

CIS 606 Machine Learning

Lecture 14

# AdaBoost

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Original Scoure:

[http://informatik.unibas.ch/lehre/ws05/cs232/\\_Folien/08\\_AdaBoost.pdf](http://informatik.unibas.ch/lehre/ws05/cs232/_Folien/08_AdaBoost.pdf)

## AdaBoost

Slides modified from: MLSS'08: Gunnar Rätsch,  
Introduction to Boosting  
<http://www.boosting.org>

## AdaBoost: Agenda

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- Idea AdaBoost  
(**Ad**aptive **B**oosting, R. Scharpire, Y. Freund, ICML, 1996):
  - Combine many low-accuracy classifiers ( weak learners)  
to create a high-accuracy classifier (strong learners )

## AdaBoost: Introduction

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- Example: 2 classes of apples



### The World:

Data:  $\{(\underline{x}_n, y_n)\}_{n=1}^N, \quad \underline{x}_n \in \mathbb{R}^d, \quad y_n \in \{\pm 1\}$

Unknown target function:  $y = f(\underline{x})$  (or  $y \sim P(y | \underline{x})$ )

Unknown distribution:  $\underline{x} \sim p(\underline{x})$

**Objective:** Given new  $\underline{x}$ , predict  $y$

**Problem:**  $P(\underline{x}, y)$  is unknown!

# AdaBoost: Introduction

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The Model:

- Hypothesis class:  $\mathcal{H} = \{h \mid h: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \{\pm 1\}\}$
- Loss:  $l(y, h(\underline{x}))$  (e.g.  $\mathbf{I}[y \neq h(\underline{x})]$ )

- **Objective:** Minimize the true (expected) loss – ( “generalization error”)

$$h^* = \min_{h \in \mathcal{H}} L(h) \text{ with } L(h) := \mathbf{E}_{\mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{Y}} l(\mathbb{Y}, h(\mathbb{X}))$$

- **Problem:** Only a data sample is available,  $P(\underline{x}, y)$  is unknown!

- **Solution:** Find empirical minimizer  $\hat{h}_N = \min_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N l(y_n, h(\underline{x}_n))$

How can we efficiently construct complex hypotheses with small generalization errors?

# AdaBoost: Frame work

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Algorithm

**Idea:**

- Simple Hypotheses are not perfect!
- Hypotheses combination  $\rightarrow$  increased accuracy

**Problems:**

- How to generate different hypotheses?
- How to combine them?

**Method:**



- Compute **distribution**  $d_1, \dots, d_N$  on examples
- Find hypothesis on the **weighted training sample**  $(\underline{x}_1, y_1, d_1), \dots, (\underline{x}_N, y_N, d_N)$
- **Combine** hypotheses  $h_1, h_2, \dots$  **linearly:**

$$f = \sum_{t=1}^T \alpha_t h_t$$

## AdaBoost: Frame work

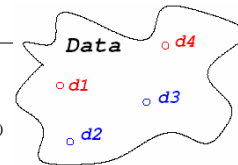
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**Input:**  $N$  examples  $\{(\underline{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\underline{x}_N, y_N)\}$ ,  
 $L$  a learning algorithm generating hypothesis  $h_t(\underline{x})$  (classifiers)  
 $T$  maxNumber of hypotheses in the ensemble

**Initialize:**  $d_n$  weight of example  $n$  ( $\underline{d}$  is a distribution with  $1 = \sum_{n=1}^N d_n^{(t)}$ )  
 $d_n^{(1)} = 1/N$  for all  $n = 1, \dots, N$

**Do for**  $t = 1, \dots, T$ ,

1. Train **base learner** according to example distribution  $\underline{d}^{(t)}$  and obtain hypothesis  $h_t : \underline{x} \mapsto \{\pm 1\}$ .
2. compute weighted error  $\varepsilon_t = \sum_{n=1}^N d_n^{(t)} \mathbf{I}(y_n \neq h_t(\underline{x}_n))$
3. compute **hypothesis weight**  $\alpha_t = \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{1 - \varepsilon_t}{\varepsilon_t}$
4. update **example distribution**  $d_n^{(t+1)} = d_n^{(t)} \exp(-\alpha_t y_n h_t(\underline{x}_n)) / Z_t$   
 $Z_t$  is a normalization factor



