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### Case study of the metamodels of a shell-and-tube heat exchanger

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**Abstract.** This paper is aimed at a case study in which a shell-and-tube heat exchanger (STHE) metamodel is developed from its analytical functions. The techniques for generating the STHE metamodel were Multivariate Adaptive Regression Splines (MARS) and the Multilayer Perceptrons (MLP) neural network, being implemented in the toolbox MATLAB ARESLab and nstart, respectively. The results obtained by the two techniques had suitable Mean Square Error (MSE), thus, it is concluded that these techniques can be used for the development of the STHE metamodel, and should continue to be explored in other engineering problems.

**Keywords:** Metamodel, Shell-and-tube heat exchanger, Multivariate Adaptive Regression Spline, Neural network

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Heat exchangers are used to conserving and utilizing thermal energy. Heat exchanger equipment is tailor-made for process industry applications according to specified characteristics, such as the inlet and outlet temperatures of fluids, flow rates, and heat duty. Examples of such equipment include shell-and-tube heat exchangers (STHEs) and plate heat exchangers. Usually, the mathematical model of a heat exchanger may be analytical with empirical or semi-empirical relationships, or numerical.

It is known that one of the problems in engineering is the approximation of functions, given only their values for a dependent set of points in the variable space. According to Friedman (1991), research in this area occurs in applied mathematics, statistics, and computer science, in the respective fields of multivariate approximation function, multiple nonparametric regression, and neural networks. Still according to Friedman (1991) the objective is to model the response of a value  $\mathbf{y}$  for variables  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ , for data  $\{y_n^i, x_{1i}, \dots, x_{ni}\}_1^N$ , where  $N$  is the number of samples. So the data generate the following system:

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{f}(x_1, \dots, x_n) + \epsilon \quad (1)$$

where  $\epsilon$  is a stochastic value or also called a value attributed to the error generated in the model.

Data is used to build functions  $\hat{\mathbf{f}}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  that serve as a reasonable approximation of  $\mathbf{f}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ . The symbol  $\hat{\mathbf{f}}$  represents a metamodel. According to Pina (2010) metamodels are used to: assist in the calculating sensitivity of simulation models, replacing simulations that require a lot of computational resources, improve the performance of iterative optimization algorithms keeping the computational cost fixed. Some of the main metamodeling techniques are Response Surface, Taguchi models, Kriging, Multivariate Adaptive Regression Spline (MARS), and Artificial Neural Networks.

Zhang and Goh (2016) used Multivariate Adaptive Regression Spline (MARS) and Artificial Neural Networks for assessing pile drivability in relation to the prediction of the Maximum compressive stresses (MCS), Maximum tensile stresses (MTS), and Blow per foot (BPF).

Crino and Brown (2007) presented a procedure for approximating the global optimum in structural design by combining multivariate adaptive regression splines (MARS) with a response surface methodology (RSM). The MARS function approximation results was compared to Neural Networks.

Krzywanski (2019) developed a neural network and validated against the desired data on a large falling film evaporator. The authors considered this approach to be a complementary technique to the heat exchanger design procedures. Becoming an alternative to existing approaches such as analytical and numerical methods.

Friedman (1991) used the MARS technique to perform function simulations. Yang and Tseng (1996) applied the

single-layer orthogonal neural network developed to approximate functions. Frisso *et al.* (2011) also performed the meta-modeling of deterministic functions, however, using the Response Surface technique.

Thus, motivated by the works listed in the paragraphs above, the main contribution of this work is to apply Multivariate Adaptive Regression Splines (MARS) (Friedman, 1991) and the Multilayer Perceptrons (MLP) neural network (Haykin, 2007) to generate metamodells of the shell-and-tube-heat exchangers (STHE) from its analytical model. The goal is to generate a supplementary approach to the problem of design and optimization of this equipment.

