

# 18650 Battery Life: Survival Analysis vs Machine Learning

A Comparative Study Using Data from the NASA  
Prognostics Data Repository

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# 01

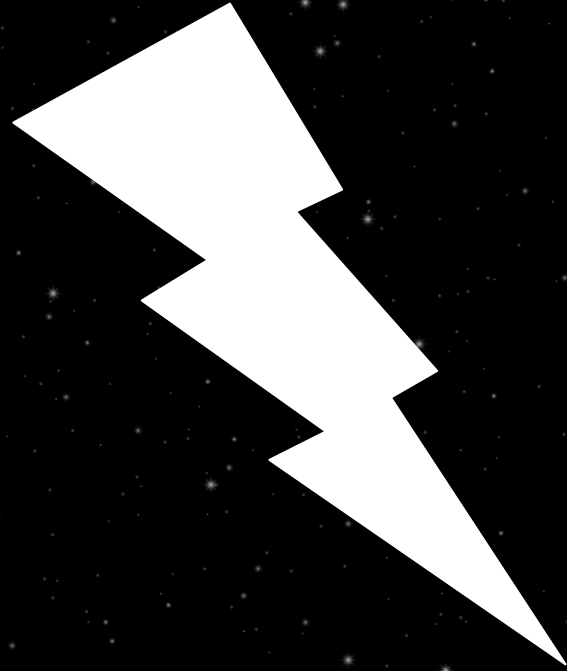
# Introduction

Batteries!



# The Problem

- 18650 batteries are standard lithium-ion cells, also known as rechargeable batteries.
- They are used in a wide variety of applications.
- There is a need for accurate life-span predictions.
- Most models are purely data-driven or purely physics-driven.
- Need for models that integrate the two.



# The Question

- Can we better predict battery survival time using survival analysis techniques or using a machine learning model?
- What kind of model is better at predicting how quickly a battery will die using data about how it is discharging?



# The Goal

- Better Battery Life Prediction: Understanding and predicting battery life is essential for improving reliability and optimizing usage. It can also reduce costs and prevent unexpected failures.
- Comparison of Methods: This study compares two broad approaches — Survival Analysis and Machine Learning — to evaluate which method more accurately predicts the discharge time of 18650 batteries.



02

# Background



# What are 18650 Batteries?

- 18650 batteries are cylindrical lithium-ion cells.
  - Standard size rechargeable batteries.
- The performance and longevity of 18650 batteries are critical in these applications, as they directly affect the device's overall efficiency and reliability.

Used in high-drain devices due to their high energy density and long cycle life. Examples of Applications:

- Electric Vehicles
- Laptops
- Flashlights
- Power Tools
- Drones
- Portable Power Banks



# Understanding the 18650

- High Energy Density: 18650 batteries offer a high energy-to-weight ratio, making them ideal for devices requiring a lot of power in a small form factor.
- Long Cycle Life: These batteries can undergo hundreds to thousands of charge/discharge cycles, depending on usage, before significant capacity loss occurs.
- Safety Features: Often equipped with built-in protection circuits to prevent overcharging, overheating, and short circuits.



# Accelerated Life Testing

- Subjecting a product to extreme conditions in order to find problems or faults at a faster rate than normal use
- Conditions in excess of standard operating conditions
  - Stress
  - Strain
  - **Voltage**
  - **Temperature**
  - Pressure
  - Vibration

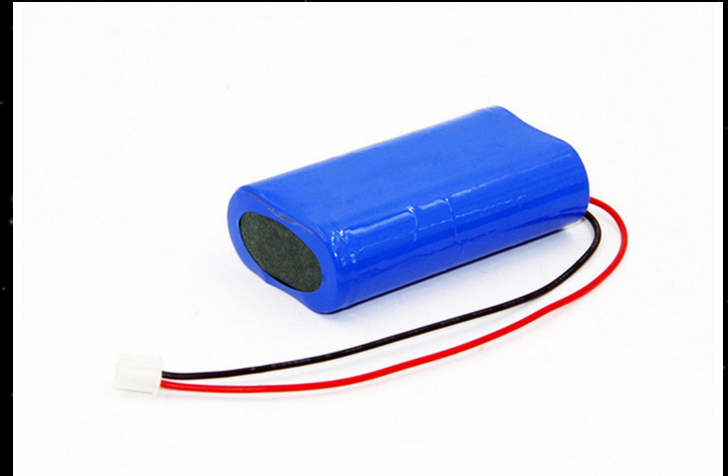


# 03 Data



# Battery Pack Data

- Data acquired from NASA's Prognostics Center of Excellence Data Set Repository
  - Consists of 21 data sets for a variety of prognostic tasks
- Accelerated life testing for 18650 lithium-ion batteries in packs of 2
- 26 battery packs in total
  - 18 regular life
  - 3 second life (packs that survived the initial testing)
  - 5 recommissioned (packs formerly subjected to varying current levels)
- 3 modes: charge, rest, and **discharge**



