

CLASSIFICATION OF MULTIVARIATE DATA SETS WITHOUT MISSING VALUES USING MEMORY BASED CLASSIFIERS – AN EFFECTIVENESS EVALUATION

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ABSTRACT

Classification is a gradual practice for allocating a given piece of input into any of the known category. Classification is a crucial Machine Learning technique. There are many classification problem occurs in different application areas and need to be solved. Different types are classification algorithms like memory-based, tree-based, rule-based, etc are widely used. This work evaluates the performance of different memory based classifiers for classification of Multivariate data set without having Missing values from UCI machine learning repository using the open source machine learning tool. A comparison of different memory based classifiers used and a practical guideline for selecting the renowned and most suited algorithm for a classification is presented. Apart from that some pragmatic criteria for describing and evaluating the best classifiers are discussed.

KEYWORDS

Classification, IB1 Classifier, IBk Classifier, K Star Classifier, LWL Classifier

1. INTRODUCTION

In machine learning, classification refers to an algorithmic process for designating a given input data into one among the different categories given. An example would be a given program can be assigned into "private" or "public" classes. An algorithm that implements classification is known as a classifier. The input data can be termed as an instance and the categories are known as classes. The characteristics of the instance can be described by a vector of features. These features can be nominal, ordinal, integer-valued or real-valued. Many data mining algorithms work only in terms of nominal data and require that real or integer-valued data be converted into groups. Classification is a supervised procedure that learns to classify new instances based on the knowledge learnt from a previously classified training set of instances. The equivalent unsupervised procedure is known as clustering. It entails grouping data into classes based on inherent similarity measure. Classification and clustering are examples of the universal problems like pattern recognition. In machine learning, classification systems induced from empirical data (examples) are first of all rated by their predictive accuracy. In practice, however, the interpretability or transparency of a classifier is often important as well. This work evaluates the effectiveness of memory-based classifiers to classify the Multivariate Datasets without containing missing values.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

In [1], the comparison of the performance analysis of Fuzzy C mean (FCM) clustering algorithm with Hard C Mean (HCM) algorithm on Iris flower data set is done and concluded Fuzzy clustering are proper for handling the issues related to understanding pattern types, incomplete / noisy data, mixed information and human interaction, and can afford fairly accurate solutions faster. In [6], the issues of determining an appropriate number of clusters and of visualizing the strength of the clusters are addressed using the Iris Data Set.

3. DATA SET

IRIS flower data set classification problem is one of the novel multivariate dataset created by Sir Ronald Aylmer Fisher [3] in 1936. IRIS dataset consists of 150 instances from three different types of Iris plants namely Iris setosa, Iris virginica and Iris versicolor, each of which consist of 50 instances. Length and width of sepal and petals is measured from each sample of three selected species of Iris flower. These four features were measured and used to classify the type of plant are the Sepal Length, Petal Length, Sepal Width and Petal Width [4]. Based on the combination of the four features, the classification of the plant is made. Other multivariate datasets selected for Performance evaluation of Memory-Based Classifiers are Car Evaluation Dataset, Glass Identification Dataset and Balance Scale Dataset from UCI Machine Learning Repository [8]. Car Evaluation dataset has six attributes (Buying Price, Maintenance Price, Number of Doors, Capacity, Size of Luggage Boat and Estimated Safety of the car) and consists of 1728 instances of four different classes. Glass Identification Data set has nine attributes (Refractive Index, Sodium, Potassium, Magnesium, Aluminium, Calcium, Silicon, Barium and Iron content) and consists of 214 instances of seven different classes namely Building Windows Float Processed Glass, Vehicle Windows Float Processed Glass, Building Windows Non-Float Processed Glass, Vehicle Windows Non-Float Processed Glass, Containers Non-Window Glass, Tableware Non-Window Glass and Headlamps Non-Window Glass. Balance Scale Dataset contains four attributes (Left weight, Left distance, Right Weight and Right Distance) and 625 instances.

4. CLASSIFIERS USED

Different memory based Classifiers are evaluated to find the effectiveness of those classifiers in the classification of Iris Data set. The Classifiers evaluated here are.

