Students Selection for University Course Admission at the Joint Admissions Board (Kenya) Using Trained Neural Networks

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Executive Summary

Every year, the Joint Admission Board (JAB) is tasked to determine those students who are expected to join various Kenyan public universities under the government sponsorship scheme. This exercise is usually extensive because of the large number of qualified students compared to the very limited number of slots at various institutions and the shortage of funding from the government. Further, this is made complex by the fact that the selections are done against a predefined cluster subjects vis a vis the student's preferred and applied for academic courses. Minimum requirements exist for each course and only students having the prescribed grades in specific subjects are eligible to join that course. Due to this, students are often admitted to courses they consider irrelevant to their career prospects and not their preferred choices.

This process is tiresome, costly, and prone to bias, errors, or favour, leading to disadvantaging innocent students. This paper examines the potential use of artificial neural networks at the JAB for the process of selecting students for university courses. Based on the fact that Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs) have been tested and used in classification, the paper explains how a trained neural network can be used to perform the students' placement effectively and efficiently. JAB will be able, therefore, to undertake the students' placement thoroughly and be able to accomplish it with minimal wastage of time and resources respectively without having to utilise unnecessary effort. The paper outlines how the various metrics can be coded and used as input to the ANNs. Ultimately, the paper underscores the various merits that would accompany the adoption of this technique. By making use of neural networks in the university career choices, student placement at JAB will enhance the chances of students being placed into courses they prefer as part of their career choice. This is likely to motivate the students, making them work harder and leading to improved performance and improved completion rate. The ANN application may also reduce the

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cost spend on the application processing and the time the applicants have to wait for the outcome. The ANN application could further increase the chances of high quality applicants getting admission to career courses for which they qualify.

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Advancing Africa's Sustainable Development Alain L. Fymat, 2018-11-14 While many African countries lag behind the rest of the industrialised world in scientific and medical research and development the situation is progressively improving This is why the Society for the Advancement of Science in Africa was established to contribute to economic advancement and sustainability through science research education and innovation This book provides a selection of papers from the Advancement of Science in Africa's fourth annual conference The conference was held under the overarching theme of science technology and innovation in Africa with several important sub themes including but not limited to improving health research and disease surveillance education collaborating in research responding to epidemic diseases with high mortality in Africa and promoting women s interest in science careers The collection illustrates how although the chapter contributors come from various countries and universities representing their own academic research they all share a common interest in advancing science technology and innovation in Africa *Orphan Plant Species for Food Security and Nutrition: Successes,* Challenges, and a Way Forward Enoch G. Achigan-Dako, Iago Lowe Hale, Katherine Steele, E. O. Deedi Sogbohossou, 2023-03-31 Smart Food for Healthy, Sustainable and Resilient Food Systems ,2023-06-06 We are no longer able to provide the world population with a healthy diet and at the same time sustainably balance our planetary resources to ensure resilient and viable livelihoods for smallholder farmers For the past fifty years diets have become less nutritionally balanced contribute significantly to climate change and have accelerated the process of biodiversity erosion We have reduced the number of species that are cultivated for food and for each species we are growing fewer varieties While agriculture has moved towards uniformity biodiversity is the basis of healthy and nutritious diets and biodiversity is paramount for adapting crops to climate change Hence it is important to build resilient and sustainable food systems by re introducing diversity into our agricultural systems and introducing Smart Food from smart crops into our diets Smart Food is food that fulfills the criteria for being good for you nutritious and healthy good for the planet environmentally sustainable and beneficial to the farmers who grow these crops resilient and viable The aim of this Research Topic is to provide researchers research managers funding agencies and government agencies with scientifically backed information to foster awareness increased use and support for research into Smart Food Guidance on integrated pest management for the world's major crop pests and diseases Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 2025-05-08 In this volume FAO has compiled integrated pest management IPM measures for eight global priority pests and pathogens based upon geographical distribution severity and societal importance Each chapter offers a bundle of IPM solutions for the principal pest threats of cereal grains potato fruits and vegetables It offers a wide spectrum of tailored solutions ranging from traditional approaches such as crop sanitation and good agronomy to modern DNA based technologies marker assisted breeding and innovative tools such as robotics biological control and biopesticides as well as digital alert systems By

emphasizing biodiversity based and agroecological preventative measures and providing innovative ways to integrate stand alone technologies readers are presented with practical ways to establish climate resilient pest suppressive cropping systems As such this volume can be of immediate value for government decision makers pest management practitioners development partners agro industry actors and farmers The Call for the Introduction of University Entrance Exams in Zambia Brian Mumba, 2019 Globally university entrance exams have been an issue of education reform ever since the introduction of the first intelligence test in 1905 Murphy and Davidshofer 2005 Such development began in the USA with the introduction of the Scholastic Assessment Test SAT as criteria for admission into the university Recently the Government of Zambia through the Higher Education Authority HEA called for the introduction of entrance exams for colleges and universities However such changes are not just new to Zambia in 2016 Cambridge University introduced a written entrance exam for the first time in a generation since the abolishment of the entrance exams in 1986 Based on this background the paper examines calls for the introduction of university entrance exams in Zambia In its effort the paper focuses on common university admission criteria practised around the world Hence contributing to the current debate on the introduction of university entrance exams in Zambia and provide a better understanding of different university admission criteria practised around the globe How to Apply for Admission to a University Universities Central Council on Admissions (Great Britain),1971

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