

# Predicting green consumer behavior of avoiding single-use plastic bags

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[GitHub Repository](#)

# Recap: Goal & Data

## Predict Green Customer Behavior

- **avoid** purchasing **new single-use plastic bags**

## Public policy study Thomas et al.

- Observational data (N = 3764) with CC-BY-SA 4.0
- Bag Usage → **Target Variable**
- 11 on Customer & Supermarket → **Feature Variables**



(Poortinga, 2016, "Bags for life")



(Poortinga, 2016, "Single-use plastic bags")

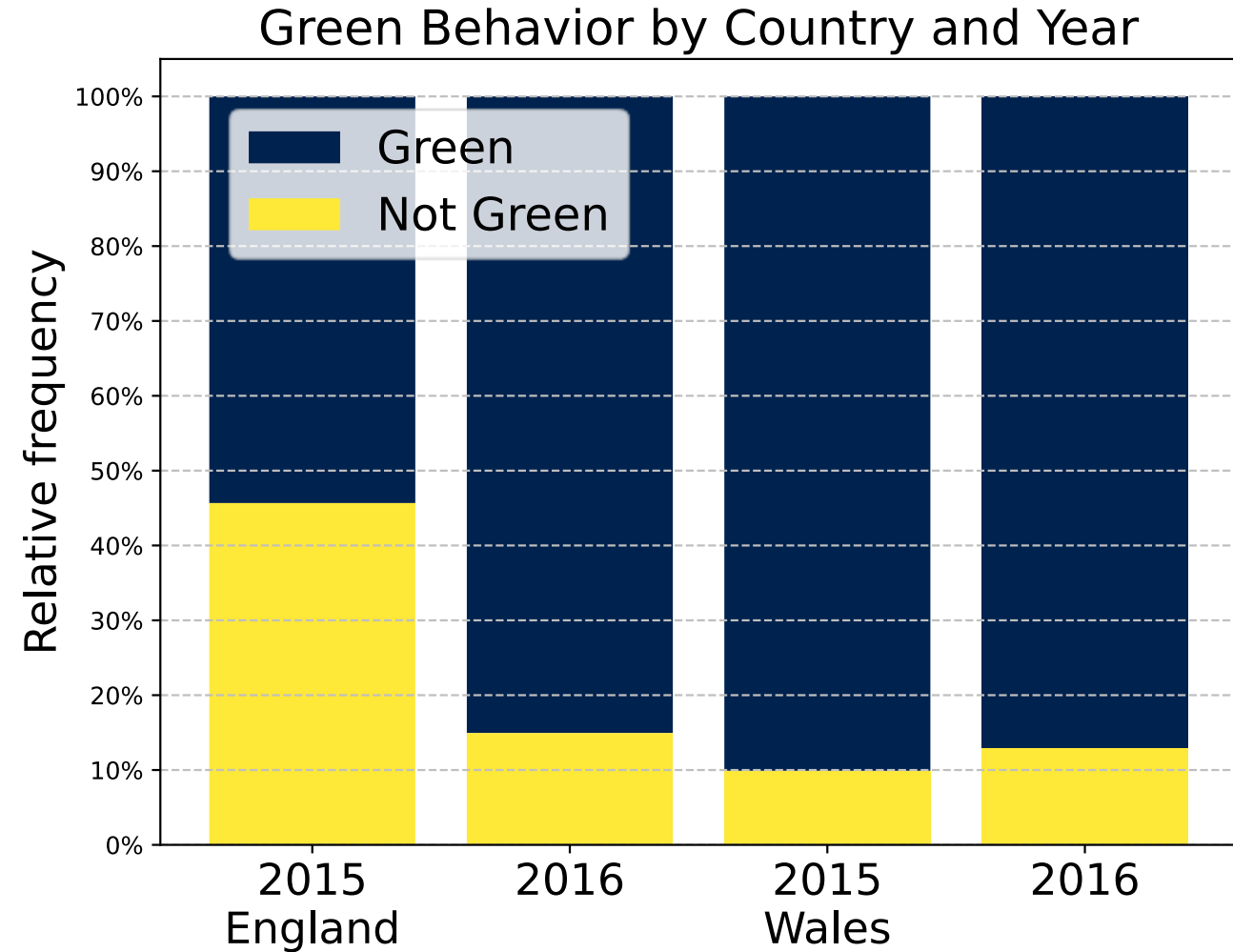
# Recap: Model

## Classification Model

- $Y = 1$  for “Green”
- No new purchase of SUPB
- **Re-using** a SUPB from home
- One new SUPB, **if reusable bags**

