

Hydropower Climate Optimisation Challenge

Capstone Project

WattsUp team

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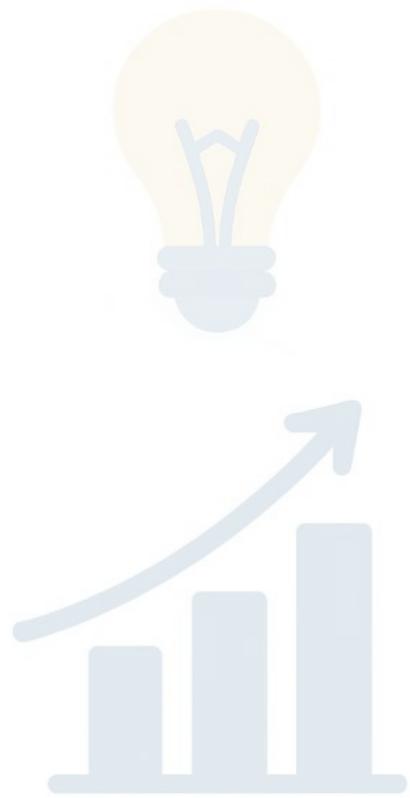
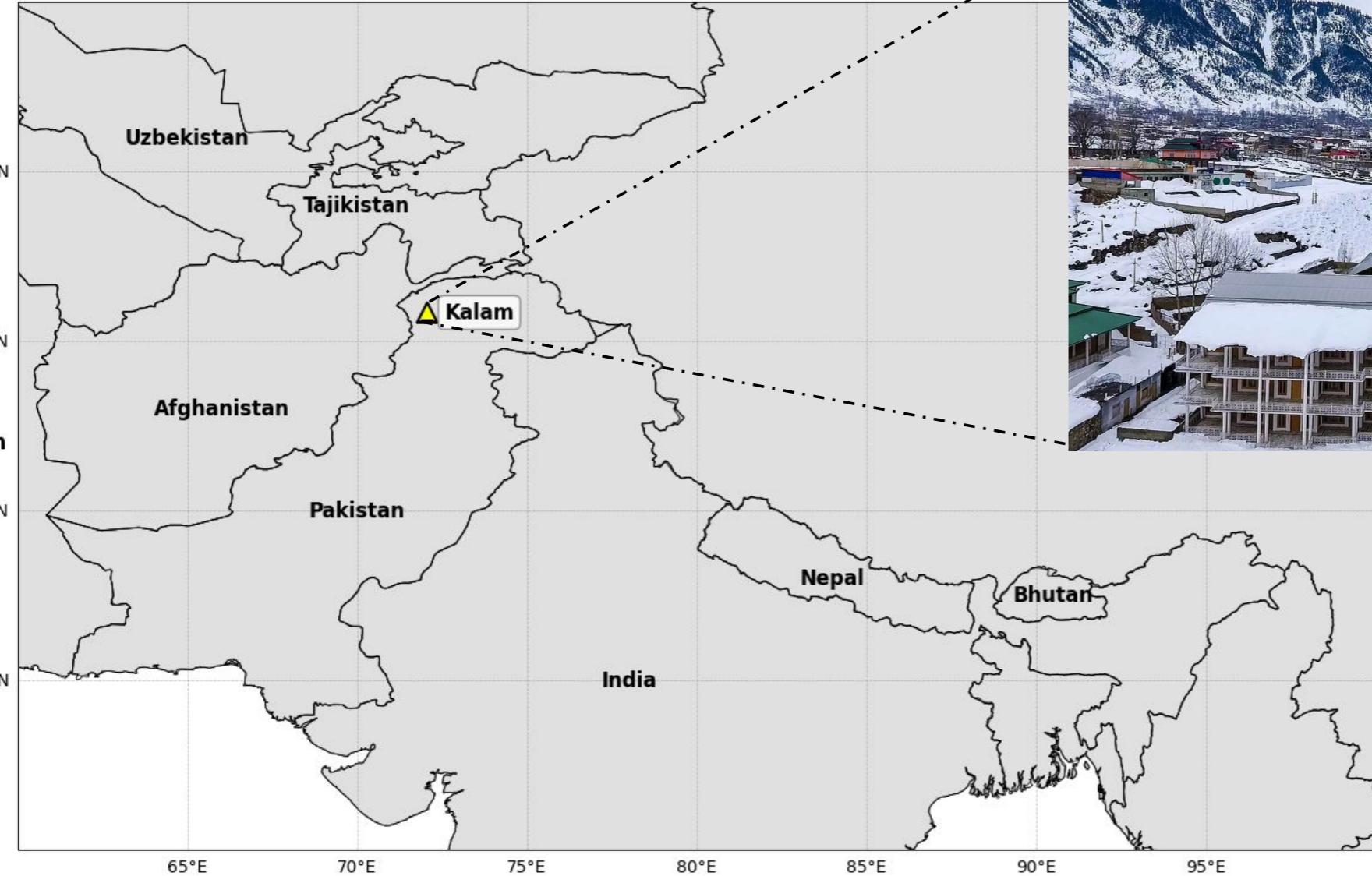
Patrick Kuntze

