**RESEARCH ARTICLE**



# **Assessment of carbon emission reduction contribution of Chinese power grid enterprises based on MCS‑GA‑ELM method**

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### **Abstract**

To achieve China's "double carbon" goal, it is necessary to make quantitative evaluation of the power grid enterprises' contribution to carbon emission reduction. This paper analyzes the contribution of power grid enterprises to carbon emission reduction from three points: power generation side, power grid side, and user side. Then, PLS-VIP method is used to screen the key infuencing factors of carbon emission reduction contribution of power grid enterprises from three aspects: consumption of clean energy emission reduction, reduction of line loss emission reduction, and substitution of electric energy. Based on GA-ELM combined machine learning algorithm, we establish an intelligent evaluation model of power grid enterprises' carbon emission reduction contribution. Furthermore, according to the distribution law of key infuencing factors, this paper uses Monte Carlo simulation method to calculate the contribution of power grid enterprises to carbon emission reduction by scenario, so as to evaluate the contribution of power grid enterprises to carbon emission reduction. Finally, combined with the relevant data of power grid enterprises from 2003 to 2019, this paper makes an empirical study on the completion of carbon emission reduction contribution and the promotion path.

**Keywords** Monte Carlo simulation · GA-ELM method · Power grid enterprises · Carbon emission reduction contribution · Assessment

### **Introduction**

### **Background and motivation**

In September 22, 2020, general secretary Xi Jinping announced in the general debate of the seventy-ffth UN General Assembly that we should strive to achieve the peak of carbon dioxide emissions by 2030 and strive to achieve carbon neutralization before 2060, that is, the goal of "double carbon" (Xi [2020](#page-14-0)). Therefore, low-carbon emission

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reduction has become the development direction of all walks of life in China. It is estimated that in 2020, the total carbon emission of Chinese power industry will be about 3.6 billion tons, accounting for over one-third of the total national emission (about 9.9 billion tons) (BP [2020](#page-13-0)). As the industry with the largest proportion of carbon emission in China, the efect of power emission reduction will directly afect the successful completion of the "double carbon goal." Among them, power grid enterprises play an important role in connecting the preceding and the following in the power industry and are one of the key links to achieve the carbon emission reduction goal of the power industry (Meng [2021](#page-13-1)).

### **Related work**

Many studies have been carried out on carbon emission reduction, and diferent studies are committed to diferent links of carbon emission reduction. This paper reviews the relevant literature from three aspects: the analysis of the infuencing factors of carbon emission reduction, the prediction model of carbon emission reduction, and the random uncertainty of carbon emission reduction.

The analysis of the infuencing factors of carbon emission reduction has great signifcance for the subsequent data calculation of carbon emission reduction, which is directly related to the scientificity and effectiveness of the calculation results. Scholars at home and abroad have conducted a lot of research in this regard. In order to test the common benefts of carbon emission reduction and air pollution control, Jiang et al. analyzed the emission reduction and emission reduction factors of Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Yunnan, and Shanghai power industries, as well as the synergistic factors of technical and structural emission reduction measures (Jiang and Alimujiang [2020](#page-13-2)). Zhu et al. used the generalized partition index model to decompose the changes of carbon emissions of China's power industry from 2000 to 2015, and fully considered the impact of economy, population, and energy consumption on carbon emissions (Zhu et al. [2018](#page-14-1)). Liao et al. derived seven diferent drivers of carbon emissions in the power industry based on the log average factor index (LMDI) decomposition model. The positive or negative contribution of each driving force to the growth rate of carbon emission as well as the change of contribution rate and emission dynamics of each province is analyzed (Liao and Wang [2019](#page-13-3)). Some scholars have constructed the evaluation index system from fve aspects afecting the regional carbon emission reduction capacity and established a comprehensive evaluation model based on entropy method (Pu and Li [2016\)](#page-14-2). Cosimo magazzino, Marco Mele, and Nicolas Schneider studied the causal relationship between solar and wind energy production, coal consumption, economic growth, and carbon emissions in China, India, and the USA (Cosimo magazzino et al. [2021\)](#page-13-4). Xia et al. combined multiple regression analysis, input–output analysis, and structural decomposition analysis to analyze the impact of input–output and structural decomposition on future carbon emissions (Xia et al. [2019\)](#page-14-3). From the perspective of carbon emission efficiency, Sun et al. applied stochastic frontier analysis to screen the factors affecting carbon emission intensity (Sun et al. [2022](#page-14-4)). Other scholars use the extended STIRPAT model and ridge regression model to screen the infuencing factors of carbon emission (Liu et al. [2018a](#page-13-5), [b](#page-13-6)).

