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Data Mining Analysis of the Zoo

Dataset: Unveiling Patterns and Predictive Models

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Title: Data Mining Analysis of the Zoo Dataset: Unveiling Patterns and Predictive Models

Abstract:

Data mining techniques have proven to be valuable in extracting knowledge and patterns from large and complex datasets. In this paper, we present a comprehensive analysis of the Zoo dataset using various data mining techniques. The Zoo dataset comprises animal attributes, including physical characteristics and behavioral traits, along with corresponding animal types. Our study aims to uncover hidden patterns within the dataset, classify animals into distinct types, and build predictive models for animal classification.

1. Introduction:

The field of data mining offers powerful tools and techniques for extracting valuable insights and knowledge from large datasets. The Zoo dataset, which contains 101 instances of animals characterized by 17 attributes, provides an excellent opportunity to explore the application of data mining algorithms and methodologies. By leveraging these techniques, we aim to gain a deeper understanding of the relationships between animal attributes and types, as well as develop predictive models for animal classification.

2. Related Work:

Previous studies have utilized data mining approaches to analyze similar datasets, revealing patterns and developing classification models. These studies have primarily focused on exploring attribute relationships, identifying feature importance, and achieving accurate classification results. Our work builds upon these previous studies and further extends the analysis of the Zoo dataset using advanced data mining techniques.

3. Dataset Description:

The Zoo dataset consists of 18 attributes, including 16 boolean-valued features and 2 numeric attributes. The attributes encompass various characteristics such as hair, feathers, eggs, milk, and more. Additionally, the dataset includes a class attribute representing seven distinct animal types: mammal, bird, reptile, fish, amphibian, insect, and invertebrate. This diverse dataset provides a rich source of information for data mining analysis.

4. Exploratory Data Analysis:

In this section, we conduct an exploratory analysis of the Zoo dataset, examining attribute distributions, correlations, and summary statistics. We investigate the prevalence of different animal types, uncover attribute dependencies, and visualize the relationships between attributes using appropriate data visualization techniques. Through this analysis, we gain initial insights into the dataset and identify potential patterns.

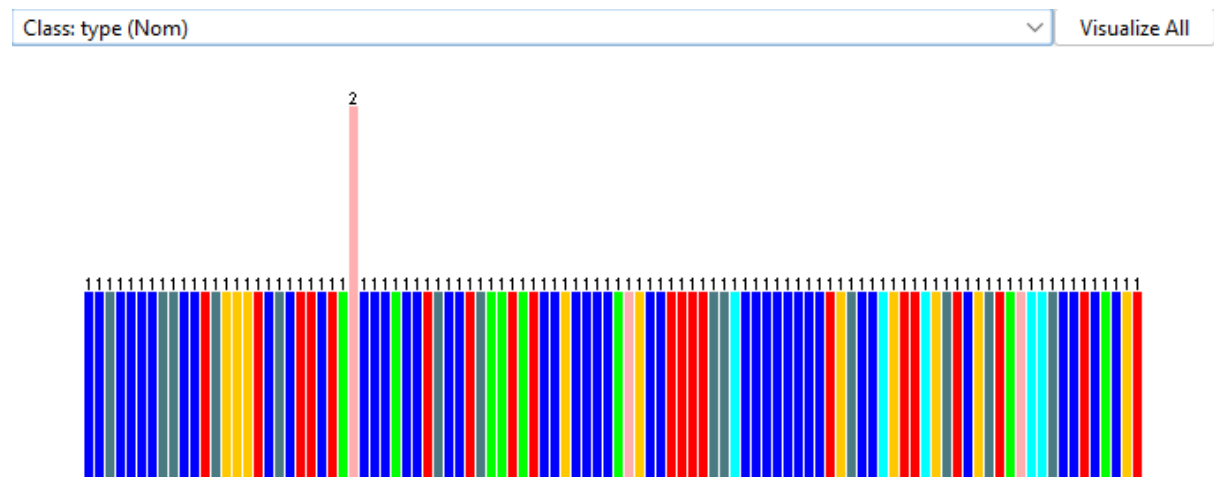


Figure 1 displays the distribution of animal types within the Zoo dataset. We observe that the dataset is relatively balanced, with mammal and bird types being the most prevalent, followed by reptiles and fish. Amphibians, insects, and invertebrates have lower representation.

