

# **Watt –to- Weather: Wrangling the Energy and Climate Connection**

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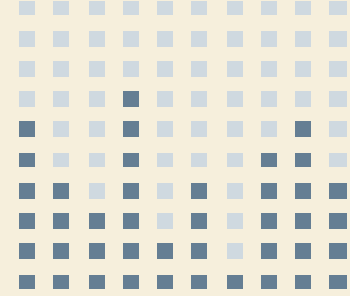
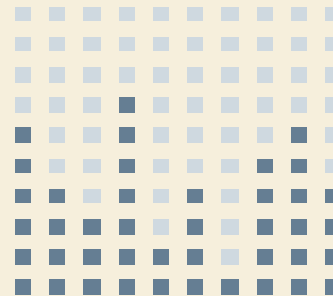
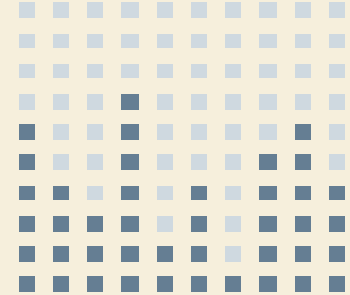
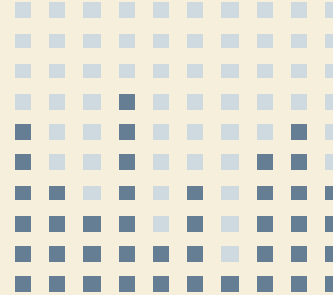
16:954:597:01: Data Wrangling and Husbandry

Prof. Stevenson Bolivar-Atuesta

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# Project Overview

Our data warehouse project analyzes the relationship between weather conditions and energy demand across 20 major U.S. cities, revealing critical patterns that impact energy infrastructure planning and management.

## The Challenge

Energy providers face significant challenges forecasting demand fluctuations driven by weather variables, leading to:

- Suboptimal resource allocation during peak demand periods
- Inefficient infrastructure planning
- Missed opportunities for targeted efficiency programs

# Importance of the Topic

*Critical Resource Planning.* Energy demand fluctuates 20-30% based on temperature variations, requiring precise forecasting

*Data Integration Challenge.* Weather and energy data exist in incompatible formats with different:

- Geographic boundaries (city-based vs. regional)
- Time resolutions (hourly vs. daily)
- Measurement standards and units

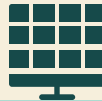
# Importance of the Topic

**R-Based Data Wrangling Solution** : Our project demonstrates how R's specialized packages overcome these challenges through:

- Cross-domain data integration using tidyverse tools
- Geographic mapping with custom join operations
- Time series normalization with lubridate
- Automated data quality improvement (reduced missing values by 95.7%)

**Business Impact**: Our wrangled dataset enables:

- Precise identification of optimal temperatures (51.5°F)
- Regional sensitivity mapping for targeted infrastructure planning
- Quantifiable metrics for climate adaptation planning
- Significant improvement in demand forecasting accuracy



# Dataset Overview

▮ What we saw when we got here

# Data Sources

## *Weather Data:*

- Source: Open-Meteo ERA5 Historical Weather API (<https://archive-api.open-meteo.com/v1/era5>)
- Coverage: Hourly data for 20 major U.S. cities throughout 2024
- Variables: Temperature, humidity, precipitation, wind speed, cloud cover
- Extraction: Custom R functions with retry logic and rate limit handling
- Volume: ~180k records processed
- Key Challenge: Standardizing location formats for regional mapping

## *Energy Data:*

- Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) API v2 (<https://api.eia.gov/v2/electricity/rto/daily-region-data/data/>)
- Coverage: Daily regional energy data from major U.S. interconnections
- Variables: Demand, generation, interchange values across utility companies
- Extraction: Paginated API requests with 500 records/day sampling
- Volume: ~180k daily energy records across multiple regions
- Key Challenge: Mapping energy regions to weather observation locations

# Data Extraction Pipeline

```
# Function to fetch weather data for a single location with retry logic
fetch_weather_for_location <- function(latitude, longitude, location_name, start_date, end_date,
  max_retries = 3, retry_delay = 2) {
  base_url <- "https://archive-api.open-meteo.com/v1/era5"

  # Set up retry loop
  retries <- 0
  while (retries <= max_retries) {
    tryCatch({
      # Build request parameters
      query_params <- list(
        latitude = latitude,
        longitude = longitude,
        start_date = start_date,
        end_date = end_date,
        hourly = "temperature_2m,relative_humidity_2m,precipitation,windspeed_10m,cloudcover",
        timezone = "auto" # Let the API determine timezone based on coordinates
      )

      # Make the API request
      response <- GET(
        base_url,
        query = query_params
      )
    }, error = function(e) {
      # Handle error and retry
      if (retries == max_retries) stop("Max retries reached. Please check the input parameters.")
      Sys.sleep(retry_delay)
      retries <- retries + 1
    })
  }
}
```

*Energy*: Uses for-loops with pagination to systematically extract data, leverages `bind_rows` to combine multiple API responses, and employs date manipulation functions from `lubridate` for temporal data management.

