

UNIT III

Classification: Basic Concepts and Techniques



Classification vs. Prediction

Classification:

- predicts categorical class labels (discrete or nominal)
- classifies data (constructs a model) based on the training set and the values (class labels) in a classifying attribute and uses it in classifying new data

Prediction:

- models continuous-valued functions, i.e., predicts unknown or missing values
- Typical Applications
 - credit approval
 - target marketing
 - medical diagnosis
 - treatment effectiveness analysis



Classification: Definition

- Given a collection of records (training set)
 - Each record contains a set of attributes, one of the attributes is the class.
- Find a model for class attribute as a function of the values of other attributes.



Classification

- Goal: <u>previously unseen</u> records should be assigned a class as accurately as possible.
 - A test set is used to determine the accuracy of the model.
 Usually, the given data set is divided into training and test
 sets, with training set used to build the model and test set
 used to validate it.

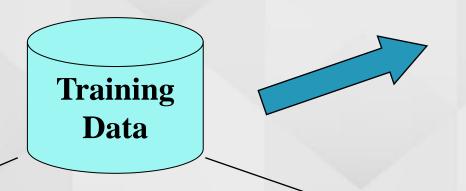


Classification—A Two-Step Process

- Model construction: describing a set of predetermined classes
 - Each tuple/sample is assumed to belong to a predefined class, as determined by the class label attribute
 - The set of tuples used for model construction is training set
 - The model is represented as classification rules, decision trees, or mathematical formulae
- Model usage: for classifying future or unknown objects
 - Estimate accuracy of the model
 - The known label of test sample is compared with the classified result from the model
 - Accuracy rate is the percentage of test set samples that are correctly classified by the model
 - Test set is independent of training set, otherwise over-fitting will occur
 - If the accuracy is acceptable, use the model to classify data tuples whose class labels are not known



Classification Process (1): Model Construction



NAME	RANK	YEARS	TENURED
Mike	Assistant Prof	3	no
Mary	Assistant Prof	7	yes
Bill	Professor	2	yes
Jim	Associate Prof	7	yes
Dave	Assistant Prof	6	no
Anne	Associate Prof	3	no

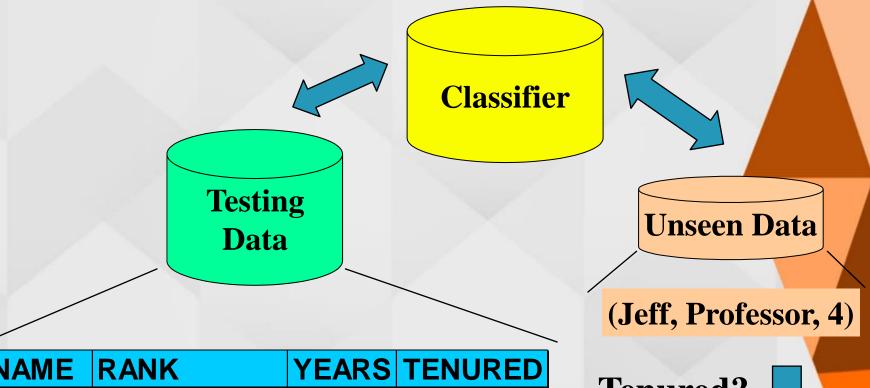
Classification Algorithms

Classifier (Model)

IF rank = 'professor'
OR years > 6
THEN tenured = 'yes'



Classification Process (2): Use the Model in Prediction



NAME	RANK	YEARS	TENURED
Tom	Assistant Prof	2	no
Merlisa	Associate Prof	3	no
George	Professor	5	yes
Joseph	Assistant Prof	7	yes

Tenured?







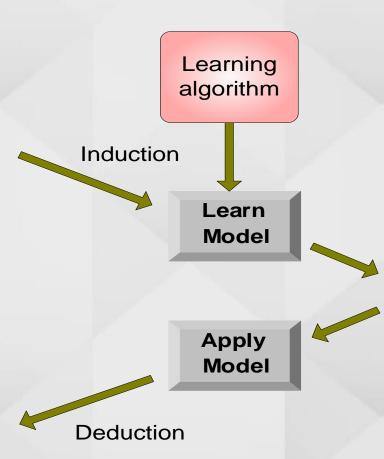
ENGINEERING COLLEGE (A) Classification Task

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



Model



Supervised vs. Unsupervised Learning

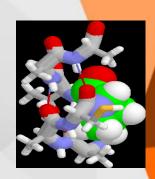
- Supervised learning (classification)
 - Supervision: The training data (observations, measurements, etc.) are accompanied by labels indicating the class of the observations
 - New data is classified based on the training set
- Unsupervised learning (clustering)
 - The class labels of training data is unknown
 - Given a set of measurements, observations, etc. with the aim of establishing the existence of classes or clusters in the data



Examples of Classification Task

- Classifying credit card transactions as legitimate or fraudulent
- Classifying secondary structures of protein as alpha-helix, beta-sheet, or random coil
- Categorizing news stories as finance, weather, entertainment, sports, etc







Issues Regarding Classification and Prediction (1): Data Preparation

- Data cleaning
 - Preprocess data in order to reduce noise and handle missing values
- Relevance analysis (feature selection)
 - Remove the irrelevant or redundant attributes
- Data transformation
 - Generalize and/or normalize data



Issues regarding classification and prediction (2): Evaluating Classification Methods

- Predictive accuracy
- Speed and scalability
 - time to construct the model
 - time to use the model
- Robustness
 - handling noise and missing values
- Scalability
 - efficiency in disk-resident databases
- Interpretability:
 - understanding and insight provided by the model
- Goodness of rules
 - decision tree size
 - compactness of classification rules



Classification Techniques

- Base Classifiers
 - Decision Tree based Methods
 - Nearest-neighbor
 - Naïve Bayes and Bayesian Belief Networks
 - Support Vector Machines
 - Neural Networks



