

SpaceY

*Winning the Space Race
With Data Science*

Satvik Agrawal
12/29/23



OUTLINE

Executive Summary

Introduction

Methodology

Results

EDA with Visualization

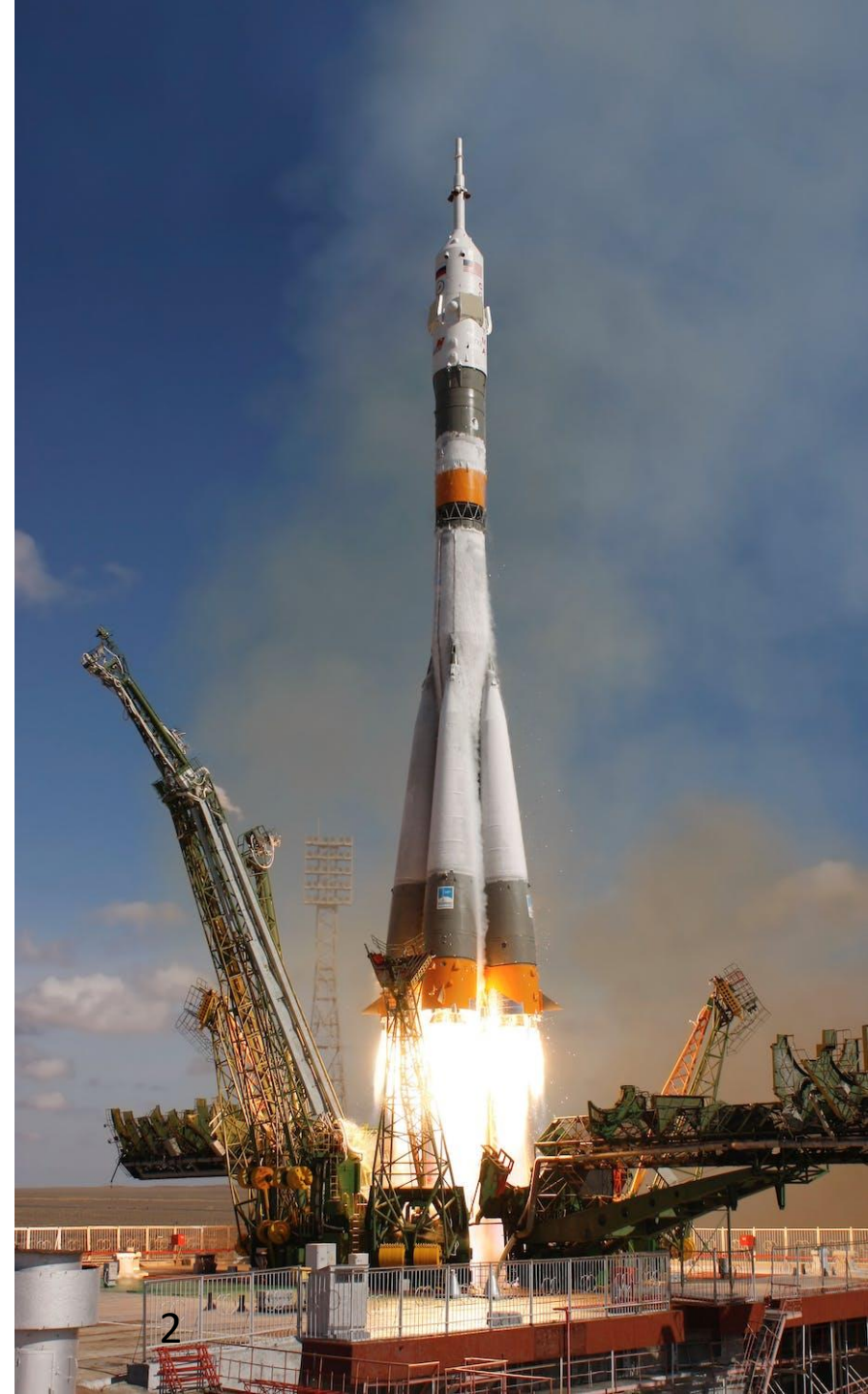
EDA with SQL

Interactive Maps with Folium

Plotly Dash Dashboard

Predictive Analytics

Conclusion



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Summary of Methodologies

The research undertaken attempts to identify the factors for successful first-stage rocket landing. To make this determination, the following methodologies are used:

- **Collect** data using SpaceX REST API and Web Scraping Techniques
- **Wrangle** and format data to create a categorical outcome variable.
- **Explore** the data with visualization techniques and interactive dashboards.
- **Analyze** the data with SQL querying, calculating insightful statistics such as total payload, payload range for successful launches, launch site and yearly trends.
- **Build Models** to predict landing outcomes using Logistic Regression, Support Vector Machines (SVM), and K-Nearest-Neighbor (KNN).



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Results

Exploratory Data Analysis:

- Launch Success has improved over time
- KSC-LC-39A has the highest success rate among landing sites
- Orbits ES-L1, GEO, HEO, and SSO have a 100% success rate

Visualization/Analytics:

- Most launch sites are near the equator, and all are close to the coast

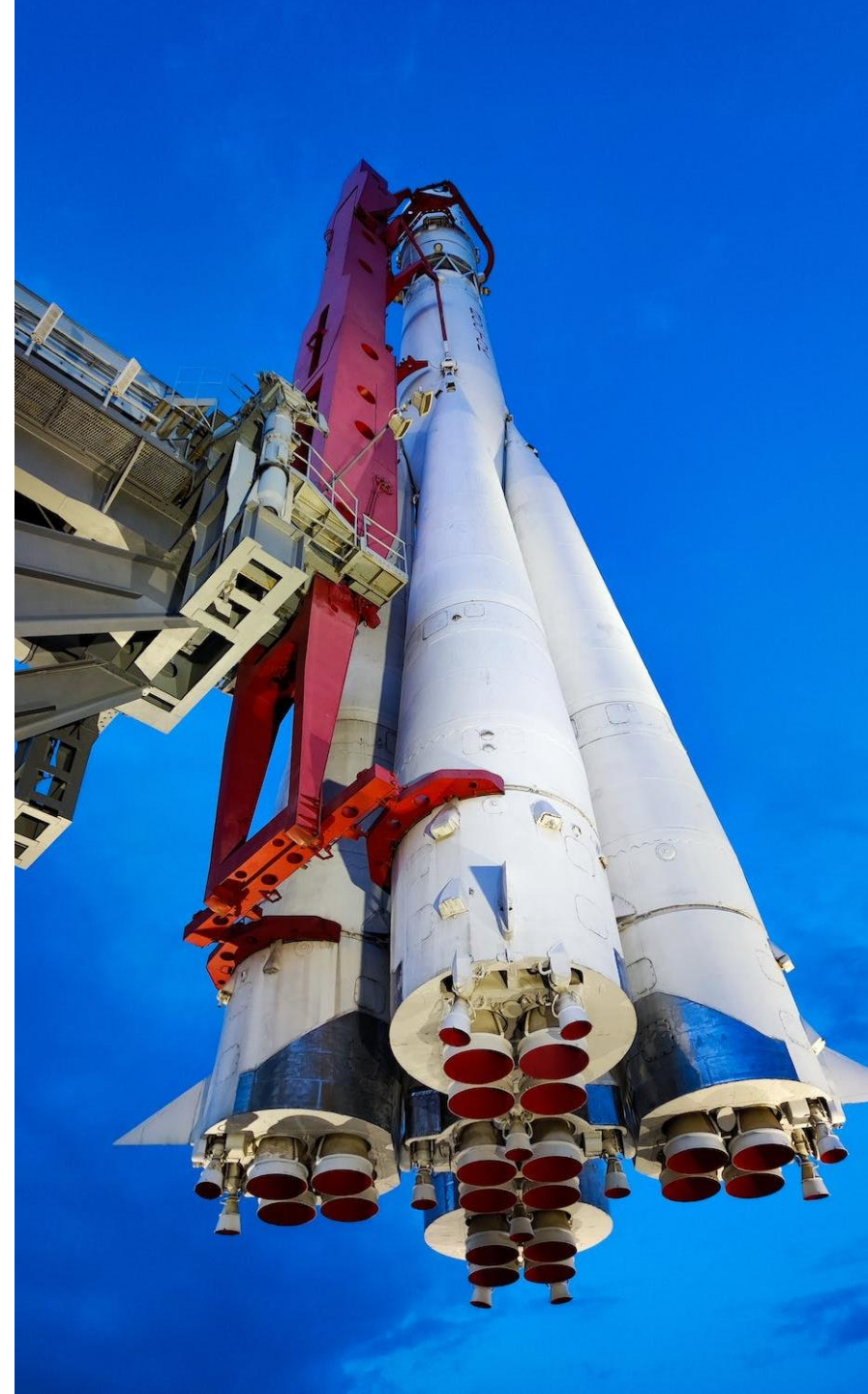
Predictive Analytics:

