SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107

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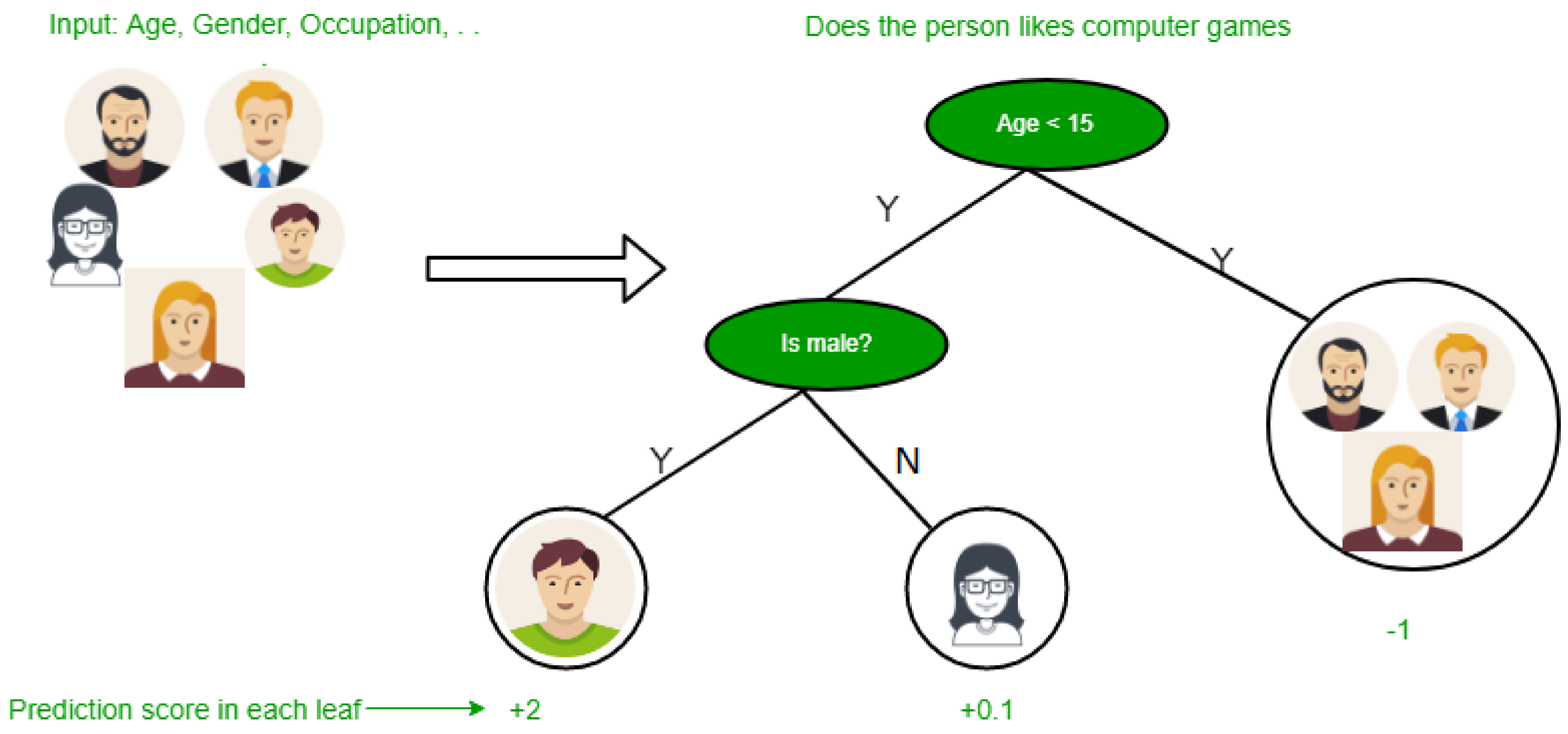
DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

COURSE NAME : 19CS501 Introduction to Machine Learning

III YEAR /V SEMESTER

Unit 2- SUPERVISED LEARNING

Topic : Decision Tree Learning



Input: Age, Gender, Occupation, . .
Does the person likes computer games
Age < 15
Y
Y
Is male?
Y
N
-1
Prediction score in each leaf
+2
+0.1

Decision Tree Classification Algorithm

- Decision Tree is a Supervised learning technique that can be used for both classification and Regression problems, but mostly it is preferred for solving Classification problems. It is a tree-structured classifier, where internal nodes represent the features of a dataset, branches represent the decision rules and each leaf node represents the outcome.

