

# Decision Trees

Applied machine learning (EDAN95)

Lecture 03 — Decision Trees

2019-11-11

Elin A. Topp

Goodfellow chapter 3, Géron chapter on DTs

Information Gain lecture of F. Aiolli: <https://www.math.unipd.it/~aiolli/corsi/0708/IR/Lez12.pdf>

various sources

# Today's agenda

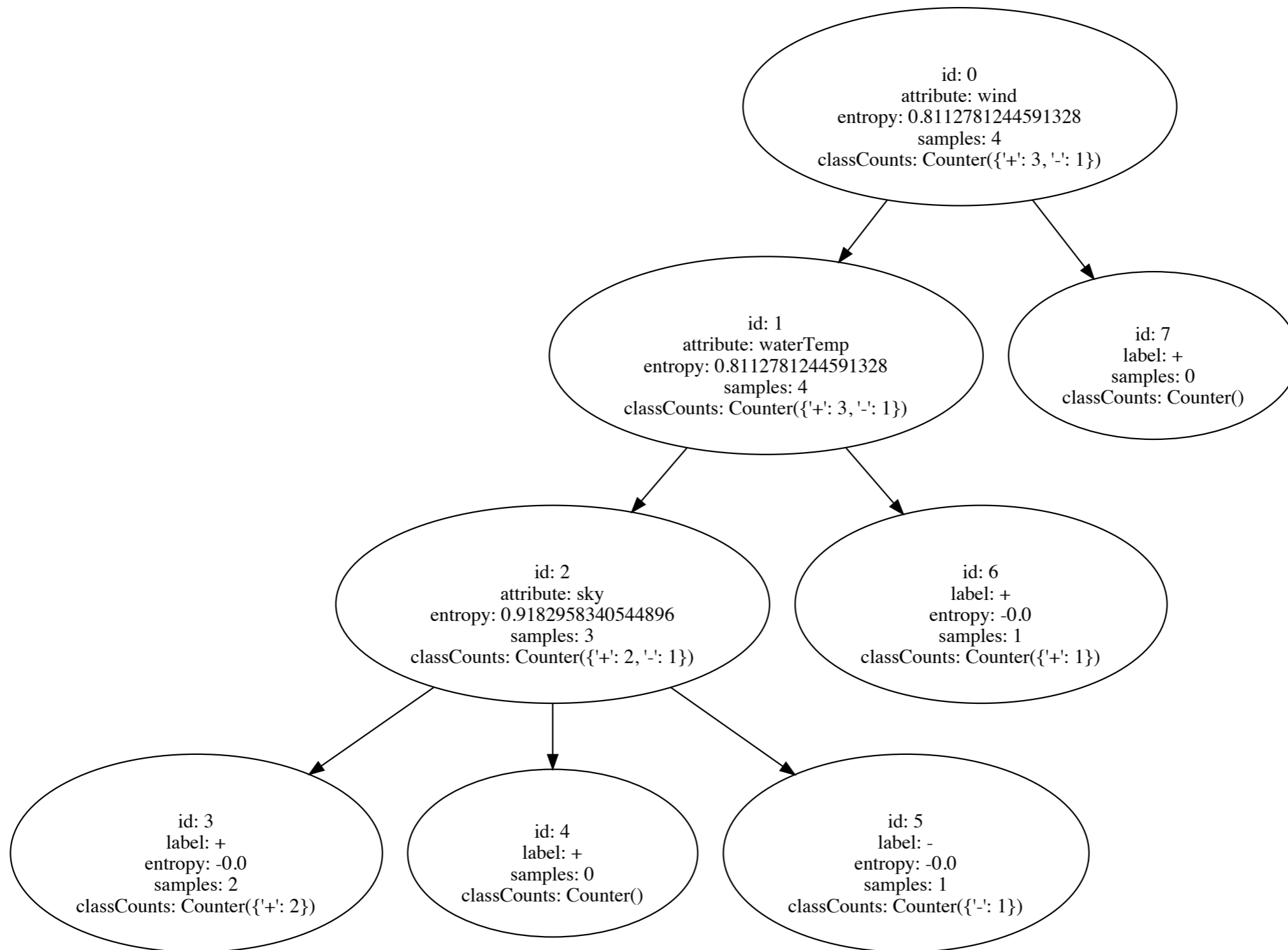
- Decision Trees
- (Recap) Information theory (Goodfellow chapter 3) and some Probability Theory
- Metrics (outlook)

