



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 and Data wrangling
 - EDA with data visualization
 - EDA with SQL
 - Interactive map with Folium
 - Plotly Dash dashboard
 - Predictive analysis with logistic regression, SVM, decision tree, and KNN
- Summary of all results
 - Exploratory data analysis results
 - Interactive analytics demonstration in screenshots
 - Predictive analysis results

Introduction

- Project background and context
 - We predicted whether the Falcon 9 first stage will land successfully based on a number of factors. This is important because if SpaceX can reuse the first stage, they can realize significant savings. On the SpaceX website, the cost per Falcon 9 launch can be as low as \$62 million compared to a cost of \$165 for their competitors. Therefore, if we can determine if the first stage will land successfully, we can more accurately predict the cost of a launch.
- Problems to address with this project
 - Which factors are most correlated with a successful rocket landing?
 - These factors might include launch site, payload, intended orbit, landing platform, etc.
 - Are there relationships between different variables that will affect the success rate of landings?
 - Are there factors that are more useful in predicting a successful rocket landing?



Section 1

Methodology

Methodology

Executive Summary

- Data collection methodology:
 - SpaceX Rest API
- Perform data wrangling
 - One Hot Encoding for machine learning
- Perform exploratory data analysis (EDA) using visualization and SQL
 - Scatter and Bar graphs to show data relationships
- Perform interactive visual analytics using Folium and Plotly Dash
- Perform predictive analysis using classification models
 - How to build, tune, evaluate classification models

Data Collection – SpaceX API

- The dataset was collected by:
 - Define a series of helper functions
 - Request rocket launch data from SpaceX API
 - Parse and decode the response content as a Json
 - Turn the response content into a Pandas dataframe
 - Requests more details of the data to be stored as a list and used to create a new dataframe
 - Combine the data into a dictionary and use it to create a Pandas dataframe
 - Filter the dataframe to include only some rocket data
 - Assess and manage missing data

Data Collection – SpaceX API

Get a response
from SpaceX
Rest API

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

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

Convert response to
a .json file and
create a dataframe

```
response = requests.get(static_json_url).json()  
data = pd.json_normalize(response)
```

```
df = pd.DataFrame.from_dict(launch_dict)
```

Filter dataframe
and export to
.csv file

```
data_falcon9 = df.loc[df['BoosterVersion']!="Falcon 1"]
```

```
data_falcon9.loc[:, 'FlightNumber'] = list(range(1, data_falcon9.shape[0]+1))  
data_falcon9
```


Data Wrangling

- The dataset was cleaned by:
 - Identifying missing values
 - Identifying data types
 - Counting launch types, orbits, and outcomes
 - Representing the outcome with a new class

```
df.isnull().sum()/df.count()*100
```

```
df.dtypes
```

```
df["Orbit"].value_counts()
```

```
landing_class = []  
for key,value in df["Outcome"].items():  
    if value in bad_outcomes:  
        landing_class.append(0)  
    else:  
        landing_class.append(1)
```

EDA with Data Visualization

- Scatter Plots show how much 1 variable is affected by another variable shown as a correlation:
 - Flight Number vs. Payload Mass
 - Flight Number vs. Launch Site
 - Payload Mass vs. Launch Site
 - Flight Number vs. Orbit
 - Payload Mass vs. Orbit
- Bar Plots to compare sets of data between different groups at a glance:
 - Orbit vs. Success Rate
- Line Plot to show variables and trends over time:
 - Year vs. Success Rate

EDA with SQL

- Performed SQL queries to gather the following information:

- Distinct launch sites
- 5 records for launch sites with the string 'CCA'
- Total payload mass for boosters launched by NASA
- Average payload mass carried by Falcon 9 v1.1 boosters
- Date of first successful ground pad landing
- Boosters which have successfully landed on drone ships in a specific payload range
- Total number of successful and failed mission outcomes
- Boosters which carried the maximum payload
- Details of records for 2015
- Successful outcomes from 2010-06-04 and 2017-03-20

```
%sql select * from SPACEXTBL where Launch_Site like 'CCA%' \
fetch first 5 rows only
```

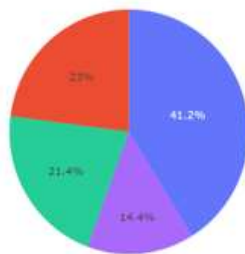
Build an Interactive Map with Folium

- Built an interactive map with Folium to visualize the following information:
 - Launch site locations and coordinates
 - Added a circle marker around each site and name label
 - Assign launch outcomes in a Marker Cluster
 - Failures and successes marked with red and green markers
 - Calculated the distance from launch site to nearest railway and other features
 - Lines and distances marked for each instance
- Folium features allowed us to answer the following questions:
 - Are launch sites in close proximity to railways? NO
 - Are launch sites in close proximity to highways? NO
 - Are launch sites in close proximity to coastline? YES
 - Do launch sites keep certain distance away from cities? YES

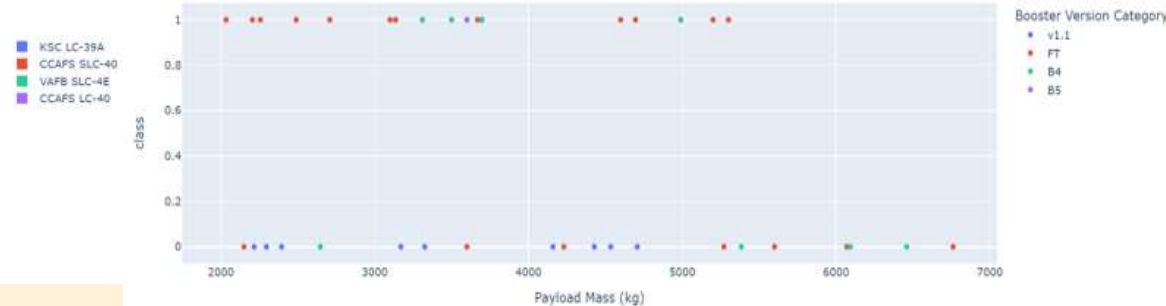
Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

- Built an interactive Dashboard with Plotly Dash to visualize the following information:
 - A dropdown menu to select different launch sites
 - A pie chart to visualize launch success counts for different launch sites
 - A range slider to select payload mass to assess the success of different size payloads
 - A scatter plot with payload mass vs. launch outcome and booster version to see if there is a pattern

Percentage of Successful Launches by Site



Correlation Between Payload and Success for All Sites



Predictive Analysis (Classification)

- Built a predictive analysis model to evaluate launch data:

```
y = data['Class'].to_numpy()
```

- Create a NumPy array and standardize the data
- Split the data into training and testing data
- Created a *logistic regression* object

```
transform = preprocessing.StandardScaler()  
X = transform.fit_transform(X)
```

```
gscv = GridSearchCV(lr, parameters, scoring='accuracy', cv=10)  
logreg_cv = gscv.fit(X_train, Y_train)
```

- Created a Grid Search object and tuned parameters

```
print("tuned hyperparameters :(best parameters) ", logreg_cv.best_params_)  
print("accuracy :", logreg_cv.best_score_)
```

- Calculated accuracy on test data
- Created a confusion matrix to distinguish between classes

