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Smart Rehabilitation and Maintenance in Civil Engineering for Sustainable Construction

# Leveraging Al in Asset Maintenance

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- 1. Background
- 2. Asset Maintenance Process
- 3. Fault Diagnosis & Prognosis
- 4. AI use cases

5. Conclusion.

#### 1. Background

#### **Asset Performance**



from Developing pavement performance models (TRB 2017)

#### • Performance curve

- predicts how performance degrades with time and/or use
- Asset can show early signs of failure
- Failure threshold
  - A lower cutoff on performance which signals failure is imminent
  - rehabilitation must be done soon
- Rehabilitation
  - Restore asset to original performance
  - Value of asset is restored.

### System context of asset performance



from Developing pavement performance models (Kargah-Ostadi: TRB 2017)

#### • Multi-causation

- Degradation of performance is due to many factors
- No two assets will be identical on all these factors

#### • Causation is not one-way

- A factor may influence the effect of another factor on the response
- +ve / -ve feedback loops among the factors and the response.

### AM tasks & decisions

- What asset to maintain
- How to detect faults which lead to asset failure
- How to assess health condition and diagnose faults
- What limits and thresholds should be set for timely action
- What is the prognosis
- What is the appropriate maintenance action
- How to balance value preservation *vs*. maintenance cost over the asset life-cycle
- Which AM strategy to create cost effective programs.



#### Shift of emphasis



- Increasing complexity
  - Both asset functions and technical systems
- More interdependency between systems
- Internet of Things
  - Better sensors, communications and computing power create opportunities.

#### • Shift

- From single asset to system to 'system-of-systems'
- From data to information processing
- From functionality to service quality.

### **Asset Maintenance Management**



from Moubray(1991)

- Strategy for the continuous improvement of the
  - availability, safety, reliability and longevity of physical assets in systems, facilities, equipment or processes

#### • Goal & process alignment

- Technical + business aspects
- Balance asset value preservation *vs*. maintenance cost

#### • Objective

• Assets shall be *available* when required and can *fulfil their function safely* and *reliably* in conformance with specified *requirements*.

#### 2. Asset Maintenance Process

#### Asset Maintenance framework



from Katipamula (2005)

### Maintenance strategies



#### • Corrective

- Action after event (critical warning, failure)
- Possible actions:
  - Defer, partial of complete repair, Rehabilitate, Replace

#### • Preventive

- Time-based or X number of uses
- Pre-empt failure
- Costly
- Predictive
  - Condition based
  - Needs monitoring to determine state of 'health'.

### Architecture of AM system

#### • Multi-layered architecture

- Each layer processes data/ information in its own way to fulfill its role
- Each layer receives information from the previous one
- Level of information abstraction
  - From sensor data in the form of analog or digital signals, to sub-symbolic numeric data, to knowledge concepts at the symbolic level

#### • Information processing

- Numeric routines for signal processing
- Sub-symbolic computation with Artificial Neural Nets
- Logical reasoning with expert systems
- Co-planning with intelligent agent systems.



from Kothamasu (2006)

#### 3. Fault Diagnosis & Prognosis

# DiagnosisIs there a fault (detect)

Fault diagnosis methods

- What is the fault (identify)
- Where is it (isolate)
- Methods
  - Data-driven
    - Statistics
    - ANN
    - Signal analysis & pattern recognition
  - Model-based
    - First principle physics
    - Qualitative physics
    - Knowledge of probable cause-effect.



from Katipamula (2005)



### Prognosis: accuracy & precision



<sup>•</sup> Prognosis

- Prediction of the future state of health given current state and proposed actions
- or prediction of when failure will occur
- Predictions
  - Probability distribution of expected time to failure or remaining useful life (RUL)
- Accurate
  - Actual time falls within pdf. Don't want to be too late or too early in the prediction

• Precise

• Pdf is narrowly defined, otherwise prediction is not actionable.

from Dragomir (2009)

#### System concepts



from INCOSE SE Handbook

- Systems are hierarchical
- Purposeful design: functionality
- Systems interact: emergence
  - Reliability, availability, safety, maintainability
- A 'system' is a conceptual device to describe reality
  - Structural composition
  - Behavior.

