Analysis of Acoustic Emission Data for Bearings subject to Unbalance

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ABSTRACT

Acoustic Emission (AE) is an effective nondestructive method for investigating the behavior of materials under stress. In recent decades, AE applications in structural health monitoring have been extended to other areas such as rotating machineries and cutting tools. This research investigates the application of acoustic emission data for unbalance analysis and detection in rotary systems. The AE parameter of interest in this study is a discrete variable that covers the significance of count, duration and amplitude of AE signals. A statistical model based on Zero-Inflated Poisson (ZIP) regression is proposed to handle overdispersion and excess zeros of the counting data. The ZIP model indicates that faulty bearings can generate more transient wave in the AE waveform. Control charts can easily detect the faulty bearing using the parameters of the ZIP model. Categorical data analysis based on generalized linear models (GLM) is also presented. The results demonstrate the significance of the couple unbalance.

1. INTRODUCTION

Acoustic emission (AE) is defined as transient elastic waves generated due to localized physical changes in a solid material under mechanical or thermal stresses (Tan et al., 2007). AE is also referred to as the practical non-destructive technology to investigate the behavior of stressed materials using the transient elastic waves. The major advantage of this technology is its sensitivity to capture surface and subsurface micro-damage. It has been proven that in some cases AE can ensure superiority over vibration-based monitoring systems in early fault detection (Tan et al., 2007, Alghamd & Mba, 2006, Tandon & Mata, 1999, Eftekharnejad & Mba, 2009). In case of rolling-element bearings, AE detects the fault earlier compared to other technologies (Mba & Rao, 2006, Yoshioka & Fujiwara 1982). Significant changes in vibration signatures can be observed when the remaining operational life of a bearing is very short. Hence, AE offers good potential for prognostic capabilities. Additionally, insensitivity to structural resonance and mechanical background noise gives AE an additional advantage over typical vibration-based monitoring systems. However, AE signals may suffer severe attenuation and reflections due to sensor positioning and machine complexity. AE is a well-established diagnostic method for static structures. In recent decades, AE applications in structural health monitoring have been extended to other areas such as rotating machineries and cutting tools (Niknam & Liao, 2011). The readers are referred to ISO 22096:2007 for the general principles of AE application.

AE hit is defined as the process of detecting and measuring an AE signal on a channel (PAC, 2007). The fundamental features of the AE hit include amplitude, duration, count, and rise time. These parameters can be used to provide additional signal features such as root mean square (RMS), AE cumulative event count, counts to peak, rise time slope, crest factor and Kurtosis (Alghamd & Mba, 2006, Tandon & Mata, 1999, K. Miyachika et al. 1995, He et al. 2010, Bansal et al. 1990, Choudhury & Tandon, 2000). Figure 1 illustrates the diagram of AE hit feature extraction (PAC, 2007).

AE count is defined as the number of times the signal crosses the threshold in an AE hit. In the literature, this parameter is also known as ring down count or threshold crossing count. In effect, AE counts imply the existence of a transient wave in the AE waveform. One major drawback of this parameter is its dependence on the threshold level. It is to be noted that the average counts is a measure of AE intensity i.e. the size of the emission signals detected.
Furthermore, AE counts divided by duration gives the average frequency of the signal. The next section provides more details of the application of AE count for fault detection. The parameter of interest in this study is PAC-energy (PAC is the registered trademark of Physical Acoustics Corporation). PAC-energy is a 2-byte parameter derived from the integral of the rectified voltage signal over the duration of AE hit (PAC 2007). The unit of PAC-energy is micro-volt-seconds per count and the range is 0 to 65535 in each AE hit. Therefore, this parameter is a discrete random variable that covers the significance of count, duration and peak amplitude. Thus, the statistical models for count data can be applied for the PAC-energy.

