

Better railway engineering through statistical model checking

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UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE.

ProRail



- 1 Introduction
 - Maintenance
 - Fault Trees
 - Model checking
- 2 Fault maintenance trees
 - Modeling
 - Analysis
- 3 Case study
 - Electrically insulated joint
 - Pneumatic compressor
- 4 Conclusions

A large white commercial airplane, likely a Boeing 777, is shown from a low angle, flying towards the right. The aircraft is white with two large engines mounted under the wings. The landing gear is visible, and the sky is a clear blue with some light, wispy clouds. The text "Do you think flying is safe?" is superimposed in the center of the image.

Do you think flying is safe?

A large white commercial airplane is shown from a low angle, flying across a blue sky with light, wispy clouds. The plane is angled upwards from the bottom left towards the top right. It has four engines mounted on its wings. The landing gear is visible and appears to be deployed. The text "Do you think flying is safe?" is overlaid in the upper center of the image.

Do you think flying is safe?

In an airplane unmaintained for a decade?

Dependability

- Dependability of many systems is critical.
 - Airplanes



Dependability

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 - Nuclear power stations



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Dependability

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 - Airplanes
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 - Medical devices
- Traditional focus on design for dependability.
- Even very reliable systems need maintenance.

Maintenance optimization via fault trees

Maintenance

- **Crucial:** Large impact on reliability, availability, life span.



Maintenance optimization via fault trees

Maintenance

- **Crucial:** Large impact on reliability, availability, life span.
- **Costly:** Labour, equipment, down time.



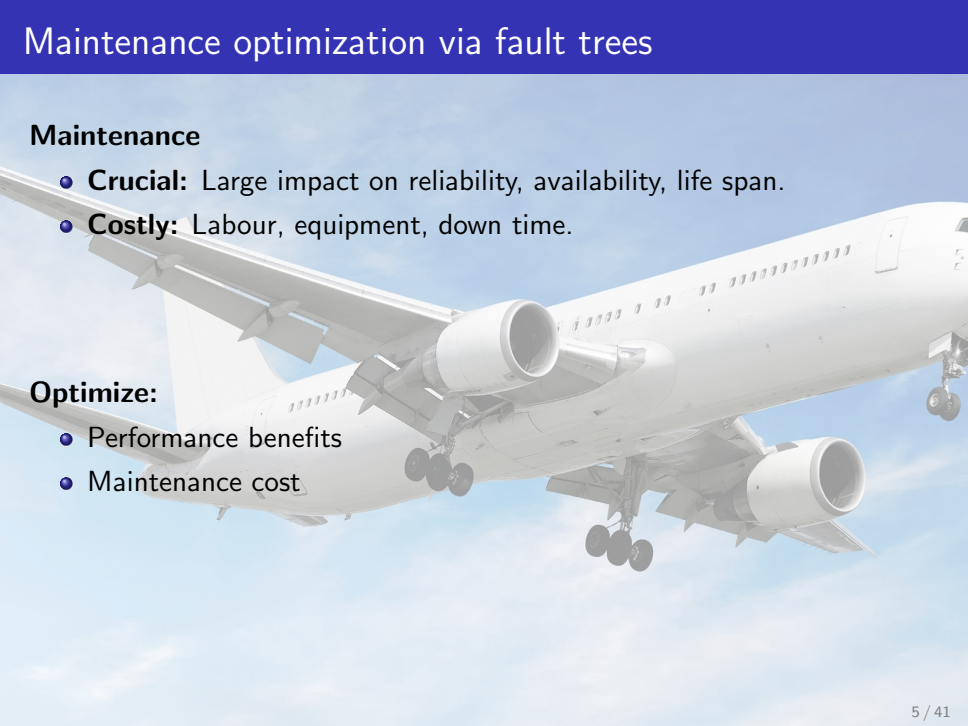
Maintenance optimization via fault trees

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Optimize:

- Performance benefits
- Maintenance cost



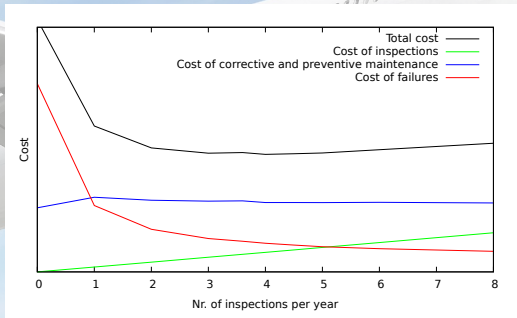
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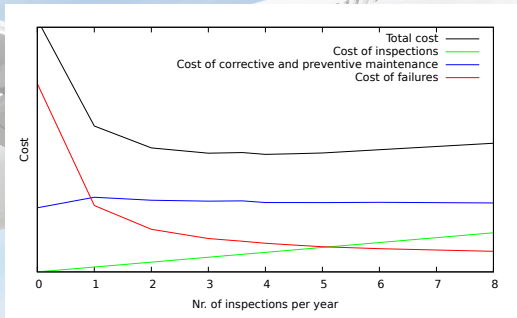
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Support decision making to optimize maintenance plans.

Case studies

Two case studies:

Case studies

Two case studies:

El-Joint

- Important cause of train service disruptions.
- Result: Cost-optimization of maintenance



Case studies

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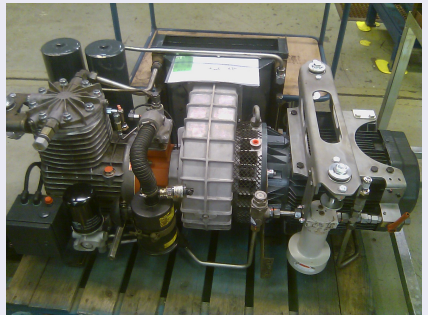
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Pneumatic compressor

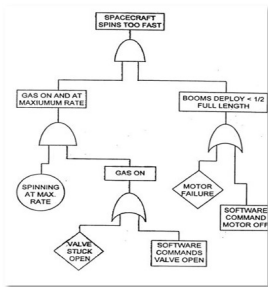
- Powers brakes, doors, etc., fail-safe but source of disruptions.
- Result: Reliability analysis.



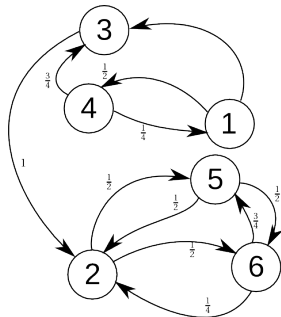
Fault maintenance trees (FMTs): 3 key ingredients



Maintenance



Fault Trees



Model Checking

FMT goals:

- What is the effect of maintenance on system performance:
 - Reliability, availability, # of failures per year?
- Can we do better (lower costs / better performance)?

