

Prediction of Phosphorus Content in Different Plants: Comparison of PLSR and SVMR Methods

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Abstract: Phosphorus is one of the important biochemical components of plant organic matter and it helps to maintain the health of the plants. This study is conducted in some part of Aurangabad region, aimed to compare the PLSR and SVMR methods for predicting the phosphorus (Cp) content available in leaves in different plants using spectroscopy in Vis-NIR reflectance spectroscopy. A total 38 leaf samples taken from jawar and maize plants were collected. In the plant 35% to 40% phosphorus content were found.

Keywords: Spectroscopy, phosphorus content (Cp), leaf, Vis-NIR, fieldspec4

1. INTRODUCTION

Plant organic matter such as nitrogen phosphorus and potassium are important biochemical components for metabolic processing. Therefore it is important to estimate the biochemical components. Earlier the analysis can be done using chemical method gives the accurate result but the chemical method is very much time consuming and complex.

The use of imaging spectroscopic analysis methods to estimate the nutrient status of maturing crops may save time, and scale back the value related to sampling and analysis. Imaging spectrographic analysis is a technology that result in getting data in narrow (<10 nm) and contiguous spectral bands. These narrow spectral bands allow the detection of some spectral features that masked within the broader bands of the multispectral scanner. [1]

The correct determination of phosphorus content in soils and plants is extremely important for agricultural science and practice. Phosphorus participates in a number of processes determining the growth, development and the productivity of the plant: formation of cell nucleus and cell multiplication, synthesis of lipids and specific proteins, transmission of hereditary properties, breathing and photosynthesis, energy transmission from richer to poorer energetic compounds, etc. It is very important to know the phosphorus status of soils to determine the necessity for phosphorus fertilizer use. Phosphorus is absorbed by the plants from soil in the form of phosphate ions. Phosphorus is a constituent of cell membranes, certain proteins, all nucleic acids and nucleotides, and is required for all phosphorylation reactions.[2] Phosphorus is known to be unique for its sensitivity and stability as a human activity indicator. Its content in soil represents a great interest

to archaeologists, giving them information on type and intensity of human activity. Total phosphorus measurement gives quantitative results in contrast to mobile phosphorus and represents the best indicator for variation caused by human activity. [3]

L.K. Christensen used partial least square regression. PLSR was used on continuous spectra in the range 400-750 nm and the total N and P contents were established through chemical analyses and used as references. He was predicted P content with 74% accuracy based on the canopy spectral reflectance. He investigates the spectral reflectance in the visual range as a potential indicator for estimating nitrogen and phosphorus content in spring barley at three early growth stages. [4]

To develop calibration equations, multiple linear regression, and partial least-squares regression (PLSR) were used. This study compares between MLR and PLSR in the spectral range 1100-2500 nm. [5] Agustin Pimstein used vegetation indices and PLSR. In that study he uses specific narrow band vegetation indices instead of tradition broad band indices. It was observed that a significant improvement is obtained when the mineral total content is considered instead of the relative content. Therefore it was suggested that the biomass should also be retrieved from the spectral data. [6]

Yanfeng Zhai study was based on eight different plants. He used the PLSR and SVMR. For implementation of PLSR used the parles 3.0 software and for SVMR uses the LIBSVM library. For some crop, he used the PLSR and for other SVMR. He concluded that the SVMR method combined with Vis-NIR reflectance has the potential to estimate the contents of biochemical components of different plants. [7]

Liu Yanli studied that upper side or lower side of leaves give the better spectral signature. The linear of PLS model and nonlinear of LS-SVM model fit better with spectral data of the

upper side and lower side of leaves, respectively. He used 400-1000nm wavelength sensitive to phosphorus content. [8] Stepwise linear regression was used to select wavelengths to investigate relationships between laboratory analysis results and spectral data. 400-900nm wavelength sensitive to phosphorus content. [9] The results of the experiment demonstrated that radiometric measurements can be used for

monitoring of N, P, S and K status in a wheat crop. Correlation analysis of nutrient status with leaf and canopy reflectance showed presence of responsive wavelengths to variable N, P, S and K status in wheat. [10] Osborne et al. used linear regression models that included reflectance at 730 and 930 nm for predicting P concentration in corn. [11]

