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## *On Some Approaches to Optimize the Reliability of Complex Networks*

A Dissertation

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1443 A.H.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

اقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ

خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ

اقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ الْأَكْرَمُ

الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ

عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ

صدق الله العلي العظيم

سورة العلق 1: 5

# Dedication

To ultimate (Divine) source of plenty and prosperity.

To the caller of Allah and place of manifestation of His signs.

To the authority who shall communicate and make known the true point of view.

To the son of the chosen Prophet, the son of Ali Al-Murtaza.

I eagerly long for you who is worthy of acceptance and lawful driving force of belief and conviction, never weary or annoyed.

To my Lord Al-Huja Bin Al-Hassan Almahdi Peace be upon him.

Fouad

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## Symbols and Acronyms Abbreviation

Symbol	Description
Pr	Probability
pdf	Probability density function
$E(X)$	Mathematical Expectation of X
cdf	Cumulative distribution function
$G$	Graph
$x_i$	$i$ -th edge (component)
$v_i$	$i$ -th node
$n$	The number of nodes in graph
$m$	The number of edges in graph
$A$	Adjacency matrix
$I_m$	Identity matrix of size $m$
$CM$	Connection matrix
$P$	Path in graph
$PL$	Path length
$MP$	Minimal path
$np$	Number of minimal path
$IM$	Incidence matrix
$C$	Cut set in graph
$MC$	Minimal cut set
$OC$	Order of cut set
$\Phi(x)$	Structure function
$R(t)$	Reliability function
$F(t)$	Failure function
$\lambda$	Failure rate
$R_N$	Reliability Network
$R_i$	Reliability of $i$ -th component
$C_N$	Total Cost
$C_i$	The Cost of $i$ -th component

$R_G$	The Objective of Reliability Network
$C_G$	The Objective of Total Cost
NLP	Nonlinear programming
RBD	Reliability block diagram
MPT	Minimal Path Technique
MCT	Minimal Cut Technique
RPE	Reduction to Parallel Elements
DST	Delta - Star Transform Technique
ARING	Aeronautical Radio Inc.
BA	Bat Algorithm
$\lambda'$	The wavelength of ultrasonic sound
$f$	The frequency
$s_i$	Speed of $i$ -th bat
$p_i$	Position of $i$ -th bat
IN	number of iterations
$r$	The rate of pulse emission
$A_0$	Loudness
GWO	Grey Wolf Optimization
$\vec{X}_p$	Vector of the prey 's position
$\vec{X}$	Vector of the grey wolf's position
$\vec{D}$	Vector to specify a new position
$\vec{A}$ and $\vec{C}$	Coefficient vectors
$\vec{a}$	Vector set to decrease linearly
$\vec{r}_1$ and $\vec{r}_2$	Random vectors in $[0,1]$
$SD$	Standard Deviation

## Abstract

In this dissertation, four different techniques (Minimal Path Technique, Minimal Cut Technique, Reduction to Parallel Elements and Delta - Star Transform) have been studied to calculate the reliability of complex networks. All of these techniques depend on minimal paths, so a method was presented to find minimal paths using matrices algebra. Moreover, a method for calculating minimal cut sets is also studied. In addition to utilize some techniques to calculate the reliability allocation of shortened network such as Exponential Allocation Technique and Aeronautical Radio Inc. (ARINC) approach method. This dissertation included calculating the importance of all network components to find the effect of all these components on the functioning of system (network) as a whole. The topic of increasing the reliability of a network has been studied based on the importance of each unit (component) of the network, through the most important units in the network obtaining the best allocation from the increase in reliability over others that are followed by importance. Finally, the reliability optimization for a complex network has been studied by using Bat and Grey Wolf Optimization algorithms and that is by relying on the use of five cost functions with these algorithms such as Logarithmic, Exponential, Exponential in terms of feasibility factor, Power Function and Tan function, with a comparison between these algorithms to choose the best algorithm that gives the highest reliability with lowest cost.

CHAPTER 1

CHAPTER ONE

## 1.1 Introduction

In language, reliability refers to relying on someone, something or the ability to trust and believe, as we say in Kumayl's supplication (*O' my Master, O' Thou upon Whom I rely*). This is close to the technical concept, reliability can be defined as the capacity of any system, device, or component to do the tasks for which it was made for the required period of time with specific conditions or restrictions. The term reliability dates back to 1816 when the poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge was first endorsed [1]. Although, network reliability originated during World War II, today it has taken on a new shape by integrating itself in all stages of the product life cycle from proposal to manufacturing. During that years following of the world war II many examination research centers and colleges started and mathematicians intrigued by the investigation of life testing and unwavering quality issues [60]. There are many researchers focused the have a look at of various reliability network, like series, parallel, series – parallel, parallel – series networks, and complex networks that enters in different life fields. Since there are different available systems and because of their importance, the researchers attempted to find more than one method to solve these complex systems [71,82] .

Network reliability design troubles have attracted many researchers, including network designers, community analysts, and network administrators, so as to percentage expansive hardware and software sources and offer the get admission to of important structures from specific places. These troubles have many programs in the areas of telecommunications and laptop networking and related domains inside the electrical, fuel sewer networks [69, 82]. During the designing of community systems, one of the crucial steps is to locate the quality format of components to optimize some performance criteria, such as value, transmissions put off or reliability. The corresponding most efficient design trouble can be formulated as a combinatorial trouble [69].

The subject "reliability optimization" appeared in the literature in due late 1940 and was first applied to communication and transportation systems. Most of the earlier works were confined to an analysis of certain performance aspects of an operating system. One

of the goals of reliability engineer is to find the best way to increase the system reliability. The reliability of a system can be defined as the probability that the system will be operating successfully at least up to a specified point of time (i.e. mission time) under stated conditions. As systems are becoming more complex, the consequences of their unreliable behavior have become severe in terms of cost, effort and so on. The interests in accessing the system reliability and the need to improve the reliability of products and system have become more and more important [68]. All manufacturers they desire the larger reliability of their products which raise the production cost of the items. In such a case, there arises a question as to how to meet the goal for a system reliability. As a result, the increase in production cost has negative effects on the user's budget. Therefore, the design reliability optimization problem is phrased as reliability improvement at a minimum cost.

## 1.2 Dissertation Outlines

This dissertation consists of six chapters. The first chapter contains the introduction, objectives, contributions of dissertation and related works. The second chapter contains some definitions and basic concepts. Third chapter includes four techniques for calculating the reliability networks. The fourth chapter discusses two ways to reliability allocation after reducing the complex network for parallel two subnetworks. This chapter also includes a study of reliability importance for complex network components. Chapter five includes two algorithms (Bat and Gray Wolf optimization) to optimize the reliability of complex network using five cost functions. The final chapter consists of conclusions and future works.

The results calculated by using MATLAB R2020a in COM. with a device (Intel(R) Core (TM) i7-7500U CPU @ 2.70GHz 2.90 GHz RAM 12 GB VGA 920M 4GB).

## 1.3 Objectives of this Dissertation

The main objectives of this dissertation are:

1. To get the best increase in complex network reliability in order to obtain the best value for total reliability with the lowest cost.
2. Finding a polynomial function of reliability in terms of the reliability of its components.
3. Reducing the number of complex network components into series and parallel components (turning it into a simple network).
4. Calculation the reliability importance of complex network components.
5. Assigning values for the reliability of complex network components to reach an acceptable value for network reliability.

## 1.4 Contributions

The dissertation included a set of contributions that can be summarized as follows:

1. We extracted all minimal path and cut sets of a complex network that has not been studied before that can serve as a communication network.
2. We found the reliability of this complex network by using several methods. Two of them are presented as theorems with their proofs.
3. We studied the subject of assignment (allocation) and the importance of each unit of the complex network, which helped us later to understand the mechanism of the increase in the reliability of the complex network based on the importance of its units.
4. We employed BA and GWO algorithms to address the problem of obtaining best increase in the reliability of a complex network at the lowest possible cost.

## 1.5 Related Works

It can be said that reliability history system goes back to 1930 when the concept of probability was applied to electrical power generation issues. With the onset of World War II, the Germans managed to develop their missiles by taking advantage of the basic concepts of reliability by improving the reliability of those missiles. In 1947 the reliability of 100,000 electronic tubes was studied by Aviation Radio and Cornell University. And it was formed reliability committee established by the United States Department of Defense in 1950 and in 1952 it was transformed to a permanent body: Advisory Group on the Reliability of Electronic Equipment (AGREE) [27]. In 1952 Davis presented paper on the exponential distribution and discussed failure data for different outcomes [29, 35]. In 1956 Shannon and Moore introduced network reliability in a paper on relay circuit reliability. They presented network reliability as the probability that the relay circuit will remain closed, given that its components are closed with known probabilities. They introduced a probabilistic model of network reliability, talked about the possibility of edge failures independently, and considered the reliability of network nodes to be equal to one. The problem is determining the probability that the network will remain connected under these conditions. If all edges have the same failure probability, they can find the network reliability polynomial [49, 59, 65]. Then, many research papers on reliability were presented, but with different names, where the same concept was described with different descriptions, such as the ability to perform, the ability to survive and performance.

In 1962 Dayton and Ohio presented their first master's thesis in network reliability under the guidance of US Air Force(USAF) institute of technology. However, since the beginning of field reliability, several researchers have addressed the hundreds of papers that have been published on this concept [32, 33]. In 1971 Van Sylke and Frank took networks with random components and failed nodes and assumed that nodes were fully reliable, providing a combinatorial analysis when they were reliable. The components are equal and decomposition methods for large networks and applications for computer

network analysis are described [78]. In 1972 Kim, suggest a method to reduce all parallel, and series-parallel components to an irreducibly series non-parallel system to calculate the reliability network [50]. Allan introduces an algorithm to find the minimal cut sets for any general network using Boolean algebra and group theory for the purpose of network reliability analysis in 1976 [16].

Linnios in 1987 introduces a method for predicting the failure rate of parallel networks, where relationships are derived to reach a steady state with a time-dependent failure rate and demonstrate how to use these relationships to obtain the steady state failure rate for complex networks [52]. In 1993 Aggarwal and Shashwati proposed a general method for allocating network reliability which can be applied to any network containing identical or mismatched components. The proposal is based on the numerical analytical method [12]. In 1997 Horowitz and Sanguthevar studied the problem of optimization reliability using dynamic programming. The problem was to calculate and optimize the reliability of a device consisting of several systems connected in series [48].

In 2005 Xiong, Jintao, and Weibo proposed a logical approximation algorithm to estimate network reliability. They concluded that it is possible to apply this algorithm to estimate both the reliability scale and the reliability of networks with different protection algorithms [83]. In 2006, Pham discusses in detail improvement network reliability prone to two types of failure. Assume that the network components are independent and identical, where he is stated that the number of components is not restricted. It also improved the reliability of series, parallel, parallel - series, and series - parallel networks [66]. In 2007 Liu, Chuanquan, and Yan Zhang studied the reliability of the electricity distribution network with the consideration of distribution generation [53]. In 2009 Boesch and Charles presented several results related to the analysis and synthesis of reliable or non-vulnerable networks, and studied some applications of reliability analysis as well as studied some related concepts in the synthesis of the most reliable network [22]. Also in 2009 Altiparmak, et al. introduced a new method to calculate the reliability of communication networks with identical link

reliability and they optimize network reliability by two algorithms, taboo search and annealing simulation [17]. In 2010, Yeh and Wei-Chang proposed a new Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO) with Monte Carlo Simulation (MCS) which is called MCS-PSO, to optimize the reliability of complex networks. The proposed MCS-PSO can reduce cost under reliability constraints [87]. In 2013 the reliability of the Ad-Hoc Mobile Wireless Network (MANET) was evaluated by Padmavathy and Sanjay and then they optimize the reliability of the network using Monte Carlo simulation [64]. In 2015 Hassan introduced two types of equivalent techniques for assessing the reliability of Electric Aircraft Systems (EAS) [44]. In the same year also Hassan and Balan introduced the quadratic case of reliability, for the purpose of taking advantage of the convex/concave interdependence of the slide components along the fixed slide reliability curves, in order to increase or at least maintain the reliability of the circuit. Clear techniques of engineering to estimate the reliability of electrical networks used in aircraft show that elements of reliability must be linearly based on time [43]. At the same time too, Alghamdi and Percy studied reliability equalization factors for a series-parallel system of components with exponentiated Weibull distribution [14]. In 2016, Mutar and Hassan presented reliability of oxygen supply system for spacecraft and some engineering characteristics, also they have presented geometry of reliability models of electrical system used inside spacecraft [46]. In 2017, Kumar investigated the applicability of multipurpose particle cluster optimization involving congestion distance (MOPSO-CD) to solve a complex reliability improvement problem with two opposing goals of reducing system cost and increasing system reliability [51]. In the same year, Abed, Udriste presented optimization techniques and methods in reliability allocation [9]. That year Shaghghi and Saba used the Genetic Algorithm (GA) to improve the multi-objective pareto-optimized design of the Group Method for Data Handling (GMDH) for neural network outcomes. In addition, the particle swarm optimization (PSO) learning algorithm has been extended to GMDH for better comparison between models [70]. In 2018 Feng, Zhao and Li studied the reliability of electric vehicles equipped with wind

turbines and the probability of failure, identified the main causes of failures and improved the reliability using the Particle Swarming (PSO) algorithm [38]. In 2019, Ouyang and Zhiyuan presented a paper to study the problem of intensive reliability and redundancy assignment to determine the optimal design of the system under several constraints, for the purpose of maximizing the reliability of the system using PSO algorithm with the nature of random perturbation [63]. In recent years, Aljobory ,Hatem and Hassan presented some mathematical models in the reliability networks, as well as finding ways to calculate the reliability of the electromagnetic system inside aircraft. The reliability allocation and optimization were also calculated using algorithms genetic algorithm and particle swarm optimization algorithm [74]. In 2020 Abdullah, Ghazi and Hassan presented a research to calculate the reliability of each component of a complex system using another algorithm, the Genetic algorithm to solve the problem of allocation and to optimize system reliability [8]. In 2021 the above two researchers studied the reliability of the same system and calculated the reliability allocation and optimization for a complex network by using GA algorithm, PSO algorithm, Ant Colony Algorithm (ACA) and bee's colony optimization, with a comparison between these algorithms to choose the best algorithm that gives the highest reliability and lowest cost [5,6].

CHAPTER 2

CHAPTER TWO: BASIC DEFINITIONS AND CONCEPTS

## 2.1 Introduction

It is very necessary to start our study by including and clarifying some of the mathematical definitions and concepts that we need. Therefore, in this chapter, we will explain some concepts of probability theory such as properties of probability, independent events and probability density function,  $\dots$ , etc. In addition, we discuss the graph theory and some of its concepts. Also, we will explain the structure function, types and its properties. Moreover, we will introduce reliability function, failure rate function, and some related functions. In view of the importance of minimal paths and minimal cut sets to the issue of network reliability, we allocated the sixth section to the method of calculating the minimal paths, while the seventh section is devoted to calculating the minimal cut sets. We also discussed what matters to us from the concept of optimization.

## 2.2 Some Basic Definitions of Probability

The subject of probability requires a set of random events, a subset of the universal set to which probabilities can be assigned [39,62]. We will not expand on this section, as we will mention some of the definitions and concepts that we need in our study.

**Definition 2.2.1.** Let  $S = \{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n\}$  be a set of random variables for any given experiment. Then the **Probability**  $\Pr$  is a function  $\Pr : S \rightarrow [0, 1]$ .

The following properties hold [39]:

- (1)  $0 \leq \Pr(A_i) \leq 1$ , for all event  $A_i \subseteq S$ .
- (2)  $\Pr(S) = \sum_{i=1}^n \Pr(A_i) = 1$  and  $\Pr(\phi) = 0$ .
- (3)  $\Pr(A_i) = 1 - \Pr(A_i^c)$ , for all event  $A_i \subseteq S$ , here  $A_i^c$  represent to complement of  $A_i$ .

For any pair of events  $A, B \subseteq S$ , we have:

$$\Pr(A \cup B) = \Pr(A) + \Pr(B) - \Pr(A \cap B).$$

Similarly, for any events,  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n \subseteq S$ , then the probability of their union is given by:

$$\Pr\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n \Pr(A_i) - \sum_{i_1 < i_2} \Pr\left(A_{i_1} \cap A_{i_2}\right) + \sum_{i_1 < i_2 < i_3} \Pr\left(A_{i_1} \cap A_{i_2} \cap A_{i_3}\right) - \dots + (-1)^{n-1} \Pr\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i\right)$$

**Definition 2.2.2.** Let  $A, B \subseteq S$  such that  $A \cap B = \phi$ . Then  $A$  and  $B$  are called **disjoint** events, and so,  $\Pr(A \cap B) = 0$  [62].

So, for any two disjoint events  $A$  and  $B$  we have;  $\Pr(A \cup B) = \Pr(A) + \Pr(B)$ .

In general, the probability of union for  $k$  disjoint events  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k \subseteq S$ , is given by:

$$\Pr\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^k A_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^k \Pr(A_i). \quad (2.1)$$

**Definition 2.2.3.** Two different events  $A$  and  $B$  are called **Independent** events, if  $\Pr(A \cap B) = \Pr(A) \cdot \Pr(B)$  [39, 62].

**Definition 2.2.4.** Let  $X$  be a continuous random variable. Then the function  $f(x)$  is called **Probability Density Function** (pdf), if for any interval  $[a, b]$  one has [39]:

$$\Pr(a \leq X \leq b) = \int_a^b f(x) dx, \quad (2.2)$$

such that the following conditions are satisfied:

(1)  $f(x) \geq 0$  for all  $x$ .

(2)  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = 1$ .

**Definition 2.2.5.** Assume that  $X$  is a continuous random variable. Then the function  $F(x)$  is called **Cumulative distribution function** (cdf), if for any number  $x$  one has [39, 62]:

$$\Pr(X \leq x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(y)dy \quad (2.3)$$

From last two definitions, a relationship can be deduced between pdf and cdf as follows:

$$f(x) = \frac{d(F(x))}{dx}.$$

**Definition 2.2.6.** Assume that  $X$  is a random variable with probability density function  $f(x)$ . Then the **Mathematical Expectation** of  $X$ ,  $E(X)$  is given by [62]:

$$E(X) = \begin{cases} \sum_{i=1}^n xf(x) & \text{if } X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\} \text{ (discrete random variable)} \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xf(x)dx & \text{if } X \text{ is a continuous random variable} \end{cases}$$

## 2.3 Some Basic Definitions of Graph Theory

A graph theory is one of the main topics we need to study reliability, so let's start with some definitions.

**Definition 2.3.1.** A **graph**  $G = (V, E)$  is defined by an ordered  $(V, E)$  where  $V \neq \phi$ , it's elements are said to be nodes (vertices or points). The elements of  $E$  are called edges (lines or components) of  $G$  that is  $E(G) = \{x = uv : u, v \in V\}$  [25, 81].

**Definition 2.3.2.** An **order** of a graph  $G$  is the number of nodes in  $G$  and the **size** of  $G$  is the number of edges in  $G$ , denoted by  $n$  and  $m$  respectively [26, 81].

**Example 2.3.1.** Figure 2.1 shows a graph  $G$  with  $n = 5$  and  $m = 6$ . The set of nodes is  $V(G) = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, v_5\}$  and the set of edges is  $E(G) = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6\}$ .

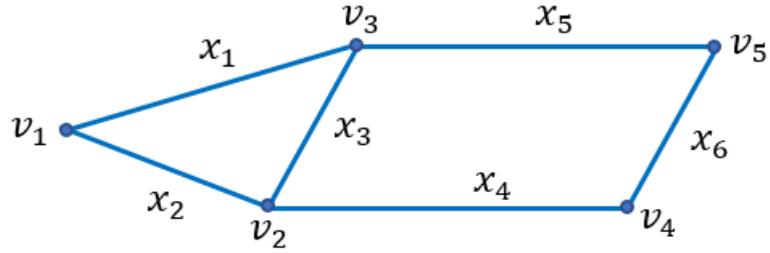


Figure 2.1: A Graph  $G$  with  $n = 5$  and  $m = 6$

**Definition 2.3.3.** A **simple graph** is a graph which has no an edge that joins a node to itself and has no two nodes are joined by more than one edge [25,81].

The graph in [Figure 2.1](#) is a simple graph.

**Definition 2.3.4.** Let  $x$  be an edge that connects the two nodes  $u$  and  $v$  by arrow (it has direction  $u \rightarrow v$  or  $u \leftrightarrow v$ ). Then  $x$  called a **directed** edge [26,81].

**Definition 2.3.5.** A **directed graph** (or **digraph**) is a graph that is made up of a set of nodes connected by directed edges often called arcs [25,81]. [Figure 2.2](#) (a) and (b) are an equivalent digraphs.

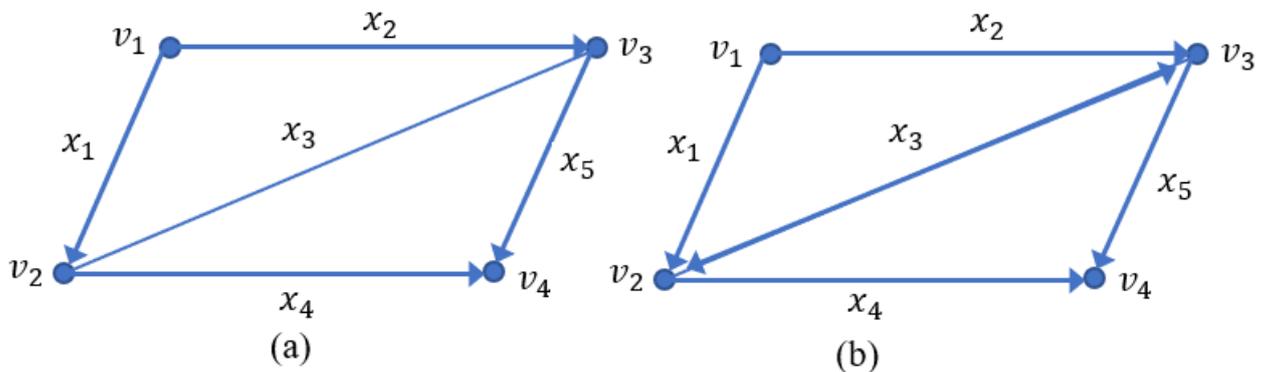


Figure 2.2: Directed Graph

**Remark 1.** In any digraph if the edge  $x$  connects the two nodes  $u$  and  $v$  by a two-way arrow ( $u \leftrightarrow v$ ), then we can draw  $x$  without directions as in [Figure 2.2](#) the edge  $x_3$  has two-way arrow in (b) while it without directions in (a).

**Definition 2.3.6.** Let  $G$  be a graph or digraph with  $n$  nodes. Then an **Adjacency matrix** ( $A$ ) is  $n \times n$  matrix has elements indicate whether pairs of nodes are adjacent or not in the graph. In the simple graph, the adjacency matrix is a  $(0, x_{ij})$ -matrix with zeros on its diagonal, here  $x_{ij}$  represent the edge between two nodes  $v_i$  and  $v_j$ , if  $v_i$  adjacent with  $v_j$  we write  $x_{ij}$  and if not put 0 [26,81].

**Example 2.3.2.** The adjacency matrix of the graph in [Figure 2.1](#) is

$$A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_2 & x_1 & 0 & 0 \\ x_2 & 0 & x_3 & x_4 & 0 \\ x_1 & x_3 & 0 & 0 & x_5 \\ 0 & x_4 & 0 & 0 & x_6 \\ 0 & 0 & x_5 & x_6 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

And the adjacency matrix of the digraph in [Figure 2.2](#) is

$$A_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_1 & x_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & x_3 & x_4 \\ 0 & x_3 & 0 & x_5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Definition 2.3.7.** A **connection matrix** ( $CM$ ) constructed from adding an adjacency matrix with the identity matrix  $I_m$ , that is  $CM = A + I_m$ , [81] (i.e. replacing the zeros in diagonal of an adjacency matrix with ones).

**Example 2.3.3.** The connection matrix of the graph in Figure 2.1 is

$$CM_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_2 & x_1 & 0 & 0 \\ x_2 & 1 & x_3 & x_4 & 0 \\ x_1 & x_3 & 1 & 0 & x_5 \\ 0 & x_4 & 0 & 1 & x_6 \\ 0 & 0 & x_5 & x_6 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

And the connection matrix of the digraph in Figure 2.2 is

$$CM_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_1 & x_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & x_3 & x_4 \\ 0 & x_3 & 1 & x_5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Definition 2.3.8.** A **path** ( $P$ ) is a set of units which, when working, connect the start node with the end node through working edges, thereby guaranteeing that the system is in a working state [61].

**Definition 2.3.9.** A **path length** ( $PL$ ) is the number of edges (or units) in path [81].

**Definition 2.3.10.** Let  $G$  be a graph or digraph with  $n$  nodes. Then the **minimal path** ( $MP$ ) is a path from which no edge can be removed without disconnecting the link between start and end nodes such that  $PL < n$  [43, 61].

**Example 2.3.4.** In [Figure 2.2](#) the minimal paths between start node  $v_1$  and end node  $v_4$  are as follows:

- $MP_1 : v_1 \rightarrow v_2 \rightarrow v_4 \equiv x_1x_4.$
- $MP_2 : v_1 \rightarrow v_3 \rightarrow v_4 \equiv x_2x_5.$
- $MP_3 : v_1 \rightarrow v_2 \rightarrow v_3 \rightarrow v_4 \equiv x_1x_3x_5.$
- $MP_4 : v_1 \rightarrow v_3 \rightarrow v_2 \rightarrow v_4 \equiv x_2x_3x_4.$

With  $PL_1 = PL_2 = 2$  and  $PL_3 = PL_4 = 3$ , where  $MP_i$  and  $PL_i$  are the minimal path and path length of the  $i$ -th path.

In [example \(2.3.4\)](#), calculating minimal paths was easy, but we cannot do that for all graphs, to find minimal paths there are several methods, as we will see that in [section \(2.6\)](#) where one of those methods was adopted.

**Definition 2.3.11.** Let  $G$  be a graph with  $m$  edges and has  $np$  minimal paths. Then an **Incidence matrix** is an  $np \times m$  (0,1)-matrix, denoted by  $IM$  such that [25, 81]

$$a_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{when } x_l \in MP_i \\ 0 & \text{when } x_l \notin MP_i \end{cases}$$

**Example 2.3.5.** An incidence matrix of the digraph in [Figure 2.2](#) is given by:

$$IM = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Definition 2.3.12.** The graph or digraph is called be a **connected** if and only if there exist at lest one path between every pair of nodes, otherwise it called **disconnected** [81].

**Example 2.3.6.** The graph in [Figure 2.1](#) and the digraph in [Figure 2.2](#) are connected. While, the graph in [Figure 2.3](#) is disconnected because there isn't any path from  $v_1$  to  $v_4$ .

