

Decision Tree

Artificial Intelligence

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1. What is Decision Tree?
2. Entropy
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Decision Tree

❖ Function Approximation

Problem Setting

- Set of possible instances \mathcal{X}
- Set of possible labels \mathcal{Y}
- Unknown target function $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$
- Set of function hypotheses $H = \{h \mid h : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}\}$

Input: Training examples of unknown target function f

$$\{\langle \mathbf{x}_i, y_i \rangle\}_{i=1}^n = \{\langle \mathbf{x}_1, y_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle \mathbf{x}_n, y_n \rangle\}$$

Output: Hypothesis $h \in H$ that best approximates f

Decision Tree

❖ Sample Dataset

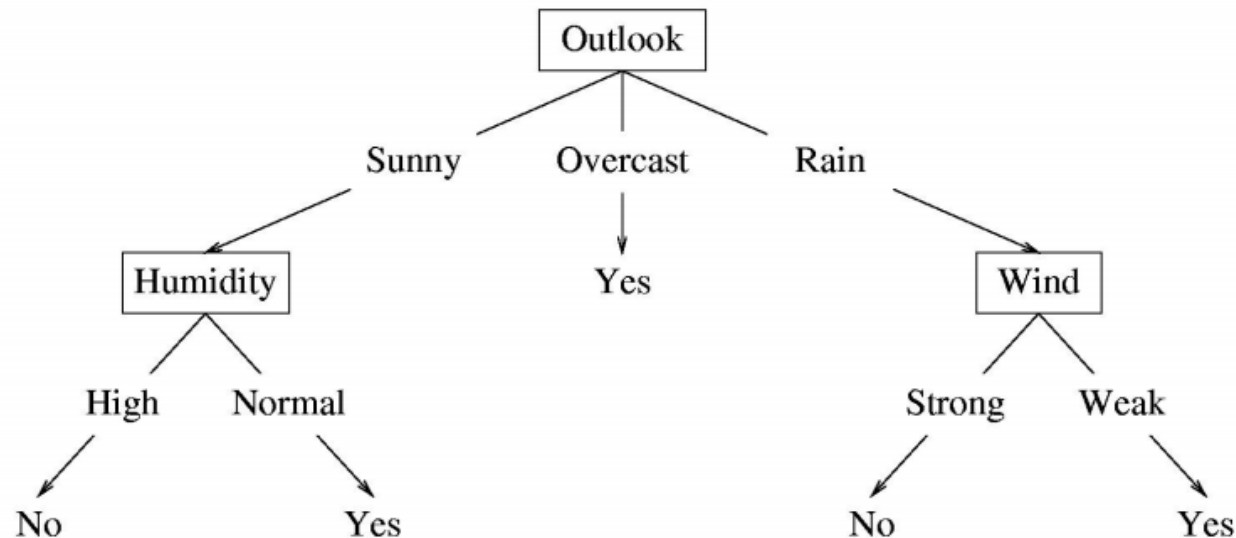
- Columns denote features X_i
- Rows denote labeled instances $\langle x_i, y_i \rangle$
- Class label denotes whether a tennis game was played

$\langle x_i, y_i \rangle$

Predictors				Response
Outlook	Temperature	Humidity	Wind	Class
Sunny	Hot	High	Weak	No
Sunny	Hot	High	Strong	No
Overcast	Hot	High	Weak	Yes
Rain	Mild	High	Weak	Yes
Rain	Cool	Normal	Weak	Yes
Rain	Cool	Normal	Strong	No
Overcast	Cool	Normal	Strong	Yes
Sunny	Mild	High	Weak	No
Sunny	Cool	Normal	Weak	Yes
Rain	Mild	Normal	Weak	Yes
Sunny	Mild	Normal	Strong	Yes
Overcast	Mild	High	Strong	Yes
Overcast	Hot	Normal	Weak	Yes
Rain	Mild	High	Strong	No

Decision Tree

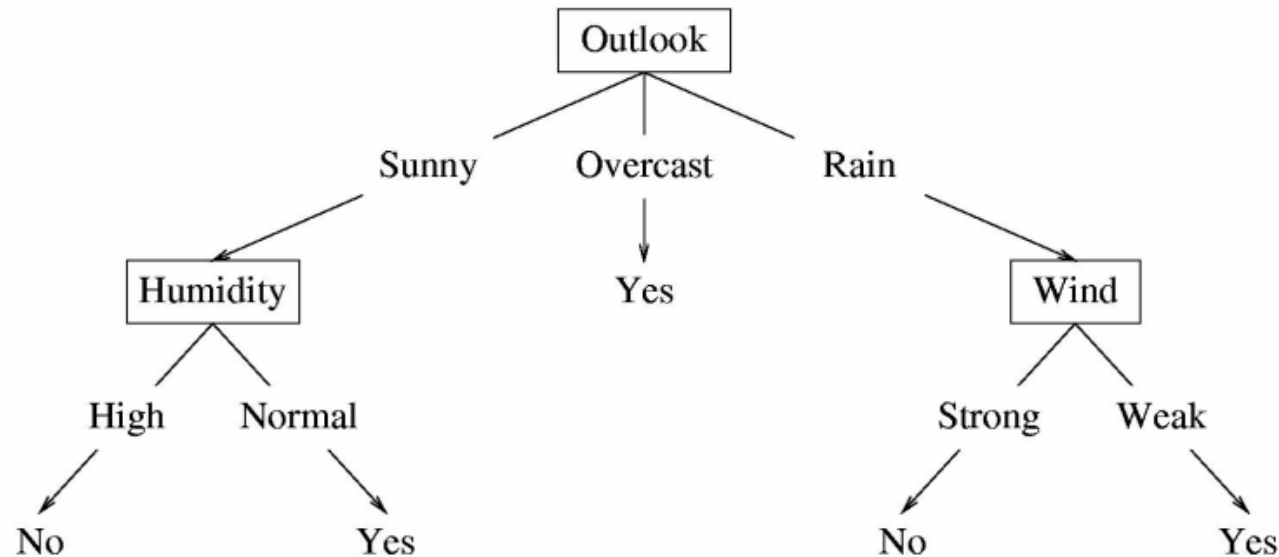
- A possible decision tree for the data:



- Each internal node: test one attribute X_i
- Each branch from a node: selects one value for X_i
- Each leaf node: predict Y (or $p(Y \mid \mathbf{x} \in \text{leaf})$)

