



Lecture 7: Machine Learning V

Ensemble Methods

http://cs.nju.edu.cn/yuy/course_dm14ms.ashx



How can we improve an algorithm



for free

one classifier with error 0.49

three independent classifiers each with error 0.49

two out of three are wrong: 0.367353

three of them are wrong: 0.117649

majority of the three are wrong: 0.485002

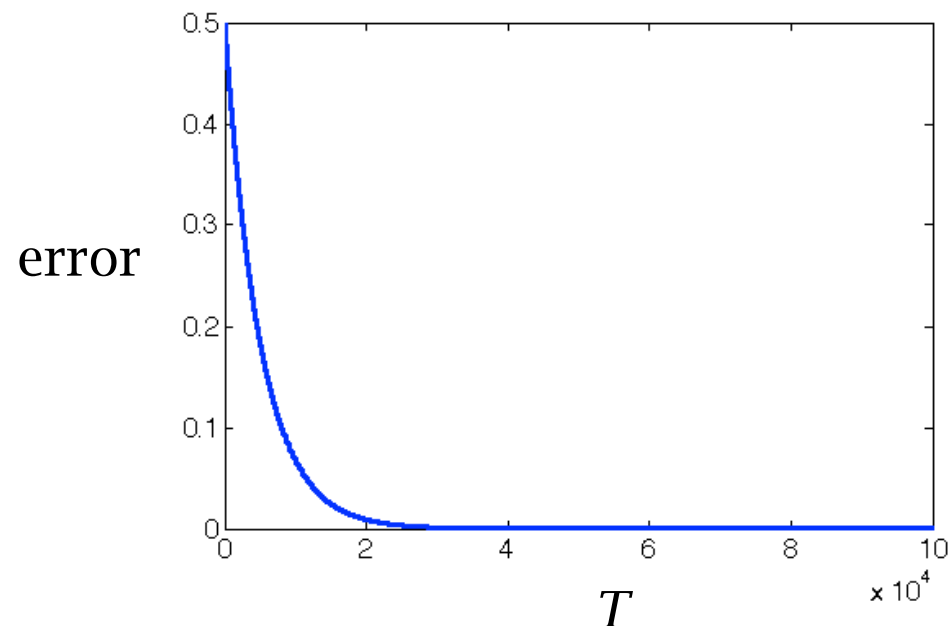
Motivation theories



for binary classification, what if the classifiers give *independent* output and are little bit better than random guess?

each classifier has error 0.49
error of combining T classifiers:

$$\sum_{t=\lceil T/2 \rceil}^T \binom{T}{t} \cdot 0.49^t \cdot 0.51^{T-t}$$
$$\leq \frac{1}{2} e^{-2T(0.5-0.49)^2}$$

