

Reliability Analysis of Cooling System of Diesel Engine

Dhananjay R Dolas*, Sudhir Deshmukh

MGM's Jawaharlal Nehru Engineering College, India

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Abstract Diesel engine is used in various fields for different applications, the performance of the engine depends on the engine systems & components. The cooling system is one of the important systems for a diesel engine, the major breakdowns are occurring due to failure of the cooling system & its components. This paper presents the reliability analysis of the cooling system of a diesel engine using compressor application, this work uses time-to-failure data of the cooling system and two-parameter Weibull distribution analytical least square method & Minitab 16.1R Software are used for parameter estimation. The results show reliability, Availability, Mean time between failure, Failure rate and Failure density. This is helpful for designing & manufacturing of components and modification.

Keywords Cooling, Diesel Engine, Reliability & Weibull Distribution

1. Introduction

Reliability is defined as the probability that a component or system will perform its required function for a given period of time when used under stated operating conditions [1].

A cooling system is constituted by a number of components and subsystems designed to achieve a common specific result with an acceptable level of reliability. The type of component failure and its frequency has a direct effect on the system's reliability. Thus it becomes very important to locate the critical components and analyze their reliability. Further-more, in many situations it is easier and less expensive to test components / subsystems rather than the entire system.

The main parts of the engine cooling system are the radiator, pressure cap, hoses, thermostat, water pump, oil cooler, heat exchanger, fan, and fan belt & pulley. The system is filled with coolant water. No matter where you live or how hot or cold the weather becomes, the mixture should be maintained the year around.

The two-parameter Weibull distribution requires characteristic life (η) and shape factor (β) values. Beta (β) determines the shape of the distribution. If β is greater than 1, the failure rate is increasing. If β is less than 1, the failure

rate is decreasing. If β is equal to 1, the failure rate is constant. There are several ways to check whether data follows a Weibull distribution, the best choice is to use a Weibull analysis software product. If such a tool is not available, data can be manually plotted on a Weibull probability plot to determine if it follows a straight line. A straight line on the probability plot indicates that the data is following a Weibull distribution. Weibull shape parameter β also indicates whether the failure rate is constant or increasing or decreasing if $\beta = 1.0$, $\beta > 1.0$, $\beta < 1.0$ respectively. G.R Pasha & et al.[2] presented the comprehensive analysis for complete failure data. Using the Weibull Distribution for failure data & Median rank regression (MRR) for data-fitting method is described and goodness-of-fit using correlation coefficient is applied. Sang-Jun Park & et al. [3] demonstrate a reliability goal of the pump motor assembly within an affordable amount of time and in an economic way. Using the accelerated test (AT) and measured failure rate and MTTF. Y. Lei [4] estimating the Weibull distribution parameters, three methods namely maximum likelihood estimation method (MLE), method of moment (MOM) and least-squares regression method (LSM)] and evaluated on the basis of the mean square error (MSE) and sample size. Ahmad Mahir Razali & et al. [5] compare between three methods for estimating the parameters of Weibull distributions. These methods are; moments, maximum likelihood and least squares 3-parameter Weibull distribution, using the mean square error, MSE and total deviation, TD as measurement for the comparison between these methods and suggested the moments method is the best method for estimating the parameters of the 2-parameter and 3-parameter. Ghassan M. Tashtousha & et al. [6] developed the statistical model and evaluate the effect of corrective and preventive maintenance schemes on car performance in the presence of system failure where the scheduling objective is to minimize schedule duration. Sunil Dutta & et al. [7] carried out reliability analysis of defense vehicle gear box assembly using the Weibull distribution. Aurelian Constantin & et al. [9] presented the reliability analysis of automobile shock absorbers using the Weibull ++7 program. Yunn-Kuang Chu [8] examines the estimation comparison of two methods for Weibull parameters, one is the maximum likelihood method and the other is the least squares method. Based on sample

