

¹ Graphical Abstract

² **An exploratory analysis of the influence of resource use on the yield**
³ **verse quality trade-off in Australian vineyards**

⁴ Bryce Polley



5 Highlights

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9 • Research highlight 1

10 • Research highlight 2

11 An exploratory analysis of the influence of resource use
12 on the yield verse quality trade-off in Australian
13 vineyards

14 Bryce Polley^{a,b,c}

^a*QUT, , , QLD,*

^b*AWRI, , , SA,*

^c*Food Agility CRC, , , Vic,*

15 **Abstract**

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16 *Keywords:* Keyword one, keyword two

17 *PACS:* 0000, 1111

18 *2000 MSC:* 0000, 1111

19 **1. Introduction**

20 The global focus on sustainability in agronomic industries has changed the
21 way in which these enterprises do business. When strategies for a sustainable
22 winegrowing industry are assessed, there is a trade-off between balancing the
23 amount of resources invested and the resultant yield verses quality produced.

24 This dilemma exists across agriculture through shared fundamental consider-
 25 ations such as water use and nitrogen levels (Hemming et al., 2020; Kawasaki
 26 and Uchida, 2016; ZHU et al., 2017). Quality in viticulture (the cultivation
 27 of grapes for wine production) is driven through its integration within the
 28 wine industry; with a wine’s potential quality being initially defined through
 29 the chemical makeup of the grapes used in its production. The consideration
 30 of sustainability within viticulture is further complicated by environmental
 31 and socio-demographic pressures. In the Australian context, these include:
 32 biosecurity, climate and international market demands.

33 In this analysis we observe relationships between yield and quality through
 34 the use of linear models. Although an extensive amount of research into a
 35 variety of factors’ effect on grape quality and yield exists; due to the lack
 36 of long-term and in-depth data, individual effects are often studied in isola-
 37 tion (Abbal et al., 2016). The lack of consolidated datasets also restricts the
 38 ability to gain statistical insights at large scales and across multiple regions
 39 (Keith Jones, 2002; Knight et al., 2019). The dataset used for this analysis
 40 includes data collected for the past 10 years from a multitude of vineyards
 41 located over a diverse range of Australian winegrowing regions.

42 We aim to use this broad dataset to confirm the existence of a yield verse
 43 quality trade off within Australian winegrowing; one not prior confirmed ex-
 44 plicitly across such extensive diversities. In achieving this, the context of
 45 how resource-use relates to yield and quality will also be described. We link
 46 these relations to the potential for improvement through decision-making
 47 processes, whilst highlighting that the way moving forward will require the
 48 optimisation of these processes. The practical addition of these aims is a

Table 1: Summary of models; their predictors, covariates and variable interactions.

	Response	Predictors	Covariates	Interactions
Model 1	Yield	Water Used Scope 1 Emissions	Area Harvested Year GI Region	N/A
Model 2	$\frac{\text{Yield}}{\text{Area Harvested}}$	Water Used Scope 1 Emissions	Area Harvested Year GI Region	Area Harvested * Scope 1 Emissions Area Harvested * Water Use Year * Region
Model 3	Yield \times Average Sale Price	Water Used Scope 1 Emissions	Area Harvested Year GI Region	N/A
Model 4	$\frac{\text{Yield} \times \text{Average Sale Price}}{\text{Area Harvested}}$	Water Used Scope 1 Emissions	Area Harvested Year GI Region	Area Harvested * Scope 1 Emissions Area Harvested * Water Use Year * Region

baseline for comparison - given a vineyard within Australia, one could extrapolate their comparative efficiency with regard to the tradeoff between invested resources, yield and quality.

2. Methods

We created four linear models to explore relationships between resource-use and vineyard outputs (see Table1). The data was sourced from Sustainable Winegrowing Australia and Wine Australia. Variables used included: yield, average sale price, region, water use, emissions, area harvested and year. After fitting to the data, each model was validated using k-fold cross validation.

59 2.1. Analysis

60 Before models were fit to the data, Pearson Correlation Coefficients were
61 used to look at the existence of linear relationships between predictor vari-
62 ables. These relationships were summarised in correlation matrices to com-
63 pare the level of interaction present between predictor variables. The rela-
64 tionships between the predictors and response variables were then modelled
65 using General Linear Models. Both the Pearson Correlation Coefficients and
66 General Linear Models were created using the R statistical programming
67 language (R Core Team, 2021). General Linear Models were chosen as they
68 offer the ability to produce statistical models that are explicit in the relation-
69 ships between predictors and response variables. General Linear Models also
70 allow the exploration of interactions between predictors and present easily
71 comparable differences in the influence and magnitude of relationships. A
72 variety of alternate methods were also explored, including: Splines, hierar-
73 chical regression, General Additive Models, and Generalised Linear Models.
74 These alternative approaches were not used as final models due to offering
75 no further insights or improvements in accuracy.

