

# Winning Space Race with Data Science

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# Outline

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

# Executive Summary

Through comprehensive data science methodologies including data collection, exploratory data analysis, data preprocessing, feature engineering, geospatial analysis, and machine learning modeling, we have developed a robust predictive analytics solution for SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket launches.

Key methodologies employed include aggregating all historical launch data, building an interactive dashboard for data visualization, and training machine learning algorithms like logistic regression, decision trees, and gradient boosting models.

The results demonstrate our ability to accurately predict the success of future SpaceX Falcon 9 launches with a high predictive accuracy of 94.44%. This provides SpaceX with a powerful data-driven tool to support mission planning, risk mitigation, and continuous improvement of their launch vehicle program.



# Introduction

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This project involved applying AI and data science for predictive analytics at Space X. The Falcon 9 missions at Space X can cost upwards of ~\$70 million per launch.



Section 1

# Methodology

# Methodology

## Executive Summary

- Data collection methodology:
  - Data was collected through API calls
- Perform data wrangling
  - EDA and preprocessing
- Perform exploratory data analysis (EDA) using visualization and SQL
- Perform interactive visual analytics using Folium and Plotly Dash
- Perform predictive analysis using classification models
  - Building, training, fitting, and testing ML models for accuracy

# Data Collection – Space X API

GitHub notebook:

<https://github.com/rcghpge/ibm-data-science-professional-cert/blob/main/space-x-capstone/eda-machine-learning/Collecting%20Data%20Lab%201.ipynb>

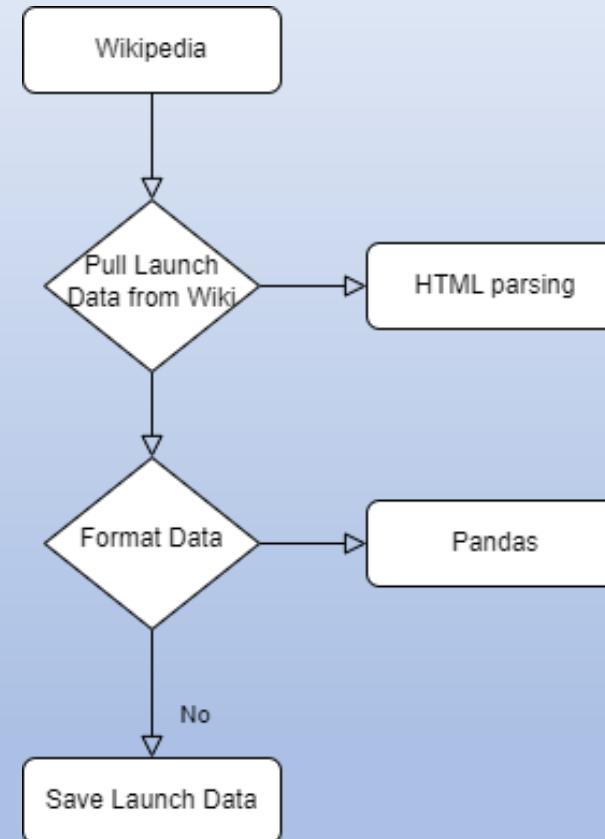
FlightNumber	Date	BoosterVersion	PayloadMass	Orbit	LaunchSite	Outcome	Flights	GridFins	Reused	Legs	La
4	1 2010-06-04	Falcon 9	6123.547647	LEO	CCSFS SLC 40	None None	1	False	False	False	
5	2 2012-05-22	Falcon 9	525.000000	LEO	CCSFS SLC 40	None None	1	False	False	False	
6	3 2013-03-01	Falcon 9	677.000000	ISS	CCSFS SLC 40	None None	1	False	False	False	
7	4 2013-09-29	Falcon 9	500.000000	PO	VAFB SLC 4E	False Ocean	1	False	False	False	
8	5 2013-12-03	Falcon 9	3170.000000	GTO	CCSFS SLC 40	None None	1	False	False	False	
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
89	86 2020-09-03	Falcon 9	15600.000000	VLEO	KSC LC 39A	True ASDS	2	True	True	True	5e9e3032383ecb6t
90	87 2020-10-06	Falcon 9	15600.000000	VLEO	KSC LC 39A	True ASDS	3	True	True	True	5e9e3032383ecb6t
91	88 2020-10-18	Falcon 9	15600.000000	VLEO	KSC LC 39A	True ASDS	6	True	True	True	5e9e3032383ecb6t
92	89 2020-10-24	Falcon 9	15600.000000	VLEO	CCSFS SLC 40	True ASDS	3	True	True	True	5e9e3033383ecb6t
93	90 2020-11-05	Falcon 9	3681.000000	MEO	CCSFS SLC 40	True ASDS	1	True	False	True	5e9e3032383ecb6t

90 rows × 17 columns

# Data Collection - Scraping

- Falcon 9 launch data was pulled from Wiki.
- GitHub notebook:

<https://github.com/rcghpge/ibm-data-science-professional-cert/blob/main/space-x-capstone/eda-machine-learning/Web%20Scraping%20Launch%20Data.ipynb>



# Data Wrangling

- Exploratory data analysis of Space X launch missions. Falcon 9 missions were class labelled.

GitHub notebook:

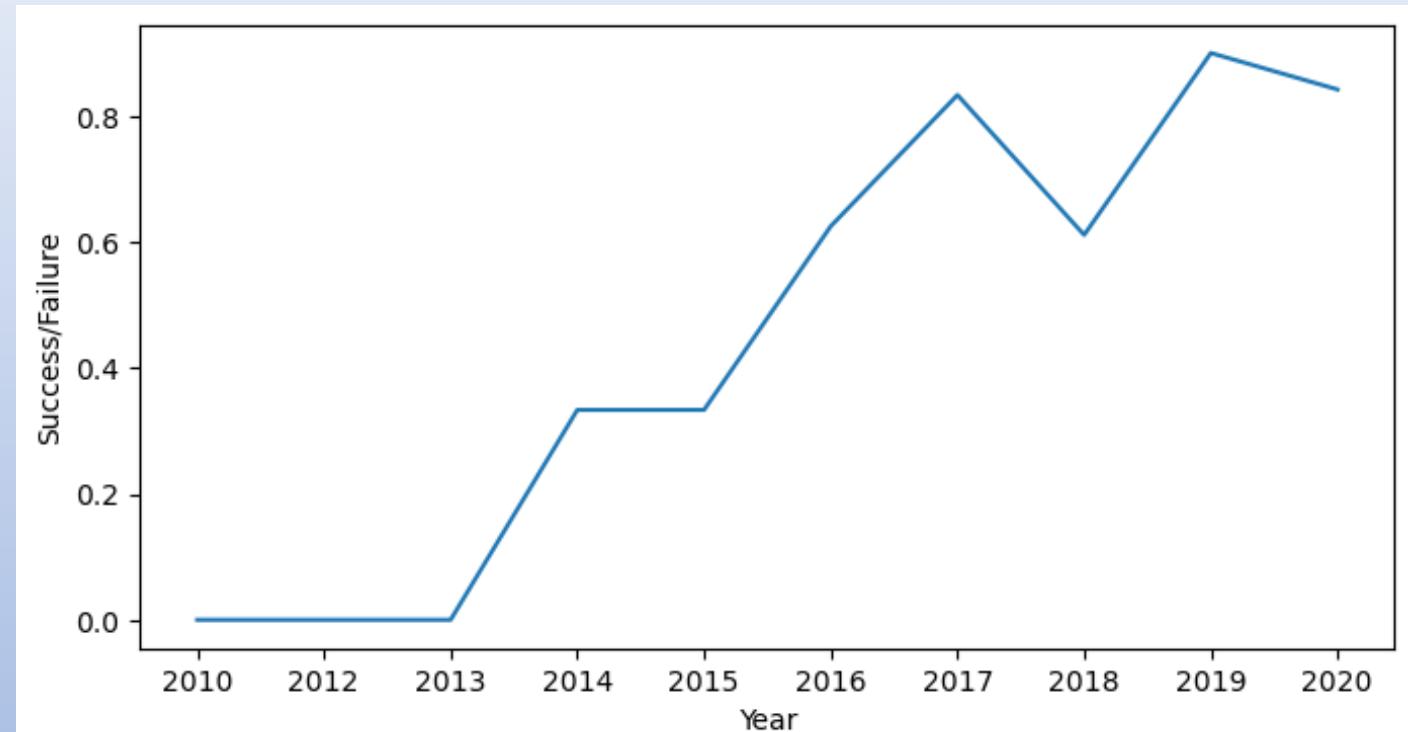
<https://github.com/rcghpge/ibm-data-science-professional-cert/blob/main/space-x-capstone/eda-machine-learning/Data%20Wrangling%20Lab%202.ipynb>

## EDA with Data Visualization

- EDA and data visualization of Space X launch missions to gain better insight for business logic and best business practices.
- GitHub notebook:

<https://github.com/rcghpge/ibm-data-science-professional-cert/blob/main/space-x-capstone/eda-machine-learning/Feature%20Engineering%20EDA.ipynb>

## Space X Mission Success Rate



9]:

