

Original Research Article

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## Daily Monsoon Rainfall Prediction using Artificial Neural Network (ANN) for Parbhani District of Maharashtra, India

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### ABSTRACT

Rainfall is the most complex and difficult elements of hydrological cycle to understand and to model due to the complexity of atmospheric process. Long term prediction of rainfall is important for country like India where economy is mainly depends on agriculture. In the present study an attempt has been made to develop ANN models for prediction of daily rainfall for monsoon season at Parbhani District of Maharashtra, India. For the study, 30 years data (1985 to 2014) have been used. The 80% data (1985-2008) were used for model calibration and remaining 20% data (2008-2014) were used for validation. In the study, Gama test has been used to find best combination of input variables and after that back-propagation algorithm and tan sigmoid activation function were used to train and test the models. It was founded that the models are capable to predict the rainfall with adequate accuracy.

#### Keywords

Maharashtra, India,  
Monsoon season,  
Human culture,  
Hydrology

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### Introduction

The critical dependence of human culture on a reliable source of water and its requirement for security from floods and dry seasons resulted in the branch of science, hydrology, which has principally developed in the journey

for solutions to water related issues. During rainy season between June to September, south-west monsoon contributes more than 75% of the annual rainfall of India (Singh, 2006). The view of Indian agriculture is very much dependent on beginning of monsoon and depth of rainfall during rainy season.

Therefore, any decrease or increase in annual rainfall will always have severe impact on the agriculture sector of India. Therefore, it is essential to forecast the monsoon behaviour which will help the farmers and the government to take full advantage of monsoon season. This knowledge can be vital in reducing the damage of crops during low rainfall periods in monsoon seasons. Rainfall is natural climatic phenomena whose prediction is very challenging and demanding. Accurate study on rainfall is vital for the planning and management of the water resources. Nevertheless, rainfall is one of the most complex and difficult element of the hydrological cycle to understand and to model due to the complexity of the atmospheric processes that generate rainfall and tremendous range of variation over a wide range of scales both in space and time (French *et al.*, 1992).

For achieving predictions there are a number of methods, ranging from naive methods to those that use more complex techniques such as artificial intelligence (AI), artificial neural networks (ANNs) being one of the most valuable and attractive methods for forecasting tasks. In prediction, ANNs, as opposed to traditional methods in meteorology, are based on self-adaptive mechanisms that learn from examples and capture functional relationships between data, even if the relationships are unknown or difficult to describe.

Artificial neural network (ANNs) has been proven to be very useful in dealing with highly complicated problems due to their capability to model nonlinear systems without the need to make any assumptions. A review of ANNs in hydrology was presented by ASCE task committee on application of ANNs in hydrology (ASCE, 2000a and ASCE, 2000b). ANN have found increasing application for modelling hydrological processes (Jain and

Srivastava, 1999; Tokar and Markus, 2000; Luk *et al.*, 2001; Jyothiprakash *et al.*, 2002; Agrawal *et al.*, 2006; Rajukar *et al.*, 2004; Kumar and Jain, 2007; Gadghey *et al.*, 2011; El-shafie *et al.*, 2011a, b). Additional some studies were performed to examine the potential of combining ANNs with other computing algorithms (Lin and Chen, 2005; Wu and chau, 2006 and Xie *et al.*, 2006). Various applications of ANNs for hydrological forecasting (Lin and Chen, 2004; Ramirez *et al.*, 2005; Pulido-Calvo and Portela, 2007 and Partal and Cigizoglu, 2008) were studied in recent years. Gadgay *et al.*, (2011) developed artificial neural network (ANN) models to predict the rainfall for Bangalore city of India using Single neural network (SNN) and Ensemble neural network (ENN) models. The ANN models were trained and tested with the corresponding rainfall data which was collected in the last three years on hourly basis. Authors concluded the results predicted by the SNN and ENN models are compared with the actual data and error as well as percentage errors was computed. Nastos *et al.*, (2013) developed predictive models in order to forecast rain intensity (mm/day) in Athens, Greece using artificial neural network (ANN) models. The ANNs outcomes concern the projected mean, maximum and minimum monthly rain intensity for the next four consecutive months in Athens. The metrological data used to estimate the rain intensity were the monthly rain totals (mm). The results of the developed and applied ANN models showed fairly reliable forecast of rain intensity for the next four months. Pai *et al.*, (2014) forecasted southwest Indian monsoon rainfall making use of ANN with sea level pressure, sea surface temperature, humidity and zonally and meridional winds. Input parameters data of 36 years and 9 years were used for training and testing of the models respectively. The results of validation period of June, July, August and September showed very closeness with

observed values. Mishra *et al.*, (2018) analysed that with the help of time series data method, accurate rainfall can be predicted and it will help in effective evaluation of drought and floods. They used ANN technique for rainfall prediction using time series data for one-month and two-month ahead rainfall forecasting model using monthly time series rainfall data of North India for the period 1871 to 2012 (i.e. 141 years).

Keeping the above reviews in mind, this study was conducted with the following specific objectives: (i) To select the best combination of input parameter using Gamma Test (ii) To develop ANN model with multi-resolution analysis to predict daily rainfall for monsoon period (iii) To validate developed models for the study area and (iv) To assess the performance of developed models for the study area through qualitative comparisons and to identify the best suited model.