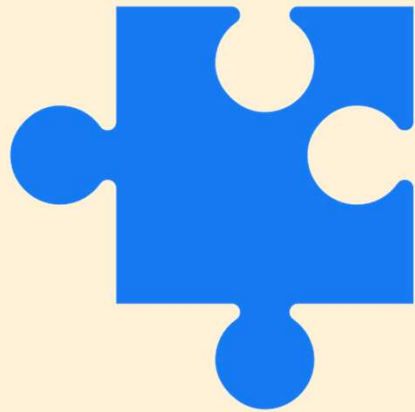
```
print('Accuracy= ', logreg_cv.score(X_test, Y_test))
```

```
yhat=logreg_cv.predict(X_test)  
plot_confusion_matrix(Y_test, yhat)
```

- Repeated these steps for *support vector machine*, *decision tree*, and *k nearest neighbors*
- Created an algorithm to find which method performed best for this data

<https://github.com/tracento/IBM-DataScience-Capstone-SpaceX/blob/master/Machine%20Learning%20Prediction%20project.ipynb>

Results



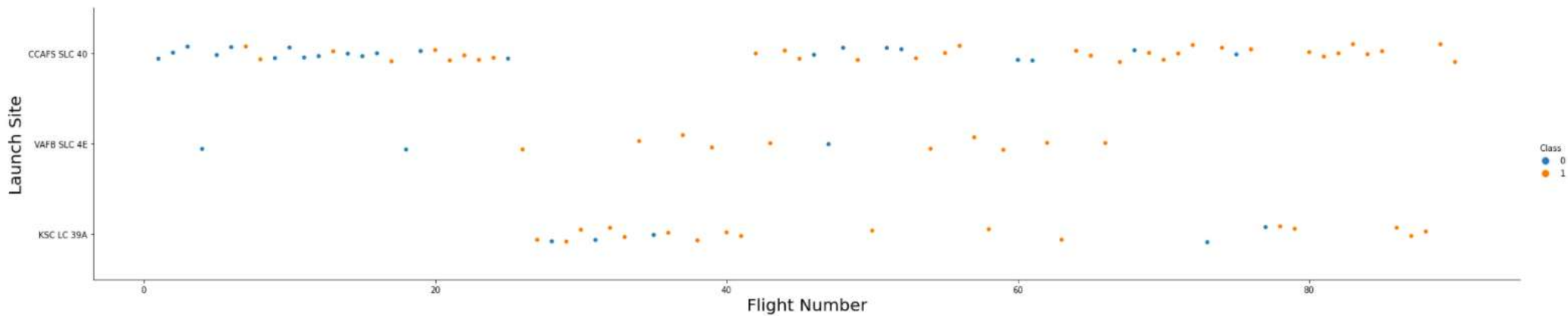
- Exploratory data analysis results
- Interactive analytics demo in screenshots
- Predictive analysis results

The background of the slide is an abstract composition. It features a dark blue field on the left side, which transitions into a complex pattern of diagonal streaks in shades of blue, red, and cyan on the right. These streaks have a textured, almost woven appearance. Overlaid on this pattern is a faint, white grid that recedes into the distance, creating a sense of depth and perspective. The overall effect is dynamic and technological.

Section 2

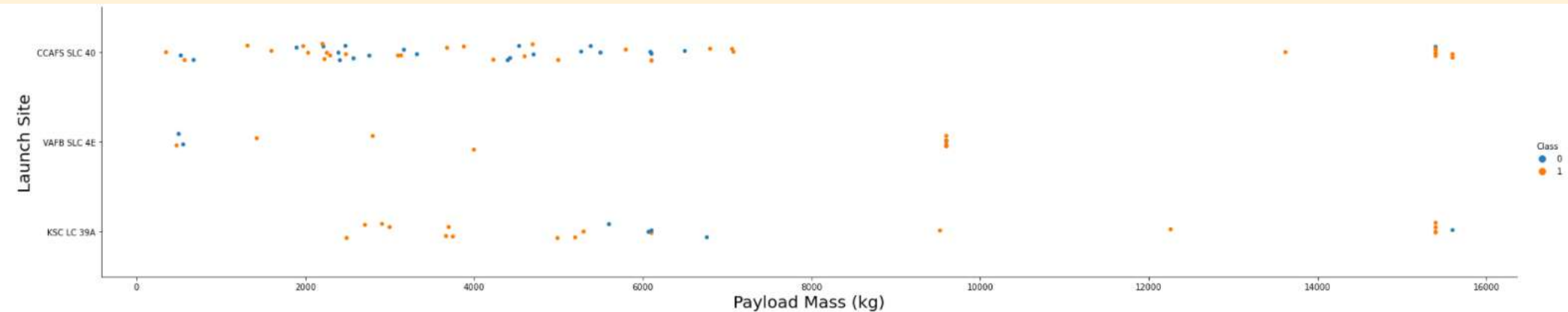
Insights drawn from EDA

Flight Number vs. Launch Site



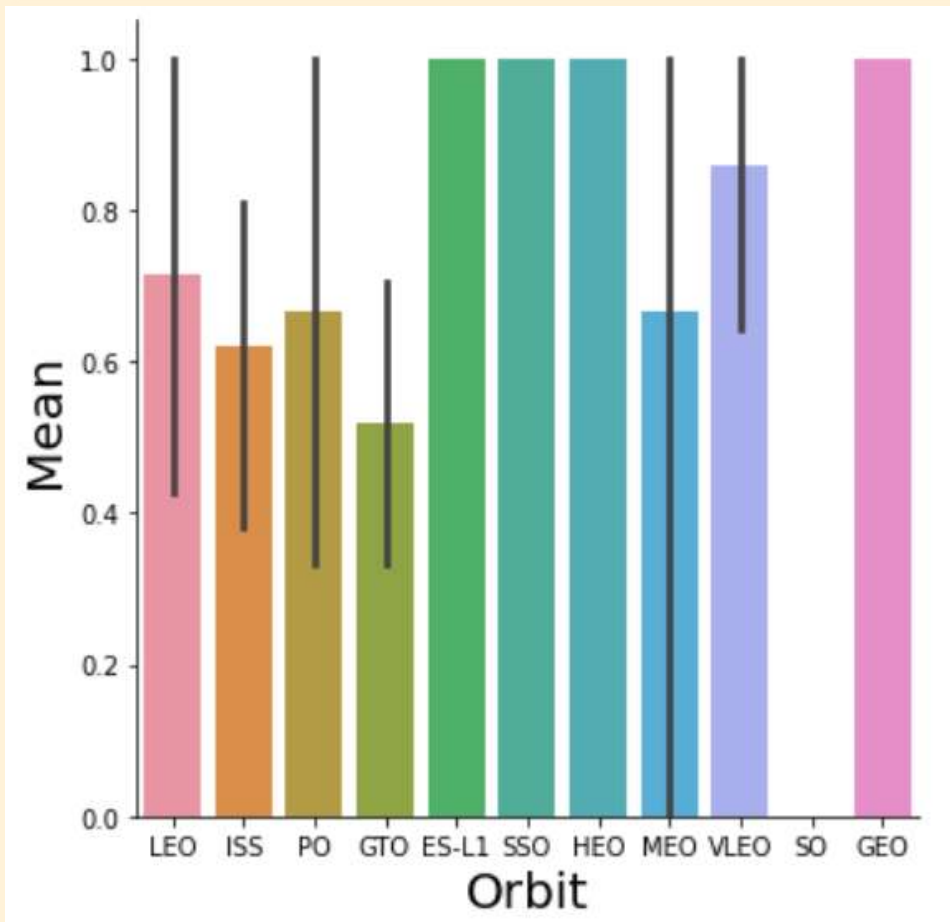
- Sites with a larger number of flights have a higher success rate

