

Decision Trees vs Random Forest vs XGBoost

Random Forest XGBoost

Decision Tree

Observation

Process train data

Easy

Common Abbr.	DT	RF	XGB
Method	Non-parametric supervised	Ensemble (averaging)	Ensemble (boosting)
No. of trees	1	Many	Many
Features	Both*	Both*	Both
Training	Sequential	Parallel	Sequential
Requirement	NA	independent DTs	NA
Performance	Good	Better	Best
Important Params.	max depth.	max depth.	eta, max depth.

min_samples_leaf min_samples_leaf min_child_weight

Easy

Difficult