The data of carbon emission reduction of power grid enterprises have the characteristics of continuity, fuctuation, and long time series. Therefore, it is suitable to use the relevant models in the feld of machine learning to predict carbon emission reduction.. Chinese carbon emission prediction research has been carried out for a long time. From similar studies in other carbon emission felds, we can fnd inspiration for the carbon emission reduction research of power grid enterprises. Gao et al. proposed a new fractional grey Riccati model. A fractional cumulative grey Gompertz model is designed to predict the trend of industrial carbon emission in the USA (Gao et al. [2021,](#page-13-7) [2022\)](#page-13-8). Ren et al. constructed a fast learning network (FLN) prediction algorithm based on chicken swarm optimization (CSO) to predict the carbon emissions of Guangdong Province from 2020 to 2060 (Ren and Long [2021\)](#page-14-5). Dong et al. took 12 major industrial carbon emission industries in Henan Province of China as the research object, combined with LMDI method and Tapio decoupling model, built a decoupling effort model to analyze the impact of each effect on the decoupling relationship (Dong et al. [2021\)](#page-13-9). In order to predict and analyze China's carbon emission trend, Zhou et al. proposed a new grey rolling mechanism based on the principle of information priority (Zhou et al. [2021](#page-14-6)). Other studies have constructed the carbon emission intensity prediction model based on factor analysis and limit learning machine and the BP neural network prediction model of carbon emission (Sun et al. [2022](#page-14-4); Liu et al. [2018a](#page-13-5), [b](#page-13-6); Sun and Huang [2022](#page-14-7)).

Analyzing the historical data of carbon emission reduction and predicting the future change trend cannot ignore the random uncertainty research of carbon emission reduction. In order to ensure the optimal development of complex power management system, Xie et al. established an interval fuzzy programming risk measurement model considering carbon capture technology and carbon emission reduction targets (Xie et al. [2019\)](#page-14-8). Jin et al. proposed a stochastic dynamic economic scheduling model considering wind power uncertainty and carbon emission rights (Jin et al. [2019](#page-13-10)). Under the constraints of carbon emission intensity, Zhao et al. allocated carbon emissions to 41 industry departments in China to achieve the emission reduction target in 2030. A comprehensive allocation method based on input–output analysis and entropy weight is proposed (Zhao et al.  $2017$ ). Setting multiple scenarios is an effective method to study the uncertainty of carbon emission reduction. Meng et al. calculated the carbon emission reduction caused by three-phase load management imbalance on the basis of analyzing the relationship between current imbalance and network loss and iso14064-2:2006. At the same time, Monte Carlo method was used for the frst time to predict the carbon emission of power industry in 2017–2030 under three diferent scenarios (Meng et al. [2018\)](#page-13-11). Liu et al. constructed a low-carbon path analysis model of China's power industry based on era model and made a comparative analysis of carbon emissions under reference scenario, lowcarbon scenario, and enhanced low-carbon scenario (Liu et al. [2018a,](#page-13-5) [b\)](#page-13-6).

The research and achievements of other scholars are shown in the Table [1.](#page-2-0)

Since the end of 2019, COVID-19 has swept the world, and the world situation has become more complex, which has profoundly afected and changed global and regional energy consumption and carbon emissions. Wang et al. analyzed the various impacts of COVID-19 on China's environmental development, and discussed Chinese future economic development and its impact on the world economy

<span id="page-2-0"></span>

by scenarios (Wang and Su [2020;](#page-14-14) Wang et al. [2021,](#page-14-15) [2022](#page-14-16); Whang and Zhang [2021](#page-14-17)). It also needs to explore the development mode of carbon emission reduction of power grid enterprises to adapt to the new international environment.

#### **Contribution and organization**

Generally speaking, there are few studies on carbon emission reduction of power grid enterprises, and there are few studies on the evaluation method of carbon emission reduction contribution of power grid enterprises. In addition, the research on carbon emission reduction mostly focuses on one of the above aspects, and there is a lack of research that integrates the three aspects. Therefore, under the background of the national evaluation of carbon reduction contribution of energy industry (Su [2021](#page-14-18)), this research has important theoretical and practical signifcance.

