

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1-1	A schematic drawing of (a) a biological neuron, and (b) a synapse.....	3
Figure 1-2	(a) McCulloch and Pitts' neuron model, and (b) unit step function.....	4
Figure 2-1	A schematic representation of CLD.	17
Figure 2-2	(a) Formation of a composite material from fibers and resin. (b) Types of composites.....	20
Figure 2-3	(a) Lamina as basic building entity of laminate, in the form of unidirectional and braided. (b) A laminated composite.....	22
Figure 2-4	The x, y, z laminate (global) coordinate system, the x1, x2, x3 ply (local) coordinate system and the ply angle θ	23
Figure 2-5	Stacking sequence description of $[45_3/0_4/90_2/60]$ lay-up	23
Figure 2-6	Typical constant amplitude cyclic loading waveform and its parameters.....	27
Figure 2-7	Fatigue loadings at different load regimes or stress ratio- R conditions	27
Figure 2-8	Typical $S-N$ curves.....	29
Figure 2-9	Various $S-N$ curve fits on semi-log plot to fatigue data taken from [40]	30
Figure 2-10	Scatterband in fatigue lives and fatigue strength.....	31
Figure 2-11	Projection of $S-N$ curves to form a CLD.....	34
Figure 3-1	NN architectures (a) feed forward with one hidden layer (gray colored circles), and (b) recurrent network with hidden neurons.....	35
Figure 3-2	Perceptron neuron with an L -element input vector and hardlimiter function.	39
Figure 3-3	The simplified schematic of a neuron model	40
Figure 3-4	A single-layer perceptron (a) its schematic (b) its simplified schematic.....	41
Figure 3-5	Input vectors of (a) two classes (b) four classes, and (c) eight classes.	43
Figure 3-6	A representation of boundary plane in a three-input space.....	44
Figure 3-7	MLP with one hidden layer and multiple output.....	46
Figure 3-8	MLP with one hidden layer and single output	47
Figure 3-9	Hyperbolic tangent activation function.....	48

Figure 3-10	Logistic activation function	49
Figure 3-11	Bipolar sigmoid activation function	49
Figure 4-1	Flowchart of the NN modeling process	59
Figure 4-2	A schematic geometry drawing of test specimens of Materials I, II and III (a) top view, and (b) side view.....	62
Figure 5-1	The NN training output for Material I with training set of $R = 0.1$ and -2	72
Figure 5-2	Fatigue life prediction by NN model for testing sets $R = -0.5, -1, -2$ and 10 using $R = 0.1$ and 0.5 as training set.....	73
Figure 5-3	Fatigue life prediction by NN model for testing sets $R = 0.1, -1, -2$ and 10 using $R = 0.5$ and -0.5 as training set	73
Figure 5-4	Fatigue life prediction by NN model for testing sets $R = 0.5, -0.5, -1$ and 10 using $R = 0.1$ and -2 as training set	74
Figure 5-5	The $S-N$ curves based on experimental data and as predicted by the NN model for $R = 0.5$	75
Figure 5-6	The $S-N$ curves based on experimental data and as predicted by the NN model for $R = -0.5$	75
Figure 5-7	The $S-N$ curves based on experimental data and as predicted by the NN model for $R = -1$	76
Figure 5-8	The $S-N$ curves based on experimental data and as predicted by the NN model for $R = 10$	76
Figure 5-9	Fatigue life prediction by NN model for testing sets $R = 0.7, 0.8, 0.9, -1, -2, 10$ and -0.5 using $R = 0.1$ and 0.5 as training set	77
Figure 5-10	Fatigue life prediction by NN model for testing sets $R = 0.5, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9, -2, 10$ and -0.5 using $R = 0.1$ and -1 as training set	78
Figure 5-11	Fatigue life prediction by NN model for testing sets $R = 0.5, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9, -1, -2$ and -0.5 using $R = 0.1$ and 10 as training set	78
Figure 5-12	The $S-N$ curves based on experimental data and as predicted by the NN model for $R = 0.5$	80
Figure 5-13	The $S-N$ curves based on experimental data and as predicted by the NN model for $R = 0.7$	80
Figure 5-14	The $S-N$ curves based on experimental data and as predicted by the NN model for $R = 0.8$	81
Figure 5-15	The $S-N$ curves based on experimental data and as predicted by	

	the NN model for $R = 0.9$	81
Figure 5-16	The $S-N$ curves based on experimental data and as predicted by the NN model for $R = -1$	81
Figure 5-17	The $S-N$ curves based on experimental data and as predicted by the NN model for $R = -2$	82
Figure 5-18	The $S-N$ curves based on experimental data and as predicted by the NN model for $R = -0.5$	82
Figure 5-19	Fatigue life prediction by NN model for testing sets $R = 0.2, -0.3, -1$ and 10 using $R = 0.1$ and -0.1 as training set.	83
Figure 5-20	The $S-N$ curves based on Parametric Constant Life Method and as predicted by the NN model for $R = 0.2$	84
Figure 5-21	The $S-N$ curves based on Parametric Constant Life Method and as predicted by the NN model for $R = -0.3$	84
Figure 5-22	The $S-N$ curves based on Parametric Constant Life Method and as predicted by the NN model for $R = -1$	85
Figure 5-23	The $S-N$ curves based on Parametric Constant Life Method and as predicted by the NN model for $R = 10$	85
Figure 5-24	The evolution of optimization parameter λ during the NN iteration for Material I	87
Figure 5-25	The evolution of regularization parameter α during the NN iteration for Material I	87
Figure 5-26	The evolution of regularization parameter β during the NN iteration for Material I	87
Figure 5-27	The effective number of parameters during the NN iteration for Material I.....	88
Figure 5-28	The evolution of optimization parameter λ during the NN iteration for Material II.....	88
Figure 5-29	The evolution of regularization parameter α during the NN iteration for Material II.....	88
Figure 5-30	The evolution of regularization parameter β during the NN iteration for Material II.....	89
Figure 5-31	The effective number of parameters during the NN iteration for Material II	89
Figure 5-32	The evolution of optimization parameter λ during the NN iteration	

	for Material III.....	89
Figure 5-33	The evolution of regularization parameter α during the NN iteration for Material III.....	90
Figure 5-34	The evolution of regularization parameter β during the NN iteration for Material III.....	90
Figure 5-35	The effective number of parameters during the NN iteration for Material III.....	90
Figure 5-36	The sensitivity of the number of hidden nodes on the MSE values	91