



ESTABLISHMENT OF EFFECTIVE METAMODELS FOR SEAKEEPING PERFORMANCE IN MULTIDISCIPLINARY SHIP DESIGN OPTIMIZATION

Dongqin Li

School of Naval Architecture & Ocean Engineering, Jiangsu University of Science and Technology, Zhengjiang, Jiangsu, China., mandy_ldq@163.com

Philip A Wilson

Fluid Structure Interactions Research Group, Faculty of Engineering and the Environment, University of Southampton, Southampton, UK.

Xin Zhao

School of Naval Architecture & Ocean Engineering, Jiangsu University of Science and Technology, Zhengjiang, Jiangsu, China.

Follow this and additional works at: <https://jmstt.ntou.edu.tw/journal>



Part of the [Engineering Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Li, Dongqin; Wilson, Philip A; and Zhao, Xin (2016) "ESTABLISHMENT OF EFFECTIVE METAMODELS FOR SEAKEEPING PERFORMANCE IN MULTIDISCIPLINARY SHIP DESIGN OPTIMIZATION," *Journal of Marine Science and Technology*. Vol. 24: Iss. 2, Article 17.

DOI: 10.6119/JMST-015-1007-1

Available at: <https://jmstt.ntou.edu.tw/journal/vol24/iss2/17>

This Research Article is brought to you for free and open access by Journal of Marine Science and Technology. It has been accepted for inclusion in Journal of Marine Science and Technology by an authorized editor of Journal of Marine Science and Technology.

ESTABLISHMENT OF EFFECTIVE METAMODELS FOR SEAKEEPING PERFORMANCE IN MULTIDISCIPLINARY SHIP DESIGN OPTIMIZATION

Acknowledgements

The authors wish to thank the National Natural Science Foundation of China (Grant No. 51509114), the Natural Science Foundation of Jiangsu Province of China (Grant No. BK2012696, No. BK2009722) and the Project funded by the Priority Academic Program Development of Jiangsu Higher Education Institutions (PAPD) for their financial support

ESTABLISHMENT OF EFFECTIVE METAMODELS FOR SEAKEEPING PERFORMANCE IN MULTIDISCIPLINARY SHIP DESIGN OPTIMIZATION

Dongqin Li¹, Philip A. Wilson², and Xin Zhao¹

Key words: metamodel, Support Vector Machine, Design of Experiment, seakeeping.

ABSTRACT

Ship design is a complex multidisciplinary optimization process to determine configuration variables that satisfy a set of mission requirements. Unfortunately, high fidelity commercial software for the ship performance estimation such as Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) and Finite Element Analysis (FEA) is computationally expensive and time consuming to execute and deters the ship designer's ability to explore larger range of optimization solutions. In this paper, the Latin Hypercube Design was used to select the sample data for covering the design space. The percentage of downtime, a comprehensive seakeeping evaluation index, was also used to evaluate the seakeeping performance within the short-term and long-term wave distribution in the process of Multidisciplinary Design Optimization (MDO). The five motions of ship seakeeping performance contained roll, pitch, yaw, sway and heave. Particularly, a new effective approximation modelling technique—Single-Parameter Lagrangian Support Vector Regression (SPL-SVR) was investigated to construct ship seakeeping metamodels to facilitate the application of MDO. By considering the effects of two ship speeds, the established metamodels of ship seakeeping performance for the short-term percentage of downtime are satisfactory for seakeeping predictions during the conceptual design stage; thus, the new approximation algorithm provides an optimal and cost-effective solution for constructing the metamodels in MDO process.

Paper submitted 04/18/14; revised 02/05/15; accepted 10/07/15. Author for correspondence: Dongqin Li (e-mail: mandy_ldq@163.com).

¹School of Naval Architecture & Ocean Engineering, Jiangsu University of Science and Technology, Zhenjiang, Jiangsu, China.

²Fluid Structure Interactions Research Group, Faculty of Engineering and the Environment, University of Southampton, Southampton, UK.

I. INTRODUCTION

An accurate and effective prediction technique for seakeeping performance plays an important role in the hydrodynamic-based Multidisciplinary Design Optimization (MDO) for ships. In order to obtain the accurate result of seakeeping prediction, firstly a high-precision calculation method is required in the preliminary ship design stage, for example the strip theory rather than empirical regression models which are widely used in ship seakeeping prediction (Özüm, 2011). Secondly, the adopted calculation method for seakeeping can be easily integrated into the MDO process without any artificial intervention. Thirdly, perhaps the most important part is to minimize the computational cost and complexity. In our previous research, the simulation codes for ship resistance and seakeeping performance were implemented in the MDO (Li et al., 2012a; Li et al., 2012c; Li et al., 2013), unfortunately the calculation were extremely expensive and time-consuming. Although, high-performance computers are now correspondingly more powerful, the high computational cost and time requirement still limit the use of MDO method in engineering design and optimization. So far, a technique of metamodel (or surrogate model) can be adopted to solve this problem in MDO (Leifsson and Koziel, 2010), and is used to create a fast analysis module by approximating the existing computer simulation model in order to achieve more efficient analysis. The aim of this paper is to improve a new simple and effective algorithm of Support Vector Machines (SVM) as a surrogate model to predict the ship seakeeping performance.

II. NECESSITY OF METAMODEL IN MDO

Ship design essentially applies iteration to satisfy the relevant disciplines, such as structural mechanics, economics and hydrodynamics, and may be investigated by different teams of engineers with different simulation codes. Due to these complexities, the MDO problem for ships is extremely hard to describe and compromise among several disciplines. Furthermore, high-fidelity calculation for ship performance with CFD software in the MDO framework is likely to be much

more difficult to achieve. One way of alleviating these burdens is by constructing approximation models, known as metamodels or surrogate models, which are used to replace the specific simulation-based calculation in MDO. A variety of metamodeling techniques have been successively developed, such as Artificial Neural Network (Hoque et al., 2011), Response Surface Method (Balabanov, 1997) and Kriging method (Zhang et al., 2013), as “surrogates” of the expensive simulation process in order to improve the overall computation efficiency. They are then found to be a valuable tool to support a wide scope of activities in modern engineering design, especially the ship design optimization.

The accuracy of metamodels in the MDO will greatly affect the result of optimization, so it is important to select a proper metamodeling approach especially when the sample sizes become small and limited. As a novel artificial intelligence approach, SVM specifically target the issue of limited samples and achieve a good generalization performance as well as a global optimal extremum (Vapnik, 2005). Hence, a new metamodeling technique which we will designate as Single-parameter Lagrangian Support Vector Regression (SPL-SVR) has been developed and used for the construction of metamodels of ship seakeeping performance in this article.

III. DESIGN OF EXPERIMENTS

Design of Experiments (DOE) is a very powerful tool that can be utilized in ship design. This technique enables designers to determine interactive effects of many factors that could affect the overall design variables, such as beam, draught, length and also provides a full insight of interaction between design elements.

1. Latin Hypercube Designs

Latin Hypercube Design (Mckay, 1979) is chosen to gather the sample data which will be used to construct the metamodels. This method chooses points to maximize the minimum distance between design points and maintain the even spacing between factor levels. The essence of Latin Hypercube Design is to control the position of the sampling points and avoid the problem of small neighbourhood coincidence. The advantages are listed as follows:

- (1) Columns and rows are all orthogonal.
- (2) Mutual exchange of columns or rows will not change their nature.
- (3) The number of samples (points) is not fixed.

