

Experimental Investigation on Reliability of Variation Process of Rolling Bearing Vibration Performance

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Abstract. The experimental investigation is conducted by collecting the vibration acceleration data of rolling bearings without any prior information on possibility distribution. The rolling bearing (type SKF6205) is used as an example to illustrate the application of maximum entropy grey bootstrap principle in analyzing the variation process. Monte Carlo method is applied to simulate the vibration acceleration data for different wear diameters. The upper and lower bound and estimated true value of reliability functions are achieved when the confidence level $P=0.95$. Then the variation probabilities can be calculated for different time series. The experimental investigation shows that the variation probabilities increase with the increase of wear diameters. Moreover, the variation probability presents a nonlinear increase trend, which can be divided into three stages: from the rapid increase stage to the slowly increase stage with trace fluctuations, and then to the rapid increase stage. The variation probability $P_n > 0.8$ when the wear diameter $D=0.75\text{mm}$ and confidence level $P=0.95$, which shows that the variation is serious for the vibration performance of bearings. So the rolling bearings should be maintained or replaced to avoid the occurrence of serious accidents.

Introduction

Reliability is the ability of products to perform its specified functions under the stated conditions for a given period, which can change the fuzzy qualitative concept on reliability into clear quantitative indicator throughout the design, manufacture and inspection process of products. The performance reliability of rolling bearings is the possibility that rolling bearings realize the demand of work host during the experiment [1-3]. Moreover, the performance reliability of bearings changes with time. Therefore, it is necessary for studying the reliability variation process during the service period of bearings [4-6].

In view of this, the maximum entropy grey bootstrap principle [7, 8] is applied to obtain the estimated true value function and the functions of upper and lower bounds of reliability, which belongs to the poor information theory [9-11]. Then the experiment is conducted to analyze the variation process of vibration performance reliability of rolling bearings. The variation probabilities are calculated under different wear diameters so some intervention measures can be taken before vibration performance of bearings fails.

Experimental Investigation

Four data sequences of vibration acceleration of rolling bearings (type SKF6205) is collected to analyze the variation process when the wear diameters are 0mm, 0.1778mm, 0.5334mm and 0.7112mm [7]. Then the standard deviation values of the data sequences are obtained for different time series as shown in Fig. 1.

The standard deviation values can be achieved as shown in Table 1 when wear diameters D are from 0mm to 0.75mm.

Taking the vibration acceleration sequence as an example when $S=0.15\text{mm}$, which is considered to be the second time sequence, Monte Carlo method is used to simulate 1600 data. Then the data is

divided into 4 groups to calculate the variation number and variation frequency of the time sequence [8]. The results are shown in Table 2.

Table 1 The standard deviation values of of 7 time sequences

Sequence number	Wear diameter	Standard deviation
n	D/mm	$S/(\mu\text{m}/\text{s}^2)$
1	0	0.05975
2	0.15	0.257
3	0.3	0.362
4	0.45	0.424
5	0.6	0.583
6	0.75	0.819

Table 2 The variation number and variation frequency of the sub sequences

Sub sequence number	Variation number	Variation frequency
d	N_{2d}	λ_{2d}
1	772	0.4825
2	992	0.6200
3	748	0.4675
4	952	0.5950

10000 re-sampling data is obtained with grey bootstrap method as shown in Fig. 2.

