# Relevance-Redundancy Dominance: a Threshold-Free Approach to Filter-Based Feature Selection

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**Abstract.** Feature selection is used to select a subset of relevant features in machine learning, and is vital for simplification, improving efficiency and reducing overfitting. In filter-based feature selection, a statistic such as correlation or entropy is computed between each feature and the target variable to evaluate feature relevance. A relevance threshold is typically used to limit the set of selected features, and features). Some methods are designed for use with a specific statistic or certain types of data. We present a new filter-based method called Relevance-Redundancy Dominance that applies to mixed data types, can use a wide variety of statistics, and does not require a threshold. Finally, we provide preliminary results, through extensive numerical experiments on public credit datasets.

# 1 Introduction

Many real-world applications deal with high-dimensional data, and *feature selec*tion is a well-known and important class of methods for reducing dimensionality. Feature selection reduces data size, and improves learning accuracy and comprehensibility. The methods are usually categorized as *filter*, *wrapper* or *embedded* [7]. Filter methods rely on the general characteristics of the training data to select features with independence of any predictor, wrapper methods involve optimizing a predictor as part of the selection process, and embedded methods try to combine the advantages of both. In this paper we focus on filter-based methods, which are considered to be most scalable to big data. Furthermore, we focus on *univariate* methods which evaluate (and usually rank) single features, as *multivariate* methods are computationally expensive.

We propose a new filter-based feature selection method called *Relevance-Redundancy Dominance* (RRD) feature selection, with a simple feature elimination strategy based on relevance and redundancy. It can be applied to mixed data types, can use a wide variety of statistics, requires no threshold for choosing a feature subset, and in experiments outperforms published methods on four credit datasets.

# 2 Related Work

Feature selection strategies based on filter methods have received attention from many researchers in statistics and machine learning. Their advantages are that they are fast, independent of the classifier/predictor method, scalable and easy to interpret.

The RELIEF algorithm [12] estimates the quality of attributes according to how well their values distinguish between instances that are near to each other. It can deal with discrete and continuous features but was initially limited to two-class problems. An extension, ReliefF [13], not only deals with multiclass problems but is also more robust and capable of dealing with incomplete and noisy data. The Relief family of methods are especially attractive because they may be applied in all situations, have low bias, include interaction among features and may capture local dependencies that other methods miss. However, they select features based only on relevance and do not remove redundant features.

Correlation-based Feature Selection (CFS) [8] is a simple filter algorithm that ranks feature subsets according to a correlation-based heuristic evaluation function. The bias of the evaluation function is toward subsets that contain features that are highly correlated with the class and uncorrelated with each other. Irrelevant features should be ignored because they will have low correlation with the class. Redundant features should be screened out as they will be highly correlated with one or more of the remaining features. Moreover, there exists an improved CFS version called Fast Correlated-Based Filter (FCBF) method [27] based on symmetrical uncertainty (SU) [20], which is defined as the ratio between the information gain (IG) and the entropy (H) of two features. This method was designed for high-dimensionality data and has been shown to be effective in removing both irrelevant and redundant features (although it fails to take into consideration interactions between features). The INTERACT algorithm [28] uses the same goodness measure as the FCBF filter [20], but also includes the consistency contribution (c-contribution). The c-contribution of a feature indicates how significantly the elimination of that feature will affect consistency. The algorithm consists of two major parts. In the first part, the features are ranked in descending order based on their SU values. In the second part, features are evaluated one by one starting from the end of the ranked feature list. If the c-contribution of a feature is less than a given threshold the feature is removed, otherwise it is selected.

Finally, the Minimum Redundancy-Maximum Relevance (MRMR) [15] is a heuristic framework which minimizes redundancy, using a series of measures of relevance and redundancy to select promising features for both continuous and discrete data sets. Particularly, for discrete variables it applies Mutual Information, while for continuous variables it mainly uses the F-test and correlation.

## 3 The proposed method

RRD is a univariate filter-based feature selection method, which can use any suitable statistic to select a *good* subset of features in a dataset. The statistic can

be symmetric  $(s(f, f') \equiv s(f', f)$  for example correlation or mutual information) or asymmetric (for example Goodman and Kruskal's  $\lambda$  [6]).