## 2. ANALYTICAL MODEL STHE

This section presents the analytical model used to calculate the heat exchange area  $A$  and pumping power  $P_{s,t}$  of an STHE with the geometry shown in Fig. 1 (Saldanha *et al.*, 2020):

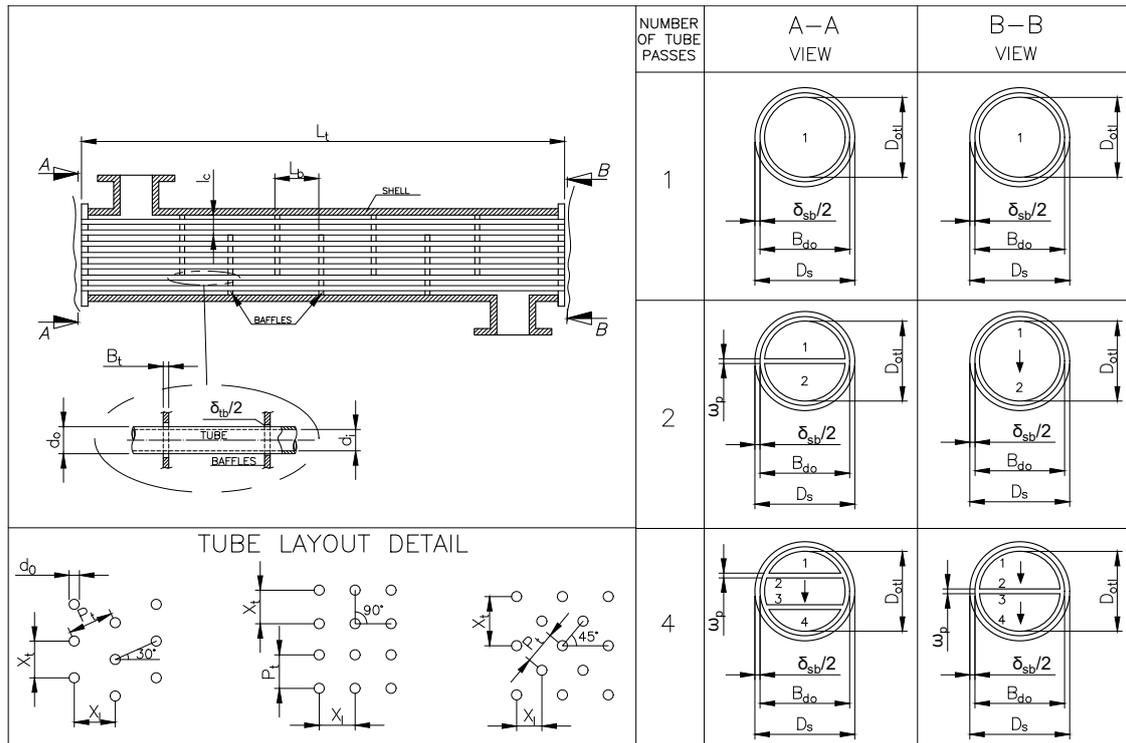


Figure 1: Shell-and-tube heat exchanger

The equations for the geometric characteristics of the STHE (Shah and Sekulic, 2003; Kakac and Liu, 2012) are:

$$P_t = 1.25 \times d_o, \quad (2)$$

where  $P_t$  is the tube pitch.

For tube layout (*ap*) triangular  $30^\circ$ ,

$$X_t = P_t, \quad (3)$$

$$X_l = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \times P_t. \quad (4)$$

For tube layout (*ap*) square  $45^\circ$ ,

$$X_t = \sqrt{2} \times P_t, \quad (5)$$

$$X_l = \frac{P_t}{\sqrt{2}}. \quad (6)$$

For tube layout (*ap*) square  $90^\circ$ ,

$$X_t = P_t, \quad (7)$$

$$X_l = P_t, \quad (8)$$

where  $X_t$  is the transverse pitch of the tube and  $X_l$  is the longitudinal pitch of the tube.

The inner diameter of each tube is:

$$d_i = d_o - 2 \times esp, \quad (9)$$

where *esp* is the thickness of each tube. Tab. 1 shows the tube thickness values in relation to the outer diameter of the tubes used in this study. The minimum thickness of the tubes is calculated as a function of pressure, and in this case, the lowest allowed thickness value according to (TEMA, 2007) is applied.

