

Research Article

Discriminant Model of Coal Mining Microseismic and Blasting Signals Based on Waveform Characteristics

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Generally, there are two important types of microseismic (MS) signals caused by mining and blasting activities at coal mines. The waveform characteristics of MS signals using FFT, STA/LTA method, and envelope analysis were studied to distinguish these two types of MS signals. The main results are as follows: the dominant frequency and duration of two types of signals are significantly different. The following peak envelope curves of two types of MS signals fit a power function. The power exponent was obtained to describe the attenuated speed of the MS signals. The attenuation of the coal mining MS signals is slower and more fluctuant than that of the blasting signal. Waveform characteristics consisting of the dominant frequency, duration, and attenuation coefficient were extracted as the discriminating parameters. The discriminating performance of these parameters was compared and discussed. Based on the waveform characteristics, a discriminant model for coal mining MS and blasting signals was established by using Fisher linear discriminant method and its performance was checked. The results show that the accuracy of the discriminant model is more than 85%, which can meet the requirements of MS monitoring at coal mines.

1. Introduction

The rockburst is a sudden, violent fracture of rock mass in tunnels and mines, generally caused by failure of highly stressed rock and the rapid instantaneous release of accumulated stain energy [1-3]. The rockburst often causes coal mass failure, roadways collapse, casualties, mining equipment, ground building damage, and so on. The occurrence of the rockburst is accompanied by many small energy microseismic activities which are of great importance for rockburst research [4]. A MS monitoring system installed in a mine can monitor the state of the rock mass by analyzing the MS events caused by the mining activities. The core parts of the MS monitoring system include the layout of the monitoring network, data processing, MS source location, and MS early warning [5]. One of the challenges of the data processing is to identify the MS signals caused by coal mining activities among the many interference signals [6–8]. In these complex waveforms, the blasting signals are dominant and

can be easily confused with the coal mining MS signals. Thus, distinguishing between the coal mining MS signals and blasting signals becomes the main task of data processing and worth further study.

Recently, MS monitoring systems were widely installed in coal mines in China, and considerable MS data has been recorded. However, little attention has been paid to the discrimination of coal mining MS signals and blasting signals and there is also lack of related literature based on waveform analysis. By contrast, the discrimination of earthquake signals against those of nuclear explosions has been studied extensively. The widely used methods of discrimination can be divided into two categories. One is based on source or waveform characteristics which includes the source location, source depth, origin time, direction of first motion of P wave, ratio of surface wave magnitude to body wave magnitude, ratio of P wave first arrival amplitude to maximum amplitude, and ratio of P wave spectral amplitude to S wave spectral amplitude [9–11]. The other is based on statistical identification which includes Fisher discriminant classifier, logistic regression, unascertained measurement, and neural networks [12–14].

Studies on MS signals were also conducted in non-coal mines. Dong analyzed the source parameters of blasting and MS events of three mines in Australia and Canada and established three statistical discriminant models by the Fisher classifier, the naive Bayesian classifier, and the logistic Regression. The classification performances and discriminant precision of three statistical techniques were discussed and compared [8, 15]. Ma et al. analyzed seven parameters to distinguish between mining MS signals and blasting signals in a phosphorite mine, based on which, two statistical discriminant models were proposed by the Bayesian classifier and the Fisher classifier. Their models were more accurate than traditional methods [16, 17]. Based on the works of Booker and Taylor, Malovichko applied a multivariate maximum-likelihood Gaussian classifier technique to discriminate between mining MS and blasting events. Analysis of a large number of events showed that approximately 20% (1431 out of 7053) of MS mining events were reclassified as blasting events [7]. Vallejos and Mckinnon applied logical regression and neural network modeling to classify mine earthquake and blasting events. The location error and 13 seismic parameters provided by full-waveform system of ESG were used to calibrate the models. The logical regression and neural network approaches can effectively classify different event categories under nonlinear conditions [18]. Zhao et al. decompose the signals in time and frequency domains, and time-frequency characteristics of two kinds of waveforms are analyzed. The results showed that the energy of MS signals was mainly concentrated in the lower frequency band than blast vibration signals [19]. Pan et al. proposed a comprehensive analysis method to identify and calibrate microseismic events by using STA/LTA method and waveform information [20]. Zhu et al. analyzed the fractal dimension box of specified frequency bands through the wavelet analysis and the fractal theory and obtained 23dimensional values of pattern recognition feature vector. Finally, a SVM network model was established to recognize MS events, but the efficiency of identification still needs further improvement [21]. Jiang et al. presented a strategy for classifying local multichannels MS waveforms, triggered by a single event. However, the method required a lot of computation and the efficiency of identification needs further improvement [22]. Li et al. analyzed the characteristics of coal mining MS and blasting signals using the Hilbert-Huang Transform (HHT) method, but, no clear line of demarcation between these characteristics of the two types of signals was obtained [23].

