



COMP47590

ADVANCED MACHINE LEARNING

SUPERVISED LEARNING - ENSEMBLES 1

Dr. Brian Mac Namee



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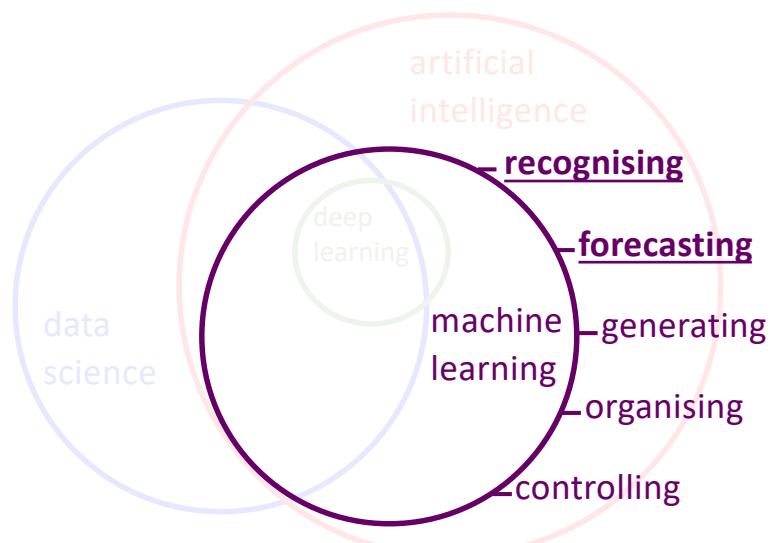
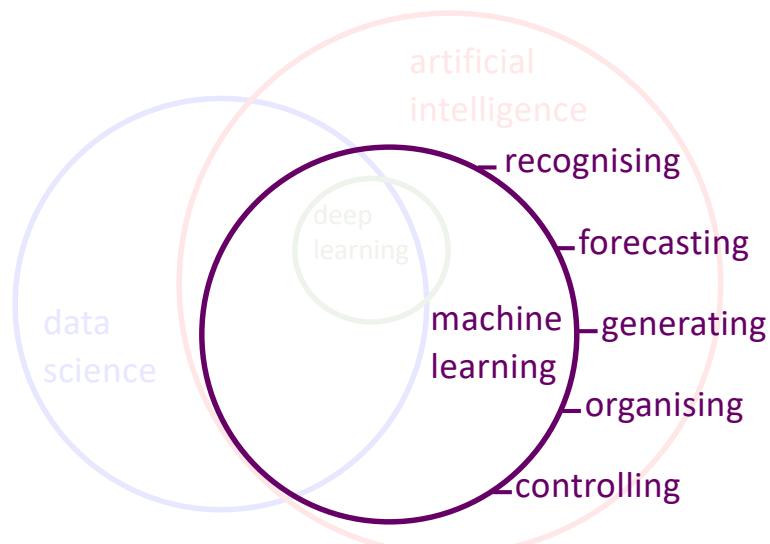
Information

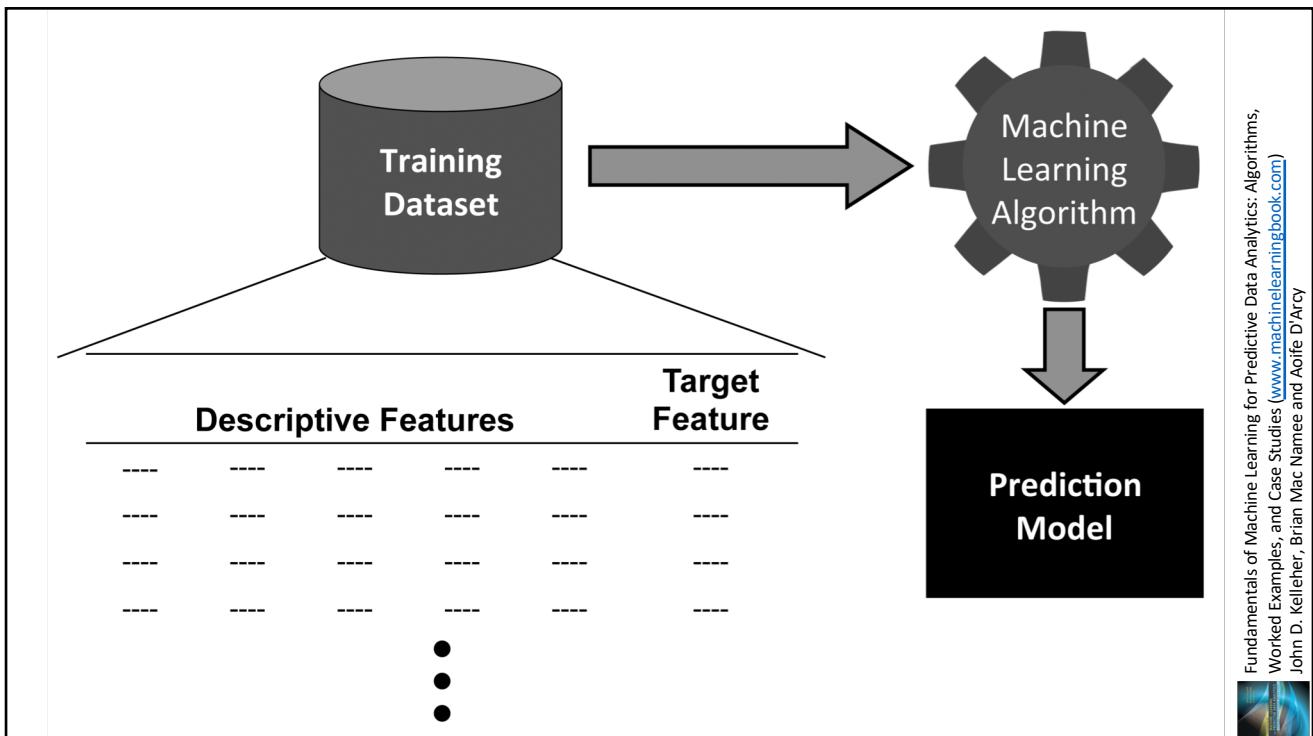
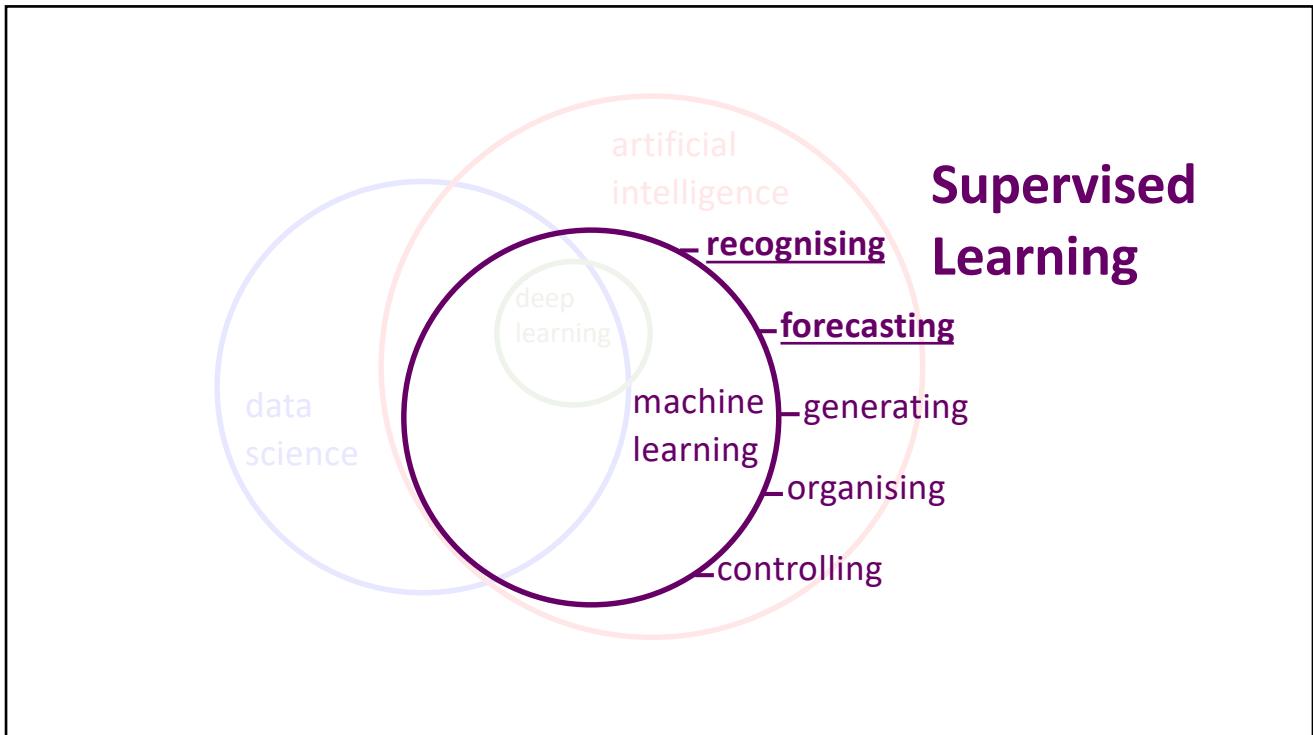
Email: Brian.MacNamee@ucd.ie