Model checking brings modularity and flexibility.

Ingredient #1: maintenance



Maintenance

Types:

- Corrective maintenance:

Ingredient #1: maintenance



Maintenance

Types:

- Corrective maintenance:
- Preventive maintenance

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Maintenance

Types:

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Strategies:

- Age-based

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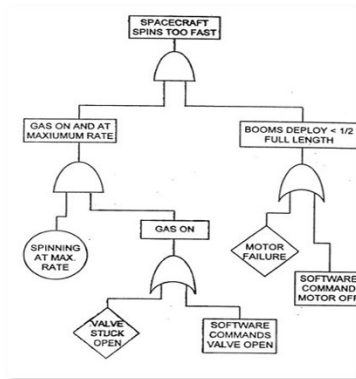
Strategies:

- Age-based
- Use-based
- Condition-based

Ingredient #2: fault trees

Industry standard tool for reliability analysis

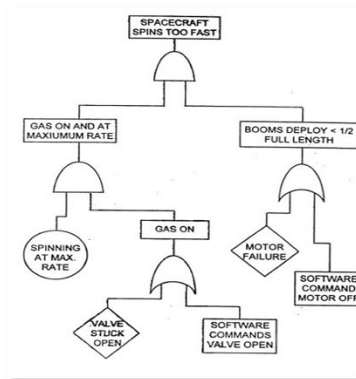
- How do component failures propagate to system failures?



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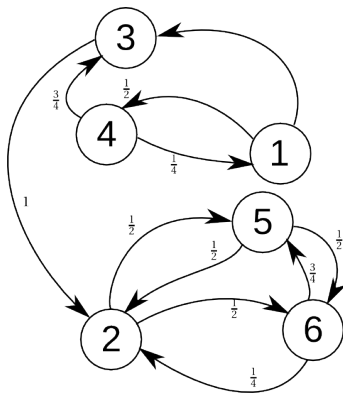
- How do component failures propagate to system failures?
- Used by NASA, ESA, Boeing, ...



Ingredient #3: model checking

Model checking

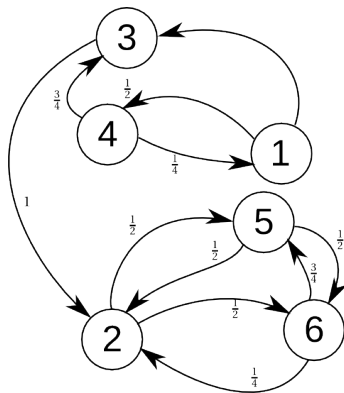
- Using Uppaal-SMC



Ingredient #3: model checking

Model checking

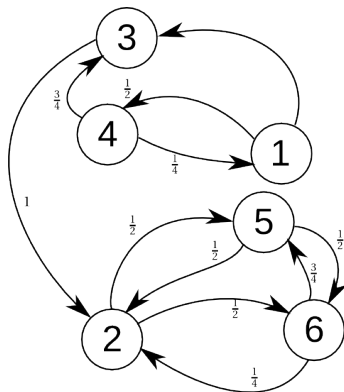
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- Advantages:
 - Ease of modelling



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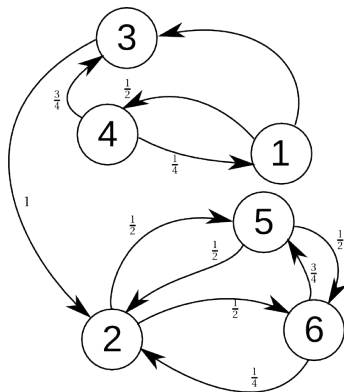
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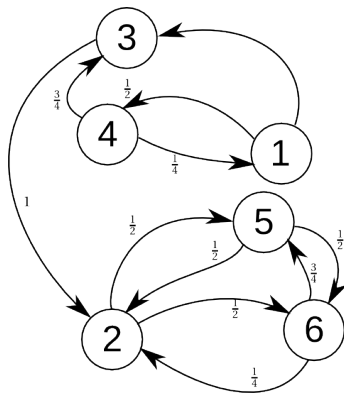
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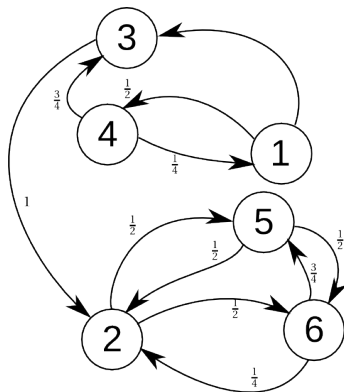
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- Advantages:
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- Disadvantages:
 - No guaranteed results



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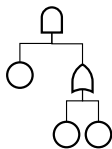
- Using Uppaal-SMC
- Advantages:
 - Ease of modelling
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 - Choice of speed or high accuracy
- Disadvantages:
 - No guaranteed results
 - Not (currently) suitable for very rare events.



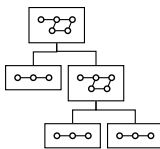
Putting it all together

Summary of our approach:

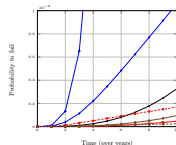
- Combine maintenance planning into fault trees.
- Compositional conversion into (P)STA.
- Analysis via statistical model checking.
- Results on system reliability, availability, etc.



(a) FMT



(b) Transformation
to UPPAAL-SMC



(c) Results

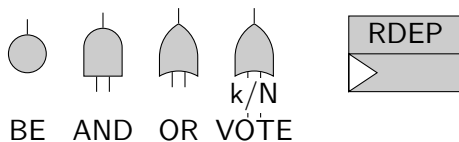
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- Industry-standard tool for reliability analysis

Fault trees

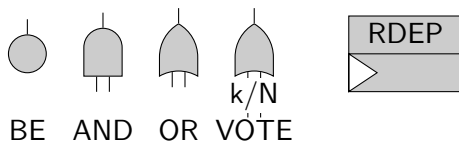
- Industry-standard tool for reliability analysis
- Describe combinations of faults leading to failures



