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# A MULTI-STEP PREDICTION MODEL BASED ON INTERPOLATION AND ADAPTIVE TIME DELAY NEURAL NETWORK FOR TIME SERIES

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#### ABSTRACT

The drawback of indirect multi-step-ahead prediction is error accumulation. In order to tackle this problem and improve the capacity of adaptive time delay neural network (ATNN) for prediction, a three-stage prediction model SATNN based on spline interpolation and ATNN is presented. With spline interpolation and ATNN, the impact of last prediction errors that would be iterated into the model for the next step prediction is decreased, and then the better prediction can be obtained. The annual sunspot, considered as the benchmark chaotic nonlinear systems, is selected to test the multi-step prediction model. Validation studies indicate that the proposed model is quite effective in multi-step prediction.

Keywords: Multi-step Prediction, Time Delay, Adaptive Time Delay Neural Network, Spline Interpolation

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Multi-step prediction is a kind of typical prediction algorithm, it obtained in consecutive predicted value of multiple time points based on the previous measurement data. However, with the existing method to realize multi-step prediction, when the forward one step prediction, the input data of neural network model for forecasting is a number of observed values before the time point of prediction, and as the prediction step increase, the last input of previous predictive values increased gradually, resulting in deterioration of prediction results.

There are many literatures were documented as the neural network for multi-step prediction [1-18], but most of the algorithms are too complex, and their running time is very long. Especially working with large amounts of data, the convergence speed is slow, and the prediction accuracy is not very high. Among them, the recurrent neural network has been proved to be an effective method of multistep prediction, but it required for a long time for the training, and the robustness is poor, so it brings certain difficulty to the implement.

In addition, time delay neural network (TDNN) and its improved model adaptive time delay neural

network (ATNN) have been successfully applied to the nonlinear system identification [14], relatively the recurrent neural network, the training time is short, and easy to implement. In view of this, this manuscript aims to explore the multi-step prediction capability of the adaptive time delay neural network based on feed forward and time delay algorithm. Using spline interpolation technique, in the prediction of point away from the input data and according to a certain proportion, the virtual data were inserted, so as to increase the impact of the observed values in the model, and then improve the multi-step prediction capability of the model.

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# 2. THE MODEL AND THE ALGORITHM

#### 2.1 The Model Architecture

The model architecture and algorithm diagram was shown in Figure 1. The first stage  $G_s$  is the generator of spline interpolation unit; it could

produce a number of virtual sequences; the second stage, a certain proportion data were extracted from the output sequence of the interpolation units, to form a new sequence; stage third, the use of ATNN on the new sequence forecast.

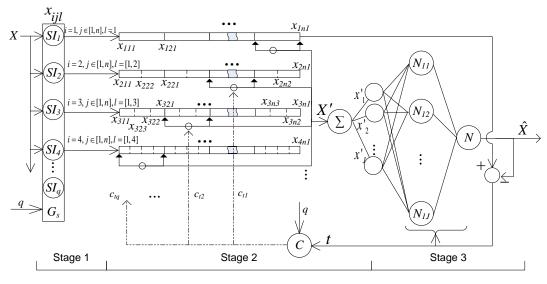


Figure 1: The Three-Stage Architecture Of Prediction Model SATNN

# 2.2 Algorithm

In the first stage, different interpolation unit, using different sampling frequency, inserted the smoothing data in the original. Set D as the original sampling frequency, using third-order piecewise polynomial functions, then the B-spline interpolation could be described as

$$S_{3}(k') = \sum_{k=1}^{n} c_{3}(k)\beta_{3}(k'-k)$$
(1)  
$$k' \in \left\{ \frac{1}{2}, \frac{2}{2}, \frac{r-1}{2} | r \in [2, a] \right\}$$

Where 
$$k' \in \left\{\frac{1}{r}, \frac{1}{r}, \dots, \frac{1}{r} | r \in [2, q]\right\}$$

$$\beta_{3}(x) = \beta_{0} * \beta_{0} * \beta_{0} * \beta_{0}(x) ,$$
  

$$\beta_{0}(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & -\frac{1}{2} \le x \le \frac{1}{2} \\ 0, & otherwise \end{cases} , k' \text{ is the} \end{cases}$$

interpolation points, n is the length of original sequence, operator \* denotes convolution, and q is the number of B-spline interpolation units.

When the model in prediction of forward p point  $(\hat{x}_{t+p})$ , if p > 1, the predictive value is more and more dependent on the previous predictive, so using the interpolation method, in the second stage, a sequence X' is derived out from the original

data dynamically. The sequence can be expressed as

$$\begin{cases} x'_{t-0} = x_{1t1} \\ x'_{t-1} = x_{2t1}, x'_{t-2} = x_{2t2} \\ \vdots \\ \cdots \\ , \cdots \\ , x'_{t-J+1} = x_{q(t-q+1)q} \end{cases}$$
(2)

Where 
$$J = \frac{q(q+1)}{2}$$
 ,  $t \in [p+1,n]$  ,  $t$ 

represents the current time, J is the sequence length.

As a result of model training needs, t interval is  $t \in [p+1,n]$ . When t is different, X' is a dynamic sequence. After the interpolation and dynamic combination, the time series of original data have lost its meaning. In the next stage of model, it mainly focuses on the serial number of sequence X'. Figure 2 shows the diagram of the interpolation and dynamic combination (take q = 4).