The remainder of the paper is organized as follows: Section 2 provides the background for unbalanced systems, a review of using AE count in fault detection, and modeling of count data. Section 3 presents a detailed description of the experimental setup and the test procedure. Section 4 provides the analytical results and discussions. Finally, section 5 concludes this paper.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1. AE count

Traditionally, AE count has been widely used in the literature as condition indicator. Tandon and Mata (1999) realized that defects in gear systems would result in broader distribution of AE counts and peak amplitude. They claimed that AE counts showed better results than other AE parameters in gear defect detection. Miyachika et al. (1995) postulates that AE cumulative event count increases with crack growth in the case-hardened gears. Tandon and Nakra (1990) considered AE counts for condition monitoring of radially loaded ball bearing. They observed a direct relationship between AE count and speed in case of outer race defect. The results showed that AE count is a practical indicator for defects less than 250µm in diameter. However, Morhain and Mba (2003) declared the AE count is able to detect large defects up to 15 mm in lengths and 1 mm in width. This study also emphasized the sensitivity of AE counts to the level and grade of lubricant. AE parameter analysis for tool condition monitoring has received attentions mainly for real time applications. AE count rate was introduced as a reliable parameter for monitoring tool wear during turning, although AE signals highly depend on process parameters (Li 2002, Sharma et al. 2007). Carpinteri et al. (2007) applied AE technology to monitor concrete and masonry buildings. The cumulative number of counts was found to be informative for analyzing the evolution of cracks and determining the released strain energy. Carpinteri et al. (2007) observed that the maximum counting of AE corresponds to the maximum velocity of crack propagation. Considering the proven usefulness of AE count for various AE applications, it seems an appropriate modeling and analysis of AE count or its derivatives would lead to fruitful diagnostic. As mentioned earlier, PAC-energy is a function of AE counts and it will be used for the statistical modeling in this study.

2.2. Modeling count data

In the literature, linear regression models have been primarily utilized to correlate the AE signatures and the physical features of interest. Traditional regression (non-Bayesian) methods have been widely used to model count data in both natural and social sciences. In effect, the response variable in such models is a nonnegative integer. The most common regression-based count data model is Poisson GLM which is an extension of ordinary least
squares regression and agrees with distributions from the exponential family. The Poisson GLM has the form

\[ y \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda) \]

The log link is specified by

\[ \log \lambda = \beta_0 + \sum \beta_i x_i \]  \hspace{1cm} (1)

The logistic model where \( p \) is the probability of success is given by

\[ y \sim \text{Binomial}(p,n) \]

The logit link is given by

\[ \text{logit } p = \log \frac{p}{1-p} = \beta_0 + \sum \beta_i x_i \]  \hspace{1cm} (2)

The major drawback of Poisson regression is the restrictive assumption of equality between the variance and the mean i.e. equidispersion (Liu & Cela 2008, Lambert 1992, Guikema & Coffelt 2008). On the other hand, overdispersion occurs when the variance is greater than the mean. The overdispersion can be handled through negative binomial GLM. Generalized linear mixed models (GLMM) add an error term to GLM which is not part of our discussion.

In practice, depending on the preset reference threshold value, there may be a high frequency of zero counts in the AE signals, which indicates excess zeroes. In this case, a simple Poisson regression would not satisfactorily fit the data. Zero-inflated Poisson (ZIP) model, introduced by Lambert (1992), fittingly handles overdispersion and excess zeros. Principally, ZIP model considers the data set as a mixture of a process that generates only zeros and a process that generates counts from a Poisson or a negative binomial model. In other words, ZIP models calculate the probability \( p \) of having observations of 0. Therefore, 1-p would be the probability of having non-negative integers. Therefore the count response can be written as

\[ Y_i \sim 0 \quad \text{with probability } p_i \]
\[ Y_i \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_i) \quad \text{with probability } 1-p_i \]

Thus,

\[ Y_i = 0 \quad \text{with probability } p_i + (1-p_i)e^{-\lambda_i} \]
\[ Y_i = k \quad \text{with probability } (1-p_i)e^{-\lambda_i}\frac{\lambda_i^k}{k!} \]

Consider the following regression models for \( \lambda = [\lambda_1, \lambda_2, ..., \lambda_n] \) and \( p = [p_1, p_2, ..., p_n] \):

\[ \ln(\lambda) = \mathbb{B} \beta, \quad \text{logit} (p) = \ln \left( \frac{p}{1-p} \right) = \mathbb{G} y \]

where \( \mathbb{B} \) and \( \mathbb{G} \) are covariate matrices (design matrices), \( \beta \) and \( y \) are regression coefficients.