Course Materials: All material posted on UCD CS moodle <https://csmoodle.ucd.ie/moodle/course/view.php?id=663>

Enrolment key **UCDAdvML2017**

SUPERVISED LEARNING





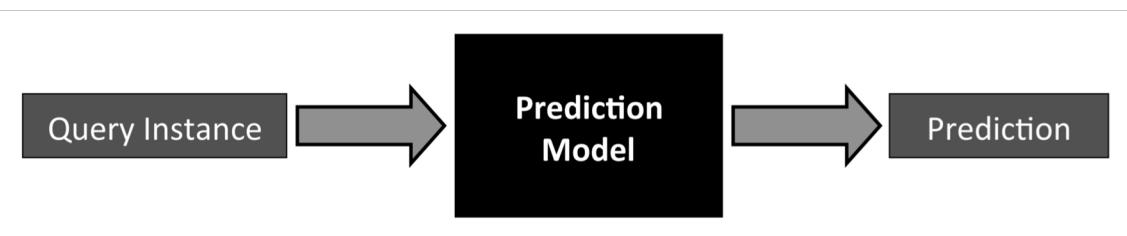
$$\mathcal{D} = [(\mathbf{d}_1, t_1), (\mathbf{d}_2, t_2), \dots, (\mathbf{d}_n, t_n)]$$

where \mathbf{d}_i is a set of descriptive features

$\mathbf{d}_i[0], \mathbf{d}_i[1], \dots, \mathbf{d}_i[m]$

t_i is the corresponding target feature value

Fundamentals of Machine Learning for Predictive Data Analytics: Algorithms, Worked Examples, and Case Studies (www.machinelearningbook.com)
John D. Kelleher, Brian Mac Namee and Aoife D'Arcy



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$$t = M(q)$$

where q is a set of descriptive features
 $q[0], q[1], \dots, q[m]$ describing a query instance
 t is a predicted target feature value

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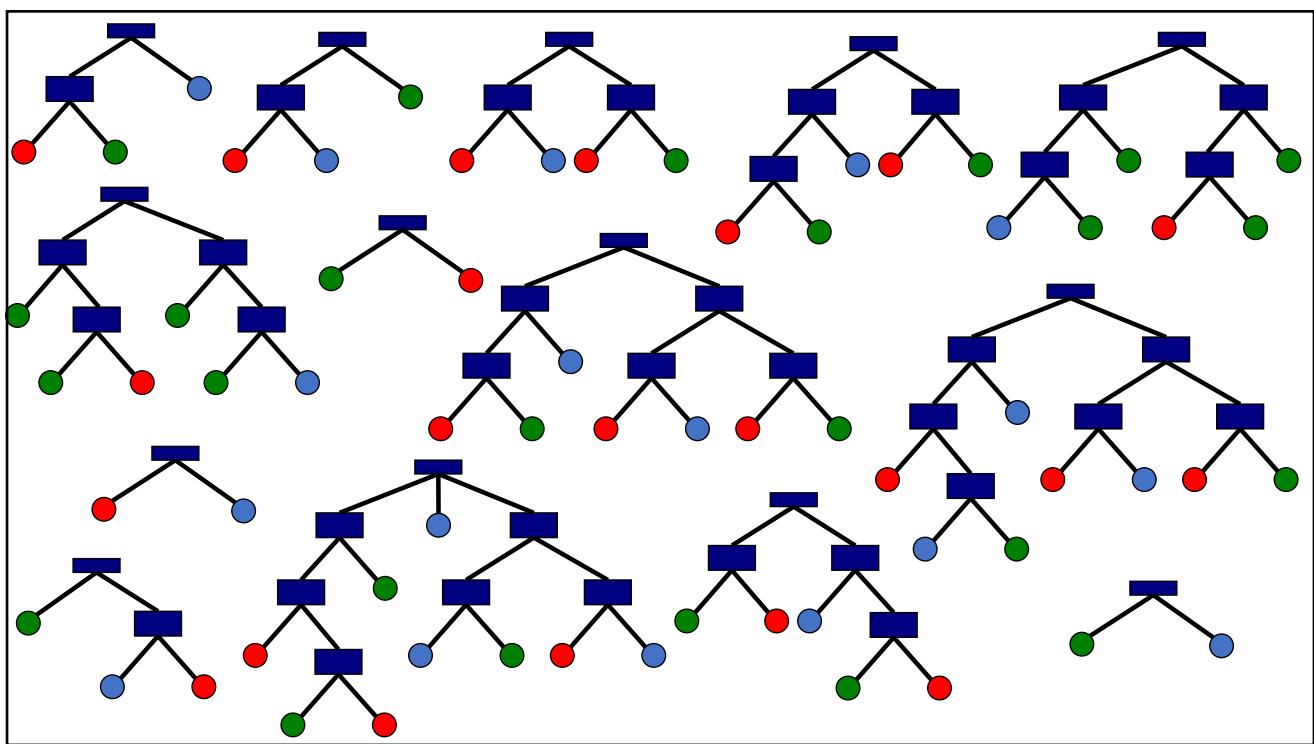
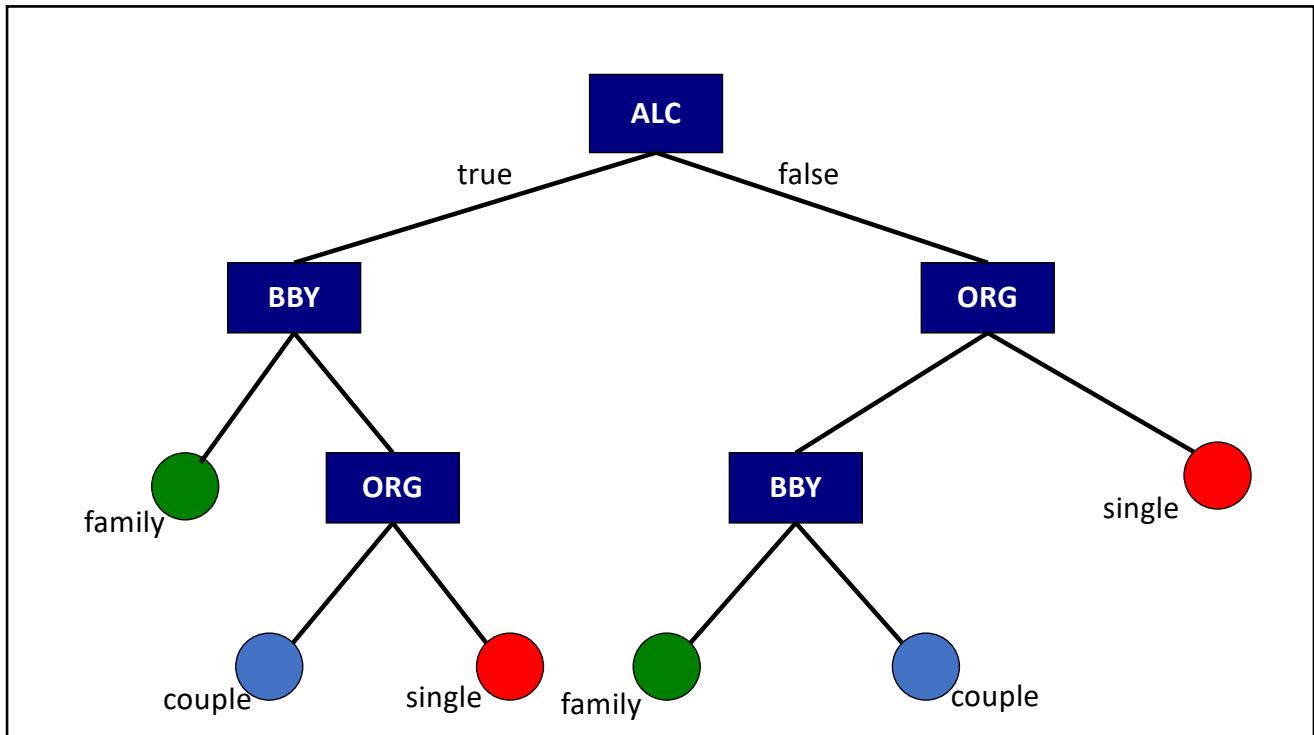


