

# Package ‘MDFS’

April 19, 2022

**Title** MultiDimensional Feature Selection

**Version** 1.3.0

**Date** 2022-04-19

**URL** <https://featureselector.uco.uwb.edu.pl/software/mdfs/>

**Description** Functions for MultiDimensional Feature Selection (MDFS):  
calculating multidimensional information gains, scoring variables,  
finding important variables, plotting selection results.

This package includes an optional CUDA implementation that speeds up  
information gain calculation using NVIDIA GPGPUs.

R. Piliszek et al. (2019) <[doi:10.32614/RJ-2019-019](https://doi.org/10.32614/RJ-2019-019)>.

**Depends** R (>= 3.4.0)

**License** GPL-3

**SystemRequirements** C++11

**NeedsCompilation** yes

**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**RoxygenNote** 7.1.2

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**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2022-04-19 13:02:33 UTC

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AddContrastVariables *Add contrast variables to data*

---

## Description

Add contrast variables to data

## Usage

```
AddContrastVariables(data, n.contrast = max(ncol(data)/10, 30))
```

## Arguments

data	data organized in matrix with separate variables in columns
n.contrast	number of contrast variables (defaults to max of 1/10 of variables number and 30)

## Value

A list with the following key names:

- indices – vector of indices of input variables used to construct contrast variables
- x – data with contrast variables appended to it
- mask – vector of booleans making it easy to select just contrast variables

## Examples

```
AddContrastVariables(madelon$data)
```

---

```
as.data.frame.MDFS      as.data.frame S3 method implementation for MDFS
```

---

**Description**

as.data.frame S3 method implementation for MDFS

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'MDFS'
as.data.frame(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

```
x          an MDFS object
...        ignored
```

**Value**

data.frame

---

```
ComputeInterestingTuples
      Interesting tuples
```

---

**Description**

Interesting tuples

**Usage**

```
ComputeInterestingTuples(
  data,
  decision = NULL,
  dimensions = 2,
  divisions = NULL,
  discretizations = 1,
  seed = NULL,
  range = NULL,
  pc.xi = 0.25,
  ig.thr = 0,
  I.lower = NULL,
  interesting.vars = vector(mode = "integer"),
  require.all.vars = FALSE,
  return.matrix = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>data</code>	input data where columns are variables and rows are observations (all numeric)
<code>decision</code>	decision variable as a binary sequence of length equal to number of observations
<code>dimensions</code>	number of dimensions (a positive integer; 5 max)
<code>divisions</code>	number of divisions (from 1 to 15; NULL selects probable optimal number)
<code>discretizations</code>	number of discretizations
<code>seed</code>	seed for PRNG used during discretizations (NULL for random)
<code>range</code>	discretization range (from 0.0 to 1.0; NULL selects probable optimal number)
<code>pc.xi</code>	parameter xi used to compute pseudocounts (the default is recommended not to be changed)
<code>ig.thr</code>	IG threshold above which the tuple is interesting (0 and negative mean no filtering)
<code>I.lower</code>	IG values computed for lower dimension (1D for 2D, etc.)
<code>interesting.vars</code>	variables for which to check the IGs (none = all)
<code>require.all.vars</code>	boolean whether to require tuple to consist of only interesting.vars
<code>return.matrix</code>	boolean whether to return a matrix instead of a list (ignored if not using the optimised method variant)

**Details**

If running in 2D and no filtering is applied, this function is able to run in an optimised fashion. It is recommended to avoid filtering in 2D if only it is feasible.

If `decision` is omitted, this function calculates mutual information. Translate "IG" to mutual information in the rest of this function's description, except for `I.lower` where it means entropy.

**Value**

A `data.frame` or `NULL` (following a warning) if no tuples are found.

The following columns are present in the `data.frame`:

- `Var` – interesting variable index
- `Tuple.1, Tuple.2, ...` – corresponding tuple (up to `dimensions` columns)
- `IG` – information gain achieved by `var` in `Tuple.*`

Additionally attribute named `run.params` with run parameters is set on the result.

**Examples**

```
ig.1d <- ComputeMaxInfoGains(madelon$data, madelon$decision, dimensions = 1, divisions = 1,
                             range = 0, seed = 0)
ComputeInterestingTuples(madelon$data, madelon$decision, dimensions = 2, divisions = 1,
                         range = 0, seed = 0, ig.thr = 100, I.lower = ig.1d$IG)
```

---

ComputeInterestingTuplesDiscrete  
*Interesting tuples (discrete)*

---

### Description

Interesting tuples (discrete)

### Usage