Payload vs. Launch Site



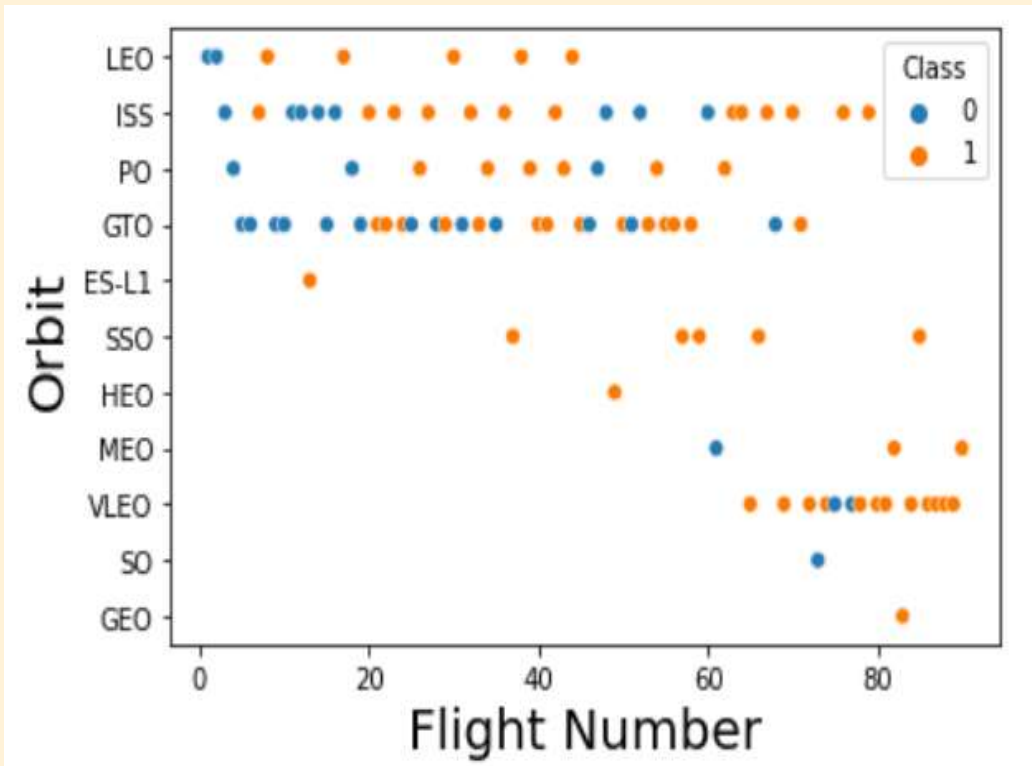
- ▶ At launch site CCAFS SLC 40, a greater payload mass correlates to a higher success.
- ▶ At other sites, there is not a clear pattern to indicate whether success is dependent on payload mass at a launch site.

Success Rate vs. Orbit Type



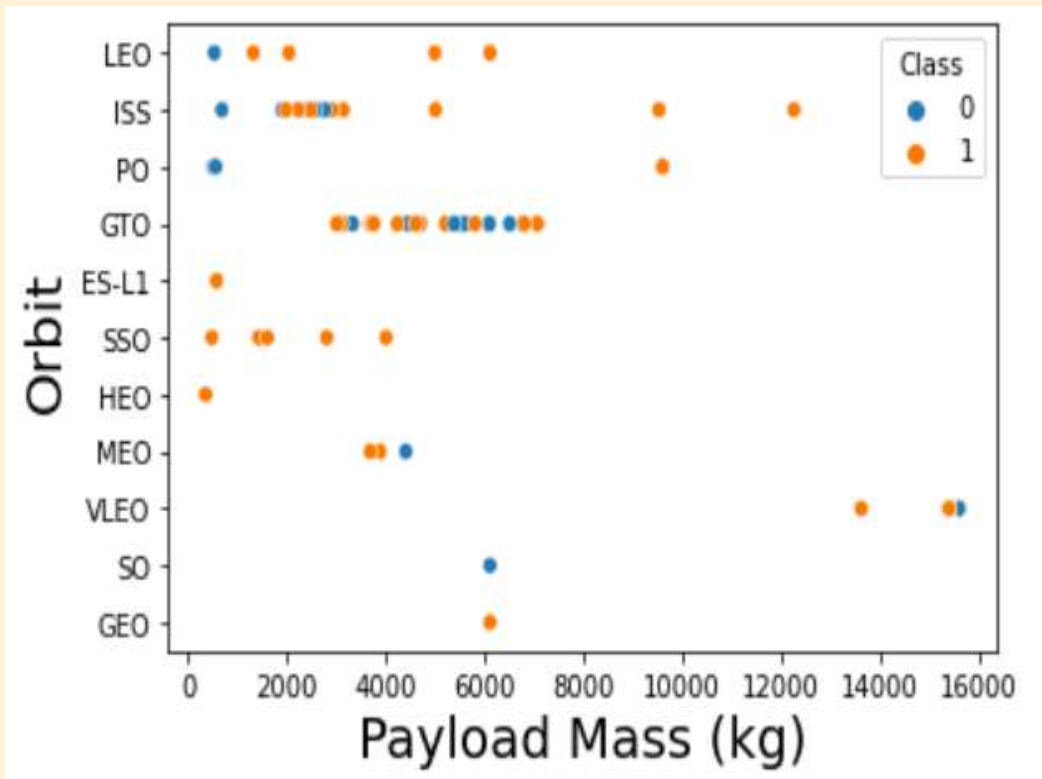
- ▶ ES-L1, SSO, HEO, and GEO are the most successful orbits.

