

Optimize Design and Analysis based on the Marginal Utility of the Cost of Supply Inventory

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Abstract—The purpose of the spare parts inventory is used to maintain the normal operation of the equipment, the best metric to measure the merits of the spare parts inventory levels is the use of security equipment. Therefore, under the constraint of the total supply of spare parts cost, based on spare parts of marginal utility analysis, here propose maintenance waiting time as the objective function of optimization models in maintenance waiting time.

Keywords—spare parts; costs; inventory

I. INTRODUCTION

The cost of spare parts is not only the main capital investment and working capital, but also to optimize the cost structure, to reduce spending, to reduce the cost of spare parts can help control life-cycle cost of the civil aircraft. Therefore, starting from the global systemic correlation to identify suitable for realistic investment program of spare parts for machinery companies is consistent with the principles of scientific management and to assist the mechanical companies to optimize the cost structure, and to reduce the cost of spare parts reasonable, in order to enhance the overall user fleet dispatch rate client, reduce expenditure, control the life cycle cost, and achieve maximum economic efficiency^[1-3].

II. THE BASIC MODEL ASSUMPTION

Spare parts inventory investment optimization problem is very complex, in order to facilitate modeling, without loss of generality, we can make the following assumptions:

(1) various spare parts failure obey Poisson distribution

(2) through the repair and purchase of two ways to obtain spare parts, repair or purchase of the time required for a negative exponential distribution. Alfredsson and Verrijdt by the simulation studies show that the model solution results in advance of distribution to a large extent are not closely related, so the assumption is reasonable;

(3) (s-1, s) inventory policy, inventory reduced immediately added to the set of inventory levels.

Under the above assumptions, considering the civil aircraft spare parts inventory impact factors, we build civil aircraft spare parts inventory investment optimization model.

III. SPARE PARTS SHORTAGE PROBABILITY AND THE DETERMINATION OF THE OBJECTIVE FUNCTION

A. M/M/n/n Queuing system

For the M / M / n / n queuing system, The input process $\{N(t), t \geq 0\}$ the Poisson distribution of parameter λ , arrival time sequence $\{J_k, k \geq 1\}$ as i.i.d sequence of random variables, and $J_1 \sim \Gamma(1, \lambda)$ total n ($n \geq 1$) desks, each desk work independently, with the same distribution of service time B , $B \sim \Gamma(1, \mu)$, time series of customer service $\{B_k, k \geq 1\}$ for i.i.d sequence of random variables, and $B_1 \sim \Gamma(1, \mu)$ set up $\{J_k, k \geq 1\}$ and $\{B_k, k \geq 1\}$ independent.

Set $X(t)$ the number of customers in system at time t (including the customer being served) $\{X(t), t \geq 0\}$ is the state of the system, set $\{t \leq X_k \leq t + \Delta t\}$ is service agencies have k ($0 \leq k \leq n$) desk end of service in the time interval. A help desk service in time t is working and after Δt time the service has not ended the probability can be expressed as:

$$P\{B > t + \Delta t | B > t\} = P\{B > \Delta t\} = e^{-\mu\Delta t} = 1 - \mu\Delta t + o(\Delta t)$$

Therefore, the end probability of service is:

$$P\{B \leq t + \Delta t | B > t\} = P\{B > \Delta t\} = 1 - e^{-\mu\Delta t} = \mu\Delta t + o(\Delta t)$$

$\{N(t + \Delta t) - N(t) = n$ and $\{X(t) = i\}$ independent, therefore:

