

# Machine Learning

## CS342

### Lecture 6: Decision Tree Learning & Classification Metrics

Dr. Theo Damoulas

[T.Damoulas@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:T.Damoulas@warwick.ac.uk)

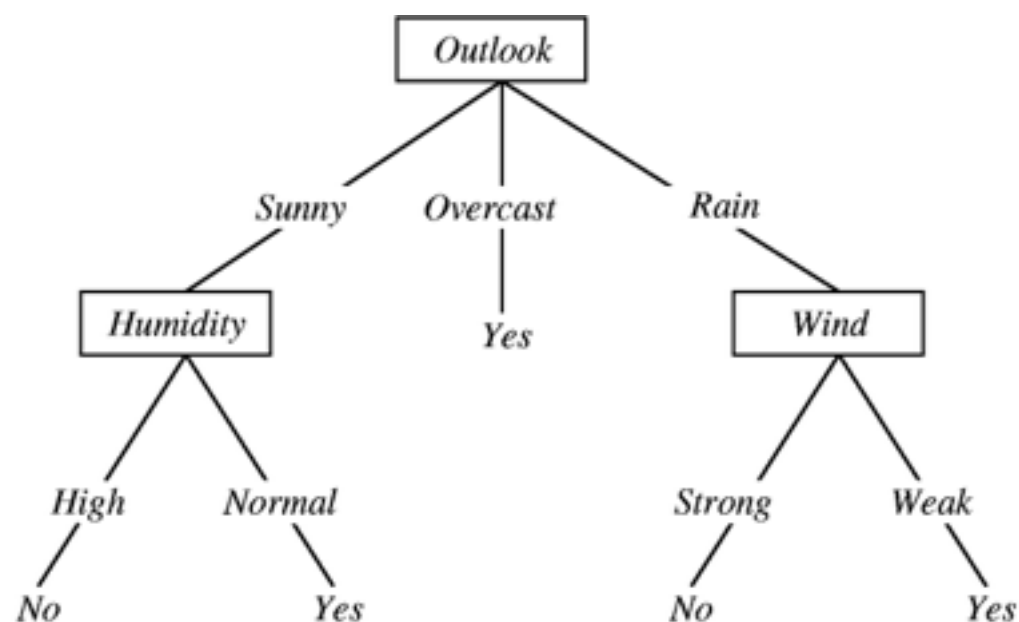
Office hours: Mon & Fri 10-11am @ CS 307

## Recap: Decision Tree Learning & ID3

Task: *Classify Saturday mornings as suitable or not for playing tennis*

Nominal data:

***Discrete-valued attributes***

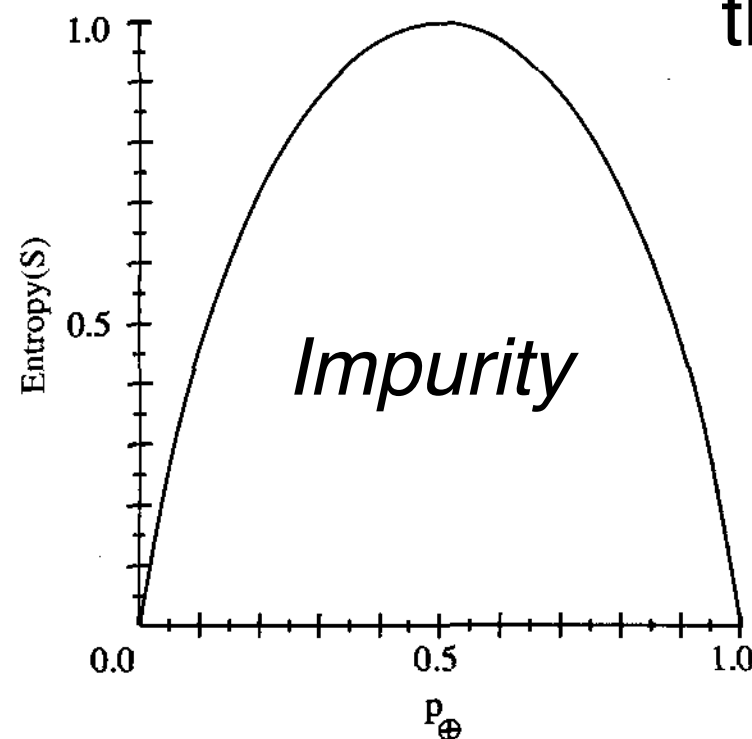


Play Tennis?	Weather Outlook	Humidity	Wind	Temperature
Yes	Sunny	Normal	Weak	Medium
Yes	Overcast	High	Strong	Medium
No	Sunny	High	Weak	Medium
Yes	Overcast	Normal	Weak	Medium
No	Rain	High	Strong	Medium
No	Rain	Normal	Strong	Medium
Yes	Rain	High	Weak	Medium
No	Sunny	High	Weak	Medium
...	...	...	...	...

Recursive greedy top-down algorithm so “best” attribute at top

## Recap: Entropy

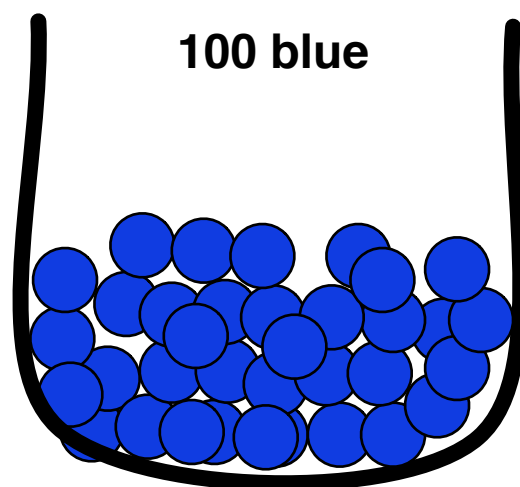
Entropy as a measure of “homogeneity” of a set  $S$  of examples that can take one of  $C$  values



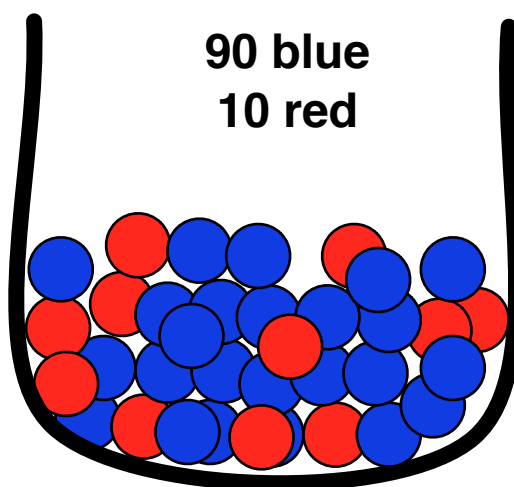
$$\text{Entropy}(S) = - \sum_{i=1}^C p_i \log_2 p_i$$

