

# Winning Space Race with Data Science

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#### Outline

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

#### **Executive Summary**

- In this capstone, the methodology will be to use the SpaceX data to analyze and predict the cost of each launch for the Company SpaceY. We will also be analyzing the launch details of SpaceX rockets.
- We have performed a complete analysis of SpaceX data and built dashboards to find the relationship between various factors affecting the success rate of the launches. We have also presented folium maps to find the proximities of each launch site to the nearest landmarks.

#### Introduction

Project background and context:

The commercial space age is here, companies are making space travel affordable for everyone. Blue Origin manufactures sub-orbital and orbital reusable rockets. Perhaps the most successful is SpaceX. SpaceX's accomplishments include: Sending spacecraft to the International Space Station. Starlink, a satellite internet constellation providing satellite Internet access. One reason SpaceX can do this is the rocket launches are relatively inexpensive. SpaceX advertises Falcon 9 rocket launches on its website with a cost of 62 million dollars; other providers cost upwards of 165 million dollars each, much of the savings is because SpaceX can reuse the first stage. Therefore, if we can determine if the first stage will land, we can determine the cost of a launch.

- Problems to find answers for:
  - 1. The cost of each launch
  - 2. The relationship between various factors of the launches like number of flights, payload and the success rate
  - 3. In-detail analysis of rocket launch sites.



# Methodology

#### **Executive Summary**

- Data collection methodology:
  - Data is collected from SPACEX REST API api.spacexdata.com/v4/launches/past. The response will be in the form of a JSON (a list of JSON objects). We use the json\_normalize() function to convert it into a dataframe.
- Perform data wrangling
  - We will use beautiful soup object to read the data from the HTML tables, and create a meaningful dataframe. We will remove the unnecessary fields out of the dataframe and also remove NULL values.
- Perform exploratory data analysis (EDA) using visualization and SQL
- Perform interactive visual analytics using Folium and Plotly Dash
- Perform predictive analysis using classification models

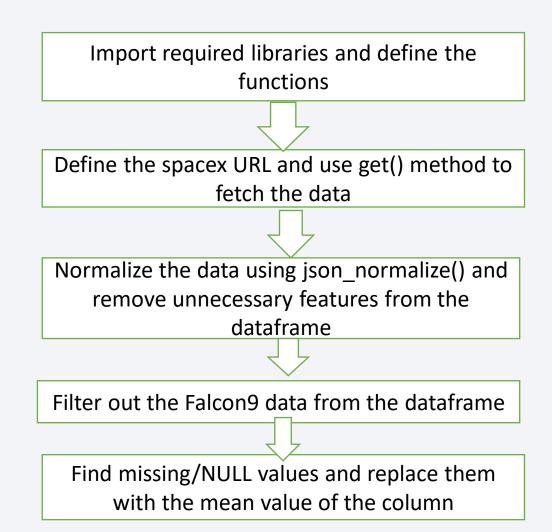
#### **Data Collection**

- In this capstone assignment, we will be working with SpaceX launch data that is gathered from an API, specifically the SpaceX REST API. This API will give us data about launches, including information about the rocket used, payload delivered, launch specifications, landing specifications, and landing outcome. The SpaceX REST API endpoints, or URL, starts with api.spacexdata.com/v4/. We have the different end points, for example: /capsules and /cores We will be working with the endpoint api.spacexdata.com/v4/launches/past.
- Since we are using an API, we get a response it is in the form of a JSON. Specifically, we have a list of JSON objects which each represent a launch. To convert this JSON to a dataframe, we can use the json\_normalize function. This function will allow us to "normalize" the structured json data into a flat table.

# Data Collection – SpaceX API

- We use the below functions:
- getBoosterVersion: Takes the dataset and uses the rocket column to call the API and append the data to the list
- getLaunchSite: Takes the dataset and uses the launchpad column to call the API and append the data to the list
- getPayloadData: Takes the dataset and uses the payloads column to call the API and append the data to the lists
- getCoreData: Takes the dataset and uses the cores column to call the API and append the data to the lists
- GITHUB link:

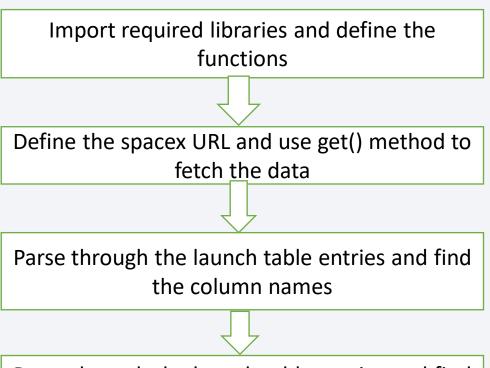
https://github.com/ShilpaKirubanidhi/IBM-SpaceX-Capstone/blob/b34bb89135013b1ca78dd106176345b 18125e4d5/Spacex%20data%20collection%20APl.ipynb



## **Data Collection - Scraping**

- Extract a Falcon 9 launch records HTML table from Wikipedia URL "https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title =List\_of\_Falcon\_9\_and\_Falcon\_Heavy\_laun ches&oldid=1027686922"
- Parse the table and convert it into a Pandas data frame using find\_all() function
- GitHub URL:
   https://github.com/ShilpaKirubanidhi/IBM-SpaceX Capstone/blob/623ddOc1d3d1e5447696
   ef4ab2ba53c4265ef391/Data%20collecti

