

Winning Space Race with Data Science

Ömer Ensar DURMUŞ 14.07.2023



Outline

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

- Summary of methodologies
- Data Collection
- Data Wrangling
- Exploratory data analysis with SQL and data visualization
- Building an interactive map with Folium
- Building a Dashboard with Plotly Dash
- Predictive Analysis
- Summary of all results
- Exploratory data analysis results
- Geospatial analytics
- Interactive dashboard
- Predictive analysis result

Introduction

Project background and context

SpaceX launches Falcon 9 rockets at a cost of around\$62m. This is considerably cheaper than other providers(which usually cost upwards of \$165m), and much of thesavings are because SpaceX can land, and then re-usethe first stage of the rocket.

Problems you want to find answers

If we can make predictions on whether the first stagewill land, we can determine the cost of a launch, and usethis information to assess whether or not an alternatecompany should bid and SpaceX for a rocket launch. This project will ultimately predict if the SpaceX Falcon9 first stage will land successfully.



Methodology

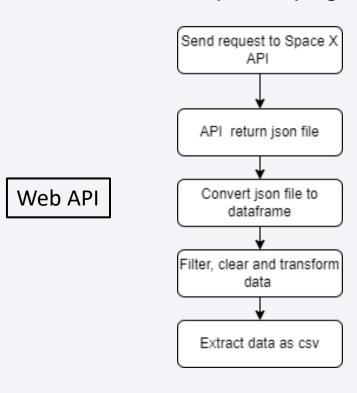
Executive Summary

- Data collection methodology:
 - SpaceX API
 - Web scraping
- Perform data wrangling
 - Discovering, cleaning and structuring data
- Perform exploratory data analysis (EDA) using visualization and SQL
 - Discovering, cleaning and structuring data

- Perform interactive visual analytics using Folium and Plotly Dash
 - Geospatial analytics using Folium
- Perform predictive analysis using classification models
 - Build, tune, evaluate SVM, KNN, Decision Tree and Logistic Regression classification models

Data Collection

• Data was obtained by sending a request via Spacex web API and web scraping from tables on the Wikipedia page



Web scrapping

Extract all column/variable names from the HTML table header

Create a data frame by parsing the launch HTML tables

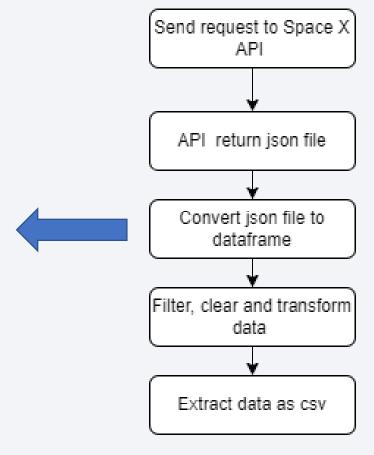
Send get request

Extract data as csv

Data Collection – SpaceX API

Output

	FlightNumber	Date	BoosterVersion	PayloadMass	Orbit	LaunchSite	Outcome	Flights	GridFins	Reused	Legs	LandingPad	Block	ReusedCount	Serial	Longitude	Latitude
4	1	2010-06-04	Falcon 9	NaN	LEO	CCSFS SLC 40	None None	1	False	False	False	None	1.0	0	B0003	-80.577366	28.561857
5	2	2012-05-22	Falcon 9	525.0	LEO	CCSFS SLC 40	None None	1	False	False	False	None	1.0	0	B0005	-80.577366	28.561857
6	3	2013-03-01	Falcon 9	677.0	ISS	CCSFS SLC 40	None None	1	False	False	False	None	1.0	0	B0007	-80.577366	28.561857
7	4	2013-09-29	Falcon 9	500.0	PO	VAFB SLC 4E	False Ocean	1	False	False	False	None	1.0	0	B1003	-120.610829	34.632093
8	5	2013-12-03	Falcon 9	3170.0	GTO	CCSFS SLC 40	None None	1	False	False	False	None	1.0	0	B1004	-80.577366	28.561857
89	86	2020-09-03	Falcon 9	15600.0	VLEO	KSC LC 39A	True ASDS	2	True	True	True	5e9e3032383ecb6bb234e7ca	5.0	12	B1060	-80.603956	28.608058
90	87	2020-10-06	Falcon 9	15600.0	VLEO	KSC LC 39A	True ASDS	3	True	True	True	5e9e3032383ecb6bb234e7ca	5.0	13	B1058	-80.603956	28.608058
91	88	2020-10-18	Falcon 9	15600.0	VLEO	KSC LC 39A	True ASDS	6	True	True	True	5e9e3032383ecb6bb234e7ca	5.0	12	B1051	-80.603956	28.608058
92	89	2020-10-24	Falcon 9	15600.0	VLEO	CCSFS SLC 40	True ASDS	3	True	True	True	5e9e3033383ecbb9e534e7cc	5.0	12	B1060	-80.577366	28.561857
93	90	2020-11-05	Falcon 9	3681.0	MEO	CCSFS SLC 40	True ASDS	1	True	False	True	5e9e3032383ecb6bb234e7ca	5.0	8	B1062	-80.577366	28.561857

