

Homework 1

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September 12, 2018

Problem 1 Construct a data, each conditional data has its own value. The constructed data should prove that the decision tree calculated with greedy algorithm is not an optimal decision tree.

Answer 1 Example: Suppose there are three key factors that determine if a basketball game wins or loses. Data Set is as follows:

<i>No.</i>	<i>Win or Lose</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Be home or away</i>	<i>Weather</i>
1	win	morning	home	sunny
2	win	morning	home	rain
3	win	morning	away	rain
4	win	morning	home	rain
5	lose	morning	away	sunny
6	lose	night	home	sunny

First, let's create a decision tree using Greedy Algorithm:

Conditional Entropy: (Here we use Shannon Information Entropy to compute Information Entropy)

$$\begin{aligned}
 H(\text{Win or Lose}|\text{Time}) &= P(\text{morning})H(\text{Win or Lose}|\text{morning}) + P(\text{night})H(\text{Win or Lose}|\text{night}) \\
 &= P(\text{morning}) \left(P(\text{win}|\text{morning}) \log_2 \frac{1}{P(\text{win}|\text{morning})} + P(\text{lose}|\text{morning}) \log_2 \frac{1}{P(\text{lose}|\text{morning})} \right) \\
 &= 0.918
 \end{aligned}$$

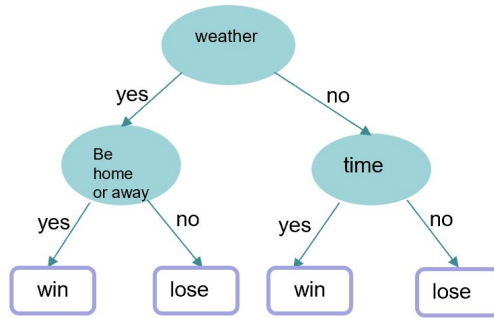
Similarly, we have that

$$H(\text{Win or Lose}|\text{Be home or away}) = 0.874$$

$$H(\text{Win or Lose}|\text{Weather}) = 0.459$$

...

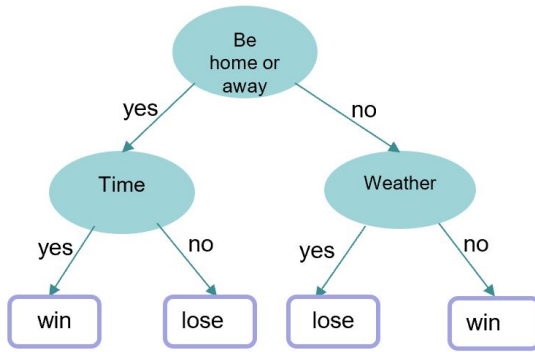
Finally, we have a decision tree (see tree [a]):



Tree [a]

Test the data set given, the accuracy of decision tree [a] is $\frac{5}{6}$. (The sixth data do not conform to decision tree [a])

However, we can create a better decision tree b for the data set (see tree [b]):



Tree [b]

The accuracy of tree [b] is $\frac{6}{6} = 1 \geq \frac{5}{6}$.

It is proved that decision tree calculated with greedy algorithm may not be an optimal decision tree.