root mean square errors, and suggested the least squares method is significantly compare to the maximum likelihood when the sample size is small. E. Suresh Kumar & et al. [10] predicting the lifetime of the batteries using the Weibull distribution, the battery during operational life time and based on the sample data doing a Weibull analysis and suggesting the ways to improve the life time and the reliability of a battery. Ciprian - Mircea Nemeş [11] presents a comparative analysis of methods for estimating the Weibull parameters. These methods require historical wind speed data, collected over a certain time interval, to establish the parameters of the wind speed distribution for a particular location. M. Kaur & et al. [12] formulate a stochastic model of an industrial process with an exponential distribution in order to check whether the results obtained actually exponential in nature. Results thus obtained for reliability of the process industry were analyzed for distribution fit using Minitab Software. Suresh Kumar & et al. [13] two sets of photovoltaic modules were tested and estimation of reliability parameter using Weibull distribution.

Most of researchers are focus on reliability analysis using two parameter Weibull distributions and estimating parameters using analytical methods. Few researchers are estimating the parameters using computer software.

In this work estimating reliability of cooling system of diesel engine for compressor application & its characteristics using two parameter Weibull distribution using analytical as well as computer software MINITAB16.1R.

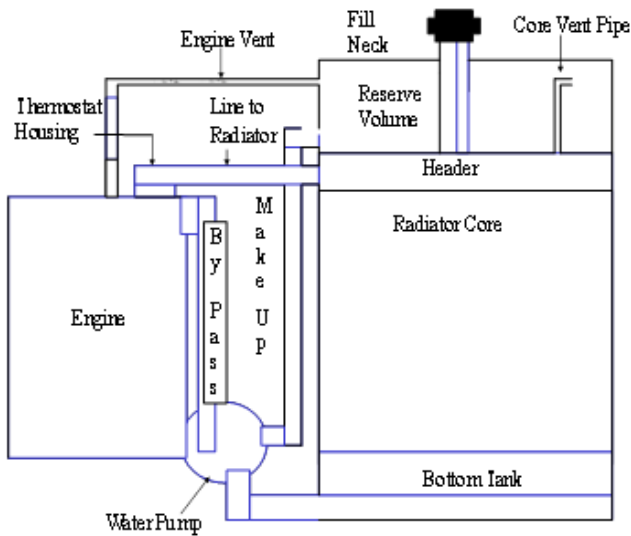


Figure 1. Layout of cooling system of diesel engine for compressor application

2. Materials and Methods

The study was held at company service station for thirty same Make & Model diesel engines for compressor application. The failure of engine are consider only cooling system. First phase data collecting from the maintenance

record of service station logbook period of two year is taken, Then data is sorted & classified based on engine number, failure hour & failure subsystem. The cooling system failure data shown in Table 1

Table 1. Data on failure cooling system of Diesel Engine

Engine No	Time of Failure(Hours)
1	1276
2	720
3	1135
4	1854
5	1687
6	2570
7	2440
8	2547
9	1100
10	2117
11	1876
12	1633
13	2646
14	1556
15	2470
16	1895
17	2607
18	2480
19	1250
20	2628
21	1668
22	1267
23	612
24	886
25	470
26	2510
27	2812
28	2112
29	401
30	1907

2.1. Estimation of Mean Time Between Failure and Availability

If a cooling system of diesel engine for compressor application is renewed by maintenance or repairs, so called as called repairable systems, the expected time of failure-free work E (T) known as the Mean Time Between Failures (MTBF) is calculated by equation [1]

$$E(T) = MTBF = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n t_i \quad (1)$$

Where:

n – Number of engines t_i – the i^{th} time of failure of engine

$$MTBF = \frac{53132}{30} = 1771.06 \text{ Hours}$$

Operational availability of a cooling system is the

probability that the system, when used under specified conditions, will function satisfactorily at any point in time, whereas the observed time comprises the uptime and down time

$$\text{Operational availability} = A_o = \frac{\text{Uptime}}{\text{Uptime} + \text{Downtime}} \quad (2)$$

