



# Application of machine learning algorithm in the internal and external hazards from industrial byproducts

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## ABSTRACT

Natural radioactive substances that are produced because of industrial processes pose a risk to both the environment and people. An extensive analysis of the radiological properties of industrial byproducts was undertaken in this work, and the risks for both indoor and outdoor environments were assessed based on activity concentrations. The machine learning technique of artificial neural networks was used with various training algorithms to predict the internal and external hazards from these industrial byproducts. The findings demonstrated that, with the exception of incinerated sewage sludge ash, metakaolin, marble powder, nickel slag, pyrite ash, silica fume, steel slag, and glass waste powder, every industrial byproduct examined poses potential indoor and outdoor dangers. All backpropagation training algorithms that were used showed high prediction, according to the neural networks. However, when compared to the Bayesian Regularization and Scaled Conjugate Gradient backpropagation training algorithms, the Levenberg-Marquardt backpropagation technique had the best performance indicators for training, validation, and testing. The results can provide reference information for developing a framework for monitoring hazards and their accompanying precise management.

## 1. Introduction

A growing population has accelerated urbanization and industrialization, forcing the manufacturing industries to produce more and new materials to keep up with demand (Sharma et al., 2022). Due to their improper management and indiscriminate disposal, the production of industrial products generates a variety of solid wastes that pose problems for society and the environment (Gaur et al., 2020; Kundariya et al., 2021). In order to manage and recycle these wastes as useful goods, a concerted effort has been made. Because of this, industrial byproducts - recycled goods made from industrial waste - have been held up as models for delivering advantages to the society, environment, the economy, and products (Schaubroeck et al., 2021; United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2008). This idea has gained more popularity and is now being used to partially or completely replace cement (Aprianti et al., 2015; Mora et al., 2016). Industrial byproducts used as additives for cement and concrete manufacture include slag and fly ash. Others are granite waste powder, silica fume, volcanic ash, bottom ash, red mud, metakaolin (Alonso et al., 2020; Aprianti et al., 2015; Oyebisi et al., 2020a, 2020b; Sas et al., 2019). According to Gaur et al. (2020),

recycling or valorizing industrial waste offers a practical strategy to cut waste while creating economic value, resulting in a sustainable approach to waste treatment. However, the majority of industrial wastes are said to be technologically enhanced naturally occurring radioactive materials (TENORM), which in small quantities can be hazardous to both human health and the environment (Imani et al., 2021; Kovler, 2012; United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, 2000; United States Environmental Protection Agency, 2022). Aside from that, prior research has demonstrated that industrial wastes are hazardous to both the environment and human health (Gaur et al., 2020; Kundariya et al., 2021; MandeepKumar Gupta and Shukla, 2020; Ravindran et al., 2018).

Natural radionuclides (NORs) like the potassium (<sup>40</sup>K) isotope, thorium (<sup>232</sup>Th) and uranium/radium (<sup>238</sup>U/<sup>226</sup>Ra) series are the primary sources of radiation in industrial byproducts (Council of European Union, 2014; Kovler, 2012; United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, 2000). This is demonstrated by similar studies that <sup>226</sup>Ra, <sup>232</sup>Th, and <sup>40</sup>K in building and construction materials are the main sources of human exposure (Kocsis et al., 2021; Mehra et al., 2010; Sas et al., 2019). However, prolonged exposure to radium

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and thorium isotopes can increase the risk of bone, liver, or breast cancer through ingestion, lacerations, feces, and urine (United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, 1993; World Health Organization, 2009). More than 85% of people on the planet are exposed to radiation from  $^{226}\text{Ra}$ ,  $^{232}\text{Th}$ , and  $^{40}\text{K}$ 's short-lived offspring radionuclides. These radionuclides, in the built environment, continually decay (Joel et al., 2019; Maxwell et al., 2015; United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, 2008; 2000, 1993).

Sanjuán (2022) examined the radioactive concentration of industrial byproducts (coal slag) utilized as building material. The findings indicated the existence of radionuclides with harmful effects on health. The radioactivity of building materials from the Campania region, including tuff, pumice, and others, was investigated by Sabbarese et al. (2021). The findings demonstrated that building materials' radioactive content is dependent on the geological settings and features, with volcanic rock samples having a higher radioactive concentration than carbonate rock. Therefore, materials derived from volcanic rock sources faced radioactive health concerns. An environmental impact of the radiological hazard of phosphogypsum (industrial byproduct) was assessed by researchers (Narloch et al., 2019; Qamouche et al., 2020). Due to the higher concentrations of  $^{226}\text{Ra}$  and  $^{40}\text{K}$ , the findings demonstrated that the calculated internal and external risks in phosphogypsum were more than the world population-weighted average value of 1, posing environmental and health risks. Nevertheless, despite several studies on the radioactivity of industrial byproducts, there is no reflection on the thorough details and machine learning-based modeling of alpha and gamma radiation of industrial byproducts used as building and construction materials; this is why this study was conducted.

The trend of applying machine learning techniques to forecast the properties of materials has gotten a lot of attention recently. It contains unique algorithms that can learn from data and present more accurate findings as output data in comparison to conventional regression approaches (Ley and Bordas, 2018; P. Lu et al., 2012; Salehi and Burgueño, 2018). It uses techniques and models developed from statistics and probability theory rather than symbolic approaches (Langley, 2011). In fact, by studying a sufficient number of data samples, machine learning algorithms (MLA) enable machines to learn the information they require to carry out a certain task (Dietterich, 2000; Ghahramani, 2015). Prior to using the algorithm, a process known as feature extraction must be completed, in which the attributes that best describe the most specific data are extracted. The sample data used in the process stage, which trains the system to transmit characteristics and distinguish patterns, is based on a particular machine learning training technique (Avci et al., 2021; Haenlein and Kaplan, 2019; Marani and Nehdi, 2020). Machine learning has been engaged in structural engineering in a number of areas, including the evaluation of seismic performance (Liu et al., 2020), identification of structural systems (Jiang et al., 2007), and vibration control (Abdeljaber et al., 2016), modeling of strengths (Dutta and Barai, 2019; Pazouki, 2022; Wang et al., 2022; Yeh, 1998; Ziolkowski and Niedostatkiwicz, 2019), to mention a few. The use of MLA in medicine, which is highly accurate and uses a dataset with intricate reports, is another crucial feature of the MLA (Ince et al., 2022; Olthof et al., 2021). Although there has been a lot of research on the use of MLA, no study has used this technology to predict internal and external hazards from industrial byproducts.

This study offers a thorough analysis of industrial byproducts, focusing on their activity concentrations to measure the internal and external hazards. The artificial neural networks (ANN) of supervised machine learning algorithms were used to train the hazard data using Bayesian Regularization, Scaled Conjugate Gradient, and the Levenberg-Marquardt training algorithm. The most effective algorithm for predicting internal and external hazards was found by contrasting the metrics of each technique's effectiveness. These results support the identification and prediction of hazards to people who dwell in buildings produced with these byproducts. Additionally, it offers the reference information needed to create a framework for monitoring indoor and

outdoor hazards.

## 2. Methodology adopted for review and data source and collection

The process includes obtaining, screening, and assessing pertinent materials. A dataset was located using a number of databases, including Science Direct, Web of Science, and Google Scholar. To maximize data collection, pertinent information was also gathered from UNSCEAR, WHO, CEU, European Commission (EC), and the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC). Others included the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) (NEA-OECD). As the concept of naturally occurring radioactive in building and construction materials spreads, several studies are available. Using keywords such as 'naturally occurring radioactive materials,' 'building materials,' 'construction materials,' 'machine learning algorithms,' and 'supplementary cementitious materials,' 1383 papers were found during the initial search. The search engine was further broadened to include terms such as 'industrial byproducts' and 'internal and external hazards of industrial wastes' due to the study's emphasis on applying machine learning algorithms to predict the internal and external hazards from industrial byproducts. Finally, 517 publications representing the papers remained. Only peer-reviewed publications were taken into account to maintain the high quality of the review (Chinnu et al., 2021). The significance of the study was taken into consideration when screening, with a focus on the activity concentrations ( $^{226}\text{Ra}$ ,  $^{232}\text{Th}$ , and  $^{40}\text{K}$ ) of industrial byproducts. The literature was further improved based on removing extraneous information, adding papers on internal and external hazards of building and construction materials, excluding publications on agricultural byproducts, and excluding articles on machine learning algorithms other than supervised learning approaches.