This paper combines the infuencing factors of carbon emission reduction, data prediction model,, and uncertainty analysis. Collect and sort out the relevant data of carbon emission reduction and infuencing factors of power grid companies, screen out the main infuencing factors of carbon emission reduction contribution of power grid enterprises by using the combination with qualitative and quantitative analysis methods, replace the training sample set constructed by the main infuencing factors and carbon emission reduction contribution value of power grid enterprises over the years into GA-ELM model for training and learning, and design the carbon emission reduction diferentiation scene of power grid enterprises, The Monte Carlo simulation method is used to randomly generate infuencing factors' value of carbon emission reduction, which is substituted into the trained GA-ELM model for the prediction and analysis of carbon emission reduction contribution value. Finally, according to the statistical index analysis of carbon emission reduction contribution prediction value, the evaluation of carbon emission reduction contribution of power grid enterprises is completed, so as to provide decision-making basis for power grid enterprises to carry out optimal management of carbon emission reduction.

#### **Infuencing factors**

### **Current situation of carbon emission reduction contribution of power grid enterprises**

As a link and platform connecting the upstream and downstream of the power industry, power grid enterprises will play an important strategic supporting role in realizing China's carbon peak and carbon neutralization strategic objectives. Through the in-depth implementation of the new energy security strategy of "four revolutions and one cooperation,"

take measures to support clean energy consumption, realize fne line loss management, and improve the proportion of energy consumption and power efficiency of power terminals, so as to contribute to the goal of carbon peak and carbon neutralization.

State Grid Corporation of China (SGCC) vigorously promotes clean energy substitution, changes energy consumption mode, focuses on "new electrifcation," comprehensively builds a modern power grid, drives the upstream and downstream of the industrial chain and value chain, and speeds up the construction of a clean, low-carbon, safe, and efficient energy system. At the same time, adhere to green development and serve the goal of "carbon peak and carbon neutralization." By the end of 2020, the State Grid Corporation of China had completed the task of "replacing coal with electricity" in this year, accounting for 26.8% of renewable energy power generation, recovered 220.6 tons of sulfur hexafuoride gas, and completed 193.8 billion kWh of electricity substitution (China State Grid Corporation [2020\)](#page-13-17).

In accordance with the carbon emission reduction plan, China Southern Power Grid has strengthened the allocation of clean energy and helped the fve southern provinces build a low-carbon and clean energy structure. The installed capacity and electricity of non-fossil energy in the whole network have accounted for more than 50% for 5 consecutive years; continuously optimize the power grid structure, control the line loss rate at 5.59%, and save 3.66 billion kWh and 1.07 million kW of power on the demand side (China Southern Power Grid [2020](#page-13-18)).

The contribution of carbon emission reduction proposed in this paper can be understood as a new concept, which is divided into fve parts according to various channels of energy conservation and emission reduction. By calculating the saved electricity consumption or clean energy power generation of each part, assuming that these electricity are generated by thermal power generation, the converted carbon emission reduction can be calculated through the coal electricity conversion coefficient, and the final carbon emission reduction contribution of power grid enterprises can be obtained by accumulating all parts. Based on the carbon emission reduction work currently carried out by China's two major power grid enterprises, this paper designs the calculation formula of carbon emission reduction contribution, as follows:

$$
CTB_c = \Delta C_{P\%} + \Delta C_R + \Delta C_S + \Delta C_{IES} + \Delta C_E \tag{1}
$$