4.1. IB1 Classifier

IB1 is nearest neighbour classifier. It uses normalized Euclidean distance to find the training instance c closest to the given test instance, and predicts the same class as this training instance. If several instances have the smallest distance to the test instance, the first one obtained is used. Nearest neighbour method is one of the effortless and uncomplicated learning/classification algorithms, and has been effectively applied to a broad range of problems [5].

To classify an unclassified vector X , this algorithm ranks the neighbours of X amongst a given set of N data (X_i, c_i) , $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$, and employs the class labels c_j ($j = 1, 2, \dots, K$) of the K most similar neighbours to predict the class of the new vector X . In specific, the classes of the K neighbours are weighted using the similarity between X and its each of the neighbours, where the Euclidean distance metric is used to measure the similarity. Then, X is assigned the class label with the greatest number of votes among the K nearest class labels. The nearest neighbour classifier works based on the intuition that the classification of an instance is likely to be most similar to the classification of other instances that are nearby to it within the vector space. Compared to other classification methods such as Naive Bayes', nearest neighbour classifier does not rely on prior probabilities, and it is computationally efficient if the data set concerned is not very large.

4.2. IBk Classifier

IBK is an implementation of the k-nearest-neighbours classifier. Each case is considered as a point in multi-dimensional space and classification is done based on the nearest neighbours. The value of 'k' for nearest neighbours can vary. This determines how many cases are to be considered as neighbours to decide how to classify an unknown instance.

For example, for the 'iris' data, IBK would consider the 4 dimensional space for the four input variables. A new instance would be classified as belonging to the class of its closest neighbour using Euclidean distance measurement. If 5 is used as the value of 'k', then 5 closest neighbours are considered. The class of the new instance is considered to be the class of the majority of the instances. If 5 is used as the value of k and 3 of the closest neighbours are of type 'Iris-setosa', then the class of the test instance would be assigned as 'Iris-setosa'. The time taken to classify a test instance with nearest-neighbour classifier increases linearly with the number of training instances kept in the classifier. It has a large storage requirement. Its performance degrades quickly with increasing noise levels. It also performs badly when different attributes affect the outcome to different extents. One parameter that can affect the performance of the IBK algorithm is the number of nearest neighbours to be used. By default it uses just one nearest neighbour.

4.3. K Star Classifier

KStar is a memory-based classifier that is the class of a test instance is based upon the class of those training instances similar to it, as determined by some similarity function. The use of entropy as a distance measure has several benefits. Amongst other things it provides a consistent approach to handling of symbolic attributes, real valued attributes and missing values. K* is an instance-based learner which uses such a measure [6].

Specification of K*

Let I be a (possibly infinite) set of instances and T a finite set of transformations on I. Each $t \in T$ maps instances to instances: $t: I \rightarrow I$. T contains a distinguished member σ (the stop symbol) which for completeness maps instances to themselves ($\sigma(a) = a$). Let P be the set of all prefix codes from T^* which are terminated by σ . Members of T^* (and so of P) uniquely define a transformation on I: $t(a) = t_n(t_{n-1}(\dots t_1(a) \dots))$ where $t = t_1, \dots, t_n$

A probability function p is defined on T^* . It satisfies the following properties:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \frac{p(\bar{t}u)}{p(\bar{t})} \leq 1 \\ \sum_u p(\bar{t}u) &= p(\bar{t}) \\ p(\Lambda) &= 1 \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

As a consequence it satisfies the following:

$$\sum_{\bar{t} \in P} p(\bar{t}) = 1 \tag{2}$$

The probability function P^* is defined as the probability of all paths from instance 'a' to instance 'b':

$$P^*(b|a) = \sum_{\bar{t} \in P: \bar{t}(a)=b} p(\bar{t}) \tag{3}$$

It is easily proven that P^* satisfies the following properties:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_b P^*(b|a) &= 1 \\ 0 &\leq P^*(b|a) \leq 1 \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

