

A Comparative Study of Different Fuzzy Time Series Forecasting Techniques – Case Study: Marine Fish Production Forecasting

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Abstract: Various forecasting methods have been developed on the basis of fuzzy time series data, but accuracy has been matter of concern in these forecasts. The historical data of marine fish production of India have been taken to implement the model; as such time series data obtained through sample survey are likely to be imprecise. The study uses the fuzzy sets theory of Zadeh [1] and fuzzy time series models introduced by Song and Chissom [2], Chen [3], Chen and Hsu [4] and Singh [5]. The study is aimed to find the marine fish production forecast for a lead year by using different fuzzy time series models. The forecasted marine fish production, obtained through these techniques, have been compared and their performance has been examined and it has been found that forecast obtained by Chen and Hsu[4] is more efficient and provides better forecast in comparison to Singh[5], Chen [3] and Song and Chissom [3] method.

Keywords: Fuzzy Time Series, fuzzy Set, Production, Forecasting, Linguistic Value, fuzzified production. Fuzzy logical relationships.

1. INTRODUCTION

Forecasting plays an important role in our daily life. During the last few decades, various approaches have been developed for time series forecasting. Among them ARIMA models and Box-Jenkins model building approaches are highly rated. But classical time series methods can not deal with forecasting problems in which the values of time series are linguistic terms represented by fuzzy sets Zadeh[1]. Fuzzy time series forecasting emerged as a novel approach for predicting the future values in a situation where neither a trend is viewed nor a pattern in variations of time series are visualized and moreover when information (data) are imprecise and vague. Therefore, Song and Chissom [2] presented the theory of fuzzy time series to overcome this drawback of the classical time series methods. Based on the theory of fuzzy time series, Song *et al.* [2] [6] [10] presented some forecasting methods to forecast the enrollments of the University of Alabama. Chen [3] presented a method to forecast the enrollments of the University of Alabama based on fuzzy time series. It had the advantage of reducing the steps in calculation, time and simplifying the calculation process. Hwang, Chen and Lee [7] used the differences of the enrollments to present a method to forecast the enrollments of the University of Alabama based on fuzzy time series. Huarng[8] used simplified calculations with the addition of heuristic rules to forecast the enrollments using Chen[3]. Chen[9] presented a forecasting method based on high-order fuzzy

time series for forecasting the enrollments of the University of Alabama. Chen and Hsu[4] presented a first order time variant method for fuzzy time series for forecasting the enrollments of the University of Alabama.

Singh [5] presented an improved and versatile method for fuzzy time series forecasting using a difference parameter as fuzzy relation for forecasting. All these models have been implemented to forecast the enrollments of the University of Alabama.

In the present paper the different fuzzy time series models introduced by Song and Chissom[2], Chen[3], Chen and Hsu[4] and Singh[5] have been implemented on the historical marine fish production forecast, a highly non linear process, where data in general contain imprecision. The study is aimed to get some reliable forecast for marine fish production for a lead year. This production forecast will help the fish farmers as well as the local fish based industries in their business planning.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we briefly review the basic concept of fuzzy time series from Song and Chissom [2][6]. In section 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 & 3.4, we obtained the marine fish production forecasting by Song and Chissom[2], Chen [3], Chen and Hsu [4] and Singh [5] model respectively. In section 4 under result and discussion, forecast for Marine fish production by different models are compared. The conclusion are discussed in section 5

2. FUZZY TIME SERIES MODELS

Let $Y(t)$ ($t = 0, 1, 2, \dots$), is a subset of R_1 , be the universe of discourse on which fuzzy sets $f_i(t)$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots$) are defined and $F(t)$ is the collection of f_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots$). Then $F(t)$ is called fuzzy time series on $Y(t)$ ($t = 0, 1, 2, \dots$). Further $F(t)$ can be understood as a linguistic variable and $f_i(t)$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots$) as the possible linguistic values of $F(t)$.

Definition 1: Suppose $F(t)$ is caused by a $F(t-1)$ only or by $F(t-1)$ or $F(t-2)$ or...or $F(t-m)$ ($m > 0$). This relation can be expressed as the following fuzzy relational equation:

$$F(t) = F(t-1) \circ R(t, t-1) \quad \dots (1)$$

or

$$F(t) = (F(t-1) \cup F(t-2) \cup \dots \cup F(t-m)) \circ R_0 \times(t, t-m) \quad \dots (2)$$

The equation is called the first order model of $F(t)$.

Definition 2: Suppose $F(t)$ is caused by a $F(t-1)$,

$F(t-2), \dots$, and $F(t-m)$ ($m > 0$) simultaneously. This relation can be expressed as the following fuzzy relational equation

$$F(t) = (F(t-1) \times F(t-2) \times \dots \times F(t-m)) \circ R_a(t, t-m) \quad (3)$$

and is called the m^{th} order model of $F(t)$.

Definition 3: If in (1) or (2) or (3), the fuzzy relation $R(t, t-1)$ or $R_a(t, t-m)$ or $R_o(t, t-m)$ of $F(t)$ is dependent of time t , that is to say for different times t_1 and t_2 ,

$$R(t_1, t_1-1) = R(t_2, t_2-1), \text{ or } R_a(t_1, t_1-m) = R_a(t_2, t_2-m) \\ \text{ or } R_o(t_1, t_1-m) = R_o(t_2, t_2-m), \text{ then}$$

$F(t)$ is called a time invariant fuzzy time series. Otherwise it is called a time variant fuzzy time series,

In the case of time invariant fuzzy time series, $R(t, t-1) = R$,

$$R_a(t, t-m) = R_a(m),$$

$$R_o(t, t-m) = R_o(m)$$

In general at different times t_1 and t_2 , $R(t_1, t_1-1) \neq R(t_2, t_2-1)$, $R_a(t_1, t_1-m) \neq R_a(t_2, t_2-m)$ and $R_o(t_1, t_1-m) \neq R_o(t_2, t_2-m)$.

