

# Foundations of Machine Learning

## AI2000 and AI5000

FoML-37  
Model Combination

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# So far in FoML

- Intro to ML and Probability refresher
- MLE, MAP, and fully Bayesian treatment
- Supervised learning
  - a. Linear Regression with basis functions
  - b. Bias-Variance Decomposition
  - c. Decision Theory - three broad classification strategies
  - d. Neural Networks
- Unsupervised learning
  - a. K-Means, Hierarchical, and GMM for clustering
- Kernelizing linear Models
  - a. Dual representation, Kernel trick, SVM (max-margin classifier)
- Tree-based Methods



# For today

- Model combination

# Single vs Multiple models

- Combining multiple models (often) → improved performance

Common practice to deploy 'ensemble' of models



# Single vs Multiple models

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  - E.g., train  $L$  different models and use the average of the predictions made by each model

# Single vs Multiple models

- Combining multiple models (often) → improved performance
  - E.g., train  $L$  different models and use the average of the predictions made by each model
- Such combinations of models → Committees



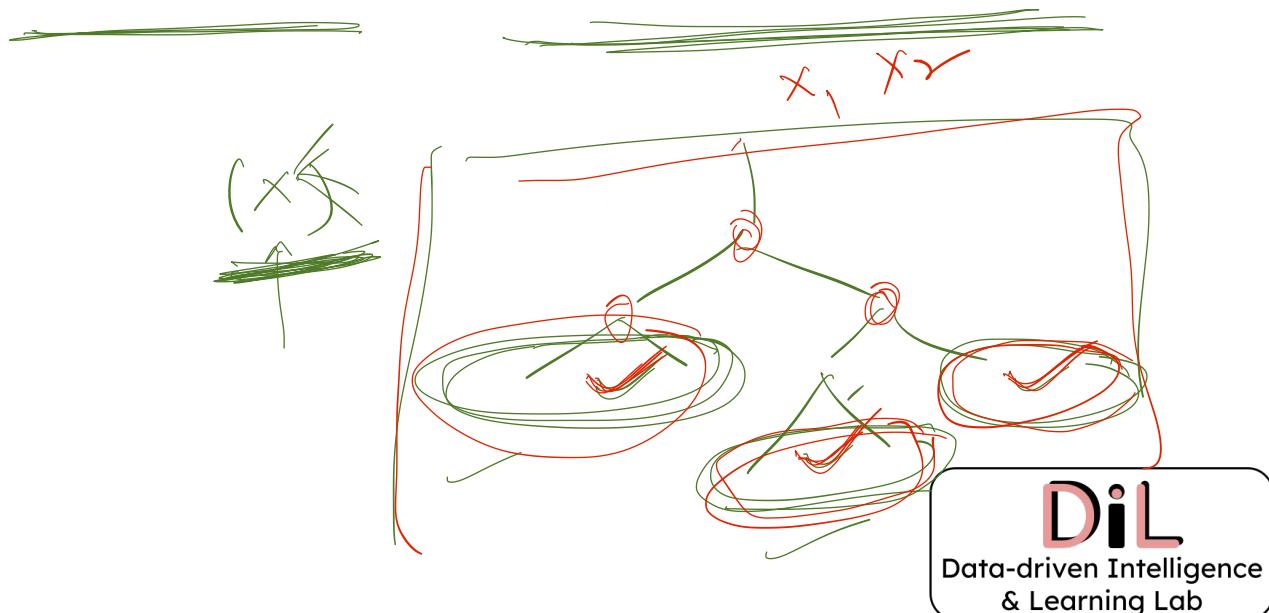
# Model combination - variants

- Boosting
  - Training multiple models in sequence
  - Error function used to train a models depends on the performance of the previous model



# Model combination - variants

- Select one of the models to make the prediction
  - Choice of the model is a function of the input
  - Different models are responsible for making predictions in different regions



# Model combination - variants

- Select one of the models to make the prediction
  - Choice of the model is a function of the input
  - Different models are responsible for making predictions in different regions
- E.g., decision trees
  - Selection process is a sequence of binary selections



$$\int p(\mathcal{M}|w) p(w) dw$$

# Bayesian Model Averaging vs. Model combination



# Model combination

- E.g., density estimation using a mixture of Gaussians (GMM)
- Several Gaussian components are combined probabilistically
  - Binary latent variable  $z$  is responsible for generating  $x$



# Model combination

$$p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z})$$

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{z}} p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}).$$

Marginal on  $\mathbf{x}$

$$p(\mathbf{X}) = \prod_{n=1}^N p(\mathbf{x}_n) = \prod_{n=1}^N \left[ \sum_{\mathbf{z}_n} p(\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{z}_n) \right].$$

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_k \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x} | \underline{\mu}_k, \underline{\Sigma}_k)$$

