

# A Stochastic Gradient Descent Logistic Regression Software Program for Civil Engineering Data Classification Developed in .NET Framework

## *Phần mềm phân loại dữ liệu trong ngành xây dựng sử dụng thuật toán hồi quy logistic phát triển trên nền tảng .NET*

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### **Tóm tắt**

Nghiên cứu này xây dựng mô hình phân loại dữ liệu dựa trên mô hình hồi quy logistic và thuật toán stochastic gradient descent. Mô hình có tên là SGD-LR được phát triển bằng ngôn ngữ C# trên nền tảng NET Framework 4.6.2. Khả năng phân tích dữ liệu của mô hình được minh chứng qua các dữ liệu thử nghiệm trong bài báo.

**Từ khóa:** Phân loại dữ liệu; Hồi quy logistic; Ngành xây dựng; Ngôn ngữ C#, .NET.

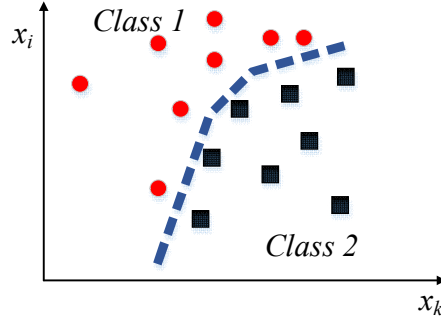
### **Abstract**

This study constructs a Stochastic Gradient Descent Logistic Regression (SGD-LR) used for data classification. A software program based on the SGD-LR has been developed by the authors in Visual C# and .NET Framework 4.6.2. The program capability has been demonstrated by case studies in this work.

**Key words:** Data classification; Logistic regression, Civil Engineering; Visual C#; .NET Framework.

## 1. Introduction

Data classification is a widely encountered task in civil engineering [1,2]. This task typically involves the establishment of the mathematical relationship between a set of influencing factors and a modeled variable. The influencing factors are used as input information for the established mathematical model; the output of interest is the class label corresponding to the provided input information (see Fig. 1).



**Fig. 1** The data classification process

The classification model can significantly help the efficiency of the decision making processes in the civil engineering field. Thus, data classification models are widely employed in civil engineering such as liquefaction prediction [3], groutability estimation [4-6], slope stability analysis [7], pavement distress recognition [8], etc. Among the classification models, the Logistic Regression (LR) is widely employed due to its fast model construction phase and good prediction performance [8,9]. Thus, this study aims at developing a software program based on the LR model and the Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD) training algorithm. The SGD algorithm is used due to its effectiveness demonstrated in previous studies [8].

The software program, named as SGD-LR, has been developed in Visual C# .NET framework 4.6.2. A Graphical User Interface (GUI) has been constructed by the authors to ease the program implementation. The rest of the paper is organized as follows: the second section briefly mentions the formulation of the SGD-LR; two application cases of the software program are demonstrated in the third section; concluding remarks of this paper are stated in the final section.

## 2. Stochastic Gradient Descent Logistic Regression

The LR model can help to build a classification model that separates samples belonging to two possible categories namely the negative and positive classes. This machine learning model is straightforward to implement and its structure is also easy to interpret [10]. Successful applications of LR have been reported in various studies [11,12].

For the purpose of data modeling, the output of a LR model ( $y$ ) is often denoted as 1 for positive cases and 0 for negative cases [8]. An input feature is given in the form of  $x_i = x_{i1}, x_{i2}, \dots, x_{iD}$  where  $D$  is the number of the features used for classification.  $\theta = \theta_0, \theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_D$  represents the model parameters. The quantity  $h_\theta(x_i)$  is employed to express the probability of the positive class output of modeling.  $h_\theta(x_i)$  is calculated as follows [13]:

$$h_\theta(x_i) = h_\theta(x_{i1}, x_{i2}, \dots, x_{iD}) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-\eta_i)} = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-\theta^T x_i)} \quad (1)$$

74 where  $\eta_i = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x_{i1} + \theta_2 x_{i2} + \dots + \theta_D x_{iD} = \theta^T x_i$ .

75  $g(\eta_i) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-\eta_i)}$  is known as the logistic function; its derivative is given as follows [14]:

76  $g'(\eta_i) = g(\eta_i) \times (1 - g(\eta_i))$  (2)

77 The probabilities of the positive ( $y = 1$ ) and negative ( $y=0$ ) classes are given as follows:

78  $P(y_i = 1 | x_i, \theta) = h_\theta(x_i)$  (3)

79  $P(y_i = 0 | x_i, \theta) = 1 - h_\theta(x_i)$  (4)

80 Hence, the output probability can be given as follows [14]:

81  $P(y_i = 0 | x_i, \theta) = (h_\theta(x_i))^{y_i} (1 - h_\theta(x_i))^{1-y_i}$  (5)

82 Thus, the likelihood of the parameters can be expressed as follows [14]:

83  $L(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^M (h_\theta(x_i))^{y_i} (1 - h_\theta(x_i))^{1-y_i}$  (6)

84 where  $M$  represents the number of data samples.

