

A Cloud Load Forecasting Model with Nonlinear Changes using Whale Optimization Algorithm Hybrid Strategy - extreme Learning Machine

Hua Peng

Sun Yat-Sen University

Wu-Shao Wen

Sun Yat-Sen University

Ming-Lang Tseng (✉ tsengminglang@gmail.com)

Asia University

Ling-Ling Li

Hebei University of Technology

Research Article

Keywords: cloud load prediction, artificial intelligence optimizer, extreme learning machine model, hybrid optimization strategy, efficient resource management

Posted Date: April 19th, 2021

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-412160/v1>

License:  This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License.

[Read Full License](#)

1 **A cloud load forecasting model with nonlinear changes using whale optimization algorithm**
2 **hybrid strategy - extreme learning machine**

3
4 **Authorship**

5
6 **Hua Peng**

7 ● School of Data and Computer Science, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou 510006, China
8 E-mail: pengh27@mail2.sysu.edu.cn

9
10
11 **Wu-Shao Wen**

12 ● School of Data and Computer Science, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou 510006, China
13 E-mail: wensh@mail.sysu.edu.cn

14
15
16 **Ming-Lang Tseng * (Corresponding author)**

17 ● Institute of Innovation and Circular Economy, Asia University, Taiwan;
18 ● Department of medical, China medical university Hospital, China medical university,
19 Taiwan
20 ● Faculty of Economics and Management, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Malaysia
21 *E-mail: tsengminglang@asia.edu.tw or tsengminglang@gmail.com

22
23
24 **Ling-Ling Li**

25 ● State Key Laboratory of Reliability and Intelligence of Electrical Equipment, Hebei
26 University of Technology, Tianjin 300130, China
27 E-mail: lilingling@hebut.edu.cn

28

29 **A cloud load forecasting model with nonlinear changes using whale optimization algorithm**
30 **hybrid strategy - extreme learning machine**

31
32
33

34 **Abstract**

35 This study proposes a novel cloud load prediction model and combines hybrid whale
36 optimizer (HWOA) and extreme learning machine (ELM) together for strong nonlinear
37 mapping ability. Accurate cloud load prediction improves the cloud service efficiency and
38 serves as the foundation for network scheme due to traditional linear forecasting models are
39 unable to predict cloud computing resources with nonlinear changes on massive
40 multiplication and cloud computing data complexity, effectively. The proposed cloud load
41 forecasting model is to employ HWOA optimizer to optimize the ELM model random
42 parameters. The contributions of this study are as follows. (1) the HWOA optimizer is to
43 solve the whale optimizer local extremum problem; (2) the proposed HWOA optimizer
44 reduces the ELM random parameters on cloud load forecasting; (3) the convergence
45 performance verifies the benchmark testing functions; and (4) three simulation experiments
46 are conducted to test the cloud load forecast effect. The result indicated that the
47 convergence analysis reveals the HWOA optimizer outperforms the prior optimizers. The
48 proposed cloud load prediction model obtains better forecasting results. The mean absolute
49 percentage error and root mean square error of the proposed model are less than 14% and
50 11, respectively. Accurate cloud load forecasting lays a foundation for effective deployment
51 of cloud computing resources and maximization of economic benefits.

52
53
54
55

Keywords: cloud load prediction; artificial intelligence optimizer; extreme learning machine
model; hybrid optimization strategy; efficient resource management

56 **A cloud load forecasting model with nonlinear changes using whale optimization algorithm** 57 **hybrid strategy - extreme learning machine**

58

59 **1. Introduction**

60 Traditional data processing models have fallen into a bottleneck under massive,
61 high-dimensional data with the rise of cloud computing technology (Rafique et al., 2021;
62 Meenakshi et al., 2019). Cloud computing is applied to process massive data in a short time
63 on the distributed parallel computing basis, and has strong network service ability (Kim and
64 Jeong, 2017). Achieving efficient resource management has always been the most
65 concerned issue for cloud service operators and providers (Khalilpourazari and
66 Khalilpourazary, 2018; Ye et al., 2019; Mehrabi et al., 2021). Cloud load prediction is
67 necessary for efficient network regulation in the cloud environment (Xu et al., 2017). More
68 precise forecasting of cloud load realizes more resource utilization and faster service
69 response to bring better energy efficiency and high-quality service. Meanwhile, accurate
70 cloud load forecasting lays a foundation for effective deployment of cloud computing
71 resources and maximization of economic benefits. This study argues on an accurate
72 approach to cloud loading due to lack of stronger predictive performance to develop a cloud
73 load forecasting model.

74 Prior studies have been formulated or improved a variety of cloud load prediction
75 models (Ros et al., 2014; Juszczak et al., 2019; Kumar et al., 2021). Optimization
76 achievements are applied in various fields in cloud load prediction (Safavi et al., 2021;
77 Mahmud et al., 2021). Yet, these forecasting models have focused on three categories such
78 as single time series models, multiple time series models and machine learning models. The
79 common prediction models on the basis of single time series mostly include moving average
80 model (MA), autoregressive model (AR) and autoregressive average moving model (ARMA)
81 (Cao et al., 2014; Moreno et al., 2020). The single time series model is to transform
82 non-stationary series into stationary series and the time series must be continuous. Still, the
83 data needs to be preprocessed before calculation and the calculation process of time series
84 prediction model is complicated and not suitable in the situation of data loss. Usually, the
85 machine learning prediction models consist of support vector machine (SVM), neural
86 network and Gaussian process regression (Taghizadeh-Mehrjardi et al., 2021; Yousri et al.,
87 2019). This study argues that although cloud load data has a large number of proliferation
88 and complexity, and machine learning model can effectively predict cloud load resources
89 with nonlinear changes.

90 In addition, Parand et al. (2021) argued that machine learning models had better
91 generalization ability and mapping ability compared with the time series prediction model.
92 Yang et al. (2014) designed a cloud service architecture and employed linear regression
93 method to forecast the cloud load to improve the cloud computing scalability. The model
94 prediction accuracy needs to be further improved due to the strong nonlinearity and
95 time-varying of cloud load. Jiang et al. (2018) and Li et al. (2018) applied the ARMA model to
96 predict cloud load. ARMA model has higher prediction accuracy but its parameter estimation
97 is relatively complex compared with AR and MA models. Autoregressive integrated moving
98 average (ARIMA) model is superior to ARMA model in predicting unstable time series.
99 ARIMA introduces difference operation in the calculation process, and is widely used for
100 cloud load forecasting (Calheiros et al., 2015; Barati and Sharifian, 2015). These studies are
101 lacking on considering the applicability of time series models to the strong nonlinearity of

102 cloud load. This study employed ELM model with stronger nonlinear mapping ability to
103 predict cloud load.

104 In this study, the extreme learning machine (ELM) model is employed to forecast the
105 cloud load due to its stronger nonlinear mapping ability and generalization ability (de Franca
106 et al., 2021; Choudhary et al., 2021). ELM model does not use gradient descent method to
107 update the random parameters and reduces the training time compared with the traditional
108 neural network models. The topology of the ELM model is simpler and unlike the long short
109 term memory network (LSTM) model. The ELM algorithm has the advantages of low
110 complexity and fast convergence compared with other similar algorithms. Prior studies on
111 ELM have never ceased since the ELM algorithm was proposed (Chia et al., 2021). Liu et al.
112 (2020) argued that the random parameters of ELM model affected the final forecasting
113 accuracy. Therefore, this study proposes that the whale optimization algorithm (WOA) is
114 improved and the WOA optimizer based on a hybrid strategy (HWOA) is proposed to
115 determine the ELM model's hyper-parameters. The proposed HWOA-ELM cloud load
116 predictive model is employed to predict the cloud load. The objectives of this study are as
117 follows.

- 118 • Develop a new method on the basis of WOA optimizer.
- 119 • Use the proposed optimizer to address the influence of random parameters on Elm
120 prediction results.
- 121 • Propose a new model to predict cloud load.

122 This study has four contributions as follows: (1) the HWOA optimizer is proposed and
123 experimentally demonstrated to have a better optimization performance; (2) the proposed
124 HWOA-ELM model is constructed to forecast the cloud load and is verified to achieve a
125 better performance on the basis of evaluation indexes; (3) simulation experiments
126 demonstrate that the number of testing samples and training samples has a great influence
127 on the forecasting effect of the model; and (4) intelligent optimization algorithm is combined
128 with machine learning model to provide an effective and accurate prediction to reinforce
129 effectively the availability and economy in the cloud environment.

130 The rest of the study is structured as follows. Section 2 presents the modeling process of
131 the cloud load prediction. Section 3 uses simulation experiments to verify the proposed
132 predictive model. Section 4 presents the concluding remarks.

133

134 **2. Literature review**

135 Machine learning models attract increasing attentions. LSTM is applied to predict the
136 fluctuating cloud load due to the good nonlinearity (Choudhary et al., 2021; Parand et al.,
137 2021; Xu et al., 2017). For instance, Gupta et al. (2020) improved the LSTM to predict the
138 online cloud load, and introduced the gradient descent method into the forecast model;
139 however, the result ignores that the gradient descent method requires more iterations to
140 correct the model parameters and requires longer training time. You et al. (2020)
141 decomposed the cloud load time series to remove the sequence noise, and reconstructed
142 the cloud load sequence. The denoised cloud load is predicted on the basis of the LSTM
143 model. However, You et al. (2020) ignored to address the problem of signal loss during the
144 denoising process. Kumar et al. (2021) proposed a self-directed cloud load prediction
145 method, which combined a multilayer neural network with a developed heuristic
146 optimization algorithm. The developed heuristic algorithm was applied to optimize the
147 weights of the neural network (Khalilpourazari and Khalilpourazary, 2018; Rafique et al.,

148 2021). However, this method lacked to consider the influence of the number of training
149 samples on the prediction results.

150 In addition, Zhao et al. (2018) used the improved SVM model with a better nonlinear
151 mapping ability to forecast the cloud load and the cloud load time series was initially
152 preprocessed through the chaotic analysis. The improved SVM model reliability is verified by
153 simulation experiments (Calheiros et al., 2015; Mehrabi et al., 2021; Yang et al., 2014). SVM
154 model has strong nonlinear mapping ability, but it is sensitive to the number of samples and
155 only suitable for solving relatively small samples. Barati and Sharifian (2015) proposed the
156 tuned support vector regression (SVR) and a hybrid model combined genetic algorithm with
157 particle swarm algorithm. The combined intelligent algorithm is utilized to optimize the
158 parameters of the SVR, but Barati and Sharifian (2015) ignored to analyze the sensitivity of
159 SVR to kernel functions.

160 Moreover, neural network models are applied to forecast cloud load (Cao et al., 2014;
161 Moreno et al., 2020; Tofighy et al., 2018). For instance, Chen et al. (2015) constructed a fuzzy
162 neural network prediction model to forecast cloud resource requirements and proposed a
163 novel method to determine the number of fuzzy rules. Demand characters of various users
164 are firstly analyzed and then the predictive model is constructed according to the user
165 requirements. Fuzzy neural network combines fuzzy logic reasoning with neural network, so
166 it has strong robustness and fault tolerance. Cao et al. (2014) developed a novel ensemble
167 model for dynamic load prediction considering that there was correlation among different
168 resources. Tofighy et al. (2018) built a cloud resource management framework and used two
169 filters to reduce the negative impact of outliers. The cloud load prediction model in this
170 framework uses the Bayesian model based on probabilities, advantageous in terms of
171 simplicity and speed. Xu et al. (2013) classified cloud load before prediction and then
172 employed genetic algorithm to optimize Elman network to predict cloud load. The proposed
173 method achieves better prediction results, but ignores the relatively high calculation cost.

174 In short, ELM with shorter training time and stronger mapping ability in this study is
175 employed to forecast cloud load and the proposed HWOA optimizer is used to optimize the
176 ELM random parameters (Chia et al., 2021; Liu et al., 2020; Xu et al., 2017). This study
177 proposes the standard test functions with HWOA algorithm convergence performance and
178 confirms the convergence performance outperforms other models. The proposed
179 HWOA-ELM model needs to verify through three sets of simulation experiments to obtain
180 better prediction cloud load results.

181

182 **3. The model**

183 *3.1. Extreme learning machine model*

184 Single hidden layer feedforward neural network such as back propagation (BP) neural
185 network is used in various fields due to its excellent nonlinear mapping ability. There are
186 several inherent shortcomings of feedforward neural network. Traditional neural network
187 models adopt gradient descent method, thereby causing slow training speed and limiting the
188 development of the model (He et al., 2020; Han et al., 2021). The ELM model is developed to
189 have a faster training speed and less parameter setting compared with the existing network
190 models to solve shortcomings of feedforward neural network (Alencar et al., 2016). The ELM
191 model strong mapping ability and well generalization performance is to use in pattern
192 recognition, fault recognition and time series prediction.

