

# A Study on Efficiency of Data Mining Approaches to Online - Learning Methods

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## ABSTRACT

Now days, on-line learning systems increase student's ability to be told on their own. the use of information Mining in education system has become a significant analysis area, and it's accustomed collect info expeditiously from electronic learning systems. The academic systems face numerous issues like static delivery of the fabric identification of student desires and checking the standard of student interaction level. This paper surveys academic data processing approaches like pattern mining, clustering, classification, and AI. The goal of this paper is to get economical information from web-based learning systems. This work provides specific web-based courses, well-known adjective environment, and intelligent learning systems. The comparison of electronic learning systems and elaborated analysis modify students to enhance the training expertise. This paper presents the previously performed analysis connected studies, techniques that may be used to improve the scholar information and tutorial progress in an E-Learning system.

**Keywords:** Online-Learning, Adaptive, Data Mining, Learning System

## I. INTRODUCTION

An Online -Learning Strategies will be outlined as a web-based system that provides an outsized quantity of knowledge to users or learners, with none time restrictions still as geographic limitations. These systems square measure typically terribly economical in analyzing the performance, behavior of students, the disadvantage of lecture delivering vogue and course content of the instructors. It looks like a blessing; simply a click away is quickly obtainable lots of helpful info concerning any topic. academic data processing (EDM) involves extraction of knowledge from E- Learning systems, analysis and detection of learning patterns and, behavior still as relationships.

With the passage of your time, the net has introduced numerous changes within the education system. The E-learning systems provide to be told with multiple blessings like obtaining the data at anytime, anywhere, supported any topic, data will be extracted from everywhere the globe. These facilities won't be realistic

and not result in an efficient learning if the setting isn't properly designed and algorithms aren't with efficiency enforced, it's necessary to supply a software system design that facilitates access to the training resources and, teachers, whereas taking care of specific user wants, their goals still as preferences; it ought to be adaptative to the learner and to the context.

Recent studies have conferred that numerous Learning Management Systems (LMS) like Model, Edmodo, and Sakai learning system, connected, blackboard, and Decebo square measure notable systems. Another approach went to study the dependency level between learning management system, patterns of usage and results of learning conferred by [1-6] researches enforced. data processing techniques applied by the utilization of Pattern analysis with Associates, Classifiers, bunch techniques and totally different applied mathematics strategies [7] used the look techniques for up the contents and overall system.

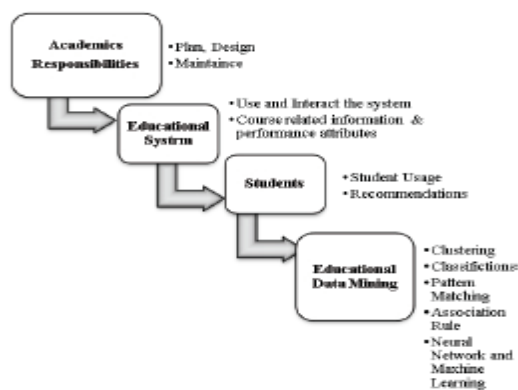
The main problems in previous E-learning Systems square measure poorly managed course content system

[6]. Student's classification supported the performance and on extra-curricular activities, detection of irregular learning attitudes and outlier, learning system together with improper interaction with students/optimization, bunch with same E-learning system usage and, system enhancement/adaptation to student's demand and capability [1, 3, 7]. it's still difficult to supply associate degree adaptative intelligent primarily based learning setting. As this is often the disadvantage that no paper presents the comparative studies with E-learning system still as adaptative intelligence primarily based academic system. A survey paper is conferred, that provides a comparative study of various strategies for up the E-learning systems.

This paper could be a account of previous literature 2010-2016 by use of various data processing techniques, and colligation, Genetic algorithms, mathematical logic, AI strategies, Clustering, mental image strategies, Classification strategies or Classifiers with Artificial Neural networks [2, 6, 8-10]. To decrease student's dropout quantitative relation, increase the motivation for college students and improve the progress of offered courses with the experiences of academic systems square measure the foremost difficult tasks in [11].

