

# Doing Machine Learning Blindfolded

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# Outline

## ① Introduction

- Motivation
- High-level overview of homomorphic encryption
- Discussion of constraints

## ② Software

- Discussion of implementation issues and `HomomorphicEncryption` R package.

## ③ Encrypted Machine Learning

- Completely Random Forests (CRF)
- Extreme variant of extremely random forests
- Including ‘stochastic fraction estimator’
- Embarrassingly parallel down to single datum

## ④ Other / Future Work

- Brief discussion of other complete and in progress projects

# Introduction

# Motivation

Security in statistics and machine learning applications is a growing concern:

- computing in a ‘hostile’ environment (e.g. cloud computing);
- donation of sensitive/personal data (e.g. medical/genetic studies);
- complex models on constrained devices (e.g. smart watches)
- running confidential algorithms on confidential data (e.g. engineering reliability)

# Encryption the solution?

Encryption can provide security guarantees ...

$$\text{Enc}(k_p, m) \rightleftharpoons c$$

Easy

Hard without  $k_s$

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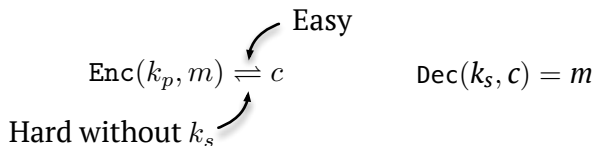
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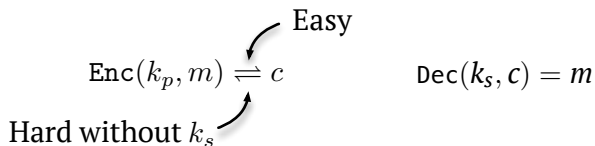
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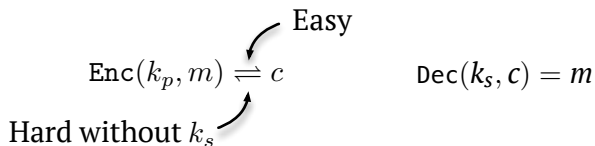
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$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 m_1 & m_2 & \xrightarrow{+} m_1 + m_2 \\
 \downarrow \text{Enc}(k_p, \cdot) & \downarrow & \\
 c_1 & c_2 & 
 \end{array}$$



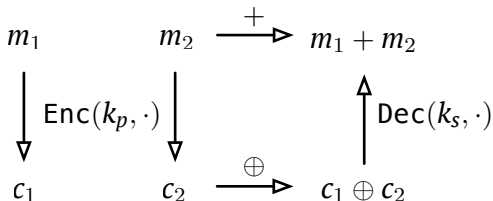
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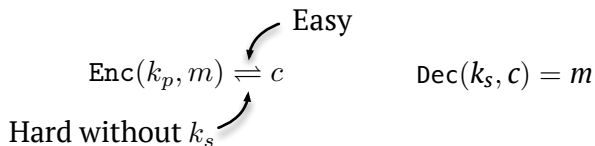
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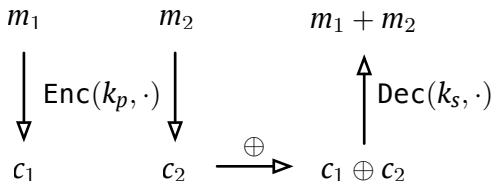
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# Formal definition

## Definition (Homomorphic encryption scheme)

An encryption scheme is said to be *homomorphic* if there is a set of operations  $\circ \in \mathcal{F}_M$  acting in message space,  $M$ , that have corresponding operations  $\diamond \in \mathcal{F}_C$  acting in cipher text space,  $C$ , satisfying the property:

$$\text{Dec}(k_s, \text{Enc}(k_p, m_1) \diamond \text{Enc}(k_p, m_2)) = m_1 \circ m_2 \quad \forall m_1, m_2 \in M$$

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$\{+, \times\}$  pretty limiting? Note that if  $M = \text{GF}(2)$ , then:

- $+ \equiv \vee$ , i.e. XOR, ‘exclusive or’
- $\times \equiv \wedge$ , i.e. AND, ‘and’

Moreover, *any* electronic logic gate can be constructed using only XOR and AND gates.

# Limitations of homomorphic encryption

- 1 Message space (what we can encrypt)
  - Commonly only easy to encrypt binary/integers/polynomials
- 2 Cipher text size (the result of encryption)
  - Present schemes all inflate the size of data substantially (e.g. 1MB  $\rightarrow$  16.4GB)
- 3 Computational cost (computing without decrypting)
  - 1000's additions per sec
  - $\approx$  50 multiplications per sec
- 4 Division and comparison operations (equality/inequality checks)
  - Not possible in current schemes!
- 5 Depth of operations
  - After a certain depth of multiplications, need to 'refresh' cipher text: hugely time consuming, so avoid!

