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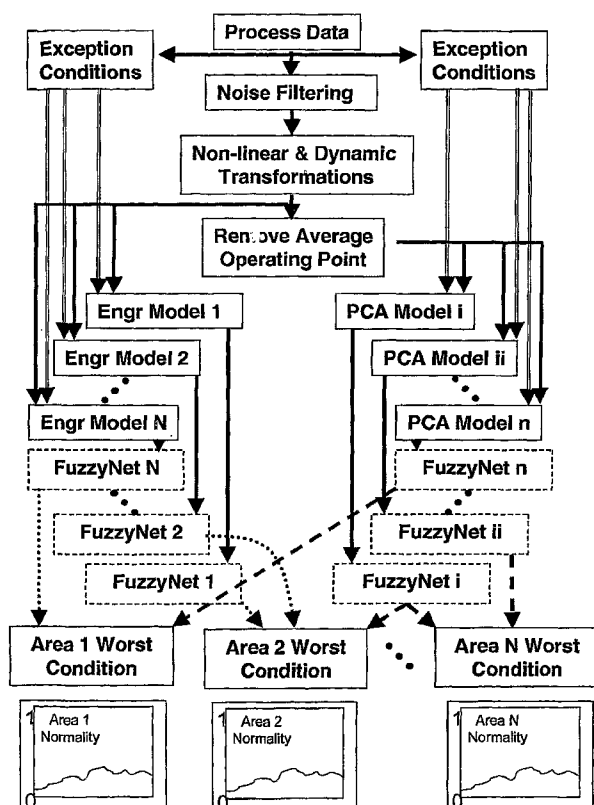
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ABNORMAL EVENT DETECTION IN THE OPERATION OF CONTINUOUS INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES

Abnormal Event Detection On-Line Information Flow



(57) Abstract: Thousands of process and equipment measurements are gathered by the modern digital process control systems that are deployed in refineries and chemical plants. Several years of these data are historized in databases for analysis and reporting. These databases can be mined for the data patterns that occur during normal operation and those patterns used to determine when the process is behaving abnormally. These normal operating patterns are represented by sets of models. These models include simple engineering equations, which express known relationships that should be true during normal operations and multivariate statistical models based on a variation of principle component analysis. Equipment and process problems can be detected by comparing the data gathered on a minute by minute basis to predictions from these models of normal operation. The deviation between the expected pattern in the process operating data and the actual data pattern are interpreted by fuzzy Petri nets to determine the normality of the process operations. This is then used to help the operator localize and diagnose the root cause of the problem.



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