Images of the elements in a fault (maintenance) tree

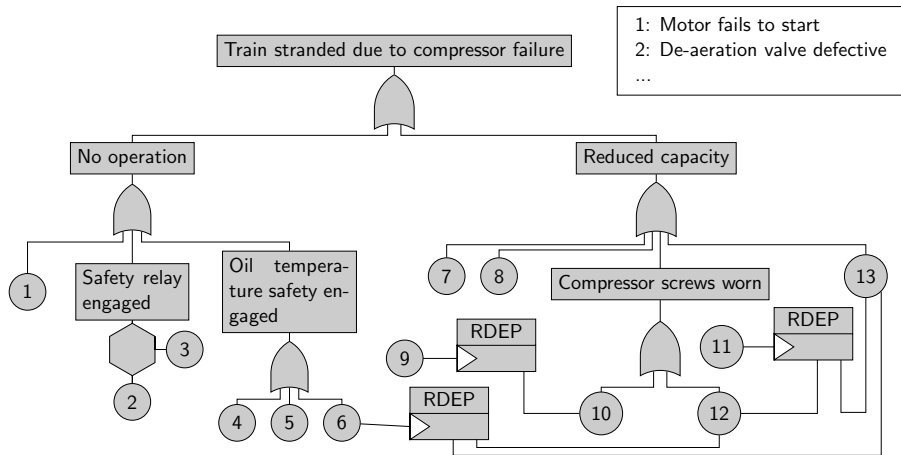
Fault trees

- Industry-standard tool for reliability analysis
- Describe combinations of faults leading to failures
- Root of tree: Top Event; i.e. system failure
- Leaves: Basic Events; i.e. elementary failures and faults
- Nodes: Gates; describe how faults combine



Images of the elements in a fault (maintenance) tree

Fault tree of pneumatic compressor



Maintenance plan describes behaviour of leaves.

Maintenance in fault trees

- Many failures are not exponentially distributed random events.
 - Wear over time


Maintenance in fault trees

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 - Production faults

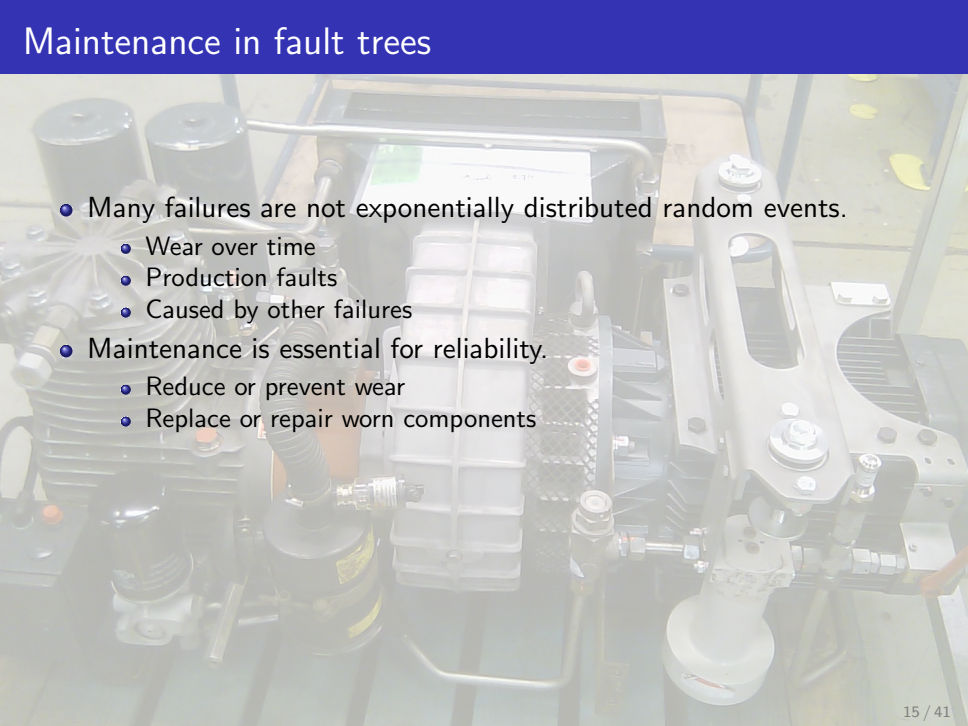
Maintenance in fault trees

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 - Caused by other failures

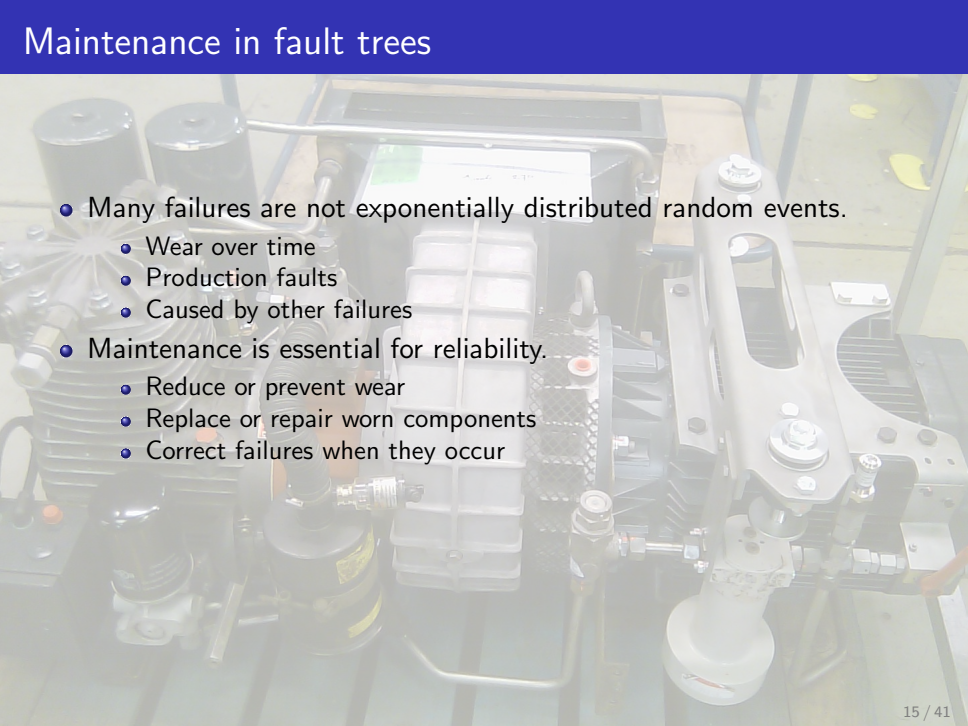
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- Many failures are not exponentially distributed random events.
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 - Reduce or prevent wear