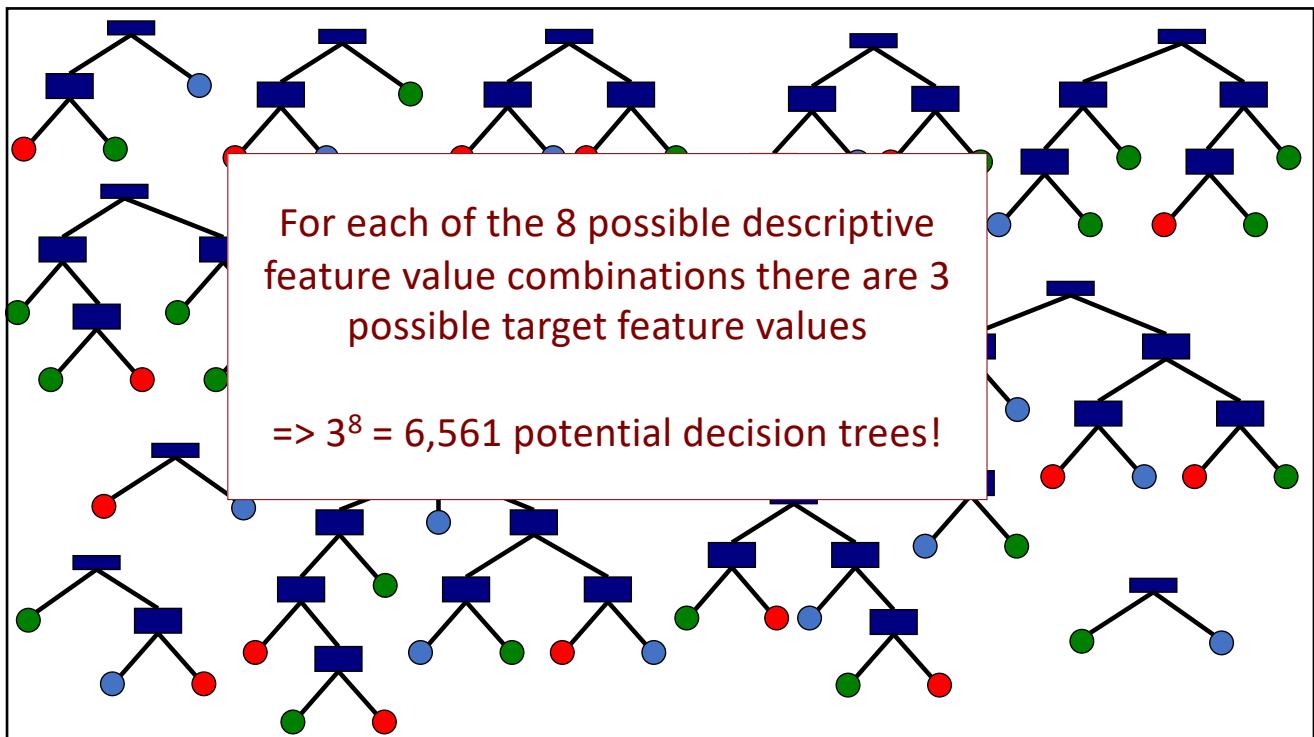
A simple retail dataset

ID	B BY	ALC	ORG	GRP
1	no	no	no	couple
2	yes	no	yes	family
3	yes	yes	no	family
4	no	no	yes	couple
5	no	yes	yes	single

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B _{BY}	A _{LC}	O _{RG}	G _{RP}	M ₁	M ₂	M ₃	M ₄	M ₅	...	M _{6 561}
no	no	no	?	couple	couple	single	couple	couple		couple
no	no	yes	?	single	couple	single	couple	couple		single
no	yes	no	?	family	family	single	single	single		family
no	yes	yes	?	single	single	single	single	single		couple
yes	no	no	?	couple	couple	family	family	family	...	family
yes	no	yes	?	couple	family	family	family	family		couple
yes	yes	no	?	single	family	family	family	family		single
yes	yes	yes	?	single	single	family	family	couple		family

BBY	ALC	ORG	GRP	M ₁	M ₂	M ₃	M ₄	M ₅	...	M ₆ 561
no	no	no	couple	couple	couple	single	couple	couple		couple
no	no	yes	?	single	couple	single	couple	couple		single
no	yes	no	?	family	family	single	single	single		family
no	yes	yes	?	single	single	single	single	single		couple
yes	no	no	?	couple	couple	family	family	family	...	family
yes	no	yes	?	couple	family	family	family	family		couple
yes	yes	no	?	single	family	family	family	family		couple
yes	yes	yes	?	single	single	family	family	couple		single family

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BBY	ALC	ORG	GRP	M ₁	M ₂	M ₃	M ₄	M ₅	...	M ₆ 561
no	no	no	couple	couple	couple	single	couple	couple		couple
no	no	yes	?	single	couple	single	couple	couple		single
no	yes	no	?	family	family	single	single	single		family
no	yes	yes	?	single	single	single	single	single		couple
yes	no	no	?	couple	couple	family	family	family	...	family
yes	no	yes	family	couple	family	family	family	family		couple
yes	yes	no	?	single	family	family	family	family		couple
yes	yes	yes	?	single	single	family	family	couple		single family

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B _{BY}	A _{LC}	O _{RG}	G _{RP}	M ₁	M ₂	M ₃	M ₄	M ₅	...	M _{6..561}
no	no	no	couple	couple	couple	single	couple	couple	couple	couple
no	no	yes	couple	single	couple	single	couple	couple	couple	single
no	yes	no	?	family	family	single	single	single	single	family
no	yes	yes	single	single	single	single	single	single	single	couple
yes	no	no	?	couple	couple	family	family	family	...	family
yes	no	yes	family	couple	family	family	family	family	couple	couple
yes	yes	no	family	single	family	family	family	family	couple	single
yes	yes	yes	?	single	single	family	family	couple	family	family

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Consistency?

Consistency ≈ memorizing the dataset

Consistency with noise in the data isn't desirable

Coverage through memorization is never possible
in real problems

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Consistency with noise in the data isn't desirable

Coverage through memorization is never possible in real problems

GOAL: a model that **generalises** beyond the dataset and that **invariant** to the noise in the dataset

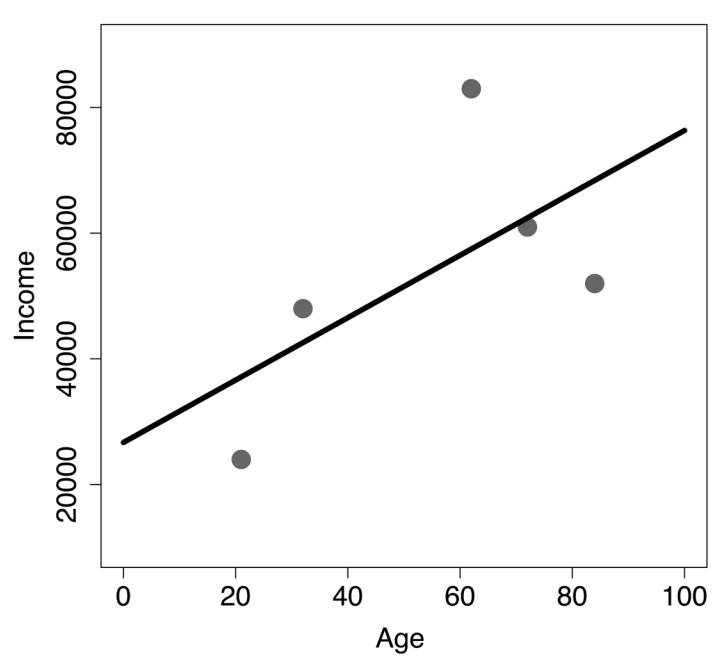
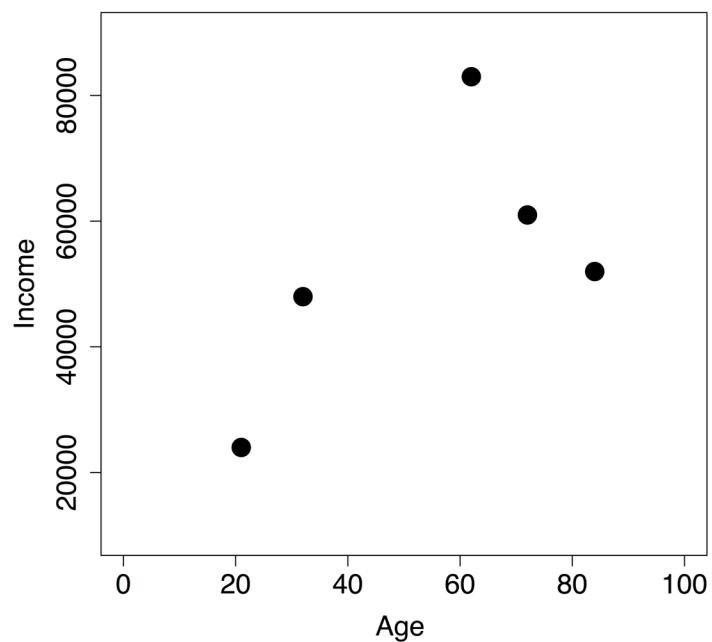
Inductive Bias

