

# Winning Space Race with Data Science

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### **Outline**

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

### **Executive Summary**

#### Summary of methodologies

- Data Collection via API, data extraction from websites (Web Scraping)
- Cleaning, restructuring and enriching data trough Data Wrangling
- Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) with SQL and with Visualization
- Data Visualization with Folium (Interactive Map, Dashboard)
- Dashboards with Plotly Dash

#### **Predictive Analysis**

- Summary of all results
- Exploratory Data Analysis results
- Interactive maps and dashboard
- Predictive results

# **Executive Summary**

#### Project background and context:

- The aim of this project is to predict if the Falcon
  9 first stage will successfully land.
- SpaceX says on its website that the Falcon 9
  rocket launch costs 62 million dollars which is
  significantly lower than other providers.
- This project determines if the stage will land successfully or not and therefore can predict the cost of a launch.
- The data-driven insights are mainly valuable for competitors of SpaceX.

#### Problems to be answered:

- What are the main characteristics of a successful or failed landing?
- What are the effects of each relationship of the rocket variables on the success or failure of a landing?
- What are the conditions which will allow SpaceX to achieve the best landing success rate?



# Methodology

#### **Executive Summary**

- Data collection methodology:
  - SpaceX REST API
  - Web Scrapping from Wikipedia
- Perform data wrangling
  - Dropping unnecessary columns
  - One Hot Encoding for classification models
- 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**

#### Datasets are collected from Rest SpaceX API and webscrapping Wikipedia:

The information obtained by the API are rocket, launches, payload information:

The Space X REST API URL is api.spacexdata.com/v4/



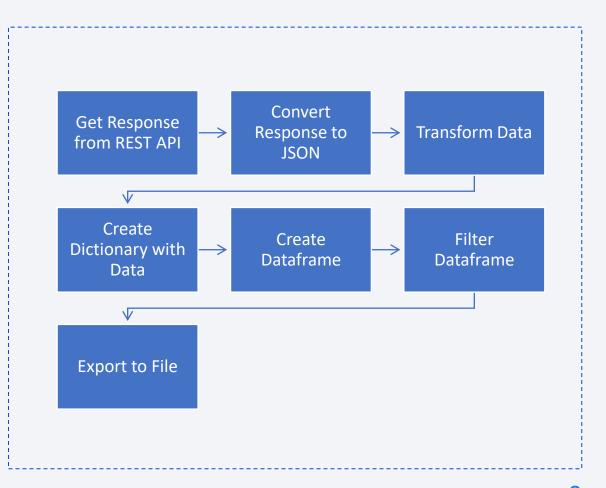
The information obtained by the webscrapping of Wikipedia are launches, landing, payload information:

URL is https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=List of Falcon 9 and Falcon Heavy launches&oldid=1027686922



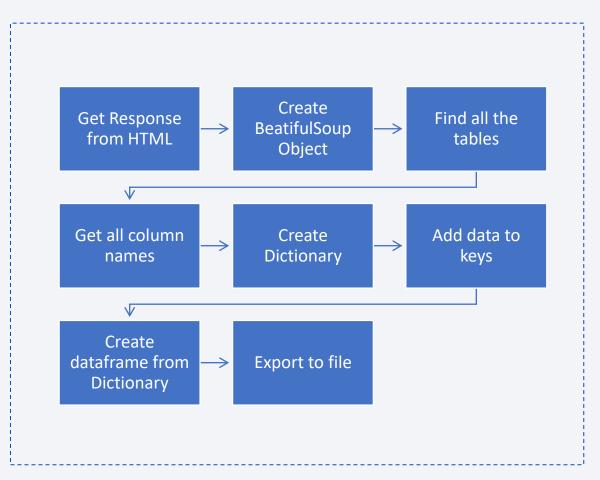
## Data Collection – SpaceX API

- The data collection with SpaceX REST calls has been done in seven main steps.
- The data response from the API has been transformed into a pandas dataframe to better clean and filter it.
- To get more information enter the completed SpaceX API calls notebook via GitHub here.



