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# A Comparison Study of Seawater Dissolved Oxygen Using Dynamic Changes Prediction Models

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**Abstract:** Dissolved oxygen (DO) is a key water quality parameter and dynamic change prediction of water quality can provide a necessary assistance to solve the marine pollution problem. In this study, DO concentration data were collected from the buoy near Aoshan Island, Zhoushan, China. Based on DO concentration analysis, three prediction model were established, which includes Grey prediction model (GM (1,1)), back propagation(BP) neural network prediction model and the combination of GM-BP neural network prediction model. All three models have high fitting degree and the average relative error for each model is 9.1482%, 1.8940% and 0.2195% respectively. Hence, the combination of GM-BP neural network prediction model has highest accuracy than BP neural network prediction model and GM (1,1) prediction model. Combination of prediction model has more advantages than a single prediction model and it is possible to improve the accuracy of prediction for better results.

**Keywords:** Dissolved Oxygen, Dynamic Change Prediction, GM (1,1) Prediction Model, BP Neural Network, Combination Prediction Model

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## 1. Introduction

The Marine Environment Bulletin data was indicated that large areas of China's coastal waters were under an unhealthy state for several years. However, besides the regular marine monitoring data, dynamic change prediction of water quality can provide a necessary assistance to solve the marine pollution problem. In recent years, several studies have been carried out worldwide on water quality prediction models to provide the necessary theoretical basis for marine environment protection.

Traditional water quality prediction models include water quality simulation, historical valuation method, linear regression, climatologically mean, the gray prediction (Julong 1989)and so on. These methods cannot have high precision and fitness when dealing with uncertain fuzzy dynamic changes of water quality. Artificial neural network (ANN) has four characteristics-nonlinear, non-limiting, high qualitative and non-convexity. ANN is powerful adaptive, self-organizing,

self-learning ability and the ability of infinite nonlinear function approximation. Also ANN is a powerful tool to handle and excavate data relationships and establish prediction model.

In recent years, several scientists have been working on prediction of water quality especially in China. By established a reasonable low flow back propagation (BP) neural network prediction model, which has a high degree of fitness and improved accuracy (Sun et al 2004). Based on BP neural network, which was used levenberg-marquard (LM) algorithm, predicted the water quality of Qiantang River with a maximum error of 11.7% and the mean error of 4.3% (Wang et al 2007). In addition, based on the limitation of traditional neural networks, a new neural network model was proposed by correcting the artificial neural network weight algorithm, optimize neural network structure and global convergence algorithm (Yu et al 2011). Since Bates and Granger (1969) proposed a combined prediction model for the first time. Several researchers pointed out that a combination of two or more prediction models can increase the performance,

because different prediction models have their own independent systems information. Several researchers applied ANN to water quality prediction, established a gray neural network prediction model (Ju et al 2007, Guo et al 2015, Zhou and Zhou 2011), which used a method of optimum weights. Results reveal that the combined prediction model performance is better than a single prediction model. By design a combined prediction model used weighted algorithm and the result indicating that the combination prediction model is superior to single model (Wang 2016). However, when a single nonlinear model is forecasted by single prediction method or condition desired signal based on the information collected is a nonlinear function, the respective prediction method's linear combination is not optimal (Si 1998). Obtain a real-coded accelerate genetic algorithm (RAGA), which is improved grey BP neural network prediction model by using gray prediction results to neural network as training and obtained relatively high accuracy in prediction (Liu et al 2008).

In this paper, dissolved oxygen (DO) concentration data were used to predict DO dynamic changes by using different prediction models. We apply the residuals of GM (1,1) prediction model as an input value for BP neural network to train in-depth combination process (nonlinear combination). The combination of GM-BP neural network prediction model established to improve the prediction accuracy of the prediction and process. Comparison study has been done between the single GM (1,1) prediction model and BP neural network prediction model, in order to provide a reliable forecast information for the marine water environment management.

## 2. Data and methodology

### 2.1. Data Sources and Preprocessing

It is worth mentioning that the source of real-time Monitoring DO sate is the marine buoy near Aoshan Island. The data collected from 2013.08.20 to 2015.04.30 with sampling period of 15 minutes.

Preprocessing of original data was filtered and averaged, and 504 training sample data were obtained for modeling. Sample of data was given in the Table 1. The period of data chosen as input for the model was between 2015.04.21 and 2015.04.30.

