

Well Logs Analysis Using Neuro-Fuzzy Technology (Case Study of Niger-Delta Region of Nigeria)

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Abstract: Petrophysical log interpretation is one of the most useful and important tools available to a petroleum geologist. Well logs help to define physical rock characteristics such as lithology, porosity, permeability and to identify productive zones, to determine depth and thickness of zones, to distinguish between oil, gas, or water in a reservoir and to estimate hydrocarbon reserves. This study presents the results of a study that used unsupervised Self Organizing Map (SOM) artificial neural networks and fuzzy rules derived from log characteristics for the determination of oil well lithology from open-hole geophysical well logs. The methodology proposed for the identification of oil well lithology was tested with case data obtained from an oil well located in the Niger delta region of Nigeria. The result shows that the fuzzy logic based log interpretation model used for the analysis of the clusters (log-facies) generated from the well logs can be used to identify and classify the lithology of oil wells without the use of core sample data.

Key words: Log facies, SOM neural networks, fuzzy logic, Niger-delta region

INTRODUCTION

Artificial Neural Networks are non-linear, sophisticated modeling techniques capable of modeling extremely complex functions (Statsoft, 2002). Artificial Neural Networks can transform a linearly inseparable problem into a linearly separable one. They learn by example and can be applied in virtually every situation in which a relationship between the predictor variables (independents, inputs) and predicted variables (dependents, outputs) exists. They are applicable even when the relationship may be very complex and not easy to articulate in the usual terms of "correlations" or differences between groups.

Artificial Neural Networks can be trained using either the supervised or the unsupervised learning or training techniques (Statsoft, 2002). In supervised learning, the correct results (target values, desired outputs) are known and are given to the network during training. The network can adjust its weights to match its outputs to the target values and the network learns to infer the relationship between the two. Training data is usually taken from historical records. The network is trained using one of the supervised learning algorithms of which the best-known example is the back propagation method.

Artificial Neural Networks that use the unsupervised learning paradigms are very simple, one-layer networks. In unsupervised learning there is no teacher and the network must self-organize according to some internal rules in response to the environment. A number of unsupervised learning algorithms exist. Some of these are the Hebbian and the Competitive learning methods (Statsoft, 2002). The Hebbian learning is the most common variety of unsupervised learning. The Oja's and Sangers unsupervised learning are variants of plain Hebbian learning that can be used for principal component analysis. The Sanger's learning procedure can also extract the principal components with respect to the output unit ordering.

The Kohonen Self-Organizing (feature) Map (SOM) network (Kohonen, 1995) uses the competitive learning method. The SOM network has only two layers of processing elements (or neurons). These are the input layer and an output layer of radial units (also known as the topological map layer). The units in the topological map layer are laid out in space, usually in two dimensions. The SOM artificial neural network which combines competitive learning with dimensionality reduction can be used for exploratory data analysis, classification tasks and novelty detection.

The basic theory of fuzzy sets was first introduced by Zadeh (1965). Unlike classical logic, which is based on crisp sets of "true and false", fuzzy logic views problems as a degree of "truth", or "fuzzy sets of true and false". It is a methodology that was developed to obtain an approximate solution where the problems are subject to vague description. The major concept of fuzzy logic is the use of a linguistic variable which is a variable whose values are words or sentences in a natural or synthetic language. This also leads to the use of fuzzy if-then rules, in which the antecedent and consequents are propositions containing linguistic variables.

Neuro-fuzzy modeling is a technique for describing the behavior of a system using fuzzy inference rules within a neural network structure. The model has a unique feature in that it can express linguistically the characteristics of a complex nonlinear system. In recent years, fuzzy logic, or more generally, fuzzy set theory, has been applied extensively in many reservoir characterization studies (Nikravesh and Aminzadeh, 2002). This is mainly due to the fact that reservoir geology is mainly a descriptive science which uses mostly uncertain, imprecise, ambiguous and linguistic information. Fuzzy set theory has the ability to deal with such information and to combine them with the quantitative observations.

