

# Power Module Health monitoring in EV traction inverters

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# Motivation about Lifetime Prediction Functionality (LPF)

Potential future EV traction inverter functionality

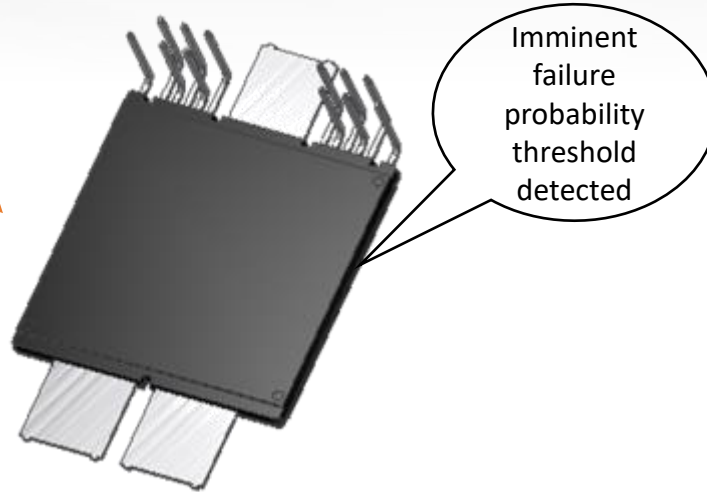
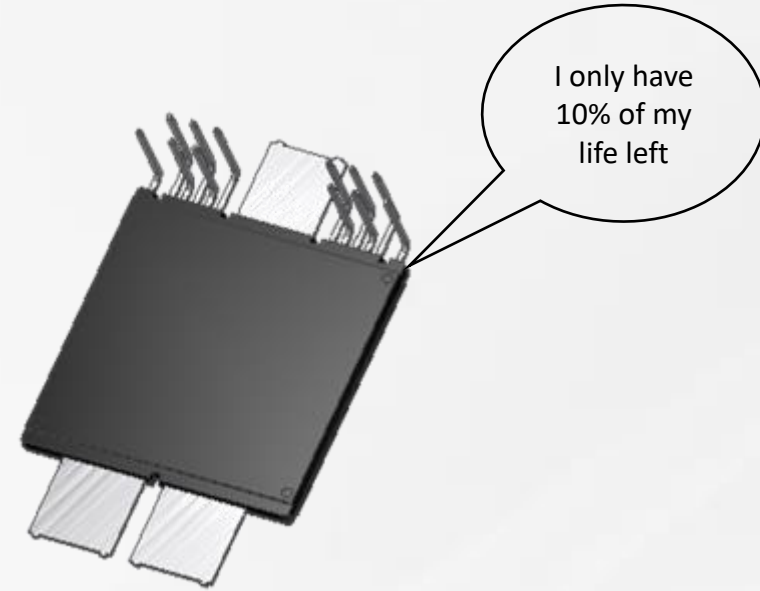
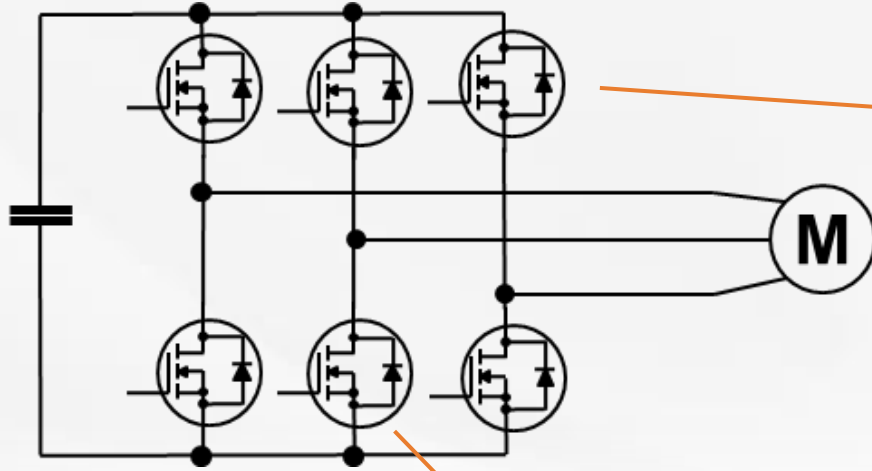
-> On the way from invention to innovation

EV market is looking for low/mid cost EVs to address broad market

- LPF helps to lower (SiC) BOM cost
- Maintenance can be scheduled proactively
  - Predictive maintenance
- Reducing unexpected downtimes
  - Early detection of potential failures
  - Preventing catastrophic failures
- Enhanced reliability and safety
- Brings cost savings over the vehicle's lifespan

# Lifetime Prediction Functionality (LPF)

Traction EV inverter simplified view



# Lifetime Prediction – Failure location/cause/indicator

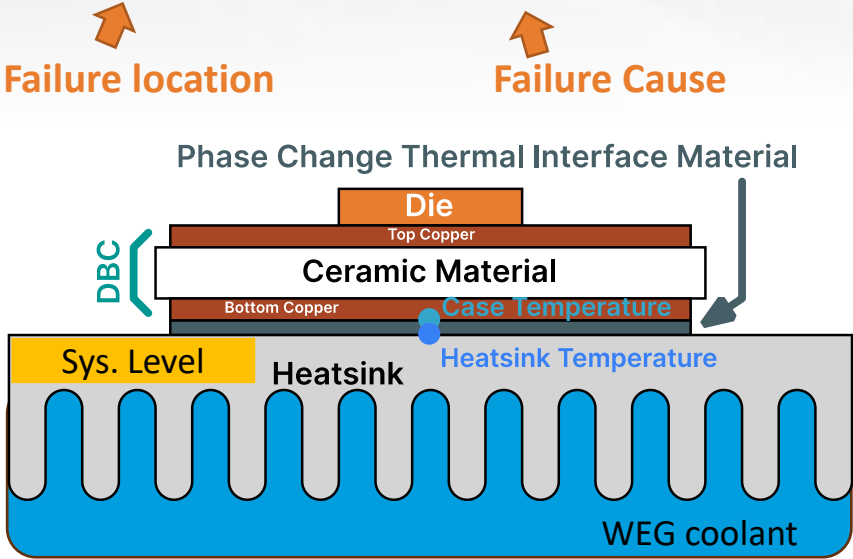
| Component Level  |                                       | FAILURE LOCATIONS, CAUSES, AND INDICATORS OF SiC MOSFETs              |  |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| Failure location | Failure Cause                         | Failure Indicator   |  |
| Gate oxide       | High electric field, high temperature | Gate leakage current $I_{gss}$ [63], [75]                             |  |
|                  |                                       | Threshold voltage shift $\Delta V_{th}$ [44], [69]–[71], [114], [115] |  |
|                  |                                       | Drain leakage current $I_{dss}$ [114], [116]                          |  |
|                  |                                       | Miller Plateau $V_{gs\_mp}$ [64]                                      |  |
| Body diode       | Forward bias [57], [58], [82]         | Drain leakage current $I_{dss}$ [59]                                  |  |
|                  |                                       | Body diode forward voltage $V_F$ [81]                                 |  |
| Bond wires       | Thermo-mechanical stresses            | On-state drain-source voltage $V_{ds\_on}$ [103]                      |  |
|                  |                                       | Drain-source on-state resistance $R_{ds\_on}$ [104]                   |  |
|                  |                                       | Voltage between Kelvin, power sources [105]                           |  |
|                  |                                       | Bond wire resistance [87]   |  |
| Solder layers    |                                       | Thermal resistance $R_{th\_jc}$ [112]                                 |  |
|                  |                                       | Solder layer resistance [106]   |  |