Florencia Perachia

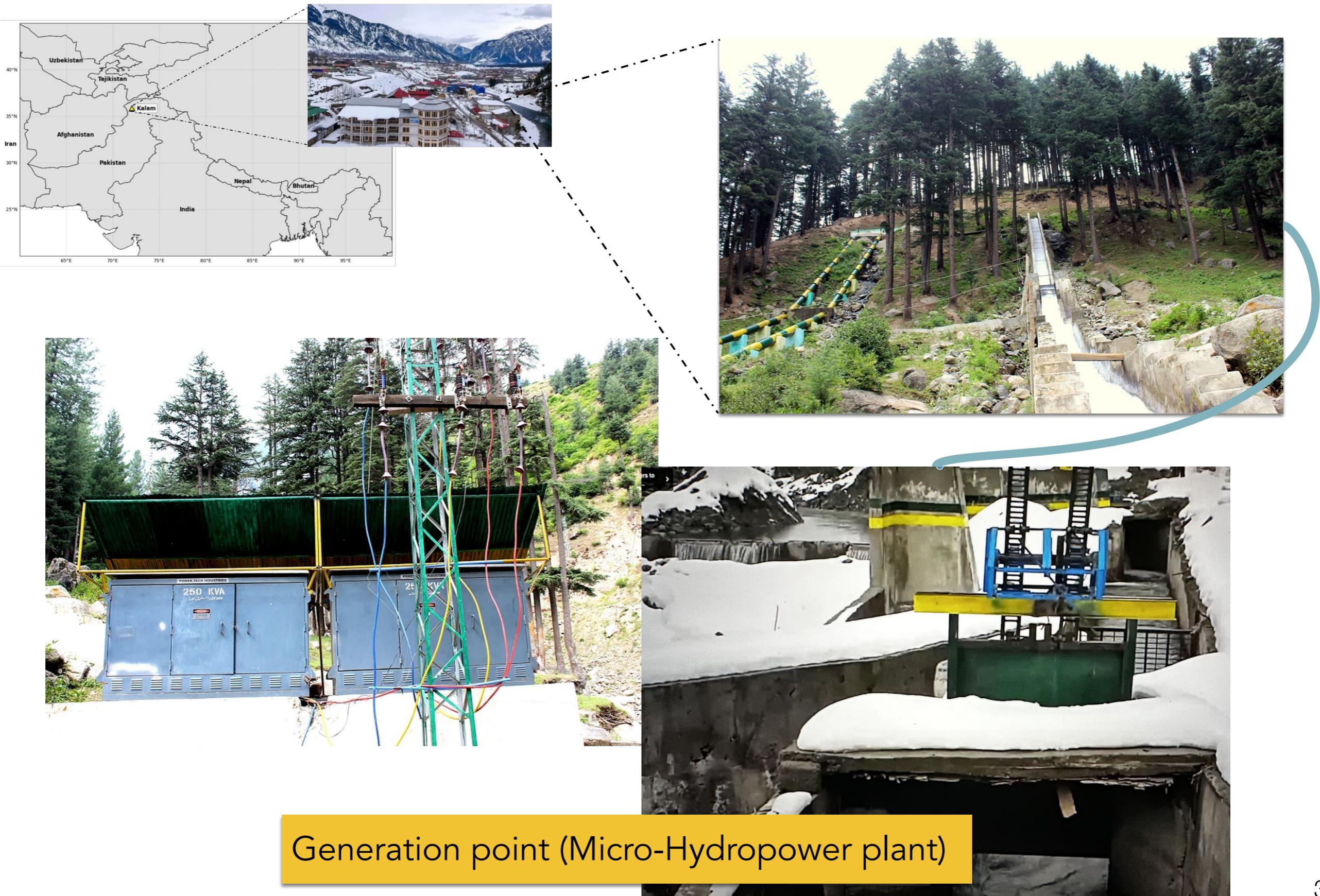


WATTSUP

ABOUT THE CHALLENGE



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GENERAL OBJECTIVE

Develop a robust predictive model that can accurately forecast the daily hydropower supply (measured in kWh) per user of these Micro-hydropower plants (MHPs)

- predict one month in the future using climate data and previous history of hydropower supply

ABOUT THE DATA

HYDRO- POWER DATA

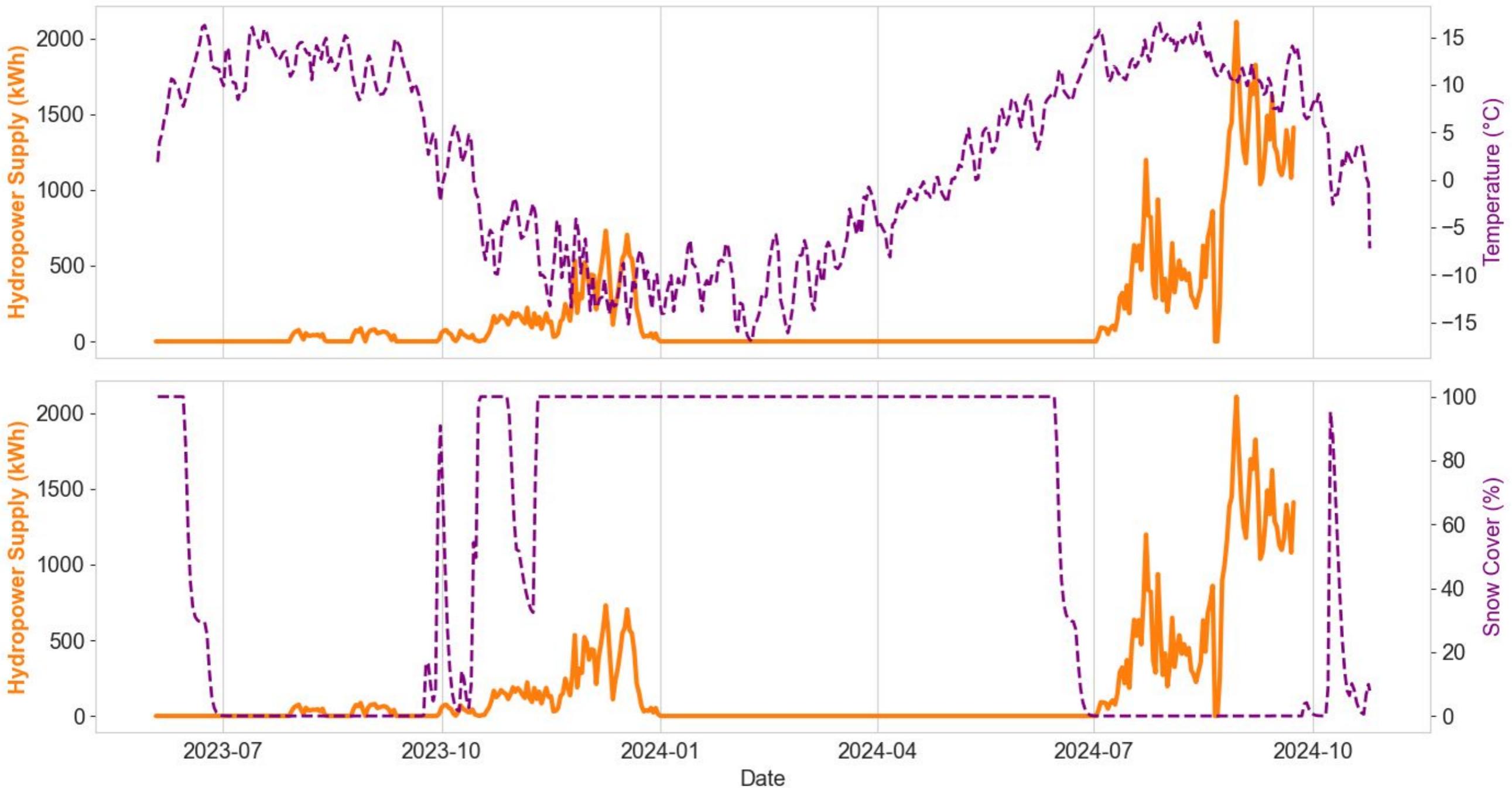
Operational data including history of hydropower supply (kWh), per day and user

