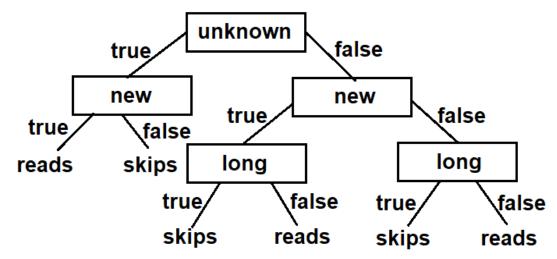
Assignment 2

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Question 1:

a)



They are different. The function with the maximum information gain split looks like this.

if long(e): return skips

else if new(e): return reads

else if unknown(e): return skips

else: return reads (function 1)

The function from the new decision tree is like

if unknown(e): if new(e): return reads

else: return skips

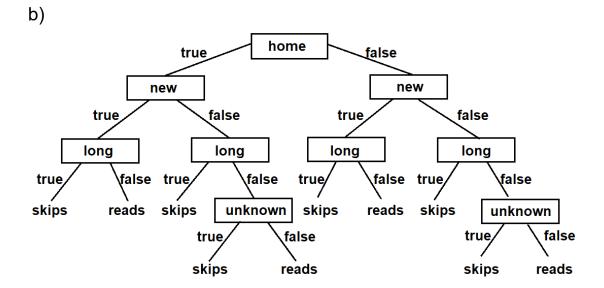
else: if new(e): if long(e): return skips

else: return reads

else: if long(e): return skips

else: return reads (function 2)

Structurally, they are different functions. And one function cannot be transformed to the other. Additionally, there's a counter example e₁₉ from Figure 7.1 which is *<unknown, new, long, work, User_action?>* If we use this to test both functions, the function 1 gives the output User_action = **skips** while function 2 gives **reads**. Thus, they are completely different.



This tree represents the following function 3 which is substantially the same as function 1.

if home(e): if new(e): if long(e): return skips

else: return reads

else: if long(e): return skips

else: if unknown(e): return skips

else: return reads

else: if new(e): if long(e): return skips

else: return reads

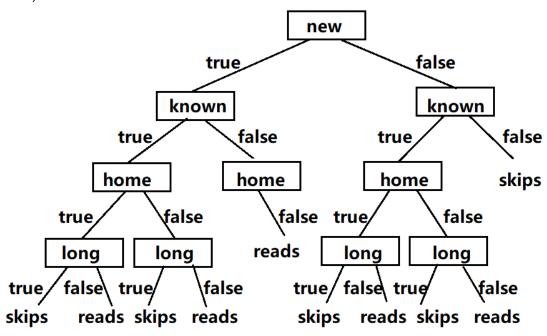
else: if long(e): return skips

else: if unknown(e): return skips

else: return false (function 3)

Though the structure of the 2 functions look different, they are substantially identical. As we can transform one function to the other. In the new decision tree, we can see that whatever values home(e) and new(e) are, if long(e) is true, the result is **skips**. This corresponds to 1_{st} line of function 1. Similarly, whatever value home(e) is, if long(e) is false and new(e) is true, the result is **reads**. Corresponding to 2_{nd} line of function 1. Whatever value home(e) is, if long(e) is false and new(e) is false and unknown(e) is true, the result is **skips**. Corresponding to 3_{rd} line of function 1. Finally, whatever value home(e) is, if long(e), new(e) and unknown(e) are all false, the result is **reads**. Corresponding to 4_{th} line of function 1. Thus, they are the same function.

c)
Yes, there is such a tree.



This tree is generated if the order of features is [Thread, Author, Where, Length]. This tree correctly classifies the training examples as each example can obtain the correct User_action using this tree. And the tree represents different functions from those 2 in a) and b) Considering a test case <unknown, new, home, long, User_action?>, the tree in a) gives reads, the tree in b) gives skips, but the tree in c) doesn't define this scenario because there is no such kind of data to generate the that branch of the tree. Thus, although the new tree correctly classifies the training data, the function represented is different from the preceding ones.

