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# Appliances Energy Prediction

*Supervised Machine Learning Regression  
Capstone Project 02*

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# Supervised Machine Learning Regression Capstone Project: 02

## Appliances Energy Prediction

Pankaj Beldar

**Abstract-** This Capstone Project presents and discusses data-driven predictive models for the energy use of appliances. Data used include measurements of temperature and humidity sensors from a wireless network, weather from a nearby airport station and recorded energy use of lighting fixtures. The paper discusses data filtering to remove non-predictive parameters and feature ranking. When using all the predictors. From the wireless network, the data from the kitchen, laundry and living room were ranked the highest in importance for the energy prediction. The prediction models with only the weather data, selected the atmospheric pressure (which is correlated to wind speed) as the most relevant weather data variable in the prediction. Therefore, atmospheric pressure may be important to include in energy prediction models and for building performance modelling.

### 1. Introduction

The understanding of the appliances energy use in buildings has been the subject of numerous research studies, since appliances represent a significant portion (between 20 and 30% of the electrical energy demand. For instance, in a study in the UK for domestic buildings, appliances, such as televisions and consumer electronics operating in standby were attributed to a near about 10% increase in the electricity consumption. Regression models for energy use can help to understand the relationships between different variables and to quantify their impact. Thus, prediction models of electrical energy consumption in buildings can be useful for a number of applications to determine adequate sizing of photovoltaics and energy storage to diminish power flow into the grid , to detect abnormal energy use patterns , to be part of an energy management system for load control , to model predictive control applications where the loads are needed , for demand side management (DSM) and demand side response (DSR) and as an input for building performance simulation analysis.

### 2. Problem Statement

Data-driven prediction of energy use of appliances the data set is at 10 min for about 4.5 months. The house temperature and humidity conditions were monitored with a ZigBee wireless sensor network. Each wireless node transmitted the temperature and humidity conditions around 3.3 min. Then, the wireless data was averaged for 10 minutes periods. The energy data was logged every 10 minutes with m-bus energy meters. Weather from the nearest airport weather station (Chievres Airport, Belgium) was downloaded from a public data set from Reliable Prognosis (rp5.ru) and merged together with the experimental data sets using the date and time column. Two random variables have been included in the data set for testing the regression models and to filter out non-predictive attributes (parameters).

### 3. Dataset

- Dataset have 19735 rows and 29 attributes.
  - Dataset doesn't have any missing values.
  - Dataset doesn't have any Duplicate values.
  - Data Attributes are as follows:
1. **date:** time year-month-day hour:minute:second
  2. **Appliances:** energy use in Wh (Dependent variable)
  3. **lights:** energy use of light fixtures in the house in Wh
  4. **T1,** Temperature in kitchen area, in Celsius
  5. **RH1:** Humidity in kitchen area, in %
  6. **T2,** Temperature: in living room area, in Celsius
  7. **RH2:** Humidity in living room area, in %
  8. **T3:** Temperature in laundry room area
  9. **RH3:** Humidity in laundry room area, in %
  10. **T4:** Temperature in office room, in Celsius
  11. **RH4:** Humidity in office room, in %
  12. **T5:** Temperature in bathroom, in Celsius
  13. **RH5:** Humidity in bathroom, in %
  14. **T6,** Temperature outside the building (north side), in Celsius
  15. **RH6:** Humidity outside the building (north side), in %
  16. **T7:** Temperature in ironing room, in Celsius
  17. **RH7:** Humidity in ironing room, in %
  18. **T8,** Temperature in teenager room 2, in Celsius
  19. **RH8:** Humidity in teenager room 2, in %
  20. **T9:** Temperature in parents' room, in Celsius
  21. **RH9:** Humidity in parents' room, in %
  22. **To,** Temperature outside (from Chievres weather station), in Celsius
  23. **Pressure** (from Chievres weather station), in mm Hg
  24. **RHout,** Humidity outside (from Chievres weather station), in %
  25. **Wind speed:** (from Chievres weather station), in m/s
  26. **Visibility:** (from Chievres weather station), in km
  27. **Tdewpoint:** (from Chievres weather station),  $^{\circ}\text{C}$

28. **rv1**: Random variable 1, no dimensional

29. **rv2**: Random variable 2, no dimensional

Where indicated, hourly data (then interpolated) from the nearest airport weather station (Chievres Airport, Belgium) was downloaded from a public data set from Reliable Prognosis, rp5.ru. Permission was obtained from Reliable Prognosis for the distribution of the 4.5 months of weather data.

I have utilised the 'date' column to extract **hour, day of month, day of week, month, month name, day name** to find out more insights from time series data.

Let's create Categorical feature based on time as the phase of the day as Evening, Night, Morning, Afternoon

Hours	Phase of the Day
6 am to 12 pm	Morning
12 pm to 6 pm	Afternoon
6 pm to 12 pm	Evening
12 pm to 6 am	Night

Identify the Types of Features eg. numerical features, dependent feature, categorical feature

Numerical Features = [ 'T1', 'RH\_1', 'T2', 'RH\_2', 'T3', 'RH\_3', 'T4', 'RH\_4', 'T5', 'RH\_5', 'T6', 'RH\_6', 'T7', 'RH\_7', 'T8', 'RH\_8', 'T9', 'RH\_9', 'T\_out', 'Press\_mm\_hg', 'RH\_out', 'Windspeed', 'Visibility', 'Tdewpoint', 'rv1', 'rv2', 'hour', 'day\_of\_month' ]

Dependent Feature = ['Appliances']

Categorical Features = ['Phase\_of\_Day', 'day\_name', 'month\_name']

## 4. Exploratory Data Analysis

What is Exploratory Data Analysis?

Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) is an approach to analyse the data using visual techniques. It is used to discover trends, patterns, or to check assumptions with the help of statistical summary and graphical representations. An EDA is a thorough examination meant to uncover the underlying structure of a data set and is important for a company because it exposes trends, patterns, and relationships that are not readily apparent.

What are the types of exploratory data analysis?

The four types of EDA are

1. Univariate non-graphical,
2. Multivariate non- graphical,
3. Univariate graphical,
4. Multivariate graphical.

5. Lets plot the distribution plot of each variable with distribution plot to check whether all variables are normally distributed or not.

#### a) Univariate Analysis



Fig: 01 Distribution Plot of all variables

Temperature and Humidity attributes have a gaussian-like distribution. The target variable 'Appliances' has a skewed gaussian distribution indicating a wide range of outliers over the 3rd quartile. From above distribution plot we can conclude that variables hour, rv2, day\_of\_month, appliances, rh6, rv1, T9, T3, windspeed, visibility are not normally distributed. other variables are seeming to be normally distributed.

as Appliances is our dependent variable hence to find out the pattern of correlation with dependent variable, we have plotted the scatter plot of each variable with dependent variable.

1. Energy consumption in kitchen area is less as compared to living room area.
2. Energy consumption bathroom, laundry area is more.
3. Maximum Energy consumption is from 12pm to 6pm time period.