The operational availability of cooling system

$$= A_o = \frac{53132}{53132 + 36868} = 0.59$$

2.2. Determination of Failure Density Functions, Failure Rate and Reliability

To determine the failure density function $f(t)$ is equals the relation between the number of failures in the time interval and the total number of systems, failure rate function $\lambda(t)$ will equal the relation between the number of failures in the time interval and the number of systems which did not fail at the end of the time interval and The reliability function $R(t)$ will equal the relation between the number of systems which did not fail at the end of the time interval and the total number of systems. [1]

Table2. Calculated values of empirical function

Time interval Δt (hour)	Number of failure	Failure density $f(t) \times [10^{-4}]$	Failure rate $\lambda(t) \times [10^{-4}]$	Reliability $R(t)$
000 - 500	2	1.33	1.43	0.93
501 - 1000	3	2	2.4	0.83
1001- 1500	5	3.33	5	0.60
1501 - 2000	8	5.33	13.33	0.4
2001- 2500	5	3.33	14.25	0.23
2501- 3000	7	4.66	0	0

The figure 2.3 & 4 show empirical functions of failure, density, failure rate and reliability function respectively.



Figure 2. Failure density V/s Time

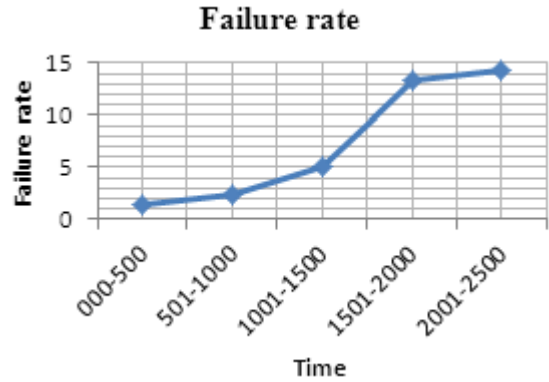


Figure 3. Failure rate V/s Time

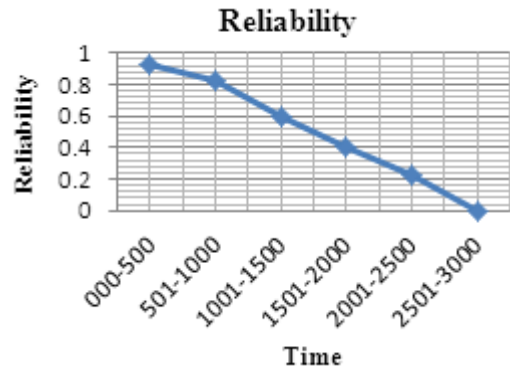


Figure 4. Reliability V/s Time

3. Weibull Distribution

The Weibull distribution most frequently provides the best fit of life data. Beta (β) & Scale (η) are the two crucial parameters of Weibull line. The slope of the line, β is principally significant and may provide a trace to the physics of failure. The characteristic life η is the typical time to failure in Weibull analysis (Abernethy Robert, 2002). The slope β also indicates which class of failures is present. $\beta < 1.0$ indicates infant mortality, $\beta = 1.0$ means random failures (independent of age) & $\beta > 1.0$ indicates wear out failures .

The effect of different values of shape parameter β , on the shape of the pdf (while keeping η constant). The shape of the pdf can take on a variety of forms based on the value of β . Weibull probability plot specifies the Weibull shape parameter. it is also known as the slope.

The reliability function $R_v(t)$ assumes the following configuration

$$R_v(t) = e^{-\left(\frac{t}{\eta}\right)^\beta} \quad (3)$$

$$\lambda_v(t) = \frac{\beta}{\eta} \times \left(\frac{t}{\eta}\right)^{\beta-1} \quad (4)$$

Where

β - Shape parameter

η - Scale parameter

3.1. Least Squares Method:

For the estimation of Weibull parameters, the least-squares method (LSM) is extensively used in engineering problems. The method provides a linear relation between the two parameters having as start point the twice logarithms of Weibull cumulative distribution function, as follows:

When applying the mathematical operation of logarithm (natural logarithm ln), the reliability function may also be written as.

