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Self‑organized direction aware for regularized fuzzy neural networks

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Abstract

The fuzzy neural networks are efficient hybrid structures to perform tasks of regression, patterns classification and time series prediction. To defne its architecture, some models use techniques that fuzzifcation of data that can divide the sample space in grid format through membership functions. The models that use such techniques achieve results with a high degree of accuracy in their activities, but their structures can vary greatly when the number of features of the problem is high, making of fuzzy neurons an exponential relationship between the number of inputs and the membership functions numbers used in the model of the input space. A multi-neuron structure can make the training and update of parameters damaging to the model's computational performance, making it impossible to work with problems of high dimensions or even with a high number of samples. To solve the problem of the creation of structures of hybrid models based on neural networks and fuzzy systems this paper proposes the use of a novel fully data-driven algorithm. This algorithm uses an extra cosine similarity-based directional component to work together with a traditional distance metric and nonparametric Empirical Data Analytics to data partitioning and forming data clouds in the frst layer of the model. Another problem that exists in fuzzy neural network models is that some of their parameters are defned at random, so they challenging to interpret and can introduce casual situations that may impair model responses. In this paper we also propose the defnition of bias and weights of the neurons of the frst layer using the concepts of the wavelet transform, allowing the parameters of the neurons also to be directly related to the input data submitted to the model. In the second layer, the unineurons aggregate the neurons generated in the frst layer and a regularization function is activated to determine the most signifcant unineurons. The weights used in the third layer, represented by an artifcial neural network with an activation function of type ReLU, are generated using the concepts of the extreme learning machine. To verify the new training approach for fuzzy neural networks, tests with real and synthetic databases were performed for pattern classifcation, which led to the conclusion that the cloud-based approach and neuron weights generation based on the data frequency of training proves that the accuracy of the model is adequate to perform binary classifcation problems.

Keywords Fuzzy neural networks · SODA · Wavelets · ReLU · Pattern classifcation

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1 Introduction

The fuzzy neural networks (FNN) are hybrid models based on the incorporation of fuzzy systems, which are capable of generating interpretability to the results, with the generalist capacity of artifcial neural networks, which have several training techniques to solve problems that normally humans act. These structures have been applied in several contexts in the area of artifcial intelligence, such as binary patterns classifcation (de Campos Souza et al. [2018](#page-12-0); de Campos Souza and de Oliveira [2018;](#page-12-1) Lughofer et al. [2018](#page-13-0); Lughofer [2012\)](#page-13-1), regression (Juang et al. [2010\)](#page-13-2), time series forecasting (Han et al. [2018](#page-13-3); Bordignon and Gomide [2014](#page-12-2); Rosa et al. [2013;](#page-14-0) de Campos Souza and Torres [2018\)](#page-12-3), rainfall (Sharifan et al. [2018](#page-14-1)), fnancial market (Rosa et al. [2014\)](#page-14-2), software effort estimation (Souza et al. [2018](#page-14-3)), failures prediction in some engineering contexts (Song et al. [2018](#page-14-4); Tang et al. [2017](#page-14-5); de Jesús Rubio [2018](#page-13-4), [2017\)](#page-13-5) and so on.

The architecture of fuzzy neural networks have layers that can perform various tasks. Generally, the frst layer is responsible for partitioning the input data according to the chosen fuzzy technique. Fuzzy neurons are constructed according to training data and may generate fuzzy rules for the construction of expert systems (Buckley and Hayashi [1994\)](#page-12-4). In the second layer, the updating of the parameters involved may involve techniques such as backpropagation, gradient descent (Amari [1993\)](#page-12-5) and extreme learning machine (Huang et al. [2006\)](#page-13-6), which consists in determining parameters of the hidden layers of the networks at random and calculate the fnal weights using least squares concepts. The second layer may contain artifcial neurons or neural logic neurons. These neurons enable the transformation of model elements into if/else fuzzy rules. The neurons *and*, *or*Pedrycz and Gomide ([2007\)](#page-13-7), *unineurons*, Pedrycz [\(2006\)](#page-13-8) and *nullneuron*, Hell et al. ([2008\)](#page-13-9) are highlighted as neurons with this capacity. Evolutionary and genetic approaches are also used. Finally, these models use a neural network of aggregation with artifcial neurons to carry out their responses. In general, neurons use activation functions commonly known to obtain the fnal network output.

When verifying that fuzzy neural networks sufer from problems related to the number of neurons, regularization techniques were incorporated into the models, allowing the less signifcant neurons to be discarded from the model. In particular techniques such as the regression ridge (Tik-honov et al. [2013\)](#page-14-6), LARS (Hansen [1982\)](#page-13-10) and the bootstrap lasso (Bach [2008](#page-12-6)) are employed to defne the architecture of fuzzy neural networks. This paper presents a new training model in fuzzy neural networks where the frst layer of the model has its fuzzy neurons with the synaptic weights and bias defned by wavelet transform functions (Daubechies [1990\)](#page-12-7). The Gaussian membership functions of the fuzzy neurons in the frst layer are defned by an algorithm fully data-driven called SODA (Self-Organized Direction Aware) (Gu et al. [2018\)](#page-13-11). This algorithm applies the concept of a directional component based on extra cosine similarity to work in conjunction with a traditional distance metric. In summary, SODA uses nonparametric Empirical Data Analysis (EDA) (Angelov et al. [2017](#page-12-8)) operators to automatically identify the critical modes of the data pattern from the empirically observed training samples and uses them as focal points to form data clouds. The second layer of the model is composed of unineurons that perform the aggregation of the fuzzy neurons of the frst layer. In order to eliminate unnecessary neurons to the model, the algorithm bolasso Bach [\(2008\)](#page-12-6) to eliminate neurons using the lasso method according to a decision consensus and some bootstraps. Finally, the artifcial neural network is present in the third layer of the model, but diferent from the model of de Campos Souza et al. [\(2018](#page-12-0)), where linear activation functions are used, the concepts of rectifed linear units (ReLU) are used (Maas et al. [2013](#page-13-12)).

This type of approach using logical neurons that aggregate neurons formed by cloud techniques allows a more signifcant number of input data to be worked by the model in a time less than exponential approaches proposed by models that have fuzzifcation processes based on the model Anfs (Jang [1993\)](#page-13-13).