Each data sample has a corresponding latent variable



# Bayesian Model Averaging

- Several different models indexed by  $h$  and prior  $p(h)$ 
  - E.g., GMM or mixture of Cauchy distributions

$$h = \{1, 2, \dots, H\}$$



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Marginal distribution over data



$$p(\mathbf{X}) = \sum_{h=1}^H p(\mathbf{X}|h)p(h).$$



# Bayesian Model Averaging

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Marginal distribution over data      
$$p(\mathbf{X}) = \sum_{h=1}^H p(\mathbf{X}|h)p(h).$$

One model is responsible for generating the whole data,  $p(h)$   
captures our uncertainty as to which model that is

*uncertainty improves with observing  
more data*





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# Decision Trees



- Suffer from high variance
  - Different splits of training data → quite different results
- Random Forests, and Boosting reduce the variance
  - These are general purpose procedures



# Bagging / Bootstrapping The dataset

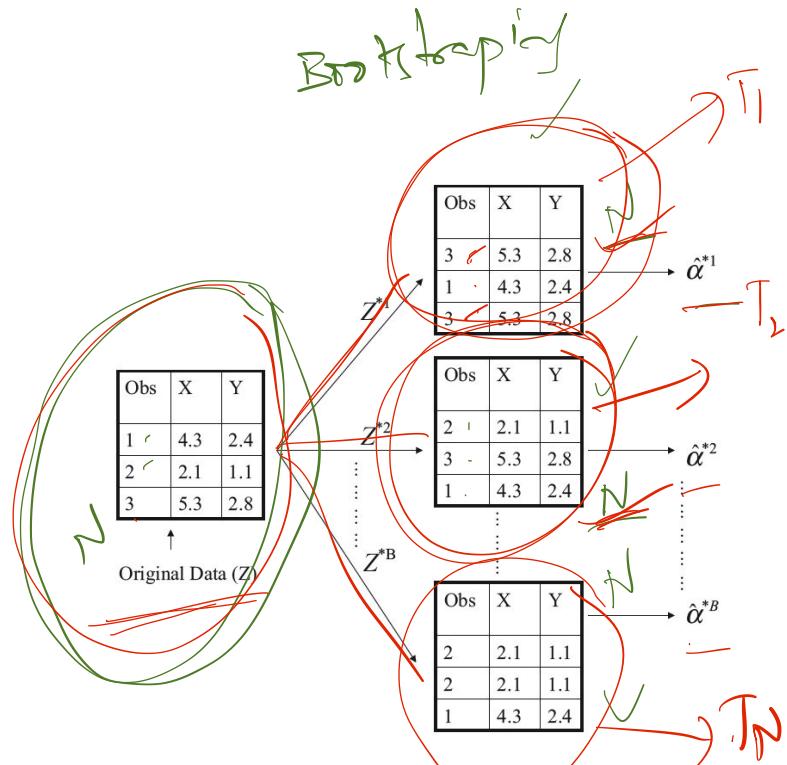
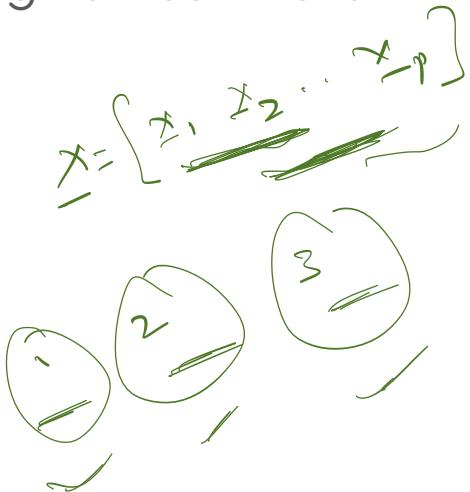


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# Bootstrap

- Creates multiple datasets sampled with replacement
- Used to quantify the uncertainty associated with a given estimator



DIL

Data-driven Intelligence  
& Learning Lab



# Bootstrap

- *Averaging a set of observations reduces the variance*
- Take many training sets, train separate models and average the resulting predictions



# Bagging

Even if the assumption fails,  
it turns out  $E_{\text{bag}} < E_{\text{AV}}$

- Compute  $B$  different models using  $B$  separate training sets

$$\hat{f}^{*b}(x) = h(x) + \epsilon_b(x)$$

ground truth  
 that we need to  
 predict

↓  
 Error made  
 by model 'b'

