Application of Gray B6 P Neural Network in Henan Coal Demand Forecast

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Abstract. This paper studied the coal demand in the prediction accuracy problems. The traditional gray GM(1,1) model has the theoretical prediction problem of poor accuracy which led to less accurate prediction. A modified gray BP Neural Network forecasting model was used to predict the residual correction. The total consumption of coal as a major factor in variables was selected to construct forecast of coal demand. The simulation results show that the proposed algorithm has better prediction accuracy and is an effective demand forecasting algorithm.

1 Introduction

As the basic energy in Henan Province, coal accounts for nearly three-fourths of energy consumption and plays an important role in economic and social development. Scientific prediction of coal demand can overcome or eliminate the phenomenon of overproduction of coal and ensure the economy Development needs. Common prediction methods include neural network prediction method and gray system model prediction method. As the method used and the basic data taken are different, resulting in large differences in the prediction results, and the prediction accuracy is low.

This paper attempts to apply the gray BP neural network model to the coal demand forecasting field, and uses the model to predict the coal demand from the advantages of time series and nonlinear forecasting. Gray prediction model has the characteristics of less required sample data, no need to consider its distribution and trend, simple modeling and convenient operation, but it lacks self-learning, self-organizing and self-adaptive ability, and its ability of processing non-linear information is weak. The gray prediction model is used alone to predict the system with nonlinear relationship. The prediction result and the actual value will have larger errors and the prediction accuracy will not meet the requirements. Artificial neural network is an effective nonlinear modeling method, of which the error back propagation (BP) algorithm is currently more mature and widely used algorithm. BP neural network has a high degree of mapping ability and can approach any nonlinear function with arbitrary precision, which is more suitable for modeling some complex problems. At present, some scholars have combined the gray prediction model and neural network and applied it in many fields, and obtained the ideal prediction result.

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2 Establishment of Grey Neural Network Model

2.1 Gray theory prediction model

The gray system theory can extract the valuable information by the generation and development of some known information, and realize the correct understanding and effective control of the system behavior. Gray model is established on the premise that the original data sequence is a smooth discrete function, the so-called smooth discrete function, in fact, requires the original data sequence is deterministic, that is a certain trend, the modeling steps of GM (1, 1) are as follows:

Assume that time series have n observations, \( X^{(0)} = (x^{(0)}(1), x^{(0)}(2), \ldots, x^{(0)}(n)) \) in which \( x^{(0)}(k) \geq 0, k = 1, 2, \ldots, n \).

Generate new series by accumulating, \( X^{(1)} = (x^{(1)}(1), x^{(1)}(2), \ldots, x^{(1)}(n)) \) in which \( x^{(1)}(k) = \sum_{i=1}^{k} x^{(0)}(i), k = 1, 2, \ldots, n \). \( Z^{(1)} \) is the immediate mean of \( X^{(1)} \)'s sequence, \( Z^{(1)} = (z^{(1)}(1), z^{(1)}(2), \ldots, z^{(1)}(n)) \) in which

\[ z^{(1)}(k) = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^{k} z^{(1)}(i), k = 1, 2, \ldots, n \]
\[ z^{(i)}(k) = \frac{1}{2}[x^{(i)}(k) + x^{(i)}(k-1)], k = 2,3,\ldots,n \]

Then the corresponding differential equations of GM (1,1) model is:

\[ x^{(0)}(k) + az^{(i)}(k) = b \]  \hspace{1cm} (1)

If \( \hat{a} = [a,b]^T \) is a constant column, and

\[ B = \begin{bmatrix} -z^{(2)}(1) & 1 \\ -z^{(3)}(1) & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ -z^{(n)}(1) & 1 \end{bmatrix} \]

\[ Y = \begin{bmatrix} x^{(2)}(1) \\ x^{(3)}(1) \\ \vdots \\ x^{(n)}(1) \end{bmatrix} \]

The least squares estimation parameter column of GM (1,1) model is satisfied

\[ \hat{a} = (B^TB)^{-1}B^TY \]  \hspace{1cm} (2)

According to (1) the establishment of albino differential equation

\[ \frac{dx^{(i)}}{dt} + ax^{(i)} = b \]  \hspace{1cm} (3)

Solve the differential equations, then we can obtain

\[ x^{(i)}(t) = [x^{(i)}(0) - \frac{b}{a}e^{-at} + \frac{b}{a}] \]  \hspace{1cm} (4)

The prediction formula of GM (1,1) model is:

\[ \hat{x}^{(i)}(k+1) = [x^{(i)}(0) - \frac{b}{a}e^{-at} + \frac{b}{a}] k = 1,2,\ldots,n \]  \hspace{1cm} (5)

At this point you can use a cumulative, the result is:

\[ \hat{x}^{(0)}(k+1) = \hat{x}^{(1)}(k+1) - \hat{x}^{(1)}(k) = (1-e^{-\alpha})(\hat{x}^{(0)}(0)) - \frac{u}{a}e^{-\alpha}k \]  \hspace{1cm} (6)

In order to judge the merits and demerits of the gray model, we should also carry on the model precision test, the test method generally uses the residual, the posterior difference and so on the method, if passes the examination, then the model can be used to forecast, otherwise should carry on the residual correction, to achieve the accuracy of the forecast.

2.2 BP neural network prediction model

BP neural network is the most widely used neural network model and algorithm. It is a model of information forward propagation and error back propagation. It is a feed forward network composed of nonlinear transformation units. The typical structure is shown in Figure 1. In the BP network, the input information is forwarded to the hidden layer node, the activation function (usually sigmoid function), then the hidden node information to the output layer nodes, the final output structure. If the desired result is not obtained at the output node, it is transferred backwards, the error information is returned along the original connection path, and the error is minimized by modifying the neuron weight of each layer.