The prediction of lithofacies (that is, rock type identification) is important for many geological and engineering disciplines. The conventional method used for the identification of lithofacies is by direct observation of underground cores (Chang *et al.*, 2002). These are small cylindrical rock samples, retrieved from oil wells at selected well depths. The recovery of cores is an expensive process and is not always total. In addition, different geologists may provide different interpretations for the retrieved core samples. This is why a lower-cost method providing similar or higher accuracy is desirable (Chang *et al.*, 2002). In an attempt to solve such reservoir characterization problems using differed well logging measurements, some researchers in geosciences have employed statistical methods and the use of artificial neural networks. Some published research using some of these techniques to solve reservoir characterization and lithology determination or prediction problems include: Soto and Holditch (1999), Mohaghegh (2000), Chang *et al.* (2000), Ford and Kelly (2001), Barlai (2002) and Chikhi *et al.* (2004). Most of the researches used supervised neural networks trained with core samples to recognize rock types present in a fresh data set previously unseen by the neural network. Chang *et al.* (2002) reported the use of an unsupervised SOM network to generate clusters in log data and used classified core data for the lithology identification program.

From studies of well log characteristics the well logs that can be used for lithology determination are Gamma Ray (GR) log, Density (DEN) log, Neutron (NEU) log, Electrical Resistivity (RES) log. Gamma ray logs measure natural radioactivity in formations. Shale-free sandstones and carbonates give low gamma ray readings. As shale content increases, the gamma ray log response also increases. The resistivity log is a measure of a formation's resistivity. Most rock materials are essentially insulators, while their enclosed fluids are conductors. When a formation is porous and contains salty water, the overall resistivity will be low. When this same formation contains hydrocarbons, its resistivity will be very high. Shales show low resistivity values with high gamma ray values. The density log is a continuous record of a formation's bulk density. It is used mainly for the determination of porosity and the differentiation between liquids and gases (when used in combination with neutron log). When organic content is present, density is low. Variation of density indicates porosity changes. For example, low density indicates high porosity and vice-versa. On cross-plot of neutron and density logs, pure shale can be recognized by the high neutron value relative to the density value which gives a large positive separation to the logs while gas stands out distinctly giving a large negative separation.

This study presents the result of a study that proposed a methodology for the identification and classification of oil well lithology and fluid content using a SOM neural network to generate log-facies or electro-facies (Rider, 1996) from geophysical well logs and fuzzy rules generated from the known physical properties of the well logs. With the fuzzy rules the lithology of the wells can be determined without the use of core sample data. A case study program was implemented using case data from the Niger Delta region of Nigeria. The Niger Delta is situated in the Gulf of Guinea and extends throughout the Niger Delta Province. It contains only one identified petroleum system referred to as the Tertiary Niger Delta (Akata-Agbada) Petroleum System (Tuttle *et al.*, 1999). It is composed of mainly sedimentary rock and divided into three formations. These are Benin formation, Agbada formation and Akata formation. The Benin formation consists of mainly sand, the Agbada formation consists of sand and shale, while the Akata formation consists of shale. Limestone and salts are not found in the Niger Delta region. The depth of the Benin formation is about 6,000 ft, the Agbada formation about 17,000 ft and Akata formation about 6,000 ft. The source rocks for the petroleum system are located in the Akata formation while the petroleum reservoirs are located in the Agabda formation.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The base data used for the lithology determination are the open-hole wireline subsurface well log data. Cross-plot techniques are employed in the analysis of well log data. The log data models the response of the subsurface rocks to the measuring instrument according to the rock properties. The cross-plots allow the nature of the rocks properties to be inferred from the logs. However, due to visualization problems, the cross-plots cannot handle more than 3-dimensional data. It was observed that the operation of the SOM based clustering algorithm is similar to plotting a multi-dimensional log cross-plot. It is noted that in the conventional cross-plot chart, if the dimensions of the chart are more than three dimensions, the visualization and interpretation of the cross-plot chart becomes more complex. The SOM based clustering algorithm has the advantage of not being limited to three dimensions.

The analysis of the well logs begins by first cleaning the log data. Erroneous data items and outliers were removed from the raw well log data. A correlation test was performed on the log values to determine if there was any relationship between the log data values. Knowing the nature of the relationships also helps in the selection of the appropriate log variables when similar data items are present in the data records. The data elements were normalized (between the range 0 and 1) to renders the input data dimensionless and remove the effect of scaling. The neural network was then trained using a training data set.