Table 1. Training of sample data.

time	DO(mg/l)	time	DO(mg/l)	time	DO(mg/l)
2013/8/20	5.3289	2013/10/11	6.4252	2014/10/15	6.3918
2013/8/21	5.4200	2013/10/12	6.4239	2014/10/16	6.4005
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
2013/10/8	6.5450	2014/11/13	7.0706	2015/4/19	8.5514
2013/10/10	6.4823	2014/11/14	7.1110	2015/4/20	8.5370

### 2.2. Introduction to Three Prediction Models

#### 2.2.1. GM (1,1) Prediction Model

This study mainly based on the Grey Series Forecasting theory. The Algorithm principle and modeling method of GM

(1,1) prediction model were describes as followed:

1) Once accumulated generating Primary data series  $X^{(0)} : X^{(0)} = \{X^{(0)}(1), X^{(0)}(2), \dots, X^{(0)}(n)\}$ , where  $X^{(0)}$  is generated by once accumulated generating sequence  $X^{(1)}$ :

$$X^{(1)} = \{X^{(1)}(1), X^{(1)}(2), \dots, X^{(1)}(n)\}, \quad (1)$$

Where,

$$X^{(1)}(k) = \sum_{i=1}^k X^{(0)}(i), \quad k=1, 2, \dots, n, \quad (2)$$

2) Background value sequence construction

Using once accumulated generating sequence  $X^{(1)}$  to generate the background value sequence  $Z^{(1)}$ ,

$$Z^{(1)} = \{Z^{(1)}(2), Z^{(1)}(3), \dots, Z^{(1)}(n)\}, \quad (3)$$

Where,

$$Z^{(1)}(k) = \sum_{i=1}^k X^{(0)}(i), \quad k=1, 2, \dots, n, \quad (4)$$

3) Establishing albino equation

Using once accumulated generating sequence  $X^{(1)}$  to establish albino equation,

$$\frac{dX^{(1)}}{dt} + aX^{(1)} = b, \quad (5)$$

Discredited the above formula, and get GM (1,1) gray differential equation:

$$X^{(0)}(k) + aZ^{(1)}(k) = b, \quad (6)$$

Whereas the development factor, b is the amount of gray effect.

4) Calculation of Parameters

Using the least squares method, we can solve the parameters (a and b) in the formula (6), namely:

$$a * = [a, b]^T = (B^T B)^{-1} B^T Y, \quad (7)$$

$$\text{Where, } B = \begin{bmatrix} -Z^{(1)}(2) & 1 \\ -Z^{(1)}(3) & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ -Z^{(1)}(n) & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (8)$$

$$Y = \begin{bmatrix} X^{(0)}(2) \\ X^{(0)}(3) \\ \vdots \\ X^{(0)}(n) \end{bmatrix}, \quad (9)$$

5) Solving albino equation and grey differential equation, and get gray GM (1,1) Prediction Model

Where  $X^{(1)} *$  and  $X^{(0)} *$  as the predicted value of  $X^{(1)}$  and  $X^{(0)}$ , and by solve albino equation and grey differential equation, we get:

$$X^{(1)} * (k + 1) = \left( X^{(0)} - \frac{b}{a} \right) e^{-ak} + \frac{b}{a}, \quad k=1, 2, \dots, n, \quad (10)$$

Then after a regressive reduction, we get:

$$X^{(0)} * (k + 1) = X^{(1)} * (k + 1) - X^{(1)} * (k) = (1 - e^a)(X^{(0)}(1) - \frac{b}{a})e^{-ak}, k=1, 2, \dots, n, \quad (11)$$

### 2.2.2. BP neural Network Prediction Model

Artificial Neural Network is a mathematical model to mimic animal neural network behavior and characteristics and distribute parallel information processing. At the middle of last century, BP neural network algorithm was first established and applied, which was a multi-layer feed forward network by using the back propagation algorithm for network training (David et al 1986). BP neural network consists of two parts, which were information dissemination and forward error back propagation. BP neural network is multi-layer network architecture, consists three parts: an input layer, a hidden layer and an output layer. Each input layer neurons receive outside information (data) and passed to the hidden layer (middle layer), which can be considered as an information processing layer. Hidden layer designed that the information would transmit to the output layer. Then to the next processing treatment layer, the forward end of a propagation process. While the output of information processing results to the outside world by the output layer. If the outputs and the desired output errors could not meet the requirements, the error will be fed back to the output layer, and the layer weights will be corrected according to the error gradient descent way, and then be passed to the input layer and the hidden layer until training modes can meet the requirements.

For practical applications, the traditional forms of BP neural network can hardly achieve the desired effect, need to improve the algorithm. The improved BP neural network that was used LM algorithm to predict water quality, and got a better accuracy and reliability degree (Tian et al 2010). LM algorithm was used for this study.

