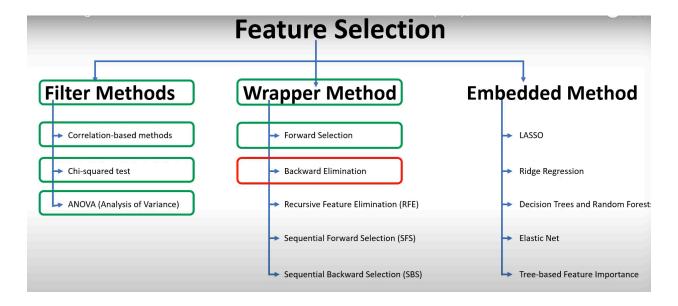
Feature Selection (Filter Methods) (VVIMP-Interview)



- **Feature selection** is the process of choosing a subset of relevant features (variables) for use in a model.
- This is important because not all features contribute to the model's performance, and irrelevant or redundant features can lead to overfitting, increased complexity, and slower computation.
- If your data has 10-15 columns, there's not much need do the feature selection.

Why Feature Selection?

- Improve Model Performance: Focuses the model on meaningful patterns.
- **Reduce Overfitting**: Minimizes noise from irrelevant features.
- **Speed Up Training**: Fewer features mean faster computations.
- Enhance Interpretability: Simplifies understanding of model decisions.

• **Curse of dimensionality:** As the dimensions increase, the distance between points also increase and therefore it is not reliable if there are too many dimensions.

Types of Feature Selection Methods

- 1. Filter Methods
- 2. Wrapper Methods
- 3. Embedded Methods
- 4. Hybrid

V

a. Filter Methods

- **Approach**: Use statistical measures to score feature relevance.
- **Pros**: Fast and model-agnostic.
- Cons: Ignores feature interactions.
- Techniques:
 - Correlation: Pearson's, Spearman's.
 - Variance Thresholding: Remove low-variance features.
 - Chi-Squared Test: For categorical data.
 - Mutual Information: Measures dependency.

b. Wrapper Methods

- Approach: Evaluate feature subsets based on model performance.
- Pros: Considers feature interactions.
- Cons: Computationally expensive.
- Techniques:
 - Forward Selection: Add features one by one.

- Backward Elimination: Remove features one by one.
- Recursive Feature Elimination (RFE): Iteratively removes the least important features.

c. Embedded Methods

- Approach: Feature selection during model training.
- **Pros**: Balances efficiency and accuracy.
- Techniques:
 - Lasso (L1 Regularization): Shrinks less important coefficients to zero.
 - Tree-Based Models: Use feature importance (e.g., Random Forest, XGBoost).

1. Filter Methods

- Individually studies each feature with statistical techniques like correlation or variance and decides if to keep it or not.
- Focuses on 1 feature at a time
- **Pros**: Fast and model-agnostic.
- Cons: Ignores feature interactions.

Common techniques:

- Correlation Matrix: Select features that are not highly correlated with each other.
- Chi-Square Test: Tests the independence between features and the target variable (used for categorical data).
- Variance Threshold: Removes features with low variance, assuming low variance means little to no information.
- ANOVA

Mutual Info

Dataset Used:

• https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/uciml/human-activity-recognition-with-smartphones

Human Activity Recognition with Smartphones

Recordings of 30 study participants performing activities of daily living



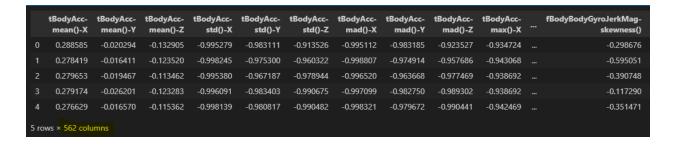
Data Card Code (426) Discussion (14) Suggestions (0)

Columns \rightarrow 563

AIM: Reduce 563 → 100 without losing the results

No linear regression → Because output is classification (we'll use logistic regression)

df = pd.read_csv(r'Human_Activity\train.csv').drop(columns='subject')
df.head()