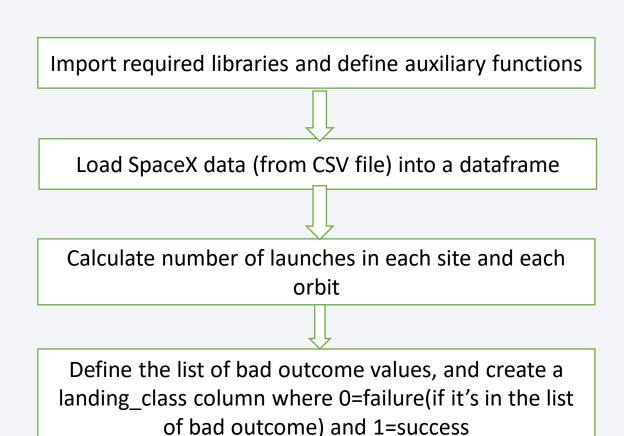
on%20with%20web%20scraping.ipynb



Parse through the launch table entries and find fill the launch\_dict column values and convert it into a dataframe

### **Data Wrangling**

- Exploratory data analysis (data wrangling) is done on the Falcon
   9 launch records to determine the success rate of the launches.
- We will calculate the field "landing\_class" (1=success and O=failure) by exploring the columns "outcome" and "orbit".
- GitHub URL:
   https://github.com/ShilpaKirubani
   dhi/IBM-SpaceX Capstone/blob/623dd0c1d3d1e
   5447696ef4ab2ba53c4265ef39
   1/EDA%20lab.ipynb



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

- Objective is to perform exploratory Data Analysis and Feature Engineering using Pandas and Matplotlib. The purpose of the charts is to find any data patterns that would help in drawing insights. Charts plotted were:
  - FlightNumber vs. LaunchSite
  - Payload vs. Launch site
  - Success rate vs. Orbit
  - Flightnumber vs. orbit
  - Payload Vs. orbit
  - Yearly success trend
- GitHub URL: <a href="https://github.com/ShilpaKirubanidhi/IBM-SpaceX-">https://github.com/ShilpaKirubanidhi/IBM-SpaceX-</a>
  <a href="mailto:Capstone/blob/623ddOc1d3d1e5447696ef4ab2ba53c4265ef391/EDA%20with%20visualization.ipynb">https://github.com/ShilpaKirubanidhi/IBM-SpaceX-</a>
  <a href="mailto:Capstone/blob/623ddOc1d3d1e5447696ef4ab2ba5ab2

#### **EDA** with SQL

#### SQL queries performed:

- Display the names of the unique launch sites in the space mission
- Display 5 records where launch sites begin with the string 'CCA'
- Display the total payload mass carried by boosters launched by NASA (CRS)
- Display average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1
- · List the date when the first successful landing outcome in ground pad was acheived.
- List the names of the boosters which have success in drone ship and have payload mass greater than 4000 but less than 6000
- List the total number of successful and failure mission outcomes
- · List the names of the booster\_versions which have carried the maximum payload mass using a subquery
- List the failed landing\_outcomes in drone ship, their booster versions, and launch site names for in year 2015
- 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
- GitHub URL: <a href="https://github.com/ShilpaKirubanidhi/IBM-SpaceX-Capstone/blob/623ddOc1d3d1e5447696ef4ab2ba53c4265ef391/EDA%20">https://github.com/ShilpaKirubanidhi/IBM-SpaceX-Capstone/blob/623ddOc1d3d1e5447696ef4ab2ba53c4265ef391/EDA%20</a> with%20SQL.ipynb

#### Build an Interactive Map with Folium

- Launch sites were marked using a Folium.marker object. MarkerCluster() object was used to show the successful(green) and failed(red) icons in each launch site.
- Folium.marker object was used to depict the nearest coastline, railroad, highway and city for each launch site. The function calculate\_distance() was defined to find the distance in km between any two points on the map.
- Folium.PolyLine object was used to draw a line between the 2 points on the map to show the proximities of each launch site to the landmark, along with the distance in km.
- GitHub URL: <a href="https://github.com/ShilpaKirubanidhi/IBM-SpaceX-">https://github.com/ShilpaKirubanidhi/IBM-SpaceX-</a>
  <a href="mailto:Capstone/blob/623ddOc1d3d1e5447696ef4ab2ba53c4265ef391/Interactive%20">https://github.com/ShilpaKirubanidhi/IBM-SpaceX-</a>
  <a href="mailto:Capstone/blob/623ddOc1d3d1e5447696ef4ab2ba53c4265ef391/Interactive%20">https://github.com/ShilpaKirubanidhi/IBM-SpaceX-</a>
  <a href="mailto:visual%20analytics%20with%20Folium.ipynb">visual%20analytics%20with%20Folium.ipynb</a>

### Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

- The SpaceX Launch records dashboard has the below components:
  - A dropdown menu with the launch site (individual and all sites) to display the success rate
  - A pie chart of the successful and failed launches for the selected option
  - A slider for payload range
  - A scatter plot to display correlation between success rate and payload (from input selected in the initial drop down box)
- The purpose of these charts are to answer the questions:
  - 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 (v1.0, v1.1, FT, B4, B5, etc.) has the highest
- GitHub URL: <a href="https://github.com/ShilpaKirubanidhi/IBM-SpaceX-Capstone/blob/fcb7bb2b6709a12a118fce573aef2eb7fe619f8e/spacex\_dash\_app.py">https://github.com/ShilpaKirubanidhi/IBM-SpaceX-Capstone/blob/fcb7bb2b6709a12a118fce573aef2eb7fe619f8e/spacex\_dash\_app.py</a>

# Predictive Analysis (Classification)

- We will evaluate the accuracy of the models built using logistic regression, support vector machine, decision tree and K-nearest neighbors.
   GridsearchCV object is used to find the tuned hyperparameters and the accuracy of each model.
- The confusion matrix is built for each model using the auxiliary function plot\_confusion\_matrix(). The best model is decided based on the accuracy score and confusion matrix.
- GitHub URL:

https://github.com/ShilpaKirubanidhi/IBM-SpaceX-Capstone/blob/5cb10952baffe0585835673ab1 ed1f2857392615/Machine%20learning%20prediction-new.ipynb

Import data into a dataframe and standardize it using StandardScaler.fit\_transform()

Split the data into test and train data sets using train\_test\_split() function

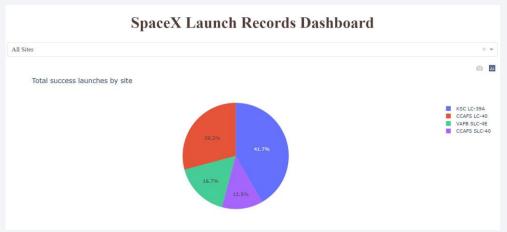
Create models using logistic regression, support vector machine, decision tree and Knearest neighbors algorithms

Find the accuracy of each of the model using GridSearchCV object, and print the tuned hyperparameters

Print confusion matrix for all models and determine the best model

#### Results

- Exploratory data analysis results:
  - The various charts plotted in the exploratory data analysis help in deciphering the various relationships between factors such as flight number, launch site, orbit type and success rates of the launch. The yearly success rate trend chart shows that the success rate increases year by year, and the best success rate was in 2020.
- Interactive analytics demo screenshots:

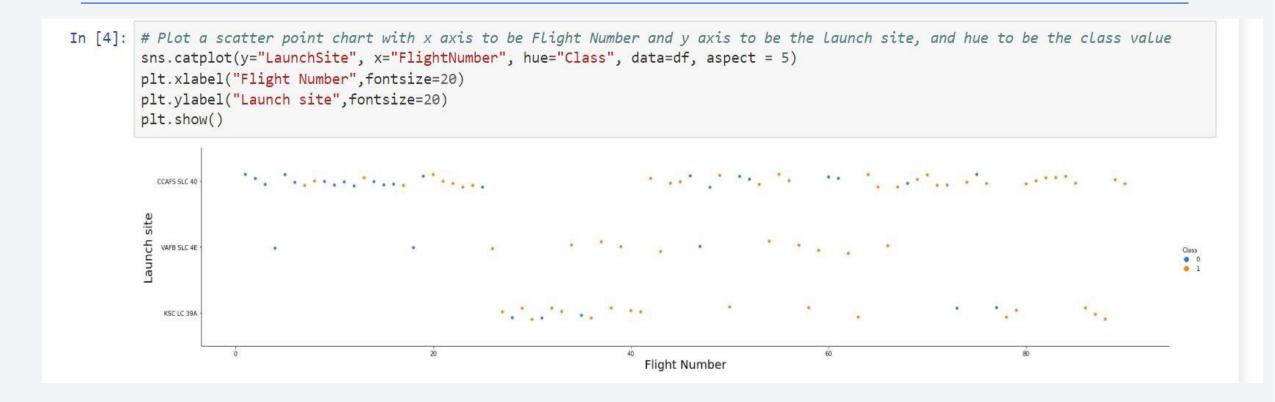




- Predictive analysis results:
  - Based on the models built using logistic regression, decision tree, support vector machine and KNN algorithms, we found the accuracy of each model. The best performing model is decision tree with an accuracy of 89%.

