



# JSC 270 - LECTURE 5

## CLASSIFIERS

<https://jsc270.github.io/>



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Guest lecture by Benjamin Haibe-Kains on reproducibility today 2-3pm
- Perusall assignment is online, due on Saturday night
- Presentation for Assignment 2 is due on Feb 11th (instructions are on Quercus)
- Assignment 3 will be up online on Feb 12th
- Survey to give us feedback about how we are doing  
<https://forms.gle/wYGYuSaCgNDbQgBv8>

WHAT CLASSIFIERS HAVE YOU HEARD OF?



# DATA

N - number of records (samples, entries)

M - number of features (predictors)

D is  $N \times M$

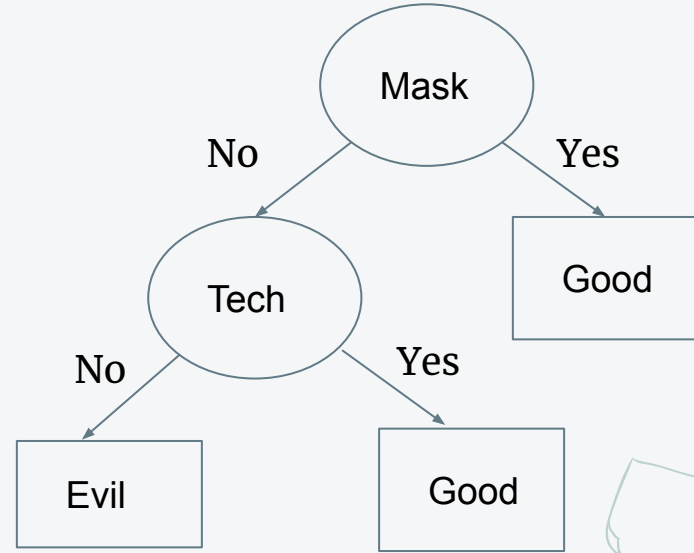
N = ?

M = ?

Hero Name	Mask	Cape	Tech	Pointy Ears	Height (cm)	Good/evil
Ant-Man	False	False	True	False	183	Good
Elastagirl	True	False	False	False	172	Good
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Joker	False	False	False	False	184	Evil

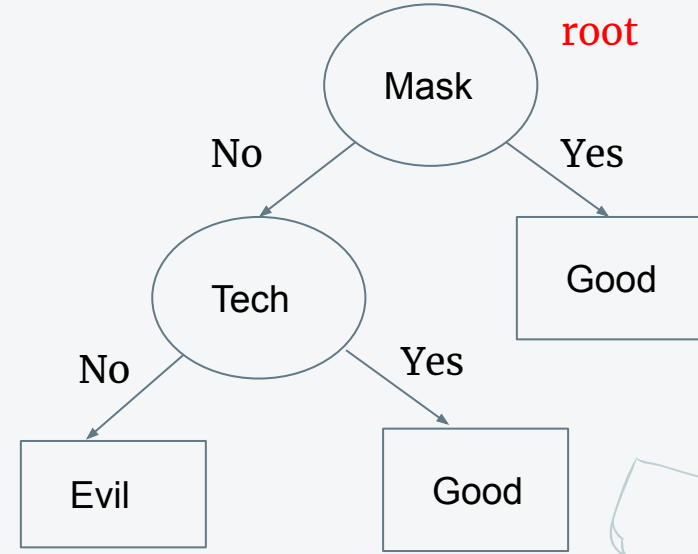
# DECISION TREES EXAMPLE.

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# DECISION TREES EXAMPLE. DEFINITIONS

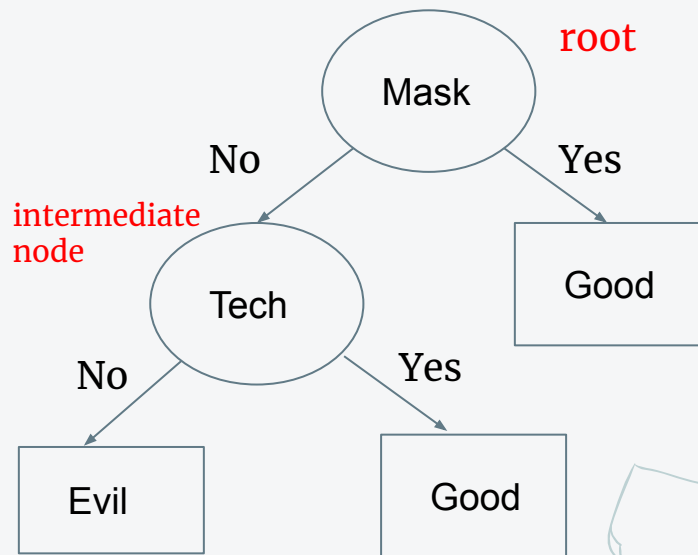
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Depth = 2 (length of the longest path)