*Weather*: Uses `httr` for API requests, implements `tryCatch` for error handling, and converts JSON responses to tidy tibbles with standardized column names for consistent downstream analysis.

```
# Function to fetch limited records per day with improved error handling
fetch_daily_limited_energy_data <- function(api_key, start_date, end_date, records_per_day = 500,
  max_retries = 3, retry_delay = 2) {
  base_url <- "https://api.eia.gov/v2/electricity/rto/daily-region-data/data/"

  # Validate inputs
  if (is.null(api_key) || nchar(api_key) < 10) {
    stop("Valid API key is required")
  }

  if (!is.character(start_date) || !is.character(end_date)) {
    stop("Start and end dates must be character strings in YYYY-MM-DD format")
  }

  # Convert dates to Date objects with validation
  tryCatch({
    start_date_obj <- as.Date(start_date)
    end_date_obj <- as.Date(end_date)

    if (is.na(start_date_obj) || is.na(end_date_obj)) {
      stop("Invalid date format. Please use YYYY-MM-DD format.")
    }

    if (start_date_obj > end_date_obj) {
      stop("Start date must be before or equal to end date")
    }
  }, error = function(e) {
    stop(paste("Date validation error:", e$message))
  })
}
```

# Tables of Data

## 1) Raw Weather Data:

A tibble: 6 × 9

location <chr>	latitude <dbl>	longitude <dbl>	datetime <S3: POSIXct>	temperature <dbl>	humidity <int>	precipitation <dbl>	wind_speed <dbl>	cloud_cover <int>
New York, NY	40.7128	-74.006	2024-01-01 00:00:00	1.7	74	0	6.3	100
New York, NY	40.7128	-74.006	2024-01-01 01:00:00	1.7	76	0	8.9	100
New York, NY	40.7128	-74.006	2024-01-01 02:00:00	2.7	74	0	11.4	100
New York, NY	40.7128	-74.006	2024-01-01 03:00:00	2.8	74	0	9.7	100
New York, NY	40.7128	-74.006	2024-01-01 04:00:00	2.6	76	0	8.1	65
New York, NY	40.7128	-74.006	2024-01-01 05:00:00	0.6	88	0	7.5	91

6 rows

```
location      latitude longitude      datetime      cloud_cover
temperature   humidity precipitation wind_speed
Length:175680 Min.   :29.42 Min.   :-122.42 Min.   :2024-01-01 00:00:00.00 Min.
:-36.6 Min.   : 3.00 Min.   : 0.0000 Min.   : 0.00 Min.   : 0.00
Class :character 1st Qu.:32.75 1st Qu.: -113.35 1st Qu.:2024-04-01 12:00:00.00 1st Qu.:
10.2 1st Qu.: 53.00 1st Qu.: 0.0000 1st Qu.: 6.70 1st Qu.: 0.00
Mode :character Median :36.28 Median : -97.06 Median :2024-07-02 00:00:00.00 Median :
16.7 Median : 71.00 Median : 0.0000 Median :10.30 Median : 38.00
      Mean : 36.39 Mean : -97.22 Mean :2024-07-02 00:09:39.56 Mean :
16.5 Mean : 67.56 Mean : 0.1144 Mean :11.66 Mean : 47.88
      3rd Qu.:39.95 3rd Qu.: -82.66 3rd Qu.:2024-10-01 12:00:00.00 3rd Qu.:
23.5 3rd Qu.: 86.00 3rd Qu.: 0.0000 3rd Qu.:15.60 3rd Qu.:100.00
      Max. : 47.61 Max. : -71.06 Max. :2024-12-31 23:00:00.00 Max. :
46.9 Max. :100.00 Max. : 29.7000 Max. : 75.70 Max. :100.00
      NA's :20
```