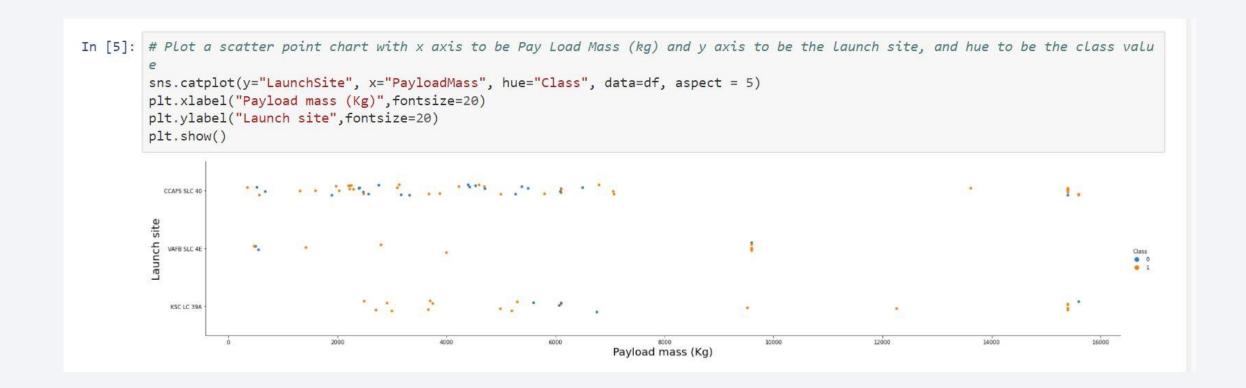


# Flight Number vs. Launch Site



 Flight number Vs. launch site graph shows that site VAFB SLC 4E has the best success rate. KSLC 39A has only greater than 20 flight numbers, CCAFS SLC 40 has the most number of flights.

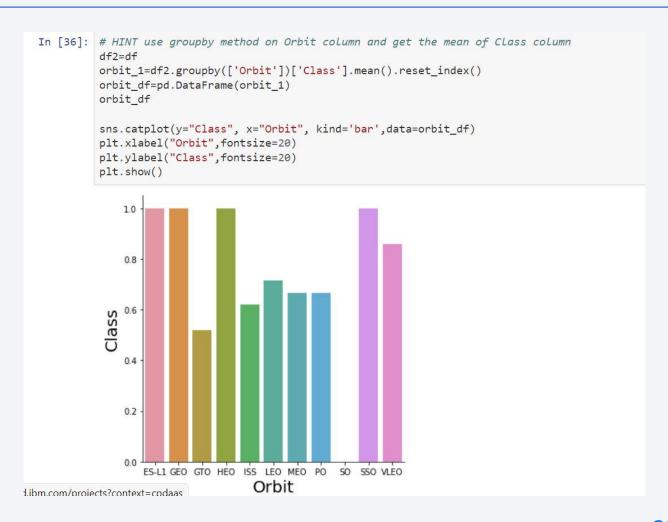
### Payload vs. Launch Site



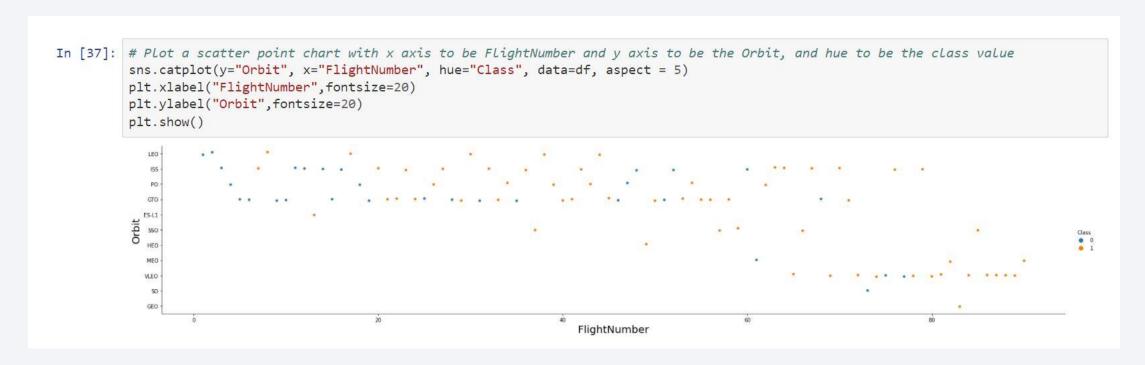
 Payload Vs. Launch site graph shows that VAFB-SLC 4E site has are no rockets launched for heavypayload mass(greater than 10000). Most of the flights for CCAFS SLC 40 has most of its flights with payload less than 8000, and for KSLC 39A, the minimum payload is 2000.

# Success Rate vs. Orbit Type

 Sucess rate Vs. Orbit bar chart shows that the orbits with maximum success rates are ES-L1, GEO, HEO, SSO.