Question 2:

I used Weka to create the decision tree. As Weka only accepts .arff format files, I combined adult.data and adult.test to make a complete data file and add labels @relation, @attribute and @data to make it a correct .arff file. Before training and testing, I split the data into first 2/3 to be training data and the rest 1/3 to be testing data.

Then I used J48 algorithm to build a few decision trees. I changed some parameters and compare the results in the table.

| Algorithm | J48 | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|--|
| ConfiFactor | - | 0.75 | 0.50 | 0.25 | 0.1 | 0.25 | 0.25 | | |
| MinNumObj | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | |
| Model time | 2.68s | 73.68s | 3.16s | 5.1s | 3.3s | 2.72s | 2.35s | | |
| Test time | 0.07s | 0.03s | 0.02s | 0.1s | 0.01s | 0.02s | 0.02s | | |
| # leaves | 9129 | 8025 | 2386 | 696 | 205 | 503 | 401 | | |
| Tree size | 10657 | 9365 | 2946 | 911 | 275 | 651 | 530 | | |
| Accuracy | 84.1% | 84.1% | 85.3% | 85.9% | 85.5% | 85.8% | 85.7% | | |

ConfidenceFactor is the confidence factor for pruning (smaller values incur more pruning). The tree become smaller as this parameter decreases, but the accuracy isn't affected much.

MinNumObj is the minimum number of instances per leaf. The tree become smaller as this parameter increases but doesn't affect the accuracy much.

