

Random Forest Algorithm- An application to enhance Air Quality

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Abstract- Air quality is a vital necessity on the earth, it's helps us to live on this planet. Everyday air is polluted heavily because of industries releasing the gases in the atmosphere, burning of e-waste, polluted exhaust from vehicles. It's impact on public health causes diseases like cancer, asthma, lung diseases etc. A study analysis has been done, by observing the increase of day to day air pollution, considering the data from the pollution board pertaining to two different years. Analysis was done on this data using Random Forest Algorithm implemented in R programming language, to observe the error rate between the two years of data so as to identify the component which impacts the environment and therefore public health.

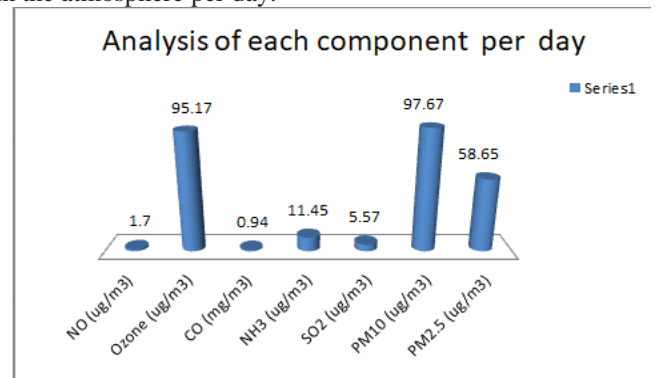
I. INTRODUCTION

Air pollution is mixtures of various gases, particles and other activities. In this paper, we discuss about the breakpoints and the error rate among the data sets of the two different years. We apply the Random Forest algorithm [11] to calculate the error rate by applying the different formulas mentioned below using R programming language [2]. We calculate the breakpoint concentrations with the help of breakpoint table and different levels of AQI [6]. Air Quality Index is used to measure the air pollutants with in the region. There are many methods in calculating the concentrations and different methods that have been used by different countries in calculating the breakpoint concentration levels of each individual pollutants. We have taken the data observed around a 24 hrs range. By considering this, we get to know not only concentrations, but also the pollutants that cause health effects, such as toxic pollutants, dangerous gases etc.

II. METHODOLOGY

In order to understand the rise of air pollution in a particular region, a real time air quality monitoring was taken at the control board site for every region. In the present study we are going to discussed about radiations [9] that are causes due to the pollutants released in the atmosphere such as PM10, PM2.5, NO2, SO2, O3 and NH3. For this we have used the technique known as Beta Attenuation Monitoring (BAM). It is a widely used air monitoring technique for the absorption of beta radiation by solid particles extracted from the air. This technique [2] allows for the detection of PM10 and PM2.5. The main principle is based on Bouguer (Lambert-Beer) law: the amount by which the flow of beta radiation (electrons) is

attenuated by a solid matter is exponentially dependent on its mass and not on any other feature (such as density, chemical composition or some optical or electrical properties) of this matter, and the component O3 is monitored based on the concentration that are released in the air. We take the index based on hourly or 8 hrs accurately [9]. For SO2 known as UV fluorescence, based on the emission of light by SO2 molecule observed by UV radiations is taken. While for NO2 the amount of nitrogen oxide in the air is measured by "Chemiluminescence Analyzer" [6]. It is a standard method for measuring NO concentration. Chemiluminescence relies on the reaction of NO with ozone. The chemical oxidation of NO by ozone yields nitrogen dioxide in an excited state. The calibration is undertaken by traceable standard reference gas method. In the below figure represent the pollutants consumes in the atmosphere per day.



Methods I:

In this method the Air Quality Index (AQI) calculated through the concept of arithmetic mean along with the concentration [1] of air pollutants to the standard value of those concerned pollutants such as PM2.5, PM10, SO2, NO2, CO, O3 and NH3. From the obtained value, say the average is multiplied by 100 to get the index value. Thus, Air Quality Index is compared with the rating scale [9]. We can calculate AQI for the pollutants individually by the following formula

$$AQI = (C/C_s) * 100$$

Where AQI = Air Quality Index

C= the observed value of the air quality parameters pollutant (PM10, PM2.5, NO2 and SO2)

C_s= CPCB standard for residential Area

Method II:

In this method the Air Quality Index is calculated by observing the geometric mean to the ratio of the concentration of each pollutant to the standard value of that pollutants [2] such as PM10, PM2.5, SO2, NO2, CO and NH3. And the Air Quality Index is compared with the rating scale.