2. Distributions of Ship Samples

The ship information about the offshore supply vessels (OSV) was gathered from the shipping companies and design institutions. At the same time, some design parameters were fixed to make the model simple and feasible. From these ships, we can tell that the OSV usually have 2 propellers and large block coefficient. The distributions of principal dimensions,

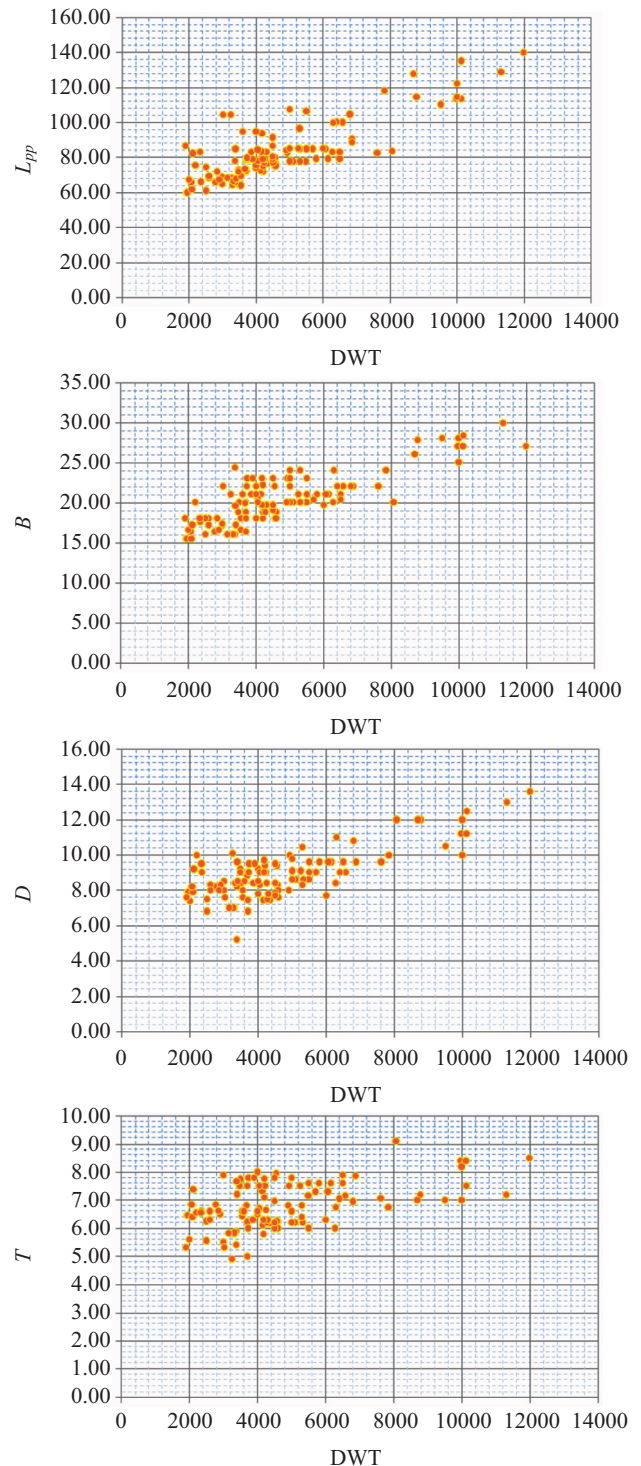


Fig. 1. Distribution of offshore supply vessels' principal dimensions with DWT.

length L_{pp} , beam B , draught D , depth T and deadweight tonnage DWT for these ships are shown in Fig. 1.

In fact, the ship seakeeping performance will be affected by various factors. However, the addition of more variables to the metamodel would hamper the result evaluation and the

Table 1. Range of design variables in DOE.

Design variables	Symbol	Lower bound	Upper bound	Initial design
Length	L_{pp}/m	96.6	122.1	108.8
Breadth	B/m	22.0	28.0	25
Depth	D/m	9	12	10.6
Draught	T/m	6.00	7.00	6.5
Block coefficient	C_b	0.75	0.82	0.770
Prismatic coefficient	C_p	0.76	0.81	0.783
Longitudinal centre of buoyancy	L_{CB}/m	-5.0	5.0	-1.0
Velocity	V_s/Kn	0	14.5	0/14.5
Wave angle	$\theta/^\circ$	0	180	0-180

methodology validation. Eventually, the length between perpendiculars, breadth, depth, design draught, block coefficient, longitudinal prismatic coefficient, longitudinal centre of buoyancy, ship velocity and wave angle were chosen as the design variables, which can show specific shape characteristics of ship hull. The range of values for design variables are listed in Table 1.

The Latin Hypercube Design in standard Model-based calibration toolbox from commercial software Matlab was chosen to establish the training data set, which are used to construct and discover a predictive relationship. Fifteen sets of ship training data were collected and the space distribution is shown in Fig. 2. One ship hull of the training ships is shown in Fig. 3.

IV. MATHEMATICAL FOUNDATION OF SPL-SVR

The SVM (Vapnik, 1995; Smola et al., 2004) is based on Statistical Learning Theory (SLT), which has been recognized as a powerful machine learning technique. It offers a united framework for the limited-sample learning problem and can solve the practical problems such as model-choosing, multiple dimensions, non-linear problems and local minima. By learning from the training samples, the obtained black box can describe the complicated mapping relation without knowing the connection between the dependent variables and independent variables. Classical Support Vector Regression (SVR) has been used to construct the metamodels in the Multi-objective optimization (Yun et al., 2009) and the result demonstrated that SVR can offer an alternative and powerful approach to model the complex non-linear relationships. In this paper, we describe a new algorithm of SVR to establish the metamodel of ship seakeeping in Multidisciplinary Ship Design Optimization, which was proposed in our previous work (Li et al., 2012b) and recalled here for the readers' convenience.

Given a training data set, $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_l, y_l)$, where $x_i \in X$, $y_i \in R$, l is the size of training data. In order to reduce the

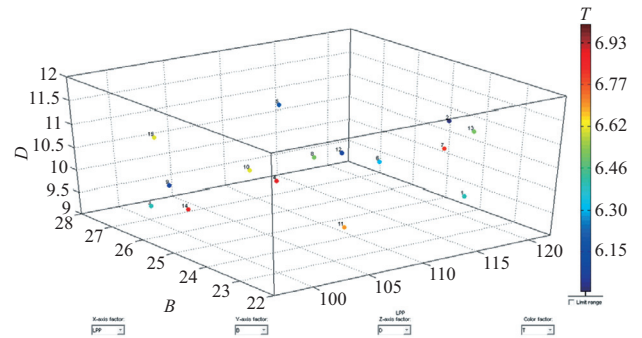


Fig. 2. The space distribution of training data set.