Accordingly, the log-likelihood function is

\[ L(\beta, \gamma | y) = \sum_{y_i=0}^{n_i} \ln(e^\mathbb{G}_i \gamma + \exp(-e^{\mathbb{B}_i \beta})) - \sum_{y_i=1}^{n_i} \ln(1 + e^\mathbb{G}_i \gamma) + \sum_{y_i=p_i}^{n_i} \ln(y_i \chi_i \beta - e^{\mathbb{B}_i \beta}) - \ln(y_i !) \]  \hspace{1cm} (3)

By using \( \ln(\lambda) = \mathbb{B} \beta \) and \( \text{logit} (p) = \ln \left( \frac{p}{1-p} \right) = \mathbb{G} y \) we conclude

\[ \lambda_i = \exp(\mathbb{B}_i \beta), \quad \text{and } p_i = \frac{\exp(\mathbb{G}_i \gamma)}{1+\exp(\mathbb{G}_i \gamma)} \]  \hspace{1cm} (4)

Hence, using the delta method, the variances of \( \hat{\beta} \) and \( \hat{\lambda} \) are

\[ \text{cov}(\hat{\lambda}_i, \hat{p}_i) = \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right] \right] \text{cov}(\hat{\theta}, \hat{\beta}) \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda_i} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right] \right]' \]

and \( \delta \text{ov}(\hat{\beta}) = \sqrt{\text{var}(\hat{\beta})}, \delta \text{ov}(\hat{\lambda}) = \sqrt{\text{var}(\hat{\lambda})} \)

### 2.3. Unbalanced rotary systems

The lack of balance causes excessive vibration in rotary systems. Vibrations impose centrifugal force and oscillatory force. For wind turbines, unbalance occurs primarily due to uneven material deposit on the rotor about its rotating centerline. High vibration amplitude at the rotating speed is the primary indicator of this fault. Other sources of unbalance include imperfect manufacturing and operational changes. Bearings are a significant contributor to unbalance in rotary system because of internal clearance and run-out. In effect, the existence of heavy spot in rotors leads to shaft bending and cyclical forces on bearing. Both centrifugal and oscillatory forces affect the bearing life. The magnitude of centrifugal force can be obtained by

\[ F_c = m r \omega^2 \]  \hspace{1cm} (5)

where \( m \) represents mass, \( \omega \) represents the angular speed and \( r \) is the radius from center of rotation.

There are various types of unbalance based upon the relation between the center of gravity (CG) and the heavy spot. In static unbalance, the CG and the heavy spot are in the same plane. Couple unbalance occurs due to existence of two equal heavy spots which are 180 degrees apart. In this case, the shaft axis intersects the principal mass at the CG. Couple unbalance imposes radial force on bearings. Dynamic unbalance is the most common type of unbalance and it represents a combination of static and couple unbalance. In essence, balancing treats the cause rather than symptom. Balancing may involve the followings: correction of mass distribution, creating centrifugal force, changing orientation of parts and adding/removing mass from non-rotating part (Wowk 1995). These actions would provide mass symmetry, change the center of gravity, and affect bending moments. It is important to note that cyclical forces on bearings measured through vibration analysis are utilized for balancing. However, in this research, the magnitudes of the
balancing masses were found graphically. Details pertaining to the unbalance disks are presented in the next section.