Regression Plot variations with Appliances

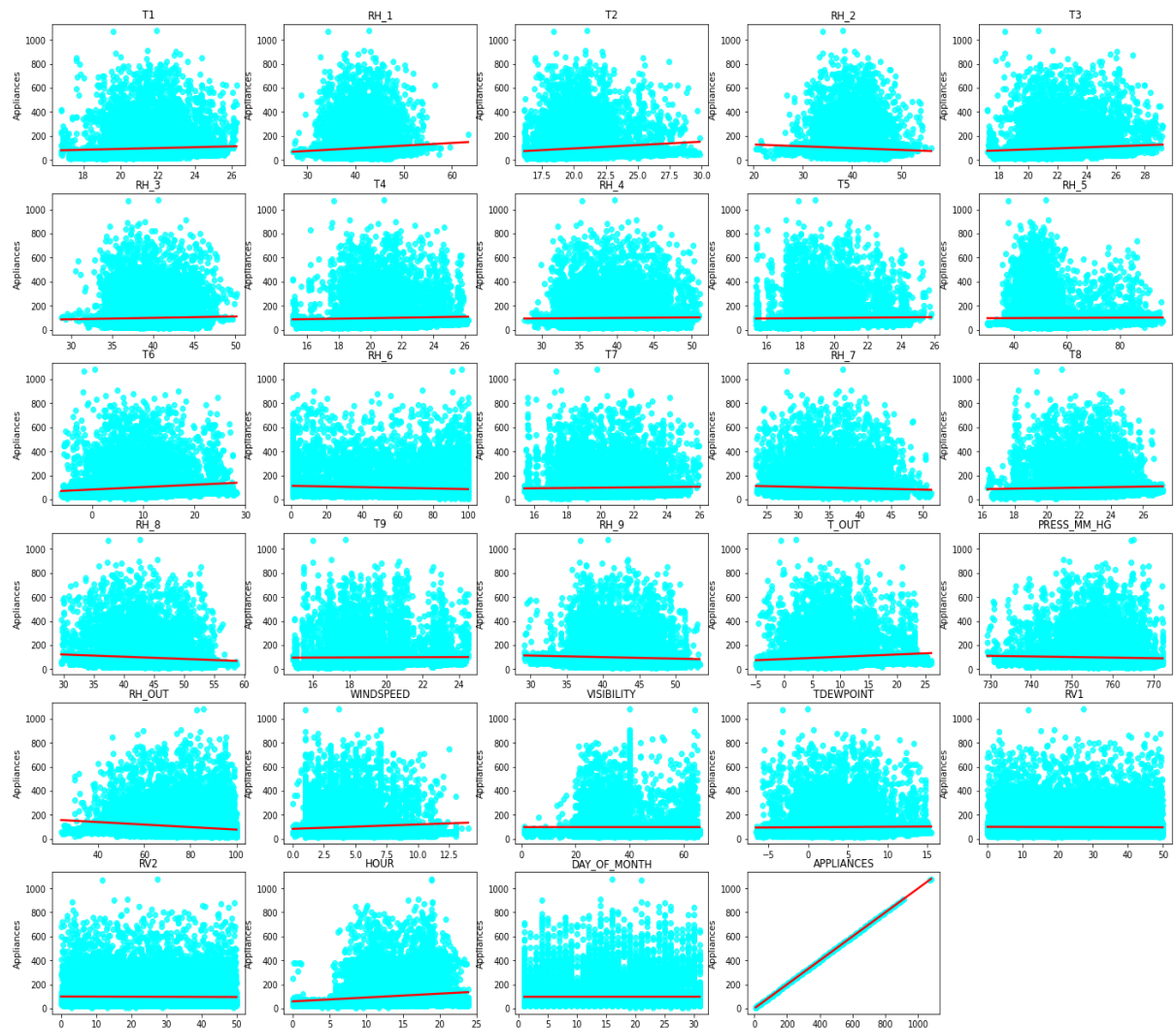


Fig: 02 Regression plot of all variables with dependent variable

When the quantiles of two variables are plotted against each other, then the plot obtained is known as quantile – quantile plot or QQplot. This plot provides a summary of whether the distributions of two variables are similar or not with respect to the locations.

The quantile-quantile (q-q) plot is a graphical technique for determining if two data sets come from populations with a common distribution.

There is large variation in QQ plot of variables hour, rv2, day\_of\_month, appliances, rh6, rv1, T9, T3, windspeed, visibility.