Table 1: Outer diameter and thickness of the STHE tubes

Symbol	Values	Symbol	Values
$d_o$	0.015875 m	<i>esp</i>	$1.2446 \times 10^{-3}$ m
	0.019050 m		$1.6510 \times 10^{-3}$ m
	0.025400 m		$2.1082 \times 10^{-3}$ m
	0.031750 m		$2.1082 \times 10^{-3}$ m
	0.038100 m		$2.1082 \times 10^{-3}$ m
	0.050800 m		$2.1082 \times 10^{-3}$ m

The number of dividing lanes  $N_p$  in this work is 0, 1, and 2, for the number of tubes passes  $n_p$  equal to 1, 2, and 4, respectively, as done in (Fettaka *et al.*, 2013; Saldanha *et al.*, 2017).

The number of STHE tubes is:

$$N_t = \frac{A_D}{\pi \times d_o \times L_t}, \quad (10)$$

where  $L_t$  is the tube length, and  $A_D$  is the design heat exchanger area. It is considered a percentage for  $A_D$  above the required heat exchange area  $A$ , which is known as *overdesign* (Mukherjee, 2008).

The outer diameter of tube bundle (Towler and Sinnott, 2008; Thakore and Bhatt, 2007) is:

$$D_{otl} = d_o \times \left( \frac{N_t}{K_1} \right)^{\frac{1}{n_1}}, \quad (11)$$

and the parameters  $K_1$  and  $n_1$  are obtained in (Towler and Sinnott, 2008), considering  $P_t = 1.25 \times d_o$ .

The outer diameter of the baffle is:

$$B_{do} = \frac{D_{otl}}{0.95}. \quad (12)$$

The diameter of the shell (Fettaka *et al.*, 2013) is:

$$D_s = B_{do} + \delta_{sb}. \quad (13)$$

where  $\delta_{sb}$  is clearance between the shell and the baffle. The Tab. 2 shows the values of  $\delta_{sb}$  in relation to the outer diameter of the baffle  $B_{do}$ .

The specified diameter of the circle through the centres of the outermost tubes  $D_{ctl}$  (Shah and Sekulic, 2003) is:

$$D_{ctl} = D_{otl} - d_o. \quad (14)$$

Table 2: Values of the clearances between the baffles and the shell

$B_{do}$ (m)	$\delta_{sb}$ (mm)
$0 \leq B_{do} < 0.4522$	3.2
$0.4522 \leq B_{do} < 1.0096$	4.8
$1.0096 \leq B_{do} < 1.3891$	6.4
$1.3891 \leq B_{do} < 1.7685$	7.9
$1.7685 \leq B_{do} < 2.1479$	9.5
$B_{do} \geq 2.1479$	11.1

The assumed thickness for the pass partition plate  $w_p$  is shown in Tab. 3.

Table 3: Pass partition plate thickness

$D_s$ (m)	$w_p$ (mm)
$0 \leq D_s < 0.61$	9.5
$0.61 \leq D_s < 1.549$	12.7
$D_s \geq 1.549$	15.9

The cut size of the baffles is:

$$l_c = D_s \times bc. \quad (15)$$

where  $bc$  is the baffle cut. In this study, the baffle cut was equal to 25%.

According to TEMA (2007), the tube-to-baffle diametrical clearance  $\delta_{tb}$  was 0.3 mm.

The required heat exchange area  $A$  (Shah and Sekulic, 2003) for STHE is:

$$A = \frac{Q}{U \times \Delta T_{lm} \times F}. \quad (16)$$

The heat duty  $Q$  is:

$$Q = \dot{m}_h \times c_{p,h} \times (T_{h,i} - T_{h,o}) = \dot{m}_c \times c_{p,c} \times (T_{c,o} - T_{c,i}), \quad (17)$$

where  $c_{p,h}$  is the specific heat at constant pressure of the fluid that flows on the hot side;  $c_{p,c}$  is the specific heat at constant pressure of the fluid that flows on the cold side,  $T_{h,i}$  is the inlet temperature of the hot side's fluid;  $T_{h,o}$  is the outlet temperature of the hot side's fluid;  $T_{c,i}$  is the inlet temperature of the cold side's fluid;  $T_{c,o}$  is the outlet temperature of the cold side's fluid; and  $\dot{m}_h$  is the mass flow rate of the hot side. For the case study, the mass flow rate and specific heat of the hot side will be the same as of those of the shell ( $\dot{m}_h = \dot{m}_s$ ,  $c_{p,h} = c_{p,s}$ ). As  $\dot{m}_c$  is the mass flow on the cold side, the cooling flow occurs in the tubes ( $\dot{m}_c = \dot{m}_t$ ,  $c_{p,c} = c_{p,t}$ ).

