**REVIEW ARTICLE**



# **A Comprehensive Review on RSM‑Coupled Optimization Techniques and Its Applications**

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#### **Abstract**

This review article provides a comprehensive analysis of the optimization techniques used in a wide range of engineering applications. The comparison of various approaches such as Response surface methodology (RSM), Genetic algorithm (GA) and Artifcial neural network (ANN) towards optimization problems is widely elaborated. The factors that afect the optimization using various techniques are addressed along with the safety precautions to be followed in a sequential manner to achieve a better optimization model. Furthermore, the coupling of two distinct algorithms (RSM-GA, ANN-GA) are explained and this hybrid approach provides a better localizing of the optimal point with a higher accuracy.

# **1 Introduction**

Optimization commonly referred as a mathematical technique with a combination of scientifc ideas and strategies for resolving a quantitative problem in various engineering felds [\[1](#page-17-0), [2\]](#page-17-1). The term "Optimization" emerged as a result of the fnding that quantitative issues in diferent engineering domains share a signifcant mathematical foundation with wide features occurring in common. Due to this similarity, the principle of optimization and its techniques can be used for designing and solving a wide range of problems. There are various steps to be understood by the researchers before addressing the optimization problem. It involves determining the requirement for optimization, allocating design variables, developing constraints and goal functions, establishing variable boundaries, selecting an appropriate optimization technique, and ultimately attaining the desired solution [\[3](#page-17-2)]. The process of determining the input variables that produce a function's maximum or minimum output is referred to as optimization. The continuous function optimization is one of the most widely occurring optimization problems in machine learning where both the input and output arguments are numerical values [\[4\]](#page-17-3). There are diferent algorithms available for optimization [\[5](#page-17-4)] which are categorized based on the informational data provided regarding the target function and towards the usage of gradient function. At the early stage, the optimization problems were solved based on the gradient information such as Bisection method, Gradient Descent and Newton's method [[6](#page-17-5)]. Some of these algorithms can be used only for single input variable whereas others can be used for more than one input variable but with the existence of only a single global optimum. Generally, the gradient is obtained as a frst step from the objective function which then performs the search of optimum value based on the step size. The step size used in the optimization algorithms afect the speed and accuracy of the results. A lower step size requires many data points but performs with a slower running rate and a higher step size runs more rapidly with fewer data points. Further, a lower step size results in minimal error on detecting the optimal point compared to higher step size. Thus, a lower step size is usually preferred in order to avoid the zigzag movement of the search space, thereby missing the probability of identifying the optimal point [\[7](#page-17-6)]. The major disadvantage with lower step size is a higher computation time which can be avoided by reducing the search space involved in the optimization algorithm.

Later, for complex objective functions where it was too difficult to find the derivatives, methods that were not reliant on gradient information (direct algorithms, stochastic, and population algorithms) were utilized [[8\]](#page-17-7). The existence and accessibility of fast computing software are also one of the major reasons for the wide growth in diferent algorithms introduced towards the optimization problems [\[9](#page-17-8)]. In 1951,

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Box and Wilson introduced the technique named Response Surface Methodology (RSM) which examines the relation between various input parameters with its associated output response [\[10\]](#page-17-9). The fundamental objective of RSM was to fnd the best response through a series of design experiments which are planned sequentially. The developers adopted a second-degree polynomial to perform this task although they were aware about the rough estimate. Still, they tried to explore as it was so simple for its evaluation and usage with less fact available about the mechanism. Later, researchers were much involved in developing a higher-level technique to provide an optimal solution that could solve a problem faster than the traditional algorithms and ended up in generating metaheuristic algorithms.

Metaheuristic algorithms in general, direct the search process by examining the search space to fnd the global optimum in lieu of local optimum values  $[11–13]$  $[11–13]$  $[11–13]$  $[11–13]$ . On the basis of search process criteria, metaheuristic algorithm is classifed into (i) Metaphor based (or) Population based and (ii) Non-metaphor based (or) Neighborhood based algorithm. Succinctly, population based algorithm make use of multiple solutions in the process of searching whereas neighborhood based algorithm make use of single solution by means of local search [[14,](#page-18-0) [15\]](#page-18-1). Variable neighborhood search (VNS), Tabu search (TS), Microcanonical annealing (MA), Guided local search (GLS) etc. are the popular neighborhood-based algorithms. On the other hand, Population based algorithms are nature inspired algorithms that could handle high dimensional optimization problems [[16](#page-18-2), [17](#page-18-3)]. This is sub-categorized into (i) Evolutionary computation, (ii) Swarm intelligence, (iii) Physics inspired algorithm, and (iv) Human inspired optimization algorithm. Evolutionary algorithms adopt the laws of natural evolution to provide a global optimum with signifcant and unbiased results. In this, population is initially created, and the algorithm parameters such as reproduction, crossover, mutation, and survivor selection are applied to obtain the optimal solution until it meets the termination criteria. Genetic Algorithm (GA), Genetic programming (GP), Diferential evolution (DE), Evolutionary programming (EP), Evolutionary statistics (ES) are some of the notable evolutionary algorithms [\[18,](#page-18-4) [19](#page-18-5)]. Swarm Intelligence adopt the natural aspects of birds and mammals. Particle swarm optimization (PSO), Artifcial bee colony (ABC), Honey bee mating optimization (HBMA), Ant colony optimization (ACO), Firefy algorithm (FA), Glow-worm algorithm (GWA), Dolphin optimization algorithm (DOA), Bat algorithm (BA), Cuckoo search (CS), Shuffled frog leaping algorithm (SFLA), Lion based algorithm, Monkey based algorithm, Wolf based algorithm, are the widely accepted swarm intelligence algorithms [[20,](#page-18-6) [21\]](#page-18-7). All the above-mentioned swarm intelligence-based algorithms work on the natural behavior of each organism taken into account. It has its pros in fnding faster optimal