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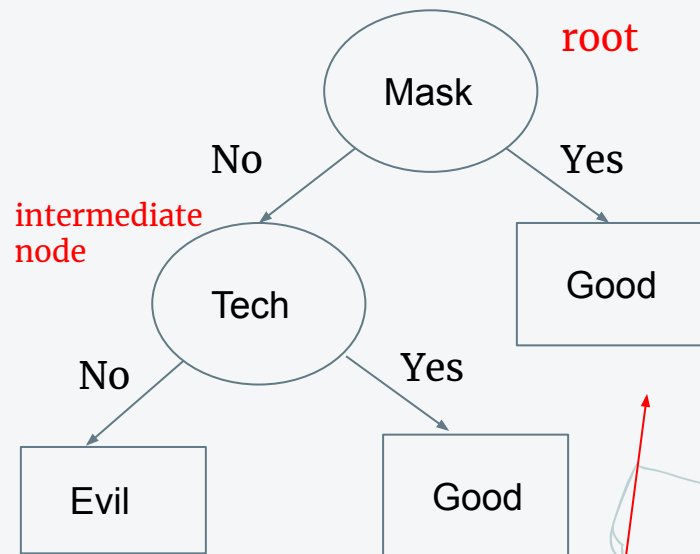
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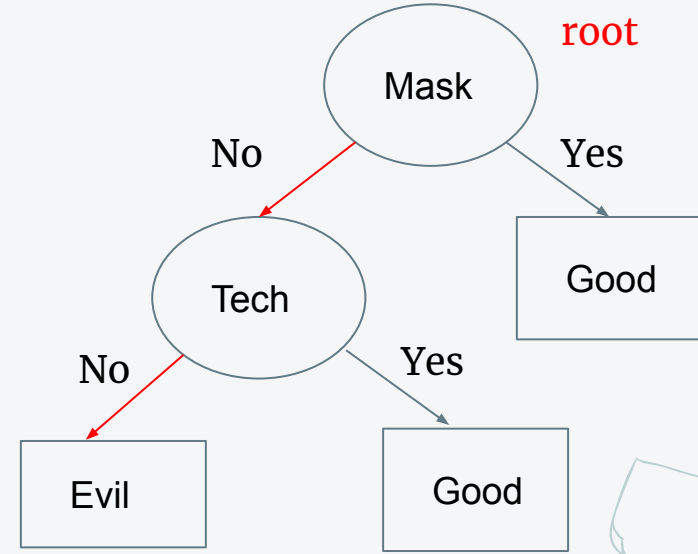
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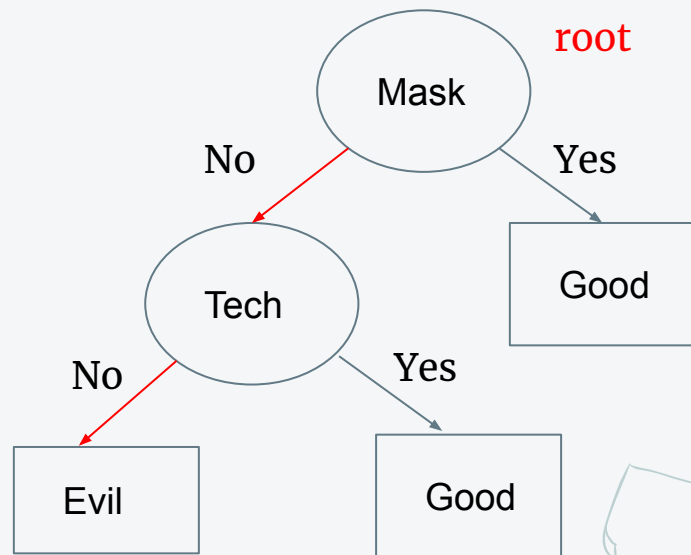
