Overlay of Flexible Pavements: An ANN Approach

A Report Submitted in Partial Fulfilment

of the Requirements for the degree of

Bachelor of Technology

in

Civil Engineering

by **Sonal Gumansingh Roll No.-110CE0069**

Under Guidance of **Prof. Mahabir Panda**

Department of Civil Engineering

National Institute of Technology Rourkela

Rourkela-769008, Orissa, India

May, 2014

Overlay of Flexible Pavements: An ANN Approach

A Report Submitted in Partial Fulfilment

of the Requirements for the degree of

Bachelor of Technology

in

Civil Engineering

by **Sonal Gumansingh Roll No.-110CE0069**

Under Guidance of **Prof. Mahabir Panda**

Department of Civil Engineering

National Institute of Technology Rourkela

Rourkela-769008, Orissa, India

May, 2014

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY ROURKELA-769008,ODISHA INDIA

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the thesis entitled, "**Overlay of Flexible Pavements: An ANN Approach**" submitted by Miss. **Sonal Gumansingh** in partial fulfilment of the requirement for the award of **Bachelor of Technology Degree** in **Civil Engineering** at the National Institute of Technology, Rourkela (Deemed University) is an authentic work carried out by her under my supervision and guidance.

To the best of my knowledge, the matter embodied in the thesis has not been submitted to any other University/ Institute for the award of any degree or diploma.

Place: Rourkela Professor

Date: **Prof. Mahabir Panda**

Dept of Civil Engineering National Institute of Technology Rourkela-769008

Acknowledgments

I would like to express my gratitude to my guide, **Prof. M. Panda**, for his encouragement, advice, mentoring and research support throughout my studies. His technical and editorial advice was essential for the completion of this dissertation. His ability to teach, depth of knowledge and ability to achieve perfection will always be my inspiration.

My sincere thanks to **Dr. S. K. Sarangi,** Director and **Prof. N. Roy,** Head of the Civil Engineering Department, National Institute of Technology Rourkela, for his advice and providing necessary facility for my work.

I am very thankful to all the faculty members and staffs of civil engineering department who assisted me in my research.

I would like to thank mtech. senior Aditya Kumar Das for his help during final compilation of project report. I also thank all my batch mates, who have directly or indirectly helped me in my project work and in the completion of this report.

I am grateful to my parents Mr. Gadadhar Gumansingh and Mrs. Sarojshree Gumansingh for their love, support and guidance. They have always been supportive of my academic pursuit.

Sonal Gumansingh

Contents

ABSTRACT

Highway Pavements comprise of two types, flexible and rigid. In India Most of the roads are constructed as flexible pavements. The main problem in flexible pavement is deterioration due to traffic loading, material related factors and adverse climatic conditions. In order to avoid and mitigate such difficulties, maintenance is to be done instead of reconstruction. Among all the maintenance programs, the most common method adopted in India is to go for an asphalt overlay on the old surface to increase the serviceability of the existing road. Hence, designing and constructing the flexible overlay is very important regarding its performance. Designing an overlay is challenging given restricted boundary conditions that must be observed and designed for. Although, there is provided design code but some difficulties in solving process such as accurate field data, error prone design curve reading, less accurate conversion formula for temperature variation, time consuming calculations make it complex and dull to be used for everyday purpose. In addition, collection and use the necessary data in the HMA overlay design process needs spending a large amount of money and time and also the reliability and comprehensive data. Unavailability of design software leads to manual calculation which is prone to errors. Hence process should be implemented using a computer model to overcome complexity, recurring tasks and time consuming method. An artificial neural network approach can be used for the elimination of this drawback.

This study presents an attempt to apply artificial neural network to recommend asphalt overlay thickness (HMA). Though noted common methods need time, reliable and some essential data to be able to start designing process but artificial intelligence especially artificial neural network is a method based on learning process which can find possible relation between input and output sample data and is able to predict the output without any time with founded relation quickly. Results of this study reveal that artificial neural network is appropriate for implementation in predicting flexible overlay thickness.

List of Figures

List of Tables

ABBREVIATIONS

SYMBOL

- E_1 : Elastic modulus of A.C. layer.
- E_2 : Elastic modulus of granular base layer.
- E_3 : Elastic modulus of subgrade.
- f_1, f_2, f_3 : Coefficients of fatigue criterion.
- f4, f⁵ : Coefficients of permanent deformation criterion.
- N_f : allowable number of load repetitions to prevent fatigue cracking.
- Nd : maximum allowable number of load repetitions to limit permanent deformation,
- Mr : Resilient modulus.
- p : Mean normal stress $(σ1 + 2 σ3) / 3$.
- P : Concentrated load.
- εc : Vertical compressive strain on the surface of subgrade.
- εr : Radial strain or recoverable strain.
- εt : Tensile strain at bottom of asphalt layer.
- εz : Vertical strain.
- σ1,2,3 : Three principal stresses.
- σz : Vertical stress.
- τ : Shear stress.
- μ : Poisson's ratio.
- ANN: Artificial Neural Network

CHAPTER-1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 GENERAL

Pavements are of two types, flexible and rigid. In flexible layers, the common ones are Asphaltic wearing course above base and/or sub-base which rests on subgrade layer. Generally, failure of pavement occur due to factors affecting serviceability such as traffic loading and weather conditions. For preservation, Maintenance Rehabilitation (MR) activities should be done in well-timed manner. The most popular M and R activities is use of Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) overlays. This improves the roadway by utilizing the existing layers of asphalt concrete and aggregate base as support for a new wearing surface. Adding a defined thickness of asphalt concrete provides structural reinforcement to the roadways, permits the designer to allow change in traffic use, addresses increasing traffic volume and weights, corrects riding qualities, and efficiently extends structural performance of the roadway for ten or even twenty years while maintaining factors like the structural capacity of each layer, and the variation of material properties due to seasonal and environmental changes, especially the temperature and moisture variations. A significant consideration during design and ultimately construction of overlay is the potential for existing pavement cracking of different severity to reflect through new wearing surface, with obvious aesthetic impacts. HMA overlay provides a reasonably fast, lucrative means of restoring satisfaction of user, rectifying deficiencies of existing surface, and promoting structural load-carrying capacity reckoning on the designed thickness.

Indian Road Congress (IRC) IRC : 81 – 1997 uses design curves relating characteristic pavement deflection to cumulative standard axle loads. Thus thickness of Bituminous Macadam has to be manually calculated which is time consuming and prone to error by user. Hence, it should be carried out in a computer environment to overcome complex and time consuming procedure. This study incorporates the practicability of application of ANN approach for recommendation of proper pavement overlay thickness based on knowledge from overlay design cases. For developing countries like India where dedicated software for the purpose are unavailable, this approach is productive in every manner.

1.2 FLEXIBLE PAVEMENTS

The main structural function of a pavement is to support the induced load by traffic and to distribute these loads safely to the foundation. Figure 1.1 shows the typical cross-section of a flexible pavement system. This pavement comprises a number of bituminous layers placed over the road base (unbound or bound material) over a similar unbound sub-base material placed on the natural subgrade. This pavement is referred to as "flexible" because the bituminous materials are capable of flexing slightly under traffic loading. For thinly surfaced pavements, the road base is often unbound granular material. The base course immediately beneath the surface course can be composed of crushed stone, crushed slag or other untreated or stabilized materials. The subbase course is the layer beneath the base course. The reason that two different granular materials are used is for economy. Instead of using the more expensive base course material for the entire layer, local and cheaper materials can be used as a sub-base course on top of subgrade. (Huang, 2004), (Witczack and Yoder, 1975).

Figure 1-1 Typical cross-section of a flexible pavement system (COURAGE, 1999)

1.3 CRITICAL RESPONSES FOR FLEXIBLE PAVEMENTS AND PREDICTION OF LIFE

Kerkhoven and Dormon (1953) first suggested the use of vertical compressive strain on the surface of the subgrade as a failure criterion to reduce the permanent deformation of subgrade which is the main reason of subgrade rutting. After that Saal and Pell (1960) recommended the use of horizontal tensile strain at the bottom of the asphaltic concrete to minimize fatigue cracking which limits the fatigue life of pavements(*Huang, 2004*). Two main structural failure mechanisms for flexible pavements which are the fatigue cracking of the asphaltic concrete layer and permanent deformation of the subgrade (rutting) are also shown in figure 1-2.

Figure 1-2 types of failure mechanisms in pavements (COURAGE,1999)

1.4 SCOPE OF THE STUDY

During the last three decades the approach to design of flexible pavements has begun to undergo transformation from empirical method to mechanistic method because of the improved understanding of the behaviour of materials and the availability of analytical tools for the analysis of pavements. In India also, a massive pavement performance study was undertaken during 1983 to 1993 [Research Schemes R-6, 1995; R-19 and R-56, 1999] as a result of which a new standard for design of flexible pavements was published by Indian Roads Congress [IRC: 37, 2001]. The new design method uses a mechanistic approach for the determination of design pavement thicknesses.

