Machine Learning for Predictive Maintenance Applications:

Introduction to Predictive Maintenance
Feature Extraction

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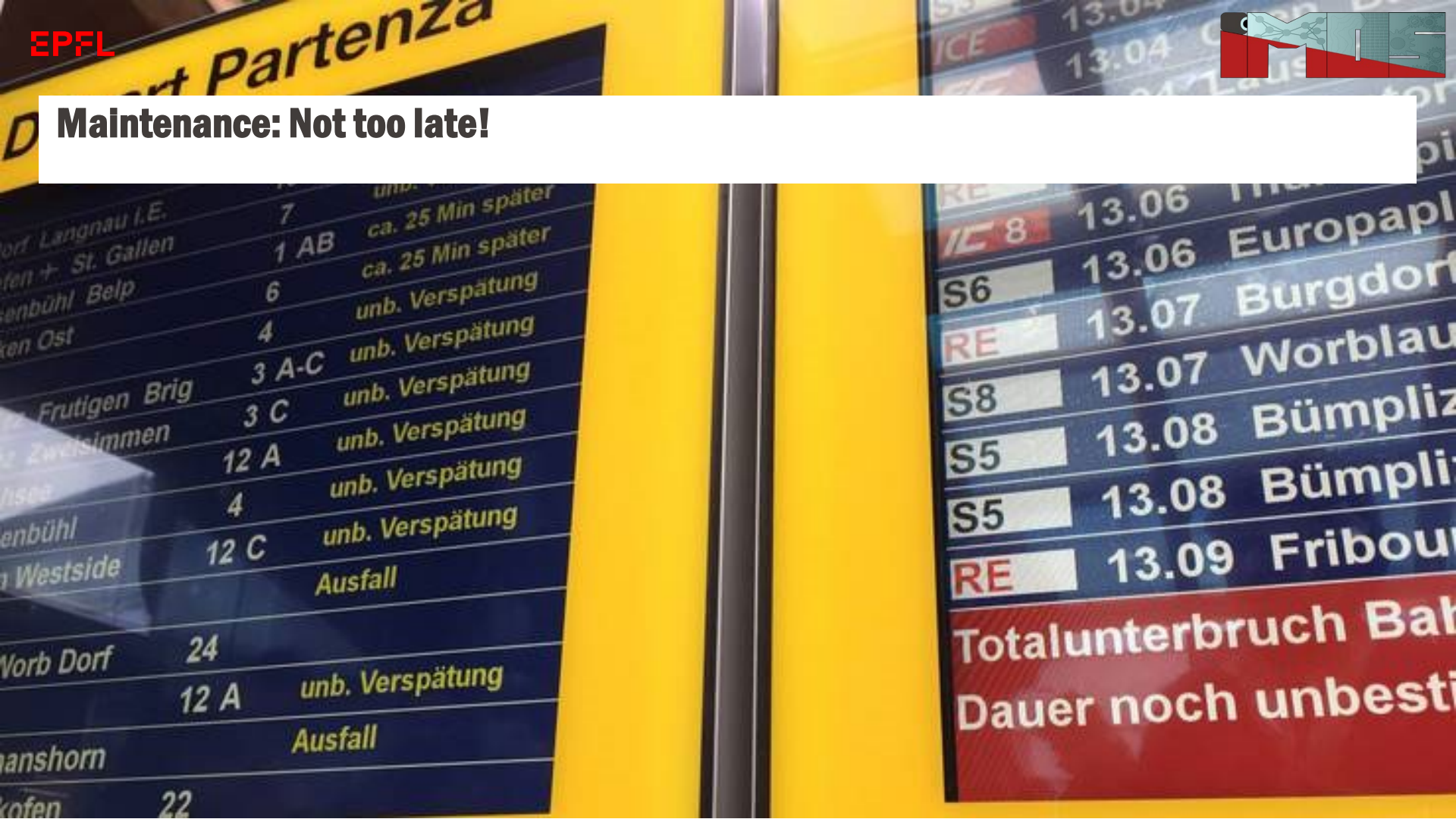
Maintenance

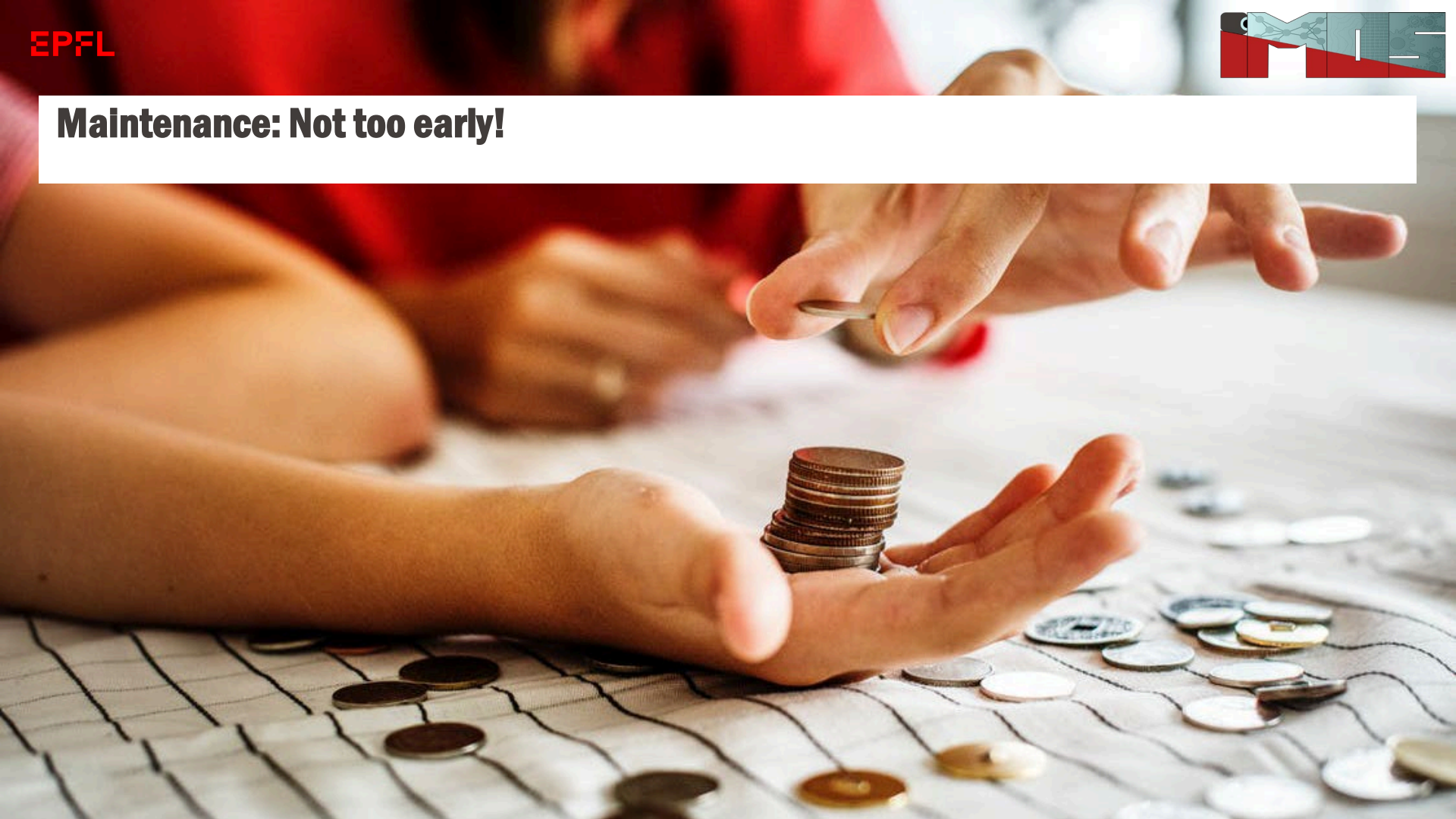
- Combinatoin of all technical administrative and managerial actions during the life cycle of an item intended to retain it in, or restore it to, a state in which it can perform the required function.

Source: EN 13306

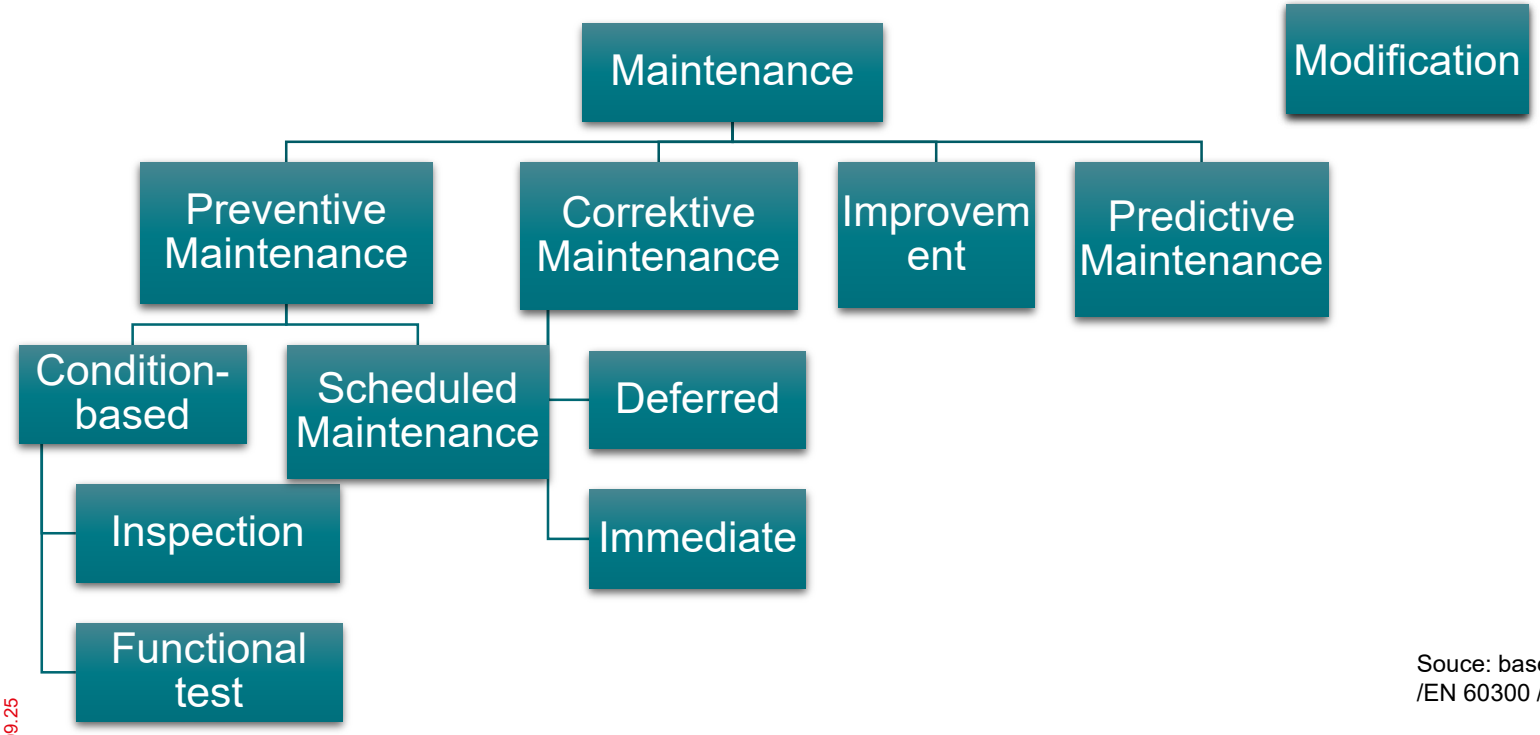


Maintenance: Not too late!

Maintenance: Not too early!

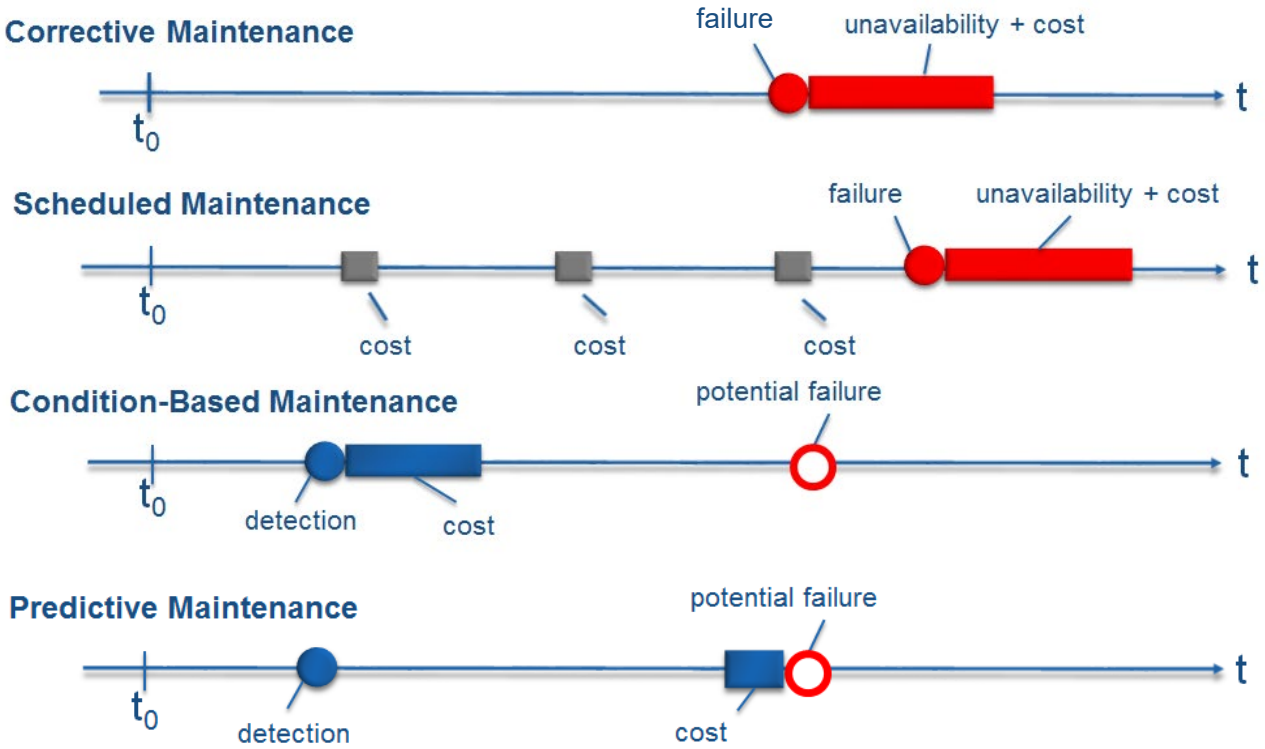


Different types of maintenance



Souce: based on EN 13306 /EN 60300 / DIN 31051

Predictive / Condition-Based Maintenance



What is artificial intelligence?

Artificial intelligence (AI) refers to the ability of a computer or machine to perform tasks that would normally require human intelligence, such as learning, problem solving, decision making, and language understanding.

What is machine learning?

Machine learning allows computers to act and make data-driven decisions without being directly programmed to carry out a specific task.

What is the difference between AI and machine learning?

Machine learning is considered as a part of AI

Other methods for achieving AI include

- rule-based systems,
- evolutionary computation
- expert systems…

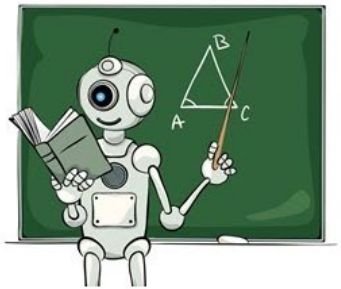
Machine Learning Research

Machine learning research is part of research on artificial intelligence, seeking to provide knowledge to computers through data, observations and interacting with the world. That acquired knowledge allows computers to correctly generalize to new settings.

Defintion by Yoshua Bengio, Université de Montréal

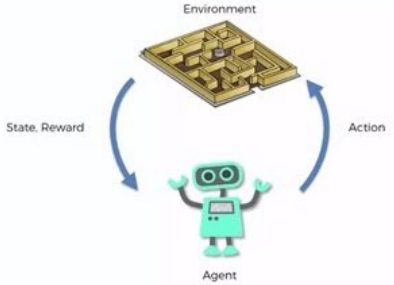
AI Takes the Nobel Prize

Types of machine learning



VS

VS



Supervised Learning

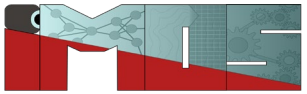
Unsupervised Learning

Reinforcement Learning

Generative AI

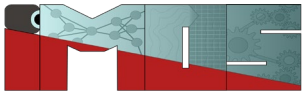
- **Definition:** Generative AI refers to artificial intelligence systems capable of creating new content such as images, text, music, and more.
- **Key Techniques:**
  - Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs): Uses two neural networks, a generator and a discriminator, that compete to produce realistic outputs.
  - Transformer-Based Models (e.g., GPT): Uses deep learning to generate coherent and contextually relevant text.
- **Applications:**
  - Art and Entertainment: Creating artwork, music, and creative writing.
  - Data Augmentation: Generating synthetic data for training other AI models.
  - Content Creation: Developing marketing copy, news articles, and social media posts.
- **Benefits:**
  - Innovation: Enables the creation of novel and diverse content.
  - Efficiency: Automates content creation, saving time and resources.
- **Challenges:**
  - Ethical Concerns: Issues related to copyright, plagiarism, and misinformation.
  - Quality Control: Ensuring the generated content is accurate and high-quality.

What are Large Language Models (LLMs)



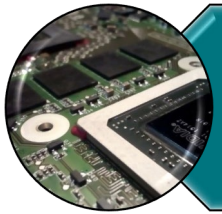
- Large Language Models are a type of artificial intelligence designed to understand and generate human-like text. Think of them as advanced chatbots that can hold conversations, answer questions, write essays, and even create poetry. They are typically trained on vast amounts of text data.
- **How do they work?**
- **Training Data**:
  - LLMs are trained on massive datasets containing text from books, articles, websites, and other written sources. This helps them learn the structure, grammar, and nuances of human language.
- **Learning Patterns**:
  - During training, the model learns to predict the next word in a sentence. For example, if given the phrase "The cat sat on the...", it might predict "mat" as the next word. By repeating this process billions of times, the model learns to generate coherent and contextually appropriate text.
- **Parameters**:
  - The “large” in LLM means how many parameters it has—for example, GPT-3 has 175 B, GPT-5 is the newest from OpenAI, PaLM has 540 B, Falcon 180 B, LLaMA 3 up to 70 B, DeepSeek-V3 uses a MoE design with 671 B total (37 B active), and China's Qwen 3 includes both dense models (ranging 0.6 B to 32 B) and MoE versions like 30 B (3 B active) and 235 B (22 B active).
- **What can they do?**
  - **Conversation**: LLMs can chat with users in a natural and engaging way.
  - **Content Creation**: They can write articles, stories, and even code.
  - **Translation**: LLMs can translate text between different languages.
  - **Summarization**: They can summarize long documents into shorter, easy-to-understand versions.