solution but delivers the local optimum values than converging to a global optimum because of its search process in a small space rather than in a large space [[22\]](#page-18-8). Physics based algorithms adopt the laws of nature such as (i) Newton's law of gravitation, (ii) Quantum mechanics, (iii) Theory of Universe—Big Bang theory of expansion and Big Crunch theory where all matters are pulled by black hole, (iv) Electromagnetic systems, (v) Electrostatic systems—Coulomb's law, Gauss law, Newtonian law of Mechanics, Superposition principle of Electrostatics, (vi) Glass demagnetization, (vii) Galaxies. Simulated Annealing (SA), Gravitational search algorithm (GSA), Galaxy based search algorithm (GBSA), Charged system search (CSS), Atom search optimization (ASO), Sine Cosine algorithm (SCA), Henry gas solubility optimization (HGSO), Equilibrium optimizer (EO) [[23,](#page-18-9) [24](#page-18-10)]. Strategy based on human's problem-solving intelligence, potential to comprehend, rationale, acquiring knowledge, ability to grasp and withhold ideas, supervisory and managerial powers etc. were set as basic inputs to build Human inspired optimization algorithms (HIOA). Many algorithms have been developed recently by acquiring the latest trends in human society. HIOAs such as Corona virus herd immunity optimization (CHIO), League championship algorithm (LCA), Harmony search (HS), Forensic based investigation optimization (FBIO), Political optimizer (PO), Teaching learning based optimization (TLBO), Heap based optimizer (HBO), Battle royale optimization (BRO), Human urbanization algorithm (HUA) are currently in research for solving optimization problem [\[22](#page-18-8), [25](#page-18-11)[–28](#page-18-12)].

After a span of 9 years since the introduction of RSM, Genetic algorithm (GA) gained importance with major research from Holland in 1960's [\[29\]](#page-18-13). As the name suggests, this algorithm was based on the natural selection theory from Charles Darwin. This algorithm was the frst technique to adopt the system using multiple operators (crossover, recombination, mutation, and selection). Each of these operators forms a crucial role of the genetic algorithm model in terms of problem resolution. Compared to conventional algorithms, the genetic algorithm can handle complex objective functions parallelly. Since then, it has become popular not only in the feld of biotechnology but also in the various other engineering felds (electrical, mechanical, aeronautical. etc.) where the optimization problems were more common [\[30,](#page-18-14) [31](#page-18-15)]. Along with the RSM and GA techniques, the artifcial neural network (ANN) was also in its feld of research in early nineteenth century [[32](#page-18-16)]. Initially, only neurons with a single layer were used for its research until 1980. It was the work of Werbos on backpropagation which improved the neural network towards optimization problems [\[33](#page-18-17)]. At the beginning, only a specifc activation functions were used for training the neural networks but then after the boom of deep learning technologies in 2010, there are multiple training algorithms and activation functions which efficiently modeled the system [\[34](#page-18-18)]. There are certain drawbacks associated with these individual optimization techniques. The RSM has its restrictions with its user defined boundary conditions [\[35\]](#page-18-19) while the GA involves multiple operators with higher computational time for its optimization. The training of ANN for its optimal model with diferent algorithms still requires more inspection for its better validation of response [\[36\]](#page-18-20). The above-mentioned algorithms are widely used for optimization problems in diferent felds separately and now the concept of coupling two diferent algorithms (RSM-GA, ANN-GA) are also tested for its performances in improving the accuracy. The coupling of two methods for optimization problems can deal with the problems exhibiting several local minima in the ftness function with its quick convergence towards the optimal solution [[37](#page-18-21), [38\]](#page-18-22). The main objective of present paper is to understand the principles of diferent algorithms towards the optimization problems, the parameters involved, logic of identifying the optimum point within its search space with a comparison of results from various domains of engineering.

# **2 Discussions**

# <span id="page-2-2"></span>**2.1 Response Surface Methodology**

Response surface methodology, in accordance with the design of experiments implies the relationship between the response/output variables of interest and the associated/input variables through a set of mathematical and statistical techniques. Since its inception in the early 1950s, it has been at the forefront in research and industrial experimentation felds [[39,](#page-18-23) [40\]](#page-18-24). Here, the response is the dependent variable and the parameters that affect the response are the independent variables. Optimization process through RSM is obtained through certain stages which is described in Fig. [1.](#page-2-0) Even though the relationship between them is concealed, it can be approached by a low degree polynomial model which is represented as

$$
y = f(X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots, X_n) \beta + e
$$
 (1)

where y is the response and the function  $X_1, X_2, X_3, \ldots, X_n$ is the independent variable with  $\beta$  as coefficient and  $e$  is the experimental error  $[41]$ . From Eq.  $(1)$  $(1)$ , determining the function *f* implements the prediction of response for any values of X that are not included in the experiment. The representation of  $f(X_1, X_2, X_3, \ldots, X_n)$  is called a response surface. The approximation of the response function is called RSM. However, if the function *f* is known, then the values of *X* can be obtained by the calculus method to give the optimum response. But, in most of the scenario, the mathematical form of function *f* is unknown. In these cases, the method of approximation is applied within the stipulated experimental region by the polynomial degree.



<span id="page-2-0"></span>**Fig. 1** Flow chart of RSM

<span id="page-2-1"></span>This method of approximation happens when the independent variables are fed as inputs and the corresponding outputs (response) are estimated according to the specifed function that exhibits between the response and the independent variables. It then analyses the values of inputs with respect to the responses and performs the approximation in order to determine the optimum response. The approximation model technique does this work. Hence, if there exists a linear relationship between response and input values then the method of approximation is a linear model, whereas if there are highly non-linear outputs with respect to input values, then it follows the cubic model approximation technique. Likewise, few model approximation techniques are available and will be executed based on the input and response values. The optimum response within the experimental region is found out by eliminating the low signifcant terms and by minimizing the ftting errors that occurs during the application of approximation model technique. This can be done by sequential replacement, stepwise replacement, and exhaustive search methods [[41](#page-18-25), [42](#page-18-26)]. If the function takes the degree of 1, then it is known as frst degree model. In this model, the response obtained is linear fashion with the independent variables and is given by Eq.  $(2)$  $(2)$  $(2)$  [[43](#page-18-27), [44\]](#page-18-28)

$$
y = \beta_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \beta_i + e
$$
 (2)

On the other hand, the function with two degrees is known as second degree model. In this second degree model, the response obtained is in the form of curvature which is represented as Eq.  $(3)$  [[45,](#page-18-29) [46\]](#page-18-30).

$$
y = \beta_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_i + \sum_{i=1}^n \beta_{ii} x_i^2 + \sum_{i < j=2}^n \beta_{ij} x_i x_j + e \tag{3}
$$