# Tables of Data

## 1) Raw Energy Data:

A tibble: 6 × 9

period <chr>	respondent <chr>	respondent-name <chr>	type <chr>	type-name <chr>	timezone <chr>	timezone-description <chr>	value <chr>	value-units <chr>
2024-01-01	FPL	Florida Power & Light Co.	NG	Net generation	Pacific	Pacific	308958	megawatthours
2024-01-01	GVL	Gainesville Regional Utilities	NG	Net generation	Eastern	Eastern	4005	megawatthours
2024-01-01	CHPD	Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County	DF	Day-ahead demand forecast	Mountain	Mountain	7044	megawatthours
2024-01-01	IID	Imperial Irrigation District	TI	Total interchange	Arizona	Arizona	9529	megawatthours
2024-01-01	CISO	California Independent System Operator	D	Demand	Pacific	Pacific	516401	megawatthours
2024-01-01	PSEI	Puget Sound Energy, Inc.	DF	Day-ahead demand forecast	Eastern	Eastern	65341	megawatthours

6 rows

```
period      respondent      respondent-name      type      type-name
timezone    timezone-description    value
Length:182974    Length:182974    Length:182974
Length:182974    Length:182974    Length:182974
Class :character    Class :character    Class :character    Class :character    Class :character
Class :character    Class :character    Class :character    Class :character    Class :character
Mode  :character    Mode  :character    Mode  :character    Mode  :character    Mode  :character
Mode  :character    Mode  :character    Mode  :character    Mode  :character    Mode  :character
```

```
value-units      value_numeric
Length:182974    Min.   : -216618
Class :character    1st Qu.:  5867
Mode  :character    Median : 43592
                    Mean   : 349871
                    3rd Qu.: 264360
                    Max.   :14899049
```

# Data Cleaning Process (weather)

- *Duplicate removal*: Applied `distinct()` to eliminate identical weather observations that occurred due to API response duplications
- *Column standardization*: Renamed all columns using a consistent naming convention (e.g., `temperature_c`, `humidity_pct`) for enhanced code readability and maintainability
- *Temporal feature extraction*: Used `lubridate` functions to extract date components and create calendar-based features like season, day of week, and time of day variables
- *Feature engineering*: Created derived weather variables such as heat index, temperature range, and extreme weather flags to capture thermal comfort aspects
- *Data categorization*: Developed categorical variables for precipitation intensity, wind speed (using Beaufort scale), and overall weather conditions for easier analysis
- *Geographic enrichment*: Extracted state information from location names and added city-level identifiers for regional analysis
- *NA handling*: Implemented consistent missing value strategies across all data cleaning operations with appropriate `na.rm` parameters
- *Outlier identification*: Applied statistical methods (z-scores) to flag extreme values for each weather variable
- *Daily aggregation*: Created daily summary statistics from hourly observations using `group_by()` and `summarise()` functions, calculating metrics like daily min/max temperatures and total precipitation

# Data Cleaning Process (energy)

- *Duplicate elimination*: Removed exact duplicate energy records that occurred from repeated API calls and pagination overlap
- *Variable standardization*: Transformed character-type values to appropriate numeric formats for statistical analysis using `as.numeric()` conversion
- *Geographical mapping*: Created a custom mapping system to associate company codes with states and regions based on utility service territories
- *Company categorization*: Classified energy companies by size and type using domain knowledge and average production/demand values
- *Temporal feature creation*: Added date-based variables including season, quarter, and day type (weekday/weekend) to enable time-based analysis
- *Measurement categorization*: Developed a taxonomy for energy measurements by grouping similar types (generation, demand, interchange) for consistent analysis
- *Regional aggregation*: Created region-level summaries from company-level data to align with weather observation regions
- *Outlier detection*: Identified extreme values using statistical thresholds and flagged them with logical indicators
- *Derived variables*: Calculated percentage changes, ratios between generation and demand, and other metrics to support analytical insights
- *Missing value handling*: Applied consistent strategies for NA values using complete cases and appropriate imputation where necessary



## Energy Data (after cleaning)

Rows: 183,000

Columns: 18

\$ company code

\$ company\_name

\$ state

\$ company\_size

\$ date

\$ year

\$ month

\$ day

\$ weekday

\$ season

\$ measurement\_type

```
$ measurement_name
```

\$ measurement\_category

\$ value\_numeric

\$ units

```
$ timezone
```

\$ timezone\_desc

\$ value

[illegible]



## Weather Data (after cleaning)

[illegible]