Name	Algorithm	Elements	Spectral range	Plant
L.K. Chirstensen	PLS	Nitrogen and phosphorus	400-750nm	Spring Barley
C. petisco	MLR and PLSR	nitrogen, phosphorus and calcium	1100 to 2,500 nm	Woody plant species
Agustin Pimstein	Vegetation indices and PLSR	potassium and phosphorus	1400–1500nm and 1900–2100nm	Wheat
Yanfang Zhai	PLSR and SVMR	Nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium	350–730 nm and 1420–1800 nm	rice, corn, sesame, soybean, tea, grass, shrub, and arbour
Liu Yanli	PLS and LS-SVM	Nitrogen and phosphorus	400-1000nm	Citrus leaves

Table 1.1: different method that estimate biochemical content

2. MATERIALS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Study Area

The study area is Aurangabad city. Samples of leaf mainly collected from three areas Devlai, Waluj (19.850670, 75.263130) and BAMU University with jawar, maize crop. Aurangabad city is located within the Maharashtra.

2.2 Spectral Measurements and Pre-Processing of Leaf Samples

A total 38 samples were collected between 24 to 30 march 2017, from two types of plants including jawar and maize between 1pm to 5pm. The sampling sites were randomly selected based on the land areas of these plants. The leaves without leaf stalk on upper layer of canopy were cut and kept fresh in plastic bag for less than 8 hours before spectral reflectance were measured. The spectral reflectance of leaf samples measured using a FieldSpec4 spectroradiometer. [12] The spectroradiometer has a spectral range from 350 to 2500nm. It's sampling interval 3nm (from 350 to 1000nm) to 10nm (from 1000 to 2500nm). For illumination purpose a 50 W quartz halogen lamp was set over, the leaf samples at a distance of 30cm and a distance between lamp and gun is 37 cm.

The samples were put evenly on black sheet paper. The white reflectance panel was used to optimize the signal and calibrate the accuracy and detector response. Each sample was scanned 10 times within 180° rotation. Taking the mean of these 10 readings for further processing. to remove the noise values below 400nm and above 2400nm were rejected.

Before predicting the models several preprocessing transformation techniques such as first derivative of original reflectance and reflectance transformation. Data visualization and preprocessing can be done using ViewSpec pro software (ASD Inc). [13] The prediction accuracy of the model for the calibration and validation datasets was been evaluated through parameters such as R² (Coefficient of Determination) is the correlation between predictable and observable variables, RMSE (Root Mean Square Error) provides direct assessment of modelling error expressed with original measurement unit and RPD(Residual Prediction Deviation).[14]

$$R^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (\hat{y}_i - \bar{y})^2}{\sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \bar{y})^2}$$

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2}{N}}$$

$$RPD = \frac{\sigma_{val}}{RMSE_v} \sqrt{n/n-1}$$

Where
 \hat{y}_i is the predicted value,
 y_i is the observed value,

\bar{y} is the mean of observed values,
N is the number of sample data.

2.3 Methodology

In this study partial least square regression and support vector machine regression these two methods used. These methods are as follows:

2.3.1 Plsr

Partial least squares (PLS) is a method for constructing predictive models when the factors are many and highly collinear. Note that the emphasis is on predicting the responses and not necessarily on trying to understand the underlying relationship between the variables. [15]The PLSR method is used to find the hyperplanes of maximum variance between predictable and observable variables and develops a linear model by projecting predictable and observable variables to a new space. [16][17]

$$Y = X\beta + \varepsilon$$

where Y is the vector of predictable variables (biochemical component contents in this study), X is the matrix of observable variables, which is a linear combination of a few latent potential factors (spectral reflectance in this study), β is the matrix of regression coefficients, and ε is the error matrix of the relationship between X and Y .