$$
\Delta C_{P\%} = \Delta E_{P\%} \times \eta_{P\%} \tag{2}
$$

$$
\Delta C_R = \Delta E_R \times \eta_R \tag{3}
$$

$$
\Delta C_S = \Delta E_S \times \eta_S \tag{4}
$$

$$
\Delta C_{IES} = \Delta E_{IES} \times \eta_{IES} \tag{5}
$$

$$
\Delta C_E = \Delta E_E \times \eta_E \tag{6}
$$

 $CTB<sub>c</sub>$  refers to the contribution of carbon emission reduction,  $\Delta C_{P\%}$  refers to the reduction of line loss,  $\Delta C_R$ refers to the consumption of clean energy,  $\Delta C_S$  refers to the substitution of electric energy,  $\Delta C_{\text{IES}}$  refers to the reduction of comprehensive energy services, and  $\Delta C_F$ refers to the reduction of energy supply and energy efficiency services, with the unit of  $10^4$  t.  $\Delta E_{P\%}$  refers to reducing line loss and saving electricity,  $\Delta E_R$  refers to clean energy generation,  $\Delta E_S$  refers to electricity substitution,  $\Delta E_{\text{IES}}$  refers to comprehensive energy service saving,  $\Delta E_F$  refers to optimized energy supply and energy efficiency service saving, with the unit of 108 kWh.  $\eta_{P\%}$  refers to the carbon emission reduction conversion coefficient of line loss electricity,  $\eta_R$  refers to the carbon emission reduction conversion coefficient of clean energy electricity,  $\eta_s$  refers to the carbon emission reduction conversion coefficient of electricity substitution electricity,  $\eta_{\text{IES}}$  refers to the emission reduction conversion coefficient of comprehensive energy services, and  $\eta_E$  refers to the emission reduction conversion coefficient of energy supply and energy efficiency services, in kg/kWh.

Due to the difficulty of data collection of comprehensive energy service emission reduction, energy supply, and energy efficiency service emission reduction, this example only considers three parts: reducing line loss emission reduction, consuming clean energy emission reduction, and electric energy substitution emission reduction.

### **Analysis on infuencing factors of carbon emission reduction contribution**

#### **Selection of screening methods for infuencing factors**

In order to systematically analyze the influencing factors of the contribution of power grid enterprises to carbon emission reduction (Lin and Qi [2018](#page-13-19)), starting from the three sub indicators constituting the contribution of power grid enterprises to carbon emission reduction, based on artificial experience and literature review, 26 influencing factors on the three sub-indicators of carbon emission reduction contribution are collected. The details are shown in Fig. [1](#page-5-0) (note: the length of high-voltage transmission line refers to the length of  $\geq$  220 kV AC transmission line, and the availability factor of high-voltage transformer refers to the availability factor of transformer  $\geq 110$  kV and above).

This paper studies a variety of influencing factor screening methods and compares the traditional principal

component analysis method, grey correlation degree method, and PLS-VIP method. Compared with PLS-VIP method, the infuencing factors screened by principal component analysis method and grey correlation degree method have a higher repetition rate of infuencing factors among sub-indexes and poor performance in the preliminary trial calculation learning accuracy. Therefore, PLS-VIP method is determined to be used as the infuencing factor screening method in this paper.

#### **Infuencing factors screening by PLS‑VIP method**

Based on the preliminary collection of infuencing factors, this paper uses PLS-VIP screening method (Liu and Jiang [2017](#page-13-20); Liu [2016\)](#page-13-21) and considers the VIP value of infuencing factors and the actual correlation. Thirteen main infuencing factors are screened from three aspects: consumption of clean energy emission reduction, reduction of line loss emission reduction, and electric energy substitution emission reduction. The details are shown in Figs. [2](#page-5-1) and [3](#page-6-0) (note: the 13 infuencing factors obtained by screening are shown in bold text in the fgure).

In order to highlight the impact of the three sub-indicators of carbon emission reduction contribution on the contribution of carbon emission reduction, according to the selected infuencing factors and combined with the reality, this paper sets up four scenarios: control type, strengthening the reduction of line loss type, strengthening the consumption of clean energy type, and strengthening the power substitution type. The four scenarios correspond to the change range combination of diferent infuencing factors. The subsequent contribution analysis of carbon emission reduction in this paper is based on these four scenarios (Tian et al. [2021](#page-14-19)).

### **Methodology**

In this paper, the machine learning combination algorithm and Monte Carlo simulation method are combined to construct the carbon emission reduction contribution evaluation model of power grid enterprises. The specifc process of the model is shown in Fig. [4](#page-6-1).