The K^* function is then defined as:

$$K^*(b|a) = -\log_2 P^*(b|a) \tag{5}$$

K^* is not strictly a distance function. For example, $K^*(a|a)$ is in general non-zero and the function (as emphasized by the $|$ notation) is not symmetric. Although possibly counter-intuitive the lack of these properties does not interfere with the development of the K^* algorithm below. The following properties are provable:

$$\begin{aligned} K^*(b|a) &\geq 0 \\ K^*(c|b) + K^*(b|a) &\geq K^*(c|a) \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

4.4. LWL Classifier

LWL is a learning model that belongs to the category of memory based classifiers. Machine Learning Tools work by default with LWL model and Decision Stump in combination as classifier. Decision Stump usually is used in conjunction with a boosting algorithm.

Boosting is one of the most important recent developments in classification methodology. Boosting works by sequentially applying a classification algorithm to reweighted versions of the training data, and then taking a weighted majority vote of the sequence of classifiers thus produced. For many classification algorithms, this simple strategy results in dramatic improvements in performance. This seemingly mysterious phenomenon can be understood in terms of well known statistical principles, namely additive modelling and maximum likelihood. For the two-class problem, boosting can be viewed as an approximation to additive modelling on the logistic scale using maximum Bernoulli likelihood as a criterion. We are trying to find the best estimate for the outputs, using a local model that is a hiper-plane. Distance weighting the data training points corresponds to requiring the local model to fit nearby points well, with less concern for distant points:

$$C = \sum_i (x_i^T \beta - y_i)^2 \tag{7}$$

This process has a physical interpretation. The strength of the springs are equal in the unweighted case, and the position of the hiper-plane minimizes the sum of the stored energy in the springs (Equation 8). We will ignore a factor of 1/2 in all our energy calculations to simplify notation. The stored energy in the springs in this case is C of Equation 7, which is minimized by the physical process.

$$w = \int dFx = \int K dx \cdot x = K \int x dx = \frac{Kx^2}{2} \tag{8}$$

The linear model in the parameters can be expressed as:

$$x_i^T \beta = y_i \quad (9)$$

In what follows we will assume that the constant 1 has been appended to all the input vectors x_i to include a constant term in the regression. The data training points can be collected in a matrix equation:

$$X\beta = y \quad (10)$$

where X is a matrix whose i^{th} row is x_i^T and y is a vector whose i^{th} element is y_i . Thus, the dimensionality of X is 'n x d' where n is the number of data training points and d is the dimensionality of x . Estimating the parameters using an unweighted regression minimizes the criterion given in equation 1 [7]. By solving the normal equations

$$(X^T X) \beta = X^T y \quad (11)$$

For β :

$$\beta = (X^T X)^{-1} X^T y \quad (12)$$

Inverting the matrix $X^T X$ is not the numerically best way to solve the normal equations from the point of view of efficiency or accuracy, and usually other matrix techniques are used to solve Equation 11.

5. CRITERIA USED FOR CLASSIFICATION EVALUATION

The comparison of the results is made on the basis of the following criteria.

5.1. Accuracy Classification

All classification result could have an error rate and it may fail to classify correctly. So accuracy can be calculated as follows.

$$\text{Accuracy} = (\text{Instances Correctly Classified} / \text{Total Number of Instances}) * 100 \% \quad (13)$$

5.2. Mean Absolute Error

MAE is the average of difference between predicted and actual value in all test cases. The formula for calculating MAE is given in equation shown below:

$$\text{MAE} = (|a_1 - c_1| + |a_2 - c_2| + \dots + |a_n - c_n|) / n \quad (14)$$

Here 'a' is the actual output and 'c' is the expected output.

5.3. Root Mean Squared Error

RMSE is used to measure differences between values predicted by a model and the values actually observed. It is calculated by taking the square root of the mean square error as shown in equation given below:

$$\sqrt{\frac{(a_1 - c_1)^2 + (a_2 - c_2)^2 + \dots + (a_n - c_n)^2}{n}} \quad (15)$$

Here ‘a’ is the actual output and c is the expected output. The mean-squared error is the commonly used measure for numeric prediction.