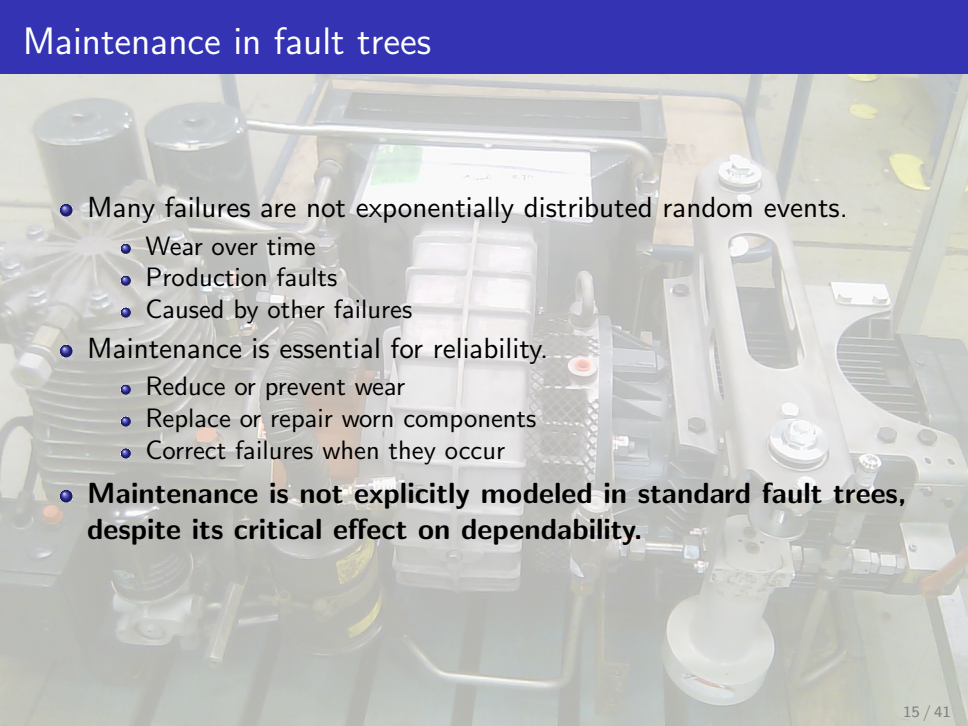
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 - Reduce or prevent wear
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 - Correct failures when they occur
 - **Maintenance is not explicitly modeled in standard fault trees, despite its critical effect on dependability.**

Maintenance in fault trees

Fault Maintenance Trees:

- Combine maintenance into fault trees.



Maintenance in fault trees

Fault Maintenance Trees:

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Maintenance in fault trees

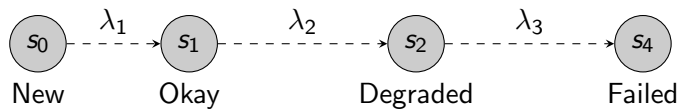
Fault Maintenance Trees:

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- Repair modules remove degradation (periodically or condition-based)

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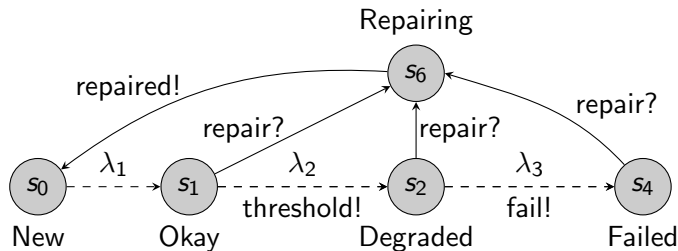
- Combine maintenance into fault trees.
- Basic events include degradation over time.
- Degradation of one component can affect other components.
- Repair modules remove degradation (periodically or condition-based)
- Inspection modules periodically check degradation and activate repairs if needed.

- Degradation modeled in distinct phases.
- Stochastic timed automaton:



Modelling BEs

- Timed automata with degradation stages.
- Signals for composition:
 - Maintenance threshold
 - Repair
 - Failure
- Other modules will send/receive these signals.



Rate-affecting failures

- Some failures accelerate wear of other components.

Rate-affecting failures

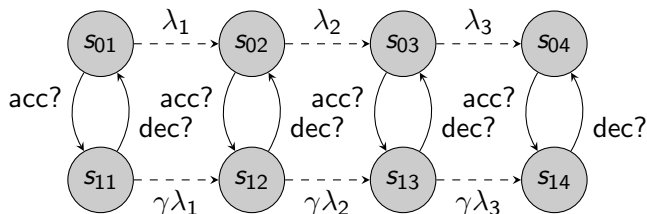
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Rate-affecting failures

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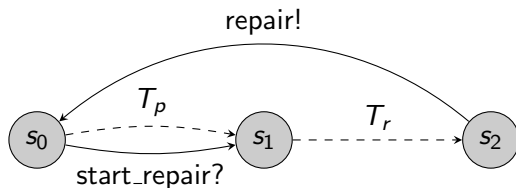
Rate-affecting failures

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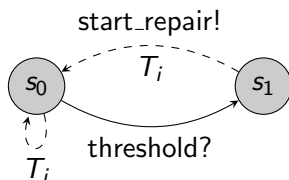
Repair module:

- Periodically start repairs (optional)
- Inspection may trigger repairs early



Inspection module:

- Periodically perform inspection
- If threshold reached: Start repair
- Otherwise: Do nothing



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Case study: Electrically insulated joint



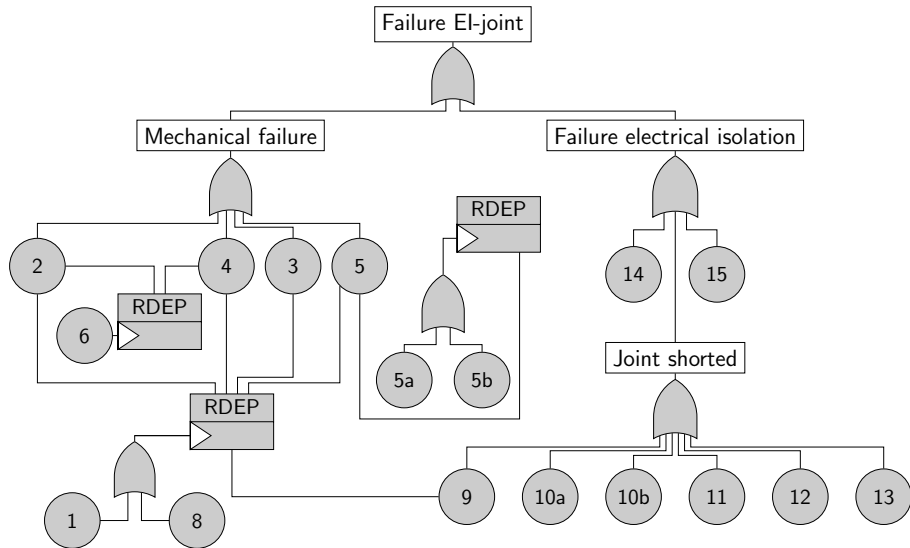
ProRail

Case study: Electrically insulated joint

ProRail

- 
- Collaboration with ProRail (Dutch railway asset management company).
 - Electrically separates section of track.
 - Important cause of train service disruptions.
 - **Result:** Cost-optimal maintenance strategy.