**Process of EDM and Research Goals:**

**The educational Data** mining consists of following basic step: in which academic responsibilities, educational systems, students and implementation of data mining techniques are included and this whole process is repeated repeatedly for further improvements as the suggestions are taken from every stakeholder.



**Figure 1.** Education system using Data Mining

Figure one shows that Educational systems perform a deep study, analysis of academic responsibilities and

various architectures after deep observation, past experiences and studies. They make a rough sketch, implement this work into proper Design, which is our Education System, Online, or offline, the interaction between student, courses and Instructor occur, recommendations and modifications arise. In order to make a better system, we gather the historical information, current data and applied data mining techniques on it for improvement in courses, and education systems. In this way, the whole Process is modeled. There are many research goals, as mentioned in [12]. Student is Prediction for Future learning: Prediction of student's performance in advance, learning process as well as behavior of learner. This can be achieved by making models of learners, after getting the details of the students.

The details of student include information about the subjects, thinking skills, motivation, previous results, academic information, attitude of learner, and extra-curricular activities related information etc. its main applications is student performance prediction in advance for the betterment of educations systems and student's grades, Domain models are discovering provide improvements: By struggling to discover the models and improve them using data mining techniques, Effects of Education support related study: By studying the different effects of learning provided by online, gives advancement in scientific knowledge: For learners and learning process, student's model is used to build by using latest technology and software.

Table 1. Learning Analytics And Educational Data Mining Overview 1

Features	Learning Analytics(LA)	Educational Data Mining(EDM)
<b>Origin</b>	Outcome of Prediction Systematic Intervention Semantic Web Human Judgment	Predicting outcome Educational type's software Student Modeling Automatic Process
<b>Techniques</b>	Bottom-up approach used	Top-down approach used
<b>Methods</b>	Applied already build methods Learning by test process	Find new pattern Develop new algorithms
<b>Framework</b>	Holistic framework Try to understand system with complexity	Discover new patterns Change the algorithms

The paper has been organized into major 5 sections. In which, Section 1 is the introduction Section 2 and 3 presents the relevant literature studies, describes the multiple techniques of data Mining related to E-learning System and, also provides the implemented projects of existing E-learning systems with Data mining. This paper is also describing the major steps of Evaluation of the E-learners Behaviour using various techniques, section 4 is description of an Intelligent Adaptive ELS, and section 4 is about tool, Last section presents the Discussion, Conclusions, and Future work.

## II. RELATED WORK

This section is based on the previous work done on the E-learning system; various papers have been published in Literature. This paper is discussing major papers from 2010 to 2016 systematically with techniques and effectiveness of data mining in Education system as well as limitations in each paper.

Comparison of ELS:

The detailed comparison of (Model) was presented with different Electronic learning course management systems, compared the education systems with a product based on various learning tools, technical tools, support tools, so it is based on two types of comparison, first provides Model learning system, as well as architecture other, is giving technical points, results concluded that the best learning system is Model , the issue in this paper is that it does not provide the secure and flawless education system , security related issues are not present [13].

Model architecture consists of many sections; Communication between Learner and Instructor module, where various types and format of files, mails, discussion and attachments are handled. Productivity section used to search articles, calendars, progress reports and relevant data is to be discussed. A separate section for the learner's work involvement and exam related information. Admin section used to manage all contents, secure authentication access, and issues to be handled on all learning development methods and related problems. Electronic course section managed by admin and the instructor consists of a grading section and course related data. One section handles the internal and external curriculum activities and the design process.