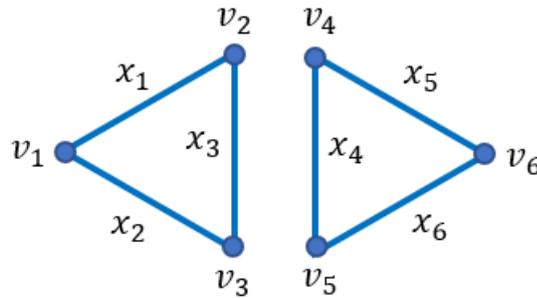


Figure 2.3: Disconnected Graph

**Definition 2.3.13.** Let  $G$  be a graph and  $C$  be a set of edges in  $G$ . Then  $C$  is said to be **cut set** of  $G$  if deletion all edges of  $C$  from  $G$  makes  $G$  disconnected [26,61].

**Definition 2.3.14.** The number of edges in a cut set is said to be **order** of cut set, denoted by  $OC$  [81].

**Definition 2.3.15.** A **minimal cut set** ( $MC$ ) of a graph with  $n$  nodes is a cut set that does not contain any other cut set such that  $OC < n$  [26,61].

**Example 2.3.7.** Take a look at the connected graph in [Figure 2.4](#):

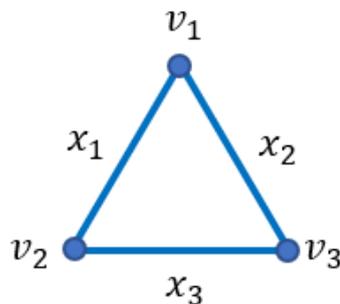


Figure 2.4: Connected Graph

All cut sets of this connected graph are as follows:

- $C_1 = \{x_1, x_2\}$ .
- $C_2 = \{x_1, x_3\}$ .
- $C_3 = \{x_2, x_3\}$ .
- $C_4 = \{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$

With  $OC = 2,2,2,3$ , respectively.

Note that  $C_1, C_2$  and  $C_3$  are minimal cut sets while,  $C_4$  is not minimal cut set for two reasons, first one is  $OC_4 = 3 = n$  and the second reason is  $C_1, C_2, C_3 \subseteq C_4$ , here  $C_i$  represent to  $i$ -th cut set and  $OC_i$  represent to order of  $i$ -th cut set.

In [example \(2.3.7\)](#), calculating minimal cut sets was easy, but we cannot do that for all graphs, to calculate minimal cut sets of any graph there are several methods, as we will see that in [section \(2.7\)](#) where one of those methods was adopted.

The concepts of minimal paths and minimal cut sets are very important in the study and analysis of the network reliability it is included in most of the special methods for calculating the reliability of networks, as we will see in the third chapter.

**Remark 2.** From now on, we shall write a network instead of a graph or digraph and a component instead of the edge. We must not confuse between two concepts, simple graph and simple network, the first concept includes the second in addition to the complex network. The difference between a simple and complex networks depends on how its components are connected and has nothing to do with their number, we may have a network with a million components (in series, parallel or mixed), but it is simple network, on the other hand we may have a network with less than five components, but it is a complex network if they are connected in a way that is not series, parallel, or mixed for example the graph in [Figure 2.2](#) is a simple graph but it is a complex network.

## 2.4 Structure Function

A **Structure Function**  $\Phi(x)$  is a binary characteristic shows the status of network whether it is working or not. It gives the state of each component.

Consider a network has  $m$  components, each component of them could have two feasible states success and failure. The state of component  $k$  is given by the binary variable  $x_k$  [44]

$$x_k = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if component } k \text{ success} \\ 0 & \text{if component } k \text{ fails} \end{cases}$$

From the formula above one have for all  $i$  and  $n$

$$x_i^n = x_i \quad (2.4)$$

The interpretation of network is measured by the binary random variable

$$\Phi(x_1, \dots, x_m) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if network success} \\ 0 & \text{if network fails} \end{cases}$$

### 2.4.1 Series Structure

A network that operates if and only if all components are success is said to be a **series structure**. A series structure with  $m$  components is illustrated by diagram in [Figure 2.5](#)

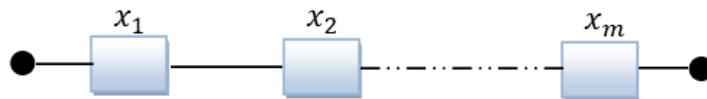


Figure 2.5: Series Structure

The structure function with  $m$  components in series is given by [2]:

$$\Phi(x) = \prod_{i=1}^m x_i \quad (2.5)$$

**Example 2.4.1.** The structure function of four connected components in series is given by:  $\Phi(x) = x_1x_2x_3x_4$ .

## 2.4.2 Parallel Structure

A network that operates when at least one of its components is working successfully is called a **parallel structure** [46]. A parallel structure with  $m$  components is illustrated by diagram shown in [Figure 2.6](#)

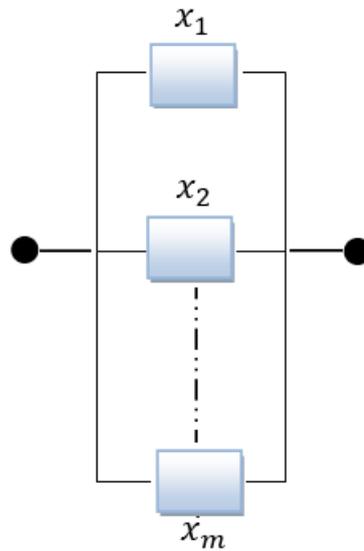


Figure 2.6: Parallel Structure

The structure function with  $m$  components in parallel is given by:

$$\Phi(x) = 1 - \prod_{i=1}^m (1 - x_i) \quad (2.6)$$

**Example 2.4.2.** The structure function of four connected components in parallel is given by:

$$\Phi(x) = 1 - (1 - x_1)(1 - x_2)(1 - x_3)(1 - x_4).$$

$$\text{Or } \Phi(x) = x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 - x_1x_2 - x_1x_3 - x_1x_4 - x_2x_3 - x_2x_4 - x_3x_4 + x_1x_2x_3 + x_1x_2x_4 + x_2x_3x_4 - x_1x_2x_3x_4.$$

### 2.4.3 Properties of Structure Function

The structure function is an important mathematical model in network reliability which has some properties. Consider a network with  $m$  components, the properties of a structure function are :

1.  $\Phi(0) = 0$  and  $\Phi(1) = 1$ .
2.  $\Phi(x_i, x_j) \leq \Phi(x_i) \cdot \Phi(x_j)$ .
3.  $\Phi[(1 - x_i) \cdot (1 - x_j)] \geq [1 - \Phi(x_i)] \cdot [1 - \Phi(x_j)]$ .
4.  $\prod_{i=1}^m x_i \leq \Phi(x) \leq \prod_{i=1}^m (1 - x_i)$ .

## 2.5 Reliability Function

The essential elements of the reliability of any manufactured equipment are probability, adequate performance, adequate performance duration and operating conditions [25].

**Definition 2.5.1.** A Reliability  $R(t)$  is the probability that a component, device, or system will perform its task well for a specified period of time under certain conditions.

The definition can be formulated in a mathematical expression in terms of the random variable  $T$ , the time of system or device failure by [13, 73]:

$$R(t) = \Pr(T > t) \quad (2.7)$$

The definition of reliability includes all four aspects of the product, unlike quality, which only talks about specifications. This means that reliability is quality over time, which is subject to the influence of time and operating environment. There is another difference between reliability and quality, which is that reliability devices can be manufactured using less reliability components, while it is very difficult to manufacture high-quality devices with lower quality components.

**Definition 2.5.2.** The **Failure Function**  $F(t)$  is the probability failure takes place at a time less than or equal to  $t$  can be defined as follows [25]:

$$F(t) = \Pr(T < t) \quad (2.8)$$

The reliability function  $R(t)$  has the following properties:

- (1)  $R(t) \in [0, 1]$ .
- (2) If  $t_1 < t_2$ , then  $R(t_1) > R(t_2)$ , that is  $R(t)$  is decreasing function at  $t$ .
- (3)  $R(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{when } t = 0 \\ 0 & \text{when } t \rightarrow \infty. \end{cases}$

The third property means that product operates normally at time  $t = 0$  and no product can continue to work forever without failure. God Almighty says in the Holy Quran (*Everyone upon the earth will perish, and there will remain the Face of your Lord, Owner of Majesty and Honor.*) (The Most Graciously 26-27).

$R(t)$  can be written as:  $R(t) = \Pr(T \geq t)$ . So,

$$R(t) = 1 - F(t). \quad (2.9)$$

This equivalent to

$$R(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)dx - \int_{-\infty}^t f(x)dx$$

Therefore, we can write the reliability function in terms of pdf as follows:

$$R(t) = \int_t^{\infty} f(x)dx. \quad (2.10)$$

Conversely, we can write the pdf in terms of  $R(t)$  as follows:

$$f(t) = -\frac{d(R(t))}{dt}. \quad (2.11)$$

Using the exponential distribution, the pdf can be written in the form:

$$f(t) = \lambda e^{-\lambda t} \quad (2.12)$$

here  $\lambda$  is a parameter of the exponential distribution.

Therefore, the reliability function of the exponential distribution can be derived based on equation (2.10) as follows:

$$R(t) = 1 - \int_0^t \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx$$

So, the reliability function becomes as follows:

$$R(t) = e^{-\lambda t} \quad (2.13)$$

here  $\lambda$  is a failure rate.

**Definition 2.5.3.** Let  $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\}$  and the component  $x_i$  being random variables, then there exist two probabilities  $R_N$  and  $R_i$ , such that  $R_N = \Pr(\Phi(X) = 1) = E(\Phi(X))$ , and  $R_i = \Pr(x_i = 1) = E(x_i)$ .

Then  $R_N$  is called the **Reliability Network** and  $R_i$  represents the reliability of  $i$ -th component [44].

**Definition 2.5.4.** Let  $G$  be a network with  $m$  components  $x_i; i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ , each component has reliability  $R_i, 0 \leq R_i \leq 1$ , for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ . Then the **Reliability Polynomial**  $R_N$  is nonlinear function in terms of  $R_i$  [45].

**Definition 2.5.5.** A **Reliability Block Diagram** (RBD) is a schematic way to show how the reliability of network components affects the success or failure of redundancy. The RBD is drawn based on the all minimal paths in parallel configuration, or on the all minimal cut sets in series configuration [74].

**Example 2.5.1.** Consider the network in [Figure 2.7](#)

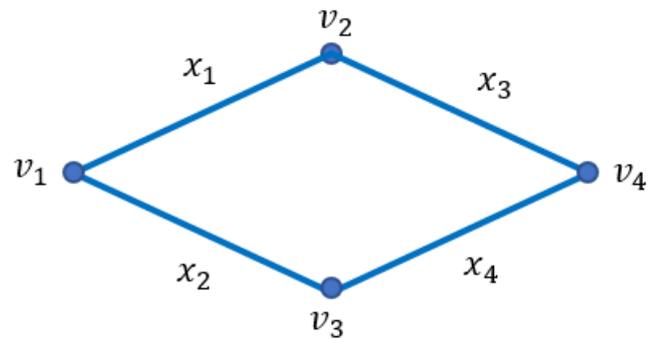


Figure 2.7: Network with  $n = m = 4$

The minimal paths are:  $MP_1 = x_1x_3$  and  $MP_2 = x_2x_4$ .

So, the RBD of digraph based minimal paths shown in [Figure 2.8](#)

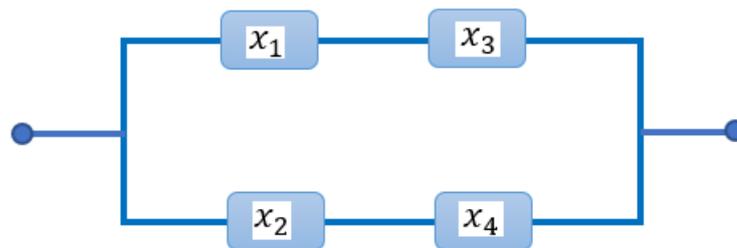


Figure 2.8: RBD Based Minimal Paths

And the minimal cut sets are:  $MC_1 = \{x_1, x_2\}$ ,  $MC_2 = \{x_3, x_4\}$ ,  $MC_3 = \{x_1, x_4\}$  and  $MC_4 = \{x_2, x_3\}$ .

So, the RBD of digraph based minimal cut sets shown in [Figure 2.9](#)

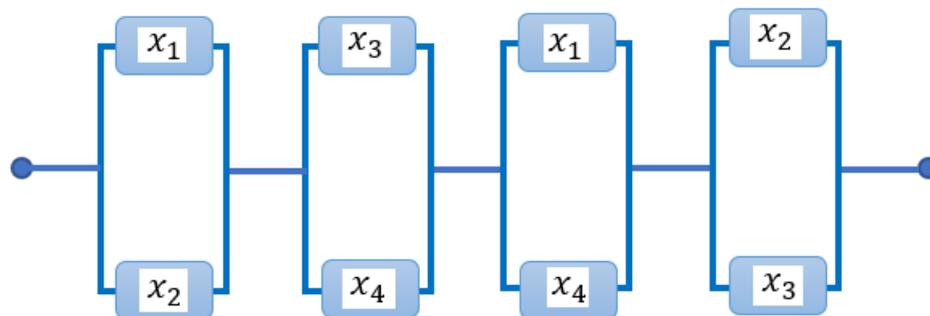


Figure 2.9: RBD Based Minimal Cut Sets

## 2.6 Calculation Minimal Paths

There are several methods to find minimal paths, one of them is the direct way from the network by tracing the paths from the start node to the end node as we show in [example \(2.3.4\)](#), but this way is not feasible sometimes, especially in complex networks, so we will rely on one of these methods. In this method, we will be using a connection matrix  $CM$  to create minimal paths.

To find minimal paths delete any node which is neither the start nor the end from  $CM$ , one by one until the only two nodes start and end nodes left in the matrix. That is  $CM$  becomes  $2 \times 2$  matrix in the form [25]:

$$CM = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \sum_{i=1}^{np} MP_i \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.14)$$

where  $np$  is the number of minimal paths.

When the node  $k$  is removed, the entries of the relationship matrix with the closing nodes are changed the usage subsequent equation

$$a_{ij}^k = \begin{cases} a_{ij}^{k-1} + a_{ik}^{k-1}a_{kj}^{k-1} & \text{if the node } k \text{ is removed ; } i \neq j \\ 1 & \text{if } i = j \end{cases} \quad (2.15)$$

where  $a_{ij}^k$  and  $a_{ij}^{k-1}$  represent the element  $a_{ij}$  in a new matrix and old matrix respectively.

We will illustrate this method with the following example.

**Example 2.6.1.** Consider the network in [Figure 2.2](#) and it's  $CM_2$  in [example \(2.3.3\)](#).

Remove node 2 (i.e  $2^{nd}$  row and  $2^{nd}$  column from  $CM_2$ ) with apply [equation \(2.15\)](#) to get:

The first row in new matrix is:  $a_{11}^1 = 1, a_{13}^1 = x_2 + x_1x_3, a_{14}^1 = x_1x_4$ .

The second row is:  $a_{31}^1 = 0, a_{33}^1 = 1, a_{34}^1 = x_5 + x_3x_4$ .

And the third row is:  $a_{41}^1 = 0, a_{43}^1 = 0, a_{44}^1 = 1$

The modified connection matrix becomes  $3 \times 3$  matrix in the following:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_2 + x_1x_3 & x_1x_4 \\ 0 & 1 & x_5 + x_3x_4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Then, remove node 3 (i.e  $2^{nd}$  row and  $2^{nd}$  column from last matrix) with apply [equation \(2.15\)](#) again to get:  $a_{11}^2 = 1, a_{13}^2 = x_1x_4 + (x_2 + x_1x_3)(x_5 + x_3x_4), a_{31}^2 = 0$  and  $a_{33}^2 = 1$ .

Simplify the term  $a_{13}^2$  and then apply [equation \(2.4\)](#) to get:

$$a_{13}^2 = x_1x_4 + x_2x_5 + x_2x_3x_4 + x_1x_3x_5 + x_1x_3x_4$$

The modified connection matrix becomes the following  $2 \times 2$  matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_1x_4 + x_2x_5 + x_2x_3x_4 + x_1x_3x_5 + x_1x_3x_4 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Compared with [equation \(2.14\)](#) we get:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{np} MP_i = x_1x_4 + x_2x_5 + x_2x_3x_4 + x_1x_3x_5 + x_1x_3x_4.$$

Therefore, the minimal paths are:

$$MP_1 = x_1x_4, \quad MP_2 = x_2x_5, \quad MP_3 = x_1x_3x_5 \quad \text{and} \quad MP_4 = x_2x_3x_4.$$

**Notes:**

- (1)  $PL < 4$  for all  $MP$ .
- (2)  $MP_5 = x_1x_3x_4 \supset MP_1$  therefore,  $MP_5 = x_1x_3x_4$  it is not mentioned with minimal paths.

## 2.7 Calculation Minimal Cut Sets

Consider a network with  $n$  nodes,  $m$  components and  $np$  minimal paths. Then the  $IM$  of this network is  $np \times m$  matrix with 0 and 1 elements. For a generation of minimal cut sets,  $n - 1$  steps have to be followed [25]:

- **Step 1:** If for all  $a_{ij} \neq 0$  of any column  $x_i$  of  $IM$ , then  $x_i$  forms a first order cut.
- **Step 2:** Add two columns of  $IM$  at a time, If for all  $i; a_{ij} + a_{ik} \neq 0$ , then  $x_j x_k$  form a second order cut, where  $k > j, (k = 1, \dots, m)$ . Deleting any cut set containing first order cuts to give second order minimal cut sets.
- **Step 3:** Repeat step (2) with three columns at a time to give the third order cuts, this time delete any cut set containing first and second order cut sets.

$\vdots$     $\vdots$     $\vdots$

- **Step  $n - 1$ :** Repeat step  $n - 2$  with  $n - 1$  columns at a time to give the  $n - 1$  order cut set, this time delete any cut set containing cut set with order less than  $n - 1$ .

**Example 2.7.1.** Consider the complex network in [Figure 2.2](#) with  $n = 4$   $m = 5$ , we find the  $IM$  in [example \(2.3.5\)](#). Since  $n = 4$ , we have three steps:

- (1) There are no first order cut set because no single column in the  $IM$  exists in which all elements are non-zero.
- (2) Add two columns of the  $IM$  at a time, we get two minimal cut sets of order two which are  $MC_1 = \{x_1, x_2\}$  and  $MC_2 = \{x_4, x_5\}$ .
- (3) Add three columns at a time, we get six cut set of order three which are:
  - $C_3 = \{x_1, x_2, x_3\} \supset MC_1$ .
  - $C_4 = \{x_1, x_2, x_4\} \supset MC_1$ .
  - $C_5 = \{x_1, x_2, x_5\} \supset MC_1$ .

- $C_6 = \{x_2, x_3, x_4\}$ .
- $C_7 = \{x_2, x_3, x_5\}$ .  $C_8 = \{x_3, x_4, x_5\} \supset MC_2$ .

But the cut sets  $C_3, C_4, C_5$  and  $C_8$  all of them containing a minimal cut set of order two, then they are not minimal cut sets. While  $C_6$  and  $C_7$  are both of them minimal cut set. So, the minimal cut sets are:

- $MC_1 = \{x_1, x_2\}$ .
- $MC_2 = \{x_4, x_5\}$ .
- $MC_3 = \{x_2, x_3, x_4\}$ .
- $MC_4 = \{x_2, x_3, x_5\}$ .

## 2.8 Optimization

Artificial Intelligence (AI) includes all types of intelligence provided by machines. The main topics of AI is the study of unconventional optimization techniques. It is considered Computational Intelligence (CI) is a branch of AI and is the basic principle of all optimization algorithms known as metaheuristic algorithms, they are a trial-and-error method of production that provides an acceptable solution to a complex problem in a reasonable practical time [23].

Optimization is the process of maximizing or minimizing a desired objective function while satisfying the prevailing constraints. The companies were based on the concept of improvement to strive for excellence. Solutions to their problems have mostly been based on judgment and experience. However, competition requires that the solutions be perfect and not merely feasible. Often, improving the design process saves money for producing companies [20, 86]. Optimization problems have three basic elements. The first is the goal, may be a single scalar quantity, or an objective function, that must be minimized or maximized, increased or decreased. The second is a set of variables whose values affect

the value of the goal, and can be manipulated to improve the goal. The third is a set of constraints, which are constraints on the values that variables can take. For example, determining the cost of manufacturing a device specific so that it is not more than what is available, and the cost cannot be equal to zero or less than it [18,21,86].

### 2.8.1 Linear Programming

Linear Programming (LP) is an important category of optimization and indicates that there are no variables to powers greater than one. For this class, problems involve maximizing or minimizing a linear objective function whose variables are real numbers bound to satisfy a system of linear equality or inequality [20,86].

### 2.8.2 Nonlinear Programming

The general optimization problem is to select  $k$  decision variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k$  from a given feasible region in such a way as to optimize (minimize or maximize) a given objective function  $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k)$  of the decision variables. The problem is called a **Nonlinear Programming** (NLP) problem if the objective function is nonlinear or the feasible region is determined by nonlinear constraints. Thus, in maximization form, the general nonlinear program is stated as [19,75,86]:

$$\text{Maximize } f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k),$$

Subject to:

$$g_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k) \leq a_1,$$

$$g_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k) \leq a_2,$$

$$\vdots \qquad \qquad \qquad \vdots$$

$$g_j(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k) \leq a_j,$$

here  $g_i$  represent to a given constraint functions,  $a_i$  are constants for all  $i = 1, \dots, j$ .

### 2.8.3 Multi-objective Optimization

A basic single-objective optimization problem can be formulated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Minimize } f(x) \\ & \text{Subject to: } x \in \Lambda \end{aligned}$$

here  $f$  is a scalar function and  $\Lambda$  is the (implicit) set of constraints that can be defined as:

$$\Lambda = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^k : g(x) > 0\}.$$

Multi-objective optimization typically arises in several engineering modeling problems among which the decision maker selects several competing objectives to satisfy. Multi-objective optimization problems are also called multi-criteria optimization problems. A multi-objective optimization problem can be expressed as:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Minimize } (f_1(x), f_2(x), \dots, f_k(x)) \\ & \text{Subject to: } x \in \Lambda \text{ (i.e } x = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}) \end{aligned}$$

here  $f_i : \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , for all  $i = 1, \dots, k, k \geq 2$  are (possibly) conflicting objective functions and  $\Lambda \subseteq \mathbb{R}^k$  is the feasible region.

The goal of multi-objective optimization is to simultaneously minimize all of the objective functions.

For consistency, we transform all the maximization problems of the type maximize  $f_i$  into equivalent minimization problems minimize  $(-f_i)$  [42, 54, 76].

CHAPTER 3

CHAPTER THREE: SOME TECHNIQUES TO FIND  
RELIABILITY NETWORK

### 3.1 Introduction

In this chapter, we shall find the reliability polynomial of a complex network by using four techniques, which are, Minimal Path Technique (MPT), Minimal Cut Technique (MCT), Reduction to Parallel Elements Technique (RPE), in which the network is transformed into two parallel subnetworks and Delta Star Technique (DST), where the network will be transformed into two subnetworks in series.

To evaluate the reliability  $R_N$ ; ( $0 \leq R_N \leq 1$ ) of any network with  $m$  components we must know the reliability of each component  $R_i$ , and compensation these reliabilities in reliability polynomial [12, 25].

The complex network shown in Figure 3.1 which its components connected in a way that is not series, parallel, or mixed, was chosen to apply the mentioned techniques to find its reliability and then we study the issue of reliability allocation in addition to optimization the reliability network.

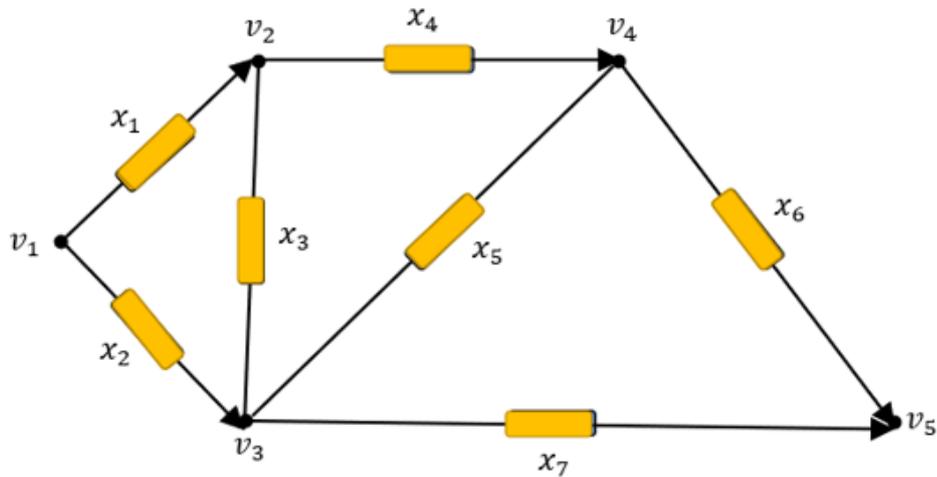


Figure 3.1: Complex Network

## 3.2 Minimal Path Technique (MPT)

To find a reliability polynomial for any complex network we must first know the structure function of this network where we substitute  $\Phi$  by  $R_N$ , and each  $x_i$  by  $R_i$  [3,25]. For generation the structure function of any complex network has  $np$  of minimal paths, we put forward the following theorem:

**Theorem 3.2.1.** *Let  $G$  be a complex network and let  $MP_1, MP_2, \dots, MP_{np}$  be the complete list of all minimal paths. Then the structure function of  $G$  is given by:*

$$\Phi(x) = 1 - \prod_{i=1}^{np} \left( 1 - \prod_{x_j \in MP_i} x_j \right) \quad (3.1)$$

**Proof:** Let  $MP_i$  be a minimal path in  $G$ .

It is obvious that the components of any path are in series [2].

So, we can applying [equation \(2.5\)](#).

Thus, the structure function of a minimal path  $MP_i$  is given by:

$$\Phi_{MP_i}(x) = \prod_{x_j \in MP_i} x_j.$$

It is clear that all paths are in parallel [2,43].

So, we can applying [equation \(2.6\)](#).

Thus, the structure function of  $G$  is:

$$\Phi(x) = 1 - \prod_{i=1}^{np} \left( 1 - \Phi_{MP_i}(x) \right).$$

Which leads to:

$$\Phi(x) = 1 - \prod_{i=1}^{np} \left( 1 - \prod_{x_j \in MP_i} x_j \right)$$

■

To find the reliability polynomial of any complex network by this technique, we applying the folloing two steps:

- **Step 1:** Create  $CM$  to find the minimal paths as in [section \(2.6\)](#).
- **Step 2:** Apply [theorem \(3.2.1\)](#) to find the structure function and apply [equation \(2.4\)](#) to put the structure function in simplest form, then replace  $\Phi(x)$  by  $R_N$ , and each  $x_i$  by  $R_i$  to get the reliability polynomial.

Now, we begin to implement these two steps on the complex network in [Figure 3.1](#).

First, create an adjacency matrix of the complex network as follow:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_1 & x_2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & x_3 & x_4 & 0 \\ 0 & x_3 & 0 & x_5 & x_7 \\ 0 & 0 & x_5 & 0 & x_6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

But we have  $CM = A + I_5$ , then  $CM$  is as follow:

$$CM = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_1 & x_2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & x_3 & x_4 & 0 \\ 0 & x_3 & 1 & x_5 & x_7 \\ 0 & 0 & x_5 & 1 & x_6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Remove node 2 (i.e  $2^{nd}$  row and  $2^{nd}$  column from  $CM$ ) and apply [equation \(2.15\)](#) to get:

The first row in new matrix is:  $a_{11}^1 = 1$ ,  $a_{13}^1 = x_2 + x_1x_3$ ,  $a_{14}^1 = x_1x_4$ , and  $a_{15}^1 = 0$ .