# We really are doing statistics blindfolded ...



# Software

# HomomorphicEncryption R package (Aslett 2014)

All core code in high-performance multi-threaded C++, but accessible via simple R functions and overloaded operators:

```
library("HomomorphicEncryption")

p <- pars("FandV")
k <- keygen(p)
c1 <- enc(k$pk, c(42, 34))
c2 <- enc(k$pk, c(7, 5))
cres1 <- c1 + c2
cres2 <- c1 * c2
cres3 <- c1 %**% c2
dec(k$sk, cres1)
dec(k$sk, cres2)
dec(k$sk, cres3)
```



# Encrypted Machine Learning

# Statistics & Machine Learning Encrypted?

*Lots of constraints!* Are traditional statistics and machine learning techniques out of reach to run on encrypted data? We've looked at a semi-parametric naïve Bayes and a variant of random forests.

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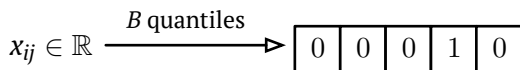
So, want to build a random forest on encrypted data ... but,

- No comparisons possible to evaluate splits
- No max possible to find highest class vote
- No division possible to do average votes
- ...

Thus random forests (and other methods) need to be tailored for encrypted computation. This is where statistics and machine learning community can get involved!

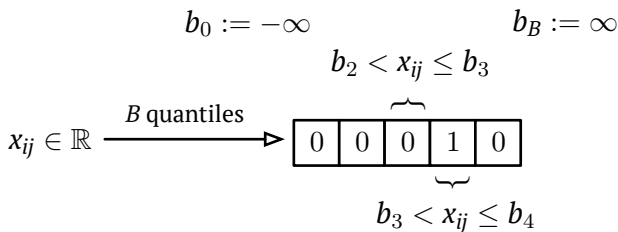
# Completely Random Forests (CRFs) – Data encoding

①



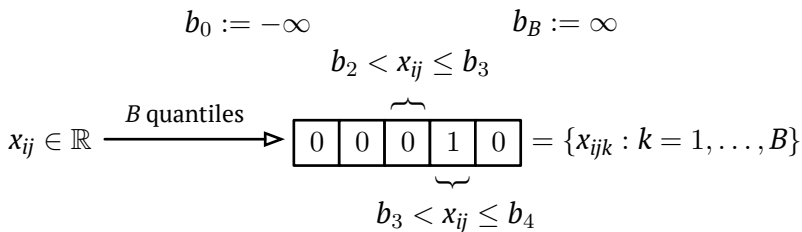
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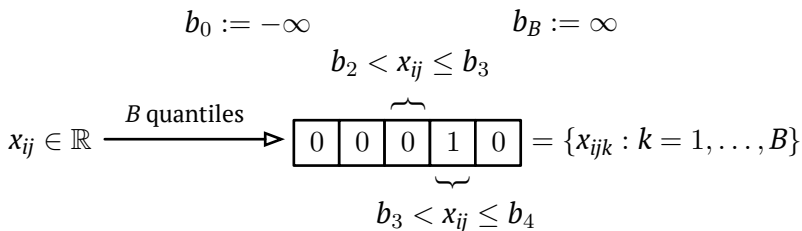
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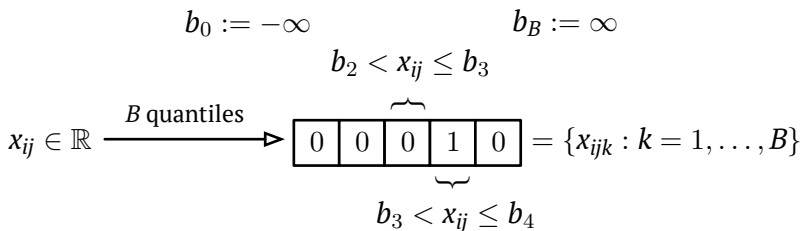


2 Then,

$$\mathbb{I}(x_{ij} \leq b_l) = \sum_{k=1}^l x_{ijk} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{I}(x_{ij} > b_l) = \sum_{k=l+1}^B x_{ijk}$$