- All models performed similarly on the test set; the decision tree model slightly outperformed



INTRODUCTION

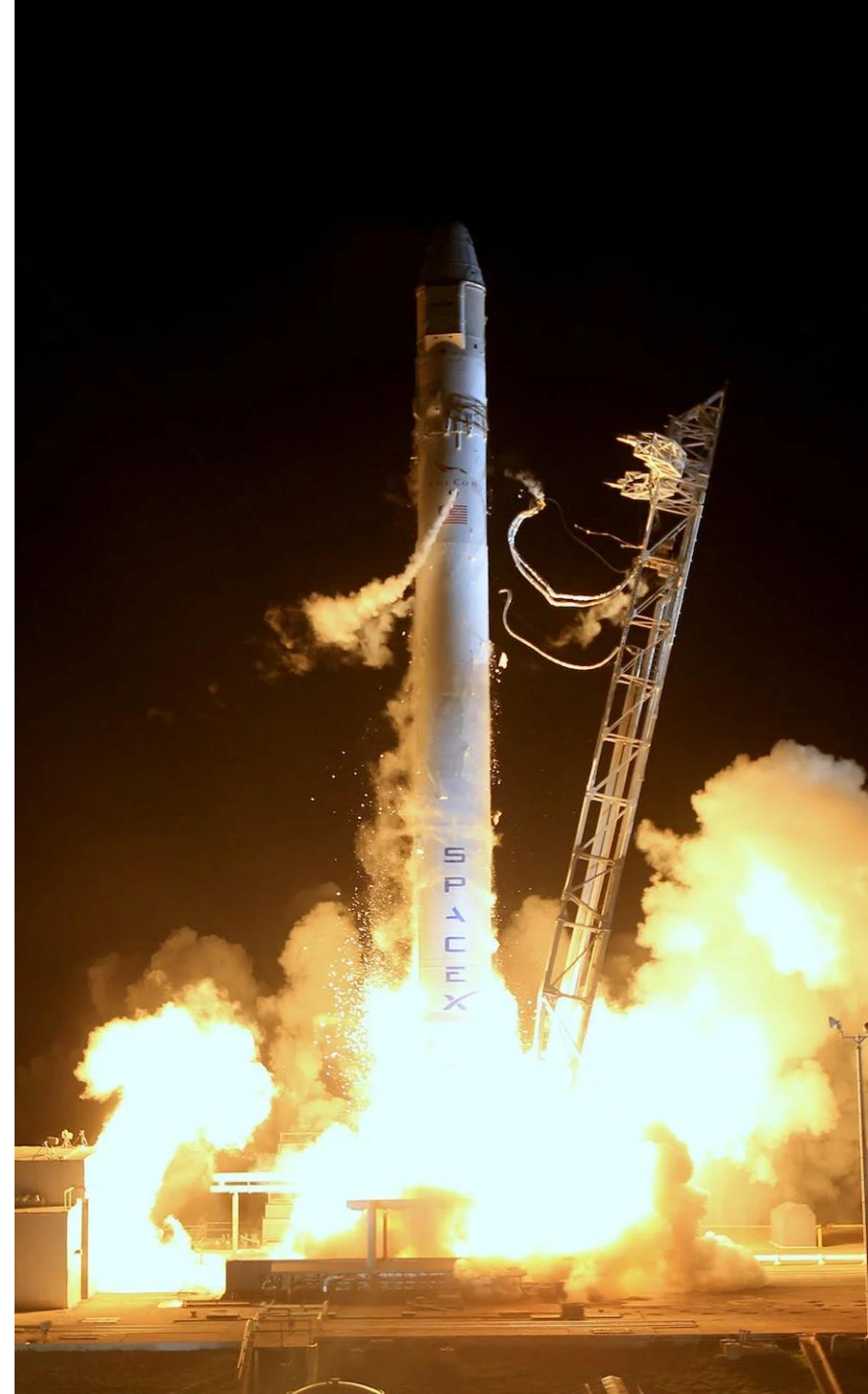
- SpaceX, a leading space industry, strives to make space travel inexpensive and accessible to the common person.
- Its accomplishments include sending spacecraft to the International Space Station (ISS), Launching the internet access satellite connection '*Starlink*', and sending manned missions to space.
- SpaceX has inexpensive launches due to their *novel reuse* of the first stage of their Falcon 9 rocket. The total costs estimate to around \$62 million each.
- By determining if a rockets first stage will land, we can predict the price of the launch, by analyzing public data and applying machine learning models to predict whether SpaceX – or any competing company – can reuse their first stage (and effectively outbid them).



INTRODUCTION

The determining process will involve analysis and determination of several statistics related to the launches, including:

- Identifying what features affect the successful landing of the rocket
- The interaction between these factors
- The optimal operating conditions required to ensure a successful landing program



Methodology



Data Collection - API

- Request data from SpaceX API (rocket launch data)
- Decode response using .json() and convert to a dataframe using .json_normalize()
- Request information about the launches from SpaceX API using custom functions
- Create dictionary from the data
- Create dataframe from the dictionary
- Filter dataframe to contain only Falcon 9 launches
- Replace missing values of Payload Mass with calculated .mean()
- Export data to csv file

```
spacex_url="https://api.spacexdata.com/v4/launches/past"
```

✓ 0.0s

Python

```
response = requests.get(spacex_url)
```

✓ 1.0s

Python

```
# Use json_normalize meethod to convert the json result into a  
data = pd.json_normalize(response.json())
```

