

# Missing Value Imputation in Multi Attribute Data Set

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**Abstract:** Data mining has made a great progress in recent year but the problem of missing data or value has remained great challenge for data mining. Missing data or value in a datasets can affect the performance of classifier which leads to difficulty of extracting useful information from datasets Dataset taken for this work is student dataset that contains some missing values. The missing value are present in tm\_10 and tm\_12. To impute these missing value we use three techniques are used that are list wise deletion, mean imputation, KNN imputation. After applying these techniques we have three imputed dataset. On these imputed dataset we apply classification algorithm C4.5/j48. In this work analyzes the performance of imputation methods using C4.5 classifier on the basis of accuracy for handling missing data or value. After that decide which imputation method is best to handle missing value. On the basis of experimental results accuracy KNN is greater than other two techniques. So, KNN imputation is a better way of handling missing value. Weka data mining tool is used for this analysis.

**Keywords:** Data mining, missing value, imputation technique, C4.5, Weka.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Data mining refers to extracting knowledge from large amounts of data. The data may be spatial data, multimedia data, time series data, text data and web data. Data mining is the process of extraction of interesting, nontrivial, implicit, previously unknown and potentially useful patterns or knowledge from huge amounts of data. It is the set of activities used to find new, hidden or unexpected patterns in data or unusual patterns in data [1].

### A. MISSING VALUES

Missing data might occur because the value is not relevant to a particular case, could not be recorded when the data was collected, or is ignored by users because of privacy concerns. Missing values lead to the difficulty of extracting useful information from that data set [2]. Missing data are the absence of data items that hide some information that may be important [1]. Most of the real world databases are characterized by an unavoidable problem of incompleteness, in terms of missing or erroneous values. [3].

#### Type of missing data:

There is different type of missing value:

#### MCAR

The term "Missing Completely at Random" refers to data where the missingness mechanism does not depend on the variable of interest, or any other variable, which is observed in the dataset. [4].

**MAR** Sometimes data might not be missing at random but may be termed as "Missing at Random". We can consider an entry  $X_i$  as missing at random if the data meets the

requirement that missingness should not depend on the value of  $X_i$  after controlling for another variable. [6].

#### NAMR

If the data is not missing at random or informatively missing then it is termed as "Not missing at Random". Such a situation occurs when the missingness mechanism depends on the actual value of missing data. [4].

### Missing data imputation techniques

#### litwise Deletion :

This method omits those cases (instances) with missing data and does analysis on the remains. Though it is the most common method, it has two obvious disadvantages: a) A substantial decrease in the size of dataset available for the analysis. b) Data are not always missing completely at random. [5].

#### Mean/Mode Imputation (MMI)

Replace a missing data with the mean (numeric attribute) or mode (nominal attribute) of all cases observed. To reduce the influence of exceptional data, median can also be used. This is one of the most common used methods [5].

#### K-Nearest Neighbor Imputation (KNN)

This method uses k-nearest neighbor algorithms to estimate and replace missing data. The main advantages of this method are that: a) it can estimate both qualitative attributes and quantitative attributes; b) It is not necessary to build a predictive model for each attribute with missing data, even does not build visible models [5]

#### Classification algorithm

Classification is a supervised learning method. It means that learning of classifier is supervised in that it is told to which class each training tuples belongs. Data classification is a two step process. In the first step, a classifier is build describing a predetermined set of data classes or concepts [6]. The data classification process has two phases, these are:-

**Learning-** Classification algorithm analyzed the training data. Classifier is represented in the form of classification rules. This phase is also viewed as learning of a mapping or function,  $Y=f(X)$  which predict the associated class label  $y$  of a given tuple  $X$ . [6].

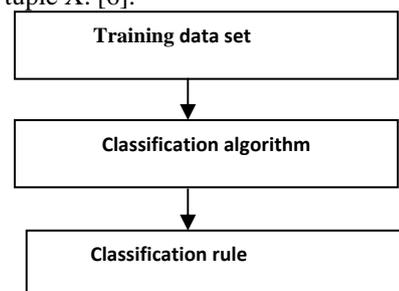


Fig1: learning stage

**B. Classification-** To estimates the accuracy of classification algorithm test data is used. If the accuracy is considered acceptable, the rules can be applied to classification of new data tuples. Accuracy of a classifier on a given test set is percentage of test set that are correctly classified by classifier. The associated class labels of each test tuples is compared with learning classifier class prediction for that tuple [6].