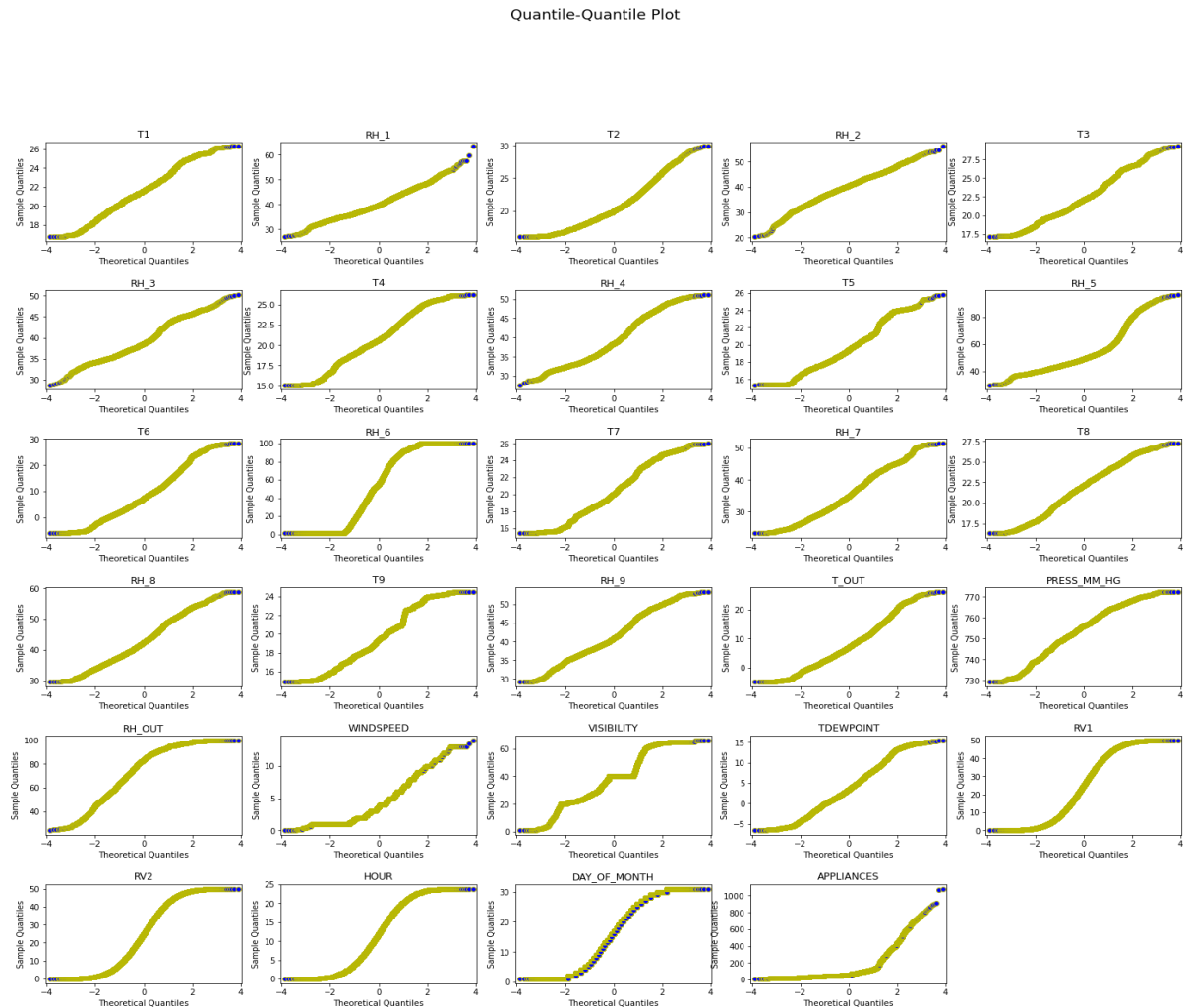


Fig: 03 QQ plot

1. Energy consumption on Monday is high, followed by Saturday, Friday and Sunday.
2. Energy consumption from 9am to 8 pm is high. whereas is less in between 12 am to 6am. its maximum at evening.

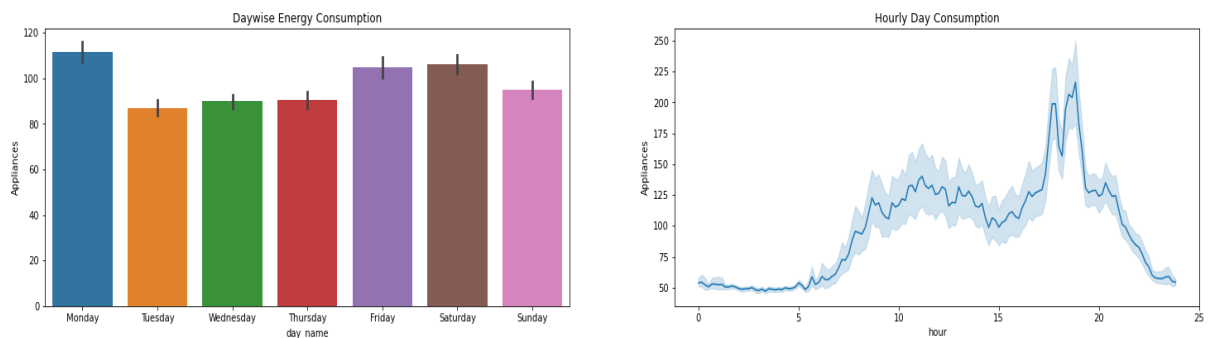


Fig: 04 Day wise and Hourly Energy Consumption

Box Plot

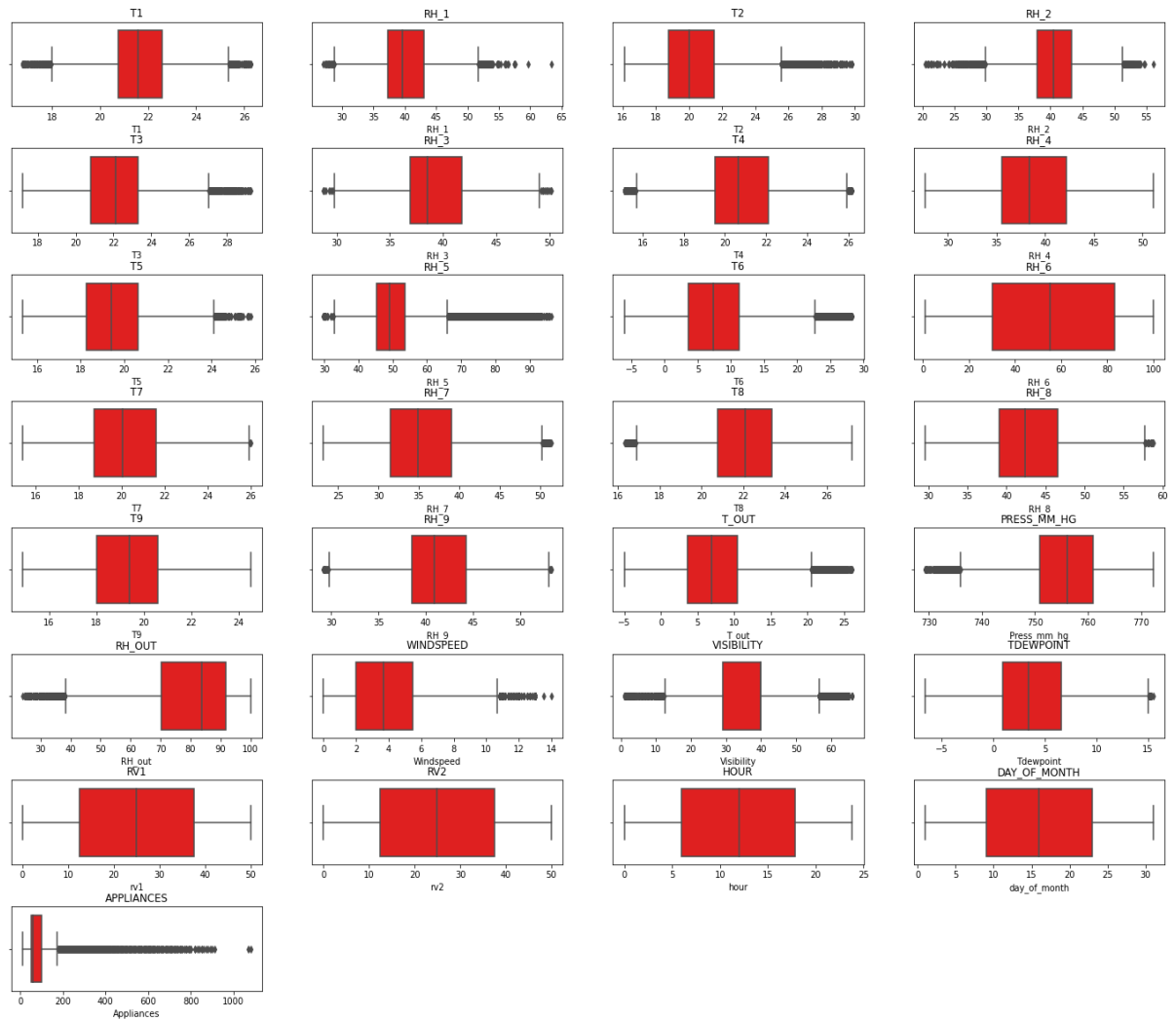


Fig: 05 Box plot

Most of the appliances consume energy in between 0-200 Wh. We can clearly see that many variables consist of outliers. T1, T2, T3, T4, T5, T6, T7, T8 and T\_OUT have outliers. RH\_1, RH\_2, RH\_3, RH\_5, RH\_7, RH\_8, RH\_9 and RH\_OUT have outliers. Windspeed, Tdewpoint, Visibility and the target variable Appliances also have outliers.