After training the SOM, the neural network would have learned the structure of the input data. The testing data file, which contains the data that is to be clustered, is now submitted to the trained SOM network, which then identifies the clusters it has recognized during the training process. The test data file may be the same as the training data file or any other data file, which is to be classified, based on the clusters identified by the training data set. The data samples are assigned to cluster groups by the SOM software and the result saved in either a spreadsheet file or an ASCII text file. Each data sample is assigned a label (number) showing the cluster to which it has been assigned. The output file is imported into a spreadsheet file, sorted to group data samples belonging to the same clusters together and then the mean and standard deviation of each cluster group computed.

The computed mean of the log values were used to infer the lithology and fluid content of the rock species that characterize the geological formation of the oil well being investigated by determining their fuzzy value. In a fuzzy system, the general inference process proceeds in the following steps.

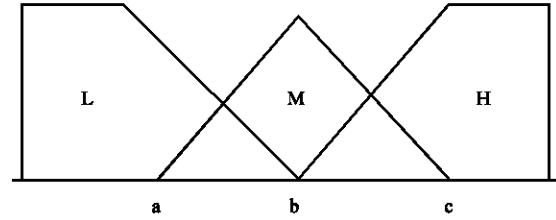


Fig. 1: Fuzzy membership functions

- Fuzzification which involves the conversion of numeric data in real world domain to fuzzy numbers in fuzzy domain.
- Fuzzy inference which involves the computation of the truth value of each rule and its application to the conclusion part of the rule.
- Composition of the output variables of sub rules which can fire in parallel for the purpose of drawing a global conclusion.
- Defuzzification, which is optional, involves the conversion of the derived fuzzy number to the numeric data in real world domain.

The fuzzy value of the logs can be modeled by four fuzzy membership functions which correspond to the linguistic values High (H), Moderate (M), or Low (L) as shown in Fig. 1.

The fuzzy values are used to generate fuzzy rules for the identification of rock lithologies represented by log data clusters generated by the SOM software. Mathematically this can be represented by Eq. 1 as:

$$x_j = \begin{cases} \text{H if } b \leq x \leq c \\ \text{M if } a < x < b \\ \text{L if } x \leq a \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

Where,

x_j represents mean value of subset j (of log reading)
 a , b and c represents threshold values

In determining, the threshold value a , b and c used in this work the following were noted:

- The gamma ray log value in shales varies enormously in any one area or well and it ranges between 40 and 112 API and in sandstones ranges between 10 and 50 API (Rider, 1996). The threshold values used for the Gamma Ray log (GR) are:

$$a = 40 \text{ API, } b = 50 \text{ API, } c = 112 \text{ API}$$

- There are no characteristic resistivity limits for shales, limestone and sandstone (Rider, 1996).

However, it is noted that resistivity values are low for shales, sandstone and water. It is high for hydrocarbons (oil/gas). The threshold values used for the un-invaded resistivity log (RES) are:

$a = 10 \text{ ohm-m}$, $b = 100 \text{ ohm-m}$, $c = 300 \text{ ohm-m}$

- In shales the density log value ranges between 1.18 and 2.75 g cm^{-3} , while in sandstones it ranges between 1.9 and 2.65 g cm^{-3} . Since oilfield densities are usually between 2.0 and 3.0 g cm^{-3} and the mean apparent dry bulk density for shales is 2.45 g cm^{-3} (Rider, 1996). The threshold values used for the Density (DEN) log are:

$a = 2.45 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$, $b = 2.65 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$, $c = 3.0 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$

In order to generate the fuzzy rules to be used for the analysis of the clusters a rock properties determination matrix was created using the known log properties. Using three fuzzy membership functions and three logs gave 27 unique combinations. Not all the rules are physically feasible. However, since the known primary lithology is sand and shale, this provides a way for reducing the number of rules generated to a more manageable and effective number by selecting only the rules relevant to the objective of the study. These are the rules for determining the well lithology which is classified as being shale, sandy-shale, pay sand and wet sand. The relevant combinations are presented in Table 1. In deriving the rules, the following were considered:

- The gamma ray log, which is the primary lithology log, was used to determine the primary lithology of the rock type.
- Next, the resistivity log was used to determine if there is any hydrocarbon presence indicated by a high resistivity log value.
- Finally, the density log was used to further characterize the lithofacies.