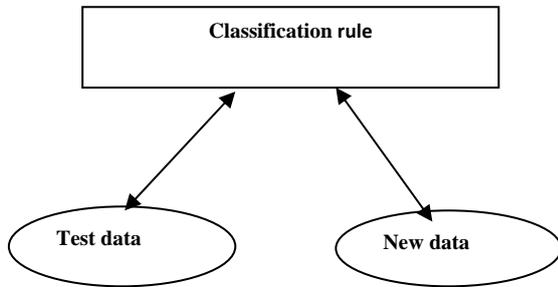


Fig2: classification algorithm

**Decision tree induction:** A decision tree is a tree in which each branch node represents a choice between a number of alternatives, and each leaf node represents a decision [7]. Decision tree is a flow chart like tree structure, where each internal node is denoted by rectangles and the leaf nodes are denoted by ovals. At each split in the tree, all input attributes are evaluated for their impact on the predictable attribute. [8]. It is the most commonly used algorithms because of its ease of implementation and easier to understand compared to other classification algorithm [9].

**II. RESEARCH BACKGROUND**

**Liu peng , lie lei**, in their paper “A Review of Missing Data Treatment Methods” Missing data is a common problem for data quality.. Popular methods for dealing with missing data and four comparative experiments about the effect of the methods are introduced. KNN, C4.5 and MMI are most common used methods for dealing with missing data these days [5].

**Ms. r. malarvizhi**, in their paper “K-NN Classifier Performs Better Than K-Means Clustering in Missing Value Imputation” K-Means and KNN methods provide fast and accurate ways of estimating missing values.KNN – based imputations provides for a robust and sensitive approach to estimating missing data [7].

**Edgar Acuna, Caroline Rodriguez**, in their paper “The treatment of missing values and its effect in the classifier accuracy” The presence of missing values in a dataset can affect the performance of a classifier constructed using that dataset as a training sample [10]

**B. Mehala, P. Ranjit Jeba Thangaiah, and K. Vivekananda**, in their paper “Selecting Scalable Algorithms to Deal with Missing Values” This work analyses the behavior and efficiency for missing data treatment: C4.5 algorithm to treat missing data and K-means for missing data imputation. [11].

**Xiaoyuan su** “Using Imputation Techniques to Help Learn Accurate Classifiers” The accuracy of classifiers produced by machine learning algorithms generally deteriorates if the

training data is incomplete, and preprocessing this data using simple imputation methods, such as mean imputation (MEI), does not generally produce much better classifiers. [12].

**Maytal Saar-Tsechansky** “Handling Missing Values when Applying Classification Models” This paper first compares several different methods—predictive value imputation, the distribution- based imputation used by C4.5, and using reduced models—for applying classification trees to instances with missing values[13]

**Meghali A. KalyankarProf. S. J. Alaspurka** “data Mining Technique to Analyse the Metrological Data” Meteorological data mining is a form of data mining concerned with finding hidden patterns inside largely available meteorological data, so that the information retrieved can be transformed into usable knowledge.. [14]

**Bhavik Doshi**, “Handling Missing Values” in Data Mining Missing Values and its problems are very common in the data cleaning process. Several methods have been proposed so as to process missing data in datasets and avoid problems caused by it. [4].

**III. CONCEPTUAL FRAME WORK**

In this work, we are taking student dataset that contain number of attributes such as state of domicile family income, 10th and 12 marks, category. In these records, some of data values are missing.

**A.** To impute these missing values, missing data techniques are used. Techniques that are used for imputing missing values are:

1. Ignore the tuples containing missing data.
2. Imputing the missing values by using attribute mean value.
3. Imputing the missing values by using KNN (K Nearest Neighbor).