There are two reasons for this: first, the universes of discourse on which the fuzzy sets are defined may be different at different times: second the value of $F(t)$ at different times may be different.

Depending upon the complexity of the system, fuzzy time series modeling for a forecast process may use type of relations $R(t, t-1)$, $R_a(t, t-m)$, $R_o(t, t-m)$. Development of fuzzy time series model essentially depends on the procedure of fuzzy relations generated between the observations at a time t and among the observations at different times. Several methods Dubois and Parde (1991), Wu (1986) and Mamdani (1977) are available to determine these relations.

3. MARINE FISH PRODUCTION FORECASTING

3.1. MARINE FISH PRODUCTION FORECASTING BY SONG AND CHISSOM (1993):

Fuzzy time series model deals with situation where the data are linguistic values, in contrast to the conventional time series approaches that typically manipulate numerical data. If data are available in crisp form, it is to be fuzzified before the fuzzy time series methodology can be applied. Fuzzification process starts with defining the universe of discourse U , which contains the historical data and upon which the fuzzy sets are defined.

The study deals with the production of Marine Fish of India (**in lakh Kg**) in various years starting from 1995-96 to 2009-2010 with assumption that it includes some vagueness incurred due to statistical sampling.

Step-1: Let D_{\min} and D_{\max} be minimum and maximum production. Based upon D_{\min} and D_{\max} , we define the universe of the discourse U as $[D_{\min} - D_1, D_{\max} + D_2]$, where D_1 and D_2 are two proper positive numbers and accordingly, the universe of discourse $U = [26000, 31000]$. Further the universe of discourse U is partitioned into five intervals of equal length as follows:

$$u_1 = [26000, 27000], u_2 = [27000, 28000], \\ u_3 = [28000, 29000], u_4 = [29000, 30000], \\ u_5 = [30000, 31000],$$

Step 2: Fuzzy sets $A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots, A_5$ on universe of discourse, having linguistic values as:

$A_1 =$ Poor, $A_2 =$ Average, $A_3 =$ good, $A_4 =$ very good $A_5 =$ excellent, are to be defined. u_1, u_2, \dots, u_5 are chosen as elements of these fuzzy sets. The membership grades of u_1, u_2, \dots, u_5 to each A_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots, 5$) will decide that how well each u_k ($k = 1, 2, \dots, 5$) belong to u_i . We have determined the membership of each element in all the fuzzy sets A_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots, 5$) and are expressed as

$$A_1 = \{u_1/1, u_2/.5, u_3/0, u_4/0, u_5/0\} \\ A_2 = \{u_1/.5, u_2/1, u_3/.5, u_4/0, u_5/0\} \\ A_3 = \{u_1/0, u_2/.5, u_3/1, u_4/.5, u_5/0\} \\ A_4 = \{u_1/0, u_2/0, u_3/.5, u_4/1, u_5/.5\} \\ A_5 = \{u_1/0, u_2/0, u_3/0, u_4/.5, u_5/1\}$$

Where u_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots, 5$) is the element and the number below ‘/’ is the membership of u_i to A_j ($j = 1, 2, \dots, 5$)

Step 3: Fuzzify the historical production data to find out the equivalent fuzzy set to each year’s production using the step- 2. The equivalent fuzzy set to each year’s production are shown in table-1.

Table-1-Fuzzified production for different years

| Year | Actual production (Lakh Kg) | A_1 | A_2 | A_3 | A_4 | A_5 | Fuzzified Production |
|-----------|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------------|
| 1995-96 | 27070 | .5 | 1 | .5 | 0 | 0 | A_2 |
| 1996-97 | 29670 | 0 | 0 | .5 | 1 | .5 | A_4 |
| 1997-98 | 29500 | 0 | 0 | .5 | 1 | .5 | A_4 |
| 1998-99 | 26960 | 1 | .5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | A_1 |
| 1999-2000 | 28520 | 0 | .5 | 1 | .5 | 0 | A_3 |
| 2000-2001 | 28110 | 0 | .5 | 1 | .5 | 0 | A_3 |
| 2001-2002 | 28300 | 0 | .5 | 1 | .5 | 0 | A_3 |
| 2002-2003 | 29900 | 0 | 0 | .5 | 1 | .5 | A_4 |
| 2003-2004 | 29410 | 0 | 0 | .5 | 1 | .5 | A_4 |
| 2004-2005 | 27800 | .5 | 1 | .5 | 0 | 0 | A_2 |
| 2005-2006 | 28160 | 0 | .5 | 1 | .5 | 0 | A_3 |
| 2006-2007 | 30240 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .5 | 1 | A_5 |
| 2007-2008 | 29200 | 0 | 0 | .5 | 1 | .5 | A_4 |
| 2008-2009 | 30000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .5 | 1 | A_5 |
| 2009-2010 | 29800 | 0 | 0 | .5 | 1 | .5 | |

Step 4: Fuzzy logical relationship of the production have been obtained from Table-1, where the fuzzy logical relationship $A_j \rightarrow A_k$ means: if the production of year j is A_j then that of year $j + 1$ is A_k , where A_j is called the current state of production and A_k is called the next state of the production. The fuzzy logical relationship and group for production is derived in Table-2 and Table-3:

Table- 2-Fuzzy logical relationship of production

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| $A_2 \rightarrow A_4$ | $A_4 \rightarrow A_4$ | $A_4 \rightarrow A_1$ | $A_1 \rightarrow A_3$ | $A_3 \rightarrow A_3$ |
| $A_3 \rightarrow A_3$ | $A_3 \rightarrow A_4$ | $A_4 \rightarrow A_4$ | $A_4 \rightarrow A_2$ | $A_2 \rightarrow A_3$ |
| $A_3 \rightarrow A_5$ | $A_5 \rightarrow A_4$ | $A_4 \rightarrow A_5$ | | |