Method III:

Air Quality Index was done for combining qualitative measures with qualitative concept of the environment [5][7]. The individual air quality index here is calculated as follow:

$$AQ_i = (W * C) / C_s$$

Where AQI = Air Quality Index

W= Weighted of Pollutant

C= the observed value of the air quality parameters pollutant (PM10, PM2.5, NO2 and SO2) C_s= CPCB standard for residential Area

Method IV:

In this method, to calculate the AQI from the concentration of each individual pollutants were based on the breakpoint concentration table [8]. The individual air quality index for a given pollutant concentration (C_s) as based on linear segmented principle is calculated as

$$Ip = \frac{(I_{hl} - I_{lo})}{(B_{hl} - B_{lo})} * (C_p - B_{lo}) + I_{lo}$$

Where B_{hl}= Breakpoint concentration greater or equal to given concentration

B_{lo}=Breakpoint concentration smaller or equal to given concentration

C_p= The pollutant concentration

I_{hl}=AQI value corresponding to B_{hl}

I_{lo}=AQI value corresponding to B_{lo}

Note: In order to calculate Index of the multiple pollutants, we have to calculate the index of each pollutant, hence that pollutant with the highest value, or the “responsible pollutant/s” will determine the Air Quality Index and the category.

III. RESULT

The continuous monitoring of the air pollutants is undertaken from the GVMC corporation, Visakhapatnam city by the observation of Central Pollution Control Board during March to November 2017 with the reference to PM10, PM2.5, SO2, CO, NO2, O3 and NH3. Data obtained from the pollution board is used to calculate the air quality index (air pollution index) for critical parameter.

Air Quality Index (AQI):

In the present days every in the society must have the awareness on the current air pollution levels and they must compare the past and present levels of air pollution. Air Quality Index is a tool, used to know the status of daily air quality along with the basic standards proposed by the pollution board in order to control the pollution levels. It gives an idea, how the index rate is increasing daily and tells the public to understand how clean the air to breathe daily. In our

country we use Central Pollution Control Board standards in calculating the Air Quality Index from the data present by them. The AQI of specific pollutant is derived mainly from the physical measurement of pollutant like PM10, PM2.5, NO2, CO, NH3, O3 and SO2 etc. In the present study, different methods were used to calculate ambient air quality index.

Different AQI were estimated for various months and varying results were observed ranging from good to unacceptable for the same set of data. This may be due to eclipsing effect of the values used in the formulas. The statistical theory behind these AQI makes it more prone to variations i.e the use of means from simple arithmetic to logarithmic and weighted averages [5] to use of breakpoint concentration as basis of estimation. The breakpoint concentration based AQI is more robust and can be used for decision making. Accordingly, the AQI values are calculated based on Breakpoint concentration [2] for 24 hourly averages for PM10, PM2.5, SO2, CO, O3 and NO2 concentrations and are categorized as satisfactory to moderate during the study

The below figures represent the analysis combining data of 2 months, in2018

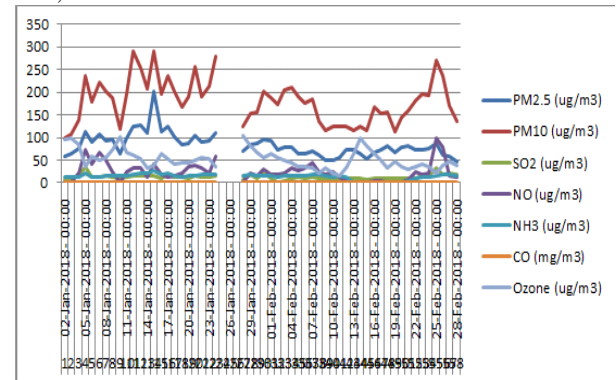


Fig.1: Represent the Jan-Feb ,2018

Below figures represent the analysis done through “Random Forest Algorithm” in R programming language.

