A FAST CLUSTERING-BASED FEATURE SUBSET SELECTION ALGORITHM

Mr. Akshay S. Agrawal[1], Prof. Sachin Bojewar[2]

[1]P.G. Scholar, Department of Computer Engg., ARMIET, Sapgaon, (India)

[2]Associate Professor, VIT, Wadala, (India)

ABSTRACT

The paper aims at proposing the fast clustering algorithm for eliminating irrelevant and redundant data. Feature selection is applied to reduce the number of features in many applications where data has hundreds or thousands of features. Existing feature selection methods mainly focus on finding relevant features. In this paper, we show that feature relevance alone is insufficient for efficient feature selection of high-dimensional data. We define feature redundancy and propose to perform explicit redundancy analysis in feature selection. A new hypothesis is introduced that dissociate relevance analysis and redundancy analysis. A clustering based method for relevance and redundancy analysis for feature selection is developed and searching based on the selected features will be performed. While the efficiency concerns the time required to find a subset of features, the effectiveness determines the quality of the subset of features. A fast clustering-based feature selection algorithm, FAST, has been selected to be used in the proposed paper. The clustering-based strategy has a higher probability of producing a subset of useful as well as independent features. To ensure the efficiency of FAST, efficient minimum-spanning tree clustering method has been adopted. When compared with FCBF, ReliefF, with respect to the classifier, namely, the tree-based C4.5, FAST not only produces smaller subsets of features but also improves the performances by reducing the time complexity.

Keyterms: Clustering, Feature Subset Selection, Minimum Spanning Tree, T-Relevance, F-Correlation.

I. INTRODUCTION

Data mining uses a variety of techniques to identify lump of information or decision-making knowledge in bodies of data, and extracting them in such a manner that they can be directly use in the areas such as decision support, estimation prediction and forecasting. The data is often huge, but as it is important to have large amount of data because low value data cannot be of direct use; it is the hidden information in the data that is useful. Data mine tools have to infer a model from the database, and in the case of supervised learning this requires the user to define one or more classes. The database contains various attributes that denote a class of tuple and these are known as predicted attributes. Whereas the remaining attributes present in the data sets are called as predicting attributes. A combination of values of these predicted attributes and predicting attributes defines a class. While learning classification rules the system has to find the rules that predict the class from the predicting attributes so initially the user has to define conditions for each class, the data mine system then constructs descriptions for the classes. Basically the system should given a case or tuple with certain known attribute values so that it is able to predict what class this case belongs to, once classes are defined the system should infer rules that govern the classification therefore the system should be able to find the description of each class [2]. Feature selection involves identifying a subset of the most useful features that produces compatible results as the original entire set of features. A feature selection algorithm is basically evaluated from the efficiency and effectiveness points of view. The time required to find a subset of features is concerned with the efficiency while the effectiveness is related to the quality of the subset of features. Some feature subset selection algorithms can effectively eliminate irrelevant features but fail to handle redundant features yet some of others can remove the irrelevant while taking care of the redundant features. A Fast clustering-based feature selection algorithm (FAST) is proposed which is based on above criterion handling redundancy and irrelevancy. [1] The Minimum Spanning tree (Kruskal's algorithm) is constructed from the F-Correlation value which is used to find correlation between any pair of features. Kruskal's algorithm is a greedy algorithm in graph theory that finds a minimum spanning tree for a connected weighted graph. It finds a subset of the edges that forms a tree that includes every vertex, where the total weight of all the edges in the tree is minimized.

II. EXISTING SYSTEM

Feature subset selection generally focused on searching relevant features while neglecting the redundant features. A good example of such feature selection is Relief, which weighs each feature according to its ability to discriminate instances under different targets based on distance-based criteria function.[9] But, Relief is ineffective in removing redundant features as the two predictive but highly correlated features are likely to be highly weighted. Relief-F [6] is an extension of the traditional Relief. This method enables working with noisy and incomplete data sets and to deal with multi-class problems, but is still ineffective in identifying redundant features. However, along with irrelevant features, redundant features also do affect the speed and accuracy of all the probable learning algorithms, and thus should are also important to be eliminated. FCBF is a fast filter method which can identify relevant features as well as redundancy among relevant features without pair wise correlation analysis. Different from these algorithms, our proposed FAST algorithm employs clustering based method to choose features.