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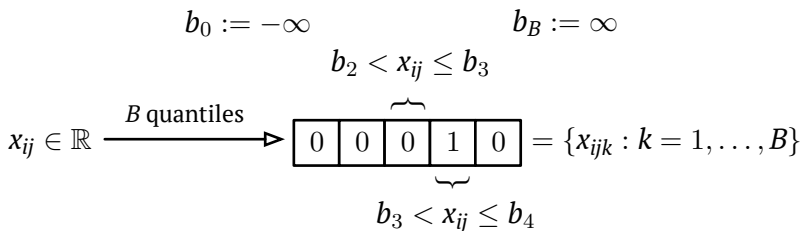
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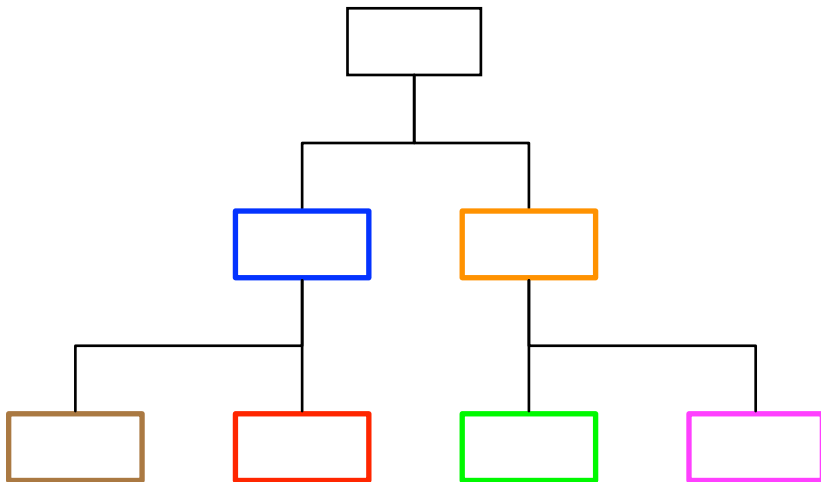
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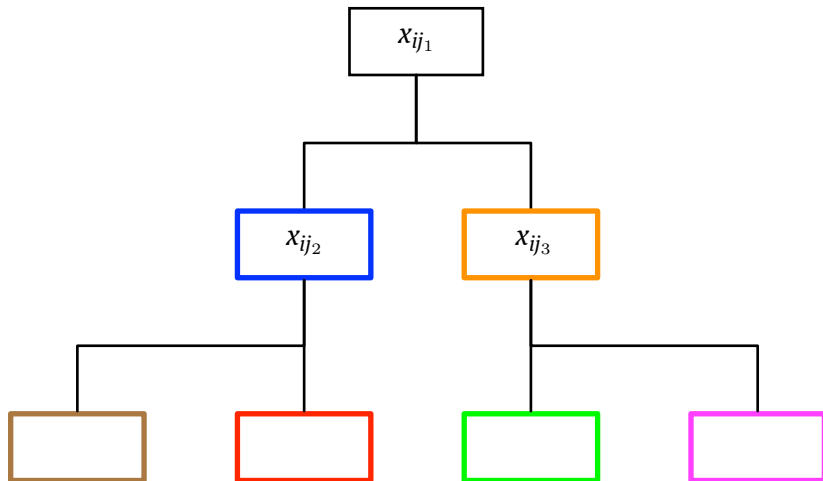
3 Similarly encode response category  $c$ ,  $y_i \rightarrow y_{ic} \in \{0, 1\}$ .