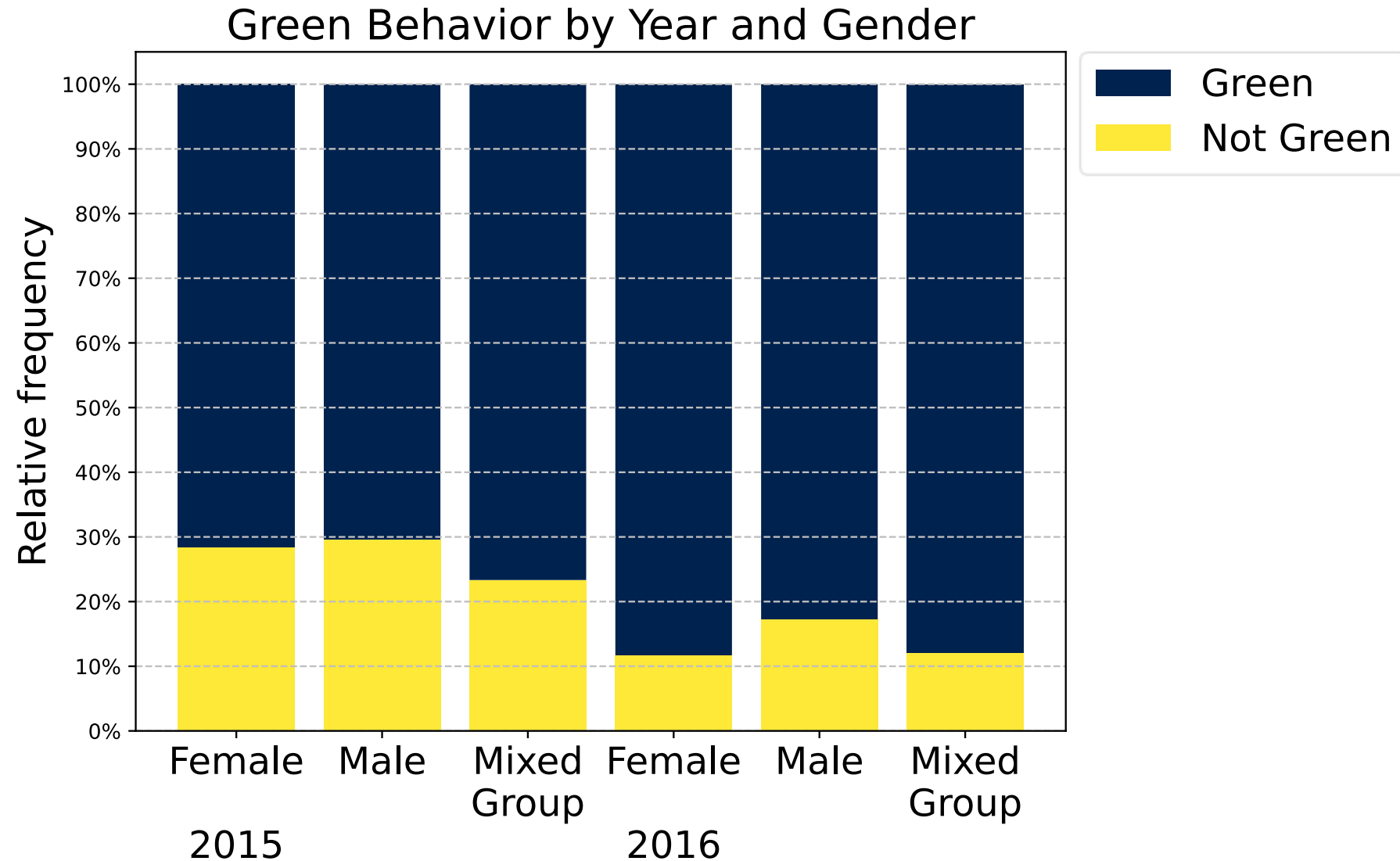
## Feature Variables

- Year, Country, Gender, etc.
- + **Interaction Terms**



# Recap: EDA

GENDER



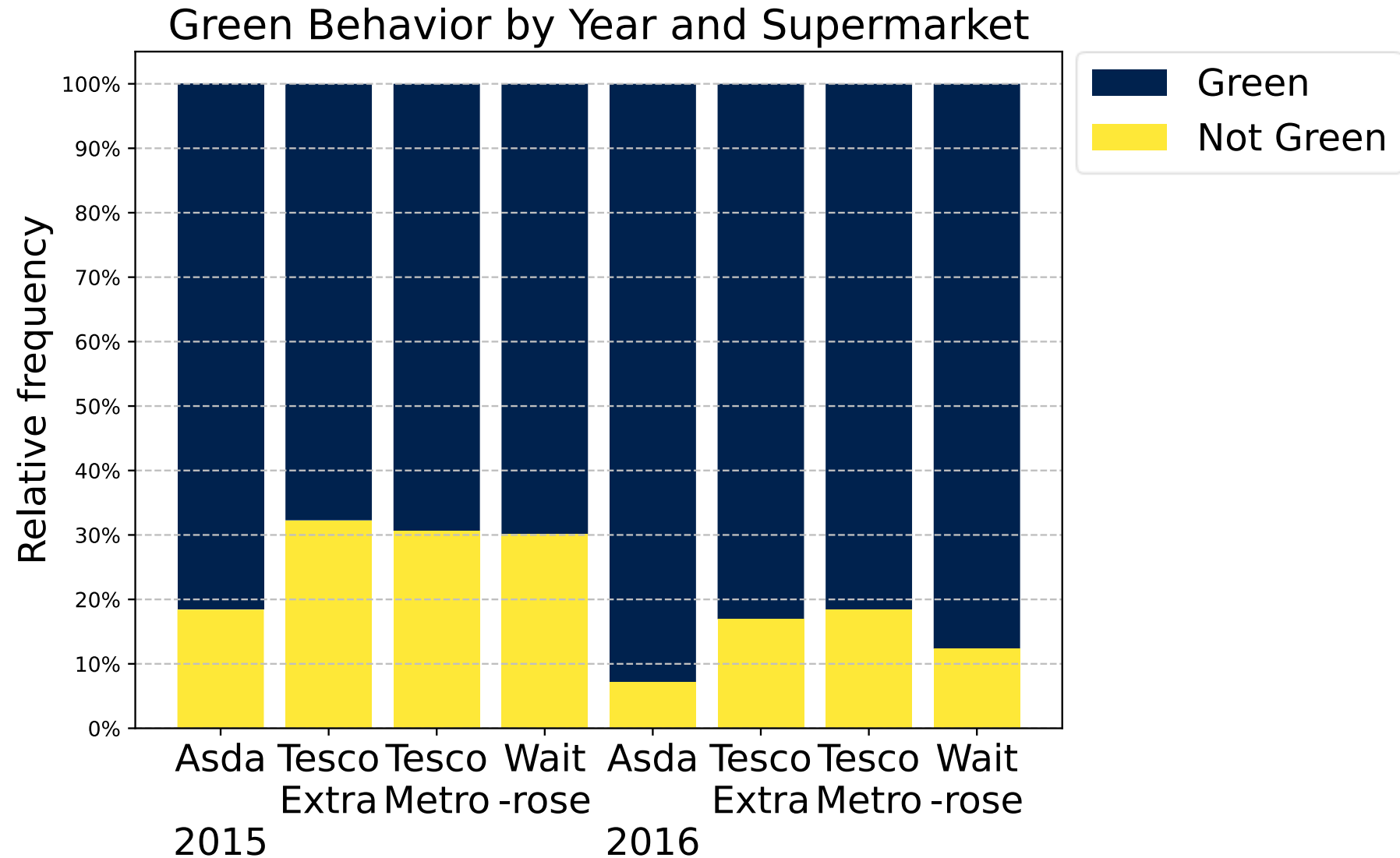
# Recap: EDA

BUDGET

MID-CLASS

CITY

PREMIUM



# Cross-Validation

## Preprocessing

- Missing: `np.nan`
- OneHotEncoder
- StandardScaler
- Interaction Terms

```
for rs in random_states:  
    Preprocessing  
    other_set, test_set = strfied_split(10%)  
    gridsearchCV(ML_algo,  
                  cv = 5)  
    gridsearchCV.fit(other_set)
```

## I.I.D. & Target **unbalanced**

- Test: **stratified** split 10%
- CV: **stratified** K-Fold (K = 5)
- 10 **random states**

# Balanced Accuracy

Accuracy score, modified

- **Sensitivity** =  $P(\text{predict pos} \mid \text{actually pos})$ , true positive rate
- **Specificity** =  $P(\text{predict neg} \mid \text{actually neg})$ , true negative rate
- $\text{Acc}_{\text{balanced}} = \frac{1}{2} (\text{Sen} + \text{Spe}) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\text{TP}}{\text{TP} + \text{FN}} + \frac{\text{TN}}{\text{TN} + \text{FP}} \right)$

Baseline

- Always predict **pos**  $\rightarrow$  100% **Sen**, 0% **Spe**  $\rightarrow$  50% Balanced Accuracy
- Always predict **neg**  $\rightarrow$  0% **Sen**, 100% **Spe**  $\rightarrow$  50% Balanced Accuracy

[https://scikit-learn.org/stable/modules/model\\_evaluation.html#balanced-accuracy-score](https://scikit-learn.org/stable/modules/model_evaluation.html#balanced-accuracy-score)

