



10-315  
Introduction to ML

Decision Trees

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# Today

Decision trees

K-Nearest Neighbor

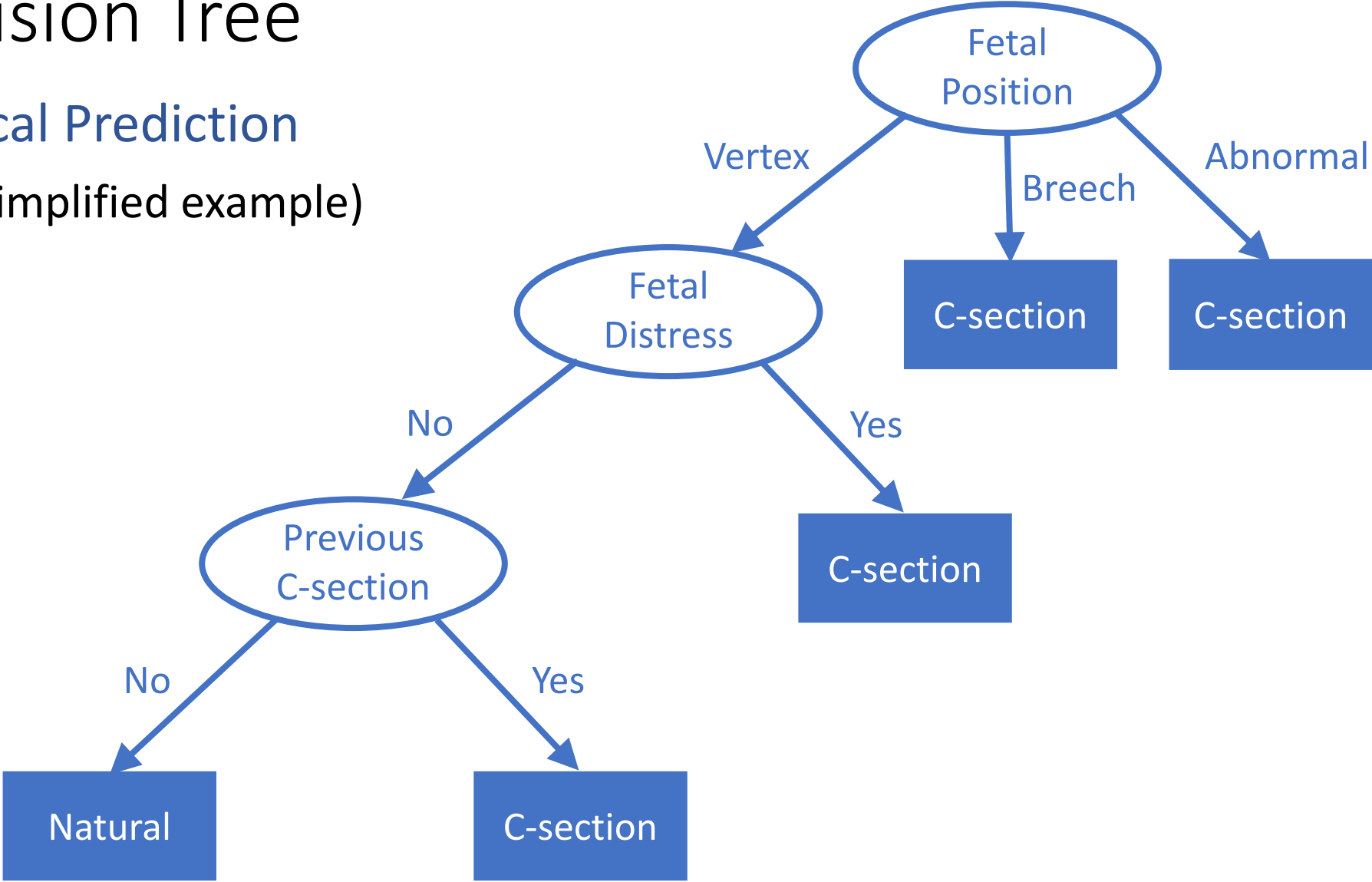
Model Selection



# Decision Tree

## Medical Prediction

(Oversimplified example)



# Decision Trees

A few tools

Majority vote:

$$\hat{y} = \operatorname{argmax}_c \frac{N_c}{N}$$

Iris  
 $N_0, N_1, N_2$   
 $\frac{3}{7}, \frac{3}{7}, \frac{1}{7}$

Species	Sepal Length	Sepal Width	Petal Length	Petal Width
0	4.3	3.0	1.1	0.1
0	4.9	3.6	1.4	0.1
0	5.3	3.7	1.5	0.2
1	4.9	2.4	3.3	1.0
1	5.7	2.8	4.1	1.3
1	6.3	3.3	4.7	1.6
2	5.9	3.0	5.1	1.8

Classification error rate:

$$ErrorRate = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \mathbb{I}(y^{(i)} \neq \hat{y}^{(i)})$$

What fraction did we predict incorrectly

Expected value

$$\mathbb{E}[f(X)] = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} f(x) P(X = x) \quad \text{or} \quad \mathbb{E}[f(X)] = \int_{\mathcal{X}} f(x) p(x) dx$$

