

Measure of Impurity: Classification Error

- | Classification error at a node t :

$$Error(t) = 1 - \max_i P(i | t)$$

- Maximum $(1 - 1/n_c)$ when records are equally distributed among all classes, implying least interesting information
- Minimum (0) when all records belong to one class, implying most interesting information

Computing Error of a Single Node

$$Error(t) = 1 - \max_i P(i | t)$$

C1	0
C2	6

$$P(C1) = 0/6 = 0 \quad P(C2) = 6/6 = 1$$

$$Error = 1 - \max(0, 1) = 1 - 1 = 0$$

C1	1
C2	5

$$P(C1) = 1/6 \quad P(C2) = 5/6$$

$$Error = 1 - \max(1/6, 5/6) = 1 - 5/6 = 1/6$$

C1	2
C2	4

$$P(C1) = 2/6 \quad P(C2) = 4/6$$

$$Error = 1 - \max(2/6, 4/6) = 1 - 4/6 = 1/3$$