

Indicative Votes (Predictors)



First Round

1. Customs Union
2. Second Referendum
3. Labour's Plan
4. EFTA/EEA (Switzerland)
5. Revoke Article 50
6. No Deal
7. Preferential agreements with the EU
8. EEA/EFTA but without a customs union

Second Round

1. Customs Union
2. Second Referendum
3. EEA/EFTA (Switzerland)
4. Extend Article 50, Parliament to take over from the Government.

Data Preparation



- Scraped from the Guardian website using a Python script
 - Added the second set of votes
 - Used the proper *model predictions* for brexit votes (Hanretty estimates)
-
- Removed John Bercow (The Speaker) as he has no party allegiance and does not cast votes
 - Kept all parties, and also created a Con/Lab/Other column.
 - “Abstain” was kept as a legitimate voting decision.

Response variables



Party

1. All parties
2. Conservative/Labour/Other

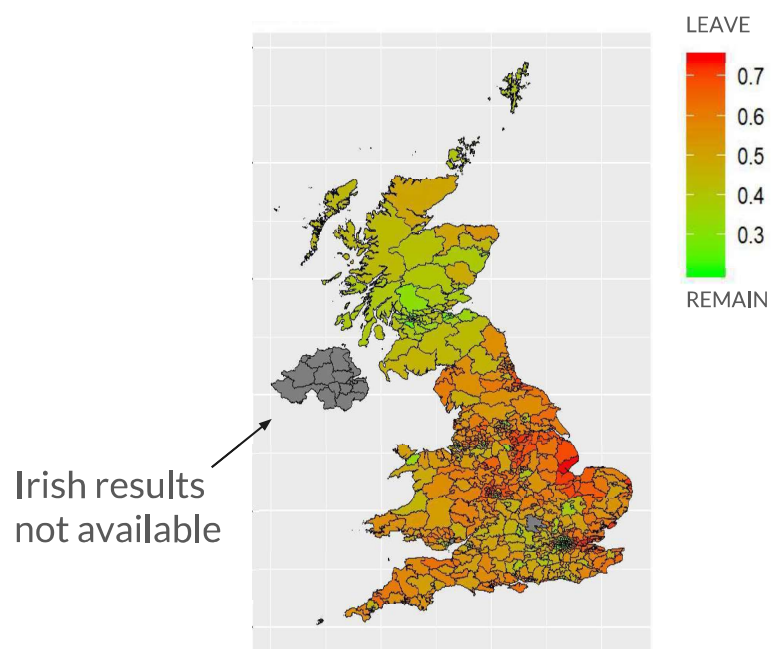
Constituency

1. Percentages (*Regression*)
2. Remain/Leave
3. Remain/Leave/Strong Leave (58.3% and above)
4. Quantiles

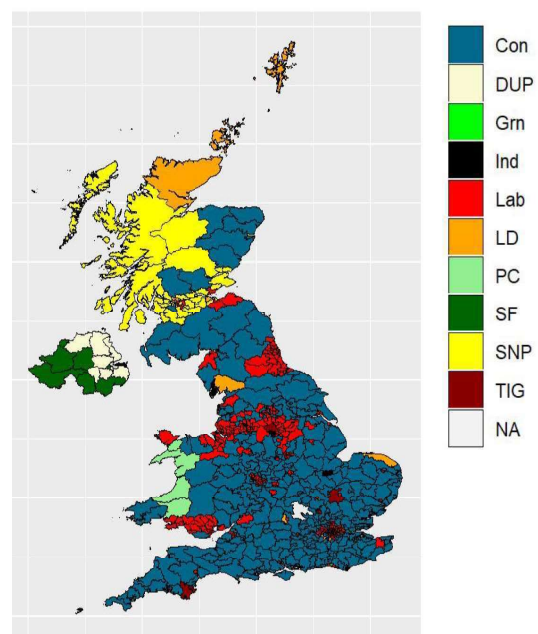
Perspective



Brexit Referendum



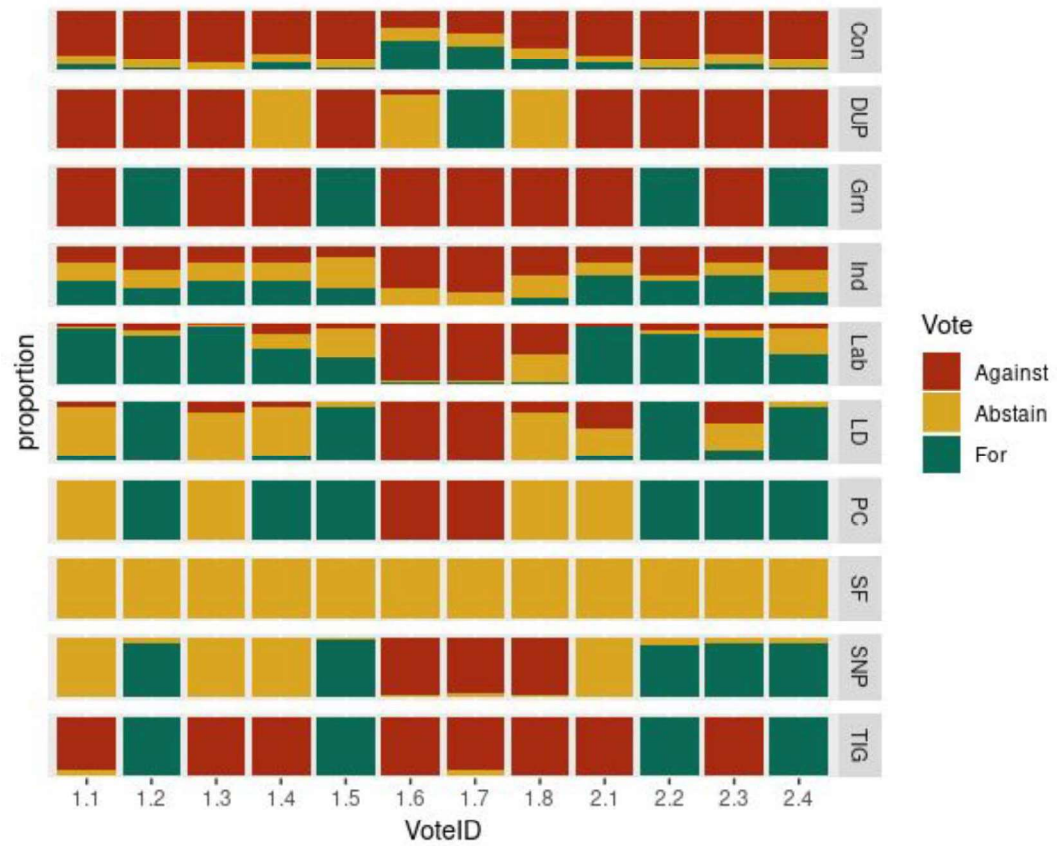
Constituencies



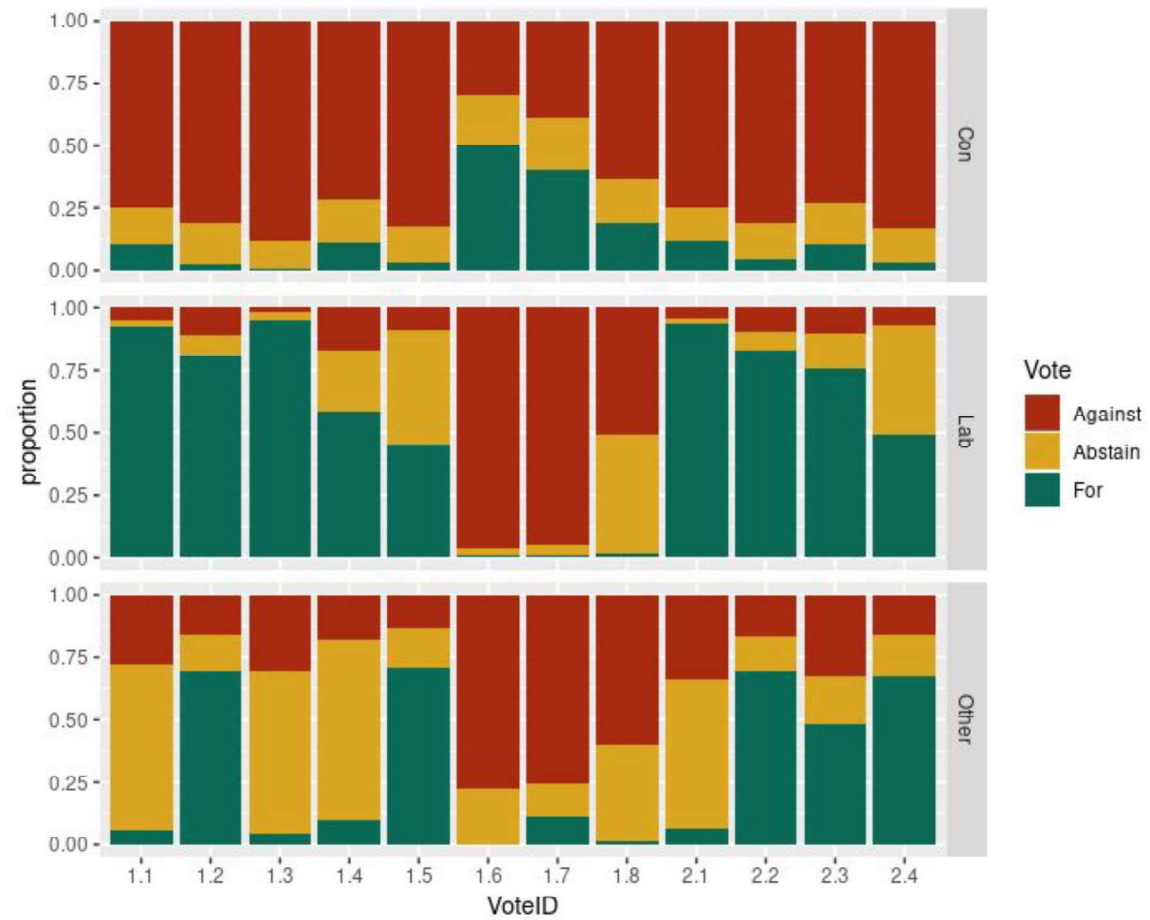
The Votes



Distribution of party votes across the different votes.



Major parties versus the rest...