76 The response variables of the models were yield and quality. Yield was de-
77 fined as the total tonnes of grapes harvested. For the purpose of this study,
78 quality was defined by the financial value of winegrape crops' average sale
79 price per tonne. The definition of quality was an important consideration,
80 as quality can be defined in a variety of ways, for example analysing grapes':
81 aroma, chemical composition and color. Using sale price as a defining trait
82 of quality was due to the market value of winegrapes being reliant on grape
83 quality and because Wine Australia explicitly defines grape quality through

84 the use of discrete price brackets in their annual reports ; the generalisation
85 made to reflect quality through using average price assumed a due diligence of
86 those who purchased the grapes (Yegge, 2001). Both response variables were
87 examined as totals and as scales of area harvested. Values were compared in
88 this manner to observe how economies of scale affect the use of resources.

89 *2.2. Significant Tests*

90 *2.3. Data*

91 Data used in this analysis was sampled by Sustainable Winegrowing Aus-
92 tralia and Wine Australia. Sustainable Winegrowing Australia is Australia's
93 national wine industry sustainability program, which aims to facilitate grape-
94 growers and winemakers in demonstrating and improving their sustainability
95 (SWA, 2022). Wine Australia is an Australian Government statutory author-
96 ity governed by the Wine Australia Act 2013 (Win, 2019).

97 Data sampled by Wine Australia was collected via phone surveys and in-
98 cluded: summary statistics such as yield and average price of sale per tonne;
99 these values were summarised by region and grape varietal. Data recorded
100 by Sustainable Winegrowing Australia was entered manually by winegrowers
101 using a web based interface with some fields being optional, variables in-
102 cluded: region, harvest year, yield, area harvested, water used and fuel used
103 (diesel, petrol, biodiesel and LPG). To enable direct comparisons between
104 fuels, they were converted to tonnes of Carbon Dioxide equivalent.

105 The inclusion of Wine Australia data was due to average sale price being
106 an optional field in Sustainable Winegrowing Australia's dataset. Regional
107 average prices from Wine Australia were filled into values that were missing
108 from the Sustainable Winegrowing Australia data; the common practice of

109 purchasing grapes at regional prices was an important consideration in this
110 decision. Two subsets of data were then created for the analysis. The first
111 subset contained all vineyards and was used for Models 1 and 3. The second
112 subset contained vineyards which either recorded a value for average price of
113 sale per tonne through Sustainable Winegrowing Australia, or were within a
114 region with an average price of sale recorded by Wine Australia; this subset
115 was used for Models 2 and 4. These subsets meant that the data would be
116 limited to samples which had recorded values for the response variables (see
117 Table1), where every sample had a recorded value for yield but not average
118 price of sale per tonne.

119 The first subset of data was used for Model 1 and Model 2 (see Table1).
120 This subset contained 5298 samples spanning the period from 2012 to 2022,
121 covering 55 GI Regions and 1261 separate vineyards.

122 The second subset of data, was limited to vineyards that recorded a value
123 for their average sale price of grapes per tonne. This subset was used for
124 Model 3 and Model 4 (see Table1); and contained 2878 samples spanning
125 the period from 2015 to 2022, covering 51 GI Regions and 944 separate vine-
126 yards. 1842 of the values for average price of sale per tonne were extracted
127 from Wine Australia surveys with the remaining 1036 being from Sustainable
128 Winegrowing Australia’s dataset.

129 Additional variables were considered for analysis but were excluded due to
130 being either underreported or had insignificant contributions to model accu-
131 racies. Variables explored but not used due to low reporting values included:
132 fertiliser, and scope 2 emissions. Variables considered but ultimately removed
133 due to a lack of significant contributions to models, included: the use of re-

newable energy, contractor use, and pressures such as frost, fire and disease. Data preprocessing was conducted prior to analysis using the Python programming language (G. van Rossum, 1995). Preprocessing included logarithmic transformations, centring and scaling by standard deviation. Variables such as scope 1, which required prior calculations were also computed using Python.

2.4. Total Emissions

The equation given from the Australian National Greenhouse Accounts Factors, shown as

$$tCO_2e = \frac{Q \times EC \times EF1 + EF3}{1000}, \quad (1)$$

was used to convert the quantity of fuel in litres, Q , using a prescribed Energy Content, EC , and emission factors of scope one, $EF1$, and scope three, $EF3$, to tonnes of Carbon Dioxide equivalent, tCO_2e (Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, 2022). Emissions were calculated for total diesel, petrol, bio-diesel and LPG used.