- We dropped 'Subject' as we're dealing with categorical variables
- All these values are scaled (-1 to +1)
- Output → Activity

df['Activity'].value_counts()

```
Activity
LAYING 1407
STANDING 1374
SITTING 1286
WALKING 1226
WALKING_UPSTAIRS 1073
WALKING_DOWNSTAIRS 986
Name: count, dtype: int64
```

print(df.shape)

Output: (7352, 562)

First, apply logistic regression

```
from sklearn.preprocessing import LabelEncoder #CAT → Numeric from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split from sklearn.linear_model import LogisticRegression from sklearn.metrics import accuracy_score

# Separate features and target
X = df.drop('Activity', axis=1)
y = df['Activity']
```

Encode target labels

le = LabelEncoder()

y = le.fit_transform(y)

Split data into training and testing sets

```
X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test = train_test_split(X, y, test_size=0.2, random_stat e=42)
```

LabelEncoder: This is used to **convert categorical labels** (like 'cat', 'dog', 'fish') into numerical values (e.g., 0, 1, 2) so that they can be used in machine learning models that require numerical inputs.

```
print(X_train.shape)
print(X_test.shape)

Output:
(5881, 561)
(1471, 561)
```

Apply Logistic Regression:

```
# Initialize and train logistic regression model
log_reg = LogisticRegression(max_iter=1000) # Increase max_iter if it doesn't
converge
log_reg.fit(X_train, y_train)

# Make predictions on the test set
y_pred = log_reg.predict(X_test)

# Calculate and print accuracy score
accuracy = accuracy_score(y_test, y_pred)
print("Test accuracy:", accuracy)

Output:
Test accuracy: 0.9809653297076818
```

- Accuracy score is used here because the problem is a classification task, where the goal is to predict categories (e.g., 'yes' or 'no').
- Accuracy measures how many predictions match the true labels.
- On the other hand, R² (R-squared) is used for regression tasks, where the goal is to predict continuous values.

Delete Duplicate Columns

```
def get_duplicate_columns(df):
  duplicate_columns = {}
  seen_columns = {}
  for column in df.columns:
    current_column = df[column]
    # Convert column data to bytes
    try:
      current_column_hash = current_column.values.tobytes()
    except AttributeError:
      current_column_hash = current_column.to_string().encode()
    if current_column_hash in seen_columns:
      if seen_columns[current_column_hash] in duplicate_columns:
         duplicate_columns[seen_columns[current_column_hash]].append(co
lumn)
      else:
         duplicate_columns[seen_columns[current_column_hash]] = [colum
n1
    else:
      seen_columns[current_column_hash] = column
  return duplicate_columns
```

Simpler Code to delete Duplicates

```
def remove_duplicate_columns(df):
    # Transpose the DataFrame to compare columns as rows
    transposed_df = df.T

# Find duplicate rows (which are the original columns)
    duplicate_columns = transposed_df[transposed_df.duplicated()].index.tolist
()

# Drop duplicate columns from the original DataFrame
    df_cleaned = df.drop(columns=duplicate_columns)

return df_cleaned
```

.index: In Pandas, every DataFrame or Series has an index property, which stores the row labels. In the case of a transposed DataFrame (df.T), the index represents the column names from the original DataFrame.

.tolist(): This method converts the Pandas Index object (which holds column names) into a standard Python list.

So when we call

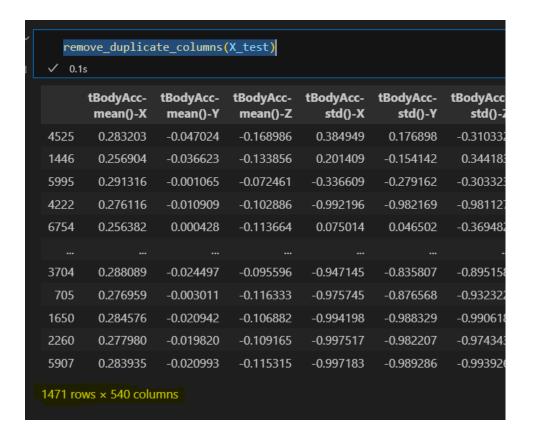
transposed_df[transposed_df.duplicated()].index.tolist(), it identifies the index labels (which are the original column names) of the rows that are duplicated. These column names are returned as a list.