There are different approaches available to perform learning. The wrapper methods make use of predictive accuracy of a predetermined learning algorithm to determine the effectiveness of the selected subsets.[7] The accuracy of the learning algorithms [1] is usually high. The however the generality of the selected features is limited and the computational complexity is very large. Thus the wrapper methods are computationally expensive and tend to over fit on small feature training sets. Wrapper uses a search algorithm for searching through the space of possible features and evaluates individual subset by running a model on the subset. The filter methods [3] are independent of the learning algorithms, and also have good generality. Computational complexity is low, but the accuracy of such learning algorithms is not guaranteed. The hybrid method used in our approach is a combination of filter and wrapper methods, filter method reduces search space of computation that will be considered by the subsequent wrapper.

III. PROPOSED SYSTEM\

The symmetric uncertainty (SU) is derived from the mutual information by normalizing it to the entropies of feature values or feature values and target classes Therefore; symmetric uncertainty is chosen as the measure of correlation between either two features or a feature and the target concept.[8]

The **symmetric uncertainty (SU)** is defined as follows,

$$SU(X,Y) = \frac{2 \times Gain\left(\frac{X}{Y}\right)}{H(X) + H(Y)}$$

Where, $H(X)$ is the entropy of a discrete random variable X. Let (x) be the prior probabilities for all values of X, then (X) is defined by

$$H(X) = -\sum_{x \in X} p(x) \log 2 p(x)$$

Gain (X | Y) determines the amount by which the entropy of Y decreases. It is given by,

$$Gain\ (X|Y) = H(X) - H(X|Y)$$
$$= H(Y) - H(Y|X)$$

Where H(X | Y) is the conditional entropy and is calculated as,

$$H\left(\frac{X}{Y}\right) = -\sum_{y \in Y} p(y) \sum_{x \in X} p(x) \log_2 p(x)$$

Where, X is a Feature and Y is a Class.

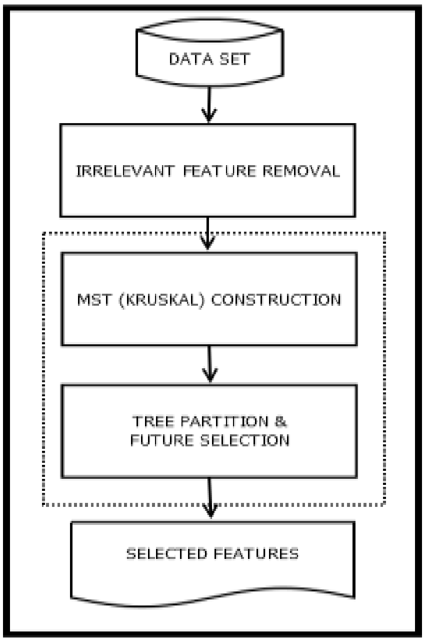

Fig. 3.1: Feature Subset Selection Process

Given that (X, Y)be the symmetric uncertainty of variables X and Y, the relevance T-Relevance between a feature and the target concept C, the correlation F- Correlation between a pair of features, the feature redundancy F-Redundancy and the representative feature R- feature of a feature cluster can be defined as follows.

T-Relevance - The relevance between the feature $F_i \in F$ and the target concept is referred to as the T-Relevance of F_i and C, and denoted by SU (F_i,C). If SU (F_i,C) is greater than a predetermined threshold θ,

Symmetric Uncertainty of each Feature is greater than the T-Relevance threshold(θ) is checked.

$SU(X, Y) > \theta$ *then X is submittedin Feature set S*

Where, *'S'* is a set of Relevant Features

we say that F_i is a strong T-Relevance feature.

F-Correlation - The correlation between any pair of features and F_j (F_i, $F_j \in F \wedge i \neq j$) is called the F-Correlation of F_i and, and denoted by SU (F_i, F_j).

F-Redundancy - Let S = {F1, F2, F_i, F_k<|F|} be a cluster of features.

If $\exists$ F_j $\in$S, (F_j) $\geq$ SU(F_i, C) $\wedge$ SU (F_i, F_j) >SU (F_i, C) is always corrected for each $F_i \in S$ ($i \neq j$), then F_i are redundant features with respect to the given F_j (i.e. each F_i is a F-Redundancy).

R-Feature - A feature $F_i \in S$ ={F1, F2, ..., F_k } (k < |F |) is a representative feature of the cluster S (i.e. F_i is a R-Feature) if and only if, F_i = argmax$F_j \in S$ SU (F_j, C).

This means the feature, which has the strongest T Relevance, can act as an R-Feature (Most relevant Feature) for all the features in the cluster.