Case study



Obtaining quantitative parameters:

- Follow FMEA ProRail.



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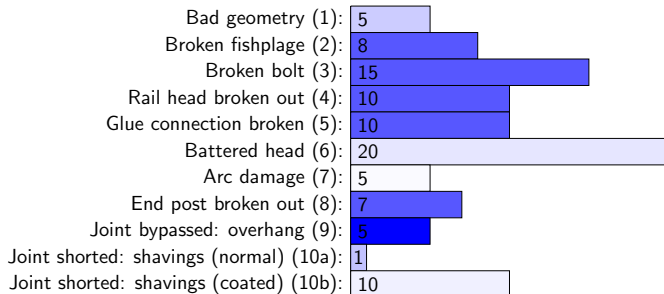
Obtaining quantitative parameters:

- Follow FMEA ProRail.
- Accelerating failure causes obtained by interviewing experts.
- Failure curves obtained by fitting against historical failure data.
- Most failures only occur in a subset of joints.
 - E.g. failures from steel shavings occur only in curved track.

Failure modes EI-joint

ETTF degrading BEs:

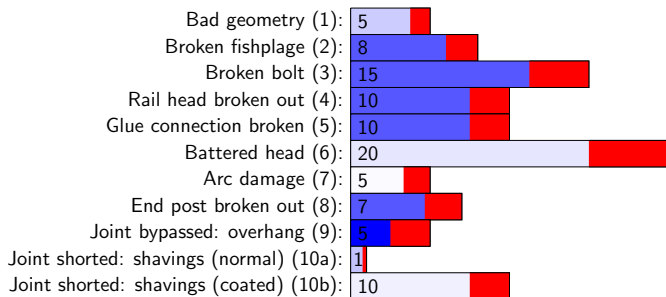
Red zone indicates detectable by inspection, color indicates percentage of susceptible joints.



Failure modes EI-joint

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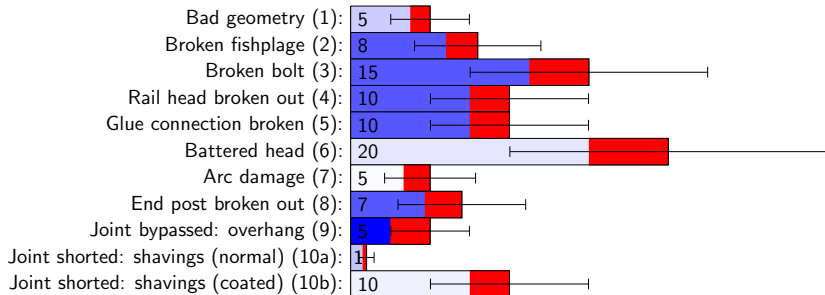
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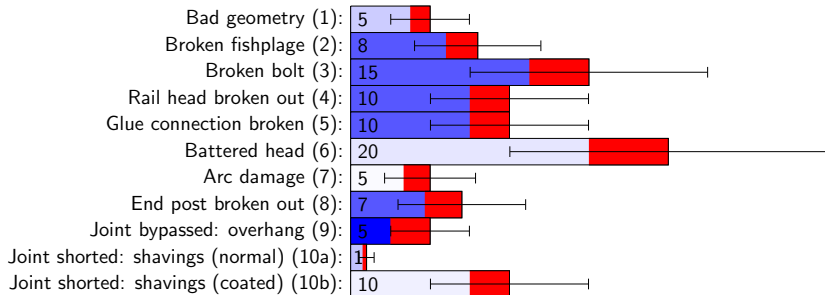
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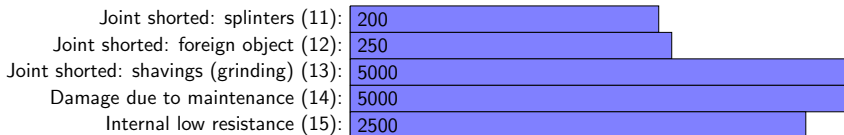
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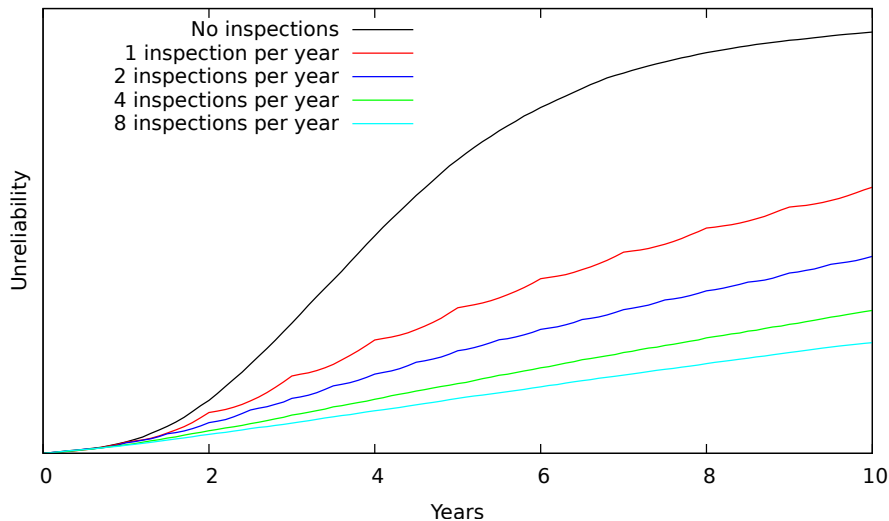
ETTF exponential failures (logarithmic scale):