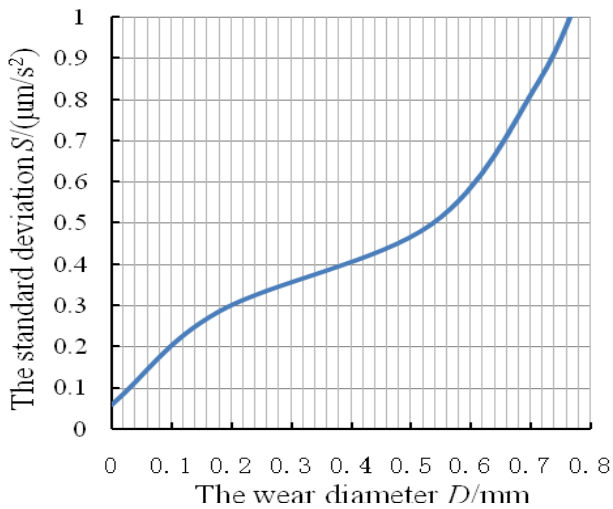


Figure 1. The standard deviations values of time series

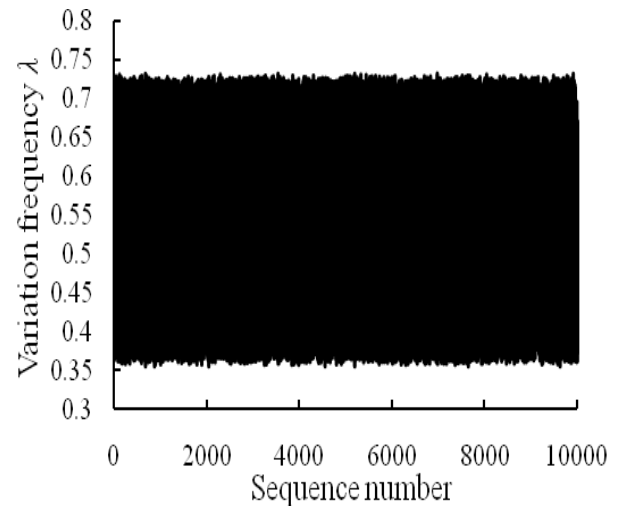


Figure 2. 10000 re-sampling data

The maximum entropy principle is used to obtain the probability density function of time series. The function is shown in Fig. 3.

Suppose that the significant level α is 0.05, the estimated value λ_{20} is 0.5254 and the confidence interval $[\lambda_{2L}, \lambda_{2U}]$ is [0.3599, 0.6212] when $P=95\%$. The estimated true value function R_2 and the reliability functions of its upper and lower bounds R_3 and R_1 are shown in Fig. 4.

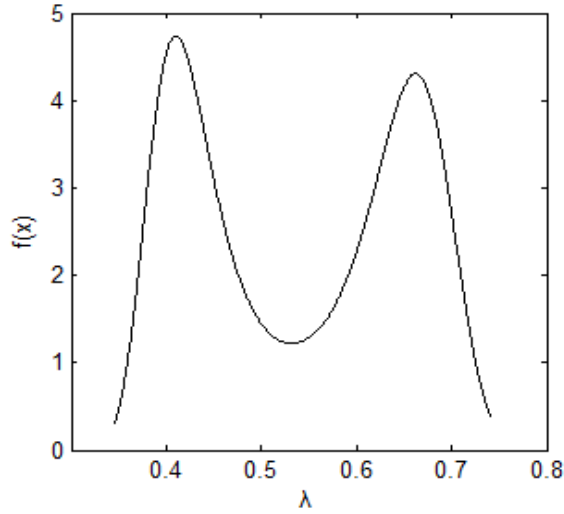


Figure 3. The probability density function

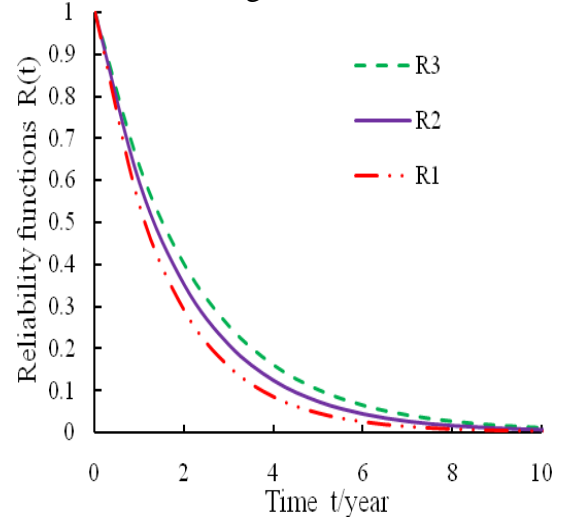


Figure 4. The reliability functions of vibration performance of rolling bearings

Likewise, the estimated values λ_{n0} and the confidence intervals $[\lambda_{nL}, \lambda_{nU}]$ are obtained for 7 time sequences as shown in Table 3.

