

A Method for Fault Prediction of Air Brake System in Vehicles

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Abstract

Fault diagnosis is a complex problem that concerns effective decision-making. Air brake system is a crucial safety unit and failure of which leads to the loss of vehicle yaw stability and increase in stopping distance of the vehicle. Fault detection and isolation in brake system is critical for continuity of the performance and the safe running of autonomous vehicles. Carrying out timely system diagnosis whenever a fault occur is important to prevent component degradation and vehicle breakdown. This work use the Rough Set Theory to develop fault diagnostic scheme for classifying the “fault” and “No-fault” conditions of air brake system with the knowledge of wheel speed sensor data. The rough set reduction principle is applied to find all reducts, and then a set of generalized classification rules for predicting the faults of Air brake system was extracted. The results show that the presented method can effectively enrich the vehicle condition monitoring system, able to give a feedback to the driver regarding the working condition of air brake system, detect and identify the location of faults, minimize the resources, such as time, cost of maintenance, etc.

Keywords: Classification ; Rules Extraction ; Air Brake ; Fault Diagnosis;; Feature Selection; Rough Set Theory; Wheel Speed Sensor; decision making

I. INTRODUCTION

Fault diagnosis in brake system is significant for improving the performance of autonomous vehicles and advanced driver assistance systems where it detecting dangerous situations and react accordingly in order to avoid or mitigate accidents. A fault diagnosis system can enable continuous and reliable operation of vehicular systems through effective vehicle health monitoring. In Vehicles, air brake system is a critical safety unit and failure of which results in not only the loss of vehicle yaw stability, but also an increase in stopping distance of the vehicle. Hence, brake faults may even lead to severe road safety issues and accidents.

One of the reasons for air brake fault is the increase in length of a component called pushrod beyond readjustment limit. The classical method for safety inspection of pushrod stroke measurement requires a human being to go underneath the vehicle and manually measure the pushrod stroke. It is a time-consuming procedure and difficult if the vehicle ground

clearance is low. So the need for developing an intelligent diagnostic scheme to minimize the resources (such as time and cost of maintenance) becomes an urgent research subject currently. Recently, model-based and data-driven approaches are used in fault diagnostic schemes [1-4]. To inspect the health conditions of air brake system, condition monitoring systems are used to collect real-time data from them, and big data are acquired due to development of the Internet, the internet of things, wireless communications, mobile devices, and smart manufacturing of sensors, so the amount of data collected has grown in an exponential manner which leads the task of fault diagnosis has become increasingly difficult and its complexity almost unmanageable using traditional techniques.

Machine learning techniques like Artificial Neural Network, Support Vector Machines and Decision tree are used in a wide variety of classification algorithms for fault diagnosis. Rough set theory (RST) [5, 6] which is one of the successful approximations based mathematical model to deal the imprecision and uncertainty present in knowledge. Many heuristic algorithms are proposed based on rough set theory, also numerous approached based on rough set theory and other theories are investigated to extract decision rules and reduce the dimensionality of dataset [7-26]. One advantage of the rough set is the creation of readable if-then rules. Such rules have a potential to reveal new patterns in the data material. Thus, the main objective of this work is to present a Method based on Rough Set Theory to develop fault diagnostic scheme for classifying the “fault” and “No-fault” conditions of air brake system with the knowledge of wheel speed sensor data.

II. AIR BRAKE SYSTEM

Air brake system is a type of braking system generally used in heavy commercial vehicles or vehicles which require some really powerful and efficient braking system. It is a kind of friction brake where instead of hydraulic-fluid; air is used as the compression media for brake pads. Application of air brakes becomes a necessity in case of trucks having multiple trailers, high-speed long-haul buses, vehicles of military utility and semi-trailers. Air brakes were invented by George Westinghouse for use in trains. After having proved its caliber in trains, air brakes were later adapted to be used in heavy vehicles. The safety and braking confidence that air brakes provide to heavy vehicles are vouched for till day [27].