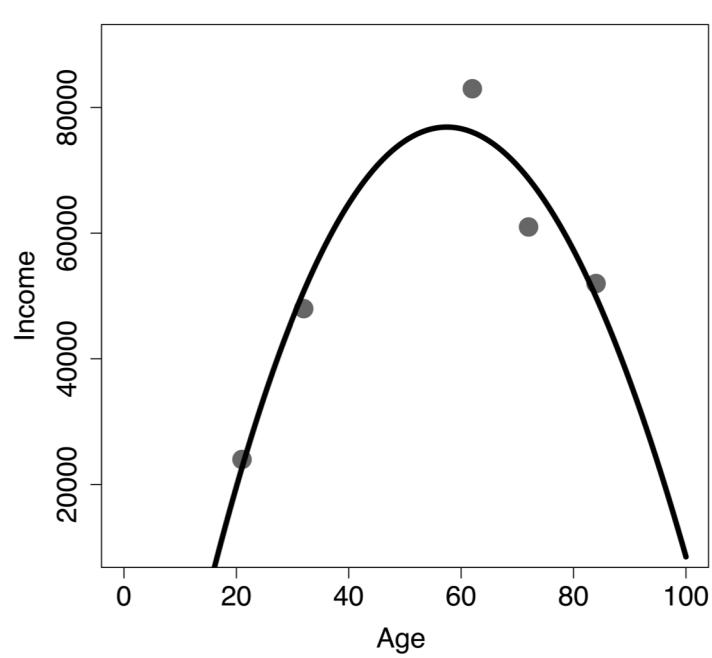
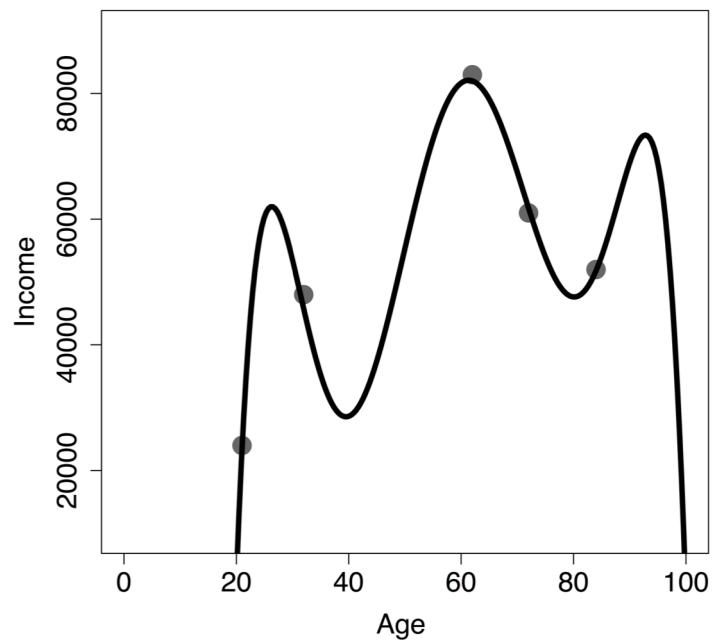
The solution is **inductive bias**, a set of assumptions that define the model selection criteria of an ML algorithm

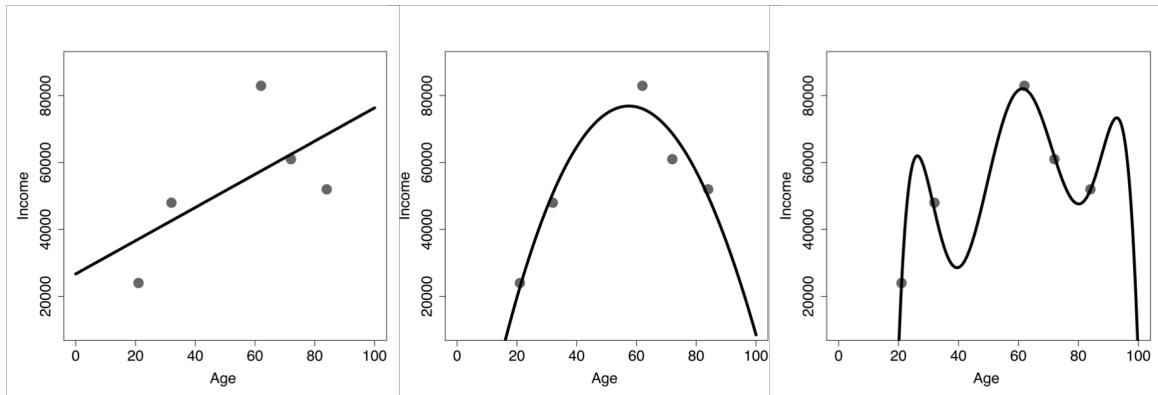
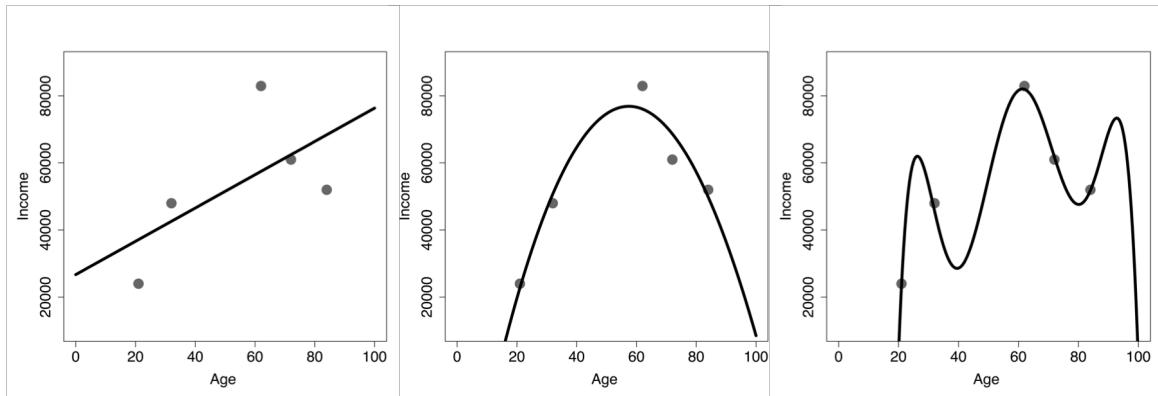
There are two types of bias that we can use:

- restriction bias
- preference bias

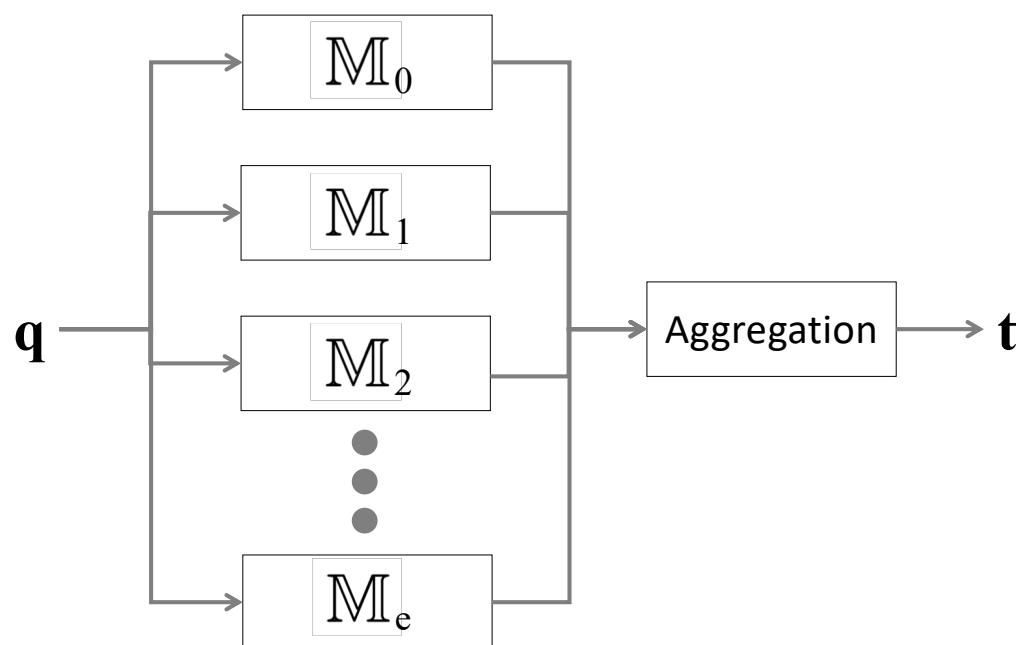
Inductive bias is necessary for generalisation





