

# **Optimal Periodic Preventive-Maintenance Policy For A System Where Its Failure/Repair Follows The Non-Homogeneous Pure Birth Process**

**Yu-Hung Chien and Wen-Ting Chang**

Department of Applied Statistics

National Taichung University of Science and Technology

No. 129, Section 3, San-min Road, North District, Taichung 40401, Taiwan

[yhchien@nutc.edu.tw](mailto:yhchien@nutc.edu.tw)

## **Abstract**

A periodic preventive maintenance policy is considered for a deteriorating repairable system. On each failure the system is repaired, at periodic times  $iT$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, N-1$ ) the system is preventively maintained (PM) to improve its reliability performance, and at the time  $NT$  the system is replaced. The failure/repair process between two PMs follows the Non-Homogeneous Pure Birth Process (NHPBP) which is a generalized version of the Non-homogeneous Poisson process (NHPP). The reliability improvement made by a PM action is stochastically modeled based on the properties of NHPBP. The cost for each PM is variable reflected the reliability condition of the system at that PM time. The PM policy are characterized by the two parameters  $(N, T)$ , optimal  $(N^*, T^*)$  which minimize the long-run expected cost rate of a replacement cycle are derived and calculated based on a two-stage optimization procedure, and detailed properties of  $(N^*, T^*)$  are investigated and observed through numerical examples. Because the PM model in this study is developed based on a new type of failure/repair process (NHPBP) instead of the conventional minimal repair process (NHPP), the current work would suggest a new research direction in the study of PM.

## **Keywords**

Non-Homogeneous Pure Birth Process, preventive maintenance, worse-than-minimal-repair, long-run expected cost rate, optimal PM schedule.

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## **Biographies**

**Yu-Hung Chien** is a Professor and the Department head of Applied Statistics at the National Taichung University of Science and Technology, Taiwan. He received a B.Sc. degree in Applied Mathematics from National Chung Hsing University, a M.Sc. degree from the Institute of Statistical Science at the National Chung Cheng University, and a Ph.D. degree in Industrial Management from the National Taiwan University of Science and Technology. His current research interests include quality and reliability management, warranty strategy and maintenance policy.

**Wen-Ting Chang** is the student of the Department head of Applied Statistics at the National Taichung University of Science and Technology, hers current research interests include quality management and decision science.