

## 1. Data Preparation

### OAG Flight Dataset

1.74M European Flights  
Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec 2019  
Completed flights only  
Valid turnarounds ≤6h

### Pre-tactical Features Only

#### Categorical:

- IATA carrier code
- Departure/arrival airports
- Aircraft type

#### Temporal:

- Month, day, hour, minute
- Day of week

#### Operational:

- Scheduled flight duration

### 80/20 Split

Training: 1,395,733 flights  
Testing: 348,934 flights

## 2. Synthetic Generation

### Synthetic Data Generators

#### Gaussian Copula

Statistical approach  
Marginal distributions +  
correlation structure

#### CTGAN

Adversarial learning  
Mode-specific normalization  
+ conditional generation

#### TabSyn

VAE + Diffusion  
Two-stage approach  
in latent space

#### REaLTabFormer

Transformer architecture  
GPT-2 backbone with  
column-aware tokenization

Synthetic Data  
(TSTR)

Real Data  
(TSTR)

## 3. Model Training

### Machine Learning Models

#### Decision Tree

Recursive partitioning

#### Random Forest

Tree ensemble

#### Gradient Boosting

Sequential boosting

#### XGBoost

Optimized gradient boosting

#### CatBoost

Categorical-optimized

Trained  
Models

Real Test  
Data

## 4. Evaluation

### Prediction Tasks

Turnaround Time

Departure Delay

Arrival Delay

### Evaluation Metrics

#### Performance:

- RMSE, MAE, R<sup>2</sup>

#### Utility:

- TSTR Utility Score

#### Feature Analysis:

- Feature Importance Alignment