

A basketball game is in progress on a polished wooden court. In the foreground, a player in a teal jersey (number 10) is facing away from the camera, looking towards the basket. A player in a white jersey (number 3) is positioned to his left. In the background, a player in a white jersey (number 23) is jumping to shoot the ball. Another player in a white jersey (number 25) is on the ground, watching the shot. A basketball hoop and backboard are visible in the lower center. A red banner with the word "ARENA" in white letters runs vertically along the left edge of the court.

Modelling the NBA position(less)



Positionless Basketball

About FAQs Join Internship



How (and why) positionless basketball have taken over the NBA

NBA teams are increasingly turning to players who can play (and guard) multiple positions.

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Miami Is Showing the NBA How to Play Positionless Basketball

Jimmy Butler and Co. haven't needed to trade for Chris Paul to take a giant leap forward. Here's how the Heat built a contender without a traditional point guard.

Commissioner Adam Silver discusses league's 'positionless basketball' at Finals press conference

The league's lead executive touches on injury management, the collective bargaining agreement, potential expansion and more.



Steve Aschburner
Archive

June 3, 2022 4:41 AM



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Black coaches now lead 50% of NBA teams

In the past 12 months, eight coaching gigs in the NBA have been filled by Black candidates.

Forbes

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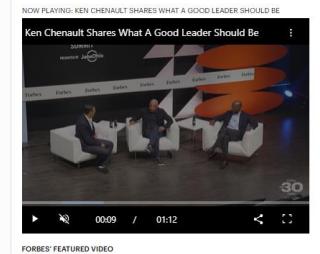
Oklahoma City Thunder's Media Day Reinforces Commitment To Play Positionless Basketball

By Nick Crain, Former Contributor. □ Nick Crain is an NBA reporter covering the OKC Thunder for Forbes.

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LAS VEGAS, NEVADA - AUGUST 15: Josh Giddey #3 of the Oklahoma City Thunder poses for a photo during the 2021 NBA Rookie Photo Shoot on August 15, 2021 in Las Vegas, Nevada. (Photo by Joe Scarnici/Getty Images)

The Oklahoma City Thunder begin training camp on Tuesday with just over three weeks until the start of the 2021-22 season. Prior to the season kicking off, they'll carry 20 players through training camp and four preseason games.