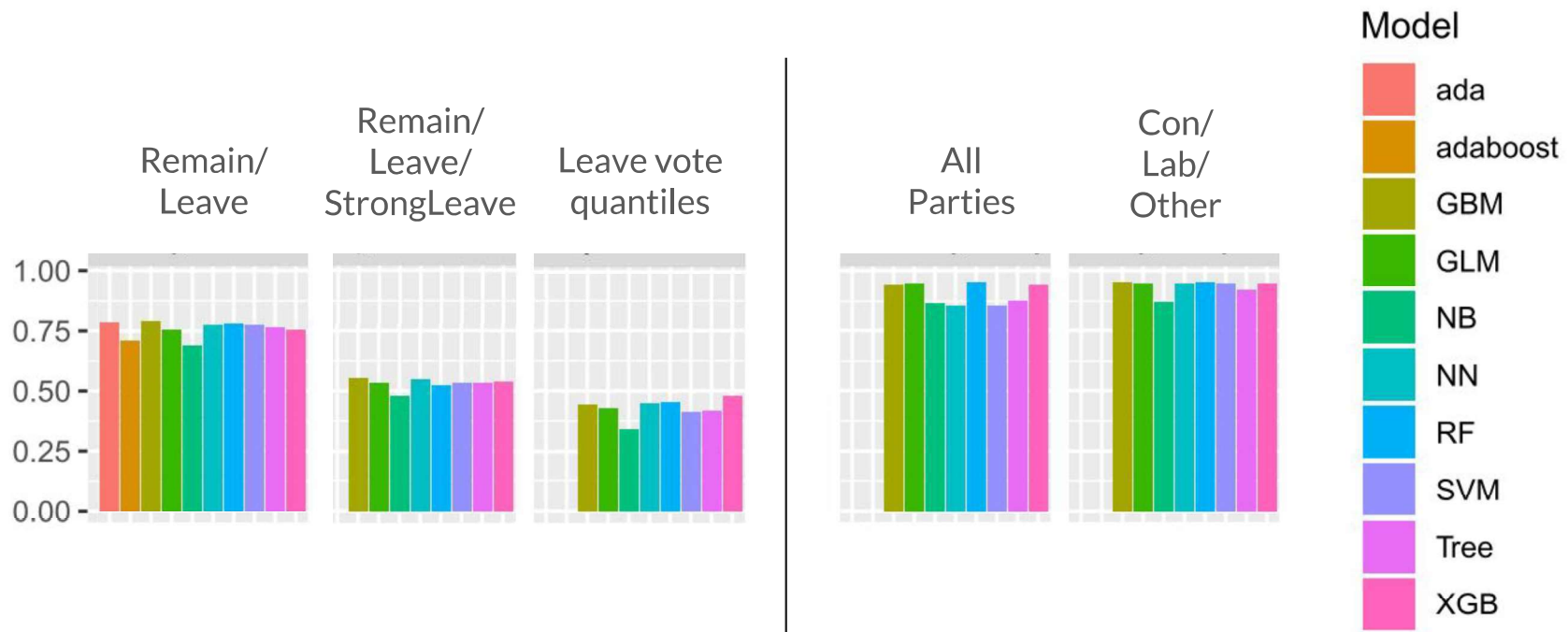
Modelling

Model	R Package
Neural Net	nnet
Support Vector Machine (SVM)	kernlab
Generalized linear models (GLM)	MASS, nnet
Naïve Bayes	e1071
Decision Tree	rpart