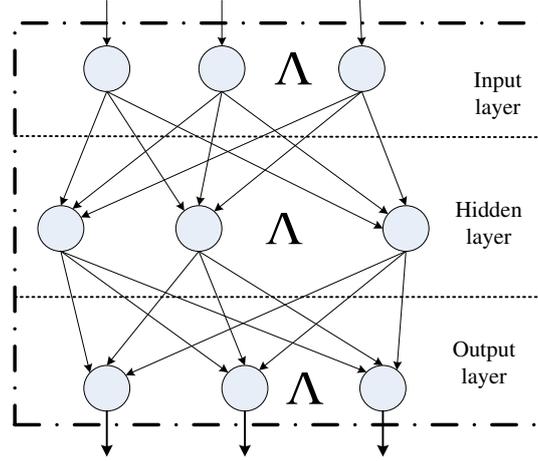


Figure 1. ELM model

Figure 1 indicated the ELM model consists of three layers of networks, the input, hidden and output layers. The three layers are connected by neurons. For ELM model, the number of neurons in each layer is u , r , and e . The weight coefficient between the hidden layer and the input layer is S . The weight coefficient between the hidden layer and the output layer is P , θ is the hidden layer neuron threshold (Huang et al., 2011; Ali et al., 2020; Wu et al., 2021).

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} s_{11} & s_{12} & \Lambda & s_{1u} \\ s_{21} & s_{22} & \Lambda & s_{2u} \\ \text{M} & \text{M} & \text{M} & \text{M} \\ s_{r1} & s_{r2} & \Lambda & s_{ru} \end{bmatrix}_{r \times u} \quad (1)$$

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} p_{11} & p_{12} & \Lambda & p_{1e} \\ p_{21} & p_{22} & \Lambda & p_{2e} \\ \text{M} & \text{M} & \text{M} & \text{M} \\ p_{r1} & p_{r2} & \Lambda & p_{re} \end{bmatrix}_{r \times e} \quad (2)$$

$$\theta = \begin{bmatrix} \theta_1 \\ \theta_2 \\ \text{M} \\ \theta_r \end{bmatrix}_{r \times 1} \quad (3)$$

The ELM model has M training sample sets. A is the input matrix and B is and output matrix (Li et al., 2019; Liu et al., 2020).

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \Lambda & a_{1M} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \Lambda & a_{2M} \\ \text{M} & \text{M} & \text{M} & \text{M} \\ a_{u1} & a_{u2} & \Lambda & a_{uM} \end{bmatrix}_{u \times M} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & \Lambda & b_{1M} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & \Lambda & b_{2M} \\ \text{M} & \text{M} & \text{M} & \text{M} \\ b_{e1} & b_{e2} & \Lambda & b_{eM} \end{bmatrix}_{e \times M} \quad (4)$$

Suppose that the activation function of ELM model is $y(\cdot)$ and the output is F .

$$F = [f_1, f_2, \text{K}, f_M] \quad (5)$$

$$210 \quad \mathbf{f}_j = \begin{bmatrix} f_{1j} \\ f_{2j} \\ \vdots \\ f_{ej} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^r p_{i1} y(\mathbf{s}_i \mathbf{a}_j + \theta_i) \\ \sum_{i=1}^r p_{i2} y(\mathbf{s}_i \mathbf{a}_j + \theta_i) \\ \vdots \\ \sum_{i=1}^r p_{ie} y(\mathbf{s}_i \mathbf{a}_j + \theta_i) \end{bmatrix} \quad (j=1, 2, \dots, M) \quad (6)$$

211 where $\mathbf{s}_i = [s_{i1}, s_{i2}, \dots, s_{iu}]$, $\mathbf{x}_i = [x_{1j}, x_{2j}, \dots, x_{uj}]^T$.

212 Equation (5) is expressed by equation (7).

$$213 \quad \mathbf{F}^T = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{P} \quad (7)$$

$$214 \quad \mathbf{L}(\mathbf{s}_1, \mathbf{s}_2, \dots, \mathbf{s}_r, \theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_r, \mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \dots, \mathbf{a}_M) = \begin{bmatrix} y(\mathbf{s}_1 + \mathbf{a}_1 + b_1) & y(\mathbf{s}_2 + \mathbf{a}_1 + b_2) & \dots & y(\mathbf{s}_r + \mathbf{a}_1 + b_r) \\ y(\mathbf{s}_1 + \mathbf{a}_2 + b_1) & y(\mathbf{s}_2 + \mathbf{a}_2 + b_2) & \dots & y(\mathbf{s}_r + \mathbf{a}_2 + b_r) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ y(\mathbf{s}_1 + \mathbf{a}_M + b_1) & y(\mathbf{s}_2 + \mathbf{a}_M + b_2) & \dots & y(\mathbf{s}_r + \mathbf{a}_M + b_r) \end{bmatrix} \quad (8)$$

215 where \mathbf{L} is the hidden layer output matrix, \mathbf{F}^T is the transposed matrix of \mathbf{F} .

216 In particular, when y is infinitely divisible, \mathbf{s} and θ is constant during the training process.
217 Meanwhile, the only unknown parameter is \mathbf{P} . The parameter \mathbf{P} is solved by finding the least
218 squares solution in problem equation (9).

$$219 \quad \min_{\mathbf{P}} \|\mathbf{L}\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{F}^T\| \quad (9)$$

220 From problem equation (9), this study obtains $\hat{\mathbf{P}} = \mathbf{L}^+ \mathbf{F}^T$, where \mathbf{L}^+ is the generalized inverse
221 matrix.

223 3.2. Basic principles of whale optimizer

224 Mirjalili and Lewis (2016) proposed the whale optimization algorithm (WOA). WOA
225 optimizer is a type of swarm intelligence optimizer, which simulates the hunting strategy of
226 humpback whales (Mafarja et al., 2017; Chia et al., 2021). The process of WOA optimizer is
227 divided into three stages: foraging and encircling, random search and bubble-net attacking
228 (Tikhmarine et al., 2020; Aziz et al., 2017).

229 (1) Foraging and encircling stage

230 In this process, whale groups share the location information of prey with each other, and
231 finally they surround the prey. This study assumes that the current optimal individual of the
232 whale group is the target location (the optimal individual is closest to the prey), and other
233 individuals update their locations and try to approach the optimal individual location (Emary et
234 al., 2019; Yousri et al., 2019). The position updating equation of the whale is as follows:

$$235 \quad \mathbf{pos}(t+1) = \mathbf{pos}^{\wedge}(t) - \mathbf{K} \bullet \mathbf{Q} \quad (10)$$

$$236 \quad \mathbf{Q} = \left| \mathbf{J} \bullet \mathbf{pos}^{\wedge}(t) - \mathbf{pos}(t) \right| \quad (11)$$

237 where $\mathbf{pos}(t)$ is the current whale individual position, t is the current number of iterations,
238 $\mathbf{pos}^{\wedge}(t)$ is the optimal whale individual position, \mathbf{K} and \mathbf{Q} are the coefficient vector.

$$239 \quad \mathbf{K} = 2\mathbf{k} \bullet \mathbf{n} - \mathbf{k} \quad (12)$$

$$240 \quad \mathbf{J} = 2\mathbf{n} \quad (13)$$

$$241 \quad \mathbf{k} = 2 - (2t) / MAX_{itera} \quad (14)$$

242 where \mathbf{n} is the random vector in $[0, 1]$, \mathbf{k} decreases from 2 to 0 in the iteration process.

243 (2) Random search stage

244 The current individual whale position is randomly selected as the optimal solution in this
245 stage. In contrast to the prior process, the position of the whale is updated according to a

246 randomly selected whale instead of the optimal whale individual found so far. Adjusting the
 247 value of K makes other individuals move far away from the selected whale. The mathematical
 248 model is as follows (Mafarja et al., 2017):

$$249 \quad pos(t+1) = pos_{rand}(t) - K \bullet Q \quad (15)$$

$$250 \quad Q = |J \bullet pos_{rand}(t) - pos(t)| \quad (16)$$

251 where $pos_{rand}(t)$ is the location of the random whale. The optimal individual is selected as the
 252 solution to achieve the local optimization of the WOA optimizer when $|K| \leq 1$. When $|K| > 1$,
 253 the individual is randomly selected as the solution to achieve the global optimization of the
 254 WOA optimizer.

256 (3) Bubble-net attacking stage

257 In this stage, whales have two behaviors: shrinking encircling and spiraling. The encircling
 258 motion of the whale is formulized in equation (10), achieved by reducing k in equation (12).
 259 The spiral function is used to mimic the helix-shaped behavior of whales. The choice of the two
 260 behaviors is determined by the random number v to realize shrinking encircling and along a
 261 spiral-shaped path simultaneously. The location of individual whales is updated as follows:

$$262 \quad pos(t+1) = \begin{cases} pos^{\wedge}(t) - K \bullet Q & v < 0.5 \\ pos^{\wedge}(t) + C \bullet e^{o \bullet l} \bullet \cos(2\pi l) & v \geq 0.5 \end{cases} \quad (17)$$

263 where $C = |pos^{\wedge}(t) - pos(t)|$ is the distance between the whale individual and the optimal
 264 individual obtained so far, o is the constant to define the spiral shape, $l \in [-1, 1]$.

266 3.3. The whale optimization algorithm based on hybrid strategy

267 The WOA optimizer has the advantage of its simplicity and fast calculation speed.
 268 However, when solving the high dimensionality problems, the WOA optimizer does not easily
 269 jump out of the minimum value, thus limiting the development of the WOA optimizer. A
 270 corresponding solution for this situation is to provide the improvements to enhance the local
 271 optimization and global optimizer optimization ability.

272 (1) Initialize the whale population using the Levy strategy

273 Population initialization has an important impact on the optimization process of the
 274 optimizer. A higher quality initial solution can speed up the optimizer's convergence. The Levy
 275 strategy is employed to initialize the population in this paper.

276 The random walk mode of Levy strategy expands the search range of the whale group,
 277 which avoids whale individual falling into local extremum effectively. Hence, it helps the WOA
 278 optimizer have better convergence performance (Edwards et al., 2007; Santos et al., 2021).
 279 The mathematical model of the Levy strategy is as follows:

280 The random step size of the Levy strategy proposed by Mantegna is as follows (Jensi et al.,
 281 2016; Hakli et al., 2014):

$$282 \quad \lambda = \frac{\mu}{|\eta|^{\frac{1}{\nu}}} \quad (0 < \nu < 2) \quad (18)$$

283 where λ is a random step size, μ and η follow a normal distribution as shown in equation (19).

$$284 \quad \begin{cases} \mu \sim N(0, \delta_{\mu}^2) \\ \eta \sim N(0, \delta_{\eta}^2) \end{cases} \quad (19)$$

285 The definitions of δ_{μ} and δ_{η} are as follows:

286

$$\begin{cases} \delta_\mu = \left\{ \frac{\Gamma(1+\nu)\sin(\pi\nu/2)}{\Gamma[(1+\nu)/2]2^{(\nu-1)/2}} \right\}^{\frac{1}{\nu}} \\ \delta_\eta = 1 \end{cases} \quad (20)$$

287

where $\Gamma(\cdot)$ is a standard Gamma function.

288

The initialized position based on the Levy strategy is as follows:

289

$$pos(t) = L_b + (U_b - L_b) \oplus Levy(\nu) \quad (21)$$

290

where L_b is the lower bound, U_b is the upper bound, $Levy(\nu)$ is the random vector of the step size obeying the Levy distribution.

291

(2) Nonlinear convergence factor

292

Figure 2 (a) indicates the linear convergence factor adopted in equation (14). In the foraging and encircling stage, the convergence rate of WOA optimizer is the same in the early and late stages, which reduces the convergence rate of whales (Li et al., 2019). Hence, the nonlinear convergence factor is introduced into WOA optimizer to solve this problem. The nonlinear convergence factor is shown in equation (22).

293

$$a = 2 * \left(\frac{Max_{iter} - t}{Max_{iter}} \right)^3 \quad (22)$$

294

where Max_{iter} is the maximum number of iterations.

295

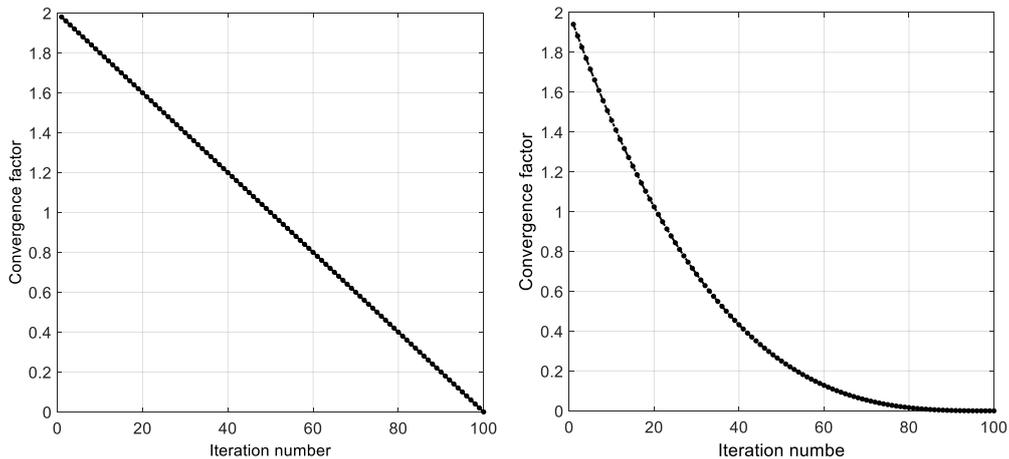
296

Figure 2 (b) showed that the convergence factor decreases nonlinearly as the number of iterations increases. In the early stage of iteration, the attenuation speed of convergence factor is faster. The search step of whale group is larger to enhance the global optimization ability of WOA optimizer. In the late stage, the attenuation speed of convergence factor becomes slow, so that the search step of whale group is reduced to enhance the local search ability of WOA optimizer. The global and local search ability of whale group is more balanced through the nonlinear convergence factor.

