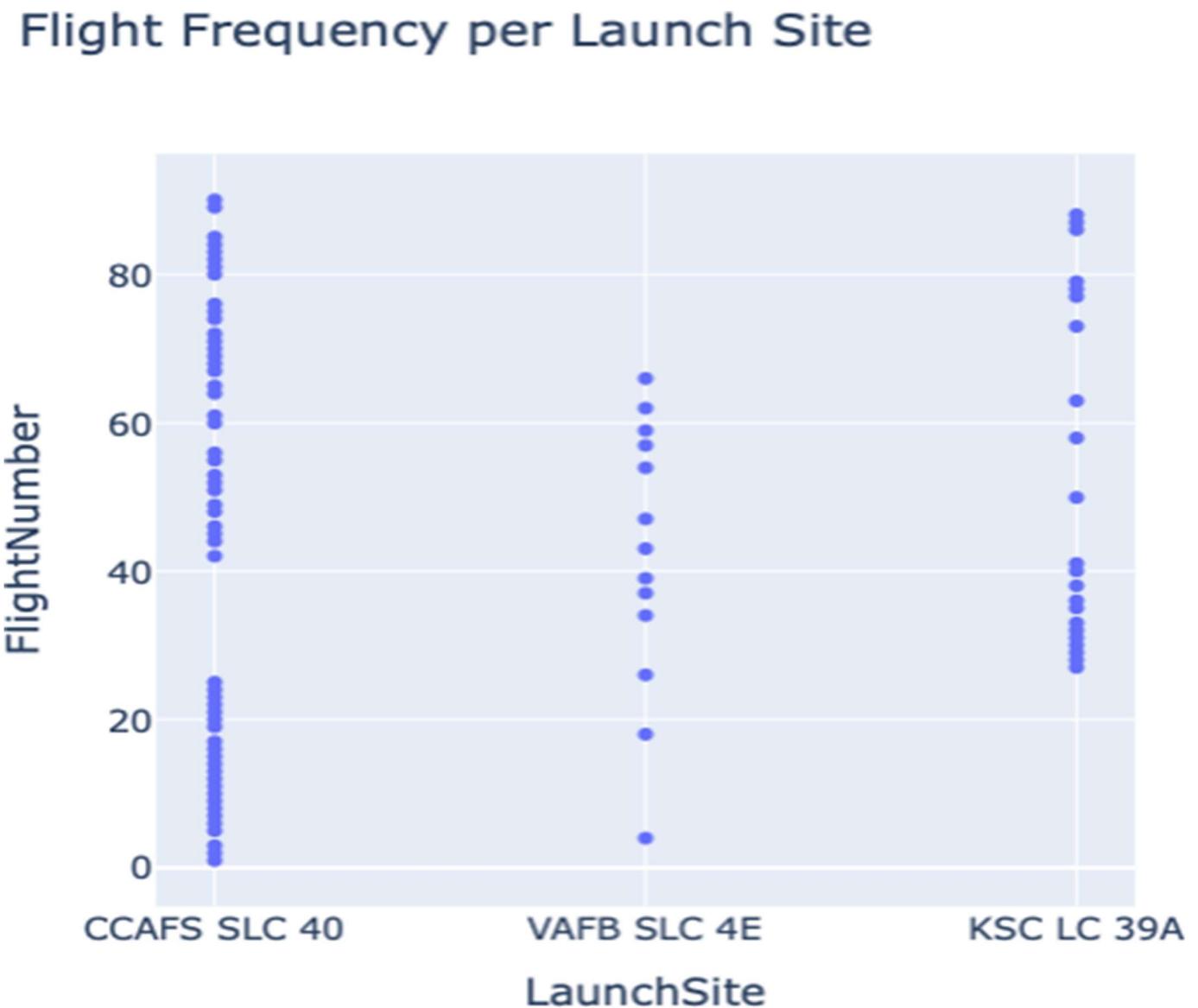


Section 2

## Insights drawn from EDA

# FlightNumber vs. LaunchSite

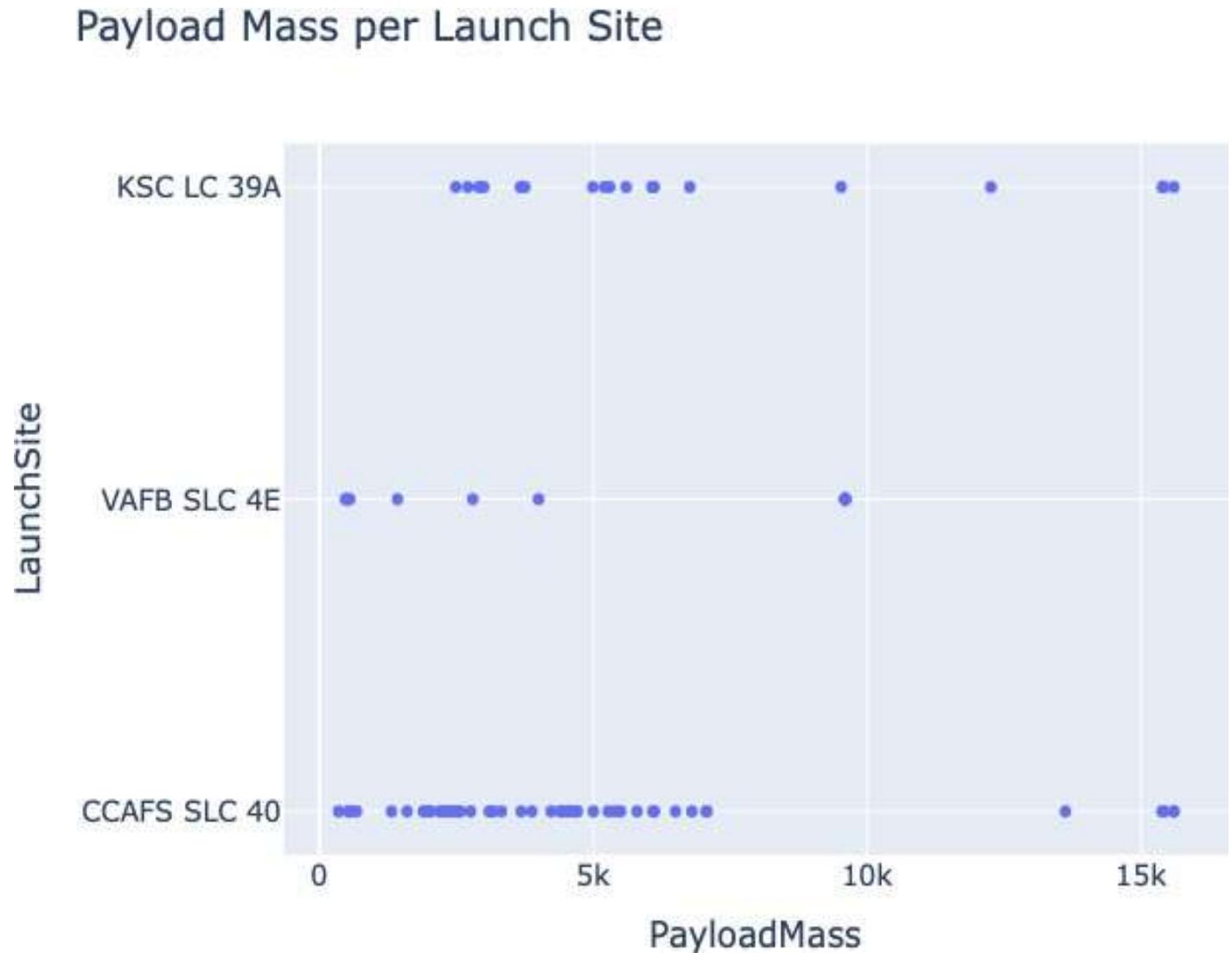
- 90 Flight Attempts (2010-2020)
- KSC accounted for ~25% of **Total Flights**
  - 77% Success Rate
- CCAFS accounted for ~61% of **Total Flights**
  - 60% Success Rate