## System description language: SysML



from Friedenthal (2008)

#### • Description of asset as a system

- For fault diagnosis & prognosis
- Structure + behavior
- Requirements + parametrics
- Machine + human readable
  - Computer-aided maintenance
- Replace paper documents
  - One consistent database, many data views.

#### 4. Al use cases

## Al techniques (1)

| Technique         | Task                      | Strength/ Weakness  |
|-------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Artificial Neural | Fault diagnosis           | Simple generic structure – simple to apply  |
| Networks          | Prognosis                 | Data-driven – no model needed   |
|                   | Cause-and-effect analysis | <ul> <li>ANNs can approximate any calculable function to an arbitrary degree of precision</li> <li><i>Needs a lot of examples for training</i></li> <li><i>Can be over-trained on the data and become poor at generalization</i></li> </ul> |
|                   | TTF prediction            |   |
|                   | Supervised data           |   |
|                   | classification            |   |
|                   | Clustering                |   |
|                   | Function approximation    |   |
| Deep Learning     | Image/ signal / pattern   | (Massively) data-driven – no model needed   |
|                   | recognition               | Does not need application of special image/ signal analysis   |
|                   |                           | techniques to extract training features   |
|                   |                           | Needs significantly more computational power and storage to train the network.  |

## AI techniques (2)

| Technique  | Task  | Strength/ Weakness   |
|--|---|--|
| Knowledge-based /<br>rule-based expert<br>systems (KBES) | Fault diagnosis<br>Prognosis<br>Planning<br>Cause-and-effect analysis | Encodes human expert domain knowledge in a<br>machine executable yet human readable form<br>Can solve problems in a logical but non-procedural<br>way<br><i>Knowledge transfer from experts can be a bottleneck</i><br><i>Rules must be 'tuned' to optimize inference</i><br><i>Fails to reach conclusions when presented with</i><br><i>concepts beyond its rule base</i> |
| Fuzzy logic systems<br>(FLS)                             | Fault diagnosis<br>Prognosis<br>Planning<br>Cause-and-effect analysis | Has many of the same strengths as KBS<br>Handles uncertainty and ambiguity in knowledge<br>application in human-like way<br>More robust than KBES with crisp rules<br><i>Rules and definition of fuzzy sets must be tuned</i> .  |

## AI techniques (3)

| Technique                     | Task  | Strength/ Weakness   |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| Case-based reasoning<br>(CBR) | Fault diagnosis<br>Planning                 | Uses past experience in the form of structured 'cases' to solve similar<br>problems<br>Can adapt old cases to new problems |
|                               |   | Outcome is sensitive to method of case retrieval   |
| Genetic Algorithms (GA)       | Optimal connection weights of               | Very versatile for search & optimization problems  |
|                               | ANN   | Does not need the objective function to have derivatives   |
|                               | Model calibration                           | Can be trapped in a local optimum.   |
|                               | Maintenance program & schedule optimization |  |
| Reinforcement Learning (RL)   | Optimal maintenance policy                  | Learns from feedback 'on-the-job' – does not need large number of training cases or historical data                        |
|                               |   | Does not need a model of the environment – only reward signals   |
|                               |   | Guaranteed to converge to optimal policy if sufficient time is given   |
|                               |   | Can be computationally expensive if state-action space is large.   |

#### **Artificial Neural Network: structure**



Figure 2-8. A four-layered feed-forward ANN

from Ostadi (2013)

- ANN architecture
  - Input layer of neurons
  - At least one or more hidden layer of neurons
  - Output layer of neurons
  - Connection weights between neurons in adjacent layers
- Fault features are used as inputs
  - Sensor data is pre-processed by signal processing or statistical algorithm
- Output is a fault type, location or likelihood of failure
- ANN feeds-forward during operation
- Training of ANN
  - backpropagation of residual errors
  - adjustment of connection weights.

