

# Self-Organising Fuzzy Logic Control with a New On-Line Particle Swarm Optimisation-based Supervisory Layer

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**Keywords:** Fuzzy Logic, Self-Organising, Uncertainty, Optimisation, Non-Linear, Robustness.

**Abstract:** The Self-Organising Fuzzy Logic Control (SOFLC) which is an extended version of the Fuzzy logic controller was designed to make Fuzzy controllers work with less dependency on previous knowledge. Since the introduction of the SOFLC, only a few attempts have been made to create a performance index table that is responsible for the corrections of the low-level control 'adaptable' according to the dynamics of the process under control. In this paper a new dynamic supervisory layer is proposed which enables the controller to adapt its structure on-line to any given certain performance criteria. In this mechanism, the controller starts from an empty rule-base and uses an on-line Particle Swarm Optimisation (PSO) algorithm to adapt the cells of the performance index (PI) table while issuing control actions to the low-level fuzzy rule-base. The Simulation results achieved when the proposed scheme was tested on a non-linear muscle relation process showed that it is superior to the standard SOFLC scheme in terms of accurate tracking and efficient fuzzy rule-base elicitation (a conservative number of fuzzy rules).

## 1 INTRODUCTION

The concept of fuzzy logic was first introduced to deal with uncertainties surrounding real-world problems. Although Fuzzy Logic Controllers (FLCs) have been successfully applied to various complex applications, their structure in most cases must be defined *a-priori*; among the usual design issues to be resolved when fuzzy logic controllers are used include: the determination of suitable membership functions, the definition of a suitable rule-base size and the derivation of fuzzy rules. In order to tackle this issue and work with less dependent a priori design information, Procyk and Mamdani (1979) introduced the self-organising fuzzy logic controller (SOFLC). The architecture of the SOFLC is shown in Figure 1.

The SOFLC performs two functions while operating. First, it issues the appropriate control actions while observing the environment. Second, it modifies the rules of the lower-level fuzzy logic rule-base based on the observed environment. The rule-base of the first level is adapted through the self-organising part based on observation of the response of the process being controlled. Implicated control rules are modified if any deviation from the desired (optimal) path occurs.

The self-organising mechanism allows the controller to effectively control non-linear, mathematically ill-understood, time-varying and uncertain systems. However, SOFLC-based systems can also suffer from drawbacks such as high memory storage requirement and high computational burden especially when the scheme is applied to multivariable systems. The performance index (PI) table is the main part of the adaptation process; it normally issues the number of correction needed by the system based on its evaluation of the control action. Due to design difficulties, the PI table has been left practically unchanged in most applications since the original SOFLC scheme was introduced in 1979, where the performance index depended entirely on predefined design information (Procky and Mamdani, 1979).

A new SOFLC scheme with a dynamic supervisory layer is proposed in this paper. In this algorithm, the consequent parts of the performance index table of the SOFLC are modified via an on-line Particle Swarm Optimisation (PSO) algorithm with the assistance of the idea of credit assignment and fitness estimation; this gives the controller the ability to update both the PI table and the lower-level fuzzy logic rule-base at each sampling instant given certain performance criteria. The dynamic

supervisory layer gives more flexibility to the controller and allows it to work with a wider range of applications.

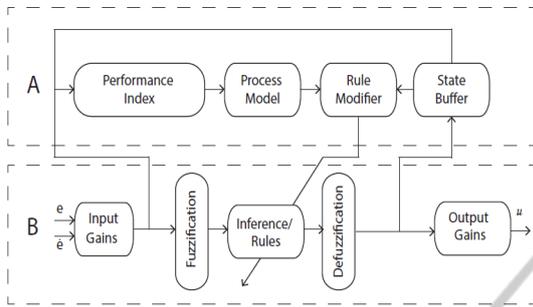


Figure 1: The basic structure of the SOFLC ( Procky and Mamdani,1979).

The rest of this paper is organised as follows: Section 2 gives an introduction to the standard SOFLC scheme. Section 3 introduces the proposed SOFLC scheme. The simulation study that evaluates the new SOFLC scheme is presented in Section 4. Finally, Section 5 summarises conclusions relating to this new proposed algorithm and future work plans.

