

Decision Tree based ensemble Algorithm

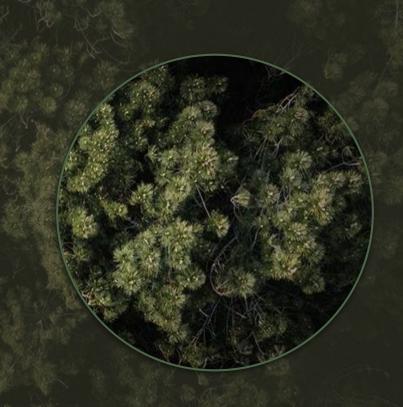
### Table of contents

- 1. Overview
- 2. How Random Forest Works
- 3. Random Forest Example
- 4. Advantages of Random Forest
- 5. Limitations of Random Forest



# Overview

Random Forest????!



#### Overview

#### What is a Random Forest?

- A Random Forest is an <u>ensemble</u> learning algorithm used for both <u>classification</u> and <u>regression</u> tasks in machine learning.
- It operates by constructing a multitude of decision trees during training and outputs the mode (classification) or mean (regression) of the individual trees for predictions.
- It is called <u>Random</u> because the algorithm contains a random factor via the bagging process, and random feature selection and <u>Forest</u> since it constructs a multitude of decision trees.



#### Overview

#### Why use Random forest rather than Normal DTs?

The Random forest algorithm came to handle some issues with normal Decision Trees, which are as follows:

- 1. Overfitting: Decision trees are prone to overfitting, meaning they can capture noise in the training data and perform poorly on unseen data. Random Forests mitigate this issue by training multiple trees on different subsets of the data (through bootstrap sampling) and combining their predictions. This ensemble approach tends to generalize better to new, unseen data.
- 2. <u>Bias</u>: The ensemble nature of Random Forests, combining predictions from multiple trees, can help reduce bias introduced by individual trees. If a particular tree in the ensemble is biased in some way, the impact on the overall prediction is mitigated when aggregated with predictions from other trees.



How do Random Forests work



### How Random Forests Work

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#### Bootstrapping

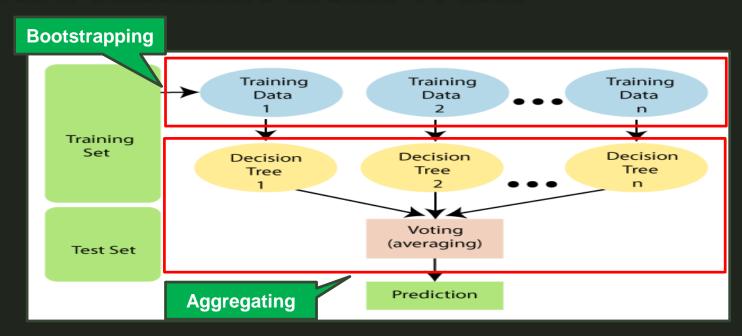
Feature Randomization
& Tree Construction

Voting Mechanism

First we take the original dataset and create subsets of it. This is achieved through a process called **bootstrap sampling**, where random samples (with replacement) are drawn from the original dataset to create multiple training sets.

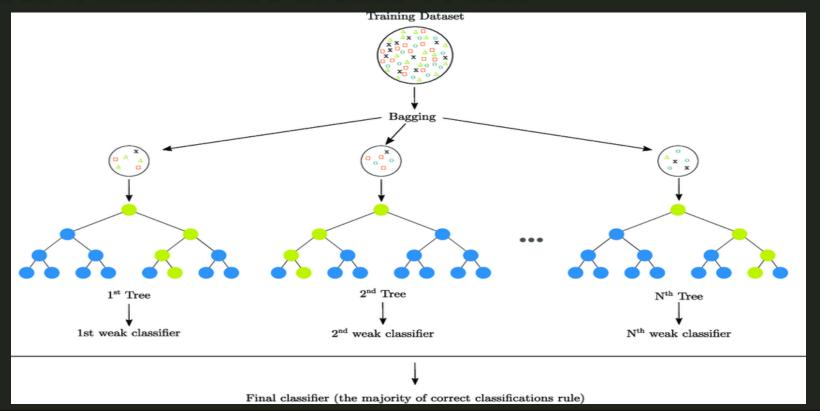
We start constructing out Random Forest, however, introduces randomness in the selection of features for each split in a decision tree. Instead of considering all features at every split, only a random subset of features is considered. This helps in creating diverse and uncorrelated trees. Once the individual decision trees are trained, they "vote" on the predicted class for a new input. For classification tasks, the class that receives the majority of votes becomes the final prediction.

