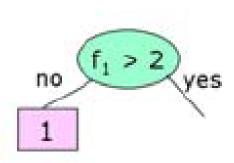
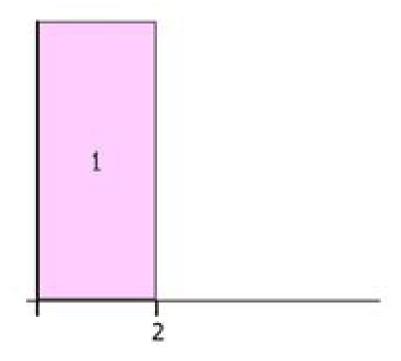
Decision Trees (2) Numeric Attributes

Numerical attributes

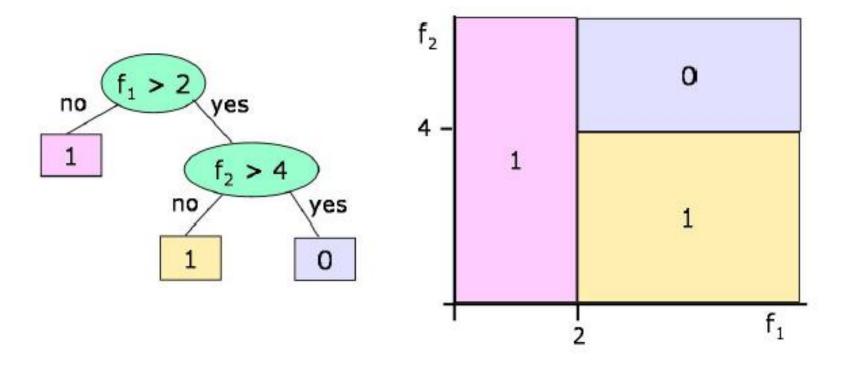
• Tests in nodes are of the form $f_i > constant$



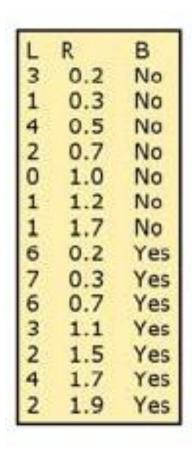


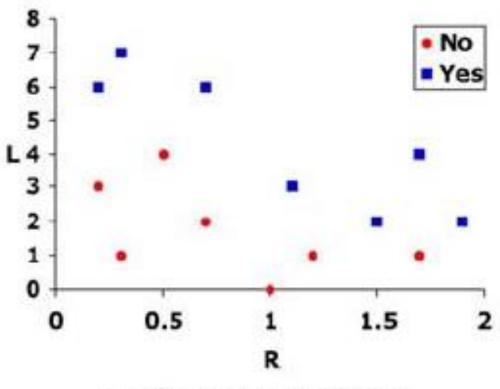
Numerical attributes

- Tests in nodes can be of the form $f_i > constant$
- Divides the space into rectangles.



