



**Review Paper / Derleme Makalesi**

**A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW FOR ARTIFICIAL NEURAL NETWORK  
APPLICATION TO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION**

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**Received/Geliş: 13.06.2016 Revised/Düzeltilme: 24.10.2016 Accepted/Kabul: 16.01.2017**

**ABSTRACT**

This paper presents a comprehensive review of research studies related to the application of artificial neural networks (ANNs) to public transportation (PT) since 2000. PT applications with ANNs have a great prominence because it provides an opportunity of prediction, comparison and evaluation in PT. A short introduction for applied studies in public transportation based on NN is included to guide the unfamiliar readers and a detailed review table has been presented in the paper. More than a thousand studies have been viewed, however, 72 studies of PT are related to ANN. It is observed that multi-layer feed forward network with gradient descent training has been commonly used by now. In contrast, the other less known methods are prone to increase. This paper guides future research directions and presents the methods to be exerted in PT for input determination.

**Keywords:** Artificial neural network, multi-layer perceptron, public transportation, radial basis function..

**TOPLU TAŞIMA ARAÇLARINDA UYGULANAN YAPAY SİNİR AĞI İÇİN KAPSAMLI BİR  
LİTERATÜR TARAMASI**

**ÖZ**

Bu çalışma, 2000 yılından itibaren toplu taşıma (TT) alanında yapay sinir ağları (YSA) ile yapılan çalışmaların kapsamlı bir taramasını sunmaktadır. Yapay sinir ağı ile yapılan TT uygulamaları büyük bir öneme sahiptir çünkü YSA, araştırmacılara etkin bir şekilde tahmin, karşılaştırma ve değerlendirme yapabilme imkanı vermektedir. YSA ile uygulama yapmamış olan okuyucular için, YSA ile yapılan TT araçlarındaki çalışmaların kısa bir açıklaması çalışmaya dahil edilmiş ve detaylı bir tarama tablosu çalışma kapsamında sunulmuştur. Binden fazla çalışma incelenmiş, ancak YSA ve TT ile ilgili sadece 72 çalışmanın mevcut olduğu görülmüştür. İniş eğimli eğitimi ile çok katmanlı ileri beslemeli ağ yapısının daha çok kullanıldığı görülmüştür. Bu durumun aksine, diğer az bilinen yöntemler artma eğilimindedir. Bu çalışma, gelecek araştırma yönleri için rehberlik etmekte ve TT' de girdinin belirlenmesi için uygulanacak yöntemleri sunmaktadır.

**Anahtar Sözcükler:** Çok katmanlı algılayıcı, sinir ağı, toplu taşıma, radyal bazlı fonksiyon.

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

PT within the transportation is of a vital prominence for the expanding metropolitan regions. Because the overall aspect in PT tenders influences on mobility that complies with a more common interpretation of sustainability that covers economic, social and environmental factors [1]. PT contains a number of modes such as buses, subways, bus rapid transit (BRT), light rails, tramways and ferries. These PT modes deal with the fuel consumption, traffic congestion and carbon emission within a city.

The area of PT studies has not highly drawn attention in ANNs since 2000. This situation can be realized from the research studies in this field which are less than 72 papers. ANN applications in the field of PT are interested in this paper since the ANN for PT is regarded as prominent by the researchers. Mainly, the importance of ANN for PT is seen from the papers that are applied for forecasting, evaluation, comparison and minimization problems. Papers, which have been applied in diverse fields, yield to present a literature paper. Moreover, there has not been any published review in the field of PT which is integrated with ANN. The objective of this paper is to provide a detailed information such as hidden layer number, hidden neuron number, the kind of ANN that is used and the kind of training method that is applied by presenting the studies in an integrated area of both PT and ANN. In addition to presentation of the detailed information, it aims to provide the further progress to the researchers. We reviewed the literature on ANNs approaches that applied to PT. The databases covered are ScienceDirect, Wiley and IEEE Xplore. A total of 72 papers are reviewed ranged from 2000 to 2016.

The main contributions of the paper are as follows: it is aimed to increase the interest in PT based on ANN, since any improvement in PT provides economic opportunities and reduces both gasoline consumption and carbon emissions. Moreover, positive interests to PT affect public health through a variety of mechanism [2].

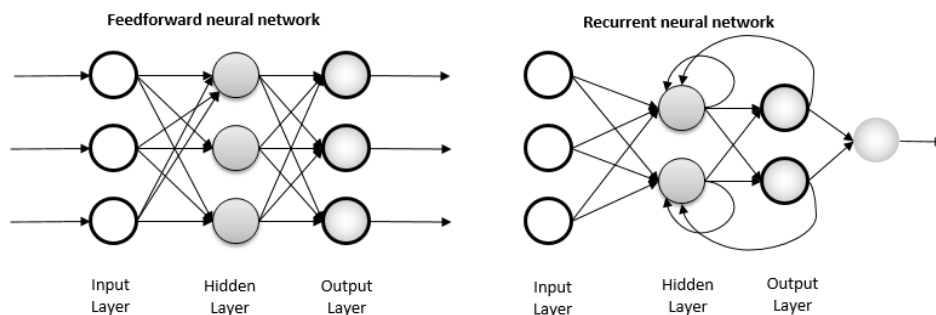
After this chapter, introduction to ANN is presented by focusing especially on both feed-forward and recurrent neural network architecture in chapter 2. Chapter 3 brings to light the all-ANN application in reviewed PT studies. Chapter 4 clarifies the concepts reviewed in this paper via presenting brief explanations. Lastly in chapter 5, conclusions of review and future directions are presented.

## **2. ANN METHODS IN PT**

Researchers from many scientific fields are devising ANNs to bring solution to the difficult problems such as optimization, prediction and pattern recognition [3]. The ANN is actually a novel computer architecture and a novel architecture relative to traditional computers by imitating biological neural networks. It allows using very simple computational operations such as fundamental logic elements to deal with complex, mathematically vague, nonlinear or stochastic problems [3]. ANNs can be considered as weighted directed graphs where directed edges are connections between input and output. Besides, artificial neurons are nodes [3]. There are many types of ANN model such as dynamic, static and memory ANN. However, a number of ANN models, which are mainly performed by the researchers, are presented in this paper. Network architecture can be divided into two groups; feed-forward network and feed-back networks.