## **Data Collection - Scraping**

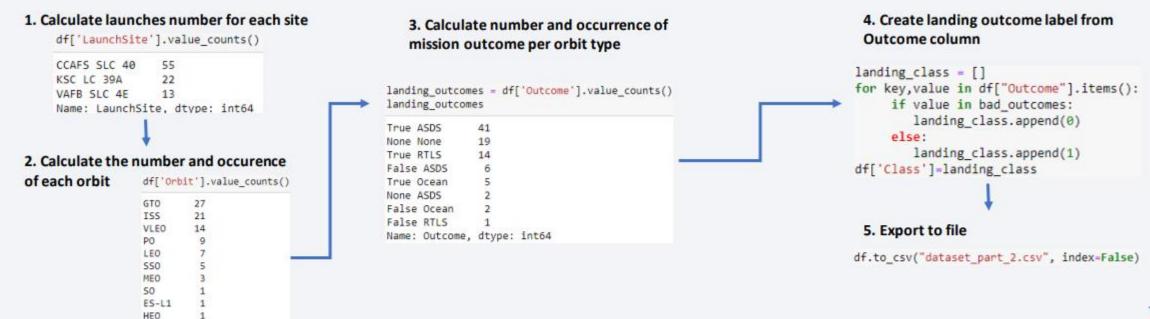
- The data collection with Web Scraping has been done in eight main steps.
- This time the Falcon 9 launch records HTML table has been extracted from Wikipedia and after parsing converted into a Pandas data frame.
- To get more information enter the completed SpaceX API calls notebook via GitHub here.



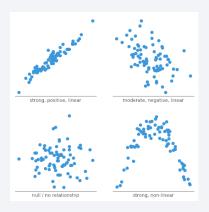
# **Data Wrangling**

Name: Orbit, dtype: int64

- In the dataset, there are several cases where the booster did not land successully.
  - True Ocean, True RTLS, True ASDS means the mission has been successful.
  - · False Ocean, False RTLS, False ASDS means the mission was a failure.
- We need to transform string variables into categorical variables where 1 means the mission has been successful and 0 means the mission was a failure.

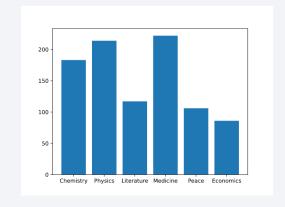


### **EDA** with Data Visualization



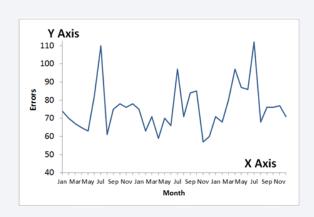
**Scatter plots** are used to show relationship between variables. This relationship is called the correlation.

**Example**: Correlation between the Payload and Launch Site



**Bar graphs** show the relationship between numeric and categoric variables

**Example**: Competition of the Success rate of different Products



Line graphs show data variables and their trends. Line graphs can help to show global behavior and make prediction for unseen data.

**Example**: Evolution of the success rate over time

### **EDA** with SQL

#### SQL queries to gather and understand data from dataset:

- Displaying 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 achieved.
- 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.
- List the records which will display the month names, failure landing outcomes in drone ship, booster versions, launch site for the months in year 2015.
- Rank the count of successful landing outcomes.

### Build an Interactive Map with Folium

- Folium map object is a map centered on NASA Johnson Space Center at Houson, Texas
  - · Red circle at NASA Johnson Space Center's coordinate with label showing its name (folium.Circle, folium.map.Marker).
  - Red circles at each launch site coordinates with label showing launch site name (folium.Circle, folium.map.Marker, folium.features.Divlcon).
  - The grouping of points in a cluster to display multiple and different information for the same coordinates (folium.plugins.MarkerCluster).
  - Markers to show successful and unsuccessful landings. Green for successful landing and Red for unsuccessful landing. (folium.map.Marker, folium.lcon).
  - Markers to show distance between launch site to key locations (railway, highway, coastway, city) and plot a line between them. (folium.map.Marker, folium.PolyLine, folium.features.Divlcon)
- These objects are created in order to understand better the problem and the data. We can show easily all launch sites, their surroundings and the number of successful and unsuccessful landings.

### Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

- Dashboard has dropdown, pie chart, rangeslider and scatter plot components
  - Dropdown allows a user to choose the launch site or all launch sites (dash\_core\_components.Dropdown).
  - Pie chart shows the total success and the total failure for the launch site chosen with the dropdown component (plotly.express.pie).
  - Rangeslider allows a user to select a payload mass in a fixed range (dash\_core\_components.RangeSlider).
  - Scatter chart shows the relationship between two variables, in particular Success vs Payload Mass (plotly.express.scatter).

# Predictive Analysis (Classification)

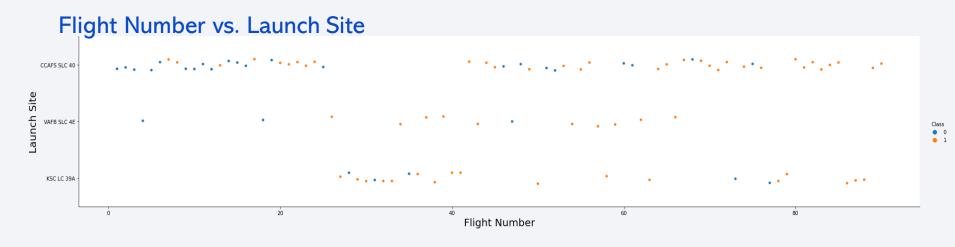
	Data preparation:	Load dataset  Normalize data  Split data into training and test sets.
0	Model preparation	Selection of machine learning algorithms  Set parameters for each algorithm to GridSearchCV  Training GridSearchModel models with training dataset
	Model evaluation	Get best hyperparameters for each type of model Compute accuracy for each model with test dataset Plot Confusion Matrix
	Model comparison	Comparison of models according to their accuracy  The model with the best accuracy will be chosen (see Notebook for result)

### Results

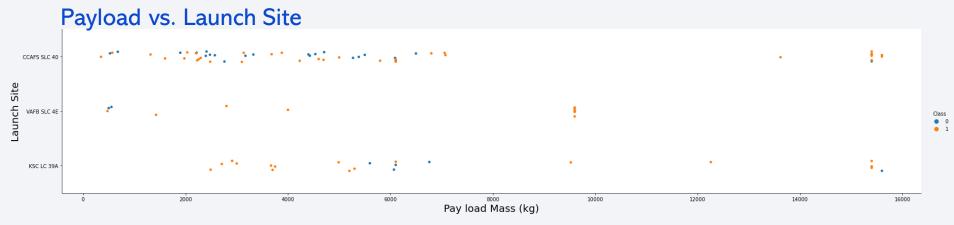
- Exploratory data analysis results
- Interactive analytics demo in screenshots
- Predictive analysis results



# **Exploratory Data Analysis**

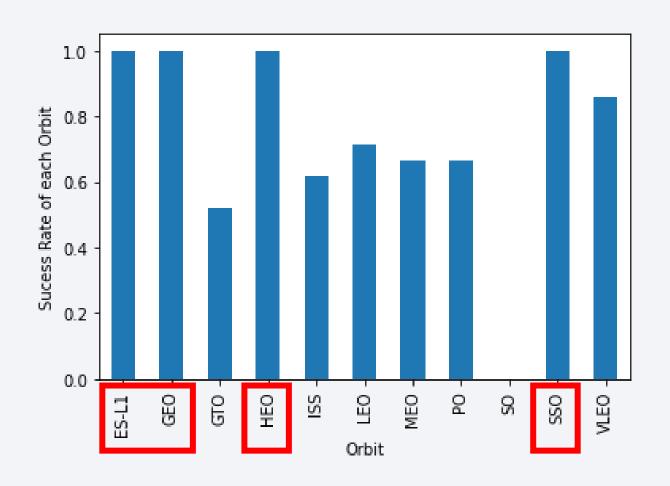


We observe that, for each site, the success rate is increasing.



