

# **Assessment Multivariate Time-Series Prediction Using Deep Learning**

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# Introduction

This project addresses the critical challenge of predicting appliance energy consumption using multivariate time-series data and deep learning techniques. The assessment focuses on developing a comprehensive predictive model using the Appliance Energy Prediction Dataset, which contains approximately 20,000 observations recorded at 10-minute intervals. The dataset includes environmental features (indoor/outdoor temperature and humidity), weather conditions, and temporal indicators to predict energy consumption patterns. The solution implements a systematic machine learning pipeline encompassing exploratory data analysis, data preprocessing, feature engineering, and deep learning model development using LSTM neural networks. The project demonstrates proficiency in time-series forecasting, advanced feature engineering techniques, and model optimization to achieve accurate energy consumption predictions for smart building management applications. (Tzelepi, 2023) (geeksforgeeks, 2024)

## EDA Analysis

### 1.Time-Based Pattern Analysis

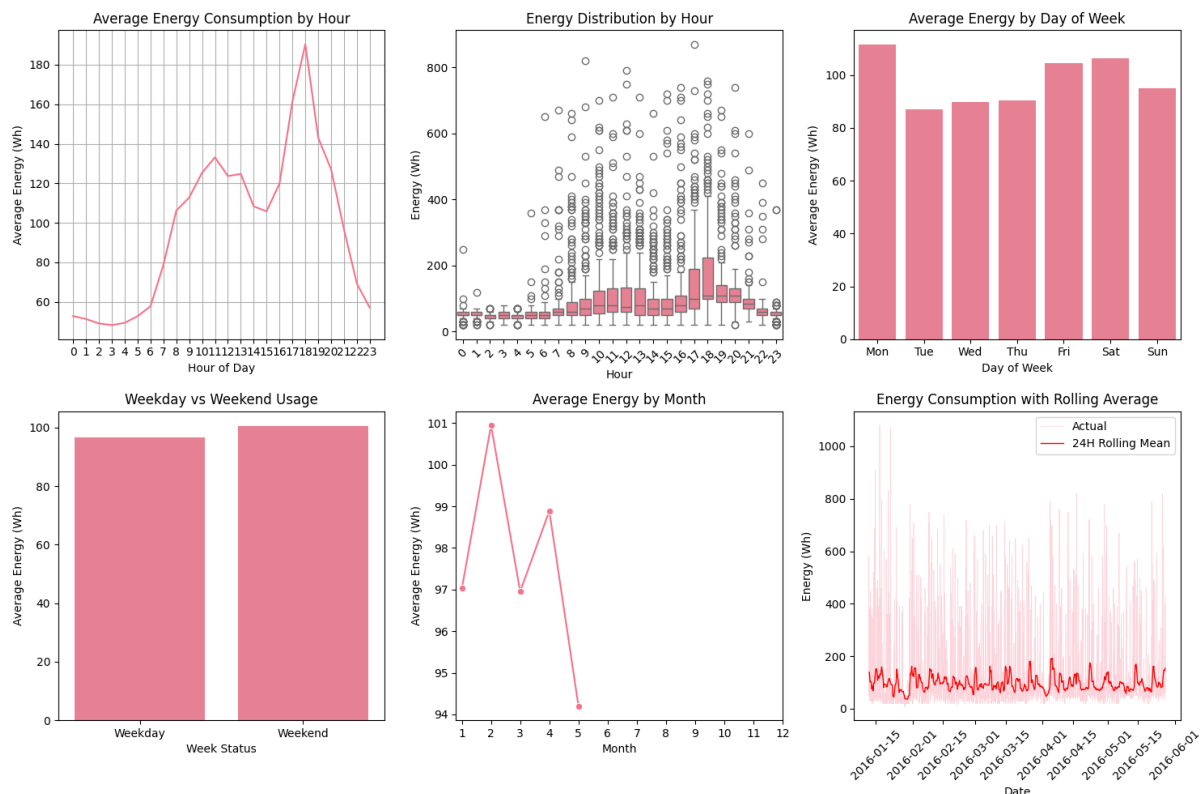


Figure 1

- Energy consumption peaks consistently around 6 PM, and is lowest during early morning hours (2–5 AM), indicating daily cyclic behaviour.

- Weekday vs. Weekend consumption shows subtle differences, with weekends slightly higher, possibly due to occupants being home.
- Hourly trends display strong periodicity, as confirmed by rolling average plots.
- These insights suggest that the hour, day of week, is\_weekend, month engineered time features will enhance prediction
- Time-based lags and rolling statistics can also help model short-term dependencies (e.g., past 3-hour average consumption).

## 2. Temperature Analysis

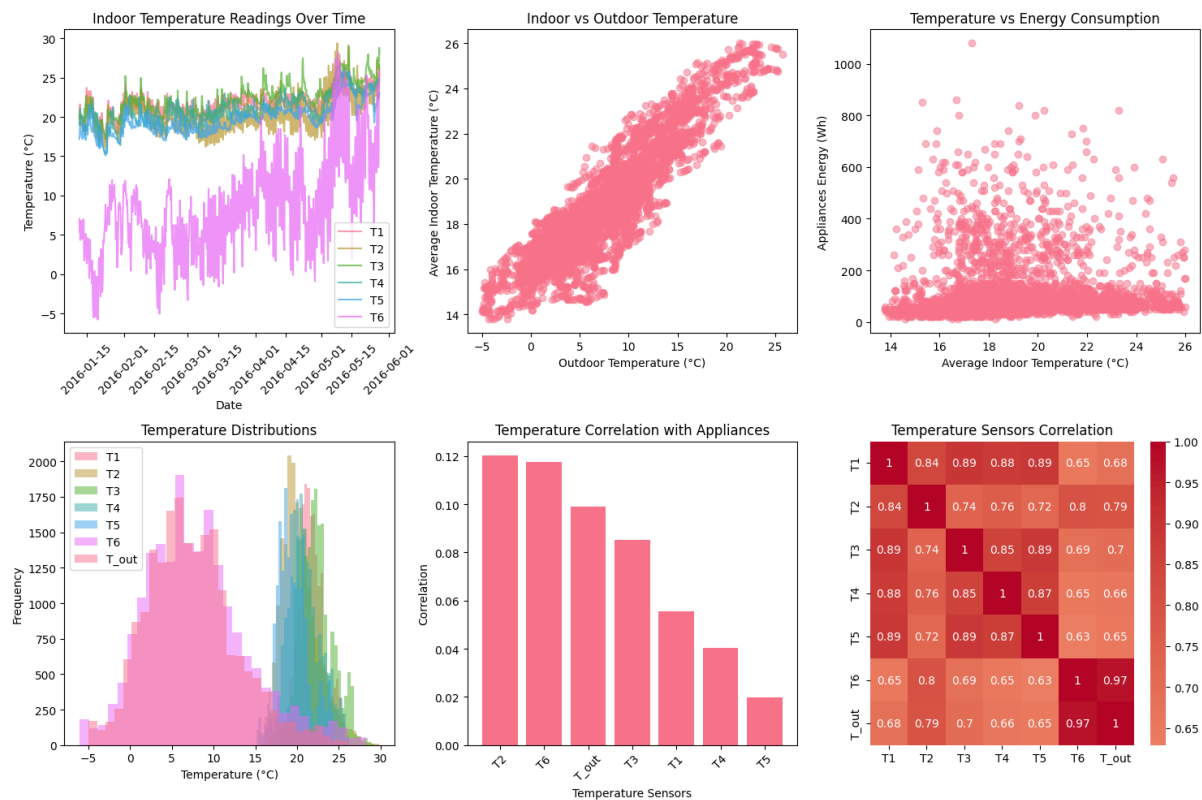


Figure 2

- Among temperature variables, T2 and T6 show the highest correlation with appliance usage, suggesting their importance.
- Outdoor temperature (T\_out) also has moderate influence, aligning with potential HVAC usage patterns.
- Some sensors (T1, T3, T5) are highly correlated, indicating redundancy. Consider dropping or combining these to reduce multicollinearity.
- Suggests that temperature dynamics inside and outside impact appliance usage, particularly heating/cooling loads.