Thus, the mass flow rate of the fluid that circulates in the tubes can be calculated similarly to the way discussed in (Kakac and Liu, 2012; Thakore and Bhatt, 2007; Serth and Lestina, 2014):

$$\dot{m}_t = \frac{Q}{c_{p,t} \times (T_{c,o} - T_{c,i})}. \quad (18)$$

The logarithmic mean temperature difference  $\Delta T_{lm}$  is:

$$\Delta T_{lm} = \frac{(T_{h,i} - T_{c,o}) - (T_{h,o} - T_{c,i})}{\ln \left( \frac{T_{h,i} - T_{c,o}}{T_{h,o} - T_{c,i}} \right)}. \quad (19)$$

The factor correction  $F$  is:

$$F = \frac{\sqrt{(R^2 + 1)} \times \ln \left( \frac{1 - SS}{1 - R \times SS} \right)}{(R - 1) \times \ln \left[ \frac{2 - SS \times (R + 1 - \sqrt{(R^2 + 1)})}{2 - SS \times (R + 1 + \sqrt{(R^2 + 1)})} \right]}. \quad (20)$$

The parameter equation correction factors  $R$  and  $SS$  are:

$$R = \frac{T_{h,i} - T_{h,o}}{T_{c,o} - T_{c,i}}, \quad (21)$$

$$SS = \frac{T_{c,o} - T_{c,i}}{T_{h,i} - T_{c,i}}. \quad (22)$$

If the number of tube passes is equal to 1, the correction Factor  $F$  is also 1.  
The overall coefficient of heat transfer  $U$  is:

$$U = \frac{1}{\left( \frac{1}{h_o} + R_s + \frac{d_o \times \ln\left(\frac{d_o}{d_i}\right)}{2 \times K_w} + \left(R_t \times \frac{d_o}{d_i}\right) + \frac{d_o}{h_i \times d_i} \right)}, \quad (23)$$

where  $h_o$  is the heat transfer coefficient of the fluid that flows in the shell,  $h_i$  is the heat transfer coefficient of the fluid that flows in the tubes,  $R_s$  is the fouling factor of the shell,  $R_t$  is the fouling factor of the tube, and  $K_w$  is the thermal conductivity of the tube wall.

As presented in (Shah and Sekulic, 2003; Kakac and Liu, 2012) the shell heat transfer coefficient  $h_o$  obtained by the Bell Delaware method is:

$$h_o = h_{id} \times J_c \times J_l \times J_b \times J_s \times J_r, \quad (24)$$

where  $h_{id}$  is the ideal heat transfer coefficient of the fluid that flows on the shell side;  $J_c$  is the correction factor for the baffle cut and spacing,  $J_l$  is the correction factor for tube-to-baffle and baffle-to-shell leakage,  $J_b$  is correction factor for bundle and pass partition bypass stream,  $J_s$  is the correction factor for large baffle spacing at the inlet and outlet sections compared to the central baffle spacing and  $J_r$  is the correction factor for adverse temperature gradient build-up in laminar flows.

The heat transfer coefficient inside the tubes according to Shah and Sekulic (2003) is:

$$h_i = \frac{Nu_t \times k_t}{d_i}, \quad (25)$$

where  $k_t$  is the thermal conductivity of the fluid that flows into tubes, and  $Nu_t$  is the Nusselt number for the flow inside the tubes. The Petukhov – Popov correlation was applied to turbulent flow, and the Taborek correlation was applied to transition flow; they are presented in (Shah and Sekulic, 2003).

According to Shah and Sekulic (2003), for laminar flow ( $Re_t \leq 2100$ ), the Nusselt number for the flow inside the tubes is:

$$Nu_t = 4.364. \quad (26)$$

The nomenclature  $Nu_{t,laminar}$  is adopted when this correlation is employed in Eq. 28.