To verify the capacity of the new model, binary pattern classifcation tests will be performed in order to evaluate aspects of model accuracy. The paper is organized as follows: Sect. [2](#page-1-0) presents the main concepts that guide the research, such as the defnitions of fuzzy neural networks, wavelets, regularization and activation functions. Section [3](#page-5-0) will present the steps and concepts related to the methodology proposed to generate the frst layer weights of the FNN based on the wavelet transform, and the concepts of SODA to construct the frst layer neurons, in addition to the artifcial neurons based on the activation functions of type ReLU to perform the of binary patterns classifcation in the output of the model. Section [4](#page-8-0) will present the methodology used in the tests, including the bases, and the algorithms used to perform the binary pattern classifcation. Finally, in Sect. [5](#page-11-0) the conclusions of the work will be presented.

2 Literature review

2.1 Fuzzy neural network

Over the last few decades, fuzzy systems and their hybrid derivations have been shown to be able to simulate the typical human reasoning ability in a computationally efficient

way. An important area of current research is the development of such systems with a high level of fexibility and autonomy to evolve their structures and knowledge based on changes in the environment, being able to handle modeling, control, prediction and classifcation of patterns in a situation not stationary, susceptible to constant changes. Fuzzy neural networks are characterized by neural networks composed of fuzzy neurons (Pedrycz and Gomide [2007](#page-13-7)). The motivation for the development of these networks lies in its easy interpretability, being possible to extract knowledge from its topology. These networks are formed by a synergistic collaboration between fuzzy set theory and neural networks allowing a wide range of learning abilities, thus providing models that integrate the uncertain information handling provided by the fuzzy systems and the learning ability granted by the neural networks (Pedrycz [1991](#page-13-14)). Thus a Fuzzy neural network can be defned as a fuzzy system that is trained by an algorithm provided by a neural network. Given this analogy, the union of the neural network with the fuzzy logic comes with the intention of softening the deficiency of each of these systems, making us have a more efficient, robust and easy to understand a system.

2.2 Fuzzy neural networks models

FNNs are composed of logical neurons, which are functional units that add relevant aspects of processing with learning capacity. They can be seen as multivariate nonlinear transformations between unit hypercubes (Pedrycz [1991\)](#page-13-14). Studies propose the generalization of logical neurons *and* and *or* that are constructed through extensions of *t-norms* and *s-norms*. One of the most important features of these neurons, called *unineurons*, Pedrycz ([2006\)](#page-13-8) and *nullneurons*, Hell et al. [\(2008](#page-13-9)), are their ability to vary smoothly from a neuron *or* to *and* and vice versa, depending on the need for the problem to be solved. This causes the fnal structure of the network to be determined by the training process, making this structure more general than fuzzy neural networks formed only by classical logical neurons.

These intelligent models have an architecture based on multilayer networks, where each one of them has diferent functions for the activities carried out. The layers of a fuzzy neural network can act as fuzzifcation, transforming numerical data into representations of fuzzy sets, other layers can perform with the defuzzifcation making the inverse process (convert fuzzy sets into numerical values). Some layers have with fuzzy rules, where they are usually called of fuzzy inference systems and layers representing neural aggregation networks. Each model has layers and diferent training techniques to solve problems. As examples of three-layers architectures, the proposals of Souza [2018](#page-14-7), de Campos Souza and Torres ([2018](#page-12-3)), Guimarães et al. [\(2018\)](#page-13-15), de Campos Souza et al. [\(2018\)](#page-12-9) and Guimaraes et al. ([2018](#page-13-16)). Already the models that have four and fve layers in its structure, we can highlight the models of Lin et al. ([2018](#page-13-17)) and Kasabov [\(2001](#page-13-18)) respectively. In most models, the frst layer is the one that partitions the input data, transforming them into fuzzy logical neurons. Algorithms common to these approaches are fuzzy c-means (Bezdek et al. [1984](#page-12-10)), clouds (Koutrika et al. [2009\)](#page-13-19) and functions based on ANFIS techniques (Jang [1993\)](#page-13-13). The fuzzy neural networks may also present training characteristics based on recurring functions (Yen et al. [2018](#page-14-8); Ballini and Gomide [2002\)](#page-12-11), evolving concepts (Silva et al. [2014](#page-14-9); Rosa et al. [2013,](#page-14-0) [2014\)](#page-14-2) and contours-correlated functions (Ebadzadeh and Salimi-Badr [2018](#page-13-20)).

In this paper, the highlight will be the extreme learning machine (Huang et al. [2006\)](#page-13-6) in conjunction with fuzzy data processing techniques in the frst layers. These approaches have already been used in models such as (Souza [2018](#page-14-7); de Campos Souza and Torres [2018;](#page-12-3) Lemos et al. [2012;](#page-13-21) Rong et al. [2009\)](#page-13-22), difering from the model proposed in this paper by the type of algorithm used for the fuzzifcation process.

The main diference will be between the change of the ANFIS model (Jang [1993](#page-13-13)) that uses equally spaced membership functions to a cloud approach. The nature of the input data of the model will have greater signifcance for the construction of the neurons than an exponential relationship of grid division proposed by models that are based on the techniques of the division of the sample space. This will allow the fuzzifcation technique used in the fuzzy neural network to create the number of neurons in the frst layer much lower when compared to the approaches that use the ANFIS. In techniques that the main fuzzifcation parameters are based on structures of pertinence functions, many neurons may represent empty or inexpressive spaces for the problem. The SODA technique works with the representativeness of the data, allowing only representative neurons to be created according to the density of the data in the sample space. The fuzzifcation approach in the input sets defnes the number of neurons that will make up the network. Therefore the cloud fuzzifcation technique leaves the fuzzy neural network more optimized, without losing its ability to solve problems.

Another diference in the approach proposed in this work is how the parameters of the neurons of the frst layer (weight and bias) are defned according to the wavelet transform (Daubechies [1990](#page-12-7)), thus allowing a relationship between the input data of the model and its initial parameters. For this, the concept of the discrete wavelet transform is used through the application of flter banks. This technique can process data at diferent scales or resolutions and, regardless of whether the function of interest is an image, a curve or a surface, wavelets offer an excellent technique in representing the detail levels present in the data, thus allowing the values recovered are derived from the representation of the input data. In this case, the values obtained by the techniques to be assigned to the weights and bias of the neurons of the frst layer will have a representation on the data that will operate, diferent from the traditional approach that determines these values in a random way and without a meaning of relation with the of the problem.