As the geological conditions in coal mine areas are complex and the transmission medium is not homogenous, the MS signals in coal mines are more complicated than those in non-coal mines and natural earthquakes. Thus, it is difficult to differentiate the two kinds of signals with high precision. Moreover, because most MS monitoring sensors used in coal mines are single component and the monitoring region is small, the difference between the propagation time of the P waves and S waves produced by the rupture of coal and rock is small. The S waves are likely to overlap the P coda waves, making it difficult to detect them. Therefore, the recognition method, utilizing the P/S-wave energy ratio which is widely used to identify nuclear explosion signals and natural earthquake signals, is not suitable for coal mines. In this paper we analyzed three significant characteristics of these two types of signals using the Fourier transform (FFT), short-term averaging/long-term averaging (STA/LTA), and envelope analysis. Based on the characteristics, a discriminant model for coal mining MS signals and blasting signals, with the help of Fisher linear discriminant method, is established, which are useful to improve the efficiency of automatic discrimination and reduce the workload of artificial discrimination.

2. Outline of the Mine and MS Monitoring System

2.1. Coal Mine and Field MS Site Description. The Qianqiu coal mine is located at Sanmenxia city, Henan province, China, with a history of rockburst. It is one of the core mines in the Yima Coal Group with the annual coal production of 2.1 million tons. The number 21 mining district was the main production area and the number 21141 working face was the main mining face when this work was conducted. As shown in Figure 1, the 21141 is a longwall panel in the number 21 mining district with a dimension of 1500 m \times 130 m. The average overburden depth is 684.4 m, and the average coal seam thickness and dip angle are 10.6 m and 13°, respectively. The number 21121 goaf and number 21161 virgin field are located in the northern and southern side of number 21141 longwall panel, respectively. The immediate roof of the coal seam is composed of dark grey mudstone with the thickness of 23.02–27.63 m. The main roof is composed of mottled sand, conglomerates, and sandstone with an average thickness of 612 m. The huge thick gravel roof can easily accumulate a great deal of elastic energy which can be released suddenly during the process of fracturing or sliding, leading to a rockburst. According to the field statistical analysis, 5 rockbursts occurred within 100-200 m of the working face and 9 rockbursts occurred more than 200 m from the working face from 2008 to 2012.

2.2. The MS Monitoring System. The rockbursts and mine earthquakes have become more and more severe with the increase of mining depth and intensity. To monitor these mining induced seismic activities, the ARAMIS M/E MS monitoring system was installed in the Qianqiu coal mine. This system was developed by EMAG mining automation center, Poland. MS signals are recorded by the SPI-70 microseismic sensors and transmitted these signals to the data analysis center by the digital transmission system (DTSS). The system can monitor events with energy greater than 100J, frequency less than 250 Hz, and dynamic ranges less than 100 dB. The MS technique has been a daily rockburst monitoring tool because of the real time monitoring capability, source location, events energy calculations, and rockbursts risk assessment. The ARAMIS M/E MS monitoring system at



FIGURE 1: Number 21141 longwall panel and layout of the ARAMIS M/E system sensors network.

the Qianqiu coal mine is equipped with 16 MS sensors, S1, S2, ..., S16. The layout of the MS monitoring network is shown in Figure 1.

2.3. Sample Database. The MS events recorded by the ARAMIS MS monitoring system can be divided into two main categories: (1) coal mining MS events, which refer to the vibration caused by mining; they contain abundant information on the fracturing of the coal and rock; (2) blasting events, which refer to the vibration caused by blasting. The type of recorded event was manually confirmed and marked with different symbols in the database of ARAMIS system. To establish discriminant model of coal mining MS and blasting signals, fifty coal mining MS events and fifty blasting events were randomly selected as the training sample; the other fifty coal mining MS events and fifty blasting events were selected as the testing sample. As the distance between sensors and hypocenter increases, the attenuation and changes of signals become stronger. Therefore, the earliest available signal, received by the nearest sensor from the source, should be selected as the representative signal of the event. Finally, a total of one hundred training sample signals and one hundred testing sample signals are obtained.