85 In order to determine the set of model parameters  $\theta$ , one has to maximize the following log  
86 likelihood function:

87  $l(\theta) = \log(L(\theta)) = \sum_{i=1}^M y_i \log(h_\theta(x_i)) + (1 - y_i)(1 - \log(h_\theta(x_i)))$  (7)

88 The SGD algorithm (see **Fig. 2**) is employed in this study to identify the set of model  
89 parameters  $\theta$ . Using the SGD, the parameter  $\theta$  is updated according to the following rule:

90  
91  $\theta_k = \theta_k + \alpha(y_i - h_\theta(x_i))x_{i,k}$  (8)

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Procedure SGD
  Randomly create  $\theta$ 
  Setting MaxEpoch // the maximum number of epochs
  Setting  $\alpha$  // the learning rate parameter
  For  $ep = 1$  to MaxEpoch
    Shuffle the training data set
    For  $i = 1$  to  $M$  //  $M$  = number of data samples
      For  $k = 0$  to  $D$ 
         $\theta_k = \theta_k + \alpha \frac{\partial l(\theta_k)}{\partial (\theta_k)}$ 
      End For
    End For
  End For
  Return  $\theta$ 

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**Fig. 2** The SGD algorithm for training the LR model

### 3. The SGD-LR Software Program Applications

To automatically implement the LR model employing the SGD algorithm, a software program has been developed in .NET framework 4.6.2. The Graphical user interface (GUI) of the software program is shown in Fig. 3. The current program supports a single run of model training and testing phase. The training input file and its corresponding label file (TrainInput.csv and TrainLabel.csv) are stored in .csv file. Similarly, the testing input file and its corresponding label file should be named as TestInput.csv and TestLabel.csv. The user needs to provide the number of training epoch and the learning rate shown in the panel of Model Training Parameters.

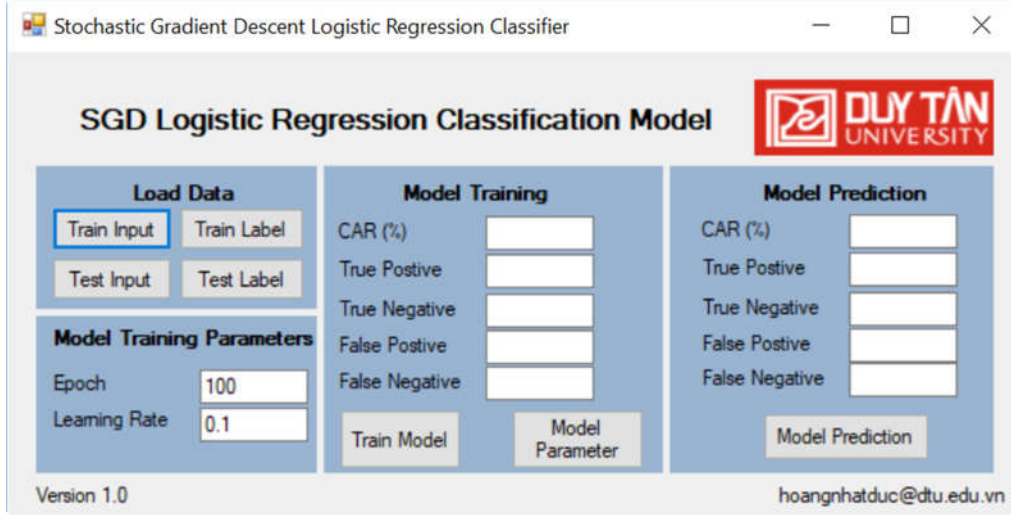


Fig. 3 The SGD-LR software program

Notably, the input features of the data set should be normalized by the Z-score equation given as follows:

$$X_{ZN} = \frac{X_o - m_X}{s_X} \quad (9)$$

where  $X_o$  and  $X_{ZN}$  denote an original and a normalized input feature, respectively.  $m_X$  and  $s_X$  denote the mean and the standard deviation of the original input feature, respectively.

A common practice is to randomly divide the collected dataset into two sets of training (90%) and testing data (10%). The training set is used to construct the SGD-LR model; the testing set is used for evaluating the model generalization capability. To evaluate a LR model performance, the Classification Accuracy Rate (CAR) is often employed:

$$CAR = \frac{TP + TN}{TP + TN + FP + FN} \times 100\% \quad (10)$$

where TP, TN, FP, and FN denote the true positive, true negative, false positive, and false negative values, respectively.

To demonstrate the operation of the newly developed software program, two case studies related to groutability estimation are employed. Data in first case study is collected from the previous work of [6]. In the latter case study, data presented in the previous work of [4,15] is employed. In both case studies, a set of input features is employed to predict the state of groutability (either groutable which is the positive class or ungroutable which is the negative

class). The prediction results of the two case studies are reported in Fig. 4, 5, and 6. Good CAR values are observed for both case studies (84.00% and 86.96%).