**Output:** final hypothesis  $f_{\text{Ens}}(\underline{x}) = \sum_{t=1}^T \alpha_t h_t(\underline{x})$

## AdaBoost: Decision Stumps

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- A family of weak learners,

e.g. Decision stump:

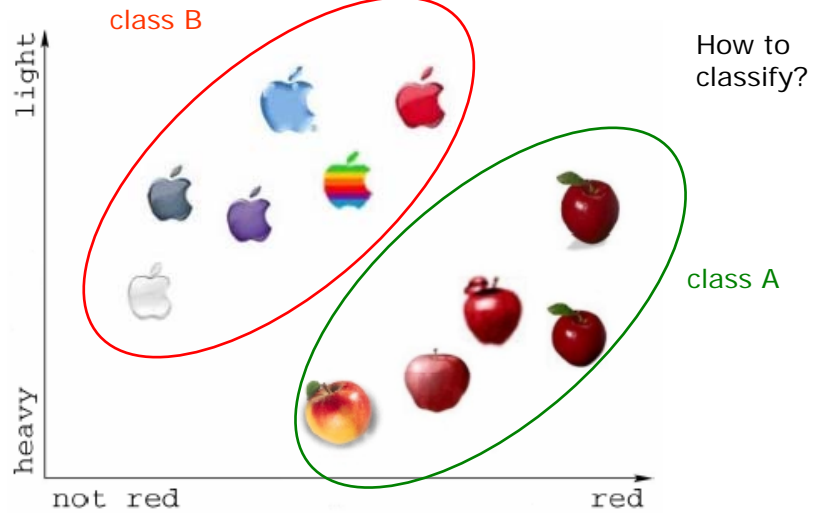
- can perform a single test on a single attribute with threshold  $\theta$ .
- parameterize all decision stumps as follows:

$$f^j(\underline{x}; \theta) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_j > \theta \\ -1 & \text{else} \end{cases}, \quad j = 1, \dots, d$$

## AdaBoost: Example

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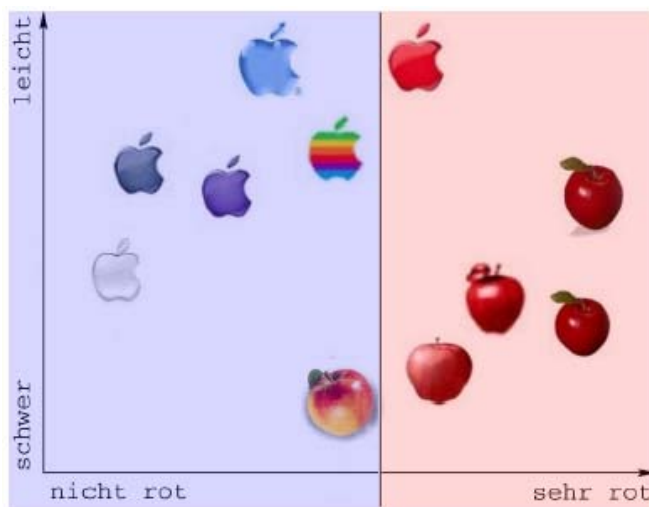
- Example: natural apples vs. plastic apples



## AdaBoost

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- Example: natural apples vs. plastic apples