### 3.Humidity Analysis

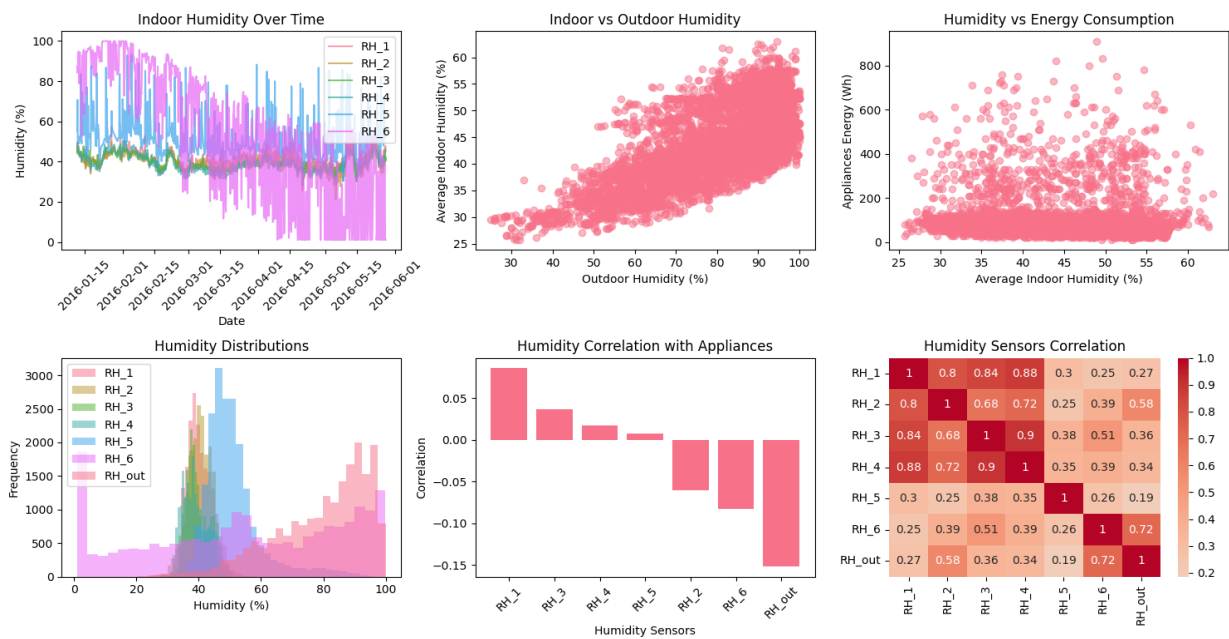


Figure 3

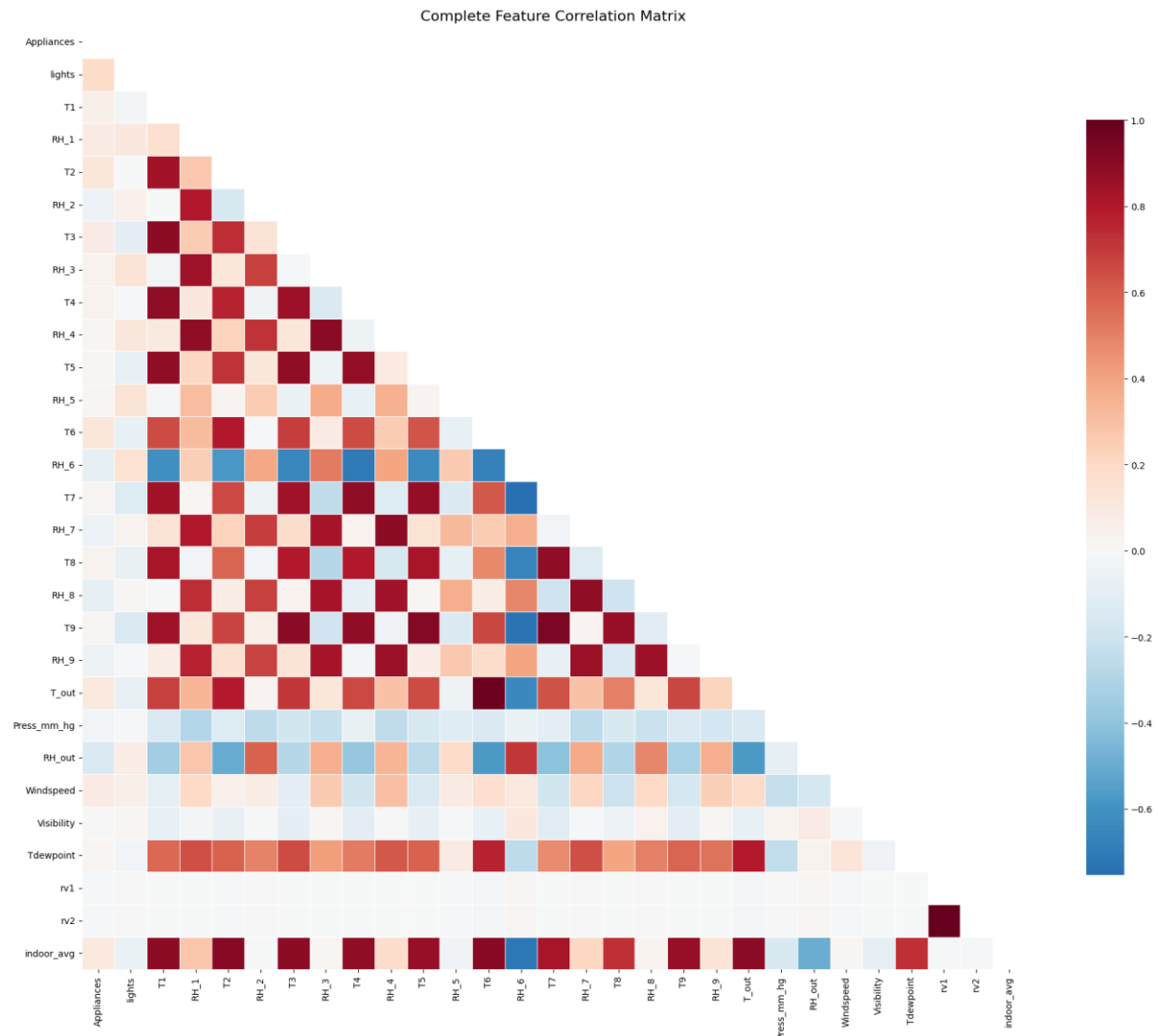


Figure 4

- Most humidity features show weak correlation with energy consumption.
  - Exception: RH\_6 which shows a moderate negative correlation may reflect room specific appliance activity (Figure 4).
- Outdoor humidity is consistently high and negatively correlated with usage.
- Weather features (e.g., windspeed, visibility, pressure) show very weak or no direct relationship with appliance usage.
  - Might be included for completeness but should not be heavily weighted in model training unless advanced modelling finds non-linear effects.