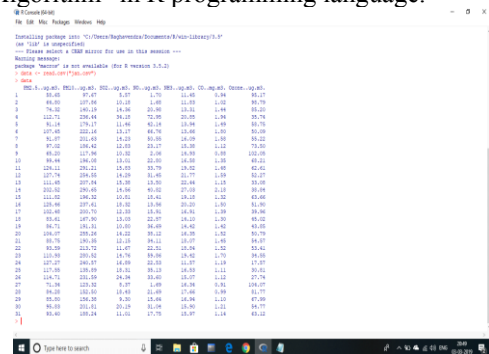


Fig.2: Shows the data set, Jan- Dec2018

The above picture shows the data that is taken from the pollution board, represent the different components such as PM10, PM2.5, NO, CO, VSO2, NH3, OZONE.

By considering the above-mentioned data's, testing and training data we calculate the error rate among the data sets by applying Random Forest Algorithm through R programming language.

```

R Console (64-bit)
File Edit Misc Packages Windows Help
> data <- read.csv("data_2018.csv")
> str(data)
'data.frame':   31 obs. of  7 variables:
 $ PML1.ug.m3 : num  89.4 44.8 74.5 112.7 91.1 ...
 $ PML2.ug.m3 : num  97.1 171.9 150.2 204.6 179.7 ...
 $ MO.ug.m3    : num  1.7 1.48 20.88 79.98 42.14 ...
 $ MO2.ug.m3   : num  14.1 14.09 20.92 2.06 14.09 ...
 $ CO.ug.m3    : num  0.94 1.02 1.48 1.94 1.49 1.0 1.00 1.12 0.86 1.05 ...
 $ Ozone.ug.m3 : num  99.2 99.8 95.2 95.7 99.0 ...
> train <- data[train$year == 2018, ]
> test  <- data[test$year == 2019, ]
> str(train)
'data.frame':   20 obs. of  7 variables:
 $ PML1.ug.m3 : num  180.87 140.19 14.26 20.90 13.21 1.44 55.20 ...
 $ PML2.ug.m3 : num  107.86 122.14 12.17 66.74 19.66 0.29 99.09 ...
 $ MO.ug.m3    : num  91.24 179.17 11.46 42.14 18.94 1.49 58.75 ...
 $ MO2.ug.m3   : num  87.02 136.42 12.83 23.17 15.38 1.12 73.50 ...
 $ CO.ug.m3    : num  124.11 291.21 15.83 33.79 19.82 1.48 61.40 ...
 $ Ozone.ug.m3 : num  125.96 237.41 18.32 13.96 20.03 1.80 92.91 ...
 $ year        : num  2018 2018 2018 2018 2018 2018 2018 ...
 $ train       : logi  TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE ...
 $ test        : logi  FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE FALSE ...
> str(test)
'data.frame':   11 obs. of  7 variables:
 $ PML1.ug.m3 : num  64.80 107.86 10.18 1.40 11.83 0.80 94.79 ...
 $ PML2.ug.m3 : num  112.71 236.44 34.18 72.95 20.85 1.94 35.74 ...
 $ MO.ug.m3    : num  112.71 236.44 34.18 72.95 20.85 1.94 35.74 ...
 $ MO2.ug.m3   : num  91.24 179.17 11.46 42.14 18.94 1.49 58.75 ...
 $ CO.ug.m3    : num  87.02 136.42 12.83 23.17 15.38 1.12 73.50 ...
 $ Ozone.ug.m3 : num  124.11 291.21 15.83 33.79 19.82 1.48 61.40 ...
 $ year        : num  2019 2019 2019 2019 2019 2019 2019 ...
 $ test        : logi  TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE ...