What are foundational models

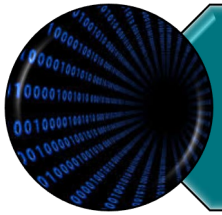


- Foundational models are large-scale machine learning models that are pre-trained on vast amounts of data and can be fine-tuned for various downstream tasks. These models form the "foundation" upon which more specific applications are built, allowing for efficient transfer learning and rapid deployment across different use cases.
- **Large-Scale Pre-Training**:
  - **Data**: Foundational models are trained on extensive datasets, often comprising diverse and unstructured data such as text, images, and audio.
  - **Architecture**: These models typically use complex architectures like transformers, which can capture intricate patterns and dependencies in the data.
- **Transfer Learning**:
  - **Fine-Tuning**: Once a foundational model is pre-trained, it can be fine-tuned on smaller, task-specific datasets to perform well on particular applications.
  - **Versatility**: This approach allows the model to adapt to a wide range of tasks without requiring training from scratch for each new task.
- **Scalability**:
  - **Parameter Count**: Foundational models often have billions of parameters, making them highly capable but also resource-intensive.
  - **Compute Resources**: Training and deploying these models require significant computational power, often leveraging specialized hardware like GPUs and TPUs.
- **Different types of foundational models:**
  - Education
  - Sciences
  - Health
  - Sustainability / climate
  - Robotics

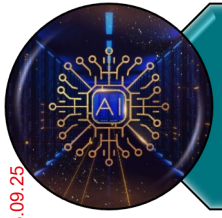
Key success factors for breakthroughs in Artificial Intelligence



Advancement of hardware

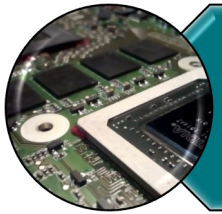


Emergence of “big” data



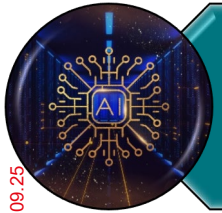
Advancements in machine learning and deep learning

Key success factors for breakthroughs in Artificial Intelligence



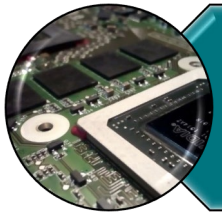
Advancement of hardware

Emergence of “big” data



Advancements in machine learning and deep learning

Key success factors for breakthroughs in Artificial Intelligence



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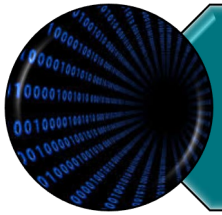

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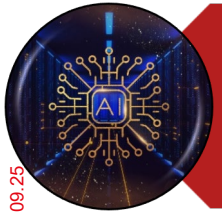
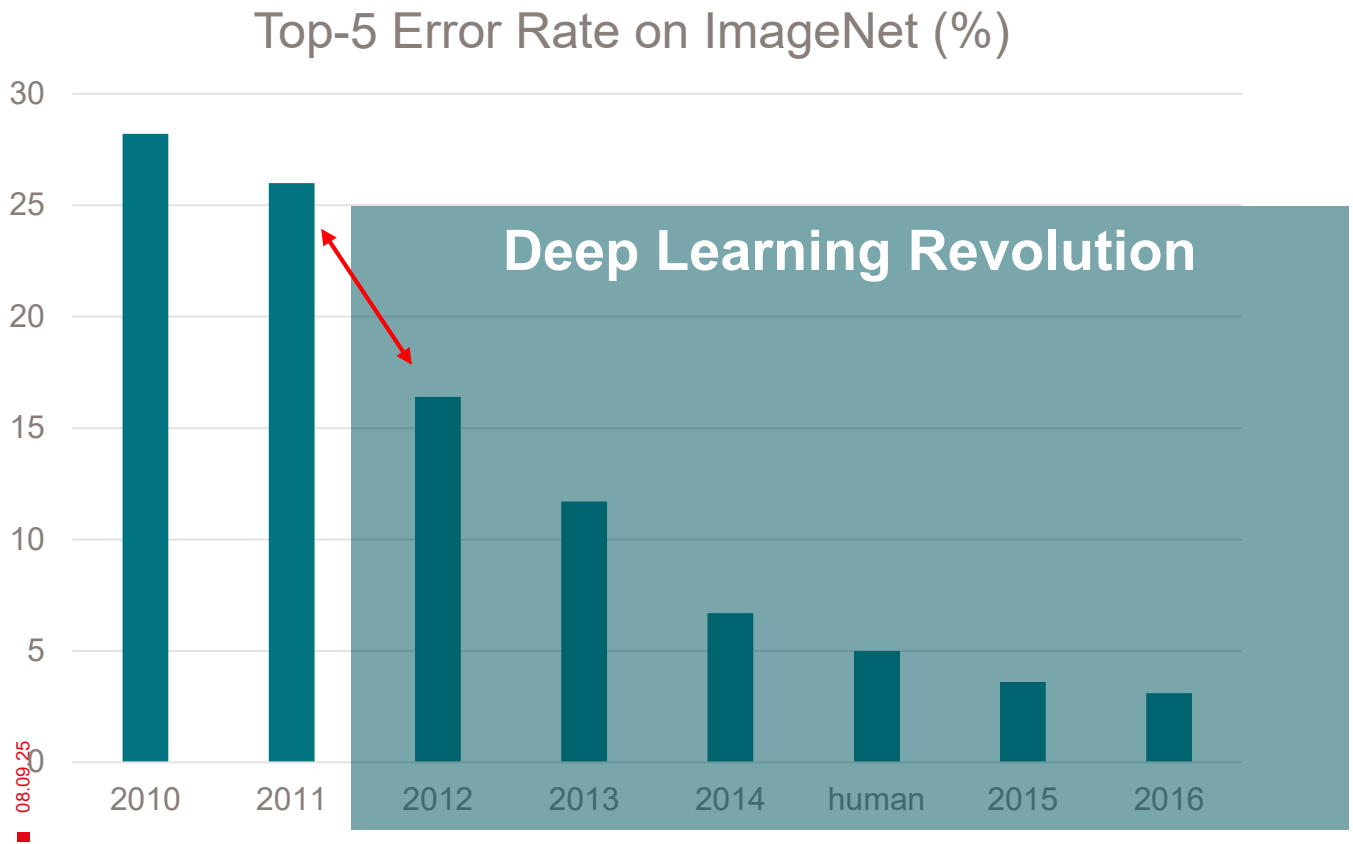


Advancements in machine learning and deep learning

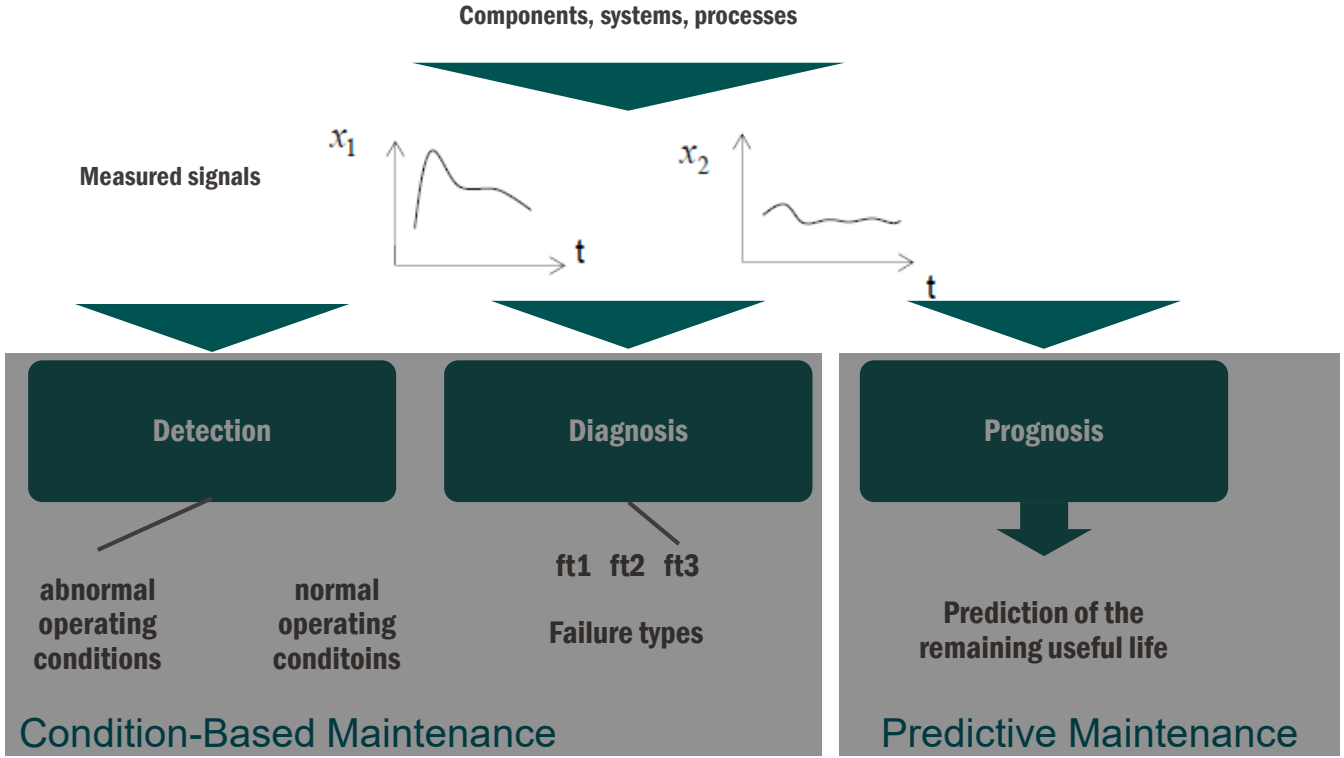
Power of depth



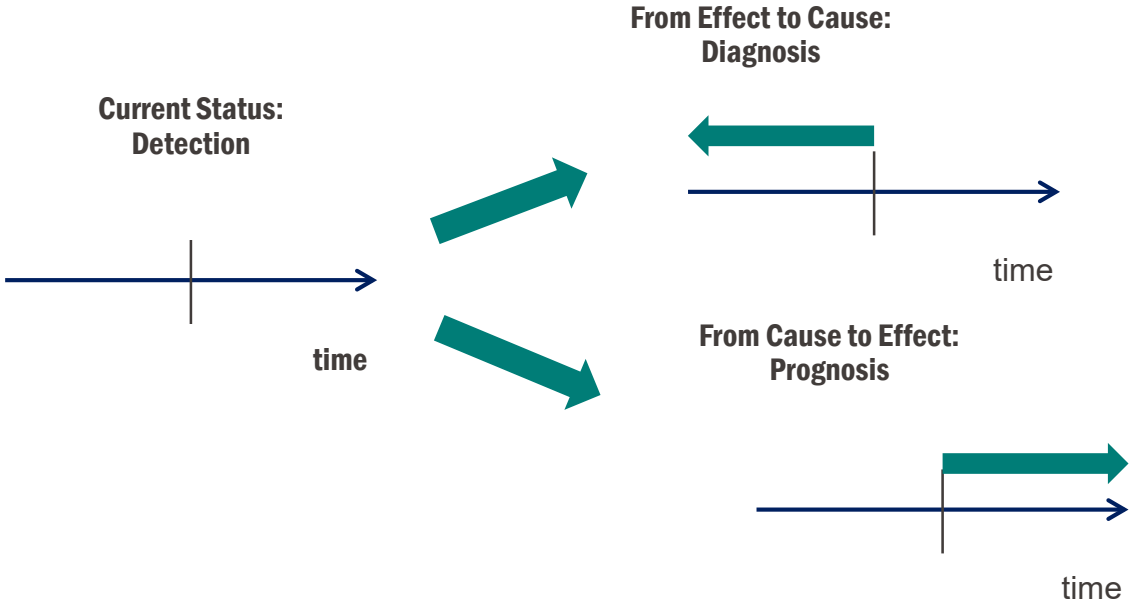
Elements of Intelligent Maintenance

Source: Deloitte

Prognostics and health management (PHM)



Detection, Diagnosis, Prognosis



Prognosis

- Prognosis: Prediction of the Remaining Useful Life of a component
- Remaining Useful Life (RUL) – The amount of time a component can be expected to continue operating within its stated specifications.
- RUL is dependent on future operating conditions
  - Input commands
  - Environment
  - Loads
- Time of Failure (TOF): the time a component is expected to fail (no longer meet its design specifications)

Detect, Diagnose and Predict Faulty System Conditions → monitor the health evolution

Shelling

Non-roundness

Fault detection / diagnostics / prognostics

Detection

Healthy or faulty operation?

Diagnostics

Are there different faults types?

What is the root cause of the faults?

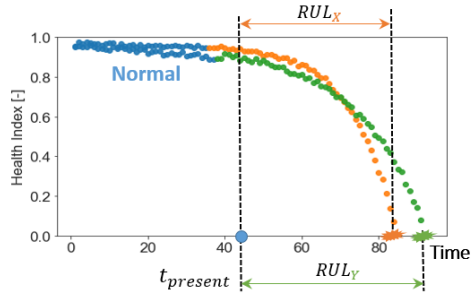
Type 0 → Normal

Type 1 → Fault of X* (* component, system, sensor, etc.)

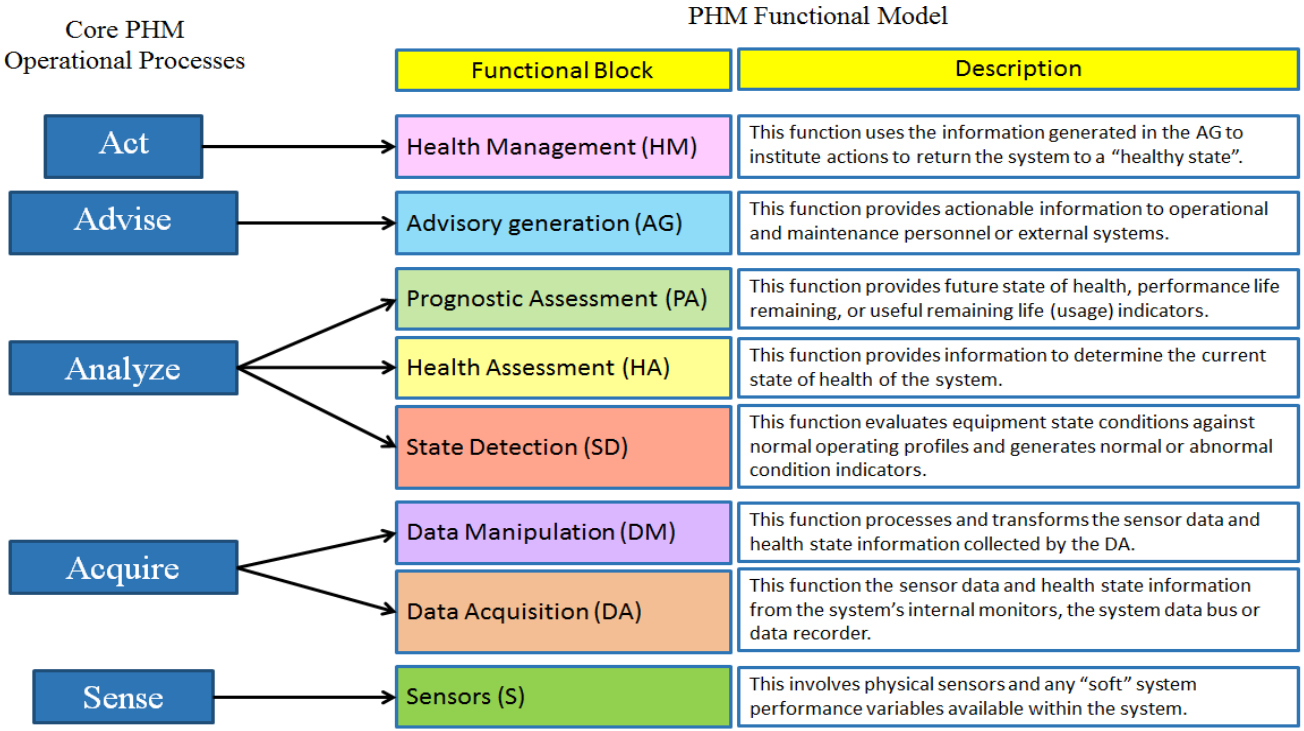
Type 2 → Fault of Y*

Prognostics

How long the system can continue operating i.e., remaining useful lifetime?

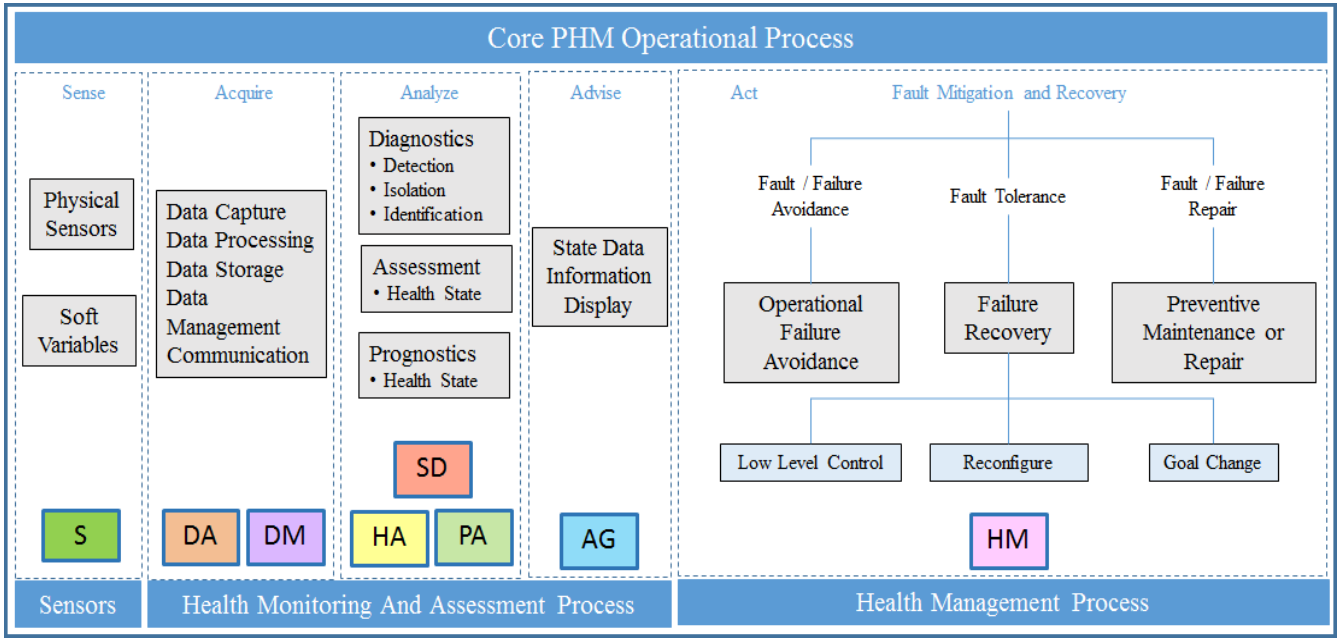


From data acquisition to health management: Prognostics & Health Management (PHM)



Source: P1856™/D31 Standard

PHM system operational view



Source: P1856™/D31 Standard

Predictive vs. Prescriptive Maintenance

Predict the remaining useful life

Anticipate the failure

Reduce the impact of the failure

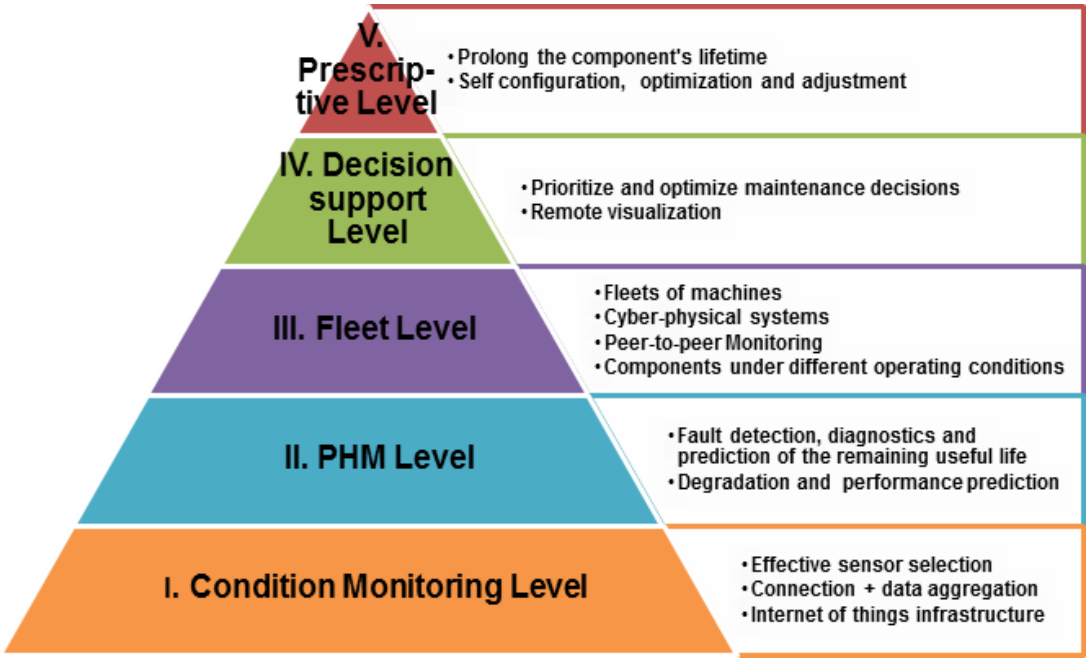
Determine the optimal point in time for maintenance intervention

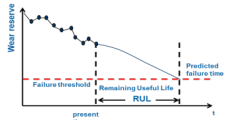
What can we do to prolong the remaining useful life?