X_train=remove_duplicate_columns(X_train)

	tBodyAcc- mean()-X	tBodyAcc- mean()-Y	tBodyAcc- mean()-Z	tBodyAcc- std()-X	tBodyAcc- std()-Y	tBodyAcc- std()-Z	tBodyAcc- mad()-X	tBodyAcc- mad()-Y	tBodyAcc- t mad()-Z
57	0.278007	-0.017803	-0.108965	-0.994425	-0.994873	-0.994886	-0.994939	-0.993994	-0.995450
4154	0.237617	-0.000782	-0.114476	-0.326331	0.069663	-0.224321	-0.343326	0.039623	-0.256327
6945	0.290924	-0.050878	-0.073518	-0.026220	-0.032163	0.393109	-0.118256	-0.030279	0.432861
527	0.275268	-0.015050	-0.114204	-0.981092	-0.901124	-0.960423	-0.984417	-0.901405	-0.965788
4196	0.278790	-0.018585	-0.106908	-0.997380	-0.983893	-0.984482	-0.997331	-0.985196	-0.983768
5191	0.278897	-0.030306	-0.096043	-0.555352	-0.104055	-0.438064	-0.572530	-0.112149	-0.429688
5226	0.289183	-0.049248	-0.125083	-0.290043	-0.212102	-0.469731	-0.307317	-0.209558	-0.528635
5390	0.293946	-0.018341	-0.119916	-0.627198	-0.216566	-0.424764	-0.648666	-0.253814	-0.417569
860	0.280475	-0.018976	-0.113756	-0.994825	-0.985314	-0.965857	-0.995170	-0.984285	-0.963293
7270	0.263582	0.006928	-0.095320	-0.368655	-0.142631	-0.151250	-0.426026	-0.130656	-0.149079
5881 rows × 540 columns									

do the same for X_test

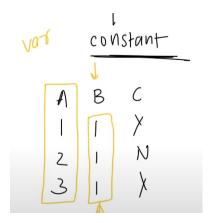
X_test= remove_duplicate_columns(X_test)



Variance Threshold

from sklearn. feature_selection import VarianceThreshold

 Removes features with low variance, assuming low variance means little to no information.



- Here, B is constant
- It doesn't play any role in prediction
- We can drop such columns
- If values of 95% columns is 1 and remaining 5% is → It's Quasi Constant column
 - Its variance is close to 0

Steps

- Normalize data
- 1. Decide a threshold (eg. 0.1)
 - 0.01 to 0.1
- 2. Calculate **variance** for every column
- 3. Check which columns' threshold is less than our decided threshold
- 4. Drop em 👆

```
from sklearn.feature_selection import VarianceThreshold
sel = VarianceThreshold(threshold=0.05)
sel.fit(X_train)
```

Check which columns' threshold is more:

```
sum(sel.get_support())
Output: 349
```

sel.get_support() → returns boolean values: True/False

```
sel.get_support()

✓ 0.0s

array([False, False, False, True, True
```

False = columns' threshold is less than our decided one

To see the column names:

```
columns = X_train.columns[sel.get_support()]
columns
```

Let's insert these columns in X_train & X_test:

```
X_train = sel.transform(X_train)
X_test = sel.transform(X_test)

X_train = pd.DataFrame(X_train, columns=columns)
X_test = pd.DataFrame(X_test, columns=columns)
```

x_train = sel.transform(X_train): This is where the actual feature selection happens for your training data.

- The $sel.transform(X_train) \rightarrow It$ deletes all columns except the above ones
- But it returns a (<u>NumPy array</u>) containing only the selected features (columns) - those that had a variance greater than 0.05.

