



IBM Developer
SKILLS NETWORK

Winning Space Race with Data Science

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Sep 24 2021



Outline

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

Executive Summary

- Build, tune and evaluate different classification models to predict outcomes of Falcon 9 first stage landing based on data collection, data wrangling, exploratory data analysis and interactive visual analytics.
- Relationships between landing outcomes and different independent variables, such as launch sites, pay load, orbits and launch years, are investigated. Important factors affecting landing outcomes are determined by performing basic statistics and data visualization. All built models can successfully distinguish test samples between the different classes, and all the accuracies are above 0.8.

Introduction

By drastically reducing launch costs, SpaceX has revolutionized rocket technology in the 21st century. Falcon 9 from SpaceX only needs 6,2 million US dollars to complete the mission that other companies usually need 1.65 million dollars. The key to SpaceX ability to reduce launch costs is that the Falcon 9 rocket can be used repeatedly during the first launch stage. But the Falcon 9 rocket will not be successful every time, and this directly determines the final cost of the mission. The purpose of this project is to analyze the historical data of Falcon 9 launching to discover various factors that affect the landing success rate, and to build, train and evaluate different machine learning models to predict the probability of successful landing of Falcon 9 under various conditions. Such information is vital to other space companies competing with SpaceX.

Section 1

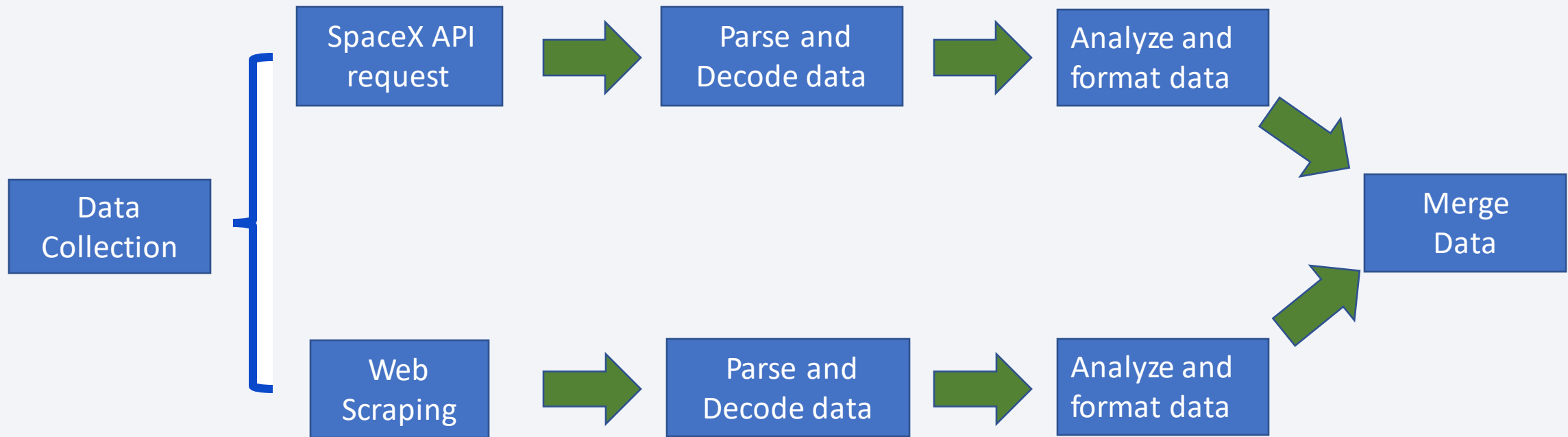
Methodology

Methodology

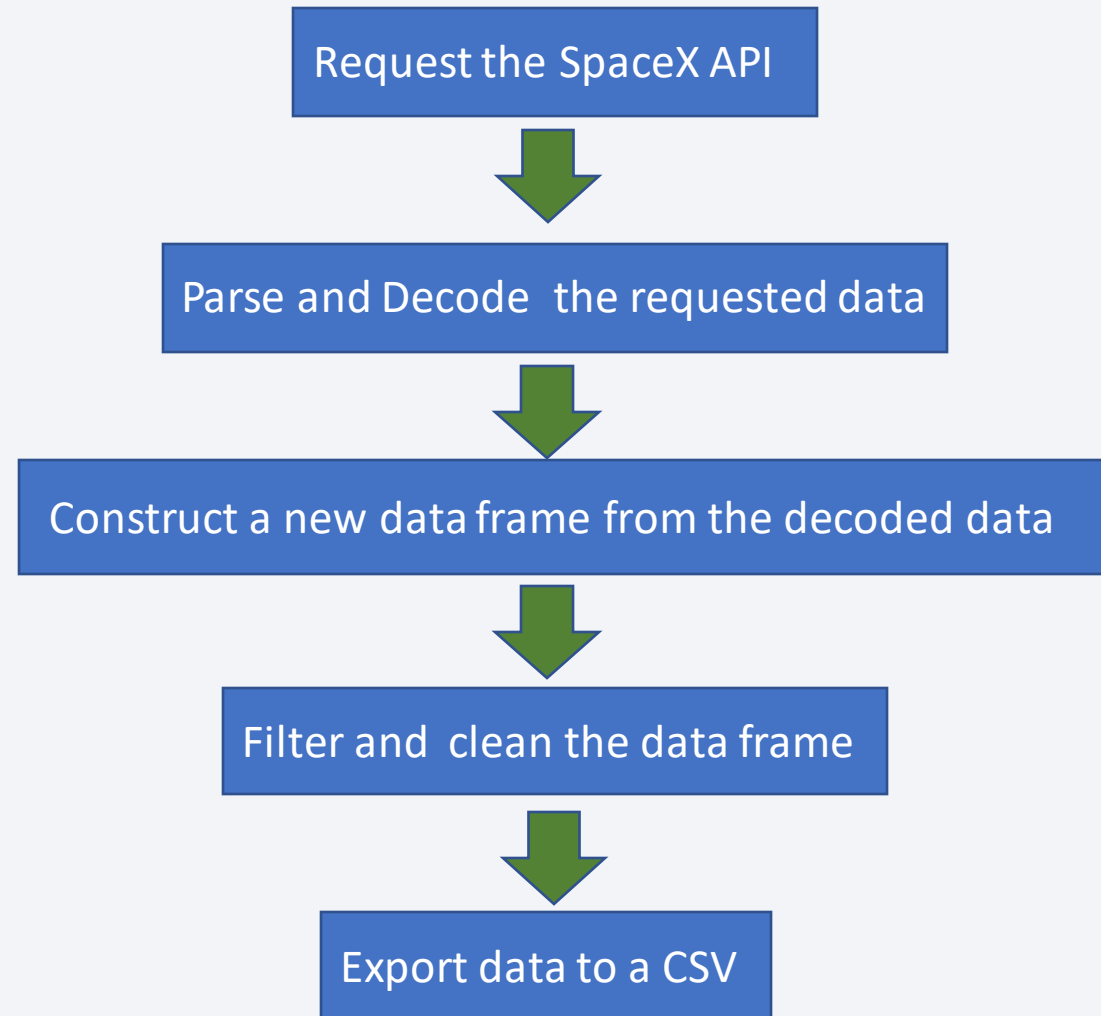
Executive Summary

- Data collection methodology:
 - SpaceX API request and web scrapling
- Perform data wrangling
 - Deal with smissing data and transform categorical data to numerical data
- Perform exploratory data analysis (EDA) using visualization and SQL
- Perform interactive visual analytics using Folium and Plotly Dash
- Perform predictive analysis using classification models
 - Build logistic regression, SVM, decision tree and KNN models, use GridSearch to find best prameters for each models, use score method and coffusion matrix to evaluate models