#### How Random Forests Work



Random Forest Algorithm is uses the **bagging process**, which is short for **b**ootstrapping the dataset and **agg**regating the predictions.

### How Random Forests Work



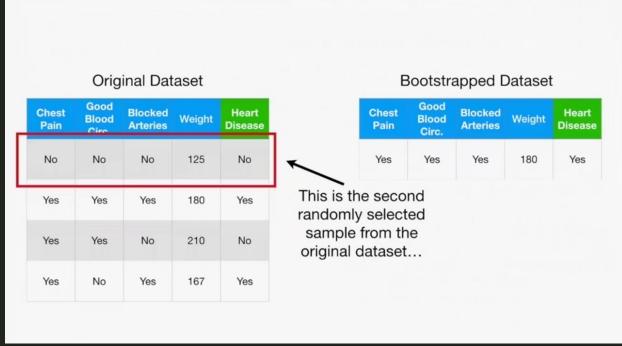


How do Random Forests work, with an Example step-by-step



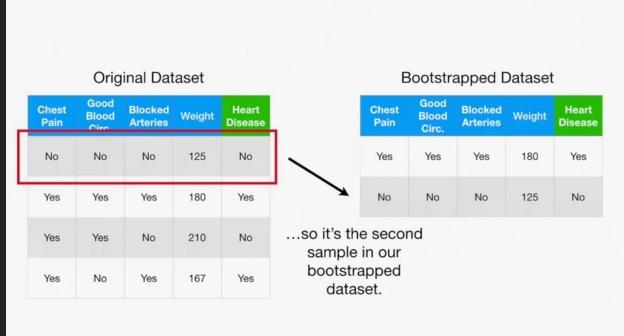
We take the Original Dataset and we create N subsets (where N is the number of Trees the

forest will contain)



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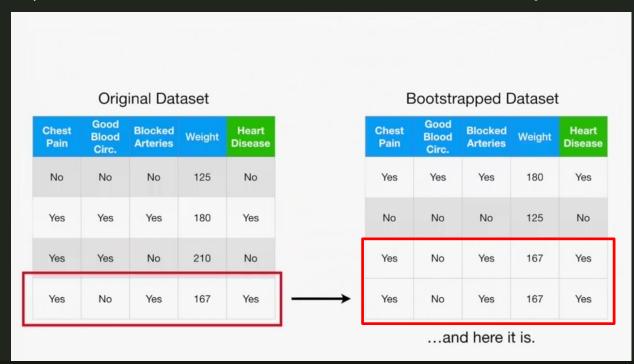
Chest Pain	Good Blood Circ.	Blocked Arteries	Weight	Heart Disease	
No	No	No	125	No	
Yes	Yes	Yes	180	Yes	
Yes	Yes	No	210	No	
Yes	No	Yes	167	Yes	

#### **Bootstrapped Dataset**

Chest Pain	Good Blood Circ.	Blocked Arteries	Weight	Heart Disease
Yes	Yes	Yes	180	Yes
No	No	No	125	No
Yes	No	Yes	167	Yes

...so here it is in the bootstrapped dataset.

**Note**: we can have duplicate rows because it is random selection of rows with **replacement**.



**Note:** the number of records in bootstrapped dataset can be less or equal to the number of records in the original dataset.

**Tip**: it was found the best size for the bootstrapped dataset around 60% of the original dataset

Note: All the subsets are of equal length

Note: About 1/3 of the original dataset does not get selected using bootstrapping these records are called "Out-Of-Bag" sample

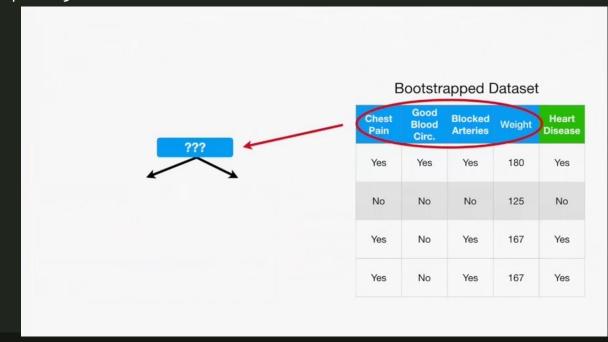
Step Output: N subset (bootstrapped

Datasets)

