DATA MINING AND
AN APPLICATION IN ANADOLU UNIVERSITY OPEN EDUCATION SYSTEM

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Abstract

Nowadays, like in other fields of study where data mining is applied, large databases are also available in education, from which meaningful relationships could be discovered and useful knowledge extracted. Within the scope of this study, data mining application is conducted in order to predict student performance by conjoining data from different sources about students enrolled to Anadolu University Distance Education System. Comparison studies have been conducted using different clustering models to predict student performance which could contribute planning activities of Distance Education System. The model in which C5.0 decision tree algorithm is used had achieved the highest success in predicting student performance. It is foreseen that the system can be used for predicting student achievement by integrating the decision rules of the proposed model. Consequently, important information will be obtained to be used in planning future activities of Open Education System. While the developments in information and communication technologies are effecting learning habits of individuals, it becomes more important to analyze accumulated data mountains using modern methods. Data mining has been described and a case study has been conducted in this paper.

Key Words: Data Mining, classification algorithms, Open Education System.