307

308

309



(a) Linear convergence factor

(b) Nonlinear convergence factor

Figure 2. Convergence factor

310

311

312

(3) Migration strategy

313

314

The migration strategy is introduced to the WOA optimizer, which increases the diversity of the whale group and enhances the ability of whales to jump out of the minimum. In terms of the migration frequency Mig ($Mig=5$), whales migrate to another place for food regularly. This regular migration is that whales have better ability to avoid falling into local minima and

315

316

317

318 the diversity of whales are enhanced. The updated location of whale groups after migration is
 319 as follows.

$$320 \quad pos(t+1) = B * pos(t) + pos(t) * randn(0, \sigma^2) \quad (23)$$

$$321 \quad B = B_{min} + (B_{max} - B_{min}) * \cos(2\pi \frac{t}{Max_{iter}}) \quad (24)$$

322 where B ($B_{max}=0.9$, $B_{min}=0.4$) is the convergence coefficient, $randn$ follows the Gaussian
 323 distribution.

324
 325 The pseudo code of the HWOA is as follows:

HWOA algorithm

Start

Initialize whale swarm parameters

Initialize the whale swarm according to Levy strategy

$$pos(t) = L_b + (U_b - L_b) \oplus Levy(v);$$

Calculation of whale individual fitness;

While ($t < Max_{iter}$)

If ($mod(t, 5) \neq 0$)

 If ($p < 0.5$)

 If ($|K| \leq 1$)

 The whale group is in the stage of foraging and encircling.

$$\text{Update location: } pos(t+1) = pos^{\wedge}(t) - K \bullet Q;$$

 else if ($|K| > 1$)

 The whale group is in the random search stage.

$$\text{Update location: } pos(t+1) = pos_{rand}(t) - K \bullet Q;$$

 end

 else if ($p \geq 0.5$)

 The whale population is in the Bubble-net attacking stage.

$$\text{Update location: } pos(t+1) = pos^{\wedge}(t) + C \bullet e^{o*l} \bullet \cos(2\pi l);$$

 end

 Calculating fitness values;

else

$$\text{Whale migration: } pos(t+1) = B * pos(t) + pos(t) * randn(0, \sigma^2);$$

end

 The optimal position is updated;

$$t=t+1;$$

end

326

327 2.4. HWOA optimizer convergence test simulation

328 The convergence effect of the HWOA optimizer is verified in this section by benchmark
 329 testing functions. The specific expressions of the functions, range, as well as the optimal
 330 value are presented in Table 1. The optimal values of the four test functions are all 0.

331

332

Table 1. Benchmark testing functions

Function	Range	Optimum
$f_1 = \sum_{j=1}^D x_j^2$	$-100 \leq x \leq 100$	0

$$f_2 = \prod_{j=1}^D |x_j| + \sum_{j=1}^D |x_j| \quad -10 \leq x \leq 10 \quad 0$$

$$f_3 = \sum_{j=1}^D j * x_j^4 + \text{random}[0,1) \quad -1.28 \leq x \leq 1.28 \quad 0$$

$$f_4 = \sum_{j=1}^D (x_j^2 - 10 * \cos(2 * \pi * x_j)) + 10 * D \quad -5.12 \leq x \leq 5.12 \quad 0$$

333
334
335
336
337
338
339
340
341
342
343

Ant lion optimizer (ALO) through imitating ant lion's behavior of catching. Askarzadeh (2016) developed crow search algorithm (CSA) by analyzing crow's intelligent behavior. WOA, ALO, CSA and HWOA are tested respectively by four benchmark testing functions. Each simulation is performed on the unified platform (Intel Core i5 processor, 8GB RAM, Windows 10 and MATLAB R2016a) to test the convergence performance of these optimizers. The test dimension of the benchmark testing functions is 30, and each function tests respectively each optimizer 15 times. The number of iterations of optimizer is 500 and the population of optimizer is 30. Table 2 showed the optimization results of four optimizers.

Table 2. Optimization results

Optimization function	Algorithm	Worst optimization value	Best optimization value	Average optimization value
f_1	ALO	0.53e-03	2.53e-04	1.30e-03
	CSA	13.77	3.27	8.04
	WOA	2.26e-74	2.57e-87	1.50e-75
	HWOA	0	0	0
f_2	ALO	124.71	2.51	50.26
	CSA	4.96	1.69	3.54
	WOA	3.78e-48	1.59e-55	2.54e-49
	HWOA	3.14e-216	9.42e-231	2.54e-217
f_3	ALO	0.43	0.16	0.26
	CSA	0.06	0.03	0.04
	WOA	0.82e-02	2.03e-04	2.90e-02
	HWOA	5.96e-04	6.58e-06	1.43e-04
f_4	ALO	120.38	50.74	84.97
	CSA	56.41	17.62	28.67
	WOA	1.13e-13	0	7.57e-15
	HWOA	0	0	0

344
345
346
347
348
349
350

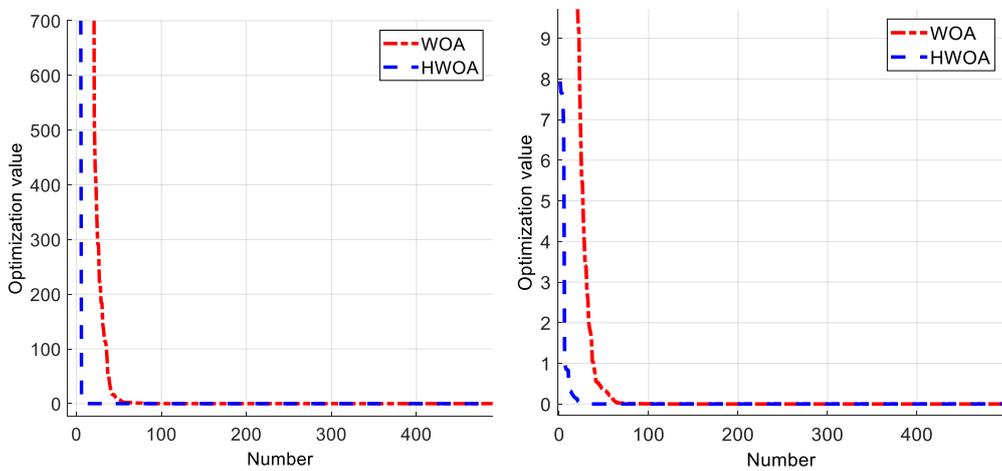
Table 2 revealed that the convergence results of the HWOA optimizer were more competitive than those of other optimizers. The test results demonstrated that the HWOA optimizer had high convergence accuracy and a strong ability to avoid local extremes. For f_1 and f_4 , the proposed HWOA converged to 0. f_1 is a unimodal function, and f_4 is a multimodal function. Unimodal and multimodal functions respectively test the convergence performance and the ability to avoid local extremum. For f_2 , HWOA optimizer converged to

351 9.42e-231, which was better than WOA, ALO and CSA algorithms. For f_3 , HWOA algorithm
 352 converged to 6.58e-06, which was smaller than WOA, ALO and CSA optimizers. HWOA did
 353 not converge to 0 for f_2 and f_3 , but the convergence accuracy was more satisfactory than
 354 WOA, ALO and CSA optimizers' results.

355 The HWOA optimizer nonlinear convergence factor enhances the global and local
 356 searching ability of the whale group. At the same time, the HWOA optimizer periodic
 357 migration strategy increases the whale population diversity and makes HWOA optimizer
 358 more minimum jumping out capable. HWOA optimizer outperforms WOA optimizer.

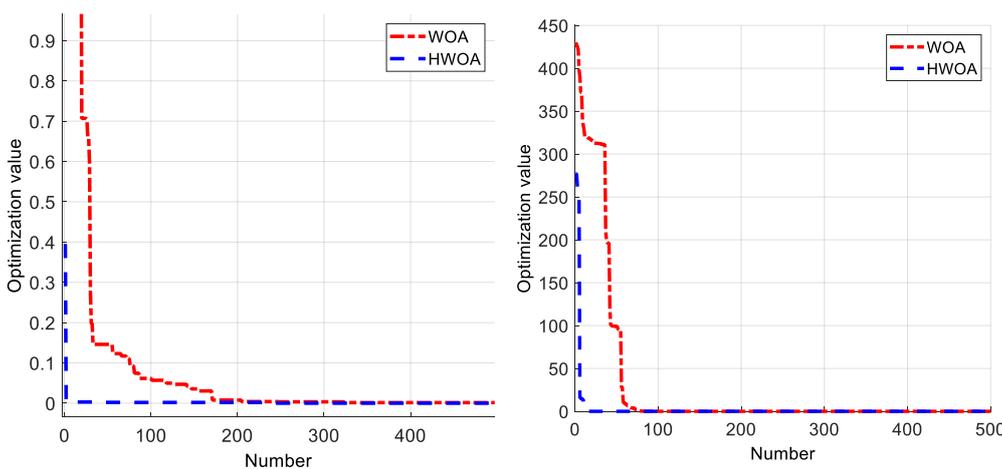
359 Figure 3 presented that the HWOA optimizer had a strong convergence performance for
 360 the four test functions. The HWOA optimizer convergence curve is reached the optimal value
 361 faster compared with WOA optimizer. The optimizer had higher convergence efficiency
 362 compared with WOA optimizer. Therefore, this study adopts the proposed HWOA optimizer
 363 with stronger convergence performance to reduce the influence of random parameters on
 364 the prediction effect of the ELM model.
 365
 366

367



368

369 f_2



370

371

372

373

374

Figure 3. Convergence curves

4. Results

375 This section presents HWOA-ELM cloud load forecasting model and simulation
376 experiments.

377

378 4.1 HWOA-ELM cloud load forecasting model

379

380 The threshold and weight have a great influence on the forecasting results, but they all
381 are randomly selected in the ELM model. The HWOA is first used to optimize the ELM model
382 hyper-parameters, and then the cloud load is predicted by the proposed predictive model.

383 The cloud load prediction process of HWOA-ELM model is described as follows:

384 (1) Divide cloud load data to determine the training set and test set of cloud load forecast
385 model;

386 (2) Normalize the cloud load data set;

387 (3) Initialize the HWOA optimizer parameters;

388 (4) Train the cloud load prediction model with cloud load training set;

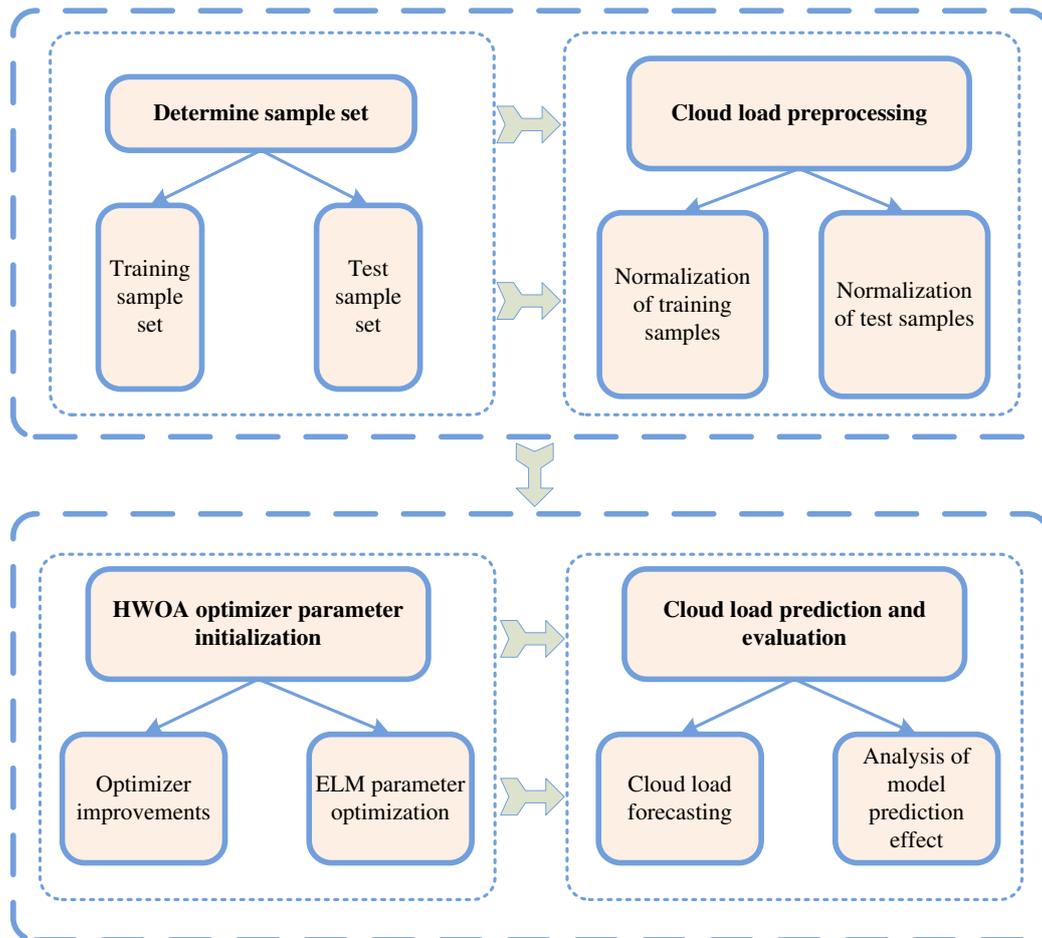
389 (5) Enter the optimal hyper-parameter into the ELM model;

390 (6) Predict the cloud load by cloud load forecast model with cloud load test set; and

391 (7) Analyze the cloud load prediction results.