# Integration Strategy

- Created a custom mapping table connecting weather cities to energy regions based on utility service territories
- Executed a two-stage merge process using dplyr's joining functions:
  - Stage 1: Used `left_join()` to connect daily weather observations with the mapping table
  - Preserved all weather records while adding corresponding energy region codes
  - Join column: "location"
  - Stage 2: Used `inner_join()` to combine the intermediate dataset with energy data
  - Join columns: "date" and "energy\_region"
  - Ensured proper temporal and spatial alignment
- Specified `relationship="many-to-many"` parameter to handle multiple energy measurements per date-region combination which is critical for preserving demand, generation, and interchange records for each location
- Performed post-merge validation checks:
  - Counted unique locations, regions, and dates
  - Verified data coverage against expected values
  - Ensured appropriate data integrity for analysis



Columns: 24

\$ location

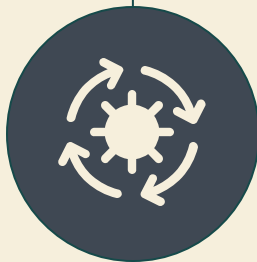
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# Exploratory Data Analysis



## Raw Data

We cleaned it but it still doesn't have value



## Our Data

This is the value we got from the data

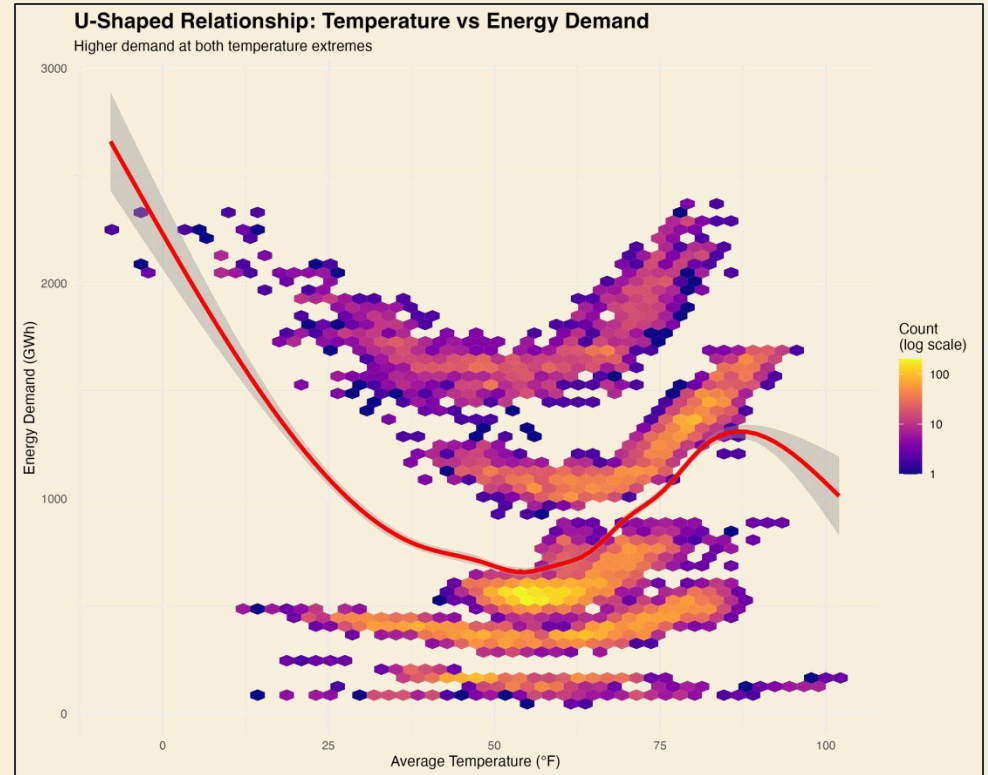


### 1) Visualized Temperature-Energy Relationship:

Created scatter plots with hexagonal binning to reveal the U-shaped pattern

Applied smoothing methods (GAM) to visualize the non-linear relationship

This directly demonstrated our core finding that energy demand increases at both temperature extremes