This section will explain how the Air Brake System Work. At the begging fig.1 shows Basic Air Brake System when the brakes are not applied. When the driver of a vehicle presses the brake pedal in order to stop or decelerate the vehicle the following processes takes place [28]:

- When the driver starts the engine the brake compressor starts as it is driven by the engine which in turn starts compressing the atmospheric air and through the compressor governor this compressed air with optimum pressure is sent to the compressed air reservoir which always has some amount of air stored from the previous cycle.

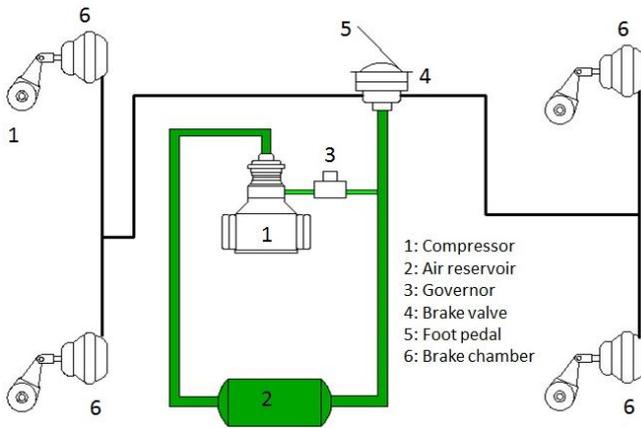


Fig. 1. Basic Air Brake System when the brakes are not applied

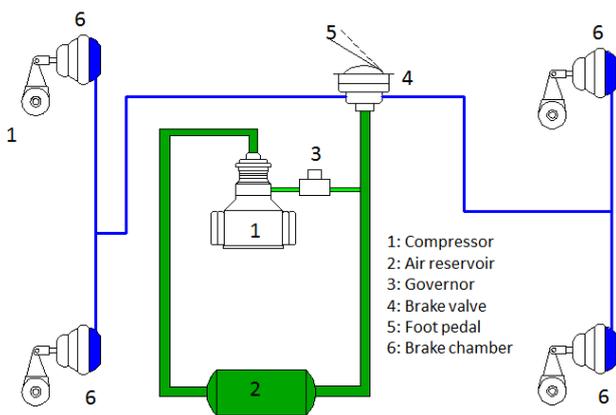


Fig. 2. Basic Air Brake System when the brakes are applied

- When the driver presses the brake pedal the outlet valve of the triple valve closes and inlet valve opens up which in turn gives passage to the compressed air from the reservoir to pass through the brake lines of the system.
- This compressed air flowing through the brake lines is then transferred to the brake cylinder which has piston inside it.
- When the compressed air applies pressure over the piston inside the brake chamber, piston moves away

from its original position which converts this pneumatic energy into the mechanical energy.

- On the wheel end of the brake cylinder, brake drums are placed inside which there is a housing of the mechanical actuator like springs or slacks having brake pads at its outer end.
- Due to the movement of piston because of the pressure applied by the compressed air, the mechanical actuator inside the brake drum expands which in turn pushes the brake pads in outward direction in order to make frictional contact with the rotating drum lines.
- With this frictional contact between brake pads and rotating drum lines brakes are applied to the wheels in order to stop or decelerate the vehicle.

III. PROPOSED METHODOLOG

The wheel speed sensor is a basic component of Anti-lock Brake System (ABS), which has been made mandatory in Heavy Commercial Road Vehicles in many countries. It can be used for fault diagnosis. Hence this paper propose a Method based on Rough Set Theory to develop fault diagnostic scheme for classifying the “fault” and “No-fault” conditions of air brake system with the knowledge of wheel speed sensor data. The decision table shown in Table 1 was developed by [29] to represent the fault diagnostic schemes for front right brake considering the fault / no-fault conditions of other brakes (front left, rear left, rear right). It is also noting that the same training data sets can be used for developing fault diagnostic schemes for other brakes with corresponding change in the labeling, but here we will concentrate to explain the fault diagnostic scheme for only the front right brake.