Feed-forward neural networks (FFNNs) are the most general and the most broadly used models in many practical applications. The FFNN is the first and simplest sort of ANN that is designed. The information flows in only one course from the input nodes to the output nodes without creating loops. In this paper, single layer perceptron, multi-layer perceptron and radial basis function (RBF) networks are considered in FFNNs, because they are mainly performed by the researchers. Feed-back neural networks (FBNNs) is the network that contains at least one feed-back connection. This feedback feature is in discrete cycles of weight computation. Hopfield

network and Boltzmann machine are included in FBNNs [3] in this paper, because they are mainly performed by the researchers. Figure 1 illustrates both feed-forward and recurrent ANN.



**Figure 1.** Feed forward and recurrent ANN architecture.

The activation function indicates the extent of a neuron’s activation. The reaction of the neurons is shaped with respect to the activation function. Commonly performed activation functions are heaviside, hyperbolic tangent and logistic function. Another important part of neuron reaction is a threshold value because the activation function of a neuron behaves especially near the threshold value.

A key element for reaching a successful learning is to use a bias neuron. The output value of a bias neuron is always equal to 1. Bias neurons in an ANN that allows researchers to change the value of the activation function.

### 3. DETAILED ANALYSES OF THE LITERATURE

Detailed review of ANN applications in PT is presented in Appendix A. However, problem classifications, analysis of modeling approach, solution methodologies and descriptive analysis are explained in this chapter.

#### 3.1. PT applications

PT within the transportation is of a vital prominence for the expanding metropolitan regions. Because the overall aspect in PT tends influences on mobility that complies with a more common interpretation of sustainability that covers economic, social and environmental factors [1]. PT contains a number of modes such as buses, subways, bus rapid transit, light rails, tramways and ferries. In PT, the planning and scheduling of trips have a key role. Thus, it is seen that most of the researchers deal with bus and BRT trips and passenger flow. It can be stated that the highway public transportation modes, such as conventional bus and BRT systems are more common than rail public transportation modes, such as light rails and tramways due to higher flexibility and lower capital cost of the former.

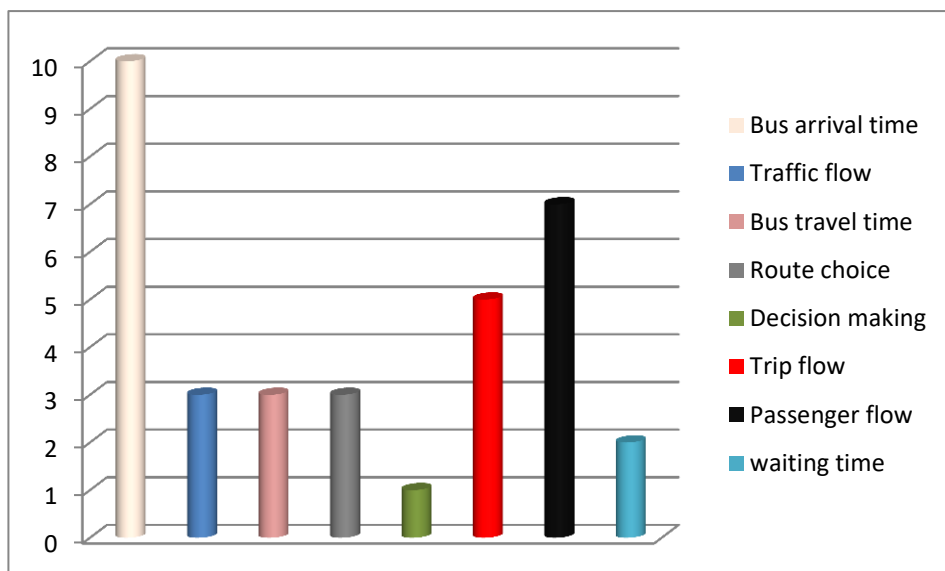
#### 3.2. Problem classifications

In the reviewed papers, the researchers have focused on four main problem types. At 69% of the reviewed papers, the researchers are more interested in forecasting and prediction. Evaluation and analysis, minimization and maximization, and comparison have proportions of: 25%, 4%, and 2%, respectively.

To give detailed information, sub-problem types are presented for four main problem types.

- Forecast and prediction.** Forecast and prediction have been applied in various areas as follows: bus arrival time [5,6,15,16,17,20,32,40,45,50,80,89], traffic flow [7,25,27], bus average travel time and variance of travel times [10,13,39], route choice [11,12,48,86], decision making units [21,78], trip flow [22,34,35,43,44,74,83], passenger flow [28,29,33,37,38,46,51,84,85,90] and passenger waiting time [41,42].

Papers [66,67,68], in the area of both bus arrival time and bus travel times, have been published without ANN. The corresponding papers may have utilized ANN technique to benefit from the efficiency of ANN.



**Figure 2.** Distinct problem types for forecast and prediction

Figure 2 shows the different problem classifications in area of forecast and prediction. Bus arrival time has been the mostly interested problem type in this area. Following bus arrival time, researchers dealt with passenger flow and trip flow.

- Comparison.** In this area, [35] is presented to compare the RBF with FFNN in the area of PT trip flow.

- Evaluation and analysis.** This problem type has been applied in various areas as follows: measurement of the pollution impact of BRT [8], road safety [14], bus classification [18], air quality of PT [19,81,92], decision making units [21,48,49], rail capacity [23], performance of PT services perceived by the passengers [24,36,71,72,75,77], forecaster variables [26], and green vehicle distribution model [31].

- Minimization and maximization.** In this area, minimization of the traveling time variance [9] and vehicle delay [47] are presented.

### 3.3. Analysis of modeling approach

The construction of ANN is a crucial element to achieve a successful result in a given problem type such as minimization, maximization and prediction. In literature, most of the papers utilized multi-layer feed forward (MLFF) and it is used in 44 papers. Other ANN constructions; RBF, support vector machine (SVM), and ANFIS are used in 3, 1, and 2 papers respectively.

All required descriptions of the parameters are presented in the Table 1.

**Table 1.** The detailed parameter descriptions used for methodologies

Parameters	Descriptions
$d^i$	Desired value for factor $i$
E	Error for delta rule
$f_a$	Approximation function in learning process
G	Gaussian function
H	Output in the hidden layer
L	Norm
m	Distance
$M_k$	Measurement matrix
$o^i$	Output value for factor $i$
$p_k$	Process noise (random process)
S	State
F	Sign factor
$S_k$	Approximation function in learning process
$v_k$	Measurement noise
$w_j$	Weights for input variable $j$
$x_j^i$	Input variable $j$ for factor $i$
y	Response variable
$\alpha$	Learning rate ( $0 < \alpha < 1$ )
$\omega$	Hidden layer weight
$\eta$	Sign factor

➤ **Multi-layer perceptron (MLP).** MLP includes multiple layers and each layer is connected to the next layer and MLP transforms the inputs to a set of outputs. MLP can solve non-linear and stochastic problems by back-propagation algorithms. The performance of the algorithm can be generally carried out by the SSE between the output and the desired values. As per usual, SSE value can be minimized by using error descent method. The learning stage is cut when the difference between O and d is zero. MLFF are applied in the papers [5-22, 25-29, 31, 33-39, 41- 51,82,88] and distinct areas such as prediction and forecast, comparison, evaluation, and minimization. The learning algorithm of MLP is shown in Eq. (1). MLP architecture is clearly shown in Figure 4.

