Predicting Student Interests Against Laptop Specifications Through Application of Data Mining Using C4.5 Algorithms

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Abstract. The purpose of this research was to provide information about the prediction of student interest in laptop specifications through the application of data mining using the C4.5 algorithm. The method used in this research is a survey method by conducting interview. This research was conducted by conducting interviews with several students. The results of this research was a decision tree that describes the laptop specifications that is most in demand by students, so students who want to have a laptop can easily determine laptop specifications based on the number of enthusiasts on certain laptop specifications. The technique used in the application of data mining in this research is a classification technique. The conclusion in this research is that by implementing data mining, students don’t need to look for various sources to find laptop specifications that are needed by students in meeting their college needs in long time.

1. Introduction

Laptop specifications are the most important thing to determine which laptops the user will choose. Laptop specifications are determined based on user requirements. In addition to user needs, laptop specifications are usually also determined by the purchasing power of the user. Of course in this case, students as users in this research will choose laptop specifications that are suitable for student needs and student purchasing power. To make it easier for students to determine laptop specifications, data mining is used. Data mining is a process of extracting or filtering data with a large enough data size through certain processes to find useful information from the large data [1]. One technique that is owned by data mining is classification. The technique consists of several methods and produces a decision tree [2]. The C4.5 algorithm is one of the algorithms used in classification techniques. With the implementation of data mining using the C4.5 algorithm, information about the specifications of the laptop that is most in demand by students can be known. Technological development makes data processing more dynamic [3]. Data mining can be used for various things, one of which is data mining is used to obtain information such as determining the specifications of laptops. For example, laptop specifications that are needed by students that are appropriate for the purchasing power of students. Variety of laptop specifications is certainly a major problem for students in determining the required laptop specifications. By utilizing the application of data mining using the C4.5 algorithm, the specifications of the laptop that students need will be drawn through the decision tree. The decision tree is an illustration of the decision procedure for determining the class of a specified variable [4][5]. The decision tree itself can help students determine which laptop specifications should be chosen. However, even though the decision tree has given students an overview of the specifications of the laptop that are most in demand by students, it is possible for students to choose other specifications according to the needs of the student. Therefore, the purpose of this research was to provide information about the prediction of student interest in laptop specifications through the application of data mining using the C4.5 algorithm.
2. Method
The method used in this research is a survey method by conducting interviews and questionnaires as a research tool. Interviews were conducted and questionnaires were distributed to students of the 7th semester Information System students of Universitas Komputer Indonesia as the population or sample to determine the relationship or influence of each variable tested [6]. The sampling technique used in this research is purposive sampling. Purposive sampling is one of the non-probability sampling techniques that is very effective when a research focuses on certain criteria [7].

3. Results and Discussion
To support the application of data mining using the C4.5 algorithm, of course the sample data is needed. Table 1 contains data from the results of interviews in this study. Sample data were obtained through interviews with several respondents who came from the 7th semester Information System students of Universitas Komputer Indonesia which can be seen in Table 1.