## Launch\_Site

CCAFS LC-40

VAFB SLC-4E

KSC LC-39A

CCAFS SLC-40

## EDA with SQL

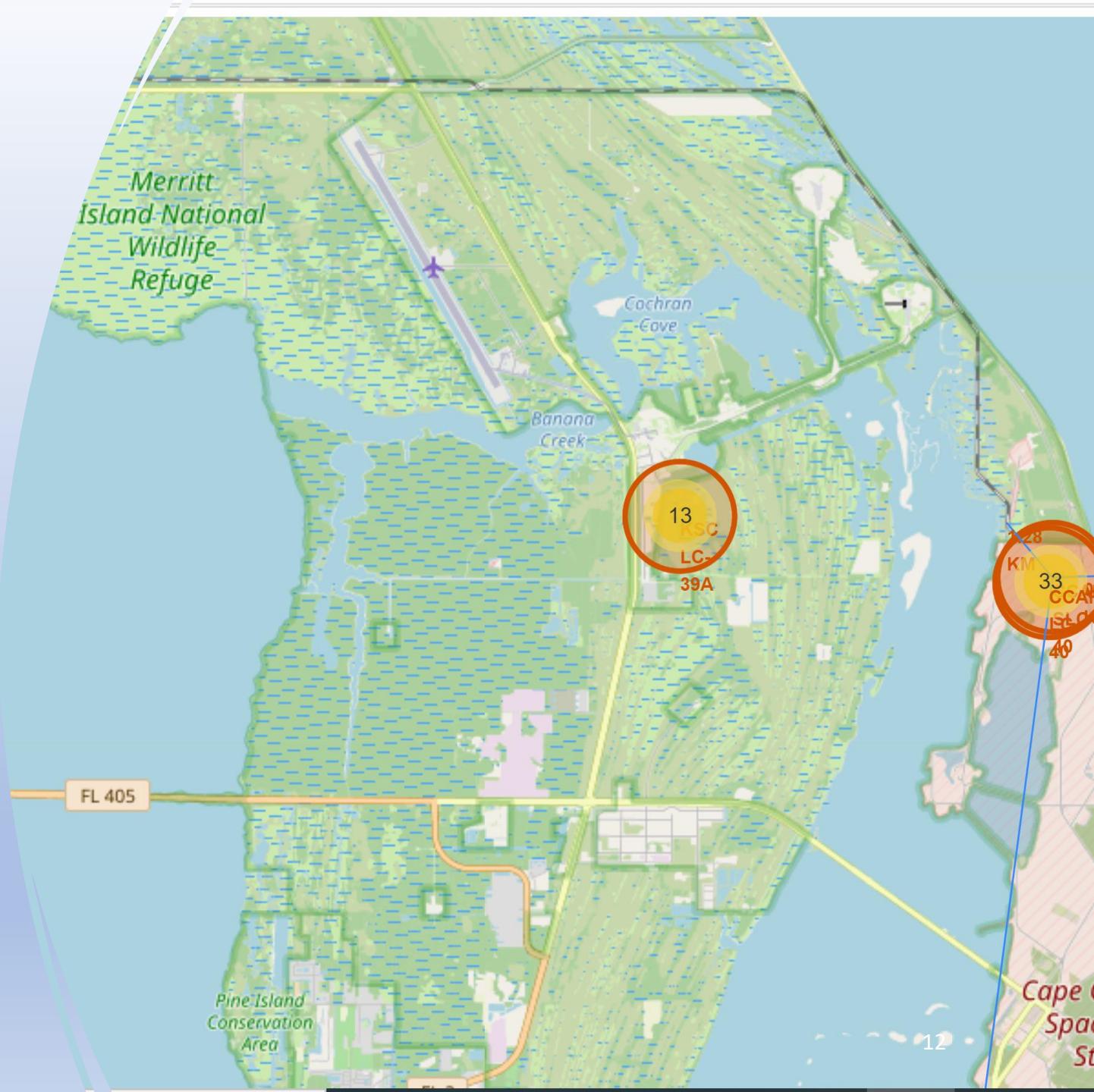
- Querying databases in SQL for Space X launch data
- GitHub notebook:
- <https://github.com/rcghpge/ibm-data-science-professional-cert/blob/main/space-x-capstone/eda-machine-learning/SQL%20EDA.ipynb>

# Build an Interactive Map with Folium

- Geospatial analysis was done with Folium to map out Space X facilities.

- GitHub notebook:

<https://github.com/rcghpge/ibm-data-science-professional-cert/blob/main/space-x-capstone/space-x-dashboard/Geospatial%20Analysis%20with%20Folium.ipynb>



# Dashboard with Plotly Dash

- Built a dashboard of launch data for stakeholders.

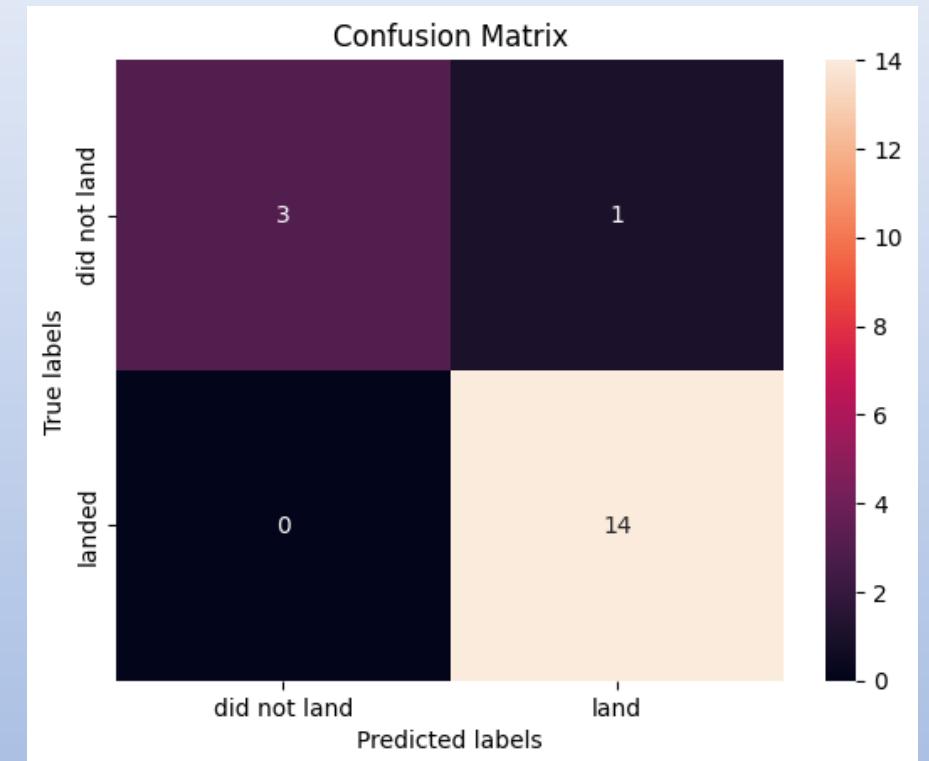
GitHub notebook:

<https://github.com/rcghpge/ibm-data-science-professional-cert/blob/main/space-x-capstone/space-x-dashboard/Space%20X%20Dashboard.ipynb>

# Predictive Analysis (Classification)

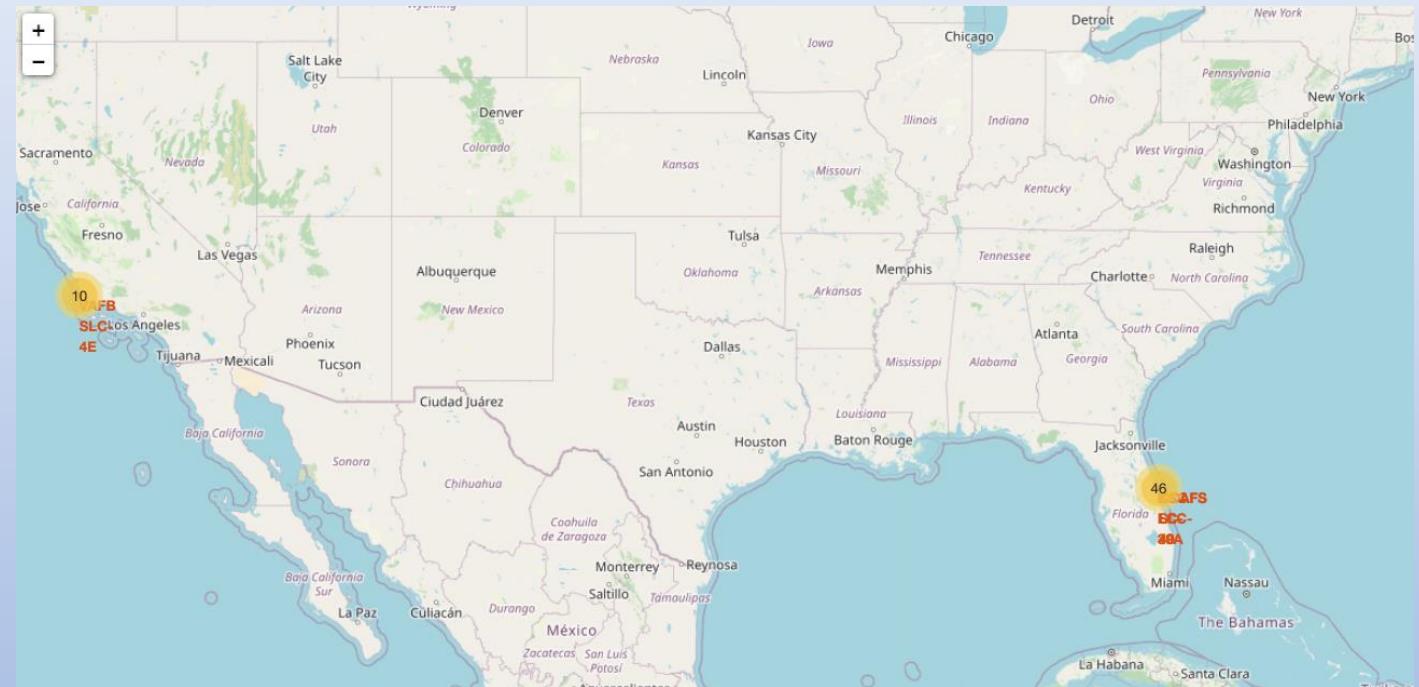
- Machine learning models were trained, fitted, and tested for predicting success rate of future space missions
- GitHub notebook:
  - <https://github.com/rcghpge/ibm-data-science-professional-cert/blob/main/space-x-capstone/eda-machine-learning/Machine%20Learning%20%40%20Space%20X.ipynb>