### **Deep Learning Network structure**



- Blocks of neurons arranged in layers
- Each block computes higher level features from the preceding block
- Neurons in each layer connected only to a small focal region in preceding block.

- Feeds-forward like ANN in operation
- Training is by backpropagation of errors or reinforcement learning
- Requires massive data & computing power
- Works directly on signal data
  - No manual feature extraction is needed.

#### **Rule-based Expert System**



from Petti (1990

| IF:   | mass balance is high                                    |
|-------|---|
| AND:  | feed2 valve curve is high; calculated value agrees with |
|       | valve curve.  |
| NOT:  | feed1 flow sensor is high; level sensor is stuck; prod  |
|       | flow sensor is low; expecting "strange behavior."       |
| THEN: | feed2 flow sensor is high.                              |

#### • Diagnosis expertise

- Encoded as if-then rules
- Both causal & control knowledge is encoded

#### • Rule firing

- Bottom-up: from data to conclusions
- Top-down: from hypothesis to supporting evidence
- 'Shallow' knowledge.

### **Knowledge-based Expert System**



a. Compiled knowledge-based system; process- and task-specific knowledge base with general inference engine
b. Diagnostic model processor; process-specific deep knowledge base with task-specific diagnostic methodlogy

- Retains diagnostic if-then rules
- Adds 'deep' knowledge
  - Process equations
  - Rich description of objects in the application domain.

### Fuzzy Logic System



from Hissel (2004)

- Data is encoded as fuzzy value using linguistic variables
- If-then rules use linguistic variables for reasoning
- Fuzzy inference engine propagates fuzzy values using fuzzy version of logic operators
- Result is defuzzified for presentation
- Fuzziness overcomes 'brittleness' of crisp if-then rules.

### **Case-based Reasoning**

- Structured case
  - encode past experience in solving particular problems
  - Case fields: symptoms, exclusions, diagnosis, remedy, efficacy, side-effects and level of success obtained
- Query case
  - Matched against cases in case-base
  - Case retrieval finds k-closest matches using similarity measure defined over case fields
  - Remedy of retrieved case is adapted to fit particulars of query case
  - Adapted case is recorded into case base once feedback is received.



from Motawa (2003)

### Problem Solving using Genetic Algorithms



#### • Iteratively evolves

- a population of solutions, each of which is a solution to the problem
- selection pressure forces the population to converge to the optimum

#### • Key GA operations

- Selection for mating & reproduction
- Mating is implemented as crossover, creating novel solutions from current gene pool of parents
- Mutation perturbs genes randomly

#### • Very versatile

- Does not need explicit mathematical function
- Particularly suited for search & optimization problems.

### GA chromosome string structure

Year (t)

State (s)

String

- Chromosome string
  - Encodes values at each gene ٠ position that are the solution to the problem
- Fitness evaluation
  - After decoding, gene values are substituted into the objective function to determine fitness of chromosome string
  - Fitness determines chance of • mating
- Crossover operation
  - Exchanges portions of chromosome string between cut positions to create new individuals
- Mutation operation
  - Randomly perturbs gene values with some probability.



from Morcous(2005)



## Conclusion (1)

- Increasing technical & system complexity creates greater demand on asset maintenance
- Task focus shifts: from functional to information and systemic aspects
  - Align technical + business goals among different agents
  - Balance asset value preservation vs. maintenance costs
- Failure diagnosis, prognosis and maintenance decisions exhibit many information-centric aspects
- Asset maintenance requires an appropriate strategy.

## Conclusion (2)

- AI is an attempt to simulate human competencies in information & cognitive tasks
- AI capabilities include
  - classification, clustering, pattern recognition
  - cause-effect reasoning, fuzzy reasoning
  - case recall, planning & decision making
  - search & optimization
  - learning
- AI technology
  - becoming increasingly accessible for adoption
  - can be leveraged in AM tasks depending on capability.