Flight Number vs. Orbit Type



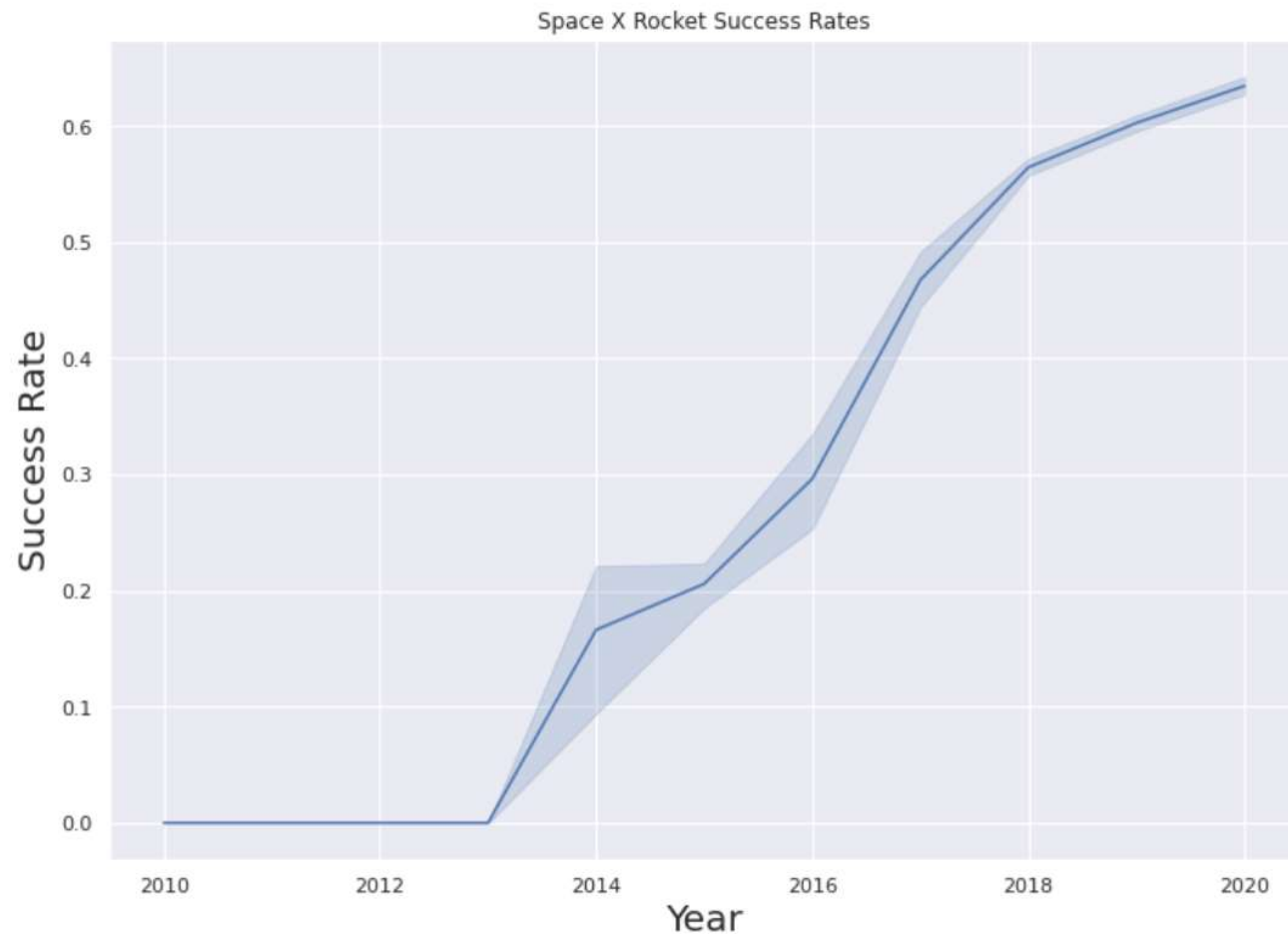
- ▶ Flight number appears to be highly correlated with success in LEO orbit.
- ▶ Flight number appears to be uncorrelated with success in GTO orbit

Payload vs. Orbit Type



- ▶ Payload mass appears to be highly correlated with success in LEO and ISS orbit.
- ▶ Payload mass appears to be uncorrelated with success in GTO, MEO, and VLEO orbits.

Launch Success Yearly Trend



► The success rate continued to increase from 2013 to 2020.

All Launch Site Names

```
%sql select DISTINCT Launch_Site from SPACEXTBL
```



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

- ▶ Using DISTINCT in the query yields only unique values

Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

```
%sql select * from SPACEXTBL where Launch_Site like 'CCA%' \
fetch first 5 rows only
```



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	07:44:00	F9 v1.0 B0005	CCAFS LC-40	Dragon demo flight C2	525	LEO (ISS)	NASA (COTS)	Success	No attempt
2012-10-08	00:35:00	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

- ▶ Using the like keyword and the 'CCA%' means that the launch site name must start with CCA.
- ▶ Fetch first 5 rows only limits the display number of records in the output

Total Payload Mass

```
%sql select SUM(payload_mass__kg_) TotalPayloadMass from SPACEXTBL where Customer = 'NASA (CRS)'
```



totalpayloadmass
45596

- ▶ Using the SUM function calculates the total in the payload mass column
- ▶ The WHERE clause filters the dataset to only the customer NASA (CRS)

Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

```
%sql select AVG(payload_mass__kg_) AveragePayloadMass from SPACEXTBL where Booster_Version = 'F9 v1.1'
```



averagepayloadmass
2928.400000

- ▶ The function AVG calculates the average of the payload mass column
- ▶ The WHERE clause filters the results to only the F9 v1.1 booster

First Successful Ground Landing Date

```
%sql select MIN(Date) SuccessfullandingOutcome from SPACEXTBL where landing__outcome = 'Success (ground pad)'
```



successfullandingoutcome
2016-04-08

- ▶ Using the MIN function yields the earliest date in the Date column
- ▶ The WHERE clause filters to only return a successful landing outcome on a ground pad

Successful Drone Ship Landing with Payload between 4000 and 6000

```
%sql select booster_version from SPACEXTBL where landing__outcome = 'Success (ground pad)' AND payload_mass__kg_ > 4000 AND payload_mas  
s__kg_ < 6000
```



booster_version
F9 FT B1032.1
F9 B4 B1040.1
F9 B4 B1043.1

- ▶ Selecting only booster version
- ▶ The WHERE clause filters to only landings on the ground pad
- ▶ The AND clause returns only payloads between 4000 and 6000 kg


Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes

```
%sql select count(*) from SPACEXTBL where mission_outcome = 'Success'
```



1
99

```
%sql select count(*) from SPACEXTBL where mission_outcome = 'Failure'
```



1
0

- ▶ The COUNT function totals the number of mission outcomes in each class
- ▶ The WHERE clause filters to only the desired mission outcome

Boosters Carried Maximum Payload

```
%sql SELECT DISTINCT booster_version, MAX(payload_mass__kg_) MaximumPayloadMass FROM SPACEXTBL GROUP BY booster_version ORDER BY MaximumPayloadMass DESC
```



booster_version	maximumpayloadmass
F9 B5 B1048.4	15600
F9 B5 B1048.5	15600
F9 B5 B1049.4	15600
F9 B5 B1049.5	15600
F9 B5 B1049.7	15600

Table truncated for brevity

- ▶ Using DISTINCT means it will only show unique booster versions
- ▶ GROUP BY with DESC puts the list in order based on maximum payload mass

2015 Launch Records

```
%sql SELECT MONTHNAME(DATE), landing__outcome, booster_version, launch_site from SPACEXTBL where landing__outcome = 'Failure (drone ship)' AND YEAR(DATE) = '2015'
```



1	landing__outcome	booster_version	launch_site
January	Failure (drone ship)	F9 v1.1 B1012	CCAFS LC-40
April	Failure (drone ship)	F9 v1.1 B1015	CCAFS LC-40

- ▶ The MONTHNAME returns the name of the month
- ▶ The WHERE and AND clauses narrow the return to only 2015 failures on the drone ship