The fuzzy rules inferred from the rules determination matrix are:

- If (GR = H) and (RES = L) and (DEN = H or M)
Then (Lithology = Shale)
- (GR = L) and (RES = L) and (DEN = H or M)
Then (Lithology = Sandy-shale)
- If (GR = L) and (RES = H) and (DEN = M)
Then (Lithology = Pay Sand)
- If (GR = L) and (RES = H) and (DEN = L)
Then (Lithology = Pay Sand)

- If (GR = L) and (RES = M) and (DEN = M)
Then (Lithology = Pay Sand)
- If (GR = L) and (RES = M) and (DEN = L)
Then (Lithology = Pay Sand)
- If (GR = L) and (RES = L) and (DEN = L)
Then (Lithology = Wet sand)

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Case studies using well log data from the Niger Delta region of Nigeria (obtained from Shell Petroleum Development Corporation with the permission of the Department of Petroleum Resources, Nigeria) were carried out. The log data contains the Depth (DEP), the True Vertical Depth (TVD), Gamma Ray log (GR), Resistivity log (RES) and Density log (DEN). The log had 3941 data elements which ranged from 7000-11870 ft. A correlation test was carried out on the input data. The result showed that the Depth (DEP) and True Vertical Depth (TVD) were highly correlated hence, only the Depth (DEP) values were used. The well logs were then normalized. The data was then used to train the SOM software and clusters were generated. The mean log value

Table 1: Fuzzy rules determination matrix

	GR value	RES value	DEN value	Indicated lithology
1	H or M	L	H or M	Shale
2	L	L	H or M	Sandy-shale
3	L	H	M	Pay sand
4	L	H	L	Pay sand
5	L	M	M	Pay sand
5	L	M	L	Pay sand
6	L	L	L	Wet sands

Table 2: Clusters generated by SOM software

Cluster	No. of samples		GR	RES	DEN
1	18	Mean	33.01778	493.666668	2.375
		SD	3.345639	120.187046	0.025029394
2	3	Mean	40.89333	567.64331	2.33666667
		SD	1.247812	4.1311504	0.04163332
3	56	Mean	35.73875	91.053929	2.43821429
		SD	3.162037	54.191674	0.02249098
4	599	Mean	85.81002	21.328431	2.53435726
		SD	22.72294	27.803078	0.04879703
5	6	Mean	39.42667	1441.0467	2.30666667
		SD	1.456896	250.23838	0.01966384
6	92	Mean	32.23467	5.61130435	2.428695652
		SD	4.573356	0.5782566	0.022833241
7	64	Mean	36.40203	49.0335937	2.41921875
		SD	3.837196	30.0236259	0.046369965
8	94	Mean	34.19521	225.854576	2.372765957
		SD	3.162344	88.2995406	0.029924789
9	162	Mean	91.79079	18.2691089	2.499517327
		SD	28.73966	35.3942291	0.082534254
10	578	Mean	114.4018	4.80583045	2.621557093
		SD	12.52467	1.71185725	0.040848849
11	3	Mean	34.08	54.753334	2.406666667
		SD	3.016768	6.50432495	0.015275252
12	812	Mean	104.117	9.53756159	2.483054187
		SD	24.15951	10.3751173	0.044311775