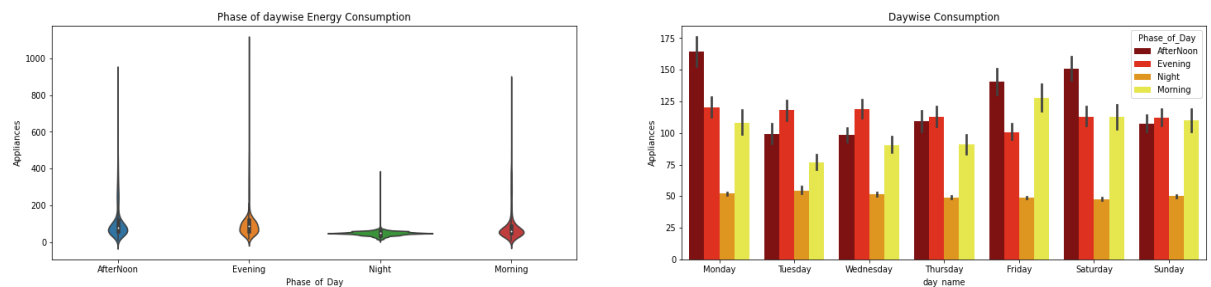


Fig: 06 Day wise and Hourly Energy Consumption



Energy consumption at night is less as compared to morning and afternoon on every weekday. Energy consumption is high in the evening. whereas its high on Monday, Friday and Saturday in the afternoon. Most of the appliances consumes around 200 Wh energy

## b) Bivariate Analysis

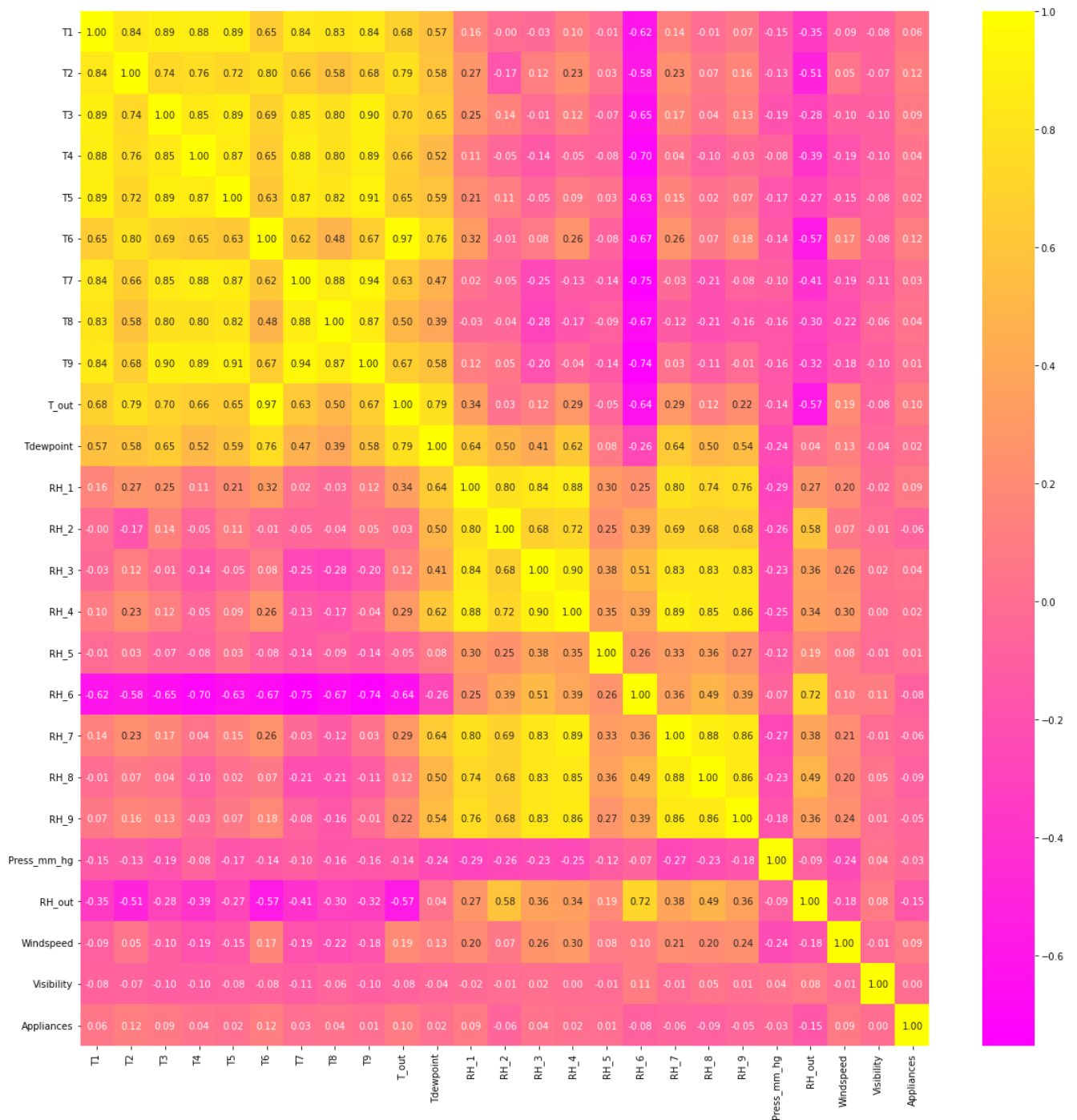


Fig: 07 Heatmap of Correlation

1. T9 and T7 are highly correlated as 0.94
2. T\_out and T6 are as 0.97 correlated as 0.97

3. We see strong correlation among temperature variables as change in outside heat can be experienced by all rooms except when changed only by human intervention such as use of thermostat, heaters etc.
4. There is also a strong inverse correlation observed between RH\_6 and all temperature features. This is because RH\_6 is the outside humidity.
5. As air temperature increases, air can hold more water molecules, and its relative humidity decreases

