

Maintenance analysis and optimization via statistical model
checking:
Evaluation of a train's pneumatic compressor

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Outline

- 1 Introduction
 - Maintenance
 - Fault Trees
 - Model checking
- 2 Fault maintenance trees
 - Modeling
 - Analysis
- 3 Case study
 - System modeling
 - Analysis
- 4 Conclusions

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 left to right. It has four engines mounted on its wings. The landing gear is visible, and the fuselage has many windows.

Do you think flying is safe?

In an airplane unmaintained for a decade?

Dependability

- Dependability of many systems is critical.
 - Airplanes
 - Nuclear power stations
 - Medical devices
- Traditional focus on design for dependability.
- Even very reliable systems need maintenance.

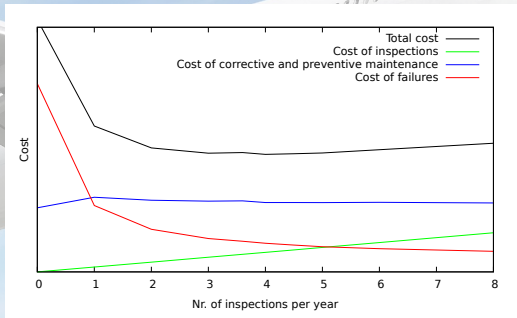
Maintenance optimization via fault trees

Maintenance

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

Optimize:

- Performance benefits
- Maintenance cost

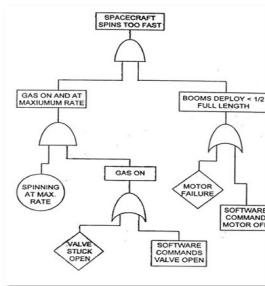


Support decision making to optimize maintenance plans.

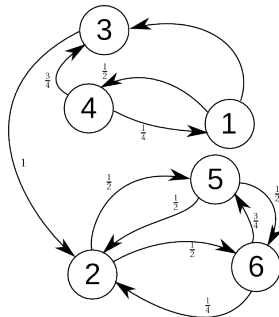
Fault maintenance trees (FMTs): 3 key ingredients



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:
- Preventive maintenance

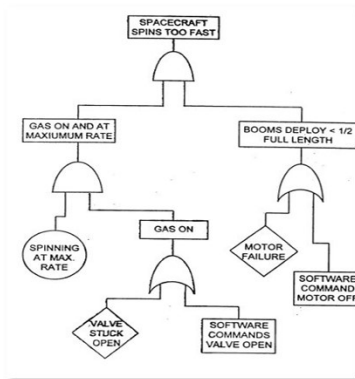
Strategies:

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

Ingredient #2: fault trees

Industry standard tool for reliability analysis

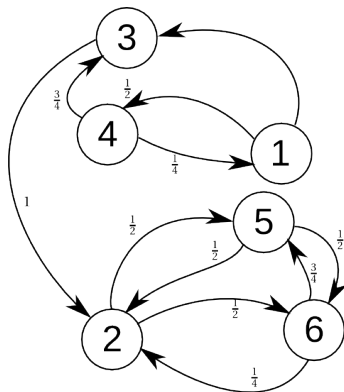
- How do component failures propagate to system failures?
- Used by NASA, ESA, Boeing, ...



Ingredient #3: model checking

Model checking

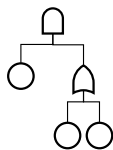
- Using Uppaal-SMC
- Advantages:
 - Ease of modelling
 - Arbitrary probability distributions
 - Choice of speed or high accuracy
- Disadvantages:
 - No guaranteed results
 - Not (currently) suitable for very rare events.



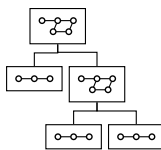
Putting it all together

Summary of our approach:

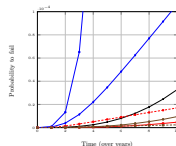
- Combine maintenance planning into fault trees.
- Compositional conversion into (P)STA.
- Analysis via statistical model checking.
- Results on system reliability, availability, etc.