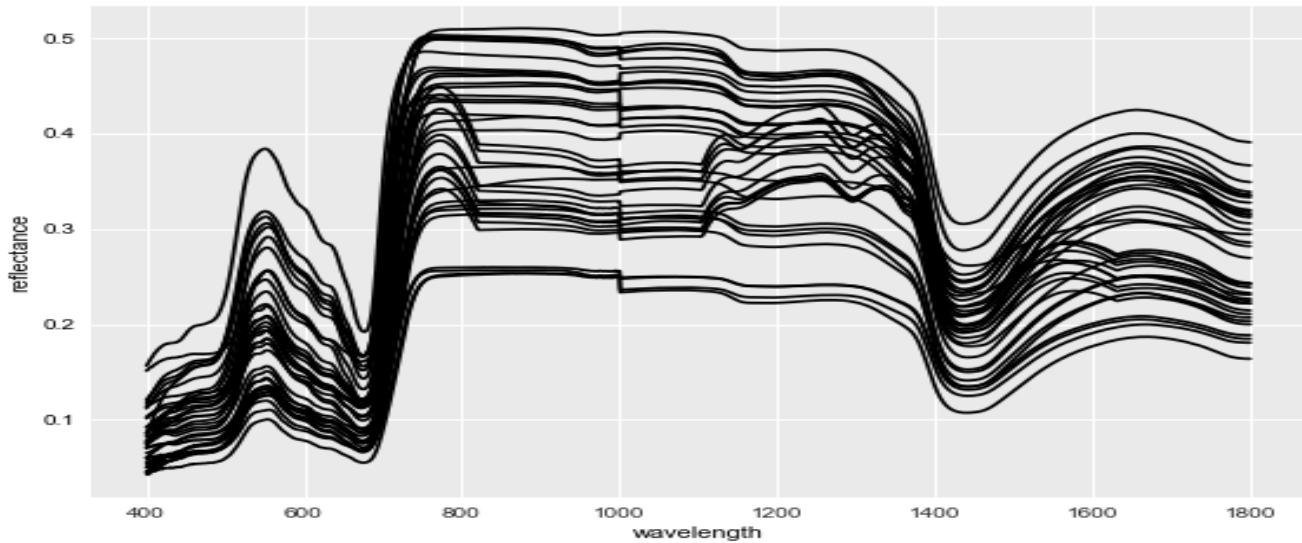
2.3.2 Svmr

The SVMR function can be expressed as [18]

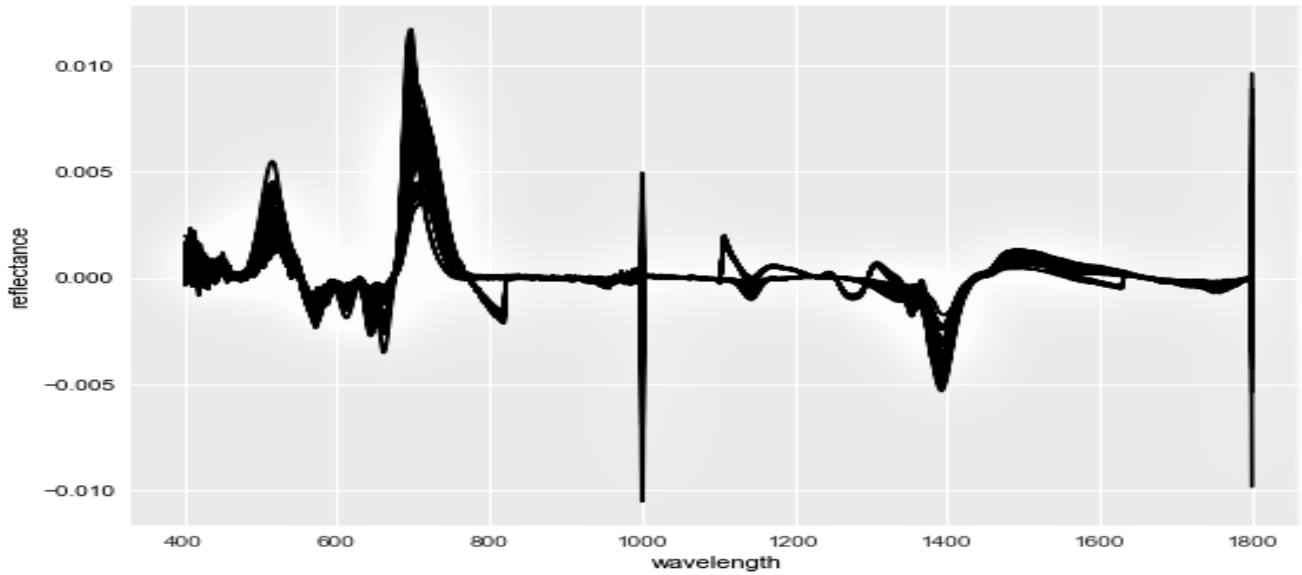
$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^M a_i y_i K(x_i, x) - b \quad 0 \leq a_i \leq C$$