Underfitting**Overfitting****Bias****Variance**

ENSEMBLES



Ensembles

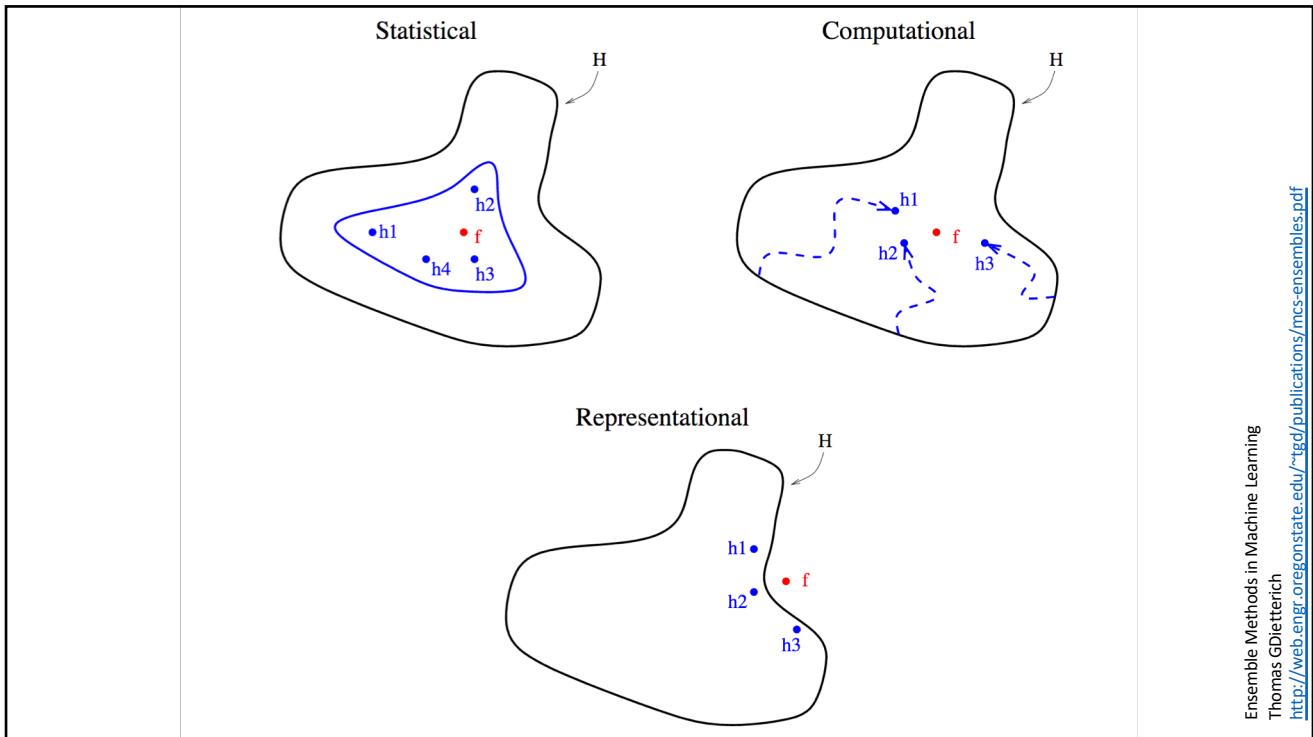
The aggregate of multiple combined models is more effective than any individual model

Thomas Dietterich describes 3 motivations for using ensembles:

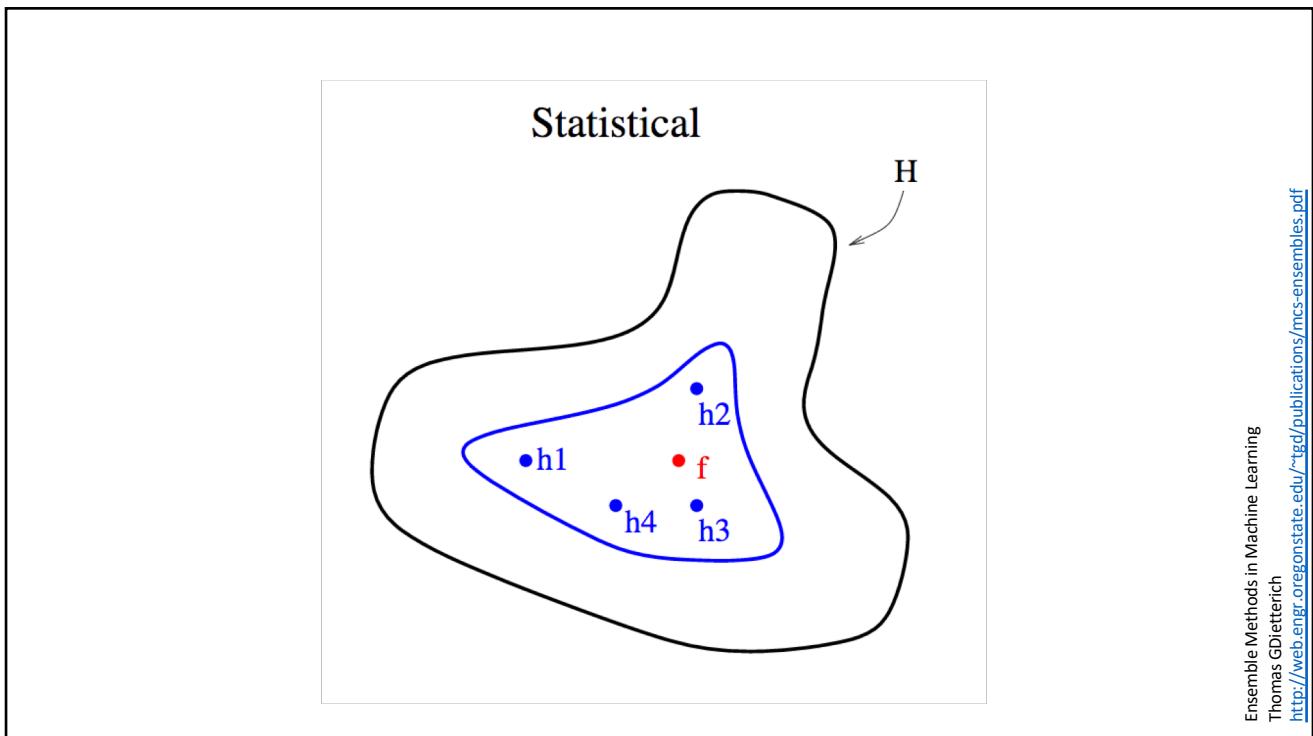
- Statistical
- Computational
- Representational

Ensemble Methods in Machine Learning
Thomas G Dietterich
<http://web.engr.oregonstate.edu/~tgd/publications/mcs-ensembles.pdf>

MAYBE A WISDOM OF THE CROWD EXPERIMENT

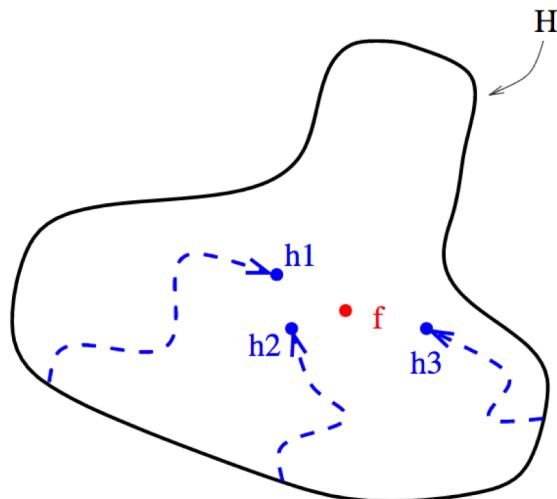


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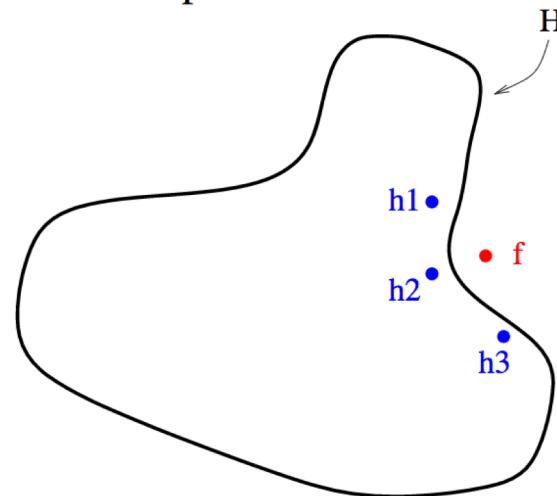
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Computational



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Representational



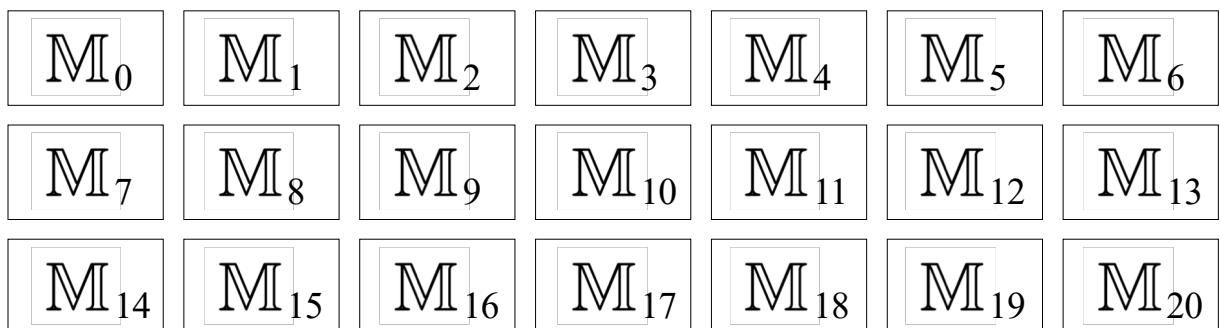
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Ensembles

Imagine we have an ensemble for a binary prediction problem with 21 models, each with a classification error of 0.3

The big idea behind ensembles is that if we have multiple learners that are diverse, when one is wrong there is a very good chance that others are correct