3. Characteristics of the Coal Mining MS and Blasting Signals

3.1. Spectral Characteristics of the Coal Mining MS and Blasting Signals

3.1.1. Fourier Transform Method. In the field of frequency spectrum analysis, the fast Fourier transform (FFT) is often

used to convert signals from the time domain into the frequency domain [24, 25]. The theoretical basis of FFT is as follows: any function that satisfies the Dirichlet condition can be expressed as a sum of sinusoidal functions of different frequencies. The proportion of sine waves of frequency w in these signals is given by [26]

$$F(w) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) e^{-jwt} dt.$$
 (1)

3.1.2. Dominant Frequency Statistics for the Coal Mining MS and Blasting Signals. For the signal processing in this work, the MATLAB command FFT was used to perform the frequency spectrum analysis. The dominant frequencies of 100 training sample signals (50 coal mining signals and 50 blasting signals) were obtained and analyzed statistically. As shown in Figure 2, the dominant frequencies lie in the band of below 150 Hz. The majority of the coal mining MS signals fall within the low-frequency range while most of the blasting signals are in the high-frequency range. Below 80 Hz there are 39 signals, which are 78% of all the coal mining MS signals. Above 80 Hz there are 42 signals, comprising 84% of all the blasting signals. The results demonstrate that the dominant frequency of the coal mining MS signals is generally lower than that of the blasting signals. Thus the dominant frequency can be an important index for distinguishing the two types of signals.

3.2. Duration of the Coal Mining MS and Blasting Signals

3.2.1. Calculating the Signal Duration. The duration of the signals is the time from the arrival time to the end of undulations (Figure 3). We define T_{start} as the arrival time and

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FIGURE 2: Distribution of the dominant frequency of coal mining MS and blasting signals.



FIGURE 3: Diagram illustrating the arrival and termination times of a coal mining MS signal.

 T_{end} as the terminate time of a wave. For the sample frequency f_{s} , the duration is given by

$$T_L = \frac{(T_{\rm end} - T_{\rm start})}{f_s}.$$
 (2)

The arrival time and termination time can be determined by the short-term average/long-term average (STA/LTA) method as [27–29]

$$R_{i} = \frac{\text{STA}}{\text{LTA}} (i) = \frac{n_{l}}{n_{s}} \frac{\sum_{j=i-n_{s}}^{i} \text{CF}(j)}{\sum_{j=i-n_{l}}^{i} \text{CF}(j)},$$
(3)

where i is the sampling moment, which represents the common position of short time window and long time window. j ranges in each of short time and long time window, and



Blasting signal

FIGURE 4: Duration distribution of coal mining MS and blasting signals recorded in the coal mine.

it is used to calculate average values of signal amplitude in the windows. n_l is the length of the long time window, and n_s is the length of the short time window. CF(*i*) represents the characterization function at point *i*. In practice, CF(*i*) is often replaced with the signal energy or the absolute value of amplitude. When the ratio $R_i > \lambda$ (λ is the trigger threshold), an event is detected. Thus, automatic recognition and arrival picking can be implemented. In this study, the values for T_{start} are $n_l = 50$ (sampling points), $n_s = 20$ (sampling points), and $\lambda = 2$ and the values for T_{end} are $n_l = 50$ (sampling points), n_s = 20 (sampling points), and $\lambda = 1.5$.

3.2.2. Duration Statistics of the Coal Mining MS and Blasting Signals. Taking one of the coal mining MS signals as an example, the STA/LTA time series of the arrival time and terminate time are shown in Figure 3. The windows move from the first point to the last point for picking T_{start} , and the windows move from the last point to the first point for picking T_{end} . The coal mining MS signal starts at the 920th data point and ends at the 1398th data point in Figure 3. So the duration is T = (1398 - 920)/500 = 0.956 s according to (2).

Figure 4 shows the durations of 100 training sample signals. The duration distribution of all the signals is in the range of $0.5 \sim 6$ s; most of the coal mining MS signals last longer than the blasting signals. With 2 s as the dividing line, 44 signals lasted $2 \sim 6$ s, making up 88% of the coal mining signals and 35 signals lasted $0.5 \sim 2$ s, contributing 70% of the blasting signals. Therefore, the duration of the signal can be another important index to differentiate between the coal mining MS and blasting signals in coal mines.

3.3. Attenuation Characteristics of the Coal Mining MS and Blasting Signals

3.3.1. Calculating the Attenuation Coefficient. We defined the period from the peak point of the MS waveform (maximum





FIGURE 5: Following peak attenuation curve of typical coal mining MS signal.

amplitude) to the corresponding point of terminate time as the attenuation of the MS signal. The following peak attenuation curve is proposed for quantitative analysis of the MS signal attenuation. In Figure 5, $T_{\rm high}$ is the time of peak point, $T_{\rm end}$ is the termination time, the envelope fitting curve from $T_{\rm high}$ to $T_{\rm end}$ is defined as the following peak attenuation curve.

