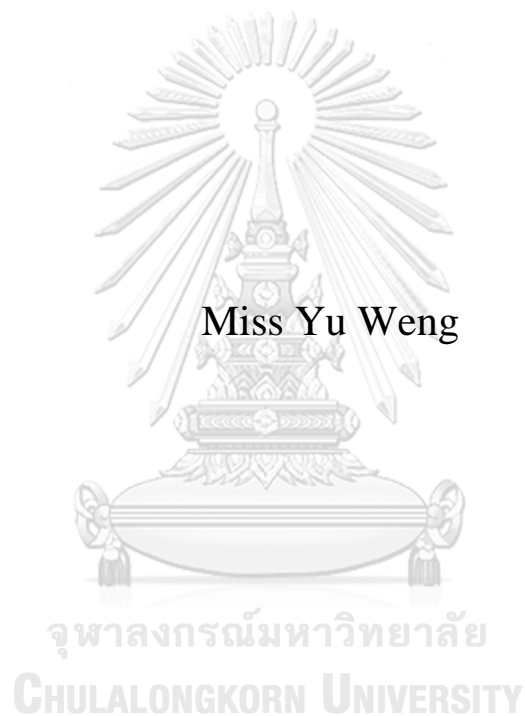


**COMPLEX MODEL VERSUS COMPLEX DATA IN AN
APPLICATION OF PREDICTING MORTGAGE LOAN**



Miss Yu Weng

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การเปรียบเทียบระหว่างแบบจำลองที่มีรูปแบบซับซ้อนกับแบบจำลองที่ใช้ข้อมูลที่มีความซับซ้อน
ในการคาดการณ์สินเชื่อสำหรับทรัพย์สิน



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หยุดยั้ง : การเปรียบเทียบระหว่างแบบจำลองที่มีรูปแบบซับซ้อนกับแบบจำลองที่ใช้
ข้อมูลที่มีความซับซ้อนในการคาดการณ์สินเชื่อสิ่งฮาริมทรัพย์. (**COMPLEX
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LOAN**) อ.ที่ปรึกษาหลัก : ดร.ธนิต แซ่ซื่อ

งานวิจัยนี้มีวัตถุประสงค์เพื่อวัดประโยชน์ของการใช้แบบจำลองที่ซับซ้อน
เปรียบเทียบกับการใช้ข้อมูลที่ซับซ้อน ในการประยุกต์ใช้คาดการณ์ความเสี่ยงด้านเครดิตสำหรับ
สินเชื่อจำนอง ในการศึกษาวิจัยนี้ แบบจำลองโครงข่ายระบบประสาทจะเป็นตัวแทนของ
แบบจำลองที่ซับซ้อน ในขณะที่แบบจำลองแบบการถดถอยเป็นตัวแทนของแบบจำลองอย่างง่าย
ที่ไม่ซับซ้อน ข้อมูลสองประเภท ได้แก่ ข้อมูลปกติและข้อมูลที่ซับซ้อน ได้ถูกนำมาวิเคราะห์
โดยข้อมูลที่ซับซ้อนถูกสร้างมาจากการนำข้อมูลปกติมาผ่านเทคนิคการสกัดและการแปลงข้อมูล
เพื่อให้ได้ค่าของข้อมูลที่ใกล้เคียงกับสิ่งที่ต้องการวัด ซึ่งตัวแปรที่สร้างมาเป็นส่วนหนึ่งของ
ข้อมูลที่ซับซ้อนในงานวิจัยนี้คือ อัตราส่วนสินเชื่อต่อราคาบ้าน (Loan-to-value) และ
สัดส่วนค่าใช้จ่ายที่อยู่อาศัย (Housing expense ratio) ข้อมูลปกติมาจากชุดข้อมูล
สินเชื่อครอบครัวเดี่ยวในสหรัฐอเมริกาตั้งแต่ปี ค.ศ. 2010 ถึงปีค.ศ. 2018 โดยมีแหล่งที่มา
จากองค์กร Freddie Mac ผลจากการวิจัยโดยพิจารณาจากเมตริกซ์ความสับสนและความ
แม่นยำในการคาดการณ์ความเสี่ยงของสินเชื่อพบว่า ข้อมูลที่ซับซ้อนที่สร้างขึ้นสามารถช่วยให้
แบบจำลองมีความแม่นยำเพิ่มขึ้น แต่ความแม่นยำไม่ได้เพิ่มขึ้นอย่างมากมาหลายปี อีกทั้ง
ประโยชน์ที่ได้รับเพิ่มเติมจากการใช้ข้อมูลที่ซับซ้อนในแบบจำลองที่ซับซ้อนมีเพียงเล็กน้อย
เท่านั้น อย่างไรก็ตาม ผลลัพธ์จากการวิจัยชี้ให้เห็นว่า แบบจำลองที่ซับซ้อนมีประโยชน์อย่างมี
นัยยะสำคัญในการคาดการณ์ความเสี่ยงของสินเชื่อ และสนับสนุนด้วยว่าแบบจำลองที่ซับซ้อนมี
ค่ามากกว่าข้อมูลที่ซับซ้อน

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SUE

This research aims to measure the benefits of complex model versus those of meaningful information, through an application of credit risk prediction for mortgage loans. The neural network represents complex model and the regression model represents simple model. Two types of data are applied in this analysis: simple data and complex data. The complex data is obtained from the simple dataset using information extraction techniques and data transformation. The two specific variables constructed in our complex data are Loan-to-value and Housing Expense ratio. Applied to the monthly Single-Family Loan-Level Dataset of Freddie Mac from year 2010 to year 2018 in this experiment, the result of confusion matrix and accuracy metrics points out that the complex data constructed in this study can help model increase the accuracy, but it cannot have a huge boost. The added benefit of the complex data in both complex model and simple model is quite small. The result also points out that the complex model is more valuable than complex data.

| | | |
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Yu Weng



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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Credit risk assessment plays an important role in maintaining the vigorous development of the financial market. Mortgage loans have been in existence for more than one hundred years. During the time, the mortgage loan system of various countries gradually became convergent, and then formed a banking system with mortgage as the core, and it was widely adopted by the banking industry in various countries. The mortgage loan system is mortgaged by real estate and takes into account the pledge guarantee. Furthermore, the mortgage loan system is related to both the banking industry and real estate, which may have a relatively large impact on the economy and makes it full of risks. It is precisely because of this the development and improvement of mortgage loan credit risk assessment has never stopped.

The economic crisis in 2008 further confirmed the importance of risk assessment. In 2000, the U.S. government encouraged Americans to buy houses, and the Federal Reserve had also adopted a loose monetary policy, constantly cutting interest rates, trying to use real estate to stimulate the U.S. economy and keep the U.S. economy prosperous. Commercial banks have also lowered standards to lend to people with low credit levels. In April 2007, the bankruptcy of New Century Finance, the second largest mortgage company in the United States, marked the beginning of the mortgage crisis in the United States. The crisis has led directly to the closure of more than 80 mortgage companies in the United States. It has also led to a sharp decline in major global capital markets, including the stock market, bond market, futures oil market and so on. The financial crisis has also warned other countries 'mortgage market, such as China. There are many similarities between China's housing mortgage market and the US market. For example, the banking system generally underestimates the risk of housing mortgage loans, and the rapid rise of house prices has stimulated the vigorous development of personal housing mortgage loans (Zhang, 2010). How to estimate the risk correctly is a problem that needs to be focused on the world mortgage market.

The Basel Committee on Banking Supervision, being composed of Banking Supervisions of thirteen countries, issued the Basel III agreement, which requires innovation and improvement

of risk measurement methods, aiming to improve the management, internal control and risk prevention of each bank itself.