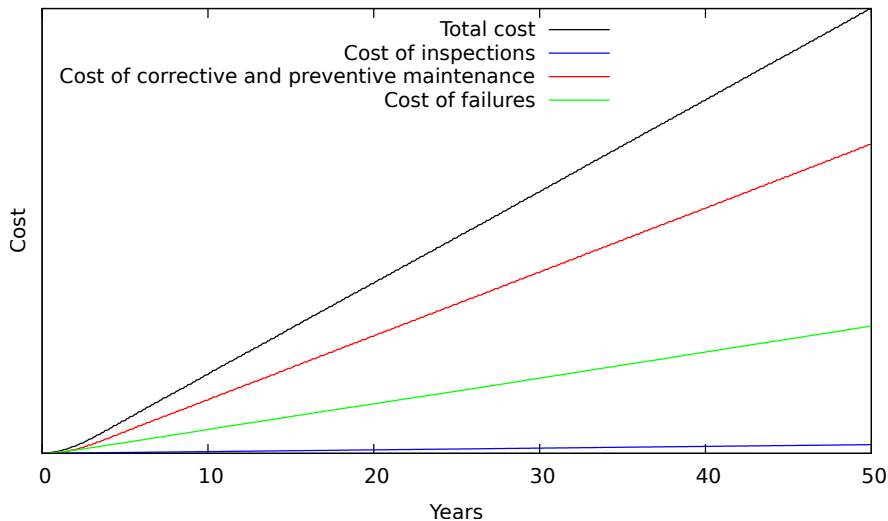
Analysis results

- Results are averages of 40,000 simulations.
- 95% Confidence window: width less than 1%.
- Computation time: Approx. 200 CPU-hours.
- Scales omitted for confidentiality.

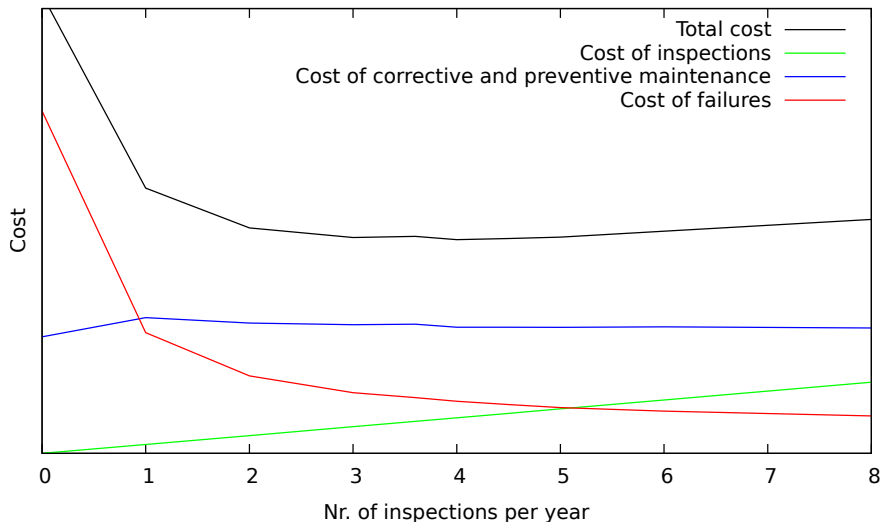
Analysis results: unreliability



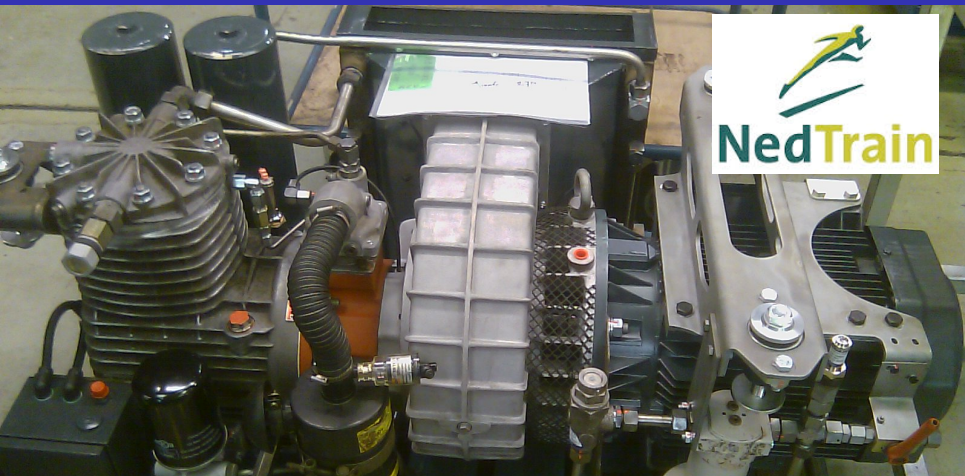
Analysis results: costs



Analysis results: inspection rate

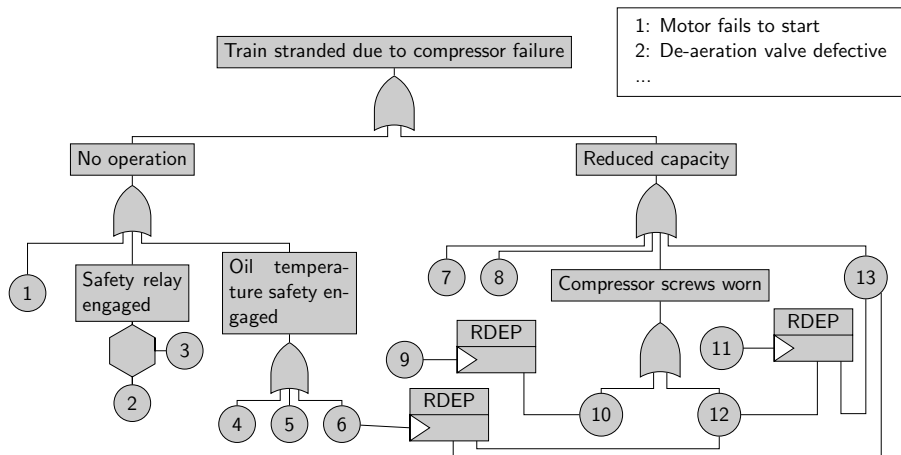


Case study: Pneumatic compressor

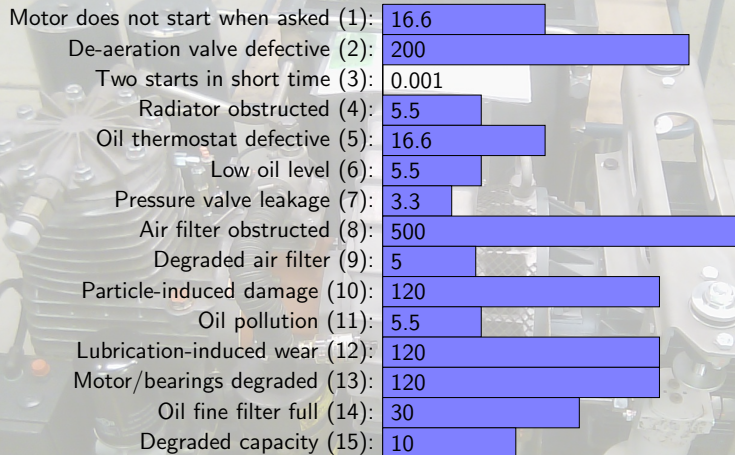


- Powers brakes, doors, etc.
- Fail-safe but failures cause disruptions.
- Maintenance is essential for normal operation.
- **Result:** Analysis of maintenance effectiveness.