Table-3- Fuzzy logical relationship groups for production
Based on the Fuzzy logical relationship, we derive the fuzzy logical relationship groups for production, which comes to be:

- Group-1: $A_1 \rightarrow A_3$
- Group-2: $A_2 \rightarrow A_4, A_3$,
- Group-3: $A_3 \rightarrow A_3, A_4, A_5$
- Group-4: $A_4 \rightarrow A_4, A_1, A_2, A_5$
- Group-5: $A_5 \rightarrow A_4$

Step 5. Based on fuzzy logical relational groups a total of 11 relations R_1, \dots, R_{10} are to be computed. If fuzzy logical relation is $A_i \rightarrow A_j$ then the time invariant relation $R_{ij} = A_i^T \times A_j$, the elements of the matrix R_{ij} be computed as $d_{ij} = \min(A_i^T, A_j)$ ($i, j = 1, \dots, m$)

- Here,
- for $A_1 \rightarrow A_3$: $(R_{13}) R_1 = A_1^T \times A_3$
 - for $A_2 \rightarrow A_4$: $(R_{24}) R_2 = A_2^T \times A_4$
 - for $A_2 \rightarrow A_3$: $(R_{23}) R_3 = A_2^T \times A_3$
 - for $A_3 \rightarrow A_3$: $(R_{33}) R_4 = A_3^T \times A_3$
 - for $A_3 \rightarrow A_4$: $(R_{34}) R_5 = A_3^T \times A_4$
 - for $A_3 \rightarrow A_5$: $(R_{35}) R_6 = A_3^T \times A_5$
 - for $A_4 \rightarrow A_4$: $(R_{44}) R_7 = A_4^T \times A_4$
 - for $A_4 \rightarrow A_1$: $(R_{41}) R_8 = A_4^T \times A_1$
 - for $A_4 \rightarrow A_2$: $(R_{42}) R_9 = A_4^T \times A_2$
 - for $A_4 \rightarrow A_5$: $(R_{45}) R_{10} = A_4^T \times A_5$
 - for $A_5 \rightarrow A_4$: $(R_{54}) R_{11} = A_5^T \times A_4$

The first order fuzzy time invariant relation R is computed as $R(t, t-1) = R = \bigcup_1^{11} R_i$, \cup is the union operator as defined earlier (max). Taking the union of all 11 fuzzy relational matrices, the obtained relation

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & .5 & 1 & .5 & 0 \\ 0 & .5 & 1 & 1 & .5 \\ .5 & .5 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & .5 & 1 & 1 \\ .5 & .5 & .5 & 1 & .5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Step 6 The Computation of fuzzy output is carried out by the forecasting model

$$A_i = A_{i-1} \circ R$$

Here, A_{i-1} is the fuzzified production of the year $i-1$ (known as current state) and A_i the fuzzified forecasted production of the year i . and 'o' is the max-min operator. Thus the forecasted values for the year 1996-97 to 2008-2009 can be computed. The fuzzified output can be computed and are obtained as Table no. 4

Table No. - 4-Fuzzified output

| Year | Actual production (Lakh Kg) | A_1 | A_2 | A_3 | A_4 | A_5 |
|-----------|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1996-97 | 29670 | .5 | .5 | 1 | 1 | .5 |
| 1997-98 | 29500 | 1 | 1 | .5 | 1 | 1 |
| 1998-99 | 26960 | 1 | 1 | .5 | 1 | 1 |
| 1999-2000 | 28520 | 0 | .5 | 1 | .5 | .5 |
| 2000-2001 | 28110 | .5 | .5 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2001-2002 | 28300 | .5 | .5 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2002-2003 | 29900 | .5 | .5 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2003-2004 | 29410 | 1 | 1 | .5 | 1 | 1 |
| 2004-2005 | 27800 | 1 | 1 | .5 | 1 | 1 |
| 2005-2006 | 28160 | .5 | .5 | 1 | 1 | .5 |
| 2006-2007 | 30240 | .5 | .5 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2007-2008 | 29200 | .5 | .5 | .5 | 1 | .5 |
| 2008-2009 | 30000 | 1 | 1 | .5 | 1 | 1 |

Step 7 The forecasted values in the table 4 are to be defuzzified to get the crisp output. Several defuzzification methods are available. The easiest way to calculate the crisp output is with the following rule:

1. If the membership of an output has only one maximum, the select the midpoint of that corresponding interval as forecasted value.
2. If the membership of an output has two or more consecutive maximum, the select the midpoint of the corresponding conjunct intervals as forecasted value.
3. Otherwise, standardize the fuzzy output and use the midpoint of each interval to calculate the centroid of the fuzzy set as forecasted value.

The forecasted values thus obtained along with the actual production are placed in table 5

3.2. MARINE FISH PRODUCTION FORECASTING BY CHEN (1996):

Chen (1996) gave a simplified approach of using aromatic operations in place of calculating the relational matrices and then applying the min-max composition operations for getting the fuzzified forecasted values and then applying the defuzzification method.