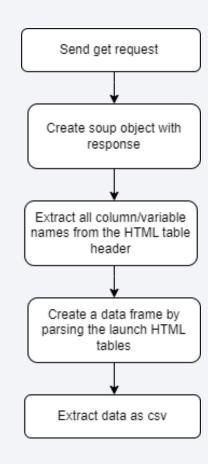


Data Collection - Scraping

Output

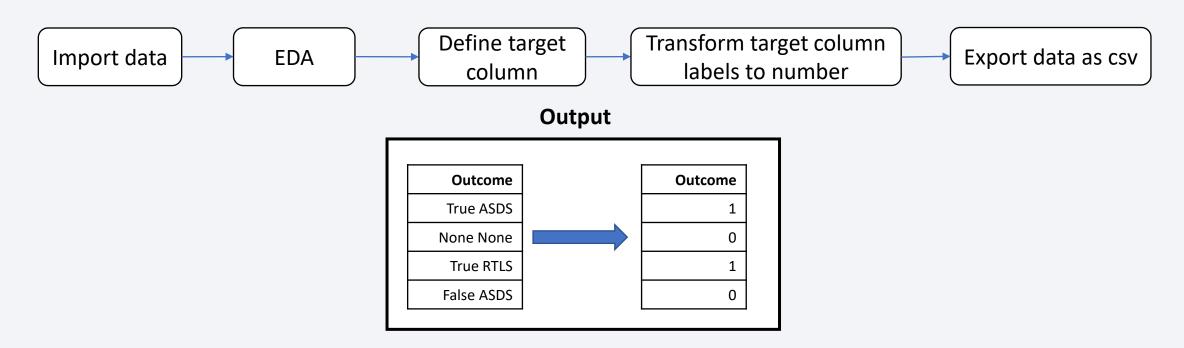
	Flight No.	Launch site	Payload	Payload mass	Orbit	Customer	Launch outcome	Version Booster	Booster landing	Date	Time
0	1	CCAFS	Dragon Spacecraft Qualification Unit	0	LEO	SpaceX	Success\n	F9 v1.0B0003.1	Failure	4 June 2010	18:45
1	2	CCAFS	Dragon	0	LEO	NASA	Success	F9 v1.0B0004.1	Failure	8 December 2010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

116	117	CCSFS	Starlink	15,600 kg	LEO	SpaceX	Success\n	F9 B5B1051.10	Success	9 May 2021	06:42
117	118	KSC	Starlink	~14,000 kg	LEO	SpaceX	Success\n	F9 B5B1058.8	Success	15 May 2021	22:56
118	119	CCSFS	Starlink	15,600 kg	LEO	SpaceX	Success\n	F9 B5B1063.2	Success	26 May 2021	18:59
119	120	KSC	SpaceX CRS-22	3,328 kg	LEO	NASA	Success\n	F9 B5B1067.1	Success	3 June 2021	17:29
120	121	CCSFS	SXM-8	7,000 kg	GTO	Sirius XM	Success\n	F9 B5	Success	6 June 2021	04:26



Data Wrangling

First of all, exploratory data analysis was performed on the data and the unique values in the column to be
estimated were examined. To make it suitable for machine learning, these values have been replaced with the
number 0 and 1 representing the pass or fail state and added to the dataframe as the class column.



EDA with Data Visualization

1. Scatter Chart

- Flight number vs payload mass
- Flight number vs launch site
- Payload vs launch site
- Flightnumber and orbit type
- Payload vs orbit type
- 2. Bar Chart
 - Success rate vs orbit type
- 3. Line Chart
 - Success rate vs year

Scatter charts to display the relationship between two variables and observe the nature of the relationship. The relationships observed can either be positive or negative, non-linear or linear, and/or, strong or weak.

Bar charts enable us to compare numerical values like integers and percentages. They use the length of each bar to represent the value of each variable.

