

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MAXIMUM
LIKELIHOOD CLASSIFICATION RULE ASSUMING A
GAUSSIAN DENSITY FUNCTION

by

Terry L. Phillips

Several questions have been asked about the implementation of the classification algorithm used in LARSYSAA. The purpose of this Information Note is to briefly describe this implementation. It has been shown that the classification rule can be reduced to the following:^{1,2}

Classify X as belonging to class ω_i if

$$\begin{aligned} \log |K_i| + (X - M_i)^T K_i^{-1} (X - M_i) \leq \log |K_j| \\ + (X - M_j)^T K_j^{-1} (X - M_j) \quad \text{for all } j \neq i \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

For purposes of implementation of this decision rule, the programmer has chosen to follow the decision rule:

Classify X as belonging to class ω_i if

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{1}{2} \log |K_i| - \frac{1}{2} (X - M_i)^T K_i^{-1} (X - M_i) \geq -\frac{1}{2} \log |K_j| \\ - \frac{1}{2} (X - M_j)^T K_j^{-1} (X - M_j) \quad \text{for all } j \neq i \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

At classification time the classes have been defined and the statistics for each class have been calculated.

1. K. S. Fu, D. A. Landgrebe, T. L. Phillips, "Information Processing of Remotely Sensed Agricultural Data," Proceedings of the IEEE, Vol. 57, No. 4, April 1969, pp 639-653.
2. N. J. Nilsson, "Learning Machines," New York: McGraw-Hill, 1965.

Therefore the inputs to the classification program are:

- The number of features used in the classification process.
- The number of classes defined by the statistics set.
- $-\frac{1}{2} \log |K_i|$ for each class i .
- The elements of the inverse covariance matrix (K_i^{-1}) for each class i .
Since this matrix is symmetric, only the lower triangular portion is stored and used in the calculation of the discriminant for each class i .
- The statistical mean vectors (one component for each feature) for each class i .
- A data vector with one component for each feature.

The outputs of the classification program are:

- A number indicating the class decision.
- The value of the discriminant function for the class decision which can be used for thresholding the decision when displaying the results.

The classification algorithm shown in Figure 1 calculates:

$$-\frac{1}{2} \log |K_i| - \frac{1}{2} (X - M_i)^T K_i^{-1} (X - M_i) \quad (3)$$

for each class i in the following manner. let $Y = (X - M_i)$ and K_{jk} equal a component of the matrix K_i^{-1} . Then equation (3) becomes:

$$-\frac{1}{2} \log |K_i| - \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} Y_1 K_{11} Y_1 + Y_1 K_{12} Y_2 + Y_1 K_{13} Y_3 + \dots \\ + Y_2 K_{21} Y_1 + Y_2 K_{22} Y_2 + Y_2 K_{23} Y_3 + \dots \\ + Y_3 K_{31} Y_1 + Y_3 K_{32} Y_2 + Y_3 K_{33} Y_3 + \dots \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} \quad (4)$$

And since $K_{21} = K_{12}$ equation 4 becomes:

$$-\frac{1}{2} \log |K_i| + \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} Y_1 K_{11} Y_1 \\ - Y_2 K_{21} Y_1 \quad -\frac{1}{2} Y_2 K_{22} Y_2 \\ - Y_3 K_{31} Y_1 \quad - Y_3 K_{32} Y_2 \quad -\frac{1}{2} Y_3 K_{33} Y_3 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} \quad (5)$$

