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Classification by Splitting Data

CSCI316: Big Data Mining Techniques and Implementation



UNIVERSITY
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AUSTRALIA

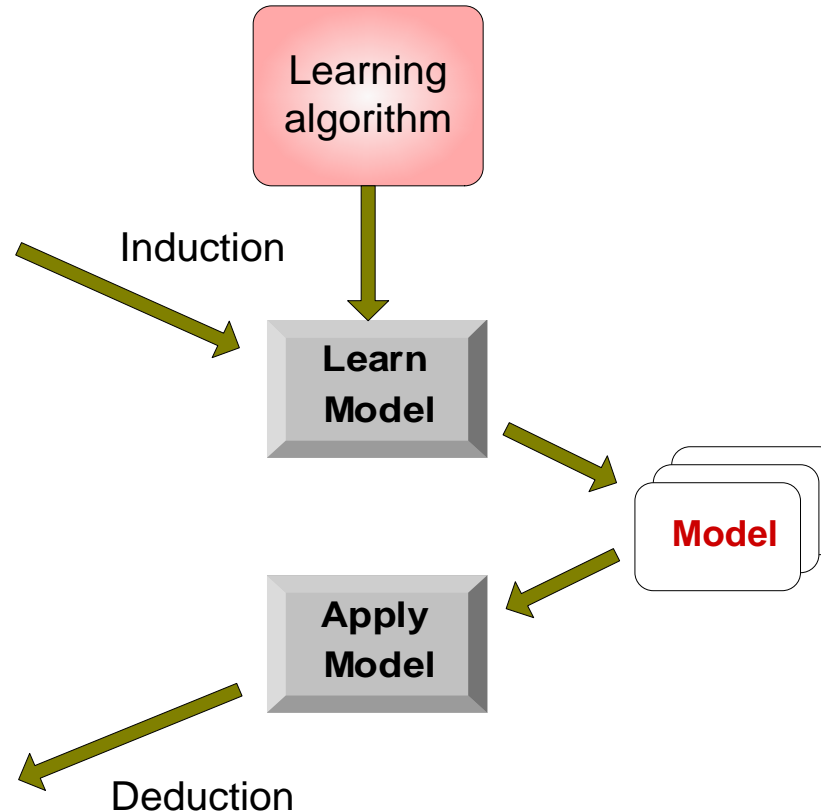
The Classification Problem: An Example

Tid	Attrib1	Attrib2	Attrib3	Class
1	Yes	Large	125K	No
2	No	Medium	100K	No
3	No	Small	70K	No
4	Yes	Medium	120K	No
5	No	Large	95K	Yes
6	No	Medium	60K	No
7	Yes	Large	220K	No
8	No	Small	85K	Yes
9	No	Medium	75K	No
10	No	Small	90K	Yes

Training Set

Tid	Attrib1	Attrib2	Attrib3	Class
11	No	Small	55K	?
12	Yes	Medium	80K	?
13	Yes	Large	110K	?
14	No	Small	95K	?
15	No	Large	67K	?

Test Set



What is a Decision Tree

- A decision tree is a *flowchart-like tree structure*
 - Each *internal node* (non-leaf node) denotes a test on an attribute
 - Each *branch* (i.e., subtree) represents an outcome of the test
 - Each *leaf node* (or terminal node) holds a class label
- It simulates the process of human decision-making.
 - Thus, one advantage of decision trees is *understandability*

Example of a Decision Tree

<i>Tid</i>	Refund	Marital Status	Taxable Income	Cheat
1	Yes	Single	125K	No
2	No	Married	100K	No
3	No	Single	70K	No
4	Yes	Married	120K	No
5	No	Divorced	95K	Yes
6	No	Married	60K	No
7	Yes	Divorced	220K	No
8	No	Single	85K	Yes
9	No	Married	75K	No
10	No	Single	90K	Yes