#### 4.Comprehensive Correlation Analysis

- Strong multicollinearity exists among:
  - Temperature sensors: T1–T3–T5, T6–T\_out
  - Humidity sensors: RH\_1–RH\_3–RH\_4
- This could lead to model instability, inflated importance, and overfitting in regression models. (Chandra, 2021)
- Recommended techniques:

- Correlation thresholding (e.g., remove one of any pair with  $|r| > 0.9$ )
- Correlation-Based Feature Selection with Multicollinearity Filtering used dimensionality reduction

## 5.Outlier Detection Analysis

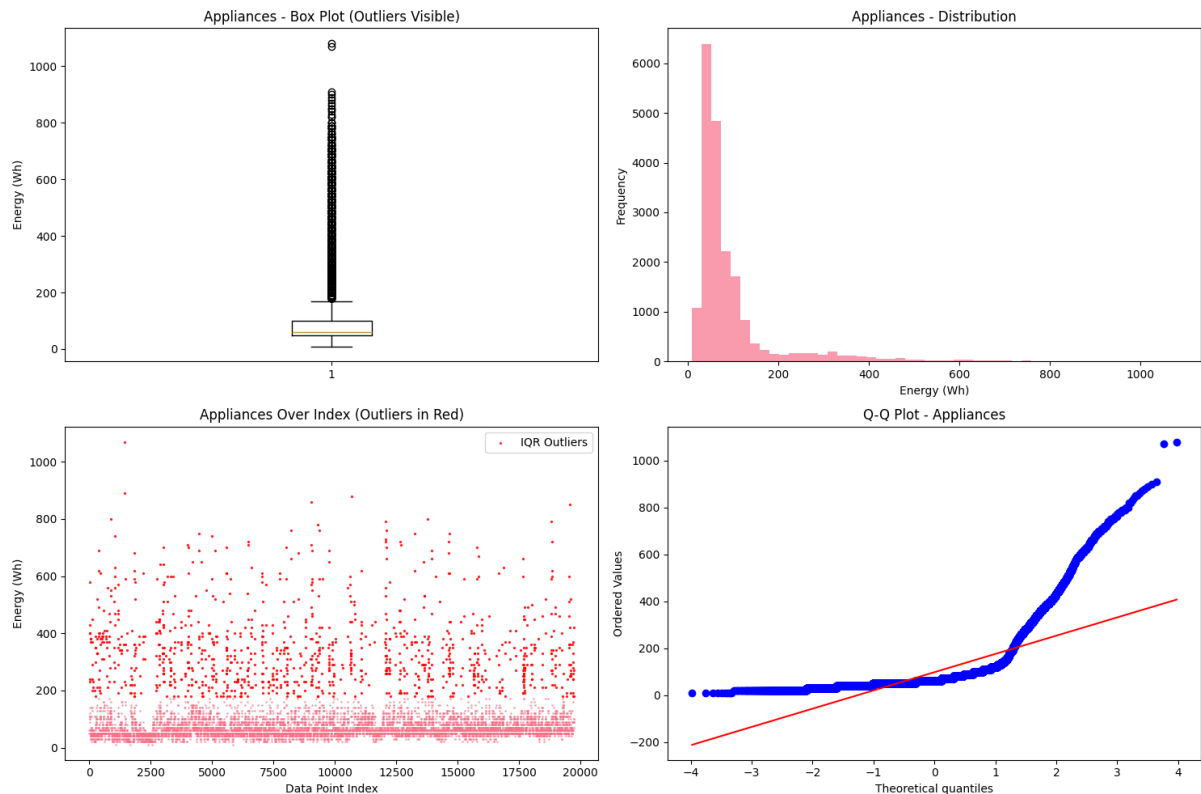


Figure 5

- Energy consumption is right-skewed with many extreme values (as seen in histograms, box plots, and Q-Q plots).
- IQR method found ~11% of data as outliers; Z-score method found ~3%.
- Outliers may be caused by:
  - Sudden heating/cooling demands
  - Appliance malfunctions or simultaneous use of multiple devices
- Why it matters:
  - Outliers can skew model training, especially linear models or MSE-based loss functions.
- Recommended treatment strategies:
  - capping extreme values
  - Log-transformation to reduce skewness
  - Use of robust models (like Random Forest or Huber loss in regression)

## 6.Feature Irrelevance and Noise

- Features rv1 and rv2 show no meaningful correlation with any variable, including the target — likely random noise(Figure 4).
- Removing such features can improve model efficiency and generalization.

# Preprocessing

## 1. Data Cleaning and Preparation

The dataset consisted of 19,735 records collected at 10-minute intervals over a period of 137 days, with no missing values detected. This ensured a solid foundation for consistent and reliable model training.

To enhance predictive performance, several new features were engineered from the datetime column, including:

- hour, minute, day, month, year
- day\_of\_week (0 = Sunday, 6 = Saturday)
- WeekStatus (Weekday or Weekend)
- NSM (Number of Seconds elapsed in a day)

These temporal features are essential for capturing daily and weekly usage patterns of energy.