Accelerated Lifetime test



COMPARISON OF DIFFERENT ALTs

| Test | Test condition  |                  | Test location   | Failure indicator     |
|------|---|------------------|---|-----------------------|
| HTGB | $V_{gs}$ stressed to maximum voltage at maximum $T_j$             |                  | Gate oxide  | $I_{gss}$<br>$V_{th}$ |
| HTRB | $V_{ds}$ reversely biased to the maximum voltage at maximum $T_j$ |                  | Edge channel structure and solid-state junction surface | $I_{dss}$             |
| PC   | The device is heated and cooled by pulses                         |                  | Bond wire   | $V_{ds\_on} / V_F$    |
|      |   |                  |   | $V_{th}$              |
|      |   |                  |   | $R_{ds\_on}$          |
|      |   |                  |   | $I_{gss}$             |
| TC   | External heat and cooling   | Short cycle time | Solder joint, bond wire                                 | $C_{ds}$              |
|      |   | Long cycle time  | Interface between DCB and baseplate                     | $R_{th\_jc}$          |



Real application with Thermal stack up WEG coolant

Source IEEE: Z. Ni, et al.: Overview of Real-Time Lifetime Prediction and Extension for SiC Power Converters  
<https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/stamp/stamp.jsp?tp=&arnumber=8944162>



# Component-Level Lifetime Models

TABLE IV  
SUMMARY OF SiC MOSFET COMPONENT-LEVEL LIFETIME MODELS  
**Coffin-Manson do not cover gate oxide breakdown**

| Model Categories          | Failure Modes                           | Model Descriptions                                      | Features   |
|---------------------------|---|---|--|
| Physics of failure models | Gate oxide breakdown                    | Stressed and normal voltage based                       | Suitable for long-term damage behavior prediction  |
|                           |   | Weibull-Arrhenius exponential model and its derivatives | Capable of modeling temperature stress   |
|                           | Bond wire fracture                      | Schafft Model   | Capable of modeling wire bending stress  |
|                           | Bond wire lift-off                      | Coffin-Manson model                                     | Fails to consider the impact of $T_{j\_mean}$  |
|                           |   | Coffin-Manson model by Arrhenius approach               | Shows SiC MOSFETs achieve more cycles to failure than Si IGBTs, especially at low $\Delta T_j$     |
|                           |   | Bayerer model   | Includes power-on time $t_{on}$ , current $I_w$ , blocking voltage $V_B$ , and wire diameter $D_w$ |
|                           |   | Plastic strain based Coffin-Manson model                | Capable of modeling CTE mismatch between the bond wire copper and SiC                              |
|                           | Solder fatigue                          | Coffin-Manson model by Arrhenius approach               | Capable of including the impact of $T_{j\_mean}$   |
|                           |   | Plastic strain based Coffin-Manson model                | Capable of modeling CTE mismatch between the DCB-die solder attach and SiC                         |
|                           |   | Norris-Landzberg model                                  | Considers TC frequency and maximum temperature   |
|                           |   | Creep strain energy                                     | Shows exponential relationship between lifetime and creep strain energy in a cycle                 |
|                           | Failure modes indicated by $R_{dx\_on}$ | Exponential function for $R_{dx\_on}$                   | Covers more than one failure mode  |

# Lifetime prediction models

- Analytical-based
  - predicts lifetime based on equations describing the system
- Data-driven
  - predicts using a historical database of measured devices
- Hybrid models
  - combine different models

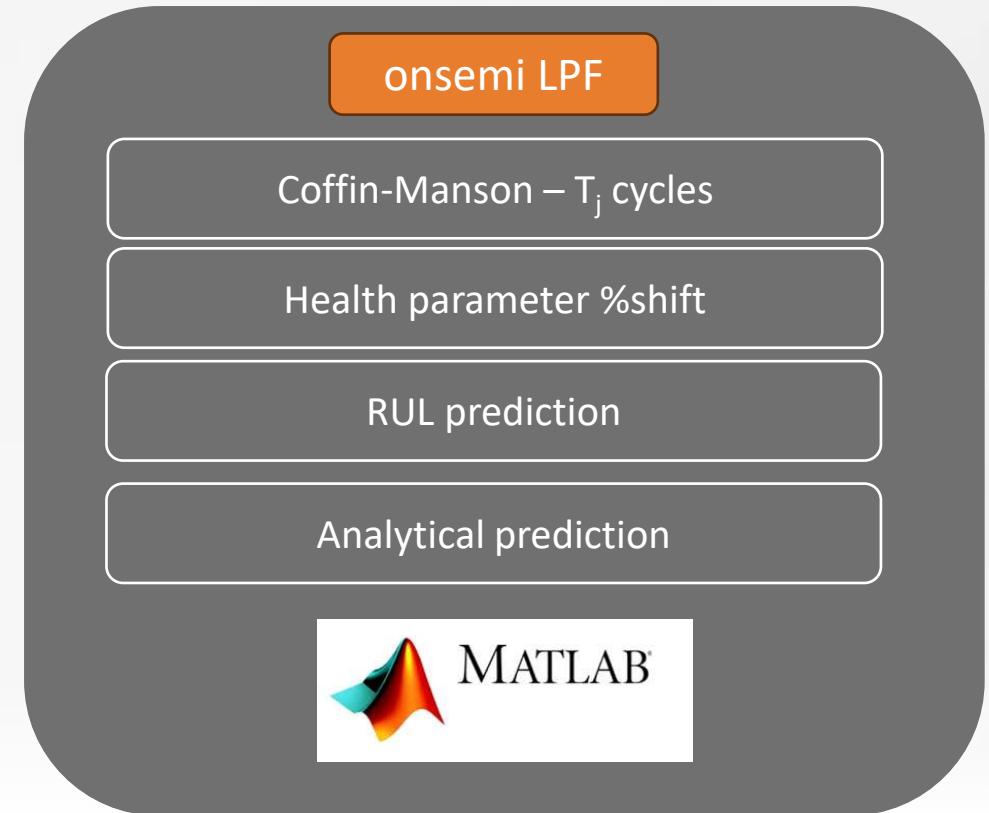
## onsemi Lifetime Prediction functionality

