



### **ROLF BIEHLER & YANNIK FLEISCHER**

## BRINGING TOGETHER STATISTICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION: MACHINE LEARNING BY DECISION TREES GROUNDED IN STUDENTS' DATA EXPLORATION EXPERIENCES

PADERBORN COLLOQUIUM ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND DATA SCIENCE EDUCATION AT SCHOOL LEVEL, 25TH NOVEMBER 2021





## Project Data Science and Big Data at School (ProDaBi)

Initiated and funded by the Deutsche Telekom Stiftung

**ProDaBi I :** 2018 - 2020 **ProDaBi II:** 2020 - 2023

Cooperation at the Paderborn University:

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## Outline

- 1. Project overview
- 2. Predictive modelling with decision trees in ProDaBi
- 3. Tools for teaching modelling with decision trees
  - 3.1 Recommender system for food unplugged with data cards (grade 5/6)
    3.2 Personalized advertisement with JIM data using CODAP (grade 8-10)
    3.3. Personalized advertisement with JIM data using Jupyter Notebooks (grade 8 12)
- 4. Some evaluations of students
- 5. Looking back: Tools and facets of modelling at different levels



# **Project Goals**

- Developing and testing teaching material for different grades in the context of design research
- Adapting or developing digital and unplugged tools for teaching and learning (data cards, CODAP, Python with Jupyter Notebooks)
- Designing and conducting professional development courses for teachers
- Developing theoretical conceptions including educational goals for teaching and learning Al and Data Science at school level.



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## **ProDaBi material in different grades**

Data Science in grade 12 Yearlong "project course"

> Data Science in grade 8 to 10 5 teaching modules + PD courses for teachers

> > Data Science in grade 5 and 6 2 teaching modules





## Context







## Main topics and concepts of ProDaBi







# Two types of machine learning: Focus today decision trees







# 2. Predictive modelling with decision trees in ProDaBi





# **ML** as part of predictive modelling

Predictive modeling is an important facet of data science education, new to traditional statistics and computer science education

## Challenges

- 1. Elementarizing the basic algorithms, developing adequate visualizations and supporting tools
- 2. Quality assessment of ML models/algorithms training data, test test, validation data, bias, range of potential applications
- 3. Embedding ML in human decision-making scenarios realistic, critival view of the power of ML, deployment with ethical monitoring

(Ridgway et al., 2018; Sulmont et al. 2019b, Zieffler et al., 2021)





# ML as part of predictive modelling

Predictive modeling is an important facet of data science education, new to traditional statistics and computer science education

## Challenges

Our focus today

- 1. Elementarizing the basic algorithms, developing adequate visualizations and supporting tools
- 2. Quality assessment of ML models/algorithms training data, test test, validation data, bias, range of potential applications
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# Why decision trees?

## **Transparency and teachability**

- Relating and contrasting human and ML-built decision trees
- Algorithmic transparency is possible (Adequate mental models)
- Teachable on various levels with various tools with increasing complexity, breadth, and efficiency

## **Designing and using hybrid human-machine systems**

- Students can act as designers of ML/AI not just as trainers of ready-made AI systems
- Possibility of pointing out the role of responsible humans in different stages of creating an AI system

## Good start into comprehensive predictive modelling

• Teaching artificial neural nets, e.g., can focus on new algorithm





# A multivariate dataset: JIM-PB

- Based on an official German survey
- 161 Questions about media use
- We collected data of ~1200 juveniles

## Topics:

- Grade, Age, Sex
- Owning digital devices
  - Computer, GameConsole, Tablet, ...
- Use of online platforms
  - Instagram, Facebook, TikTok, Youtube, ...
- Gaming
- ...

## Our educational use

Data exploration of multivariate data Example for introducing decision trees







# A context used in class - Personalized advertisement on online platforms

Instagram, Youtube, etc.
 Instagram, Youtube,

An example of Yannik's Instagram Feed



Why do I get such an advertisement for an online game?

How is this decided?