Since last century, many researchers have made a lot of efforts to find a better credit risk assessment method. Some researchers came up with the comprehensive financial ratio analysis method, which uses financial indicators to monitor credit risk of borrowers. Other researchers tried to use statistical methods to derive risk discrimination models. They developed many complex sampling methods, likelihood estimation methods and simulation methods (i.e. Bayesian rule, Gibbs sampling, Kalman filter, Monte-Carlo simulation), and tried to use these complex models to explain the complex relationship behind the data, such as logistic regression models, probit models, liner discriminant analysis and so on. But most of the traditional statistical methods need to be based on assumptions, or need to be based on a prior, which depends largely on the experience of researchers (Greenland, 2003). In the 1990s, the theory of neural networks based on cognitive science and mathematical methods developed, with high parallel computing ability, self-learning ability and fault-tolerant ability. Altman, Marco and Varetto (1995) applied the neural network method in financial crisis of Italian companies. Altman (1995) concluded that "neural network analysis method is not substantially superior to linear model in credit risk identification and prediction" in a comparative study of the neural network method and discriminant analysis method. Bencic, Sarlija and Susac (2005) pointed out that the neural network is obviously superior to the traditional statistical model. Therefore, there are always doubts about whether the neural network is making a significant contribution in the prediction model or just a fashion, whether the neural network can automatically dig out the hidden information behind the raw data, and whether the more meaningful information obtained from complex statistical methods can be input into the neural network as input data to obtain a more accurate classifier. Moreover, the neural network works randomly. To get a good neural network, it needs human debugging, which costs a lot of manpower and time.

1.2 Research Objectives

This research aims to measure the benefits of complex model versus those of meaningful information, through an application of credit risk prediction for mortgage loans. This study uses the neural network to represent complex model and use the regression model to represent simple model. Two types of data are applied in this analysis: simple data and complex data. The simple data obtained by doing standardization and data preprocessing on the raw data. The complex

data is obtained from the simple data using information extraction techniques and data transformation.

This study first investigates whether a complex model, i.e. neural network, with simple data can outperform a logistic regression model with complex data. The result would suggest whether the complexity brought by the model or the data has more value. The study also investigates the added benefit of the complex data in a complex model by measuring the improvement of using the complex data in the complex model over simple data in the complex model. Similarly, the result would show whether the complex data brings any benefit to complex models and whether a complex model needs the power of complex data to improve its performance. At the end, the study will reveal whether an effort should be used for implementing complex model or extracting meaningful information or both.

1.3 Research Questions

In this study the first research question is whether the complex models or complex data is more valuable for prediction problems? In order to answer this question, the test dataset is used to compare the prediction performance of two models in experiment (the simple model with complex data and complex model with simple data). The second research question is how much the added benefit of the processed data can be brought in a complex model is measured by comparing the performance of a neural network with processed data and the neural network model with raw data. The monthly Single-Family Loan-Level Dataset of Freddie Mac is used to test the hypothesis.

The rest of this paper is organized as follow, in Chapter 2, focused review of the literature on various credit risk assessment methods; Data, models, and methods are highlighted in Chapter 3; and in Chapter 4, the work that has been done in this paper is summarized.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

Due to the importance of loan credit risk evaluation, researchers are very focused on quantitative research. They have developed a variety of statistical models and data mining tools for credit assessment in recent decades. The modern data mining techniques have made a significant contribution to the field of the credit scoring models. The methods of credit risk assessment can be divided into the subjective qualitative analysis method, traditional statistical analysis methods and machine learning techniques methods.

The subjective qualitative analysis method is the main method of early credit risk assessment. The application of this method mainly depends on the subjective judgment of experts. Factor analysis is a typical representative of subjective analysis methods, including five Cs method, five Ps method and five Ws method. However, the judgment result of this subjective evaluation method varies from person to person and the credibility is not high.

Subsequently, quantitative analysis method---traditional statistical analysis methods were developed. The main representative methods at this stage are linear discriminant model (LDA) (Fisher, 1936; Altman, 1968; Desai et al, 1996; Caouette et al, 1998; Hand et al, 1998), logistic regression model (LR) (William, 1995; Lee & Jung, 2000; Baesens et al, 2003), probit model (Grabrowsky & Talley, 1981; Pindyck & Rubinfeld, 1997; Maddala, 2001) and k-nearest neighbor model (KNN) (Henley & Hand, 1996). Altman (1968) used the financial indicators of different characteristics of US bankrupt companies and non-bankrupt enterprises to construct a discriminant function to judge the financial risks of enterprises and used multivariate discriminant models to assess corporate financial risks earlier. Based on this, the Z credit scoring model was constructed. Reichert, Cho & Wagner (1983) proposed that the linear discriminant technique requires strict data, that is, it is required the data must be the strict normal distribution, so that its practical application is also limited. The logistic regression model was first proposed by Ohlson (1981). Through the investigation of bankrupt enterprises and non-bankrupt enterprises, the logit model is used to assess the probability of actual default of the enterprises, and it is found that the evaluation results are more accurate than the multivariate discriminant model. Logistic regression model is highly interpretable which has a clear form, and the parameters represent the effect of each feature on the output. However, LR model is essentially a linear classifier, so it does not deal with the problem of feature correlation

well. It is also easy to underfit, resulting in a bad performance. The probit model is similar to the logistic model and can be considered as an extension of the latter.

With the development of computer science and data mining technology, more advanced statistical nonparametric models and machine learning methods are used in the field of credit assessment, such as decision tree (Davis, Edelman & Gamberman, 1992), neural network models (Desai, Crook, & Overstreet, 1996; Malhotra & Malhotra, 2002), genetic programming models (Ong, Huang & Tzeng, 2005), random forest and support vector machines (SVM) (Vapnik, 1995; Huang, H. Chen, Hsu, W. Chen & S. Wu, 2004). Duan (2019) came up with a multilayer perceptron (MLP) model with three hidden layers trained by the back-propagation algorithm, and the Synthetic Minority Over-Sampling Technique (SMOTE) is used to improve the deep neural networks (DNN) prediction accuracy. Desai, Crook & Overstreet (1996) explored the ability of neural networks such as multilayer perceptions and modular neural networks, and traditional techniques such as linear discriminant analysis and logistic regression, in building credit scoring models in the credit different union environment. They concluded that neural networks outperform LDA, and logistic regression is as good as neural networks. Bencic, Sarlija & Susac (2005) compared the accuracy of best models extracted by different methodologies, such as logistic regression, neural networks, and classification and regression tree (CART) decision trees. Four different neural network algorithms are tested, including backpropagation, radial basis function network, probabilistic and learning vector quantization. The result shows that the highest total hit rate, and the lowest type I error are obtained by the probabilistic neural network.

In general, these artificial intelligence methods achieved better performance than traditional statistical methods. For conventional statistical classification techniques, an underlying probability model must be assumed in order to calculate the posterior probability upon which the classification decision is made. The more recently developed data mining techniques such as neural networks, genetic programming (GP) and support vector machines (SVM) can perform the classification task without this limitation. But no method is perfect. Although the SVM method avoids the "dimension disaster", it is difficult to implement this algorithm for large training sample set, and it is difficult to solve the multi-class problem. Neural network has strong nonlinear fitting ability, can map arbitrarily complex nonlinear relationships, and has simple learning rules and is convenient for computer implementation. But the most serious problem is the inability to explain his own reasoning process and reasoning basis. Another weakness is that when there is not enough data, neural network can't work.