TWO DATASETS

WEATHER DATA

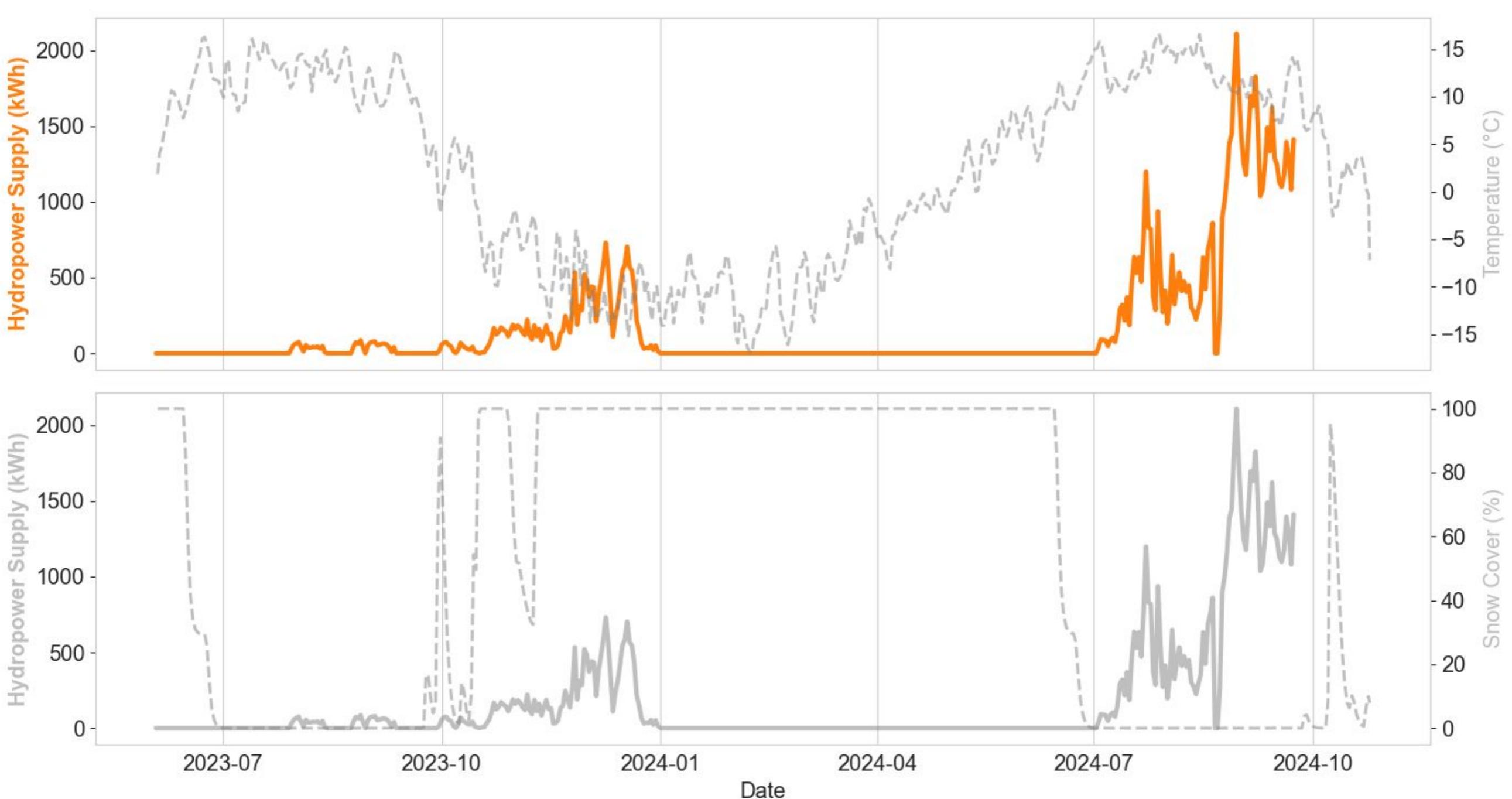
Historical (+ additional month) data including environmental conditions that can influence water flow and energy demand/generation, such as temperature, dew point, wind, and precipitation.

