

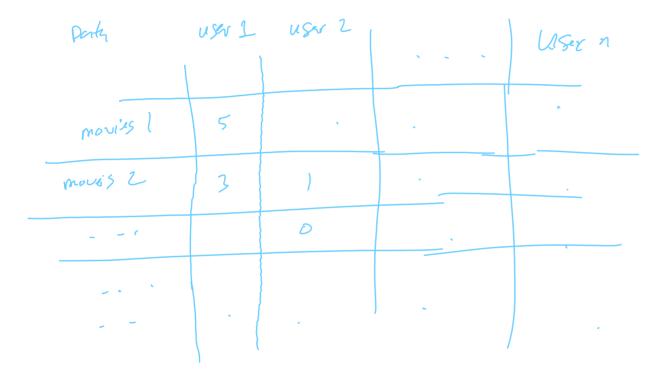
Ensemble Method and Boosting

Son Nguyen

• 1 million USD to any one that can improve Netflix's rating algorithm...

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• 1 million USD to any one that can improve Netflix's rating algorithm **by 10%**



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• The winning team:

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- The second-place team's name is...

- The winning team: BellKor's Pragmatic Chaos, used ensemble models"
- The second-place team's name is "The Ensemble"

- "During the nearly 3 years of the Netflix competition, there were two main factors which improved the overall accuracy:
 - The quality of the individual algorithms, and
 - the ensemble idea"

"XGBoost (an ensemble algorithm) is an algorithm that has recently been dominating applied machine learning and Kaggle competitions for structured or tabular data." Link

 List of machine learning winning solutions with XGBoost: https://github.com/dmlc/xgboost/tree/master/demo#machine-learning-challenge-winning-solutions

Adaboost (an ensemble algorithm) won 2003 **Godel Prize**: AdaBoost demonstrated novel possibilities in analysing data and is a permanent contribution to science even beyond computer science. Link

AdaBoost (with decision trees as the weak learners) is often referred to as the best out-of-the-box classifier. Link

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Leo Brieman, who invented "Bagging" and "Random Forest" crowned AdaBoost the "best off-the-shelf classifier in the world (2000).

Ensemble Machine Learning Approach

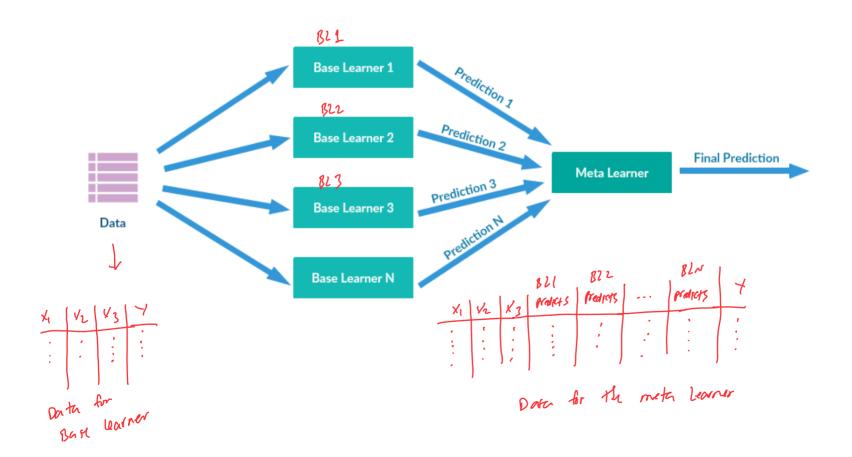
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Ensemble Machine Learning Approach

- An ensemble is a composite model, combining a series of low performing classifiers(classification models) or learners with the aim of creating an improved classifier.
- Three common ensemble:
 - Stacking
 - Bagging
 - Boosting