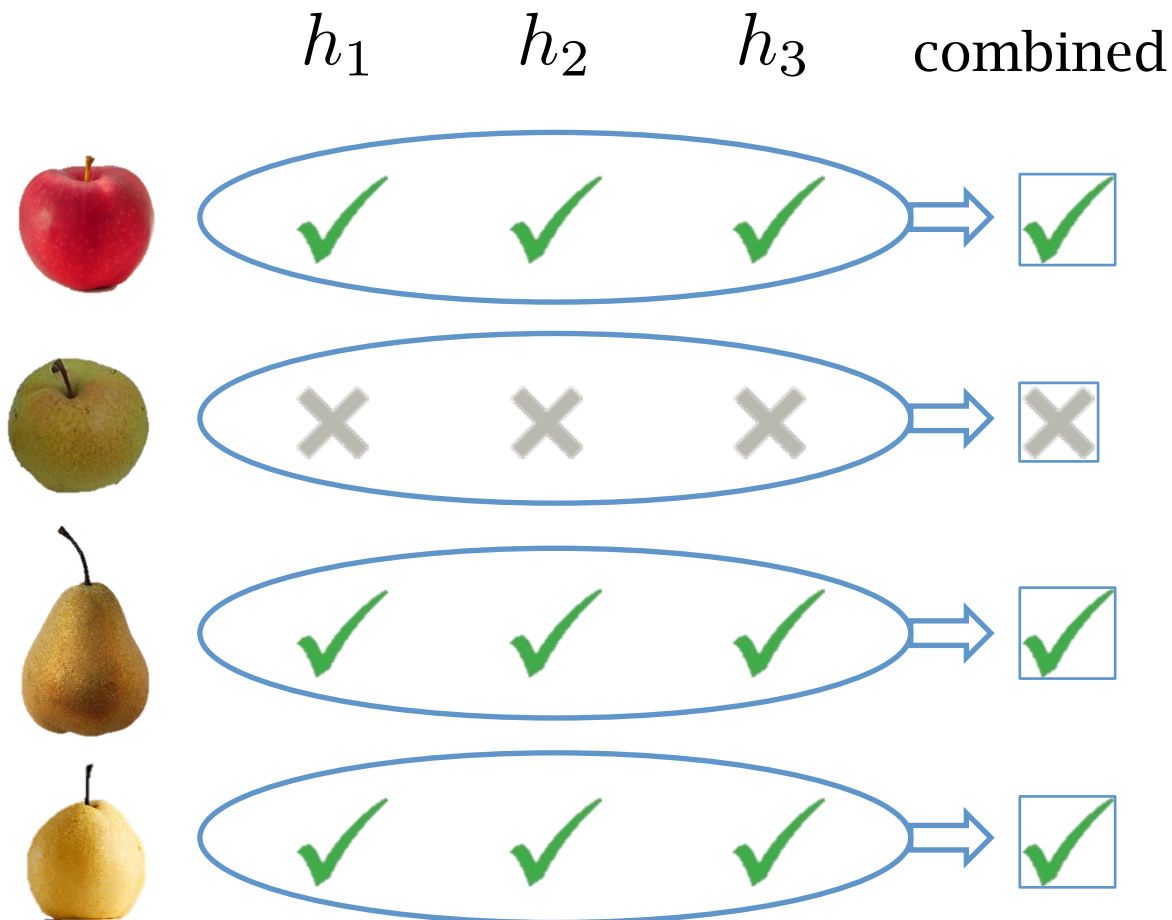


*but independent classifiers
are not achievable*

The importance of diversity



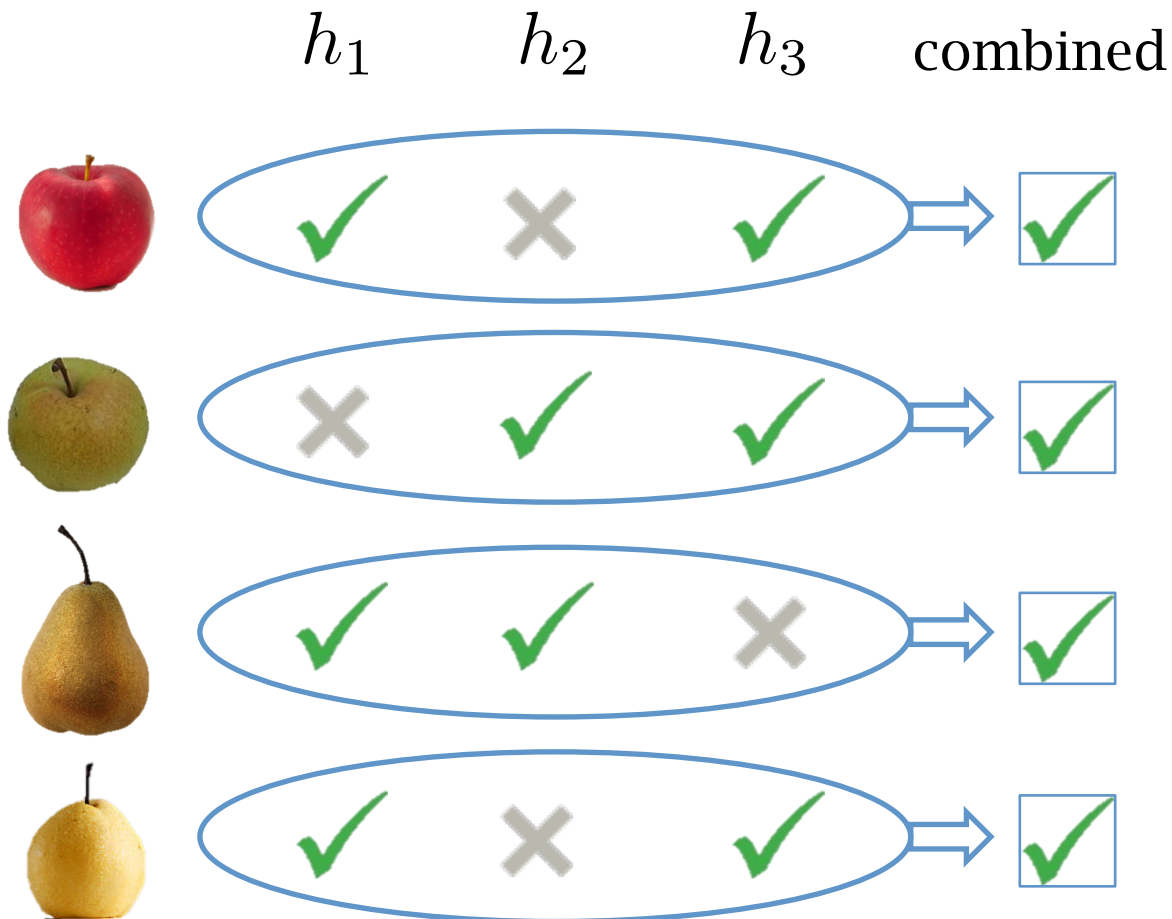
not useful to combine identical base learners



The importance of diversity



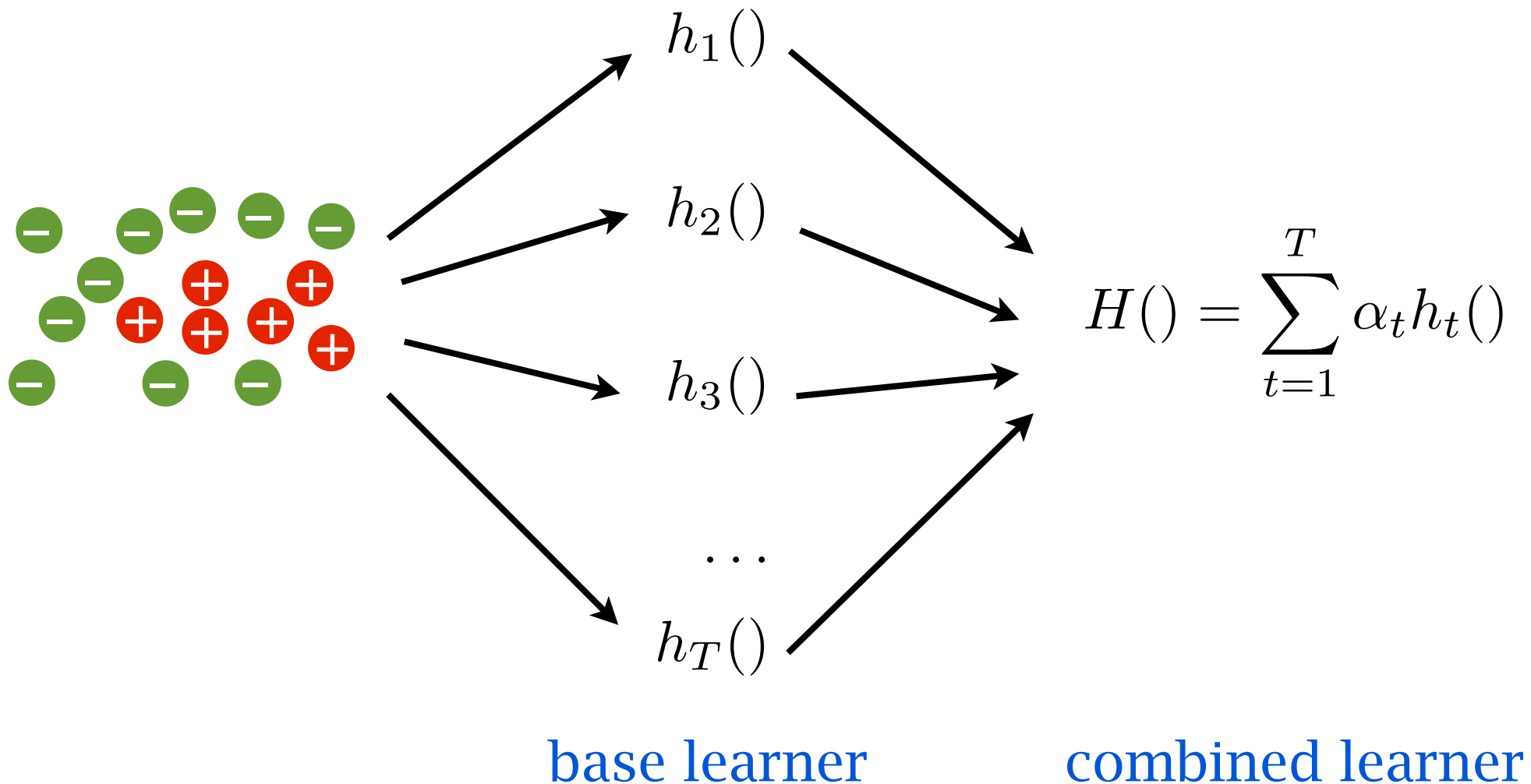
good to combine different learners



Ensemble learning



combination of multiple classifiers/regressors





倚天屠龙记2

Ensemble methods



Parallel ensemble

create diverse base learners by introducing randomness

Sequential ensemble

create base learners by complementarity

Parallel ensemble methods



Diversity generating categories:

Data Sample Manipulation

bootstrap sampling/Bagging

Input Feature Manipulation

random subspace

Output Representation Manipulation

flipping output/output smearing

Learning Parameter Manipulation

random initialization

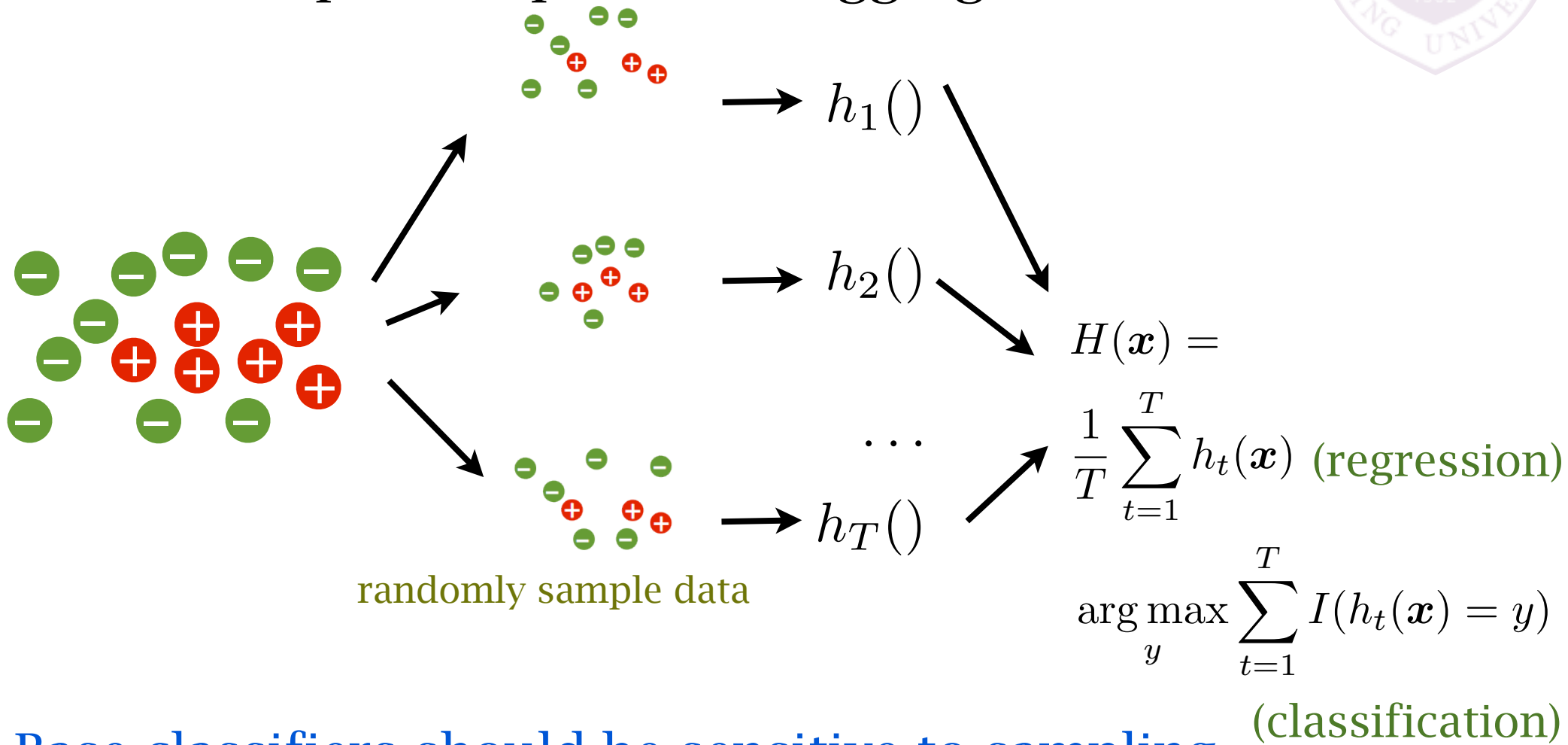
Random Forests

combine two or more categories



Parallel ensemble methods

Data Sample Manipulation: Bagging



Base classifiers should be sensitive to sampling

» decision tree, neural network are good

» NB, linear classifier are not

Good for handling large data set

Parallel ensemble methods



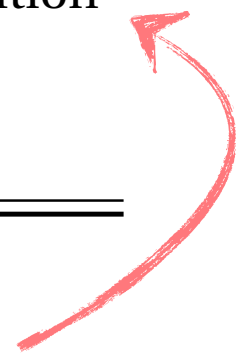
Data Sample Manipulation: Bagging

Input: D : Data set $\{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), (\mathbf{x}_2, y_2), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_m, y_m)\}$;
 \mathcal{L} : Base learning algorithm;
 T : Number of base learners.

Process:

1. **for** $t = 1, \dots, T$:
2. $h_t = \mathcal{L}(D, \mathcal{D}_{bs})$ % \mathcal{D}_{bs} is the bootstrap distribution
3. **end**

Output: $H(\mathbf{x}) = \max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{I}(h_t(\mathbf{x}) = y)$



sample with replacement

Base classifiers should be sensitive to sampling

» decision tree, neural network are good

» NB, linear classifier are not

Good for handling large data set

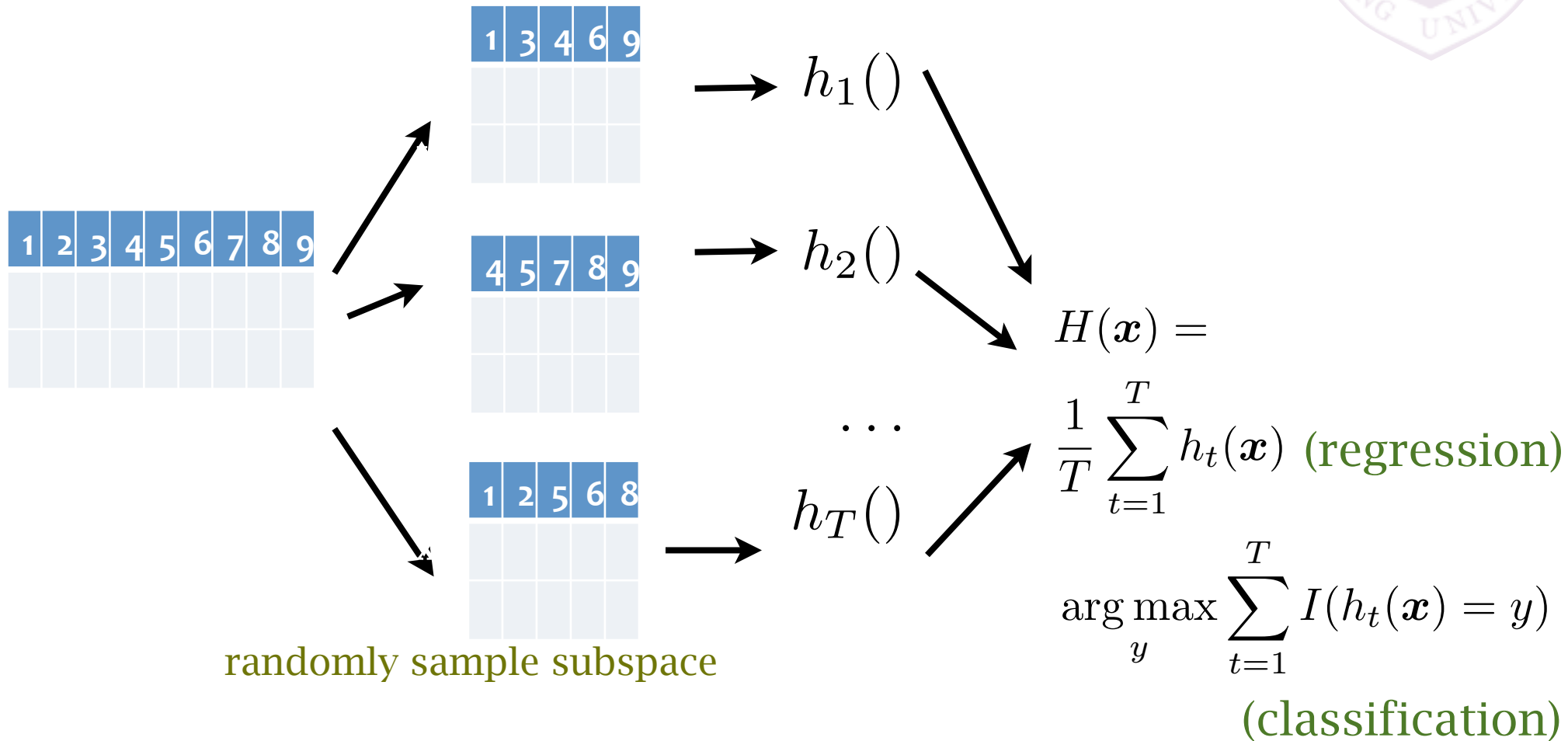


Leo Breiman
1928-2005

Parallel ensemble methods



Input Feature Manipulation: Random subspace



Data should be rich in features

Good for handling high dimensional data

Parallel ensemble methods



Input Feature Manipulation: Random subspace

Input: D : Data set $\{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), (\mathbf{x}_2, y_2), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_m, y_m)\}$;
 \mathcal{L} : Base learning algorithm;
 T : Number of base learners;
 d : Dimension of subspaces.