Decision Tree

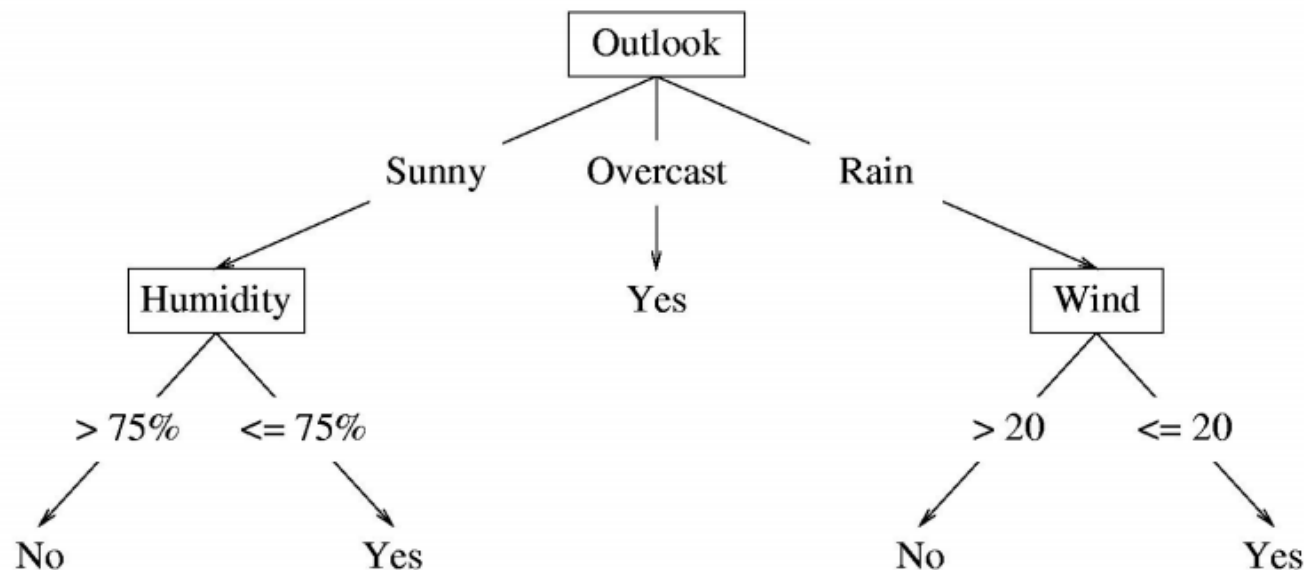
- A possible decision tree for the data:



- What prediction would we make for
<outlook=sunny, temperature=hot, humidity=high, wind=weak> ?

Decision Tree

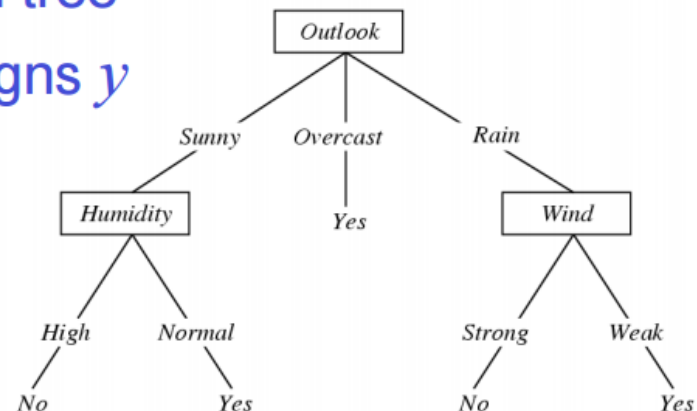
- If features are continuous, internal nodes can test the value of a feature against a threshold



Decision Tree

❖ Problem Setting:

- Set of possible instances X
 - each instance x in X is a feature vector
 - e.g., $\langle \text{Humidity}=\text{low}, \text{Wind}=\text{weak}, \text{Outlook}=\text{rain}, \text{Temp}=\text{hot} \rangle$
- Unknown target function $f: X \rightarrow Y$
 - Y is discrete valued
- Set of function hypotheses $H = \{ h \mid h: X \rightarrow Y \}$
 - each hypothesis h is a decision tree
 - trees sorts x to leaf, which assigns y



Decision Tree

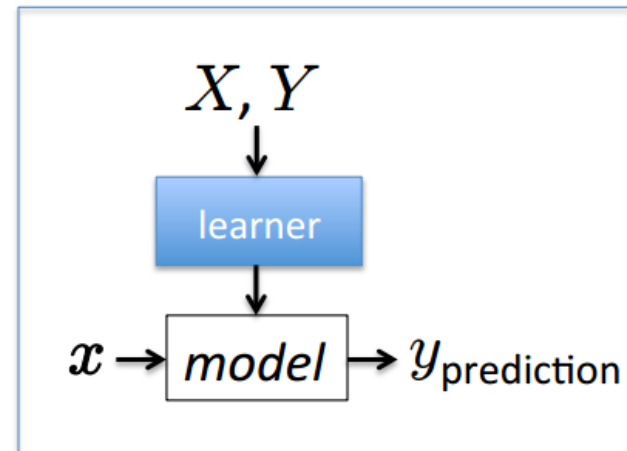
❖ Stages of (Batch) Machine Learning

Given: labeled training data $X, Y = \{\langle \mathbf{x}_i, y_i \rangle\}_{i=1}^n$

- Assumes each $\mathbf{x}_i \sim \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{X})$ with $y_i = f_{\text{target}}(\mathbf{x}_i)$

Train the model:

$model \leftarrow classifier.train(X, Y)$



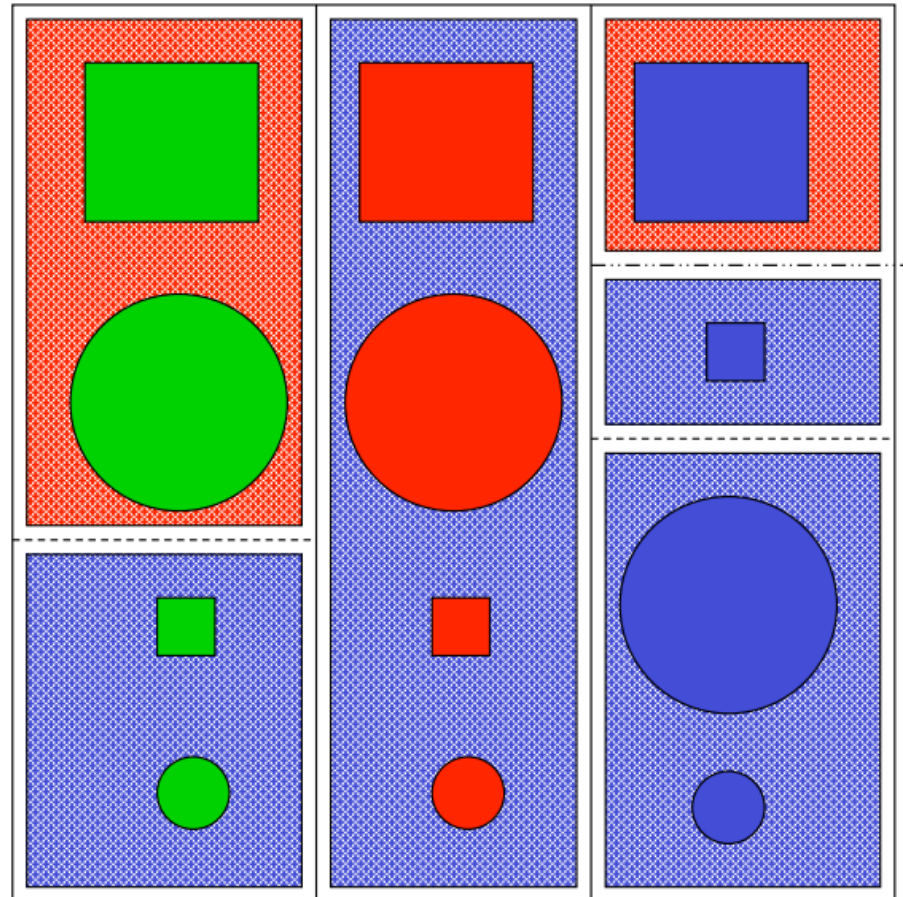
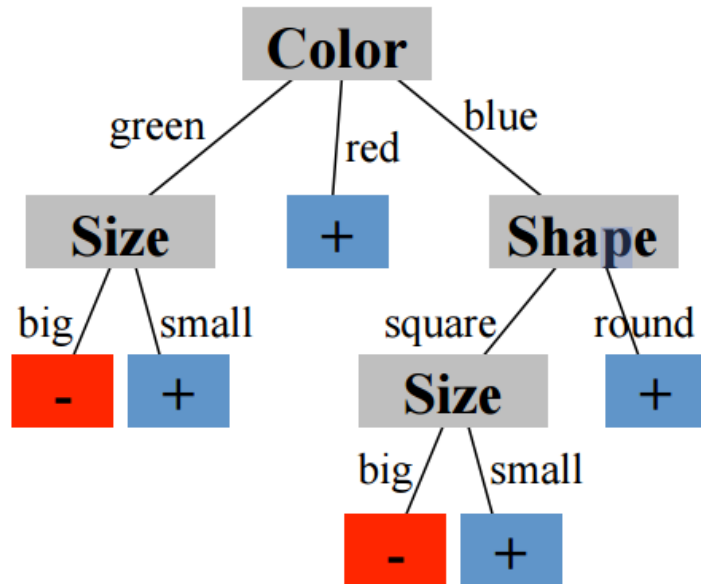
Apply the model to new data:

- Given: new unlabeled instance $x \sim \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{X})$

$y_{\text{prediction}} \leftarrow model.predict(x)$

Decision Tree

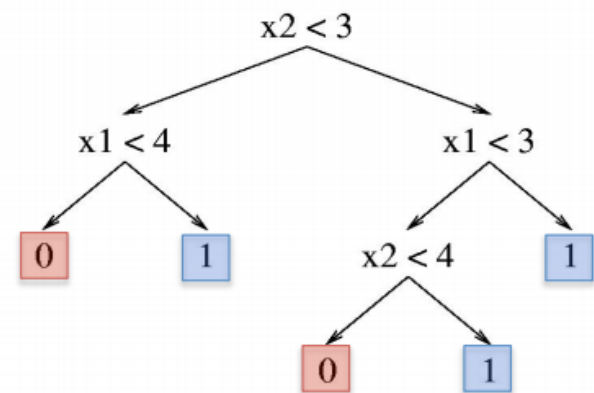
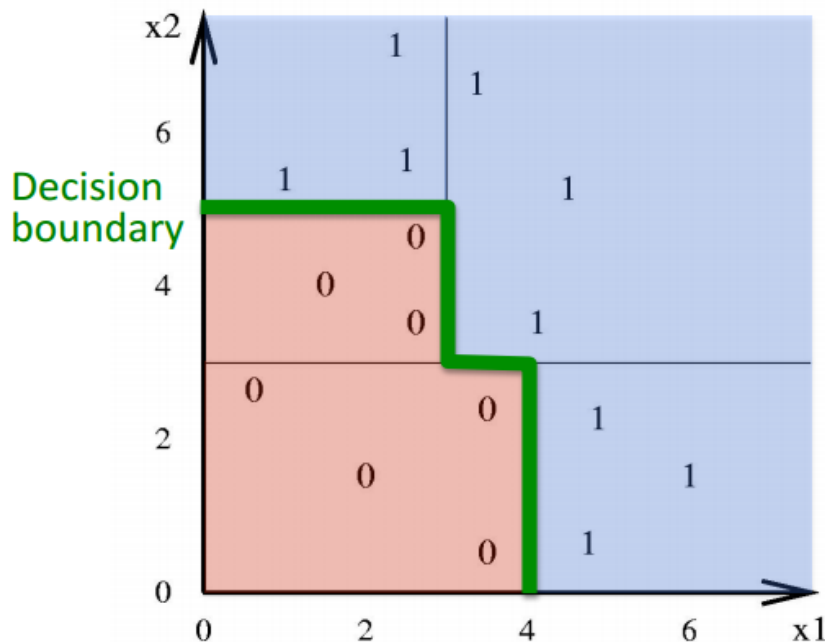
❖ Decision Tree Induced Partition



Decision Tree

❖ Decision Tree – Decision Boundary

- Decision trees divide the feature space into axis-parallel (hyper-)rectangles
- Each rectangular region is labeled with one label
 - or a probability distribution over labels