There are no rockets launched for heavypayload mass(greater than 10000) for the VAFB-SLC launchsite.

## Success Rate vs. Orbit Type



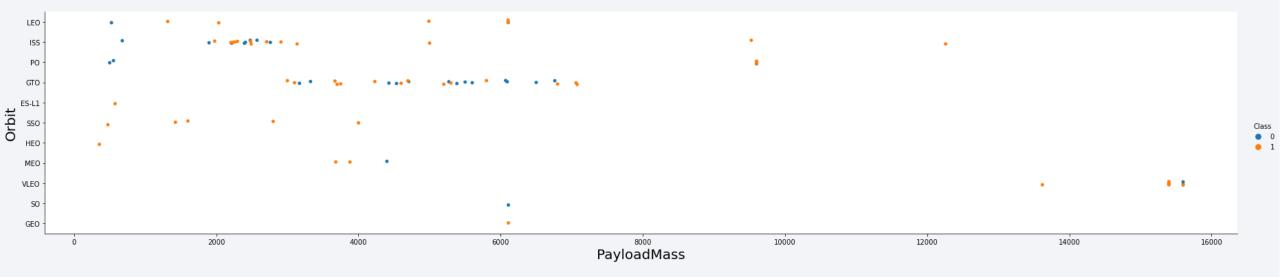
We note that ES-L1, GEO, HEO, SSO have the best success rate.

# Flight Number vs. Orbit Type



In the LEO orbit the Success appears related to the number of flights; on the other hand, there seems to be no relationship between flight number when in GTO orbit.

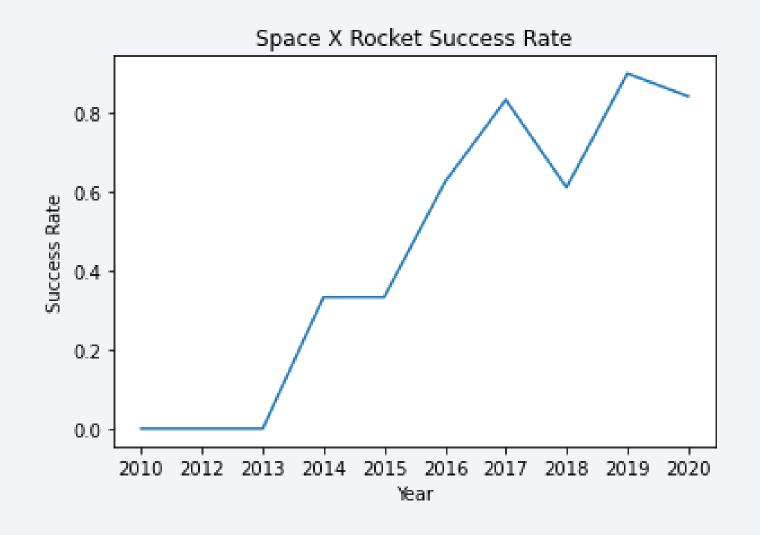
## Payload vs. Orbit Type



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



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

### All Launch Site Names

• Find the names of the unique launch sites: SELECT DISTINCT "LAUNCH\_SITE" FROM SPACEXTBL

#### Launch\_Site

CCAFS LC-40 The use of **DISTINCT** in the query

VAFB SLC-4E allows to remove duplicate

KSC LC-39A LAUNCH\_SITE.