- Coffin Manson model

$$N_f = K * \Delta T^{-\beta_1} * e^{\beta_2 / (273 + T_{j,max})} * t_{on}^{-\beta_3}$$

$$D = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{n_i}{N(\Delta T, T_m)}$$

- Lifetime parameter % shift from initial value
  - $R_{th}$  – 20% threshold
  - $R_{ds-on}$  – 5% threshold
- Remaining Useful Lifetime (RUL) prediction
  - Training on collected data till failure
- Analytical prediction model
  - Proprietary model



- onsemi LPF training with real data
- Matlab access to database to train model and optimize

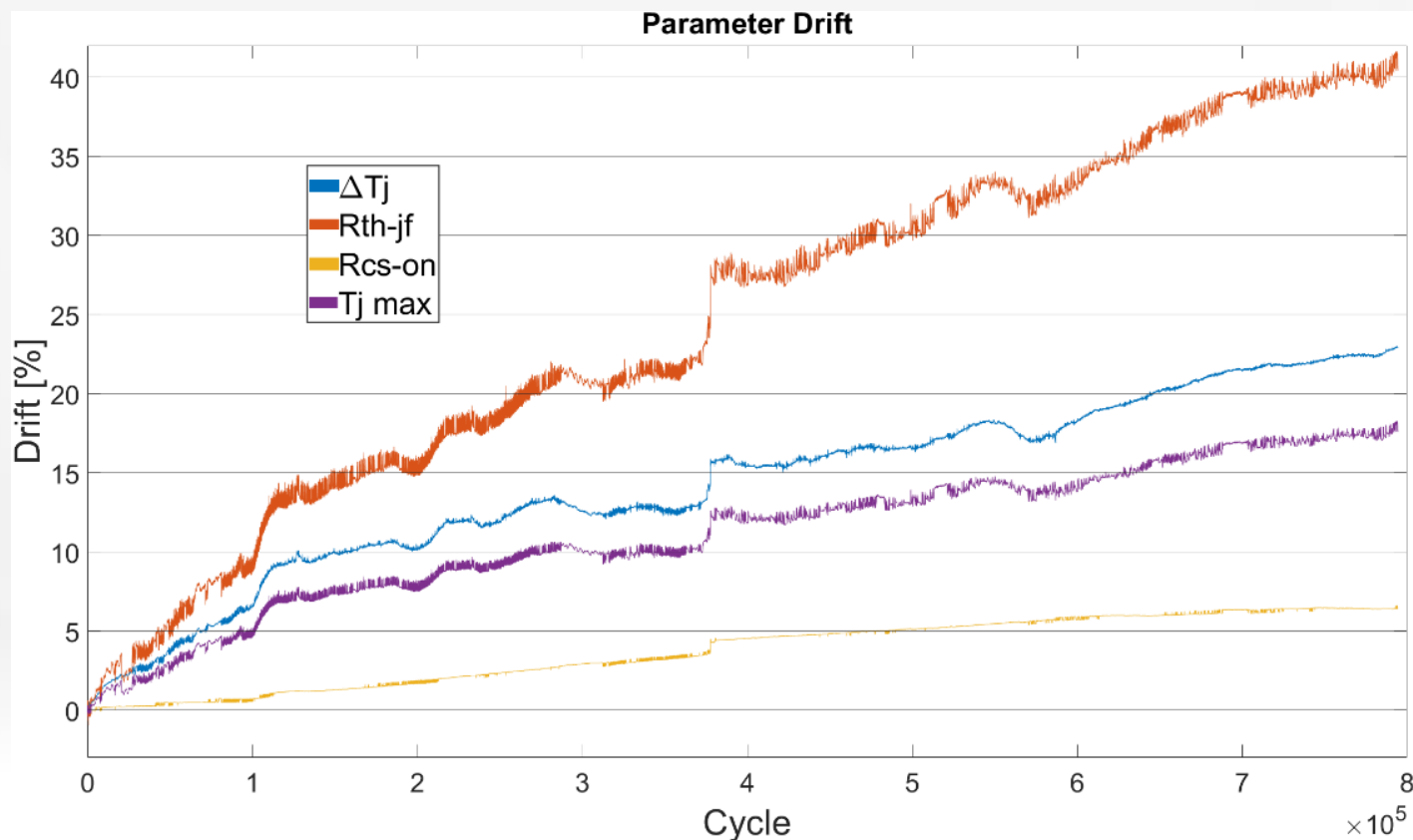
# Methodology and its phases to get data to train LPM model for the end application

Data collection starts at semiconductor manufacturer side, ends at customer side.