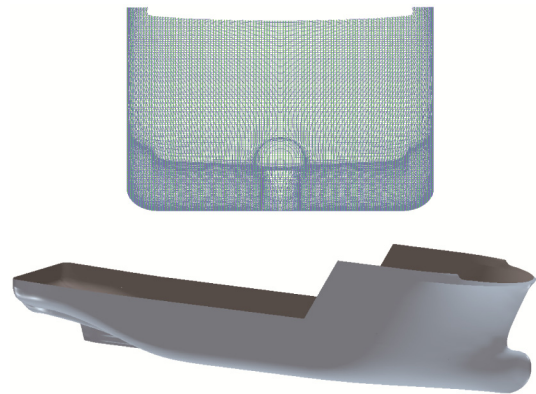


Fig. 3. Transverse section and 3D lay-out of ship hull.

overall complexity of the system, the new algorithm of SVR has only one parameter ξ to control the errors instead of two parameters ξ, ξ^* in the classical SVR, and adds $b^2/2$ to the item of confidence interval at the same time, and adopts the Laplace loss function. This is termed the Single-parameter Lagrangian Support Vector Regression (SPL-SVR). Hence the formula is stated as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \text{Min } \frac{1}{2}(w^T w + b^2) + C \sum_{i=1}^l |\xi_i| \\ \text{s.t. } |y_i - w^T \phi(x_i) - b| \leq \varepsilon + \xi_i \\ \xi_i \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, l \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

The solution of (1) can be transformed into the dual optimization problem. ξ_i are slack variables, b is the error bias, α_i, α_i^* are Lagrange multipliers, ε and C are coefficients to control the VC dimension of regression function. A Lagrange function can be constructed and by the introduction of a kernel function $K(x_i, x_j) = (\phi(x_i) \cdot \phi(x_j))$, which corresponds to the dot product in the feature space given by a nonlinear transformation ϕ of the data vectors in the input space. The problem posed in (1) can be transferred into the dual optimization problem as follows.

$$\begin{cases} \text{Min } \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^l (\alpha_i - \alpha_i^*)(\alpha_j - \alpha_j^*) [K(x_i \cdot x_j) + 1] \\ - \sum_{i=1}^l (\alpha_i - \alpha_i^*) \cdot y_i + \varepsilon \sum_{i=1}^l (\alpha_i + \alpha_i^*) \\ \text{s.t. } (\alpha_i + \alpha_i^*) \leq C, \quad \alpha_i, \alpha_i^* \geq 0 \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

The above formula can be stated in standard quadratic programming problem. Suppose that:

$$\begin{aligned} X &= \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \alpha^* \end{bmatrix}_{2l \times 1}, \quad H = \begin{bmatrix} K & -K \\ -K & K \end{bmatrix}, \quad d = \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon - y \\ \varepsilon + y \end{bmatrix}_{2l \times 1} \\ A &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}_{l \times 2l} \\ K &= \begin{bmatrix} K(x_1, x_1) & K(x_1, x_2) & \dots & K(x_1, x_l) \\ K(x_2, x_1) & K(x_2, x_2) & \dots & K(x_2, x_l) \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ K(x_l, x_1) & K(x_l, x_2) & \dots & K(x_l, x_l) \end{bmatrix}_{l \times l} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

The dual problem can then be expressed in the following standard quadratic programming form.

$$\begin{cases} \text{Min } \frac{1}{2} X^T H X + d^T X \\ \text{s.t. } A X \leq C \\ X \geq 0 \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

Thus, the approximation function is calculated as follows:

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^l (\alpha_i - \alpha_i^*) (K(x_i \cdot x) + 1) \quad (5)$$

The complexity of the above function only depends on the number of support vectors (SVs). In this paper, the Radial Basis Function (RBF) is used.

$$K(x_i \cdot x_j) = \exp(-\beta \|x_i - x_j\|^2) \quad (6)$$

Where (\cdot) denotes the inner product in the space Ω , a feature space of possibly different dimensionality such that $\phi: X \rightarrow \Omega$ and $b \in R$. From the above formulas, it can be seen that the algorithm proposed in this paper is simpler than the classical SVR. Moreover, there is no need to compute the bias b which will improve the efficiency and accuracy of the calculation. This new algorithm has been demonstrated to be in fairly good agreement with experimental measurements (Li et al., 2012b).

Therefore, this new algorithm is suitable for construction of metamodels for the ship seakeeping prediction in the preliminary design process.

V. CALCULATION OF SHIP SEAKEEPING PERFORMANCE AND ESTABLISHMENT OF METAMODEL

Before establishing the metamodels of ship seakeeping performance in MDO, an efficient simulation method for the ship seakeeping performance for OSV should be chosen together with the typical wave conditions that the ship design is likely to be operating within.

1. The Actual Wave Conditions

The wave spectrum attempts to describe the ocean wave conditions after a wind with constant velocity blowing for a long time. A typical ocean wave spectrum will be much more complicated and variable. The JONSWAP spectrum which is suitable for deep water areas such as the North Sea and South China Sea is capable of giving the safe analysis results of ship motions. It is described as follows:

$$S(\omega) = \alpha H_{1/3}^2 T_p^{-4} \omega^{-5} \exp(-1.25(T_p \omega)^{-4}) * \gamma^{\exp(-(T_p \omega - 1)^2 / 2\sigma^2)} \quad (7)$$

$S(\omega)$	spectral density function (m^2/s);
ω	wave frequency;
$H_{1/3}$	significant wave height (m);
T_p	peak wave period (s);
ω_p	spectral peak frequency, $\omega_p = 1/T_p$;
γ	peak enhancement factor.

2. Wave Scatter Table for South China Sea

Considering the actual wave influence in design, the long term trends for the maximum wave parameters such as significant wave height and modal period of the waves will be needed. In order to create a long-term forecast, the Wave Scatter Table needs to be known which represents the joint probability distribution of the significant wave height $H_{1/3}$ and zero up-crossing period T_z . The wave information for South China Sea (Hogben et al., 1986) is listed in Table 2, where the area ranges is 105° - 125° east longitude, 0.5° - 23° north latitude.

The ship seakeeping performance will be influenced by various factors. The allowed values of seakeeping criteria or probabilities for ship motions were estimated from the information which were gleaned from OSV operators and listed in Table 3.

3. Comprehensive Evaluation Index for Seakeeping Performance

It is necessary to decide a proper comprehensive evaluation index for ship seakeeping performance which will be used in

Table 2. Wave scatter table for south china sea (Annual).

$H_{1/3}$ (m)	T_Z (s)								
	< 4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-8	8-9	9-10	10-11	> 11
8-9	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
7-8	-	-	-	1	2	1	1	-	-
6-7	-	-	1	3	3	2	1	-	-
5-6	-	-	3	8	8	5	2	1	-
4-5	-	1	9	19	17	9	3	1	-
3-4	-	4	26	45	34	15	4	1	-
2-3	-	14	64	85	52	19	5	1	-
1-2	1	41	118	108	47	12	2	-	-
0-1	13	64	76	36	9	2	-	-	-
Total	14	124	297	305	173	65	18	4	-

Table 3. Allowed values of seakeeping criteria or probabilities for OSV.