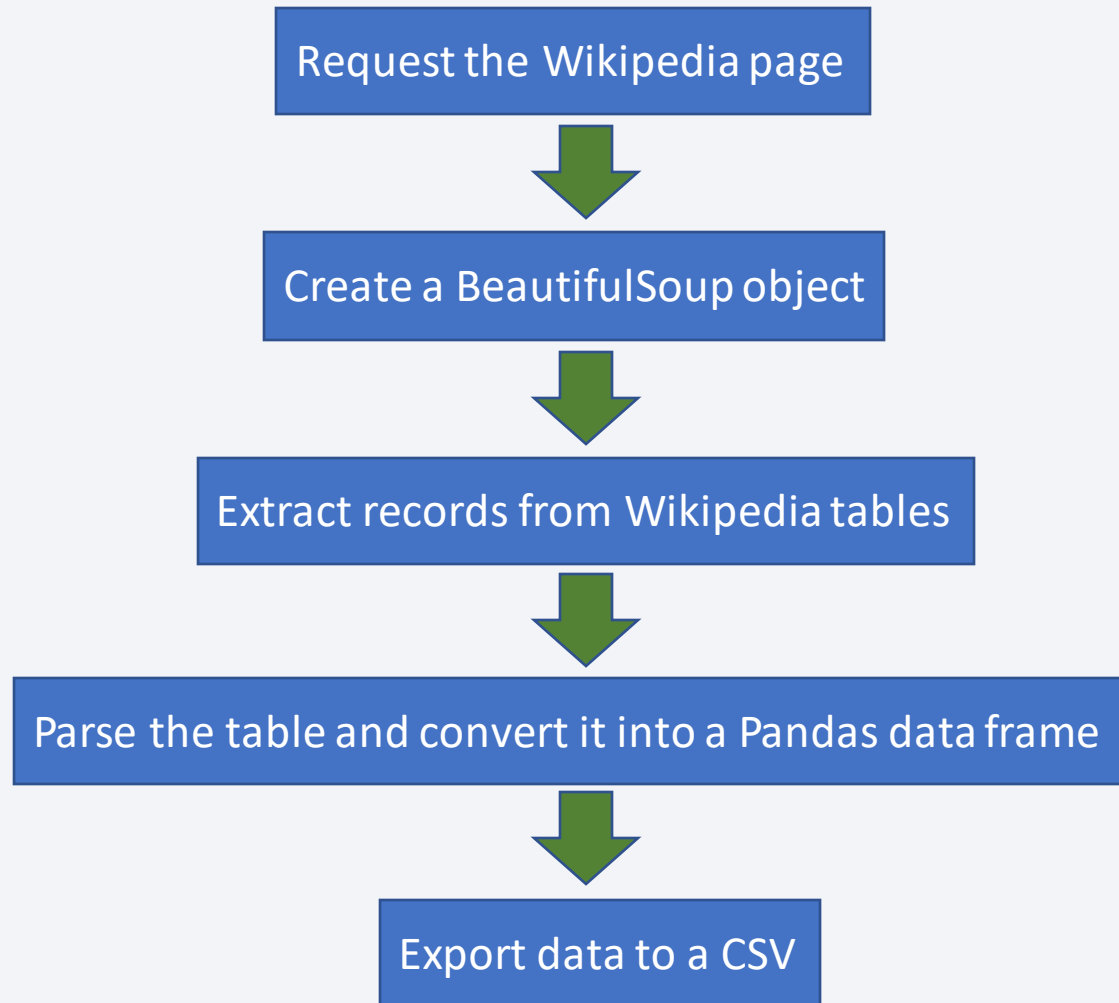
Data Collection



Data Collection – SpaceX API

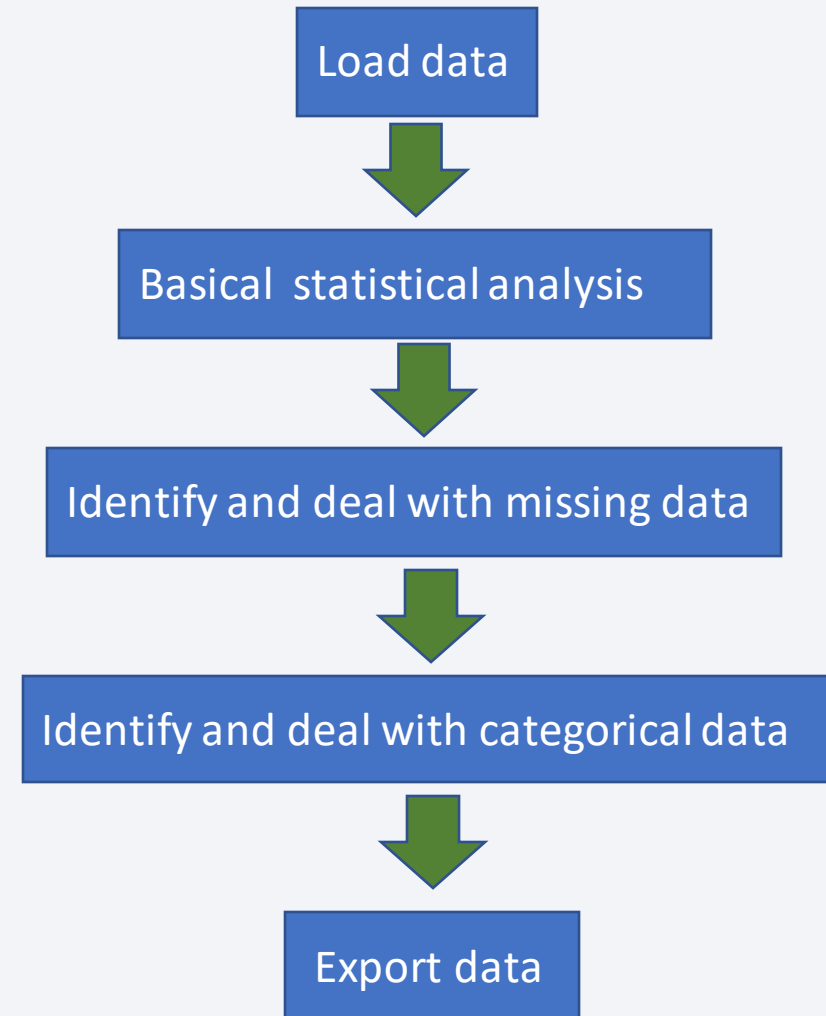


Data Collection - Scraping



Data Wrangling

- Using `df.isnull()` to identify missing data
- Using `df.dtypes` to identify categorical data
- Drop or replace missing data
- Transform categorical data to numerical data
- Using `df.value_counts()`, `df.count()`, `df.sum` and `df.describe()` to do basic statistical analysis



EDA with Data Visualization

To understand relationships between variables and determine which variables for machine training, those charts are plotted:

- Scatter plot of FlightNumber vs. LaunchSite
- Scatter plot of Payload vs. Launch Site
- Bar plot of Orbit type vs. Success rate
- Scatter plot of FlightNumber and Orbit type
- Scatter plot of Payload and Orbit type
- Line plot of Year and Success rate

EDA with SQL

Performed SQL queries:

- *Display the names of the unique launch sites in the space mission*
- *Display 5 records where launch sites begin with the string 'CCA'*
- *Display the total payload mass carried by boosters launched by NASA (CRS)*
- *Display average payload mass carried by booster version F9 v1.1*
- *List the date when the first successful landing outcome in ground pad was achieved*
- *List the names of the boosters which have success in drone ship and have payload mass greater than 4000 but less than 6000*
- *List the total number of successful and failure mission outcomes*
- *List the names of the booster_versions which have carried the maximum payload mass. Use a subquery*
- *List the failed landing_outcomes in drone ship, their booster versions, and launch site names for in year 2015*
- *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*[1](#)

