

SEARCH



RESOURCES



CONCEPTS

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Mentor Help

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Further Learning and Resources

Bias and Variance

this [Wikipedia article on the bias-variance tradeoff](#) discusses the central problem of learning.

Ensemble methods in the scikit-learn library:

- **BaggingClassifier**
 - Discusses how the Bagging classifier is used to fit base classifiers each on the original dataset and then aggregate their individual predictions (either by averaging or by taking the majority) to form a final prediction.
- **RandomForestClassifier**
 - Discusses how the RandomForest classifier fits a number of decision trees on various sub-samples of the dataset and uses averaging to improve the model and control over-fitting.
- **AdaBoostClassifier**
 - Discusses how the AdaBoost classifier fits on the original dataset and then fits multiple copies of the classifier on the same dataset but where the weights of instances are adjusted such that subsequent classifiers focus more on the misclassified instances.

Another really useful guide for ensemble methods, which can also all be extended to regression problems, can be found [in the documentation here](#).

Boosting

1. [The original paper](#) - A link to the original paper on boosting by Yoav Freund and Schapire.
2. [An explanation about why boosting is so important](#) - A great article on boosting by Ben Gorman.
3. [A useful Quora post](#) - A number of useful explanations about boosting.

AdaBoost

- Here is the original [paper](#) from Freund and Schapire that is a short overview of the boosting algorithm AdaBoost, and explains the underlying theory of boosting and an explanation of why boosting often does not suffer from overfitting as well as its relationship to support-vector machines.
- A follow-up [paper](#) from the same authors regarding several experiments with boosting.
- A great [tutorial](#) by Schapire explaining the many perspectives and analyses that have been applied to explain or understand it as a learning method, with comparisons of the strengths and weaknesses of the various approaches.