#### **GA‑ELM model**

#### **Genetic algorithm**

Genetic algorithm (GA) is a heuristic intelligent search algorithm with good robustness and strong global search ability (Holland [1975\)](#page-13-22). Its implementation path is shown in Fig. [5.](#page-7-0)

<span id="page-5-0"></span>



<span id="page-5-1"></span>**Fig. 2** PLS-VIP screening results of infuencing factors of carbon emission reduction contribution

<span id="page-6-1"></span>model



<span id="page-6-0"></span>**Fig. 3** Proportion of infuencing factors

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### **Extreme learning machine**

Limit learning machine (ELM) is a single hidden layer feedforward neural network learning algorithm (Huang et al. [2006](#page-13-23)). Before training, the algorithm needs to randomly set the input layer weight matrix and threshold, and keep the matrix and threshold unchanged during the training process. The prediction accuracy is improved by optimizing the number of hidden layer neuron nodes. It has the advantages of simple structure, few calculation parameters, fast training speed, and good generalization performance (Xu et al. [2019\)](#page-14-20). Compared with the traditional neural networks, especially the single hidden layer feedforward neural networks (SLFNS), the limit learning machine is faster than the traditional learning algorithm on the premise of ensuring the learning accuracy.





<span id="page-7-0"></span>**Fig. 5** Basic fow chart of genetic algorithm

Suppose there are *N* training samples( $x_i$ ,  $y_i$ ), input<br>data  $x_i = [x_{i1}, x_{i2} \cdots, x_{im}]^T$ , and the expected output<br>is $y_i = [y_{i1}, y_{i2} \cdots, y_{im}]^T$ , that is, there are *m* neuron nodes in the input layer and *n* neuron nodes in the output layer. Let the hidden layer have  $l$  nodes,  $\omega_{ji}$  represents the weight of the input layer node  $i$  and the output layer node  $j$ , and  $b<sub>l</sub>$  represents the threshold of the hidden layer node *l*, both of which are randomly generated. If  $\beta_{ii}$  is taken as the connection weight between the hidden layer *i* and the output layer *j*,  $g(•)$  is the activation function, and the two are adjustable objects, the actual output *y* ′ can be expressed as

$$
y'_{j} = \sum_{i=1}^{l} \beta_{i} \cdot g(\omega_{i} \cdot x_{i} + b_{i}), j = 1, 2, \cdots, n
$$
 (7)

The model can be expressed as

$$
H \bullet \beta = T \tag{8}
$$

*H* is the output of the hidden layer node,  $\beta$  is the output weight, and *T* is the expected output.

Among

$$
H = \begin{pmatrix} g(\omega_1 x_1 b_1) & \cdots & g(\omega_1 x_1 b_1) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ g(\omega_1 x_N b_1) & \cdots & g(\omega_1 x_N b_1) \end{pmatrix}
$$
 (9)

$$
\beta = \begin{bmatrix} \beta_1^T \\ \vdots \\ \beta_N^T \end{bmatrix}, T = \begin{bmatrix} y_1^T \\ \vdots \\ y_N^T \end{bmatrix}
$$
\n(10)

The output weight  $\beta$  can be determined accordingly

$$
\beta^* = H^+ \bullet T \tag{11}
$$

 $H^+$  is the Moore Penrose generalized inverse of the matrix. It can be proved that the norm is the smallest and unique.

#### **Implementation process of GA‑ELM algorithm**

- (1) Setting of genetic algorithm parameters: the initial parameters of genetic algorithm include population number, crossover probability, mutation probability, chromosome length, selection rules, maximum iteration times, etc., diferent parameter combinations will have a great impact on the optimization results. For example, the number of populations will afect the calculation rate and the potential to produce better solutions, and the crossover probability and mutation probability will afect the transmission of excellent genes.
- (2) Population initialization: determine the neural network topology of ELM, including the number of input and output nodes of the prediction model, and set the number of hidden layer nodes; the weight matrix and threshold of ELM neural network are randomly generated and binary coded to form the chromosome of the initial population.
- Individual fitness calculation: for each individual of each generation of population, ELM algorithm is used to obtain the output matrix, and the second norm of the diference between the calculated result and the expected matrix is used as the individual ftness.

The formula is

$$
E = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (y'_i - y_i)^2}
$$
 (12)

*n* is the number of samples,  $y'_i$  $\hat{i}_i$  is the predicted value obtained from ELM training, and  $y_i$  is the sample data. The smaller the objective function is, the regression ftting error will be smaller, and the ftness will be higher.

(4) Population iteration: the roulette method is used to select the cross population. All individuals in each generation will have a certain probability of variation and genotype change, which is conducive to a better solution. The optimal solution of each generation is recorded in the population iteration process. When the

maximum number of iterations is reached, the optimal value in the optimal solution of each generation is the fnal prediction result.

