## An Improved BP Algorithm Based on A Variant Sigmoid Function with Three Parameters

Hu Yaogai <sup>1,2</sup>, Yan Xin <sup>3</sup>, Zhang Xiaoxing <sup>4</sup>, Jiming Hu <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>College of Electronic Information, Wuhan University, Wuhan, 430079, P. R. China.

<sup>2</sup>College of Chemistry and Molecular Sciences, Wuhan University, Wuhan, 430072, P. R. China.

<sup>3</sup>Department of Computer Science, Wuhan University of Technology, Wuhan, 430063, P.R. China

<sup>4</sup>Key Laboratory of High Voltage and Electrical New Technology of Ministry of Education,

Chongqing University, Chongqing 400044, P.R. China

Email: farawayhu@sina.com Tel: +86 (27) 62040699

## ABSTRACT

This paper presents a novel approach in the design of neural networks with sigmoid transfer function trained by the back-propagation algorithm. First, the artificial neural networks and back-propagation algorithm are introduced briefly. Second, a variant sigmoid function with three parameters is proposed, and then the improved BP algorithm based on it is educed and discussed. Finally, a compared testing with the activity prediction of herbicide is given.

**Keywords:** Artificial neural networks, Back-propagation (BP), sigmoid transfer functions