In order to avoid the weaknesses of various classification methods and to make a full use of their advantages, researchers try to use hybrid classifiers. Some combined classifiers, which integrate two or more single classification methods, have shown higher correctness of predictability than any individual methods. Combined classifier research is currently flourishing in credit risk assessment. Shu, T. Luo, Bor. W. Cheng & H. Hsieh (2009) concluded the performance of a new classifier clustering-launched classification (CLC) which combines clustering and SVM is better than the benchmark SVM method, and the CLC method can classify data efficiently, and only needs one parameter. The neuro-fuzzy system introduced by Malhotra & D. K. Malhotra (2002), combined fuzzy systems and neural networks to get a better default probability prediction model. Hsieh (2005) derived a hybrid mining approach in the design of an effective credit scoring model, based on clustering and neural network techniques. He not only designed an accurate classifier, but clustering techniques were also successfully employed to preprocess the input samples for the purpose of indicating unrepresentative samples. Huang, C. Chen & J. Wang (2007) used three strategies to construct a hybrid SVM-based credit scoring models and found that the SVM classifier achieved an identical classificatory accuracy with relatively few input features. A multistage neural network ensemble learning model is proposed by Yu, Y. Wang & K. Lai (2008). Different from commonly used “one-member-one-vote” or “majority-rule” ensemble, the novel neural network ensemble aggregates the decision values from the different neural ensemble members, instead of their classification results directly.

Apart from investigating the most accurate model for assessment of default, some researchers focus on the influencing factors of default risk, such as loan to value (LTV) (Bian & Lin, 2018) and expected housing expense ratio. Kelly & Toole (2018) proposed the “double trigger” default model. They investigate whether the relationship between debt service, loan-to-value ratio and default can be informative in the calibration of macro-prudential limits. Qi & Yang (2008) show that loss given default can largely be explained by various characteristics associated with the loan, the underlying property, and the default, foreclosure, and settlement process. They also found that the current loan-to-value ratio is the single most important determinant.

This study differs from these recent papers as it uses estimation and statistical approaches to measure loan-to-value and expected housing expense ratio. In particular, the time series of LTV data of a loan is known initially but become unobservable at later time, so the unobservable LTV will be estimated by adjusting the initial LTV with the USA Housing Index and the current

actual unpaid principal balance (UPB). Likewise, the unobservable expected housing expense ratio data will be estimated by adjusting its initial value with the Per Capita Personal Income, current UPB, and the remaining month of the loan. The estimated LTV and estimated housing expense ratio are treated as meaningful information in our study and are applied in the logistic model and neural network model to predict the outcome of them. There are two types of payments which are on-time payment and delayed payment.



CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

3.1 Overview

This research is based on the logistic regression model and neural network model. The outcome of a loan is classified into two categories: “on-time payment” and “delayed payment”. The objective of this study is to investigate:

- (1) whether the complexity brought by the model or by the data has more value for predicting the loan payments.
- (2) whether the complex data adds more benefit to the complex model for predicting the loan payments.

The dynamic, unobserved data, i.e. LTV and housing expense ratio is obtained by using data transformation techniques and represents an important part of the complex data. They will be discussed in detail later. The performance of neural network (complex model) with simple data is compared with logistic regression model (simple model) with complex data to explore the answer of problem (1). In addition, this study compares the performance of neural network with simple data and neural network with complex data to investigate problem (2). It also gives a conclusion about complex model and complex data.

3.2 Dataset description

The research considers the monthly Single-Family Loan-Level Dataset of Freddie Mac from 2010 to 2018, comprising of around 50000 loans in each year. Each entity’s repayment status in each due date is classified into two categories: “on-time payment” and “delayed payment”. In this case, a customer is assigned to the “on-time payment” class on a single due date if he pays on due date or delay no more than 90 days or otherwise is assigned to the “delayed payment” class if he had a payment in delay for 90 or more days. A loan treated as a default loan directly if a customer is assigned to “delayed payment” class in any single instalment due date or treat it as a “non-default” loan if the customer pays all instalments on time. The full list of variables in the original dataset is available in the Freddie Mac official website. It contains a total of 53 features. In this study, 28 original variables are used for analysis, and 2 extra processed variables (i.e., unobserved dynamic) were constructed. In addition, we incorporate the lag-1

information of 3 dynamic features into the dataset for the logistic regression. Initially, all 28 variables were taken into account in the two models, but after data cleaning and significance consideration only 23 out of 28 original variables were kept for further model training. Moreover, loans with loan terms less than 5 months are not considered.

| Type | Feature Name |
|--|---|
| Observed Static | Xs1. Initial Credit Score |
| | Xs2. First Payment Date |
| | Xs3. First Time Homebuyer Flag |
| | Xs4. Maturity Date |
| | Xs6. Mortgage Insurance Percentage |
| | Xs7. Number of Units |
| | Xs8. Occupancy Status |
| | Xs9. Original Combined Loan-To-Value |
| | Xs10. Original Debt-To- Income Ratio |
| | Xs11. Original UPB |
| | Xs12. Original Loan-To-Value |
| | Xs13. Original Interest Rate |
| | Xs14. Channel |
| | Xs17. Property State |
| Xs18. Property Type | |
| Observed Dynamic | Xs20. Loan Sequence Number |
| | Xs21. Loan Purpose |
| | Xs22. Original Loan Term |
| | Xs23. Number of Borrowers |
| | Xs26. Super Conforming Flag |
| | Xd3. Current Actual UPB |
| | Xd2. Monthly Reporting Period |
| Xd4. Current Loan Delinquency Status | |
| Unobserved Dynamic (Processed Variable) | Xd5. Loan Age |
| | Xd6. Remaining Months to Legal Maturity |
| | Xd7. Repurchase Flag |
| | Xd9. Zero Balance Code |
| | Xd11. Current Interest Rate |
| Unobserved Dynamic (Processed Variable) | Xud1. Housing Expense Ratio (HER) |
| | Xud2. Loan to Value (LTV) |

Table 1 List of Features

All training variables are divided into three different groups, i.e. “observed static”, “observed dynamic” and “unobserved dynamic”. A variable that has initial value and the value does not change over time is assigned into the “observed static” group (e.g. Channel, Property Type, Loan Purpose), then a variable whose initial value is known but the subsequent values fluctuate overtime is assigned into the “observed dynamic” group (e.g. Current Interest Rate, Current Actual UPB). Since the statistical methods are used to dig out changing values of HER and LTV, they are grouped into the “unobserved dynamic” group (see Table 1).

Let $w_{i,j}$ denotes the j^{th} observed static variable of loan i , $x_{i,k,t}$ denotes the k^{th} dynamic variable of loan i at time t , and $r_{i,v,t}$ denotes the v^{th} dynamic variable of loan i at time t .