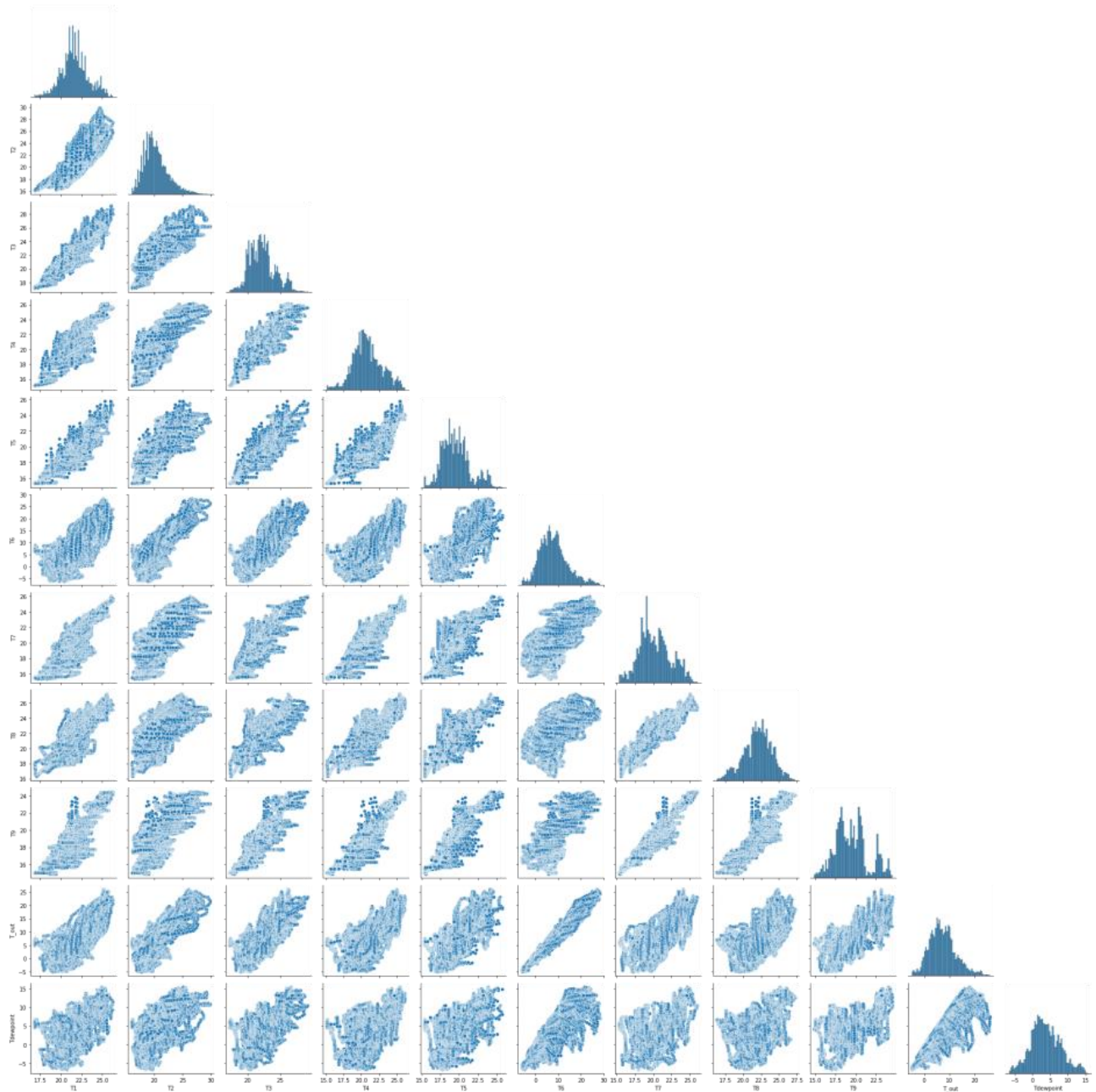


Fig:08 Pair plot of all Temperature Variables

Almost all Temperature variables are linearly correlated with each other.

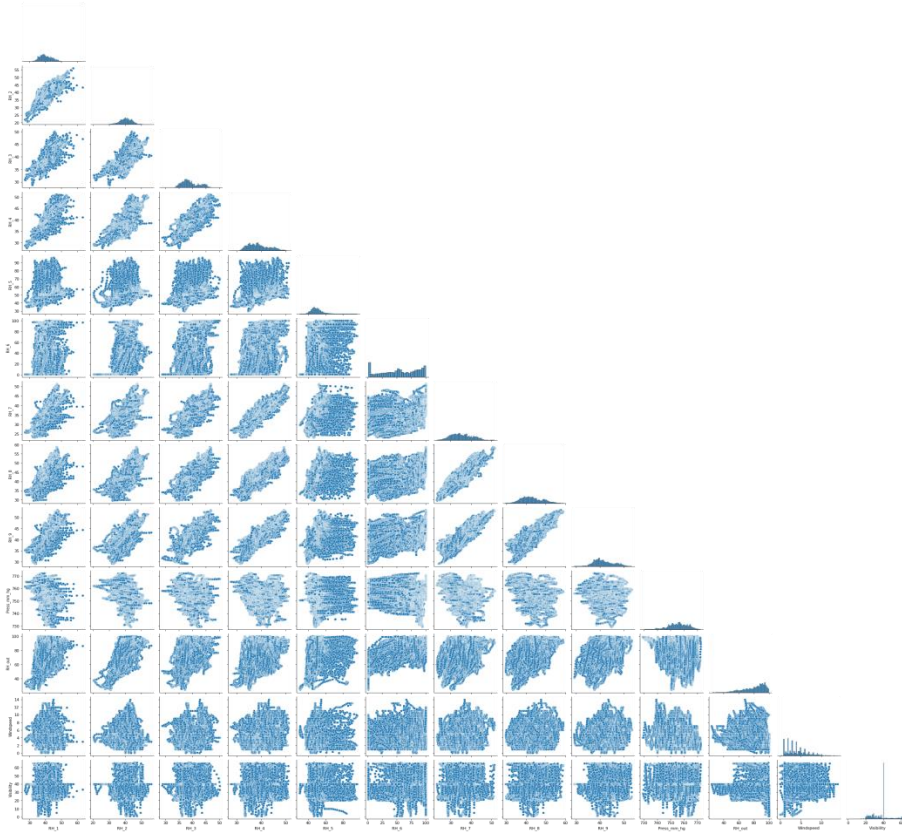


Fig: 09 Pair plot of Relative Humidity

Relative Humidity variables except rh5, rh6 are positively correlated with each other.