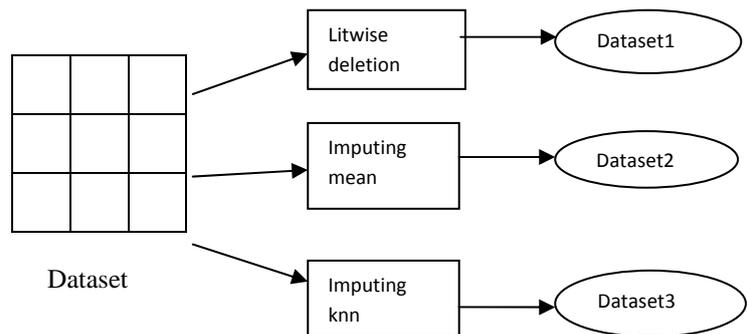
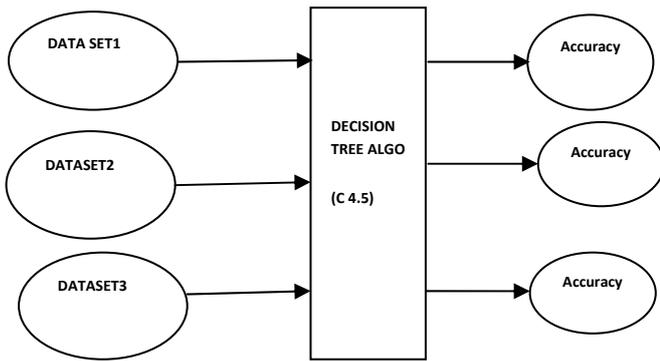


Fig3: Missing Value Imputation

**B.** After applying all of these techniques we get a three complete / imputed dataset. These datasets are input to the classification algorithm. Classification algorithm used for this is J48 or c4.5 classifier. This algorithm is applied on imputed dataset to analyze which is the best technique for handling the missing values.



Flow diagram of whole methodology is shown below: This diagram explain that how missing value are imputed in missing data set by using three different imputation method such as lit wise deletion, mean imputation, knn imputation. After applying imputation method there are three imputed datasets on these dataset apply classification decision tree algorithm after getting result of c4.5 classifier compare all the imputation technique or method to find out which is best imputation method. This is done by calculated accuracy of each imputed datasets,