Hydropower Supply & Weather variables

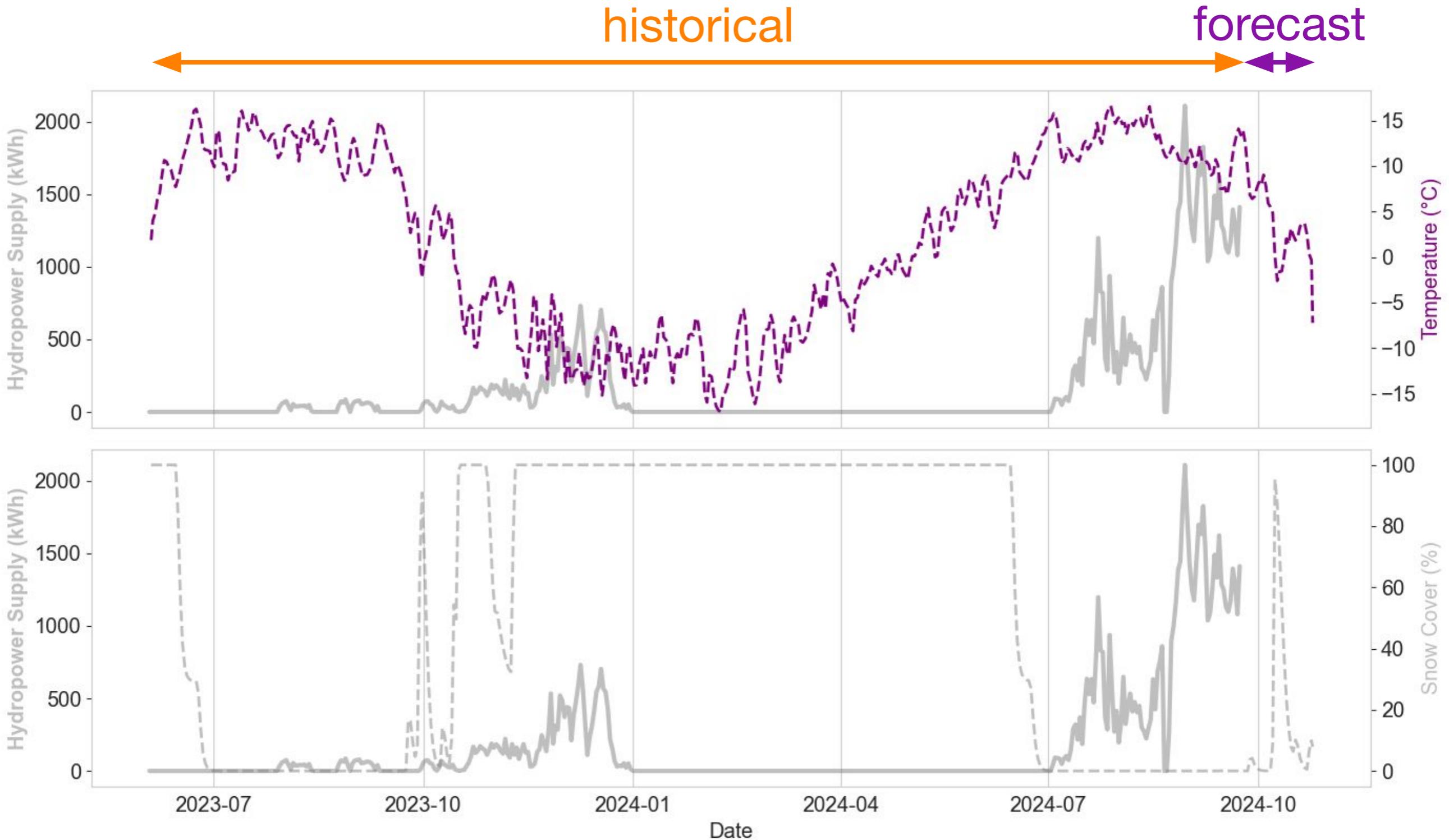


Hydropower Supply & Weather variables

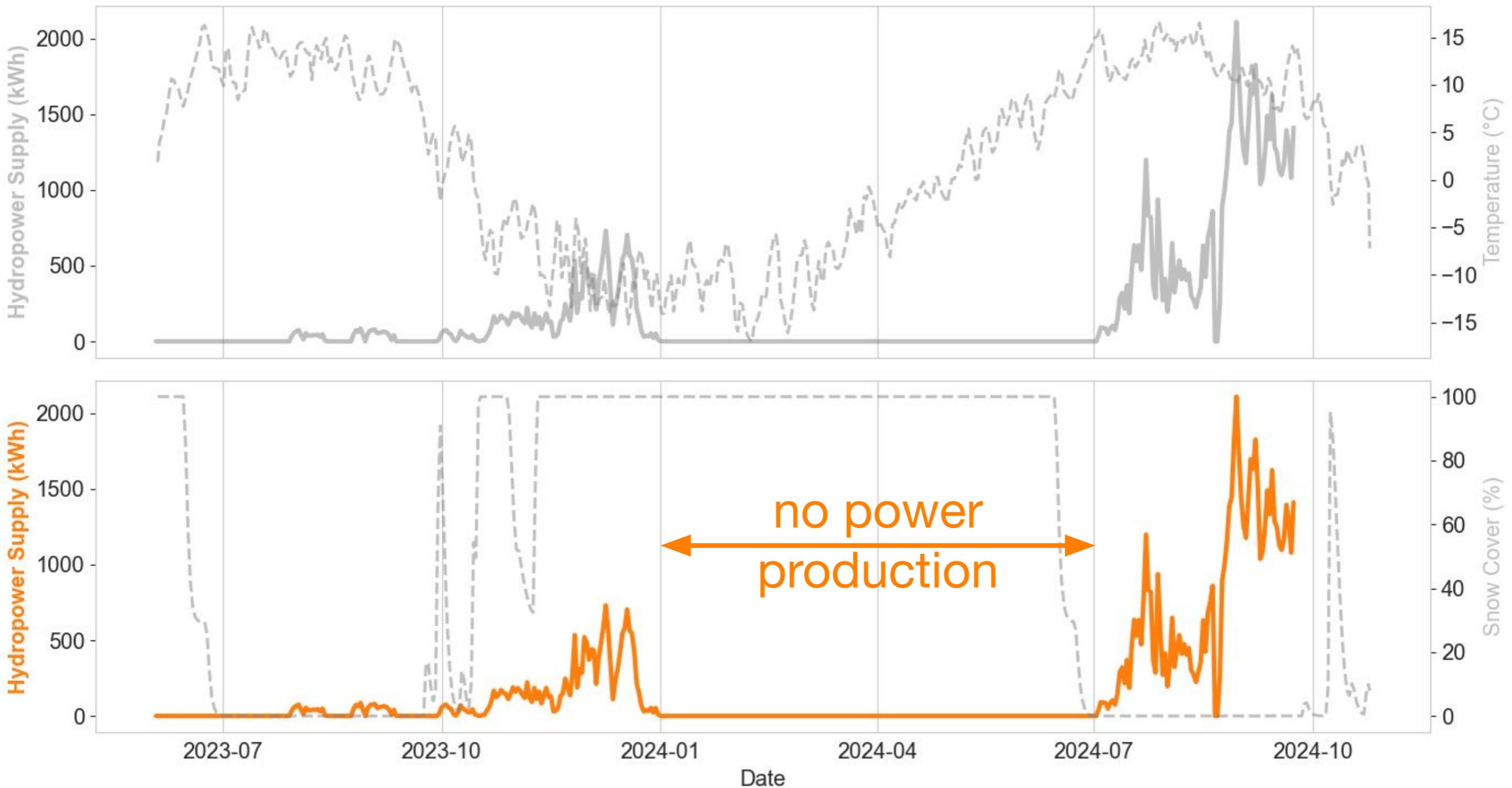
< 16 Month of data



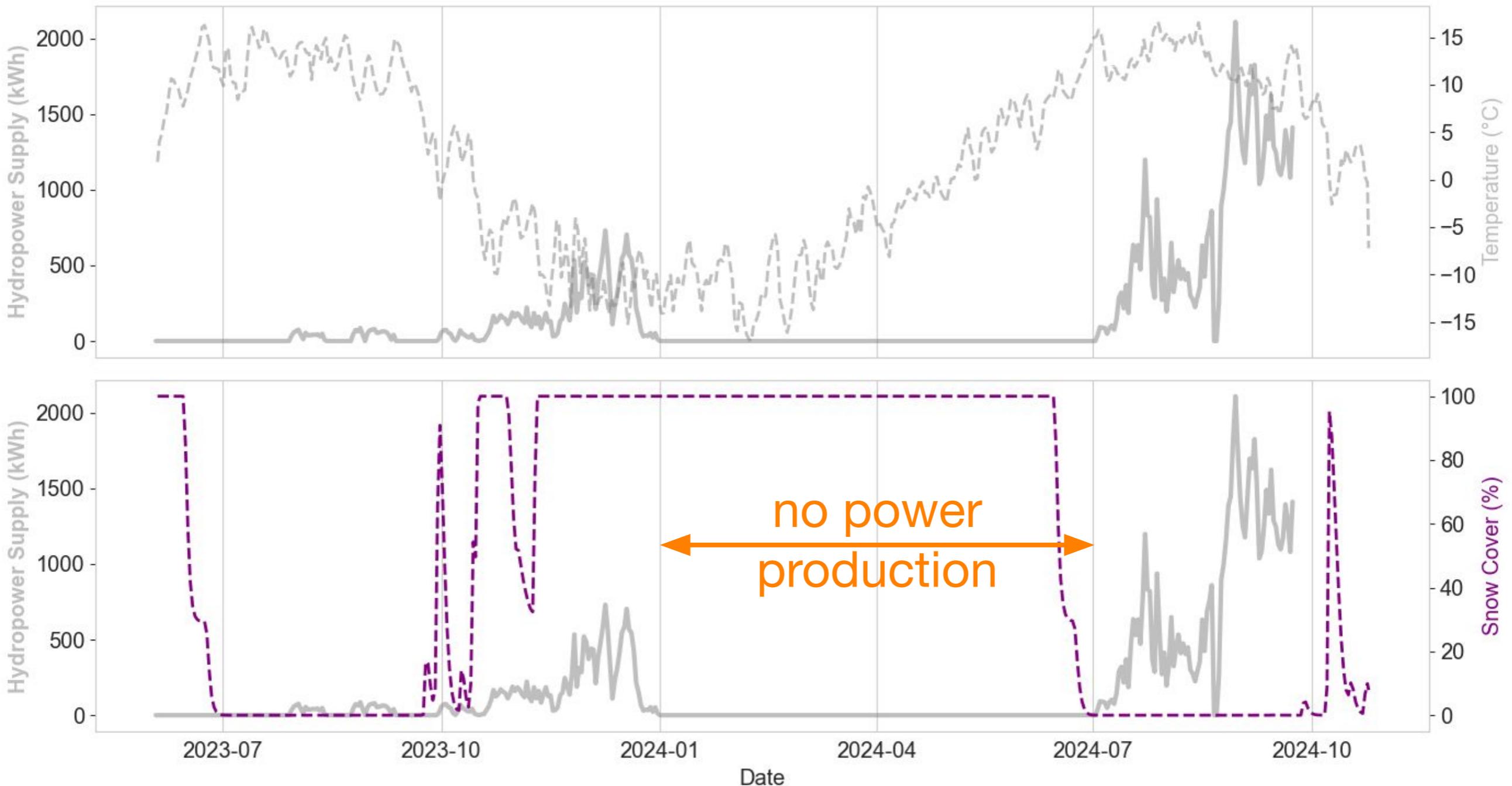
Hydropower Supply & Weather variables



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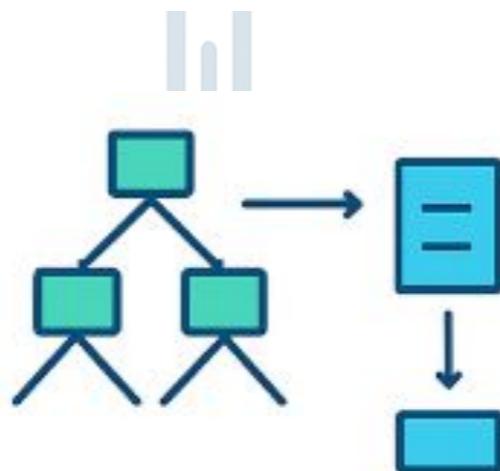
MODELS