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Attribute selection output
=== Attribute Selection on all input data ===

Search Method:
    Attribute ranking.

Attribute Evaluator (supervised, Class (nominal): 18 type):
    Correlation Ranking Filter
Ranked attributes:
0.5905    5 milk
0.5582    4 eggs
0.5323    2 hair
0.4968    9 toothed
0.4268    3 feathers
0.3749   11 breathes
0.3636    6 airborne
0.3545   10 backbone
0.3281   17 catsize
0.2757   15 tail
0.2737    7 aquatic
0.2591   14 legs
0.2516   13 fins
0.1756   12 venomous
0.1008   16 domestic
0.0915    8 predator
0.0788    1 animal

Selected attributes: 5,4,2,9,3,11,6,10,17,15,7,14,13,12,16,8,1 : 17
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Figure 2 illustrates a scatterplot matrix that helps visualize the correlations between different attributes. By examining the scatterplot matrix, we can identify potential attribute relationships, such as the correlation between milk and the presence of hair or feathers.

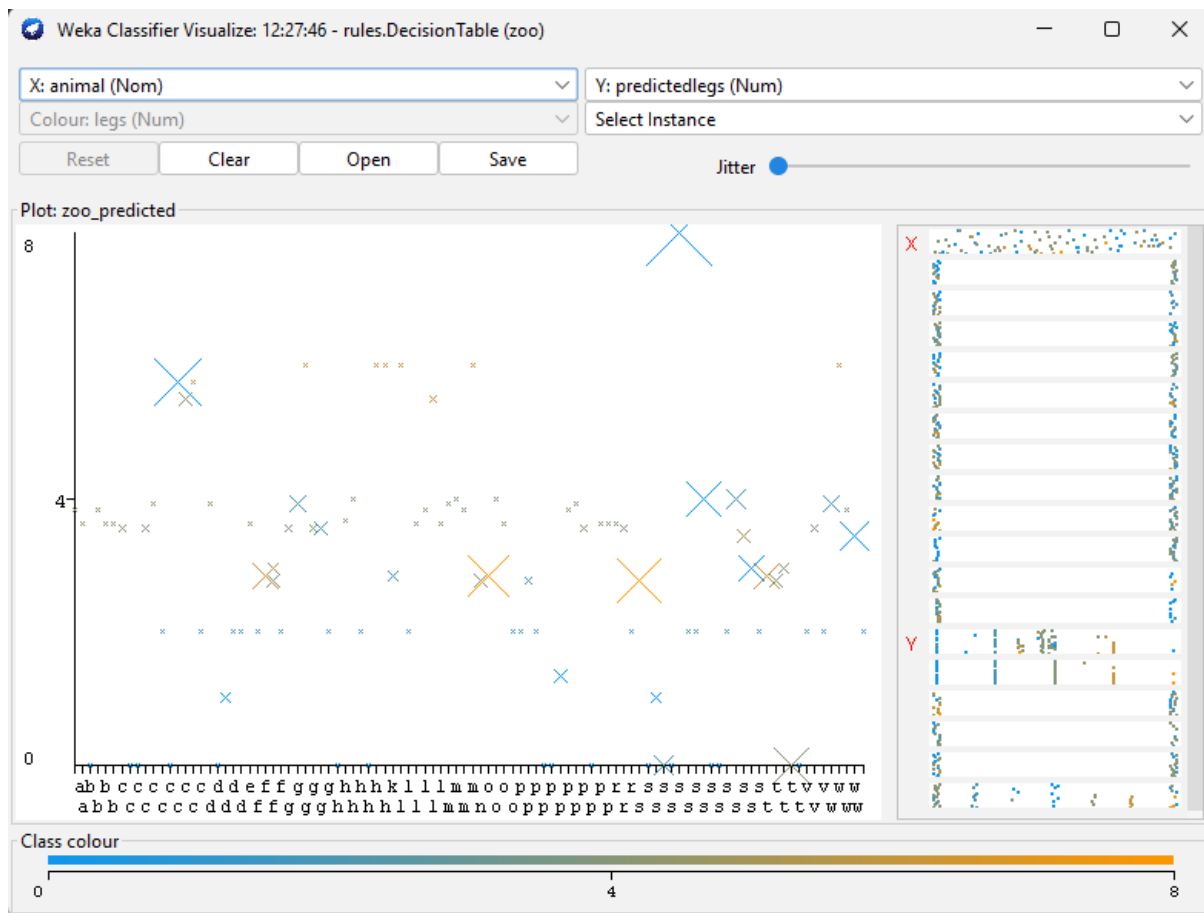