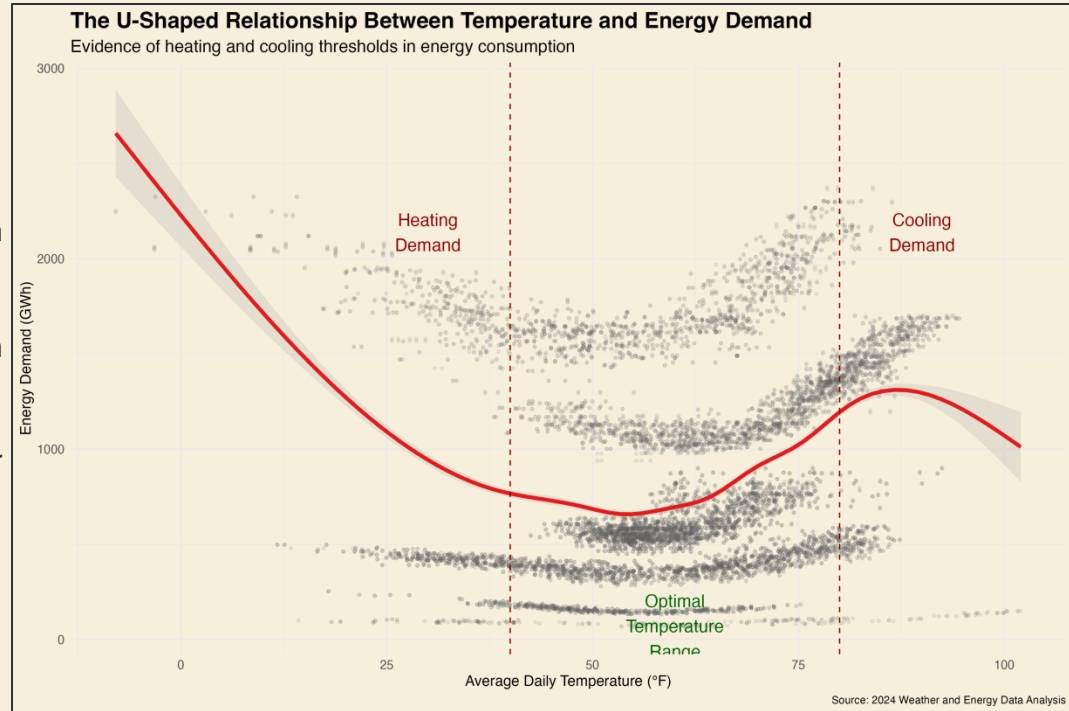


## 2) Optimal Temperature Investigation:

Generated temperature vs. energy plots with highlighted minimum points

Created region-specific curves to show variations in optimal temperature

This analysis pinpointed 51.5°F as the "sweet spot" for minimum energy demand

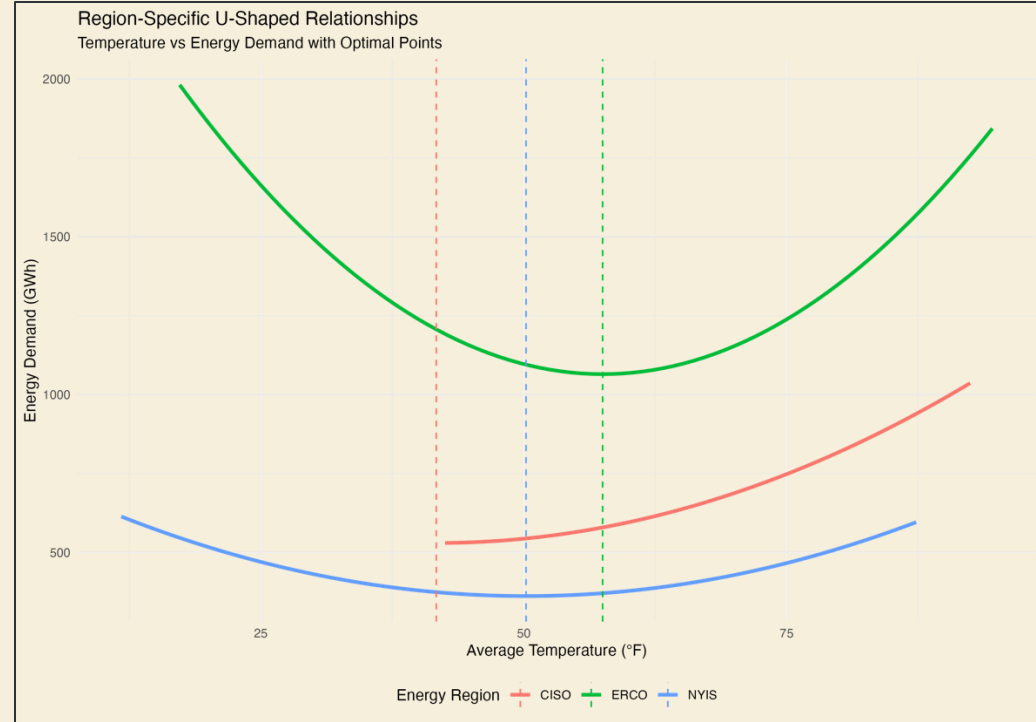


### 3) Breakpoint Analysis:

Developed segmented regression plots showing slope changes at critical temperature thresholds