Computational procedure:
Continue the steps mentioned in the above method upto step 4.then

- 1) If the production of the year i is A_j and fuzzy logical relation is $A_j \rightarrow A_k$ and A_k has max membership in interval u_k , then the forecasted production for the year $i=i+1$ will be midpoint of A_k .
- 2) If the fuzzified production of the year i is A_j and there are fuzzy logical relationships in the fuzzy logical relationship group as:

$$A_j \rightarrow A_{k_1}, A_j \rightarrow A_{k_2}, \dots, A_j \rightarrow A_{k_p}$$

$A_{k_1}, A_{k_2}, \dots, A_{k_p}$ has max membership in the intervals $u_{k_1}, u_{k_2}, \dots, u_{k_p}$ respectively and m_1, m_2, \dots, m_p are their respective midpoints, then the forecasted production for the year $i+1$ will be $(m_1, m_2, \dots, m_p)/p$. If the fuzzified production of a year i is A_j , and no logical relationship is found in logical relationship groups, whose current state of production is A_j , where the maximum membership value of A_j occurs at interval u_j and the midpoint of u_j is m_j , then the forecasted production of year $i + 1$ is m_j . The forecasted values thus obtained along with the actual production are placed in table 6

Table-5-Forecasted production along with actual production by Song and Chissom (1993)

| Year | Actual production (Lakh Kg) | Forecasted Production(Lakh Kg) |
|-----------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1995-96 | 27070 | |
| 1996-97 | 29670 | 29000 |
| 1997-98 | 29500 | 28500 |
| 1998-99 | 26960 | 28500 |
| 1999-2000 | 28520 | 28500 |
| 2000-2001 | 28110 | 29500 |
| 2001-2002 | 28300 | 29500 |
| 2002-2003 | 29900 | 29500 |
| 2003-2004 | 29410 | 28500 |
| 2004-2005 | 27800 | 28500 |
| 2005-2006 | 28160 | 29000 |
| 2006-2007 | 30240 | 30000 |
| 2007-2008 | 29200 | 29500 |
| 2008-2009 | 30000 | 28500 |

Table-6 Forecasted production along with actual production by Chen (1996)

| Year | Actual production (Lakh Kg) | Forecasted Production (Lakh Kg) |
|-----------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1995-96 | 27070 | |
| 1996-97 | 29670 | 29000 |
| 1997-98 | 29500 | 28500 |
| 1998-99 | 26960 | 28500 |
| 1999-2000 | 28520 | 28500 |
| 2000-2001 | 28110 | 30000 |
| 2001-2002 | 28300 | 30000 |
| 2002-2003 | 29900 | 30000 |
| 2003-2004 | 29410 | 28500 |
| 2004-2005 | 27800 | 28500 |
| 2005-2006 | 28160 | 29000 |
| 2006-2007 | 30240 | 29500 |
| 2007-2008 | 29200 | 29500 |
| 2008-2009 | 30000 | 28500 |

3.3. MARINE FISH PRODUCTION FORECASTING BY CHEN AND HSU (2004) METHOD

Chen and Hsu (2004) method defines the universe of discourse and partitions the universe of discourse into some even and equal length intervals. Then, it gets the statistical distributions of the historical production data in each interval and re-divided each interval. Later it defines linguistic values represented by fuzzy sets based on the re-divided intervals and fuzzify the historical production to get fuzzified production. Then, it establishes fuzzy logical relationships based on the fuzzified production. Finally, it uses a set of rules to determine the direction of change in the trend of the forecasting whether it registers an upward or downward and then to forecast the production. Assume that we want to forecast the production of year n , then the “difference of differences” of the production between years $n-1$ and $n-2$ and between years $n-2$ and $n-3$ = (the production of year $n-1$ - the production of year $n-2$) - (the production of year $n-2$ - the production of year $n-3$). The method is now presented as follows:

Step 1: Define the universe of discourse U and partition it into several even and equal length intervals u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n . For example, assume that the universe of discourse $U = [26000, 31000]$ is partitioned into five even and equal length intervals u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4 and u_5 , where $u_1 = [26000, 27000], u_2 = [27000, 28000], u_3 = [28000, 29000], u_4 = [29000, 30000], u_5 = [30000, 31000]$

Step 2: Get a statistics of the distribution of the historical production in each interval. Sort the intervals based on the number of historical production data in each interval from the highest to the lowest. Find the interval having the largest number of historical production data and divide it into four sub-intervals of equal length. Find the interval having the second largest number of historical production data and divide it into three sub-intervals of equal length. Find the interval having the third largest number of historical production data and divide it into two sub-intervals of equal length. Find the interval with the fourth largest number of historical production data and let the length of this interval remain unchanged. If there are no data distributed in an interval, and then discard this interval. For example, the distributions of the historical production data in different intervals are summarized as shown in Table 7

Table 7. The distribution of the historical fish production data

| Intervals | 26000-27000 | 27000-28000 | 28000-29000 | 29000-30000 | 30000-31000 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Number of historical production data | 1 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 2 |

After executing this step, the universe of discourse $[26000, 31000]$ is re-divided into the following intervals:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| $u_1 = [26000, 27000],$ | $u_{2,1} = [27000, 27500],$ |
| $u_{2,2} = [27500, 28000],$ | $u_{3,1} = [28000, 28333],$ |
| $u_{3,2} = [28333, 28667],$ | $u_{3,3} = [28667, 29000],$ |
| $u_{4,1} = [29000, 29250],$ | $u_{4,2} = [29250, 29500],$ |
| $u_{4,3} = [29500, 29750],$ | $u_{4,4} = [29750, 30000],$ |

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| $u_{5,1} = [30000, 30500]$ | $u_{5,2} = [30500, 31000]$ |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|

Step 3: Define each fuzzy set A_i based on the re-divided intervals and fuzzify the historical production shown in Table 1, where fuzzy set A_i denotes a linguistic value of the production represented by a fuzzy set, and $1 \leq i \leq 12$. For example, A_1 =very very very very few, A_2 =very very very few, A_3 =veryvery few, A_4 = very few, A_5 = few, A_6 =moderate, A_7 =many, A_8 =many many, A_9 =very many, A_{10} =too many, A_{11} =too many many and A_{12} =too many many many defined as follows

$$A_1 = 1/u_1 + 0.5/u_{2,1} + 0/u_{2,2} + 0/u_{3,1} + 0/u_{3,2} + 0/u_{3,3} + 0/u_{4,1} + 0/u_{4,2} + 0/u_{4,3} + 0/u_{4,4} + 0/u_{5,1} + 0/u_{5,2}$$