```
ComputeInterestingTuplesDiscrete(
  data,
  decision = NULL,
  dimensions = 2,
  pc.xi = 0.25,
  ig.thr = 0,
  I.lower = NULL,
  interesting.vars = vector(mode = "integer"),
  require.all.vars = FALSE,
  return.matrix = FALSE
)
```

### Arguments

data	input data where columns are variables and rows are observations (all discrete with the same number of categories)
decision	decision variable as a binary sequence of length equal to number of observations
dimensions	number of dimensions (a positive integer; 5 max)
pc.xi	parameter xi used to compute pseudocounts (the default is recommended not to be changed)
ig.thr	IG threshold above which the tuple is interesting (0 and negative mean no filtering)
I.lower	IG values computed for lower dimension (1D for 2D, etc.)
interesting.vars	variables for which to check the IGs (none = all)
require.all.vars	boolean whether to require tuple to consist of only interesting.vars
return.matrix	boolean whether to return a matrix instead of a list (ignored if not using the optimised method variant)

### Details

If running in 2D and no filtering is applied, this function is able to run in an optimised fashion. It is recommended to avoid filtering in 2D if only it is feasible.

If decision is omitted, this function calculates mutual information. Translate "IG" to mutual information in the rest of this function's description, except for I.lower where it means entropy.

**Value**

A `data.frame` or `NULL` (following a warning) if no tuples are found.

The following columns are present in the `data.frame`:

- `Var` – interesting variable index
- `Tuple.1, Tuple.2, ...` – corresponding tuple (up to dimensions columns)
- `IG` – information gain achieved by `var` in `Tuple.*`

Additionally attribute named `run.params` with run parameters is set on the result.

**Examples**

```
ig.1d <- ComputeMaxInfoGainsDiscrete(madelon$data > 500, madelon$decision, dimensions = 1)
ComputeInterestingTuplesDiscrete(madelon$data > 500, madelon$decision, dimensions = 2,
                                ig.thr = 100, I.lower = ig.1d$IG)
```

---

ComputeMaxInfoGains    *Max information gains*

---

**Description**

Max information gains

**Usage**

```
ComputeMaxInfoGains(
  data,
  decision = NULL,
  dimensions = 1,
  divisions = NULL,
  discretizations = 1,
  seed = NULL,
  range = NULL,
  pc.xi = 0.25,
  return.tuples = FALSE,
  return.min = FALSE,
  interesting.vars = vector(mode = "integer"),
  require.all.vars = FALSE,
  use.CUDA = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>data</code>	input data where columns are variables and rows are observations (all numeric)
<code>decision</code>	decision variable as a binary sequence of length equal to number of observations
<code>dimensions</code>	number of dimensions (a positive integer; 5 max)
<code>divisions</code>	number of divisions (from 1 to 15; additionally limited by dimensions if using CUDA; NULL selects probable optimal number)
<code>discretizations</code>	number of discretizations
<code>seed</code>	seed for PRNG used during discretizations (NULL for random)
<code>range</code>	discretization range (from 0.0 to 1.0; NULL selects probable optimal number)
<code>pc.xi</code>	parameter xi used to compute pseudocounts (the default is recommended not to be changed)
<code>return.tuples</code>	whether to return tuples (and relevant discretization number) where max IG was observed (one tuple and relevant discretization number per variable) - not supported with CUDA nor in 1D
<code>return.min</code>	whether to return min instead of max (per tuple, always max per discretization) - not supported with CUDA
<code>interesting.vars</code>	variables for which to check the IGs (none = all) - not supported with CUDA
<code>require.all.vars</code>	boolean whether to require tuple to consist of only interesting.vars
<code>use.CUDA</code>	whether to use CUDA acceleration (must be compiled with CUDA)

**Details**

If `decision` is omitted, this function calculates either the variable entropy (in 1D) or mutual information (in higher dimensions). Translate "IG" respectively to entropy or mutual information in the rest of this function's description.

**Value**

A `data.frame` with the following columns:

- `IG` – max information gain (of each variable)
- `Tuple.1, Tuple.2, ...` – corresponding tuple (up to dimensions columns, available only when `return.tuples == T`)
- `Discretization.nr` – corresponding discretization number (available only when `return.tuples == T`)

Additionally attribute named `run.params` with run parameters is set on the result.