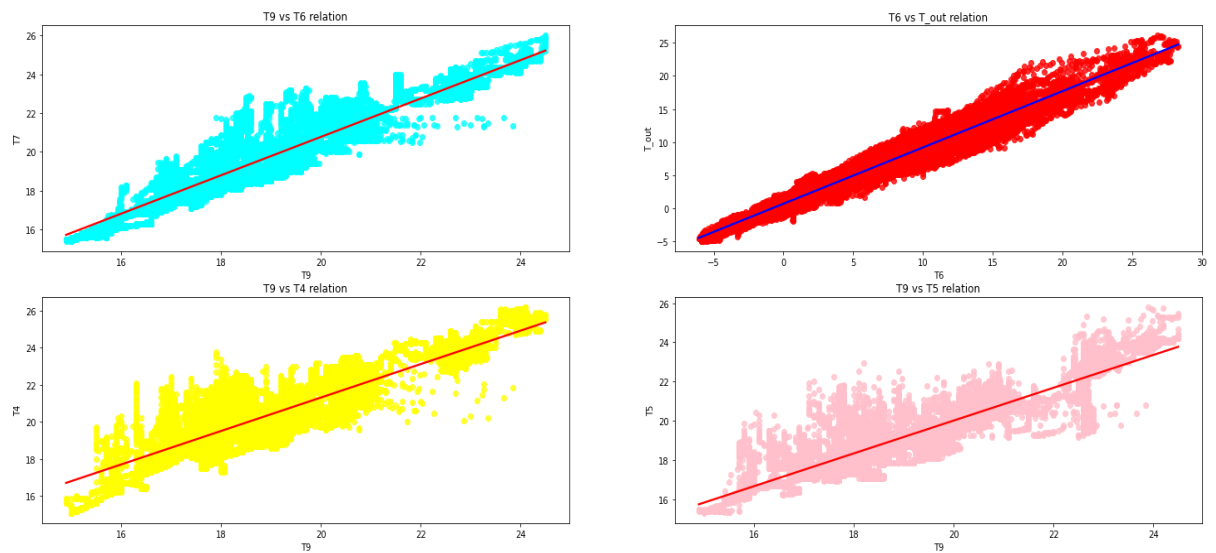


Fig:10 Regression plot of Temperature Variables

T9, T5, T4, T\_out, T6 are highly correlated which causes multicollinearity Since 'rv1' and 'rv2' have correlation of 1, we can drop either of them. Since both the features are identical, one of them is eliminated from the dataset. Now let's check, day wise hourly distribution of data over all variables. Temperature of Kitchen, bathroom, living area, outside the building

(north side) and parents' room is less in night also Energy consumption of appliances is less during night. Relative Humidity is more at night.

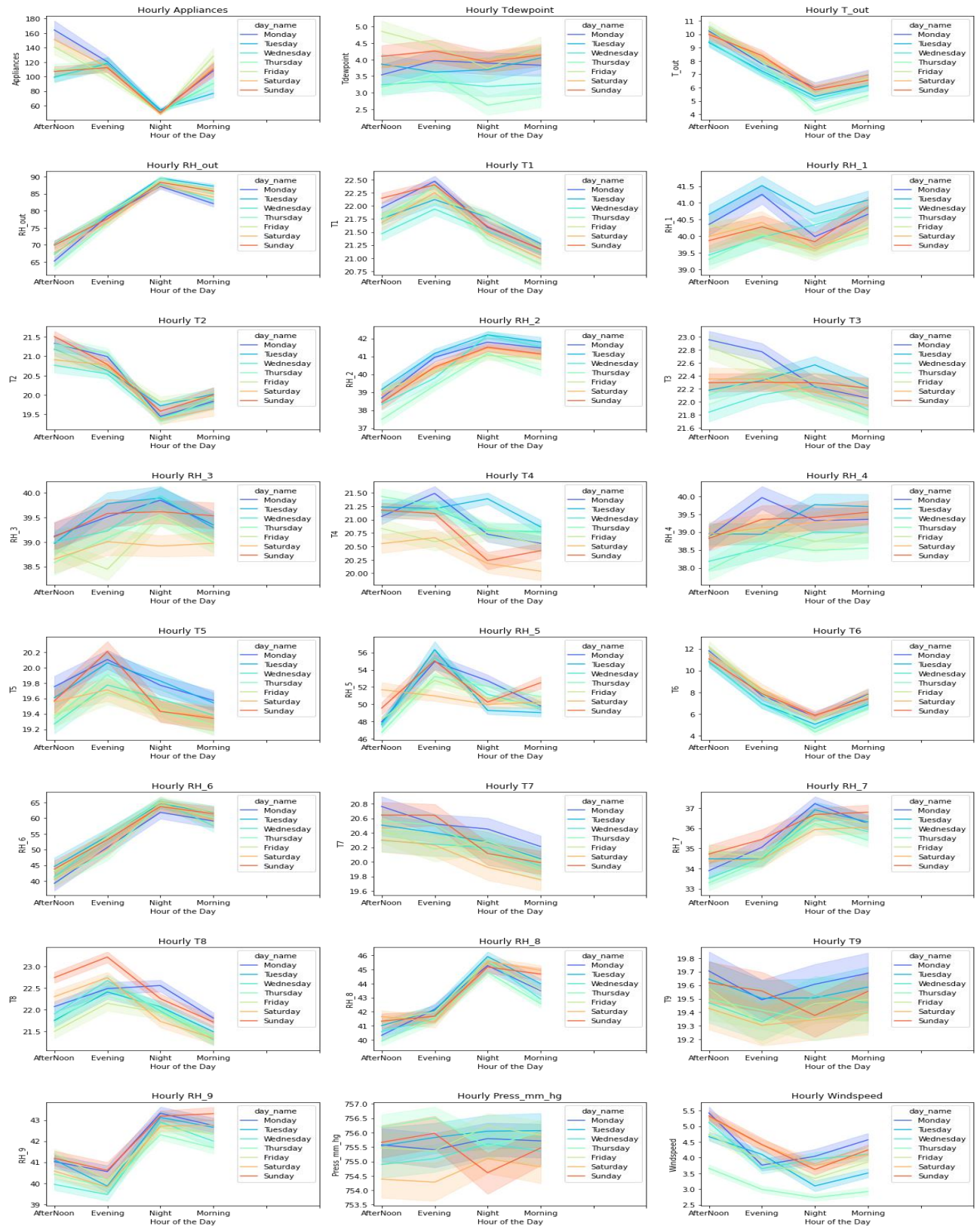


Fig: 11 Line plot of all features with phase of time



## 6. Feature Engineering and Selection

### Removing Outliers-

Outliers are those data points that are significantly different from the rest of the dataset. Machine learning algorithms are susceptible to the statistics and distribution of the input variables. Data outliers can spoil and mislead the training process. That results in longer training times, less accurate models, and poor results. Hence, we have detected the outliers. As discussed in boxplot, many variables are having outliers hence we need to deal with outliers. We can use the IQR method of identifying outliers to set up a “fence” outside of Q1 and Q3. Any values that fall outside of this fence are considered outliers. To build this fence we take 1.5 times the IQR and then subtract this value from Q1 and add this value to Q3. Inter Quantile method is used to remove outliers. Outliers are capped in between lower and upper limit. Figure below shows the Boxplot without outliers.

