

# What even is an IPA?

Using Homebrewer Recipes Scraped from  
Brewer's Friend to Determine Beer Style  
Classification



Tim Dooley (LASSO)



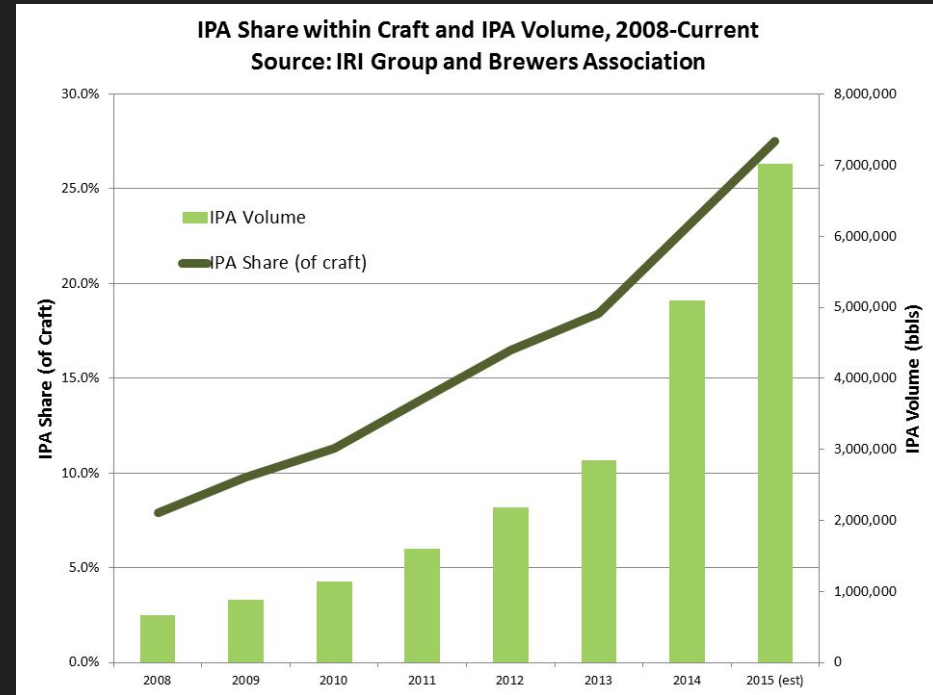
# The Craft Beer Industry

India Pale Ales are ubiquitous

Account for over ¼ beers produced

- [Brewer's Association](#)

But in the scramble to corner this market we ought to ask what is an IPA?





# Methodology

## Collection

Requests/BeautifulSoup

Homebrewer Recipes

from [BrewersFriend.com](http://BrewersFriend.com)

## Modeling

Classification Model Stack (XGBoost, RandomForest, SVC,  
Logistic Regression, K Nearest Neighbors)



A video of my scraper in action

# Methodology: Feature Engineering

Data comes from user provided recipes: *messy!*

Dummy encoded for hop and yeast contents from recipes

le Citra, Columbus, Nugget, Noble, etc. (40+ hops)

Vermont Yeast, Wyeast London, etc.

Dummy encoded major flavor profile descriptors from user notes/reviews

Calculated hop complexity and ratio of bitter to sweet



## Is this an IPA?

Can we classify your beer based only on its ingredients?

Machine learning models will evaluate the hops in your beer and guess if you have an IPA!

Select all hops in your beer!

Azacca x Challenger x

☒ Dry Hopped?

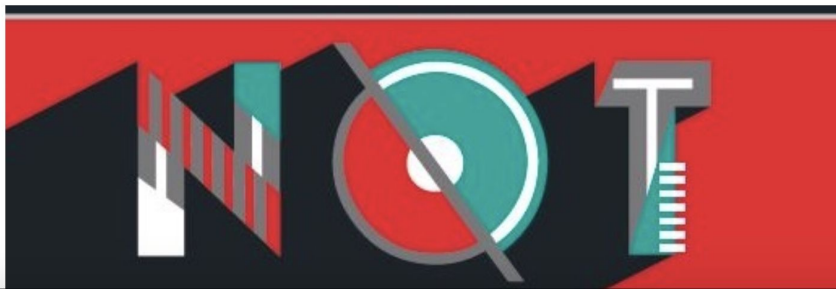
Are any of these yeasts in your beer?

us4 x

GUESS!