$$Y = \beta X + C \tag{5}$$

Where:

$$Y = \ln [-\ln Rv(t)]$$

$$X = \ln t$$

$$C = -\beta \times \ln \eta$$

$$\beta = \frac{-2.66 - 0.37}{6.21 - 7.82} = 1.88$$

$$C = -2.99 - 1.88 \times 6.21 = -14.66$$

$$\eta = e^{-C/\beta} = e^{-(-14.66/1.88)} = e^{7.79} = 2416.31$$

Reliability of the Weibull distribution is

$$R(t) = e^{-\left(\frac{t}{\eta}\right)^\beta} = e - (2417.19 / 2416.31)^{1.88} = 0.37$$

$$\text{Reliability as per actual data} = R(t) = 0.66 + 0.4 / 2 = 0.53$$

$$\text{Expected time to failure} = E(T) = \gamma + \eta \times \Gamma(1/\beta + 1)$$

$$E(T) = 0 + 2416.31 \times \Gamma(1/1.88 + 1) = 2417.19 \text{ Hours}$$

$$\text{Failure rate} = \lambda v(t) = \frac{\beta}{\eta} \times \left(\frac{t}{\eta}\right)^{\beta-1}$$

$$= 1.88 / 2416.31 \times (2417.19 / 2416.31)^{1.88-1}$$

$$= 7.78 \times 10^{-4} \text{ Failure / hours}$$

$$\text{Failure rate as per actual data} = \lambda(t)$$

$$= 5 \times 10^{-4} + 13.33 \times 10^{-4} / 2 = 9.16 \times 10^{-4} \text{ Failures / Hour}$$

$$\text{Failure density} = \lambda(t) \times R(t) = 7.78 \times 10^{-4} \times 0.37$$

$$= 2.878 \times 10^{-4}$$

$$\text{Failure density as per actual data} = \lambda(t) \times R(t)$$

$$= 9.16 \times 10^{-4} \times 0.53 = 4.85 \times 10^{-4}$$

3.2. Parameters Estimation Using Minitab

Weibull parameters estimation using the Minitab 16.1R software using the failure data of cooling system of diesel engine for compressor application and determine the reliability ,failure rate & failure rate.