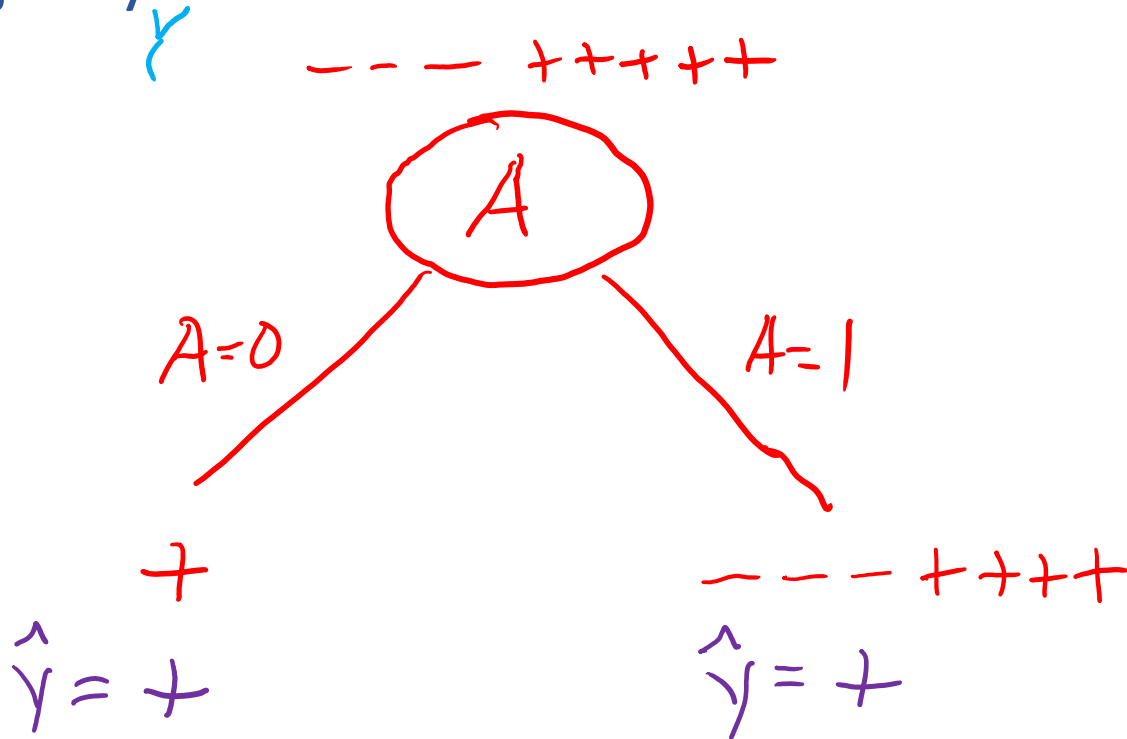
$P(Y|X)$



# Decision Stumps

Split data based on a single attribute

Majority vote at leaves



## Dataset:

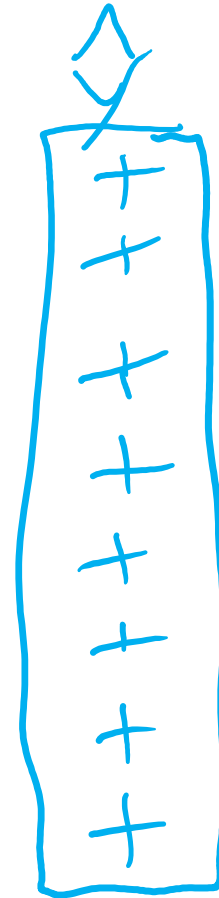
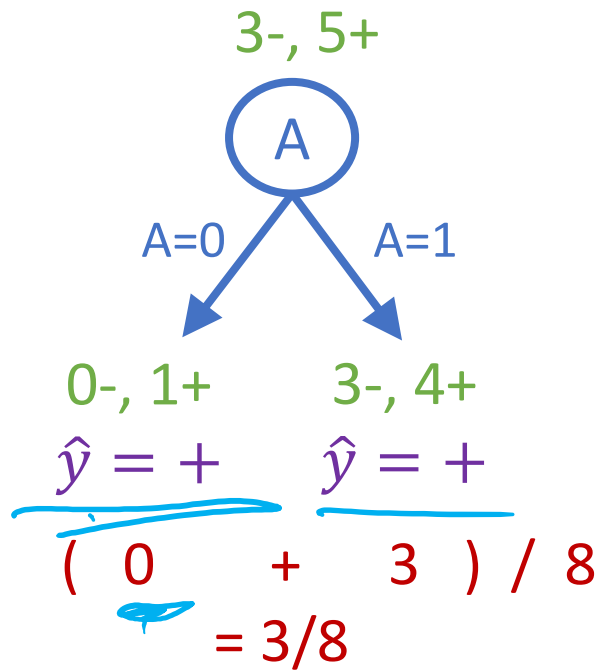
Output Y, Attributes A, B, C

Y	A	B	C
-	1	0	0
-	1	0	1
-	1	0	0
+	0	0	1
+	1	1	0
+	1	1	1
+	1	1	0
+	1	1	1

# Decision Stumps

Split data based on a single attribute

Majority vote at leaves



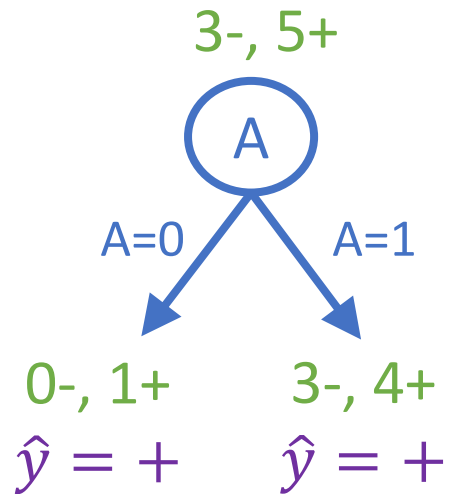
## Dataset:

Output Y, Attributes A, B, C

Y	A	B	C
-	1	0	0
-	1	0	1
-	1	0	0
+	0	0	1
+	1	1	0
+	1	1	1
+	1	1	0
+	1	1	1

# Poll 1

Splitting on which attribute {A, B, C} creates a decision stump with the lowest training error?