DEP	DEP	DEP	DEP	DEP	DEP	DEP	DEP	DEP	DEP	DEP	DEP	DEP	DEP	DEP
9900	9955	10010	10065	10120	10175	10230	10285	10340	10395	10450	10505			
9901	9955.5	10011	10066	10121	10176	10231	10286	10341	10396	10451	10506			
9902	9956	10012	10067	10122	10177	10232	10287	10342	10397	10452	10507			
9903	9956.5	10013	10068	10123	10178	10233	10288	10343	10398	10453	10508			
9904	9957	10014	10069	10124	10179	10234	10289	10344	10399	10454	10509			
9905	9957.5	10015	10070	10125	10180	10235	10290	10345	10400	10455	10510			
9906	9958	10016	10071	10126	10181	10236	10291	10346	10401	10456	10511			
9907	9958.5	10017	10072	10127	10182	10237	10292	10347	10402	10457	10512			
9908	9959	10018	10073	10128	10183	10238	10293	10348	10403	10458	10513			
9909	9959.5	10019	10074	10129	10184	10239	10294	10349	10404	10459	10514			
9910	9960	10020	10075	10130	10185	10240	10295	10350	10405	10460	10515			
9911	9960.5	10021	10076	10131	10186	10241	10296	10351	10406	10461	10516			
9912	9961	10022	10077	10132	10187	10242	10297	10352	10407	10462	10517			
9913	9961.5	10023	10078	10133	10188	10243	10298	10353	10408	10463	10518			
9914	9962	10024	10079	10134	10189	10244	10299	10354	10409	10464	10519			
9915	9962.5	10025	10080	10135	10190	10245	10300	10355	10410	10465	10520			
9916	9963	10026	10081	10136	10191	10246	10301	10356	10411	10466	10521			
9917	9963.5	10027	10082	10137	10192	10247	10302	10357	10412	10467	10522			
9918	9964	10028	10083	10138	10193	10248	10303	10358	10413	10468	10523			
9919	9964.5	10029	10084	10139	10194	10249	10304	10359	10414	10469	10524			
9920	9965	10030	10085	10140	10195	10250	10305	10360	10415	10470	10525			
9921	9965.5	10031	10086	10141	10196	10251	10306	10361	10416	10471	10526			
9922	9966	10032	10087	10142	10197	10252	10307	10362	10417	10472	10527			
9923	9966.5	10033	10088	10143	10198	10253	10308	10363	10418	10473	10528			
9924	9967	10034	10089	10144	10199	10254	10309	10364	10419	10474	10529			
9925	9967.5	10035	10090	10145	10200	10255	10310	10365	10420	10475	10530			
9926	9968	10036	10091	10146	10201	10256	10311	10366	10421	10476	10531			
9927	9968.5	10037	10092	10147	10202	10257	10312	10367	10422	10477	10532			
9928	9969	10038	10093	10148	10203	10258	10313	10368	10423	10478	10533			
9929	9969.5	10039	10094	10149	10204	10259	10314	10369	10424	10479	10534			
9930	9970	10040	10095	10150	10205	10260	10315	10370	10425	10480	10535			
9931	9970.5	10041	10096	10151	10206	10261	10316	10371	10426	10481	10536			
9932	9971	10042	10097	10152	10207	10262	10317	10372	10427	10482	10537			
9933	9971.5	10043	10098	10153	10208	10263	10318	10373	10428	10483	10538			
9934	9972	10044	10099	10154	10209	10264	10319	10374	10429	10484	10539			
9935	9972.5	10045	10100	10155	10210	10265	10320	10375	10430	10485	10540			
9936	9973	10046	10101	10156	10211	10266	10321	10376	10431	10486	10541			
9937	9973.5	10047	10102	10157	10212	10267	10322	10377	10432	10487	10542			
9938	9974	10048	10103	10158	10213	10268	10323	10378	10433	10488	10543			
9939	9974.5	10049	10104	10159	10214	10269	10324	10379	10434	10489	10544			
9940	9975	10050	10105	10160	10215	10270	10325	10380	10435	10490	10545			
9941	9975.5	10051	10106	10161	10216	10271	10326	10381	10436	10491	10546			
9942	9976	10052	10107	10162	10217	10272	10327	10382	10437	10492	10547			
9943	9976.5	10053	10108	10163	10218	10273	10328	10383	10438	10493	10548			
9944	9977	10054	10109	10164	10219	10274	10329	10384	10439	10494	10549			
9945	9977.5	10055	10110	10165	10220	10275	10330	10385	10440	10495	10550			
9946	9978	10056	10111	10166	10221	10276	10331	10386	10441	10496	10551			
9947	9978.5	10057	10112	10167	10222	10277	10332	10387	10442	10497	10552			
9948	9979	10058	10113	10168	10223	10278	10333	10388	10443	10498	10553			
9949	9979.5	10059	10114	10169	10224	10279	10334	10389	10444	10499	10554			
9950	9980	10060	10115	10170	10225	10280	10335	10390	10445	10500	10555			
9951	9980.5	10061	10116	10171	10226	10281	10336	10391	10446	10501	10556			
9952	9981	10062	10117	10172	10227	10282	10337	10392	10447	10502	10557			
9953	9981.5	10063	10118	10173	10228	10283	10338	10393	10448	10503	10558			
9954	9982	10064	10119	10174	10229	10284	10339	10394	10449	10504	10559			
9955	9982.5	10065	10120	10175	10230	10285	10340	10395	10450	10505	10560			