Fig4: Apply Decision Tree Algo on Imputed Datasets

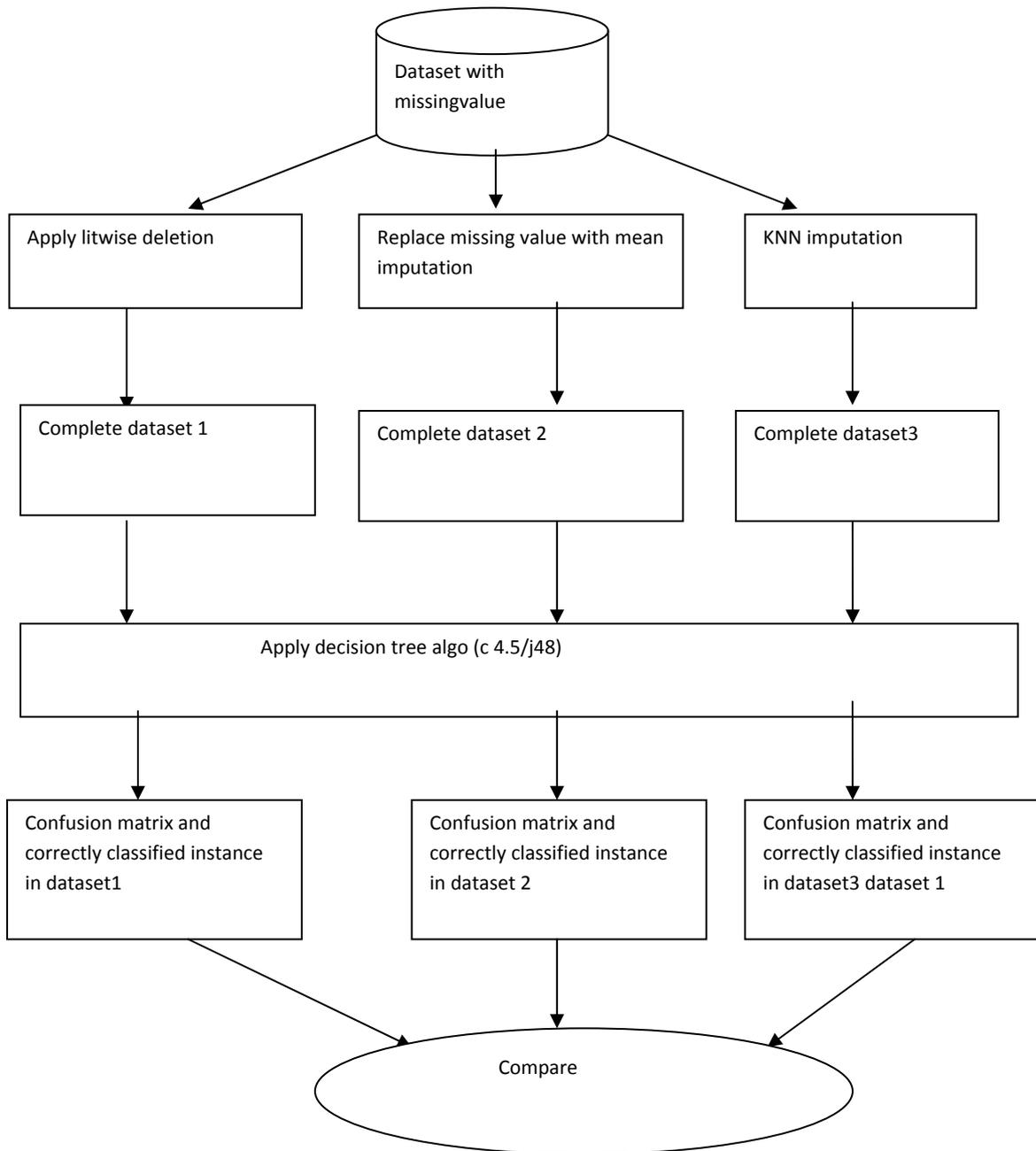


Fig5: Flow Diagram for Handling Missing Data

**IV. RESULT AND ANALYSIS**

The database that is taken for this research work contains student records .These are 200 record of student having 13 attributes. Some of the data values in these records are missing. The attributes that contain missing values are marks obtained in 10th and 12th class. This database is designed in MS excel format

s.no	state of domicile	family income	tm_10	mm_10	p10	mm_12	tm_12	P12	name of entrance test	marks obtained	entrance exam	category	output variable(suppose loan requirement)
1	2	400000	415	600	69	500	333	67	1	100	no	yes	
2	4	300000	412	600	69	500	340	68	2	120	yes	yes	
3	1	300000	420	600	70	500		82	3	150	yes	no	
4	3	320000	390	600	65	500	319	64	1	100	no	yes	
5	1	350000	457	600	76	500	420	84	1	155	yes	no	
6	5	600000	447	600	75	500	360	72	1	156	yes	no	
7	6	560000	300	600	50	500	340	68	2	90	no	no	
8	2	340000	333	600	56	500	320	64	2	98	no	yes	
9	3	380000	480	600	80	500		98	3	160	yes	no	
10	6	320000		600	75	500	444	89	2	153	yes	yes	
11	7	430000	512	600	85	500	447	89	2	152	yes	yes	
12	6	550000	490	600	82	500		76	1	155	yes	no	
13	2	450000	480	600	80	500	390	78	1	152	yes	no	
14	8	340000		600	67	500	399	80	3	122	yes	no	
15	9	450000	420	600	70	500	390	78	3	122	yes	yes	
16	10	390000	488	600	81	500		80	3	130	yes	yes	
17	3	400000		600	75	500	392	78	2	132	yes	yes	
18	4	500000	460	600	77	500	397	79	3	134	yes	no	
19	8	600000	447	600	75	500	390	78	1	138	yes	no	
20	11	720000	490	600	82	500		78	2	140	yes	no	
21	10	450000	300	600	50	500	300	60	2	100	no	yes	
22	6	340000	333	600	56	500	301	60	3	98	no	no	
23	12	360000		600	65	500	305	61	1	150	yes	yes	
24	13	380000	300	600	50	500	299	60	1	89	no	no	