Classification by Decision Tree Induction

A decision tree is a flowchart-like tree structure, where
 Each internal node (non-leaf node) denotes a <u>test</u> on an attribute
 Each branch represents an <u>outcome of the test</u>
 Each leaf node (or terminal node) holds a <u>class label</u>

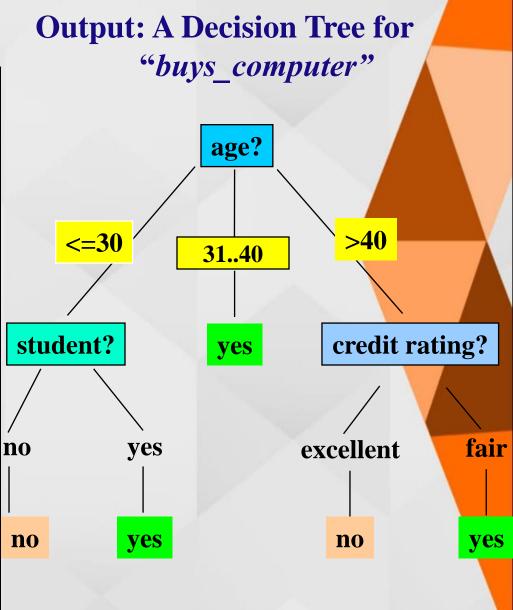
Can be represented by logical formulas



Example of a Decision Tree

Training Dataset

age	income	student	credit_rating	buys_computer
<=30	high	no	fair	no
<=30	high	no	excellent	no
3140	high	no	fair	yes
>40	medium	no	fair	yes
>40	low	yes	fair	yes
>40	low	yes	excellent	no
3140	low	yes	excellent	yes
<=30	medium	no	fair	no
<=30	low	yes	fair	yes
>40	medium	yes	fair	yes
<=30	medium	yes	excellent	yes
3140	medium	no	excellent	yes
3140	high	yes	fair	yes
>40	medium	no	excellent	no



Extracting Classification Rules from Trees

- Represent the knowledge in the form of IF-THEN rules
- One rule is created for each path from the root to a leaf
- Each attribute-value pair along a path forms a conjunction
- The leaf node holds the class prediction
- Rules are easier for humans to understand
- Example

```
IF age = "<=30" AND student = "no" THEN buys_computer = "no"

IF age = "<=30" AND student = "yes" THEN buys_computer = "yes"

IF age = "31...40" THEN buys_computer = "yes"

IF age = ">40" AND credit_rating = "excellent" THEN buys_computer = "yes"

IF age = "<=30" AND credit_rating = "fair" THEN buys_computer = "no"
```



Example of a Decision Tree

categorical continuous

ID	Home Owner	Marital Status	Annual Income	Defaulted Borrower
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

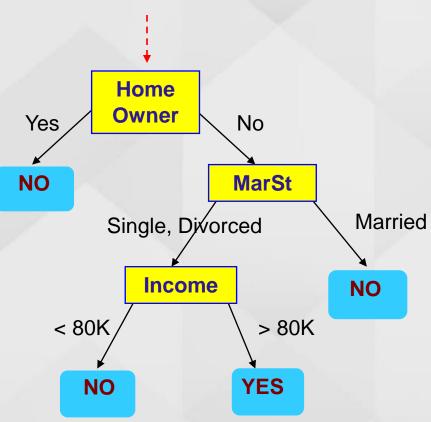
Splitting Attrib **Home Owner** No **MarSt** Married Single, Divorced Income NO > 80K < 80kYES NO

Training Data

Model: Decision Tree

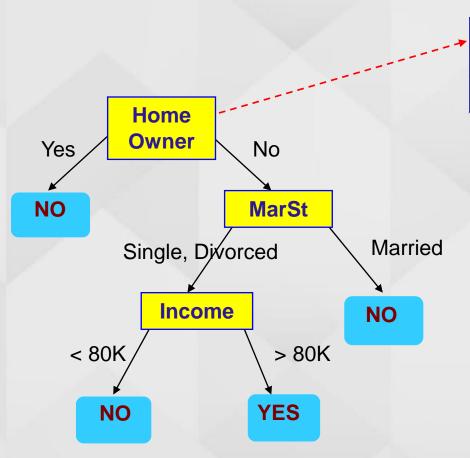


Start from the root of tree.



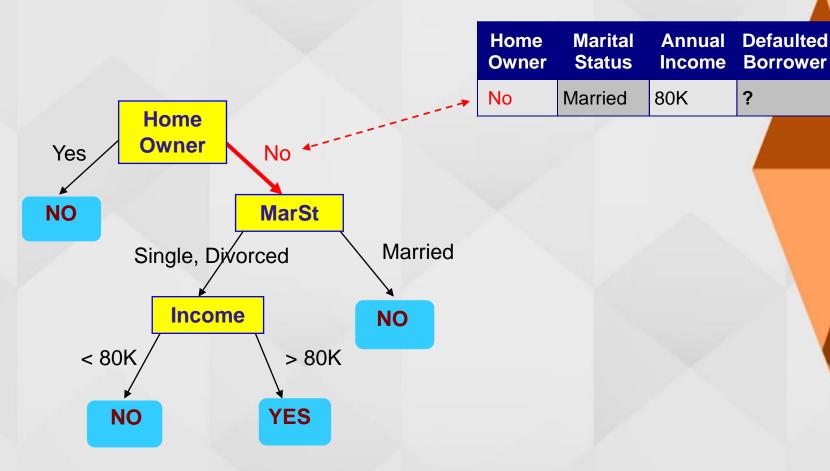
			Defaulted Borrower
No	Married	80K	?