(5) Advantages of GA-ELM model: the neural network input parameters of elm are optimized through the process of genetic algorithm, including structural parameter optimization and weight threshold parameter optimization. On the basis of genetic algorithm, it can improve the accuracy of elm output prediction value, so as to achieve better prediction efect, and provide a basis for the subsequent assessment of carbon emission reduction contribution by scenario.

### **Monte Carlo simulation**

Monte Carlo method, also known as random simulation method, key is to generate random numbers that obey a certain distribution. The basic principle is as follows.

Let the cumulative frequency function of the random variable be *X*, and the latter  $F<sub>X</sub>(x)$  is the random variable defned on (0,1), which is recorded as *U*, and its cumulative frequency function is

$$
F_U(\alpha) = P\{U \le \alpha\} = P\{X \le F^{-1}(\alpha)\} = F_x F_x^{-1}(\alpha) = \alpha
$$
\n(13)

where  $F_x^{-1}$  is the inverse function of  $F_x$  because

$$
F_U(\alpha) = \alpha \tag{14}
$$

The description *U* is subject to uniform  $(0,1)$  distribution. As long as a random number  $\alpha$  evenly distributed on (0,1) is generated, a value of the random variable *X* can be obtained

$$
X = F_x^{-1}(\alpha) \tag{15}
$$

On the basis of the above principle, a hypothetical function  $Y = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  is set, in which the probability distribution of variables is  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ . A set of random variable values  $x_{1i}, x_{2i}, \dots, x_{ni}$  are obtained by generating random numbers, and the value  $y_i$  of the function *Y* is obtained from the corresponding relationship.

$$
y_i = f(x_{1i}, x_{2i}, \cdots, x_{ni})
$$
\n(16)

A set of function *Y* values  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n$  can be obtained by repeating multiple independent sampling. When the simulation times are enough, the probability distribution of the function *Y* can be obtained approximately. Therefore, paying attention to the selection of probability distribution of random variables is the key to Monte Carlo simulation.

The implementation process of Monte Carlo simulation is as follows.

- (1) Identify the probability distribution of key infuencing factors from 2003 to 2019 as the basis of Monte Carlo simulation.
- (2) Set the interval value of each infuencing factor according to the planning value of infuencing factors and the change law of historical data.
- (3) Set the scenario according to the interval value combination of diferent infuencing factors.
- (4) According to the scenario, the values of infuencing factors are substituted into the GA-ELM model for calculation, and the corresponding prediction value interval is obtained.
- (5) Carry out carbon emission reduction contribution assessment according to scenarios according to the predicted value range.

### **Validation**

#### **GA‑ELM model training**

Combined with the relevant data of carbon emission reduction contribution of State Grid Corporation of China from 2003 to 2019, this paper is divided into 17 samples per year. Because the number of data samples is less than 20, the leave one out cross validation method is used to divide the original samples into training set and test set, and replace them into GA-ELM model for training. One sample is selected as the test set and other samples as the training set for 17 times. Calculate the model prediction and evaluation indexes RMSE, MAPE, and Mae after each division. Of which,

RMSE is root mean square error

$$
RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\hat{y}_i - y_i)^2}
$$
 (17)

MAPE is mean absolute error

$$
MAPE = \frac{100\%}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left| \frac{\hat{y}_i - y_i}{y_i} \right| \tag{18}
$$

MAE is mean absolute error

$$
MAE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} |\hat{y}_i - y_i|
$$
 (19)

The range of evaluation indexes is  $[0, +\infty)$ , which is equal to 0 when the predicted value is completely consistent with the real value; the greater the error, the greater the evaluation index value.

The calculation results of model training prediction and evaluation indicators are shown in Table [2](#page-9-0).