$$A_2 = 0.5/u_1 + 1/u_{2,1} + 0.5/u_{2,2} + 0/u_{3,1} + 0/u_{3,2} + 0/u_{3,3} + 0/u_{4,1} + 0/u_{4,2} + 0/u_{4,3} + 0/u_{4,4} + 0/u_{5,1} + 0/u_{5,2}$$

$$A_3 = 0/u_1 + 0.5/u_{2,1} + 1/u_{2,2} + 0.5/u_{3,1} + 0/u_{3,2} + 0/u_{3,3} + 0/u_{4,1} + 0/u_{4,2} + 0/u_{4,3} + 0/u_{4,4} + 0/u_{5,1} + 0/u_{5,2}$$

$$A_4 = 0/u_1 + 0/u_{2,1} + 0.5/u_{2,2} + 1/u_{3,1} + 0.5/u_{3,2} + 0/u_{3,3} + 0/u_{4,1} + 0/u_{4,2} + 0/u_{4,3} + 0/u_{4,4} + 0/u_{5,1} + 0/u_{5,2}$$

$$A_5 = 0/u_1 + 0/u_{2,1} + 0/u_{2,2} + 0.5/u_{3,1} + 1/u_{3,2} + 0.5/u_{3,3} + 0/u_{4,1} + 0/u_{4,2} + 0/u_{4,3} + 0/u_{4,4} + 0/u_{5,1} + 0/u_{5,2}$$

$$A_6 = 0/u_1 + 0/u_{2,1} + 0/u_{2,2} + 0/u_{3,1} + 0.5/u_{3,2} + 1/u_{3,3} + 0.5/u_{4,1} + 0/u_{4,2} + 0/u_{4,3} + 0/u_{4,4} + 0/u_{5,1} + 0/u_{5,2}$$

$$A_7 = 0/u_1 + 0/u_{2,1} + 0/u_{2,2} + 0/u_{3,1} + 0/u_{3,2} + 0.5/u_{3,3} + 1/u_{4,1} + 0.5/u_{4,2} + 0/u_{4,3} + 0/u_{4,4} + 0/u_{5,1} + 0/u_{5,2}$$

$$A_8 = 0/u_1 + 0/u_{2,1} + 0/u_{2,2} + 0/u_{3,1} + 0/u_{3,2} + 0/u_{3,3} + 0.5/u_{4,1} + 1/u_{4,2} + 0.5/u_{4,3} + 0/u_{4,4} + 0/u_{5,1} + 0/u_{5,2}$$

$$A_9 = 0/u_1 + 0/u_{2,1} + 0/u_{2,2} + 0/u_{3,1} + 0/u_{3,2} + 0/u_{3,3} + 0/u_{4,1} + 0.5/u_{4,2} + 1/u_{4,3} + 0.5/u_{4,4} + 0/u_{5,1} + 0/u_{5,2}$$

$$A_{10} = 0/u_1 + 0/u_{2,1} + 0/u_{2,2} + 0/u_{3,1} + 0/u_{3,2} + 0/u_{3,3} + 0/u_{4,1} + 0/u_{4,2} + 0.5/u_{4,3} + 1/u_{4,4} + 0.5/u_{5,1} + 0/u_{5,2}$$

$$A_{11} = 0/u_1 + 0/u_{2,1} + 0/u_{2,2} + 0/u_{3,1} + 0/u_{3,2} + 0/u_{3,3} + 0/u_{4,1} + 0/u_{4,2} + 0/u_{4,3} + 0.5/u_{4,4} + 1/u_{5,1} + 0.5/u_{5,2}$$

$$A_{12} = 0/u_1 + 0/u_{2,1} + 0/u_{2,2} + 0/u_{3,1} + 0/u_{3,2} + 0/u_{3,3} + 0/u_{4,1} + 0/u_{4,2} + 0/u_{4,3} + 0/u_{4,4} + 0.5/u_{5,1} + 1/u_{5,2}$$

For simplicity, the membership values of fuzzy set A_i either are 0, 0.5 or 1, where $1 \leq i \leq 12$. Then, fuzzify the historical production shown in Table 2 and the linguistic values of the production A_1, A_2, \dots, A_{12} . The reason for fuzzifying the historical production into fuzzified production is to translate crisp values into fuzzy sets to get a fuzzy time series (Table-8).

Table-8. Fuzzified output

| Year | Actual production (Lakh Kg) | Fuzzified Production |
|-----------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1995-96 | 27070 | A_2 |
| 1995-96 | 29670 | A_9 |
| 1997-98 | 29500 | A_8 |
| 1998-99 | 26960 | A_1 |
| 1999-2000 | 28520 | A_5 |
| 2000-2001 | 28110 | A_4 |
| 2001-2002 | 28300 | A_4 |
| 2002-2003 | 29900 | A_{10} |
| 2003-2004 | 29410 | A_8 |
| 2004-2005 | 27800 | A_3 |
| 2005-2006 | 28160 | A_4 |
| 2006-2007 | 30240 | A_{11} |
| 2007-2008 | 29200 | A_7 |
| 2008-2009 | 30000 | A_{10} |
| 2009-2010 | 29800 | A_{10} |

Step 4: Establish fuzzy logical relationships based on the fuzzified production:

Where the fuzzy logical relationship “ $A_i \rightarrow A_j$ ” denotes “if the fuzzified production of year n-1 is A_i , then the fuzzified production of year n is A_j ”. For example, based on the fuzzify historical production obtained in Step 3, we can get the fuzzy logical relationships as shown in Table 9.