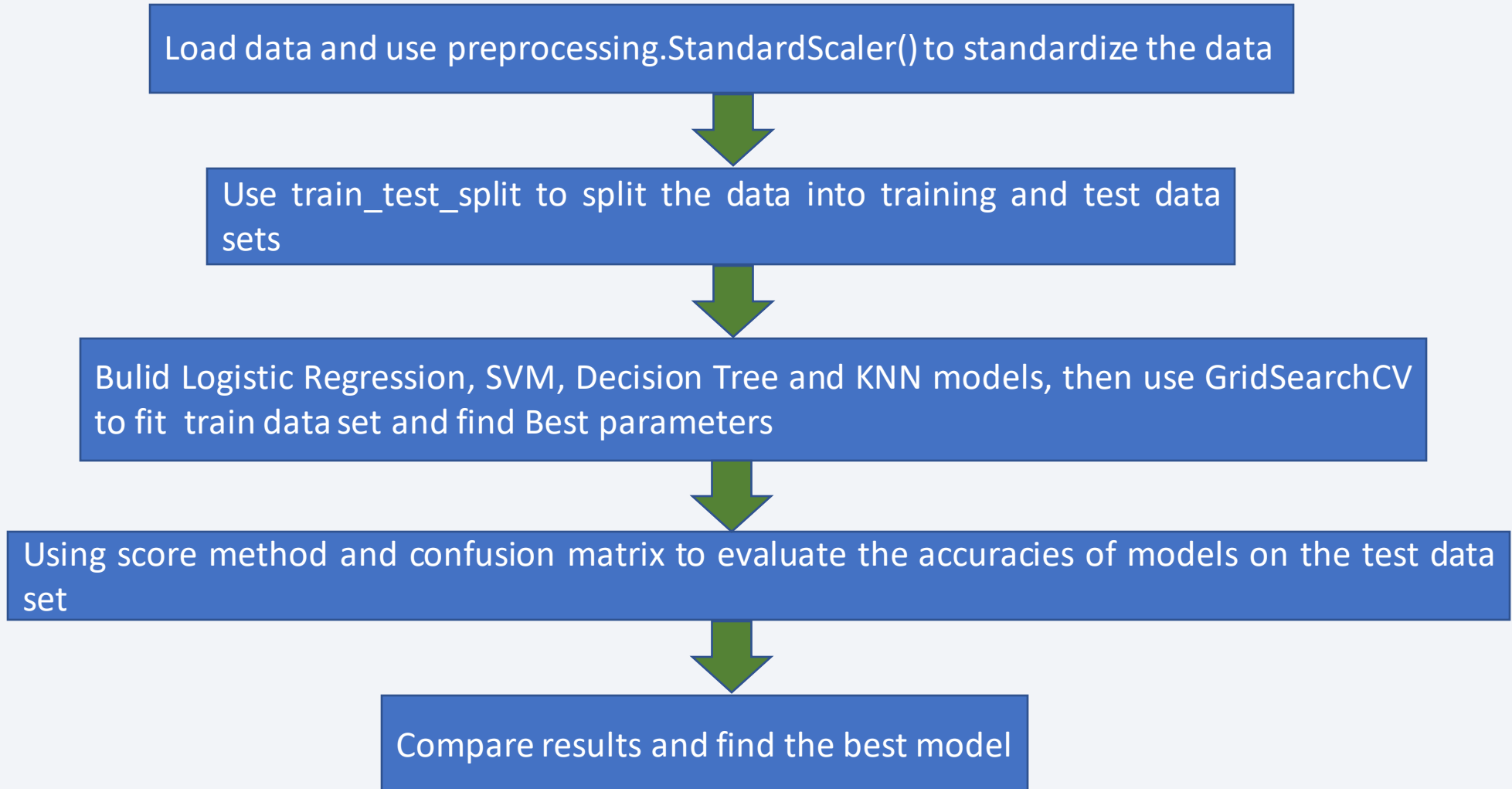
Build an Interactive Map with Folium

- Add `folium.Circle` and `folium.map.Marker` for each launch site to see where these launch sites are located
- Add `folium.plugins.MarkerCluster()` for each launch site to mark the success/failed launches and see which sites have high success rates
- Add `MousePosition` to get the coordinates and calculate the distances between a launch site to its proximities
- Add `folium.Marker` and `folium.PolyLine` to show the distances between a launch site to its proximities

Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

- Add a dropdown list to enable launch site selection
- Add the piechart of success count for all sites to show which site has the largest successful launches and the piechart for each site to show which one has the highest launch success ratio
- Add a slider to enable payload range selection
- Add a scatter chart of Payload Mass (kg) vs. Class to show the correlation between payload and launch success

Predictive Analysis (Classification)



Results

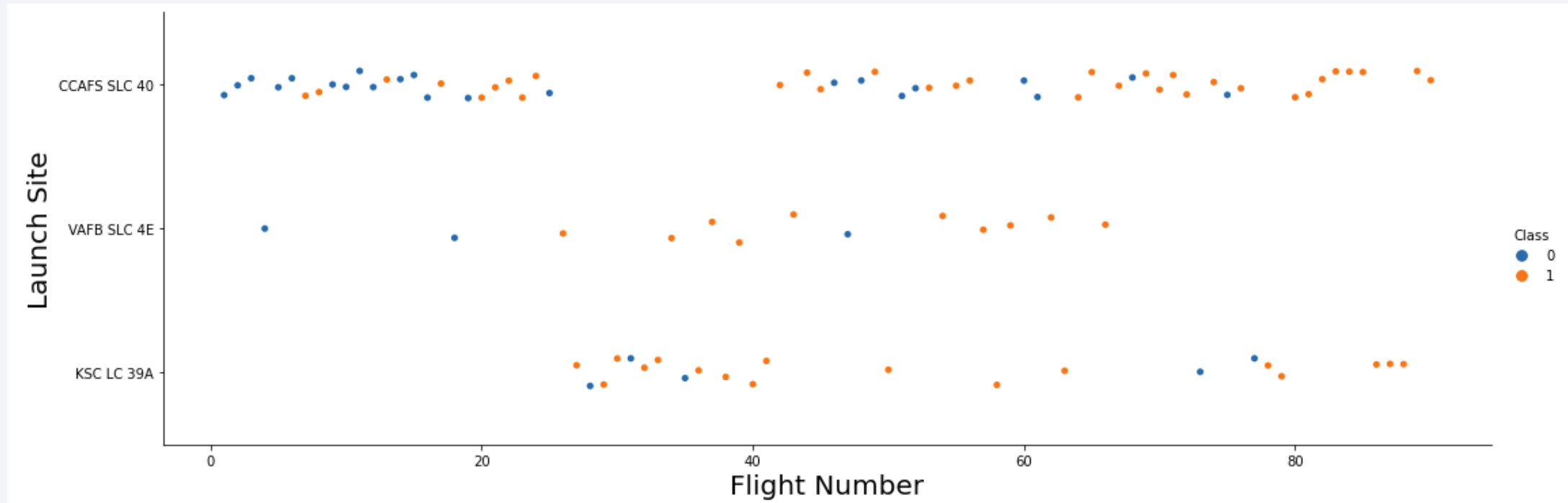
- Exploratory data analysis results
- Interactive analytics demo in screenshots
- Predictive analysis results

The background of the slide is an abstract composition. It features a solid blue area on the left side, which transitions into a dynamic pattern of diagonal streaks in shades of blue, red, and teal on the right. These streaks have a textured, almost woven appearance, suggesting a digital or data-driven theme. A faint grid pattern is also visible, particularly in the lower right quadrant.