392 (8)

The flow diagram of the cloud load is as follows:



393

394

395

396

397

398

Figure 4. Cloud load forecasting process

The prediction results are analyzed by root mean square error (RMSE), mean absolute percentage error (MAPE) and decision coefficient (r^2). RMSE reflects the degree that the predicted value deviates from the actual value. The size of r^2 determines the explanatory

399 ability of the independent variable to the dependent variable, the explanatory ability is
 400 stronger and the better goodness of fit while the closer r^2 approaches to 1
 401

$$402 \quad RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{Num} \sum_{j=1}^{Num} (q_j^{\wedge} - q_j)^2} \quad (25)$$

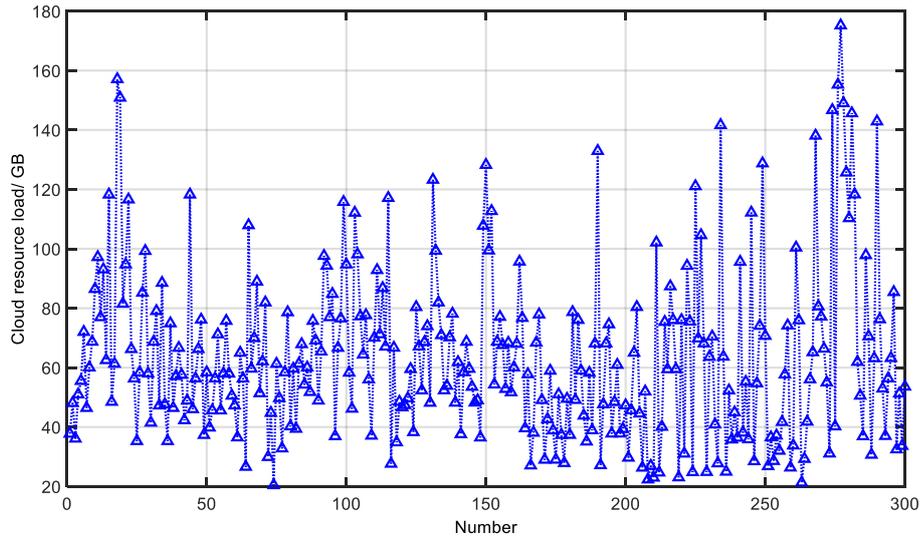
$$403 \quad MAPE = \frac{100}{Num} \sum_{j=1}^{Num} \left| \frac{q_j^{\wedge} - q_j}{q_j} \right| \quad (26)$$

404 where Num is the total number of samples, q^{\wedge} is the predicted sample, q is the actual
 405 sample.

$$406 \quad r^2 = \frac{(Num \sum q^{\wedge} \cdot q - \sum q^{\wedge} \sum q)^2}{(Num \sum (q^{\wedge})^2 - \sum (q^{\wedge})^2) \cdot (Num \sum (q)^2 - \sum (q)^2)} \quad (27)$$

407
 408 **3.2 Simulation experiment and data analysis**

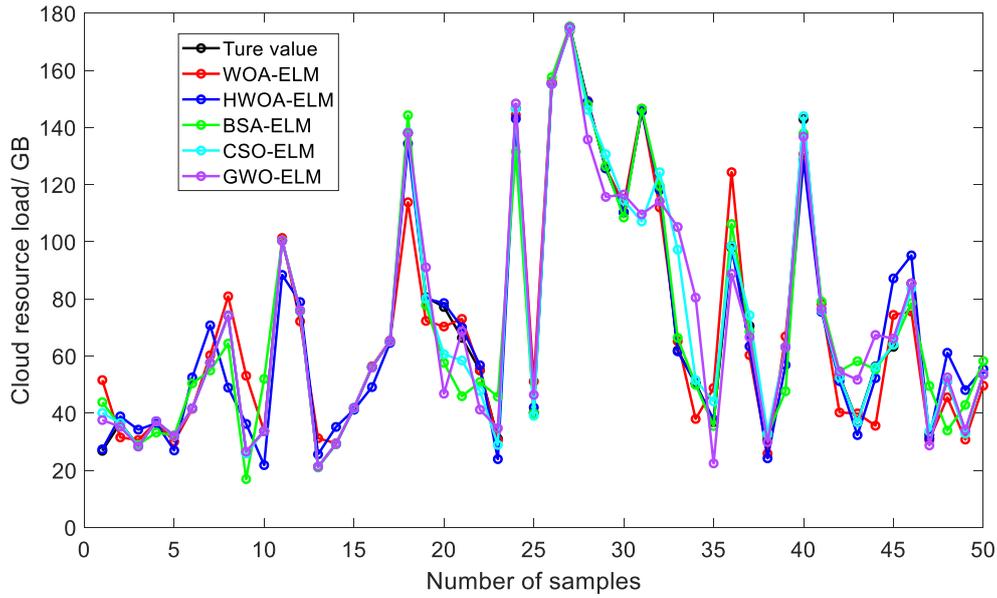
409 The data is provided by a cloud service provider in Tianjin, which contains a total of 300
 410 continuous cloud load data. Figure 5 illustrates that the cloud load data has a strong
 411 nonlinearity and its fluctuation is relatively large, posing a great challenge to the prediction
 412 accuracy and stability for cloud load forecasting.
 413



414
 415 **Figure 5. Cloud load data**

416
 417 In this section, three simulation experiments are performed for testing the forecasting
 418 effect of the proposed predictive model. (1) the number of training sets is 250 and the
 419 number of testing sets is 50; (2) the number of training sets is 200 and the number of testing
 420 sets is 100; (3) the number of training sets is 150 and the number of testing sets is 150. The
 421 purpose of three simulation tests is to assess the forecasting stability of proposed predictive
 422 model and the influence of sample number on the prediction effect of the model.
 423 Meanwhile, the forecasting results are compared with those of the WOA-ELM model.

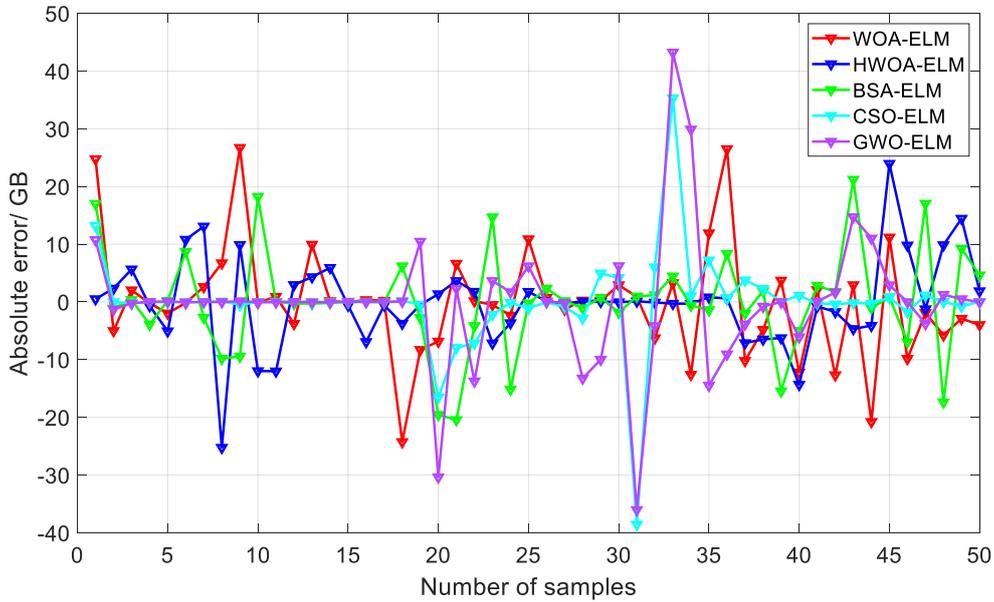
424 The WOA-ELM and HWOA-ELM models are trained respectively using 250 sample sets,
 425 and make their respective prediction for 50 cloud load data. The forecasting results of the
 426 models are shown in Figure 6.



427

428

(a) Forecasting results



429

(b) Forecasting error

Figure 6. Forecasting curves and errors of simulation experiment 1

430

431

432

433

434

435

436

437

438

439

440

441

442

443

444

Figure 6 (a) presented that the cloud load prediction curves of five predictive models fit the changing trend of actual values, but the fitting degree of prediction curves of different models and real value curve is different. At the beginning of the forecast, the cloud load prediction model was the closest to the actual value. The cloud load predicted by WOA-ELM, BSA-ELM, CSO-ELM and GWO-ELM models had large deviations from the actual cloud load. The forecasting errors are depicted in Figure 6 (b). For the 5th to 30th sample points, the CSO-ELM and GWO-ELM models showed strong predictive performance, but for the 30th to 35th sample points, the AE of the GWO-ELM and CSO-ELM models exceeded 30, indicating that the model's prediction stability was low. The AE of the BSA-ELM and CSO-ELM models stabilized in the interval $[-20, 20]$. The AE of the HWOA-ELM model was controlled in the interval $[-10, 10]$. The forecasting error fluctuation of proposed predictive model was more stable compared with the other forecast models, further illustrating that the HWOA-ELM

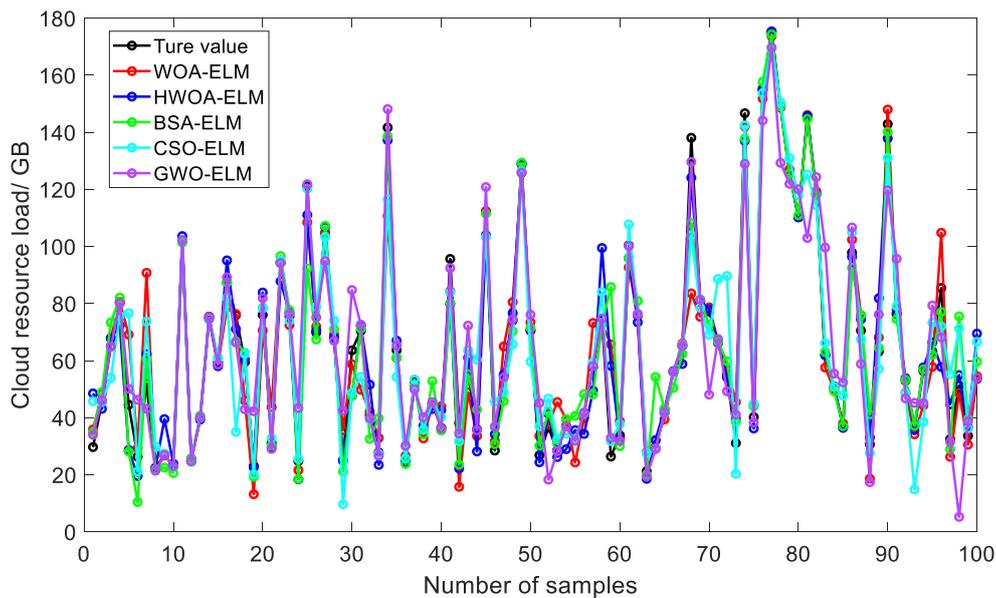
445 model was more suitable for cloud load data and had higher prediction accuracy. Table 3
 446 lists the predictive results of five models.
 447

448 **Table 3.** Analysis of prediction results in simulation experiment 1

Models	AE interval	MAPE/%	RMSE	r^2 /%
WOA-ELM	[-24.25, 26.71]	12.89	9.63	94.38
HWOA-ELM	[-25.24, 23.95]	10.29	7.67	96.43
BSA-ELM	[-20.43, 21.20]	12.03	8.71	95.40
CSO-ELM	[-38.55, 35.31]	11.11	8.33	95.80
GWO-ELM	[-36.02, 43.22]	13.57	11.39	92.13