# Logistic Regression

No Penalty

L1 Penalty

- `C: np.logspace(-3, 2, 21)`

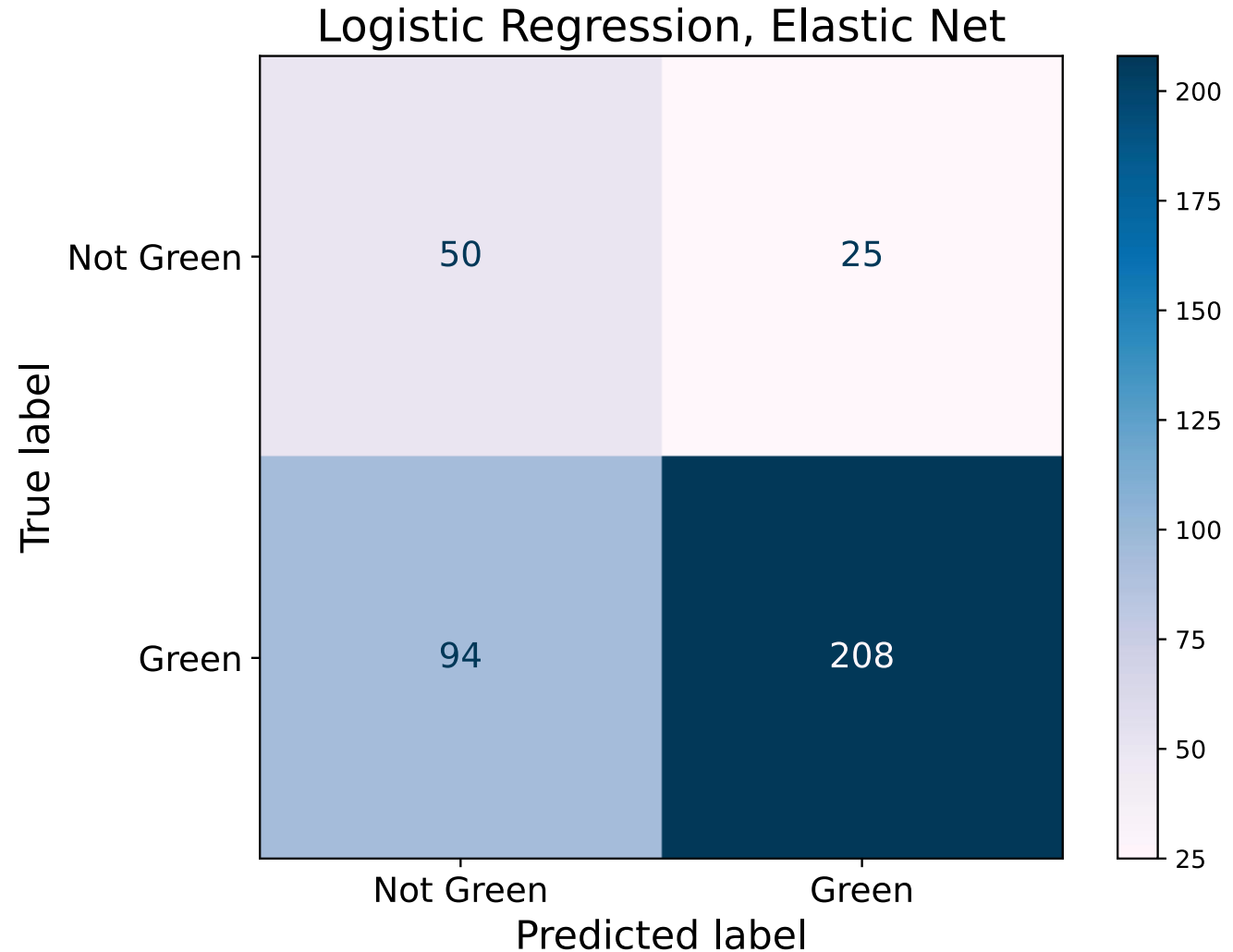
L2 Penalty

- `C: np.logspace(-3, 2, 21)`

Elastic Net

- `C: np.logspace(-3, 2, 21)`

- `l1_ratio: [0.1, 0.2, .., 0.9]`





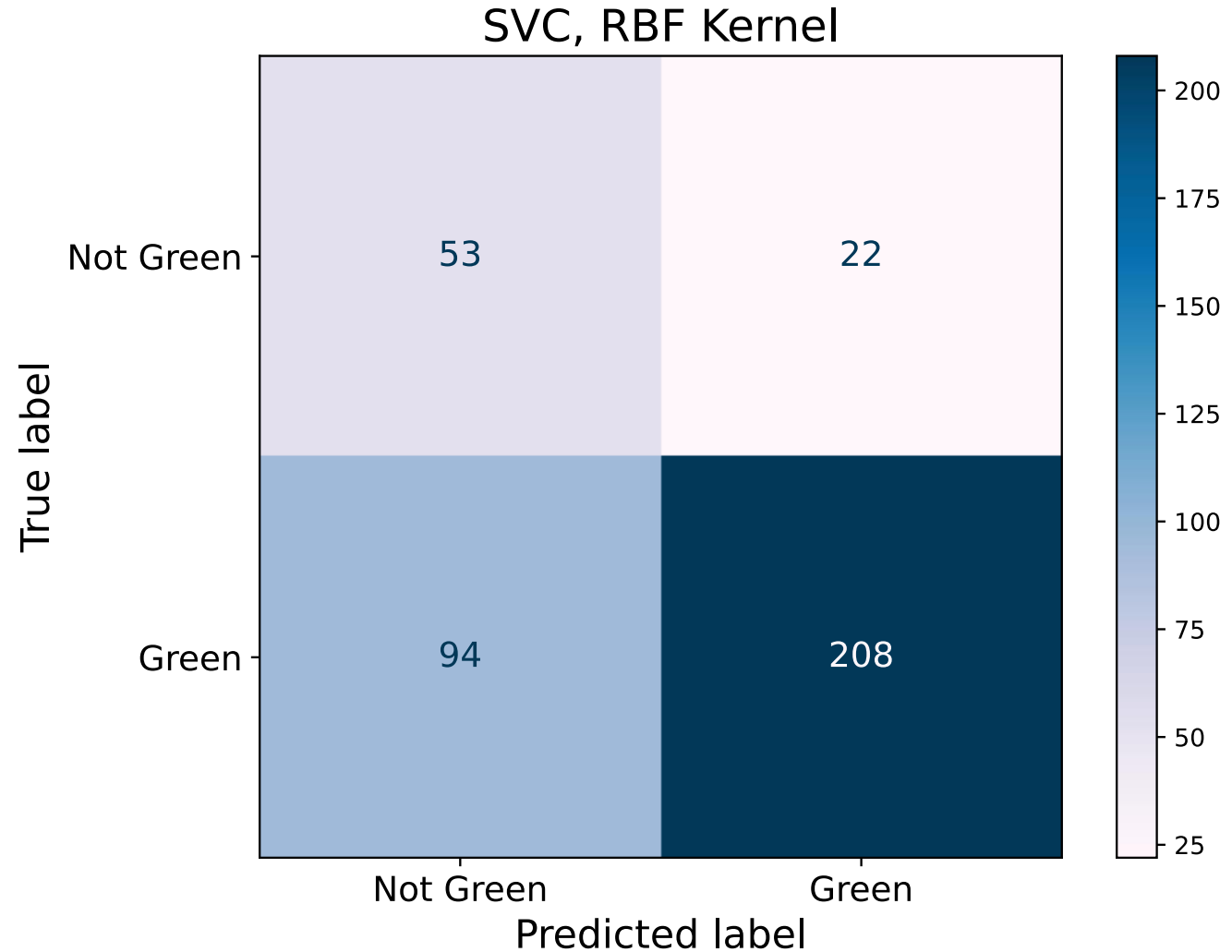
# Support Vector Machine

## Linear Kernel

- `C: np.logspace(-3, 2, 11)`

## Radial Basis Function Kernel

- `C: np.logspace(-3, 2, 6)`
- `gamma: np.logspace(-2, 2, 17)`



# Random Forest

`max_features:`

- `[0.3, 0.35, ..., 0.65, None]`

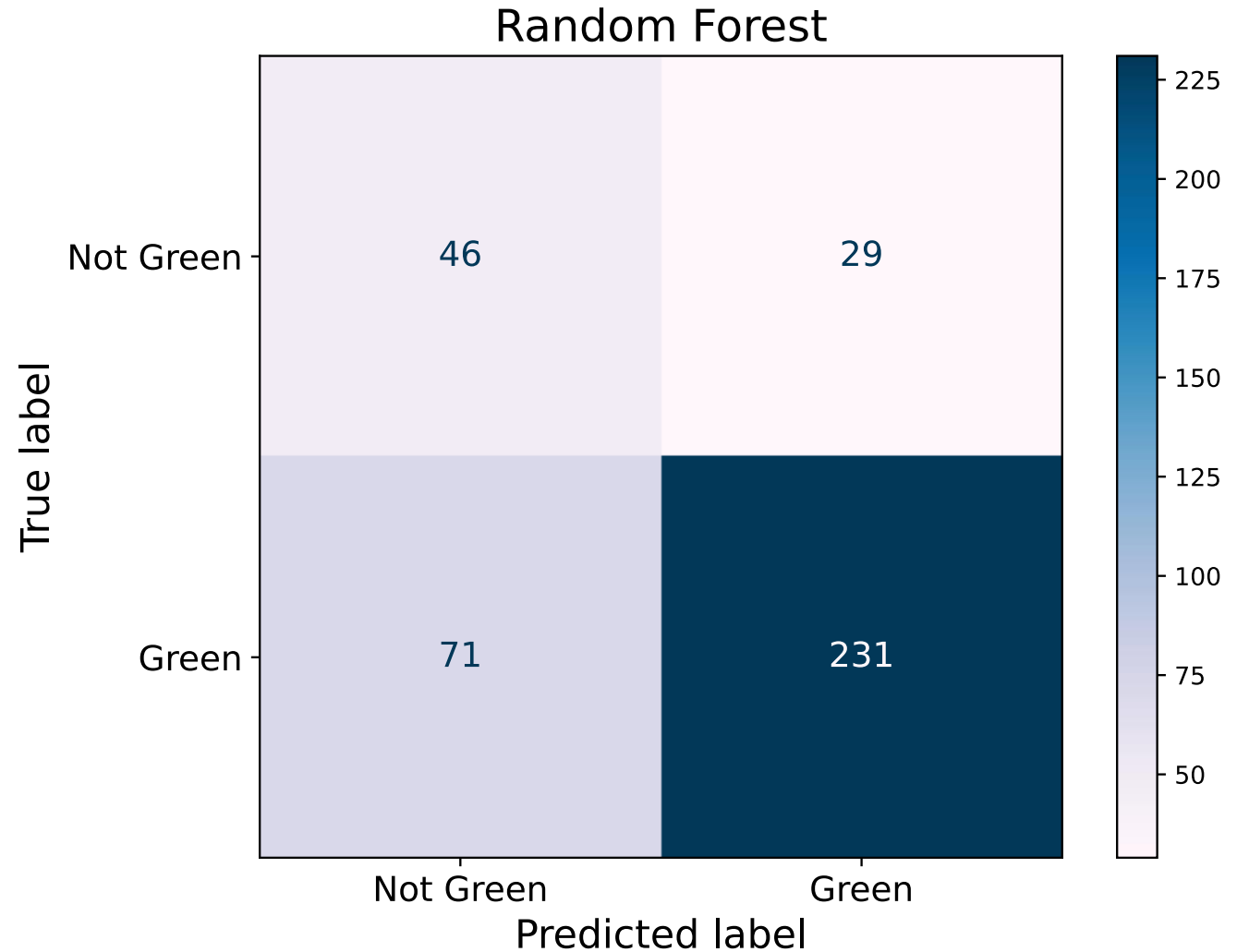
`max_depth:`

- `[3, 4, 5, 6, 8, None]`