Random Forest	randomForest
Boosting	gbm, adaBoost, xgboost



caret

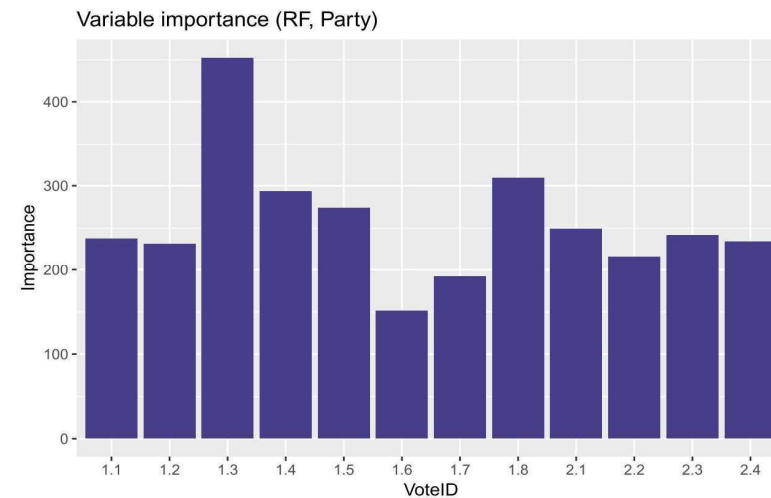
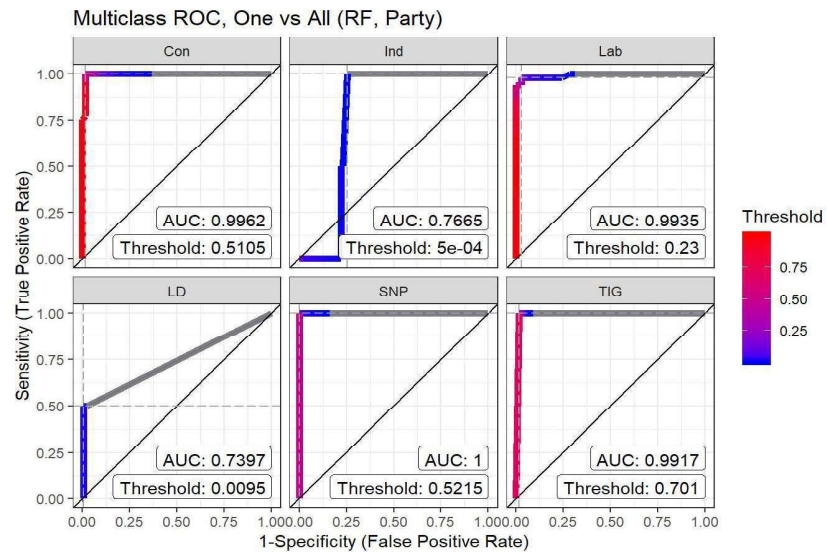
Accuracies - Classification models