### 2.2.3. Combination of GM-BP Neural Network Prediction Model

Figure 1 explains the overall framework of combination of GM-BP neural network prediction model, and the specific steps are follows:

1) to establish GM (1,1) prediction model using the original data series  $X_{(i)}^{(0)}$ , process accumulation and get a cumulative sequence  $X_{(i)}^{(1)}$  by GM (1,1) prediction model and establish the albino equation and gray differential equation, then get the fitting data sequence  $Y_{(i)}^{(0)}$  of GM (1,1) prediction model;

2) Calculate the GM (1,1) model's residuals data sequence  $\delta_i$ ,

$$\delta_i = Y_{(i)}^{(0)} - X_{(i)}^{(0)}, \quad (12)$$

3) Using the GM (1,1) prediction model to obtain a gray prediction series  $Y_{(j)}^{(p)}$ ;

4) Using BP neural network model to train GM (1,1) model residuals data sequence  $\delta_i$  and process for reasonable prediction, obtain residual (BP) prediction series  $\delta_{(j)}^{(p)}$ ;

5) According to the relationship between the gray prediction and residual prediction results:  $X_{(j)}^{(p)} = Y_{(j)}^{(p)} -$

$\delta_{(j)}^{(p)}$ , to obtain a combination of the model prediction series  $X_{(j)}^{(p)}$ .

When a single nonlinear model forecasted by a single prediction method or condition desired signal based on the information collected from a nonlinear function. Neither prediction methods nor linear combination is optimal, so chosen the GM (1,1) prediction model residuals as BP neural network training data to establish networking. Then combination of depth and establish a combination of GM-BP neural network prediction model, which can improve the accuracy of prediction model.

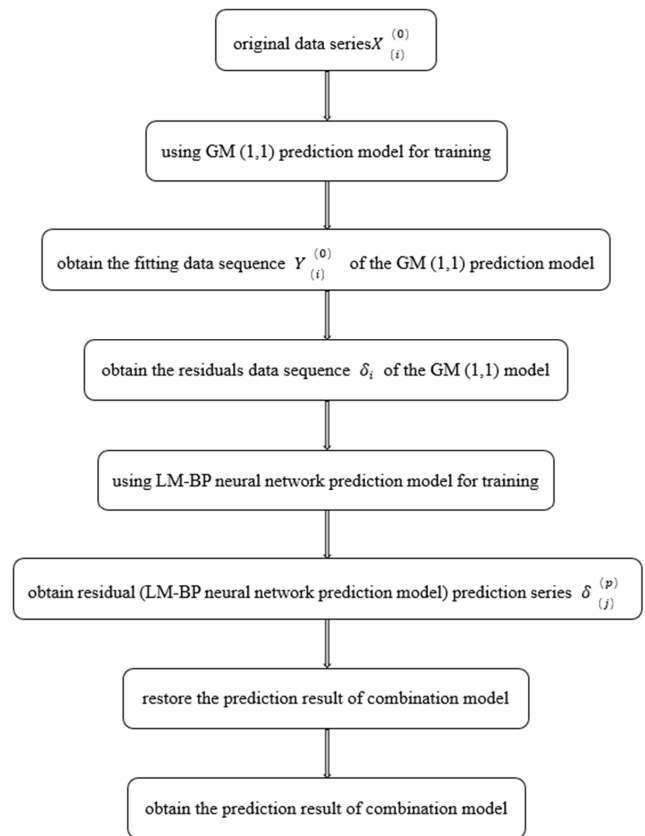


Figure 1. The combination of GM-BP neural network prediction model.

## 3. Case study

Using the three models mentioned above, GM (1,1) prediction model, LM-BP network prediction model and combination of GM-BP neural network prediction model, the DO concentration of Aoshan sea area were predicted. The modeling data sequences were from 2013.08.20 to 2015.04.20.

### 3.1. GM (1,1) Prediction Model

Sample data of DO concentration over Aoshan sea area from 2013.08.20 to 2015.04.20 were selected as the training sample data. Equal dimension recurrence GM (1,1) forecast model was used to (see Section 1.2 specific principles) establish prediction model and predict the following ten days

and the results were illustrated in table 2 and table 3.