Considering the accuracy and efficiency, the optimal choice of parameters is the shaded one which has relatively high accuracy and the shortest test time. The decision tree of it is below.

```
capital-gain <= 6849

| matital-status = Married-civ-spouse
| | capital-loss <= 1844
| | education-num <= 11
| | capital-gain <= 5060
| | | age <= 29: <=50K (1999.0/241.0)
| | | age > 29
| | | hours-per-week <= 34: <=50K (1243.0/155.0)
| | | hours-per-week > 34
| | | | education-num <= 9: <=50K (6969.0/1820.0)
| | | capital-loss <= 1510
| | | | | capital-gain <= 3103: >50K (169.69/71.36)
```

```
capital-gain > 3103: <=50K (12.05/2.0)
occupation = Craft-repair
   workclass = Private
       fnlwgt <= 152968
           age <= 49
               capital-gain <= 1506: <=50K (170.22/48.51)
               capital-gain > 1506
                   capital-gain <= 3273: >50K (4.0)
                   capital-gain > 3273: <=50K (7.0/2.0)
           age > 49
               hours-per-week <= 51
                   age <= 59: >50K (42.37/14.2)
                   age > 59: <=50K (12.37/2.51)
               hours-per-week > 51: <=50K (6.17/0.17)
       fnlwgt > 152968
           hours-per-week <= 47
               education = Bachelors: <=50K (0.0)
               education = Some-college: <=50K (208.45/89.54)
               education = 11th: <=50K (0.0)
               education = HS-grad: <=50K (0.0)
               education = Prof-school: <=50K (0.0)
               education = Assoc-acdm: <=50K (0.0)
               education = Assoc-voc
                   fnlwgt <= 192344: <=50K (24.17/6.17)
                   fnlwgt > 192344: >50K (41.17/14.17)
               education = 9th: <=50K (0.0)
               education = 7th-8th: <=50K (0.0)
               education = 12th: <=50K (0.0)
               education = Masters: <=50K (0.0)
               education = 1st-4th: <=50K (0.0)
               education = 10th: <=50K (0.0)
               education = Doctorate: <=50K (0.0)
               education = 5th-6th: <=50K (0.0)
               education = Preschool: <=50K (0.0)
           hours-per-week > 47
               education = Bachelors: >50K (0.0)
               education = Some-college: >50K (69.88/25.2)
               education = 11th: >50K (0.0)
               education = HS-grad: >50K (0.0)
               education = Prof-school: >50K (0.0)
               education = Assoc-acdm: >50K (0.0)
               education = Assoc-voc: <=50K (20.68/7.68)
               education = 9th: >50K (0.0)
               education = 7th-8th: >50K (0.0)
               education = 12th: >50K (0.0)
               education = Masters: >50K (0.0)
               education = 1st-4th: >50K (0.0)
               education = 10th: >50K (0.0)
               education = Doctorate: >50K (0.0)
               education = 5th-6th: >50K (0.0)
               education = Preschool: >50K (0.0)
   workclass = Self-emp-not-inc: <=50K (102.1/23.75)
   workclass = Self-emp-inc
       hours-per-week <= 59
           hours-per-week <= 42: <=50K (11.37/3.1)
           hours-per-week > 42: >50K (7.14/1.07)
       hours-per-week > 59: <=50K (9.05/1.03)
   workclass = Federal-gov: <=50K (22.46/8.16)
```

```
workclass = Local-gov
       fnlwgt <= 188709: <=50K (10.34/0.12)
       fnlwgt > 188709: >50K (19.27/8.17)
   workclass = State-gov: <=50K (11.23/5.08)
   workclass = Without-pay: <=50K (0.0)
   workclass = Never-worked: <=50K (0.0)
occupation = Other-service: <=50K (144.99/32.06)
occupation = Sales
   workclass = Private
       fnlwgt <= 89259: <=50K (67.76/17.19)
       fnlwgt > 89259
           age <= 40: <=50K (119.89/49.47)
           age > 40: >50K (147.25/56.46)
   workclass = Self-emp-not-inc
       fnlwgt <= 345734: <=50K (60.29/17.42)
       fnlwgt > 345734: >50K (7.1/0.02)
   workclass = Self-emp-inc
       hours-per-week <= 42
           hours-per-week <= 39: >50K (4.1/1.05)
           hours-per-week > 39: <=50K (11.69/2.16)
       hours-per-week > 42: >50K (42.41/12.2)
   workclass = Federal-gov: <=50K (0.0)
   workclass = Local-gov: <=50K (1.02/0.01)
   workclass = State-gov: <=50K (2.04/1.01)
   workclass = Without-pay: <=50K (0.0)
   workclass = Never-worked: <=50K (0.0)
occupation = Exec-managerial
   workclass = Private: >50K (346.13/132.59)
   workclass = Self-emp-not-inc: <=50K (68.41/21.5)
   workclass = Self-emp-inc: >50K (91.89/32.22)