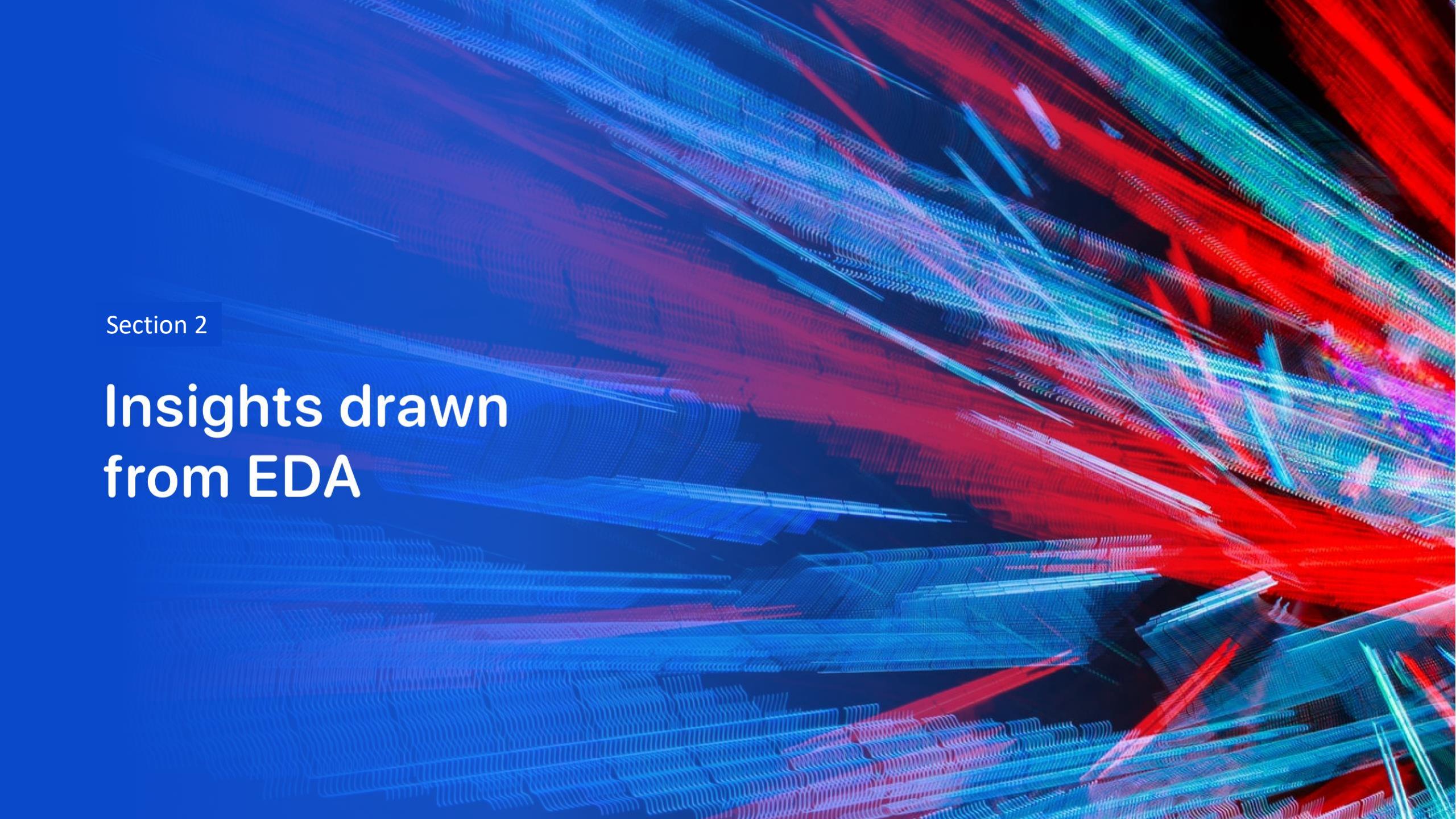
## Logistic Regression Model



# Results

- Business logic and best practices can be analyzed from different missions e.g. Falcon 1 or Falcon 9 missions etc.
- Interactive analytics demo in screenshots
- Pre-trained models for predictive analysis of future space missions



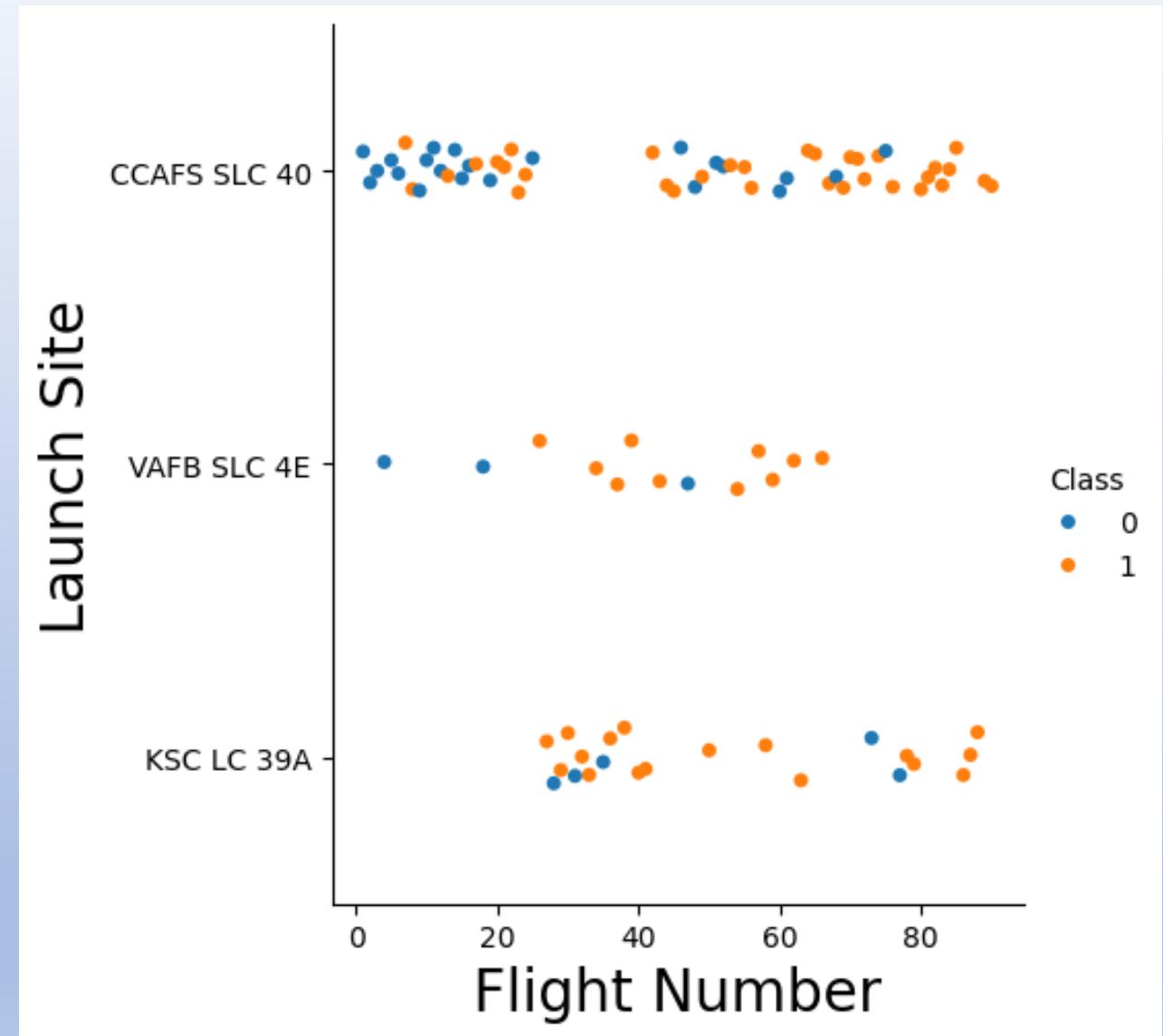
The background of the slide features a complex, abstract digital visualization. It consists of numerous thin, glowing lines that create a sense of depth and motion. The lines are primarily blue and red, with some green and purple highlights. They form a grid-like structure that curves and twists across the frame, resembling a three-dimensional space or a network of data points. The overall effect is futuristic and dynamic.