According to Shah and Sekulic (2003), if  $4000 \leq Re_t \leq 5 \times 10^6$  and  $0.5 \leq Pr_t \leq 10^6$  Petukhov-Popov correlation is:

$$Nu_t = \frac{\frac{f_t}{2} \times Re_t \times Pr_t}{1.07 + \frac{900}{Re_t} - \frac{0.63}{1+10 \times Pr_t} + 12.7 \times \left(\frac{f_t}{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \times \left(Pr_t^{\frac{2}{3}} - 1\right)}. \quad (27)$$

The nomenclature  $Nu_{t,turbulento}$  is adopted when this correlation is employed in Eq 28.

According to Shah and Sekulic (2003), if  $2000 < Re_t < 8000$ :

$$Nu_t = Nu_{t,laminar} \times \left(1.33 - \frac{Re_t}{6000}\right) + \left[1 - \left(1.33 - \frac{Re_t}{6000}\right)\right] \times Nu_{t,turbulento}. \quad (28)$$

In this study, Eq. 28 is used to implement the calculation of the transition regime when  $2100 < Re_t \leq 4000$ .

The Fanning friction factor (Kakac and Liu, 2012; Shah and Sekulic, 2003), which is valid for  $Re_t \leq 2100$ , is:

$$f_t = \frac{16}{Re_t} . \quad (29)$$

The friction factor for the flow inside the tubes according to the correlation of Bhatti and Shah (Shah and Sekulic, 2003) is:

$$f_t = AA + BB \times Re_t^{-1/m} , \quad (30)$$

for  $2100 \leq Re_t \leq 4000$  the parameter values are listed as follows:  $AA$  equals 0.0054,  $BB$  equals  $2.3 \times 10^{-8}$ , and  $m$  equals  $-2/3$ . For  $4000 \leq Re_t \leq 10^7$ ;  $AA$  equals 0.00128,  $BB$  equals 0.1143 and  $m$  equals 3.2154.

The pumping power  $P_{s,t}$  is:

$$P_{s,t} = \frac{\Delta P_t \times \dot{m}_t}{\rho_t \times \eta} + \frac{\Delta P_s \times \dot{m}_s}{\rho_s \times \eta} , \quad (31)$$

where  $\Delta P_t$  is the pressure drop to the tube side,  $\Delta P_s$  is the shell pressure drop,  $\rho_s$  is the shell fluid density and  $\eta$  is the pumping efficiency, which is 0.85 in this study. The pressure drop  $\Delta P_s$  by the Bell Delaware method (Shah and Sekulic, 2003) is:

$$\Delta P_s = [(N_b - 1) \times \Delta P_{bid} \times \zeta_b + N_b \times \Delta P_{wid}] \times \zeta_l + 2 \times \Delta P_{bid} \times \left(1 + \frac{N_{rcw}}{N_{rcc}}\right) \times \zeta_b \times \zeta_s , \quad (32)$$

where  $\Delta P_{bid}$  is the pressure drop for liquid flow in an ideal cross-flow between two baffles;  $\Delta P_{wid}$  is the pressure drop associated with an ideal one-window section;  $\zeta_b$  is the correction factor for bypass flow;  $\zeta_l$  is the correction factor for tube-to-baffle and baffle-to-shell leakage streams;  $\zeta_s$  is the correction factor for inlet and outlet sections that have different baffle spacings than the central section;  $N_{rcw}$  is the number of effective tube rows in cross-flow in each window;  $N_{rcc}$  is the number of tube rows crossed during the flow through one cross-flow section between baffle tips,  $N_b$  is the number of baffles.

The pressure drop to the tube side, as shown in (Fettaka *et al.*, 2013), is:

$$\Delta P_t = n_p \times \left( \frac{4f_t \times L_t}{d_i} + FQPT \right) \times \frac{\rho_t \times v_t^2}{2} , \quad (33)$$

where  $FQPT$  is the pressure drop factor in the tubes. As explained in Towler and Sinnott (2008), this factor is a factor for the tube pressure drop due to tube inlet contraction, tube outlet expansion and reverse flow. The assumed value for  $FQPT$  is 2.5.