To investigate the following attenuation curve, the envelope curve should be obtained first. The steps to obtain the envelope curve are as follows:

- (1) Picking all the peaks of the waveform
- (2) Interpolating the discrete peaks using cubic spline interpolation to obtain a complete envelope curve.

The cubic spline interpolation [30, 31] is based on the following method: the interval [*a b*] is divided as $a \le x_0 < x_1 < \cdots < x_n \le b$. For the point $x_i, y_i = f(x_i)$, if the function S(x) is cubic polynomial in every small interval $[x_i, x_{i+1}]$ and also has second-order continuous derivatives in [*a*, *b*], S(x) is regarded as a cubic spline function in [*a b*]. Moreover, if S(x) satisfies

$$S(x_i) = y_i$$
 (*i* = 0, 1, ..., *n*) (4)

after derivation, the expression of S(x) is

$$S(x) = \alpha_{i}(x) y_{i} + \alpha_{i+1}(x) y_{i+1} + \beta_{i}(x_{i}) m_{i} + \beta_{i+1} m_{i+1},$$

$$x \in [x_{i}, x_{i+1}].$$
(5)

To study the function form corresponding to the following peak envelope curve of the coal mining MS and blasting signals recorded in the mine and then to describe the signal attenuation process quantitatively, it is necessary to fit the following peak envelope curve of the signals. Gao et al. found that the shock vibration energy in rock-soil medium diminished in a power relation with respect to the travel distance [32]. This power function is adopted here to investigate the attenuation of the recorded signals:

$$y = ax^b, (6)$$

where y is the amplitude of the signal, x is the sampled point, and a and b are the fitting parameters corresponding to the peak value and attenuation rate, respectively. Generally speaking, the energy of the signal decreases more rapidly when the absolute of b (|b|) increases; thus, |b| is called the attenuation coefficient. The fitting precision is represented by the adjusted *R*-squared value, which is a calibration correlation coefficient and is widely used in Origin and MATLAB. A coefficient value close to 1 indicates a highfitting precision and stable attenuation of the signal's energy.

3.3.2. Statistics of Attenuation Coefficient and Fitting Precision. Taking the coal mining MS signal in Figure 3 as an example, the envelope curve of the waveform is given by the cubic spline interpolation and the termination time point is determined by the STA/LTA method. The fitted envelope curve stretching from the maximum amplitude point to the termination time point is shown in Figure 6. The attenuation coefficient of the signal is 27.73 with a fitting precision (Adj. *R*-square) of 0.96, indicating that the following peak envelope curve satisfies the power function.

The fitting precision and attenuation coefficient of 100 training sample signals are obtained as shown in Figure 7. Figure 7(a) shows the distribution of the fitting precision of the following peak attenuation curve. Of the 100 sampled signals, 93% show a fitting precision above 0.8, indicating that the attenuation curve of both types of signals satisfy the power function. The fitting precision of the following peak attenuation curve of the coal mining MS signals is mainly within 0.8~1, with 42% between 0.8 and 0.9 and 48% between 0.9 and 1. The fitting precision of the following peak attenuation curve of the blasting signal is higher, with 84% of the signals falling in the range of 0.9~1. Therefore, in most



FIGURE 6: Envelope curve and following peak attenuation curve of a coal mining MS signal.



FIGURE 7: Distribution of fitting precision and attenuation coefficient of all the signals.

cases, the fitting precision of the attenuation curve of the coal mining MS signals is lower than that of the blasting signals. The main reason is that the attenuation of the coal mining MS signals often fluctuates while the attenuation of the blasting signals is rapid and steady.

Figure 7(b) shows the distribution of the attenuation coefficient for the coal mining MS and blasting signals, which is generally within the range of 2~25. The attenuation coefficients of the coal mining MS signals are smaller than those of the blasting signals, which demonstrates the slower damping of the coal mining MS signals. Among all the coal mining MS signals (78%) are located in the range 2~8. Among all the blasting signals, the attenuation coefficients of 35 signals (70%) are located in the 8~25 range. This demonstrates that

the attenuation coefficient can reflect the difference between the two kinds of signals and can be used as an important index to distinguish between the two types of signals.