   workclass = Federal-gov: >50K (25.53/6.34)
   workclass = Local-gov: >50K (40.84/19.54)
   workclass = State-gov
       age <= 45: <=50K (12.17/3.04)
       age > 45: >50K (11.32/3.19)
   workclass = Without-pay: >50K (0.0)
   workclass = Never-worked: >50K (0.0)
occupation = Prof-specialty: >50K (258.32/113.43)
occupation = Handlers-cleaners: <=50K (92.91/18.68)
occupation = Machine-op-inspct: <=50K (197.06/64.45)
occupation = Adm-clerical
   workclass = Private: <=50K (201.14/80.48)
   workclass = Self-emp-not-inc: >50K (4.08/1.05)
   workclass = Self-emp-inc: >50K (1.02/0.01)
   workclass = Federal-gov: >50K (55.14/18.73)
   workclass = Local-gov
       sex = Female: <=50K (15.11/5.04)
       sex = Male: >50K (9.39/3.26)
   workclass = State-gov: <=50K (14.29/5.1)
   workclass = Without-pay: <=50K (0.0)
   workclass = Never-worked: <=50K (0.0)
occupation = Farming-fishing: <=50K (146.01/30.07)
occupation = Transport-moving: <=50K (201.14/75.48)
occupation = Priv-house-serv: <=50K (0.0)
occupation = Protective-serv
   race = White
       workclass = Private: <=50K (19.39/2.13)
       workclass = Self-emp-not-inc: >50K (1.02/0.01)
```

```
workclass = Self-emp-inc: >50K (1.02/0.01)
                              workclass = Federal-gov
                                  age <= 46: <=50K (2.03/0.01)
                                  age > 46: >50K (2.06/0.03)
                              workclass = Local-gov
                                  education = Bachelors: >50K (0.0)
                                  education = Some-college
                                      age <= 53
                                          age <= 38: <=50K (32.35/13.03)
                                          age > 38
                                             fnlwgt <= 121253: <=50K (8.09/2.03)
                                              fnlwgt > 121253: >50K (28.21/4.15)
                                      age > 53: <=50K (5.77/0.27)
                                  education = 11th: >50K (0.0)
                                  education = HS-grad: >50K (0.0)
                                  education = Prof-school: >50K (0.0)
                                  education = Assoc-acdm: >50K (0.0)
                                  education = Assoc-voc
                                      fnlwgt <= 112772: <=50K (2.12/0.06)
                                      fnlwgt > 112772: >50K (15.29/2.12)
                                  education = 9th: >50K (0.0)
                                  education = 7th-8th: >50K (0.0)
                                  education = 12th: >50K (0.0)
                                  education = Masters: >50K (0.0)
                                  education = 1st-4th: >50K (0.0)
                                  education = 10th: >50K (0.0)
                                  education = Doctorate: >50K (0.0)
                                  education = 5th-6th: >50K (0.0)
                                  education = Preschool: >50K (0.0)
                              workclass = State-gov
                                  age <= 41: <=50K (9.13/0.03)
                                  age > 41: >50K (15.35/6.22)
                              workclass = Without-pay: <=50K (0.0)
                              workclass = Never-worked: <=50K (0.0)
                          race = Asian-Pac-Islander: <=50K (2.18/0.14)
                          race = Amer-Indian-Eskimo: <=50K (1.05)
                          race = Other: >50K (2.05/0.05)
                          race = Black
                              fnlwgt <= 154897: <=50K (3.14/0.05)
                              fnlwgt > 154897: >50K (11.09/3.05)
                      occupation = Armed-Forces: >50K (1.02/0.01)
                   capital-loss > 1510: <=50K (43.0/1.0)
   capital-gain > 5060
       capital-gain <= 6612: >50K (111.0)
       capital-gain > 6612: <=50K (5.0)
education-num > 11
   hours-per-week <= 30
       sex = Female
           race = White: >50K (145.0/54.0)
           race = Asian-Pac-Islander: <=50K (6.0/3.0)
           race = Amer-Indian-Eskimo: <=50K (1.0)
           race = Other: <=50K (1.0)
           race = Black: <=50K (6.0/1.0)
       sex = Male: <=50K (386.0/111.0)
   hours-per-week > 30
       age <= 33
           age <= 25: <=50K (121.0/28.0)
           age > 25
```

```
education-num <= 12: <=50K (129.0/40.0)