Section 2

## Insights drawn from EDA

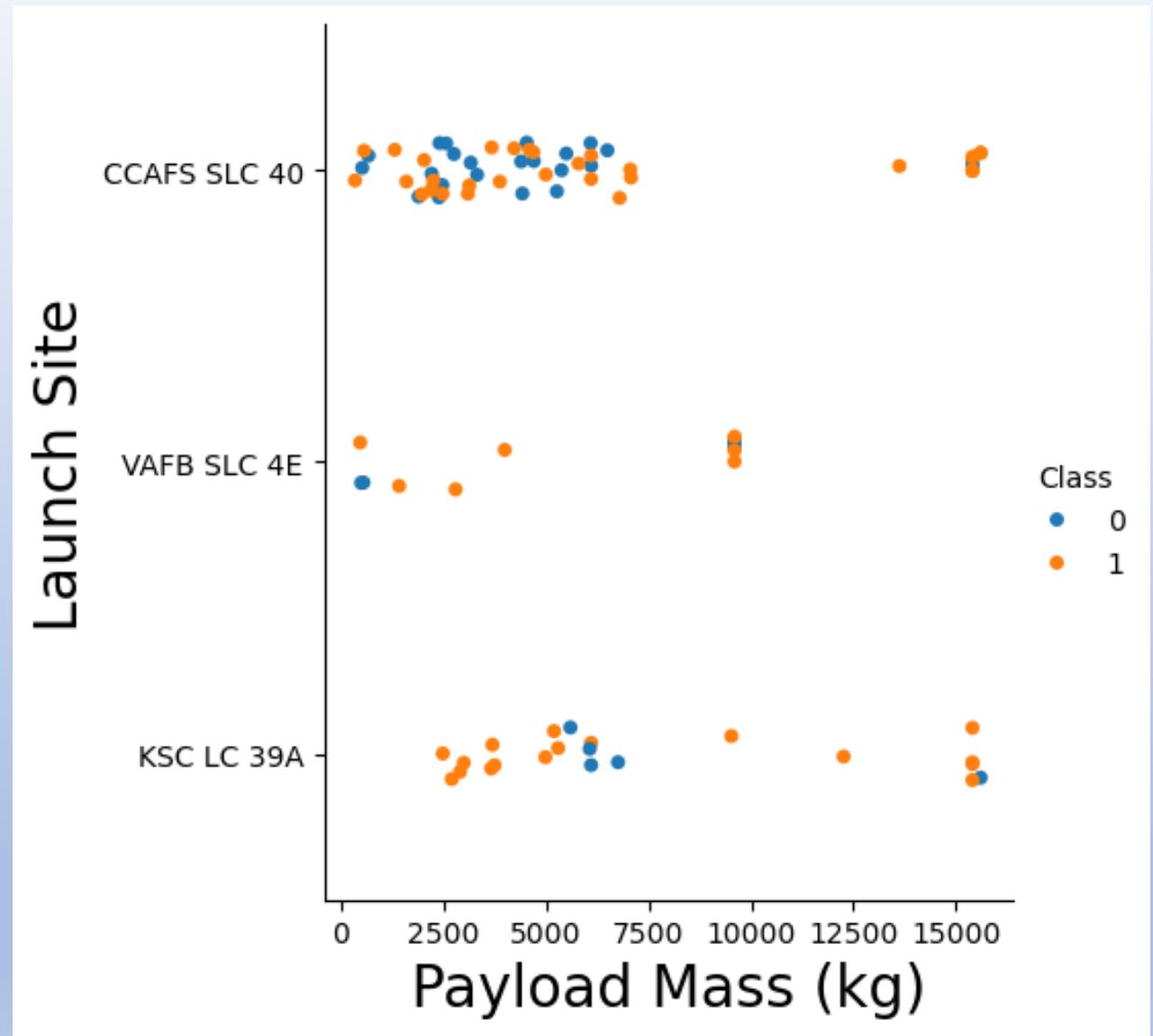
# Flight Number vs. Launch Site

A breakdown of previous Space X missions



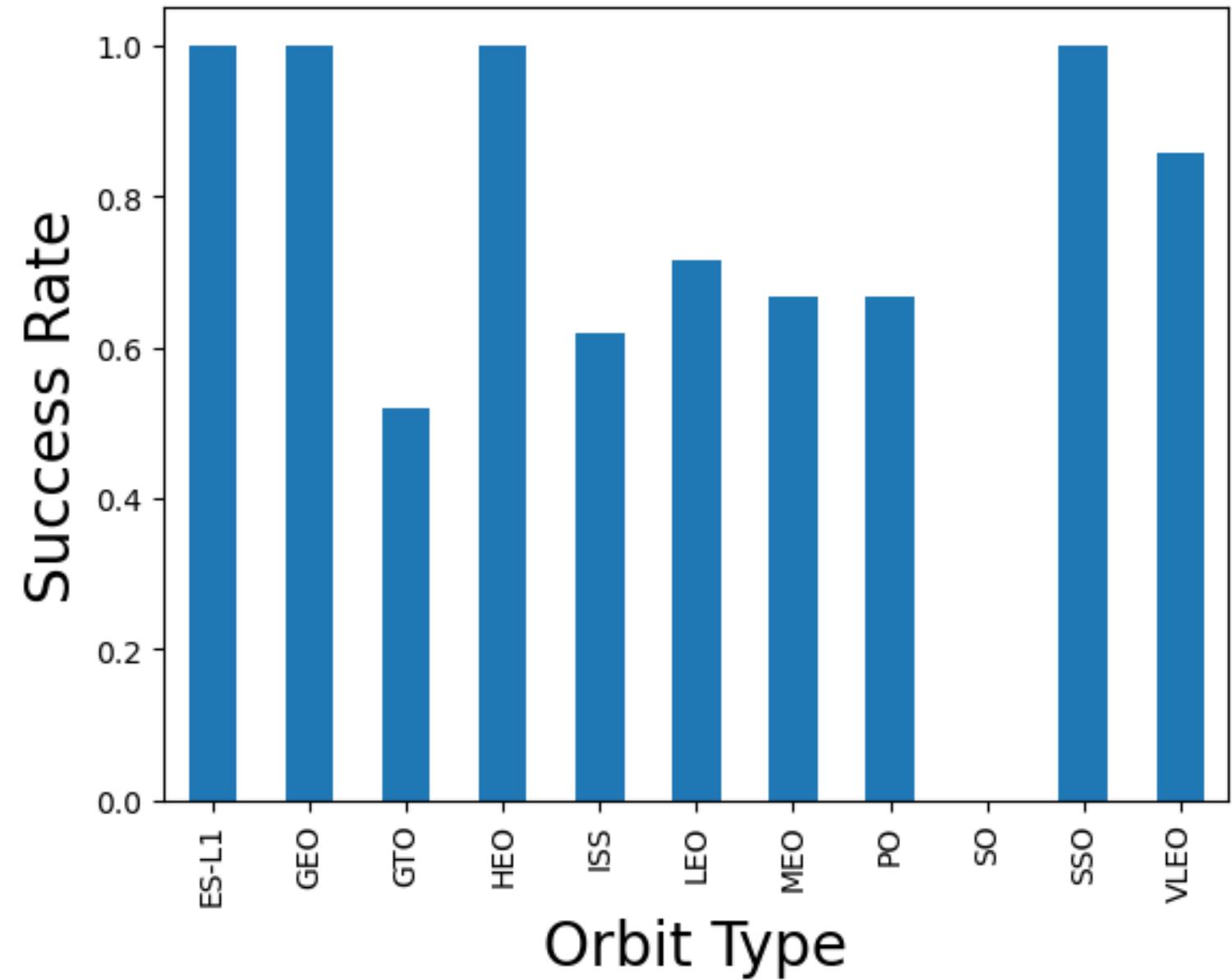
# Payload vs. Launch Site

A breakdown of payload and  
launch site missions.



