

**Review for Journal of Rock Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering - manuscript revision decision**

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Manuscript Number: JRMGE-D-24-00648R1

Minimum principal stress predicted model based on genetic expression programming using borehole breakout data

Rui Zhang; Jian Zhou

Dear Dr. Nguyen,

Thank you for reviewing the above referenced manuscript. With your help, I have reached a revise decision on this manuscript.

The anonymised comments to author, from all reviewers, are included below. You can also access this information by logging into Editorial Manager as a reviewer.

Thank you for your contribution and time in reviewing this manuscript, which not only assisted me in reaching my decision, but also enables the author(s) to disseminate their work at the highest possible quality. Please note you may be asked to review the revision of this paper in the future.

I am grateful to you for your assistance as a reviewer for Journal of Rock Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering.

Kind regards,

Xia-Ting Feng, Prof.

Editor in Chief

Journal of Rock Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering

Comments to author:

Reviewer #1: The authors have improved their manuscript based on my comments and the paper can be accepted for publication.

Reviewer #2: Perfect, the revised manuscript now can be accepted for publication with properly revisions.

Reviewer #3: This manuscript presents a minimum horizontal principal stress predict research based on genetic expression programming and borehole breakout data. The methodology used was well suited to the research context and the application perspective of constructing GEP models with different search capabilities to realize intelligent selection of input features is quite innovative. From the presentation of the study, the revised manuscript is informative, well-structured, and logically clear. The revised parts satisfy the comments of the former two reviewers very well. Overall, the manuscript has been well revised, the details of the structure and figures are well handled, and it is recommended to accept. Here are a few suggestions that might further enhance the quality of the manuscript.

(1) Although the distribution of the different parameters in the dataset is shown in Figure 4 as well, it is still recommended to add a statistical description of the parameters in the dataset to facilitate a better description of the dataset used.

(2) P6L183: It is recommended that the terminology relating to GEP in this sentence be consistent with Fig. 3.

(3) P6L199: It is recommended that "Functional Symbol Set" and "Terminal Symbol Set" be revised to be consistent with the previous formulation.

(4) P8L241: Suggested replacement for "therefore", an adverb already used in the previous sentence.

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