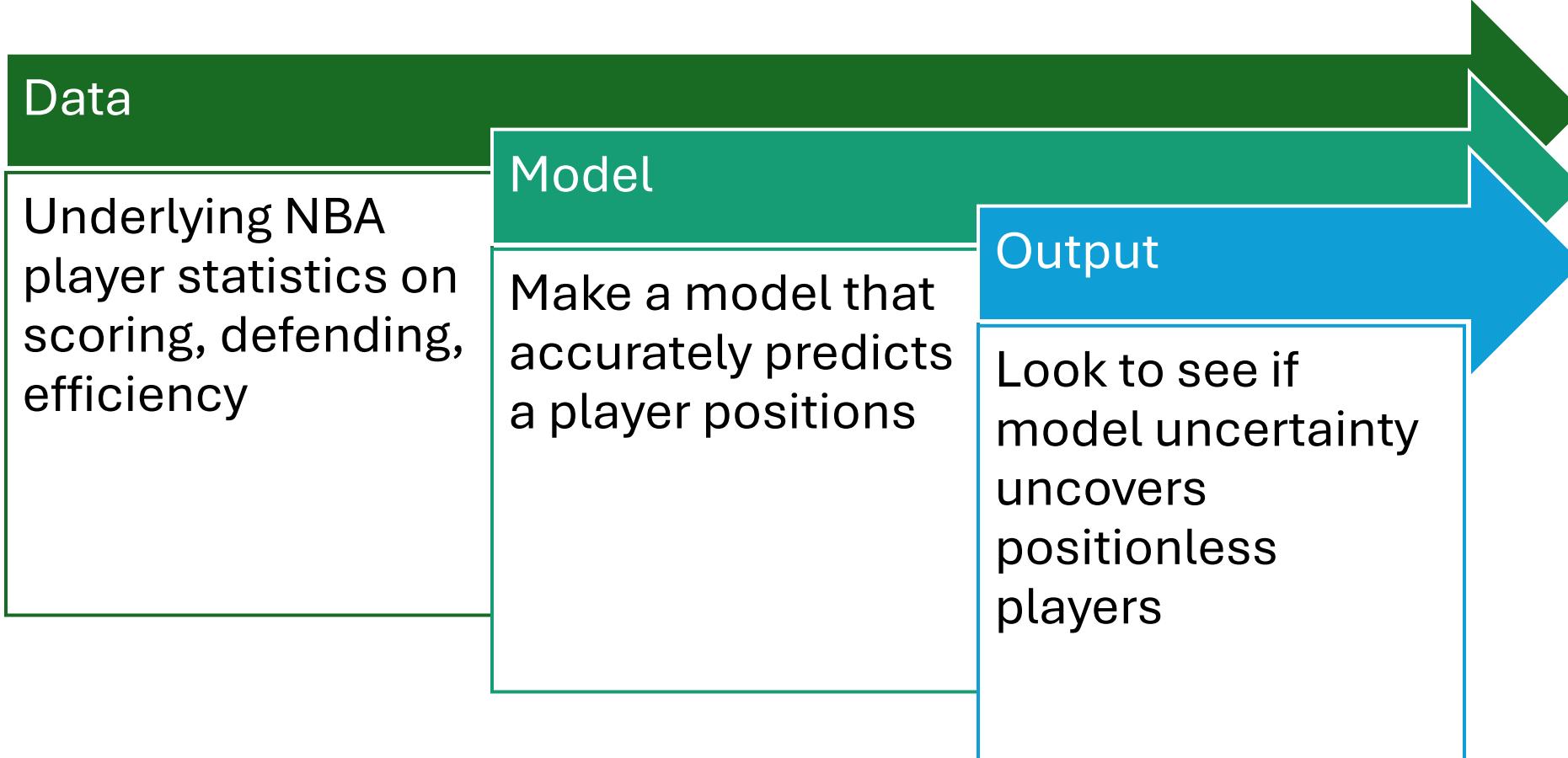
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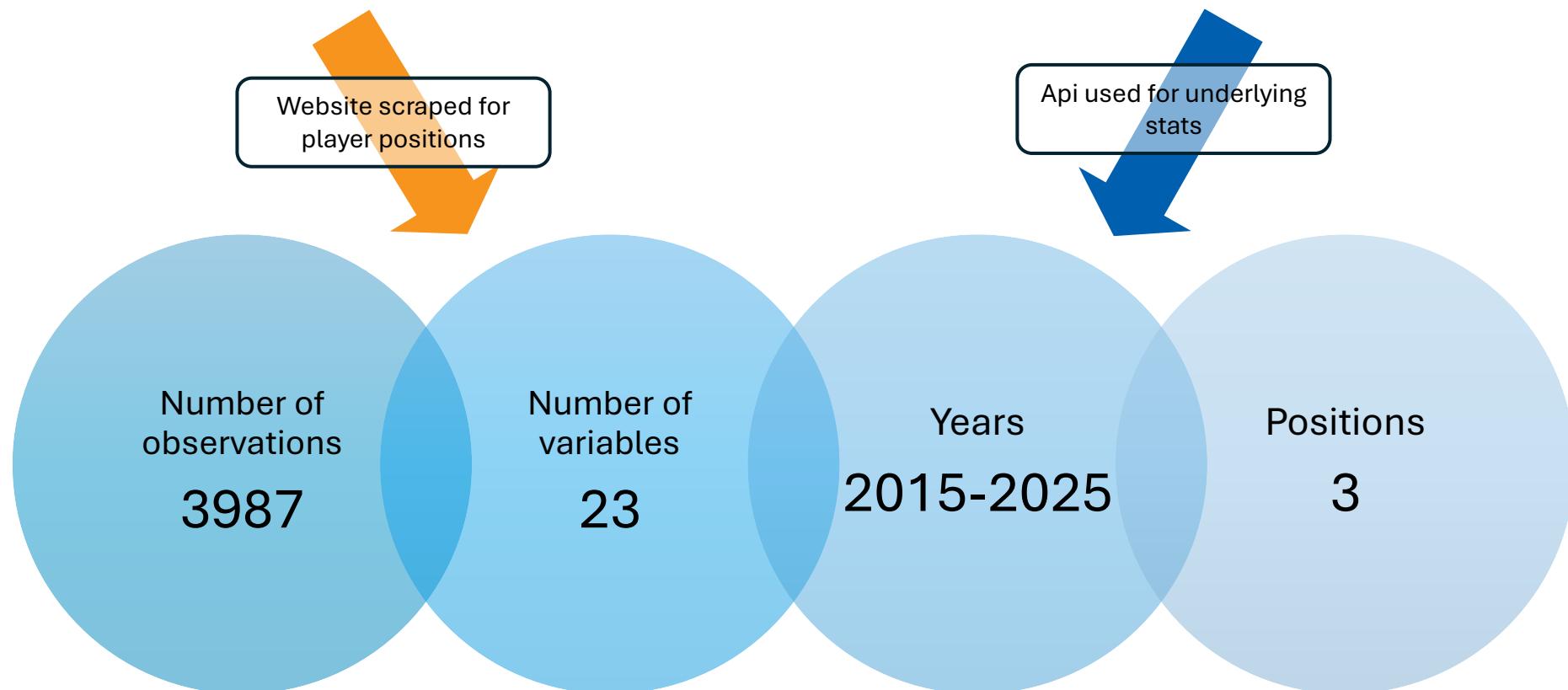