# Revisiting the concept learning problem

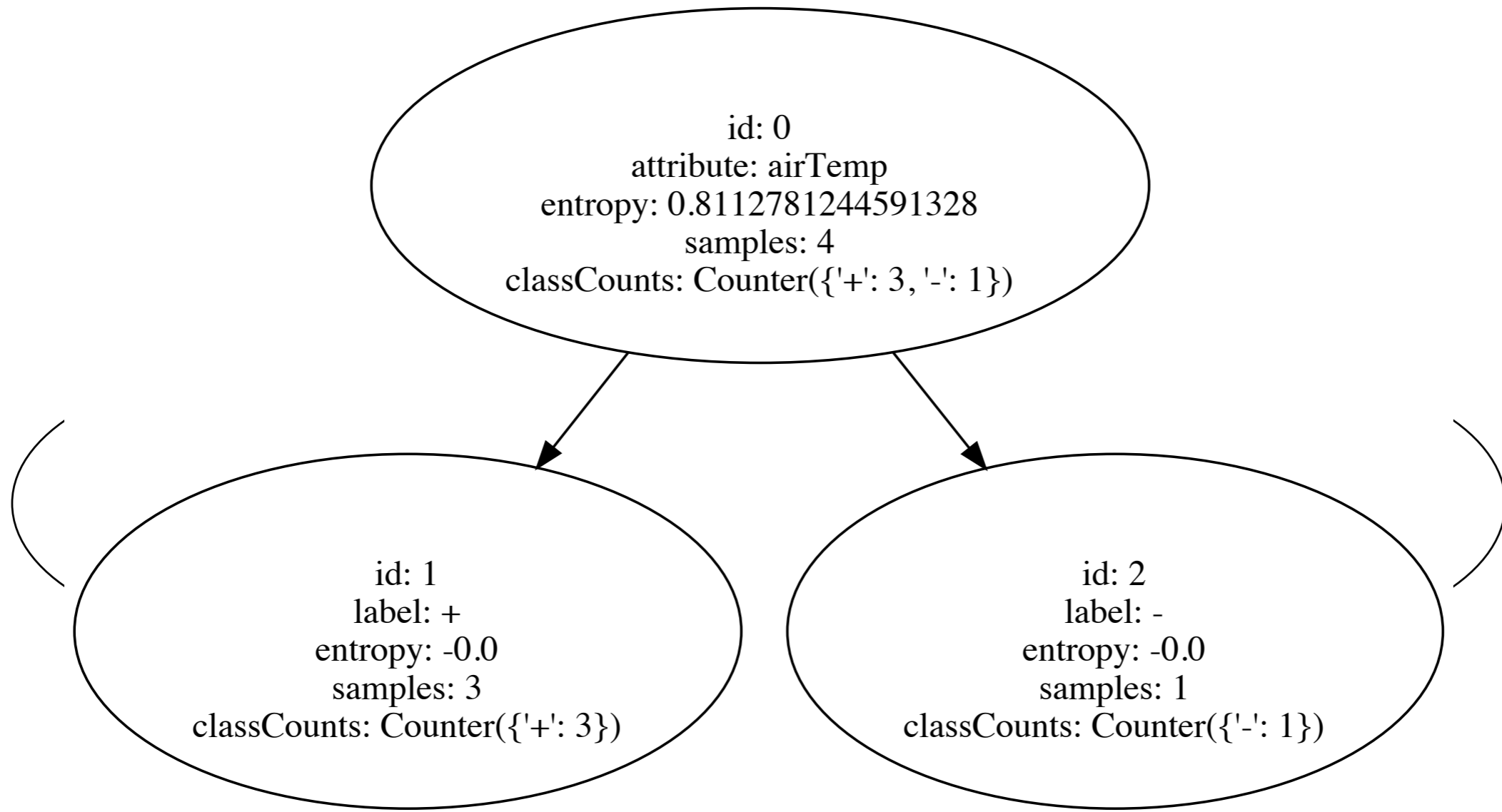
| <b>Example</b> | <b>Wind</b> | <b>AirTemp</b> | <b>Humidity</b> | <b>Water</b> | <b>Sky</b> | <b>Forecast</b> | <b>EnjoySport?</b> |
|----------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| <b>1</b>       | Strong      | Warm           | Normal          | Warm         | Sunny      | Same            | Yes                |
| <b>2</b>       | Strong      | Warm           | High            | Warm         | Sunny      | Same            | Yes                |
| <b>3</b>       | Strong      | Cold           | High            | Warm         | Rainy      | Change          | No                 |
| <b>4</b>       | Strong      | Warm           | High            | Cool         | Sunny      | Change          | Yes                |