`min_samples_split:`

- `[2, 3, ..., 7]`

`n_estimators = 100`



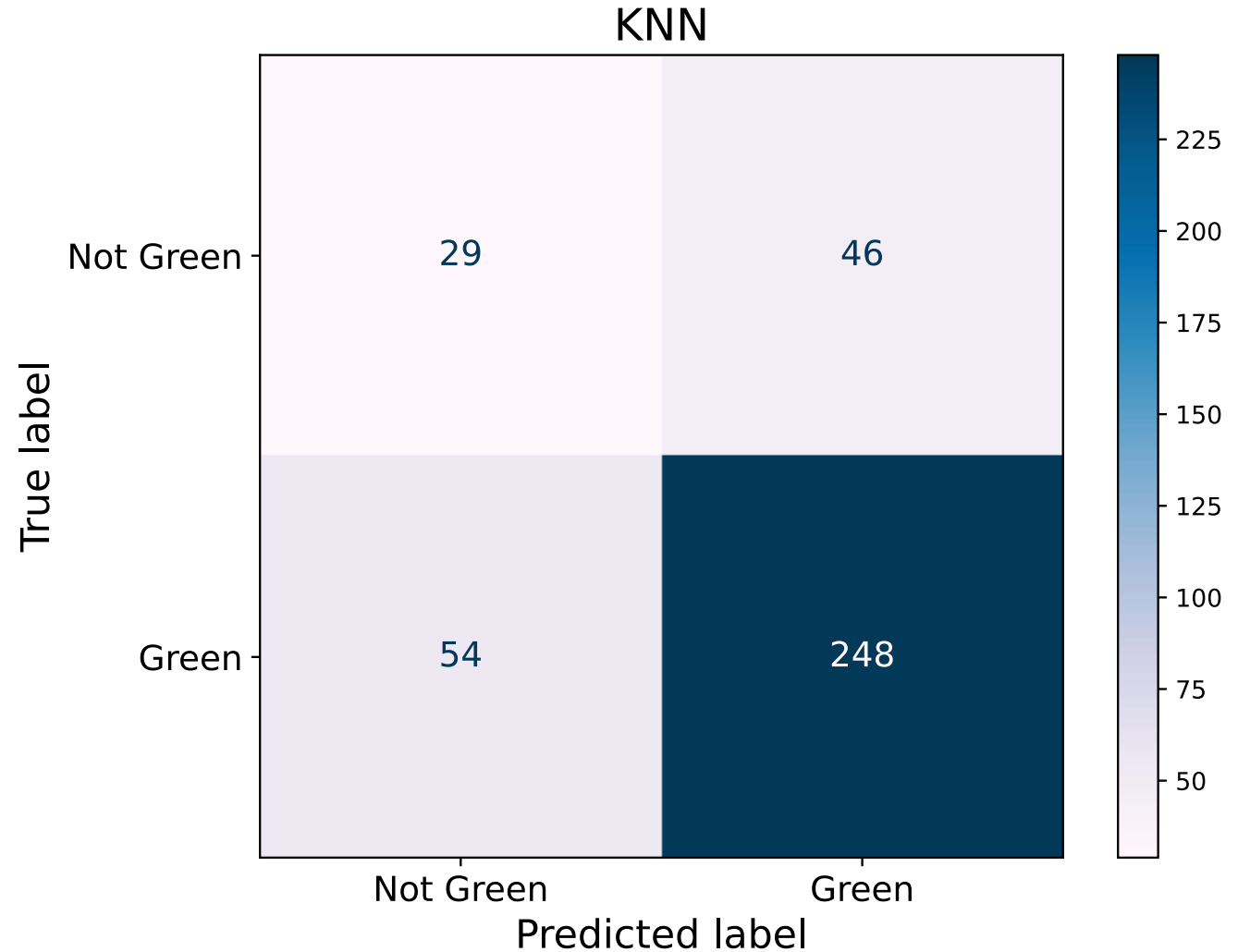
# K Nearest Neighbors

`n_neighbors:`

- `[2,3,5,8,9,10,11,12,15,30]`

`weights:`

- `['uniform', 'distance']`
- *`'class_weight' not balanced`*



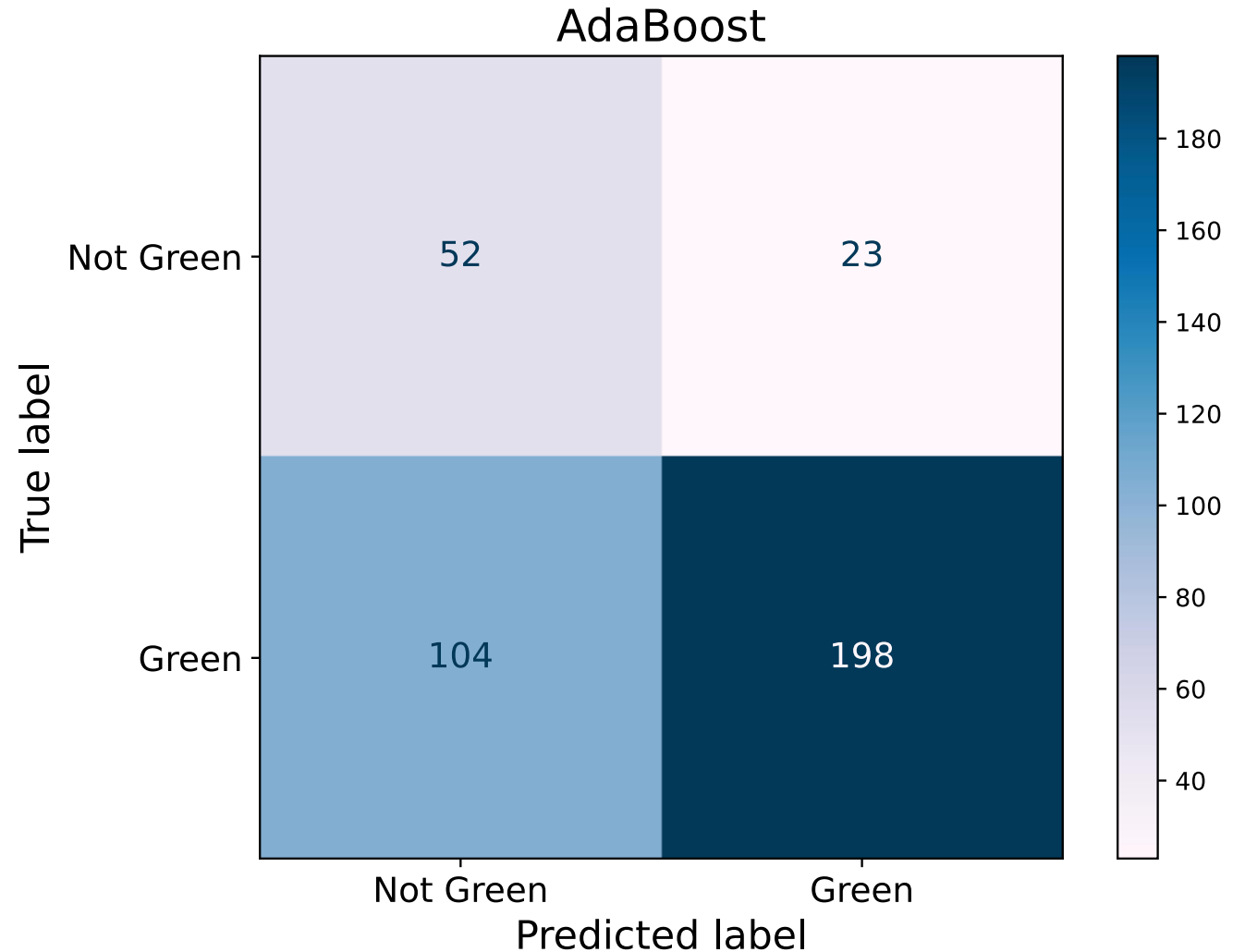
# Boost Methods

## AdaBoost

- `learning_rate`: [0.3, 0.4, ..., 1.1]
- `n_estimators`: [8, 12, ..., 40]
- `base__max_depth`: [1, 2, 3, 4]

## Gradient Boost

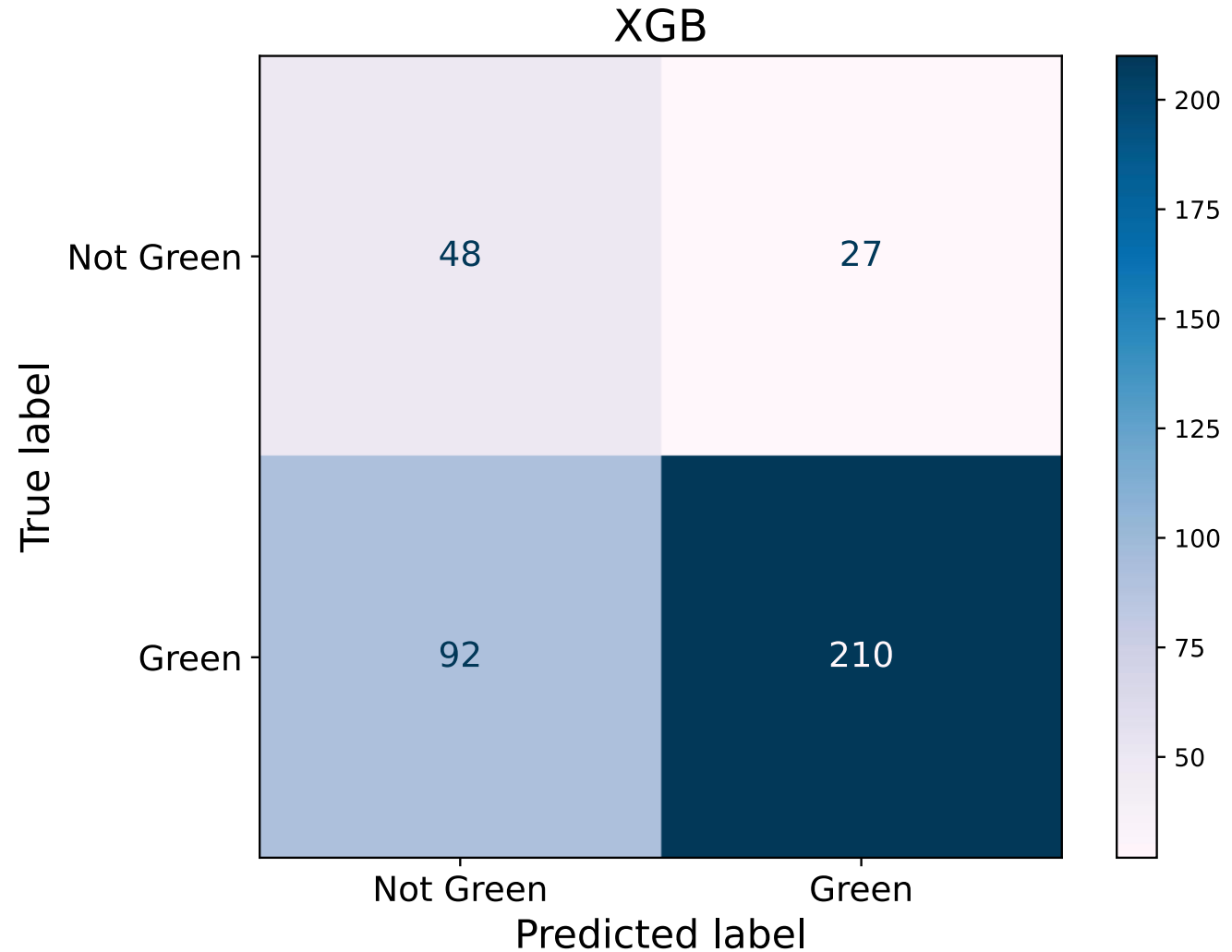
- `learning_rate`: [0.05, 0.1, ..., 0.3]
- `max_features`: [0.1, 0.2, ..., 1.0]
- `max_depth`: [2, 3, ..., 6]
- `n_estimators` = 50