Equation (5) is implemented in the program shown in Figure 1. This discriminant is calculated for each class i and compared to the other discriminant calculations. The largest discriminant value indicates the classified class for the input data vector.

```

*****
SUBROUTINE PLOC(IMP,IC,COR,AVG,DATA,IL,IMAX)
*****
DEFINE PROGRAM VARIABLES
*****
INTEGER NF,NC,IC
REAL CON(1),COR(1),AVE(1),DATA(1),IMAX
REAL Y,X,FAC
INTEGER NCF,JK,I,J,JI,KI,NI
*****
NF = THE NUMBER OF FEATURES USED IN THE CLASSIFICATION
NC = THE NUMBER OF CLASSES DEFINED
IC = THE CLASS THE DATA VECTOR IS CLASSIFIED INTO
CON(1) = -1/2 * LOG K(1), WHERE K(1) IS THE DETERMINANT OF THE
          COVARIANCE MATRIX FOR EACH CLASS I
COR(IJK,1) = THE ELEMENTS OF THE INVERSE COVARIANCE MATRIX FOR EACH
          CLASS I. SINCE THE MATRIX IS SYMMETRIC, ONLY THE
          LOWER TRIANGULAR PORTIONS ARE STORED. THUS THE
          ELEMENTS ARE STORED IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER K11,K21,
          K22,K31,..... FOR JK=1,2,3,.....
AVE(I,J,1) = THE STATISTICAL MEAN VECTORS (J=1,NF COMPONENTS) FOR EACH
          DEFINED CLASS (I=1,NC)
DATA(I,J) = THE DATA VECTOR TO BE CLASSIFIED (J=1,NF)
IMAX = THE VALUE OF THE DISCRIMINANT FUNCTION FOR THE CLASSIFIED
          DATA VECTOR FOR CLASS IC
Y = THE CALCULATION OF THE DISCRIMINANT FUNCTION FOR EACH
          CLASS
FAC = THE CALCULATION OF THE DATA MEAN - THE CLASS MEAN
NCF = THE CALCULATION OF A FACTOR OF THE DISCRIMINANT FUNCTION
NCF = A COUNTER FOR KEEPING TRACK OF CLASS AND FEATURE
          COMPONENTS OF AVE
JK = A COUNTER FOR KEEPING TRACK OF COMPONENTS OF COR
I = THE CLASS COUNTER
J = A FEATURE COUNTER
JI = A COUNTER FOR KEEPING TRACK OF FEATURE AND CLASS (J AND
          I) COMPONENTS OF AVE
KI = A COUNTER FOR KEEPING TRACK OF FEATURE AND CLASS (K AND
          I) COMPONENTS OF AVE
*****
NCF=NCF+NF
JK=0
IMAX=-1.0E60
DO 50 I=1,NC
NCF=NCF+NF
Y=CON(I)
DO 30 J=1,NF
JI=NCF+J
X=DATA(I,J)-AVE(I,J)
DO 20 K=1,JK
KI=NCF+K
FAC=X*COR(IJKI)+I*DATA(KI)-AVE(KI,1)
20 Y=Y-FAC
30 Y=Y+0.5*FAC
IF (Y.LE.IMAX) GO TO 50
IMAX=Y
50 CONTINUE
RETURN
END

```

Figure 1 Implementation of Classification Algorithm

Comparison of a FORTRAN-Encoded
Gaussian Maximum Likelihood Classifier
and an Assembly Language Equivalent

by

Philip H. Swain

In the LARS Information Note to which this is an addendum, the method of implementation of the Gaussian maximum likelihood classifier used in LARSYSAA is discussed in some detail, and a subroutine is given (MGLC) which performs the classification on a single data point in floating point form (see Figure 1 of the information note).

Figure A-2 shows the actual subroutine used by LARSYSAA. This routine (CONTEX) differs from MGLC only in that (1) it classifies an entire line of data points on each call, and (2) the data are input as halfword integers and are converted to floating point form by CONTEX before being classified.

Figure A-3 shows an assembly language equivalent (NEWCONTEX) of CONTEX. The algorithm is unchanged, but advantage is taken of a priori knowledge about the algorithm which is unavailable to the FORTRAN compiler, in generating machine language code. In particular, the relatively few DO variables and intermediate results can be maintained in registers rather than in core memory. The increase in efficiency of the assembly language program is substantial (see Figure A-1). NEWCONTEX requires only 52% of the time required by CONTEX to classify 100 samples, assuming 10 pattern classes (the percentage is constant for one through twelve features and two through ten classes).