## 2. Handling of Missing Values

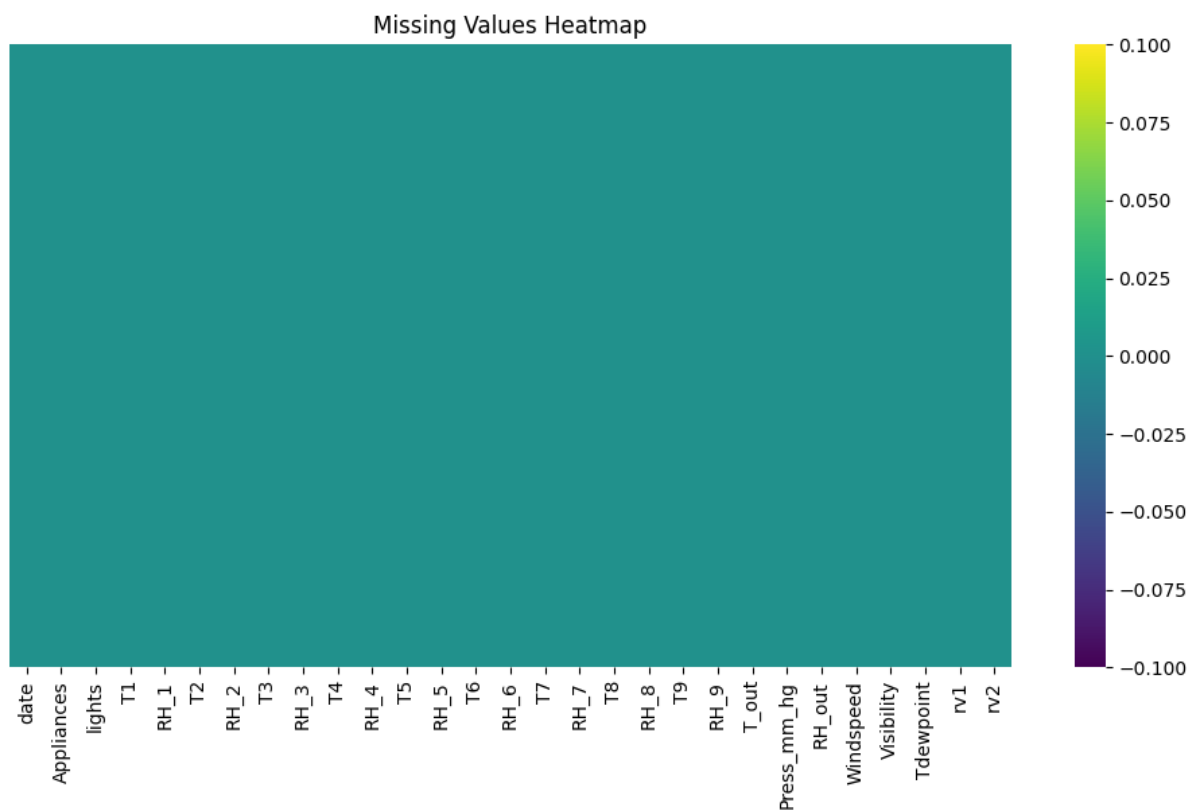


Figure 6

No missing values were found in the dataset, eliminating the need for imputation techniques. All columns were complete and consistent across the dataset.

## 3. Outlier Detection and Treatment

### Outlier Analysis:

Two methods were applied to detect outliers in the target variable:

- IQR method: Detected 2138 outliers (10.83%)
- Z-score method: Detected 648 outliers (3.28%)

Outliers had a significant impact on the distribution and could potentially bias the model.

### Outlier Treatment Strategy;

To address outliers without losing valuable data:

- Capping was applied at the 1st and 99th percentiles of the target variable distribution.

This approach preserved the entire dataset while minimizing the influence of extreme values. Post-treatment, the max value was reduced from 1080 Wh to 576.6 Wh, improving stability during training.

## 4. Data Scaling and Normalization

To prepare the data for neural networks, z-score normalization (StandardScaler) was applied to 27 continuous features, including:

- Temperature features (T1–T9)
- Humidity features (RH\_1–RH\_9)
- Weather indicators (Windspeed, Visibility, Press\_mm\_hg)
- Random variables (rv1, rv2)

Scaling was necessary due to differing units and ranges across features, which could otherwise bias the model.

## 5. Temporal Data Splitting

A chronological split was used to avoid data leakage:

- Training set: 15,788 records  
(2016-01-11 to 2016-04-30)
- Testing set: 3,947 records  
(2016-04-30 to 2016-05-27)

This method ensures that the model generalizes to unseen future data rather than memorizing patterns.

## 6. Preprocessed datasets saved :

- train\_data\_preprocessed.csv
- test\_data\_preprocessed.csv

# Feature Engineering

## 1. Enhanced Time-Based Features

To capture cyclical and behavioural time patterns influencing energy consumption, we engineered 13 new time-based features:

- Cyclical Features: Transformed hour, day, and month into sine and cosine components to represent their periodic nature.
- Time of Day Binning: Segmented the day into Morning, Afternoon, Evening, and Night, followed by one-hot encoding.
- Business Logic Indicators:
  - is\_working\_hours (9 AM–5 PM)
  - is\_peak\_energy\_hour (5 PM–7 PM)
  - weekend\_evening\_flag (Weekends, 6 PM–8 PM)

Justification: These features help the model learn time-based human behaviour, working schedules, and daily routines, which are critical drivers of residential energy consumption.

## 2. Rolling Averages and Moving Windows

We created 25 rolling features based on hourly statistics of energy and environmental variables:

- Rolling Mean/Std/Min/Max for various windows (1h, 3h, 6h, 12h, 24h)
- Applied across energy consumption (Appliances) and external variables (temperature, humidity, etc.)

Justification: These features smooth noise, reveal temporal consumption trends, and capture fluctuation levels, improving temporal pattern recognition in the model.

## 3. Autocorrelation Analysis and Lag Feature Selection

A detailed autocorrelation analysis on Appliances energy data revealed 129 significant lags, with the top 20 lags ranging from 10 minutes to 3 hours and 20 minutes showing correlations  $\geq 0.35$ .

Strong autocorrelations indicate that recent energy usage significantly influences current consumption. This insight guided lag-based feature engineering.

## 4. Lagged and Derived Features

We constructed 21 lag and derived features:

- Lag Features: Appliances\_lag\_1 to Appliances\_lag\_15
- Difference Features: Changes over key time windows (diff\_1, diff\_6, diff\_144)
- Ratio Features: Normalized energy shifts (ratio\_1h, ratio\_24h)

Justification: These features capture temporal dependencies, short-term trends, and energy usage volatility, supporting better forecasting.

## 5. Interaction Features Engineering

A total of 11 interaction features were created to capture cross-variable relationships:

- temp\_humidity\_T1\_RH1 – Proxy for room1 (living room) thermal comfort
- temp\_humidity\_T2\_RH2 – Proxy for room2 (kitchen) thermal comfort
- temp\_humidity\_T3\_RH3 – Proxy for room3 (laundry room) thermal comfort
- temp\_humidity\_T4\_RH4 – Proxy for room4 (office room) thermal comfort
- temp\_humidity\_T7\_RH7 – Proxy for room5 (ironing room) thermal comfort
- temp\_humidity\_T9\_RH9 – Proxy for room6 (parent room) thermal comfort
- outdoor\_discomfort – Proxy for outdoor weather discomfort
- avg\_indoor\_temp – Mean of all indoor temperatures
- avg\_indoor\_humidity – Mean of all indoor relative humidities

- temp\_diff\_indoor\_outdoor – Difference between average indoor temperature and outdoor temperature
- humidity\_diff\_indoor\_outdoor – Difference between average indoor humidity and outdoor humidity
- lights\_work\_hour – Light usage during typical working hours (8 AM – 5 PM)
- lights\_peak\_hour – Light usage during energy peak hours (6 PM – 10 PM)
- weather\_discomfort – Composite index of outdoor temperature, humidity, and visibility
- month\_temp\_interaction – Interaction between month (cyclical encoding) and outdoor temperature
- temp\_efficiency – Ratio of average indoor temperature to appliance energy usage

Justification: These interactions reveal hidden patterns and dependencies that individual variables alone may not capture, such as temperature-humidity synergy or seasonal behavioural effects.

## 6. Domain-Specific Energy Features

Incorporating 13 domain-informed features helped improve the model's contextual awareness by embedding real-world energy usage patterns and seasonality. Here's a breakdown of the categories

### *Load Categories*

These categorize the appliance energy consumption into discrete levels based on thresholds (e.g., quartiles or domain-specific cutoffs):

- load\_Low – Binary flag indicating energy usage is below a defined low threshold.
- load\_Medium – Indicates medium-range energy consumption.
- load\_High – Indicates high energy usage periods.
- load\_Very\_High – Flags very high energy draw situations (e.g., multiple appliances running).

