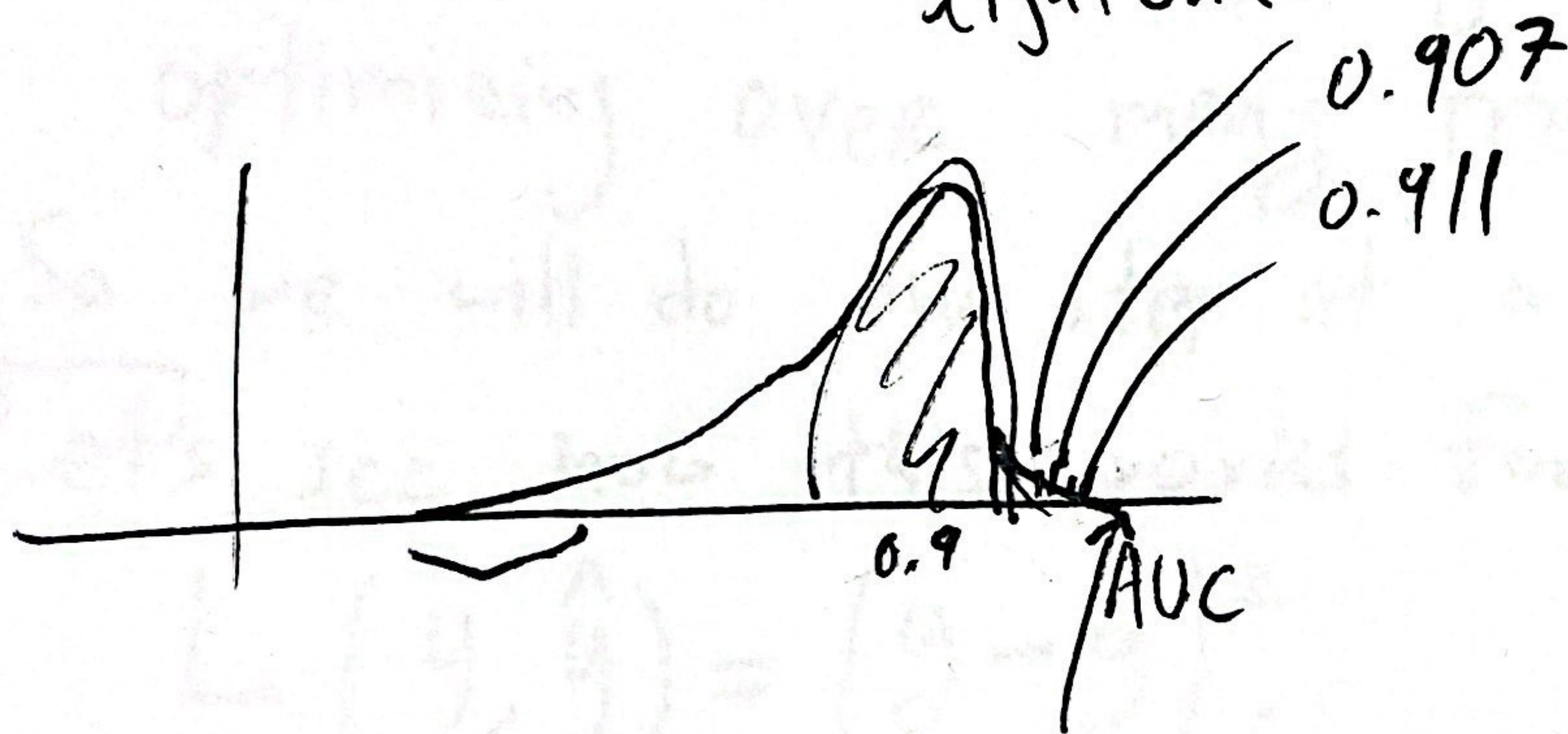


Business data Science.

Oct 18. Lecture no 16.

Today Boosting + Forward Stagewise Additive Modeling (FSAM).

→ Boosting and Gradient Boosting.  
GBM, XGBoost, CATBoost.  
lightGBM.



Boosting: train many models sequentially.

→ Never change previous trained models.

→ Each new model should focus on correcting the mistakes of previous models.

Individual Models aka Weak Learners e.g. trees

$b(x, \theta)$

features

Parameters



2

$$f(x) = \sum_{m=1}^M b(x, \theta_m)$$

How to train? Jointly Fitting all  $M$  trees:

$$\min_{\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \dots, \theta_M} \sum_{i=1}^n L(y_i, \sum_{m=1}^M b(x_i, \theta_m))$$

• We don't know of efficient ways of jointly optimizing over many trees

• So we will do one step at a time.

Let's see how this works for  $l_2$  Loss (MSE)

$$L(y, \hat{y}) = (y - \hat{y})^2$$

Step 1: train tree 1:  $\min_{\theta_1} \sum_{i=1}^n L(y_i, b_1(x_i, \theta_1))$

$$\min_{\theta_1} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - b_1(x_i, \theta_1))^2$$

At Step 2, train  $b_2$  so that  $b_1 + b_2$  minimizes loss.



3

$$\min_{\theta_2} \sum_i L(y_i, \overbrace{b_1(x_i, \theta_1)}^{\text{fixed}} + b_2(x_i, \theta_2)).$$

$$\begin{cases} b_1(x_i, \theta_1) \\ b_2 \end{cases}$$



$$\min_{\theta_2} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - b_1(x_i, \theta_1) - b_2(x_i, \theta_2))^2$$

$r_1(x_i)$   
(Mistakes or Residuals  
of  $b_1$ .)

$$\min_{\theta_2} \sum_{i=1}^n (r_1(x_i) - b_2(x_i, \theta_2))^2$$

model2.fit(x,  $r_1$ )

$y - \text{model1.predict}(x)$

Would this work for binary classification?

No! Because for Regression

$y - b_1(x)$  tells you how wrong  
the previous model was.



4. Fitting to errors of previous model does not work for Binary classification  
 e.g.  $y=0$  but  $b_1(x)=1$ .  
 then  $b_2(x)$  should try to output  $-1$   
 but that is not a binary classifier anymore.

For Binary Classification  $y \in \begin{cases} +1 \\ -1 \end{cases}$  (Not  $\{0,1\}$ !)

Define the margin  $y \cdot f(x)$  for a binary classifier

$$L_{01}(y, f(x)) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } f(x) > 0, y = +1 \\ 0 & \text{if } f(x) < 0, y = -1 \\ 1 & \text{if } f(x) > 0, y = -1 \\ 1 & \text{if } f(x) < 0, y = +1 \end{cases}$$

$$L_{01}(y, f(x)) = \mathbb{1}(\text{sgn}(f(x)) \neq y) \quad \left| \quad L(y, f(x)) = \exp(-y \cdot f(x)) \right.$$