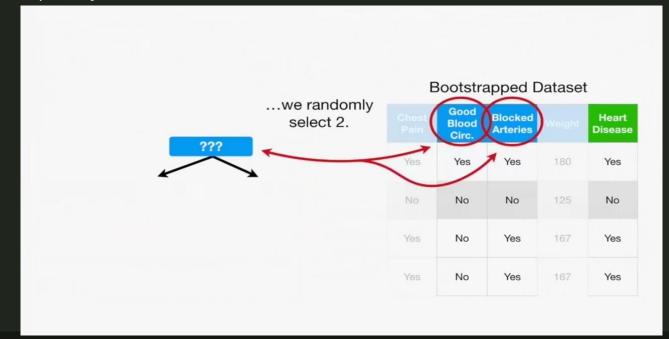
#### Bootstrapped Dataset

Chest Pain	Good Blood Circ.	Blocked Arteries	Weight	Heart Disease
Yes	Yes	Yes	180	Yes
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We create a decision tree for each of our bootstrapped datasets, but unlike a normal tree we will not consider all the features when selecting a splitting attribute, but a subset of features every time we pick a splitting attribute

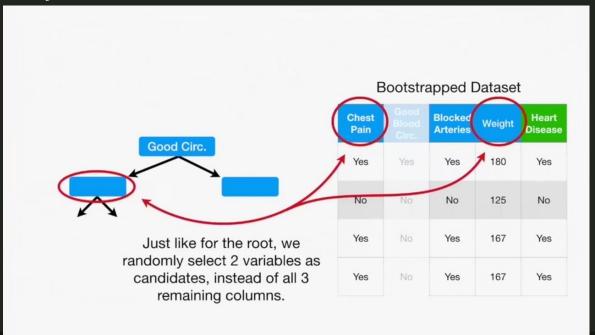


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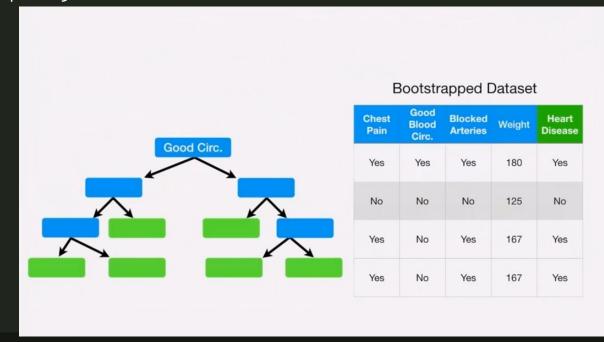


We create a decision tree for each of our bootstrapped datasets, but unlike a normal tree we will not consider all the features when selecting a splitting attribute, but a subset of features every time we pick a splitting attribute

Note: we keep going till we create a decision tree.



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#### How do we calculate the best splitting Attribute?

- Entropy / Information Gain:
  - <u>Entropy</u> is a measure of the impurity or uncertainty of a set of data. It ranges from 0 (completely pure) to 1 (completely impure). When building a decision tree, the entropy of a set is calculated before and after a split, and the change in entropy is used to determine the information gain.
  - $y = -\sum_{i=1}^k p_i log_k(p_i)$

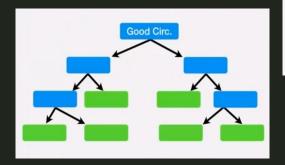
where k is the number of classes and pi is the probability of an element being classified as class i.

• <u>Information gain</u> is a measure of the difference in entropy between the set before and after a split. The attribute that provides the highest information gain is chosen as the split attribute.

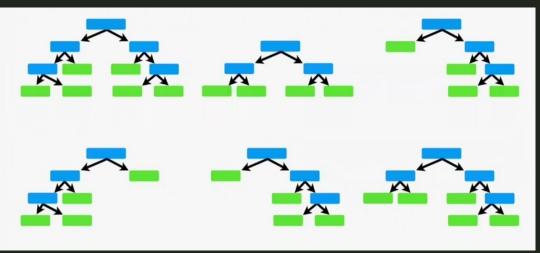
$$G(S,Q) = E(S) - \sum_{i=1}^{k} p_i E(S, Q_i)$$

Note: Typically the number of features selected at each step, is the square of the number of features.