(a) FMT



(b) Transformation
to UPPAAL-SMC



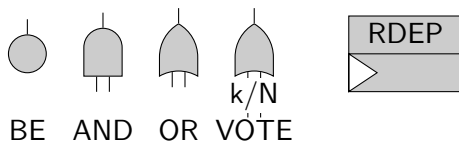
(c) Results

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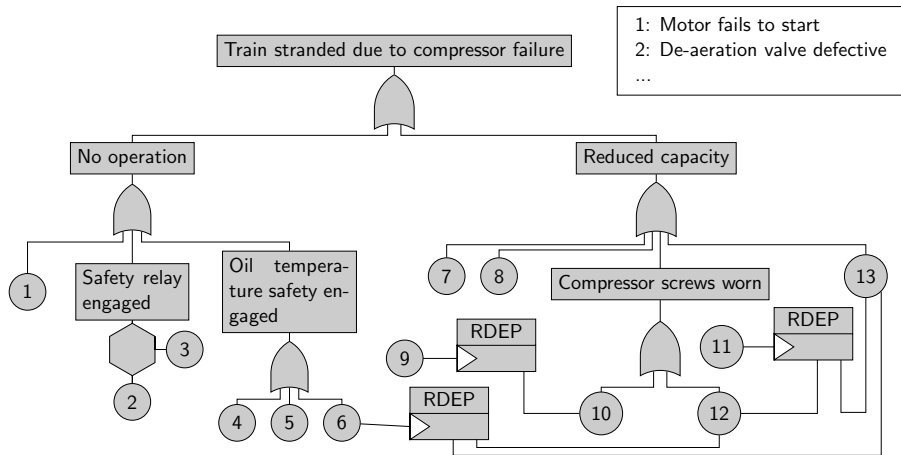
Fault trees

- 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



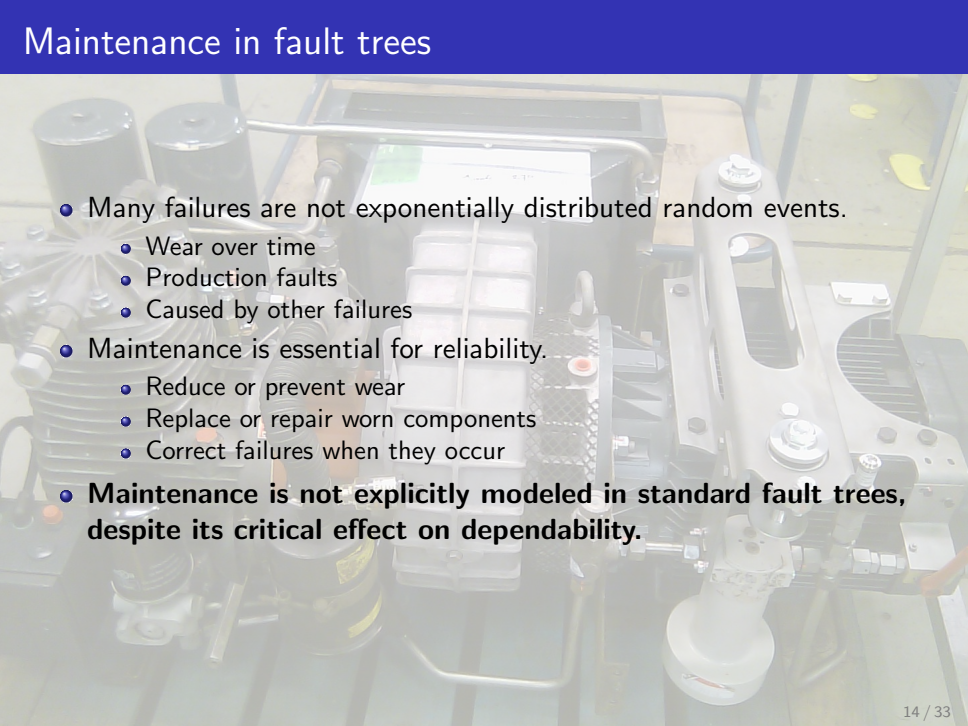
Images of the elements in a fault (maintenance) tree

Fault tree of compressor



Maintenance plan describes behaviour of leaves.

