# Finding Relevant Information via a Discrete Fourier Expansion



ICML 2021

### Motivation

- High-dimensional datasets with many "redundant" or "irrelevant" features.
- Linear relations are easy to identify
  - Linearly redundant features

$$X_i = a_0 + a_1 X_{j_1} + a_2 X_{j_2}, + \dots + a_k X_{j_k}$$

- Non-linear structures:
  - $X_i = g(X_{j_1}, X_{j_2}, \dots, X_{j_k})$
- How to capture multi-variate and non-linear relations?
  - Kernel-based approach:
    - Computationally expensive.
  - Information-theoretic measures:
    - High sample complexity.

### This work:

- ✓ Fourie-based approach
- ✓ Feature Selection

## Key Ideas



This Work: Correlated Fourier Expansion • Arbitrary distribution  $(X^d, Y) \sim D$  $g(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathcal{S} \in \mathcal{T}} g_{\mathcal{S}} \psi_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathbf{x})$ Orthogonalized non-redundant features Parities  $g_{\mathcal{S}} = \mathbb{E}_{D}[g(\mathbf{X})\psi_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathbf{X})]$ Unsupervised FS Supervised FS Orthogonalization Estimate  $\hat{g}_{S}$ Algorithm SFFS Algorithm

# Orthogonalization

#### Gram-Schmidt-Type Orthogonalization:

- Ordering the subsets of {1,2, ..., d}
  Ø, {1}, {2}, {1,2}, {3}, {1,3}, {2,3}, {1,2,3}, ..., {1,2, ..., d}
- Orthogonalization w.r.t *D*

$$\begin{split} \tilde{\psi}_{\mathcal{S}_i} &\equiv \chi_{\mathcal{S}_i} - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \langle \psi_{\mathcal{S}_j}, \chi_{\mathcal{S}_i} \rangle_D \; \psi_{\mathcal{S}_j}, \\ \psi_{\mathcal{S}_i} &\equiv \begin{cases} \frac{\tilde{\psi}_{\mathcal{S}_i}}{\|\tilde{\psi}_{\mathcal{S}_i}\|_{2,D}} & \text{if } \|\tilde{\psi}_{\mathcal{S}_i}\|_{2,D} > 0\\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \end{split}$$

• Nonlinear redundancy measure:

 $\| ilde{\psi}_{\{j\}}\|_2 \leq \epsilon$ 

Implementation:

Step 1: Fixed-depth Search Only feature subsets of size at most t (say t = 2):

 $\emptyset, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{1,2\}, \{3\}, \{1,3\}, \{2,3\}, , \{4\}, \{1,4\}, \dots$ 

### Step 2: Empirical Orthogonalization

• Matrix of empirical correlation coeffects:

$$\mathbf{B} = \left[\frac{\operatorname{cov}(\mathbf{X}_{i}, \mathbf{X}_{j})}{\sigma_{i} \sigma_{j}}\right]_{i, j \in [d]}$$

• Recursive formula:

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \tilde{\psi}_{\{i\}} \right\|_{2}^{2} &\approx b_{i,i} + \sum_{j < i} a_{j,i}^{2} \\ a_{j,i} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{b_{j,j} - \sum_{r < j} a_{r,j}^{2}}} \left( b_{j,i} - \sum_{\ell < j} a_{\ell,j} a_{\ell,i} \right) \end{aligned}$$

### Representation in the Fourier Domain

• Binary classification with 0-1 loss:

Theorem (Fourier Characterization)

• The Bayes predictor of Y from a feature subset  $\mathcal{J}$  is  $\hat{y} = \text{sign}[f^{\subseteq \mathcal{J}}(x)]$ , where

$$f^{\subseteq \mathcal{J}}(\boldsymbol{x}) = \sum_{\boldsymbol{\mathcal{S}} \subseteq \boldsymbol{\mathcal{J}}} \alpha_{\boldsymbol{\mathcal{S}}} \psi_{\boldsymbol{\mathcal{S}}}(\boldsymbol{x}), \qquad \alpha_{\boldsymbol{\mathcal{S}}} = \mathbb{E}_D[\boldsymbol{Y}\psi_{\boldsymbol{\mathcal{S}}}(\boldsymbol{X})]$$

Fourier for Stochastic label Y $(X^d, Y) \sim D$ ,

$$L_{\text{opt}}(k) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \max_{\mathcal{J}:|\mathcal{J}|=k} \|f^{\subseteq \mathcal{J}}\|_{1,D}$$

• Optimal feature subset:

$$\frac{\mathcal{J}^*}{\mathcal{J}^*} = \underset{\mathcal{J}:|\mathcal{J}|=k}{\operatorname{argmax}} \left\| f^{\subseteq \mathcal{J}} \right\|_{1,D}$$

→Estimation from samples.





### Measure for Feature Selection

- Empirical Fourier Expansion to estimate  $\|f^{\subseteq J}\|_{1,D}$ 
  - Orthogonalization Process  $\rightarrow \hat{\psi}_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathbf{x})$
  - Fourier Coefficients:  $\hat{\alpha}_{\mathcal{S}} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i} y(i) \hat{\psi}_{\mathcal{S}}(\boldsymbol{x}(\boldsymbol{i}))$
- Relevancy Measure:

$$M_n(\mathcal{J}) = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \left| \sum_{\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{J}} \hat{\alpha}_{\mathcal{S}} \, \hat{\psi}_{\mathcal{S}}(\boldsymbol{x}_i) \, - \frac{1}{n} y_i \left( \, \hat{\psi}_{\mathcal{S}}(\boldsymbol{x}_i) \, \right)^2 \right|$$

Theorem (Consistency of the measure)

If 
$$\hat{\mathcal{J}}_n = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathcal{J}} M_n(\mathcal{J})$$
, then  

$$L_D(\hat{\mathcal{J}}_n) \leq L_D(\mathcal{J}^*) + \sqrt{\frac{\lambda(k)}{n} \log \frac{d}{\delta}} + O(n^{-\gamma})$$
with probability  $(1 - \delta)$ , where  $\lambda(k) = O(k2^{2k}), \gamma \approx 1/2$ .

### Numerical Experiments:

	E1	E2	USPS	Isolet	COIL20	Covertype	Australian	Musk	ALL AML
d	20	20	256	617	1024	54	14	166	7128
$\widetilde{d}$	20	20	93	309	331	34	12	35	39
$ ilde{d}/d$	1	1	0.36	309	0.50	0.63	0.86	0.21	0.005

#### Table I: Orthogonalization Output.

Table II: Running Times (in sec).

	Covertype	Australian	Musk	ALL_AML	USPS	Isolet	COIL20
SFFS (t=1)	2.7	3.5	3.3	303	298	74.26	41
SFFS (t=2)	3.1	3.9	4	378	378	74.35	65
RFS	6	4	2	447	1010	58	62
mRMR	1.41	0.89	56	300	510	3585	4238
relifF	1.33	1.88	1.3	4.35	550	36.5	41.42
MI	0.92	0.32	3.05	280	172	77	104
CCM	48	157	159	135	_	3276	3662