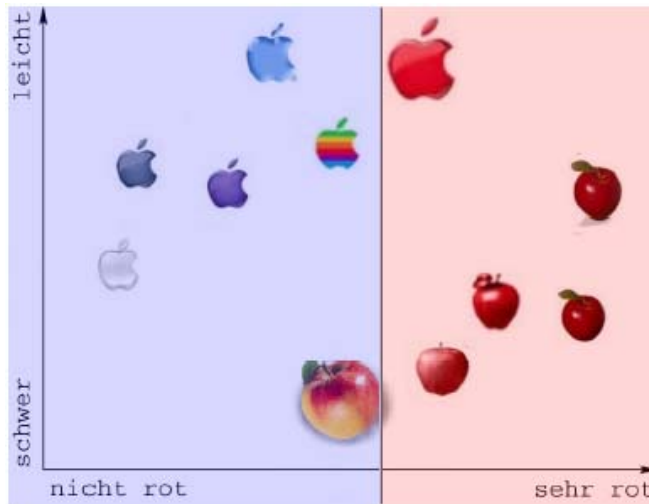
1<sup>st</sup> hypothesis

Weak classifier  
(cuts on  
coordinate  
axes)

# AdaBoost

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- Example:

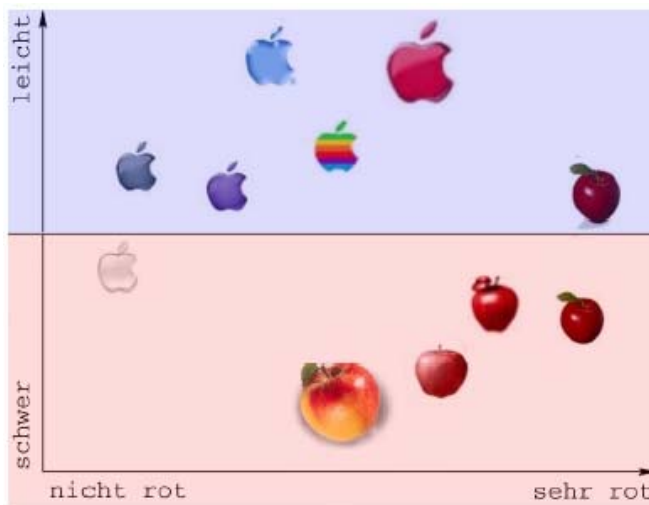


Recomputing weightings of the training patterns

# AdaBoost

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- Example:

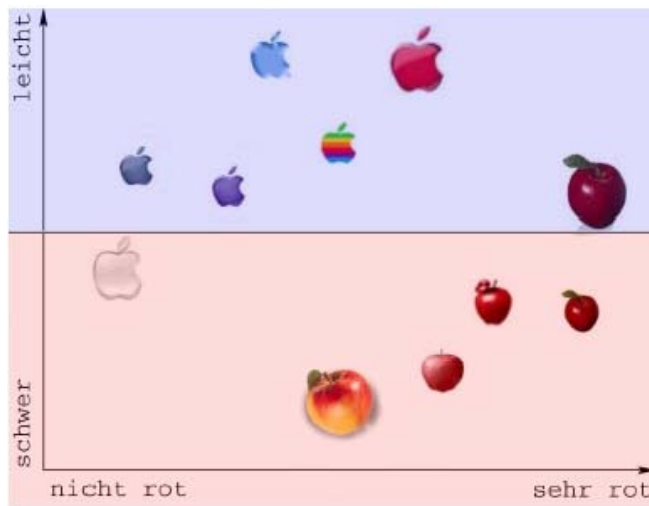


2<sup>nd</sup> hypothesis

# AdaBoost

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- Example:

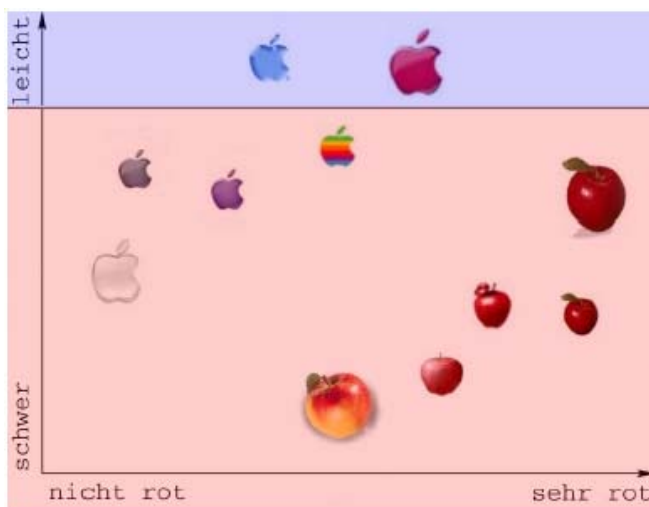


Recompute  
weighting

# AdaBoost

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- Example:



3<sup>rd</sup> hypothesis

# AdaBoost

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- Example:



Recompute  
weighting  
4<sup>th</sup> hypothesis

# AdaBoost

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- Example:



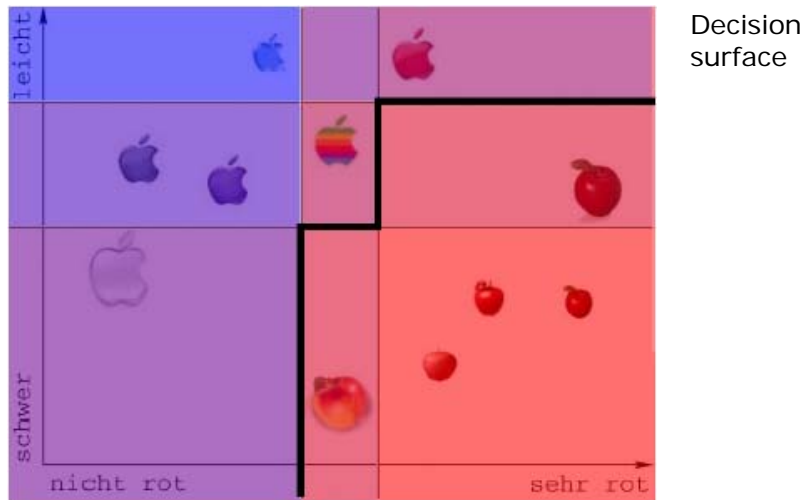
Combination  
of hypotheses



# AdaBoost

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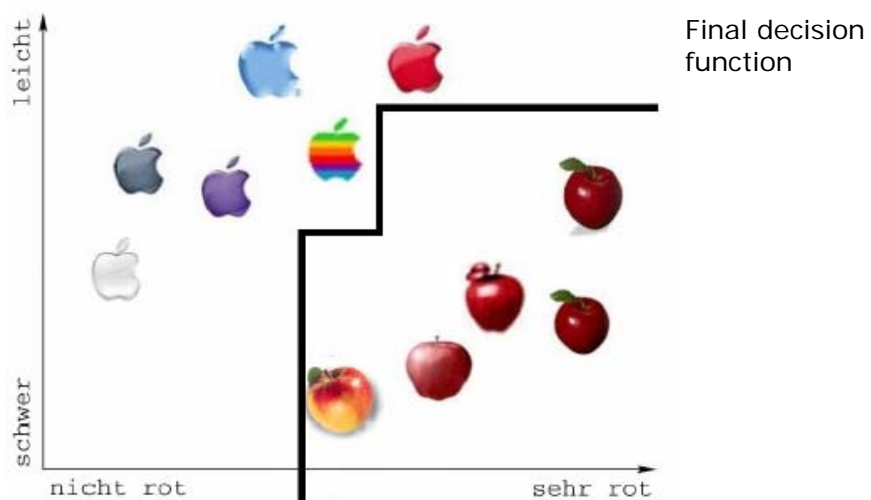
- Example:



# AdaBoost

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- Example



# AdaBoost: Frame work

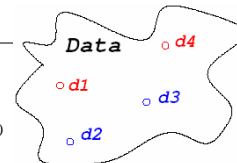
19

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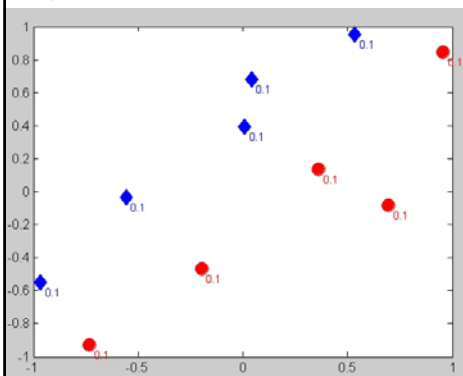