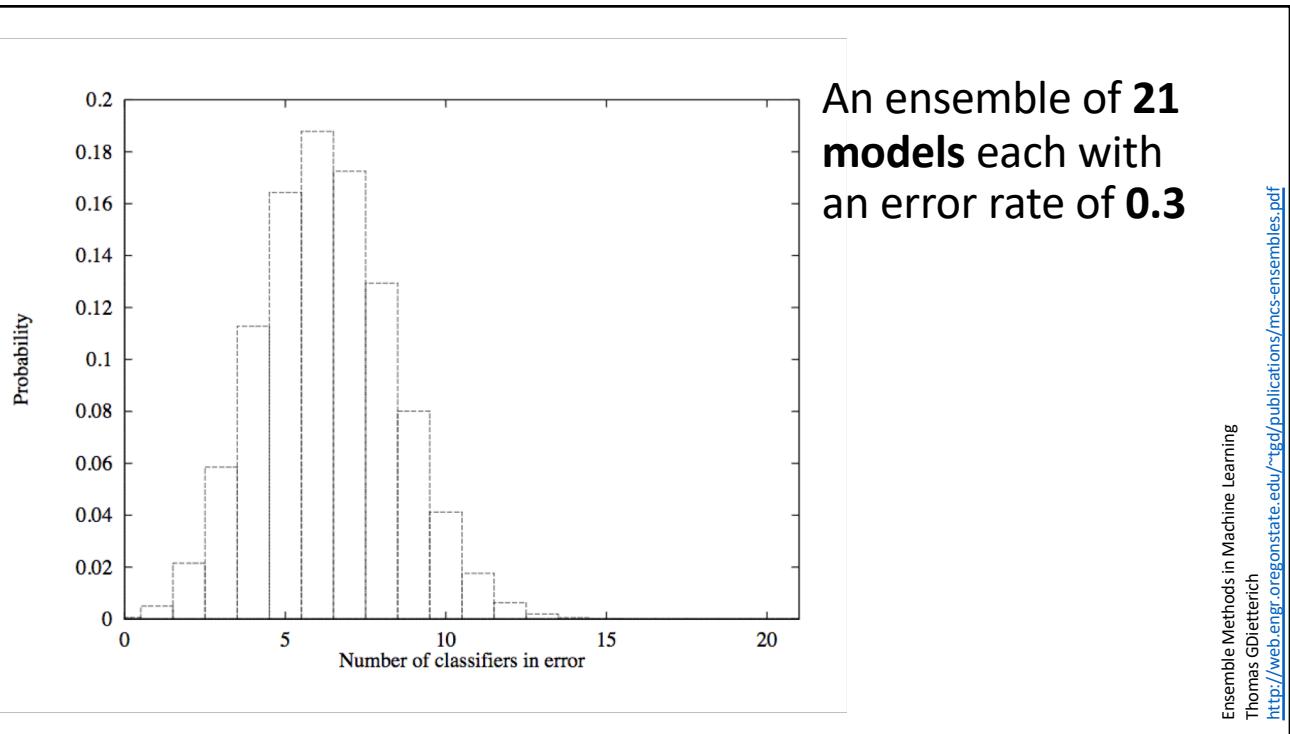
Aggregation

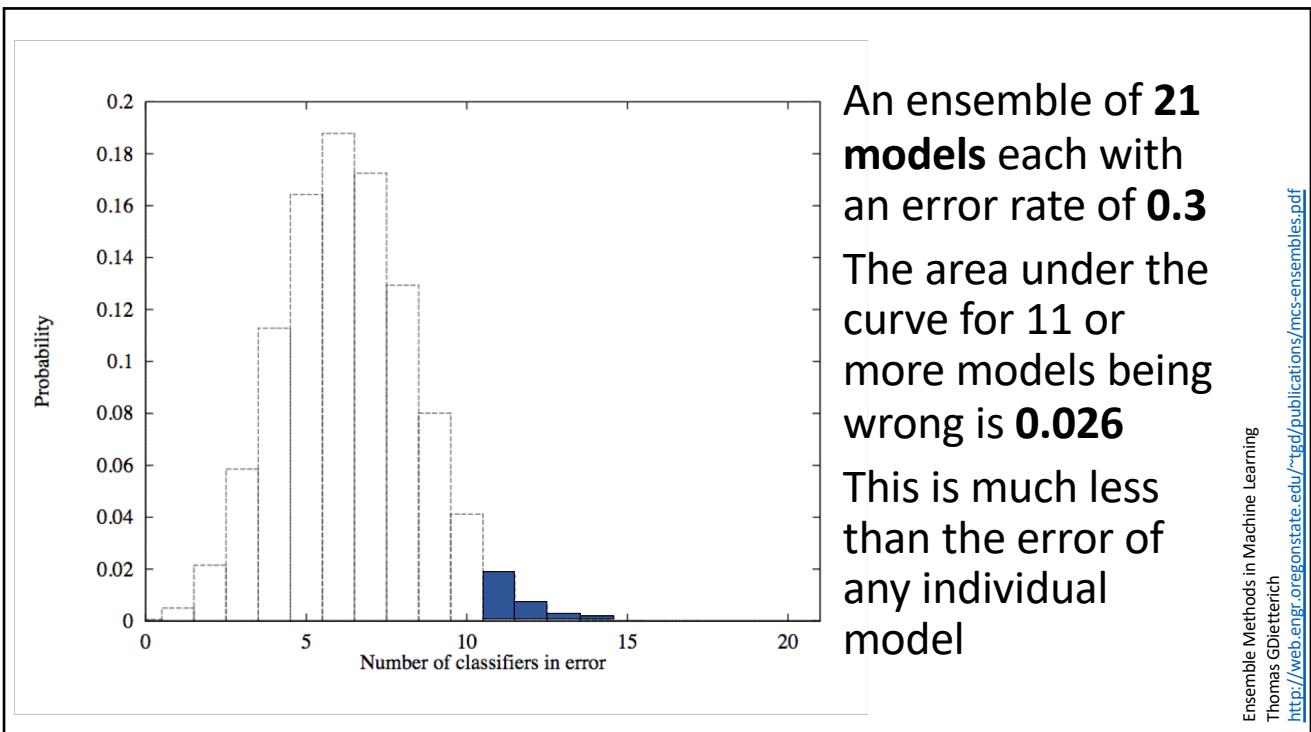


Query Instance (q)

Ensembles

More formally if the error rate of each of the L models in an ensemble is less than $\frac{1}{2}$ and if the errors are independent, then the probability that the majority vote of the ensemble will be wrong will be the area under the binomial distribution where more than $L/2$ models are wrong





Ensembles

But models in a real ensemble are never independent so we don't quite do that well

In general we build our ensembles to have two competing characteristics

- Individual models in the ensemble should be strong
- The correlation between the models in the ensemble should be weak (diversity)

Practical Ensembles

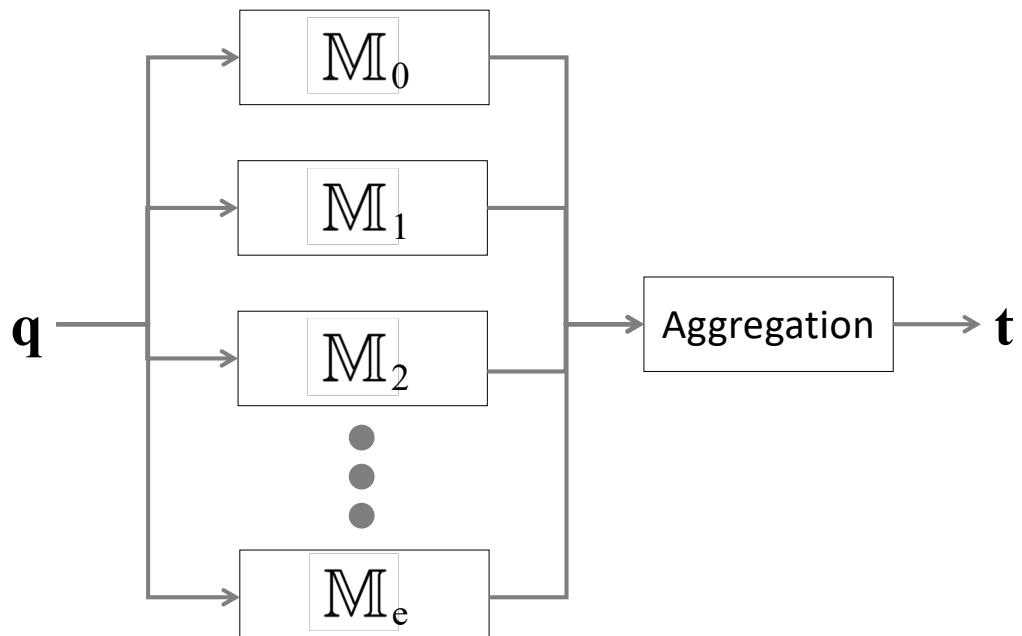
There are however a series of practical ensemble approaches

- Bagging
- Random forests
- Boosting
- Gradient boosting
- Stacking

Practical Ensembles

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- Bagging
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Practical Ensembles

In general we would like our ensembles to have two characteristics

- Individual models in the ensemble should be strong
- The correlation between the models in the ensemble should be weak (diversity)