By creating targeted inquiries based on the main subject of the current study, new screening methods were created. The following standards are taken into consideration by the strategies: Are the articles primarily focused on the radioactivity of industrial byproducts? In the publications surveyed, what categories of activity concentrations are examined? Is the primary focus of the literature internal and external hazards of industrial byproducts? Which relationship was used globally to calculate the internal and external hazards of building and construction materials? Does each article predict the outcomes using a specific MLA?

After screening, a sample size of 234 applicable peer-reviewed papers was obtained. These papers were investigated, validated, and controlled by methodically individuating, researching, examining, and reading the publications and references. After careful consideration, 172 extremely relevant journals were selected for the study.

## 3. Hazard indexes

The radiation dose for safe building materials is  $1 \text{ mSv y}^{-1}$  for internal and external radiation hazard indexes (Beretka and Mathew, 1985; Hassan et al., 2010; Kasumović et al., 2018; Ravisankar et al., 2012).

### 3.1. Internal hazard index ( $H_{in}$ )

Thoron and radon, two short-lived isotopes, release alpha particles together with gamma rays of various energies. This is known as the internal hazard index. The internal radiation hazard index measures the amount of excess internal alpha radiation that is intrinsically exposed as a result of breathing in  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  and its short-lived offspring produced by industrial byproducts (Beretka and Mathew, 1985; Gökçe et al., 2020; Imani et al., 2021; United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, 2000; 1993). The index of internal hazard should be

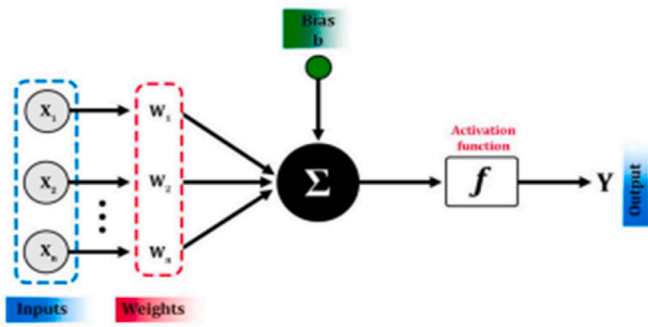


Fig. 1. The architecture of ANN (Mohtasham Moein et al., 2023).

less than unity, as illustrated in Eq. (1), to make the radiation hazard insignificant (Caridi et al., 2021; El-Bahi et al., 2017; Stoulos et al., 2003; United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, 2000; 1993):

$$H_{in} = \left( \frac{A_{Ra}}{185Bq\ kg^{-1}} + \frac{A_{Th}}{259Bq\ kg^{-1}} + \frac{A_K}{4810Bq\ kg^{-1}} \right) \leq 1 \quad (1)$$

### 3.2. External hazard index (Hex)

Another metric for determining whether NORs of materials are appropriate is external radiation hazard (Ravisankar et al., 2012). Due to the naturally occurring radionuclides in building materials, external exposure to terrestrial gamma radiation creates a radiation hazard (Gökçe et al., 2020; United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, 2000). The radiation hazard is negligible because Hex is allowed to have a limit below unity. In order to use building materials safely, this value equates <sup>226</sup>Ra, <sup>232</sup>Th, and <sup>40</sup>K to upper limit of 370, 259, and 4810 Bq kg<sup>-1</sup>, respectively (Imani et al., 2021; Legasu and Chaubey, 2022; Shoeib and Thabayneh, 2014; United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, 2000; 1993). However, if the external radiation hazard index is more than one, the potential external dosage to the exposed population could be higher than the safe level, which could represent a health risk (Beretka and Mathew, 1985; Imani et al., 2021). Hence, the external radiation hazard index (Hex) is determined following Eq. (2):

$$H_{ex} = \left( \frac{A_{Ra}}{370Bq\ kg^{-1}} + \frac{A_{Th}}{259Bq\ kg^{-1}} + \frac{A_K}{4810Bq\ kg^{-1}} \right) \leq 1 \quad (2)$$

where ARa, ATh, and AK are activity concentrations of <sup>226</sup>Ra, <sup>232</sup>Th, and <sup>40</sup>K, respectively (Bq kg<sup>-1</sup>).

## 4. Machine learning algorithm

This study employs a machine learning approach because it has produced highly precise models for a significant number of published articles on the manufacture of concrete that contains industrial byproducts (Asadi Shamsabadi et al., 2022; Baduge et al., 2022; Naseri et al., 2020; Nguyen et al., 2020, 2021). A machine learning algorithm completes a given task, learns input parameters without explicit programming, and provides an accurate forecast or outcome (Kim, 2017).

The artificial neural network (ANN) of machine learning algorithms was engaged using MATLAB R2021a version 9.10.0 1602886.

Artificial neural networks started with McCulloch and Pitts (1943) who developed a computational model for neural networks based on algorithms called threshold logic. This model paved the way for the division of the research into two ways. One strategy concentrated on biological processes, while the other concentrated on using neural networks to create artificial intelligence. Artificial neural networks were driven to address the various facets or components of learning, such as how to learn, how to induce, and how to deduce, just like other artificial intelligence algorithms. For instance, ANN can serve a predictive tool for drug design, discovery, delivery, and disposition (Puri et al., 2016). Also, ANN is regarded as an effective and potent instrument for tackling complicated engineering and scientific problems (Shao et al., 2019), but some of its flaws include the lengthy training period, a large number of parameters, and undesirable convergence (Inthachot et al., 2016; Momeni et al., 2014). The simplicity and naturalness of an ANN model allow it to handle extremely complicated real-world issues in a nonparallel and distributive manner, much like a biological neural network (Puri et al., 2016). Fig. 1 illustrates an ANN network structure, while Eq. (3) explains how ANN is mathematically described.

$$Y(t) = F \left( \sum_{i=1}^n (Xi(t)Wi(t) + c) \right) \quad (3)$$

where Xi(t) is the input value at time t, Wi(t) is the weight of neural input at time t, c is the bias, F is a transfer function, Y(t) is the output value at time t.

The input, hidden, and output layers are the three primary components of an ANN's structure (Ababneh et al., 2020; Ahmad et al., 2018; Haddad and Haddad, 2021; Mohtasham Moein et al., 2023). The input layer stores input parameters and transmits them for model training and testing. The hidden layer (middle) is crucial to the architecture of ANNs and is responsible for the link between the input layer and the output layer. Each hidden layer contains a collection of neurons. The output layer is a layer in charge of creating the outcome. In this procedure, the network receives training data during the training phase, and the network weights are changed to reduce the error between the current output and the target or to reach a set number of training iterations. A crucial step in modeling neural networks is choosing the number of neurons and hidden layers; if there are no enough hidden layers, the model will not have the learning resources to handle complicated and nonlinear issues. On the other side, a big number of hidden layers and neurons will lengthen training time. By learning behaviors other than the link between the parameters in the network, the model may perform badly in addressing issues (Asteris and Mokos, 2020; Chithra et al., 2016a; Xu et al., 2019).

In order to fit multi-dimensional mapping issues arbitrarily well, provide consistent data, and have enough neurons in its hidden layer, a two-layer feed-forward network with sigmoid hidden neurons and linear output neurons was used in this study (Mohtasham Moein et al., 2023). Scaled conjugate gradient, Levenberg-Marquardt, and Bayesian regularization backpropagations were used to train the network, teach data, and finally report satisfactory results of training algorithms use. The sigmoid activation operation applies the sigmoid function to set all values in the input data to a value between 0 and 1. This operation is

Table 1  
Data statistics.