## 2 THE STANDARD SOFLC ALGORITHM

The SOFLC scheme includes a policy that allows it to adapt its structure with respect to the process under control and the environment in which it is operating. The SOFLC consists of two parts as shown in Figure 1: Part ‘B’ which is the standard Mamdani-type fuzzy logic controller, and Part ‘A’ which represents the self-organising mechanism that monitors and evaluates the performance of the controller. Part ‘A’ consists of: performance index table, process model, state buffer, and rule modifier.

The input signals to the two levels are taken at each sampling instant in the form of error ( $E$ ), and error change ( $CE$ ), and they are both used to evaluate the performance of the system. In order to make the controller applicable with a wide range of applications, Both  $E$  and  $CE$  are scaled through tuning factors as shown in Figure 1, before being sent to the controller. The output of the controller is calculated with respect to the input signals according to the fuzzy control rules issued by Part ‘A’.

Another tuning factor is used to scale the output control signals before they are sent to the process.

The fuzzy rules are modified through the following strategy; it is assumed that for a system

with a time lag of  $m$  samples, the control action applied at ‘ $nT-mT$ ’ is the most responsible for an undesirable response at the sampling instant ‘ $nT$ ’. Hence, the adjustment rule reads as follows:

$$E(nT - mT) \rightarrow CE(nT - mT) \rightarrow U(nT - mT) + P_i(nT) \tag{1}$$

Where  $P_i(nT)$  is the modification value issued by the PI table.

The process model in Part ‘A’ of the controller is used to reflect the degree of coupling between the input and the output signals. This is crucial when the SOFLC is used to control multivariable systems, for instance, if the process to be controlled is a multi-input / multi-output process, the rules modifications are given as:

$$P_i(nT) = M^{-1}P_o(nT) \tag{2}$$

Where  $P_i(nT) = \begin{bmatrix} P_i(nT) \\ \vdots \\ P_q(nT) \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $P_o(nT) = \begin{bmatrix} P_i(nT) \\ \vdots \\ P_i(nT) \end{bmatrix}$

$P_o(nT)$  is the correction issued by the PI table tables,  $P_i(nT)$  is the manipulated input variable to the process and  $M$  is an incremental model of the process.

A gain of 1 is assigned in the model if the SOFLC is used to control a SISO process. The state buffer records the values of error, change of error, and output signals to enable the rule modifier to determine the rules responsible for any undesirable trajectories. The performance index table is derived based on the knowledge of the expert, or the operator, and is normally constructed from standard linguistic statements. The PI table can be represented by a ‘look up’ table if the inputs are assumed to be fuzzy singletons (Procyk and Mamdani, 1979). Table 1 shows a typical performance index table.

Table 1: A typical performance index table.

$E \backslash CE$	NB	NS	ZO	PS	PB
NB	-2.0	-1.5	-1.5	-0.5	0.0
NS	-1.5	-1.5	-1.5	0.0	0.5
ZO	-1.0	-1.0	0.0	1.0	1.0
PS	-0.5	0.0	1.5	1.5	1.5
PB	0.0	0.5	1.5	1.5	2.0

NB: negative big, NS: negative small, ZO: zero, PS: positive small, PB: positive big.

In the next section, the idea behind the proposed algorithm that uses a dynamic performance index table will be outlined.

### 3 A DYNAMIC SUPERVISORY LAYER USING THE ON-LINE PARTICLE SWARM OPTIMISATION ALGORITHM

The PSO is used in the proposed algorithm to modify the performance index table of the SOFLC at every sampling instant with only one particle from a population being evaluated at that instant. The other particles in the PSO population are then estimated based on their relationship to the one applied to process (optimal one); Figure 2 shows the structure of the proposed scheme.

#### 3.1 The PSO Process Encoding

In the proposed algorithm, the rules of the performance index table are optimised by ' $N$ ' sets of the PSO algorithm, where the number of these sets ' $N$ ' is decided by the number of cells in the PI table. Each PSO set is independent and does not depend on other PSO sets and only includes a small size of particles. At each sampling instant, particles of the set that represents the consequence of the PI table will carry out one iteration ( equations 3 and 4) to generate new particles and velocities , the remaining ' $N-1$ ' PSO sets in the other cells are kept unchanged.

