

Performance Degradation Prediction of Rolling Bearings based on BP Neural Networks

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Abstract. Roller bearings are commonly used components in rotating machinery and are prone to failure, which may cause the system to break down and result in economic loss. Therefore, performance degradation prediction of rolling bearings is important to prevent any unexpected roller bearing failure. In this paper, time-frequency image fusion technology as well as the BP neural networks are utilized for fault feature extraction and prediction based on vibration signals. BP neural networks are used to learn the fault prediction features of vibration signals. Finally, the test data is used to test the whole neural networks to establish the bearing condition monitoring model. Experimental results show that the proposed method achieves about 80% accuracy in bearing state recognition, and the recognition rate of the degraded performance stage is the highest, which can meet the engineering requirements.

Introduction

Rolling bearings are one of the most common parts in mechanical equipment which can withstand the load and has the function of relative motion. Its performance can be fully experienced by a series of different degeneration until the complete failure. Its operating status directly affects the accuracy and reliability of mechanical equipment and its life span is one to two years. In recent years, many researchers have been working on data-driven predictive methods and analyzing the data of the life cycle of the bearing through some data processing methods^[1], and the feature quantity of the bearing degradation process is extracted and then analyzed and predicted by the prediction model. Among them, the prediction feature extraction and degradation state are identified as the basis of fault prediction, which is directly related to the accuracy of degradation state identification and the credibility of fault prediction^[2]. The key point of this paper is to obtain effective prediction characteristics from the bearing life cycle data, and to ensure that these features have a good trend and consistency. As mentioned before, it also analyzes the prediction characteristics through artificial neural network and to achieve the evaluation and prediction of bearing's performance.

Dataset

The challenge data^[3] set includes run-to-failure vibration and temperature data collected from 17 bearings of the same model with Accelerated Life Tests (ALT). The vibration data for each case include two channels from two accelerometers placed radially on the external race of the bearing in vertical (channel 1) and horizontal (channel 2) directions respectively. The load is applied to the bearing radially in horizontal direction. The vibration data are collected every 10 seconds for a period of 1/10 second at a sampling frequency of 25.6 kHz, which means 2560 samples per 10 second per channel. The total life of each case in the learning set and the censored life of that in the test set are listed in Table 1.

Table 1 Total life/censored life of each bearing

Category	Index	Cond.1	Cond.2	Cond.3
Learning set	1	28020	9100	5140
	2	8700	7960	16360
Test set	3	18010	12010	3510
	4	11380	6110	
	5	23010	20010	
	6	23010	5710	
	7	15010	1710	

Performance evaluation based on BP network

Preprocessing of the dataset Using MATLAB to extract data , respectively, The horizontal vibration signal I2 and the vertical vibration signal I2 of the data file are taken out, The amplitude of the horizontal vibration signal is analyzed.

Feature Extraction of Vibration Signals In order to obtain more fault information, thus fully and accurately express the bearing running state, So it is necessary to extract the characteristics of the time domain and time-frequency domain^[4] of the vibration signal.

Feature extraction of vibration signal in Time domain

(1) Maximum^[5] f_1 :Collecting vibration signals in a certain period of time, And calculate the maximum value of the signal.(2) Mean f_2 :Collecting vibration signals in a certain period of time, And calculate the mean value of the signal. The signal $x(t)$ is discretely processed to obtain discrete digital

$$\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i| \quad (1)$$

(3) Peak f_3 : The maximum amplitude of the signal is in a certain period of 0.1s, which is called the peak. The expression of the peak is $x_{\max} = \max |x_i|$;(4) Root-mean-square f_4 : rams value is time averaged to reflect the energy of the signal. The signal is sampled after the discrete digital signal $x(t_1)$ 、 $x(t_2)$ 、 $x(t_3)$... $x(t_n)$;(5) Kurtosis f_5 : The numerical statistics that reflect the distribution characteristics of random variables are normalized fourth order center matrices; (6) Waveform factor f_6 :

$$K = \frac{x_{rms}}{x'}$$

(2)

Where K is the waveform index, X_{rms} is the mean square amplitude, and X' is the average mplitude;

(7) Peak factor f_7 : To determine the abnormalities of rolling bearings, and can indicate whether the impact of the waveform indicators for the - peak factor; (8) Kurtosis factor f_8 ; (9) Pulse factor f_9 ;(10) Margin factor f_{10} .

Feature extraction in time-frequency domain

(1) the vibration signal of the vibration signal of time-frequency analysis USES the WVD time-frequency analysis, get the vibration signal of time-frequency images.