✓ 0.0s

Python

```
launch_dict = {'FlightNumber': list(data['flight_number']),  
'Date': list(data['date']),  
'BoosterVersion':BoosterVersion,  
'PayloadMass':PayloadMass,  
'Orbit':Orbit,  
'LaunchSite':LaunchSite,  
'Outcome':Outcome,  
'Flights':Flights,  
'GridFins':GridFins,  
'Reused':Reused,  
'Legs':Legs,  
'LandingPad':LandingPad,  
'Block':Block,  
'ReusedCount':ReusedCount,  
'Serial':Serial,  
'Longitude': Longitude,  
'Latitude': Latitude}
```

```
# Hint data['BoosterVersion']!='Falcon 1'  
data_falcon9 = launchdf[  
    launchdf['BoosterVersion'] != 'Falcon 1']  
data_falcon9
```

🕒

Python

```
# Calculate the mean value of PayloadMass column  
PayloadMassMean = data_falcon9['PayloadMass'].mean()
```

```
# Replace the np.nan values with its mean value  
data_falcon9['PayloadMass'].replace(np.NaN, PayloadMassMean)
```

🕒

Python

Data Collection – Web Scrapping

- Request data (Falcon 9 launch data) from Wikipedia
- Create BeautifulSoup object from HTML response
- Extract column names from HTML table header
- Collect data from parsing HTML tables
- Create dictionary from the data
- Create dataframe from the dictionary
- Export data to csv file

```
# use requests.get() method with the provided static url
# assign the response to a object
response = requests.get(static_url).text
```

Python

```
# Use BeautifulSoup() to create a BeautifulSoup object
soup = BeautifulSoup(response, "html.parser")
```

Python

```
column_names = []

# Apply find_all() function with `th` element on first table
# Iterate each th element and apply the provided extract_data function
# Append the Non-empty column name (if name is not None)

table_elements = first_launch_table.find_all('th')

for th in table_elements:
    name = extract_column_from_header(th)
    if (name is not None and len(name) > 0):
        column_names.append(name)
```

Python

```
launch_dict= dict.fromkeys(column_names)

# Remove an irrelevant column
del launch_dict['Date and time ( )']
```

```
df= pd.DataFrame({
    key:pd.Series(value) for key, value
    in launch_dict.items() })
df
```

Python

Data Wrangling

Steps

- Perform EDA and determine the data labels
- Calculate:
 - # of launches for each site
 - # and occurrence of orbits
 - # and occurrence of mission outcome per orbit type
- Create a binary variable '**class**' that will represent the landing outcome.
- Outcomes converted into 1 for a successful landing and 0 for unsuccessful landing



EDA with Visualization

Charts Created

- Flight Number vs. Payload
- Flight Number vs. Launch Site
- Payload Mass (kg) vs. Launch Site
- Payload Mass (kg) vs. Orbit Type
- Landing Outcome ('class') yearly trend

Analysis

- **View relationship** between features using scatter plots. This is useful for developing classification models
- **Show comparisons** using bar charts.



EDA with SQL

- The SpaceX dataset is loaded into a PostgreSQL database
- The data is queried to get insights from the data:
 - Names of unique launch sites in the mission
 - Total Payload Mass carried by boosters launched by NASA (CRS)
 - Average Payload Mass carried by Booster Version F9 v1.1
 - Total number of successful and failure mission outcomes
 - Booster Version and launch site names of failed landing outcomes in drone ship



Map with Folium

Markers indicating Launch Sites

- Added a yellow circle around NASA JSC with a popup label.
- Added red circles around launch sites with a popup label.

Colored Markers of Launch Outcomes

- Added colored markers of **successful** and **failure** launches at each launch site to display which site has high success rates.

Distance between a Launch Site to proximities

- Added colored lines to show **distance between** Launch Site CCAFS SLC-40 to **nearest** coastline, railway, highway, and city.



Dashboard with Plotly

Dropdown List with Launch Sites

- Allow users to select all launch sites or a specific one.

Pie chart showing successful launches

- Allow user to see successful and unsuccessful launches as a percent of total

Slider of Payload Mass Range

- Allow user to select payload mass range

Scatter chart showing Payload Mass vs. Success Rate by Booster Version

- Allow user to see correlation between payload mass and launch success.



Predictive Analytics

Steps Taken

- Create NumPy array from 'class' column
- **Standardize** the data with *StandardScaler*. Fit and transform the data
- **Split** the data using *train_test_split*
- **Create** and **Apply** a *GridSearchCV* object with $cv=10$ (number of folds) for parameter optimization, on the following models:
 - Logistic Regression
 - Support Vector Machine
 - Decision Tree
 - K-Nearest Neighbor (KNN)



Predictive Analytics

Steps Taken

- **Calculate** accuracy on the test data using various score methods for all models
- **Assess** the *Confusion Matrix* for all models
- **Identify** the best model using *Jaccard_Score*, *F1_Score*, and accuracy.



RESULTS



RESULTS SUMMARY

EXPLORATORY DATA ANALYSIS

- Launch Success has improved over time
- KSC LC-39A has highest success rate among landing sites
- Orbits ES-L1, GEO, HEO, and SSO have 100% success rate

VISUAL ANALYTICS

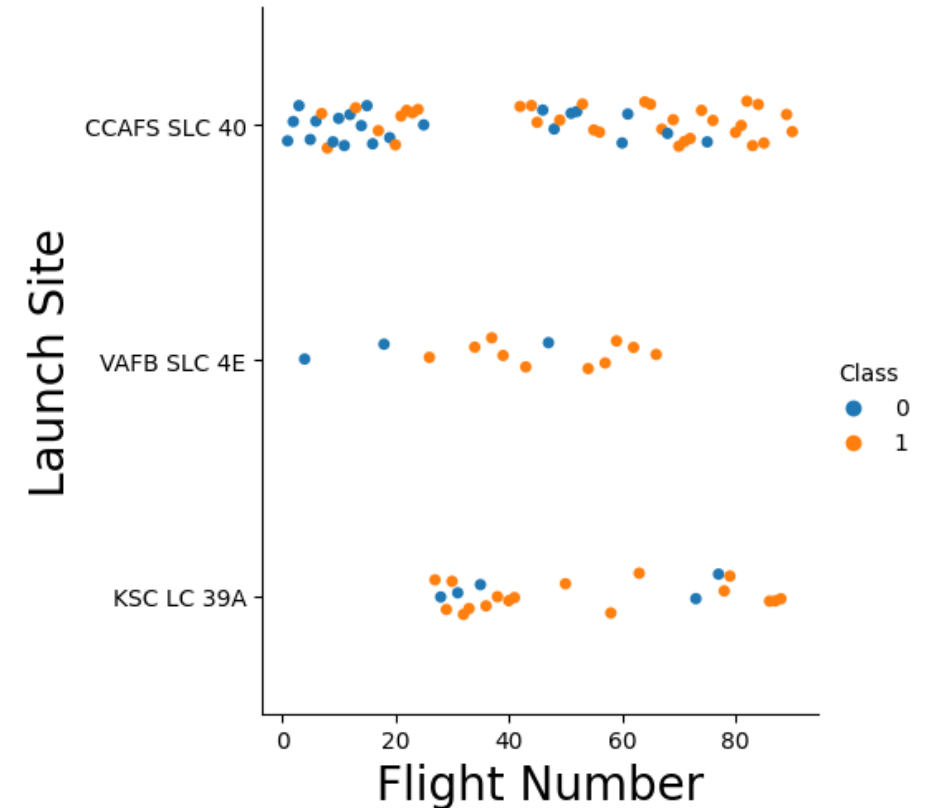
- Most launch sites are near the equator, and all are near the coastline
- Launch sites are far enough away to prevent infrastructural damage due to a failed launch, while still close enough to optimize transport and travel costs