Decision Tree

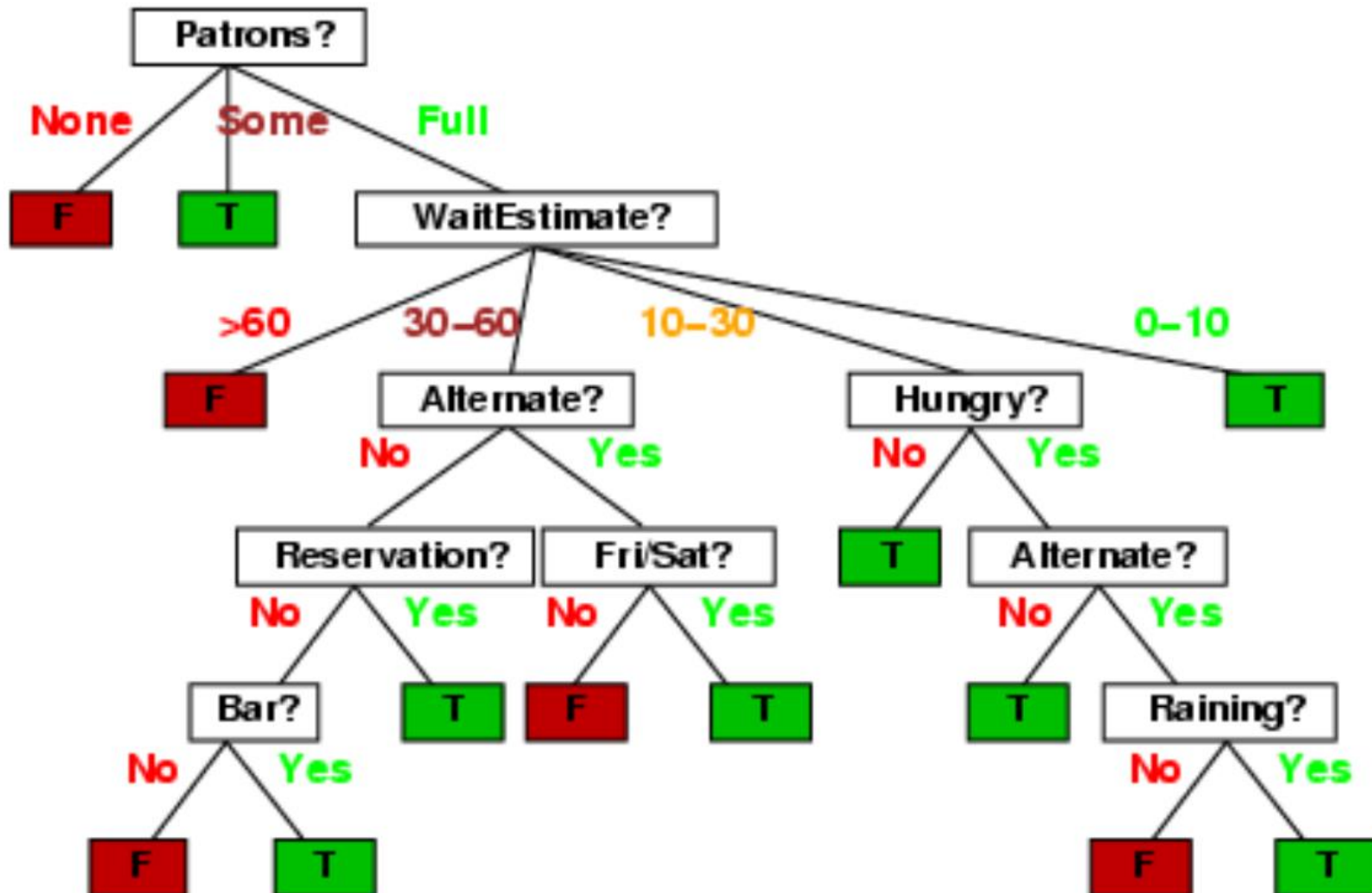
❖ Restaurant Domain (Russell & Norvig)

Model a patron's decision of whether to wait for a table at a restaurant

Example	Attributes										Target
	<i>Alt</i>	<i>Bar</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Hun</i>	<i>Pat</i>	<i>Price</i>	<i>Rain</i>	<i>Res</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Est</i>	<i>Wait</i>
X_1	T	F	F	T	Some	\$\$\$	F	T	French	0-10	T
X_2	T	F	F	T	Full	\$	F	F	Thai	30-60	F
X_3	F	T	F	F	Some	\$	F	F	Burger	0-10	T
X_4	T	F	T	T	Full	\$	F	F	Thai	10-30	T
X_5	T	F	T	F	Full	\$\$\$	F	T	French	>60	F
X_6	F	T	F	T	Some	\$\$	T	T	Italian	0-10	T
X_7	F	T	F	F	None	\$	T	F	Burger	0-10	F
X_8	F	F	F	T	Some	\$\$	T	T	Thai	0-10	T
X_9	F	T	T	F	Full	\$	T	F	Burger	>60	F
X_{10}	T	T	T	T	Full	\$\$\$	F	T	Italian	10-30	F
X_{11}	F	F	F	F	None	\$	F	F	Thai	0-10	F
X_{12}	T	T	T	T	Full	\$	F	F	Burger	30-60	T

~7,000 possible cases

Decision Tree



Is this the best decision tree?

Decision Tree

❖ Ockham's Razor (1285-1347)

Idea: The simplest consistent explanation is the best

- Therefore, the smallest decision tree that correctly classifies all of the training examples is best.
- Finding the provably smallest decision tree is NP-hard
- So instead of constructing the absolute smallest tree consistent with the training examples, construct one that is pretty small

Decision Tree

Basic Algorithm for Top-Down Induction of Decision Trees

[ID3, C4.5 by Quinlan]

node = root of decision tree

Main loop:

1. $A \leftarrow$ the “best” decision attribute for the next node.
2. Assign A as decision attribute for *node*.
3. For each value of A , create a new descendant of *node*.
4. Sort training examples to leaf nodes.
5. If training examples are perfectly classified, stop.
Else, recurse over new leaf nodes.

How do we choose which attribute is best?

Decision Tree

❖ Choosing the best Attribute

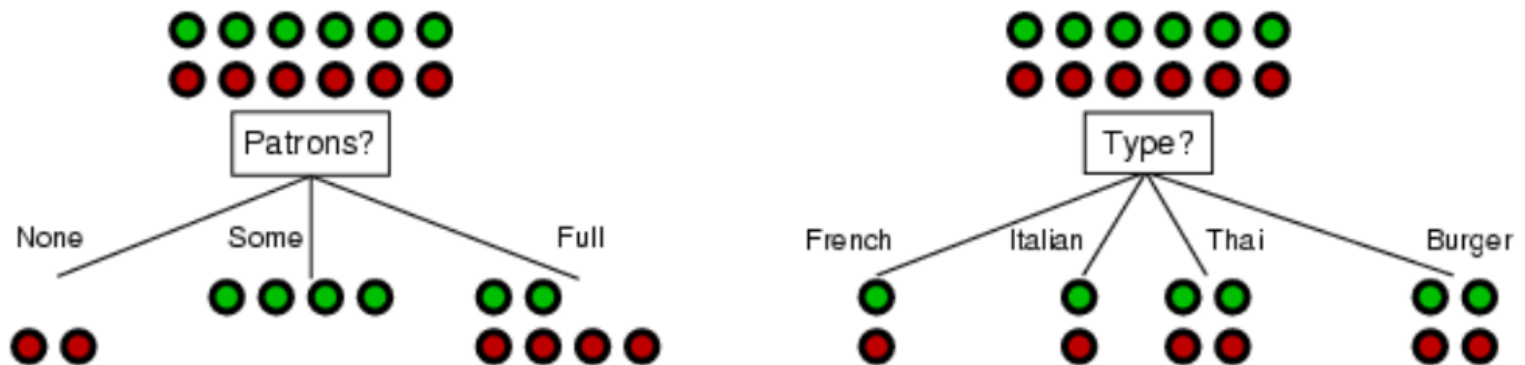
Key problem: choosing which attribute to split a given set of examples

- Some possibilities are:
 - **Random:** Select any attribute at random
 - **Least-Values:** Choose the attribute with the smallest number of possible values
 - **Most-Values:** Choose the attribute with the largest number of possible values
 - **Max-Gain:** Choose the attribute that has the largest expected *information gain*
 - i.e., attribute that results in smallest expected size of subtrees rooted at its children
- The ID3 algorithm uses the Max-Gain method of selecting the best attribute