5.4. Confusion Matrix

A confusion matrix contains information about actual and predicted classifications done by a classification system.

The classification accuracy, mean absolute error, root mean squared error and confusion matrices are calculated for each machine learning algorithm using the machine learning tool.

6. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This work is performed using Machine learning tool to evaluate the effectiveness of all the memory-based classifiers for various multivariate datasets.

Data Set 1: Iris Data set

The performance of the memory based algorithms for Iris Data set in terms of Classification Accuracy, Time taken to test the Model, RMSE and MAE values as shown in Table 1. Comparison among these classifiers based on the correctly classified instances is shown in Fig. 1. Comparison among these classifiers based on MAE and RMSE values are shown in Fig. 2. The confusion matrix arrived for these classifiers are shown from Table 2 to Table 5. The overall ranking is done based on the classification accuracy, Time taken to test the Model, MAE and RMSE values. Based on the results arrived, IB1Classifier which has 100% accuracy and zero MAE and RMSE got the first position in ranking followed by IBk, K Star and LWL as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Overall Results of Memory Based Classifiers – IRIS Dataset

Classifier Used	Instances Correctly Classified (Out of 150)	Classification Accuracy (%)	Time taken to Test Model (sec)	MAE	RMSE	Rank
IB1	150	100	0.02	0	0	1
IBk	150	100	0.02	0.0085	0.0091	2
K Star	150	100	0.27	0.0062	0.0206	3
LWL	147	98	0.02	0.0765	0.1636	4

Table 2. Confusion Matrix for IB1 Classifier – IRIS Dataset

	A	B	C
A = Iris-Setosa	50	0	0
B = Iris-Versicolor	0	50	0
C = Iris-Virginica	0	0	50

Table 3. Confusion Matrix for IBk Classifier – IRIS Dataset

	A	B	C
A = Iris-Setosa	50	0	0
B = Iris-Versicolor	0	50	0
C = Iris-Virginica	0	0	50

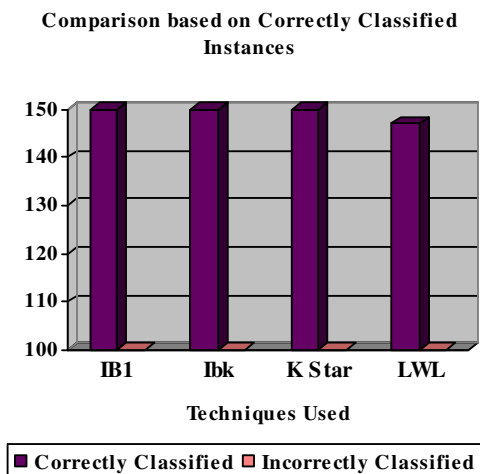


Figure 1. Comparison based on Number of Instances Correctly Classified – Iris Dataset

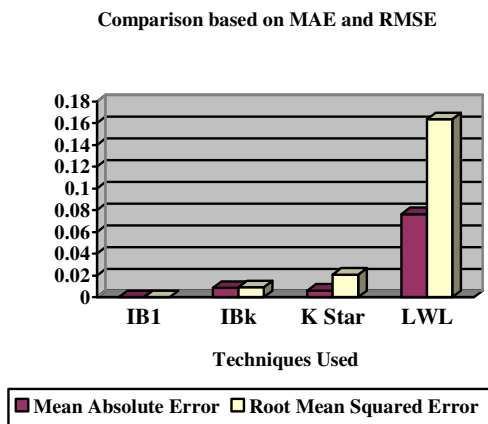


Figure 2. Comparison based on MAE and RMSE values – Iris Dataset

Table 4. Confusion Matrix for K*Classifier – IRIS Dataset

	A	B	C
A = Iris-Setosa	50	0	0
B = Iris-Versicolor	0	50	0
C = Iris-Virginica	0	0	50

Table 5. Confusion Matrix for LWL Classifiers – IRIS Dataset

	A	B	C
A = Iris-Setosa	50	0	0
B = Iris-Versicolor	0	49	1
C = Iris-Virginica	0	2	48