Flight Number vs. Launch Site

EDA RESULTS:

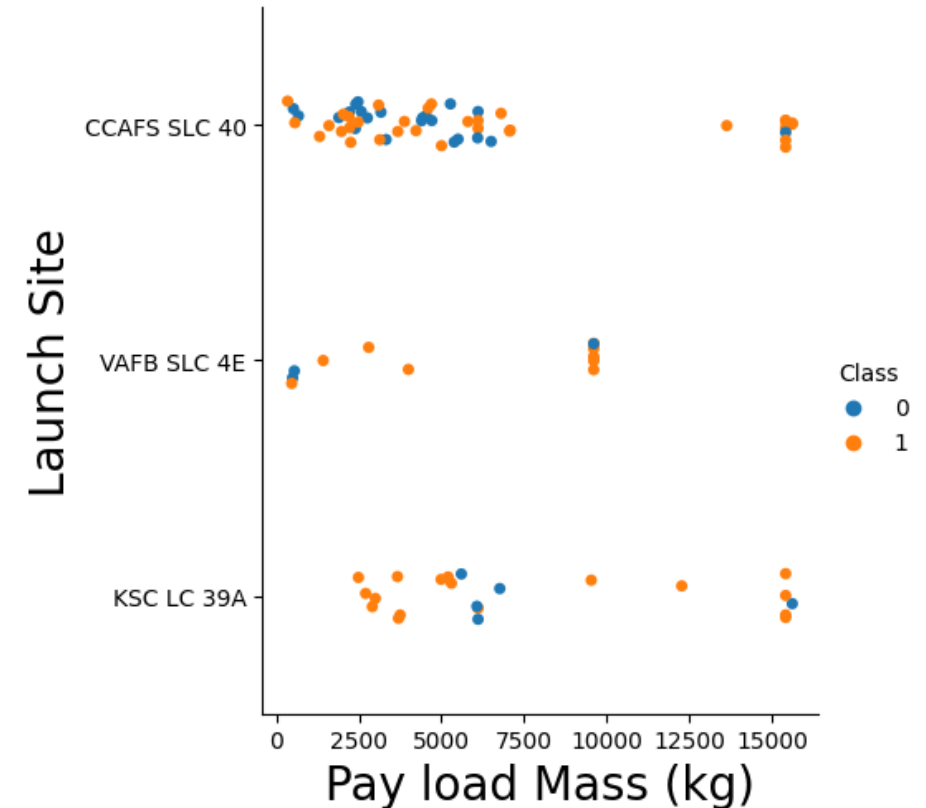
- Earlier Flights had a lower success rate (blue = fail)
- Later Flights had a higher success rate (orange = success)
- Around half of the launches were from CCAFS SLC-40 launch site
- VAFB SLC 4E and KSC LC 39A have higher success rates
- We can infer that new launches have a higher success rate



Payload vs. Launch Site

EDA RESULTS:

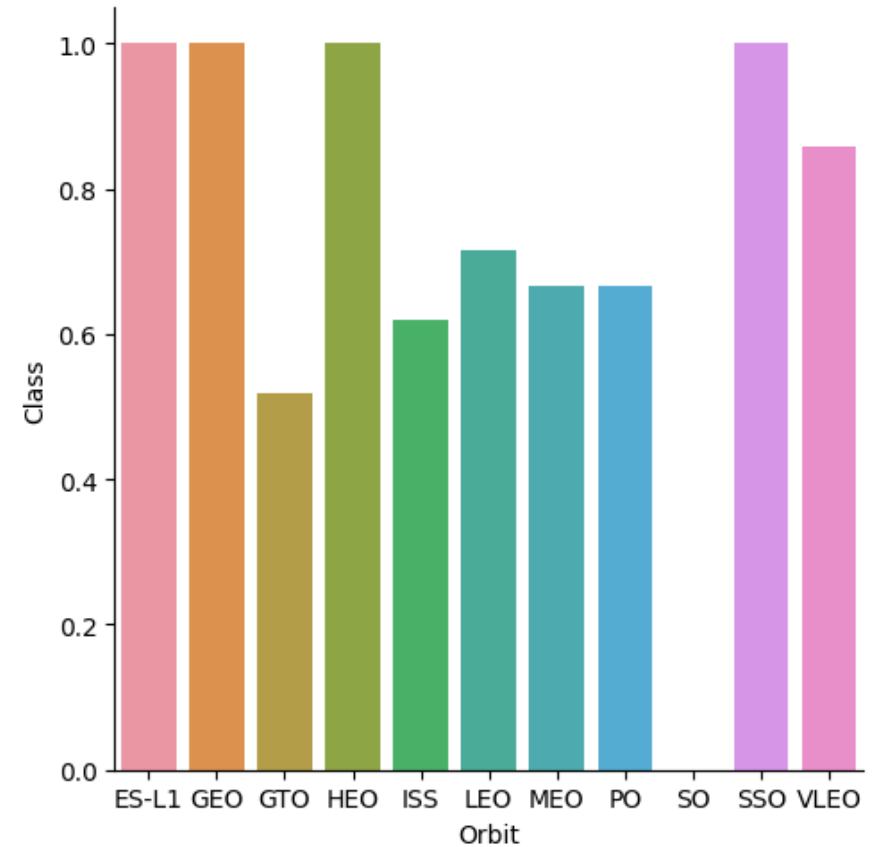
- Typically, the **higher the payload mass (kg)**, **higher the success rate**
- Most launches with a payload **greater than 7,000 kg** were **successful**
- **KSC LC 39A** has a **100% success rate** for launches **less than 5,500 kg**
- **VAFB SKC 4E** has **not launched** anything **greater than ~10,000 kg**



Success Rate by Orbit

EDA RESULTS:

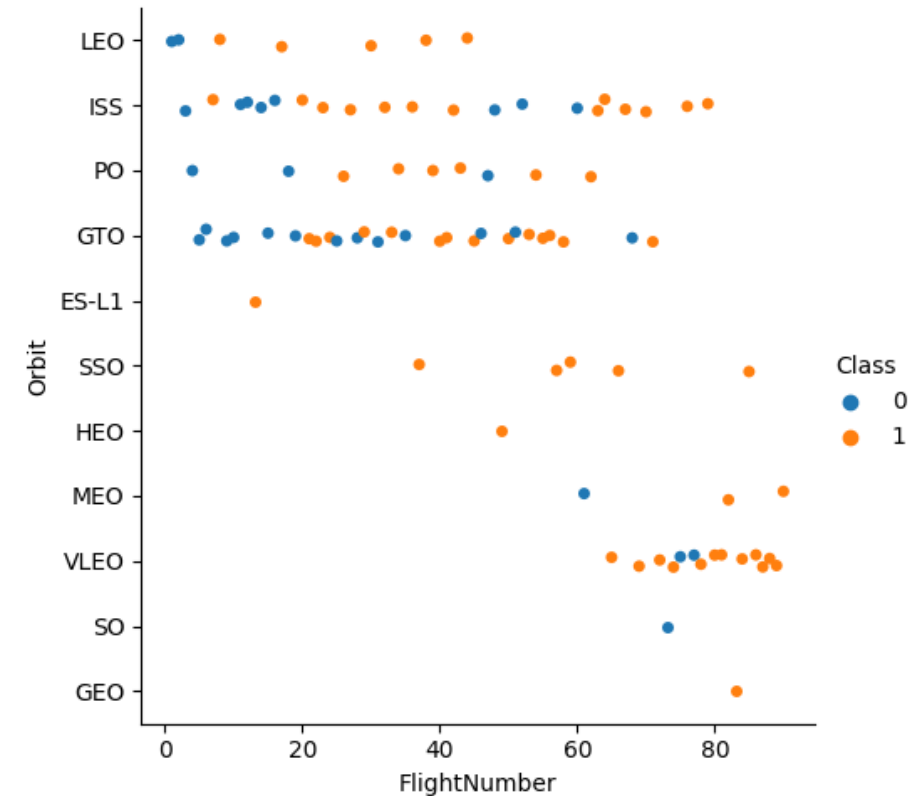
- **100% Success Rate:** ES-L1, GEO, HEO, SSO
- **50-80% Success Rate:** GTO, ISS, LEO, MEO, PEO
- **0% Success Rate:** SO