Table 9. Fuzzy logical relationships

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| $A_2 \rightarrow A_9$ | $A_9 \rightarrow A_8$ |
| $A_8 \rightarrow A_1$ | $A_1 \rightarrow A_5$ |
| $A_5 \rightarrow A_4$ | $A_4 \rightarrow A_4$ |
| $A_4 \rightarrow A_{10}$ | $A_{10} \rightarrow A_8$ |
| $A_8 \rightarrow A_3$ | $A_3 \rightarrow A_4$ |
| $A_4 \rightarrow A_{11}$ | $A_{11} \rightarrow A_7$ |
| $A_7 \rightarrow A_{10}$ | $A_{10} \rightarrow A_{10}$ |

Step 5: Divide each interval derived in Step 2 into four subintervals of equal length, where the 0.25-point and 0.75-point of each interval are used as the upward and downward forecasting points of the forecasting. Use the following rules to determine whether the trend of the forecasting goes up or down and to forecast the production. Assume that the fuzzy logical relationship is $A_i \rightarrow A_j$, where A_i denotes the fuzzified production of year n-1 and A_j denotes the fuzzified production of year n, then (1) If $j > i$ and the difference of the differences of the production between years n-1 and n-2 and between years n-2 and n-3 is positive, then the trend of the forecasting will go up, and we use the following **Rule 2** to forecast the production; (2) If $j > i$ and the difference of the differences of the production between years n-1 and n-2 and between years n-2 and n-3 is negative, then the trend of the forecasting will go down, and we use the following **Rule 3** to forecast the production;(3) If $j < i$ and the difference of the differences of the production between years n-1 and n-2 and between years n-2 and n-3 is positive, then the trend of the forecasting will go up, and we use the following **Rule 2** to

forecast the production; (4) If $j < i$ and the difference of the differences of the production between years $n-1$ and $n-2$ and between years $n-2$ and $n-3$ is negative, then the trend of the forecasting will go down, and we use the following

Rule 3 to forecast the production; (5) If $j = i$ and the difference of the differences of the production between years $n-1$ and $n-2$ and between years $n-2$ and $n-3$ is positive, then the trend of the forecasting will go up, and we use the following **Rule 2** to forecast the production;

(6) If $j = i$ and the difference of the differences of the production between years $n-1$ and $n-2$ and between years $n-2$ and $n-3$ is negative, then the trend of the forecasting will go down, and we use the following **Rule 3** to forecast the production, where **Rule 1**, **Rule 2** and **Rule 3** are given below:

Rule 1: When forecasting the production of year 1997-98, there are no data before the production of year 1995-96, therefore we are not able to calculate the difference of the production between years 1995-96 and 1994-95 and the difference of the differences between years 1996-97 and 1995-96 and between years 1995-96 and 1994-95. Therefore, if $|(the\ difference\ of\ the\ production\ between\ years\ 1996-97\ and\ 1995-96)/2| > half\ of\ the\ length\ of\ the\ interval\ corresponding\ to\ the\ fuzzified\ production\ A_j$ with the membership value equal to 1, then the trend of the forecasting of this interval will be upward, and the forecasting production falls at the 0.75-point of this interval; if $|(the\ difference\ of\ the\ production\ between\ years\ 1996-97\ and\ 1995-96)/2| = half\ of\ the\ length\ of\ the\ interval\ corresponding\ to\ the\ fuzzified\ production\ A_j$ with the membership value equal to 1, then the forecasting production falls at the middle value of this interval; if $|(the\ difference\ of\ the\ production\ between\ years\ 1996-97\ and\ 1995-96)/2| < half\ of\ the\ length\ of\ the\ interval\ corresponding\ to\ the\ fuzzified\ production\ A_j$ with the membership value equal to 1, then the trend of the forecasting of this interval will be downward, and the forecasting production falls at the 0.25-point of the interval.

Rule 2: If $|(the\ difference\ of\ the\ differences\ between\ years\ n-1\ and\ n-2\ and\ between\ years\ n-2\ and\ n-3| \times 2 + the\ production\ of\ year\ n-1)$ or $(the\ production\ of\ year\ n-1 - |the\ difference\ of\ the\ differences\ between\ years\ n-1\ and\ n-2\ and\ between\ years\ n-2\ and\ n-3| \times 2)$ falls in the interval corresponding to the fuzzified production A_j with the membership value equal to 1, then the trend of the forecasting of this interval will be upward, and the forecasting production falls at the 0.75-point of the interval of the corresponding fuzzified production A_j with the membership value equal to 1; if $|(the\ difference\ of\ the\ differences\ between\ years\ n-1\ and\ n-2\ and\ between\ years\ n-2\ and\ n-3|/2 + the\ production\ of\ year\ n-1)$ or $(the\ production\ of\ year\ n-1 - |the\ difference\ of\ the\ differences\ between\ years\ n-1\ and\ n-2\ and\ between\ years\ n-2\ and\ n-3| \times 2)$ falls in the interval of the corresponding fuzzified production A_j with the membership value equal to 1, then the trend of the forecasting of this interval will be downward, and the forecasting production falls at the 0.25-point of the interval of the corresponding fuzzified production A_j with the membership value equal to 1; if neither is the case, then we let the forecasting production be the middle value of the interval corresponding to the fuzzified production A_j with the membership value equal to 1.

$3/2)$ falls in the interval of the corresponding fuzzified production A_j with the membership value equal to 1, then the trend of the forecasting of this interval will be downward, and the forecasting value falls at the 0.25-point of the interval of the corresponding fuzzified production A_j with the membership value equal to 1; if neither is the case, then we let the forecasting production be the middle value of the interval corresponding to the fuzzified production A_j with the membership value equal to 1.