Given a binary statistic s, features  $f \in F$  and a target variable t, the RRD method works as follows. As in other methods, the features are ranked for relevance using s: f is more relevant than f' if s(f,t) > s(f',t). We shall say that f dominates f' if s(f,t) > s(f',t) and s(f,f') > s(f',t). We shall also say that f' is redundant if it is dominated by f and f is not dominated by any other feature. RRD selects all non-redundant features.

This leads to the feature selection method shown in Algorithm 1. First we precompute the statistics  $x_{ft} = s(f,t)$  between each feature f and the target variable t, and initialise the set of selected features to the empty set  $\emptyset$ . Then we select the feature  $\hat{f} \in F$  with greatest relevance  $x_{\hat{f}t}$ , generate the set R of  $f \in F$  that are made redundant by  $\hat{f}$ , add R to S, and remove  $R \cup \{\hat{f}\}$  from F. The last few steps are repeated until F is empty, then we return the set S of selected features.

Algorithm 1 RRD Feature Selection Algorithm

given features F and target t  $\forall f \in F$   $x_{ft} \leftarrow s(f, t)$   $S \leftarrow \emptyset$ while  $F \neq \emptyset$   $\hat{f} \leftarrow \arg \max_{f \in F} x_{ft}$   $R \leftarrow \{f \mid f \in F \land s(\hat{f}, f) > x_{ft}\}$   $F \leftarrow F \setminus (R \cup \{\hat{f}\})$   $S \leftarrow S \cup \{\hat{f}\}$ return S

Note that Algorithm 1 typically does not compute all s-values between features (for example a full correlation matrix). This is because after a feature has been removed from F no further statistics on it need be computed. This means that it will often compute fewer statistics than (say) the MRMR method of [15], though in the worst case it computes the same number. It is possible to construct datasets for which RRD removes no features at all, or removes all but one, but in practice we find that it usually generates a small subset of features.

Finally, it should be pointed out that RRD assumes that we can compute statistic s(x, y) for all  $x, y \in F \cup \{t\}$ . Thus before we can apply RRD, if the target and/or features have mixed types (numerical, ordinal, nominal) they must be first preprocessed so that they are all of the same type. This preprocessing is detailed in the next section.

# 4 Experiments on real datasets

We performed extensive experiments on 4 datasets using 12 statistics, 7 discretization methods, and 3 classifiers.

#### Datasets

RRD was evaluated on 4 credit datasets from the UCI Machine Learning Repository [14], each with a binary target variable. We decided to evaluate our method thoroughly on one type of data, rather than partially on several data types, though we are also working on other datasets. Feature selection for credit data has been the subject of several recent papers.

Table 1 provides an overview of the 4 datasets used in the numerical experiments. The German dataset has 3 continuous features, 4 ordinal features and 13 nominal features, while the numerical version of the German dataset has 24 continuous features. Both the Australian and Japanese datasets have 6 continuous features, the Australian dataset also has 8 nominal features, and the Japanese dataset has 9 nominal features. These are popular datasets for evaluating classification and feature selection methods, especially where credit scoring is the research topic.

Table 1. Credit datasets

Dataset	Size	Continous / Nominal Features	Train / Test
German	1000	17 / 3	700 / 300
German (numeric)	1000	24 / 0	700 / 300
Australian	690	8 / 6	483 / 207
Japanese	684	9 / 6	479 / 205

# Discretization

In classification problems we are typically faced with mixed-type features and a nominal (often binary) target, so we may apply preprocessing. In this work we transform all data to nominal form via discretization, which groups continuous feature values into bins. We used 7 binning methods including 2 supervised (Chi<sup>2</sup> and Extended Chi<sup>2</sup> which are based on information theory) and 5 unsupervised. The unsupervised binning methods were: equal frequency and equal width, in which the cube root of the number of samples was used to determine the number of bins; k-means clustering, where the value of k was determined using the  $\sqrt{\frac{n}{2}}$  method, the elbow method, and the floor value of the natural log of the continuous data.

It should be noted that if the dataset being analysed has all continuous numerical features and either a binary or continuous target variable, RRD can use statistics such as Spearman's correlation to reduce the number of features. This removes the need for discretization, which simplifies RRD and improves its computational efficiency.

#### Statistics

RRD is capable of analysing all types of data, including hybrid data, using any suitable statistic whether they are use correlation criteria (such as Pearson's correlation coefficient) or information-based (such as mutual information) [1, 18, 22–25, 27]. In this paper 12 different statistics were used to select the optimal subsets for the credit datasets.