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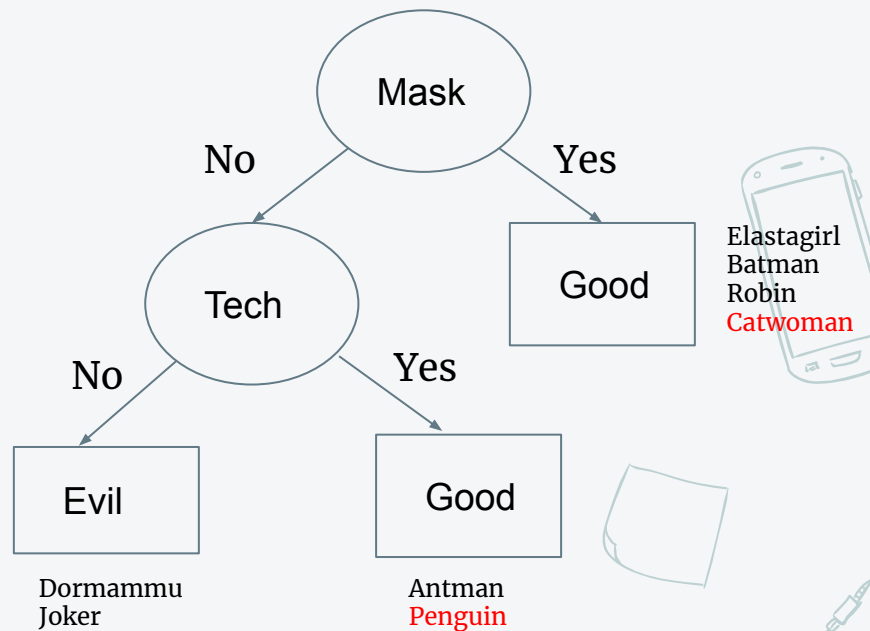
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Each path is a classification rule!  
No mask, no tech -> evil