categorical

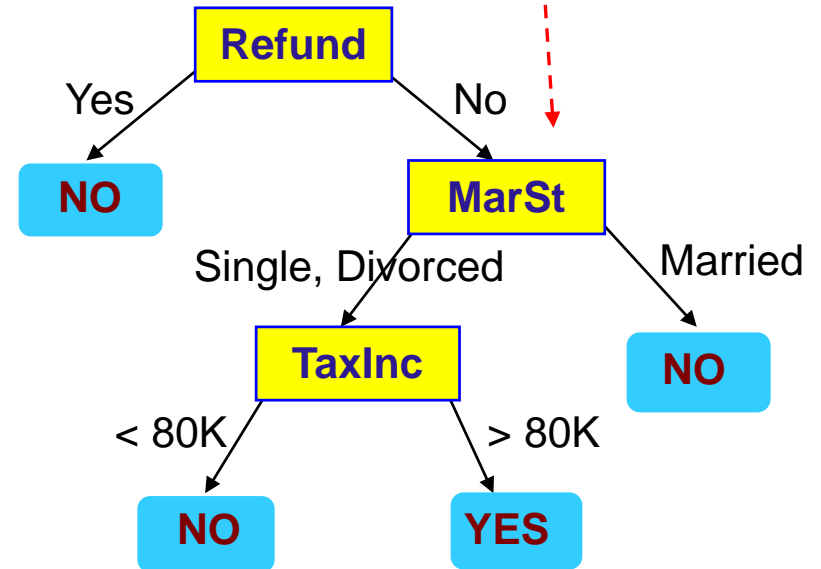
categorical

continuous

class

Each node is associated with a (sub)set of records

Splitting Attributes



Training Data

Model: Decision Tree

Another Example of Decision Tree

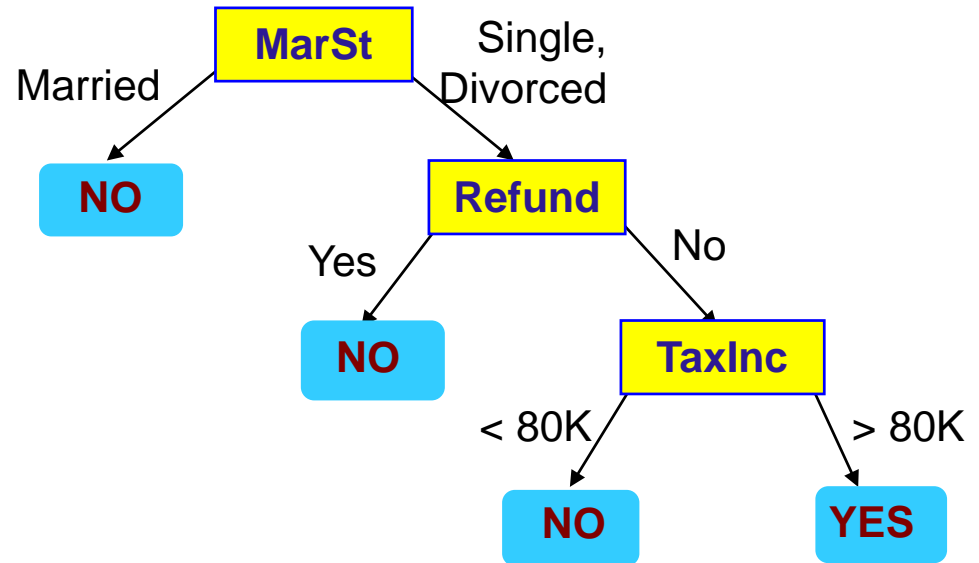
<i>Tid</i>	<i>Refund</i>	<i>Marital Status</i>	<i>Taxable Income</i>	<i>Cheat</i>
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categorical

categorical

continuous

class



There could be multiple trees that fit the same data!

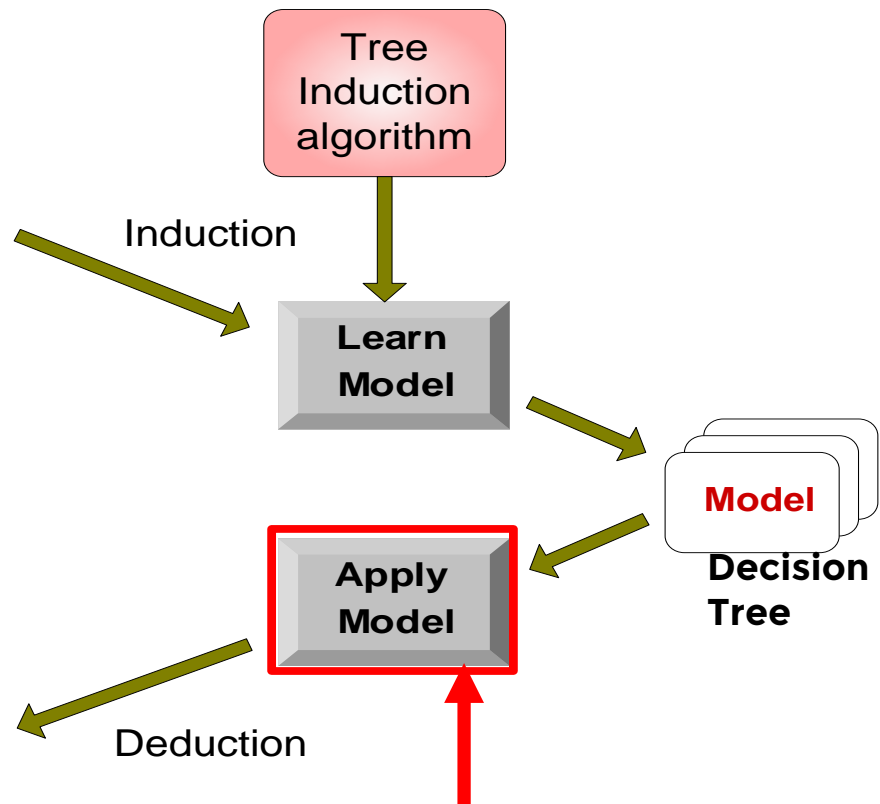
Decision Tree Classification Task

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Training Set

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Test Set

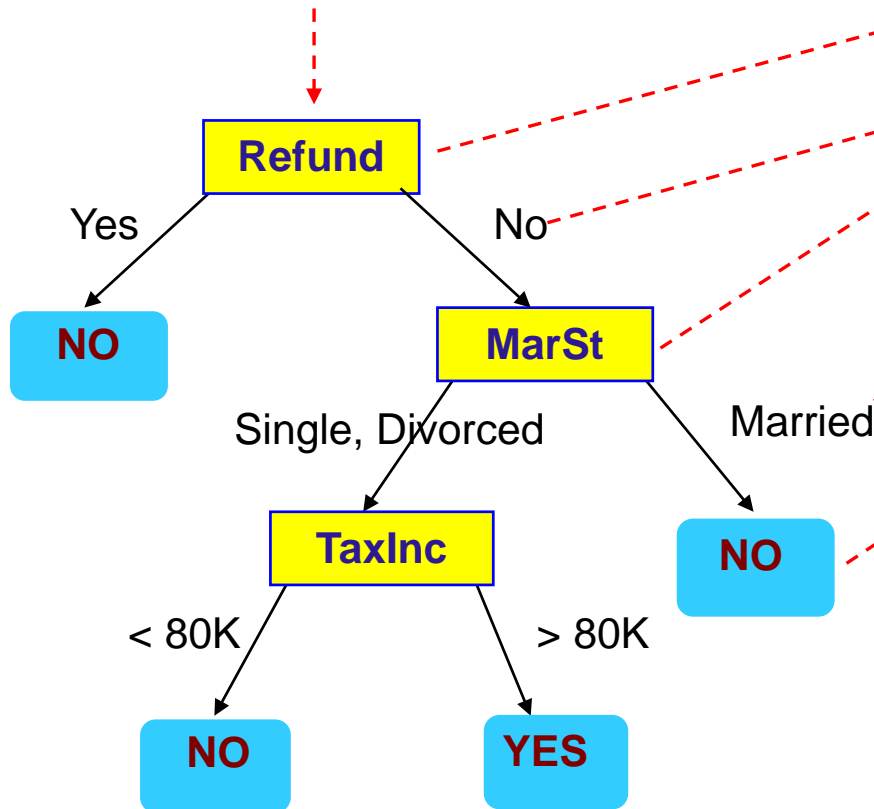


Apply Model to Test Data

Start from the root of tree.