The main concern among the researchers in India in using the empirical relationships recommended by IRC is that there has not been any validation of the relationships for the specifications and construction practices adopted in India. Thus, it is essential to have adequate data for selection of realistic layer moduli appropriate for the conditions prevailing in India. Hence, a rational approach for prediction is desirable for the analytical design of pavements and overlays. Also Extensive calculation and time consuming design curve readings prone to reading error by user, makes road for alternative method which is less time consuming and efficient. Hence Artificial Neural Network finds its use in predicting overlay thickness from the learned relationship through repeated presentation of data and is capable of generalizing to new and previously unseen data. In using ANN though initially needs large amount of input data for learning database; it is quick at finding output for new data.

Chapter-2

LITERATURE REVIEW AND SCOPE OF THE STUDY

2.1 LITERATURE REVIEW

ANNs are helpful computation tools increasingly used for solving complex, resourceconcentrated problems as an alternative to using traditional techniques. Thube et al. (2006) used ANNs for forecasting cracking, ravelling, rutting and roughness for Low Volume Roads (LVR) in India. This pavement condition prediction methodology using ANN used Road inventory data, as well as 6cycles of pavement performance data from in-service LVR pavement sections over a 3 year period in India. Ceylan et al. (2004) used ANNs as pavement structural analysis tools to be compared with calibrated HDM-4 models developed by World Bank. Meier et al. (1997) trained ANNs as surrogate to ELP analysis for back calculating pavement layer moduli and found a 42 times increase in processing speed for prediction of critical responses and deflection profiles of flexible pavements. Gucunski and Krstic (1996) and Khazanovich and Roesler (1997) reported similar ANN applications.

The research project team working on the development of the new, mechanistic based AASHTO Pavement Design (NCHRP 1-37A) has recognized ANN as non-traditional yet possessing very powerful computing techniques, taking advantage of ANN models in preparing the 2002 Design Guide concrete pavement analysis package. Gholamali et al.(2013) proposed an AASHTO revised method with the goodness of ANNs to reduce the time and the calculation procedure for selection of the asphalt overlay thickness (HMA) by back propagation network with 1-13-3 combination as the optimum network to estimate the overlay thickness. Retherford(2012) developed a systematic uncertainty management surrogate model with objective of addressing model uncertainty, reducing computational expense, incorporating uncertainty in pavement design for risk-based mechanistic-empirical (M-E) pavement design.

Mahoney et al.(1989) integrated non-destructive testing (NDT) for estimating layer resilient moduli, seasonal moduli adjustment, and failure criteria of asphalt concrete using EVERPAVE for Washington state flexible pavements. Terzi(2005) modelled ANN model for serviceability index of flexible pavement with higher regression value than AASHTO.

Gopalkrishnan(2010) discoursed the effect of training algorithm on neural networks when it is aiding pavement design.

Abdallah et al, (2000) developed ANN models for the determination of critical strains at layer interfaces for 3 and 4 layered flexible pavement systems. It could predict remaining life and required overlay thickness for an existing pavement using fatigue and rutting criteria. Ceylan et al.(2007), Gopalakrishnan and Thompson(2004) worked on FE solutions database to be used for predicting critical pavement response and layer moduli when incorporated with ANNs.

In addition, artificial neural networks (Attoh-Okine, 1994, 1999, 2001, 2002 ; Choi, Adams, and Bahia, 2004; Sundin and Braban-Ledoux, 2001; Roberts and Attoh-Okine, 1999; Alsugair and Al-Qudrah, 1998; Huang and Moore, 1997; Fwa and Chan, 1993) have recently been used in flexible pavement cracking prediction, condition ratings of jointed concrete pavements, pavement-performance prediction and simulating pavement deterioration. Several neural network studies, as explained above, have been conducted to assist engineers in selecting optimal maintenance and rehabilitation activities.

2.2 OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The main objectives of the study are

- a. To apply artificial neural network for recommending pavement overlay thickness based on learning from overlay design cases avoiding complicated and time consuming input file preparation, complexity procedures and repeated tasks under IRC Pavement Design Guide.
- b. To bring forward advanced intelligent learning techniques for pavement designs into practical use.
- c. To compare and find accuracy rate of predicted overlay thickness from ANN with calculated ones determined by the MORTH research scheme-81 attempting to use proper transfer function for better accuracy in definite time.

Chapter 3

THEORY

3.1 PAVEMENT STRUCTURE MODEL AND EVALUATION

The pavement is regarded as a multi-layered elastic system. The application of the multilayer elastic theory in pavement analysis involves several assumptions: (Burmister, 1943)

1. Material in the pavement layers is assumed to be elastic, homogenous and isotropic.

2. All layers, except the bottom one, are finite in depth and the bottom layer (subgrade) is assumed to be infinite depth.

3. All layers are assumed to be infinite in extent in the lateral direction.

4. The applied loads are static and load imprints are assumed to be circular.

5. Pavement materials are characterized by a modulus of elasticity and Poisson's ratio.

6. Full friction is assumed to have developed between layers at each interface.

These assumptions may be found to be unrealistic for actual pavement conditions. However, the existing mechanistic procedures showed that applying the multi-layered elastic theory gave acceptable results. (Smith, 1986)

Structural evaluation of pavements commonly involves applying a standard load to the pavement and measuring its response which may be stress, strain or deflection. The most commonly measured response is deflection. Since its development in 1953, the Benkelman Beam has become a standard tool used by several agencies for non-destructive testing of pavements. Benkelman Beam is a 3.66 m long, portable instrument used to measure surface deflection of the pavement loaded by the rear axle of a standard truck. The main disadvantage with this equipment is that the support legs of the beam often lie within the deflection basin, which affects the measured deflections. Also, a single deflection does not give adequate information about the condition of various layers of the pavement. Hence Research scheme MORTH R-81 used dynamic loading type Falling Weight Deflectometer (FWD) for the purpose of calculation of deflection.

The basic working principle of the impulse loading equipment is to drop a mass on the pavement to produce an impulse load and measure the surface deflections. The mass is dropped on a spring system, which in turn transmits the load to the pavement through a loading plate. The resulting deflection bowl characteristics are observed and used in the back-calculation of pavement material properties. The two models developed at IIT Kharagpur in India [Kumar et al, 2001; Reddy et al, 2002a] can be listed in this category.

3.2 OVERLAY DESIGN PROCEDURE

In overlay design procedure, thicknesses are so calculated to put damages within the allowable limits in the existing pavement and the new overlay. Parameters affecting overlay thickness have been discussed in section 3.3. Diagrammatically it can be shown as follows:

3.2.1Modelling Pavement Response

Modelling pavement response is normally used for estimation of two most common distress types found in AC pavements: fatigue cracking and rutting distress. Fatigue cracking is caused by horizontal tensile strain at the bottom of asphalt layers, while rutting distress origin from vertical compressive strain on the top of the subgrade layer.

The failure criterion for fatigue cracking is expressed as generally;

$$
Nf = f1 (C_1)^{f2} (E_1)^{f3}
$$
 [Huang, 2004]

Research Scheme MORTH R-81 uses 2.21E-4 , 3.89 , 0.854 for *f*1,*f*2,*f3* respectively.

The failure criterion for permanent deformation is expressed as;

$$
Nd = f4 \left(\mathcal{C}_c \right)^{f5} \qquad \qquad [Huang, 2004]
$$

As per Research Scheme MORTH R-81 values of $f4$ and $f5$ suggested as 4.1656E-8 and 4.4337.

3.3 DIFFERENT PARAMETERS OF PAVEMENT DESIGN

Parameters affecting pavement design also affects the selection of database for input preparation. For effective input parameters which will give better accuracy it is needed to consider below factors for its effect on moduli values and others.