Used color-coded regions to highlight different energy response zones

Visually confirmed the heating activation point (37.7°F) and cooling activation point (59.3°F)

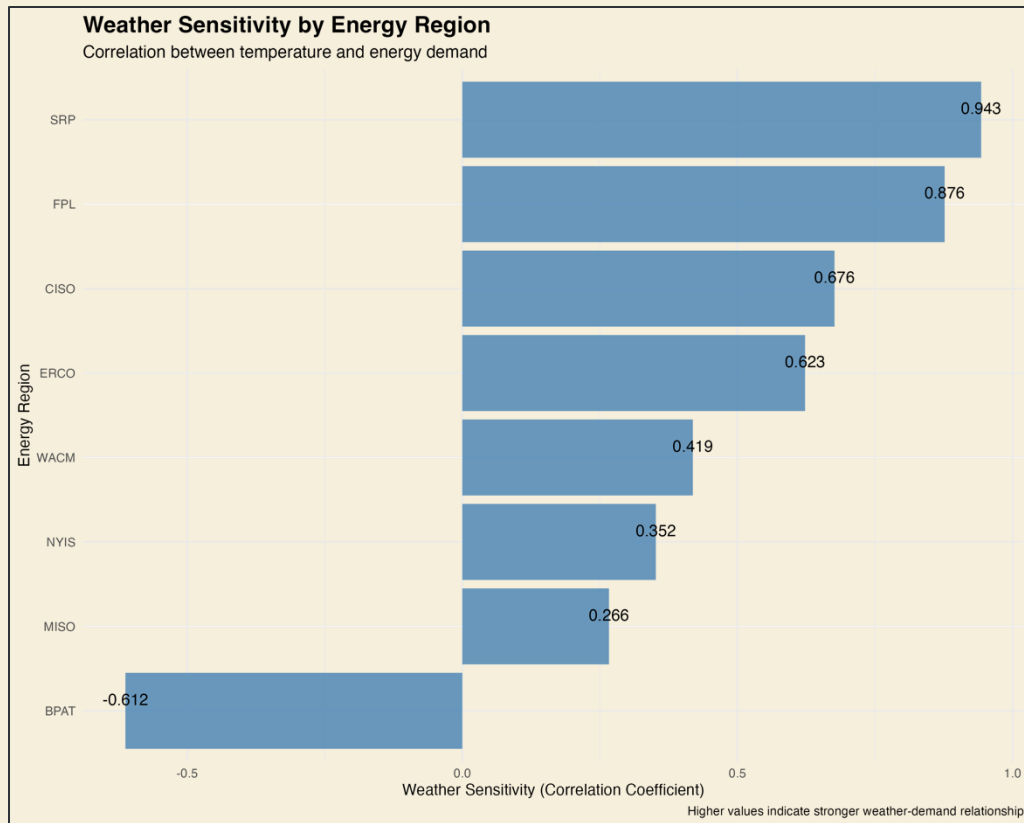


#### 4) Regional Sensitivity Comparison:

Created bar charts of temperature elasticity by region

Used faceted plots to compare regional temperature-energy curves

Highlighted the 2x variation in temperature sensitivity between regions

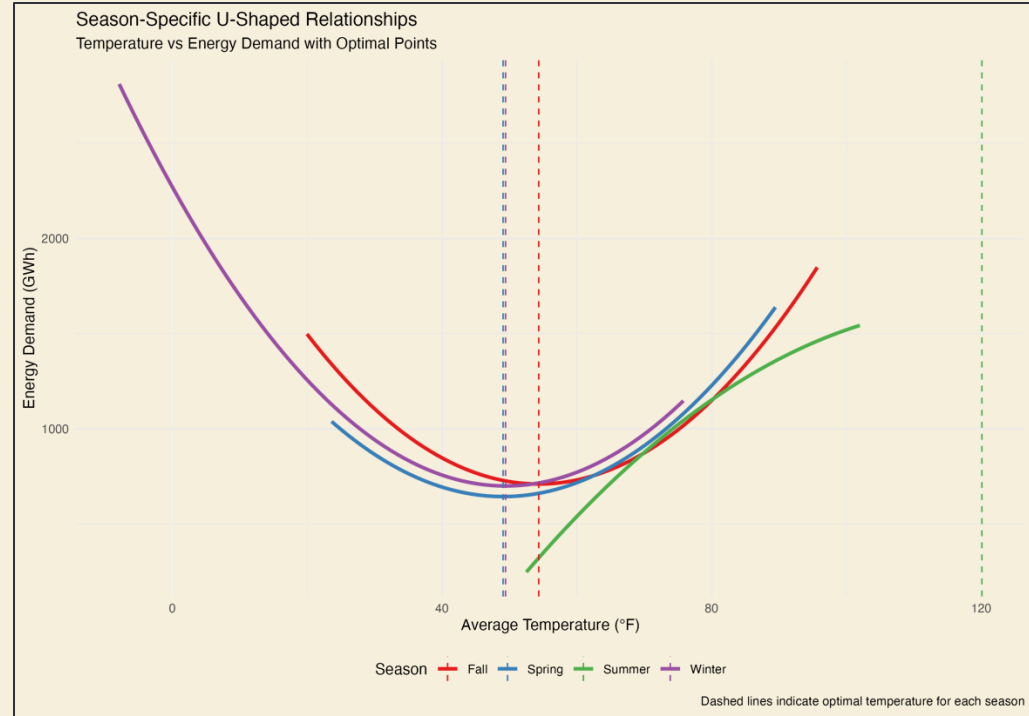