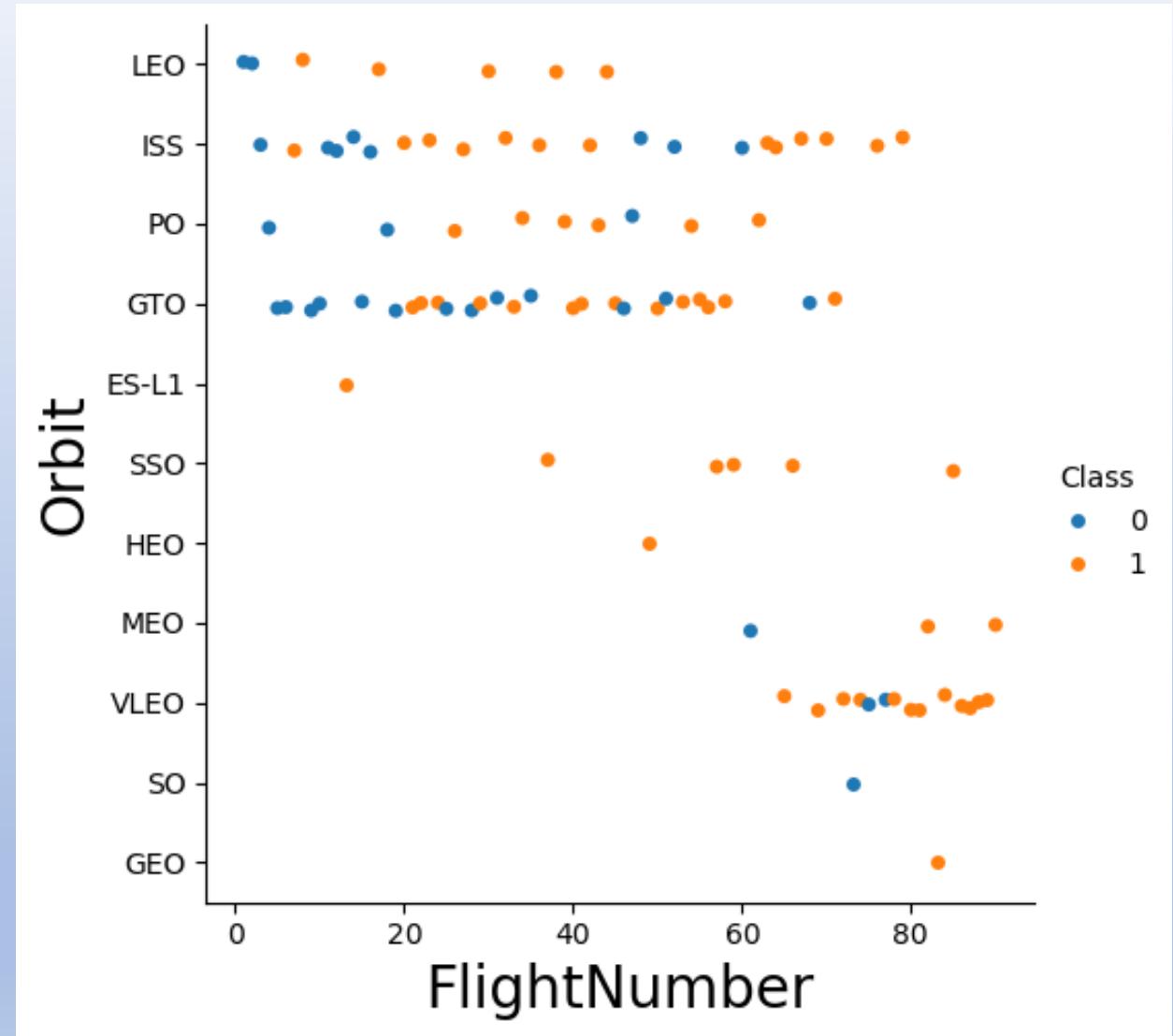
# Success Rate vs. Orbit Type

Success rate of missions  
by orbit type



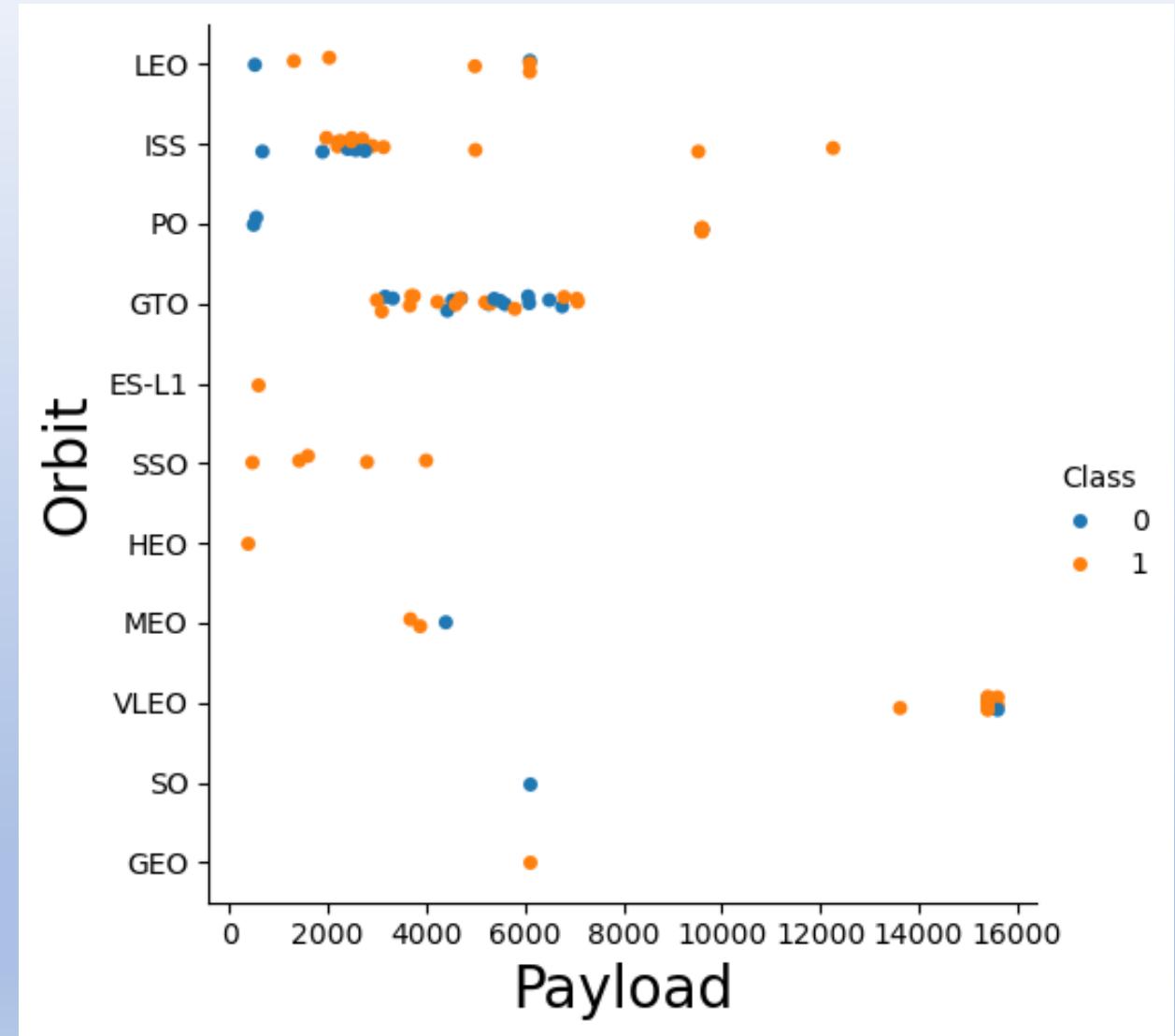
# Flight Number vs. Orbit Type

Previous space missions by flight  
number and orbit type



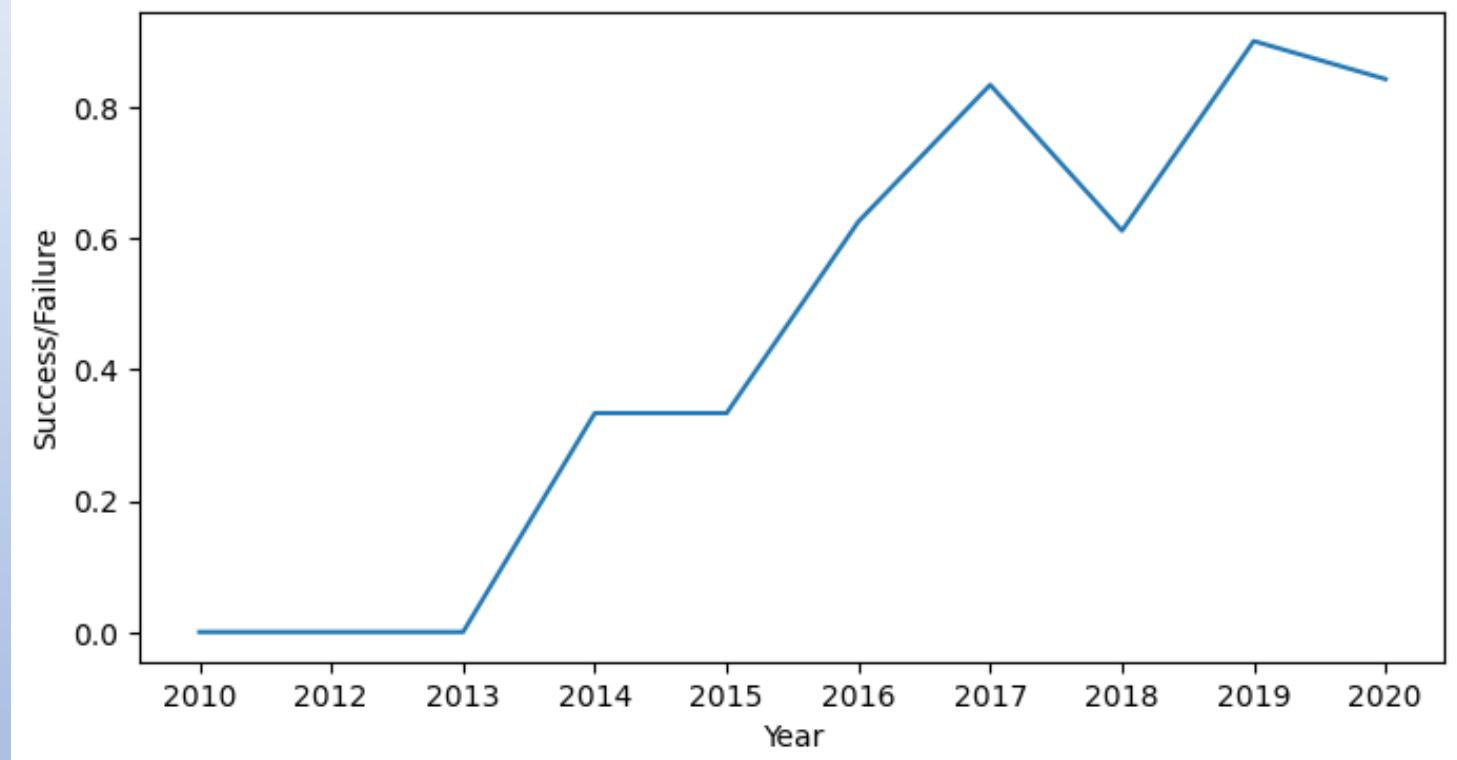
# Payload vs. Orbit Type

Payload by orbit type



# Launch Success Yearly Trend

- Space X missions have had an average success rate of about 66.7%. With our ML models we can ensure future missions are successful



# All Launch Site Names

- Space X has 4 launch sites. Though the 4<sup>th</sup>, Starbase, first started space missions in 2023 so there isn't much public available data yet. These are the number of missions so far.

```
Out[6]: CCAFS SLC 40      55  
          KSC LC 39A       22  
          VAFB SLC 4E      13  
          Name: LaunchSite, dtype: int64
```

# Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

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SQL EDA was done to pull Space X data. This is the Cape Canaveral launch site in Florida.