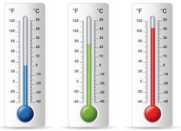
How can we proactively adjust the operating conditions?

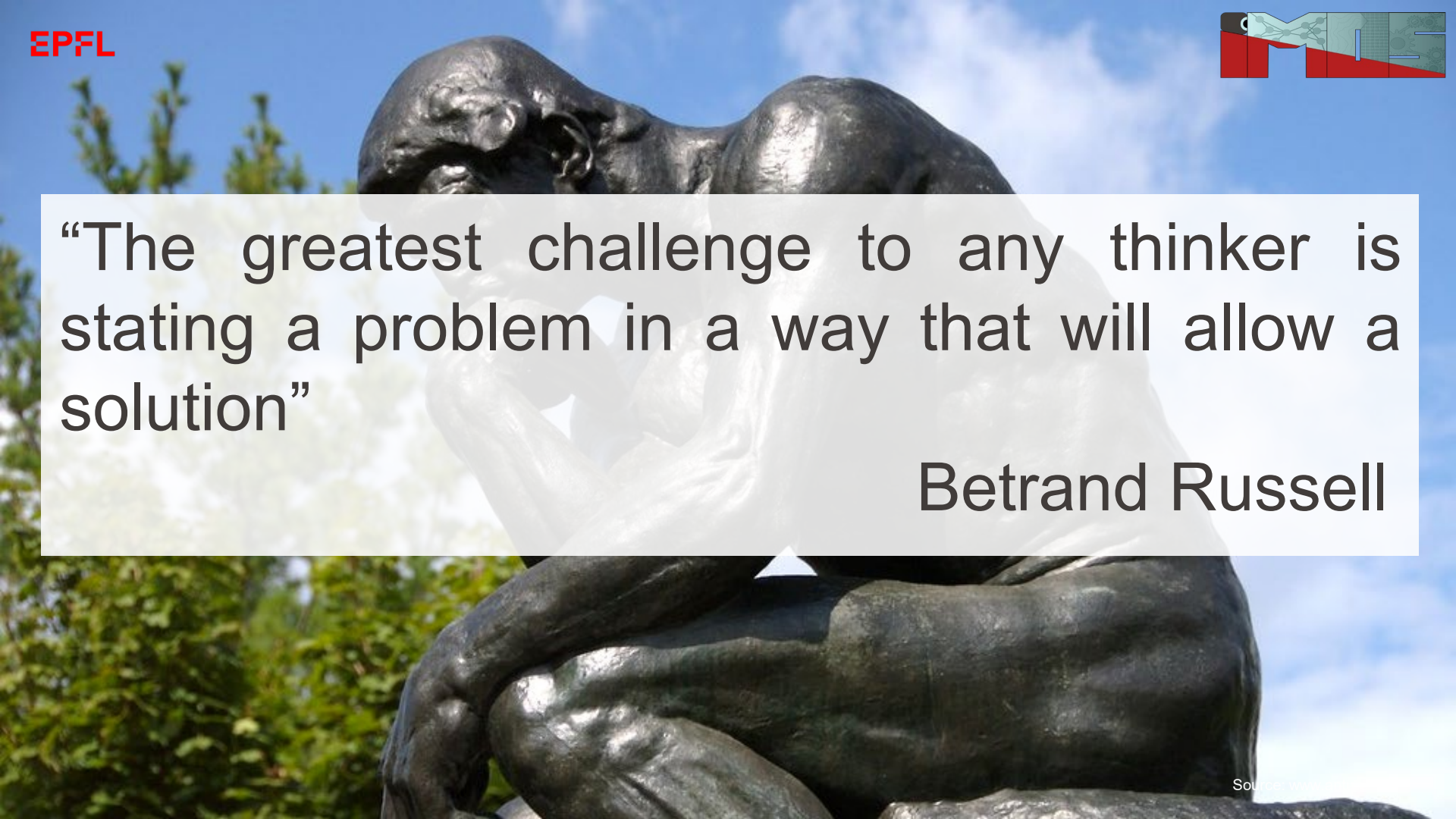
How can we control the process parameters?

Five levels of condition-based and predictive maintenance








“The greatest challenge to any thinker is stating a problem in a way that will allow a solution”
Betrand Russell

Learning goal

- Define the problem in a way that allows its solution based on existing constrains such as lack of fault samples
- Design data-driven predictive maintenance applications for complex engineered systems from raw condition monitoring data
- Assess / Evaluate the performance of the applied algorithms
- Choose machine learning algorithms for fault detection, diagnostics and prognostics
- Interpret the results of the algorithms

Performance Assessment

- Performance will be assessed during the semester based on
  - 3 exercises, requiring the students to perform defined sub-tasks for designing a predictive maintenance system (50% of the final grade in total)
    - Feature engineering + unsupervised fault detection (20%)
    - Prognostics (15 %)
    - Domain adaptation (15 %)
  - Final project: Report (including the implementation) and presentation of a real case study of designing a predictive maintenance system based on raw condition monitoring signals of a complex engineered system (30%)
  - 2 quizzes on the content of the course / understanding of the excercises → 10% each of the grade

Ed Discussion

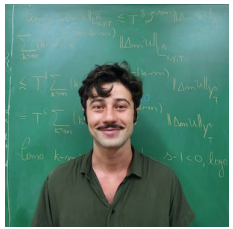
- Active answering to fellow student questions will be rewarded:
- 1. Place: Galaxus voucher of 100CHF
- 2. Place: Galaxus voucher of 80CHF
- 3. Place: Galaxus voucher of 50CHF
- (minimal threshold needs to be achieved)

(Preliminary) Course Schedule

Week	Date lecture	Date exercise	Lecture	excercise / graded Excercise	Quizzie
1	8/9/2025	11/9/2025	Introduction to predictive maintenance / Basic Principles of PM, problem formulations / Pre-processing of raw condition monitoring data / Feature extraction;	Introduction to sciPy + Pytorch	
2	15/9/2025	18/9/2025	How to approach data science projects? Problem definition / Feature selection / dimensionality reduction methodology	Introduction to Excercise 1 / introduction to good practice data science / Repetition signal processing	
3	22/9/2025	25/9/2025	holiday	Support slot excercise 1	
4	29/9/2025	2/10/2025	Residual-based detection / Feature Learning	Support slot excercise 1	
5	6/10/2025	9/10/2025	One-Class Classifiers /Health indicators / Self-supervised learning / performance evaluation	Support slot excercise 1	Intro to Final Project (Data Final Project)
6	13/10/2025	16/10/2025	Prognostics / Hyperparameter tuning	Submission graded excercise 1, Introduction to graded excercise 2	Quizzie1
7	20/10/2025	23/10/2025	Semester break	Semester break	
8	27/10/2025	30/10/2025	Domain adaptation approaches for PHM	Support slot excercise 2	
9	3/11/2025	6/11/2025	Federated learning in PHM/ Explainable ML algorithms	Submission graded excercise 2, Introduction to graded excercise 3	
10	10/11/2025	13/11/2025	Physics-informed ML Models / GNN	Debfriefing graded excercise 2, Support slot graded excercise 3	Milestone Final Project
11	17/11/2025	20/11/2025	Semi-supervised learning for fault diagnostics and prognostics / Generative models	Support slot graded excercise 3, Non-graded Excercises XAI + Federated Learning	
12	24/11/2025	27/11/2025	Fleet approaches / Prescriptive maintenance concepts	Submission graded excercise 3; non-graded Excercise GNN	
13	1/12/2025	4/12/2025	Decision support	Support slot final project	Quizzie2
14	8/12/2025	11/12/2025	Benefits and costs of PM	Support slot final project	
14	15/12/2025	18/12/2025	Presentation final project --> poster presentations		

Exercise team

Ismail Nejjar



Arthur Bizzi

Vinay Sharma

Raffael Theiler

Amaury Wei

Leandro von Kannichfeldt

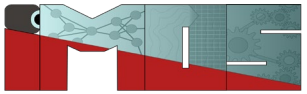
Kevin Steiner

Sergei Garmaev

Chenghao Xu

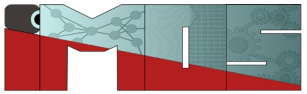
Zepeng Zhang

Typical steps to follow in a machine learning (ML) project (1/3)



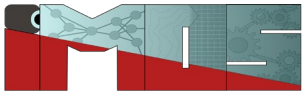
1. Problem Definition and Understanding
   - Clearly articulate the problem you aim to solve.
   - Identify the objectives and success criteria.
   - Ask the right questions: Identify the questions your data can answer to solve the business problem.
   - Understand the data: Learn the context, limitations, and opportunities within the available data.
2. Identify the Value:
   - Determine the potential value and impact of solving the problem (both from business and from the scientific perspective)
   - Assess how the solution will benefit stakeholders and align with business goals.
3. Collect Data:
   - Gather relevant data from various sources.
   - Make sure that your data is representative for the test data (application data) → be aware of the variability of the operating conditions (→ domain shift)
   - Ensure data quality and completeness.
   - Acquire labels for your data if possible (ensure the quality of labels)
4. Explore and Understand the Data:
   - Perform exploratory data analysis.
   - Visualize data to understand patterns and relationships.
   - Understand the data distribution (Explore the statistical properties, distributions, and trends in the data)
   - Identify data quality issues (Look for missing values, outliers, and inconsistencies that may affect analysis).
   - Generate hypotheses (Form hypotheses based on patterns observed during data exploration).

Typical steps to follow in a machine learning (ML) project (2/3)



5. Prepare Data:
   - Clean the data (handle missing values, outliers).
   - Feature engineering (create meaningful features, transform existing ones).
   - Split data into training, validation, and test sets.
   - Scaling and normalization (Prepare the data for modeling by applying appropriate scaling techniques)
   - Address class imbalances: If needed, use techniques like oversampling, undersampling, or synthetic data generation to balance the dataset.
6. Select and Train Models:
   - Select appropriate models (Choose models based on the problem type (regression, classification, clustering, etc.) and data characteristics)
   - Split the dataset (Use train-test splits (or cross-validation) to ensure your model's generalization to unseen data)
   - Baseline model (Start with a simple model as a baseline to compare more complex models).
   - Tune Hyperparameters (Optimize model hyperparameters for better performance).
   - Iterate and improve (Experiment with different models and tuning hyperparameters)
   - Avoid overfitting (Implement regularization techniques or apply cross-validation to avoid overfitting the training data).
7. Evaluate Models:
   - Choose appropriate metrics (Select evaluation metrics that are relevant to the problem (e.g., accuracy, precision, recall, F1-score, RMSE))
   - Validate on unseen data (Always validate your model on a test set or through cross-validation to assess its performance)
   - Compare models: Compare different models based on performance metrics and business value.

Typical steps to follow in a machine learning (ML) project (3/3)

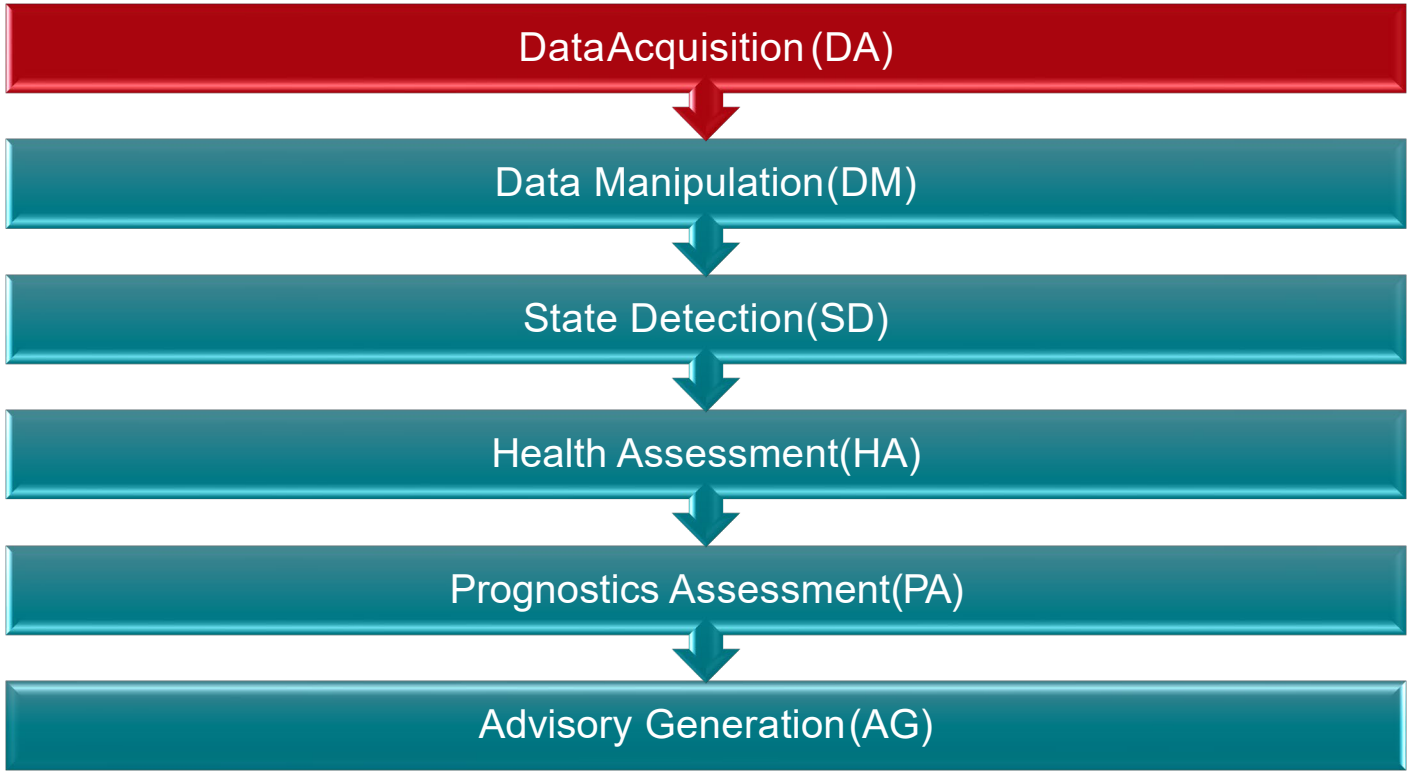


8. Model Interpretation
   - What do the results mean?
   - Explainability (Ensure that you understand how your model works, and use XAI techniques such as SHAP values or feature importance to explain the results).
   - Check assumptions (Ensure that the model's assumptions hold and are consistent with the problem and data context)
9. Test Model:
   - Evaluate the final model on the test dataset to gauge its real-world performance.
10. Deploy Model:
    - Integrate the model into a production environment.
11. Monitor and Maintain:
    - Continuously monitor model performance.
    - Update the model as needed based on new data and changing conditions.
    - Monitor how your model is actually used
12. Documentation and Communication
    - Document thoroughly (Keep detailed notes on every step, including data sources, preprocessing steps, model choices, evaluation, and deployment procedures)
    - Communicate results (Present findings to stakeholders in a clear, actionable manner. Tailor communication based on the audience (e.g., technical team vs. business executives).)

Most importantly:

- **KEEP IT AS SIMPLE AS POSSIBLE!**
- If a linear regression model solves your problem, don’t opt for more complex models.
- Evaluate whether applying rules or thresholds is enough to make the decision.
- Keep the decision maker in mind, and focus on how to present model outputs clearly.

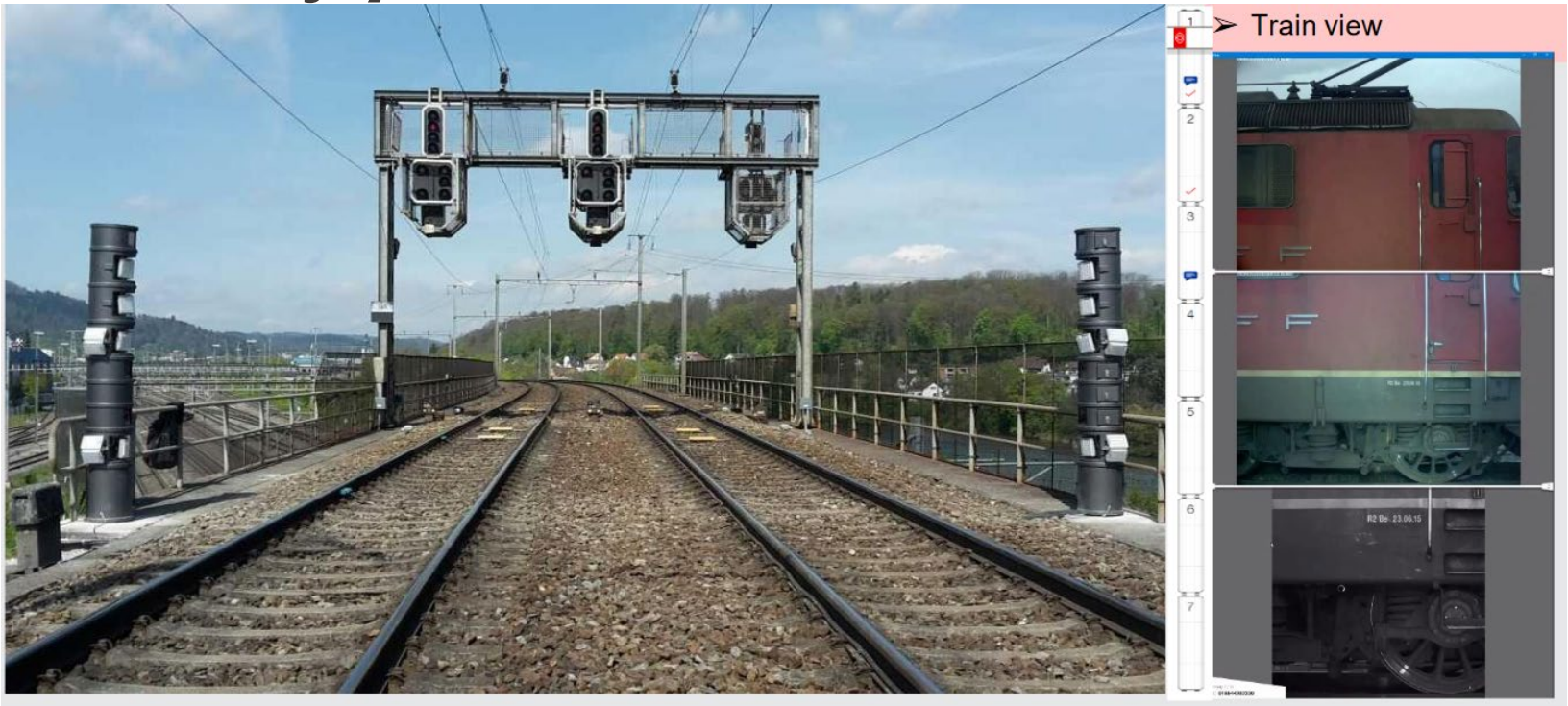
PHM Process


DataAcquisition (DA)
Data Manipulation(DM)
State Detection(SD)
Health Assessment(HA)
Prognostics Assessment(PA)
Advisory Generation (AG)