The second row is:  $a_{31}^1 = 0$ ,  $a_{33}^1 = 1$ ,  $a_{34}^1 = x_5 + x_3x_4$ , and  $a_{35}^1 = x_7$ .

The third row is:  $a_{41}^1 = 0$ ,  $a_{43}^1 = x_5$ ,  $a_{44}^1 = 1$ , and  $a_{45}^1 = x_6$ .

The fourth row is:  $a_{51}^1 = 0$ ,  $a_{53}^1 = 0$ ,  $a_{54}^1 = 0$ , and  $a_{55}^1 = 1$ .

The modified connection matrix becomes the following  $4 \times 4$  matrix:

$$CM^1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_2 + x_1x_3 & x_1x_4 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & x_5 + x_3x_4 & x_7 \\ 0 & x_5 & 1 & x_6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Remove node 3 (i.e  $2^{nd}$  row and  $2^{nd}$  column from  $CM^1$ ) and apply [equation \(2.15\)](#) to get:

First row is:  $a_{11}^2 = 1$ ,  $a_{13}^2 = x_1x_4 + (x_2 + x_1x_3)(x_5 + x_3x_4)$ , and  $a_{14}^2 = (x_2 + x_1x_3)x_7$ .

Second row is:  $a_{31}^2 = 0$ ,  $a_{33}^2 = 1$ ,  $a_{34}^2 = x_6 + x_5x_7$ .

Third row is:  $a_{41}^2 = 0$ ,  $a_{43}^2 = 0$ , and  $a_{44}^2 = 1$ .

Simplify the term  $a_{13}^2$  by opening the brackets and applying [equation \(2.4\)](#) to get:

$$a_{13}^2 = x_1x_4 + x_2x_5 + x_2x_3x_4 + x_1x_3x_5.$$

Simplify the term  $a_{14}^2$  to get:  $a_{14}^2 = x_2x_7 + x_1x_3x_7$ .

Then, the modified connection matrix becomes the following  $3 \times 3$  matrix:

$$CM^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_1x_4 + x_2x_5 + x_2x_3x_4 + x_1x_3x_5 & x_2x_7 + x_1x_3x_7 \\ 0 & 1 & x_6 + x_5x_7 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Finally, remove node 4 (i.e.  $2^{nd}$  row and  $2^{nd}$  column from  $CM^2$ ) with apply [equation \(2.15\)](#)

First row is:  $a_{11}^3 = 1$  and

$$a_{13}^3 = x_2x_7 + x_1x_3x_7 + (x_1x_4 + x_2x_5 + x_2x_3x_4 + x_1x_3x_5)(x_6 + x_5x_7).$$

Second row is:  $a_{31}^3 = 0$  and  $a_{33}^2 = 1$ .

Simplify the term  $a_{13}^3$  by opening the brackets and applying [equation \(2.4\)](#) to get:

$$a_{13}^3 = x_2x_7 + x_1x_3x_7 + x_1x_4x_6 + x_2x_5x_6 + x_2x_3x_4x_6 + x_1x_3x_5x_6 + x_1x_4x_5x_7 + x_2x_3x_4x_5x_7.$$

Then, the modified connection matrix  $CM^3$  becomes the following  $2 \times 2$  matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_2x_7 + x_1x_3x_7 + x_1x_4x_6 + x_2x_5x_6 + x_2x_3x_4x_6 + x_1x_3x_5x_6 + x_1x_4x_5x_7 + x_2x_3x_4x_5x_7 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Compared with [equation \(2.14\)](#) we get:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{np} MP_i = x_2x_7 + x_1x_3x_7 + x_1x_4x_6 + x_2x_5x_6 + x_2x_3x_4x_6 + x_1x_3x_5x_6 + x_1x_4x_5x_7 + x_2x_3x_4x_5x_7.$$

Therefore, the minimal paths are:

- $MP_1 = x_2x_7.$
- $MP_2 = x_1x_3x_7.$
- $MP_3 = x_1x_4x_6.$
- $MP_4 = x_2x_5x_6.$

- $MP_5 = x_2x_3x_4x_6$
- $MP_6 = x_1x_3x_5x_6$ .
- $MP_7 = x_1x_4x_5x_7$ .

While  $MP_8 = x_2x_3x_4x_5x_7$  is a path but not minimal path because  $LP_8 = 5 = n$ .

Now, applying [theorem \(3.2.1\)](#) to find the structure function which is:

$$\Phi(x) = 1 - (1 - x_2x_7)(1 - x_1x_3x_7)(1 - x_1x_4x_6)(1 - x_2x_5x_6)(1 - x_2x_3x_4x_6)(1 - x_1x_3x_5x_6) \cdot (1 - x_1x_4x_5x_7)$$

Opening the brackets and applying [equation \(2.4\)](#) to get:

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(x) = & x_1x_2 + x_6x_7 + x_2x_3x_4 + x_4x_5x_7 + x_1x_3x_5x_7 + x_2x_3x_5x_6 + x_1x_2x_3x_4x_5x_6 \\ & + 2x_1x_2x_3x_4x_5x_7 + x_1x_2x_3x_4x_6x_7 + 2x_1x_2x_3x_5x_6x_7 + x_1x_2x_4x_5x_6x_7 + x_1x_3x_4x_5x_6x_7 \\ & + 2x_2x_3x_4x_5x_6x_7 - x_1x_2x_3x_4 - x_1x_2x_6x_7 - x_4x_5x_6x_7 - x_1x_2x_3x_5x_6 - x_1x_2x_3x_5x_7 \\ & - x_1x_2x_4x_5x_7 - x_2x_3x_4x_5x_6 - x_2x_3x_4x_5x_7 - x_1x_3x_5x_6x_7 - x_2x_3x_4x_6x_7 - x_1x_3x_4x_5x_7 \\ & - x_2x_3x_5x_6x_7 - 3x_1x_2x_3x_4x_5x_6x_7. \end{aligned}$$

Then, replace  $\Phi(x)$  by  $R_N$ , and each  $x_i$  by  $R_i$  to get the reliability polynomial which is:

$$\begin{aligned} R_N = & R_1R_2 + R_6R_7 + R_2R_3R_4 + R_4R_5R_7 + R_1R_3R_5R_7 + R_2R_3R_5R_6 + R_1R_2R_3R_4R_5R_6 \\ & + 2R_1R_2R_3R_4R_5R_7 + R_1R_2R_3R_4R_6R_7 + 2R_1R_2R_3R_5R_6R_7 + R_1R_2R_4R_5R_6R_7 \\ & + R_1R_3R_4R_5R_6R_7 + 2R_2R_3R_4R_5R_6R_7 - R_1R_2R_3R_4 - R_1R_2R_6R_7 - R_4R_5R_6R_7 \\ & - R_1R_2R_3R_5R_6 - R_1R_2R_3R_5R_7 - R_1R_2R_4R_5R_7 - R_2R_3R_4R_5R_6 - R_2R_3R_4R_5R_7 \\ & - R_1R_3R_5R_6R_7 - R_2R_3R_4R_6R_7 - R_1R_3R_4R_5R_7 - R_2R_3R_5R_6R_7 \\ & - 3R_1R_2R_3R_4R_5R_6R_7. \end{aligned} \tag{3.2}$$

### 3.3 Minimal Cut Technique (MCT)

Assume that  $G$  is a complex network has  $k$  of minimal cut sets. Then the structure function can be founded by the following theorem [25]:

**Theorem 3.3.1.** *Let  $G$  be a complex network and let  $MC_1, MC_2, \dots, MC_k$  be the complete list of all minimal cut sets of  $G$ . Then the structure function of  $G$  is given by:*

$$\Phi(x) = \prod_{i=1}^k \left( 1 - \prod_{x_j \in MC_i} (1 - x_j) \right) \quad (3.3)$$

**Proof:** Let  $MC_i$  be a minimal cut set in  $G$ .

It is clear that the components of a cut set are in parallel [3, 43].

So, we can applying [equation \(2.6\)](#) .

Thus, the structure function of a minimal cut set  $MC_i$  is given by:

$$\Phi_{MC_i}(x) = 1 - \prod_{x_j \in MC_i} (1 - x_j).$$

It is obvious that all cut sets are in series [2, 43].

So, we can applying [equation \(2.5\)](#).

Then, the structure function of  $G$  is:

$$\Phi(x) = \prod_{i=1}^k \left( 1 - \Phi_{MC_i}(x) \right).$$

Thus,

$$\Phi(x) = \prod_{i=1}^k \left( 1 - \prod_{x_j \in MC_i} (1 - x_j) \right).$$

■

So, there are two steps to find the polynomial reliability of any complex network by using minimal cut sets which are:

- **Step 1:** Create ( $IM$ ) to find the minimal cut sets as in [section \(2.7\)](#).
- **Step 2:** Apply [theorem \(3.3.1\)](#) to find the structure function and then apply [equation \(2.4\)](#) to put the structure function in simplest form, then replace  $\Phi(x)$  by  $R_N$ , and each  $x_i$  by  $R_i$  to get the reliability polynomial.

Now, we begin to implement the above steps on the complex network with  $n = 5, m = 7$  in [Figure 3.1](#).

The ( $IM$ ) of this complex network is a  $7 \times 7$  matrix in the following:

$$IM = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Since  $n = 5$ , we have four steps:

- (1) From the  $IM$  no single column exists in which all elements are non-zero, then there are no first order cut sets.
- (2) Add two columns of  $IM$  at a time, we get two minimal cut sets of order two which are  $C_1 = \{x_1, x_2\}$  and  $C_2 = \{x_6, x_7\}$ .

(3) Add three columns at a time, we get also two minimal cut sets of order three which are  $C_3 = \{x_2, x_3, x_4\}$  and  $C_4 = \{x_4, x_5, x_7\}$ .

(4) Add four columns at a time, we get ten cut sets of order four which are:

$$\begin{aligned} C_5 &= \{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4\}, C_6 = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_5\}, C_7 = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_6\}, \\ C_8 &= \{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_7\}, C_9 = \{x_1, x_4, x_6, x_7\}, C_{10} = \{x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5\}, \\ C_{11} &= \{x_2, x_3, x_4, x_6\}, C_{12} = \{x_2, x_3, x_4, x_7\}, C_{13} = \{x_3, x_4, x_5, x_7\} \\ \text{and } C_{14} &= \{x_4, x_5, x_6, x_7\}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that the cut sets  $C_5, C_6, C_7, C_8, C_{10}, C_{11}, C_{12}$  and  $C_{14}$  all of them containing a minimal cut set of order less than four, then they are not minimal cut sets. While  $C_9$  and  $C_{13}$  both of them a minimal cut set.

So, all minimal cut sets are:

- $MC_1 = \{x_1, x_2\}$ .
- $MC_2 = \{x_6, x_7\}$ .
- $MC_3 = \{x_2, x_3, x_4\}$ .
- $MC_4 = \{x_4, x_5, x_7\}$ .
- $MC_5 = \{x_1, x_4, x_6, x_7\}$ .
- $MC_6 = \{x_3, x_4, x_5, x_7\}$ .

Applying [theorem \(3.3.1\)](#) to find the structure function as below:

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(x) &= [1 - (1 - x_1)(1 - x_2)][1 - (1 - x_6)(1 - x_7)][1 - (1 - x_2)(1 - x_3)(1 - x_4)] \\ &\quad [1 - (1 - x_4)(1 - x_5)(1 - x_7)][1 - (1 - x_1)(1 - x_3)(1 - x_5)(1 - x_7)] \\ &\quad [1 - (1 - x_2)(1 - x_3)(1 - x_5)(1 - x_6)] \end{aligned}$$

Applying [equation \(2.5\)](#) to put the structure function in simplest form to get  $\Phi(x)$ , then replace  $\Phi(x)$  by  $R_N$ , and each  $x_i$  by  $R_i$  to get reliability polynomial which is the same in [equation \(3.2\)](#).

### 3.4 Reduction to Parallel Elements (RPE)

In this technique, we draw first RBD which is based on minimal paths and then we update each parallel path systematically through one identical path, until the complex network becomes two parallel subnetworks.

In other words, the structure function can be found using step by step solution and stepwise simplification. Where the group of components arranged in a series are replaced by one equivalent component, parallel components can also be replaced by an equivalent component, until we finally reach two parallel subnetworks, and we find the structure function in their terms, and from this structure function we extract the reliability polynomial [45, 57].

Now, to illustrate this technique we apply it on the complex network in Figure 3.1.

First, based on all minimal paths, a reliability block diagram is plotted in Figure 3.2

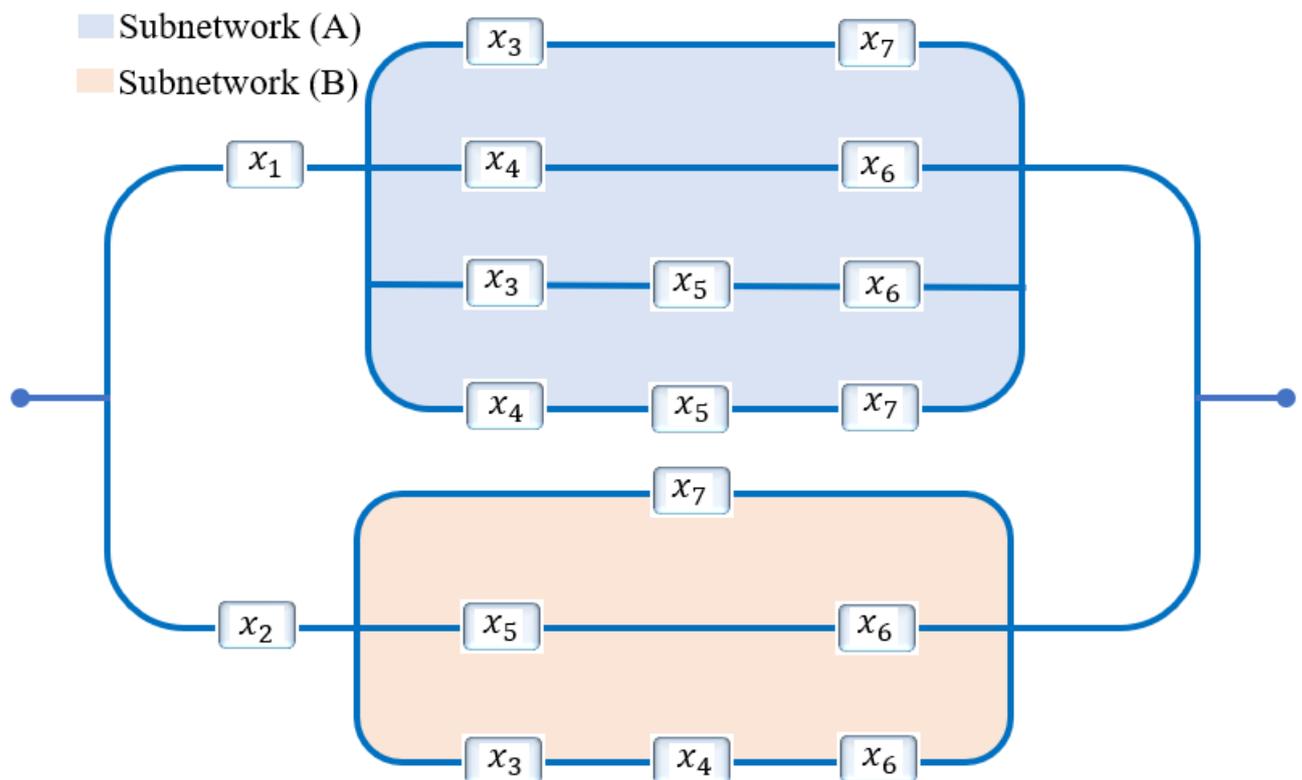


Figure 3.2: Reliability Block Diagram of Figure 3.1

Now, apply [theorem \(3.2.1\)](#) to solve two series - parallel subnetworks (A) and (B).

$$\Phi_A(x) = 1 - (1 - x_3x_7)(1 - x_4x_6)(1 - x_3x_5x_6)(1 - x_4x_5x_7).$$

And  $\Phi_B(x) = 1 - (1 - x_7)(1 - x_5x_6)(1 - x_4x_5x_6)$ .

The network has been decreased to a device contains series - parallel elements as in [Figure 3.3](#) (I) simple network.

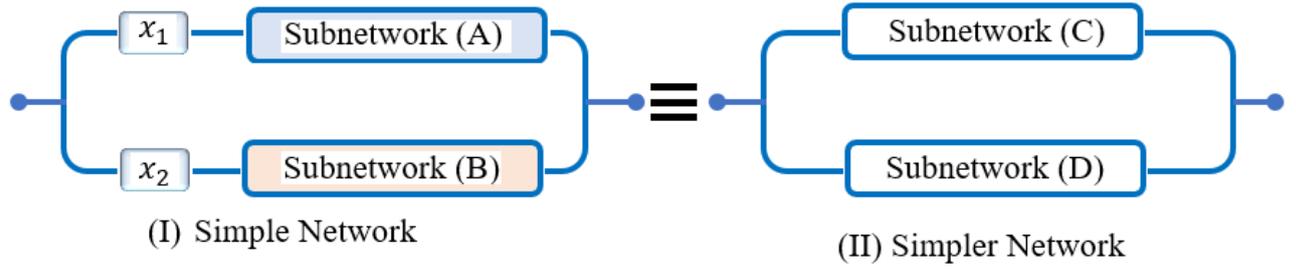


Figure 3.3: Equivalent Simple Networks

Here, subnetwork (C)=( $x_1$ , subnetwork (A)) and subnetwork (D)=( $x_2$ , subnetwork (B)).

Again, apply [theorem \(3.2.1\)](#) to solve simple network (I)

$$\Phi(x) = 1 - (1 - x_1x_A)(1 - x_2x_B).$$

Simple network (I) is equivalent to simpler network in (II), that is:

$$\Phi(x) = 1 - (1 - x_C)(1 - x_D).$$

where  $x_C = (1 - x_1x_A)$  and  $x_D = (1 - x_2x_B)$ .

Therefore,

$$R_N = 1 - (1 - R_C)(1 - R_D). \tag{3.4}$$

Thus,

$$R_N = R_C + R_D - R_C R_D. \tag{3.5}$$

### 3.5 Delta - Star Transform Technique (DST)

Delta - Star transform help us to transformation some complex networks into parallel or series networks, especially networks that contain triangles. Moreover, it helps us reduce inclusion even when series - parallel technologies do not work on the network. To transform a delta subnetwork to an equivalent star subnetwork we want to derive a metamorphosis method for equating the different components to each different between the diverse terminals [15, 34, 57].

Consider Figure 3.4, delta with three components  $X, Y$  and  $Z$ , we want to transform it to star with three components  $x, y$  and  $z$ .

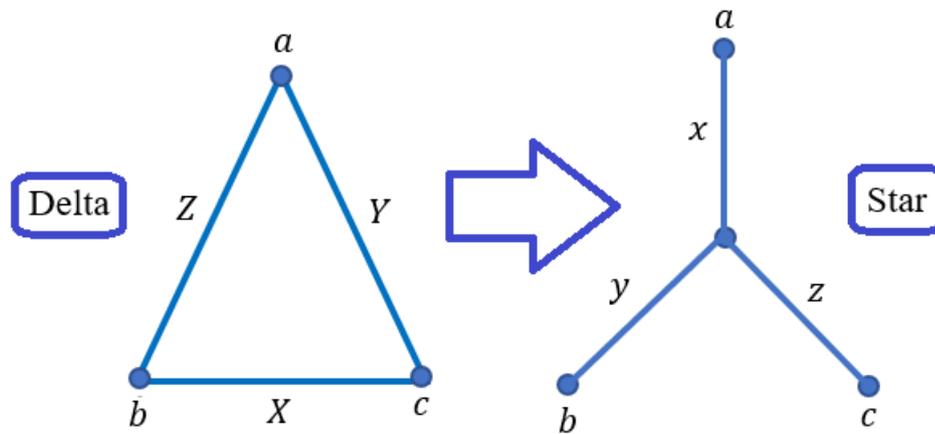


Figure 3.4: Delta - Star Transform

Compare three components of delta with three components of star, then applying two equations (2.5) and (2.6) to get three relations:

$$xy = 1 - (1 - Z)(1 - XY) \quad (3.6)$$

$$xz = 1 - (1 - Y)(1 - XZ) \quad (3.7)$$

$$yz = 1 - (1 - X)(1 - YZ) \quad (3.8)$$

Solving three equations (3.6), (3.7) and (3.8) to get delta - star relationships:

$$x = \sqrt{\frac{[1 - (1 - Y)(1 - XZ)][1 - (1 - Z)(1 - XY)]}{[1 - (1 - X)(1 - YZ)]}} \quad (3.9)$$

$$y = \sqrt{\frac{[1 - (1 - Z)(1 - XY)][1 - (1 - X)(1 - YZ)]}{[1 - (1 - Y)(1 - XZ)]}} \quad (3.10)$$

$$z = \sqrt{\frac{[1 - (1 - X)(1 - YZ)][1 - (1 - Y)(1 - XZ)]}{[1 - (1 - Z)(1 - XY)]}} \quad (3.11)$$

**Explanation:** The value of  $x$  was found in equation (3.9) by product two equations (3.6) and (3.7), then dividing the result by equation (3.8). Similarly, we found the values of  $y$  and  $z$ .

Consider the triangle  $v_1v_2v_3$  ( delta) in Figure 3.5, which is a subnetwork from the complex network in Figure 3.1.

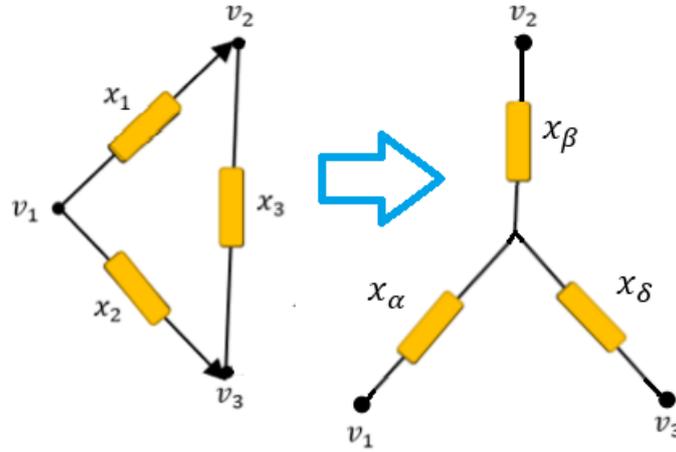


Figure 3.5: Triangle  $v_1v_2v_3$  to Star

Applying the delta-star relationships to the mentioned triangle to get:

$$x_\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{[1 - (1 - x_2)(1 - x_1x_3)][1 - (1 - x_3)(1 - x_1x_2)]}{[1 - (1 - x_1)(1 - x_2x_3)]}} \quad (3.12)$$

$$x_\beta = \sqrt{\frac{[1 - (1 - x_1)(1 - x_2x_3)][1 - (1 - x_2)(1 - x_1x_2)]}{[1 - (1 - x_3)(1 - x_1x_2)]}} \quad (3.13)$$

$$x_\delta = \sqrt{\frac{[1 - (1 - x_1)(1 - x_2x_3)][1 - (1 - x_3)(1 - x_1x_2)]}{[1 - (1 - x_2)(1 - x_1x_3)]}} \quad (3.14)$$

Then, the complex network in Figure 3.1 will transform into a new network, as shown in Figure 3.6

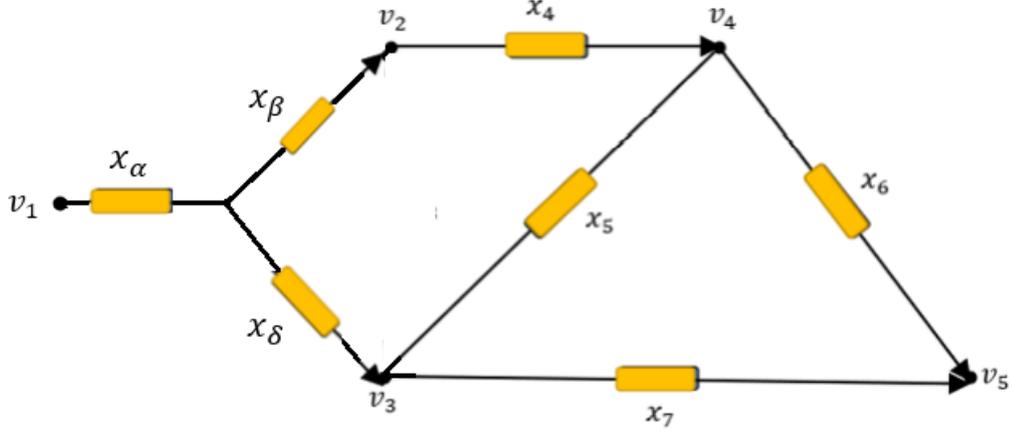


Figure 3.6: New Network

Now, we separate the last network in Figure 3.6 into two parts in series, the first is  $x_\alpha$  component and the second is the remaining part after deleting  $x_\alpha$ , say,  $X_A$ .

The minimal paths of  $X_A$  are:

$$MP_1 = x_\beta x_4 x_6, MP_2 = x_\beta x_4 x_5 x_7, MP_3 = x_\delta x_7, \text{ and } MP_4 = x_\delta x_5 x_6.$$

So, we can apply theorem (3.2.1) to find  $\Phi_A(x)$  :

$$\Phi_A(x) = 1 - (1 - x_\beta x_4 x_6)(1 - x_\beta x_4 x_5 x_7)(1 - x_\delta x_7)(1 - x_\delta x_5 x_6).$$

Then, the structure function of the network is given by:

$$\Phi(x) = x_\alpha \Phi_A(x). \quad (3.15)$$

Thus, the reliability network is given by:

$$R_N = R_\alpha R_A. \quad (3.16)$$

CHAPTER 4

CHAPTER FOUR: RELIABILITY ALLOCATION AND  
RELIABILITY IMPORTANCE

## 4.1 Introduction

The reason of reliability allocation is to set up an aim or objective for the reliability of each component in order that the manufactures will have a concept of the overall performance required of this product. Many researches paintings to compute the reliability allocation in series, parallel and complex networks [37, 41, 83].

In this chapter, we will discuss the reliability assignment problem of the complex network in [Figure 3.1](#) after it has been reduced into two subnetworks in parallel as shown in simpler network (II) [Figure 3.3](#) in third chapter. The importance of reliability will also be discussed to know the levels importance of network components under study, as we concluded that there are three levels of importance. We will notice those levels importance when we study the topic of reliability optimization in fifth and sixth chapters.

## 4.2 Reliability Allocation

Reliability allocation is the techniques by which failure allowance is allocated to a specific network and its subnetworks or its components in a few logical ways. The main purpose of reliability allocation is to define a value or objective for the reliability of each component of the product to be manufactured so that the producers have an idea of the performance required of that product [24, 28]. We outline the network reliability of objective of the character additives in the gadget that ensure get entry to the general purpose of network reliability. For each formatting we use the element to refer to a typical unit or subnetwork, which can be formulated inside the allocation of reliability.