Various PI tables with different sizes were tried and good results are achieved when a PI table with 25 cells was used and was therefore adopted in this paper; the inputs of the PI table are taken as the tracking error and the change of error, while the output of the table is rule modification value  $P_i(nT)$  of the low-level basic fuzzy logic controller. Each rule of the PI table is optimised through a PSO set which consists of 5 particles. With such a population size, a fast convergence is achieved, thus making the optimisation process computationally inexpensive. In the first generation, the  $5 \times 25$  particles and velocities are randomly generated, all particles are given the same fitness values and a random particle is selected in each set to fill the corresponding cell of the PI table.

Figure 3 shows an example of how PI rules are updated in the proposed algorithm and how the low-level fuzzy logic controller is modified. At the sampling instant ' $nT$ ', the cell ' $F24$ ' which produced the modification value  $P_i(nT-mT)$  at the sampling

instant ' $nT-mT$ ' is recalled again. All the 5 particles in this cell experience one iteration of the PSO-based operations after being given various rankings based on the estimated fitness values, resulting in new particles and velocities in this cell. If this cell ' $F24$ ' is visited again by the SOFLC algorithm, the shaded particle '0.6' in part B, for instance, with the highest fitness (optimal particle), will be selected to generate the modification value. In the meantime , the cell ' $F41$ ' is responsible for providing the lower-level fuzzy logic rule-base with the modification value  $P_i(nT)$  .The shaded particle '0.2' in set A is the one with the highest fitness and will be selected to produce the modification value.

The new generated fuzzy rules are stored in a rule bank and are added to this bank according to this mechanism: a new rule can be added to a particular cell of the rule bank if there is no rule in this cell, otherwise the existing rule will be replaced by the new one.

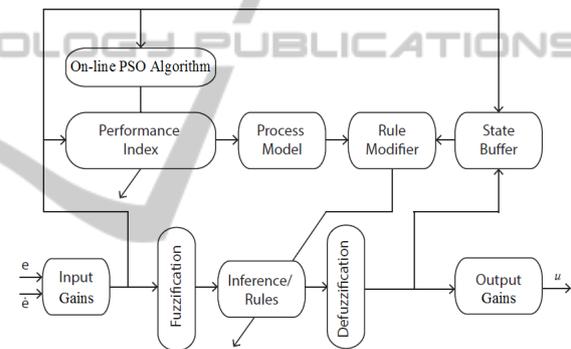


Figure 2: The detailed structure behind the proposed SOFLC algorithm.

#### 3.2 The on-Line PSO Algorithm

PSO has been classically developed for use in off-line optimisation. In this technique, the social behaviour among particles flying through a multidimensional search space is simulated using equations 3 and 4. In the off-line schema, swarms which represent sets of solutions evolve for a number of generations in order to produce the best solution which is used as the system output. For instance, when the PSO is used to tune a PID controller (Oi et al., 2008), the optimisation is carried out off-line based on a mathematical model that represents the process to be controlled. At each iteration, all the particles in the swarm are tested through a fitness function to evaluate their suitability to control the process; the best obtained solution is then used in the real system afterwards.

$$vi(t + 1) = w(t)vi(t) + c1r1(pi(t) - xi(t)) + c2r2(pg(t) - xi(t)) \quad (3)$$

$$xi(t + 1) = xi(t) + vi(t + 1) \quad (4)$$

where  $Xi$  and  $Vi$  are the positions and the velocities of the particles respectively.  $p_i$  is the best position to the time  $t$ , while  $p_g$  is the global best position.  $W$  is the inertia weight which usually decreases linearly from 0.9 to 0.4;  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are known as the acceleration coefficients, and are usually set to 2.0; while  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  are random numbers in the range  $[0, 1]$ .

The above process cannot be implemented if the PSO is used to tune the PID parameters on-line due to various issues that normally arise. First, during on-line optimisation there is no model-based evaluation techniques which can be used to assign fitness values to each particle, hence, the fitness values may be given based on noisy feedback signals. Second, in on-line optimisation, only one particle can be evaluated at each iteration as the PSO must provide an appropriate control action at every sample instant. Third, PSO normally needs a few iterations before it converges and this is sometimes not possible due to the limitation on the allowed amount of computation that can be done between sampling instants.