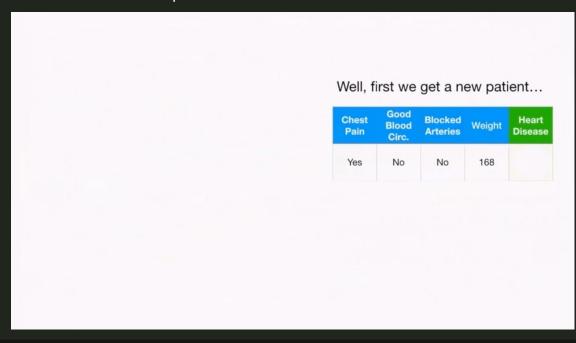
Note: Sometimes keep doing the 3 steps and increasing the number of features every time till we get better results

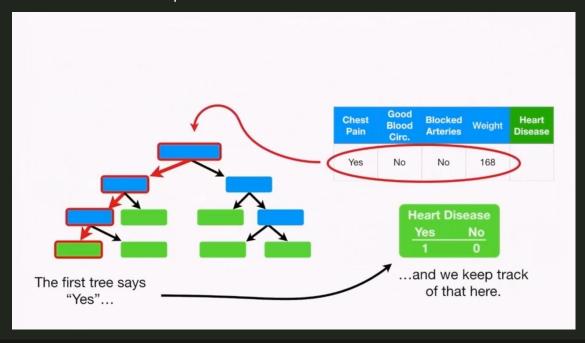


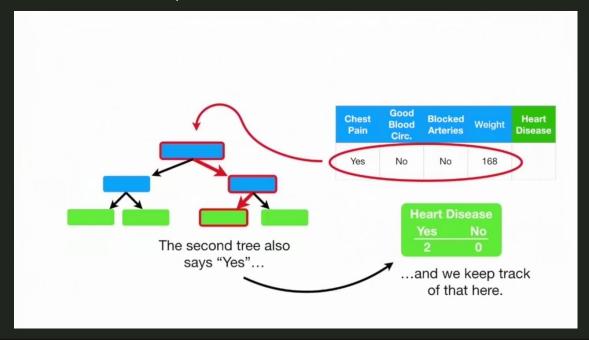
**Step Output**: N Decision Trees (our random forest)

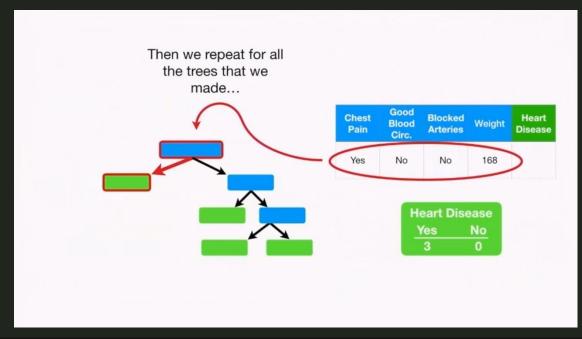


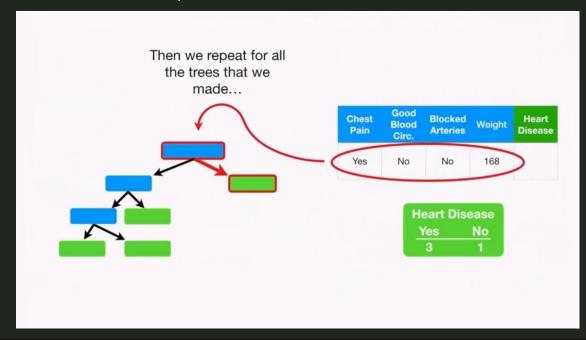
**Note**: Due to Bootstrapping and Random Feature selection we get a variety of different trees which **overcome overfitting** and **increase accuracy** 