Error:  $( 0 + 3 ) / 8$   
 $= 3/8$

## Dataset:

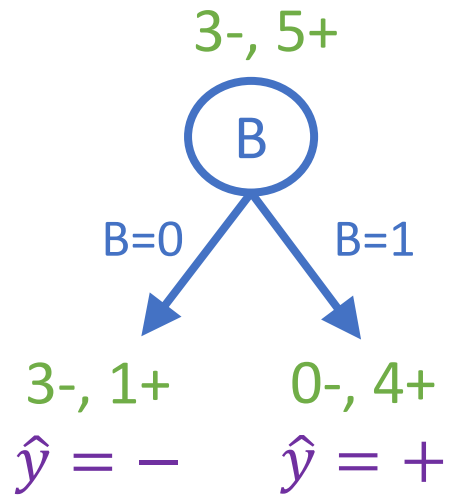
Output Y, Attributes A, B, C

Y	A	B	C
-	1	0	0
-	1	0	1
-	1	0	0
+	0	0	1
+	1	1	0
+	1	1	1
+	1	1	0
+	1	1	1

# Poll 1

Splitting on which attribute {A, B, C} creates a decision stump with the lowest training error?

Answer: B



$$\text{Error: } (1 + 0) / 8 = 1/8$$

## Dataset:

Output Y, Attributes A, B, C

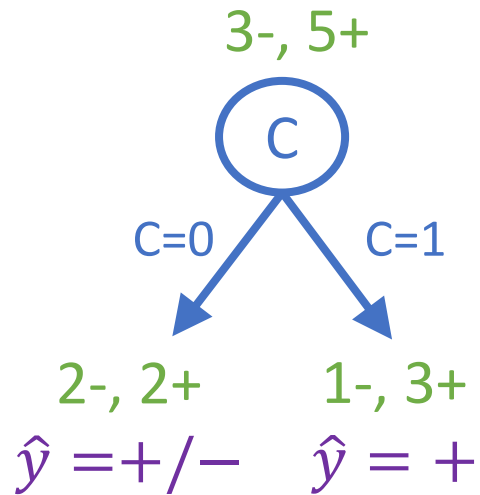
Y	A	B	C
-	1	0	0
-	1	0	1
-	1	0	0
+	0	0	1
+	1	1	0
+	1	1	1
+	1	1	0
+	1	1	1



# Poll 1

Splitting on which attribute {A, B, C} creates a decision stump with the lowest training error?

Answer: B



Error:  $( 2 + 1 ) / 8$   
 $= 3/8$

## Dataset:

Output Y, Attributes A, B, C

Y	A	B	C
-	1	0	0
-	1	0	1
-	1	0	0
+	0	0	1
+	1	1	0
+	1	1	1
+	1	1	0
+	1	1	1

# Problem Formulation

## Medical Prediction

$Y$	$X_1$	$X_2$	$X_3$
Outcome	Fetal Position	Fetal Distress	Previous C-sec
Natural	Vertex	N	N
C-section	Breech	N	N
Natural	Vertex	Y	Y
C-section	Vertex	N	Y
Natural	Abnormal	N	N