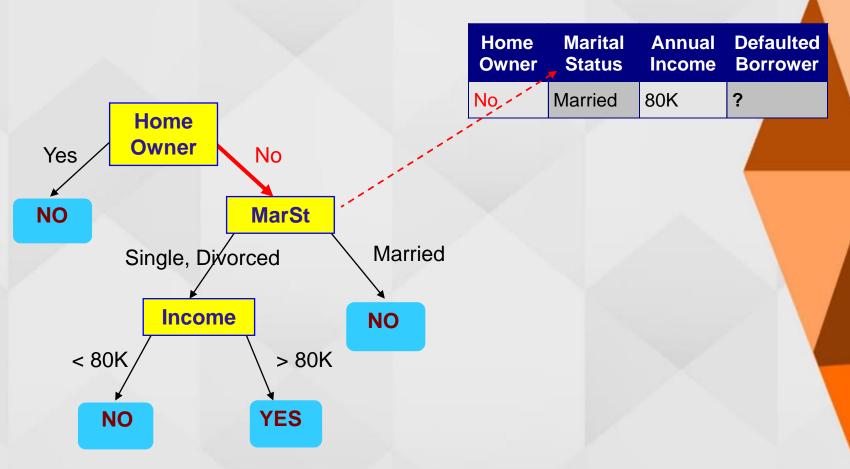


			Defaulted Borrower
No	Married	80K	?

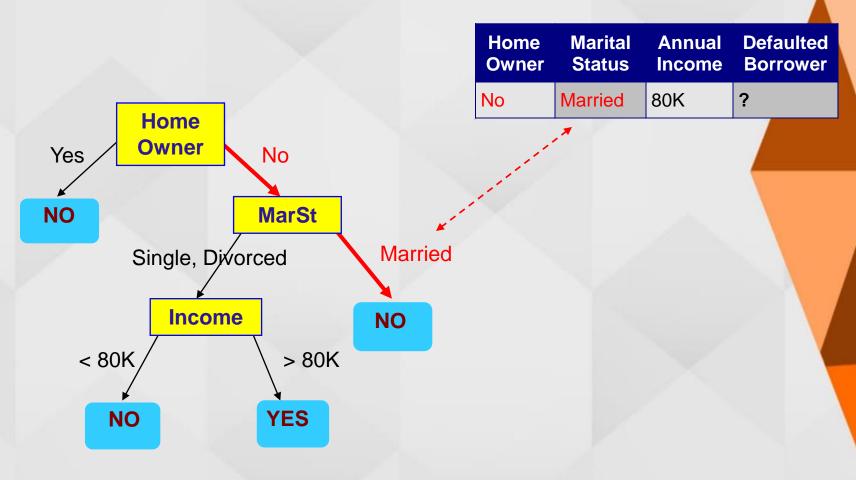




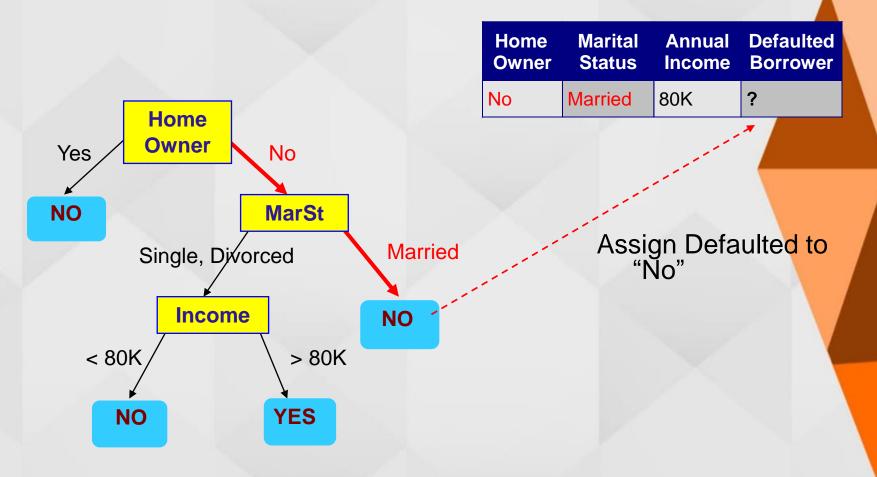










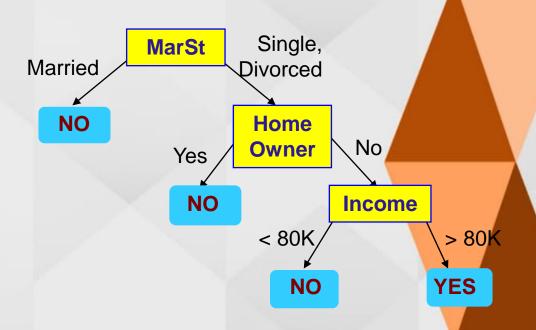




Another Example of Decision Tree

categorical continuous

ID	Home Owner	Marital Status	Annual Income	Defaulted Borrower
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



There could be more than one tree that fits the same data!



Decision Tree Classification Task

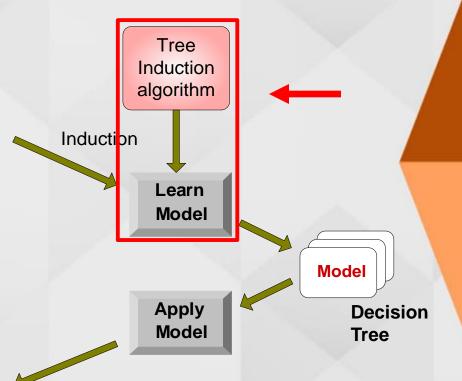
Deduction

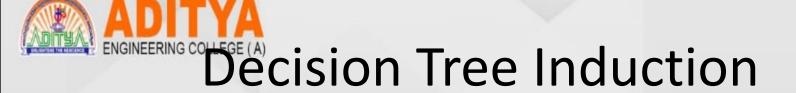


Training Set

Tid	Attrib1	Attrib2	Attrib3	Class
11	No	Small	55K	?
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Test Set



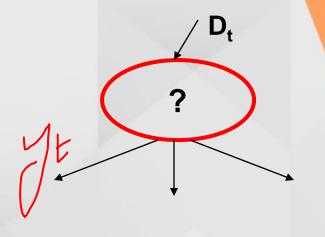


- Many Algorithms:
 - Hunt's Algorithm (one of the earliest)
 - CART
 - ID3, C4.5
 - SLIQ, SPRINT

General Structure of Hunt's Algorithm

- Let D_t be the 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 contains records that belong to more than one class, use an attribute test to split the data into smaller subsets. Recursively apply the procedure to each subset.