where  $p_i$  frequency of items with type  $i$  in set  $S$

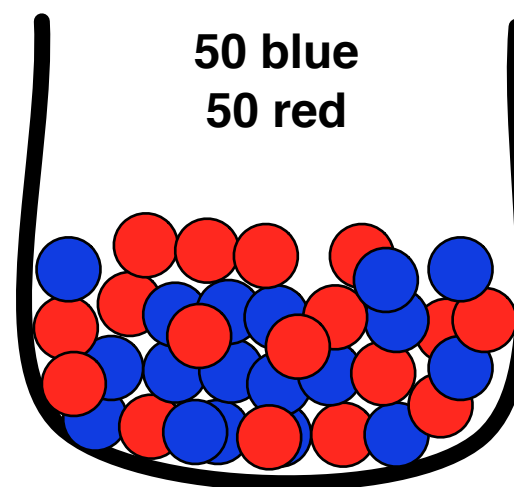
Entropy = 0



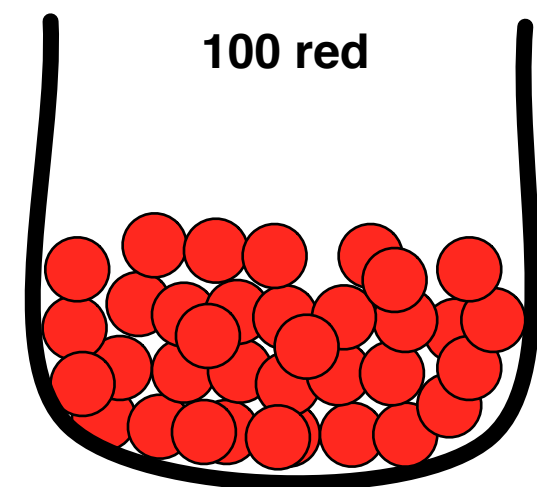
Entropy = 0.47



Entropy = 1



Entropy = 0



## Recap: from Entropy to Information Gain

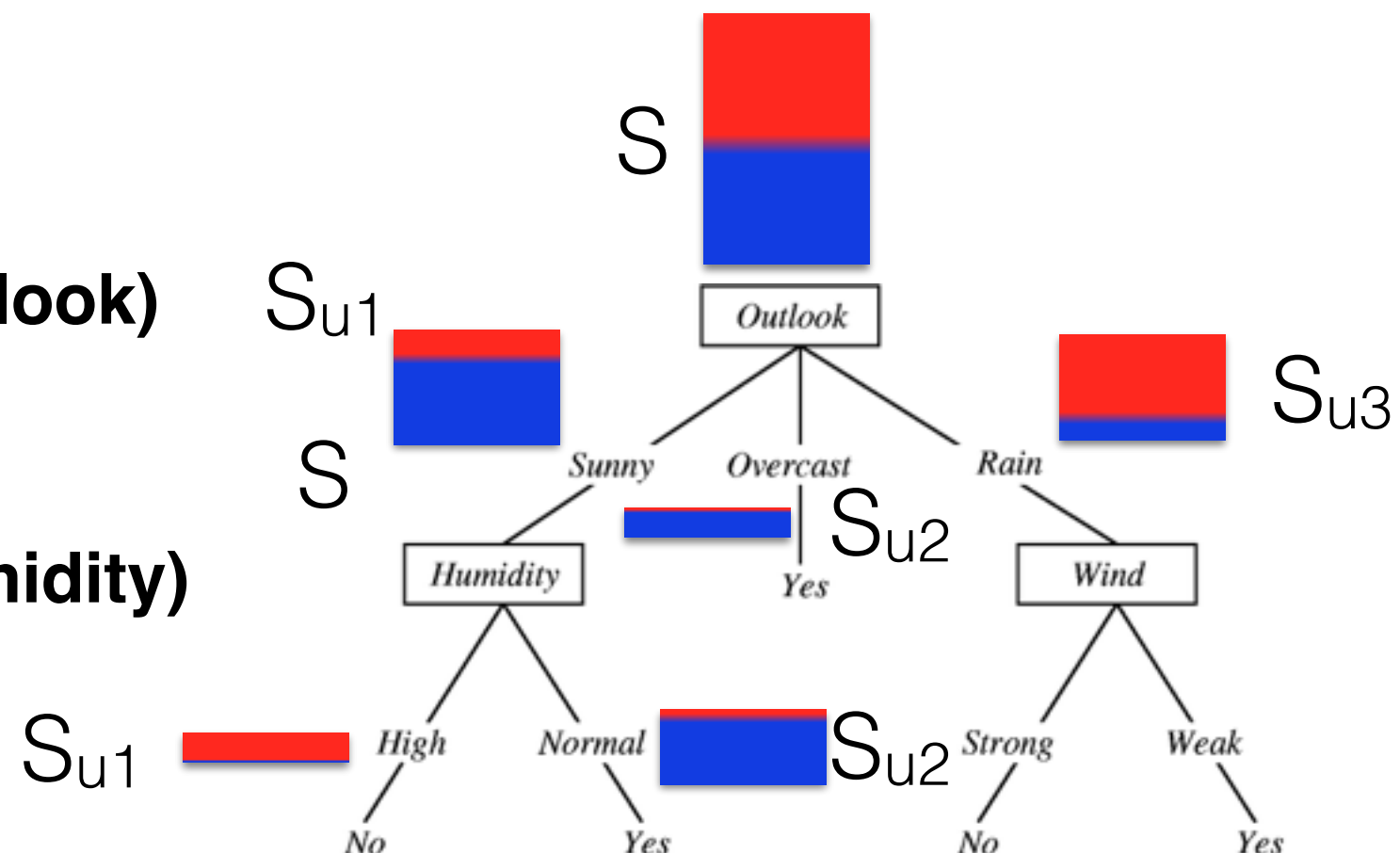
Information Gain = Relative Entropy = Kullback-Leibler (KL) Divergence

$$\text{I.Gain}(S, A) = \text{Entropy}(S) - \sum_i \frac{|S_{u_i}|}{|S|} \text{Entropy}(S_{u_i})$$

where  $A$  is the attribute,  $u_i$  is the possible values of  $A$ ,  $S_{u_i}$  is the subset of  $S$  where  $A = u_i$

**I.Gain(S, Outlook)**

**I.Gain(S, Humidity)**



## Recap: ID3 algorithm

One of the first DT algorithms focused on ***nominal attributes*** and classification

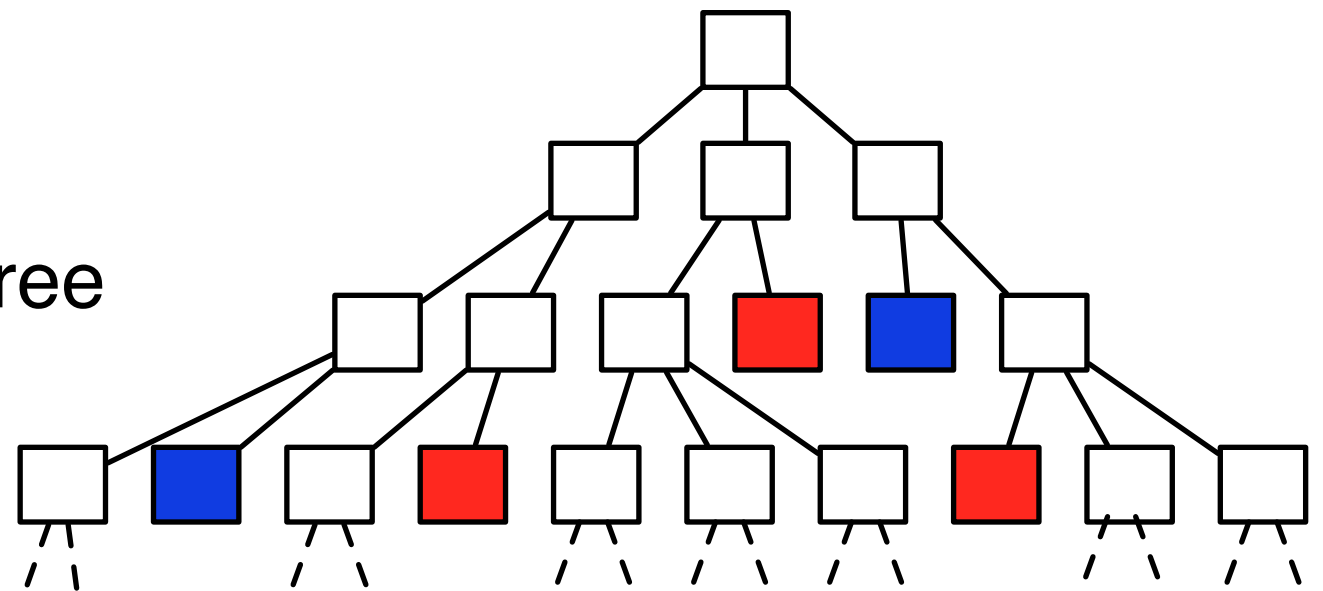
ID3(**Observations**, **Targets**, **Attributes**)

- Create a Root node for the tree
- If all **observations** are class +1, return single-node tree Root with label +1
- If all **observations** are class -1, return single-node tree Root with label -1
- If **Attributes** is empty, return the single-node tree Root with label the most common value in **Targets**
- Else begin:
  - $A \leftarrow$  best attribute from **Attributes** (***highest Information Gain***)
  - The decision attribute for Root  $\leftarrow A$
  - For each possible value  $u_i$  of  $A$ :
    - Add a new tree branch below Root for  $A = u_i$
    - $S_{u_i} \leftarrow$  Subset of **Observations** with  $A = u_i$
    - If  $S_{u_i}$  is empty:
      - Add leaf node with label the most common value in **Targets**
    - Else add below branch  
 ID3( $S_{u_i}$ , **Targets**, **Attributes** - { $A$ }) )

## Recap: Complexity & Overfitting in DTs

So how do we vary the complexity of our DTs?