4 Build a decision tree selecting variable  $j$  and split point  $b_l$  *completely* at random to a fixed depth.

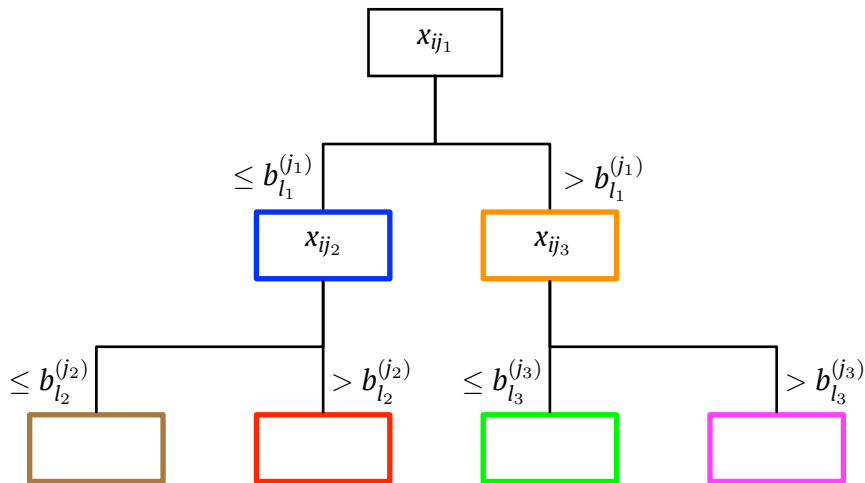
# CRFs – Tree ‘fitting’, I



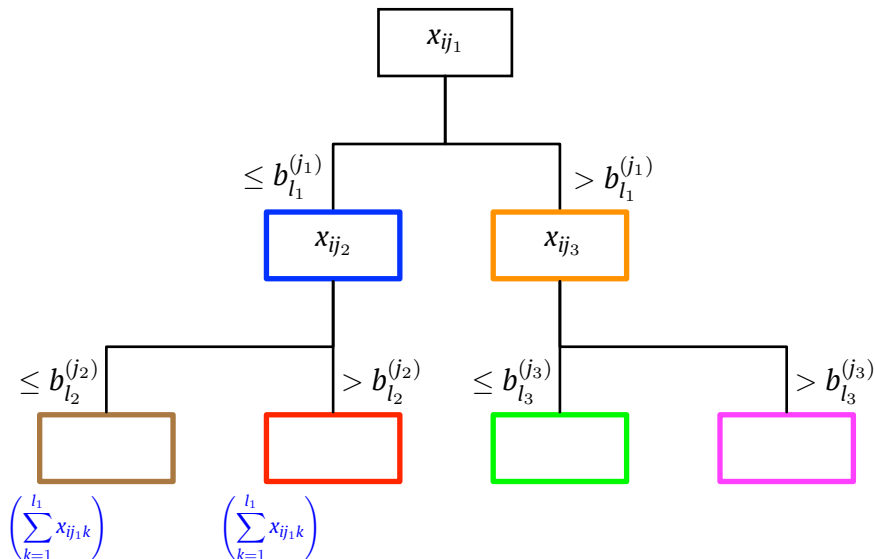
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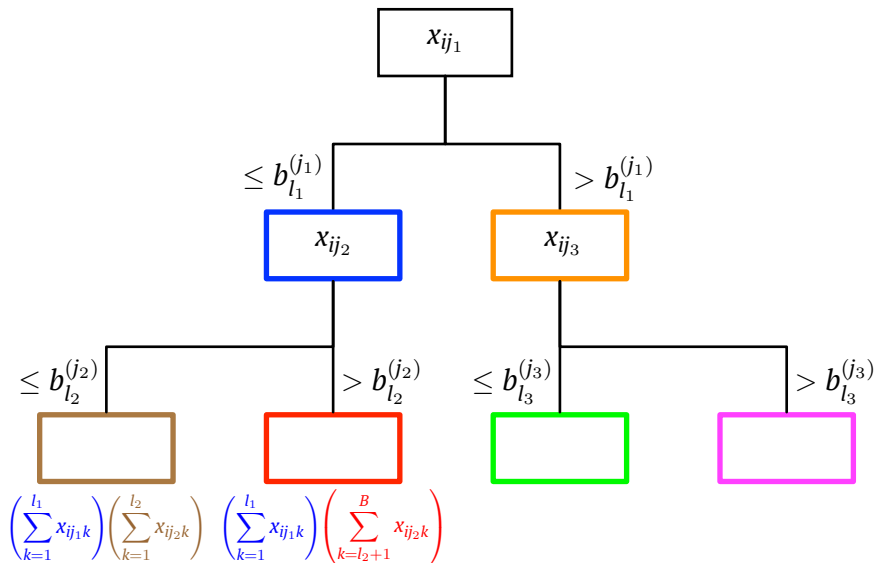
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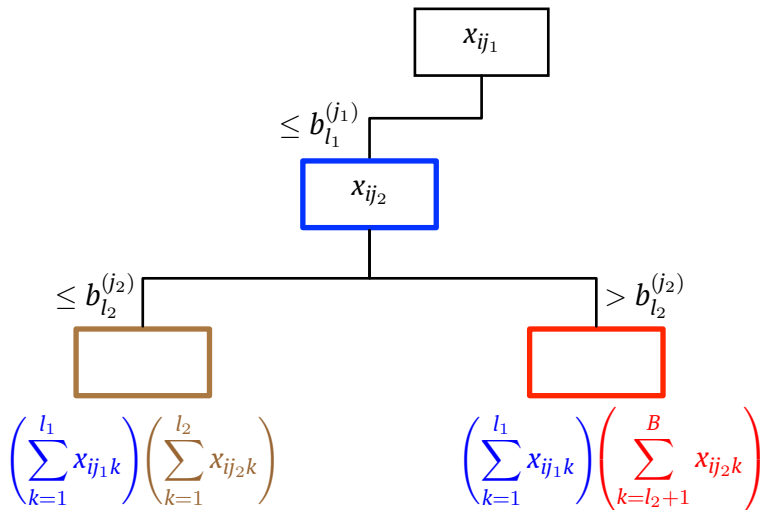