- We can make the decision based on a Decision Tree.
- Go through the examples attribute by attribute and split the data into subsets according to their attribute value
- Stop, when there are no more attributes to test or a sample set is “pure” (only contains examples of one class)

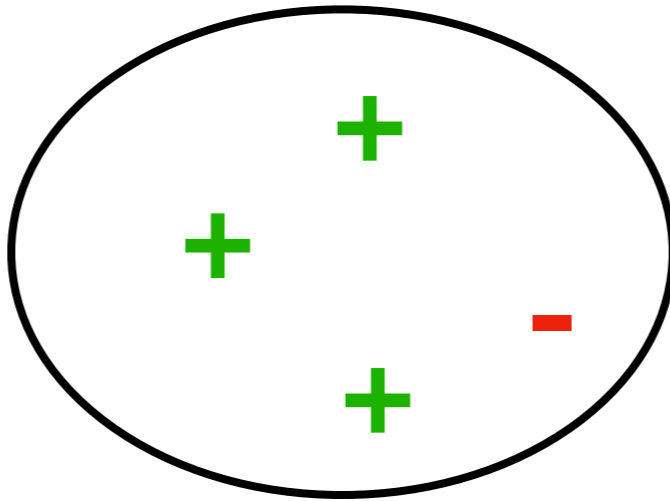
# The “concept decision tree” (?)



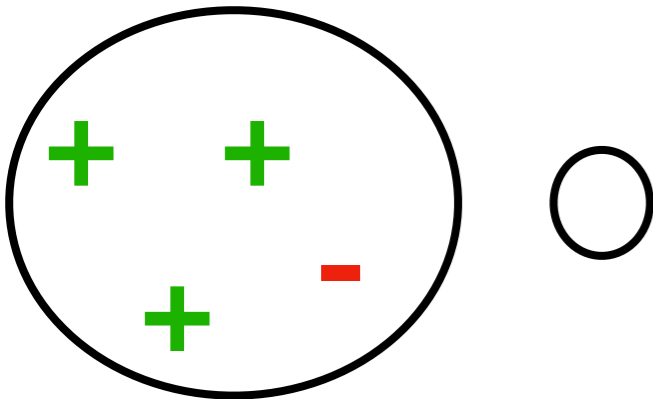
# Can we do better?