				Y_	ነ
	ID	Home Owner	Marital Status	Annual Income	Defaulted Borrower
/	1	Yes	Single	125K	No _
	2	No	Married	100K	No /
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\supset	4	Yes	Married	120K	No
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	10	No	Single	90K	Yes⁄





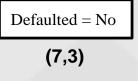
Defaulted = No

(7,3)

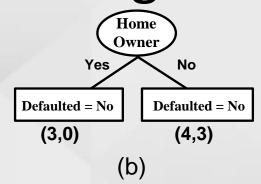
(a)

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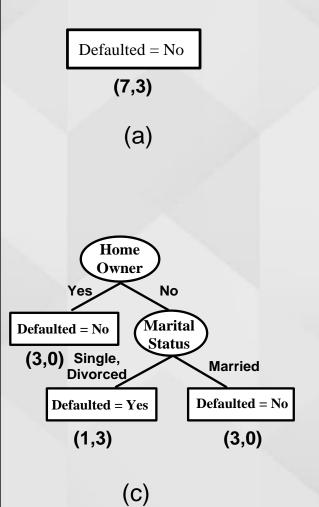


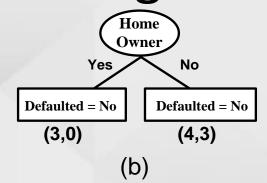
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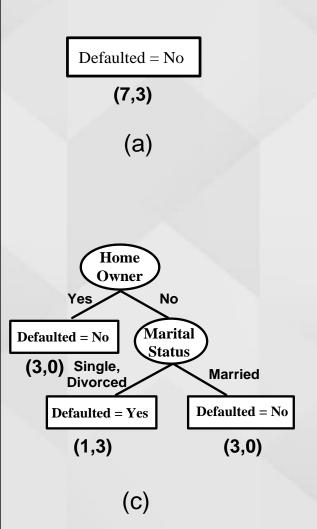


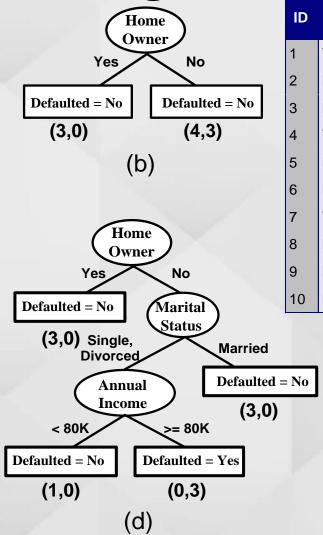




	•			
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				100
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Design Issues of Decision Tree Induction

- ☐ How should training records be split?
 - Method for expressing test condition
 - depending on attribute types
 - Measure for evaluating the goodness of a test condition
- Conditions for stopping partitioning
 - All samples for a given node belong to the same class
 - There are no remaining attributes for further partitioning majority voting is employed for classifying the leaf
 - There are no samples left



Methods for Expressing Test Conditions

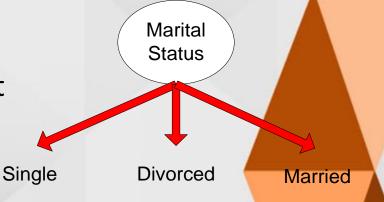
- ☐ Depends on attribute types
 - -Binary
 - -Nominal
 - -Ordinal
 - -Continuous



Test Condition for Nominal Attributes

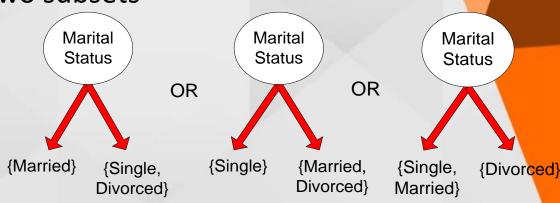
☐ Multi-way split:

Use as many partitions as distinct values.



☐ Binary split:

Divides values into two subsets





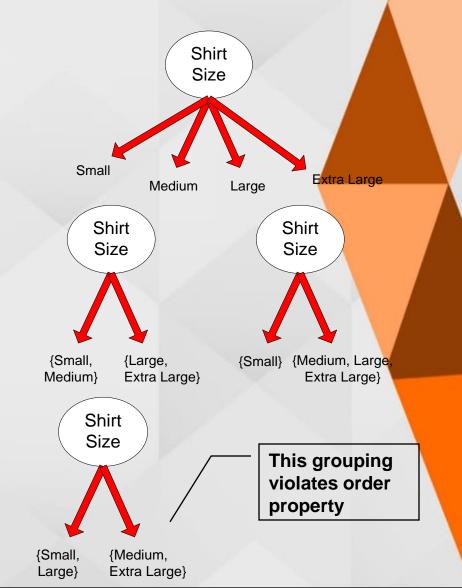
Test Condition for Ordinal Attributes

☐ Multi-way split:

Use as many partitions as distinct values

☐ Binary split:

- Divides values into two subsets
- Preserve order property among attribute values

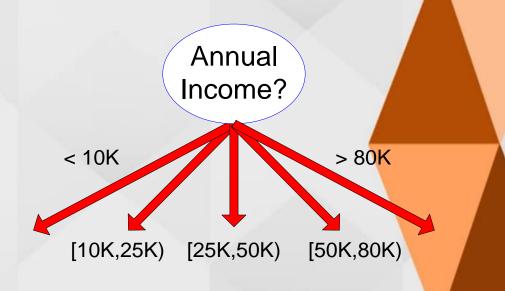




Test Condition for Continuous Attributes



(i) Binary split



(ii) Multi-way split



Splitting Based on Continuous Attributes

- Different ways of handling
 - Discretization to form an ordinal categorical attribute
 Ranges can be found by equal interval bucketing, equal frequency bucketing (percentiles), or clustering.
 - Static discretize once at the beginning
 - Dynamic repeat at each node
 - Binary Decision: (A < v) or $(A \ge v)$
 - consider all possible splits and finds the best cut
 - can be more compute intensive