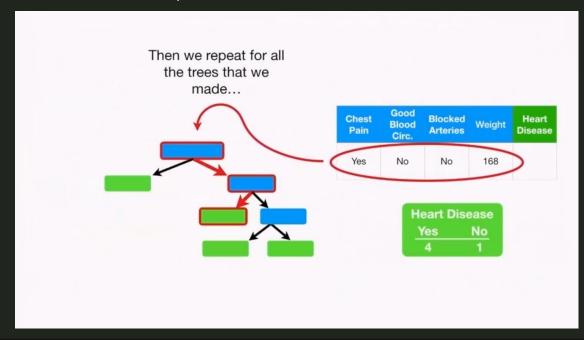


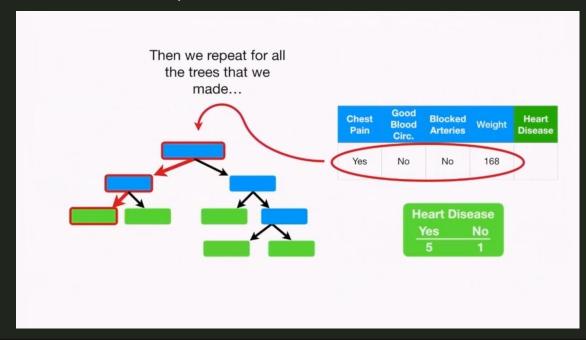








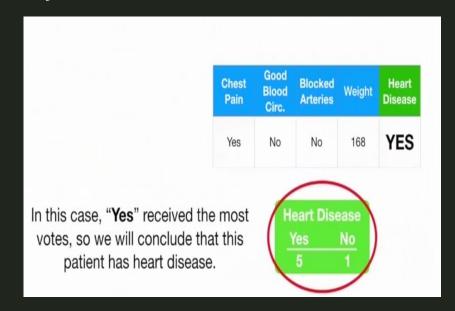




After all the trees have made there decisions, the class label with the majority votes will be the final decision of the Random Forest algorithm.

#### Note

- For classification we take the majority of votes
- while in regression we take the average.



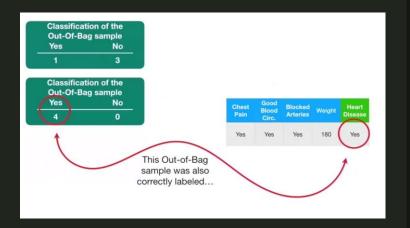
#### Final Notes

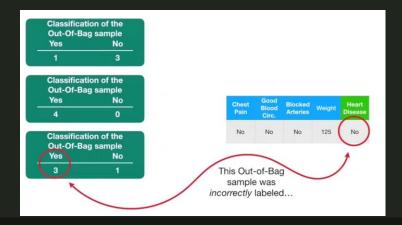
Note: About 1/3 of the original dataset does not get selected using bootstrapping these records are called "Out-Of-Bag" sample

we can measure how accurate our random forest is by the proportion of **Out-Of-Bag** samples that were correctly classified by the Random Forest.

The proportion of Out-Of-Bag samples that were incorrectly classified is the "Out-Of-Bag Error"

Note: sometimes it is split into test, and train







#### What makes the Random Forest Great?

- Robustness: Random Forests are less prone to overfitting compared to individual decision trees.
- Accuracy: They often provide higher accuracy because they combine the predictions of multiple trees.
- Handling Missing Values: Random Forests can handle missing values in the dataset.



#### How does it Handle Missing values

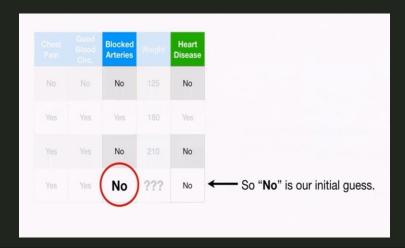
It handles missing values via a proximity matrix.

**First**, we make an initial guess which will probable be wrong then we will try to refine it.

Chest Pain	Good Blood Circ.	Blocked Arteries	Weight	Heart Disease
No	No	No	125	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	180	Yes
Yes	Yes	No	210	No
Yes	Yes	???	???	No

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#### How does it Handle Missing values

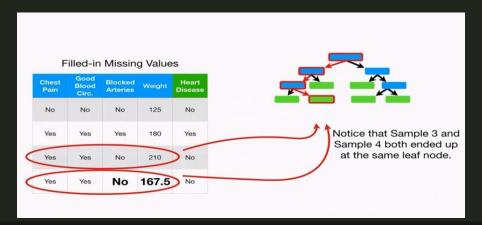
**First**, we make an initial guess which will probable be wrong then we will try to refine it.