                   education-num > 12
                       relationship = Wife: >50K (120.0/36.0)
                       relationship = Own-child: <=50K (2.0)
                       relationship = Husband
                          age <= 28: <=50K (166.0/75.0)
                          age > 28: >50K (542.0/229.0)
                       relationship = Not-in-family: >50K (0.0)
                       relationship = Other-relative: <=50K (10.0/4.0)
                       relationship = Unmarried: >50K (0.0)
           age > 33
               occupation = Tech-support: >50K (128.28/38.19)
               occupation = Craft-repair
                   education = Bachelors: >50K (142.11/66.16)
                   education = Some-college: >50K (0.0)
                   education = 11th: >50K (0.0)
                   education = HS-grad: >50K (0.0)
                   education = Prof-school: <=50K (5.39/2.22)
                   education = Assoc-acdm
                       age <= 37: <=50K (15.06/3.0)
                       age > 37
                          fnlwgt <= 153052: <=50K (18.11/5.06)
                          fnlwgt > 153052: >50K (26.06/5.06)
                   education = Assoc-voc: >50K (0.0)
                   education = 9th: >50K (0.0)
                   education = 7th-8th: >50K (0.0)
                   education = 12th: >50K (0.0)
                   education = Masters: >50K (20.11/8.5)
                   education = 1st-4th: >50K (0.0)
                   education = 10th: >50K (0.0)
                   education = Doctorate: <=50K (1.22/0.11)
                   education = 5th-6th: >50K (0.0)
                   education = Preschool: >50K (0.0)
               occupation = Other-service: <=50K (57.01/10.49)
               occupation = Sales: >50K (541.61/188.0)
               occupation = Exec-managerial: >50K (1180.96/289.91)
               occupation = Prof-specialty: >50K (1446.68/373.37)
               occupation = Handlers-cleaners: <=50K (31.56/10.27)
               occupation = Machine-op-inspct: <=50K (51.92/22.44)
               occupation = Adm-clerical: >50K (240.26/98.22)
               occupation = Farming-fishing
                   workclass = Private: <=50K (20.36/6.17)
                   workclass = Self-emp-not-inc: <=50K (41.74/10.36)
                   workclass = Self-emp-inc: >50K (6.11/0.06)
                   workclass = Federal-gov: <=50K (2.04/1.02)
                   workclass = Local-gov: <=50K (0.0)
                   workclass = State-gov: >50K (1.02/0.01)
                   workclass = Without-pay: \leq 50K (1.02/0.01)
                   workclass = Never-worked: <=50K (0.0)
               occupation = Transport-moving: <=50K (54.98/20.47)
               occupation = Priv-house-serv: <=50K (2.04/0.02)
               occupation = Protective-serv
                   age <= 42
                       capital-gain <= 1506: <=50K (30.15/11.06)
                       capital-gain > 1506: >50K (2.02/0.02)
                   age > 42: >50K (44.19/7.59)
               occupation = Armed-Forces: >50K (1.02/0.01)
capital-loss > 1844
```

```
capital-loss <= 1980: >50K (857.0/18.0)
           capital-loss > 1980
               capital-loss <= 2163: <=50K (104.0)
               capital-loss > 2163
                   capital-loss <= 2415
                      capital-loss <= 2377
                          age <= 64: <=50K (38.0/4.0)
                          age > 64: >50K (30.0/3.0)
                      capital-loss > 2377: >50K (82.0)
                  capital-loss > 2415: <=50K (14.0)
   matital-status = Divorced: <=50K (6454.0/498.0)
   matital-status = Never-married
       capital-loss <= 2206: <=50K (15843.0/495.0)
       capital-loss > 2206
           capital-loss <= 2377: <=50K (38.0/9.0)
           capital-loss > 2377: >50K (27.0/1.0)
   matital-status = Separated: <=50K (1505.0/76.0)
   matital-status = Widowed
       capital-loss <= 2205: <=50K (1460.0/82.0)
       capital-loss > 2205
          race = White: >50K (23.0/9.0)
          race = Asian-Pac-Islander: >50K (0.0)
       race = Amer-Indian-Eskimo: >50K (0.0)
          race = Other: >50K (0.0)
       | race = Black: <=50K (2.0)
   matital-status = Married-spouse-absent: <=50K (613.0/44.0)
   matital-status = Married-AF-spouse: <=50K (35.0/12.0)
capital-gain > 6849: >50K (2055.0/28.0)
```