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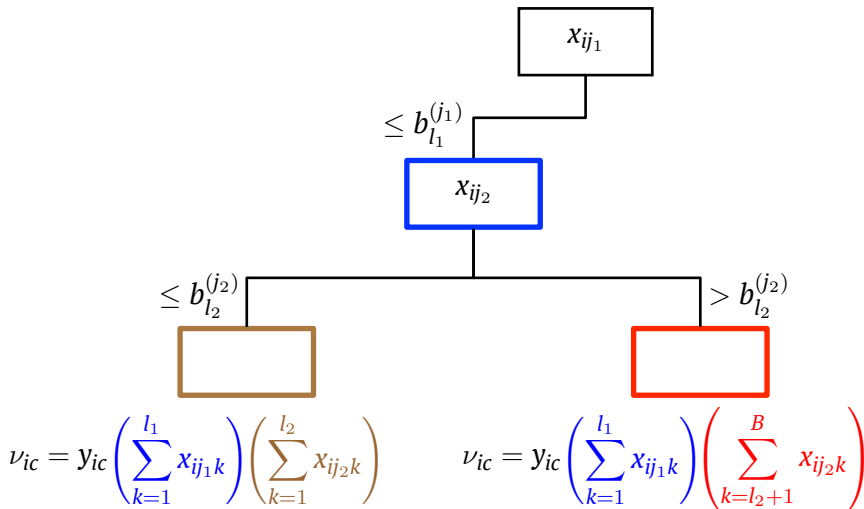


Exactly one terminal leaf indicator evaluates to 1, encrypted.

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NB Must evaluate *all* branches and categories as blindfold.



# CRFs — Prediction

Prediction involves:

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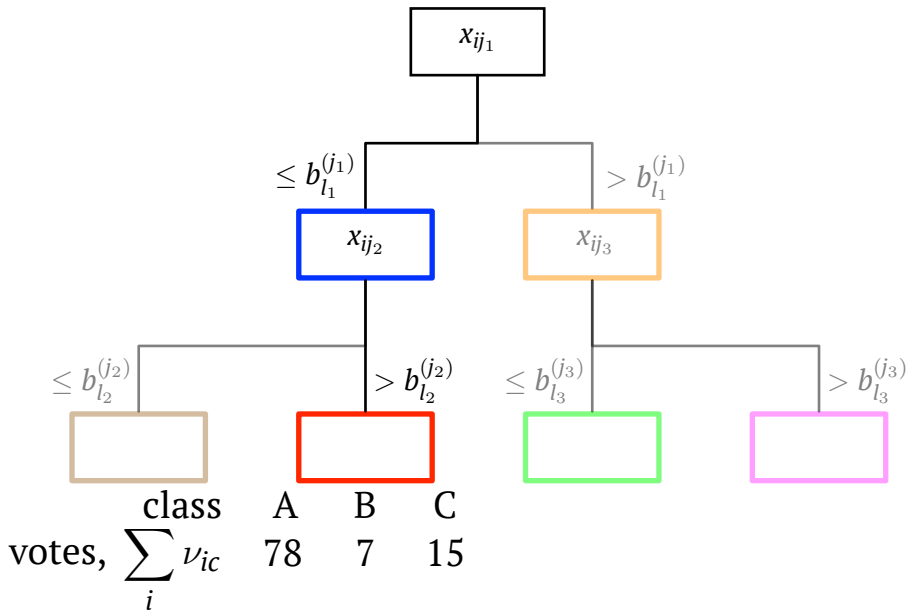
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Random Forests usually use:

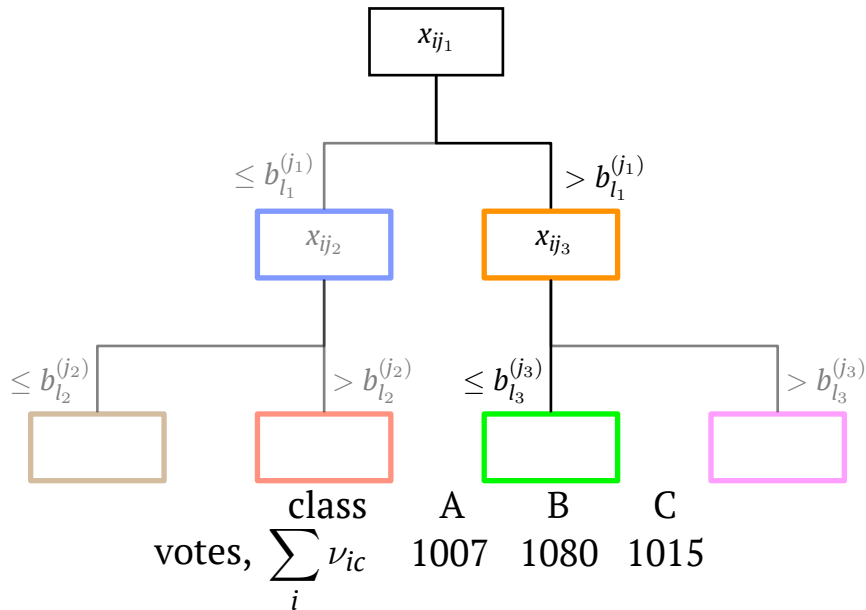
- ① single vote per tree (requires comparison to find max)
- ② relative class frequencies (requires division and  $[0, 1]$  value)

But here trees contribute raw ‘vote’ totals to the prediction: confused leaves with many votes can overwhelm certain ones with few.

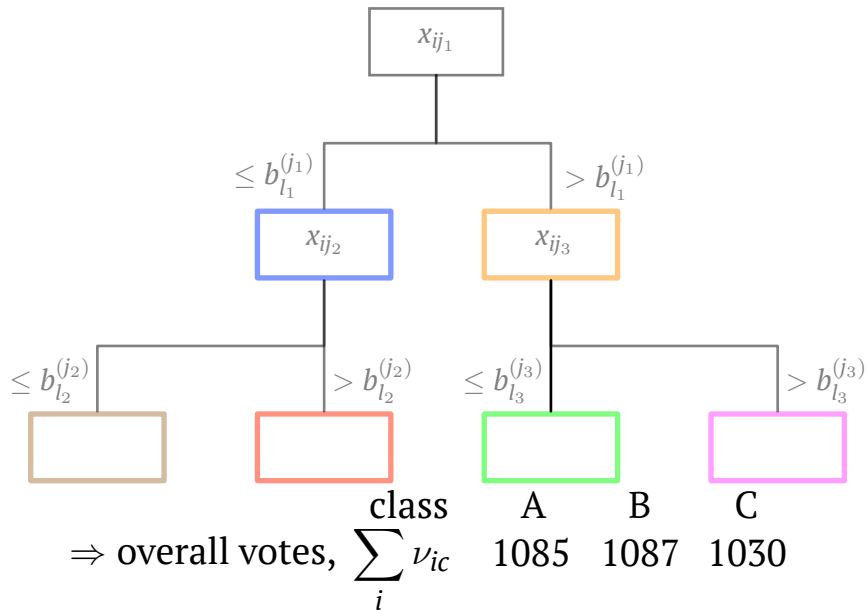
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# Relative class frequencies

Let  $\nu_c$  be the number of votes for class  $c$  in a leaf. The relative class frequency contribution should be:

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$$\nu_c \left\lfloor \frac{N}{\sum_c \nu_c} \right\rfloor$$

where  $N$  is the number of training observations.

- By construction  $\sum_c \nu_c \leq N$ , so  $0 \leq \frac{\sum_c \nu_c}{N} \leq 1$
- Recall,  $X \sim \text{Geometric}(p) \implies \mathbb{E}[X] = p^{-1}$

# Stochastic fraction estimate (I)

Thus, an unbiased approximation to fraction is draw from Geometric distribution with probability  $\frac{\sum_c v_c}{N}$ .  
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**Crucial observation:**  $\nu_c := \sum_{i=1}^N \nu_{ic}$  where  $\nu_{ic} \in \{0, 1\} \forall i, c$ .

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$\implies$  blind sampling with replacement from  $\{\sum_c \nu_{ci} : i = 1, \dots, N\}$  will produce an encrypted 1 with probability exactly  $\frac{\sum_c \nu_c}{N}$ .

$\implies$  can blind sample the latent bernoulli process underlying a Geometric  $\left(p = \frac{\sum_c \nu_c}{N}\right)$  random variable.

## Stochastic fraction estimate (II)

**New problem!** count number of leading zeros in an encrypted Bernoulli process.

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Inspiration from CPU hardware algorithm for renormalising the mantissa of an IEEE floating point number.

Let  $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_M$  be a resampled vector ( $\xi_i = \sum_c \eta_{cj}$ , some  $j$ ) and assume  $M$  is a power of 2.