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = [x_1, x_2, x_3]^T$$

$$x_1 \in \{Vertex, Breech, Abn\}$$

$$x_2 \in \{Y, N\}$$

$$x_3 \in \{Y, N\}$$

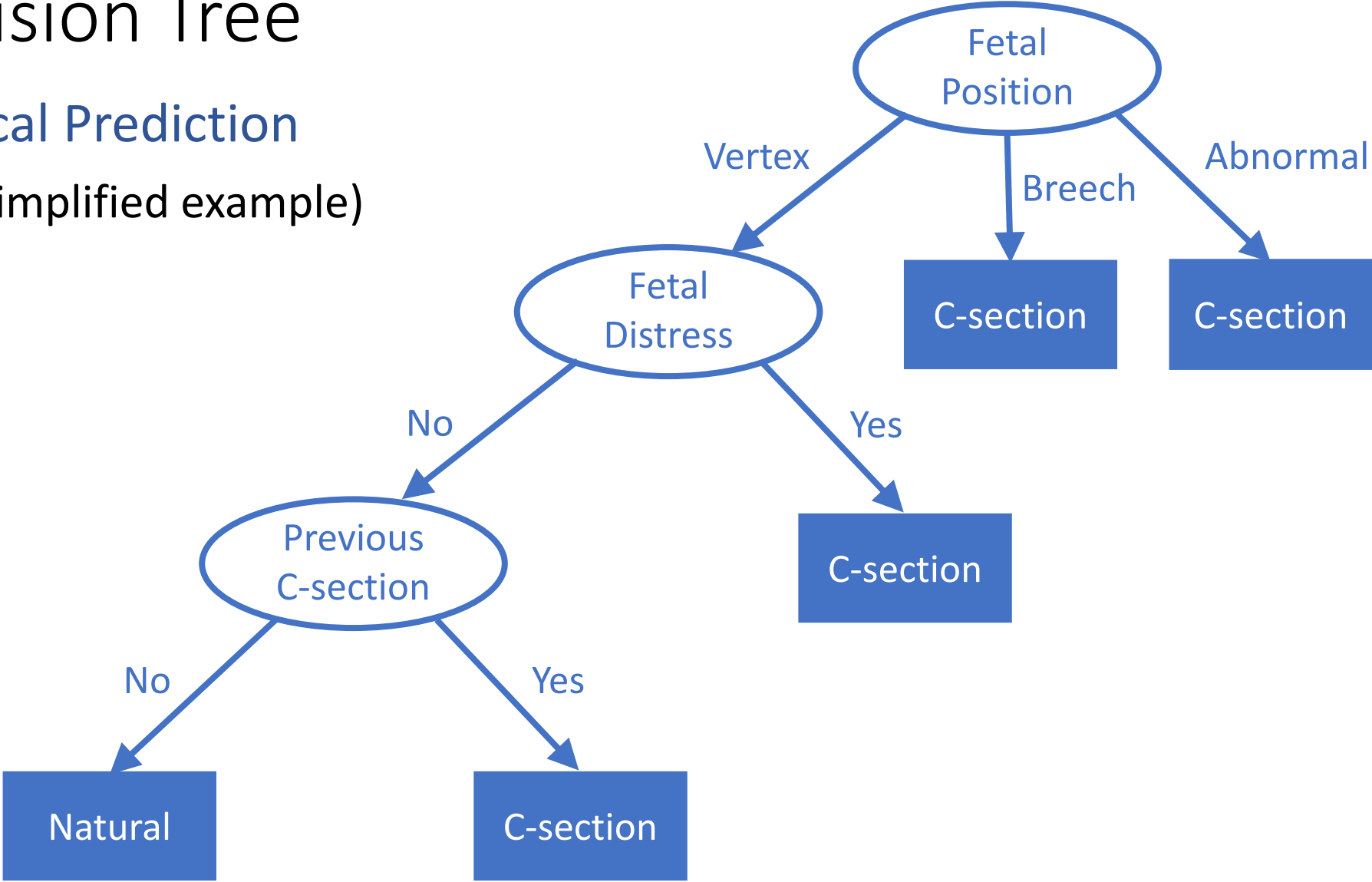
$$y \in \{Csection, Natural\}$$

$$\hat{y} = h(\mathbf{x})$$

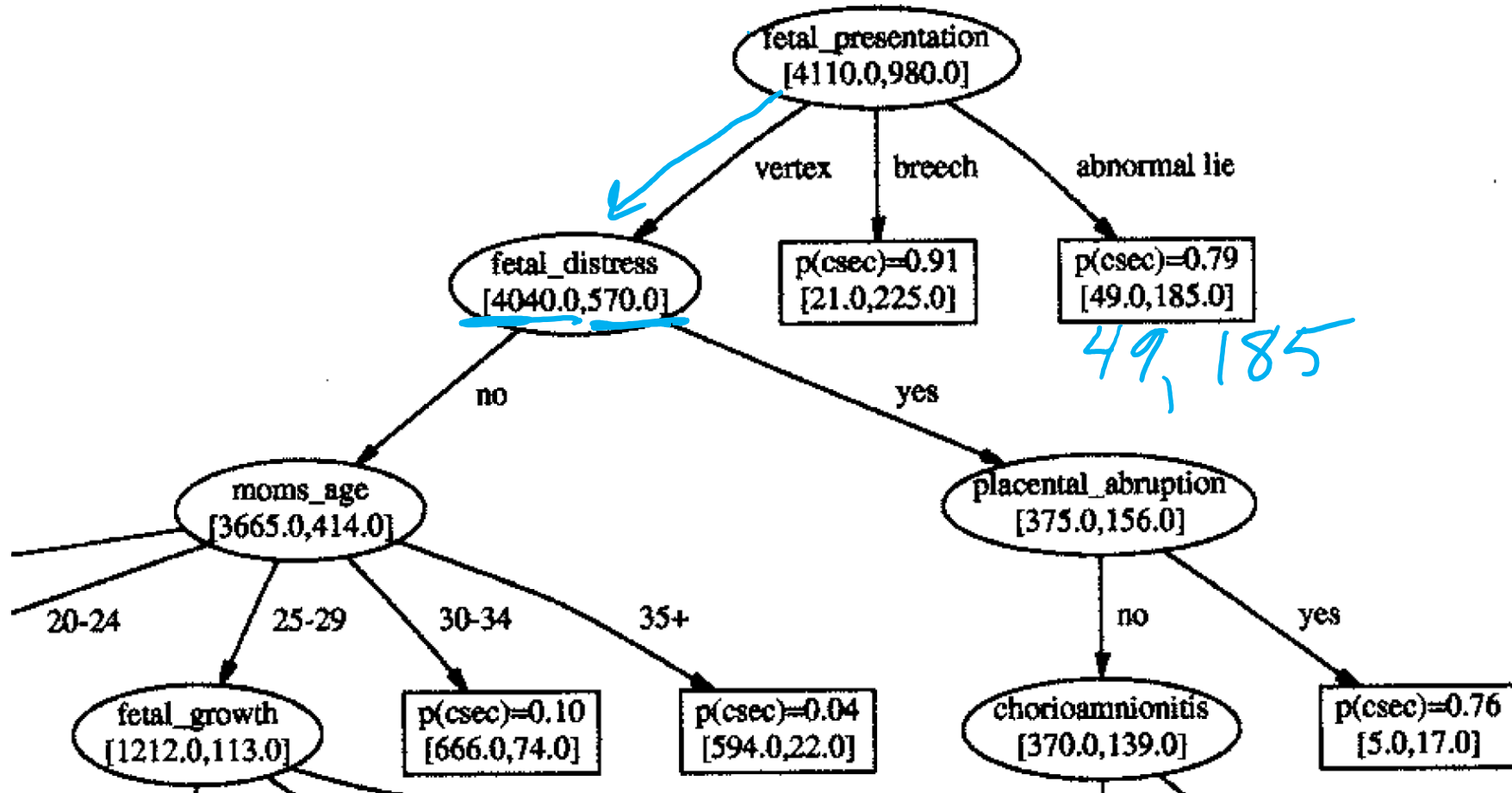
# Decision Tree

## Medical Prediction

(Oversimplified example)



# Tree to Predict C-Section Risk



Sims, C.J., Meyn, L., Caruana, R., Rao, R.B., Mitchell, T. and Krohn, M.  
*American journal of obstetrics and gynecology*, 2000

# Tree to Predict C-Section Risk

Learned from medical records of 1000 women

Negative examples are C-sections

```
[833+,167-] .83+ .17-
Fetal_Presentation = 1: [822+,116-] .88+ .12-
| Previous_Csection = 0: [767+,81-] .90+ .10-
| | Primiparous = 0: [399+,13-] .97+ .03-
| | Primiparous = 1: [368+,68-] .84+ .16-
| | | Fetal_Distress = 0: [334+,47-] .88+ .12-