Variable	Mean	StDev	Minimum	Median	Maximum	Skewness	Kurtosis
<sup>226</sup> Ra	251.9	524.4	0.0	118.0	6428.0	8.77	97.61
<sup>232</sup> Th	145.0	333.3	0.0	63.0	4000.0	8.40	90.46
<sup>40</sup> K	760	3566	0	240	36000	9.62	93.67
H <sub>in</sub>	2.079	3.370	0.010	1.190	36.400	6.53	58.00
H <sub>ex</sub>	1.399	2.172	0.010	0.810	19.000	5.42	38.12

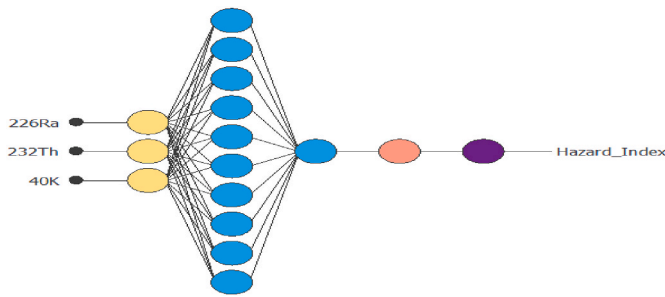


Fig. 2. Neural network architecture.

illustrated in Eq. (4):

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}} \quad (4)$$

A total of three input variables comprising  $^{226}\text{Ra}$ ,  $^{232}\text{Th}$ , and  $^{40}\text{K}$  and a single target variable, hazard index were added to create the neural network. Out of 203 samples surveyed for the study, 70% was utilized as training samples, 15% as validation samples, and 15% as testing samples. Training repeatedly results in a variety of results due to the different beginning conditions and sampling. Consequently, the randomness, overfitting, and under fitting were, however, prevented by implementing a function and providing the ANN with a random stream to achieve higher model performance by generalizing an independent dataset. The basic statistics of the data are presented in Table 1. The neural network architecture is displayed in Fig. 2, indicating three input arguments ( $^{226}\text{Ra}$ ,  $^{232}\text{Th}$ , and  $^{40}\text{K}$ ), one hidden layer with 10 neurons, and one output (hazard index).

Two different performance metrics were used in this study: the correlation coefficient (R) and the mean square error (MSE). The higher the value of R to 1, the stronger the prediction. However, the lower the MSE to 0, the better the prediction (Cort J. Willmott and Kenji Matsuura, 2005). The performance metrics are expressed in Eqs. (5) and (6):

$$R = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i^{\text{pred}} - y_i^{\text{actual}})}{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i^{\text{pred}} + y_i^{\text{actual}})} \quad (5)$$

$$MSE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i^{\text{pred}} - y_i^{\text{actual}})^2 \quad (6)$$

## 5. Results and discussion

### 5.1. Industrial byproducts

Table 2 (a)–(g) describe the radiological characteristics of the investigated industrial byproducts. As shown in Table 1 (a)–(g), some industrial byproducts were higher than the UNSCEAR-set global population-weighted averages (United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, 2008, 2000) for activity concentrations and hazard indexes. For instance, the world population-weighted average indoor hazard in bottom ash (BA) was 30% above unity because its  $^{226}\text{Ra}$  concentration ( $196 \text{ Bq kg}^{-1}$ ) exceeded the upper limit of  $185 \text{ Bq kg}^{-1}$ . However, its  $^{226}\text{Ra}$  concentration, which radon exhalation produces to cause an outdoor concentration of  $196 \text{ Bq kg}^{-1}$ , was less than the upper limit  $370 \text{ Bq kg}^{-1}$ , hence, its outdoor hazard was 10% lower than the acceptable amount (NORDIC, 2000; Ravisankar et al., 2014; United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, 2008; 2000). Similar cases were observed for fly ash (FA), ground granulated blast furnace slag (GGBFS), granite waste powder (GWP), lead slag (LS), and pumice (PM) with approximately 50%, 10%, 29%, 39%, and 4% of indoor hazard values above 1. However, their outdoor hazard values were about 1%, 28%, 1%, 9%, and

35% lower than unity.

Copper slag (CS), biomass ash (BM), mill tailings (MT), phosphogypsum (PG), red mud (RM), tin slag (TS), and volcanic ash (VA) exhibited radiological concerns because their activity concentrations and hazard indexes were higher than the world population-weighted averages. The indoor hazards from CS, BM, MT, PG, RM, TS, and VA were approximately 80%, 75%, 85%, 55%, 71%, 96%, and 47% higher than the world population-weighted averages (United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, 2008, 2000). Additionally, their outdoor hazard indexes were 80%, 50%, 71%, 15%, 62%, 93%, and 32% above the world population-weighted averages of UNSCEAR.

Except with  $^{226}\text{Ra}$  and  $^{232}\text{Th}$  of incinerated sewage sludge ash (ISSA), there are positive results in Table 2 (a)–(g) listing that the activity concentrations of incinerated sewage sludge ash (ISSA), metakaolin (MK), marble powder (MP), nickel slag (NS), pyrite ash (PA), silica fume (SF), steel slag (SS), and waste glass powder (WP) were lower than the upper limit of  $185/370 \text{ Bq kg}^{-1}$ ,  $259 \text{ Bq kg}^{-1}$ ,  $4810 \text{ Bq kg}^{-1}$  stated for  $^{226}\text{Ra}$ ,  $^{232}\text{Th}$ , and  $^{40}\text{K}$ , respectively (United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, 2008, 2000). As a result, their hazard indexes were lower than the world population-weighted averages reported by UNSCEAR (United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, 2008, 2000). Regarding indoor hazard indexes, ISSA, MK, MP, NS, PA, SF, SS, and WP were around 30%, 2%, 98%, 8%, 89%, 89%, 66%, and 89% lower than the maximum limit of 1. Also, the outdoor hazard indexes from ISSA, MK, MP, NS, PA, SF, SS, and WP were about 48%, 28%, 98%, 30%, 92%, 90%, 77%, and 91% below the peak of 1.

The ambiguity of material mechanisms, geological sources, treatment procedures, processing patterns, and manufacturing processes are crucial aspects influencing the radiological properties of industrial byproducts (Beretka and Mathew, 1985; Fidanchevski et al., 2021; Kocsis et al., 2021; Kovler, 2012; Sahoo et al., 2007; Sas et al., 2019; Trevisi et al., 2018). For instance, PG made from phosphate rock contains more  $^{226}\text{Ra}$  concentration than gypsum made from carbonate rock since phosphate rocks are often known for having higher natural radioactivity (Kovler, 2012; Righi and Bruzzi, 2006; Trevisi et al., 2018). These findings suggest that those who use BA, BM, CS, FA, GGBFS, GWP, LS, MT, PG, PM, RM, TS, and VA may be exposed to hazard radiation from these byproducts. Only ISSA, MK, MP, NS, PA, SF, SS, and WP met the world population-weighted averages of the studied hazard indexes, based on the maximum allowable limit of 1. Consequently, they are suitable for use as building materials, but only with care.

### 5.2. Artificial neural networks of machine learning algorithm

Based on the training, validation, and testing of input arguments ( $^{226}\text{Ra}$ ,  $^{232}\text{Th}$ , and  $^{40}\text{K}$ ) and target variable ( $H_{\text{ex}}$  and  $H_{\text{in}}$ ), as presented in Tables 1 and 2, the indoor and outdoor hazard indexes' performance metrics for the ANN of machine learning technique are shown in Tables 3 and 4. Comparing the Levenberg-Marquardt backpropagation technique to other algorithms, Tables 3 and 4 demonstrate unequivocally that it yielded the best metrics for predicting the indoor and outdoor hazards from industrial byproducts. This could be explained by the fact that it trains moderate-sized feedforward neural networks quickly (up to several hundred weights). It trains neural networks at a rate 10–100 times faster than the usual gradient descent backpropagation (Hagan and Menhaj, 1994; Nawi et al., 2013). Similarly, the results from the Bayesian regularization approach, as shown in Tables 2 and 3, showed comparable performance indicators to the Levenberg-Marquardt backpropagation algorithm but had no correlation coefficient (R) and mean square error (MSE) for validating datasets. Bayesian regularization minimizes the linear combination of squared errors and weights within the Levenberg-Marquardt backpropagation algorithm. As a result, validation terminates at the maximum validation failures to allow further training to find the ideal balance between errors