Rule 3: If $|(the\ difference\ of\ the\ differences\ between\ years\ n-1\ and\ n-2\ and\ between\ years\ n-2\ and\ n-3|/2 + the\ production\ of\ year\ n-1)$ or $(the\ production\ of\ year\ n-1 - |the\ difference\ of\ the\ differences\ between\ years\ n-1\ and\ n-2\ and\ between\ years\ n-2\ and\ n-3|/2)$ falls in the interval of the corresponding fuzzified production A_j with the membership value equal to 1, then the trend of the forecasting of this interval will be downward, and the forecasting production falls at the 0.25-point of the interval corresponding to the fuzzified production A_j with the membership value equal to 1; if $|(the\ difference\ of\ the\ differences\ between\ years\ n-1\ and\ n-2\ and\ between\ years\ n-2\ and\ n-3| \times 2 + the\ production\ of\ year\ n-1)$ or $(the\ production\ of\ year\ n-1 - |the\ difference\ of\ the\ differences\ between\ years\ n-1\ and\ n-2\ and\ between\ years\ n-2\ and\ n-3| \times 2)$ falls in the interval corresponding to the fuzzified production A_j with the membership value equal to 1, then the trend of the forecasting of this interval will be upward, and the forecasting production falls at the 0.75-point of the interval corresponding to the fuzzified production A_j with the membership value equal to 1; if neither is the case, then we let the forecasting production be the middle value of the interval corresponding to the fuzzified production A_j with the membership value equal to 1.

Table 10 summarizes the forecasting results of the Chen and Hsu(2004) method from 1996-97 to 2009-10, where the universe of discourse is divided into 12 intervals and the interval with the largest number of historical enrollment data is divided into 4 sub-intervals of equal length.

Table-10. Forecasted production along with actual production by Chen and Hsu (2004)

| Year | Actual production (Lakh Kg) | Forecasting production(Lakh Kg) |
|-----------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1995-96 | 27070 | |
| 1996-97 | 29670 | 29613 |
| 1997-98 | 29500 | 29438 |
| 1998-99 | 26960 | 26500 |
| 1999-2000 | 28520 | 28500 |
| 2000-2001 | 28110 | 28167 |
| 2001-2002 | 28300 | 28167 |
| 2002-2003 | 29900 | 29875 |
| 2003-2004 | 29410 | 29375 |
| 2004-2005 | 27800 | 27750 |
| 2005-2006 | 28160 | 28167 |
| 2006-2007 | 30240 | 30250 |
| 2007-2008 | 29200 | 29125 |
| 2008-2009 | 30000 | 29875 |
| 2009-2010 | 29800 | 29875 |

3.4. MARINE FISH PRODUCTION FORECASTING

BY SINGH (2007)

RULES FOR FORECASTING

Some notations used are defined as

$[*A_j]$ is corresponding interval u_j for which membership in A_j is Supremum (ie 1).

$L[*A_j]$ is the lower bound of interval u_j

$U[*A_j]$ is the upper bound of interval u_j

$I[*A_j]$ is the length of the interval u_j whose membership in A_j is Supremum (ie 1)

$M[*A_j]$ is the mid value of the interval u_j having Supremum value in A_j

For a Fuzzy logical relation $A_i \rightarrow A_j$:

- A_i is the fuzzified production of year n
- A_j is the fuzzified production of year n+1
- E_i is the actual production of year n
- E_{i-1} is the actual production of year n-1
- E_{i-2} is the actual production of year n-2
- F_j is the crisp forecasted production of the year n+1

This Model of order three utilizes the historical data of year n-2, n-1, n for framing rules to implement on fuzzy logical relation, $A_i \rightarrow A_j$, where A_i , the current state, is the fuzzified production of year n and A_j , the next state, is fuzzified production of year n+1. The proposed method for forecasting is mentioned as Rule for generating the relations between the time series data of years n-2, n-1, n for forecasting the enrollment of year n+1.

Computational Algorithm: (Forecasting production F_j for year n+1(ie 1998-1999) and onwards.

For k=3 toK (end of time series data)

Obtained fuzzy logical Relation for year k to k+1

$$A_i \rightarrow A_j$$

$$R= 0 \text{ and } S= 0$$

Compute

$$D_i = | (E_i - E_{i-1}) | - | (E_{i-1} - E_{i-2}) |$$

$$X_i = E_i + D_i / 2$$

$$XX_i = E_i - D_i / 2$$

$$Y_i = E_i + D_i$$

$$YY_i = E_i - D_i$$

$$P_i = E_i + D_i / 4$$

$$P_{ii} = E_i - D_i / 4$$

$$Q_i = E_i + 2 * D_i$$

$$Q_{ii} = E_i - 2 * D_i$$

$$\text{If } X_i \geq L[*A_j] \text{ And } X_i \leq U[*A_j]$$

$$\text{Then } R = R + X_i \text{ And } S = S + 1$$

$$\text{If } XX_i \geq L[*A_j] \text{ And } XX_i \leq U[*A_j]$$

$$\text{Then } R = R + XX_i \text{ and } S = S + 1$$

$$\text{If } Y_i \geq L[*A_j] \text{ And } Y_i \leq U[*A_j]$$

$$\text{Then } R = R + Y_i \text{ and } S = S + 1$$

$$\text{If } YY_i \geq L[*A_j] \text{ And } YY_i \leq U[*A_j]$$

$$\text{Then } R = R + YY_i \text{ And } S = S + 1$$

$$\text{If } P_i \geq L[*A_j] \text{ And } P_i \leq U[*A_j]$$

$$\text{Then } R = R + P_i \text{ And } S = S + 1$$

$$\text{If } PP_i \geq L[*A_j] \text{ And } PP_i \leq U[*A_j]$$

$$\text{Then } R = R + PP_i \text{ and } S = S + 1$$

$$\text{If } Q_i \geq L[*A_j] \text{ And } Q_i \leq U[*A_j]$$

$$\text{Then } R = R + Q_i \text{ and } S = S + 1$$

$$\text{If } QQ_i \geq L[*A_j] \text{ And } QQ_i \leq U[*A_j]$$

$$\text{Then } R = R + QQ_i \text{ And } S = S + 1$$

$$F_j = (R + M(*A_j)) / (S + 1)$$

Next k

4. Results & Discussion

In time series forecasting, the forecasting accuracy of a model is commonly measured in terms of Mean Square Error (MSE) or in terms of Average Error. Lower the MSE or average error, better the forecasting method. MSE is defined as

