



## General Information:

Lecture (3 SWS): Mo 08.30 – 10.00 (H16) and Tue 08.15 – 09.45 (H16)  
Exercises (1 SWS): Tue 12.15 – 13.15 (02.134-113) and Thu 8.30 – 9.30 (E1.12)  
Certificate: Oral exam at the end of the semester  
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## CARTs – Classification

**Exercise 1** Blood pressure can be categorized as follows:

Category	Systolic		Diastolic
Normal	< 120	AND	< 80
Prehypertension	120 – 139	OR	80 – 89
High blood pressure			
Stage 1	140 – 159	OR	90–99
Stage 2	> 160	OR	> 100

(Information was obtained from *National Institutes of Health*.)

Design a binary classification tree for the four blood pressure categories.

- Draw the hierarchical tree structure.
- Draw the partitions of the tree in 2-D feature space.

**Exercise 2** In a classification tree, an objective function  $I_j$  for a node  $j$  with a feature set  $\mathcal{S}_j$  is used for the process of tree creation. This exercise examines the information gain function:

- Write down the information-gain function  $I_j$  for a node  $j$ .
- Write down the entropy function  $H(\mathcal{S}_j)$  for a node  $j$  and for  $N$  classes.
- Show that the entropy function is a concave function. What is the benefit of this property with respect to numerical optimization methods?
- Assume a classification problem with  $N = 2$  classes is given. Simplify the general form of  $H(\mathcal{S}_j)$  which is one-dimensional in this case.
- For the case of  $N = 2$  classes: Calculate the minimum and the maximum values of  $H(\mathcal{S}_j)$  and draw the function in the interval  $[0; 1]$
- How does the concavity of the entropy function help to solve the overall optimization problem for the classification tree?

**Exercise 3** Matlab exercise

The goal of this exercise is to implement the **information gain** as impurity measurement for a CART node.

- (a) Download the Matlab code from the exercise homepage.
- (b) *CART\_example.m* generates some sample data for two classes and uses *train\_cart\_leavenode.m* to find a split for the data using the impurity measurement implemented in *information\_gain.m*.
- (c) You only need to implement the information gain in *information\_gain.m*. Everything else does not need to be changed.
- (d) Think about why the maximum of the information gain can not be obtained using an optimizer like gradient ascent.