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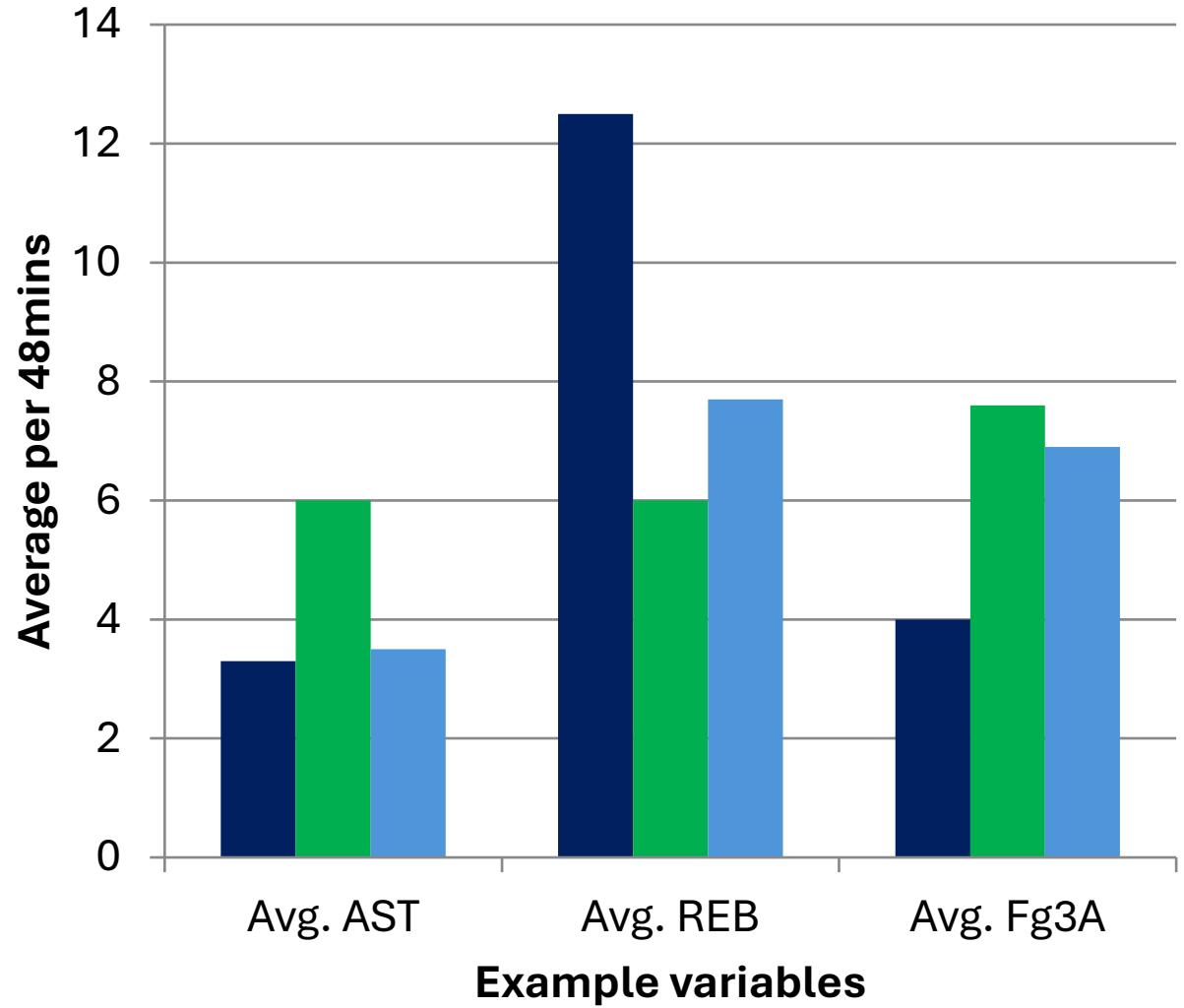
Project goals