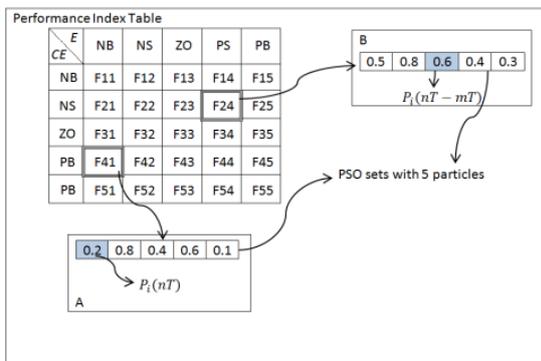


Figure 3: The self-organised information flow in the new proposed algorithm.

To overcome the constraints stated above, a new version of the PSO is proposed in this paper that allows on-line optimisation, where only one particle of the swarm is measured while the remaining particles are estimated via a credit-assignment mechanism according to their relationship with the optimal particle. To the best knowledge of the authors, such a mechanism that allows the PSO to operate successfully on-line has never been proposed before in the literature.

### 3.3 Evaluation of Trials

#### 3.3.1 Performance Assessment

In order to improve the performance of the system, the controller needs to update itself at each sampling instant, and this can be achieved through two main strategies. First, there are global criteria, such as ‘integral of the absolute error’ (IAE), which measures the performance of the system over a complete response trajectory. This type of evaluation is not sufficient for the on-line PSO as it does not provide accurate evaluation of the contribution of each individual to every control action. Hence, this type of measure can be used in most cases for off-line performance measurement.

An alternative type of performance measure is a local criterion which evaluates the performance of the system over only limited neighbour states. The predictive error function can then be used to predict the future tracking points so that corrective actions are taken in advance to avoid any undesirable deviations from the target.

The polarity of the predictive error function can be used to provide a performance evaluation in the form of binary ‘good’ or ‘bad’ (Linkens and Nyongesa, 1995). Although satisfactory results are normally achieved with this technique, the modified type of this local criterion proved to give better results (Lu and Mahfouf, 2005) and was adopted in this work. In this assessment type, a straightforward ternary representation was used instead of the binary performance evaluation where the cases that the output responses can take are classified into three groups as shown in figure 4. The output response is considered ‘satisfactory’ if the current tracking error is larger than the predicted tracking error, regardless of the trend, while it is considered as ‘overshoot’ if the trajectory passes across the target, and is considered as ‘moving away’ if the response is moving away from the set-point.

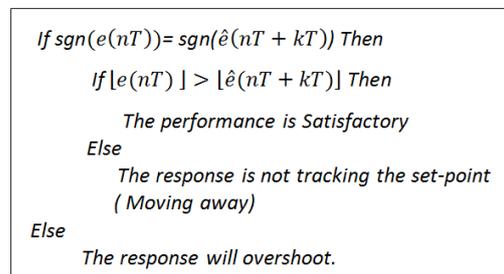


Figure 4: The classification of the performance; ‘sgn’ refers to the polarity of the signal.

The predictive error function is normally expressed by the simple expression as follows (Linkens and Nyongesa, 1995):

$$\hat{e}(nT + kT) = e(nt) + kT\dot{e}(nt) \quad (5)$$

Where  $e(nt)$  and  $\dot{e}(nt)$  are the error and the velocity of the process respectively at the sampling instant ' $nT$ ',  $k$  is the number of steps predicted ahead.

However, it was found that adding the error acceleration  $\ddot{e}(nt)$  to the expression above results in a more accurate estimation.

### 3.4 Credit Assignments

In Section 3.3.1 the performance assessment is used as a mechanism for measuring the performance of the particle  $X_j$  that is applied to the system. In order to compare the fitness values of all the particles in this generation, it is also important to rate the usefulness of the other four particles in this activated set  $F_{ij}$ . This task is carried out through the credit assignment using the reward/penalty mechanism (Lu and Mahfouf, 2005). The idea of 'reinforcement learning' (Linkens and Nyongesa, 1995) is used as the criterion, which states: 'if a particular action is associated with a satisfactory state of affairs then the tendency to reproduce that action in a similar situation should be enhanced'.