# Boost Methods

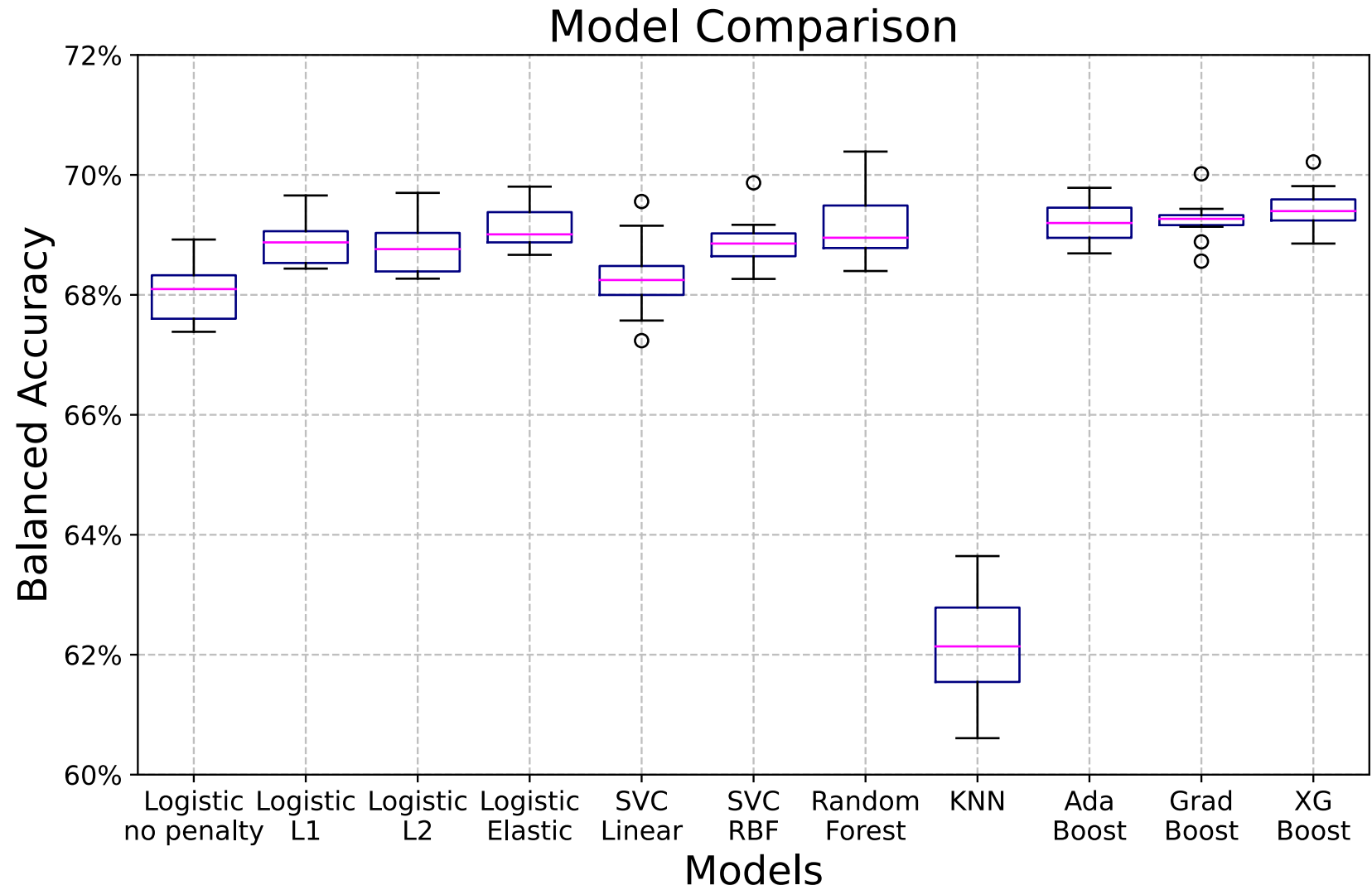
## XGBoost

- `learning_rate`:
  - `[0.25, 0.3, ..., 0.55]`
- `max_depth`:
  - `[2, 3, ..., 6]`
- `gamma`:
  - `[0.5, 0.6, ..., 1.2]`
- `n_estimators`:
  - `[10, 12, 16, 20, 24, 30, 35, 40]`