#### **2.1.1 Experimental Designs for Fitting the Model**

From a set of unorganized data, getting the accurate ftting of response designs is quite computationally complex and involves the precision approach for estimating the response. In such cases, designs for ftting the model could be a better option wherein the independent variables of any combinations can be fed as input for generating the data in estimating the response [\[47,](#page-18-31) [48](#page-18-32)]. The designs for frst- and seconddegree models helps in analyzing the correctness of the response and the region of appropriate response within the experimental region. The frst degree designs available in the literature are (i)  $2^k$  factorial design, (ii) Plackett Burman design, (iii) Simplex design [\[49,](#page-18-33) [50\]](#page-18-34). The second degree designs include (i)  $3<sup>k</sup>$  factorial designs, (ii) Central composite designs, (iii) Box-behnken design [[51](#page-18-35), [52](#page-18-36)] (Table [1](#page-4-0)). Second degree model takes the general form of Eq. [\(3](#page-3-1)) as mentioned in the manuscript. It is noticeable that the seconddegree model contains (i) linear terms, (ii) pure quadratic terms and (iii) interaction terms. This second order model is used when there exists a response surface in the form of curvature. The response obtained using this second degree model can be in any one of the standard shapes (referring to surface 3D plot). For example, an upward curve indicates that the model has found the apparent maximum value, and a bowl shaped curve indicates the apparent minimum value and there also exists a minimax system where they exhibit both minimum and maximum behaviour. The logic behind this optimization is the analogy of Taylor series (used to approximate the complex functions). First order Taylor series is analogous to frst order regression model, and second order Taylor series is analogous to second order regression model [\[53](#page-19-0)].

Response surface methodology (RSM) is a key optimization approach and it has undergone substantial progress to address the concerns in multiple engineering domains. Based on the observational data reviewed from various literatures [\[47](#page-18-31)], around 14.7% of research works in engineering have used RSM as its optimization tool. Among them, a few research works have been discussed in this Section. The saline wastewater treatment adopting electrochemical <span id="page-3-1"></span><span id="page-3-0"></span>oxidation process was studied towards the removal of chemical oxygen demand (COD) and total organic carbon (TOC) efficiency  $[74]$  $[74]$ . The experiments were performed considering the parameters of pH, applied voltage, salt concentration and reaction time used for the process. The prediction of the model adopted was higher than 0.95 towards the output responses and it was inferred to a better tool for identifying the optimal parameters towards the wastewater treatment. The efectiveness of biodiesel as an alternative fuel for compression ignition engines has been researched for many years but still the commercialization of biodiesel as a fuel is constrained due to higher cost involved. Kusum oil has been utilized to make improved biodiesel [\[75\]](#page-19-2) using the process of transesterifcation to address the aforementioned concerns. The yield in the biodiesel along with other physio-chemical properties were the responses and the experimental model was predicted better using RSM model and was found to be acceptable as per ASTM6751 standard listed for biodiesel. Coal is one of the most predominant energy resources in the world due to higher availability and its afordability towards the prices. Due to scarcity in the higher-grade coals, the lower grade coals must be used to meet the energy demands of the present load conditions. The lower graded coal has a signifcant impact on the process towards higher ash and moisture content, thus Behera et al. [[76](#page-19-3)] investigated the process of reducing ash content from lower grade coal with variables such as temperature, time and acidic concentrations. The optimization was carried out using central composite design (CCD) methodology and it was inferred that acidic concentrations was more efective in minimizing the ash content compared to impact on time and temperature. Nanofuids are currently the most relevant feld for researchers due to its widespread use in business as well as in technology for its improvement in heat transfer. Hatami [\[77\]](#page-19-4) formulated a wall to understand the impact of nanofuids from improving heat transfer mechanism using RSM model to obtain an increased Nusselt number. The fndings of the research concluded an optimized diameter upto 1.0 can enhance the natural heat convection with better Nusselt number. The depletion of petroleum-based resources has not only brought a change in the modes of transport from moving towards electric vehicles but also led to the development of alternative fuids for transformer applications. Any new fluids before being introduced into transformer should be tested for its better dielectric properties. Thus, the transesterifcation of Pongamia Pinnata oil (PPO) was performed considering reaction time, temperature and catalyst where its response towards the breakdown voltage, viscosity and fre point were modelled using RSM [[78](#page-19-5)]. The quadratic equation was used for its responses which resulted in better signifcance on the analysis of variance (ANOVA) and could be used as

<span id="page-4-0"></span>



a suitable tool for optimizing the parameters involved in transesterifcation of insulating oils towards transformer applications.

# **2.2 Genetic Algorithm**

Genetic algorithm is a stochastic search algorithm that adopts the principle of "survival of the fttest" and the elimination of unftted individuals. Since GA is adopted from the principle of natural selection and reproduction from biological processes in nature, there are many terms in GA that are comparable with the biological terms. As defned by the natural biological process, optimization involved in GA are random. However, GA let us to set the level for randomization and have control over it [\[79](#page-19-19)[–81](#page-19-20)]. The following terms can be understood from Fig. [2](#page-6-0). (1) Population, (2) Chromosome, (3) Genes, (4) Allele.

Population is all possible solutions for the specifed problem represented by the set of individual chromosomes, computationally represented as bit strings (assignment of binary numbers to the chromosome). In that, one possible solution (a bit) to the specifed problem denotes chromosome, which is comprised of genes. The value given to each gene represents the allele [[82\]](#page-19-21). In addition to that, population in actual (or) real system must be converted to the population that is easily understood in the computational space. Genotype and Phenotype are the two terminologies that represent the population in computing system and the population in actual system respectively. Encoding and Decoding are the mapping systems that transforms from phenotype to genotype and from genotype to phenotype in a design space respectively (Fig. [3\)](#page-6-1).

The general structure of GA (Fig. [4\)](#page-7-0) for solving optimization problems start with the random initialization of population and each of the chromosomes in population is evaluated by ftness function and follows the termination path to reach the optimal solution. If the termination criteria are not met by the chromosomes, then new population is generated by applying the GA operators such as selection, crossover, mutation [\[83](#page-19-22)]. It is then evaluated by ftness function and checked for its termination criteria to obtain the optimal solution. The process of generation of new population with the help of GA operators occur until the termination criteria is satisfed. This is the general framework of GA [[82\]](#page-19-21). Naturally, GAs has a large number of parameters that must be modifed to achieve the optimal performance for any optimization challenge.The important parameters that one should know for performing any optimization problems using GA are (i) Fitness function, (ii) selection, (iii) Crossover, and (iv) Mutation.