Process:

1. **for** $t = 1, \dots, T$:
2. $\mathcal{F}_t = RS(D, d)$ % \mathcal{F}_t is a set of d randomly selected features;
3. $D_t = Map_{\mathcal{F}_t}(D)$ % D_t keeps only the features in \mathcal{F}_t
4. $h_t = \mathcal{L}(D_t)$ % Train a learner
5. **end**

Output: $H(\mathbf{x}) = \max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{I}(h_t(Map_{\mathcal{F}_t}(\mathbf{x})) = y)$

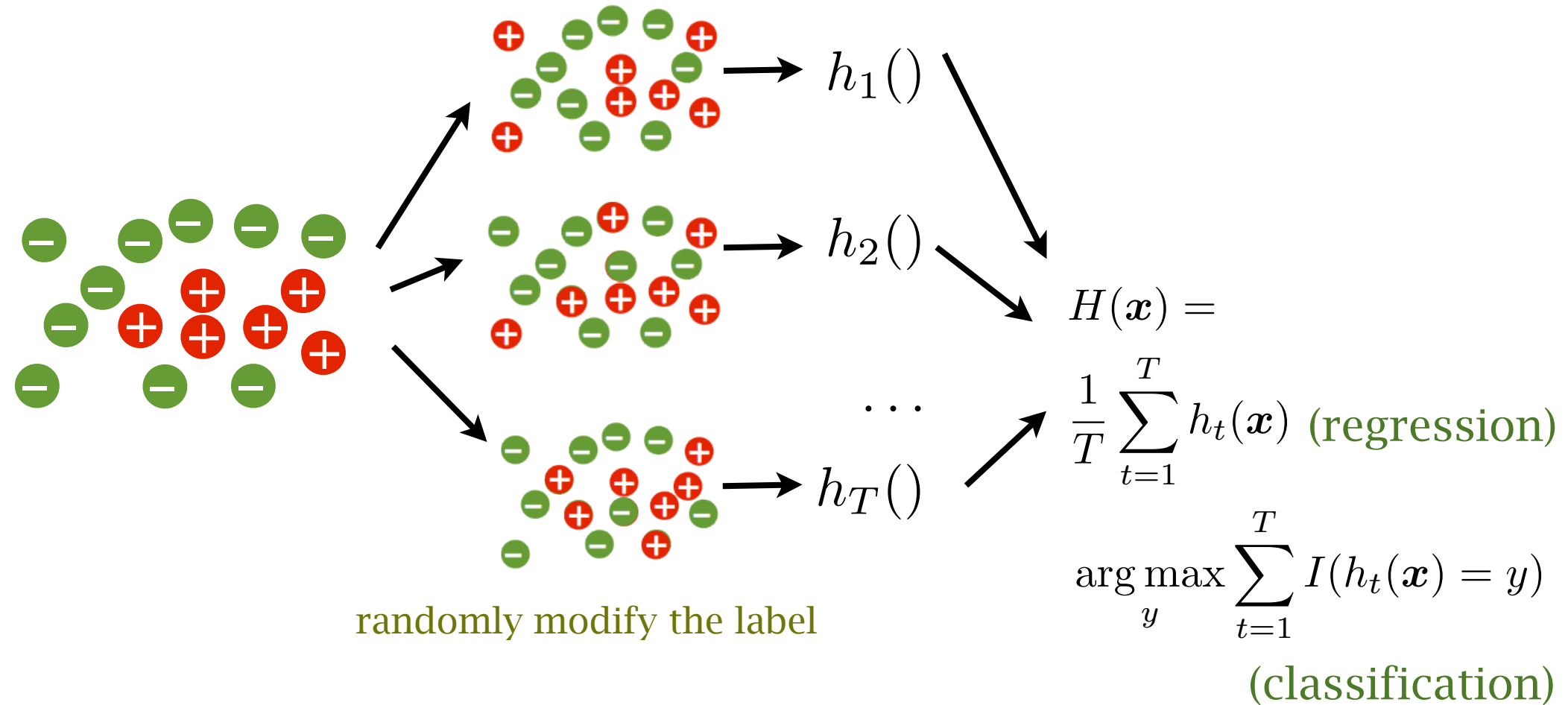
Data should be rich in features

Good for handling high dimensional data



Parallel ensemble methods

Output Representation Manipulation: Output flipping



May drastically reduce the accuracy of base learners



Parallel ensemble methods

Learning Parameter Manipulation: Random forest

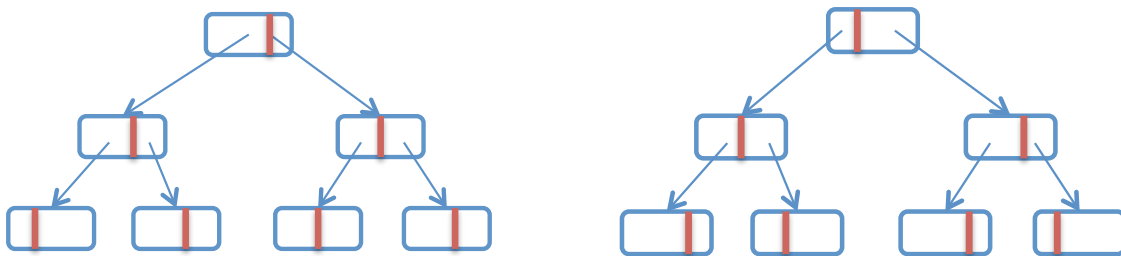
Randomized decision tree

at each node

1. randomly select a subset of features
2. use select a feature (and split point) from the subset to split the data

decision tree:
select the best
split from ALL
features/splits

(other variants are available)