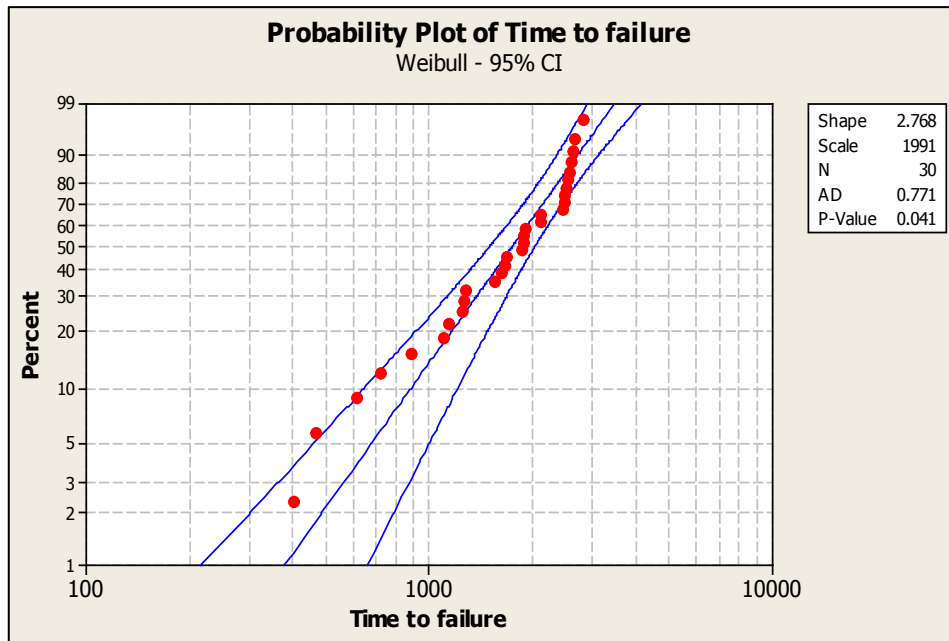


Figure 5. Weibull Probability plot

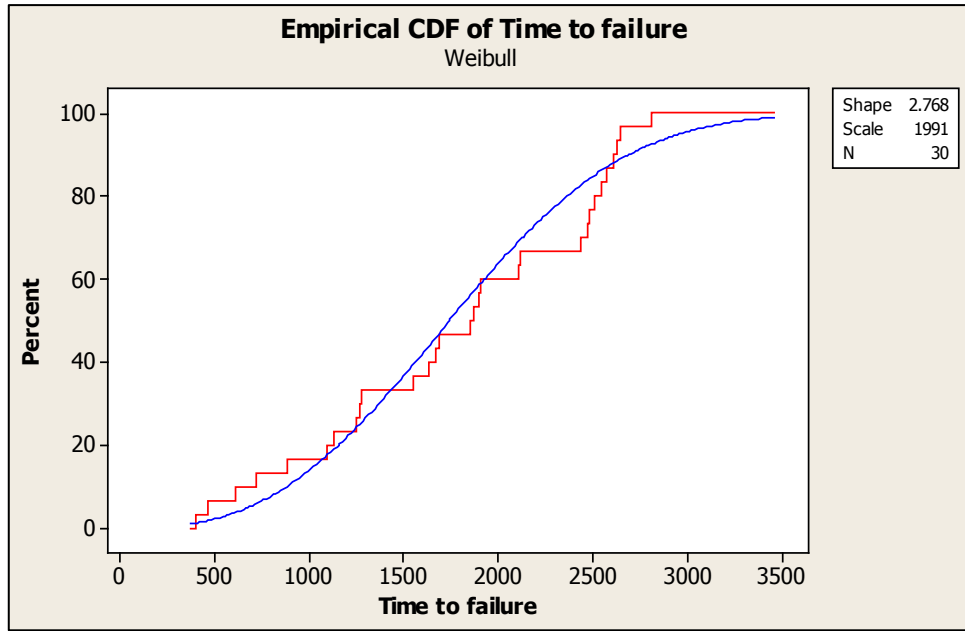


Figure 6. Cummulative density function

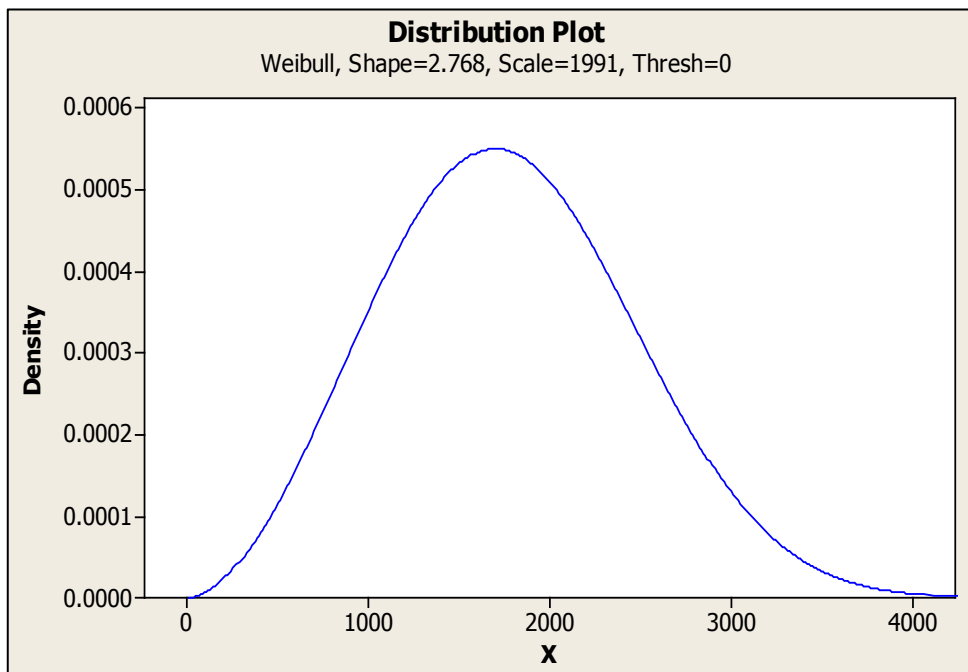


Figure 7. Distribution plot

Refer Fig.5 shape parameter (β) = 2.768 & scale parameter (η) = 1991 Hours

To determine the reliability, failure rate & failure density Reliability $R(t)$ of the Weibull distribution.

$$= R(t) = e^{-\left(\frac{t}{\eta}\right)^\beta}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Expected time to failure} = E(T) &= \gamma + \eta \times \Gamma(1/\beta + 1) \\ &= 0 + 1991 \times \Gamma(1/2.768 + 1) \\ &= 1991 \times \Gamma(1.36) = 1991 \times 0.8901 = 1772.19 \text{ Hours} \end{aligned}$$

$$R(t) = e^{-\left(\frac{1772.19}{1991}\right)^{2.768}} = 0.48$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Failure rate} = \lambda v(t) &= \frac{\beta}{\eta} \times \left(\frac{t}{\eta}\right)^{\beta-1} \\ &= 2.768/1991 \times (1772.19/1991)^{1.768} \\ &= 11.31 \times 10^{-4} \text{ Failure / Hours} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Failure density} &= \frac{\beta}{\eta} \times \left(\frac{t}{\eta}\right)^{\beta-1} \times e^{-\left(\frac{t}{\eta}\right)^\beta} \\ &= 0.48 \times 11.31 \times 10^{-4} \\ &= 5.428 \times 10^{-4} \end{aligned}$$

If a cooling system of diesel engine for compressor application is renewed by maintenance or repairs, so called as called repairable systems, the expected time of failure-free work $E(T)$ known as the Mean time between failures (MTBF)

is calculated by equation [1]

Table 3. Results

Data	Time of failure (Hour)	Reliability R(t)	Failure rate $\lambda(t)$ failure/ Hrs $\times 10^{-4}$	Failure density $f(t)$ $\times 10^{-4}$
Actual data	MTBF = 1771.06	0.53	9.16	4.85
Weibull	$E(T) = 2417.19$	0.37	7.78	2.878
Minitab	$E(T) = 1772.35$	0.48	11.31	5.428

4. Result & Discussion