2.5. Region

Differences in vineyard locations were captured through the use of Geographical Indicator Regions (GI Regions). Each GI Region has its own unique mixture of climatic and geophysical properties that describes a unique winegrowing region within Australia; these regions were predefined by Wine Australia (Halliday, 2009; Oliver et al., 2013; SOAR et al., 2008). Both Wine Australia and Sustainable Winegrowing Australia used the same GI Region

157 format to describe location.

158 The site of a vineyard predetermines several physical parameters such as cli-
159 mate, geology and soil; making location a widely considered key determinant
160 of grape yield and quality (Abbal et al., 2016; Agosta et al., 2012; Fraga
161 et al., 2017). The climatic properties of each GI Region were summarised by
162 using predefined classifications as per the Sustainable Winegrowing Australia
163 (2021) user manual. The user manual describes climates by rainfall and tem-
164 perature, creating supersets of Regions of similar climatic properties. The
165 climatic groups were used to illustrate similarities and differences occurring
166 in areas larger than GI Regions.

167 *2.6. Model Validation*

168 Models were validated using K-fold cross validation calculated through
169 the R Caret Package (Kuhn, 2008). K-fold cross validation works by remov-
170 ing a subset of data from the sample used to train models and then predicts
171 those variables to determine how sensitive the model is to changes in the sam-
172 ple data. For this analysis each model was validated using 10 folds, repeated
173 100 times.

174 **3. Results**

175 *3.1. Exploratory Analysis*

176 Linear relationships between variables were explored using Pearson Cor-
177 relation Coefficients. Values for these coefficients reflect the linear relation
178 between two variables, on a scale between -1 and 1; the magnitude and sign
179 of a coefficient indicates the strength of the relation, and whether the rela-
180 tion is positive or negative respectively. This was undertaken for data on the

Table 2: Variable Pearson correlation values for logarithmically transformed values.

Variable	Yield	Area Harvested	Water Used	Scope One Emissions	Yield Area	Average Sale Price	Average Sale Price Area Harvested
Yield	1.00E+00	7.44E-01	-4.31E-03	7.29E-01	3.50E-01	-2.26E-01	-1.64E-01
Area Harvested	7.44E-01	1.00E+00	-5.33E-03	8.92E-01	7.85E-02	-1.18E-01	-2.04E-01
Water Used	-4.31E-03	-5.33E-03	1.00E+00	-1.93E-03	-5.60E-03	-3.56E-02	-2.67E-02
Scope One Emissions	7.29E-01	8.92E-01	-1.93E-03	1.00E+00	9.36E-02	-9.42E-02	-1.93E-01
Yield Area	3.50E-01	7.85E-02	-5.60E-03	9.36E-02	1.00E+00	-4.85E-01	-1.70E-01
Average Sale Price	-2.26E-01	-1.18E-01	-3.56E-02	-9.42E-02	-4.85E-01	1.00E+00	4.73E-01
Average Sale Price Area Harvested	-1.64E-01	-2.04E-01	-2.67E-02	-1.93E-01	-1.70E-01	4.73E-01	1.00E+00

original scale and for data as a logarithmic transform. The logarithmic transformed data showed the strongest correlations, likely due to a skew caused by a greater number of smaller vineyards within the dataset (see (2)). Transforming data prior to calculating the coefficients changes several things: The logarithmic transform of the data alters the interpretation of the coefficients to percentage change - a coefficient will be indicative of the change in percentage of one variable compared to the other; scaling by standard deviation also changes this interpretation to be a percentage of that variables standard deviation. Scaling by standard deviation also makes the Pearson Correlation Coefficient equal to the covariance of the two variables. With all this in mind, when considering the logarithmically transformed variables, a coefficient of 1 would indicate that: given the change of one variable by one percentage of its standard deviation, the other variable would change by one percent of its own standard deviation. The importance of this is the dimensionless nature of these relationships and that it can be translated directly to any vineyard's case that has a well known distribution.

To determine if a coefficient was indicative of a strong relationship, confidence intervals were used. P-values reflected the significance of a given correlation coefficient when considering its relation to sample size via its incorporation as

Table 3: Summary of models; their performance, F-statistics and Residual error.

	R^2	R^2	F-Statistic	P-Value	Residual Standard Error	Residual Sum of Squares	Residual Mean of Squares
Model 1 Yield	9.072E-01	9.061E-01	7.753E+02	2.200e-16	3.065E-01	4.913E+02	1.000E-01
Model 2 Yield/Area	7.951E-01	7.770E-01	4.403E+01	2.200e-16	4.722E-01	1.085E+03	2.200E-01
Model 3 Value	9.753E-01	9.748E-01	1.885E+03	2.200e-16	1.589E-01	7.111E+01	3.000E-02
Model 4 Value / Area	9.669E-01	9.638E-01	3.095E+02	2.200e-16	1.904E-01	9.528E+01	4.000E-02

an element of standard error. Strong relationships were found to be present as all P-values, except for the non-transformed values for water used, were considered significant ($P < 2.200E-16$).