Predicting Bankruptcy



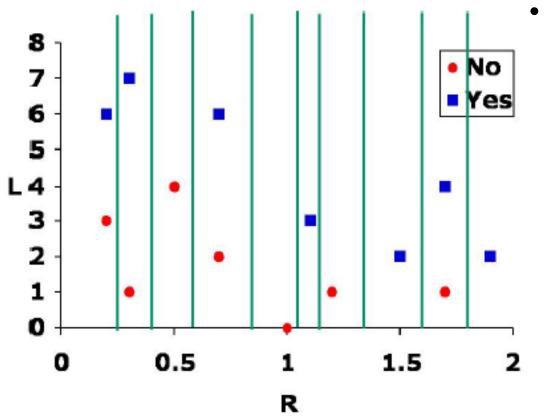


L: #late payments / year

R: expenses / income

Considering splits

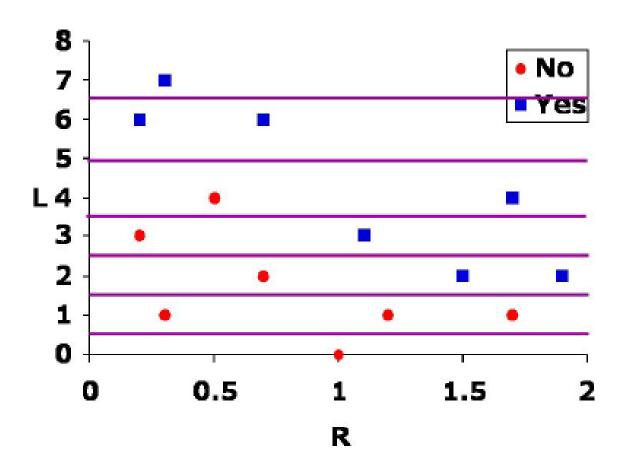
• Consider splitting between each data point in each dimension.