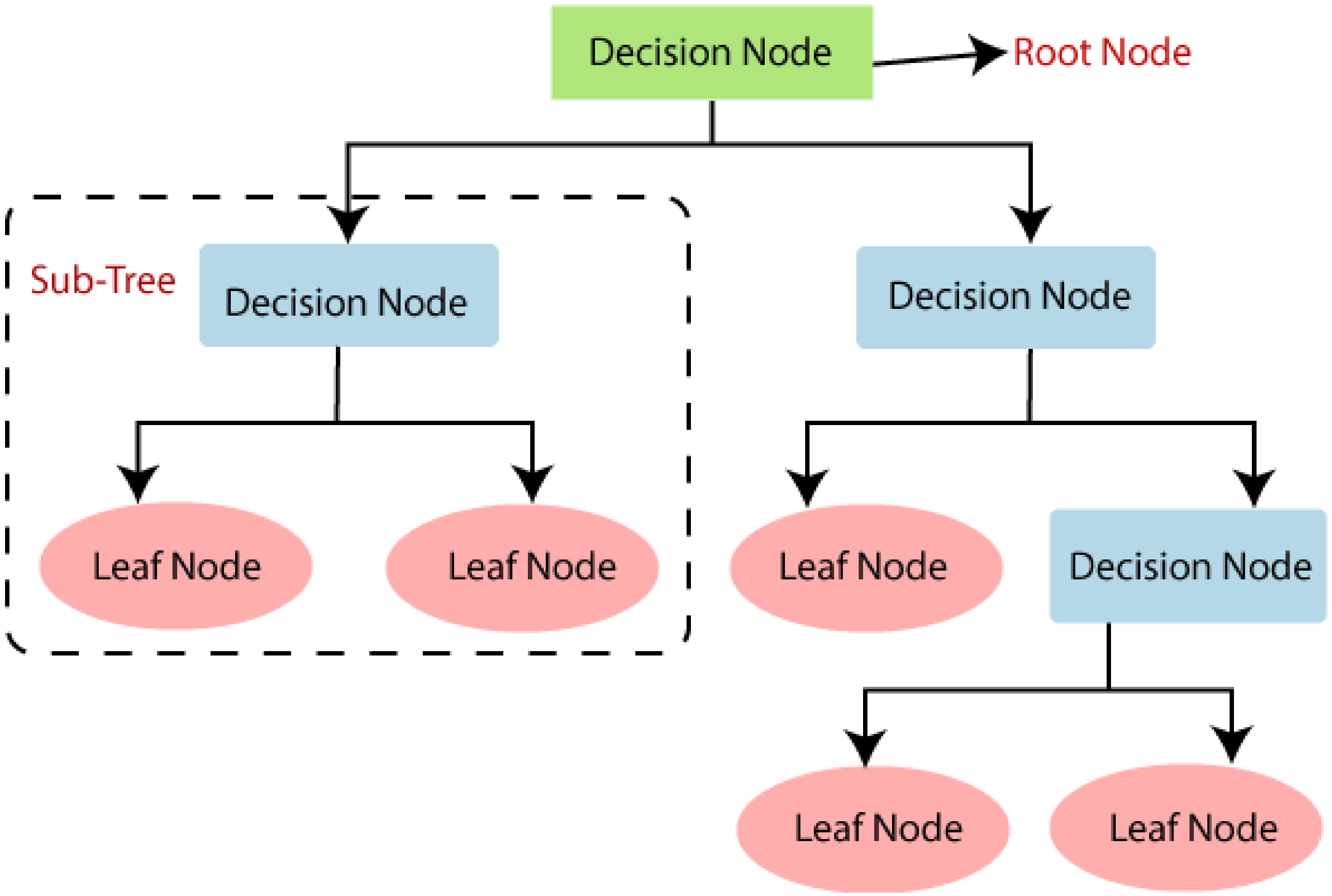
- In a Decision tree, there are two nodes, which are the Decision Node and Leaf Node. Decision nodes are used to make any decision and have multiple branches, whereas Leaf nodes are the output of those decisions and do not contain any further branches.

- The decisions or the test are performed on the basis of features of the given dataset

Decision Tree Classification Algorithm

- It is a graphical representation for getting all the possible solutions to a problem/decision based on given conditions.
- It is called a decision tree because, similar to a tree, it starts with the root node, which expands on further branches and constructs a tree-like structure.
- In order to build a tree, we use the CART algorithm, which stands for Classification and Regression Tree algorithm.
- A decision tree simply asks a question, and based on the answer (Yes/No), it further split the tree into subtrees

Decision Tree Classification Algorithm



Why use Decision Trees?

- There are various algorithms in Machine learning, so choosing the best algorithm for the given dataset and problem is the main point to remember while creating a machine learning model. Below are the two reasons for using the Decision tree:

- Decision Trees usually mimic human thinking ability while making a decision, so it is easy to understand.
- The logic behind the decision tree can be easily understood because it shows a tree-like structure.