<span id="page-9-0"></span>**Table 2** Calculation of prediction and evaluation indexes

Test set S/N	<b>RMSE</b>	<b>MAPE</b>	MAE
1	2.317193	0.357813	2.315615
$\overline{2}$	1.295339	0.313542	1.159566
3	3.782085	0.03289	3.782001
$\overline{4}$	3.113254	0.008745	2.825851
5	3.040492	0.017905	2.635209
6	6.095427	0.021399	6.069361
7	2.981327	0.008311	2.742712
8	1.895883	0.01402	1.773419
9	6.684465	0.192899	6.045269
10	1.376654	0.013619	1.104589
11	9.296619	0.172793	8.799222
12	32.58407	0.0993	29.19733
13	27.2893	0.082711	21.80134
14	18.84218	0.185172	13.27881
15	19.16411	0.10642	15.35119
16	114.4797	0.057287	83.28221
17	79.3367	0.045019	66.28528
Average	19.62205	0.101756	15.79112



<span id="page-9-1"></span>**Fig. 6** Comparison of learning accuracy of three prediction models

It can be seen from Table [1](#page-2-0) that the average values of RMSE and Mae after training with the leave one cross validation method are less than 20, and the average value of MAPE is less than 1, which can meet the error standard. The current model can be used to predict the contribution value of carbon emission reduction of power grid enterprises in the future.

In order to highlight the prediction accuracy of the model, this paper compares the prediction accuracy of the model with the prediction results of traditional BP neural network,

support vector machine model, and limit learning machine model. The results are shown in Fig. [6](#page-9-1).

The fitting accuracies  $R^2$  of three models are 0.9973, 0.8796, and 0.4724.

Therefore, the GA-ELM model has higher accuracy and reliability. The current model can be used to predict the contribution value of carbon emission reduction of power grid enterprises.

#### **Carbon emission reduction contribution assessment**

This paper uses the crystal ball plug-in to identify the probability distribution of the historical data of 13 key infuencing factors in Excel as the basis of Monte Carlo simulation.

According to the planning value of infuencing factors and the change law of historical data, four scenarios are set: control type, enhanced line loss reduction type, enhanced consumption of clean energy type, and enhanced electric energy substitution type.

Scenario 1 is a control type, which is a normal development trend without intervention of other policy factors in the future obtained by analyzing the historical data of infuencing factors, and is used to form a control with the latter three scenarios.

Scenarios 2, 3, and 4 are to strengthen the three subindicators of carbon emission reduction contribution, respectively, adjust the interval value of key infuencing factors of the sub-indicators, keep the other infuencing factors unchanged, and generate the enhanced interval value combination of infuencing factors. Taking scenario 2 as an example, based on the interval value of control infuencing factors, the value interval of power grid line loss is reduced according to the lower confdence limit of crystal ball plugin predictor by 5%, and the value interval of high-voltage transmission line length and high-voltage transformer availability factor is increased according to the upper confdence limit of predictor by 5%, so as to obtain the interval value combination of enhanced line loss infuencing factors.

The interval values of each infuencing factor are set as shown in Table [3](#page-10-0).

### **Carbon emission contribution prediction and assessment analysis**

Four groups of random numbers of infuencing factors in 2000 are generated from the change interval of infuencing factors in four scenarios as the input value of GA-ELM model. The trained GA-ELM model is used to predict the contribution of carbon emission reduction and sort out the output results. The predicted value ranges corresponding to the change ranges of diferent infuencing factors under the four scenarios are shown in Table [4](#page-10-1).



<span id="page-10-0"></span>

<span id="page-10-1"></span>**Table 4** Prediction range of carbon emission reduction contribution



The ftting distribution of 2000 carbon emission reduction contribution predicted value output by each scenario with crystal ball plug-in is shown in Fig. [7](#page-11-0) (the unit of all carbon emission reduction contributions in the figure is  $10^4$  t).

Due to the large deviation of the output results of a small number of predicted values, the predicted values with a cumulative probability of 10–90% are selected as the effective predicted values. The fltered predicted value range is shown in Table [5.](#page-12-0)

Comparing the predicted value of carbon emission reduction contribution of the four scenarios, it can be seen that since the consumption of clean energy currently accounts for a large part of the contribution to carbon emission reduction, the predicted value range refects that the carbon emission reduction contribution of the development model of strengthening the consumption of clean energy is the highest. In addition, adopting the development mode of strengthening power substitution can also bring considerable contribution to carbon emission reduction. According to the future development trend, without considering the introduction of new policies and changes in the development mode of power grid companies, the control impact factor interval value and GA-Elm model are used to predict the carbon emission reduction contribution index in the next 5 years, and the predicted average value is 20101.4 $\times$ 10<sup>4</sup> t. As shown in Fig. [8,](#page-12-1) in each scenario, the cumulative probability of exceeding the predicted value is 32.6%, 38.3%, 69.8%, and 59.8%, respectively. It can also be concluded that the development model of strengthening the consumption of clean energy and strengthening the substitution of electric energy can better achieve the contribution index of carbon emission reduction in the future.