Model Complexity: Depth of the tree



Two general approaches to avoid overfitting in trees:

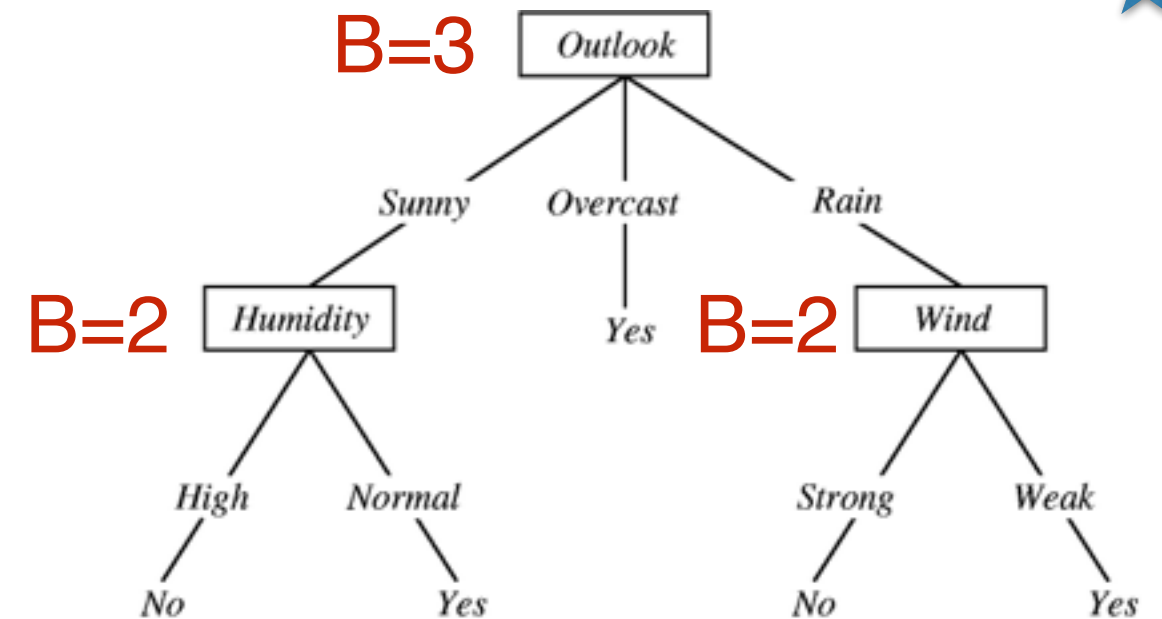
- 1) ***Stop growing*** the tree earlier
- 3) Allow the tree to overfit the training data and then ***post-prune*** it



# Decision Tree Learning: C4.5

Duda et. al. book. Chapter 8, up to 8.5  
See module website

Next generation/evolution of ID3



Both are TDIDT: Top-Down Induction of Decision Trees  
Improvements from ID3 to C4.5:

What entropy-based measure is ID3 using to choose attributes?

$$I.Gain(S, A) = Entropy(S) - \sum_i \frac{|S_{u_i}|}{|S|} Entropy(S_{u_i})$$

Problem:

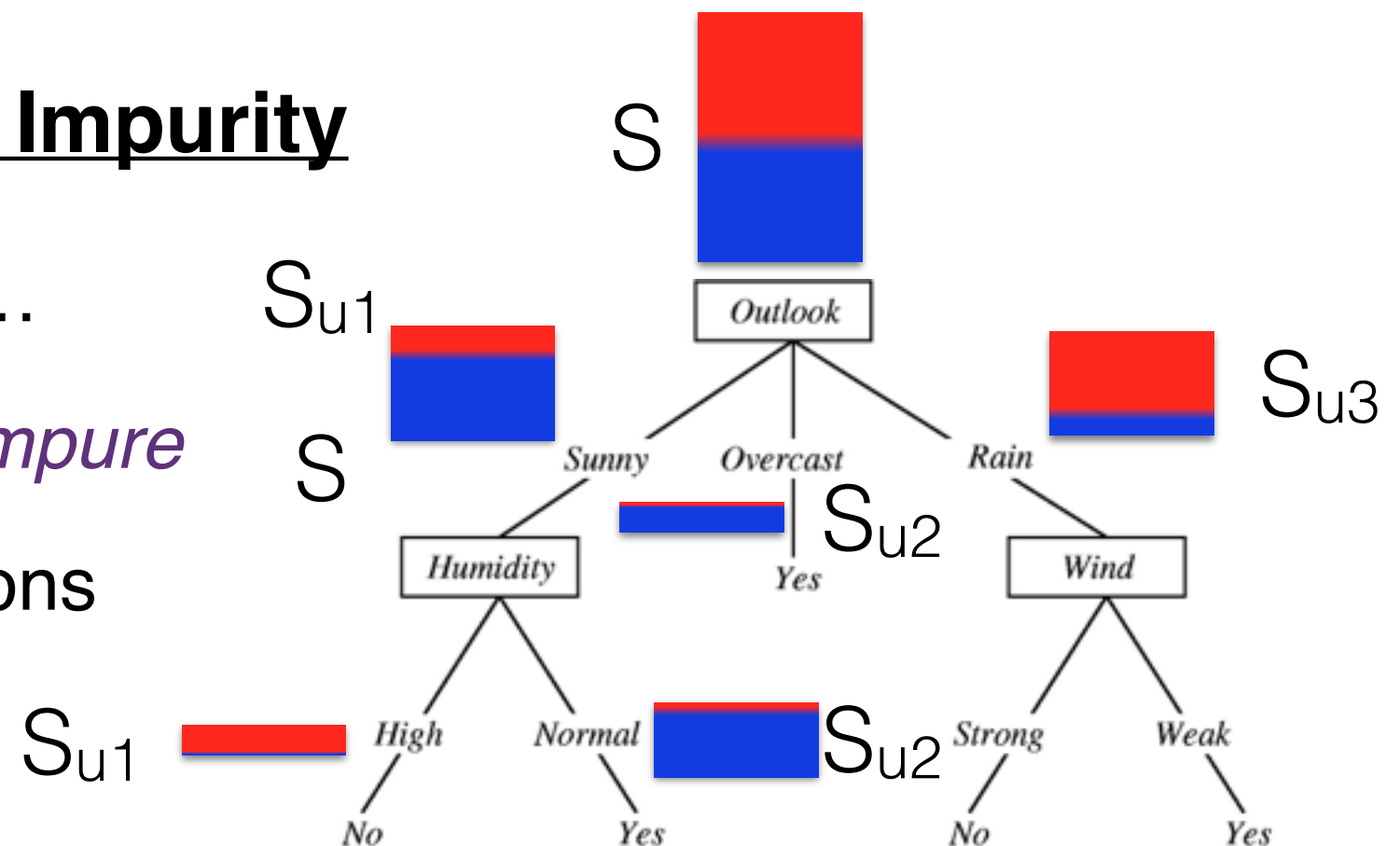
Information Gain is biased to prefer highest **branching factor (B)** nodes!

# Decision Tree Learning: Impurity

Some naming conventions...

The leaf subsets  $S_{ui}$  can be *impure*

Contain samples/observations  
from many classes



Entropy is **one such impurity measure**: *Entropy impurity*

$$i(N) = \text{Entropy}(\text{Set } S \text{ at node } N) = - \sum_{i=1}^C p_i \log_2 p_i$$





## Decision Tree Learning (C4.5): Branching factor & Entropy

Information Gain is then measuring the *drop in impurity of a split s*

$$\Delta i(s) = \text{I.Gain}(S, A) = \text{Entropy}(S) - \sum_i \frac{|S_{u_i}|}{|S|} \text{Entropy}(S_{u_i})$$

ID3 Problem: I.Gain is biased towards higher branching factor attributes..