Let the complex network with  $m$  components have a known reliability  $R_N$ . Assume that we want to improvement network reliability to  $R_N^*$  such that  $R_N^* > R_N$ . There are several technique's to reliability allocation and those strategies are range in complexity depending on how a great deal the definition of subnetwork is type and the degree of accuracy required.

A reliability allocation problem can be formulated as:

$$g(R_1^*, R_2^*, \dots, R_m^*) \geq R_N^* \quad (4.1)$$

where  $R_N^*$  represent to network reliability target,  $R_i^*$  is the reliability of  $i$ -th component target, and  $g$  is a relationship between network reliability and components reliabilities which is obtained from the reliability analysis of the network to be allocated [28, 31].

### 4.3 Reliability Allocation Methods

There are many methods to allocation reliability. The choice of any method for allocating reliability depends on several factors, some of which are directly related to the characteristics of the network under analysis, such as its level of complexity and additional matters form boundary conditions, such as budget or trial time. These methods vary in complexity depending on the amount of subnetwork definition available and the degree of precision required [31, 37].

#### 4.3.1 Exponential Allocation Method

Consider a network of  $m$  components with identical and independent reliability  $R_c$  of constant failure rate  $\lambda_c$  arranged in a parallel configuration. Then, the network reliability is given by [11]:

$$R_N = 1 - (1 - R_c)^m$$

Replacing component reliability in terms of constant component failure rate  $\lambda_c$  to get:

$$R_N = 1 - (1 - e^{-\lambda_c t})^m \implies \frac{dR_N}{dt} = -m\lambda_c e^{-\lambda_c t} (1 - e^{-\lambda_c t})^{m-1}$$

To find the failure rate of a network with  $m$  components in parallel, the relationship among the reliability function, the pdf  $f_N$  and the failure rate  $\lambda_N$  is employed. The failure rate

is defined as the ratio between  $f_N$  and reliability function  $R_N$ , or:

$$\lambda_N = \frac{f_N}{R_N}$$

But  $f_N$  can be written in terms of the time derivative of  $R_N$  as follow:

$$f_N = \frac{-dR_N}{dt}$$

So,

$$\lambda_N = \frac{\frac{-dR_N}{dt}}{R_N}$$

For constant failure rate components, the network failure rate becomes:

$$\lambda_N = \frac{m\lambda_c e^{-\lambda_c t} (1 - e^{-\lambda_c t})^{m-1}}{1 - (1 - e^{-\lambda_c t})^m}$$

Taking the limit of  $\lambda_N$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  leads to the following expression for the steady-state network failure rate:

$$\lambda_{N,steady-state} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_N = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{m\lambda_c e^{-\lambda_c t} (1 - e^{-\lambda_c t})^{m-1}}{1 - (1 - e^{-\lambda_c t})^m}$$

Applying L'Hopital's rule, one obtains:  $\lambda_{N,steady-state} = \lambda_c$ .

So the steady-state failure rate for a network of constant failure rate components in a parallel arrangement is the failure rate of a single component.

**Example 4.3.1.** Consider the simpler network in (II) in [Figure 3.3](#). If the network reliability target at 100 months in service is 0.98, we allocate the reliability of subnetworks (C) and (D) at that time as follows:

Since  $R_C = R_D$ , the network reliability in [equation \(3.4\)](#) becomes:

$$R_N = 1 - (1 - R_C)^2$$

Replacing component reliability in terms of constant component failure rate  $\lambda_C$  to get:

$$R_N(100) = 1 - (1 - e^{-100\lambda_C})^2 = 0.98$$

Which implies to  $\lambda_C = 0.0015$ .

Then the corresponding reliability targets is  $R_C = R_D = e^{-100 \times 0.0015} = 0.861$ .

For the value of network reliability to be equal to 0.98, the reliability value of each unit must be equal to 0.861.

This can be checked by substituting the reliability value for each unit into [equation \(3.4\)](#) as follows :

$$R_N = 1 - (1 - 0.861)^2 = 0.9806$$

### 4.3.2 Aeronautical Radio Inc. (ARINC) Method

Aeronautical Radio Inc. (ARINC) method can be used to estimate the failure rate of subnetworks if failure information is available from the previous design. ARINC is a partitioning method based on the failure rate of components or subnets. They can be used if the database or previous experience is expressed in a similar subnet, allowing prediction of the failure rate of the desired subnet [55,88].

Consider a network of  $m$  components arranged in a parallel configuration. The reliability allocation weight for  $i$ -th component is given by:

$$w_i = \frac{\lambda_i}{\sum_{j=1}^m \lambda_j} \quad (4.2)$$

here  $\lambda_i$  is the failure rate of  $i$ -th component obtained from historical data or prediction. The failure rate goal  $\lambda_i^*$  to be allocated for the  $i$ -th component is  $\lambda_i^* = w_i \lambda^*$ , here  $\lambda^*$  represent to network failure rate target.

**Example 4.3.2.** Consider the simpler network (II) in [Figure 3.3](#). If the network reliability target at 100 months in service is 0.99,  $\lambda_C = 0.00005$  and  $\lambda_D = 0.00004$  failures per month. We allocate the reliability of subnetworks (C) and (D) as follows:

First, find  $w_C$  and  $w_D$  from [equation 4.2](#)

$$w_C = \frac{\lambda_C}{\lambda_C + \lambda_D} = \frac{0.00005}{0.00005 + 0.00004} = 0.5556$$

$$w_D = \frac{\lambda_D}{\lambda_C + \lambda_D} = \frac{0.00004}{0.00005 + 0.00004} = 0.4444$$

Now, we find  $\lambda^*$

$$R_N^* = e^{-\lambda^* t} \implies 0.99 = e^{-100\lambda^*} \implies \lambda^* = 0.0001$$

Finally,  $\lambda_C^* = w_C \lambda^* = 0.000125$  and  $\lambda_D^* = w_D \lambda^* = 0.000075$ .

Then the corresponding reliabilities targets are  $R_C = 0.98$  and  $R_D = 0.99$ .

For the value of network reliability to be equal to 0.99, the reliability values of the two units must be equal to 0.98 and 0.99 respectively.

This can be checked by substituting the reliability value for each unit into [equation \(3.4\)](#) as follows :

$$R_N = 1 - (1 - 0.98)(1 - 0.99) = 0.99$$

## 4.4 Calculation of the Reliability Importance

For a network of  $m$  components, the reliability importance  $I_i$  of  $i$ -th component is a measure of the extent to which  $i$ -th component affects the overall reliability of that network. This information is very important for designers to improve network reliability, because they will focus their efforts above all on improving the reliability of components that have the greatest impact on network reliability [47, 80]. In simple networks, it is easy to identify weak components. However, this becomes a difficult task in complex

networks. The value of reliability importance of  $i$ -th component lies between zero and one, this value depends on  $R_i$  and the position of  $i$ -th component in network.

The reliability importance ( $I_i$ ) is given by:

$$I_i = \frac{\partial R_N}{\partial R_i}$$

The  $I_i$  for all components of the complex network marked in [Figure 3.1](#), are the partial derivatives of  $R_N$  for  $i$ -th component from [equation \(3.2\)](#) as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial R_N}{\partial R_1} &= R_2 + R_3 R_5 R_7 + R_2 R_3 R_4 R_5 R_6 + 2R_2 R_3 R_5 R_6 R_7 + R_2 R_3 R_4 R_6 R_7 + 2R_2 R_3 R_5 R_6 R_7 \\ &\quad + R_2 R_4 R_5 R_6 R_7 + R_3 R_4 R_5 R_6 R_7 - R_2 R_3 R_4 - R_2 R_6 R_7 - R_2 R_3 R_5 R_6 - R_2 R_3 R_5 R_7 \\ &\quad - R_2 R_4 R_5 R_7 - R_3 R_5 R_6 R_7 - R_3 R_4 R_5 R_7 - 3R_2 R_3 R_4 R_5 R_6 R_7. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial R_N}{\partial R_2} &= R_1 + R_3 R_4 + R_3 R_5 R_6 + R_1 R_3 R_4 R_5 R_6 + 2R_1 R_3 R_4 R_5 R_7 + R_1 R_3 R_4 R_6 R_7 + 2R_1 R_3 R_5 R_6 R_7 \\ &\quad + R_1 R_4 R_5 R_6 R_7 + 2R_3 R_4 R_5 R_6 R_7 - R_1 R_3 R_4 - R_1 R_6 R_7 - R_1 R_3 R_5 R_6 - R_1 R_3 R_5 R_7 \\ &\quad - R_1 R_4 R_5 R_7 - R_3 R_4 R_5 R_6 - R_3 R_4 R_5 R_7 - R_3 R_4 R_6 R_7 - R_3 R_5 R_6 R_7 - 3R_1 R_3 R_4 R_5 R_6 R_7. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial R_N}{\partial R_3} &= R_2 R_4 + R_1 R_5 R_7 + R_2 R_5 R_6 + R_1 R_2 R_4 R_5 R_6 + 2R_1 R_2 R_4 R_5 R_7 + R_1 R_2 R_4 R_6 R_7 \\ &\quad + 2R_1 R_2 R_5 R_6 R_7 + R_1 R_4 R_5 R_6 R_7 + 2R_2 R_4 R_5 R_6 R_7 - R_1 R_2 R_4 - R_1 R_2 R_5 R_6 \\ &\quad - R_1 R_2 R_5 R_7 - R_2 R_4 R_5 R_6 - R_2 R_4 R_5 R_7 - R_1 R_5 R_6 R_7 - R_2 R_4 R_6 R_7 - R_1 R_4 R_5 R_7 \\ &\quad - R_2 R_5 R_6 R_7 - 3R_1 R_2 R_4 R_5 R_6 R_7. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial R_N}{\partial R_4} &= R_2 R_3 + R_5 R_7 + R_1 R_2 R_3 R_5 R_6 + 2R_1 R_2 R_3 R_5 R_7 + R_1 R_2 R_3 R_6 R_7 + R_1 R_2 R_5 R_6 R_7 \\ &\quad + R_1 R_3 R_5 R_6 R_7 + 2R_2 R_3 R_5 R_6 R_7 - R_1 R_2 R_3 - R_5 R_6 R_7 - R_1 R_2 R_5 R_7 - R_2 R_3 R_5 R_6 \\ &\quad - R_2 R_3 R_5 R_7 - R_2 R_3 R_6 R_7 - R_1 R_3 R_5 R_7 - 3R_1 R_2 R_3 R_5 R_6 R_7. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial R_N}{\partial R_5} &= R_4 R_7 + R_1 R_3 R_7 + R_2 R_3 R_6 + R_1 R_2 R_3 R_4 R_6 + 2R_1 R_2 R_3 R_4 R_7 + 2R_1 R_2 R_3 R_6 R_7 \\ &+ R_1 R_2 R_4 R_6 R_7 + R_1 R_3 R_4 R_6 R_7 + 2R_2 R_3 R_4 R_6 R_7 - R_4 R_6 R_7 - R_1 R_2 R_3 R_6 - R_1 R_2 R_3 R_7 \\ &- R_1 R_2 R_4 R_7 - R_2 R_3 R_4 R_6 - R_2 R_3 R_4 R_7 - R_1 R_3 R_6 R_7 - R_1 R_3 R_4 R_7 - R_2 R_3 R_6 R_7 \\ &- 3R_1 R_2 R_3 R_4 R_6 R_7.\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial R_N}{\partial R_6} &= R_7 + R_2 R_3 R_5 + R_1 R_2 R_3 R_4 R_5 + R_1 R_2 R_3 R_4 R_7 + 2R_1 R_2 R_3 R_5 R_7 + R_1 R_2 R_4 R_5 R_7 \\ &+ R_1 R_3 R_4 R_5 R_7 + 2R_2 R_3 R_4 R_5 R_7 - R_1 R_2 R_7 - R_4 R_5 R_7 - R_1 R_2 R_3 R_5 - R_2 R_3 R_4 R_5 \\ &- R_1 R_3 R_5 R_7 - R_2 R_3 R_4 R_7 - R_2 R_3 R_5 R_7 - 3R_1 R_2 R_3 R_4 R_5 R_7.\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial R_N}{\partial R_7} &= R_6 + R_4 R_5 - R_1 R_2 R_6 + R_1 R_3 R_5 - R_4 R_5 R_6 - R_1 R_2 R_3 R_5 - R_1 R_2 R_4 R_5 - R_1 R_3 R_4 R_5 \\ &- R_2 R_3 R_4 R_5 - R_1 R_3 R_5 R_6 - R_2 R_3 R_4 R_6 - R_2 R_3 R_5 R_6 + 2R_1 R_2 R_3 R_5 + 2R_1 R_2 R_3 R_5 R_6 \\ &+ R_1 R_2 R_3 R_4 R_6 + R_1 R_2 R_4 R_5 R_6 + R_1 R_3 R_4 R_5 R_6 + 2R_2 R_3 R_4 R_5 R_6 - 3R_1 R_2 R_3 R_4 R_5 R_6.\end{aligned}$$

Now, we take an example with a random values to check out the reliability importance of all components.

**Example 4.4.1.** Suppose different values of reliability into two cases:

(1) Random values such as:

a)  $R_1 = 0.75, R_2 = 0.8, R_3 = 0.70, R_4 = 0.75, R_5 = 0.8, R_6 = 0.85$  and  $R_7 = 0.8$ .

b)  $R_1 = 0.9, R_2 = 0.85, R_3 = 0.7, R_4 = 0.75, R_5 = 0.8, R_6 = 0.95$  and  $R_7 = 0.8$ .

(2) All components have the same reliability values (independent identical units) such as

a)  $R_i = 0.9$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, 7$ .

b)  $R_i = 0.7$ , for all  $i = 1, \dots, 7$ .

The values of  $R_i$  and the reliability importance ( $I_i$ ) listed in [table 4.1](#).

Table 4.1: A Summary Table for Values of  $R_i$  and  $I_i$

$i$	$R_i - 1a$	$I_i$	$R_i - 1b$	$I_i$	$R_i - 2a$	$I_i$	$R_i - 2b$	$I_i$
1	0.75	0.0886	0.90	0.0690	0.90	0.0201	0.70	0.1481
2	0.80	0.2088	0.85	0.20294	0.90	0.1084	0.70	0.3260
3	0.70	0.0440	0.70	0.0176	0.90	0.0103	0.70	0.0719
4	0.75	0.0406	0.75	0.0078	0.90	0.0111	0.70	0.0851
5	0.80	0.0325	0.80	0.0090	0.90	0.0103	0.70	0.0719
6	0.85	0.1000	0.95	0.0553	0.90	0.0201	0.70	0.1481
7	0.80	0.2535	0.8	0.1758	0.90	0.1084	0.70	0.3260
$R_N$	0.932		0.962		0.987		0.843	

From values of the reliability importance  $I_i$  in table 4.1, the seven network components ( $R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4, R_5, R_6$  and  $R_7$ ) can be divided in terms of importance in three following levels:

- **First level:** Second and seventh components ( $R_2$  and  $R_7$ ) (in hot pink colour).
- **Second level:** First and sixth components ( $R_1$  and  $R_6$ ) (in cyan colour).
- **Third level:** Third, fourth and fifth components ( $R_3, R_4$  and  $R_5$ ) (in green colour)

These three levels of importance for seven network components, will help us later to understand the mechanism of the increase in reliability of complex network based on the importance of its components.

The bar chart in Figure 4.1 shown reliability importance for seven network components.

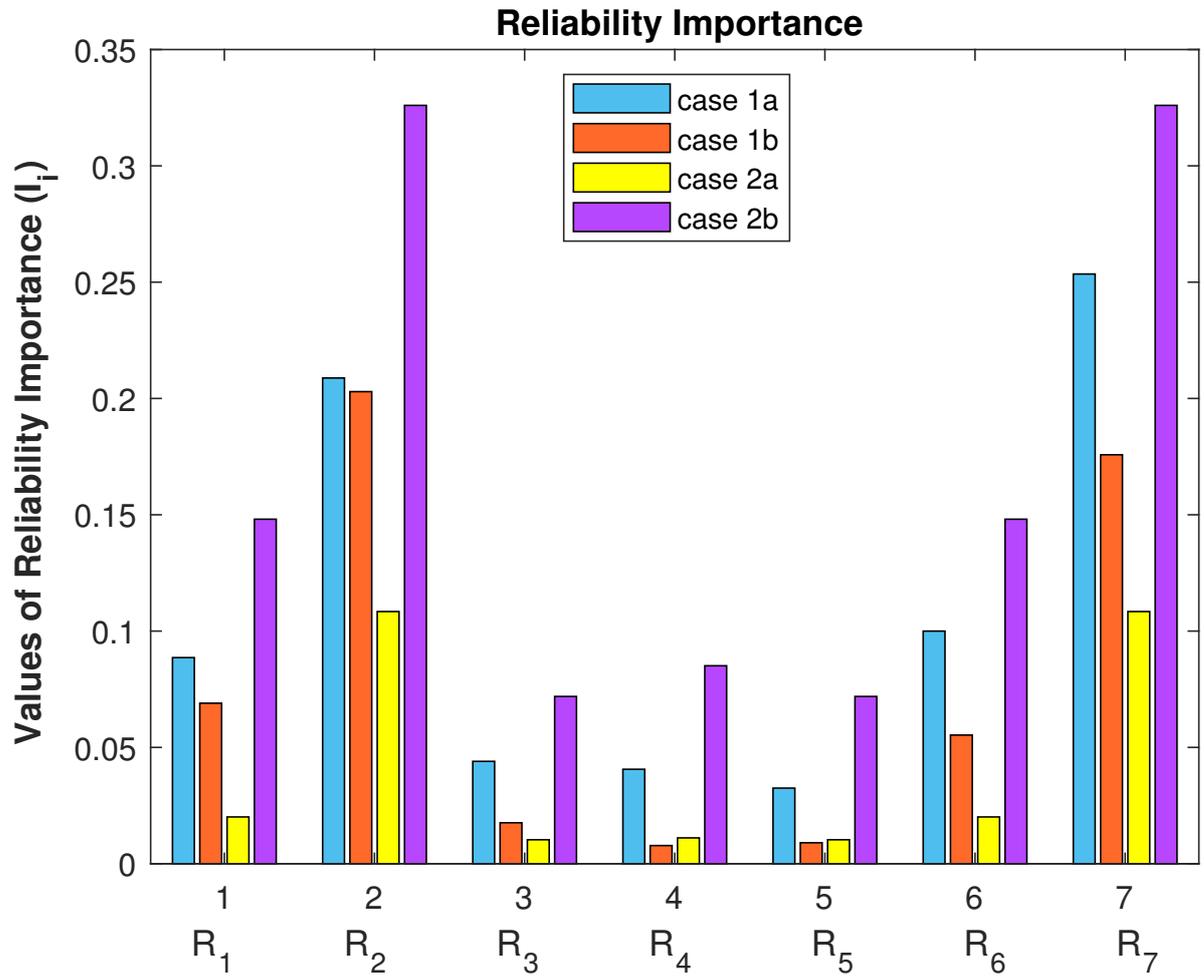


Figure 4.1: Reliability Importance

CHAPTER 5

CHAPTER FIVE: USING META-HEURISTIC  
ALGORITHMS TO OPTIMIZE RELIABILITY NETWORK

## 5.1 Introduction

In this chapter, two nature-inspired algorithms (Bat Algorithm (BA) and Grey Wolf Optimization (GWO) Algorithm) are introduced to improve the reliability of a complex network. We shall define the basic formula of two algorithms then its implementation on the polynomial function of reliability, which we obtained in [equation \(3.2\)](#), and the implementation will be by adopting five cost functions whose are logarithm, exponential, exponential in terms of feasibility factor, power and tan functions and then comparing the results in detail.

## 5.2 Bat Algorithm (BA)

Bats are the only mammals that have wings and are able to locate prey using echoes. Zoologists say that there are more than 996 different species of them with sizes range from the small hummingbird bat (1.5 - 2) gm to the giant bat, which weighs one kilogram. Most bat species use echolocation to locate prey, and microbes are among the most widely known species to work with this feature. The main food for most microbes is insects, and to detect the location of insects and distinguish between them and obstacles, microbes use echolocation, where they emit very loud sonic and listen for echoes of the sound bouncing off the objects around them. Each sound pulse lasts (8-10) milliseconds and has a fixed frequency (25-150) kHz, and microbes emit about (10-20) sound every second. When bats feel hungry, they search for food, and the rate of emitting pulse increases. It reaches about 200 beats per second when it approaches its prey. Studies show that the integration time of a bat's ear is within the range (300 - 400) microseconds. Since the speed of sound  $s$  in the air at  $20^{\circ}C$  is about  $343\text{ m/sec}$ , the wavelength  $\lambda'$  of ultrasonic sound wave bursts at a constant frequency  $f$  is given by the equation  $\lambda' = s/f$ , which is in the range (2 -14) mm for a typical frequency range (25-150) kHz, and these wavelengths are proportional to the sizes of insects. Many studies have shown that microbes use the time delay from emission to echo detection, the time difference between their ears, and changes in the loudness of

sound as echoes to build a 3D scenario of their surroundings, all of these properties help them to detect the distance, direction, type and speed of movement of prey. Some bats have good eyesight, and most have a good eyesight strong sense of smell and they are all their senses as a group for effective detection of prey and smooth movement without collisions between them. However, the Bat Algorithm only cares at echolocation. The behavior of microbes in echolocation can be modeled and then coupled with the issue of optimization the reliability of complex networks [85,86].

The Bat algorithm is a set of guidelines proposed by Yang in 2010 that simulates the behavior of bats and how they use echolocation ultrasound in order to detect and locate prey and echo obstacles in hunting [79,85,86], as shown in [Figure 5.1](#).

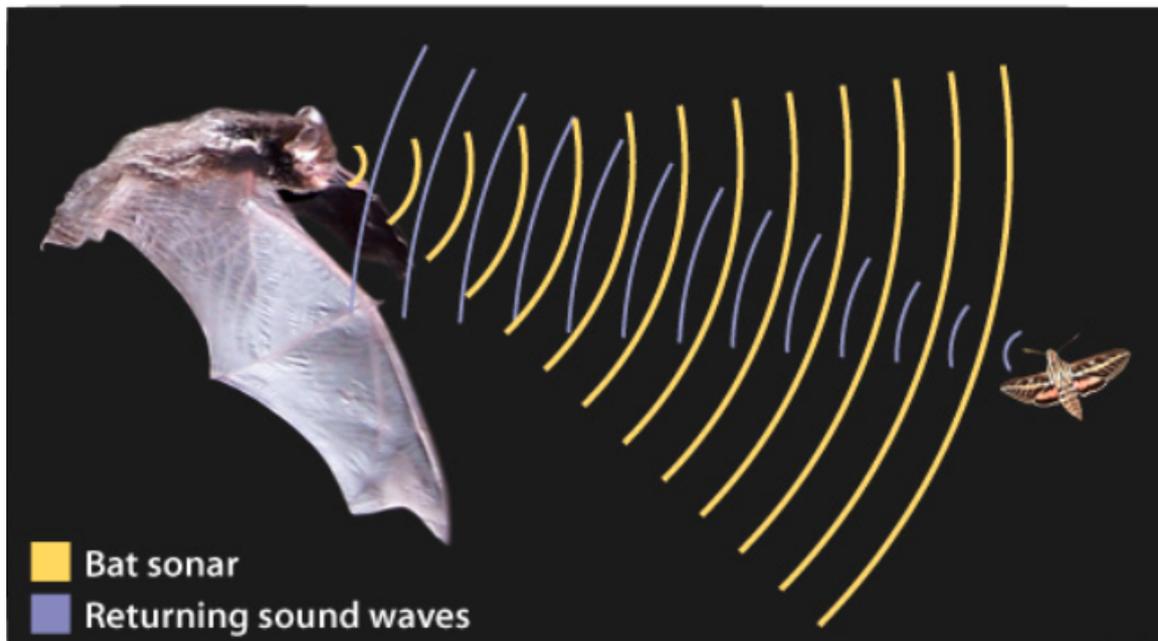


Figure 5.1: Sonar and Echolocation

To develop the basic concept of this algorithm, Yang proposed the following basic hypotheses:

- (1) To sense the distance between bats and prey, all bats use echolocation, it also distinguishes between prey and rear barriers.
- (2) Bats fly randomly with speed  $s_i$  in position  $p_i$ , fixed frequency  $f_{min}$ , wavelength  $\lambda'$ ,

and loudness  $A_0$  to search for food or prey. They can vary the rate of pulse emission  $r \in [0, 1]$  depending on the distance of prey.

- (3) Suppose the loudness varies from a small constant value  $A_{min}$  to the highest value  $A_0$  even though the loudness varies for different reasons. It is necessary to specify how to update the bat position  $p_i$  and speed  $s_i$ .

The format of the update method for speed  $s_i^t$  and position  $p_i^t$  in step  $t$  is given by:

$$f_i = f_{min} + (f_{max} - f_{min})\beta \quad (5.1)$$

$$s_i^t = s_i^{(t-1)} + (p_i^t - p^*)f_i \quad (5.2)$$

$$p_i^t = p_i^{t-1} + s_i^t \quad (5.3)$$

here  $\beta \in [0, 1]$  is a random vector while  $p^*$  was signal to the modern global best solution that's positioned after evaluating all the solutions.

The nearest neighborhood to the best solution generates the optimal solution. The format of the update of bat position will be as follows:

$$p_n = p_o + \epsilon A^t \quad (5.4)$$

here  $p_n$  is the new solution,  $p_o$  is the best old solution,  $A^t \in (A_{min}, A_0)$  represents to the average of the loudness of all bats at time  $t$ , and  $\epsilon \in [-1, 1]$  is directions and lengths that are randomly generated. When the bats are closer to their prey, the number of pulses emitted increases, the loudness can be adjusted to an appropriate value as follows:

$$A_i^{(t+1)} = \alpha + A_i^t \quad (5.5)$$

$$r_i^{(t+1)} = r_i^{(t=0)}(1 - e^{-\gamma t}) \quad (5.6)$$

here  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  and  $\gamma \geq 0$  are constants [79, 85, 86]. The simple steps within the Bat

algorithm manner are presented in the flowchart shown in Figure 5.2.