1. Prophet



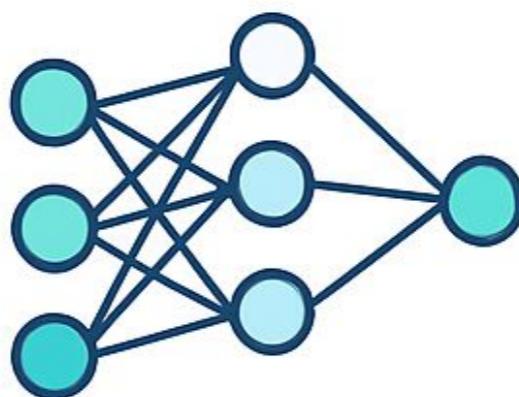
- Time series approach
- Decomposition into:
Trend + Seasonality + Events

2. LightGBM



- Ensemble of decision trees
- Trees grow in a leaf wise way
- Gradient boosting model

3. Artificial Neural Network



- Deep learning model
- Dense layers
- Learns complex, non-linear patterns in the data

Evaluation metric chosen: RMSE

MODELS

Info Data Chat Leaderboard Team Submissions

Certificate

Get a score

RANK

USER

PUBLIC SCORE

PRIVATE SCORE

SUBM

1. WattsUp: Artificial Neural Network RMSE= 4.390272303 kWh

1			data_style_bender		5.243738863		4.436570142	39
2			Belal_Emad		6.093821536		4.48655936	300
17			CodeJoe		6.362519843		4.738247345	208

18. WattsUp: Prophet RMSE= 4.75648505 kWh

111			thiha_naing		8.076067497		5.712531642	11
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112. WattsUp: LightGBM RMSE= 5.716274126 kWh

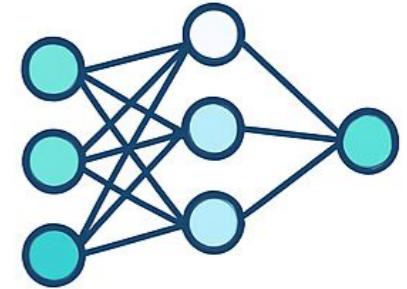
Benchmark

8.410761100

8.794315210

More about our winning model: ANN

What made our winning model better?



- Feature engineering

- wind speed
- ratio snowfall/precipitation
- temperature - dew point

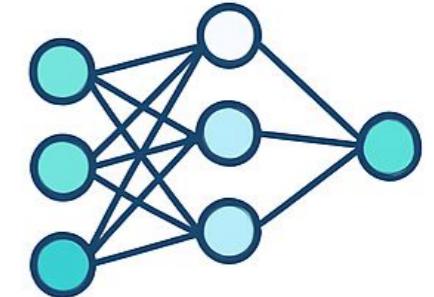


- Lag + rolling averages
of past energy supply

Allowed the model to learn
memory/seasonality.

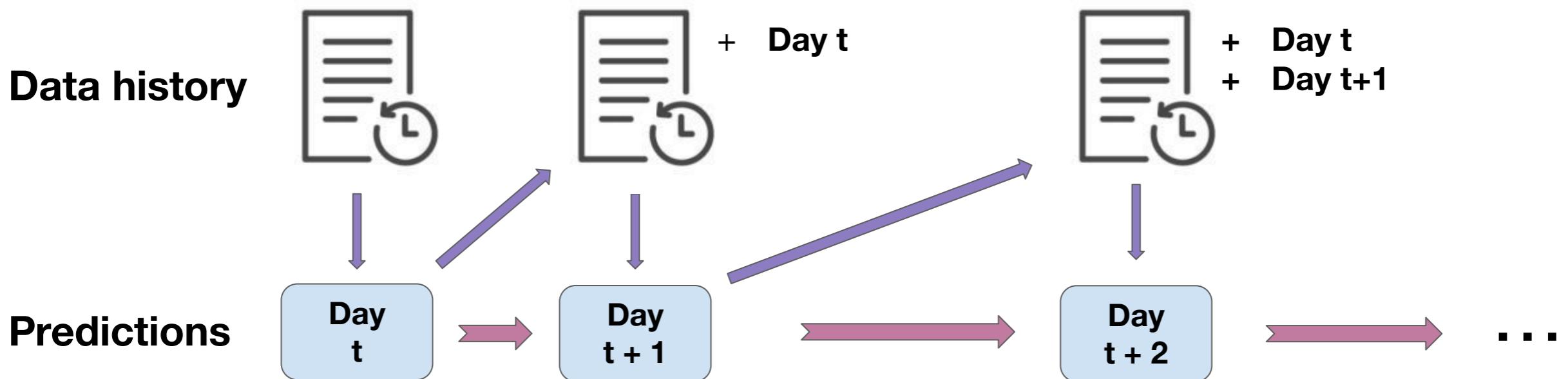
More about our winning model: ANN

What made our winning model better?