Line graphs are used to track changes over different periods of time.

EDA with SQL

- The SQL queries performed on the data set were used to:
- 1. Display the names of the unique launch sites in the space mission
- 2. Display 5 records where launch sites begin with the string 'CCA'
- 3. Display the total payload mass carried by boosters launched by NASA (CRS)
- 4. Display the average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1
- 5. List the date when the first successful landing outcome on a ground pad was achieved
- 6. List the names of the boosters which had success on a drone ship and a payload mass between 4000 and 6000 kg
- 7. List the total number of successful and failed mission outcomes
- 8. List the names of the booster versions which have carried the maximum payload mass
- 9. List the failed landing outcomes on drone ships, their booster versions, and launch site names for 2015
- 10. 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

Build an Interactive Map with Folium

1. Mark all launch sites on a map

- Initialise the map using a Folium Map object
- Add a folium.Circle and folium.Marker for each launch site on the launch map

2. Mark the success/failed launches for each site on a map

- As many launches have the same coordinates, it makes sense to cluster them together.
- Before clustering them, assign a marker colour of successful (class = 1) as green, and failed (class = 0) as red.
- To put the launches into clusters, for each launch, add a folium.Marker to the MarkerCluster() object.
- Create an icon as a text label, assigning the icon_color as the marker_colour determined previously.

3. Calculate the distances between a launch site to its proximities

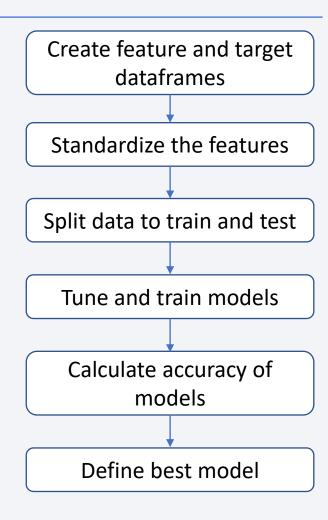
- To explore the proximities of launch sites, calculations of distances between points can be made using the Lat and Long values.
- After marking a point using the Lat and Long values, create a folium. Marker object to show the distance.
- To display the distance line between two points, draw a folium. PolyLine and add this to the map.

Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

- 1. Pie chart showing the total successful launches per site
 - This makes it clear to see which sites are most successful.
 - The chart could also be filtered to see the success/failure ratio for an individual site
- 2. Scatter graph to show the correlation between outcome (success or not) and payload mass (kg)
 - This could be filtered by ranges of payload masses
 - It could also be filtered by booster version

Predictive Analysis (Classification)

- To prepare the dataset for model development:
 - Load dataset
 - Perform necessary data transformations (standardise and pre-process)
 - Split data into training and test data sets
 - Decide which type of machine learning model are most appropriate
- For each chosen model:
 - Create a **GridSearchCV** object and a dictionary of parameters
 - Fit the object to the parameters
 - Use the training data set to train the model and find best parameters
- For each chosen model:
 - Review the accuracy scores for all chosen algorithms
 - The model with the highest accuracy score is determined as the best performing model



Results

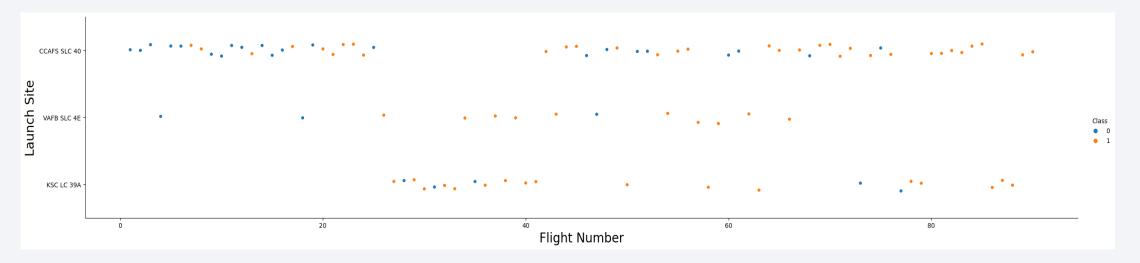
- Exploratory data analysis results
- Interactive analytics demo in screenshots
- Predictive analysis results



Flight Number vs. Launch Site

The scatter plot of Launch Site vs. Flight Number shows that:

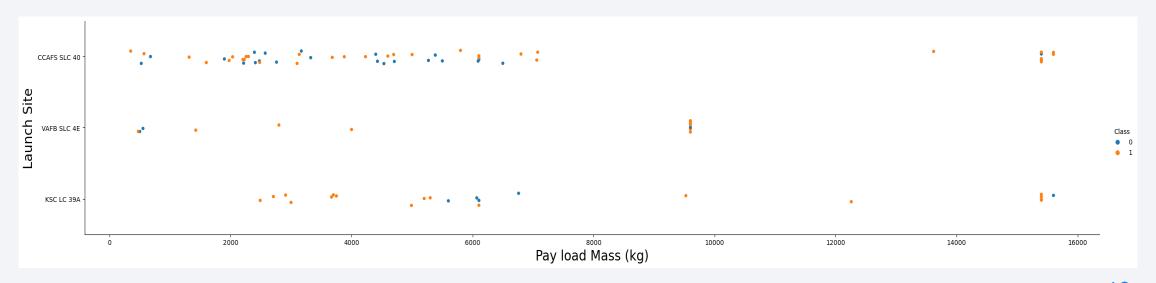
- As the number of flights increases, the rate of success at a launch site increases.
- Most of the early flights (flight numbers < 30) were launched from CCAFS SLC 40, and were generally unsuccessful.
- The flights from VAFB SLC 4E also show this trend, that earlier flights were less successful.
- Above a flight number of around 30, there are significantly more successful landings (Class = 1).



Payload vs. Launch Site

The scatter plot of Launch Site vs. Payload Mass shows that:

- Above a payload mass of around 7000 kg, there are very few unsuccessful landings, but there is also far less data for these heavier launches.
- There is no clear correlation between payload mass and success rate for a given launch site.
- All sites launched a variety of payload masses, with most of the launches from CCAFS SLC 40 being comparatively lighter payloads



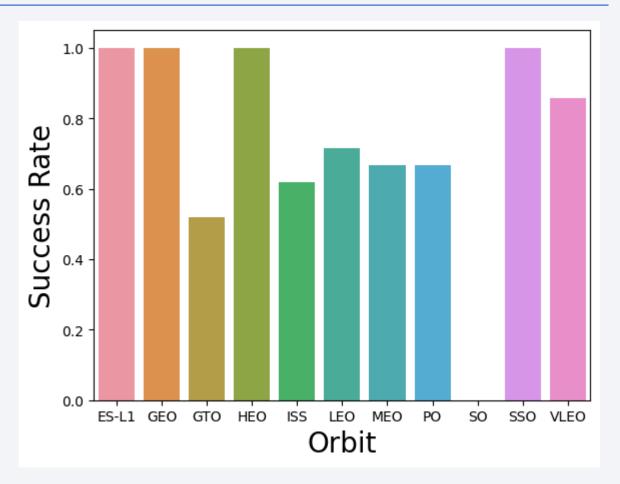
Success Rate vs. Orbit Type

The bar chart of Success Rate vs. Orbit Type shows that the following orbits have the highest (100%) success rate:

- ES-L1 (Earth-Sun First Lagrangian Point)
- GEO (Geostationary Orbit)
- HEO (High Earth Orbit)
- SSO (Sun-synchronous Orbit)

The orbit with the lowest (0%) success rate is:

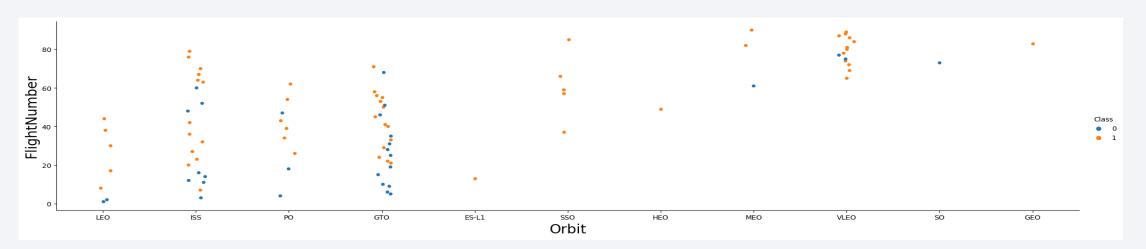
• SO (Heliocentric Orbit)



Flight Number vs. Orbit Type

This scatter plot of Orbit Type vs. Flight number shows a few useful things that the previous plots did not, such as:

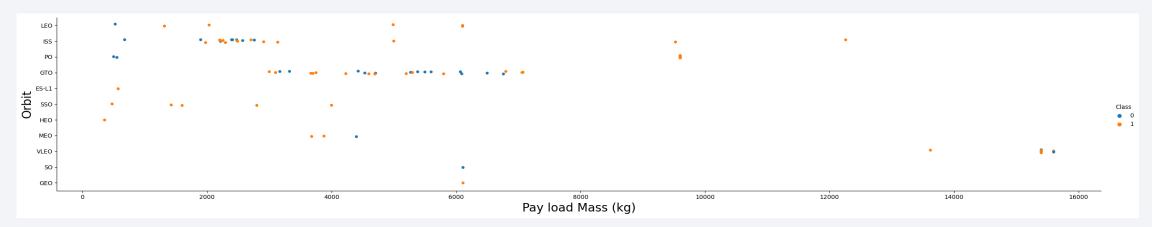
- The 100% success rate of GEO, HEO, and ES-L1 orbits can be explained by only having 1 flight into the respective orbits.
- The 100% success rate in SSO is more impressive, with 5 successful flights.
- There is little relationship between Flight Number and Success Rate for GTO.
- Generally, as Flight Number increases, the success rate increases. This is most extreme for LEO, where unsuccessful landings only occurred for the low flight numbers (early launches).



Payload vs. Orbit Type

This scatter plot of Orbit Type vs. Payload Mass shows that:

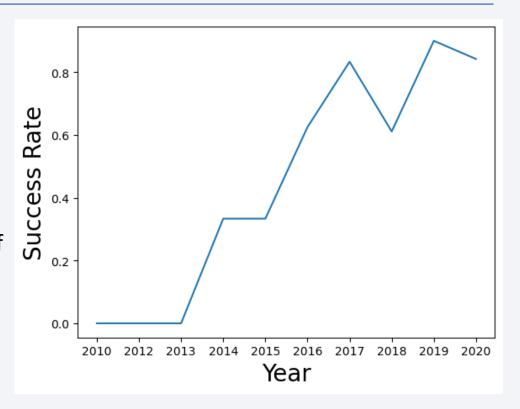
- The following orbit types have more success with heavy payloads:
 - PO
 - ISS
 - LEO
- For GTO, the relationship between payload mass and success rate is unclear.
- VLEO (Very Low Earth Orbit) launches are associated with heavier payloads, which makes intuitive sense.



Launch Success Yearly Trend

The line chart of yearly average success rate shows that:

- Between 2010 and 2013, all landings were unsuccessful (as the success rate is 0).
- After 2013, the success rate generally increased, despite small dips in 2018 and 2020.
- After 2016, there was always a greater than 50% chance of success.



All Launch Site Names

Find the names of the unique launch sites:

• The word **UNIQUE** returns only unique values from the **LAUNCH_SITE** column of the **SPACEXTBL** table.



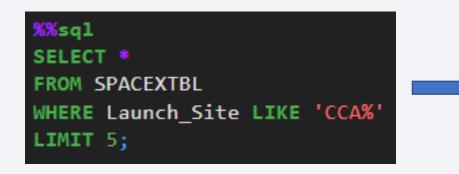
Unique launch sites:

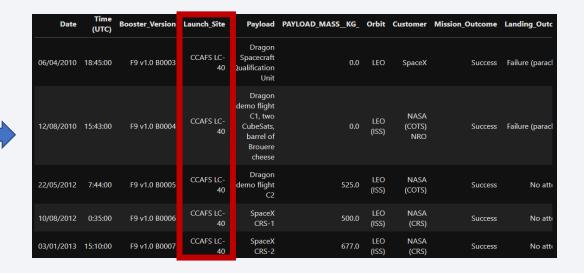
- CCAFS LC-40
- VAFB SLC-4E
- KSC LC-39A
- CCAFS SLC-40

Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

Find 5 records where launch sites begin with `CCA`

• **LIMIT 5** fetches only 5 records, and the **LIKE** keyword is used with the wild card **'CCA%'** to retrieve string values beginning with 'CCA'.

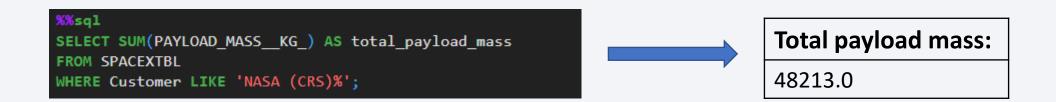




Total Payload Mass

Calculate the total payload carried by boosters from NASA

• The **SUM** keyword is used to calculate the total of the **LAUNCH** column, and the **SUM** keyword (and the associated condition) filters the results to only boosters from NASA (CRS).



Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

Calculate the average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1

• The **AVG** keyword is used to calculate the average of the **PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_** column, and the **WHERE** keyword (and the associated condition) filters the results to only the F9 v1.1 booster version.

```
%%sql
SELECT AVG(PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_) AS avarage_payload_mass
FROM SPACEXTBL
WHERE Booster_Version LIKE 'F9 v1.1%';
Average Payload Mass:
2534.66
```

First Successful Ground Landing Date

Find the dates of the first successful landing outcome on ground pad

• The MIN keyword is used to calculate the minimum of the DATE column, i.e. the first date, and the WHERE keyword (and the associated condition) filters the results to only the successful ground pad landings.



Successful Drone Ship Landing with Payload between 4000 and 6000

List the names of boosters which have successfully landed on drone ship and had payload mass greater than 4000 but less than 6000

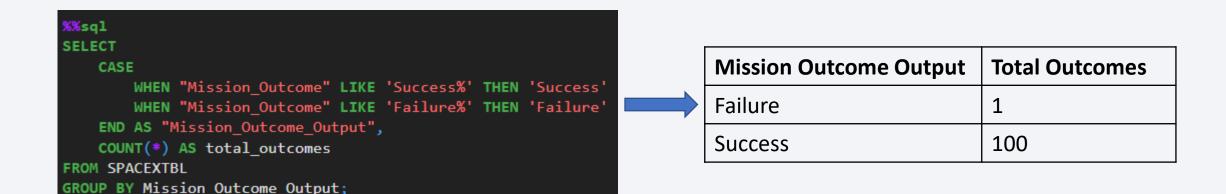
• The WHERE keyword is used to filter the results to include only those that satisfy both conditions in the brackets (as the AND keyword is also used). The BETWEEN keyword allows for 4000 < x < 6000 values to be selected.



Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes

Calculate the total number of successful and failure mission outcomes

• The **COUNT** keyword is used to calculate the total number of mission outcomes, and the **GROUPBY** keyword is also used to group these results by the type of mission outcome.



Boosters Carried Maximum Payload

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

• A subquery is used here. The **SELECT** statement within the brackets finds the maximum payload, and this value is used in the **WHERE** condition. The **DISTINCT** keyword is then used to retrieve only distinct /unique booster versions.

%%sq1
SELECT "Booster_Version"
FROM SPACEXTBL
WHERE "PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_" = (
 SELECT MAX("PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_")
 FROM SPACEXTBL
);

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

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

• The WHERE keyword is used to filter the results for only failed landing outcomes, AND only for the year of 2015. CASE and WHEN keyword define the month name based on 'Date' column.



Month Name	Landing Outcome	Booster Version	Launch Site		
October	Failure (drone ship)	F9 v1.1 B1012	CCAFS LC-40		
April	Failure (drone ship)	F9 v1.1 B1015	CCAFS LC-40		

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

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

• The WHERE keyword is used with the BETWEEN keyword to filter the results to dates only within those specified. The results are then grouped and ordered, using the keywords GROUP BY and ORDER BY, respectively, where DESC is used to specify the descending order.

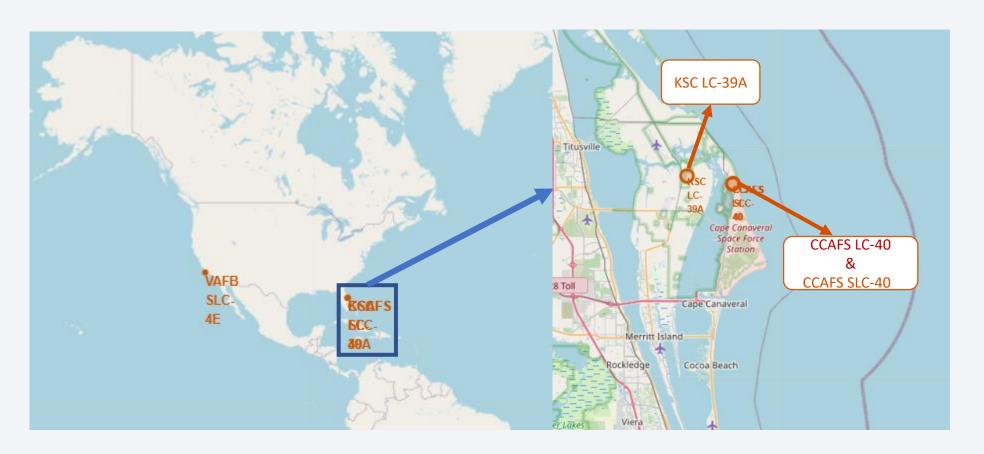


Landing Outcome	Outcome Count				
No attempt	9				
Failure (drone ship)	5				
Success (drone ship)	4				
Controlled (ocean)	3				
Uncontrolled (ocean)	2				
Success (ground pad)	2				
Failure (parachute)	2				
Precluded (drone ship)	1				