Attribute Selection Measure: (Measures for selecting Best Split) Information Gain (ID3/C4.5)

- ID3 uses information gain as its attribute selection measure.
- Select the attribute with the highest information gain
- information measures info required to classify any arbitrary tuple

$$Info(D) = -\sum_{i=1}^{m} p_i \log_2(p_i),$$

where p_i is the nonzero probability that an arbitrary tuple in D belongs to class C_i and is estimated by $|C_{i,D}|/|D|$.

entropy of attribute A with values {a1,a2,....a_v}

$$Info_A(D) = \sum_{j=1}^{\nu} \frac{|D_j|}{|D|} \times Info(D_j).$$

information gained by branching on attribute A

$$Gain(A) = Info(D) - Info_A(D).$$

Attribute Selection by Information Gain Computation

- Class P: buys_computer = "yes"
- Class N: buys_computer = "no"
- I(p, n) = I(9, 5) = 0.940
- Compute the entropy for age:

age	p _i	n _i	I(p _i , n _i)
<=30	2	3	0.971
3040	4	0	0
>40	3	2	0.971

age	income	student	credit_rating	buys_computer
<=30	high	no	fair	no
<=30	high	no	excellent	no
3140	high	no	fair	yes
>40	medium	no	fair	yes
>40	low	yes	fair	yes
>40	low	yes	excellent	no
3140	low	yes	excellent	yes
<=30	medium	no	fair	no
<=30	low	yes	fair	yes
>40	medium	yes	fair	yes
<=30	medium	yes	excellent	yes
3140	medium	no	excellent	yes
3140	high	yes	fair	yes
>40	medium	no	excellent	no

$$E(age) = \frac{5}{14}I(2,3) + \frac{4}{14}I(4,0) + \frac{5}{14}I(3,2) = 0.694$$

$$\frac{5}{14}I(2,3)$$
 means "age <=30" has 5 out of 14 samples, with 2 yes'es and 3 no's. Hence

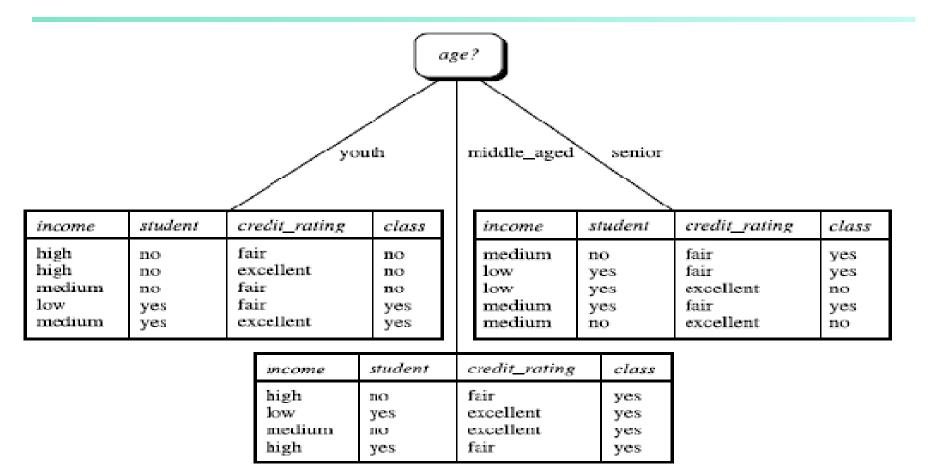
$$Gain(age) = I(p,n) - E(age) = 0.246$$

Similarly,

$$Gain(income) = 0.029$$

 $Gain(student) = 0.151$
 $Gain(credit_rating) = 0.048$

Because age has the highest information gain among the attributes, it is selected as the splitting attribute.



The attribute age has the highest information gain and therefore becomes the splitting attribute at the root node of the decision tree. Branches are grown for each outcome of age. The tuples are shown partitioned accordingly.

GAIN RATIO

C4.5, a successor of ID3, uses an extension to information gain known as gain ratio

Gain ratio (Att) =
$$\frac{\text{Gain (Att)}}{\text{Split Information (Att)}}$$

$$SplitInfo_A(D) = -\sum_{j=1}^{\nu} \frac{|D_j|}{|D|} \times \log_2 \left(\frac{|D_j|}{|D|}\right).$$

The attribute with the maximum gain ratio is selected as the splitting attribute.

Computation of gain ratio for the attribute income. A test on income splits the data of Table 8.1 into three partitions, namely low, medium, and high, containing four, six, and four tuples, respectively. To compute the gain ratio of income, we first use Eq. (8.5) to obtain

$$SplitInfo_{income}(D) = -\frac{4}{14} \times \log_2\left(\frac{4}{14}\right) - \frac{6}{14} \times \log_2\left(\frac{6}{14}\right) - \frac{4}{14} \times \log_2\left(\frac{4}{14}\right)$$
$$= 1.557.$$

From Example 8.1, we have Gain(income) = 0.029. Therefore, GainRatio(income) = 0.029/1.557 = 0.019.

Other Attribute Selection Measures

- Gini index (CART, IBM IntelligentMiner)
 - The Gini index is used in CART
 - All attributes are assumed continuous-valued
 - Assume there exist several possible split values for each attribute
 - May need other tools, such as clustering, to get the possible split values
 - Can be modified for categorical attributes

Gini Index (IBM IntelligentMiner)

- If a data set T contains examples from n classes, gini index, gini(T) is defined as $gini(T) = 1 \sum_{j=1}^{n} p_{j}^{2}$
 - where p_j is the relative frequency of class j in T.
- If a data set T is split into two subsets T_1 and T_2 with sizes N_1 and N_2 respectively, the *gini* index of the split data contains examples from n classes, the *gini* index *gini*(T) is defined as

$$gini_{split}(T) = \frac{N_1}{N}gini(T_1) + \frac{N_2}{N}gini(T_2)$$

• The attribute provides the smallest $gini_{split}(T)$ is chosen to split the node (need to enumerate all possible splitting points for each attribute).