Purpose: Helps the model differentiate energy usage patterns during normal vs. peak operations.

### *HVAC Demand*

Derived based on indoor and outdoor temperature differences:

- heating\_demand – Estimated heating need (e.g., when indoor temp < set threshold and outdoor temp is low).
- cooling\_demand – Estimated cooling need (e.g., when indoor temp > comfortable threshold and outdoor temp is high).

Purpose: Captures HVAC-related energy behavior, which can be a major load factor.

### *Energy Behavior Metrics*

These features break down energy usage dynamics:

- `base_load` – Minimum appliance load over a time window (e.g., night usage), indicating always-on devices.
- `variable_load` – Difference between max and min usage, reflecting dynamic device behavior.
- `energy_momentum` – Short-term trend of energy usage (e.g., rolling mean or gradient).
- `is_standby_power` – Flag for low, non-zero usage possibly due to standby devices.

Purpose: Highlights predictable vs. fluctuating energy patterns.

### *Seasonal Flags*

Capture the effect of climate and seasonality:

- `is_winter_months` – Flag for winter months (e.g., Nov–Feb), where heating needs may be higher.
- `is_summer_months` – Flag for summer months (e.g., May–Aug), associated with cooling demand.

Purpose: Embeds seasonal behavior patterns into the model.

### *Efficiency Measure*

- `appliance_efficiency` – Ratio of actual energy usage to expected usage based on external and internal conditions (e.g., weather, occupancy).

Purpose: Identifies whether current energy use is efficient compared to norm or if anomalies exist.

## 7. Feature Selection via Correlation Analysis

- Initial Features: 118
- After Filtering (correlation  $\geq 0.01$ ): 103
- Top Correlated Features (with target Appliances):
  - `variable_load` (0.997)
  - `load_Very_High` (0.883)
  - `Appliances_lag_1` (0.768)
  - `Appliances_rolling_max_1h` (0.761)
- Multicollinearity Check: 11 pairs found
- Final Features Selected: 93

Justification: Correlation filtering ensured that only informative features were retained. Removing multicollinear features helped reduce overfitting and improve model interpretability.

## Model Design:

### 1. Model Choice: LSTM

Reasons for Choosing LSTM:

- Best Validation Performance: Lowest validation loss (3314.59) and MAE (26.58), indicating better generalization.( Figure 7)

Model	Epochs	Train Loss	Val Loss	Train MAE	Val MAE	Time(s)
LSTM	36	4138.598633	3314.590088	33.207756	26.575413	220.6
GRU	37	4325.445801	3501.331299	35.156662	27.773323	260.6
CNN_LSTM	50	4941.609375	3450.351562	37.500538	28.201344	152.9

Figure 7

- Stable Training: Required fewer epochs (36) to converge than GRU or CNN-LSTM.
- Balanced Complexity: Two-layer LSTM with dropout provides enough capacity to learn without overfitting.
- Simpler Data Handling: Requires minimal reshaping (timestep = 1), avoiding data loss from sequence generation.
- Familiarity and Proven Success: Builds upon previous successful models and practices, increasing confidence.
- Interpretability and Flexibility: Easier to understand and extend than hybrid models like CNN-LSTM.

### 2. LSTM Model Architecture

The model is a simple LSTM-based neural network designed for regression, with each input sample treated as a single timestep.

- Input Layer:  
Input shape is (1, num\_features), preserving all engineered features.
- LSTM Layer 1 (64 units):  
Uses tanh activation and sigmoid for internal gates. return\_sequences=True to pass outputs to the next LSTM layer.
- Dropout Layer (rate = 0.2):  
Reduces overfitting by randomly deactivating 20% of neurons during training.
- LSTM Layer 2 (32 units):  
Also uses tanh activation. return\_sequences=False to output the final state only.

- Dropout Layer (rate = 0.2):  
Further regularization.
- Dense Output Layer (1 unit):  
No activation (linear), suitable for regression output.

### 3. Design Justifications

#### *LSTM Layers:*

- LSTM(64) → LSTM(32):
  - Progressive reduction of units enables the model to compress learned patterns into a more compact latent space.
  - Helps in reducing overfitting by lowering model complexity.
- Two LSTM layers:
  - Captures both shallow and deeper temporal patterns without introducing unnecessary depth.
  - Deeper models showed no performance improvement but increased overfitting risk.

#### *Dropout Layers:*

- Dropout rate of 0.2 used after each LSTM layer:
  - Helps prevent overfitting by randomly deactivating neurons during training.
  - Maintains generalization ability on unseen test data.

#### *Dense Output Layer:*

- Single neuron output (Dense(1)):
  - Suitable for regression problems (predicting continuous values).
  - Direct mapping from LSTM representations to predicted energy consumption.

### 4 .Compilation Choices

#### *Optimizer – Adam:*

- Why Adam?
  - Combines the benefits of AdaGrad (adaptive learning rate) and RMSprop (efficient in online settings).
  - Includes momentum, which speeds up convergence and avoids local minima.
  - Proven effective for training deep networks, especially LSTMs.
- Learning Rate = 0.001:
  - A safe default that works well in most deep learning scenarios.
  - Provides a balance between convergence speed and stability.

#### *Loss Function – Mean Squared Error (MSE):*

- Why MSE?
  - Measures the average squared difference between predicted and actual values.
  - Penalizes larger errors more strongly, encouraging the model to focus on minimizing big prediction mistakes.

- Common choice for regression tasks.

#### *Evaluation Metric – Mean Absolute Error (MAE):*

- Why MAE?
  - Measures average absolute error in the same unit as the target (energy usage).
  - Less sensitive to outliers compared to MSE.
  - Provides an intuitive, interpretable performance indicator for model evaluation.

## Results:

### 1 .Results Tables

#### First Model

```
=== PERFORMANCE COMPARISON ===

Baseline Models vs LSTM:
-----
Model           MAE           RMSE           R²
-----
Linear Regression 0.0523       3.2885       0.9986
Random Forest    1.8403       4.1407       0.9978
LSTM             27.2305      59.4536      0.5306
-----
```

#### Second Model

```
=== PERFORMANCE COMPARISON ===

Baseline Models vs LSTM:
-----
Model           MAE           RMSE           R²
-----
Linear Regression 0.0523       3.2885       0.9986
Random Forest    1.8403       4.1407       0.9978
LSTM             13.7360      23.6873      0.9265
-----
```



