Modeling Component Failure Rates Utilizing Sensor-Based Degradation Data

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www.inl.gov

Probabilistic Safety Assessment and Management PSAM 14, September 2018, Los Angeles, CA





















$\lambda(\mathbf{z}) = \lambda_0 exp(\beta \mathbf{z})$

- z is a matrix of performance data of dimension $M \times N$. M is the Test # and N is the performance data
 - Vibration, temperature, flow-rate, pressure, loading etc.
- λ_0 is the baseline failure rate
- β is an unknown parameter



- λ_F be the failure rate when the component failed
- λ_F is obtained from a population of failed components
- $\lambda \sim \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta)$ prior distribution
- N failed components with time to failure $t_1, t_2 \dots, t_N$
- Updating distribution of λ using Bayesian inference
- $\lambda_{\mathrm{F}} \sim Gamma(\alpha + N, \beta + \sum_{i=1}^{N} t_i)$



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Motor Testing*

- Ten three phase 5-HP, 3600 rpm motors
- Each motor was run to failure while underdoing accelerated degradation on a weekly basis
- A cyclic thermal aging process designed to induce accelerated insulation breakdown and corrosion within the motors
 - 1. Heated for three days in an oven.
 - 2. Placed in a moisture testing bed with high humidity for further degradation
 - 3. Allowed to cool for a few hours
 - 4. Placed in the second heating cycle for three additional days
 - 5. Placed on a test bed and run for one hour
- Each motor was mounted on a test bed, connected to a generator, and instrumented with a data collection system to collect various signals



Measurement Data

- Fifteen different parameters were measured for each motor:
 - Input Current and Voltage for each of the three phases (1-6)
 - Phase angle (7)
 - Vibration horizontal and vertical (8-9)
 - Acoustic amplitude (10)
 - Tachometer data (11)
 - Speed in rpm (12)
 - Output current and voltage (13-14)
 - Temperature (15)
- One parameter is used to keep the methodology simple to demonstrate
- The acoustic data was found to be most significant in capturing motor degradation
- A subset of five motors (# 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6) that demonstrated the strongest accustic signals was used

Motor	2	.3	4	5	6
Time to Failure (L)	150	131	156	133	151

Acoustic Data



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Acoustic Data



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Outlier Detection and Smoothing





Window Size for Moving Variance

Window size = 2

Low mean High standard deviation

Window size = L

High mean Low standard deviation



Optimum Window Size

Objective function = ABS(Mean - Standard deviation)





Moving Variance with Optimum Window Size

Average of optimum window size = 73



- Mean failure rate $\lambda_0 = 4.54 \times 10^{-6}/hr$ and $\alpha = 1.655$ obtained from NUREG/CR-6928
- $t_i = 150, 131, 156, 133, 151$ hours, $i = 1, \dots, 5$

•
$$\lambda_{\mathrm{F}} \sim Gamma(\alpha + 5, \beta + \sum_{i=1}^{5} t_i)$$

•
$$\lambda(z) = \begin{cases} \lambda_0 & z < z_{th}, \\ \lambda_0 exp(\beta z) & z \ge z_{th}. \end{cases}$$

• $z_{th} = 0.2$ as onset of degradation









Conclusion and Future Work

- A framework to model failure rates of components as a function of their performance measure is demonstrated
- An exponential model is proposed and is modeled using the failure rate of component in a healthy state
- Failure rate obtained in a failed state from Bayesian inference
- The model is demonstrated using experimental data obtained from an accelerated degradation test
- The failure rate evolution is modeled as a function of moving variance of the RMS value of acoustic amplitude
- The model can be used for estimating the mean failure rate of components under degradation
- Future work entails incorporating multivariate covariates into the exponential model of failure rate, and performing rigorous validation of the proposed model



Acknowledgment

- Work supported through the INL Laboratory Directed Research& Development (LDRD) Program under DOE Idaho Operations Office Contract DE-AC07-05ID14517.
- The University of Tennessee, Knoxville for the motor degradation data