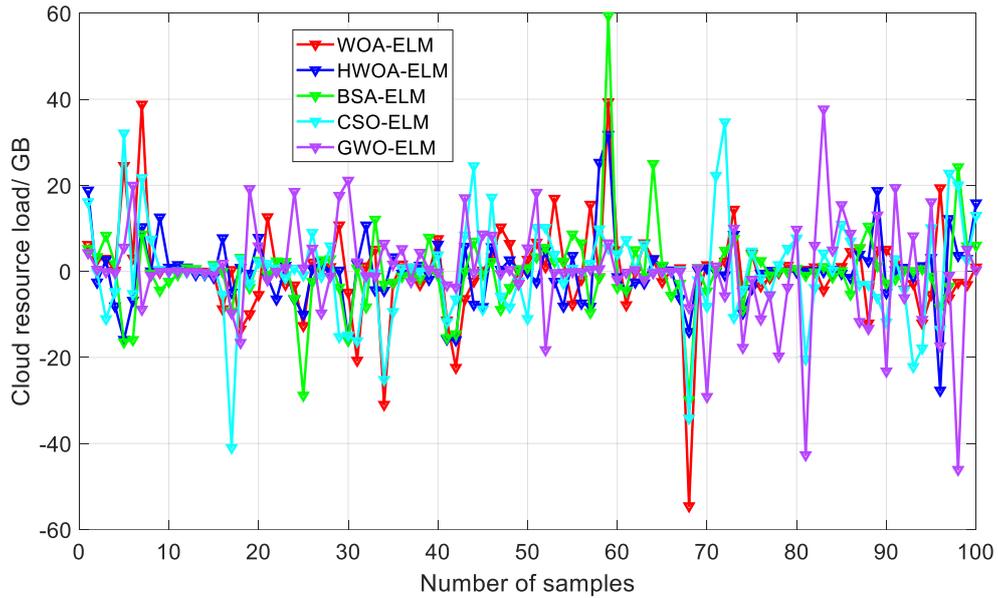
449
 450 Table 3 revealed that the proposed predictive model obtained a more competitive
 451 prediction effect on 50 cloud load data than other forecasting models. In proposed
 452 HWOA-ELM model, he AE interval was smaller than the other four models. The MAPE value
 453 was the smallest, which was 2.6%, 1.74%, 0.82%, 3.28% smaller than WOA-ELM, BSA-ELM,
 454 CSO-ELM and GWO-ELM models. The RMSE was also more competitive compared with the
 455 other four models. The RMSE value was 7.67, which was 1.96, 1.04, 0.66, 3.72 smaller than
 456 WOA-ELM, BSA-ELM, CSO-ELM and GWO-ELM models. RMSE and MAPE reflected the
 457 prediction error. The r^2 value of the proposed model was higher than the other four models,
 458 which indicated that proposed model obtains a more satisfactory fitting effect. The r^2 of the
 459 proposed predictive model was 2.05% higher than WOA-ELM model, indicating that the
 460 model had a strong explanatory power for cloud load.
 461

462 To further verify the feasibility of the proposed model, cloud loads of different test
 463 samples were selected to test the proposed model. The HWOA-ELM, WOA-ELM, BSA-ELM,
 464 CSO-ELM and GWO-ELM models were trained through using 200 cloud load and 100 cloud
 465 load was selected as testing samples. Figure 7 depicted the prediction curves and AE errors
 466 of the five models.



467
 468 (a) Forecasting results

469



470

(b) Forecasting error

471

Figure 7. Forecasting curves and errors of simulation experiment 2

472

473

474

475

476

477

478

479

480

481

482

483

484

485

486

487

The prediction curves of WOA-ELM, BSA-ELM, CSO-ELM, GWO-ELM and the proposed predictive model for 100 cloud load are presented in Figure 7(a), and Figure 7(b) shows their forecasting errors. The cloud load forecast curves of the five models reflected the fluctuation trend of actual cloud load. It is found by comparing Figure 6 and Figure 7 that the forecasting errors of both models all increase to some extent. Figure 7 illustrated that the prediction cloud load model was still closer to the real cloud load, and its cloud load prediction error was obviously smaller than WOA-ELM model. The proposed model revealed a strong prediction stability. The maximum cloud load AE value of WOA-ELM, GWO-ELM and BSA-ELM models exceeded 40. The AE values of the HWOA-ELM model were controlled within the interval [-20, 20], and the AE fluctuation of the proposed model was more stable compared with the other four models. The proposed model got a satisfactory cloud load predictive result. Table 4 presented the results of the prediction evaluation in the simulation experiment 2.

Table 4. Analysis of prediction results in simulation experiment 2

Models	AE interval	MAPE/%	RMSE	r^2 /%
WOA-ELM	[-54.51, 39.35]	13.04	10.90	90.94
HWOA-ELM	[-27.66, 31.78]	10.70	8.03	95.08
BSA-ELM	[-29.87, 59.41]	12.43	9.72	92.79
CSO-ELM	[-40.98, 34.68]	14.93	11.60	89.74
GWO-ELM	[-46.06, 37.67]	14.06	11.75	89.47

488

489

490

491

492

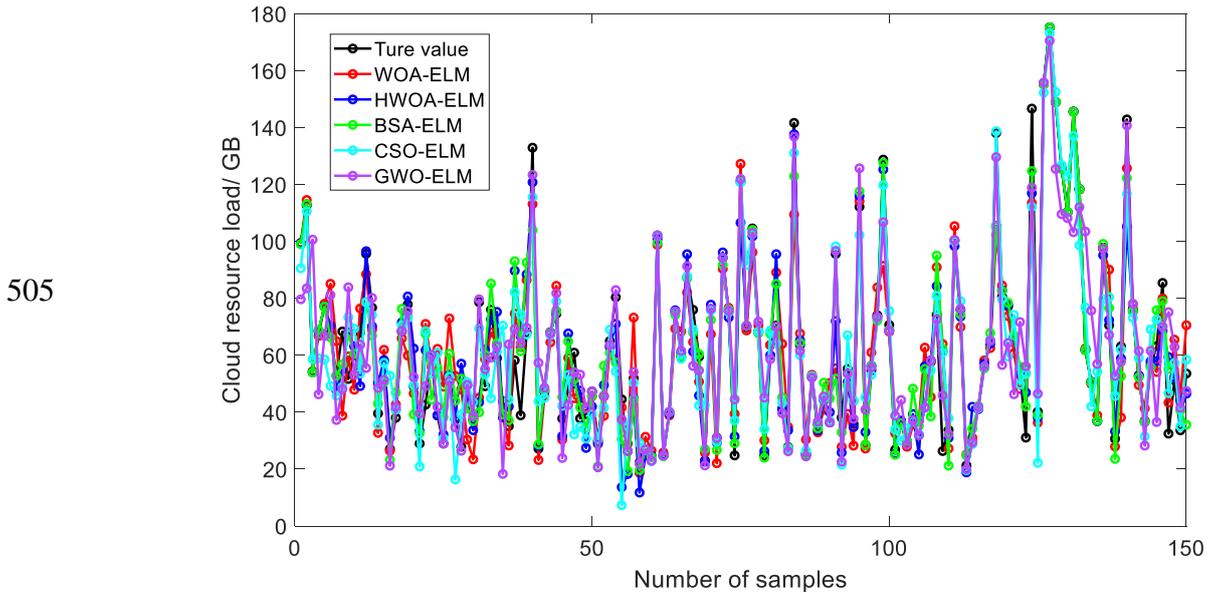
493

494

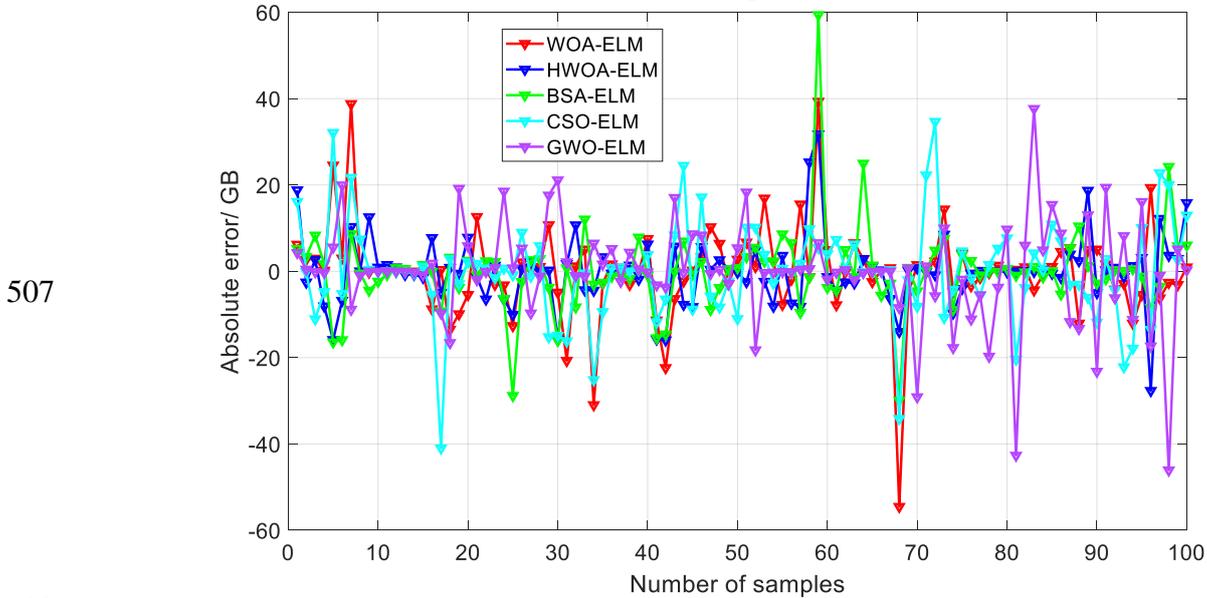
Table 4 presented the evaluation results of 5 predictive models. The proposed HWO-ELM obtained a competitive cloud load prediction evaluation result. The MAPE and RMSE values of the HWOA-ELM model were 10.70 and 8.03, respectively. The cloud load prediction error of the proposed model was smaller compared with the other four models. The MAPE is 2.34%, 1.73%, 4.23% and 3.36% smaller than WOA-ELM, BSA-ELM, CSO-ELM and GWO-ELM models. The RMSE was 2.87, 1.69, 3.57 and 3.72 smaller than WOA-ELM,

495 BSA-ELM, CSO-ELM and GWO-ELM models. Meanwhile, the proposed model had a
 496 satisfactory fitting effect, r^2 was 95.08%, which was higher than the other four forecast
 497 models. The above analysis demonstrated that the prediction stability and the proposed
 498 model accuracy were more competitive than those of the other four forecast models.
 499

500 The 150 cloud load samples are employed to train the proposed model, and 150 cloud
 501 load samples were selected as the test set to test the proposed model. Meanwhile,
 502 WOA-ELM, BSA-ELM, CSO-ELM and GWO-ELM models are used as comparative models to
 503 analyze the cloud load forecasting performance of the proposed model. Figure 8 depicts the
 504 cloud load forecasting curves and errors.



506 (a) Forecasting results



508 (b) Forecasting error

509 **Figure 8.** Forecasting curves and errors of simulation experiment 3

510 Figure 8(a) depicts the cloud load predictive curves of the five forecast models, and
 511 Figure (b) shows the cloud load AE of each model. For different cloud loads, the prediction
 512

513 effects of the predictive models were different, and the cloud load forecasting curves of the
 514 model fitted the change trend of the actual cloud load. For most cloud loads, the proposed
 515 model presented a satisfactory fitting effect. The AE value fluctuated more smoothly
 516 compared with other four models. The maximum AE of WOA-ELM, CSO-ELM, BSA-ELM and
 517 GWO-ELM models exceeded 40, indicating that the model predictive stability was low.
 518 However, the proposed model reveals high predictive stability. The evaluation indicators
 519 were used to evaluate the different models predictive performance, as presented in Figure
 520 5.

521
 522 **Table 5.** Analysis of prediction results in simulation experiment 3

Models	AE interval	MAPE/%	RMSE	r^2 /%
WOA-ELM	[-40.18, 37.61]	17.51	12.83	84.31
HWOA-ELM	[-37.61, 34.89]	13.09	10.82	88.83
BSA-ELM	[-43.79, 35.92]	13.51	11.14	88.16
CSO-ELM	[-37.19, 35.52]	17.35	12.20	85.80
GWO-ELM	[-42.37, 46.32]	16.58	13.48	82.67

523
 524 Table 5 depicted that the fitting effect of each model was worse as the cloud load
 525 sample set increased, and the r^2 value decreased below 90%. The AE interval was [-37.61,
 526 34.89]. The AE interval of the HWOA model had the smallest fluctuation range compared
 527 with the other four models. The AE interval of GWO-ELM model had the largest fluctuation,
 528 which was [-42.37, 46.32]. The fitting effect of the model became worse to a certain extent
 529 as the number of testing samples increased. The r^2 of five models maintained above 90%,
 530 but the r^2 in Table 5 was reduced to below 90% compared the data in Tables 3 and 4. The
 531 interpretative capability became worse. However, the proposed model kept the competitive
 532 fitting effect with the decrease of training samples and increase of testing samples. In
 533 HWOA-ELM model, the MAPE and RMSE are obtained more competitive and the MAPE was
 534 4.42%, 0.42%, 4.26% and 3.49% smaller than WOA-ELM, BSA-ELM, CSO-ELM and GWO-ELM
 535 models. The RMSE was 2.01, 0.32, 1.38 and 2.66 smaller than WOA-ELM, BSA-ELM, CSO-ELM
 536 and GWO-ELM models. The proposed model obtained lower cloud load forecasting errors
 537 and higher r^2 value from the simulation experiment 3.