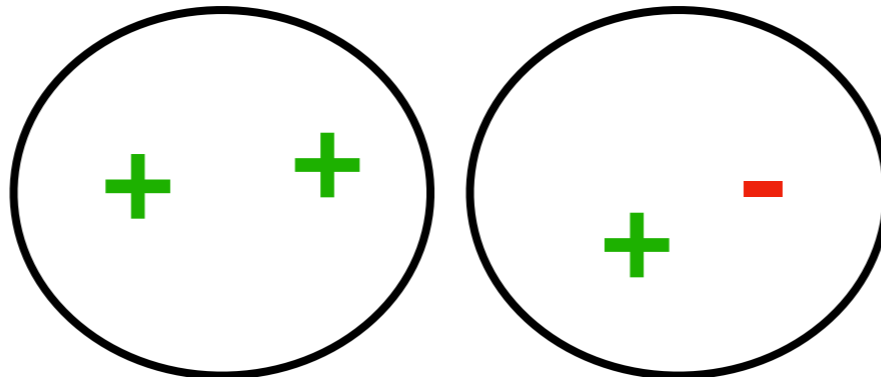
# Information Gain intuitively



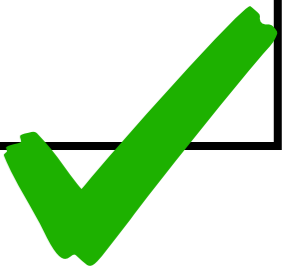
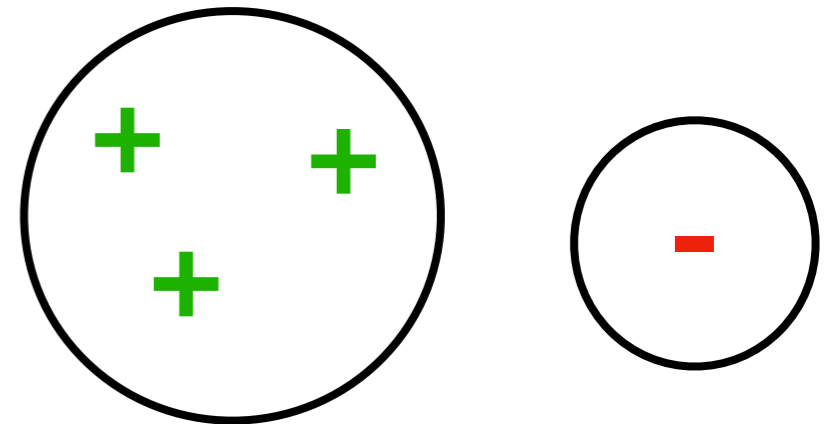
Wind



Forecast



AirTemp



# Probability and Information Theory

- Goodfellow, chapter 3
  - Probability basics and Information Theory (entropy, information gain, impurity) (this lecture)
  - More probabilistic representation (uncertainty) and graphical models → Lecture 10/11
- Other material:
  - Russel, Norvig, AI - A modern Approach, chapters 13/14/15
  - EDAF70, Lecture slides on Probabilistic Representation VT2018/VT2019
  - Murphy, Machine Learning - A Probabilistic Approach
  - Géron, Hands-on ML, Material on Github (see Lab 1) (spec Decision Trees)

# Finding the best split attribute

- Maximising Information Gain (standard for ID3)
  - Finding (over the possible splits) the highest possible reduction of entropy between the current node (data set) and its children (the data subsets), if this split were chosen
  - Entropy (Information)  $I(S)$  of a data set  $S$  with elements belonging to  $K$  classes  $class_i$  and  $p(class_i)$  the probability of observing  $class_i$  in  $S$ :

$$I(S) = - \sum_i^K p(class_i) \cdot \log_2(p(class_i))$$

- The Information Gain  $G(S,A)$  of a split of  $S$  at Attribute  $A$  is then the reduction in entropy we get as the difference between the current entropy  $I(S)$  and the entropies of the subsets ( $S_v$ ) over the different values of  $A$ , weighted by the proportion of samples ending up in the respective subset

$$G(S,A) = I(S) - \sum_{v \in \text{values}(A)} \frac{|S_v|}{|S|} I(S_v)$$

- Minimising Gini Impurity (standard for CART implementation in SciKitLearn)
  - for set  $S$  with  $K$  classes and  $p_i$  the probability for  $class_i$

$$I_{Gini}(S) = \sum_{i=1}^K p_i \sum_{j \neq i} p_j = \sum_{i=1}^K p_i (1 - p_i) = \sum_{i=1}^K (p_i - p_i^2) = \sum_{i=1}^K p_i - \sum_{i=1}^K p_i^2 = 1 - \sum_{i=1}^K p_i^2$$



# Information Gain example

| Colour | Size  | Shape     | edible? |
|--------|-------|-----------|---------|
| yellow | small | round     | +       |
| yellow | small | round     | -       |
| green  | small | irregular | +       |
| green  | large | irregular | -       |
| yellow | large | round     | +       |
| yellow | small | round     | +       |
| yellow | small | round     | +       |
| yellow | small | round     | +       |
| green  | small | round     | -       |
| yellow | large | round     | -       |
| yellow | large | round     | +       |
| yellow | large | round     | -       |
| yellow | large | round     | -       |
| yellow | large | round     | -       |
| yellow | small | irregular | +       |
| yellow | large | irregular | +       |

- 16 items in  $S$
- 9 items belong to class '+', 7 to '-'
- Entropy in  $S$  (using proportions as probabilities)

$$\begin{aligned}
 I(S) &= - \sum_i^K p(\text{class}_i) \cdot \log_2(p(\text{class}_i)) \\
 &= - \left( \frac{9}{16} \cdot \log_2 \left( \frac{9}{16} \right) + \frac{7}{16} \cdot \log_2 \left( \frac{7}{16} \right) \right) \\
 &\approx 0.9887
 \end{aligned}$$

- Three attributes, which splits best?

