

Vehicle Prognostics to Enable Optimized Maintenance and Logistics

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Introduction

■ Current

- Diagnostics – what has gone wrong already
- “Check Engine Light” when something goes wrong
- Scheduled maintenance
- Warehouse of parts

■ Future

- Prognostics – what will go wrong if not fixed soon
- “Maintain Engine Light” when something would go wrong on the next mission
- Material Condition drives maintenance
- “Just in Time” Maintenance and Logistics

Onboard Prognostics

- Sensors on mission critical components
- Onboard prognostics software
 - Lifetime prediction models
 - Wear accumulation data
- Data output capability
 - Fleet health monitoring
- Integrated material system
 - Maintenance parts arrive just in time

Operation of Prognostics

- Complex component life prediction model
 - Physics of failure and data driven
- Data is monitored during each mission
- Cumulative wear is reported out after each mission
 - Related to product life
 - Warning can be set when life falls below a certain percent

CONOPS – Clutch Disk

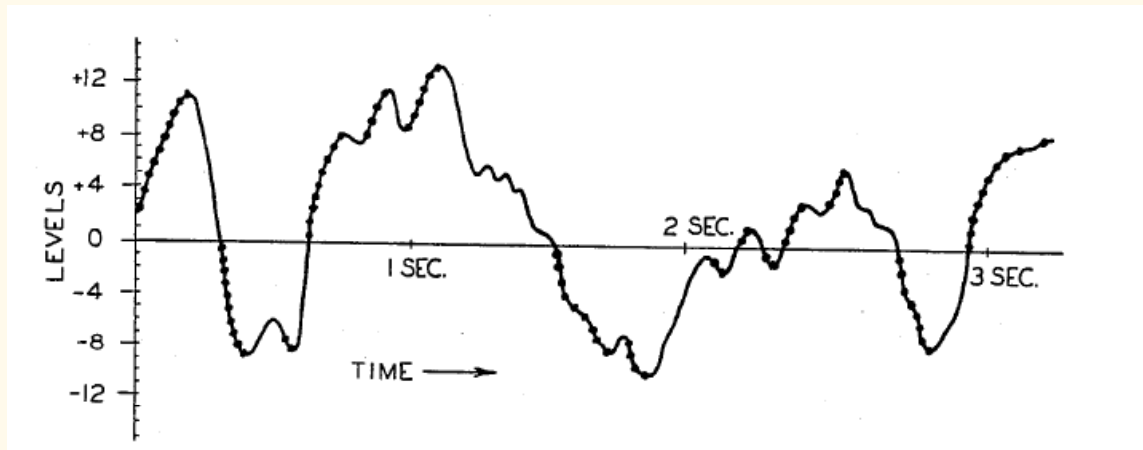
- Physical analysis reveals a harmonic on the drive shaft that varies with clutch thickness
 - 1kHz = 1” thickness
 - 2kHz = 0.5 “ thickness
- A tuning fork is mounted on the drive shaft to monitor Clutch disk thickness
 - Initial thickness 1.00 inches
- Clutch consumption
 - During 1 hour paved road mission
 - 0.03”
 - During 1 hour off road mission
 - 0.09”
- When the clutch wears to a certain point (based on logistics lag time) a new clutch will be automatically ordered and maintenance scheduled
- Maintenance
 - Scheduled at 0.30” clutch thickness
 - Performed at 0.20” clutch thickness (two mission safety buffer)

Application – Wheel bearings

- Can not monitor directly
- Life is based on many conditions
 - Stress of mission
 - Accel. and decel.
 - Rough or smooth roads
 - Abrupt shock (rocks or nearby explosions)
 - Age of bearing
 - Weight of vehicle (load)
 - Environment (heat, humidity, contamination, etc.)
- Prognostic model developed using
 - Physics of failure
 - Empirical data
- Sensors on vehicle to monitor enough data to feed model
- Life consumption based on operational characteristics of each mission
- Logistics details selected by user
 - Parts ordering at XX% of life
 - Maintenance scheduled at XX% of life
 - Maintenance performed at XX% of life

No Two Missions are Alike

- The mission stress profiles vary from minute to minute
- It is impossible to make an accurate estimate (it is possible to make a worst case estimate)
- Worst case estimate results in frequent, unnecessary maintenance



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Degradation Modeling

- A Physics of Failure model can be made for any wearout mechanism
- Bearings:

$$L = \left[\frac{f_c Z^{a_1} D_a^{a_2} (i \cos \alpha)^{a_3}}{P} \right]^p$$

- Z = number of balls
- D_n = ball diameter in inches
- i = number of rows
- α = contact angle
- P = bearing load in pounds – **measured by a sensor**
- L = number of million revolutions that a specified percentage of bearings will fail, if the percentage is 10 then $L=L_{10}$ and is termed the rating life – **measured by a sensor**
- $p, a_1, a_2, a_3, a_3, f_c$, are unknown parameters that must be determined from available data – **measured by sensors**

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Applicability

- Cumulative damage models based on Physics of Failure can be applied to virtually any circumstance
 - Electronics
 - Circuits
 - Packages
 - Boards
 - Modules
 - Mechanics
 - Dynamic systems – engines, suspensions, actuators
 - Statics systems – spars, airframe/seaframe, bridges
 - Complex systems
 - Electro-hydraulic

Logistics System Integration

- Vehicle prognostics integrates with logistics system
 - Automate Just In Time Logistics
 - Parts ordered to arrive immediately before maintenance operation
- Reduced warehousing for common maintenance items
- Reduced maintenance costs as component life lengthened through continuous monitoring

Implementation

- Existing Systems
 - Sensors integrate seamlessly at major system interconnections
 - Phased implementation
 - Sensors and onboard computer
 - Wireless Data Integration
 - Logistics integration
- New Start
 - Build in the entire system
 - Interface with existing logistics software

Summary

- Onboard Prognostics based on Physics of Failure allows
 - Just in time maintenance
 - Just in time logistics
- Reduces mission risk
- Reduces downtime
- Reduces warehousing costs
- DfR Solutions develops mission specific:
 - Prognostics
 - Sensors
 - Software
 - **Solutions**

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*Best Regards,
Dr. Craig Hillman, CEO*

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