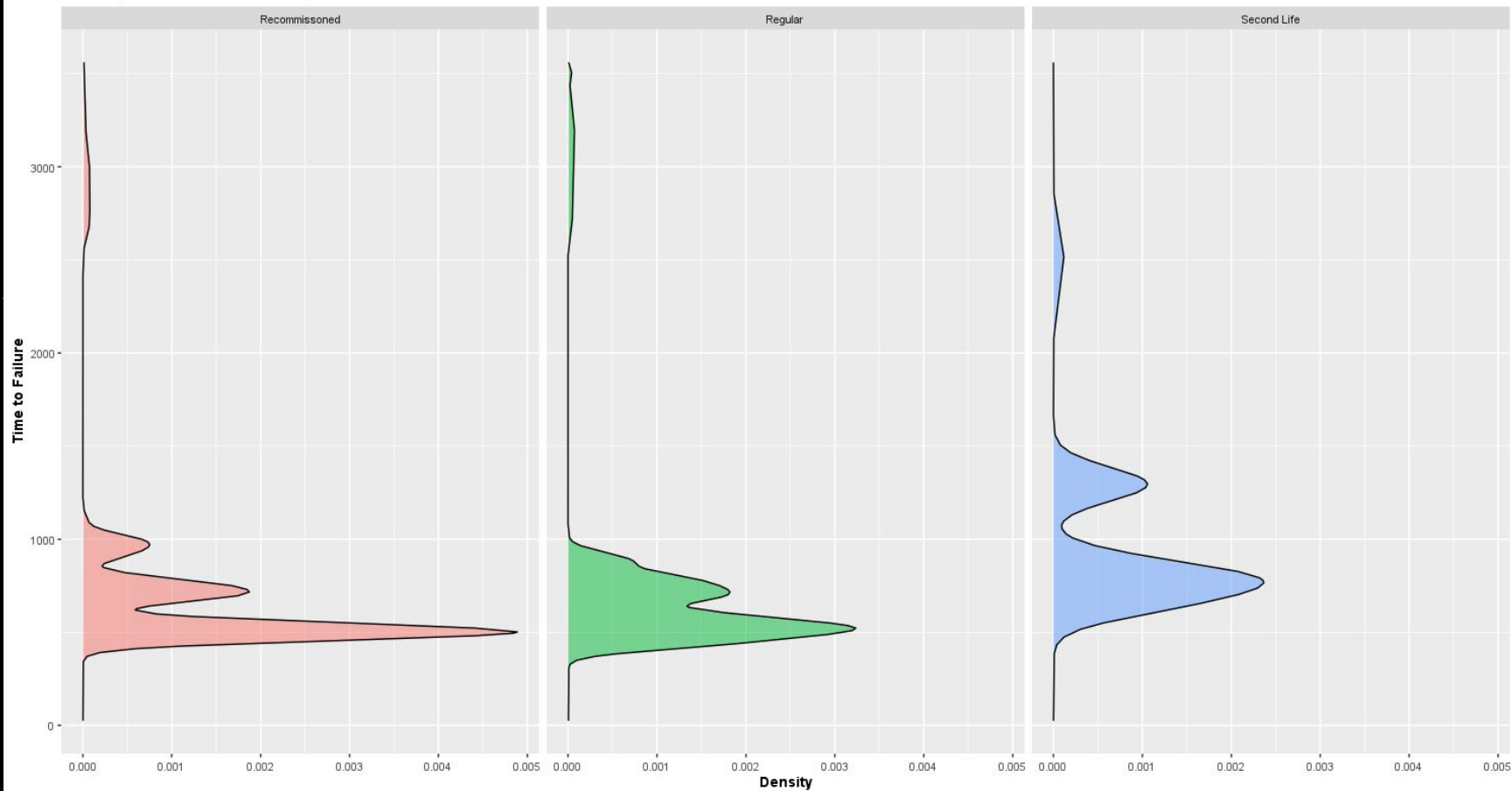
# Battery Pack Data

- Each battery pack is measured once a second from start to finish
  - Measure load voltage and surface temperature
  - For discharge, output current is also measured
- Focusing only on the **discharge** phases
  - Battery packs are connected to circuits of varying current intensity
  - Battery packs discharge power until they are dead, and then they are charged
  - Want to predict the discharge time based on voltage, temperature, and current

