

QTM 347 Machine Learning

Lecture 16: Boosting

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Suggested reading: ISL Chapter 8 and 10



Lecture plan

- Gradient boosting
- AdaBoost
- XGBoost

Boosting (combine weak learners)

- **Step 1:** Set $\hat{f}(x) = 0$, and $r_i = y_i$ for $i = 1, \dots, n$.
- **Step 2:** For $b = 1, \dots, B$, iterate:
 - Fit a decision tree \hat{f}^b with d splits ($d + 1$ terminal nodes) to the response r_1, \dots, r_n
 - Update the prediction to

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

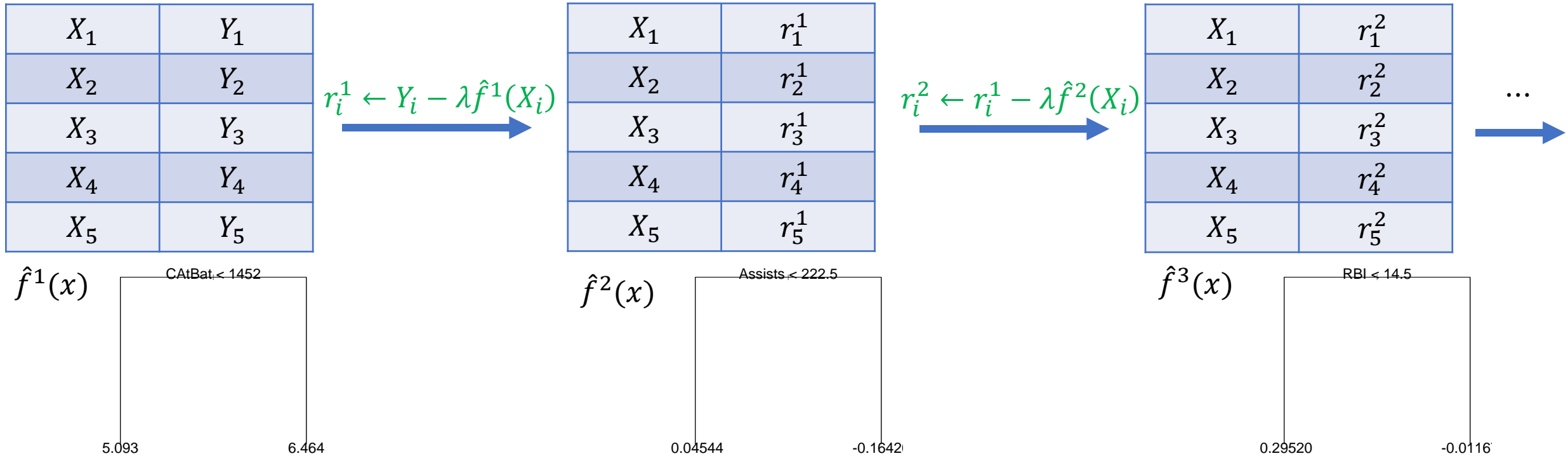
- Update the residuals

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

- **Step 3:** Output the final model

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

Boosting



$$\hat{f}(x) = \lambda \hat{f}^1(x) + \lambda \hat{f}^2(x) + \lambda \hat{f}^3(x) + \dots + \lambda \hat{f}^B(x)$$

AdaBoost

- A particular method of training a boosted **classifier**
- For example, $Y \in \{-1,1\}$ is binary

Initial weight

X_1	Y_1	1/5
X_2	Y_2	1/5
X_3	Y_3	1/5
X_4	Y_4	1/5
X_5	Y_5	1/5

Fitted tree $\hat{f}^1(x)$
Correctly predict all
samples besides Y_3 and Y_5

$$\text{Total Error} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i I(\hat{f}(X_i) \neq Y_i) = \frac{2}{5}$$

$$\text{Amount of stay} = \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{1 - \text{Total Error}}{\text{Total Error}} = \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{1 - 2/5}{2/5} = 0.088$$

Next we *increase* the sample weight for the sample that was **incorrectly classified**. We *decrease* the sample weight for the sample that was **correctly classified**.



