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A Survey on Ship Intelligent Cabin

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Abstract. At present, intelligent ship has become a new hot spot of international maritime research and development. In order to achieve the purpose of safety, reliability, energy conservation, environmental protection, economy and efficiency, Intelligent ship integrates modern information technology, artificial intelligence technology and other new technologies with traditional ship technology. In this essay, the rapid development of intelligent cabin technology in recent years is surveyed. The intelligent cabin technology and the development trend of the current technology is analyzed, and the possible development direction in the future is pointed out. Collection, transmission and storage of sensor data are summarized. The development of status perception of cabin equipment and environment is discussed. Data-driven intelligent applications are summarized, and the information system, which involves data acquisition, communication, storage, analysis, visualization and other rich content. Using the data provided by intelligent ship, more and more intelligent applications will be developed for ships.

Keywords. Intelligent ship, ship cabin, survey, data-driven application

1. Introduction

At present, intelligent ship has become a new hot spot of international maritime research and development. In order to achieve the purpose of safety, reliability, energy conservation, environmental protection, economy and efficiency, Intelligent ship integrates modern information technology, artificial intelligence technology and other new technologies with traditional ship technology [1-3]. According to the Intelligent Ship Specification of China Classification Society, the intelligent cabin is one of the important modules in the six intelligent modules, which provides vital support for the normal operation of the intelligent ship.

Intelligent technology can be divided into three levels, computational intelligence, perceptual intelligence and cognitive intelligence. The intelligent cabin mainly includes the cabin's perceptual intelligence and cognitive intelligence. Perceptual intelligent of ship cabin technology is a series of process. Sensors are used to obtain equipment and environmental information of ship cabin, and then the effective feature information is processed and understood. Cognitive intelligent of ship cabin technology is to further enhance the perceptual information to a cognizable level, such as memory, understanding,

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planning, decision-making and so on. Data analysis or intelligent diagnosis methods are used in the state assessment and fault diagnosis of ship cabin systems and equipment, which is an important part of ship intelligence.

Marine ship cabin equipment mainly includes three categories as shown in Fig.1, they are power and control equipment, anti-pollution equipment and other auxiliary equipment. Power and control equipment includes main engine, auxiliary engine, boiler and steering gear. Anti-pollution equipment includes oil-water separators, incinerators, and domestic sewage treatment devices. Other auxiliary equipment includes oil separator, water generator, pumping device, etc. It can be seen that ship cabin equipment is the core of ship power and operation, so the use of intelligent technology to realize the perception and cognition of these core equipment of ship cabin will play an irreplaceable role in the development of ship technology.



Figure 1. Architecture of intelligent ship cabin.

Although there have been a lot of literature on the research of ship intelligent cabin, but there is not a survey on these researches of intelligent cabin. The main contribution of this paper is as follows. First, the rapid development of intelligent cabin technology in recent five years is surveyed. As far as we know, there is no existing comprehensive study on intelligent cabin technology. Second, the development trend of the current technology on intelligent cabin is analyzed, and the possible development direction in the future is pointed.

2. Collection, Transmission and Storage of Sensor Data

The intelligent cabin mainly uses sensor, data acquisition module and communication equipment to collect data from equipment and system of ship cabin. The specific acquisition equipment and systems include main engine system, gearbox system, pitch control propeller system, fuel system, lubricating oil system, cooling water system, exhaust system, air system, steering gear system, oil separator system, boiler system and auxiliary engine system, as well as video monitoring information [4-5].

For data transmission, communication methods include serial port, USB and ethernet. Fieldbus technology is also used frequently, especially in control networks containing sensors and actuators. CAN bus is commonly used as field bus in ship systems [5].

The data storage development of intelligent ships has gone through two stages. The first stage is centralized storage, generally using relational databases [4-5]. The second

stage mainly adopts distributed storage technology [2,6]. The real-time monitoring of a small number of equipment can be realized through the central database. But when managing a large number of devices, distributed storage is more flexible and efficient. Distributed database engine is the core of the system, which is responsible for SQL parsing, rewriting and execution, and managing many storage nodes at the bottom. In the process of cabin data management, different scale database clusters can be flexibly constructed. By dividing the business data into different database storage nodes, the database has less pressure when facing massive data. By distributing the user's SQL request to the sub-workstations of each node for execution, the computing resources of each node are fully utilized, and the operating efficiency of the server cluster is improved as well.

3. Status Perception of Cabin Equipment and Environment

In summary, for marine ship cabin equipment such as diesel generator sets and propulsion motors, the collected signals can be classified into fast varying signals and slowly varying signals.