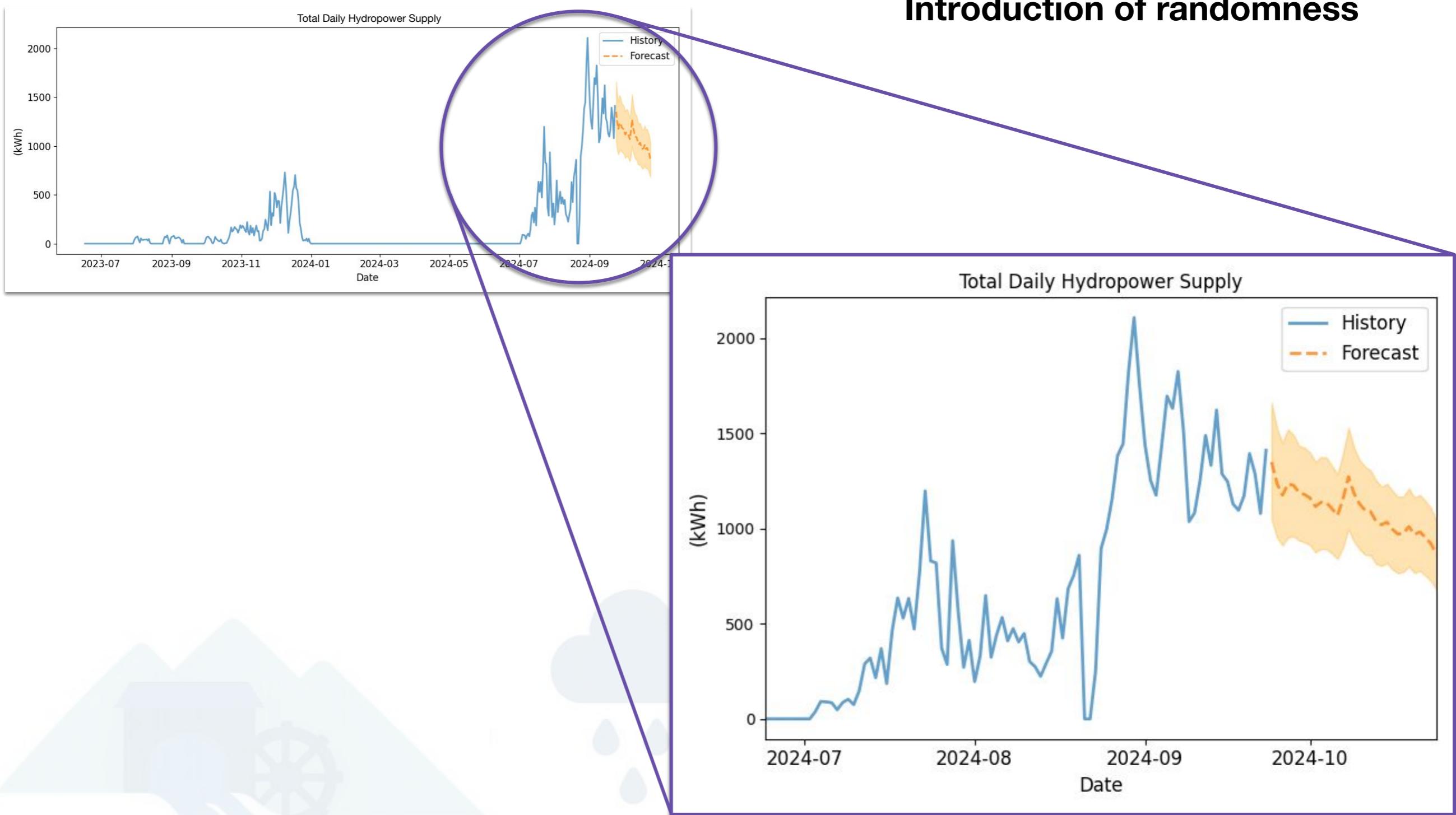
- Recursive prediction

Method: Update the lagged features step by step, and build the forecast day by day