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Fitted tree $\hat{f}^1(x)$
Correctly predict all
samples besides Y_3 and Y_5

$$\text{Amount of stay} = \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{1 - \text{Total Error}}{\text{Total Error}} = \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{1 - 2/5}{2/5} = 0.088$$

Next we *increase* the sample weight for the sample that was *incorrectly classified*

$$\text{New sample weight} = \text{sample weight} \times \exp(\text{Amount of stay})$$

$$\text{New sample weight} = \frac{1}{5} \times \exp(\text{Amount of stay}) = 0.2184$$

We *decrease* the sample weight for the sample that was *correctly classified*

$$\text{New sample weight} = \text{sample weight} \times \exp(-\text{Amount of stay})$$


$$\text{New sample weight} = \frac{1}{5} \times \exp(-\text{Amount of stay}) = 0.1831$$



AdaBoost

- A particular method of training a boosted classifier
- For example, $Y \in \{-1,1\}$ is binary

Initial weight			New weight		
X_1	Y_1	1/5	X_1	Y_1	0.1831
X_2	Y_2	1/5	X_2	Y_2	0.1831
X_3	Y_3	1/5	X_3	Y_3	0.2184
X_4	Y_4	1/5	X_4	Y_4	0.1831
X_5	Y_5	1/5	X_5	Y_5	0.2184

Update weight 

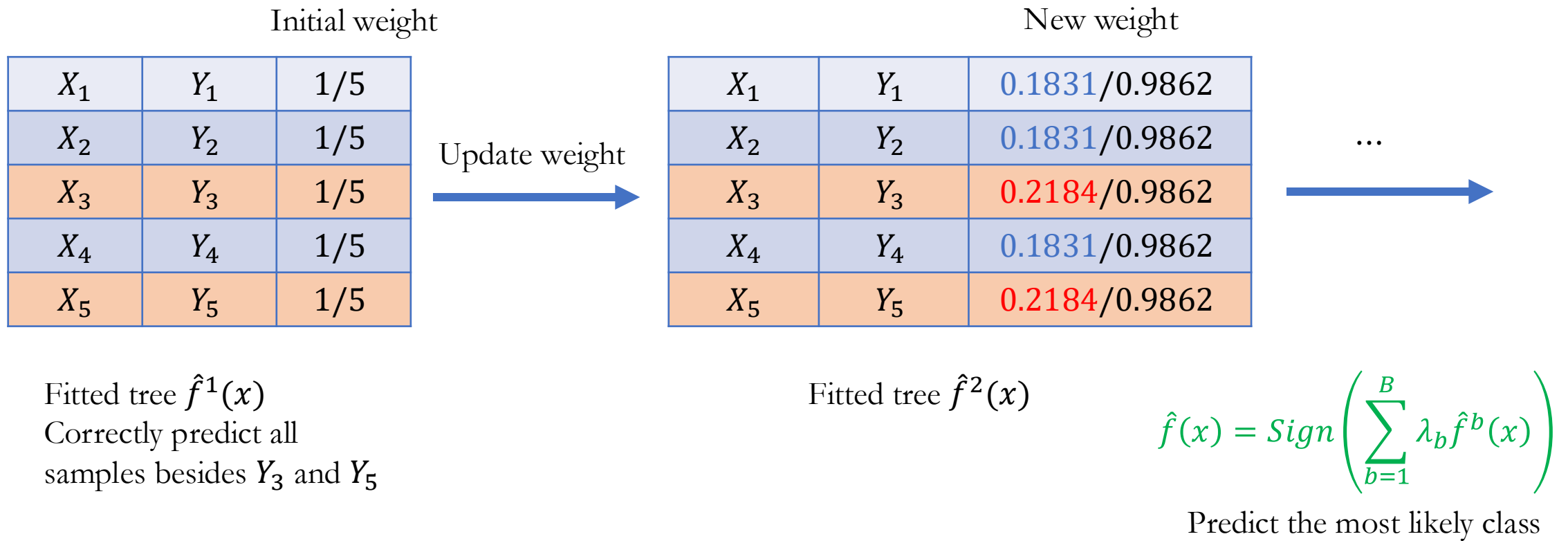
Fitted tree $\hat{f}^1(x)$
Correctly predict all
samples besides Y_3 and Y_5