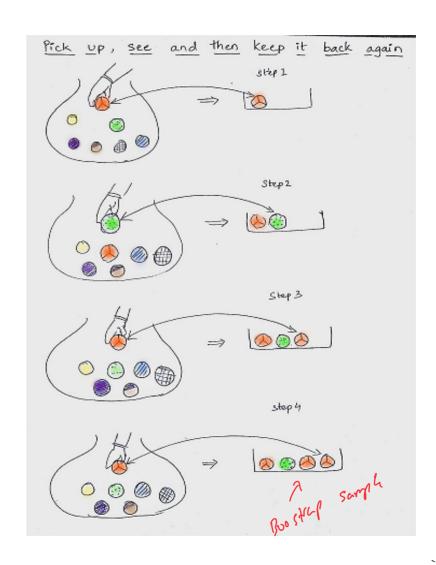
Stacking

- Stacking combines multiple base learners predictions into a new data set.
- This new data are treated as the **input data** for another learner (meta learner).



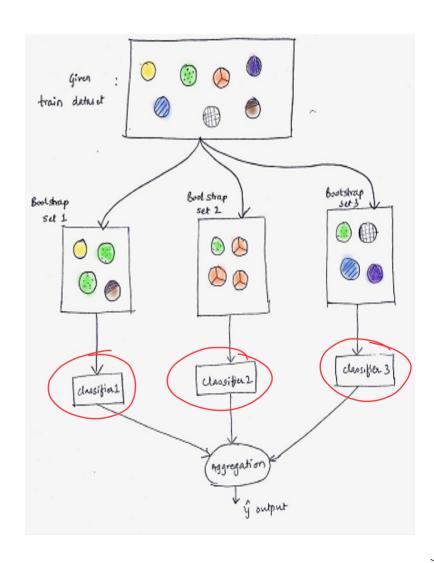
Bagging = Bootstrap Aggregating

• Step 1: Boostrapping

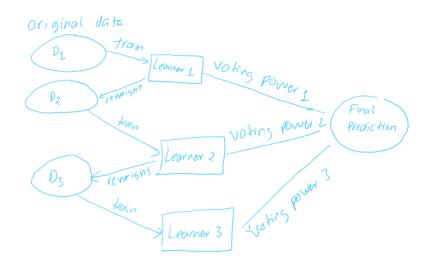


Bagging = Bootstrap Aggregating

• Step 2: Aggregating

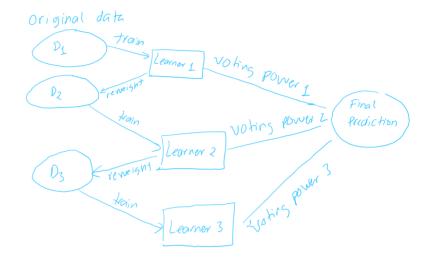


• Weak learners are sequentially converted into a strong learner.

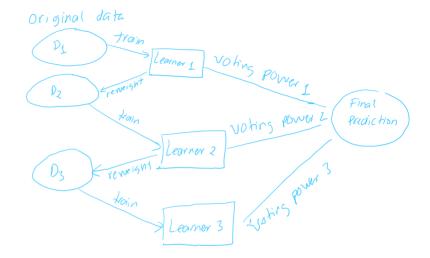


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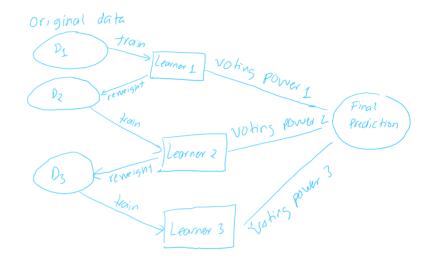
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- Each leaner in the sequence tries to correct its predecessor.



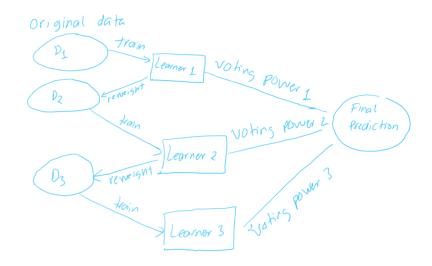
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- Individually, Learn 1, Learner 2 and Learner 3 are **weak leaners** (a little better than a coin toss).