Decision Tree

❖ Choosing an Attribute

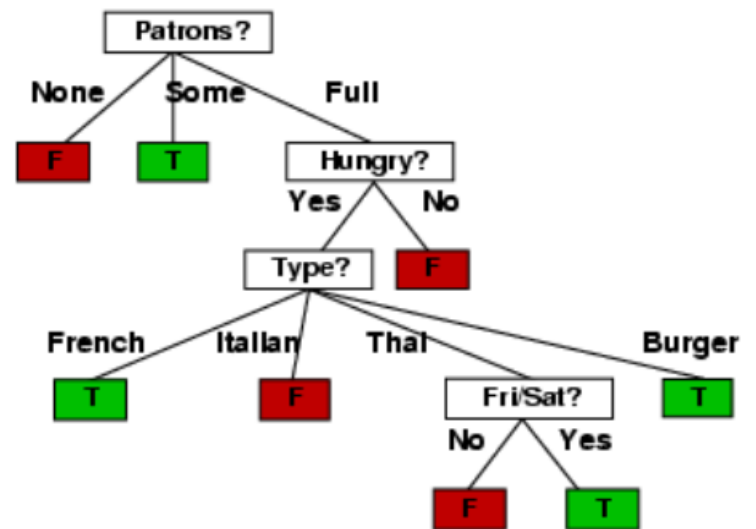
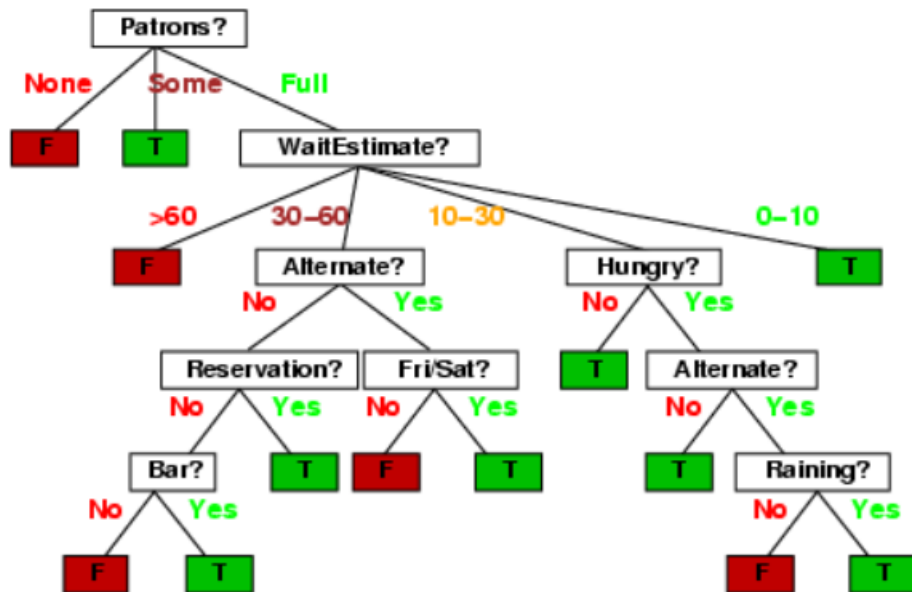
Idea: a good attribute splits the examples into subsets that are (ideally) “all positive” or “all negative”



Which split is more informative: *Patrons?* or *Type?*

Decision Tree

❖ Compare the Two Decision Trees



Based on Slide from M. desJardins & T. Finin

Entropy

❖ Entropy and Knowledge

- 3 buckets with 4 balls each
 - Bucket 1: 4 red balls
 - Bucket 2: 3 red balls and 1 blue ball
 - Bucket 3: 2 red balls and 2 blue balls

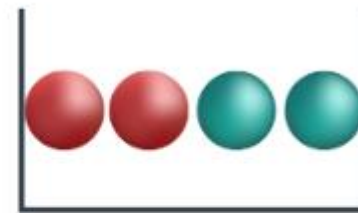
- Entropy is in some way, the opposite of knowledge



High Knowledge
Low Entropy



Medium Knowledge
Medium Entropy



Low Knowledge
High Entropy

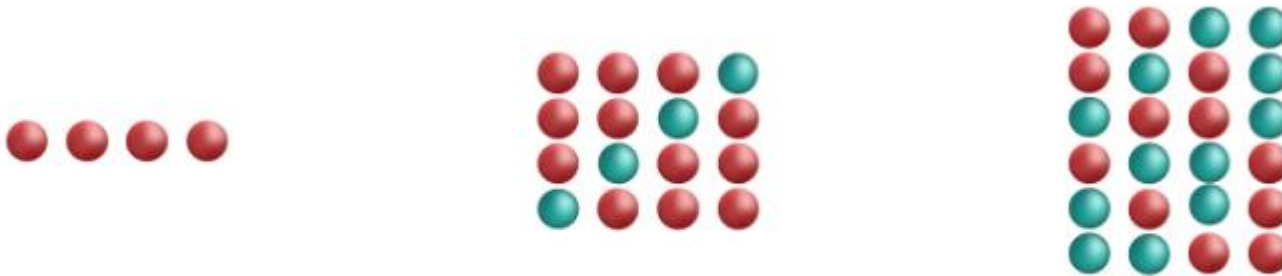
Entropy and Information are opposites

Entropy

❖ Entropy and Probability

➤ The number of rearrangements of balls

- 1 possible rearrangement for bucket 1
- 4 possible rearrangement for bucket 2
- 6 possible rearrangement for bucket 3



Number of rearrangements for the balls in each bucket

- ### ➤ If there are many arrangements, then entropy is large, and if there are very few arrangements, then entropy is low.

Entropy

❖ Entropy and Game

➤ Game rules:

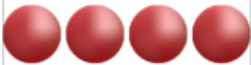
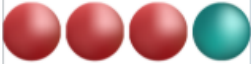

- We choose one of the three buckets.
- We are shown the balls in the bucket, in some order. Then, the balls go back in the bucket.
- We then pick one ball out of the bucket, at a time, record the color, and return the ball back to the bucket.
- If the colors recorded make the same sequence than the sequence of balls that we were shown at the beginning, then we win 1,000,000 dollars. If not, then we lose.