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

```
%sql select landing__outcome, count(landing__outcome) from SPACEXTBL where landing__outcome = 'Success' group by landing__outcome order by count(landing__outcome) desc
```



landing__outcome	2
Success	38

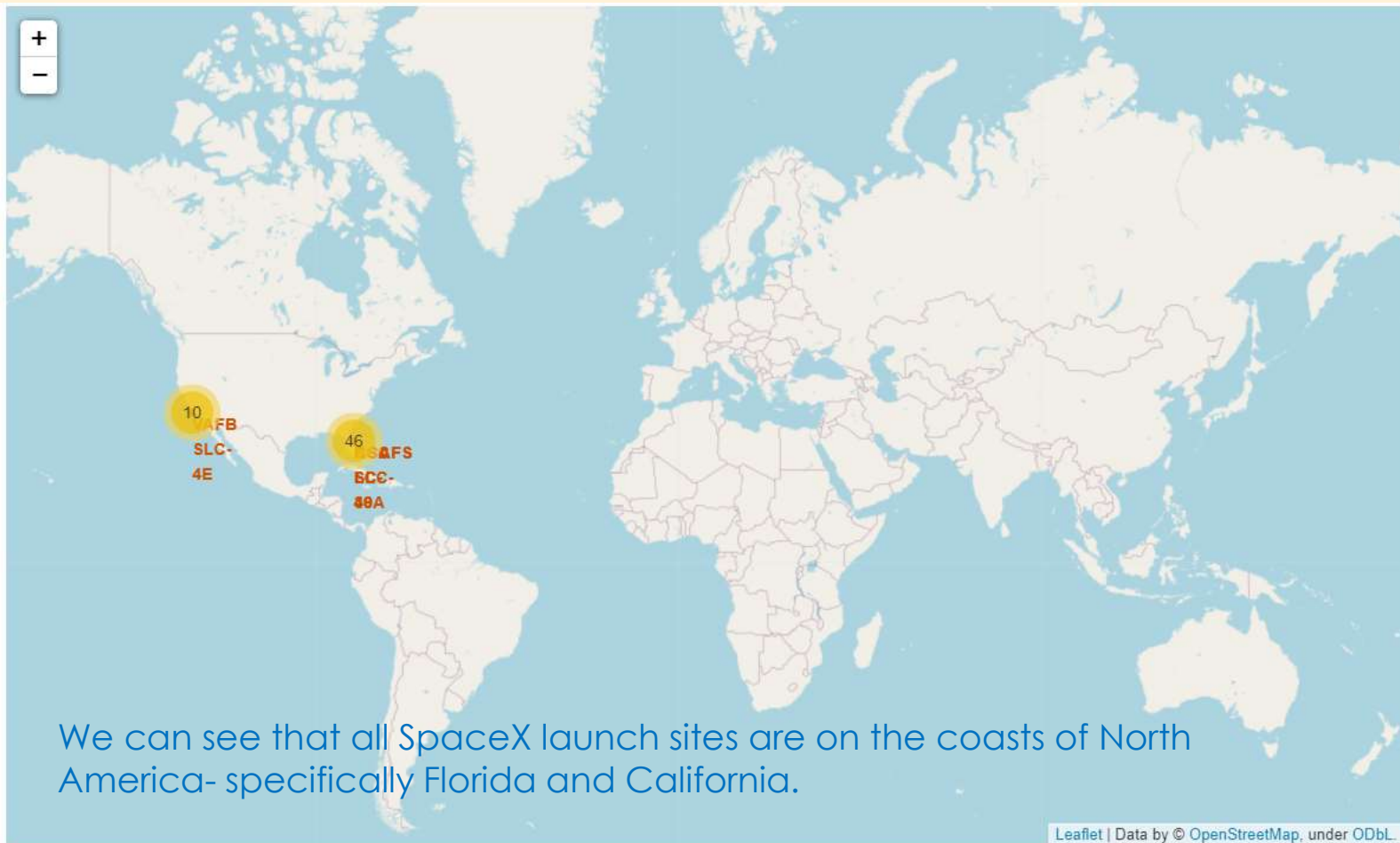
- ▶ The instruction in the notebook for this query was “***Rank the count of successful landing_outcomes between the date 2010-06-04 and 2017-03-20 in descending order.***”
- ▶ This yielded only ‘Success’ results numbering 38 total

A satellite view of Earth from space, showing the curvature of the planet and city lights at night. The image is a deep blue, with a thin white line representing the horizon. The Earth's surface is visible, with a dense network of yellow and orange lights indicating urban areas. The background is a dark, starry space.

