

# Feature relevance estimation by evolving probabilistic dependency networks with weighted kernel machines

Nestor Rodriguez <sup>1</sup>

**Advisor:** Sergio A. Rojas, PhD.

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  - ▶ Finds optimal solutions for complex search problems.
  - ▶ The solution is represented by probability distribution model.
  - ▶ Could be used as a FSS to find relevant variables.

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- Two widely used kernel functions are:

$$K_{\sigma}(\bar{x}, \bar{z}) = \exp\left(-\sigma \sum_k (x_k - z_k)^2\right) \quad (1)$$

and

$$K_d(\bar{x}, \bar{z}) = \langle \bar{x}, \bar{z} \rangle^d, \quad (2)$$

# Problem and Motivation

## Example

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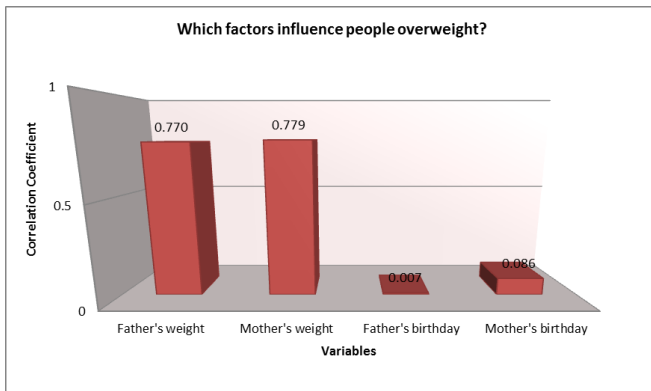


Figure: Correlation analysis of input variables.

# Problem and Motivation

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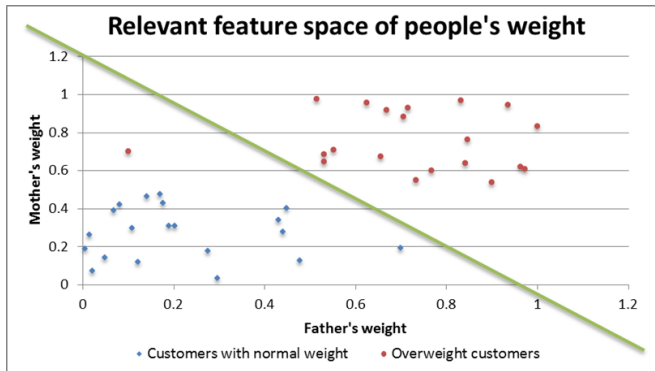


Figure: Relevant variables helps to build better predictor models.

# Problem and Motivation

- ▶ Some FSS techniques (Filters) assume variables are independent and are very popular because of low computational cost.
- ▶ Real world behaves different because variables may influence others but this interaction is usually hidden i.e. in Bioinformatic.
- ▶ Prediction accuracy could be affected if dependencies are ignored.
- ▶ Multivariate FSS methods search for feature subsets and possible dependency relationships between them.
- ▶ The challenge is then to design novel feature selection methods that take advantage of multivariate power combined with high-accuracy classifiers, such as kernel classifiers, to obtain improved prediction and explanatory performance.

# Research Hypothesis

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Given a set of observations taken from a particular phenomenon where dependencies among variables exist but are hidden, the selection of a subset of relevant variables is *feasible* with a method that combines iterative estimation of dependency networks coupled with weighted-kernel classifiers, in such a way the method will provide a predictor model that *improves* the understanding of the problem domain when compared with other techniques based on independence assumptions.



# Background

*wKIERA* (weighed kernel iterative estimation of relevance algorithm.)

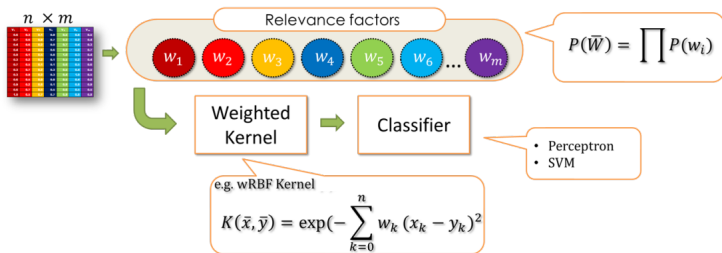


Figure: Main components of the *wKIERA* algorithm.

# Background

*FSS-EBNA* (Feature subset selection by estimation of Bayesian network algorithm.)

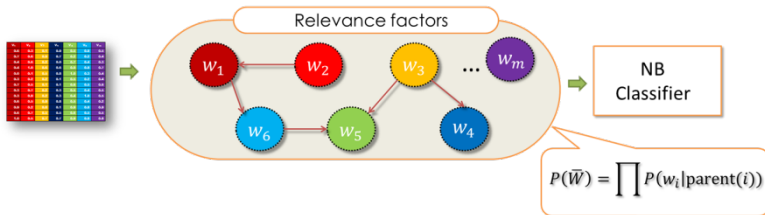


Figure: Main components of the FSS-EBNA algorithm.