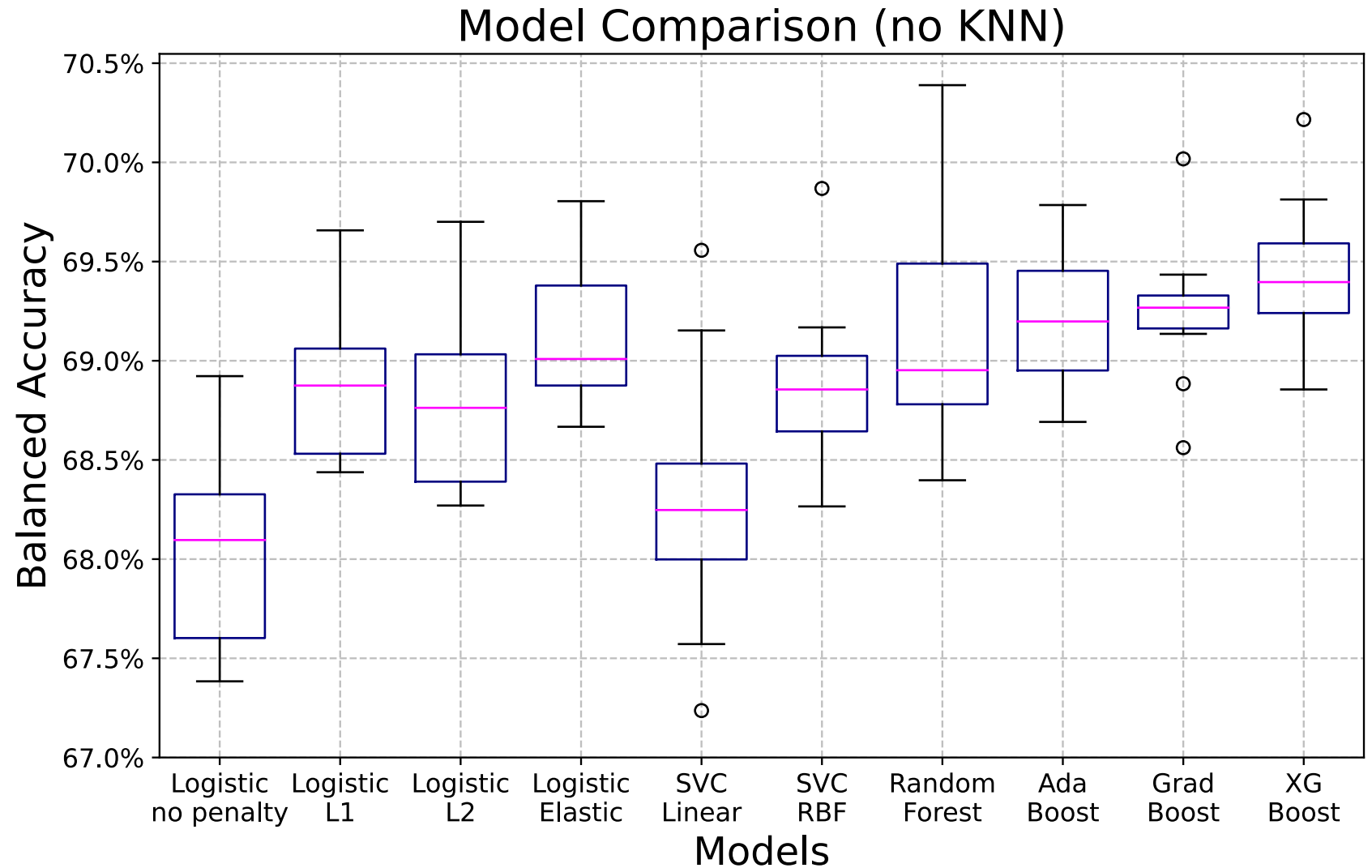
# Results

KNN Class Weight



# Results

XGB best  
All within  
68% - 69.5%

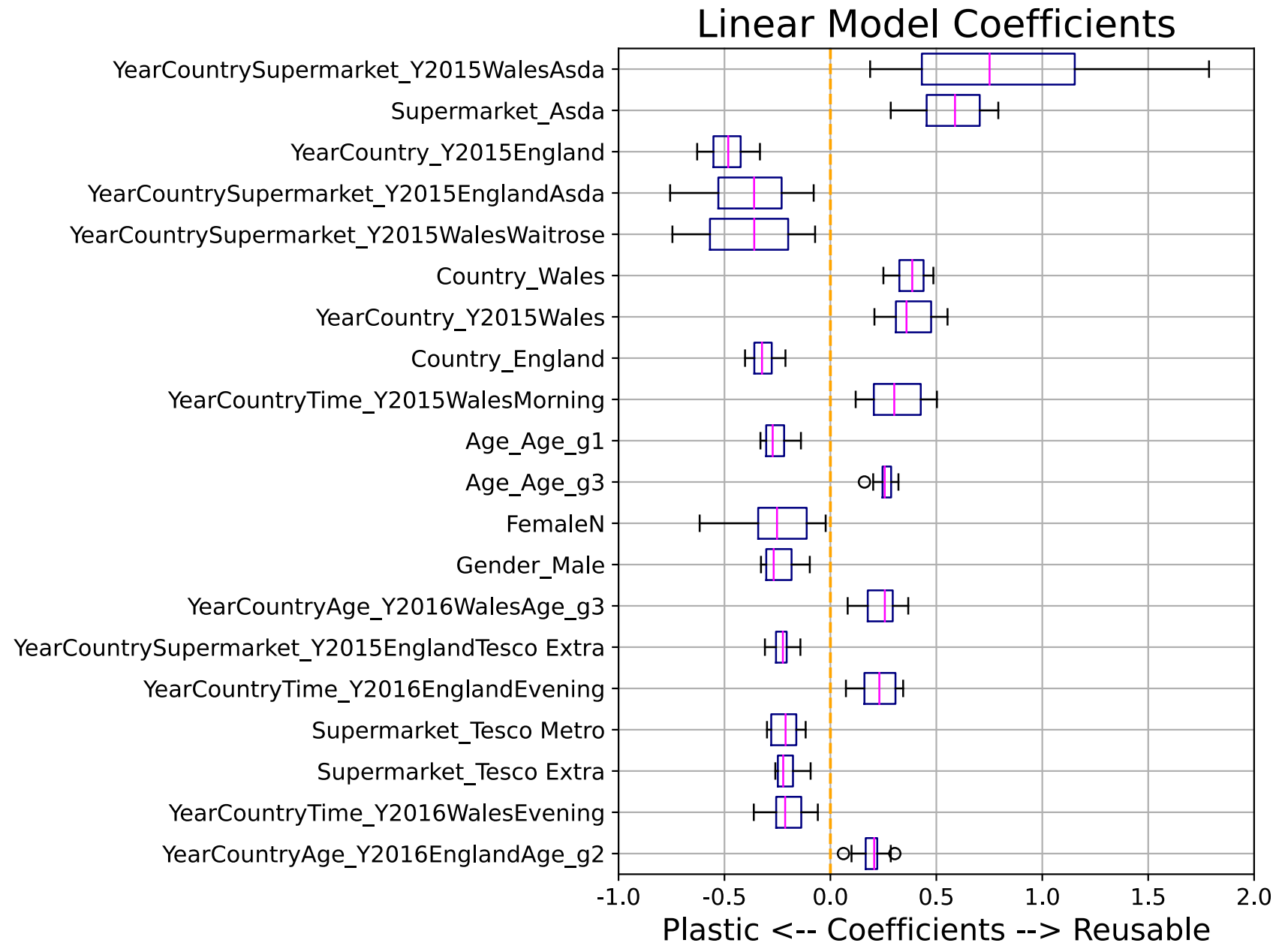


# Feature Importance

Global Importance

Logistic Regression

L2 penalty



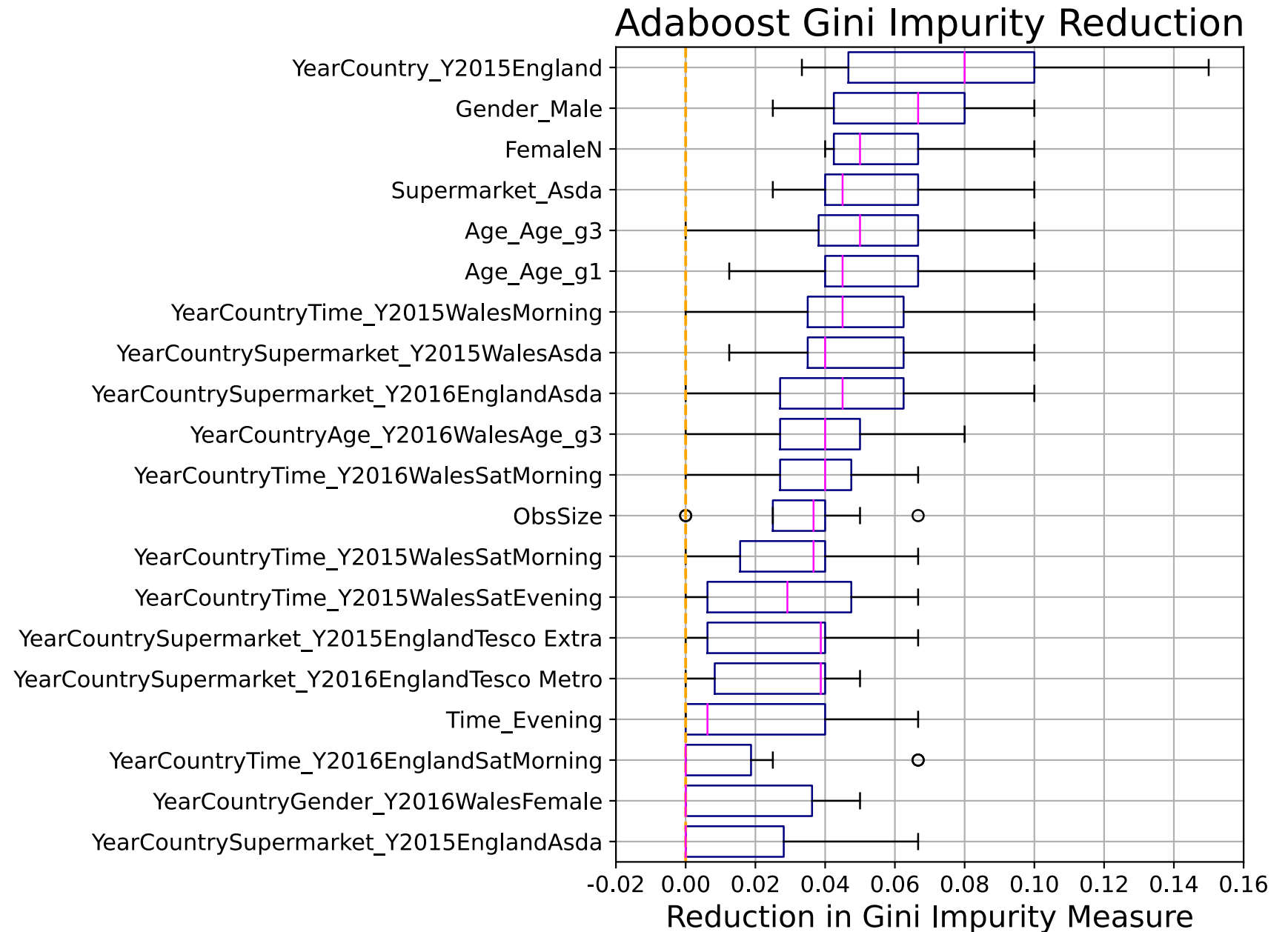


# Feature Importance

Global Importance

AdaBoost

Mean Decrease in  
Gini Impurity



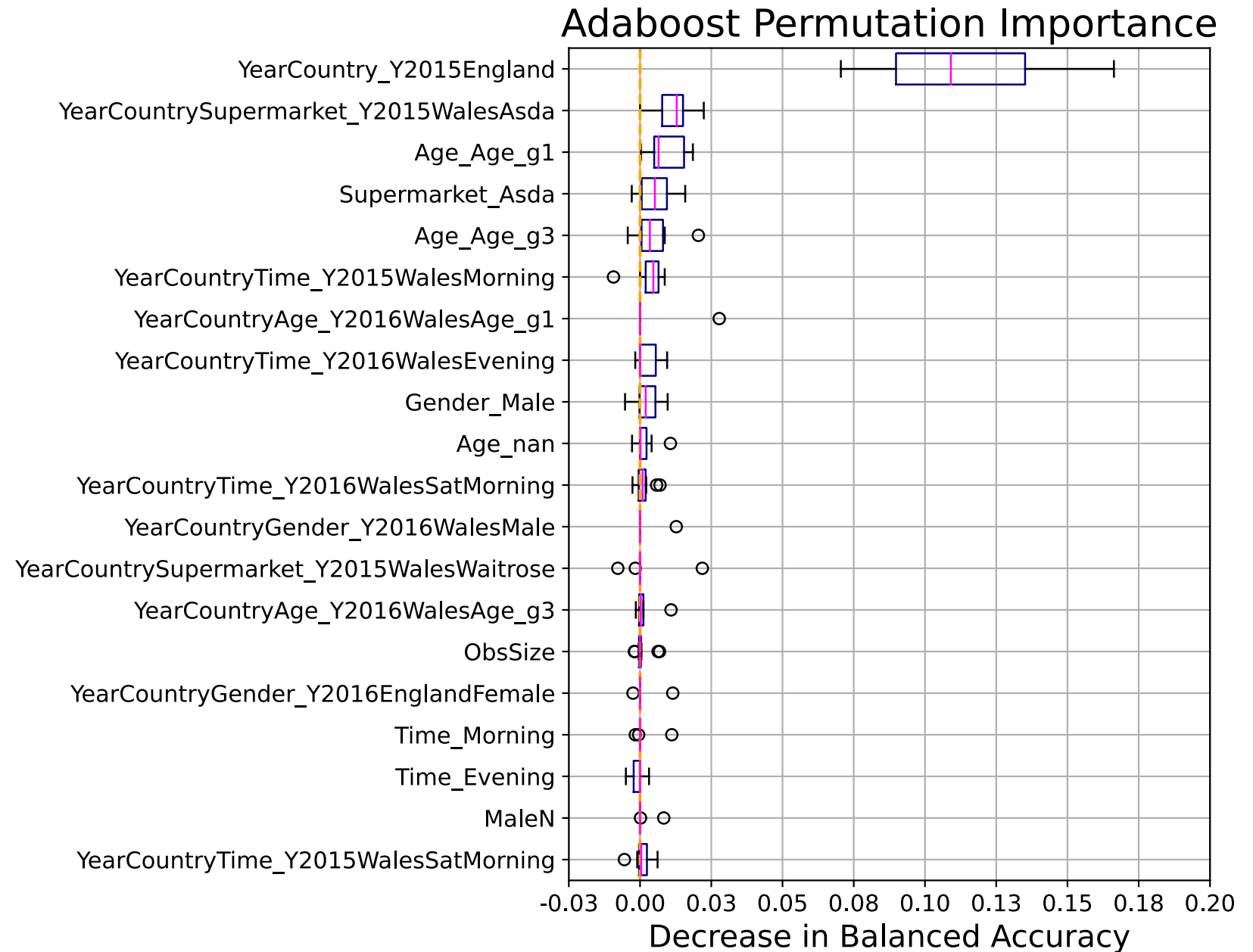
# Feature Importance

Global Importance

AdaBoost

Permutation Score

Balanced Accuracy

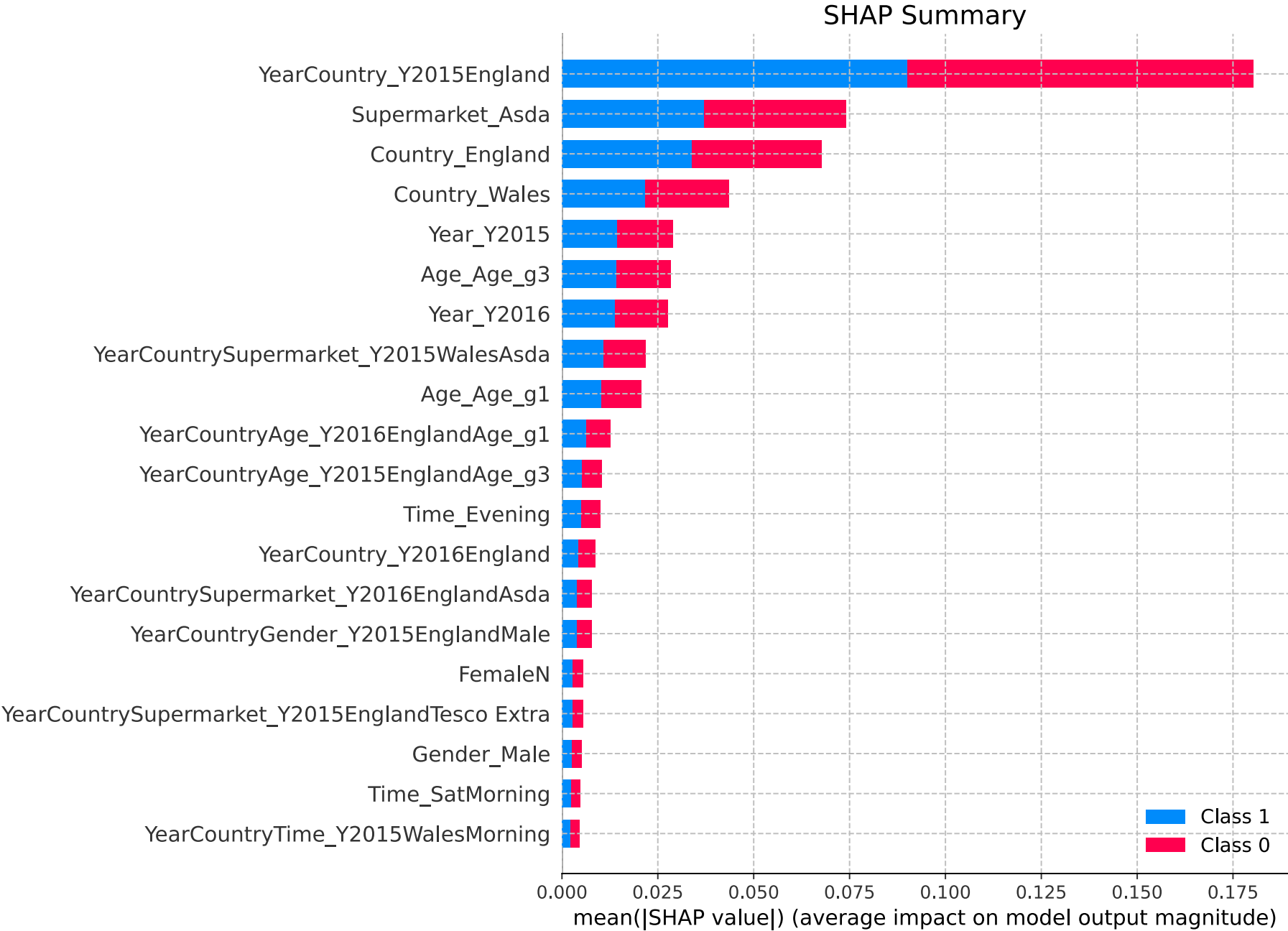


# Feature Importance

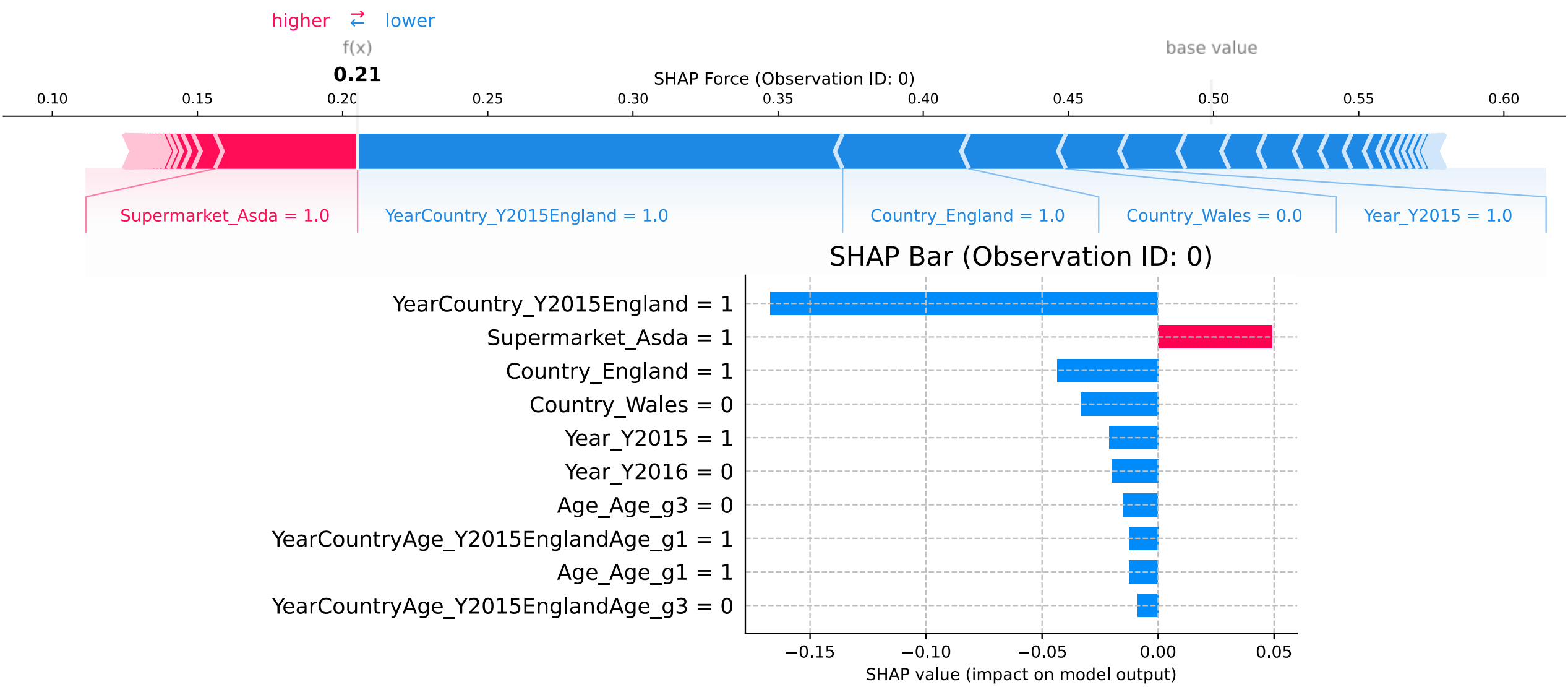
Global Importance

Random Forest

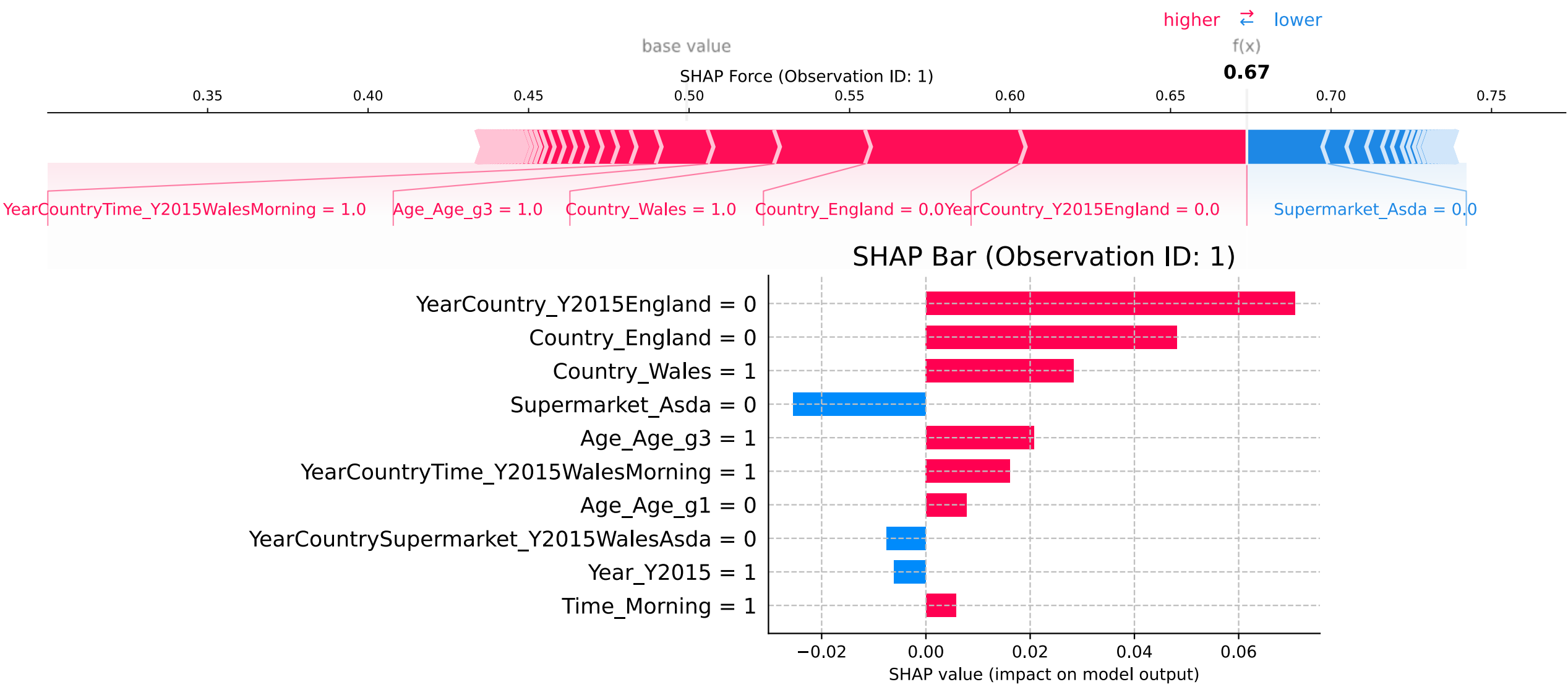
Average SHAP score



# SHAP Local Feature Importance



# SHAP Local Feature Importance



# Outlook

Feature Engineering

More Recent Data

Minimize the SUBP usage



(Poortinga, 2016, "Single-use plastic bags")

# References

1. Cho, Renee. "Plastic, Paper or Cotton: Which Shopping Bag is Best?" *Earth Institute, Columbia University*, 30 April 2020, URL: <https://news.climate.columbia.edu/2020/04/30/plastic-paper-cotton-bags/>. Accessed 9 October 2021.