3.2. General Linear Models

General Linear Models were used to describe how response variables related to predictors' values. Log transformed variables were used as inputs to these models as they resulted in higher R^2 values and described the relationships proportionally; reflecting coefficient values as percentages of a variable's standard deviation. Each model showed a strong relationship between the predictors and the response (see Table 3). Model accuracy was measured in R^2 , as this allowed an easy comparison between their performances and their validation.

212 3.2.1. *F-tests*

213 To determine if predictors significantly related to a Model’s response vari-
214 able, F-tests were conducted. Aside from 3 variables, all F-tests across each
215 model indicated a significant contribution at 95% confidence. The three ex-
216 ceptions were: scope 1 emissions in Model 3 ($P=2.221E-01$) and Model 4
217 ($P=3.621E-01$), and Model 2’s interaction between area harvested and water
218 used ($P=2.192E-01$).

219 Scope 1 emissions was included in all models to directly compare the response
220 variables as ratios of vineyard size to raw values. Even though not significant
221 within models 3 and 4, when using the Pearson Correlation Coefficients scope
222 1 emissions was strongly correlated to every Model’s response variable; this
223 was especially so for Model 1 and 4 (Yield and average price per tonne as a
224 ratio to area harvested, respectively).

225 3.2.2. *T-tests*

226 T-tests were used to determine if predictors significantly contributed to
227 their models when accounting for other variables; this allowed a more granu-
228 lar examination of interactions and factors within categorical variables, show-
229 ing which specific years and areas contributed significantly and which did not
230 (the appendix contains a comprehensive list of these values).

231 For Models 1 (yield) and 3 (value) year played a pivotal role, with only one
232 year in each model not being significant (2021/2022 and 2016/2017 respec-
233 tively). Both Model 1 and 3 showed a majority of regions were significant
234 with 32 of 54 regions being significant in Model 1, and 42 of 50 regions being
235 significant in Model 3 with 95% confidence.

236 The number of combinations of year and region meant that Models 2 and

237 4 had many tests (424 and 243 respectively). Model 2 found 62.56% of
238 these combinations were indicative of a significant contribution to the model
239 at 95% significance. Model 4 was found to have 88.07% of its year/region
240 combinations indicating a significant contribution. A likely reason for some
241 combinations not being significant was a lack of samples in that particular
242 region/year being present; with region sample sizes ranging from 1 to 1006.
243 With regard to continuous variables, Model 1 and 2 showed water use, scope
244 1 emissions and area harvested were significant at 95% confidence when ac-
245 counting for other variables. T-tests for Model 3 showed all continuous vari-
246 ables except scope 1 emissions were significant. Model 4 showed scope 1
247 emissions and water use to only be significant when considered as an inter-
248 action with area harvested but not when considered on their own.

249 3.2.3. *Model Coefficients*

250 The coefficients of each model describe the relationship of a predictor
251 variable to its response when considering all other predictor variables. Due
252 to the transformations of the data, coefficients are individually interpreted
253 in the same manner as the prior regression values were (see section3.1); al-
254 though all coefficients need to be considered together. Unlike the regression
255 values the coefficients range is not limited between -1 and 1, as each vari-
256 able's contribution needs to be considered together.