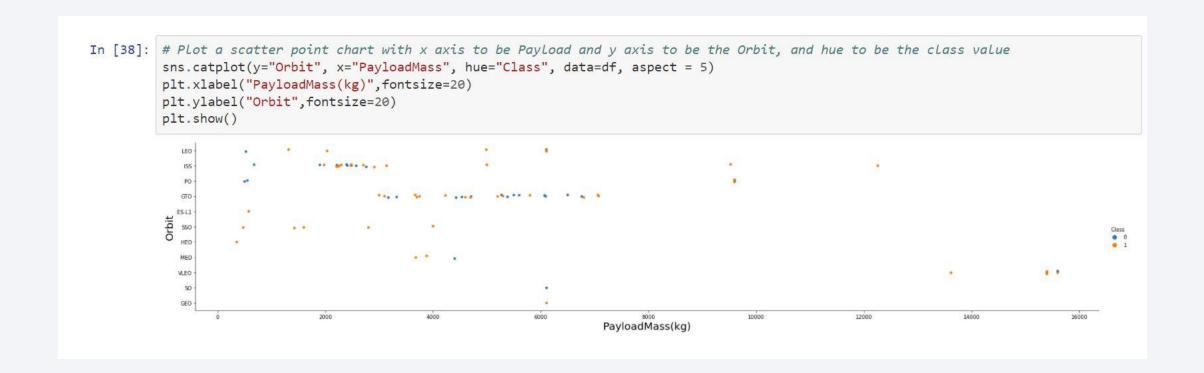


# Flight Number vs. Orbit Type



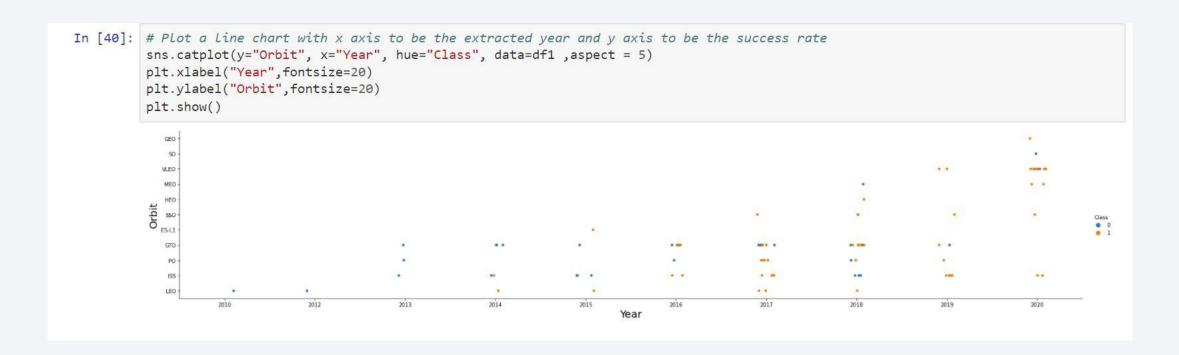
• Flight number Vs. Orbit type graph shows that only the orbits GTO, PO, ISS and LEO have flight numbers ranging from 0 to 100. The other orbits have a minimum of 40 - 60 flight numbers, and a maximum of 100.

## Payload vs. Orbit Type



 Payload mass Vs. Orbit type plot depicts that there are only very few launches with payloadmass>8000 kg, and most of them are successful in the orbits VLEO, ISS and PO. All the other orbits have flights with payload mass<8000 kg.</li>

# Launch Success Yearly Trend



• Launch success yearly trends graph shows that the number of launches and the success rates are increasing year by year, and the maximum success rate was in 2020.

#### All Launch Site Names

- Select the distinct launch\_site from the spacex table using following query:
- %sql select distinct launch\_site from spacextbl



# Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

- Select records from spacex table with condition 'CCA%' to filter based on launch\_site beginning with CCA and limit to 5 records
- %sql select \* from spacextbl where launch\_site like 'CCA%' limit 5

Display 5 records where launch sites begin with the string 'CCA' In [8]: "sql select \* from spacextbl where launch site like 'CCA%' limit 5 \* ibm db sa://dqq29189:\*\*\*@b0aebb68-94fa-46ec-a1fc-1c999edb6187.c3n41cmd0nqnrk39u98g.databases.appdomain.cloud:31249/bludb Done. Out[8]: DATE time utc booster version launch site payload orbit mission\_outcome landing outcome payload mass kg customer Dragon CCAFS LC-2010-18:45:00 F9 v1.0 B0003 Spacecraft LEO SpaceX Success Failure (parachute) 06-04 Qualification Unit Dragon demo flight C1, two CCAFS LC LEO 2010-(COTS) 15:43:00 F9 v1.0 B0004 CubeSats, barrel Failure (parachute) Success 12-08 (ISS) NRO of Brouere cheese CCAFS LC-LEO NASA 2012-Dragon demo 07:44:00 F9 v1.0 B0005 525 Success No attempt 05-22 flight C2 (ISS) (COTS) 2012-CCAFS LC-LEO NASA SpaceX CRS-1 00:35:00 F9 v1.0 B0006 500 Success No attempt 10-08 (CRS) (ISS) CCAFS LC-LEO NASA 2013-15:10:00 F9 v1.0 B0007 SpaceX CRS-2 677 Success No attempt 03-01 (ISS) (CRS)

# **Total Payload Mass**

- Sum keyword used to get the total payload mass and filter by customer name as NASA CRS.
- %sql select sum(payload\_mass\_\_kg\_) from spacextbl where customer like 'NASA%CRS%'



# Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

 AVG keyword is used to find the average payload mass from spacex table with filter condition of booster version = "F9 V1.1"



## First Successful Ground Landing Date

- Select the minimum of the date column with a filter of landing outcome = Success groun pad.
- %sql select min(date) from spacextbl where landing\_outcome='Success (ground pad)'



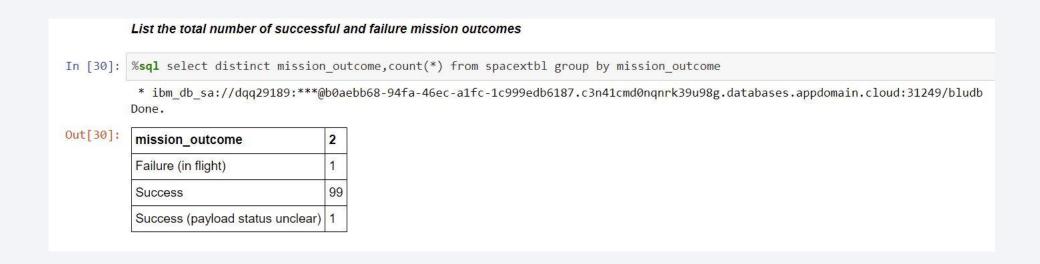
#### Successful Drone Ship Landing with Payload between 4000 and 6000