Adopting the development mode of strengthening clean energy consumption is the future development direction of power grid enterprises most advocated in the text. Under this mode, it can maximize the carbon emission reduction capacity of power grid enterprises, and be in an active and advantageous position in the future carbon emission reduction development planning goals. For power grid enterprises, in addition to pursuing the economic benefts of enterprise development, they also need to pay attention to the social and environmental benefts brought by the development process. Therefore, combined with MCS-GA-ELM power grid enterprise carbon emission reduction contribution assessment under various scenarios, it can provide **Fig. 7** Fitting distribution of

sion reduction contribution

<span id="page-11-0"></span>

00 18000 19000 20000 21000 22000 23000 24000

#### **a**)**Distribution fitting diagram of control prediction results**



#### **b**)**Distribution fitting diagram of strengthen reduce line loss type prediction result**





#### **c**)**Distribution fitting diagram of prediction results of enhanced consumption of clean energy**

**d**)**Distribution fitting diagram of strengthen electric energy substitution prediction results**



<span id="page-12-1"></span>**Fig. 8** Probability of achieving carbon emission reduction contribution targets in four scenarios

<span id="page-12-0"></span>**Table 5** Prediction range of carbon emission reduction contribution after screening



new research ideas for the future comprehensive development and strategic layout of power grid enterprises.

Compared with previous studies on carbon emission reduction, the new concept of carbon emission reduction contribution proposed in this paper is used to study power grid enterprises to explore their future development path in response to the dual carbon goals proposed by the state, and opens up a new research direction from the perspective of power grid enterprises. It has great innovative value in theory and application prospects.

## **Conclusion**

In this paper, GA-ELM model is used to predict the contribution value of carbon emission reduction under various scenario development modes in the future. The prediction error is reasonable, and diferent scenario development modes are evaluated according to the results.

This paper has the following suggestions for the development of power industry in the future:

(1) In the future development of China's power industry, the scale of clean energy power generation will gradually expand. In the scenario of strengthening clean energy consumption, the corresponding power grid enterprises contribute the most to carbon emission reduction in all scenarios. Therefore, we should frst vigorously develop clean energy power generation, increase investment in clean energy power generation, and increase the proportion of clean energy power generation in the total power generation. For example, time of use tarif is adopted to improve the demand of users for clean energy power generation, vigorously develop energy storage technology, and enhance the consumption capacity of clean energy power generation.

- (2) Due to strengthening the reduction of line loss, the contribution of power grid enterprises to carbon emission reduction is not signifcantly higher than that of the control. It is suggested to maintain the current line loss rate level and ensure the power supply reliability of the current scale power generation level.
- (3) As the contribution of strengthening the electric energy substitution scenario to the carbon emission reduction of power grid enterprises is signifcantly higher than that of the control scenario, it is suggested to use the increased clean energy power generation as an alternative energy for some fossil fuel energy, such as vigorously developing coal to electricity, accelerating the construction of electric vehicle network, and striving to achieve a higher level of electric energy substitution and emission reduction.

The above suggestions have certain reference signifcance for the future investment direction, management mode, and production mode of China's power grid enterprises. In the future development and construction of power grid enterprises, it is an inevitable trend to carry out the updating and upgrading of power generation technology and implement the reform of power grid policies. On the basis of this paper, we can continue to carry out research on the feld of strengthening clean energy consumption and carbon emission reduction of power grid enterprises, and we can also study new carbon emission reduction contribution management mode on the basis of new historical data changes.

In the future, with the introduction of further control measures taken by China on carbon emission reduction, the structure of multi-energy power generation will be further adjusted; combined with the impact of COVID-19 on the world's energy development, new development trends will appear on the basis of existing historical data. The model needs to predict the contribution value of carbon emission reduction more accurately according to the new data obtained in the future and provide more valuable development models and strategies. There are more development models for the contribution of carbon emission reduction. This paper only lists four, and there are other development models with better effects to be further explored.

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**Data availability** The data used in the current research can be obtained from the energy statistical yearbook and the social responsibility report of power grid enterprises.

#### **Declarations**

**Ethics approval and consent to participate** Not applicable.

**Consent for publication** Not applicable.

**Competing interests** The author declares no competing interests.

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