Advanced techniques for design and management of production systems

General overview



Artificial Neural Networks

Knowledge acquisition process



The bilogical neuron



- Human brain contains 10¹² neurons
- Neuron dimensions from 0.01 mm to 1 m (depending on axon length)
 - Connectivity of a single neuron from O(1) to O(10⁵): the number of synapses is O(10¹⁵)

The artificial neuron



- i = index of generic neuron
- j = index of generic neuron in input to neuron i
- k = index of generic neuron in output from neuron i
- j into S_{input} (set of input neurons to i)
- k into S_{output} (set of output neurons from i)

Topologies of ANN







- A) Completely interconnected
- B) Partially connected
- C) In layers

Transfer functions





Knowledge and learning

- Knowledge is not defined by rules (like Knowledge-based Systems), but is distributed into values of connection weights.
- Learning processes:
 - □ Supervised
 - Not supervised
 - Fixed weights
- Learning occurs on the basis of specific algorithms which update the weights of connections.
- Hebb law:

 $W_{i,j}(t+1) = W_{i,j}(t) + \Delta W_{i,j}$

Supervised learning



The goal is the minimization of the following cost function:

$$E = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{N} \left(y'_n(t) - y_n(t) \right)^2$$

where $y'_n(t)$ is the value of output n computed by ANN, with an input u(t)

At each iteration the connection weight is changed by using the following law:

$$\Delta w_{ij}(t) = -\eta \cdot \frac{\partial E(t)}{\partial w_{ij}(t)} + \alpha \cdot \Delta w_{ij}(t-1)$$

Where:

- $-\eta$ is the learning coefficient
- $-\alpha$ is the inertia coefficient

Applications

- Classification and recognition: e.g. OCR, quality control in production, medical analysis, ...
- Forecast: loan approval, financial market, ...
- Optimization: delivery path, production management, ...
- Control: robot movement, industrial process control, veichle control

An example



An example





Features

- 1. Area of Defect :A
- 2. Length of Defect :L
- 3. Surrounding Length of Defect :Ls
- 4. Degree of Complexity : = L²/A
- 5. Ratio of Width and Length of Defect :S/L
- 6. Brightness of Reflective Data
- 7. Color of Defect
- 8. Feature of Surrounding Line of Defects

ANN advantages

- Data-driven and not model-driven
- Easy to use
- Lower costs than other techniques
- It is possible to solve problem currently not solveable automatically

Knowledge-based systems

Knowlegde-based systems

- Software programs that are able to deduce informations from a set of starting input data
- They are based on human competence, registered into a so called 'knowledge base'
- It is possible to operate on incomplete and qualitative data (e.g. "fuzzy logic")
- It is always possible to explain the decisions of the knowledge-based system (Glass Box)

Knowledge-based systems

It is composed of two elements:

- KNOWLEDGE BASE: facts that happen in real life; it represents the knowledge of an operator
- INFERENTIAL ENGINE: a mechanism that analyze the data in input to the system, in order obtain conclusions from the observed facts.



Knowledge-based systems types

Based on rules

They are programs composed of 'IF condition THEN action' rules. Given a set of facts, knowledge-based systems, due to rules application, can deduce new facts.

Based on trees:

From a set of data and some deductions, a decision tree is defined in order to classify the input data. New informations are analyzed by the tree and the arrival node represents the decision.

Examples

Example of tree:



High Low Rish Low Rish

Example of rule: □ Input data set: Headache Cold Temperature 38° C \Box Rule: IF headache AND cold AND temperature>37°C AND temperature<38.5°C THEN flu

Knowledge-based systems design

- The knowledge-based system use the defined rules, but cannot create them. Hence during design phase it is necessary to define:
 - □ The logical structure
 - □ The data types
 - □ The sets and the classes
 - □ The limits
 - □ The IF...THEN... rules

An example

IF (vel IS 120) AND (limit is 50) AND (autovelox IS present) THEN (reaction IS slowdown)

- □ The logical structure: triple IF
- □ The data types:
 - Vel: float
 - Limit: integer
 - Autovelox: boolean (present/not present)
 - Reaction: 3 state (slowdown, mantain, accelerate)
- □ The sets/classes and limits:
 - Vel: from 0 to 220
 - Limit: 30, 50, 70, 90, 110, 130

Advantages vs problems

- Same responses in case of repeated decisions
- Glass box
- Contains several data and informations
- The decision can always be clearly explained
- Every aspects included are analyzed: nothing is forgotted or leaved out

- Important data can be leaved out from design
- Not useful in case of unexpected facts
- Cost to exctract knowledge from operators.
- Bad design = bad decisions
- Cannot be adapted in case of environment changes



Fuzzy logic

- L.A. Zadeh
- It is a mathematical theory introduced in order to model uncertainty
- It is an extension of Aristotelian logic (a.k.a. crisp logic)

Aristotelian logic

- Principle of excluded middle (third excluded): an element cannot belong at the same time to a set and its complement.
- Principle of non-contradiction: a statement can be only true or false

Fuzzy logic

- In real life (natural language) it is difficult to have statement that can be only true or false. E.g. Am I old? Am I tall?
- The truth level (membership) can be represented with a value from 0 to 1 (with 0 and 1 the logic is the same as Aristotelian)



Uncertainty representation

If an element belongs to a set, this does not mean that it cannot belong to its complement.



Real life and uncertainty

- Height, wealth, heat, speed, difficulty: they are all vague concepts.
- The semantics of the natural language can represent this aspect:
 - □ The soaked road
 - □ The wet road
 - □ The dry road

Fuzzy logic and knowledgebased system

- Fuzzy logic is able to represent the typical situations of a human being.
- It is very useful in order to create knowledgebased Systems, that have to respond like a human being
- The IF ... THEN ... rules can be defined by using fuzzy logic
 - □ IF soaked road THEN go slowly
 - □ IF wet road THEN go a little bit slowly
 - □ IF awash road THE go very slowly

Fuzzy logic advantages

- It operates with the same logic as humans, with vague concepts and with uncertainty
- It allows to code the technical knowledge without defining with precision the limits of rules.
- It allows to represent rules by using common language and not numerical sets (aligned with expert knowledge).
- Soft transition to one rule to another one (more than one rule can be applied, with different levels of truth).

Fuzzy logic disadvantages

- Identification of the complete set of rules
- Risk to create an inaccurate and incomplete knowledge base
- Long time in order to obtain a good knowledge base