Decision Tree Terminologies

- **Root Node**: Root node is from where the decision tree starts. It represents the entire dataset, which further gets divided into two or more homogeneous sets.
- **Leaf Node**: Leaf nodes are the final output node, and the tree cannot be segregated further after getting a leaf node.
- **Splitting**: Splitting is the process of dividing the decision node/root node into sub-nodes according to the given conditions.
- **Branch/Sub Tree**: A tree formed by splitting the tree.
- **Pruning**: Pruning is the process of removing the unwanted branches from the tree.
- **Parent/Child node**: The root node of the tree is called the parent node, and other nodes are called the child nodes.

How does the Decision Tree algorithm Work?

In a decision tree, for predicting the class of the given dataset, the algorithm starts from the root node of the tree. This algorithm compares the values of root attribute with the record (real dataset) attribute and, based on the comparison, follows the branch and jumps to the next node.

For the next node, the algorithm again compares the attribute value with the other sub-nodes and move further. It continues the process until it reaches the leaf node of the tree.

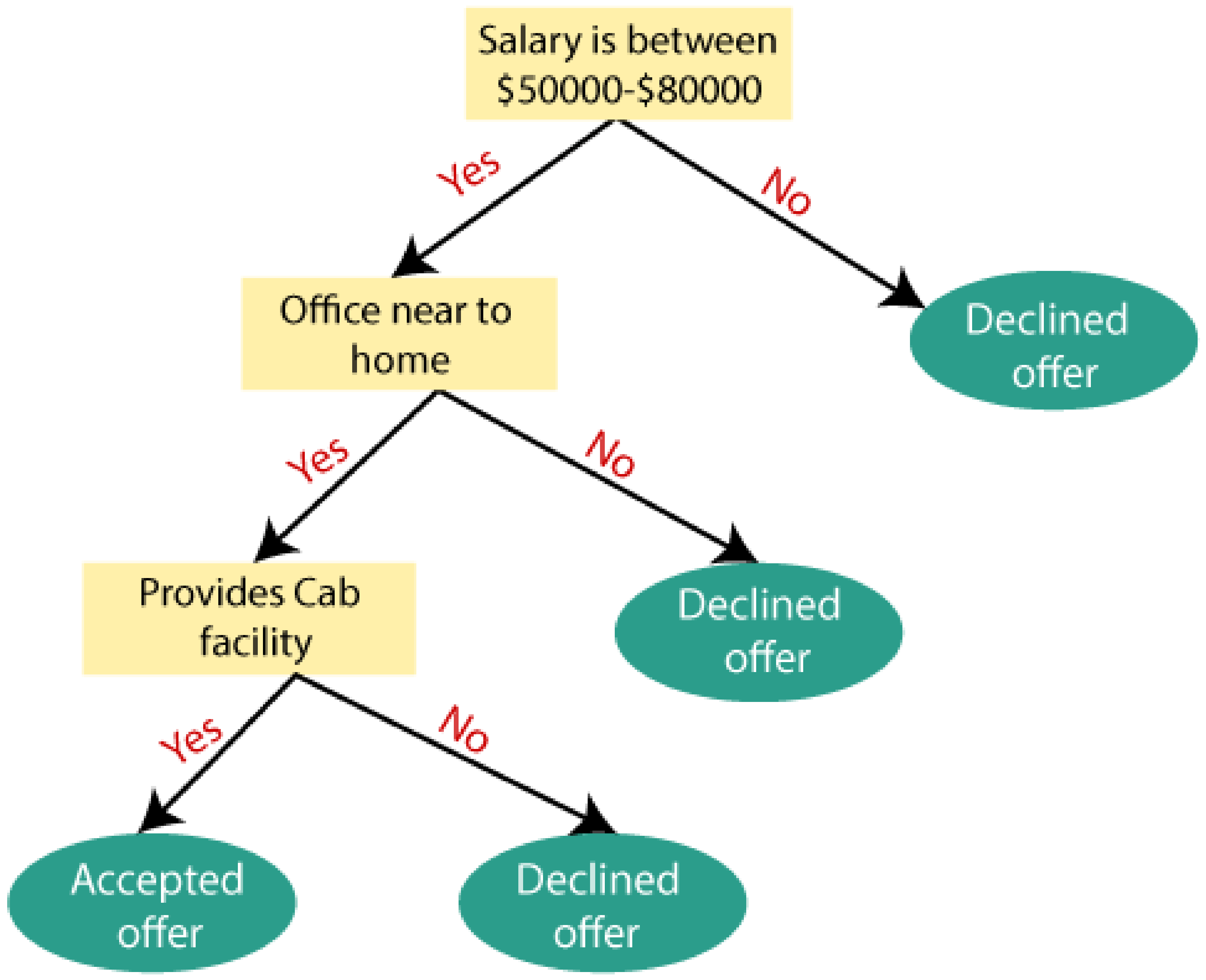
How does the Decision Tree algorithm Work?