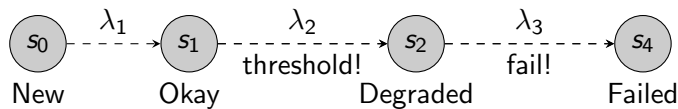
Maintenance in fault trees

- 
- Many failures are not exponentially distributed random events.
 - Wear over time
 - Production faults
 - Caused by other failures
 - Maintenance is essential for reliability.
 - Reduce or prevent wear
 - Replace or repair worn components
 - Correct failures when they occur
 - **Maintenance is not explicitly modeled in standard fault trees, despite its critical effect on dependability.**

Fault Maintenance Trees:

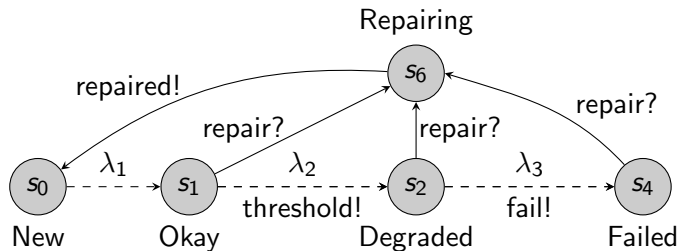
- Combine maintenance into fault trees.
- Basic events include degradation over time.
- Degradation of one component can affect other components.
- Repair modules remove degradation (periodically or condition-based)
- Inspection modules periodically check degradation and activate repairs if needed.

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



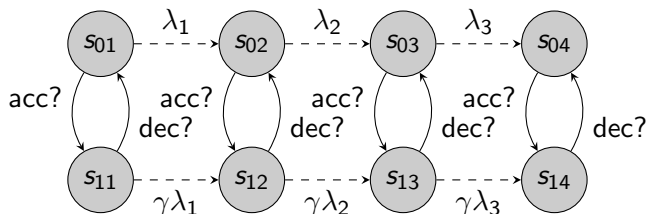
Modelling BEs

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



Rate-affecting failures

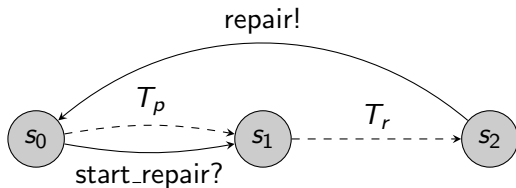
- Some failures accelerate wear of other components.
- Failure of trigger BE accelerates degradation.
- Rates increase by factor γ .
- Repair of trigger BE does not repair triggered BE.
- Timed automaton of triggered BE:



Modelling inspections and repairs

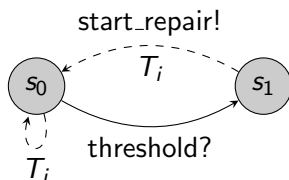
Repair module:

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



Inspection module:

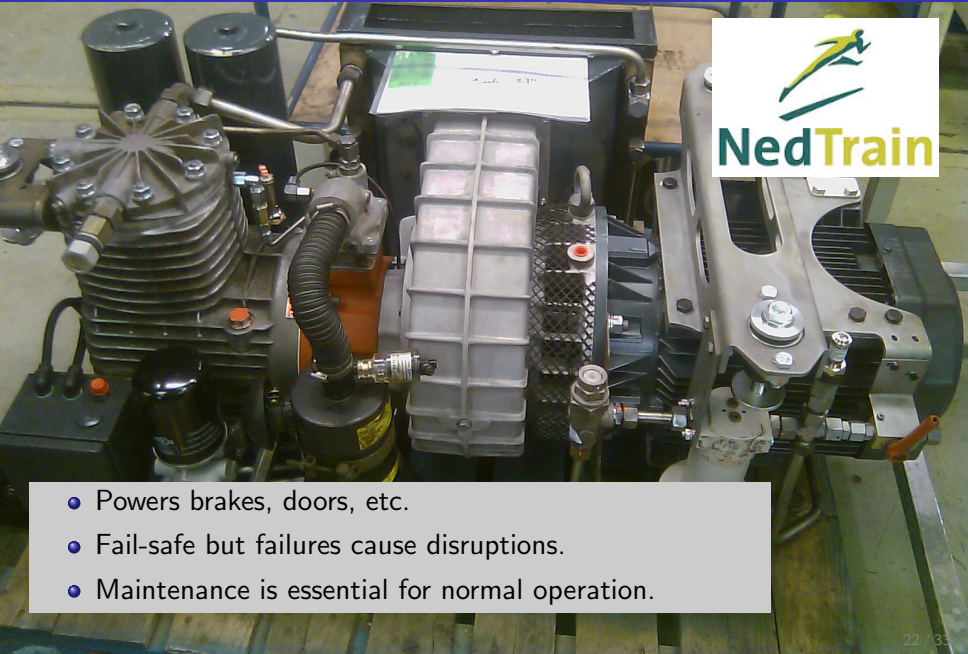
- Periodically perform inspection
- If threshold reached: Start repair
- Otherwise: Do nothing