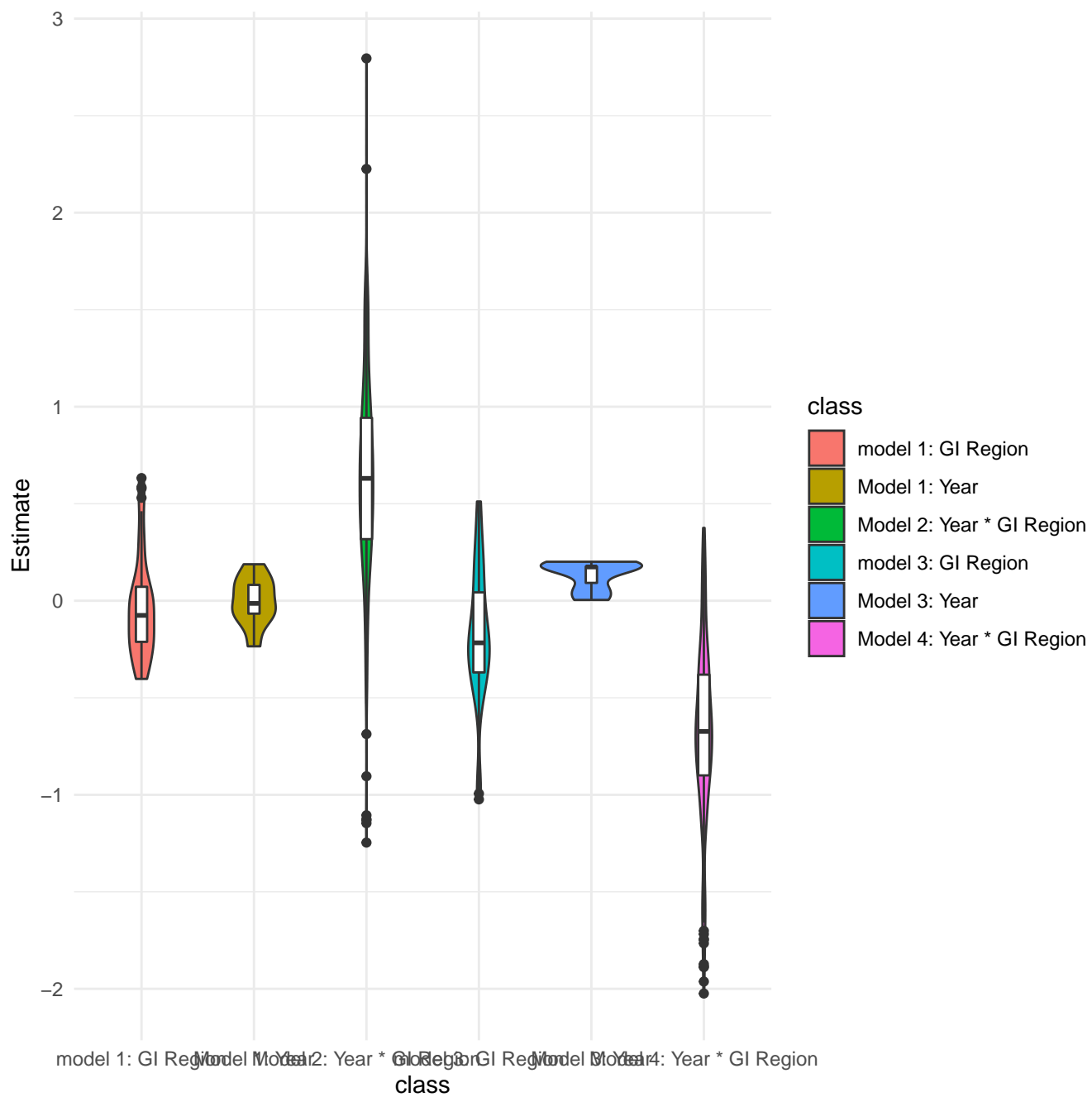
257 We look at the coefficients of categorical and continuous variables separately.
258 This is primarily done as the categorical variables have many coefficients, one
259 for each category, whilst continuous variables have only one. The coefficient
260 for categorical variables is summarised in Figure1; illustrating the difference
261 in the range and the affect region and year could have on each of the mod-

Table 4: Summary of each Models coefficients for continuous variables

		Area	Water	Scope 1	Area	Area
	Intercept	Harvested	Used	Emissions	Harvested	Harvested
					*	*
					Scope 1	Water
					Emissions	Used
Model 1	-3.318E-02	7.418E-01	8.660E-02	6.731E-02		
Model 2	-6.516E-01	5.774E-01	1.079E-02	8.498E-02	-4.971E-02	-5.346E-02
Model 3	1.808E-02	9.713E-01	-2.310E-02	-6.992E-03		
Model 4	6.702E-01	-7.354E-01	-6.732E-03	-5.645E-03	2.726E-02	7.515E-02

els. Comparatively, the continuous variables coefficients are summarised in Table4. In terms of magnitude, GI region has the highest possible absolute value for each model. An important consideration is that region and year are binary variables, such that they are only equal to zero or the coefficient (as they will present as a value of 1 multiplied by the coefficient); this means that, although region may have a strong relationship, it can be overshadowed by an extreme value of one of the continuous variables. The most notable difference between the continuous variables coefficients is the change from positive to negative values. This change occurs between the Models for Yield (Model 1 and 2) and the Models for value (Models 3 and 4); where all but the coefficient for area harvested has the opposite sign between them. These models also differ in an order of magnitude when looking at resource use, with the coefficients for yield being smaller than those for value.

Figure 1: Violin plots of GI Region and Year coefficients for each model.



275 3.2.4. Model Comparisons: Productivity Verse Value

276 (see Table ??tab:modelperformance). Reviewing the data to uncover rea-
277 sons for this included the use of binary variables such as the utilisation of
278 renewable energy, contractors, and the occurrence of disease, fire and frost;
279 however none of these variables were able to explain why some vineyards
280 produced less, or why other vineyards sold at higher prices than predicted.
281 A wide variety of these influences were likely already explained within the
282 use of year and GI Region, or the interaction of both variables. The change
283 between some regions was dramatic, with particularly warmer and drier re-
284 gions producing much higher volumes of grapes at lower prices (See Figures
285 5 and 6). The use of other variables and methods, specifically splines, were
286 able to create a more normally distributed set of residuals but at a drastically
287 reduced accuracy when comparing R2 and RSE. The introduction of known
288 average prices per tonne also helped increase R2 values a small amount; it is
289 important to not that it is common practice for wineries to purchase grapes
290 at a regional average rate, likely resulting in much less variance within a
291 region.