Entropy

❖ Entropy and Game

➤ Opposite Results:

Probability of Winning

	P(red)	P(blue)	P(winning)
	1	0	$1 \times 1 \times 1 \times 1 = 1$
	0.75	0.25	$0.75 \times 0.75 \times 0.75 \times 0.25 = 0.105$
	0.5	0.5	$0.5 \times 0.5 \times 0.5 \times 0.5 = 0.0625$

➤ Turning Products into Sums

- Products are never very good
- How would the product of a million small probabilities (between 0 and 1) would look? It would be a ridiculously tiny number.

$$\log(ab) = \log(a) + \log(b)$$

Logarithm identity

Entropy

❖ Entropy and Game

➤ Taking the logarithm

$$0.75 * 0.75 * 0.75 * 0.25 = 0.10546875$$

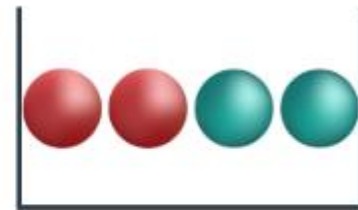
$$\Rightarrow -\log_2(0.75) - \log_2(0.75) - \log_2(0.75) - \log_2(0.25) = 3.245$$



Bucket 1
Entropy: 0



Bucket 2
Entropy: 0.81125



Bucket 3
Entropy: 1

$$\frac{1}{4}(-\log_2(1) - \log_2(1) - \log_2(1) - \log_2(1)) = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{4}(-\log_2(0.75) - \log_2(0.75) - \log_2(0.75) - \log_2(0.25)) = 0.81125$$

$$\frac{1}{4}(-\log_2 0.5 - \log_2 0.5 - \log_2 0.5 - \log_2 0.5) = 1$$

Entropy

❖ General Formula for Entropy



$$\text{Entropy} = \frac{-m}{m+n} \log_2 \left(\frac{m}{m+n} \right) + \frac{-n}{m+n} \log_2 \left(\frac{n}{m+n} \right)$$

Entropy

❖ Multi-class Entropy

- Entropy with several classes

AAAAAAAA

Bucket 1

Low Entropy

AAAABBCD

Bucket 2

Medium Entropy

AABBCDD

Bucket 3

High Entropy

- General formula for Multi-class entropy

$$\text{Entropy} = - \sum_{i=1}^n p_i \log_2 p_i$$

Entropy

❖ Multi-class Entropy

➤ Entropy for the three buckets

AAAAAAAA

Bucket 1

Entropy = 0

AAAABBCD

Bucket 2

Entropy = 1.75

AABBCDD

Bucket 3

Entropy = 2

✓ **Bucket 1:** Entropy = $-1 \log_2(1) = 0$

✓ **Bucket 2:** Entropy = $-\frac{4}{8} \log_2\left(\frac{4}{8}\right) - \frac{2}{8} \log_2\left(\frac{2}{8}\right) - \frac{1}{8} \log_2\left(\frac{1}{8}\right) - \frac{1}{8} \log_2\left(\frac{1}{8}\right) = 1.75$

✓ **Bucket 3:** Entropy = $-\frac{2}{8} \log_2\left(\frac{2}{8}\right) - \frac{2}{8} \log_2\left(\frac{2}{8}\right) - \frac{2}{8} \log_2\left(\frac{2}{8}\right) - \frac{2}{8} \log_2\left(\frac{2}{8}\right) = 2$

Entropy

❖ Information Theory

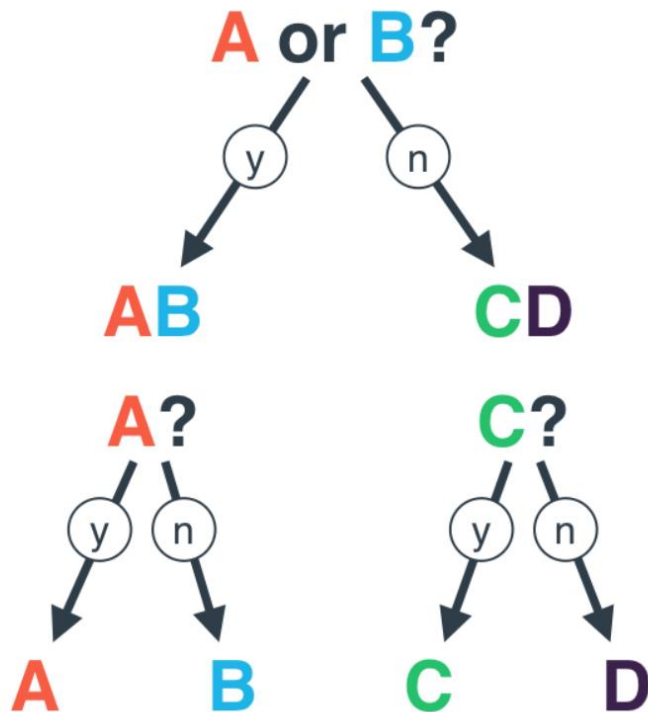
- Another way to see entropy
- Draw a random letter from one of the buckets.
- *On average, how many questions do we need to ask to find out what letter it is?*
- **The case of Bucket 1:** Average number of questions to find out the letter drawn out of Bucket 1

Average Number of Questions = 0

Entropy

❖ Information Theory

- **The case of Bucket 3:** Average number of questions to find out the letter drawn out of Bucket 3



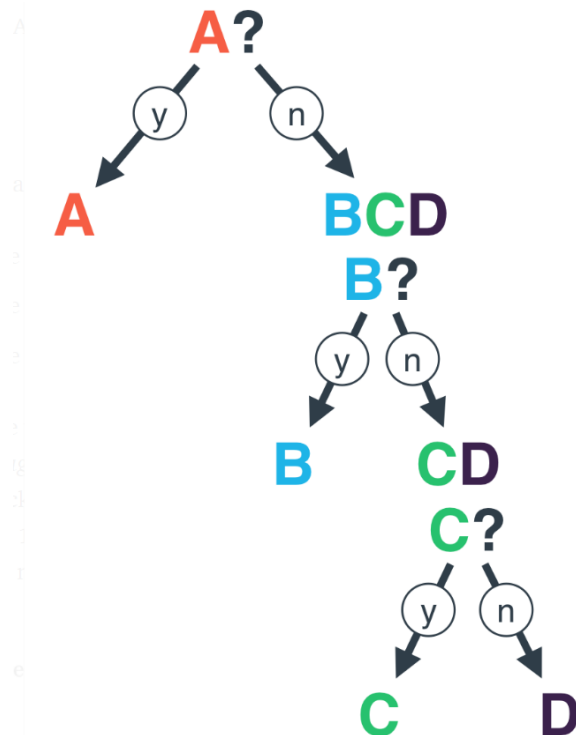
1. "Yes" and "Yes": Letter is A
2. "Yes" and "No": Letter is B
3. "No" and "Yes": Letter is C
4. "No" and "No": Letter is D

$$\text{Average Number of Questions} = \frac{1}{4} \cdot 2 + \frac{1}{4} \cdot 2 + \frac{1}{4} \cdot 2 + \frac{1}{4} \cdot 2 = 2$$

Entropy

❖ Information Theory

- **The case of Bucket 2:** Average number of questions to find out the letter drawn out of Bucket 2



1. If the letter is A, we found out in 1 question.
2. If the letter is B, we found out in 2 questions.
3. If the letter is C or D, we found out in 3 questions.