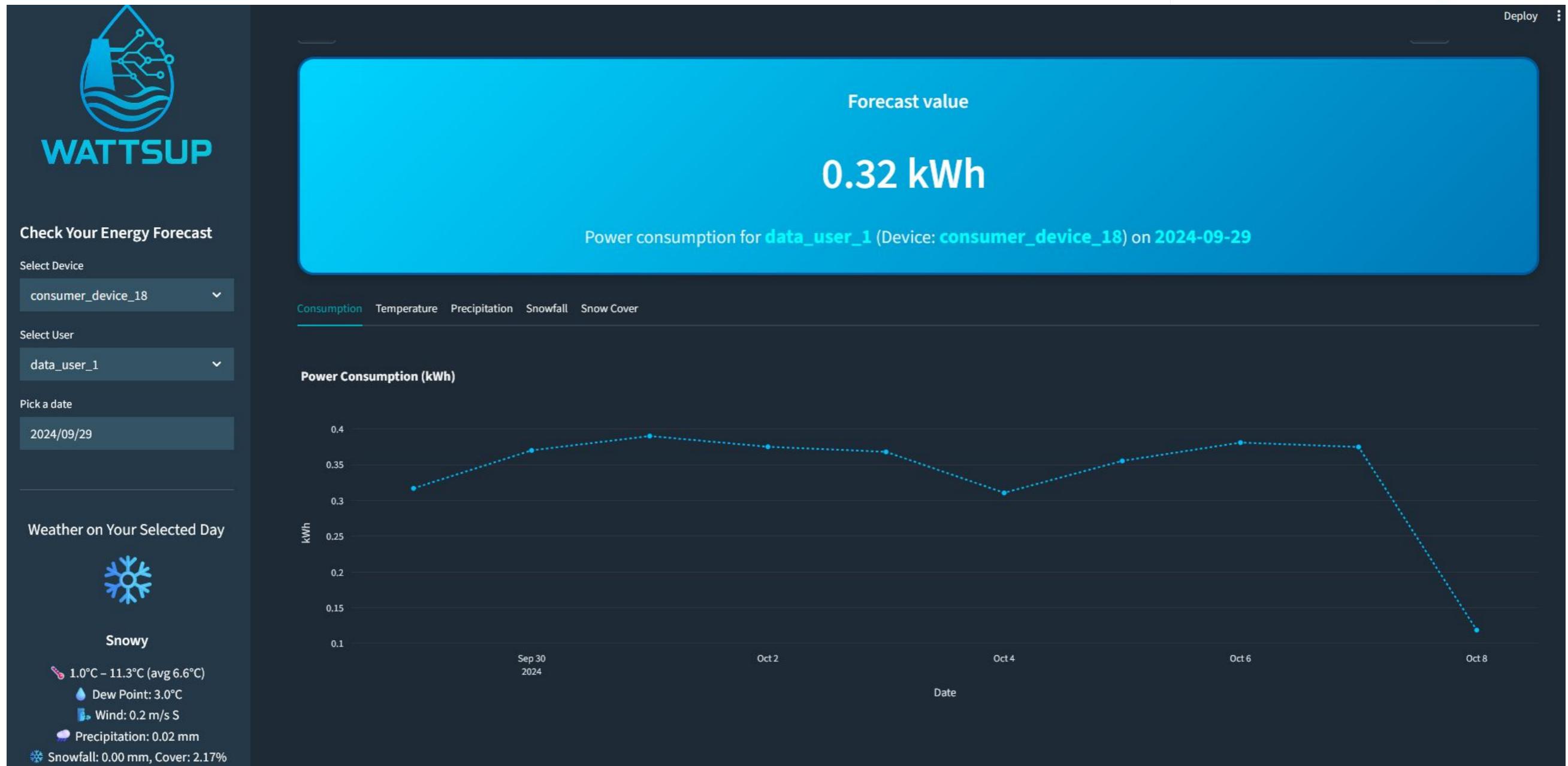


More about our winning model: ANN

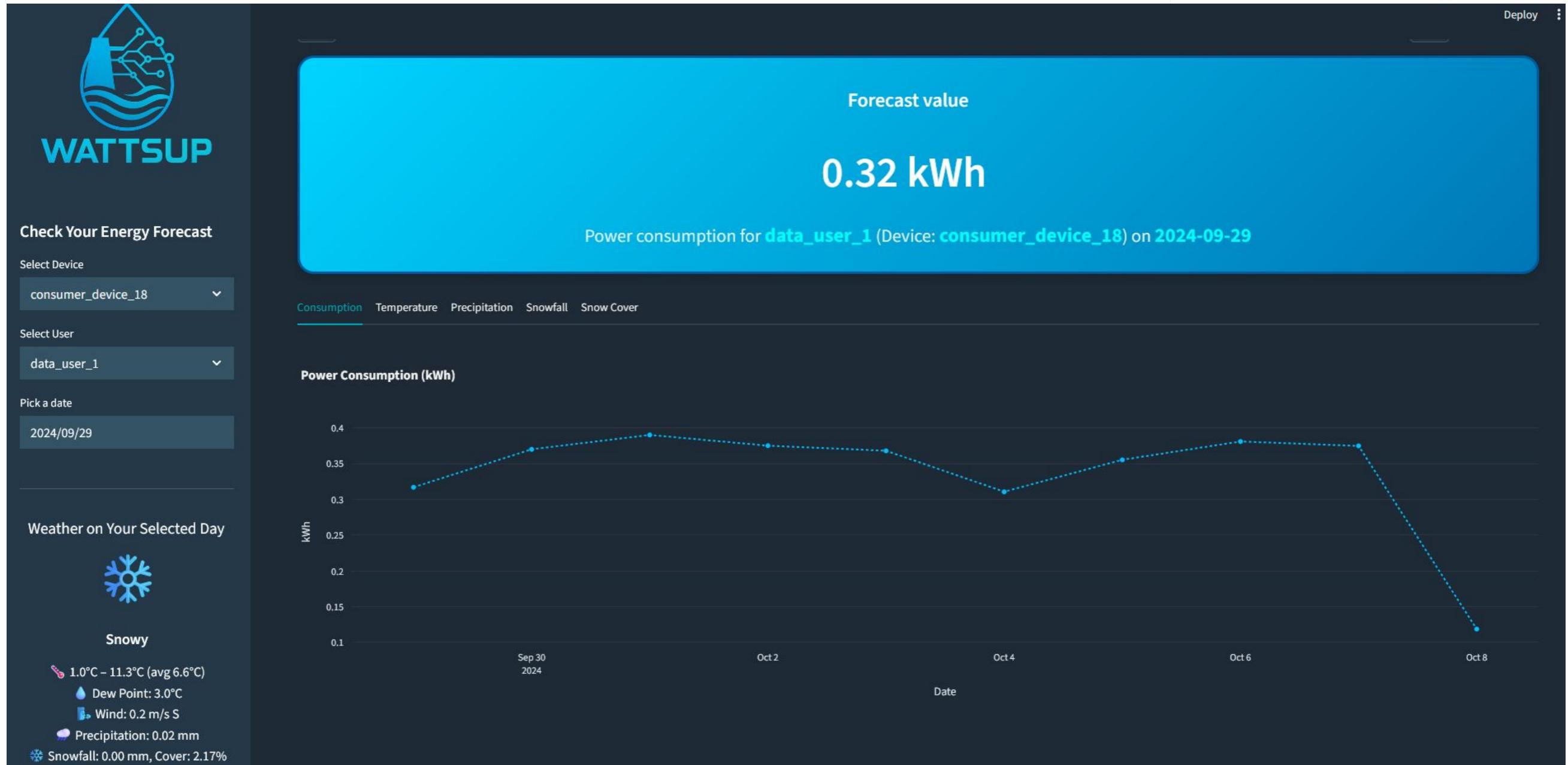
- Uncertainty Estimation (Monte Carlo Dropout):



OUR PRODUCT



OUR PRODUCT



Product Improvement

- Prediction capabilities
- Automated processes

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- Automated processes

Data

- Still a new project = more data to come
- Longer time series: other models performance?
- Geographical data

Acknowledgements

- Coaches: Omar Hammad & Moses Birk
- Neue fische
- The Cohort



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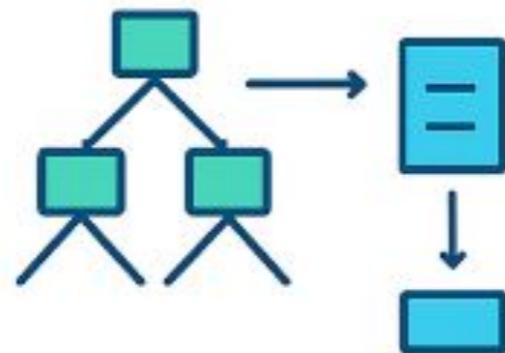
Questions?

EXTRA SLIDES

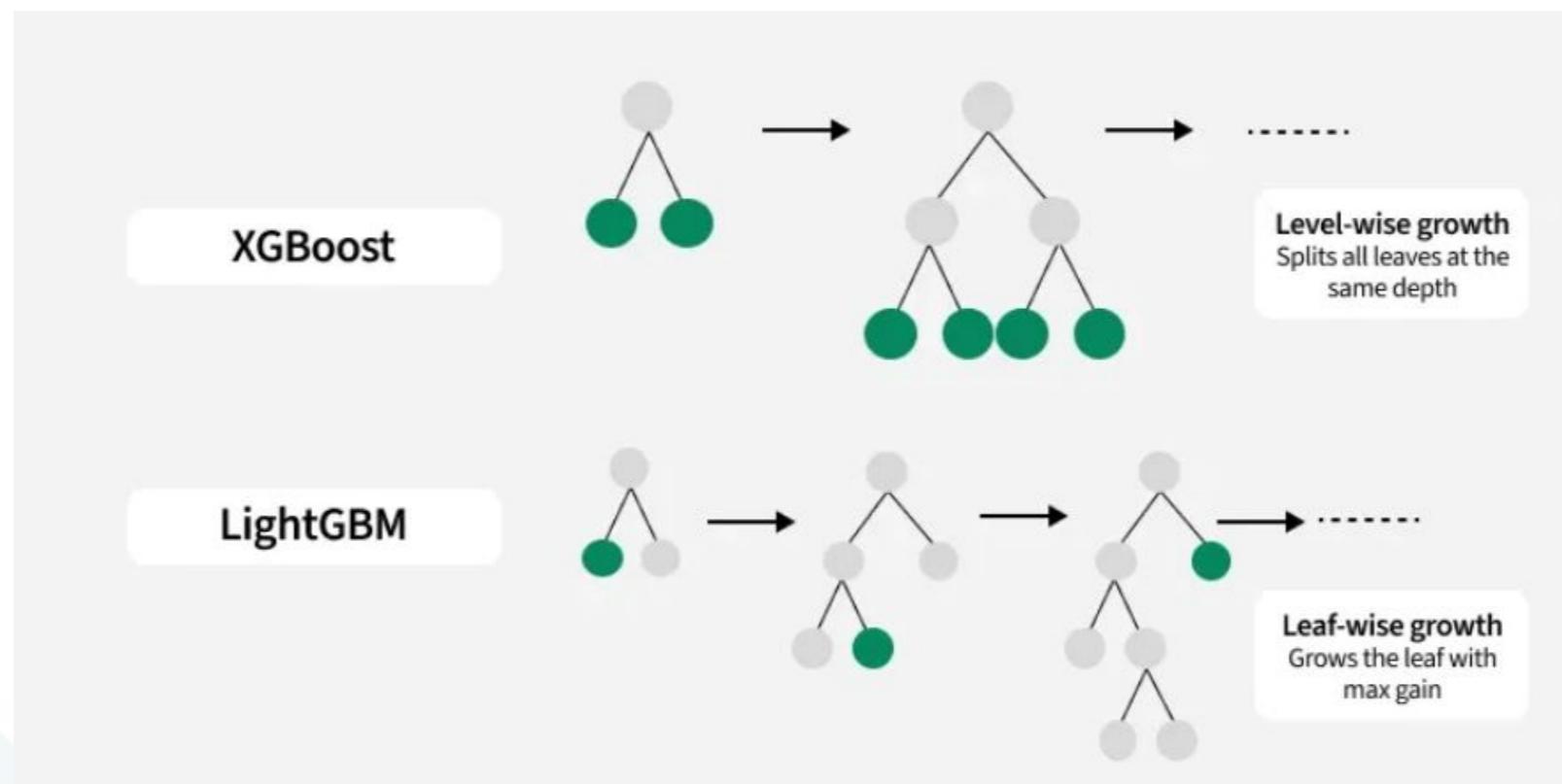


MODELS

1) LightGBM



- Ensemble of decision trees
- Trees grow in a leaf wise way
- Gradient boosting model



<https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/machine-learning/lightgbm-light-gradient-boosting-machine/>

MODELS

2) Prophet



- Time series approach
- Decomposable model:
Trend + Seasonality + Events

Type: Additive time series forecasting model (developed by Facebook/Meta).