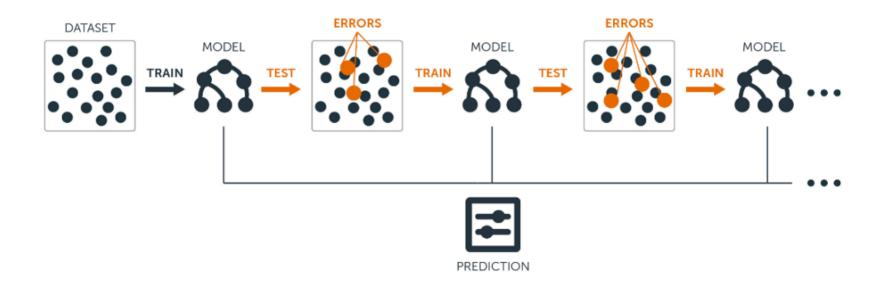


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- The learners are usually a tree with 2 leaves (**Stump**).



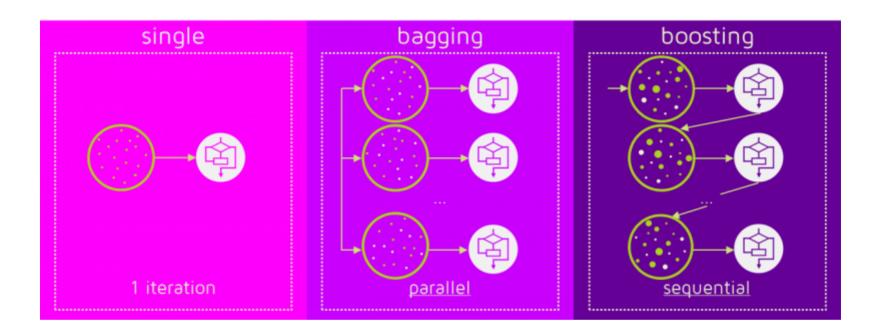
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- In D2, the wrong misclassified of Learner 1 gets higher weights.
- In D3, the wrong misclassified of Learner 2 gets higher weights.





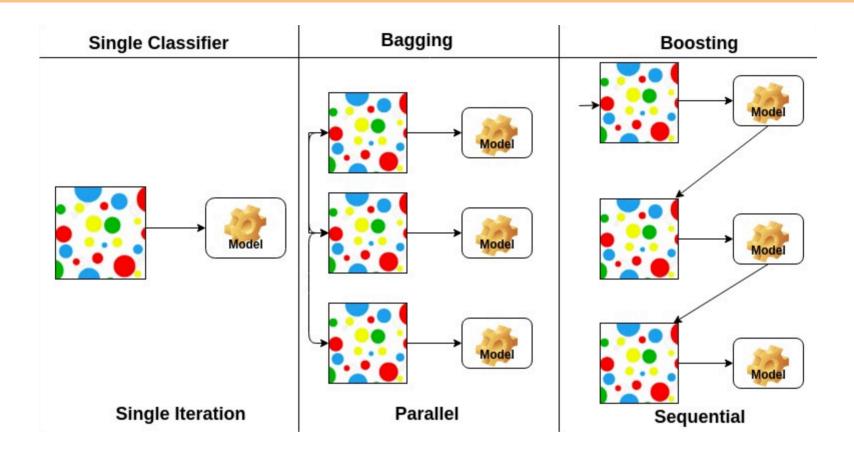
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Bagging vs. Boosting



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Bagging vs. Boosting



Types of Boosting

- Adaboost
- Gradient Boosting

Adaboost

Idea Behind Ada Boost

- Examples of high weight are shown more often at later rounds
- Face/nonface classification problem:

Round 1

best weak classifier:

change weights:



1/16



1/4



1/16











1/4 1/16 1/4

Round 2













1/16









best weak classifier:





















change weights:

1/8

1/32 11/32

1/2

Adaboost

Idea Behind Ada Boost

Round 3



- out of all available weak classifiers, we choose the one that works best on the data we have at round 3
- we assume there is always a weak classifier better than random (better than 50% error)
- image is half of the data given to the classifier
- chosen weak classifier has to classify this image correctly

Adaboost, Clearly Explained

- Demonstration by StatQuest
- Link

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