**Table 1:** Comparison of E-Learning Management System With Features

Feature	Sakai	Olat	Dokeon	Moodle	Angel	Kowl
Authentication	T	T	T	T	T	T
Authorized	T	T	T	T	T	T
File Sharing	T	T	T	T	T	T
Registration	T	T	T	T	T	T
Automated Manage	T	T	T	T	T	T
Intelligent System	F	F	F	F	F	F
Course manage	T	T	T	T	T	T
Online Grading	T	T	T	T	T	T
Tracking Learner	T	T	F	T	T	T
Support Automated	T	T	T	T	T	T
Access mechanism	T	T	T	T	T	T
Content share	T	T	T	T	T	T
Adaptive	F	F	F	F	F	F
Total Features	14	14	14	14	14	14
Available Features	12	12	11	12	12	12

Above Table 1 [13] shows the comparisons between different learning systems, we conclude that Dokeon, Blackboard and college are less efficient than Moodle and there is a lack of neural network and artificial intelligence technique implementations for the adaptive learning environment.

Work on a learning system with adaptive features[14] used the Artificial neural network and techniques of data mining, took different parameters likes student's confidence level based on multiple aspects, content for studying English language, gender, performance and used four-level mechanism. Total seventy student based datasets are used for experiments, taken from junior school students the course is studied for twelve weeks, then a test is examined, empirical experiments also conducted. The results are not efficient for all courses; this approach is suitable for the single course, which relates to English issues. It needs various improvements to provide the efficient learning systems. Theoretical studies [15] presented an explanation of Data warehousing and data mining techniques in E-learning system and discussed the E-learning standard components. In which communication content, meta-data, wrapping of contents, a profile of the user and, registration is considered. Integrated and offline web usage techniques are to be used. This paper is not implementing any algorithm properly, data mining technique as well as data sets for experiments. This paper needs implementations.

For improvement in the E-learning systems, it is necessary to study the previous content management

learning systems. The three most important and well known LM systems; Sakai, Model, and, Tutor are included [16] worked on deeply, the study of the systems with creation of course process, access procedures, optimization of material, compared them with W3c standards, Tag and Wag guidelines. Results showed that A Tutor is best in many cases. Comparisons provide the weak points as well as discussed mostly occur problems in education systems, this will helpful in making new E-learning systems.

### III. BACKGROUNDS OF DATA MINING IN EDUCATION SYSTEM

Preprocessing is the most important step of removing irrelevant data, any entry that can cause the problem will be removed or modified according to the specified standards, and filling of missing values in datasets is done in this process. To improve the online learning system in course-selection mechanism, major phase [9] has been improved by use of Apriori association rule, Tertius and filtered Rule-based associations and, predictive Apriori association. Preprocessing is applied to process the course data so final eight most preferred courses are selected from eighty-two courses, Weak used for statistical analysis, applied to datasets. Results showed that Apriori Association is the best for course selection mechanism in education systems; this work is not using algorithms like decision tree, clustering, and other data mining algorithms for prediction of courses. It is not an optimal approach. A limited number of data set is used in this approach.

To determine the patterns, which are frequently, used correlation/Association Rule of mining used. We calculate the Machine learning and agent-based, software for association rule and mining For Rules Prediction process Statistical Tracking of based Analysis Behavior and Statistical For Behavior based Analysis and student Assessment tasks

Project Name	Data Mining Techniques	E-Learning Applications	Universities Information
BlackBoard	Statistical based Analysis	For Behavior and student Assessment tasks	Blackboard University
WebCT	Statistical based Analysis	Tracking of Behavior and assessment activities	WebCT University
AHA	For Rules Prediction process	Adaption of courses according to behavior	University of Eindhoven Spain and University Cordoba
al.Fanet	Machine learning and agent-based, software for association rule and mining	Adaptive Course according to Students behavioral data	Universities in Spain, Germany, Portugal for Distance learning
LexIKON	Inductive inference patterns and queries based on consistency	Navigational based course system and adaptive according to behavior	Artificial Intelligence based Research center, Germany
ATutor	Analysis based on statistical techniques	Tracking of behavior of student and system of assessment	Canada, University of Toronto