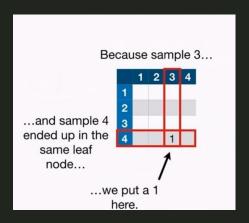
#### Filled-in Missing Values

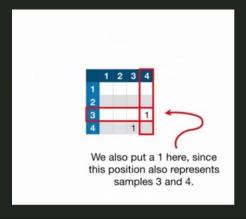
Chest Pain	Good Blood Circ.	Blocked Arteries	Weight	Heart Disease
No	No	No	125	No
Yes	Yes	Yes	180	Yes
Yes	Yes	No	210	No
Yes	Yes	No	167.5	No

### How does it Handle Missing values

**Second**, we create a proximity matrices by marking 1 for every pair of records that end up in the same leaf node.

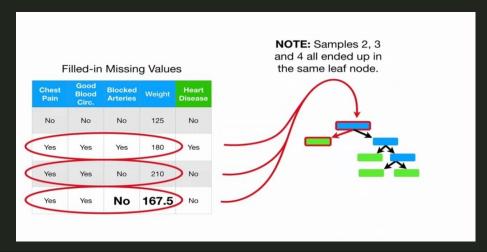






## How does it Handle Missing values

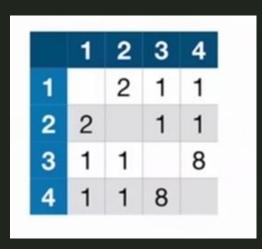
**Third**, we Keep doing for all the trees and updating the proximity Metrix



	1	2	3	4
1				
2			1	1
3		1		2
4		1	2	

#### How does it Handle Missing values

Third, We will end up with the complete proximity matric

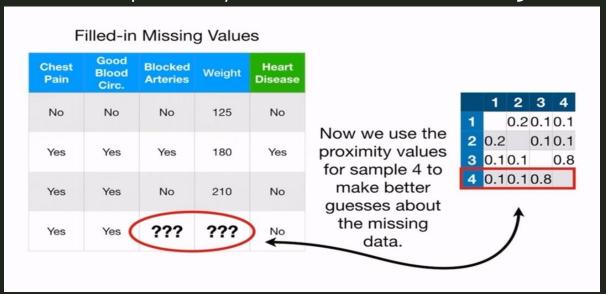


#### How does it Handle Missing values

**Forth**, We divide the values by the total number of trees in this example we assume it to be 10

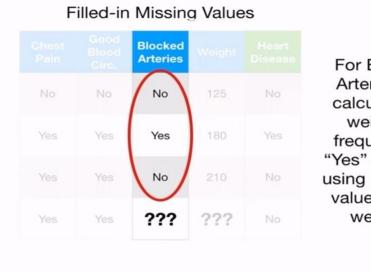


#### How does it Handle Missing values



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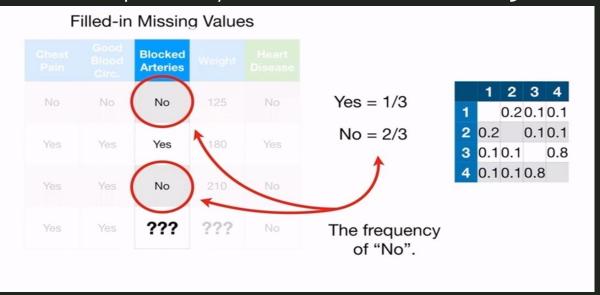
Fifth, We use the proximity matrices to make better guesses



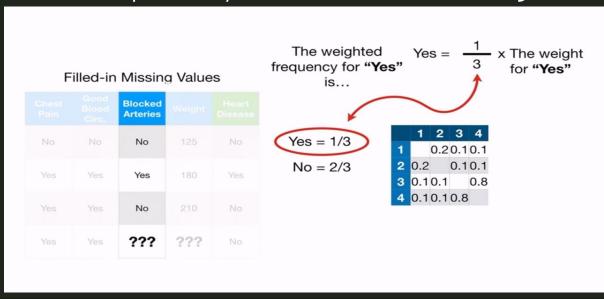
For Blocked
Arteries, we
calculate the
weighted
frequency of
"Yes" and "No,
using proximity
values as the
weights.