4. Discriminant Model of the Coal Mining MS and Blasting Signals

4.1. Fisher Linear Discriminant. Pattern recognition is an emerging subject in the 1960s. After decades of research, it has been successfully used in various fields. For instance, it has been applied to analyze nuclear explosion and earthquakes and has achieved some results [12–14]. However, it is seldom applied in the discrimination of coal mining MS signals and blasting signals. Considering that there is a lack of the corresponding geophysical models and equations in the

discrimination of coal mining MS signals and blasting signals and the data are not subject to the classical statistics, so the pattern recognition has become an effective research method. The pattern recognition methods include Bayes method, minimum distance method, ICHAM, Fisher, SVM, and BEG, in which Fisher linear discriminant analysis has been widely used in seismology. Therefore, this paper introduces the Fisher linear discriminant analysis for the discrimination of coal mining MS signals and blasting signals.

The basic principle of Fisher linear discriminant analysis is to project multidimensional and multiclass data to the same direction and separate two or more classes [15, 17]. In fact, it is a dimension reduction process. Suppose the number of collectivity is m, that is, G_1, G_2, \ldots, G_m . The corresponding mean vectors and covariance matrices are $\mu^{(1)}, \mu^{(2)}, \ldots, \mu^{(m)}$ and $V^{(1)}, V^{(2)}, \ldots, V^{(m)}$, respectively. The number of n_i samples is selected from the total samples, as follows [33, 34]:

$$X_{\alpha}^{(i)} = \left\{ x_{\alpha 1}^{(i)}, x_{\alpha 2}^{(i)}, \dots, x_{\alpha p}^{(i)} \right\}^{T}$$

$$(\alpha = 1, 2, \dots, n_{i}; \ i = 1, 2, \dots, m).$$
(7)

 $\mu^T X_{\alpha}^{(i)}$ is the projection of $X_{\alpha}^{(i)}$ on the axis, which is defined as

$$\mu^{T} X_{\alpha}^{(i)} = \left\{ \mu_{1} x_{\alpha 1}^{(i)}, \mu_{2} x_{\alpha 2}^{(i)}, \dots, \mu_{p} x_{\alpha p}^{(i)} \right\}^{T}$$

$$(i = 1, 2, \dots, m)$$

$$\overline{X}^{(i)} = \frac{1}{n_{i}} \sum_{i=1}^{n_{i}} X_{(\alpha)}^{(i)}$$

$$\overline{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \sum_{\alpha=1}^{n_{i}} X_{(\alpha)}^{(i)}$$

$$n = \sum_{i=1}^{m} n_{i},$$
(8)

where $\overline{X}^{(i)}$ and \overline{X} are the intergroup average and the total average, respectively. The intergroup difference is as follows:

$$e = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \sum_{\alpha=1}^{n_i} \left(\mu^T X_{(\alpha)}^{(i)} - \mu^T \overline{X}^{(i)} \right)^2$$

$$= \mu^T \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{m} \left[\sum_{\alpha=1}^{n_i} \left(X_{(\alpha)}^{(i)} - \overline{X}^{(i)} \right) \left(X_{(\alpha)}^{(i)} - \overline{X}^{(i)} \right)^T \right] \right\} \mu$$

$$= \mu^T \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{m} S_i \right\} \mu \triangleq \mu^T W \mu$$

$$W = \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{m} S_i \right\},$$

(9)

where μ is the maximum eigenvalue λ 's corresponding eigenvector and S_i is the deviation matrix of n_i samples

 $X_{\alpha}^{(i)}$ ($\alpha = 1, 2, ..., n_i$) in G_i samples. The intergroup difference is as follows:

$$b = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \sum_{\alpha=1}^{n_i} \left(\mu^T \overline{x}^{(i)} - \mu^T \overline{x} \right)^2$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{m} n_i \mu^T \left(\overline{X}^{(i)} - \overline{X} \right) \left(\overline{X}^{(i)} - \overline{X} \right)^T \mu$$

$$= \mu^T \left[n_i \sum_{i=1}^{m} \left(\overline{X}^{(i)} - \overline{X} \right) \left(\overline{X}^{(i)} - \overline{X} \right)^T \mu \right] \triangleq \mu^T B \mu.$$
 (10)

To let the discrimination function better distinguish samples from different population samples, the difference between two groups from two population samples is expected to be bigger while the intergroup difference is expected to be smaller. Above all,

$$\Phi = \frac{b}{e} = \frac{\mu^T B \mu}{\mu^T W \mu}.$$
 (11)

For this, the Lagrange's multiplier is applied and the equation of $F = \mu^T B \mu - \lambda (\mu^T W \mu - 1)$ can be obtained. The partial differential result for *F* is 0:

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \mu} = 2B\mu - 2\lambda W\mu \triangleq 0.$$
(12)

By calculating the above formula, the following result could be obtained.

$$\left(W^{-1}B - \lambda I\right)\mu \triangleq 0. \tag{13}$$

Then the coefficients of the discrimination function could be calculated. *I* is the ratio of sum of squares of deviation within the group to the sum of squares of deviation between groups. By solving the equations, *S*-2 discrimination functions could be obtained ($S = \min\{G - 1, m\}$). Generally, most of the information of the sample could be explained by the first equation. If the first discrimination function is difficult to distinguish, the following discrimination functions could be applied for comprehensive consideration.