Following Table 2 shows of the E-learning web based Projects College. The combination of techniques provides better results and related techniques in which statistical based analysis, rule-than a single association rule. Weka is used and statistical based prediction, machine learning, agent-based software, and methods are applied. By using empirical studies and, association rule mining, as well as inductive inferences, are Hypothesis based experiment, we can make it more efficient. Used in below-listed universities. Before implementation of E-An interactive approach is used by [10] presented the learning system, anyone can consult to these institutes, as well creating mechanism of web-implemented intelligent report as the researcher and thinker can make future decisions after system, used the techniques of data mining for the proper plan, seeing the overall structure, progress rate, suggestions from check process, acting and done process successfully. For the institutes and students. Improvement in E-learning system, it has the ability to keep an eye on the activities of the student. Education departments' VARIOUS heads get the reports of every level on the course and performance as well as behaviors of the student. work is done by preprocessing, OLAP-cube, neural networks, decision Tree and various queries applied, this approach has produced various reports, improvements by predictions, pattern identifications. It will help to provide better education systems. Process consists of following steps:

Preprocess the data; making Dimensions as well as cube of OLAP, Preparation of data mining models, Decision tree used to find the occurrence of defined model with selected parameters, by using the neural network, optimized the selected parameters to predict the attributes for adding the artificial neural networking in learning system. This approach is efficient but not reliable and feasible. This study is not focusing on the authentications process and secure mechanism for learners.

#### **A. Predictive Apriori Association Rule**

In this approach, predictive accuracy is used which is the combination of Support and confidence. For this purpose Tertius Association rule, provides the parameters (Threshold, Empirical studies describe, by the use of statistics and correlation methods presented by [18] provides various effects and comparative study as the survey of data mining techniques in Electronic learning system(ELS). Three hundred and four students are used in datasets of the 1st year class; the whole concept is based on first Aid course awareness, which is totally based on the marks. No other parameter considered for analysis, which is not a proper method, ignoring other important parameters. This paper is not using any intelligence techniques for the improvement of E-learning systems

#### **B. Fuzzy Logic and Artificial Neural Network**

Fuzzy logic methods play an important role in the E-learning systems as in [19] provided an intelligent system used fuzzy logic methods for student's evaluation. In order to determine the interaction level between the students and completely intelligent system fuzzy logic model is used. The addition of artificial neural network, fuzzy logic was used by the composition of maximum and minimum. Fuzzy logic with data mining algorithms are used in prediction of student's performance in advance, the failure and success rate of education is determined in advance[20-22] used to predict the student behavior as well as the performance of student and learning environment success rate.

#### **C. Clustering**

To find the similar groups or objects from the data sets clustering algorithms are used. Clustering is helpful in

gathering the same level contents, student's mental level understanding, as well as behavior that is why it is better to use in educational systems. The clustering algorithms are following:

K-means Clustering

Hierarchical Based Clustering

Centroid Clustering

Distributed Clustering

Density Based Clustering

Another work, took a dataset of one thousand, six hundred and thirty-one students from College named as Mercury, belonged to final and second year of bachelor in studies. Reference [6] applied techniques on a dataset of one thousand, six hundred and thirty-one students; the data is taken from College named as Mercury and belongs to final and second year students of bachelor studies. Mainly to find the effect and impact of E-learning system, just one approach of the clustering algorithm is applied in order to improve the learning system and ANOVA-test is conducted with the null hypothesis. Graphs are presented to show the results of traditional learning and E-learning systems. Statistical methods are applied to the data. This approach provides good results.

Another work done by [23] focused on applying data mining, artificial intelligence techniques as well as new learning adaptive methods. A new model is presented in this paper for learning Information. Bio-data of students is necessary to know the level of interest and learning style of education. The questionnaire is conducted, to answer the required information for course and learning mechanism. Feature selection is applied to the dataset, preprocessed the data, and then clustering algorithms are applied according to various learner categories. This approach is time taking, theoretical and, expensive to implement. Experiments should be conducted to verify the techniques.