10560	10515	10670	10725	10780	10835	10890	10945	11000	11055	11110	11165
10561	10516	10671	10726	10781	10836	10891	10946	11001	11056	11111	11166
10562	10517	10672	10727	10782	10837	10892	10947	11002	11057	11112	11167
10563	10518	10673	10728	10783	10838	10893	10948	11003	11058	11113	11168
10564	10519	10674	10729	10784	10839	10894	10949	11004	11059	11114	11169
10565	10520	10675	10730	10785	10840	10895	10950	11005	11060	11115	11170
10566	10521	10676	10731	10786	10841	10896	10951	11006	11061	11116	11171
10567	10522	10677	10732	10787	10842	10897	10952	11007	11062	11117	11172
10568	10523	10678	10733	10788	10843	10898	10953	11008	11063	11118	11173
10569	10524	10679	10734	10789	10844	10899	10954	11009	11064	11119	11174
10570	10525	10680	10735	10790	10845	10900	10955	11010	11065	11120	11175
10571	10526	10681	10736	10791	10846	10901	10956	11011	11066	11121	11176
10572	10527	10682	10737	10792	10847	10902	10957	11012	11067	11122	11177
10573	10528	10683	10738	10793	10848	10903	10958	11013	11068	11123	11178
10574	10529	10684	10739	10794	10849	10904	10959	11014	11069	11124	11179
10575	10530	10685	10740	10795	10850	10905	10960	11015	11070	11125	11180
10576	10531	10686	10741	10796	10851	10906	10961	11016	11071	11126	11181
10577	10532	10687	10742	10797	10852	10907	10962	11017	11072	11127	11182
10578	10533	10688	10743	10798	10853	10908	10963	11018	11073	11128	11183
10579	10534	10689	10744	10799	10854	10909	10964	11019	11074	11129	11184
10580	10535	10690	10745	10800	10855	10910	10965	11020	11075	11130	11185
10581	10536	10691	10746	10801	10856	10911	10966	11021	11076	11131	11186
10582	10537	10692	10747	10802	10857	10912	10967	11022	11077	11132	11187
10583	10538	10693	10748	10803	10858	10913	10968	11023	11078	11133	11188
10584	10539	10694	10749	10804	10859	10914	10969	11024	11079	11134	11189
10585	10540	10695	10750	10805	10860	10915	10970	11025	11080	11135	11190
10586	10541	10696	10751	10806	10861	10916	10971	11026	11081	11136	11191
10587	10542	10697	10752	10807	10862	10917	10972	11027	11082	11137	11192
10588	10543	10698	10753	10808	10863	10918	10973	11028	11083	11138	11193
10589	10544	10699	10754	10809	10864	10919	10974	11029	11084	11139	11194
10590	10545	10700	10755	10810	10865	10920	10975	11030	11085	11140	11195
10591	10546	10701	10756	10811	10866	10921	10976	11031	11086	11141	11196
10592	10547	10702	10757	10812	10867	10922	10977	11032	11087	11142	11197
10593	10548	10703	10758	10813	10868	10923	10978	11033	11088	11143	11198
10594	10549	10704	10759	10814	10869	10924	10979	11034	11089	11144	11199
10595	10550	10705	10760	10815	10870	10925	10980	11035	11090	11145	11200
10596	10551	10706	10761	10816	10871	10926	10981	11036	11091	11146	11201
10597	10552	10707	10762	10817	10872	10927	10982	11037	11092	11147	11202
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10599	10554	10709	10764	10819	10874	10929	10984	11039	11094	11149	11204
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10601	10556	10711	10766	10821	10876	10931	10986	11041	11096	11151	11206
10602	10557	10712	10767	10822	10877	10932	10987	11042	11097	11152	11207
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10604	10559	10714	10769	10824	10879	10934	10989	11044	11099	11154	11209
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11251	12	11306	4	11331	12	11336	4	11471	4	11526	10	11581	10	11636	4	11691	10	11746	10	11801			