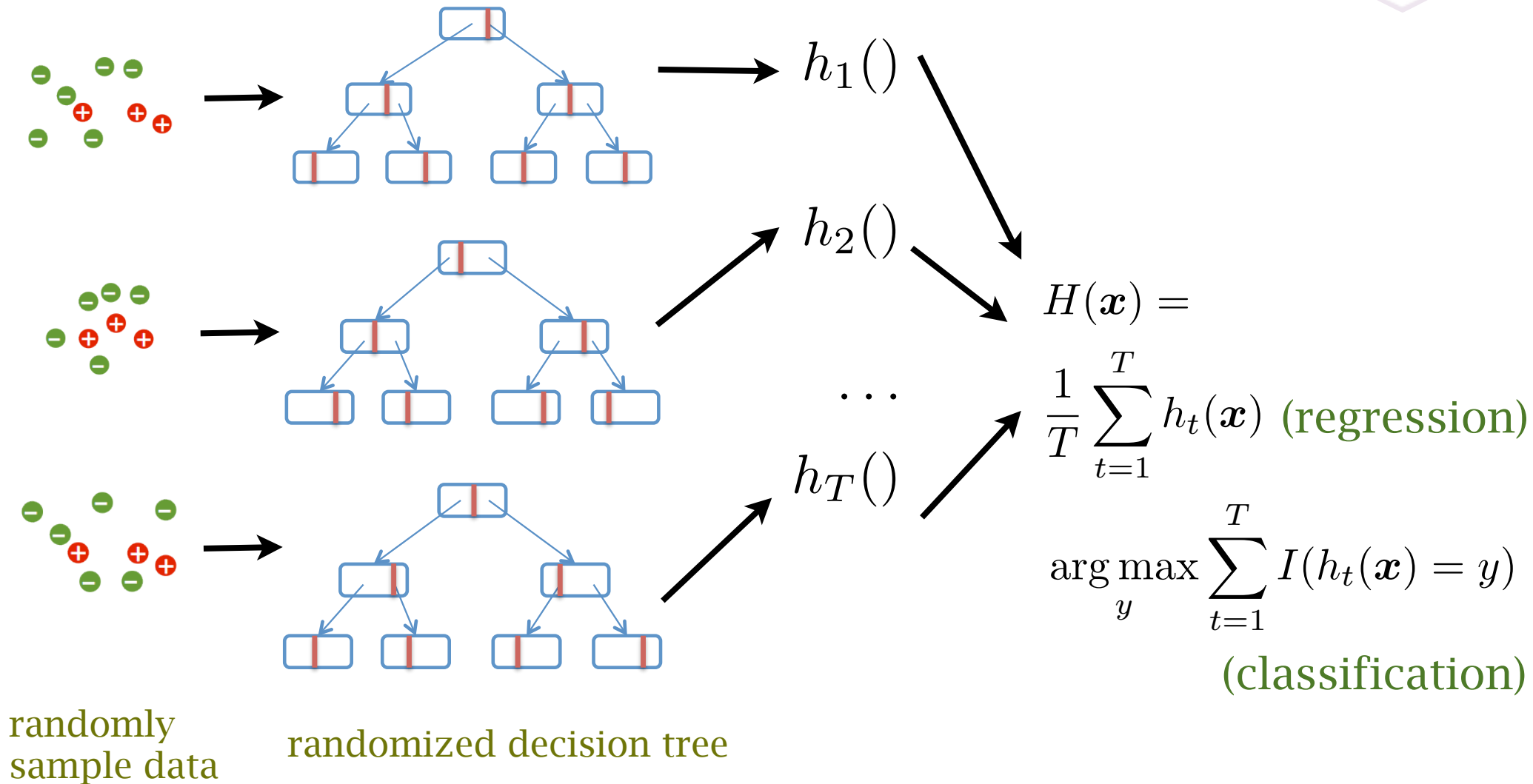


every run produce a different tree

Parallel ensemble methods



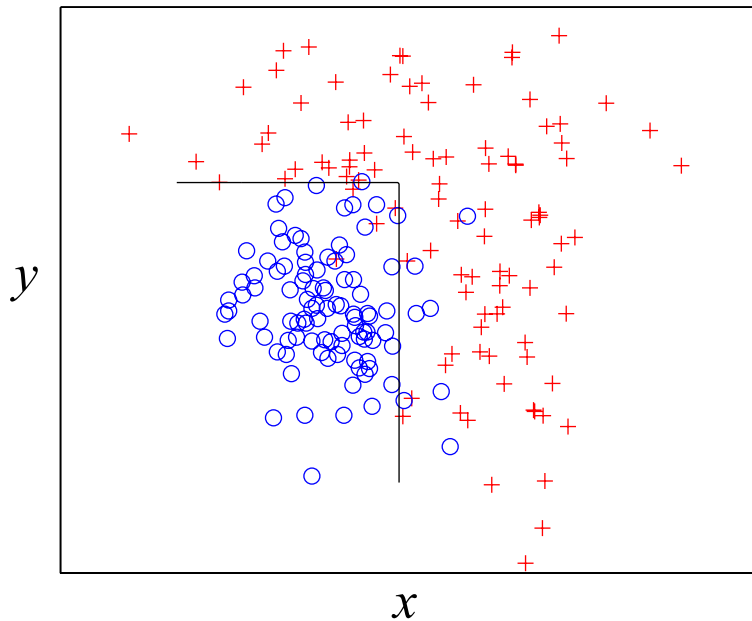
Learning Parameter Manipulation: Random forest



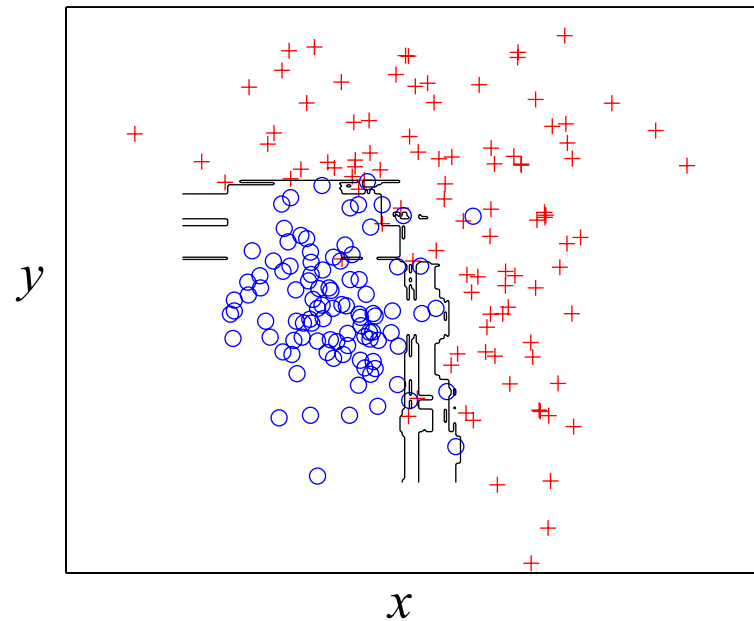
Bagging of randomized decision tree

Parallel ensemble methods

Random forest



decision boundary of
single decision tree



decision boundary of
random forest

Parallel ensemble methods



Diversity generating categories:

Data Sample Manipulation

bootstrap sampling/Bagging

Input Feature Manipulation

random subspace

Output Representation Manipulation

flipping output/output smearing

Learning Parameter Manipulation

random initialization

Random Forests

obtain diversity by randomization

Parallel ensemble methods



Simple combination:

$$\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T h_t(\mathbf{x}) \quad (\text{simple average for regression})$$

$$\arg \max_y \sum_{t=1}^T I(h_t(\mathbf{x}) = y) \quad (\text{majority vote for classification})$$

Parallel ensemble methods



model-weighted combination:
better model has higher weight

$$\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T w_t h_t(\mathbf{x}) \quad (\text{simple average for regression})$$

$$\arg \max_y \sum_{t=1}^T w_t I(h_t(\mathbf{x}) = y) \quad (\text{majority vote for classification})$$

Parallel ensemble methods



instance-weighted combination:

weight by the confidence of the model

decision tree: the purity of the leave node

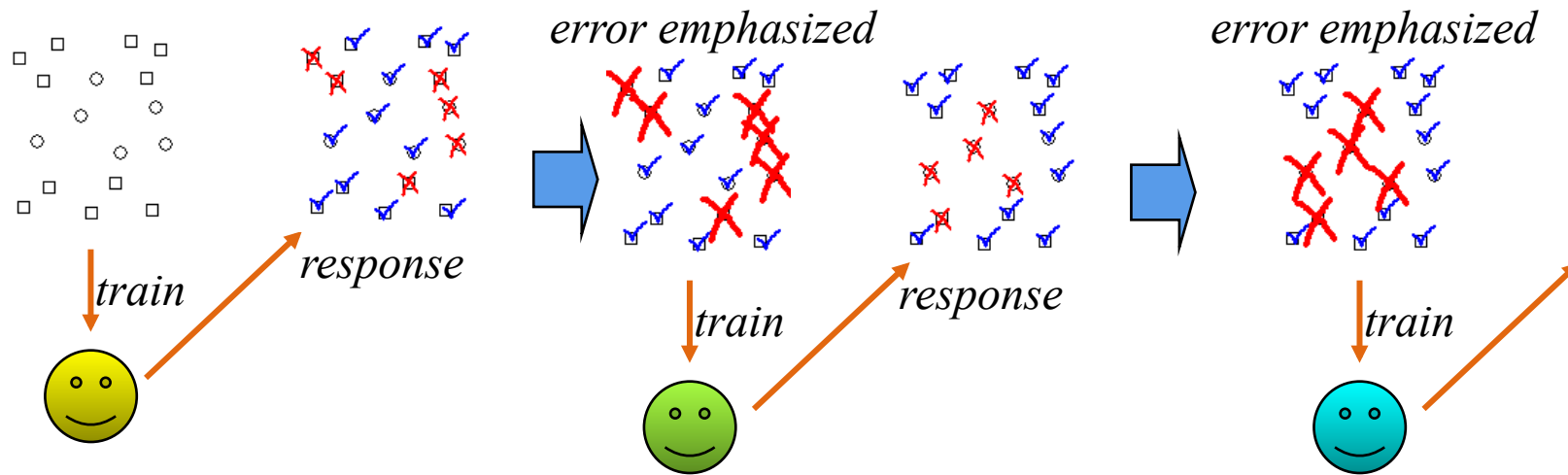
$$\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T w_t(\mathbf{x}) h_t(\mathbf{x}) \quad (\text{simple average for regression})$$

$$\arg \max_y \sum_{t=1}^T w_t(\mathbf{x}) I(h_t(\mathbf{x}) = y) \quad (\text{majority vote for classification})$$



Sequential ensemble methods

Generate learners sequentially,
focus on previous errors



so that the combination of learners will have
a high accuracy

AdaBoost



Input: Data set $D = \{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), (\mathbf{x}_2, y_2), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_m, y_m)\}$;
Base learning algorithm \mathcal{L} ;
Number of learning rounds T .