Test Data

Refund	Marital Status	Taxable Income	Cheat
No	Married	80K	? No



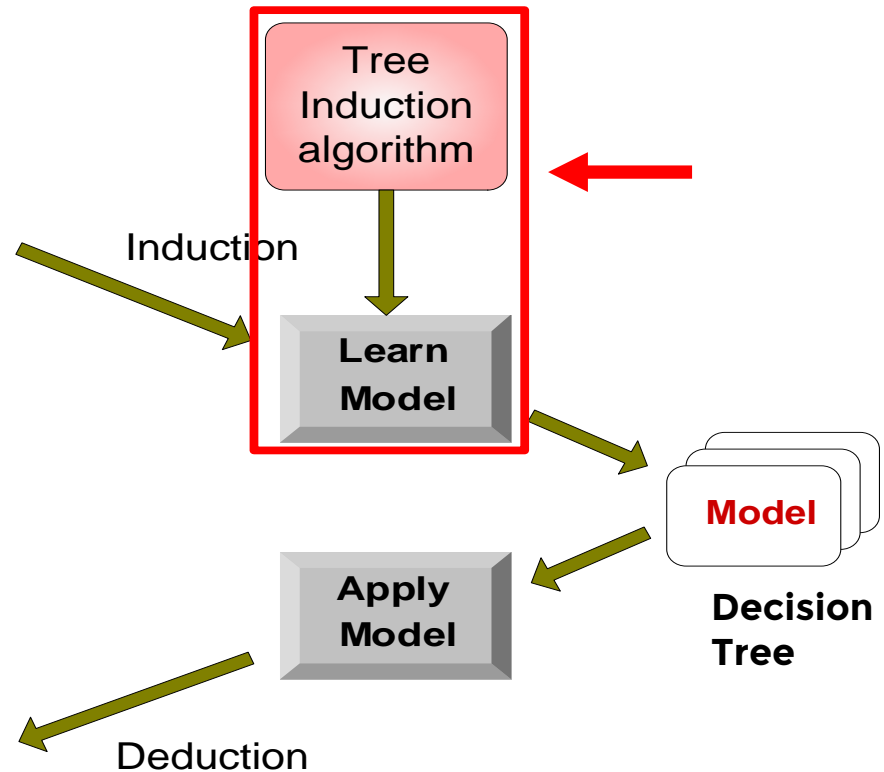
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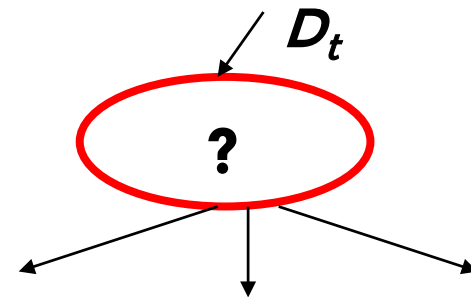
Test Set



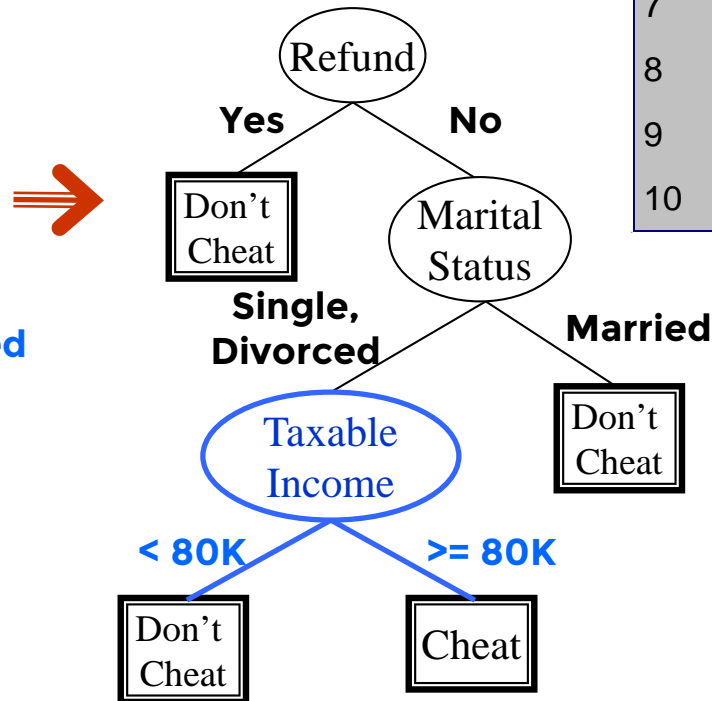
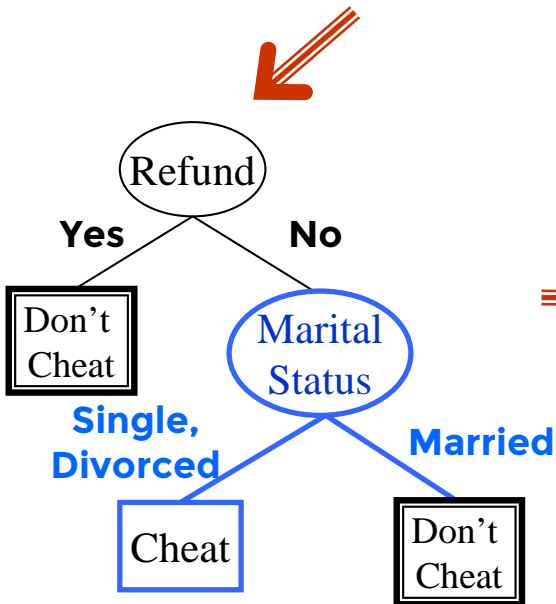
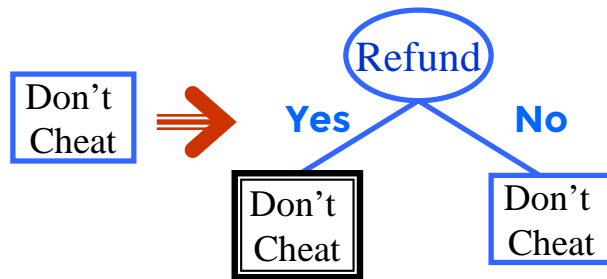
General Structure of Decision Tree Induction Algorithms

- Let D_t be the associated set of training records that reach a node t
- General Procedure:
 - If D_t contains records that belong the same class y_t , then t is a leaf node, labeled as y_t
 - If D_t is an empty set, then t is a leaf node, labeled as the same class as its parent node
 - If no more attributes to split D_t , then t is a leaf node, labeled as the *majority class*
 - Otherwise, **split** the dataset into smaller subsets, each of which is associated with a child node of the node t , and **recursively** apply the same procedure to child node

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Hunt's Algorithm



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Tree Induction

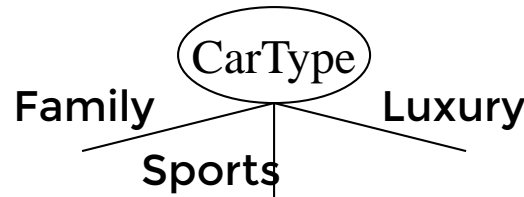
- Greedy strategy.
 - Split the records based on an attribute test that optimizes certain criterion.
- Issues
 - Determine how to split the records
 - How to specify the attribute test condition? (focus)
 - How to determine the best split?
 - Determine when to stop splitting

How to Specify Test Condition?