# Payload vs. Launch Site

- CCAFS & KSC:
  - Majority of flights between 2500-6500 kg
- VAFB:
  - Majority of flights under 5000 kg





# Success Rate vs. Orbit Type

- ISS, GTO, VLEO:
  - Accounted for **2/3, or ~66% of all successful launches**
- ES-L1, HEO, MEO, SO, GEO:
  - Success rate drops to nearly **ZERO**

Success Count per Orbit Type





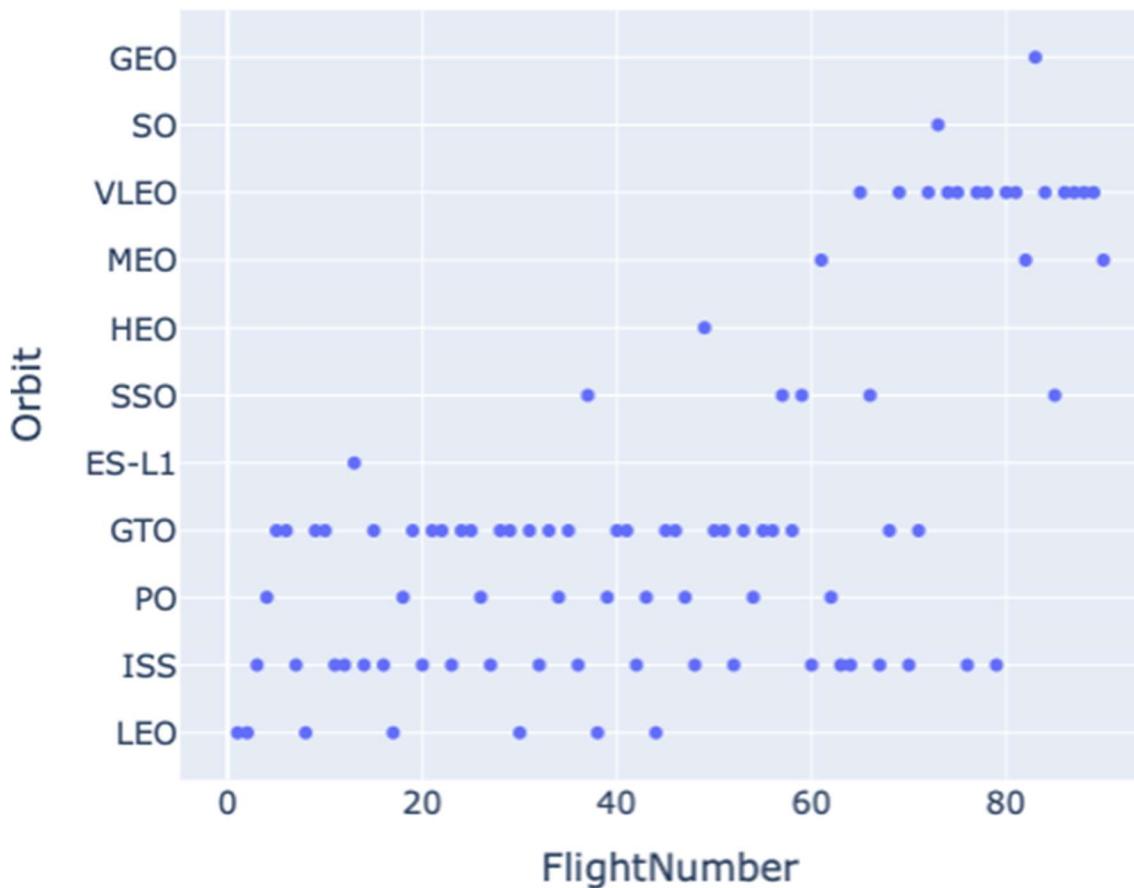
# Flight Number vs. Orbit Type

- Majority of Flights per Orbit:

- ISS, LEO, GTO,  
VLEO

- Large sequence of VLEO orbit attempts started after Flight #60

Flight Frequency per Orbit Type

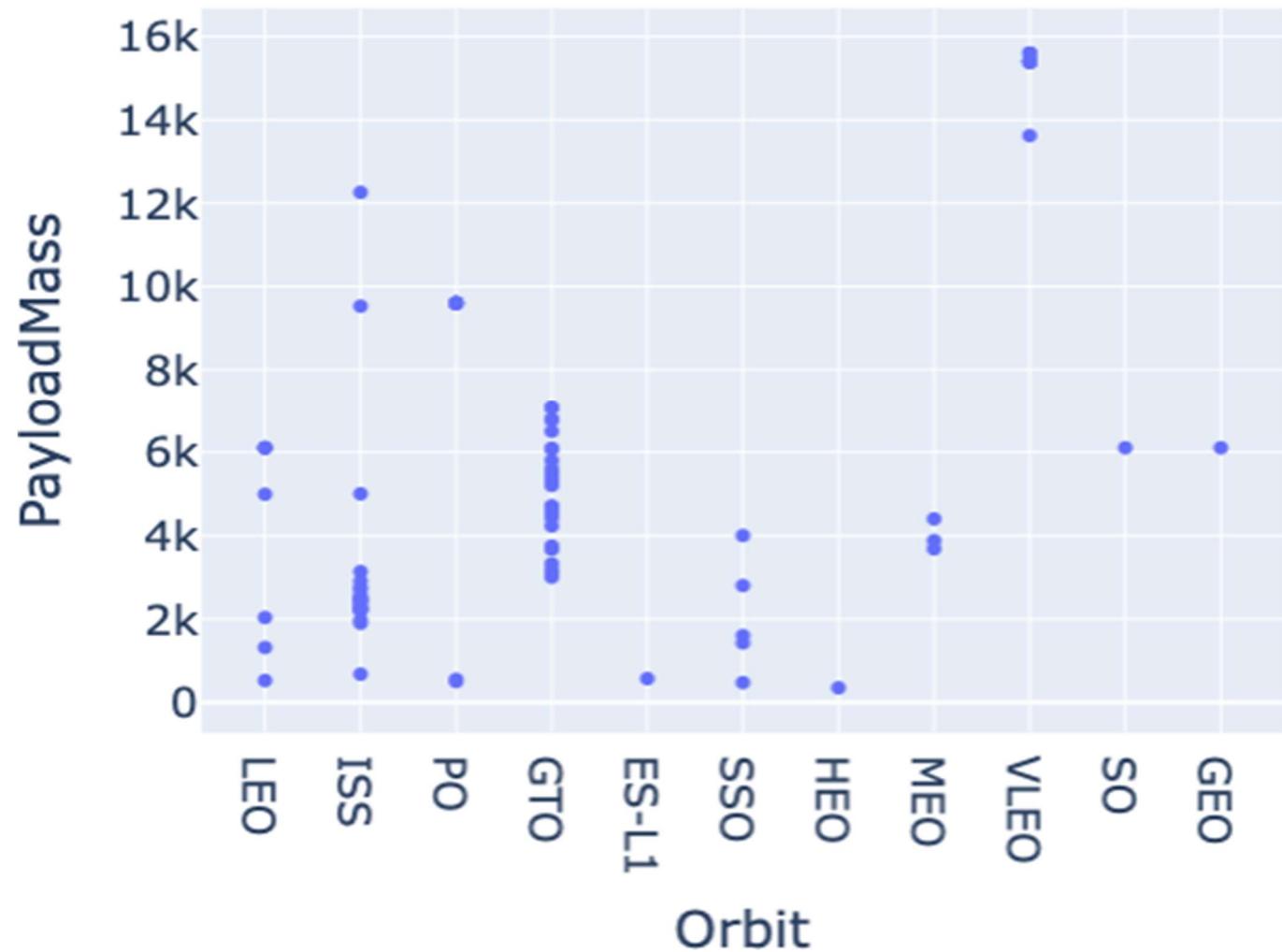




# Payload vs. Orbit Type

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- Payload Mass distribution concentrates below 8,000 kg
  - GTO Payload range between 3,000 & 7,000 kg

Payload Mass per Orbit Type

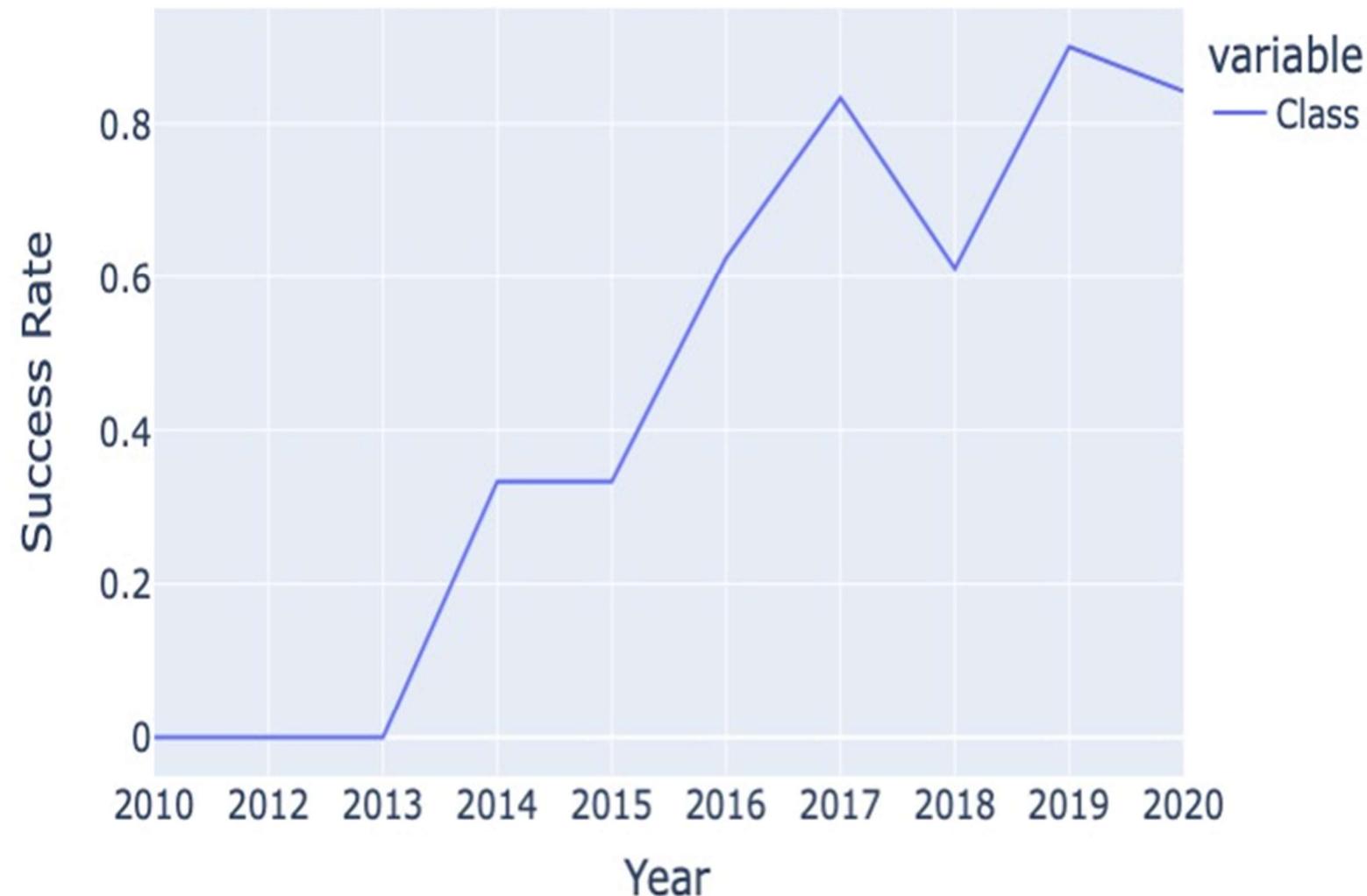




# Launch Success Yearly Trend

- Over 80% increase in Success Rate from 2010 to 2020
- **60-90% Success Rate since 2016**