Cluster No	Lithology	Legend
1	Pay sand	1
2	Pay sand	2
3	Pay sand	3
4	Shale	4
5	Pay sand	5
6	Wet sand	6
7	Pay sand	7
8	Pay sand	8
9	Shale	9
10	Shale	10
11	Pay sand	11
12	Shale	12

Fig. 2: Well stratigraphy chart

Table 3: Interpretation of SOM software clusters

Cluster No	Lithology
1	Pay sand
2	Pay sand
3	Pay sand
4	Shale
5	Pay sand
6	Wet sand
7	Pay sand
8	Pay sand
9	Shale
10	Shale
11	Pay sand
12	Shale

and standard deviation of the cluster groups were computed. The standard deviation measures the spread of the data about the mean value gives an indication of the effectiveness of the clusters generated. Table 2 presents the clusters (represented by a number label) identified in the log data, their mean values and their standard deviation.

The fuzzy inference process started with the fuzzification subprocess where the membership functions defined on the input variables were applied to their actual values to determine the degree of truth for each rule premise. If a rules premise has a non-zero degree of truth, then the rule fires. In the inference subprocess, the truth-value of each rule was computed and applied to its conclusion part. The fuzzy ‘max’ rule of composition of inferences was then applied. The results showing the lithology of the well inferred from the cluster groups is presented in Table 3.

Figure 2 presents a chart of the oil well showing the location of the different types of rock materials in the well. On the chart, the depth intervals containing pay sand is represented by the yellow colored regions, depth intervals containing wet sand with water content is represented by the blue colored regions. Regions where shales (or shaly rock materials) can be found are shown in ochre. Clusters 4, 9, 10 and 12 represent shales. It can be observed that the difference between these shale clusters is a progressive increase in the shale density. Clusters 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8 and 11 represents pay

sand clusters. It can also be observed that there is a reduction in pay sand density with increase in pay sand resistivity values. Cluster 6 represents a wet sand cluster. A log analyst that was familiar with the data set used verified the result of the case study program. The chart shows relatively thin layers of sand interbedded within thick and expansive shale units (Adesida *et al.*, 2006).

CONCLUSION

In this study, the SOM neural network has been used to analyze well log data obtained from the Niger-Delta region of Nigeria in order to extract knowledge from the well log data. The fuzzy inference methodology adopted in the interpretation of the clusters were derived from the methods used in the interpretation of traditional graphical cross-plots by log analysts. Well logs characteristic response in different rock materials were used to formulate fuzzy rules, which were used to identify the lithology represented by the clusters generated by the SOM from well log data.

While it is only the fuzzy rules relevant to the lithology determination program that have been extracted in this research, it is noted that the rule base actually accommodates all possible rock materials that may be of further interest in future research work. With the three logs used that is gamma ray log, resistivity log and density log, lithology discrimination has been achieved. However, better resolution could still be obtained with associated fluid content determination carried out by using logs that can be used to discriminate between fluids like the neutron log, although this tends to increase the number of fuzzy rule that can be derived from the logs.

The fuzzy rules can form the basis for the development of a software tool. A neuro-fuzzy expert system which can use the SOM neural networks clustering algorithm as a pre-processor for a fuzzy classification module. Or a fuzzy logic expert system since the fuzzy rule can also be incorporated into a software

application that can directly classify the log values by fuzzify them, analyzing them and then classifying the individual log elements using the fuzzy rules. The software tool can be used by log analyst to determine the lithology and fluid content of an oil well prior to further processing of the log data in absence of core data.

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