TABLE I. DECISION TABLE FOR FAULT DETECTION AND ISOLATION OF FRONT RIGHT BRAKE CHAMBER

U	front right	front left	Rear right	Rear left	Decision
X1	No	No	No	No	No Fault in front right brake
X2	Yes	No	No	No	Fault in front right brake
X3	No	Yes	No	No	No Fault in front right brake
X4	Yes	Yes	No	No	Fault in front right brake
X5	No	No	Yes	No	No Fault in front right brake
X6	Yes	No	Yes	No	Fault in front right brake
X7	No	No	No	Yes	No Fault in front right brake
X8	Yes	No	No	Yes	Fault in front right brake

X9	No	Yes	Yes	No	No Fault in front right brake
X10	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Fault in front right brake
X11	No	No	Yes	Yes	No Fault in front right brake
X12	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Fault in front right brake
X13	No	Yes	No	Yes	No Fault in front right brake
X14	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Fault in front right brake
X15	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No Fault in front right brake
X16	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Fault in front right brake

When a boundary region exists; i.e. when $\overline{RX} - \underline{RX} \neq \emptyset$ then X is a Rough Set

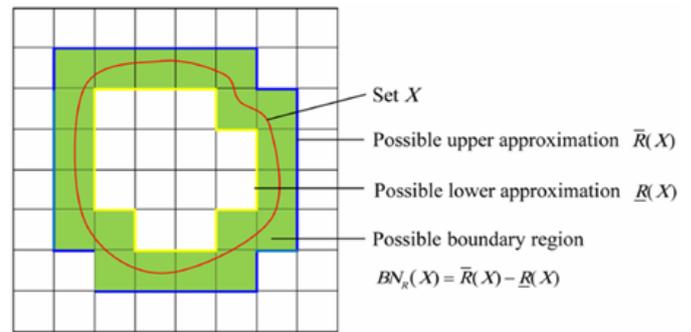


Fig. 3. Representation of Upper approximation and Lower approximation

Now, we will discuss the proposed method to analyze, mining and generating diagnostic rules based on rough sets theory which constitutes a sound basis for KDD. It offers mathematical tools to discover patterns hidden in data and can be used for feature selection, feature extraction, data reduction, decision rule generation, and pattern extraction. The main concepts of rough sets can be summarized as follow:

A. Indiscernibility relations

Indiscernibility is central to the rough sets and the objects in a decision table are classified into equivalent classes which are called concepts. An indiscernible relation $IND(B)$ can be defined as:

$$IND(B) = \{ (x, y) \in U \mid \forall a \in B, a(x) = a(y) \} \quad (1)$$

B. The Lower Approximation of X

is the set contain all objects which with certainty belong to the set X. it can be defined as:

$$\underline{RX} = \bigcup_{x \in U} \{R(x) : R(x) \subseteq X\} \quad (2)$$

C. The Upper Approximation of X

is the set contain all objects which possibly belong to the set X. it can be defined as:

$$\overline{RX} = \bigcup_{x \in U} \{R(x) : R(x) \cap X \neq \emptyset\} \quad (3)$$

D. The Boundary Region of X

is the difference between upper and lower approximation as shown in fig.3. it can be defined as :

$$BN_R(X) = \overline{RX} - \underline{RX} \quad (4)$$

Now by considering the decision table in Table 2, we can find Indiscernibility relations as follow:

$$IND(\{\text{front right}\}) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \{X1, X3, X5, X7, X9, X11, X13, X15\}, \\ \{X2, X4, X6, X8, X10, X12, X14, X16\} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$IND(\{\text{front left}\}) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \{X1, X2, X5, X6, X7, X8, X11, X12\}, \\ \{X3, X4, X9, X10, X13, X14, X15, X16\} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$IND(\{\text{Rear right}\}) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \{X1, X2, X3, X4, X7, X8, X13, X14\}, \\ \{X5, X6, X9, X10, X11, X12, X15, X16\} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$IND(\{\text{Rear left}\}) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \{X1, X2, X3, X4, X5, X6, X9, X10\}, \\ \{X7, X8, X11, X12, X13, X14, X15, X16\} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$IND(\{\text{front right, front left}\}) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \{X1, X5, X7, X11\}, \{X3, X9, X13, X15\}, \\ \{X2, X6, X8, X12\}, \{X4, X10, X14, X16\} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$IND(\{\text{front right, Rear right}\}) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \{X1, X3, X7, X13\}, \{X5, X9, X11, X15\}, \\ \{X2, X4, X8, X14\}, \{X6, X10, X12, X16\} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$IND(\{\text{front right, Rear left}\}) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \{X1, X3, X5, X9\}, \{X7, X11, X13, X15\}, \\ \{X2, X4, X6, X10\}, \{X8, X12, X14, X16\} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$IND(\{\text{front left, Rear right}\}) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \{X1, X2, X7, X8\}, \{X5, X6, X11, X12\}, \\ \{X3, X4, X13, X14\}, \{X9, X10, X15, X16\} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$IND(\{\text{front left, Rear left}\}) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \{X1, X2, X5, X6\}, \{X7, X8, X11, X12\}, \\ \{X3, X4, X9, X10\}, \{X13, X14, X15, X16\} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$IND(\{\text{Rear right, Rear left}\}) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \{X1, X2, X3, X4\}, \{X7, X8, X13, X14\}, \\ \{X5, X6, X9, X10\}, \{X11, X12, X15, X16\} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$IND \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{front right,} \\ \text{front left,} \\ \text{Rear right} \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \{X1, X7\}, \{X5, X11\}, \{X3, X13\}, \{X9, X15\}, \\ \{X2, X8\}, \{X6, X12\}, \{X4, X14\}, \{X10, X16\} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$IND \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{front right,} \\ \text{front left,} \\ \text{Rear left} \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \{X1, X5\}, \{X7, X11\}, \{X3, X9\}, \{X13, X15\}, \\ \{X2, X6\}, \{X8, X12\}, \{X4, X10\}, \{X14, X16\} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$IND \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{front left,} \\ \text{Rear right,} \\ \text{Rear left} \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \{X1, X2\}, \{X7, X8\}, \{X5, X6\}, \{X11, X12\}, \\ \{X3, X4\}, \{X13, X14\}, \{X9, X10\}, \{X15, X16\} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$IND \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{front right,} \\ \text{front left,} \\ \text{Rear right,} \\ \text{Rear left} \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \{X1\}, \{X2\}, \{X3\}, \{X4\}, \{X5\}, \{X6\}, \{X7\}, \\ \{X8\}, \{X9\}, \{X10\}, \{X11\}, \{X12\}, \{X13\}, \\ \{X14\}, \{X15\}, \{X16\}, \end{array} \right\}$$

The next stage is to compute the Upper approximation and Lower approximation with the decision class is “Fault in front right brake” as shown in Table 3. And similarly we can compute the Upper approximation and Lower approximation with the decision class is “ No Fault in front right brake”.

Finally, the rough sets dependency rules for classifying the “fault” and “No-fault” conditions of air brake generated directly as shown in table 4.

IV. CONCLUSION

This paper introduced a Method based on Rough Set Theory to develop fault diagnostic scheme for classifying the “fault” and “No-fault” conditions of air brake system with the knowledge of wheel speed sensor data. The proposed technique has been simplified logic-based rules required to building knowledge. The results show that the presented method can effectively enrich the vehicle condition monitoring system, able to give a feedback to the driver regarding the working condition of air brake system, detect and identify the location of faults, minimize the resources, such as time, cost of maintenance, etc. an extension work of using rough sets with other intelligent systems like neural networks, genetic algorithms, fuzzy approaches, and so forth, will be considered in the future work.