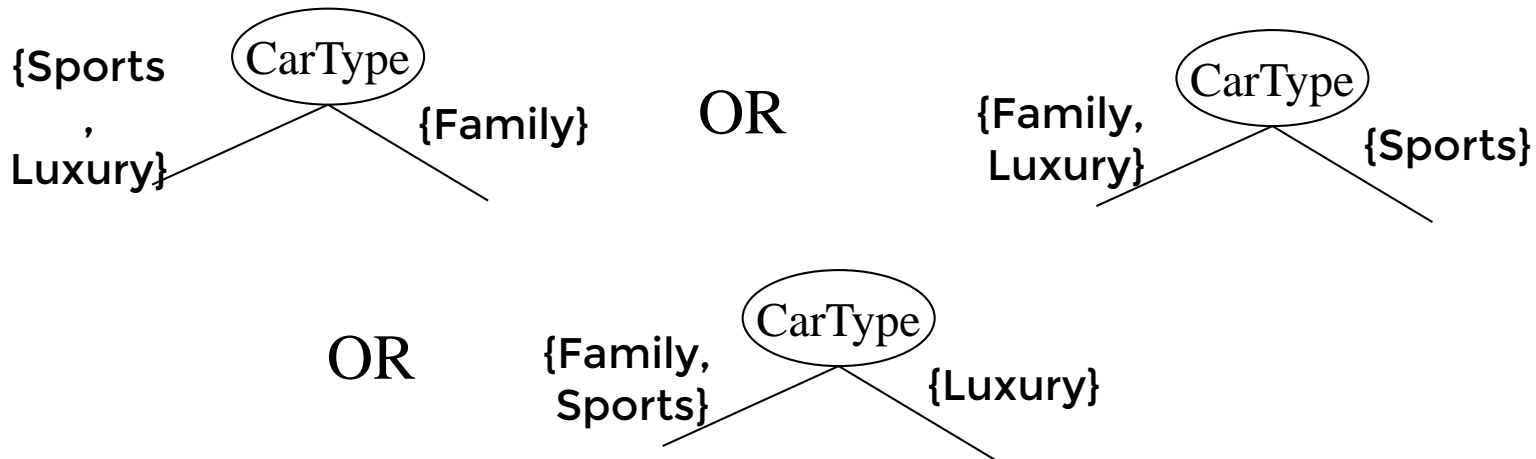
- Depends on the attribute types
 - Nominal/categorical
 - Ordinal
 - Continuous
- Depends on the number of ways to split
 - 2-way split
 - Multi-way split

Splitting Based on Nominal Attributes

- **Multi-way split:** Use as many partitions as distinct values.



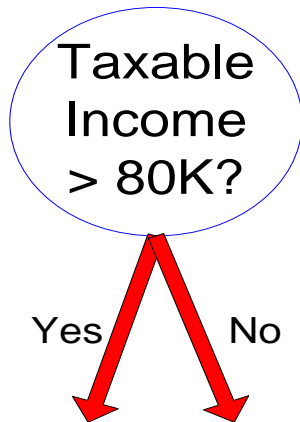
- **Binary split:** Divide values into two subsets.
Need to find optimal partitioning.



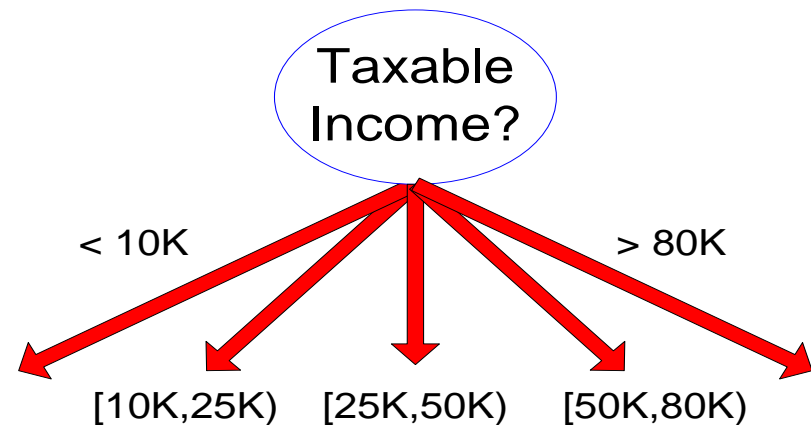
Splitting Based on Ordinal/Continuous Attributes

- Different ways of handling
 - **Discretization** to form an ordinal categorical attribute
 - Static – discretize once at the beginning
 - Dynamic – bucketing, percentiles, clustering...
 - **Binary Decision**: $(A < v)$ or $(A \geq v)$
 - consider all possible splits and finds the best cut
 - can be more computationally intensive

Splitting Based on Ordinal/Continuous Attributes



(i) Binary split



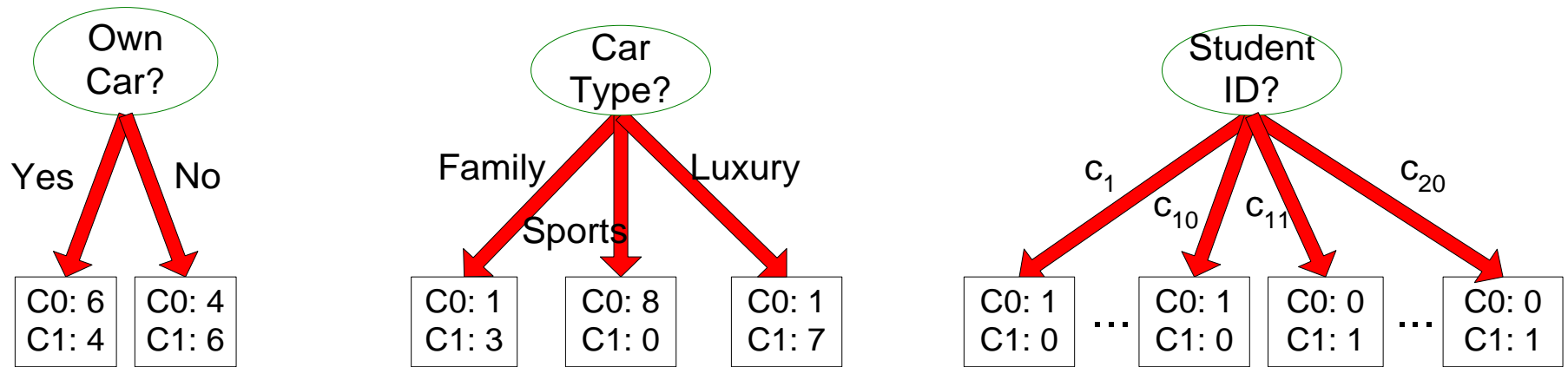
(ii) Multi-way split

Tree Induction

- Greedy strategy.
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- Issues
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 - How to determine the best split? (focus)
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How to determine the Best Split

**Before Splitting: 10 records of class 0,
10 records of class 1**



Which test condition is the best?

