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Distributional Considerations in Inference based
Condition Monitoring Stages: Detection, Diagnosis, Prognosis.

Abstract
The major focus of condition monitoring (CM) is in its' prognostic and fault prediction abilities, the power of which is determined by selecting appropriate analytical techniques. Making the correct distributional and theoretical assumptions is the key to model robustness and strength of inference. Likewise a condition based rather than time interval based maintenance regime ensures near optimal performance for the duration of process operation.

1. Detection
Identifying faults or deviant behaviour through variable profiling. Figures 1 and 2 show ICL to exhibit very different characteristics to the other fault cases.

Distributions exhibiting severe negative skew may be represented by the Beta distribution with suitable shape parameters p and q and upper and lower data bounds a and b or by Extreme Value Distributions.

2. Diagnosis.
Having detected a deviation from the norm during operation accurate diagnosis of the source is critical. The more timely and precise the diagnosis of a fault, the greater the opportunity for planned maintenance potentially reducing the impact of disruption due to need for emergency intervention.

Kurtosis Fault
< 1.9 Loose belt
2.0-0.1 DVL
> 2.2 ICL
1.19-1.9270 * Healthy
1.9270-1.95 SVL
* mid-point of healthy and SVL means.

No obvious clustering by either summary statistic or combination.

3. Prognosis
The ultimate skill of the condition monitoring process is the ability to make evidence based predictions of future behaviour based on current and past performance. Multivariate statistical analyses of historical data through monitoring deviations from expected or normal operating conditions or target values is utilised in the construction and assessment of prognostic modelling.

Data distributions.

Summary and future work.
Whilst partitioning the data by number segment and clustering segment means and kurtosis proved effective in determining an elementary rule for assigning to fault case through examining the first stage pressure measurements this was ineffective in the case of the vibration methods and would not be robust should a sequence of faults develop. On the other hand clustering algorithms based on the raw data would, if computationally possible, put too great a burden on resources. Future work is to focus on identifying the distributional characteristics of the data, estimation of distribution parameters (location, scale and shape), multivariate modelling and subsequent sensitivity analysis.

Figure 5 Typical data distributions in theory allow use of just a few parameters to model data.

Fig.6 In reality data distributions are complex and require more detailed exploratory investigations to establish suitable models.