- Four phases ensure robustness of LPM model for end application
- Phase 1 and 2 target any packaging-related issues
- Phase 3 and 4 emulates end application use case

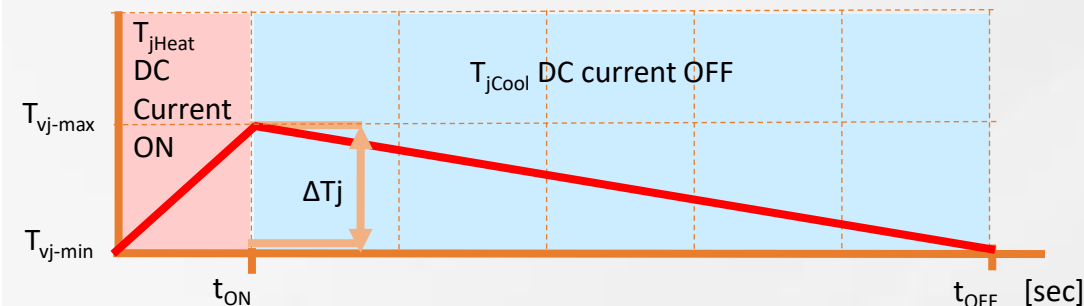
| Phase no. | Test Method                          | LPM model parameters  | Test description, conditions                |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| 1.        | AQG324 Packaging Level Testing       | $V_{th}$ – Gate threshold voltage<br>$T_j$ – Junction temperature<br>$R_{DS-ON}$ – Power switch ON resistance | DC current                                  |
| 2.        | Inverter Mode Inductive Load Testing |   | Inv. Mode – PWM drive, inductive load       |
| 3.        | Motor Emulator Testing               |   | EV motor load, PWM driving, driving profile |
| 4.        | Product Qualification Testing        |   | Product qualification testing               |

# AQG324 Power Cycle test - IGBT data collection example



- MOSFET/IGBT Junction temperature DC current (constant)  $T_j$  cycling – accelerating lifetime usage/package level test
- Collected parameters at AQG324 testing to get data for LPM, IGBT example:  
 $V_{th}$  (not shown),  $V_{ce(sat)}$ ,  $R_{th-jf}$ ,  $T_{j-max}$ ,  $\Delta T_j$

**AQG324 Single  $\Delta T_j$  – Power Cycle**



Coffin Manson –  $T_j$  cycle lifetime consumption

$$N_f = K * \Delta T^{-\beta_1} * e^{\beta_2 / (273 + T_{j,max})} * t_{on}^{-\beta_3}$$

$$D = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{n_i}{N(\Delta T, T_m)}$$

EOL criteria – change from initial value

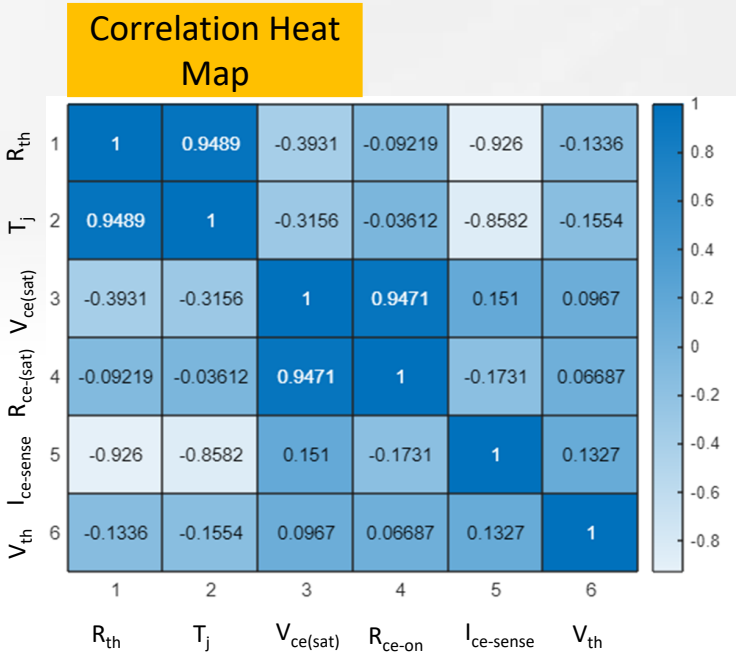
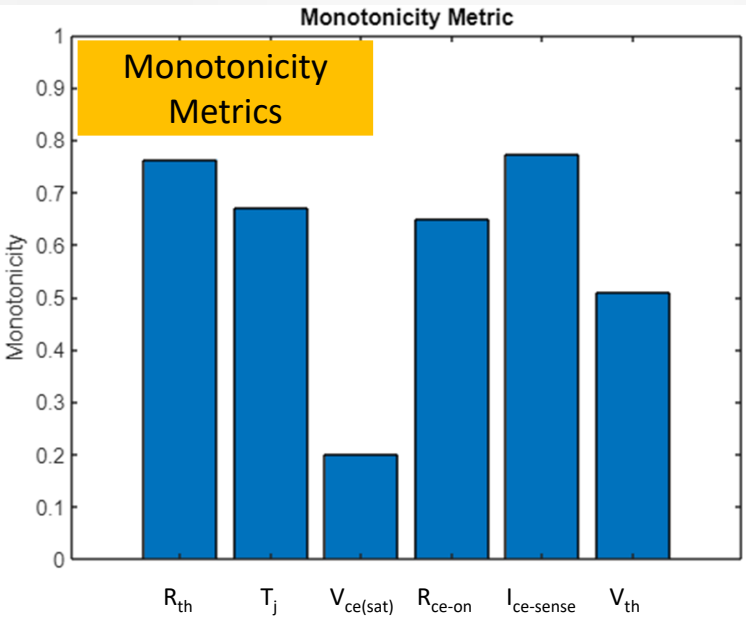
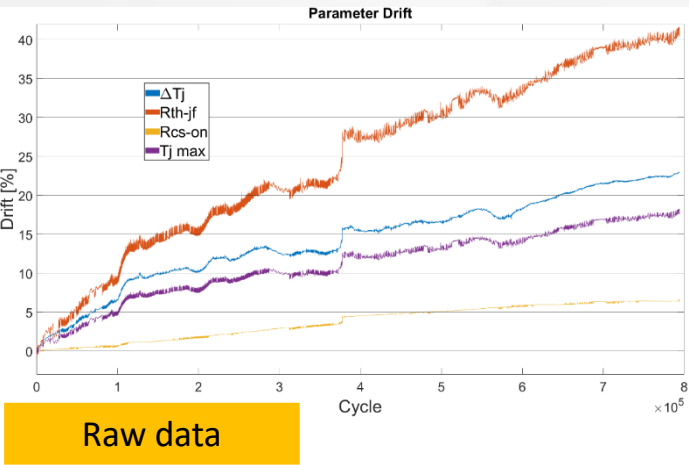
- $V_{ce(sat)}$  (IGBT) or  $V_{DS}$  (SiC Mosfet) -> 5%
- $R_{th-jf}$  -> 20%