Writing the function $y = \mu^T X$ and plugging $\overline{X}^{(i)}$ into $y = \mu^T X$, $\overline{y}^{(i)}$ could be obtained. Then values of $\overline{y}^{(i)}$ are ranged from small to large; for example, if $\overline{y}^{(1)} < \overline{y}^{(2)} < \cdots \overline{y}^{(m)}$, the threshold value between G_i and G_{i+1} is as follows:

$$y_c(i,i+1) = \frac{n_i \overline{y}^{(i)} + n_{i+1} \overline{y}^{(i+1)}}{n_i + n_{i+1}}.$$
(14)

Take the training sample data of the known type into the above formula and predict its type. For the given sample *X*, if $y = \mu^T X$ is between $y_c(i - 1, i)$ and $y_c(i, i + 1)$, *X* belongs to G_i .

4.2. Discriminant Model. To use Fisher linear discriminant analysis to get the discriminant function of coal mining MS and blasting signals and establish discriminant model, it is

Characteristic variables	Lambda of Wilks	F	df1	df2	Sig.
Dominant frequency	0.427	131.674	1	98	0.000
Duration	0.654	51.917	1	98	0.000
Attenuation coefficient	0.701	41.775	1	98	0.000

TABLE 1: Tests of equality of group means.

TABLE 2	: Structure	matrix.
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Characteristic variables	Correlation coefficient		
Dominant frequency	0.796		
Duration	-0.500		
Attenuation coefficient	0.448		

necessary to select proper signal characteristics to establish eigenvectors. According the discussion of third chapter, we can find that these two types of signals are significantly different in dominant frequency, duration, and attenuation coefficient. Therefore, these three characteristics are chosen to construct the eigenvector. The 100×3 characteristic matrix is composed of training sample signal's dominant frequency, duration, and attenuation coefficient. Meanwhile, the modeling needs one column of data to show the real type of signals in each group. Thus the coal mining MS signals are marked as 1 and the blasting signals are marked as 2. Importing the characteristic matrix and categorical data of samples into SPSS to establish the model, partial results are as follows.

(1) Tests of Equality of Group Means. Table 1 shows the tests of equality of group means. It reflects these two types of signals' mean differences in different indexes. The probability p (Sig.'s corresponding data in Table 1) is all less than 0.001 in the detection of the coal mining MS signals and blasting signals. It is indicated that there are significant differences between these two types of signals in each index, so the discriminant analysis could be carried out.

(2) Structure Matrix. The structure matrix in Table 2 shows signals' dominant frequency, duration, and attenuation coefficient and the final discriminant functions' correlations between groups. It could be seen that the bigger the correlation coefficient's absolute value, the greater the effects of the variable on these two types of signals' discriminant functions. As shown in the table, the dominant frequency has the greatest effects on the discriminant functions followed by duration. The attenuation coefficient's impact is minimal, but the correlation coefficient still reaches 0.448.

(3) Central Values of the Final Discriminant Function in the Coal Mining MS and Blasting Signals. Table 3 shows the central values of the final discriminant functions in the coal mining MS signals and blasting signals. The result shows only one discriminant function, with a discriminant score of -1.442 and 1.442 in the center of coal mining MS signals and blasting signals, respectively. Therefore, when the signal's discriminant score is near -1.442, the signal will belong to

TABLE 3: Central values of the final discriminant function in the coal mining MS signals and blasting signals.

Category of signal	Central values of the function
Coal mining MS	-1.442
Blasting	1.442

TABLE 4: Discriminant function coefficients of two types of signals.

Characteristic variables	Discriminant function coefficients
Dominant frequency	0.029
Duration	-0.643
Attenuation coefficient	0.081
Constant	-1.592

the coal mining MS signal. When the discriminant score is close to 1.442, the signal will be considered as the blasting signal. Due to the only discriminant function, the obtained scores change in the 1D line, and the values of the coal mining MS signal and blasting signal are symmetric about the origin. Then the demarcation point of the scores could be considered as the origin and the discriminant process could be simplified. When the signal's discriminant score is less than zero, the signal will be determined as the coal mining MS signal, whereas the signal is considered as the blasting signal. The discriminant result is more reliable with the score larger or smaller than zero.