3. EXPERIMENTAL SET-UP AND PROCEDURE

A multi-purpose test rig was designed and developed to simulate the drive train of wind turbines. Figure 2 shows the test rig. A WindMax 2 kW wind turbine generator was used in this setup. The test rig’s motor provided a rotational speed in the range of 10-1760 round/min. The control drive along with a LabVIEW-based program allowed the motor to provide variable speed according to a pre-defined speed pattern. Other main components of the test rig include a single phase planetary gearbox, support bearings, and two test bearings of different size.

To impose the unbalance force two uniform disks with the diameter of 6 inch and the thickness of 1 inch were used. To be able to attach the disks to the shaft and also change the angle of the disks, a shaft collar with a thickness of 0.5 inch was welded to each disk (Figure 3). An off-center hole with the diameter of 1.375 inch was then made for each disk as shown in Figure 5.

The mass of the disk with and without the hole were approximately 8 pounds and 7.6 pounds respectively. The new center of gravity moved off-center about 0.078 inch. The disks could be placed between the test bearings as shown in Figure 2. Consequently, several different sets of experiments could be performed by changing the number and orientation of the disks. In this study, the following loading configurations were used: no disk, one disk, two disks with an angle of zero, two disks with an angle of 120 and two disks with an angle of 180 namely couple unbalance.

In this study, three major variables were considered: (1) bearing type, (2) shaft speed and (3) unbalance. Table 1 shows different categories of the variables. As shown in the table, three speed levels, three bearing types, and 5 loading patterns were designed for the experiments.
A 2-channel PCI-2 based AE system was utilized for data acquisition. The PAC R15I-AST acoustic sensor was used. This sensor has an operating frequency range of 80-200 kHz. The sensor housing contains a filter and an integral preamplifier of 40 dB. With an improved 18 bit analogue to digital conversion scheme, PCI-2 board provides a sampling rate of up to 40 MHz and a dynamic range of more than 85 dB. This data acquisition system is able to record up to 65535 counts per hit. The data acquisition was performed with a sampling rate of 5 mega points per seconds. The upper and lower limit of filter was set to 10 KHz and 1 MHz respectively. The sensors were placed on the bearing housing as shown in Figure 3. The sensor which was placed on the top provided more data than the sensor which was on the side of the housing. In essence, one can expect less data from the side sensor due to the interfaces that exist between the source and the side sensor. In figures 6 and 7 the left graph shows the energy collected from the top sensor and the graph on the right shows the energy collected from the side sensor. As shown in these figures, data from the side sensor is not really helpful. In Figure 6 the seeded fault was exactly below the top sensor. Experimenting various position of the seeded fault, it was realized that placing the fault exactly below the top sensor provides more energy.

In Figure 7 the seeded fault was placed 90 degrees apart from the top sensor and 180 degrees apart from the side sensor. For our analysis, only the data collected from the top sensor was utilized. Moreover, the movement of the bearing with inside the housing was negligible.

The results of variable speed tests indicate the sensitivity of AE count to the shaft speed as shown in Figure 8 where the speed was gradually changed from 0 to 300 rpm and dropped back to 0.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1. Categorical data analysis

The data set for the categorical data analysis consisted of data from six bearings: one faulty bearing, two used bearing and three new bearings. The cumulative energy (CE) was...
selected as the response variable. The objective of this categorical analysis is to reveal the effects of explanatory variables (i.e. bearing, speed and unbalance) on the response variable. Due to time limit, it was not possible to perform all the loading patterns for the speed level of 150 and 450 rpm. Although, this can be a drawback for the categorical analysis, the results are satisfactory. The GENMOD procedure in SAS was used to conduct the statistical tests. This procedure fits a GLM to the data by maximum likelihood estimation. Through an iterative fitting process, the parameters of the model are numerically estimated in this procedure. Based on the asymptotic normality of maximum likelihood estimators, standard errors, and p-values of the estimated parameters are computed. The parameter with the smallest p-value will be the most significant parameter in that category. The GENMOD procedure provides a number of probability distributions and link functions such as log-link function.