Possible means of condition monitoring

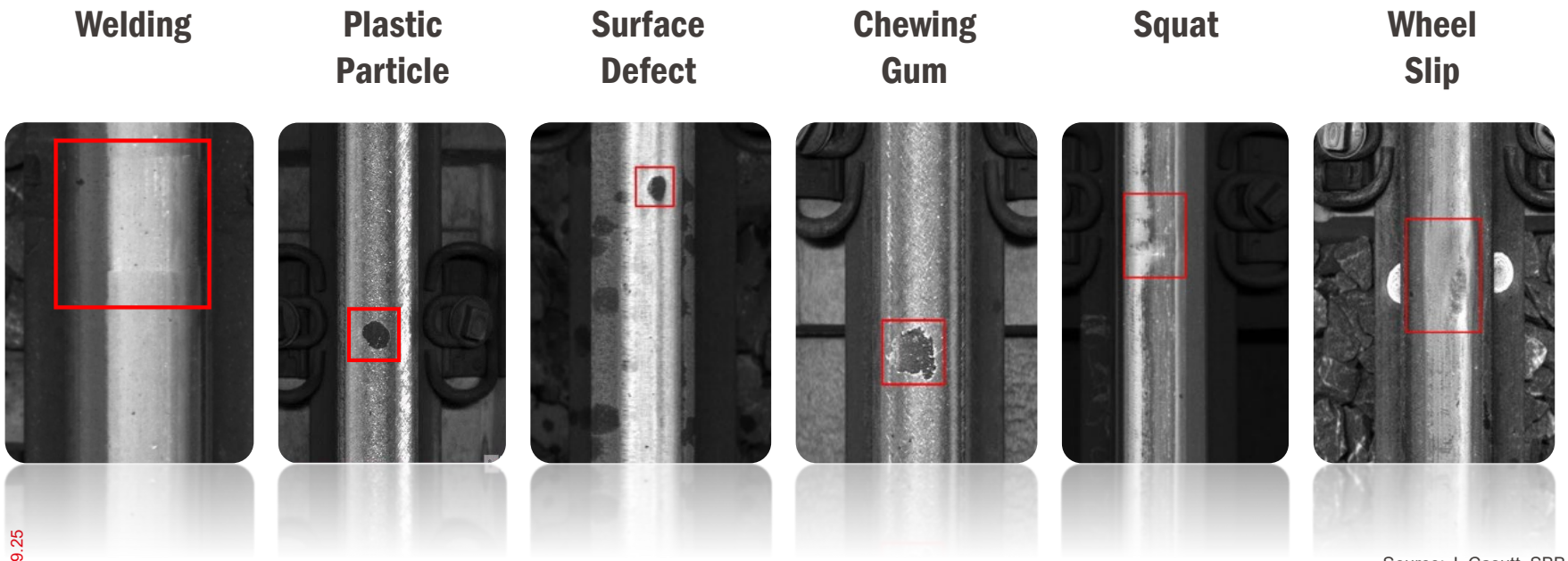
- Thermography
- Measurement of compressed air consumption
- Ultrasonic testing technology
- Oil quality monitoring
- Current consumption measurement
- Vibration diagnosis
- Acoustic emission monitoring
- Computer vision

Video inspection: example SBB (Swiss Federal Railways)



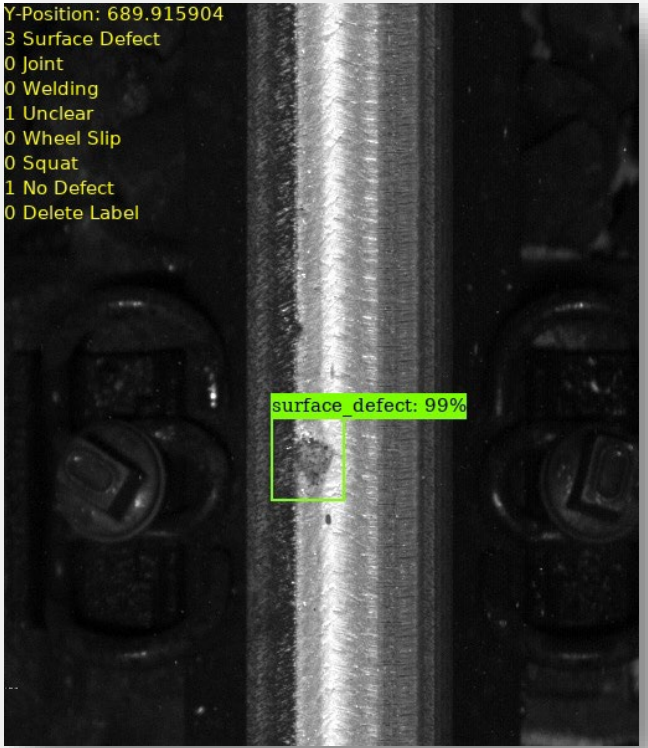
Source: J. Bisang, SBB

Defect detection of track: example SBB (Swiss Federal Railways)



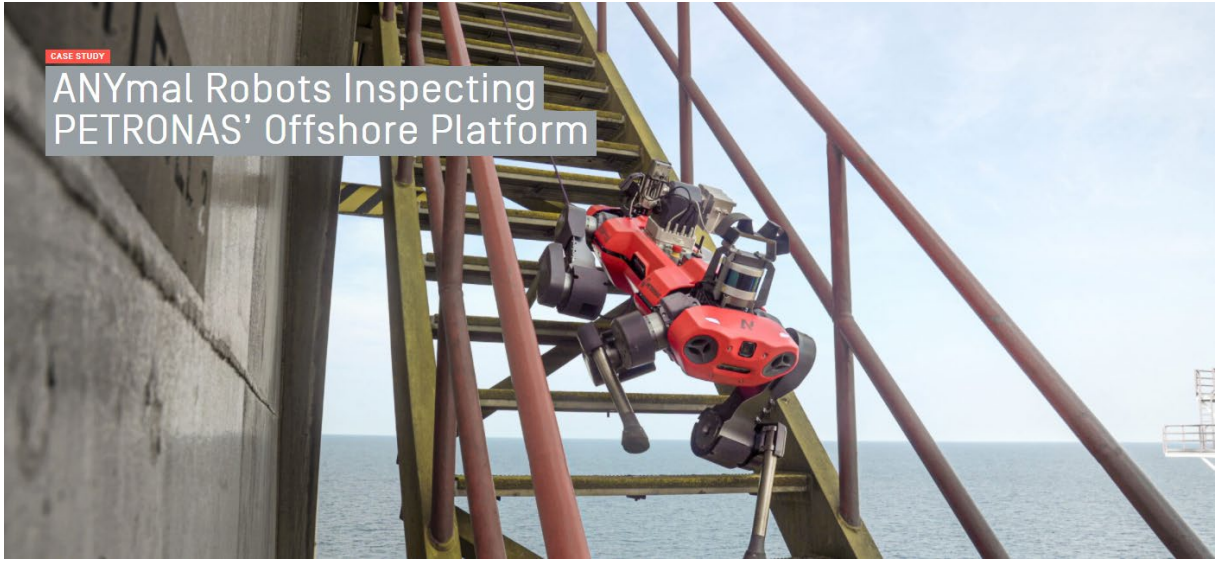
Source: J. Casutt, SBB

Defect detection of track: example SBB



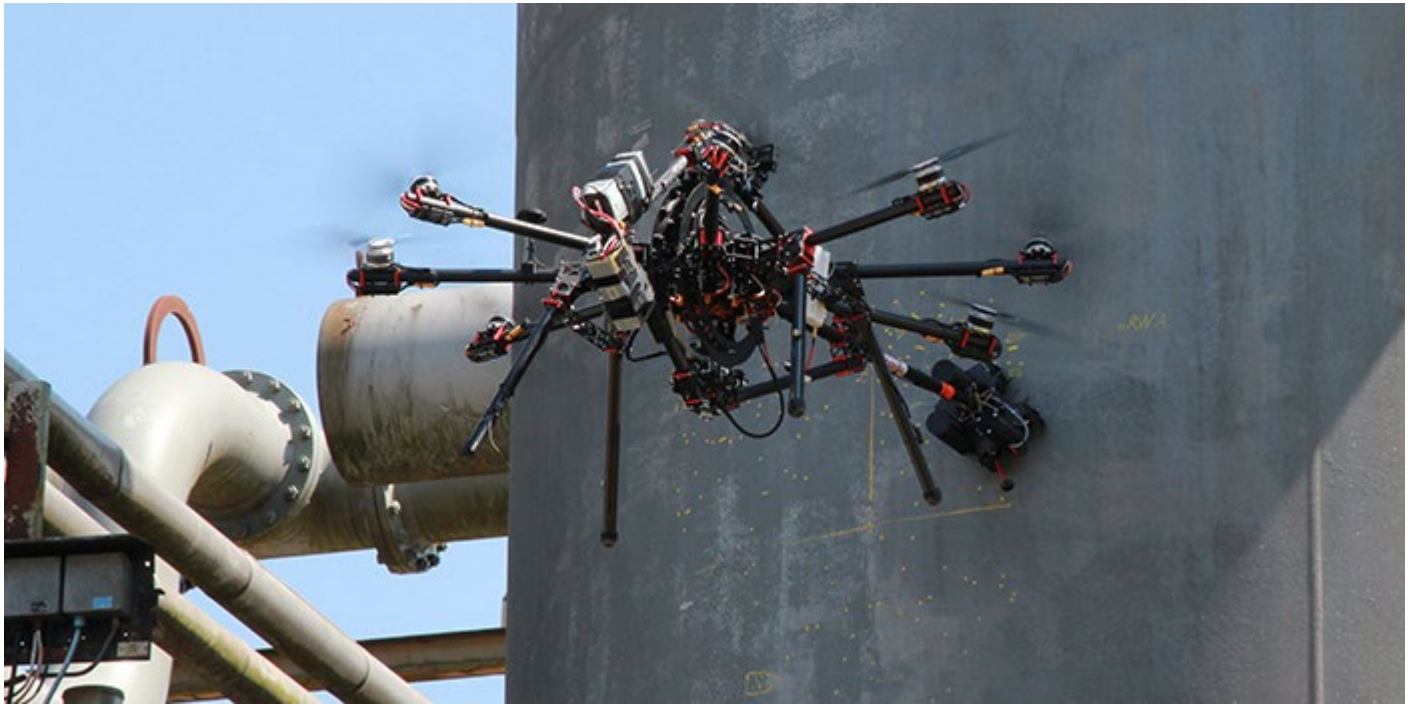
Source: J. Casutt, SBB

Inspection by robots: walking



Source: Anybotics

Inspection by robots: flying

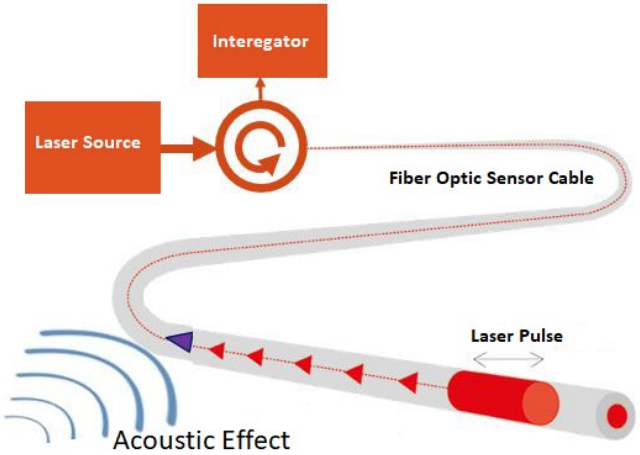


Source: www.dtu.dk

Inspection by robots: swimming

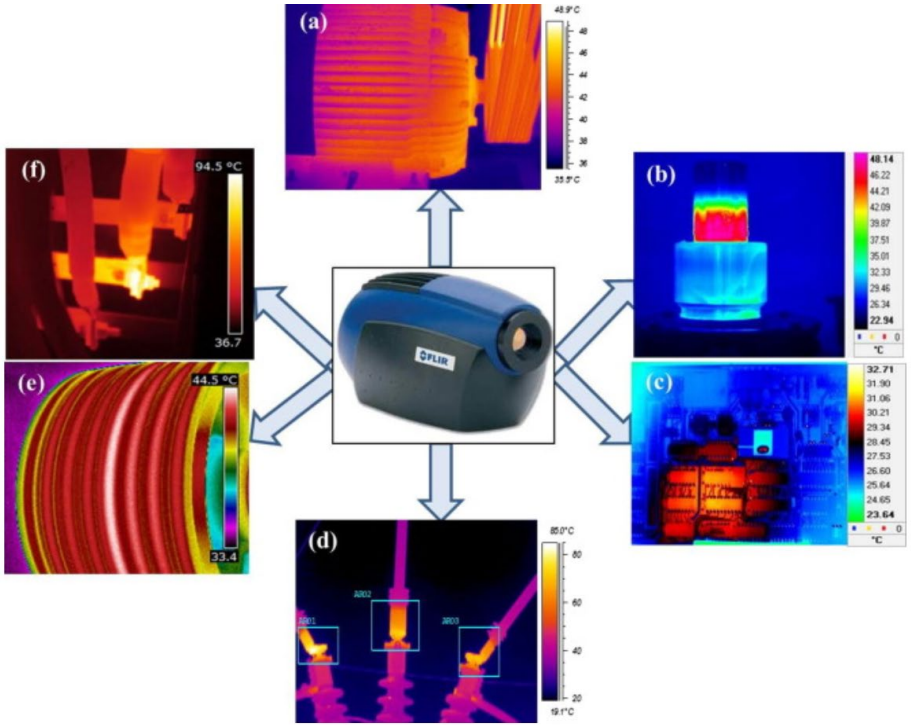
Inspection by robots: driving

(Distributed) Acoustic sensors



Source: GRAS

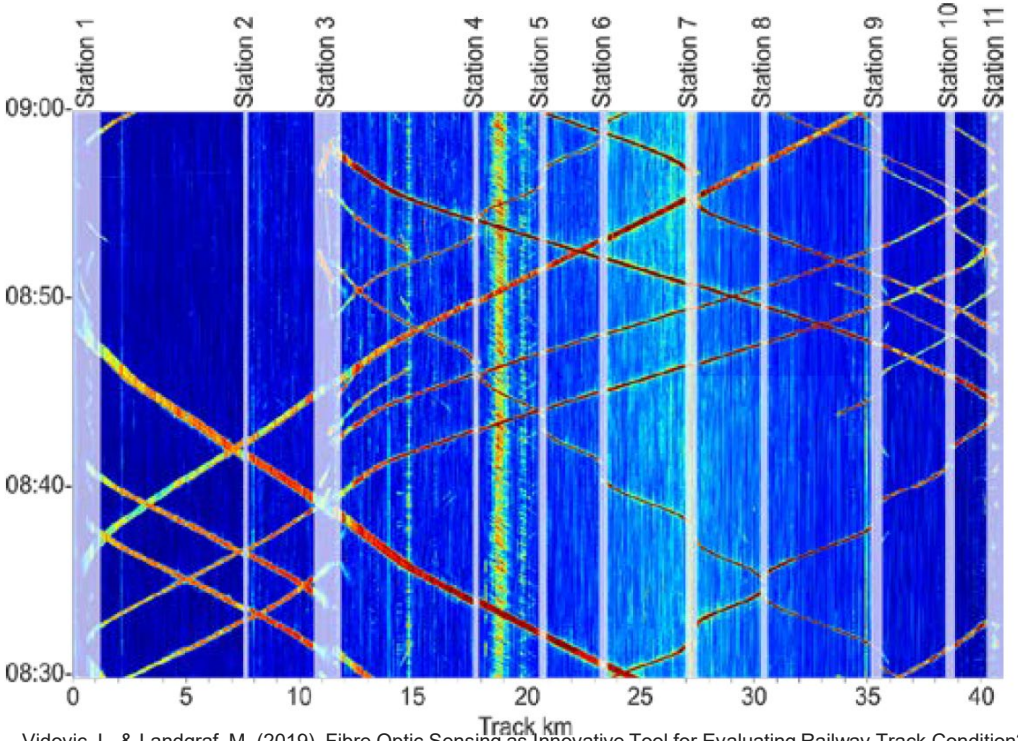
Infrared thermography for condition monitoring



Various condition monitoring applications of infrared thermography: (a) Monitoring of machineries where abnormal surface temperature distribution is an indication of a probable flaw. (b) Inspection of liquid levels in industrial components. (c) Inspection of printed circuit boards. Localized defects like short circuits or current leakages produce hot-spots which can be easily detected by infrared thermography. (d) Typical thermal images of a transformer circuit breaker where the faulty regions can be clearly seen as hot-spots. (e) Inspection of shaft belt where the thermal anomaly is due to over-tightening of a belt. (f) Condition monitoring of three phase electrical panel where local hot spots are developed due to load imbalance.

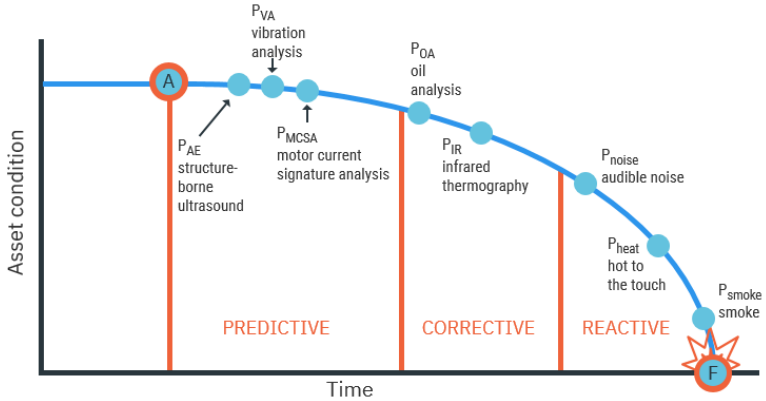
Source: Infrared thermography for condition monitoring – A review

Distributed Acoustic Sensing (fibre optic cable sensing) for detecting defects in switching mechanisms



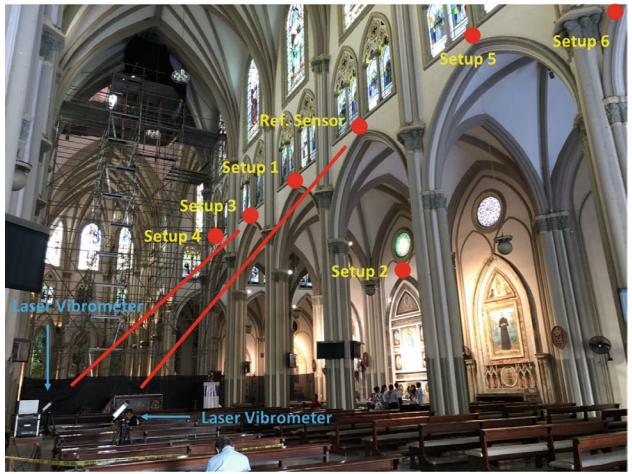
Vidovic, I., & Landgraf, M. (2019). Fibre Optic Sensing as Innovative Tool for Evaluating Railway Track Condition?. In *International Conference on Smart Infrastructure and Construction 2019 (ICSIC) Driving data-informed decision-making* (pp. 107-114). ICE Publishing.