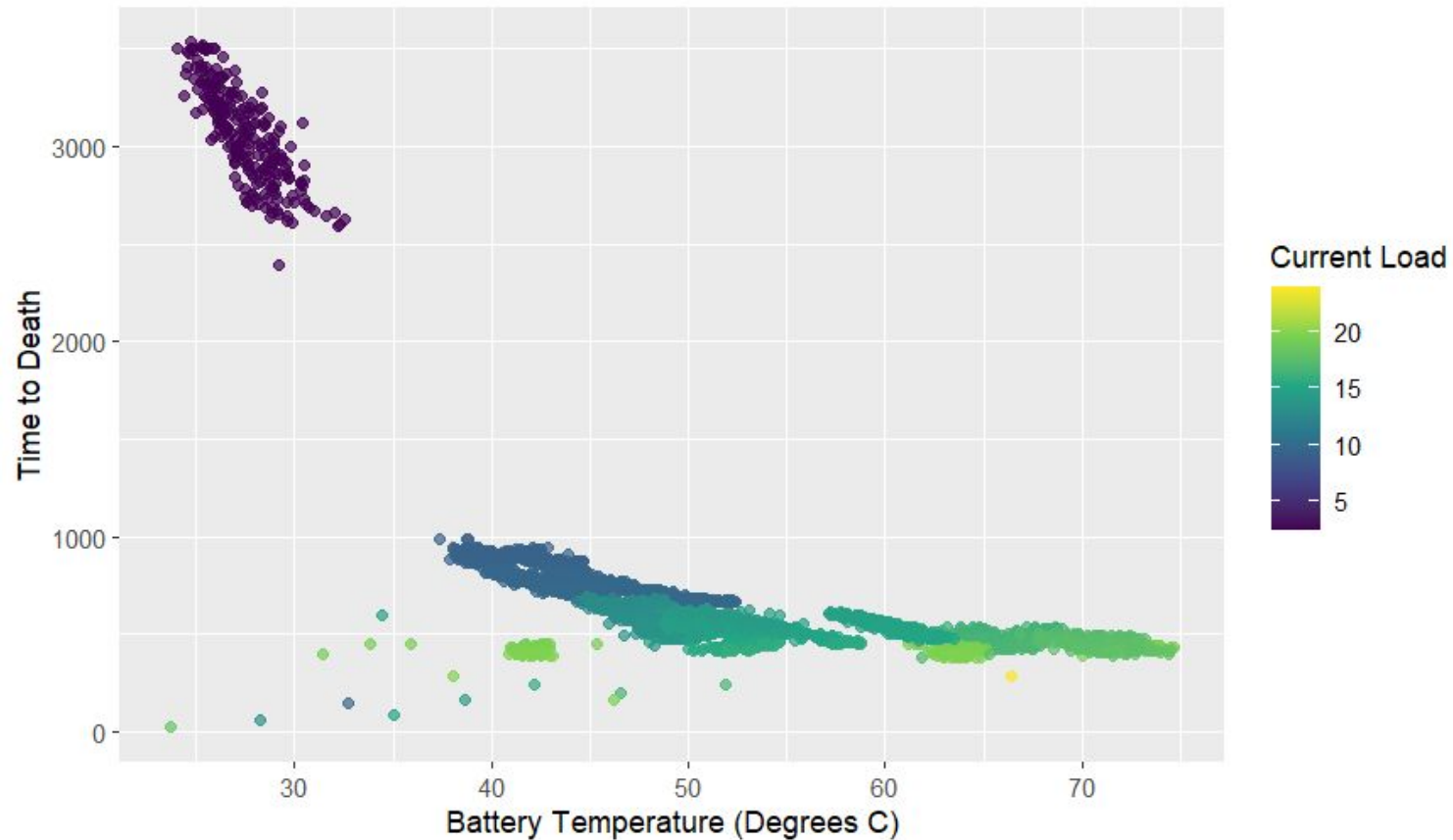
# Battery Pack Data

- Each battery pack is measured during each of the three phases
- Split each life cycle into just the discharge phases, ignoring the charge and rest
  - Treating each discharge phase as its own miniature life cycle
- **Features:** surface temperature, loading voltage, output current,
  - Each phase is reduced to a single row consisting of averages of these three features
- **Response:** time to death (from full charge to no charge)