Fig6: Student Dataset

**A. EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE**

**1. Missing Value Imputation**

**1.1) Lit wise deletion:** This method consists of discarding all instances (cases) with missing values for at least one feature. A variation of this method consists of determining the extent of missing data on each instance and attribute, and deletes the instances and/or attributes with high levels of missing data.

s.no	state of domicile	family income	tm_10	mm_10	p10	mm_12	tm_12	P12	name of entrance test	marks obtained	entrance exam	category	output variable(suppose loan requirement)
1	2	400000	415	600	69	500	333	67	1	100	no	yes	
2	4	300000	412	600	69	500	340	68	2	120	yes	yes	
4	3	320000	390	600	65	500	319	64	1	100	no	yes	
5	1	350000	457	600	76	500	420	84	1	155	yes	no	
6	5	600000	447	600	75	500	360	72	1	156	yes	no	
7	6	560000	300	600	50	500	340	68	2	90	no	no	
8	2	340000	333	600	56	500	320	64	2	98	no	yes	
11	7	430000	512	600	85	500	447	89	2	152	yes	yes	
13	2	450000	480	600	80	500	390	78	1	152	yes	no	
15	9	450000	420	600	70	500	390	78	3	122	yes	yes	
18	4	500000	460	600	77	500	397	79	3	134	yes	no	
19	8	600000	447	600	75	500	390	78	1	138	yes	no	
21	10	450000	300	600	50	500	300	60	2	100	no	yes	
22	6	340000	333	600	56	500	301	60	3	98	no	no	
24	13	380000	300	600	50	500	299	60	1	89	no	no	
25	12	420000	400	600	67	500	303	61	2	154	yes	yes	
26	6	460000	312	600	52	500	307	61	2	90	no	no	
28	14	330000	345	600	58	500	292	58	3	88	no	yes	
29	9	430000	380	600	63	500	312	62	1	155	yes	yes	
31	16	350000	500	600	83	500	397	79	3	150	yes	yes	
33	18	680000	480	600	80	500	360	72	1	120	yes	no	

Fig7: Dataset after Applying Lit Wise Deletion Technique

**1.2) Mean imputation:** This is one of the most frequently used methods. It consists of replacing the missing data for a given feature (attribute) by the mean of all known values of that attribute in the class where the instance with missing attribute belongs. In this we replace all the missing value with its mean.

Here Mean is calculated as:

Mean = sum of all the values/total number of values.

Mean of tm\_10 =430

Mean of tm\_12=357.55

s.no	state of domicile	family income	tm_10	mm_10	p10	mm_12	tm_12	P12	name of entrance test	marks obtained	entrance exam	category	output variable(suppose loan requirement)
1	2	400000	415	600	69	500	333	67	1	100	no	yes	
2	4	300000	412	600	69	500	340	68	2	120	yes	yes	
3	1	300000	420	600	70	500	357.5593	82	3	150	yes	no	
4	3	320000	390	600	65	500	319	64	1	100	no	yes	
5	1	350000	457	600	76	500	420	84	1	155	yes	no	
6	5	600000	447	600	75	500	360	72	1	156	yes	no	
7	6	560000	300	600	50	500	340	68	2	90	no	no	
8	2	340000	333	600	56	500	320	64	2	98	no	yes	
9	3	380000	480	600	80	500	357.5593	98	3	160	yes	no	
10	6	320000	430	600	75	500	444	89	2	151	yes	yes	
11	7	430000	512	600	85	500	447	89	2	152	yes	yes	
12	6	550000	490	600	82	500	357.5593	76	1	155	yes	no	
13	2	450000	480	600	80	500	390	78	1	152	yes	no	
14	8	340000	430	600	67	500	399	80	3	121	yes	no	
15	9	450000	420	600	70	500	390	78	3	122	yes	yes	
16	10	390000	488	600	81	500	357.5593	80	3	130	yes	yes	
17	3	400000	430	600	75	500	392	78	2	132	yes	yes	
18	4	500000	460	600	77	500	397	79	3	134	yes	no	
19	8	600000	447	600	75	500	390	78	1	138	yes	no	
20	11	720000	490	600	82	500	357.5593	78	2	140	yes	no	
21	10	450000	300	600	50	500	300	60	2	100	no	yes	
22	6	340000	333	600	56	500	301	60	3	98	no	no	