## **2.2.1 Fitness Function**

It is one of the main input parameters that defnes the optimization problem. In other words, it is the only information available for solving the problem [\[84\]](#page-19-23). For any kind of optimization, say for instance minimization or maximization problem, ftness function is needed to evaluate the

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

<span id="page-6-0"></span>**Fig. 2** Primary terminologies in Genetic Algorithm

<span id="page-7-0"></span>

individual chromosome in a population which ultimately gives a ftness score. This ftness score helps in fnding out the best individual chromosome for giving optimal solutions or improvisation by successive iterations using GA operators [\[85,](#page-19-24) [86\]](#page-20-0). The ftness function for each problem is diferent. According to the stated problem, a particular ftness function should be applied. The trickiest element of creating a challenge for genetic algorithms is coming up with a ftness function for the given situation. Error measures like Euclidean distance and Manhattan distance are frequently employed as the ftness function for classifcation tasks involving supervised learning. Whereas basic functions can be employed as the ftness function for optimisation problems, such as the sum of a group of computed parameters relevant to the problem domain. In simple terms, ftness function can be explained as shown in Eq. ([4](#page-7-1)).

Function 
$$
y = f(x)
$$
 (4)

For instance,  $y = 2(x^2 - 3x)$  where fitness function is  $2(x^2 - 3x)$ . This indicates that the output variable *y* is dependent on *x* variable and in order to know at what value of *x* , the function *y* is minimized or maximized, optimization is performed and the plausible way of solving is through GA. The value of *x* is represented as the solution which can be either identifed as the solution for maximization or minimization problems. For any optimization problems, ftness function takes the value of each parameter that is known to contribute the output i.e., it can be a sum of all individual parameters that contribute

towards a positive output or it can take parameters that have positive and negative efects on the output. In the fitness equation, square terms take the positive coefficient whereas the individual term takes a negative coefficient. In optimization problems, objective value is same as ftness function that is of great importance in determining the output or response, provided the factors afecting the response is specifed in the equation [\[87\]](#page-20-1). Hence to get the global optimum value, each solution is evaluated through the ftness function. The best solution after ftness function evaluation is then subjected to genetic operators such as crossover and mutation [[88](#page-20-2)]. Recently, many methods have been implemented in promoting the accuracy of ftness function evaluation in fnding the global optimum. A, K-means index (KMI), Partition separation index (PSI), Separation index (SI), Davis–Bouldin index (DBI), fuzzy c-means index (FCMI) [[89](#page-20-3), [90\]](#page-20-4), Gaussian process [[91](#page-20-5)], Artifcial neural network (ANN) [[84](#page-19-23)].

<span id="page-7-1"></span>**2.2.1.1 Selection** It is the essential parameter in choosing the best solution after ftness function evaluation. It is also referred as reproduction operator [[92\]](#page-20-6) because production of new individuals depend on the selection criteria and the possible solutions are obtained through reproduction and crossover [\[93](#page-20-7)]. The general strategy employed during the process of selection is that the individual with the highest ftness score is selected and copied for creating new population whereas the individual with least ftness score is eliminated  $[81]$  $[81]$ . But it is not assured that the highest fitness score always builds the global optimum solution. To the contrary, the least ftness score individual can also contribute reaching towards the optimum. Having said that, an appropriate selection strategy must be employed such that the least ftness score individual is not completely eliminated and is taken into account for selection [[94\]](#page-20-8). The selection operator is used to choose solutions from the current population to build the next population of solutions, which serves as the foundation for the algorithm's subsequent iteration. However, variety from crossing and mutation must be balanced with selection. Strong selection will result in the dominance of highly ft individuals in the population, diminishing the diversity necessary for innovation and advancement. On the other hand, extremely weak selection may cause overly sluggish evolution [\[53](#page-19-0)]. Selection methods that are available in literatures are (i) Roulette wheel selection, (ii) Stochastic universal sampling, (iii) Linear rank selection, (iv)

<span id="page-8-0"></span>**Table 2** Selection techniques/methods in Genetic algorithm

Selection method	Description	References
Roulette wheel selection	(i) Also known as fitness proportional selection (ii) In this selection method, the wheel containing different individual is spun and a fixed pointer is placed for selection (iii) The wheel is partitioned according to the size of the individual i.e., larger the size of indi- vidual, larger area it takes in the wheel and vice versa. So, when the wheel is spun selecting the larger area is of higher probability (iv) The process of selecting individual proceeds till the smallest individual is pointed (v) Therefore, the probability of individual selection is directly proportional to the fitness function score and is given by $P_i = \frac{f_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n f_i}$ (5) where $f_i$ is the fitness score of ith individual and N is the size of population	[93, 95]
Stochastic universal sampling	(i) Variant of Roulette wheel selection which was developed to overcome the convergence of solu- tion at local optima in roulette wheel selection (ii) In this, N equally spaced pointers are employed for selection where N is the number of indi- viduals to be selected and the space between the pointers is given by 1/N (iii) However, the individual is partitioned according to the size like in the case of roulette wheel selection (iv) Hence, random individual is selected based on the position of pointer	[96, 97]
Linear rank selection	(i) In this method, each individual is assigned a rank based on the fitness score (ii) Consider a population of size N, rank N is given to the best individual followed by $N-1$ , $N-2$ , 1 to the least individual (iii) This method also overcome the convergence issue to local optima (iv) The probability of selection is given by $P_i = \frac{Rank_i}{N(N-1)}(6)$	[94, 98]
Exponential rank selection	(i) his method follows the same procedure of linear rank selection for assigning ranks to the indi- vidual (ii) However it differs in the selection probability criteria (iii) Here, probability is exponentially expressed and is given by $P_i = \frac{C^{N-t}}{\sum_{i=1}^{N} C^{N-i}}$ (7) where C is the base of exponent; $0 < C < 1$	[94, 95, 99]
Tournament selection	(iv) Compared to linear rank selection, the chance of eliminating the least individual is consider- ably less, thereby leading to select global optima (i) Most prominent selection technique in genetic algorithm (ii) In this technique, N individuals in a population are selected at random and are ranked based on the fitness score (iii) The number of N individuals are referred as tournament size (iv) The highest fitness score of individuals from the tournament size gets selected for further process	[94, 99]
Truncation selection	(v) Hence, larger the tournament size, higher is the chance of selecting the highest fitness score individual, thereby leading to eliminate the lowest fitness score individual (vi) In most cases, tournament size is kept as 2 (Binary tournament selection) to avoid the conver- gence to local optima (i) One of the simplest techniques that is based on the fitness scores of the individuals (ii) Truncation threshold is the main factor in selecting the individuals which ranges from 50%-10% (iii) This percentage denotes the proportion of population to be selected and any individual below this threshold is eliminated (iv) This often results in stuck with local optima	$[100 - 102]$

Exponential rank selection, (v) Tournament selection, (vi) Truncation selection [[93,](#page-20-7) [95\]](#page-20-9) (Table [2\)](#page-8-0).