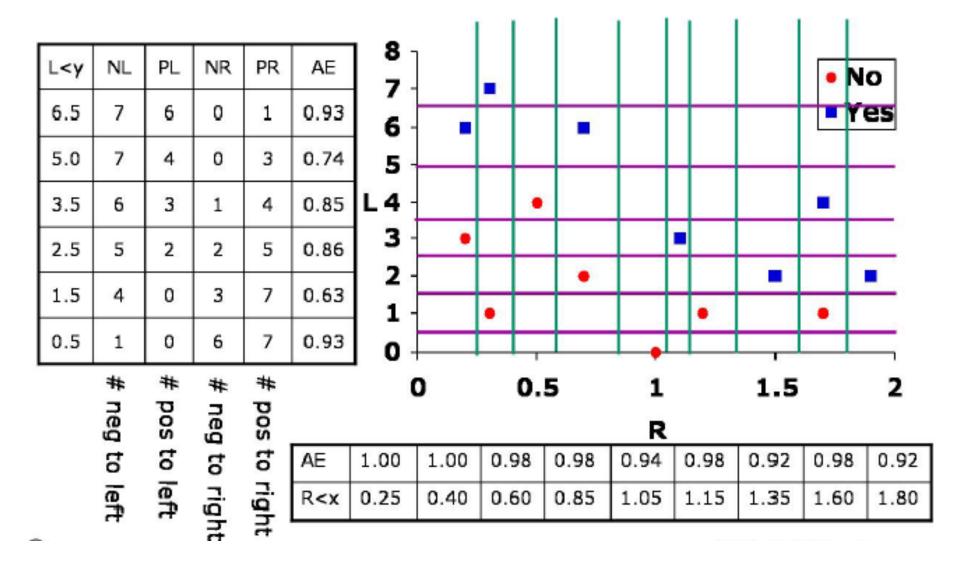


So, here we'd consider 9 different splits in the R dimension

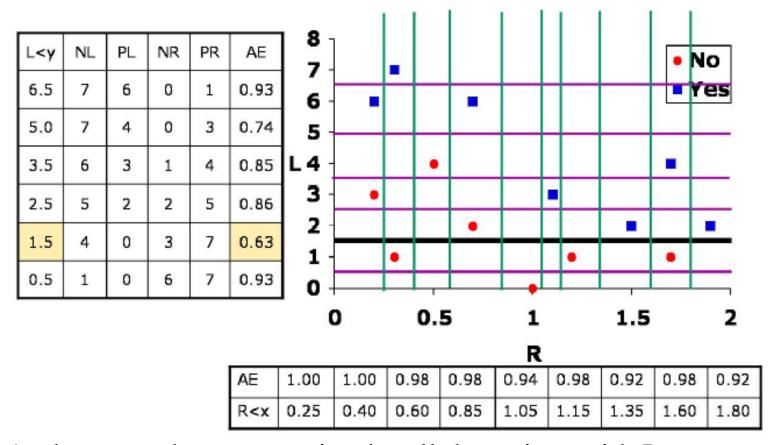
Considering splits II

• And there are another 6 possible splits in the L dimension



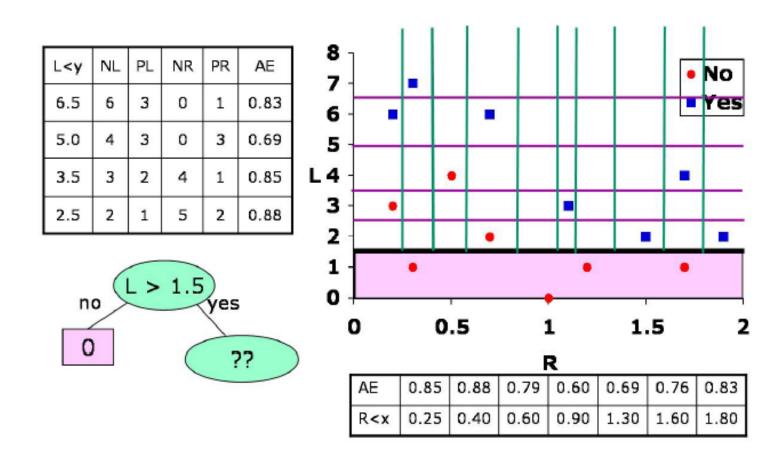


• We consider all the possible splits in each dimension, and compute the average entropies of the children.

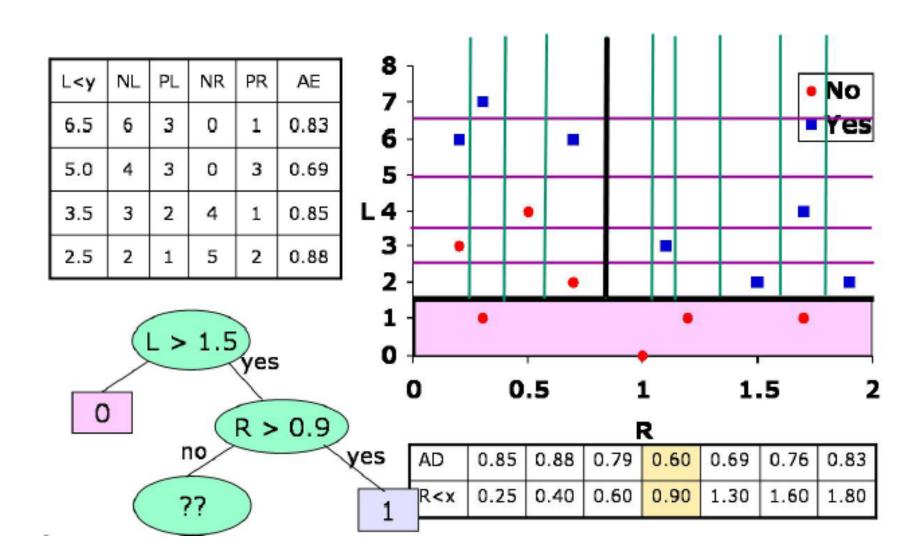


• And we see that, conveniently, all the points with L not greater than 1.5 are of class 0, so we can make a leaf there.

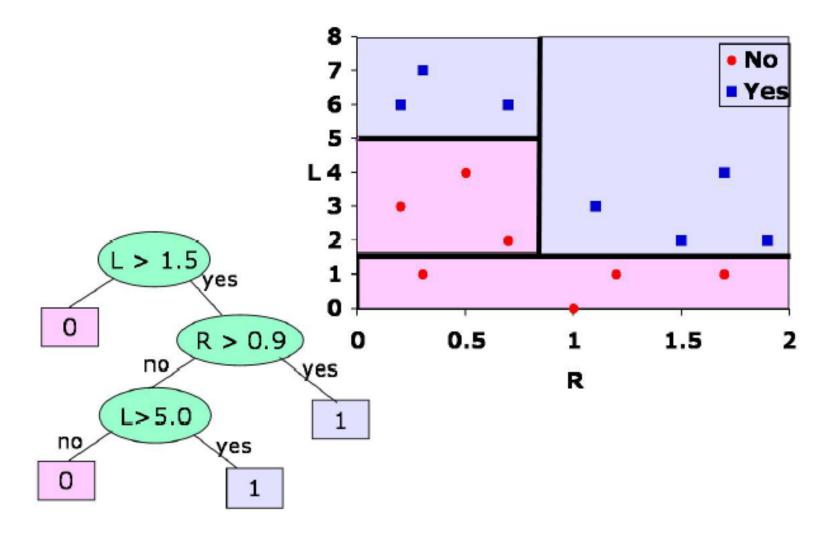
• Now, we consider all the splits of the remaining part of space.