Seakeeping criteria	Unit	Value or probability	Weight	
			0 kn	14.5 kn
Roll	°	15°	0.1	0.2
Pitch	°	5°	0.1	0.1
Heave	m	2	0.3	0.2
Deck wetness	%	0.05	0.1	0.1
Slam	%	0.05	0.1	0.1
Propeller emergence	%	0.05	0.1	0.2
Vertical acceleration at bow	g	0.4g	0.2	0.1

the process of MDO. Typically two indices are used: the first is the percentage of working time, the second is the percentage of desired speed. Here a new index of long-term forecast percentage of downtime is proposed and it is an effective evaluation index for seakeeping quality, which shows the ability of ships working in the prescribed conditions (environment and time). Specific calculation steps are listed as follows:

- Step 1: Choose the navigation and working velocities of OSV according to its requirement. Calculate the frequency response transfer functions under the specific velocity V_s and wave angle μ_m in regular wave conditions.
- Step 2: Select the ocean wave spectrum, predict the ship motion responses and accelerations by the significant wave height in irregular wave condition.
- Step 3: Gather information about the actual environmental condition and wave statistical probability distribution $P(H_i, T_j)$ (Scatter Diagrams), to establish the seakeeping criteria group C_k .
- Step 4: Calculate the motion Response Amplitude Operators (RAO) $(r_a)_{1/3}$ for various seakeeping criteria factors under the specific velocity V_s , wave angles μ_m and wave period T_j . Then calculate the limiting wave

height H_{smjk} and the percentage of downtime POT_{smk} for different seakeeping criteria factors k under the specific velocity V_s and wave angle μ_m .

- Step 5: Based on the weighting coefficient α_k of each seakeeping criteria factor k in the seakeeping criteria group C_k , calculate the comprehensive evaluation index POT_k which is named the short-term percentage of downtime. This index indicates the ultimate working capacity of ships under the given velocity and wave angle.

$$POT_k = \frac{\sum_k \alpha_k POT_{smk}}{\sum_k \alpha_k}$$

- Step 6: Considering the velocity frequency distribution $f_v(V_s)$ and wave angle frequency distribution $f_\mu(\mu_m)$ in the real voyage, the comprehensive evaluation index POT for seakeeping performance which is named the long-term percentage of downtime can be calculated as below:

$$POT = \sum_s \sum_m f_v(V_s) f_\mu(\mu_m) POT_k$$

4. Establishment of Ship Seakeeping Metamodel

The hydrodynamic design of ships involves several stages, from preliminary or early-stage design to late-stage and final-stage design. As the purpose of this study is to develop practical metamodels for seakeeping performance evaluation in the hydrodynamic-based MDO at the early ship design stage. A practical calculation tool, based on the strip theory called Seakeeping Manager from the commercial software NAPA, is used to calculate the ship motions, heave, pitch, roll, sway and yaw in irregular wave conditions.

The working speed of OSV is 0 knots and navigation speed is 14.5 knots. The chosen wave angles are 0°, 30°, 60°, 90°, 120°, 150° and 180°. One of those training ships is chosen as an example. As mentioned above, seven seakeeping criteria including roll, pitch, slam, heave, propeller emergence, deck wetness and vertical acceleration at bow, are predicted to evaluate the ship seakeeping performance. The response functions of these seakeeping criteria are shown in Fig. 4. The percentages of downtime at different wave angles are shown in Fig. 5, which indicate that the comprehensive evaluation index for seven seakeeping criteria can be used to evaluate the overall seakeeping performance of ships.

The Single-parameter Lagrangian Support Vector Regression (SPL-SVR), an approximation method presented above is used to construct the metamodels of ship seakeeping performance at the early design stage, without running expensive model tests or time-consuming CFD simulations. The computer code is set up with the Matlab software, and it is based on the theory of Support Vector Machine and integrated in the process of MDO.

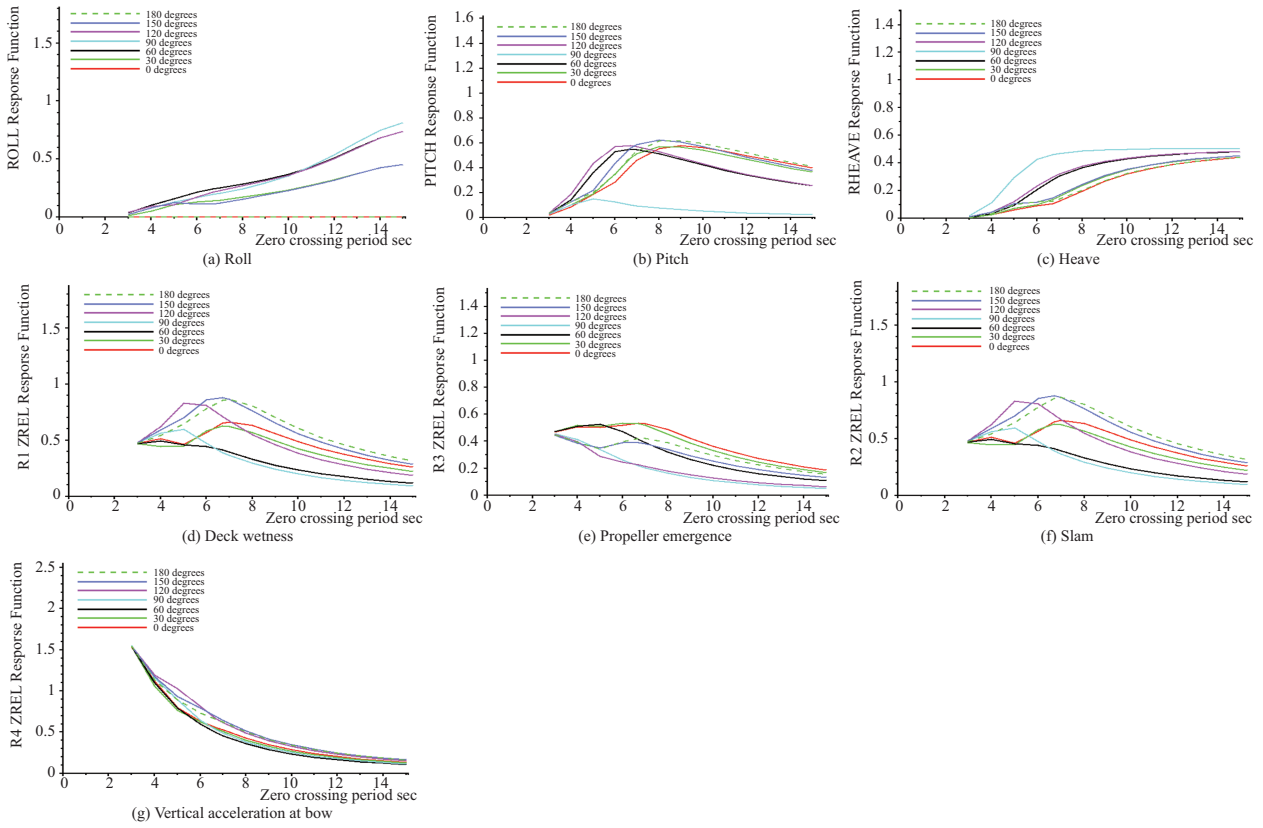


Fig. 4. Response function for the 7 seakeeping criteria ($V_s = 0$ knots).