Yearly Success Rate





# All Launch Site Names

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- Launch Sites:
  - KSC LC-39A
  - CCAFS LC-40
  - VAFB SLC-4E
  - CCAFS SLC-40
- QUERY:

```
SELECT DISTINCT
    LAUNCH_SITE
FROM 'launchData.spaceX'
```



# Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

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- QUERY:

```
SELECT *
FROM `lightning-data-331802.launchData.spaceX`
WHERE LAUNCH_SITE
LIKE 'CCA%'
LIMIT 5
```

- Results:

1	3170	GTO	SES	Success	No attempt
2	3325	GTO	Thaicom	Success	No attempt
3	4535	GTO	AsiaSat	Success	No attempt
4	4428	GTO	AsiaSat	Success	No attempt
5	4159	GTO	ABS Eutelsat	Success	No attempt

# Total Payload Mass

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- Calculate the total payload carried by boosters from NASA

- QUERY:

```
SELECT SUM(PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_) AS NASA_PAYLOAD  
FROM `lightning-data-331802.launchData.spaceX`  
WHERE CUSTOMER  
LIKE 'NASA%'
```

- RESULTS:

- 99980 kg



# Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

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- QUERY:

```
SELECT avg(PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_) AS avg_PAYLOAD  
FROM `lightning-data-331802.launchData.spaceX`  
WHERE BOOSTER_VERSION  
LIKE 'F9 v1.1'
```

- Results:

- Booster Version F9 v1.1 carried a **total payload of 2928.4 kg**



# First Successful Ground Landing Date

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- QUERY:

```
SELECT  
    DATE, Landing_Outcome  
FROM `lightning-data-331802.launchData.spaceX`  
WHERE LANDING_OUTCOME  
LIKE 'Success (ground pad)'  
ORDER BY DATE  
LIMIT 5
```

- Results:

**First successful ground landing took place December 22, 2015**



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

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- QUERY:

```
SELECT DISTINCT  
    Booster_Version, Landing__Outcome  
FROM `lightning-data-331802.launchData.spaceX`  
WHERE Landing__Outcome = 'Success (drone ship)'  
    AND PAYLOAD_MASS__KG__ BETWEEN 4000 AND 6000
```

- Results: The only Version Boosters to successfully land on drone ship

Row	Booster_Version	Landing__Outcome
1	F9 FT B1021.2	Success (drone ship)
2	F9 FT B1031.2	Success (drone ship)
3	F9 FT B1022	Success (drone ship)
4	F9 FT B1026	Success (drone ship)



# Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes

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- QUERY:

```
SELECT DISTINCT  
    COUNT(Mission_Outcome) AS TOTAL, Mission_Outcome  
FROM `lightning-data-331802.launchData.spaceX`  
GROUP BY Mission_Outcome
```

- RESULTS: All 101 Mission Outcomes were successful besides **one**

1	98	Success
2	1	Failure (in flight)
3	1	Success (payload status uncle...)
4	1	Success

# Boosters Carried Maximum Payload

- QUERY:

```
SELECT  
    MAX(PAYLOAD__MASS__KG_)  
AS MAX_PAYLOAD, Booster_Version  
FROM `lightning-data-  
331802.launchData.spaceX`  
GROUP BY Booster_Version  
ORDER BY MAX_PAYLOAD DESC
```

- Results: 12 Boosters carried the

Row	MAX_PAYL...	Booster_Version
1	15600	F9 B5 B1048.5
2	15600	F9 B5 B1051.4
3	15600	F9 B5 B1060.2
4	15600	F9 B5 B1058.3
5	15600	F9 B5 B1051.6
6	15600	F9 B5 B1048.4
7	15600	F9 B5 B1049.4
8	15600	F9 B5 B1051.3
9	15600	F9 B5 B1056.4
10	15600	F9 B5 B1049.5
11	15600	F9 B5 B1060.3
12	15600	F9 B5 B1049.7

**maximum payload of 15,600 kg**

# 2015 Launch Records

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- QUERY:

```
SELECT Booster_Version, Launch_Site, DATE, Landing__Outcome  
FROM `lightning-data-331802.launchData.spaceX`  
WHERE DATE BETWEEN '2015-01-01' AND '2015-12-31'  
AND Landing__Outcome = 'Failure (drone ship)'
```

- Results: **Two Booster Versions at CCAFS LC-40 failed to land on drone ship (2015)**

Row	Booster_Version	Launch_Site	DATE	Landing_Outcome
1	F9 v1.1 B1012	CCAFS LC-40	2015-01-10	Failure (drone ship)
2	F9 v1.1 B1015	CCAFS LC-40	2015-04-14	Failure (drone ship)



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

- QUERY:

```
SELECT DISTINCT
COUNT(Landing_Outcome) AS
TOTAL_COUNT, LANDING_OUTCOME
FROM `lightning-data-331802.launchData.spaceX`
WHERE DATE BETWEEN '2010-06-04' AND '2017-03-20'
GROUP BY Landing_Outcome
ORDER BY TOTAL_COUNT DESC
```

- Results:

- Majority of landings were NOT attempted

Row	TOTAL_CO...	LANDING_OUTCOME
1	10	No attempt
2	5	Failure (drone ship)
3	5	Success (drone ship)
4	3	Success (ground pad)
5	3	Controlled (ocean)
6	2	Failure (parachute)
7	2	Uncontrolled (ocean)
8	1	Precluded (drone ship)