3.3.1 Effect of Temperature on Bituminous Layer Modulus

Properties of bituminous mixes like stiffness get affected by change in temperature which affects deflection. Modulus values determined at different temperatures are normally adjusted to correspond to a standard temperature (35◦C) for design of pavements and overlays. Different temperature adjustment factors and equations were given by various researchers for adjusting the modulus and/or deflections for temperature. Code says, correction for deflection values measured at pavement temperature other than 35° C should be 0.01mm for each degree change from standard temperature. WINFLEX uses the following relationship

 $Eⁿ$ =Intercept-(Slope X T) (WINFLEX, 2006)

where, exponent $n=0.35$ and slope= 0.12692

Examination of the deflections measured at different pavement temperatures indicates that the variation of deflections with temperature is maximum in the case of deflections close to the centre of the loading plate in NDT test. There is not much effect of temperature on the deflections measured away from the load. It is widely recognized that deflections at locations closer to the load are mostly dependent on the moduli of all the layers whereas defections, at large distances depend on modulus of subgrade only. (Research Scheme MORTH R-81)

3.3.2 Effect of Seasonal Variation

Deflection depends upon change in climate. Worst climate (after Monsoon) affects the pavement badly. It depends on subgrade soil and moisture content. Correction for seasonal variation in code depends on types of soil subgrade (sandy/gravelly or Clayey with PI<15or

Figure 3-1 IRC Seasonal correction factor (clayey subgrade, PI>15,rainfall<1300) (IRC: 81-1997)

The summer deflections were lower whereas became larger soon after the monsoon. Even though the modulus of the bituminous bound layer is expected to be lower in summer when temperatures are high, the subgrade and granular layers have higher elastic modulus in summer resulting in lower overall deflections in case of thin bituminous surfacing layers. The behaviour of cracked bituminous layers is close to that of granular layers and has high elastic modulus in summer than the modulus obtained during the monsoon (MORTH R-81). Below is the graphical representation of subgrade modulus variation throughout year as per WINFLEX, 2006. This is closely similar to the one explained under MORTH R-81.

Figure 3-2 Graphical Representation of Subgrade Modulus Variations Throughout the year (WINFLEX,2006)

3.3.3 Effect of Poisson's ratio

For most of the pavement materials, the influence of Poisson's ratio (μ) on various critical parameters is normally small. This allows the use of typical values in the analysis rather than resorting to complex laboratory testing (Mitchell and Monismith, 1977).

According to IRC: 37-2001 Asphalt layer has Poisson's ratio in the range of 0.35-0.5 while 0.5 is for temperature range of 35°C to 40°C and 0.35 for the range of 20°C to 30°C. The value off Poisson's ratio for granular layer and subgrade layer is 0.4.

3. 4 DEVELOPED COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

Mechanistic-based pavement design methods are being developed and used in different countries such as Europe and North America. For example in the USA, the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) uses ME design system in the computer program EVERPAVE 5.0, March 1999 which was developed at the University of Washington. Bayomy et al. (1996) developed WINFLEX under Idaho Department of Transportation (ITD) which also uses the same design system for flexible pavements and implemented in the computer program WINFLEX, May 2001. This program is available in internet and the link of which is provided in the reference. Here WINFLEX calculates overlay thickness for input design-cases which were to be checked with predicted ones for accuracy.

3.5 ARTIFICIAL NEURAL NETWORK

Neural networks are valuable intelligent tools which have been used significantly in engineering applications when it is difficult to prosecute conventional methods showing inferior performance (Fwa and Chan, 1993). Also Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs) have proved to outperform traditional modelling counterparts in solving various complex engineering problems. ANNs are intelligent systems based on uncomplicated computing models of biological structure of the human brain (Venayagamoorthy *et al*, 2002). The highly connected, distributed nature of it imparts high degree of fault tolerance, noise immunity, and generalization capability. It consists of parallelly operating simple elements, inspired by biological nervous systems. The network function of ANN is determined by the connections between elements which can be trained by adjusting the values of the connections (weights) between the elements. Batch training of a network proceeds by making weight and bias changes based on an entire set (batch) of input vectors. It may also be referred to as ''on line'' or ''adaptive'' training.

Figure 3-3 Multilayer feed-forward Neural network (Venayagamoorthy,2004)

Typically, in a Multilayer Feed-forward Neural Network (MLFNN), there is an input layer, one or more intermediate layers called the hidden layers and an output layer, which outputs the network's response to its inputs. The activity of the input units represents the raw information that is fed into the network, while that of each hidden unit is determined by the activities of the input units and the weights on the connections between the input and the hidden units. Behaviour of the output units depends on both. The different layers structure allows flexibility, more information capturing and relationship identification between variables. (Venayagamoorthy, 2004)

Figure 3-4 Basic Principle of Neural Network (Terzi, 2007)

Chapter-4

ANALYSIS METHODOLOGY

For developing an ANN-based overlay design thickness procedure, required is database of design cases. Hence broad analysis was done on suggested three typical flexible pavement cross sections: 3-layer, 4-layer, and 5-layer, considering new overlay and the subgrade. For each cross section, 7 failure cases to be controlled by the design have been selected creating 21 design cases. A range of input data has to be suggested for each design case. WINFLEX computer program, was used for calculating the overlay thickness. Consequently, design cases database can be created. Training data sets were then being selected to be used in training process for ANN approach. Matlab neural network toolbox was used in designing and training the neural network. Sensitivity analysis on the trained ANN has been conducted. Finally, testing or validating process was performed on the trained ANN. Figure 4-2 presents in details the analysis methodology adopted in this study (Mostafa, 2009), where it is divided into the following four main steps:

- 1. Design-case Database Development
- 2. Training and Testing process for accuracy of INPUT data
- 3. Sensitivity analysis on trained ANN
- 4. Testing Process on actual data obtained from MORTH R-81

4.1 DESIGN-CASE DATABASE DEVELOPMENT

For building design cases database, three different pavement cross sections have been suggested: 3-layer, 4-layer, and 5-layer as shown in Figure. The information to be taken into account are the material data inputs for each layer: elastic modulus (E), layer thickness (H), and Poisson ratios (v) as shown. The assumption for elastic layer system is previously discussed in 3.1.

				E_{ov} , H_{ov} , v_{ov}		New Overlay
E_{ov} , H_{ov} , v_{ov}		New Overlay		E_{old} , H_{old} , v_{old}		Old Asphalt
E_{old} , H_{old} , V_{old}		Old Asphalt		E_b , H_b , v_b		Base
E_{sg} , v_{sg}		Subgrade		E_{sg} , v_{sg}		Subgrade
	3 Layer				4 Layer	
		E_{ov} , H_{ov} , v_{ov}		New Overlay		
		E_{old} , H_{old} , v_{old}		Old Asphalt		
		E_b , H_b , v_b		Base		
		E_{sb} , H_{sb} , v_{sb}		Subbase		
		1111	'/////	///////////		
		$E_{\rm sg},\,v_{\rm sg}$		Subgrade		
			5 Layer			
		Γ \sim \sim \sim \sim \sim \sim \sim		$\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}$ and $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}$ and $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}$ and $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}$ and $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}$		

Figure 4-1 Multi layered Pavement Cross-section (Mostafa, 2009)

It is noteworthy that the overlay thickness, Hov, is the desired output to be calculated. Poisson ratios, performance prediction model for fatigue and rutting failure, and modulustemperature adjustment for AC layers have been assumed to be constant for every design-case. Their values are discussed in theory section under 3.3.

Figure 4-2 Methodology Used (Mostafa, 2009)

For each run, the overlay design software, WINFLEX, determines overlay thickness for the 3 cross sections based on controlling of both fatigue failure at the bottom of the bituminous layers and/or Rutting failure on the top of the subgrade layer. The fatigue failure mode is selected according to three conditions as follow:

- \triangleright The first condition of fatigue failure is selected so that the design is controlled by considering fatigue failure in the old Asphalt and the new overlay layer.
- \triangleright The second fatigue failure mode is selected so that only fatigue failure in the new overlay layer is considered.

 \triangleright The last condition is chosen with the purpose of fatigue failure only in the old AC layer. As a result and account for rutting failure with/without, there are seven failure modes for each cross section, i.e., total of 21 design cases, as follow:

Using the data range, design cases database can be created through more than 600 runs for each databases. Range of data can be seen from the given picture (Mostafa, 2009)

Traffic and Loading Conditions (ESAL = 500,000 to 10,000,000) **Figure 4-3 Data range of Input Values (Mostafa,2009)**

It is noteworthy that pavement is considered to be failed when the total damage reaches 100%, whether it is due to fatigue or rutting. If the calculated overlay thickness is equal to 2.54 mm, which was specified as increment value in WINFLEX, this means that there is no need for overlay.

4.2 TRAINING AND TESTING PROCESS FOR ACCURACY OF INPUT DATA

In order to develop ANN-based overlay design approach, it must be well trained using training sets extracted from the developed database. In this analysis, Input datas are "crosssection", "Failure Mode", " E_{ov} ", " E_{old} ", " E_{b} ", " E_{sb} ", " E_{sg} ", " H_{old} ", " H_{b} ", " H_{sb} ", ESAL whereas the output is H_{ov} . The number of hidden layers and transfer function should be specified.