Fig 8: Dataset After Applying Mean Imputation

**1.3) KNN imputation**

In this method the missing values of an instance are imputed considering a given number of instances that are most similar to the instance of interest. The similarity of two instances is determined using a distance Function. The algorithm for k-nearest neighbor is as follows-

- Determine the value of K (Nearest neighbors). Here Value of K=5
  - Calculate the distance between the missing value instance and other training instance. Here Euclidean distance is used for calculating the distance. Euclidean distance is given by the equation as:-
- $$D(x, y) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sqrt{x_i^2 - y_i^2}$$
- After calculating the Euclidean distances choose the data values those having minimum distance. If the value of K is 5 then we have to choose 5 values that having minimum distance. Calculate the mean of these chosen values. The mean is given by the equation as:-
  - Calculate the mean of these chosen values. The mean is given by the equation as:-

$$M = 1/n \sum_{i=1}^n m_i$$

- Impute M as the output value for missing data.

**KNN imputation (k=5)**

Here we are taking value of nearest neighbors is 5. then we calculate the distance by using Euclidean distance function. Mean of these five values is calculated and mean value is imputed on the place of missing value

s.no	state of domicile	family income	tm_10	mm_10	p10	mm_12	P12	name of entrance test	marks obtained	entrance category	output variable(suppose loan require)	
1	2	400000	415	600	69	500	333	67	1	100	no	yes
2	4	300000	412	600	69	500	340	68	2	120	yes	yes
3	1	300000	420	600	70	500	412	82	3	150	yes	no
4	3	320000	390	600	65	500	319	64	1	100	no	yes
5	1	350000	457	600	76	500	420	84	1	155	yes	no
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7	6	560000	300	600	50	500	340	68	2	90	no	no
8	2	340000	333	600	56	500	320	64	2	98	no	yes
9	3	380000	480	600	80	500	443	98	3	160	yes	no
10	6	320000	443.2	600	75	500	444	89	2	151	yes	yes
11	7	430000	512	600	85	500	447	89	2	152	yes	yes
12	6	550000	490	600	82	500	378	76	1	155	yes	no
13	2	450000	480	600	80	500	390	78	1	152	yes	no
14	8	340000	407	600	67	500	399	80	3	121	yes	no
15	9	450000	420	600	70	500	390	78	3	122	yes	yes
16	10	390000	488	600	81	500	400	80	3	130	yes	yes
17	3	400000	450.8	600	75	500	392	78	2	132	yes	yes
18	4	500000	460	600	77	500	397	79	3	134	yes	no
19	8	600000	447	600	75	500	390	78	1	138	yes	no

Fig9: dataset after applying KNN imputation

1.2 After imputation datasets are converted into.csv format load these datasets into weka tool. The main weka explore interface with the data file loaded using preprocessing panel.

After applying lit wise deletion technique complete dataset is loaded into weka tool.