Section 2

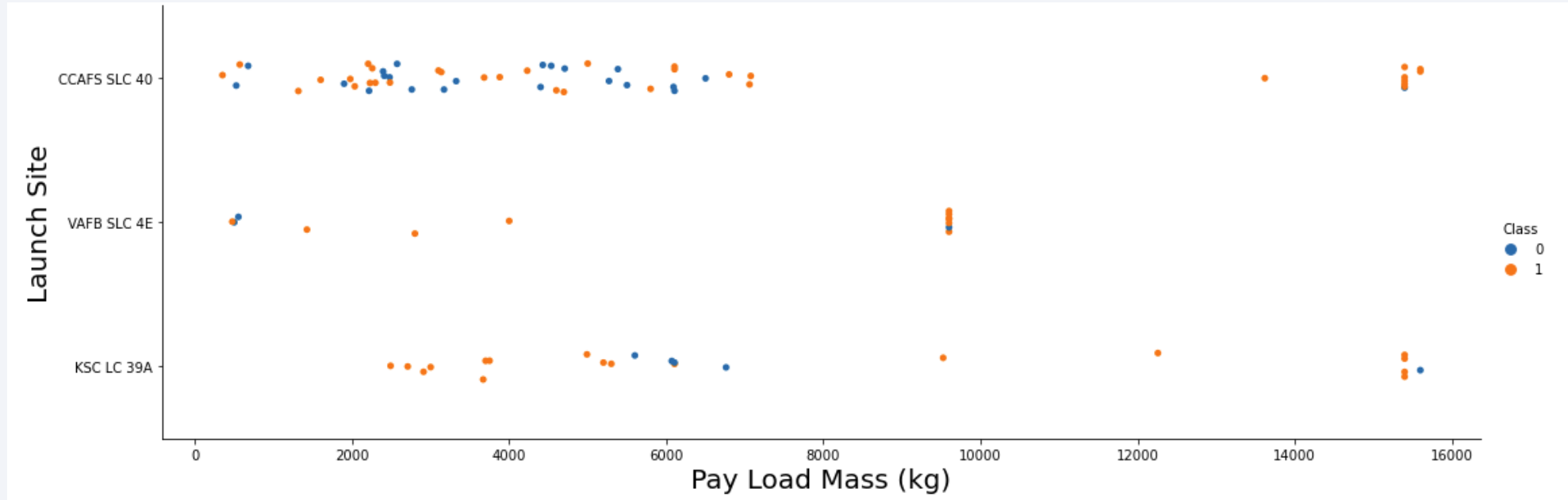
Insights drawn from EDA

Flight Number vs. Launch Site



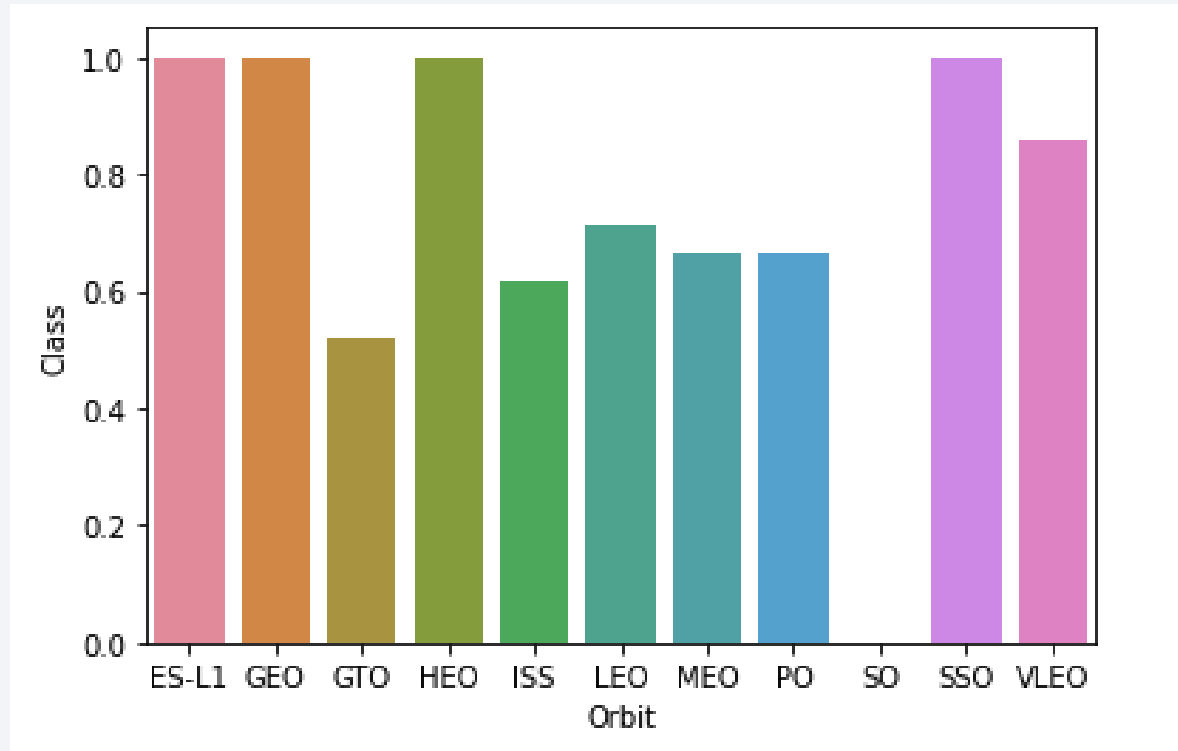
- As the flight number increases, the success rate of landing increases
- Different launch sites have different success rates
- CCAFS SLC 40 has the lowest success rate

Payload vs. Launch Site



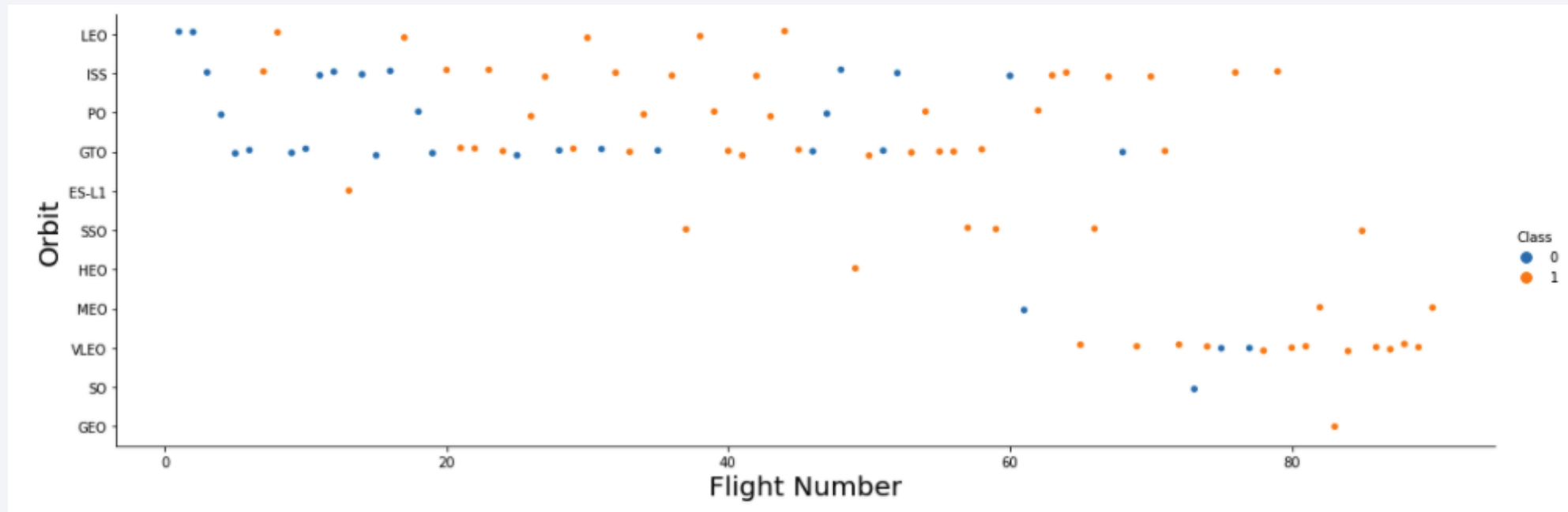
- The success rate is lowest when pay load mass is around 6000 kg
- All the pay load mass are less than 10000 kg on VAFB SLC 4E launch site
- Pay load mass can be greater 10000 kg on both CCAFS SLC 40 and KSC LC 39A sites.

Success Rate vs. Orbit Type



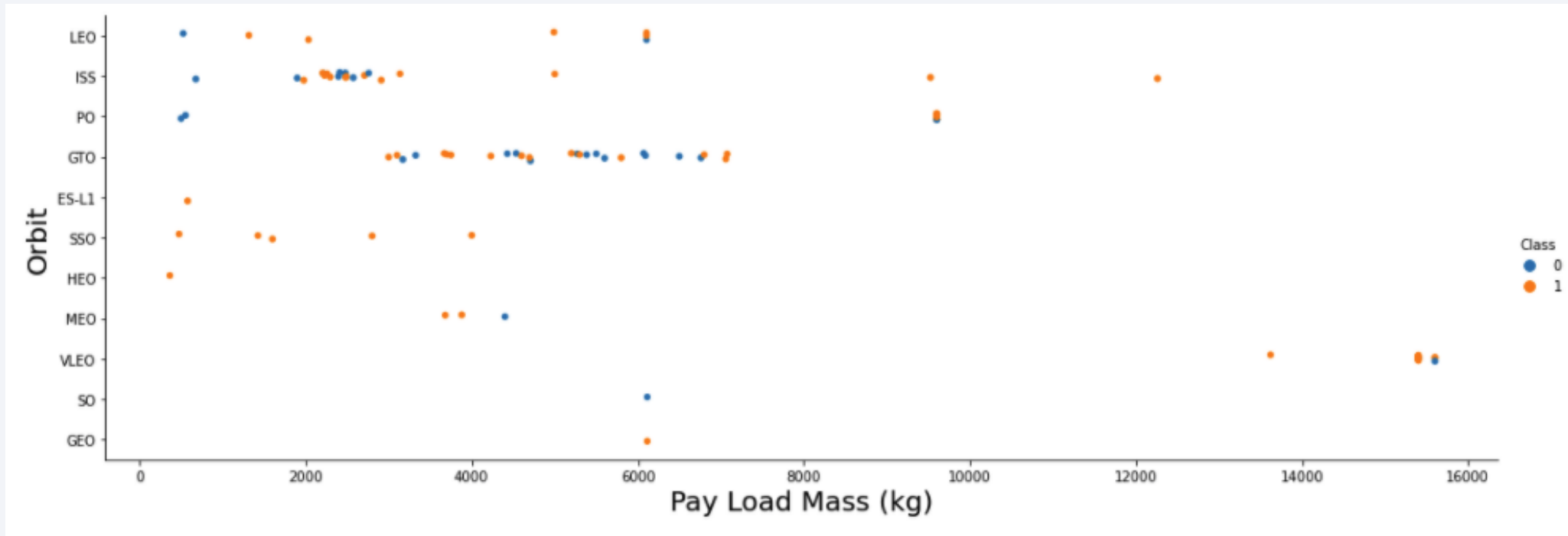
- ES-L1, GEO, HEO and SSO have the highest success rates (about 1)
- GTO has the lowest success rates (about 0.5)