• Now the best split is at R > 0.9.



• Continuing in this way, we finally obtain:



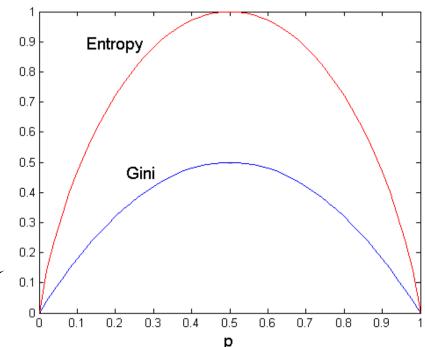
Alternative Splitting Criteria based on GINI

- We have used so far the entropy.
- GINI is an alternative.

$$Entropy(p_1,...,p_n) = -\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i \log p_i$$

- Both, have:
 - Maximum when records are equally distributed among all classes, implying least purity
 - Minimum attained at p equal to 0 or 1,
 i.e. when all records belong to one class,
 implying most purity

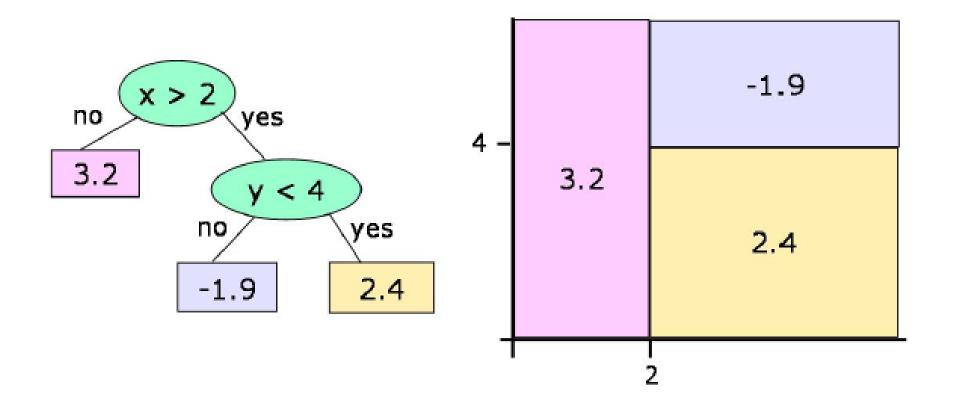
$$GINI(p_1,...,p_n) = 1 - \sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i^2$$



For a 2-class problem:

Regression Trees

• Like decision trees, but with real-valued constant outputs at the leaves.



Leaf values

- Assume that multiple training points are in the leaf and we have decided, for whatever reason, to stop splitting.
 - In the boolean case, we use the majority output value as the value for the leaf.
 - In the numeric case, we'll use the average output value.
- So, if we're going to use the average value at a leaf as its output, we'd like to split up the data so that the leaf averages are not too far away from the actual items in the leaf.
- Statistics has a good measure of how spread out a set of numbers is
 - (and, therefore, how different the individuals are from the average);
 - it's the *variance* of a set.