## Materials and Methods

### Study area

Parbhani district was known as “Prabhavati” in ancient times. It is located towards east of Maharashtra and it is one of the eight districts of Marathwada division. The latitude and longitudes of study area is 18.27° to 20.01° N and 76.13° to 77° E. The elevation of the area is 347m above mean sea level. The location of study area is shown in Figure 1. The climate of study area is classified as the tropical. In general the climate of the area is dry during the southwest monsoon season. The year can be divided into four seasons. The cold season from December to February and the hot season (March to May), the southwest monsoon season from June to September and the post-monsoon season from October to November. The annual average rainfall in the area is 888.5 mm. The daily meteorological data of 30 years (1985-2014) were collected

from the meteorological observatory of Vasant Rao Naik Marathwada Krishi Vidyapeeth, Parbhani, Maharashtra State, India.

### Pre-analysis and formulation of data

The data required for this study were collected of the period (1<sup>st</sup> June to 30<sup>th</sup> September) for thirty years from 1985 to 2014.

These data involved daily values of rainfall, temperature, relative humidity and wind velocity and were subjected to pre-analysis and formulation of data base. The 80% data (1985-2008) were used for model calibration and remaining 20% data (2008-2014) were used for validation.

### Artificial Neural Network (ANN)

A typical neuron of the ANN consists of input: to Propagates input signal to neuron, Synaptic weights: Interneuron connections that weights their respective input signals, Bias: Threshold that has an effect of either increasing or decreasing the net input and Output: to provides the output signal of the neuron. The basic structure of a neural network is shown in Figure 2.

In neural network, every neuron has a number of inputs and outputs. A neuron calculates an output by applying net and transfer function on inputs.

First, net function sum weighted inputs ( $u$ ) and then output is calculated based on transfer function. The net function is usually linear, as follows;

$$u = \sum_{i=1}^N x_i W_i + b \dots (1)$$

where  $x_i$ , is an input vector,  $W_i$  is the connection weight from the  $i^{\text{th}}$  neuron in the input layer and  $b$  is the threshold value or the bias of the neuron.

### Development of ANN models for rainfall prediction

In present study, the neural networks and wavelet transformed ANN models have been applied to predict the monsoon rainfall on daily basis for Parbhani area in Maharashtra, India. It has been reported by Hung *et al.*, (2008) that the combination of meteorological parameter (relative humidity, vapour pressure, temperature and rainfall) as an input for training of the model was found the most satisfactory for forecasting.

Therefore, in this study, observed daily time series of temperature, relative humidity, wind speed, vapour pressure and rainfall of the monsoon season during the years were considered for development of models. Because of rainfall process is dynamic in nature and it requires proper time lag for its modelling.

For this purpose current day rainfall is considered to be a function of current day temperature, relative humidity, wind velocity, vapour pressure and rainfall. Let the value of temperature, relative humidity, wind velocity, rainfall and vapour pressure represented as  $T_{ij}$ ,  $RH_{ij}$ ,  $V_{ij}$ ,  $P_{ij}$  and  $VP_{ij}$  respectively, then the functional form of rainfall modeling can be expressed as,

$P_{ij} = f(T_{ij}, T_{ij-1} \dots T_{ij-m}, RH_{ij}, RH_{ij-1} \dots RH_{ij-m}, V_{ij}, V_{ij-1} \dots V_{ij-m}, P_{ij-1} \dots P_{ij-m}, B_{ij}) \dots$  (2) in which,  $m$  denotes the lag time which is taken as two in this study. The formulated year wise meteorological data is shown in Table 1.

### Gamma test

Finding out and selecting the most important and effective variables of a nonlinear and unknown function the Gamma test (GT) was used in this study. A main advantage of this tool is its speed in large databases which

consisting thousands points for data sets, While a single run of the GT takes a few seconds. In a set of input-output data, The GT estimates the minimum mean square error (MSE) that achieve by a smooth model, this estimate is called GT statistic. Suppose we have a set of data observations,  $\{(x_i, y_i), 1 \leq i \leq M\}$  that the output  $y$  is determined by  $x$  input vectors, where  $x_i \in R_m$  are vectors confined to some closed bounded set  $C \in R_m$ ; and  $y_i \in R$  is associated output scalar. In this method, relationship between input-output can be written as:

$$y = f(x) + r \dots (3)$$

where,  $f$  and  $r$  are a smooth function and a random variable, respectively.  $r$  represents noise (part of output which cannot be calculated by any smooth model).

The GT is an estimate of the model output variance that cannot be calculated by a smooth data model. The GT is based on the  $k^{th}$  ( $1 \leq k \leq p$ ) nearest neighbours  $x_{N[i,k]}$  for each vector  $x_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq M$ ). Specifically, the GT is derived from the delta function of the input vectors:

$$\delta_M(k) = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M |x_i - x_{N[i,k]}|^2 \quad 1 \leq k \leq p \dots (4)$$

where,  $|\dots|$  denotes Euclidean distance, and Gamma function is given as following

$$\gamma_M(k) = \frac{1}{2M} \sum_{i=1}^M |y_i - y_{N[i,k]}|^2 \quad 1 \leq k \leq p \dots (5)$$

where,  $y_{N[i,k]}$  is the corresponding  $y$ -value for the  $k^{th}$  nearest neighbour of  $x_i$  in Eq. (5). The GT is computed based on a Least Squares regression line which is constructed for  $p$  points  $[\delta_M(k), \gamma_M(k)]$ :

$$\gamma = A\delta + GT \dots (6)$$

The intercept on the vertical axis ( $\delta = 0$ ) is the GT value, it can be shown that  $\gamma_M(k) \rightarrow \text{Var}(r)$  in probability is as  $\gamma_M(k) \rightarrow 0$ . The gradient of regression line provides the useful information on complexity of the system under study. The GT offers an estimate of the best MSE achievable using a modelling technique for unknown smooth functions of continuous variables. The GT is a mathematical algorithm, which reduces volume of model development work and creates guidance for proper needed input data and the most important variables before developing model.