- Select all unique values of bosster version using the distinct keyword and filter the payload mass to be> 4000 and <6000.</li>
- %sql select distinct booster\_version from spacextbl where landing\_\_outcome = 'Success' (drone ship)' and payload\_mass\_\_kg\_>4000 and payload\_mass\_\_kg\_<6000</li>



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

- Count(\*) is used along with group\_by clause to get the number of success and failure outcomes.
- %sql select distinct mission\_outcome,count(\*) from spacextbl group by mission\_outcome



## **Boosters Carried Maximum Payload**

- Used a subquery to find the maximum payload mass and used that in the main query to find the booster version carrying that payload mass
- %sql select booster\_version from spacextbl where payload\_mass\_\_kg\_ in(select max(payload\_mass\_\_kg\_) from spacextbl)

```
List the names of the booster_versions which have carried the maximum payload mass. Use a subquery
In [34]: %sql select booster_version from spacextbl where payload_mass__kg_ in(select max(payload_mass__kg_) from spacextbl)
           * ibm db sa://dqq29189:***@b0aebb68-94fa-46ec-a1fc-1c999edb6187.c3n41cmd0nqnrk39u98g.databases.appdomain.cloud:31249/bludb
Out[34]:
          booster_version
          F9 B5 B1048.4
          F9 B5 B1049.4
          F9 B5 B1051.3
          F9 B5 B1056.4
          F9 B5 B1048.5
          F9 B5 B1051.4
          F9 B5 B1049.5
          F9 B5 B1060.2
          F9 B5 B1058.3
          F9 B5 B1051.6
          F9 B5 B1060.3
           F9 B5 B1049.7
```

#### 2015 Launch Records

- Fetch the columns landing outcome, booster version and launch site from spacex table with filter for failed outcomes and date is in 2015.
- %sql select landing\_\_outcome,booster\_version,launch\_site from spacextbl where landing\_\_outcome='Failure (drone ship)'and date>='01-01-2015'and date<='12-31-2015';</li>



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

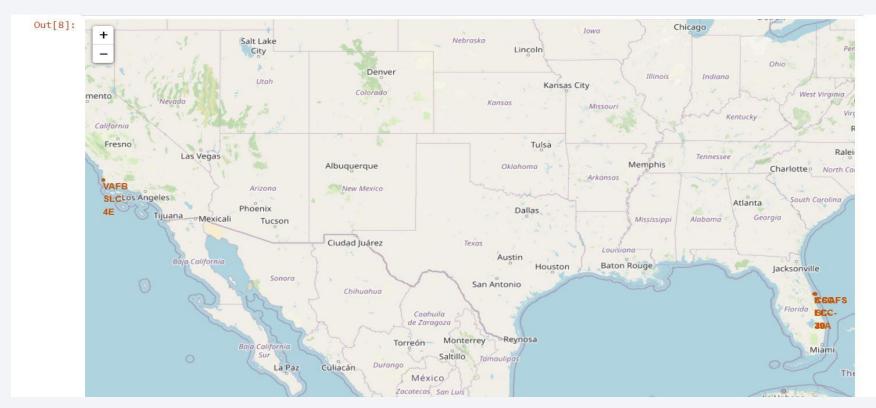
- Fetch the landing outcome and count of records grouped by landing outcome, and order it in descending order to obtain the rank. Filter recordsby date >='06-04-2010'and <='03-20-2017'</li>
- %sql select landing\_\_outcome,count(\*) as counts from spacextbl where date>='06-04-2010'and date<='03-20-2017' group by landing\_\_outcome order by counts desc





#### Folium map for all launch sites

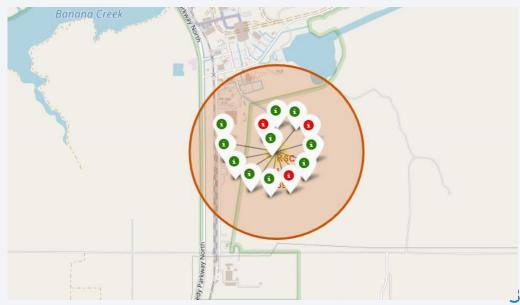
- The folium map to show all launch sites is built using folium.map() function. Using the latitude and longitude for each site, we add the folium.circle() and folium.map.marker() objects to show the site locations. Add\_child() function is used to add the location sites to the map.
- The map shows that 3 of the launch sites CCAFS LC-40, CCAFS SLC-40, KSC LC-39A are in the eastern side of the map, nearer to each other. The site VAFB SLC-4E is in the western side of the USA.