1) Irrelevant features have no/weak correlation with target concept;

2) Redundant features are assembled in a cluster and a representative feature can be taken out of the cluster. [4]

3.1 MST Construction

With the F-Correlation value computed, the Minimum Spanning tree is constructed. Kruskal‟s algorithm is used which forms MST effectively. Kruskal's algorithm is a greedy algorithm in graph theory that finds a minimum spanning tree for a connected weighted graph. This means it finds a subset of the edges that forms a tree that includes every vertex, where the total weight of all the edges in the tree is minimized. If the graph is not connected, then it finds a minimum spanning forest (a minimum spanning tree for each connected component).

Minimum spanning tree using Kruskal's algorithm is constructed and then a threshold value and step size is set. Those edges from the MST, whose lengths are greater than the threshold value are removed. The ratio between the intra-cluster distance and inter-cluster distance is calculated and the ratio as well as the threshold is recorded. The threshold value is updated by incrementing the step size. Every time the new (updated) threshold value is obtained, the above procedure is repeated. When the threshold value is maximum and as such no MST edges can be removed the above procedure is stopped. In such situation, all the data points belong to a single cluster. Finally the minimum value of the recorded ratio is obtained and the clusters are formed corresponding to the stored threshold value.

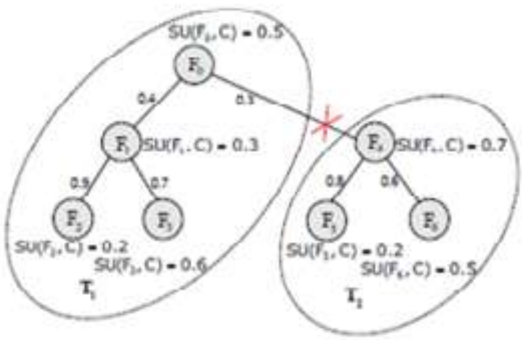

Fig. 3.2: Clustering with MST Construction

1. Create a forest F (a set of trees), where each vertex in the graph is a separate tree.
2. Create a set S containing all the edges in the graph.
3. While S is nonempty and F is not yet spanning.

Remove an edge with minimum weight from S. If that edge connects two different trees, then add it to the forest, combining two trees into a single tree, otherwise discard that edge. At the termination of the algorithm, the forest forms a minimum spanning forest of the graph. If the graph is connected, the forest has a single component and forms a minimum spanning tree.[1]

IV. PROPOSED ALGORITHM

Features in different clusters are relatively independent; the clustering-based strategy of FAST has a high probability of producing a subset of useful and independent features. To ensure the efficiency of FAST, we adopt the efficient minimum-spanning tree (MST) clustering method.

Algorithm

Inputs: D (F1, F2 … Fm, C) (High Dimensional Dataset).

Output: S-Selected feature subset for searching. [1]

Part 1: Removing irrelevant features:

The features whose SU (Fi,C) values are greater than a predefined threshold(Ø) comprise the target relevant feature subset. Consider feature input dataset (F).

$F' = \{ F_1', F_2', \ldots F_k' \}$ (k<=M)

1. for i = 1 to m do

2. T-Relevance = SU (*Fi, C*)

3. if T-Relevance > θ then

4. S = S ∪ { };

Part 2: Removing redundant features:

The F-correlation SU (Fi´,Fj´) value for each pair of features.

5. G = NULL; //G is a complete graph

6. for each pair of features {F'_i, F'} ⊂ S do

7. F-Correlation = SU (F'_i , F'_j)

8. *F 'i and/or F ' j to* with F-Correlation as the weight of the corresponding edge;

9. MinSpanTree = Kruskal's (G); //Using Kruskal's algorithm to generate minimum spanning tree.

Part : Feature selection.

10. Forest = minSpanTree

11. for each edge $E_{i,j}$ ∈ Forest do

12. if SU (F'_i , F'_j) < SU(F'_i ,C) ∧ SU(F'_i , F'_j)< SU(F'_j , C) then

13. Forest = Forest − E_{ij}

14. S = ϕ

15. for each tree T_i ∈ Forest do

16. F_R^j = argmax F_k ∈ SU(F'_k , C)

17. S = S ∪ { F_R^j };

18. Return S.

The algorithm can be expected to be divided into 3 major parts:

1. The first part is concerned with removal of irrelevant features;

2.The second part is used for removing the redundant features and

3. The final part of the algorithm is concerned with feature selection based on the value of the Forest. [1]

Working

4.1 First Step

The data set 'D' with 'm' features F= (F1,F2,…Fm) and class 'C', 'I' compute the T-Relevance '**SU**' (Fi, C) value for every feature $(1 \leq i \leq m)$.