## 2.1 Parameters used in the thermal and hydrodynamic calculation of STHE

The parameters used in the thermal and hydrodynamic calculation of STHE with single-phase flow in the shell and tubes used specifically in this case study are presented in the Tab. 4.

Table 4: Parameters used in the STHE analytical model

	Tube	Shell
<b>Fluid</b>	<b>Seawater</b>	<b>Oil</b>
Flow rate (kg/s)	Eq. 18	36.3
Inlet temperature (°C)	32.2	65.6
Outlet temperature (°C)	37.42	60.4
Density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	993.816	849.000
Specific heat at constant pressure (J/ kg K)	4178.204	2094.000
Viscosity (Pa s)	0.00072764	0.06460000
Thermal conductivity (W/m K)	0.62494	0.14000
Fouling resistance (m <sup>2</sup> K/W)	0.000175	0.000150
Wall thermal conductivity		111
Number of sealing strip pairs		2

### 3. MULTIVARIATE ADAPTIVE REGRESSION SPLINES (MARS)

Multivariate adaptive regression splines (MARS) is a nonparametric regression technique, which was proposed by Friedman (1991). MARS study the nonlinear relationship between a response variable and the set of predictor variables using splines and fits a model in the form of an expansion in product spline basis functions of predictors chosen during a forward and backward recursive partitioning strategy. MARS uses piecewise linear or cubic splines for local fit.

According to Friedman (1991) the model produced by the MARS technique, with cubic splines, involves a sum of products of function of the form:

$$b(x|s, t) = [s(x - t)]_+ \quad (34)$$

In continuous derivatives produced, each function is replaced by a corresponding truncated cubic function:

$$C(x|s = +1, t_-, t, t_+) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \leq t_- \\ p_+(x - t_-)^2 + r_+(x - t_-)^3 & \text{if } t_- < x < t_+ \\ x - t & \text{if } x \geq t_+ \end{cases} \quad (35)$$

$$C(x|s = -1, t_-, t, t_+) = \begin{cases} -(x - t) & \text{if } x \leq t_- \\ p_-(x - t_+)^2 + r_-(x - t_+)^3 & \text{if } t_- < x < t_+ \\ 0 & \text{if } x \geq t_+ \end{cases} \quad (36)$$

When  $t_- < t < t_+$ :

$$\begin{cases} p_+ = (2t_+ + t_- - 3t)/(t_+ - t_-)^2 \\ r_+ = (2t - t_+ - t_-)/(t_+ - t_-)^3 \\ p_- = (3t - 2t_- - t_+)/(t_- - t_+)^2 \\ r_- = (t_- + t_+ - 2t)/(t_- - t_+)^3 \end{cases} \quad (37)$$

where  $t$  is the knot location.

According to Koc and Bozdogan (2015), the form of the MARS model defined to approximate the function Eq 34 is defined as:

$$\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \beta_0 + \sum_{m=1}^M \beta_m B_m(\mathbf{x}) \quad (38)$$

where  $B_m(\mathbf{x})$  represents the base function (BF) in  $m$ ,  $M$  is the total number of base functions (BF). The term  $\beta$  is constant coefficients estimated using the least-squares method.

### 4. ARTIFICIAL NEURAL NETWORKS

Artificial neural networks are computational models, which through a set of very simple processing elements (artificial neurons) highly connected and processing in parallel, inspired by the neural structure of intelligent organisms, acquire knowledge through experience.

Each artificial neuron has a number  $n$  of entries whose sum weighted by the  $w$  weights passes through the activation function, some of which are the sigmoid and hyperbolic tangent to simulate the natural neuron. The  $w$  weights are variable only in the training phase. After this phase, the neuron becomes a non-linear function of  $R^n \rightarrow R$ . So, all the knowledge of a neural network is in the weights attributed to the connections between neurons.