Moreover, the current real UPB, property state and USA House Price Index are applied to estimate of current LTV. The quarterly Per Capita Income by State and the monthly total repayment are applied to estimate of monthly housing expense ratio. Before training a model, one hot encoding is required to convert all categorical variables into numerical value that could be provided to ML algorithms to do a better job in prediction. Variable Xs8, Xs14, Xs18, Xs21 are split into multiple columns whose number is the same as their number of categories. Data standardization and data scaling technologies are considered to applied in data preprocessing process (Table 2).

| Feature Name | Preprocessing Method |
|---|---|
| Xs1. Initial Credit Score | Standardized |
| Xs3. First Time Homebuyer Flag | Change categorial to numeric |
| Xs4. Maturity Date | Minusing first payment date (Xs2) and scaling to yearly |
| Xs6. Mortgage Insurance Percentage | Convert to numeric |
| Xs7. Number of Units | Convert 1, and more than 1 to 0, 1 |
| Xs8. Occupancy Status | One hot encoding on Multi-categorial Vars |
| Xs9. Original Combined Loan-To-Value | Standardized |
| Xs10. Original Debt-To- Income Ratio | Standardized |
| Xs11. Original UPB | Standardized |
| Xs12. Original Loan-To-Value | Standardized |
| Xs13. Original Interest Rate | Taking log and -1 |
| Xs14. Channel | One hot encoding on Multi-categorial Vars |
| Xs18. Property Type | One hot encoding on Multi-categorial Vars |
| Xs21. Loan Purpose | One hot encoding on Multi-categorial Vars |
| Xs22. Original Loan Term | Standardized |
| Xs23. Number of Borrowers | Convert 1,2 to 0, 1 |
| Xs26. Super Conforming Flag | Convert Y, Na to 1, 0 |
| Xd3. Current Actual UPB | Standardized |
| Xd5. Loan Age | Standardized |
| Xd6. Remaining Months to Legal Maturity | Standardized |
| Xd7. Repurchase Flag | Change categorial to numeric |
| Xd9. Zero Balance Code | Convert non-Na, Na to -1, 0 |
| Xd11. Current Interest Rate | Taking log and -1 |
| Xud1. Housing Expense Ratio | Standardized |
| Xud2. Loan to Value (LTV) | Standardized |

Table 2 Data Preprocessing

3.3 Simple model-----Logistic regression model

Logistic regression (LR) is one of the most popular algorithms for solving bank loan default rate problems. Ordinal LR can be used to solve the classification problem. This study uses the ordinal logistic regression model as a representative of a simple model. Let $y_{i,t}$ denote the categorical outcome of loan i at time t , where $y_{i,t} = 1$ for delayed payment, $y_{i,t} = 0$ for on-time payment. In addition, we incorporate the lag-1 information of 3 dynamic features into the dataset.

Let $W_i = [w_{i,1}, \dots, w_{i,j}, \dots, w_{i,p}]'$, $X_{i,t} = [x_{i,1,t}, \dots, x_{i,k,t}, \dots, x_{i,q,t}]'$, and $R_{i,t} = [r_{i,1,t}, r_{i,2,t}]'$ where p is the number of static variables; q is the number of observed dynamic variables. $R_{i,t}$ is the vector of processed variables.

Assume that $y_{i,t}$ is independent across i given $Y_{i,t}$. Consider the following logit model for outcome of each loan i at time t :

$$y_{i,t+1} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } p(Y_{i,t}) \leq 0.5 \\ 1, & \text{if } p(Y_{i,t}) > 0.5 \end{cases}$$

while

$$p(Y_{i,t}) = \phi(Z_{i,t}) = \frac{e^{Z_{i,t}}}{1 + e^{Z_{i,t}}}$$

Here, the feature set consists of static and time-series variables.

1. Simple model with complex data

$$Z_{i,t} = \beta'_W W_i + \beta'_X Y_{i,t-1}$$

$$= \beta_0 + \beta_{w,1} w_{i,1} + \dots + \beta_{w,p} w_{i,p}$$

$$+ \beta_{X,1} x_{i,1,t} \dots + \beta_{X,q} x_{i,q,t} + \beta_{X,3} x_{i,3,t-1} + \beta_{X,5} x_{i,5,t-1} + \beta_{X,6} x_{i,6,t-1}$$

$$+ \beta_{R,1} r_{i,1,t} \dots + \beta_{R,2} r_{i,q,t}$$

Static

Observed dynamic

Unobserved dynamic

where $i = 1, \dots, n, t = 1, \dots, T$

2. Simple model with simple data

$$Z_{i,t} = \beta'_W W_i + \beta'_X Y_{i,t-1}$$

$$= \beta_0 + \beta_{w,1} w_{i,1} + \dots + \beta_{w,p} w_{i,p}$$

$$+ \beta_{X,1} x_{i,1,t} \dots + \beta_{X,q} x_{i,q,t} + \beta_{X,3} x_{i,3,t-1} + \beta_{X,5} x_{i,5,t-1} + \beta_{X,6} x_{i,6,t-1}$$

Static

Observed dynamic

where $i = 1, \dots, n, t = 1, \dots, T$

Then estimating the coefficients $\hat{\beta}$ by maximizing this likelihood function:

$$\ell(\beta) = \prod_{i:y_i=1} P(X_{i,t}, R_{i,t}) \prod_{i':y_{i'}=0} (1 - P(X_{i,t}, R_{i,t}))$$

3.4 Complex model-----Neural network model

In this work, a neural network model represents complex models. The neural network can produce a system classifies the entity based on the input data through complex nonlinear transformation. A neural network optimizes certain parameters to get to the right output.

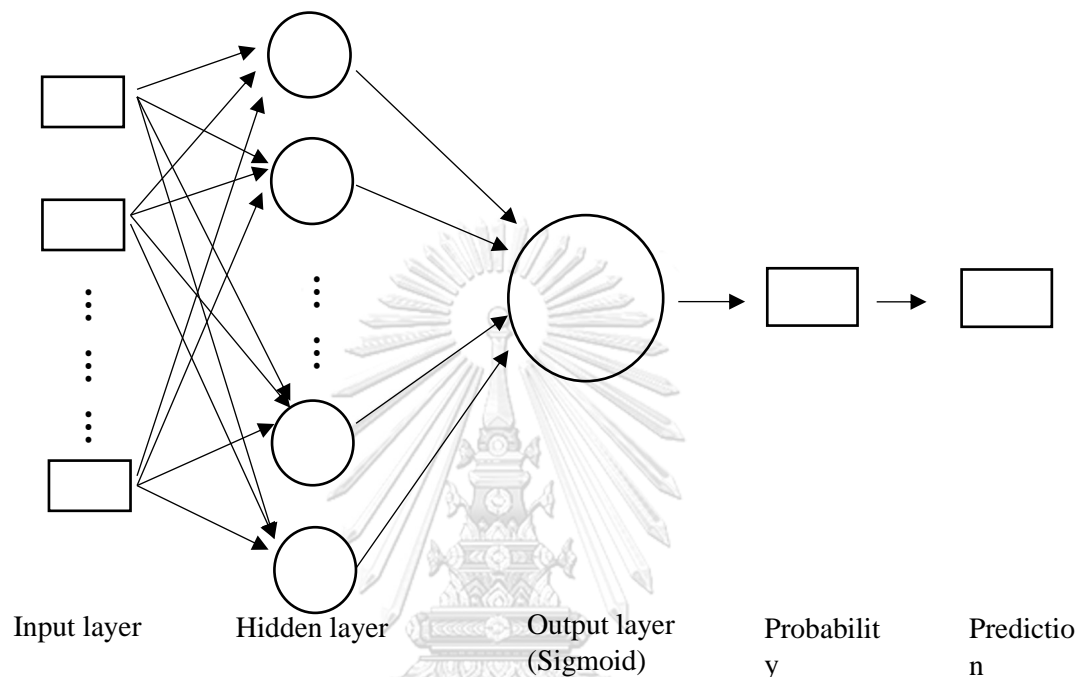


Figure 1 Neural network framework for observation l

As show in Figure 1, Neural networks flow from left to right. The 23 original features and 2 optionally unobserved features (25 columns from the input data frame) that arrive at the input neurons from the first row (first observation) of the input data frame. In this study, the network contains only one hidden layer. These 25 numbers are then multiplied by a set of weights $W^{[1]}$ (randomly initialized at first and later optimized). A tanh activation function is then applied on the result of this multiplication. This new set of numbers becomes the neurons in the hidden layer. These neurons are again multiplied by another set of weights $W^{[2]}$ (randomly initialized) with a sigmoid activation function applied to this result. The final result we obtain is a single number that lies between 0 and 1. Defined a threshold equal to 0.5 for rounding off this probability to 0 or 1. Neural network needs activation function (tanh and sigmoid activation functions in our case) to add non-linearity and enables it to learn complex features. While a neural network consists of a bunch multiplications and additions, which alone is linear, a linear classification model, even in high dimensions, will not be able to learn complex features as

equal to the neural network models due to the non-linearity that the activation functions have added.