Sum of the weights = 0.9862 \neq 1



AdaBoost

- A particular method of training a boosted classifier
- For example, $Y \in \{-1,1\}$ is binary



XGBoost

- **XGBoost** (eXtreme Gradient Boosting) is an open-source software library that provides a *regularized gradient-boosting* framework
- Objective function is

$$obj(\theta) = L(\theta) + \Omega(\theta)$$

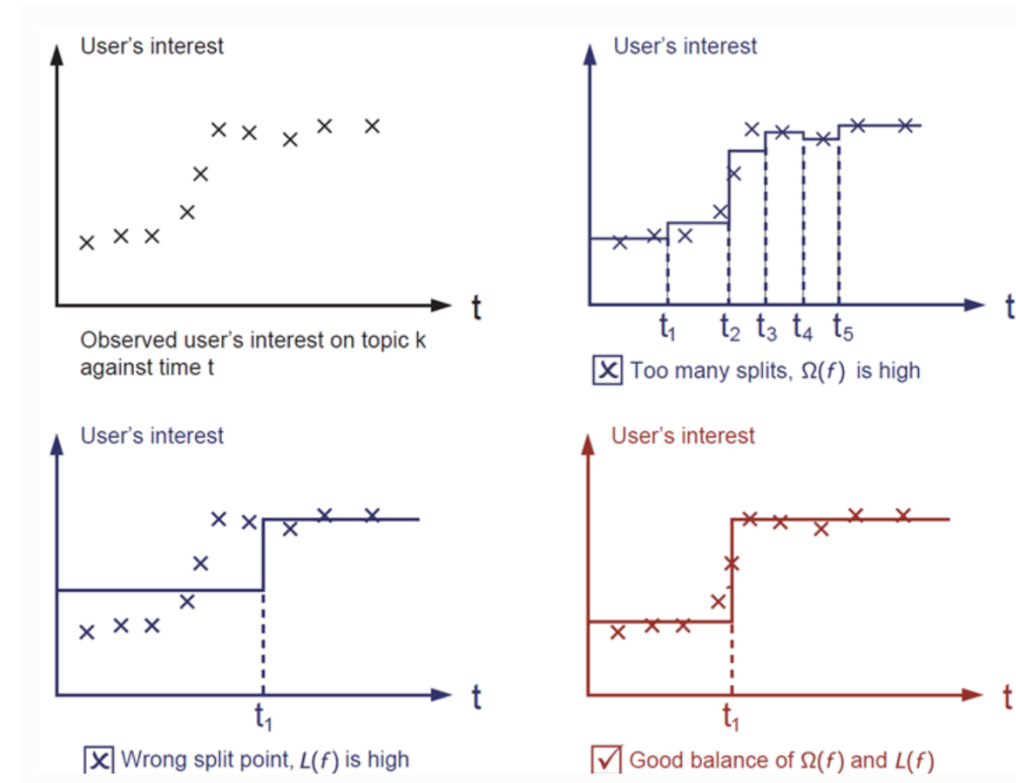
- $L = \sum_i l(Y_i, \hat{Y}_i)$ is the *training loss function*
 - *Regression* problem: $l(Y_i, \hat{Y}_i) = (Y_i - \hat{Y}_i)^2$
 - *Classification* problem: L can be the logistic loss