$$\text{Average Number of Questions} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 1 + \frac{1}{4} \cdot 2 + \frac{1}{8} \cdot 3 + \frac{1}{8} \cdot 3 = 1.75$$

Entropy

❖ Multi-class Entropy

➤ Entropy vs. Average Number of Questions

AAAAAAAAA

Bucket 1

Entropy = 0

AAAABBCD

Bucket 2

Entropy = 1.75

AABBCDD

Bucket 3

Entropy = 2

=

AAAAAAAAA

Bucket 1

Avg No. Questions = 0

AAAABBCD

Bucket 2

Avg No. Questions = 1.75

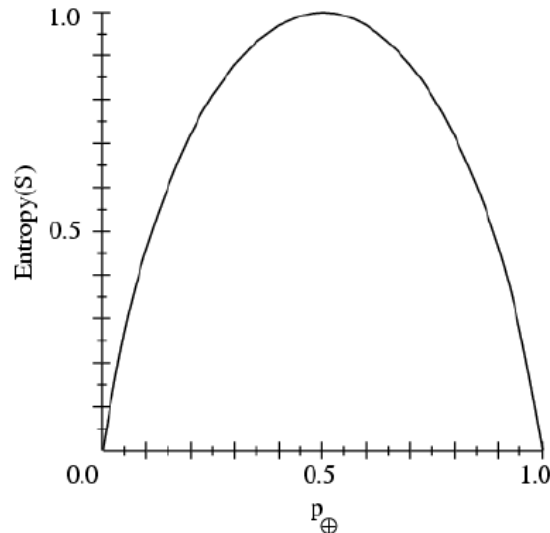
AABBCDD

Bucket 3

Avg No. Questions = 2

Entropy

Sample Entropy



- S is a sample of training examples
- p_{\oplus} is the proportion of positive examples in S
- p_{\ominus} is the proportion of negative examples in S
- Entropy measures the impurity of S

$$H(S) \equiv -p_{\oplus} \log_2 p_{\oplus} - p_{\ominus} \log_2 p_{\ominus}$$

Information Gain

- We want to determine **which attribute** in a given set of training feature vectors is **most useful** for discriminating between the classes to be learned.
- **Information gain** tells us how important a given attribute of the feature vectors is.
- We will use it to decide the ordering of attributes in the nodes of a decision tree.

Information Gain

❖ From Entropy to Information Gain

Entropy $H(X)$ of a random variable X

$$H(X) = - \sum_{i=1}^n P(X = i) \log_2 P(X = i)$$

Specific conditional entropy $H(X|Y=v)$ of X given $Y=v$:

$$H(X|Y = v) = - \sum_{i=1}^n P(X = i|Y = v) \log_2 P(X = i|Y = v)$$

Conditional entropy $H(X|Y)$ of X given Y :

$$H(X|Y) = \sum_{v \in \text{values}(Y)} P(Y = v) H(X|Y = v)$$

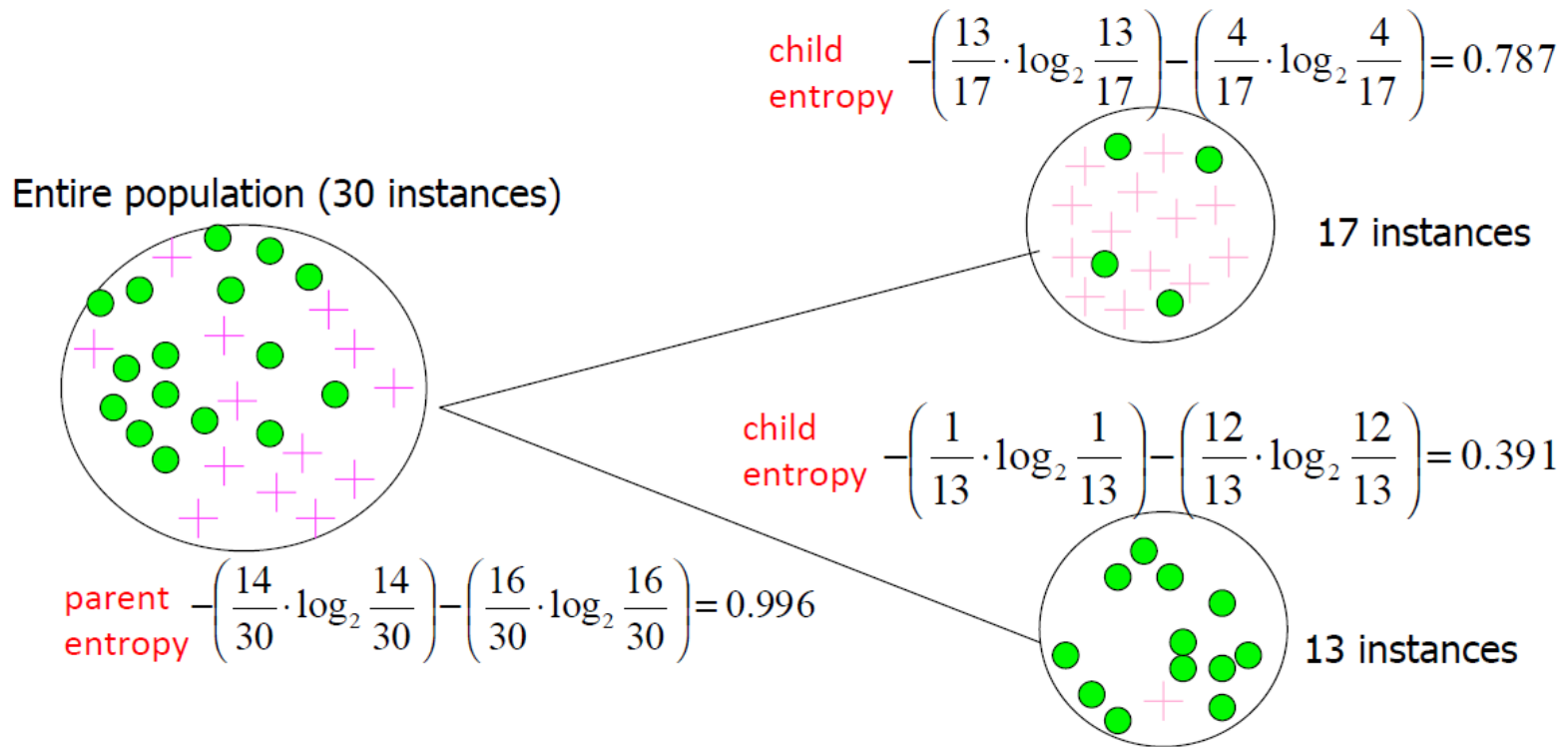
Mutual information (aka Information Gain) of X and Y :

$$I(X, Y) = H(X) - H(X|Y) = H(Y) - H(Y|X)$$

Information Gain

❖ Calculating Information Gain

Information Gain = entropy(parent) – [average entropy(children)]