$$\begin{aligned} p_{i,i+1}(\Delta t) &\equiv P\{X(t + \Delta t) = i + 1 | X(t) = i\} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\min(i,n)} P\{t < X_k < t + \Delta t, N(t + \Delta t) - N(t) = k + 1 | X(t) = i\} \\ &= P\{t < X_0 < t + \Delta t, N(t + \Delta t) - N(t) = 1 | X(t) = i\} + o(\Delta t) \\ &= P\{t < X_0 < t + \Delta t | X(t) = i\} P\{N(t + \Delta t) - N(t) = 1\} + o(\Delta t) \\ &= (e^{-\mu\Delta t})^{\min(i,n)} \lambda \Delta t e^{-\lambda\Delta t} + o(\Delta t) \\ &= \lambda \Delta t + o(\Delta t) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
p_{i,i-1}(\Delta t) &\equiv P\{X(t+\Delta t)=i-1|X(t)=i\} \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^{\min(i,n)} P\{t < X_k < t+\Delta t, N(t+\Delta t)-N(t)=k-1|X(t)=i\} \\
&= P\{t < X_1 < t+\Delta t, N(t+\Delta t)-N(t)=0|X(t)=i\} + \\
&P\{t < X_2 < t+\Delta t, N(t+\Delta t)-N(t)=1|X(t)=i\} + o(\Delta t) \\
&= C_{\min(i,n)}^1 (1-e^{-\mu\Delta t}) (e^{-\mu\Delta t})^{\min(i,n)-1} e^{-\lambda\Delta t} + \\
&C_{\min(i,n)}^2 (1-e^{-\mu\Delta t})^2 (e^{-\mu\Delta t})^{\min(i,n)-2} \lambda\Delta t e^{-\lambda\Delta t} + o(\Delta t) \\
&= \min(i,n)\mu\Delta t + o(\Delta t) \\
&= \begin{cases} i\mu\Delta t + o(\Delta t), i=1,2,\dots,n-1 \\ n\mu\Delta t + o(\Delta t), i=n,n+1,\dots \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

Similarly:

$$p_{i,j}(\Delta t) \equiv P\{X(t+\Delta t)=j|X(t)=i\} = o(\Delta t), |j-i| \geq 2$$

Therefore, M / M / n / n queuing system with state of the process $\{X(t), t \geq 0\}$ as birth and death process, state space $I_n = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n\}$ birth, and death rates were:

$$\begin{cases} \lambda_i = \lambda \\ \mu_i = i\mu \end{cases}$$

If the stationary distribution of birth-death $\{\pi_k, k \geq 0\}$ process exists, should satisfy the following equations:

$$\begin{cases} -(\lambda_j + \mu_j)\pi_j + \lambda_{j-1}\pi_{j-1} + \mu_{j+1}\pi_{j+1} = 0, j=1, 2, 3, \dots \\ -\lambda_0\pi_0 + \mu_1\pi_1 = 0 \\ \sum_{k \in I} \pi_k = 1 \end{cases}$$

Thereby:

$$\begin{aligned}
\pi_k &= \frac{\lambda_0 \lambda_1 \dots \lambda_{k-1}}{\mu_1 \mu_2 \dots \mu_k} \pi_0 = \frac{1}{k!} \left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)^k \pi_0, k=1, 2, \dots, n \\
\pi_0 &= \left[\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{1}{k!} \left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)^k \right]^{-1}
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore the loss probability of the M / M / n / n queuing system is :

$$\pi_n = \frac{1}{n!} \left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)^n / \left[\sum_{j=0}^n \frac{1}{j!} \left(\frac{\lambda}{\mu}\right)^j \right]$$

B. The determination of the objective function

If a spare part returned spare parts library as a customer arrives, if returned to a spare parts library known as a client to reach, a spare out of the library as a customer leave, based on the assumption that all spare parts are in using state, that is the occurrence probability of no spare parts inventory and shortage $\theta_i(s_i)$ the same as M/M/n/n loss probability of queuing system, expressed as:

$$\theta_i(s_i) = \frac{(\lambda_i t_i^{rou})^{s_i} / s_i!}{\sum_{k=0}^{s_i} (\lambda_i t_i^{rou})^k / k!}$$

Thus the level of protection of the i-th spare parts can be expressed as:

$$p_i(s_i) = 1 - \theta_i(s_i) = 1 - \frac{(\lambda_i t_i^{rou})^{s_i} / s_i!}{\sum_{k=0}^{s_i} (\lambda_i t_i^{rou})^k / k!}$$

λ_i t_i^{rou} denote the failure rate of the i-th spare parts and normal replenishment of the time required for the mean, it determined by:

$$\begin{cases} \lambda_i = \frac{QPA_i}{MTBUR_i} \cdot FL_{size} \cdot fh \\ t_i^{rou} = SR_i \cdot LT_i + (1 - SR_i) \cdot MSPT_i \end{cases}$$

Among: i subscript represents the i-th ($i=1, 2, \dots, n$) spare parts, QPA for the installed number, MTBUR average is the unplanned replace them time, the SR for the scrap rate, LT, MSPT for the delivery lead time, the average repair time; FL size, respectively, fleet size, aircraft average daily flying hours.

