



# SpaceX Falcon 9 Landing Prediction

Tariq Elsheikh  
April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023



# Outline

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

# Executive Summary

- Summary of methodologies:

1. Data collection of SpaceX Falcon 9 using SpaceX API.
2. Web scraping of SpaceX Falcon 9 records with BeautifulSoup.
3. Data wrangling of SpaceX Falcon 9.
4. Explore and prepare data of SpaceX Falcon 9 using Pandas and Matplotlib.
5. Analysis of SpaceX Falcon 9 launch sites locations with Folium & Poly Dash.
6. Machine Learning Prediction of SpaceX Falcon 9.

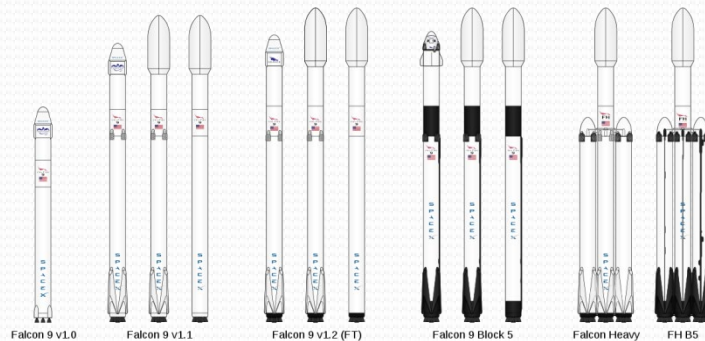
- Summary of results:

1. EDA with visualization & SQL results
2. Interactive map with Folium results
3. Plotly Dash dashboard results
4. Predictive analysis (classification) results

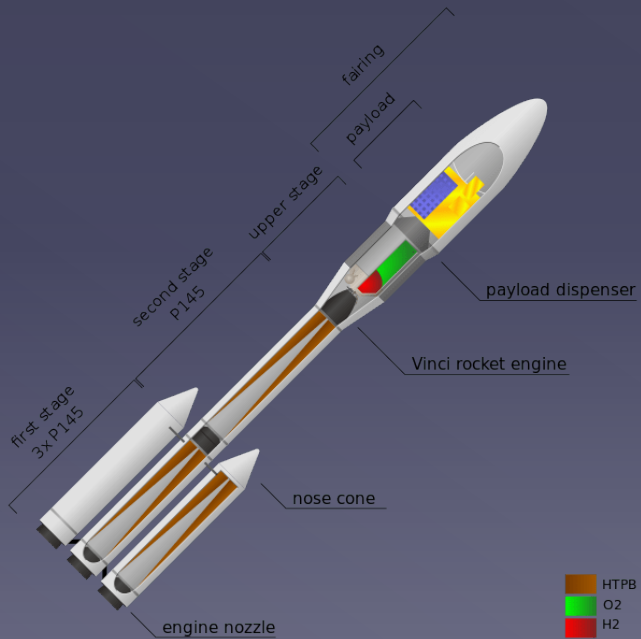


# Introduction

- SpaceX Falcon 9 is a reusable rocket designed for commercial and government missions. The starting price of each launch is \$62 million. By improving the efficiency of the manufacturing processes & research, the cost of launch & materials can be reduced.
- For safe and designated landing areas, First Stage Landing Prediction tools are applied.



# Methodology



# Methodology

- Data Collection
- Data Wrangling
- Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) by using visualization and SQL.
- Interactive visual analytics by using Folium and Plotly Dash
- Predictive analysis by using classification models.

# Data Collection Description

- The SpaceX API get request was used for Data collection.
- The response was decoded as a Json using `.json()` function call and turn it into a pandas dataframe using `.json_normalize()`.
- The data was cleaned and checked for missing values to fill where necessary.
- Web scraping was performed from Wikipedia for Falcon 9 launch records with BeautifulSoup.
- The launch records was extracted as HTML table, then the table was parsed and converted to a pandas dataframe.

# Data Collection – SpaceX API

- The SpaceX API was used to collect data, then cleaning, wrangling and formatting were done based on the provided data.
- The GitHub URL of the notebook: [Data Collection - GitHub](#)

Now let's start requesting rocket launch data from SpaceX API with the following URL:

```
[6]: spacex url="https://api.spacexdata.com/v4/launches/past"
```

```
[7]: response = requests.get(spacex_url)
```

Check the content of the response

```
[8]: print(response.content)
```

```
b' [{"fairings": {"reused": false, "recovery_attempt": false, "recovered": false, "shi
om/94/f2/NN6Ph45r_o.png", "large": "https://images2.imgbox.com/5b/02/QcxHUB5V_o.
```



# Data Collection – Web Scraping

- Web Scraping was performed to collect Falcon 9 Historical launch records with BeautifulSoup.
- Data frame was created by parsing the HTML table from the Wikipedia page.
- The GitHub URL of the notebook: [Web Scraping - GitHub](#)

## TASK 1: Request the Falcon9 Launch Wiki page from its URL

First, let's perform an HTTP GET method to request the Falcon9 Launch HTML page, as an HTTP response.

```
[5]: # use requests.get() method with the provided static_url
# assign the response to a object
response = requests.get(static_url)
```

Create a BeautifulSoup object from the HTML response

```
[6]: # Use BeautifulSoup() to create a BeautifulSoup object from a response text content
soup = BeautifulSoup(response.content, 'html.parser')
```

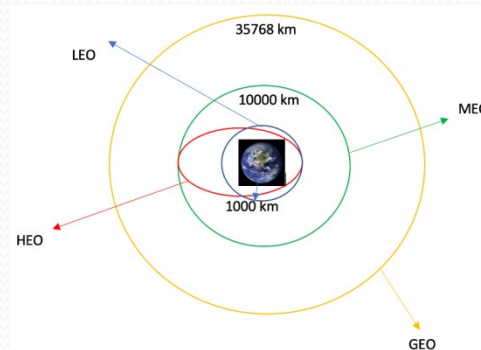
Print the page title to verify if the BeautifulSoup object was created properly

```
[7]: # Use soup.title attribute
soup.title
```

```
[7]: <title>List of Falcon 9 and Falcon Heavy launches - Wikipedia</title>
```

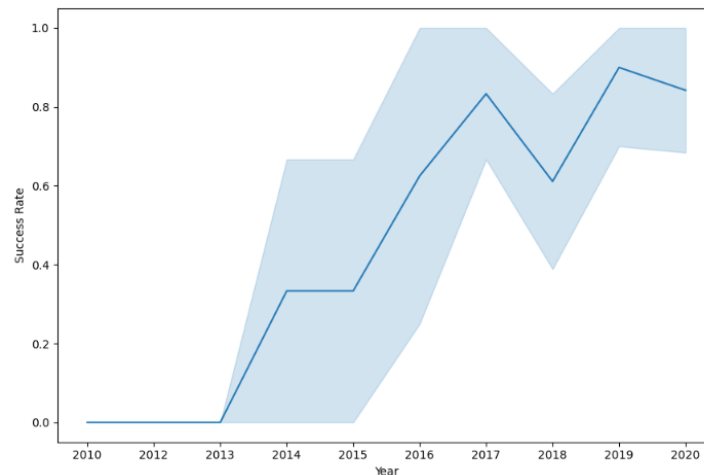
# Data Wrangling

- Exploratory data analysis (EDA) was performed to determine the training labels through patterns.
- The number of launches at each site and the number of occurrence of each orbit were calculated
- Landing outcome label was created from outcome column and the results were exported to csv.
- The GitHub URL of the notebook: [Data Wrangling - GitHub](#)



# EDA – Data Visualization

- By exploring the data, it's possible to visualize the relationship between flight number and launch Site, payload and launch site, success rate of each orbit type, flight number and orbit type, the launch success yearly trend.
- The GitHub URL of the notebook: [Data Visualization - GitHub](#)



# EDA - SQL

SQL was used to get insights from the data such as:

1. Display the names of the unique launch sites in the space mission
2. Display the total payload mass carried by boosters launched by NASA (CRS)
3. Display average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1
4. List the total number of successful and failure mission outcomes
5. List the names of the booster versions which have carried the maximum payload mass
6. Display the month names, failure landing outcomes in drone ship ,booster versions, launch site for the requested date
7. Rank the count of successful landing outcomes between certain dates.