Lets “hack it” and normalise it to avoid this

### 1) [C4.5 Improvement (resolve branching bias)]: Gain Ratio Impurity

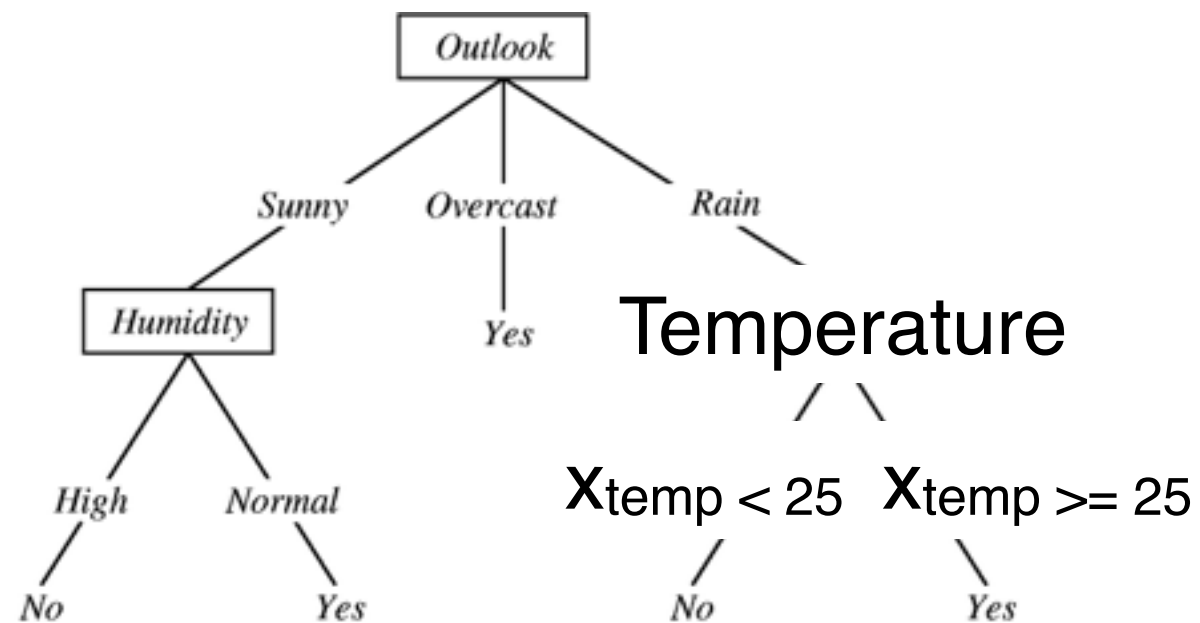
$$\Delta_{i_B}(s) = \frac{\Delta_i(s)}{-\sum_{k=1}^B P_k \log_2 P_k}$$

$P_k$  is the fraction of data on branch k so we normalise Information Gain by the Entropy of the data split.



# Decision Tree Learning (C4.5): Continuous Attributes

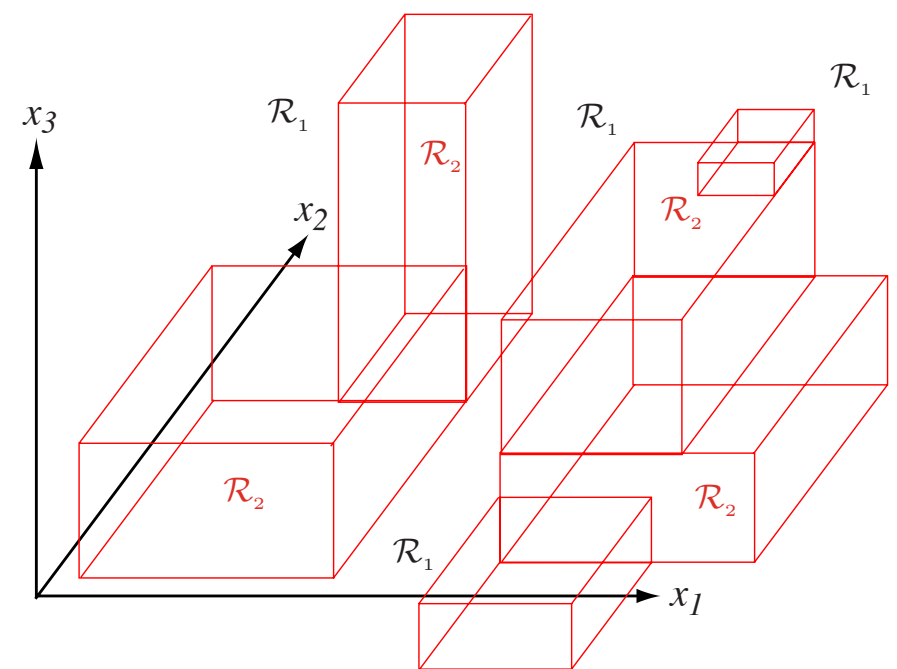
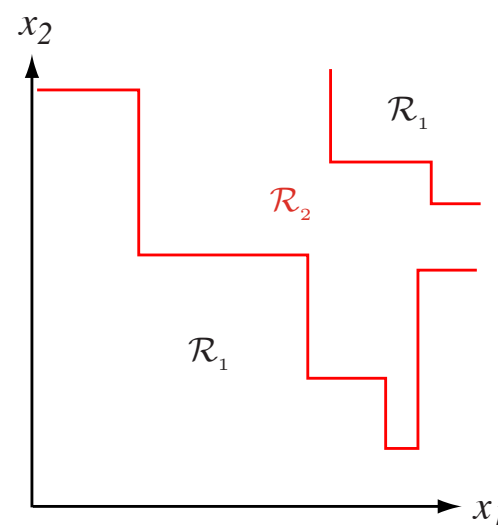
## 2) [C4.5 Improvement (deal with continuous values)]: Thresholding



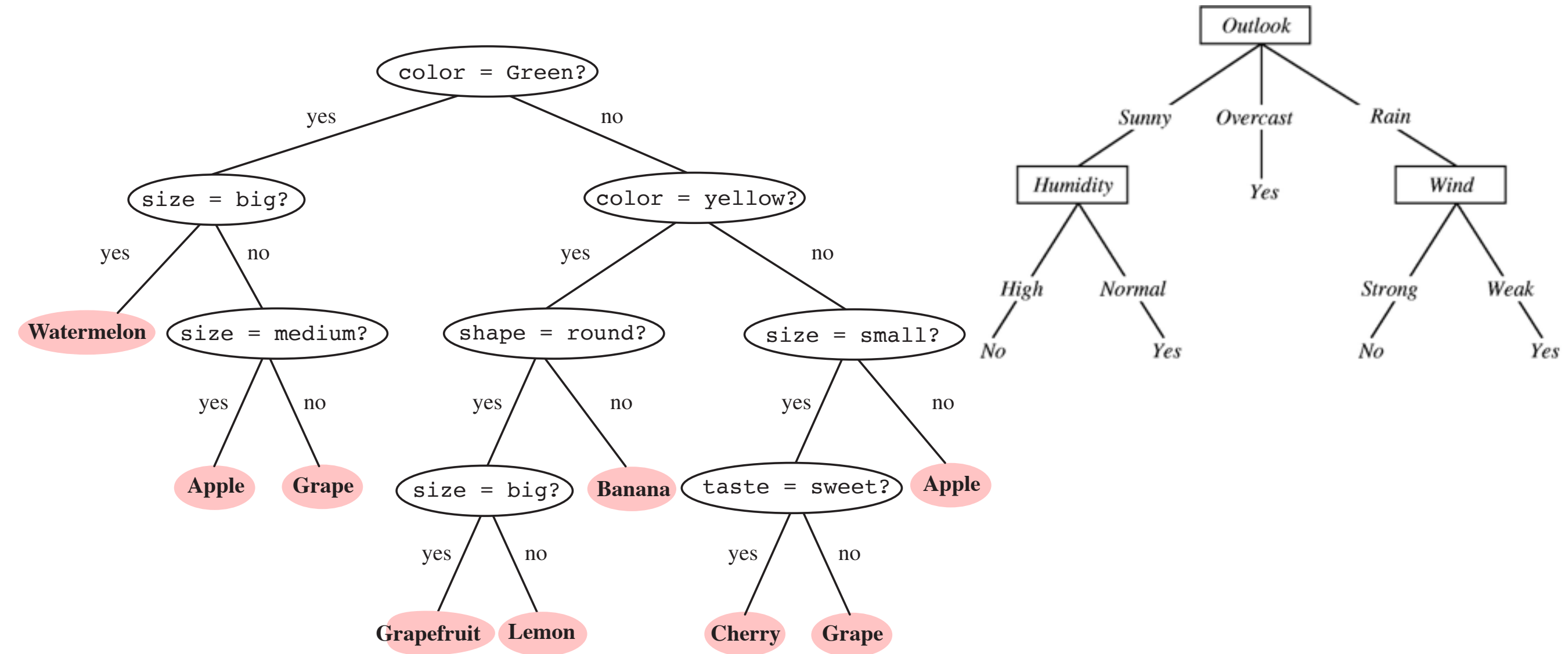
Threshold the continuous attribute and create the split test on the threshold

axis-parallel decision boundaries

So how would the decision boundary look for binary classification (two classes)?



# Decision Tree Learning (CART): Transformation to Binary Tree



Every tree can be represented using just binary decisions  
Binary Tree!