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial w_j} = \alpha x_j^i \cdot (o^i - d^i) \tag{1}$$

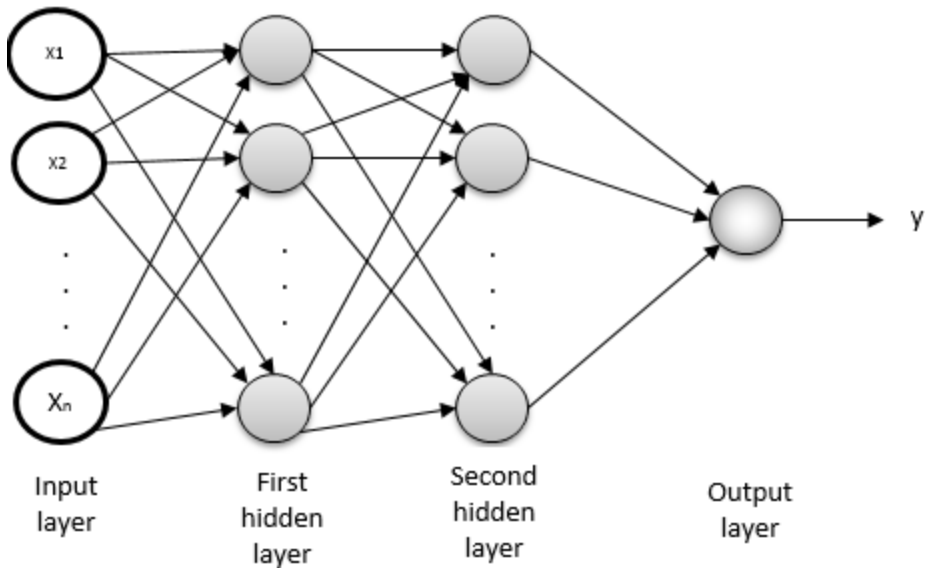


Figure 4. A visual architecture of multi-layer perceptron.

Back-propagation (BP) is a widely used method of training algorithm. The BP training method can be exerted in the networks where desired outputs are available, even the outputs of the intermediate layers are absent. This is usually regarded as a supervised learning method. The BP algorithm aims to minimize SSE by calculating the steep descent (gradient). Gradient descent learning rule is a delta rule, which is a special type of the back propagation algorithm. This rule embarks on the SSE in the learning phase. This rule has a great applicability that can be performed in both binary and continuous neurons [4].The delta rule is derived by attempting to minimize the error in the output of the ANN through gradient descent. The calculation of delta rule is illustrated in Eq. (2) and Eq. (3).

$$E = \sum_i E^i = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i (d^i - o^i)^2 \tag{2}$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial w_j} = - \sum_i (d^i - f(\sum_j w_j x_j^i)) \cdot f'(\sum_j w_j x_j^i) \cdot x_j^i \tag{3}$$

To obtain the weight update rule, the error descent rule ( $\Delta w_j = -\alpha \frac{\partial E}{\partial w_j}$ ) is used and the change that is occurred in the weights can be calculated in Eq. (4) as follows:

$$\Delta w_j = \alpha \frac{\partial E}{\partial w_j} x_j^i \tag{4}$$

First, E, with respect to the weights, is found and then weights should be updated as shown in Eq. (5).

$$\Delta w_{ij} = -\alpha \frac{\partial E}{\partial w_{ij}} \tag{5}$$

➤ **Radial basis function neural network (RBFNN).** RBFNN is a feed-forward network that is trained by a supervised training algorithm. Radial functions are a special type of function. It is a highly interesting that their response increases or decreases monotonically with distance from a central point [53]. RBFNNs have several superiorities with respect to back propagation

networks. RBFNNs can be trained in two steps. In the first step, center vectors ( $c_j$ ) are determined in a hidden layer. In the second step, Function estimation, which is a common objective function, is fit with coefficients to the outputs. The calculation of the output in RBFNN is shown in Eq. (6), Eq. (7) and Eq. (8).

$$O^j = w_{0j} + \sum_{k=1}^N w_{kj} h_k \tag{6}$$

$$h_k = G(d_k, \sigma_k) \tag{7}$$

$$O^j = w_{0j} + \sum_{k=1}^N w_{kj} G_k \left( \left| |x_j - c_j| \right| \right) \tag{8}$$

where  $O^j$  is the approximation function. Euclidian distance ( $h_k$ ) is represented by  $G_k \left( \left| |x_j - c_j| \right| \right)$ .  $w_{kj}$  is the weights between layers.

RBF are performed in three papers: first paper [35] presented a comparison between MLFF and RBF. Second paper [19] used RBF to evaluate air quality of PT. Prediction are applied in the third paper [17]. Studies that have been exerted in RBF are less than MLFF.

➤ **Support vector machine (SVM).** SVM, in general, is used to analyze data for classification and regression analysis with regard to structural risk minimization (SRM). Instead of minimizing the absolute value of an error square, SVM applies SRM [59]. SRM is a function that minimizes some risk function  $R(w)$ , which is also called the expected loss, and it is calculated as in Eq. (9), Eq. (10) and Eq. (11).

$$R(w) = \int L(y, o) dP(x, y) = \int L(y, f_a(x, w)) dP(x, y) \tag{9}$$

$$L(y, o) = |y - f_a| \tag{10}$$

$$o = y = \begin{cases} f_a(x, w) = \sum_{i=1}^N w_i \varphi_i(x), & \text{if the network is RBF} \\ f_a(x, w, \omega) = \sum_{i=1}^N w_i \varphi_i(x, \omega_i), & \text{if the network is MLP} \end{cases} \tag{11}$$

The expected loss function  $L(y, f_a(x, w))$  is computed on the training set  $D(x_i, y_i)$  and  $\varphi_i(x, \omega_i)$  is a number of functions such as sigmoidal or tangent [59]. Only a single paper [15] is presented which applied SVM in order to predict bus arrival time.