Why we used pd. DataFrame (X_train, columns=columns)?

- NumPy arrays → Pandas DataFrames
- After sel.transform(X_train) and sel.transform(X_test), X_train and X_test are no longer Pandas DataFrames. They become NumPy arrays.
- To convert them back into Pandas DataFrames (which are often easier to work with, especially if you want to keep column names), you use

pd.DataFrame() .



New sklearn: .set_output() → Get the output as DataFrame

fit VS transform VS fit_transform

- fit is used on the **training data** to avoid any potential data leakage.
- transform is then used on both the training and test data to ensure the same features are selected in both.
- Using fit_transform on the test set would improperly use test data during training, which violates the principles of machine learning and can lead to biased results.

print(X_train.shape)
print(X_test.shape)

Output:
(5881, 349)
(1471, 349)

Points to Consider whiles using variance threshold:

lt:

- Ignores Target Variable
- Ignores Feature Interactions
- Sensitive to Data Scaling
- Arbitrary Threshold Value

Correlation

Pearson

Disadvantages of Correlation:

- 1. **Linearity Assumption**: Only measures **linear** relationships, not non-linear ones.
- 2. **Limited to Two Variables**: Doesn't capture **complex relationships** involving more than two variables.
- 3. **Threshold Determination**: Defining what's considered a **"high"** correlation is **subjective**.
- 4. **Sensitive to Outliers**: A few extreme values can **skew** the correlation coefficient.

X_train.corr()

	tBodyAcc- std()-X	tBodyAcc- std()-Y	tBodyAcc- std()-Z	tBodyAcc- mad()-X	tBodyAcc- mad()-Y	tBodyAcc- mad()-Z	tBodyAcc- max()-X	tBo
tBodyAcc-std()-X	1.000000	0.927247	0.850268	0.998631	0.920936	0.845200	0.981284	0
tBodyAcc-std()-Y	0.927247	1.000000	0.895065	0.922627	0.997384	0.894128	0.917831	0
tBodyAcc-std()-Z	0.850268	0.895065	1.000000	0.842986	0.890973	0.997414	0.852711	0
tBodyAcc-mad()-X	0.998631	0.922627	0.842986	1.000000	0.916201	0.838010	0.973704	0
tBodyAcc-mad()-Y	0.920936	0.997384	0.890973	0.916201	1.000000	0.890707	0.911283	0
odyGyroMean,gravityMean)	0.023914	-0.002241	-0.010535	0.024098	-0.005865	-0.014838	0.029230	-0
^r GyroJerkMean,gravityMean)	-0.035176	-0.028881	-0.016002	-0.035629	-0.026679	-0.016949	-0.038935	-0
angle(X,gravityMean)	-0.374114	-0.383095	-0.344114	-0.370629	-0.379578	-0.346350	-0.386159	-0
angle(Y,gravityMean)	0.472605	0.524945	0.475241	0.467965	0.526803	0.476498	0.482312	0
angle(Z,gravityMean)	0.393209	0.432180	0.480824	0.389139	0.430548	0.477627	0.404088	0

Here, we can take 2 approaches:

1. Find out corr with y

- Decide a range eg. -0.3 to +0.3
- If it's below -0.3 or above 0.3, keep the column

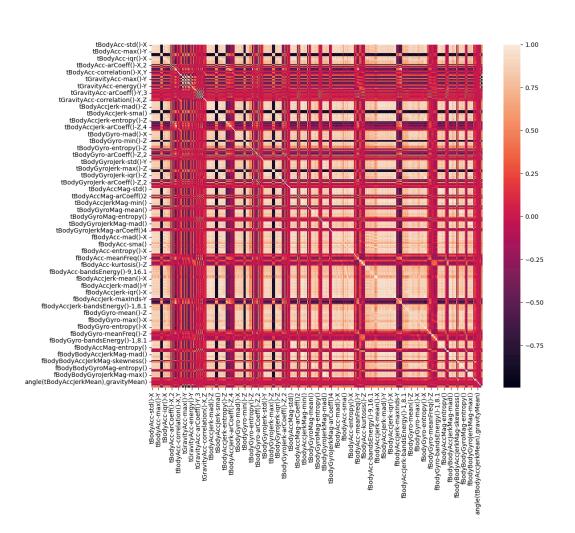
2. Find corr between columns

- Select a threshold
- If Corr is above absolute value, drop that column
- This is to check multicollinearity
- This is mostly used approach

What's our approach?