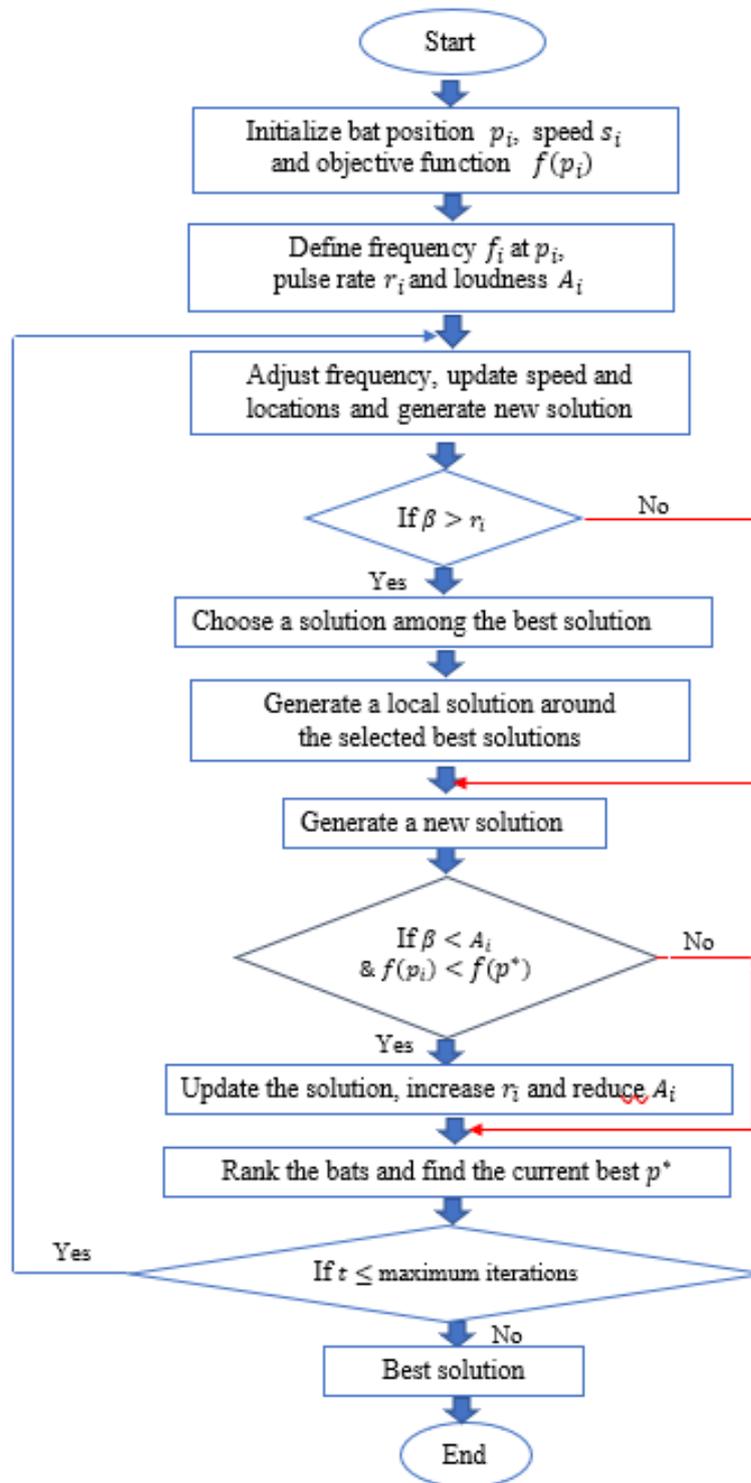


Figure 5.2: Flowchart of Bat Algorithm

## 5.3 The Models of Cost Function

Manufacturers change their product designs for the lowest possible cost by changing higher quality materials or reducing reprocessing costs, administrative fees, or other factors. Naturally, the cost will increase as the assigned reliability approaches the most achievable reliability. This is the value of reliability that is handled asymmetrically with an increase in cost, but it is never actually reached. The reliability of the components should not depend on lower values than they really were. Depending on the optimization, reliability of a component may not be needed from its current value, but it will not decrease [5, 8, 36].

Assume that  $C_i(R_i)$  is the cost function of a component  $i$ ,  $R_i$  is the reliability of a component  $i$ ,  $C_N$  is the value of total cost,  $R_N$  is the reliability network,  $a_i$  and  $b_i$  are constants such that  $a_i, b_i \in (0, 1)$ ,  $F_i \in (0, 1)$  is the feasibility factor of a cost function for the component  $i$ , and  $R_{i,min}, R_{i,max}$  is a minimum of dependable and maximum of  $R_i$ . Then the five models of a cost functions are:

### 1. Logarithmic Function

$$f_1(R_i) : C_i(R_i) = -a_i \ln(1 - R_i).$$

### 2. Exponential Function

$$f_2(R_i) : C_i(R_i) = a_i e^{b_i/(1-R_i)}.$$

### 3. Exponential in Terms of Feasibility Factor Function

$$f_3(R_i) : C_i(R_i) = e^{(1-F_i)(R_i-R_{i,min})(R_{i,max}-R_i)}.$$

### 4. Power Function

$$f_4(R_i) : C_i(R_i) = a_i R_i^{b_i}.$$

### 5. Tan Function

$$f_5(R_i) : C_i(R_i) = a_i \tan(2R_i/\pi)^{b_i}.$$

## 5.4 Reliability Optimization

It is natural that the reliability of any product device is equal to one when it is manufactured, but it begins to decrease gradually with the increase in operating time and this results from the decreasing reliability of the device's components over time [30]. For this reason and to be close for reality, we required the reliability of each component to be within the range  $0.45 \leq R_i \leq 0.95$ .

Our goal is to maximize the reliability network  $R_N$  represented in equation (3.2) at the lowest possible cost  $C_N$ .

So, the mathematical formulation of the nonlinear multi-objective optimization problem take the form:

$$\left. \begin{aligned}
 & \text{Minimize } (C_N(R_1, \dots, R_7), -R_N(R_1, \dots, R_7)) \\
 & \text{Subject to: } R_i \in [0.45, 0.95] \text{ for all } i = 1, \dots, 7 \\
 & \quad R_N \geq R_G \\
 & \quad 0 < C_i \leq 2, \text{ for all } i = 1, \dots, 7 \\
 & \quad C_N = \sum_{i=1}^7 C_i \leq C_G
 \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (5.7)$$

here  $R_G = 0.9$  (the objective of network reliability),  $C_G = 10.5$  (the objective of total cost),  $R_i$  is the  $i$ -th component reliability and  $C_i$  is the  $i$ -th component cost.

For consistency, we transform the maximize  $R_N$  problem into equivalent minimize  $-R_N$  problem.

## 5.5 Computational Results of Bat Algorithm

To find out the best reliability of a complex network, we used BA by number of iterations (IN) = 500 with the aforementioned five cost functions. The results were rounded to three decimal places.

## 1. BA with Logarithmic Cost Function

The values of  $R_i$  and  $C_i(R_i)$  with best value of reliability network  $R_N$  and total cost  $C_N$  by Bat algorithm using logarithmic cost function listed in [table \(5.1\)](#).

Table 5.1: A Summary Table for  $R_i, C_i$  and Best Values of  $R_N, C_N$  by BA with  $f_1$

$R_i$	$R_1$	$R_2$	$R_3$	$R_4$	$R_5$	$R_6$	$R_7$	Total
Value of $R_i$	0.921	0.940	0.742	0.775	<b>0.546</b>	0.930	<b>0.946</b>	<b>0.992</b>
Value of $C_i$	0.440	0.440	0.180	0.244	0.120	0.515	0.448	<b>2.387</b>

From viewing the values in [table \(5.1\)](#) we record the following observations:

- (1)  $0.546 \leq R_i \leq 0.946$ , for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 7$ .
- (2)  $0.120 \leq C_i \leq 0.515$ , for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 7$ .
- (3) The highest value of  $R_i$  was for the seventh component, which is 0.946, while the lowest value was for the fifth component, which is 0.546.
- (4)  $R_3, R_4$  and  $R_5$  are less than 0.8.
- (5)  $R_1, R_2, R_6$  and  $R_7$  are greater than 0.9.
- (6)  $R_7 > R_2 > R_6 > R_1 > R_4 > R_3 > R_5$ .
- (7) The best value of reliability network is  $R_N = 0.992$ .
- (8) The total cost is  $C_N = 2.387$ .

The bar chart in [Figure 5.3](#) shown the values of  $R_i$  and best value of  $R_N$ , while the bar chart in [Figure 5.4](#) shown the values of  $C_i$  and total cost  $C_N$  by use BA with logarithmic cost function.

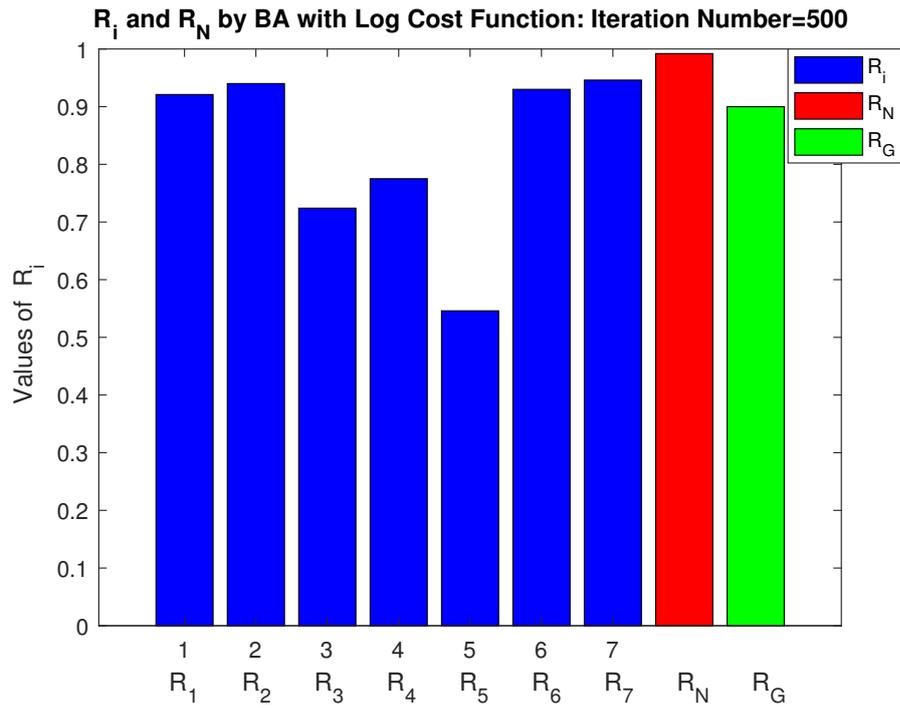


Figure 5.3: Values of  $R_i$  and Best Value of  $R_N$  by BA with  $f_1$

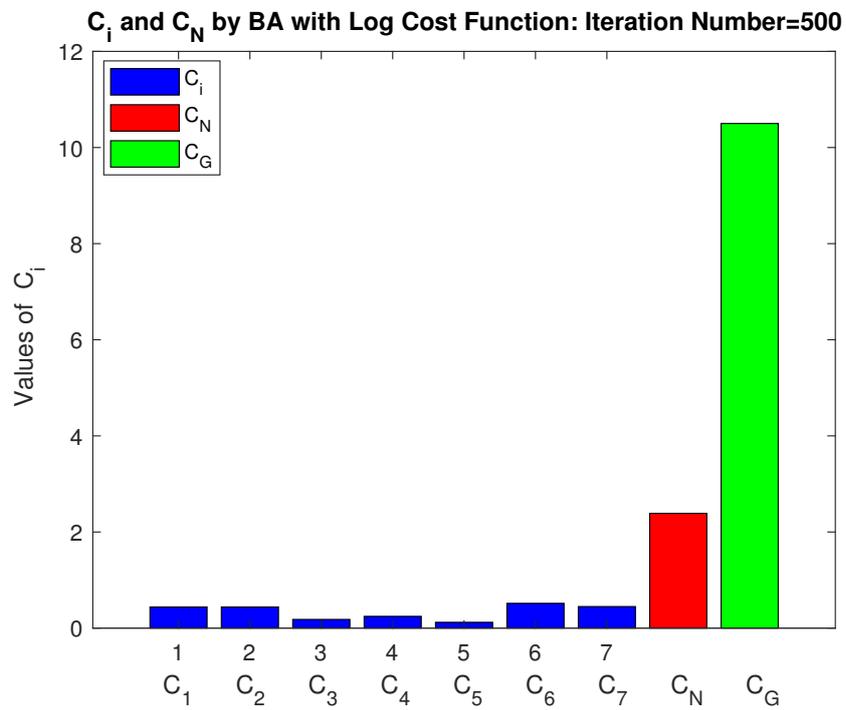


Figure 5.4: Values of  $C_i$  and  $C_N$  by BA with  $f_1$

## 2. BA with Exponential Cost Function

The values of  $R_i$  and  $C_i(R_i)$  with best value of reliability network  $R_N$  and total cost  $C_N$  by BA using exponential cost function listed in [table \(5.2\)](#).

Table 5.2: A Summary Table for  $R_i, C_i$  and Best Values of  $R_N, C_N$  by BA with  $f_2$

$R_i$	$R_1$	$R_2$	$R_3$	$R_4$	$R_5$	$R_6$	$R_7$	Total
Value of $R_i$	0.878	0.908	0.614	<b>0.600</b>	0.668	0.903	<b>0.940</b>	<b>0.982</b>
Value of $C_i$	0.644	1.606	0.187	0.256	0.296	0.833	1.528	<b>5.350</b>

When you look closely at the values of [table \(5.2\)](#), you can make the following observations:

- (1)  $0.600 \leq R_i \leq 0.940$ , for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 7$ .
- (2)  $0.187 \leq C_i \leq 1.606$ , for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 7$ .
- (3) The highest value of  $R_i$  was for the seventh component, which is 0.940, also, the lowest value was for the fourth component, which is 0.600.
- (4) There are three components whose reliability is less than 0.7, which are  $R_3, R_4$  and  $R_5$ .
- (5) There are three components whose reliability is greater than 0.9, which are  $R_2, R_6$  and  $R_7$ .
- (6)  $R_7 > R_2 > R_6 > R_1 > R_5 > R_3 > R_4$ .
- (7) The best value of reliability network is  $R_N = 0.982$ .
- (8) The value of total cost is  $C_N = 5.350$ .

The bar chart in [Figure 5.5](#) shown the values of  $R_i$  and best value of  $R_N$ , while the bar chart in [Figure 5.6](#) shown the values of  $C_i$  and total cost  $C_N$  by BA using exponential cost function.

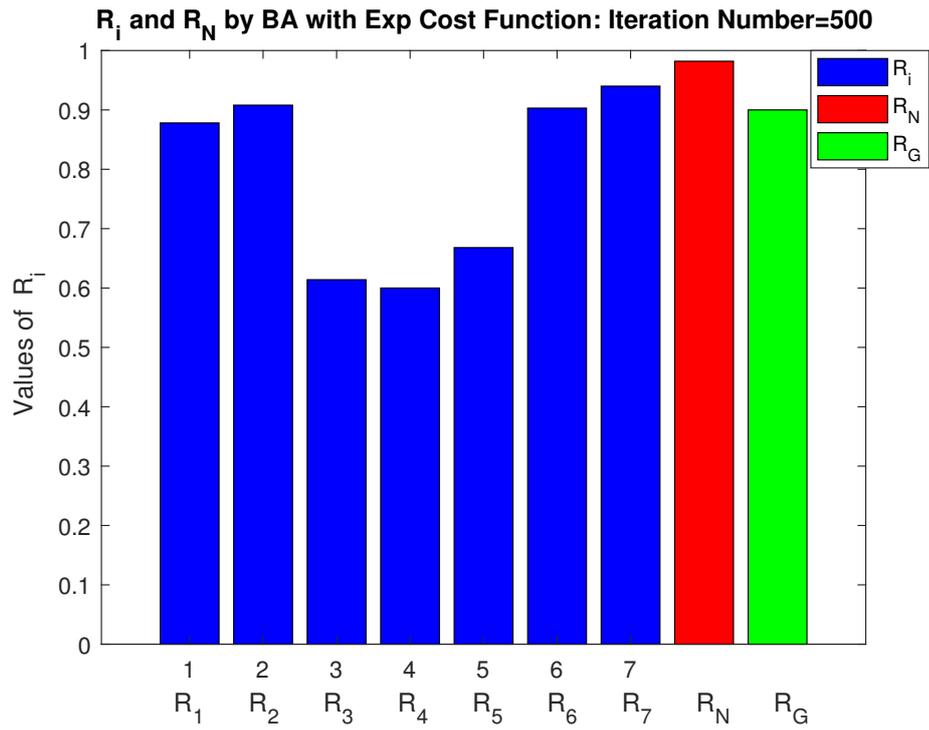


Figure 5.5: Values of  $R_i$  and  $R_N$  by BA with  $f_2$

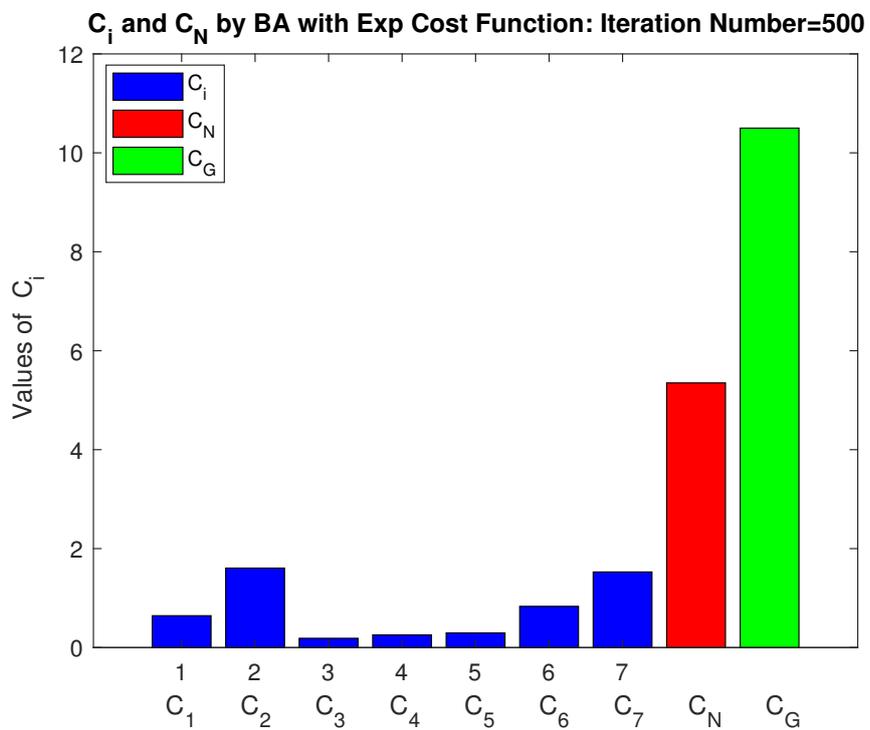


Figure 5.6: Values of  $C_i$  and  $C_N$  by BA with  $f_2$

### 3. BA with Exp. in Terms of Feasibility Factor Cost Function

The values of  $R_i$  and  $C_i(R_i)$  with best value of reliability network  $R_N$  and total cost  $C_N$  by using BA and changes the cost function to an exponential in terms of feasibility factor listed in table (5.3).

Table 5.3: A Summary Table for  $R_i, C_i$  and Best Values of  $R_N, C_N$  by BA with  $f_3$

$R_i$	$R_1$	$R_2$	$R_3$	$R_4$	$R_5$	$R_6$	$R_7$	Total
Value of $R_i$	0.880	0.910	0.835	0.850	<b>0.774</b>	0.853	<b>0.938</b>	<b>0.987</b>
Value of $C_i$	1.003	1.002	1.003	1.003	1	1.003	1	<b>7.014</b>

If we take a look at values of table (5.3), then we can make the following observations:

- (1)  $0.774 \leq R_i \leq 0.938$ , for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 7$ .
- (2)  $C_i$  is equal to or very slightly greater than one for all  $i$ , and this means that the values of two terms  $R_i - R_{i,min}$  and  $R_{i,max} - R_i$  are either zero or very close to zero, and we understand from this that  $R_i, R_{i,min}$  and  $R_{i,max}$  are almost equal values for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 7$ .
- (3) The highest value of  $R_i$  was for the seventh component, which is 0.938, and the lowest value was for the fifth component, which is 0.774.
- (4) There are two components whose reliability is greater than 0.9, which are  $R_2$  and  $R_7$ .
- (5)  $R_7 > R_2 > R_1 > R_6 > R_4 > R_3 > R_5$ .
- (6) The best value of reliability network is  $R_N = 0.987$ .
- (7) The value of total cost is  $C_N = 7.014$ .

The bar chart in Figure 5.7 shown the values of  $R_i$  and best value of  $R_N$ , while the bar chart in Figure 5.8 shown the values of  $C_i$  and total cost  $C_N$  by use BA algorithm with exponential in terms of feasibility factor cost function.

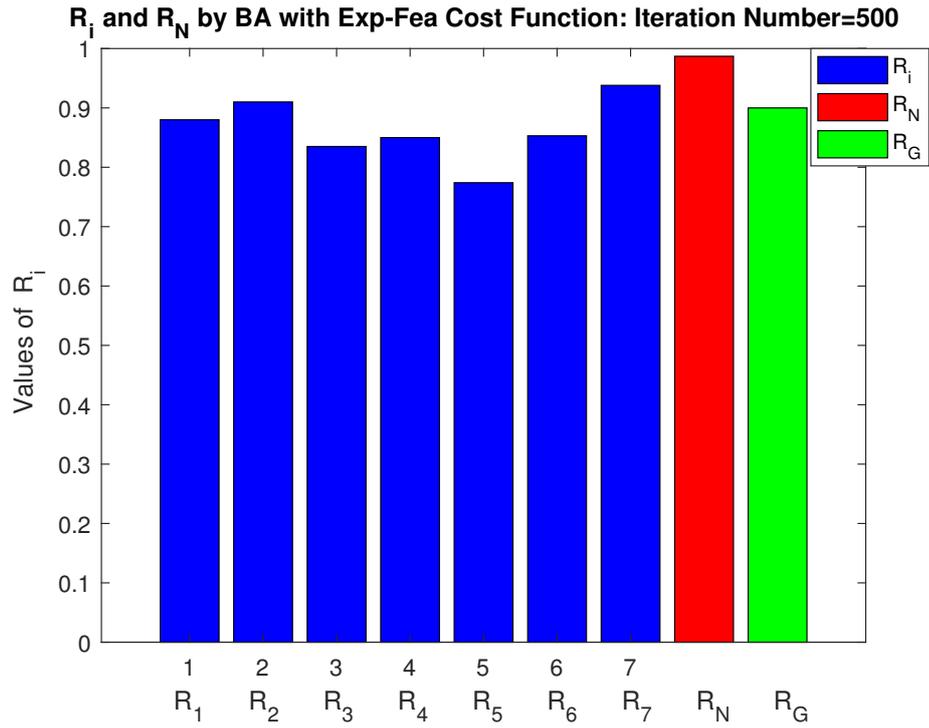


Figure 5.7: Values of  $R_i$  and  $R_N$  by BA with  $f_3$

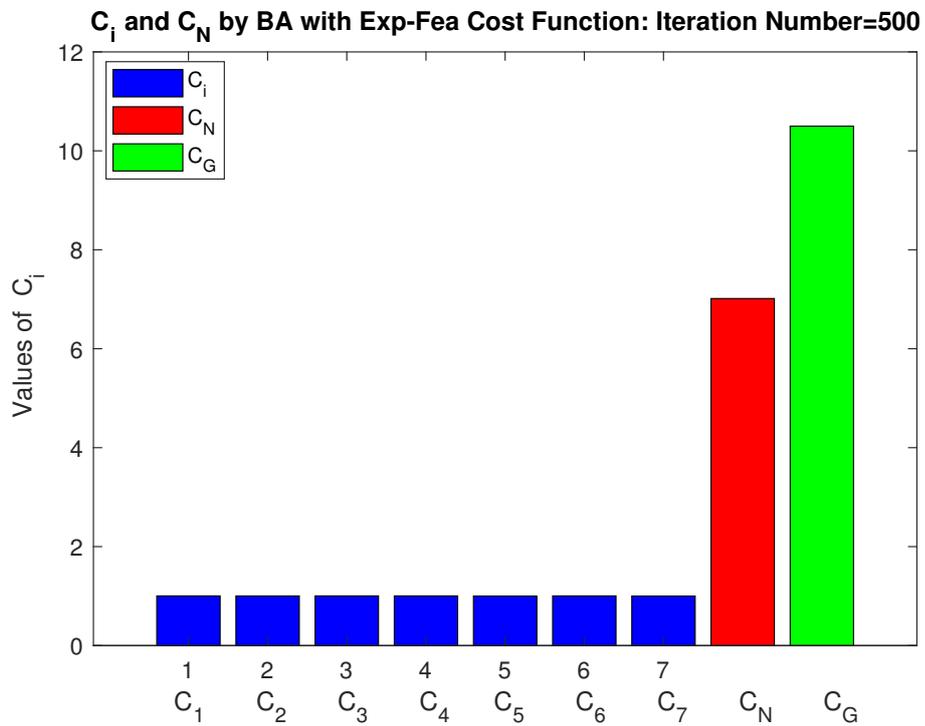


Figure 5.8: Values of  $C_i$  and  $C_N$  by BA with  $f_3$

## 4. BA with Power Cost Function

The values of  $R_i$  and  $C_i(R_i)$  with best value of reliability network  $R_N$  and total cost  $C_N$  by using BA and changes the cost function to power listed in [table \(5.4\)](#).

Table 5.4: A Summary Table for  $R_i, C_i$  and Best Values of  $R_N, C_N$  by BA with  $f_4$

$R_i$	$R_1$	$R_2$	$R_3$	$R_4$	$R_5$	$R_6$	$R_7$	Total
Value of $R_i$	0.897	0.913	0.759	0.712	<b>0.662</b>	0.880	<b>0.918</b>	<b>0.983</b>
Value of $C_i$	0.706	0.762	0.159	0.769	0.422	0.159	0.310	<b>3.290</b>

If we take a look at values of [table \(5.4\)](#), then we can make the following observations:

- (1)  $0.662 \leq R_i \leq 0.918$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 7$ .
- (2)  $0.159 \leq C_i \leq 0.769$ , for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 7$ .
- (3) The highest value of  $R_i$  was for the seventh component, which is 0.918, and the lowest value was for the fifth component, which is 0.662.
- (4) There are two components whose reliability greater than 0.9, which are  $R_2$  and  $R_7$ .
- (5) There are two components whose reliability between 0.8 and 0.9, which are  $R_1$  and  $R_6$ .
- (6) There are three components whose reliability less than 0.8, which are  $R_3, R_4$  and  $R_5$ .
- (7)  $R_7 > R_2 > R_1 > R_6 > R_3 > R_4 > R_5$ .
- (8) The best value of reliability network  $R_N$  is 0.983.
- (9) The value of total cost  $C_N$  is 3.290.

The bar chart in [Figure 5.9](#) shown the values of  $R_i$  and best value of  $R_N$ , while the bar chart in [Figure 5.10](#) shown the values of  $C_i$  and total cost  $C_N$  by BA using power cost function.