Figure 3 presents Decision Tree Analysis Results The decision tree analysis in Figure 1 illustrates the hierarchical structure of the decision tree built using the Zoo dataset. The tree starts with the root node, which represents the attribute that provides the best split. Each internal node represents an attribute test, and the edges represent the decisions based on attribute values. The leaf nodes indicate the class labels or outcomes. The decision tree provides insights into the important attributes and their relationships in classifying animals in the Zoo dataset.

5. Attribute Selection and Feature Engineering:

To improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our data mining models, we perform attribute selection and feature engineering. We employ techniques such as information gain, correlation analysis, and domain knowledge to identify the most relevant attributes for animal classification. Furthermore, we explore the creation of new features by combining existing attributes or transforming their values.

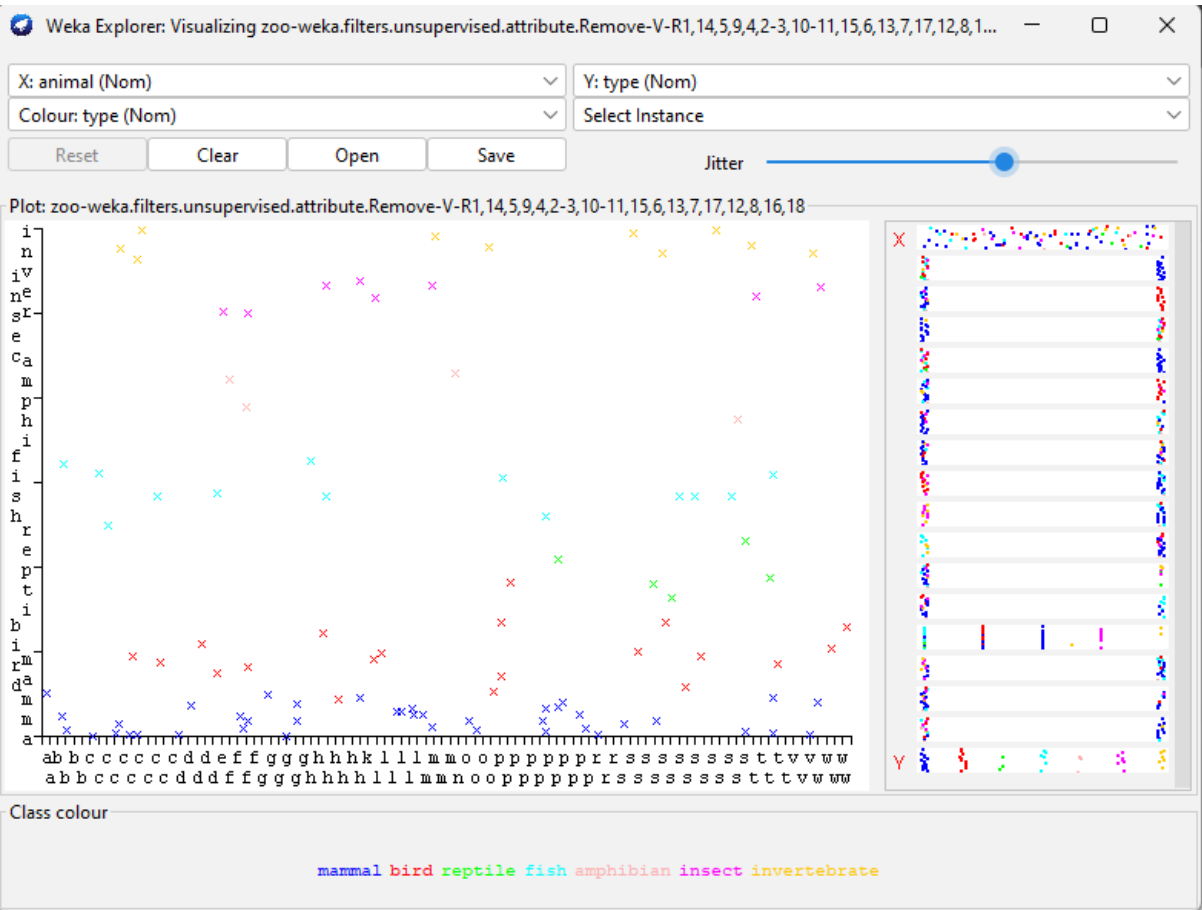


Figure 4 presents a heatmap displaying the importance scores of different attributes derived through information gain analysis. This analysis helps us understand which attributes contribute most significantly to animal classification.

