

Multistep Fuzzy Classifier Design with Self-tuning Coevolutionary Algorithm

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Abstract: A method of Michigan and Pittsburgh approaches combining for fuzzy classifier design with evolutionary algorithms is presented. Michigan-style stage provides fast search of fuzzy rules with the best grade of certainty values for different classes and smoothing of randomness at initial population forming. Pittsburgh method provides rules subset search with the best performance and predefined number of the rules and doesn't require a lot of computational power. Besides self-tuning cooperative-competitive coevolutionary algorithm for strategy adaptation is used on Michigan and Pittsburgh stages of fuzzy classifier design. This algorithm solves the problem of genetic algorithm parameters setting automatically. The next result is multistep fuzzy classifier design based on multiple repetition of previous fuzzy classifier design. After each iteration standard deviation of classification performance decreases and classification performance increases. Results of numerical experiments for machine learning problems from UCI repository are presented. Fuzzy classifier design methods comparison with alternative classification methods by performance value demonstrates advantages of the proposed algorithms.

1 INTRODUCTION

Classification can be an important data analysis problem for control system construction. Fuzzy classifier (Ishibuchi, 1999) is the classification algorithm based on fuzzy rules extraction from numerical data. Superiority of this method upon other classification algorithms (e.g. neural networks) is provided by fuzzy rules which are linguistic expressions and they are available for people understanding. Thus fuzzy classifier is one of the data mining methods for knowledge discovery. Each fuzzy rule consists of fuzzy terms for attributes, a name of the most appropriate class, and grade certainty that is calculated with a learning sample (Ishibuchi, 1999).

Fuzzy classifier design can be considered as optimization problem. In this case we need to find the best fuzzy classifier. Fuzzy classifier design consists of two problems. First one is rule base generating and second one is membership functions tuning. It should be noted the first problem is more complicated because dimension of this problem can be high and a lot of variables are discrete. So we

observe only fuzzy rule base generating in this paper.

Because fuzzy rule base generating is complicated computational problem the popular method of this problem solving is the genetic-based machine learning (Herrera, 2008). There are two basic ways of genetic algorithm applying for fuzzy rule base generating: Michigan-style method and Pittsburgh-style method. In Michigan approach (Holland, 1978) the chromosomes are individual rules and a rule set is represented by the entire population. In Pittsburgh method (Smith, 1980) the chromosomes are rule sets at whole. The problem in Michigan approach is the conflict between individual rule fitness and performance of fuzzy rule set. Pittsburgh-style systems require a lot of computational burden. So Michigan and Pittsburgh method combining is the promising approach. In (Ishibuchi, 2000) hybridization Pittsburgh method with Michigan-style algorithm using Michigan method as mutation operator in Pittsburgh-style algorithm is presented.

A new method of Michigan and Pittsburgh approaches combining for fuzzy classifier rule base

design with evolutionary algorithms is presented in this paper. Fuzzy classifier rule base design consists of two main stages. At the first stage Michigan method is used for fuzzy rules search with high grade of certainty. At the second stage the Pittsburgh method is applied for subset of the rules searching with the best classification performance and predefined number of rules. Constraint for number of rules is used at this stage of fuzzy classifier design. As fuzzy classifier is data mining tool it is more preferable to have minimal number of rules. Preparatory procedures are attribute fuzzification and initial population of fuzzy rules forming using a-priori information from a learning sample.

Another problem with genetic algorithm applying is the algorithm parameters setting. This problem is especially essential for optimization problems with high computational complexity such as fuzzy rule base generating. There are some methods for GA parameter setting problem solving. We suggest special procedure named self-tuning cooperative-competitive coevolutionary algorithm for this problem solving (Sergienko, 2010). This method combines ideas of cooperation and competition among subpopulations in the coevolutionary algorithm. We tested this algorithm for some computationally simple problems for foundation of its efficiency and then used it for fuzzy rule base forming. Cooperative-competitive coevolutionary algorithm for unconstrained optimization is applied at the Michigan-style stage and cooperative-competitive coevolutionary algorithm for constrained optimization is used at the Pittsburgh-style stage.

The next idea is the multistep fuzzy classifier design. After multiple fuzzy classifiers forming we have a set of fuzzy classifiers for each classification problem. The natural step is a collective forming fuzzy rule base using a set of classifiers generated with our approach. It is possible to increase classification efficiency and decrease diversity of classification efficiency using this method. For collective design of fuzzy classifier cooperate-competitive coevolutionary algorithm can be applied again. Thus we can repeat this procedure more times. So we have formulated a multistep procedure of fuzzy classifier design.

