

# Pattern Classification & Machine Learning - Project 1

## *Finding the Higgs Boson*

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**Abstract**—In this report, we summarize our findings for the first project of the machine learning course taught at the EPFL. The goal of the project is the computation as well as the error estimation of predictions of a classification dataset of the CERN Higgs boson. Key aspects of the project are exploratory data analysis, feature processing, the implementation of several regression and classification machine learning methods and the comparison of different models using cross-validation.

### I. INTRODUCTION

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### II. DATA ANALYSIS

#### A. Data Description

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#### B. Data Analysis

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#### C. Rank Deficiency

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#### D. Feature processing

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### III. ML REGRESSION METHODS

For the regression task, we have implemented 3 methods: least-squares using gradient descent, least-squares using ridge regression, least-squares using normal equations and ridge regression using normal equations

#### A. Least Squares using Gradient Descent

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#### B. Least Squares using Stochastic Gradient Descent

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#### C. Least Squares using normal equations

Given that the input matrix  $X$  is not ill-conditioned, we are able to apply least-squares using normal equations.

#### D. Ridge Regression using normal equations

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### IV. ML CLASSIFICATION METHODS

#### A. Logistic Regression using Gradient Descent

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#### B. Regularized Logistic Regression using Gradient Descent

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### V. PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

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### VI. SUMMARY

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