Density of Time to Failure by Source

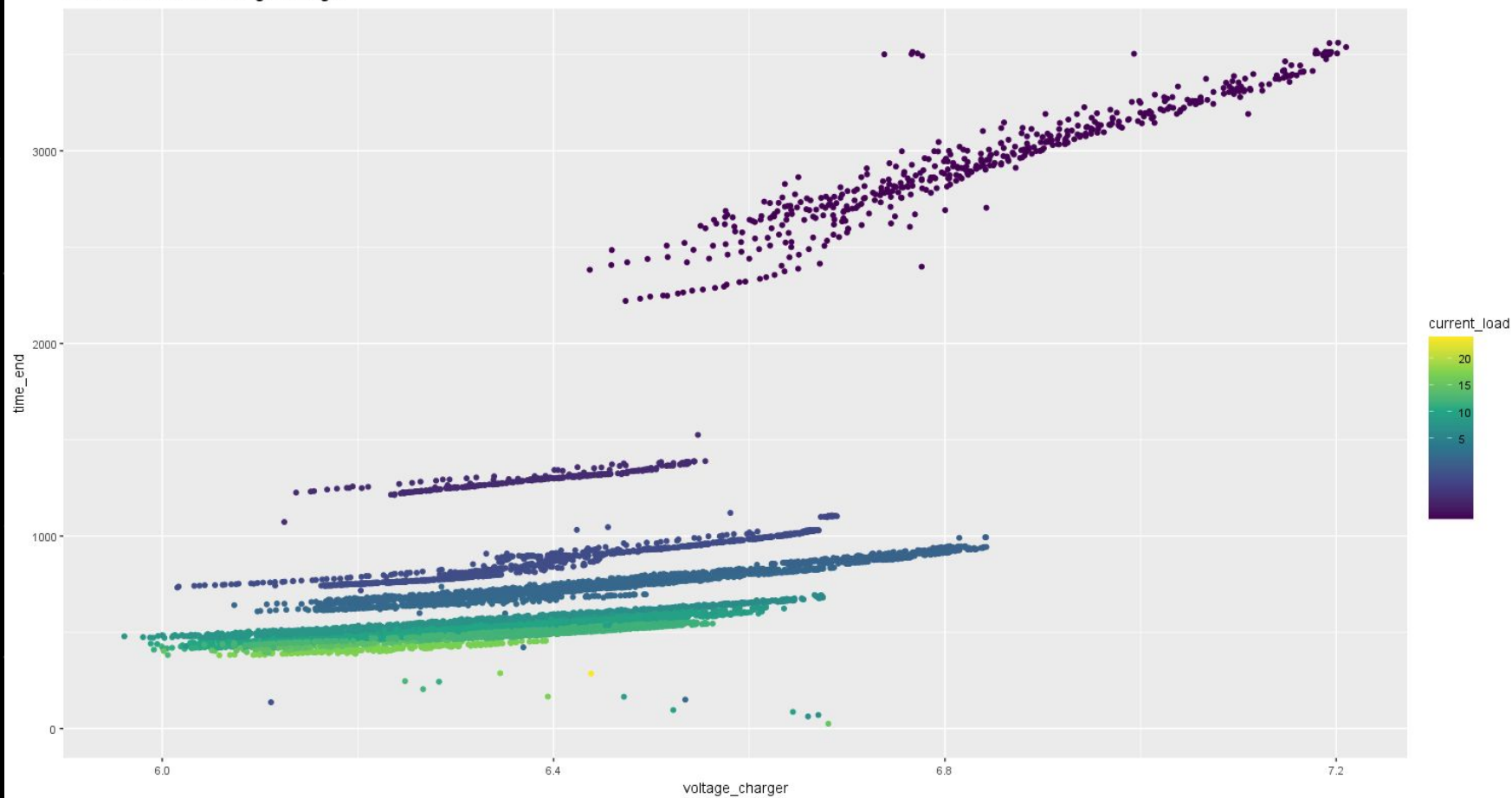


Time to Failure vs Battery Temperature





Time to Failure vs Voltage Charger



04

# Methodology



# Survival Analysis - Weibull Regression

- Survival analysis measures the time to an event
- The event in question is the death of the battery
- Death in this case meaning the complete discharge of the battery cell. Not failure.
- $TTF \sim \text{Weibull}(M = b_0 + b_1 \text{temp}^\diamond + b_2 \text{voltage}^\diamond + b_3 \text{current} + b_4 \text{temp}^\diamond * \text{voltage}^\diamond * \text{current}, \sigma = 1/\beta)$ 
  - $\text{temp}^\diamond = 11605/(\text{TempC} + 273.15)$
  - $\text{voltage}^\diamond = \log(\text{voltage})$
- Using R's survival and survminer libraries