| | | | Birth_Weight < 3349: [201+,10.6-] .95+ .05-
| | | | Birth_Weight >= 3349: [133+,36.4-] .78+ .22-
| | | Fetal_Distress = 1: [34+,21-] .62+ .38-
| Previous_Csection = 1: [55+,35-] .61+ .39-
Fetal_Presentation = 2: [3+,29-] .11+ .89-
Fetal_Presentation = 3: [8+,22-] .27+ .73-
```

# Building a Decision Tree

A \_\_\_\_\_

```
Function BuildTree(D,A)
```

```
# D: dataset at current node, A: current set of attributes
```

```
If empty(A) or all labels in D are the same
```

```
# Leaf node
```

```
class = most common class in D
```

```
else
```

```
# Internal node
```

```
a ← bestAttribute(D,A)
```

```
LeftNode = BuildTree(D(a=1), A \ {a})
```

```
RightNode = BuildTree(D(a=0), A \ {a})
```

```
end
```

```
end
```

pres

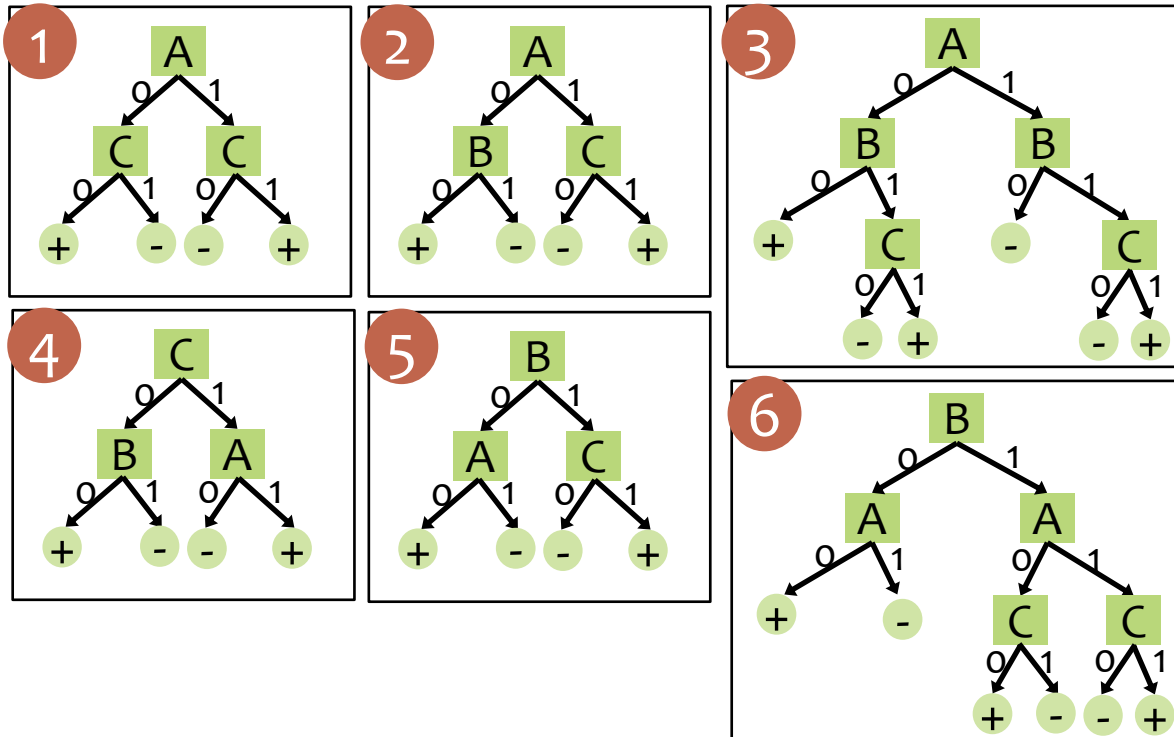
abnormal

normal

# Poll 2

Which of the following trees would be learned by the decision tree learning algorithm using “error rate” as the splitting criterion?