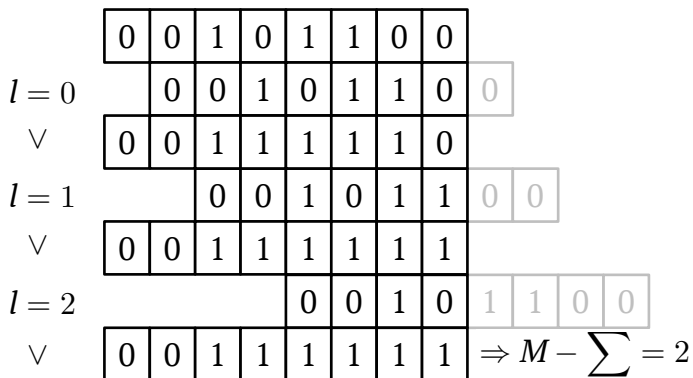
- 1 For  $l \in \{0, \dots, \log_2(M) - 1\}$ :
  - Set  $\xi_i \vee \xi_{i-2^l} = \xi_i + \xi_{i-2^l} - \xi_i \xi_{i-2^l} \quad \forall 2^l + 1 \leq i \leq M$
- 2 The number of leading zeros is  $M - \sum_{i=1}^M \xi_i$

Corresponds to increasing power of 2 bit-shifts OR'd with itself, all computable encrypted.

$$\implies \left\lfloor \frac{N}{\sum_c \nu_c} \right\rfloor \approx M - \sum_{i=1}^M \xi_i + 1$$

# Stochastic fraction estimate (III)

CPU hardware algorithm for mantissa normalisation



# Stochastic fraction estimate (IV)

## **Bias**

Clearly, since blindfolded can't sample *until* a 1 observed, so choose a fixed  $M$  and accept small bias.

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The shrinkage is mild unless there are fewer than  $\frac{N}{M}$  observations in the leaf, in which case the shrinkage is more extreme: this is desirable because it shrinks the influence of underpopulated leaves.

e.g.  $N = 1000, M = 32 \implies$  heavy shrinkage for leaves with  $< 31$  observations.



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## Computational consideration

Multiplicative depth of this algorithm is  $M$ , which must be factored into tree building.

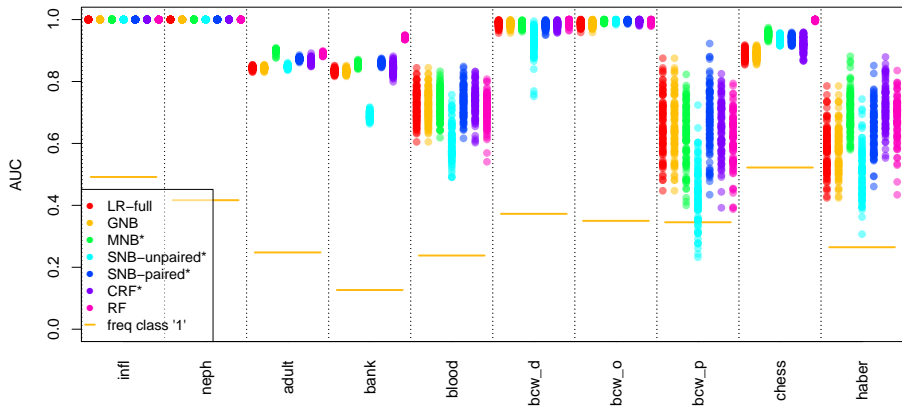
# Theoretical homomorphic scheme requirements

To build a forest of trees with  $L$  levels, the homomorphic encryption scheme must support:

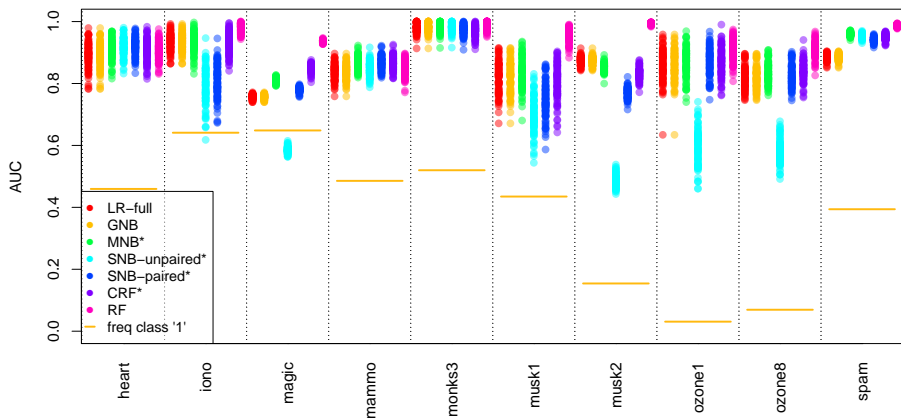
- depth  $L$  multiplications for tree building
- depth  $L + M$  for stochastic fraction adjustment
- depth  $2L + M$  for building, adjustment and prediction.