4.2 Second Step

Here the first step is to calculate the *F-Correlation* '***SU***' (F'_i, F'_j) value for each pair of features F'_i and F'_j Then, seeing features F'_i and F'_j as vertices and '***SU***' (F'_i, F'_j) the edge between vertices F'_i and F'_j a weighted complete graph *G= (V,E)* is constructed which is an undirected graph. The complete graph reflects the correlations among the target-relevant features.[3]

4.3 Third Step

Here, unnecessary edges can be removed. Each tree $T_j \in Forest$ shows a cluster that is denoted as $V(T_j)$, which is the vertex set of T_j . For each cluster $V(T_j)$, select a representative feature whose *T-Relevance* $SU(F_jR, C)$ is the highest. All F_jR (j = 1...|*Forest*|) consist of the final feature subset ∪ F_jR .

A clustering tree depending on the domain that the admin selects while uploading the file is created. Proposed system then stores the file in the cluster by using the minimum spanning tree method (MST). While in the searching domain; user passes the query and the results are generated in the required format. i.e. either image result, text result or a file result along with the time complexity. FAST algorithm reduces the run time complexity as compared to the other available Algorithms. It removes the redundant features by calculating the Correlations among the various features. F-correlation is calculated as SU (Fi, Fj).

A threshold value (θ) is defined to calculate the relevance among the selected features. If any feature exceeds a particular threshold value then that feature is treated as irrelevant.

F′= { F1′,F2′,…Fk′} (k<=M) [1]

V. ADVANTAGES

Table 5.1.: Advantages and Disadvantages [5]

SR.NO.	Techniques (or) Algorithms	Advantages	Disadvantages
1.	FAST Algorithm	Improve the performance of the classifiers. The efficiently and effectively deal with both irrelevant and redundant features, and obtain a good feature subset.	--
2.	Consistency Measure	Fast, Remove noisy and irrelevant data.	Unable to handle large volumes of data.
3.	Wrapper Approach	Accuracy is high.	Computational complexity is large.
4.	Filter Approach	Suitable for very large features.	Accuracy is not guaranteed.
5.	Agglomerative linkage algorithm	Reduce Complexity.	Decrease the Quality when dimensionality becomes high.
6.	INTERACT Algorithm	Improve Accuracy.	Only deal with irrelevant data.

7.	Distributional clustering	Higher classification accuracy.	Difficult to evaluation.
8.	Relief Algorithm	Improve efficiency and Reduce Cost.	Powerless to detect redundancy.
9.	Grid based method	Jobs can automatically restart if a failure occurs.	You may need to have a fast interconnect between compute resources.
10.	Model based method	Clusters can be characterized by a small number of parameters.	Need large data sets. Hard to estimate the number of clusters.

VI. FUTURE SCOPE

As a future work, a FAST clustering algorithm for removing redundancy and irrelevancy from feature subset selection algorithm can be developed and implemented. More challenging domains with more features and a higher proportion of irrelevant ones will require more sophisticated methods for feature selection. Although further increases in efficiency would increase the number of states examined such constant factor improvements cannot eliminate problems caused by exponential growth in the number of feature sets. However viewing these problems in terms of heuristic search suggests some places to look for solutions in general we must,

1. Invent more intelligent techniques for selecting an initial set of features from which to start the search.
2. Formulate search control methods that take advantage of structure in the space of feature sets.
3. Devise improved frameworks better even than the wrapper method for evaluating the usefulness of alternative feature sets
4. Design better halting criteria that will improve efficiency without sacrificing useful feature sets.

VII. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we have proposed a clustering algorithm, FAST for high dimensional data. The algorithm includes (i) irrelevant features removal (ii) construction of a minimum spanning tree (MST) from, and (iii) partitioning the MST and selecting the representative features. Feature subset selection should be able to recognize and remove as much of the unrelated and redundant information. In the proposed algorithm, a cluster will be used to develop a MST for faster searching of relevant data from high dimensional data. Each cluster will be treated as a single feature and thus volume of data to be processed is drastically reduced. FAST algorithm will obtain the best proportion of selected features, the best runtime, and the best classification accuracy.

Overall the system will be effective in generating more relevant and accurate features which can provide faster results.

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