**Table 2**  
Radiological characteristics of the industrial byproducts analyzed.

(a) Bottom ash (BA), biomass ash (BM), and copper slag (CS)						
Material	A (Bq kg <sup>-1</sup> )			H <sub>ex</sub>	H <sub>in</sub>	Reference
	<sup>226</sup> Ra	<sup>232</sup> Th	<sup>40</sup> K			
BA	306	65	233	1.13	1.95	Sas et al. (2019)
BA	113	68	623	0.70	1.00	Sas et al. (2019)
BA	345	59	410	1.25	2.18	Trevisi et al. (2018)
BA	423	35	296	1.34	2.48	Petropoulos et al. (2002)
BA	139	108	292	0.85	1.23	Amin et al. (2013)
BA	56	63	210	0.44	0.59	(X. Lu et al., 2012)
BA	62	53	457	0.47	0.63	Mishra (2004)
BA	663	44	397	2.04	3.84	Karangelos et al. (2004)
BA	114	124	210	0.83	1.14	Yu (1996)
BA	100	105	132	0.70	0.97	Tso and Leung (1996)
BA	94	105	272	0.72	0.97	(X. Lu et al., 2012)
BA	70	40	355	0.42	0.61	(Puch et al., 2005)
BA	108	79	514	0.70	1.00	Zeller (1995)
BA	541	102	714	2.00	3.47	Schroeyers et al. (2018)
BA	68	74	225	0.52	0.70	Khan et al. (2020)
BA	70	64	457	0.53	0.72	Fidanchevski et al. (2021)
BA	66	97	170	0.59	0.77	Sanjuán et al. (2019)
Average	196	76	351	0.90	1.43	
BM	12	7	36000	7.54	7.58	Alonso et al. (2020)
BM	10	6	6000	1.30	1.32	Alonso et al. (2020)
BM	9	4	35898	7.50	7.53	Puertas et al. (2021)
Average	10	6	25966	5.00	5.00	
CS	1135	50	585	3.38	6.45	Schroeyers et al. (2018)
CS	770	52	650	2.42	4.50	Schroeyers et al. (2018)
CS	317	54	886	1.25	2.11	Schroeyers et al. (2018)
CS	317	54	887	1.25	2.11	(Zak et al., 2008)
CS	770	52	650	2.42	4.50	Lehmann (1996)
Average	662	52	732	2.00	4.00	
Global	33	45	420	≤1	≤1	*(United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, 2008, 2000)
(b) Fly ash (FA)						
Material	A (Bq kg <sup>-1</sup> )			H <sub>ex</sub>	H <sub>in</sub>	Reference
	<sup>226</sup> Ra	<sup>232</sup> Th	<sup>40</sup> K			
FA	119	91	438	0.76	1.09	Sas et al. (2017)
FA	78	126	374	0.78	0.99	Mishra (2004)
FA	904	53	454	2.74	5.19	Karangelos et al. (2004)
FA	100	108	388	0.77	1.04	Alonso et al. (2020)
FA	88	88	868	0.76	1.00	Alonso et al. (2018)
FA	188	91	343	0.93	1.44	Schroeyers et al. (2018)
FA	999	200	1100	3.70	6.40	Schroeyers et al. (2018)
FA	191	91	561	0.98	1.50	Trevisi et al. (2018)
FA	232	117	466	1.18	1.80	Turhan (2009)
FA	825	53	402	2.52	4.75	Petropoulos et al. (2002)
FA	45	40	88	0.29	0.42	Kumar et al. (1999)
FA	126	89	793	0.85	1.19	Gökçe et al. (2020)
FA	14	20	1148	0.35	0.39	Puch et al. (2005)
FA	41	49	321	0.37	0.48	Ademola and Onyema (2014)
FA	99	113	309	0.77	1.04	Mahur et al. (2008)
FA	139	82	743	0.85	1.22	Sas et al. (2019)
FA	83	87	235	0.61	0.83	(X. Lu et al., 2012)
FA	70	79	233	0.54	0.73	(X. Lu et al., 2012)
FA	100	180	650	1.10	1.37	European Commission (1999)
FA	80	207	546	1.13	1.35	Nuccetelli et al. (2015)
FA	90	66	240	0.55	0.79	Ignjatović et al. (2017)
FA	999	56	470	3.01	5.71	Peppas et al. (2010)
FA	161	156	584	1.16	1.59	Peppas et al. (2010)
FA	119	147	352	0.96	1.28	Gupta et al. (2013)
FA	118	157	1463	1.23	1.55	Asaduzzaman et al. (2015)
FA	441	110	510	1.72	2.91	Feng and Lu (2016)
FA	242	31	382	0.85	1.51	Temuujin et al. (2014)
FA	263	49	216	0.94	1.66	Temuujin et al. (2014)
FA	143	117	719	0.99	1.37	Fidanchevski et al. (2021)
FA	75	104	1030	0.82	1.02	Sanjuán et al. (2019)
Average	239	99	548	1.00	2.00	
Global	33	45	420	≤1	≤1	(United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, 2008, 2000)
(c) Ground granulated blast furnace slag (GGBFS)						
Material	A (Bq kg <sup>-1</sup> )			H <sub>ex</sub>	H <sub>in</sub>	Reference
	<sup>226</sup> Ra	<sup>232</sup> Th	<sup>40</sup> K			

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Table 2 (continued)

(c) Ground granulated blast furnace slag (GGBFS)						
Material	A (Bq kg <sup>-1</sup> )			H <sub>ex</sub>	H <sub>in</sub>	Reference
	<sup>226</sup> Ra	<sup>232</sup> Th	<sup>40</sup> K			
GGBFS	112	52	205	0.55	0.85	Tuo et al. (2020)
GGBFS	182	44	269	0.72	1.21	Sas et al. (2019)
GGBFS	179	55	172	0.73	1.22	Sas et al. (2019)
GGBFS	128	45	119	0.54	0.89	Sas et al. (2019)
GGBFS	89	140	378	0.86	1.10	Mishra (2004)
GGBFS	151	150	14	0.99	1.40	Alonso et al. (2020)
GGBFS	143	163	15	1.02	1.41	Alonso et al. (2020)
GGBFS	98	89	96	0.63	0.89	Alonso et al. (2020)
GGBFS	34	44	846	0.44	0.53	Alonso et al. (2020)
GGBFS	32	35	632	0.35	0.44	Alonso et al. (2020)
GGBFS	97	89	96	0.63	0.89	Alonso et al. (2018)
GGBFS	251	25	362	0.85	1.53	Schroeyers et al. (2018)
GGBFS	323	40	158	1.06	1.93	Schroeyers et al. (2018)
GGBFS	100	100	500	0.76	1.03	Schroeyers et al. (2018)
GGBFS	166	48	232	0.68	1.13	Trevisi et al. (2018)
GGBFS	184	135	283	1.08	1.57	Trevisi et al. (2018)
GGBFS	15	1	20	0.05	0.09	Trevisi et al. (2018)
GGBFS	336	152	786	1.66	2.57	Trevisi et al. (2018)
GGBFS	43	43	76	0.30	0.41	Puertas et al. (2015)
GGBFS	178	148	243	1.10	1.58	Turhan (2009)
GGBFS	67	78	145	0.51	0.69	Kumar et al. (1999)
GGBFS	150	65	142	0.69	1.09	Puch et al. (2005)
GGBFS	35	30	75	0.23	0.32	Puertas et al. (2021)
GGBFS	160	100	250	0.87	1.30	Puertas et al. (2021)
GGBFS	270	70	240	1.05	1.78	European Commission (1999)
GGBFS	251	25	214	0.82	1.50	Sofilić et al. (2010)
GGBFS	117	78	176	0.65	0.97	Mustonen (1984)
GGBFS	115	36	229	0.50	0.81	(Gallyas and Török, 1984)
GGBFS	115	35	192	0.49	0.80	(Zak et al., 2008)
GGBFS	166	48	232	0.68	1.13	Chinchón-Payá et al. (2011)
Average	143	72	247	0.72	1.10	
Global	33	45	420	≤1	≤1	(United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, 2008, 2000)
(d) Granite waste powder (GWP), incinerated sewage sludge ash (ISSA), lead slag (LS), and metakaolin (MK)						
Material	A (Bq kg <sup>-1</sup> )			H <sub>ex</sub>	H <sub>in</sub>	Reference
	<sup>226</sup> Ra	<sup>232</sup> Th	<sup>40</sup> K			
GWP	10	10	299	0.13	0.15	(Harb et al., 2008)
	19	18	956	0.32	0.37	(Harb et al., 2008)
	55	41	398	0.39	0.54	(el Arabi et al., 2007)
	378	154	2285	2.09	3.11	(el Arabi et al., 2007)
	61	48	349	0.42	0.59	(el Arabi et al., 2007)
	886	292	1878	3.91	6.31	(el Arabi et al., 2007)
	71	96	368	0.64	0.83	(el Arabi et al., 2007)
	547	399	1768	3.39	4.86	(el Arabi et al., 2007)
	9	1	2	0.03	0.05	Kobeissi et al. (2013)
	494	157	1776	2.31	3.65	Kobeissi et al. (2013)
	4	15	24	0.07	0.08	Pavlidou et al. (2006)
	91	70	1302	0.79	1.03	Pavlidou et al. (2006)
	2	1	49	0.02	0.02	Krstić et al. (2007)
	170	354	1592	2.16	2.62	Krstić et al. (2007)
	34	46	944	0.47	0.56	Hassan et al. (2010)
	31	45	856	0.44	0.52	Hassan et al. (2010)
	10	29	911	0.33	0.36	Hassan et al. (2010)
	12	37	742	0.33	0.36	Hassan et al. (2010)
	18	64	990	0.50	0.55	Hassan et al. (2010)
Average	153	99	920	0.99	1.40	
ISSA	65	60	563	0.52	0.70	Sas et al. (2019)
Average	65	60	563	0.52	0.70	
LS	270	36	200	0.91	1.64	Croymans et al. (2018)
Average	270	36	200	0.91	1.64	
MK	31	34	188	0.25	0.34	Alonso et al. (2020)
	73	63	136	0.47	0.67	Turhan (2009)
	125	92	695	0.84	1.18	Turhan (2009)
	61	44	590	0.46	0.62	Todorović et al. (2017)
	319	272	1470	2.22	3.08	Todorović et al. (2017)
	18	48	31	0.24	0.29	Adagunodo et al. (2018)
	65	99	157	0.59	0.77	Adagunodo et al. (2018)
	82	98	464	0.70	0.92	Turhan (2009)
Average	97	94	466	0.72	0.98	
Global	33	45	420	≤1	≤1	(United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, 2008, 2000)