### **Development of ANN model**

In this method, the observed time series of temperature, relative humidity, wind speed and vapour pressure data were used as an inputs as per the best combination given by the Gamma test, model 8 gave the lowest value of gamma hence it is used for modelling inputs for rainfall prediction. Consider the monsoon season starting from 1<sup>st</sup> June to September 30<sup>th</sup> only. In this case  $N = 122$  days (1<sup>st</sup> June to 30<sup>th</sup> September) in a year and  $M = 30$  years (1984-2014).

The functional form of the model can be represented as

$$P_{i,j} = f(T_{i,j-2}, T_{i,j-1}, RH_{i,j-2}, RH_{i,j-1}, V_{i,j-2}, V_{i,j-1}, P_{i,j-2}, P_{i,j-1}, VP_{i,j}) \dots (7)$$

This functional form can be represented diagrammatically in Figure 3.

## **Results and Discussion**

### **Gamma test**

The best-input combination for application to a model was identified using the Gamma Test (GT). The results of gamma test are shown in Table 3. The best combination of input variables was selected based on the least value

of Gamma statistic. Therefore, out of 10 models tested for input combinations, it is found that the model that gives the minimum value of gamma is model 8 and thus, it was selected for input-combination for further application in predictions of rainfall using various models.

### **Artificial neural network model**

The artificial neural network (ANN) models were trained using multilayer feed-forward neural network with varying number of neurons in single and double hidden layers using hyperbolic tangent activation function. The analysis of different structures of ANN models trained and tested for maximum epoch's value of 1000 and threshold's value as 0.001. The daily monsoon rainfall prediction model for a study area has been developed using the combination of the best input parameters given by Gamma test as discussed under Figure 4 i.e. current day vapour pressure and one day and two lag day rainfall, relative humidity, wind speed and temperature, respectively.

### **Development of rainfall prediction model**

Rainfall prediction models were developed for study area using Artificial Neural Networks (ANN) approach. The value of performance evaluation indices using selected ANN models for the estimation of daily monsoon rainfall is depicted in Table 4. A few of networks with single and double hidden layers having very low value of RMSE and the highest value of  $r$  and CE. The values of correlation coefficient ( $r$ ) for various ANN network architectures varying from 0.65 to 0.91. The values for RMSE ranges from 7.26 to 13.33 and CE values lie between 0.42 and 0.86. It is clear from Table that the performance of the models ANN (9-11-1) and (9-8-8-1) is better than other single and double hidden layers models, respectively.

**Table.1** Year wise hydrological data

<b>Year</b>	<b>Days</b>	<b>Temperature (T)</b>	<b>Relative humidity (RH)</b>	<b>Wind velocity (V)</b>	<b>Vapour pressure (VP)</b>	<b>Rainfall (P)</b>
<b>1</b>	1	T <sub>11</sub>	RH <sub>11</sub>	V <sub>11</sub>	VP <sub>11</sub>	P <sub>11</sub>
	2	T <sub>12</sub>	RH <sub>12</sub>	V <sub>12</sub>	VP <sub>12</sub>	P <sub>12</sub>
	3	T <sub>13</sub>	RH <sub>13</sub>	V <sub>13</sub>	VP <sub>13</sub>	P <sub>13</sub>
	...	...	...	...	....	...
	N	T <sub>1n</sub>	RH <sub>1n</sub>	V <sub>1n</sub>	VP <sub>1n</sub>	P <sub>1n</sub>
<b>2</b>	1	T <sub>21</sub>	RH <sub>21</sub>	V <sub>21</sub>	VP <sub>21</sub>	P <sub>21</sub>
	2	T <sub>22</sub>	RH <sub>22</sub>	V <sub>22</sub>	VP <sub>22</sub>	P <sub>22</sub>
	3	T <sub>23</sub>	RH <sub>23</sub>	V <sub>23</sub>	VP <sub>23</sub>	P <sub>23</sub>
	...	...	...	...	...	...
	N	T <sub>2n</sub>	RH <sub>2n</sub>	V <sub>2n</sub>	VP <sub>2n</sub>	P <sub>2n</sub>
<b>3</b>	1	T <sub>31</sub>	RH <sub>31</sub>	V <sub>31</sub>	VP <sub>31</sub>	P <sub>31</sub>
	2	T <sub>32</sub>	RH <sub>32</sub>	V <sub>32</sub>	VP <sub>32</sub>	P <sub>32</sub>
	3	T <sub>33</sub>	RH <sub>33</sub>	V <sub>33</sub>	VP <sub>33</sub>	P <sub>33</sub>
	...	...	...	...	...	...
	N	T <sub>3n</sub>	RH <sub>3n</sub>	V <sub>3n</sub>	VP <sub>3n</sub>	P <sub>3n</sub>
...	...	...	...	...	....	...
<b>I</b>	1	T <sub>i1</sub>	RH <sub>i1</sub>	V <sub>i1</sub>	VP <sub>i1</sub>	P <sub>i1</sub>
	2	T <sub>i2</sub>	RH <sub>i2</sub>	V <sub>i2</sub>	VP <sub>i2</sub>	P <sub>i2</sub>
	3	T <sub>i3</sub>	RH <sub>i3</sub>	V <sub>i3</sub>	VP <sub>i3</sub>	P <sub>i3</sub>
	...	...	...	...	...	...
	N	T <sub>in</sub>	RH <sub>in</sub>	V <sub>in</sub>	VP <sub>in</sub>	P <sub>in</sub>
...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<b>M</b>	1	T <sub>M1</sub>	RH <sub>M1</sub>	V <sub>M1</sub>	VP <sub>M1</sub>	P <sub>M1</sub>
	2	T <sub>M2</sub>	RH <sub>M2</sub>	V <sub>M2</sub>	VP <sub>M2</sub>	P <sub>M2</sub>
	3	T <sub>M3</sub>	RH <sub>M3</sub>	V <sub>M3</sub>	VP <sub>M3</sub>	P <sub>M3</sub>
	...	...	...	...	...	...
	N	T <sub>Mn</sub>	RH <sub>Mn</sub>	V <sub>Mn</sub>	VP <sub>Mn</sub>	P <sub>Mn</sub>