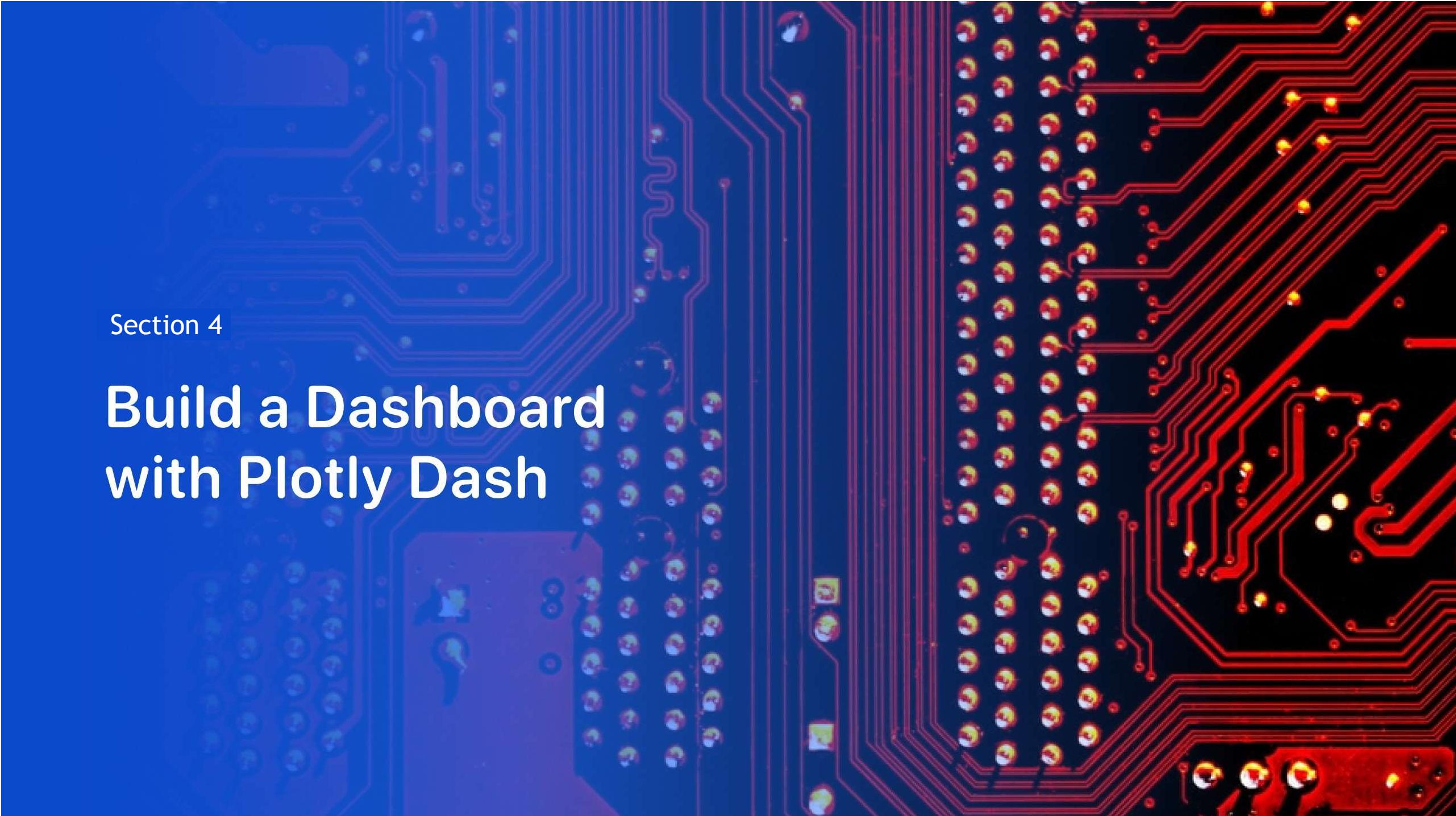
- 50% Success Rate landing on **drone ship**

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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. There are also larger clusters of lights in South America and Europe. The atmosphere is visible as a thin blue layer above the clouds.