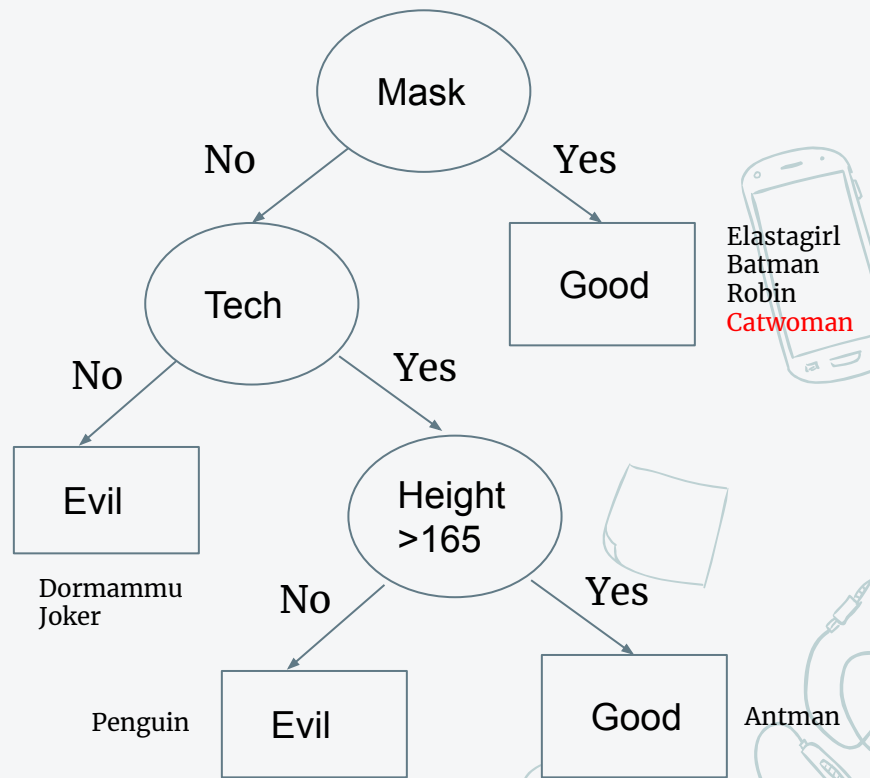
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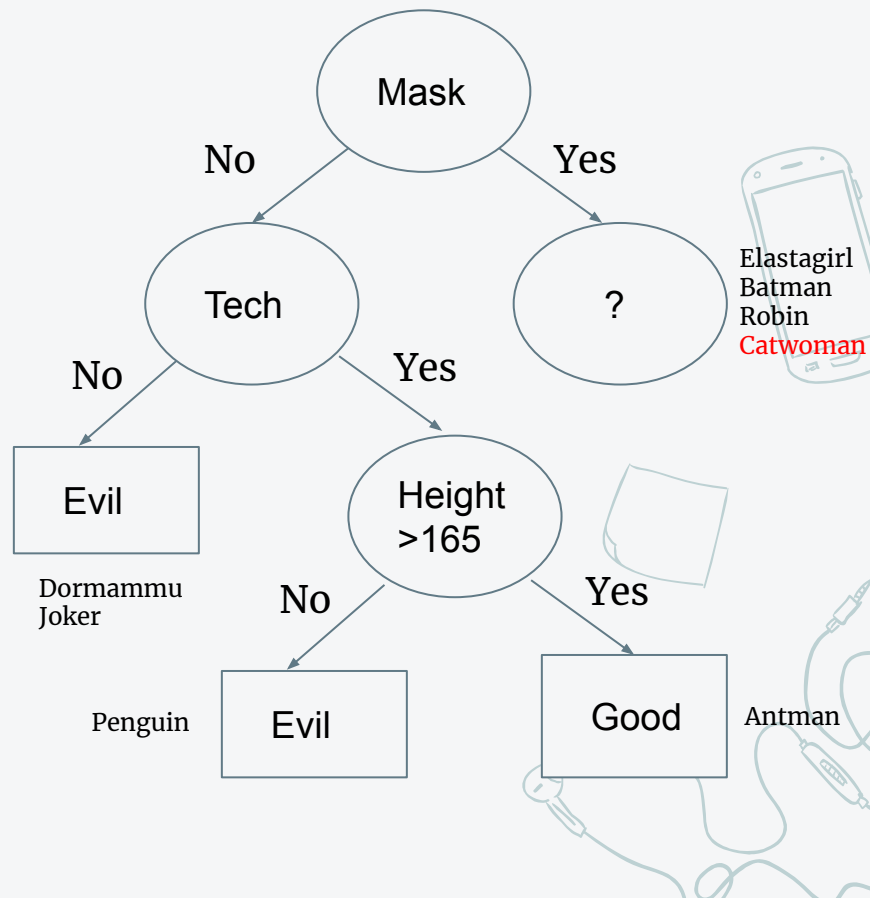
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# HOW DO YOU FIND A GOOD TREE?

