3BA2 Tutorial 2

Decision Trees

1. In this question we consider the use of Machine Learning Induction techniques in the design of an E-mail filtering system. The objective of the system is to rank incoming messages as Important or Normal depending on the attributes of some messages.

An analysis of the problem has shown that three key predictive features of the importance of a message are:

Domain: The origin of the message; can be Internal, Ireland or the rest if the World.

Size: Can be Small, Medium or Large.

Type: Whether the message was addressed to a Mailing List or an Individual.

In the Table below there are 10 examples of email messages described according to these features. Show how a minimal decision tree to classify email messages can be built by Induction from these examples.

| Message | Domain | Size | Type | Rank |
|---------|----------|--------|--------------|-----------|
| No.1 | Internal | Small | Personal | Important |
| No.2 | Internal | Medium | Mailing List | Normal |
| No.3 | Internal | Small | Personal | Important |
| No.4 | World | Small | Personal | Important |
| No.5 | World | Large | Mailing List | Normal |
| No.6 | IE | Small | Mailing List | Normal |
| No.7 | ΙE | Small | Personal | Important |
| No.8 | World | Large | Mailing List | Normal |
| No.9 | ΙE | Large | Personal | Normal |
| No.10 | ΙE | Medium | Personal | Normal |

2. Build a decision tree from the following data that will classify an individual as McDonnell or Giles.

| | Height | Hair | Eyes | Clan |
|---------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| Sean | short | blond | blue | McD |
| Mike | tall | blond | brown | Giles |
| Paddy | tall | red | blue | McD |
| Mike Óg | short | dark | blue | Giles |
| Colm | tall | dark | blue | Giles |
| Liam | tall | blond | blue | McD |
| Johnny | tall | dark | brown | Giles |
| Cóilín | short | blond | brown | Giles |