**Examples**

```
ComputeMaxInfoGains(madelon$data, madelon$decision, dimensions = 2, divisions = 1,
                    range = 0, seed = 0)
```

---

 ComputeMaxInfoGainsDiscrete

*Max information gains (discrete)*


---

### Description

Max information gains (discrete)

### Usage

```

ComputeMaxInfoGainsDiscrete(
  data,
  decision = NULL,
  dimensions = 1,
  pc.xi = 0.25,
  return.tuples = FALSE,
  return.min = FALSE,
  interesting.vars = vector(mode = "integer"),
  require.all.vars = FALSE
)

```

### Arguments

<code>data</code>	input data where columns are variables and rows are observations (all discrete with the same number of categories)
<code>decision</code>	decision variable as a binary sequence of length equal to number of observations
<code>dimensions</code>	number of dimensions (a positive integer; 5 max)
<code>pc.xi</code>	parameter xi used to compute pseudocounts (the default is recommended not to be changed)
<code>return.tuples</code>	whether to return tuples where max IG was observed (one tuple per variable) - not supported with CUDA nor in 1D
<code>return.min</code>	whether to return min instead of max (per tuple) - not supported with CUDA
<code>interesting.vars</code>	variables for which to check the IGs (none = all) - not supported with CUDA
<code>require.all.vars</code>	boolean whether to require tuple to consist of only interesting.vars

### Details

If `decision` is omitted, this function calculates either the variable entropy (in 1D) or mutual information (in higher dimensions). Translate "IG" respectively to entropy or mutual information in the rest of this function's description.



**Value**

A `data.frame` with the following columns:

- IG – max information gain (of each variable)
- Tuple.1, Tuple.2, ... – corresponding tuple (up to dimensions columns, available only when `return.tuples == T`)
- Discretization.nr – always 1 (for compatibility with the non-discrete function; available only when `return.tuples == T`)

Additionally attribute named `run.params` with run parameters is set on the result.

**Examples**

```
ComputeMaxInfoGainsDiscrete(madelon$data > 500, madelon$decision, dimensions = 2)
```

---

ComputePValue

*Compute p-values from information gains and return MDFS*

---

**Description**

Compute p-values from information gains and return MDFS

**Usage**

```
ComputePValue(
  IG,
  dimensions,
  divisions,
  response.divisions = 1,
  df = NULL,
  contrast.mask = NULL,
  ig.in.bits = TRUE,
  ig.doubled = FALSE,
  one.dim.mode = "exp",
  irr.vars.num = NULL,
  ign.low.ig.vars.num = NULL,
  min.irr.vars.num = NULL,
  max.ign.low.ig.vars.num = NULL,
  search.points = 8,
  level = 0.05
)
```

**Arguments**

IG	max conditional information gains
dimensions	number of dimensions
divisions	number of divisions
response.divisions	number of response divisions (i.e. categories-1)
df	vector of degrees of freedom for each variable (optional)
contrast.mask	boolean mask on IG specifying which variables are contrast variables (or NULL if none, otherwise at least 3 variables must be marked)
ig.in.bits	TRUE if input is in binary log (as opposed to natural log)
ig.doubled	TRUE if input is doubled (to follow the chi-squared distribution)
one.dim.mode	'exp' for exponential distribution, 'lin' for linear function of chi-squared or 'raw' for raw chi-squared
irr.vars.num	if not NULL, number of irrelevant variables, specified by the user
ign.low.ig.vars.num	if not NULL, number of ignored low IG variables, specified by the user
min.irr.vars.num	minimum number of irrelevant variables (NULL selects probable optimal number)
max.ign.low.ig.vars.num	maximum number of ignored low IG variables (NULL selects probable optimal number)
search.points	number of points in search procedure for the optimal number of ignored variables
level	acceptable error level of goodness-of-fit one-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test (used only for warning)

**Value**

A [data.frame](#) with class set to MDFS. Can be coerced back to [data.frame](#) using [as.data.frame](#).

The following columns are present:

- IG – information gains (input copy)
- `chi.squared.p.value` – chi-squared p-values
- `p.value` – theoretical p-values

Additionally the following [attributes](#) are set:

- `run.params` – run parameters
- `sq.dev` – vector of square deviations used to estimate the number of irrelevant variables
- `dist.param` – distribution parameter
- `err.param` – squared error of the distribution parameter
- `fit.p.value` – p-value of fit

**Examples**

```
ComputePValue(madelon$IG.2D, dimensions = 2, divisions = 1)
```

---

Discretize	<i>Discretize variable on demand</i>
------------	--------------------------------------

---

**Description**

Discretize variable on demand

**Usage**

```
Discretize(data, variable.idx, divisions, discretization.nr, seed, range)
```

**Arguments**

data	input data where columns are variables and rows are observations (all numeric)
variable.idx	variable index (as it appears in data)
divisions	number of divisions
discretization.nr	discretization number (positive integer)
seed	seed for PRNG
range	discretization range

**Value**

Discretized variable.