Data Set 2: Car Evaluation Data set

The performance of the memory based algorithms for Car Evaluation Data set in terms of Classification Accuracy, Time taken to test the Model, RMSE and MAE values as shown in Table 6. Comparison among the classifiers based on the correctly classified instances is shown in Fig. 3. Comparison among these classifiers based on MAE and RMSE values are shown in Fig. 4. The confusion matrix arrived for these classifiers are shown from Table 7 to Table 10. The overall ranking is done based on the classification accuracy, MAE and RMSE values and it is given in Table 6. Based on the results arrived, IB1 Classifier has 100% accuracy and zero MAE and RMSE got the first position in ranking followed by IBk, K Star and LWL as shown in Table 6.

Table 6. Overall Results of Memory Based Classifiers – CAR Dataset

Classifier Used	Instances Correctly Classified (Out of 1728)	Classification Accuracy (%)	Time taken to Test Model	MAE	RMSE	Rank
IB1	1728	100	0.62	0	0	1
IBk	1728	100	0.62	0.0009	0.001	2
K Star	1728	100	3.49	0.1027	0.1644	3
LWL	1210	70.02	2.72	0.1373	0.266	4

Table 7. Confusion Matrix for IB1Classifier – CAR Dataset

	A	B	C	D
A = Unaccident	1210	0	0	0
B = Accident	0	384	0	0
C = Good	0	0	69	0
D = Verygood	0	0	0	65

Table 8. Confusion Matrix for IBk Classifier – CAR Dataset

	A	B	C	D
A = Unaccident	1210	0	0	0
B = Accident	0	384	0	0
C = Good	0	0	69	0
D = Verygood	0	0	0	65

Table 9. Confusion Matrix for K Star Classifier – CAR Dataset

	A	B	C	D
A = Unaccident	1210	0	0	0
B = Accident	0	384	0	0
C = Good	0	0	69	0
D = Verygood	0	0	0	65

Comparison based on Correctly Classified Instances

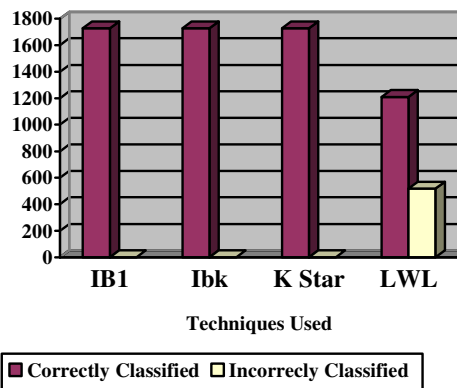


Figure 3. Comparison based on Number of Instances Correctly Classified – CAR Dataset

Comparison based on MAE and RMSE

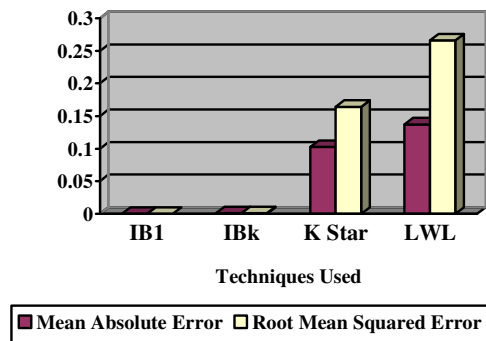


Figure 4. Comparison based on MAE and RMSE values – CAR Dataset

Table 10. Confusion Matrix for LWL Classifier – CAR Dataset

	A	B	C	D
A = Unaccident	1210	0	0	0
B = Accident	384	0	0	0
C = Good	69	0	0	0
D = Verygood	65	0	0	0

Data Set 3: Glass Identification Data set

The performance of the memory based algorithms for Glass Identification Dataset in terms of Classification Accuracy, Time taken to test the Model, RMSE and MAE values as shown in Table 11. Comparison among the classifiers based on the correctly classified instances is shown in Fig. 5. Comparison among these classifiers based on MAE and RMSE values are shown in Fig. 6. The confusion matrix arrived for these classifiers are shown from Table 12 to Table 15. The overall ranking is done based on the classification accuracy, Time taken to test the Model, MAE and

RMSE values. Based on the results arrived, IB1 Classifier has 100% accuracy with Nil MAE and RMSE got the first position in ranking followed by IBk, K Star and LWL as shown in Table 11.