## **IV. AN INTELLIGENT ADAPTIVE ELS AND MODEL**

In order to make the learning environment Adaptive and an intelligent a little bit, A Cognitive approach is used, so the content of the course is designed from the lower level (Easier) to complex. Metadata is used to customize the difficulty level of course contents for the learner [24]. This system in Fig 2 was considered as a

real learning platform, to test this system, a dataset is taken from different five Primary schools, which is about one hundred and seventeen students, to get the metadata, different variables for qualitative as well as quantitative is gathered, this system provides better results than a typical learning environment. To evaluate E-learning system, student usability statistics is used. There are many tools available, measures the total visits and per page visitors. Distribution with respect time mostly offered and selected courses.

Various tests are conducted for regression, correlation etc. analysis tools are used like SAS and SPSS. Visualization techniques are used where data is in relational form of databases. Due to less interaction between students and instructor, the quality level of E-learning is going downwards [8] presented a survey paper to elaborate E-learning procedure and a way to improve the education. This paper is describing the pros of E-learning and, presenting the challenges during the development of an efficient learning environment. Discussion of all studies in chronological order, their disadvantages, advantages, techniques, and implementation of an algorithm are done. The comparative study does not give the details of datasets of selected papers.

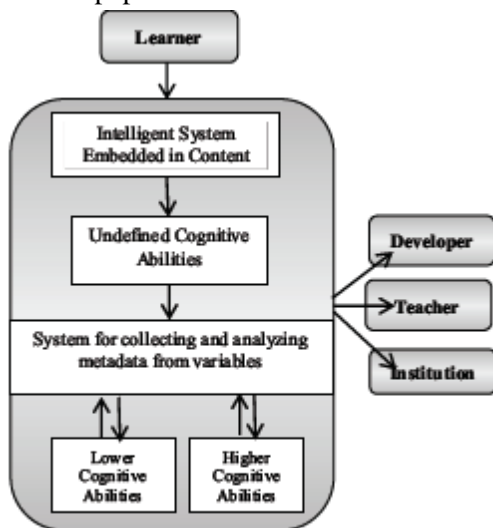


Fig 2 Architecture using Cognitive Approach(Source: [24])

Most recent work done by [25] provided interesting solutions for distance learning systems in which learner access and identification, good learning content, pleasant environment for learning, keep the record of learner's activity, improve the security related issues are included. It also discussed the issues while developing a learning system. Jensen-Shannon model is used in this approach, ranks the document according to the query. An asymmetric key algorithm for

encryption is used for security. This approach is so efficient and latest for improving the E-learning system. In order to improve the learning system, the artificial intelligence with data mining can help to get the better and, adaptive learning contents as well as the style. The architecture consists of four main stages.

Student data is collected at admission time as well as maintained with the passage of time, result and demographics information is added according to the courses cleared, also record the behavior and mental level details. This record is used as data sets in next stages.

In next stage, preprocessing is applied on data, irrelevant information is cleared and missing values filled according to the data mining techniques various classifiers and clustering algorithms are applied for pattern matching.

In next stage, learning mechanism is based on student's ability and data.

The Last stage is based on various styles of learning and student's behavior type. Where the cluster has formed that form of study is preferred. The instructor will develop the course content according to eight types of student's learning style and behaviors. The courses can be presented in the form of audio, video, and, the graphical presentation formats.