The GitHub URL of the notebook: [SQL - GitHub](#)

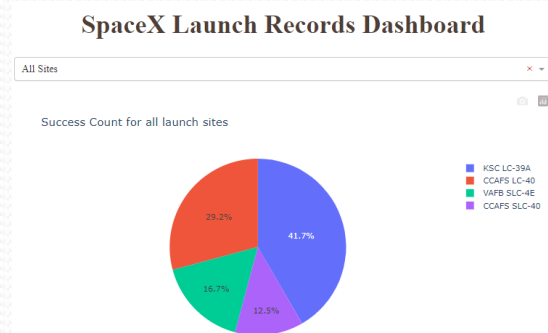
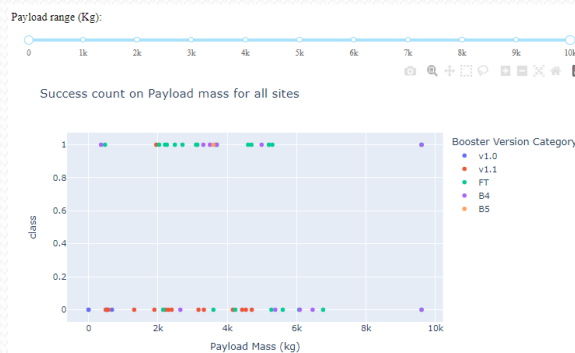
# Interactive Map with Folium

- Folium map was created to mark all the launch sites and map objects such as circles, markers and lines to find out the success or failure rate of launches.
- Set outcomes for the launch are success=1, failure=0.
- The GitHub URL of the notebook: [Interactive Map - GitHub](#)



# Dashboard with Plotly Dash

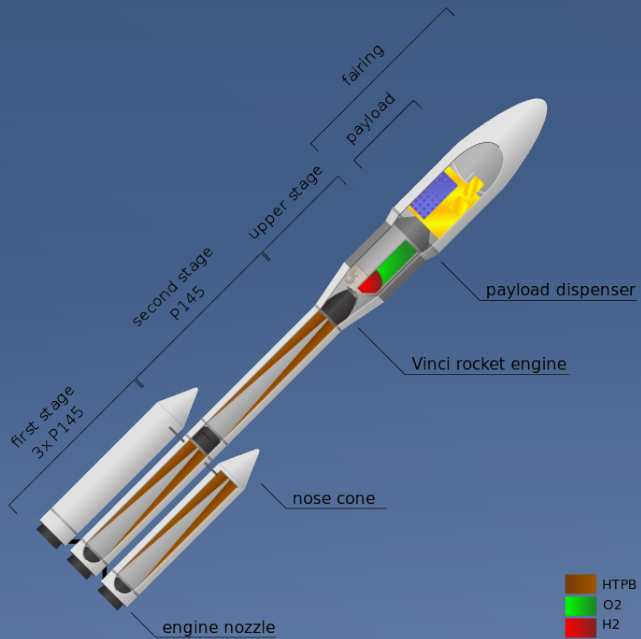
- an interactive dashboard with Plotly dash was built.
- Pie charts that show the total launches by a certain sites were plotted.
- Scatter graph that show the relationship with Outcome and Payload Mass (Kg) for the different booster version were plotted.
- The GitHub URL of the notebook: [Dashboard - GitHub](#)



# Predictive Analysis (Classification)

- The data was loaded using numpy and pandas, then transformed and split our data into training and testing.
- Different machine learning models were built and explored different hyperparameters using GridSearchCV.
- Accuracy was assigned as the metric for the model, the model was improved using feature engineering and algorithm tuning.
- The best performing classification model was found.
- The GitHub URL of the notebook: [Predictive Analysis - GitHub](#)

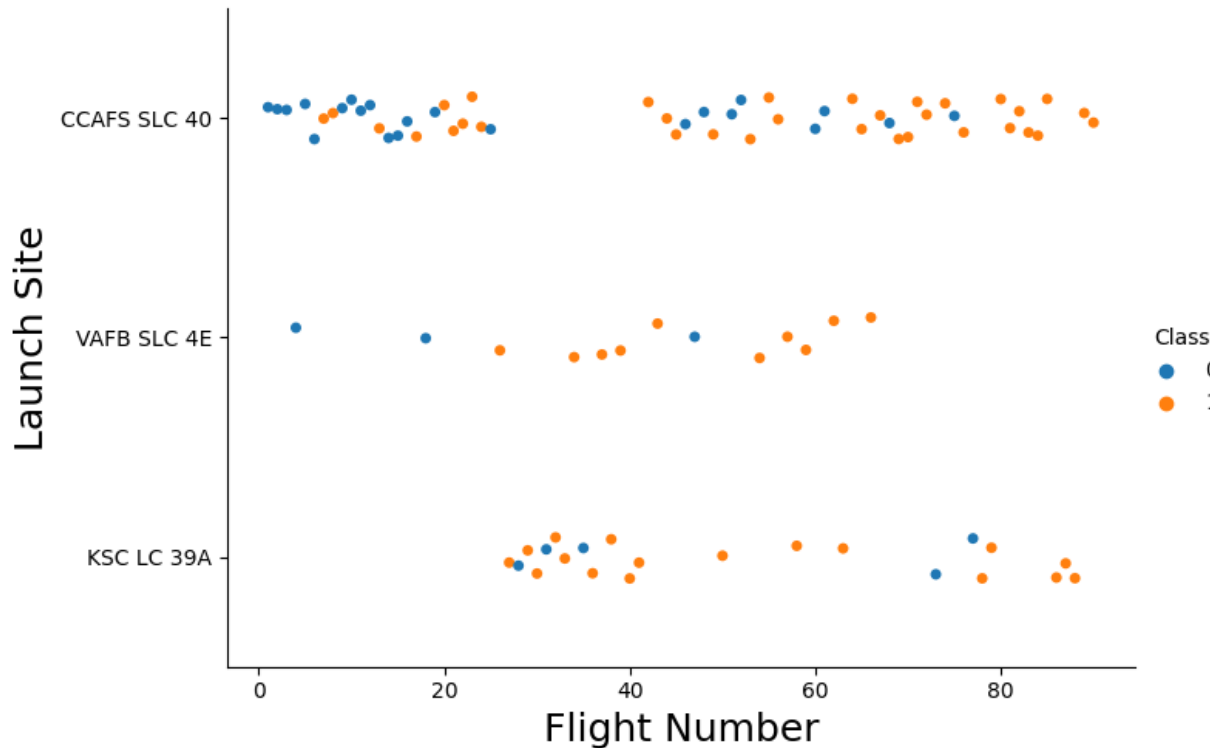
# Results



# Results

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

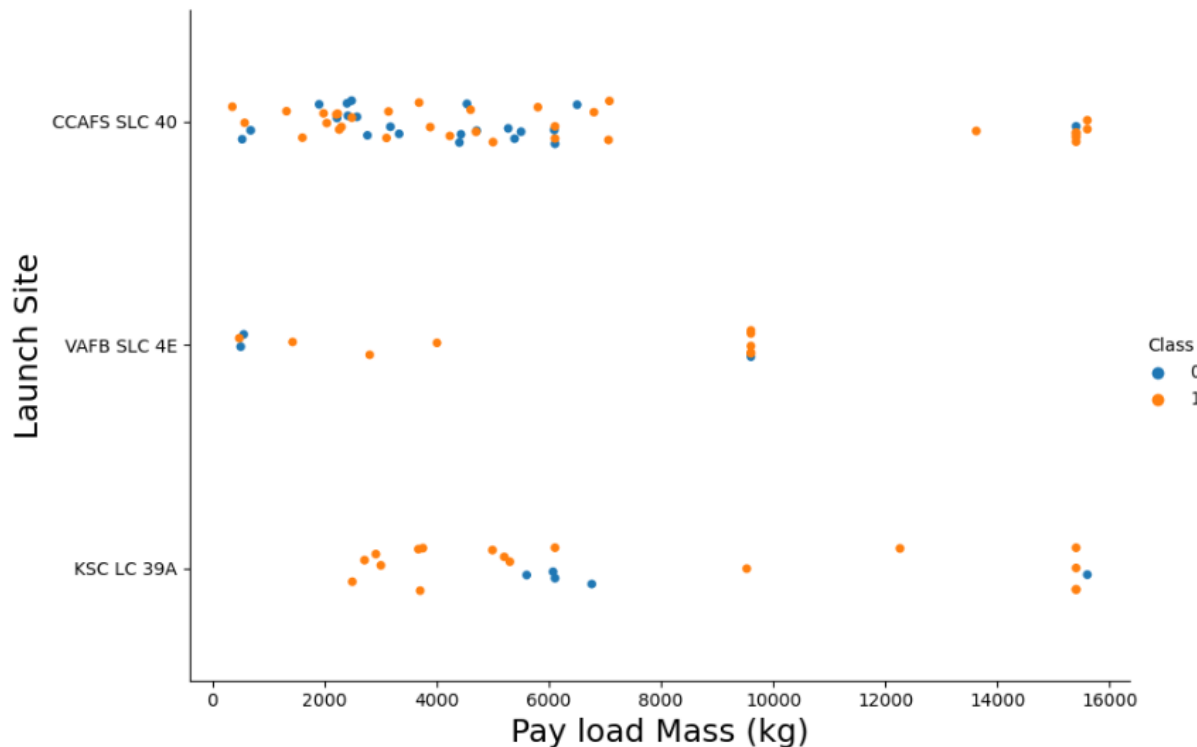
# Flight Number vs. Launch Site



From plot, the larger the flight amount at a launch site, the greater the success rate at a launch site.