#### Classifiers

We used 3 classifiers: Logistic Regression, Random Forests and Naive Bayes. A Logistic Regression model can be used as a classifier when the target variable is binary. It uses a sigmoid function to calculate to which class a test subject belongs. Random Forests [2] is an ensemble learning algorithm. Naive Bayes classifiers are based on Bayes' Theorem. We chose these three methods because they are popular yet distinct. All three can handle mixed data types, but often perform better when continuous features are transformed into nominal form [5].

## **Cross-validation**

We used stratified 100-fold Monte Carlo cross-validation with 70%/30% training/testing splitting of the data, as follows: (i) randomly split the data set samples into 70% training set and 30% testing set; (ii) using only the training set, create bins for the discretization method; (iii) run RRD on the discretized training set to find the optimal features; (iv) using the training set subset, build the predictor model (e.g. Naive Bayes); (v) select the same features in the test set as RRD selected in the training set; (vi) using the bin cut-points found in step (ii) discretize the test set; (vii) evaluate the predictor model built in step (iv) using the test set, which has been kept completely isolated from the training set, and finally (viii) repeat steps (i) to (vii) k times (in this paper k = 100). Average prediction accuracy and number of selected features, along with their corresponding standard deviations, are reported in each case.

## Results

The best results for each classifier and statistic are shown in Tables 3–5 in the Appendix (results for the numerical German dataset are omitted due to lack of space). These can be compared to published results from various papers using both new and well established filter feature selection methods, shown in Table 2.

The best RRD result on the German dataset was  $76.13\% \pm 1.76\%$  with  $13.3 \pm 0.46$  selected features, using Messenger & Mandell's  $\Theta$  [19] and k-means

discretization, which outperformed the majority of the other methods, and was on par with the best, the selective Bayesian classifier of [21] with 76.21% and 6 selected features. The worst result was  $70.99\% \pm 1.67\%$  with Goodman & Kruskal  $\lambda$  using Naive Bayes as the classifier and k-means elbow discretization method.

On the numerical German dataset our best result was  $75.38\% \pm 1.69\%$  using Messenger & Mandell's  $\Theta$  and equal width discretization, with  $11.99 \pm 0.1$  selected features. This is beaten by the SVM + Grid search + F-score method of [10] with 77.50% and approximately 20 selected features, so our accuracy is slightly worse but with 8 fewer features selected. The worst result was  $70.32\% \pm 3.34\%$  with Somers'  $\delta$  using Naive Bayes as the classifier and k-means elbow discretization method.

On the Australian dataset Goodman & Kruskal's  $\lambda$  with Chi<sup>2</sup> binning and the Naive Bayes classifier was the most accurate with 86.29%  $\pm$  1.97%. This was better than the result from Chen [3] using DT + SVM. The worst result was 84.54%  $\pm$  2.53% with Mutual Information *I* using Naive Bayes as the classifier and equal frequency discretization method.

On the Japanese dataset Somers'  $\delta$  with equal frequency discretization was the most accurate: 87.04%  $\pm$  1.94% and 3.95  $\pm$  0.39 selected features. This beats the ECMBF method of Jiang [11] with 2 selected features and 85.45%. The worst result was 85.68%  $\pm$  2.18% with Mutual Information *I*, Naive Bayes and equal width discretization.

In summary, the best results were found by Random Forests, the most robust statistics were Messenger & Mandell's  $\Theta$  and Cramer's  $\phi_c$ , and the best binning methods were generally the unsupervised k-means and equal width discretization. Overall RRD performed excellently, selecting 6%– 65% of features while achieving very competitive accuracies compared to published results.

# 5 Conclusion

We proposed a new filter-based feature selection algorithm called RRD with several advantages over existing methods: it can use a variety of statistics; it can handle combinations of nominal, ordinal and numerical data; it takes both relevance and redundancy into account; and it automatically decides how many features to select without the need for a threshold or cut-off (though one could be added if necessary). In experiments on credit data it outperformed published methods.