The unineuron proposed by Lemos et al. (2010) (2010) is used to facilitate the actuation of the model, being able to act in different moments like type AND and type OR. This approach allows greater fexibility of the rules of the fuzzy inference system. Unlike the FNN algorithms explained in this topic, the model proposed in this paper intends to use a data cloud technique to create the frst layer neurons. Also, in the neuron of the neural aggregation network, we want to insert an activation function that does not activate all fuzzy rules of the problem at the same time. This means only a few features are taken into account in the problem, making the neural network sparse, efficient and easy to process.

2.3 Evolving hybrid models

Intelligent evolving systems are based on online machine learning methods for intelligent hybrid models. These systems are characterized by their ability to extract knowledge from data and adapt their structure and parameters to better adapt to changes in the environment (Kasabov and Filev [2006\)](#page-13-24). They are formed by an evolutionary set of locally valid subsystems that represent diferent situations or points of operation. The concepts of this learning methodology make it possible to develop unsupervised clustering algorithms capable of adapting to changes in the environment as the current knowledge is not sufficient to describe such changes (Angelov et al. [2008](#page-12-12)).

The term "evolving" should not be confused with "evolutionary." Genetic algorithms (Goldberg and Holland [1988\)](#page-13-25) and genetic programming, are based on the evolutionary process that occurs in populations of individuals and use operators based on the concepts of selection, crossing, and mutation of chromosomes as adaptive mechanisms. Also evolving fuzzy systems are based on the process of evolution of individuals throughout their life; specifcally the process of human learning, based on the generation and adaptation of knowledge from experiences (Angelov and Zhou [2008](#page-12-13)).

The evolving models and evolutionary algorithms, which alter parameters as they update new training inputs (Angelov et al. [2010](#page-12-14)), can be exemplifed by the hybrid models proposed by Angelov et al. ([2008](#page-12-15)), Zhang et al. ([2006](#page-14-10)), Aliev et al. [\(2009](#page-12-16)), Liao and Tsao ([2004\)](#page-13-26), Kasabov [\(2001](#page-13-27)), Wang and Li [\(2003](#page-14-11)), Yu and Zhang ([2005\)](#page-14-12), Hell et al. [\(2014](#page-13-28)), Kasabov and Song [\(1999\)](#page-13-29), Fei and Lu [\(2018\)](#page-13-30), Maciel et al. [\(2012\)](#page-13-31), Yu et al. [\(2018\)](#page-14-13), Pratama et al. ([2017](#page-13-32)), Rong et al. [\(2009\)](#page-13-22), Lughofer ([2011\)](#page-13-33), Angelov and Filev ([2004](#page-12-17)), Subramanian and Suresh [\(2012\)](#page-14-14), Rong et al. [\(2006\)](#page-13-34), Rong et al. [\(2011\)](#page-14-15), Kasabov and Song [\(2002](#page-13-35)), de Campos Souza et al. [\(2019](#page-12-18)), Angelov and Kasabov ([2005\)](#page-12-19), Angelov et al. [\(2004](#page-12-20)),

Baruah and Angelov [\(2012](#page-12-21)), Angelov and Kasabov [\(2006](#page-12-22)), Perova and Bodyanskiy ([2017](#page-13-36)).

2.4 Self‑organized direction aware data partitioning algorithm‑ SODA

The process by which fuzzy models treat data can determine how hybrid models can have the interpretability of their results closer to their real world. Models that are fully data-driven are the targets of recent research and have achieved satisfactory results in a cloud data cluster. This clustering concept focused on data is called Empirical Data Analytics (EDA) (Angelov et al. [2017](#page-12-8)). This concept brings together the data without statistical or traditional probability approaches, based entirely on the empirical observation of the input data of the model, without the need for any previous assumptions and parameters (Gu et al. [2018\)](#page-13-11).

SODA is a data partitioning algorithm capable of identifying peaks/modes of data distribution and uses them as focal points to associate other points to data clouds that resemble Voronoi tessellation. Data clouds can be understood as a particular type of clusters, but with a much different variety. They are non-parametric, but their shape is not predefned and predetermined by the type of distance metric used. Data clouds directly represent the properties of the local set of observed data samples (Gu et al. [2018](#page-13-11)). The approach employs a magnitude component based on a traditional distance metric and a directional/angular component based on the cosine similarity.

The main EDA operators are described in Angelov et al. ([2017\)](#page-12-8), which are also suitable for streaming data processing. The EDA operators include the Cumulative Proximity, Local Density, and Global Density. The local density D_n is defned as the inverse of the normalized cumulative proximity and directly indicates the main pattern of observed data Angelov et al. (2017) (2017) , where *D* for the training input $x_i = (1, 1)$ 2,...,*N*); $N_u > 1$ is defined as follow Gu et al. [\(2018\)](#page-13-11):

$$
D_n(x_i) = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n \pi_n(x_j)}{2n\pi_n(x_j)}
$$
(1)

Global density is defned for unique data samples together with their corresponding numbers of repeats in the dataset/ stream, and of a particular unique data sample, u_i ($i=1, 2,$... n_u ; $n_u \ge 1$) is expressed as the product of its local density and its number of repeats considered as a weighting factor Angelov et al. [\(2017\)](#page-12-8) as follows:

$$
D_n^G(u_i) = f_i D_n(u_i) \tag{2}
$$

As the main EDA operators (cumulative proximity, local density (D) and global density (*DG*)) can be updated recursively, the SODA algorithm can be suitable for online processing of streaming data, causing the updating of density

groups of data in an evolving process. The algorithm is performed used in this paper utilizing the following steps (Gu et al. [2018](#page-13-11)):

Stage 1- Preparation: we calculate the average values between every pair of input data, x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n for both, the square angular components, d_A and square Euclidean components, d_M .

Stage 2- DA Plane Projection: The DA projection operation works with the unique data sample that has the most significant global density, namely u^* ₁. It is initially set to be the first reference, $\mu_1 \leftarrow \mu_1$, which is also the origin point of the first DA plane, denoted by P1 ($L_c \leftarrow 1$, L_c is the number of existing DA planes in the data space).

Stage 3: Identifying the Focal Points: for each DA plane, expressed as P_e , find the adjacent DA planes.

