Exercise for Machine Learning (SS 20)

Assignment 5: Decision Trees

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Submit your solution in Ilias as either PDF for theory assignments or Jupyter notebook for practical assignments.
Mention the names of all group members and their immatriculation numbers in the file.
Submission is possible until the following Monday, 01.06.2020, at 14:00.

1 Inductive Construction

Given the dataset in Table 1 construct a decision tree by hand using the top-down algorithm presented in the lecture. Your stop criteria are zero entropy or a depth of 2 (the root node is at depth 0, the first layer of inner nodes are at depth 1, ...).
Draw your final decision tree and provide your computation steps (information gain per relevant attribute for each split, class frequencies for each node, . . .).
Compute the error rate of your decision tree on the training data.

2 Minimal Error Pruning

Figure 1 shows a decision tree for classifiying mushrooms as either edible or poisonous. We used the same dataset as shown in the lecture and constructed it with scikit-learn with a maximum depth of 4. Because the implementation of scikit-learn uses a slightly different algorithm (CART, in the lecture: ID3), which allows continuous data, we have to apply one-hot encoding to each variable resulting in a binary decision tree.
Prune two decisions (inner nodes) of the decision tree based on the error rate. First, compute the overall error rate of the original tree. Second, consider the removal of each viable node by computing the error rate after removing it from the tree. Third, identify the node with the lowest error rate and prune it. Repeat this process to remove a second inner node.
Draw the decision tree after each pruning step. Provide your calculations for the pruning step.
Note: A node is viable for pruning, if all its children are leaf nodes. After pruning the chosen inner node turns into a leaf node. We define the overall error rate as (slide 44):

$$\frac{\text{number of misclassified samples in each leaf}}{\text{total number of samples}}$$

Table 1: Dataset consists of 4 categorical features ($F_1 \in \{0,1\}$, $F_2 \in \{0,1\}$, $F_3 \in \{0,1,2\}$, $F_4 \in \{0,1\}$) and a binary classification target with labels $\{-,+\}$.

F_1	F_2	F_3	F_4	Instances $-$	Instances $+$
0	0	0	0	10	0
0	0	0	1	5	5
0	0	1	0	10	0
0	0	1	1	10	0
0	0	2	0	0	10
0	0	2	1	0	10
0	1	0	0	10	0
0	1	0	1	10	0
0	1	1	0	5	5
0	1	1	1	0	10
0	1	2	0	10	0
0	1	2	1	0	10
1	0	0	0	0	10
1	0	0	1	10	0
1	0	1	0	5	5
1	0	1	1	0	10
1	0	2	0	0	10
1	0	2	1	0	10
1	1	0	0	10	0
1	1	0	1	10	0
1	1	1	0	10	0
1	1	1	1	10	0
1	1	2	0	0	10
1	1	2	1	0	10

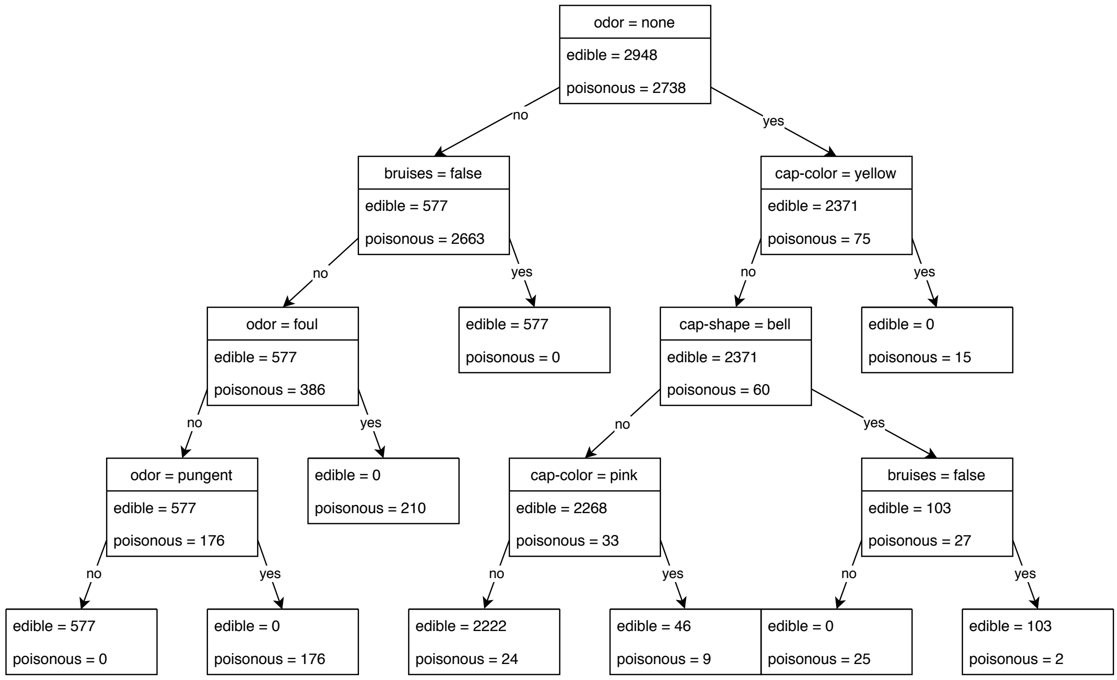

Figure 1: Decision tree of depth 4 classifies mushrooms as edible or poisonous. Inner nodes have a decision rule at the top, the left child is chosen if the rule does not apply and the right child is chosen if the rule applies. For each leaf and inner node, the class frequencies for the training data are summarized.

3 Regression with Decision Trees and kNN

For all students other than B.Sc. Data Science.
Decision trees and k-nearest-neighbors are not limited to classification but can also be used for regression. Research and explain the following two questions in sufficient detail:

1. How does the construction of regression trees differ to classification trees? How is a prediction computed in a regression tree?

2. How can kNN be used for regression?

Please cite your sources.