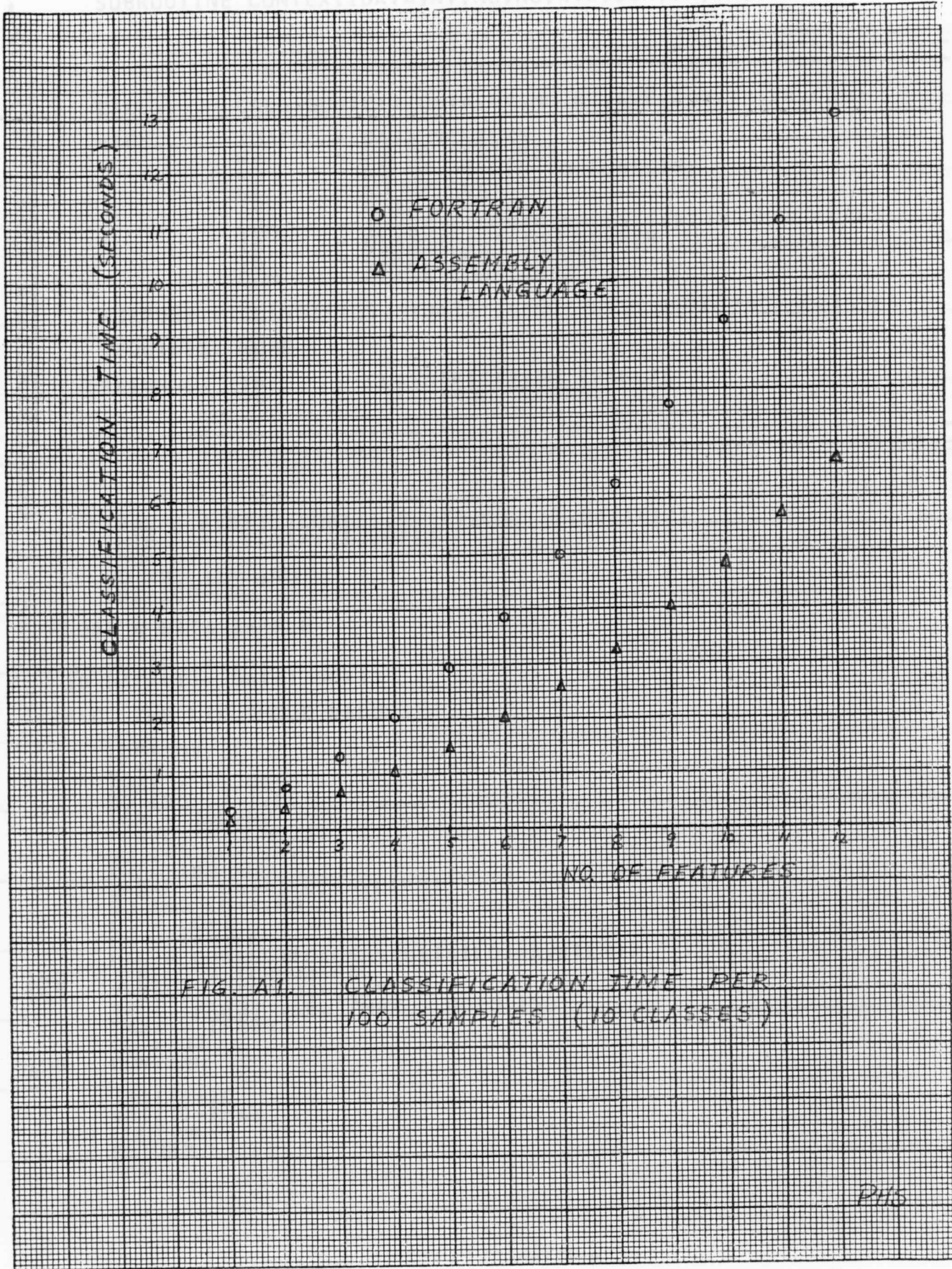
CLASSIFICATION TIME (SECONDS)

○ FORTRAN
△ ASSEMBLY LANGUAGE

NO. OF FEATURES

FIG. A1. CLASSIFICATION TIME PER 100 SAMPLES (10 CLASSES)

PHS



```

C //CONTEX
C SUBROUTINE CONTEX(IDATA,NV,NO,NC,AVE,COR,IR,VR,CON)
C-----
C
C CALL.. CALL CONTEX(IDATA,NV,NO,NC,AVE,COR,IR,VR,CON)
C
C ARGUS.. IDATA - DATA VECTORS
C          NV    - NO OF FEATURES
C          NO    - NO OF POINTS TO CLASSIFY
C          NC    - NO OF CLASSES
C          AVE   - MEAN VECTORS
C          COR   - INVERSE COVARIANCES (TRIANGULAR FORM)
C          IR    - CLASSIFICATION BUFFER
C          VR    - LIKELIHOOD BUFFER
C          CON   - CLASS CONSTANTS
C
C PURPOSE.. CLASSIFIES 'IDATA' ('NO' PTS) INTO 'NC' CLASSES
C
C REQUIRES. NONE
C
C RETURNS. IR    - CLASSIFICATION RESULTS
C          VR    - LIKELIHOOD BUFFER
C-----
C
C
C REAL*4 AVE(1),COR(1),VR(1),CON(1),DATA(12)
C INTEGER*2 IDATA(1),IR(1)
C IBD=-NV
C DO 200 II=1,NO
C IBD=IBD+NV
C
C C FLOAT A DATA SAMPLE
C C
C DO 10 I=1,NV
C 10 DATA(I)=IDATA(IBD+I)
C
C C CALC. THE LIKLIHOOD VALUES
C C
C IBM=-NV
C LC=0
C TMAX = -1.0E60
C DO 150 JJ=1,NC
C IBM = IBM+NV
C TFREQJ = CON(JJ)
C DO 145 KD=1,NV
C KM = IBM+KD
C DKDKM = DATA(KD)-AVE(KM)
C DO 140 LD=1,KD
C LC = LC+1
C LM = IBM+LD
C FAC = COR(LC)*DKDKM*(DATA(LD)-AVE(LM))
C 140 TFREQJ = TFREQJ-FAC
C 145 TFREQJ = TFREQJ+0.5*FAC
C IF ( TFREQJ .LE. TMAX ) GOTO 150
C TMAX = TFREQJ
C IC = JJ
C 150 CONTINUE
C
C IR(II)=IC
C VR(II)=TMAX
C 200 CONTINUE
C RETURN
C END