# Information Gain example

## testing the attributes

| Colour | Size  | Shape     | edible? |
|--------|-------|-----------|---------|
| yellow | small | round     | +       |
| yellow | small | round     | -       |
| green  | small | irregular | +       |
| green  | large | irregular | -       |
| yellow | large | round     | +       |
| yellow | small | round     | +       |
| yellow | small | round     | +       |
| yellow | small | round     | +       |
| green  | small | round     | -       |
| yellow | large | round     | -       |
| yellow | large | round     | +       |
| yellow | large | round     | -       |
| yellow | large | round     | -       |
| yellow | large | round     | -       |
| yellow | small | irregular | +       |
| yellow | large | irregular | +       |

- 13 samples in  $S_{yellow}$ , 3 in  $S_{green}$ .
- In  $S_{yellow}$ , 8 belong to class '+', 5 belong to '-'
- In  $S_{green}$ , 1 belongs to class '+', 2 belong to '-'
- Entropies for  $S_{yellow}$  and  $S_{green}$

$$I(S_{yellow}) = - \left( \frac{8}{13} \cdot \log_2 \left( \frac{8}{13} \right) + \frac{5}{13} \cdot \log_2 \left( \frac{5}{13} \right) \right)$$

$$\approx 0.9612$$

$$I(S_{green}) = - \left( \frac{2}{3} \cdot \log_2 \left( \frac{2}{3} \right) + \frac{1}{3} \cdot \log_2 \left( \frac{1}{3} \right) \right)$$

$$\approx 0.9183$$

- Information Gain:

$$0.9887 - \left( \frac{13}{16} \cdot 0.9612 + \frac{3}{16} \cdot 0.9183 \right) \approx 0.0355$$

# Information Gain example

## testing the attributes

| Colour | Size  | Shape     | edible? |
|--------|-------|-----------|---------|
| yellow | small | round     | +       |
| yellow | small | round     | -       |
| green  | small | irregular | +       |
| green  | large | irregular | -       |
| yellow | large | round     | +       |
| yellow | small | round     | +       |
| yellow | small | round     | +       |
| yellow | small | round     | +       |
| yellow | small | round     | +       |
| green  | small | round     | -       |
| yellow | large | round     | -       |
| yellow | large | round     | +       |
| yellow | large | round     | -       |
| yellow | large | round     | -       |
| yellow | large | round     | -       |
| yellow | small | irregular | +       |
| yellow | large | irregular | +       |

- 8 samples in  $S_{small}$ , 8 in  $S_{large}$ .
- In  $S_{small}$ , 6 belong to class '+', 2 belong to '-'
- In  $S_{large}$ , 3 belong to class '+', 5 belong to '-'
- Entropies for  $S_{small}$  and  $S_{large}$

$$I(S_{small}) = - \left( \frac{6}{8} \cdot \log_2 \left( \frac{6}{8} \right) + \frac{2}{8} \cdot \log_2 \left( \frac{2}{8} \right) \right)$$

$$\approx 0.8113$$

$$I(S_{large}) = - \left( \frac{3}{8} \cdot \log_2 \left( \frac{3}{8} \right) + \frac{5}{8} \cdot \log_2 \left( \frac{5}{8} \right) \right)$$

$$\approx 0.9544$$

- Information Gain:

$$0.9887 - \left( \frac{1}{2} \cdot 0.8113 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 0.9544 \right) \approx 0.1058$$

# Information Gain example

## testing the attributes

| Colour | Size  | Shape     | edible? |
|--------|-------|-----------|---------|
| yellow | small | round     | +       |
| yellow | small | round     | -       |
| green  | small | irregular | +       |
| green  | large | irregular | -       |
| yellow | large | round     | +       |
| yellow | small | round     | +       |
| yellow | small | round     | +       |
| yellow | small | round     | +       |
| green  | small | round     | -       |
| yellow | large | round     | -       |
| yellow | large | round     | +       |
| yellow | large | round     | -       |
| yellow | large | round     | -       |
| yellow | large | round     | -       |
| yellow | small | irregular | +       |
| yellow | large | irregular | +       |