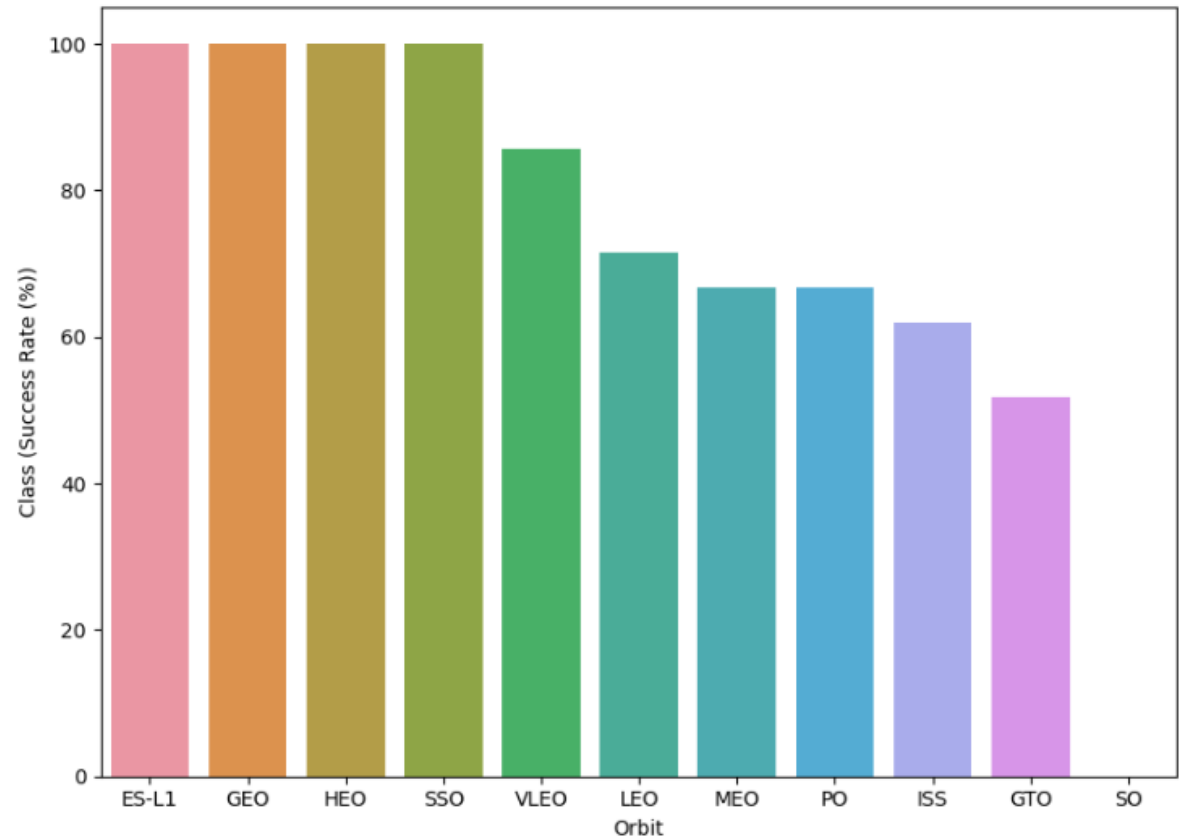
# Payload vs. Launch Site



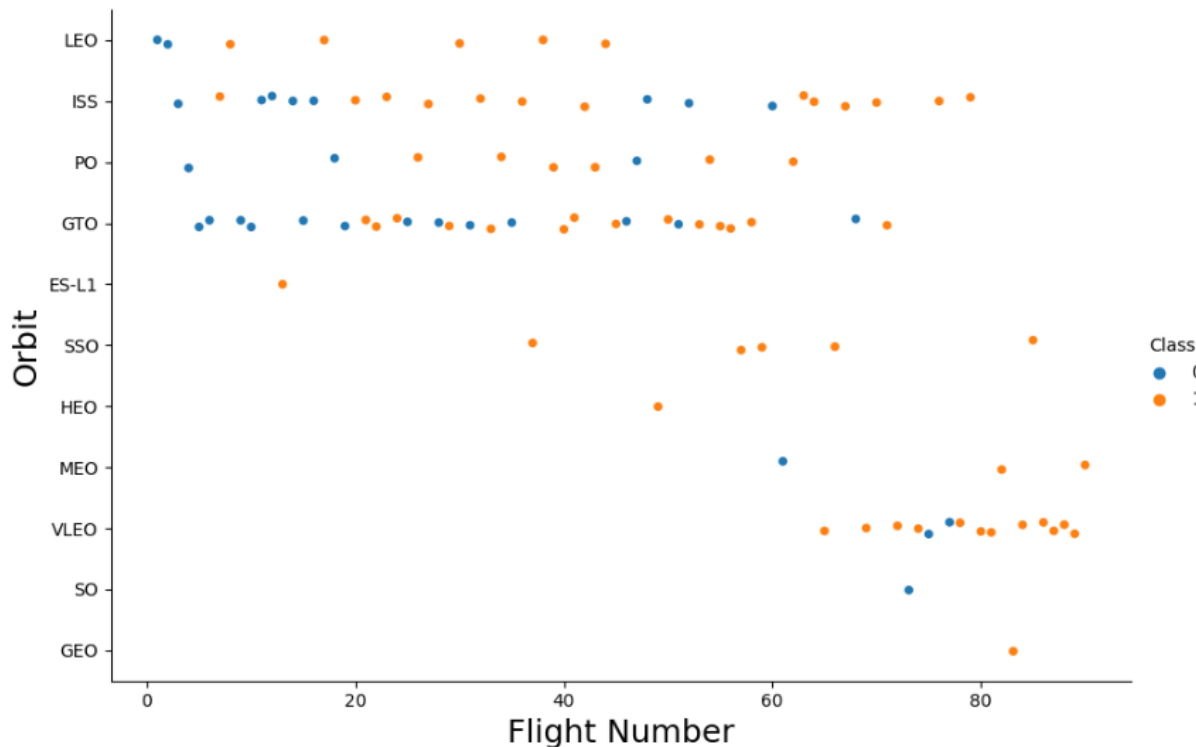
From plot, the greater the payload mass for launch site CCAFS SLC 40, the higher the success rate for the rocket. For VAFB SLC 4E, there are no launches for Pay Load Mass greater than 10,000 kg.

# Success Rate vs. Orbit Type

From plot, orbit ES-L1, GEO, HEO & SSO have the highest success rate at 100%, while SO success rate is 0%.