CCAFS SLC-40

# Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

#### SQL Query

```
SELECT * FROM SPACEXTBL WHERE "LAUNCH_SITE" LIKE '%CCA%' LIMIT 5
```

#### Explanation

The WHERE clause followed by LIKE clause filters launch sites that contain the substring CCA. LIMIT 5 shows 5 records from filtering.

#### Results

Date	Time (UTC)	Booster_Version	Launch_Site	Payload	PAYLOAD_MASSKG	Orbit	Customer
04- 06- 2010	18:45:00	F9 v1.0 B0003	CCAFS LC- 40	Dragon Spacecraft Qualification Unit		LEO	SpaceX
08- 12- 2010	15:43:00	F9 v1.0 B0004	CCAFS LC- 40	Dragon demo flight C1, two CubeSats, barrel of Brouere cheese		LEO (ISS)	NASA (COTS) NRO
22- 05- 2012	07:44:00	F9 v1.0 B0005	CCAFS LC- 40	Dragon demo flight C2	529	LEO (ISS)	NASA (COTS)
08- 10- 2012	00:35:00	F9 v1.0 B0006	CCAFS LC- 40	SpaceX CRS-1	500	LEO (ISS)	NASA (CRS)
01- 03- 2013	15:10:00	F9 v1.0 B0007	CCAFS LC- 40	SpaceX CRS-2	67	LEO (ISS)	NASA (CRS)

# **Total Payload Mass**

SQL Query Results

SELECT SUM("PAYLOAD\_MASS\_\_KG\_") FROM SPACEXTBL WHERE "CUSTOMER" = 'NASA (CRS)'

SUM("PAYLOAD\_MASS\_\_KG\_") 45596

#### **Explanation**

This query returns the sum of all payload masses where the customer is NASA (CRS).

## Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

SQL Query Results

SELECT AVG("PAYLOAD\_MASS\_\_KG\_") FROM SPACEXTBL WHERE "BOOSTER\_VERSION" LIKE '%F9 v1.1%'

AVG("PAYLOAD\_MASS\_\_KG\_") 2534.66666666666665

#### Explanation

This query returns the average of all payload masses where the booster version contains the substring F9 v1.1.

# First Successful Ground Landing Date

SQL Query Results

SELECT MIN("DATE") FROM SPACEXTBL WHERE "Landing \_Outcome" LIKE '%Success%'

MIN("DATE")

01-05-2017

#### Explanation

With this query, we select the oldest successful landing.

The WHERE clause filters dataset in order to keep only records where landing was successful. With the MIN function, we select the record with the oldest date.

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

#### SQL Query Results

```
%sql SELECT "BOOSTER_VERSION" FROM SPACEXTBL WHERE "LANDING _OUTCOME" = 'Success (drone ship)' \
AND "PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_" > 4000 AND "PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_" < 6000;</pre>
```

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

#### **Explanation**

This query returns the booster version where landing was successful and payload mass is between 4000 and 6000 kg. The WHERE and AND clauses filter the dataset.

### Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes

SQL Query Results

%sql SELECT (SELECT COUNT("MISSION\_OUTCOME") FROM SPACEXTBL WHERE "MISSION\_OUTCOME" LIKE '%Success%') AS SUCCESS, \
(SELECT COUNT("MISSION OUTCOME") FROM SPACEXTBL WHERE "MISSION OUTCOME" LIKE '%Failure%') AS FAILURE

SUCCESS FAILURE

#### **Explanation**

With the first SELECT, we show the subqueries that return results. The first subquery counts the successful mission. The second subquery counts the unsuccessful mission. The WHERE clause followed by LIKE clause filters mission outcome. The COUNT function counts records filtered.

# **Boosters Carried Maximum Payload**

#### Results SQL Query

```
%sql SELECT DISTINCT "BOOSTER_VERSION" FROM SPACEXTBL \
WHERE "PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_" = (SELECT max("PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_") FROM SPACEXTBL)
```

#### Explanation

We used a subquery to filter data by returning only the heaviest payload mass with MAX function. The main query uses subquery results and returns unique booster version (SELECT DISTINCT) with the heaviest payload mass.