In future work we shall test RRD further, especially investigating its scalability to big data. We shall also investigate whether it continues to select an appropriate number of features on other datasets. An early result in this direction uses the Musk dataset from the UCI Machine Learning Repository [14], which involves predicting whether a molecule is a musk or not. It has 166 numeric features, a binary target variable, and 6598 samples. RRD's best result so far is  $95.58\% \pm 0.44\%$  with  $9.5 \pm 1.18$  selected features, using Cramer's  $\phi_c$ and equal frequency discretization. This beats the published result of Lou [16] of 92.4% with 6 features using HSMB algorithm, and is similar to the best result of [26] with  $96.35\% \pm 0.51\%$  with 25 selected features using FCBF-P.

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# A Tables of results

dataset selected accuracy algorithm paper 76.21% SBC German 6 [21]76.13% ABC [21]6 75.85% NN [4]7 4 74.38% NB ECMBF [11]2074.32% NB Full-set [11]1473.87% NB Consistency [11]73.76% NB FCBF 4[11] 3 73.24% NB CFS [11]72.18% C4.5 ECMBF 4 [11]3 71.47%C4.5 CFS [11]71.32%C4.5 FCBF 4 [11]1471.26%C4.5 Consistency [11]2071.26%C4.5 Full-set [11] German 20.477.50% SVM + Grid search + F-Score[10](numerical) 1276.70% |F-score + SVM [3]1276.10% |LDA + SVM [3]1275.60% |RST + SVM [3]2475.40%|Full-set + SVM [3]1273.70% |DT + SVM [3] 7 86.52% LDA + SVM [3] Australian  $\overline{7}$ 86.29% |DT + SVM [3] $\mathbf{2}$ 85.79% C4.5 ECMBF [11] $\mathbf{2}$ 85.79% NB ECMBF [11] 7 85.22% RST + SVM [3][3] 7 85.10% |F-score + SVM 84.80% C4.5 - LV F  $\mathbf{5}$ [17]84.65% IB1-CFS [9] 1 1484.34% [Full-set + SVM [3]7.684.20% |SVM + Grid search+ F-Score [10]1483.91% C4.5 Full-set [11]1383.83% C4.5 Consistency [11]1 83.78% Naive-CFS [9] 83.49% C4.5 FCBF  $\overline{7}$ [11] 83.32% C4.5 CFS  $\overline{7}$ [11] 580.30% ID3 - LV F [17]1476.09%NB Full-set [11]7 75.32%NB CFS [11]74.89% NB Consistency 13[11]  $\overline{7}$ 73.57%NB FCBF [11]Japanese 2 85.45% C4.5 ECMBF [11]1585.83%C4.5 Full-set [11]785.28%C4.5 CFS[11] $\mathbf{2}$ 84.94%NB ECMBF [11] 6 84.77%C4.5 FCBF [11]1384.68%C4.5 Consistency [11] 1578.13%NB Full-set [11] 75.32%NB Consistency 13[11] 6 75.23%NB FCBF [11]7 74.81% NB CFS [11]