```

Fig.3: Represent the structure and character of table

And the table represent the structure and type of components involved in the data. It tells the total number of observation and the variables in the table.

```

R Console (64-bit)
File Edit Misc Packages Windows Help
> test <- data[test$year == 2019, ]
> test
> data <- read.csv("data_2018.csv")
> str(data)
'data.frame':   31 obs. of  7 variables:
 $ PML1.ug.m3 : num  89.4 44.8 74.5 112.7 91.1 ...
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 $ PML2.ug.m3 : num  107.86 122.14 12.17 66.74 19.66 0.29 99.09 ...
 $ MO.ug.m3    : num  91.24 179.17 11.46 42.14 18.94 1.49 58.75 ...
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 $ CO.ug.m3    : num  124.11 291.21 15.83 33.79 19.82 1.48 61.40 ...
 $ Ozone.ug.m3 : num  125.96 237.41 18.32 13.96 20.03 1.80 92.91 ...
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 $ Ozone.ug.m3 : num  124.11 291.21 15.83 33.79 19.82 1.48 61.40 ...
 $ year        : num  2019 2019 2019 2019 2019 2019 2019 ...
 $ test        : logi  TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE ...
> library(randomForest)
randomForest 4.0-14
Type rf() to see new features/changes/bug fixes.
> rf(train)
> rf <- randomForest(PML1.ug.m3 ~., data = train)
> rf
Call:
randomForest(formula = PML1.ug.m3 ~., data = train)
Type of random forest: regression
Number of trees: 500
No. of variables tried at each split: 2

  Mean of squared residuals: 014.3506
      % Var explained: 49.28
> attr(,"importance")
  (1) "PML1"      "type"      "ypredicted"  "name"      "tree"      "node.time"  "importance"
 (2) "importance" "localImportance" "proximity"  "ntree"     "mtry"     "nodes"
 (3) "y"         "test"         "subset"     "varsel"
> library(ggplot2)
ggplot2 2.2.1
Type ggplot() to see new features/changes/bug fixes.
> ggplot(rf)
> plot(rf)
Call:
randomForest(formula = PML1.ug.m3 ~., data = test)
Type of random forest: regression
Number of trees: 500
No. of variables tried at each split: 2

  Mean of squared residuals: 1399.338
      % Var explained: 36.30
> attr(,"importance")
  (1) "PML1"      "type"      "ypredicted"  "name"      "tree"      "node.time"  "importance"
 (2) "importance" "localImportance" "proximity"  "ntree"     "mtry"     "nodes"
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 (2) "importance" "localImportance" "proximity"  "ntree"     "mtry"     "nodes"
 (3) "y"         "test"         "subset"     "varsel"

```

Fig.4: Testing and Training data using Random Forest Model

In order to use the random Forest model, we need two types of data sets. One is training data and the other one is testing data. We represent these data's by applying Random Forest Algorithm.

```

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'data.frame':   31 obs. of  7 variables:
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 $ MO.ug.m3    : num  91.24 179.17 11.46 42.14 18.94 1.49 58.75 ...
 $ MO2.ug.m3   : num  87.02 136.42 12.83 23.17 15.38 1.12 73.50 ...
 $ CO.ug.m3    : num  124.11 291.21 15.83 33.79 19.82 1.48 61.40 ...
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 $ year        : num  2018 2018 2018 2018 2018 2018 2018 ...
 $ train       : logi  TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE TRUE ...
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  Mean of squared residuals: 1399.338
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> attr(,"importance")
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> attr(,"importance")
  (1) "PML1"      "type"      "ypredicted"  "name"      "tree"      "node.time"  "importance"
 (2) "importance" "localImportance" "proximity"  "ntree"     "mtry"     "nodes"
 (3) "y"         "test"         "subset"     "varsel"