# Survival Analysis - Arrhenius Model

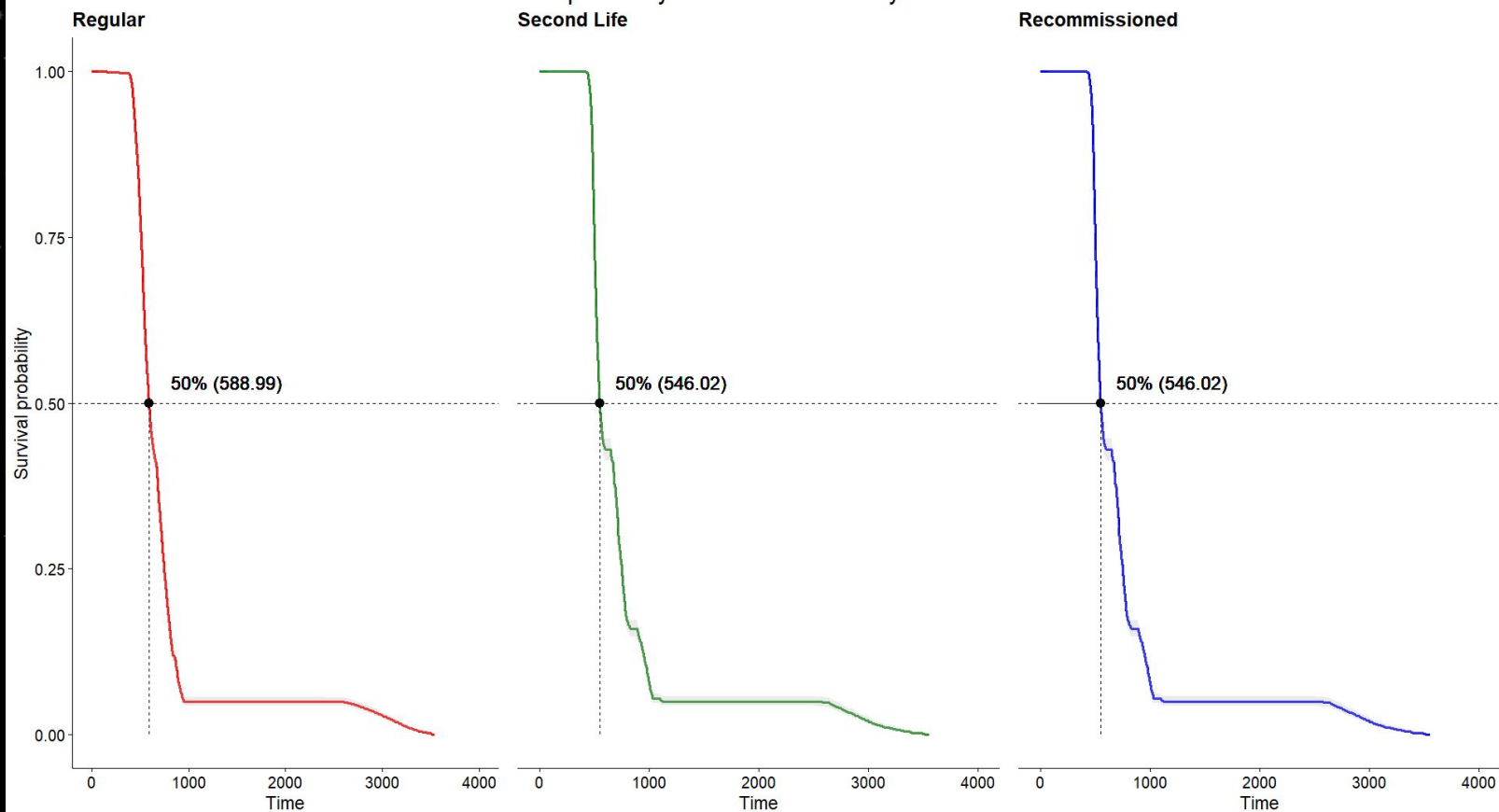
- Devised by Svante Arrhenius, a physicist and physical chemist
- In ALT, products are put under intense conditions
- Temperature has an effect on the rate of reaction
  - Temperature affects degradation rate
  - Temperature affects time to failure
- Arrhenius determined time to failure was proportional to the activation energy divided by the temperature in Kelvin
- Equation to the right is what we are using instead of standard temperature



$$\text{temp}^\diamond = 11605 / (\text{TempC} + 273.15)$$

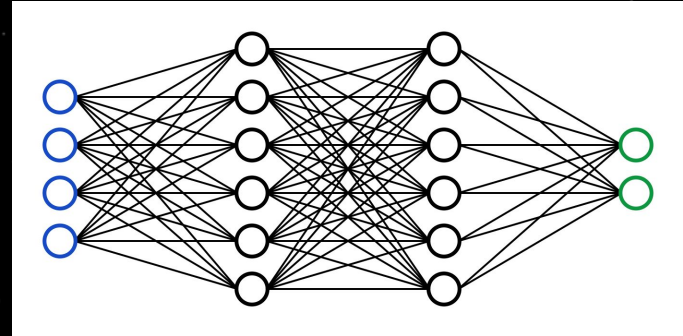
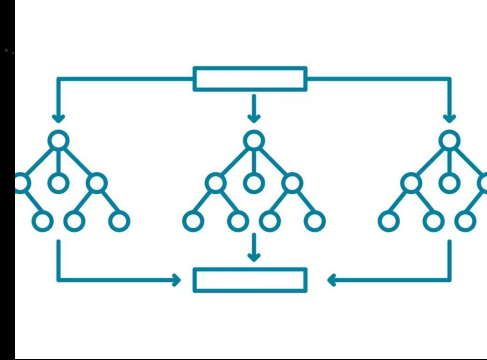