Variance

• Mean:

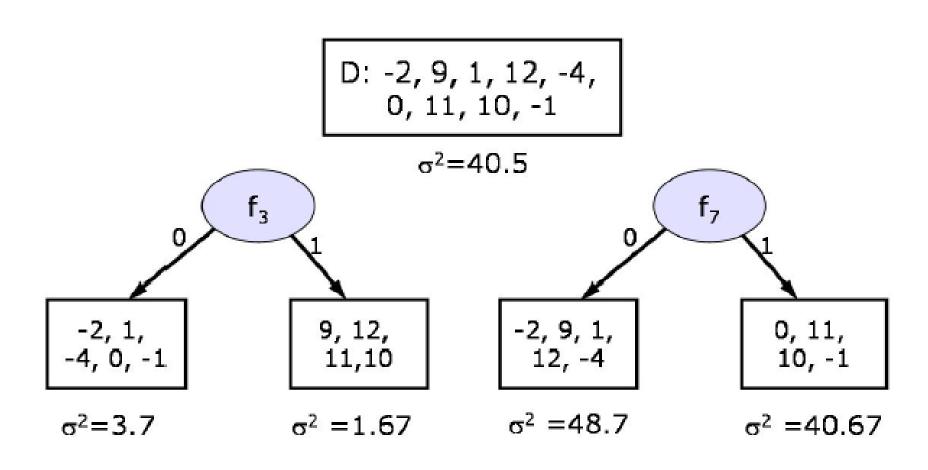
$$\mu = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=1}^{m} Z_k$$

• Variance (unbiased estimator):

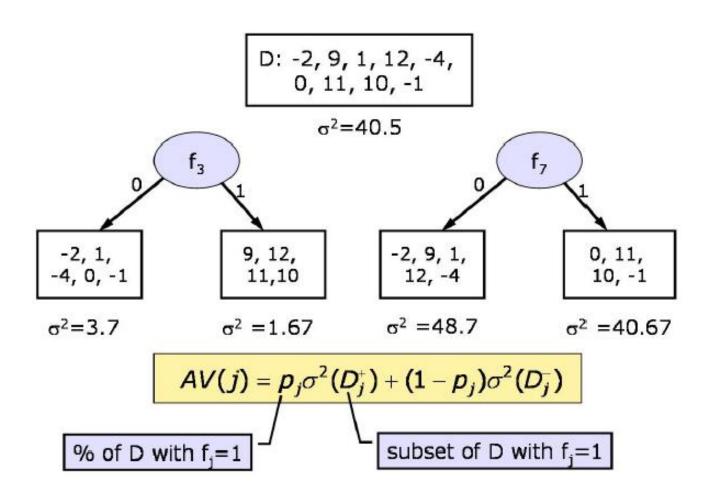
$$\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{m-1} \sum_{k=1}^{m} (z_k - \mu)^2$$

• We will use now the variance instead of entropy.

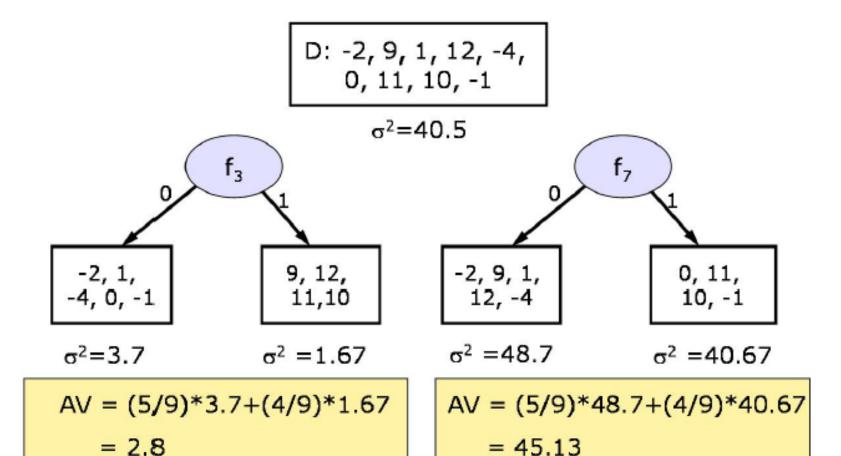
Splitting



Splitting



Splitting



Stopping

- Stop when the variance at the leaf is small enough.
- Then, set the value at the leaf to be the mean of the y values of the elements.