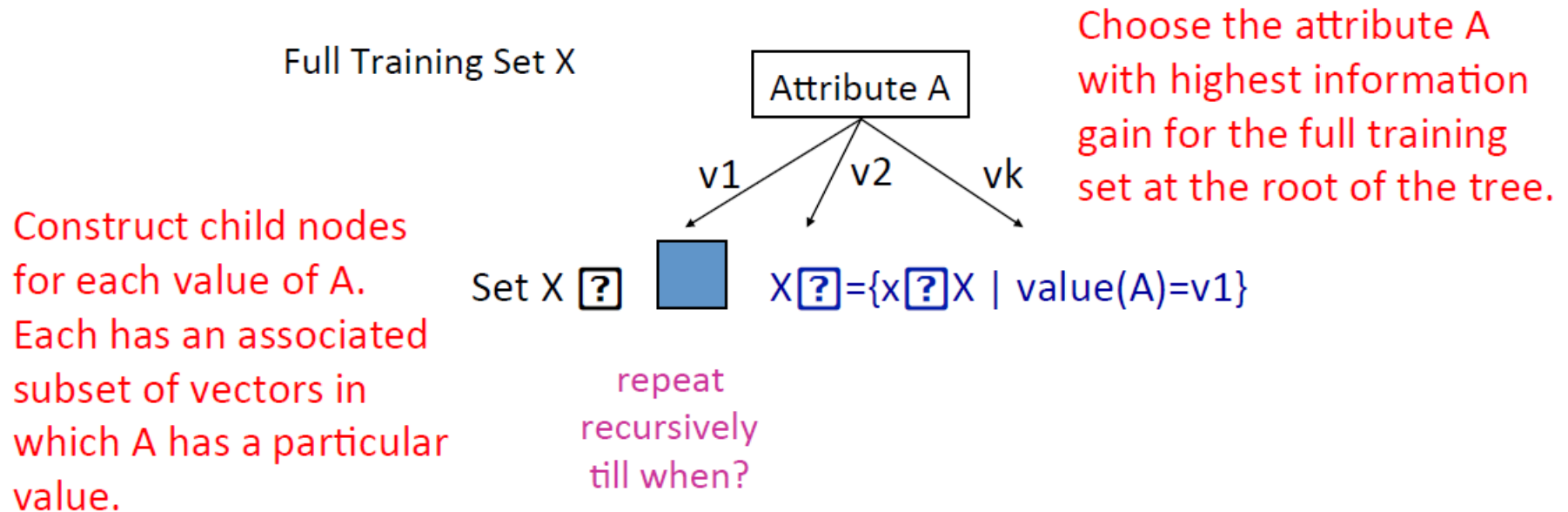


$$\text{(Weighted) Average Entropy of Children} = \left(\frac{17}{30} \cdot 0.787\right) + \left(\frac{13}{30} \cdot 0.391\right) = 0.615$$

$$\text{Information Gain} = 0.996 - 0.615 = 0.38$$

Information Gain

❖ Using Information Gain to construct a Decision Tree



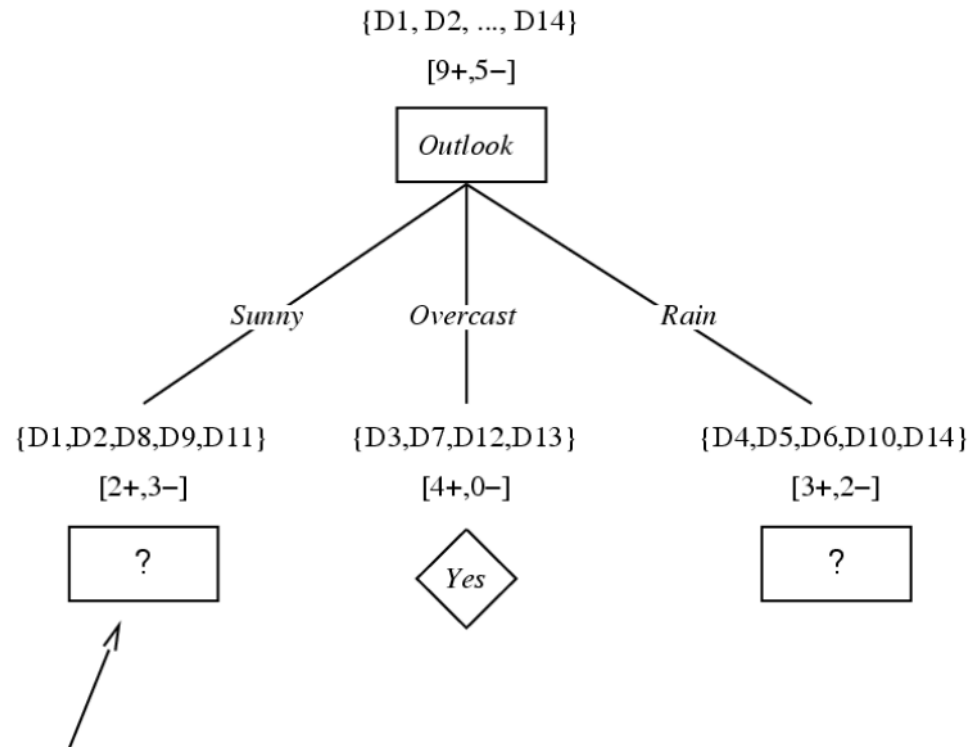
Information Gain

❖ Sample Examples

Day	Outlook	Temperature	Humidity	Wind	PlayTennis
D1	Sunny	Hot	High	Weak	No
D2	Sunny	Hot	High	Strong	No
D3	Overcast	Hot	High	Weak	Yes
D4	Rain	Mild	High	Weak	Yes
D5	Rain	Cool	Normal	Weak	Yes
D6	Rain	Cool	Normal	Strong	No
D7	Overcast	Cool	Normal	Strong	Yes
D8	Sunny	Mild	High	Weak	No
D9	Sunny	Cool	Normal	Weak	Yes
D10	Rain	Mild	Normal	Weak	Yes
D11	Sunny	Mild	Normal	Strong	Yes
D12	Overcast	Mild	High	Strong	Yes
D13	Overcast	Hot	Normal	Weak	Yes
D14	Rain	Mild	High	Strong	No

Information Gain

❖ Select the Next Attribute



$$S_{\text{sunny}} = \{D1, D2, D8, D9, D11\}$$

$$\text{Gain}(S_{\text{sunny}}, \text{Humidity}) = .970 - (3/5) 0.0 - (2/5) 0.0 = .970$$

$$\text{Gain}(S_{\text{sunny}}, \text{Temperature}) = .970 - (2/5) 0.0 - (2/5) 1.0 - (1/5) 0.0 = .570$$

$$\text{Gain}(S_{\text{sunny}}, \text{Wind}) = .970 - (2/5) 1.0 - (3/5) .918 = .019$$