Flight Number vs. Orbit Type



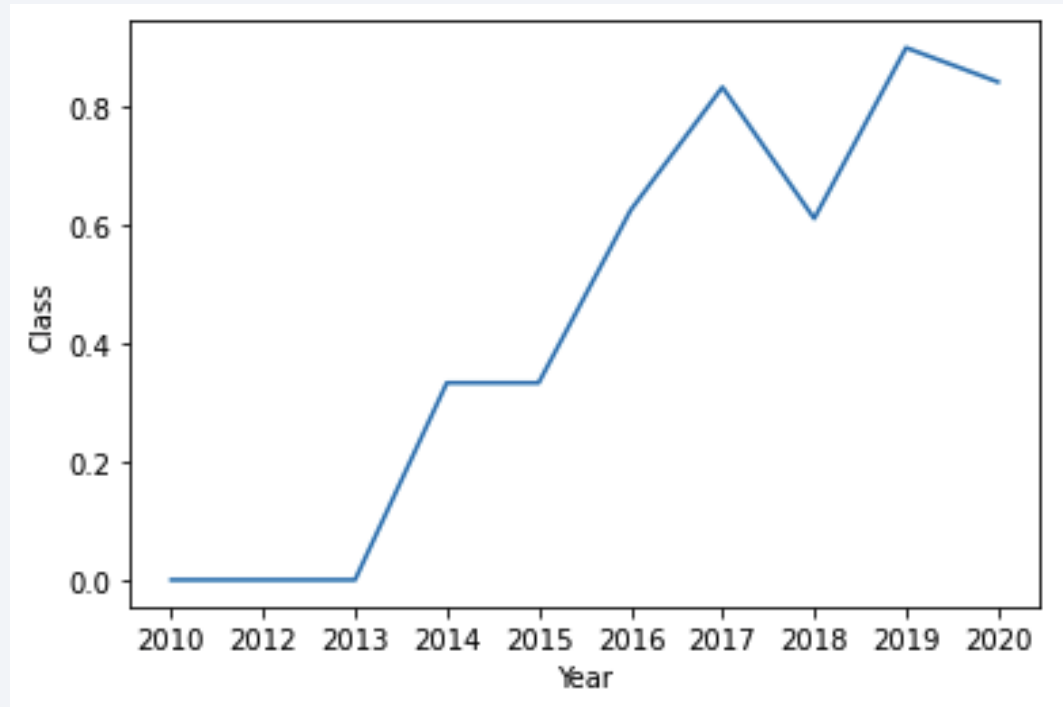
- For LEO, PO and MEO orbits, the success rate seems increases with flight number

Payload vs. Orbit Type



- Heavy payloads have a negative influence on GTO, MEO and VLEO orbits
- Heavy payloads have a positive influence on ISS orbits

Launch Success Yearly Trend



The success rate of landing increases with year since 2013

All Launch Site Names



```
1 %%sql
2
3 select distinct LAUNCH_SITE
4 from SPACEXDATA
```



```
* ibm_db_sa://wtp89840:***@fbd88901
```

Done.

launch_site

CCAFS LC-40

CCAFS SLC-40

KSC LC-39A

VAFB SLC-4E

Query result: CCAFS LC-40, CCAFS SLC-40, KSC LC-39A, VAFB SLC-4E

Launch Site Names Begin with 'CCA'

Query result:

```
1 %sql
2
3 select *
4 from SPACEXDATA
5 where LAUNCH_SITE like 'CCA%'
6 limit 5
```

```
* ibm_db_sa://wtp89840:***@fbd88901-ebdb-4a4f-a32e-9822b9fb237b.clogj3sd0tgtu0lqde00.databases.appdomain.cloud:32731/BLUDB
Done.
```

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

Total Payload Mass

```
%%sql
```

```
select sum(payload_mass__kg_)  
from SPACEXDATA  
where CUSTOMER like '%NASA%CRS%'
```

```
* ibm_db_sa://wtp89840:***@fbd88901-  
32731/BLUDB  
Done.
```

```
1
```

```
48213
```

The total payload carried by boosters from NASA (CRS) is 48213

Average Payload Mass by F9 v1.1

```
1 %%sql
2
3 select avg(payload_mass__kg_)
4 from SPACEXDATA
5 where booster_version like 'F9 v1.1%'

* ibm_db_sa://wtp89840:***@fbd88901-ebdb-
Done.
1
2534
```

Query result: 2534

First Successful Ground Landing Date

```
1 %%sql
2
3 select min(DATE)
4 from SPACEXDATA
5 where landing__outcome like '%Success%ground pad%'

* ibm_db_sa://wtp89840:***@fbd88901-ebdb-4a4f-a32e-982:
Done.
1
2015-12-22
```

Query result: 2015-12-22

Successful Drone Ship Landing with Payload between 4000 and 6000

```
1 %%sql
2
3 select distinct booster_version
4 from SPACEXDATA
5 where (landing__outcome like '%Success%drone ship%')
6 | | | and (payload_mass__kg_ between 4000 and 6000)
```

```
* ibm_db_sa://wtp89840:***@fbd88901-ebdb-4a4f-a32e-9822b9
Done.
```

booster_version

F9 FT B1021.2

F9 FT B1031.2

F9 FT B1022

F9 FT B1026

Query result: F9 FT B1021.2, F9 FT B1031.2, F9 FT B1022, F9 FT B1026

Total Number of Successful and Failure Mission Outcomes

```
1 %%sql
2
3 select count(*) as number_success
4 from SPACEXDATA
5 where mission_outcome like '%Success%'

* ibm_db_sa://wtp89840:***@fbd88901-ebdb-4
Done.
number_success
100
```

```
1 %%sql
2
3 select count(*) as number_failure
4 from SPACEXDATA
5 where mission_outcome like '%Failure%'

* ibm_db_sa://wtp89840:***@fbd88901-ebdb-4
Done.
number_failure
1
```

Query result: number of success is 100 and number of failure is 1

Boosters Carried Maximum Payload

```
1 %%sql
2
3 select distinct booster_version
4 from SPACEXDATA
5 where payload_mass__kg_ in (select max(payload_mass__kg_)
6 | | | | | | | | | | from SPACEXDATA)
```

```
* ibm_db_sa://wtp89840:***@fbd88901-ebdb-4a4f-a32e-9822b9fb23
```

```
Done.
```

```
booster_version
```

```
F9 B5 B1048.4
```

```
F9 B5 B1048.5
```

```
F9 B5 B1049.4
```

```
F9 B5 B1049.5
```

```
F9 B5 B1049.7
```

```
F9 B5 B1051.3
```

```
F9 B5 B1051.4
```

```
F9 B5 B1051.6
```

```
F9 B5 B1056.4
```

```
F9 B5 B1058.3
```

```
F9 B5 B1060.2
```

```
F9 B5 B1060.3
```

2015 Launch Records

The failed landing in drone ship, their booster versions, and launch site names in year 2015:

```
1 %%sql
2
3 select booster_version, launch_site
4 from SPACEXDATA
5 where DATE like '%2015%'
6 | | | and landing__outcome like '%Failure%drone ship%';
```

```
* ibm_db_sa://wtp89840:***@fbd88901-ebdb-4a4f-a32e-9822b9fk
```

```
Done.
```

booster_version	launch_site
F9 v1.1 B1012	CCAFS LC-40
F9 v1.1 B1015	CCAFS LC-40

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

```
1 %%sql
2
3 SELECT landing__outcome, count(*) as landing
4 FROM SPACEXDATA
5 WHERE DATE between '2010-06-04' and '2017-03-20'
6 GROUP BY landing__outcome
7 ORDER BY landing desc;
```

```
* ibm_db_sa://wtp89840:***@fbd88901-ebdb-4a4f-a32e-
Done.
```