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Table 2 (continued)

(e) Marble powder (MP), mill tailings (MT), nickel slag (NS), pyrite ash (PA), and phosphogypsum (PG)							
Material	A (Bq kg <sup>-1</sup> )			H <sub>ex</sub>	H <sub>in</sub>	Reference	
	<sup>226</sup> Ra	<sup>232</sup> Th	<sup>40</sup> K				
(e) Marble powder (MP), mill tailings (MT), nickel slag (NS), pyrite ash (PA), and phosphogypsum (PG)							
Material	A (Bq kg <sup>-1</sup> )			H <sub>ex</sub>	H <sub>in</sub>	Reference	
	<sup>226</sup> Ra	<sup>232</sup> Th	<sup>40</sup> K				
MP	2	1	10	0.01	0.02	Turhan (2009)	
	1	3	25	0.02	0.02	Petropoulos et al. (2002)	
	1	4	20	0.02	0.03	Righi and Bruzzi (2006)	
	1	1	4	0.01	0.01	Solak et al. (2014)	
Average	1	2	15	0.02	0.02		
MT	87	20	226	0.36	0.59	Kamunda et al. (2016)	
	2668	89	781	7.72	14.9	Kamunda et al. (2016)	
	650	90	740	2.26	4.01	Kocsis et al. (2021)	
Average	1135	66	582	3.44	6.51		
NS	52	78	76	0.46	0.60	Schroeyers et al. (2018)	
	235	45	605	0.93	1.57	Schroeyers et al. (2018)	
Average	143	61	340	0.70	1.08		
PA	3	1	16	0.02	0.02	Turhan (2008)	
	23	16	58	0.14	0.20	Turhan (2008)	
Average	12	9	37	0.08	0.11		
PG	491	31	68	1.46	2.79	Gezer et al. (2012)	
	629	15	10	1.76	3.46	Turhan (2008)	
	246	50	340	0.93	1.59	Msila et al. (2016)	
	234	21	108	0.74	1.37	Gezer et al. (2012)	
	410	182	34	1.82	2.93	Santos et al. (2006)	
	209	17	3	0.63	1.20	Trevisi et al. (2012)	
	115	31	95	0.45	0.76	Trevisi et al. (2012)	
	322	18	116	0.96	1.83	Gezer et al. (2012)	
	306	23	17	0.92	1.75	Trevisi et al. (2012)	
	305	20	110	0.92	1.75	Trevisi et al. (2012)	
	440	12	235	1.28	2.47	Trevisi et al. (2012)	
	233	30	323	0.81	1.44	Msila et al. (2016)	
	747	14	63	2.09	4.10	Gezer et al. (2012)	
	378	4	40	1.05	2.07	Gezer et al. (2012)	
	618	9	24	1.71	3.38	Gezer et al. (2012)	
	340	4	200	0.98	1.89	Okeji et al. (2012)	
	35	72	585	0.49	0.59	Msila et al. (2016)	
	750	1	14	2.03	4.06	Roper et al. (2013)	
	Average	378	31	133	1.17	2.19	
	Global	33	45	420	≤1	≤1	(United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, 2008, 2000)
(f) Pumice (PM) and red mud/bauxite powder (RM)							
Material	A (Bq kg <sup>-1</sup> )			H <sub>ex</sub>	H <sub>in</sub>	Reference	
	<sup>226</sup> Ra	<sup>232</sup> Th	<sup>40</sup> K				
PM	12	12	300	0.14	0.17	Turhan (2008)	
	24	21	653	0.28	0.35	Turhan (2008)	
	75	74	1073	0.71	0.91	Trevisi et al. (2018)	
	462	57	1	1.47	2.72	Trevisi et al. (2018)	
Average	143	41	507	0.65	1.04		
RM	310	1350	350	6.12	6.96	Nuccetelli et al. (2015)	
	139	350	45	1.74	2.11	Schroeyers et al. (2018)	
	380	507	361	3.06	4.09	Nuccetelli et al. (2015)	
	306	408	33	2.41	3.24	Xhixha et al. (2013)	
	289	285	121	1.91	2.69	Nuccetelli et al. (2015)	
	97	118	15	0.72	0.98	Schroeyers et al. (2018)	
	710	339	300	3.29	5.21	Schroeyers et al. (2018)	
	210	539	112	2.67	3.24	Schroeyers et al. (2018)	
	165	328	53	1.72	2.17	Nuccetelli et al. (2015)	
	347	283	48	2.04	2.98	Nuccetelli et al. (2015)	
	370	328	265	2.32	3.32	Nuccetelli et al. (2015)	
	232	344	45	1.96	2.59	Nuccetelli et al. (2015)	
	379	472	21	2.85	3.88	Nuccetelli et al. (2015)	
	370	437	505	2.79	3.79	Nuccetelli et al. (2015)	
	350	414	583	2.67	3.61	Nuccetelli et al. (2015)	
	478	555	401	3.52	4.81	Nuccetelli et al. (2015)	
	255	422	164	2.35	3.04	Nuccetelli et al. (2015)	
	477	705	153	4.04	5.33	Nuccetelli et al. (2015)	
	326	1129	30	5.25	6.13	Nuccetelli et al. (2015)	
	318	1320	190	6.00	6.85	("Radiological Assessment for Bauxite Mining and Alumina Refining," 2012)	
17	63	625	0.42	0.47	Tuo et al. (2020)		
100	113	55	0.72	0.99	Alonso et al. (2020)		
97	118	50	0.73	0.99	Trevisi et al. (2018)		

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Table 2 (continued)