**3.2. BP Neural Network Prediction Model**

Select a three layers BP neural network prediction model, including one hidden layer. The BP neural network parameter, include that learning algorithm is LM algorithm, transfer function of the input layer and the hidden layer is sigmoid type function, the output layer function is linear transfer function, train 10,000 steps, learning rate is 0.05, prediction accuracy is 0.0001, prediction length is 10, hidden layer neuron is 8 (drawn from the experience). Finally, 504 sample data of DO concentration in Aoshan sea area from 2013.08.20 to 2015.04.20 as the training data. In order to improve the speed of network convergence, the training data were normalized and converted to [0,1], to build the training network. Training results were given in table 2 and table 3.

**3.3. Combination of GM-BP Neural Network Prediction Model**

Selected 504 sample data of DO concentration in Aoshan sea area from 2013.08.20 to 2015.04.20 were used as the training data  $X_{(i)}^{(0)}$ , by GM (1,1) prediction model obtain the fits data sequence  $Y_{(i)}^{(0)}$  and residuals sequence  $\delta_i$ , use BP neural network model network train the residual series  $\delta_i$ , and obtain residual prediction sequence  $\delta_{(j)}^{(p)}$ . Finally, according to the relationship between the gray prediction and residual prediction results:  $X_{(j)}^{(p)} = Y_{(j)}^{(p)} - \delta_{(j)}^{(p)}$ , obtain the combination model prediction series  $X_{(j)}^{(p)}$ . The results were given in table 2 and table 3.

Table 2. The prediction results of the three prediction models.

Time	actual value(mg/L)	Predictive value(mg/L)		
		GM prediction model	BP neural network prediction model	Combination of GM-BP neural network prediction model
2015/4/21	8.5233	7.6178	8.5401	8.5051
2015/4/22	8.4965	7.6182	8.5412	8.4799
2015/4/23	8.4684	7.6187	8.5431	8.4534
2015/4/24	8.4440	7.6192	8.5448	8.4257
2015/4/25	8.4197	7.6197	8.5463	8.3967
2015/4/26	8.3862	7.6202	8.5475	8.3663
2015/4/27	8.3536	7.6207	8.5484	8.3346
2015/4/28	8.3247	7.6212	8.5492	8.3016
2015/4/29	8.2393	7.6217	8.5498	8.2672
2015/4/30	8.2283	7.6222	8.5503	8.2316

Table 3. The results of the relative error of the three prediction model.

Time	The absolute value of the relative error(%)		
	GM prediction model	BP neural network prediction model	combination of GM-BP neural network prediction model
2015/4/21	10.6242	0.1973	0.2135
2015/4/22	10.3363	0.5267	0.1954
2015/4/23	10.0331	0.8820	0.1766
2015/4/24	9.7673	1.1944	0.2160
2015/4/25	9.5009	1.5042	0.2725
2015/4/26	9.1340	1.9233	0.2368
2015/4/27	8.7732	2.3328	0.2267
2015/4/28	8.4506	2.6971	0.2773
2015/4/29	7.4964	3.7682	0.3387
2015/4/30	7.3659	3.9138	0.0413

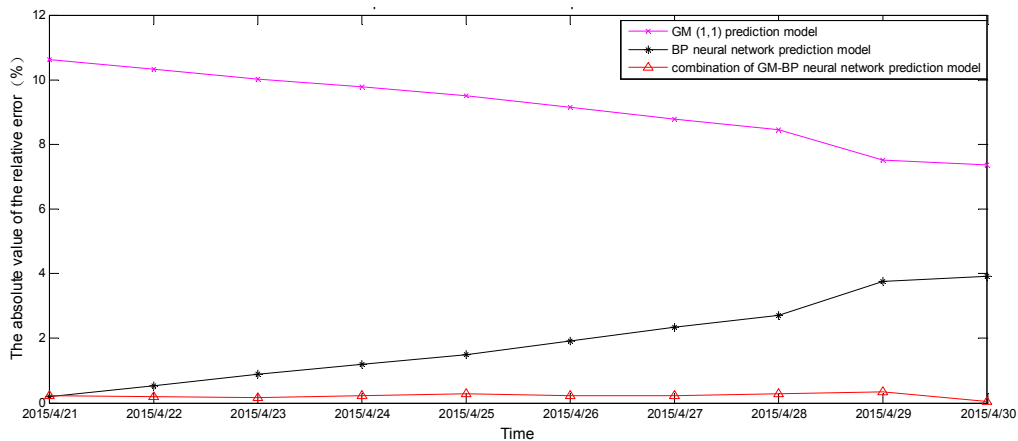


Figure 2. The prediction results of the three prediction models.