Flight Number vs. Orbit

EDA RESULTS:

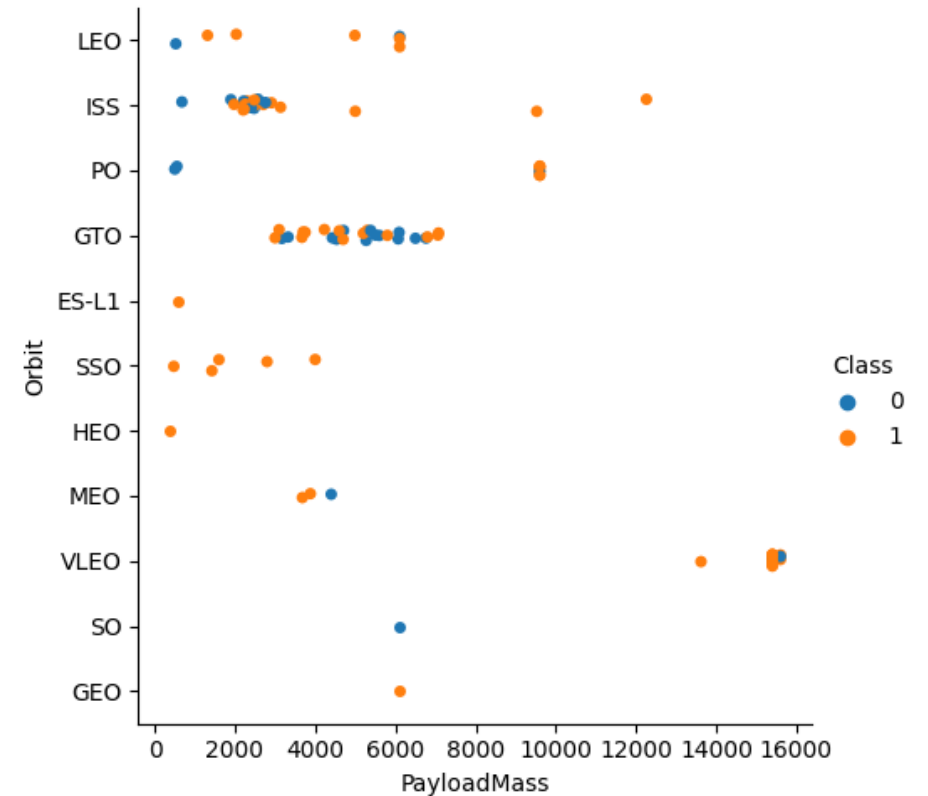
- The **success rate** typically **increases** with the number of flights for each orbit
- This relationship is highly apparent for the **LEO orbit**
- The **GTO orbit**, however, does not follow this trend



Payload vs. Orbit

EDA RESULTS:

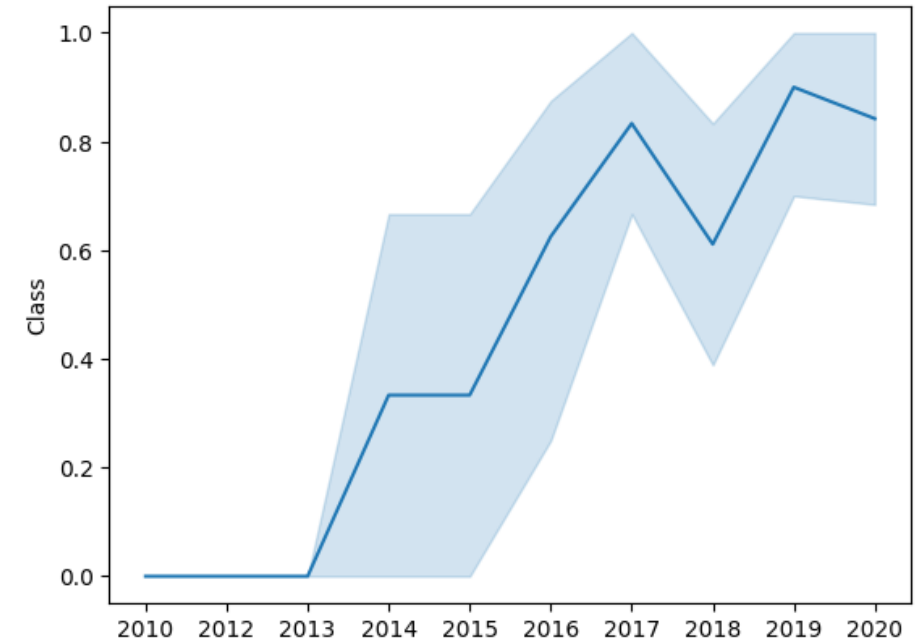
- Heavy payloads are better with LEO, ISS and PO orbits
- The GTO orbit has mixed success with heavier payloads



Launch Success over Time

EDA RESULTS:

- The success rate improved from 2013-2017 and 2018-2019
- The success rate decreased from 2017-2018 and from 2019-2020
- Overall, the success rate has improved since 2013



Launch Site Information

Records with Launch Site name starting with ‘CCA’

Date	Time (UTC)	Booster_Version	Launch_Site	Payload	PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_	Orbit	Customer	Mission_Outcome	Landing_Outcome
2010-06-04	18:45:00	F9 v1.0 B0003	CCAFS LC-40	Dragon Spacecraft Qualification Unit	0	LEO	SpaceX	Success	Failure (parachute)
2010-12-08	15:43:00	F9 v1.0 B0004	CCAFS LC-40	Dragon demo flight C1, two CubeSats, barrel of Brouere cheese	0	LEO (ISS)	NASA (COTS) NRO	Success	Failure (parachute)
2012-05-22	7:44:00	F9 v1.0 B0005	CCAFS LC-40	Dragon demo flight C2	525	LEO (ISS)	NASA (COTS)	Success	No attempt
2012-10-08	0:35:00	F9 v1.0 B0006	CCAFS LC-40	SpaceX CRS-1	500	LEO (ISS)	NASA (CRS)	Success	No attempt
2013-03-01	15:10:00	F9 v1.0 B0007	CCAFS LC-40	SpaceX CRS-2	677	LEO (ISS)	NASA (CRS)	Success	No attempt

Launch Site Names:

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

Payload Mass

Total Payload Mass:

- **45,596 kg** (total) carried by boosters launched by NASA (CRS)

```
%%sql
SELECT SUM(PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_)
FROM SPACEXTABLE
WHERE Customer == "NASA (CRS)"
```

```
* sqlite:///my_data1.db
```

```
Done.
```

```
SUM(PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_)
```

45596

Average Payload Mass:

2,928 kg (Average) carried by
Booster Version F9 v1.1

```
%%sql
SELECT AVG(PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_)
FROM SPACEXTABLE
WHERE Booster_Version = "F9 v1.1"
```

```
* sqlite:///my_data1.db
```

```
Done.
```

```
AVG(PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_)
```

2928.4

Landing and Mission Info

1st Successful Landing in Ground Pad:

- 12/22/2015

```
%%sql
SELECT Date
FROM SPACEXTABLE
WHERE Landing_Outcome = "Success (ground pad)"
LIMIT 1
```

* sqlite:///my_data1.db

Done.