**Table.2** Selection of the best-input parameters based on the Gamma test

Model. No.	Input	Mask	Results of Gamma test			
			Gamma	Gradient	S. Error	V <sub>ratio</sub>
1	T <sub>ij</sub> , T <sub>ij-1</sub> , T <sub>ij-2</sub> , RH <sub>ij</sub> RH <sub>ij-1</sub> RH <sub>ij-2</sub> V <sub>ij</sub> , V <sub>ij-1</sub> , V <sub>i,j-1</sub> , P <sub>ij-1</sub> , P <sub>ij-2</sub> , VP <sub>ij</sub>	111111111111	0.1520	0.0548	0.0548	0.6083
2	T <sub>ij-1</sub> , T <sub>ij-2</sub> , RH <sub>ij</sub> RH <sub>ij-1</sub> RH <sub>ij-2</sub> V <sub>ij</sub> , V <sub>ij-1</sub> , V <sub>i,j-1</sub> , P <sub>ij-1</sub> , P <sub>ij-2</sub> , VP <sub>ij</sub>	011111111111	0.1656	0.0392	0.0108	0.6624
3	T <sub>ij</sub> , T <sub>ij-1</sub> , T <sub>ij-2</sub> , RH <sub>ij-1</sub> RH <sub>ij-2</sub> V <sub>ij</sub> , V <sub>ij-1</sub> , V <sub>i,j-1</sub> , P <sub>ij-1</sub> , P <sub>ij-2</sub> , VP <sub>ij</sub>	111011111111	0.1431	0.0758	0.0146	0.5724
4	T <sub>ij</sub> , T <sub>ij-1</sub> , T <sub>ij-2</sub> , RH <sub>ij</sub> RH <sub>ij-1</sub> RH <sub>ij-2</sub> V <sub>ij</sub> , V <sub>i,j-1</sub> , P <sub>ij-1</sub> , P <sub>ij-2</sub> , VP <sub>ij</sub>	111111011111	0.1504	0.0666	0.0089	0.6016
5	T <sub>ij-1</sub> , T <sub>ij-2</sub> , RH <sub>ij-1</sub> RH <sub>ij-2</sub> V <sub>ij</sub> , V <sub>ij-1</sub> , V <sub>i,j-1</sub> , P <sub>ij-1</sub> , P <sub>ij-2</sub> , VP <sub>ij</sub>	011011111111	0.1529	0.0715	0.0152	0.6116
6	T <sub>ij-1</sub> , T <sub>ij-2</sub> , RH <sub>ij</sub> RH <sub>ij-1</sub> RH <sub>ij-2</sub> V <sub>ij</sub> , V <sub>i,j-1</sub> , P <sub>ij-1</sub> , P <sub>ij-2</sub> , VP <sub>ij</sub>	011111011111	0.1548	0.0756	0.0133	0.6194
7	T <sub>ij</sub> , T <sub>ij-1</sub> , T <sub>ij-2</sub> , RH <sub>ij-1</sub> RH <sub>ij-2</sub> , V <sub>ij-1</sub> , V <sub>i,j-1</sub> , P <sub>ij-1</sub> , P <sub>ij-2</sub> , VP <sub>ij</sub>	111011011111	0.1519	0.0647	0.0083	0.6077
8	T <sub>ij-1</sub> , T <sub>ij-2</sub> , RH <sub>ij-1</sub> RH <sub>ij-2</sub> , V <sub>ij-1</sub> , V <sub>i,j-1</sub> , P <sub>ij-1</sub> , P <sub>ij-2</sub> , VP <sub>ij</sub>	<b>011011011111</b>	<b>0.1399</b>	<b>0.1260</b>	<b>0.0090</b>	<b>0.5598</b>
9	T <sub>ij-2</sub> , RH <sub>ij-1</sub> RH <sub>ij-2</sub> V <sub>ij</sub> , V <sub>ij-1</sub> , V <sub>i,j-1</sub> , P <sub>ij-1</sub> , P <sub>ij-2</sub> , VP <sub>ij</sub>	001011111111	0.1597	0.0886	0.0170	0.6390
10	T <sub>ij-2</sub> , RH <sub>ij</sub> RH <sub>ij-1</sub> RH <sub>ij-2</sub> , V <sub>ij-1</sub> , V <sub>i,j-1</sub> , P <sub>ij-1</sub> , P <sub>ij-2</sub> , VP <sub>ij</sub>	001111011111	0.1784	0.0273	0.0118	0.7139