### 5) Seasonal Pattern Exploration:

Generated seasonal boxplots controlling for temperature

Created interaction plots showing season-specific temperature curves

Demonstrated that summer demand exceeds spring by 26.5% beyond temperature effects

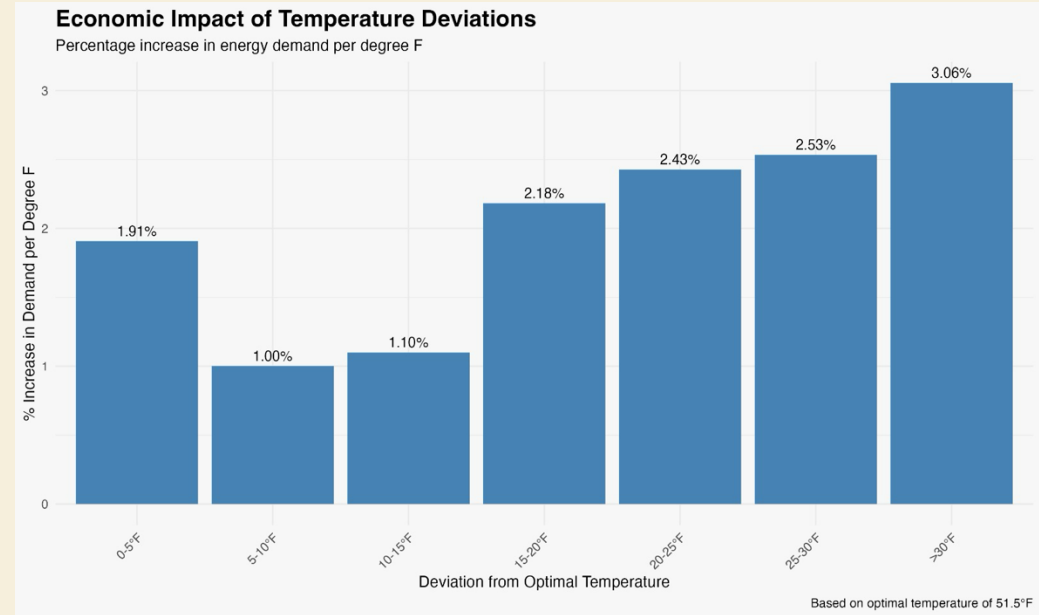


## 6) Economic Impact Visualization:

Developed marginal effect plots showing increasing impact with temperature deviation

Used stepped bar charts to display the progressive pattern of energy cost

Illustrated how deviations from optimal temperature had non-linear cost implications