How to determine the Best Split

- Greedy approach:
 - Nodes with **homogeneous** class distributions are preferred
- Need a measure of node **impurity** (or information **uncertainty**):

C0: 5
C1: 5

**Non-homogeneous,
High degree of
impurity**

C0: 9
C1: 1

**Homogeneous,
Low degree of
impurity**

Another way to look at Impurity and Uncertainty

- We flip two different coins: (0 is “head”, 1 is “tail”)
 - 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 ...
 - 0 1 0 1 0 1 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 1 0 1 0 1 ...



- Question: *How to measure/quantify the information uncertainty with the two coins?*

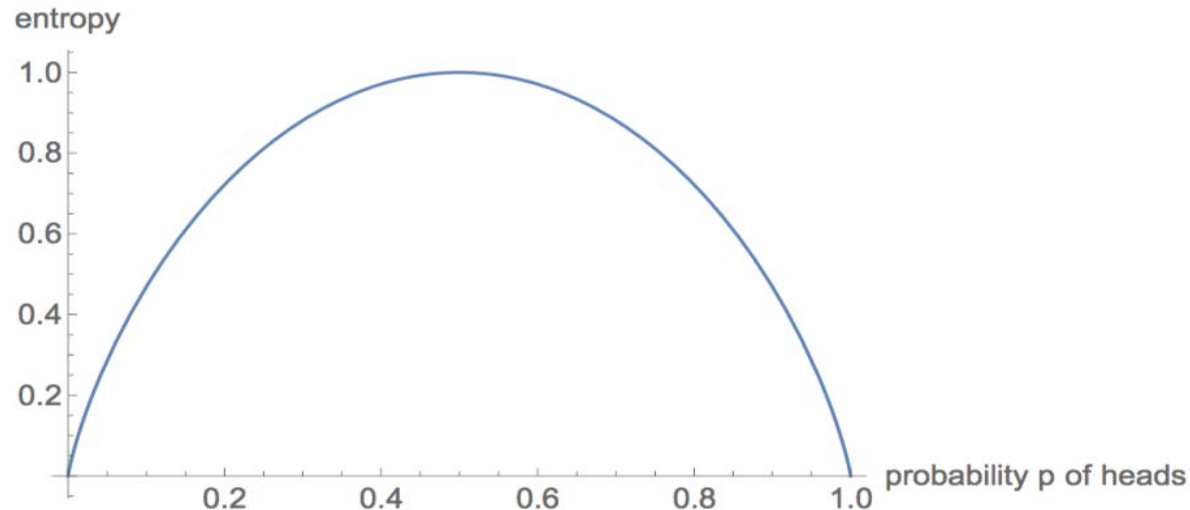
Different Measures of Impurity/Uncertainty

- Entropy (information gain)
- Gain ratio
- Gini Index
- Variance
- Others ...

Shannon Entropy

- Logarithm: $y = \log_a x$
 - $2^3 = 8 \Leftrightarrow \log_2 8 = 3$
 - $2^{-1} = 0.5 \Leftrightarrow \log_2 0.5 = -1$
- Shannon Entropy:

$$H(X) = - \sum_{x \in X} p(x) \log_2 p(x)$$



Conditional Entropy

- Example: $X = \{\text{Raining, Not raining}\}$, $Y = \{\text{Cloudy, not cloudy}\}$

	Cloudy	Not cloudy	Total
Is Raining	24/100	1/100	1/4
Not Raining	25/100	50/100	3/4
Total	49/100	51/100	

- What is the entropy of cloudiness, given the knowledge of whether or not it is raining?

$$\begin{aligned} H(Y|X) &= \sum_{x \in X} p(x) H(Y|X = x) \\ &= \frac{1}{4} H(Y | \text{is raining}) + \frac{3}{4} H(Y | \text{not raining}) \\ &\approx 0.75 \text{ bits} \end{aligned}$$

Information Gain

- If I don't know whether it is raining or not, the entropy of cloudiness is $H(Y) \approx 1.00$ bit (*verifying this as an exercise*)
- How much information about cloudiness do we gain by discovering whether it is raining?
- The Shannon entropy tells $\text{InfoGain}(Y|X) = H(Y) - H(Y|X) \approx 0.25$ bit
- How do we make use of this measure to construct our decision tree?
 - E.g., to determine the **best split** of the dataset.

Splitting Based on InfoGain

- Let D be the set of training records that reach a node
 - Compute the entropy $H(D)$ for D
- Let *Attribute_List* be a set of attributes associated with D
 - Each split with an attribute in *Attribute_List* produces a **partition** on $P = \{D_1, \dots, D_v\}$ on D
 - Compute the conditional entropy for each split and then calculate the InfoGain:

$$H_P(D) = \sum_{i=1}^v \frac{|D_i|}{|D|} H(D_i)$$
$$\text{InfoGain}(P) = H(D) - H_P(D)$$