Once a prediction is obtained, then it will be compared with the true output value. To optimize the weights in order to make our predictions more accurate (right now the first input is being multiplied by random weights to give a random prediction), the calculate that shows how far off is the prediction from the actual value is necessary. Then the calculation of the gradients with respect to each weight using the loss needs to be done. The gradients tell the amount by which we need to increase or decrease each weight parameter in order to minimize the loss, this process is called backpropagation. All the weights in the network are updated as repeating the entire process with the other input samples. After all the input samples have been used to optimize weights, one epoch has passed. This process is repeated for multiple number of epochs till the loss stops decreasing or loss is small enough. Once all the training data has passed through this process, the final weights and deviations are used for testing. The one that has the highest probability will be selected as the prediction class.

Let $l^{(u)}$ be one input observation where u is the row number. Z is output from the input l , $z^{[1](u)}$ is the output from the u th neuron of the 1st layer. Here, the layer number in the superscript in square brackets and the neuron number in parenthesis. $a^{[1]}$ is the value of hidden layer which passed first activation function, n_x is the size of input layer, n_h is the size of hidden layer and n_y is the size of output layer.

The initial sizes of these weight matrices are:

$$W^{[1]} = (n_h, n_x)$$

$$b^{[1]} = (n_h, 1)$$

$$W^{[2]} = (n_y, n_h)$$

$$b^{[2]} = (n_y, 1)$$

Training Algorithm:

1. Calculate the output Z for the first layer.

$$z^{[1](u)} = W^{[1]} l^{[1](u)} + b^{[1](u)}$$

2. Apply tanh activation function to get a .

$$a^{[1](u)} = \tanh(z^{[1](u)})$$

3. Calculate the value for the final output layer using the hidden layer values.

$$z^{[2](u)} = W^{[2]} a^{[1](u)} + b^{[2](u)}$$

4. Apply sigmoid activation function and obtain output probability.

$$\hat{y}^{(u)} = a^{[2](u)} = \sigma(z^{[2](u)}) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-z^{[2](u)}}}$$

5. Use 0.5 threshold to round off this probability.

$$y_{prediction}^{(u)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } a^{[2](u)} > 0.5 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

6. Compute the cost J .

$$J = -\frac{1}{m} \sum_{u=0}^m (y^{(u)} \log(\hat{y}^{(u)}) + (1 - y^{(u)}) \log(1 - \hat{y}^{(u)}))$$

where m is the number of observations

7. Calculate the gradients term.

$$dZ^{[2]} = A^{[2]} - Y$$

$$dW^{[2]} = \frac{1}{m} dZ^{[2]} A^{[1]T}$$

$$db^{[2]} = \frac{1}{m} \sum dZ^{[2]}$$

$$dZ^{[1]} = W^{[2]T} * g^{[1]'} Z^{[1]}$$

where g is the activation function $\tanh(\cdot)$

$$dW^{[1]} = \frac{1}{m} dZ^{[1]} X^T$$

$$db^{[1]} = \frac{1}{m} \sum dZ^{[1]}$$

8. Update the weights, α is learning rate.

$$W^{[2]} = W^{[2]} - \alpha * dW^{[2]}$$

$$b^{[2]} = b^{[2]} - \alpha * db^{[2]}$$

$$W^{[1]} = W^{[1]} - \alpha * dW^{[1]}$$

$$b^{[1]} = b^{[1]} - \alpha * db^{[1]}$$

9. Repeated multiple times until the cost is small enough or model converges.

3.5 Complex data extraction

Apart from the raw variables, three hidden variables are used in the models, i.e. LTV and Housing Expense ratio. The study uses different hidden information extraction techniques for each unobservable dynamic variable.

3.5.1 Estimated Loan-to-Value

As mentioned before, LTV can be found out using the current real UPB, property state and USA House Price Index. Since we know the property's state, even postal code, the USA State House Price Index is a good representor of the property value.

Approximate LTV at time t :

$$LTV_t = \frac{UPB_t}{Housing\ Index_t \times \frac{V_0}{House\ Index_0}}$$

where V_0 is the value of the property at the beginning of the loan contract.

3.5.2 Expected Housing Expense Ratio

The housing expense ratio is also referred to as the front-end ratio because it is a partial component of a borrower's total debt-to-income and may be considered first in the underwriting process for a mortgage loan. The estimated housing expense ratio aims to measure the current level of individual's obligation to pay housing debt, which should be a crucial factor in determining the insolvency risk of a loan. The estimated housing expense in this work is defined as the ratio between monthly debt obligation projected from the unpaid payment balance (UPB) and monthly income. It is expected that higher expected housing expense ratio is associated with higher insolvency risk and more likelihood of delayed payment.

For the income component in the housing expense ratio, we assumed that all borrowers from the same state share the same income changes in a month. Proportional change of the per capita personal income by state is a good representor of the percentage increase/decrease of the individual personal income. We first estimate I_0 , the initial monthly income by the following formula,

$$I_0 = \frac{UPB_0}{Expected\ loan\ duration \times DTI_0}$$

where

- DTI_0 is initial debt to be paid per month per monthly income which is observable and given from the data source.
- *Expected loan duration* is the number of months since the note origination month of the mortgage to the maturity.
- UPB_0 is the original unpaid principal balance which equal to the total debt.

We then update the individual income by using the adjustment from Per Capita Personal Income at the loan's location:

$$I_t = I_0 \times \frac{\text{Per Capita Personal Income}_t}{\text{Per Capita Personal Income}_0}$$

Finally, the estimated Housing Expense ratio at time t is:

$$\text{Expected Housing expense ratio}_t = \frac{\text{Current } UPB_t}{\text{remaining month of loan} \times I_t}$$

3.6 Experimental design

The four model setups as shown in Table 3. We compare the simple model with complex data to complex model with simple data to answer the first research question and measuring the improvement of using the complex data in complex model over simple data in the complex model to answer second question. Three pairs of in-sample and out-of-sample datasets are considered in this study. The training data in each training data set is sampled from the data of each year in a moderate proportion 0.233, and the training data set is composed of 1000 data. The test dataset uses the same method, the proportion is 0.07, and the training data set is composed of 300 data. Finally, we obtained 3 pairs of in-sample and out-of-sample data in the experiment. Each out-of-sample data set is tested on all four types of models to get a general conclusion.

| Type | Prediction Model | Input Data |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Simple model / Simple data | Logistic regression | Static, Observed dynamic |
| Simple model / Complex data | Logistic regression | Static, Observed dynamic, Unobserved dynamic |
| Complex model / Simple data | Neural network | Static, Observed dynamic |
| Complex model / Complex data | Neural network | Static, Observed dynamic, Unobserved dynamic |

Table 3 Experimental models

The performance of each model is compared based on the prediction accuracy. The confusion matrix is used to measure classifier performance. Since this is a binomial-class problem, we simply treat one class as “positive” and the other classes as “negative”, and calculate :

- True Positive (TP): predicted to be default and it actually was default
- False Positive (FP): predicted to be non-default and it actually was default
- True Negative (TN): predicted to be non-default and it actually was non-default
- False Negative (FN): predicted to be default and it actually was non-default

We also compute the accuracy, precision, recall, and F1 values to measure the performance of models.