Important concept: **Impurity Function**

Impurity? As it sounds – error in class assignment

Most common impurity functions:

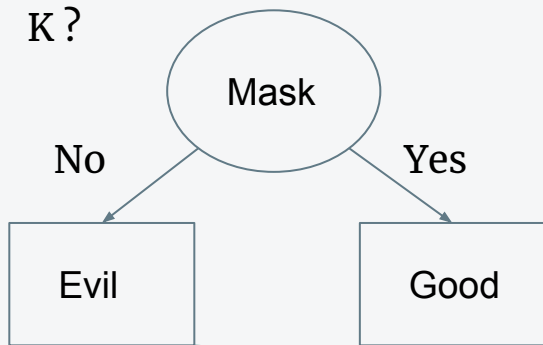
- ❑ Gini
- ❑ Entropy
- ❑ Gain Ratio

## SOME ANNOTATION

$S$  – data to split into  $K$  classes:  $\{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), (\mathbf{x}_2, y_2), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_n, y_n)\}$

$p_k = |S_k|/|S|$ , where  $S_k = \{(\mathbf{x}_j, y_j) \in S \text{ for all } j: y_j = k\}$

$K?$

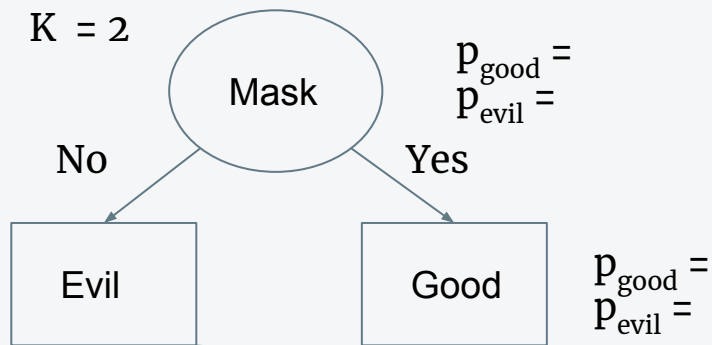


## SOME ANNOTATION

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$K = 2$







WHAT'S THE WORST POSSIBLE SPLIT?

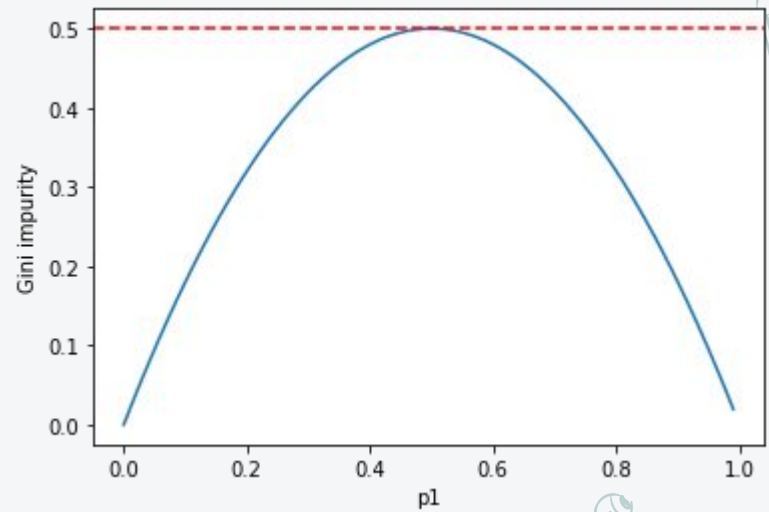


# GINI IMPURITY

$$G(S) = \sum_{k=1}^K p_k(1 - p_k)$$

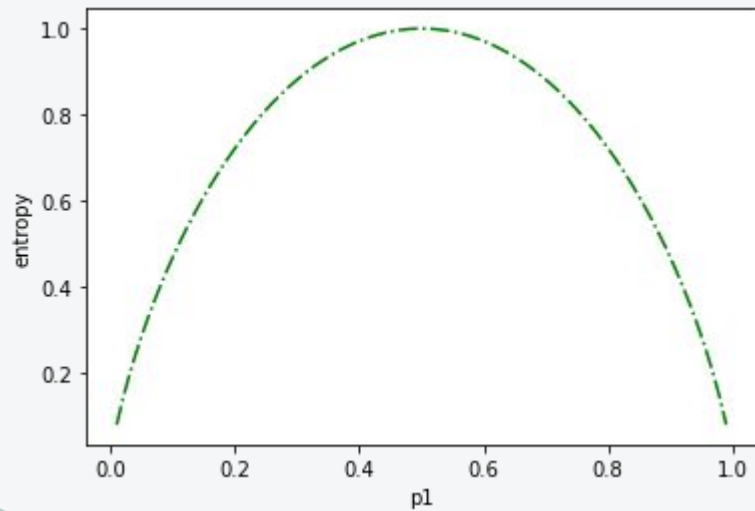
For  $K = 2$ :  $p_1, p_2$ , where  $p_1 + p_2 = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } G(S) &= p_1(1 - p_1) + p_2(1 - p_2) \\ &= p_1 p_2 + p_2 p_1 = 2p_1 p_2 \\ &= 2p_1(1 - p_1) \end{aligned}$$