**Output:** final hypothesis  $f_{Ens}(\underline{x}) = \sum_{t=1}^T \alpha_t h_t(\underline{x})$

## AdaBoost

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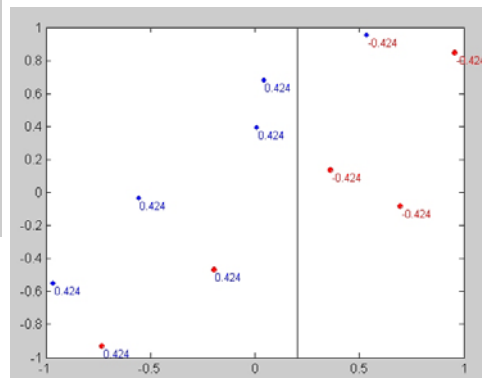
$t = 1$   
 $d_n^{(1)} = 1/10 \quad N = 10$



$$\varepsilon_1 = \sum_{n=1}^N d_n^{(1)} \mathbf{I}(y_n \neq h_1(\underline{x}_n)) = 0.3$$

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{1 - \varepsilon_1}{\varepsilon_1} = 0.424$$

$$f_{Ens}(\underline{x}) = \alpha_1 h_1(\underline{x})$$



# AdaBoost

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$t = 2$

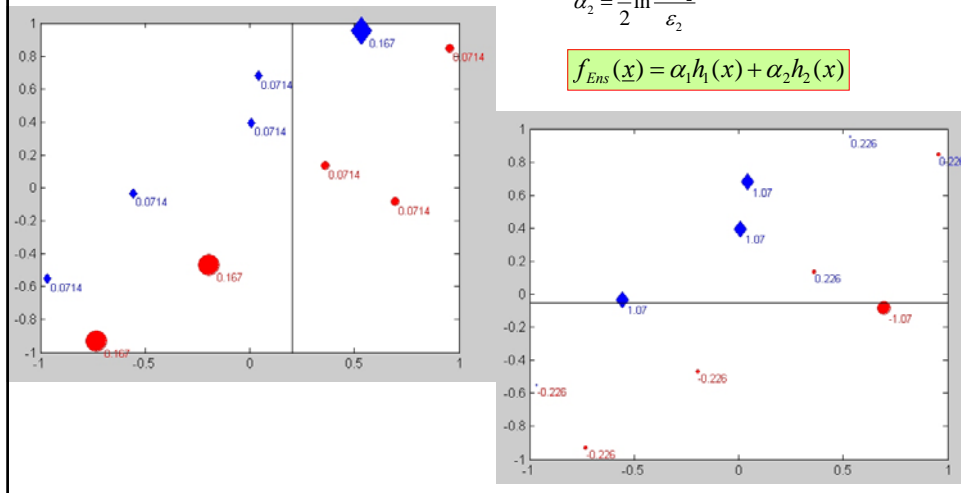
$$d_n^{(2)} = d_n^{(1)} \exp(-\alpha_1 y_n h_1(\underline{x}_n)) / Z_1$$

$Z_t$  is a normalization factor

$$\varepsilon_2 = \sum_{n=1}^N d_n^{(2)} \mathbf{I}(y_n \neq h_2(\underline{x}_n))$$

$$\alpha_2 = \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{1 - \varepsilon_2}{\varepsilon_2}$$