- **Adaptive neuro fuzzy inference system (ANFIS).** ANFIS is an ANN which is based on the Takagi-Sugeno inference system. It is used to model high level nonlinear functions. ANFIS allows to establish a number of fuzzy if-then rules with suitable membership functions to form the stipulated input-output pairs [60]. ANFIS has five layers which contains distinct operations and these operations is summarized as below:

Layer 1: Determine the membership functions ( $\mu_A, \mu_B, \dots$ ) i.e. bell-shaped, by considering linguistic expressions

Layer 2: Perform the rules to produce the weights in the intermediate layer and the calculation of the weights is shown in Eq. (12).

$$w_i = \mu_{A_i}(x) * \mu_{B_i}(y) \tag{12}$$

Layer 3: Calculate the normalized firing strengths to scale between 0 and 1

Layer 4: The output of this layer is considered as consequent parameter

Layer 5: Calculate the overall output

Two papers, which used ANFIS, are presented as follows: first paper [31] dealt with green vehicle distribution model in the field of evaluation and analysis. Second paper [48] dealt with a signalization problem in the area of decision-making unit.

### 3.4. Solution methodologies

- **Resilient propagation (Rprop).** Resilient propagation applies a direct adaption of the weight step based on local gradient information. The Rprop consider only the sign of the partial

derivative and moves on each weight with regard to  $\eta^+$  or  $\eta^-$  factor. Individual value ( $\Delta_{ij}$ ) for each weight is shown as in Eq. (13) [56].

$$\Delta_{ij}^{(t)} = \begin{cases} \eta^+ * \Delta_{ij}^{(t-1)}, \text{ if } \frac{\partial E^{(t-1)}}{\partial w_{ij}} * \frac{\partial E^{(t)}}{\partial w_{ij}} > 0 \\ \eta^- * \Delta_{ij}^{(t-1)}, \text{ if } \frac{\partial E^{(t-1)}}{\partial w_{ij}} * \frac{\partial E^{(t)}}{\partial w_{ij}} < 0 \\ \Delta_{ij}^{(t-1)}, \text{ else} \end{cases} \quad (13)$$

where  $0 < \eta^- < 1 < \eta^+$

When the individual update value for each weight is determined, the change in the weights is calculated as

$$\Delta w_{ij}^{(t)} = \begin{cases} -\Delta_{ij}^{(t)}, \text{ if } \frac{\partial E^{(t)}}{\partial w_{ij}^{(t)}} > 0 \\ +\Delta_{ij}^{(t)}, \text{ if } \frac{\partial E^{(t)}}{\partial w_{ij}^{(t)}} < 0 \\ 0, \text{ else} \end{cases} \quad (14)$$

$$\Delta w_{ij}^{(t+1)} = w_{ij}^t + \Delta w_{ij}^{(t)} \quad (15)$$

The update values and the weights are becoming different every time the entire pattern set is offered to the network [56]. Peters et al. exerted resilient propagation in order to develop a system that makes a timetable optimization and obstructs time delay.

- **Genetic-algorithm-based neural network.** Genetic algorithms (GAs) belong to the larger class of evolutionary algorithms that offer solutions to the problems which are difficult to deal with. GA is an iterative search procedure keeping on a population of structures that are possible solutions to specific domain challenges. GAs are search algorithms based on the natural selection process [57]. A typical cycle of GA connection weights is applied as following steps:

1. Generate a corresponding ANN with weights by determining each genotype in the current generation with a number of connection weights
2. Calculate the mean squared error (MSE), SSE or mean absolute percentage error (MAPE) between desired and output values and a correction process should be included in the fitness function to give a penalty to large weights
3. Choose parents for reproduction with regard to fitness function
4. Execute crossover or mutation to parents in order to produce the next generation [58].

Some authors [19,87] performed a hybrid GA-ANN in order to model air quality inside a PT or determine signal priority.

- **Supplemental methods**

- **Kalman Filter.** Kalman filter provides a recursive solution to the linear optimal filtering problems. Kalman filter both bypasses the need for holding the past output data and provides more efficient estimation [54]. The Kalman filtering enables adjustment of estimates for a particular purpose. The researchers interested in Kalman filter may reach the detailed gist from the book of “Kalman Filtering and Neural Networks” [54]. The Kalman filter is formulated in Eq. (16) and Eq. (17).

$$S_{k+1} = F_{k+1,k} S_k + p_k \quad (16)$$

$$o_k = M_k S_k + v_k \quad (17)$$

Kalman filter, which estimates the future states of dependent variables, is applied by the researcher in order to predict bus arrival time at bus stop [15].

- **Bootstrap method.** The Bootstrap is a type of a larger class of methods that resample from the existing data set with replacement. It is so difficult to determine the standard error or



estimate a parameter without any parametric assumptions [55]. In that case, the bootstrap offers a way to determine the standard error. Bootstrap method is used in an ANN to evaluate the level of error. The readers interested in bootstrap method may reach the detailed gist from the book of “Bootstrap Methods: A Guide for Practitioners and Researchers” [55]. The researchers [18] proposed a different approach in order to classify bus lines. Moreover, different ANN structures are tested by bootstrap method.

- **K-nearest neighbors (k-NNs).** K-NNs algorithm, used for classification or regression, is a nonparametric classification method. It finds the k closest points to a query point with regard to the Euclidean distance and selects the majority. Its ease of usage enables applicants to implement it to large scale complex problems [61]. The efficiency of the k-NN is increased by assigning a weight to each of k-NNs [62]. Another way to improve the efficiency of the k-NN is to exert the AURA k-NN. The Aura k-NN neural network technique is able to solve large problems for classification faster than traditional k-NN [63]. The researchers [15] applied k-NNs to predict bus arrival times at a bus stop for different routes.

- **Pruning algorithm.** Pruning algorithm is commonly used in order to determine the size of hidden neuron or layer in ANN. This algorithm set the weights to zero and evaluates the change in the error (SSE). If the change is higher than the previous error, the action to be applied is removed. This evaluation process should be repeated until reaching the least error with respect to the threshold [64]. The researchers interested in pruning algorithm can reach the detailed gist from the study of “Pruning Algorithms-A Survey” [64].

- **Growing algorithm.** Growing algorithm begin with a small network to determine the sufficient layers in ANN instead of pruning algorithm. It grows by allowing hidden units with regard to improvement in the error [65]. The researchers interested in pruning algorithm can reach the detailed gist from the study of “A Function Estimation Approach to Sequential Learning with Neural Networks” [65].