Stage 4: Forming Data Clouds: After all the DA planes reaching for the modes/peaks of the data density are identified, we consider their origin points, denoted by μ_o , as the focal points and use them to form data clouds according to as a Voronoi tessellation (Okabe et al. [2009](#page-13-37)). It is worth to stress that the theory of data clouds is quite similar to the idea of clusters, but difers in the following characters:

- (i) data clouds are nonparametric;
- (ii) data clouds do not have a specifc shape;
- (iii) data clouds represent the real data distribution. Figure [1](#page-4-0) shows an example of the SODA defnition and the center of cloud grouping defned by the algorithm. The data submitted to the SODA model are normalized.

2.5 Wavelets

Wavelet is a function capable of decomposing and representing another function described in the time domain so that we can investigate this other function in diferent

Fig. 1 SODA algorithm

frequency and time orders. In Fourier analysis, can only identify information about the frequency domain, but we can not know when these repetitions that we study happen. Meantime, in wavelet analysis, we can also extract information from the function in the time domain. The detailing of the frequency domain analysis decreases as time resolution increases, and it is impossible to increase the detail in one domain without decreasing it in the other. Using wavelet analysis, you can choose the best combination of details for an established goal. Adapting this concept to the fuzzy neural networks, the use of wavelet functions can allow the values destined for the bias and the weights of the neurons to be determined according to their nature and no longer in a random way (Daubechies [1990\)](#page-12-7). In this paper, the discrete wavelet will be adopted. This type of methodology is much used in data compression.

In order to calculate the discrete wavelet transforms, it is through the flter bank application where the flter determined by the coefficients $h = \{h_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ corresponds to a high pass filter and the filter $g = \{g_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{Z}}$ to a low pass filter. Each of these coefficients in the discrete wavelet transform is tabulated. Emphasis is given to the use of the operator $(1, 2)$ is the sub-sampling operator. This operator applied to a discrete function (a sequence) reduces its number of elements in half, recovering only the components in even positions, allowing the procedure to be faster and more precise (Daubechies [1990](#page-12-7)). The flters *h* and *g* are linear operators, which can be employed to the input **x** as a convolution:

$$
c(n) = \sum_{k} g(k)x(n-k) = g * x
$$
\n(3)

$$
d(n) = \sum_{k} h(k)x(n-k) = h * x \tag{4}
$$

The decomposition with the flter decays the signal into only two frequency bands. The chaining of a series of flter banks can be accomplished using sub-sampling operation to provide the division of the sampling frequency by 2 to each new flter bank threaded (Daubechies [1990\)](#page-12-7). Figure [2](#page-4-1) shows a schematic of the two flters.

Fig. 2 Filter decomposition signal of input. Avaliable: [https://](https://zh.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Wavelets-Filter_Bank.png) zh.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Wavelets-Filter_Bank.png

2.6 Rectifed linear activation—ReLU

The activation functions allow the introduction of a nonlinear component in the intelligent models, especially those neurons that use logical representations of the human artifcial neuron. This characteristic allows intelligent models, such as fuzzy neural networks, to learn more than linear relationships between dependent and independent variables (Karlik and Olgac [2011](#page-13-38)). Therefore, understanding the functioning of the activation function and in which contexts it can best be applied are preponderant foundations for the success of the model in performing activities that simulate human behavior. They are essential to provide a representative capability for fuzzy neural networks by introducing a nonlinearity component. On the other hand, with this power, some difficulties arise, mainly due to the diversified nature of activation functions, that can vary the effectiveness of their actions according to specifc characteristics of the database to which the model is being submitted. In general, by introducing non-linear activation, the cost surface of the neuron is no longer convex, making optimization more complicated. In problems that use parameterization by descent gradients, non-linearity makes it more identifable which elements need adjustment (Karlik and Olgac [2011\)](#page-13-38). In models of fuzzy neural networks, the main functions of activation are those that use the hyperbolic tangent, Gaussian and linear. Other functions can be highlighted for convolutional and big data problems such as the ReLU [\(2011](#page-13-38)), Elu [\(2015\)](#page-12-24) and Leaky Relu [\(2013\)](#page-13-12) functions.

A model that has been used to solve various problems is Rectifed Linear Activation (ReLU). It a the nonlinear activation function more usually applied to compose neural networks to solve image detection problems. His proposes that if the input is no important to the model, the ReLU function will apply its value to zero and the feature will not be activated. This proposes that at the same moment, only several features are activated, creating the sparse neuron, efficient and straightforward for computing. In these circumstances, the inputs and combinations of a more representative characteristic can act dynamically and efficiently to improve the accuracy of the model (Karlik and Olgac [2011](#page-13-38)).

Artificial neural networks with the ReLU function are secure to optimize since the ReLU is hugely similar to the identity function. The only diference is that ReLU produces zero in half of its domain. As a consequence, the derivatives stay large while the unit is active (Goodfellow et al. [2016\)](#page-13-39).

3 SODA wavelets regularized fuzzy neural network and ReLU activation function

3.1 Network architecture

The fuzzy neural network described in this chapter follows most of the structure defned in de Campos Souza et al. [\(2018](#page-12-0)).

However, modifcations were made in the frst layer (fuzzifcation) and the third layer (the neural network of aggregation). Unineuron is used to construct fuzzy neural networks in the second layer to solve pattern recognition problems and bring interpretability to the model.

The frst layer is composed of neurons whose activation functions are membership functions of fuzzy sets defned for the input variables. For each input variable x_{ii} , L_c clouds are defined A_{lci} , $l_c = 1$... L_c whose membership functions are the activation functions of the corresponding neurons. Thus, the outputs of the frst layer are the membership degrees associated with the input values, i.e., $a_{jlc} = \mu_{lc}^A$ for $j = 1 \dots N$ and $l_c =$ 1 ... L_c , where *N* is the number of inputs and L_c is the number of fuzzy sets for each input results by SODA.

The second layer is composed by L_c fuzzy unineuron. Each neuron performs a weighted aggregation of all of the frst layer outputs. This aggregation is performed using the weights *wilc* (for $i = 1$...*N* and $l_c = 1$... L_c). For each input variable *j*, only one first layer output $a_{i,c}$ is defined as input of the l_c -th neuron. So that **w** is sparse, each neuron of the second layer is associated with an input variable. Finally, the output layer is composed of one neuron whose activation functions (*f*) are ReLU Maas et al. [\(2013\)](#page-13-12). The output of the model is:

$$
\mathbf{y} = sign \sum_{j=0}^{l_c} f(z_l v_l) \tag{5}
$$

where $z_0 = 1$, v_0 is the bias, and z_j and v_j , $j = 1, ..., l_c$ are the output of each fuzzy neuron of the second layer and their corresponding weight, *f* is the activation function and sign is an operator that transforms the output of the neuron to 1 if it is greater than zero and -1 if it is less than zero, respectively.