```

Fig.5: Applying Random Forest Algorithm

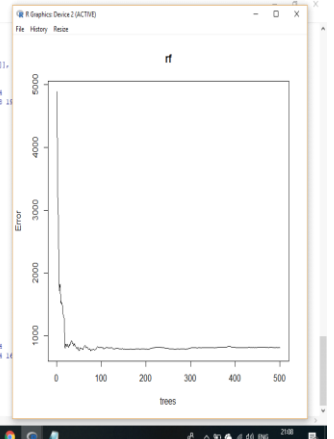


Fig.6: Plotting the graph for the training data using RF Algorithm

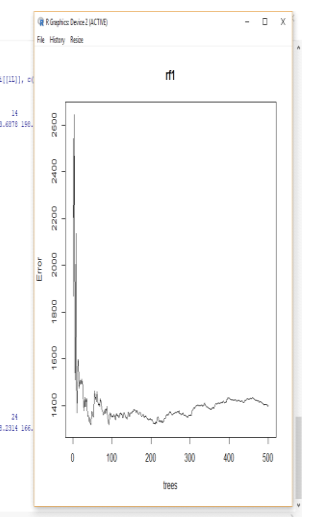


Fig.7: Plotting the graph for the testing data using RF Algorithm

Above shown graphs Fig 6 & Fig 7 are represented through R programming language (following command “plot (filename)”) for both training and testing data sets, indicates the levels of each components for the two different years 2018 & 2019.

January 2019 data

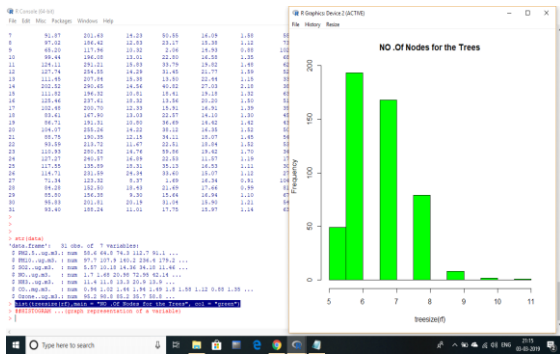


Fig 8: Plotting the Histogram graph for the training data using RF Algorithm, Jan-2018..