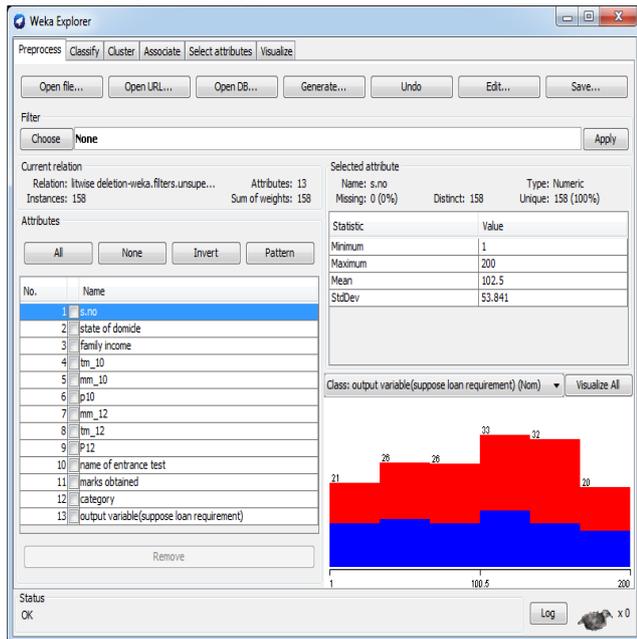


Fig10: Load litwise deletion dataset in weka tool

On imputed dataset apply classification algorithm. To perform classification ,select the “classification” tab in explore and click on the ”choose” button in this case we select “j48”classifier in the ”classification mode” panel, the” use cross validation” option is selected, and click on “start” button. This process and resulting window is shown below:

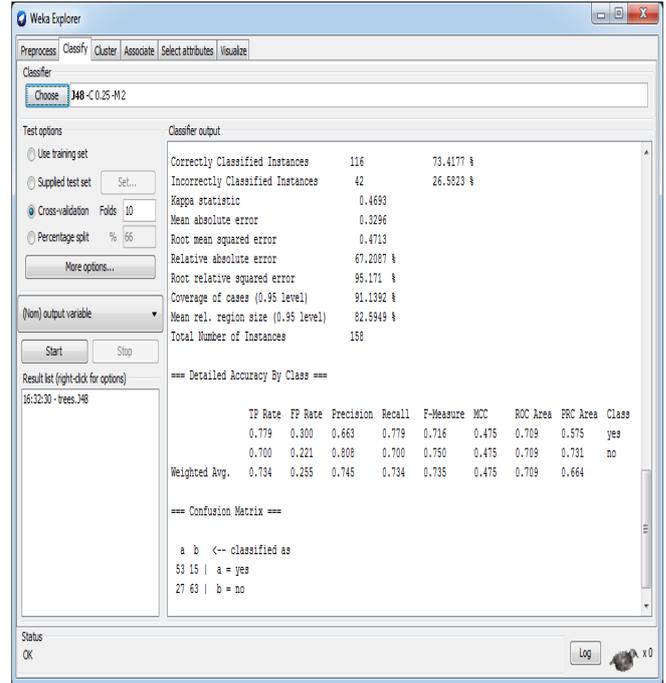


Fig 11: Result of C4.5 Classifier for Lit wise Deletion

After applying mean imputation on missing data the complete data set is loaded into weka tool then perform classification , select “j48”classifier in the ”classification mode” panel, the” use 10 fold cross validation” option is selected, and click on “start” button.

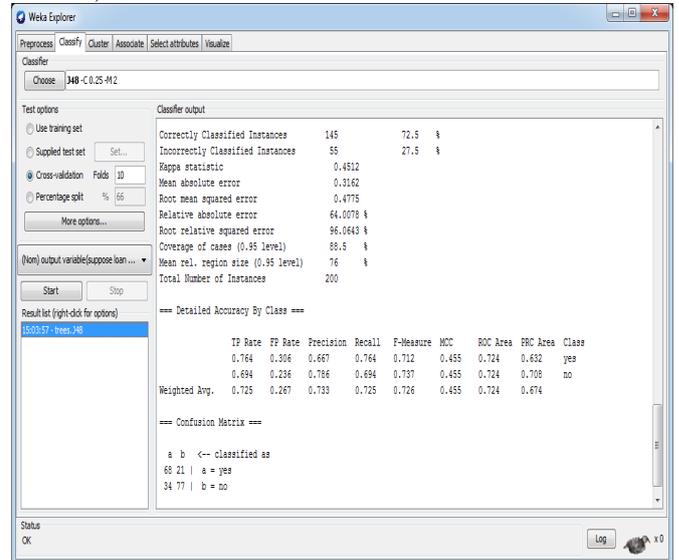


Fig12: Result of C4.5 Classifier for Mean Imputation

After applying KNN imputation on missing data the complete data set is loaded into weka tool then perform classification , select “j48”classifier in the ”classification mode” panel, the” use 10 fold cross validation” option is selected, and click on “start” button .