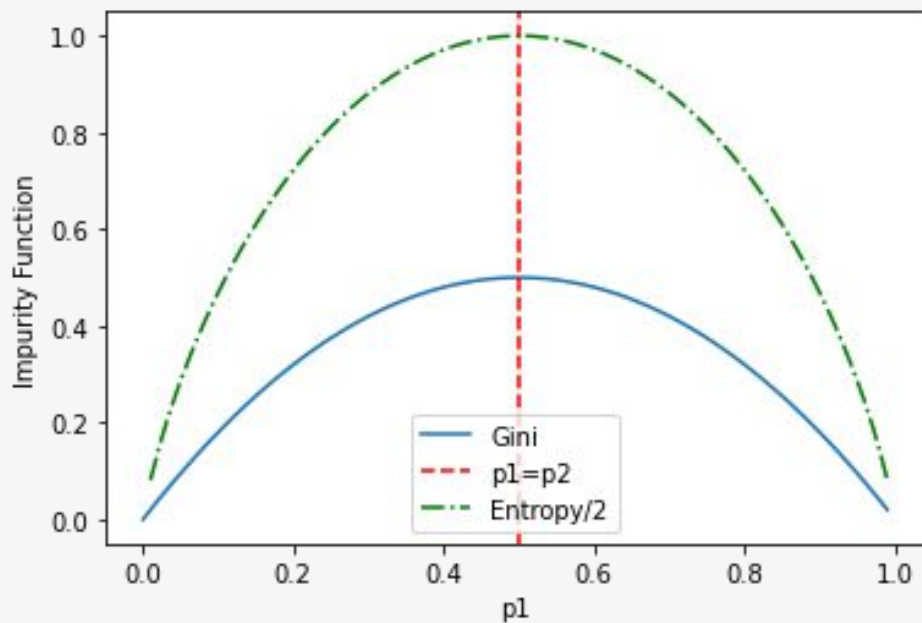


# ENTROPY

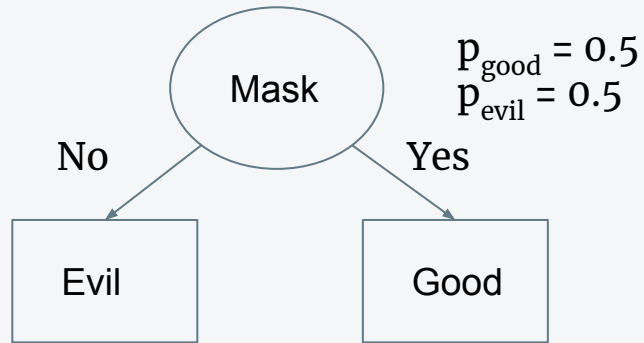
$$H(S) = - \sum_{k=1}^K p_k \log(p_k)$$



# COMPARISON OF $G(S)$ AND $H(S)$



# COMPUTING IMPURITY



Gini:  $G(\text{Mask}) =$   
Entropy:  $H(\text{Mask}) =$



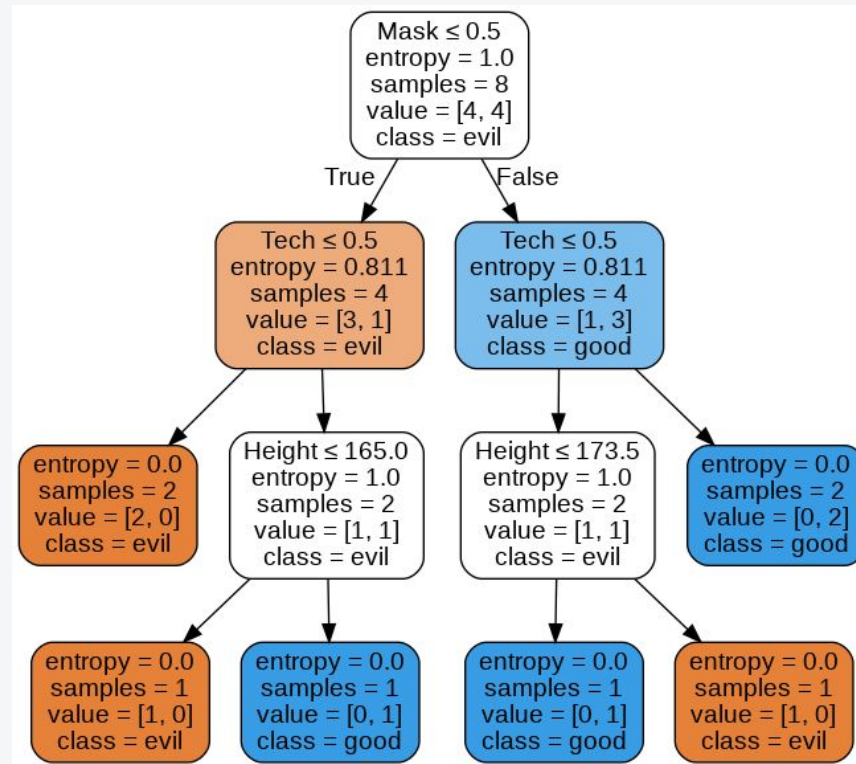
# HOW TO CONSTRUCT A TREE USING AN IMPURITY FUNCTION?