XGBoost

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- Objective function is

$$obj(\theta) = L(\theta) + \Omega(\theta)$$

- $\Omega = \sum_b \omega(f^b)$ is the *regularization term*
 - $\omega(f) = \gamma T + \frac{1}{2} \zeta \sum_{j=1}^T w_j^2$ where $f^b(x) = w_{q(x)}$, and q is a function assigning each data point to the corresponding leaf



Additive training

- Parameters θ of trees: structure of the tree and leaf predicted values
- Let the prediction value at step t be $\hat{Y}_i^{(t)}$. Then we have (ignore λ)
 - $\hat{Y}_i^{(0)} = 0$
 - $\hat{Y}_i^{(1)} = \hat{Y}_i^{(0)} + f^1(X_i) = f^1(X_i)$
 - $\hat{Y}_i^{(2)} = \hat{Y}_i^{(1)} + f^2(X_i) = f^1(X_i) + f^2(X_i)$
 - ...
 - $\hat{Y}_i^{(t)} = \hat{Y}_i^{(t-1)} + f^t(X_i) = \sum_{b=1}^t f^b(X_i)$
- XGBoost provides an approach to obtain $f^t(X_i)$ that can reduce $obj(\theta)$



Taylor expansion of the objective function

- Objective function at step t

$$\begin{aligned} \text{obj}^{(t)} &= \sum_{i=1}^n l\left(Y_i, \hat{Y}_i^{(t)}\right) + \sum_{b=1}^t \omega(f^b) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n l\left(Y_i, \hat{Y}_i^{(t-1)} + f^t(X_i)\right) + \sum_{b=1}^t \omega(f^b) \end{aligned}$$

- We take the Taylor expansion of the loss function to the second order

$$l\left(Y_i, \hat{Y}_i^{(t-1)} + f^t(X_i)\right) = l\left(Y_i, \hat{Y}_i^{(t-1)}\right) + g_i f^t(X_i) + \frac{1}{2} h_i [f^t(X_i)]^2$$

- g_i and h_i are the first-order and second-order derivatives of $l\left(Y_i, \hat{Y}_i^{(t-1)}\right)$ w.r.t. $\hat{Y}_i^{(t-1)}$
- Treat $l\left(Y_i, \hat{Y}_i^{(t-1)}\right)$ as a constant term

- Example (MSE loss)

$$\left(Y_i - (\hat{Y}_i^{(t-1)} + f^t(X_i))\right)^2 = \left(Y_i - \hat{Y}_i^{(t-1)}\right)^2 + 2\left(\hat{Y}_i^{(t-1)} - Y_i\right) f^t(X_i) + [f^t(X_i)]^2$$

- $g_i = 2\left(\hat{Y}_i^{(t-1)} - Y_i\right)$ and $h_i = 2$



The structure score

- Objective function at step t

$$\begin{aligned} \text{obj}^{(t)} &= \sum_{i=1}^n l\left(Y_i, \hat{Y}_i^{(t)}\right) + \sum_{b=1}^t \omega(f^b) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \left[g_i f^t(X_i) + \frac{1}{2} h_i [f^t(X_i)]^2 \right] + \gamma T + \frac{1}{2} \zeta \sum_{j=1}^T w_j^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \left[g_i w_{q(X_i)} + \frac{1}{2} h_i [w_{q(X_i)}]^2 \right] + \gamma T + \frac{1}{2} \zeta \sum_{j=1}^T w_j^2 \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^T \left[\underbrace{\left(\sum_{i \in I_j} g_i \right)}_{G_i} w_j + \frac{1}{2} \left(\underbrace{\sum_{i \in I_j} h_i}_{H_i} + \zeta \right) [w_j]^2 \right] + \lambda T \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^T \left[G_i w_j + \frac{1}{2} (H_i + \zeta) [w_j]^2 \right] + \lambda T \end{aligned}$$

Replace $f^t(X_i)$ by $w_{q(X_i)}$

Change the sum by leaves

- The best w_j to minimize $\text{obj}^{(t)}$ is given by $w_j^* = -\frac{G_i}{H_i + \zeta}$