![BP neural network](image)

**Fig. 1:** BP neural network

For the three-layer BP network of Figure 1, the learning algorithm is as follows:

1. **Step 1:** Assign the connection weight \( W_{ij} \) randomly and set the initial value for the threshold \( \theta_j \). \( W_{ij} \) is the connection weight between the nodes \( i \) and \( j \) in the network and \( \theta_j \) is the threshold of the \( j \) node;

2. **Step 2:** Read the pre-processed input vector \( X_j \) and the desired output vector \( Y_j \);

3. **Step 3:** Calculate the actual output \( O = \{ \sum W_{ij}X_i \} \). Where sigmoid function is \( f(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}} \);

4. **Step 4:** Correct the weights, back propagation;

   Weight correction: \( W_{ij}(t+1) = \alpha \delta_i + W_{ij}(t) \), Threshold Correction: \( \theta_j(t+1) = \theta_j(t) + \beta \delta_j \), in which \( \alpha \) is the learning factor, \( \beta \) is the momentum factor that accelerates the convergence.

5. **Step 5:** Calculate the error. \( E = \frac{1}{2} \sum_j (o_j - y_j)^2 \);

Repeat the above steps until the error meets the requirements.

2.3 Improved gray BP neural network model

2.3.1. Set up the BP network model of residual series

Assume the residual of the time series \( X^{(0)} = \{x^{(0)}(0), x^{(0)}(2), \ldots, x^{(0)}(n)\} \) and the predicted value \( \hat{x}^{(0)}(k) \) are respectively the residual sequence; \( S \) is the prediction order, it use the information of \( e^{(0)}(k-1), e^{(0)}(k-2), \ldots, e^{(0)}(k-S) \) to predict the value of \( e^{(0)}(k) \) time. Then \( e^{(0)}(k-1), e^{(0)}(k-2), \ldots, e^{(0)}(k-S) \) is regarded as the
input sample of BP network and the value of $e^{(0)}(k)$ is taken as the expected value.

2.3.2. Determine the predicted value of $\{\hat{e}^{(0)}(k)\}$

The BP network is used to predict residual sequence $\{e^{(0)}(k)\}$, and the predicted value is $\{\hat{e}^{(0)}(k)\}$ $k = 1, 2 \cdots n$. On this basis, calculate the new predictive value:

$$\hat{x}^{(0)}(k+1) = \hat{x}^{(0)}(k) + \hat{e}^{(0)}(k), \quad (k = 1, 2, \cdots n)$$

(7)

$\hat{x}^{(0)}(k, 1)$ is the gray BP neural network combination model prediction results.

3 Prediction of Coal Demand in Henan Province

3.1 Data Sources:

The historical data of total coal consumption from 2009 to 2016 in Henan Province (data from Henan Statistical Yearbook 2009-2016) are shown in Table 1.

Tab.1 The original sample data

| years | coal Consumption (Tons of standard coal) | years | coal Consumption (Tons of standard coal) |
|-------|----------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------------|
| 2009  | 11868                                  | 2013  | 16547                                  |
| 2010  | 12753                                  | 2014  | 17183                                  |
| 2011  | 14188                                  | 2015  | 18072                                  |
| 2012  | 15643                                  | 2016  | 19256                                  |

3.2 Forecast of Coal Demand in Henan

First of all, we model the data in Table 1, the time response is:

$$\hat{x}^{(1)}(k+1) = 206732797e^{0.0626k} - 194864797$$

(8)

The fitting results from 2002 to 2011 are shown in Table 2.

Tab.2 the fitted values and residual error based on GM (1, 1)

| years | Actual value $x^{(0)}(k)$ | Fit values $\hat{x}^{(0)}(k)$ | The Residual $e^{(0)}(k)$ | Relative error (%) |
|-------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 2009  | 11868                     | 11868                       | 0                        | 0                 |
| 2010  | 12753                     | 13350                       | 597                      | 4.68              |
| 2011  | 14188                     | 14212.1                     | 23.1                     | 0.16              |
| 2012  | 15644                     | 15129.9                     | -515.1                   | 3.28              |

From Table 3, it can be seen that the model has high prediction accuracy. Using the combined forecasting model, we can forecast the coal demand in China from 2017 to 2020, and the results are shown in Table 4.

Tab.3 Fitted result and errors using Grey BP Neural Network model

| years | Actual value $x^{(0)}(k)$ | Fit values $\hat{x}^{(0)}(k)$ | The Residual $e^{(0)}(k)$ | Relative error (%) |
|-------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 2012  | 15644                     | 15803.5                     | -159.6                   | 1.02              |
| 2013  | 16547                     | 16699.3                     | -152.2                   | 0.92              |
| 2014  | 17183                     | 17185.1                     | -1.7                     | 0.01              |
| 2015  | 18072                     | 17999.9                     | 72.3                     | 0.41              |
| 2016  | 19256                     | 19198.2                     | 57.8                     | 0.31              |

Tab.4 Predicted results of coal demand from 2017 to 2020 in Henan

| years | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|-------|------|------|------|------|
| Predictive value (Ten thousand tons of standard coal) | 20688.1 | 22024 | 23446.3 | 24960.4 |
4 Conclusions

In order to improve the prediction accuracy, this paper constructs a combined forecasting model of gray BP artificial neural network to fit and predict the total coal consumption in Henan Province. The results show that the model has both high fitting accuracy and high prediction accuracy. The forecast results show that the demand for coal in Henan will maintain a rapid growth trend, which is basically in line with the actual situation of the Central Plains Economic Zone and the economic development in Henan Province. The predicted data have certain reference value.

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