Core idea: Decomposes a time series into **trend + seasonality + holidays/events + error**.

Trend: Can model linear or logistic growth.

Seasonality: Captured using **Fourier series terms** (weekly, yearly, or daily cycles).

Events/holidays: Special indicators can be added to handle unusual spikes or drops.

Error term: Accounts for noise and unpredictable fluctuations.

Difference from ML models: Instead of learning from random samples, Prophet **follows the chronological order** and explicitly models the underlying temporal components.

Output: Forecasted values for chosen future dates, with confidence intervals.

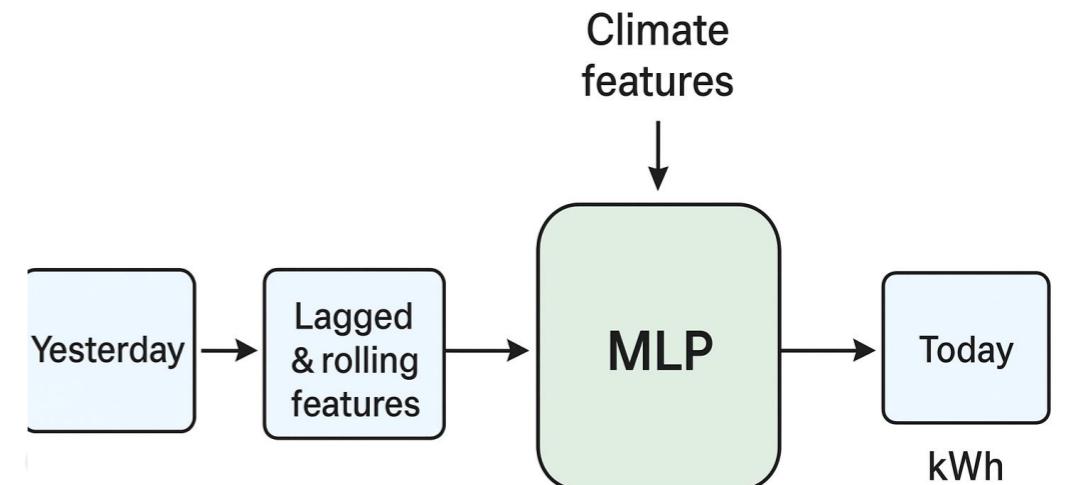
Strengths: Easy to use, interpretable, handles missing data and outliers well.

Limitations: Needs longer time series to fully capture seasonality; less flexible than ML models for feature interactions. **How to apply:** Fit the model on historical data (ds, y), specify forecast horizon, optionally add custom events or seasonality, then generate predictions.

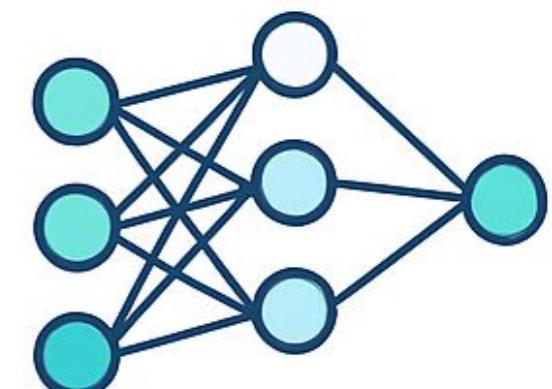
EXTRA SLIDES

3) ANN

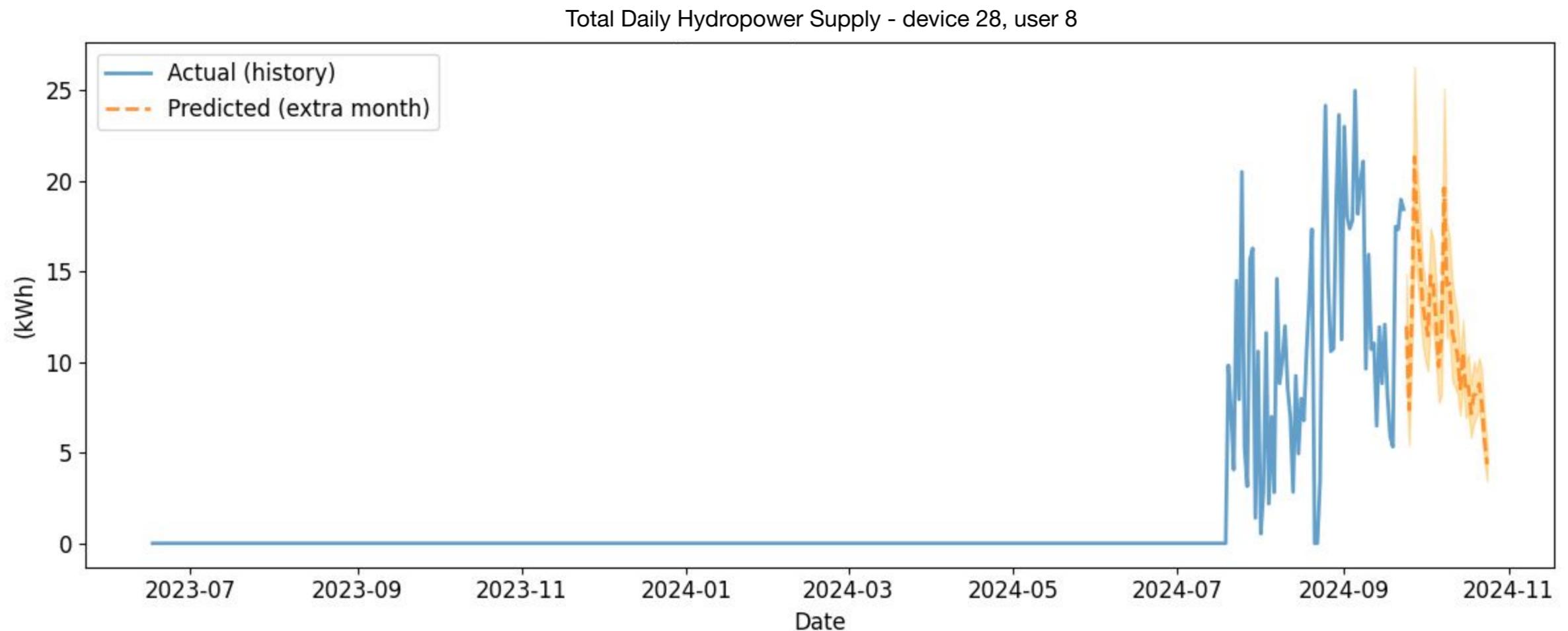
More details about the Neural Network:



- Fully connected feedforward neural network with 3 hidden layers.
- Architecture: 128 → 64 → 32 neurons, all using ReLU activations.
- Regularization: Dropout (20%) applied after the first two hidden layers.
- Final output layer: 1 neuron (ReLU) to predict daily energy.
- Loss function: Huber
- Optimizer: Adam, with early stopping and learning rate scheduling.



EXTRA SLIDES



EXTRA SLIDES