where $K(x_i, x)$ is the kernel function, x_i is the input vector, x is an item used to create higher-dimensional feature space, y_i is the corresponding output vector, a_i is the Lagrange multiplier (called the support value), M is the number of samples, and b is the bias term. [19] The radial basis function (RBF) [20] was employed as the kernel function in this study:

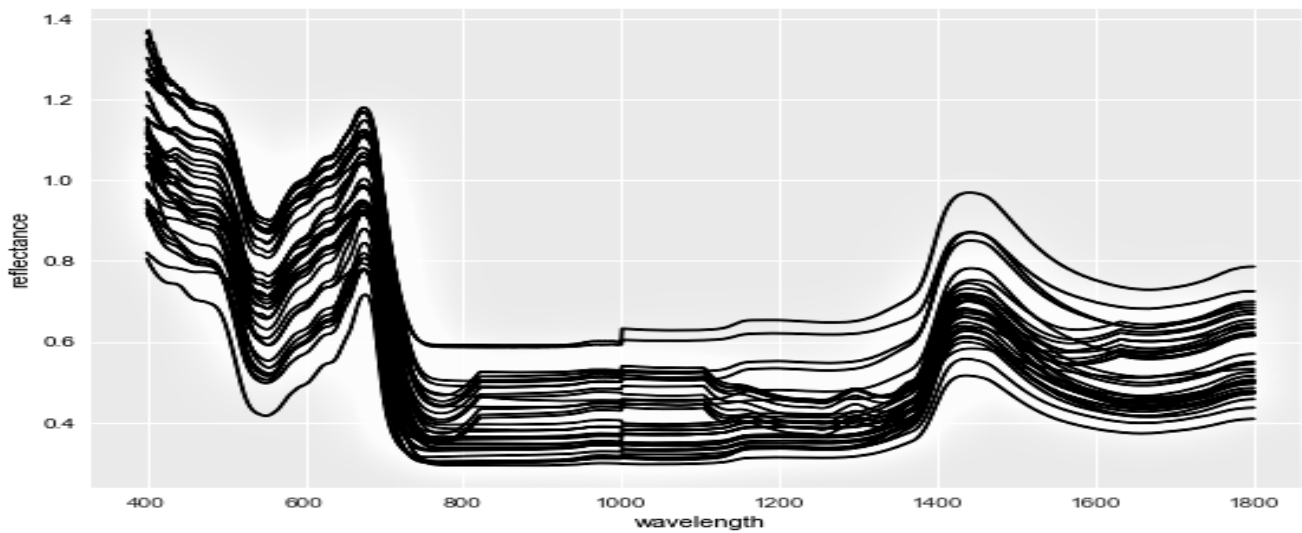
$$K(x_i, x) = e^{-\gamma(x_i - x)^2}$$



(a)



(b)



(c)

Figure 2.1: Average Spectral Reflectance curves (a) original spectral reflectance, (b) the first derivative of reflectance and (c) Reflectance transformation of the reflectance

2.4 Data Analysis

In this study, the PLSR and SVMR models for leaf sample was implemented within the Anaconda2 (32 bit) software used. [21] This software provides all packages that are required to implement model. In Anaconda2 Spyder 3.1.2 environment was