- 12 samples in  $S_{round}$ , 4 in  $S_{irregular}$ .
- In  $S_{round}$ , 6 belong to class '+', 6 belong to '-'
- In  $S_{irregular}$ , 3 belong to class '+', 1 belongs to '-'
- Entropies for  $S_{round}$  and  $S_{irregular}$

$$I(S_{round}) = - \left( \frac{6}{12} \cdot \log_2 \left( \frac{6}{12} \right) + \frac{6}{12} \cdot \log_2 \left( \frac{6}{12} \right) \right)$$

$$= -1 \cdot \log_2 \left( \frac{1}{2} \right) = 1.0$$

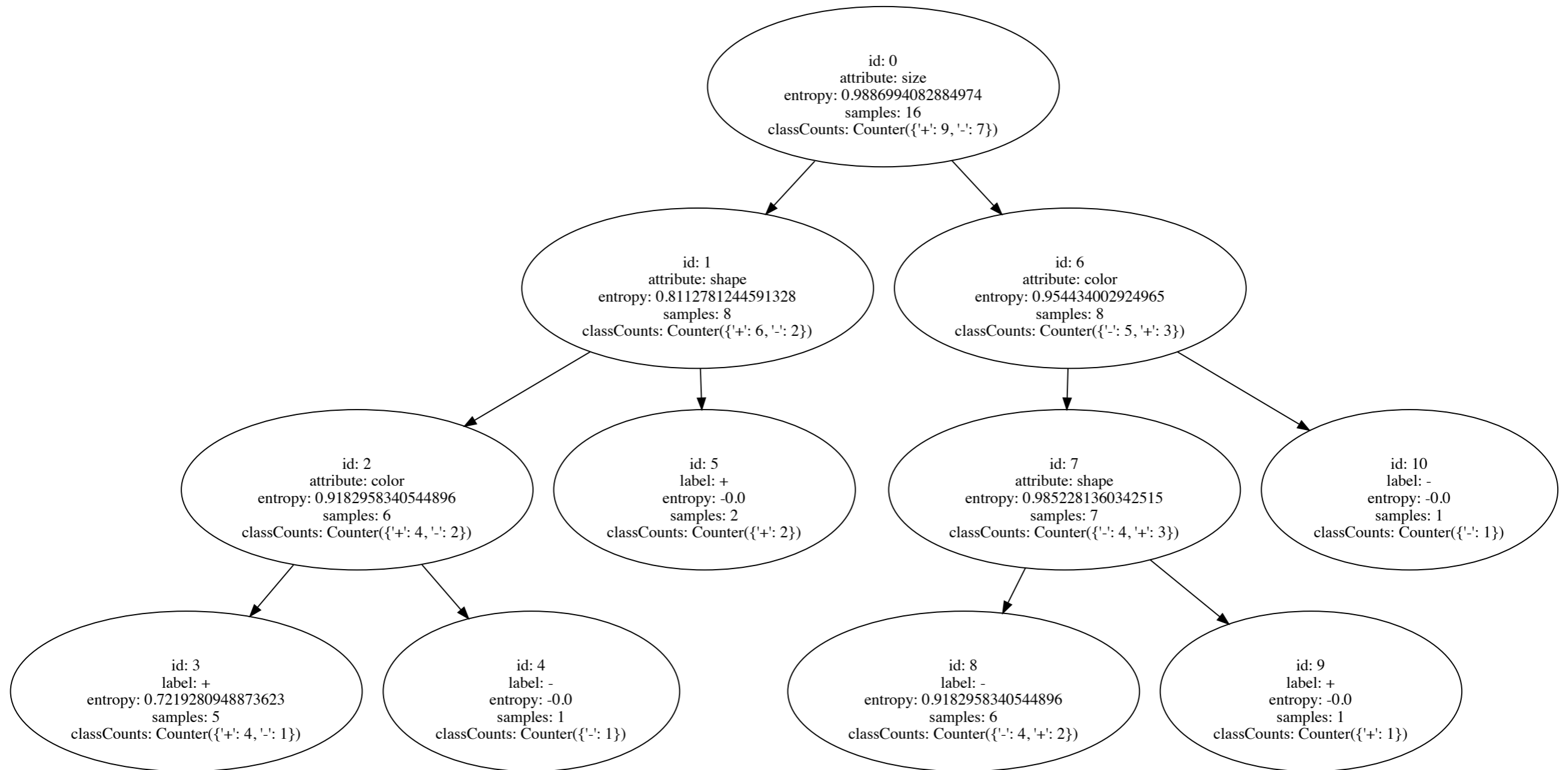
$$I(S_{irregular}) = - \left( \frac{3}{4} \cdot \log_2 \left( \frac{3}{4} \right) + \frac{1}{4} \cdot \log_2 \left( \frac{1}{4} \right) \right)$$