Date

2015-12-22

Booster Drone Ship Landing:

- Booster mass greater than 4,000 but less than 6,000

```
%%sql
SELECT payload
FROM SPACEXTABLE
WHERE
    Landing_Outcome = "Success (drone ship)"
    AND
    PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_ > 4000
    AND
    PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_ < 6000
```

Payload

JCSAT-14

JCSAT-16

SES-10

SES-11 / EchoStar 105

Total number of Successful and Failed Mission Outcomes:

- 1 Failure in Flight
- 99 Success
- 1 Success (Payload Status Unclear)

```
%%sql
SELECT Mission_Outcome, COUNT(*) as Total_Count
FROM SPACEXTABLE
GROUP BY Mission_Outcome
```

Boosters

Carrying Max Payload:

F9 B5 B1048.4 F9 B5 B1049.5

F9 B5 B1049.4 F9 B5 B1060.2

F9 B5 B1051.3 F9 B5 B1058.3

F9 B5 B1056.4 F9 B5 B1051.6

F9 B5 B1048.5 F9 B5 B1060.3

F9 B5 B1051.4 F9 B5 B1049.7

Query:

```
%%sql
```

```
SELECT Booster_Version
FROM SPACEXTABLE
WHERE PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_ = (
    SELECT MAX(PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_)
    FROM SPACEXTABLE
)
```

```
* sqlite:///my_data1.db
```

```
Done.
```

Failed Landings on Drone Ship

In 2015:

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

```
%%sql
```

```
SELECT substr(Date, 6, 2) AS Month, Booster_Version, Launch_Site
FROM SPACEXTABLE
WHERE
    Date LIKE "2015%"
    AND
    Landing_Outcome LIKE "Failure%"
```

```
* sqlite:///my_data1.db
```

```
Done.
```


Count of Successful Landings

Between 2010-06-04 and 2017-03-20 in
descending order:

Landing_Outcome	TOTAL_COUNT
No attempt	10
Success (drone ship)	5
Failure (drone ship)	5
Success (ground pad)	3
Controlled (ocean)	3
Uncontrolled (ocean)	2
Failure (parachute)	2
Precluded (drone ship)	1

```
%%sql
```

```
SELECT Landing_Outcome, COUNT(*) AS TOTAL_COUNT  
FROM SPACEXTABLE  
WHERE Date BETWEEN '2010-06-04' AND '2017-03-20'  
GROUP BY Landing_Outcome  
ORDER BY TOTAL_COUNT DESC
```

```
* sqlite:///my_data1.db  
Done.
```

A dramatic photograph of the Space Shuttle Columbia during its ascent. The shuttle is positioned vertically, with its white orbiter and external tank and boosters clearly visible. A massive, billowing cloud of white smoke and fire erupts from the base of the vehicle, partially obscuring the launch pad's service structure. The sky is a deep blue with scattered white clouds. The shuttle's name "Columbia" and the NASA logo are visible on the side of the orbiter. The overall scene conveys the power and scale of the launch process.

Launch site Analysis

Launch Sites

With Markers

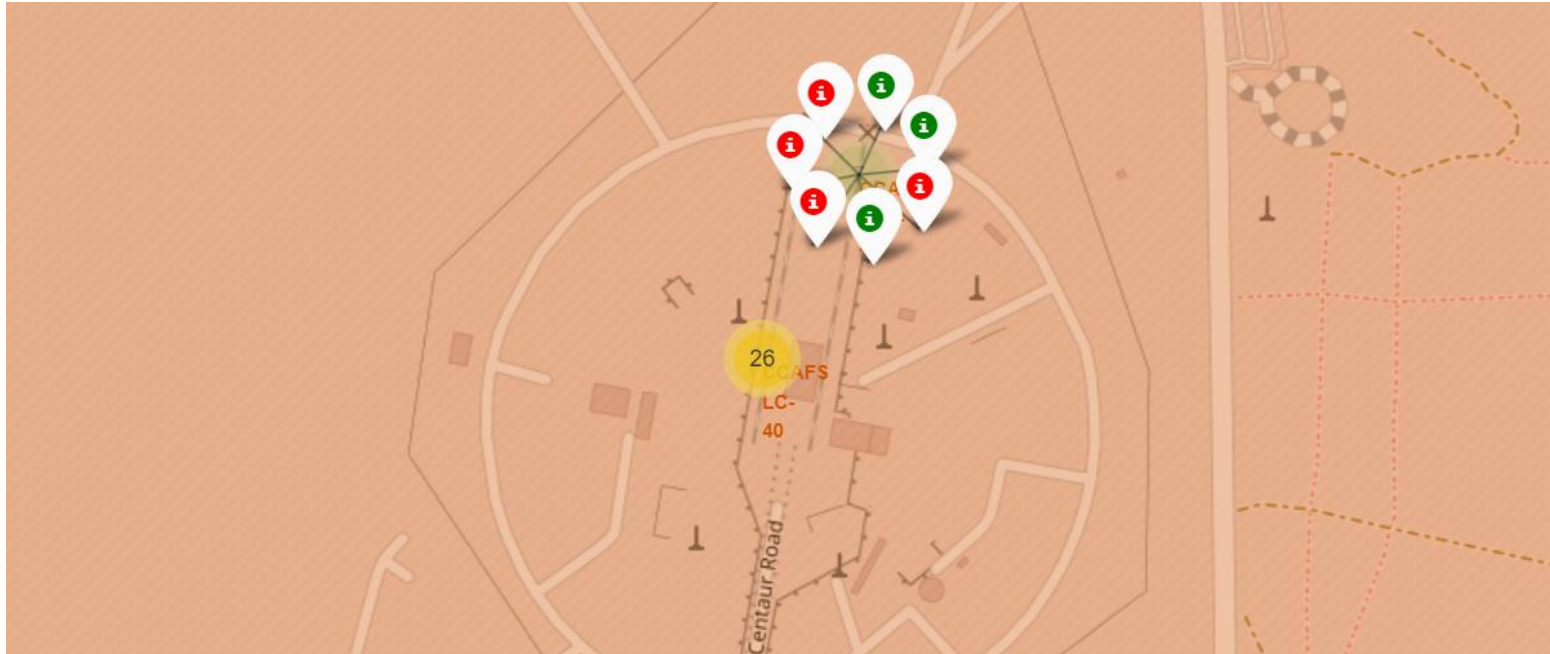
- **Near Equator:** the closer the launch site to the equator, the easier it is to launch to equatorial orbit. Rockets launched from this region get a **Natural Boost** that helps **save costs**.