TABLE 3 LEARNER'S DIMENSION AND STYLE(SOURCE: [23])

No	Types of Student's	Learning Preferences
1	Sensing Students	Concrete, Practical, Oriented->facts
2	Intuitive Students	Conceptual, Innovative, Like Theories
3	Visual Students	Liked Visual information in pictorial form representation
4	Verbal Students	Prefer spoken and written
5	Active Students	Liked to work too much/try many times
6	Reflective Students	Learn by Deep thinking, working constantly
7	Sequential Students	Like Linear, ordering, learn by steps
8	Global Students	Holistic, Learn in large chunks

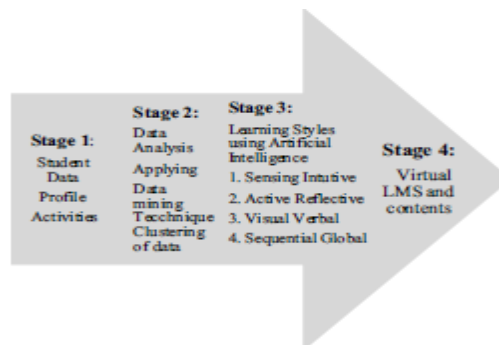


Fig 3 Education System Architecture using Data Mining and Artificial Intelligence

An important work presented [3]; the main purpose of his work is to build a model to evaluate the E-learner's behavior. First step is to analyze the log files by use of statistical based techniques. These techniques are not good for the decision purpose support system and its feedback is not enough. The second step consisted of different models of fuzzy logic clustering and its application. The third step is a combination of both above two models and evaluation mechanism of the Conceptual, Innovative, Like Theories Liked Visual information in pictorial form representation Prefer spoken and written Liked to work too much/ try many times earn by Deep thinking, working constantly Like Linear, ordering, learn by steps Holistic, Learn in large heaps adaptive and simple E-learning Systems as shown in Fig 4.

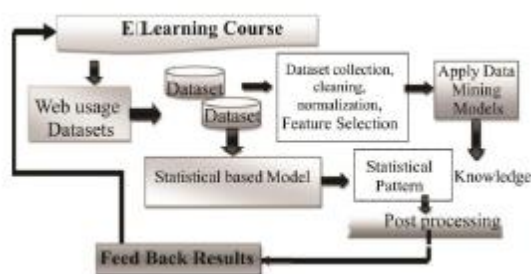


Fig 4 Evaluating of Learner Behavior

## V. TOOLS FOR EDUCATIONAL DATA MINING

There are many free tools available i.e. data analyzer, TANAGRA, See5 and C5.0, ORANGE, SPINA, Carrot, Alpha minor and mostly used WEKA for clustering, visualizations, classification, regression, Text and pattern mining, predictions, association rule and decision tree[26].

Tools	Techniques	Environment	Available source
SPINA	DT C4.5 and ID3 algorithms	Window and Linux based	Open source Freely available
Carrot	Clustering	Window and Linux based	Open source Freely available
TANAGRA	Used for analysis of mixed data, SVM algorithms	Window, Mac, Linux and Solaris based	Open source Freely available
WEKA	Used for classification, clustering, regression, visualization, association rule and data preprocessing	Linux and Windows	Open and freely available
See 5 and C5.0	For decision Tree	Linux and Windows	Open and freely available
Alpha MINER	For data mining versatile functionality	Mac, window and Linux	Open and freely available
iData Analyzer	Data preprocessing, Neural networks	Window, Solaris and Linux	Open and freely available
ORANGE	Used in text mining	Linux and windows	Open and freely available

## V. CONCLUSION

In this paper, Data Mining techniques and current state of art for betterment of E-learning system is presented. The survey will be helpful for researchers, business analysts and most importantly for teachers and students. After a detailed study, it is concluded that the most promising approach is Intelligent Adaptive system. It can be helpful in improving the Learning environment. In real environments, machine learning and artificial intelligence techniques with data mining concepts such as classification and clustering algorithms are required. The instructor/course content provider has to make the content of different styles, mentality levels and formats. This method is very expensive to implement and time taking. The main purpose of this term paper is to provide the studies related to the online learning system, by comparative study of previous work in a form of the survey. Data mining provides researcher efficient tools and methods to enhance the decision-making ability and determines the new approaches to implementing personalized learning environment.

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