### 4. Results and Discussion

Figure 2 indicates the relative error diagram of three predictions models. It is very intuitive that the relative error of combination of GM-BP neural network prediction model (red line) is significantly lower, however other two single prediction models are predicting with higher error. In addition, the prediction results are presented in table 2 and the relative errors given in table 3. When the three prediction models compared, the result of combination of GM-BP neural network prediction model is close to the true value.

There indexes, maximum, minimum and average relative error were selected to compare the accuracy of the three models. As shown in table 4, GM (1,1) prediction model has the maximum relative error of 10.6242%, the minimum relative error is 7.3659% and the average relative error was 9.1482%; BP neural network prediction model works with the maximum relative error of 3.9138%, the

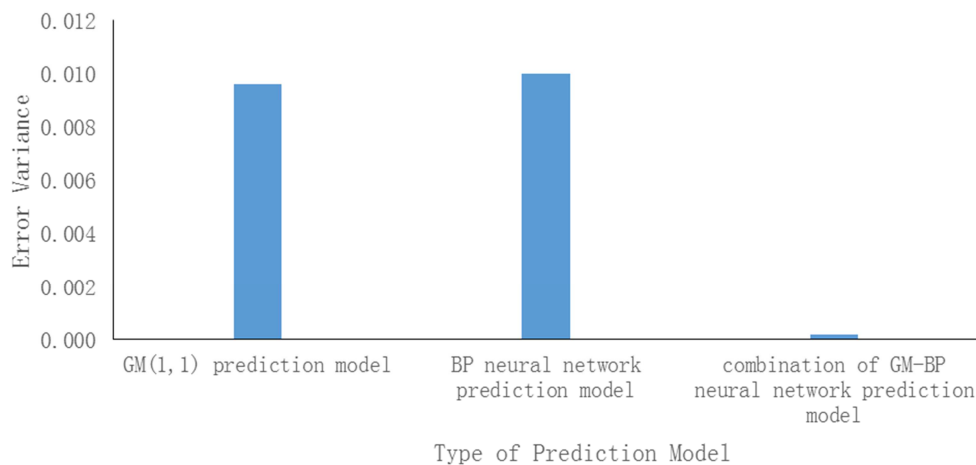
minimum relative error is 0.1973% and the average relative error was 1.8940%; Combination of GM-BP neural network prediction model predicts have the best performance, with the maximum relative error is 0.3387%, the minimum relative error is 0.0413% and the average relative error is 0.2195%.

Prediction error variance of three predictions model (GM (1,1) prediction model, BP neural network prediction model and the combination of GM-BP neural network prediction model) were 0.0096, 0.01 and 0.0002 respectively. Figure3 depicts the error variance of combination of GM-BP neural network prediction model outperformed any single prediction model.

The above data also reveals that the combination of GM-BP neural network prediction model is better than a single GM (1,1) prediction model and BP neural network prediction model. Therefore, combination model has a certain advantage for prediction of DO in seawater model.

**Table 4.** Compare the prediction accuracy of the three models.

relative error	GM prediction model	BP neural network prediction model	combination of GM-BP neural network prediction model
maximum	10.6242%	3.9138%	0.3387%
minimum	7.3659%	0.1973%	0.0413%
average	9.1482%	1.8940%	0.2195%



**Figure 3.** Comparison of error variance of three prediction models.

Combination model compared with the prediction of a single model has an obvious advantage in the ocean DO, but the external environmental factors (such as: temperature, pH, salinity, nutrients) also having a great influence on DO variations. Hence, by established a TS fuzzy neural network integrated model to give a higher accurate pre-warning methods of water quality and found relationship of each single factor in the study over three Taihu Lake Basin (Zhang and Gao 2015). This paper only considered the relationship between the time series of DO so that the model has some limitations, and establish a multi-factor model prediction will be more reasonable.

### 5. Conclusions

Dynamic change prediction of water quality can provide

important information for the pre-warning for oceans and marine protection. This paper uses GM (1,1) prediction model, BP neural network prediction model and combination of GM-BP neural network combination prediction model. Compared the three prediction models and results are as follows:

- (1) The prediction accuracy of combination of GM-BP neural network prediction model is the higher than BP neural network prediction model and GM (1,1) prediction model, which is least.
- (2) GM (1,1) prediction model can handle the sample with smaller data set, and its discrete data fitting is poor.
- (3) LM-BP neural network use the least squares method, which can effectively solve the traditional BP neural network exist easily falling into local minima and improve the accuracy of the model;

(4) GM-BP neural network combination prediction model having the advantages of both models because use the GM (1,1) prediction model residuals as BP (LM algorithm) neural network training sample, improves the prediction accuracy of water quality.

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