(Assume ties are broken alphabetically.)



## Dataset:

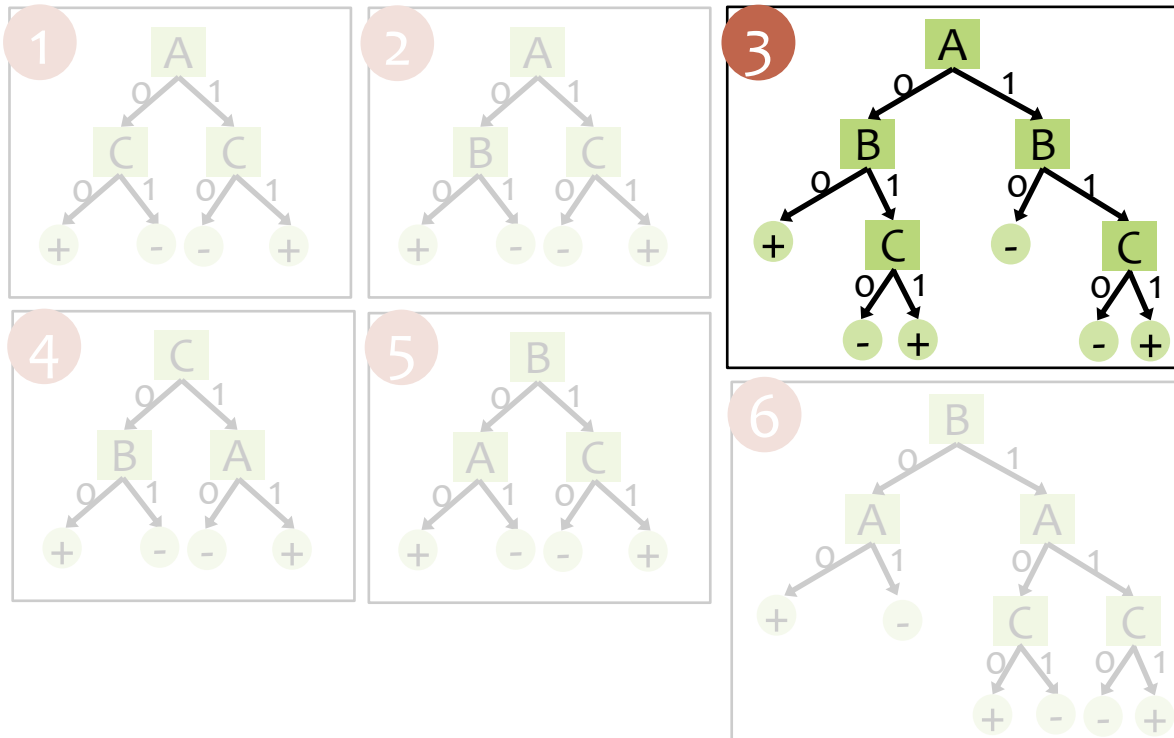
Output Y, Attributes A, B, C

Y	A	B	C
+	0	0	0
+	0	0	1
-	0	1	0
+	0	1	1
-	1	0	0
-	1	0	1
-	1	1	0
+	1	1	1

# Poll 2

Which of the following trees would be learned by the decision tree learning algorithm using “error rate” as the splitting criterion?

(Assume ties are broken alphabetically.)



## Dataset:

Output Y, Attributes A, B, C

Y	A	B	C
+	0	0	0
+	0	0	1
-	0	1	0
+	0	1	1
-	1	0	0
-	1	0	1
-	1	1	0
+	1	1	1



# Poll 3

Which attribute {A, B} would error rate select for the next split?

- 1) A
- 2) B
- 3) A or B (tie)
- 4) I don't know

## Dataset:

Output Y, Attributes A and B

Y	A	B
-	1	0
-	1	0
+	1	0
+	1	0
+	1	1
+	1	1
+	1	1
+	1	1

# Poll 3

Which attribute {A, B} would error rate select for the next split?

- 1) A
- 2) B
- 3) A or B (tie)
- 4) I don't know

## Dataset:

Output Y, Attributes A and B

Y	A	B
-	1	0
-	1	0
+	1	0
+	1	0
+	1	1
+	1	1
+	1	1
+	1	1

# Building a Decision Tree

```
Function BuildTree(D,A)
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```
# D: dataset at current node, A: current set of attributes
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If empty(A) or all labels in D are the same
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LeftNode = BuildTree(D(a=1), A \ {a})
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```
RightNode = BuildTree(D(a=0), A \ {a})
```

```
end
```

```
end
```