(f) Pumice (PM) and red mud/bauxite powder (RM)						
Material	A (Bq kg <sup>-1</sup> )			H <sub>ex</sub>	H <sub>in</sub>	Reference
	<sup>226</sup> Ra	<sup>232</sup> Th	<sup>40</sup> K			
	301	539	215	2.94	3.75	Trevisi et al. (2018)
	170	404	26	2.02	2.48	Puertas et al. (2021)
	203	598	62	2.87	3.42	Rubinos and Barral (2013)
	225	219	5	1.45	2.06	Somlai et al. (2008)
	568	392	101	3.07	4.60	Somlai et al. (2008)
Average	292	467	176	2.63	3.42	
Global	33	45	420	≤1	≤1	(United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, 2008, 2000)
(g) Silica fume (SF), steel slag (SS), tin slag (TS), volcanic ash (VA), And waste glass powder (WP)						
Material	A (Bq kg-1)			H <sub>ex</sub>	H <sub>in</sub>	Reference
	<sup>226</sup> Ra	<sup>232</sup> Th	<sup>40</sup> K			
SF	2	3	100	0.04	0.04	Puertas et al. (2015)
	1	2	92	0.03	0.03	Puertas et al. (2015)
	1	0	870	0.18	0.19	Gökçe et al. (2020)
	33	24	540	0.29	0.38	Sahoo et al. (2007)
	4	6	297	0.10	0.11	Singovszka et al. (2017)
	0	0	100	0.02	0.02	Alonso et al. (2020)
	0	0	92	0.02	0.02	Alonso et al. (2020)
Average	6	5	299	0.10	0.11	
SS	5	0	1	0.01	0.03	Puch et al. (2005)
	23	21	0	0.14	0.21	Alonso et al. (2020)
	23	15	4	0.12	0.18	Alonso et al. (2020)
	16	20	0	0.12	0.16	Alonso et al. (2020)
	20	16	0	0.12	0.17	Alonso et al. (2020)
	62	21	51	0.26	0.43	Schroeyers et al. (2018)
	23	15	51	0.13	0.19	Schroeyers et al. (2018)
	13	7	21	0.07	0.10	Schroeyers et al. (2018)
	25	5	10	0.09	0.16	Schroeyers et al. (2018)
	196	30	148	0.68	1.21	Schroeyers et al. (2018)
	0	150	0	0.58	0.58	Schroeyers et al. (2018)
	88	49	0	0.43	0.66	Schroeyers et al. (2018)
Average	41	29	24	0.23	0.34	
TS	1100	300	330	4.20	7.20	Schroeyers et al. (2018)
	6428	420	0	19.0	36.4	Schroeyers et al. (2018)
	1000	4000	0	18.1	20.8	Schroeyers et al. (2018)
Average	2843	1573	110	13.8	21.5	
VA	59	132	1130	0.90	1.06	Turhan (2008)
	92	138	1200	1.03	1.28	Righi and Bruzzi (2006)
	190	210	1900	1.72	2.23	Righi and Bruzzi (2006)
	280	270	1900	2.19	2.95	Righi and Bruzzi (2006)
Average	155	188	1533	1.46	1.88	
WP	8	11	227	0.11	0.13	Puertas et al. (2015)
	9	11	2	0.07	0.09	Alonso et al. (2020)
Average	9	11	115	0.09	0.11	
Global	33	45	420	≤1	≤1	(United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, 2008, 2000)

\*UNSCEAR: United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (World Population-Weighted Average Value).

Table 3

ANN's performance metrics for indoor hazard index from industrial byproducts.

Backpropagation algorithm	Network structure	Results	MSE	R
Levenberg-Marquardt	3-10-1-1	Training	0.0000138897	0.999999
	3-10-1-1	Validation	0.0003157730	0.999971
	3-10-1-1	Testing	0.0054188200	0.999430
Bayesian regularization	3-10-1-1	Training	0.0000095357	0.999999
	3-10-1-1	Validation	0.0000000000	0.000000
	3-10-1-1	Testing	0.0003296140	0.999998
Scaled conjugate gradient	3-10-1-1	Training	0.1039780000	0.996285
	3-10-1-1	Validation	0.0639470000	0.982601
	3-10-1-1	Testing	0.9061260000	0.952582

and weights (Dan Foresee and Hagan, n.d.; MacKay, 1992).

Willmott and Matsuura (2005) argued that error scales cause the difference in values, and MSE is a useful generalization of the size of mistake. According to this, the effectiveness of how different models handle errors is compared and evaluated using MSE. As a result,

Table 4

ANN's performance metrics for outdoor hazard index from industrial byproducts.

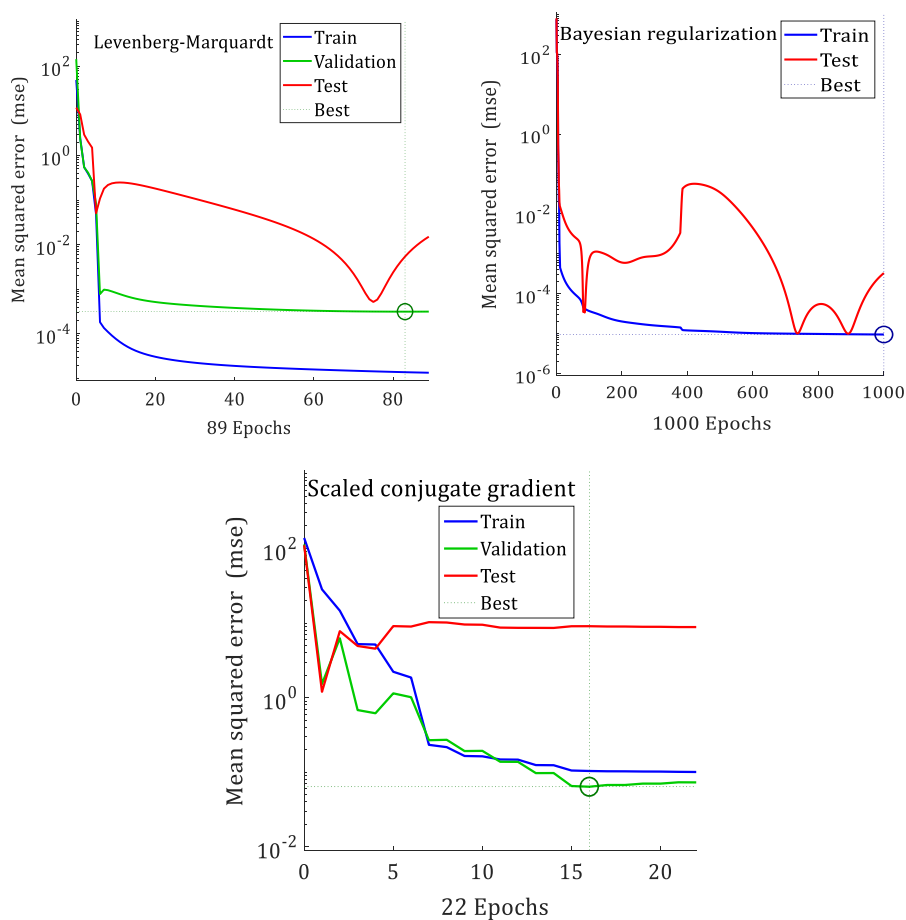
Backpropagation algorithm	Network structure	Results	MSE	R
Levenberg-Marquardt	3-10-1-1	Training	0.0000066829	0.999999
	3-10-1-1	Validation	0.0000169388	0.999997
	3-10-1-1	Testing	0.0000070187	0.999990
Bayesian regularization	3-10-1-1	Training	0.0000071951	0.999999
	3-10-1-1	Validation	0.0000000000	0.000000
	3-10-1-1	Testing	0.0000066423	0.999997
Scaled conjugate gradient	3-10-1-1	Training	0.0123632000	0.998997
	3-10-1-1	Validation	0.0027506000	0.991540
	3-10-1-1	Testing	0.0038999800	0.999308

Table 4's findings showed that the performance indicators of Levenberg-Marquardt backpropagation algorithm were 99.96%, 99.51%, and 99.40% more error-free for training, validating, and testing datasets than scaled conjugate gradient approach.