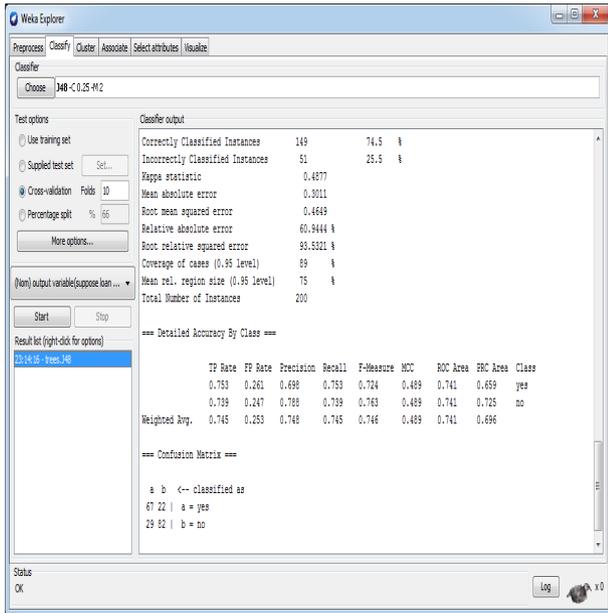


Fig13: Result of C4.5 Classifier for KNN Imputation

**B. EXPERIMENTAL RESULT**

After applying this imputation technique we have three complete dataset in order to check which imputation technique is best we apply decision tree algorithm j48 in data mining tool weka. There many measure used for finding the which technique is best. Some of them are accuracy correctly classified instance, incorrectly classified instance, mean absolute error. Classification is evaluated by using confusion matrix.

**Confusion matrix**

A confusion matrix contains information about actual and predicted classifications done by a classification system. Performance of such systems is commonly evaluated using the data in the matrix. The following table shows the confusion matrix for a two class classifier [15].

		Predicted classes	
		TP	FP
Actual classes	FN	TN	
	P	N	

Table1: Confusion Matrix

- True positive (TP)- These are the positive tuples that were correctly labeled by the classifier [6].If the outcome from a prediction is p and the actual value is also p, then it is called a true positive (TP)[15].
- True Negative (TN)-These are the negative tuples that were correctly labeled by the classifier [6].
- False Positive (FP)-These are the negative tuples that were incorrectly labeled as positive [6]. However if the actual value is n then it is said to be a false positive (FP) [15].
- False Negative (FN)-These are the positive tuples that were mislabeled as negative [6].
- **Accuracy is calculated as** = (TP+TN)/(P+N) where, P=TP+FN and N=FP+TN. Or TP+TN/(TOTAL).

Algorithm used C4.5 classifier	Correctly classified instances	Incorrectly classified instances	Accuracy	Mean absolute error
Litwise deletion	116	42	73%	0.3296
Mean imputation	145	55	72.5	0.3162
KNN imputation	149	51	74.5	0.3011

Table2: Comparison of Imputation Techniques using C4.5 Classification Algorithm

According to experimental results, correctly classified instances for Litwise deletion is 116 and for mean/mode imputation is 145. Correctly classified instances for KNN imputation is 149 which is greater than previous two algorithms. Accuracy of KNN is 74.5% which is also greater than other two techniques so KNN is best technique to handle missing value in data set.

**V. CONCLUSION**

Missing values in the dataset are big problem so missing value must be imputed before the dataset is used. In this work we have taken a student dataset in which some of the values are missing. To impute these missing values three techniques are used named as Litwise deletion, mean/mode imputation, KNN (k nearest neighbor). Apply these missing techniques individually on this dataset, which results as three complete/imputed datasets. Then imputed datasets are loaded into weka tool. Then C4.5/J48 classification algorithm is applied to these imputed datasets and their results are compared in order to evaluate accuracy of imputation techniques and KNN accuracy is greater than other two techniques. KNN imputation is a better technique to impute missing value.

**FUTURE SCOPE:**

New missing data imputation techniques can be used for further data analysis. Also estimate the missing value by using clustering and classification. Various new problems using missing data analysis can be designed and solved. Different classification algorithm can be used for comparative analysis missing data imputation techniques. Missing data Imputation technique can be implemented in matlab.

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