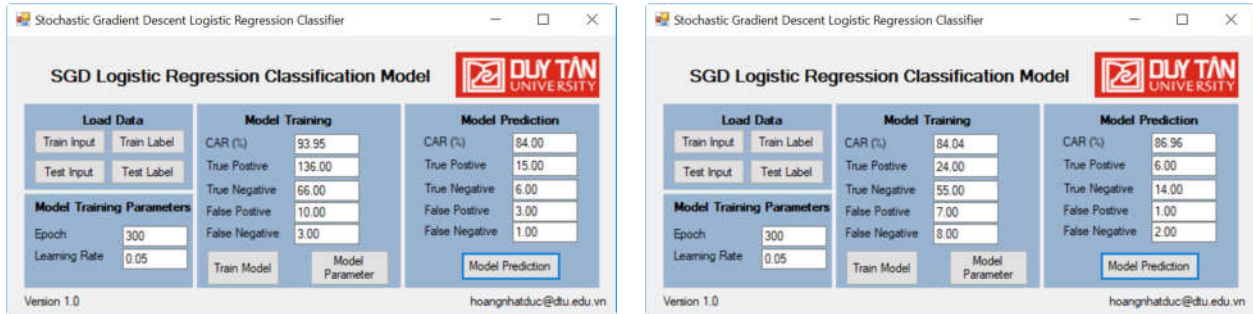


Fig. 4 Prediction results: (a) Case study 1 and (b) Case study 2

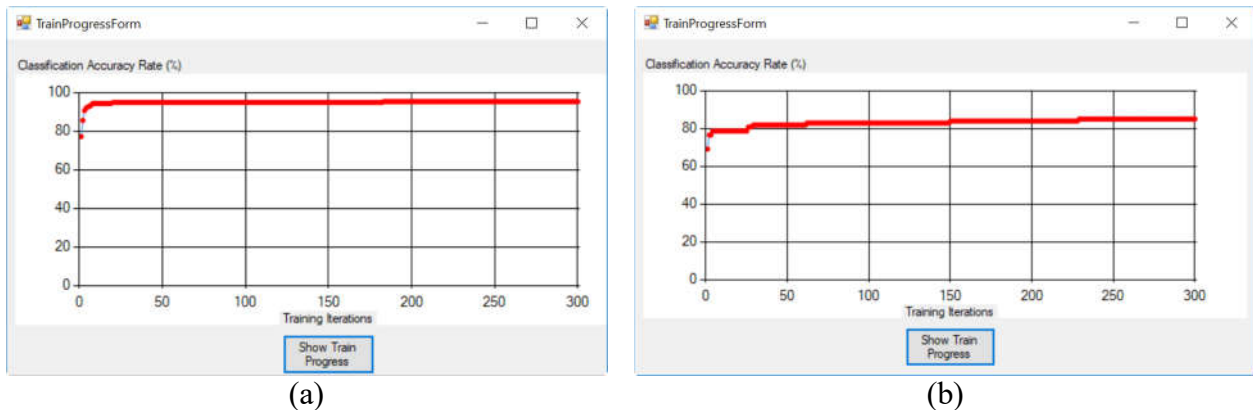


Fig. 5 The model training progress: (a) Case study 1 and (b) Case study 2

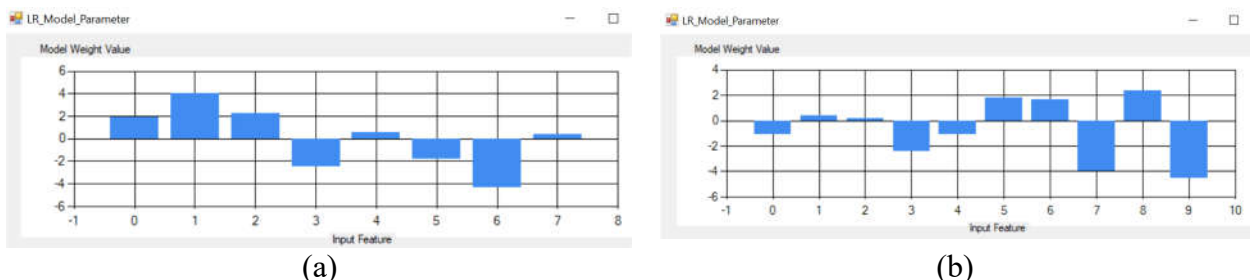


Fig. 6 The model parameters: (a) Case study 1 and (b) Case study 2

## 4. Conclusion

Data classification is an important task in civil engineering. This study develops a software program based on the LR algorithm and the SGD training algorithm. The applicability of the software program has been illustrated by two case studies using collected data sets of the groutability estimation. Good predictive results show that the SGD-LR software program can be a useful tool to assist decision makers in civil engineering.

## Supplementary materials

The software program can be downloaded via:

[https://github.com/NhatDucHoang/SGD\\_LR\\_Software](https://github.com/NhatDucHoang/SGD_LR_Software)

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