	1	2	3	4
1		0.2	0.1	0.1
2	0.2		0.1	0.1
3	0.1	0.1		0.8
4	0.1	0.1	0.8	

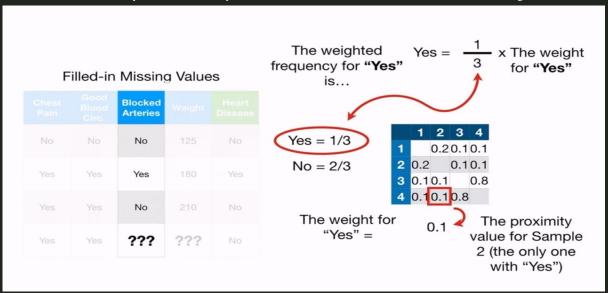
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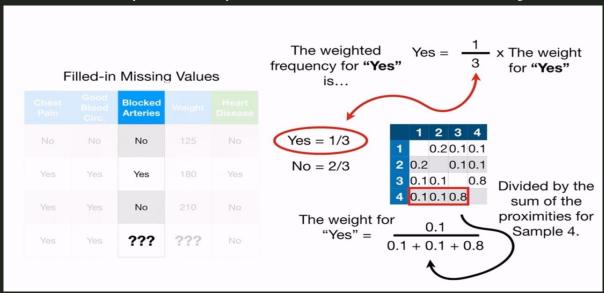
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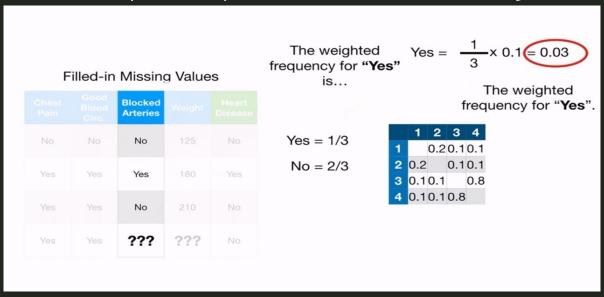
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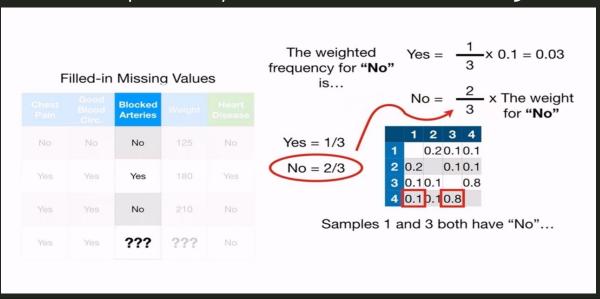
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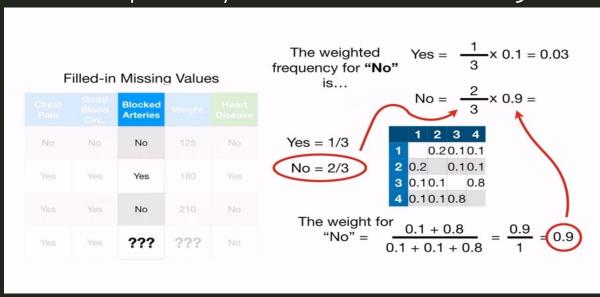
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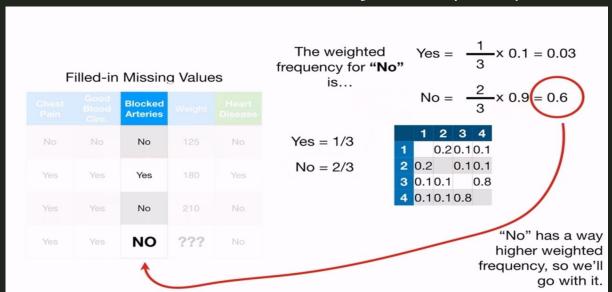


#### How does it Handle Missing values

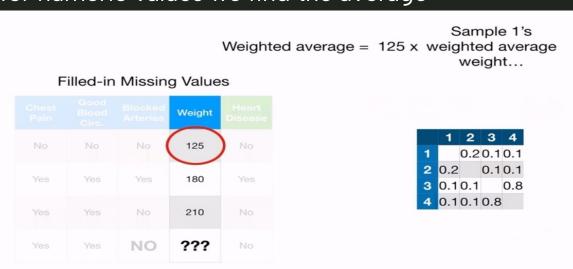


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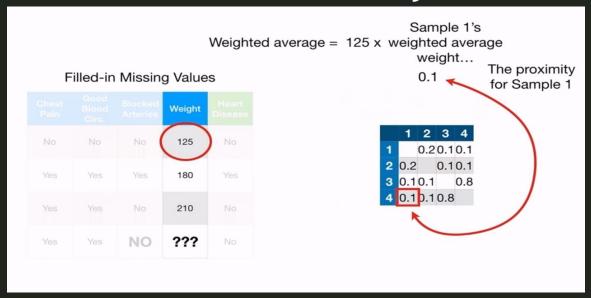
**Sixth**, we choose the value with the higher frequency