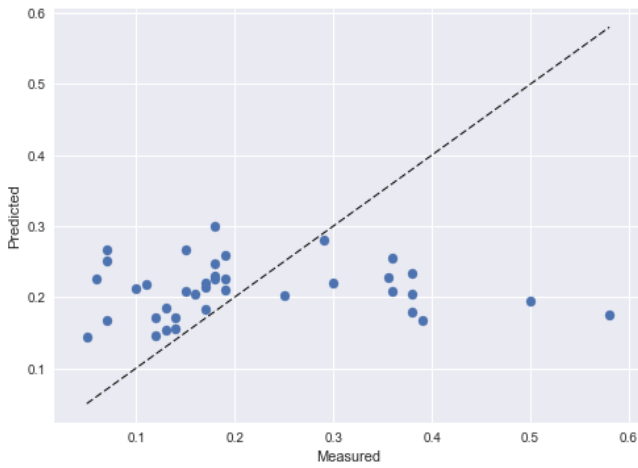
used for python programming .this environment used the python 2.7.13 version. Wavelength range between 400-1000nm we sensitive to phosphorus content

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

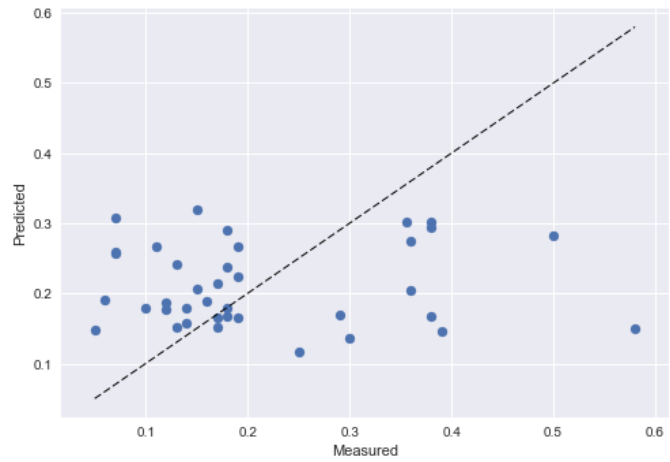
The average raw reflectance spectra of leaves of various plants had similar patterns as shown in figure 2.1. The descriptive statistics of Cp of the 38 leaf samples are shown in table 3.1. The maximum value is almost ten times the minimum value of Cp.

	Mean	SD	Median	Max	Min
Cp(%)	0.25	0.14	0.24	0.50	0.04

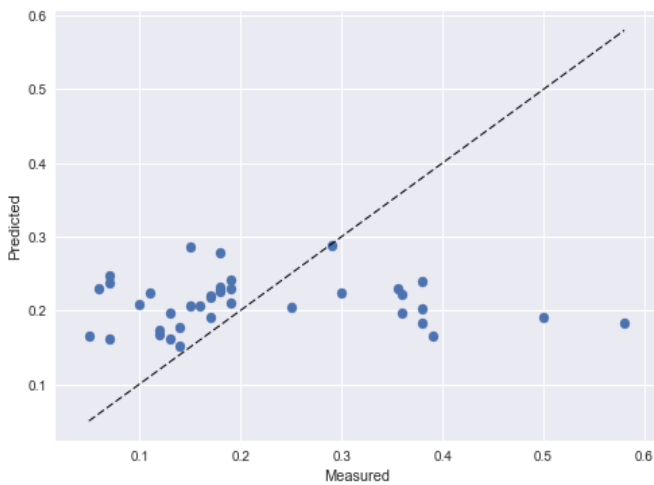
Table 3.1: Descriptive statistics of phosphorus (Cp) content in 38 leaf samples



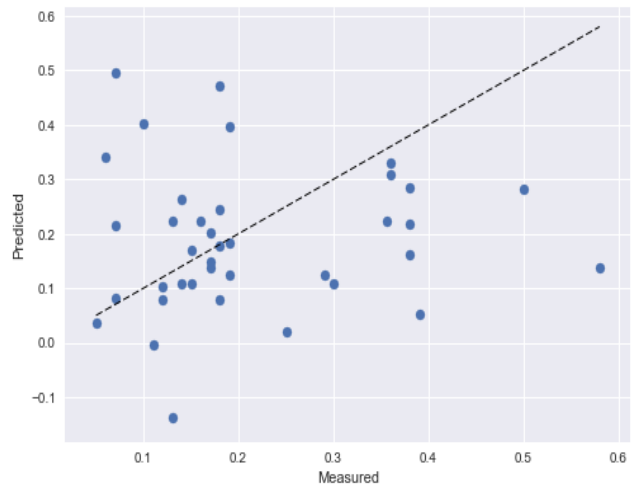
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