Pruning and growing algorithm applied in [10] to determine the optimal hidden neuron number in the area of bus arrival time prediction.

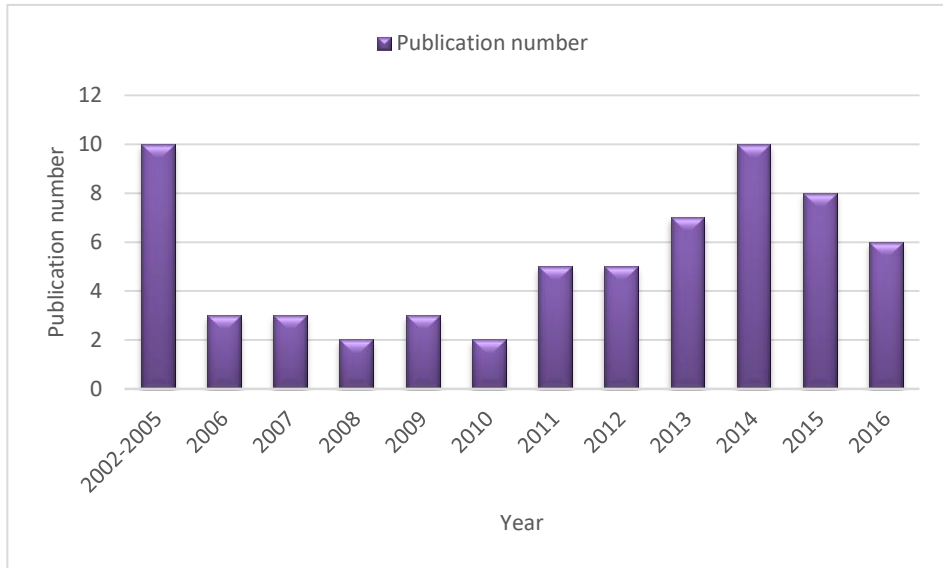
### 3.5. Descriptive analysis

The distribution of journals, which covers the published papers, indicates their desires in ANN applications with PT. The distribution of the journals with respect to publication years and the number of papers published are presented in Table 2.

**Table 2.** Distribution of literature based on the source of publication

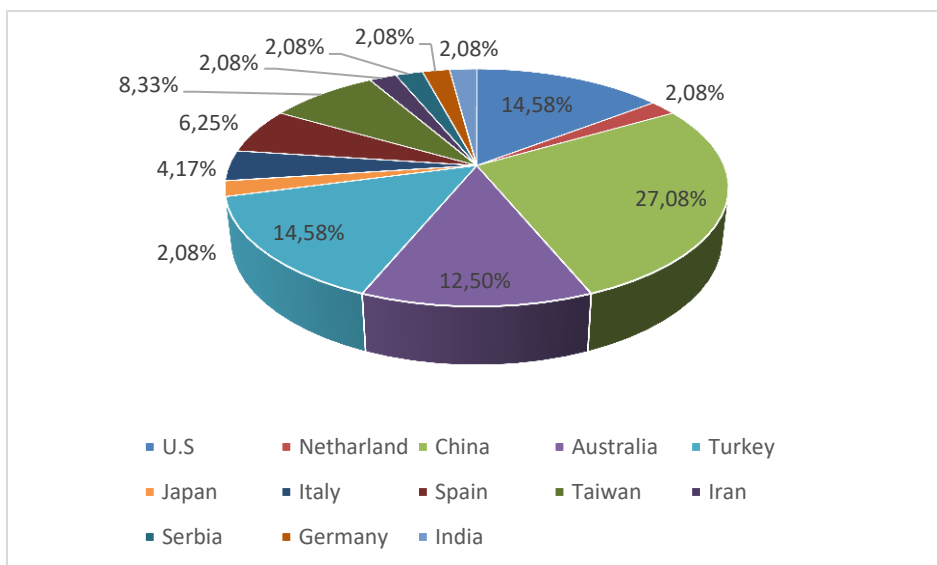
Publication	Year of publication												Total
	2002-2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
Transportation Research Part C Journal of Intelligent Trans. Sys.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	4
Transportation Eng. Journal of Intelligent Trans. Sys.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	4
IEEE Transactions. On Int. Trans. Sys.	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	3
Mathematical and Computer Mod.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
Journal of Public Transportation	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Expert systems with Applications	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
Journal of Advanced Transportation Neural Computing and applications	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Applied Mechanics and Materials	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Others (only 1 study)	6	2	1	2	3	1	2	2	7	8	7	6	47
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>72</b>

Table 2 reveals that the subjects of ANN applications in PT are considered by many journals. Moreover, the journals including more than two publications are illustrated in Table 2. This also clarifies the huge area of review in this study. Among the journals, two are clearly more active than the others in publishing ANN on PT: Transportation Research Part C (4 papers in various subjects) and Journal of Transportation Engineering (4 papers).



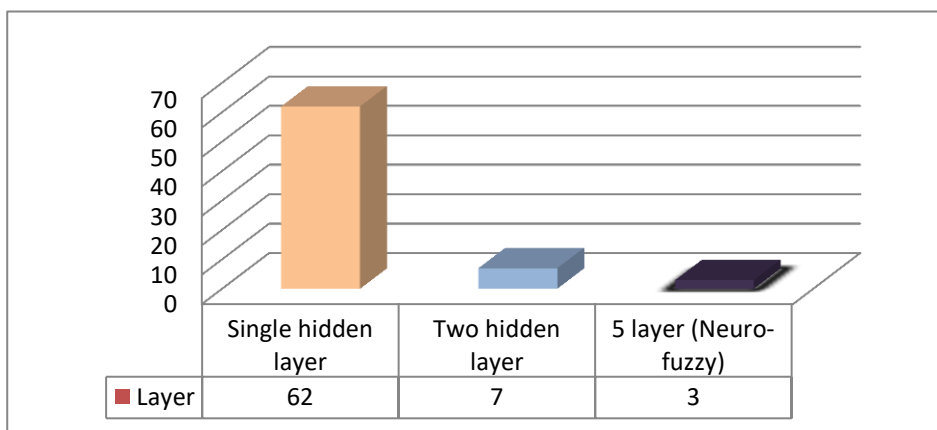
**Figure 5.** Number of neural network applications in PT.

ANN applications in PT tend to increase especially in the last five years. The raise of the interest is seen from the Figure 5. Figure 5 also presents the two moving average that is based on two sequential period.