Based on those ingredients, it seems like you're drinking:

## Not IPA



## Is this an IPA?

Can we classify your beer based only on its ingredients?

Machine learning models will evaluate the hops in your beer and guess if you have an IPA!

Select all hops in your beer!

Citra x Columbus x

☐ Dry Hopped?

Are any of these yeasts in your beer?

vermont x

GUESS!

Based on those ingredients, it seems like you're drinking:

## IPA/Pale Ale





# ROC AUC Scores, IPA x Hops Model

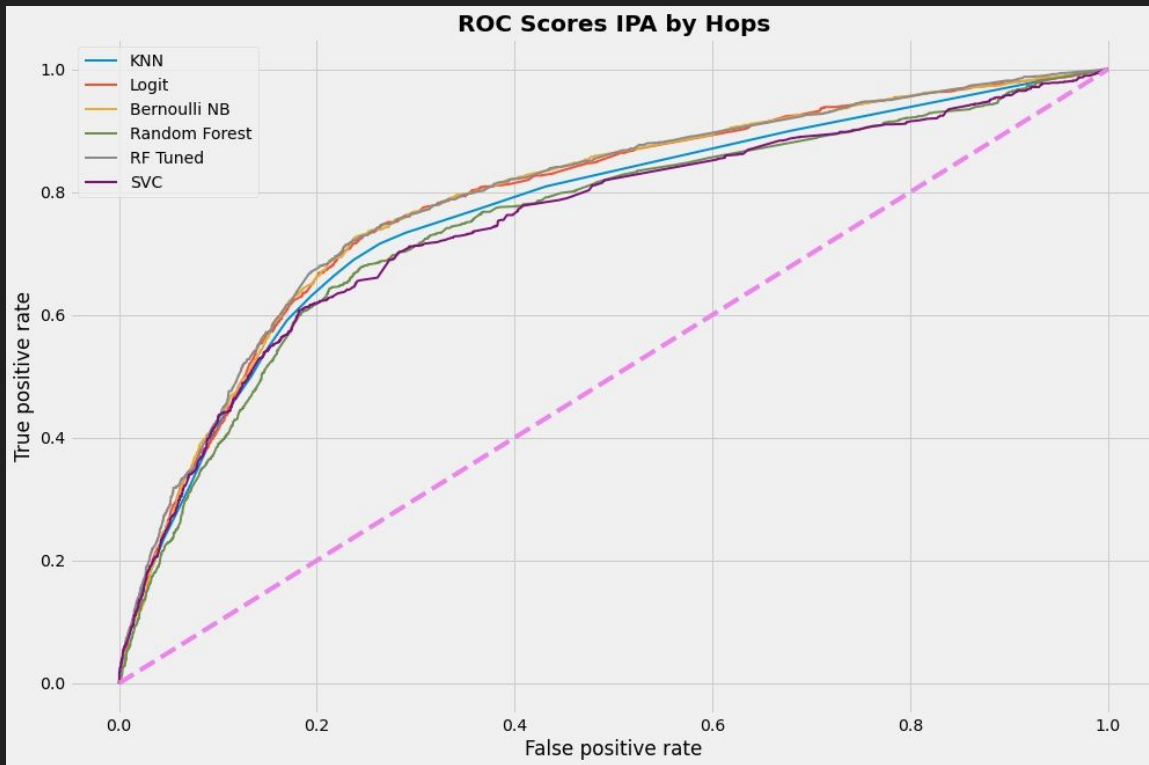
KNN : 0.77

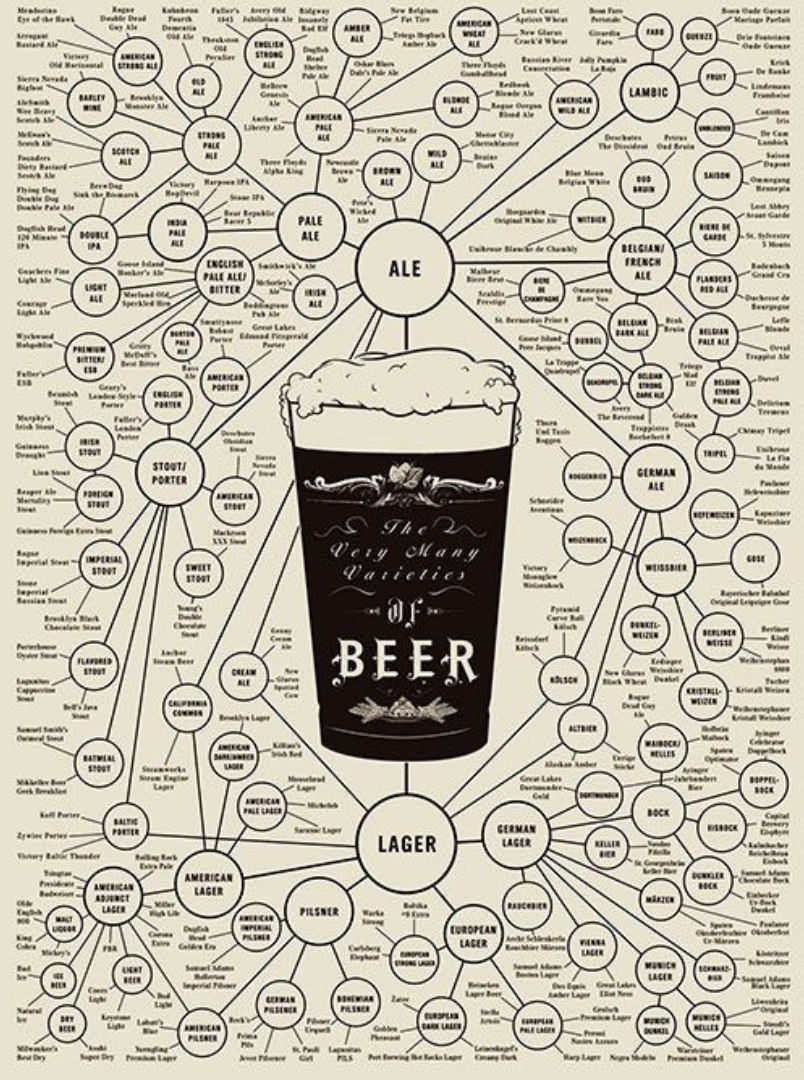