**Table.3** Comparison of various ANN models to select the best model during training

Model No.	Network	RMSE (mm)	r	CE
1	9-1-1	13.33	0.65	0.42
2	9-4-1	12.51	0.70	0.49
3	9-5-1	11.73	0.75	0.55
4	9-7-1	11.27	0.77	0.59
5	9-8-1	10.51	0.80	0.64
6	9-10-1	9.80	0.83	0.68
7	9-12-1	9.10	0.85	0.73
8	9-13-1	13.10	0.68	0.45
9	9-14-1	10.30	0.81	0.70
<b>10</b>	<b>9-11-1</b>	<b>8.24</b>	<b>0.88</b>	<b>0.77</b>
11	9-4-4-1	9.27	0.84	0.72
12	9-5-5-1	8.94	0.83	0.74
13	9-7-7-1	8.59	0.85	0.76
<b>14</b>	<b>9-8-8-1</b>	<b>7.26</b>	<b>0.91</b>	<b>0.86</b>
15	9-10-10-1	7.84	0.89	0.80
16	9-12-12-1	8.03	0.88	0.79
17	9-14-14-1	9.76	0.79	0.69
18	9-13-13-1	8.40	0.86	0.77

Fig.1 Location map of study area

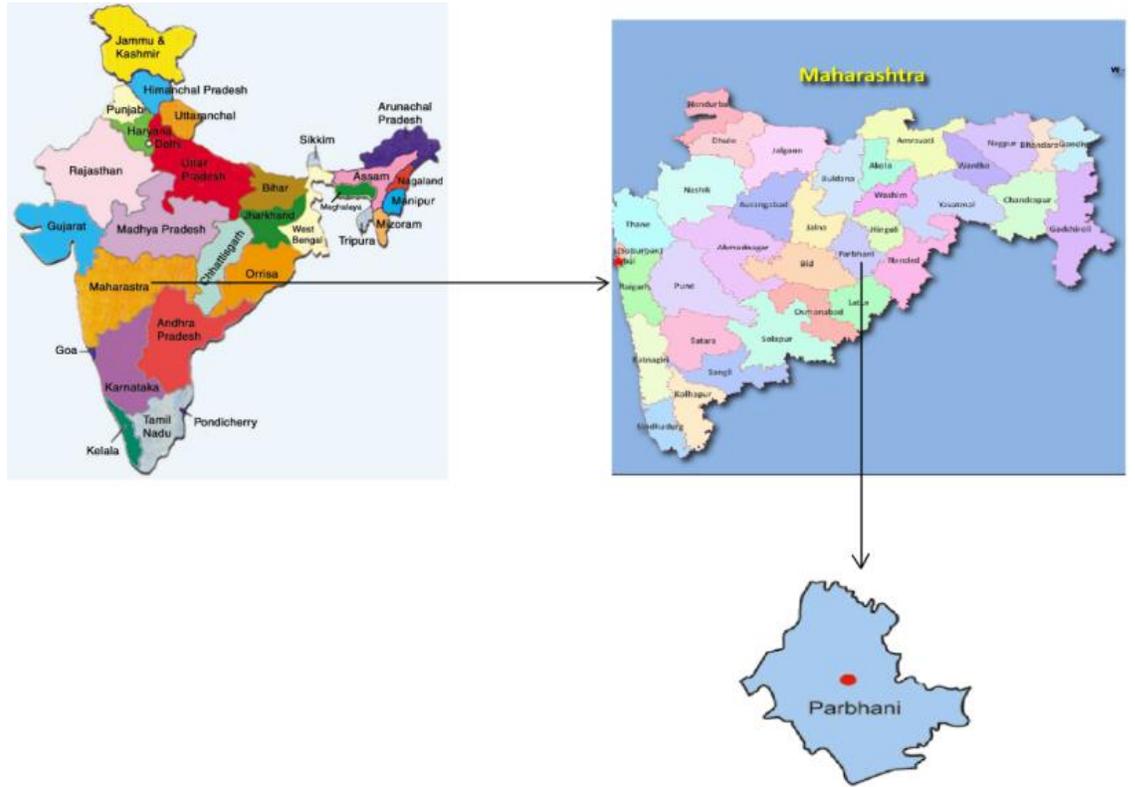
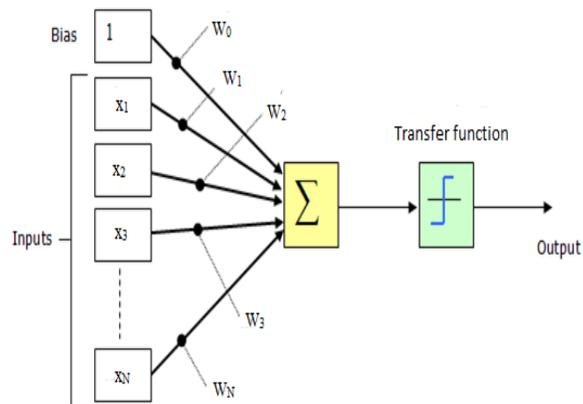
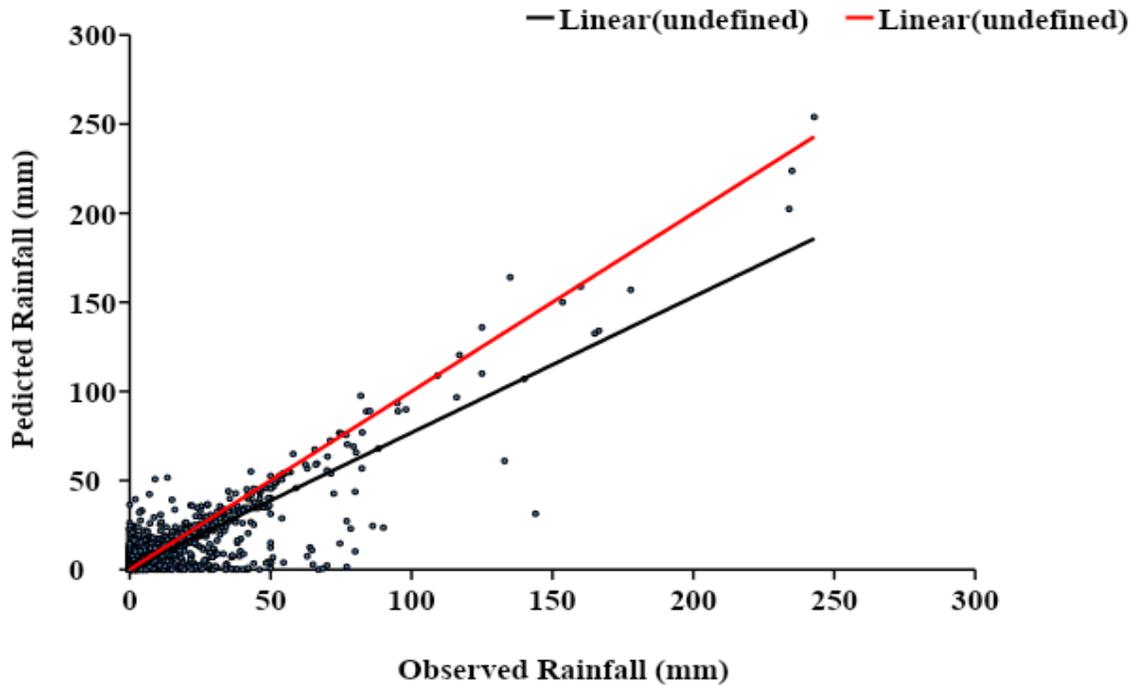