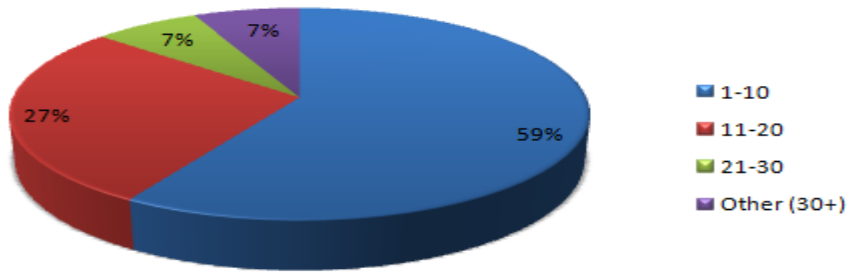
**Figure 6.** Research interest with respect to country.

Figure 6 presents that the highest interested country is China.



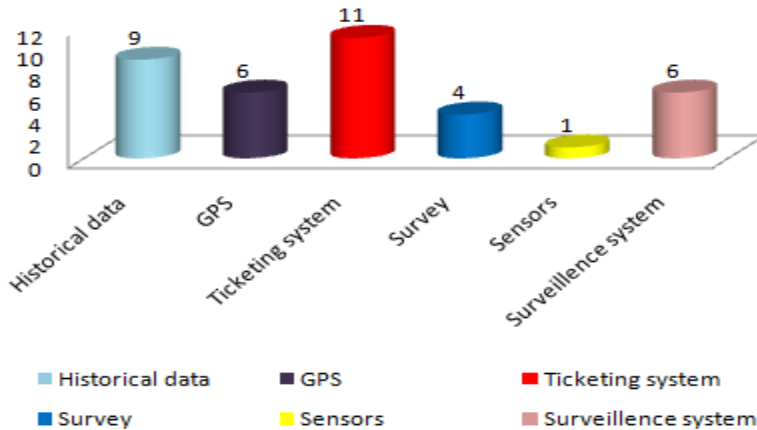
**Figure 7.** Distribution of hidden layer numbers

Distribution of hidden layer numbers, which is used in ANN, is shown in Figure 7. The most of the papers, (62), used a single hidden layer. Several papers [6, 19, 25, 37, 46, 50,76], (7), choose two hidden layers. Except above layers, three of the papers [31, 48,71] used five hidden layers which mean ANFIS.



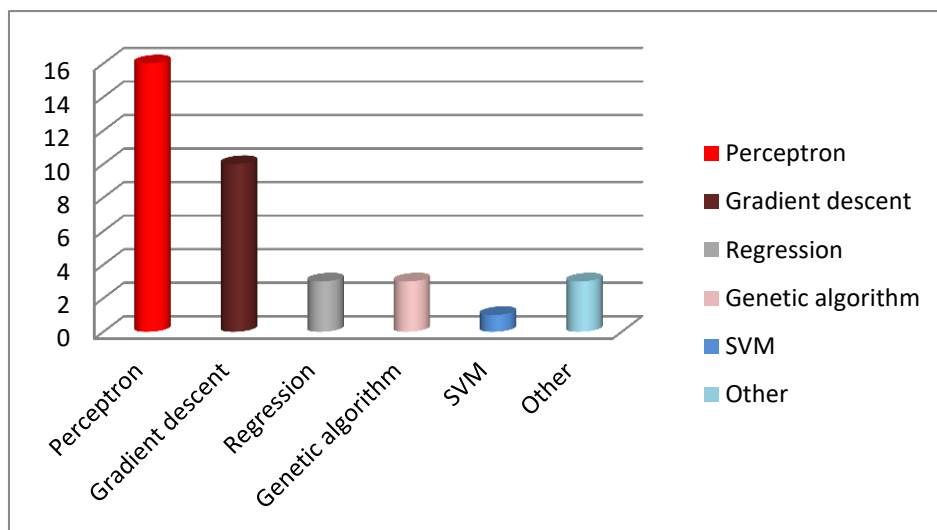
**Figure 8.** The number of hidden neuron

The number of hidden neurons is grouped into four main ranges that are shown in Figure 8. 1-10 neuron group are mostly chosen in 59% of the papers. Researchers choose 11-20 neuron group in 27% of the papers which is less than 1-10 neuron group.



**Figure 9.** The methods of data collection

It is seen that six main data collection methods are present in Figure 9. The most chosen data collection methods are the ticketing system [9, 11, 18, 21, 22, 26, 34, 37, 42, 43, 50] and historical data [7, 15, 17, 19, 27, 28, 29, 46, 51], 11 and 9, respectively. Moreover, GPS [6, 13, 16, 25, 39, 45] and surveillance system [8, 10, 20, 28, 33, 47] chosen commonly to collect the data.



**Figure 10.** The number of different learning algorithms

In the light of Figure 10, the most used learning algorithms are perceptron [5, 8, 11, 13, 16, 18, 22, 25, 26, 28, 29, 33, 36,82,86,88] and gradient descent [6, 12, 17, 20, 35, 43, 44, 46, 50]. GA [19, 30,87], Regression [14, 37] and SVM [15] are used 3, 2 and 1 time, respectively.

### 3.6. Performance measurement

The evaluation of the output of the ANN has been conducted in terms of SSE, MSE and root mean square error (RMSE).

The RMSE is used to evaluate how well an ANN learns a given model. The RMSE aims to represent the standard deviation between desired values and output values. The calculation of RMSE is presented in Eq. (18) as follows.

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (O^i - d^i)^2}{n}} \quad (18)$$

MSE and SSE formulation has been illustrated in Eq. (19) and Eq. (20) as follows

$$MSE = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (O^i - d^i)^2}{n} \quad (19)$$

$$SSE = \sum_{i=1}^n (O^i - d^i)^2 \quad (20)$$

Sometimes, the output even reaches an optimal epoch, it may not meet the expected values or pattern. It is beneficial to add a parameter that is called momentum since any performance value may have decreased. The momentum parameter is widely used to avoid the system from coalescing to a local minimum point. When the learning rate tends to increase, instability into the learning rule bring out that wild oscillations is prone to unearh.

## 4. DISCUSSION

MLFF network, which can solve non-linear and stochastic problems with back-propagation algorithm, has been commonly practiced in the field of PT. Multi-layer feed forward covers the most of the ANN architectures that are approximately equal to 88%. However, the recurrent neural network, which is a network whose neurons send feed-back signals to each other, has been

scarcely performed by the researchers [30]. RBF, ANFIS and SVM are chosen at the rate of 6%, 4%, and 2%, respectively. It is obvious that MLFF comparing to other neural networks has been more preferred in the field of PT.