In this study, 2 hidden layers were used. Here requirement is to get best mapping for the input to the desired output (H_{ov}) . Each input set produces output under ANN with varied random set of initial weigts. By training the network, the weights of the system continually adjust to incrementally reduce the difference between the output and the desired response. This difference is cited as the error and can be measured in different ways. The most common measurement is the Mean Squared Error (MSE). The MSE is the average of the squares of the difference between each output and the desired output.

4.3 SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS ON TRAINED ANN

The objective of the sensitivity analysis is to express the fitness of neural networks as an effective way in calculating overlay thickness with the most achievable accuracy that can be obtained for the most economical cost. The neural networks were influenced to several parameters that guarantee the greatest achievable accuracy such as type of transfer function, number of hidden nodes, and hidden layers. Gopalkrishnan (2010) tried to use different training algorithm of which transfer functions that were considered for each design cases were

- TRAINLM-Lavenberg-Marquardt
- TRAINSCG-Scaled Conjugate Gradient
- Radial Basis Function

4.3.1 Levenberg-Marquardt Backpropagation (LM)

The LM second-order numerical optimization technique combines the advantages of Gauss–Newton and steepest descent algorithms. While this method has better convergence properties than the conventional back-propagation method, it requires $O(N2)$ storage and calculations of order $O(N2)$ where N is the total number of weights in an MLP back-propagation. This algorithm is considered to be very efficient when training networks which have up to a few hundred weights. Although the computational requirements are much higher for each iteration of the LM training algorithm, this is more than made up for by the increased efficiency. This is especially true when high precision is required (MATLAB Toolbox, User's Guide, 2010).

4.3.2 Scaled Conjugate Gradient Backpropagation (SCG)

The SCG training algorithm was developed to avoid this time-consuming line search, thus significantly reducing the number of computations performed in each iteration, although it may require more iteration to converge than the other conjugate gradient algorithms. The storage

requirements for the SCG algorithm are lesser than that of LM and it finds its use when no of input data is very high. (MATLAB Toolbox, User's Guide, 2010)

4.3.3 Radial Basis Function (RBF)

In MLP network weighing process of Input Variable is used while RBF gives equal importance to all Input parameters. This makes it less important at calculation of overlay design of flexible pavement as weighing process of different variables is important.

4.4 TESTING PROCESS ON ACTUAL DATA OBTAINED FROM MORTH RESEARCH SCHEME R-81

Once the network is trained, testing process should be started. The trained network should be exposed to the data sets obtained from ministry of Road Transport and Highways (Research scheme R-81) which gives falling weight deflectometer test result of pavements tested by IIT kharagpur. Different design cases were selected to represent training data sets which were taken as INPUT. The predicted overlay thickness using the trained network of ANN software should be compared with the actual ones from MORTH R-81 to come up with the accuracy rate or reliability. The transfer function to be used should be checked with sensitivity analysis result for optimal function for given database. If the accuracy rate is low, then the network is not properly trained and other training sets should be generated to retrain the network, otherwise, the network is considered to be reliable and ready for implementation. (Mostafa, 2009)

The implementation is solely dependent on accuracy of data. The accuracy and time taken to reach required accuracy are important in the sense of implementation in program for everyday use. The accuracy is highly subjected to input data which though randomly taken yet are in resonance with parameters affecting overlay thickness. If a set of input data doesn't give required accuracy in optimal number of runs, effort should be taken to change the dataset to keep it in resonance with parameters affecting overlay design. Effect of parameters is discussed in section 3.3. After getting accuracy in optimal number of runs a set of input can be universally used for the same design-case purpose at different instances i.e. it can be available for use in ANN based overlay design program.

Chapter-5

ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

5.1 DESIGNCASE DATABASE DEVELOPMENT

To build a design cases database, three different pavement cross sections have been suggested: 3-layer, 4-layer, and 5-layer. For each run, the overlay design software "WINFLEX" was used to determine an overlay thickness for the three cross sections based on controlling both fatigue failure at the bottom of the bituminous layers and/or Rutting failure on the top of the subgrade layer. The data range has already been suggested in 3.1. The data set was built taking into consideration of temperature, seasonal variation. 21 design-cases were designed with 600 runs per database were done. Most of the parameters are tried to be varied as ANN doesn't take constant variables into account. Hence to check for all input variables varied data for each is taken. Example of a output text file of WINFLEX is given at Appendix-A.

Figure 5-1 WINFLEX Program (WINFLEX, 2006)

5.2 TRAINING AND TESTING PROCESS FOR ACCURACY OF INPUT DATA

Here requirement is to get best mapping for the input to the desired output (H_{ov}) . Each input set produces output under ANN with varied random set of initial weights. By training the network, the weights of the system continually adjust to incrementally reduce the difference between the output and the desired response. This difference is referred to as the error and here measured as the Mean Squared Error (MSE). The MSE is the average of the squares of the difference between each output and the desired output.

An example of trained ANN dataset along with performance, training set and regression plot can be seen at Appendix A.

5.3 SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

The analysis indicates that changing the transfer function has a noticeable effect on the accuracy. Furthermore, the number of hidden nodes has an effect on the accuracy, where using more number of hidden nodes gives high accuracy. To achieve high accuracy, the number of hidden nodes is preferable to be more than 25 nodes. On the other hand, ANN predicts much better with the two hidden layers.

Hence for different transfer function (TRAINLM and TRAINSCG) for each design-cases ANN analysis was done using MATLAB. The no of hidden nodes were also changed for each transfer function. As number of nodes above 20 gives better results hence when plotted the Percent Accuracy Vs no. of hidden nodes, the transfer function which gave better accuracy between 20 to 50 was selected for that specific design-case. Graph between Percent accuracy and no of hidden nodes are presented here for different cases where x_y means the database refers to $(x+1)$ layered initial structure and y design base, criteria of which is given earlier. For example, 1_2 means 3 layered initial structure and design case no. 2 which has been discussed in Section 4.1.

Figure5-2 Graph of Percent Accuracy Vs No. of Hidden

Nodes for 3layered pavement: Design-case 2 Figure 5-3 Graph of Percent Accuracy Vs No. of Hidden Nodes for 3layered Pavement: Design-case 3

Figure 5-4 Graph of Percent Accuracy Vs No. of Hidden Nodes for 3layered Pavement: Design-case 4

Figure 5-5 Graph of Percent Accuracy Vs No. of Hidden Nodes for 3layered Pavement: Design-case 5

Figure 5-6 Graph of Percent Accuracy Vs No. of Hidden Nodes for 3layered Pavement: Design-case 6

Figure 5-9 Graph of Percent Accuracy Vs No. of Hidden Nodes for 4layered Pavement: Design-case 3

Figure 5-10 Graph of Percent Accuracy Vs No. of Hidden Nodes for 4layered Pavement: Design-case 4

Figure 5-11 Graph of Percent Accuracy Vs No. of Hidden Nodes for 4layered Pavement: Design-case 5

Figure 5-13 Graph of Percent Accuracy Vs No. of Hidden Nodes for 4layered Pavement: Design-case 7

Figure 5-14 Graph of Percent Accuracy Vs No. of Hidden Nodes for 5layered Pavement: Design-case 2

Figure 5-15 Graph of Percent Accuracy Vs No. of Hidden Nodes for 5layered Pavement: Design-case 3

Figure 5-16 Graph of Percent Accuracy Vs No. of Hidden Nodes for 5layered Pavement: Design-case 4

Figure 5-17 Graph of Percent Accuracy Vs No. of Hidden Nodes for 5layered Pavement: Design-case 5

Figure 5-18 Graph of Percent Accuracy Vs No. of Hidden Nodes for 5layered Pavement: Design-case 6

Figure 5-19 Graph of Percent Accuracy Vs No. of Hidden Nodes for 5layered Pavement: Design-case 7

Hence finally for testing process, transfer function for multilayer perception to be considered is given below.

Table 5-1 Transfer Function for 3layer pavement design

Table 5-2 Transfer function for 4 layer pavement Design

Table 5-3 Transfer function for 5 layer pavement Design

Another analysis was done to compare neural models: MLP networks versus Radial Basis Function (RBF) networks. Results showed, MLP are more accurate than RBF networks The reason being equal importance given to all input variables in RBF networks, which is not the case with MLP networks. As such Weighting process of input variables is very much important in design of flexible pavements. Mostly between 200 to 300 no of neurons, the RBF function reaches required performance condition. This can be checked from examples of performance plot given in Appendix B.

