

Comparison of Different Fault Detection Statistics Detectability in PCA

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Abstract—Detectability of the sensor fault detection system is the basic criteria for selecting of different fault detection statistics. *PVR* and *CVR* in MPCA are compared with T_H^2 . The complementary among them is analyzed qualitatively. Results of power plant data simulation show that *PVR* and *CVR* in MPCA can improve sensor fault detection, but T_H^2 is still better for some sensors. Combination of *PVR*, *CVR* and T_H^2 can improve sensor fault detectability of PCA-based fault detection system.

Keywords—process monitoring, fault detection, Principal component analysis

I. INTRODUCTION

Process monitoring in power plants need operators to monitor a considerable amount of process variables. Current methods usually set the upper and lower limit of variables to realize simple monitor. This kind of methods cannot change the upper and lower limit according to the operation condition automatically, so the faults with little magnitude cannot be detected, which is detrimental to early fault detection and cannot satisfy the increasingly strict monitoring requirement. Multivariable analysis methods build process models with the correlation among process variables. These kind of methods has better performance in fault detection, when the correlation among process variables has changed [1]. In multivariable analysis methods, Principal Component Analysis based sensor fault detection has been researched deeply and applied into different industrial process monitoring [2-12].

SPE (Square Prediction Error) and Hotelling T^2 are important indice in PCA for fault detection. Dunia et al [2] proposed a whole set PCA method for sensor fault detection, diagnosis and reconstruction using *SPE*. Wang et al [3] analyzed the performance of T^2 for fault detection based on PCA, and proposed the method of fault diagnosis and reconstruction based on T^2 . Qin [4] summarized fault detection based on PCA. *SPE* statistic has different detectability for different sensors [5], Wang et al [6] divided *SPE* into two statistics PV (Principal-component-related Variable) and CV (Common Variable), and proposed an improvement for classic PCA method to improve the fault detectability.

Hawkins T_H^2 was considered to be similar with *SPE*. They have different fault detectability for different sensors in fault detection [7]. It is necessary to investigate the fault detectability among Hawkins T_H^2 , *PVR* and *CVR* in improved PCA method, for improved PCA is considered to have been improved the fault detectability of PCA method.

II. PCA THEORY

Let $x \in R^m$ denote a vector of m sensors. Assume $X \in R^{N \times m}$ is composed by N samples of each sensor, and each row represent a sample. According to PCA theory, x can be divided into 2 parts:

$$x = \hat{x} + \tilde{x}$$

\hat{x} and \tilde{x} represent the modeling part and residual part separately.

x can be projected to the PCS(Principle Component Subspace) and then projected back, the result part is defined as \hat{x} :

$$\hat{x} = PP^T x$$

$P \in R^{m \times l}$ is the loading matrix in PCA, which is composed by the l first eigenvector of the samples' covariant matrix. Sample vectors has more variation at these directions, which shows that sample variants have more correlation at these directions. $l \leq 1$ is the dimension of the PCS, the chosen of l depend on the correlation among sample variants. If l is assigned to m , $PP^T = I$, sample vector has no information loss in PCA.

x can be projected to the RS(Residual Subspace) and then projected back, the result part is defined as $f\tilde{x}$:

$$f\tilde{x} = (I - PP^T)x$$

$(I - PP^T)$ is the residual matrix in PCA, which is composed by the Residual eigenvector of the samples' covariant matrix. Sample vectors have less variance at these directions, which shows that sample variants have less correlation at these directions. And the variance at these directions is often considered as noise.

Let consider the situation in which only one sensor has malfunction. When the sensor has fault, the correlation among sample variants is changing. Original PCA model doesn't fit, as $28\tilde{x}$ is increasing, which means the projection of sample vector to RS is increasing. *SPE* can be used to detect this kind of fault:

$$SPE = \|\tilde{x}\|^2 < \delta_{SPE}$$

The calculation of δ_{SPE} is described in paper [13]. When *SPE* is bigger than the control limit, some sensor is

considered to have fault, on the other hand, every sensor in good condition.

Wang et al [6] proposed an improved PCA method, in which two indice are proposed using multiple correlation among sensors and the principal components. *PVR* (PV Residuals) is defined by the first s process variables (Principal-component-related Variable, PV), which have remarkable correlation with principalm components; *C28VR* is defined by the rest process variables (Common Variable, CV). These two indice can be calculated as:

$$PVR = x_s(I - P_s P_s^T)x_s^T$$

$$CVR = x_{m-s}(I - P_{m-s} P_{m-s}^T)x_{m-s}^T$$

Subscript s and $m - s$ in x and P represent PV and CV part in data vector x and loading matrix P separately. The control limit of *PVR* and *CVR* can be calculated with the description in paper [6].