**2.2.1.2 Crossover** After the selection of best individuals, crossover genetic operator is applied in order to create a new individual that derives the properties of best individuals (Umbarkar and Sheth). In simple terms, production of new ofspring from the best parents by means of exchanging the genes is referred as crossover. This fnds an advantage in fnding out the new individual whose characteristics are way better than their parents. There are many classifcations of crossover operators available in the literature which is represented in Fig. [5](#page-9-0) [\[103](#page-20-16)[–108](#page-20-17)].

**2.2.1.3 Mutation** Mutation is an evolution operator that helps in modifying the genes in a chromosome after the crossover operator is applied [\[109](#page-20-18)]. This holds true because at times, the new individual produced from crossing over may stuck at local optima, even if their parents are the best individual. Mutation operator fnds advantage in genetic algorithm by exploring the search space when the crossover operator makes use of it to fnd the best individual. Here, the individual is modifed based on the mutation probability

[\[110](#page-20-19)]. By enabling mutation operator, it is known that the diversity of the entire population is maintained and avoids the convergence to local optima [\[111](#page-20-20)]. In literature, there are diferent types of mutation operators but is not limited to the mutation operators in Table [3.](#page-10-0)

The genetic algorithm has undergone extensive research, testing, and use in numerous engineering domains. It not only offers an alternate approach to problem-solving, but it also outperforms the other conventional approaches in the majority of the issues studied [[122\]](#page-20-21). Many of the real-world issues of determining the best parameters could be challenging for conventional approaches, but they are perfect for genetic algorithms [[123](#page-20-22)]. Over the past few decades, many intrusive modeling techniques have been formulated for granular soils. This has led to a signifcant increase in the difficulty of choosing an acceptable model with the required features based on standard testing and with an efficient method for determining the factors involved in geotechnical felds. So, in order to examine an appropriate sand model, Jin et al. [[124](#page-21-0)] investigated the suitable parametric detection of both drained and undrained testing process. The estimation of minimal objective parameters along with lower strain levels were determined based on the GA optimization where the experimental and simulation results provided a



<span id="page-9-0"></span>**Fig. 5** Classifcation of crossover operators

## <span id="page-10-0"></span>**Table 3** Types of mutation operators in genetic algorithm



good correlation. Reverse osmosis (RO) has a broad range of industrial applications as a separation technique in comparison with traditional thermal processes [\[125\]](#page-21-1). The pilot-scale model for RO have been tested for its removal of chlorophenol from the waste-water  $[126]$  $[126]$  $[126]$  and the optimization using GA was created with the objective of increasing the chlorophenol rejection and minimizing the operating pressure conditions. The fndings indicated a chlorophenol rejection of upto 26.57% with its pressure maintain within its limits. Algal biofuels are gaining popularity in the effort of cutting down the carbon emissions in the environment, but it is still unclear on how the fuel generations are sensitive to diferent variables [[127\]](#page-21-3). Azari et al. [[128](#page-21-4)] studied the impact of diferent parameters (aeration, time, light intensity, pH) towards the rate of  $CO<sub>2</sub>$  biofixation of Chlorella vulgaris. The prediction of experimental dataset achieved using GA was around 93% and the same model is to be understood for large scale experimented to know the limitation of the techniques towards the commercial scale of biofuels. Introducing the renewable energy generations (solar, wind) into the grid using power electronic devices needs a perfect synchronization and thus the smart grids are developed which provide a better metering of load at the distribution level and indicating the level of harmonics at the transmission levels [\[129](#page-21-5)]. The integration of diferent generations is to be allocated with economic loading and Arabali et al. [[130](#page-21-6)] have used the integration of solar and wind generations along with energy storage devices on meeting the HVAC loading. The suggested methodology using GA optimization is a perfect tool for energy management which can be used by the utility companies to combine the diferent energy generations on meeting the various loads such as residential, commercial, and industrial feeders with an optimal cost.

## <span id="page-11-2"></span>**2.3 Artifcial Neural Network**

The Artifcial neural network (ANN) performs the functional relation between the input and output similar to the bio-logical neural system in the human body [\[131\]](#page-21-7). The interconnection of diferent neurons is processed through wide range of layers. The typical architecture of ANN model with single hidden layer is shown in Fig. [6](#page-11-0). The ANN involves three diferent layers: frst layer is the input layer where the experimental data points are provided to the network, the second layer is known as hidden layer where the input neurons are allowed to perform transformations using an activation function and the third layer is the output layer which calculates the responses from the network. Depending on the regression performance, the number of hidden layers can be increased to improve the accuracy. With increase in the hidden layer, the complexity of the model also increases. So, generally the researchers test the network with an optimum level of hidden layers [[132](#page-21-8)] to reduce the difficulty involved



<span id="page-11-0"></span>**Fig. 6** Typical Architecture of ANN model

in the formulating the objective function and at the same time maintain a higher precision. The ANN performs training, validation and testing process from the input and output data informations. Each of these steps could be assigned with certain percentage from informational database to perform the neural network. Mostly, the training phase requires a higher information compared to validation and testing phases [[133](#page-21-9), [134\]](#page-21-10). From the neural network formed, the Eq. ([8\)](#page-11-1) could be defned as:

$$
Y = \sum_{j=1}^{n_h} \left\{ f_2 \left[ W2_{j,1} \ast \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{n_i} \sum_{j=1}^{n_h} f_1 \big( X_i \ast W1_{i,j} + a_j \big) \right\} \right] + b \right\}
$$
(8)

<span id="page-11-1"></span>where  $n_i$  is the number of neurons in the input layer,  $n_h$  is the number of neurons in the hidden layer,  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  are the functions used between input layer to hidden layer and hidden layer to output layer, *W*1 and *W*2 are the weights between input layer to hidden layer and hidden layer to output layer, *a* and *b* are the bias added to the weights in the input and hidden layers, *X* indicates the input variables and *Y* is the output responses respectively.