F1-score is the harmonic mean of precision and recall:

$$Accuracy = \frac{TP + TN}{TP + TN + FP + FN}$$

Precision is defined as the number of true positives over the number of true positives plus the number of false positives:

$$Precision = \frac{TP}{TP + FP}$$

Recall is defined as the number of true positives over the number of true positives plus the number of false negatives:

$$Recall = \frac{TP}{TP + FN}$$

F1-score is the harmonic mean of precision and recall:

$$F1 = \frac{2 \times \textit{precision} \times \textit{recall}}{\textit{precision} + \textit{recall}}$$

The variation of the performance from each out-of-sample data set will be used to test the robustness of the results.



CHAPTER IV

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Sample Set

Although the amount of new loan data in each year is 50,000, considering it is changed after data cleaning such as discarding, conversion, standardization, a fixed ratio is applied on sample selection in every year. After experiments, it is determined that assigning the Train-Test selection ratio of the training set as 0.233 and the ratio of the test set as 0.02 is the best option, which can ensure that the training set data of the three sample groups is around 1000 and the test set data is around 300.

| Year | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | Total |
|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| Sample Set 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Training | 114 | 114 | 114 | 115 | 115 | 115 | 115 | 114 | 84 | 1000 |
| Testing | 35 | 34 | 34 | 35 | 34 | 35 | 35 | 34 | 25 | 301 |
| Sample Set 2 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Training | 114 | 114 | 114 | 115 | 115 | 115 | 115 | 114 | 84 | 1000 |
| Testing | 35 | 34 | 34 | 35 | 34 | 35 | 35 | 34 | 25 | 301 |
| Sample Set 3 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Training | 114 | 114 | 115 | 115 | 114 | 115 | 115 | 114 | 84 | 1000 |
| Testing | 34 | 34 | 35 | 35 | 34 | 35 | 35 | 34 | 25 | 301 |

Table 4 Data Sample

It can be clearly observed that the default rate in the training samples is quite low, the imbalance problem is serious in real credit data. In order to make the model to identify the default class and simplify the operation difficulty, the default data in the training set was duplicated 250 times, which significantly increased the default ratio. The change in default rate before and after replication as shown in Table 5.

| No. | Default Rate | Default Rate after Duplicating |
|----------------|--------------|--------------------------------|
| Training Set 1 | 0.37% | 48.80% |
| Training Set 2 | 0.39% | 50.37% |
| Training Set 3 | 0.46% | 54.30% |

Table 5 Default Rate

4.2 Unobserved Variables

The mean of approximated LTV in all experimental samples is 0.8984, the minimum value is -979.64 and the maximum value is 1682.60 with the standard deviation 10.19. The approximate HER has the mean value of -0.02, the minimum value of -569.04 and the maximum value of 2344.10 with the standard deviation 8.48. Both LTV and HER are most concentrated in sample 2 with small variance. Next, these normalized approximated data is ready to be plugged into the simple and the complex models.

4.3 Model Comparison

4.3.1 Logistic Regression Model

Logistic regression measures the relationship between the dependent variable and one or more independent variables(features) by estimating probabilities using the underlying logit function. In statistics, the logit function or the log-odds is the logarithm of the odds. Generalized linear model (GLM) is a generalization of ordinary linear regression that allows for response variables that have error distribution models other than a normal distribution. The logistic regression model is an example of a broad class of models known as generalized linear models (GLM). In the R version 4.0.3 runtime environment, the `glm()` function, `family = binomial('logit')`, is used for our model training. In a significance test, coefficients marked as dot or stars means that their p value less than 0.05 can be considered significant. In the regression results, the coefficients of `Xs8_3`, `Xs14_3`, `Xs18_3`, `Xs18_4`, `Xs18_5`, `Xs21_3`, `Xd9`, `Xd11` show NA, indicating that these variables might be a collinearity problem.

| Coefficients | With Unobserved Variables | | | Without Unobserved Variables | | |
|--------------|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Sample 1 | Sample 2 | Sample 3 | Sample 1 | Sample 2 | Sample 3 |
| Intercept | 3.809e+00 | 3.099e+10 | 5.839e+10 | 3.728e+00 | -8.206e+10 | 2.249e+10 |
| Xs1 | -9.746e-01*** | -5.996e-01*** | -7.183e-01*** | -9.743e-01*** | -5.930e-01*** | -6.612e-01*** |
| Xs3 | 8.649e-02*** | -1.488e-01*** | 1.476e-01*** | 8.840e-02*** | -1.412e-01*** | 1.438e-01*** |
| Xs4 | -5.394e+00*** | -2.057e+00*** | 4.974e+00*** | -5.399e+00*** | -2.077e+00*** | 5.189e+00*** |
| Xs6 | -4.469e-01*** | 2.756e-02* | 3.128e-01*** | -4.487e-01*** | 3.078e-02* | 3.211e-01*** |
| Xs7 | 3.603e-02** | -1.620e-01*** | 2.465e-01*** | 3.541e-02** | -1.677e-01*** | 2.185e-01*** |
| Xs8_1 | 4.782e-01*** | 7.362e-01*** | -3.844e-01*** | 4.721e-01*** | -1.677e-01*** | -3.505e-01*** |
| Xs8_2 | 5.123e-01*** | 1.535e+00*** | 1.212e+00*** | 5.067e-01*** | 1.537e+00*** | 1.130e+00*** |
| Xs8_3 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Xs9 | -2.959e-01*** | 1.714e+00*** | 7.523e-01*** | -2.947e-01*** | 1.690e+00*** | 7.018e-01*** |
| Xs10 | 6.125e-01*** | 3.208e-01*** | -5.904e-02*** | 6.127e-01*** | 3.122e-01*** | 2.147e-01*** |
| Xs11 | -1.876e+00*** | 2.066e+00*** | -3.780e+00*** | -1.884e+00*** | 2.115e+00*** | -4.355e+00*** |
| Xs12 | 1.123e-01* | -1.337e+00*** | -7.147e-01*** | 1.113e-01* | -1.317e+00*** | -6.717e-01*** |
| Xs13 | -3.204e-01*** | 1.187e-01*** | 2.622e-01*** | -3.178e-01*** | 1.329e-01*** | 2.936e-01*** |
| Xs14_1 | -1.455e+00*** | -4.231e-01*** | 3.031e-01*** | -1.450e+00*** | -3.982e-01*** | 2.890e-01*** |
| Xs14_2 | -8.892e-01*** | -2.425e-01*** | 1.948e+00*** | -8.873e-01*** | -2.294e-01*** | 2.017e+00*** |
| Xs14_3 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Xs18_1 | 1.735e-01** | -3.099e+10 | -5.839e+10 | 1.592e-01** | 8.206e+10 | -2.249e+10 |
| Xs18_2 | 6.999e-03 | -3.099e+10 | -5.839e+10 | -6.957e-04 | 8.2069e+10 | -2.249e+10 |
| Xs18_3 | -1.274e+01 | -3.099e+10 | NA | -1.304e+01 | 8.206e+10 | NA |
| Xs18_4 | NA | -3.099e+10 | 5.839e+10 | NA | 8.206e+10 | -2.249e+10 |
| Xs18_5 | NA | -3.099e+10 | -5.839e+10 | NA | 8.206e+10 | -2.249e+10 |
| Xs21_1 | -2.550e-01*** | 8.037e-01*** | -1.518e+00*** | -2.528e-01*** | 7.851e-01*** | -1.565e+00*** |
| Xs21_2 | 2.445e-03 | 4.842e-01*** | -9.405e-01*** | -1.072162e-03 | 4.770e-01*** | -8.561e-01*** |
| Xs21_3 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| Xs22 | 7.612e+00*** | 2.740e+00*** | -6.042e+00*** | 7.608e+00*** | 2.720e+00*** | -6.714e+00*** |
| Xs23 | -4.367e-01*** | -3.783e-01*** | -7.392e-01*** | -4.341e-01*** | -3.772e-01*** | -8.087e-01*** |
| Xs26 | -2.721e+00 | -1.900e+01 | -1.627e+01 | -2.723e+00 | -1.922e+01 | -5.502e+00 |
| Xd3 | 2.473e+02*** | 2.171e+02*** | 1.212e+01*** | 2.467e+02*** | 2.179e+02*** | 1.308e+01*** |
| Xd3_tm1 | -2.451e+02*** | -2.186e+02*** | -8.511e+00*** | -2.445e+02*** | -2.194e+02*** | -8.827e+00*** |
| Xd5 | 9.618e+00*** | 2.812e+00*** | 6.636e+00*** | 9.583e+00*** | 2.634e+00*** | 6.790e+00*** |
| Xd5_tm1 | -9.593e+00*** | -2.852e+00*** | -5.853e+00*** | -9.557e+00*** | -2.671e+00*** | -5.893e+00*** |
| Xd6 | 4.431e+02*** | 3.603e+00** | 2.243e+00*** | 4.411e+02*** | 3.636e+00** | 2.191e+00*** |
| Xd6_tm1 | -4.456e+02*** | -4.359e+00*** | -1.005e+00*** | -4.435e+02*** | -4.350e+00*** | -5.245e-01* |
| Xd7 | 9.568e-01 | 8.439e+00 | -2.543e+02 | 1.618e+00 | 1.019e+01 | 6.636e-01 |
| Xd9 | NA | NA | -2.639e+02 | NA | NA | -1.619e+00 |
| Xd11 | NA | NA | -2.576e-02 | NA | NA | -4.515e-02** |
| HER | 1.679e-02 | 2.549e-02. | 1.141e+00*** | - | - | - |
| Ltv | 1.418e-01*** | -1.200e-01*** | -6.619e-01*** | - | - | - |