4.1.1 Analysis of AE data with various speed levels

The categorical data analysis (CDA) shows that speed has the most significant effect among the explanatory variables. The bearing type has the least significant effect with the p-value of 0.6295 (Table 2). Figure 6 supports the SAS results, that speed would positively affect the number of count and the energy of the signal. The interaction between explanatory variables (speed, unbalance and bearing) is added to the model. This 3-way interaction is significant (p-value = 0.1041). This model shows that speed and unbalance have significant effects on the CE level (Table 3).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Estimate</th>
<th>Standard Error</th>
<th>Pr &gt; Chi Sq.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>intercept</td>
<td>0.1278</td>
<td>0.3054</td>
<td>0.6757</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bearing</td>
<td>-0.0475</td>
<td>0.0985</td>
<td>0.6295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>speed</td>
<td>0.0011</td>
<td>0.0007</td>
<td>0.1254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unbalance</td>
<td>0.0336</td>
<td>0.0493</td>
<td>0.4962</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2. CDA – Model 1

A new model was built based on the interactions between every two explanatory variables (Table 4). The most significant interaction is the bearing-unbalance. In this case, unbalance type is the most significant variable. The effect of categories of each variable on the AE generation was then investigated. One category was selected as the baseline and the significance of the other categories were analyzed. For speed, 450 rpm was selected as the baseline. As expected, the results indicate that this speed level is more significant than the other two levels. The bearing type 3 (i.e. faulty) was the baseline to analyze bearing types. As shown in the Table 5, type 1 (new bearing) and 2 (used bearing) are not significant compared to the faulty bearing. For the unbalance, type 5 was the baseline. As shown in the Table 6, type 1 and 2 are not significant at all compared to the couple unbalance i.e. type 5. Interestingly, the SAS output results indicate that couple unbalance is the most significant type of unbalance in comparison with type 3 and 4. This result is very similar to the graphical balancing calculation that shows couple unbalance needs the highest amount of balancing mass.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Estimate</th>
<th>Standard Error</th>
<th>Pr &gt; Chi Sq.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>bearing</td>
<td>0.0924</td>
<td>0.3834</td>
<td>0.8095</td>
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<td>speed</td>
<td>0.0013</td>
<td>0.0025</td>
<td>0.6070</td>
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<tr>
<td>unbalance</td>
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<td>0.2128</td>
<td>0.0027</td>
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<td>bearing-speed</td>
<td>0.0013</td>
<td>0.0010</td>
<td>0.1604</td>
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<td>bearing-unbal.</td>
<td>-0.1836</td>
<td>0.0679</td>
<td>0.0069</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>speed-unbal.</td>
<td>-0.0008</td>
<td>0.0005</td>
<td>0.1094</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4. CDA – Model 1 with 2-way interactions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Estimate</th>
<th>Standard Error</th>
<th>Pr &gt; Chi Sq.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>intercept</td>
<td>0.1088</td>
<td>0.3034</td>
<td>0.7199</td>
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<td></td>
<td>bearing</td>
<td>0.0101</td>
<td>0.199</td>
<td>0.9593</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>speed</td>
<td>-0.2117</td>
<td>0.2195</td>
<td>0.3347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>unbalance</td>
<td>0.0011</td>
<td>0.0007</td>
<td>0.1256</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5. CDA - Bearing 3 is the baseline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Estimate</th>
<th>Standard Error</th>
<th>Pr &gt; Chi Sq.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>bearing</td>
<td>-0.0421</td>
<td>0.0986</td>
<td>0.6696</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>speed</td>
<td>0.0009</td>
<td>0.0009</td>
<td>0.3432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>unbalance</td>
<td>0.0808</td>
<td>0.214</td>
<td>0.7058</td>
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<td>unbalance</td>
<td>-0.2115</td>
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<td>0.4521</td>
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<td></td>
<td>unbalance</td>
<td>-0.4037</td>
<td>0.2917</td>
<td>0.1664</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>unbalance</td>
<td>0.3487</td>
<td>0.251</td>
<td>0.1648</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 6: CDA – Unbalance type 5 is the baseline