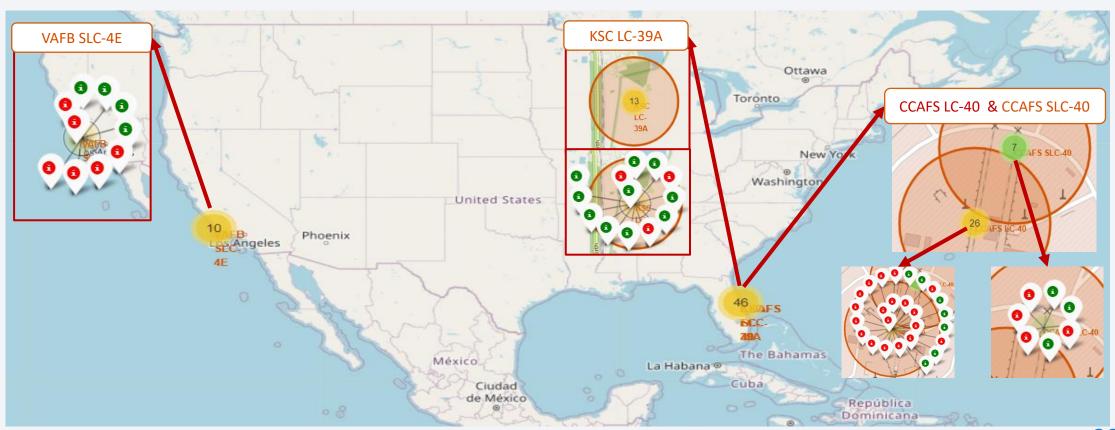
Launch Sites Locations

• All SpaceX launch sites are on coasts of the United States of America, specifically Florida and California.



Success/Failed Launches For Each Site

• Launches have been grouped into clusters, and annotated with green icons for successful launches, and red icons for failed launches.



PROXIMITIES OF LAUNCH SITES TO OTHER POINTS OF INTEREST

• Using the CCAFS SLC-40 launch site as an example site, we can understand more about the placement of launch sites.

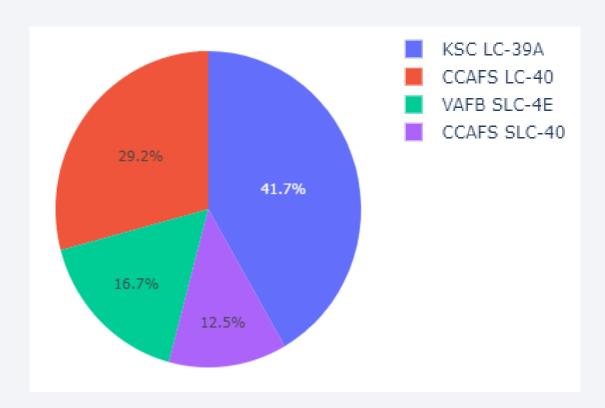


- The coastline is only 0.90 km due East.
- The nearest highway is only 0.59km away.
- The nearest railway is only 1.29 km away.
- The nearest city is 78.66 km away.



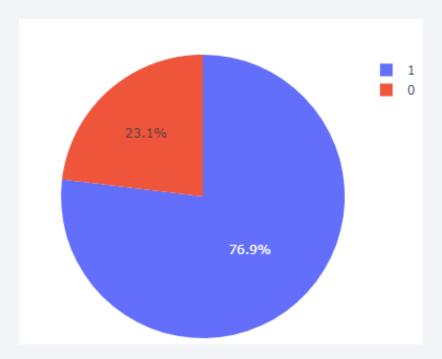
Total Success Launches by Sites

The launch site KSC LC-39 A had the most successful launches, with 41.7% of the total successful launches