Case study

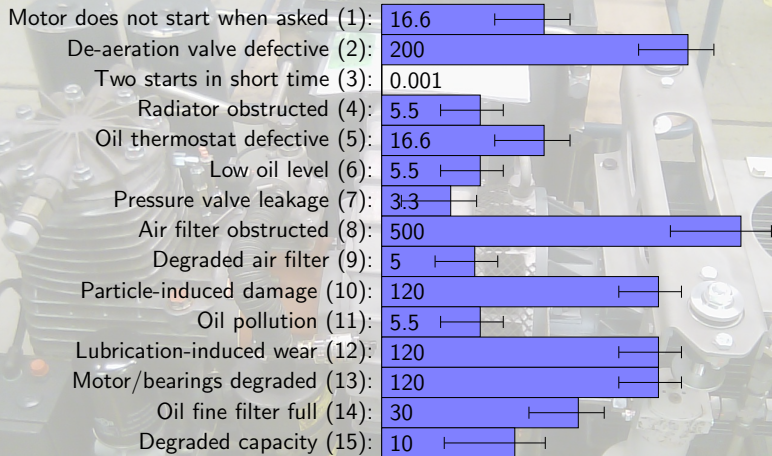


Failure modes



- Bars show MTTF (years, logarithmic), whiskers show std. deviation
- Estimates from maintenance engineers, system experts.
- Experiment reports from simulation environment.

Failure modes



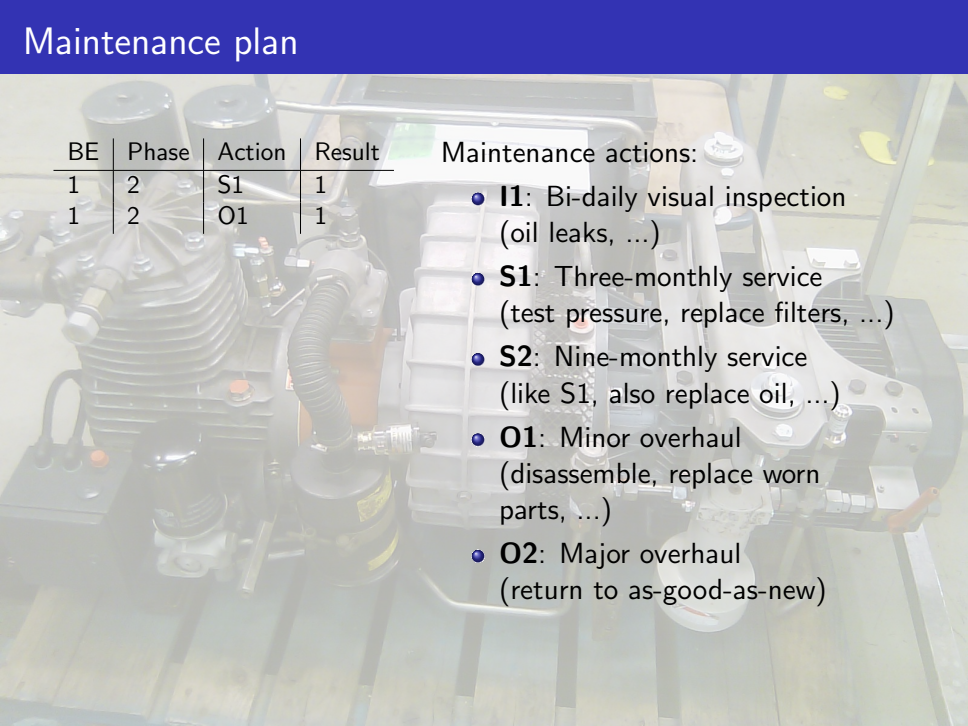
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Maintenance plan

Maintenance actions:

- **I1:** Bi-daily visual inspection (oil leaks, ...)
- **S1:** Three-monthly service (test pressure, replace filters, ...)
- **S2:** Nine-monthly service (like S1, also replace oil, ...)
- **O1:** Minor overhaul (disassemble, replace worn parts, ...)
- **O2:** Major overhaul (return to as-good-as-new)

Maintenance plan

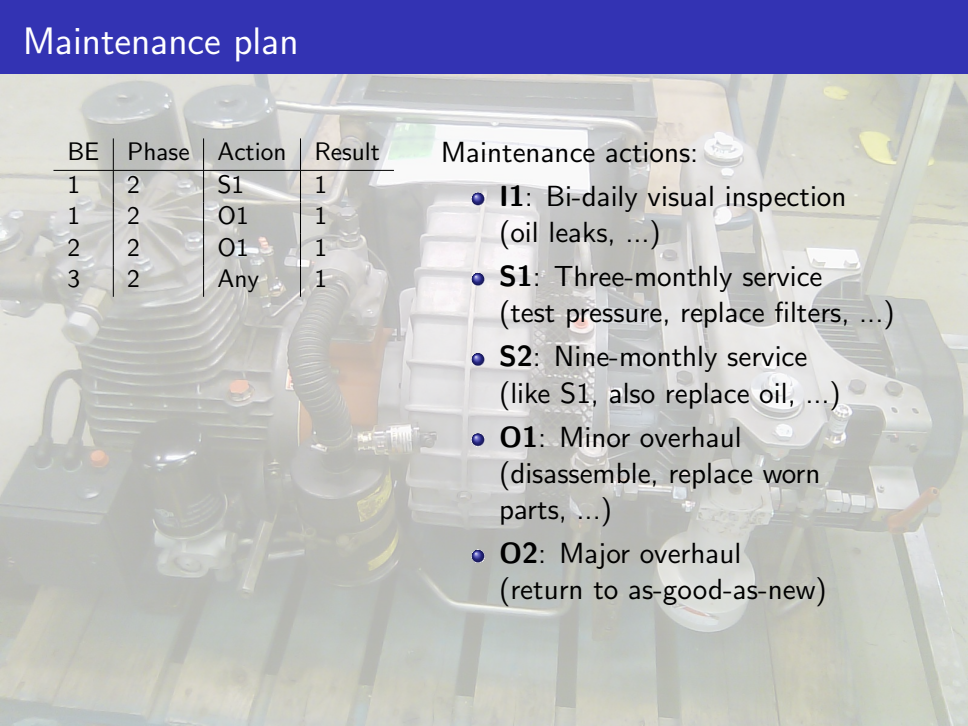


BE	Phase	Action	Result
1	2	S1	1
1	2	O1	1

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Maintenance plan



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1	2	O1	1
2	2	O1	1
3	2	Any	1

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2	2	O1	1
3	2	Any	1
4	3	S1	2
4	Any	O1	1
5	2	S1	O2