Final Model

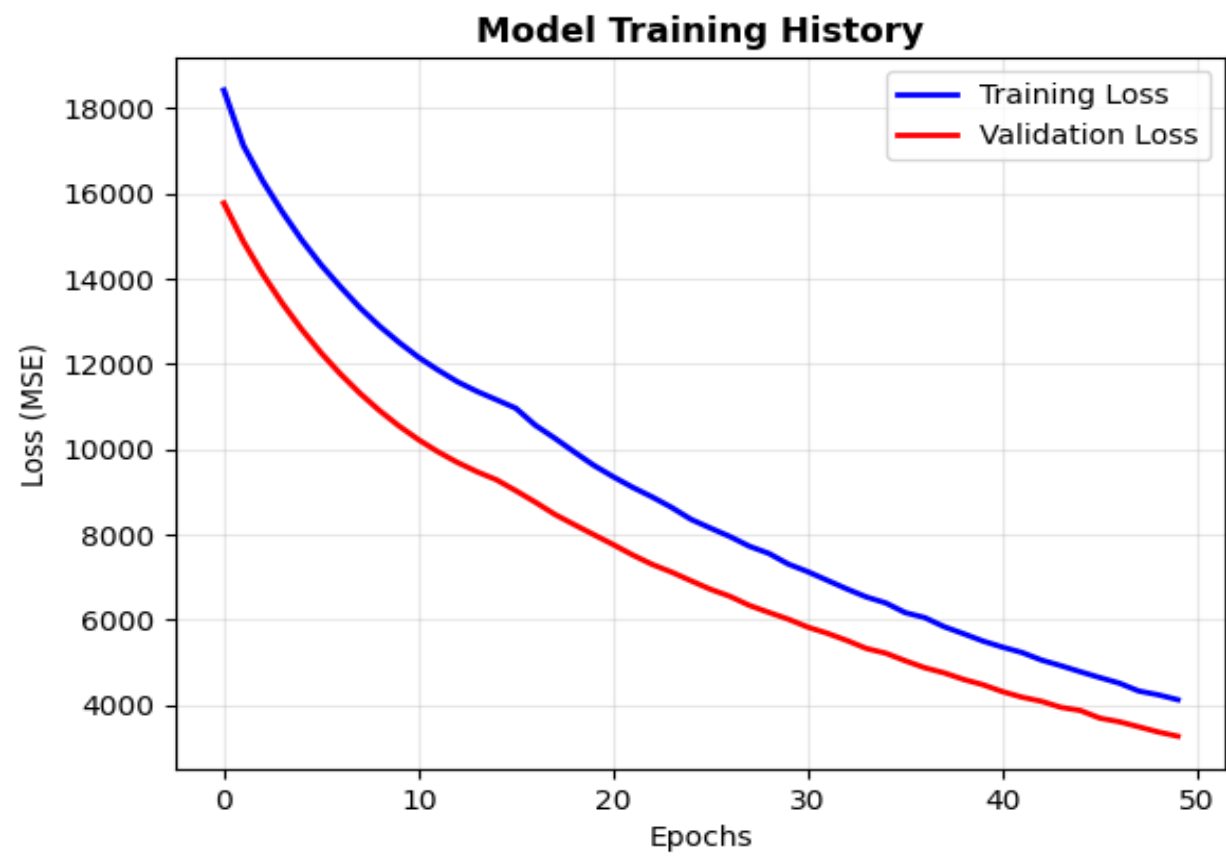
MODEL COMPARISON WITH ALL APPROACHES:

Model	MAE	RMSE	R <sup>2</sup>
Linear Regression	0.0523	3.2885	0.9986
Random Forest	1.8403	4.1407	0.9978
Original LSTM	13.7360	23.6873	0.9265
Optimized LSTM	13.1270	22.5727	0.9332

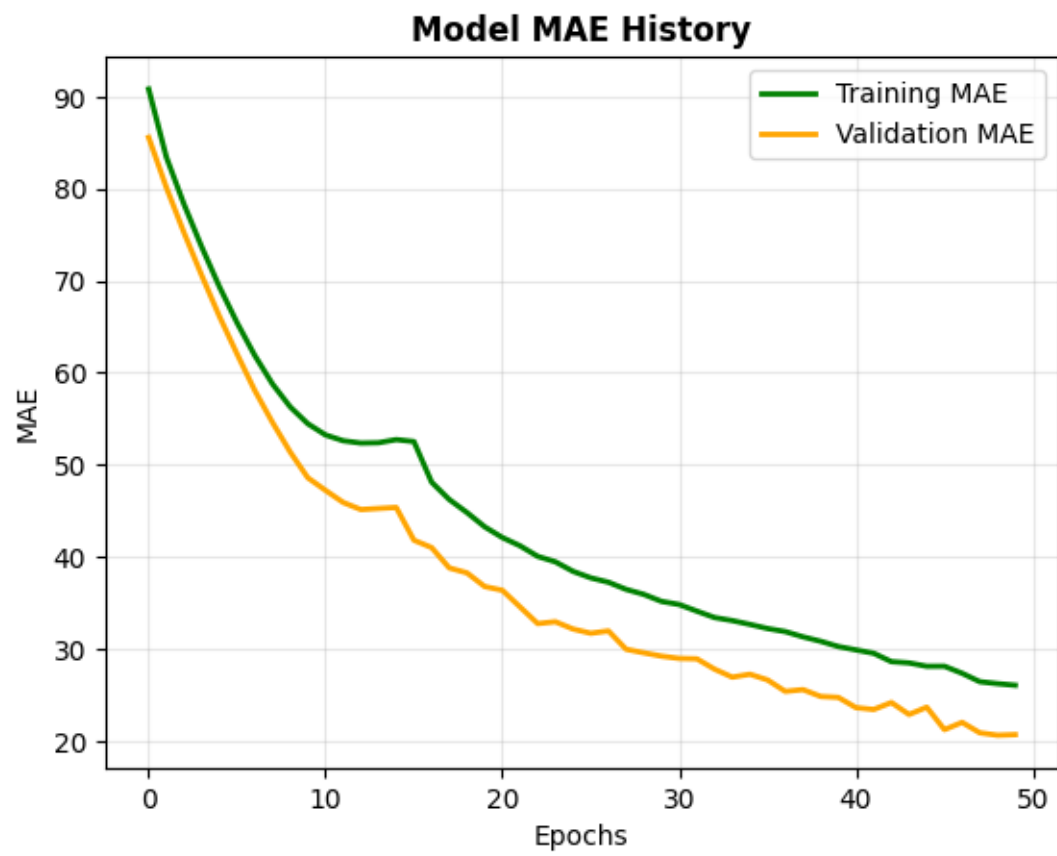
BEST OVERALL MODEL: Linear Regression (MAE: 0.0523)