Signif. codes:

0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Table 6 Estimation Result of Logistic Regression

With the unobservable variables, the train accuracy is better than the one without unobserved variables, and the test accuracy is quite close to the test accuracy of the simple model with simple data in each sample. The test accuracy is better than those without unobservable variables. Based on accuracy, it can be seen that the complex data does not add more value to the model's performance boost, as there is no significant change in the test accuracy. If we further use the AIC rule to judge their performance, we could find that simple models with complex data is better than simple models with simple data. Normally lower AIC values indicate a better-fit model. The reason why we cannot clearly see the better performance of complex data by using accuracy maybe because our sample size is not large enough. In general, in this experiment, all sample groups did get better results using simple models with complex data. Since it is necessary to consider the difficulty of data processing, the running ability of the computer, we only selected 3 sets of sample. In further experiments, the issue of increase the size of sample and the amount of data in each sample set and adjust training variables should be given attention, they may change the AIC value to more precise direction.

| Sample No. | With Unobserved Variables | | | Without Unobserved Variables | | |
|----------------|---------------------------|----------|----------|------------------------------|----------|----------|
| | Sample 1 | Sample 2 | Sample 3 | Sample 1 | Sample 2 | Sample 3 |
| Train Accuracy | 0.8448 | 0.7912 | 0.8398 | 0.8446 | 0.7879 | 0.8311 |
| Test Accuracy | 0.7455 | 0.8085 | 0.7017 | 0.7460 | 0.8076 | 0.7043 |
| AIC | 54,703 | 64,727 | 59,049 | 54,715 | 64,800 | 59,989 |

Table 7 Model Accuracy

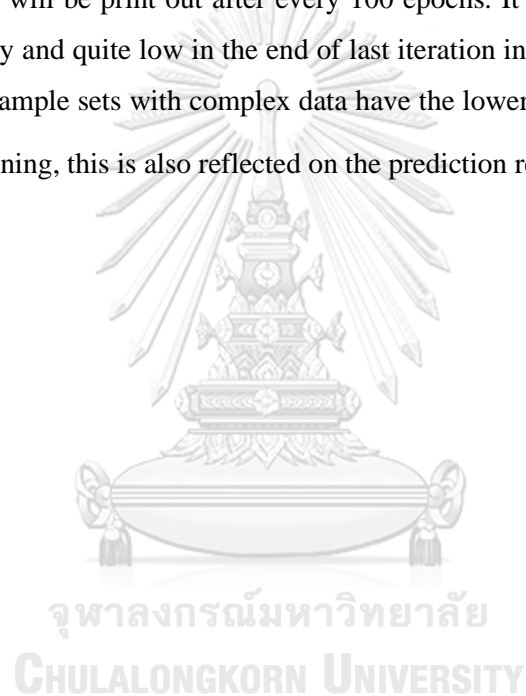
4.3.2 Neural Network Model

A neural network optimizes certain parameters to get to the right output. To generate matrices with random parameters, first the size (number of neurons) of all the layers in the neural net must be obtained. The number of neurons is decided based on shape of the input and output matrices. The parameters are initialized based on random uniform distribution. The function `initializeParameters ()` takes as argument an input matrix and a list which contains the number of neurons in input layer, hidden layer, and output layer respectively. The function returns the trainable parameters W^1, b^1, W^2, b^2 those weights matrices are initialized randomly based on the layer sizes of the different layers as shown in Table 8.

| Parameter | Initial Value for Complex Data | Initial Value for Simple Data |
|-----------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| W^1 | (10 , 35) | (10 , 33) |
| b^1 | (10 , 1) | (10 , 1) |
| W^2 | (1 , 10) | (1 , 10) |
| b^2 | (1 , 1) | (1 , 1) |

Table 8 Parameter Initial Value

In the model training process, set the epochs is 2000, the hidden neurons is 39 and the learning rate is 0.9. The loss will be print out after every 100 epochs. It can be seen that the cost has dropped significantly and quite low in the end of last iteration in each experimental group. At the same time, the sample sets with complex data have the lower cost. The lower the cost, the better the model training, this is also reflected on the prediction result in Table 11.



| Cost | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------------|----------|----------|------------------|----------|----------|
| Iteration | Simple data set | | | Complex data set | | |
| | Sample 1 | Sample 2 | Sample 3 | Sample 1 | Sample 2 | Sample 3 |
| 100 | 0.4889 | 0.5128 | 0.4587 | 0.4880 | 0.5104 | 0.4598 |
| 200 | 0.4540 | 0.4778 | 0.4266 | 0.4491 | 0.4773 | 0.4210 |
| 300 | 0.4568 | 0.4543 | 0.4129 | 0.4296 | 0.4558 | 0.4020 |
| 400 | 0.4358 | 0.4704 | 0.3876 | 0.4281 | 0.4357 | 0.3810 |
| 500 | 0.4098 | 0.4318 | 0.3586 | 0.4002 | 0.4503 | 0.3581 |
| 600 | 0.3910 | 0.3942 | 0.3078 | 0.3785 | 0.4234 | 0.3047 |
| 700 | 0.3720 | 0.3636 | 0.3086 | 0.3720 | 0.3906 | 0.2727 |
| 800 | 0.3515 | 0.3410 | 0.2570 | 0.3613 | 0.3365 | 0.2484 |
| 900 | 0.3315 | 0.3165 | 0.2281 | 0.3438 | 0.3070 | 0.2265 |
| 1000 | 0.3118 | 0.2901 | 0.2090 | 0.3313 | 0.2850 | 0.2083 |
| 1100 | 0.2918 | 0.2560 | 0.1931 | 0.3080 | 0.2596 | 0.1917 |
| 1200 | 0.2756 | 0.2328 | 0.1795 | 0.2839 | 0.2307 | 0.1770 |
| 1300 | 0.2657 | 0.2127 | 0.1682 | 0.2644 | 0.2148 | 0.1637 |
| 1400 | 0.2715 | 0.2004 | 0.1576 | 0.2432 | 0.2039 | 0.1532 |
| 1500 | 0.2615 | 0.1903 | 0.1478 | 0.2173 | 0.1923 | 0.1441 |
| 1600 | 0.2467 | 0.1790 | 0.1389 | 0.1924 | 0.1761 | 0.1357 |
| 1700 | 0.2250 | 0.1698 | 0.1312 | 0.1783 | 0.1630 | 0.1284 |
| 1800 | 0.2042 | 0.1604 | 0.1251 | 0.1684 | 0.1571 | 0.1223 |
| 1900 | 0.1914 | 0.1515 | 0.1187 | 0.1596 | 0.1514 | 0.1173 |
| 2000 | 0.1829 | 0.1445 | 0.1132 | 0.1514 | 0.1462 | 0.1126 |

