



Detection and monitoring of bearings: a hybrid approach based on vibration analysis and data

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# Context and objectives





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## **Predictive maintenance of bearings**

- Rotating mechanical component
  - Support for gears, shafts, discs, etc.



• Equip helicopters, aircraft engines, landing gears, power transmissions systems (AGB, RGB, etc.)



A bearing that is supporting the rotation of a shaft Safran Tech / Digital Sciences & Technology / 20-06-2023

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#### Bearings are prone to failure

- Difficult environmental conditions (temperature), severe operating conditions (high speed and load)
- <u>Significant consequences</u>: maintenance tools, engine failure



A bearing defect

- Vibration health monitoring
  - A defective bearing emits specific vibrations





Vibrations caused by a bearing defect



## Database

- A test bench in Safran Helicopter Engines (Bordes)
- Inner ring damage of a bearing
- Number of tested bearings: 10 bearings
- **Position**: 4 bearings Front/ 6 bearings Back



#### Main sensors

- <u>Vibrations</u>: 4 accelerometers (2 casing / 2 support)
- <u>Gastop</u>: measures the amount of iron particles released by the defective bearing into the oil circuit
- <u>Test conditions</u>: load, speed
- Acquisition : 2 phases
  - Initiation: the defect is created by artificially indenting the inner ring of the bearing
  - <u>Propagation</u>: The defect was detected (partially) by the gastop

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## **Objectives and constraints**

 Develop an assistance tool to help Safran experts for predictive maintenance of bearings using vibration data

- 1. Indicate to the expert, the signals to be analyzed with priority
  - A classification task : target variable = phase either <u>initiation (healthy)</u> or <u>propagation (faulty)</u>
- 2. When it comes to estimating the degradation of a bearing, provide the expert with a pre-trained model on previous bearings of the same type
  - A regression task: target variable=gastop
- 3. Bonus: perform **pre-processing** steps, such as normalizing the data relative to the test conditions

### A hybrid approach: ML/signal

- Leverage physics, expertise, and experts knowledge
- Simple, reproducible and scalabe





# **Overview**



## **Overview**





# **Step 1: Data preparation**



#### Raw data

- 677 samples
- Each sample is a time series of 3M data points

#### Data formatting

- Time series segmentation: 33,665 samples
- Replace the time series with approximately 300 indicators
- Load and Gastop are unavailable for multiple tests



	AbsMean	Peak	ZCR	Size	Spectrum_Mean	Spectrum_Peak	Spe
0	2.926541	23.948912	0.391512	409600	0.004283	0.455834	
1	3.579618	34.597335	0.386617	409600	0.005185	0.455920	
2	1.769216	12.204674	0.460372	409600	0.002519	0.451814	
3	4 000478	35 851585	0.394315	409600	0.006018	0 456674	





# **Step 1: Data preparation**



#### Feature engineering

- Semi-automatic generation: a sequence of transformations followed by a scalar indicator
  - Transformations derived from signal processing techniques
  - Simple scalar indicators, statistical in nature



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## **Step 2: Bias correction**



#### Test conditions bias

- High variability in speed and load
  - Load and speed are discriminative variables of the defect phase
  - Health indicators are sensitive to test conditions



#### Consequences on the learning process

- <u>Classification</u>: Learning the difference in test conditions rather than the defect
- <u>Regression</u>: Model performance degrades when test conditions differ from training conditions
- Iso-conditions : Loss of information/not always feasible



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## **Step 2: Bias correction**



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## **Step 2: Bias correction**



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#### Choice of the database

- Data with iso-conditions: fewer samples
- Selected indicators: fewer variables (indicators)
- Corrected indicators: need for load and speed data

#### Model choice

- One model = One estimator + A set of indicators
- Experiments with <u>multiple estimators</u>
- Search for the <u>best parameters through cross-validation</u>
- Search for the best model with progressive feature selection (model with 1 variable, 2 variables, multiple variables, etc.).

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#### Validation choice

 Leave-One-Bearing-Out: Validate the model 's ability to generalize to new bearings



SAFRAN



Model construction

# Focus on the regression task



## **Description (1/2)**

#### In/Out

- Inputs : Indicators computed on vibration data
- Target : RMS of gastop (in log scale)
- Anomaly ⇒ data in the **propagation phase**
- Gastop ⇒ only available for 4 bearings
- Some errors in the gastop measurements <u>are currently being ignored</u>







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#### Models

- Estimators: linear regression, SVR (Support Vector Regression), decision tree, random forest
- Parameter tuning: cross-validation
- Metric: mean absolute error
- Validation : Leave-One-Bearing-Out

#### Experiments

- Experiment 1: data with iso-conditions (Not possible)
- Experiment 2: selected indicators with the least correlation to test conditions (from the ones computed on preprocessed vibration with NAMVOC)
- Experiment 3: corrected indicators using data-driven method



## **Main results**

Score (MAE +/- std)

- **Best model** with 3 explanatory variables
- Best indicators: moments on amplitude and frequency spectrum
- Results consistent with expert analysis of some signals
  - ✓ The spectrum becomes richer with the progression of the defect
  - ✓ The characteristic defect frequencies change as the defect progresses
- The proposed correction step provides better variables
- Importance of choosing the sensor



Predicting the gastop value from vibrations

	Selected indicators	Selected indicators + Corrected indicators
Sensor casing	0.85±0.45	0.62 ±0.21
Sensor support	0.75±0.13	0.52±0.20

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# Conclusion and perspectives



## Conclusion

### Development of an Expert assistance tool for bearing monitoring

- Preprocess to normalize the data with respect to test conditions
- Classify signals as suspicious/healthy in a dataset
- Infer the size of defects from vibrations in the presence of an anomaly

### Challenges encountered and Proposed solutions

Task	Challenge	Proposed solution	Limitation/To be improved
Classify/ Infer	Biased database	Correction through signal processing/expert knowledge/statistical learning	How accurate is the database ?
Infer	New problem Using gastop as a measurement correlated to defect size		Sensitivity of gastop/Source of defect (multiple components)/Gastop measurement errors
Preprocess	Open problem	An assumption and a model learned from the data	The speed and load are measurements that could be modulated by the defect

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