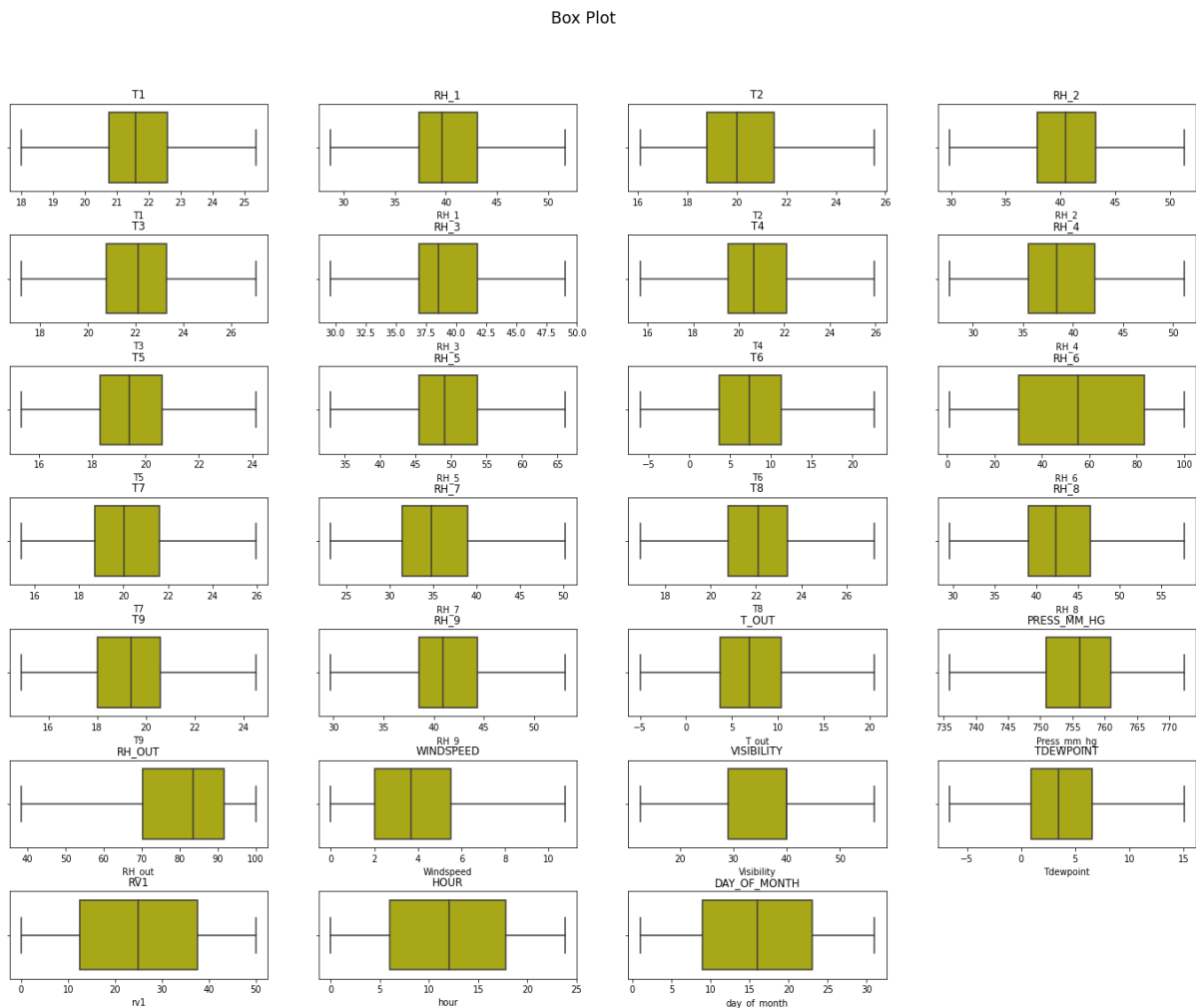


Fig:12 Box plot without Outliers

### 6. Encoding Categorical Variables

One hot encoding can be defined as the essential process of converting the categorical data variables to be provided to machine and deep learning algorithms which in turn improve predictions as well as classification accuracy of a model.

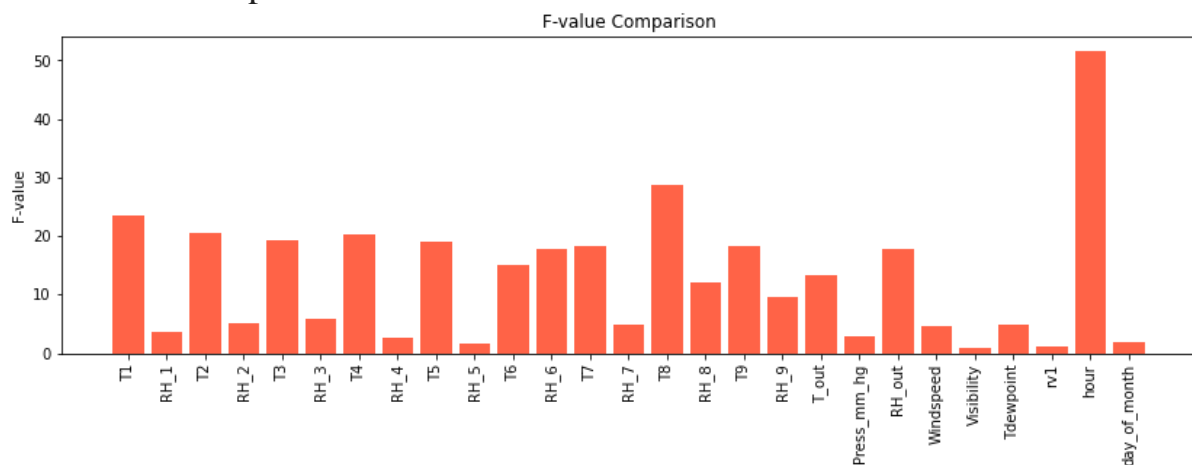
## 7. Check Multicollinearity

A variance inflation factor (VIF) is a measure of the amount of multicollinearity in regression analysis. Multicollinearity exists when there is a correlation between multiple independent variables in a multiple regression model. Small VIF values,  $VIF < 3$ , indicate low correlation among variables under ideal conditions. The default VIF cutoff value is 5; only variables with a VIF less than 5 will be included in the model. However, note that many sources say that a VIF of less than 10 is acceptable.

	variables	VIF
25	rv1	1.002546
23	Visibility	1.050790
0	Appliances	1.213415
10	RH_5	1.534392
20	Press_mm_hg	1.563047
27	day_of_month	1.711111
22	Windspeed	1.717932
18	RH_9	7.886518
7	T4	9.923554

### c) ANOVA F Value and Variance Threshold

The F value is used in analysis of variance (ANOVA). It is calculated by dividing two mean squares. This calculation determines the ratio of explained variance to unexplained variance.



Fg:13 F Value Comparison of most dominant features

hour, 'T1', 'RH\_1', 'T2', 'RH\_2', 'T3', 'RH\_3', 'T4', 'RH\_4', 'T5', 'RH\_5', 'T6', 'RH\_6', 'T7', 'RH\_7', 'T8', 'RH\_8', 'T9', 'RH\_9', 'T\_out', 'Press\_mm\_hg', 'RH\_out', 'Windspeed', 'Tdewpoint' are significant

features as per F value and variance threshold method. We use above variables for further variables.