Gini Index (IBM IntelligentMiner)

Induction of a decision tree using the Gini index. Let D be the training data shown earlier in Table 8.1, where there are nine tuples belonging to the class $buys_computer = yes$ and the remaining five tuples belong to the class $buys_computer = no$. A (root) node N is created for the tuples in D. We first use Eq. (8.7) for the Gini index to compute the impurity of D:

$$Gini(D) = 1 - \left(\frac{9}{14}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{5}{14}\right)^2 = 0.459.$$

Measure of Impurity: GINI

• Gini Index for a given node t:

Gini Index =
$$1 - \sum_{i=0}^{c-1} p_i(t)^2$$

- For 2-class problem (p, 1 p):
 - GINI = $1 p^2 (1 p)^2 = 2p (1-p)$

C1	0	
C2	6	
Gini=0.000		

C1	1	
C2	5	
Gini=0.278		

C1	2	
C2	4	
Gini=0.444		

C1	3	
C2	3	
Gini=0.500		

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Computing Gini Index of a Single Node c^{-1}

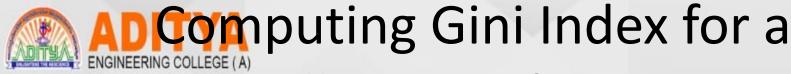
Gini Index =
$$1 - \sum_{i=0}^{c-1} p_i(t)^2$$

C1	0
C2	6

$$P(C1) = 0/6 = 0$$
 $P(C2) = 6/6 = 1$
 $Gini = 1 - P(C1)^2 - P(C2)^2 = 1 - 0 - 1 = 0$

P(C1) =
$$1/6$$
 P(C2) = $5/6$
Gini = $1 - (1/6)^2 - (5/6)^2 = 0.278$

P(C1) =
$$2/6$$
 P(C2) = $4/6$
Gini = $1 - (2/6)^2 - (4/6)^2 = 0.444$



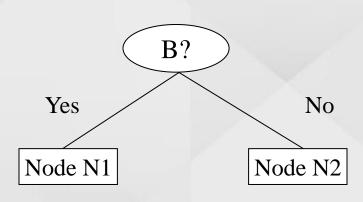
Collection of Nodes

When a node p is split into k partitions (children)

$$GINI_{split} = \sum_{i=1}^{k} \frac{n_i}{n} GINI(i)$$

where, n_i = number of records at child i, n = number of records at parent node p.

- Splits into two partitions (child nodes)
- Effect of Weighing partitions:
 - Larger and purer partitions are sought



	Parent
C1	7
C2	5
Gini	= 0.486

Gini(N1)

$$= 1 - (5/6)^2 - (1/6)^2$$

= 0.278

Gini(N2)

$$= 1 - (2/6)^2 - (4/6)^2$$

= 0.444

	N1	N2
C1	5	2
C2	1	4
Gini=0.361		

Weighted Gini of N1 N2

$$= 0.361$$

$$Gain = 0.486 - 0.361 = 0.125$$

- ☐ For each distinct value, gather counts for each class in the dataset
- □ Use the count matrix to make decisions

Multi-way split

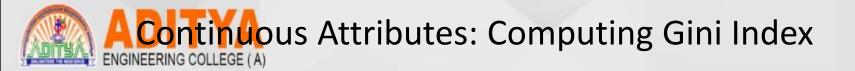
	CarType			
	Family Sports Luxury			
C1	1	8	1	
C2	3	0	7	
Gini	0.163			

Two-way split (find best partition of values)

	CarType		
	{Sports, Luxury} {Family}		
C1	9	1	
C2	7	3	
Gini	0.468		

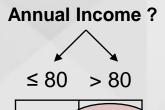
	CarType		
	{Sports} {Family, Luxury}		
C1	8	2	
C2	0	10	
Gini	0.167		

Which of these is the best?



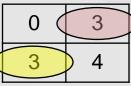
- ☐ Use Binary Decisions based on one value
- ☐ Several Choices for the splitting value
 - Number of possible splitting values
 Number of distinct values
- ☐ Each splitting value has a count matrix associated with it
 - Class counts in each of the partitions, A≤ v and A > v
- Simple method to choose best v
 - For each v, scan the database to gather count matrix and compute its Gini index
 - Computationally Inefficient! Repetition of work.

ID	Home Owner	Marital Status	Annual Income	Defaulted	
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	



Defaulted Yes

Defaulted No



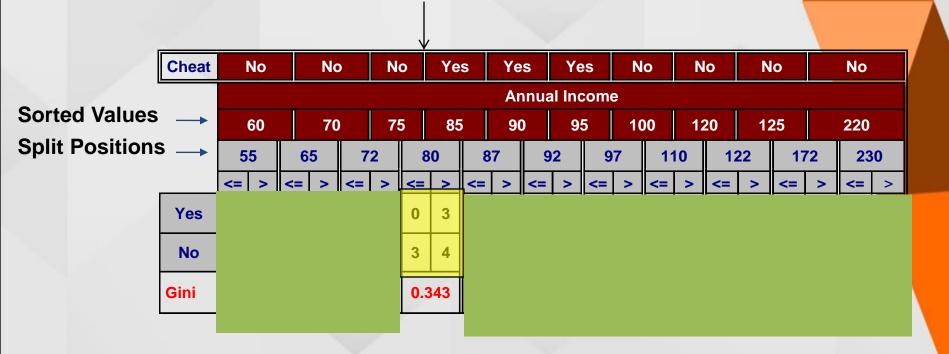
- ☐ For efficient computation: for each attribute,
 - Sort the attribute on values
 - Linearly scan these values, each time updating the count matrix and computing gini index
 - Choose the split position that has the least gini index

	Cheat	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
						Annua	al Incom	е			
Sorted Values		60	70	75	85	90	95	100	120	125	220