# Decision Tree Learning: CART

CART = Classification and Regression Trees

Differences between C4.5 and CART:

- 1) Different measure of impurity: from Entropy Impurity to **Gini Impurity**
- 2) Always Binary tree
- 3) Can handle missing values nicely (Surrogate splits)

Gini/Variance Impurity:

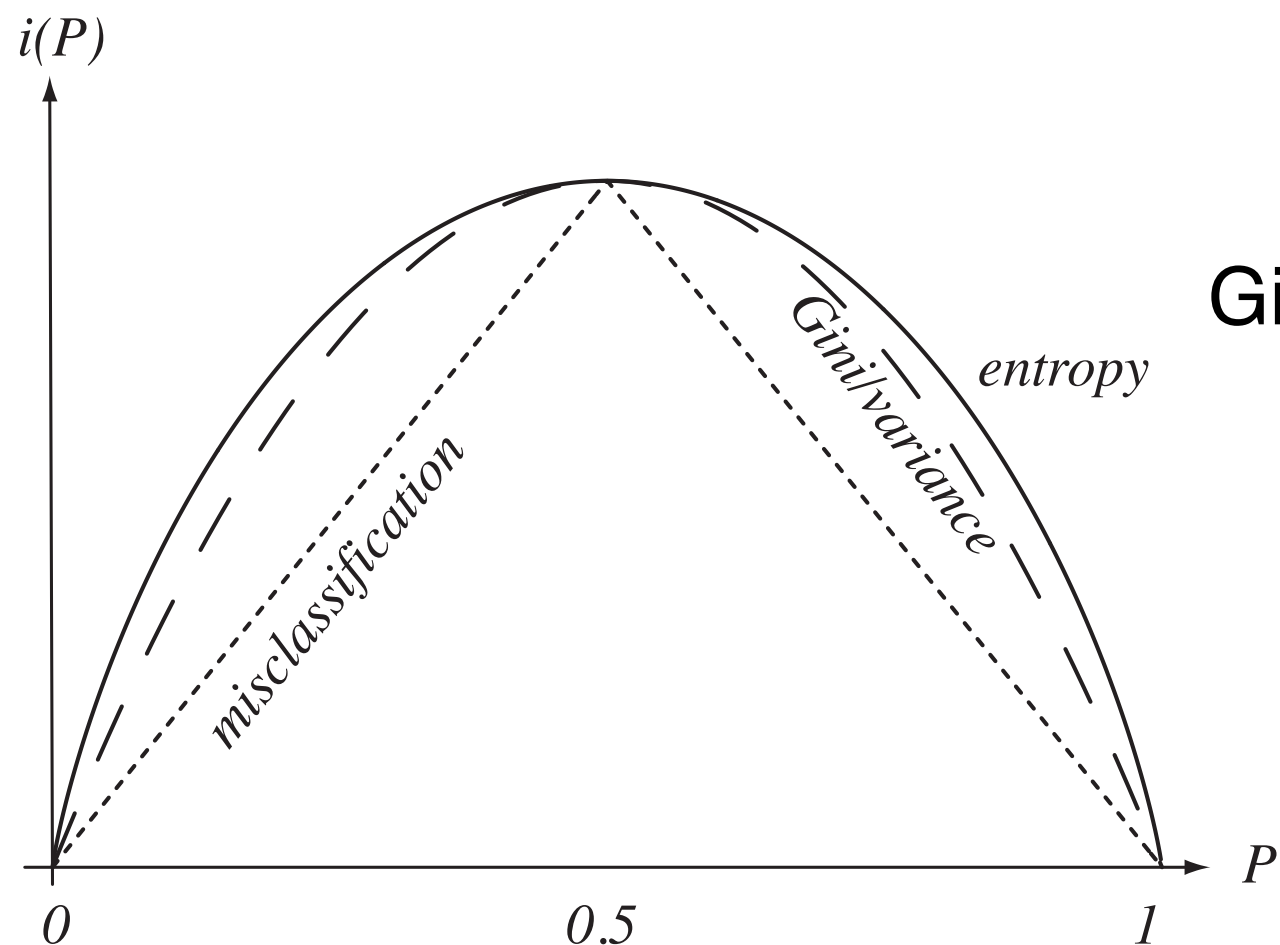
$i(N) = p_1 p_2$  where  $p_i$  fraction of observations with class  $i$

Generalisation to multiclass  $i(N) = \sum_{i \neq j} p_i p_j$

# Decision Tree Learning: CART

Lets visualise the two “impurity” measures

$$i(N) = \text{Entropy}(\text{Set } S \text{ at node } N) = - \sum_{i=1}^C p_i \log_2 p_i$$



Gini impurity

$$i(N) = \sum_{i \neq j} p_i p_j$$



# Handling Missing values with CART

## Surrogate tests for Missing values

Main idea: *for every non-leaf node create additional (**surrogate**) rules based on other attributes that mimic primary split behaviour*

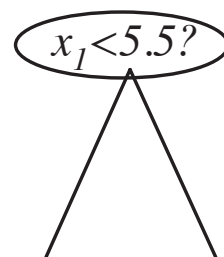
Obs. of 1st Class

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ 0 \\ 7 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ 1 \\ 8 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} x_3 \\ 2 \\ 9 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} x_4 \\ 4 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} x_5 \\ 5 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Obs. of 2nd Class

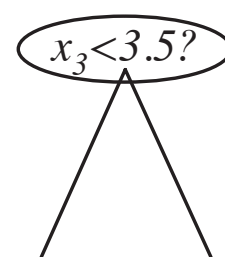
$$\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ 3 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} y_2 \\ 6 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} y_3 \\ 7 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} y_4 \\ 8 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} y_5 \\ 9 \\ 6 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}.$$

primary split



$x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, y_1$      $y_2, y_3, y_4, y_5$

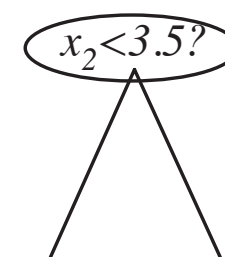
first surrogate split



$x_3, x_4, x_5, y_1$      $y_2, y_3, y_4, y_5, x_1, x_2$

*predictive association  
with primary split = 8*

second surrogate split



$x_4, x_5, y_1, y_2$      $y_3, y_4, y_5, x_1, x_2, x_3$

*predictive association  
with primary split = 6*



# Avoiding Overfitting: Pre-pruning or Post-pruning

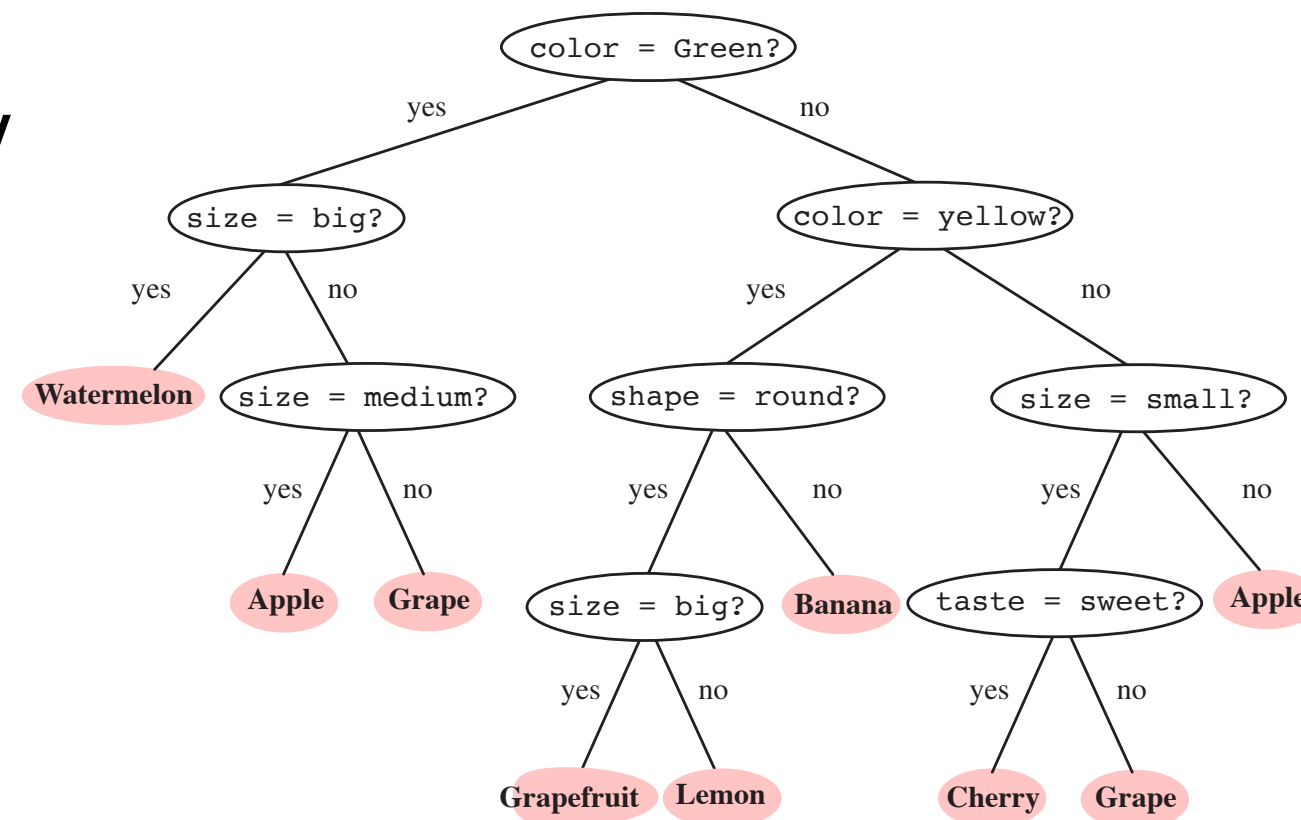
**Pre-pruning:** 1) Stop splitting when **Cross-Validation error** minimised  
2) Stop splitting when there is no **statistical significant** impurity reduction