This multistep procedure for fuzzy classifier rule base design was applied for some machine learning problems from UCI repository. Statistical investigations were performed. Results of numerical experiments are demonstrated. Classification performance values were compared with results of alternative classifiers.

Investigation of Michigan and Pittsburgh method combination for fuzzy classifier rule base design is introduced in Section 2. The numerical results of fuzzy classifier design and multistep procedure suggestion are described in Section 3. The results of numerical experiments for multistep fuzzy classifier design are presented in Section 4. Conclusions are listed in Section 5.

2 A METHOD OF FUZZY CLASSIFIER DESIGN

The Michigan and Pittsburgh methods combining for fuzzy classifier design implicates sequential using of the first and the second approaches. At the first stage the Michigan method is used for fuzzy rules search with high grade of certainty. At the second stage the Pittsburgh method is applied for subset of the rules searching with the best classification efficiency with constraint for maximum number of rules.

A prior to main evolutionary stages of our method there are two important preparatory steps of fuzzy classifier design: attribute fuzzification (fuzzy number semantics setting) and initial population of fuzzy rules forming for Michigan approach with a priori information from a learning sample. So let's consider the preparatory steps and the main stages of fuzzy classifier design in more details.

2.1 Attribute Fuzzification

In this work for each attribute of a machine learning problem five triangular fuzzy numbers and a term "ignoring" (it means that an attribute isn't used in the corresponding fuzzy rule) are determined: 1 – "very small", 2 – "small", 3 – "average", 4 – "large", 5 – "very large", 6 – "ignoring". If an attribute has both negative and positive values it is better to use words "negative", "null" and "positive" instead "small", "average" and "large" accordingly.

A triangular fuzzy number is characterized by three parameters: left boundary a , centre b , and right boundary c . The maximum B and minimum A values of an attribute are determined from a learning sample. For uniform filling of attribute variability interval $[A; B]$ by fuzzy numbers the parameters are defined by the following equations:

$$a_i = A + \frac{1}{6} \cdot (B - A) \cdot (i - 1), i = 2..5,$$

$$b_i = A + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6} \cdot (B - A) \cdot (i - 1), i = 1..5,$$

$$c_i = A + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{6} \cdot (B - A) \cdot (i - 1), i = 1..4.$$

2.2 Initial Population of Fuzzy Rules Forming

This step is very important because random generating of fuzzy rules is unacceptable. Classification problems can have a lot of attributes. So, if we use 5 fuzzy terms and term “ignoring” for each attribute and number of attributes is equal d , total number of rules is equal $6^d - 1$. In this case probability of random fuzzy rule generating that would have at least one corresponding element from a learning sample is very low. So using a priori information from a learning sample is necessary for initial population of fuzzy rules forming. There are some approaches for this problem solving: (Martín-Muñoz, 2010, Palacios, 2010, and Nojima, 2010). Our procedure is considered in the following steps:

1) Let n be a number of rules at Michigan-style stage of fuzzy classifier design, k be a number of the classes, d be a number of attributes.

2) Put $m = n/k$.

3) Sort a learning sample by number of the class and determine boundaries for each class in the sorted array (positions of the first and the last elements for each class).

4) For $i := 1$ to k do:

4.1) For $j := 1$ to m do:

4.1.1) Perform random selection of the element for the class i from a sorted learning sample.

4.1.2) For $t := 1$ to d do:

4.1.2.1) Determine the nearest centre of a fuzzy number for attribute t .

4.1.2.2) Put the corresponding fuzzy number as element of the generated fuzzy rule.

4.1.2.3) Exchange the fuzzy number to a term “ignoring” with probability equals to $1/6$ (we have 6 terms for each attribute).

5) Fill population for Michigan-style stage by generated fuzzy rules.

This procedure provides generating equal number of informative fuzzy rules for each class.

2.3 Michigan-style Stage

The main idea of this stage is to improve initial fuzzy rules with genetic algorithm.