Fig. 3 FNN architecture

Figure [3](#page-5-1) presents an example of FNN architecture proposed in this paper.

3.2 A proposition to update frst layer weights and bias using wavelets

For the frst layer of the FNN, training will be performed with each output of the flters of each level of the wavelet transform, thus allowing to update the weights, which by the original defnition in de Campos Souza et al. [\(2018](#page-12-0)) should be randomly assigned, assigning them the corresponding values of the output of the wavelet flters. Thus, the training of the fuzzy neural network can happen in a parallel way. In addition to allowing better representation of the problems for the weights and bias of the fuzzy neuron.

The algorithm below presents the necessary information about the steps performed to carry out the training and present in Algorithm 1.

In the frst layer of this architecture, the initial vector has l_c values. After the application of the wavelet transform, the resulting vector still with l_c elements but part of this vector is responsible for the high frequencies (detail), and the other part is responsible for the low frequencies (approximation).

Initially, the wavelet transform is applied to the input data resulting in a vector ψ_1 . This vector is then passed to a detail removal function that matches the size of the obtained vector to the size of the output of the current layer so that training can be done resulting in a vector ϕ_1 . In other words, if the frst hidden layer of the FNN has seven neurons, only the first seven values of the vector ψ_1 will be used for the attribution of the weights, the others will be discarded.

Consider that for the FNN example, the initial vector has nine elements. After applying the Wavelet transform, the resulting vector continues with nine elements but part of this vector is responsible for the high frequencies (detail), and the other part is responsible for the low frequencies (approximation). When operating *RemoveDetails*(ψ_1) only the frst seven elements of the vector are used. In this way, we have two vectors: a vector of 9 items (input of the frst layer) and another vector of 7 features (output of the frst layer). From this vector of 7 elements, the values responsible for the approximation are assigned to the bias and the detail value to the weights of the neurons in the frst layer.

The high flter values will be assigned to the neuron weights, and the low flter values will be allocated to the bias. This procedure ensures that the same amount of weights and bias that would be randomly assigned are provided based on the wavelet transform, allowing these two parameters to be based on the characteristics of the database submitted to the model.

Figure [4](#page-6-0) shows that with the input data of the fuzzy neural network model the low and high pass flter functions generate approximation and detail vectors with the input data. In

Fig. 4 Value assignment wavelet for the weights of the neuron and the bias

this case, each of these vectors will be assigned to the bias (low) and the weights (high) of the neurons of the frst layer. This assignment was made arbitrarily because in preliminary tests it did not matter if it was otherwise.

3.3 Training fuzzy neural network

The membership functions in the frst layer of the FNN are adopted in this paper as Gaussian, constructed through the centers (β) obtained by the method of granularization of the input space (SODA) and by the randomly defined sigma (σ) . Another diference in the frst layer is the defnition of the fuzzy neuron weights using the wavelet transform. The number of neurons L_c in the first layer is defined according to the input data, and by the number of partitions (ρ) defined parametrically. This approach partitions the input space, following the defnition logic of creating data nodes. The centers of these created clouds make up the Gaussian activation functions of the fuzzy neurons. These changes will allow the adaptation of the data according to the basis submitted to the model, allowing a more independent and data-centered approach. The second layer performs the aggregation of the L_c neurons from the frst layer through the unineurons proposed by Lemos et al. [\(2010](#page-13-23)). These neurons use the concept of uninorm Yager and Rybalov ([1996](#page-14-16)), which extends *t-norm* and *s-norm*, allowing the values of the identity element (*o*) to change between 0 and 1. Therefore, the identity element allows the change of the calculation in the fuzzy neuron in a simple way by alternating the aggregation of elements between an *s-norm* (if *o* = 0) and an *t-norm* (if $o = 1$). Thus the value of the identity element allows the uninorm Yager and Rybalov [\(1996](#page-14-16)) to have the freedom to transform the unineurons into andneurons or in orneurons, within the resolution of the problem. In this paper, the uninorm (**U**) is expressed as follows:

where *T* are *t*-norms, *S* is a *s*-norms and *o* is the identity element. In this paper, we considered the *t-norm* operator the product and as *s-norm* operator the probabilistic sum.

The unineuron proposed in Lemos et al. ([2010](#page-13-23)) performs the following operations to compute its output:

- 1 each pair (a_i, w_i) is transformed into a single value $b_i =$ **h** (a_i, w_i) ;
- 2 calculate the unifed aggregation of the transformed values with uninorm $\mathbf{U}(b_1, b_2 \dots b_n)$, where *n* is the number of inputs.

The function *p* (relevancy transformation) is responsible for transforming the inputs and corresponding weights into individual transformed values. This function fulflls the requirement of monotonicity in value which means if the input value increases the transformed value must also increase. Finally, the function p can bring consistency of effect of w_i . A formulation for the *p* function can be described as Lemos et al. [\(2010\)](#page-13-23):

$$
p(w, a) = wa + wo \tag{7}
$$

using the weighted aggregation reported above the unineuron can be written as Lemos et al. ([2010\)](#page-13-23):

$$
\mathbf{z} = UNI(w; x; a) = U_{i=1}^{n} p(w_i, a_i)
$$
\n(8)

The fuzzy rules can be extracted from the network topology and are presented in Eq. [9.](#page-7-0)

Rule₁: If
$$
x_{i1}
$$
 is A_1^1 with certainty w_{11} ...
\nand/or x_{i2} is A_1^2 with certainty w_{21} ...
\nThen y_1 is v_1
\nRule₂: If x_{i1} is A_2^1 with certainty w_{12} ...
\nand/or x_{i2} is A_2^2 with certainty w_{22} ...
\nThen y_2 is v_2
\nRule₃: If x_{i1} is A_3^1 with certainty w_{13} ...
\nThen y_3 is v_3
\nRule₄: If x_{i2} is A_3^2 with certainty w_{23} ...
\nThen y_4 is v_4

After the construction of the L_c unineuron, the bolasso algorithm (Alg. 2) Bach [\(2008\)](#page-12-6) is executed to select LARS using the most significant neurons (called L_o). The final network architecture is defned through a feature extraction technique based on *l1* regularization and resampling. The learning algorithm assumes that the output hidden layer composed

of the candidate neurons can be written as de Campos Souza et al. [\(2018\)](#page-12-0):

$$
f(x_i) = \sum_{i=0}^{L_{\rho}} v_i z_i(x_i) = z(x_i)v
$$
 (10)

where $\mathbf{v} = [v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{L\rho}]$ is the weight vector of the output layer and **z** (x_i) = [z_0 , $z_1(x_i)$, $z_2(x_i)$... $zL\rho(x_i)$] the output vector of the second layer, for $z_0 = 1$. In this context, **z** (x_i) is considered as the non-linear mapping of the input space for a space of fuzzy characteristics of dimension L_{ρ} (de Campos Souza et al. [2018\)](#page-12-0).