% 69 of the applications have aimed the prediction or forecasting by the researchers. Brief explanations of forecast and prediction papers are presented in the section of problem classification. Bus arrival time, passenger flow and trip flow in the field of prediction and forecasting generally are preferred by the researchers. While the most of the researchers has dealt with the prediction and forecasting, the rest of the researchers have practiced the minimization and maximization problems [9, 47], evaluation and analysis [8, 14, 18, 19, 21, 23, 24, 26, 31, 36, 48, 49], and comparison [35] fields. The researchers, who conducted evaluation and analysis, dealt with common decision making units and performance of PT services. The researchers, who conducted minimization and maximization, studied in traveling time variance and vehicle delay. The researchers, who conducted comparison, [35] compared RBF and FFNN in the area of PT trip flow.

A single hidden layer, which consists of a single layer of output nodes, has fed the inputs directly to the outputs via a series of weights. A single hidden layer selection, which is approximately equal to 84% among all layer types, has been frequently employed to construct ANN. Two hidden layers have been rarely practiced by the researchers [6, 19, 25, 37, 46, 50] while a single hidden layer has a common utilization. Besides above layers, two of the papers [31, 48] used five hidden layers that means ANFIS. The selection of hidden neuron number is as important as the determination of hidden layer number. When the analysis of hidden neuron number in the papers are made, it is obvious that 59% of the papers preferred 1-10 hidden neuron group. 27% of the papers preferred 11-20 hidden neuron group and the rest of the papers selected 21-30 hidden neuron and 30 and over, at the same rate: 7%.

The feed-back structure should be brought forth when the established ANN model has been run. Mainly, perceptron rule (42%) and gradient descent method (29%) are exerted in the most of the papers that is mostly related to the prediction and forecasting fields. Besides the two main methods above, regression and GA are performed at the rate of 9.6% and 6.45%, respectively. Moreover, the other methods are used in ANN.

When the established ANN model is executed, it should be evaluated with regard to the specific performance measurements to choose the best ANN model. SSE, MSE and MAPE have been mostly preferred in order to evaluate the performance of the chosen methods by the researchers.

Reviewing papers reveals that the subjects of ANN applications on PT are considered by many journals. Besides, the journals with more than two publications are illustrated in Fig 6. Among the journals, two of them are clearly more active than the others in ANN applications with PT: Transportation Research Part C (4 papers in various subjects) and Journal of Transportation Engineering (4 papers). While total number of papers in other journals has prominence, each of them published only one paper in this field.

In the light of papers, interest of countries in the research field revealed that the highest interested country is China with 27.08 %. U.S and Turkey, which have the similar interest with 14.58 %, following China. It can be concluded that China, U.S and Turkey have the most influence in this research field.

It is clear that ANN has both advantages and disadvantages [73,93]. The advantages of ANN are presented as follows:

- ANN can be trained with less formal statistical data, while most of statistical methods are parametric model that need higher background of statistic
- ANN can clearly uncover complex non-linear relationships between input and output parameters
- ANN can uncover all possible interactions between predictor variables
- ANN can be performed by using multiple different training algorithms

➤ ANN can generate its own organization or representation of the information that is received during learning time

The authors [80] applied an algorithm to predict bus arrival time in their paper and they asserted that the applied algorithm clearly outperforms ANN and K-NN alone in both accuracy and efficiency of the algorithm. While ANN has a lot of advantages that are presented above, it has a number of disadvantages as well. ANN disadvantages are presented as follows:

➤ ANN is considered as a black box and it is really hard to explicitly identify possible relationships

➤ ANN may need greater computational time

➤ ANN can be trapped to over-fitting

## **5. CONCLUSION**

Since PT based on ANN has drawn great attention from the researchers for a long time, this brief literature is produced. The overall findings of this paper are summarized in the following.

i. First, most of the applications have aimed the prediction or forecasting. It can be said that data is an important part for prediction and forecasting in the phase of the training. Based on detailed analysis in the PT literature, it is easily seen that historical data and GPS have been used for obtaining the data in most of the studies.

ii. Second, a single hidden layer has mostly been employed to construct ANN. In some of the papers, pruning [64] and growing algorithm [65] have been offered to determine the size of neuron in a hidden layer as an accurate tool in this field. However, ANN architectures such as hidden layers and neurons have been determined by trial and error in most of the papers.

iii. Third, MLFF has been applied in most of the ANN architecture. Perceptron and gradient learning rules have been mostly employed in PT studies. However, perceptron rule has been mostly exerted in the training phase. After training phase, output is required to be evaluated for the best result. SSE, MSE and MAPE have been adjusted for performance evaluation method.

iv. Fourth, it is obvious that the supervised learning algorithms have been performed in most studies.

v. Hopfield and RBF network should be employed more as ANN architecture by combining the chaotic condition. Chaos theory can be applied to determine ANN input parameters. Thus, joint practice of ANN and chaos theory can be explored deeply in the field of transportation such as PT and BRT for future direction because the optimal input parameter has a remarkable prominence in these fields.

vi. Some papers in field of travel mode choice [69] and evaluation of bus transport reliability [70] with respect to simulation are studied by researchers. However, these papers can be applied with a suitable ANN models, since the simulation has a complex application structure and takes more time than ANN.

vii. The authors [80] applied an algorithm to predict bus arrival time in their paper and they asserted that the applied algorithm clearly outperforms ANN and K-NN alone in both accuracy and efficiency of the algorithm. Integration of ANN and K-NN may be researched by comparing their algorithm with regard to efficiency and accuracy.

For further future research, AURA K-NN, which is faster than traditional k-NN, can be utilized in the field of classification applications in PT. Moreover, joint practice of ANN and chaos theory can be explored deeply in the field of transportation such as PT and BRT for future direction because the optimal input parameter has a remarkable prominence in these fields.

## **Acknowledgements / Teşekkür**

There is no conflict of interests regarding the publication of this paper.