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TABLE II. THE UPPER APPROXIMATION AND LOWER APPROXIMATION

	Indiscernibility relation	decision class	The Upper approximation	The Lower approximation
1	$IND(\{\text{front right}\})$	Fault in front right brake	$\{\{x_2, x_4, x_6, x_8, x_{10}, x_{12}, x_{14}, x_{16}\}\}$	$\{\{x_2, x_4, x_6, x_8, x_{10}, x_{12}, x_{14}, x_{16}\}\}$
2	$IND(\{\text{front left}\})$		$\{\{x_1, x_2, x_5, x_6, x_7, x_8, x_{11}, x_{12}\}, \{x_3, x_4, x_9, x_{10}, x_{13}, x_{14}, x_{15}, x_{16}\}\}$	
3	$IND(\{\text{Rear right}\})$		$\{\{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_7, x_8, x_{13}, x_{14}\}, \{x_5, x_6, x_9, x_{10}, x_{11}, x_{12}, x_{15}, x_{16}\}\}$	
4	$IND(\{\text{Rear left}\})$		$\{\{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6, x_9, x_{10}\}, \{x_7, x_8, x_{11}, x_{12}, x_{13}, x_{14}, x_{15}, x_{16}\}\}$	
5	$IND(\{\text{front right, front left}\})$		$\{\{x_2, x_6, x_8, x_{12}\}, \{x_4, x_{10}, x_{14}, x_{16}\}\}$	$\{\{x_2, x_6, x_8, x_{12}\}, \{x_4, x_{10}, x_{14}, x_{16}\}\}$
6	$IND(\{\text{front right, Rear right}\})$		$\{\{x_2, x_4, x_8, x_{14}\}, \{x_6, x_{10}, x_{12}, x_{16}\}\}$	$\{\{x_2, x_4, x_8, x_{14}\}, \{x_6, x_{10}, x_{12}, x_{16}\}\}$
7	$IND(\{\text{front right, Rear left}\})$		$\{\{x_2, x_4, x_6, x_{10}\}, \{x_8, x_{12}, x_{14}, x_{16}\}\}$	$\{\{x_2, x_4, x_8, x_{14}\}, \{x_6, x_{10}, x_{12}, x_{16}\}\}$
8	$IND(\{\text{front left, Rear right}\})$		$\{\{x_1, x_2, x_7, x_8\}, \{x_5, x_6, x_{11}, x_{12}\}, \{x_3, x_4, x_{13}, x_{14}\}, \{x_9, x_{10}, x_{15}, x_{16}\}\}$	
9	$IND(\{\text{front left, Rear left}\})$		$\{\{x_1, x_2, x_5, x_6\}, \{x_7, x_8, x_{11}, x_{12}\}, \{x_3, x_4, x_9, x_{10}\}, \{x_{13}, x_{14}, x_{15}, x_{16}\}\}$	
10	$IND(\{\text{Rear right, Rear left}\})$		$\{\{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4\}, \{x_7, x_8, x_{13}, x_{14}\}, \{x_5, x_6, x_9, x_{10}\}, \{x_{11}, x_{12}, x_{15}, x_{16}\}\}$	
11	$IND(\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{front right,} \\ \text{front left,} \\ \text{Rear right} \end{array} \right\})$		$\{\{x_2, x_8\}, \{x_6, x_{12}\}, \{x_4, x_{14}\}, \{x_{10}, x_{16}\}\}$	$\{\{x_2, x_8\}, \{x_6, x_{12}\}, \{x_4, x_{14}\}, \{x_{10}, x_{16}\}\}$
12	$IND(\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{front right,} \\ \text{front left,} \\ \text{Rear left} \end{array} \right\})$		$\{\{x_2, x_6\}, \{x_8, x_{12}\}, \{x_4, x_{10}\}, \{x_{14}, x_{16}\}\}$	$\{\{x_2, x_6\}, \{x_8, x_{12}\}, \{x_4, x_{10}\}, \{x_{14}, x_{16}\}\}$
13	$IND(\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{front left,} \\ \text{Rear right,} \\ \text{Rear left} \end{array} \right\})$		$\{\{x_1, x_2\}, \{x_7, x_8\}, \{x_5, x_6\}, \{x_{11}, x_{12}\}, \{x_3, x_4\}, \{x_{13}, x_{14}\}, \{x_9, x_{10}\}, \{x_{15}, x_{16}\}\}$	
14	$IND(\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{front right, front left,} \\ \text{Rear right, Rear left} \end{array} \right\})$		$\{\{x_2\}, \{x_8\}, \{x_6\}, \{x_{12}\}, \{x_4\}, \{x_{14}\}, \{x_{10}\}, \{x_{16}\}\}$	