# Predicting frequency of online gaming from other variables

Target variable: frequency of online gaming

**Predictor variables:** 

GameConsole (ownership) yes/no Computer (ownership) yes/no Instagram use: rarely/frequently

## Assumptions

Target variable is a proxy of "interest in further online games" Predictor variables are related to the target variable (result of data exploration) Predictor variables are known to our marketing company





## **Decision trees: A brief introduction**

- 1. Create a decision tree with level 1, based on the predictor variable that provides the lowest misclassification rate
- 2. Add further decision steps based on the rest of the variables to further reduce the misclassification rate





## Toy data inspired by Jim data

### **Target variable**

• is to be predicted

$\rightarrow$	OnlineGames	GameConsole	Computer	Instagram		
0	rarely	Yes	Yes	frequently		
1 frequently		Yes	No	rarely		
2	frequently	Yes	No	rarely		
3	frequently	No	Yes	frequently		
4	rarely	Yes	No	frequently		
5	frequently	Yes	No	rarely		
6	frequently	Yes	Yes	rarely		
7	rarely	No	No	rarely		
8	frequently	Yes	Yes	rarely		
9	frequently	Yes	Yes	rarely		
10	frequently	Yes	No	frequently		
11	rarely	No	No	rarely		
12	frequently	No	Yes	frequently		
13	rarely	No	No	frequently		

#### predictor variables

 serve to define decision rules for the prediction



Or	nlineGames	GameConsole	Computer	Instagram
0	rarely	Yes	Yes	frequently
1	frequently	Yes	No	rarely
2	frequently	Yes	No	rarely
3	frequently	No	Yes	frequently
4	rarely	Yes	No	frequently
5	frequently	Yes	No	rarely
6	frequently	Yes	Yes	rarely
7	rarely	No	No	rarely
8	frequently	Yes	Yes	rarely
9	frequently	Yes	Yes	rarely
10	frequently	Yes	No	frequently
11	rarely	No	No	rarely
12	frequently	No	Yes	frequently
13	rarely	No	No	frequently

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		Yes				(	No
mes	GameConsole	Computer	Instagram		C	OnlineGames	GameConso
arely	Yes	Yes	frequently		3	frequently	
ently	Yes	No	rarely		7	rarely	
ently	Yes	No	rarely		11	rarely	
arely	Yes	No	frequently		12	frequently	
ently	Yes	No	rarely		13	rarely	

rarely

rarely

rarely

frequently

	Or	lineGames	GameConsole	Computer	Instagram
3		frequently	No	Yes	frequently
7		rarely	No	No	rarely
11		rarely	No	No	rarely
12		frequently	No	Yes	frequently
13		rarely	No	No	frequently

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#### **Prediction for OnlineGames**

frequently

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

Yes

No

OnlineGa

freq

frequ

frequently

frequently

frequently

frequently

0 1 2

5

6

8

9

10







**Tentative Rule 1** 

If GameConsole = yes, predict onlineGame = frequently If GameConsole = no, predict onlineGame = rarely

#### Confusion matrix



0	nlineGames	GameConsole	Computer	Instagram	
0	rarely	Yes	Yes	frequently	
1	frequently	Yes	No	rarely	
2	frequently	Yes	No	rarely	
4	rarely	Yes	No	frequently	
5	frequently	Yes	No	rarely	
6	frequently	Yes	Yes	rarely	
8	frequently	Yes	Yes	rarely	
9	frequently	Yes	Yes	rarely	
10	frequently	Yes	No	frequently	
			Misc	Erro lassif	rs/ īcat
f	requei	ntly			

Yes

OnlineGames			GameConsole	Computer	Instagram		
3		frequently	No	Yes	frequently		
7		rarely	No	No	rarely		
11		rarely	No	No	rarely		
12		frequently	No	Yes	frequently		
13		rarely	No	No	frequently		
ions			rare	ly			

No

GameConsole?