| No | Respondents | Brand | Processor | VGA | RAM | Operating System | Price | Results       |
|----|-------------|-------|-----------|-----|-----|------------------|-------|--------------|
| 1  | Responden 1 | Asus  | Intel     | On Board | 2 GB | DOS           | Cheap | Purchased    |
| 2  | Responden 2 | Dell  | Intel     | On Board | 2 GB | DOS           | Cheap | Not Purchased|
| 3  | Responden 3 | Axioo | Intel     | On Board | 2 GB | Windows       | Cheap | Not Purchased|
| 4  | Responden 4 | Acer  | Intel     | Nvidia  | 4 GB | Windows       | Middle| Purchased    |
| 5  | Responden 5 | Asus  | AMD       | AMD    | 4 GB | DOS           | Middle| Purchased    |
| 6  | Responden 6 | Asus  | Intel     | Nvidia  | 8 GB | Windows       | Expensive | Not Purchased|
| 7  | Responden 7 | HP    | Intel     | Nvidia  | 4 GB | Windows       | Middle| Not Purchased|
| 8  | Responden 8 | Lenovo| AMD       | AMD    | 4 GB | DOS           | Cheap | Not Purchased|
| 9  | Responden 9 | Lenovo| AMD       | AMD    | 4 GB | Windows       | Middle| Purchased    |
| 10 | Responden 10| Asus  | AMD       | On Board | 2 GB | DOS           | Cheap | Not Purchased|
| 11 | Responden 11| HP    | Intel     | Nvidia  | 2 GB | Windows       | Middle| Purchased    |
| 12 | Responden 12| Acer  | Intel     | Nvidia  | 2 GB | Windows       | Middle| Purchased    |
| 13 | Responden 13| Acer  | AMD       | AMD    | 8 GB | Windows       | Expensive | Not Purchased|
| 14 | Responden 14| Apple | Intel     | On Board | 2 GB | Mac OS       | Cheap | Not Purchased|
| 15 | Responden 15| Apple | Intel     | On Board | 4 GB | Mac OS       | Middle| Purchased    |
| 16 | Responden 16| Asus  | Intel     | Nvidia  | 4 GB | Windows       | Middle| Purchased    |
| 17 | Responden 17| Apple | Intel     | On Board | 4 GB | Mac OS       | Cheap | Purchased    |
| 18 | Responden 18| Axioo | Intel     | On Board | 2 GB | Windows       | Cheap | Not Purchased|
| 19 | Responden 19| Dell  | Intel     | On Board | 2 GB | Windows       | Cheap | Purchased    |
The C4.5 algorithm starts with the process of selecting the highest gain attribute as the root of the tree, then creates a branch for each value, then divides the case in branches, then repeats the process for each branch until all cases in the branch have the same class. To facilitate the application of methodology and system design, the flow of analysis and design is made as shown in Figure 1.

![Flow of design and analysis](image1)

**Figure 1.** Flow of design and analysis

The flow chart is used to describe the classification process using the C4.5 algorithm can be seen in Figure 2.

![C4.5 algorithm flowchart](image2)

**Figure 2.** C4.5 algorithms flowchart

To get accurate calculation results, calculations used Entropy and Gain for each variable [8]. Entropy measures uncertainty between random variables in a data [9]. The high Entropy value will affect the classification process [10]. The equation used to calculate Entropy and Gain, as follows:

\[
\text{Entropy} (S) = \sum_{j=1}^{k} p_j \log_2 p_j
\]

\[
S : \text{Case set} \\
k : \text{Number of S partition} \\
P_j : \text{Probability obtained from the total (Yes / No) divided by the total case}
\]

\[
\text{Gain} (S,A) = \text{Entropy} (s) - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{|s_i|}{|S|} \times \text{Entropy} (s_i)
\]

\[
S : \text{Case set}
\]
A : Attribute
n : Number of A attribute partition
|Si| : Number of cases on the i partition
|S| : Number of S partition

In Table 2, Entropy and Gain calculations have been performed. The gain obtained will affect whether or not the next node will occur. Each internal node is a test node and corresponds to an attribute; the edges leaving a node correspond to the possible values taken on by that attribute [11]. When we calculate Gain in one of the attributes and get the result Gain is the largest of the other attributes, mark the attribute. Next we need to pay attention to the biggest attribute value of the biggest gain attribute to be used as a key on the next node. When the node occurs, the largest gain value is 1, then the node calculation ends. Gain with a value of 1 can be taken the largest attribute value from the number of "Purchased" in the attribute. Entropy and gain calculation results can be seen in Table 2.