Out[10]: **Launch\_Site**

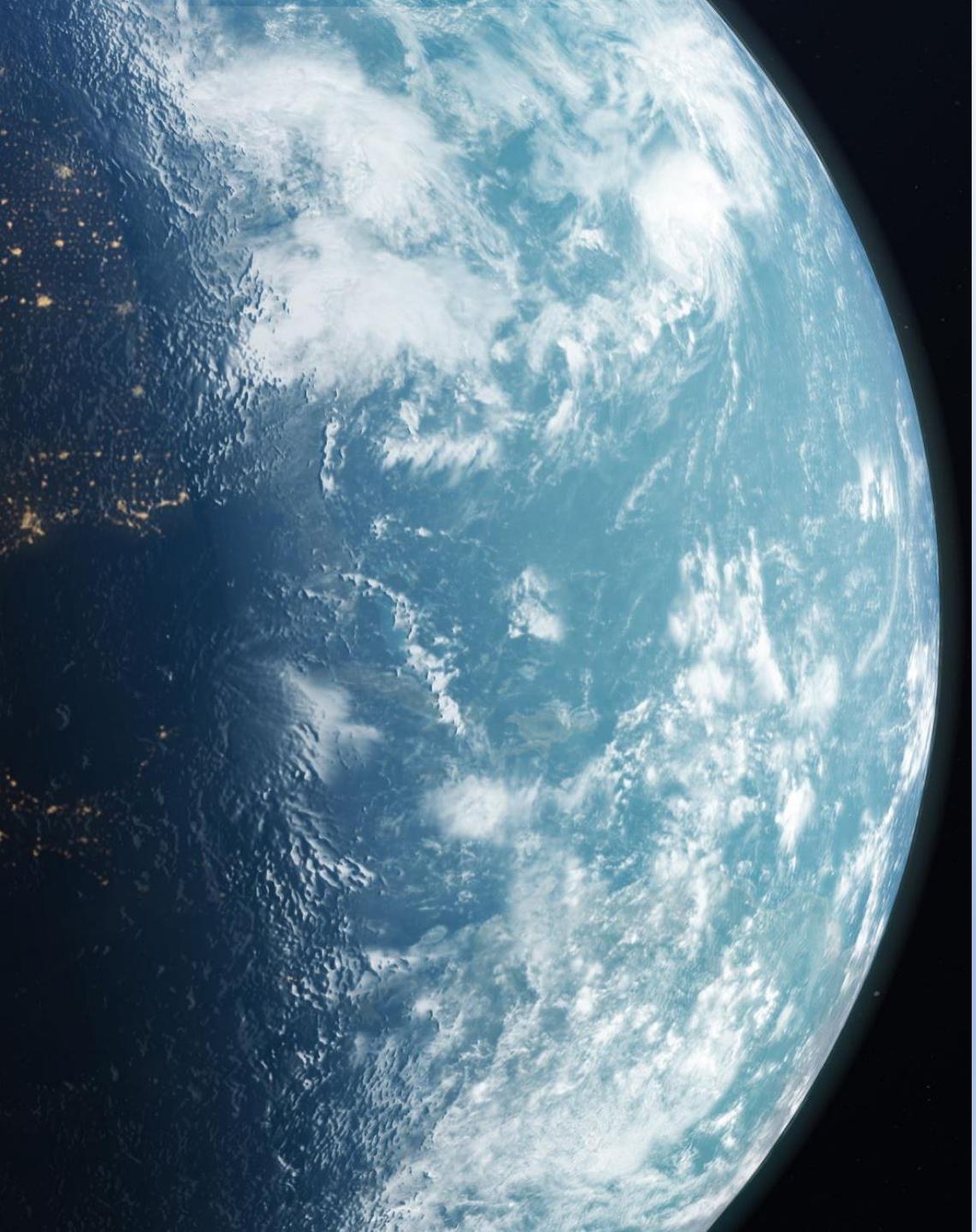
CCAFS LC-40

CCAFS LC-40

CCAFS LC-40

CCAFS LC-40

CCAFS LC-40



# Total Payload Mass

- The total payload carried by boosters from NASA was 45,596 kg or 100,522 lbs. or 52.3 tons



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## Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

- The average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1 was 340.4 kg
- As we look to expand civilization out into the stars, we look to improving these metrics.

# First Successful Ground Landing Date

the first successful landing outcome At space x on a ground pad was December 22<sup>nd</sup> 2015.



By implementing ai and data science, we can look to further innovate in tech and industry

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

- These are the boosters from successful missions to date.
- Simple SQL queries or general queries can provide valuable insights

Out[15]: **Booster\_Version**

F9 FT B1021.1

F9 FT B1022

F9 FT B1023.1

F9 FT B1026

F9 FT B1029.1

F9 FT B1021.2

F9 FT B1029.2

F9 FT B1036.1

F9 FT B1038.1

F9 B4 B1041.1

F9 FT B1031.2

F9 B4 B1042.1

F9 B4 B1045.1

F9 B5 B1046.1

# Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes



TO DATE, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF  
SUCCESSFUL MISSION OUTCOMES  
ARE 100 AND 1 FAILURE (IN FLIGHT).



BY EVALUATING METRICS, WE CAN  
MAKE BETTER BUSINESS DECISIONS

Out[20]: **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

# Boosters Carried Maximum Payload

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- These are the boosters with maximum payload
- By evaluating these business metrics, we can better iterate on our business decisions.

# 2015 Launch Records

- In 2015 there were 2 failed missions.
- By evaluating equipment failures, we can better iterate on our products.

35]	Landing_Outcome	Booster_Version	Launch_Site
	Failure (drone ship)	F9 v1.1 B1012	CCAFS LC-40
	Failure (drone ship)	F9 v1.1 B1015	CCAFS LC-40

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

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- These are the landing outcome metrics from 2010 - 2017

37]:

Landing_Outcome	TOTAL_NUMBER
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No attempt	10
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Success (drone ship)	5
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Failure (drone ship)	5
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Success (ground pad)	3
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Controlled (ocean)	3
--------------------	---

Uncontrolled (ocean)	2
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Failure (parachute)	2
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Precluded (drone ship)	1
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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. Numerous glowing yellow and white points represent city lights, concentrated in coastal and urban areas. In the upper right quadrant, there are bright green and yellow bands of light, likely the Aurora Borealis or Australis. The overall atmosphere is dark and mysterious.