**Examples**

```
Discretize(madelon$data, 3, 1, 1, 0, 0.5)
```

---

madelon	<i>An artificial dataset called MADELON</i>
---------	---

---

**Description**

An artificial dataset containing data points grouped in 32 clusters placed on the vertices of a five dimensional hypercube and randomly labeled 0/1.

**Usage**

```
madelon
```

**Format**

A list of two elements:

**data** 2000 by 500 matrix of 2000 objects with 500 features

**decision** vector of 2000 decisions (labels 0/1)

**IG.2D** example 2D IG computed using ComputeMaxInfoGains

**Details**

The five dimensions constitute 5 informative features. 15 linear combinations of those features are added to form a set of 20 (redundant) informative features. There are 480 distractor features called 'probes' having no predictive power.

Included is the original training set with label -1 changed to 0.

**Source**

<https://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/datasets/Madelon>

---

MDFS

*Run end-to-end MDFS*

---

**Description**

Run end-to-end MDFS

**Usage**

```
MDFS(  
  data,  
  decision,  
  n.contrast = max(ncol(data)/10, 30),  
  dimensions = 1,  
  divisions = NULL,  
  discretizations = 1,  
  range = NULL,  
  pc.xi = 0.25,  
  p.adjust.method = "holm",  
  level = 0.05,  
  seed = NULL,  
  use.CUDA = FALSE  
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>data</code>	input data where columns are variables and rows are observations (all numeric)
<code>decision</code>	decision variable as a boolean vector of length equal to number of observations
<code>n.contrast</code>	number of contrast variables (defaults to max of 1/10 of variables number and 30)
<code>dimensions</code>	number of dimensions (a positive integer; on CUDA limited to 2–5 range)
<code>divisions</code>	number of divisions (from 1 to 15; NULL selects probable optimal number)
<code>discretizations</code>	number of discretizations
<code>range</code>	discretization range (from 0.0 to 1.0; NULL selects probable optimal number)
<code>pc.xi</code>	parameter xi used to compute pseudocounts (the default is recommended not to be changed)
<code>p.adjust.method</code>	method as accepted by <code>p.adjust</code> ("BY" is recommended for FDR, see Details)
<code>level</code>	statistical significance level
<code>seed</code>	seed for PRNG used during discretizations (NULL for random)
<code>use.CUDA</code>	whether to use CUDA acceleration (must be compiled with CUDA)

**Details**

In case of FDR control it is recommended to use Benjamini-Hochberg-Yekutieli p-value adjustment method ("BY" in `p.adjust`) due to unknown dependencies between tests.

**Value**

A `list` with the following fields:

- `contrast.indices` – indices of variables chosen to build contrast variables
- `contrast.variables` – built contrast variables
- `MIG.Result` – result of `ComputeMaxInfoGains`
- `MDFS` – result of `ComputePValue` (the MDFS object)
- `statistic` – vector of statistic's values (IGs) for corresponding variables
- `p.value` – vector of p-values for corresponding variables
- `adjusted.p.value` – vector of adjusted p-values for corresponding variables
- `relevant.variables` – vector of relevant variables indices

**Examples**

```
MDFS(madelon$data, madelon$decision, dimensions = 2, divisions = 1,
     range = 0, seed = 0)
```

plot.MDFS

*Plot MDFS details*

---

**Description**

Plot MDFS details

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'MDFS'  
plot(x, plots = c("ig", "c", "p"), ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	an MDFS object
plots	plots to plot (ig for max IG, c for chi-squared p-values, p for p-values)
...	passed on to <a href="#">plot</a>

---

RelevantVariables

*Find indices of relevant variables*

---

**Description**

Find indices of relevant variables

**Usage**

```
RelevantVariables(fs, ...)
```

**Arguments**

fs	feature selector
...	arguments passed to methods

**Value**

indices of important variables

---

RelevantVariables.MDFS

*Find indices of relevant variables from MDFS*

---

### Description

Find indices of relevant variables from MDFS

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'MDFS'  
RelevantVariables(fs, level = 0.05, p.adjust.method = "holm", ...)
```

### Arguments

<code>fs</code>	an MDFS object
<code>level</code>	statistical significance level
<code>p.adjust.method</code>	method as accepted by <code>p.adjust</code> ("BY" is recommended for FDR, see Details)
<code>...</code>	ignored

### Details

In case of FDR control it is recommended to use Benjamini-Hochberg-Yekutieli p-value adjustment method ("BY" in `p.adjust`) due to unknown dependencies between tests.

### Value

indices of relevant variables

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