#### GameConsole 4

Split-Variable Errors

~ 29%

MiscRate\*

#### \* MiscRate = Misclassification rate





## **Computer** as the second candidate of a splitting variable

Variable	Erros	MiscRate*
GameConsole	4	~ 29%
Computer	5	~ 36%





Variable	Errors	MiscRate*			
GameCon	sole 4	~ 29%			
Computer	5	~ 36%			
Instagram	5	~ 36%			

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\* MiscRate = Misclassification rate



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# Looking for further variables to reduce misclassification rate



	OnlineGames	GameConsole	Computer	Instagram		0	OnlineGames	GameConsole	Computer	Instagram
3	frequently	No	Yes	frequently		7	rarely	No	No	rarely
12	frequently	No	Yes	frequently	1	1	rarely	No	No	rarely
					1	3	rarely	No	No	frequently

Eyeballing shows: Computer has lower MiscRates than Instagram



	OnlineGames	GameConsole	Computer	Instagram			OnlineGames	GameConsole	Computer	Instagram
3	frequently	No	Yes	frequently		7	rarely	No	No	rarely
12	frequently	No	Yes	frequently		11	rarely	No	No	rarely
					1	13	rarely	No	No	frequently

Eyeballing shows: Computer has lower MiscRates than Instagram















## 3. Tools for teaching modeling with decision trees



Manual creation of decision trees









# 3.1 Recommender system for food - unplugged with data cards





# Topic of the series of lessons with data cards

- **Subject**: Manual modeling with decision trees
- **Example**: Recommender system for food items
- Guiding Questions:
  - How can we use nutrition information to decide whether a food is rather recommendable or rather not recommendable?
  - How can a **method of machine learning** help to create a rule system?





## **The material**





- 55 data cards about food items
  - nutrition facts (typical value per 100g)
- green and red paper clips to label the cards
- worksheets and slides





## **The material**





- 55 data cards about food items
  - nutrition facts (typical value per 100g)
- green and red paper clips to label the cards
- worksheets and slides





## Demonstration: Defining data based decision rules with data cards

Video\_Datacards.mp4








### **Defining decision rules**







### **Defining decision rules**







## **Documentation of decision tree**

#### Tree documentation





Testing different decision trees with one item 41

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### Impressions of students work in class









### **Tools for teaching modeling with decision trees**



Semi-automatic creation of decision trees





# 3.2 Personalized advertisement with JIM data – using CODAP

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# **Topic of the series of lessons with CODAP**

- **Subject**: Semi-automatic modeling with decision trees
- **Example**: Personalized advertisement on online platforms (JIM data)
- Guiding Questions:
  - How can we use personal data to predict personal interest (e.g. playing onlinegames)?
  - How can we systematically find a good decision tree based on data?





## **CODAP – A tool for data science**



https://codap.concord.org/

- Easy exploration of multivariate data via drag & drop
- Manual construction of data based decision trees
   with the plug-in Arbor
  - collaboration with the developer Tim Erickson
  - adding features for teaching machine learning





### **Decision Trees in CODAP**

#### **Demonstration: Basic functionality for free exploration**

#### Video\_CODAP1.mp4







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Tables	Graph	Map	Slider	Calc	Text	Plugins

			_MIL	53cases				
			cas	es (53 cas	ses)			
in- dex	Playing OnlineGames	Own Computer	Own GameConsole	Own Tablet	Youtube LetsPlay	Youtube MusicClips	Youtube SportClips	Using Instagram
1	frequently	False	True	True	frequently	frequently	rarely	frequently
2	frequently	True	False	False	frequently	frequently	frequently	frequently
3	frequently	False	True	False	frequently	frequently	frequently	rarely
4	rarely	False	False	False	rarely	rarely	rarely	frequently
5	rarely	False	True	False	rarely	rarely	frequently	frequently
6	rarely	False	False	False	rarely	frequently	rarely	frequently
7	frequently	True	True	False	frequently	frequently	rarely	frequently
8	frequently	False	True	True	rarely	frequently	rarely	frequently
9	rarely	False	False	False	rarely	rarely	rarely	frequently
10	rarely	False	True	False	rarely	rarely	frequently	frequently
11	rarely	False	False	True	rarely	rarely	rarely	frequently
12	rarely	False	True	False	rarely	rarely	rarely	frequently
13	rarely	False	False	False	rarely	rarely	rarely	frequently
14	frequently	True	True	False	frequently	frequently	rarely	frequently
15	frequently	True	True	True	rarely	frequently	frequently	frequently
16	frequently	False	False	False	rarely	rarely	rarely	rarely
17	frequently	False	False	False	rarely	frequently	rarely	rarely
18	frequently	True	True	False	frequently	frequently	frequently	rarely
19	frequently	True	False	False	rarely	rarely	rarely	frequently