Kaplan-Meyer Curves for Battery Packs



# Machine Learning - Models

- Wanted a range of models
- Increasing in complexity
- Using Python's sklearn package
- Three machine learning algorithms:
  - Linear regression
  - Random forest
  - Neural network (FNN)

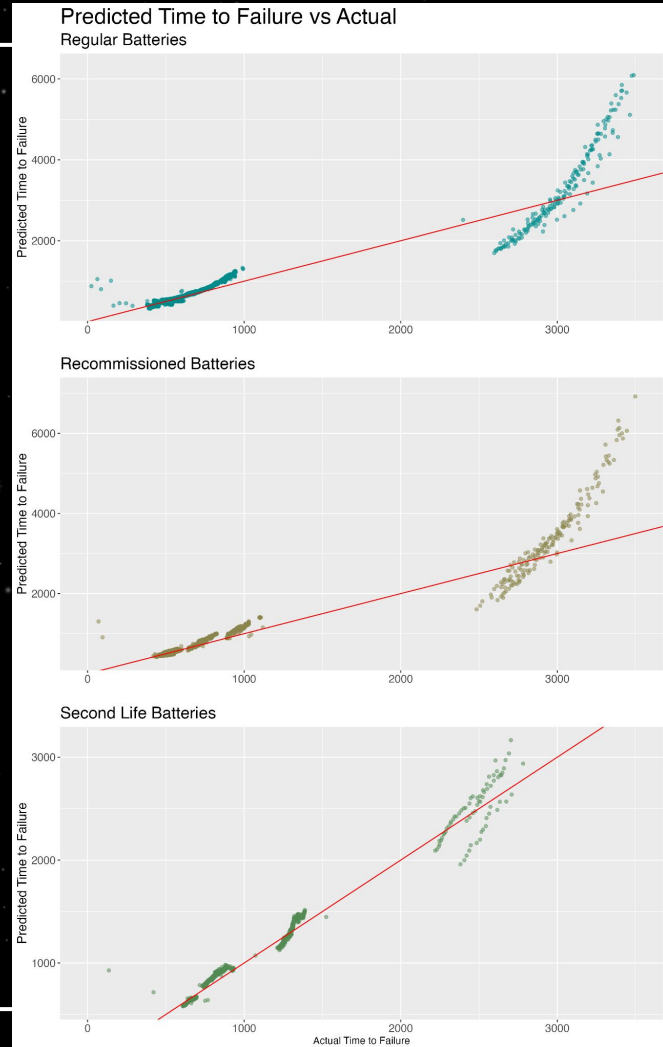


# 05 Results



# Weibull Regression

- **Regular battery packs:**
  - **MSE:** 55730.98
  - **AIC:** 43722.1
  - **R<sup>2</sup>:** 81.08%
- **Recommissioned battery packs:**
  - **MSE:** 70364.29
  - **AIC:** 39455.26
  - **R<sup>2</sup>:** 75.71%
- **Second life battery packs:**
  - **MSE:** 4971.93
  - **AIC:** 15201.04
  - **R<sup>2</sup>:** 97.23%

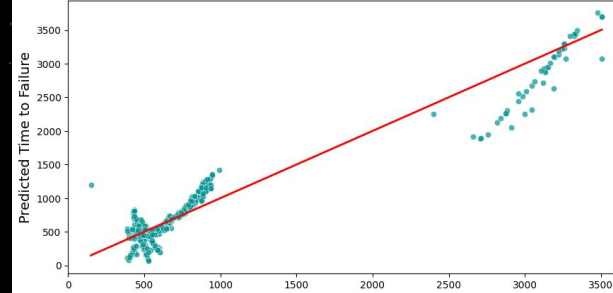




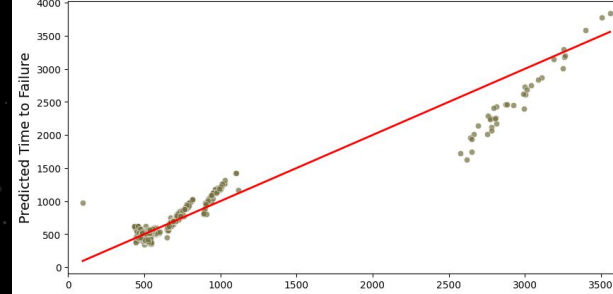
# Linear Regression

- **Regular battery packs:**
  - **MSE:** 33084.63
  - **AIC:** 7804.71
  - **R<sup>2</sup>:** 91%
- **Recommissioned battery packs:**
  - **MSE:** 22612.53
  - **AIC:** 7108.59
  - **R<sup>2</sup>:** 92.31%
- **Second life battery packs:**
  - **MSE:** 7373.97
  - **AIC:** 2494.69
  - **R<sup>2</sup>:** 96.06%