Outline

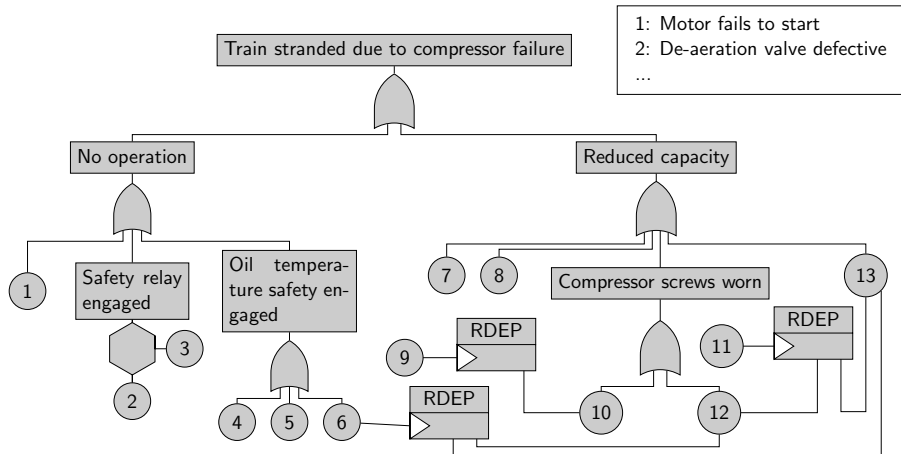
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Case study: Pneumatic compressor

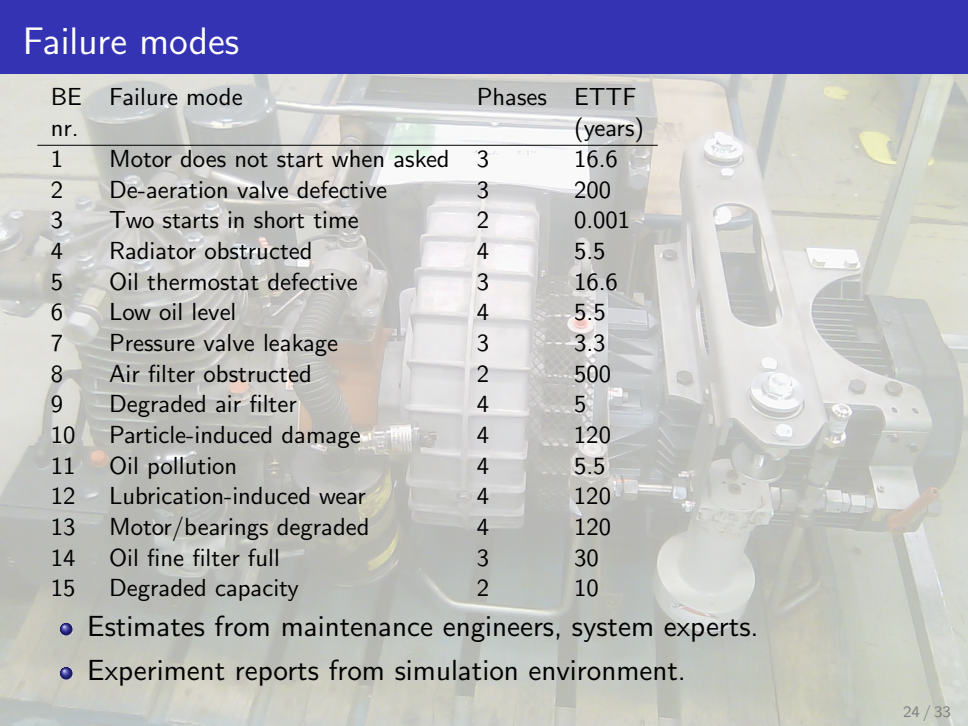


- Powers brakes, doors, etc.
- Fail-safe but failures cause disruptions.
- Maintenance is essential for normal operation.

Case study



Failure modes



BE nr.	Failure mode	Phases	ETTF (years)
1	Motor does not start when asked	3	16.6
2	De-aeration valve defective	3	200
3	Two starts in short time	2	0.001
4	Radiator obstructed	4	5.5
5	Oil thermostat defective	3	16.6
6	Low oil level	4	5.5
7	Pressure valve leakage	3	3.3
8	Air filter obstructed	2	500
9	Degraded air filter	4	5
10	Particle-induced damage	4	120
11	Oil pollution	4	5.5
12	Lubrication-induced wear	4	120
13	Motor/bearings degraded	4	120
14	Oil fine filter full	3	30
15	Degraded capacity	2	10

- Estimates from maintenance engineers, system experts.
- Experiment reports from simulation environment.