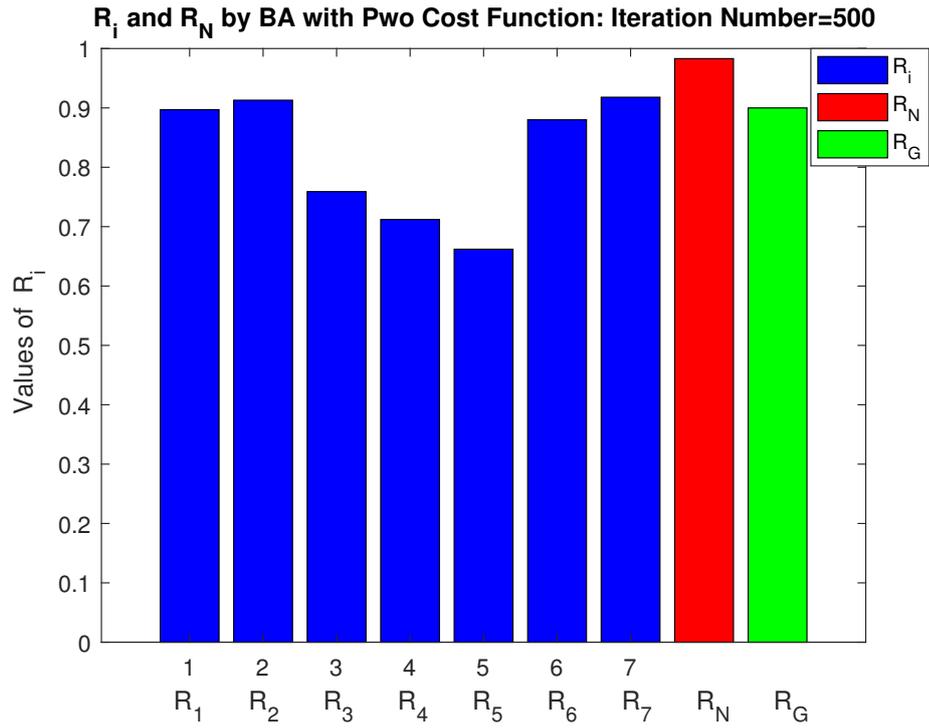


Figure 5.9: Values of  $R_i$  and  $R_N$  by BA with  $f_4$

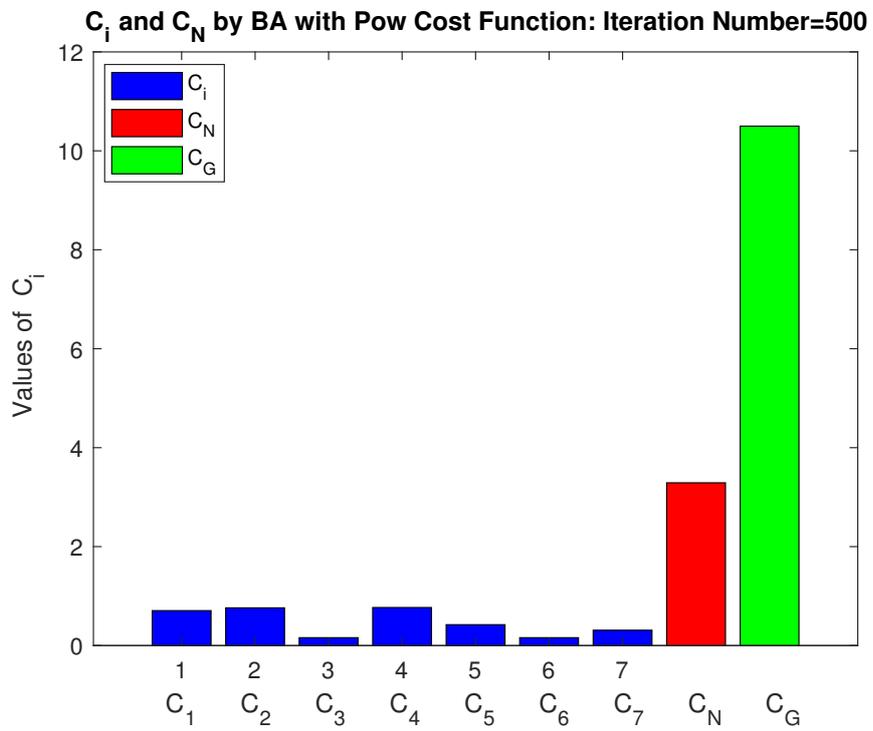


Figure 5.10: Values of  $C_i$  and  $C_N$  by BA with  $f_4$

## 5. BA with Tan Cost Function

The values of  $R_i$  and  $C_i(R_i)$  with best value of reliability network  $R_N$  and total cost  $C_N$  by Bat using tan cost function listed in [table \(5.5\)](#).

Table 5.5: A Summary Table for  $R_i, C_i$  and Best Values of  $R_N, C_N$  by BA with  $f_5$

$R_i$	$R_1$	$R_2$	$R_3$	$R_4$	$R_5$	$R_6$	$R_7$	Total
Value of $R_i$	0.858	0.925	<b>0.684</b>	0.802	0.700	0.900	<b>0.931</b>	<b>0.986</b>
Value of $C_i$	0.575	0.563	0.103	0.729	0.317	0.126	0.266	<b>2.679</b>

If we take a look at values of [table \(5.5\)](#), then we can make the following observations:

- (1)  $0.684 \leq R_i \leq 0.931$ , for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 7$ .
- (2)  $0.103 \leq C_i \leq 0.729$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 7$ .
- (3) The highest value of  $R_i$  was for the seventh component, which is 0.931, and the lowest value was for the third component, which is 0.684.
- (4) There are two components whose reliability is less than or equal 0.7, which are  $R_3$  and  $R_5$ .
- (5) There are three components whose reliability is greater than or equal 0.9, which are  $R_2, R_6$  and  $R_7$ .
- (6)  $R_7 > R_2 > R_6 > R_1 > R_4 > R_5 > R_3$ .
- (7) The best value of reliability network  $R_N$  is 0.986.
- (8) The value of total cost  $C_N$  is 2.679.

The bar chart in [Figure 5.11](#) shown the values of  $R_i$  and best value of  $R_N$ , while the bar chart in [Figure 5.12](#) shown the values of  $C_i$  and total cost  $C_N$  by use BA with tan cost function.

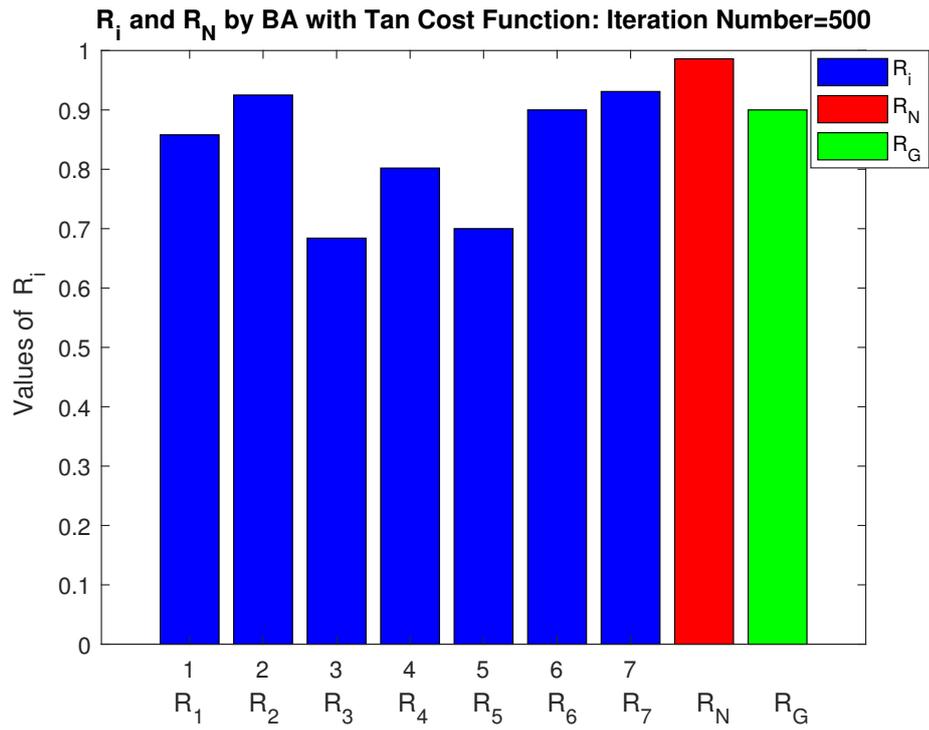


Figure 5.11: Values of  $R_i$  and  $R_N$  by BA with  $f_5$

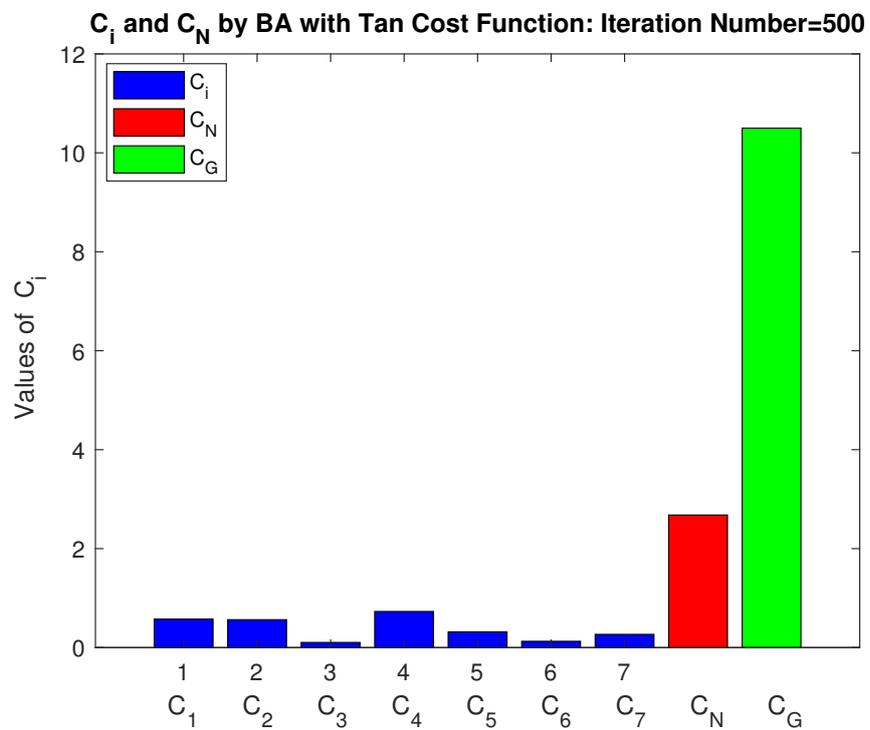


Figure 5.12: Values of  $C_i$  and  $C_N$  by BA with  $f_5$

## 5.6 Discuss Results of Bat Algorithm

The values of  $R_i$  and  $C_i(R_i)$  with best value of reliability network  $R_N$  and total cost  $C_N$  by BA using five cost functions listed in table (5.6).

Table 5.6: A Summary Table of  $R_i, C_i, R_N$  and  $C_N$  by BA with all Cost Functions

$i$	$f_1(R_i)$		$f_2(R_i)$		$f_3(R_i)$		$f_4(R_i)$		$f_5(R_i)$	
	$R_i$	$C_i$	$R_i$	$C_i$	$R_i$	$C_i$	$R_i$	$C_i$	$R_i$	$C_i$
1	0.921	0.440	0.878	0.644	0.880	1.003	0.897	0.709	0.858	0.575
2	0.940	0.440	0.908	1.606	0.910	1.002	0.913	0.762	0.925	0.563
3	0.742	0.180	0.614	0.187	0.835	1.003	0.759	0.159	0.684	0.103
4	0.775	0.244	0.600	0.256	0.850	1.003	0.712	0.769	0.802	0.729
5	0.546	0.120	0.668	0.296	0.774	1	0.662	0.422	0.700	0.317
6	0.930	0.515	0.903	0.833	0.853	1.003	0.880	0.159	0.900	0.126
7	0.946	0.448	0.940	1.528	0.938	1	0.918	0.310	0.931	0.266
$R_N$	<b>0.992</b>	<b>2.387</b>	0.982	5.350	0.987	7.014	0.983	3.290	0.986	2.679

From table (5.6) we have the following notes:

- (1) Best network reliability  $R_N$  was greater than 0.98 by using Bat algorithm with all five cost functions which is a very acceptable value.
- (2)  $0.982 \leq R_N \leq 0.992$ . Here, the difference between largest and lowest value is 0.01 which has two indications, first one is that the value of  $R_N$  is not much affected by the cost function, and the second is that we are on the right path to convergence values.
- (3) Best cost is  $C_N = 2.387$ , this value was done by using logarithm cost function, while the highest cost  $C_N = 7.014$  when use an exponential in terms of feasibility factor

cost function  $f_3$ . The difference between higher and lower total costs is due to two reasons, the first is the difference in formulas of cost functions, and the second is random selection of values for constants  $a_i, b_i$  and  $F_i$ .

- (4) It is an interesting note, that when using an exponential in terms of feasibility factor cost function  $f_3$  with Bat algorithm,  $C_i$  is equal to or very slightly greater than one for all  $i$ , and this means that  $R_i \simeq R_{i,min} \simeq R_{i,max}$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 7$ .
- (5) The reliability value of seventh component is higher than reliabilities of the other components for all cost functions, which indicates the importance of this component. Also, the values of  $R_1, R_2$  and  $R_6$  mostly they are high, meaning they are importance components, too.
- (6) The values of  $R_3, R_4$  and  $R_5$  are often the lowest, this means that they are less importance than the other components.

From the fifth and sixth notes, in addition to the  $R_i$  values in [table \(5.6\)](#), the network components can be divided in terms of reliability importance into three following levels:

- **First level:** Second and seventh components.
- **Second level:** First and sixth components.
- **Third level:** Third, fourth and fifth components.

This three levels of reliability importance confirm the previous levels we reached from [table \(4.1\)](#).

The bar chart in [Figure 5.13](#) shown the best values of reliability network  $R_N$  by BA with all five cost functions.

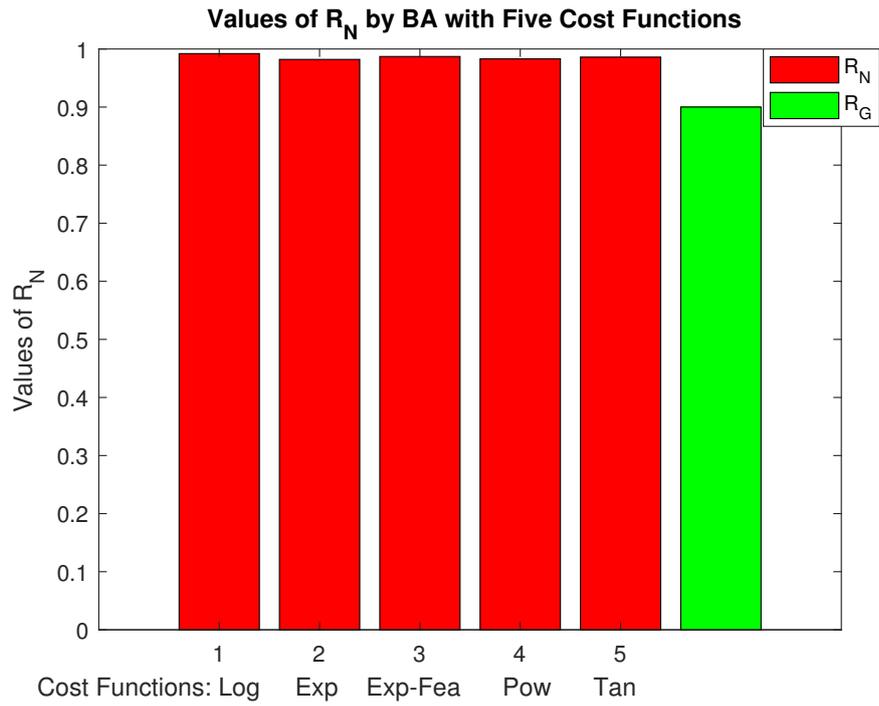


Figure 5.13: Best Values of  $R_N$  by BA

The bar chart in [Figure 5.14](#) shown the optimal values of  $C_N$  by BA .

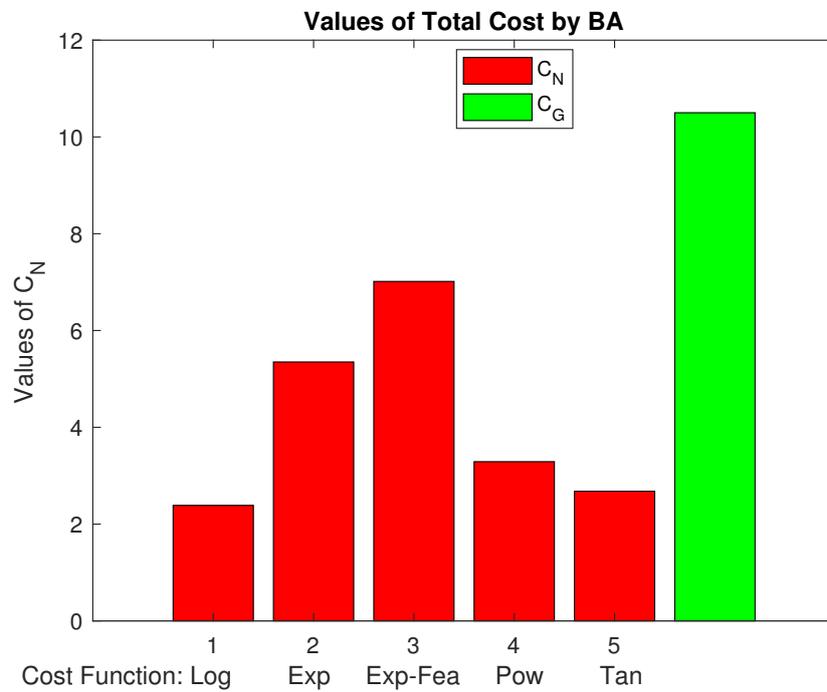


Figure 5.14: Best Values of  $C_N$  by BA

## 5.7 Grey Wolf Optimization (GWO) Algorithm

Mirjalili in 2014 presented Gray Wolf Optimization (GWO) algorithm, which is one of the modern meta-optimization algorithms. Mirjalili drew on social hierarchy and the cunning hunting strategy of gray wolves. Animal researchers say that gray wolves live in herds of 5-12 wolves and have a strict social hierarchy. Figure 5.15 and table (5.7) show the hierarchy of gray wolves and solutions inspired by the algorithm. Leaders  $\alpha$  wolves (best solutions) are responsible for making herd decisions and the rest of herd must implement those decisions. The second level in social hierarchy of gray wolves is  $\beta$ , (mean solutions) its role is to help  $\alpha$  make decisions and they are responsible for disciplining the herd,  $\beta$  can be the best alternative to the  $\alpha$  when one of them incapacitated or dies. The third level is  $\delta$ , (worst solutions) they have to obey  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  wolves, and their responsibilities are to protect the herd and alert it in case of danger, and to take care of the elderly and hunters. The last level is  $\omega$  (remaining solutions), they must carry out the orders of rest levels and they are the last to eat. In gatherings, individuals confirm the alpha's decision by holding their tails down.



Figure 5.15: The Social Hierarchy of Grey Wolves

Table 5.7: The Social Hierarchy of Grey Wolves

Level	Name	Roles in Herd	Type of Solutions
1	$\alpha$	Leaders: making herd decisions	best solutions
2	$\beta$	Help $\alpha$ , responsible for disciplining the herd	mean solutions
3	$\delta$	Protect the herd and alert it in case of danger	worst solutions
4	$\omega$	Executing higher level orders	remaining solutions

Collective hunting is one of the behaviors of the gray wolves herd in addition to the social hierarchy. Grey wolves' hunting includes the following three main parts:

- (1) Tracking, chasing, and approaching the prey.
- (2) Pursuing, encircling, and harassing the prey till it stops moving.
- (3) Attacking the prey [23, 56, 67].

## 5.8 Mathematical Model of the GWO Algorithm

The GWO algorithm is a set of rules are inspired with the resource of social hierarchy and the smart hunting method of grey wolves. Mirjalili described the behavior of gray wolves in search of prey as follows [23, 40, 56]:

$$\vec{D} = |\vec{C} \cdot \vec{X}_p(t) - \vec{X}(t)| \quad (5.8)$$

$$\vec{X}(t+1) = \vec{X}_p(t) - \vec{A} \cdot \vec{D} \quad (5.9)$$

here  $t$  is an iteration number,  $\vec{X}_p$  is a vector of the prey's positions,  $\vec{X}$  is a vector of grey wolf's positions,  $\vec{D}$  is a calculated vector used to specify a new position of the grey wolf, while  $\vec{A}$  and  $\vec{C}$  are coefficient vectors can be can be calculated by

$$\vec{A} = 2\vec{a} \cdot \vec{r}_1 - \vec{a} \quad (5.10)$$

$$\vec{C} = 2\vec{r}_2 \quad (5.11)$$

here  $\vec{a}$  is a vector set to decrease linearly from 2 to 0 over the iterations,  $\vec{r}_1$  and  $\vec{r}_2$  are random vectors in  $[0,1]$ . Any gray wolf can be placed in every random position around the prey (the best solution) as it is calculated from the equations (5.8) and (5.9), gray wolves have the ability to distinguish the location of prey from others [23, 56].

To emulation this hunting behavior, suppose that the alpha (the best candidate for the solution) while the beta and delta have more knowledge about the location of prey. Therefore, the algorithm saves three best achieved solutions away and forcing omega to update their locations to achieve the best place in the decision space. In the optimization algorithm, such a hunting behavior can be modeled by:

$$\vec{D}_\tau = |\vec{C}_i \cdot \vec{X}_\tau - \vec{X}| \quad (5.12)$$

$$\vec{X}_i = \vec{X}_\tau - \vec{A}_i \cdot \vec{D}_\tau \quad (5.13)$$

here  $\tau = \alpha, \beta, \delta$  in conjunction with  $i = 1, 2, 3$ .

To understand how the GWO algorithm solves optimization problems theatrically, some notes can be summarized as follows:

- (1) The social hierarchy helps the algorithm to rank solutions and save the best ones until the last iteration.
- (2) The random vectors ( $A$  and  $C$ ) help grey wolves (candidate solutions) to define different hyper-spheres with random radii.
- (3) The hunting approach implemented in the GWO algorithm allows grey wolves (candidate solutions) to locate the probable position of the prey (optimal solution).
- (4) When reducing the values of  $A$ , half of the iterations are allocated to exploration ( $|\vec{A}| > 1$ ) and the other half of the iterations are allocated to exploitation ( $|\vec{A}| < 1$ ).
- (5)  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{C}$  are two main vectors of GWO algorithm [4, 23, 56].
- (6) The problem is a nonlinear multi-objective optimization as in equation (5.7)

The simple steps within GWO algorithm manner are presented in the flowchart shown in Figure 5.16.

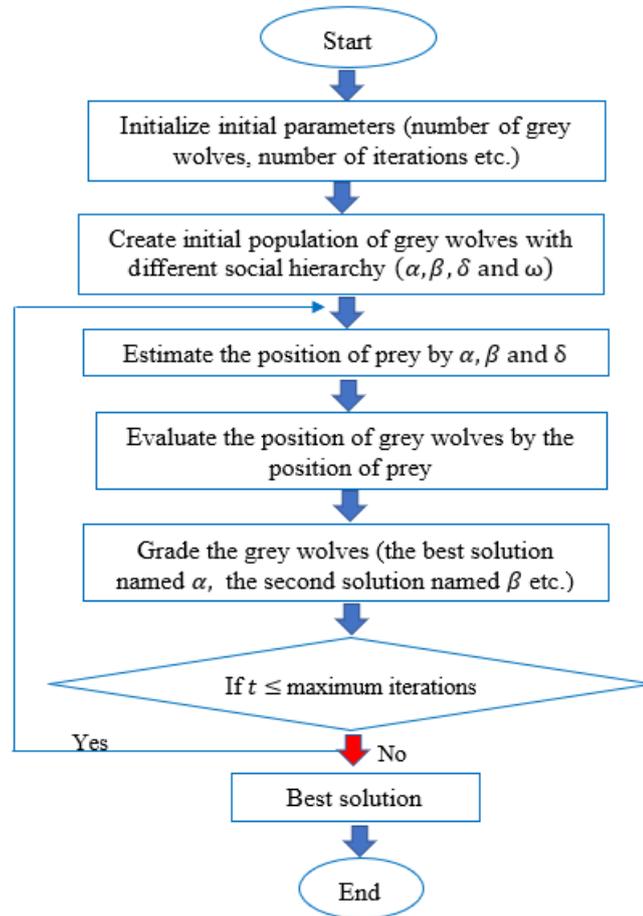


Figure 5.16: Flowchart of GWO Algorithm

## 5.9 Computational Results of GWO

To find out the Best reliability of a complex network, we used GWO by 500 from NI with the aforementioned five cost functions. The nonlinear multi-objective optimization problem as in equation (5.7).

## 1. GWO with Logarithmic Cost Function

The values of  $R_i$ ,  $C_i$ , reliability network  $R_N$  and total cost  $C_N$  by GWO using logarithmic cost function listed in [table \(5.8\)](#).

Table 5.8: A Summary Table for  $R_i$ ,  $C_i$  and Best Values of  $R_N$ ,  $C_N$  by GWO with  $f_1$

$R_i$	$R_1$	$R_2$	$R_3$	$R_4$	$R_5$	$R_6$	$R_7$	Total
Value of $R_i$	0.931	0.942	0.873	0.884	<b>0.850</b>	0.941	<b>0.945</b>	<b>0.996</b>
Value of $C_i$	1.604	1.710	1.242	1.294	1.140	1.700	1.744	<b>10.434</b>

By looking at [table \(5.8\)](#), the following observations can be recorded:

- (1)  $0.850 \leq R_i \leq 0.945$ , and  $1.140 \leq C_i \leq 1.744$ , for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 7$ .
- (2) The highest value of  $R_i$  was for the seventh component, which is 0.945, while the lowest value was for the fifth component, which is 0.850.
- (3) The values of  $R_3$ ,  $R_4$  and  $R_5$  are less than 0.9.
- (4) The values of  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $R_6$  and  $R_7$  are greater than 0.9.
- (5)  $R_7 > R_2 > R_6 > R_1 > R_4 > R_3 > R_5$ .
- (6) The best value of reliability network is  $R_N = 0.996$  which is an excellent value, as the difference between it and one (ideal value) is very small.
- (7) The best total cost is  $C_N = 10.434$ .

Two bar charts in [Figures 5.17](#) and [5.18](#) shown the values of  $R_i$ ,  $R_N$  and  $C_i$ ,  $C_N$  by GWO with  $f_1$  respectively.