Based on the first two stages, the multi-step prediction can be shown as

$$\hat{x}'_{t+p} = F(\hat{x}'_{t+p-1}, \hat{x}'_{t+p-2}, \cdots, \hat{x}'_{t+p-\tau})$$
(3)

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Where  $0 \le \tau \le J - 1$ , the variables with "^" express the predictive value. In the third stage, the *l*th layer of ATNN has  $N^L$  neurons, the input and output matching for adaptive neuron is shown as

$$y(t) = \sigma\left(\sum_{i=1}^{M} \omega_i x_i \left(t - \tau_i\right)\right) \qquad 0 \le \tau_i \le J - 1^{(4)}$$

Where the weight of the neuron is  $\mathcal{O}_i$ ,  $\tau_i$  is time delay and  $\sigma(\cdot)$  means nonlinear activation function. Then, the prediction model with one hidden layer is expressed as

$$net^{l}_{j}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{N^{l-1}} w^{l}_{ji} o^{l-1}_{i}(t-\tau^{l}_{ji}) \quad (5)$$

Where  $0 \le \tau_{ji}^l \le J - 1$ ,  $o_j^l(t) = \sigma^l(net^l_j(t))$ , the output of the *j*th neuron of the lth layer is recorded as  $o_j^l(t)$ . Such as  $\{o_i^l(t)|x_{t-i}^{\prime}, 0\le i\le J-1\}$  is the output of the ith neuron of the first layer, and  $\hat{x}_{t+1}^{\prime} = \hat{x}_{t+1}$  is the predictive value of  $x_{i+1}$ .

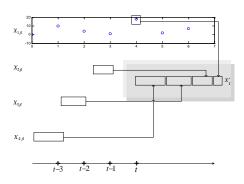
#### 3. EXPERIMENTS AND DISCUSSION

In order to verify the model's validity, the experiment tested by the benchmark time series, average numbers of annual sunspots. The sequence is a famous example of international statistics field, is the touchstone of testing a variety of modeling methods [5, 6, 19]. In this work, it chose the Wolfer Sunspotss data sets as the testing content. In order

to compare with other literatures, selection the sunspot data from 1700 to 1920 as the training sets,  $1921 \sim 1954$  and  $1955 \sim 1979$  as the testing sets, are expressed as Set1 and Set2 respectively. Using standard mean square error measures the predicted results.

The ATNN topology of the third stage is a three layers BP network containing one hidden layer, its design parameters as follows: maximum delay is 4, in order to make the expanded data sequence also keeping this delay, so  $\tau_{max} = 10$ , then the input node points of ATNN is 10 [20, 21]. The node number of hidden layer can be obtained by experiment (take as 13).

In order to verify the validity of SATNN, 40 experiments were conducted for Set1 and Set2 respectively and averaged, for considerations of simplicity and accuracy, using only the existing literature data and the model for comparison, without these model simulations. In addition, this work also simulated with the similar model of TDNN and ATNN. Table 1 is the model for Set1 prediction error and other model simulation results, RN\_BPTT, RN\_CBPTT and RN\_ECBPT are based on recurrent neural network model, the results were come from the literature [2]. It can be seen that this model performed best in the above 6 models, the minimum prediction error is marked out by bold italic.



#### Figure 2: Sequences From The Second Stage

Table 2 is the model for Set2 prediction error and other model results. It can be seen that, in the above 6 models, the model is most close with the RN\_ECBPTT, when step was 1, 2 and 4 RN\_ECBPTT error is minimum, step 3, 5 and 6 SATNN error is minimized, and the 1~6 step prediction error of the mean value is the minimum. Therefore, through the transform of data interpolation, it improves the ATNN multi-step predictive ability effectively, but also with a relatively simple network structure to achieve recursive neural network prediction. 20<sup>th</sup> January 2013. Vol. 47 No.2

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### 4. CONCLUSION

With the inspiration of spline interpolation, time delay and dynamic time delay neural network, this manuscript presents a combined three stage multistep prediction model. In the first stage, through multiple interpolation units generate an interpolation sequence of different number; the second stage, from multiple interpolation sequence derived from a new sequence in dynamic; the final stage, the adaptive time delay neural network completed the prediction. The tested results of the two benchmark time series show that, the model in multi-step prediction is feasible and effective. In addition, from the current number of existing technologies, the discovery and development of combination model embodies the advantages of various algorithms fully, it has certain practical significance. Furthermore, the model of this work can also be further improved, such as using immune algorithm for time delay and network structure optimized, thus improving the adaptive capability of ATNN and the prediction precision.

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Steps	RN_BPTT	RN_CBPTT	RN_EBPTT	TDNN	ATNN	SATNN
1	0.0605	0.0524	0.0519	0.0554	0.0522	0.0505
2	0.5015	0.4063	0.2677	0.4863	0.3063	0.1283
3	0.5354	0.4668	0.3805	0.5166	0.4068	0.1457
4	0.5273	0.5015	0.4322	0.5115	0.4315	0.1457
5	0.5096	0.4926	0.4491	0.5126	0.4726	0.1478
6	0.4757	0.4668	0.3628	0.5081	0.4608	0.1501
mean <sub>1-6</sub>	0.4350	0.3977	0.3240	0.4318	0.3550	0.1280
Table 2 : Comparison Of Six Algorithms For Set2						
Steps	RN_BPTT	RN_CBPTT	RN_EBPTT	TDNN	ATNN	SATNN
1	0.3061	0.2507	0.2507	0.4396	0.3423	0.3061
2	1.4720	1.1807	0.8982	1.6612	1.2445	1.0077
3	2.0096	1.7087	1.3083	1.9799	1.5816	1.1987
4	2.1917	2.0915	1.2537	2.2078	1.9372	1.3448
5	1.6910	1.6814	1.4358	1.9799	1.7822	1.3536
6	1.7456	1.7087	1.4631	1.9614	1.6273	1.3817

1.1016

1.7049

#### Table 1: Comparison Of Six Algorithms For Set1

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mean<sub>1-6</sub>

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1.5693

1.4369

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