-> For our test purpose tested till failure to get data till failure suitable form RUL model training



# Lifetime parameters verification and selection

- 1. Statistical verification of collected data
  - Monotonicity metric (Quantify monotonic trend in condition indicators)
  - Prognosability metric (Measure of variability of condition indicators at failure)
  - Trandability metric (Measure of similarity between trajectories of condition indicators)
- 2. Measured parameters – Correlation heatmap
  - Select not corelated parameters (fewer input parameters for RUL model) –  $T_j$ ,  $V_{th}$ ,  $R_{ds-on}$  (SiC Mosfet),  $V_{ce(sat)}$  (IGBT)
- 3. PCA analysis – Principal component analysis of raw data – get Health Indicator



DUT measured data



Statistical verification  
Mon., Prog., Trand.



Correlation  
Heat Map

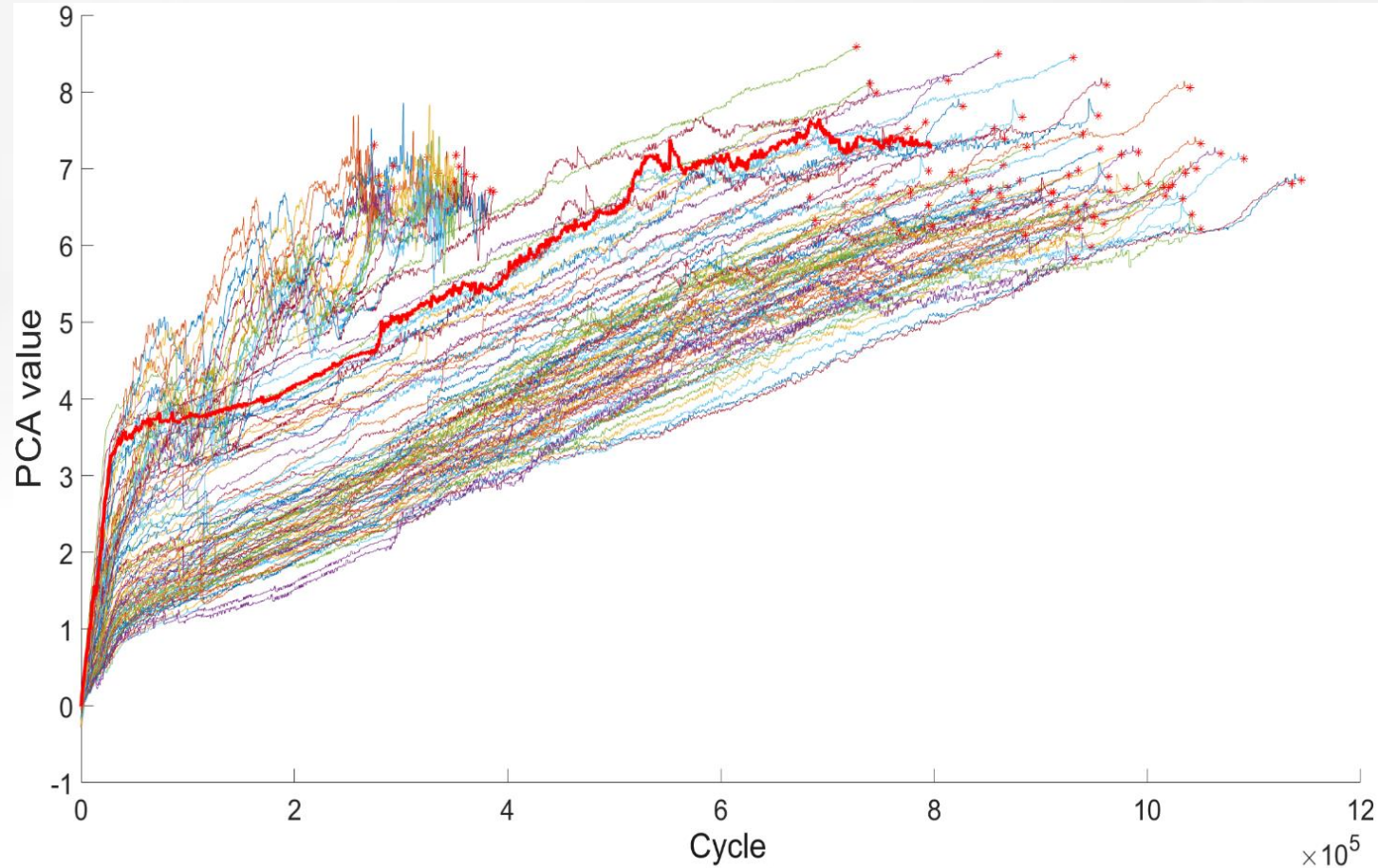


PCA analysis  
(Health indicator)