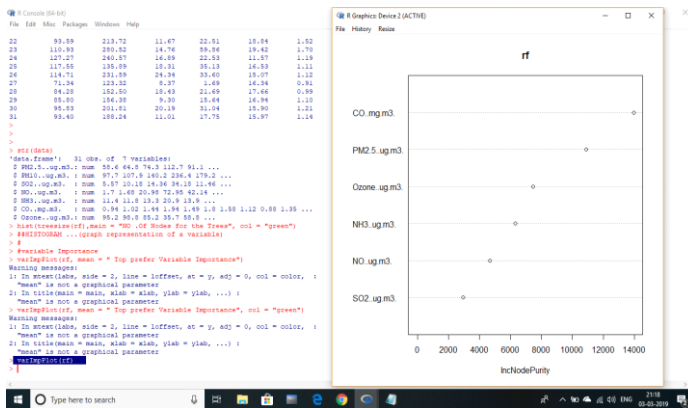


Fig.9: Representing the Variable Importance,2018 Jan. data

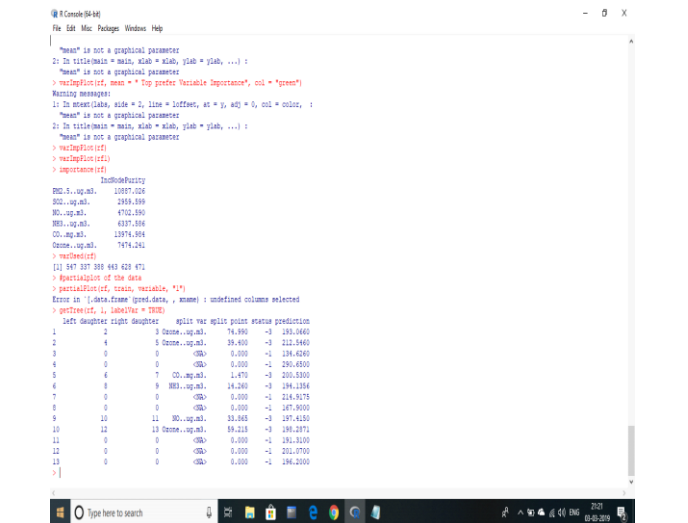


Fig.10: Showing the tree formation for training data, Jan- Dec2018

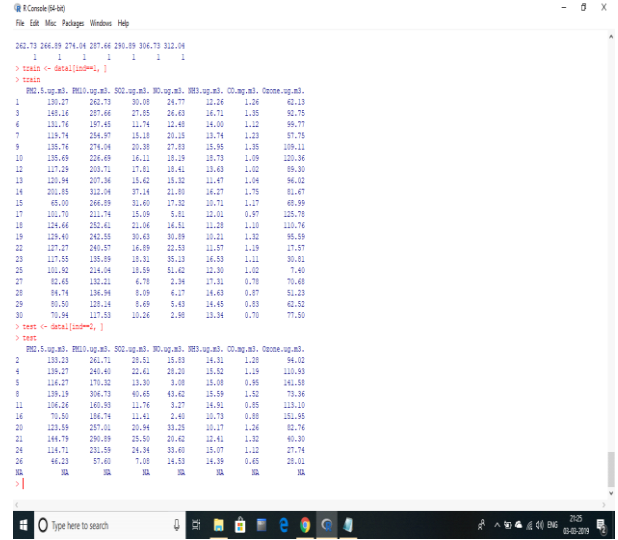


Fig.11: Data representation for "jan-2019 data"

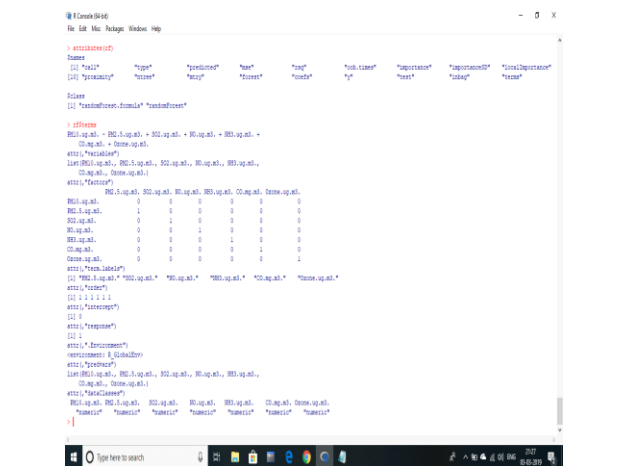


Fig.12: Identifying the Attributes for the data

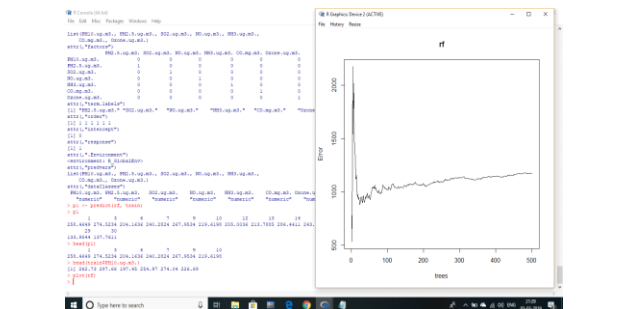


Fig.13: Graph plotting for tree data set ,2019 data set

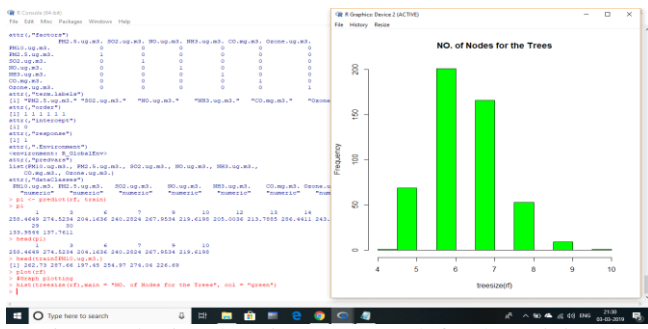


Fig.14: Plotting the Histogram graph for the training data using RF Algorithm, Jan-2019