4.1.2 Analysis of AE data without the effect of speed

Since it was realized that speed has the most significant effect on CE, the next set of statistical tests were conducted with the speed level of 300 rpm. Having more data was the reason for selecting this speed level. The results of this data analysis indicated that unbalance is more significant in the
absence of speed effect (Table 7). Similar to the case with various speeds, adding the interactions of these variables lead to the results that all the inputs are significant.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Estimate</th>
<th>Standard Error</th>
<th>Pr &gt; Chi Sq</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>intercept</td>
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<td>0.3326</td>
<td>0.2084</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bearing</td>
<td>-0.1906</td>
<td>0.1393</td>
<td>0.1712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unbalance</td>
<td>0.1362</td>
<td>0.0706</td>
<td>0.0538</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 7: Categorical data analysis – without the effect of speed

4.2. ZIP model

The independent variables in this study were shaft speed and unbalance. The amount of mass required for balancing was used as the unbalance values in the ZIP model. The graphical balancing techniques were utilized to calculate the amount of the balancing mass. The procedure of balancing considers both the balance of forces and couples. It is to be noted that couple unbalance (type 5) needs the highest amount of mass for balancing.

The COUNTREG procedure in SAS was used to develop the ZIP models. This procedure performs nonlinear optimization. Two iterative minimization method were applied; (1) the quasi-Newton method and (2) the Newton-Raphson method. The ZIP models provide the probability (P) of obtaining zeros and the parameter (λ) for the Poisson model. The probability of obtaining zero for the faulty bearing is almost zero for all the tests. This implies the existence of strong burst signal in all the AE hits. To provide a fair comparison, Figure 9 shows the λ for different unbalance types at the speed level of 300 rpm.

In this graph, bearing 9 represents the faulty bearing; bearing 7 and 8 represent the used bearings. It is clear that the highest values of λ belong to either used or the faulty bearings. It implies that these bearing generate stronger burst signals in comparison with all the six new bearings used in this study. It is interesting to note that the highest λ (= 429) was obtained for the couple unbalance of the faulty bearing.

In order to provide a platform for diagnostics, cumulative sum (CUSUM) chart was utilized (He et al., 2011, Montgomery2001, Leger et al., 1998). This chart detects the deviation of the process mean through cumulative sums of the shift between sample averages from a target value. CUSUM charts are sensitive to small and moderate changes in the process mean. Such changes, e.g. one-sigma shift in the mean, are hardly detectable by Shewhart-charts. The run chart of CUSUM displays the successive differences between the sample average and the target i.e. process mean. The two-sided tabular CUSUM chart is defined by

\[ S^n(n) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } n = 0 \\ \max(0, S^n(n-1) + (x_n - \bar{\mu}) - k\bar{\sigma}), & \text{if } n = 1, 2, \ldots \end{cases} \]

where \( x_n = \lambda_n (or \; p_n) \), \( S^n(n) \) and \( S(n) \) give the cumulation on high side and low side respectively and \( k \) is the threshold for cumulation which is also called allowable slack. This parameter is the minimum difference between the target and sample average. We have \( H = h\bar{\sigma} = \tan(\theta) d\bar{\sigma} \) as the decision interval and \( h \) is called the decision parameter as shown below.

If \( S^n(n) \) or \( S(n) \) exceeds \( H \), the process is out- of-control. Figures 10 and 11 show the two-sided CUSUM charts of \( \lambda \) and \( p \) for the case when only the new bearings were used. Here, as none of the plotted points cross the arms of the V-mask we conclude that the process is in control.

In this graph, bearing 9 represents the faulty bearing; bearing 7 and 8 represent the used bearings. It is clear that the highest values of λ belong to either used or the faulty bearings. It implies that these bearing generate stronger
Figures 12 and 13 show the CUSUM charts of $\lambda$ and $p$ for the case when used bearings were also taken into account. The chart for $\lambda$ clearly shows that the bearings experienced certain deviation and they are not as good as new bearings.