Data Collection

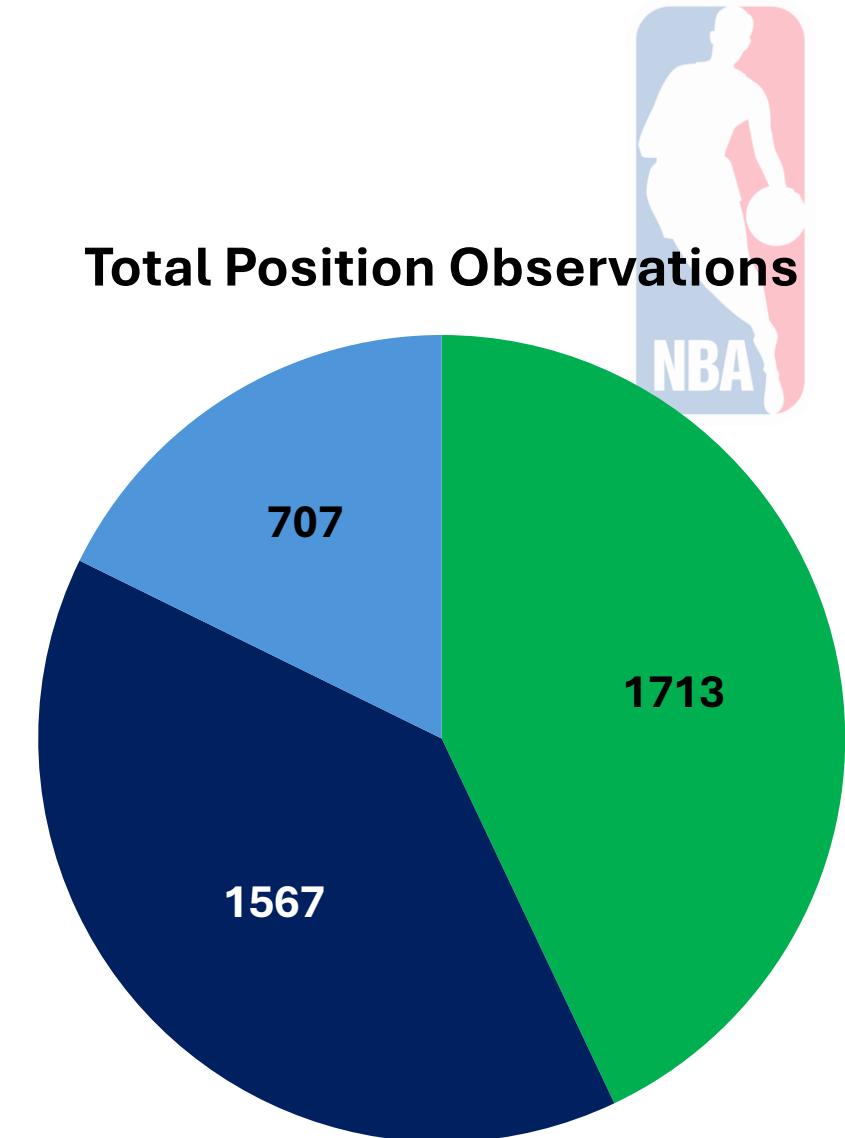


Looking at the data

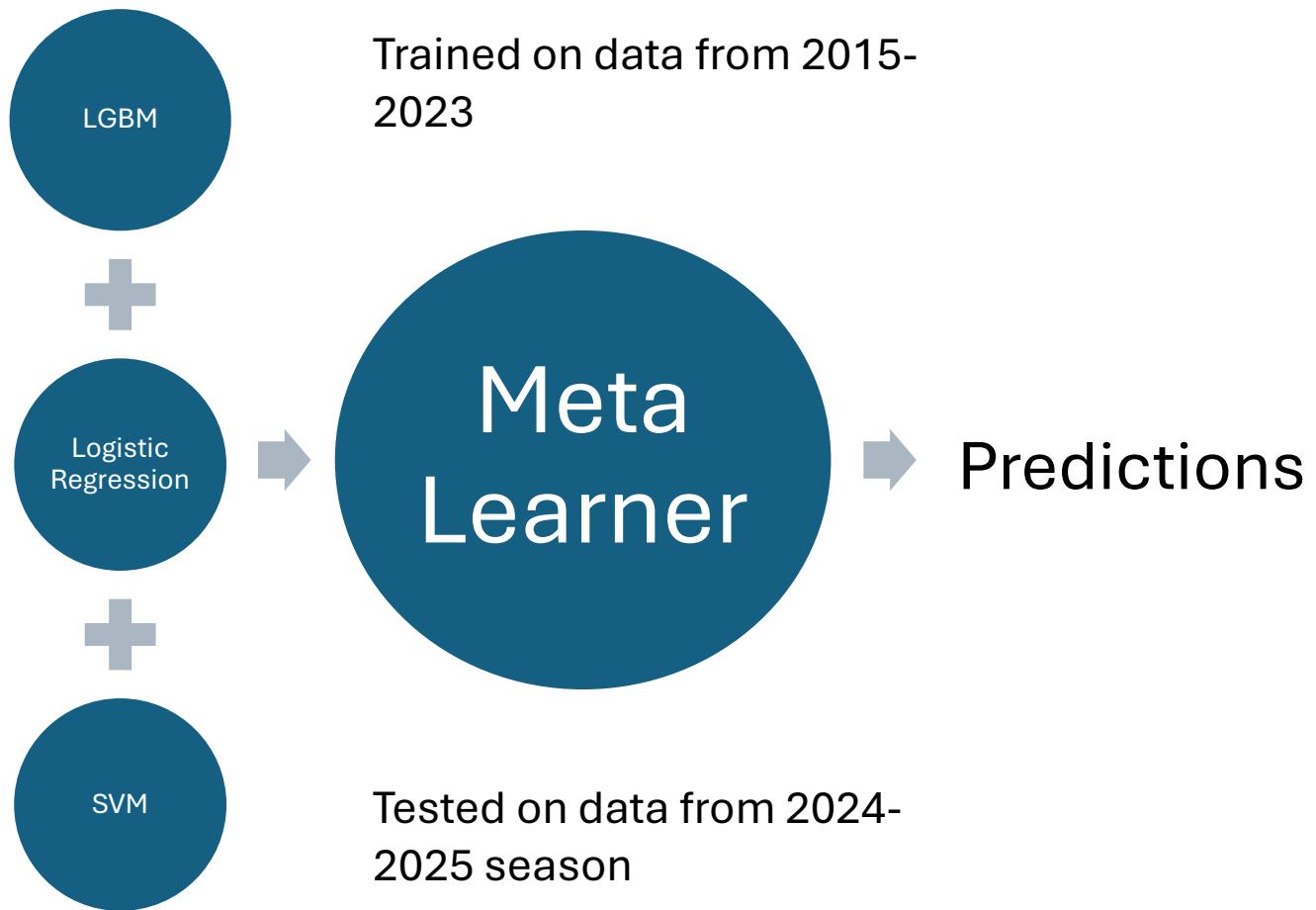


■ Big
■ Guard
■ Wing

Total Position Observations



Modelling



Pros

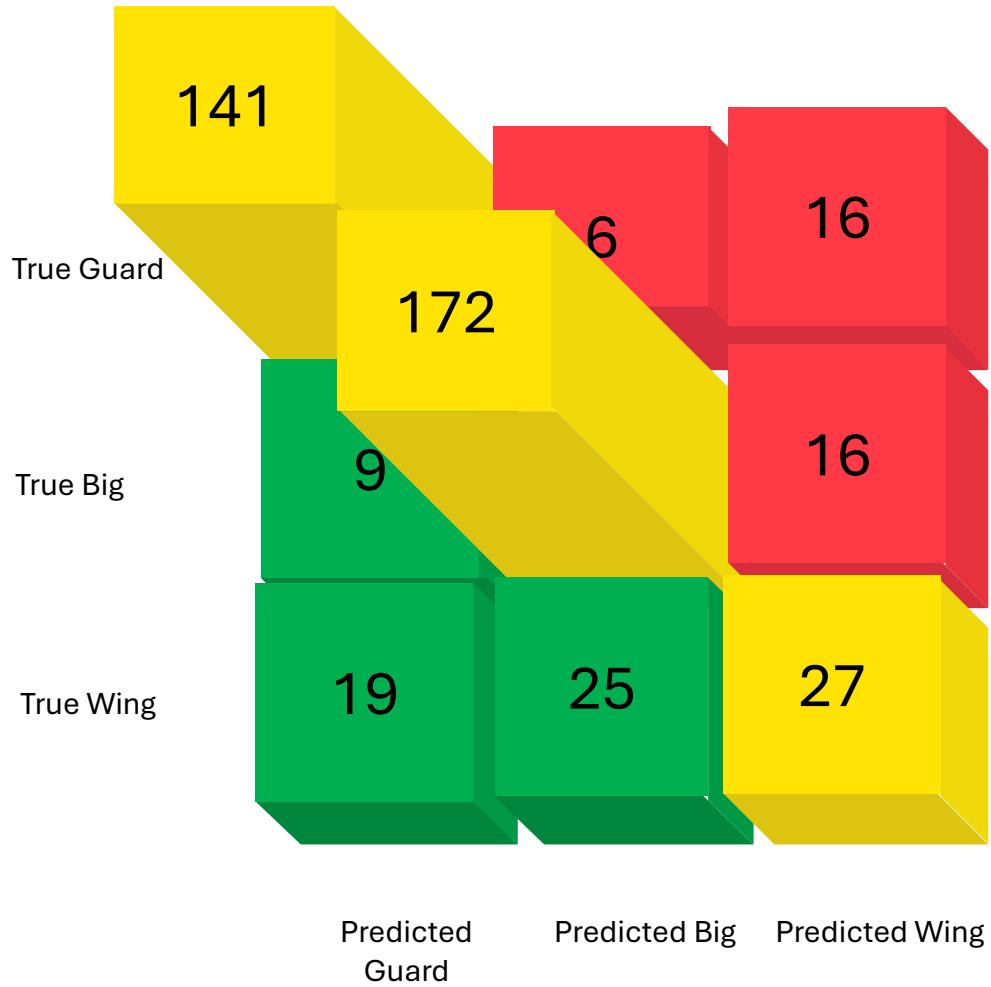
- Reduces model bias
- Meta-learner can learn optimal blending
- Flexible

Cons

- Computationally expensive
- Harder to interpret
- Pipeline complexity

Output

Accuracy:
0.7888631



Positionless Players (2024-25)

	Pred Pos	True Pos	Prob Guard	Prob Wing	Prob Big
Draymond Green	Wing	Big	0.32594	0.34024	0.33381
Jaylon Tyson	Big	Guard	0.23639	0.32941	0.43420
Jake LaRavia	Wing	Big	0.24222	0.45872	0.29907
Harrison Barnes	Wing	Big	0.24645	0.46233	0.29123
Jayson Tatum	Wing	Big	0.21376	0.46253	0.32372
