

# What is Dimensionality Reduction?

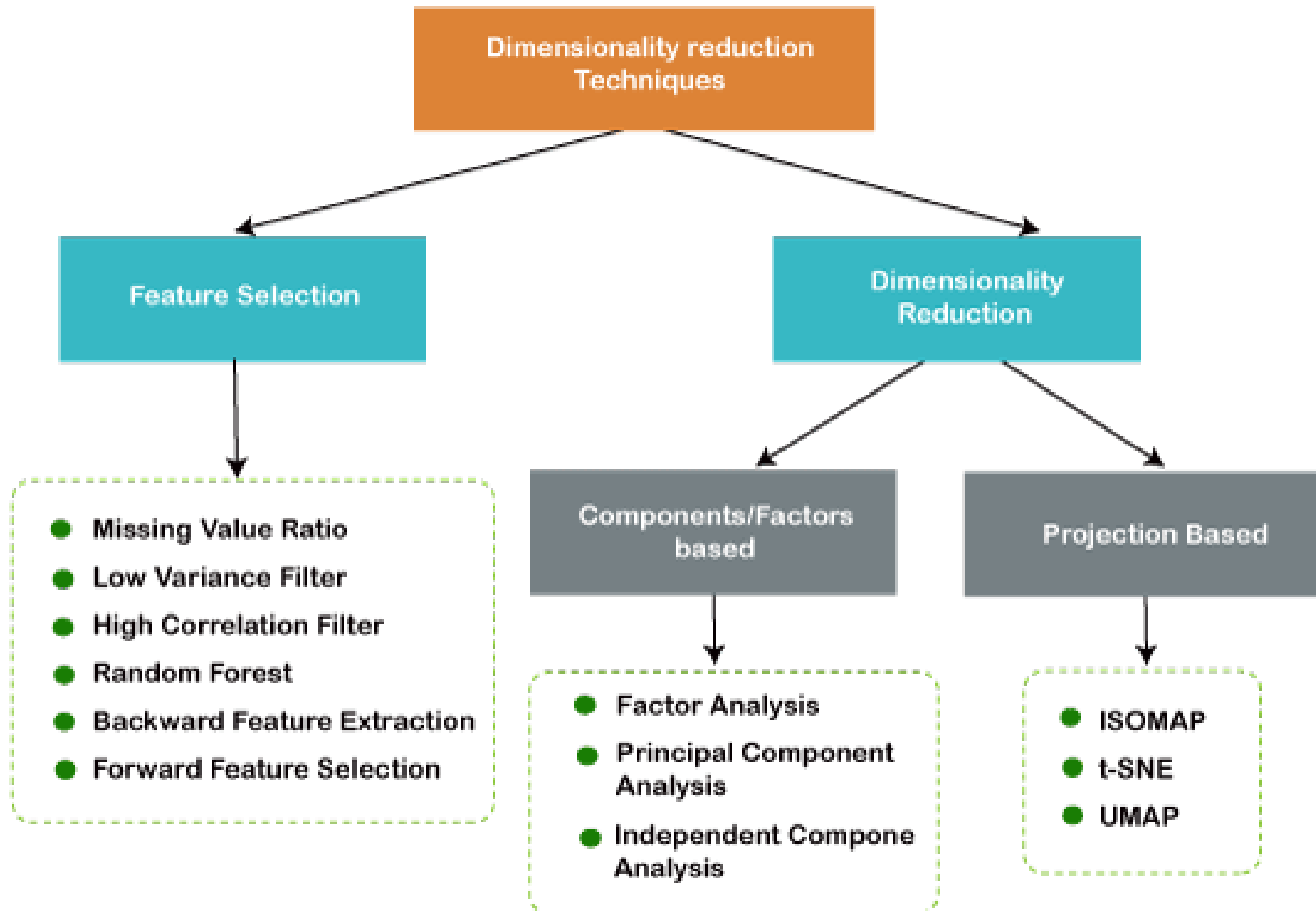
The number of input features, variables, or columns present in a given dataset is known as dimensionality, and the process to reduce these features is called dimensionality reduction.

A dataset contains a huge number of input features in various cases, which makes the predictive modeling task more complicated. Because it is very difficult to visualize or make predictions for the training dataset with a high number of features, for such cases, dimensionality reduction techniques are required to use.

Dimensionality reduction technique can be defined as, ***"It is a way of converting the higher dimensions dataset into lesser dimensions dataset ensuring that it provides similar information."***

These techniques are widely used in machine learning for obtaining a better fit predictive model while solving the classification and regression problems.

It is commonly used in the fields that deal with high-dimensional data, such as **speech recognition, signal processing, bioinformatics, etc.** It can also be used for **data visualization, noise reduction, cluster analysis**, etc.



# Approaches of Dimension Reduction

There are two ways to apply the dimension reduction technique, which are given below:

- ❑ **Feature Selection**
- ❑ **Feature Extraction**

## **Feature Selection:**

Feature selection is the process of selecting the subset of the relevant features and leaving out the irrelevant features present in a dataset to build a model of high accuracy. In other words, it is a way of selecting the optimal features from the input dataset.

Three methods are used for the feature selection:

### **1. Filters Methods**

In this method, the dataset is filtered, and a subset that contains only the relevant features is taken. Some common techniques of filters method are:

- **Correlation**
- **Chi-Square Test**
- **ANOVA**
- **Information Gain, etc.**

# Approaches of Dimension Reduction

## 2. Wrappers Methods

The wrapper method has the same goal as the filter method, but it takes a machine learning model for its evaluation. In this method, some features are fed to the ML model, and evaluate the performance. The performance decides whether to add those features or remove to increase the accuracy of the model. This method is more accurate than the filtering method but complex to work. Some common techniques of wrapper methods are:

- Forward Selection
- Backward Selection
- Bi-directional Elimination

**3. Embedded Methods:** Embedded methods check the different training iterations of the machine learning model and evaluate the importance of each feature. Some common techniques of Embedded methods are:

- **LASSO**
- **Elastic Net**
- **Ridge Regression, etc.**

# Approaches of Dimension Reduction

## Feature Extraction:

Feature extraction is the process of transforming the space containing many dimensions into space with fewer dimensions. This approach is useful when we want to keep the whole information but use fewer resources while processing the information.

Some common feature extraction techniques are:

- Principal Component Analysis
- Linear Discriminant Analysis
- Kernel PCA
- Quadratic Discriminant Analysis