NP-hard to find the best tree

Greedy approach:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

# A TREE FROM OUR SUPERHERO EXAMPLE



Impurity = entropy  
Depth = ?

Any problems?



# WHAT'S OVERFITTING?

Definition:

Is it high bias or high variance scenario?





# DECISION TREES SUMMARY

Advantages?

Disadvantages?



# BAGGING

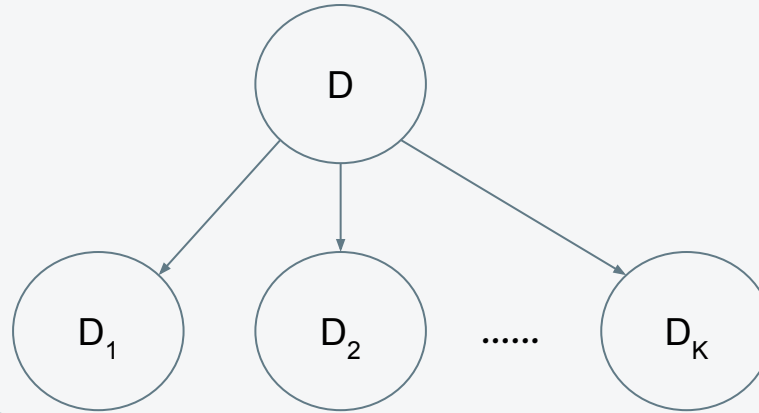
An effective way to reduce the variance of a classifier  
Helps with high variance classifiers (overfitting)

# BAGGING

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$M$  - number of features (predictors)

$D$  is  $N \times M$

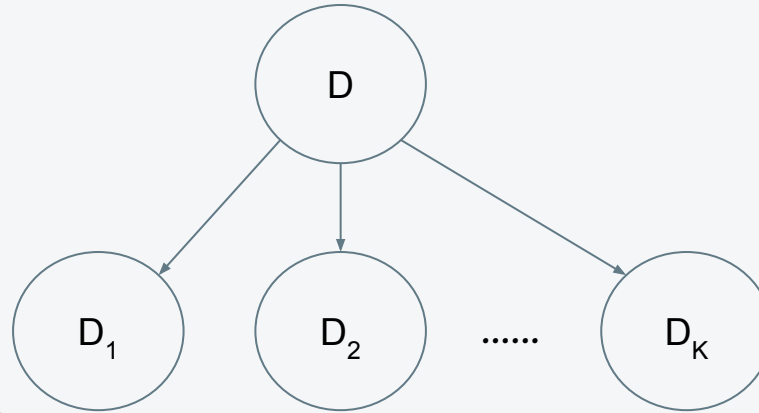


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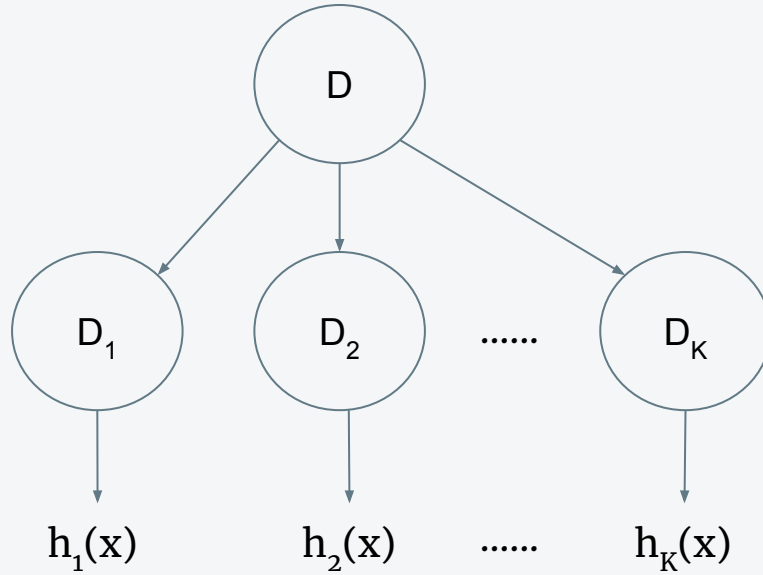
$D$  is  $N \times M$