Avg. error made by model 'b'

$$E_x[(\hat{f}^{*b} - h)^2] = E_x[\epsilon_b(x)^2]$$

Avg. error made by 'B' models

$$E_{\text{AV}} = \frac{1}{B} \sum_{b=1}^B E_x[\epsilon_b(x)^2]$$

$$\hat{f}_{\text{bag}}(x) = \frac{1}{B} \sum_{b=1}^B \hat{f}^{*b}(x).$$

Expected error of the bagging model

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_{\text{bag}} &= E_x[(\hat{f}_{\text{bag}}(x) - h(x))^2] = E_x\left[\left(\frac{1}{B} \sum_{b=1}^B \epsilon_b(x)\right)^2\right] \\
 &= \frac{1}{B} \sum_{b=1}^B E_x[\epsilon_b(x)^2] = \frac{1}{B} E_{\text{AV}}
 \end{aligned}$$

assuming

$$\begin{cases}
 E_x[\epsilon_b(x)] = 0 \forall b \\
 \text{Cov}[\epsilon_b(x), \epsilon_{b'}(x)] = 0 \\
 b \neq b'
 \end{cases}$$



# Bagging

- Useful for decision trees (improves predictions)
- B trees are trained on the bootstrapped datasets
  - Trees are grown deep without pruning
  - High variance and low bias
  - Aggregating → low variance



# Bagging

- Prediction aggregation
  - Average for regression ✓
  - Majority voting for classification ✓

'B'





# Random Forests



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# Random Forests

- Improvement over bagged trees
  - Via decorrelating them



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# Random Forests

- Similar to bagging, we build several trees
- When building trees

→ features

→ BS  
→ mini|Ent

- During a split, a random subset of predictors are chosen as candidates
- Instead of all the ' $p$ ' predictors, only a random sample of ' $m$ ' ( $\sqrt{p}$ ) are allowed to conduct split

$x \in \mathbb{R}^P$       ' $p$ ' - features

but work with random  $m < P$  features  
at every split



# Random Forests

*feature*

- Suppose one strong predictor and multiple moderate predictors are present in the data
- Bagging → most trees use the strong predictor at the top

'B'



# Random Forests

- → Most of them will be similar → predictions will be correlated
- Averaging doesn't lead to a large reduction in variance



# Random Forests

- RF overcome this by forcing each split to use a subset of predictors
- Majority of the splits do not consider the strong predictor
- → decorrelating the trees

Interpretability  
Acc.



# Boosting

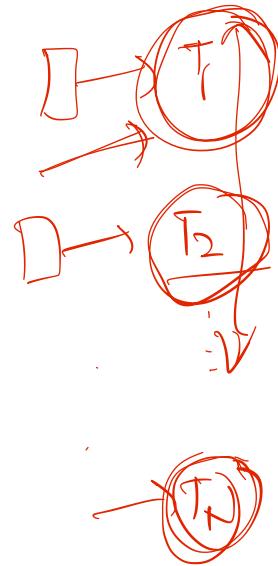


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# Boosting

- Bagging → multiple copies → trees are learned independently
- Boosting → Trees are grown sequentially
  - each tree is grown using information from previously grown trees



# Boosting

- Does not involve bootstrap sampling
- instead each tree is fit on a modified version of the original data set



# Boosting

- Given the current model, we fit a decision tree to the residuals from the model.
- Fit a tree using the current residuals, rather than the outcome  $Y$ , as the response.



# Boosting for Regression Trees

1. Set  $\hat{f}(x) = 0$  and  $r_i = y_i$  for all  $i$  in the training set.

2. For  $b = 1, 2, \dots, B$ , repeat:

- (a) Fit a tree  $\hat{f}^b$  with  $d$  splits ( $d + 1$  terminal nodes) to the training data  $(X, r)$ .
- (b) Update  $\hat{f}$  by adding in a shrunken version of the new tree:

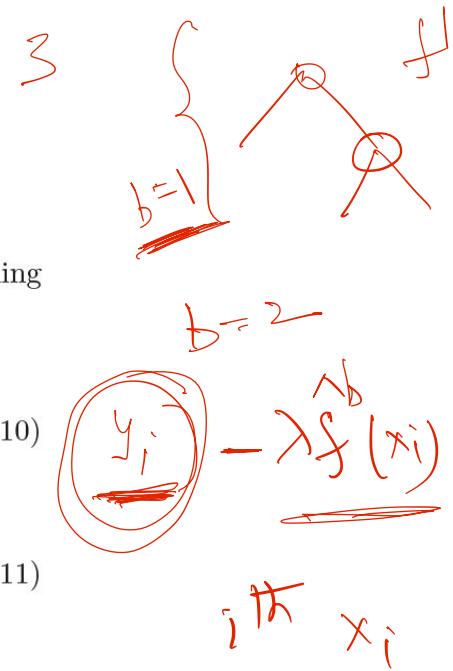
$$\hat{f}(x) \leftarrow \hat{f}(x) + \lambda \hat{f}^b(x). \quad (8.10)$$

- (c) Update the residuals,

$$r_i \leftarrow r_i - \lambda \hat{f}^b(x_i). \quad (8.11)$$

3. Output the boosted model,

$$\hat{f}(x) = \sum_{b=1}^B \lambda \hat{f}^b(x). \quad (8.12)$$



# Rough



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