Subsequently, following the determination of the network topology, the predictions of the evaluation of the vector of weights' output layer are performed. In this paper, this vector is considered by the Moore-Penrose pseudo Inverse de Campos Souza et al. ([2018](#page-12-0)):

$$
\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{Z}^+ \mathbf{y} \tag{11}
$$

where Z^+ is pseudo-inverse of Moore-Penrose of **z** which is the minimum norm of the least squares solution for the weights of the output layer and **y** is the vector of expected output in supervised training.

3.4 Model consistent Lasso estimation through the bootstrap—Bolasso

A universal algorithm used for estimating the parameters of a regression model and selecting relevant characteristics is the Least Angle Regression (LARS) Efron et al. [\(2004](#page-13-40)). LARS is a regression algorithm for high-dimensional data that is capable of estimating not only regression coefficients but also a subset of candidate regressors to be included in the fnal model. LARS is used in the de Jesús Rubio et al. [\(2018](#page-13-41)) and de Jesus Rubio et al. ([2018](#page-13-42)) models to perform operator hand movements learning in a manipulator. A modifcation of the LARS allows the creation of the lasso using the ordinary least squares, a restriction of the sum of the regression coefficients (Efron et al. [2004](#page-13-40)). Consider a set of *n* distinct samples (x_i, y_i) , where $x_i = [x_{i1}, x_{i2}, ..., x_{iN}] \in \mathbb{R}^N$ and $y_i \in \mathbb{R}$ for $i = 1, ..., N$, the cost function of Lasso algorithm can be defned as:

$$
\sum_{i=1}^{N} ||z(x_i)\mathbf{v} - y_i||_2 + \lambda ||\mathbf{v}||_1
$$
 (12)

where λ is a regularization parameter, commonly estimated by cross-validation.

The first term of (12) corresponds to the sum of the squares of the residues (RSS). This term decreases as the training error decreases. The second term is an L_1 regularization term. Generally, this term is added, since it improves the generalization of the model, avoiding the super adjustment and can generate sparse models (Efron et al. [2004](#page-13-40)).

The LARS algorithm can be used to perform the model selection since for a given value of λ only a fraction (or none) of the regressors have corresponding nonzero weights. If $\lambda = 0$, the problem becomes unrestricted regression, and all weights are nonzero. As λ_{max} increases from 0 to a given value λ_{max} , the number of nonzero weights decreases to zero. For the problem considered in this paper, the z_{L} regressors are the outputs of the signifcant neurons. Thus, the LARS algorithm can be used to select an optimal subset of the significant neurons that minimize (12) (12) for a given value of λ .

Bolasso can be seen as a regime of consensus combinations where the most signifcant subset of variables on which all regressors agree when the aspect is the selection of variables is maintained (Bach [2008\)](#page-12-6). Bolasso uses the decision threshold system (γ) that represents the choice of model regularization, that is, when the value of γ is indicated, it defnes the percentage involved in choosing the best regressors. For example, if $\gamma = 0.5$ means that if the neuron is at least 50% of resampling as a relevant neuron, it will be chosen for the fnal model.

Bolasso procedure is summarized in Algorithm 2.

(b1) Let *n* be the number of samples in **z**: (b2) Show *n* examples of (**z**, **y**), uniformly and with substitution, called here (*zsamp*, *ysamp*). (b3) Determine which weights are nonzero given a *λ* value.

(b4) Repeat steps b1: b3 for a specified number of bootstraps *bt*.

(b5) Take the intersection of the non-zero weights indexes of all bootstrap replications.

(b6) Select the resulting variables.

(b7) Revise the results using the variables selected via non-regularized least squares regression.

(b8) Repeat the procedure for each value of *bt* bootstraps and λ (actually done more efficiently by collecting interim results).

(b9) Determine "optimal" values for *λ* and *bt*.

(b10) Use the consensus threshold (*γ*) to determine the most significant neurons in the model.

3.5 Use of activation functions of type rectifed linear activation (ReLU) in the neural network aggregation

In sequence to classify higher efficient functions to act as activation functions the paper (Karlik and Olgac [2011\)](#page-13-38) determined the rectifed linear activation (ReLU). This function is defned by:

$$
f_{ReLU}(z_{L\rho}) = max(0, z_{L\rho}).
$$
\n(13)

In Eq. [\(5](#page-5-2)) the function *f* is replaced by the function f_{ReLU} .

The learning method can be synthesized as demonstrated in Algorithm 3. It has three parameters:

- 1 the number of grid size, ρ ;
- 2 the number of bootstrap replications, *bt*;
- 3 the consensus threshold, γ .

Algorithm 3: SODA-FNN training

(1) Define grid size, ρ . (2) Define bootstrap replications, *bt*. (3) Define consensus threshold, γ (4) Calculate L*^c* cluster in the first layer using SODA and ρ . (5) Construct L*^c* fuzzy neurons with Gaussian membership functions constructed with center values (β) derived from SODA and sigma (σ) defined at random. (6) Define the weights and bias of the fuzzy neurons using the transform wavelets. (7) Construct L*^c* unineurons with random weights and bias on the second layer of the network by welding the L*^c* fuzzy neurons of the first layer. (8) **For** all *K* inputs do (8.1) Calculate the mapping **z** (x_i) **end for** (9) Select significant L*^s* neurons using the bootstrap lasso according to the settings of *bt* and γ . (10) Estimate the weights of the output layer (Eq. 11) (11) Calculate the output of the model using an artificial neuron with activation function of type ReLU (Eq. 5 and Eq. 13).