**Table 5**  
A summary of studies based on ANN (70% training, 15% validation, and 15% testing).

Backpropagation algorithm	Network structure	Results	MSE	R	Reference
Levenberg-Marquardt	3-10-1-1	Training	0.000157417	0.99999	Kannaiyan et al. (2020)
	3-10-1-1	Validation	0.000206717	0.99999	
	3-10-1-1	Testing	0.000295692	0.99999	
Levenberg-Marquardt		Training	0.00069	0.99152	Gupta et al. (2019)
		Testing	0.00129	0.98826	
		Training	0.00057	0.99307	
		Testing	0.00082	0.99283	
		Training	0.00064	0.99364	
		Testing	0.00057	0.99544	
		Training	0.00062	0.99269	
		Testing	0.00086	0.99197	
		Training	0.00137	0.99149	
Levenberg-Marquardt		Training	1.572	0.999	Atici (2011)
		Validation	1.920	0.973	
		Testing	1.189	0.990	
Levenberg-Marquardt	4-10-1-1	Training	-	0.9987	Chithra et al. (2016b)
	4-10-1-1	Validation	-	0.9968	
	4-10-1-1	Testing	-	0.9979	
	6-10-1-1	Training	-	0.9988	
	6-10-1-1	Validation	-	0.9986	
	6-10-1-1	Testing	-	0.9991	



**Fig. 3.** Best validation performance plots for indoor hazard index.

Table 4 shows that for training and testing the datasets used in forecasting the outdoor hazards from industrial byproducts, the Levenberg-Marquardt backpropagation and Bayesian regularization backpropagation algorithms produced comparable performance metrics

(R and MSE). However, when compared to scaled conjugate gradient technique, the Levenberg-Marquardt backpropagation was more precise for training, validating, and testing the anticipated outputs. As was previously indicated, the greater a model's R to unity value, the better it

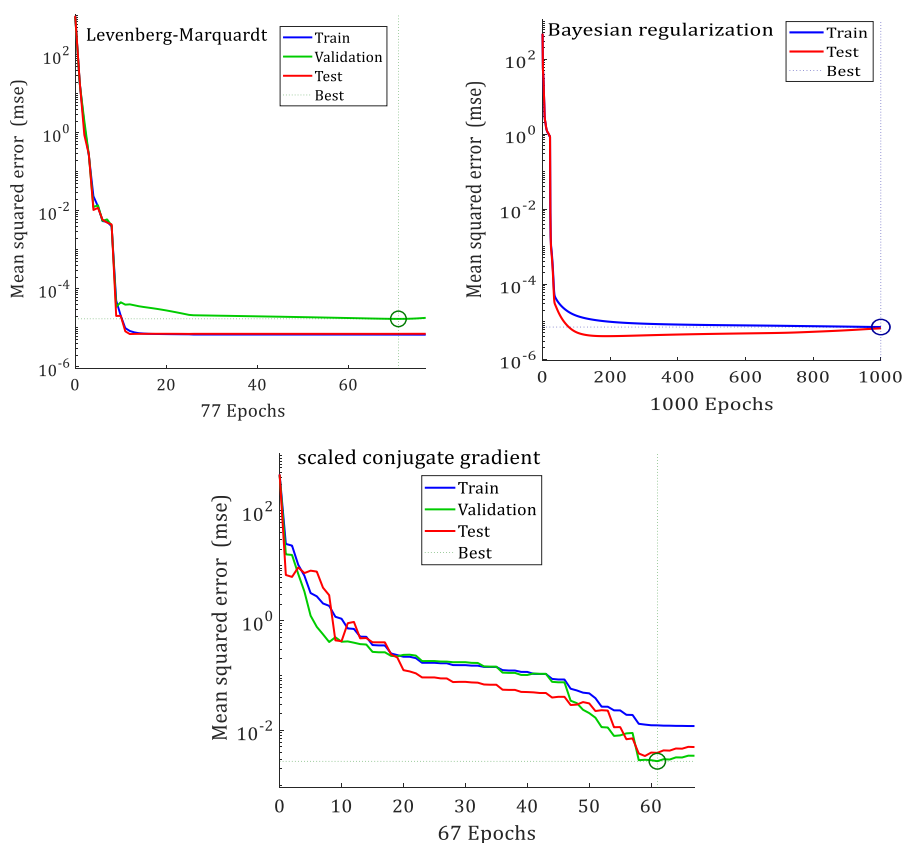


Fig. 4. Best validation performance plots for outdoor hazard index.

can forecast datasets. The performance of the model improves when MSE gets closer to zero. As a result, optimal performance was shown by the performance metrics of ANN for the prediction of indoor and outdoor hazards from industrial byproducts shown in Tables 3 and 4. After analyzing the literature, no information was found on the connection between activity concentrations and hazard indexes of industrial byproducts using machine learning techniques. Tables 3 and 4's results from the Levenberg-Marquardt backpropagation algorithm, however, concur with relevant literature shown in Table 5.

### 5.3. Mean squared error (MSE) of performance plot

The best training results for the backpropagation training algorithms for the indoor and outdoor hazard indexes are displayed in Figs. 3 and 4, respectively, to show the training performance and error characteristics. In Fig. 3, it is clear that the Levenberg-Marquardt, Bayesian regularization, and scaled conjugate gradient backpropagation algorithms all achieved accuracy of 0.0031577, 0.0000095357, and 0.063947 at epochs 83, 1000, and 16, respectively, validating results presented in Table 2. Similarly, the best validation performance for Levenberg-Marquardt, Bayesian regularization, and scaled conjugate gradient backpropagation algorithms, as shown in Fig. 4, attained accuracy of 0.000016939, 0.0000071951, and 0.0027506 at epochs 71, 1000, and 61, respectively. These findings support the results highlighted in Table 3. Figs. 3 and 4 show that the data match the model well due to good training, and it is therefore concluded that a network system with better training produces results with the least amount of error and can also be used to forecast future values that are unknown at the moment.

### 5.4. Regression plots of training, testing, and validation

Fig. 5 shows the correlation coefficients for training, validation,

testing and combined set for indoor hazard index. As indicated in Fig. 5, the combined set of all yielded 99.997%, 100%, and 95.232% R-values for Levenberg-Marquardt, Bayesian regularization, and scaled conjugate gradient backpropagation algorithms of ANN, respectively. Better correlation was reported in Fig. 6 for outdoor hazard index, where combined set of all generated 100%, 100%, and 99.902% R-values for Levenberg-Marquardt, Bayesian regularization, and scaled conjugate gradient backpropagation algorithms of ANN, respectively. These indicate that the selected network structure (3–10–1–1) has no error. The correlation between the output and the desired (target) value is indicated by the regression coefficient value. When the R-value is 100%, the output and the target have a very close relationship. According to relevant studies, if R-value is 0, there is a random relationship; if R-value is larger than 90%, the result is of better quality (Dao et al., 2019; Gupta et al., 2019; Kannaiyan et al., 2020; Shahmansouri et al., 2021; Vettivel et al., 2013).

## 6. Conclusions

Artificial neural network's prediction of the indoor and outdoor hazards from industrial byproducts was carried out. The model was developed based on the data obtained from the naturally occurring radioactive materials and relevant studies and it was trained and tested. In addition, the backpropagation model networks were developed and the accuracy of the trained network was accessed by comparing the predicted value against the data value. The indoor and outdoor hazard indexes of ANN modelling techniques were examined and compared in this study. Based on the comparison and study the following conclusions are drawn:

- With the exception of ISSA, MK, MP, NS, PA, SF, SS, and WP, all surveyed industrial byproducts pose indoor and outdoor hazards.

