# Approximating Boosted Decision Trees with Differential Privacy

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## Temperature prediction



Sun in the last hour, yes/no?



Current temperature in celsius



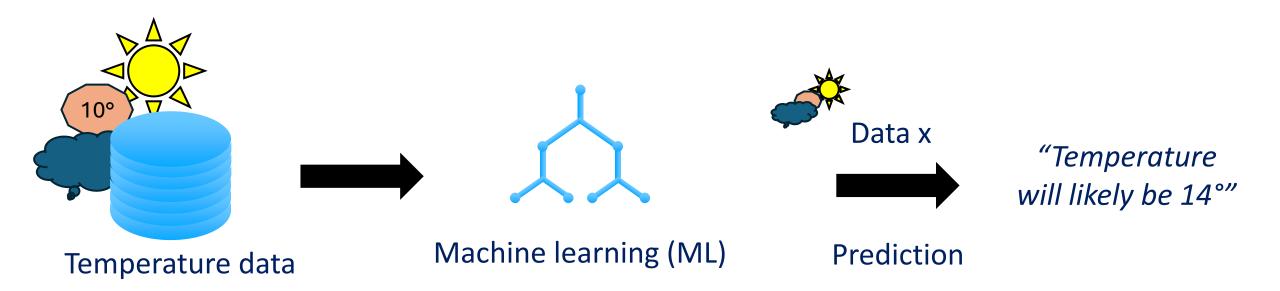
Predict temperature in 3 hours



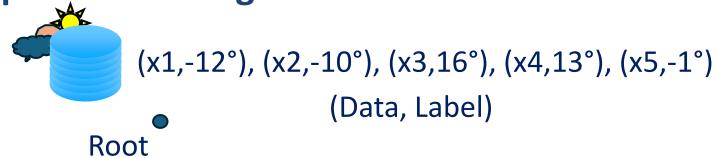
Rain in the last hour, yes/no?