5.4 TESTING PROCESS ON ACTUAL DATA OBTAINED FROM MORTH R-81

Once the network has been trained, the trained network should be exposed to the data sets obtained from ministry of Road Transport and Highways (Research scheme R-81) which gives falling weight deflectometer test result of pavements tested by IIT kharagpur. Therefore, design cases have been selected to represent training data sets distributed on the cross sections. Comparison is to be done between predicted overlay thickness using the trained network and the actual ones from MORTH R-81 to compute accuracy rate or reliability. If it is low, then the network is not accurately taught and other training sets are required for retraining purpose, otherwise, the network is considered consistent and ready for implementation.

In-service pavement sections

For the present study, some pavement sections in the states of West Bengal, Orissa and Jharkhand were selected for detailed investigation. Specification as per Research Scheme R-81, average daily two-way traffic on these roads ranged from 300 to 7000 commercial vehicles per day (cvpd). The granular sub-base and base of in-service pavements consisted of layers of sand, brickbat and crushed stone aggregates in varying thickness and they were treated as a single layer (granular base) for analysis. Similarly, the bituminous surfacing layer consisted mostly of bituminous macadam covered with premix carpet and seal coat. One or more layers of bituminous material placed over the granular layer at different times with varied thicknesses were also considered as one layer. Details of the selected test sections are given in Table.

| 23 | |131.020-131.200| 7.0 -- | 100 | 217 | 225 | (
Hr Jhankhand Stater WBr West Bengal Stater ORr Otissa Stater NH- National Highwayr SHr State Highway .
5DBC: Semi Dense Bitaminous Concrete; DBM: Dense Bitaminous Macadam; B: Bitaminous; BC Bitaminous Concrete; WBM: Water Bound Macadam; S: Sand: CS: Oushed Stone: DL: Drainage Layer; WMM: Wet Mx Macadam **Table 5-4 Details of selected test sections (MORTH R-81)**

The annual average rainfall in the region is about 1250mm and the pavement temperatures vary in the range from 20° C to 50° C. All the stretches have single carriageway carrying two-way Traffic. The average shoulder width was in the range of 1 to 2 m. It was observed at the time of investigation that some of the pavement sections were badly cracked and some were showing cracks covering nearly 20% of the pavement area. (MORTH R-81)

Back-calculated layer moduli

Deflection data obtained using the FWD was used to back-calculate effective pavement layer moduli and BACKGA program was used to compute the layer moduli. The pavement sections were considered as three layer elastic systems consisting of bituminous surfacing, granular base and subgrade. The inputs required for back-calculation analysis are the thicknesses of the first two layers and Poisson ratio values of all the three layers. Thicknesses measured by excavating test pits were used in the analysis. Since the moduli of granular bases and sub-bases are not much different, two layers were considered as a single granular layer termed as Granular Base (GB). Similarly, the thicknesses of different layers of bituminous materials were added for getting the surface course thickness. Poisson ratio values of bituminous layer, granular layer and

subgrade were taken as 0.5, 0.4 and 0.4 respectively. The moduli ranges considered in the backcalculation for different situations are given in Table.

Thin- PC: - Periodical application of 20mm Premix carpet (total surface thickness <75 mm). Thide-BM: - Periodical application of bituminous macadam and Premix carpet (total surface thickness >75 mm).

The surface loading considered for analysis is 40kN acting over a circular contract area with a radius of 50mm. Surface deflections measured at radial distances of 0, 300, 600, 900, 1200, 1500 and 1800 mm were the main inputs to BACKGA. These deflections were normalized to correspond to a load of 40 kN. The following GA parameters were used for the analysis.

Population Size $= 60$;

Maximum number of Generations $= 60$;

Probability of Crossover =0.74;

Probability of Mutation = 0.1 [MORTH R-81]

5.4.1 THIN OLD PAVEMENTS

Pavement sections with thickness of bituminous surfacing less than 75 mm were considered as thin pavements (Thin PC) in this investigation. Back-calculated pavement layer moduli, Sectional details, Surface deflections measured in different seasons using FWD are specified for each stretch in Appendix C. Here provided is the ANN analysis of the same using it as SAMPLE and previously obtained design database as INPUT.

When used with WINFLEX this gave the required overlay thickness which was checked with predicted value using ANN and error is calculated. Given below are some of the selected cases that were considered to check ANN's predicting capacity. There are cases where Accuracy is found to be more than 100%, it's because during actual use the thickness of overlay taken is less than code found thickness. When checked with ANN result these give greater than 100% accuracy. From sensitivity analysis,

Table 5-5 Modulus Range (MPa) for types of surfacing (MORTH R-81)

asphalt"

Transfer function: TRAINSCG.

CASE Thin_1: **for Km 1.865 to 2.000 of SH * (Salua Road) for the Deflection Data Collected during the Year 2001-02.**

5-6 CASE Thin_1: ANN data for Km 1.865 to 2.000 of SH * (Salua Road) for the Deflection Data Collected during the Year 2001- 02.

Avg Accuracy: 91.428%

CASE Thin_2:

for Km 2.850 to 3.000 of SH* (Salua Road) for the Deflection Data Collected during the Year 2001-02.

5-7 CASE Thin_2: ANN data for Km 2.850 to 3.000 of SH* (Salua Road) for the Deflection Data Collected during the Year 2001- 02.

Avg.Accuracy:99.583%

Case Thin_3:

for Km 4.625 to 5.000 of SH (IIT Bypass) for the Deflection Data Collected during the Year 2001-02.

National Institute of Technology, Rourkela **Page 38** Page 38

5-8 **Case Thin_3:ANN data for Km 4.625 to 5.000 of SH (IIT Bypass) for the Deflection Data Collected during the Year 2001-02.**

Avg.Accuracy:93.127%

CASE Thin_4: **for Km 3.370 to 4.000 of SH (IIT Bypass) for the Deflection Data Collected during the Year 2001-02**

5-9 CASE Thin_4: ANN data for Km 3.370 to 4.000 of SH (IIT Bypass) for the Deflection Data Collected during the Year 2001-02

Avg.Accuracy:92.9516%

CASE Thin_5:

for Km 15.000 to 15.270 of NH-60 for the Deflection Data Collected during the Year 2001-02

National Institute of Technology, Rourkela Page 40

5-10 CASE Thin_5: ANN data for Km 15.000 to 15.270 of NH-60 for the Deflection Data Collected during the Year 2001-02

Avg.Accuracy:98.898%

5.4.2 THICK OLD PAVEMENTS

The pavement sections considered in the present study also included a number of thick pavements bituminous layer thickness with more than 75 mm. The bituminous surface consisted of repeated application of bituminous macadam (BM) and premix carpet over a period of time. Sectional details of the pavements, Deflection data and backcalculated layer moduli are provided at Appedix C. Thickness of bituminous layer thicknesses ranged from 90 to 200 mm. A few sections had bituminous concrete overlay of 50 mm thickness. The thicknesses granular base varied from 300 to 690 mm. Results from ANN analysis is given below for each Section.

When used with WINFLEX this gave the required overlay thickness which was checked with predicted value using ANN and error is calculated.

From sensitivity analysis,

Design-case: " only fatigue cracking in new overlay or old asphalt and rutting failure in subgrade"

Transfer function: TRAINLM.

Since the thickness of the granular layer is very large (585 mm), Road Research R-56 [1999] has clearly established that only fatigue criteria will be applicable to such cases and number of standard axle load for causing 20 mm rutting is very large.

CASE Thick_1:

for Km 123.795 to 124.000 of NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during the Year 2000-01 (Kumar, 2001)

Location Km	Temp	Eov	Eold	E _b	Esg	Hold	Hb	ESAL	Hov	Hov PREDICTED	Accuracy
	(C)	(MPa)	(MPa)	MPa)	(MPa)	(mm)	(mm)		(mm)	(mm)	(%)
124.000L	31	761.97	721.6	209	55	95	134.9716	10000000	510.3685	495.7778296	97.14115
123.995R	31	761.97	742	160.7	49.5	95	130.925	10000000	523.5393	506.0729502	96.66379
123.950L	31	761.97	640.5	180.4	46.3	95	119.061	10000000	540.0028	500.6662731	92.7155
123.945R	31	761.97	841.9	164.4	41.6	95	145.9509	10000000	523.5393	503.6910726	96.20884
123.900L	31	761.97	719.4	159.4	36	95	127.4587	10000000	549.8809	498.4779016	90.65198
123.895R	31	761.97	802.2	162.8	39.6	95	139.9609	10000000	530.1247	499.1641357	94.15976
123.850L	31	761.97	854.4	200.2	41.9	95	152.9562	10000000	510.3685	495.5176829	97.09018
123.845R	31	761.97	866.5	137.5	36.7	95	145.6173	10000000	533.4174	507.0363565	95.05433
123.800L	31	761.97	500.4	210.5	32.1	95	103.1069	10000000	582.8079	467.8207394	80.27014
123.795R	31	761.97	761.6	170.4	35.5	95	135.1746	10000000	543.2955	493.7858636	90.88716
124.000L	25	761.97	956.2	242.9	56.1	95	173.9141	10000000	526.832	459.7753823	87.27173

5-11 CASE Thick_1: ANN data for Km 123.795 to 124.000 of NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during the Year 2000-01 (Kumar, 2001)

Avg.Accuracy:99.27%

CASE Thick_2:

for Km 125.000 to 125.270 of NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during Summer Season of the Year 2001-02.