$D_1 \dots D_K$  are  $N \times M$

(sampled  
independently with  
replacement)

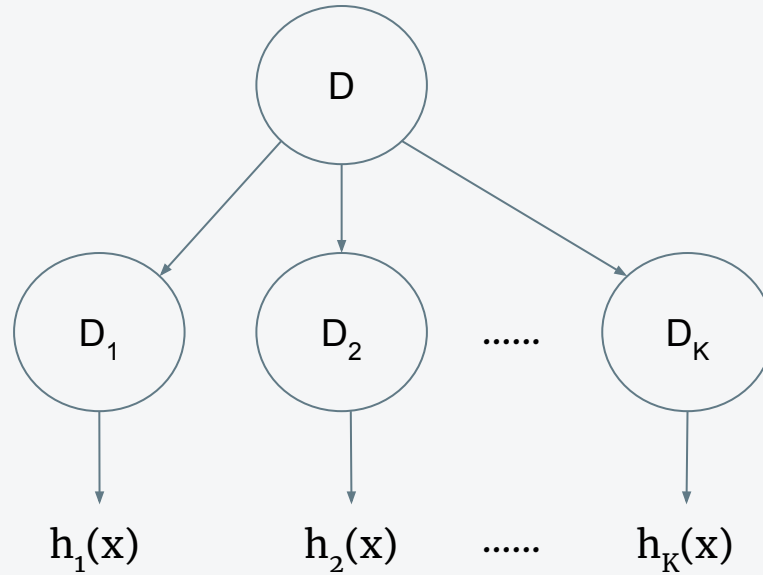
# BAGGING



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(sampled independently with replacement)

# BAGGING



$D_1 \dots D_K$  are  $N \times M$

(sampled  
independently with  
replacement)

- average of classifiers



# BAGGING

Advantages?

Disadvantages?



# RANDOM FORESTS

Best example of bagging

Algorithm?

Learn a decision tree on each of the  
“bags”  $D_1 \dots D_K$ , except...





# RANDOM FORESTS

Best example of bagging

Algorithm?

Learn a decision tree on each of the  
“bags”  $D_1 \dots D_K$ , except... at each tree split  
pick a subset of variables!!!



## RANDOM FORESTS

Learn a decision tree on each of the samples,  
except... at each tree-split pick a subset of  
variables at random (without replacement)!!!

How many new parameters?



# RANDOM FORESTS

## Advantages?

- ❑ Fast
- ❑ Robust
- ❑ Accurate
- ❑ Nonlinear
- ❑ No need to rescale features
- ❑ Few parameters
- ❑ Out of bag error
- ❑ Feature importance

## Disadvantages?

- ❑ Treat each dimension independently (e.g. not as good for images)
- ❑ May need to prune (extra)



## OUT OF BAG (OOB) ERROR

In principle, don't need to split data into train and test. Why?



# FEATURE IMPORTANCE

Get feature importance for free! How?



## SUMMARY

- ❑ There are many classifiers
- ❑ Today we learned about decision trees, bagging (not a classifier in itself but helps with overfitting!) and random forests
- ❑ Decision tree – simple and usually wrong
- ❑ Random forest – very powerful



# READING MATERIAL

Original paper on bagging by Leo Breiman, 1996:

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/BF00058655>

Original paper on random forests by Leo Breiman, 2001 (quite theoretical):

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1023/A:1010933404324>

Machine learning classifiers and fMRI (nice overview of classification itself):

[https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1053811908012263?casa\\_token=kFvmrR\\_QnxsAAAAA:H7tk36DYja\\_88DmfYyIbEEuVGXksXMkZX5LNv3tQoFrKippiZT3UdOfawidRksQoViYqKQlOqKTY](https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1053811908012263?casa_token=kFvmrR_QnxsAAAAA:H7tk36DYja_88DmfYyIbEEuVGXksXMkZX5LNv3tQoFrKippiZT3UdOfawidRksQoViYqKQlOqKTY)