Response: Party



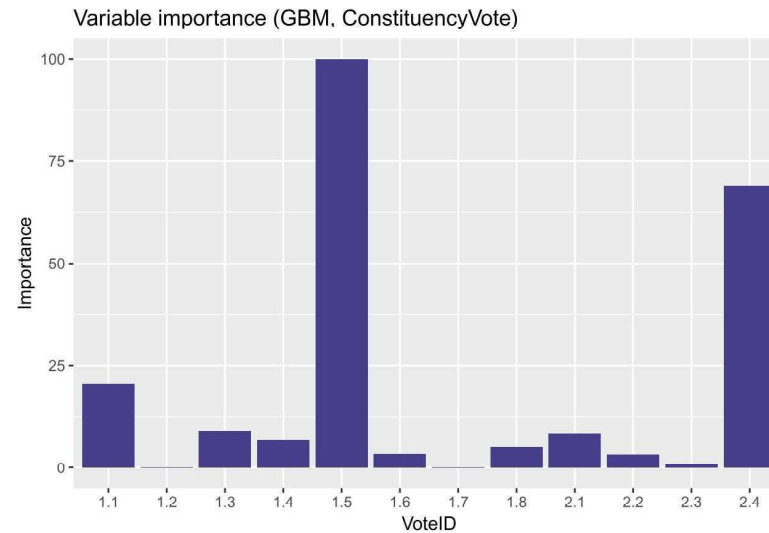
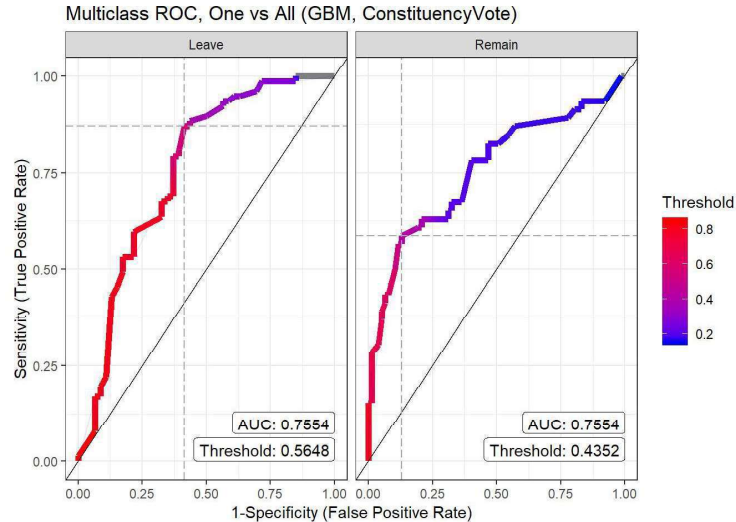
Best model: Random Forest