The human brain works for each second on categorizing the informations as useful and non-useful groups. Similar phenomenon is exhibited in ANN where the segmentation process helps in utilizing the required information with the activation function module [[135](#page-21-11)]. The main role of the activation function is to convert the input variables which are weighted along with a bias towards the hidden layer or output layer. The diferent hidden layers in the neural network will utilize the similar activation function while the output layer using a diferent activation depending on the prediction of the neural network model [[136\]](#page-21-12). Without the use of activation function, the neural network would only perform a linear transformation from the weights and bias added to the input variables. Thus, the activation function will introduce a non-linearity in network during its feedforward propagation. There are diferent activation functions (Binary step function, linear activation function, non-linear activation functions) which are used in ANN [\[137,](#page-21-13) [138](#page-21-14)]. The binary step function compares the input with a threshold value to determine the activation process and the linear activation function is termed as no activation function since it only does linear transformation towards the input variables [[139\]](#page-21-15). Both binary step function and linear activation function has a gradient as zero and constant value which has no relation towards the input variables, and hence could not be used for backpropagation [[140\]](#page-21-16). Further, irrespective of the number of hidden layers used, the neural network is reduced to a single layer when the activation function is linear. The non-linear activation function overcomes the above limitations by allowing backpropagation due to its gradient information and makes it feasible to determine which weights present in the input neurons could be modifed to provide a better prediction of the output response [[141\]](#page-21-17). The diferent non-linear activation functions used in the neural network are sigmoid or logistic function, hyperbolic tangent function, Rectifed Linear Unit and Exponential Linear Unit [\[34,](#page-18-18) [141](#page-21-17)]. Among the above-mentioned functions, the sigmoid and hyperbolic tangent functions are widely used. The non-linear activation functions are used in the hidden layer whereas the linear activation functions are used in output layer. The ANN is a supervised machine learning techniques that uses diferent training algorithms such as Levenberg Marquart (LM), Bayesian regularization (BR) and Scaled Conjugate algorithm (SCG) for training the network [\[142,](#page-21-18) [143](#page-21-19)]. LM algorithm is the fastest training algorithm with higher requirement of memory space. BR algorithm minimises the combination of squared errors and weights to identify the perfect model for its generalization of network. SCG algorithm uses gradient techniques for its update on weights and bias which are more efficient towards large problems with lesser memory requirement than Jacobian calculations involved with LM and BR algorithms. Each of these algorithms formulates a unique methodology on framing the ANN model that affects the precision during training process [\[144\]](#page-21-20) which is brief discussed below:

#### **2.3.1 Levenberg Marquart Algorithm**

The Levenberg–Marquardt algorithm was developed to operate on loss functions that takes the form of sum of squared errors and it functions without calculating the correct Hessian matrix. On the contrary, it utilizes the Jacobian matrix and gradient vector for its calculation. The approximation of Hessian matrix  $(H_{LM})$  with a second order derivatives and gradients  $(g)$  is shown in Eqs.  $(9)$  $(9)$  and  $(10)$  $(10)$  $(10)$  once the parametric function takes the shape of sum of squares [[145](#page-21-21)].

<span id="page-12-1"></span><span id="page-12-0"></span>
$$
H_{LM} = J^T J + \lambda I \tag{9}
$$

$$
g = J^T e \tag{10}
$$

where *J* is the Jacobian matrix which involves the first order derivative of error involved in the network regarding the bias and input weights,  $\lambda$  is the regularizing parameter, *I* is the identity matrix and *e* represents error obtained from the network. The parameter  $\lambda$  forms a major role in the functioning of LM algorithm. If  $\lambda$  is set to zero, then Eq. ([9\)](#page-12-0) of LM algorithm approaches the Newton method and if  $\lambda$  is assigned a larger value, the LM algorithm are efective as a gradient descent algorithm [[146](#page-21-22)]. It is much simpler to calculate the Jacobian matrix compared to Hessian matrix using a conventional backpropagation method. The LM algorithm utilizes these approximations towards the Hessian matrix calculation in the Newtons method for updating the values at each iteration. The network performance towards error will be reduced during each iteration and this approach of LM algorithm accelerates the convergence and makes it very fast while training the neural network compared to traditional gradient methods [[147](#page-21-23)].

#### **2.3.2 Bayesian Regularization Algorithm**

Bayesian regularization (BR) algorithm based on Bayes' theorem is a mathematical process that converts a non-linear regression into a statistical problem [[148\]](#page-21-24). The benefts of Bayesian regularized artifcial neural network (BRANN) is the predictions towards the model to be more robust eliminating the need for validation procedures. These networks provide solution to a wide number of problems involved in quantitative structure activity relationship models. They are challenging to overtrain because data techniques offer a Bayesian objective criterion for ceasing the training. They are especially difficult to overfit due to the BRANN's ability to calculate and train on a variety of useful network characteristics or weights, effectively turning off those that are not signifcant. The number of weights in a traditional neural network algorithm is typically much larger than BRANN [[142\]](#page-21-18). The Bayesian regularization (BR) algorithm adjusts the input bias and weights in accordance with the optimization from LM algorithm [[149](#page-21-25)]. A perfect generalization of the network is created by minimizing the weights and squared errors. The network weights are being introduced in the fitness function  $(F(\omega))$  as shown below [\[150](#page-21-26)]:

$$
F(\omega) = \alpha E_{\omega} + \beta E_D \tag{11}
$$

where  $E_{\omega}$  and  $E_D$  are the sum of squared network weights and errors with  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  representing the parameters of the objective function. Once the optimum values of these parameters have been identifed, the algorithm is switched towards LM technique for its calculation on Hessian matrix and updated weights are used for the minimization of objective function.

#### **2.3.3 Scaled Conjugate Algorithm**

The conjugate gradient algorithms execute their searches in a way that generally leads to a convergence faster than the steepest descent method despite maintaining the error minimization attained in the previous iterations [[151\]](#page-21-27). The calculation of step size is performed using line search method rather than the computation of Hessian matrix for determining the optimal distance to advance in the direction of search space. Further, the step size will be altered during each iteration such that it minimizes the objective function in the direction search of the conjugate gradient. In addition to line search method, there are various methods that can be used for estimating the step size. The concept was to integrate the conjugate gradient methodology towards the LM algorithm which was studied by Moller [[152](#page-21-28)] and was determined as Scaled Conjugate Algorithm (SCG). The efectiveness of this algorithm depends on the parameters involved in designing the model which is modifed at each successive iteration and thus provides a significant benefit compared to algorithms based on line-search.