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

#### SQL Query Results

```
(sql SELECT substr("DATE", 4, 2) AS MONTH, "BOOSTER_VERSION", "LAUNCH_SITE" FROM SPACEXTBL\
WHERE "LANDING _OUTCOME" = 'Failure (drone ship)' and substr("DATE",7,4) = '2015'
```

MONTH	Booster_Version	Launch_Site
01	F9 v1.1 B1012	CCAFS LC-40
04	F9 v1.1 B1015	CCAFS LC-40

#### **Explanation**

This query returns month, booster version, launch site where landing was unsuccessful and landing date took place in 2015. Substr function process date in order to take month or year. Substr(DATE, 4, 2) shows month. Substr(DATE, 7, 4) shows year.

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

#### SQL Query Results

```
%sql Select "Landing _OUTCOME", COUNT("Landing _OUTCOME") FROM SPACEXTBL\
WHERE "DATE" >= '04-06-2010' and "DATE" <= '20-03-2017' and "Landing _OUTCOME" LIKE '%Success%'\
GROUP BY "LANDING _OUTCOME" \
ORDER BY COUNT("LANDING _OUTCOME") DESC;</pre>
```

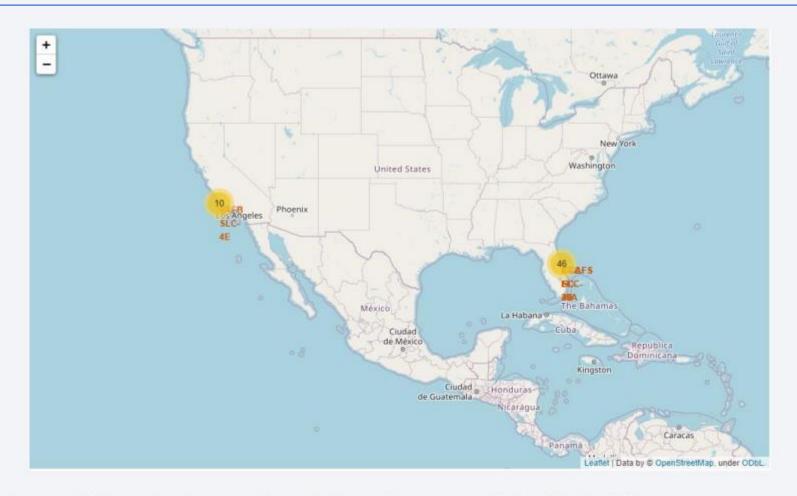
Landing _Outcome	COUNT("LANDING _OUTCOME")
Success	20
Success (drone ship)	8
Success (ground pad)	6

#### Explanation

This query returns landing outcomes and their count where mission was successful and date is between 04/06/2010 and 20/03/2017. The GROUP BY clause groups results by landing outcome and ORDER BY COUNT DESC shows results in decreasing order.



## Folium Map: Space X costal launch sites



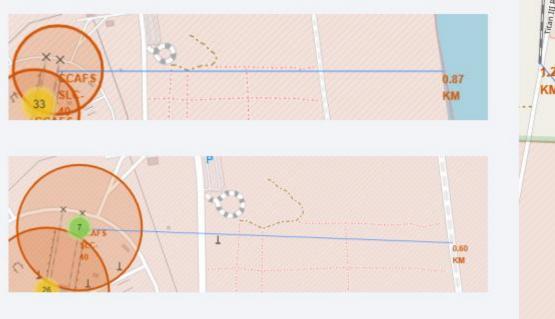
We see that Space X launch sites are located on the coast of the United States

## Folium Map: Successful and unsuccessful launches

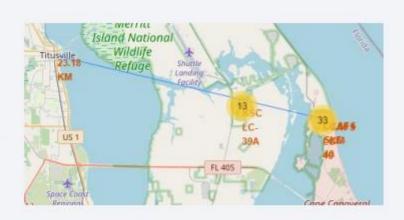


Green marker represents successful launches. Red marker represents unsuccessful launches. We note that KSC LC-39A has a higher launch success rate.