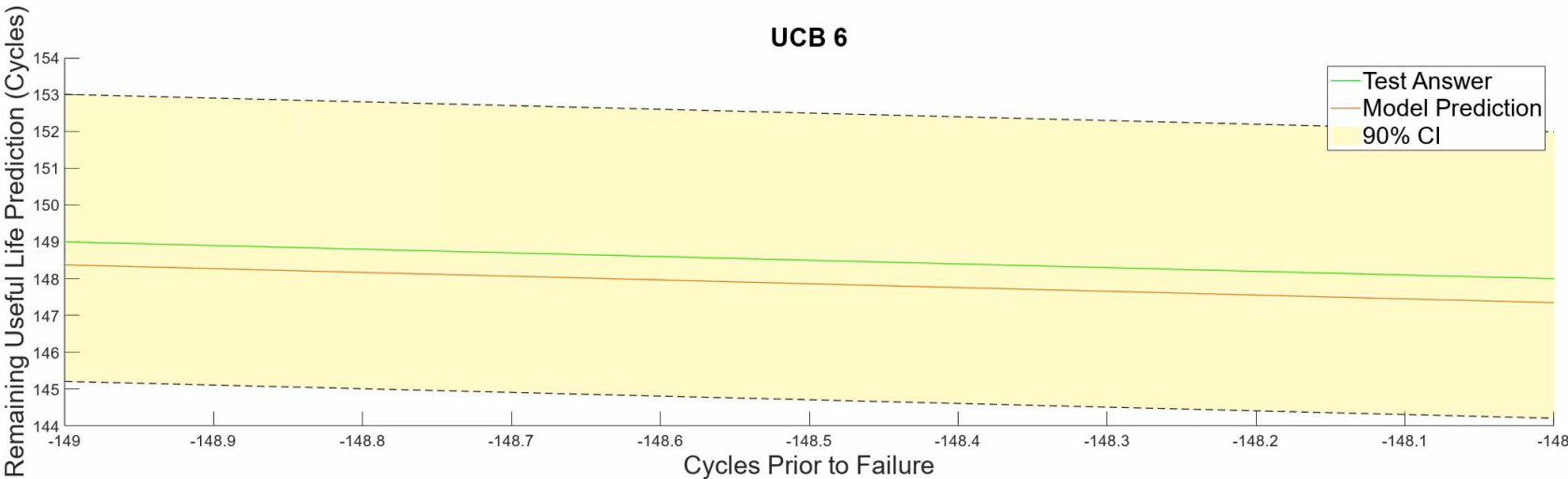
# RUL model selection and testing approach

## Selected data-driven RUL model

- Selection of uncorrelated lifetime parameters
- Monotonicity, Prognosability and Trendability
- Principal Component Analysis (PCA) technique
- **Predictive model: Pairwise Similarity Model**
- RUL model optimization: Matlab Test Automation
- Performance tested with measured data till failure
- Prediction model testing with incomplete data set (e.g. 50%, 70%) of data measured till failure
  - Get RUL model prediction accuracy
  - Quantify prediction accuracy



# RUL model remaining cycles prediction - test example



**Test Answer**

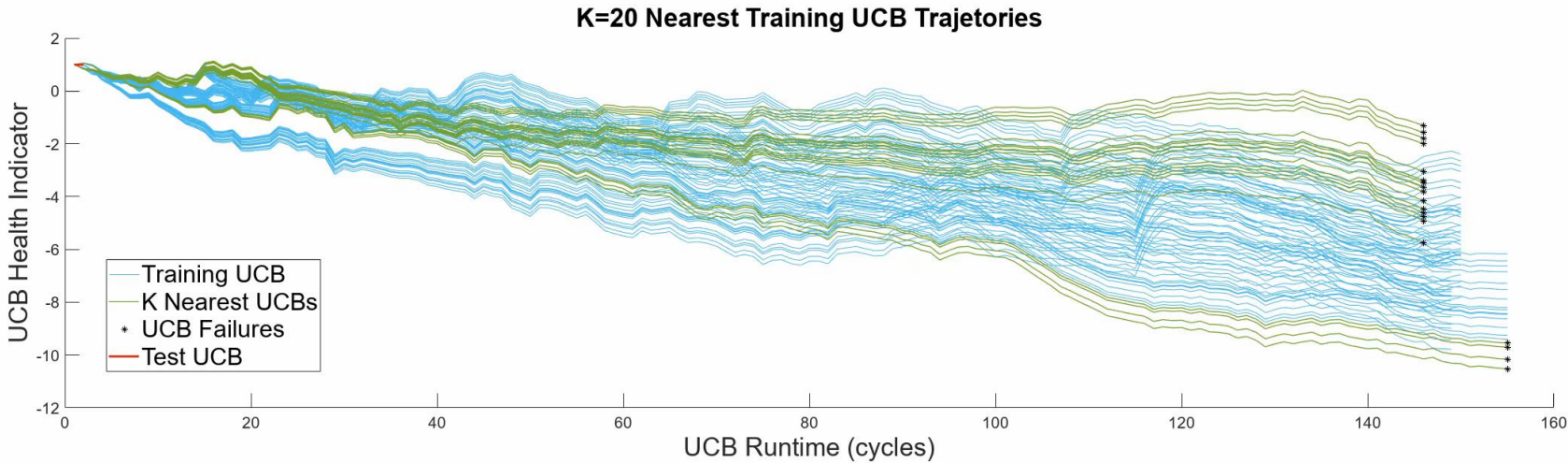
- Training data – database
- Known RUL trajectory

**Model prediction**

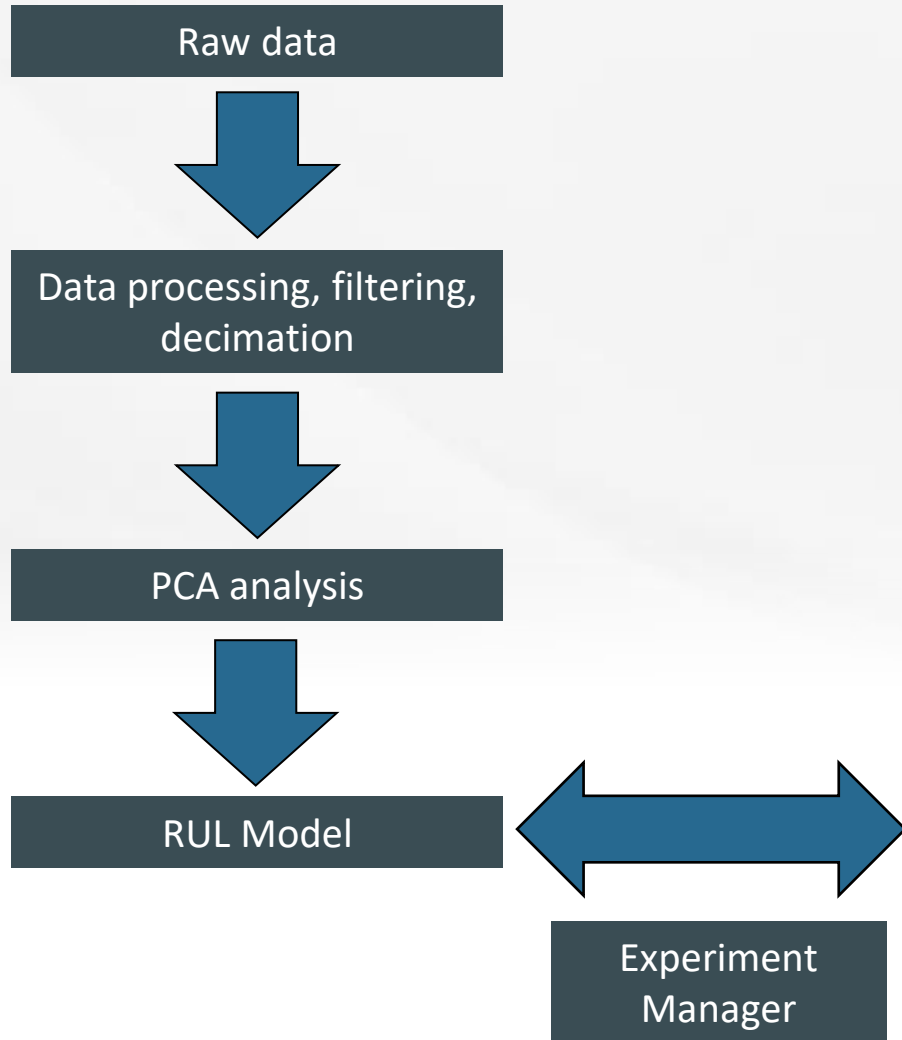
- Predicted Remaining Cycles
- RUL Prediction