538 The proposed HWOA-ELM model performance is verified through three simulation
 539 experiments. Experimental results show that the proposed model has high predictive
 540 stability and accuracy, and provides a new solution for predicting cloud load.
 541

542 **4. Concluding Remarks**

543 This study improves cloud load forecasting accuracy. Internet of Things services have
 544 been continually moved to the cloud besides the vast growth of internet traffic with the
 545 rapid development of Internet technology. An accurate prediction is considered as the basis
 546 and premise for management and decision-making. Cloud load prediction accuracy directly
 547 affects enterprise costs and quality of service. Accurate cloud load prediction is necessary to
 548 reasonably arrange the cloud server and improves the quality of cloud service (Liu et al.,
 549 2020). An effective method is foremost for solving any practical problems. Under this
 550 circumstance, the WOA based on a HWOA-ELM is proposed to predict cloud load, possessing
 551 small prediction error and strong fitting ability. The WOA optimizer has been improved due
 552 to its inherent limitations, and then the improved HWOA optimizer is used to optimize the
 553 hyper-parameters of the ELM model. The proposed model is formulated to forecast the

554 cloud load to combine the improved WOA optimizer with machine learning model (Parand et
555 al., 2021). The proposed cloud load prediction approach is verified through multiple
556 experiments, revealing that the proposed model obtains competitive results. The
557 contributions of his study are as follows.

- 558 • The WOA optimizer based on the hybrid strategy is proposed and results that the
559 optimization performance of proposed HWOA optimizer is better than WOA, ALO and
560 CSA due to the improved HWOA optimizer is tested with benchmark testing functions and
561 the proposed optimizer converges to 0 for f_1 and f_4 .
- 562 • The proposed model prediction performance is tested by three simulation experiments
563 and compares with four models. For simulation experiment 1, the MAPE value of
564 HWOA-ELM model is the smallest, which is 2.6%, 1.74%, 0.82%, 3.28% smaller than
565 WOA-ELM, BSA-ELM, CSO-ELM and GWO-ELM models. The RMSE obtained by
566 HWOA-ELM model is more competitive compared with other four models. The
567 HWOA-ELM model RMSE value is 7.67, which is 1.96, 1.04, 0.66, 3.72 smaller than
568 WOA-ELM, BSA-ELM, CSO-ELM and GWO-ELM models. The prediction error is relatively
569 smaller and the fitting effect is better.
- 570 • This study demonstrates that the number of testing samples and training samples have a
571 great influence on the model forecasting effect. In simulation experiment 1 and 2, the r^2
572 of the proposed model maintains above 90%. The r^2 values of forecast models are
573 reduced to less than 90% in simulation experiment 3. The RMSE of the two models
574 increases as the number of testing samples grows.
- 575 • This study combines intelligent optimization algorithm with machine learning model to
576 establish the cloud load predictive model. The proposed model has strong nonlinear
577 mapping and generalization abilities to have positive significance for improving the
578 resource optimization efficiency in the cloud environment.

580 The results indicate that the proposed predictive model has achieved better
581 performance. There are several limitations in this study. First, the convergence ability of the
582 HWOA optimizer needs to be further improved. Second, the generalization ability of the
583 proposed model needs to be further enhanced. Future study might be to integrate data
584 mining under the precondition of minimum computational complexity before the prediction,
585 which is not only a complicated issue but an important strategy realizes a more efficient,
586 operational, customized cloud resource management and optimization.

587
588 **Author Contributions:** Conceptualization, H. P. and W.-S. W.; methodology, H. P. and W.-S.
589 W.; software, L.-L. L. and M.-L. T.; formal analysis, L.-L. L. and M.-L. T.; data curation, H.-P.,
590 W.-S. W. and M.-L. T.; writing—original draft preparation, H. P., W.-S. W., M.-L. T. and L.-L. L.
591 All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

592
593 **Funding:** This study was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China
594 (Grant No. 51475136) and Guangdong science and technology plan project of China (Grant
595 No. 2016B030305007).

596
597 **Conflicts of Interest:** The authors declare no conflict of interest.

598 References

- 599 1. Alencar, A. S. C.; Neto, A. R. R.; Gomes, J. P. P. A new pruning method for extreme
600 learning machines via genetic algorithms. *Applied Soft Computing*. 2016, 44, 101-107.

- 601 2. Ali, S.; Li, J.; Pei, Y.; Aslam, M. S.; Shaukat, Z.; Azeem, M. An Effective and Improved
602 CNN-ELM Classifier for Handwritten Digits Recognition and Classification.
603 Symmetry-Basel. 2020, 12(10).
- 604 3. Askarzadeh, A. A novel metaheuristic method for solving constrained engineering
605 optimization problems: Crow search algorithm. Computers & Structures. 2016, 169(C),
606 1-12.
- 607 4. Aziz, M. A. E.; Eweesc, A. A.; Hassanien, A. E. Whale Optimization Algorithm and
608 Moth-Flame Optimization for multilevel thresholding image segmentation. Expert
609 Systems with Applications. 2017, 83, 242-256.
- 610 5. Barati, M.; Sharifian, S. A hybrid heuristic-based tuned support vector regression model
611 for cloud load prediction. Journal of Supercomputing. 2015, 71(11), 4235-4259.
- 612 6. Calheiros, R. N.; Masoumi, E.; Ranjan, R.; Buyya, R. Workload Prediction Using ARIMA
613 Model and Its Impact on Cloud Applications' QoS. IEEE Transactions on Cloud Computing.
614 2015, 3(4), 449-458.
- 615 7. Cao, J.; Fu, J. W.; Li, M. L.; Chen, J. J. CPU load prediction for cloud environment based on
616 a dynamic ensemble model. Software-Practice & Experience. 2014, 44(7), 793-804.
- 617 8. Chen, Z. J.; Zhu, Y. C.; Di, Y. Q.; Feng, S. C. Self-Adaptive Prediction of Cloud Resource
618 Demands Using Ensemble Model and Subtractive-Fuzzy Clustering Based Fuzzy Neural
619 Network. Computational Intelligence and Neuroscience. 2015, 919805
- 620 9. Chia, M. Y.; Huang, Y. F.; Koo, C. H. Swarm-based optimization as stochastic training
621 strategy for estimation of reference evapotranspiration using extreme learning machine.
622 Agricultural Water Management. 2021, 243.
- 623 10. Choudhary, R.; Shukla, S. A clustering based ensemble of weighted kernelized extreme
624 learning machine for class imbalance learning. Expert Systems with Applications. 2021,
625 164, 114041
- 626 11. de Franca; F. O.; de Lima, M. Z. Interaction-transformation symbolic regression with
627 extreme learning machine. Neurocomputing. 2021, 423, 609-619.
- 628 12. Edwards, A. M.; Phillips, R. A.; Watkins, N. W.; Freeman, M. P.; Murphy, E. J.; Afanasyev,
629 V.; Buldyrev, S. V.; Da Luz, M. G. E.; Raposo, E. P.; Stanley, H. E.; Viswanathan, G. M.
630 Revisiting Levy flight search patterns of wandering albatrosses, bumblebees and deer.
631 Nature. 2007, 449(7165), 1044-1048.
- 632 13. Emary, E.; Zawbaa, H. M.; Sharawi, M. Impact of Levy flight on modern meta-heuristic
633 optimizers. Applied Soft Computing. 2019, 75, 775-789.
- 634 14. Gupta, S.; Dileep, A. D.; Gonsalves, T. A. Online Sparse BLSTM Models for Resource Usage
635 Prediction in Cloud Datacentres. Ieee Transactions on Network and Service Management.
636 2020, 17(4), 2335-2349.
- 637 15. Hakli, H.; Uguz, H. A novel particle swarm optimization algorithm with Levy flight. Applied
638 Soft Computing. 2014, 23, 333-345.
- 639 16. Han, S.; Zhu, K.; Wang, R. Improvement of evolution process of dandelion algorithm with
640 extreme learning machine for global optimization problems. Expert Systems with
641 Applications. 2021, 163.
- 642 17. He, W.; Xie, Y.; Lu, H.; Wang, M.; Chen, H. Predicting Coronary Atherosclerotic Heart
643 Disease: An Extreme Learning Machine with Improved Salp Swarm Algorithm.
644 Symmetry-Basel. 2020, 12(10).
- 645 18. Huang, G. B.; Wang, D. H.; Lan, Y. Extreme learning machines: a survey. International
646 Journal of Machine Learning and Cybernetics. 2011, 2(2), 107-122.

- 647 19. Jensi, R.; Jiji, G. W. An enhanced particle swarm optimization with levy flight for global
648 optimization. *Applied Soft Computing*. 2016, 43, 248-261.
- 649 20. Jiang, H.; Haihong, E.; Song, M. Multi-prediction based scheduling for hybrid workloads in
650 the cloud data center. *Cluster Computing-the Journal of Networks Software Tools and*
651 *Applications*. 2018, 21(3), 1607-1622.
- 652 21. Juszczak, M.; Lesniak, A. Modelling Construction Site Cost Index Based on Neural Network
653 Ensembles. *Symmetry-Basel*. 2019, 11(3), 18.
- 654 22. Kim, D.-Y.; Jeong, Y.-S.; Kim, S. Data-Filtering System to Avoid Total Data Distortion in IoT
655 Networking. *Symmetry* 2017, 9, 16.
- 656 23. Kumar, J.; Singh, A. K.; Buyya, R. Self directed learning based workload forecasting model
657 for cloud resource management. *Information Sciences*. 2021, 543, 345-366.
- 658 24. Li, C. B.; Zheng, X. S.; Yang, Z. K.; Kuang, L. Predicting Short-Term Electricity Demand by
659 Combining the Advantages of ARMA and XGBoost in Fog Computing Environment.
660 *Wireless Communications & Mobile Computing*. 2018, 18.
- 661 25. Li, L. L.; Liu, Z. F.; Tseng, M. L.; Chiu, A. S. F. Enhancing the Lithium-ion battery life
662 predictability using a hybrid method. *Applied Soft Computing*. 2019, 74, 110-121.
- 663 26. Li, L. L.; Sun, J.; Tseng, M. L.; Li, Z. G. Extreme learning machine optimized by whale
664 optimization algorithm using insulated gate bipolar transistor module aging degree
665 evaluation. *Expert Systems with Applications*. 2019, 127, 58-67.
- 666 27. Liu, Z. F.; Li, L. L.; Tseng, M. L.; Lim, M. K. Prediction short-term photovoltaic power using
667 improved chicken swarm optimizer- Extreme learning machine model. *Journal of Cleaner*
668 *Production*. 2020, 248, 119272.
- 669 28. Mafarja, M.; Mirjalili, S. Whale optimization approaches for wrapper feature selection.
670 *Applied Soft Computing*. 2017, 62, 441-453.
- 671 29. Mafarja, M. M.; Mirjalili, S. Hybrid Whale Optimization Algorithm with simulated
672 annealing for feature selection. *Neurocomputing*. 2017, 260, 302-312.
- 673 30. Mahmud, M. S. A.; Abidin, M. S. Z.; Buyamin, S.; Emmanuel, A. A.; Hasan, H. S.
674 Multi-objective Route Planning for Underwater Cleaning Robot in Water Reservoir Tank.
675 *Journal of Intelligent & Robotic Systems*. 2021, 101, 9
- 676 31. Meenakshi, A.; Sirmathi, H.; Ruth, J. A. Cloud n computing-based resource provisioning
677 using k-means clustering and GWO prioritization. *Soft Computing*. 2019, 23,
678 10781-10791.
- 679 32. Mehrabi, M.; Giacaman, N.; Sinnen, O. Unified programming concepts for unobtrusive
680 integration of cloud-based and local parallel computing. *Future Generation Computer*
681 *Systems-the International Journal of Escience*. 2021, 115, 700-719.
- 682 33. Mirjalili, S.; Lewis, A. The Whale Optimization Algorithm. *Advances in Engineering*
683 *Software*. 2016, 95, 51-67.
- 684 34. Moreno, S. R.; Mariani, V. C.; Coelho, L. d. S. Hybrid multi-stage decomposition with
685 parametric model applied to wind speed forecasting in Brazilian Northeast. *Renewable*
686 *Energy*. 2021, 164, 1508-1526.
- 687 35. Parand, K.; Aghaei, A. A.; Jani, M.; Ghodsi, A. A new approach to the numerical solution of
688 Fredholm integral equations using least squares-support vector regression. *Mathematics*
689 *and Computers in Simulation*. 2021, 180, 114-128.
- 690 36. Rafique, A.; Van Landuyt, D.; Beni, E. H.; Lagaisse, B.; Joosen, W. CryptDICE: Distributed
691 data protection system for secure cloud data storage and computation. *Information*
692 *Systems*. 2021, 96.