Table 11. Overall Results of Memory Based Classifiers – Glass Dataset

Classifier Used	Instances Correctly Classified (Out of 214)	Classification Accuracy (%)	Time taken to Test Model (sec)	MAE	RMSE	Rank
IB1	214	100	0.08	0	0	1
IBk	214	100	0.08	0.0077	0.011	2
K Star	214	100	0.70	0.0002	0.0026	3
LWL	97	45.33	0.47	0.1724	0.291	4

Comparison based on Correctly Classified Instances

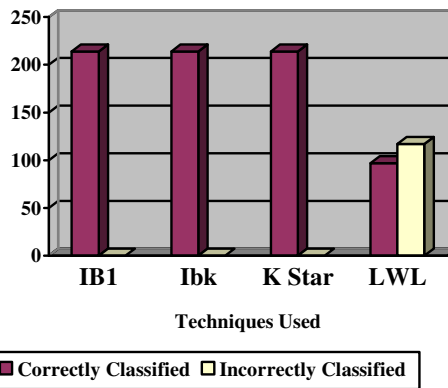


Figure 5. Comparison based on Number of Instances Correctly Classified – Glass Dataset

Comparison based on MAE and RMSE

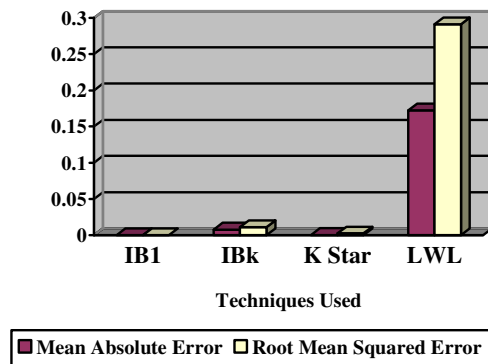


Figure 6. Comparison based on MAE and RMSE values – Glass Dataset

Table 12. Confusion Matrix for IB1Classifier – GLASS Dataset

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
A = Build window float	70	0	0	0	0	0	0
B = Build window non-float	0	76	0	0	0	0	0
C = Vehicle Window Float	0	0	17	0	0	0	0
D = Vehicle Window non-Float	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
E = Containers	0	0	0	0	13	0	0
F = Tableware	0	0	0	0	0	9	0
G = Headlamps	0	0	0	0	0	0	29

Table 13. Confusion Matrix for IBk Classifier – GLASS Dataset

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
A = Build window float	70	0	0	0	0	0	0
B = Build window non-float	0	76	0	0	0	0	0
C = Vehicle Window Float	0	0	17	0	0	0	0
D = Vehicle Window non-Float	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
E = Containers	0	0	0	0	13	0	0
F = Tableware	0	0	0	0	0	9	0
G = Headlamps	0	0	0	0	0	0	29

Table 14. Confusion Matrix for K Star Classifier – GLASS Dataset

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
A = Build window float	70	0	0	0	0	0	0
B = Build window non-float	0	76	0	0	0	0	0
C = Vehicle Window Float	0	0	17	0	0	0	0
D = Vehicle Window non-Float	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
E = Containers	0	0	0	0	13	0	0
F = Tableware	0	0	0	0	0	9	0
G = Headlamps	0	0	0	0	0	0	29

Table 15. Confusion Matrix for LWL Classifier – GLASS Dataset

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
A = Build window float	70	0	0	0	0	0	0
B = Build window non-float	63	1	0	0	0	0	12
C = Vehicle Window Float	17	0	0	0	0	0	0
D = Vehicle Window non-Float	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
E = Containers	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
F = Tableware	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
G = Headlamps	3	0	0	0	0	0	26

Data Set 4: Balance Scale Dataset

The performance of the memory based algorithms for Balance Scale Dataset in terms of Classification Accuracy, Time taken to test the Model, RMSE and MAE values as shown in Table 16. Comparison among the classifiers based on the correctly classified instances is shown in Fig.