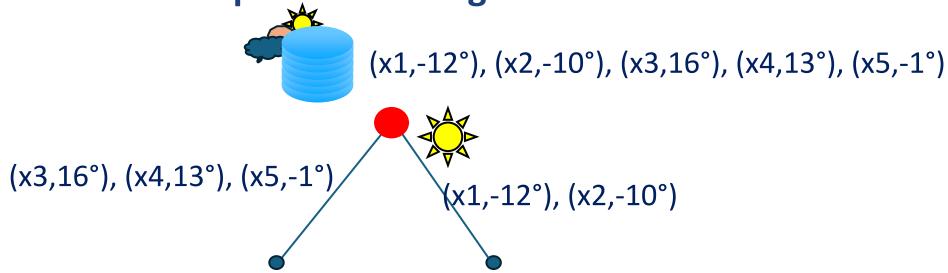


## Temperature prediction using boosted decision tree (BDT) model

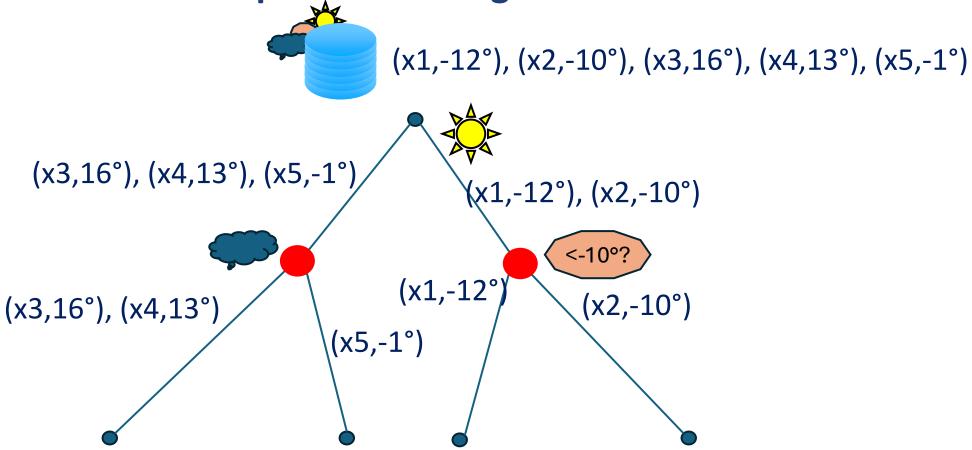




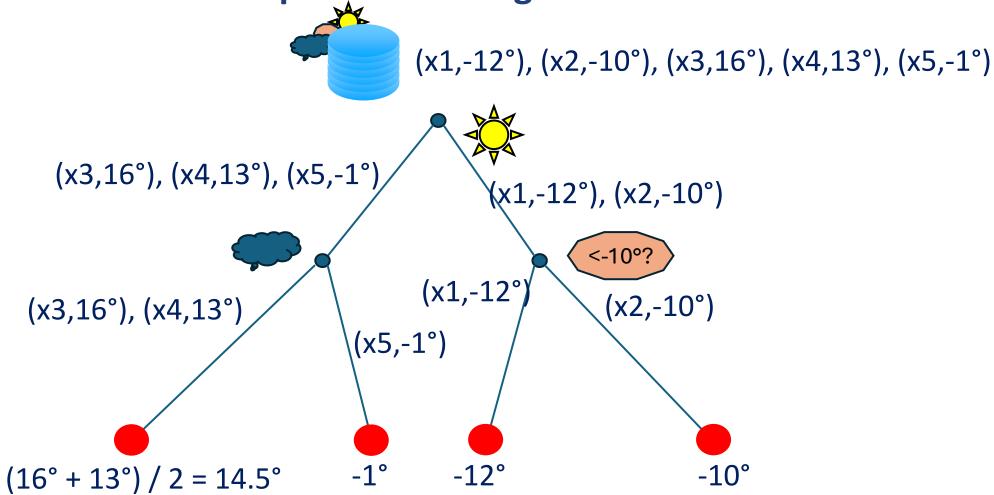




Each node splits the data in two subsets so that each subset groups together alike labels (e.g. gini-coefficient)

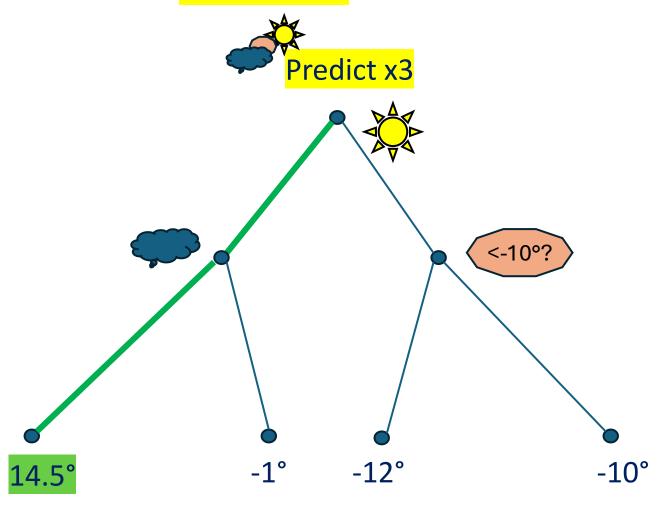


Each node splits the data in two subsets so that each subset groups together alike labels (e.g. gini-coefficient)



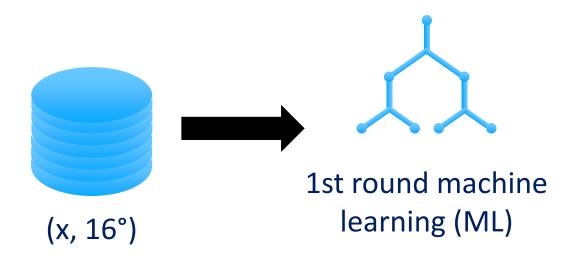
A leaf stores the average label of data points in that leaf

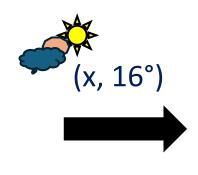
# **Prediction** of BDT model





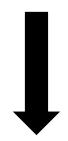
## **Error correction** for iterative BDT training





**Prediction** 

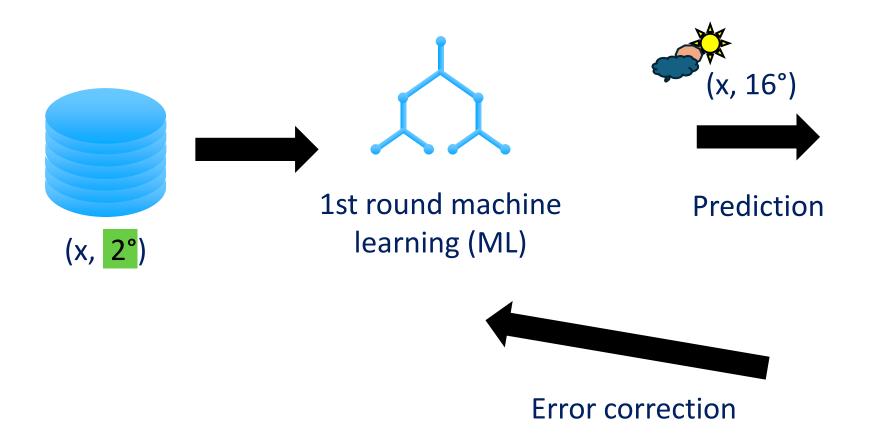
"Temperature will likely be 14°"



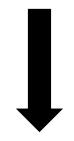
"Correct would be 16°, so error correction should be 2°."