- 693 37. Ros, S.; Caminero, A. C.; Hernandez, R.; Robles-Gomez, A.; Tobarra, L. Cloud-based
694 architecture for web applications with load forecasting mechanism: a use case on the
695 e-learning services of a distant university. *Journal of Supercomputing*. 2014, 68(3),
696 1556-1578.
- 697 38. Santos, M. A. F. d.; Nobre, F. D.; Curado, E. M. F. Monitoring Levy-process crossovers.
698 *Communications in Nonlinear Science and Numerical Simulation*. 2021, 92.
- 699 39. Khalilpourazari, s., Khalilpourazary, S. SCWOA: an efficient hybrid algorithm for parameter
700 optimization of multi-pass milling process, *Journal of Industrial and Production*
701 *Engineering*. 2018 35:3, 135-147
- 702 40. Safavi, M.; Siuki, A. K.; Hashemi, S. R. New optimization methods for designing rain
703 stations network using new neural network, election, and whale optimization algorithms
704 by combining the Kriging method. *Environmental Monitoring and Assessment*. 2021,
705 193(1).
- 706 41. Taghizadeh-Mehrjardi, R.; Schmidt, K.; Toomanian, N.; Heung, B.; Behrens, T.; Mosavi, A.;
707 Scholten, T. Improving the spatial prediction of soil salinity in arid regions using wavelet
708 transformation and support vector regression models. *Geoderma*. 2021, 383.
- 709 42. Tikhamarine, Y.; Malik, A.; Pandey, K.; Sammen, S. S.; Souag-Gamane, D.; Heddami, S.; Kisi,
710 O. Monthly evapotranspiration estimation using optimal climatic parameters: efficacy of
711 hybrid support vector regression integrated with whale optimization algorithm.
712 *Environmental Monitoring and Assessment*. 2020, 192(11).
- 713 43. Tofighy, S.; Rahmanian, A. A.; Ghobaei-Arani, M. An ensemble CPU load prediction
714 algorithm using a Bayesian information criterion and smooth filters in a cloud computing
715 environment. *Software: Practice & Experience*. 2018, 48, 2257-2277.
- 716 44. Wu, T.; Xue, W.; Wang, H.; Chung, C. Y.; Wang, G.; Peng, J.; Yang, Q. Extreme Learning
717 Machine-Based State Reconstruction for Automatic Attack Filtering in Cyber Physical
718 Power System. *IEEE Transactions on Industrial Informatics*. 2021, 17(3), 1892-1904.
- 719 45. Xu, D. Y.; Yang, S. L.; Liu, R. P. A mixture of HMM, GA, and Elman network for load
720 prediction in cloud-oriented data centers. *Journal of Zhejiang University Science C:
721 Computers & Electronics*. 2013, 14(11), 845-858.
- 722 46. Xu, J.; Liu, X.; Ma, M.; Liu, A.; Wang, T.; Huang, C. Intelligent Aggregation Based on
723 Content Routing Scheme for Cloud Computing. *Symmetry*. 2017, 9, 221.
- 724 47. Yang, J. Q.; Liu, C. C.; Shang, Y. L.; Cheng, B.; Mao, Z. X.; Liu, C. H.; Niu L. S.; Chen, J. L. A
725 cost-aware auto-scaling approach using the workload prediction in service clouds.
726 *Information Systems Frontiers*. 2014, 16(1), 7-18.
- 727 48. Ye, K. Key Feature Recognition Algorithm of Network Intrusion Signal Based on Neural
728 Network and Support Vector Machine. *Symmetry-Basel*. 2019, 11(3).
- 729 49. You, D.; Lin, W.; Shi, F.; Li, J.; Qi, D.; Fong, S. A novel approach for CPU load prediction of
730 cloud server combining denoising and error correction. *Computing*. 2020.
- 731 50. Yousri, D.; Allam, D.; Eteiba, M. B. Chaotic whale optimizer variants for parameters
732 estimation of the chaotic behavior in Permanent Magnet Synchronous Motor. *Applied
733 Soft Computing*. 2019, 74, 479-503.
- 734 51. Zhao, L. Load forecasting model of cloud computing resources based on support vector
735 machine. *Journal of Nanjing University of Science and Technology*. 2018, 42(6), 687-692.
736

Figures

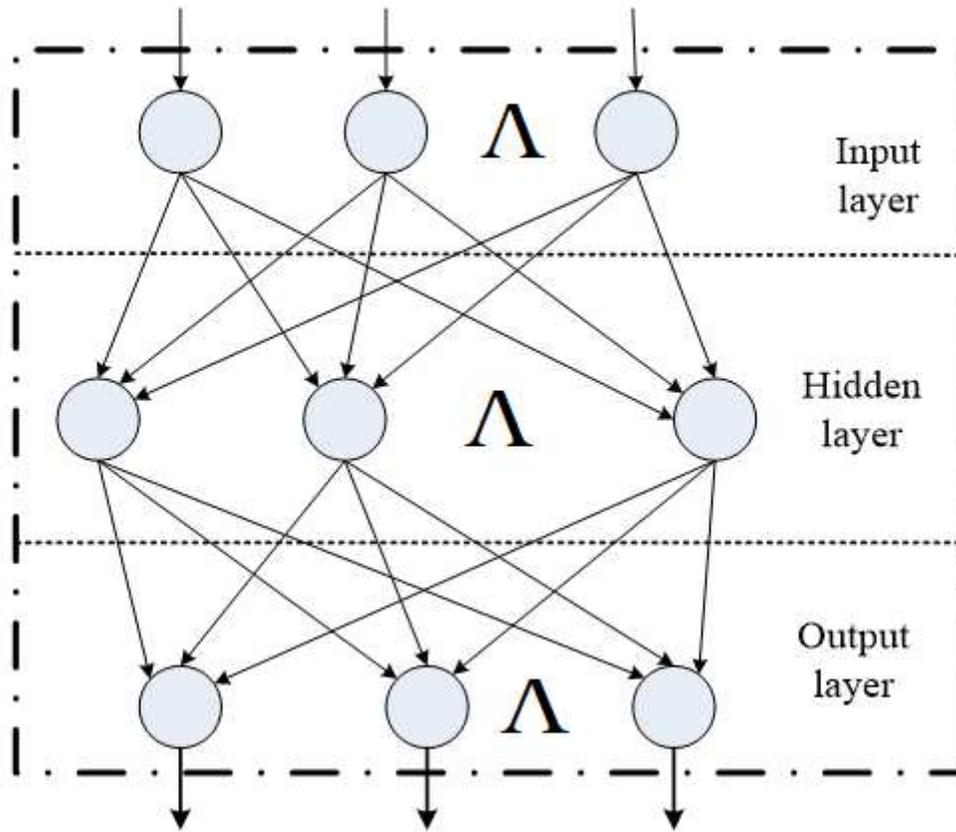
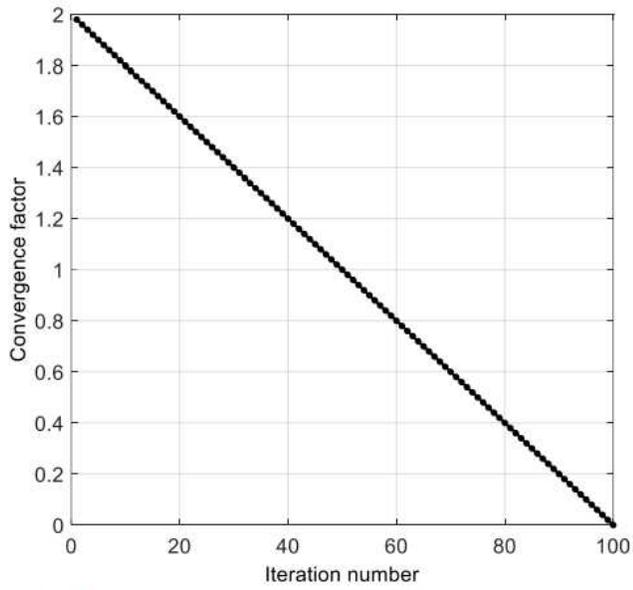
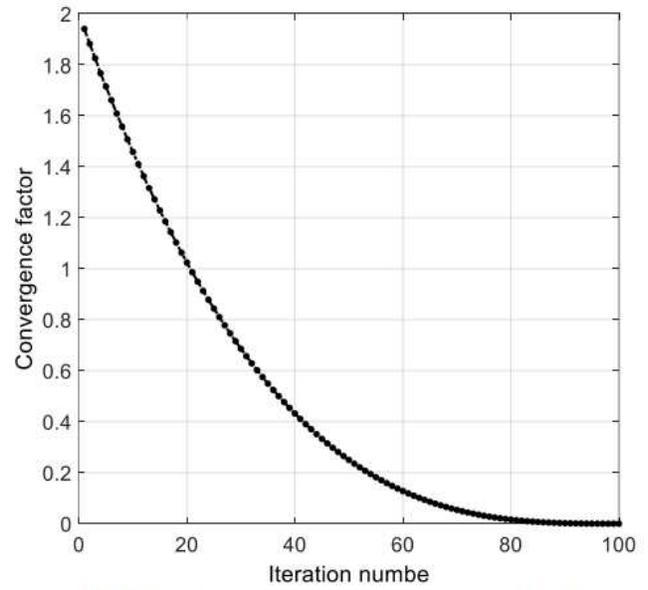


Figure 1

ELM model



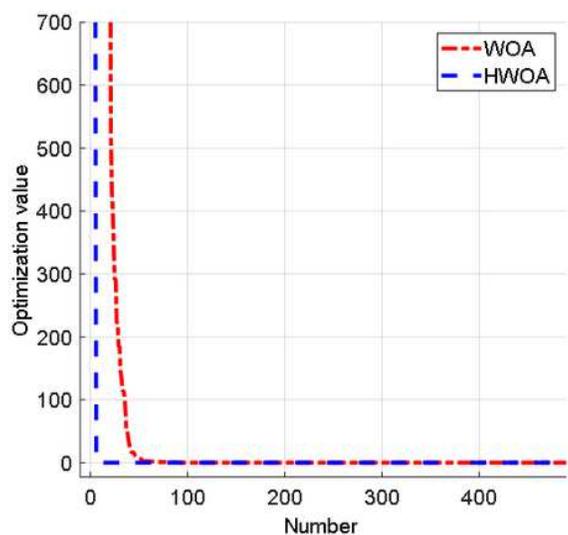
(a) Linear convergence factor



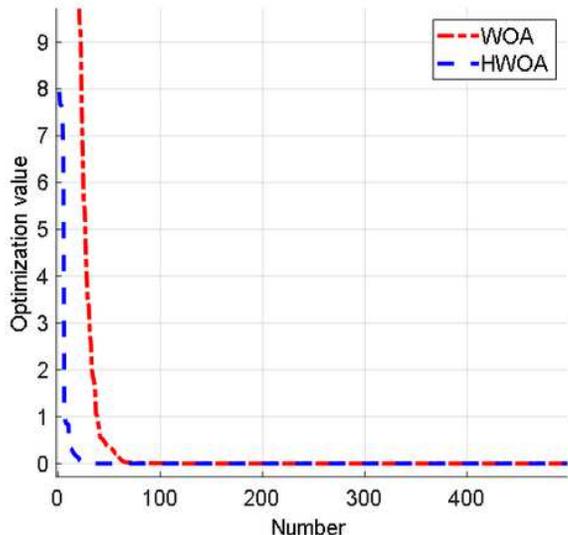
(b) Nonlinear convergence factor

Figure 2

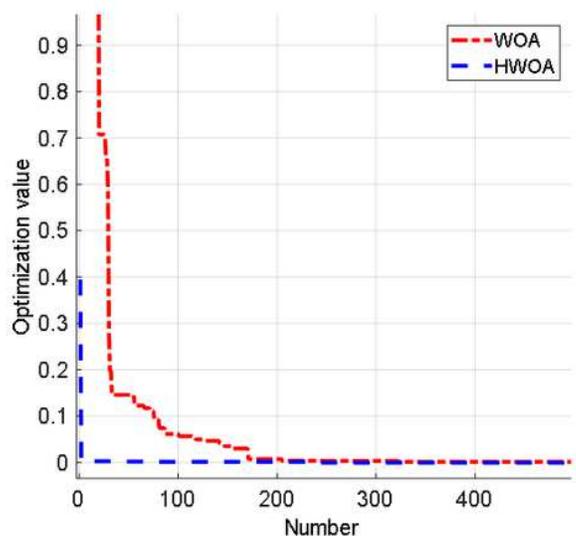
Convergence factor



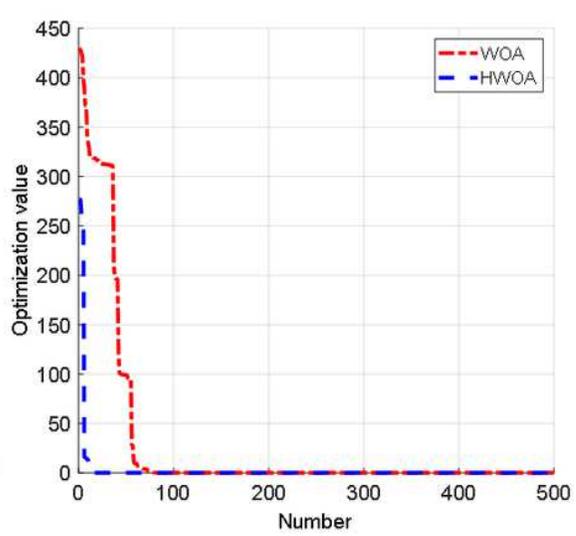
(a) f_1



(b)