The chromosomes are the fuzzy rules. Chromosome length is equal to the number of attributes, each gene is a sign for the corresponding fuzzy term (1..6). We needn't to use a gene for output because the appropriate class for the rule is determined automatically. Fitness function is grade certainty of the fuzzy rule that is calculated by a learning sample (Ishibuchi, 1999). Genetic algorithm for unconstrained optimization is applied. New population forming method is modified. After genetic generation performing parents and child are combined to the united array. Different fuzzy rules with the best values of fitness function for each class are selected to the next generation. This new population forming method provides diversity of rules for each class and diversity of classes in population. For each generation classification performance is calculated for population at whole. Population with the best value of classification performance is used for the next stage of fuzzy classifier design.

Steps of Michigan-style stage:

1) Let n is population size (number of initial fuzzy rules), N is generation number, k is number of classes.

2) Put $m = n/k$.

3) Calculate classification performance F_0 of initial population for a learning sample (correctly classified part of a test sample).

4) Remember initial population P_0 .

5) For $i := 1$ to N

5.1) Perform all necessary genetic operators with population (selection, recombination, and mutation).

5.2) Combine parents and offspring to the united array.

5.3) Sort the array by number of the class and determine boundaries for each class in the sorted array.

5.4) For $j := 1$ to k do:

5.4.1) Sort a part of the array for class j by grade certainty.

5.4.2) Find m different rules for class j with the best value of grade certainty and copy them to the next population P_i .

5.5) Calculate classification performance F_i of population P_i for a learning sample.

5.6) If $F_i > F_0$ then $F_0 := F_i$ and $P_0 := P_i$.

6) Return P_0 .

2.4 Pittsburgh-style Stage

The main idea of Pittsburgh style-stage is to find subset of computed on Michigan-style stage fuzzy rule set with the best classification efficiency and

constraint satisfaction for maximum number of rules. Genetic algorithm for constrained optimization is used for this stage.

The chromosomes are the fuzzy rule sets. Chromosome length is equal to the population size for Michigan-style stage. Chromosome genes are binary. Value "1" means using of the corresponding rule in the set, value "0" means ignoring of the corresponding rule. Fitness function is classification performance for a learning sample. Constraint for maximum number of rules is used. This value is specified by a researcher. It depends on classification problem dimension (number of attributes and number of classes). The constraint is used because it is better to have small number of rules in the final rule base. New generation forming method is standard (offspring replace parents with the exception of the best parent). Special methods of constraint satisfaction for genetic algorithms are used (e.g. dynamic penalty function, adaptive penalty function).

Steps of Pittsburgh-style stage:

1) Let N is number of generations, M is population size, n is chromosome length (n is equal to population size for Michigan-style stage), G is constraint for maximum number of used fuzzy rules.

2) Generate M random binary strings with length equals n and with maximum number of "1" at each string is not more than G .

3) For $i:=1$ to N do all necessary genetic operators and new generation forming.

4) Return the best solution.

2.5 Self-tuning Cooperative-competitive Coevolutionary Algorithm

One of the most complicated problems for application of genetic algorithm is the algorithm parameters setting. Conventional genetic algorithm has at least three methods of selection (proportional, tournament, and rank), three methods of recombination (one-point, two-point, and uniform). Mutation probability requires tuning too. For constrained optimization problems it is necessary to choose a constraint satisfaction method. Amount of various combinations can be estimated at tens. Exhaustive search of combinations requires a lot of time and computational power. Especially it's hard for complicated problems as fuzzy classifier design. One run of genetic algorithm for fuzzy classifier design can be in progress for some hours. Parameters combination selection by chance is also bad idea as algorithm efficiency on the same

problem can differ very much for different parameters setting.

We develop an approach (Sergienko, 2010) that uses both competition and cooperation of individual genetic algorithms with different parameters setting. Resource redistribution provides domination of the subpopulation with the best for problem-in-hand search strategy. Cooperation of individual conventional genetic algorithms is provided by migration of the best solutions to all of the individual genetic algorithms. So coevolutionary algorithm efficiency can increase because of positive effect of subpopulations interacting. This cooperative-competitive coevolutionary genetic algorithm needs no tuning of special parameters.

We showed reasonability of cooperate-competitive coevolutionary algorithm application for some computationally simple problems and then we made a decision to use this approach for more complicated problems such as fuzzy rule base generating. It is very difficult to perform complex investigation of self-tuning cooperate-competitive coevolutionary algorithm for computationally complex problems because required computational power or computational time would be huge.