Fig.2 Basic structure of neural network



**Fig.3** Comparison of observed and predicted rainfall and their corresponding scatter plot for ANN (9-11-1) model during training period

Inputs Observed values of  $[T_{ij-1}, T_{ij-2}, RH_{ij-1}, RH_{ij-2}, P_{ij-2}, P_{ij-1}, V_{ij-1}, V_{ij-2}, VP_{ij}]$



**Fig.4** Comparison of observed and predicted rainfall and their corresponding scatter plot for ANN (9-8-8-1) model during training period

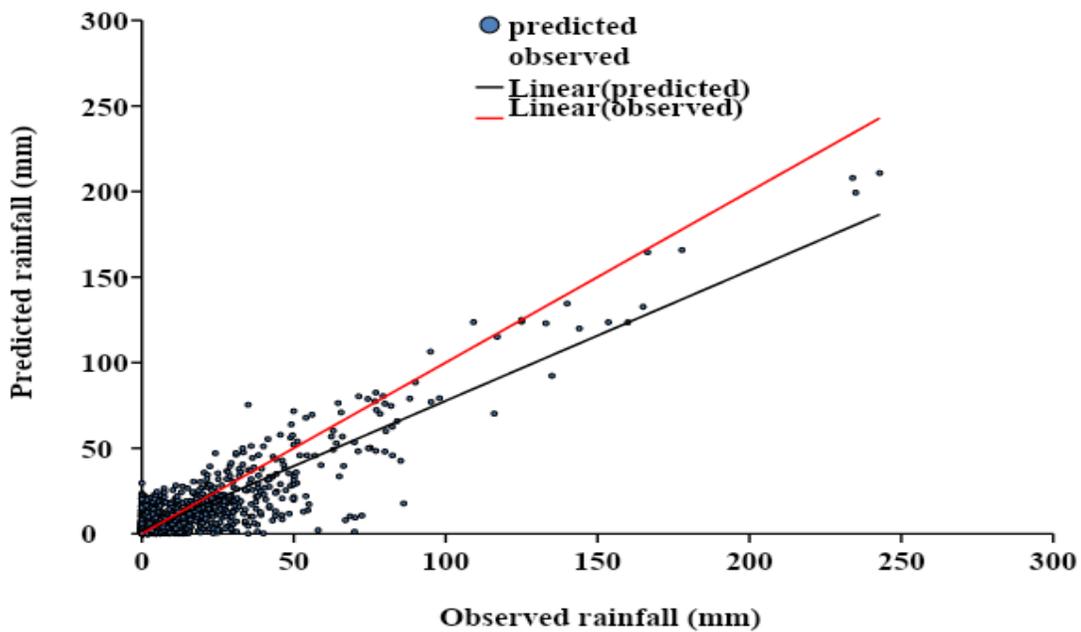
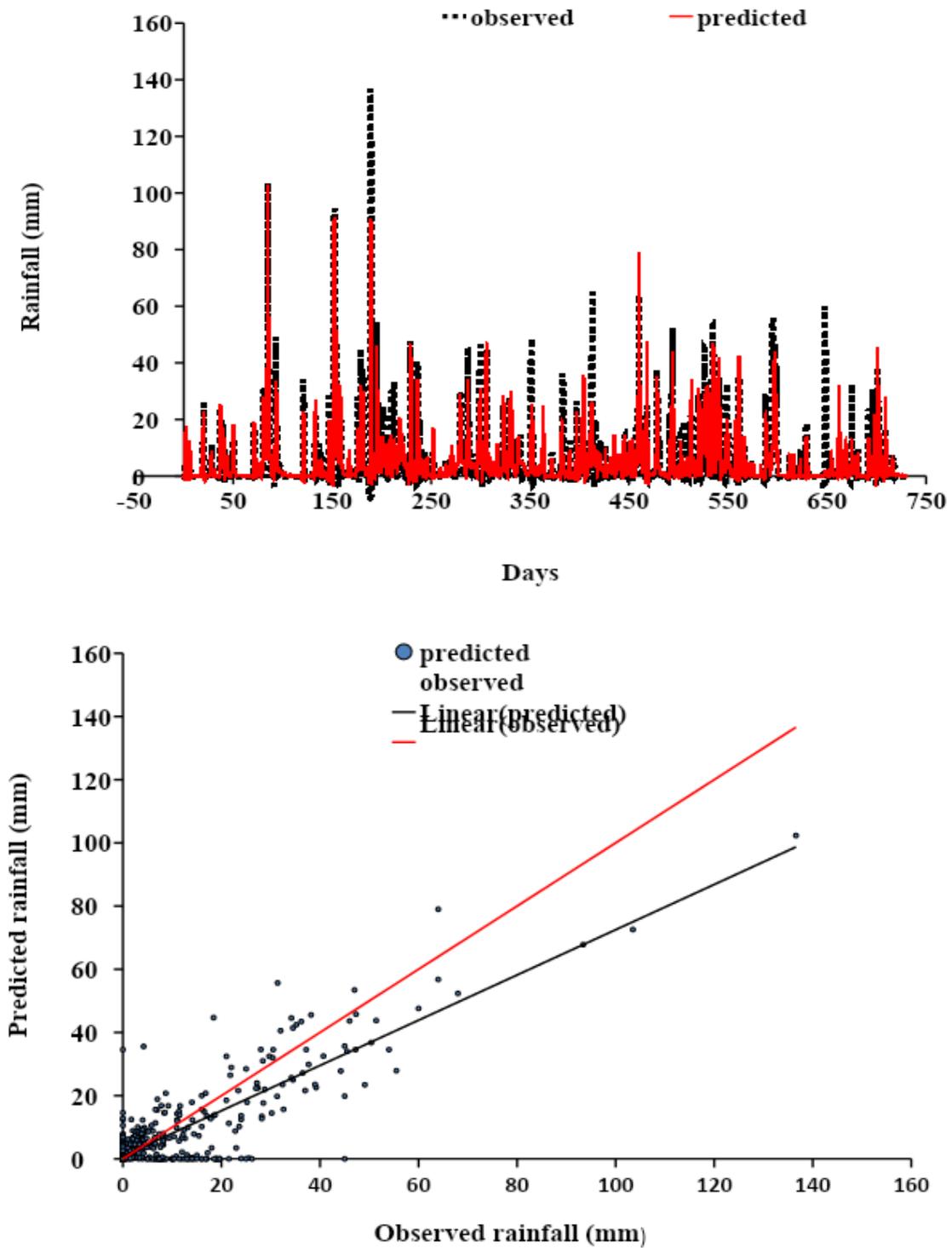
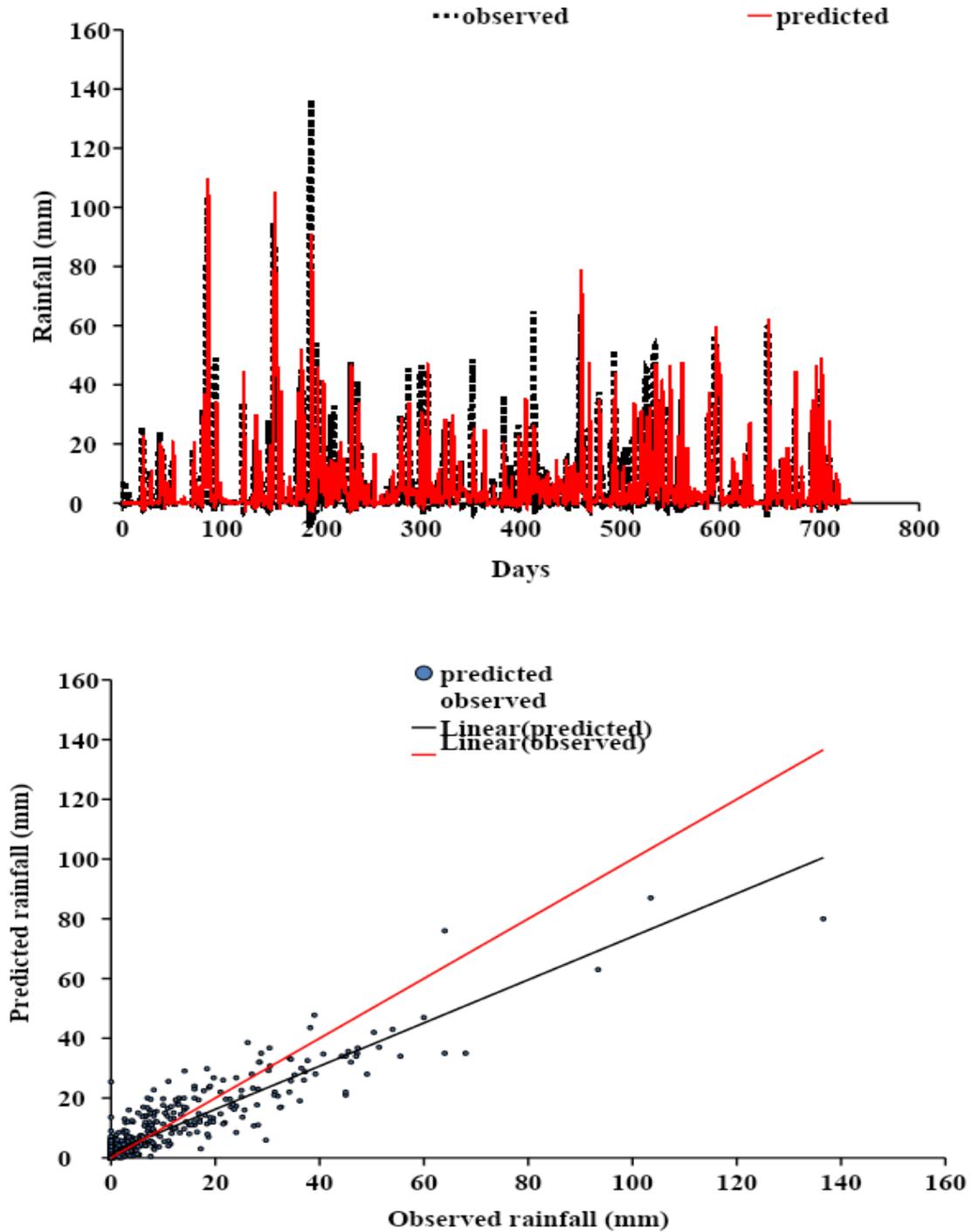