(c) f_3



(d) f_4

Figure 3

Convergence curves

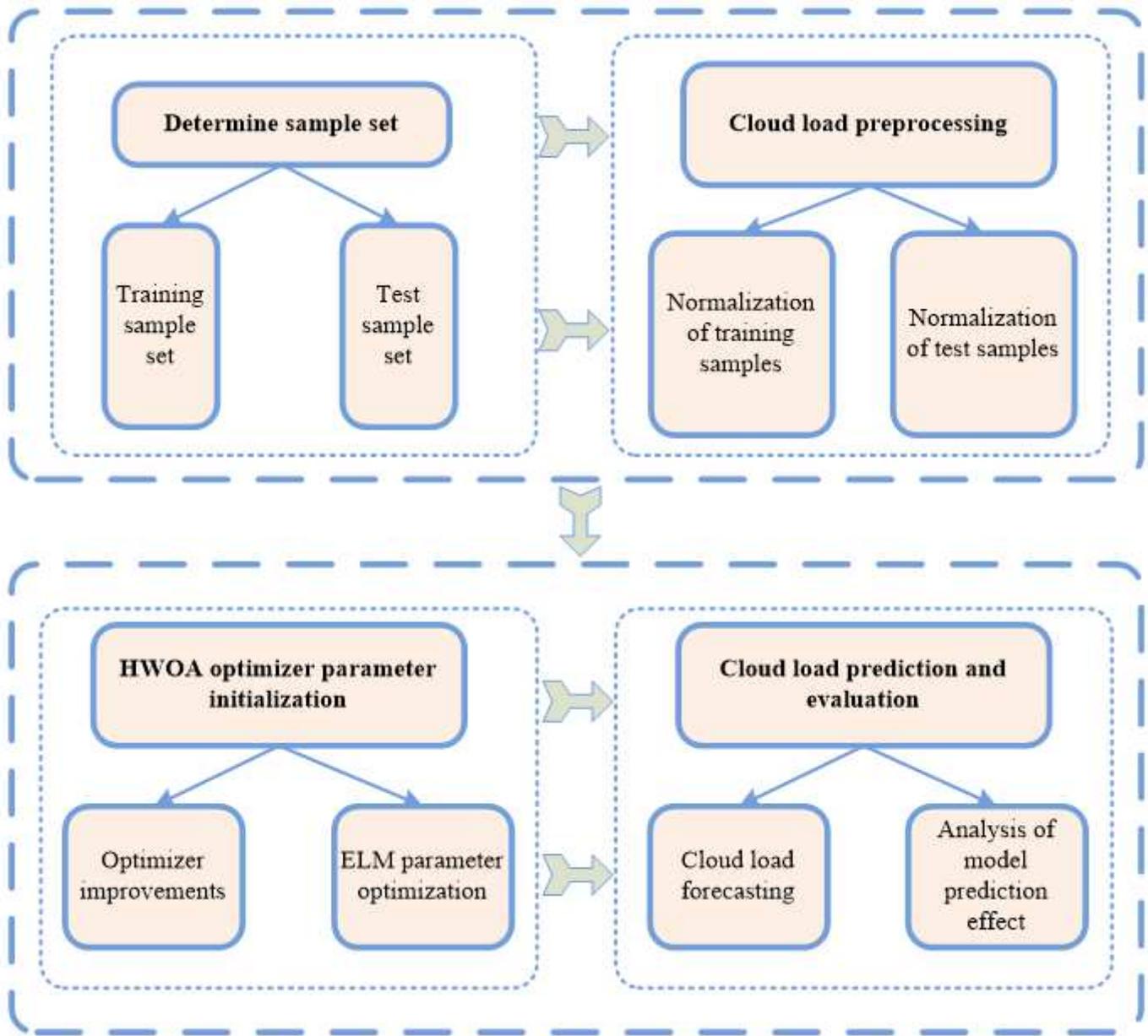


Figure 4

Cloud load forecasting process

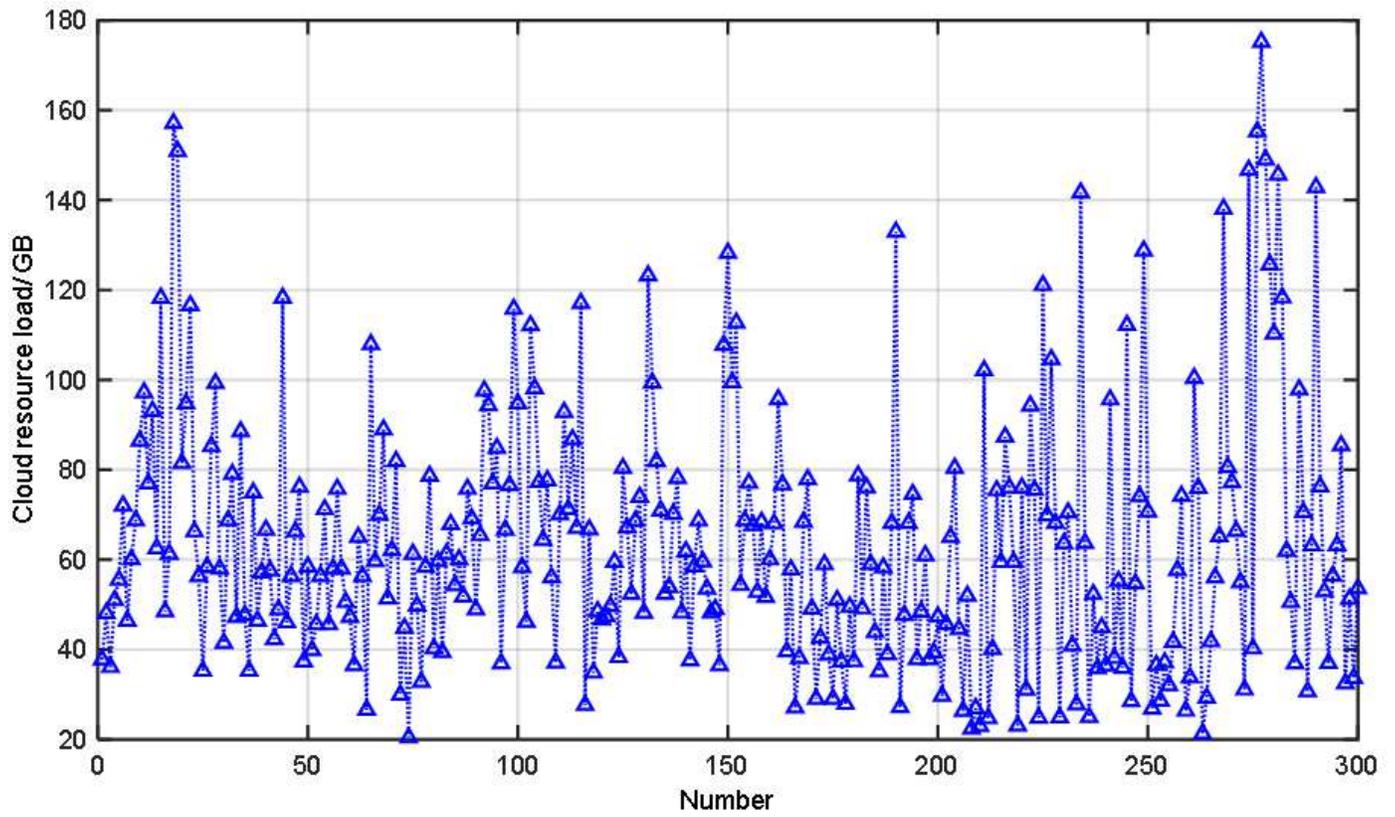


Figure 5

Cloud load data

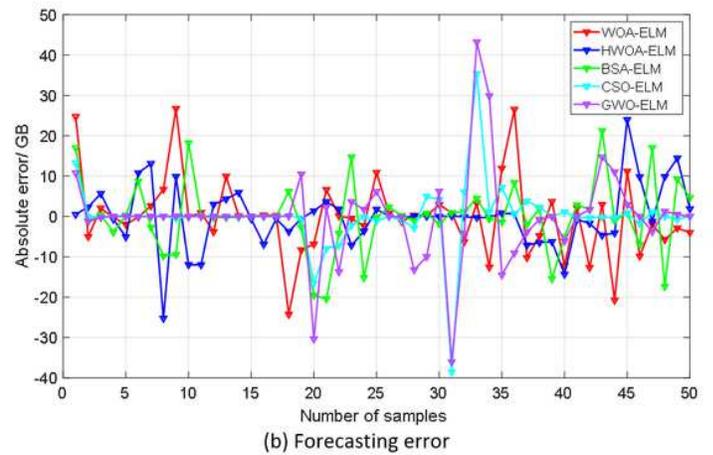
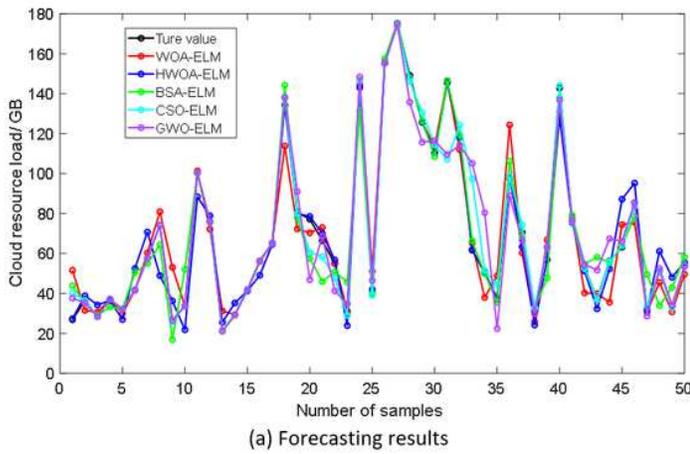


Figure 6

Forecasting curves and errors of simulation experiment 1

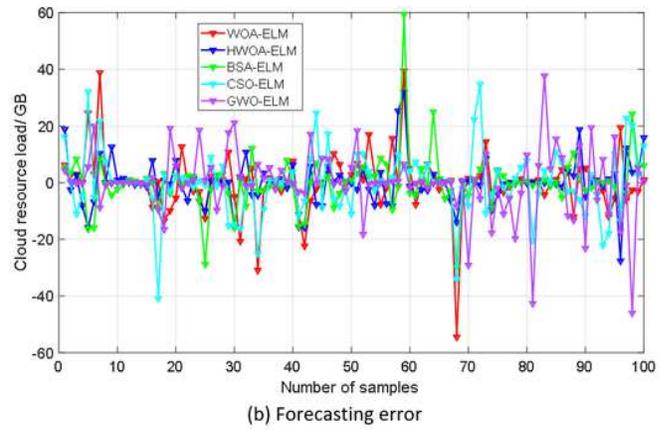
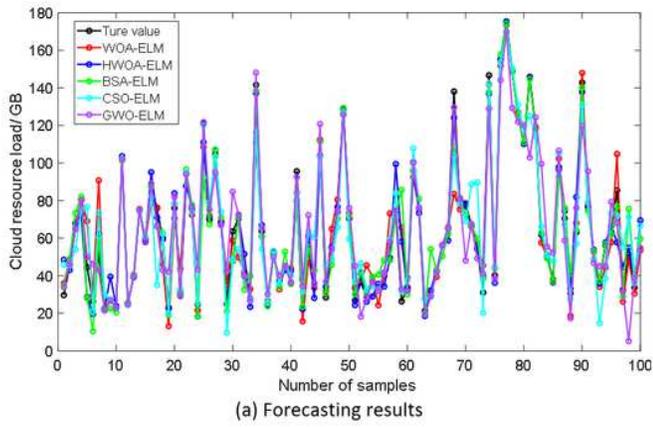


Figure 7

Forecasting curves and errors of simulation experiment 2

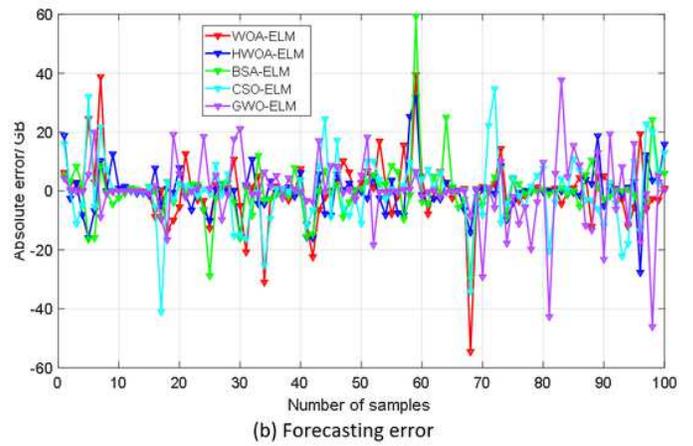
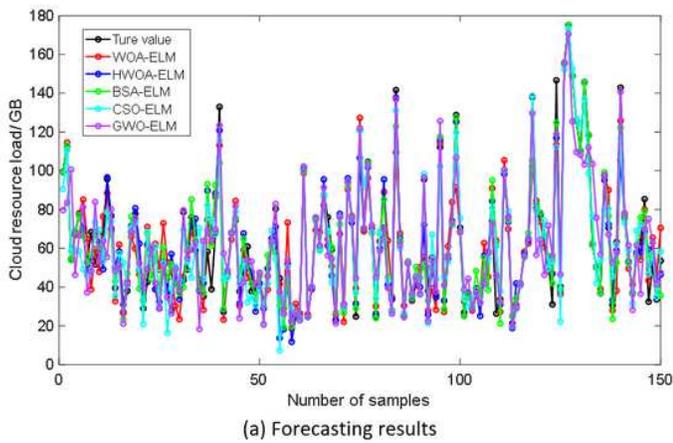


Figure 8

Forecasting curves and errors of simulation experiment 3