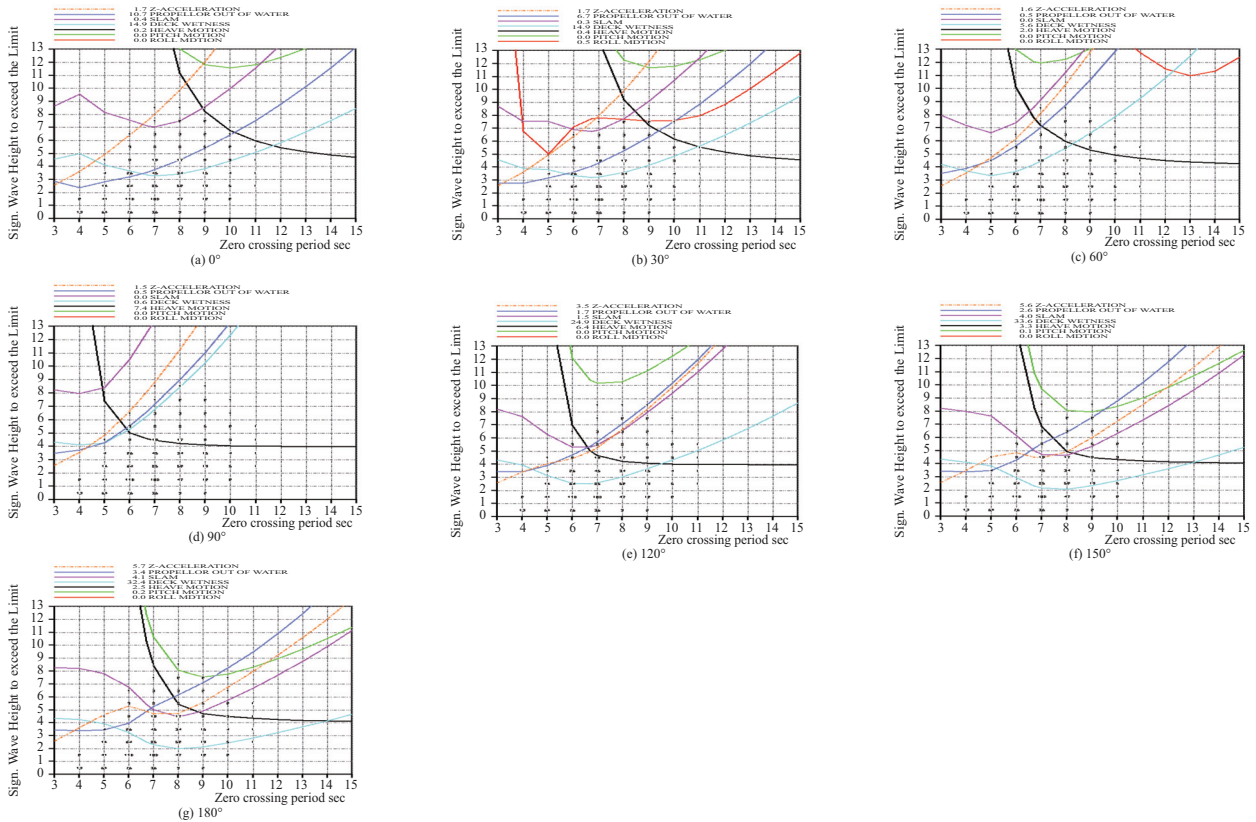


Fig. 5. The percentage of downtime at different wave angles ($V_s = 14.5$ knots).

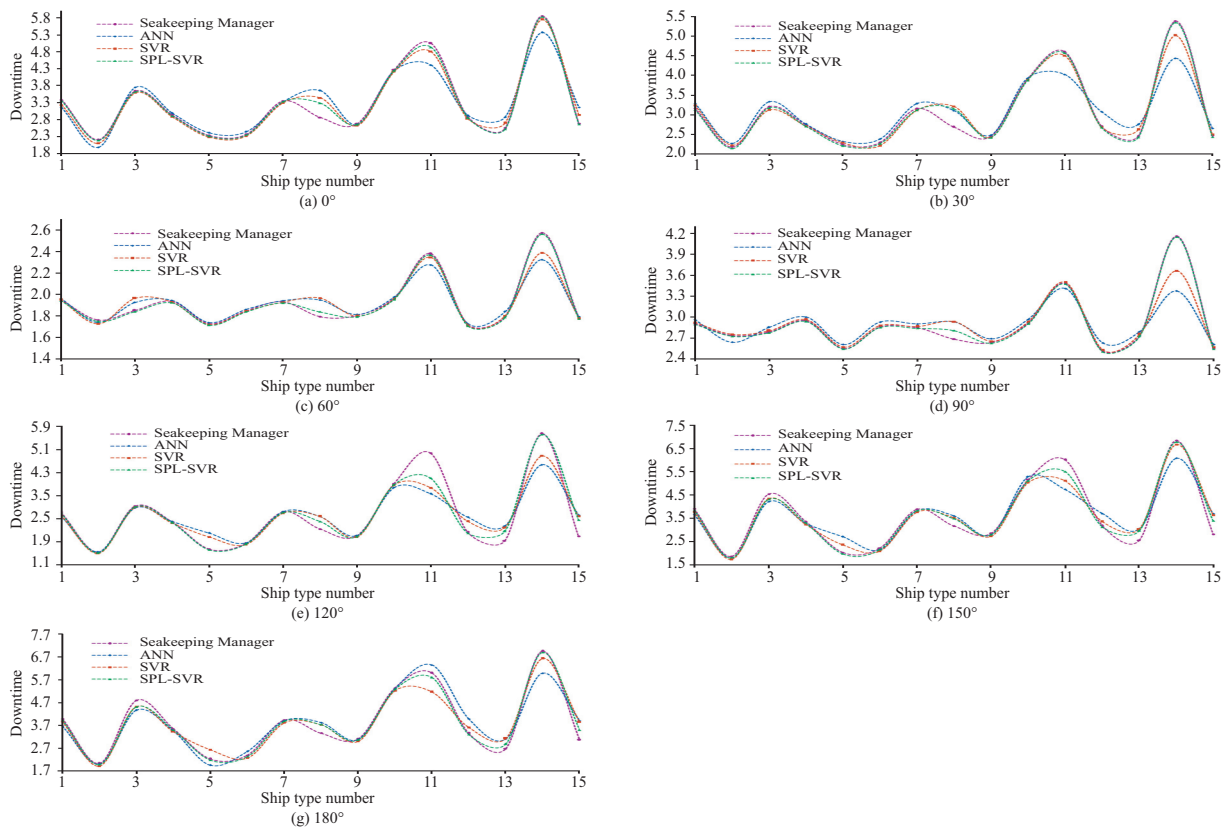


Fig. 6. Fitting curves of 15 ship types ($V_s = 0$ knots).

