

Note for XgBoost, LightGBM, CatBoost

Monday, April 15, 2019

10:18 AM

1. XgBoost

a. Pre-sorting:

- For each node, enumerate over all features
- For each feature, **sort** the instances by feature value
- Use linear scan to decide the best split along that feature basis information
- Take the best split solution along all the features

b. Histogram-based:

- Split all data points for a feature into discrete bins
- Uses these bins to find the best split value of histogram

2. LightGBM

a. Gradient-based One-Side Sampling (GOSS)

- Keeps all the instances with large gradients and performs random sampling on instances with small gradients
- Training instances with small gradients have smaller training error and it is more likely to be selected
- To achieve good balance between reducing the number of data instances and maintaining accuracy for learned decision trees, GOSS introduces a constant multiplier α with small gradients

3. CatBoost

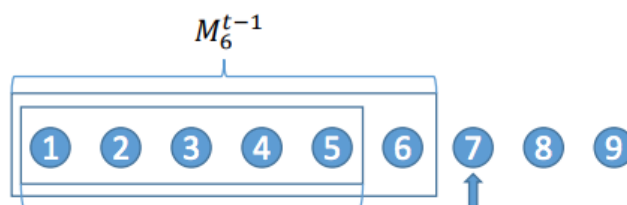
a. Practical implement of ordered boosting

b. Permutating the set of input observations in a random order, multiple random permutations are generated

c. Converting the label value from a floating point or category to an integer

d. Transform all categorical feature to numeric values using $avg_target = \frac{countInClass}{totalCount}$

- countInClass** is how many times the label value was equal to "1" for object with a categorical feature value.
- TotalCount** is the total number of objects that have a categorical feature value equal to the current one



Algorithm 2: Building a tree in CatBoost

input : $M, \{y_i\}_{i=1}^n, \alpha, L, \{\sigma_i\}_{i=1}^s, L$
 $grad \leftarrow \text{CalcGradient}(L, M, y);$
 $r \leftarrow \text{random}(1, s);$

n gain.

ng on the instances with
t is already well-trained.
and keeping the
r for the data instances

permutations are

$$\frac{Class + prior}{Count + 1}$$
s with the current

value matching the

oost

Mode

$$M_5^{t-1} \quad r^t(x_7, y_7) = y_7 - M_6^{t-1}(x_7)$$

Figure 1: Ordered boosting principle.

Algorithm 1: Ordered boosting

input : $\{(\mathbf{x}_k, y_k)\}_{k=1}^n, I$;
 $\sigma \leftarrow$ random permutation of $[1, n]$;
 $M_i \leftarrow 0$ for $i = 1..n$;
for $t \leftarrow 1$ **to** I **do**
 for $i \leftarrow 1$ **to** n **do**
 $r_i \leftarrow y_i - M_{\sigma(i)-1}(i)$;
 for $i \leftarrow 1$ **to** n **do**
 $\Delta M \leftarrow$
 $\text{LearnModel}((\mathbf{x}_j, r_j) :$
 $\sigma(j) \leq i)$;
 $M_i \leftarrow M_i + \Delta M$;
return M_n

$r \leftarrow \text{random}([1, \sigma])$;
 $G \leftarrow (\text{grad}_r(1), \dots, \text{grad}_r(n))$ for $r \in \sigma$;
 $G \leftarrow (\text{grad}_{r, \sigma_r(1)-1}(i))$ for $i = 1$ to n ;
 $T \leftarrow$ empty tree;
foreach *step of top-down procedure* **do**
 foreach *candidate split* c **do**
 $T_c \leftarrow$ add split c to T ;
 if $\text{Mode} == \text{Plain}$ **then**
 $\Delta(i) \leftarrow \text{avg}(\text{grad}_r(p)$ for
 $p : \text{leaf}(p) = \text{leaf}(i))$
 if $\text{Mode} == \text{Ordered}$ **then**
 $\Delta(i) \leftarrow \text{avg}(\text{grad}_{r, \sigma_r(i)-1}(p)$
 $p : \text{leaf}(p) = \text{leaf}(i), \sigma_r(p) \leq \sigma_r(i))$
 $\text{loss}(T_c) \leftarrow \|\Delta - G\|_2$
 $T \leftarrow \text{argmin}_{T_c}(\text{loss}(T_c))$
 if $\text{Mode} == \text{Plain}$ **then**
 $M_{r'}(i) \leftarrow M_{r'}(i) - \alpha \text{avg}(\text{grad}_r(p)$
 $p : \text{leaf}(p) = \text{leaf}(i))$ for all $r' \in \sigma$;
 if $\text{Mode} == \text{Ordered}$ **then**
 $M_{r', j}(i) \leftarrow M_{r', j}(i) - \alpha \text{avg}(\text{grad}_{r, \sigma_r(i)-1}(p)$
 $p : \text{leaf}(p) = \text{leaf}(i), \sigma_r(p) \leq \sigma_r(i))$ for all $r' \in \sigma$;
return T, M

Boost

Mode

Plain;
) for Ordered;

to

for all i ;

$\sigma_1(p)$ for
 $\sigma_r(p) < \sigma_r(i)) \ \forall i$;

$\sigma_{r'}(p)$ for
 r', i ;

$ad_{r',j}(p)$ for
 j for all r', j, i ;