Section 3

# Launch Sites Proximities Analysis

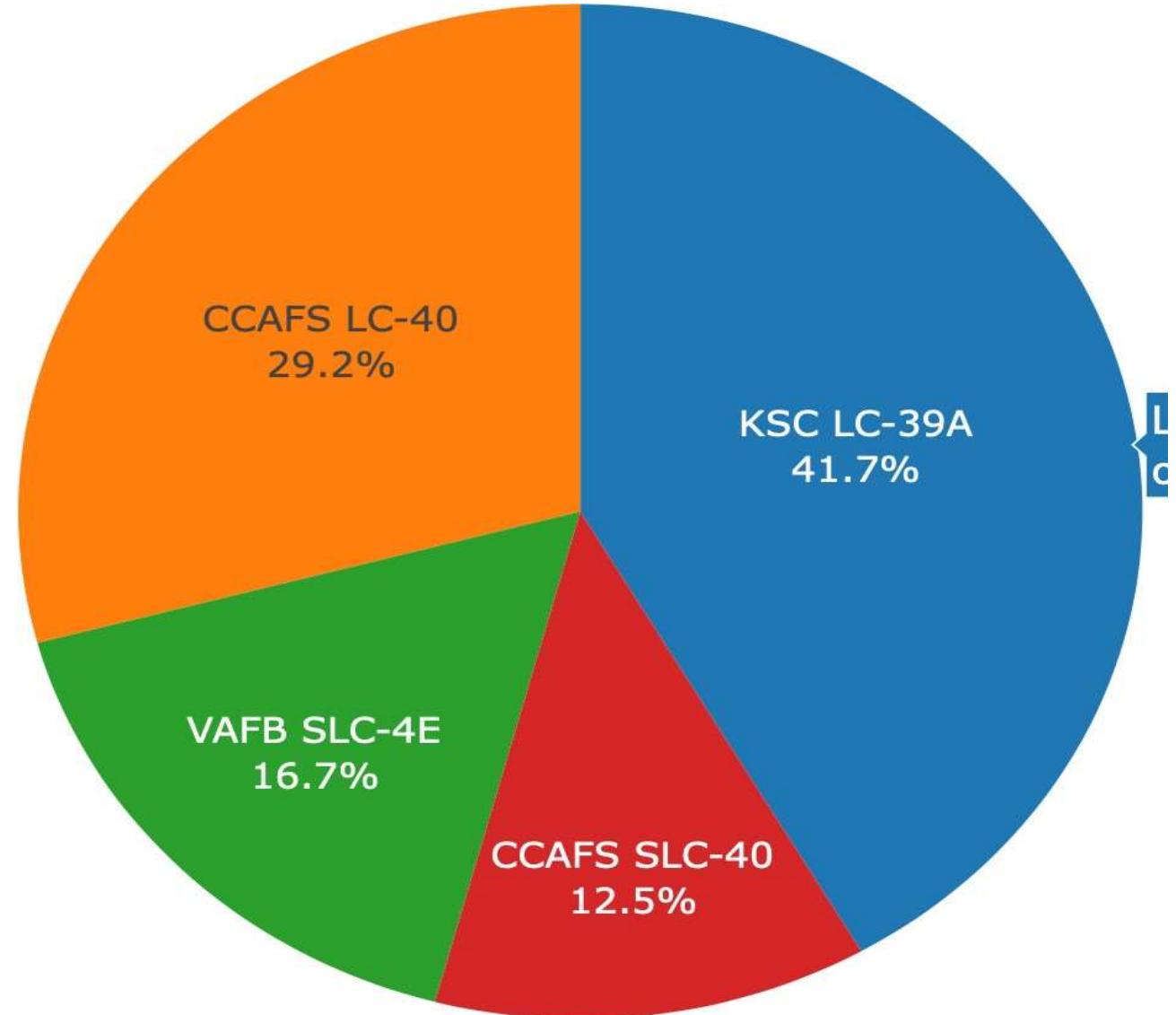


Section 4

# Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

# Success Rate: All Launch Site

- Nearly 42% of Successful Landings performed at Kennedy Space Complex
- CCAFS SLC-40 performed the worst, with a 12.5% Success Rate among other Launch Sites

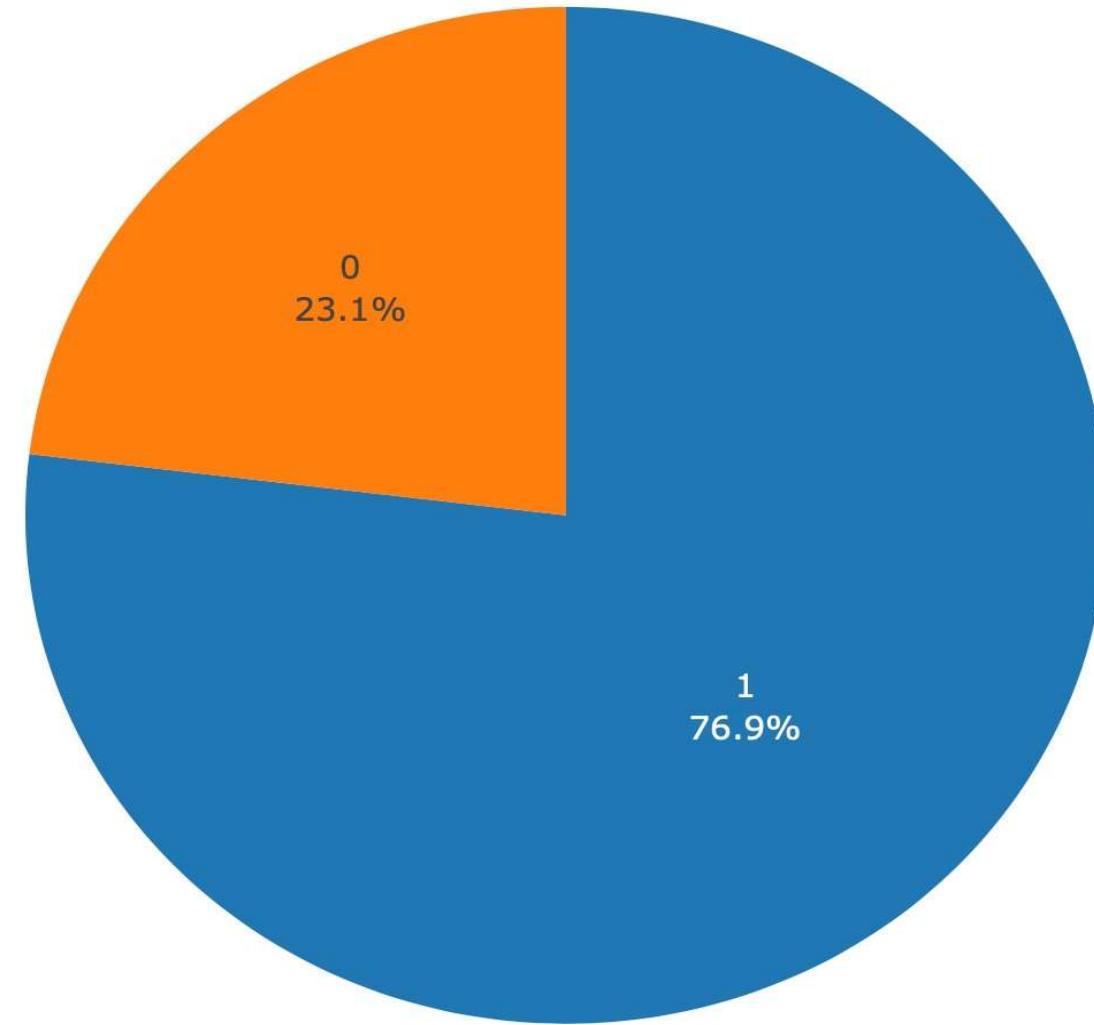




## Kennedy Space Complex: Highest Success Ratio

- KSC LC-39A has the highest Success Ratio
  - 76.9% Success
- Less than a quarter of launches were **failures**, compared to VAFB's **60% Failure Ratio**

Total Success Launches by Site KSC LC-39A

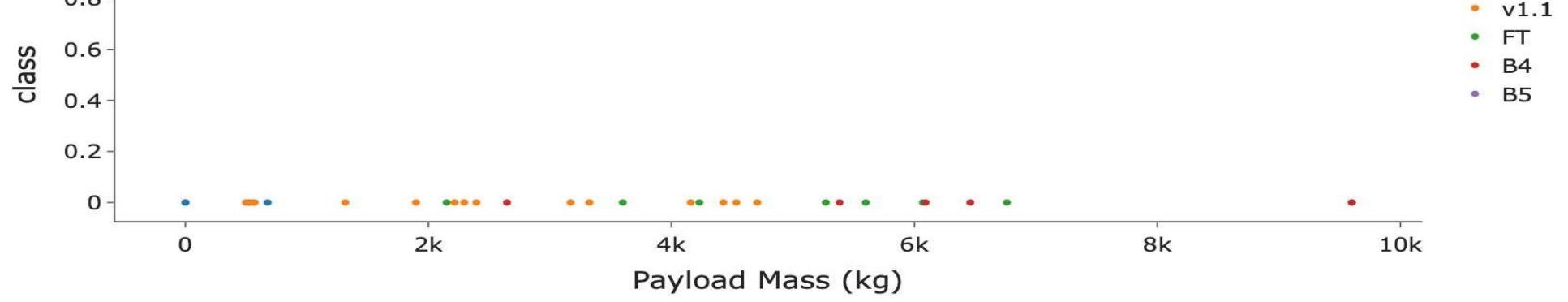




## <Dashboard Screenshot 3>

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- **Payload Mass ranges between 2,000 and 6,000 kg have high success**, especially among Booster Version (FT)
- Version Booster (v1.1) has **high failure** among **Payload Mass ranges between 500 and 5000 kg**



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The background of the slide features a dynamic, abstract design. It consists of several thick, curved lines that transition from a bright yellow at the top right to a deep blue at the bottom left. These lines create a sense of motion and depth, resembling a tunnel or a stylized landscape. The overall effect is modern and professional.