Launch Outcomes

At each Launch site:

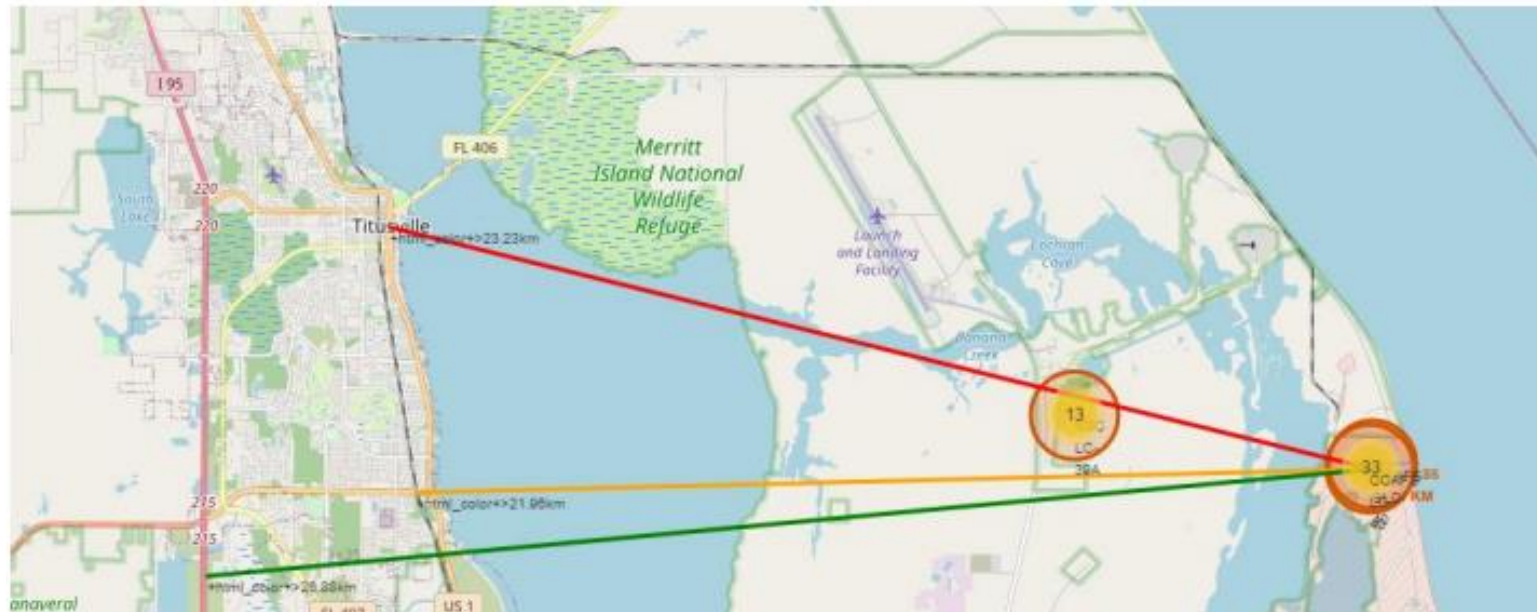
- **Green** markers for Successful launches, **Red** for unsuccessful launches.
- Launch site **CCAFS LSC-40** has a **3/7 success rate (42.9%)**



Distance to Proximities

For CCAFS LSC-40:

- .86 km from nearest Coastline
- 21.96 km from nearest railway
- 23.23 km from nearest city
- 26.88 km from nearest highway



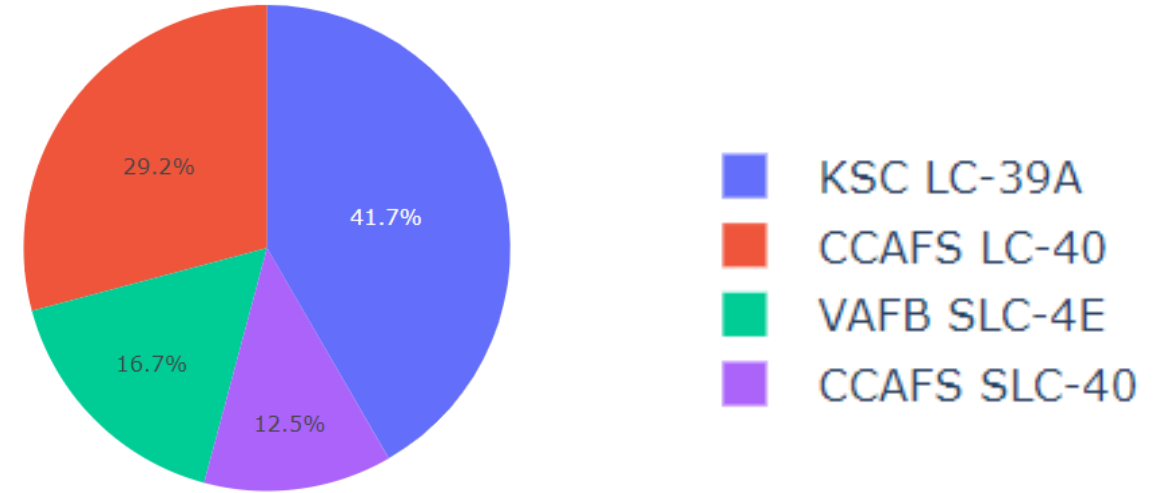
A dramatic photograph of a space shuttle launching from a launchpad. The shuttle is ascending vertically, leaving a massive, billowing plume of white and orange smoke and fire behind it. The launchpad's service structure is visible on the left, and a tall lighting tower stands in the foreground. The sky is a mix of blue and grey clouds. The word "Dashboard" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font on the right side of the image.

Dashboard

Launch success

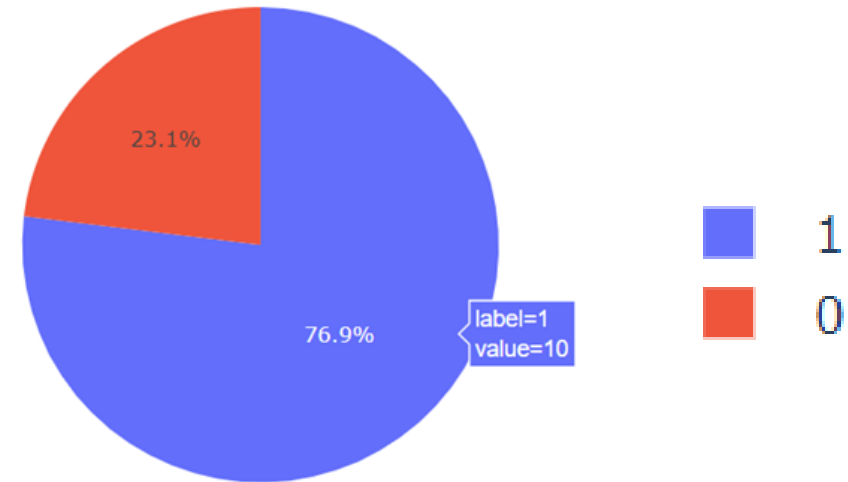
As percent of total:

- KSC LC-39A has the **most successful launches** amongst launch sites (**41.2%**)



As percent of total:

- KSC LC-39A has the highest **Success Rate** amongst launch sites (**76.9%**), with **10** successful launches and **3** failed ones.