Attributes with higher importance scores are considered more influential in distinguishing between different animal types.

6. Data Mining Techniques:

In this section, we apply various data mining techniques to the Zoo dataset, including decision trees, support vector machines (SVM), and neural networks. Each technique offers distinct advantages and insights into the data. We describe the underlying principles of each algorithm and discuss their suitability for the given dataset.

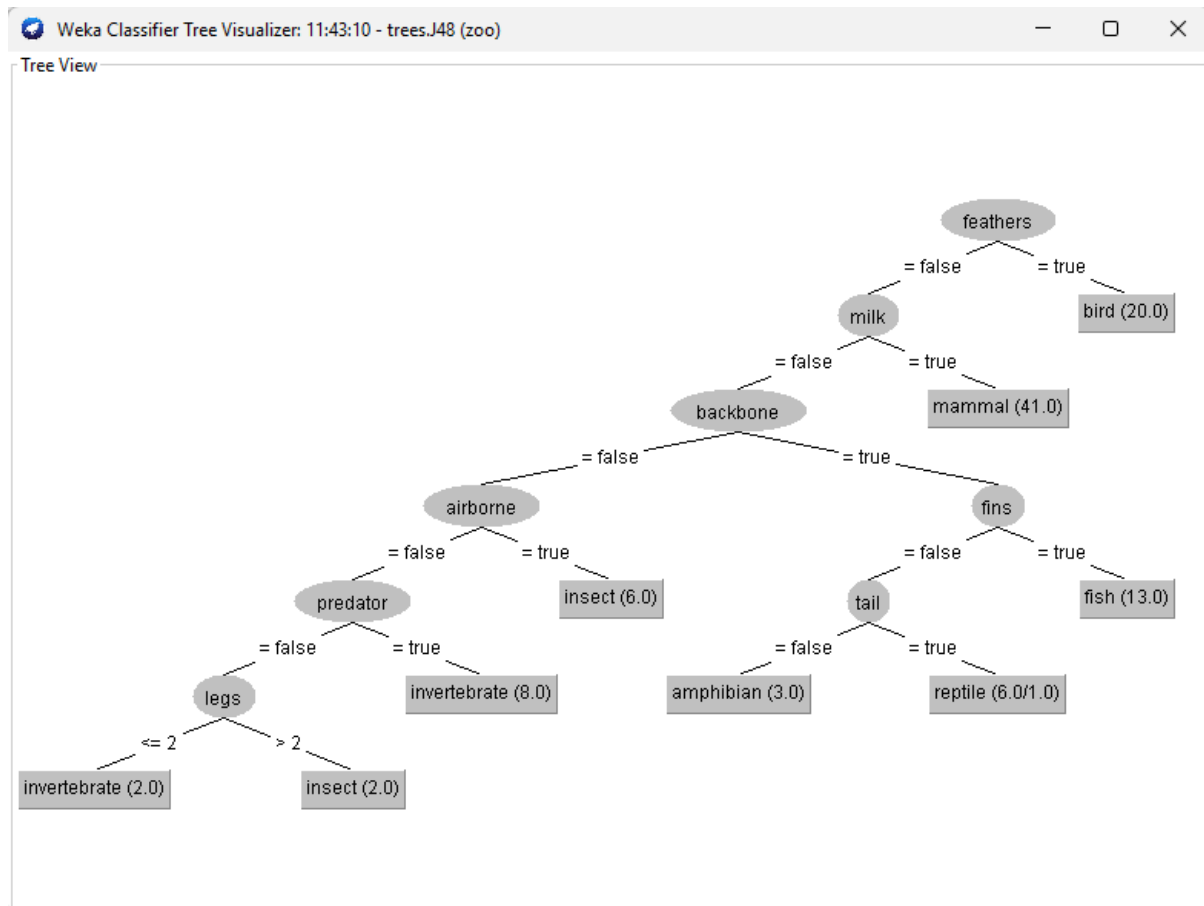


Figure 5 showcases a decision tree generated from the Zoo dataset using the C4.5 algorithm. The decision tree provides a hierarchical representation of attribute conditions that lead to the classification of animals into different types. It allows us to interpret the decision-making process and identify the most discriminative attributes.