Since different particles in one generation represent different modification values and results therefore in different responses, the possible performances (satisfactory, moving away or overshoot) of the remaining four particles  $X_k$  ( $k=1,2,\dots, i-1,i+1,\dots,M$ ) from the particle  $X_j$  can be inferred, where  $M$  is the population size in each PSO set, which is 5. With such an inferred performance, each individual can be assigned a reward or a penalty (punishment); the degree of punishment or reward depends entirely on the difference between these individuals and the optimal individual that is applied to the system as shown in Figure 5. Punishments and rewards in this mechanism are made with respect to making the tracking error converge to 'zero'.

## 4 SIMULATION RESULTS

### 4.1 Biomedical System

In order for patients to have a predefined degree of paralysis during operations, they are given muscle relaxant drugs through a certain dose. This is

normally done by an anaesthetist who sometimes fails to maintain a steady level of relaxation.

Another safer method is to replace the anaesthetist with a closed-loop infusion controller which can be tested by applying it to a mathematical model that represents a patient.

<p><i>If system performance evaluation is satisfactory</i></p> <p><i>If control action is an Increment, THEN punish Small</i></p> <p><i>If control action is a Decrement, Then punish big</i></p> <p><i>If performance Assessment is Moving Away Or Overshoot</i></p> <p><i>If control action is Increment, Then punish big AND equal and reward small</i></p> <p><i>If control action is decrement , Then punish small AND equal and reward big</i></p> <p>Where</p> <p><i>Reward/Punish big: reward/punish those particles giving a larger control action</i></p> <p><i>Reward/Punish small: reward/punish those particles giving a smaller control action</i></p> <p><i>Reward/Punish equal: reward/punish those particles giving an equal control action</i></p>
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Figure 5: The credit assignment mechanism used to estimate the PSO individuals.

#### 4.1.1 Muscle Relaxant Model

The human muscle relaxation can be expressed by the following linear transfer function (Mahfouf and Linkens, 1998):

$$G(s) = \frac{X_E(s)}{U(s)} = \frac{k_1(1 + T_4s)e^{-s}}{(1 + T_1s)(1 + T_2s)(1 + T_3s)} \quad (6)$$

With the following nonlinearity:

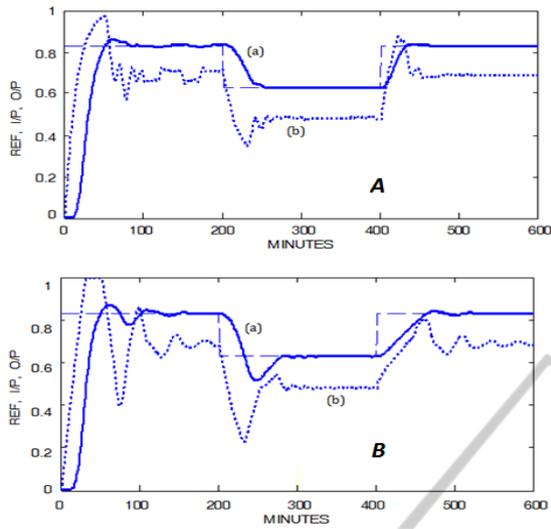
$$X_{eff} = \frac{X_E^{2.98}}{(X_E^{2.98} + 0.404^{2.98})} \quad (7)$$

Where  $K_I=1$ ;  $T_1=34.4$  min;  $T_2=4.8$  min;  $T_3=3.08$  min;  $T_4=10.65$  min;  $X_E$  is the drug concentration in the blood and  $X_{eff}$  is the actual output which is the muscle relaxation.

A step length of 0.1 and sampling interval of 1 are used for the simulation study, and the initial conditions of the muscle relaxant model are zero. In an equally portioned universe of discourse, five Gaussian membership functions are used for both input signals E and CE: negative big (NB), negative small (NS), zero (ZO), and positive small (PS), positive big (PB).