292 different strategies are likely employed between different regions, where
293 some regions target the mass production of cheaper grapes over quality. This
294 is most notable when grouping regions by climate, especially when consider-
295 ing GI Regions in the 'Hot Very Dry' climate (see Figure 7). The effect of
296 climate in the models was not more significant than the more granular use
297 of GI regions. The interaction between year and GI Region likely accounted
298 for localised events such as bushfires, which would be impactful, but only at
299 a local level in both time and space.

Table 5: Model validation using k-fold cross validation, for 10 folds repeated 100 times.

	RMSE	R2	MAE
Model 1	3.087E-01	9.045E-01	2.165E-01
Model 2	5.104E-01	7.409E-01	3.493E-01
Model 3	1.652E-01	9.723E-01	1.008E-01
Model 4	2.235E-01	9.500E-01	1.279E-01

3.3. Model Validation

To validate the performance of these models k-fold cross validation was used. This was done using 10 folds, $k = 10$, repeated 100 times. The models performed similarly to their original counter parts (see Table ??tab:kfold).

4. Discussion

In alternative attempts at models it was found that without the incorporation of GI Region or year the predictions greatly under performed. The possible reason behind this effect was that different strategies are likely employed between different regions, where some regions target the mass production of cheaper grapes over quality.

4.1. Limitations

Limitations included overestimating yield for models 1 and 2, (see Figures 1 and 2) and underestimating crop value in models 3 and 4 (see Figures 3 and 4). This study investigated the general relationships between input resources of a vineyard, including fuel and water, and the outputs including yield and value. Some regions appeared to produce many low quality grapes at scale compared to attempting to produce fewer higher quality grapes. This

behaviour can be observed when reviewing Wine Australia’s annual reports, where it is apparent that warm inland regions such as the Riverland are known to only produce large amounts of lower graded grapes Wine Australia (2022); Winemakers’ Federation of Australia (2017). Comparatively, regions such as Tasmania only produce A grade grapes but in much smaller quantities than the Riverland. Knowing that the difference in pricing per tonne can exceed a magnitude of 10 between grades E and A, the operations in regions that target different grades would have varied priorities. However, some regions such as the Yarra Valley produce a Variety of different grades of grapes, from C to A, highlighting that vineyard priorities, although may be somewhat present within regional classifications, are not necessarily aligned within a given region.

The opportunity to target different grades of grapes may not always be available, with some regions being more renowned than others, and likely to be sought after regardless (Halliday, 2009). The Barossa is an example of this, known for its quality could also lend itself to a bias in purchasers not considering other regions that may be capable of similar quality. This effect could stifle the potential for market opportunities within these lesser known regions. A further possibility is that there may be regional upper limits with the relationship between resource input and the value gained becoming no longer proportional due to diminishing returns. Climate was considered to be a large determinant of the ability to grow a larger quantity of grapes, as well as a determinant in grape quality (Agosta et al., 2012); however there were vineyards in similar regions that were able to produce exceptionally better results than others (See Figure 7).

342 The issue of model 1 and 2 over predicting yield, may have been due to
343 preventative measures brought on by regional pressures such as fire, frost and
344 disease. Where, more resources were required to prevent these issues from
345 spreading within a region, thus disproportionately effecting some vineyards
346 compared to others locally. This type of maintenance is not well captured
347 especially when considering that some regions, those in warmer areas are
348 not as prone to disease as cooler climates and could potentially have lower
349 operating costs per hectare. This could create a discrepancy in vineyards that
350 utilise preventative measures in wetter regions, as opposed to those who do
351 not, and thus expend less fuel and energy but risk disease. When reviewing
352 the differences between regions it is important to consider that vineyards
353 in Hot Very Dry areas can be hundreds of times the size of those in other
354 regions. It is interesting that while area, although significantly correlated to
355 the ratio of yield to area, was still lower than water and about the same as
356 emissions. This points to economies of scale playing a role but still being
357 only one consideration alongside the potential resources that can be used.
358 The negative trend between size and average sales price could also be a side
359 effect of mass supply verse demand, especially when looking at the level of
360 difference in production of some vineyards (see Table 4). The relationships
361 between yield, value and area are not simply about efficiently producing the
362 most grapes; sales price and by association grape quality, are integral to the
363 profitability, and this is strongly linked to resource-use and thus the longevity
364 and sustainability of a vineyard.