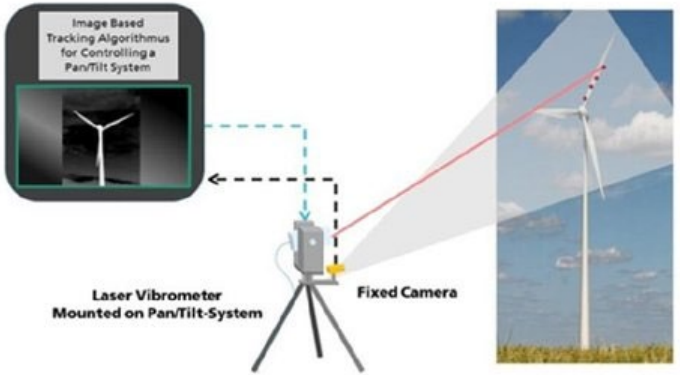
Acoustic emission monitoring

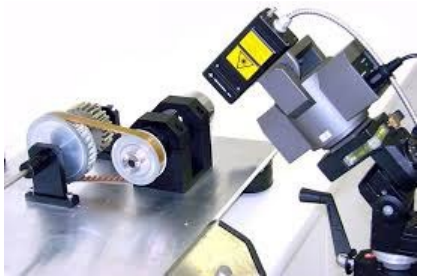


Source: Semiotic labs
Kistler

Laser vibrometer



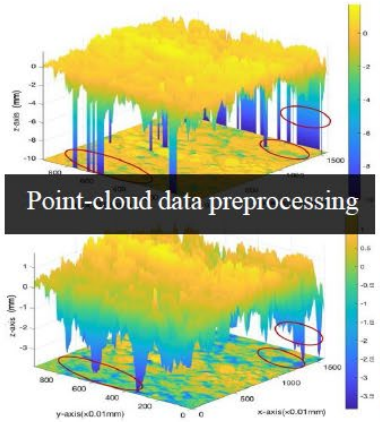


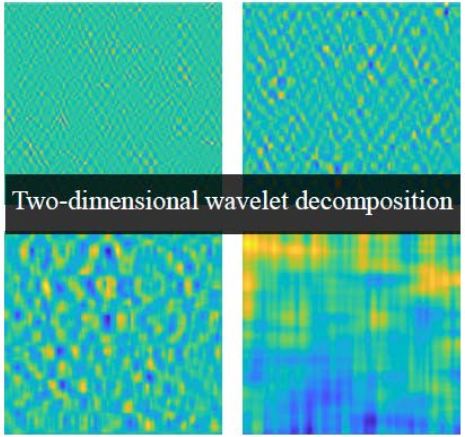


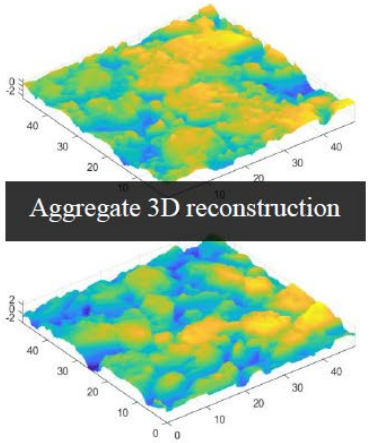
Source: SPIE digital library
Dynamics of Civil Structures, Volume 2
Polytec

Pavement laser measurements

Collection method

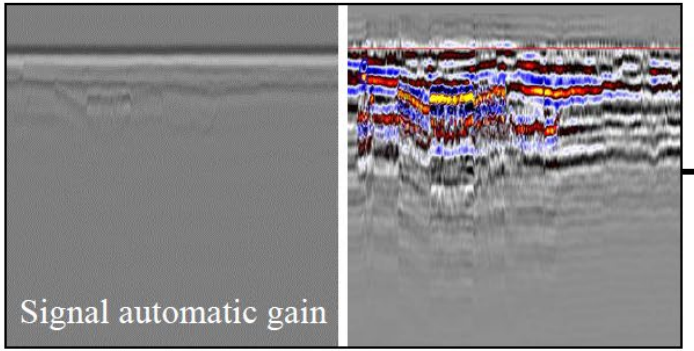


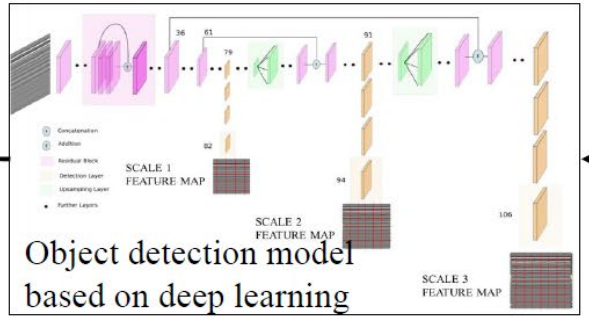


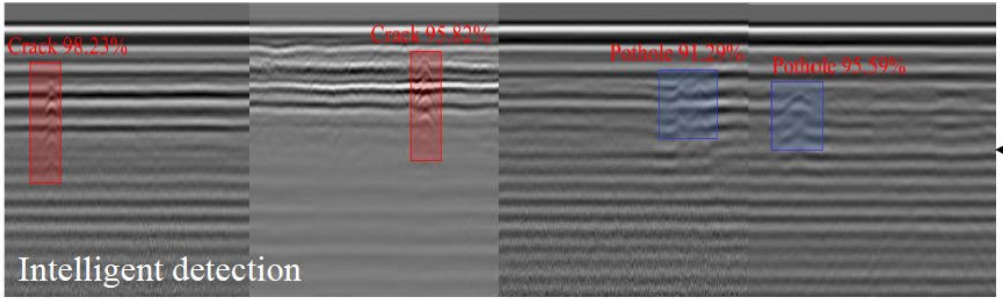


Source: Yishun Li

Detection of Subsurface Distress via Ground Penetrating Radar

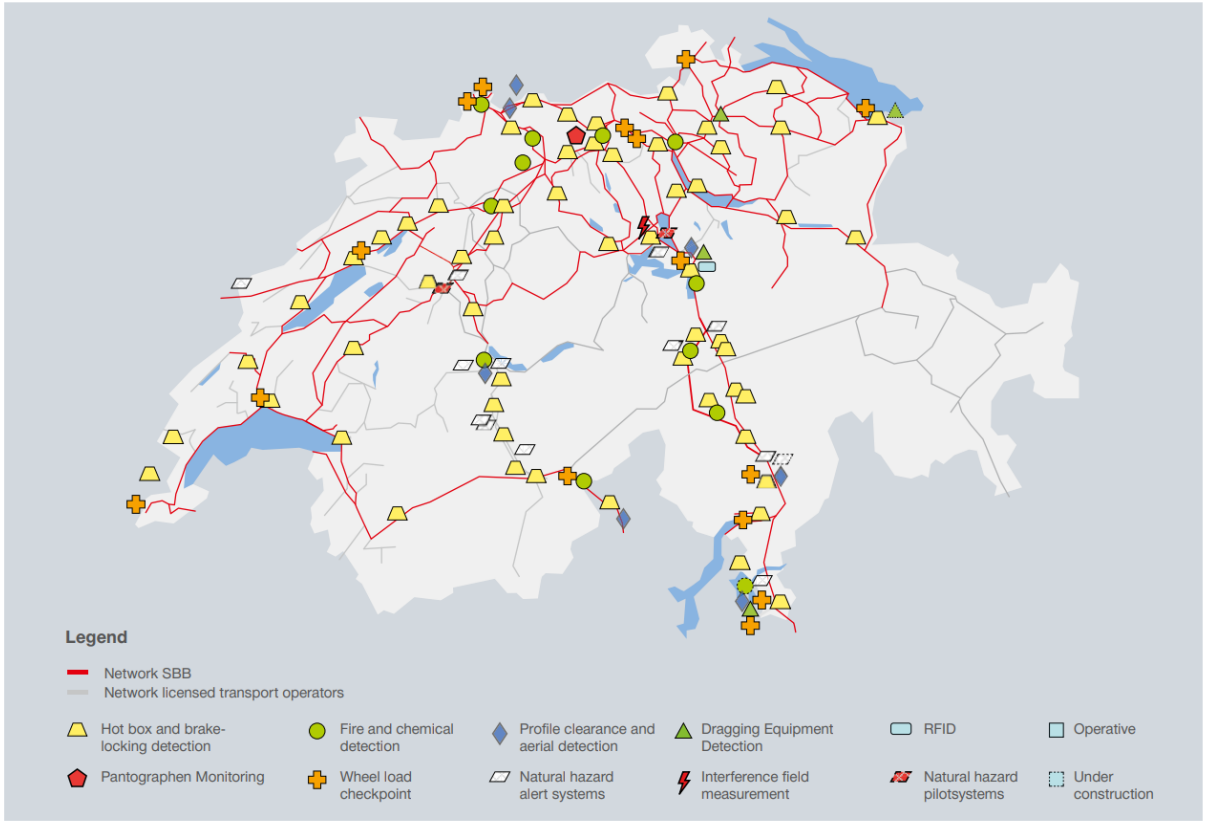






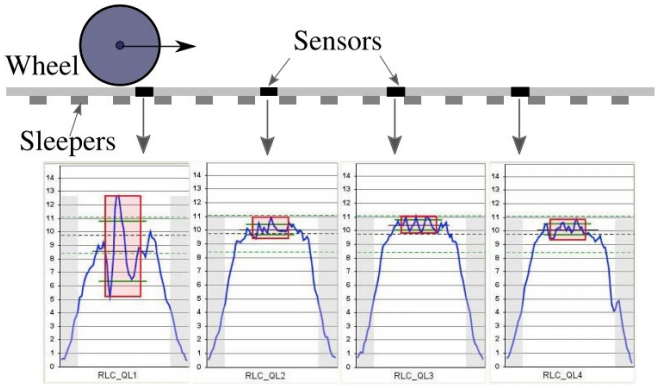
Source: Yishun Li

Wayside monitoring devices at SBB



Source: SBB

Wheel load checkpoints +RFID



Accelerometers

Maintenance reports / manuals / event recordings

Natural Language Processing (NLP) in maintenance

- **NLP** can process maintenance logs, manuals, and other unstructured text data.
- **Predictive Maintenance Insights**:
  - Analyzing unstructured text from maintenance logs and work orders to predict potential equipment failures.
  - Detecting patterns in historical records to forecast breakdowns.
- **Automated Reporting & Documentation**:
  - Automatically generating maintenance reports by summarizing complex work orders or logs using NLP.
  - NLP-based transcription for voice notes or technician inputs.

MoE

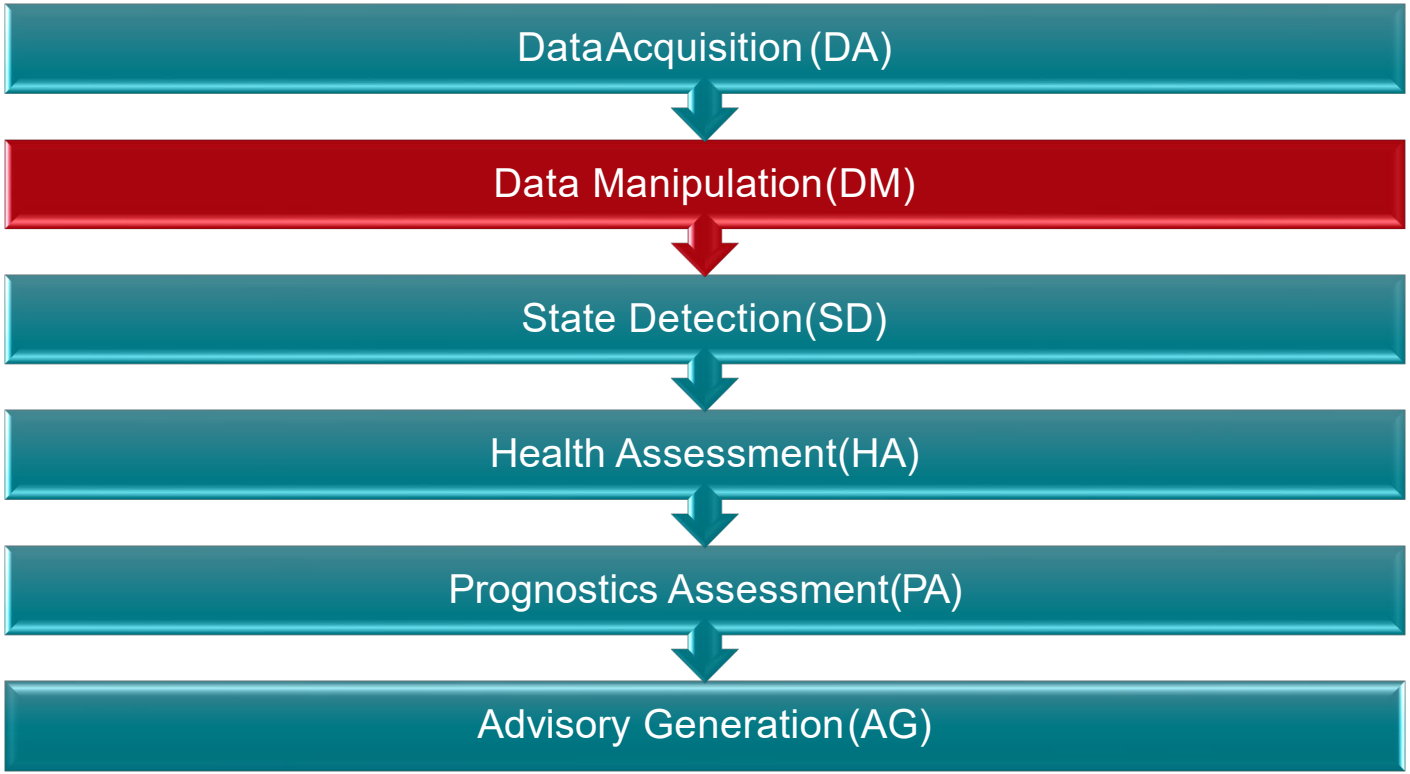
- **Fault Detection from Logs**:
  - Scanning equipment error messages and sensor logs to identify and classify common faults.
  - NLP can interpret error codes, anomaly reports, and operational data in natural language.
- **Knowledge Management**:
  - Extracting, organizing, and summarizing information from vast amounts of maintenance manuals, technical documentation, and historical repair records.
  - Providing quick searchability of solutions through conversational AI or chatbot assistance.
- **Chatbots and Virtual Assistants**:
  - NLP-powered chatbots to assist maintenance technicians with real-time troubleshooting, guiding them through steps or providing manual references.

Source: H. Canaday

What has changed?

- **IoT & Sensor Technology**
  - **Smart Sensors**: More advanced and cost-effective sensors provide real-time data on structural health, temperature, vibration, and pressure.
  - **Wireless Connectivity**: IoT-enabled sensors can transmit data remotely without the need for complex wiring.
- **Cloud & Edge Computing**
  - **Cloud-Based Platforms**: Enable large-scale data storage and remote monitoring.
  - **Edge Computing**: Processes data closer to the source, reducing latency and enabling faster decision-making.
- **Autonomous Inspection Technologies**
  - **Drones & Robotics**: Used for bridge inspections, pipeline monitoring, and assessing hard-to-reach areas.
  - **Computer Vision**: AI-powered image analysis detects cracks, corrosion, and deformations automatically.
  - **Non-Destructive Testing (NDT)**: Advanced NDT methods such as ultrasonic testing, electromagnetic acoustic transducers (EMAT), and ground-penetrating radar (GPR) enable the evaluation of structural integrity without damaging the infrastructure. Automated NDT systems, including robotic arms and AI-driven defect analysis, enhance precision and efficiency.

PHM Process


DataAcquisition (DA)
Data Manipulation(DM)
State Detection(SD)
Health Assessment(HA)
Prognostics Assessment(PA)
Advisory Generation (AG)

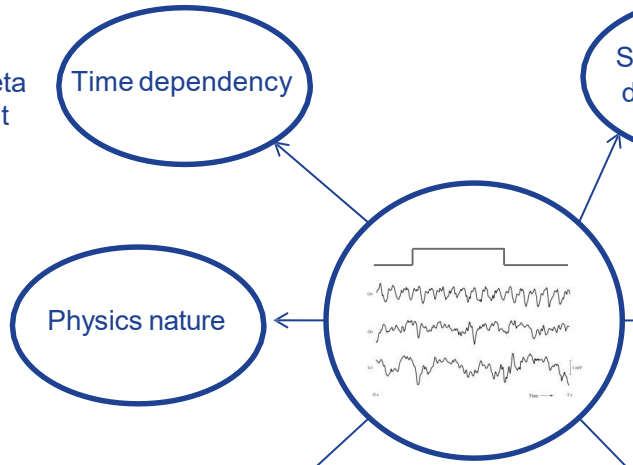
Why data pre-processing?

- Data in the real world is “dirty”
  - incomplete: lacking attribute values, lacking certain attributes of interest, or containing only aggregate data
  - noisy: containing errors or outliers
  - inconsistent: containing discrepancies in codes or names

Main tasks in data pre-processing

- Data profiling
  - examining, analyzing and reviewing data
  - collect statistics about its quality.
- Data cleaning
  - Fill in missing values, smooth noisy data,
  - identify or remove outliers, and resolve inconsistencies
- Data integration (if needed)
  - Integration of multiple databases, data cubes, or files
- Data transformation
  - Normalization and aggregation
  - Structuring unstructured data
- Data reduction
  - Obtains reduced representation in volume but produces the same or similar analytical results
- Data discretization (if required)
- Data enrichment
  - Feature engineering
- Data validation
  - Assessing the dataset for quality assurance

Data properties



- Time variant
- Time invariant (meta data such as asset ID, system configuration)

- Transaction/event (push)
- Sensor (pull)
  - Evenly sampled
  - Unevenly sampled

- Temperature
- Pressure
- Current
- Voltage
- Speed
- Acceleration
- ...

- Scalar
- Vector
- Matrix
- ...

- Stationary
- Cyclic (non periodic)
- Waveform (periodic)
- Stochastic (non cyclic)

- Binary
- Nominal
- Ordinal
- Discrete
- Continuous (real number)

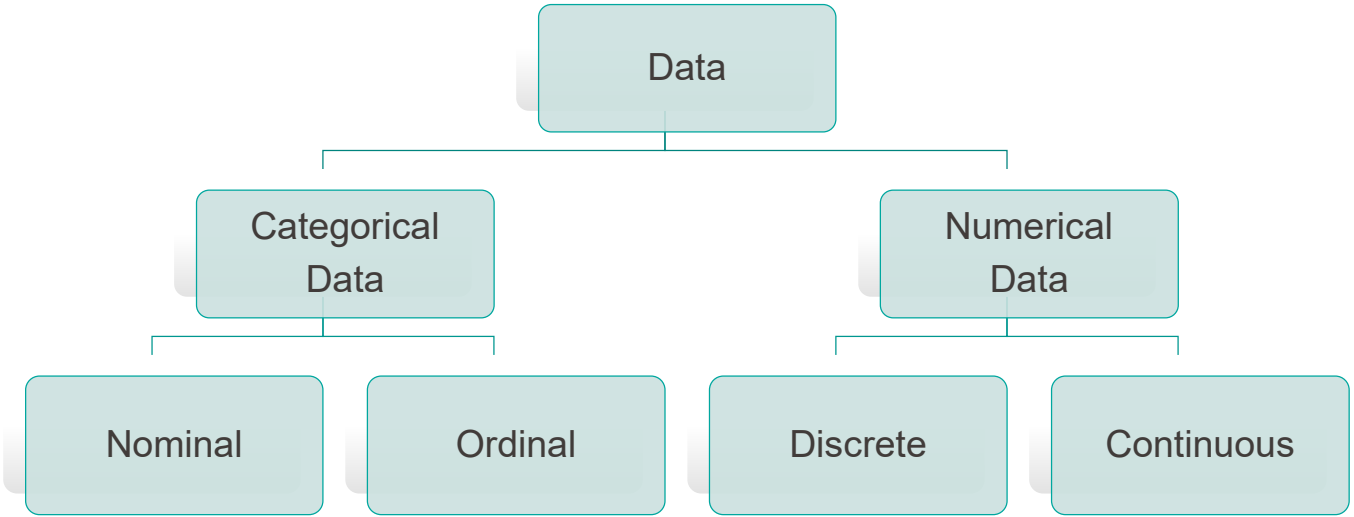
Source: Wang, 2012

Data Sampling

- Transaction/event (data are “pushed” by data originator)
  - Data records occur only at the specified event / transaction / time stamp
  - Data between the time stamps / events are undefined.
- Sensor (data are “pulled” from data originator)
  - Data samples are acquired only at the specified time stamp
  - Data between the time stamps are just not observed.
  - Sampling rate
    - Evenly sampled – controlled (e.g. 100 Hz)
    - Unevenly sampled - triggered

Source: Wang, 2012

Categorical vs. Numerical Data



Examples:

Operating mode, Event code, asset ID

Performance level; severity level; friction level (Low-Medium-High → ranked levels)

Number of occurring diagnostic events, number of occurring faults / interruptions

Temperature, pressure, acceleration (most sensors)