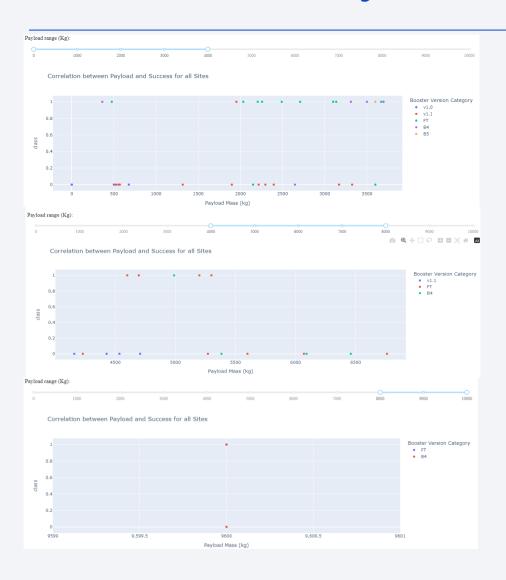


Total Success Launches Rate for Site KSC LC-39 A

The launch site KSC LC-39 A also had the highest rate of successful launches, with a 76.9% success rate.



Outcome vs. Payload Scatter Plot



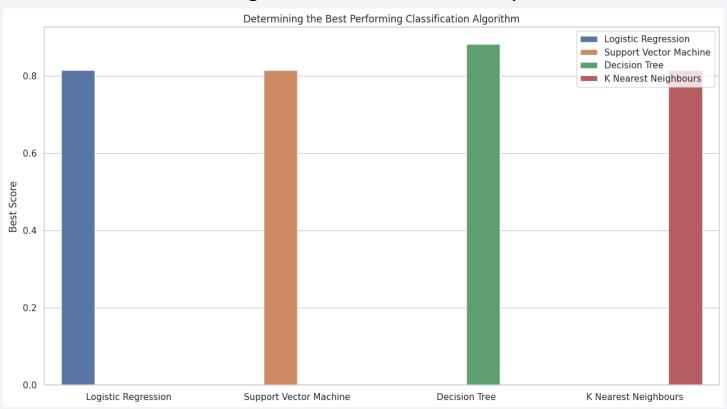
- Plotting the launch outcome vs. payload for all sites shows a gap around 4000 kg, so it makes sense to split the data into 3 ranges:
 - 0 4000 kg (low payloads)
 - 4000 kg-8000 kg (mid payloads)
 - 8000 10000 kg (massive payloads)
- Some booster types (v1.0 and B5) do not start with massive and mid loads
- It is seen that only FT and B4 booster versions are used for massive loads.



Classification Accuracy

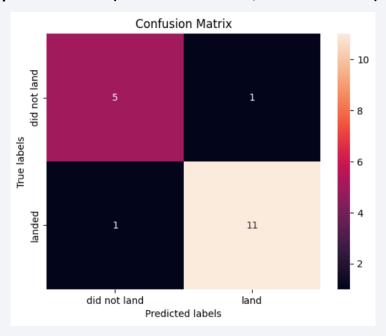
Plotting the Accuracy Score and Best Score for each classification algorithm produces the following result:

The Decision Tree model has the highest classification accuracy



Confusion Matrix

- As shown previously, best performing classification model is the Decision Tree model, with an accuracy of 88.88%.
- This is explained by the confusion matrix, which shows only 2 out of 18 total results classified incorrectly (a
 false positive, shown in the top-right corner and false negative bottom-right corner).
- The other 17 results are correctly classified (5 did not land, 11 did land).



Conclusions

- As the number of flights increases, the rate of success at a launch site increases, with most early flights being unsuccessful. I.e. with more experience, the success rate increases.
 - Between 2010 and 2013, all landings were unsuccessful (as the success rate is 0).
 - After 2013, the success rate generally increased, despite small dips in 2018 and 2020.
 - After 2016, there was always a greater than 50% chance of success.
- Orbit types ES-L1, GEO, HEO, and SSO, have the highest (100%) success rate.
 - The 100% success rate of GEO, HEO, and ES-L1 orbits can be explained by only having 1 flight into the respective orbits.
 - The 100% success rate in SSO is more impressive, with 5 successful flights.
 - The orbit types PO, ISS, and LEO, have more success with heavy payloads:
 - VLEO (Very Low Earth Orbit) launches are associated with heavier payloads, which makes intuitive sense.
- The launch site **KSC LC-39 A** had the most successful launches, with 41.7% of the total successful launches, and also the highest rate of successful launches, with a 76.9% success rate.
- The best performing classification model is the Decision Tree model, with an accuracy of 94.44%.

Appendix

Appendix can be found at the link below.

• https://github.com/omerensar13/IBM_Data_Science_Exercise.git