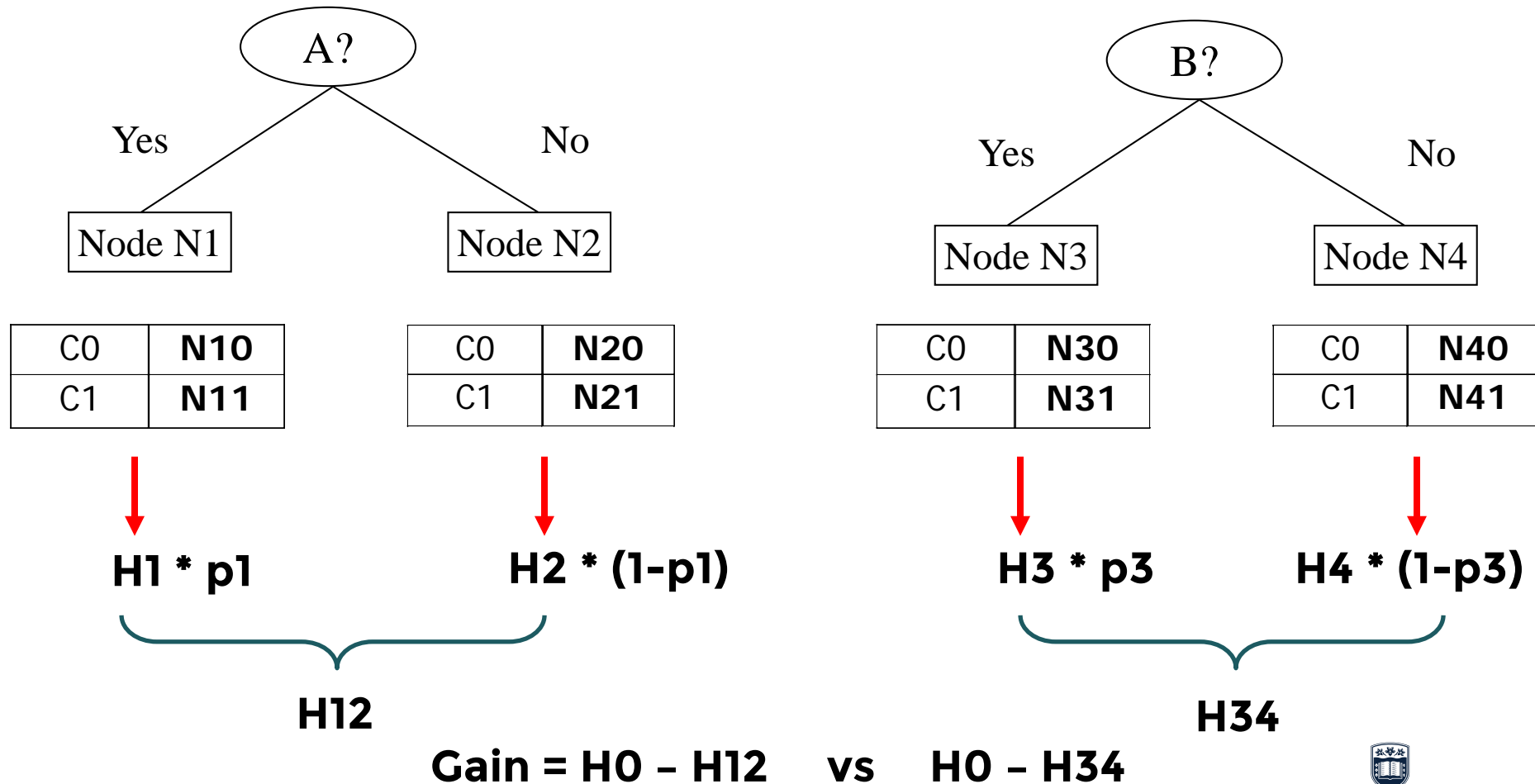
- Select an attribute that gives the best split (one with the *largest* InfoGain)

How to Find the Best Split

Before Splitting:

C0	N00
C1	N01

→ H0

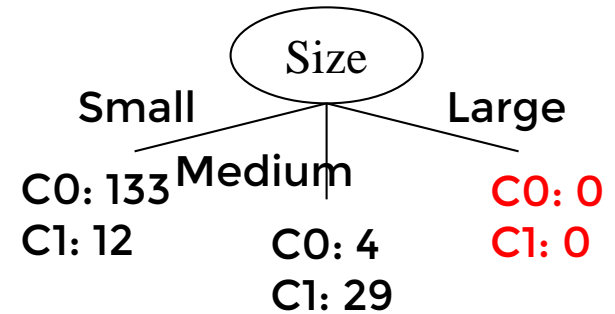


Tree Induction

- Greedy strategy.
 - Split the records based on an attribute test that optimizes certain criterion.
- Issues
 - Determine how to split the records
 - How to specify the attribute test condition?
 - How to determine the best split?
 - Determine when to stop splitting (focus)

Stopping Criteria

1. No more attribute for splitting the dataset D_t
 - Majority vote: select the class label with most records to report
2. All tuples in D_t share the same class label
3. D_t is empty (no tuples)
4. Non-basic criteria
 - Tree pre-pruning (talked later), such as
 - set a threshold for the impurity measured
 - minimum dataset size
 - largest tree depth
 - etc.



Tree Induction Algorithm

Assumption: the training tuples contain categorical values only; multi-split is used.

Procedure: **generate_decision_tree**(D , $Attribute_List$).

- ❖ Generate a decision tree from a set of training tuples of D .

Input:

- Dataset, D , which is a set of training tuples (each includes a tuple of feature values and one class label)
- $Attribute_List$, the set of candidate attributes for split

Output: A decision tree

Tree Induction Algorithm

Pseudo-code:

- (1) create a node N ;
- (2) **if** tuples in D are all of the same class, i.e. C , **then**
- (3) **return** N as a (leaf) node labeled with the class C ;
- (4) **if** $Attribute_List$ is empty **then**
- (5) **return** N as a leaf node labeled with the majority class C_0
- (6) find the *best_splitting_attribute* in $Attribute_List$ to split D ;
- (7) $New_Attribute_List \leftarrow Attribute_List / \{best_splitting_attribute\}$;

Tree Induction Algorithm

- (8) **foreach** value s of *best_splitting_attribute*;
- (9) let D_s be a subset of D with *best_splitting_attribute* being s ;
- (10) **if** D_s is empty **then**
- (11) attach a (leaf) node labeled with **the majority class in D**
to node N ;
- (12) **else** attach a new node, N_{child} , returned by applying
 generate_decision_tree(D_s , *New_Attribute_List*) to node N ;
- (13) **return** N ;

Classification with Decision Trees

- Given a testing tuple, the classification with a decision tree is just by traversing the tree until a leaf is reached.
- Procedure: **classify**(N, d)
- Input: testing tuple d .
- Output: a class label C
- Pseudo-code:
 - (1) **if** N is a leaf node **then**
 - (2) **return** the class label C with N ;
 - (3) **else** traverse to the child node N_{child} of N where the value of the *best_splitting_feature* matches the value in d ;
 - (4) let $C = \text{classify}(N_{\text{child}}, d)$;
 - (5) **return** C ;

Python Implementation

- Python **dictionaries** are a convenient data structure to represent a decision tree

- Each splitting feature is a node
- For a multi-split tree with categorical features:

tree = {< index of a splitting feature >:
 { v_0 : **tree**₁ or **leaf**₁, ...,
 v_l : **tree**_l or **leaf**_l}}

where each v is a value of the splitting feature.