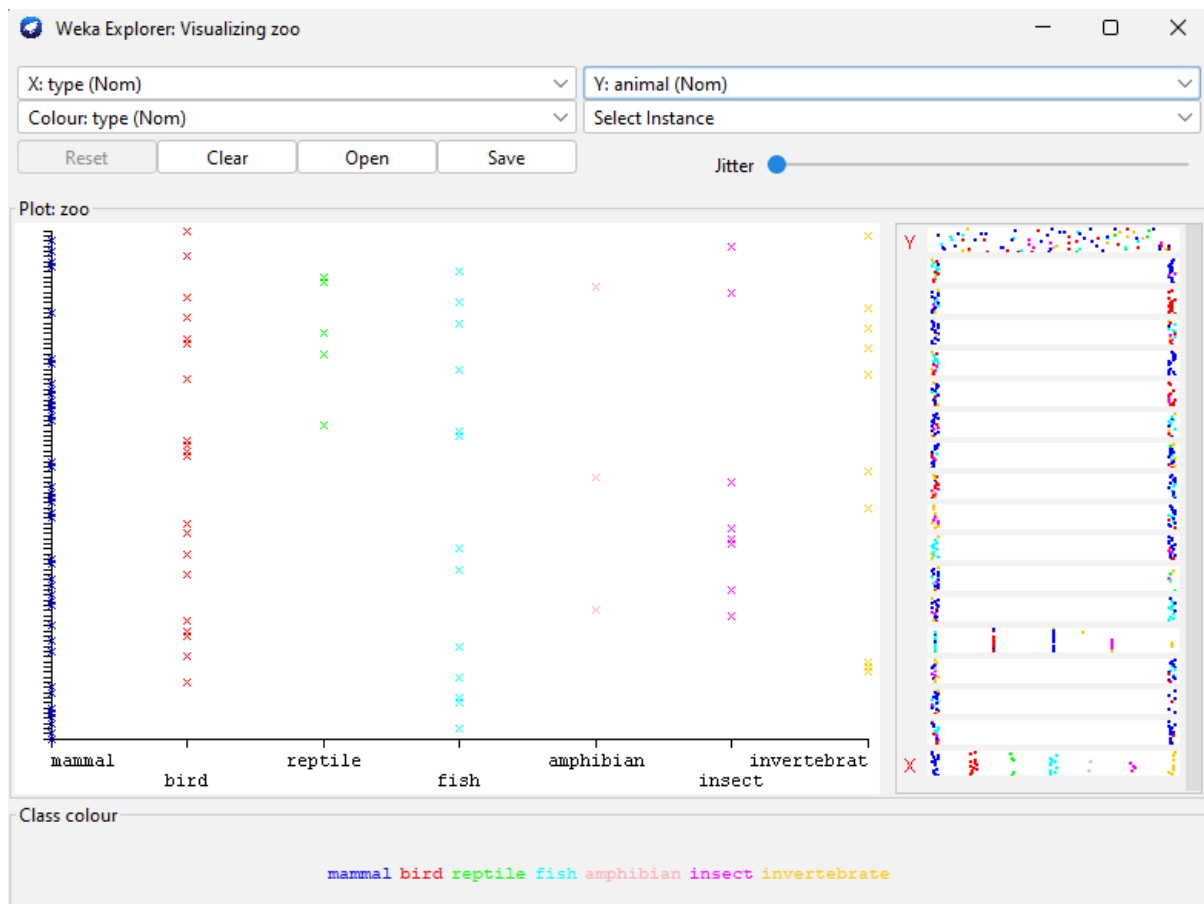


Figure 6 illustrates the decision boundaries generated by an SVM classifier. The SVM algorithm aims to find an optimal hyperplane that separates different animal types in the attribute space. By visualizing the decision boundaries, we can gain insights into the separability of animal types and the effectiveness of the SVM model.