Is decision tree
tree settings help!
Drag your target attribute here



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Tiles Option: Help



- Explained contextually why the different variables might be appropriate for predicting the target variables
- he tried different combinations by chance until he could not find any more improvements

#### Non – Systematic

- tested different variables by "trial&error" as the top decision rule
- searched for partial data sets with relative frequencies of the target value "close to 100% or close to 0%"
- stopped the process very early so that the final partial data sets remain "representative" Systematic





### **Decision Trees in CODAP**

#### **Demonstration: Playing the machine**

#### Video\_CODAP2.mp4







Input: data , target variable (TV)



Input: data , target variable (TV)

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Input: data , target variable (TV)

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Input: data , target variable (TV)

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### **Tools for teaching modeling with decision trees**



Automatic creation of decision trees





# 3.3. Personalized advertisement with JIM data – using Jupyter Notebooks (grade 8 – 12)





## **Jupyter Notebook (with Python)**

#### Jupyter Notebook is a cell-based environment that can be used versatilly for teaching

- Explanatory cells
- Code cells (create/ vary python code )
- Live output
   (Output of code directly below code cell)

(text an pictures)

#### 3.4 Create training- and test data set







# **Jupyter Notebook (with Python)**

- Interactive widgets with hidden source code
  - Jupyter Notebooks as interactive Tools without students noticing python commands

2 Decision Tree Training		
<pre>: * def grow_tree(target_variable, criterion, max_</pre>	<pre>depth): result[0], target = target_variable, crit = criterion) True, 'manual_name': 'Create Tree'}, target_variable = data_widget.result[0]. </pre>	
max_depth 10 Create Tree	2 Decision Tree Training	
Interactive Widget	target_varia Play_OnlineGames   criterion misclassification rate   max_depth 10	
	Create Tree	





# **PyTree Library as tool for creating decision trees**

- We have developed a **library (PyTree)** of **prepared commands** for students to create **decision trees based on data** and to create **meaningful visualizations**
- Behind the scenes:



#### Commands for students:

#### Automatic creation

- grow\_tree()
- validation\_pruning()

#### Manual creation and editing

- manual\_split()
- manual\_prune()

#### Evaluation and visualization

- prediction\_accuracy()
- evaluation\_depth()
- evaluate\_fairness()



• What students see in menu-based Notebooks:

#### 2 Decision tree training









# **Use of Jupyter Notebooks in Class**

- Tool-JNs
  - menu-based (limited actions)
  - focus one aspect of learning about decision trees (overfitting, pruning, evaluation, ...)
- Worked example JN
  - code-based (unlimited actions with python code)
  - presents a whole modelling process (from data preparation to evalutation of the final decision tree)
  - Additional narrative enhancements (code explanation, context explanation, reasons for human decisions)
- Computational Essay JN
  - code-based (unlimited actions with python code)
  - students document their modelling process adapted from the worked example.