According to Haykin (2007), a Multilayer Perceptrons (MLP) neural network has three characteristics that distinguish it from other types of networks:

- For each neuron in the network there is a nonlinear activation function, whose curvature is soft.
- The network contains one or more hidden layers, which are different from the input and output. The neurons in these hidden layers are responsible for ability to learn complex problems.
- There is a high degree of connectivity between neurons. This means that a neuron any layer of the network is connected to all neurons.

The training of the MLP network is of the supervised type, being known as learning by experience and occurs by iterations. Generally, a popular algorithm called error backpropagation is used. This algorithm is based on a learning rule that “corrects” the error during training. The error back-propagation process consists of two phases: a signal propagation phase (feedforward) and an error backpropagation phase (backpropagation). Weights are adjusted so that the distance between the network response and the desired response is reduced.

The Levenberg-Marquardt algorithm is a supervised training algorithm. It uses the Jacobian Matrix  $J$  of the derivatives of the error  $e$  about the weights. Its formula is given by:

$$\Delta w_j^{(k)} = (J^T J + \mu I)^{-1} J^T e \quad (39)$$

where  $\Delta w_j^{(k)}$  is the  $j$ -th adjustment of the weights in a given layer  $k$ ,  $\mu$  is the learning rate,  $I$  is the identity matrix.

## 5. CASE STUDY AND RESULTS

The MATLAB toolbox *nstart* was used to generate approximations of the STHE model functions. The neural network used was the Multilayer Perceptrons (MLP) (Haykin, 2007), 10 hidden layers were used, which has the sigmodal function. And the output neuron is linear. The network was trained with the Levenberg-Marquardt backpropagation algorithm. The training was performed with 629 samples (70 % of the data), the validation with 135 samples (15 % of the data), and the test with 135 samples (15 % of the data).

The metamodels generated by MARS (Friedman, 1991) were implemented in the MATLAB toolbox *ARESLab* (Jekabsons, 2016), and in this case only cubic splines were used.

The input data used to generate the STHE metamodels are shown in Tab. 5:

Table 5: STHE inputs

Inputs	Symbol	Description	Values
$x_1$	$d_o$	Tube outer diameter (m)	0.015875; 0.01905; 0.0254; 0.03175
$x_2$	$L_t$	Tube length (m)	2.438; 3.048; 3.658; 4.877; 6.096
$x_3$	$L_b$	Baffle spacing (m)	0.3245 to 1.5240
$x_4$	$A_D$	Design heat exchanger area (m <sup>2</sup> )	30.0055 to 59.6715
$x_5$	$n_p$	Number of tube passes	1; 2; 4
$x_6$	$a_p$	Tube layout pattern	triangular (30°); square (45°)

The output data used are required heat exchange area  $A$  and pumping power  $P_{s,t}$ . In this study, the values are:

- $A$ : 25.0865 to 59.2119 m<sup>2</sup>,
- $P_{s,t}$ : 243.9 to 4736.0 W.

All data has been normalized to minimize problems arising from the use of different units and dispersions between the different inputs.

According to Roitman (2001), the precision calculation of the metamodel is done by the difference between the real value and the value adjusted by the model. One of the ways to calculate this precision is to evaluate the mean square error (Mean Square Error or MSE), this is used for statistical models and network models neural. Its formulation is:

$$MSE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^n (f_t - \hat{f}_t)^2, \quad (40)$$

where  $n$  is the number of observations,  $f_t$  is the actual value in  $t$ ,  $\hat{f}_t$  is the predicted value in  $t$ .

The first experiment with the Neural Network used the 6 classes of defined input data, for the two outputs  $A$  and  $P_{s,t}$ , respectively. The results are shown in the Fig. 2:

	Samples	MSE	R
Training:	629	4.83471e-5	9.99579e-1
Validation:	135	1.08320e-4	9.99280e-1
Testing:	135	8.46986e-5	9.99350e-1

Figure 2: Result of the metamodel generated by the neural network.

Given the MSE values presented in Fig. 2, it was found that Levenberg-Marquardt training was effective for this case study, since the weights were adjusted in such a way as to reduce the distance between the network response and the output from the STHE analytical model.