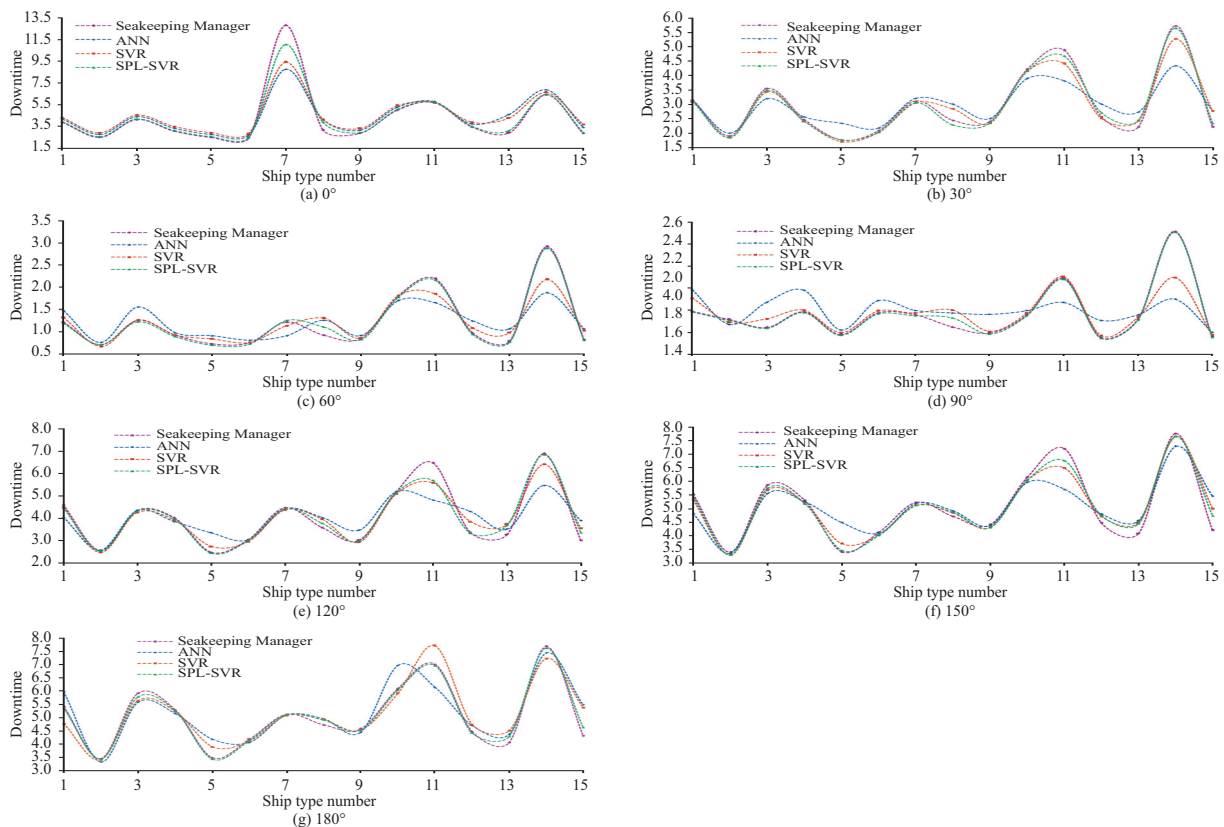


Fig. 7. Fitting curves of 15 ship types ($V_s = 14.5$ knots).

Table 4. Results with Relative Error for downtime POT_{short} with wave angle 120° ($V_s = 14.5$ knots).

Ship type number	Seakeeping Manager	ANN		SVR		SPL-SVR	
	Value (%)	Value (%)	Relative Error	Value (%)	Relative Error	Value (%)	Relative Error
1	4.60	4.05	-11.99%	4.50	-2.10%	4.48	-2.73%
2	2.57	2.57	-0.04%	2.48	-3.75%	2.54	-1.44%
3	4.36	4.36	-0.07%	4.26	-2.22%	4.32	-0.85%
4	4.03	3.86	-4.29%	3.93	-2.40%	3.99	-0.92%
5	2.48	3.36	35.51%	2.74	10.61%	2.45	-1.41%
6	3.05	3.05	-0.10%	2.96	-3.10%	3.01	-1.15%
7	4.47	4.43	-1.02%	4.38	-2.16%	4.44	-0.83%
8	3.59	4.03	12.36%	3.96	10.41%	3.78	5.39%
9	3.03	3.47	14.64%	2.94	-3.12%	2.99	-1.16%
10	5.19	5.19	-0.06%	5.09	-1.86%	5.15	-0.71%
11	6.48	4.82	-25.60%	5.59	-13.81%	5.70	-12.10%
12	3.37	4.31	27.80%	3.85	14.21%	3.34	-1.04%
13	3.28	3.52	7.35%	3.73	13.74%	3.69	12.59%
14	6.88	5.47	-20.48%	6.42	-6.72%	6.85	-0.54%
15	3.01	3.90	29.41%	3.56	18.03%	3.37	11.69%

1) The Fifteen Ship Types as the Test Data Set

In this situation, those fifteen ship types collected with DOE method are selected as training data set and also as test data set. In the algorithm SPL-SVR, the RBF kernel function was adopted and its kernel parameters should be considered carefully. The nine parameters listed in Table 1 were chosen as the design variables, and the ship short-term percentage of downtime as the output variable.

The SPL-SVR method were compared with Seakeeping Manager, ANN and classical SVR. The results with 0 knots and 14.5 knots were shown in Fig. 6 and Fig. 7. The Relative Error (RE) and Mean relative error (MRE) are applied as

performance indexes: $RE = \frac{y_i - y_i^*}{y_i} * 100\%$, $MRE =$

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left| \frac{y_i - y_i^*}{y_i} \right|. \text{ Here, } y_i \text{ is the real value and } y_i^* \text{ is the predicted one.}$$

The results for the navigation speed with wave angle 120° is taken as an example, listed in Table 4.

2) The Five Ship Types as the Test Data Set

Similarly, ship types 1 to 10 were selected as training data set and ship types 11 to 15 as test data set. The results with 0 knots and 14.5 knots were shown in Fig. 8 and Fig. 9. Due to space limitations, the result for the working speed with wave angle 30° is taken as an example, listed in Table 5.

From these metamodels for seakeeping performance which are established with the proposed SPL-SVR method, the total Mean Squared Error is 2.92% for the working speed 0 knots and 3.11% for the navigation speed 14.5 knots when using 15 ship types as test data set; the total Mean Squared Error is 3.03% for the working speed 0 knots and 6.24% for the navigation speed 14.5 knots when using five ship types as test data set.

Considering the above two circumstances, this new algorithm SPL-SVR is suitable for the nonlinear approximation problem both in terms of reduced calculation time and accuracy. If the training data set, the kernel parameters and the simulation method for seakeeping performance are chosen properly, metamodels with high precision can be generated for ship seakeeping performance and used to calculate the short-term seakeeping performance POT_k instead of a CFD method at the preliminary ship design stage. With the ship speeds and wave angles in the real voyage, the comprehensive evaluation index POT for the long-term seakeeping performance can be evaluated in the multidisciplinary ship design optimization.

3) The Optimization Results of the OSV

An optimization platform is established here with the professional software Optimus. Different modules of the offshore supply vessel are integrated in Optimus to demonstrate the application of MDO in ship design. The exact solution framework is shown in Fig. 10. The MDO method is used to get the optimum results which are shown in Table 6 and the optimized hull lines of OSV is shown in Fig. 11.

VI. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, a new SVR algorithm was proposed to establish the metamodels for predicting the ship seakeeping performance of OSV. The validity and reliability of the proposed approach has been evaluated in several different ways. Comparing it to ANN and the classical SVR, the proposed SPL-SVR can achieve more accurate results. At the meantime, using metamodels in place of computationally expensive computer models and simulations can drastically reduce the design time and enable designers and decision makers to explore larger range of feasible design solutions.