4 Test of binary patterns classifcation

4.1 Assumptions and initial test confgurations

In this section, the assumptions of the classifcation tests for the model proposed in this paper are presented. To perform the tests, real and synthetic bases were chosen, seeking to verify if the accuracy of the proposed model surpasses the traditional FNN techniques of pattern classifcation. The following tables present information about the tests, presenting factors such as the percentage of samples destined for the training and testing of fuzzy neural networks. All the tests with the involved algorithms were done randomly, avoiding tendencies that could interfere in the evaluations of the results. The model proposed in this paper, called SODA-FNN, was compared to fuzzy neural network classifers using fuzzy c-means (FCM-FNN) (Lemos et al. [2012\)](#page-13-21) and genfs1 (GN-FNN) (de Campos Souza et al. [2018\)](#page-12-0) in the fuzzifcation process.

In the last two models, the weights and bias were used in the frst and second layers randomly, already in the approach proposed in this paper, the weights and bias in the frst layer are defned by the wavelets. The number of primary neurons

Table 1 Synthetic dataset used in the experiments

Dataset	Init.	Feature	Train	Test
Half Kernel	HKN	2	350	150
Spiral	SPR	2	350	150
Cluster	CLU		350	150
Corner	COR		350	150

of each model is defned according to the number of centers (FCM-FNN), membership functions (GN-FNN) and grid size (SODA-FNN). For uniformity of the tests, the values involved in the frst layers of the models, which end up defning the number of L_c neurons, were arbitrated in the range of $[3-5]$, where the best results were defned using cross-validation. In the three models, the unineuron is adopted as logical neuron of the second layer. The activation functions of the neurons used in artifcial neural networks were ReLU (SODA-FNN), sigmoid (FCM-FNN) and a linear function (GN-FNN). A total of 30 experiments were performed with the three models submitted to all test bases.

In all tests and all models, the samples were shuffled in each test to demonstrate the actual capacity of the models. Percentage values for the classifcation tests are presented in the results tables, accompanied by the standard deviation found in the 30 replicates. The outputs of the model were normalized to 0 and 1 to aid the correct calculations. The factors evaluated in this paper are as follows:

$$
accuracy = \frac{TP + TN}{TP + FN + TN + FP}
$$
\n(14)

$$
AUC = \frac{1}{2} (sensitivity + specificity)
$$
 (15)

where the sensitivity and specificity are calculated using the following equations:

$$
sensitivity = \frac{TP}{TP + FN}
$$
 (16)

$$
specificity = \frac{TN}{TN + TP}
$$
 (17)

where, $TP =$ true positive, $TN =$ true negative, $FN =$ false negative and $FP =$ false positive. All weights of the output layer were obtained using ELM methods in all models.

4.2 Database used in the tests

The following tables identify the settings applied in the tests. In Table [1](#page-9-0), the information of the synthetic bases used in the binary pattern classifcation tests. In Table [2](#page-9-1) the real bases extracted from Bache and Lichman ([2013\)](#page-12-25) for classifcation problems.

Table 2 Real dataset used in the experiments

Fig. 5 Synthetic dataset

Table 3 Acurracy of the model in the tests performed

Dataset	SODA-FNN	FCM-FNN	GN-FNN
HKN	99.87 (0.11)	99.64 (0.07)	99.93 (0.17)
SPR	97.60 (0.74)	98.15 (0.87)	87.12 (2.43)
CLU	99.88 (0.04)	98.71 (0.14)	99.12 (0.44)
COR.	88.94 (4.87)	94.65 (0.82)	97.65(2.11)

Figure [5](#page-9-2) shows the characteristics of the synthetic bases used in the tests.

4.3 Binary pattern classifcation tests

Tables [3](#page-9-3) and [4](#page-10-0) present the accuracy and AUC results respectively of the tests with the synthetic bases.

After carrying out the tests with synthetic bases, it was confrmed that the proposed model presented smaller accuracy results in the spiral base, which has greater complexity

Table 4 AUC of the model in the tests performed

Dataset	SODA-FNN	FCM-FNN	GN-FNN
HKN	0.9981(0.03)	0.9654(0.14)	0.9965(0.01)
SPR	0.9831(0.04)	0.998(0.01)	0.9762(0.54)
CLU	0.9907(0.01)	0.9920(0.74)	0.9931(0.19)
COR	0.9165(0.54)	0.9650(0.65)	0.8856(0.53)

Fig. 6 Synthetic dataset—SODA result

in its composition. The other bases had an equivalent precision within the standard deviation found in the experiments. We highlight the precision of the proposed model and the one that uses a sigmoid activation function, which had a high success rate in all experiments. Figure [6](#page-10-1) presents the result of SODA and Fig. [7](#page-10-2) the model decision space and Fig. [8](#page-10-3) decision 3d plot.

The decision space present in Fig. [7](#page-10-2) demonstrates that the technique can act as an excellent pattern classifcation. Decision spaces are suitable for separating the main samples intended for testing.

In the next test of pattern classifcation using real databases will be compared in each one of the models the accuracy of model (Table [5\)](#page-10-4), AUC (Table [6\)](#page-11-1), execution time (Table [7](#page-11-2)) and the number of fuzzy rules (Table [8](#page-11-3)) used to obtain the results. Tests performed on a desktop machine with Intel Core i5-3470 processor 3.20GHz and 4.00GB Memory.

In the execution of real tests, it was verifed that the model proposed in this paper obtained superior results of accuracy in six of the nine datasets proposed in the test. In the datasets that the model did not take the best test results, it obtained results close to the models evaluated in the test.