Self-tuning cooperative-competitive coevolutionary genetic algorithm for unconstrained optimization is applied at Michigan-style stage of fuzzy classifier design and coevolutionary genetic algorithm for constrained optimization is used at Pittsburgh-style stage. We use three methods of selection (proportional, tournament, and rank), three methods of recombination (one-point, two-point, and uniform), adaptive mutation, and three methods of constraint satisfaction ("death" penalty, dynamic and adaptive penalty functions). Totally there are 9 subpopulations with different parameters setting for Michigan-style stage and 27 subpopulations for Pittsburgh-style stage. So self-tuning cooperative-competitive coevolutionary genetic algorithm provides the solution of GA parameters setting problem. Another effect is possibility of parallel computing for fuzzy classifier design.

3 NUMERICAL RESULTS FOR FUZZY CLASSIFIER DESIGN AND MULTISTEP PROCEDURE SUGGESTION

The developed method of fuzzy classifier design has been applied for a number of classification machine learning problems from UCI repository:

- Credit (Australia-1) (14 attributes, 2 classes);
- Liver Disorder (6 attributes, 2 classes);
- Iris (4 attributes, 3 classes);
- Yeast (8 attributes, 10 classes);
- Glass Identification (9 attributes, 7 classes);
- Landsat Images (4 attributes, 6 classes).

Statistical investigations were performed for all problems. We tested our approach for 20 times for each classification problem. We calculated mean and standard deviation for classification performance values. Statistical significance of our conclusions was valid with Wilcoxon criteria.

For each problem average and maximum (only for Pittsburgh-style stage) classification performance values for each stage and initial number of rules are presented in Tables 1. The column 1 contains average performance values after initial rules forming, the column 2 contains average performance values after Michigan-style stage, the column 3 contains average performance values after Pittsburgh-style stage, and the column 4 contains maximum performance values after Pittsburgh-style stage. There is feasible number of rules in the brackets. There are standard deviation values of classification performance for each method stage in Table 2 (the column 1, 2, and 3 accordingly). The column 4 in the Table 2 contains parameter of rules repeatability $p = (20x - y) / 19x$, when x is constraint for the maximum number of rules in the base and y is number of the unique rules at all 20 generated bases for each classification problem. Interval for p is [0;1]. It's better to increase this parameter.

Table 1: Classification performance values for fuzzy classifier design.

Problem	1	2	3	4
Credit (Australia)	0,854	0,870	0,827(10) 0,861(20) 0,873(30)	0,870(10) 0,890(20) 0,891(30)
Liver Disorder	0,595	0,653	0,666(10) 0,682(15) 0,692(20)	0,687(10) 0,710(15) 0,725(20)
Iris	0,945	0,979	0,908(3) 0,951(4) 0,971(5) 0,975(6)	0,947(3) 0,973(4) 0,987(5) 0,987(6)
Yeast	0,417	0,495	0,573(20) 0,586(30) 0,593(60)	0,598(20) 0,606(30) 0,626(60)
Glass Identification	0,640	0,687	0,737(20) 0,781(30)	0,757(20) 0,827(30)
Landsat Images	0,793	0,812	0,838(10) 0,847(15) 0,849(20)	0,849(10) 0,857(15) 0,857(20)

Table 2: Standard deviation values for fuzzy classifier design.

Problem	1	2	3	4
Credit (Australia)	0,0093	0,0065	0,0248(10) 0,0123(20) 0,0103(30)	0,00(10) 0,00(20) 0,00(30)
Liver Disorder	0,0208	0,0110	0,0150(10) 0,0167(15) 0,0173(20)	0,17(10) 0,10(15) 0,09(20)
Iris	0,0152	0,0039	0,0564(3) 0,0262(4) 0,0130(5) 0,0107(6)	0,67(3) 0,56(4) 0,51(5) 0,56(6)
Yeast	0,0186	0,0169	0,0180(20) 0,0171(30) 0,0221(60)	0,00(20) 0,00(30) 0,07(60)
Glass Identification	0,0226	0,0202	0,0139(20) 0,0183(30)	0,02(20) 0,04(30)
Landsat Images	0,0123	0,0081	0,0078(10) 0,0042(15) 0,0055(25)	0,36(10) 0,44(15) 0,42(25)

Large number of rules isn't used at initial population of fuzzy rules forming stage. For reasoning of this statement we can show that number of all possible fuzzy rules varies from 216 (3 attributes) to $4,7 \cdot 10^{18}$ (24 attributes) and maximum number of initial rules equals 200. But all fuzzy rule bases are operable after initial population forming.