Process:

1. $\mathcal{D}_1(\mathbf{x}) = 1/m$. % Initialize the weight distribution
2. **for** $t = 1, \dots, T$:
3. $h_t = \mathcal{L}(D, \mathcal{D}_t)$; % Train a classifier h_t from D under distribution \mathcal{D}_t
4. $\epsilon_t = P_{\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{D}_t}(h_t(\mathbf{x}) \neq f(\mathbf{x}))$; % Evaluate the error of h_t
5. **if** $\epsilon_t > 0.5$ **then break**
6. $\alpha_t = \frac{1}{2} \ln \left(\frac{1-\epsilon_t}{\epsilon_t} \right)$; % Determine the weight of h_t
7. $\mathcal{D}_{t+1}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\mathcal{D}_t(\mathbf{x})}{Z_t} \times \begin{cases} \exp(-\alpha_t) & \text{if } h_t(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}) \\ \exp(\alpha_t) & \text{if } h_t(\mathbf{x}) \neq f(\mathbf{x}) \end{cases}$
 $= \frac{\mathcal{D}_t(\mathbf{x}) \exp(-\alpha_t f(\mathbf{x}) h_t(\mathbf{x}))}{Z_t}$ % Update the distribution, where
 % Z_t is a normalization factor which
 % enables \mathcal{D}_{t+1} to be a distribution
8. **end**

Output: $H(\mathbf{x}) = \text{sign} \left(\sum_{t=1}^T \alpha_t h_t(\mathbf{x}) \right)$



AdaBoost

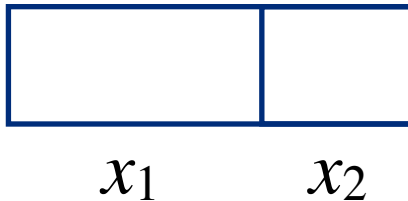
About the distribution:

$$\mathcal{D}_1(\mathbf{x}) = 1/m.$$

maintain a array to record the distribution

```
 $h_t = \mathcal{L}(D, \mathcal{D}_t);$  % Train a classifier  $h_t$  from  $D$  under distribution  $\mathcal{D}_t$   
 $\epsilon_t = P_{\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{D}_t}(h_t(\mathbf{x}) \neq f(\mathbf{x}));$  % Evaluate the error of  $h_t$ 
```

sample a training set according to the distribution



if random < 0.7, get an x_1
else get an x_2

AdaBoost



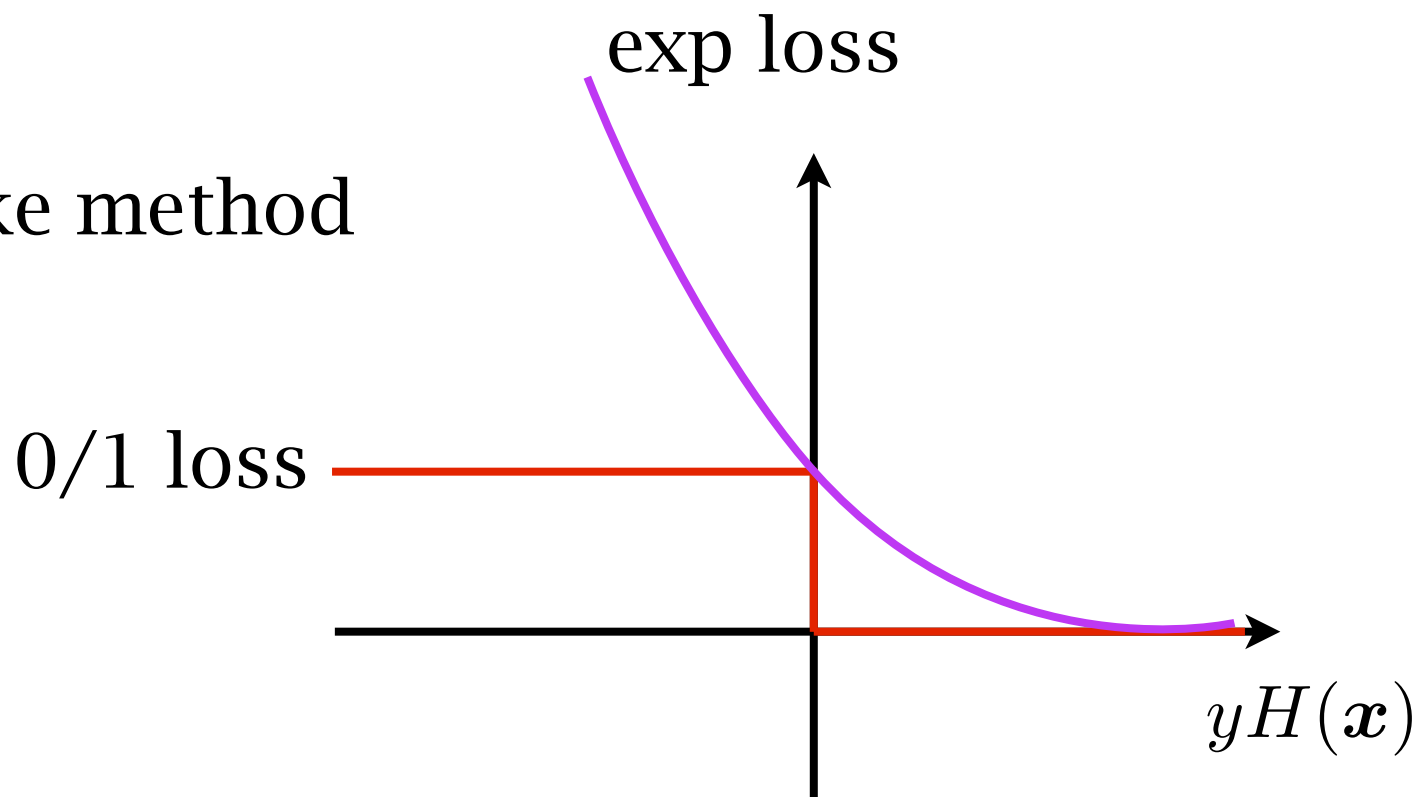
fit an additive model, sequentially

$$H(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{t=1}^T \alpha_t h_t(\mathbf{x})$$

to minimize exponential loss

$$\min e^{-yH(\mathbf{x})}$$

by Newton-like method



Gradient boosting



fit an additive model, sequentially

$$H(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{t=1}^T \alpha_t h_t(\mathbf{x})$$

to minimize any loss by gradient decent

Gradient boosting



example: least square regression

$$\min \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m (H(\mathbf{x}_i) - y_i)^2$$

1. fit the first base regressor

$$\min \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m (h_1(\mathbf{x}_i) - y_i)^2$$

then how to train the second base regressor ?