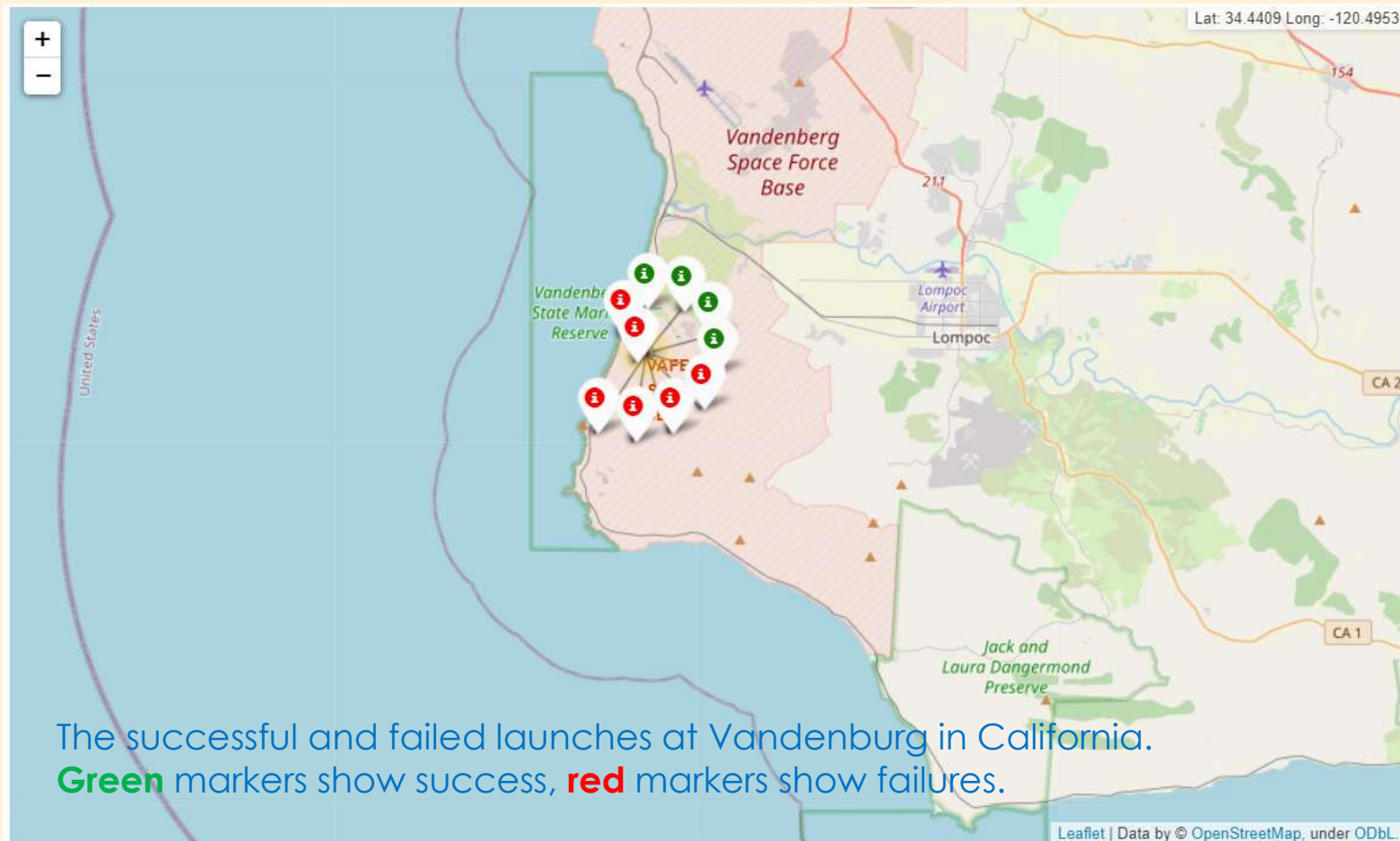
Section 4

Launch Sites Proximities Analysis

Launch Site Global Map Markers

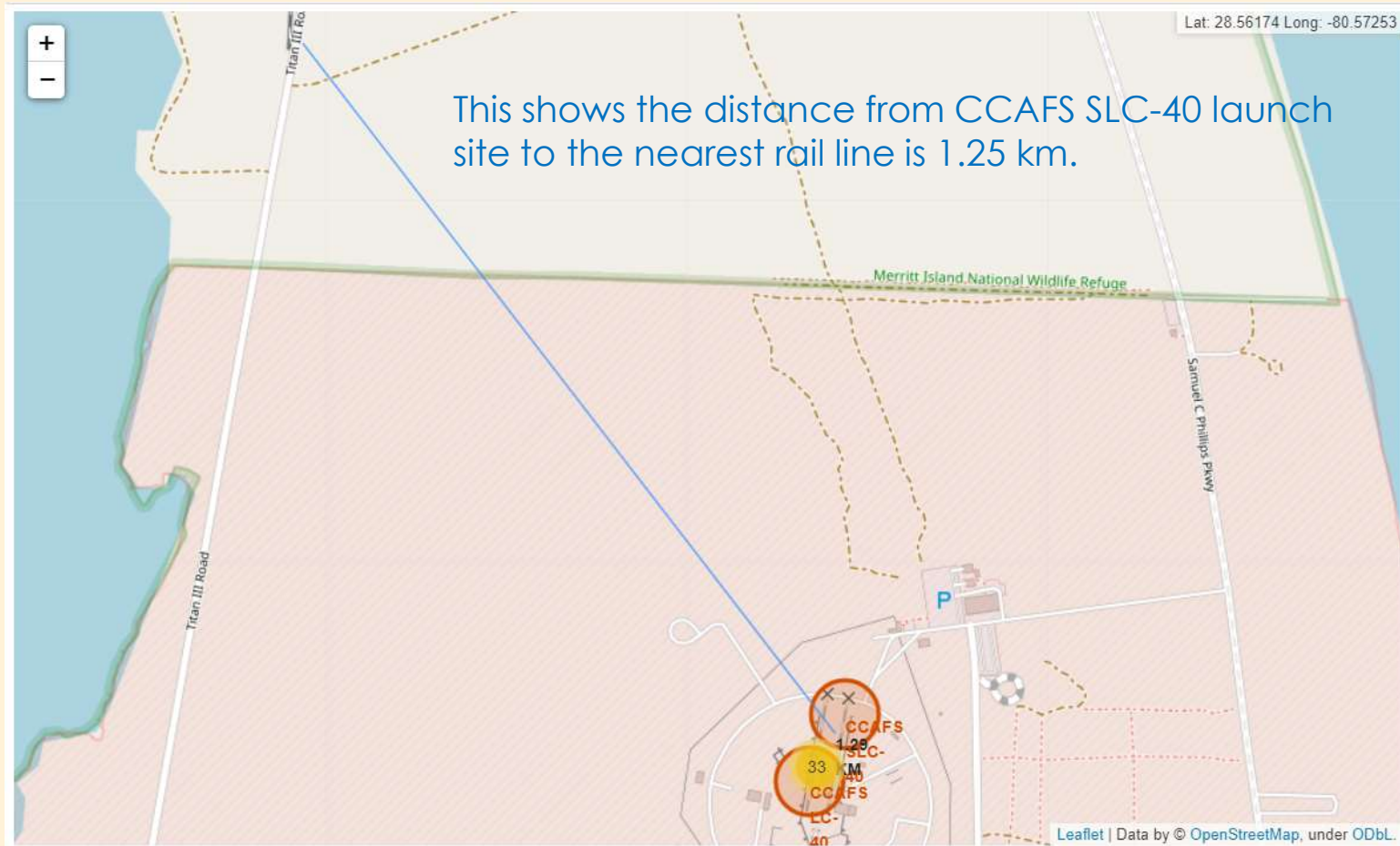


Launch Site Success Visualization



The successful and failed launches at Vandenberg in California.
Green markers show success, **red** markers show failures.