Researchers from diferent engineering domains have started adopting the ANN for optimization and classifcation. The prediction of flash floods being one of the major disasters for the humans depends on diferent parameters (wave pattern, wind speed, precipitation intensity) and its forecasting on floods with a perfect sensing rate was studied using LM, BR and SCG algorithms [\[153\]](#page-21-29). The performance on non-linear data information provided a better result with BR algorithm compared to LM and SCG. In a similar manner, the stock prices in the Indian market which holds a fnancial data was understood using ANN with three diferent algorithms [\[154\]](#page-21-30). The prices which are dynamic in nature is more difficult for its prediction showed a 99.9% accuracy on the diferent algorithms from the initial dataset whereas a signifcant drop of 3 to 4% was observed for data information over a period of 15 min. Amalanathan et al. [[155\]](#page-21-31) have studied the impact of ageing on transformer insulation and its classifcation using Principal component analysis (PCA) and Artifcial neural network. From the observations, the authors have concluded that ANN provides a better accuracy towards the interpretation of trained network compared to PCA. Similarly, the ANN regression model have been used for predicting of viscosity of nanofuids using three diferent algorithms (LM, BR, SCG) and inferred that LM

algorithm provided a better prediction than the other techniques  $[156]$  $[156]$  $[156]$ . The effect of trash content and truck-related air emissions have been investigated using geographic information system (GIS) along with ANN model [[157](#page-21-33)], and a higher performance was observed only when the maximum values for combined wastes and trash were less prominent in the input data statistics on wastages. Banerjee et al. [[158\]](#page-21-34) have understood the wastewater treatment using graphene oxide nanoplatelets with its characterization on toxicity and evaluation on optimal amount of safranin performed using ANN model. From the fndings, 99.8% removal of dye was achieved after 2 h of treatment with the safranin solution of 50 mg/L maintained at a pH and temperature of 6.4 and 300 K respectively. Ghosal et al. [[159\]](#page-22-0) used the ANN model for optimizing the depth of  $CO<sub>2</sub>$  LASER-MIG welding used for alloy containing aluminum and magnesium. The algorithm used backpropagation for training the network using both BR and LM techniques with its optimization results correlating well with the experimental values. Ranade et al. [\[160](#page-22-1)] have used the approach of hybrid chemistry to estimate the oxidation of hydrocarbons at high temperatures resulting from experiments on pyrolysis using ANN. The usage of ANN technique for identifying the reaction rates at an early stage led to a reduction in chemical reactions occurring at the pyrolysis stage. The chlorophyll model which is one of the precautionary methods to limit the onset the algal bloom was investigated for its optimization using ANN to reduce the expenses incurred on the marine ecosystem  $[161]$  $[161]$ . The biodiesel production from algae oil is gaining more importance in the recent years due to higher amount of oil content and better productivity. Thus, the transesterifcation of algal oil at low temperatures towards the production of biodiesel was experimented and analyzed using both RSM and ANN [[162](#page-22-3)]. It was inferred that regression analysis provided a better prediction from the ANN model compared to RSM.

### **2.4 RSM‑GA**

The response surface methodology (RSM) combines the design of experiments (DOE) along with statistical methods for creating and optimizing empirical models. In the recent years, the search space based on genetic algorithm [\[163\]](#page-22-4) from the polynomial equation generated from RSM is gaining more importance in the deep learning methodologies. The idea of fnding the optimal point in a problem is done after the completion of response surface model where the GA search algorithms is incredibly effective  $[164]$  $[164]$ . The integration of RSM with GA for the selection of near optimal target value have been demonstrated by Khoo and Chen in the early twentieth century [[165](#page-22-6)]. The researchers developed an outline on the hybrid prototype model to deal with single and multi-response variables with various constraints.

model

<span id="page-14-0"></span>

The flowchart indicating the working of RSM-GA model is shown in Fig. [7](#page-14-0).

Initially, the independent variables and dependent output response are added to the RSM model with individual range. The design experiments are formulated based on central composite design (CCD) as discussed in Sect. [2.1.](#page-2-2) Once the experiments are performed, the regression analysis is performed and tested for the analysis of variance (ANOVA) to understand the diference between the predicted and actual results. The quadratic equation depending on the number of variables is generated which is then optimized using GA using suitable parameters such as population size, mutation function, crossover fraction and selection function. The algorithm iterates until it reaches the tolerance limit and maximum number of generations. The isolation of fungus producing proteases from microorganism was assessed with diferent parameters (temperature, sucrose and pH) to yield a maximum enzyme using hybrid RSM-GA optimization model [\[166](#page-22-7)]. The highest enzyme production was observed at pH of 8 with its temperature maintained between 30 and 60 °C. Sabry et al. [\[167](#page-22-8)] investigated the impact of tensile strength on aluminum material in frictional stir welding process in underwater considering the diameter, rotating and travelling speed as its input variables. The hybrid model of RSM and GA observed a higher accuracy compared to its individual optimization which improved the issue involved with the welding process in the pipeline. Hasanien et al. [[168\]](#page-22-9) developed a design for the cascaded control of power conversion unit using Taguchi method and studied the efect of the design parameters during fault conditions in the grid using RSM-GA. On comparing both Taguchi method and RSM-GA, the transient responses were found to better in the former compared to later due to larger design experiments. The focculation process has been induced in microalgae using alkali [[169\]](#page-22-10) where the multi-objective optimization gave lower values of input variables yielding a higher efficiency while using RSM model. To the contradict, the RSM-GA model results in higher values for both the input variables and on the efficiency of microalgae. Similarly, the waste water treatment using iron electrode pairs towards the removal of turbidity was experimented [[170\]](#page-22-11) with multiple variables such as intensity of current, time for settling and electrolysis process, and temperature. An increase of 3% in the turbidity removal was inferred from hybrid model (RSM-GA) compared to the optimization performed using RSM model separately. The problems involved in the real time applications often involve multiple responses where GA can be well adapted with RSM model in fnding the near feasible solutions. Thus, this hybrid combination of RSM and GA provides a better optimization strategy in solving issues for problems involving large number of input variables and output responses.