### Folium Map: Visualizations of proximities







Is CCAFS SLC-40 in close proximity to railways? Yes
Is CCAFS SLC-40 in close proximity to highways? Yes
Is CCAFS SLC-40 in close proximity to coastline? Yes
Do CCAFS SLC-40 keeps certain distance away from cities? No

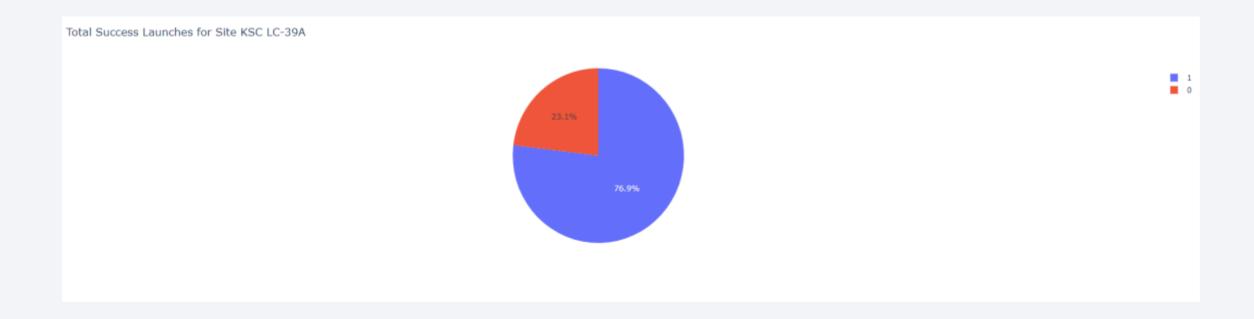


### Dashboard: Success Rates of Launches



We see that KSC LC-39A has the best success rate of launches.

### Dashboard: Success rate of KSC LC-39A



We see that KSC LC-39A has achieved a 76.9% success rate while getting a 23.1% failure rate.

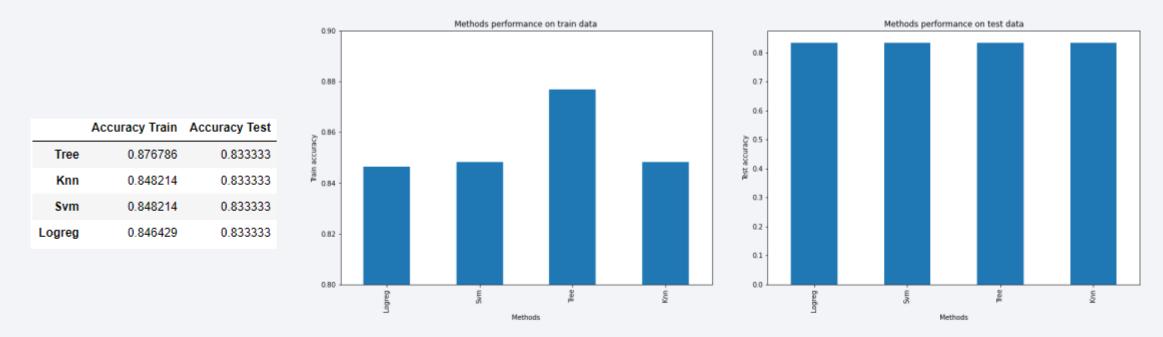
#### Dashboard - Payload mass vs Outcome for all sites with different payload mass selected



Low weighted payloads have a better success rate than the heavy weighted payloads.