Launch Site Distance from Landmarks

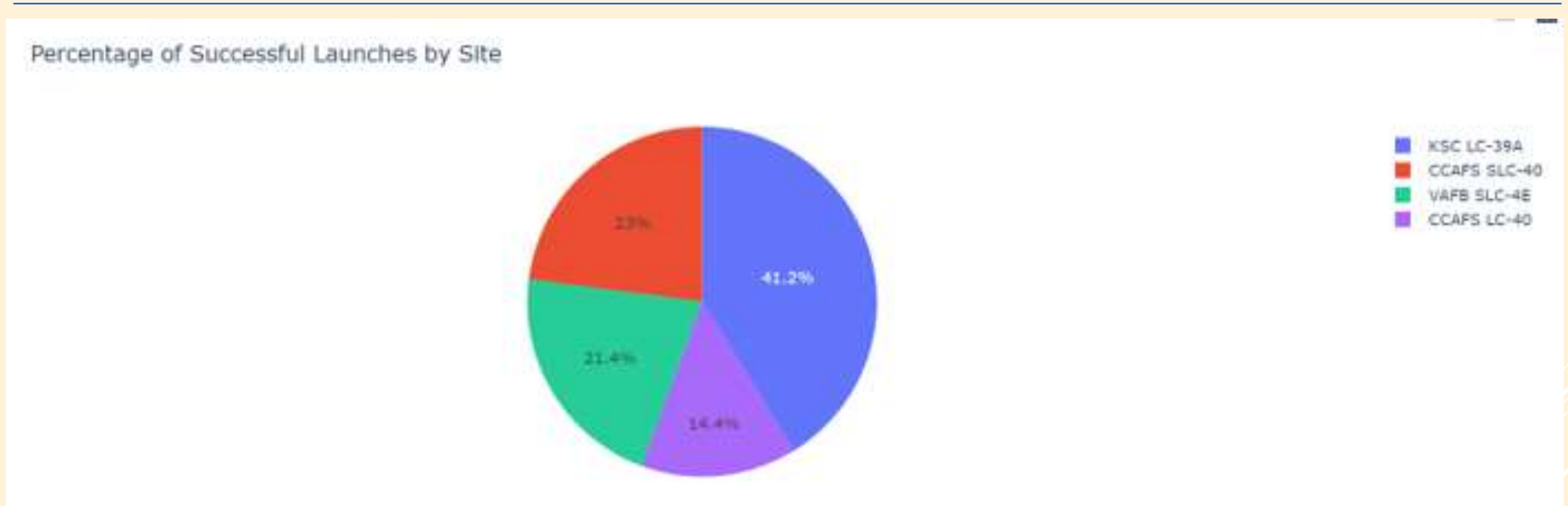




Section 5

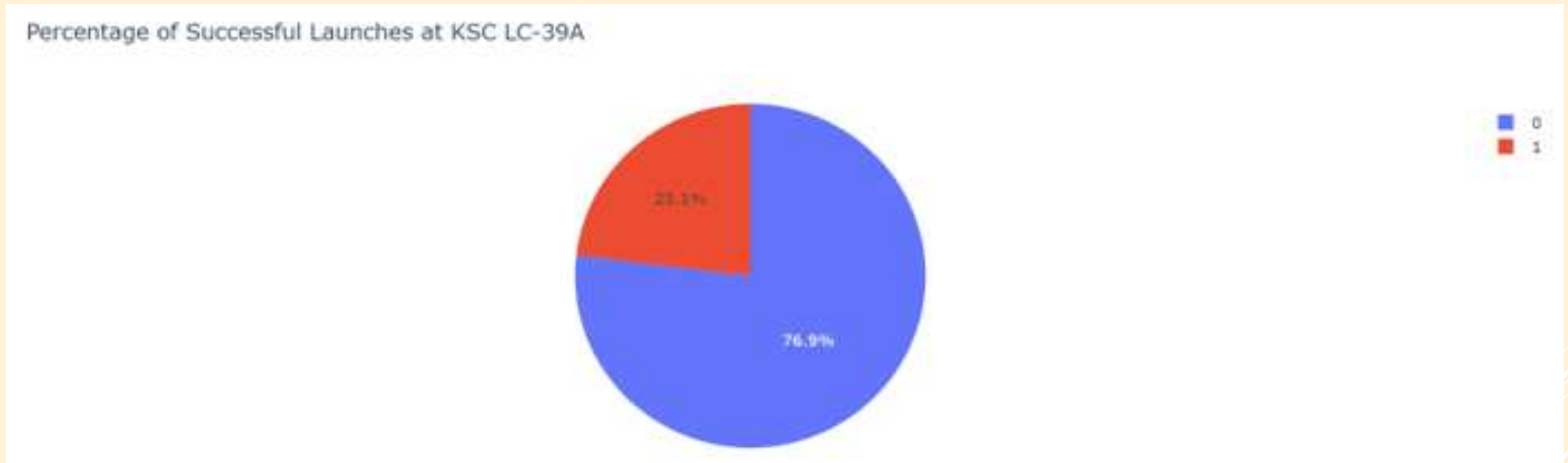
Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

Success Percentage by Launch Site



- ▶ We can see that the KSC LC-39A site has the most successful launches

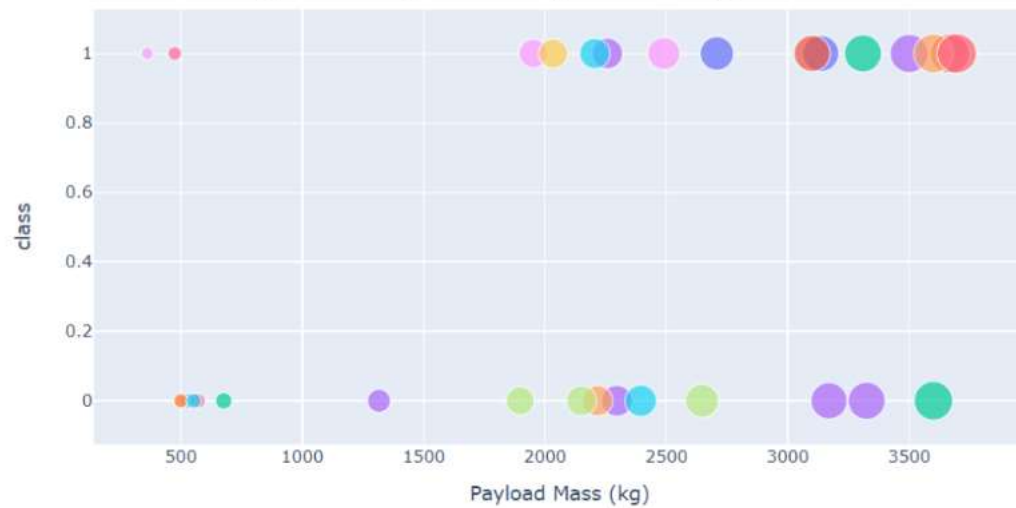
Highest Success Ratio Launch Site



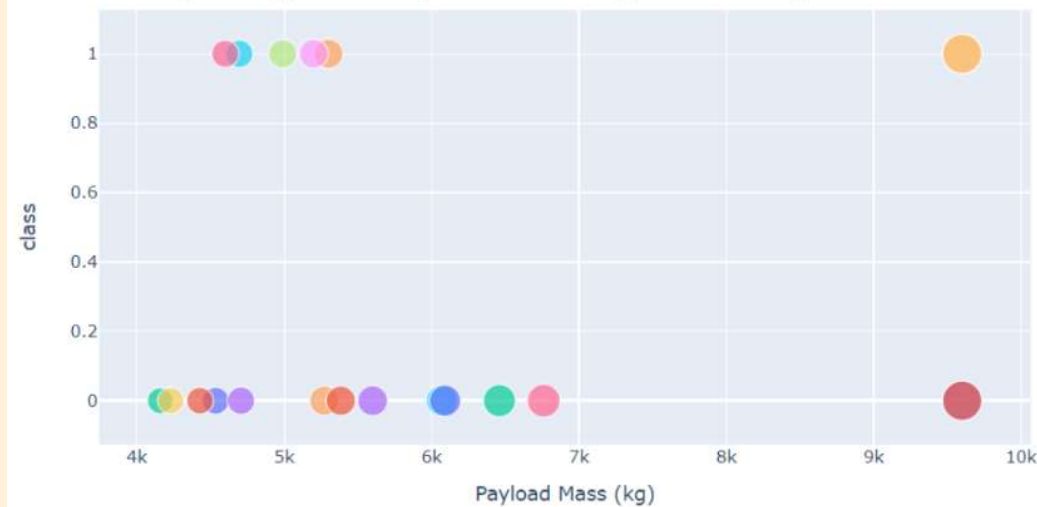
- ▶ We can see that the KSC LC-39A site has the highest success ratio of all launch sites.

Payload vs. Launch Outcome

Low Weighted Payload 0kg – 4000kg



Heavy Weighted Payload 4000kg – 10000kg



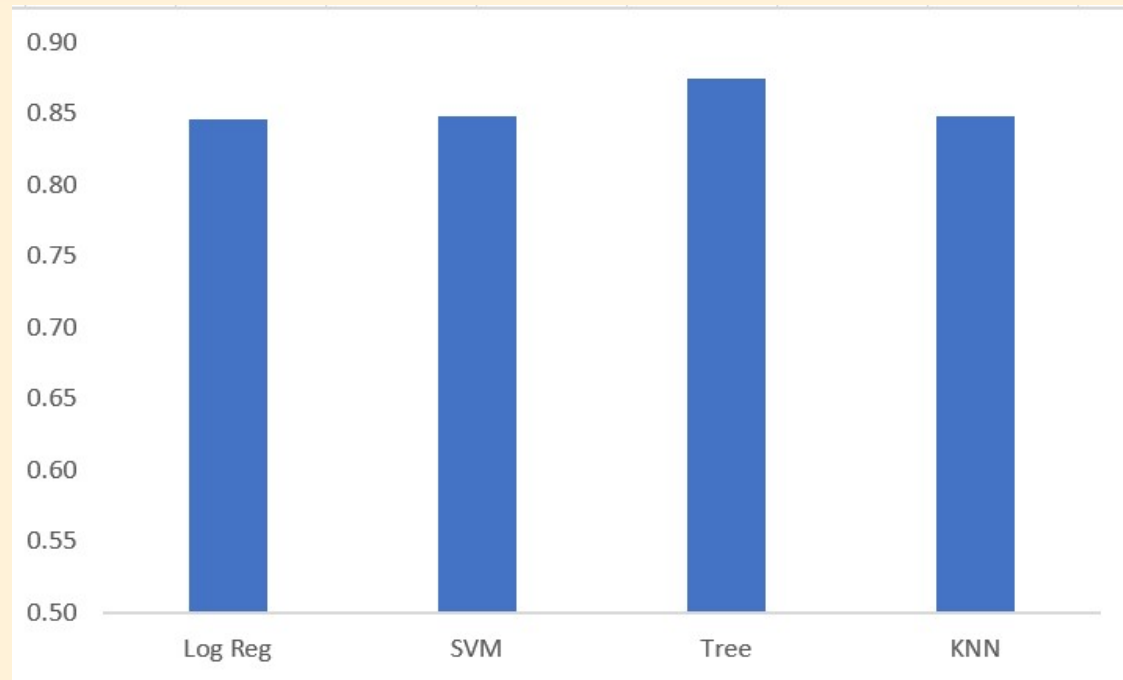
- ▶ We can see that the success rate for lower payload masses is greater than the success rate for higher payload masses.