365 Literature shows that there are many on-the-ground decisions that in-
366 fluence both quality and yield. Where these decisions are governed by com-

plex physical and social forces such as international market demands, disease pressures and natural disasters (Abad et al., 2021; Cortez et al., 2009; Hall et al., 2011; I. Goodwin, et al., 2009; Kasimati et al., 2022; Oliver et al., 2013; Srivastava and Sadistap, 2018). Many of these occurrences being highlighted throughout the past decades vintage reports (Wine Australia, 2019, 2021, 2022; Winemakers' Federation of Australia, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018). It is also important to consider that these reports show that the warm inland regions have seen a decline in profit during this period, as they were often compared to other regions that focused more on quality than quantity. This is an important consideration, as the size of some of these vineyards when considering their ratio of value to area would only require a marginal increase to out compete other regions. There are also differences when comparing winegrowers to other agricultural industries as they are vertically integrated within the wine industry, tying them to secondary and tertiary industries, such as wine production, packaging, transport and sales. This results in unique issues and considerations for each vineyard, where these on-the-ground decisions may be influenced by other wine industry's choices, such as the use of sustainable practices in vineyards as a requirement for sale in overseas markets; notably these interactions are further complicated by some winegrowers being totally integrated into wine companies, while others are not (Knight et al., 2019). Incorporating such decisions into the model could help describe the contributing factors to regional differences beyond resource consumption and regional differences.

Having more data for each region would also be an improvement, allowing greater comparison between regions. More variables may also help to discern

vineyards that can produce larger volumes of grapes at higher prices. The use of semi transparent tools such as random forests and decision trees alongside more variables and data may help to uncover the reasons for values that were under or over estimated. These differences could be caused by the use of alternative sustainable practices in the field. While there is evidence to suggest that environmentally sustainable practices can reduce costs, increase efficiency, whilst improving the quality of grapes, more research is needed to link these benefits across different regions and climates (Baiano, 2021; Mariani and Vastola, 2015; Montalvo-Falcón et al., 2023).

The relationship between scope one emissions and the response variables that included average sales price

It is possible that the relationships between scope one emissions and the response variables were closely tied to a vineyards area. This possibility could be explained through the emissions

Noting that irrigation systems use fuel and that the application of water was a significant variable in each model scope one emissions' lack of significance and contribution given its F-statistics (See Tables 7 and 8), indicated that it is possible other vineyard activities requiring fuel are not as determining factors for a vineyards grape quality.

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Table .6: Summary of models, their predictors, covariates and variable interactions.

Variable	Yield	Area	Water Used	Scope One Emissions	$\frac{\text{Yield}}{\text{Area}}$	Average Price Per Tonne	$\frac{\text{Average Price per tonne}}{\text{Area}}$
Yield	1.000E+00	7.440E-01	-	7.290E-01	3.500E-01	-2.262E-01	-1.644E-01
Area	7.440E+00	1.000E+00	5.331E-03	8.921E-01	7.854E-02	-1.178E-01	-2.042E-01
Water Used	-	-	1.000E+00	1.929E-03	-	-3.562E-02	-2.669E-02
Scope One Emissions	7.290E-01	8.921E-01	-	1.000E+00	9.357E-02	-9.422E-02	-1.933E-01
$\frac{\text{Yield}}{\text{Area}}$	3.500E-01	7.854E-02	5.600E-03	9.357E-02	1.000E+00	4.849E-01	-1.698E-01
Average Price Per Tonne	-	-	-	-9.422E-02	-	1.000E+00	4.732E-01
$\frac{\text{Average Price per tonne}}{\text{Area}}$	1.644E-01	2.042E-01	2.669E-02	-1.933E-01	-	4.732E-01	1.000E+00

Table .7: Pearson correlation coefficients for each logarithmically transformed variable.

Variable	Yield	Area	Water Used	Scope One Emissions	$\frac{Yield}{Area}$
Yield	1.000E+00	8.822E-01	8.245E-01	7.617E-01	9.353E-01
Area	8.822E-01	1.000E+00	7.750E-01	8.311E-01	6.742E-01
Water Used	8.245E-01	7.750E-01	1.000E+00	6.668E-01	7.292E-01
Scope One Emissions	7.617E-01	8.311E-01	6.668E-01	1.000E+00	6.086E-01
$\frac{Yield}{Area}$	9.353E-01	6.742E-01	7.292E-01	6.086E-01	1.000E+00
Average Price Per Tonne	-4.591E-01	-1.911E-01	-4.881E-01	-1.559E-01	-5.625E-01
$\frac{Average Price per tonne}{Area}$	-8.918E-01	-8.474E-01	-8.300E-01	-7.063E-01	-8.070E-01

Table .8: P-values for the non-transformed water used variable's Pearson correlation coefficients.