Hawkins' T_H^2 is defined as [14]:

$$T_H^2 = \sum_{i=l+1}^m \frac{t_i^2}{\lambda_i}$$

$\tilde{\Lambda} = \text{diag}(\lambda_{l+1}, \dots, \lambda_m)$ is the diagonal matrix composed with the last $m - l$ eigenvalue of the samples's covariance matrix. The control limit can be calculated according to the description in paper [14].

III. COMPARISON BETWEEN T_H^2 AND *PVR*/*CVR*

Feng et al [5] pointed out that *SPE* has different fault detectability with different sensors. T_H^2 and *SPE* are indices measuring the projections of process variables in the residual subspace, which means T_H^2 and *SPE* can be compared directly in the residual subspace. The essence of improved PCA method is to decompose *SPE* into two indice [6], so PV and CV indice should have different fault detectability too. For PV and CV indice have different variable subspace, compared with T_H^2 , they cannot be compared directly, so the analysis has to be qualitative in the following part to compare *PVR* and *CVR* with T_H^2 and *SPE*.

PV and CV are the *SPE* in partial variable space, these two indice should have similar properties as *SPE*, so the difference between *SPE* and T_H^2 is discussed here mainly. *SPE* and T_H^2 have different fault detectability with different sensors, because their control limits δ_{SPE} and δ_H have some kind of conservation [7].

The simulation example in paper [4] is applied here for qualitative analysis:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.3873 & 0.1190 \\ -0.1291 & 0.2379 \\ 0.9037 & -0.1530 \\ 0.1291 & 0.9518 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} s_1 \\ s_2 \end{bmatrix} + \text{noise}$$

x_i is the measured variable, s_1 and s_2 are zero-mean random sequences with standard deviations of 1, noise is the white noise, whose standard deviations are 0.1, 0.8, 0.1, 0.4 for x_1, \dots, x_4 separately.

1000 samples are generated with the above equation. The PCA model is built with the samples, the dimension of

principal subspace is 2. According to MPCA method, x_1 and x_3 are the PV, the rest variables are CV. Calculate the indices with 99% confidence coefficient, the result is shown in Figure 1.

Blue points in Figure 1 represent the projection of data vector to the residual subspace. In the residual subspace, with the coordinates of t_3 and t_4 , the control limit of *SPE* is a circle, while the control limit of T_H^2 is an ellipse. Figure 1 (a) shows that the control limit of *SPE* and T_H^2 can envelope sample data, and T_H^2 's ellipse shape of the control limit is better than *SPE*'s to fit the sample data. Figure 1 (b) shows the projection direction of different sensor's fault, the directions of x_1 and x_3 are closer to t_3 coordinate, the directions of x_2 and x_4 are closer to t_4 coordinate. And only fault in x_2 can cross the control limit of *SPE* first, T_H^2 can detect other sensors' fault better than *SPE*. This result is consistent with the analysis of Feng et al in paper [5].

Figure 1 (c) and (d) shows that the control limit of *PVR* envelopes the sample data set well, while the control limit of *CVR* leaves a few sample datas outside of the limit, which indicates that MPCA maybe too strict to keep false alarm rate as small as declared by the confidence coefficient.

The conservation *SPE* statistic represents process data have different divergent in different direction in RS, while the control limit of δ_{SPE} is the same value at different direction. Improved PCA method decomposes *SPE* into 2 indice, which decrease the conservation of *SPE* in some degree, but *PVR* and *CVR* still have similar conservation as *SPE*. Improved PCA method should be able to improve the fault Detectability, but T_H^2 cannot be replaced.

IV. POWER PLANT DATA SIMULATION

Thermal process data is retrieved from a 215MW power plant to build PCA model, and sensor fault is simulated for fault detection testing.

According to the correlation analysis of the data, 10 variables are selected, such as feedwater pressure, low-pressure cylinder exhausting pressure, main steam flow rate, pressure behind feedwater valve, pressure before feedwater valve, reheater steam temperature, circulating water temperature I, circulating water temperature II, superheater spray flow rate, reheater spray flow rate.

Two sets of process data are retrieved when thermal process is in stable condition. The first data set which has 700 samples is used as sample data for modeling. The second data set which has 60 samples was added with fault for verifying the fault detectability of different indices. The fault was added from the 10th sample in the second data set.

The first data set was used to build PCA model, 3 principal components was selected for their contribution rate is 84%.