# **2.5 ANN‑GA**

The neural network model developed based on the relation between input and output variables depends on the training, number of hidden layers with multiple trial and error methodologies adopted until a higher prediction in the experimental dataset is being obtained. The coupling of ANN with GA was introduced in order to attain a higher precision in fnding the optimum point from the search space [[171,](#page-22-12) [172](#page-22-13)]. The ANN trained using a feedforward or backpropagation algorithm is used to identify the ftness function which coupled with GA formulates the objective function towards optimization problem. It is possible to create the best ANN model for usage in a specifc problem using a variety of GA techniques. GA is used to improve interpretation, topology, feature selection, training, and weights associated with ANN [\[173\]](#page-22-14). The major problem involved with ANN is deciding the optimal confgurations required for the network such as number of layers, neurons in the hidden layer and activation functions. There is no clear methodology used for architecture settings involved in ANN where its coupling with GA can create a better optimal design thereby improving its reliability and performance of the network [[174](#page-22-15)]. It is well known that improvement in the ANN model is achieved in fnding its optimal weights. The ANN coupled with GA can be used to identify the optimum weights where the probability of termination towards local minima using gradient descent method is overcome with its convergence to global minimum value [\[175](#page-22-16)]. Further, selecting a suitable input dataset is an important issue with ANN model where its coupling with GA identifes the required input dataset reducing their dimensional space and statistically improving their selection accuracy better than traditional methods [[176\]](#page-22-17). Thus, ANN performs well in coherence with GA in fnding the optimal model and approximating the parameters to increase their efficiency. Figure  $8$  shows the steps involved in formulating the ANN-GA model. Initially, the ANN model creates the input layer and output layer with optimized number of hidden layers chosen and trained with a suitable algorithm as mentioned in Sect. [2.3](#page-11-2).

The model is allowed for its training until a higher  $\mathbb{R}^2$ value is obtained. If a very lower precision is obtained, then network is trained again with a modification of weights and bias in a suitable neuron of hidden layer and output layer [[177\]](#page-22-18). Once a better prediction of network is being created with lower mean square error, the weights, bias and activation functions used for transformations are formulated to obtain the required objective function. This functional equation is then optimized using GA with a suitable constraints (lower bounds, upper bounds, nonlinear constraints) and algorithm settings [[178](#page-22-19)]. The iteration is continued until a lower tolerance in fnding the optimal point is being reached else the GA parameters (selection, mutation and crossover) are to be reverted back for its modifcations. Bahrami et al. [[179\]](#page-22-20) investigated the design towards the infow of groundwater using hybrid coupling methods ANN-GA and simulated annealing techniques. Among the diferent hybrid algorithms, the ANN-GA observed a better correlation which was helpful for mining engineers to approach an efective management towards the controlling of water in mining. The starting of combustion in engines considering the mixture of air and fuel along with ignition timing was trained with neural network and its optimization results using GA technique enhanced the performance of neural network [[180](#page-22-21)]. The coal fred power plant contributes a major part in the generation of electrical energy throughout the world. The parameters afecting the power generation (pressure, temperature, air ratio for fuel) was optimized using ANN-GA method  $[181]$  $[181]$  and a better plant efficiency was obtained due to the reduction of fuel consumption. The transformer which is responsible for reliable electrical supply from the generation towards distribution unit involves diferent faults during its operational life time. The identifcation of faults based on the dissolved gas performance and ANN-GA modelling has provided a better classifcation of faults which is helpful for insulation engineers [\[182](#page-22-23)]. Bülbül et al. [[183](#page-22-24)] determined the risk involved with reinforced concrete buildings from the database on 329 buildings in Bitlis, Turkey with the hybrid coupling of ANN-GA. The initial population of GA was performed as the frst step where its initial parameters (population number, selection and mutation rate, iterations) govern the network

<span id="page-16-0"></span>

parameters (number of input layers, hidden layers, activation, and training function) of ANN. The ftness value of each gene used for generating the ANN structure was performed for selection, cross-over and mutation process to identify the most successful gene towards the hybrid model. The proposed hybrid model provided a better network parameter (98% accuracy) in identifying the earthquake risks involved in RC buildings which is not possible with the traditional trial and error methodology. Smaali et al. [[184\]](#page-22-25) experimented the degradation of Azithromycin (AZM) which was considered as one of the major drug used during the pandemic situation of COVID 19. The Like-Fenton experiment was used for identifying the AZM

degradation rate considering the impact of various factors such as pH, initial concentrations, doses of  $FeSO<sub>4</sub>$  and NaClO). The optimization process was performed using the ANN-GA algorithm to identify the conditions leading to maximum AZM degradation. The ANN-based model was frst determined with additional responses developed from central composite design (CCD) for higher accuracy which then coupled with GA determined the conditions towards maximum AZM degradation rate. Thus, the nonlinear regression analysis provided a better model with ANN-GA algorithm which could be a major alternative towards pharmaceutical industry. The nanotechnology that has got its applications towards various engineering

felds, where the prediction on the density of nanofuids with respect to several parameters (temperature, volume fraction, density of base fluid) is now possible using hybrid ANN-GA model [\[185](#page-22-26)]. Thus, the hybrid coupling of ANN-GA model could provide a better optimization result compared to individual algorithm models. Nevertheless, the training of ANN towards the dataset can impact the optimization problem performed with GA. Hence, a suitable model framed through the ANN is a precautionary measure to be followed in this hybridization which should be considered by the deep learning researchers before performing the optimization.

# **3 Future Perspective and Conclusions**

Optimization is one of the key parameters required in the diferent applications of engineering domains. The techniques used for implementing the optimization (RSM, GA and ANN) can result in diferent accuracies based on the problems involved within the search space. Despite being efective, capable of handling issues involving numerous design variables, taking interaction effects into account, and requiring minimum parameter modifcation, RSM only provides local optimal solutions. The problem of creating the objecting function along with multiple operators in GA makes them computationally complex. Further, the selection method used for ftness function evaluation should yield a result without premature convergence. The optimal design of ANN model with required neurons in the hidden layer and appropriate activation function is tedious process requiring trial and error methods with its training and testing to be validated with multiple algorithms. Thus, using a technique called hybridization, which combines two separate algorithms (RSM-GA and ANN-GA), it is possible to overcome the above limitations involved with the individual optimization methods. In addition, the hybrid statistical approach is known to increase the accuracy of the process variables and responses in detecting the global optima involved in the optimization process compared to traditional single techniques. Hybrid statistical approach is known to increase the accuracy of process variables and responses when compared to traditional single techniques. Thus, these optimization strategies could be useful for the engineers working in the various technical felds and may pave the way for real time applications.

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#### **Declarations**

**Conflict of interest** The authors declare no confict of interest.

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