5-12 CASE Thick_2: ANN data for Km 125.000 to 125.270 of NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during Summer Season of the Year 2001-02.

Avg.Accuracy:91.07%

CASE Thick_3:

for Km 134.000 to 134.270 of NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during the Year 2001-2002.

5-13 CASE Thick_3: ANN Data for Km 134.000 to 134.270 of NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during the Year 2001-2002.

Avg.Accuracy:99.85%

CASE Thick_4: for Km 150.000 to 150.245 of NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during the Year 2001-02

5-14 CASE Thick_4: ANN data for Km 150.000 to 150.245 of NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during the Year 2001-02

Avg.Accuracy:98.25%

CASE Thick_5:

for Km 151.000 to 151.245 of NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during the Year 2001-02

5-15 CASE Thick_5: ANN data for Km 151.000 to 151.245 of NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during the Year 2001-02

Avg.Accuracy:97.73%

CASE Thick_7:

for Km 152.000 to 152.245 of NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during the Year 2001-02

5-16 CASE Thick_7: ANN data for Km 152.000 to 152.245 of NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during the Year 2001-02

Avg.Accuracy:96.327%

CASE Thick_8: **for Km 153.000 to 153.245 on NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during the Year 2001-02**

5-17 CASE Thick_8: ANN data for Km 153.000 to 153.245 on NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during the Year 2001-02

Avg.Accuracy: 98.15%

5.4.3 EVALUATION OF COLD-MIX RECYCLED PAVEMENT SECTION

One pavement section on NH-6 was considered for the structural evaluation before and after cold-mix recycling was done using cement and bitumen emulsion. Using cold mix recycling process, it is possible to rectify asphalt-aging problems and also to improve the structural condition of the pavement. In the case of high traffic volume it is normally necessary to go for overlay of one or more layers of hot-mixed asphalt on top of the recycled layer to further strengthen the pavement to serve for the design life.

The pavement section Km 131.000 on NH-6 consisted of different layers of bituminous material with a thickness of about 200 mm. Water Bound Macadam (WBM), morum, boulders and sand formed the base course. The deflection data collected before recycling and after 7 and 28 days of recycling was used to compute the effective layer moduli. Table gives the moduli values for the recycled section.

Layer Moduli of Recycled Pavement Stretch

	Backcalculated Layer Moduli (MPa)											
Location		Just before		RMSEI	7 days after				RMSE ²⁸ days after RecyclingRMSE			
(Km)		Recycling		(%)	Recycling			(%)		(%)		
	Bitu	GΒ	Sub		Bitu	GΒ	Sub		Bitu	GΒ	Sub	
131.020	305.5	233.7	55.2	0.99	410.2	240.3	58.8	3.29	481.8	254.2	55.9	0.87
131.040	323.9	241.2	60.4	0.73	434.1	223.1	60.2	1.03	549.6	253.1	56.6	3.22
131.060	482.0	249.7	56.3	0.92	680.4	233.7	57.2	2.45	807.6	228.7	55.7	1.45
131,080	304.8	235.7	56.4	0.97	458.1	248.9	58.6	1.28	781.6	219.6	55.9	1.65
131.105	358.8	253.3	60.5	0.47	631.2	222.3	160.1	3.96	472.6	236.9	55.8	0.88
131.120	486.8	217.3	58.6	0.64	518.9	238.4	58.9	0.77	517.6	227.1	58.8	0.68
131.140	343.8	257.1	60.3	0.69	456.7	244.3	59.1	0.79	494.3	239.2	60.4	0.51
131.160	306.8	216.9	51.9	0.91	538.1	245.1	56.9	0.79	575.1	223.2	58.2	1.10
131.180	368.4	237.6	54.0	0.95	366.3	221.6	54.9	0.92	489.5	234.1	59.6	1.12
131,200	607.2	214.8	60.0	0.64	456.7	213.7	61.5	0.91	408.1	266.1	58.7	0.47
Maximum	607.2	257.1	60.5	0.99	680.4	248.9	61.5	3.96	807.6	266.1	60.4	3.22
Minimum	304.8	214.8	51.9	0.47	366.3	213.7	54.9	0.78	408.1	219.6	55.7	0.47
Average	388.8	235.7	57.4	0.79	495.1	233.1	58.6	1.62	557.8	238.2	57.6	1.20
Std .Dev	102.3	15.4	3.1	0.18	98.4	12.13	1.8	1.18	132.7	15.1	1.78	0.32
COV (%)	26,3	6.5	5.4		19.8	5.2	3.1		23.7	6.3	3.1	

Table 5-18 back calculated layer Moduli Range for Recycled Pavement Stretch (MORTH R-81)

The average modulus of the existing bituminous layer before recycling is about 390 Mpa indicating low strength. This is due to the presence of excessive fatigue cracks on the surface of the bituminous layer. The modulus value of the recycled layer has been found to increase to about 560 MPa. Recycling resulted in significant increase in strength as evident even from the 7-day modulus value.

5-19 ANN data for Cold-mix Recycled pavement Stretch

Avg.Accuracy: Just before recycling:95.238% 7days after recycling:91.978% 28days after recycling:95.325%

5.4.4 EFFECT OF TEMPERATURE ON PAVEMENT LAYER MODULI

Pavement layer moduli, especially that of bituminous layer varies with pavement temperature. In order to study the effect on pavement temperature on the back-calculated moduli, FWD tests were conducted on a few sections. The pavement temperature was recorded at a depth of 25 mm during testing at each location. The deflections were measured at temperatures of 25, 30, 35 and 40^{\degree}C. The back-calculated layer moduli values are shown in the Table.

Layer Moduli for the Deflection Data collected on KM 112. 000 to 112.540 of NH-6 at Different Pavement Temperatures

NC: Data not collected

table 5-20 Layer Moduli for the Deflection Data collected on KM 112. 000 to 112.540 of NH-6 at Different Pavement Temperatures (MORTH R-81)

5-21 ANN data for effect of temperature on pavement section

It can be seen that effect of temperature doesn't give very good accuracy. Reason being IRC analysis doesn't take any linear or nonlinear relationship for temperature variation other than correction for deflection values measured at pavement temperature other than 35◦C should be 0.01mm for each degree change from standard temperature. While in use a linear relationship is taken into account which is given earlier in theory section.

Finally, results indicate that the trained network of overlay thickness will give a quite close approximation to the calculated values for the pavement cross sections. Accordingly, ANN can be effectively used to determine the overlay thickness.

SUMMARY

ANN has recently received lots of attention and it has also contributed in a wide variety of applications in civil engineering as well as in other fields. In this study, ANN-based pavement overlay design tool has been developed using MATLAB software. Several network architectures were trained using training data sets developed by M-E overlay design program, one being used in this study being WINFLEX (obtained through internet given in reference).

Trained network has been tested using different in field testing data sets to determine the predicted overlay thickness, while the calculated ones have been determined by the WINFLEX program. The calculated and the predicted overlay thicknesses have been compared together to come up with the accuracy rate. From the sensitivity analysis and testing process using actual data from MORTH Research scheme R-81, the average accuracy is found to be between 90 to 100% for almost all the design-cases. Other than thin and thick pavements, Cold mixed pavement section was also used to check for usability of ANN. Effect of temperature variation was also checked for and the accuracy of it was low due to unavailability of any linear relationship for temperature variation in code. Finally, the results indicate that the ANN technology can be used to predict the pavement overlay thickness with high accuracy for both thin and thick pavements.

FUTURE SCOPE OF WORK

.

This ANN based Pavement design Procedure can be implemented in a program to get overlay thickness as IRC based overlay thickness design procedure is yet to see dedicated software for the same. Also dedicated MATLAB toolbox may be designed for the same.

Effect of temperature can be predicted using Linear relationship where regression linear equation solving method may be used.

The pavement overlay design method can be extended to other types of overlay design similar to cold mix based pavement design etc. whose straight calculation is unavailable in IRC.