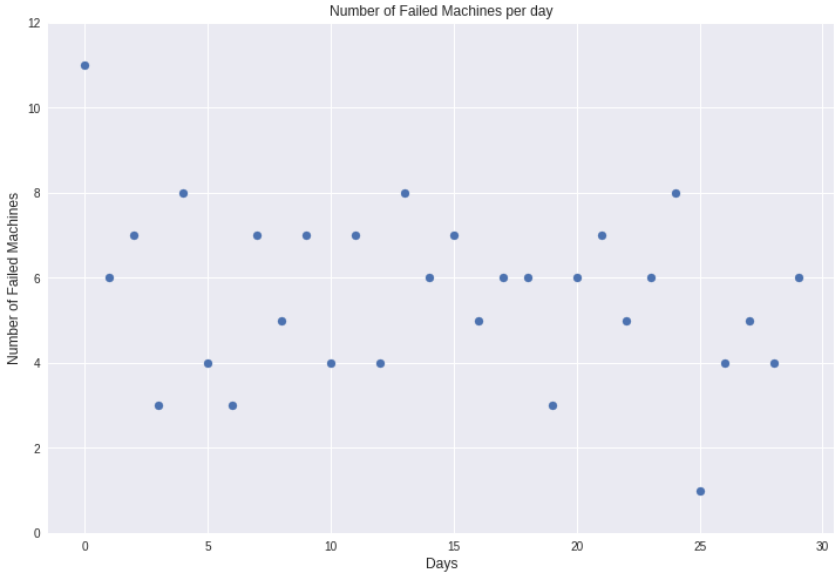
Binary data

- A type of categorical data in which there are only two categories
- Binary data can either be nominal or ordinal

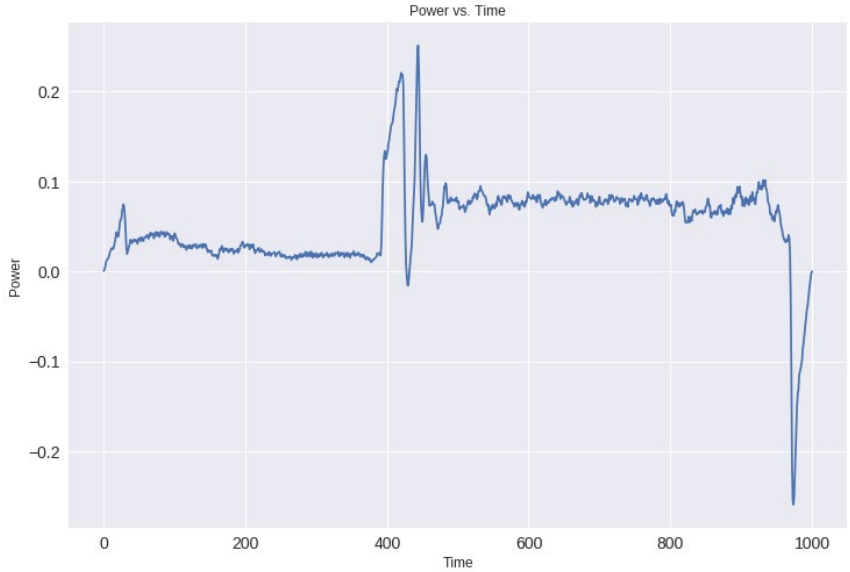
- Examples: event status, on/off sensor

Numerical Data: Discrete vs. Continuous

Discrete Data



Continuous Data

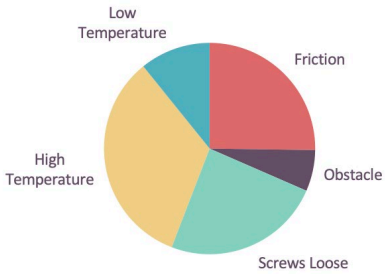


Categorical Data: Representations

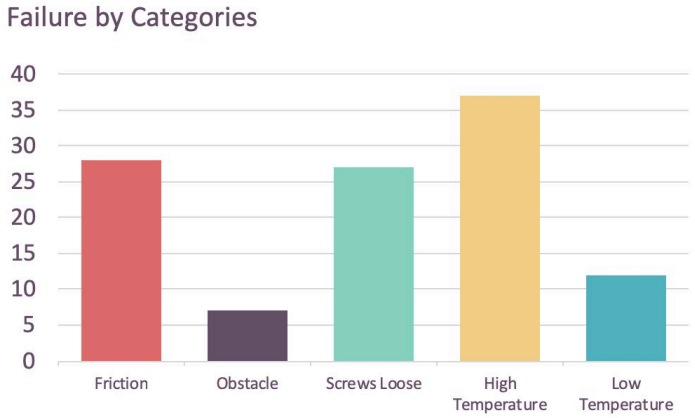
Frequency Tables

Cause of Error	*Number of Occurence*	*Percentage*
Friction	28	25.2%
Obstacle	7	6.3%
Screws Loose	27	24.3%
High Temperature	37	33.3%
Low Temperature	12	10.8%

Pie Charts



Bar Charts

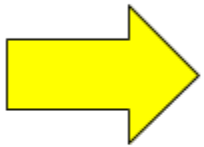


Handling of categorical data

- Replacing values
  - Freely assign numbers to the categories according to the use case / expert knowledge
- Encoding labels
  - convert each categorical value in a column to a number between 0 and n_categories-1
- One-hot encoding
  - convert each category value into a new column and assign a 1 or 0 (True/False) value to the column
- Binary encoding
  - first the categories are encoded as ordinal, then those integers are converted into binary code, then the digits from that binary string are split into separate columns
- …

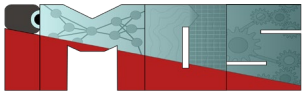
Example of one-hot encoding

Color
Red
Red
Yellow
Green
Yellow



Red	Yellow	Green
1	0	0
1	0	0
0	1	0
0	0	1

Binary Encoding in Machine Learning



Why Use Binary Encoding for Categorical Variables?

- When working with categorical data in machine learning, raw categorical values (e.g., country names, product types) need to be transformed into numerical representations for models to process them. Binary encoding is one such method that is particularly useful when:
  - The number of unique categories is large.
  - One-hot encoding would result in high-dimensional data.
  - You want a compressed and less redundant representation.

How Binary Encoding Works

1. Convert each category label into a **unique integer** (ordinal encoding).
2. Convert each integer into its **binary representation**.
3. Store the binary digits in separate columns.

Binary Encoding

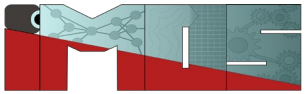
Temperature
Hot
Cold
Very Hot
Warm
Hot
Warm
Warm
Hot
Hot
Cold

Order
1
2
3
4
1
4
4
1
1
2

Binary
001
010
011
100
001
100
100
001
001
010

Temperature_0	Temperature_1	Temperature_2
0	0	1
0	1	0
0	1	1
1	0	0
0	0	1
1	0	0
1	0	0
0	0	1
0	0	1
0	1	0

Advantages / Disadvantages of Binary Encoding



+ **Reduces Dimensionality:** Compared to one-hot encoding, fewer columns are needed, making it useful for large categorical datasets.
+ **Avoids Dummy Variable Trap:** Unlike one-hot encoding, binary encoding does not introduce perfect multicollinearity.
+ **Handles High Cardinality Efficiently:** Works well when the number of unique categories is large, as it scales logarithmically.
+ **Preserves Some Ordinal Information:** Since binary encoding is based on integer representations, it retains some level of similarity between categories.

- **Interpretability:** Unlike one-hot encoding, binary-encoded features are less interpretable.
- **Assumes Ordinal Relationships:** Though it preserves some ordinal information, this assumption may not always be correct.

Handling of categorical data

- Some categorical indicators can be used to split the problem in sub-problems (e.g. indicator of the operating conditions for base and part load → developing two models for the two types of operating conditions)

Signal dynamics (relative to sampling)

Stationary (constant + white noise)

- Power, speed, temperature in steady state of, gas turbines, etc.

Stochastic (non-cyclic)

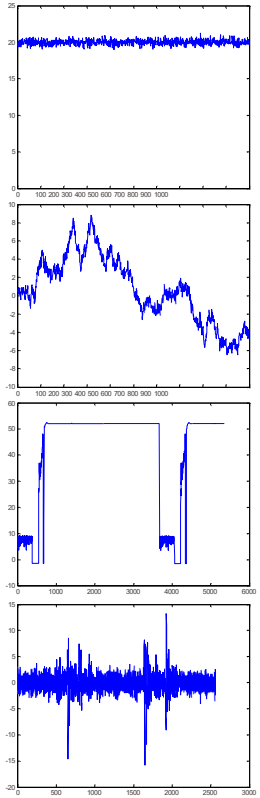
- Power, torque, speed

Cyclic (consider each period individually)

- Power, speed, pressure in manufacturing process, gas turbine startup, take-off of airplanes

Waveform (consider multiple periods together)

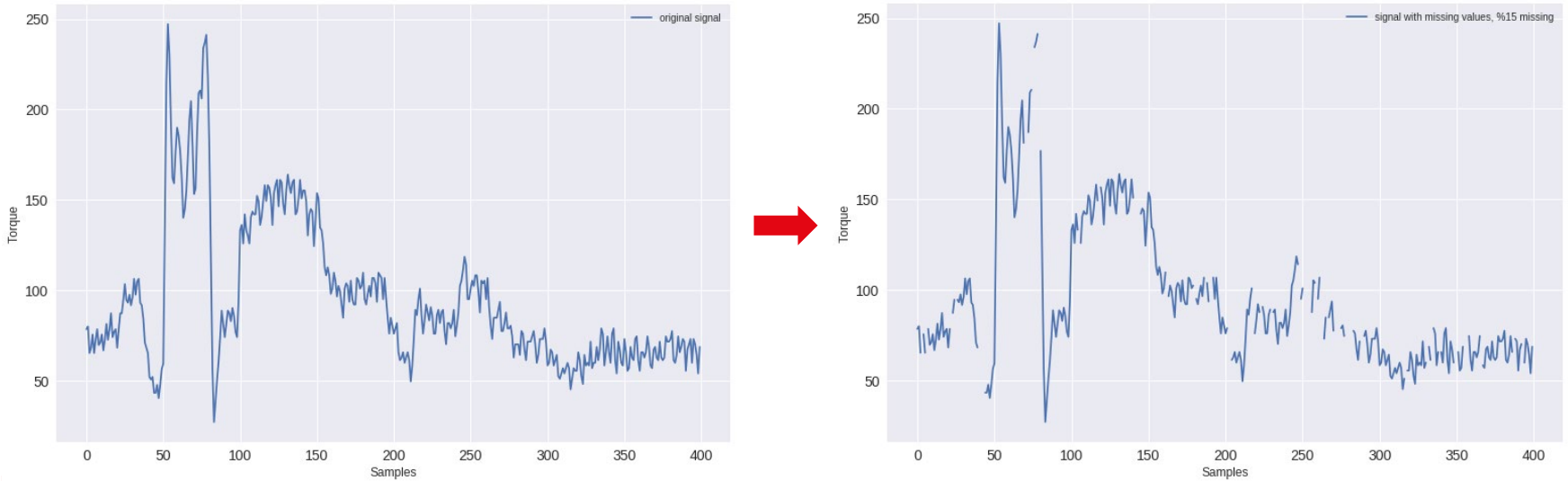
- Vibration sensors, acoustic sensors



Source: Wang, 2012

Missing Data Problem

- Times series observed with 15% missing data



Missing, noisy, inconsistent data

- Missing data
  - Data imputation approaches (next slide)
- Noisy data
  - Binning
  - Filtering
  - Clustering
  - Remove manually
  - Apply denoising algorithms
- Inconsistent data
  - External references
  - Knowledge engineering tools

Data imputation

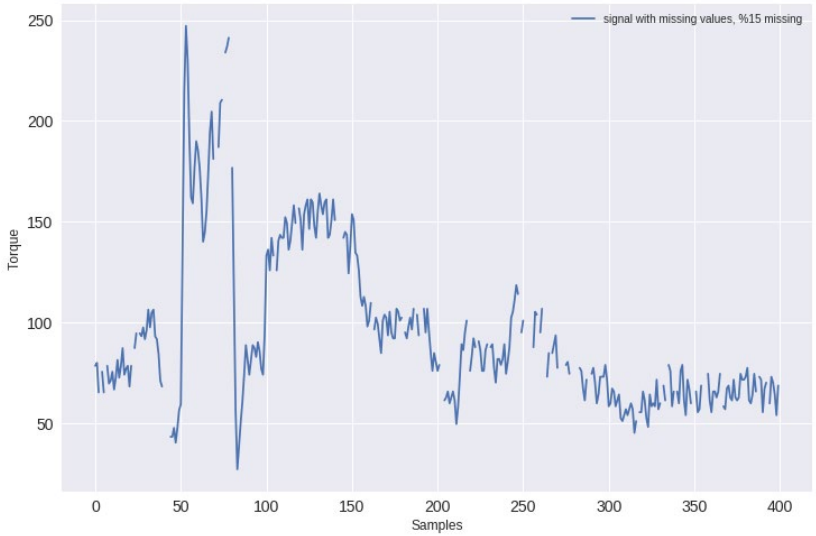
- Complete case analysis: Delete any record that has missing values from the data set.
- Nearest neighbors: to impute variable x average the value x of the k closest data points with no missing values.
- Average method: Average the value of x for the non-missing values.
- Hot deck: pick a “similar” record at random and use its value of x.
- Predictive: Fit a model to the data with variable x as the target and use it to predict the value (e.g. kernel regression)
- Single imputation: Draw a value at random from the conditional distribution of x given the other variables
- Multiple imputation: Repeatedly draw values at random from the conditional distribution of x given the other variables (e.g. as above), creating new data sets. Make the predictions with these now complete datasets and average the predictions.

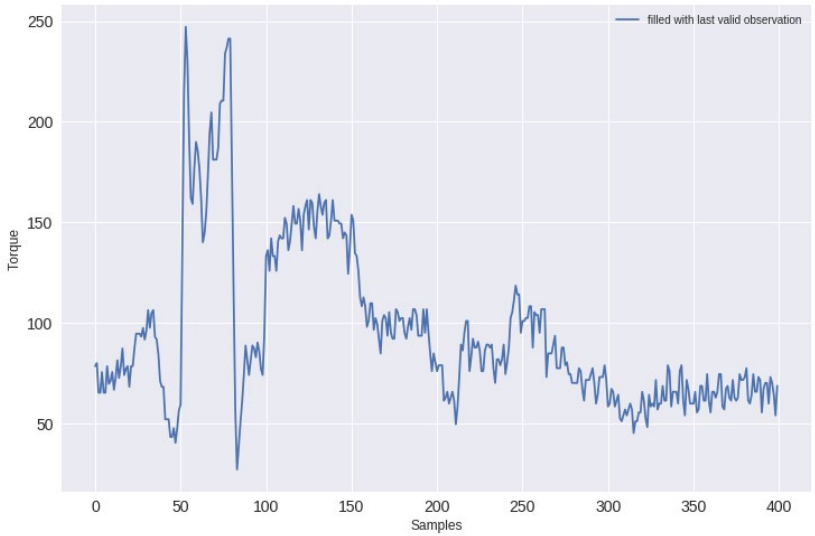
Caution with the different imputation approaches

- Complete case analysis: can result in a bias
- Nearest neighbors: The definition of the “close points” and the value of k required
- Average method: Easy to implement but crude
- Hot deck: A definition of “similar” is required
- Predictive: Better suitable but understates the uncertainty in the imputation process.
- Single imputation: Better suitable, respects the uncertainty. However, just a single value is sampled.
- Multiple imputation: generally regarded as the best method (a sample is better than a single observation)

Missing Data Imputation

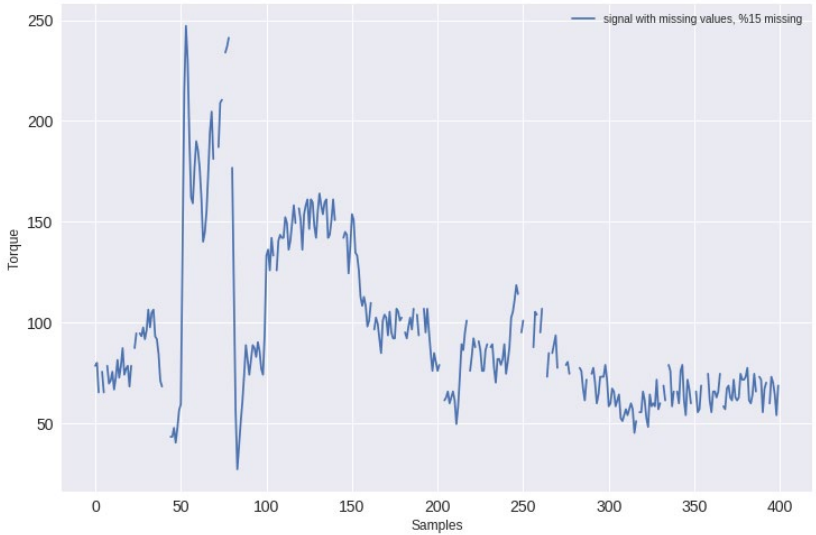
- Missing data filled with previous observation, last value carried forward

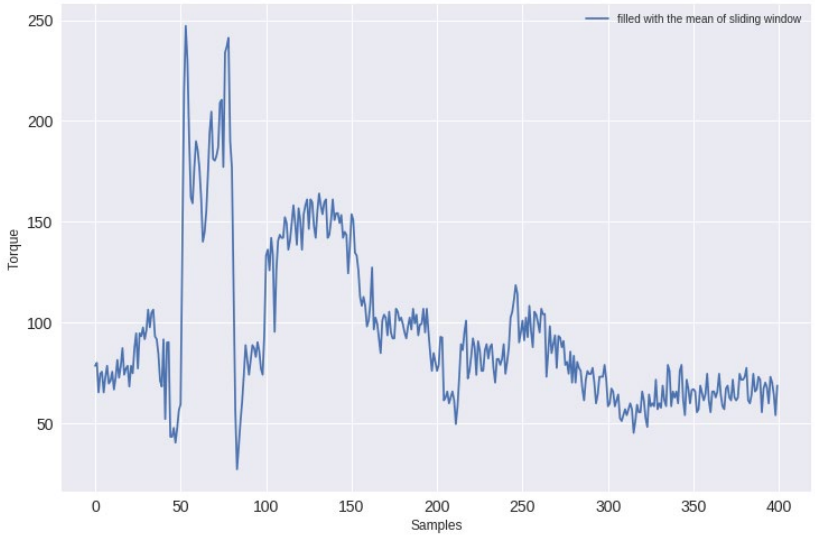




Missing Data Imputation

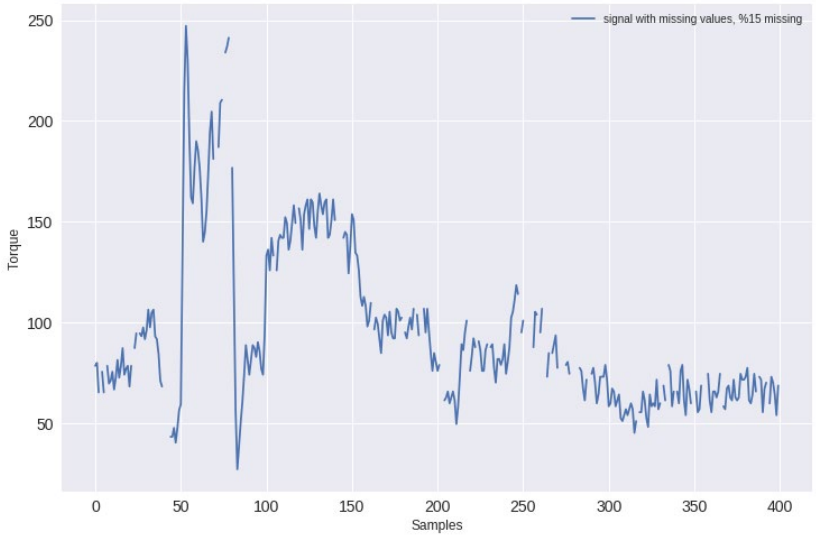
- Mean imputation, sliding window approach