As mentioned above, for civil aircraft, the lack of spare parts does not mean grounding, because the redundancy of the civil aircraft design determines the failure of some components can still be flying, and retention time and the maximum permitted by the conditions of flying project failure t_i^{MMC} , shortage of i-the kinds of spare parts, the aircraft of airlines, grounded to wait for the parts needs of the average time for:

$$T_i(s_i) = \max\{0, \theta_i(s_i) t_i^{AOG} - t_i^{MMC}\}$$

During, t_i^{AOG} for AOG order cycle of the i spare parts.

IV. CONSTRAINTS AND OPTIMIZATION MODEL

If $\alpha(t)$ for $(0, t]$ the number of spare parts requirements in time queuing system, the spare parts requirements in the period of time rate is:

$$\bar{\lambda}_t = E[\alpha(t)] / t$$

If $\gamma(t)$ for $\alpha(t)$ spare parts to the total time until the time t in the system, so the average length of stay of all spare parts demand required to meet in the period for:

$$\bar{T}_t = \frac{E[\gamma(t)]}{E[\alpha(t)]}$$

The average number of spare parts requirements in that time period per unit time is

$$\bar{X}_t = \frac{E[\gamma(t)]}{E[\alpha(t)]} \cdot \frac{E[\alpha(t)]}{t}$$

If $\bar{\lambda} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \bar{\lambda}_t$, $E(T) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \bar{T}_t$, $E(X) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \bar{X}_t$, under equilibrium conditions, these limits exist,

Thus $E(X) = \bar{\lambda}E(T)$, that is $E(T) = E(X) / \bar{\lambda}$.

If $\gamma^*(t)$ for $(0, t)$ time to enter the queuing system with $\alpha(t)$ spare parts requirements to the waiting time until time t , and then to meet the spare parts requirements required for the average waiting time :

$$\bar{W}_t = \frac{E[\gamma^*(t)]}{E[\alpha(t)]}$$

In the Queuing system the average to wait for spare parts to meet the needs of the average in a unit time of $(0, t)$:

$$\bar{X}_{qt} = \frac{E[\gamma^*(t)]}{t} = \frac{E[\gamma^*(t)]}{E[\alpha(t)]} \cdot \frac{E[\alpha(t)]}{t}$$

So when $\bar{\lambda} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \bar{\lambda}_t$, $E(W) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \bar{W}_t$ exist,

$E(X_q) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \bar{X}_{qt}$ exist, then get experience formula.

Therefore, for the model described in the queuing service system, the average residence time of spare parts within the system is equal to the average of spare parts within the system divided by the arrival intensity, the i -th kinds of spare parts during the replenishment lead-in-transit inventory can be expressed as $\lambda_i p_i(s_i) t_i^{rou}$, Therefore, the i -th spare parts inventory reserves can be expressed as $s_i - SR_i \cdot \lambda_i p_i(s_i) t_i^{rou}$, and then the spare parts inventory holding costs can be expressed as:

$$c_h = c_i^h pr_i [s_i - SR_i \cdot \lambda_i p_i(s_i) t_i^{rou}]$$

c_i^h for the i -th spare parts inventory holding cost rate, pr_i for spare parts price.

Appropriate transportation and insurance costs can be expressed as:

$$c_{tr} = \lambda_i [p_i(s_i) \cdot c_i^{rou} + \theta_i(s_i) c_i^{AOG}]$$

Among them c_i^{rou} for transport and insurance costs of the i -th spare parts unit in the normal ordering, c_i^{AOG} for unit transport and insurance costs of i -th spare parts when AOG orders.