**Post-pruning:** 1) **Merging:** Grow full tree and try to merge pairs of neighbouring leaf nodes (impurity will increase) back to ancestor

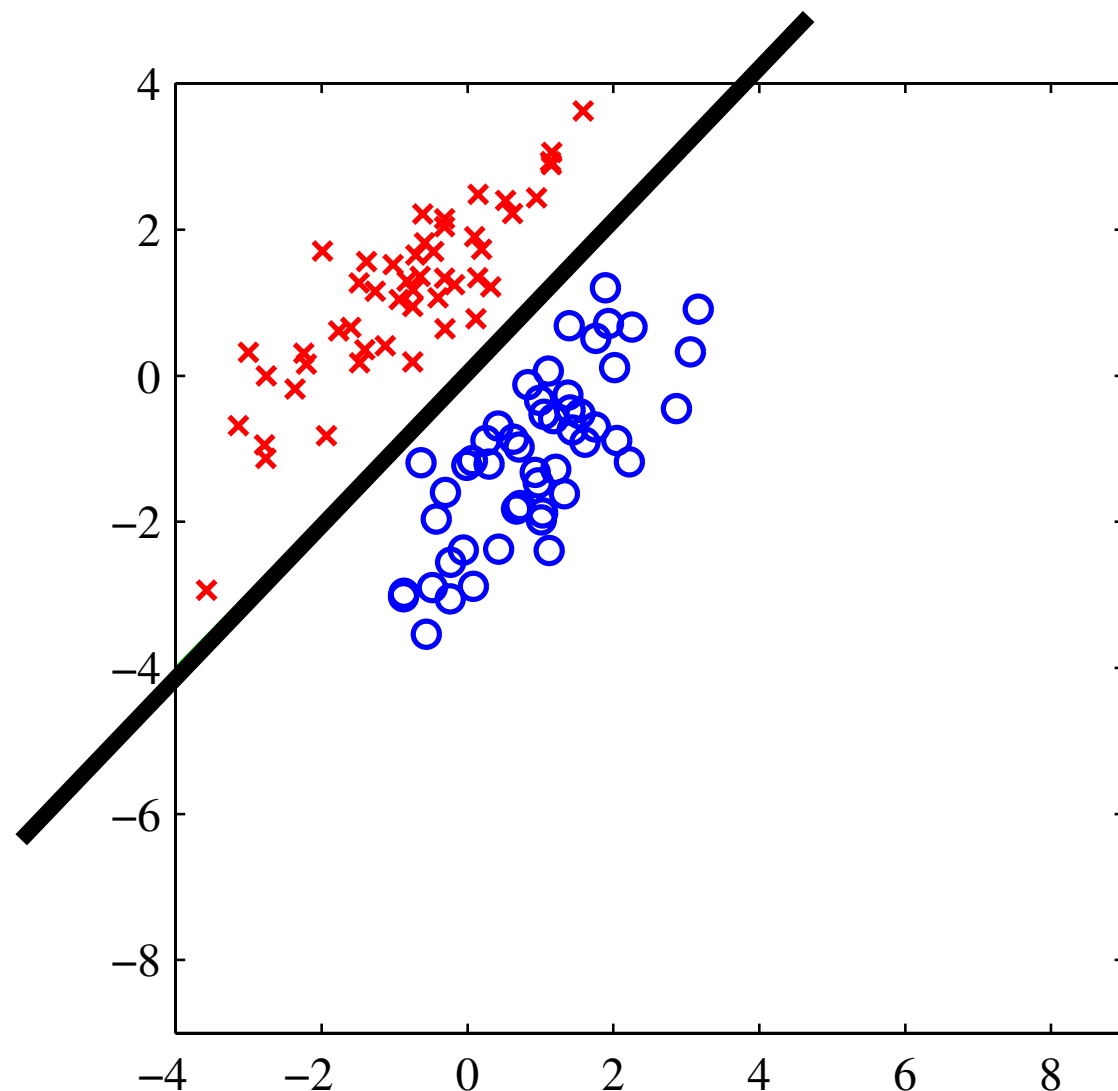
Increase in impurity (Cost) vs Model Complexity trade-off