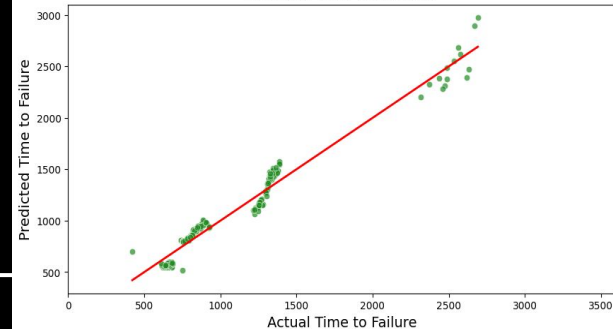
Predicted vs Actual: Linear Regression  
Regular Life Batteries



Recommissioned Batteries

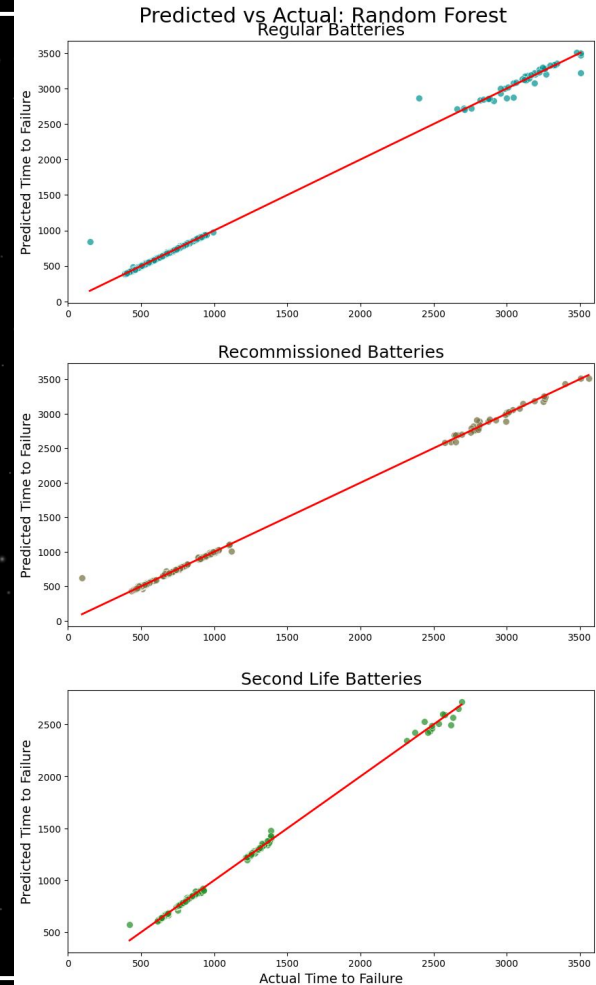


Second Life Batteries



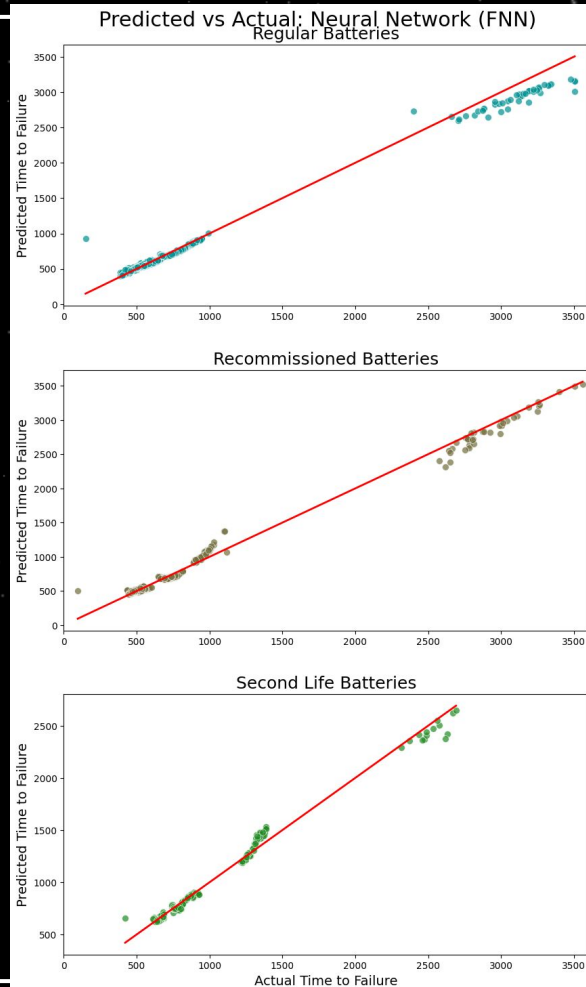
# Random Forest

- **Regular battery packs:**
  - **MSE:** 927.07
  - **AIC:** 5127.19
  - **R<sup>2</sup>:** 99.7%
- **Recommissioned battery packs:**
  - **MSE:** 75.72
  - **AIC:** 3151.49
  - **R<sup>2</sup>:** 99.8%
- **Second life battery packs:**
  - **MSE:** 298.81
  - **AIC:** 1600.24
  - **R<sup>2</sup>:** 99.8%



# Neural Network (FNN)

- **Regular battery packs:**
  - **MSE:** 1726.28
  - **MAE:** 21.14
  - **AIC:** 5600.84
  - **R<sup>2</sup>:** 99.45%
- **Recommissioned battery packs:**
  - **MSE:** 1524.88
  - **MAE:** 23.36
  - **AIC:** 5207.41
  - **R<sup>2</sup>:** 99.48%
- **Second life battery packs:**
  - **MSE:** 2385.52
  - **MAE:** 34.25
  - **AIC:** 2187.83
  - **R<sup>2</sup>:** 98.72%



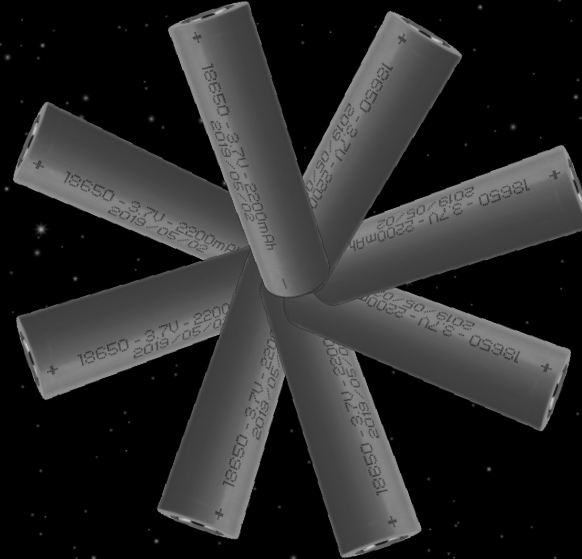
# 06

# Conclusions



# Comparison

- **Best:** Random Forest
  - Lowest error across the board
  - Highest  $R^2$  across the board
  - Potentially risking overfitting
- **Worst:**
  - Regular and recommissioned: Weibull regression
    - Highest error and lowest  $R^2$