Table 2. Feature selection results from related work

Classifier	Statistic	Selected	Accuracy	Discretization
Logistic	Messenger & Mandell's $\Theta$	$13.27 \pm 0.45$	$75.32 \pm 2.12$	Equal Width
Model	Cramer's $\phi_c$	$5.18 \pm 0.78$	$74.64 \pm 2.33$	k-means Elbow
	Stuart's $\tau_c$	$5.19\pm0.9$	$73.92 \pm 2.02$	k-means Elbow
	Tschuprow's $T$	$3.59\pm0.55$	$73.7\pm2.1$	k-means Elbow
	Theil's $U$	$3.61 \pm 0.75$	$73.58 \pm 2.11$	k-means Elbow
	Mutual Information $I$	$2.17 \pm 0.38$	$72.73 \pm 2.06$	k-means Elbow
	Goodman & Kruskal's $\gamma$	$5.05\pm0.9$	$72.69 \pm 1.84$	$Chi^2$
	Contingency Coefficient $C$	$2.26 \pm 0.52$	$72.62 \pm 1.9$	k-means Elbow
	Pearson's $\chi^2$	$2.24 \pm 0.51$	$72.62 \pm 1.89$	k-means Elbow
	Somers' $\delta$	$4.32 \pm 0.74$	$71.69 \pm 2.14$	$Chi^2$
	Goodman & Kruskal's $\lambda$	$1.12 \pm 0.33$	$71.6 \pm 1.44$	Floor $(ln)$
Naive	Messenger & Mandell's $\Theta$	$13.27 \pm 0.45$	$75.66 \pm 2.32$	k-means
Bayes	Cramer's $\phi_c$	$5.22 \pm 0.73$	$74.44 \pm 2.1$	k-means Elbow
	Stuart's $\tau_c$	$5.18 \pm 0.94$	$74.31 \pm 2.27$	k-means Elbow
	Tschuprow's $T$	$3.6 \pm 0.64$	$73.74 \pm 2.16$	k-means Elbow
	Theil's $U$	$3.56 \pm 0.74$	$73.65 \pm 2.28$	k-means Elbow
	Mutual Information $I$	$2.21 \pm 0.43$	$72.54 \pm 2.38$	k-means Elbow
	Pearson's $\chi^2$	$2.2 \pm 0.43$	$72.49 \pm 2.3$	k-means Elbow
	Contingency Coefficient $C$	$2.24 \pm 0.45$	$72.46 \pm 2.33$	k-means Elbow
	Goodman & Kruskal's $\gamma$	$5.09 \pm 1.04$	$71.99 \pm 2.34$	$Chi^2$
	Somers' $\delta$	$4.2 \pm 0.71$	$71.67 \pm 2.49$	$Chi^2$
	Goodman & Kruskal's $\lambda$	$2.07 \pm 0.36$	$70.99 \pm 1.67$	k-means Elbow
Random	Messenger & Mandell's $\Theta$	$13.3 \pm 0.46$	$76.13 \pm 1.76$	k-means
Forest	Cramer's $\phi_c$	$5.12 \pm 0.74$	$73.74 \pm 2.35$	k-means Elbow
	Theil's $U$	$3.55 \pm 0.73$	$73.22 \pm 2.39$	<i>k</i> -means Elbow
	Tschuprow's $T$	$3.51 \pm 0.56$	$73.18 \pm 2.29$	k-means Elbow
	Stuart's $\tau_c$	$5.16 \pm 0.88$	$72.56 \pm 2.43$	k-means Elbow
	Mutual Information $I$	$2.22 \pm 0.44$	$72.07\pm1.8$	k-means Elbow
	Pearson's $\chi^2$	$2.23 \pm 0.49$	$71.97\pm1.7$	k-means Elbow
	Contingency Coefficient $C$	$2.27 \pm 0.51$	$71.95 \pm 1.71$	k-means Elbow
	Somers' $\delta$	$4.77 \pm 0.79$	$71.7 \pm 2.29$	Extended Chi <sup>2</sup>
	Goodman & Kruskal's $\lambda$	$2.08 \pm 0.34$	$71.66 \pm 1.44$	k-means Elbow
	Goodman & Kruskal's $\gamma$	$5.05 \pm 1.08$	$71.65 \pm 2.07$	Extended $\text{Chi}^2$