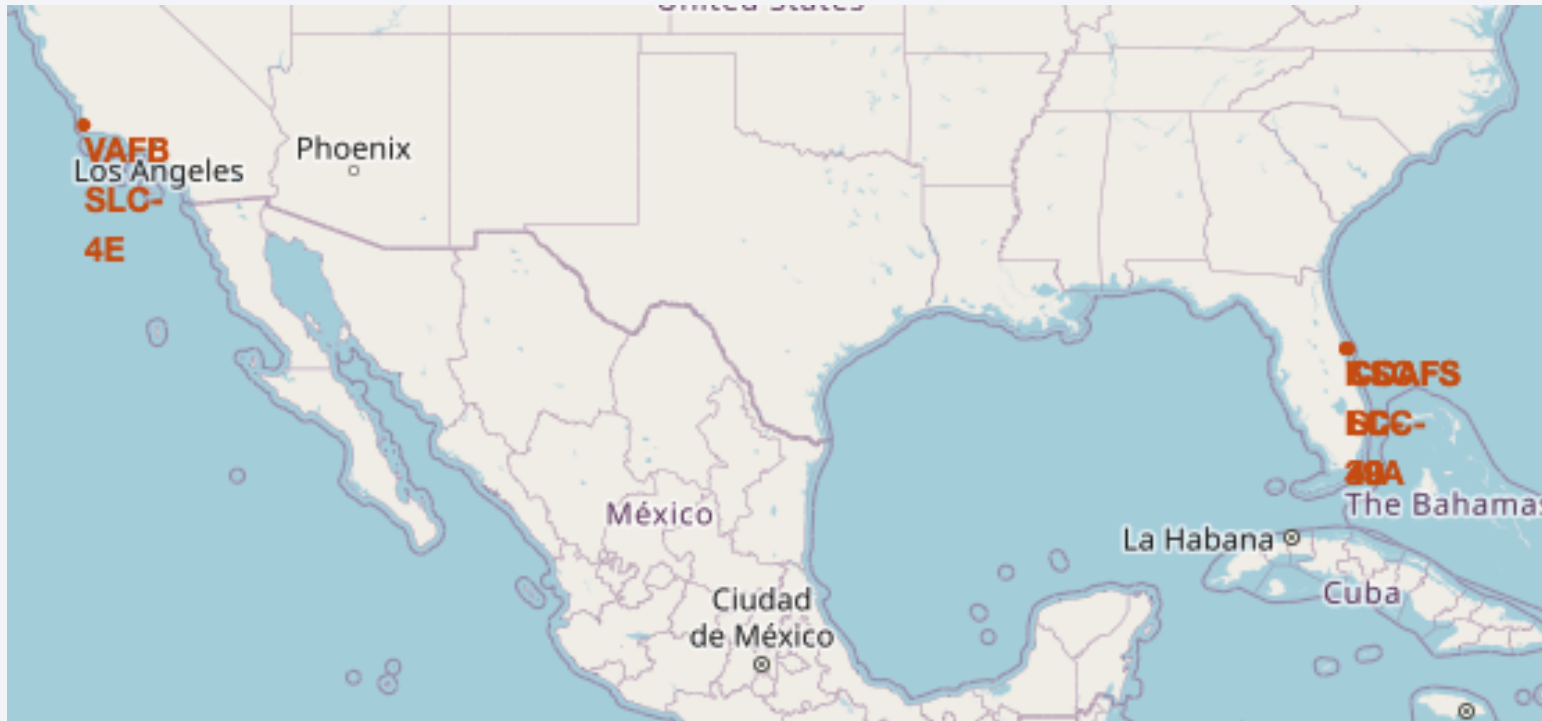
landing__outcome	landing
No attempt	10
Failure (drone ship)	5
Success (drone ship)	5
Controlled (ocean)	3
Success (ground pad)	3
Failure (parachute)	2
Uncontrolled (ocean)	2
Precluded (drone ship)	1

Section 4

Launch Sites Proximities Analysis

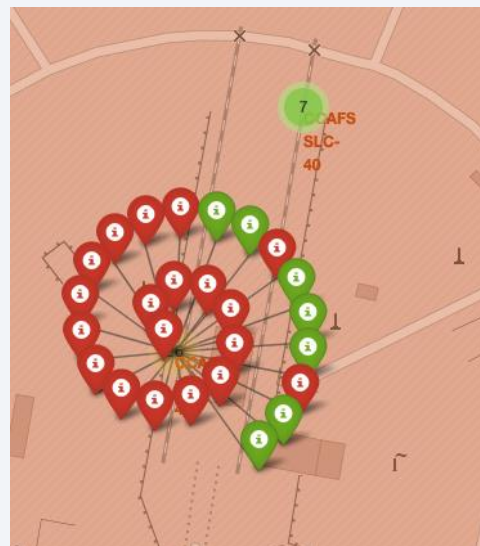


Locations of All Launch Sites



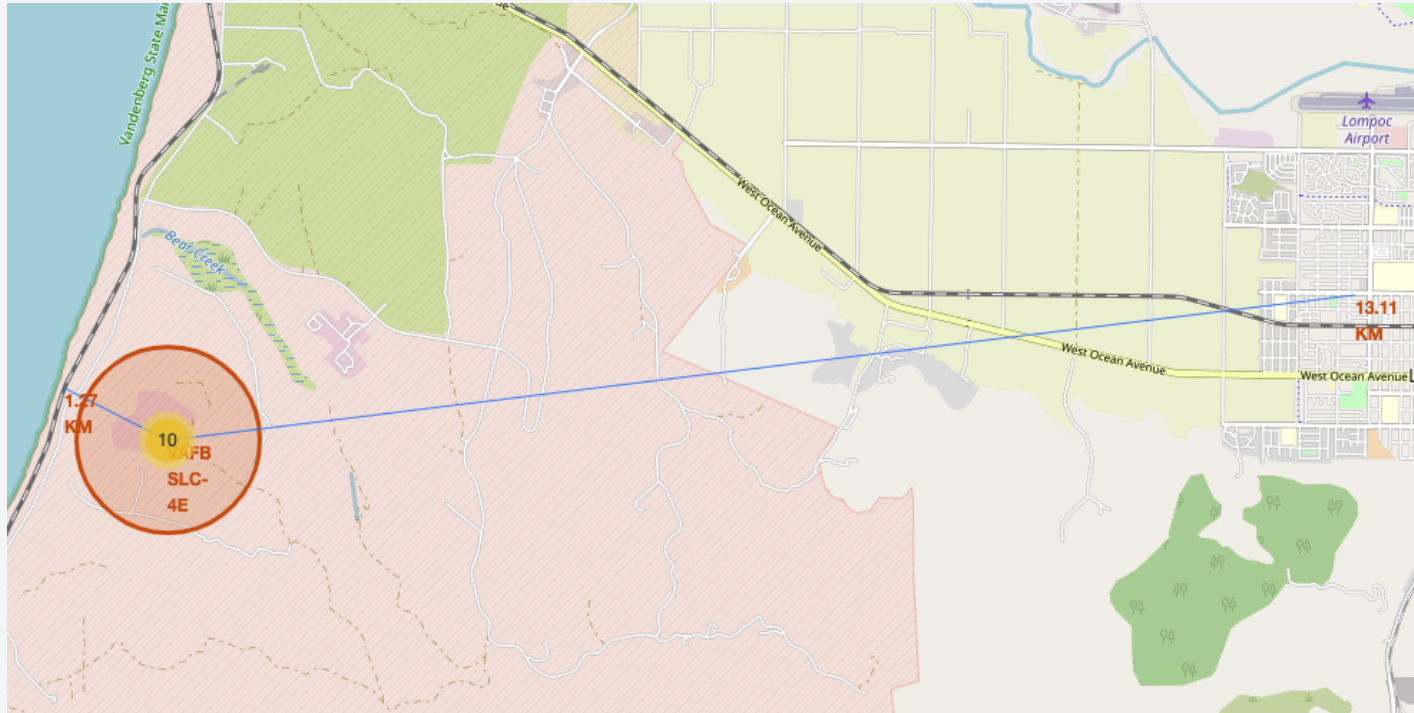
- All launch sites are close to the Equator line
- All launch sites are very close to the coast line

Success/Failed Launches for Each Site



- Green marker for successful landing and red marker for failed landing
- From the color-labeled markers in marker clusters, we can identify CCAFS SLC-40 launch site has relatively high success rates.

Distances between Launch Sites to Their Proximities



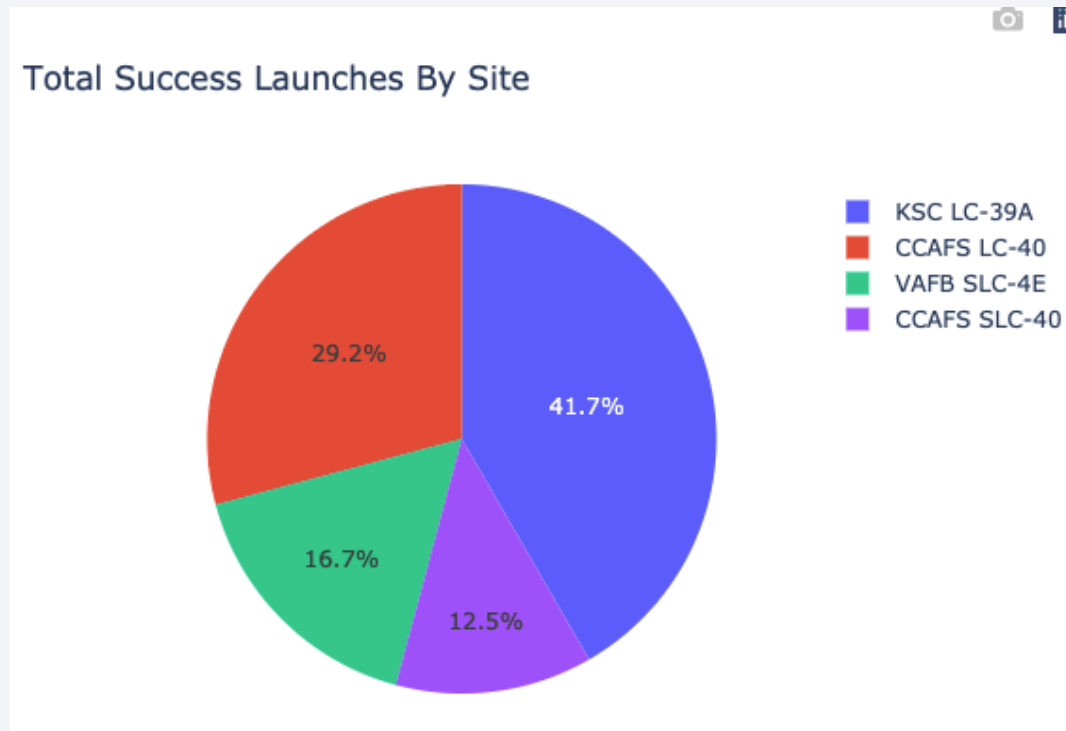
- All launch sites are in close proximity to railways, highways and coastline
- All launch sites keep certain distance away from cities