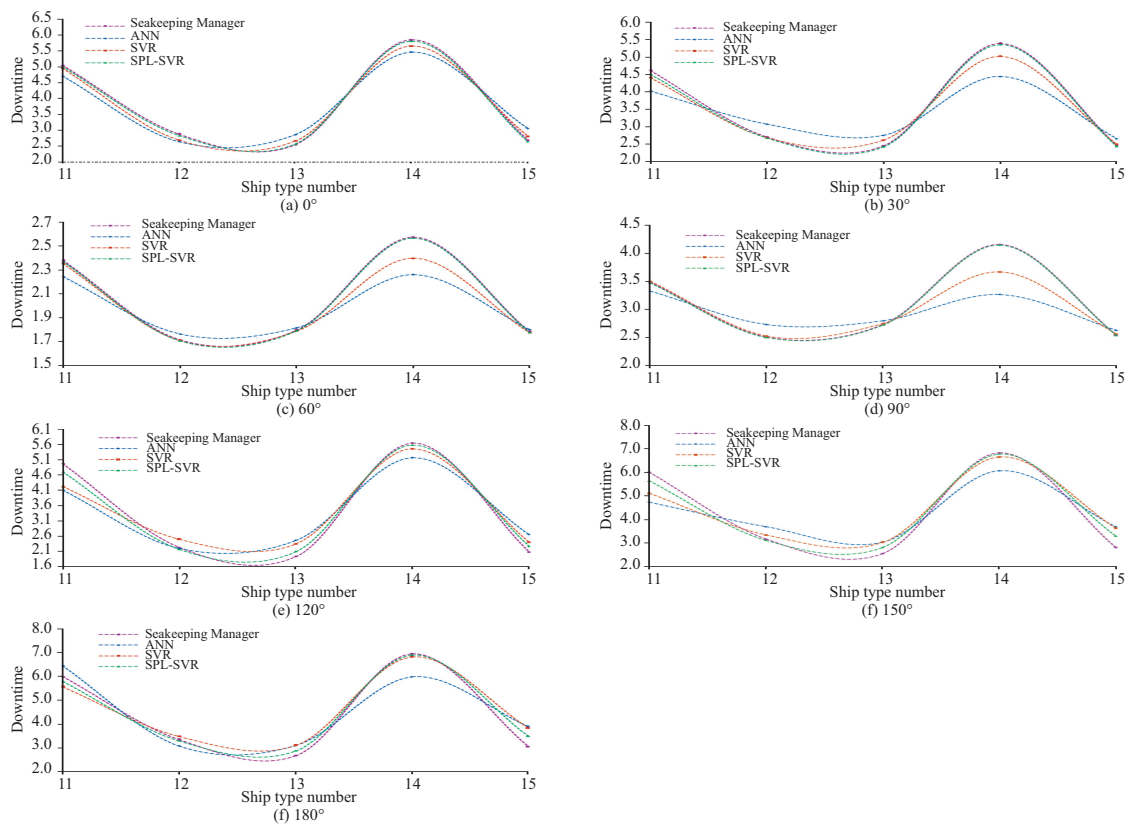


Fig. 8. Fitting curves of ship type 11 to 15 ($V_s = 0$ knots).

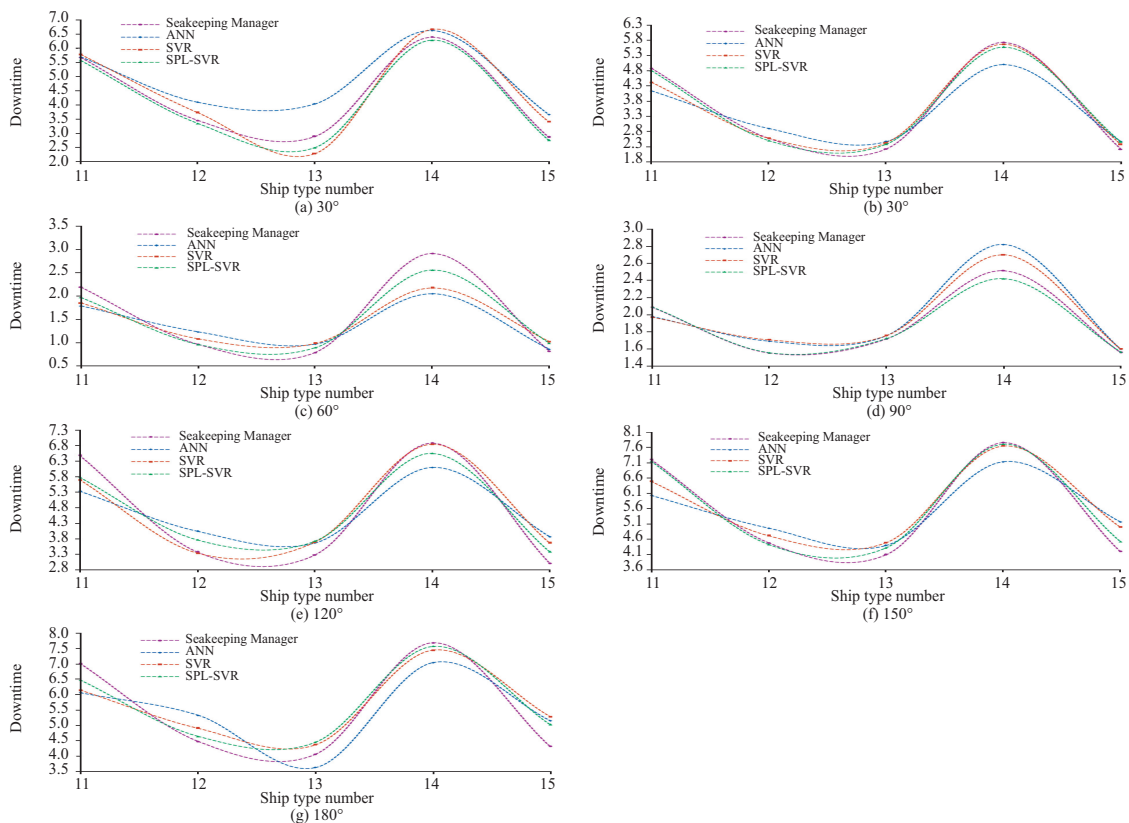


Fig. 9. Fitting curves of ship type 11 to 15 ($V_s = 14.5$ knots).

Table 5. Results with Relative Error for downtime POT_{short} with wave angle 30° ($V_s = 0$ knots).

Ship type number	Seakeeping Manager	ANN		SVR		SPL-SVR	
	Value (%)	Value (%)	Relative Error	Value (%)	Relative Error	Value (%)	Relative Error
11	4.61	4.03	-12.62%	4.41	-4.40%	4.50	-2.28%
12	2.71	3.08	13.49%	2.69	-0.91%	2.68	-1.22%
13	2.46	2.76	12.07%	2.62	6.56%	2.43	-1.35%
14	5.39	4.44	-17.58%	5.02	-6.83%	5.35	-0.65%
15	2.47	2.66	7.54%	2.50	1.19%	2.44	-1.34%

Table 6. The optimization result of OSV.