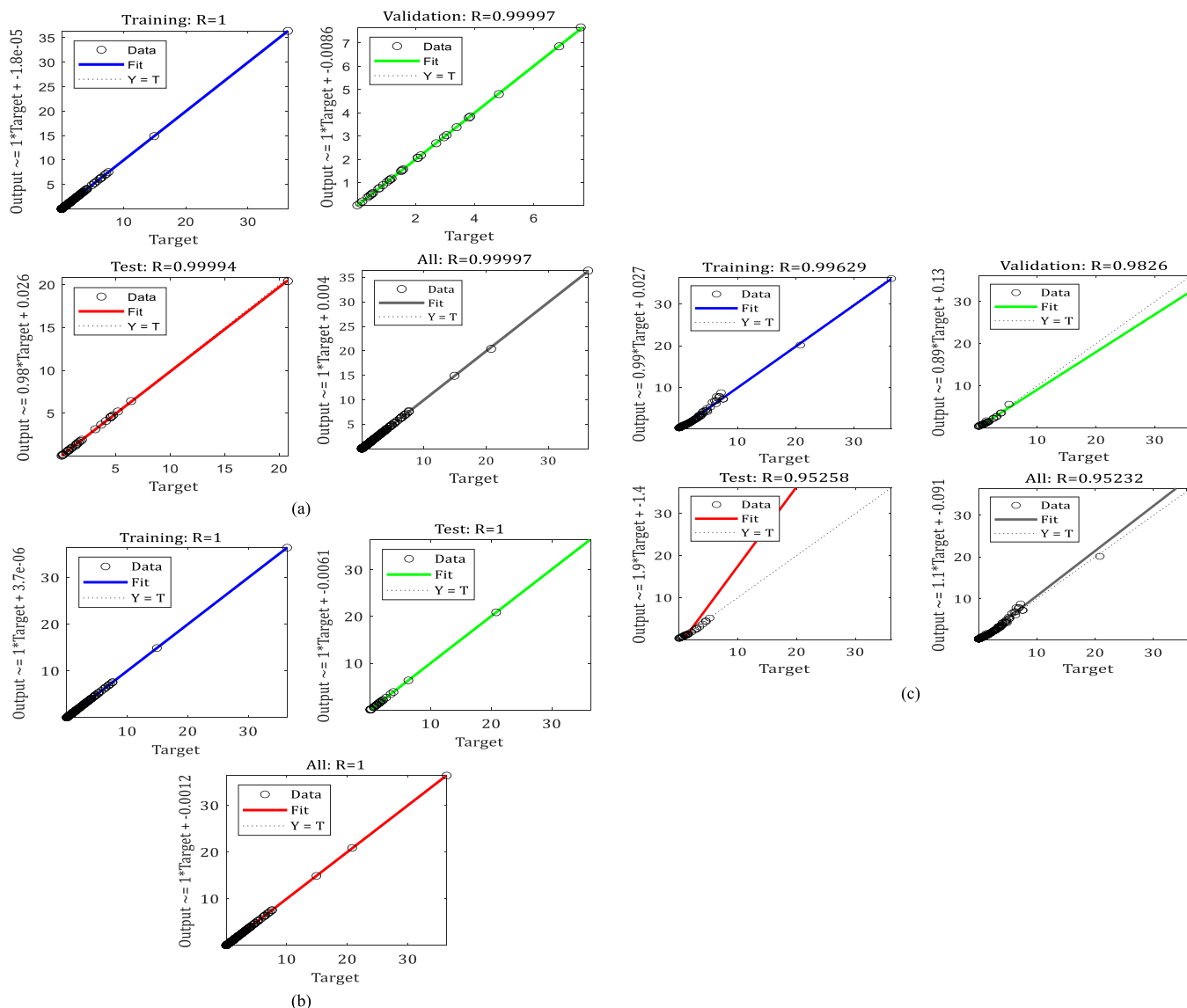


Fig. 5. Indoor hazard regression plots for (a) Levenberg-Marquardt, (b) Bayesian regularization, and (c) scaled conjugate gradient backpropagation algorithms of ANN.

- b. The indoor and outdoor hazards from ISSA, MK, MP, NS, PA, SF, SS, and WP were about 2–98% lower than the world population-weighted average value of UNSCEAR.
- c. All training, validation, testing, and combined sets, with the exception of the scaled conjugate gradient backpropagation technique for indoor hazards, displayed R-values above 99%, indicating that the chosen network structure (3-10-1-1) is error-free.
- d. The backpropagation algorithm network 3–10–1–1 yielded closure outputs with desired (target) values for indoor and outdoor hazards from industrial byproducts.
- e. Levenberg-Marquardt and Bayesian regularization backpropagation techniques showed the best performance metrics for training, validating, and testing datasets of hazard indexes from industrial byproducts, according to a comparison of backpropagation model networks.

There is currently little to no study that predicts the indoor and outdoor hazards from industrial byproducts using machine learning techniques. This study filled this knowledge gap and showed that artificial neural network of machine learning algorithms could forecast the indoor and outdoor hazards from industrial byproducts based on the

activity concentrations of the <sup>226</sup>Ra and <sup>232</sup>Th series, as well as the <sup>40</sup>K isotopes. Additionally, this study pinpointed certain industrial byproducts that provided indoor and outdoor hazard threats, enlightening potential users about these risks. Despite these promising findings, more research is required to assess the applicability of hazard indexes of industrial byproducts. This research should also include data on the internal and external hazard indexes of other industrial byproducts.

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**Statement of code availability**

The statement of code availability is available at <https://github.com/Sotech281/Data-trained>.

**Declaration of competing interest**

The authors show a credit to the sources in the manuscript. The

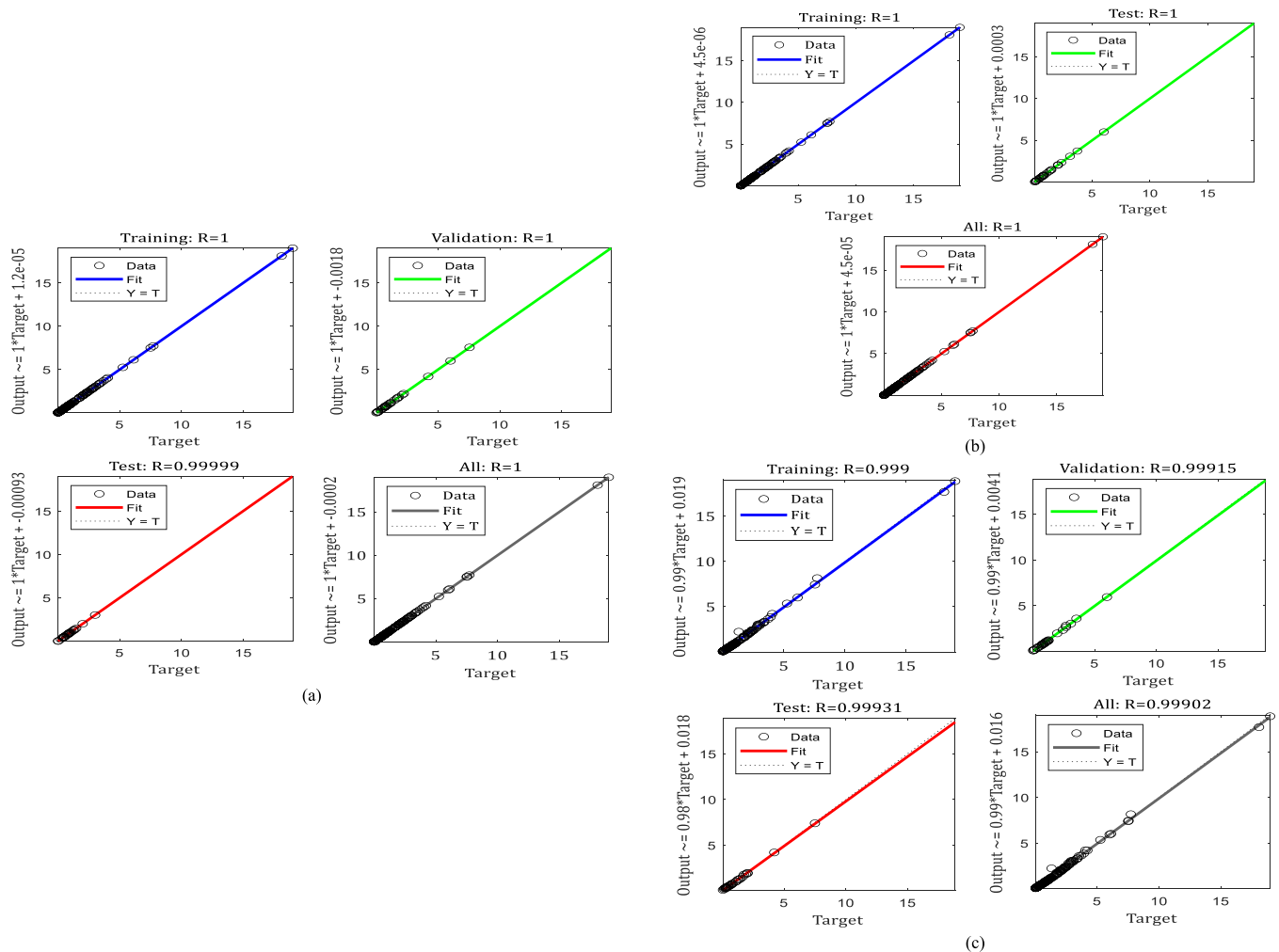


Fig. 6. Outdoor hazard regression plots for (a) Levenberg-Marquardt, (b) Bayesian regularization, and (c) scaled conjugate gradient backpropagation algorithms of ANN.

authors declare that they have no known competing for financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper. The raw/processed data required to reproduce these findings cannot be shared at this time as the Data also forms part of an ongoing study. The authors declare that the manuscript is the authors' original work and has not been published before. The authors also declare that the article contains no libelous or unlawful statements and does not infringe on the rights of others.

**Data availability**

All data used are included and described in the manuscript

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