(4) Discriminant Function Coefficients of Coal Mining MS and Blasting Signals. Table 4 shows the discriminant function coefficients of coal mining MS and blasting signals through modeling. With f_r representing the signal's dominant frequency, t_d representing the duration, and c_a referring to the attenuation coefficient, the discriminant function formula of the coal mining MS and blasting discriminant model could be expressed as follows:

$$F(f_r, t_d, c_a) = 0.029 f_r - 0.643 t_d + 0.081 c_a - 1.592, \quad (15)$$

where $F(f_r, t_d, c_a)$ refers to the discriminant score of the signal. If $F(f_r, t_d, c_a) < 0$, the signal is determined as the coal mining MS signal; if $F(f_r, t_d, c_a) > 0$, the signal will belong to the blasting signal. The discriminant result is more reliable with $F(f_r, t_d, c_a)$ larger or smaller than zero.

4.3. Performance of the Discriminant Model. Table 5 shows the eigenvalues of the discriminant analysis. The eigenvalues represent the amount of information, so the larger the eigenvalue, the higher the discriminating performance of the function. The canonical correlation coefficient refers to



FIGURE 8: Comparison of discriminant results of three classifiers and single characteristic.

TABLE 5:	Eigenvalue	of	discriminant	analysis.
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Function	Characteristic value Variance contribute rate% Cumulative variance contribute		Cumulative variance contribute ra	tribute rate % Regular relativit		
1	2.122	100.0	100.0	0.824		
TABLE 6: Identification results of training sample.						
Category of sig	nal Total	Number of correct identifications	Number of error identifications	Correct recognition rate%		
Coal mining M	IS 50	45	5	90		
Blasting	50	46	4	92		

the correlation between the function coefficients and the classified group. It could be seen from the table that the discriminant function capability is significant. The variance contribution rate is 100%, which could explain 100% of the sample information, and the canonical correlation coefficient is higher.

The constructed coal mining MS and blasting discriminant model is utilized to test the signal data of 100 training samples, and the testing results are shown in Table 6. Among 50 groups of coal mining MS signals, 45 groups are recognized correctly, and 5 groups are recognized as the blasting signals mistakenly. Among 50 groups of blasting signals, 46 groups are recognized correctly, and 4 groups are wrongly recognized as the coal mining MS signals. Therefore, the correct recognition rates of the discriminant model for the coal mining MS signals and blasting signals are 90% and 92%, respectively, which has relatively higher recognition rate than the single criterion.

To further check the performance of the discriminant model, 100 testing sample signals were identified and classified by using this model and then compared with the real category. Besides, two other classifiers (Bayes and Random forest (RF)) were applied to establish discriminant models using 100 training sample signals and check the accuracy of the discriminant models using 100 testing sample signals. The discriminant results of three classifiers for 100 testing sample signals were compared with the discriminant results using single characteristic. As shown in Figure 8, the discriminant results using multiple characteristic indexes are much better than the single indexes. The performance of the Fisher, Bayes, and RF will have little difference as long as the proper characteristic indexes are used, which indicates that selecting proper characteristic indexes is one of the key steps to distinguish different types of MS signals before establishing discriminant model. Take the discriminant results of Fisher as an example, among 50 groups of coal mining MS signals, 7 groups of signals are wrongly recognized as the blasting signals. Among 50 groups of blasting signals, 5 groups are wrongly recognized as the coal mining MS signals. It could be obtained that the correct recognition rates of the model for the coal mining MS signals and blasting signals are 86% and 90%, respectively. The average accuracy of Fisher for two types of signals is 88%, which is higher than the other two classifiers (the average accuracy are both 87%). Thus, this Fisher discriminant model has relatively high accuracy and stability and its application could be promoted.

4.4. Application of the Discriminant Model. According to the analysis results of field MS monitoring at Qianqiu coal mine, a typical destructive mining MS event with energy more than 10^7 J and a roof-break blasting test occurred at number 21141 longwall panel, respectively. Figures 9 and 10 are the waveforms of these MS events recorded by the



FIGURE 9: Waveforms of the destructive mining MS event.