From the lower results of the model, the values of the test with the heart dataset are highlighted. The model proposed in this paper obtained a signifcant diference for the

Fig. 7 Synthetic Dataset- FNN decision

Fig. 8 Synthetic Dataset- FNN decision -3d

Table 5 Accuracy of the model in the tests performed

Dataset	SODA-FNN	FCM-FNN	GN-FNN
HAB	70.83 (4.16)	67.12 (3.32)	61.59(2.23)
TRA	75.49 (2.36)	78.37 (2.19)	75.85 (2.29)
MAM	83.91 (1.75)	82.10 (2.11)	81.27 (2.24)
LIV	67.86(5.57)	65.51 (4.12)	66.08(2.16)
DIA	74.78 (3.30)	67.40 (3.80)	74.67 (2.48)
HEA	74.86 (6.06)	74.78 (11.76)	79.22 (1.54)
GER	70.51 (2.91)	69.77 (1.54)	70.34 (2.98)
AUS	71.30 (3.06)	67.53 (0.78)	75.59 (4.51)
ION	78.59 (11.65)	69.44 (1.14)	75.66 (2.51)

other models in the analysis. Another factor that can also be considered as non-positive was the high standard deviation for the result of the ionosphere base. Although the model

Table 6 AUC of the model in the tests performed

Dataset	SODA-FNN	FCM-FNN	GN-FNN
HAB	0.5650(0.05)	0.5650(0.03)	0.5642(0.466)
TR A	0.5109(0.76)	0.6300(0.03)	0.6393(0.23)
MAM	0.8399(0.02)	0.8210(0.02)	0.8349(2.24)
LIV	0.6465(0.05)	0.6591(0.04)	0.6560(0.04)
DIA	0.7000(0.26)	0.6523(0.03)	0.7057(0.03)
HEA	0.7444(0.04)	0.7797(0.05)	0.7927(0.41)
GER	0.5764(0.13)	0.8718(0.01)	0.8218(0.01)
AUS	0.5807(0.03)	0.6506(0.06)	0.7533(0.04)
ION	0.7468(0.06)	0.6506(0.06)	0.7533(0.04)

Table 7 Algorithm execution time for pattern classifcation (in seconds)

Dataset	SODA-FNN	FCM-FNN	GN-FNN
HAB	28.55(2.33)	52.14 (6.08)	74.17 (12.14)
TRA	24.51 (3.42)	66.12 (1.54)	123.44 (21.43)
MAM	32.16 (4.57)	102.44 (15.49)	144.23 (12.15)
LIV	17.41(0.12)	58.43 (2.11)	83.45 (5.24)
DIA	13.51(0.52)	17.58 (7.01)	19.44 (2.23)
HEA	8.45(0.17)	14.55(0.53)	17.14(1.10)
GER	14.01(0,44)	27.16 (2.54)	44.15 (6.21)
AUS	16.17(1.43)	38.53 (12.42)	104.23 (32.53)
ION	16.12(1.14)	33.51 (8.51)	54.17 (13.14)

Table 8 Number of fuzzy rules used by the model

obtained the best average results, it showed much instability in solving the problem. On the other hand, in the tests of mammography, transfusion and German credit, the model was very stable in the results. This factor may have happened because the nature of the data is greatly varying in the problems that it presented high standard deviation and remained more stable (or the issues have this nature) during the patterns classifcation tests.

The results of Table [7](#page-11-2) of the tests prove that the model presents a shorter execution time of binary pattern classifcation when compared to the other FNN in the test. This enables the proposal acts with less time due to the techniques used to carry out the correct identifcation of the patterns.

Another relevant factor about the model is that in addition to presenting a smaller number of fuzzy rules (Table [8](#page-11-3)), it also presented a much shorter execution time (Table [7\)](#page-11-2) than techniques that use grouping or the model of equally spaced membership functions. If the diferences in time and complexity of the fuzzy neural network were much smaller with a limited number of samples, this diference should appear more evident when the model solves problems with many features and also a high number of samples. Therefore, because it has achieved the majority of the best results in the tests of classifcation of patterns with real databases using less time and a smaller number of neurons/rules, the viability of the model in the resolution of these problems is verifed.

An architecture with a smaller number of neurons facilitates the reading of the most relevant fuzzy rules. As the SODA technique works with the data according to their complex nature, problems become more representative directly affecting the constructed fuzzy rules, allowing them to be more representative of the nature of the problem.

It should be noted that FNN now becomes a model to work with a high number of samples or problems with many features, such factor was very complicated when using the ANFIS process in the fuzzifcation of the model. Extracting knowledge from large volumes of data is a current and fundamental problem for many corporations.

5 Conclusion

The fuzzy neural network proposed in this paper obtained better results than other models that use the extreme learning machine and fuzzy logic neurons. The use of the wavelet transforms allowed the model to use the training data to defne the values of the weights and bias in the frst layer, thus allowing the parameters of the model to be more coherent with the data submitted to the model. The use of unineuron facilitates the transition of the use of the AND and OR neurons, allowing the interpretation of the fuzzy rules to be closer to the real one. Finally, the use of the SODA technique maintained the interpretability capacity of the FNN model and signifcantly reduced the execution time when compared to the other FNN models that use logical neurons and fuzzy grouping techniques. Finally, the use of the ReLU activation function helped to improve the responses obtained by the FNN model when compared to the models that use linear and sigmoidal activation functions in real datasets.

The patterns classifcation tests with less number of fuzzy rules and the use of faster activation functions allow the model proposed in this paper to be identifed as a model that maintained the accuracy of pattern classifcation and at the same time signifcantly decreased the response time to carry out the activities. This approach accredits the model to work with large-scale databases (big data).

The tests performed verifed that the defnition of weights and bias using wavelets, the use of a cloud data group and the use of the ReLU activation function is satisfactory for the classifcation of binary patterns executed by fuzzy neural networks. Basing the parameters to represent the characteristics of the base, we fnd essential variations in the results of precision found. This approach brings more representativeness to the results of the FNN that can elaborate more fuzzy rules with the input data.

For future work can be checked the impact on the model output and the processing time of your actions using other types of membership functions. Because data clouds theory allows the use of any existing membership function, there may be improvements in the classifcation of patterns by changing the type of function used.

Other approaches can be performed to optimize parameters related to Grid size, the number of bootstrap repetitions and consensus threshold. Despite fnding suitable results, cross-validation spends a high computational time to perform the combinations defned in the tests and determine the models. With advanced optimization techniques, genetic algorithms and other existing intelligent approaches, the best model parameters can be found more dynamically and efficiently. Also in extensions of this work can be applied problems of linear regression, prediction of time series to verify if the model maintains its capacity of universal approximation. Other training approaches can also be evaluated to identify the impacts ELM can generate on parameter setting. Finally, the application of this intelligent model is stimulated for problems with larger dimensions than those that were initially submitted to the test. The SODA technique lowers the complexity of the network structure, so for problems of high dimensionality and Big Data, the model may be suitable to deal with such kind of problems. Testing real problems with large volumes of data is a strongly encouraged approach to examining the model.

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