 Table 3. German credit dataset RRD results

$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	Classifier Statistic		Selected	Accuracy	Discretization
$\begin{array}{l c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$	Logistic	Goodman & Kruskal's $\lambda$	$7.62\pm0.92$	$85.98 \pm 2.14$	Extended Chi <sup>2</sup>
$ \begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $	Model	Tschuprow's $T$	$6 \pm 0.79$	$85.86 \pm 2.07$	Extended Chi <sup>2</sup>
$ \begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $		Cramer's $\phi_c$	$5.62\pm0.81$	$85.83 \pm 2.09$	Extended Chi <sup>2</sup>
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $		Goodman & Kruskal's $\gamma$	$5.32 \pm 0.74$	$85.78 \pm 1.99$	k-means
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $		Stuart's $\tau_c$	$5.33\pm0.55$	$85.78 \pm 1.78$	Equal Freq
$\begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $		Messenger & Mandell's $\Theta$	$8 \pm 0$	$85.74 \pm 1.87$	Chi <sup>2</sup>
$ \begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $		Theil's $U$	$4.88 \pm 0.79$	$85.54 \pm 2.01$	Extended Chi <sup>2</sup>
$ \begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $		Somers' $\delta$	$6.08 \pm 0.84$	$85.37 \pm 1.97$	Extended Chi <sup>2</sup>
$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$		Mutual Information $I$	$4.28 \pm 0.9$	$85.29 \pm 1.88$	Extended Chi <sup>2</sup>
$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$		Pearson's $\chi^2$	$4 \pm 0.85$	$85.27 \pm 1.91$	Extended Chi <sup>2</sup>
Naive         Somers' $\delta$ $3.94 \pm 0.28$ $85.9 \pm 2.19$ Equal Freq           Bayes         Tschuprow's T $5.38 \pm 0.68$ $85.53 \pm 2.46$ Equal Freq           Messenger & Mandell's $\Theta$ $5.4 \pm 0.49$ $85.47 \pm 2.68$ Equal Width           Cramer's $\phi_c$ $6.21 \pm 0.73$ $85.34 \pm 2.62$ Equal Freq           Goodman & Kruskal's $\gamma$ $4.99 \pm 0.54$ $85.33 \pm 2.3$ Equal Freq           Goodman & Kruskal's $\lambda$ $7.91 \pm 0.6$ $85.08 \pm 2.21$ Equal Freq           Goodman & Kruskal's $\lambda$ $7.91 \pm 0.6$ $85.08 \pm 2.21$ Equal Freq           Stuart's $\tau_c$ $5.24 \pm 0.57$ $84.98 \pm 2.47$ Equal Freq           Contingency Coefficient C $3.05 \pm 0.46$ $84.63 \pm 2.53$ Equal Freq           Pearson's $\chi^2$ $3.05 \pm 0.46$ $84.63 \pm 2.53$ Equal Freq           Mutual Information I $3.28 \pm 0.71$ $84.54 \pm 2.53$ Equal Freq           Random         Goodman & Kruskal's $\lambda$ $8.58 \pm 0.55$ $86.29 \pm 1.97$ Chi <sup>2</sup> Forest         Messenger & Mandell's $\Theta$ $8.05 \pm 0.22$ $86.09 \pm 1.87$ k-means           Cramer's $\phi_c$		Contingency Coefficient $C$	$4.07 \pm 0.84$	$85.26 \pm 1.9$	Extended Chi <sup>2</sup>
Bayes       Tschuprow's T $5.38 \pm 0.68$ $85.53 \pm 2.46$ Equal Freq         Messenger & Mandell's $\Theta$ $5.4 \pm 0.49$ $85.47 \pm 2.68$ Equal Width         Cramer's $\phi_c$ $6.21 \pm 0.73$ $85.34 \pm 2.62$ Equal Freq         Goodman & Kruskal's $\gamma$ $4.99 \pm 0.54$ $85.33 \pm 2.3$ Equal Freq         Goodman & Kruskal's $\gamma$ $5.45 \pm 0.66$ $85.31 \pm 2.46$ Equal Freq         Goodman & Kruskal's $\lambda$ $7.91 \pm 0.6$ $85.08 \pm 2.21$ Equal Freq         Goodman & Kruskal's $\lambda$ $7.91 \pm 0.6$ $84.63 \pm 2.53$ Equal Freq         Contingency Coefficient C $3.05 \pm 0.46$ $84.63 \pm 2.53$ Equal Freq         Pearson's $\chi^2$ $3.05 \pm 0.46$ $84.63 \pm 2.53$ Equal Freq         Mutual Information I $3.28 \pm 0.71$ $84.54 \pm 2.53$ Equal Freq         Random       Goodman & Kruskal's $\lambda$ $8.58 \pm 0.55$ $86.29 \pm 1.97$ Chi <sup>2</sup> Forest       Messenger & Mandell's $\Theta$ $8.05 \pm 0.22$ $86.09 \pm 1.87$ k-means         Cramer's $\phi_c$ $7.4 \pm 0.55$ $86.06 \pm 1.83$ Chi <sup>2</sup> Somers' $\delta$ $6.09 \pm 0.87$ $85.71 \pm 2.09$ Extended Chi <sup>2</sup> St	Naive	Somers' $\delta$	$3.94\pm0.28$	$85.9 \pm 2.19$	Equal Freq