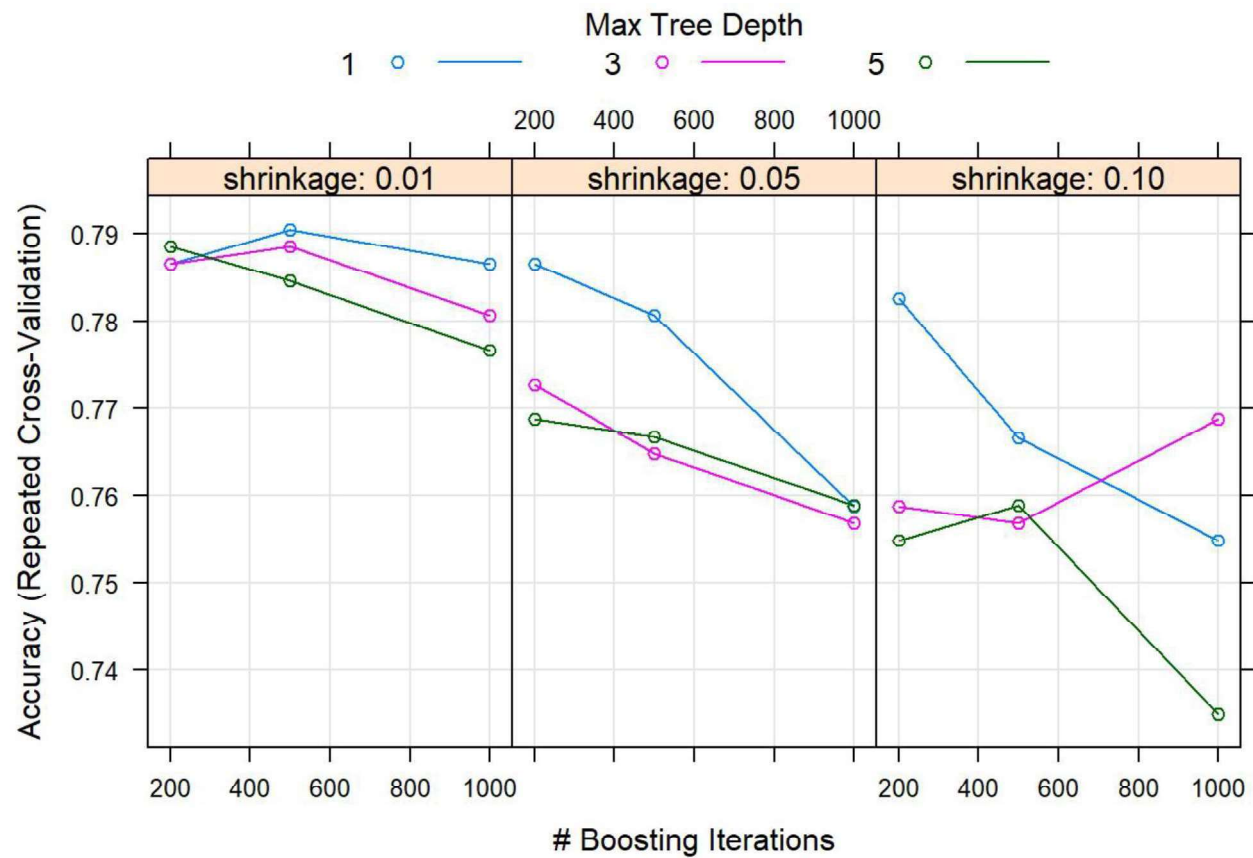
Response: Remain/Leave



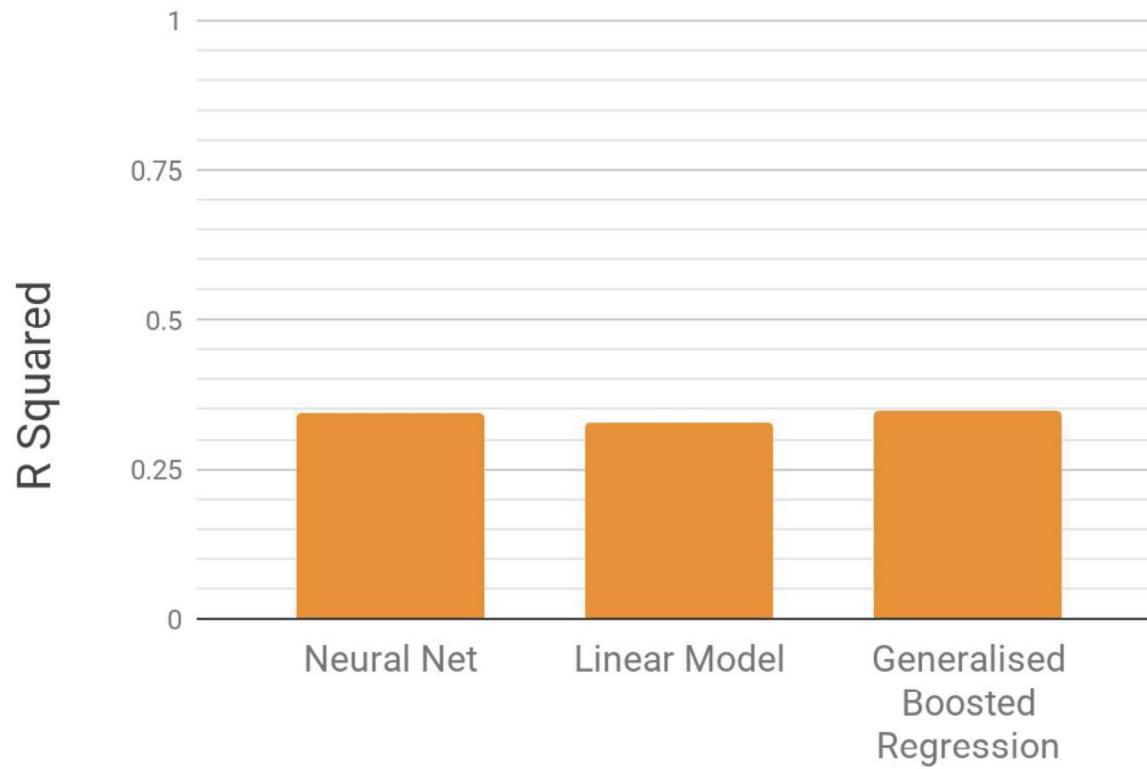
Best Model: Boosted Trees



Boosting Parameters

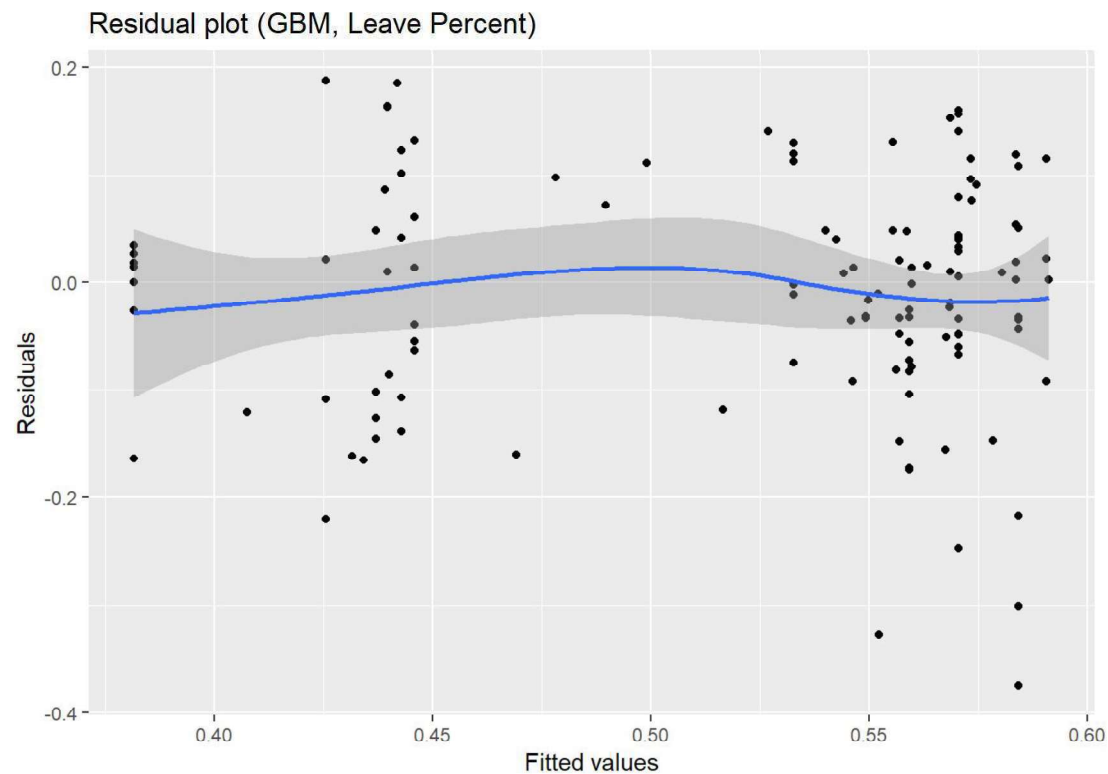


Accuracies - Regression models (Leave %)



Response: Leave %

Best model: Generalised Boosting Regression



Conclusions

Party vs Referendum

We are able to more accurately predict an MP's **party** than their **constituency's 2016 referendum result**. This suggests that party unity is stronger than loyalty to constituents.

Variable importance

Using this process, we can expose which votes are more important when predicting different outcomes

Party :

- Vote 3 (Labour's plan)
- Vote 8 (EEA/Efta without customs union)

Referendum Result:

- Vote 5 (Revoke Article 50)
- Round 2, Vote 4 (Extend Article 50)