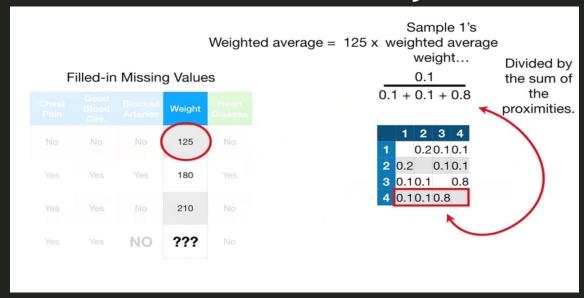
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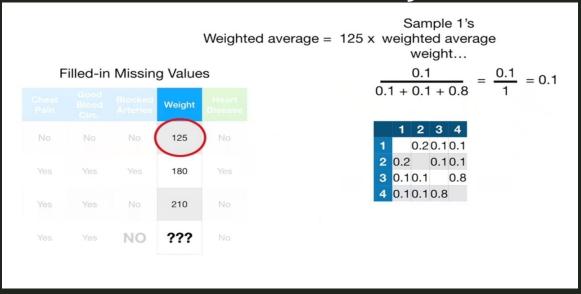
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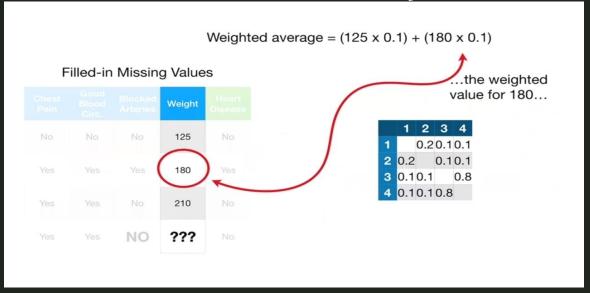
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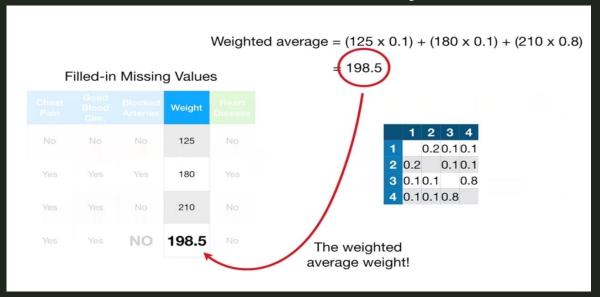
## How does it Handle Missing values



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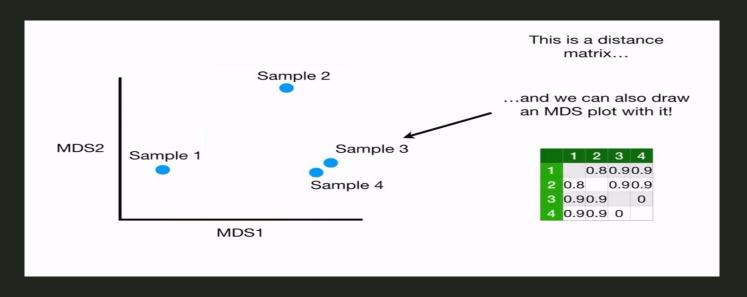
Finally, We repeat this process till no values are converged

Note, we can use the proximity metrics to find a distance metrics

	1	2	3	4	1 2 3 4	1	2
1		2	1	1	1 0.20.10.1	1	0.8
2	2		1	1	2 0.2 0.1 0.1	2 0.	8
3	1	1		10	3 0.10.1 1	3 0.	90.9
4	1	1	10		4 0.10.1 1	4 0.	90.9

#### Distance metrics

Which can be used to visualize the algorithm in a lot of charts





#### Limitations



#### What are the limitations of a Random Forest?

- <u>Interpretability</u>: Random Forests can be challenging to interpret, especially when the ensemble includes a large number of trees. Understanding the contribution of each feature to the overall prediction becomes complex, making it less intuitive than a single decision tree.
- Computational Complexity: Training a Random Forest with a large number of trees and deep trees can be computationally expensive and time-consuming. While the training process can be parallelized, it may still be slower than some other algorithms for large datasets. Why? because large number of decision-trees are used to make predictions. All the trees in the forest have to make a prediction for the same input and then perform voting on it. So, it is a time-consuming process.
- <u>Memory Usage</u>: Random Forests, especially with a large number of trees, can consume significant memory. Storing and maintaining multiple decision trees may be resource—intensive, limiting their applicability in memory–constrained environments.

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# Thanks!