Section 5

# Predictive Analysis (Classification)

# Classification Accuracy:

- Highest out-of-sample accuracy (~ 89%)

- Decision Tree

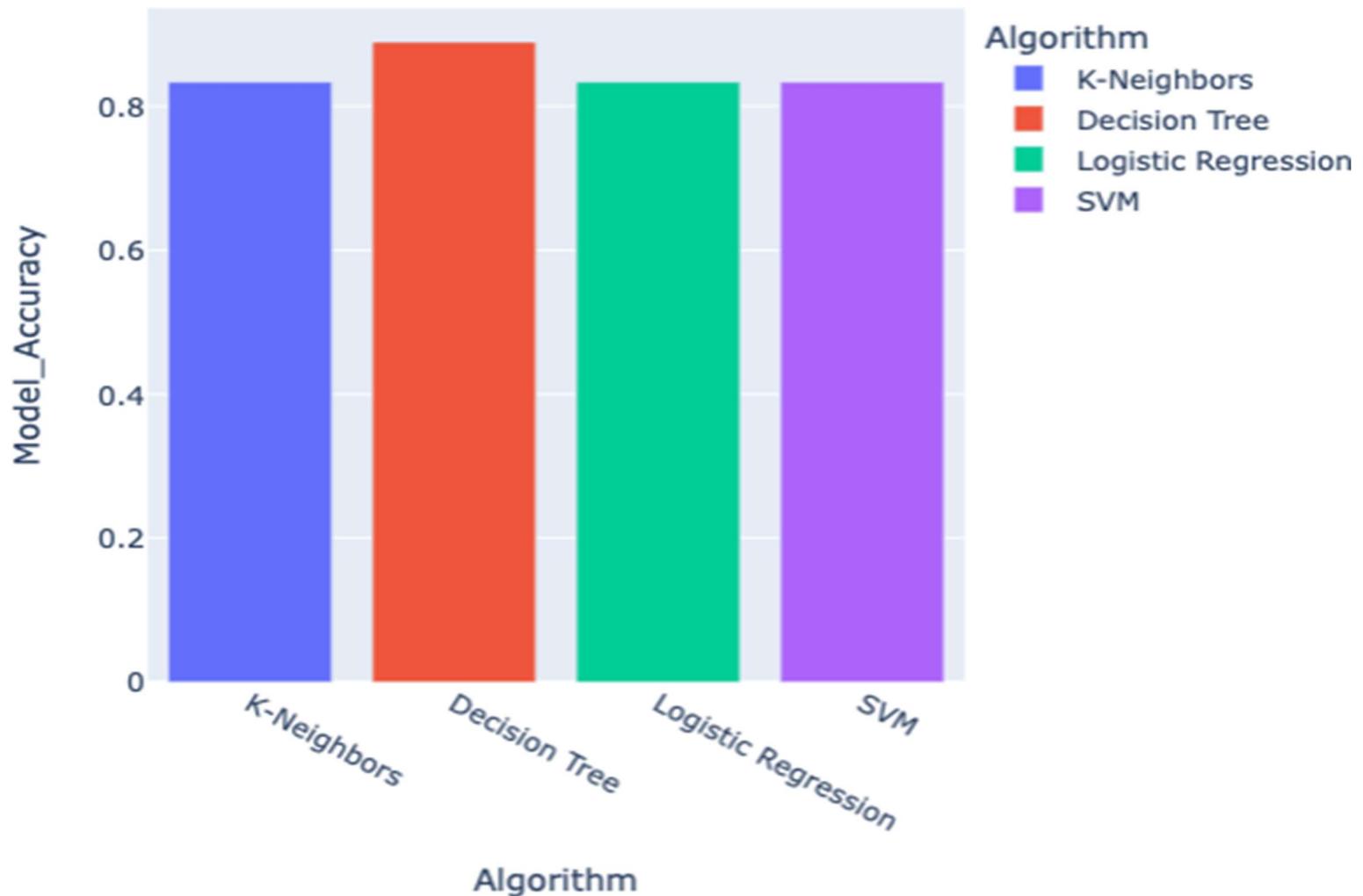
- Evaluation Metric:

- Accuracy

- Function:

$$(TP-TN) / (TP+FP+FN+TN)$$

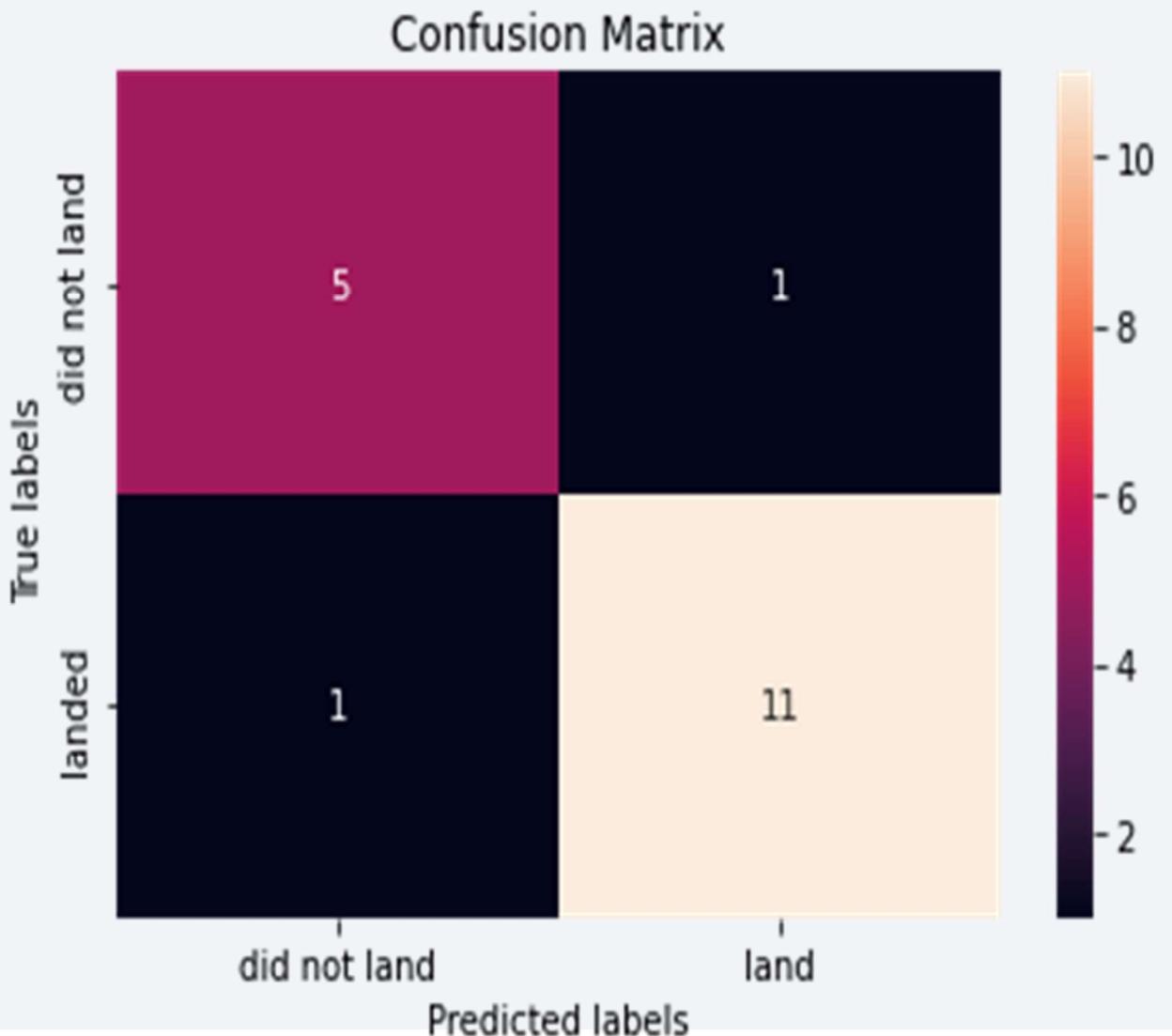
Test Score vs Algorithm





# Confusion Matrix

- Test set contained 18 observations / predictions:
  - Did Land / Did Not Land
- Land predictions:
  - **True Positive (11/12)**
  - **False Positive (1/12)**
- Did Not Land predictions:
  - **True Negative (5/6)**



**- False Negative (1/6)**

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# Conclusions

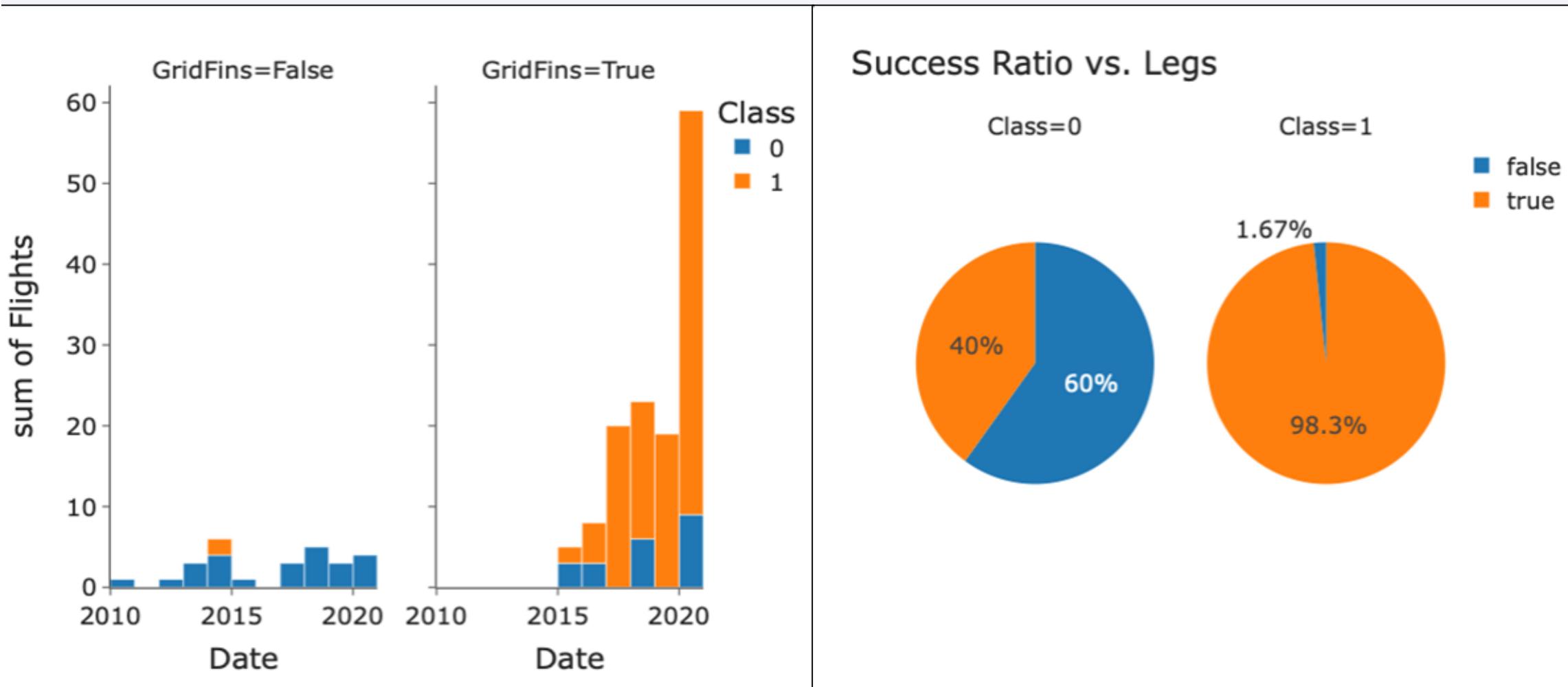
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- **WHY** should SpaceY strive to build a **fully reusable rocket**?
  - Reusing rockets **reduces ALLOY COSTS** by reducing the amount of **alloy needed per launch**
  - Reduces **CAPITAL EXPENDITURES**
  - Reduces **TIME-TO-BUILD**, allowing for increased **flights per year**
- **HOW** can SpaceY increase the **probability** of a **successful landing**?
  - Introducing **Grid Fins & Legs** increased the **Success Ratio** from 10 - 82.9%



# Appendix

[EDA](#): BARCHART & PIE CHART– Grid Fins & Legs dramatically INCREASED Success Ratio





Thank you!