Figures 14 and 15 show the CUSUM charts of $\lambda$ and $p$ for the case when all types of bearings were taken into account. These charts clearly depict the out of control condition.

5. CONCLUSION

This paper investigates the usefulness of AE data for unbalance analysis in rotary systems. The parameter of interest in this study is the PAC-energy which covers the significance of count, duration and peak amplitude in AE signals. The categorical data analysis based on generalized linear models is presented. The results of this analysis confirm the visual observations of the AE signals during the data acquisition process. It was discovered that speed has the most significant effect on PAC-energy. The results of the categorical analysis indicated that loading patterns with two disks were more significant. More importantly, the results specified the significance of couple unbalance. In addition, it was also understood that bearing types influence the level of cumulative energy. It was realized that the faulty bearing is the most significant in producing more PAC-energy. Interestingly, the effect of used bearing was more significant than new bearings in this respect.

A statistical model based on Zero-Inflated Poisson regression is presented to handle over-dispersion and excess zeros of the counting data. Combined with CUSUM chart, the ZIP model can provide a platform to diagnose the faults in bearings. It was observed that CUSUM charts of both $\lambda$ and $p$ can be utilized for fault detection and also to track the
health of bearings. It was also observed that while unbalance influences the amplitude of signal, speed directly affects the probability of getting more zero counts.

For more effective diagnosis, the pattern of control charts can be recognized through artificial intelligence methods. Moreover, distribution-free tabular CUSUM chart can be investigated. It is noteworthy to point that AE can be utilized to detect and quantify unbalance in the rotary systems. However, it is essential to consider the sources of uncertainty such as the instrumentation errors, rotor system nonlinearities, stiffness (rotor, bearing support and foundation), and the nature of bearings.

REFERENCES


**Biographies**

Seyed A. Niknam received the B.Sc. degree in mechanical engineering in 2003, the M.Sc. degree in advanced manufacturing systems from Brunel University in 2006, and the M.Sc. degree in reliability and maintainability engineering from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 2011. Currently, he is a PhD candidate in the department of Industrial and Systems Engineering at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He has been working as the instructor of the core courses in the reliability and maintainability engineering program since January 2012. His research interests include reliability of repairable systems, diagnostics and prognostics.

Tomcy Thomas received his B.E. (Electronics) from Marathwada University, India in 1991. He received his MBA (Operations Management) from IGNO University, India in 2000. He received his MS (Engineering Management) from the University of Tennessee in 2010. He is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. His research interests include energy management, reliability engineering and supply chain optimization.

Dr. J. Wesley Hines is currently the Nuclear Engineering Department Head at the University of Tennessee. He has served as Interim Associate Dean for Research in the College of Engineering and more recently as Interim Vice Chancellor for Research for the Campus. He received the BS degree in Electrical Engineering from Ohio University in 1985, and then served as a nuclear qualified submarine officer in the US Navy. He later received both an MBA and an MS in Nuclear Engineering from The Ohio State University in 1992, and a Ph.D. in Nuclear Engineering from The Ohio State University in 1994. He has been with the University for 18 years. Dr. Hines teaches and conducts research in artificial intelligence and advanced statistical techniques applied to process diagnostics, condition based maintenance, and prognostics; and has made notable accomplishments in the invention and development of reliability enhancing condition monitoring technologies. These technologies have allowed operators to understand the condition of vital assets and in several cases to predict their remaining useful life with quantifiable confidence bounds. He has authored over 275 papers and has three patents that have been implemented in commercial products.

Dr. Rapinder Sawhney has been a faculty member with the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISE) for almost two decades. He was named as head of ISE and Weston Fulton Professor in 2010. He is also a faculty member of the Center for Interdisciplinary Research and Graduate Education (CIRE), a joint effort between UT and ORNL focused on renewable energy. Sawhney received his Ph.D in engineering science and mechanics from the University of Tennessee. He is a member of the Institute for Industrial Engineers and the American Society of Quality and is also a committee member for the Boeing Welliver Fellowship Committee and the Institute of Industrial Engineers Lean Division.