Spare parts total cost constraint can be expressed as:

$$C_{prov}(S) = C_{prov}(s_1, s_2 \cdots s_I) = \sum_{i=1}^I (c_h + c_{tr}) \leq C$$

Among them, C is the total cost of supply constraints.

Based on the above analysis, spare parts inventory optimization model:

$$\min f(S) = f(s_1, s_2 \cdots s_I) = \sum_{i=1}^I T_i(s_i)$$

$$\begin{cases} C_{prov}(S) = C_{prov}(s_1, s_2 \cdots s_I) \leq C \\ T_i(s_i) \leq t_i^{\max} \\ MSQ_i \leq s_i \end{cases}$$

Among them, MSQ_i for the minimum quantity of the i -th spare parts.

t_i^{\max} for kinds of spare parts were grounded until the maximum average time.

V. BASED ON THE MARGINAL UTILITY OF THE OPTIMIZATION MODEL SOLVE

Karush^[4] has proven Erlang loss probability formula $\theta_i(s_i)$ is decreasing strictly and strictly convexity in the s_i domain, obvious $p_i(\infty) = 1$, so $T_i(s_i)$ is strictly decreasing and strictly convex in s_i domain, $T_i(\infty) = 0$, $f(S)$ is strictly decreasing. In addition, because of linear relationship between the cost of capital and spare parts prices, machinery spare parts, especially high prices, the cost of capital is the main cost of spare parts, spare parts costs is increasing with the S approximate increments. Therefore, on the basis of the analysis of the marginal utility of the spare parts unit costs, the model uses the following heuristic method for solving, and the specific steps are as follows:

Step1 Solve the lowest inventory levels s_{i0} to meet the constraints $T_i(s_i) \leq t_i^{\max}$ $MSQ_i \leq s_i$ of various spare parts;

Step2 Initialization, $s_i = s_{i0}$, $u = C$, $\Delta F_i = 0$;

Step3 for $s_{i0} \leq s_i$, calculate $T_i(s_i)$ and $f(S)$;

Step4 Calculate the marginal utility of the i -th spare parts unit cost $\Delta F_i = \{f(S) - f(S + e_i)\} / \{c(S + e_i) - c(S)\}$, among them e_i said I -dimensional row vector that i -th element is 1 and the other elements are 0;

Step5 Find the marginal utility of spare parts $s_i^* = \arg \max_{i=1,2,\dots,I} \Delta F_i$, if s_i^* satisfy the constraint $C_{prov}(S + e_i) \leq C$ and then :

$$u = C - \{c(S + e_i) - c(S)\}$$

$$S = S + e_i$$

Return step3, else turn step6;

Step6 S is the final solution results, end and exit.

VI. EXAMPLE ANALYSIS

Select a replaceable unit (LRU) and maintenance (LMP) as the research object, specifically as shown in table 1.

TABLE 1. PART OF THE LRU AND LMP DATA AND RESULTS OF OPTIMIZATION

Number	ES	MTBUR	LT	QPA	Price(\$)	S'	S
72011412	3	3200	90	5	45400	5	3
272-42-00	1	36000	90	5	2440	3	3
349008-2	1	123876	90	1	8972	0	1
388343-1	2	9500	27	14	3310	4	0
APL2-1-0	1	17600	90	4	4054	2	3
APL0-0-0	1	17300	90	4	1128	5	4
FH285-09	2	30500	60	32	766.7	30	30
GPA2-00	2	42000	90	6	327.72	1	2
P6990-3	3	627	60	1	52.86	13	8
QA09-01	2	753200	71	1	348	0	1

According to this model, based on the marginal utility of heuristic algorithm to solve the optimization examples, under given constraints, corresponding to each spare parts inventory level optimization results as shown in table 1 in the S column shows, inventory of spare parts fund a total of 78607.35\$, the actual needs of the repair wait time for 0.41 days.

VII. CONCLUSION

Optimization of spare parts inventory is an important issue facing the large companies, from engineering reality, this paper take full account of the reliability of spare parts, maintenance and protection of such data, taking advantage of the spare parts inventory level as the optimization objective, build optimization model, in the spare parts the marginal utility of the unit cost based on the analysis, using heuristic algorithm get optimization of the spare parts inventory levels get more scientific result.

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