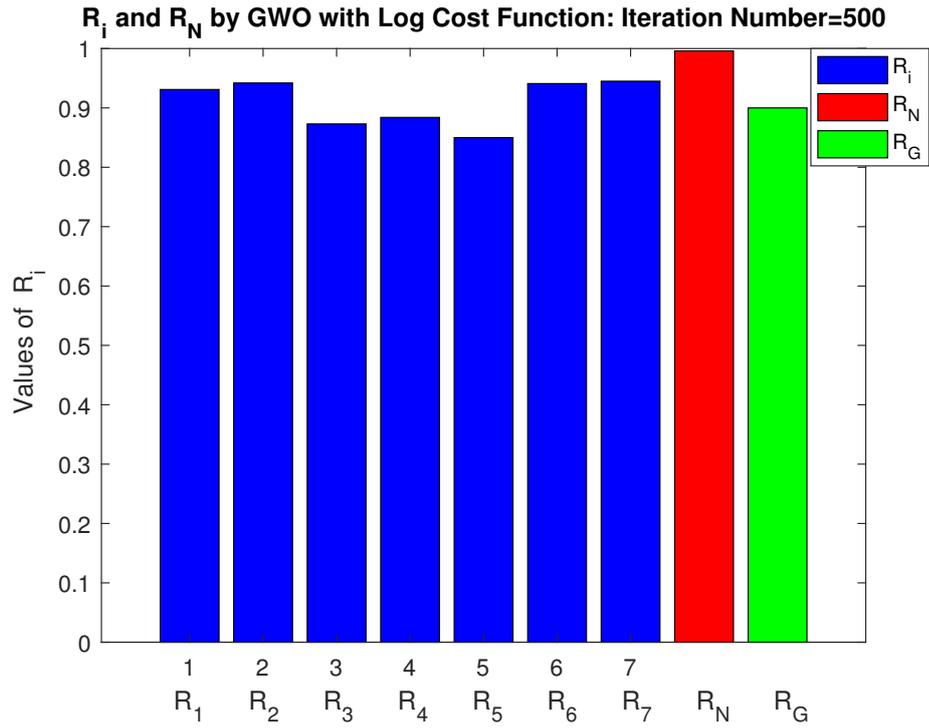


Figure 5.17: Values of  $R_i$  and  $R_N$  by GWO with  $f_1$

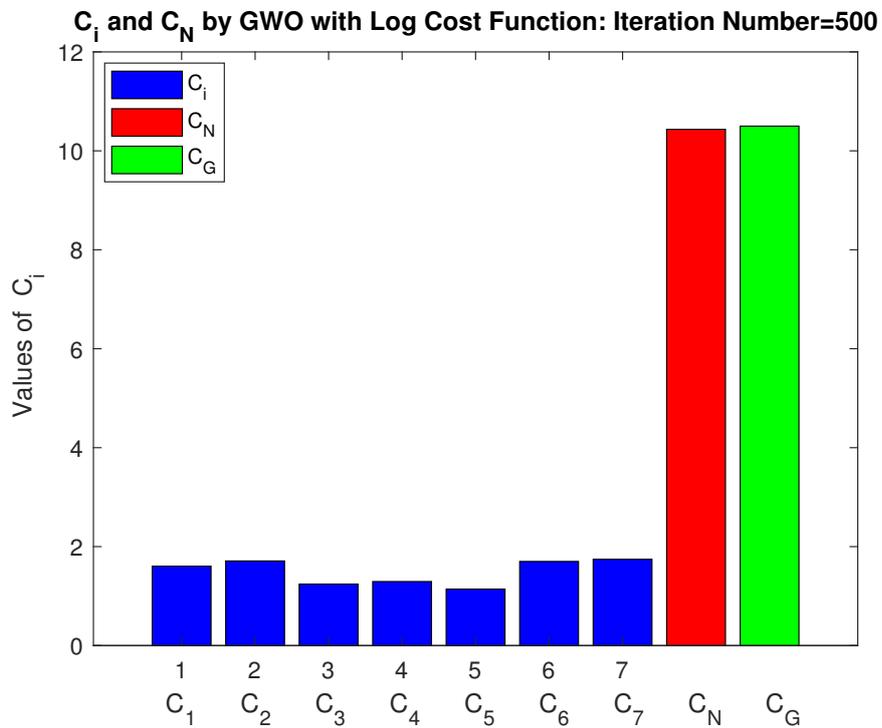


Figure 5.18: Values of  $C_i$  and  $C_N$  by GWO with  $f_1$

## 2. GWO with Exponential Cost Function

The values of  $R_i, C_i$ , reliability network  $R_N$  and total cost  $C_N$  by GWO with the exponential function listed in [table \(5.9\)](#).

Table 5.9: A Summary Table for  $R_i, C_i, R_N$  and  $C_N$  by GWO with  $f_2$

$R_i$	$R_1$	$R_2$	$R_3$	$R_4$	$R_5$	$R_6$	$R_7$	Total
Value of $R_i$	0.909	0.934	0.867	<b>0.863</b>	0.864	0.918	<b>0.948</b>	<b>0.994</b>
Value of $C_i$	0.750	0.893	0.500	0.360	0.496	1.362	1.627	<b>5.988</b>

By looking at [table \(5.9\)](#), the following observations can be recorded:

- (1)  $0.863 \leq R_i \leq 0.948$ , for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 7$ .
- (2)  $0.360 \leq C_i \leq 1.627$ , for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 7$ .
- (3) The highest value of  $R_i$  was for the seventh component, which is 0.948, while the lowest value was for the fourth component, which is 0.863.
- (4) There are three components whose reliability is less than 0.9, which are  $R_3, R_4$  and  $R_5$ .
- (5) There are four components whose reliability is greater than 0.9, which are  $R_1, R_2, R_6$  and  $R_7$ .
- (6)  $R_7 > R_2 > R_6 > R_1 > R_3 > R_5 > R_4$ .
- (7) From last three observations we understand that the seventh, second, sixth and first components are of greater importance than the other components.
- (8) The best value of  $R_N$  is 0.994, which is an excellent value, as the difference between it and one (ideal value) is very small.
- (9) The best value of  $C_N$  is 5.988.

Two bar charts in [Figures 5.19](#) and [5.20](#) shown the values of  $R_i, R_N$  and  $C_i, C_N$  by GWO with  $f_2$  respectively.

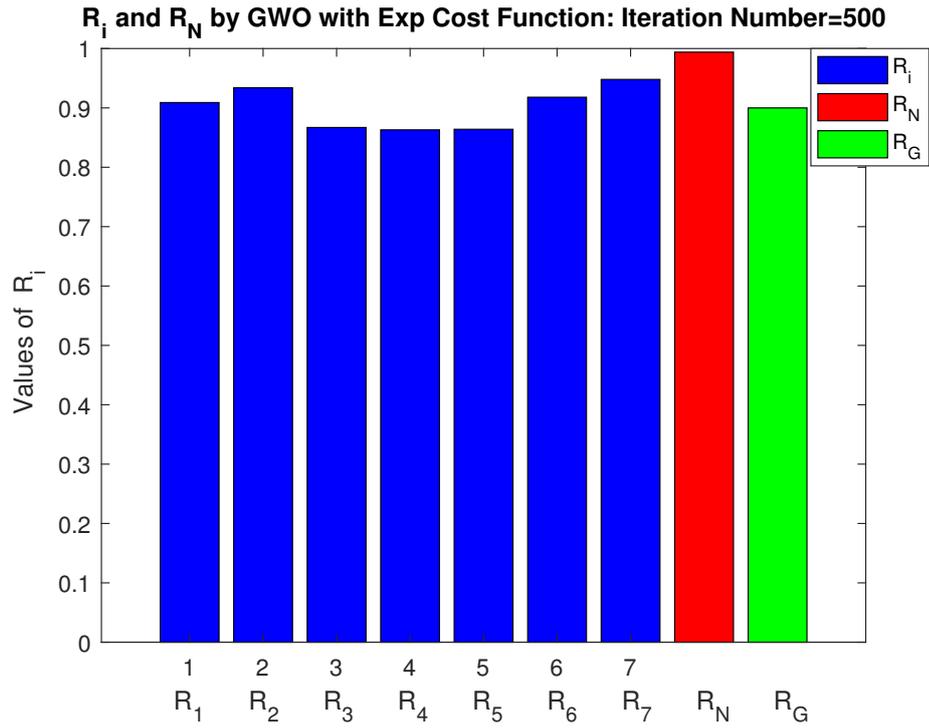


Figure 5.19: Values of  $R_i$  and  $R_N$  by GWO with  $f_2$

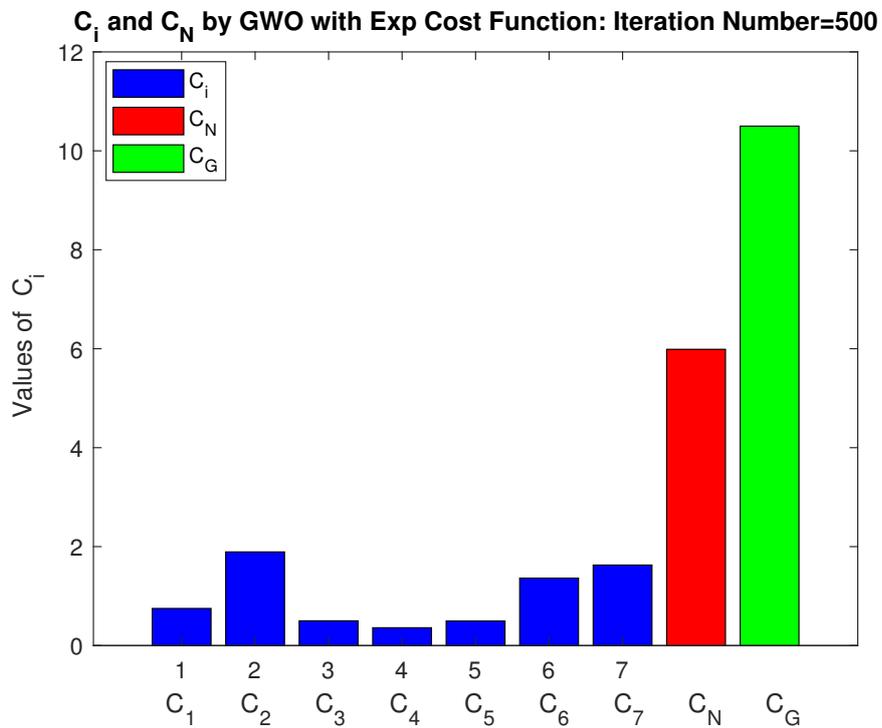


Figure 5.20: Values of  $C_i$  and  $C_N$  by GWO with  $f_2$

### 3. GWO with Exp. in Terms of Feasibility Factor Cost Function

The values by GWO with  $f_3$  listed in table (5.10).

Table 5.10: A Summary Table for  $R_i, C_i, R_N$  and  $C_N$  by GWO with  $f_3$

$R_i$	$R_1$	$R_2$	$R_3$	$R_4$	$R_5$	$R_6$	$R_7$	Total
Value of $R_i$	0.923	<b>0.946</b>	0.819	0.869	<b>0.699</b>	0.945	<b>0.946</b>	<b>0.995</b>
Value of $C_i$	1.002	1	1.006	1.005	1	1.001	1	<b>7.014</b>

With a quick look at table (5.10), we can make the following notes:

- (1)  $0.699 \leq R_i \leq 0.946$ , for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 7$ .
- (2)  $C_i$  is equal to or very slightly greater than one for all  $i$ , and this means that the values of two terms  $R_i - R_{i,min}$  and  $R_{i,max} - R_i$  are either zero or very close to zero, and we understand from this that  $R_i, R_{i,min}$  and  $R_{i,max}$  are almost equal values for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 7$ .
- (3) The highest value of  $R_i$  was for the seventh component, which is 0.946, while the lowest value was for the fifth component, which is 0.699.
- (4) There are three components whose reliability is less than 0.9, which are  $R_3, R_4$  and  $R_5$ .
- (5) There are four components whose reliability is greater than 0.9, which are  $R_1, R_2, R_6$  and  $R_7$ .
- (6)  $R_2 = R_7 > R_6 > R_1 > R_4 > R_3 > R_5$ .
- (7) From last four observations we understand that the second, seventh, sixth and first components are of greater importance than the other components.
- (8) The best value of  $R_N$  is 0.995, and the best value of  $C_N$  is 7.014.

Two bar charts in Figures 5.21 and 5.22 shown the values of  $R_i, R_N$  and  $C_i, C_N$  by GWO with  $f_3$ .

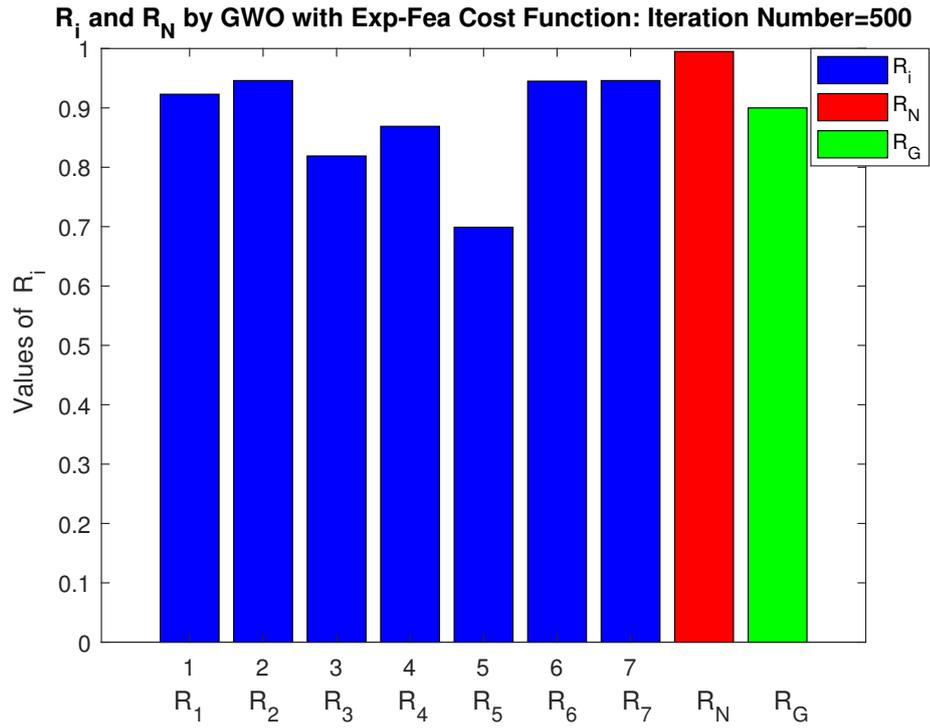


Figure 5.21: Values of  $R_i$  and  $R_N$  by GWO with  $f_3$

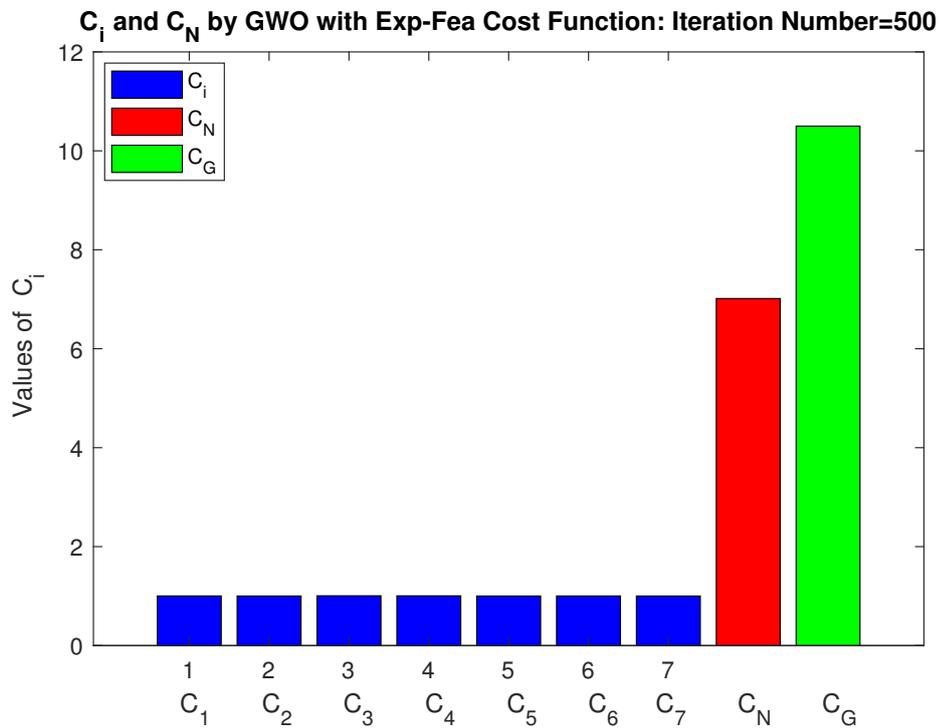


Figure 5.22: Values of  $C_i$  and  $C_N$  by GWO with  $f_3$

#### 4. GWO with Power Cost Function

The values of  $R_i, C_i, R_N$  and total cost  $C_N$  by GWO with power cost function listed in table (5.11).

Table 5.11: A Summary Table for  $R_i, C_i, R_N$  and  $C_N$  by GWO with  $f_4$

$R_i$	$R_1$	$R_2$	$R_3$	$R_4$	$R_5$	$R_6$	$R_7$	Total
Value of $R_i$	0.916	0.944	0.886	0.912	<b>0.787</b>	0.918	<b>0.949</b>	<b>0.995</b>
Value of $C_i$	0.351	0.376	0.750	0.657	0.716	0.427	0.496	<b>3.773</b>

With a quick look at table (5.11), we can make the following notes:

- (1)  $0.787 \leq R_i \leq 0.949$  and  $0.351 \leq C_i \leq 0.750$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 7$ .
- (2) The highest value of  $R_i$  was for the seventh component, which is 0.949, while the lowest value was for the fifth component, which is 0.787.
- (3) There are five components whose reliability is greater than 0.9, which are  $R_1, R_2, R_4, R_6$  and  $R_7$ .
- (4)  $R_7$  and  $R_2$  are the highest values.
- (5)  $R_7 > R_2 > R_6 > R_1 > R_4 > R_3 > R_5$ .
- (6) From last three observations we understand that the seventh, second, sixth and first components are of greater importance than the other components.
- (7) The best value of reliability network is  $R_N = 0.995$  which is an excellent value, as the difference between it and one (ideal value) is very small.
- (8) The best total cost is  $C_N = 3.773$ .

Two bar charts in Figures 5.23 and 5.24 shown the values of  $R_i, R_N$  and  $C_i, C_N$  respectively by GWO with  $f_4$ .

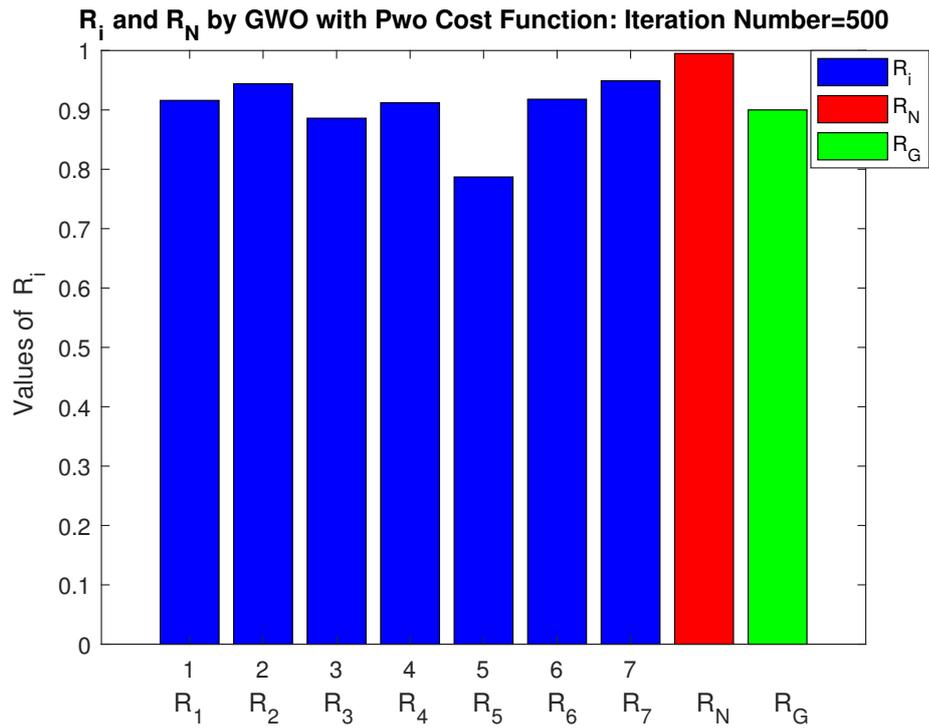


Figure 5.23: Values of  $R_i$  and  $R_N$  by GWO with  $f_4$

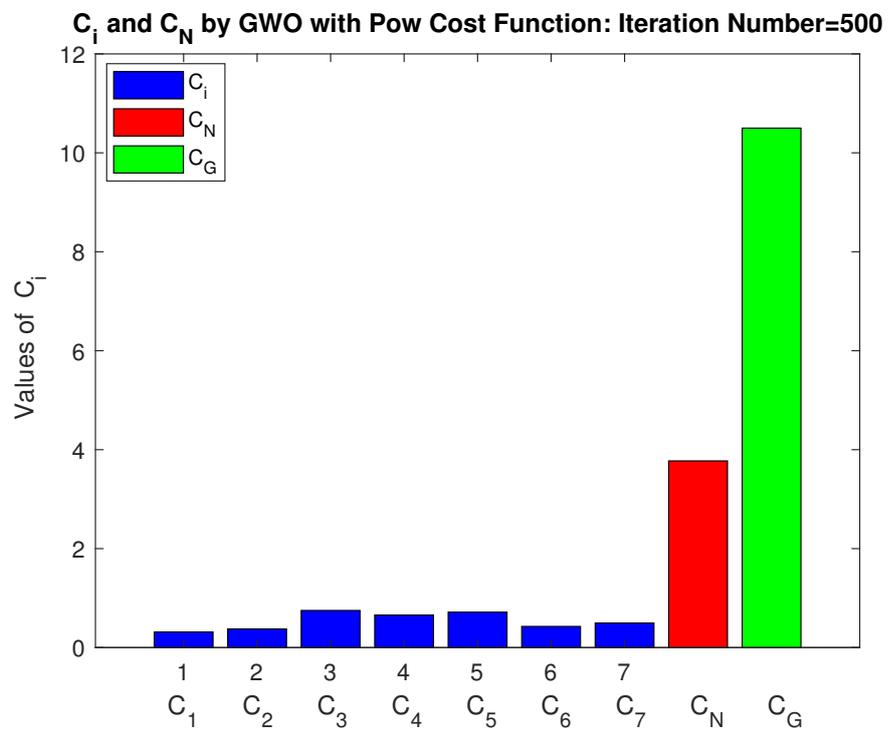


Figure 5.24: Values of  $C_i$  and  $C_N$  by GWO with  $f_4$

## 5. GWO with Tan Cost Function

The values by GWO with  $f_5$  listed in [table \(5.12\)](#).

Table 5.12: A Summary Table for  $R_i, C_i, R_N$  and  $C_N$  by GWO with  $f_5$

$R_i$	$R_1$	$R_2$	$R_3$	$R_4$	$R_5$	$R_6$	$R_7$	Total
Value of $R_i$	0.933	0.940	<b>0.807</b>	0.873	0.891	0.932	<b>0.948</b>	<b>0.995</b>
Value of $C_i$	0.144	0.323	0.317	0.308	0.274	0.184	0.326	<b>1.876</b>

With a quick look at [table \(5.12\)](#), we can make the following notes:

- (1)  $0.807 \leq R_i \leq 0.948$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 7$ .
- (2)  $0.144 \leq C_i \leq 0.326$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 7$ .
- (3) The highest value of  $R_i$  was for the seventh component, which is 0.948, while the lowest value was for the third component, which is 0.807.
- (4) There are four components whose reliability is greater than 0.9, which are  $R_1, R_2, R_6$  and  $R_7$ .
- (5) The values of  $R_3, R_4$  and  $R_5$  are less than 0.9.
- (6)  $R_7 > R_2 > R_1 > R_6 > R_5 > R_4 > R_3$ .
- (7) From last four observations we understand that the seventh, second, sixth and first components are of greater importance than the other components.
- (8)  $R_N = 0.995$ . It is a very well value, as the difference between it and one (ideal value) is very small.
- (9) The total cost is  $C_N = 1.876$ . It is very small compared to the total costs of the rest cost functions

Two bar charts in [Figures 5.25](#) and [5.26](#) shown the values of  $R_i, R_N$  and  $C_i, C_N$  respectively by GWO with  $f_5$ .

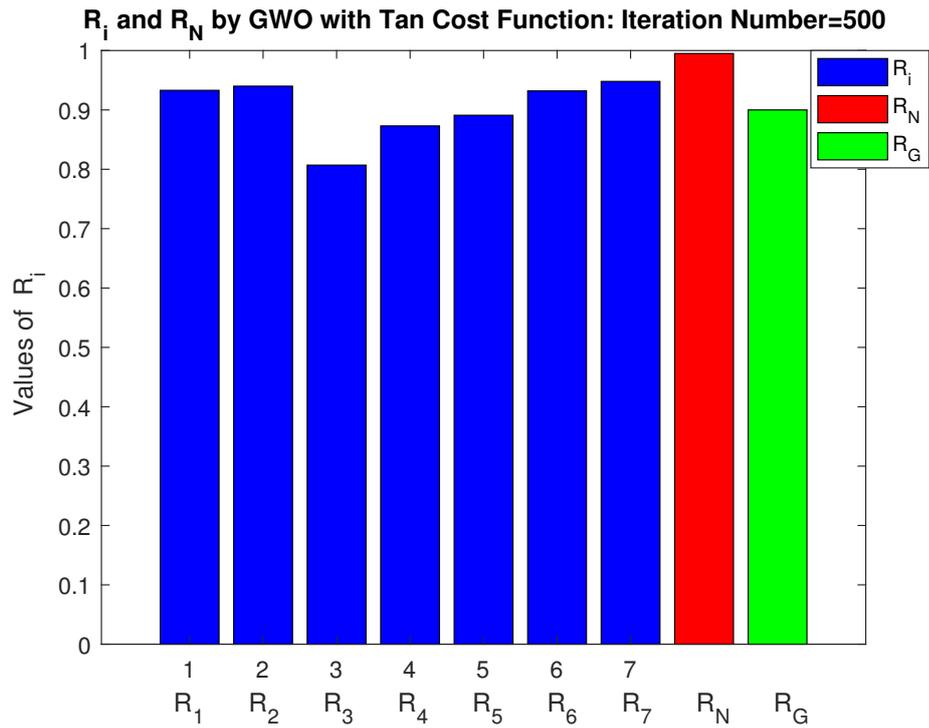


Figure 5.25: Values of  $R_i$  and  $R_N$  by GWO with  $f_5$

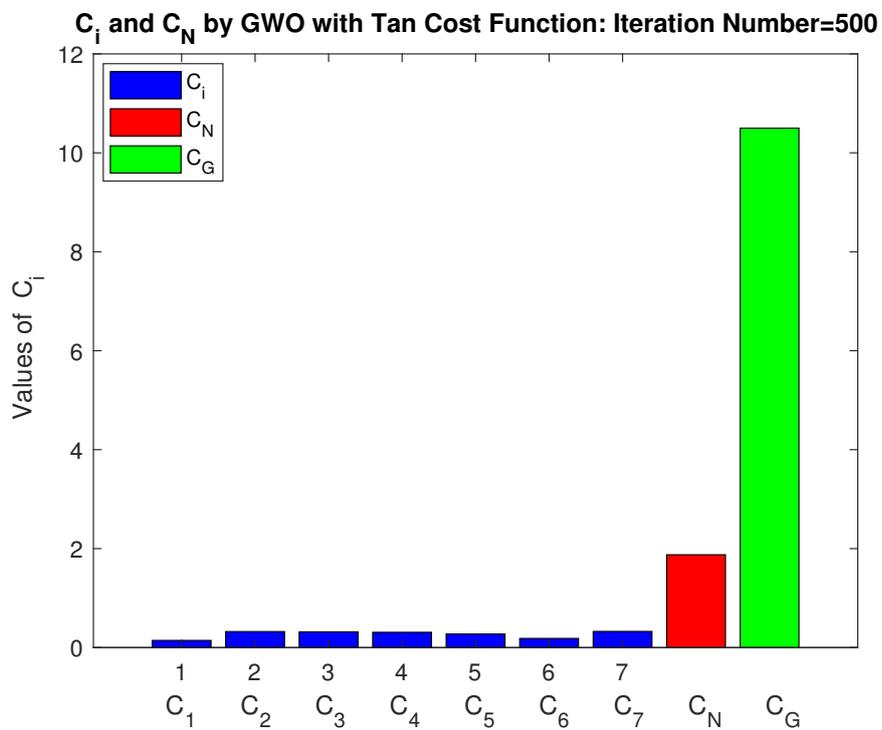


Figure 5.26: Values of  $C_i$  and  $C_N$  by GWO with  $f_5$

## 5.10 Discuss Results of GWO Algorithm

The results of values by using GWO with five cost functions listed in [table \(5.13\)](#).