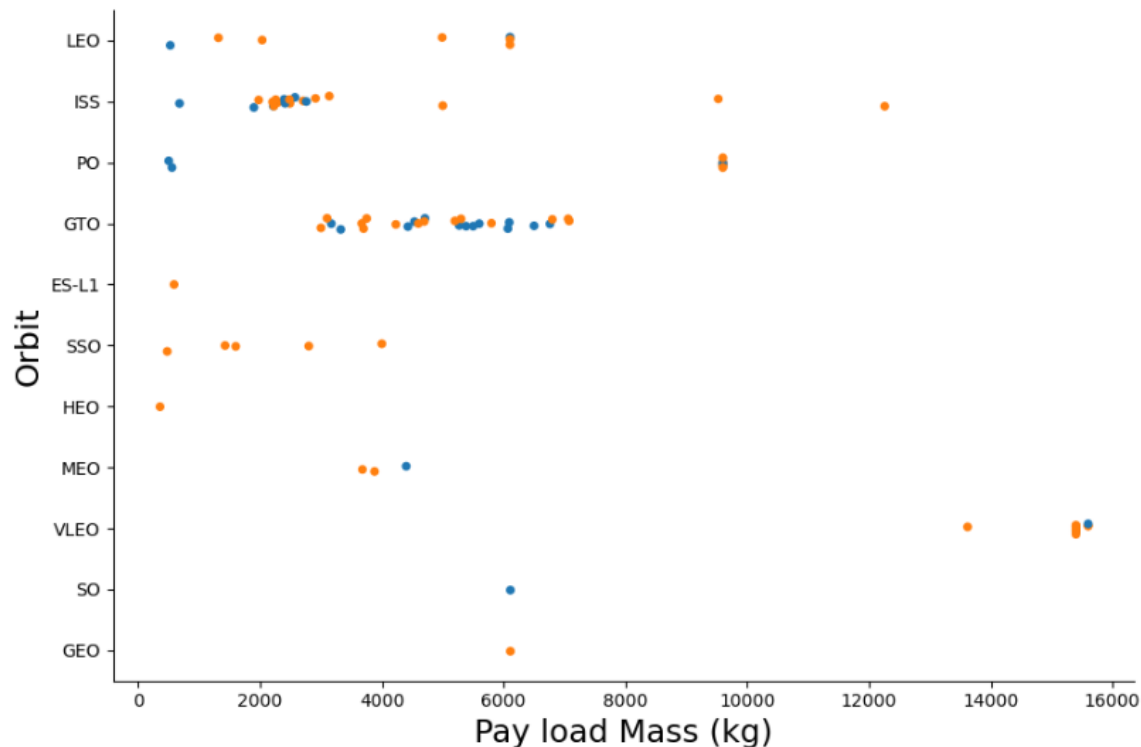


# Flight Number vs. Orbit Type



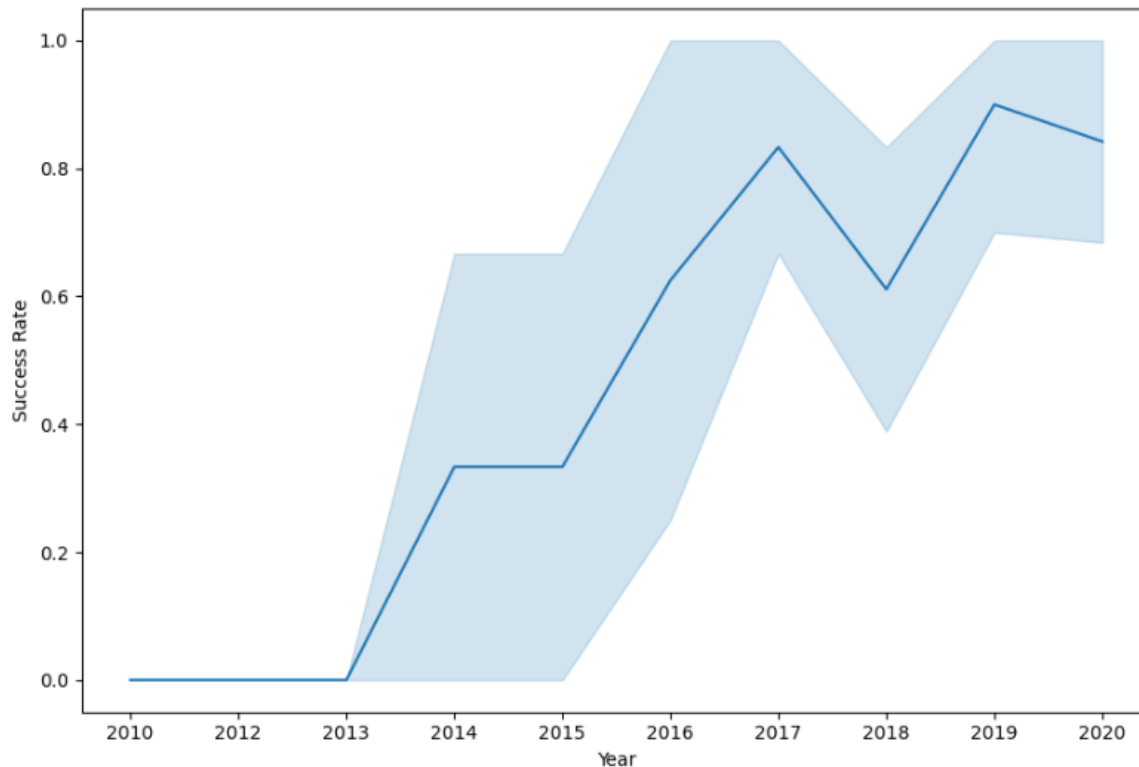
From plot, LEO orbit success rate is related to the number of flights. While for GTO orbit, there is no relationship between flight number and the orbit.

# Payload vs. Orbit Type



From plot, LEO, ISS & PO orbits success rate is related to the pay load mass. While for GTO orbit, there is no relationship between the pay load mass and the orbit.

# Launch Success Yearly Trend



From plot, the success rate increases from 2013 to 2020, the rate of increase vary from year to year as shown.



# All Launch Site Names

Display the names of the unique launch sites in the space mission

```
[7]: %sql SELECT DISTINCT LAUNCH_SITE as "Launch_Sites" FROM SPACEXTBL;  
* sqlite:///my_data1.db
```

Done.

```
[7]: .....
```

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

DISTINCT keyword was used to show only unique launch sites from the SpaceX data.

# Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

Display 5 records where launch sites begin with the string 'CCA'

```
[8]: %sql SELECT * FROM 'SPACEXTBL' WHERE Launch_Site LIKE 'CCA%' LIMIT 5;
```

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

Done.

```
[8]: .....
```

| Date       | Time (UTC) | Booster_Version | Launch_Site | Payload   | PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_ | Orbit     | Customer        | Mission_Outcome | Landing_Outcome     |
|------------|------------|-----------------|-------------|---|------------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 04-06-2010 | 18:45:00   | F9 v1.0 B0003   | CCAFS LC-40 | Dragon Spacecraft Qualification Unit                          | 0                | LEO       | SpaceX          | Success         | Failure (parachute) |
| 08-12-2010 | 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) |
| 22-05-2012 | 07:44:00   | F9 v1.0 B0005   | CCAFS LC-40 | Dragon demo flight C2   | 525              | LEO (ISS) | NASA (COTS)     | Success         | No attempt          |
| 08-10-2012 | 00:35:00   | F9 v1.0 B0006   | CCAFS LC-40 | SpaceX CRS-1  | 500              | LEO (ISS) | NASA (CRS)      | Success         | No attempt          |
| 01-03-2013 | 15:10:00   | F9 v1.0 B0007   | CCAFS LC-40 | SpaceX CRS-2  | 677              | LEO (ISS) | NASA (CRS)      | Success         | No attempt          |

The shown command was used to view 5 records where launch sites begin with 'CCA'

# Total Payload Mass

Display the total payload mass carried by boosters launched by NASA (CRS)

```
[9]: %sql SELECT SUM(PAYLOAD_MASS__KG_) as "Total Payload Mass(Kgs)", Customer FROM 'SPACEXTBL' WHERE Customer = 'NASA (CRS)';  
* sqlite:///my_data1.db
```

Done.

```
[9]: .....
```

| Total Payload Mass(Kgs) | Customer   |
|-------------------------|------------|
| 45596                   | NASA (CRS) |

The total payload carried by boosters from NASA is 45596 kg using the shown command.

# Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

Display average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1

```
[10]: %sql SELECT AVG(PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_) as "Payload Mass Kgs", Customer, Booster_Version FROM 'SPACEXTBL' WHERE Booster_Version LIKE 'F9 v1.1%';  
* sqlite:///my_data1.db
```

Done.

```
[10]: .....
```

| Payload Mass Kgs   | Customer | Booster_Version |
|--------------------|----------|-----------------|
| 2534.6666666666665 | MDA      | F9 v1.1 B1003   |

The average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1 is 2534.666 using the shown command.

# First Successful Ground Landing Date

List the date when the first succesful landing outcome in ground pad was acheived.

*Hint: Use min function*

```
[11]: %sql SELECT MIN(DATE) FROM 'SPACEXTBL' WHERE "Landing_Outcome" = "Success (ground pad)";  
* sqlite:///my_data1.db
```

Done.

```
[11]: .....
```

| MIN(DATE)  |
|------------|
| 01-05-2017 |

The first successful ground landing date is 01-05-2017 using the shown command.



# Successful Drone Ship Landing with Payload between 4000 and 6000

List the names of the boosters which have success in drone ship and have payload mass greater than 4000 but less than 6000

```
[12]: %sql SELECT DISTINCT Booster_Version, Payload FROM SPACEXTBL WHERE "Landing_Outcome" = "Success (drone ship)" AND PAYLOAD_MASS_KG > 4000 AND PAYLOAD_MASS_KG < 6000
```

\* sqlite:///my\_data1.db

| Booster_Version | Payload               |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| F9 FT B1022     | JCSAT-14              |
| F9 FT B1026     | JCSAT-16              |
| F9 FT B1021.2   | SES-10                |
| F9 FT B1031.2   | SES-11 / EchoStar 105 |

The boosters that have successfully Drone Ship Landing were filtered to determine successful landing with payload mass greater than 4000 but less than 6000

# Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes

List the total number of successful and failure mission outcomes

```
%sql SELECT "Mission_Outcome", COUNT("Mission_Outcome") as Total FROM SPACEXTBL GROUP BY "Mission_Outcome";
```

| Mission_Outcome                  | Total |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| Failure (in flight)              | 1     |
| Success                          | 98    |
| Success                          | 1     |
| Success (payload status unclear) | 1     |

The number of successful and failure missions outcomes are represented using the shown code.