2 .Plots

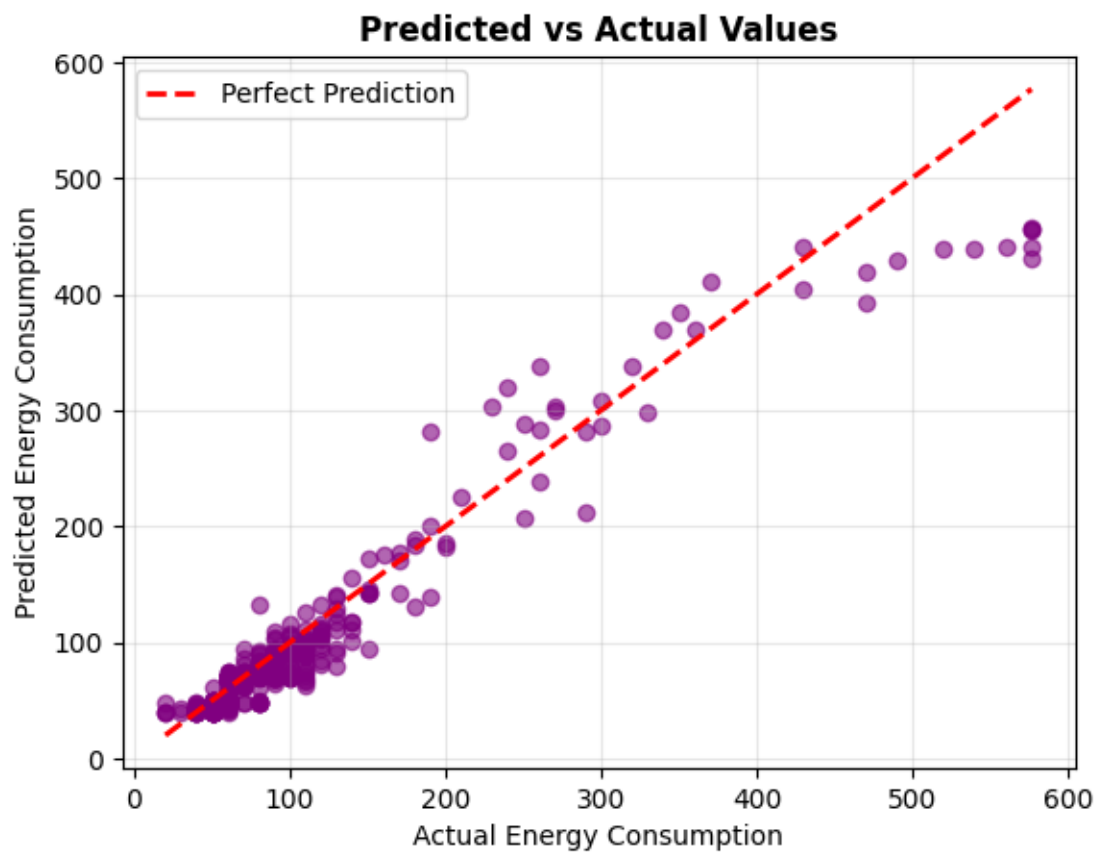
Training History - Loss Curves



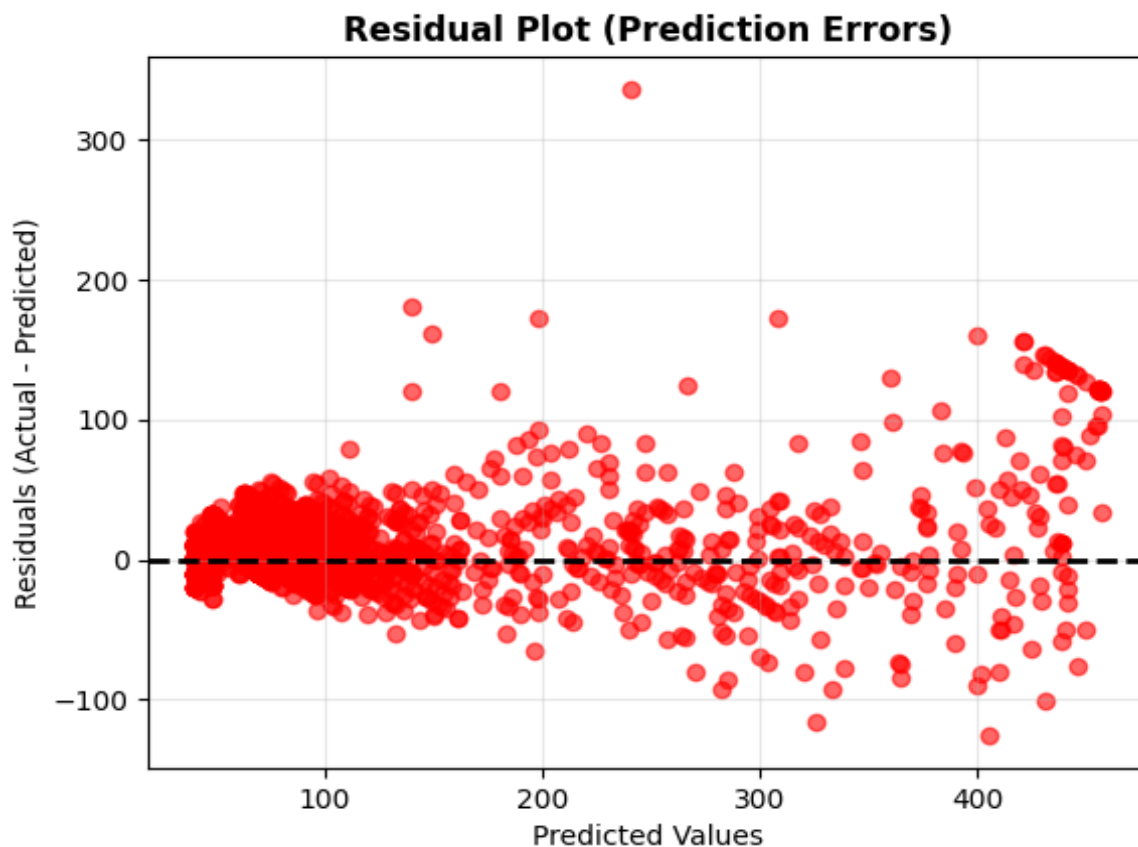
## Training History – MAE



### *Predicted vs Actual Values*



### *Residual Plot*



### 3. Model Optimization:

This project explores two model optimization approaches: Hyperparameter Search and Advanced Regularization Techniques. Both methods were implemented and compared to evaluate their effectiveness in improving model performance and generalization.

#### *Smart Hyperparameter Search*

##### Method Overview

Instead of testing all possible combinations (which is time-consuming and computationally expensive), this approach:

- Selects 6 promising hyperparameter combinations based on practical experience and common tuning strategies.
- Trains and evaluates each combination to find the best model in terms of MAE, RMSE, and  $R^2$ .
- Uses a fixed number of epochs (50) for comparability and efficiency.
- Captures training time and performance metrics for fair comparison.

Rank	Comb	LSTM1	LSTM2	Drop	LR	Batch	MAE	RMSE	R <sup>2</sup>
1	3	128	64	0.3	0.001	32	13.5852	25.8565	0.9124
2	2	64	32	0.2	0.001	32	15.8006	32.9656	0.8576
3	5	64	32	0.2	0.001	16	18.0026	30.0623	0.8816
4	6	64	32	0.2	0.001	64	20.1228	54.5289	0.6103
5	1	32	16	0.2	0.001	32	21.9575	54.3016	0.6135

Figure 8

Best Model: Combination 3

- Architecture:
  - LSTM Layer 1 Units: 128
  - LSTM Layer 2 Units: 64
  - Dropout Rate: 0.3
- Training Settings:
  - Learning Rate: 0.001
  - Batch Size: 32
  - Epochs: 50
- Performance:
  - MAE: 13.5852
  - RMSE: 25.8565
  - R<sup>2</sup>: 0.9124
  - Training Time: 149.3 seconds

Final Optimized Model Performance (using 100 epochs)

FINAL OPTIMIZED MODEL PERFORMANCE:			
=====			
MAE:	13.1270		
RMSE:	22.5727		
R <sup>2</sup> :	0.9332		
MAPE:	13.21%		
Epochs trained:	80		
COMPARISON SUMMARY:			
=====			
Model	MAE	RMSE	R <sup>2</sup>
-----			
Original LSTM	13.7360	23.6873	0.9265
Optimized LSTM	13.1270	22.5727	0.9332
Optimization Success! 4.43% improvement in MAE			

### Advanced Regularization Techniques (Talukdar, 2025)

This section investigates whether applying different dropout rates to the optimized LSTM model could further improve performance by reducing overfitting and enhancing generalization. Dropout is a regularization technique that randomly "drops out" units during training to prevent the model from becoming too reliant on any one neuron.