REFERENCES

- 1. AASHTO (1999),Development of a Bituminous Pavement Design Method for Europe Online, [http://ec.europa.eu/transport /road](http://ec.europa.eu/transport%20/road)
- 2. Abdallah, I., Ferregut, C., Nazarian, S. and Lucero, O. M. (2000). Prediction of Remaining Life of Flexible Pavements with Artificial Neural Networks Models. Nondestructive Testing of Pavements and Backcalculation of Moduli, 3 rd Volume, Eds. Tayabji, S.D. and Lukanen, E. O, ASTM STP 1375, ASTM, West Conshohocken, PA, pp. 484-498.
- 3. Bayomy F. and Shah Z., Development of Recommendations and Guidelines for Pavement Rehabilitation Design Procedure for the State of Idaho, Final Report 92-35-112, 1993.
- 4. Bayrak M., Guclu A., and Ceylan H., Rapid Pavement Backcalculation Technique for Evaluating Flexible Pavement System, in Proceedings of the Mid Continent Transportation Research Symposium, Iowa, pp. 319-326, 2005.
- *5.* Burmister, D.M., The General Theory of Stresses and Displacements in Layered Soil Systems, Journal of Applied Physics Vol/16-2,3,5, 1945.
- *6. COURAGE – Construction with Unbound Road Aggregates in Europe – Final Report*, European Commission – Road Transport Research, 1999.
- 7. Fwa, T.F., Tan, C.Y. and Chan, W.T. (1997). Backcalculation Analysis of Pavement Layer Moduli Using Genetic Algorithms. Transportation Research Record No. 1570, Transportation Research Board, Washington, DC, pp. 134-142.
- 8. Gholamali Shafabakhsh, Reza Noroozi, Fazel Fasihi (2013). Optimized ANN Algorithm for Estimating HMA Overlay Thickness. Journal of Basic and Applied Scientific Research, 3(6)187-195
- 9. Gopalakrishnan K., Effect of training algorithms on neural networks aided pavement diagnosis, International Journal of Engineering, Science and Technology Vol. 2, No. 2, 2010, pp. 83-92
- 10. Howard Demuth, Mark Beale, Neural Network Toolbox For Use with MATLAB, User's Guide, Version 4, The MathWorks, 2002
- 11. Huang H., Pavement Analyses and Design, New Jersey, 1993.
- 12. IRC: 37. (2001). Guidelines for Design of Flexible Pavements, Indian Roads Congress, New Delhi, India.
- 13. IRC: 81. (1997). Guidelines for Strengthening of Flexible Road Pavements using Benkelman Beam Deflection Technique. Indian Roads Congress, New Delhi, India.
- 14. Kumar, R.S., Kumar, S., Das, A., Reddy, K.S., Mazumdar, M. and Pandey, B.B. (2001).Development of an Impact Apparatus for Evaluation of Elastic Modulus of Pavement Layers. Indian Geotechnical Society Journal, Vol.31, No.3, IGS, New Delhi, July2001, pp. 273-284.
- 15. Kumar, R.S. (2001). Structural Evaluation of Pavements using Falling Weight Deflectometer. Ph. D Thesis, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, India.
- 16. Mahoney, J.P and Pierce, L.M. (1996). Examination of State Department of Transportation Transfer Functions for Mechanistic-Empirical Asphalt Concrete Overlay Design. Transportation Research Record No. 1539, Transportation Research Board, Washington, DC, pp. 25-32.
- 17. May, R.W. and Witczak, M.W. (1981). Effective Granular Modulus to Model Pavement Response. Transportation Research Record No. 810, Transportation Research Board, Washington, DC, pp. 1-9.
- 18. Meier R. and Tutumluer E., Uses of Artificial Neural Networks in the Mechanistic Empirical Design of Flexible Pavements, Rotterdam, 1998.
- 19. Mitchell, J.K. and Monismith, C.L. (1977). A Thickness Design Procedure for Pavements with Thin Cement Stabilized Bases and Thin Asphalt Surfacings. Proceedings of 4th International Conference on Structural Design of Asphalt Pavements, Vol. 1, pp. 409-416.
- 20. Mostafa Abo-Hashema (2009). Artificial Neural Network Approach for Overlay Design of Flexible Pavements. The International Arab Journal of Information Technology, Vol. 6, No. 2 , pp. 204-212
- 21. Reddy, M.A., Reddy, K.S. and Pandey, B.B. (2002b). Evaluation of Pavement Layer Moduli using Genetic Algorithms. International Journal on Pavement Engineering and Asphalt Technology, pp. 6- 19.
- 22. Retherford, Jennifer Queen (2012). Management of Uncertainty for Flexible Pavement Design Utilizing Analytical and Probabilistic Methods, PhD Dissertation, Nashville, Tennessee, Graduate School of Vanderbilt University.
- 23. Road Research Scheme R-56. (1999). Final report on Development of a Computer Program and Design Charts for Analytical Design of Flexible Pavement. Submitted to the Ministry of Surface Transport by IIT, Kharagpur, India.
- 24. Road Research Scheme R-81 .(2002).Final report on Structural Evaluation of Pavements in Eastern India using Falling Weight Deflectometer. Submitted to the Ministry of Surface Transport by IIT, Kharagpur, India.
- 25. Saltan M., Tigdemir M., and Karasahin M., Artificial Neural Network Application for Flexible Pavement Thickness Modeling, Computer Journal of Turkish Journal Engineering Environment Science, vol. 26, no. 1, pp. 243-248, 2002.
- 26. Seed, H.B., Mitry, F.G., Monismith, C.L. and Chan, C.K. (1965). Prediction of Flexible Pavement Deflections from Laboratory Repeated Load Tests. Report No.Te-65-6, Soil Mechanics and Bituminous Material Testing Laboratory, University of California, Berkeley, California.
- *27.* Thube, D.T., Jain, S.S., and Parida, S.S. (2006). Application of Artificial Neural Network (ANN) for Prediction of Pavement Deterioration for Low Volume Roads in India, *22nd ARRB Conference*, Canberra, Australia.
- *28.* Venayagamoorthy, V., Allopi, D., Venayagamoorthy, G. K., 2002, Using artificial neural network as a design tool for flexible pavement design. Proceeding of the IPET International Conference on Engineering Technology Research, p. 58-61.

Appendix-A

A-1 EXAMPLE OF WINFLEX OUTPUT FILE

WINFLEX 2006's REPORT FOR MULTIPLE LOCATIONS 05-May-14 9:51:00 AM FILE:

DESCRIPTION: ONLY FATIGUE

1. SUMMARY OF INPUT DATA

-- 1.1 TRAFFIC DATA

--

 $DESIGN WHEREL LOAD (lb) = 4500$ DESIGN DUAL TIRE SPACING (in.) = 13.5 $TIRE$ PRESSURE (psi) $= 80$ DESIGN FUTURE TRAFFIC (ESALs) = 10,000,000 FATIGUE SHIFT FACTOR FOR NEW ASPHALT = 1 FATIGUE SHIFT FACTOR FOR OLD ASPHALT = 1

1.2 SEASONAL VARIATION DATA

29 0.80 0.90 30 0.78 0.89

1.3 PAVEMENT DATA

-- CLIMATIC ZONE : 3 (Idaho Zone)

POISSON'S RATION

SUBGRADE TYPE: LINEAR BASE TYPE: LINEAR

MODULI AND THICKNESSES DATA (From ETF FILE:THICK OLD Km 123.795 to 124.000 of NH-6.etf)

-- ***

1.4 OVERLAY DATA

OVERLAY MODULUS(ksi) = 110.5144 AT TEMPERATURE (F) = 87.8 POISSON'S RATIO = 0.35 MINIMUM THICKNESS(in.)= 1

2. RESULTS

--

--

2.1 OVERLAY RESULTS

-- ***

National Institute of Technology, Rourkela Page 54

 DAMA1 = FATIGUE DAMAGE ON OVERLAY DAMA2 = FATIGUE DAMAGE ON OLD AC DAMA3 = FATIGUE DAMAGE ON BTB DAMA4 = RUTTING DAMAGE

A-2 EXAMPLE OF TRAINED ANN DATASET ALONG WITH PERFORMANCE, TRAINING SET AND REGRESSION PLOT

Considered set is CASE THICK_1: THICK OLD Km 123.795 to 124.000 of NH 6

A-3 Training State Plot

A-2 Performance Data

A-4 Regression Plot

Appendix B

RADIAL BASIS FUNCTION DATA UNDER ANN FOR DIFFERENT DESIGNCASES

1 2 Radial basis data

B-1 RBF data for 3layered pavement: Design-case 2

\gg nntool					
	NEWRB, neurons = 0 , MSE = 4.07036				
	NEWRB, neurons = 25 , MSE = 3.41723				
	NEWRB, neurons = 50, MSE = 2.94892				
	NEWRB, neurons = 75 , MSE = 2.61198				
	NEWRB, neurons = 100 , MSE = 2.22759				
	NEWRB, neurons = 125, MSE = 1.89884				
	NEWRB, neurons = 150, MSE = 1.58132				
	NEWRB, neurons = 175, MSE = 1.3372				
	NEWRB, neurons = 200, MSE = 1.09316				
	NEWRB, neurons = 225, MSE = 0.861026				
	NEWRB, neurons = 250 , MSE = 0.67744				
	NEWRB, neurons = 275, MSE = 0.506605				
	NEWRB, neurons = 300, MSE = 0.35589				
	NEWRB, neurons = 325 , MSE = 0.234872				
	NEWRB, neurons = 350, MSE = 0.136176				
	NEWRB, neurons = 375 , MSE = 0.0637759				
	NEWRB, neurons = 400 , MSE = 0.0223349				
	NEWRB, neurons = 425 , MSE = 0.00208338				
	NEWRB, neurons = 450 , MSE = $6.22947e-0$				
	NEWRB, neurons = 475 , MSE = $1.14775e-0$				