Fig.5 Comparison of observed and predicted rainfall and their corresponding scatter plot for ANN (9-11-1) model during testing period



**Fig.6** Comparison of observed and predicted rainfall and their corresponding scatter plot for ANN (9-8-8-1) model during testing period



In the model (9-11-1), 9 shows input nodes in the input layer, 11 indicates the 11 number of neurons in the hidden layer and 1 shows the output node in the output layer and in model (9-8-8-1), 9 shows input nodes in the input layer, 8 indicates 8 number of neurons in first hidden layer and second hidden layer, respectively and 1 shows the output node in output layer.

### **Performance evaluation of developed models**

The qualitative evaluation of the model is based on the visual comparison i.e. overall shape of the observed and predicted plotted graphs. The observed and predicted values of rainfall during training years (1985-2008) using ANN models with two selected networks are presented in Figs. 4 and 5. The observed and predicted values of rainfall for testing years (2009-2014) of ANNs are shown in Figs. 6 and 7.

It is observed that there is a close or nearly close agreement between the predicted and observed rainfall, and overall shape of the plot of predicted rainfall is similar to that of the observed rainfall. It is observed that the regression line is exactly below the best fit line (1:1 line), which indicates that all the models under predict the rainfall values for the Parbhani Maharashtra. It is clear from these figures that the developed models give satisfactory results for rainfall prediction and it may be regarded as fairly satisfactory on the basis of qualitative evaluation during testing period. Therefore, qualitative performance during training and testing has been found satisfactory.

The rainfall forecasting is very essential for planning and management of water resources. Rainfall is one of the most complex and difficult elements of the hydrologic cycle to understand and to model due to the

complexity of the atmospheric processes. In this study ANN has been used to rainfall forecasting. ANNs can identify and learn correlated patterns between input data sets and corresponding target values. In the methodologies available to predict the rainfall, the two factors which need to be estimated with utmost accuracy are the quantum of rainfall and time. The performance of developed models was evaluated using qualitatively. Different structures of ANN model were trained and tested for maximum iterations of 1000 for single and double hidden layers network for forecasting the rainfall. Trial and error method was used for the selection of the network among various structures of the ANN model because there is no specific rule available to determine the best structure of the network.

The following conclusions are drawn from the results of this study:

The qualitative performances, based on observed and predicted values during training as well as testing periods of developed models regarded as satisfactory.

Based on the statistical and hydrological indices, performance of ANN model (9-8-8-1) is better than the model (9-11-1) for forecasting monsoon rainfall.

It is concluded that after resolving the rainfall data using wavelet transform with three and four level of resolution and then put into the neural network exhibits better result than without resolved data.

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