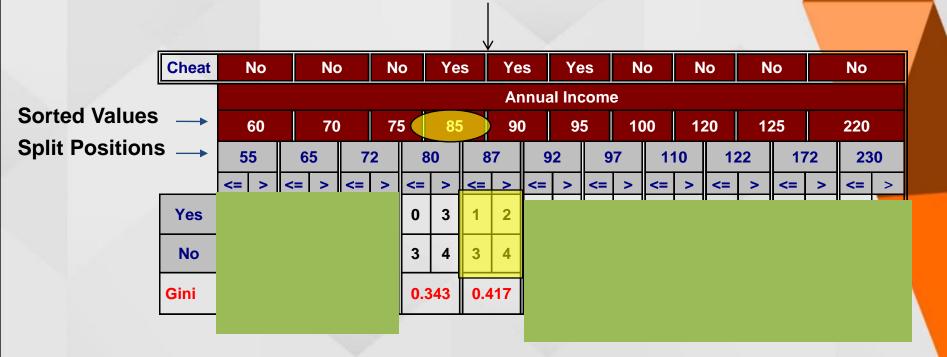
- ☐ For efficient computation: for each attribute,
 - Sort the attribute on values
 - Linearly scan these values, each time updating the count matrix and computing gini index
 - Choose the split position that has the least gini index

	Cheat	No	No	N	ο Υε	es Ye	es Ye	es N	o N	lo	No	No
0.4.17.1						Aı	nnual In	come				
Sorted Values		60	70	7	5 8	5 9	0 9	5 10	00 1	20	125	220
Split Positions	3 →	55	65	72	80	87	92	97	110	122	172	230
		<= >	<= >	<= >	<= >	<= >	<= >	<= >	<= >	<= >	<=	> <= >

- ☐ For efficient computation: for each attribute,
 - Sort the attribute on values
 - Linearly scan these values, each time updating the count matrix and computing gini index
 - Choose the split position that has the least gini index



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	Cheat		No		No		N	0	Ye	s	Ye	s	Υe	es	N	0	N	lo	N	lo		No	
Cartad Values											Ar	nua	l Inc	com	e								
Sorted Values			60		70		7	5	85	;	90)	9	5	10	00	12	20	12	25		220	
Split Positions	3 →	5	5	6	5	7.	2	8	0	8	7	9	2	9	7	11	0	12	22	17	72	23	0
		<=	>	<=	>	<=	>	<=	>	<=	>	<=	>	<=	>	<=	>	<=	>	\=	>	\=	>
	Yes	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	3	1	2	2	1	3	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	3	0
	No	0	7	1	6	2	5	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4	4	3	5	2	6	1	7	0
	Gini	0.4	20	0.4	00	0.3	75	0.3	43	0.4	17	0.4	100	<u>0.3</u>	<u>300</u>	0.3	43	0.3	375	0.4	100	0.4	20



Decision Trees



Given distribution
Of training instances
Draw axis parallel
Lines to separate the
Instances of each class

Attribute 1

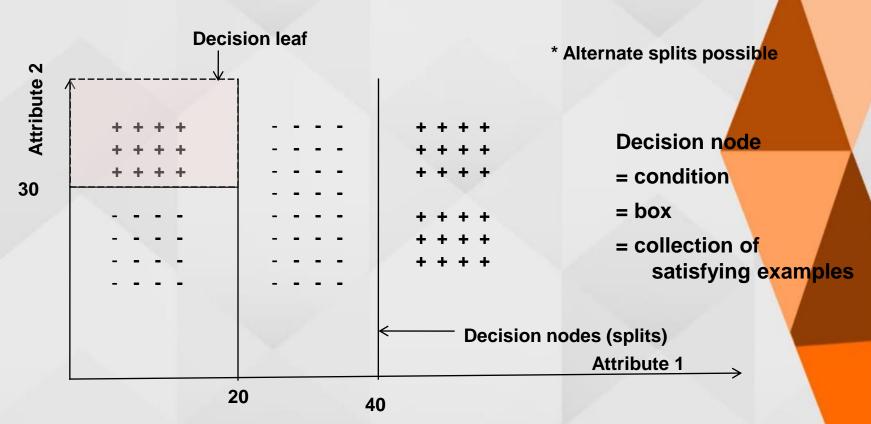


Decision Tree Structure





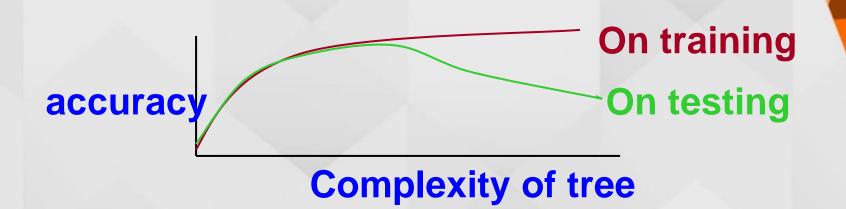
Decision Tree Structure





Overfitting the Data

- Learning a tree that classifies the training data perfectly may not lead to the tree with the best generalization performance.
 - There may be noise in the training data the tree is fitting
 - The algorithm might be making decisions based on very little data
- A hypothesis h is said to overfit the training data if the is another hypothesis, h', such that h has smaller error than h' on the training data but h has larger error on the test data than h'.





Overfitting



A very deep tree required
To fit just one odd training
example

Attribute 1



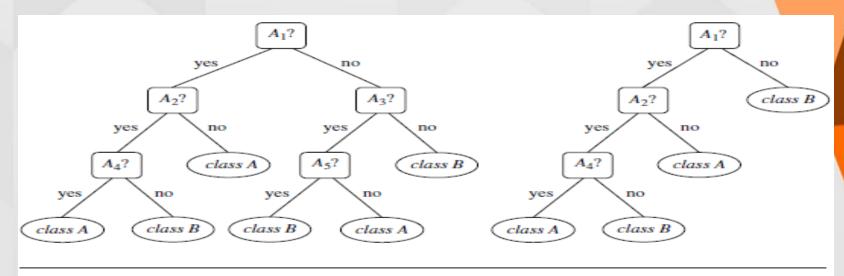
When to stop splitting further?