Then I used REPTree algorithm to build a few other decision trees. I changed some parameters and compare the results in the table.

| Algorithm | REPTree | | | | | | | | |
|------------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|--|
| MaxDepth | noLimit | 7 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 | | |
| MinNum | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | | |
| numFolds | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | |
| Model time | 0.83s | 0.7s | 0.37s | 0.35s | 0.77s | 0.46s | 0.64s | | |
| Test time | 0.02s | 0.02s | 0.01s | 0.02s | 0.01s | 0.01s | 0.01s | | |
| Tree size | 2041 | 1094 | 238 | 45 | 200 | 217 | 209 | | |
| Accuracy | 84.9% | 85.1% | 84.3% | 82.7% | 84.3% | 84.5% | 84.4% | | |

MaxDepth is the max depth of the decision tree, as we decrease the MaxDepth, the tree size will decrease, and accuracy will also decrease slightly.

MinNum is the minimum total weight of the instances in a leaf, as it increases, the tree size decreases. But the accuracy doesn't change much.

numFolds determines the amount used for pruning. As it increases,

the tree size decreases slightly. But the accuracy doesn't change much.

Following is a decision tree with the minimum tree size in the table (not the most accurate).

```
relationship = Wife
    education = Bachelors : >50K (298/90) [166/64]
    education = Some-college : <=50K (306/132) [162/69]
   education = 11th : <=50K (36/3) [8/1]
   education = HS-grad : <=50K (485/153) [239/84]
   education = Prof-school : >50K (25/4) [13/1]
   education = Assoc-acdm : >50K (78/36) [30/14]
   education = Assoc-voc : >50K (76/33) [42/20]
   education = 9th : <=50K (25/2) [10/1]
   education = 7th-8th : <=50K (22/1) [7/0]
   education = 12th : <=50K (14/3) [7/0]
   education = Masters : >50K (117/20) [63/12]
   education = 1st-4th : <=50K (1/0) [5/0]
   education = 10th : <=50K (27/1) [19/2]
   education = Doctorate : >50K (18/1) [8/2]
    education = 5th-6th : <=50K (17/4) [4/0]
    education = Preschool: <=50K (1/0) [2/0]
relationship = Own-child
   capital-gain < 4718.5 : <=50K (4991/46) [2541/29]
    capital-gain >= 4718.5 : >50K (24/5) [25/8]
relationship = Husband
    education = Bachelors : >50K (2375/758) [1261/416]
    education = Some-college : <=50K (2486/1128) [1172/480]
    education = 11th : <=50K (322/44) [157/24]
   education = HS-grad : <=50K (4297/1328) [2091/677]
   education = Prof-school : >50K (362/53) [196/33]
   education = Assoc-acdm : >50K (380/194) [201/93]
   education = Assoc-voc : <=50K (576/250) [307/137]
   education = 9th : <=50K (186/17) [119/11]
   education = 7th-8th : <=50K (337/39) [166/17]
   education = 12th : <=50K (114/26) [52/11]
   education = Masters : >50K (876/212) [463/113]
   education = 1st-4th : <=50K (74/6) [37/2]
   education = 10th : <=50K (303/48) [168/27]
   education = Doctorate : >50K (256/44) [121/23]
   education = 5th-6th : <=50K (164/17) [74/5]
   education = Preschool : <=50K (10/0) [13/0]
relationship = Not-in-family
   capital-gain < 8296 : <=50K (8237/643) [4007/295]
    capital-gain >= 8296 : >50K (236/0) [103/1]
relationship = Other-relative : <=50K (1006/33) [500/19]
relationship = Unmarried
   capital-gain < 7139.5 : <=50K (3352/148) [1695/89]
   capital-gain >= 7139.5 : >50K (51/3) [27/3]
```

In conclusion, the best accuracy of predicting this dataset is 85.5% using J48 algorithm. Appropriate pruning and limitation of max tree depth will adjust the decision tree to a smaller size and the accuracy

will remain much the same or improve. Increasing MinNumObj in J48 may result in a smaller tree. Increasing MinNum or numFold in REPTree may also result a smaller tree. The best Max tree depth of REPTree is 7.