- Find out corr between columns
- If it's more than $0.95 \rightarrow \text{drop 1}$ of the columns

import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
plt.figure(figsize=(12,10))
sns.heatmap(X_train.corr())



corr_matrix = X_train.corr()

```
# Get the column names of the DataFrame
columns = corr_matrix.columns

# Create an empty list to keep track of columns to drop
columns_to_drop = []

# Loop over the columns
for i in range(len(columns)):
    for j in range(i + 1, len(columns)):
        # Access the cell of the DataFrame
```

```
if corr_matrix.loc[columns[i], columns[j]] > 0.95:
    columns_to_drop.append(columns[j])
```

print(len(columns_to_drop))

```
columns = corr_matrix.columns: This line extracts the column names
```

```
for i in range(len(columns)):
for j in range(i + 1, len(columns)):
```

Starting

j from i+1 ensures we only iterate through the *upper triangle* of the correlation matrix (excluding the diagonal and the lower triangle), thus avoiding redundant comparisons and also avoiding comparing a column with itself.

Remember

```
corr_matrix.loc[columns[0],columns[1]]
```

This will access this value:

	tBodyAcc- std()-X	tBodyAcc- std()-Y	tBodyAcc- std()-Z
tBodyAcc-std()-X	1.000000	0.927247	0.850268
tBodyAcc-std()-Y	0.927247	1.000000	0.895065
tBodyAcc-std()-Z	0.850268	0.895065	1.000000
tBodyAcc-mad()-X	0.998631	0.922627	0.842986
tBodyAcc-mad()-Y	0.920936	0.997384	0.890973

- columns[0] Which is 'tBodyAcc-std()-X' is used as the row label.
- columns[1] Which is 'tBodyAcc-std()-Y' is used as the column label.

How It Avoids Duplicate Checking:

- The key part is for j in range(i + 1, len(columns)).
 - When i=0, j will start from 1, so it compares column 0 with column 1, column 2, and so on.
 - When i=1, j will start from 2, so it compares column 1 with column 2, column 3, and so on.
 - When i=2, j will start from 3, so it compares column 2 with column 3, column 4, and so on.



It will go through the upper triangle.

```
if corr_matrix.loc[columns[i], columns[j]] > 0.95:
   columns_to_drop.append(
   columns[j] )
```

• If two features have a correlation **greater than 0.95**, the second feature (columns[j]) is marked for removal.

```
columns_to_drop = set(columns_to_drop)
len(columns_to_drop)
```

Output: 197 #columns to drop

We converted the list in set to avoid duplicates

Drop all these columns:

```
X_train.drop(columns = columns_to_drop, axis = 1, inplace=True)
X_test.drop(columns = columns_to_drop, axis = 1, inplace=True)
```

```
print(X_train.shape)
print(X_test.shape)

Output:
(5881, 152)
(1471, 152)
```

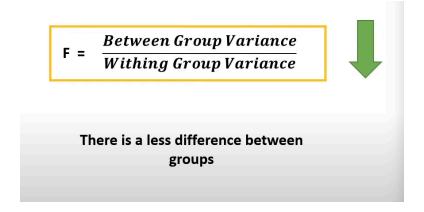
Now we have 152 columns left.

ANOVA

- ANOVA is used when:
 - Input: Numeric
 - Output: Categorical (Usually 2+)
- Can also be used when output is numeric

How does ANOVA work?