**Appendix A**  
Comprehensive applications in public transport based on ANN.

Authors	Objective of studies	Type to reach data	Number of input variables	Number of hidden layer	Number of hidden neurons	ANN model	Performance evaluation	Learning rule	Training method	Activation function
Chen et al. (2002)	Forecast	Traffic surveillance system	5	Single	6	Multi layer Feed forward (MLFF)	SSE	Gradient descent	Backpropagation (BP)	Sigmoid
HU et al. (2002)		Historical data and survey	20	Two	50,-	MLFF	SSE	Gradient d.	Backpropagation	Sigmoid*, purelin
Guan et al. (2002)		Historical data	14	Single	4	MLFF	-	-	Backpropagation	Tansig
Chen et al. (2004)	Forecast	-	4	single	-	MLFF	-	Perceptron	Backpropagation	*
Jeong et al. (2004)		GPS receiver	3	single	15	MLFF	-	Perceptron	Levenberg-Marquardt (BP)	*
Çelikoğlu et al. (2005)	Prediction	Ticketing system	4	single	3	MLFF	SSE	perceptron	Backpropagation	*
Peters et al. (2005)		Tram stations	-	single	63	MLFF	-	-	Resilient (BP)	*
Çelikoğlu et al. (2005)		-	4	single	25	MLFF	-	Gradient d.	Radial basis function (BP)	*
Stella et al. (2006)	Construct opt model	Tram location database	6	single	-	MLFF	-	A new defined rule	BP	*
Çelikoğlu, 2006)	Calibrate Forecast	-	n	single	-	MLFF	SSE, MSE	Gradient Regression	BP	*
Çelikoğlu, 2006)		Ticketing system	4	single	-	MLFF	SSE	MLFF	BP	*
Çelikoğlu et al. (2007)	Comp-ae	Electronic ticketing system	4	Single	-	MLFF, RBF	SSE	Gradient	BP	*
Çelikoğlu et al. (2007)	Forecast	Electronic ticketing system	4	Single	3	MLFF, GRNN	-	Gradient	Levenberg-Marquardt (BP)	*
Chen et al. (2007)	Prediction	Auto. passenger counter	4	Two	-	MLFF	MSE	Gradient	BP	Sigmoidal, tangent
(Jing, 2008)	Prediction	Railway management	15	Single	30	MLFF	-	-	(Weight calibration) BP	*
Liu et al. (2008)	Solve TP	-	-	-	-	Recurrent	-	GA, Hopfield	(Weight calibration) BP	*
Çelebi et al. (2009)	Prediction	15-min observation	4	Single	At least 20	MLFF	MAPE, MSE	Perceptron	BP	Hyperbolic tangent
Shen et al. (2009)	Maximization	Traffic	4	Single	5	MLFF	-	-	BP	*
Çetiner et al. (2010)	Prediction	Historical data	4	Single	-	MLFF	-	-	(Weight calibration) BP	*
Yu et al. (2010)	Prediction	Historical data	5	Single	3	SVM Network	-	SVM	(Kalman filter) BP	*
Kharasvi et al. (2011)	Minimization	GFS	-	two	-	MLFF	-	Delta rule	(User-def. cost function) BP	*
Nugroho et al. (2011)	Evaluation	Monitoring station	19	Single	4	MLFF	-	Perceptron	BP	*
Mazzoni et al. (2011)	Prediction	Signal control sys.	6	Single	-	MLFF	-	-	(Bayesian regularization) BP	*
Yu et al. (2011)	Prediction	Video survey	3-4	Single	5	MLFF	-	K-nearest neighbours, SVM	BP	*
Madouni et al. (2011)	Prediction under uncertainty	GFS	uncertain	single	2-3	MLFF	-	-	(Bayesian regularization and Levenberg-Marquardt) BP	*



**Appendix A (continuing)**  
Comprehensive applications in public transport based on ANN (continuing).

Authors	Objective of studies	Type to reach data	Number of input variables	Number of hidden layer	Number of hidden neurons	ANN model	Performance evaluation	Learning rule	Training method	Activation function
Azadeh et al. (2012)	Forecast and evaluation	Railway	Predicted	Single	18	MLFF	-	Adaptive ANN	BP	*
Mazrooni et al. (2012)	Forecast	GPS	4	Two	5 7 1 7 6 5 3	MLFF	SSE	Perceptron	BP	Sigmoidal
Wei et al. (2012)	Prediction	Historical data	3	Single	-	MLFF	MAPE	Perceptron	BP	*
Ozayral et al. (2012)	Prediction	Stations	10	Two	15	MLFF	-	Regression	BP	*
Yuen et al. (2013)	Route choice	Stations	3	Single	-	MLFF	-	Perceptron	BP	*
Goh et al. (2013)	Road safety	Traffic Incident Man. System	-	Single	4	MLFF	-	Regression	(Gradient descent)	*
Kadavala et al. (2013)	Air quality of a PB	Database	5	Single	7	RBF	-	GA	BP	*
Pei et al. (2013)	Analysis	Survey	5	Two	8	MLFF	-	-	BP	*
Lin et al. (2013)	Prediction	GPS	4	Single	10	Hierarchical ANN	-	-	BP	Sigmoidal
LIJO et al. (2013)	Analysis	Survey	6	Single	15	MLFF	-	-	BP	*
Gurmu et al. (2014)	Prediction	GPS	4	Single	-	MLFF	-	Perceptron	(Gradient descent)	*
Wang et al. (2014)	Prediction	Historical data	6	Single	-	RBF	-	Gradient	BP	*
Jimenez et al. (2014)	Classification	Municipal bus company	19	Single	9	MLFF	-	Perceptron	BP	*
Li et al. (2014)	Evaluation	Simulation results	6	Single	14	MLFF	-	-	BP	*
Ona et al. (2014)	Reduce the instability	Database	12	Single	6	MLFF	-	Perceptron	(Gradient descent)	Sigmoidal
Xie et al. (2014)	Prediction	Historical data	4	Single	15	MLFF	-	Perceptron	(Divide and conquer method) BP	*
Jonavic et al. (2014)	Develop a green vehicle dist. model	-	8	5 layer	X	ANFIS	-	-	BP	Bell-shaped
Garrido et al. (2014)	Analysis	Satisfaction survey	12	Single	6	MLFF	MAPE	Perceptron	BP	Sigmoidal
Ma et al. (2014)	Prediction	Smart card sys. And historical Sensors	3	Single	10	MLFF	-	-	BP	*
Cheng et al. (2014)	Decide the signatization	Database	-	5 layer	X	ANFIS	-	-	(Gradient descent)	Sigmoidal
Kadavala and Kumar (2015)	Evaluation	Database	-	Single	5	MLFF	-	-	BP	-
Islam et al. (2016)	Evaluation	Database	-	Two	-	MLFF	-	GRNN	-	-
Liang et al. (2016)	Prediction	Database	-	Single	3	Recurrent	-	-	-	-

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