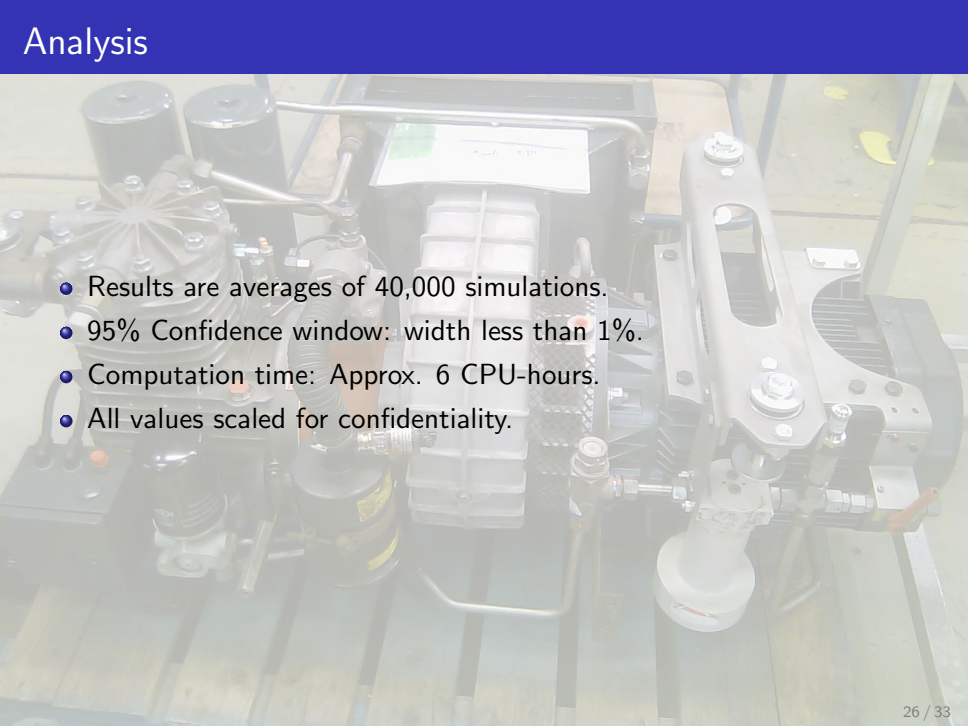
Maintenance plan

BE	Phase	Action	Result
1	2	S1	1
1	2	O1	1
2	2	O1	1
3	2	Any	1
4	3	S1	2
4	Any	O1	1
5	2	S1	O2
5	2	O1	1
6	Any	S1	1
6	Any	O1	1
7	2	I1	1
7	2	S1	1
8	Any	S1	1
8	Any	O1	1

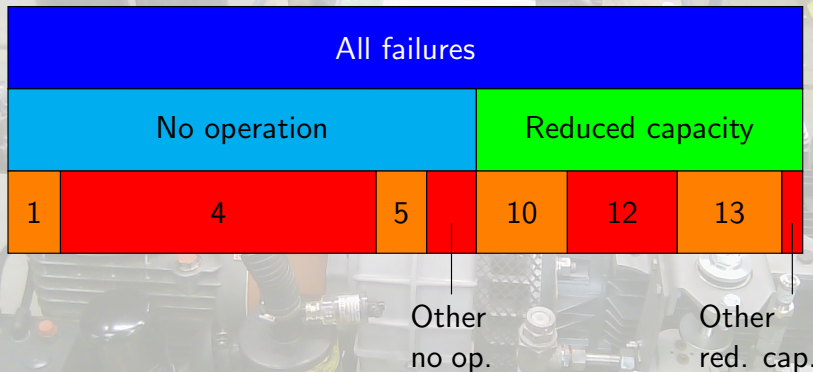
Maintenance actions:

- **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)