Wendell Moore Jr.	Wing	Guard	0.24672	0.48549	0.26779
Jonathan Kuminga	Wing	Big	0.24613	0.49957	0.25430
Max Strus	Guard	Wing	0.46386	0.35238	0.18377
Kyle Anderson	Big	Wing	0.19102	0.33058	0.47841
Ousmane Dieng	Wing	Big	0.28555	0.51737	0.19708

5 out of 10 (50%)



NBA Champions
(~12% of NBA players
are champions)



Jaylon Tyson



2024-25 Averages

Rebounds	Assists	Points
2.0	0.9	3.6

<u>Current Contract</u>	<u>League Average</u>
\$3,492,480	\$11,910,649

2025-26 Averages

Rebounds	Assists	Points
5.0	1.8	12.5
3P FG%	Offensive rating	
47.6% (5th)	131.4 (13th)	

Jaylon Tyson single-handedly offers the Cavaliers a skill they haven't had in years

Cleveland's young wing prospect Jaylon Tyson is enjoying a breakout season to become one of the Cavaliers' most important players as a do-it-all phenom.

By [Caleb Crowley](#) | 16 hours ago



Indiana Pacers v Cleveland Cavaliers | Jason Miller/GettyImages

Wrap up



- Modelled player position at 80%
- Model able to identify positionless players
- Further able to identify unknown positionless players
- Great information for: Scouts, negotiations, fantasy basketball, sports betting

Victory is built on the shoulders of defeat



```
pip install gus_nba_tools  
pip install nba_api
```

```
[ ]:
```

```
from gus_nba_tools import PlayerGameProcessor  
  
player_name = "Victor Wembanyama"  
season = "2023-24"  
  
processor = PlayerGameProcessor(player_name, season)  
  
  
df = processor.process()
```