$$\min \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m (h_1(\mathbf{x}_i) + h_2(\mathbf{x}_i) - y_i)^2$$

gradient descent *in function space*

Gradient boosting



$$\min \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m (h_1(\mathbf{x}_i) + h_2(\mathbf{x}_i) - y_i)^2$$

gradient descent *in function space*

$$h_{\text{new}} \leftarrow -\frac{\partial(H - f)^2}{\partial H} = -2(H - f)$$

this function is not directly operable

operate through data

$$\forall \mathbf{x}_i : \hat{y}_i = -2(H(\mathbf{x}_i) - y_i)$$

fit h_2 point-wisely

$$h_{\text{new}} = \arg \min_h \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m (h(\mathbf{x}_i) - \hat{y}_i)^2$$

Gradient boosting



Gradient boosting (for least square regression)

1. $h_0 = 0, H_0 = h_0$

2. For $t = 1$ to T

3. let $\forall \mathbf{x}_i : y_i = -2(H_{t-1}(\mathbf{x}_i) - y_i)$

4. solve $h_t = \arg \min_h \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m (h(\mathbf{x}_i) - y_i)^2$

(by some least square regression algorithm)

5. $H_t = H_{t-1} + \eta h_t$ (usually set $\eta = 0.01$)

6. next for

Output $H_T = \sum_{t=1}^T h_t$

Gradient boosting



Gradient boosting (for classification)

0-1 loss

$$\min I(yH(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0)$$

logistic regression

$$\min \log(1 + e^{-yH(\mathbf{x})})$$

perceptron

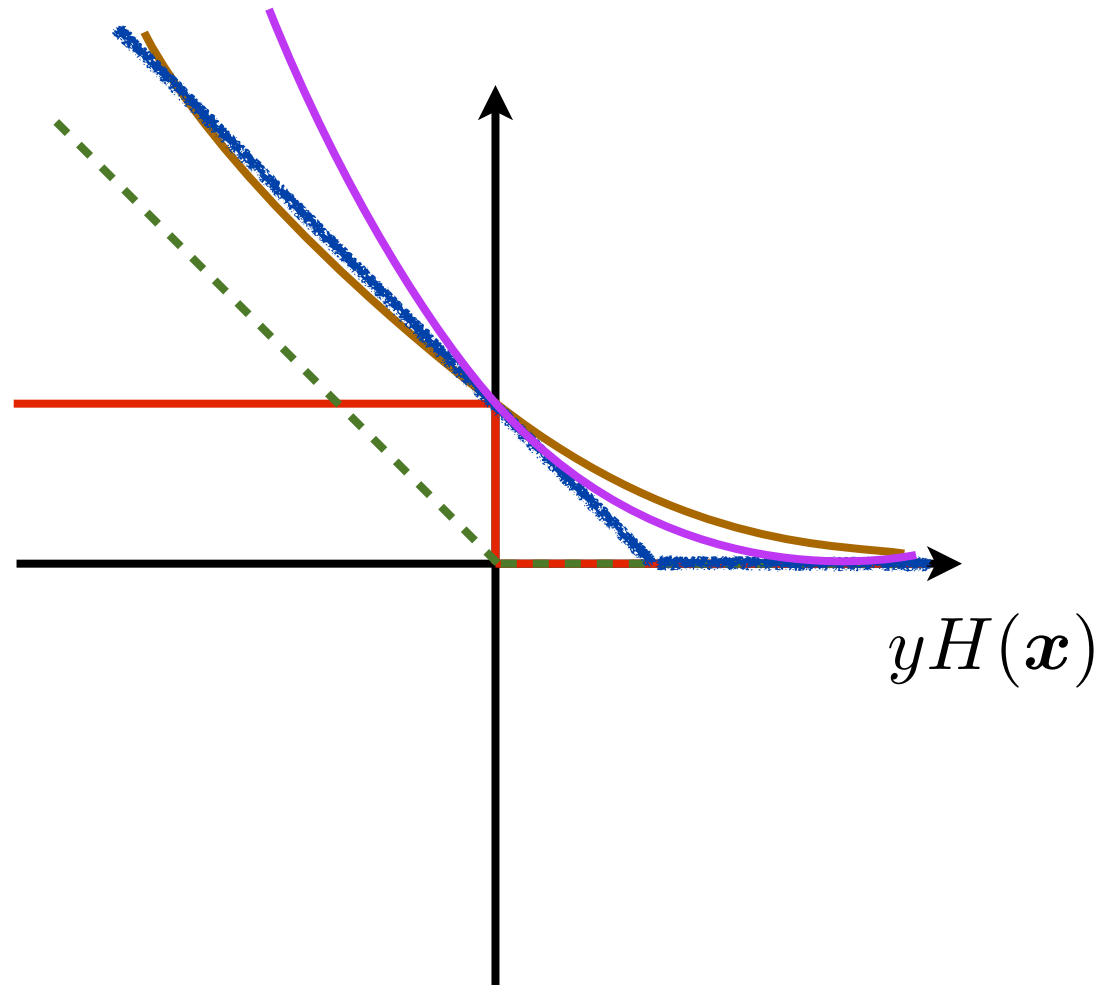
$$\min \max\{-yH(\mathbf{x}), 0\}$$

hinge loss

$$\min \max\{1 - yH(\mathbf{x}), 0\}$$

exponential loss

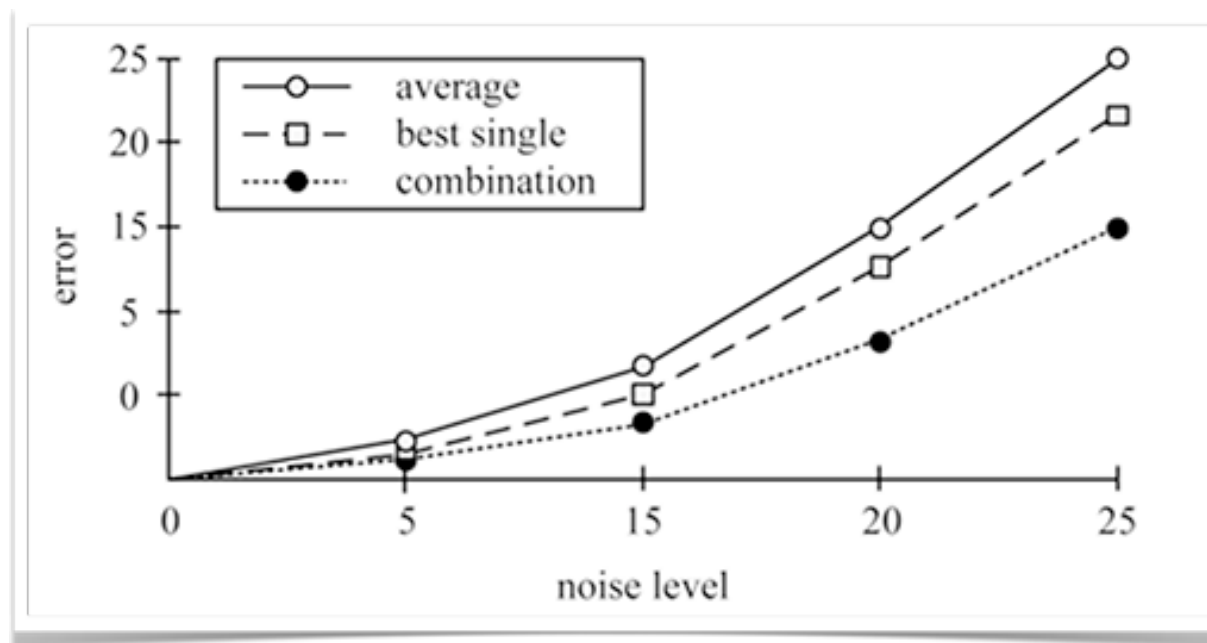
$$\min e^{-yH(\mathbf{x})}$$



More about ensemble



Hansen and Salamon [PAMI'90] reported an observation that combination of multiple BP-NN is better than the best single BP-NN