- You take 1 column & study its relationship with output column
- You calculate F-stats/F-ratio



ANOVA using sklearn Python:

```
from sklearn.feature_selection import f_classif
from sklearn.feature_selection import SelectKBest

sel = SelectKBest(f_classif, k=100).fit(X_train, y_train)

# display selected feature names
X_train.columns[sel.get_support()]
```

f_classif → f classification

calculates the ANOVA F-value for each feature

SelectKBest → Select the best features (in this case, 100 based on a scoring function (here, f_classif).

Here, we'll calculate ANOVA for all 152 columns & select best 100

```
columns = X_train.columns[sel.get_support()]
```

Now, transform the data

```
X_train = sel.transform(X_train)
X_test = sel.transform(X_test)

X_train = pd.DataFrame(X_train, columns=columns)
X_test = pd.DataFrame(X_test, columns=columns)
```

```
print(X_train.shape)
print(X_test.shape)

Output:
(5881, 100)
(1471, 100)
```

Disadvantages of ANOVA

- Assumption of Normality
- Assumption of Homogeneity of Variance
- Independence of Observations
- Effect of Outliers
- Doesn't Account for Interactions

NOW, APPLY LOGISTIC REGRESSION AGAIN WITH NEW DATA

```
# Initialize and train logistic regression model
log_reg = LogisticRegression(max_iter=1000) # Increase max_iter if it doesn't
converge
log_reg.fit(X_train, y_train)

# Make predictions on the test set
y_pred = log_reg.predict(X_test)
```

Calculate and print accuracy score
accuracy = accuracy_score(y_test, y_pred)
print("Test accuracy:", accuracy)

Output: Test accuracy: 0.9694085656016316

Chi-square Test

Formula

The Chi-Square statistic is calculated as:

$$\chi^2 = \sum rac{(O_{ij}-E_{ij})^2}{E_{ij}}$$

Where:

• O_{ij} : Observed frequency in cell (i,j).

• E_{ij} : Expected frequency in cell (i,j), calculated as:

$$E_{ij} = rac{ ext{(Row Total)} imes ext{(Column Total)}}{ ext{Grand Total}}$$

Degrees of Freedom

$$df = (r-1) imes (c-1)$$

Where:

• r: Number of rows.

• c: Number of columns.

Chi Square

- Used when both input & output columns are categorical
- · We'll use Titanic dataset

titanic = pd.read_csv('titanic/train.csv')[['Pclass','Sex','SibSp','Parch','Embarke
d','Survived']]
titanic.head()

	Pclass	Sex	SibSp	Parch	Embarked	Survived
0	3	male	1	0	S	0
1	1	female	1	0	С	1
2	3	female	0	0	S	1
3	1	female	1	0	S	1
4	3	male	0	0	S	0

• Survived II be output

How Chi Square works

- We'll ask question: Is there any relationship betweent the columns sex & survived?
 - \circ If no \rightarrow we'll drop the sex column
- You form a contingency table like: -

Contingency Table					
Boy Girl Sum					
like Snickers	43	30	73		
doesn't like Snickers	8	19	27		
Sum	51	49	100		

• We can do the same in python with pd.crosstab()

ct = pd.crosstab(titanic['Survived'],titanic['Sex'],margins=True)

ct

Sex	female	male	All
Survived			
0	81	468	549
1	233	109	342
All	314	577	891

- You can this \(\begin{array}{c} \text{observed value} \end{array}
- You make one more table "Expected" with ideal data

Suppose you have a 2x2 contingency table with the following observed values:						
	Category A	Category B	Total			
х	30	10	40			
Υ	20	40	60			
Total	50	50	100			
For the cell at row X and column Category A , the expected value would be:						
$E_{X,A} = rac{(R_X imes C_A)}{N} = rac{(40 imes 50)}{100} = 20$						

ct2= pd.crosstab(titanic['Survived'],titanic['Sex']) ct2

from scipy.stats import chi2_contingency chi2_contingency(ct2)

Output:

Chi2ContingencyResult(statistic=260.71702016732104, pvalue=1.1973570627 755645e-58, dof=1, expected_freq=array([[193.47474747, 355.52525253], [120.52525253, 221.47474747]]))