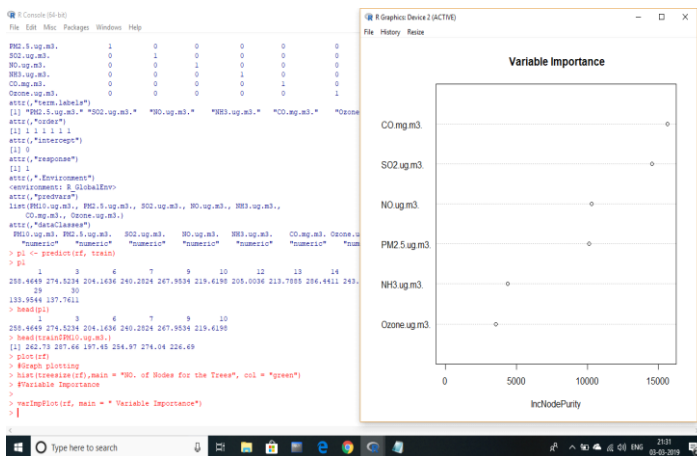


Fig.15: Representing the Variable Importance,2019- Jan data

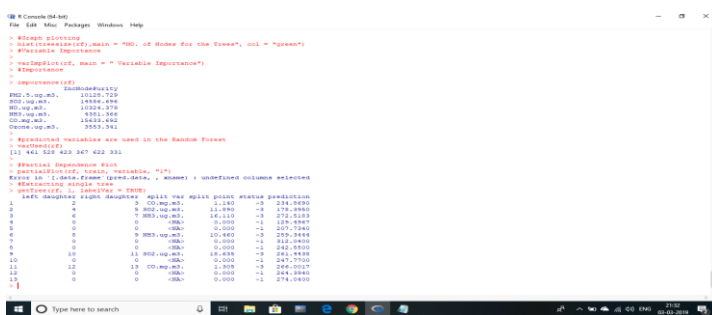


Fig.16: Showing the tree formation for training data, Jan-2019

Table 1: Breakpoints table for the AQI

TABLE 2—BREAKPOINTS FOR THE AQI

These breakpoints						Equal these AQI's	
O ₃ (ppm) 8-hour	O ₃ (ppm) 1-hour	PM _{2.5} (µg/m ³) 24-hour	PM ₁₀ (µg/m ³) 24-hour	CO (ppm) 8-hour	SO ₂ (ppb) 1-hour	NO ₂ (ppb) 1-hour	AQI Category
0.000-0.059		0.0-12.0	0-54	0.0-4.4	0-35	0-53	0-50 Good.
0.060-0.075		12.1-35.4	55-154	4.5-9.4	36-75	54-100	51-Moderate.
0.076-0.095		35.5-55.4	155-254	9.5-12.4	76-185	101-360	101-Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups.
0.096-0.115	0.125-0.164	3 55.5-150.4	255-354	12.5-15.4	4 186-304	361-649	151-Unhealthy.
0.116-0.374	0.205-0.404	3 150.5-250.4	355-424	15.5-30.4	4 305-604	650-1249	201-Very Unhealthy.
(2)	0.405-0.504	3 250.5-350.4	425-504	30.5-40.4	4 605-804	1250-1649	301-Hazardous.
(2)	0.505-0.604	3 350.5-500.4	505-604	40.5-50.4	4 805-1004	1650-2049	401-500

The overall result will be showing the pollutants in a graph with month intervals and identifying the causes. While choosing the breakpoint table there are three cases to be followed.

1. we consider areas large in number and the AQI values based on the 8 hrs ozone values. However, for smaller number of areas AQI based on 1 hrs ozone value, that would be more precautionary. In these cases, both 8 hrs and 1 hrs index value may be calculated and maximum two values are reported.
- 2 .NO₂ has no short-term NAAQS (National Ambient Air Quality Standards) and can generate an AQI only above an AQI value of 200.
3. When 8-hour O₃ concentrations exceed 0.374ppm, AQI values of 301 or higher must be calculated with 1-hour O₃ concentrations.

IV. CONCLUSION

Air quality is an important aspect on the earth, because it is linked to our healthy survival. Everyday air is getting polluted heavily and it leads to health issues hence in an attempt to control it, a proper monitoring and analysis can be done by considering every two different years data set obtained from the Central Pollution Control Board. Making use of such data, and by applying Random Forest Algorithm in R language, error rate has been identified and the result has been observed as provided in the above figures. As the quality of air is measurable its study and analysis can significantly impact public health.

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