Furthermore, for the current generation of Ring Learning With Errors encryption schemes where the message space is a polynomial ring, it must support coefficients up to  $T \max\{\sum_i y_{ic} : c = 1, \dots, |\mathcal{C}|\}$ .

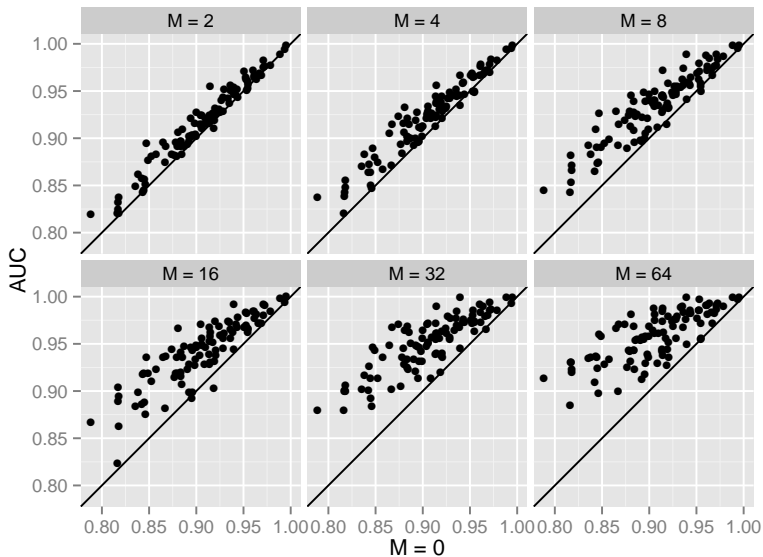
# Results (I)



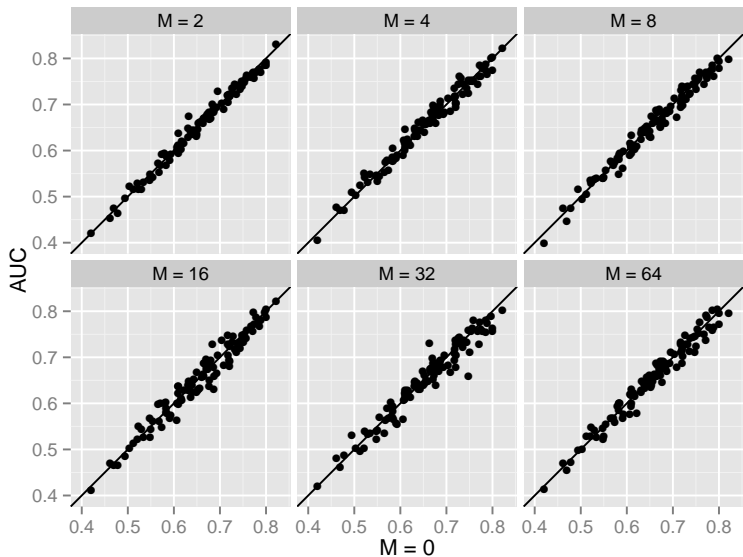
# Results (II)



# Stochastic fraction effect (best)



# Stochastic fraction effect (worst)



# Computational considerations

Note that CRFs are parallelisable right down to the individual observation, which helps with ameliorating the cost of encrypted computation.

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Wisconsin data ( $N = 547$ )

- Launched
  - $2 \times 18$  servers  $\times$  32 cores = 1,152 CPU core cluster on Amazon EC2
  - $\Rightarrow$  576 Dublin & 576 São Paulo
- Fit 50 trees in Dublin, 50 in São Paulo
  - `unique set.seed()` for each region
- Data split into 17 shards of 32 obs + 1 shard 3 obs  $\Rightarrow$  1 datum per core!
- Reduction sum of votes in each region and combine regions  $\Rightarrow$  100 tree forest





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**1h 36m**

**US\$ 23.86**

# Other / Future Work

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- 1 Semi-parametric naive Bayes with logistic decision boundary
  - embedded approximation to logistic regression
- 2 Linear models
  - gradient decent based method
  - ridge penalties
  - lasso(?)
- 3 Multi-party evaluation of system reliability
  - keep system design secret
  - keep component lifetime test data secret
- 4 Approximate Bayesian Computation
  - classifier replacing summary statistics

# References I

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