For constant failure rate value, i.e. that the failure rate is not time dependent In case of constant failure rate, equation is valid:

$$\lambda = 1/MTBF = 1/ 1771.06 = 5.646 \times 10^{-4}$$

The obtained failure rate value is significantly lower than the empirical one and the one calculated on the basis of the Weibull distribution. In the process of estimating certain technical system reliability it is common to assume that the failure rate is constant.

In that case of random failures are present and the failure rate is not time dependent. Reliability cooling system shows continuously rising failure rate function and the fact that the reliability of the above mentioned system can be well approximated by the Weibull distribution. Despite its complexity, the Weibull distribution is commonly used when estimating reliability. It includes decreasing, constant, and increasing failure rate functions.

The reasons for the cooling system failure vary from overloaded engine and fatigue of materials to wear and corrosion.

5. Conclusions

The conducted research regarding the reliability of cooling system diesel engine for compressor application are showed that one cannot take for granted the assumption about constant failure rate $\lambda(t) = \text{constant}$. Therefore, empirical approximation of functions was taken and it showed that the Weibull distribution with parameters $\beta = 1.88$ and $\eta = 2416.31$ Hours approximates well the reliability of the cooling system and that the expected time of failure-free function $E(T) = 2417.19$ hours.

Cooling system has an increasing rate of failure, and that failure causes may be different in nature: from overloading the engine and fatigue of material, to wear and corrosion, it was necessary to determine the individual failure rates of cooling system subsystems (parts) and their contribution to overall reliability and failure rate.

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