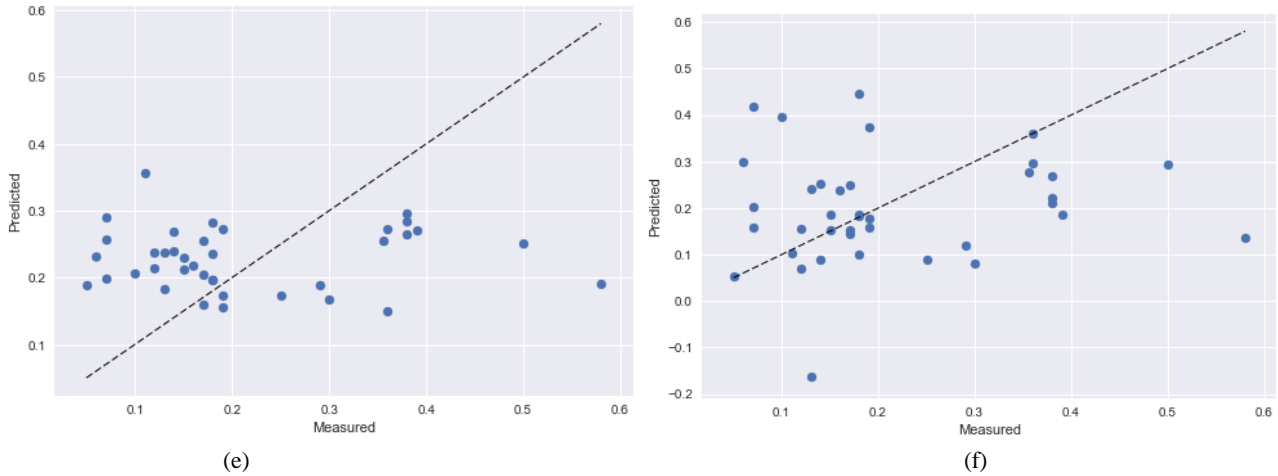


Figure 3.1: correlations between measured and estimated values of phosphorus contents in Partial Least Square Regression (PLSR) (a) original reflectance (b)1st derivative (c)reflectance transformation and Support Vector Machine Regression (SVMR) (d) original reflectance (e) 1st derivative (f) reflectance transformation

Pre processing tech	RMSE		R ²	
	Cal	Val	Cal	Val
Original reflectance	0.0793	0.0920	0.0573	0.1072
First derivative	0.1331	0.0926	0.2050	0.0947
Log(1/R)	0.1456	0.0935	0.0477	0.0780

(a)

Pre processing Tech	RMSE		R ²	
	Cal	Val	Cal	Val
Original reflectance	0.1449	0.0776	0.7172	0.3649
first derivative	0.0889	0.08095	0.6450	0.3085
Log(1/R)	0.0818	0.07865	0.6995	0.3473

(b)

Table 3.2: the results of model calibration and validation (a) PLSR (b) SVMR

In the PLSR model, considering raw spectral reflectance it gives poor performance for this model. When we done the preprocessing it gives better results as shown in the table 3.2(a). $\text{Log}(1/R)$ preprocessing method gives the poor performance ($R^2_v=0.0780$) while first derivative give better performance than $\text{Log}(1/R)$. In the SVMR model, considering raw spectral reflectance it gives poor or moderate results when estimating Cp ($R^2_v=0.365$). Preprocessing method results as shown in table 3.2(b).

The SVMR model gives the better results when estimating Cp as compared to PLSR model.

4. CONCLUSION

In this study, we compared PLSR and SVMR models for estimating the phosphorus content of leaves of two different crops with laboratory based Vis-NIR reflectance data. We concluded that the SVMR method after applying preprocessing method estimates biochemical content of different plants.

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