$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Bayes	Tschuprow's $T$	$5.38\pm0.68$	$85.53 \pm 2.46$	Equal Freq
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		Messenger & Mandell's $\Theta$	$5.4 \pm 0.49$	$85.47 \pm 2.68$	Equal Width
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		Cramer's $\phi_c$	$6.21 \pm 0.73$	$85.34 \pm 2.62$	Equal Freq
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		Goodman & Kruskal's $\gamma$	$4.99 \pm 0.54$	$85.33 \pm 2.3$	Equal Freq
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		Theil's $U$	$5.45 \pm 0.66$	$85.31 \pm 2.46$	Equal Freq
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		Goodman & Kruskal's $\lambda$	$7.91 \pm 0.6$	$85.08 \pm 2.21$	Equal Freq
$ \begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $		Stuart's $\tau_c$	$5.24 \pm 0.57$	$84.98 \pm 2.47$	Equal Freq
$ \begin{array}{c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c $		Contingency Coefficient $C$	$3.05 \pm 0.46$	$84.63 \pm 2.53$	Equal Freq
$ \begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$		Pearson's $\chi^2$	$3.05 \pm 0.46$	$84.63 \pm 2.53$	Equal Freq
$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$		Mutual Information $I$	$3.28 \pm 0.71$	$84.54 \pm 2.53$	Equal Freq
$ \begin{array}{llllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll$	Random	Goodman & Kruskal's $\lambda$	$8.58\pm0.55$	$86.29 \pm 1.97$	Chi <sup>2</sup>
$ \begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$	Forest	Messenger & Mandell's $\Theta$	$8.05\pm0.22$	$86.09 \pm 1.87$	k-means
$ \begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$		Cramer's $\phi_c$	$7.4 \pm 0.55$	$86.06 \pm 1.83$	Chi <sup>2</sup>
$ \begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$		Somers' $\delta$	$6.09 \pm 0.87$	$85.71 \pm 2.09$	Extended Chi <sup>2</sup>
Tschuprow's T $5.2 \pm 0.71$ $85.57 \pm 2.05$ Floor (ln)         Goodman & Kruskal's $\gamma$ $5.63 \pm 0.77$ $85.49 \pm 2.1$ k-means Elbow         Contingency Coefficient C $2.04 \pm 0.2$ $85.34 \pm 2.15$ k-means         Mutual Information I $2.13 \pm 0.34$ $85.33 \pm 2.15$ k-means		Stuart's $\tau_c$	$6.49 \pm 0.8$	$85.69 \pm 1.92$	Floor $(ln)$
Goodman & Kruskal's $\gamma$ Contingency Coefficient $C$ $5.63 \pm 0.77$ $2.04 \pm 0.2$ $85.49 \pm 2.1$ $85.34 \pm 2.15$ $k$ -means Elbow $k$ -meansPearson's $\chi^2$ $2.04 \pm 0.2$ $2.04 \pm 0.2$ $85.34 \pm 2.15$ $85.34 \pm 2.15$ $k$ -meansMutual Information I $2.13 \pm 0.34$ $85.33 \pm 2.15$ $k$ -means		Tschuprow's $T$	$5.2 \pm 0.71$	$85.57 \pm 2.05$	Floor $(ln)$
Contingency Coefficient C $2.04 \pm 0.2$ $85.34 \pm 2.15$ k-meansPearson's $\chi^2$ $2.04 \pm 0.2$ $85.34 \pm 2.15$ k-meansMutual Information I $2.13 \pm 0.34$ $85.33 \pm 2.15$ k-meansThe W II $K = 0.25 \pm 0.34$ $85.33 \pm 2.15$ k-means		Goodman & Kruskal's $\gamma$	$5.63\pm0.77$	$85.49 \pm 2.1$	k-means Elbow
Pearson's $\chi^2$ $2.04 \pm 0.2$ $85.34 \pm 2.15$ k-means           Mutual Information I $2.13 \pm 0.34$ $85.33 \pm 2.15$ k-means           The W $V$ $0.27 \pm 0.34$ $85.33 \pm 2.15$ k-means		Contingency Coefficient $C$	$2.04 \pm 0.2$	$85.34 \pm 2.15$	k-means
Mutual Information I $2.13 \pm 0.34$ $85.33 \pm 2.15$ k-means		Pearson's $\chi^2$	$2.04 \pm 0.2$	$85.34 \pm 2.15$	k-means
		Mutual Information $I$	$ 2.13 \pm 0.34 $	$85.33 \pm 2.15$	k-means
Their's $U$ 2.97 ± 0.36 [85.06 ± 2.13] Equal Width		Theil's U	$2.97 \pm 0.36$	$85.06 \pm 2.13$	Equal Width