Classification performance values after Michigan-style stage increase by 0,01-0,08. Besides diversity of classification performance value decreases a lot (see the Table 2). So we can conclude that Michigan-style stage is necessary for light increment of fuzzy rule set efficiency and smoothing of randomness at initial population forming.

Population size for Pittsburgh-style stage is equal to the following: 100 individuals * 27 subpopulations = 2700. Generation number equals 100 because convergence rate for cooperative-competitive coevolutionary algorithm is higher than for conventional GA (Sergienko, 2010). In the Table 1 we can see that classification performance values after Pittsburgh-style stage performing can be better than performance values after Michigan-style stage although number of rules is reduced. It means that a large rule set is not always better by performance. "Bad" rules have damaged the effect. So interpretability of fuzzy rule set is improved and classification efficiency can be improved too after Pittsburgh-style stage performing. It's a positive feature of Pittsburgh-style stage. Negative one is that deviation of classification performance value can increase. Low repeatability of rules is another problem (see the Table 2, the column 4).

A natural step for fuzzy rules repeatability increasing and classification performance deviation decreasing is a collective design fuzzy rule base using a set of classifiers generated with our approach. In this case Pittsburgh-style stage of fuzzy classifier forming is performed again. A set of fuzzy rule bases is analogy of fuzzy rule base generated after Michigan-style stage. We also use constraint for feasible number of rules. For collective forming of fuzzy classifier cooperate-competitive coevolutionary algorithm can be applied again. For example, we have got 20 fuzzy rule sets and then we can repeat Pittsburgh-style procedure using unique rules from previous sets as initial rules for Pittsburgh-style stage. Thus we can repeat this procedure some more times. So we formulate multistep procedure of fuzzy classifier design. We can use threshold value of classification performance increasing, standard deviation decreasing, or number of unique rules decreasing as a stopping criterion for our multistep procedure. The action sequence for multistep fuzzy classifier forming is the following:

- 1) Select start fuzzy rules with a special procedure (see paragraph 2.2) and repeat this procedure n times.
- 2) Perform one-step fuzzy classifier design (see paragraphs 2.3, 2.4, and 2.5) and repeat this procedure n times.
- 3) Form from n fuzzy classifiers initial population for the next iteration (unite fuzzy rule bases and delete repetitive fuzzy rules).
- 4) If stopping criterion is true end else go to position 2.

Using multistep procedure fuzzy rule repeatability must increase and classification efficiency diversity must decrease. Besides it is possible to increase classification performance. We have implemented this method and approved our forecasts.

4 MULTISTEP FUZZY CLASSIFIER DESIGN INVESTIGATIONS

Some statistical investigations were performed for all problems. For each problem maximum and average classification performance values, standard deviation of classification performance, and parameter of rules repeatability are presented in the Tables 3-8. There is a feasible number of rules in the brackets. Stopping criterion is average classification

performance increasing less than 0,005 or standard deviation equals to 0. For some cases we have performed one or two steps additionally for equal step number providing for the same problem.

Table 3: Results of multistep fuzzy classifier design for Credit (Australia-1).

Iteration	Maximum perform.	Average perform.	Standard deviation	Rules repeat.
1	0,870(10)	0,827(10)	0,0248(10)	0,00(10)
	0,890(20)	0,861(20)	0,0123(20)	0,00(20)
	0,891(30)	0,873(30)	0,0104(30)	0,00(30)
2	0,891(10)	0,888(10)	0,0017(10)	0,83(10)
	0,919(20)	0,918(20)	0,0027(20)	0,83(20)
	0,926(30)	0,924(30)	0,0017(30)	0,74(30)
3	0,891(10)	0,891(10)	0,0000(10)	0,92(10)
	0,919(20)	0,919(20)	0,0000(20)	0,89(20)
	0,928(30)	0,926(30)	0,0013(30)	0,83(30)

Table 4: Results of multistep fuzzy classifier design for Liver Disorder.