Section 6

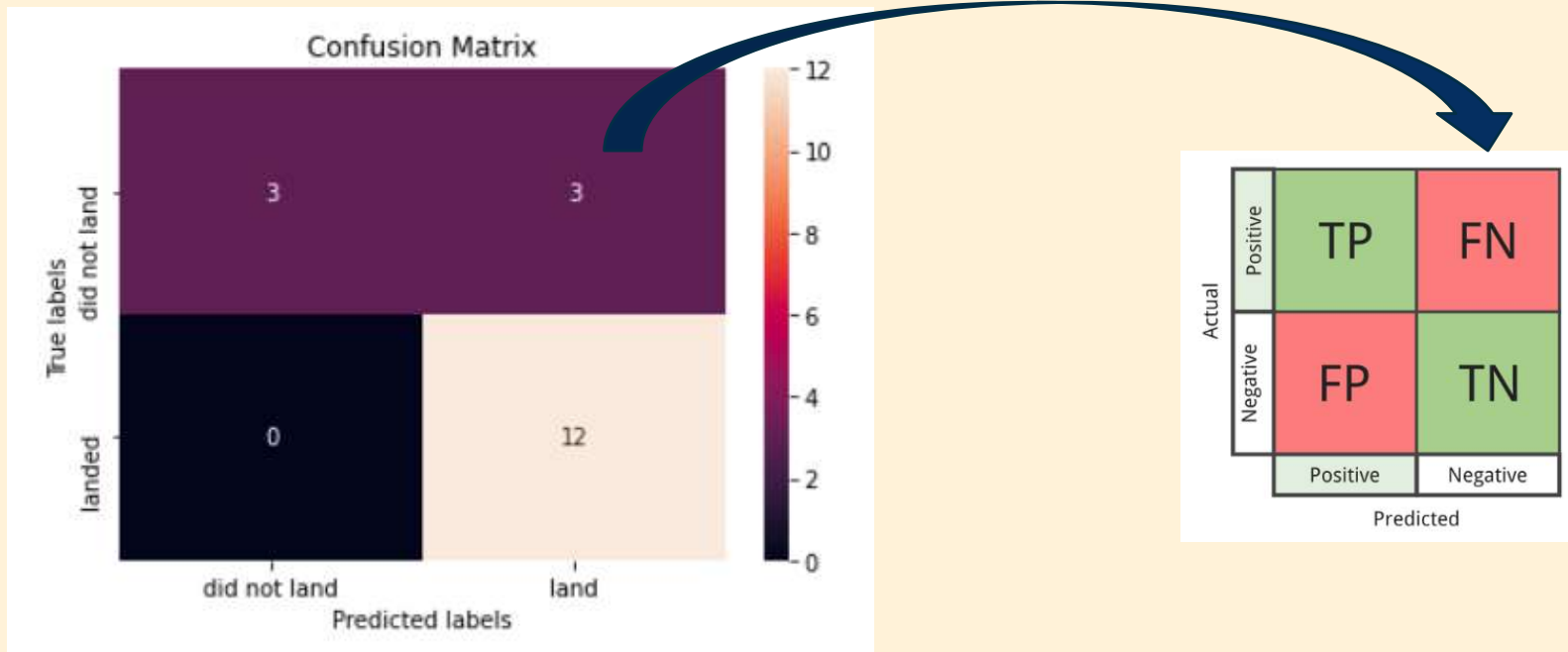
Predictive Analysis (Classification)

Classification Accuracy



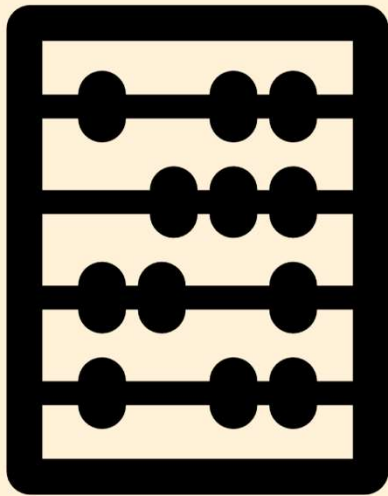
- ▶ While all the models are relatively close, the Decision Tree model is the best with an accuracy of 0.875 or 87.5%.

Confusion Matrix for the Decision Tree



- ▶ We can see that the Decision Tree can distinguish between different classes.
- ▶ The biggest problem is the incident of false negatives.
- ▶ Confusion matrix example from: <https://towardsdatascience.com/visual-guide-to-the-confusion-matrix-bb63730c8eba>

Conclusions



- ▶ Launch site appears to be an important factor in predicting successful launches
 - ▶ KSC LC-39A had had the most successful launches and highest successful launch ratio of all the sites.
- ▶ Lower mass payloads have performed more successfully than higher mass payloads.
- ▶ From 2013 to 2020 the rate of successful launches increased significantly
- ▶ The Decision Tree classifier algorithm has the highest accuracy on the test data.

Appendix

```
# Pandas is a software library written for the Python programming language for data manipulation and analysis.
import pandas as pd
# NumPy is a library for the Python programming language, adding support for large, multi-dimensional arrays and matrices, along
with a large collection of high-level mathematical functions to operate on these arrays
import numpy as np
# Matplotlib is a plotting library for python and pyplot gives us a MatLab like plotting framework. We will use this in our plot
ter function to plot data.
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
# Seaborn is a Python data visualization library based on matplotlib. It provides a high-level interface for drawing attractive a
nd informative statistical graphics
import seaborn as sns
# Preprocessing allows us to standardize our data
from sklearn import preprocessing
# Allows us to split our data into training and testing data
from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
# Allows us to test parameters of classification algorithms and find the best one
from sklearn.model_selection import GridSearchCV
# Logistic Regression classification algorithm
from sklearn.linear_model import LogisticRegression
# Support Vector Machine classification algorithm
from sklearn.svm import SVC
# Decision Tree classification algorithm
from sklearn.tree import DecisionTreeClassifier
# K Nearest Neighbors classification algorithm
from sklearn.neighbors import KNeighborsClassifier
```

▶ A selection of some of the libraries used during the course of this project. Image from the IBM Developer Skills Network Capstone project.

Thank you!