Table 3 The estimated values and the confidence intervals of 7 time sequences

Time sequence	Wear diameter	Estimated value	Lower bound value	Upper bound value
n	D/mm	λ_{n0}	λ_{nL}	λ_{nU}
1	0	0.04875	-0.1114	0.1235
2	0.15	0.5254	0.3599	0.6212
3	0.3	0.6412	0.4689	0.7401
4	0.45	0.6794	0.5587	0.7122
5	0.6	0.7478	0.6235	0.8873
6	0.75	0.9219	0.8396	0.9844

The probability density functions are obtained for time sequences in the reliability variation process as shown in Fig. 5.

The abscissas values t_n can be calculated for the intersection points of probability density functions of sub sequences and the intrinsic sequence. Then the overlapped areas and variation probabilities are obtained as shown in Table 4.

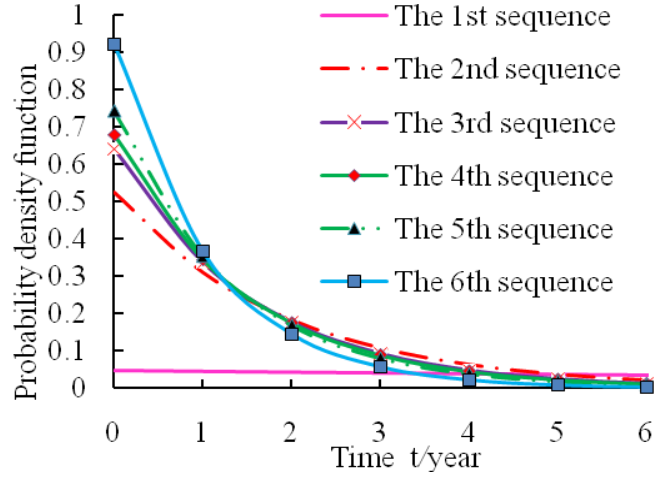


Figure 5. The probability density functions of time sequences

Table 4 The variation probabilities of sub sequences

Order number of sub sequences	Wear diameters	Abscissas values of intersection points	Overlapped areas	Variation probabilities
n	D/mm	t_n/year	S_n	P_n
2	0.15	4.9878	0.2886	0.6914
3	0.3	4.3491	0.2525	0.7475
4	0.45	4.1774	0.2428	0.7572
5	0.6	3.9059	0.2273	0.7727
6	0.75	3.3668	0.1962	0.8038

The relationship between variation probabilities and wear diameters is shown in Fig. 6.

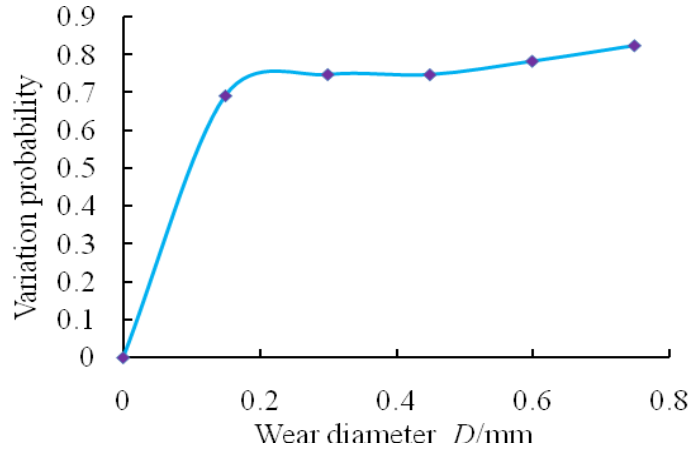


Figure 6. The variation probabilities of sub sequences

Fig. 6 shows that the variation probabilities increase with the increase of wear diameters, because the bearings vibrate more and more sharply and will fail finally. On the whole, the variation probability presents a nonlinear increase trend, which can be divided into three stages: from the rapid increase stage to the slowly increase and trace fluctuations stage, and then to the rapid increase stage. $P_n > 0.8$ when the wear diameter $D = 0.75\text{mm}$, which shows that the variation of the vibration performance of bearings is serious. So the bearings should be maintained or replaced.

Summary

The vibration acceleration data of rolling bearings (type SKF6205) is used as an example to illustrate the application of bootstrap maximum entropy theory in analyzing the variation process. The experimental investigation shows that the variation probabilities increase with the increase of wear diameters. Moreover, the maximum entropy grey bootstrap principle does not rely on any prior information about the possibility distribution of the performance data of rolling bearings, which can provide a scientific and reasonable supplement for available reliability assessment methods in evaluating the reliability variation process.

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