Analysis

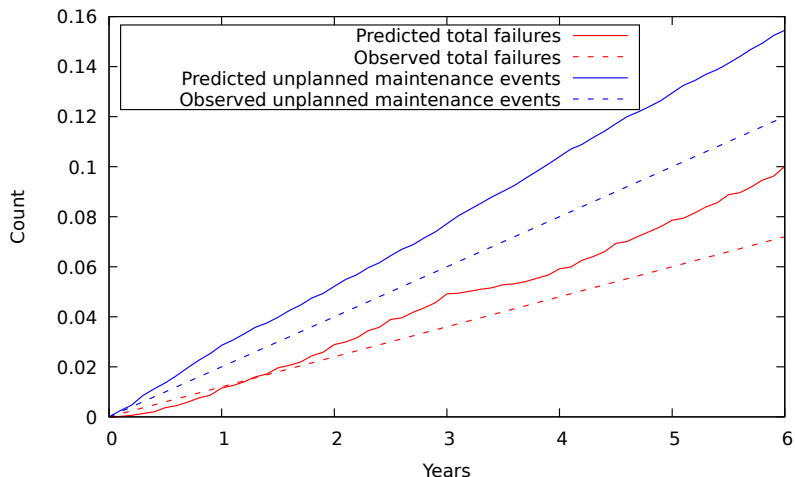
- 
- Results are averages of 40,000 simulations.
 - 95% Confidence window: width less than 1%.
 - Computation time: Approx. 6 CPU-hours.
 - All values scaled for confidentiality.

Analysis results: failure causes



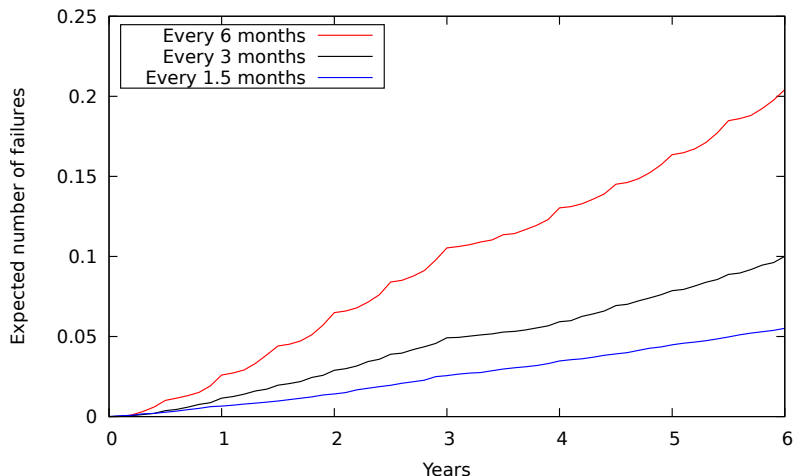
- Failure mode 4 (radiator obstructed) major cause of disruptions.
- Many failure modes rarely occur.

Analysis results: Current policy



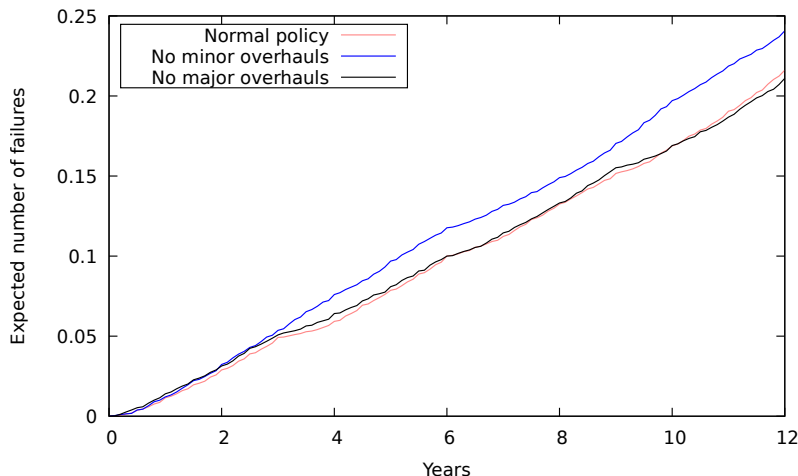
- Validation: Predictions are close to reality.

Analysis results: Varying maintenance interval



- Reliability heavily depends on maintenance interval.
- With costs, optimal inspection interval can be found (e.g. DSN2016).

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

- Number of failures in current maintenance policy agrees with reality.
- Frequency of minor service has major influence on reliability.
- Periodic overhauls do not appear very significant.

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Conclusions

- FMTs integrates maintenance in fault trees.
 - FT and maintenance plan can be separately developed.
- Useful decision support tool to compare dependability characteristics under different maintenance strategies.
- Demonstration FMTs in collaboration with NedTrain.
 - Applicable in practice.

Future work:

- Replacing phased degradation by a continuous model.