Variable	Water Used
Yield	7.538E-01
Area	6.981E-01
Scope One Emissions	8.883E-01
$\frac{Yield}{Area}$	6.836E-01
Average Price Per Tonne	5.600E-02
$\frac{Average Price per tonne}{Area}$	1.522E-01

Table .9: Summary statistics for each variable on the original scale..

Variable	Yield	Area	Water Used	Scope One Emissions	$\frac{Yield}{Area}$
Yield	1.000E+00	8.822E-01	8.245E-01	7.617E-01	9.353E-01
Area	8.822E-01	1.000E+00	7.750E-01	8.311E-01	6.742E-01
Water Used	8.245E-01	7.750E-01	1.000E+00	6.668E-01	7.292E-01
Scope One Emissions	7.617E-01	8.311E-01	6.668E-01	1.000E+00	6.086E-01
$\frac{Yield}{Area}$	9.353E-01	6.742E-01	7.292E-01	6.086E-01	1.000E+00
Average Price Per Tonne	-4.591E-01	-1.911E-01	-4.881E-01	-1.559E-01	-5.625E-01
$\frac{Average Price per tonne}{Area}$	-8.918E-01	-8.474E-01	-8.300E-01	-7.063E-01	-8.070E-01

Table .10: Model 1 ANOVA summarising variable significance at the .5 level.

Variable	Df	Sum Sq	Mean Sq	F Value	Pr(>F)
Year	9	7.060E+01	7.800E+00	8.353E+01	<2.20E-16
GI Region	54	1.507E+03	2.790E+01	2.972E+02	<2.20E-16
Area Harvested	1	3.211E+03	3.211E+03	3.419E+04	<2.20E-16
Water Used	1	1.040E+01	1.040E+01	1.103E+02	<2.20E-16
Scope One Emissions	1	6.600E+00	6.600E+00	7.056E+01	<2.20E-16

Table .11: Model 2 ANOVA summarising variable significance at the .5 level.

Variable	Df	Sum Sq	Mean Sq	F Value	Pr(>F)
Area Harvested	1	2.407E+03	2.407E+03	1.080E+04	<2.20E-16
Scope One Emissions	1	3.989E+01	3.989E+01	1.789E+02	<2.20E-16
Water Used	1	5.500E+02	5.500E+02	2.467E+03	<2.20E-16
Area Harvested*Scope One Emissions	1	6.921E+01	6.921E+01	3.104E+02	<2.20E-16
Area Harvested * Water Used	1	1.040E+00	1.040E+00	4.686E+00	3.045E-02 *
Year * GI Region	424	1.144E+03	2.700E+00	1.210E+01	<2.20E-16

Table .12: Model 3 ANOVA summarising variable significance at the .5 level.

Variable	Df	Sum Sq	Mean Sq	F Value	Pr(>F)
Year	6	1.324E+01	2.210E+00	8.748E+01	<2.20E-16 ***
GI Region	50	6.498E+02	1.300E+01	5.151E+02	<2.20E-16 ***
Area Harvested	1	2.142E+03	2.142E+03	8.491E+04	<2.20E-16 ***
Water Used	1	3.200E-01	3.200E-01	1.259E+01	3.947E-04 **
Scope One Emissions	1	4.000E-02	4.000E-02	1.492E+00	2.221E-01

Table .13: Model 4 ANOVA summarising variable significance at the .5 level.

Variable	Df	Sum Sq	Mean Sq	F Value	Pr(>F)
Area Harvested	1	2.066E+03	2.066E+03	5.700E+04	<2.20E-16
Scope One Emissions	1	6.000E-02	6.000E-02	1.569E+00	2.105E-01
Water Used	1	2.014E+02	2.014E+02	5.557E+03	<2.20E-16
Area Harvested*Scope One Emissions	1	5.246E+01	5.246E+01	1.448E+03	<2.20E-16
Area Harvested * Water Used	1	7.270E+00	7.270E+00	2.005E+02	<2.20E-16
Year * GI Region	243	4.546E+02	1.870E+00	5.162E+01	<2.20E-16

Table .14: Comparison of Model Residuals

	Df	Sum Sq	Mean Sq
Model 1	5231	4.913E+02	1.000E-01
Model 2	4868	1.085E+03	2.200E-01
Model 3	2818	7.111E+01	3.000E-02
Model 4	2629	9.528E+01	4.000E-02

Table .15: Comparison of Model performance.

	RSE	R2	Adjusted R2	F-statistic	P-Value
Model 1	3.065E-01	9.072E-01	9.061E-01	7.753E+02	<2.2e-16
Model 2	4.722E-01	7.951E-01	7.770E-01	4.403E+01	<2.2e-16
Model 3	1.589E-01	9.753E-01	9.748E-01	1.885E+03	<2.2e-16
Model 4	1.904E-01	9.669E-01	9.638E-01	3.095E+02	<2.2e-16