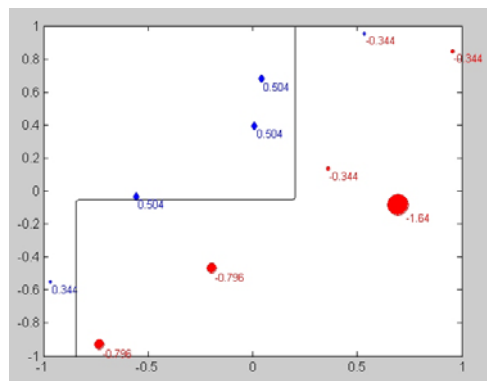
$$f_{\text{Ens}}(\underline{x}) = \alpha_1 h_1(\underline{x}) + \alpha_2 h_2(\underline{x})$$



# AdaBoost

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$t = 3$



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## AdaBoost: Frame work

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- Weak Learners used with Boosting
  - Decision stumps (axis parallel splits)
  - Decision trees (e.g. C4.5 by Quinlan 1996)
  - Multi-layer Neural networks (e.g. for OCR)
  - Radial basis function networks (e.g. UCI benchmarks, etc)

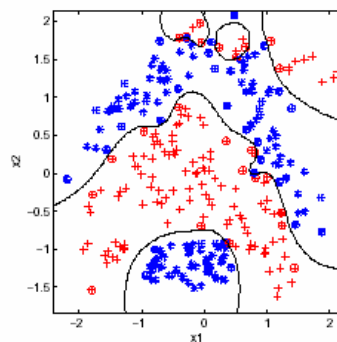
### Decision trees:

- Hierarchical and recursive partitioning on the input space
- Many approaches, usually [axis parallel splits](#)

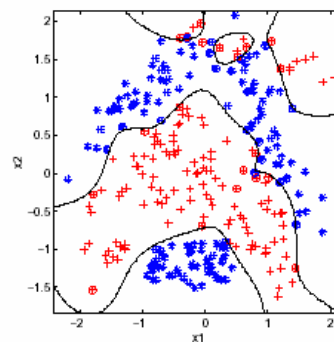
## AdaBoost: AdaBoost vs. SVM

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- Comparison AdaBoost vs. SVM



AdaBoost's decision line



SVM's decision line

These decision lines are for a low noise case with similar generalization errors. In AdaBoost, RBF networks with 13 centers were used.

# AdaBoost: Application

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## •Application

- DT C4.5 as weak classifier
- [Spam, Zip Code OCR](#)
- [Text classification](#): Schapire and Singer - Used stumps with normalized term frequency and multi-class encoding
- [OCR](#): Schwenk and Bengio (neural networks)
- [Natural language Processing](#): Collins; Haruno, Shirai and Ooyama
- [Image retrieval](#): Thieu and Viola
- [Medical diagnosis](#): Merle et al.
- [Fraud Detection](#): Rätsch & Müller 2001
- [Drug Discovery](#): Rätsch, Demiriz, Bennett 2002
- [Elect. Power Monitoring](#): Onoda, Rätsch & Müller 2000

# AdaBoost: Information

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|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>Introduction</b> | <a href="http://informatik.unibas.ch/lehre/ws05/cs232/Downloads/Schapire_A_Short_Introduction_to_Boosting.pdf">http://informatik.unibas.ch/lehre/ws05/cs232/Downloads/Schapire_A_Short_Introduction_to_Boosting.pdf</a> |
| <b>Internet</b>     | <a href="http://www.boosting.org">http://www.boosting.org</a><br><a href="http://www.cs.princeton.edu/~schapire/boost.html">http://www.cs.princeton.edu/~schapire/boost.html</a>  |
| <b>Conferences</b>  | <u>Computational Learning Theory (COLT)</u> , Neural Information Processing Systems (NIPS), Int. Conference on Machine Learning (ICML), . . .   |
| <b>Journals</b>     | <u>Machine Learning</u> , Journal of Machine Learning Research, Information and Computation, Annals of Statistics   |
| <b>People</b>       | List available at <a href="http://www.boosting.org">http://www.boosting.org</a>   |
| <b>Software</b>     | Only few implementations (algorithms 'too simple')<br>(cf. <a href="http://www.boosting.org">http://www.boosting.org</a> )  |