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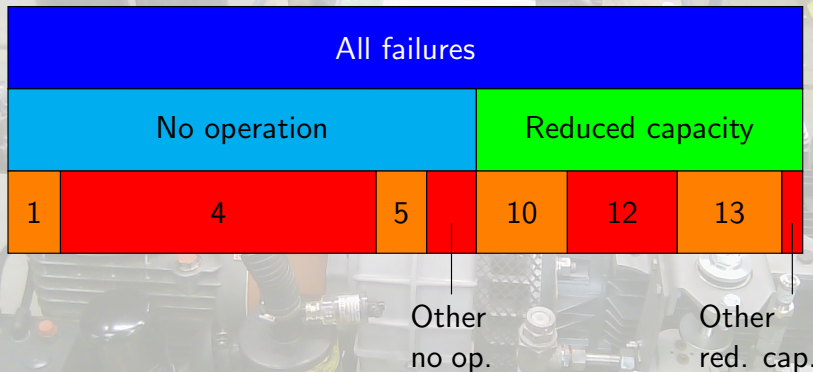
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5	2	S1	O2
5	2	O1	1
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7	2	I1	1
7	2	S1	1
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Maintenance actions:

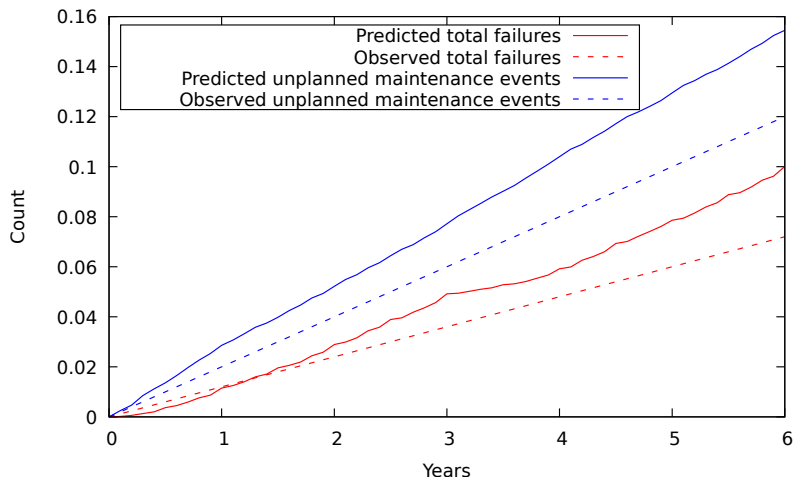
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Analysis results: failure causes



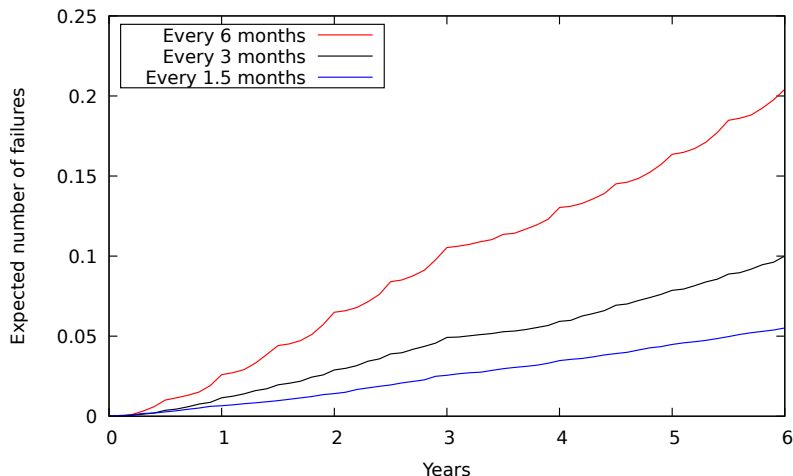
- Failure mode 4 (radiator obstructed) major cause of disruptions.
- Many failure modes rarely occur.

Analysis results: Current policy



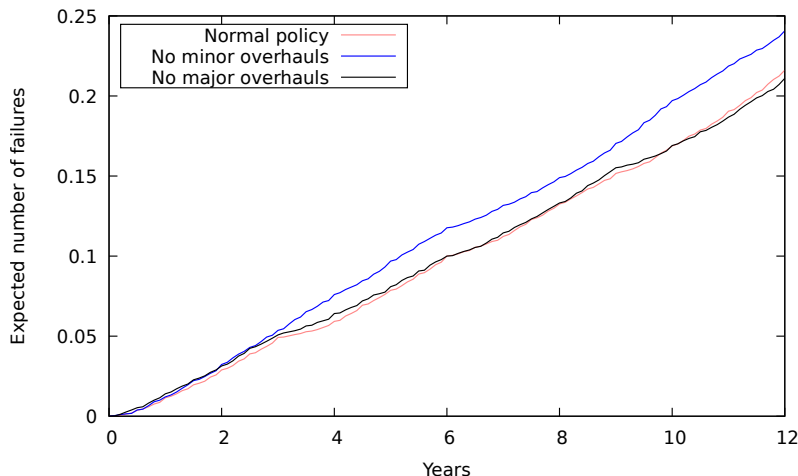
- Validation: Predictions are close to reality.

Analysis results: Varying maintenance interval



- Reliability heavily depends on maintenance interval.
- With costs, optimal inspection interval can be found.

Analysis results: Overhauls



- Scheduled overhauls do not appear to have much effect.
- Costs are confidential, but overhauls are probably not cost-effective.

Conclusions on the compressor

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- Frequency of minor service has major influence on reliability.
- Periodic overhauls do not appear very significant.

Outline

- 1 Introduction
 - Maintenance
 - Fault Trees
 - Model checking
- 2 Fault maintenance trees
 - Modeling
 - Analysis
- 3 Case study
 - Electrically insulated joint
 - Pneumatic compressor
- 4 Conclusions

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Future work:

- Replacing phased degradation by a continuous model (SHA).