

Decision Trees

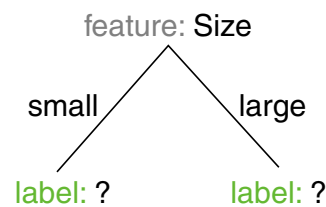
Exercise 1 : Impurity

- (a) Verify that the arguments $\frac{|\{(x, c_1) \in D\}|}{|D|}, \dots, \frac{|\{(x, c_k) \in D\}|}{|D|}$ of the impurity function indeed form a $k - 1$ -simplex.
- (b) Consider the arg min of a impurity function ι from the definition of impurity functions. For which D is $\iota(\frac{|\{(x, c_1) \in D\}|}{|D|}, \dots, \frac{|\{(x, c_k) \in D\}|}{|D|})$ minimal?

Exercise 2 : Cost functions

Consider the set of training examples describing mushrooms, and the simple one-level decision tree given below:

	Color	Size	Points	Edibility
1	red	small	yes	toxic
2	brown	small	no	edible
3	brown	large	yes	edible
4	green	small	no	edible
5	red	large	no	edible



- (a) Determine the labels of all nodes using the cost function $cost(c', c)$ (cf. ML:VI-36):

$$cost(c', c) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } c' \neq c, c \in C \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- (b) Devise a new cost function that ensures that, for the same tree structure, none of the poisonous mushrooms in the training set are classified as edible.
- (c) Compute the misclassification costs of the tree for both cost functions.

Exercise 3 : Decision Trees (Background)

- (a) For the construction of a decision tree almost always a top-down greedy search in the hypothesis space is employed. Explain the term Greedy Search (synonymously: search with a greedy strategy). What are its advantages and what are its disadvantages? When is a greedy strategy useful? Which alternative strategies exist?
- (b) The inductive bias of the Candidate Elimination algorithm is based on a different mechanism than the inductive bias of the ID3 algorithm. Compare both mechanisms.