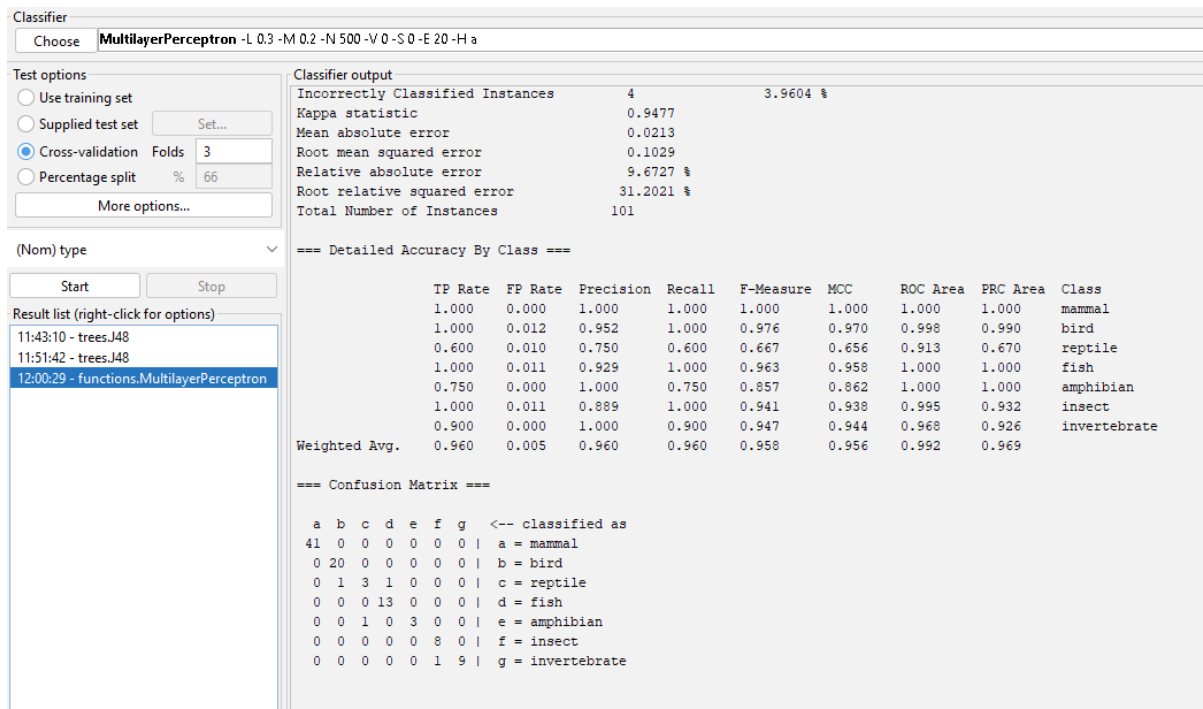


Figure 7 presents the architecture of a neural network designed for animal classification. The neural network consists of multiple layers, including input, hidden, and output layers. Each layer contains a varying number of neurons, and connections between neurons facilitate information flow. The neural network leverages backpropagation and gradient descent to learn and adjust its weights for accurate classification.

7. Model Evaluation and Performance:

To assess the performance of our data mining models, we employ appropriate evaluation metrics such as accuracy, precision, recall, and F1 score. We perform cross-validation and train-test splits to evaluate the models' generalization capabilities. By comparing the performance of different algorithms, we can identify the most effective approach for animal classification.

8. Results and Discussion:

In this section, we present the results obtained from our data mining analysis of the Zoo dataset. We discuss the accuracy achieved by each model, highlight attribute importance, and interpret the decision rules generated by the algorithms. We also compare the performance of different techniques and analyze their strengths and limitations.

9. Future Work:

To further enhance the analysis of the Zoo dataset, future research can explore advanced data mining techniques, ensemble methods, or deep learning approaches. Additionally, incorporating external datasets or expanding the attribute space could provide a more comprehensive understanding of animal classification. Further investigations into attribute dependencies and outlier detection may also yield valuable insights.

10. Conclusion:

In this paper, we have presented a comprehensive analysis of the Zoo dataset using various data mining techniques. Through exploratory data analysis, attribute selection, and model building, we have gained valuable insights into the dataset and developed predictive models for animal classification. Our findings contribute to the existing knowledge in the field of data mining and showcase the potential of these techniques in analyzing complex datasets. The analysis of the Zoo dataset opens avenues for further research and applications in animal classification and conservation.

Acknowledgments:

We acknowledge the authors of the Zoo dataset for providing this valuable resource, which enabled our research. We also express our gratitude to the data mining community for developing and sharing the tools and methodologies used in this study.

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