More about ensemble



for regression task:
mean error of base regressors

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{T} \sum_t (h_t - f)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{T} \sum_t (h_t - H + H - f)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{T} \sum_t (h_t - H)^2 + \frac{1}{T} \sum_t (H - f)^2 - 2 \frac{1}{T} \sum_t (h_t - H)(H - f) \\ &= \frac{1}{T} \sum_t (h_t - H)^2 + (H - f)^2 \end{aligned}$$

error of combined regressor

mean difference to the combined regressor

error of ensemble =

accurate and diverse

mean error of base regressors

– mean difference base regressors to the ensemble

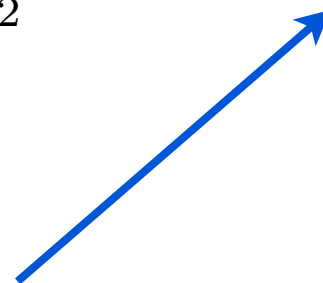
More about ensemble

for classification task:

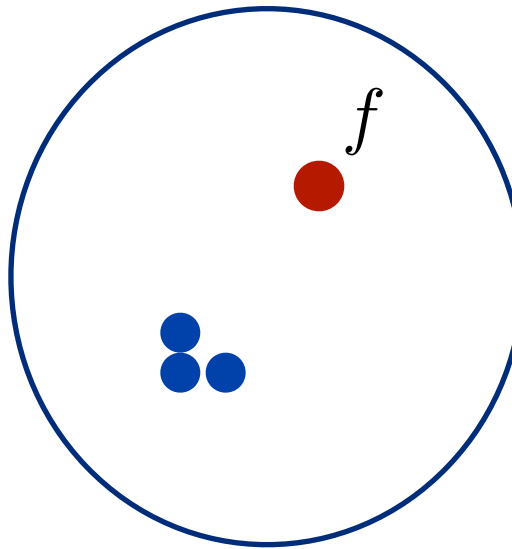
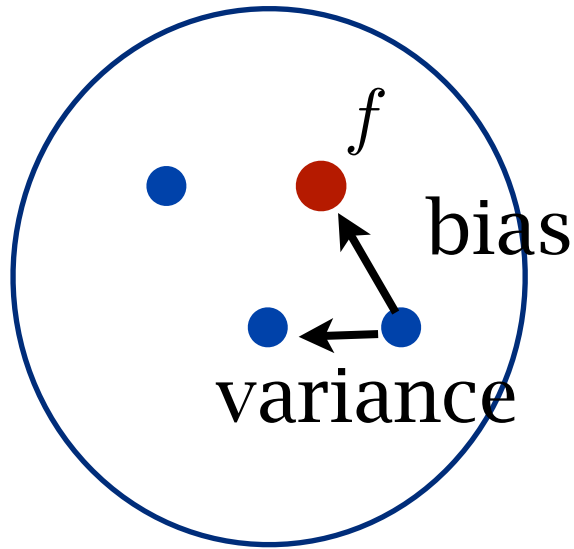


$$err_g(f) \leq err_S^\theta(f) + \frac{C}{\sqrt{m}} \left(\frac{\ln n \ln (m \sqrt{1/n + (1 - 1/n)(1 - q)})}{\theta^2} + \ln \frac{1}{\delta} \right)^{1/2}$$

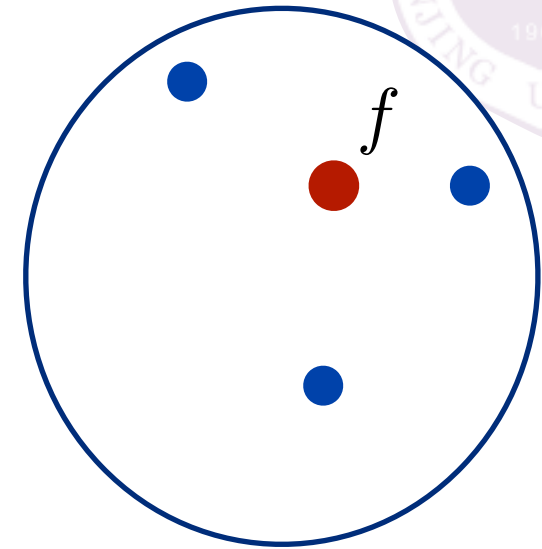
pairwise diversity



Bias-variance analysis



low variance,
high bias



low bias,
high variance

parallel ensemble: reduce variance
use unpruned decision trees

sequential ensemble: reduce bias and variance

More about ensemble



Boosting:



is weak learnable class equals strong learnable class?

L. Valiant
Turing Award 2010

AdaBoost
(Gödel Prize 2003)

yes! The proof is the boosting algorithm



R. Schapire

AdaBoost is the first practical boosting algorithm

Applications



KDDCup: data mining competition organized by ACM SIGKDD

KDDCup 2009: to estimate the churn, appetency and up-selling probability of customers.

An Ensemble of Three Classifiers for KDD Cup 2009:
Expanded Linear Model, Heterogeneous Boosting, and
Selective Naïve Bayes

Hung-Yi Lo, Kai-Wei Chang, Shang-Tse Chen, Tsung-Hsien Chiang, Chun-Sung Ferng, Cho-Jui Hsieh, Yi-Kuang Ko, Tsung-Ting Kuo, Hung-Che Lai, Ken-Yi Lin, Chia-Hsuan Wang, Hsiang-Fu Yu, Chih-Jen Lin, Hsuan-Tien Lin, Shou-de Lin {d96023, b92084, b95100, b93009, b95108, b92085, b93038, d97944007, r97028, r97117, b94b02009, b93107, cjlin, htlin, sdlin}@csie.ntu.edu.tw
Department of Computer Science and Information Engineering, National Taiwan University
Taipei 106, Taiwan

KDDCup 2010: to predict student performance on mathematical problems from logs of student interaction with Intelligent Tutoring Systems.

JMLR: Workshop and Conference Proceedings 1: 1-16

KDD Cup 2010

Feature Engineering and Classifier Ensemble for KDD Cup
2010

Hsiang-Fu Yu, Hung-Yi Lo, Hsun-Ping Hsieh, Jing-Kai Lou, Todd G. McKenzie, Jung-Wei Chou, Po-Han Chung, Chia-Hua Ho, Chun-Fu Chang, Yin-Hsuan Wei, Jui-Yu Weng, En-Syu Yan, Che-Wei Chang, Tsung-Ting Kuo, Yi-Chen Lo, Po Tzu Chang, Chieh Po, Chien-Yuan Wang, Yi-Hung Huang, Chen-Wei Hung, Yu-Xun Ruan, Yu-Shi Lin, Shou-de Lin, Hsuan-Tien Lin, Chih-Jen Lin
Department of Computer Science and Information Engineering, National Taiwan University
Taipei 106, Taiwan

KDDCup 2011, KDDCup 2012, and foreseeably, 2013, 2014 ...

Applications



Netflix Prize: if one participating team improves Netflix's own movie recommendation algorithm by 10% accuracy, they would win the grand prize of \$1,000,000.

The image shows a screenshot of the Netflix website's 'Netflix Prize' announcement page. The top navigation bar is red with the 'NETFLIX' logo. Below it is a yellow banner with 'Netflix Prize' in white text and a 'COMPLETED' stamp in the top right corner. A navigation menu includes 'Home', 'Rules', 'Leaderboard', and 'Update'. The main content area is dark with a 'Movies For You' section. A large white box on the right contains the text: 'Congratulations! The Netflix Prize sought to substantially improve the accuracy of predictions about how much someone is going to enjoy a movie based on their movie preferences. On September 21, 2009 we awarded the \$1M Grand Prize to team "BellKor's Pragmatic Chaos". Read about [their algorithm](#), checkout team scores on the [Leaderboard](#), and join the discussions on the [Forum](#). We applaud all the contributors to this quest, which improves our ability to connect people to the movies they love.'

习题



什么样的集成学习(ensemble learning)方法可能获得好的预测性能?

并行集成学习方法(parallel ensemble)为何可以并行进行训练?