

Part I: Understanding Ensembles and Why They are Effective

1. What is an ensemble?
2. Examples of some simple ensembles
 - Averaging
 - Highest confidence wins
3. Why are ensembles in the news?
 - Kaggle.com
 - Lessons from the NetFlix prize
4. Three influential ensembling approaches
 - Bagging
 - Boosting
 - Stacking
5. Three famous algorithms
 - Random Forest
 - AdaBoost
 - SuperLearner

Part II: Applying "Meta-Modeling" to Real-World Problems

1. What is metamodeling?
2. The pros and cons of complex "black box" techniques in solving business problems
 - Why most business models have to be transparent
 - Tips and tricks for using black box solutions
3. Bringing ensembles and meta-modeling back to earth
 - The challenge of applying competition strategies to business problems
 - Translating real-world problems into modeling problems
 - Case Studies
 - Using an ensemble to address systematically missing data
 - Combining quantitative data and text mining data with an ensemble

RESOURCES

- Analytic Glossary
- Recommended Books
- LinkedIn Groups
- Data Repositories
- Predictive Analytics Across Social Media
- Webinars, Courses, Conferences