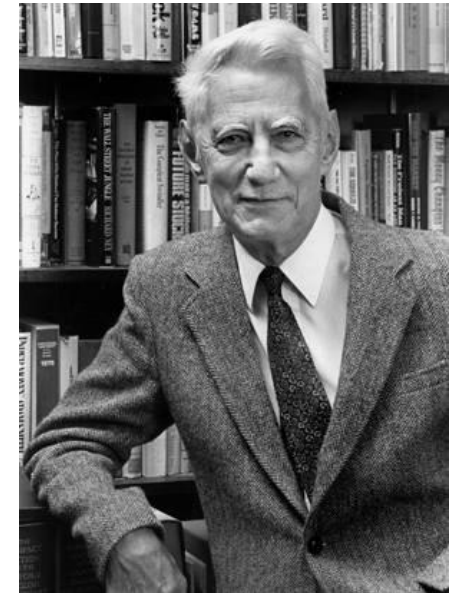
→ Mutual info.  
Gini impurity

# Entropy

- Quantifies the amount of uncertainty associated with a specific probability distribution
- The higher the entropy, the less confident we are in the outcome
- Definition

$$H(X) = \sum_x p(X = x) \log_2 \frac{1}{p(X = x)}$$

$$H(X) = - \sum_x p(X = x) \log_2 p(X = x)$$



Claude Shannon (1916 – 2001), most of the work was done in Bell labs

# Entropy

## Definition

$$H(Y) = \sum_y p(Y=y) \log_2 \frac{1}{p(Y=y)}$$

$$H(Y) = - \sum_y p(Y=y) \log_2 p(Y=y)$$

CMU

$$\frac{7}{28}$$

$$\frac{3}{4}$$

$$\frac{1}{4}$$

$$1.3$$

$$4$$

ASU

$$\frac{3}{30}$$

$$\frac{9}{10}$$

$$\frac{1}{10}$$

$$.9$$

$$10$$

w report

$X = \text{rain}$   $X = \text{sun}$

Mutual Information:  $I(Y; X) = H(Y) - H(Y|X)$

# Mutual Information

Let  $X$  be a random variable with  $X \in \mathcal{X}$ .

Let  $Y$  be a random variable with  $Y \in \mathcal{Y}$ .

$$\text{Entropy: } H(Y) = - \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \underline{P(Y = y)} \log_2 P(Y = y)$$

$$\text{Specific Conditional Entropy: } H(Y | X = x) = - \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} P(Y = y | X = x) \log_2 P(Y = y | X = x)$$

$$\text{Conditional Entropy: } H(Y | X) = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} P(X = x) H(Y | X = x)$$

$$\text{Mutual Information: } I(Y; X) = H(Y) - H(Y|X)$$

$$I(Y; A) = H(Y) - H(Y|A)$$
$$I(Y; B) = H(Y) - H(Y|B)$$

# Mutual Information

Let  $X$  be a random variable with  $X \in \mathcal{X}$ .

Let  $Y$  be a random variable with  $Y \in \mathcal{Y}$ .

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$$\text{Mutual Information: } I(Y; X) = H(Y) - H(Y|X)$$

- For a decision tree, we can use **mutual information** of the output class  $Y$  and some attribute  $X$  on which to split as a **splitting criterion**
- Given a dataset  $D$  of training examples, we can estimate the required probabilities as...

$$P(Y = y) = N_{Y=y} / N$$

$$P(X = x) = N_{X=x} / N$$

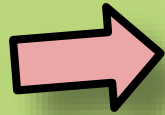
$$P(Y = y | X = x) = N_{Y=y, X=x} / N_{X=x}$$

where  $N_{Y=y}$  is the number of examples for which  $Y = y$  and so on.

# Mutual Information

Let  $X$  be a random variable with  $X \in \mathcal{X}$ .

Let  $Y$  be a random variable with  $Y \in \mathcal{Y}$ .

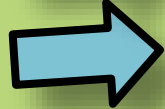


$$\text{Entropy: } H(Y) = - \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} P(Y = y) \log_2 P(Y = y)$$

$$\text{Specific Conditional Entropy: } H(Y | X = x) = - \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} P(Y = y | X = x) \log_2 P(Y = y | X = x)$$



$$\text{Conditional Entropy: } H(Y | X) = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} P(X = x) H(Y | X = x)$$



$$\text{Mutual Information: } I(Y; X) = H(Y) - H(Y|X)$$

- **Entropy** measures the **expected # of bits** to code one random draw from  $X$ .
- For a decision tree, we want to **reduce the entropy of the random variable we are trying to predict!**

**Conditional entropy** is the expected value of specific conditional entropy

$$E_{P(X=x)}[H(Y | X = x)]$$

**Informally**, we say that **mutual information** is a measure of the following:  
*If we know  $X$ , how much does this reduce our uncertainty about  $Y$ ?*



# Splitting with Mutual Information

Which attribute {A, B} would **mutual information** select for the next split?

- 1) A
- 2) B
- 3) A or B (tie)
- 4) I don't know

**Dataset:**

Output Y, Attributes A and B

Y	A	B
-	1	0
-	1	0
+	1	0
+	1	0
+	1	1
+	1	1
+	1	1
+	1	1

# Decision Tree Learning Example

$$\text{Entropy: } H(Y) = - \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} P(Y = y) \log_2 P(Y = y)$$

$$\text{Specific Conditional Entropy: } H(Y | X = x) = - \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} P(Y = y | X = x) \log_2 P(Y = y | X = x)$$

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$$\text{Mutual Information: } I(Y; X) = H(Y) - H(Y|X)$$

Y	A	B
-	1	0
-	1	0
+	1	0
+	1	0
+	1	1
+	1	1
+	1	1
+	1	1

# Decision Tree Learning Example

$$\text{Entropy: } H(Y) = - \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} P(Y = y) \log_2 P(Y = y)$$

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$$\text{Conditional Entropy: } H(Y | X) = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} P(X = x) H(Y | X = x)$$

$$\text{Mutual Information: } I(Y; X) = H(Y) - H(Y|X)$$

$$H(Y) = - \left[ \frac{2}{8} \log_2 \frac{2}{8} + \frac{6}{8} \log_2 \frac{6}{8} \right]$$