- For a binary-split tree with continuous features:

tree = {"spInd": < index of a splitting feature > ,
 "spVal": <a float value>,
 "left" : **tree**₁ or **leaf**₁,
 "right" : **tree**₂ or **leaf**₂}

Python Implementation

- A **leaf** can just be a **class label**, say, C_i .
- Or, a **leaf** is represented by a **NumPy array** (i.e., vector) $ary = (q_1, \dots, q_m)$
 - such that $q_i = |D_{C_i}|$ is a **class frequency** where:
 - D is the set of training tuples associated with `splitting_feature` (as a node), and
 - $D_{C_i} \subseteq D$ contains all tuples in D that belong to class C_i
 - Note that a class label can be determined immediately from the vector ary .
 - E.g., just choose the class with the largest q_i

Python Implementation

- It is not hard to observe that both the tree induction and the classification involve a *recursive function*.
- Recursive function example in Python:

```
def factorial(n):  
    if n == 1:  
        return 1  
    else:  
        return n * factorial(n-1)
```

- `factorial` is called within itself.
- Running:
 $4! = 4 * 3!$
 $3! = 3 * 2!$
 $2! = 2 * 1!$
 $1! = 1$

Python Implementation

- To check whether a node in a tree (as a Python dictionary) is a leaf or grows a subtree:

python3

`isinstance(somenode, dict) == True` *#a subtree*

or

`type(somenode).__name__ == 'dict'` *#a subtree*

Sample Python Code (Compute Shannon Entropy)

```
# calculate Shannon Entropy of a dataset
def calcShannonEnt(dataSet):
    numEntries = len(dataSet) # number of tuples
    labelCounts = {}
    for featVec in dataSet:
        currentLabel = featVec[-1] # a class label is
the last element in each tuples
        if currentLabel not in labelCounts.keys():
            labelCounts[currentLabel] = 0
        labelCounts[currentLabel] += 1
    shannonEnt = 0.0
    for key in labelCounts:
        prob = float(labelCounts[key]) / numEntries
        shannonEnt -= prob * log(prob, 2)
    return shannonEnt
```

Sample Python Code (Multi-Split , Categorical Features)

```
def chooseBestMultiSplit(dataSet):
    numFeatures = len(dataSet[0]) - 1 # number of features
    baseEntropy = calcShannonEnt(dataSet)
    bestInfoGain = 0.0; bestFeature = -1
    for i in range(numFeatures): # iterate over all features
        uniqueVals = set([tuple[i] for tuple in dataSet])
        newEntropy = 0.0
        for value in uniqueVals:
            # "splitDataSet" function, implemented elsewhere, filters
            "dataset" such that the i-th feature equals to "value"
            subDataSet = splitDataSet(dataSet, i, value)
            prob = len(subDataSet) / float(len(dataSet))
            newEntropy += prob * calcShannonEnt(subDataSet)
        infoGain = baseEntropy - newEntropy
        if (infoGain > bestInfoGain):
            bestInfoGain = infoGain; bestFeature = i
    return bestFeature # returns a feature index
```

How to Implement a Decision Tree Classifier

- How to represent/encode your decision tree?
 - Consider a Python dictionary (see previous slides)
- How to implement your tree induction algorithm based on the `calcShannonEnt` and `chooseBestMultiSplit` functions?
 - Consider a recursive Python function that calls the two functions
 - Address all basic stopping criteria
- How to classify (new) records with your decision tree?
 - Also consider a recursive function

Gain Ratio

- Disadvantage of InfoGain: Tends to prefer splits that result in large number of partitions, each being small but pure.
- Recall that each split on node results in a partition $P = \{D_1, \dots, D_v\}$ on D , the set of records associated with this node.
- $\text{SplitInfo}(P) = - \sum_{i=1}^v \frac{|D_i|}{|D|} \log \left(\frac{|D_i|}{|D|} \right)$
- $\text{GainRatio} = \text{InfoGain}(P) / \text{SplitInfo}(P)$

Gini Index

- Gini index (or Gini impurity) is a measure of how often a randomly chosen element from the set would be incorrectly labelled, if it was randomly labelled according to the distribution of labels in the subset.
 - Given D , a set of training tuples:

$$\text{Gini}(D) = \sum_{i=1}^m p_i \sum_{j \neq i} p_j = 1 - \sum_{i=1}^m p_i^2$$

where $p_i = |D_{C_i}|/|D|$, i.e. the probability that a tuple in D belongs to class C_i . (Here D_{C_i} refers to a subset of D such that the tuple belongs to class C_i .)

Gini Index

- Gini index is suitable to binary split for continuous feature values.
 - If a binary split on some feature is a binary partition $P = \{D_1, D_2\}$ on D , the Gini index of D given this partitioning is

$$\text{Gini}_P(D) = \frac{|D_1|}{|D|} \text{Gini}(D_1) + \frac{|D_2|}{|D|} \text{Gini}(D_2)$$

- The reduction in impurity that would be incurred by the binary split is

$$\Delta\text{Gini}_P = \text{Gini}(D) - \text{Gini}_P(D)$$

Variance

- Variance is the expectation of the squared deviation of a random variable from its mean.
 - is a simple error measure for binary classification (i.e., two class labels, often represented by 0 and 1)
 - Given D , a data partition or a set of training tuples:

$$\text{Var}(D) = p(1 - p)$$

where p is the probability that a tuple in D belongs to class C_0 and is estimated by $|D_{C_0}|/|D|$.

Comparison of Impurity Measures

- All impurity measures return good results in general, but
 - **Information gain:**
 - biased towards multivalued attributes
 - **Gain ratio:**
 - tends to prefer unbalanced splits in which one partition is much smaller than the others
 - **Gini index:**
 - biased to multivalued attributes
 - has difficulty when the number of classes is large
 - tends to favor tests that result in equal-sized partitions and purity in both partitions
 - **Variance:**
 - suitable to binary classification, even though extension is possible

Handling Numerical Attributes with Binary Splits

- We now consider the implementation of a decision tree with numerical (and continuous-valued) attributes
- Recall the use of a Python dictionary to represent a tree and a recursive function to build the tree (see previous slides).

```
tree = {"spInd": < index of a splitting feature > ,  
        "spVal": <a float value>,  
        "left" : tree1 or leaf1,  
        "right" : tree2 or leaf2}
```

- A key function is determining the best split.
 - In the following sample code, we implement such a function that uses the binary split and the variance criterion.