These two characteristics are in tension with each other

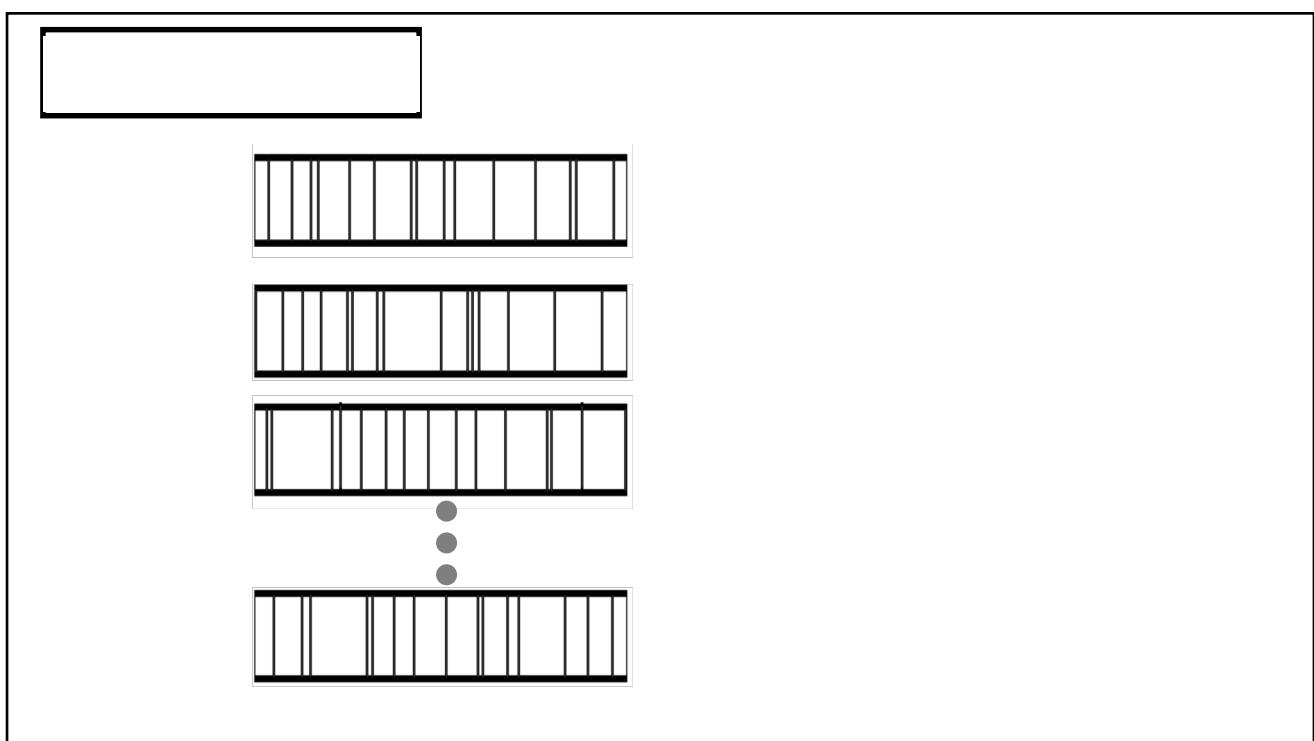
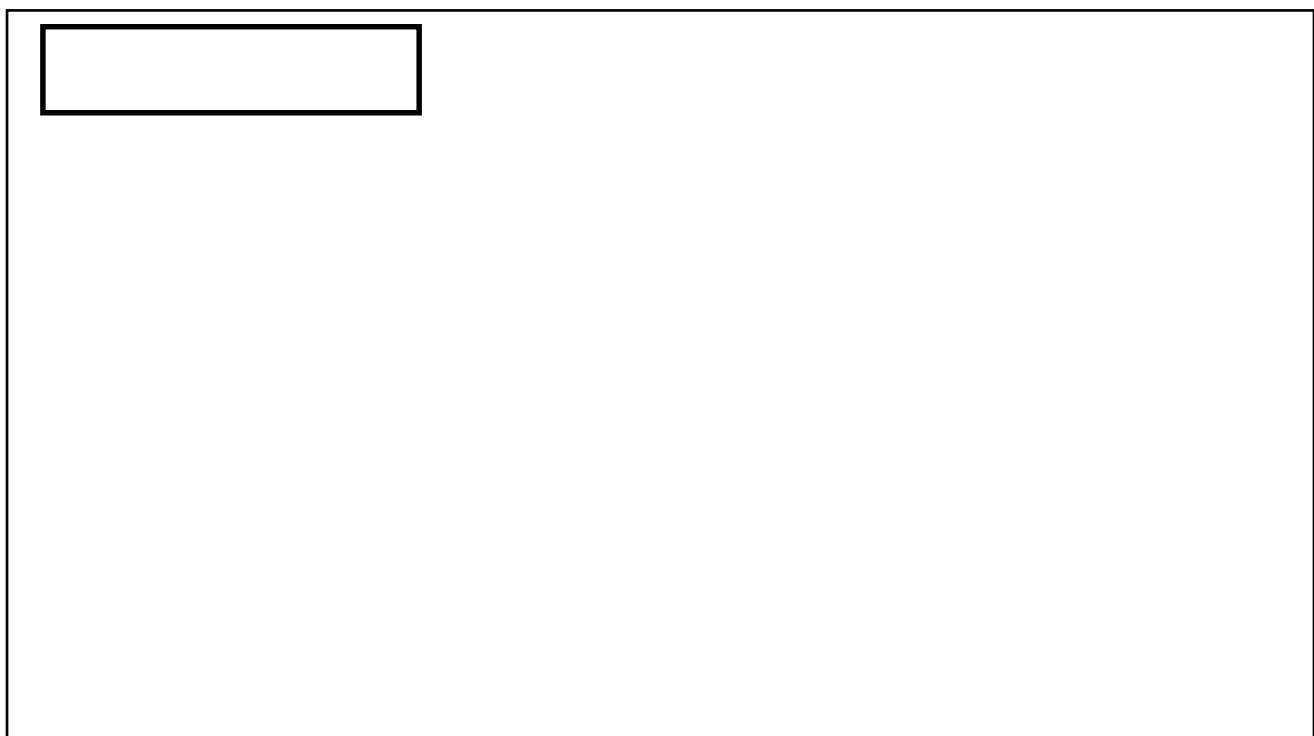
BAGGING

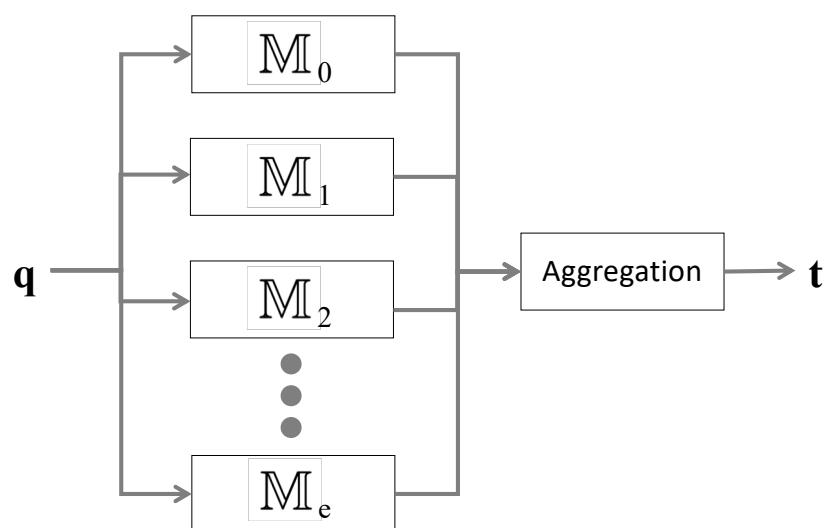
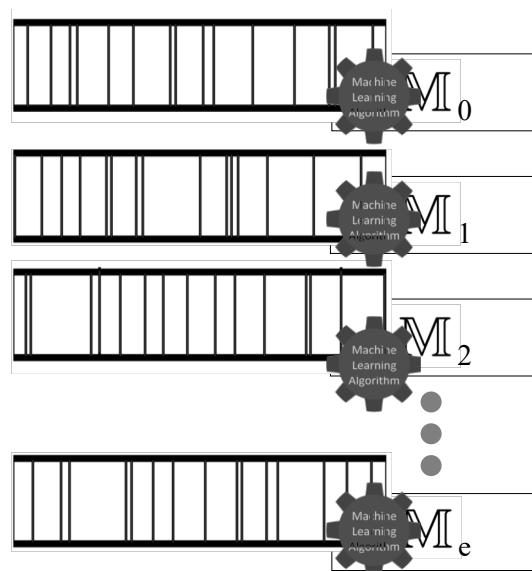
Bagging

Very simple ensemble training technique

- Trains e models in parallel using bootstrapped data samples from an overall training set (100% sampling with replacement)
- Aggregates using majority voting
- *Bootstrapped aggregating = bagging*

Breiman, Leo. "Bagging predictors." *Machine learning* 24.2 (1996): 123-140.