Section 3

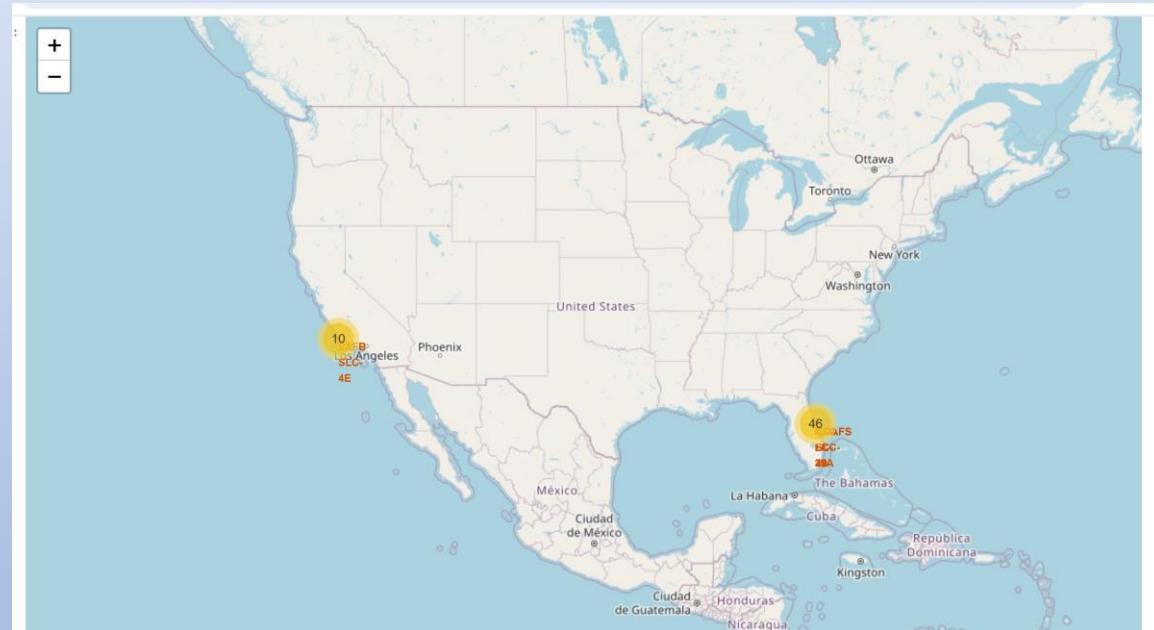
# Launch Sites Proximities Analysis

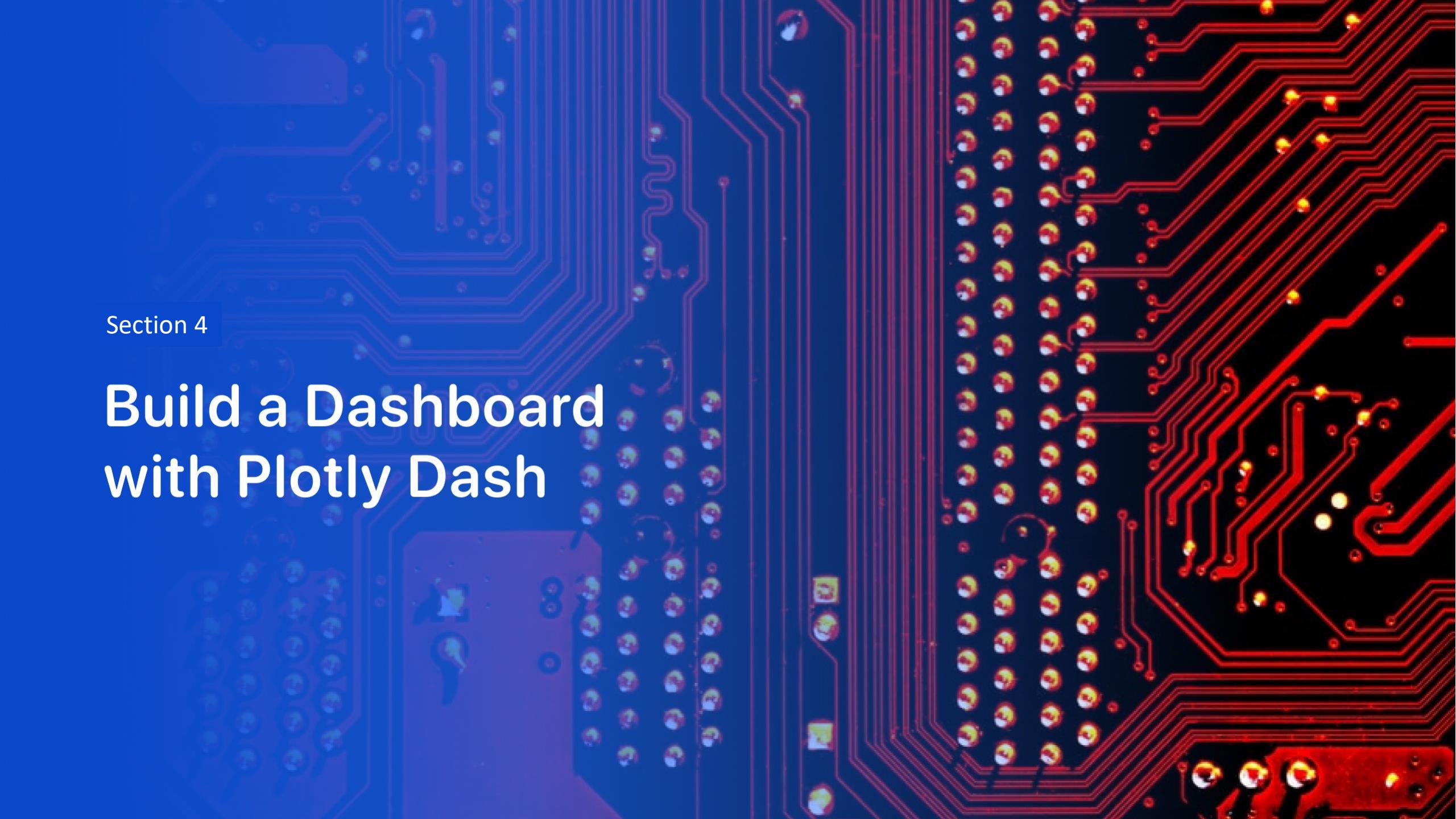
# Geospatial analysis with Folium

Geospatial analysis for all Space X launch sites including launch data.

By evaluating key metrics, we can understand what has been accomplished, and where we can improve further.

Screenshot of Folium map



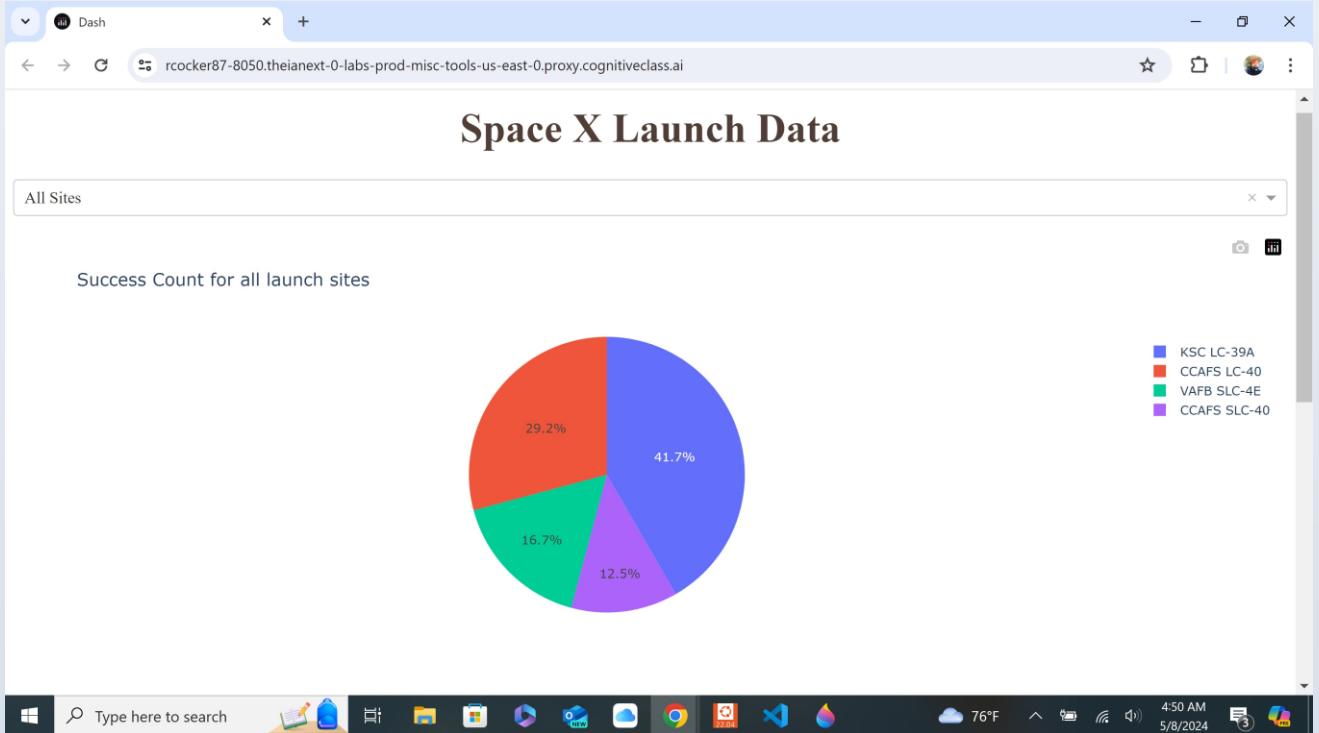


Section 4

# Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

# Dashboard of Space X Launch Data

- An interactive dashboard was built of launch data for stakeholders.
- This helps generate data-driven insights of the companies business metrics.



# Success Count by Payload

- The dashboard includes metrics such as successful missions to date by payload.
- These metrics can prove to be valuable in making future decisions on future missions.



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.

