

**Exercise Sheet #3: Decision Trees and Random Forests**Due date: May 9, 2017, before 11 am

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**Problem 1** (Impurities) (15 pt).

Consider a two class classification problem ( $C = 2$ ). At the current node there are  $N = 400$  data points of each class (denoted by  $(400, 400)$ ). Evaluate two possible splits:

- Split A: Create two nodes with  $(300, 100)$  and  $(100, 300)$  data points respectively.
- Split B: Create two nodes with  $(200, 0)$  and  $(200, 400)$  data points respectively.

Calculate for each split the Gini impurity as well as the entropy. Which split would each criterion prefer? Remember:

$$\text{Gini impurity: } H = 1 - \sum_{c=1}^C p(y=c)^2, \text{ Entropy: } H = - \sum_{c=1}^C p(y=c) \log p(y=c)$$

**Problem 2** (Decision trees) (10 pt).

Given a dataset with eight day samples, four binary weather features and a binary label, you want to build a decision tree to predict when you should best play tennis.

Sample day	Weather	Humidity	Temperature	Wind	Play Tennis?
1	Sunny	High	Hot	Weak	Yes
2	Sunny	High	Hot	Weak	Yes
3	Rainy	High	Hot	Weak	Yes
4	Rainy	High	Cold	Strong	Yes
5	Sunny	High	Cold	Weak	No
6	Sunny	High	Cold	Weak	No
7	Rainy	High	Cold	Weak	No
8	Rainy	High	Hot	Strong	No

- (8pt) Which feature should be selected as the first split criterion using entropy as a purity measure?
- (4pt) Is there a decision tree that achieves 100% accuracy on this dataset? If yes, build the tree. If not, justify with reasons.