(2)co-occurrence matrix

As the texture is formed by the gray distribution in the spatial position of the recurrence, so there will be a certain degree of gray relations in the image space separated by a distance between the two

pixels, that is, the image of the spatial correlation characteristics of gray. The gray-level co-occurrence matrix^[6] is a common method of describing texture by studying the spatial correlation of gray. (a, b) values are selected by the characteristics of the texture period distribution. For smaller textures, small differences such as $(1, 0)$, $(1, 10)$, and $(2, 0)$ are selected. The covariant gray scale matrix is expressed as the pixel from the image gray scale i , the cell position is (x, y) , and the frequency is the same as the distance d , the pixel of the gray scale j , defined as

$$P(i, j, D, q) = \{[(x, y), (x + D_x, y + D_y)]\}$$

$$f(x, y) = i; f(x + D_x, y + D_y) = j$$

$$i, j = 0, 1, \dots, L - 1$$
(3)

where, q is the generation direction of the co-occurrence matrix: $(0^\circ, 45^\circ, 90^\circ, 135^\circ)$.

(3) Time-frequency of characteristics

By the BARALDI experiment^[7], it is known that the two characteristic statistics based on energy, contrast and entropy are the most effective for classification and recognition.. Respectively calculate two kinds of characteristic value: energy f_{11} , entropy f_{12} , eigenvalues were taken in the direction of the four averages. Table 2 show the value of the first moment in different directions.

Table 2 eigenvalues at the first moment

Feature	0°	45°	90°	135°
Energy	0.332509,	0.325793	0.333260	0.325242
Entropy	2.331535,	2.482209,	2.346601,	2.486483

Features analysis The characteristics of the horizontal vibration signal are analyzed in detail, as shown in Figure 3 for the horizontal vibration signal in the time domain of the 10 characteristics.

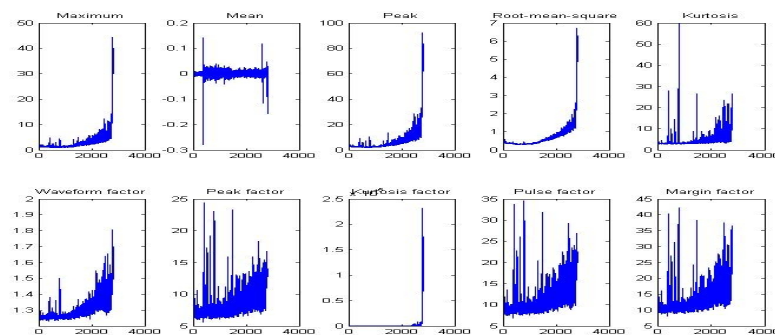


Figure 3 Time-frequency feature image

BP neural networks In the experiment, The training BP neural network training samples are the characteristics of the first group of Bearing1_1, the output tags are: the normal state, performance degradation status and failure status, second groups of test the samples: Bearing1_3, Bearing1_4, Bearing1_5, Bearing1_6, and Bearing1_7. The number of neural network is 3, The number of input neurons is 12, the number of hidden layer neurons is 10 and the number of output layer neurons is about 3.

Results and Analysis

The whole life cycle data of two groups of the same type bearings are used for the experiment. The first group of data is used to determine the structure of the network, and the second groups of data are used to test the performance of the test. The test environment is set as follows: the speed of 1 800r /min, the load is about 4000 N, the sampling frequency of the acceleration sensor is set at kHz, and the data acquisition time is 0.1s (2560 data points) every 10 s. Two groups of samples were collected with 2800

and 870 samples respectively. The recognition rate of the network is about 90%, and the recognition rate of the network is about 80%, as shown in table three.

The performance prediction error is calculated as follows:

$$E = \frac{T_R - T_P}{T_R} \times 100\% \quad (4)$$

For the built BP neural network input test samples, the results are shown in table 3.

Table 3 BP neural network prediction error

Bearing number	Prediction Error
Bearing1_3	100%-74.916%
Bearing1_4	100%-84.895%
Bearing1_5	100%-74.935%
Bearing1_6	100%-75.065%
Bearing1_7	100%-80.400%

Conclusions

In this paper, BP neural networks based rolling bearing condition recognition system is proposed. The bearing vibration signal is taken as the monitoring object, and the time domain and time-frequency domain features are extracted to form the feature vector of the model. The feature vector is input into the BP neural network for supervised feature learning, which reduces the feature dimension and determines the initial values of the network parameters (W and B). The prediction error of vibrations is analyzed. Experimental results show that the proposed algorithm has a high prediction accuracy, and has a good generalization ability for the recognition of the performance degradation of rolling bearings.

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