ARAMIS MS monitoring system. As shown in Figure 9, there are 15 waveforms, among which, the waveform of S16 is not complete and its zero line drifts. Therefore, there are 14 waveforms involved in the source location. As shown in Figure 10, there are 16 waveforms, among which, S13 and S15 have low signal-noise ratio (SNR) and the arrival time and the terminal time could not be picked up. Therefore, the other 13 waveforms are involved in the source location.

The sensor with the earliest arrival time usually has the smallest travel distance from the source, and the recorded waveform has high SNR and is suitable for distinguishing the type of MS signals. For the destructive mining MS and blasting events, sensor S7 and sensor S3 had the earliest arrival time, and the signals of S7 and S3 were selected as the analysis object, respectively.

The analysis results of the destructive mining MS event are shown in Figure 11. The arrival time and the terminal time of sensor S7 are obtained by the STA/LTA method (the 1152th sampling point and the 2906th sampling point, resp.). Therefore the signal duration is (2906 - 1152)/500 =3.51 s. Figure 11(b) is the spectrum of the signal, which was obtained by FFT method. It is found that the frequency distribution is dispersed. There are wideband signals with 10-250 Hz frequency. The dominant frequency is 37.76 Hz and the subdominant frequency and the third frequency are 86.7 Hz and 123.1 Hz. As shown in Figure 11(c), the following peak envelope curve (red line) corresponds to the section from the 1344th sampling point to the 2906th sampling point. The declining process of the signal is not steady, which is the typical characteristic of the coal mining MS signals. The attenuation coefficient (|b|) is 6.14 and the fitting precision (Adj. R-square) is 0.85. The discriminant score is -2.26, which means this is a coal mining MS event.

The analysis results of the blasting event are shown in Figure 12. The signal duration is (1686 - 990)/500 = 1.39 s (Figure 12(a)). Figure 12(b) is the spectrum of the signal, and the frequency distribution is relatively dispersed. There are obvious signals in 20–150 Hz frequency range. The dominant frequency is 135.97 Hz. Figure 12(c) is the following peak envelope curve and attenuation curve of the signal. The following peak envelope curve (red line) corresponds to the section from the 1110th sampling point to the 1686th sampling point. The declining process of the signal is relatively steady and there are no obvious fluctuations. The attenuation coefficient (|*b*|) is 9.04 and the fitting precision (Adj. *R*-square) is

0.96. The discriminant score is 2.19, indicating that the signal belongs to blasting event.

5. Conclusions

Three significant characteristics of the coal mining MS and blasting signals were studied by using FFT, STA/LTA, and envelope analysis. Based on these characteristics and Fisher method, a discriminant model for these two types of signals was established. The conclusions are as follows.

- (1) The following peak attenuation curves of the mining MS and blasting signals satisfy the power function, which makes it reasonable to quantify the attenuation and stability of the signals utilizing the corresponding fitting coefficient and fitting precision values. Generally, the fitting precision and the attenuation coefficient of the coal mining MS are smaller than that of the blasting signals, which means that the attenuation of the coal mining MS signals is slower and more fluctuant than that of the blasting signals.
- (2) Waveform characteristics consisting of the dominant frequency, the duration, and the attenuation coefficient were extracted as the discriminating parameters. And the boundaries between the two types of signals on the three characteristics were obtained. At the same time, the discriminating performance of the three characteristics was compared and discussed. The dominant frequency is most significant in distinguishing between two types of signals followed by duration. The attenuation coefficient's impact is relatively minimal.
- (3) Based on the waveform characteristics, a discriminant model of coal mining MS and blasting signals was established using Fisher method. Its performance was checked and compared with other methods by using the real data from Qianqiu coal mine. Results show that the correct discriminant rate of the coal mining MS and blasting signals in the testing samples is 86 percent and 90 percent, which can basically meet the requirements of the MS monitoring data processing at the coal mine site. Besides, results also demonstrated that the identification results using multiple characteristic indexes are much better than the single indexes. The performance of different recognition methods such as the Fisher method, Bayes method, and Random Forest will have little difference as long as the proper characteristic indexes are used, which indicates that selecting proper characteristic indexes is one of the key steps to distinguish different types of MS signals before establishing discriminant model.
- (4) The results are useful to improve the efficiency of automatic recognition for coal mining MS signals and blasting signals and reduce the workload of artificial recognition. Although the established discriminant model in this paper is based on the monitoring data in Qianqiu coal mine, the research results could be

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FIGURE 10: Waveforms of the blasting event.



FIGURE 11: Signal characteristics of sensor S7 for the destructive mining MS event.



FIGURE 12: Signal characteristics of sensor S3 for the blasting event.

utilized for other mines and tunnel engineering to a great extent by adjusting the parameters.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

Acknowledgments

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