According to the improved PCA method, PV variables are selected for the multiple correlation coefficient is bigger than 0.85 and the absolute value of the correlation coefficient is bigger than 0.1. $\{x_1, x_2, x_6, x_7, x_8\}$ is selected as PV variables, the rest sensors are considered as CV variables. The threshold value of different fault detection indices is listed in Table.1 (NOTE: *PVR* and *CVR* can only

be calculated to different sensors, so $|f_k|_{PVRV}$ represents the thresholds of fault detection for both PVR and CVR .

Compared with SPE , the fault detectability of improved PCA method has been improved as shown in Table.1, except x_6 . To the most sensors, $\{x_1, x_2, x_4, x_5, x_7, x_8\}$, T_H^2 's fault detectable threshold is smaller than SPE , PVR and CVR , which means that T_H^2 has better fault detectability than the other indices. Bias faults, 0.4 and 1.1, are introduced into x_7 , as condition I and II. Fault detection results are shown in Figure 2. According to improved PCA method, x_7 belongs to high multiple correlation coefficient sensors, PVR should be used for fault detection.

Figure 2 shows: SPE can only detect a few fault to bigger bias fault; PVR , CVR and T_H^2 detect the bigger bias fault just at the sample where bias fault has been introduced; SPE , PVR and CVR indices can not detect the smaller bias fault; T_H^2 can not only detect bigger bias fault, but also give sustaining alarm for smaller bias fault. This proves that SPE , PVR , CVR and T_H^2 do have different detectability for different sensors, which means these indices should be combined to detect fault in process monitoring.

V. SUMMARIES

The fault detectabilities of SPE , PVR/CVR , T_H^2 indices are analyzed qualitatively and quantitatively. According to the qualitative analysis, SPE , PVR/CVR and T_H^2 indices have different fault detectability to different sensors. According to the quantitative analysis, PVR/CVR have better fault detectability than SPE , while T_H^2 has better result in partial sensors than PVR/CVR , which means T_H^2 should be combined in the fault detection system based on PCA. The qualitative analysis of PVR and CVR shows that the control limit of CVR is too small to envelope most sample datas in it. This indicates MPCA-based fault detection system has large false alarm rate, which need further reaserach to confirm.

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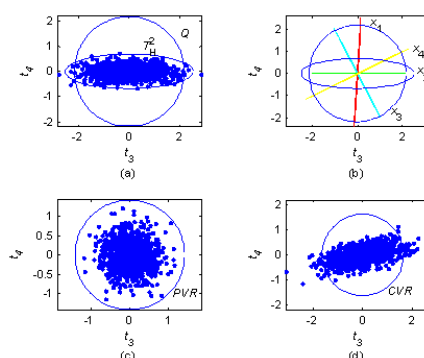


Figure 1 Comparison among the control limits of SPE , PVR , CVR and T_H^2

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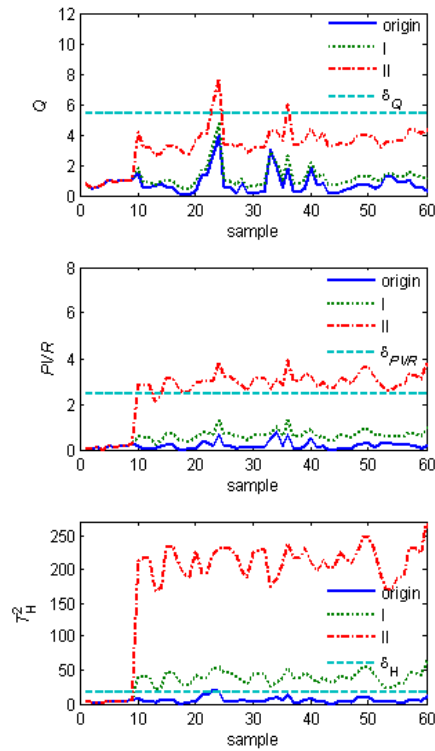


Figure 2 Fault detection result for bias fault

TABLE I. THRESHOLDS UNDER NECESSARY CONDITION FOR FAULT DETECTION

sensors	$ f_k _{SPE}$	$ f_k _{PVR}$	$ f_k _H$
x ₁	2.2526	1.1947	0.9386
x ₂	4.8559	3.2442	0.4499
x ₃	66.3125	41.1624	41.2026
x ₄	0.5476	0.3352	0.3307
x ₅	1.5447	0.8181	0.5609
x ₆	35.2096	77.1744	39.5725
x ₇	8.6739	4.6090	0.4296
x ₈	8.2347	4.3656	0.6236
x ₉	33.0671	21.3747	38.563
x ₁₀	2.3499	1.6309	3.3966