2. Edgington, Tom. "Plastic or paper: Which bag is greener?" *BBC*, 28 January 2019. URL: <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-47027792>. Accessed 9 October 2021.
3. Lavelle-Hill, R., Goulding, J., Smith, G., Clarke, D.D. and Bibby, P.A., 2020. "Psychological and demographic predictors of plastic bag consumption in transaction data". *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 72, p.101473. doi: [10.1016/j.jenvp.2020.101473](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvp.2020.101473)
4. Poortinga, Wouter, Sautkina, Elena, Thomas, Gregory O. and Wolstenholme, Emily 2016. "The English plastic bag charge: Changes in attitudes and behaviour". [Project Report]. *Welsh School of Architecture, School of Psychology, Cardiff University*. URL: <https://orca.cardiff.ac.uk/94652/>
5. Poortinga, Wouter and Whitmarsh, Lorraine (2018). "The English plastic bag charge and behavioural spillover". [Data Collection]. *Colchester, Essex: UK Data Archive*. [10.5255/UKDA-SN-852642](https://beta.ukdataservice.ac.uk/datacatalog/studies/study?id=105255)
6. Thomas GO, Sautkina E, Poortinga W, Wolstenholme E and Whitmarsh L (2019) "The English Plastic Bag Charge Changed Behavior and Increased Support for Other Charges to Reduce Plastic Waste". *Front. Psychol.* 10:266. doi: [10.3389/fpsyg.2019.00266](https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2019.00266)
7. Thompson, Claire, "Paper, Plastic or Reusable?" *Stanford Magazine*, September 2017. URL: <https://stanfordmag.org/contents/paper-plastic-or-reusable>. Accessed 9 October 2021.
8. UNEP (2018). *SINGLE-USE PLASTICS: A Roadmap for Sustainability* (Rev. ed., pp. vi; 6) ISBN: 978-92-807-3705-9. URL: <https://www.unep.org/resources/report/single-use-plastics-roadmap-sustainability>

Any questions?

Thank you very much!!  
More in the [Repo](#)!



# Appendix

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# Logistic Regression

No Penalty

L1 Penalty

- `C: np.logspace(-3, 2, 21)`

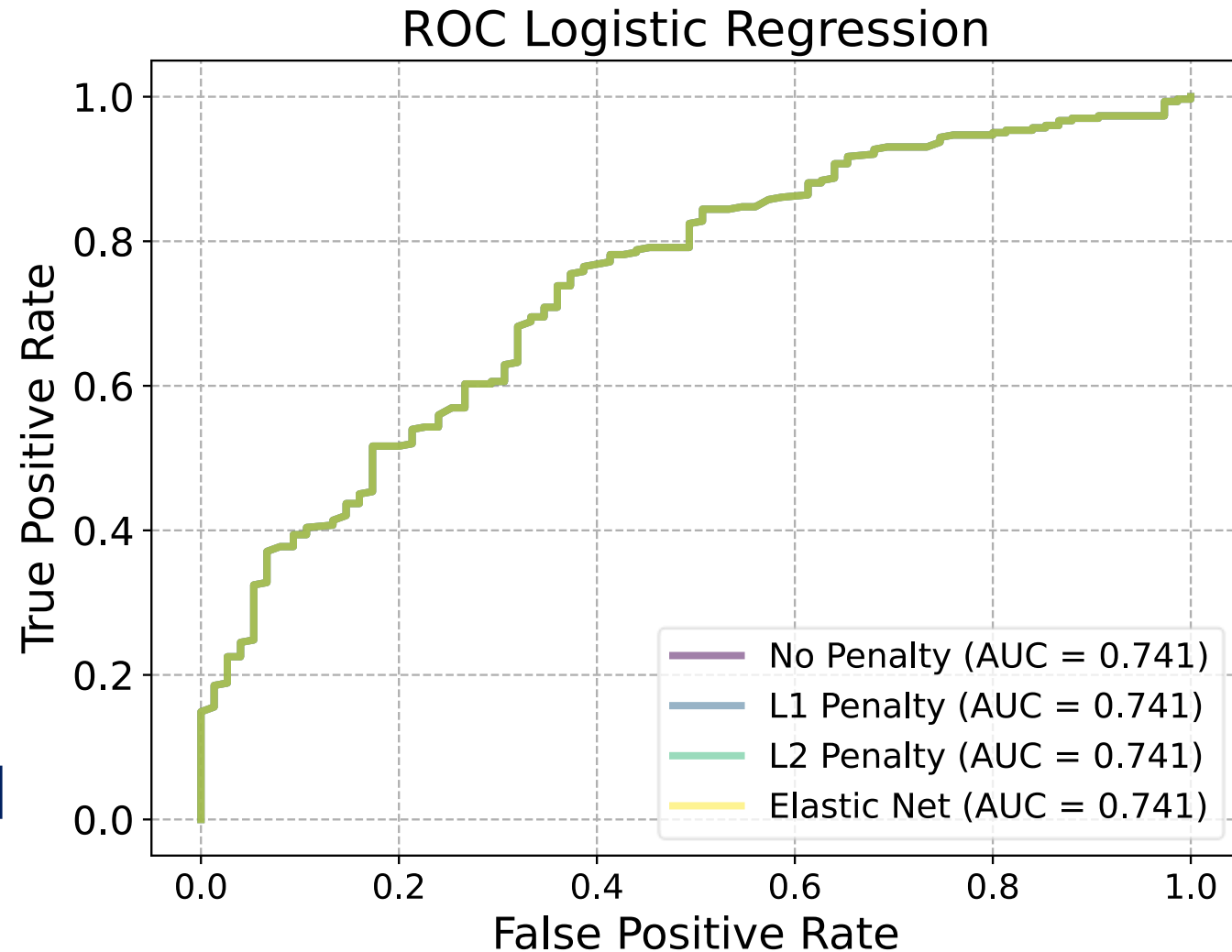
L2 Penalty

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- `l1_ratio: [0.1, 0.2, .., 0.9]`



# SHAP Matplotlib Color

Cannot change the colormap when matplotlib == True

<https://github.com/slundberg/shap/issues/62>