1 3 Radial basis data

B-2 RBF data for 3layered Pavement: Design-case 3

15 Radial basis data

B-3 RBF data for 3layered Pavement: Design-case 5

1_6 Radial basis data

B-4 RBF data for 3layered Pavement: Design-case 6

6 1_7 Radial basis data

5

2_2 Radial basis data

B-6 RBF data for 4layered pavement: Design-case 2

2 3 Radial basis data

B-7 RBF data for 4layered Pavement: Design-case 3

2_5 Radial basis data

2_7 Radial basis data

B-9 RBF data for 4 layered Pavement: Design-case 7

Appendix-C

FIELD EVALUATION OF PAVEMENT USING FWD

Backcalculated Layer moduli from FWD test and Thickness details of different Stretches are given here. [MORTH Research Scheme R-81]

C-1 THIN PAVEMENTS

CASE Thin_1: **Km 1.865 to 2.000 of SH * (Salua Road) for the Deflection Data Collected during the Year 2001-02.**

Bitur Bituminous Material; GB- Granular Base; Sub-Subgrade; Std. Dev- Standard Deviation
A Moduli- Average of Moduli for three seasons; L: Left-Towards Salua; R-Right- Towards Kharagour; *93: State Hgfway

Table C-1 CASE Thin_1: Km 1.865 to 2.000 of SH * (Salua Road) for the Deflection Data Collected during the Year 2001-02. (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)

Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 1.820 to 2.000 of SH*(SALUA Road):

ide - Fowards Salua: R: Right side- fowards Kharagpur; MDR: Major District Road

Table C-2 Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 1.820 to 2.000 of SH*(SALUA Road) (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)

Bitu- Bituninous Material; GB- Granular Base; Sub- Subgrade; Std. Dev- Standard Deviation A Moduli- Average of Moduli for three seasons; L: Left-Towards Salua; R-Right- Towards Kharagour *9H: State Hgfway

Table C-3 **CASE Thin_2: Km 2.850 to 3.000 of SH* (Salua Road) for the Deflection Data Collected during the Year 2001-02. (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)**

Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 2.850 to 3.000 of SH (SALUA Road)

Table C-4 **Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 2.850 to 3.000 of SH (SALUA Road) (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)**

Case Thin_3: **Km 4.625 to 5.000 of SH (IIT Bypass) for the Deflection Data Collected during the Year 2001-02.**

Bitu: Bituninous Material; GB- Granular Base; Sub- Subgrade; Std. Dev- Standard Deviation A Moduli- Average Moduli for three seasons; L: Left-Towards Salua; R-Right- Towards Kharagpur .

Table C-5 **Case Thin_3: Km 4.625 to 5.000 of SH (IIT Bypass) for the Deflection Data Collected during the Year 2001-02. (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)**

Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 4.625 to 5.000 of SH (IIT Bypass)

WBM: Water Bound Macadam; L: Left side - towards Salua: R: Right side- towards Kharagpur .

Table C-6**Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 4.625 to 5.000 of SH (IIT Bypass) (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)**

CASE Thin_4: **Km 3.370 to 4.000 of SH (IIT Bypass) for the Deflection Data Collected during the Year 2001-02**

Table C-7 **CASE Thin_4: Km 3.370 to 4.000 of SH (IIT Bypass) for the Deflection Data Collected during the Year 2001-02 (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)**

Table C-8 **Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 3.370 to 4.000 of SH (IIT Bypass) (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)**

CASE 5: **Km 15.000 to 15.270 of NH-60 for the Deflection Data Collected during the Year 2001-02**

Table C-9 **CASE 5: Km 15.000 to 15.270 of NH-60 for the Deflection Data Collected during the Year 2001-02 (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)**

Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 15.000 to 15.270 of NH-60

Table C-10 **Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 15.000 to 15.270 of NH-60 (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)**

C-2 THICK PAVEMENTS

Table C-11 CASE Thick_1: Km 123.795 to 124.000 of NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during the Year 2000-01 (Kumar, 2001) (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)

Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 123.795 to 124.000 of NH-6

TABLE *Nater Bound Maradam; C.S. Crushed State***;** *L. Left side- Towards Kolkata; R. Right Side- Toward Kharagpur***
Table C-12 Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 123.795 to 124.000 of NH-6 (MORTH Research Scheme R-81**

CASE Thick_2: **for Km 125.000 to 125.270 of NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during Summer Season of the Year 2001-02.**

Bitu- Bluminous Malerial; GB- Granular Base; Sub- Subgrade; Std. Dev- Standard Deviation

L- Left side: Towards Kharagpur; R-Right side: Towards Kolkata.

Table C-13 CASE Thick_2: Km 125.000 to 125.270 of NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during Summer Season of the Year 2001-02. (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)

Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 125.000 to 125.270 of NH-6

Table C-14 Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 125.000 to 125.270 of NH-6 (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)

Bitu-Bituminous Material; GB- Granular Base; Sub-Subgrade; Ad. Dev-Standard Deviation

A. Moduli- Average Moduli of the Three Seasons; L-Left; Towards Bahoragora; R-Right; Towards Kharagour

Table C-15 CASE Thick_3: Km 134.000 to 134.270 of NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during the Year 2001-2002. (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)

Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 134.000 to 134.270 of NH-6

Table C-16 Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 134.000 to 134.270 of NH-6 (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)

CASE Thick_4: **for Km 150.000 to 150.245 of NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during the Year 2001-02**

Bitu-Bituninous Material; GB- Granular Base; Sub-Subgrade; Std. Dev-Standard Deviation

A. Moduli- Average Moduli of the Three Seasons; L-Left; Towards Bahoragora; R-Right; Towards Kharagour

Table C-17 CASE Thick_4: Layer Moduli for Km 150.000 to 150.245 of NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during the Year 2001-02 (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)

Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 150.000 to 150.245 of NH-6

Table C-18 Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 150.000 to 150.245 of NH-6 (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)

during the Year 2001-02

Bitu-Bituminous Material; GB- Granilar Base; Sub-Subgrade; Ad-Dev-Standard Deviation A. Moduli: - Average Moduli of the Three Seasons;; L-Left: Towards Bahonagora; R- Right: Towards Khanagpur

Table C-19 CASE Thick_5: Km 151.000 to 151.245 of NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during the Year 2001-02 (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)

Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 151.000 to 151.245 of NH-6

: Left Side-Towards Bahoragora; R: Right Side-Towards Kharagour

Table C-20 Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 151.000 to 151.245 of NH-6 (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)

CASE Thick_7: **Km 152.000 to 152.245 of NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during the Year 2001-02**

Bitu- Bituninous Material; GB- Granular Base; Sub- Subgrade; Std. Dev- Standard Deviation A.Moduli- Average Moduli of the Three Seasons;; L-Left: Towards Bahoragora; R-Right: Towards Kharagpur

Table C-21 CASE Thick_7: Km 152.000 to 152.245 of NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during the Year 2001-02 (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)

Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 152.000 to 152.245 of NH-6

Table C-22 Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 152.000 to 152.245 of NH-6 (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)

CASE Thick_8: **Km 153.000 to 153.245 on NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during the Year 2001-02**

Bitu-Bluminous Malerial; @- Granular Base; Sub-Subgrade; Std. Dev-Standard Deviation A. Modul- Average Moduli of the Three Seasons; L-Left; Towards Bahoragora; R-Right; Towards Kharagour

Table C-23 CASE Thick_8: Km 153.000 to 153.245 on NH-6 for the Deflection Data collected during the Year 2001-02 (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)

Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 153.000 to 153.245 of NH-6

Table C-24 Thickness Details for the Stretch from Km 153.000 to 153.245 of NH-6 (MORTH Research Scheme R-81)