# Boosters Carried Maximum Payload

```
%sql SELECT "Booster_Version",Payload, "PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_" FROM SPACEXTBL WHERE "PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_" = (SELECT MAX("PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_") FROM SPACEXTBL)
```

List of boosters that have carried maximum payload mass is shown which is 15600 kg.

| Booster_Version | Payload   | PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_ |
|-----------------|---|------------------|
| F9 B5 B1048.4   | Starlink 1 v1.0, SpaceX CRS-19                    | 15600            |
| F9 B5 B1049.4   | Starlink 2 v1.0, Crew Dragon in-flight abort test | 15600            |
| F9 B5 B1051.3   | Starlink 3 v1.0, Starlink 4 v1.0                  | 15600            |
| F9 B5 B1056.4   | Starlink 4 v1.0, SpaceX CRS-20                    | 15600            |
| F9 B5 B1048.5   | Starlink 5 v1.0, Starlink 6 v1.0                  | 15600            |
| F9 B5 B1051.4   | Starlink 6 v1.0, Crew Dragon Demo-2               | 15600            |
| F9 B5 B1049.5   | Starlink 7 v1.0, Starlink 8 v1.0                  | 15600            |
| F9 B5 B1060.2   | Starlink 11 v1.0, Starlink 12 v1.0                | 15600            |
| F9 B5 B1058.3   | Starlink 12 v1.0, Starlink 13 v1.0                | 15600            |
| F9 B5 B1051.6   | Starlink 13 v1.0, Starlink 14 v1.0                | 15600            |
| F9 B5 B1060.3   | Starlink 14 v1.0, GPS III-04                      | 15600            |
| F9 B5 B1049.7   | Starlink 15 v1.0, SpaceX CRS-21                   | 15600            |

# 2015 Launch Records

```
%sql SELECT substr(Date,7,4), substr(Date, 4, 2),"Booster_Version", "Launch_Site", Payload, "PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_", "Mission_Outcome", "Land
```

| substr(Date,7,4) | substr(Date, 4, 2) | Booster_Version | Launch_Site | Payload      | PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_ | Mission_Outcome | Landing_Outcome      |
|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 2015             | 01                 | F9 v1.1 B1012   | CCAFS LC-40 | SpaceX CRS-5 | 2395             | Success         | Failure (drone ship) |
| 2015             | 04                 | F9 v1.1 B1015   | CCAFS LC-40 | SpaceX CRS-6 | 1898             | Success         | Failure (drone ship) |

Failed landing outcomes in drone ship, their booster versions, and launch site names for year 2015 were measured by using the shown code.

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

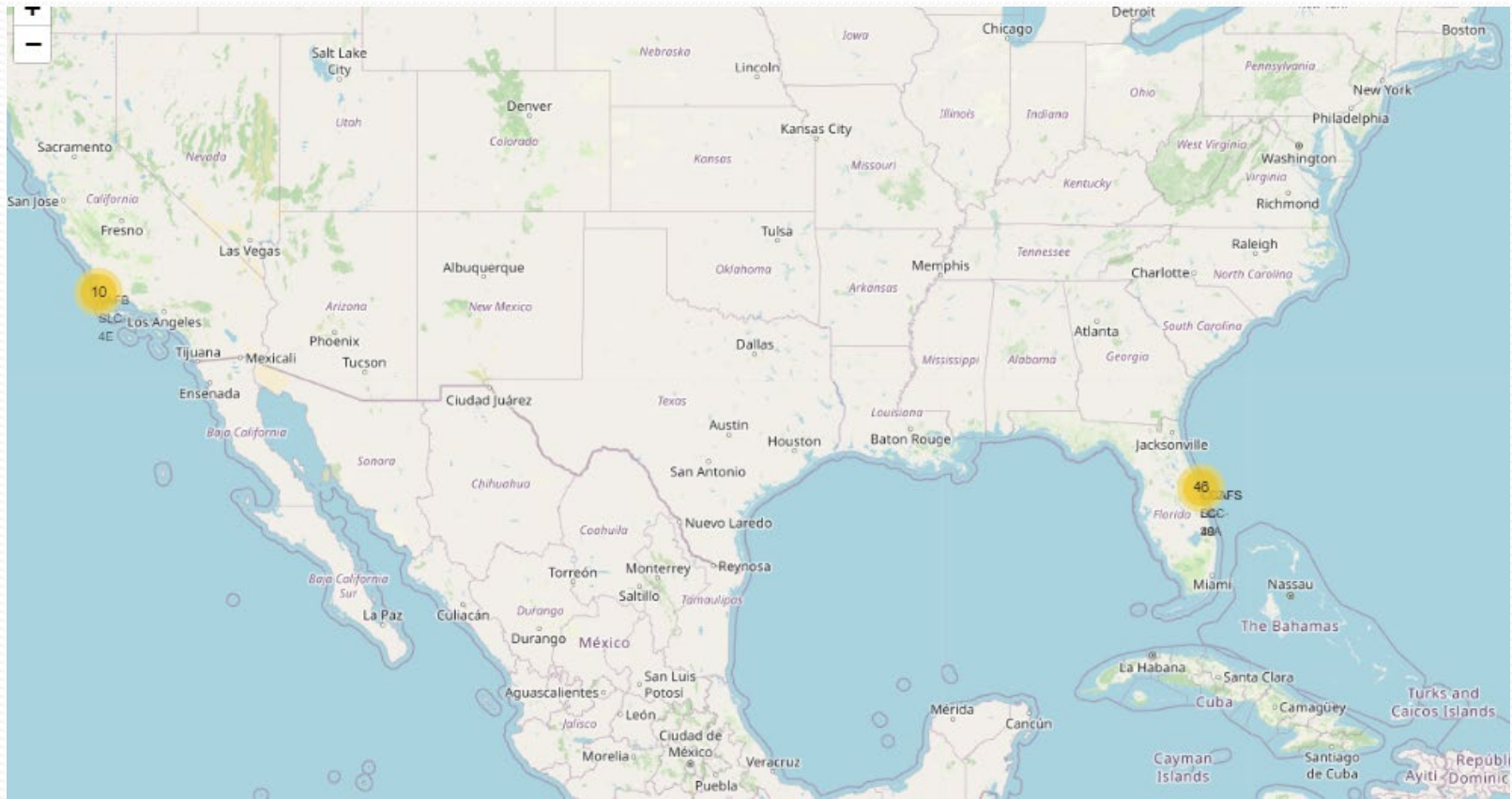
Rank the count of successful landing\_outcomes between the date 04-06-2010 and 20-03-2017 in descending order.

```
%sql SELECT * FROM SPACEXTBL WHERE "Landing_Outcome" LIKE 'Success%' AND (Date BETWEEN '04-06-2010' AND '20-03-2017') ORDER BY Date DESC
```

| Date       | Time (UTC) | Booster_Version | Launch_Site  | Payload   | PAYLOAD_MASS_KG_ | Orbit     | Customer                      | Mission_Outcome | Landing_Outcome      |
|------------|------------|-----------------|--------------|---|------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 19-02-2017 | 14:39:00   | F9 FT B1031.1   | KSC LC-39A   | SpaceX CRS-10                                     | 2490             | LEO (ISS) | NASA (CRS)                    | Success         | Success (ground pad) |
| 18-10-2020 | 12:25:57   | F9 B5 B1051.6   | KSC LC-39A   | Starlink 13 v1.0, Starlink 14 v1.0                | 15600            | LEO       | SpaceX                        | Success         | Success              |
| 18-08-2020 | 14:31:00   | F9 B5 B1049.6   | CCAFS SLC-40 | Starlink 10 v1.0, SkySat-19, -20, -21, SAOCOM 18  | 15440            | LEO       | SpaceX, Planet Labs, PlanetIQ | Success         | Success              |
| 18-07-2016 | 04:45:00   | F9 FT B1025.1   | CCAFS LC-40  | SpaceX CRS-9                                      | 2257             | LEO (ISS) | NASA (CRS)                    | Success         | Success (ground pad) |
| 18-04-2018 | 22:51:00   | F9 B4 B1045.1   | CCAFS SLC-40 | Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS)      | 362              | HEO       | NASA (LSP)                    | Success         | Success (drone ship) |
| 17-12-2019 | 00:10:00   | F9 B5 B1056.3   | CCAFS SLC-40 | JCSat-18 / Kacific 1, Starlink 2 v1.0             | 6956             | GTO       | Sky Perfect JSAT, Kacific 1   | Success         | Success              |
| 16-11-2020 | 00:27:00   | F9 B5B1061.1    | KSC LC-39A   | Crew-1, Sentinel-6 Michael Freilich               | 12500            | LEO (ISS) | NASA (CCP)                    | Success         | Success              |
| 15-12-2017 | 15:36:00   | F9 FT B1035.2   | CCAFS SLC-40 | SpaceX CRS-13                                     | 2205             | LEO (ISS) | NASA (CRS)                    | Success         | Success (ground pad) |
| 15-11-2018 | 20:46:00   | F9 B5 B1047.2   | KSC LC-39A   | Es hail 2   | 5300             | GTO       | Es hailSat                    | Success         | Success              |
| 14-08-2017 | 16:31:00   | F9 B4 B1039.1   | KSC LC-39A   | SpaceX CRS-12                                     | 3310             | LEO (ISS) | NASA (CRS)                    | Success         | Success (ground pad) |
| 14-08-2016 | 05:26:00   | F9 FT B1026     | CCAFS LC-40  | JCSAT-16  | 4600             | GTO       | SKY Perfect JSAT Group        | Success         | Success (drone ship) |
| 14-01-2017 | 17:54:00   | F9 FT B1029.1   | VAFB SLC-4E  | Iridium NEXT 1                                    | 9600             | Polar LEO | Iridium Communications        | Success         | Success (drone ship) |
| 13-06-2020 | 09:21:00   | F9 B5 B1059.3   | CCAFS SLC-40 | Starlink 8 v1.0, SkySats-16, -17, -18, GPS III-03 | 15410            | LEO       | SpaceX, Planet Labs           | Success         | Success              |

The count of landing outcomes was ranked between 2010-06-04 and 2017-03-20.