Cost-complexity  
pruning

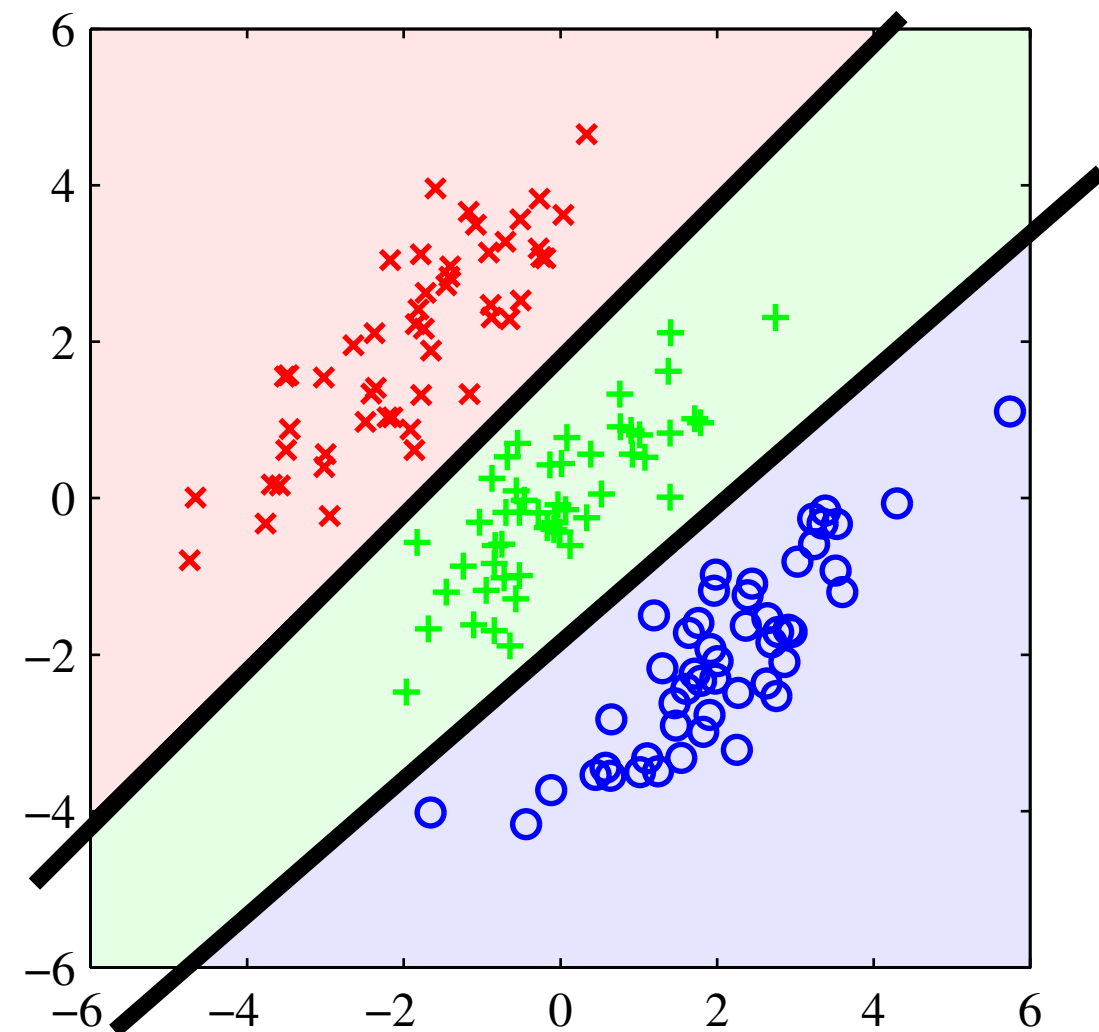
Inverse of  
splitting



# Classification: Binary and Multi-class (Linear DBs)



$$t_n \in \{-1, 1\}$$

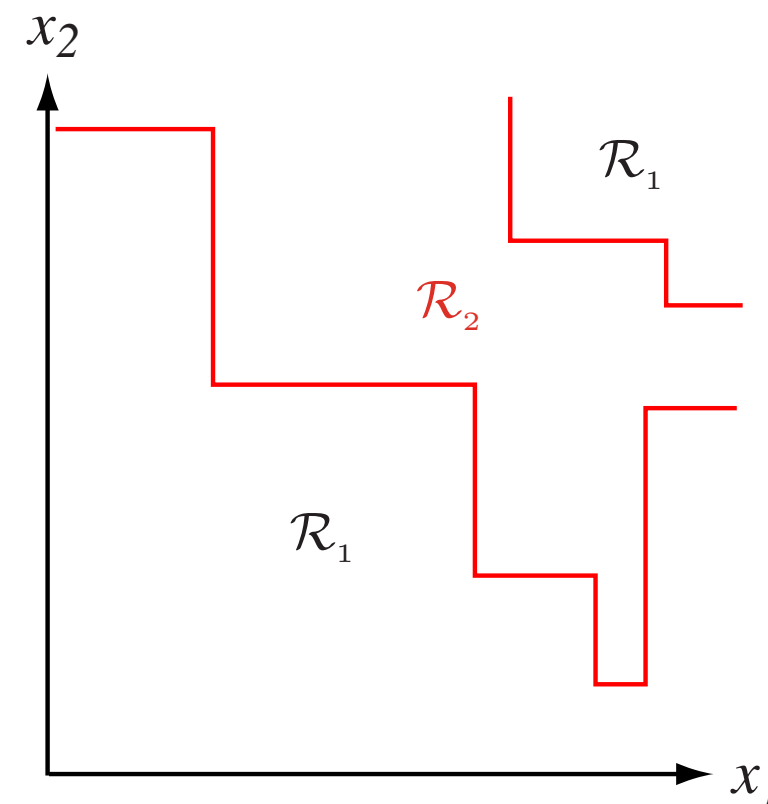
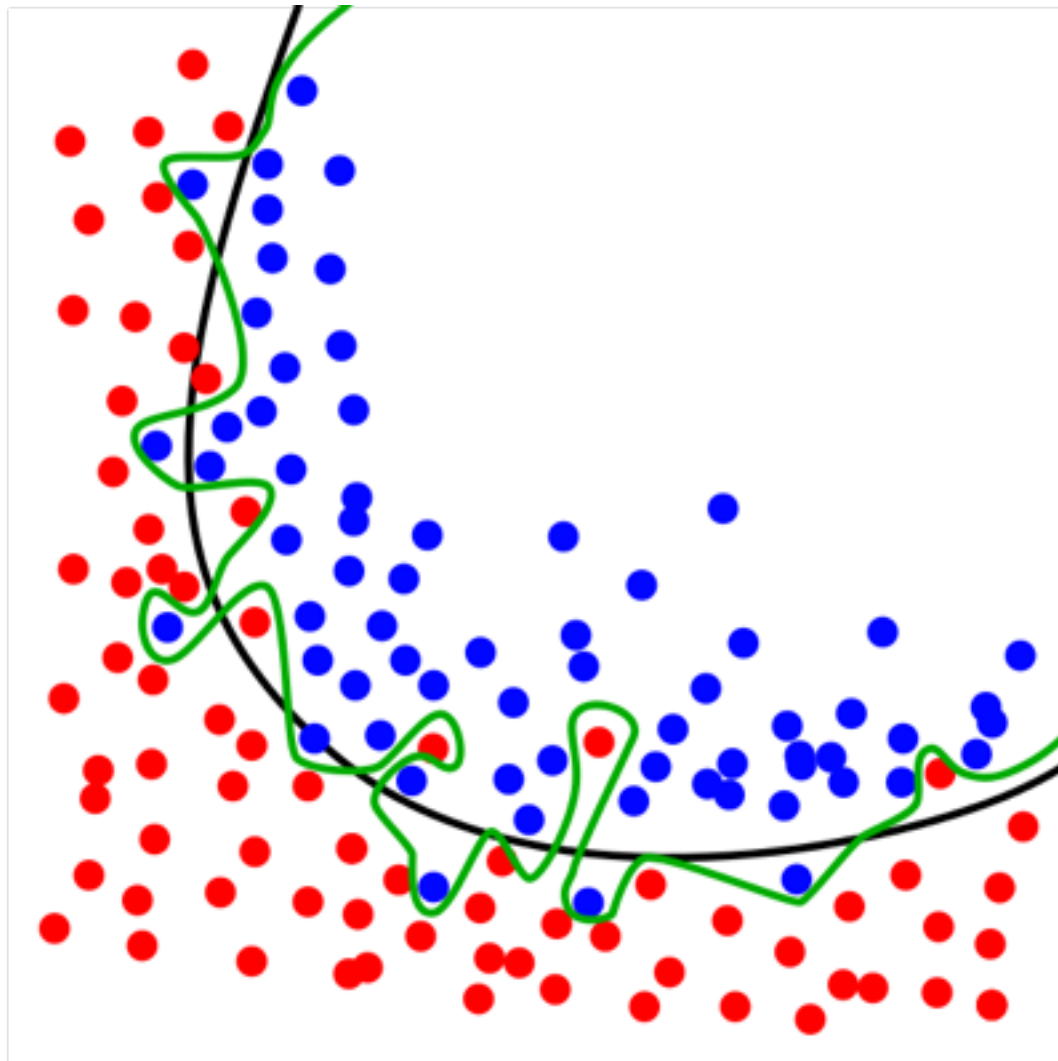