 ${\bf Table \ 4.} \ {\rm Australian \ credit \ dataset \ RRD \ results}$ 

Classifier Statistic		Selected	Accuracy	Discretization
Logistic	Goodman & Kruskal's $\lambda$	$7.43 \pm 0.9$	$86.56 \pm 2.07$	Extended Chi <sup>2</sup>
Model	Stuart's $\tau_c$	$5.79 \pm 0.82$	$86.55 \pm 2.12$	Extended Chi <sup>2</sup>
	Tschuprow's $T$	$6.17 \pm 0.88$	$86.44 \pm 2.1$	Extended $Chi^2$
	Cramer's $\phi_c$	$6.28 \pm 0.87$	$86.42 \pm 2.23$	Equal Freq
	Goodman & Kruskal's $\gamma$	$5.43 \pm 0.98$	$86.31 \pm 2.01$	Extended $Chi^2$
	Messenger & Mandell's $\Theta$	$7.98 \pm 0.14$	$86.24 \pm 2.25$	$Chi^2$
	Theil's $U$	$5.29 \pm 0.91$	$86.24 \pm 2.19$	Extended Chi <sup>2</sup>
	Mutual Information $I$	$4.64 \pm 0.96$	$86.18 \pm 2$	Extended $Chi^2$
	Somers' $\delta$	$6 \pm 0.91$	$86.14 \pm 2.05$	Extended $Chi^2$
	Contingency Coefficient $C$	$4.53 \pm 0.89$	$86.1 \pm 2.06$	Extended Chi <sup>2</sup>
	Pearson's $\chi^2$	$4.45 \pm 0.91$	$86.1 \pm 2.03$	Extended Chi <sup>2</sup>
Naive	Somers' $\delta$	$3.95 \pm 0.39$	$87.04 \pm 1.94$	Equal Freq
Bayes	Cramer's $\phi_c$	$6.2 \pm 0.77$	$86.47 \pm 2.02$	Equal Freq
	Messenger & Mandell's $\Theta$	$5.28 \pm 0.45$	$86.45 \pm 1.96$	Equal Width
	Theil's $U$	$5.52 \pm 0.63$	$86.33 \pm 2.09$	Equal Freq
	Goodman & Kruskal's $\gamma$	$4.65 \pm 0.73$	$86.32 \pm 1.89$	Equal Freq
	Tschuprow's $T$	$5.49 \pm 0.88$	$86.22 \pm 2.09$	Equal Freq
	Stuart's $\tau_c$	$5.43 \pm 0.86$	$86.12 \pm 1.91$	Equal Freq
	Goodman & Kruskal's $\lambda$	$7.55 \pm 0.61$	$85.86 \pm 1.94$	Equal Freq
	Contingency Coefficient $C$	$3.03 \pm 0.17$	$85.76 \pm 1.94$	Equal Width
	Pearson's $\chi^2$	$3.03 \pm 0.17$	$85.71 \pm 1.92$	Equal Width
	Mutual Information $I$	$3.06 \pm 0.28$	$85.68 \pm 2.18$	Equal Width
Random	Messenger & Mandell's $\Theta$	$8.13 \pm 0.34$	$86.58 \pm 2.14$	k-means
Forest	Somers' $\delta$	$3.97 \pm 0.3$	$86.52 \pm 2.2$	$Chi^2$
	Goodman & Kruskal's $\lambda$	$8.16 \pm 0.39$	$86.51 \pm 1.97$	$Chi^2$
	Tschuprow's $T$	$6.19 \pm 0.94$	$86.49 \pm 2.22$	$Chi^2$
	Cramer's $\phi_c$	$7.65 \pm 0.48$	$86.41 \pm 1.88$	$Chi^2$
	Stuart's $\tau_c$	$5.97 \pm 0.73$	$86.37 \pm 2.18$	k-means
	Goodman & Kruskal's $\gamma$	$5.18 \pm 0.99$	$86.3 \pm 2.06$	k-means
	Contingency Coefficient $C$	$2.06 \pm 0.24$	$86.13 \pm 1.98$	k-means
	Pearson's $\chi^2$	$ 2.06 \pm 0.24 $	$86.13 \pm 1.98$	k-means
	Mutual Information $I$	$ 2.16 \pm 0.37 $	$86.12 \pm 2.01$	k-means
	Theil's $U$	$4.57 \pm 0.71$	$85.95 \pm 1.85$	k-means Elbow

 Table 5. Japanese credit dataset RRD results