Table 9 Cost of Each Iteration

From the experimental results, complex model performs significantly better than simple model whether in complex or simple data conditions. Although training complex model takes more time, the performance benefits outweigh the costs. For neural network model, using the test set containing unobservable variables performs better than using a simple sample data set in accuracy and F1 score accuracy metrics. However, the difference between the prediction performance brought by the complex data and the simple data to the neural network is not as large as the difference between the performance of the logistic regression model and the neural network model under the same testing set condition. Also, for simple models, complex data not obviously improve model performance. So, it may not be worth the time and effort to mine complex data. Especially for complex models, the accuracy of the model itself is already high.

| Complex sample set 1_NN | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------|
| Y_Test | Y_Prediction | |
| | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 9,450 | 1,248 |
| 1 | 342 | 10,024 |

| Complex sample set 2_NN | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------|
| Y_Test | Y_Prediction | |
| | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 10,008 | 1,056 |
| 1 | 391 | 10,202 |

| Complex sample set 3_NN | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------|
| Y_Test | Y_Prediction | |
| | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 10,311 | 971 |
| 1 | 247 | 13,294 |

| Simple sample set 1_NN | | |
|------------------------|--------------|-------|
| Y_Test | Y_Prediction | |
| | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 9,167 | 1,531 |
| 1 | 464 | 9,902 |

| Simple sample set 2_NN | | |
|------------------------|--------------|--------|
| Y_Test | Y_Prediction | |
| | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 9,782 | 1,282 |
| 1 | 104 | 10,489 |

| Simple sample set 3_NN | | |
|------------------------|--------------|--------|
| Y_Test | Y_Prediction | |
| | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 10,223 | 1,059 |
| 1 | 129 | 13,412 |

| Complex sample set 1_LR | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|-------|
| Y_Test | Y_Prediction | |
| | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 8,986 | 1,377 |
| 1 | 4,250 | 7,500 |

| Complex sample set 2_LR | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|-------|
| Y_Test | Y_Prediction | |
| | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 8,203 | 2,589 |
| 1 | 1,250 | 8,000 |

| Complex sample set 3_LR | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|-------|
| Y_Test | Y_Prediction | |
| | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 8,647 | 2,319 |
| 1 | 5,500 | 9,750 |

| Simple sample set 1_LR | | |
|------------------------|--------------|-------|
| Y_Test | Y_Prediction | |
| | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 8,997 | 1,366 |
| 1 | 4,250 | 7,500 |

| Simple sample set 2_LR | | |
|------------------------|--------------|-------|
| Y_Test | Y_Prediction | |
| | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 8,186 | 2,606 |
| 1 | 1,250 | 8,000 |

| Simple sample set 3_LR | | |
|------------------------|--------------|-------|
| Y_Test | Y_Prediction | |
| | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 8,713 | 2,253 |
| 1 | 5,500 | 9,750 |

Table 10 Confusion Matrix

Before training the model, the default rate in the three training sets were increased to a level of 50% for solving the imbalance problem. There might be a bias in the estimation of the intercept due to the oversized training sample sets especially for the use of prediction default probability. So, normally the threshold of deciding whether the loan is default must be adjusted carefully (less than 0.5) to match with the bias. However, in this study, we do not predict exact probabilities, and the predicted class is less sensitive to this bias. By choosing to keep the threshold 0.5, the bias would be offset from not adjusting the intercept.

| NN | | | | | | |
|-----------|-------------|----------|----------|--------------|----------|----------|
| | Simple data | | | Complex data | | |
| | Sample 1 | Sample 2 | Sample 3 | Sample 1 | Sample 2 | Sample 3 |
| Accuracy | 90.53 % | 93.60 % | 90.75 % | 95.21 % | 93.32 % | 95.09 % |
| Precision | 95.52 % | 99.02 % | 94.37 % | 99.05 % | 96.31 % | 98.18 % |
| Recall | 86.61 % | 89.11 % | 88.88 % | 92.68 % | 90.62 % | 93.19 % |
| F1 Score | 90.85 % | 93.80 % | 95.76 % | 92.65 % | 93.38 % | 95.62 % |

| LR | | | | | | |
|-----------|-------------|----------|----------|--------------|----------|----------|
| | Simple data | | | Complex data | | |
| | Sample 1 | Sample 2 | Sample 3 | Sample 1 | Sample 2 | Sample 3 |
| Accuracy | 74.60 % | 80.76 % | 70.43 % | 74.55 % | 80.85 % | 70.17 % |
| Precision | 63.83 % | 86.49 % | 63.93 % | 63.83 % | 86.49 % | 63.93 % |
| Recall | 84.59 % | 75.43 % | 81.23 % | 84.49 % | 75.55 % | 80.79 % |
| F1 Score | 72.76 % | 80.58 % | 71.55 % | 72.72 % | 80.65 % | 71.38 % |

Table 11 Accuracy Metrics

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

The objective of this study is to investigate whether a complex model or complex data has more value for prediction problems. It also investigates whether there is the added benefit of the processed data in a complex model. This study uses the monthly Single-Family Loan-Level Dataset of Freddie Mac to test the hypothesis. The logistic regression model is used to represent a simple model and the neural network model is used to represent a complex model. The complex data, namely LTV and HER, were extracted based on some structural models. At the end, the study compares the performance of all experimental models by using the confusion matrix and accuracy metrics.

From this experiment, a significant conclusion is that the prediction performance of all combination model are good, neural networks are especially good. Even though the logistic model does not perform badly, the overall performance of the neural network model is much better than the logistic model. After a closer comparison: complex model with simple data is better than simple model with complex data. So, the experimental results tell us that the complexity brought by the model has more value for predicting the loan payments, this is also the answer to the first research question. The study also pointed out that our two processed variables can help model increase the accuracy, but it cannot have a huge boost. The processed data adds a little value in the complex model base on those two unobserved variables in this study. If there is no better model selection, we can consider investing in mining complex data, but if there is a lot of room for model improvement, it is recommended to work on complex models first.

For the neural network, because the relationship between the internal data itself has been automatically extracted sufficiently complex via the computer, so there is no need to spend a lot of effort to do work on the data. The epochs number, the hidden neurons and the learning rate are more important and valuable even if it takes a lot of time to try out. In future research, more research should be carried out on the selection of the three parameter values that mentioned above. We can draw the curve that training error and test error varying with the number of epochs to find out the point where the test error starts to increase.

This study uses real data. The biggest problem with real default data sets is imbalance. Here, based on the purpose of simple and convenient operation, the default observation data in the training dataset are duplicated, but this changes the real data distribution. So which method can better solve the non-equilibrium problem is also worthy of our further study. Second, it should be considered to expand the number of data in each sample set to ensure obtained are more a general result.



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