#### Folium map showing color-coded outcomes for each site

- This folium map shows the outcomes for each launch site (green=success and red=failed outcomes) when we click on the site location. Assign\_marker\_color() function is defined to assign the color codes. MarkerCluster() object is used to add the outcomes for each site on the map.
- The first screenshot of launch site KSC LC-39A shows the total number of outcomes (13). When we click on the site icon, it displays the landing outcomes that are color coded (red-failed, green=success) as shown on screenshot 2.





## Folium map for launch site proximities

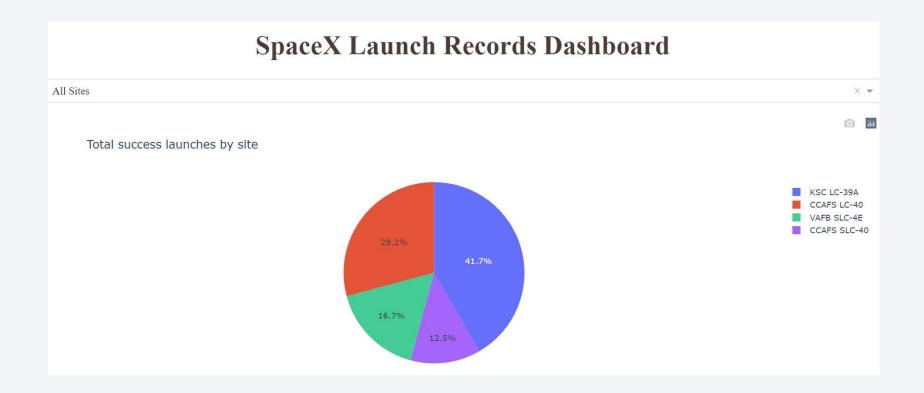
- The distance from each launch site to the nearest coastline, highway, railroad and city are calculated using the function calc\_distance(). The latitude and longitude of each location is passed as input. Folium.marker object is used to mark the sites and add\_child() is used to add them to the map. Folium.polyline() is used to draw a line between each site and its proximities, depicting the distance in kms. This screenshot shows the proximities for the site VAFB SLC-4E.
- Findings from the map:
  - The launch sites are in close proximity to coastline.
  - The launch sites are pretty close to railroads and highways.
  - The launch sites maintain a certain distance from the nearest city, minimum being 15 kms.





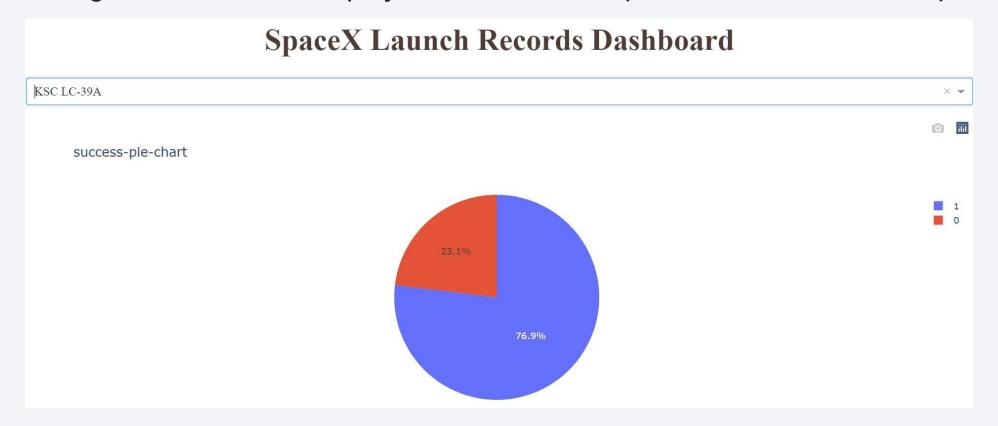
# Dashboard – pie chart for launches

- Input is given in the form of a drop down box, containing options for all sites and each site individually. For each site selected, a pie chart is displayed showing the success and failure launch percentages.
- The graph for "All sites" option shows that the highest success rate is for the site KSC LC-39A and the least is for the site CCAFS SLC-40.



## Dashboard showing success rate for each site

- The launch site with highest launch success ratio is KSC LC-39A, displayed in screenshot. The graph for other sites are provided in Appendix A.
- The success percentage is shown in purple color in the pie chart and failure percentage in red. The legend on the side displays the "class" field (O=failure and 1=success).



#### Dashboard with slider and scatter plot

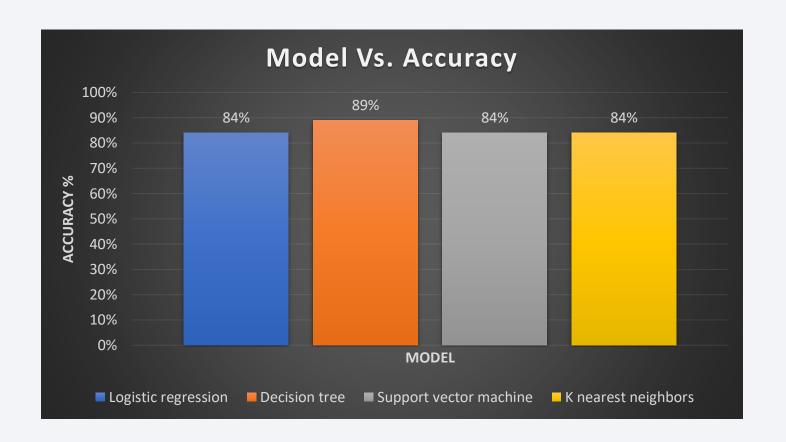
- Based on the input provided in the drop down box and the payload mass selected in the slider, the scatter plot is displayed. It shows the correlation between payload mass and success rate for all sites, along with the booster version details.
- When the slider is kept at 0 to 10000, it displays all of the launches. We can see that booster version FT has most successes and V1.1 has the most failures. For payload mass >2500 booster version FT has 7 success and 6 failed launches (highest in both success and failures). There are very few launches in payload mass >5000 and the most successful is FT. There are only 2 launches in payload mass >7500, 1 of which is successful and 1 failed, both being booster version B4. The graphs for other payload mass ranges are in the Appendix B.
- The maximum success rate is for payload mass<5000. The maximum payload mass ever launched was 9600 kg.</li>