Logit : 0.78

Naive Bayes: 0.79

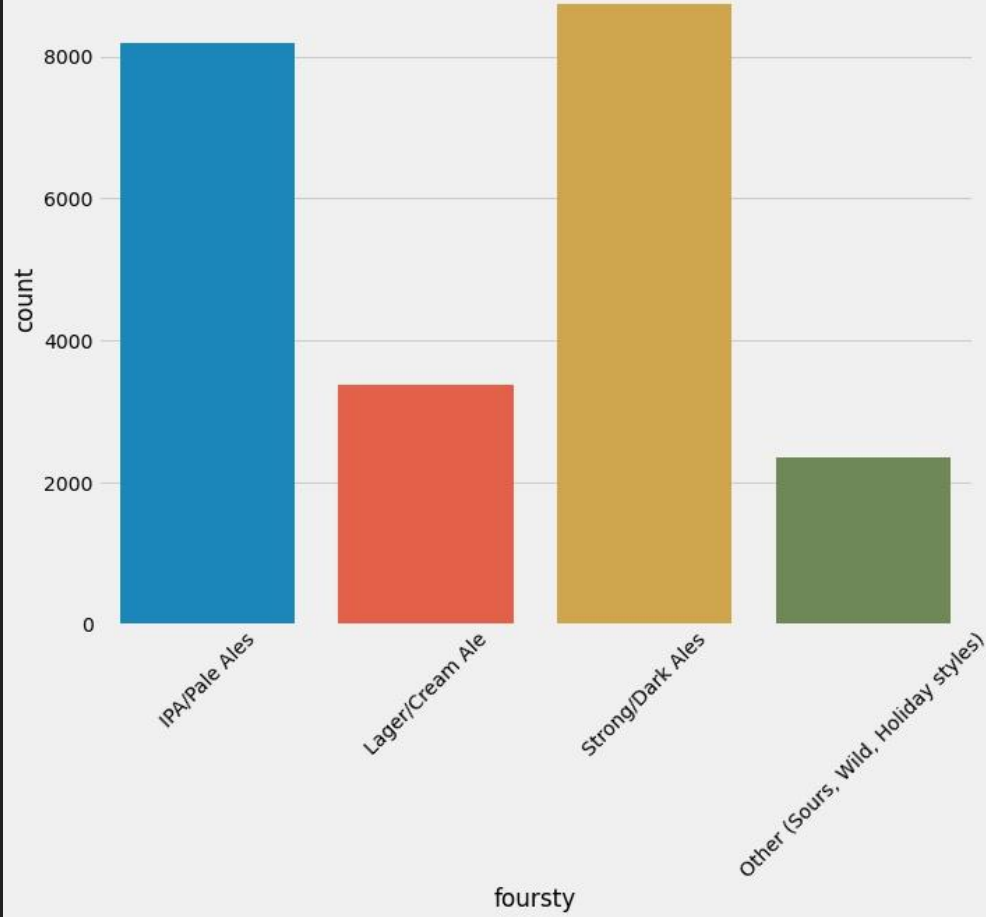
Random Forest : 0.79

SVC : 0.75





## Four SuperStyle Distribution







# Results:

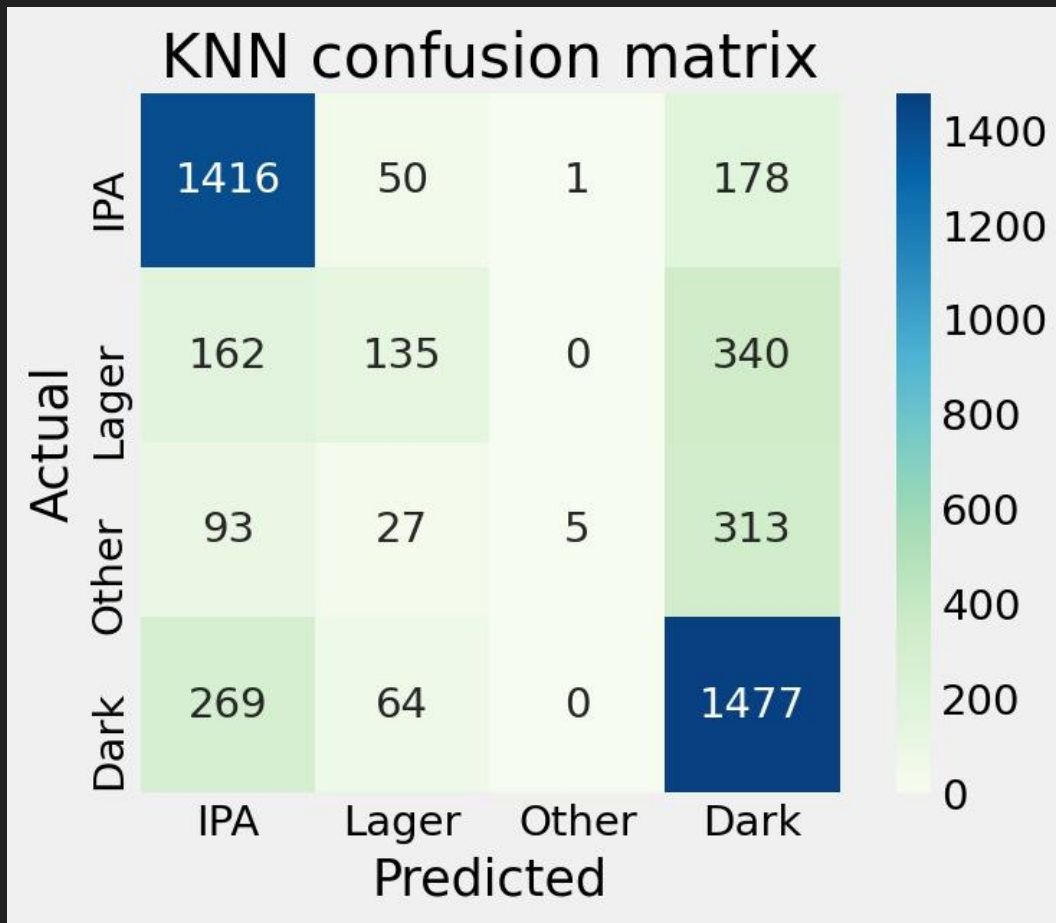
Precision: 67%

Recall: 67%

Accuracy: 67%

F1 Scores:  
XGB: 0.71  
to  
LogReg: 0.64

For a 4 class  
Target Label



# What Next, BRO?

The Beer Review Organizer, or Beer BRO is an attempt at modeling beer classification on user input descriptions and reviews

Forest F1: 0.69

KNN F1: 0.64

SVC F1: 0.64

XGB F1: 0.65



Problem: Smaller set with notes in row

# Magical Beer BRO

## Beer Review Organizer

Type a stereotypical description of your beer and see if the machine learning models can predict your beer!

Write a description or review of your beer. Be descriptive!

That piney, juicy goodness. Great bitterness with a citrusy/tropical aroma that is incredibly inviting. Get some mango, orange, a bit of malt sweetness to it helping cut that bitterness a bit. That dank/resinous hop aroma from the west coast IPAs I grew up with making an appearance.

Guess!

Oh I know that beer! It's a:

## Pale Ales and Lagers



# Magical Beer BRO

## Beer Review Organizer

Type a stereotypical description of your beer and see if the machine learning models can predict your beer!

Write a description or review of your beer. Be descriptive!

Tasting it, I was immediately hit with a rich cocoa powder bitterness, then mellowing out to a dark chocolate and some Sumatra dark coffee (coffee with earthy and herbal notes) towards the middle. Then towards the back of the throat, I picked up some of the roasted malt characteristics that I got from the aroma while also getting a bit of lingering cocoa

Guess!

Oh I know that beer! It's a:

## Strong/Dark Ales



# Common Beer Descriptors

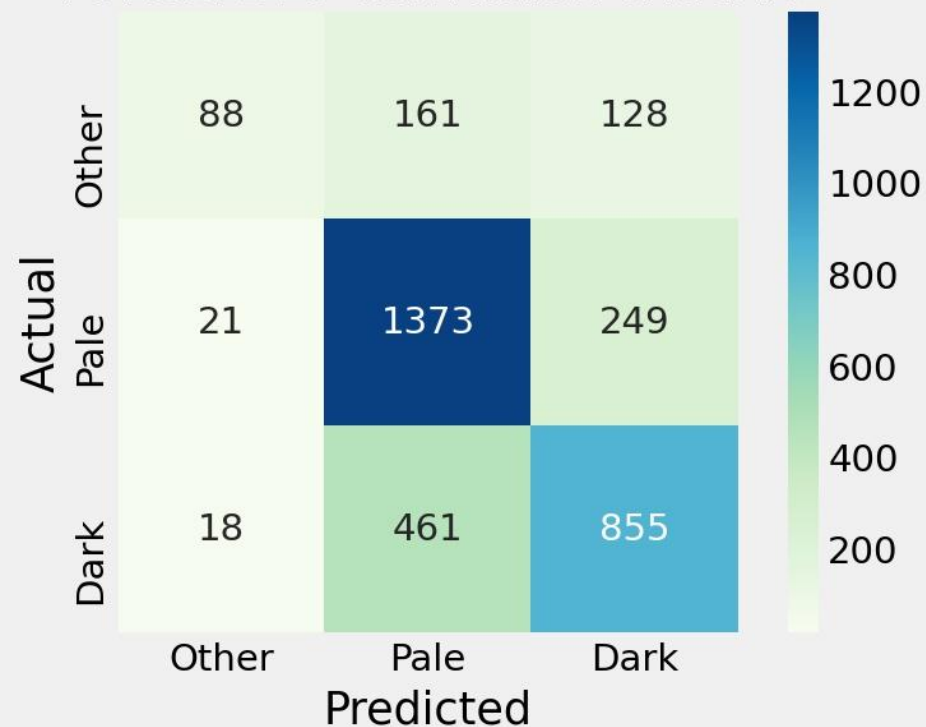
'whiskey', 'tropical', 'pineapple', 'mango', 'papaya', 'dry hopped', 'lactose', 'clone', 'juicy', 'dank', 'cannabis', 'marijuana', 'wedding', 'marriage', 'award', 'best', 'smoke', 'roast', 'thick', 'heavy', 'stone fruit', 'apricot', 'orange', 'lemon', 'citrus', 'hazy', 'phenolic', 'banana', 'clove', 'bitter', 'puree', 'lovehop', 'strong', 'dry', 'sweet', 'sour', 'pucker', 'dark', 'pine', 'sticky', 'foam', 'hoppy', 'biscuit', 'ester', 'straw', 'chocolate', 'coffee', 'malt', 'aggressive', 'balance', 'complex', 'crisp', 'smooth', 'diacetyl', 'apple', 'floral', 'fruity', 'robust', 'wood', 'vanilla', 'cherry', 'funk', 'grapefruit', 'solvent', 'astringent'

Dark Beers

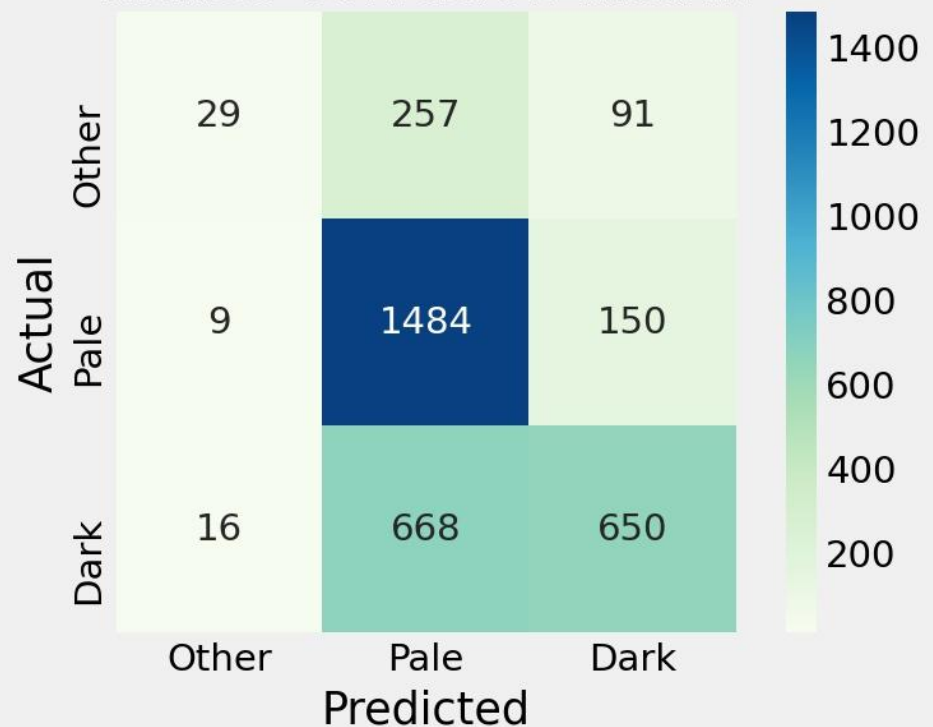
IPA and Pale Ales



### Forest Bro confusion matrix



### kNN3b confusion matrix



Thank  
You