Avoiding Overfitting

- Two basic approaches
 - Prepruning: Stop growing the tree at some point during construction when it is determined that there is not enough data to make reliable choices.
 - Postpruning: Grow the full tree and then remove nodes that seem not to have sufficient evidence. (more popular)



An unpruned decision tree and a pruned version of it.

Approaches to Determine the Final Tree Size

- Use hold out, Separate training (2/3) and testing (1/3) sets
- Use cross validation, e.g., 10-fold cross validation
- Use all the data for training
 - but apply a statistical test (e.g., chi-square) to estimate whether expanding or pruning a node may improve the entire distribution
- Use Bootstrap, the given training tuples uniformly with replacement.

Classification in Large Databases

- Classification—a classical problem extensively studied by statisticians and machine learning researchers
- Scalability: Classifying data sets with millions of examples and hundreds of attributes with reasonable speed
- Why decision tree induction in data mining?
 - relatively faster learning speed (than other classification methods)
 - convertible to simple and easy to understand classification rules
 - can use SQL queries for accessing databases
 - comparable classification accuracy with other methods

Scalable Decision Tree Induction Methods in Data Mining

- SLIQ (EDBT'96 Mehta et al.)
 - builds an index for each attribute and only class list and the current attribute list reside in memory
- SPRINT (VLDB'96 J. Shafer et al.)
 - constructs an attribute list data structure
- PUBLIC (VLDB'98 Rastogi & Shim)
 - integrates tree splitting and tree pruning: stop growing the tree earlier
- RainForest (VLDB'98 Gehrke, Ramakrishnan & Ganti)
 - separates the scalability aspects from the criteria that determine the quality of the tree
 - builds an AVC-list (attribute, value, class label)
- BOAT (PODS'99 Gehrke, Ganti, Ramakrishnan & Loh)
 - -Uses bootstrapping to create several small samples.

Scalability Framework for RainForest

- Separates the scalability aspects from the criteria that determine the quality of the tree
- Builds an AVC-list: AVC (Attribute, Value, Class_label)
- AVC-set (of an attribute X)
 - Projection of training dataset onto the attribute X and class label where counts of individual class label are aggregated
- AVC-group (of a node n)
 - Set of AVC-sets of all predictor attributes at the node n

	_			_
age	income	student	credit_rating	buys_computer
<=30	high	no	fair	no
<=30	high	no	excellent	no
3140	high	no	fair	yes
>40	medium	no	fair	yes
>40	low	yes	fair	yes
>40	low	yes	excellent	no
3140	low	yes	excellent	yes
<=30	medium	no	fair	no
<=30	low	yes	fair	yes
>40	medium	yes	fair	yes
<=30	medium	yes	excellent	yes
3140	medium	no	excellent	yes
3140	high	yes	fair	yes
>40	medium	no	excellent	no

	buys_computer						
age	yes	no					
youth middle_aged	2 4	3					
senior	3	2					

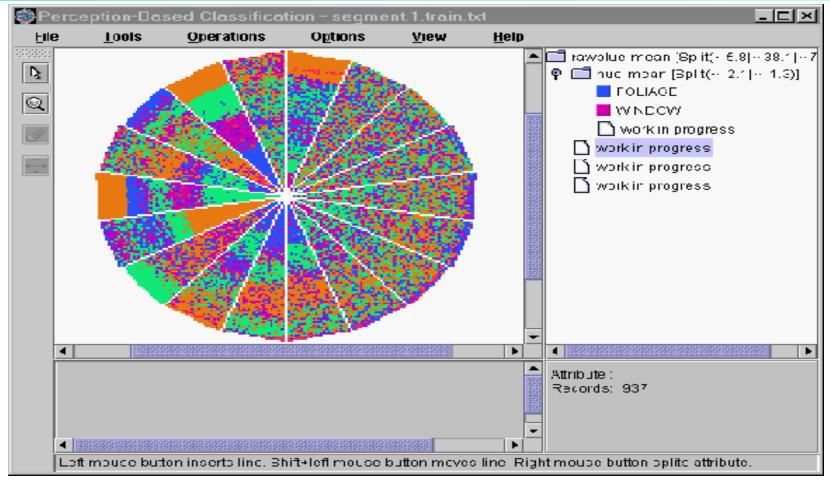
	buys_computer				
income	yes	no			
low medium high	3 4 2	1 2 2			

	buys_computer						
student	yes	no					
yes no	6	1 4					

	buys_computer						
credit_ratting	yes	no					
fair excellent	6	2 3					

The use of data structures to hold aggregate information regarding the training data (e.g., these AVC-sets describing Table 8.1's data) are one approach to improving the scalability of decision tree induction.

Interactive Visual Mining by Perception-Based Classification (PBC)



A screenshot of PBC, a system for interactive decision tree construction. Multidimensional training data are viewed as circle segments in the Data Interaction window (*left*). The Knowledge Interaction window (*right*) displays the current decision tree.

Perception-Based Classification (PBC)

- PBC uses a pixel-oriented approach to view multidimensional data with its class label information.
- The PBC system displays a split screen, consisting of a Data Interaction window and a Knowledge Interaction window.
- The Data Interaction window displays the circle segments of the data under examination, while the Knowledge Interaction window displays the decision tree constructed so far.
- Initially, the complete training set is visualized in the Data Interaction window, while the Knowledge Interaction window displays an empty decision tree.
- A tree is interactively constructed as follows.
- The user visualizes the multidimensional data in the Data Interaction window and selects a splitting attribute and one or more split-points.
- The current decision tree in the Knowledge Interaction window is expanded.
- The user selects a node of the decision tree. The user may either assign a class label to the node (which makes the node a leaf) or request the visualization of the training data corresponding to the node.
- This leads to a new visualization of every attribute except the ones used for splitting criteria on the same path from the root.
- The interactive process continues until a class has been assigned to each leaf of the decision tree.