Section 5

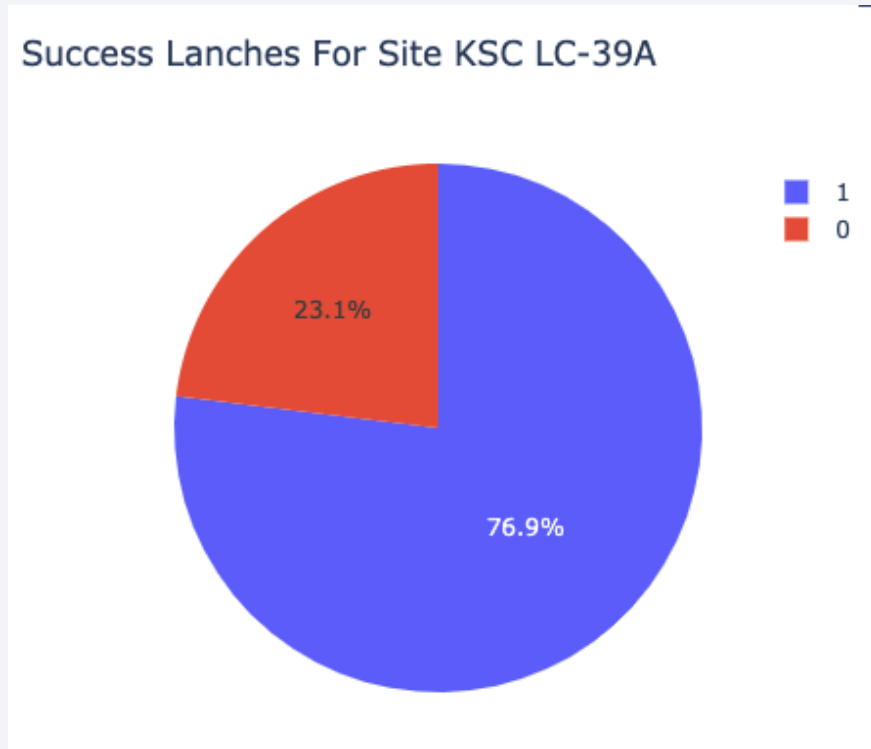
Build a Dashboard with Plotly Dash

Total Success Launches by Site



- KSC LC-39A site has the largest successful launches
- VAFB SLC-4E site has the smallest successful launches

Success Launch Rate for Each Site



Launch Success Rate:

- CCAFS LC-40 (26.9%)
- VAFB SLC-4E (40%)
- KSC LC-39 A (76.9%)
- CCAFS SLC-40 (42.9%)

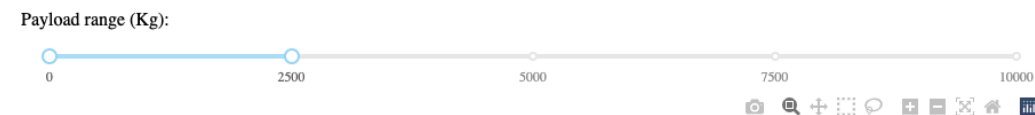
KSC LC-39 A (76.9%)
has the highest
launch success rate.

Correlation Between Payload and Success

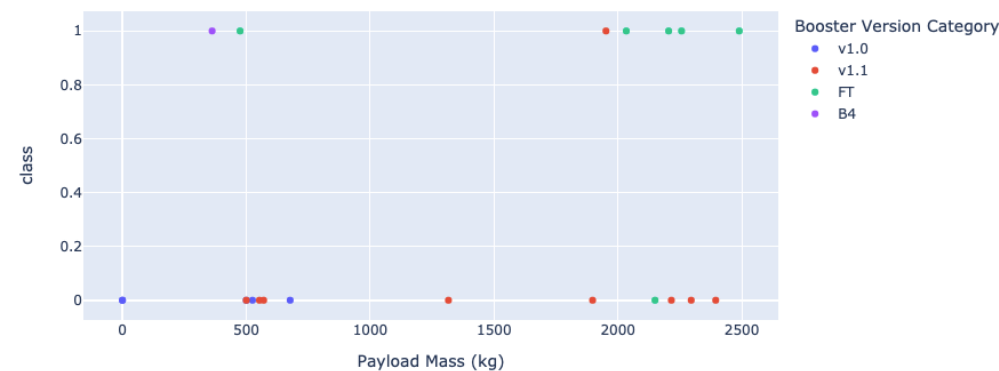


- Payload range(2000-4000) has the highest launch success rate
- Payload range(6000-8000) has the lowest launch success rate
- Booster version B5 has the highest launch success rate

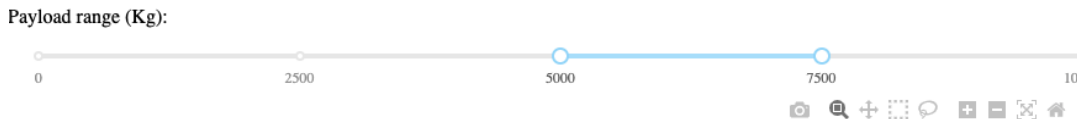
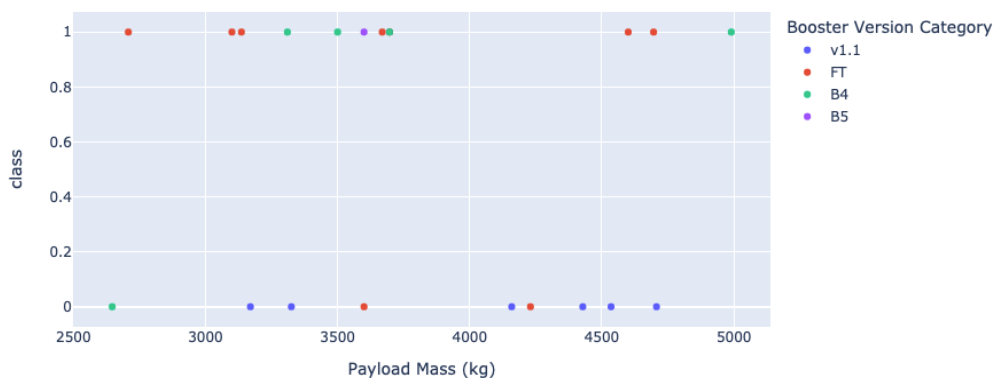
Correlation Between Payload and Success



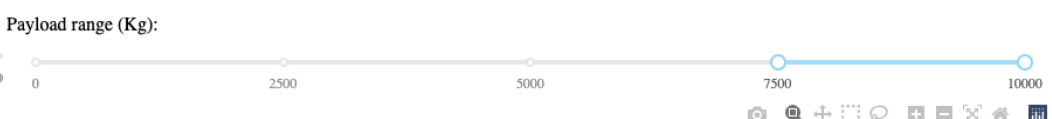
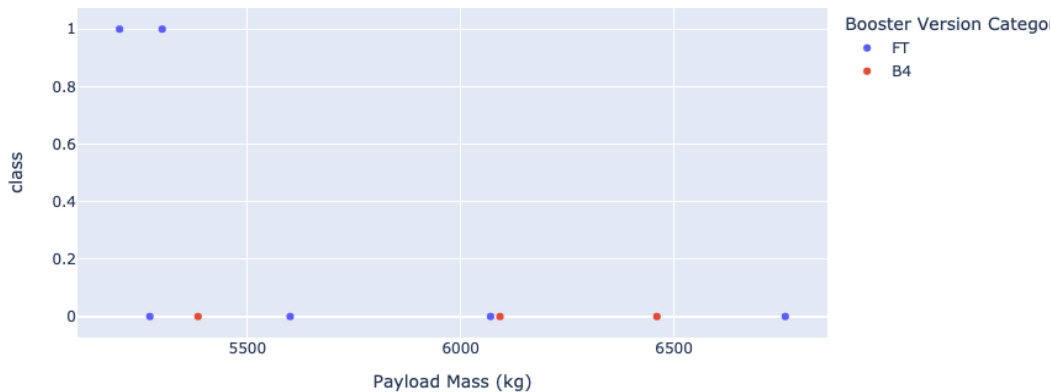
Correlation between Payload and Success for all Sites