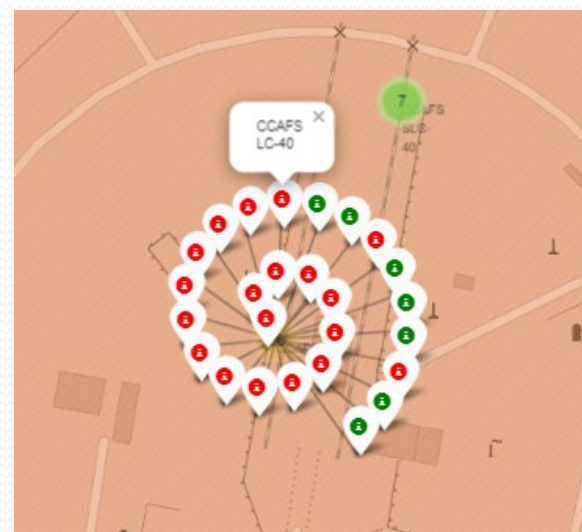
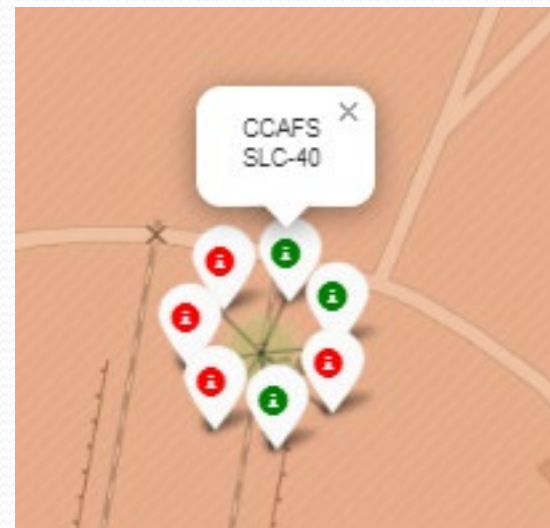
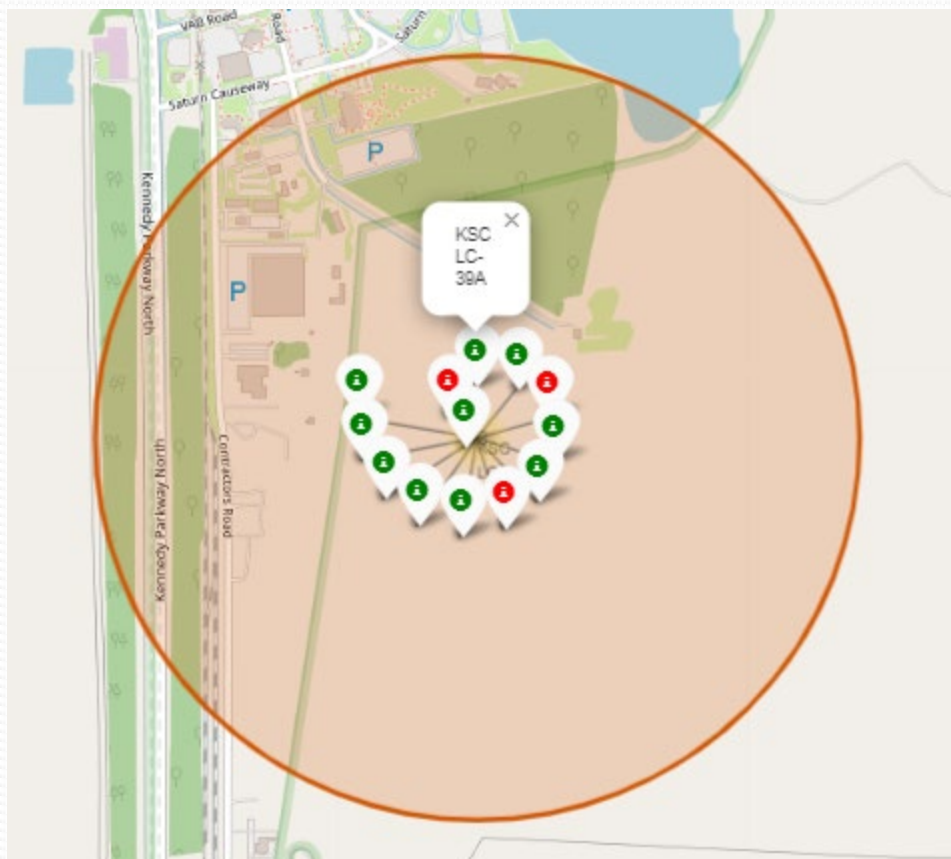
# Markers of all launch sites on US



It's noticed all launch sites are close to the US coast in Florida & California.



# Launch outcomes on map with Color Markers

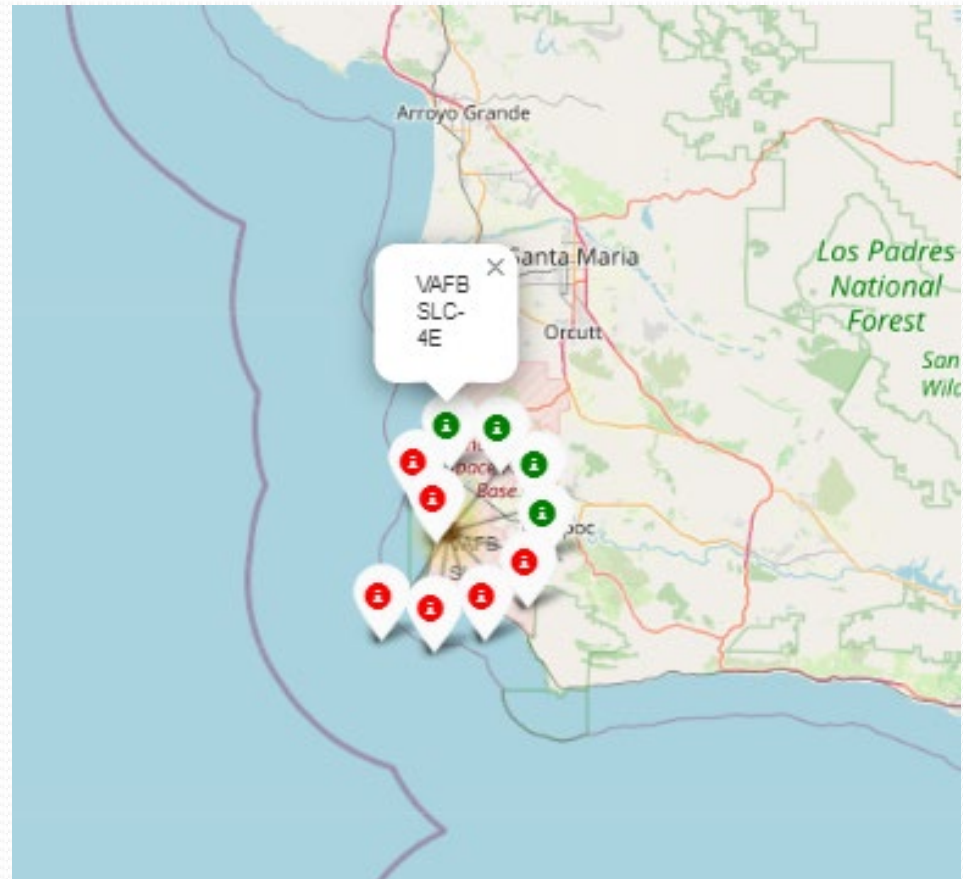


- Florida Sites: Launch Site KSC LC-39A has higher success rate compared to the other two sites.