**90% Confidence interval**

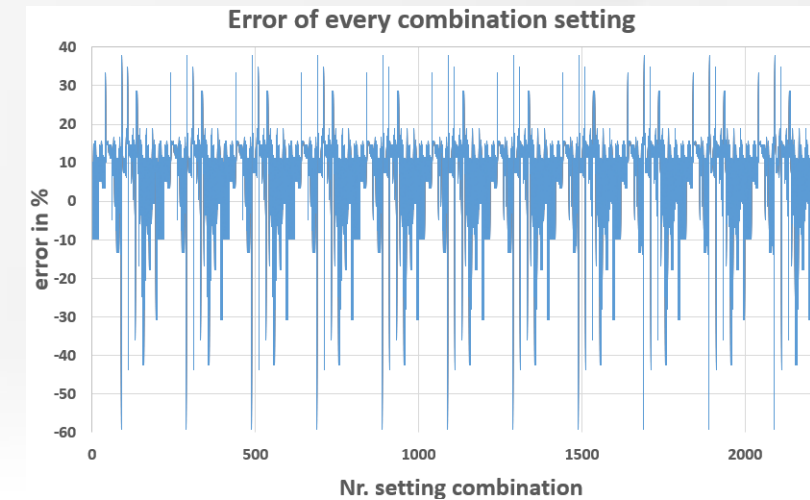
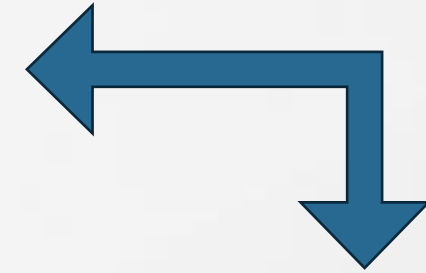
- Confidence interval



# Automatic optimization of RUL model settings



| Trial | Method      | Neighbor | History | Range | estRUL_output |
|-------|-------------|----------|---------|-------|---------------|
| 1     | correlation | 10       | 10      | 0     | 272004        |
| 2     | dtw         | 10       | 10      | 0     | 307829        |
| 3     | correlation | 20       | 10      | 0     | 272004        |
| 4     | dtw         | 20       | 10      | 0     | 327268        |
|       |             |          |         |       |               |
| 21    | correlation | 10       | 20      | 0     | 409805        |
| 22    | dtw         | 10       | 20      | 0     | 307747        |
| 23    | correlation | 20       | 20      | 0     | 409805        |
| 24    | dtw         | 20       | 20      | 0     | 327224        |
|       |             |          |         |       |               |
| 41    | correlation | 10       | 30      | 0     | 418288        |
| 42    | dtw         | 10       | 30      | 0     | 307612        |
| 43    | correlation | 20       | 30      | 0     | 418288        |
| 44    | dtw         | 20       | 30      | 0     | 327147        |
|       |             |          |         |       |               |
| 201   | correlation | 10       | 10      | 0.1   | 272004        |
| 202   | dtw         | 10       | 10      | 0.1   | 307829        |
| 203   | correlation | 20       | 10      | 0.1   | 272004        |
| 204   | dtw         | 20       | 10      | 0.1   | 327268        |
|       |             |          |         |       |               |
| 221   | correlation | 10       | 20      | 0.1   | 409805        |
| 222   | dtw         | 10       | 20      | 0.1   | 307747        |
| 223   | correlation | 20       | 20      | 0.1   | 409805        |
| 224   | dtw         | 20       | 20      | 0.1   | 327224        |
|       |             |          |         |       |               |
| 601   | correlation | 10       | 10      | 0.3   | 272004        |
| 602   | dtw         | 10       | 10      | 0.3   | 307829        |
| 603   | correlation | 20       | 10      | 0.3   | 272004        |
| 604   | dtw         | 20       | 10      | 0.3   | 327268        |
|       |             |          |         |       |               |
| 2197  | correlation | 90       | 100     | 1     | 391149        |
| 2198  | dtw         | 90       | 100     | 1     | 381669        |
| 2199  | correlation | 100      | 100     | 1     | 391149        |
| 2200  | dtw         | 100      | 100     | 1     | 381669        |



Experiment Manager:  
automatic test to optimize RUL  
model settings for available database  
to get best prediction accuracy.  
See Trials column – no. of tests