## **Tool Notebook: Jupyter Notebook with hidden Code**

#### **Demonstration: Jupyter Notebooks for creating Decision Trees**

#### Video\_Jupyter.mp4





#### Jupyter ProDaBi\_Decision\_Tree\_auto\_pruning Last Checkpoint: 17.06.2021 (autosaved) ~

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Trair	ningsdaten								
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0	frequently	male	rarely	frequently	frequently	frequently	frequently	frequently	5
1	frequently	male	rarely	rarely	frequently	frequently	frequently	rarely	
2	rarely	female	rarely	rarely	frequently	rarely	rarely	rarely	
3	frequently	male	rarely	rarely	rarely	frequently	frequently	rarely	
4	frequently	male	rarely	frequently	frequently	frequently	frequently	frequently	freq
145	frequently	male	frequently	rarely	frequently	rarely	rarely	rarely	
146	rarely	female	rarely	rarely	rarely	frequently	rarely	frequently	
147	frequently	male	frequently	frequently	frequently	frequently	frequently	rarely	
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149 150 r ( Testc 0 1 2 3 4  76 77 78	requently ows × 15 columns daten Play_OnlineGames rarely rarely rarely frequently rarely frequently rarely frequently rarely	Gender female female female male male male male	rarely Use_Twitter rarely rarely rarely rarely rarely rarely rarely rarely rarely rarely	Use_Snapchat rarely rarely frequently frequently frequently frequently frequently	Trequently Use_Instragam rarely rarely frequently frequently frequently frequently frequently	Youtube_MusicVideos NaN frequently frequently frequently frequently carely rarely rarely	Youtube_LetsPlay Youtube_LetsPlay rarely rarely frequently rarely rarely rarely rarely rarely rarely rarely	Youtube_FunnyClips NaN NaN rarely rarely rarely rarely frequently frequently rarely	Trequ Youtube_SportVid freque freque ra ra ra ra ra ra

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# Worked Example: Jupyter Notebook with explicit code and comments Explanations of context and protect a

2 Application context: purpose of the model

Explanations of context and problem to establish a narrative

#### Application: Personalized Advertising on Online Platforms.

This notebook documents the development process of a decision tree. This tree is to decide for online platforms whether a user receives advertising for online games or not. The users who receive advertising should be those who play online games frequently. A user's data can be used to predict whether he or she plays online games frequently or rarely.

#### **Classification problem**

With the present data set, a classification problem with a target variable and different predictor variables can be formulated for the task just described.

• target variable:

Playing\_OnlineGames

predictor variables:

88 Variables about media use

should predict the expression of the target variable Playing\_OnlineGames. The prediction should be based on other data of the user (e.g. personal data, Youtube user behavior, use of online platforms, ...).

The target variable currently has 7 values (7 - 1 or daily - never). However, we only want to make a prediction about whether a user plays online games **frequently** or **rarely**. Therefore, it was necessary to recode the target variable (section 3.2).





# Worked Example: Jupyter Notebook with explicit code with explanations

Explicit code with explanations and reasoning

#### 3.2 Recode variables

```
#recoding the target variable
df_jim['Playing_OnlineGames'].replace([7,6,5],'frequently')
df_jim['Playing_OnlineGames'].replace([4,3,2,1],'rarely')
```

#### Rationale and explanation: recode target variable.

The target variable is recoded because for our prediction model we only want to know if someone plays online "Frequently" or "Rarely" in order to make a decision about placing ads. How frequent it is in detail (daily, once a week, ...) does not interest us at all for this application. A target variable with two values is also easier to predict. We therefore summarize the original values as follows:

6, 5 --> Frequently
 3, 2, 1 --> Rarely





# Worked Example: Jupyter Notebook with explicit code and comments

#Evaluation with test data
tree.prediction accuracy(data jim test, row percentage=True, absolute no = True)

prediction	Häufig	Selten
correct		
Häufig	77.3%	22.7%
Selten	12.0%	88.0%
prediction	Häufig	Selten
correct		
Häufig	58	17
Selten	9	66

#### Comment about evaluation

....





### 4. Some evalutions from students





## Brief evaluation of data cards module n=156 students, grade 6, age 11-12







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# Brief evaluation of CODAP module

#### with n=21 students, grade 9, age 14-15











# 5. Looking back: Tools and facets of modelling at different levels






## Use of tools for different school levels







## Use of tools for different school levels







## Thank you very much for your attention!

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## Literature

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