#### What Happened

- The code first checked if a previously optimized model exists.
- A range of dropout rates [0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5] were tested.
- For each dropout rate:
  - A new LSTM model was built using the best-found hyperparameters.
  - The model was trained for 50 epochs.
  - The model's Mean Absolute Error (MAE) on the test set was recorded.
- After testing all dropout values, the one with the lowest MAE was selected as the best dropout rate.
- The best result was compared with the original optimized model to check for performance improvement.

#### Results

- Best dropout rate: 0.1
- Best MAE from dropout testing: 13.1517
- Original optimized model MAE: 13.1270
- Since the MAE with dropout rate 0.1 was slightly worse than the original model's MAE, the original dropout setting was retained.

#### Insights from Regularization Testing

- Dropout rates 0.3 to 0.5 slightly worsened performance, possibly due to underfitting.
- Lower dropout rates (0.1 – 0.2) performed better for this dataset, indicating that light regularization is more suitable.
- No further improvement was achieved through additional dropout tuning; however, this test validated the robustness of the original configuration.

#### MODEL COMPARISON WITH ALL APPROACHES:

Model	MAE	RMSE	R <sup>2</sup>
Linear Regression	0.0523	3.2885	0.9986
Random Forest	1.8403	4.1407	0.9978
Original LSTM	13.7360	23.6873	0.9265
Optimized LSTM	13.1270	22.5727	0.9332

BEST OVERALL MODEL: Linear Regression (MAE: 0.0523)

### *Discuss improvements*

At the beginning of the project, I started with building a baseline LSTM model to predict appliance energy consumption using multivariate time-series data. The initial model had the following performance:

- MAE: 13.7360
- RMSE: 23.6873
- $R^2$ : 0.9265

This result showed that while the LSTM could model the sequence of energy consumption to some extent, the error was still relatively high.

To improve the model, I applied hyperparameter tuning by adjusting key parameters like the number of LSTM units, dropout rate, learning rate, and batch size. After tuning, I retrained the model and achieved better performance:

- MAE: 13.1270
- RMSE: 22.5727
- $R^2$ : 0.9332

This was a 4.43% improvement in MAE, and the model showed better generalization. The final optimized parameters were:

- lstm\_units\_1: 128
- lstm\_units\_2: 64
- dropout\_rate: 0.3
- learning\_rate: 0.001
- batch\_size: 32

## 4 .Challenges and Solutions:

### 1. Capturing Complex Temporal Patterns

- Challenge: Traditional models fail to capture hourly, daily, and weekly patterns in appliance usage.
- Solution: Engineered cyclical time-based features (e.g., sine/cosine of hour, day, month) and domain-specific temporal indicators like `is_working_hours`, `is_peak_energy_hour`.

### 2. Multicollinearity Among Features

- Challenge: Many features, especially temperature and humidity sensors, were highly correlated, risking model instability and overfitting.
- Solution: Conducted correlation analysis, identified redundant features (e.g., T1–T3–T5), and proposed feature reduction methods like correlation thresholding.

### 3. Presence of Outliers

- Challenge: Extreme values in appliance energy consumption could skew model training and evaluation.
- Solution: Applied IQR and Z-score methods to detect outliers; implemented capping at the 1st and 99th percentiles to retain data while reducing skewness.

### 4. Irrelevant and Noisy Features

- Challenge: Features like rv1 and rv2 were found to be irrelevant (random noise).
- Solution: Removed non-informative features to improve model efficiency and prevent noise interference.

### 5. Feature Scaling for Neural Networks

- Challenge: Features had different units and scales, which could bias deep learning models.
- Solution: Applied Z-score normalization using Standard Scaling to all continuous numerical features.

### 6. Enhancing Predictive Power Through Feature Engineering

- Challenge: Raw features were insufficient to capture complex user behaviour and environmental effects.
- Solution:
  - Created rolling window features (mean, std, min, max over 1h–24h).
  - Generated lag and difference features for autocorrelation exploitation.
  - Added interaction features between temperature, humidity, and time.
  - Designed domain-informed features for HVAC demand and load categorization.

### 7. Weak Predictive Power of Humidity and Weather

- Challenge: Most humidity and weather features showed low correlation with energy usage.
- Solution: Kept only moderately useful features, deprioritized weak features during modelling.

### 8. Encoding Human Behavioural Patterns

- Challenge: Appliance usage is influenced by human behaviour (e.g., weekends, evenings).
- Solution: Engineered features like:
  - weekend\_evening\_flag
  - is\_weekend
  - time\_of\_day bins (morning, afternoon, evening, night)

### 9. Model Input Optimization

- Challenge: Raw data alone doesn't capture complex consumption trends.



- Solution: Transformed dataset into a feature-rich, clean, normalized, and behaviour aware format ready for deep learning models.

#### 10. Autocorrelation and Lag Analysis

- Challenge: Need to capture temporal dependencies.
- Solution: Conducted autocorrelation analysis and created significant lag-based features and energy ratios over past time windows.

#### 11. Model Evaluation and Generalization

- Challenge: Ensuring the model performs well on unseen data.
- Solution: Evaluated using MAE, RMSE, and  $R^2$ ; also compared against baseline models (Linear Regression, Random Forest).

#### 12. Computational Resource Management

- Challenge: Training deep learning models on large data required efficient usage of memory and time.
- Solution: Used batch processing, efficient data loading from Google Drive, and reduced feature dimensionality.

### 5 .Conclusion:

#### Key Findings

- The Original LSTM model achieved good performance (MAE: 13.736,  $R^2$ : 0.927), but was outperformed by traditional models.
- Hyperparameter tuning improved the LSTM model by 4.43% (MAE reduced to 13.127,  $R^2$  increased to 0.933), showing effective optimization.
- Despite improvements, Linear Regression was the best overall model with the lowest MAE (0.0523) and highest  $R^2$  (0.9986), indicating simpler models may suffice for this task.
- Random Forest also performed well (MAE: 1.8403,  $R^2$ : 0.9978), validating tree-based approaches for energy prediction.
- The results suggest that while deep learning (LSTM) can learn temporal patterns, classical models still provide strong baseline predictions in this dataset.

#### Potential Areas For Future Work

- Investigate feature engineering and selection techniques to enhance model input quality and improve predictions.
- Implement ensemble methods combining classical and deep learning models to leverage their strengths.
- Test the models on larger and more diverse datasets for better generalization.
- Incorporate real-time data streaming and online learning for dynamic appliance energy prediction.

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