In the toolbox *ARESLab* the outputs  $A$  and  $P_{s,t}$  were used separately, because the toolbox, despite generating the metamodel when using more than one output, does not allow visualizing the approximation functions in that case. Thus, the results are presented by groups of categorical inputs. The complete data had 899 samples, from this set, the groups of categorical inputs were separated, with the respective quantitative variables belonging to the group. The Tab. 6 shows the MSE values of the metamodel generated using the toolbox *ARESLab*:

Table 6: Results of the metamodel generated by MARS

Categorical inputs	MSE for output $A$	MSE for output $P_{s,t}$
$x_5 = 1, x_6 = 30^\circ$	$3.55 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.98 \times 10^{-6}$
$x_5 = 1, x_6 = 45^\circ$	$1.36 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.41 \times 10^{-4}$
$x_5 = 2, x_6 = 30^\circ$	$1.33 \times 10^{-5}$	$8.52 \times 10^{-7}$
$x_5 = 2, x_6 = 45^\circ$	$1.55 \times 10^{-5}$	$7.21 \times 10^{-5}$
$x_5 = 4, x_6 = 45^\circ$	$2.57 \times 10^{-7}$	$2.28 \times 10^{-4}$

As an example, given the categorical inputs  $x_5 = 1, x_6 = 30^\circ$  the metamodel is in linear format (Koc and Bozdogan, 2015) generated by the toolbox *ARESLab* for the required thermal exchange area  $A$  is shown in Fig. 3. It is observed that the coefficients were obtained by cubic splines, only the format of the metamodel that is linear.

```
A:
'BF1 = max(0, x4 -0.73325)'
'BF2 = max(0,0.73325 -x4)'
'BF3 = max(0, x2 -0.66676)'
'BF4 = max(0,0.66676 -x2)'
'BF5 = max(0, x1 -0.2)'
'BF6 = max(0,0.2 -x1)'
'BF7 = max(0, x3 -0.60402)'
'BF8 = max(0,0.60402 -x3)'
'BF9 = BF3 * max(0, x1 -0.2)'
'BF10 = BF3 * max(0,0.2 -x1)'
'BF11 = BF4 * max(0, x3 -0.83077)'
'BF12 = BF4 * max(0,0.83077 -x3)'
y = 0.43038 +0.30021*BF1 -0.25773*BF2 -0.31334*BF3 +0.2937*BF4 +0.70141*BF5 -
0.65872*BF6 +0.44375*BF7 -0.63013*BF8 -0.22834*BF9 +2.0184*BF10 -0.54418*BF11
+0.31621*BF12
```

Figure 3: MARS metamodel for output  $A$

Analyzing Fig. 3, it was found that the metamodel of the required heat exchange area ( $A$ ) produced by the MARS technique (Eq 38) had 12 base function (BF).

The result of the neural network has an appropriate MSE value and a correlation coefficient  $R$  very close to 1. The interpretation is that the neural network was able to reproduce the STHE model properly with the data that was provided. The MARS technique also enabled adequate MSE values. Therefore, this approach achieved the objective of generating a consistent metamodel for the STHE model.

## 6. CONCLUSION

Comparing the neural network and MARS techniques to generate the metamodel was relevant. It was seen that both are suitable to approximate the functions of this problem. And that the use of two different techniques enables reliability since the range of MSE values of both techniques are close.

The two toolboxes are easy to use. It is noticed that the neural network toolbox (nnstart) has the advantage of generating a metamodel code, thus, only changing the inputs allows new outputs. The MARS technique toolbox (*ARESLab*) does not generate output in code format, however, it is possible to view the terms that constitute the generated metamodel.

An advantage of the STHE metamodel generated by the MARS technique is obtaining continuous functions. And the advantage of the neural network compared to the MARS technique was to enable the use of both categorical and quantitative inputs.

In general, this study was important, it was possible to generate adequate metamodels of an analytical model that has a non-linear behavior. However, as a suggestion for future work, it is necessary to obtain adequate metamodels with fewer

expressions, so it is easier to interpret. It was concluded that the objective of the study was achieved, a different approach to a known model was obtained. It was intended to complement existing ideas, and other possibilities of study may occur as other comparisons between STHE metamodells, development of metamodells from numerical STHE models, and apply the gradient optimization method to metamodells formed by cubic splines.

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