# Idea and Proposal

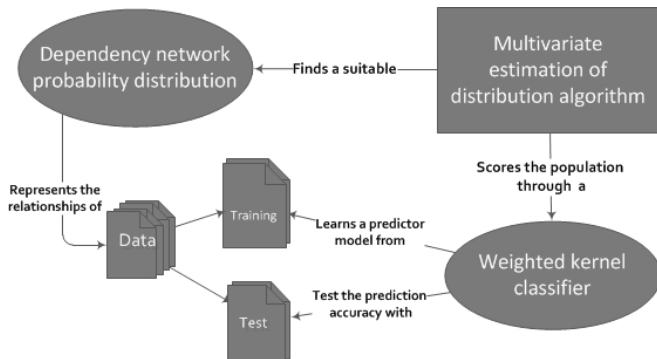
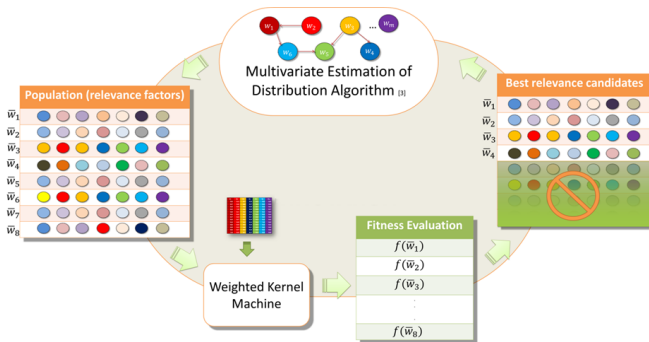


Figure: The components involved in this thesis proposal.

# Idea and Proposal



**Figure:** Preliminary depiction of the expected method described in this proposal.

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Design an algorithm for feature relevance estimation by estimating dependency networks combined with weighted kernel classification methods.

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- ▶ *Secondary*

- ▶ Verify the feasibility of the algorithm in high dimensional feature spaces using toy and real datasets (e.g bioinformatics).



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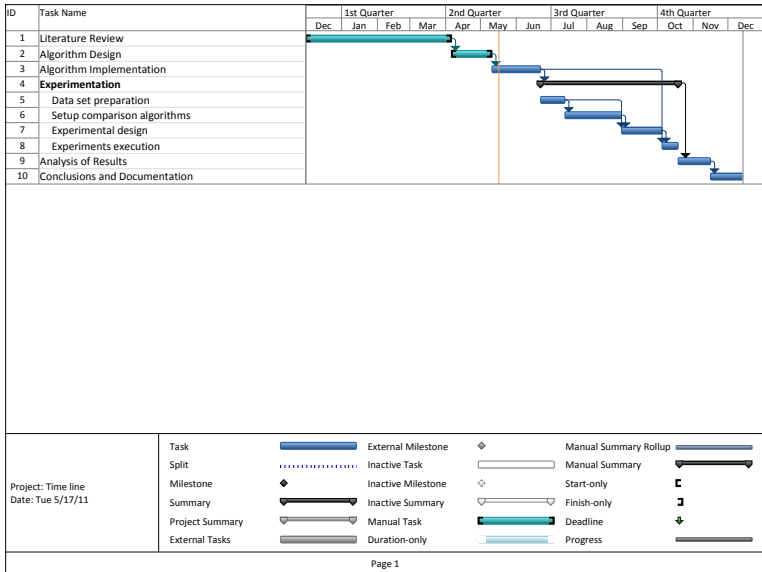
- ▶ *Main*

Design an algorithm for feature relevance estimation by estimating dependency networks combined with weighted kernel classification methods.

- ▶ *Secondary*

- ▶ Verify the feasibility of the algorithm in high dimensional feature spaces using toy and real datasets (e.g. bioinformatics).
- ▶ Compare algorithm performance with respect to other feature selection methods (e.g. score-based filters, stochastic population-based wrappers and weighted-kernel-based embedded methods).

# Timeline



# Algorithm Design

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**Algorithm 1** Preliminary pseudocode of the expected method described in this proposal

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**Inputs:** Given a dataset  $\mathcal{D}$ , a weighted kernel  $\kappa_{\omega}$  and a classifier  $\mathcal{A}$

Let  $\beta$  represents a dependency network distribution initialized with an independent joint distribution:  $\beta \leftarrow$  Independent joint distribution.

**repeat**

    Split  $\mathcal{D}$  in training  $\mathcal{D}_{\alpha}$  and testing  $\mathcal{D}_{\theta}$  data

$\bar{\Omega} \leftarrow$  Sample  $k$  candidates from  $\beta$

**for**  $\omega_j \in \bar{\Omega}$  **do**

        Train classifier:  $h_j \leftarrow \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{D}_{\alpha}, \kappa_{\omega_j})$

        Test classifier:  $s_j \leftarrow \text{error}(h_j, \mathcal{D}_{\theta}, \kappa_{\omega_j})$

**end for**

$\bar{\Omega}' \leftarrow \text{bestCandidates}(\bar{\Omega}, s)$

    Re-estimate dependency network:  $\beta \leftarrow \text{reEstimate}(\bar{\Omega}')$

**until** Dependency network has converge or maximum iterations reached

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