| Node | Attributes | Value | Number of Cases | Purchased | Not Purchased | Entropy | Gain |
|------|------------|-------|-----------------|-----------|--------------|---------|------|
| 1    | Total      |       | 20              | 11        | 9            | 0,993   | 0,142|
|      | Brand      |       |                 |           |              |         |      |
|      | Asus       |       | 6               | 4         | 2            | 0,918   |      |
|      | Dell       |       | 2               | 1         | 1            | 1,000   |      |
|      | Axioo      |       | 2               | 0         | 2            | 0,000   |      |
|      | Acer       |       | 3               | 2         | 1            | 0,918   |      |
|      | HP         |       | 2               | 1         | 1            | 1,000   |      |
|      | Apple      |       | 3               | 2         | 1            | 0,918   |      |
|      | Lenovo     |       | 2               | 1         | 1            | 1,000   |      |
|      | Processor  |       |                 |           |              |         | 0,003|
|      | Intel      |       | 14              | 8         | 6            | 0,985   |      |
|      | AMD        |       | 6               | 3         | 3            | 1,000   |      |
|      | VGA        |       |                 |           |              |         | 0,017|
|      | On Board   |       | 10              | 5         | 5            | 1,000   |      |
|      | Nvidia     |       | 6               | 4         | 2            | 0,918   |      |
|      | AMD        |       | 4               | 2         | 2            | 1,000   |      |
|      | RAM        |       |                 |           |              |         | 0,168|
|      | 2 GB       |       | 10              | 5         | 5            | 1,000   |      |
|      | 4 GB       |       | 8               | 6         | 2            | 0,811   |      |
|      | 8 GB       |       | 2               | 0         | 2            | 0,000   |      |
|      | Operating System | | | | | | |
|      | Windows    |       | 12              | 7         | 5            | 0,980   |      |
|      | DOS        |       | 5               | 2         | 3            | 0,971   |      |
|      | Mac OS     |       | 3               | 2         | 1            | 0,918   |      |
|      | Price      |       |                 |           |              |         | 0,086|
|      | Cheap      |       | 8               | 3         | 5            | 0,954   |      |
|      | Middle     |       | 8               | 6         | 2            | 0,811   |      |
|      | Expensive  |       | 4               | 2         | 2            | 1,000   |      |
| 1.1  | RAM : 2GB  |       | 10              | 5         | 5            | 1,000   | 0,525|
|      | Brand      |       |                 |           |              |         |      |
|      | Asus       |       | 3               | 2         | 1            | 0,918   |      |
|      | Dell       |       | 2               | 1         | 1            | 1,000   |      |
|      | Axioo      |       | 2               | 0         | 2            | 0,000   |      |
|      | Acer       |       | 1               | 1         | 0            | 0,000   |      |
|      | HP         |       | 1               | 1         | 0            | 0,000   |      |
|      | Apple      |       | 1               | 0         | 1            | 0,000   |      |
|      | Lenovo     |       | 0               | 0         | 0            | 0,000   |      |
| Node         | Attributes | Value  | Number of Cases | Purchased | Not Purchased | Entropy | Gain |
|--------------|------------|--------|-----------------|-----------|---------------|---------|------|
| Processor    |            | Intel  | 8               | 4         | 4             | 1,000   |      |
|              |            | AMD    | 2               | 1         | 1             | 1,000   |      |
| VGA          |            | On Board | 8            | 3         | 5             | 0,954   |      |
|              |            | Nvidia | 2               | 2         | 0             | 0,000   |      |
|              |            | AMD    | 0               | 0         | 0             | 0,000   |      |
| Operating System |        | Windows | 6           | 4         | 2             | 0,918   |      |
|              |            | DOS    | 3               | 1         | 2             | 0,918   |      |
|              |            | Mac OS | 1               | 0         | 1             | 0,000   |      |
| Price        |            | Cheap  | 7               | 3         | 4             | 0,985   |      |
|              |            | Middle | 3               | 2         | 1             | 0,918   |      |
|              |            | Expensive | 0     | 0         | 0             | 0,000   |      |

Figure 1 illustrates the decision tree that is the result of Entropy and Gain calculations. The characteristics of decision trees consist of internal nodes, edges and leaf nodes [12]. Internal nodes are usually also called decision nodes namely nodes that represent a variable or a part of a variable. Edges are labels that explain the value or distance of values of a variable. Leaf nodes represent the results in decision making [13]. These three characteristics are inseparable entities. This decision tree can be used as a step to make decisions in choosing a laptop, can be seen in Figure 3.

Figure 3. Decision tree result

4. Conclusion
Predicting something through the application of data mining using the C4.5 algorithm makes it easy for students, especially in determining the choice of laptop specifications that are most desirable for students to meet student needs and in accordance with the purchasing power of students. Students no longer need to look for various sources to find laptop specifications that are needed by students in meeting the needs.
of students, because the laptop specifications from the results of the data mining application have provided the most desirable specifications of laptops. Based on the results of the data processing process through the application of data mining using the C4.5 algorithm, the laptop specification category is of interest to the 7th semester Information System students of Universitas Komputer Indonesia as follows:

1) RAM 2 GB, Asus, Cheap, AMD Processor, and have a Windows Operating System;
2) RAM 2 GB, Dell, dan have an Windows Operating System;
3) RAM 4 GB, Lenovo, and VGA Card AMD.

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