A set point profile of 85%, 65% and then 85% muscle relaxation is used. The cells of the performance index were optimised on-line through the algorithm summarised in Section 3.4.

Figure 6 and Table 2 show the simulations results of the proposed SOFLC scheme and the standard SOFLC scheme that has a fixed performance index table. The PI table used for the



(a) Output signal (O/P); (b) input signal (I/P)  
 Figure 6: Simulation result of the proposed scheme (A); and the standard scheme (B).

standard SOFLC is shown in Table 1. It can be seen from the simulation results that the proposed SOFLC scheme outperforms the standard SOFLC in terms of making the system track the set-point (REF) effectively with less undershoot, and how the number of generated fuzzy rules in the low-level FLC via the self-organising mechanism is smaller in the proposed algorithm which leads to a lower computational burden. It is concluded from the results that the proposed SOFLC scheme has a more accurate modification mechanism which has a lesser degree of dependency on the operator/expert knowledge.

Table 2: Summary of performance criteria of the proposed SOFLC and the standard SOFLC.

Criteria	Proposed SOFLC	Standard SOFLC
IAE	345.849662	423.5136
ISE	177.1556	199.6294
Rule number	15	21

### 4.2 Robustness to Sudden Disturbances

In order to investigate how well the proposed SOFLC scheme responds to on-line parameters changes without the need for re-tuning, the output of the process (muscle relaxation) is disturbed by 10% at 345 min.

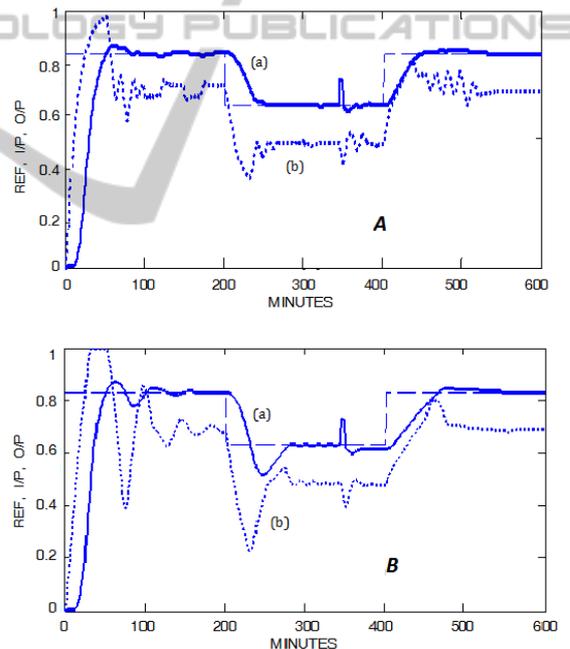
It can be seen from Figure 7 how the SOFLC with fixed PI table fails to re-track the set-point after

the sudden disturbance for nearly 150 minutes. On the other hand, the proposed algorithm manages to bring the system output to track the target. Table 3 also shows how the proposed algorithm performs better under the IAE and ISE criterion and how it controls the system with a lower number of fuzzy rules.

### 4.3 Robustness to Variable System Dynamics

According to the nature of the human body, not all bodies have the same characteristics. Hence, the muscle relaxation process that represents a patient differs from one person to another.

In order to test the capability of the proposed algorithm to control different muscle relaxation processes, the controller was applied to two different models which consider the ratio of parameter change in biomedics.



(a) Output signal (O/P); (b) Input signal (I/P)

Figure 7: Simulation result of the proposed scheme (A); and the standard scheme (B) when undertaking a disturbance of 10%.