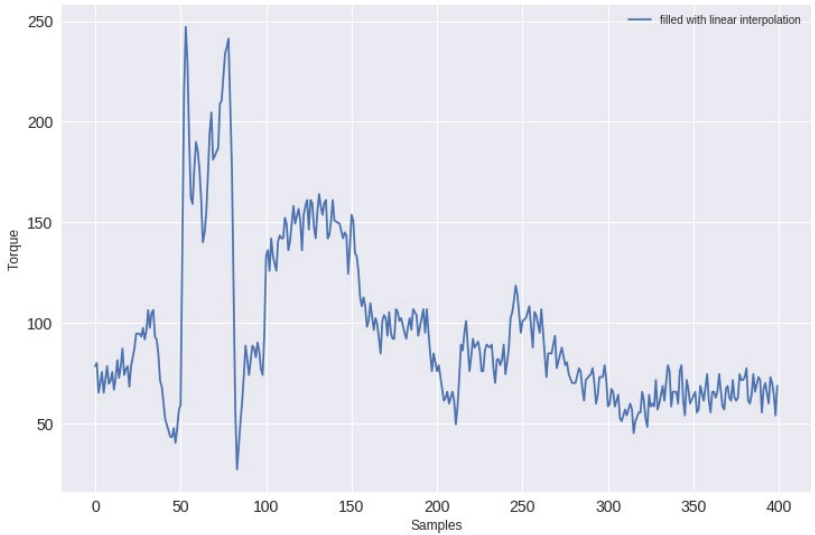




Missing Data Imputation

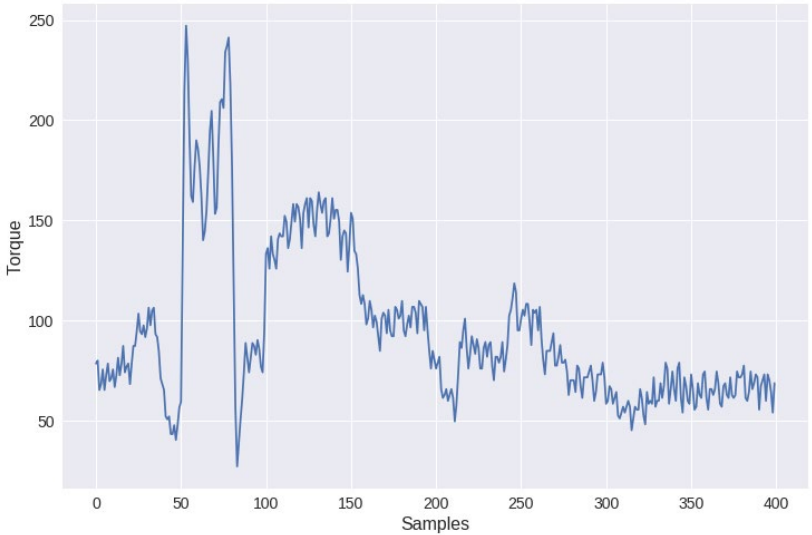
- Filled with linear interpolation, signal reconstruction based on neighbouring values

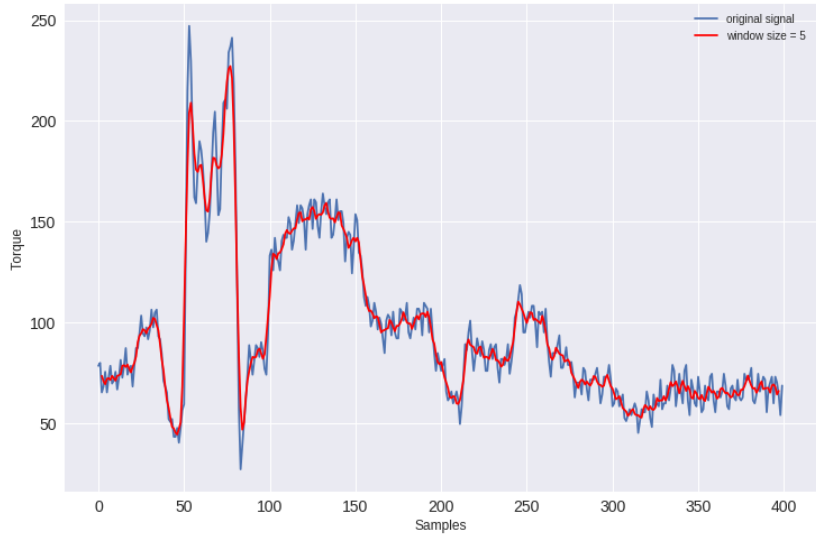




Filtering

- Moving average
  - with window size 5



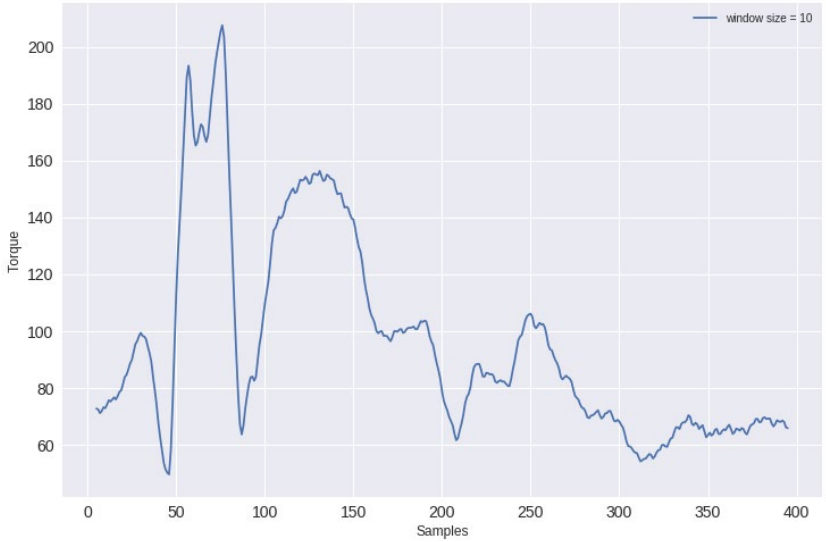


Filtering

- Moving average with different window sizes

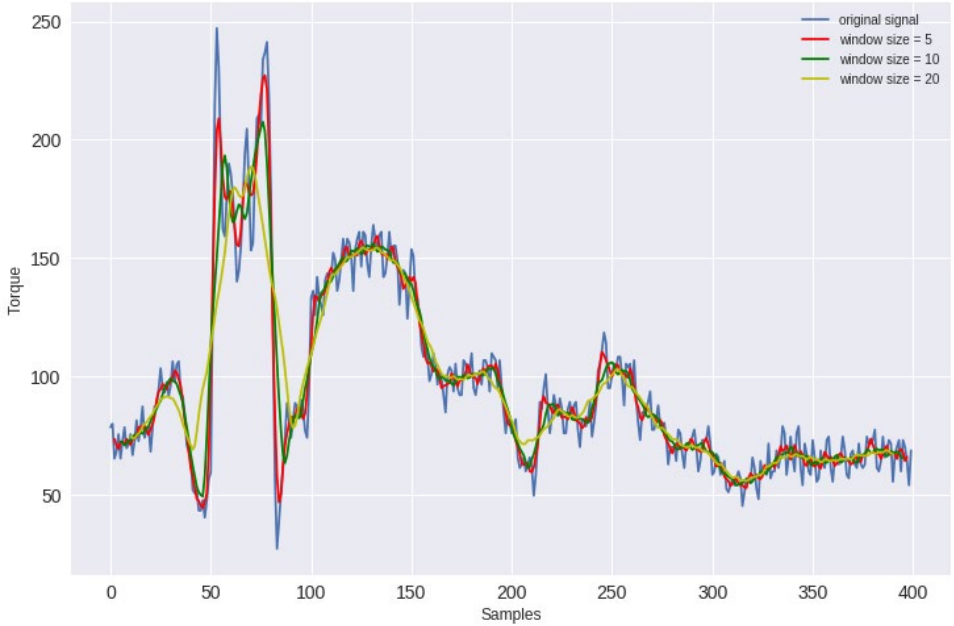
Moving average with window size w=5

Moving average with window size w=10



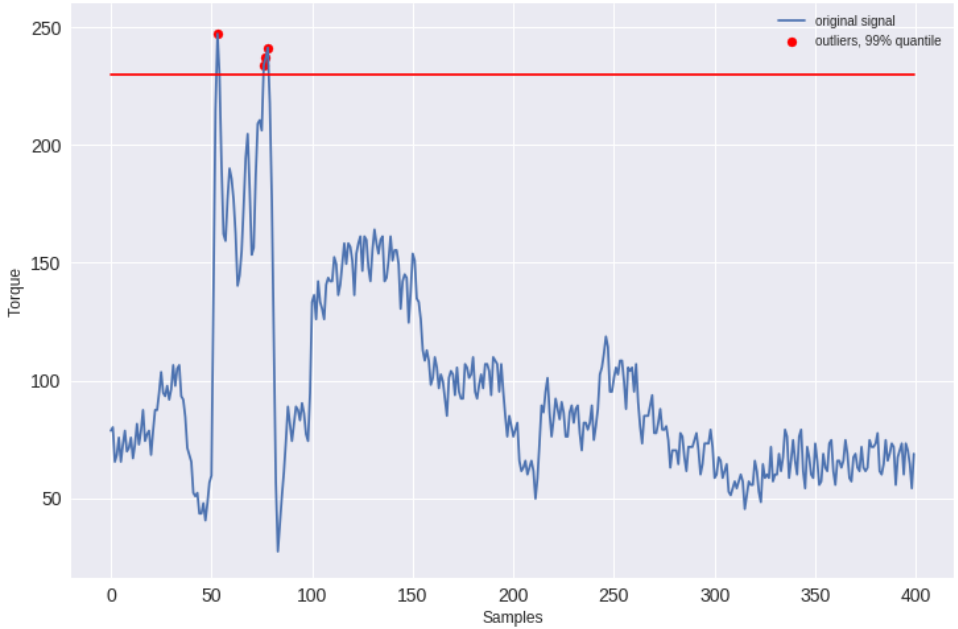
Filtering

- Moving average with different window sizes



Outlier Detection

- Global outlier detection, data points outside of 99% quantile are marked



Why Do We Need Normalization or Standardization?

- Machine learning models, especially distance-based models (e.g., k-NN, SVM, PCA, clustering) and gradient-based models (e.g., neural networks, linear regression), can be **affected by differences in scale** among features. If features have vastly different ranges, models may:
  - Be **biased toward higher-magnitude features**.
  - Take **longer to converge** during training.
  - Exhibit **poor generalization** due to inconsistencies in input scales.

Data normalization / Standardization

- Feature scaling

(→ also referred to as min-max Nomalization)

$$X' = \frac{X - X_{min}}{X_{max} - X_{min}}$$

- Standard score

(particularly suitable for normally distributed data)

(→ also referred to as Z-Score Standardization)

$$X' = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma}$$

Alternatives (particularly for data with outliers)

- Quantile Transformation
- Power Transformation (non-linear transformation)

When to Use Normalization?

- When features have different scales and do not follow a normal distribution.
- When working with bounded data (e.g., pixel intensities in images [0, 255]).
- When using distance-based models like k-NN, k-Means clustering.
- When the data has outliers, normalization compresses their impact.

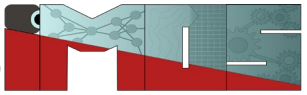
When to Use Standardization?

- When data follows or approximately follows a normal distribution.
- Algorithms that assume the input features are normally distributed with zero mean and unit variance, such as Support Vector Machines, Logistic Regression, etc.
- When using PCA or models where feature variance impacts performance.
- Standardization can be a better choice if your data contains many outliers as it scales the data based on the standard deviation.

Data Discretization

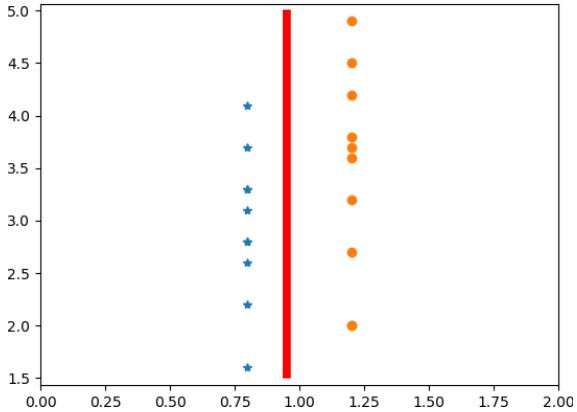
- Create bins (e.g. equal depth, equal size) → e.g. different categories of part-load conditions of a gas turbine
- Additional smoothing possible → replace the values in a bin by their mean

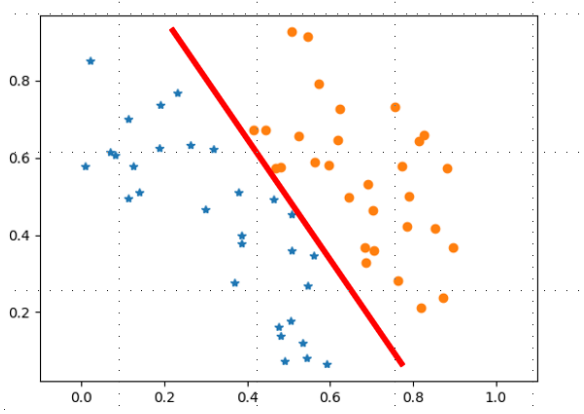
What are Features and Why do we need them?

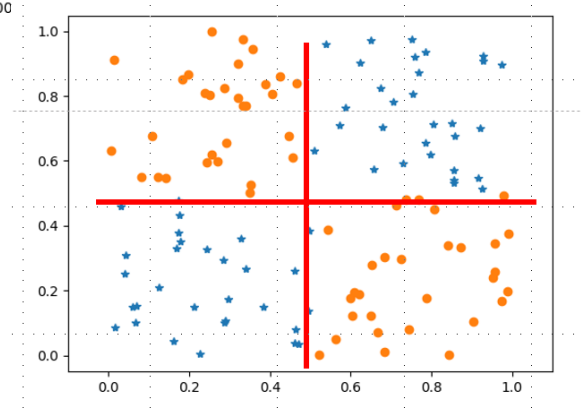


- Transform raw signals into more informative signatures (or fingerprints) of a system
- Reduce size / complexity of the dataset
- Provide a physical description / representation
- Reduce resources necessary for further processing
- Achieve intended objectives

Univariate versus multivariate feature engineering

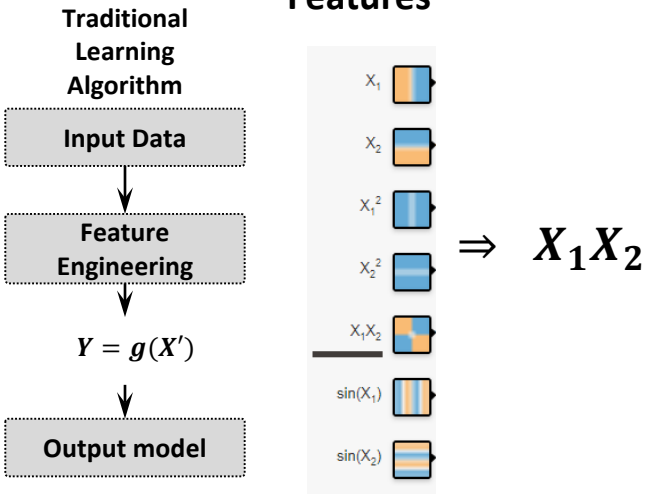


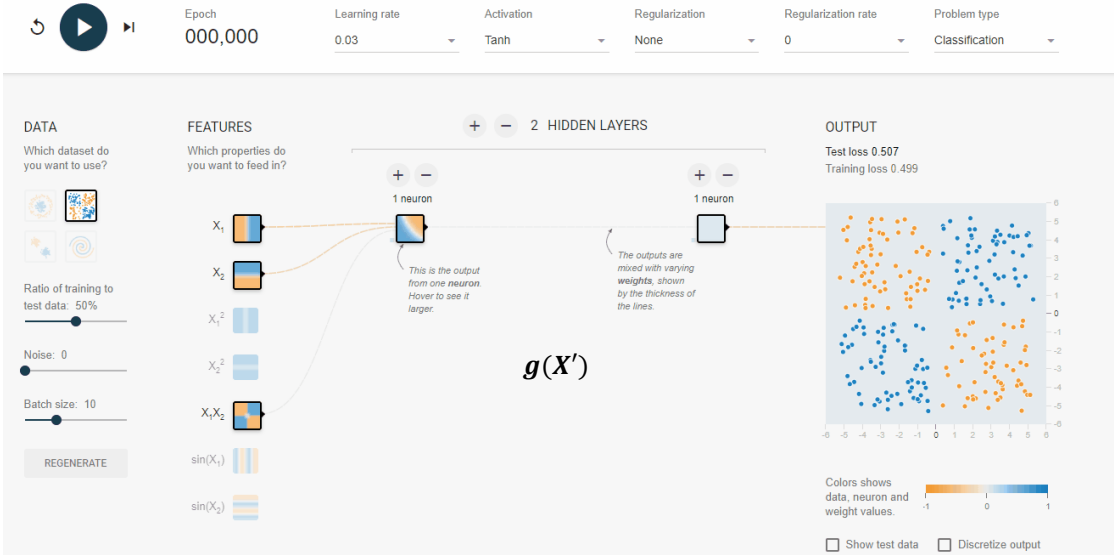




Example of feature engineering

Option 1: good feature engineering

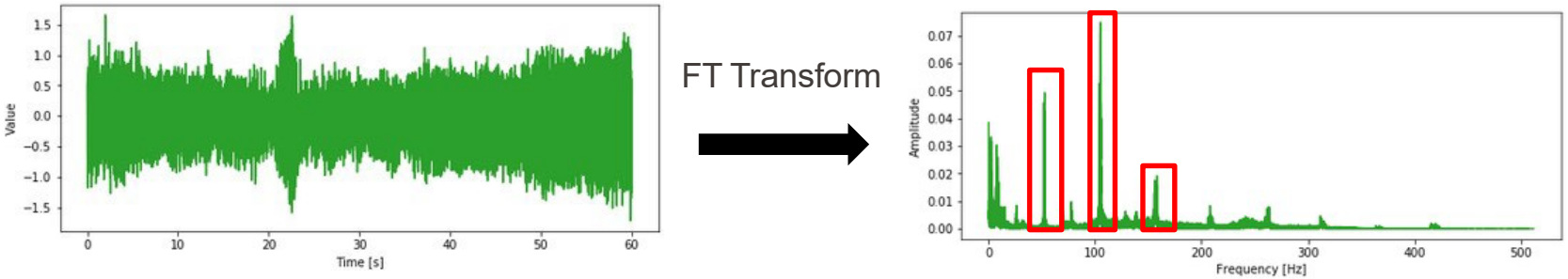




Example feature extraction in images

Feature extraction → ML algorithm (e.g. classifier) → Prediction (label)

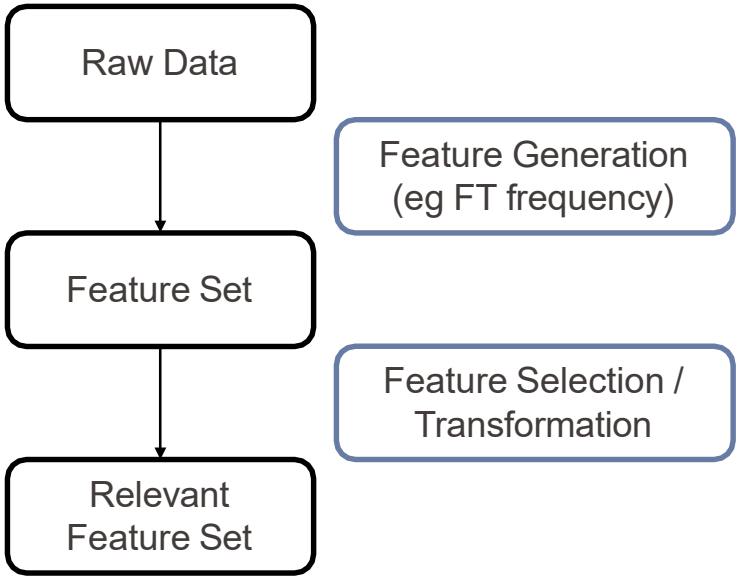
Example



Features: Magnitude of 3 carefully chosen frequency bands

In the future, we can compare these features for any measurements

Feature Extraction Process:



- **Raw Data:** Can be of different type and nature and size
- **Generation:** exhaustive, ad-hoc,
  - prior knowledge (domain, physics), modify variable type (cat. to numeric)
- **Feature Set:** Various representation and
  - size (dimensionality change)
- **Dimensionality reduction:**
  - select best subset
  - transform in space of lower dimensions