# **Classification Accuracy**



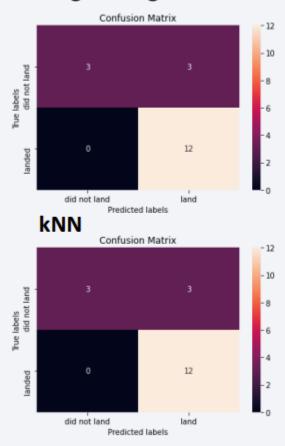
For accuracy test, all methods performed similar. We could get more test data to decide between them. But if we really need to choose one right now, we would take the decision tree.

#### Decision tree best parameters

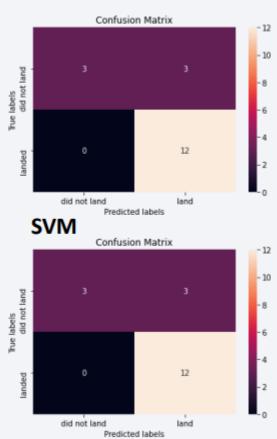
```
tuned hyperparameters :(best parameters) {'criterion': 'entropy', 'max_depth': 12, 'max_features': 'sqrt', 'min_samples_leaf':
4, 'min_samples_split': 2, 'splitter': 'random'}
```

### **Confusion Matrix**

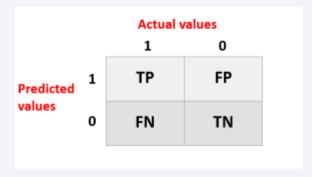
#### **Logistic regression**

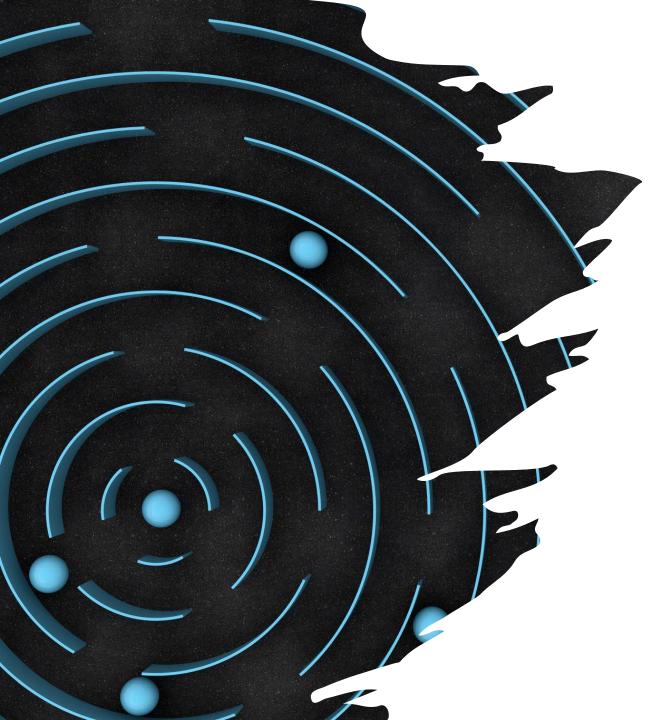


#### **Decision Tree**



As the test accuracy are all equal, the confusion matrices are also identical. The main problem of these models are false positives.





### Conclusions

- The success of a mission can be explained by several factors such as the launch site, the orbit and especially the number of previous launches.
- The orbits with the best success rates are GEO, HEO, SSO, ES-L1.
- Depending on the orbits, the payload mass can be a criterion to consider for the success of a mission. Some orbits require a light or heavy payload mass. But generally low weighted payloads perform better than the heavy weighted payloads.
- With the current data, we cannot explain why some launch sites are better than others (KSC LC-39A is the best launch site). To get an answer to this problem, we could obtain atmospheric or other relevant data.
- For this dataset, we choose the Decision Tree Algorithm as the best model even if the test accuracy between all the models used is identical. We choose Decision Tree Algorithm because it has a better train accuracy.