Iteration	Maximum perform.	Average perform.	Standard deviation	Rules repeat.
1	0,687(10)	0,666(10)	0,0173(10)	0,17(10)
	0,710(15)	0,682(15)	0,0167(15)	0,10(15)
	0,725(20)	0,692(20)	0,0150(20)	0,09(20)
2	0,713(10)	0,705(10)	0,0045(10)	0,50(10)
	0,739(15)	0,731(15)	0,0061(15)	0,61(15)
	0,757(20)	0,748(20)	0,0055(20)	0,67(20)
3	0,716(10)	0,714(10)	0,0023(10)	0,89(10)
	0,739(15)	0,735(15)	0,0041(20)	0,77(15)
	0,757(20)	0,754(20)	0,0023(20)	0,82(20)
4	0,716(10)	0,716(10)	0,0000(10)	0,97(10)
	0,742(15)	0,738(15)	0,0028(15)	0,88(15)
	0,757(20)	0,755(20)	0,0025(20)	0,86(20)

Table 5: Results of multistep fuzzy classifier design for Yeast.

Iteration	Maximum perform.	Average perform.	Standard deviation	Rules repeat.
1	0,598(20)	0,573(20)	0,0180(20)	0,00(20)
	0,606(30)	0,586(30)	0,0171(30)	0,00(30)
	0,626(60)	0,593(60)	0,0221(60)	0,07(60)
2	0,609(20)	0,605(20)	0,0024(20)	0,57(20)
	0,641(30)	0,633(30)	0,0043(30)	0,59(30)
	0,674(60)	0,668(60)	0,0043(60)	0,62(60)
3	0,617(20)	0,614(20)	0,0025(20)	0,81(20)
	0,651(30)	0,647(30)	0,0034(30)	0,77(30)
	0,676(60)	0,672(60)	0,0024(60)	0,73(60)
4	0,621(20)	0,618(20)	0,0020(20)	0,86(20)
	0,651(30)	0,649(30)	0,0012(30)	0,83(30)
	0,678(60)	0,675(60)	0,0022(60)	0,81(60)

Table 6: Results of multistep fuzzy classifier design for Iris.

Iteration	Maximum perform.	Average perform.	Standard deviation	Rules repeat.
1	0,947(3)	0,908(3)	0,0564(3)	0,67(3)
	0,973(4)	0,951(4)	0,0262(4)	0,56(4)
	0,987(5)	0,971(5)	0,0130(5)	0,51(5)
	0,987(6)	0,975(6)	0,0107(6)	0,56(6)
2	0,980(3)	0,980(3)	0,0000(3)	0,93(3)
	0,980(4)	0,980(4)	0,0000(4)	0,69(4)
	0,987(5)	0,987(5)	0,0000(5)	0,82(5)
	0,993(6)	0,993(6)	0,0000(6)	0,78(6)

Table 7: Results of multistep fuzzy classifier design for Glass Identification.

Iteration	Maximum perform.	Average perform.	Standard deviation	Rules repeat.
1	0,757(20)	0,737(20)	0,0139(20)	0,02(20)
	0,827(30)	0,781(30)	0,0183(30)	0,04(30)
2	0,836(20)	0,824(20)	0,0074(20)	0,44(20)
	0,874(30)	0,861(30)	0,0135(30)	0,44(30)
3	0,846(20)	0,838(20)	0,0063(20)	0,66(20)
	0,888(30)	0,880(30)	0,0047(30)	0,71(30)
4	0,850(20)	0,846(20)	0,0041(20)	0,81(20)
	0,888(30)	0,886(30)	0,0025(30)	0,79(30)
5	0,850(20)	0,850(20)	0,0000(20)	0,89(20)
	0,888(30)	0,886(30)	0,0025(30)	0,87(30)

Table 8: Results of multistep fuzzy classifier design for Landsat Images.

Iteration	Maximum perform.	Average perform.	Standard deviation	Rules repeat.
1	0,849(10)	0,838(10)	0,0078(10)	0,36(10)
	0,857(15)	0,847(15)	0,0042(15)	0,44(15)
	0,857(25)	0,849(25)	0,0055(25)	0,42(25)
2	0,851(10)	0,850(10)	0,0011(10)	0,69(10)
	0,861(15)	0,859(15)	0,0014(15)	0,64(15)
	0,864(25)	0,863(25)	0,0009(25)	0,67(25)
3	0,853(10)	0,852(10)	0,0004(10)	0,86(10)
	0,862(15)	0,860(15)	0,0015(15)	0,77(15)
	0,866(25)	0,865(25)	0,0010(25)	0,79(25)
4	0,853(10)	0,852(10)	0,0001(10)	0,94(10)
	0,862(15)	0,862(15)	0,0004(15)	0,87(15)
	0,866(25)	0,866(25)	0,0003(25)	0,86(25)

We can see that standard deviation of classification performance decreases and parameter of rules repeatability increases for each step of fuzzy classifier design. Also classification performance increases for all problems using multistep fuzzy classifier design.