TABLE III. THE GENERATED RULES FOR CLASSIFYING THE “FAULT” AND “NO-FAULT” CONDITIONS OF AIR BRAKE SYSTEM

	Rule	LHS SUPPORT	RHS SUPPORT	RHS ACCURACY
1	front right(No) AND front left(No) AND Rear right(No) AND Rear left(No) => Decision (No Fault in front right brake) OR Decision (No Fault in front left brake)	2	1,1	0.5,0.5
2	front right(Yes) AND front left(No) AND Rear right(No) AND Rear left(No) => Decision (Fault in front right brake) OR Decision (No Fault in front left brake)	2	1,1	0.5,0.5
3	front right(No) AND front left(Yes) AND Rear right(No) AND Rear left(No) => Decision (No Fault in front right brake) OR Decision (Fault in frontleft brake)	2	1,1	0.5,0.5
4	front right(*) AND front left(Yes) AND Rear right(*) AND Rear left(No) => Decision (Fault in front right brake)	1	1	1.0
5	front right(No) AND front left(No) AND Rear right(Yes) AND Rear left(No) => Decision (No Fault in front right brake)	1	1	1.0
6	front right(Yes) AND front left(*) AND Rear right(Yes) AND Rear left(No) => Decision (Fault in front right brake) OR Decision (No Fault in front left brake)	2	1,1	0.5,0.5
7	front right(No) AND front left(No) AND Rear right(No) AND Rear left(*) => Decision (No Fault in front right brake)	1	1	1.0
8	front right(Yes) AND front left(No) AND Rear right(*) AND Rear left(Yes) => Decision (Fault in front right brake)	1	1	1.0
9	front right(No) AND front left(Yes) AND Rear right(Yes) AND Rear left(No) => Decision (No Fault in front right brake) OR Decision (Fault in frontleft brake)	2	1,1	0.5,0.5
10	front right(Yes) AND front left(Yes) AND Rear right(*) AND Rear left(No) => Decision (Fault in front right brake)	1	1	1.0
11	front right(No) AND front left(No) AND Rear right(Yes) AND Rear left(Yes) => Decision (No Fault in front right brake) OR Decision (No Fault in front left brake)	2	1,1	0.5,0.5
12	front right(*) AND front left(No) AND Rear right(Yes) AND Rear left(Yes) => Decision (Fault in front right brake)	1	1	1.0
13	front right(No) AND front left(Yes) AND Rear right(No) AND Rear left(*) => Decision (No Fault in front right brake)	1	1	1.0
14	front right(Yes) AND front left(Yes) AND Rear right(No) AND Rear left(Yes) => Decision (Fault in front right brake)	1	1	1.0
15	front right(No) AND front left(Yes) AND Rear right(Yes) AND Rear left(Yes) => Decision (No Fault in front right brake) OR Decision (Fault in frontleft brake)	2	1,1	0.5,0.5
16	front right(Yes) AND front left(*) AND Rear right(Yes) AND Rear left(Yes) => Decision (Fault in front right brake)	1	1	1.0
17	front right(*) AND front left(*) AND Rear right(No) AND Rear left(No) => Decision (Fault in frontleft brake)	1	1	1.0
18	front right(No) AND front left(No) AND Rear right(*) AND Rear left(Yes) => Decision (No Fault in front left brake)	1	1	1.0
19	front right(No) AND front left(Yes) AND Rear right(No) AND Rear left(Yes) => Decision (Fault in frontleft brake)	1	1	1.0
20	front right(No) AND front left(*) AND Rear right(Yes) AND Rear left(*) => Decision (No Fault in front left brake)	1	1	1.0
21	front right(*) AND front left(No) AND Rear right(*) AND Rear left(Yes) => Decision (No Fault in front left brake)	1	1	1.0
22	front right(Yes) AND front left(Yes) AND Rear right(*) AND Rear left(Yes) => Decision (Fault in frontleft brake)	1	1	1.0
23	front right(*) AND front left(Yes) AND Rear right(Yes) AND Rear left(No) => Decision (Fault in frontleft brake)	1	1	1.0
24	front right(Yes) AND front left(No) AND Rear right(Yes) AND Rear left(*) => Decision (No Fault in front left brake)	1	1	1.0
25	front right(*) AND front left(Yes) AND Rear right(*) AND Rear left(Yes) => Decision (Fault in frontleft brake)	1	1	1.0