# Key Findings

## U-Shaped Temperature-Energy Relationship

Energy demand follows a robust U-shaped pattern with temperature



## Economic Impact Quantification

Each 1°F deviation from optimal temperature increases energy demand by 2.03%

Lower breakpoint at 37.7°F – heating threshold

Upper breakpoint at 59.3°F – cooling threshold

## Temperature Breakpoints

Up to 2x difference in temperature sensitivity between regions

## Regional Sensitivity Variations

# Machine Learning Component

Used as baseline model with temperature and temperature-squared terms

**Linear Regression**

Applied to validate non-parametric relationships

**Generalized Additive Models (GAM)**



## Random Forest

Implemented as our primary advanced model to capture complex interactions



## Gradient Boosting

Employed as comparative ensemble method

# Results from the ML models:

## Machine Learning Models Performance Summary

Model Type	RMSE	MAE	R <sup>2</sup>	% Improvement	Key Features
Linear Regression	504,192	372,140	0.154	Baseline	Temperature, Temperature <sup>2</sup>
Random Forest	78,652	61,405	0.922	57%	Region, Temperature, Season, Humidity
Gradient Boosting	89,748	72,346	0.895	54%	Similar to Random Forest
Generalized Additive Model	108,734	89,106	0.786	51%	Non-parametric temperature curve
Segmented Regression	175,463	142,983	0.652	47%	Temperature breakpoints

These results show us that using ensemble model gives us the best result (highest accuracy) in understanding the effect of weather data on Energy consumption. It helps us in finding the optimal conditions for efficient use of energy based on weather parameters like precipitation, region, etc.

# Challenges & Solutions



## Problem

1. Geographic Mismatch: Weather data used city locations while energy data used regional codes
2. Temporal Granularity Differences: Weather data was hourly while energy data was daily
3. Missing Values: Weather observations had occasional gaps, particularly in precipitation data
4. Outlier Detection: Extreme weather events created statistical outliers



## Solution

1. Created a custom mapping table based on utility service territories to link cities to energy regions
2. Aggregated weather data to daily summaries using `group_by()` and `summarise()` with appropriate statistical functions
3. Missing Values: Weather observations had occasional gaps, particularly in precipitation data
4. Used z-score approach to identify outliers while preserving legitimate extreme weather events

# Final Insights

## Sweet Spot Temperature



51.5°F represents the energy efficiency optimal point where demand is minimized

## Regional Adaptation



Different regions have developed different temperature sensitivities, with some areas twice as responsive to temperature changes as others

## Economic Quantification



Each 1°F deviation from optimal temperature costs approximately 2.03% in increased energy demand

## Beyond Temperature



Seasonal effects account for up to 26.5% of energy demand variation beyond temperature alone

# How does this help us?

Applications:

- Energy system planning and infrastructure sizing
- Climate change impact assessment and adaptation planning
- Improved demand forecasting through advanced modeling techniques
- Regional policy targeting based on temperature sensitivity
- Optimization of energy efficiency programs around critical thresholds



# Future Work

Expand weather data to include solar radiation and barometric pressure variables

Collect finer-grained energy consumption data at hourly intervals

Incorporate building characteristics and demographics as mediating variables

Develop city-specific models to account for local microclimate effects

Implement time series forecasting with seasonal-trend decomposition

Create interaction models between weather variables and building efficiency metrics

Create an interactive dashboard for energy planners with region-specific guidance

Develop a real-time forecasting system integrating weather prediction with energy demand

Design region-specific threshold alerts for proactive demand management

# References

## R Packages

tidyverse (ver 2.0.0): Data manipulation and visualization  
httr (ver 0.14.0): API requests  
jsonlite (ver 1.8.4): JSON parsing  
lubridate (ver 1.8.0): Date handling  
plotly (ver 4.10.1): Interactive visualizations  
mgcv (ver 1.8.42): Generalized Additive Models  
randomForest (ver 4.7.1): Random Forest modeling  
segmented (ver 1.6.1): Breakpoint analysis  
nlme (ver 3.1.157): Mixed-effects models

## Data Sources

Data Sources  
Open-Meteo ERA5 Historical Weather API  
(<https://archive-api.open-meteo.com/v1/era5>)  
U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) API v2  
(<https://api.eia.gov/v2/electricity/rto/daily-region-data/data/>)

## Methodological References

Wood, S.N. (2017). Generalized Additive Models: An Introduction with R (2nd ed.)  
Breiman, L. (2001). Random Forests. Machine Learning, 45(1), 5-32  
Muggeo, V.M.R. (2008). Segmented: An R Package to Fit Regression Models with Broken-Line Relationships

## Related Research

Sailor, D.J., & Muñoz, J.R. (1997). Sensitivity of electricity and natural gas consumption to climate in the U.S.A.  
Auffhammer, M., & Aroonruengsawat, A. (2011). Simulating the impacts of climate change, prices and population on California's residential electricity consumption  
Deschênes, O., & Greenstone, M. (2011). Climate Change, Mortality, and Adaptation: Evidence from Annual Fluctuations in Weather in the US



# THANKS!

Does anyone have any questions?

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