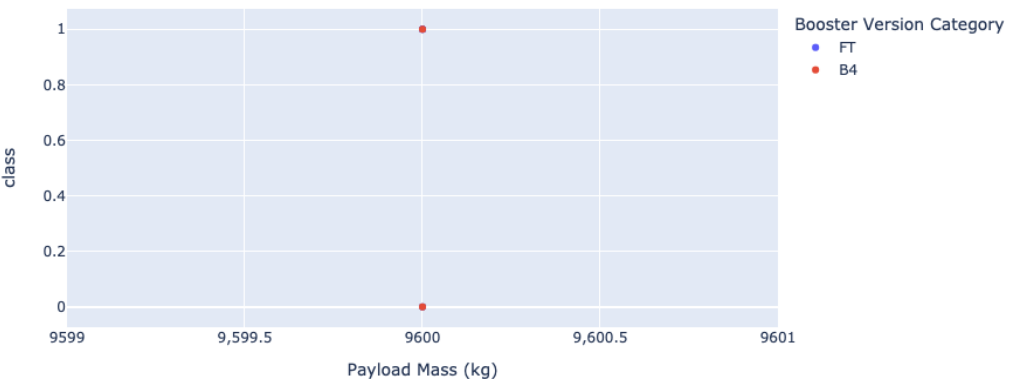
Correlation between Payload and Success for all Sites



Correlation between Payload and Success for all Sites



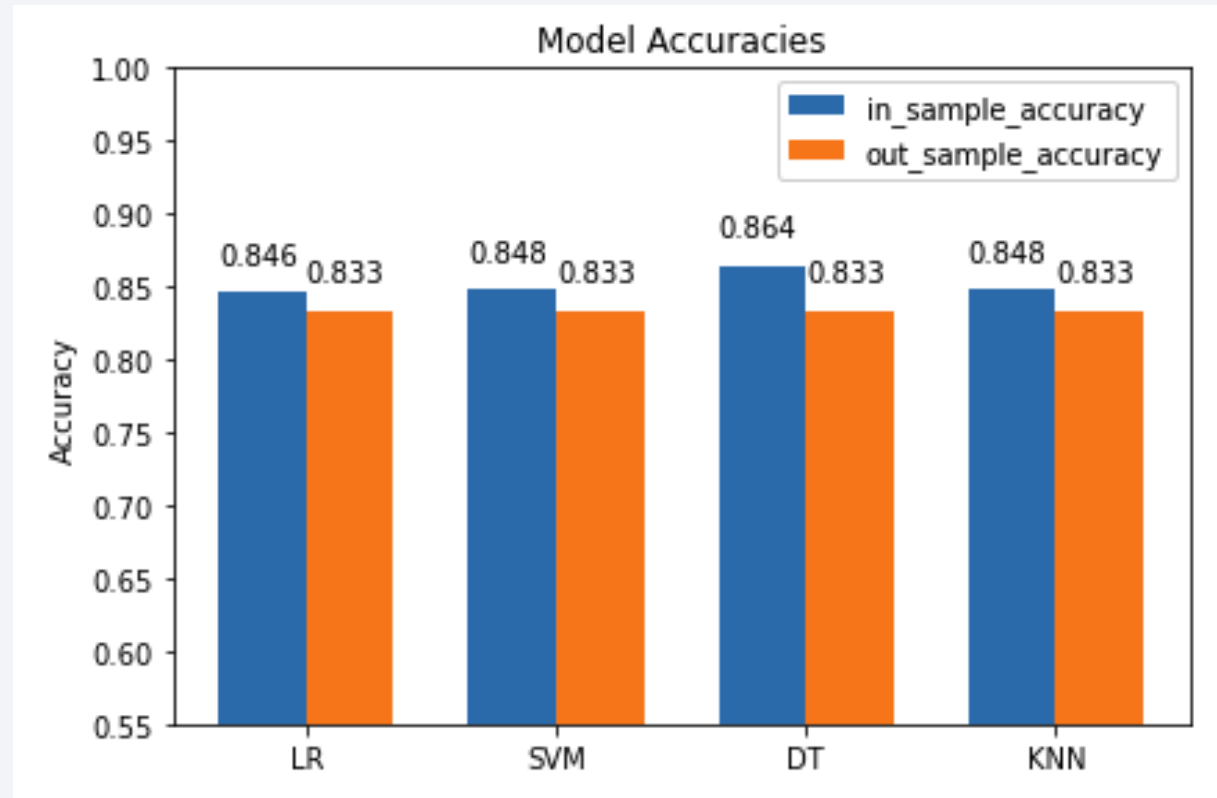
Correlation between Payload and Success for all Sites



Section 6

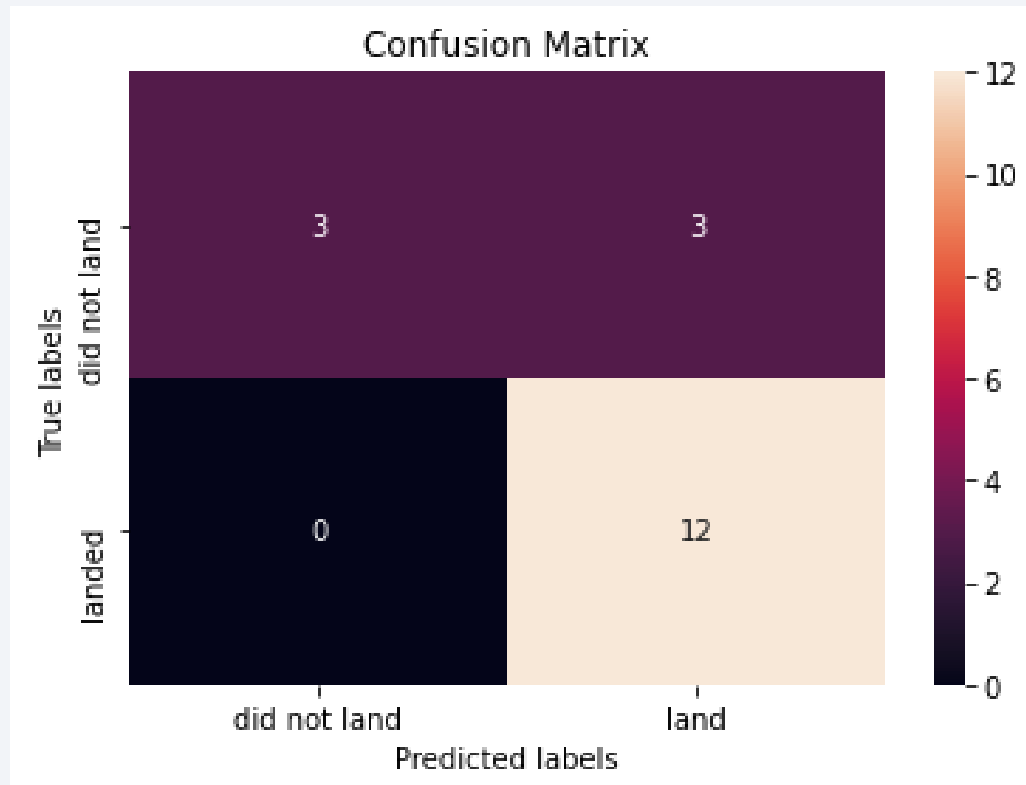
Predictive Analysis (Classification)

Classification Accuracy



- All models have good in sample accuracies and out sample accuracies (>0.8)
- Decision Tree Model has the best in sample accuracy
- All models have similar out sample accuracies

Confusion Matrix



- All models can distinguish test samples between the different classes
- The major problem of these models is false positives

Conclusions

- The data analysis and visualization show that the success rate of Falcon 9 first stage landing is affected by many factors, including launching date, launching site, payload and orbit.
- Four classification models were built, tuned and evaluated after data cleaning, data analysis and visualization. These models are successful predict the outcome for test data with accuracies above 0.8.

Appendix

GitHub Link:

<https://github.com/yinglingyang/Data-Science-with-Python>

Thank you!