7. Comparison among these classifiers based on MAE and RMSE values are shown in Fig. 8. The confusion matrix arrived for these classifiers are shown from Table 17 to Table 20.

Table 16. Overall Results of Memory Based Classifiers – Balance Scale Dataset

Classifier Used	Instances Correctly Classified (Out of 625)	Classification Accuracy (%)	Time taken to Test Model (sec)	MAE	RMSE	Rank
IB1	625	100	0.3	0	0	1
IBk	625	100	0.3	0.0021	0.0023	2
K Star	589	94.24	0.62	0.1349	0.1995	3
LWL	352	56.32	0.78	0.3192	0.3973	4

The overall ranking is done based on the classification accuracy, Time taken to test the Model, MAE and RMSE values. Based on the results arrived, IB1 Classifier has 100% accuracy with Nil MAE and RMSE got the first position in ranking followed by IBk, K Star and LWL as shown in Table 16.

Comparison based on Correctly Classified Instances

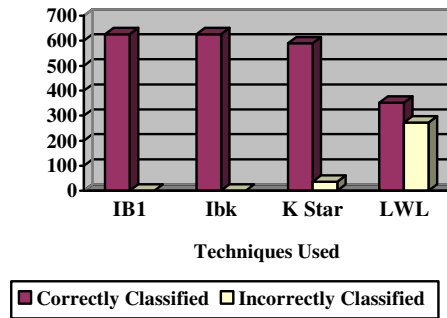


Figure 7. Comparison based on Number of Instances Correctly Classified – Balance Scale Dataset

Comparison based on MAE and RMSE

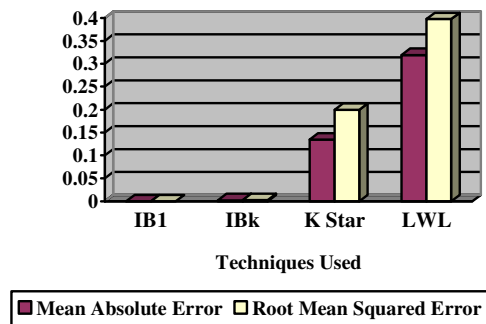


Figure 8. Comparison based on MAE and RMSE values – Balance Scale Dataset

Table 17. Confusion Matrix for IB1Classifier – Balance Scale Dataset

	A	B	C
A = Left	288	0	0
B = Balanced	0	49	0
C = Right	0	0	288

Table 18. Confusion Matrix for IBkClassifier – Balance Scale Dataset

	A	B	C
A = Left	288	0	0
B = Balanced	0	49	0
C = Right	0	0	288

Table 19. Confusion Matrix for K Star Classifier – Balance Scale Dataset

	A	B	C
A = Left	288	0	0
B = Balanced	12	13	24
C = Right	0	0	288

Table 20. Confusion Matrix for LWL Classifier – Balance Scale Dataset

	A	B	C
A = Left	176	0	112
B = Balanced	23	0	26
C = Right	112	0	176

7. CONCLUSIONS

In this performance evaluation work, Memory based classifiers are experimented to estimate classification accuracy of those classifiers in the classification of Multivariate Data sets without Missing Values using Iris, Glass Identification, Balance Scale, Car Evaluation and Congressional Voting Records Data Sets. The experiments were done using an open source Machine Learning Tool. The performance of the classifiers was measured and results are compared. Among the four classifiers (IB1 Classifier, IBk Classifier, K Star Classifier and LWL Classifier) IB1 Classifier performs well in this classification problem. IBk Classifier, K Star Classifier and LWL classifier are getting the successive ranks based on classification accuracy and other evaluation measures.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author thanks the Management of Sphoorthy Engineering College and Faculties of CSE Department for the cooperation extended.

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