- We used ct2 without the call column because the all column interferes with results
- Run a loop and calculate chi2_contingency for each column

```
score = []

for feature in titanic.columns[:-1]:

    # create contingency table
    ct = pd.crosstab(titanic['Survived'], titanic[feature])

# chi_test
    p_value = chi2_contingency(ct)[1]
    score.append(p_value)
```

titanic.columns[:-1] \rightarrow All columns except last one i.e. "Survived"

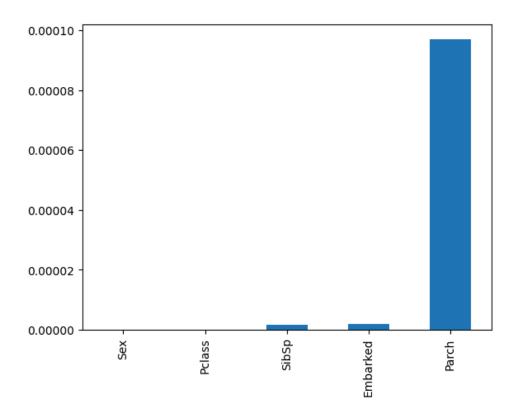
 $chi2_contingency(ct)[1] \rightarrow p-value$

score

Output:

[4.549251711298793e-23, 1.1973570627755645e-58, 1.5585810465902118e-06, 9.703526421039996e-05, 1.769922284120912e-06] Plot these on graph

pd.Series(score, index=titanic.columns[:-1]).sort_values(ascending=True).plot (kind='bar')



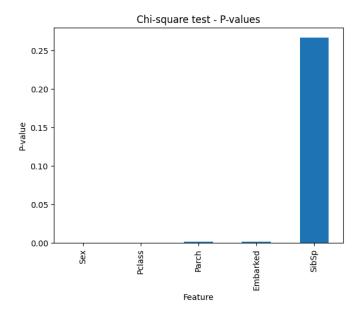
• More the p-value, less the importance of the feature.

Alternate code with sklearn

from sklearn.preprocessing import LabelEncoder from sklearn.feature_selection import chi2 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

assuming titanic is your DataFrame and 'Survived' is the target column

```
# Encode categorical variables
le = LabelEncoder()
titanic_encoded = titanic.apply(le.fit_transform)
X = titanic_encoded.drop('Survived', axis=1)
y = titanic_encoded['Survived']
# Calculate chi-squared stats
chi_scores = chi2(X, y)
# chi_scores[1] are the p-values of each feature.
p_values = pd.Series(chi_scores[1], index = X.columns)
p_values.sort_values(inplace = True)
# Plotting the p-values
p_values.plot.bar()
plt.title('Chi-square test - P-values')
plt.xlabel('Feature')
plt.ylabel('P-value')
plt.show()
```



le = LabelEncoder()
titanic_encoded = titanic.apply(le.fit_transform)

- In this method, you have to convert the variables into Category
- This above code works with SelectKBest

_apply(...): This is a Pandas DataFrame method that applies a function to each column (or row, depending on the axis argument, which defaults to columns if not specified) of the DataFrame.

chi2(X, y) returns → Chi2 statistics & p_values

Advantages and Disadvantages of Filter Methods

Advantages

- Simplicity
- Speed
- Scalability
- Pre-processing Step:

- They can serve as a pre-processing step for other feature selection methods.
- For instance, you could use a filter method to remove irrelevant features before applying a more computationally expensive method, such as a wrapper method.

Disadvantages

- Lack of Feature Interaction
- Model Agnostic:
 - This means that the selected features might not necessarily contribute to the accuracy of the specific model you want to use.
 - Can work well for one model & might not give that accurate results for another model.
- Statistical Measures Limitation:
 - For example, correlation is a measure of linear relationship and might not capture non-linear relationships effectively.
 - Similarly, variance-based methods might keep features with high variance but low predictive power.
- Threshold Determination