# **Error correction** for iterative BDT training



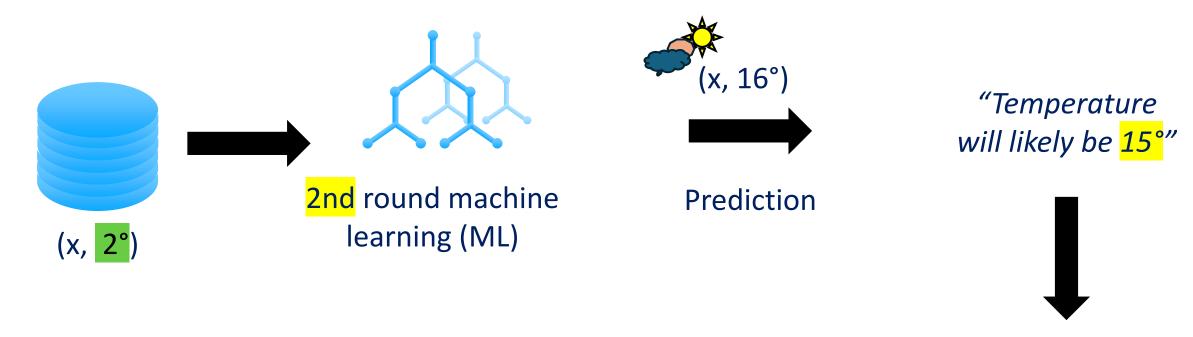
"Temperature will likely be 14°"



"Correct would be 16°, so error correction should be 2°."



# **Error correction** for iterative BDT training



"Correct would be 16°, so error correction should be 1°."

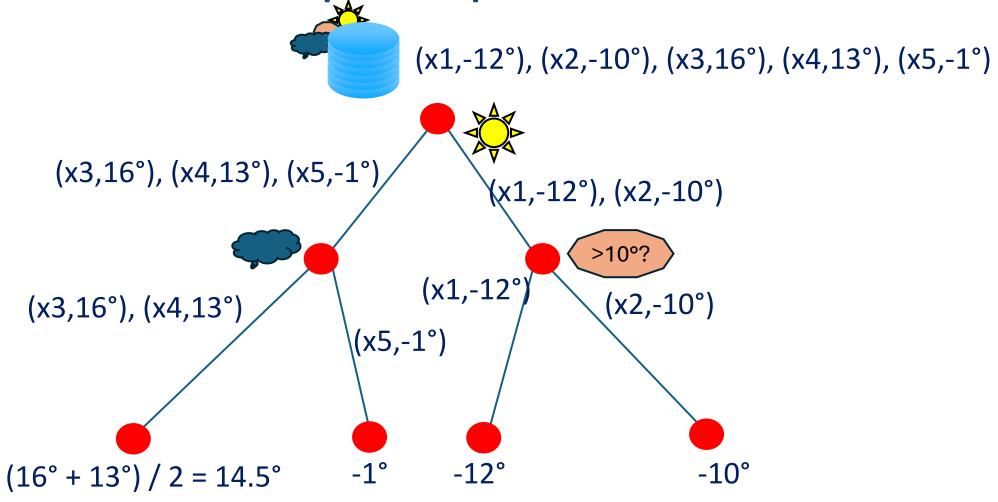


# Differentially private boosted decision trees

Whence cometh the noise?



## Data-dependent part of BDT model





## Algorithms for splitting and leaves

## **Splitting**

### From top to bottom:

Split each node until maximum depth Split such that equal error-corrected labels are grouped

#### Leaves

#### For each leaf:

Find all data points in this leaf

Sum their error-corrected labels → S

Count number of data points → C

Store S/C



## **DP-approximated** splitting algorithm

## **DP-Splitting**

From top to bottom:

Split each node until max depth is reached Split randomly

#### Leaves

For each leaf:

Find all data points in this leaf

Sum their error-corrected labels → S

Count number of data points → C

Store S/C



## **DP-approximated** splitting and leaves algorithms

## **DP-Splitting**

## From top to bottom:

Split each node until max depth is reached Split randomly

#### **DP-Leaves**

#### For each leaf:

Find all data points in this leaf

Clip their error-corrected labels to length L

Sum clipped error-corrected labels  $\rightarrow S_c$ 

Add Gaussian noise: S<sub>c</sub> → S<sub>c</sub>'

Count number of data points → C

Add Gaussian noise: C → C'

Store Sc'/C'



## **DP-Proof** for DP-approximated splitting and leaves algorithms

## **DP-Splitting**

Output of randomized function has no leakage



## **DP-Proof** for DP-approximated splitting and leaves algorithms

### **DP-Splitting**

## Output of randomized function has no leakage

#### **DP-Leaves**

$$(ε, δ)$$
-Differential Privacy (DP):  
Pr[M(D)  $∈$  S] <=  $e^ε$  Pr[M(D  $\cup$  {x})  $∈$  S] +  $δ$ 

#### **DP-Leaves:**

(1) Leakag for x occurs only in x's leaf  $P_x$ 

(2) 
$$M(D) = (\sum_{(v,l) \in D: (v,l) \text{ in } \mathbf{P_x}} \text{ clip}(l, (-L,L))) + N(0, \sigma^2)$$

#### Gaussian Mechanism:

M satisfies  $(\varepsilon, \delta)$ -DP for any  $\delta > 0$ ,  $\varepsilon$  in (0,1) when  $\sigma > \text{sqrt}(2*\ln(1.25/\delta))*L/\varepsilon$ 



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