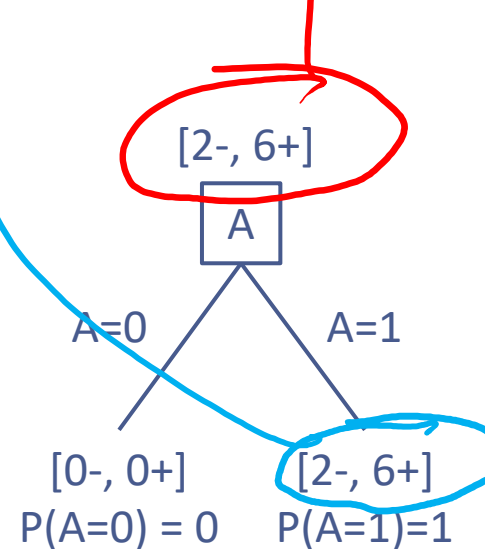
$$H(Y | A = 0) = \text{undefined}$$

$$H(Y | A = 1) = - \left[ \frac{2}{8} \log_2 \frac{2}{8} + \frac{6}{8} \log_2 \frac{6}{8} \right] = H(Y)$$

$$\begin{aligned} H(Y | A) &= P(A = 0)H(Y | A = 0) + P(A = 1)H(Y | A = 1) \\ &= 0 + H(Y | A = 1) \\ &= H(Y) \end{aligned}$$

$$I(Y; A) = H(Y) - H(Y | A) = 0$$

Y	A	B
-	1	0
-	1	0
+	1	0
+	1	0
+	1	1
+	1	1
+	1	1
+	1	1



# Decision Tree Learning Example

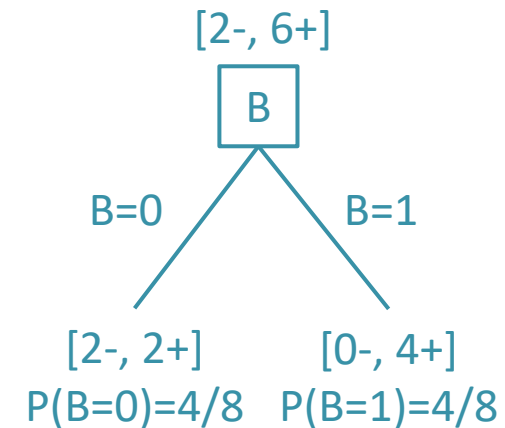
$$\text{Entropy: } H(Y) = - \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} P(Y = y) \log_2 P(Y = y)$$

$$\text{Specific Conditional Entropy: } H(Y | X = x) = - \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} P(Y = y | X = x) \log_2 P(Y = y | X = x)$$

$$\text{Conditional Entropy: } H(Y | X) = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} P(X = x) H(Y | X = x)$$

$$\text{Mutual Information: } I(Y; X) = H(Y) - H(Y|X)$$

Y	A	B
-	1	0
-	1	0
+	1	0
+	1	0
+	1	1
+	1	1
+	1	1
+	1	1



# Decision Tree Learning Example

Entropy:  $H(Y) = - \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} P(Y = y) \log_2 P(Y = y)$

Specific Conditional Entropy:  $H(Y | X = x) = - \sum_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} P(Y = y | X = x) \log_2 P(Y = y | X = x)$

Conditional Entropy:  $H(Y | X) = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} P(X = x) H(Y | X = x)$

Mutual Information:  $I(Y; X) = H(Y) - H(Y|X)$

$$H(Y) = - \left[ \frac{2}{8} \log_2 \frac{2}{8} + \frac{6}{8} \log_2 \frac{6}{8} \right]$$

$$H(Y | B = 0) = - \left[ \frac{2}{4} \log_2 \frac{2}{4} + \frac{2}{4} \log_2 \frac{2}{4} \right]$$

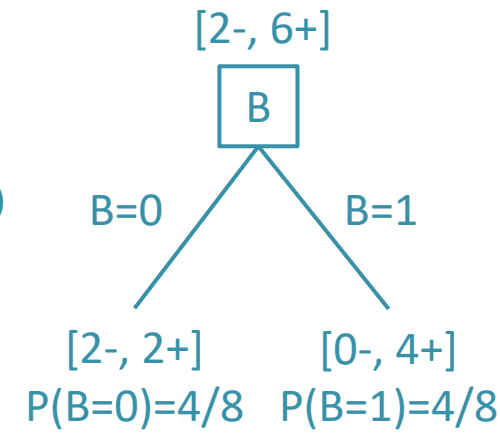
$$H(Y | B = 1) = - [0 \log_2 0 + 1 \log_2 1] = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} H(Y | B) &= P(B = 0)H(Y | B = 0) + P(B = 1)H(Y | B = 1) \\ &= \frac{4}{8}H(Y | B = 0) + \frac{4}{8} \cdot 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$I(Y; B) = H(Y) - H(Y | B) > 0$$

$I(Y; B)$  ends up being greater than  $I(Y; A) = 0$ , so we split on B

Y	A	B
-	1	0
-	1	0
+	1	0
+	1	0
+	1	1
+	1	1
+	1	1
+	1	1



# Mutual Information Notation

We use mutual information in the context of before and after a split, regardless of where that split is in the tree.

$$I(Y; X) = H(Y) - H(Y | X) \quad \leftarrow$$