Mean Square Error =

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (\text{actual value}_i - \text{forecasted value}_i)^2}{n}$$

and forecasting error as

Forecasting error (in percent) =

$$\frac{|\text{forecasted} - \text{actaul value}|}{\text{actual value}} \times 100$$

Average forecasting error (in percent)

$$= \frac{\text{sum of forecasting error}}{\text{numbers of errors}}$$

Using the above algorithms, (Rule for forecasting), implemented through BASE SAS -programming language, the computations have been carried out with the model and the results obtained are placed in the table-11 along with results of other models:

With the above comparison of actual production of marine fish production of India with the forecasted production by Chen and Hsu[4], one can conclude that the forecasted results are very close to that of actual result (fig.1). The MSE and Average Error(%) of the forecasting results of the Chen and Hsu[4] method is smaller

than that of Singh[5], Song and Chissom [2] & Chen [3] methods (table-11). Hence, the Chen and Hsu [4] method can get a higher forecasting accuracy rate for forecasting marine fish production of India than the Singh [5], Song and Chissom [2] & Chen [3] other methods studied.

5. CONCLUSIONS

The motivation of using different fuzzy time series model is that the historical marine fish production data are collected through various sampling techniques involving the vagueness. In this paper, we have presented different methods for forecasting the marine fish production in India using fuzzy time series. The Chen and Hsu [5], method belongs to the first order and time-variant methods. From Table-11, we can see that the MSE of the forecasting results of this method is smaller than that of the other three methods. That is, the first order and time-variant methods gets a higher forecasting accuracy rate for forecasting fish production than the other three said methods.

Acknowledgement: The authors are grateful to the Director CIFE, Mumbai for encouragement and providing the facilities under the Institutional project (Project code: CIFE-2011/9)

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Table 11- A comparison of the forecasting results of different forecasting methods

| Year | Actual production (Lakh Kg) | Forecasted Production by Singh(2007) | Forecasted Production by Song and Chissom (1993) , | Forecasted Production by Chen (1996) | Forecasted Production by Chen and Hsu(2004) |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1995-96 | 27070 | | | | |
| 1996-97 | 29670 | | 29000 | 29000 | 29613 |
| 1997-98 | 29500 | | 28500 | 28500 | 29438 |
| 1998-99 | 26960 | 26500.00 | 28500 | 28500 | 26500 |
| 1999-2000 | 28520 | 28322.50 | 28500 | 28500 | 28500 |
| 2000-2001 | 28110 | 28392.50 | 29500 | 30000 | 28167 |
| 2001-2002 | 28300 | 28527.50 | 29500 | 30000 | 28167 |
| 2002-2003 | 29900 | 29500.00 | 29500 | 30000 | 29875 |
| 2003-2004 | 29410 | 29414.16 | 28500 | 28500 | 29375 |
| 2004-2005 | 27800 | 27345.00 | 28500 | 28500 | 27750 |
| 2005-2006 | 28160 | 28465.00 | 29000 | 29000 | 28167 |
| 2006-2007 | 30240 | 30580.00 | 30000 | 29500 | 30250 |
| 2007-2008 | 29200 | 29563.30 | 29500 | 29500 | 29125 |
| 2008-2009 | 30000 | 30370.00 | 28500 | 28500 | 29875 |
| 2009-2010 | 29800 | 29720.00 | 29500 | 29500 | 29875 |
| Mean Square Error(MSE) | | 102760.25 | 867950 | 1153783 | 19383.07 |
| Average Error(%) | | 1.01 | 2.72 | 3.07 | 0.3 |

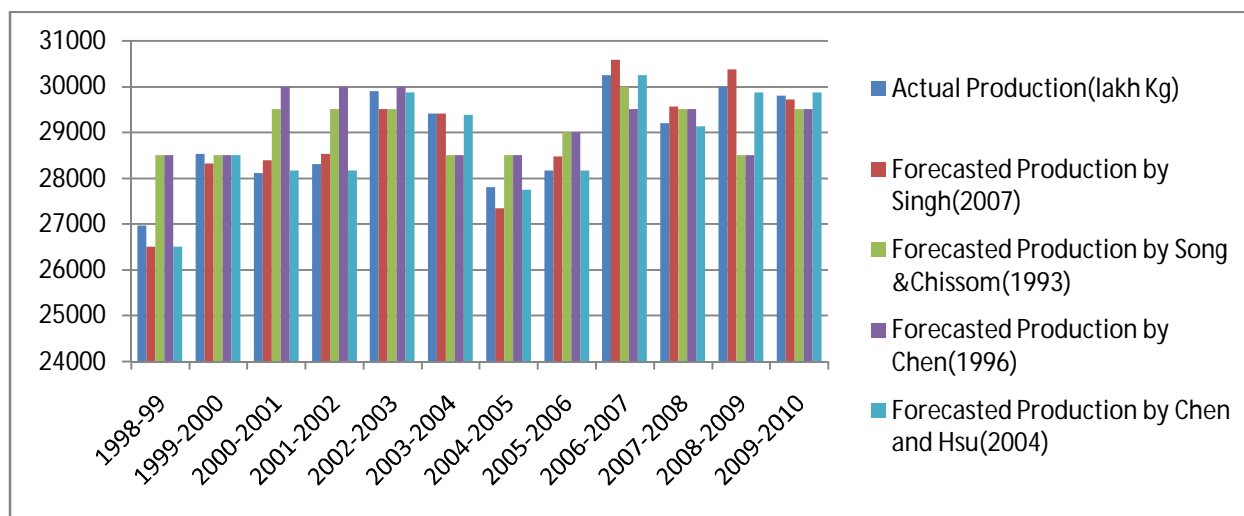


Figure 1: Actual Marine Fish Production vs. forecasted Marine Fish Production