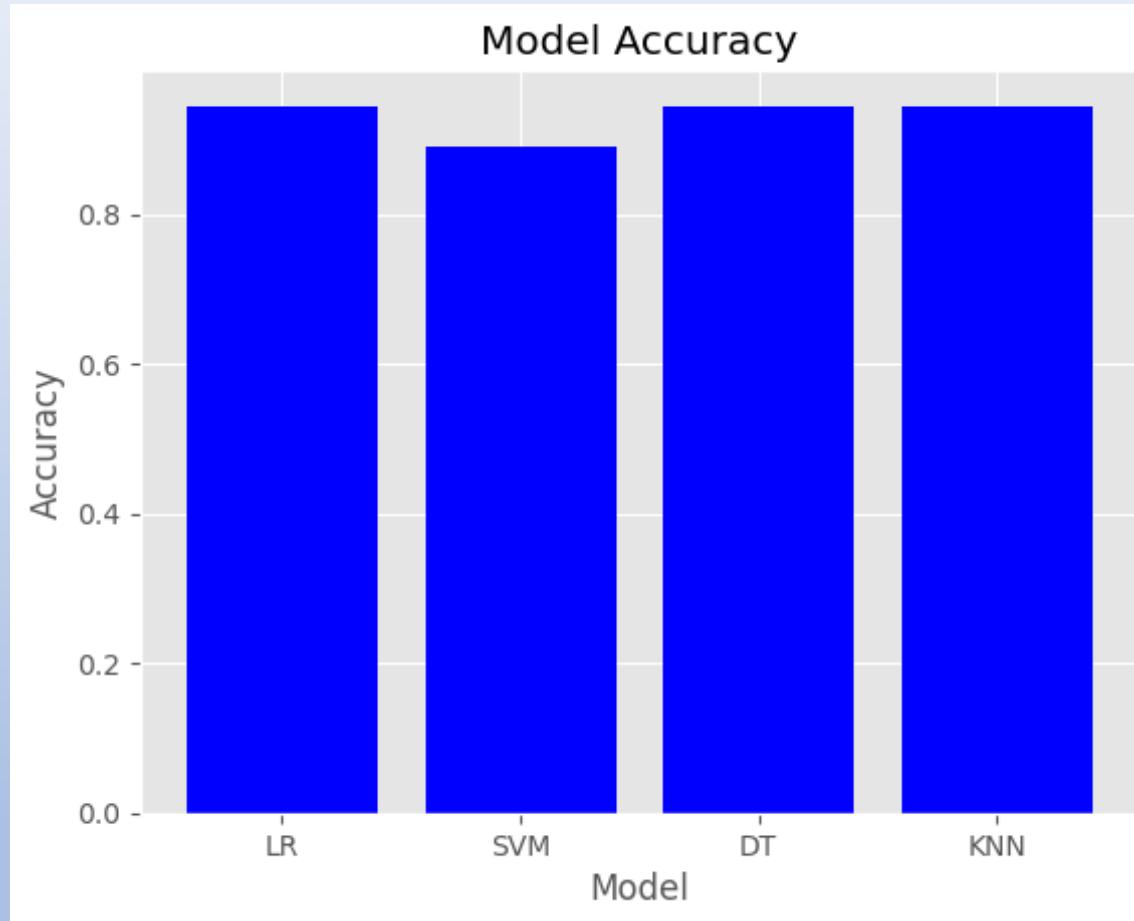
Section 5

# Predictive Analysis (Classification)

# Classification Accuracy



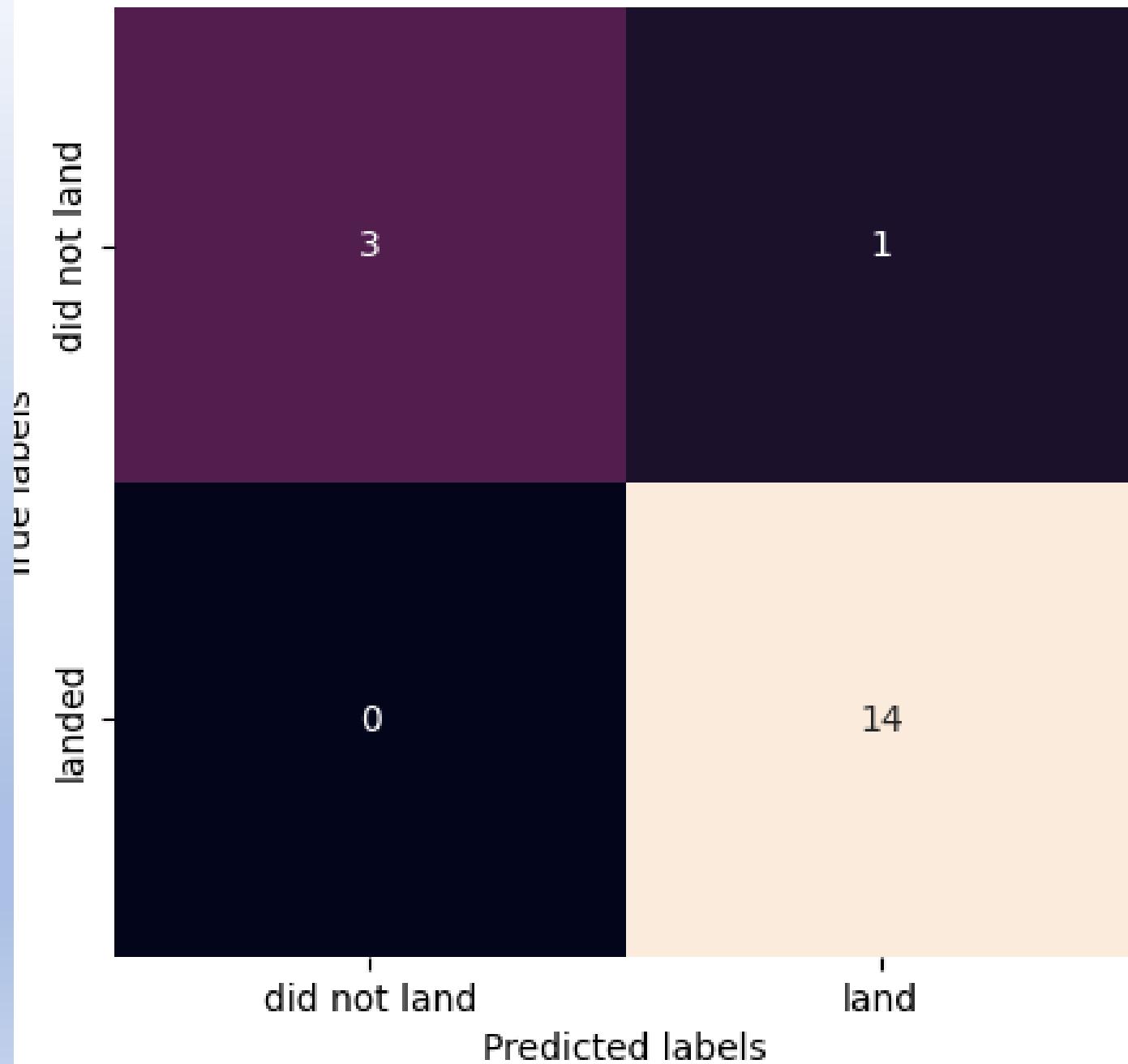
- Logistic Regression, Decision Tree, and K Nearest Neighbors had the best predictive accuracies @ 94.44%
- By utilizing AI and machine learning, we can optimize key company performance metrics.



## Confusion Matrix

# Confusion Matrix

- Decision Tree Classifier was one of the best models with a 94.44% accuracy for successful future missions.



# Conclusions



LEVERAGING AI, MACHINE LEARNING, AND DATA SCIENCE IS ESSENTIAL FOR SPACEX TO OPTIMIZE KEY PERFORMANCE METRICS AND GAIN A COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE.



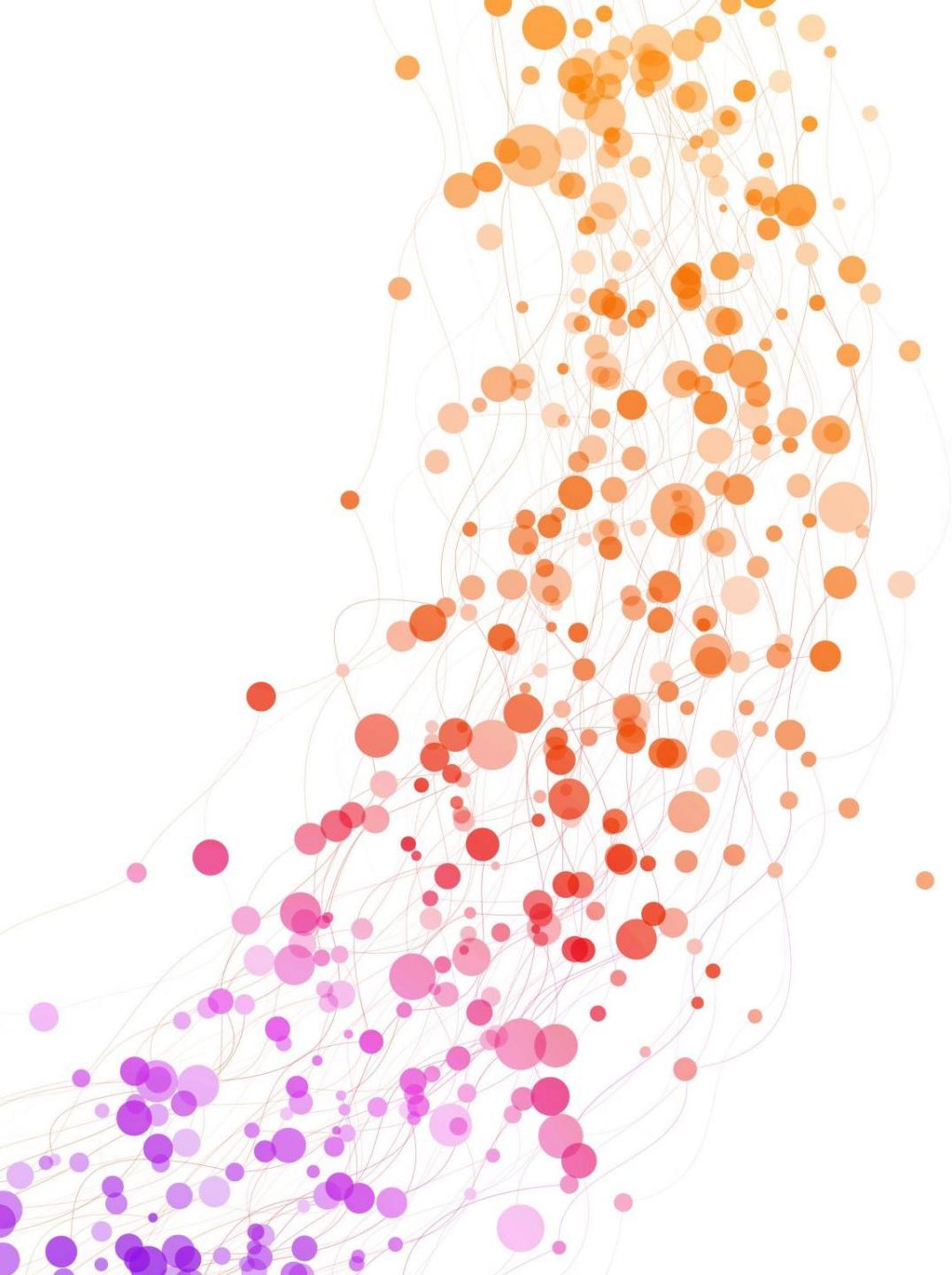
MACHINE LEARNING IMPROVES LAUNCH SIMULATIONS FOR BETTER PAYLOAD DELIVERY, WHILE AI DETECTS ANOMALIES TO PREVENT DELAYS.



DATA ANALYTICS STREAMLINES SUPPLY CHAIN OPERATIONS, REDUCING WASTE AND MAXIMIZING COST-EFFECTIVENESS.



THE FUSION OF HUMAN EXPERTISE WITH ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES EMPOWERS SPACEX TO PIONEER SPACE EXPLORATION AND REALIZE THE DREAM OF BECOMING A MULTI-PLANETARY SPECIES.

A complex network graph visualization featuring numerous nodes represented by colored circles of varying sizes. The nodes are interconnected by a dense web of thin, light-colored lines. The color palette includes shades of orange, red, pink, and purple, creating a vibrant, organic pattern.

# Appendix

- GitHub repository:  
<https://github.com/rcghpge/ibm-data-science-professional-cert/tree/main/space-x-capstone>

Thank you!