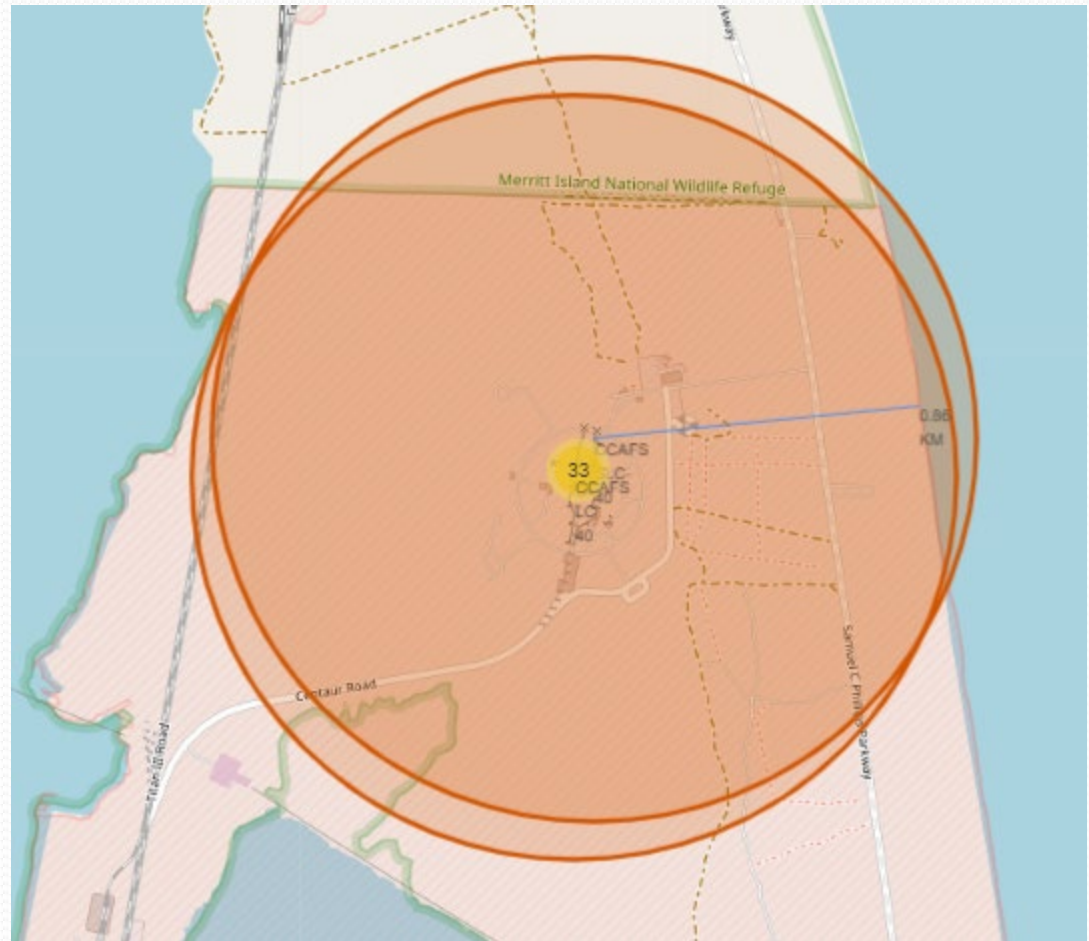
# Launch outcomes on map with Color Markers

- California Sites: Launch Site VAFB SLC-4E has lower success rate compared to KSC LC-39A launch site in Florida



# Distance between a launch site to its proximities

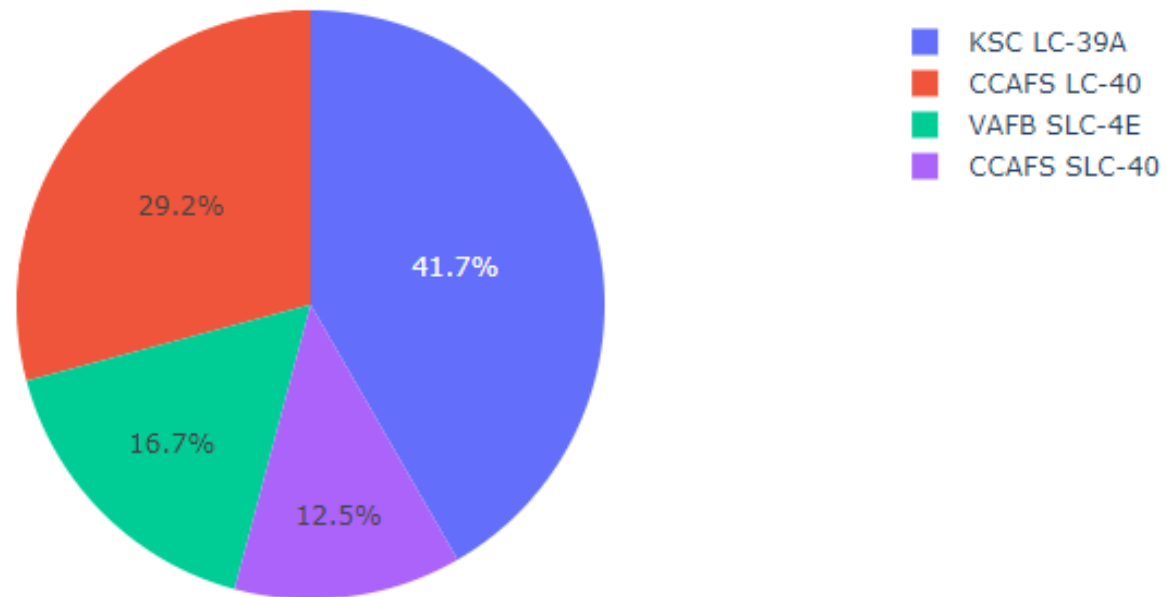
- California Sites: Launch Site CCAFS SLC-40 proximity to coastline is 0.86 km.



# Pie Chart



Success Count for all launch sites



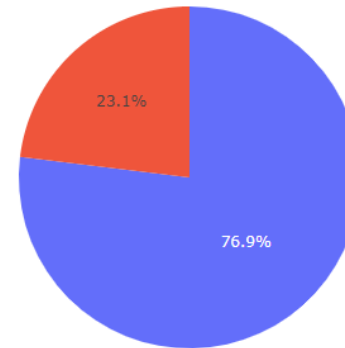
Pie Chart for launch success count for all sites

# Pie Chart

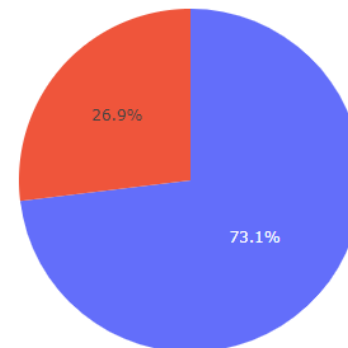
1. KSC LC-39A
2. 1<sup>st</sup> Highest Success Launches
3. Success rate is 76.9% & Failure rate is 23.1%

1. CCAFS LC-40
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Highest Success Launches
3. Success rate is 73.1% & Failure rate is 26.9%

Total Success Launches for site KSC LC-39A



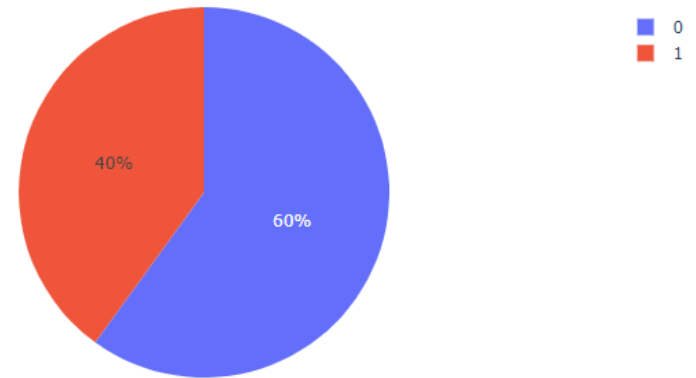
Total Success Launches for site CCAFS LC-40



# Pie Chart

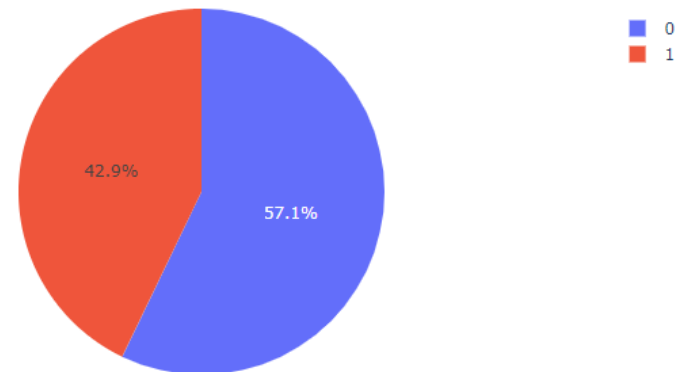
1. VAFB SLC-4E
2. 3<sup>rd</sup> Highest Success Launches
3. Success rate is 60% & Failure rate is 40%

