Boosting packages in R

- gbm: gradient boosting machines
 - boosted decision trees
 - C++
 - regression, classification, + extensions (e.g. survival, count data, quantile regression)
 - good, stable, maintained
 - retired (no new features)

Boosting packages in R

- xgboost: extreme gradient boosting
 - R interface to very fast C++ library
 - many additional algorithm innovations
 - random X sampling, as in random forest
 - regularized training (complexity penalty)
 - large data innovations
 - current industry standard (interfaces to all major data science languages)