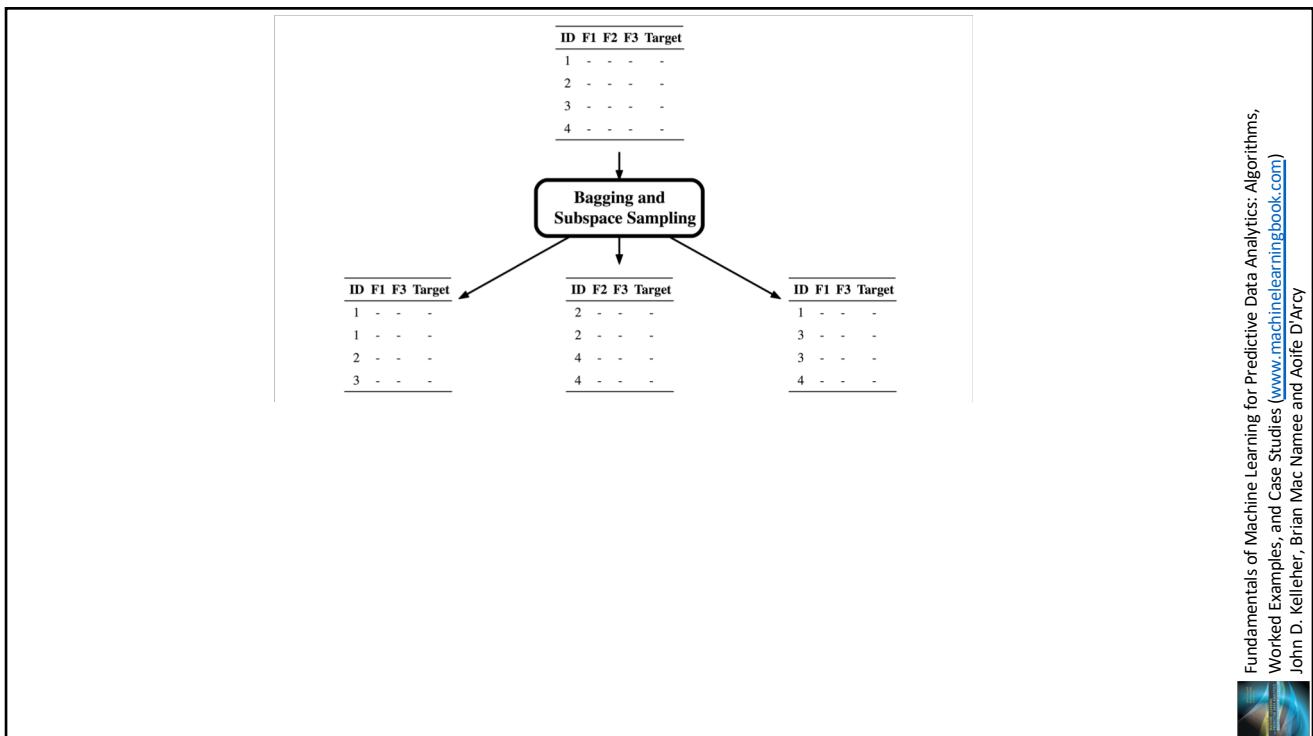
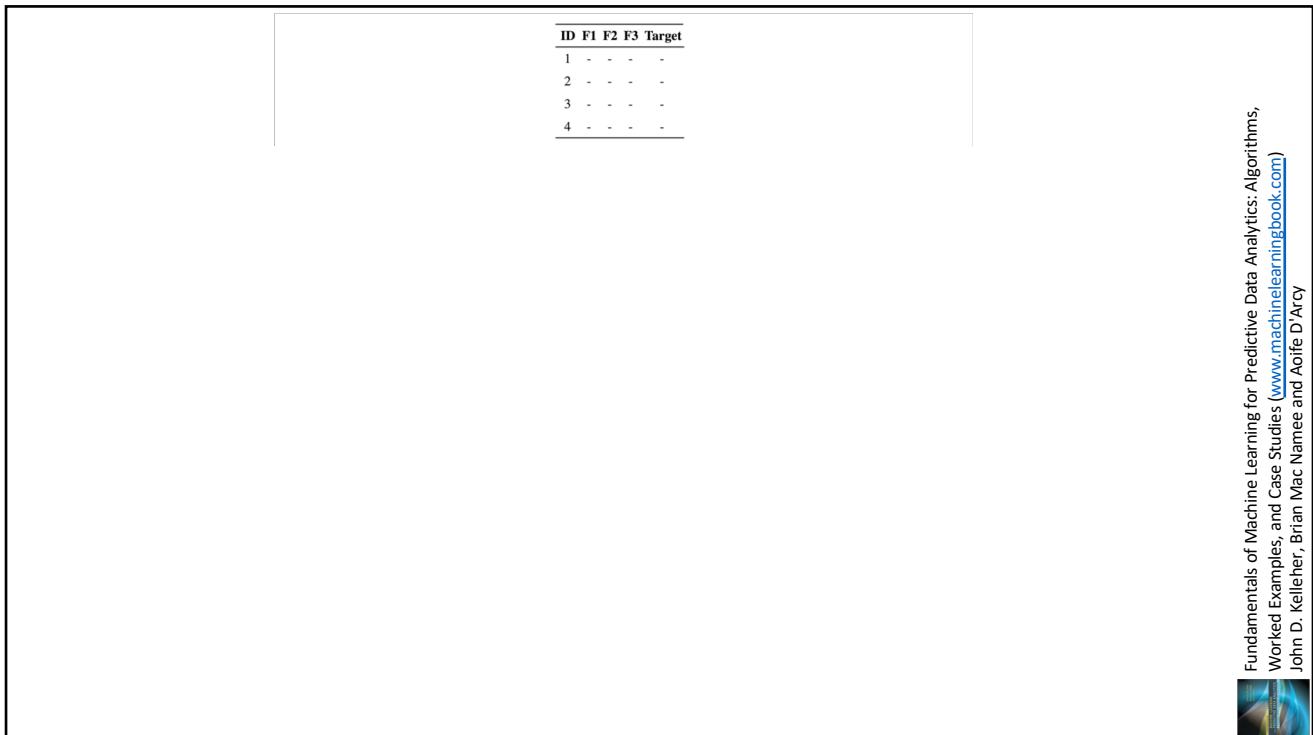
RANDOM FORESTS

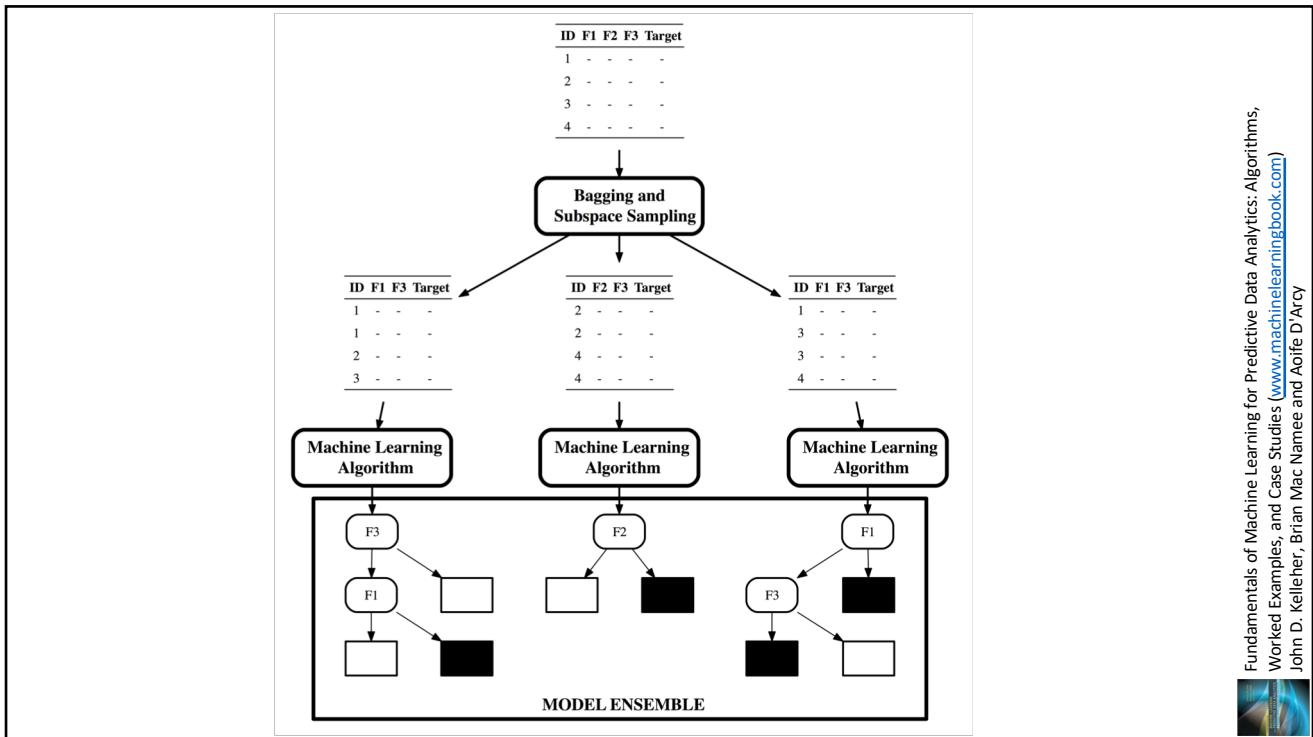
Random Forests

Simple but very powerful ensembling technique

- Trains e models in parallel using bootstrapped and sub-space sampled data samples from an overall training set
- Aggregates using majority voting

Breiman, Leo. "Random forests." *Machine learning* 45.1 (2001): 5-32.





SUMMARY

Summary

Supervised learning involves building prediction models that learn patterns between a set of descriptive features and a target feature based on a large labelled dataset

Training a model can be viewed as a search process

Inductive bias is required for this search process to converge

Summary

Ensembles are amongst the most powerful supervised learning techniques

Random forests, in particular, are very simple but very effective

Questions