  - Second life: Linear regression
    - Highest error and lowest  $R^2$



# Future Work

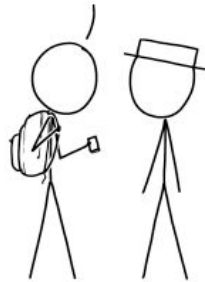
- Future work can be done with ALT testing on larger battery packs
- Incorporating other features
- Building a monitoring system for 18650 battery packs
- Generalize to other battery types
- Build more specific models
  - Clustering around different features

# Citations

- **Data Set Citation:** Fricke, K., Nascimento, R., Corbetta, M., Kulkarni, C., & Viana, F. "Accelerated Battery Life Testing Dataset", NASA Prognostics Data Repository, Probabilistic Mechanics Lab, University of Central Florida, and NASA Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, CA
- **Publication Citation:** Fricke, K., Nascimento, R., Corbetta, M., Kulkarni, C., & Viana, F. (2023). Prognosis of Li-ion Batteries Under Large Load Variations Using Hybrid Physics-Informed Neural Networks. Annual Conference of the PHM Society, 15(1).  
<https://doi.org/10.36001/phmconf.2023.v15i1.3463>

# Questions?

I GET STRESSED OUT WHEN MY  
PHONE BATTERY IS LOW, SO I  
CARRY THIS BACKUP BATTERY.  
BUT THEN I WORRY ABOUT THE  
BACKUP RUNNING LOW, SO I  
CARRY THIS SECOND BACKUP.  
THEN I WORRY—



MY BAG IS 90% BACKUP BATTERIES.