For illustrating of multistep fuzzy classifier design features we demonstrate dynamics of classification performance, deviation, and parameter of rules repeatability changing at the figures 1-2 for

Glass Identification problem with constraint for rules number equals to 20.

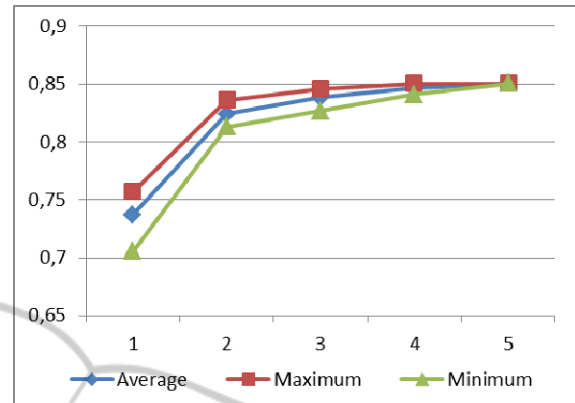


Figure 1: Classification performance changing for Glass Identification problem.

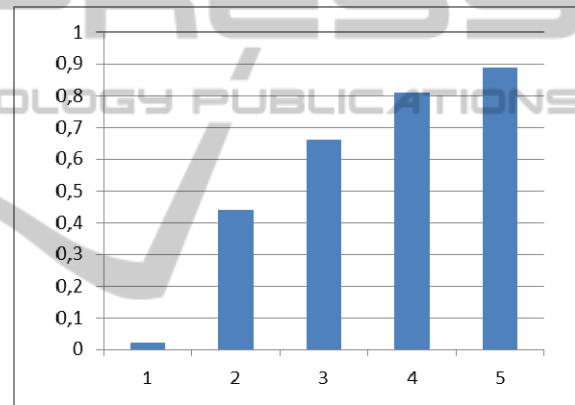


Figure 2: Parameter of rules repeatability changing for Glass Identification problem.

Table 9: Comparison of the classifiers.

Algorithm	Credit (Australia-1)	Liver Disorder
One-step fuzzy classifier design	0,891	0,725
Multistep fuzzy classifier design	0,928	0,757
Bayesian approach	0,847	0,629
Multilayer perception	0,833	0,693
Boosting	0,760	0,656
Bagging	0,847	0,630
RSM	0,852	0,632
CCEL	0,866	0,644

For the first two problems comparison with alternative classification methods has been

performed. These algorithms are Bayesian approach, multilayer perceptron, boosting (Schapire, 2001), bagging (Breiman, 1998), random subspace method (RSM) (Ho, 1998), and cooperative coevolution ensemble learning (CCEL) (Zhuravlev, 1998 and Voroncov, 2005). The results were obtained from (Voroncov, 2005). The comparison by the best performance value is presented in the Table 9.

5 CONCLUSIONS

The first result is that new method of Michigan and Pittsburgh approaches combining for fuzzy classifier rule base design has investigated on some classification problem from UCI repository. This method has high operation speed and efficiency as advantages of both approaches are used. Self-tuning cooperative-competitive coevolutionary genetic algorithm for strategy adaptation is used at both evolutionary stages of fuzzy classifier design. It allows refusing the genetic algorithm parameters setting without negative effect for algorithm efficiency.

The second main result of our work is multistep fuzzy classifier design investigations. Having generated some fuzzy classifiers we are able to construct more effective classifier from previous classifiers using cooperative-competitive coevolutionary algorithm again. Using this method semantically similar fuzzy classifiers are generated. The approach of multistep fuzzy classifier forming has the following features:

- 1) This method improves classification performance without increasing number of rules.
- 2) This method reduces diversity of performance values for multiple algorithm runs, i.e. the method has higher statistical stability.
- 3) The method increases repeatability of fuzzy rules for multiple algorithm runs.
- 4) Corresponding to features 1-3 trends slow down for increasing of step number.
- 5) The method is more effective for more complicated classification problems (more attributes and classes).

Fuzzy classifier design methods comparison with alternative classification methods by performance value demonstrates that both fuzzy classifier forming methods have either the same efficiency as present-day classification algorithms or even they are more efficient.

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