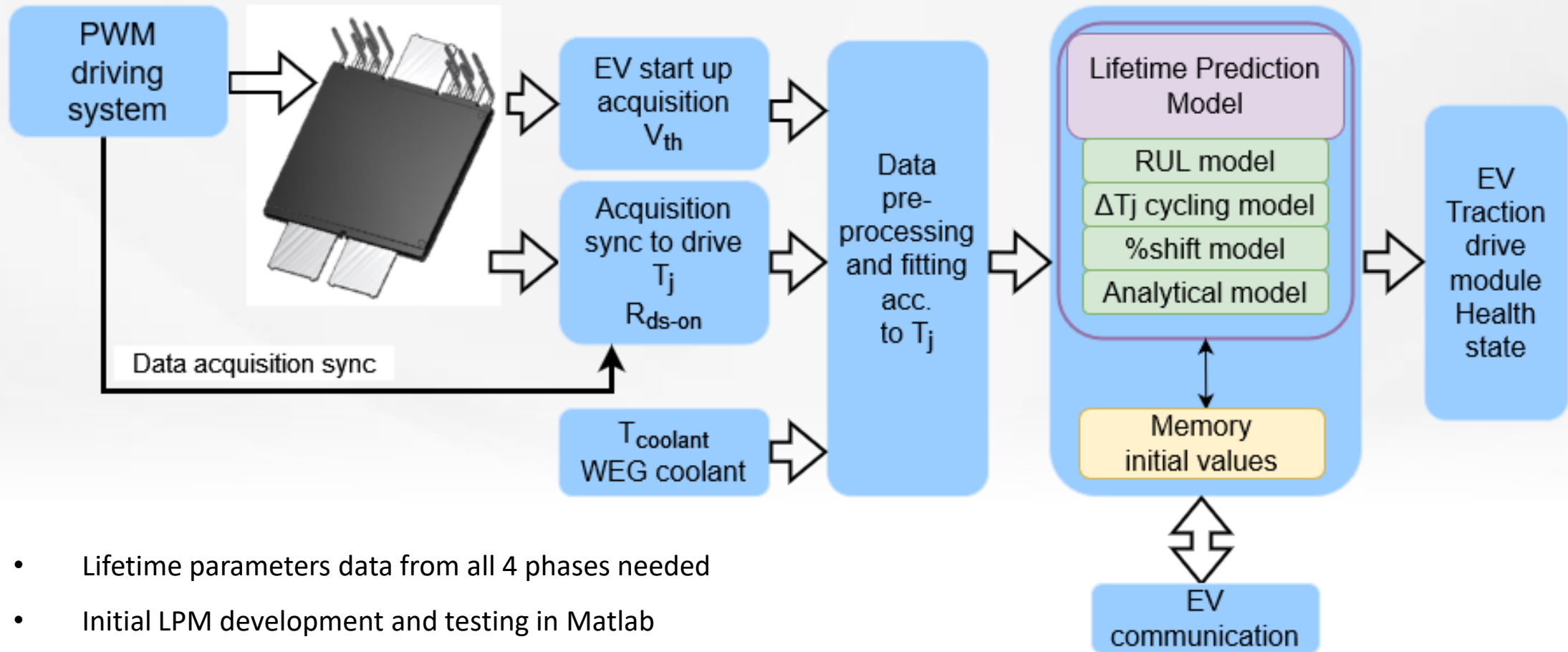
# RUL model settings results

| DUT 50% | Trial | Method      | Distance  | Neighbor | History | Estimated RUL | Real remaining RUL | Percentage error |
|---------|-------|-------------|-----------|----------|---------|---------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 6       | 81    | correlation | euclidean | 10       | 50      | 429614        | 431661             | -0.474           |
|         | 101   | correlation | euclidean | 10       | 60      | 431387        | 431661             | -0.063           |
|         | 129   | correlation | euclidean | 50       | 70      | 426633        | 431661             | -1.165           |
|         | 131   | correlation | euclidean | 60       | 70      | 428761        | 431661             | -0.672           |
|         | 183   | correlation | euclidean | 20       | 100     | 426229        | 431661             | -1.258           |
| 11      | 81    | correlation | euclidean | 10       | 50      | 436909        | 442767             | -1.323           |
|         | 151   | correlation | euclidean | 60       | 80      | 437532        | 442767             | -1.182           |
|         | 163   | correlation | euclidean | 20       | 90      | 439208        | 442767             | -0.804           |
|         | 165   | correlation | euclidean | 30       | 90      | 439289        | 442767             | -0.785           |
|         | 167   | correlation | euclidean | 40       | 90      | 436452        | 442767             | -1.426           |
|         | 169   | correlation | euclidean | 50       | 90      | 439667        | 442767             | -0.700           |
| DUT 70% | Trial | Method      | Distance  | Neighbor | History | Estimated RUL | Real remaining RUL | Percentage error |
| 1       | 101   | correlation | euclidean | 10       | 60      | 286194        | 289530             | -1.152           |
| 6       | 88    | dtw         | euclidean | 40       | 50      | 258487        | 258997             | -0.197           |
| 6       | 188   | dtw         | euclidean | 40       | 100     | 258550        | 258997             | -0.173           |
| 11      | 189   | correlation | euclidean | 50       | 100     | 265569        | 265660             | -0.034           |
| DUT 90% | Trial | Method      | Distance  | Neighbor | History | Estimated RUL | Real remaining RUL | Percentage error |
| 1       | 65    | correlation | euclidean | 30       | 40      | 93148         | 96510              | -3.484           |
| 6       | 81    | correlation | euclidean | 10       | 50      | 85552         | 86332              | -0.903           |
| 11      | 171   | correlation | euclidean | 60       | 90      | 87834         | 88553              | -0.812           |
|         | 173   | correlation | euclidean | 70       | 90      | 87535         | 88553              | -1.150           |
|         | 175   | correlation | euclidean | 80       | 90      | 87535         | 88553              | -1.150           |
|         | 177   | correlation | euclidean | 90       | 90      | 87535         | 88553              | -1.150           |
|         | 179   | correlation | euclidean | 100      | 90      | 87535         | 88553              | -1.150           |

- Tested various levels of traction inverter module usage – 50%, 70%, 90%
- Real remaining RUL – real no. of  $T_j$  cycles from tested data till failure
- Estimated RUL – number of  $T_j$  cycles till failure estimated by optimized RUL model



# Proposed - LPM Implementation in Traction Inverter



- Lifetime parameters data from all 4 phases needed
- Initial LPM development and testing in Matlab
  - Linked to Lifetime parameters database
- LPM to consists of 4 different models
- LPM model code to C or HDL

# Conclusion

- Key lifetime prediction parameters presented
  - $V_{th}$ ,  $T_j$ ,  $R_{DS-ON}$
- Presented lifetime parameters selection and RUL model testing
- LPM requires combination of various prediction models
  - $T_j$  cycle based, % shift, RUL model and analytical model
- Robust LPM requires lifetime prediction parameters data collection starting at semiconductor manufacturer side and finishing at customer (application side)