$$t_n \in \{1, 2, \dots, C\}$$

Sometimes binary classification also as  $\{0, 1\}$  or {"positive", "negative"}

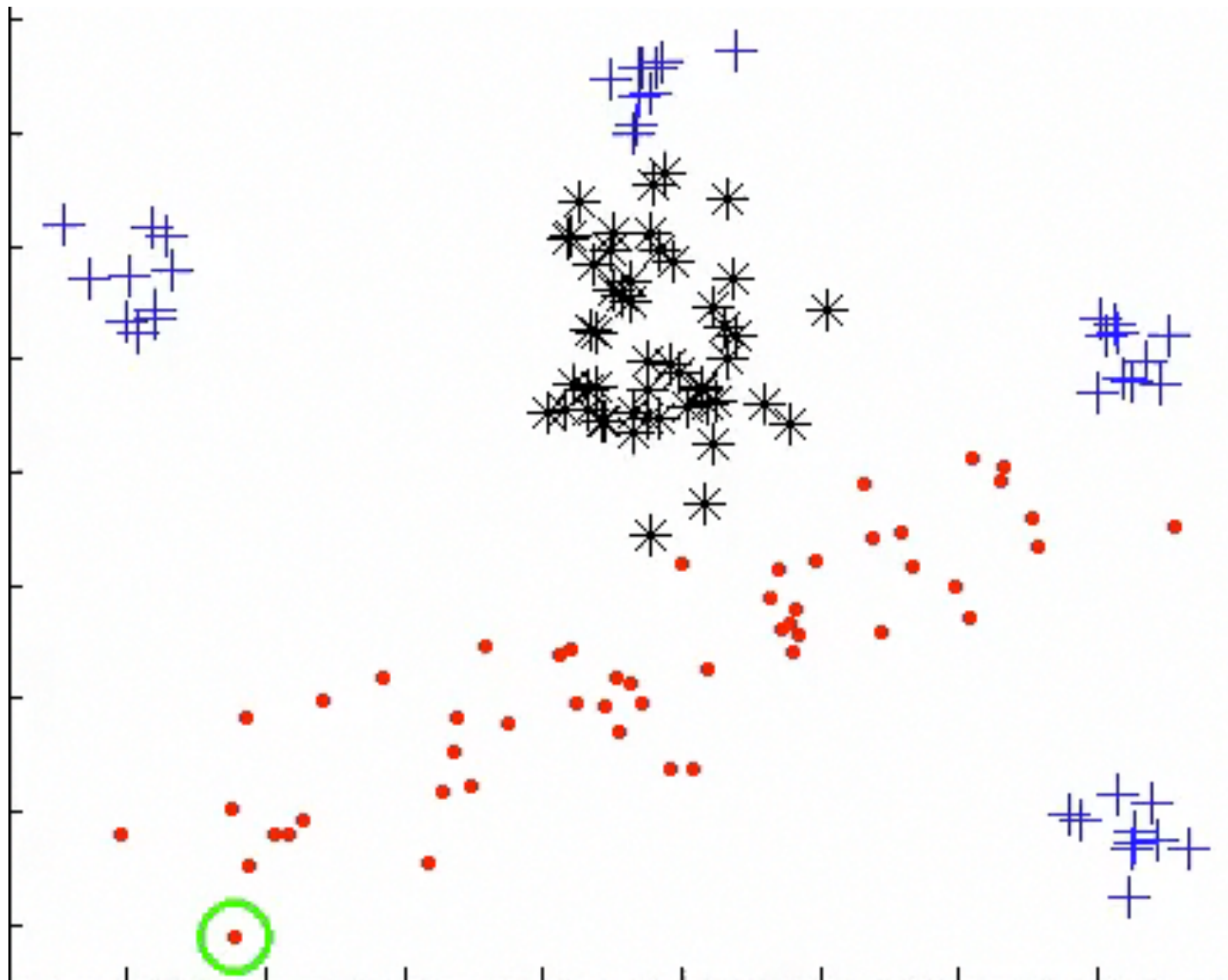


# Classification: Binary and Multi-class (Non-Linear DBs)



$$t_n \in \{-1, 1\}$$

## Classification: Binary and Multi-class (Multinomial)



Video time...



## Classification: Performance Metrics (Binary classification)

e.g. R&G. book. Chapter 5: 5.4-5.5

How would you  
summarise your performance?

Raw Classification Accuracy  
a.k.a. **0-1 Loss**

For every observation:

- Pay 1 if misclassified
- Else Pay 0

Average across all observations

Predicted Target	True Target
1	1
-1	1
1	1
-1	-1



# Classification: Performance Metrics e.g. R&G. book. Chapter 5: 5.4-5.5

## Confusion Matrix (binary classification)

	+	-
Predicted +	True Positives	False Positives
Predicted -	False Negatives	True Negatives

Total = 400 observations

	+	-
Predicted +	54	26
Predicted -	12	308

Class + predictions not looking great! 1-0 Loss wouldn't tell us that.  
These **errors** (FP/FN) might be **crucial** in our application

Confusion Matrix for multi-class?

## Classification: Performance Metrics

### Confusion Matrix (multiclass classification)

Any  
problems??

	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4
Predicted Class 1	124	13	7	431
Predicted Class 2	12	151	0	2
Predicted Class 3	3	1	1876	230
Predicted Class 4	102	8	15	300

## Classification: Performance Metrics

Accuracy, Precision, Recall, F1-score, Sensitivity, Specificity, ROC, AUC  
**All simple functions of TP-TN-FP-FN**

$$\text{Precision} = \frac{\text{True Positives}}{\text{True Positives} + \text{False Positives}}$$

$$\text{Recall} = \frac{\text{True Positives}}{\text{True Positives} + \text{False Negatives}}$$

$$F1 = 2 \frac{\text{Precision} \times \text{Recall}}{\text{Precision} + \text{Recall}}$$

$$\text{Accuracy} = \frac{TP + TN}{TP + FN + FP + TN}$$



## Specificity - Sensitivity and ROC curve

$$\text{Specificity} = \frac{TN}{TN + FP}$$

$$\text{Sensitivity} = \text{Recall} = \frac{TP}{TP + FN}$$

Both values lie between 0 and 1

Say +ve is diseased people and -ve healthy

Specificity is proportion of healthy people (TN+FP) correctly classified as healthy (True negative rate)

Sensitivity is proportion of diseased people (TP+FN) correctly classified as diseased (a.k.a True positive rate)

# Classification: Performance Metrics: The ROC curve

## Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) Curve

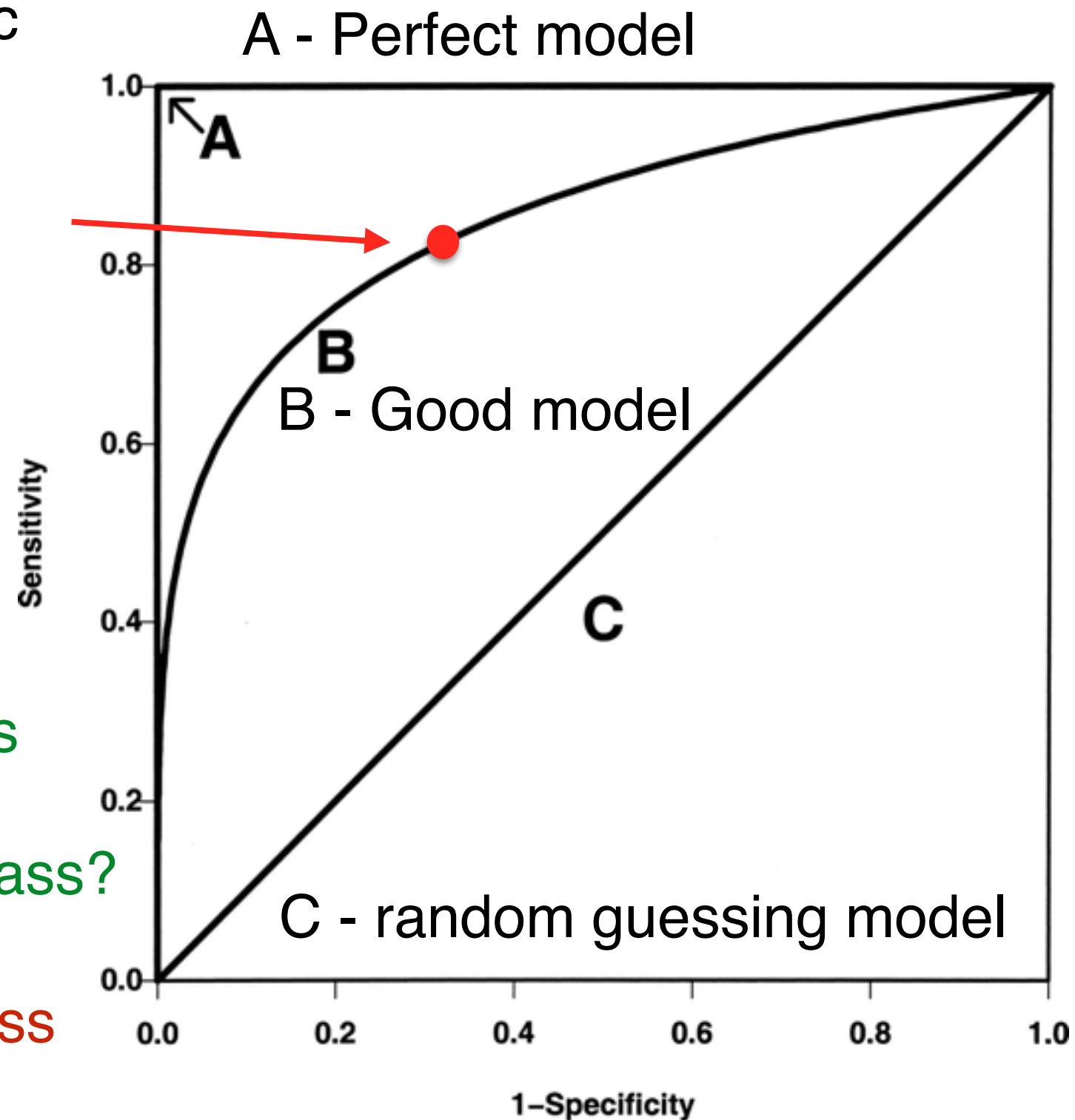
Every model has a ROC curve.  
Every point is a decision setting of that model

Vary **decision threshold**  
(e.g. +1 if  $p(\text{class}=+1) > 0.5$ )  
to create full curve

What threshold for k-NN & DTs?  
They are non-probabilistic models

What can use as “probability” of class?

Think how each model assigns class





## Classification: Performance Metrics: ROC and AUC

Use the Area under the curve (AUC)  
as a performance metric

AUC is using the whole ROC curve  
across decision thresholds

Takes class imbalance into account

Does not easily/nicely generalise to  
multiclass setting