$$\approx 0.8113$$

- Information Gain:

$$0.9887 - \left( \frac{3}{4} \cdot 1.0 + \frac{1}{4} \cdot 0.8113 \right) \approx 0.0359$$

# ID3-Decision Tree based on maximum Information Gain



# How good is the tree?

- Normally, we split our entire data set in some (larger) part for training, and a (smaller) part for testing / validation. Why?
- After training, all samples in the test set are run through the tree (just following the branch that corresponds to the sample's value for the respective attribute in each decision until a leaf is reached). We can then compare the (ground truth) classification with the prediction delivered by the tree.
- By doing so, we can construct a matrix  $C$ , where rows correspond to the true (expected) values, and columns to what the classifier predicted (OBS: make sure that both sets follow the same order when doing this!). We get then

$$C_{ij} = |expected\_in\_i\_but\_predicted\_as\_j|$$

Ideally,  $C$  is a diagonal matrix. Is that even possible with the given data set?

| Colour | Size  | Shape | edible? |
|--------|-------|-------|---------|
| yellow | small | round | +       |
| yellow | small | round | -       |
| ...    | ...   | ...   | ...     |

# Other concepts in measuring quality

- True positives  $TP$ , false positives  $FP$ , true negatives  $TN$ , and false negatives  $FN$
- How many of all samples that were classified as “X” were actually correct?

$$precision = \frac{TP}{TP + FP}$$

- How many of all samples that should have been classified as “X” were actually found as “X”?

$$recall = \frac{TP}{TP + FN}$$

- How many samples were classified correctly as “X” or “not X”?

$$accuracy = \frac{TP + TN}{TP + TN + FP + FN}$$

- Combining precision and recall to weight them directly against each other:

$$F_{\beta} = (1 + \beta^2) \cdot \frac{precision \cdot recall}{\beta^2 \cdot precision + recall}$$

# Other concepts in measuring quality

Test data for the example tree:

| Colour | Size  | Shape     | edible? |
|--------|-------|-----------|---------|
| yellow | small | round     | +       |
| yellow | small | round     | -       |
| green  | small | irregular | +       |
| green  | large | irregular | -       |
| yellow | large | round     | +       |

Target: [ + , - , + , - , + ] Prediction: [ + , + , + , - , - ] Confusion matrix:  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

|                     | <i>precision</i> | <i>recall</i> | <i>f1 - score</i> | <i>support</i> |
|---------------------|------------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------|
| +                   | 0.67             | 0.67          | 0.67              | 3              |
| -                   | 0.50             | 0.50          | 0.50              | 2              |
| <i>accuracy</i>     |                  |               | 0.60              | 5              |
| <i>macro avg</i>    | 0.58             | 0.58          | 0.58              | 5              |
| <i>weighted avg</i> | 0.60             | 0.60          | 0.60              | 5              |



# Issues with Decision Trees

- Consider a new example with which you want to modify your tree...
- Consider a very unbalanced data set (like the concept learning example)
- Consider really unseen examples - how well does the tree generalise?

# Today's summary

- Introduced Decision Trees
- Recap Information Theory / Entropy
- Information Gain / Impurity
  
- Introduced some metrics to understand the quality of a learning (classification) approach
  
- Reading:
  - Géron, Hands-on ML, Material on Github (spec Decision Trees)
  - Mitchell, chapter 3, Decision Trees