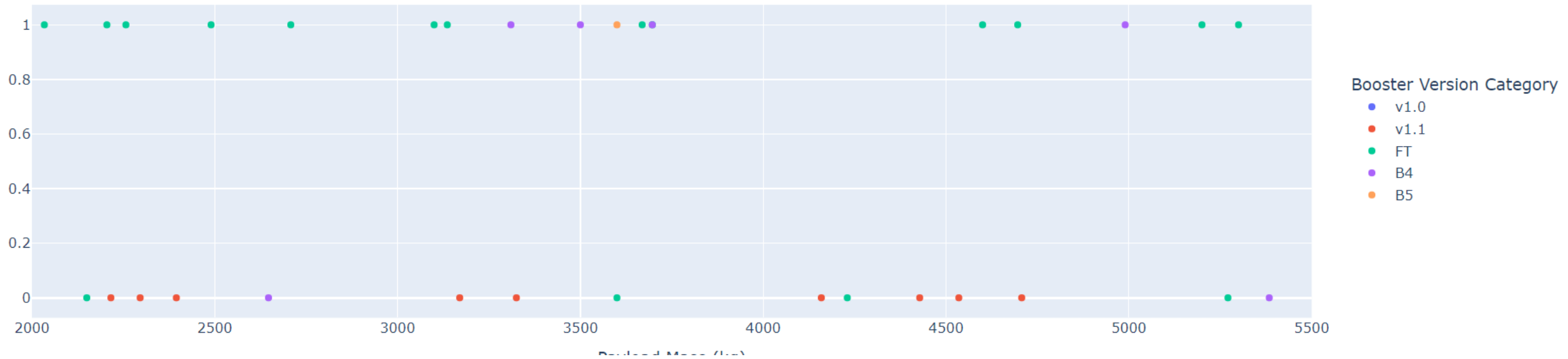


Payload Mass and Success

By Booster Version:

- Payloads between 2,000 kg and 5,000 kg have the **highest success rate**
- Here, 1 indicates successful outcome and 0 indicates a failed one.

Success Rate of Sites with Payload Mass Range 2000 to 5500 (kg)





Predictive Analytics

Classification

Accuracy:

- All the Models performed at about the same level and had the same scores and **accuracy**. This is likely due to the **small size** of the dataset. The **Decision Tree** model slightly outperformed the rest.
- **.best_score_** is the average of all **cv folds** for a single combination of the parameters.

	LogReg	SVM	Tree	KNN
Jaccard_Score	0.800000	0.800000	0.800000	0.800000
F1_Score	0.888889	0.888889	0.888889	0.888889
Accuracy	0.833333	0.833333	0.833333	0.833333

```
models = {'KNeighbors': knn_cv.best_score_,
          'DecisionTree': tree_cv.best_score_,
          'LogisticRegression': logreg_cv.best_score_,
          'SupportVector': svm_cv.best_score_}

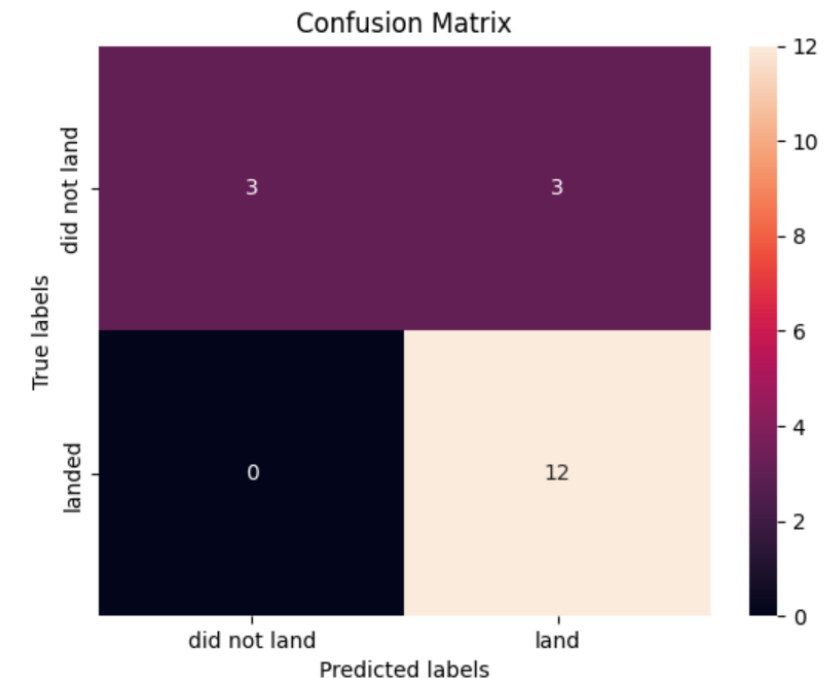
bestalgorithm = max(models, key=models.get)
print('Best model is', bestalgorithm, 'with a score of', models[bestalgorithm])
if bestalgorithm == 'DecisionTree':
    print('Best params is:', tree_cv.best_params_)
if bestalgorithm == 'KNeighbors':
    print('Best params is:', knn_cv.best_params_)
if bestalgorithm == 'LogisticRegression':
    print('Best params is:', logreg_cv.best_params_)
if bestalgorithm == 'SupportVector':
    print('Best params is:', svm_cv.best_params_)
```

```
Best model is DecisionTree with a score of 0.9017857142857144
Best params is : {'criterion': 'gini', 'max_depth': 18, 'max_features': 'sqrt', 'min_samples_leaf': 2, 'min_samples_split': 2, 'splitter': 'best'}
```

Confusion Matrices

Performance Summary:

- A **Confusion Matrix** summarizes the performance of a classification algorithm
- All the confusion matrices were identical
- The fact that there are False Positives (Type 1 error) is not good
- Confusion Matrix Outputs:
 - 12 True Positive
 - 3 True Negative
 - **3 False Positive**
 - 0 False Negative
- **Precision** = $TP / (TP + FP)$
 - $12 / 15 = 0.80$
- **Recall** = $TP / (TP + FN)$
 - $12 / 12 = 1.00$
- **F1_Score** = $2 * (Precision * Recall) / (Precision + Recall)$
 - $2 * (0.80 + 1.00) / (0.80 + 1.00) = 0.89$
- **Accuracy** = $(TP + TN) / (TP + TN + FP + FN) = 0.833$



CONCLUSION

Research:

- **Model Performance:** The models performed similarly on the test set with the Decision Tree model slightly outperforming
- **Equator:** Most of the launch sites are near the equator to minimize cost
- **Coast:** All the launch sites are near the coast
- **Launch Success:** Increases over Time
- **KSC LSC-39A:** Has the highest success rate among launch sites. Has a 100% success rate for launches less than 5,000 kg
- **Orbits:** ES-L1, GEO, HEO, and SSO have a 100% success rate
- **Payload Mass:** Across all launch sites, the higher the payload mass (kg), the higher the success rate



CONCLUSION

Things to Consider:

- **Dataset:** A larger dataset will help build on the predictive analytics results to help understand if the findings can be generalizable to a larger dataset
- **Feature Analysis/PCA:** Additional feature analysis or principal component analysis should be conducted to see if it can help improve accuracy