For slowly varying signals, such as speed, temperature, pressure and other thermal signals, the sampling frequency of these signals is low. Such data can be obtained through communication with control equipment or directly sampled, and the collected data are directly stored in the database. The feature extraction of slowly varying signal is mainly based on time domain analysis. The operation status of equipment is sensed through peak-peak, root mean square, kurtosis and other methods [7-8].

For fast varying signals, generally, the feature extraction is mainly based on frequency domain analysis and time-frequency domain analysis, and the operating status of the equipment is sensed through changes in the frequency spectrum and related parameters. Vibration signal is the most familiar signal [9], it can be analyzed through time domain, frequency domain, and time-frequency domain feature analysis. And the fusion analysis of feature information can be used to perceive the operating status of the device.

Multi-sensor information fusion plays an important role in device state perception. The complementary or redundant information of multiple sensors in time or space, and comprehensive judgment based on the information of multiple sensors, can effectively improve the accuracy of status perception [10-12]. Engine room equipment, especially the main power equipment, is a highly coupled system of thermodynamics, dynamics, and control. This makes the composite faults of gas circuits and mechanical components show the characteristics of coupling of fault characteristics and complex fault mechanisms, and it is difficult to characterize equipment faults with a single knowledge. In order to improve the fault perception accuracy, it is necessary to study the feature fusion method on the basis of the coupling characteristics of the equipment operation mechanism in the multi-source information fusion stage [10-12]. Using a full range of multiple attributes to redundantly describe faults may be a future research direction.

Fault diagnosis is one of the most studied problems in device state awareness. The problem of fault diagnosis is also representative in perception problems [12-16]. The following is a summary of the research methods and development of state perception, represented by the research of fault diagnosis. Fault diagnosis methods mainly include analytical method, signal processing method and knowledge-based method. The method

based on analytical method can determine whether the model changes in the actual operation process and the degree of change, so it could determine whether the fault occurs and the possible causes of the fault [8]. The signal processing method directly uses the signal model to process and analyze the original signal, extract the corresponding fault characteristic information and judge whether it is faulty [9]. The knowledge-based method does not require a quantitative mathematical model, it will comprehensively use the information of the diagnosis target and use expert knowledge to complete the diagnosis. A lot of research has focused on this method, and the methods used include neural networks [9,13], fuzzy mathematics [12], and other intelligent method including machine learning [14,15] are used here.

4. Data-driven Intelligent Applications

Due to the large number of ship information systems and the huge amount of information transmission between each other, the intelligent cabin can provide data-driven support for applications. These applications include big data [1,2,14] and artificial intelligence methods [16-19]. There are important research advances in the intelligent collision avoidance decision-making application [18-21].

The failure assessment and prediction of ship cabin equipment has been widely studied [22-29]. Generally speaking, fault prediction is divided into state prediction and life prediction. Classical fault prediction methods mainly include function fitting, Kalman filter, particle filter, grey model, neural network, et al. Recently, data-driven intelligent methods have been widely employed for fault diagnosis.

It can be seen that scholars have carried out in-depth research on fault diagnosis and prediction of marine engine [22], and the application of new intelligent algorithm is also constantly innovating. At present, the related research work mainly focuses on the accuracy of fault classification, and there are few research results on the optimization of algorithm cost and calculation efficiency. However, in the actual operation of the ship, the response speed and calculation cost are the key indicators to evaluate the fault diagnosis and prediction system. Therefore, how to accurately diagnose and predict the fault based on low cost and high response speed is a problem that cannot be ignored in the real ship application.

Energy efficacy is another hot topic for intelligent applications of ship [28-32]. Researches on intelligent integrated navigation and obstacle avoidance are also emerging. It is foreseeable that applications in this area will explode rapidly after the wide citation of smart cabin. We expect these intelligent applications could take root and grow.

5. Conclusions

This paper summarizes the development of intelligent cabin technology. Intelligent cabin is the integration of modern information technology, artificial intelligence technology with traditional ship technology. Intelligent cabin system is a data driven information system, which involves data acquisition, communication, storage, analysis, visualization and other rich content. By providing data support, many intelligent applications based on data become possible. And the data and applications can provide strong support for user operation, maintenance and decision-making. With the development of data sensing technology, 5G communication technology, real-time data storage technology, visualization technology, artificial intelligence and other advanced technologies, intelligent cabin system will play an increasingly important role in the actual ship.

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