Table 5.13: A Summary Table of  $R_i, C_i, R_N$  and  $C_N$  by GWO with all Cost Functions

	$f_1(R_i)$		$f_2(R_i)$		$f_3(R_i)$		$f_4(R_i)$		$f_5(R_i)$	
$i$	$R_i$	$C_i$	$R_i$	$C_i$	$R_i$	$C_i$	$R_i$	$C_i$	$R_i$	$C_i$
1	0.931	1.604	0.909	0.750	0.923	1.002	0.916	0.351	0.933	0.144
2	0.942	1.710	0.934	0.893	0.946	1	0.944	0.376	0.940	0.323
3	0.873	1.242	0.867	0.500	0.819	1.006	0.886	0.750	0.807	0.317
4	0.884	2.172	0.863	0.360	0.869	1.005	0.912	0.657	0.873	0.308
5	0.850	1.140	0.864	0.496	0.699	1	0.787	0.716	0.891	0.274
6	0.941	1.700	0.918	1.362	0.945	1.001	0.918	0.427	0.932	0.184
7	0.945	1.744	0.948	1.627	0.946	1	0.949	0.496	0.948	0.326
$R_N$	<b>0.996</b>	10.434	0.994	5.988	0.995	7.014	0.995	3.773	0.995	<b>1.876</b>

From the [table \(5.13\)](#), we have the following notes:

- (1) Best values of  $R_N$  was greater than 0.99 by using GWO algorithm with all five cost functions.
- (2) Best value of  $R_N$  is 0.996, this value was done by using the logarithm cost function.
- (3) Best cost is  $C_N = 1.867$ , this value was done by using the tan cost function, while the highest cost  $C_N = 10.434$  when use the logarithm function.
- (4)  $0.994 \leq R_N \leq 0.996$ . Here, the difference between largest and lowest value is 0.002 which has two indications, first one is that the value of  $R_N$  is not much affected by the cost function, and the second is that we are on the right path to convergence of values.
- (5)  $1.867 \leq C_N \leq 10.434$ . The difference between largest and lowest total costs is due to two reasons, first one is the difference in cost functions, and second one is the

random selection of the values for constants  $a_i, b_i$  and  $F_i$ .

- (6) It is an interesting note, that when using  $f_3$  with GWO algorithm,  $C_i$  is equal to or very slightly greater than one for all  $i$ , and this means that  $R_i \simeq R_{i,min} \simeq R_{i,max}$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 7$ .
- (7) The reliability value of the seventh component is higher than reliabilities of the other components for all cost functions, which indicates the importance of this component. Also, the value of  $R_1, R_2$  and  $R_6$  mostly they are high, meaning they are important compounds.
- (8) The reliability values of the third, fourth and fifth components are often the lowest, this means that they are less important than the other components.

From seventh and eighth notes, in addition to  $R_i$  values in [table \(5.13\)](#), the network components can be divided in terms of importance into three following levels:

- **First level:** Second and seventh components.
- **Second level:** First and sixth components.
- **Third level:** Third, fourth and fifth components.

The levels of importance above confirm the previous levels we reached in two [sections \(4.4\)](#) and [\(5.6\)](#).

The bar chart in [Figure 5.27](#) shown the best values of  $R_N$  by GWO.

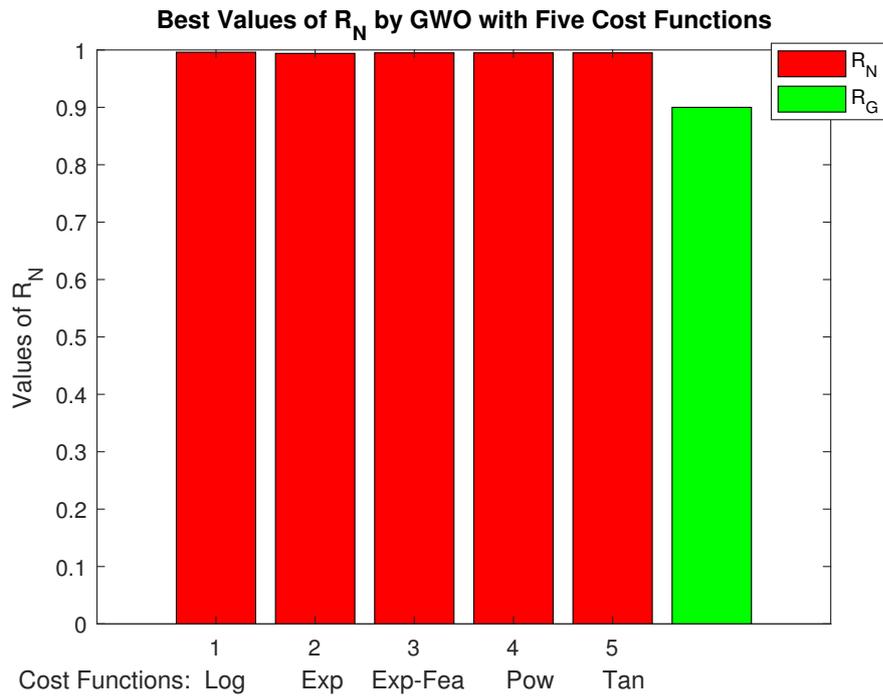


Figure 5.27: Values of  $R_N$  by GWO

The bar chart in [Figure 5.28](#) shown the best values of  $C_N$  by GWO.

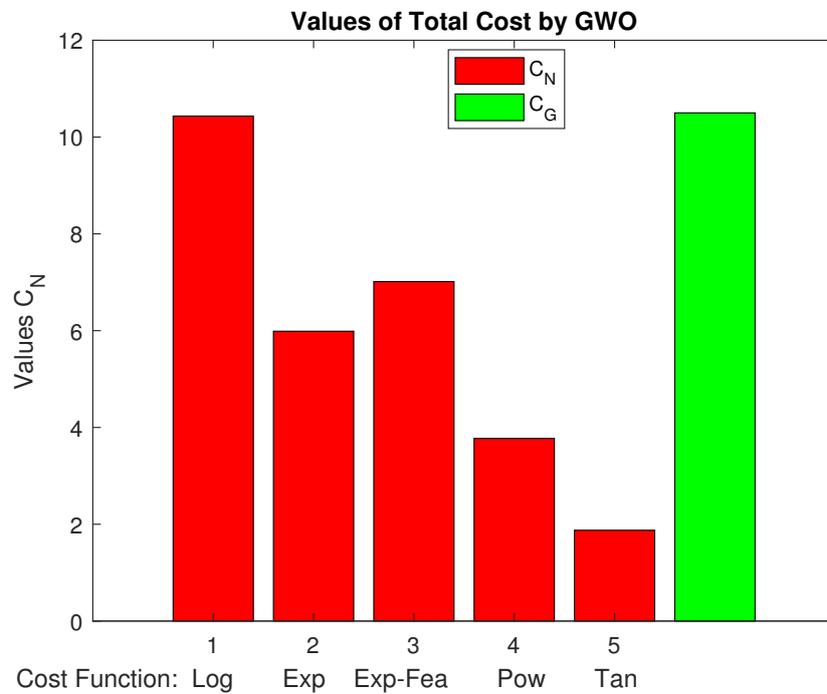


Figure 5.28: Values of  $C_N$  by GWO

## 5.11 Compare Results of Two Algorithms

We will analyze the values obtained by using the algorithms BA and GWO in two stages, the first will be based on the best values of network reliability and the second will depend on the total cost.

### 5.11.1 Compare the Best Values of $R_N$

The best values of reliability network  $R_N$  obtained by using two algorithms BA and GWO with five cost functions without total cost listed in [table \(5.14\)](#).

Table 5.14: A Summary Table for  $R_N$  by AB and GWO

Cost Function	$R_N$ by BA	$R_N$ by GWO
Log	0.992	0.996
Exp	0.982	0.994
Exp - Fea	0.987	0.995
Pow	0.983	0.995
Tan	0.986	0.995

From [table \(5.14\)](#) we can make the following observations:

- (1) The best reliability network  $R_N$  is 0.996 by using GWO with logarithmic cost function which is a very close to one.
- (2) The less value of reliability network  $R_N$  is 0.982 by using BA with exponential cost function which is an acceptable value.
- (3) The values of reliability network  $R_N$  when using the GWO are higher than those using the BA for all cost functions.
- (4) Although the values of reliability network are varying using two algorithms with five different cost functions, all of these values are acceptable.

The bar chart in Figure 5.29 shows the best values of  $R_N$  by two algorithms.

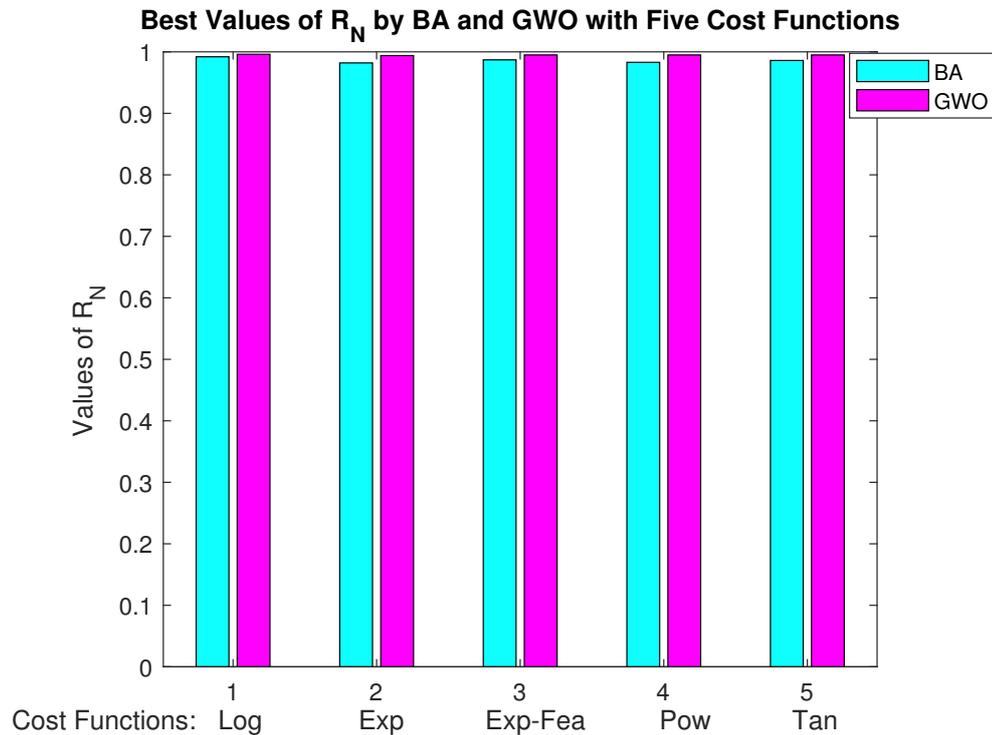


Figure 5.29: Best Values of  $R_N$  by AB and GWO

Although the advantage of GWO in optimization reliability network is clear from table (5.14) as well as the bar chart in Figure 5.29, but we will do some statistical calculations for reliability network value by both algorithms to confirm this advantage.

We know that two statistical parameters, Range and Standard Deviation, increase in value as the amount of dispersion of values around the arithmetic mean increases and vice versa [58].

Suppose we have  $n$  values  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ , Range is the difference between highest and lowest value, Mean is the sum of values divided by their number and the Standard Deviation  $SD$  is given by the following relationship:

$$SD = \sqrt{\frac{n \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 - \left( \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \right)^2}{n(n-1)}}$$

We calculated the Range, Mean, and Standard Deviation of the values obtained by two algorithms, they are listed in [table \(5.15\)](#).

Table 5.15: A Summary Table for Statistical Parameters of  $R_N$

Statistical parameter	BA Algorithm	GWO Algorithm
Range	0.01	0.002
Mean	0.986	0.995
Standard Deviation	0.2600	0.0007

By looking at values of [table \(5.15\)](#) we can make the following observations:

- (1) The Mean of values for  $R_N$  is equal to 0.995 by GWO and it is equal to 0.986 by BA. So, the Mean of values for  $R_N$  is better when using GWO. This confirms the advantage of GWO.
- (2) The Range and Standard Deviation of values for  $R_N$  by use BA are greater than the Range and Standard Deviation by use GWO. This means that the values generated by BA are more dispersed than those generated by GWO.

The above two observations confirm the superiority of GWO over BA. This does not mean that the latter is ineffective. On the contrary, the values we obtained with the BA were excellent.

### 5.11.2 Compare the Values of $C_N$

We list the values of total cost  $C_N$  obtained using two algorithms in [table \(5.16\)](#) and make the following observations:

- (1) The best total cost  $C_N$  is 1.876 by using GWO with tan cost function.
- (2) The higher value of total cost  $C_N$  is 10.434 by using GWO with cost logarithmic function.

Table 5.16: A Summary Table for  $C_N$  by AB and GWO

Cost function	$C_N$ by BA	$C_N$ by GWO
Log	2.387	10.434
Exp	5.350	5.988
Exp - Fea	7.014	7.014
Pow	3.290	3.773
Tan	2.679	1.876

The bar chart in Figure 5.30 shwon the optimal values of  $C_N$  by two algorithms.

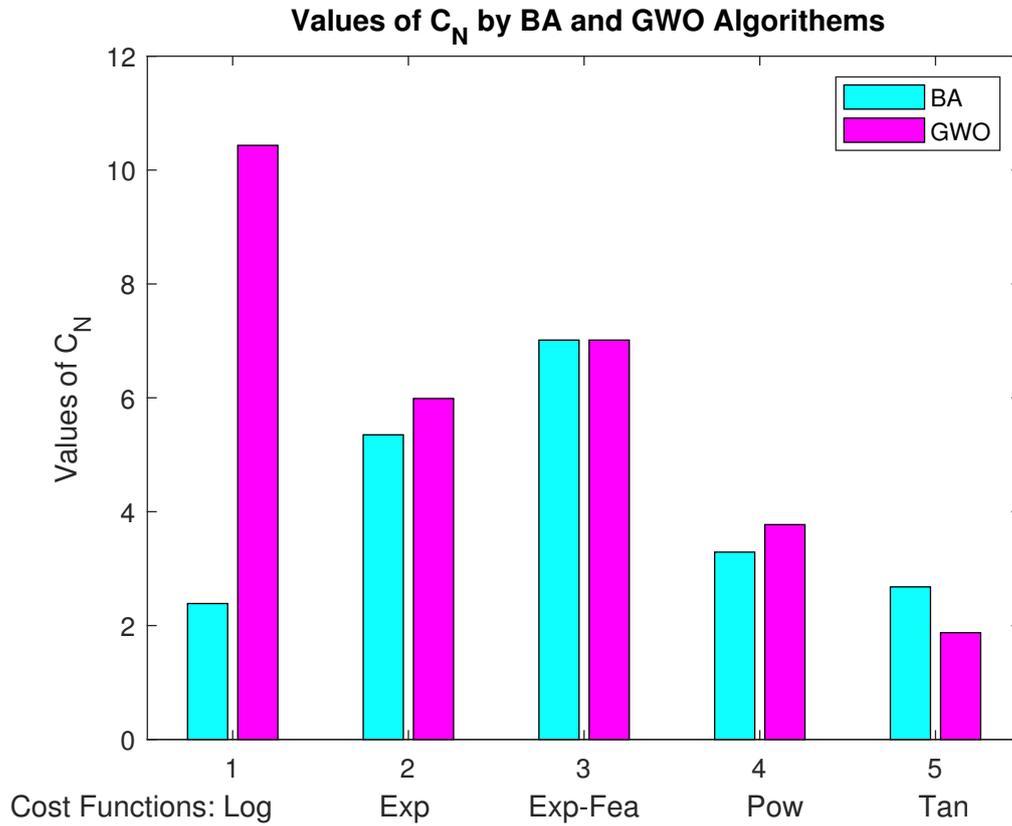


Figure 5.30: Values of  $C_N$  by AB and GWO

CHAPTER 6

CHAPTER SIX: CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE WORKS

## 6.1 Conclusions

We have found a reliability polynomial for the complex network under study, through two different techniques that were presented with two theorems with their proof, the first depends on the minimal paths. In contrast, the second depends on the minimal cut sets where we obtained the same polynomial by applying those theorems. This confirms the effectiveness of these theories in calculating the reliability of complex networks. Furthermore, we have reduced the number of network units by two techniques, where the complex network was reduced to two subnetworks in parallel by the reduction technique, also transformed the complex network into two subnetworks in series by using the delta - star technique.

We also allocated the reliability of network components, and the results of the examples showed the possibility of applying the two techniques (Exponential allocation and ARINC approach method) to allocate the reliability of complex networks where the results were greater than the target reliability. In addition, we identified three levels of reliability for the complex network components under study, the second and seventh components were at the first level, the first and sixth components were at the second level, and the other three components were at the third level, and this information was very useful when studying the topic of improving network reliability because the focus is on improving the reliability of components that have a greater impact on network reliability.

The reliability optimization of a given complex network was studied using two nature-inspired algorithms (Bat and Gray Wolf) based on five cost functions with these algorithms (Logarithmic, Exponential, Exponential in terms of feasibility factor, Power function and Tan function). The problem was a multi-objective nonlinear problem where the results of two algorithms BA and GWO (despite the differences between them) showed that they can be relied upon to improve the reliability of complex networks at low cost and these results have achieved the desired goal of this dissertation. We noticed that when using Exponential in terms of feasibility factor cost function with two algorithms, the cost of

each component is proven to be at or close to one. The best reliability value at the lowest cost is by using GWO algorithm with Tan function. Also, we obtained best reliability allocation when using the GWO algorithm with Logarithmic cost function.

## 6.2 Future Works

1. We propose to study the network reliability given in [Figure 3.1](#) using another techniques for calculating network reliability and reliability allocation.
2. We propose to study the network reliability optimization given in [Figure 3.1](#) using new algorithms and comparison between them and two given algorithms (BA and GWO).
3. We propose to study optimization reliability of different networks using two algorithms mentioned (BA and GWO).
4. We suggest using cost functions other than those used and comparing the results.
5. We suggest using T - test or any other tests to compare between results of two algorithms.



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# Appendix

- **Bat Algorithm**

```
clc
clearvars
clf reset
close all
tic
Rg=0.9;
RG=Rg;
RNo=7;
ep=0.001;
cw=0.01;
rau=0.45:ep:0.95;
n=length(rau);
ps=n;
it=n;
AA=0.1;BB=0.2;
A=AA+(BB-AA)*rand(1,RNo);
B=AA+(BB-AA)*rand(1,RNo);
Ris-p=zeros(RNo+1,ps);
Costis-p=Risp;
Rau=ones(RNo,n);
NewRau=Rau;
xx=Rau;
x=ones(ps,it);
xv=x;
f=cw+(1-cw)*rand(ps,it);
fmin = min(f);
```

```

fmax = max(f);
v=x;
ald=x;
Rm=Rau;
sst=Rau;
sol=Rau;
R=ones(RNo,1);
S=ones(n,1);
ci=Rau;
cost=S';
RN=S;
cr=S';
BESTCOST = ones(1,ps) * inf;
BESTci = ones(RNo,ps) * inf;
BESTC = BESTCOST;
BESTRN = BESTCOST;
BESTRi = BESTci;
MINCOST = inf;
BATtime = toc;
for i=1:RNo
Rau(i,:)=rau;
end
for i=1:RNo
for j=1:n
ri=randperm(RNo);
r=ri(1);
sol(i,j)=r;
Rm(i,j)=rau(r);

```

```

end
end
for pop=1:ps; tic; for j=1:n; MRi1=Rm(:,j); RN(j)=Rnf(Rm(:,j));
if RN(j) < RG
state=0;
while state==0
rss = 0.45 + (0.95 -0.45)*rand(RNo,1);
MRi1=rss;
RN(j)=Rnf(rss);
if RN(j) < RG
state=0;
else
state=1;
Rm(:,j)=rss;
end
end
end
[ci(:,j),cost(j)]=S-LOG(Rm(:,j),A);
cr(j)=10*(1-RN(j))+cw*cost(j);
ald(pop,j)=(1-f(pop,j))/(pop*j);
if cr(j) < BEST_COST(pop) + ald(i, j)
BEST_COST(pop) = cr(j);
BEST_C(pop) = cost(j);
BEST_RN(pop) = RN(j);
BEST_Ci(:,pop) = ci(:, j);
BEST_Ri(:,pop) = Rm(:, j) ;
js=j;
Ris_p(:,pop) = [BEST_Ri(:,pop); BEST_RN(pop)];

```

```
Costisp(:,pop) = [BESTCi(:,pop); BESTC(pop)];
```

```
RN: the polynomial in equation 3.3.
```

```
end
```

- **Grey Wolf Algorithm**

```
clc
```

```
clearvars
```

```
clf reset
```

```
close all
```

```
tic
```

```
Rg=0.9;
```

```
RG=Rg;
```

```
RNo=7;
```

```
ep=0.001;
```

```
cw=0.01;
```

```
rau=linspace(0.45,0.95,37);
```

```
n=length(rau);
```

```
ITE=500;
```

```
it=n;
```

```
W=10;
```

```
A=ones(1,RNo)*0.6;
```

```
B=ones(1,RNo)*0.1;
```

```
Ris-p=zeros(RNo+1,ITE);
```

```
Costis-p=Ris-p;
```

```
Rau=ones(RNo,n);
```

```
New-Rau=Rau;
```

```
Rm=Rau;
```

```
sst=Rau;
```

```

sol=Rau;
S=ones(n,1);
ci=Rau;
cost=S';
RN=S;
cr=S';
BEST-COST=ones(1,ITE)*inf;
BEST-Ci=ones(RNo,ITE)*inf;
BEST-C=BEST_COST;
BEST-RN=BEST-COST;
BEST-Ri=BEST-Ci;
MIN-COST=inf;
GW-time=toc;
for i=1:RNo
Rau(i,:)=rau;
end
for i=1:RNo
for j=1:n
ri=randperm(RNo);
r=ri(1);
sol(i,j)=r;
Rm(i,j)=rau(r);
end
end
—————(GW Loops)—————
for pop=1:ITE
tic
for j=1:n

```

```

MRi1=Rm(:,j);
RN(j)=Rnf(Rm(:,j));
if RN(j) < RG —— RN(j)==1
state=0;
while state==0
rss = 0.45 + (0.95-0.45)*rand(RNo,1);
MRi1=rss;
RN(j)=Rnf(rss);
if RN(j) < RG —— RN(j)==1
state=0;
else
state=1;
Rm(:,j)=rss;
end
end
end
cr(j)=W*(1-RN(j))+cw*cost(j);
if cr(j) < BEST-COST(pop)
BEST-COST(pop)=cr(j);
BEST-C(pop)=cost(j);
BEST-RN(pop)=RN(j);
BEST-Ci(:,pop)=ci(:,j);
BEST-Ri(:,pop)=Rm(:,j);
js=j;
Costis-p(:,pop)=[BEST-Ci(:,pop);BEST-C(pop)];
end
end
if BEST-COST(pop) < MIN-COST

```

```

MIN-COST=BEST-COST(pop);
Ri=Ris-p(:,pop);
Ci=Costis-p(:,pop);
km=pop;
end
C=[ci;cr];
R=[Rm;RN'];
C=C(:,ind);
R=R(:,ind);
R1=R(1:RNo,1);
R2=R(1:RNo,2);
R3=R(1:RNo,3);
RR=[R1,R2,R3];
m1=37;
RR2=zeros(RNo,m1);
m=0;
for i1=1:3
New-R(1)=RR(i1);
for i2=1:3
New-R(2)=RR(i2);
for i3=1:3
New-R(3)=RR(i3);
for i4=1:3
New-R(4)=RR(i4);
for i5=1:3
New-R(5)=RR(i5);
for i6=1:3
New-R(6)=RR(i6);

```

```

for i7=1:3
New-R(7)=RR(i7);
m=m+1;
RR2(:,m)=New-R;
end
end
end
end
end
end
end
Rm=RR2;
N1=ceil(m/4);
N=m-N1;
for jj=N+1:n
rss = 0.45 + (0.95-0.45)*rand(RNo,1);
Rm(:,jj)=rss;
end
GWT=toc;
GW-time=GW-time+GWT;
if GW-time<=500
break
end
end
b1=figure;
bar((Ri(1:RNo)'));
hold on
bar(RNo+1,Ri(RNo+1),'r',RG)

```

```

legend('Ri','RN','location','north')
title([' Ri and RN:GWO with exp cost function: iteration Number=',num2str(ITE)]);
print('GWO Ri and RN for F1','-dpng')
hold off
b2=figure;
bar(Ci(1:RNo)');
hold on
bar(RNo+1,Ci(RNo+1),'r');
legend('Ci','Cost','location','northwest')
title([' Ci and CN: GWO with exp cost function: iteration Number=',num2str(ITE)]);
pname2=' Ci and CN:GWO with exp cost function:iteration Number='; print('GWO Ci
and CN for F1','-djpeg');
hold off
filename=['GWO(F1)(ITERATIONs) =',num2str(ITE),'.xlsx'];
LastName = 'R1';'R2';'R3';'R4';'R5';'R6';'R7';'RN';
sol1=[Ri,Ci];
T1=table(Ri,Ci,'RowNames',LastName)
writetable(T1,filename);
All $R_i$  =  $Ris_p$ ;
All $C_i$  =  $Costis_p$ ;
T3=table(All $R_i$ , All $C_i$ , 'RowNames', LastName);
sol2=[Ris $_p$ ; NaN * ones(1, pop); Costis $_p$ (RNo + 1, :); Costis $_p$ (1 : RNo, :
)]; writematrix(sol2, filename, 'sheet', 2);
function [c,Sc]=S-F1(R,A,B)
n=length(R);
c=R;
Sc=0;
for i=1:n

```

```
c(i)=A(i)*exp((B(i))/(1-R(i)));
```

```
Sc=Sc+c(i);
```

```
end
```

```
end
```

```
function RN=Rnf(R)
```

```
R1=R(1);
```

```
R2=R(2);
```

```
R3=R(3);
```

```
R4=R(4);
```

```
R5=R(5);
```

```
R6=R(6);
```

```
R7=R(7);
```

```
RN: the polynomial in equation 3.3.
```

```
end
```