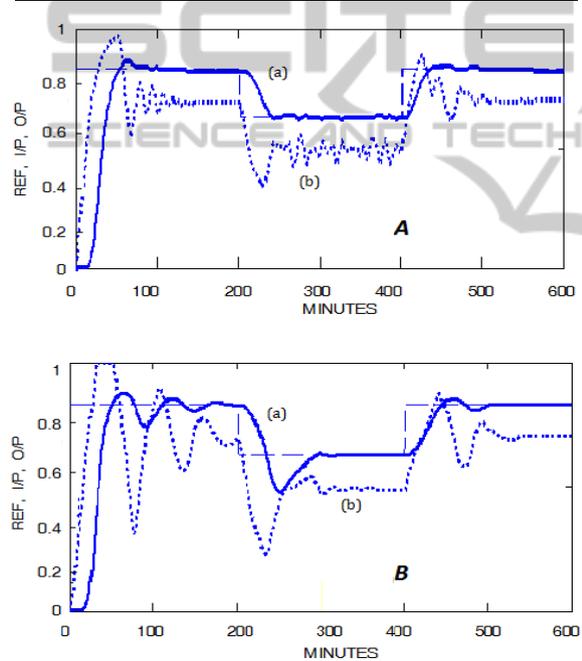
The system response and the performance indices are shown in Figures 8 and 9 and Table 4.

The simulation results show that the new proposed scheme provides a good system performance in terms of accurate tracking and efficient fuzzy rule-base elicitation even when new

sets of model parameters are used. Conversely, residual errors are noticeable in both Figures when the standard SOFLC Scheme that uses a fixed performance index table was applied, especially as in Figure 8. This shows that the proposed controller leads to superior performances when compared with the standard scheme.

Table 3: Summary of performance criteria of the proposed SOFLC and standard SOFLC while undertaking a disturbance of 10%.

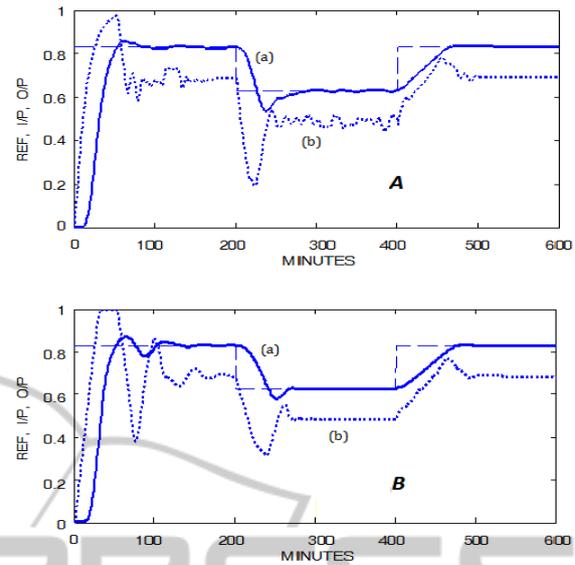
Criteria	Proposed SOFLC	Standard SOFLC
IAE	371.0260	446.4187
ISE	179.2902	201.9575
Rule number	19	23



(a) Output signal (O/P); (b) Input signal (I/P)  
 Figure 8: Simulation result of the proposed scheme (A); and the standard scheme (B) using a new set of system parameters:  $T_1=29.36\text{min}$ ,  $T_2=3.1\text{min}$ ,  $T_3=4.2\text{min}$ ,  $T_4=7.65\text{min}$ .

### 5 CONCLUSIONS

A new SOFLC scheme with a dynamic layer has been designed in this paper; a new PSO algorithm is applied to make the PI table dynamic to allow the controller to adapt its structure depending on the system under control. The simulation results relating



(a) Output signal (O/P); (b) Input signal (I/P)  
 Figure 9: Simulation result of the proposed scheme (A); and the standard scheme (B) using a new set of system parameters:  $T_1=29.36\text{min}$ ,  $T_2=2\text{min}$ ,  $T_3=4.2\text{min}$ ,  $T_4=5.65\text{min}$ .

Table 4: Summary of performance criteria of the proposed SOFLC and the standard SOFLC with new set of system parameters.

	Criteria	Proposed SOFLC	Standard SOFLC
Figure 7	IAE	360.3904	434.3420
	ISE	185.9737	211.0548
	Rule number	16	22
Figure 8	IAE	182.6875	204.7288
	ISE	384.8043	424.5817
	Rule number	17	23

to a non-linear system show that good performances are achieved even when the controller starts with an empty fuzzy rule-base. The proposed architecture outperformed the standard SOFLC scheme in terms of quick convergence, computational complexity as well as robustness against disturbances and system parameter variations. Future research will include the use of type-2 sets instead of type-1 sets to allow for better generalisation properties as well as the extension of this controller to a multivariable case.

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