Variables	Symbol	Initial design	Optimum
Length	L/m	108.8	112.6
Breadth	B/m	25.2	25.8
Depth	D/m	10.6	10.2
Draught	T/m	6.5	6.6
Block coefficient	C_b	0.770	0.758
Prismatic coefficient	C_p	0.783	0.774
Longitudinal centre of buoyancy	L_{CB}/m	-1.0	-0.62
Speedability	$C_{SP}/(10^{-3})$	4.05	3.86
Seakeeping	Seakeeping	3.81	3.74
Manoeuvring	Manoeuvring	1.33	1.36
Cost	$Cost/ \$(10^7)$	9.03	9.72
Object	F	11.81	11.55

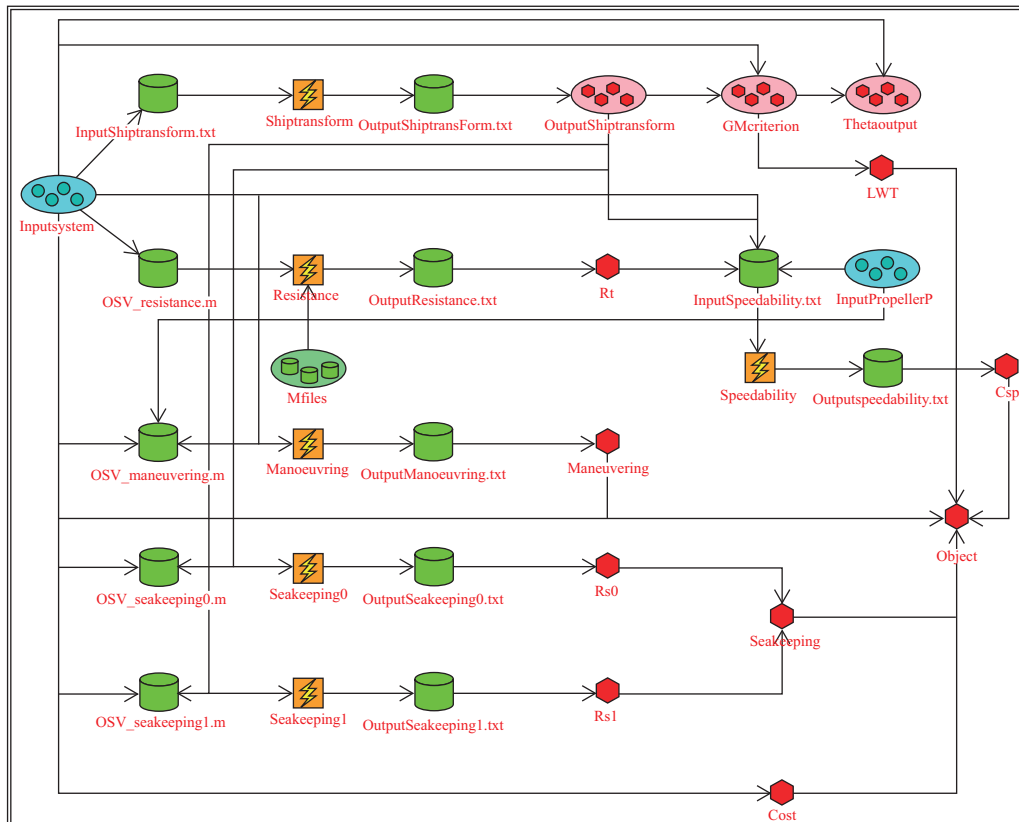


Fig. 10. The framework for optimization in Optimus.

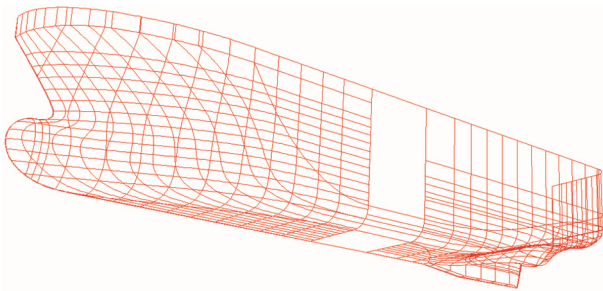


Fig. 11. The optimized hull lines of OSV.

Further research will focus on the construction of metamodels of ship performance including ship resistance and manoeuvring for different commercial ships at the preliminary design stage, also together with the integration method in Multidisciplinary Design Optimization. In the future, we believe that metamodel-based optimization will have numerous potential applications in the field of marine engineering and ship design.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors wish to thank the National Natural Science Foundation of China (Grant No. 51509114), the Natural Science Foundation of Jiangsu Province of China (Grant No. BK2012696, No. BK2009722) and the Project funded by the Priority Academic Program Development of Jiangsu Higher Education Institutions (PAPD) for their financial support.

REFERENCE

- Balabanov, O. (1997). Development of approximations for HSCT wing bending material weight using response surface methodology. Ph. D. Thesis, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA.
- Hogben, N., N. Dacunha and G. Oliver (1986). Global wave statistics. British Maritime Technology, 230-235.
- Hoque, S., B. Farouk and C. N. Haas (2011). Development of artificial neural network based metamodels for inactivation of anthrax spores in ventilated spaces using computational fluid dynamics. *Journal of the Air & Waste Management Association* 61(9), 968-982.
- Leifsson, L. and S. Koziel (2010). Multi-fidelity design optimization of transonic airfoils using physics-based surrogate modeling and shape-preserving response prediction. *Journal of Computational Science* 1(2), 98-106.
- Li, D., Y. Guan and Y. Li (2012a). Multidisciplinary design collaborative optimization for the offshore supply vessel. *Ship Engineering* 34(6), 42-48.
- Li, D., Y. Guan, Q. Wang and Z. Chen (2012b). Support vector regression-based multidisciplinary design optimization for ship design. *Proceedings of the 31th International Conference on Ocean, Offshore and Arctic Engineering*, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- Li, D., Z. Jiang and Y. Yang (2012c). Multidisciplinary and multi-objective design optimization based on adaptive weighted-sum method. *Ship-building of China* 53(4), 75-83.
- Li, D., Z. Yao and Y. Guan (2013). Improved Multidisciplinary Design Collaborative Optimization for Offshore Supply Vessel. *Journal of Jiangsu University of Science and Technology (Natural Science Edition)* 27(1), 10-13.
- McKay, M. D., W. J. Conover and R. J. Beckman (1979). A comparison of three methods for selecting values of input variables in the analysis of output from a computer code. *Technometrics* 21(2), 45-51.
- Özüm, S., B. Sener and H. Yilmaz (2011). A parametric study on seakeeping assessment of fast ships in conceptual design stage. *Ocean Engineering* 38(13), 1439-1447.
- Smola, A. J. and B. Schölkopf (2004). A tutorial on support vector regression. *Statistics and Computing* 14, 199-222.
- Vapnik, V. (1995). *The Nature of Statistical Learning Theory*. Springer-Verlag, 21-35.
- Vapnik, V. (2005). Universal learning technology: support vector machines. *NEC Journal of Advanced Technology* 2(2), 137-144.
- Yun, Y., M. Yoon and H. Nakayama (2009). Multi-objective optimization based on meta-modeling by using support vector regression. *Optimization Engineer* 10, 167-181.
- Zhang, G., G. Wang, X. Li and Y. Ren (2013). Global optimization of reliability design for large ball mill gear transmission based on the Kriging model and genetic algorithm. *Mechanism and Machine Theory* 69, 321-336.