## Classification Accuracy

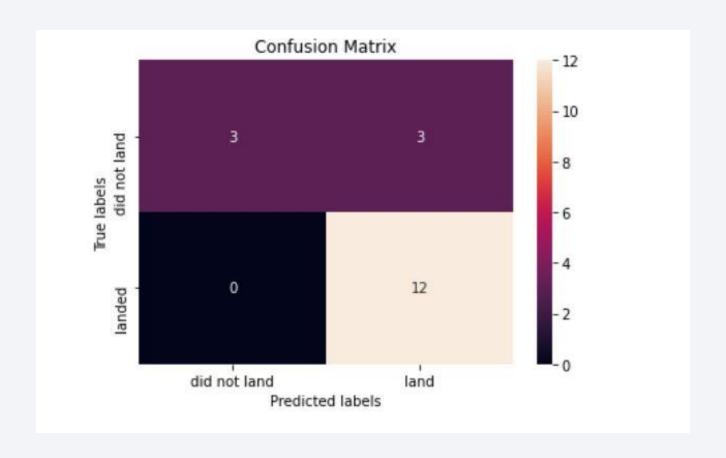
- This bar chart shows the accuracy of each model built.
- The model having the highest classification accuracy is decision tree, with 89%. The other 3 models have the same accuracy of 84%.



#### **Confusion Matrix**

- This is the confusion matrix of decision tree based model.
- It has 3 false
   positives(predicted=landed and
   actual=did not land) and 0 false
   negative (predicted=did not
   land and actual=landed).
- It has 3 true negatives

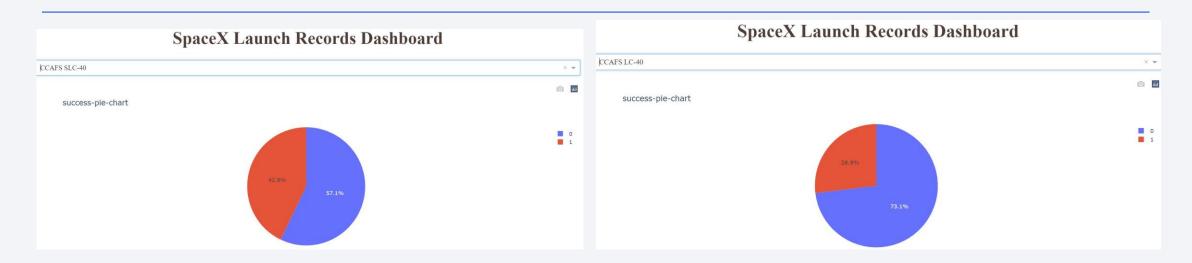
   (actual=did not land and predicted=did not land) and 12
   true positives (actual=landed and predicted=landed).

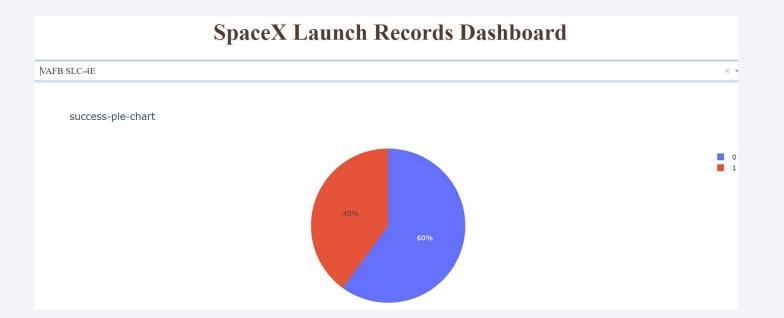


#### **Conclusions**

- The best performing model is decision tree with an accuracy of 89%. The cost of each launch and the landing status can be predicted accurately using this model.
- The launch sites analysis show that the sites are in close proximity to coast lines and pretty far off from cities.
- The dashboard visualization of launch data gives the following conclusions:
  - most successful year was 2020, and also the year with most launches.
  - Most successful site was KSC LC-39A, and most successful booster version was FT.
  - The least successful site was CCAFS SLC-40 and most unsuccessful booster version was V1.1.
  - The best payload mass range for success was between 2000kgs and 5500kgs.

#### Appendix A – success rate pie chart for each launch site





#### Appendix B – slider input and scatter plot for different payload mass values



