

Jake Farber, Ph.D. Research Scientist Vivek Agarwal, Ph.D. Distinguished Staff Scientist

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Continuous Online Monitoring for Process Anomaly Detection and Predictive Maintenance

Plant Modernization Pathway Stakeholder Engagement Meeting





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SUSTAINABILITY





Process Anomaly Detection

- Operates with unlabeled data, making it ideal for systems and components with limited failure history
- Effective in detecting general equipment failures by recognizing changes in plant physics and correlations
- Highly adaptable, can be deployed across diverse systems due to its reliance on data patterns rather than predefined labels

Predictive Maintenance

- Operates with labeled data and work order information, providing increased sensitivity and diagnosability for known failure modes
- Targets specific equipment that undergoes routine preventative maintenance, enabling the transition to predictive maintenance reducing maintenance costs
- Enhances reliability by anticipating failures before they occur, allowing for condition-based intervention



Process Anomaly Detection

- Current approaches to anomaly detection:
 - Perform some preprocessing
 - Use groups generated manually from subject matter experts (SMEs)
 - Focus on high-value systems
 - Require selection of normal and anomalous periods during training
- INL's Automated Latent Anomaly Recognition Method (ALARM) suite of tools can:
 - With minimal effort, model a large percentage of a given plant, including numerous systems that are typically overlooked for modeling
 - Be adapted to new NPPs with minimal involvement from subject matter experts



The ALARM toolbox contains a suite of algorithms and tools for automated and equipment-agnostic anomaly detection





To minimize performance issues caused by inconsistent data, automated preprocessing was used to address a range of issues seen in the provided data

The preprocessing steps included:

- Unifying sampling intervals
- Separating numeric/categoric data
- Handling unusual sensor patterns
- Identifying redundant sensors
- Accounting for process lag
- Normalizing sensor scales
- Removing outlier data
- Detecting failed-constant data
- Accounting for missing data





LWRS



The grouping methods implemented on NPP data generated over 1,000 groups and monitored more than 1,500 unique sensors



For detection, the PCA and INL-developed LOVO models were used, which calculate anomaly scores as a function of prediction error

Principal Component Analysis (PCA)



Leave-One-Variable-Out (LOVO)





Using NPP data, the algorithms generated four groups (two shown) that detected a condenser anomaly without prior knowledge of its type or location

Expected behavior: scores rise in response to a developing problem and decrease once the issue is resolved through maintenance







Predictive Maintenance





VIsualization for PrEdictive maintenance Recommendation (VIPER)





VIPER Interface



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| | For Research Purposes Only | × - |
|---|--|--------------------|
| Diagnostics Trends Help Which Feature to Explain? | Trush Rocks Traveling Screens Inter Inter | Select an option. |
| I am a chatbot, how can I help you? | Figure A-1. Salem Unit 1 CWS with main condenser consisting of three pairs of condensers. | 7 |
| reference_data/data.json | Load Reference DB image_data/scalable/FigureA-1_caption.PNG Load Image | 2 |
| | | |
| | | Clear Conversation |
| | Send | |



Human Factors Evaluation

- Human Factors scientific expertise essential ingredient to AI success in nuclear
- Two complementary studies evaluated usability
- Quantitative and qualitative data collection
- Multi-generational testing
 - plant personnel and new generation engineers
- User feedback essential for AI adoption and HTO readiness





Human Factors Key Findings

VIPER technology favorably received

- Plant personnel:
 - requests to include desired status for comparison
 - no unnecessary info on display
 - "trust" an important research topic
 - important implications for psychology safety
- New generation engineers:
 - indicated diagnosis was clear
 - requests to improve checkboxes
 - described interface as relatively easy to use (low effort required)
 - high information situation awareness



Both populations indicated desire for a layered architecture display with z-axis (i.e., simplified interface)



Conclusions

- INL's ALARM and VIPER toolsets offer two complementary paths to improving plant operations and maintenance
- Using ALARM, models can, with minimal effort, be used to monitor a large percentage of a given plant, including numerous systems that are typically overlooked for modeling
- With VIPER, plants can transition their maintenance strategy for critical equipment from preventative maintenance to predictive maintenance, providing explainable insights to support operations
- Implementation of these methods represents a significant advancement in automating operations and maintenance activities in NPPs, promising enhanced efficiency, reduced costs, and improved safety through early anomaly detection and data-driven maintenance



Sustaining National Nuclear Assets

Jake Farber Jacob.Farber@inl.gov Vivek Agarwal Vivek.Agarwal@inl.gov Iwrs.inl.gov