What matters for the process

- Kind of data

→ available type of features

- Aim of the application and domain

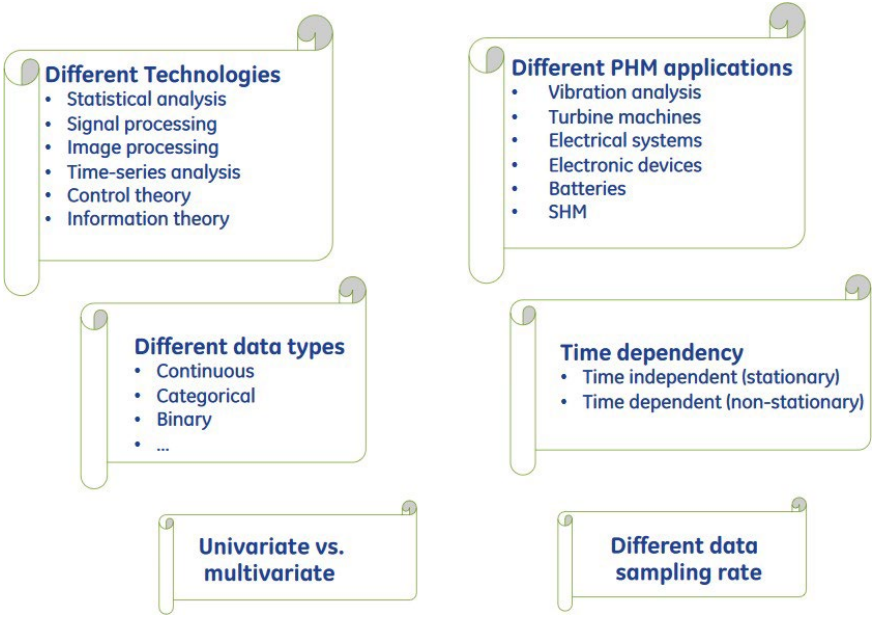
→ (eg. monitoring, detecting, predicting)

→ (vibration, turbines, electrical,…)

- Kind of methods that will be used

→ To extract feature,

→ To use the features for the application



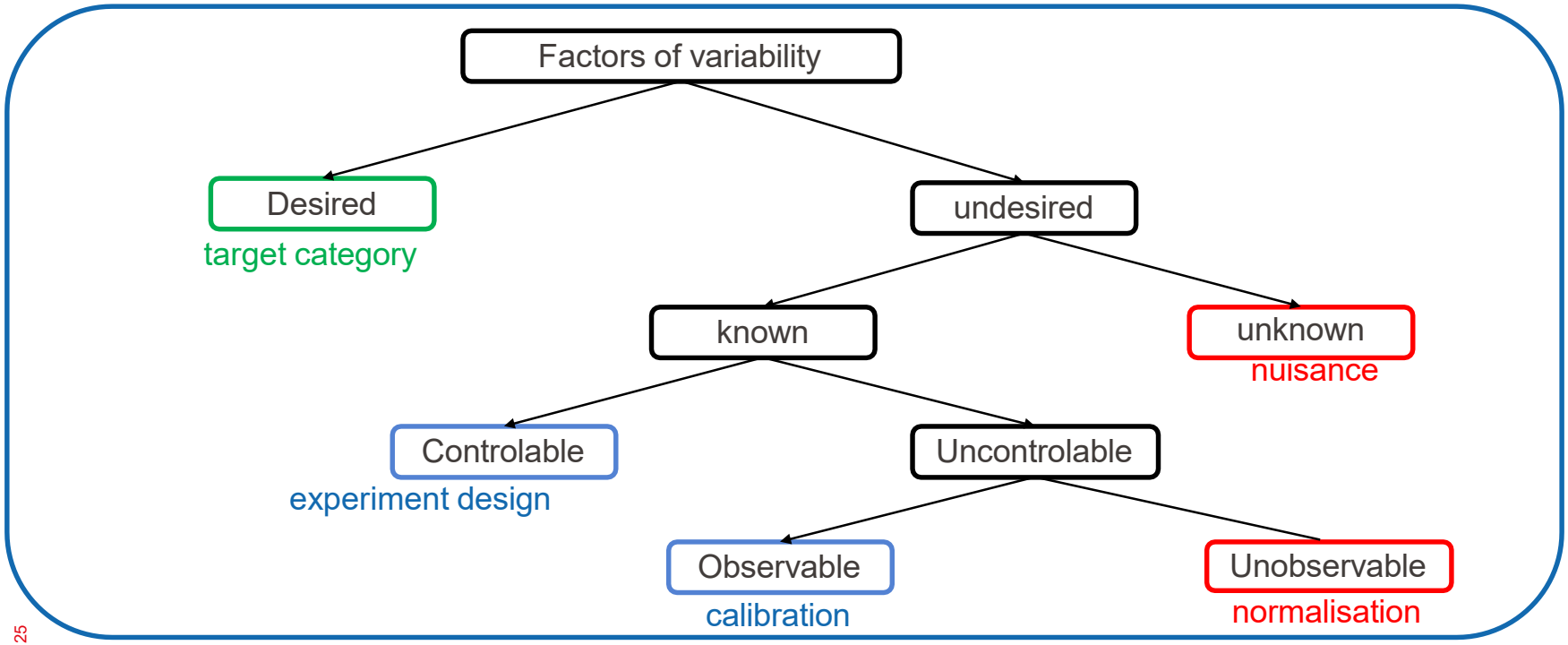
Aims and properties of features

- Explainability
- Parsimony
- Robustness (eg. to missing data)
- Uncertainty handling
- Link to knowledge and physics…

In fact, many features come from domain know-how

- Domain: Mechanical, structural, thermal, electrical,…
- Kind of system: vehicle, turbine, machinery, …
- Components gearbox, motor, pump, battery,…

Feature Variability



What is Feature Extraction?

- Feature extraction is the process of transforming raw data into a set of meaningful features that can improve the performance of machine learning models. It reduces the dimensionality of data while preserving essential information, making it easier for algorithms to recognize patterns and make accurate predictions.

- **Reduces Dimensionality**: Helps remove irrelevant or redundant information, improving model efficiency.
- **Enhances Interpretability**: Extracted features are often more meaningful and easier to understand.
- **Improves Model Performance**: Helps machine learning models generalize better by removing noise.
- **Reduces Computational Cost**: Smaller feature sets require less storage and processing power.

Feature extraction

- For fault detection:
  - Features should be dependent on the failure (and failure type)
- Feature tuned to operating conditions
  - feature relevance depends on the OC
- Feature designed based on knowledge:
  - Known relationships
  - known behavior of components

Some feature extraction Approaches

- Descriptive statistical features:
  - For regularly sampled data: moments, correlation, RMS, …
  - For event based data: count, rate, duration, delay, …
- Descriptive models:
  - Distribution/histogram
  - Information based (mutual information)
  - Regression models, curve fitting
  - Classification, clustering (class label as a feature), sequence matching
- Mathematical Transformation:
  - derivative, cumulative sum, power, log, ….(e.g. log if noise depends on amplitude, log normal)
- Time-Series Specific Features
  - Rolling Mean/Variance: Captures local trends.
  - Autocorrelation: Measures how a time-series correlates with its past values.
  - Peak-to-Peak Distance: Identifies signal periodicity.
- Domain-Specific Features
  - Structural Health Monitoring: Modal frequencies, damping ratios.
  - IoT/Industrial Sensors: RMS (Root Mean Square), Zero Crossing Rate.

Statistical features examples (1/3)

Category	Feature	Formula	Interpretation	Use Case
Central Tendency	Mean (μ)	$\mu = (1/N) \sum x_i$	Average value, represents dataset's central tendency.	Detecting overall bridge vibration levels.
	Median	Middle value in sorted data	Robust to outliers, better for skewed data.	Measuring typical structural response.
	Mode	Most frequent value	Identifies the most common occurrence.	Identifying repeating load patterns.
Dispersion (Variability)	Variance (σ^2)	$\sigma^2 = (1/N) \sum (x_i - \mu)^2$	Measures spread; high variance means high variability.	Analyzing variations in structural response.
	Standard Deviation (σ)	$\sigma = \sqrt{\sigma^2}$	Measures how much values deviate from the mean.	Detecting abnormal bridge vibrations.
	Range	max(x) - min(x)	Difference between max and min values.	Checking extreme deflections.
	Interquartile Range (IQR)	Q3 - Q1	Spread of the middle 50% of data, robust to outliers.	Identifying variations in load distribution.

Statistical features examples (2/3)

Category	Feature	Formula	Interpretation	Use Case
Shape (Higher Moments)	Skewness (μ_3)	$\mu_3 = (1/N) \sum [(x_i - \mu)/\sigma]^3$	Measures asymmetry; >0 (right-skewed), <0 (left-skewed).	Detecting imbalance in vibrations.
	Kurtosis (μ_4)	$\mu_4 = (1/N) \sum [(x_i - \mu)/\sigma]^4$	Measures peakness; >3 (leptokurtic), <3 (platykurtic).	Identifying sudden impacts or shocks.
Signal Strength	Root Mean Square (RMS)	$\sqrt{(1/N) \sum x_i^2}$	Measures signal energy, useful for power analysis.	Identifying increasing load stress.
	Peak-to-Peak (P2P)	max(x) - min(x)	Measures the total amplitude range.	Monitoring bridge movement limits.
	Crest Factor	max(|x|) / RMS	Identifies impulsive signals. Higher values suggest faults.	Detecting sudden structural damage.

Statistical features examples (3/3)

Category	Feature	Formula	Interpretation	Use Case
Frequency-Domain	Dominant Frequency	f_max in FFT	Frequency with the highest power in the spectrum.	Identifying resonance frequencies.
	Spectral Entropy	-∑ P(f) log P(f)	Measures randomness in frequency content.	Detecting irregular load distributions.
	Bandwidth	f_high - f_low	Spread of dominant frequency components.	Checking vibration stability.
Time-Series Specific	Auto-correlation	R(τ) = ∑ x_t x_{t+τ}	Measures how similar a signal is to itself at different times.	Identifying fatigue in bridges.
	Entropy (Shannon)	-∑ P(x) log P(x)	Measures signal randomness; higher entropy means more disorder.	Detecting unexpected structural changes.

Statistical Features: Moments

$$\mu_n = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x-c)^n \, f(x) \, \mathrm{d}x = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x-c)^n \, \mathrm{d}F(x)$$
$$= \mathrm{E}\left[(X-c)^n\right]$$

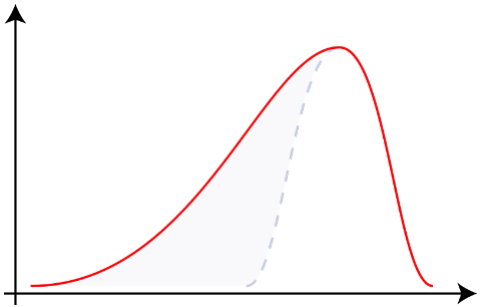
- c = 0 : raw moment
- c = average(X): central moment

- Normalized (central) moment:

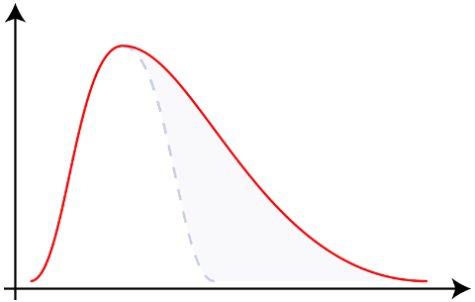
$$\frac{\mu_n}{\sigma^n} = \frac{\mathrm{E}\left[(X-\mu)^n\right]}{\sigma^n}$$

n	**Raw Moment**	**Central M**	**Normalised M**
1	Mean	0	0
2		Variance	1
3			Skewness
4			kurtosis
5			Hyperskewness
6			Hypertailedness
7			

Skewness and Kurtosis

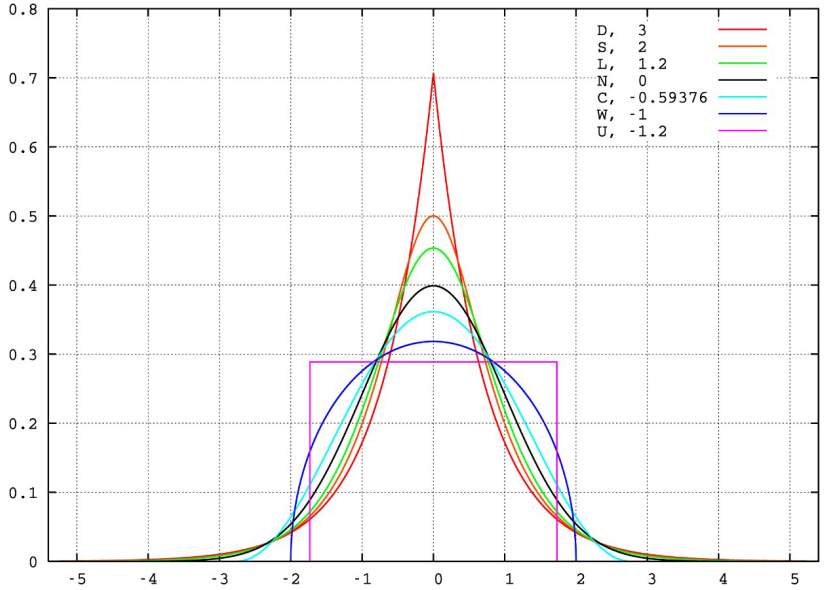


negative skew

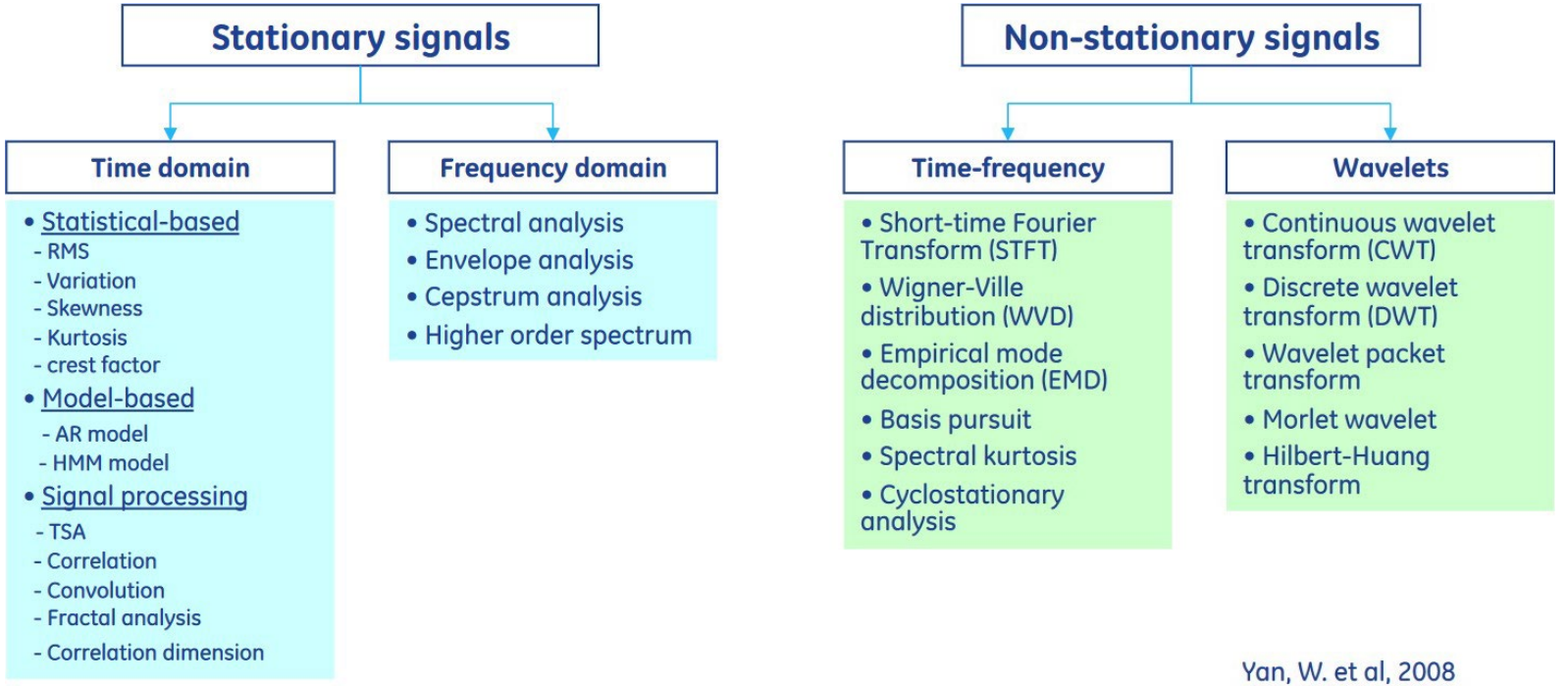


positive skew

Kurtosis



Example: Feature extraction for vibration analysis



Yan, W. et al, 2008

Some feature extraction approaches

domain know-how

- Physics based :
  - expected input-output relations, etc.
  - comparison to expected output (model)

- Special procedures for data processing:
  - operational regime segmentations, envelop analysis, etc…
  - Time synchronous averaging

Take away

- Procedure:
  - feature extraction + dimension reduction
- What to extract:
  - data property vs. application domain vs. algorithm requirements
- Feature extraction vs. signal processing
- Feature goodness:
  - Relevance and redundancy
- Feature selection:
  - wrapper approach vs. filter approach vs. embedding
- Feature consistency and sensitivity issues

From feature extraction to end-to-end / deep learning

Feature extraction → ML algorithm (e.g. classifier) → Prediction (label)

End-to-end learning → Prediction (label)

Feature learning: Deep Learning

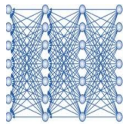
Option 2: feature learning

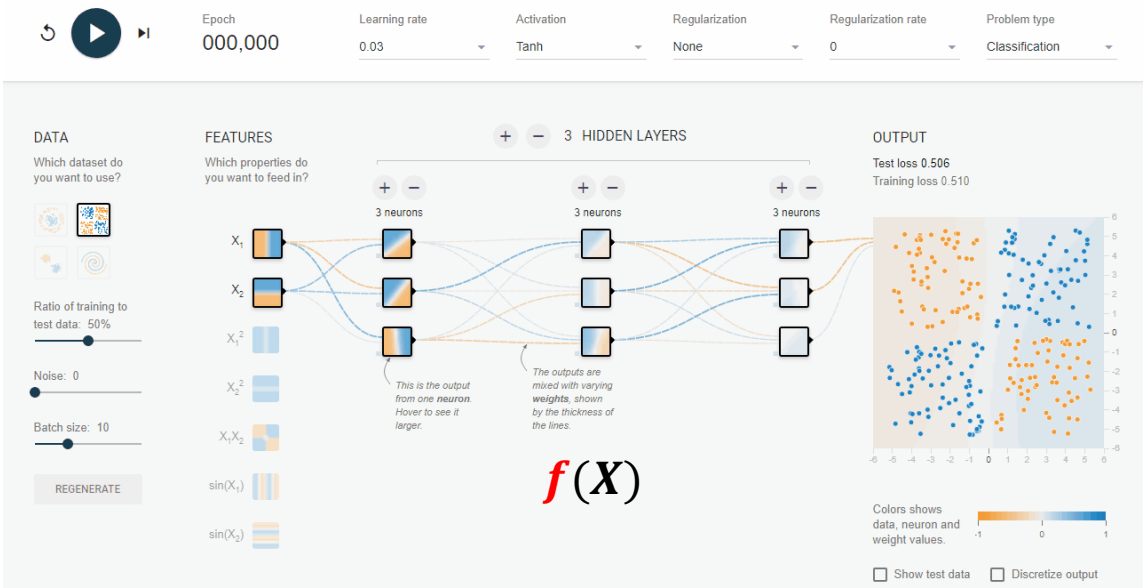
Deep Learning Algorithm

Input Data

$$Y = f(X)$$

Output model





$$f(X)$$

leading performance with abundant data

Feature Engineering vs. Feature Learning

Aspect	Feature Engineering	Feature Learning
Definition	Manually designing features based on domain knowledge.	Automatically extracting features using deep learning.
Approach	Requires human expertise and predefined rules.	Learns representations directly from raw data.
Example	Selecting statistical features in SHM (mean, variance).	Using CNNs to automatically learn patterns in images.