Total Success Launches for site VAFB SLC-4E



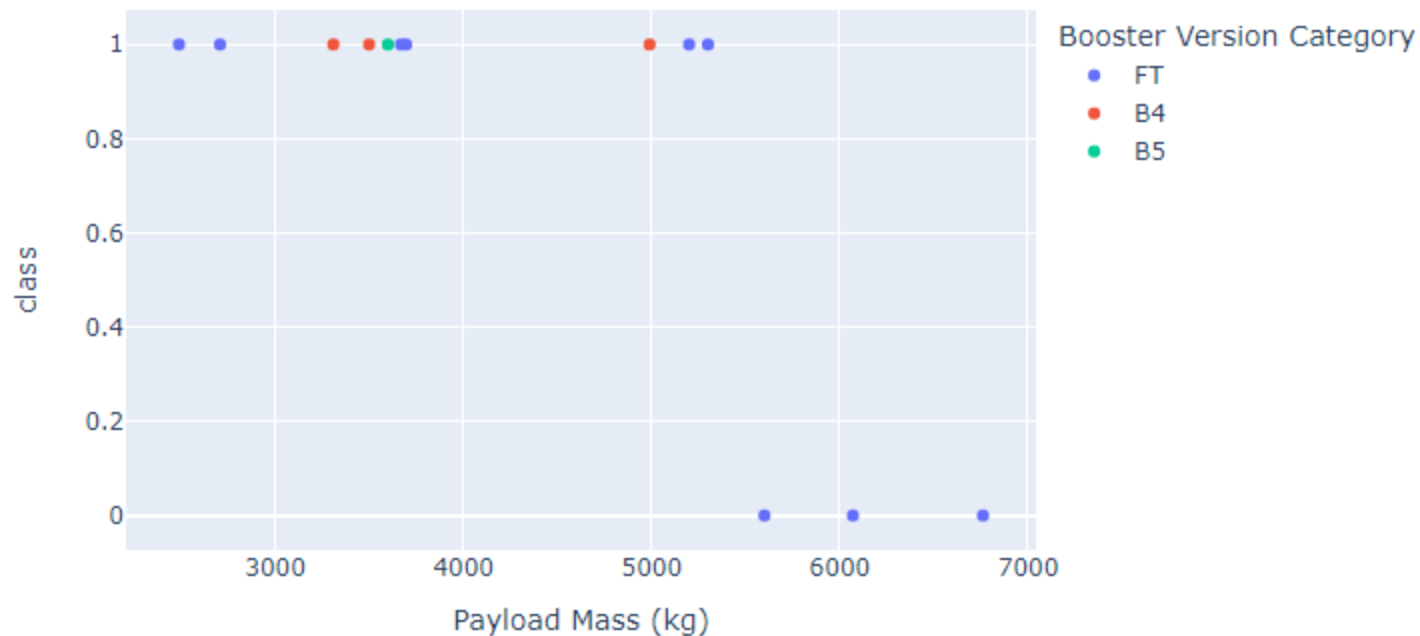
1. CCAFS SLC-40
2. 4<sup>th</sup> Highest Success Launches
3. Success rate is 57.1% & Failure rate is 42.9%

Total Success Launches for site CCAFS SLC-40



# Payload vs. Launch Outcome scatter plot for all sites

Success count on Payload mass for site KSC LC-39A



The success rate increases when the payload mass decreases.

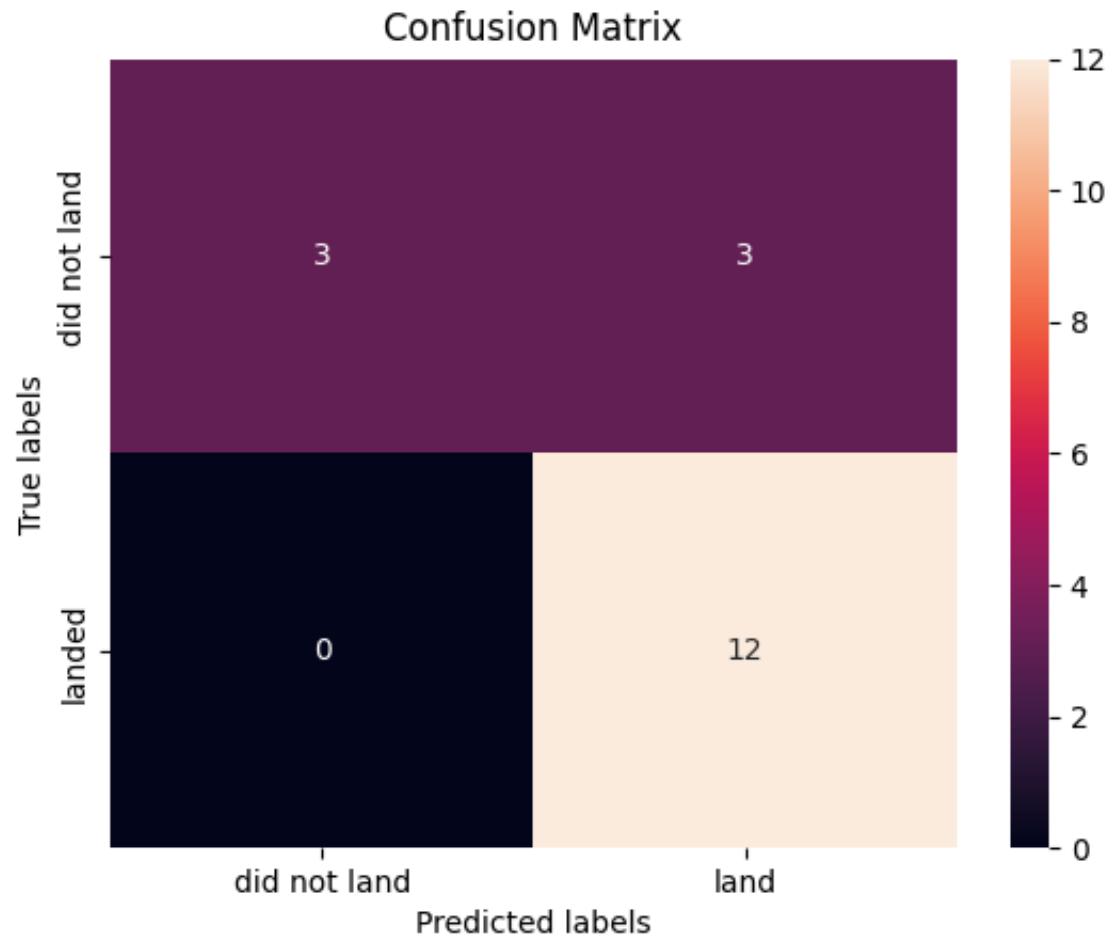
# Classification Models Accuracy

All 4 methods have the same accuracy of 0.8333

| Method               | Test Data Accuracy |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Logistic_Reg</b>  | 0.833333           |
| <b>SVM</b>           | 0.833333           |
| <b>Decision Tree</b> | 0.833333           |
| <b>KNN</b>           | 0.833333           |

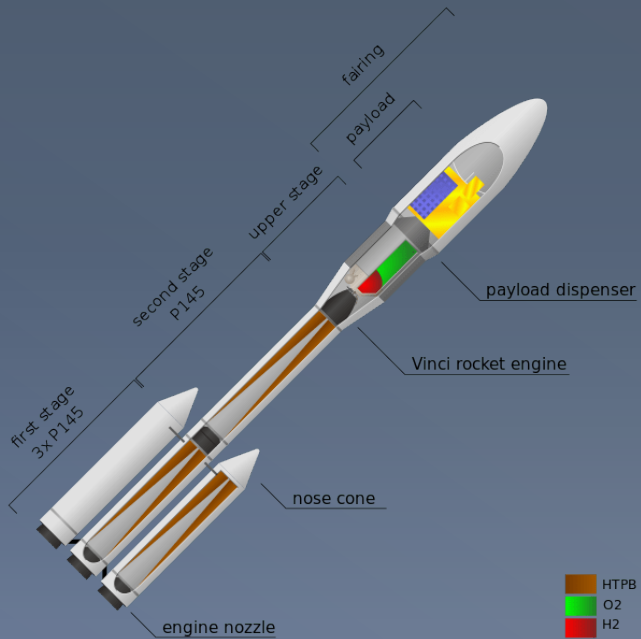
# Confusion Matrix

- All 4 classification models have the same confusion matrixes and can distinguish between the different classes.
- One of the major problems is the false positives such as unsuccessful landing marked as successful landing by the classifier.





# Conclusion



# Conclusion

- Various launch sites have different success rates. For example, KSC LC-39A has the highest success launch rate with 76.9% while CCAFS SLC-40 success launch rate is 57.1%
- Launch success rate started to increase from 2013 to 2020.
- Orbits ES-L1, GEO, HEO, SSO, VLEO had the most success rate.
- The Decision tree classifier is the best machine learning algorithm for this task.

# Appendix – GitHub Links

- Main GitHub: [Capstone Project - GitHub](#)
- Data Collection: [Data Collection - GitHub](#)
- Web Scraping: [Web Scraping - GitHub](#)
- Data Wrangling: [Data Wrangling - GitHub](#)
- Data Visualization: [Data Visualization - GitHub](#)
- SQL: [SQL - GitHub](#)
- Interactive Map with Folium: [Interactive Map - GitHub](#)
- Dashboard with Plolty Dash: [Dashboard - GitHub](#)
- Predictive Analysis (Classification): [Predictive Analysis - GitHub](#)





# Thanks