- Step-1: Begin the tree with the root node, says S, which contains the complete dataset.
- Step-2: Find the best attribute in the dataset using Attribute Selection Measure (ASM).
- Step-3: Divide the S into subsets that contains possible values for the best attributes.
- Step-4: Generate the decision tree node, which contains the best attribute.
- Step-5: Recursively make new decision trees using the subsets of the dataset created in step -3.

  Continue this process until a stage is reached where you cannot further classify the nodes and called the final node as a leaf node.

Examples

- Suppose there is a candidate who has a job offer and wants to decide whether he should accept the offer or Not. So, to solve this problem, the decision tree starts with the root node (Salary attribute by ASM).
- The root node splits further into the next decision node (distance from the office) and one leaf node based on the corresponding labels.
- The next decision node further gets split into one decision node (Cab facility) and one leaf node.
- Finally, the decision node splits into two leaf nodes (Accepted offers and Declined offer)



Attribute Selection Measures

- While implementing a Decision tree, the main issue arises that how to select the best attribute for the root node and for sub-nodes. So, to solve such problems there is a technique which is called as Attribute selection measure or ASM. By this measurement, we can easily select the best attribute for the nodes of the tree. There are two popular techniques for ASM, which are:

  - ✓Information Gain
  - ✓Gini Index

Information Gain

- Information gain is the measurement of changes in entropy after the segmentation of a dataset based on an attribute.
- It calculates how much information a feature provides us about a class.
- According to the value of information gain, we split the node and build the decision tree.
- A decision tree algorithm always tries to maximize the value of information gain, and a node/attribute having the highest information gain is split first. It can be calculated using the below formula:
  - **Information Gain= Entropy(S)- [(Weighted Avg) *Entropy(each feature)**

Information Gain

- Entropy: Entropy is a metric to measure the impurity in a given attribute. It specifies randomness in data.

  Entropy can be calculated as:

  - **Entropy(s)= -P(yes)log2 P(yes)- P(no) log2 P(no)**

Where,

- ✓ S= Total number of samples
- ✓ P(yes)= probability of yes
- ✓ P(no)= probability of no

Gini Index

- Gini index is a measure of impurity or purity used while creating a decision tree in the CART(Classification and Regression Tree) algorithm.
- An attribute with the low Gini index should be preferred as compared to the high Gini index.
- It only creates binary splits, and the CART algorithm uses the Gini index to create binary splits.
- Gini index can be calculated using the below formula:
    - **Gini Index= 1- ∑jPj2**

Pruning: Getting an Optimal Decision tree

- Pruning is a process of deleting the unnecessary nodes from a tree in order to get the optimal decision tree.

- A too-large tree increases the risk of overfitting, and a small tree may not capture all the important features of the dataset. Therefore, a technique that decreases the size of the learning tree without reducing accuracy is known as Pruning. There are mainly two types of tree pruning technology used:

    - **Cost Complexity Pruning**
    - **Reduced Error Pruning.**

Steps for Making decision tree

- Get list of rows (dataset) which are taken into consideration for making decision tree (recursively at each nodes).
- Calculate uncertainty of our dataset or Gini impurity or how much our data is mixed up etc.
- Generate list of all question which needs to be asked at that node.
- Partition rows into True rows and False rows based on each question asked.
- Calculate information gain based on Gini impurity and partition of data from previous step.
- Update highest information gain based on each question asked.
- Update best question based on information gain (higher information gain).
- Divide the node on best question. Repeat again from step 1 again until we get pure node (leaf nodes).

Advantages of the Decision Tree

- It is simple to understand as it follows the same process which a human follow while making any decision in real-life.
- It can be very useful for solving decision-related problems.
- It helps to think about all the possible outcomes for a problem.
- There is less requirement of data cleaning compared to other algorithms.

Disadvantages of the Decision Tree

- The decision tree contains lots of layers, which makes it complex.
- It may have an overfitting issue, which can be resolved using the Random Forest algorithm.
- For more class labels, the computational complexity of the decision tree may increase.

Assessment

- Python Implementation of Decision Tree

REFERENCES

1. Tom M. Mitchell, “Machine Learning”, McGraw-Hill Education (India) Private Limited, 2013.
2. Trevor Hastie, Robert Tibshirani, Jerome Friedman, “The Elements of Statistical Learning: Data Mining, Inference, and Prediction”, Springer; Second Edition, 2009.

THANK YOU