Sample Python Code (Binary Split for Numerical Features)

```
from numpy import *
def chooseBestBiSplit(dataSet):
    _, n = shape(dataSet)
    S = var(dataSet[:, -1]) #variance of labels
    bestS = inf; bestIndex = 0; bestSplitValue = 0
    for featIndex in range(n-1):
        for splitVal in set(dataSet[:, featIndex]):
            # "bisplitDataSet" function should split "dataset" into
            two subsets w.r.t. "featIndex" and "splitVal"
            subDS0, subDS1 = biSplitDataSet(dataSet,
                                             featIndex, splitVal)
            p = len(subDS0)/len(dataSet)
            newS = p*var(subDS0[:, -1]) + (1-p)*var(subDS1[:, -1])
            if newS < bestS:
                bestIndex = featIndex; bestSplitValue = splitVal
                bestS = newS
    if (S - bestS) < 0:
        return None, 0 # no need to split the dataset
    return bestIndex, bestSplitValue
```

In practice, this set may be large, so split may take a long time. In this case, use a subset of specific values (e.g., percentiles).



Advantages of Decision Tree Classifier

- Construction of the tree does not require any domain knowledge
- Can handle multidimensional data
- Representation of knowledge (as a decision tree) easy to assimilate by human
- The learning and classification steps are simple and fast
- Good accuracy in general.

Overfitting and Tree Pruning

- Overfitting: An induced tree may overfit the training data
 - Too many branches, some may reflect anomalies due to noise or outliers
 - Poor accuracy for unseen samples
- Two approaches to avoid overfitting
 - Pre-pruning: *Halt tree construction early*— do not split a node if this would result a measure falling below a threshold
 - Difficult to choose appropriate parameter thresholds
 - Post-pruning: *Merge branches* from a “fully grown” tree—get a sequence of progressively pruned trees
 - Use a set of data *different* from the training data to decide which is the “best pruned tree”

Tree Pre-Pruning

```
def chooseBestBiSplit1(dataSet, ops=(0.5,4)):
    tolS = ops[0]; tolN = ops[1]
    _,n = shape(dataSet); S = var(dataSet[:,-1])
    bestS = inf; bestIndex = 0; bestValue = 0
    for featIndex in range(n-1):
        for splitVal in set(dataSet[:,featIndex]):
            # biSplitDataSet a function splitting according to the
            # split feature "tree['spInd']" and value "tree['spVal']" (see pp.44)
            D0, D1 = biSplitDataSet(dataSet,
                                    featIndex, splitVal)
            if (shape(D0)[0] < tolN) or (shape(D1)[0] < tolN):
                continue
            p = float(len(D0))/len(dataSet)
            newS = p * var(D0) + (1-p) * var(D1)
            if newS < bestS:
                bestIndex = featIndex; bestValue = splitVal
                bestS = newS
    if (S - bestS) < tolS:
        return None, 0 #exit cond 1
    D0, D1 = biSplitDataSet(dataSet, bestIndex, bestValue)
    if (shape(D0)[0] < tolN) or (shape(D1)[0] < tolN):
        return None, 0 # exit cond 2
    return bestIndex, bestValue
```

ops is an optional argument. If the variance decrement is small than ops[0] or the size of the split dataset is small than ops[1], stop the split process. By default, ops=(0.5,4).

Tree Post-Pruning

- We assume that *leaves of a trained decision tree are NumPy arrays*, representing the frequencies for all classes.
- To implement a post-pruning algorithm, we provide an auxiliary function that recursively propagates a vector of class frequencies from leaves into internal nodes:

```
def getSum(tree):  
    if isinstance(tree['right'], dict):  
        tree['right'] = getSum(tree['right'])  
    if isinstance(tree['left'], dict):  
        tree['left'] = getSum(tree['left'])  
    return tree['left']+tree['right']
```

- When a subtree is removed from the current node (which therefore becomes a new leaf), `getSum()` will return a vector of class frequencies for this node.

Tree Post-Pruning Algorithm for binary-split trees

Assumption: for binary-split trees

Procedure: **prune**(*tree*, D_T).

Input:

- *tree*, a decision tree
- D_T , a set of testing tuples

Output: A pruned decision tree

Pseudo-code:

- (1) traverse to a root node N of *tree*;
- (2) if D_T is empty then
- (3) return *getSum*(*tree*);

Tree Post-Pruning Algorithm

- (4) split D_T based on the splitting feature and threshold at N ;
- (5) let D_{T_1} and D_{T_2} be the resulted subsets of D_T ;
- (6) **if** the left branch of N is not a leaf **then**
- (7) apply **prune**(*tree*, D_{T_1});
- (8) **if** the right branch of N is not a leaf **then**
- (9) apply **prune**(*tree*, D_{T_2});
- (10) **if** both the left and right branches of N are leaves **then**
- (11) **let** **errorMerge** and **errorNoMerge** be the numbers of errors
 with and without merging the two branches, respectively;
- (12) **if** **errorMerge** < **errorNoMerge** **then**
- (13) **return** *getSum*(*tree*);
- (14) **else return** *tree*;



Use a voting function in the array of class frequencies to get a predicted class, then count the errors.

Sample Python Code (Prune Function)

```
def prune(tree, testData):
    if shape(testData)[0] == 0:
        return getSum(tree) #if no test data collapse the tree
    lSet, rSet = biSplitDataSet(testData, tree['spInd'], tree['spVal'])
    if isinstance(tree['left'], dict) == True:
        tree['left'] = prune(tree['left'], lSet)
    if isinstance(tree['right'], dict) == True:
        tree['right'] = prune(tree['right'], rSet)
    #if they are now both leaves, see if we can merge them
    if isinstance(tree['left'], dict) == False
        and isinstance(tree['right'], dict) == False :
        # a voting function "lab" returns predicted classes of leaves
        ll = lab(tree['left']); lr = lab(tree['right'])
        treeSum = tree['left']+tree['right']; ls = lab(treeSum)
        # count the errors (data whose class is predicted incorrectly)
        errorNoMerge = ...; errorMerge = ...
        if errorMerge < errorNoMerge:
            return treeSum # equals to getSum(tree)
    else: return tree
```

Summary

- Decision Tree Classifier
 - Theory
 - Implementation
 - Tree Pruning