```

Figure A-2. FORTRAN Classifier


```

*
* IBM=-NV
*
*      L      IBM,NV
*     LCR     IBM,IBM
*
* LC=0
*
*      SR      LC,LC
*
* TMAX=-1.0E60
*
*      LE      TMAX,=E'-1.0E60'
*
* DO 150 JJ=1,NC
*
*      L      JJ,ONE
*
* IBM=IBM+NV
*
* DO150  A      IBM,NV
*
* TFREQJ=CON(JJ)
*
*      LR      SUB,JJ
*      SLA     SUB,2
*      L       REG2,CONBASE
*      AR      REG2,SUB
*      LE      TFREQJ,0(REG2)
*
* DO 145 KD=1,NV
*
*      L      KD,ONE
*
* KM=IBM+KD
*
* DO145  LR      KM,IBM
*        AR      KM,KD
*
* DKDKM=DATA(KD)-AVE(KM)
*
*      LR      SUB,KD
*      SLA     SUB,2
*      LE      DKDKM,DATA-4(SUB)
*      LR      SUB,KM
*      SLA     SUB,2
*      SE      DKDKM,0(SUB,AVEBASE)
*
* DO 140 LD=1,KD
*
*      L      LD,ONE
*
* LC=LC+1
*
* DO140  LA      LC,1(LC)
*
* LM=IBM+LD
*
*      LR      LM,IBM
*      AR      LM,LD
*
* FAC=COR(LC)*DKDKM*(DATA(LD)-AVE(LM))
*
*      LR      SUB,LD
*      SLA     SUB,2
*      LE      FAC,DATA-4(SUB)
*      LR      SUB,LM
*      SLA     SUB,2
*      SE      FAC,0(SUB,AVEBASE)
*      MER     FAC,DKDKM

```

```

LR      SUB,LC
SLA     SUB,2
ME      FAC,0(SUB,CORBASE)
*
*   TFREQJ=TFREQJ-FAC
*
SER     TFREQJ,FAC
LA      LD,1(LD)
CR      LD,KD
BNH     DO140
*
*   TFREQJ=TFREQJ+0.5*FAC
*
ME      FAC,=E*0.5'
AER     TFREQJ,FAC
LA      KD,1(KD)
C       KD,NV
BNH     DO145
*
*   IF(TFREQJ.LE.TMAX) GO TO 150
*
CER     TFREQJ,TMAX
BNH     ST150
*
*   TMAX=TFREQJ
*
LER     TMAX,TFREQJ
*
*   IC=JJ
*
LR      IC,JJ
LA      JJ,1(JJ)
C       JJ,NC
BNH     DO150
*
*   IR(II)=IC
*
L       SUB,II
SLA     SUB,1
L       REG2,IRBASE
AR      REG2,SUB
STH     IC,0(REG2)
*
*   VR(II)=TMAX
*
SLA     SUB,1
L       REG2,VRBASE
AR      REG2,SUB
STE     TMAX,0(REG2)
L       REG2,II
LA      REG2,1(REG2)
C       REG2,NO
BNH     DO200
*
*   RETURN
*
L       0,20(13)
L       1,24(13)
L       2,28(13)
L       3,32(13)
L       4,36(13)
L       5,40(13)
L       6,44(13)
L       7,48(13)
L       8,52(13)
L       9,56(13)
L       10,60(13)
L       11,64(13)
L       12,68(13)
L       14,12(13)

```

```

MVI 12(13),X'FF'
BR 14
*
* STORAGE
*
TEMPM3 DS 0D
TEMP DC X'4E000000'
MASK DC 1F
DC D'0'
*
ONE DC F'1'
TWO DC F'2'
FOUR DC F'4'
*
II DS 1F
NV DS 1F
NO DS 1F
NC DS 1F
IDBASE DS 1F
IRBASE DS 1F
VRBASE DS 1F
CONBASE DS 1F
DATA DS 12F
*
END
/*
/ε

```

Figure A-3. Concluded