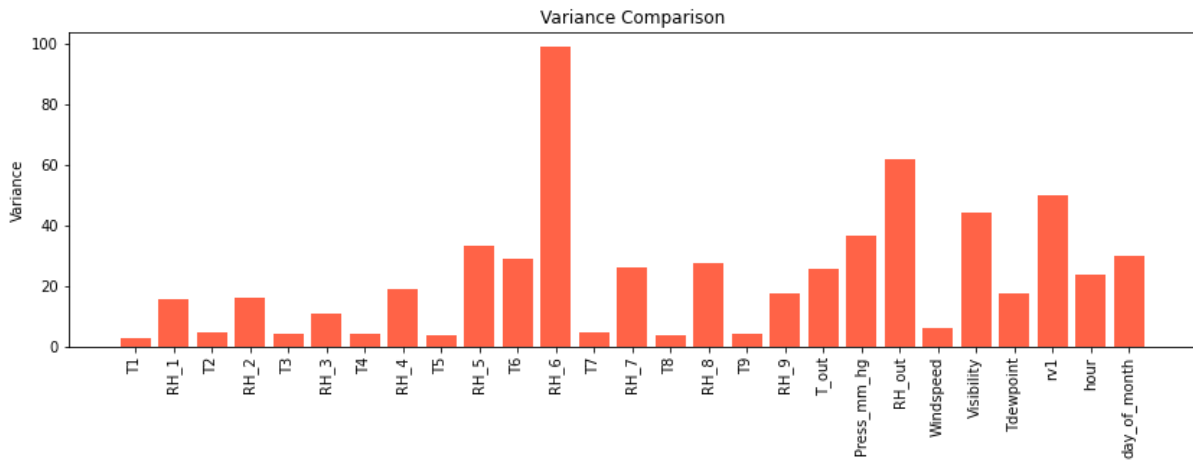


Fig:14 Variance Threshold Comparison

Variance threshold is a **simple baseline approach to feature selection**. It removes all features whose variance doesn't meet some threshold as it is assumed that features with a higher variance may contain more useful information.

## 8. Developing Machine Learning Model

### a) Train Test Split

The train-test split is used to estimate the performance of machine learning algorithms that are applicable for prediction-based Algorithms/Applications. This method is a fast and easy procedure to perform such that we can compare our own machine learning model results to machine results.

Training Data 80% (Rows, Columns)	Test data 20% (Rows, Columns)
(15788, 45)	(3947, 45)

### b) Scaling Dataset

Python sklearn library offers us with StandardScaler() function to standardize the data values into a standard format. According to the above syntax, we initially create an object of the StandardScaler() function. Further, we use fit\_transform() along with the assigned object to transform the data and standardize it. Figure below shows the Histogram of all scaled variables.

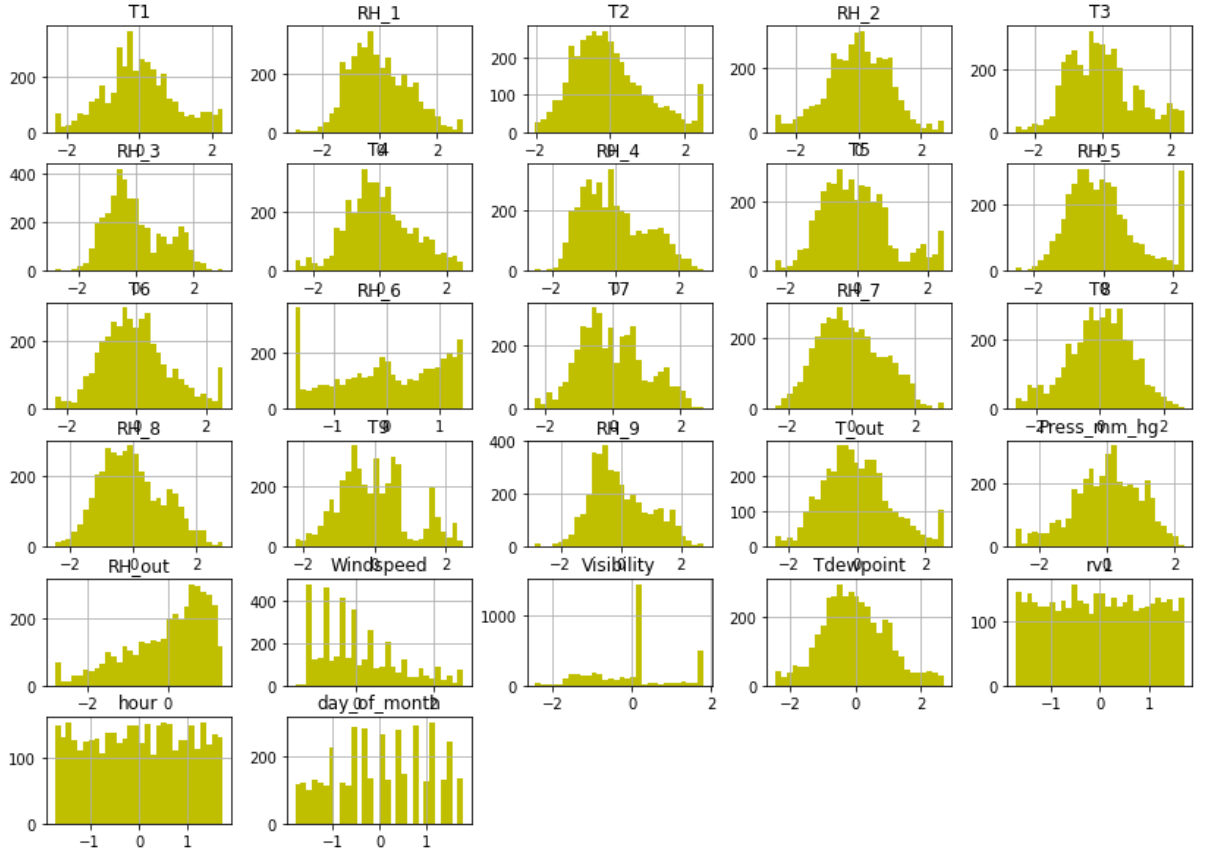


Fig: 15 Histogram of Features with Standard Scaler

### c) Functions used for Developing ML Model

All the regression models were trained with 10-fold cross validation to select the best. The first model trained was the multiple linear regression. The multiple linear regression uses all the available predictors and finds the appropriate slope quantifying the effect of each predictor and the response is obvious that the relationship between the variables and the energy consumption of appliances is not well represented by the linear model since the residuals are not normally distributed around the horizontal axis. In order to compare the performance of each of the regression models, different performance evaluation indices are used here: the root mean squared error (RMSE), the coefficient of determination or R-squared/R<sup>2</sup>, the mean absolute error (MAE) and the mean absolute percentage error (MAPE):

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \hat{Y}_i)^2}{n}}$$

$$R^2 = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \hat{Y}_i)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2}$$



$$MAE = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n |Y_i - \hat{Y}_i|}{n}$$

$$MAPE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{|Y_i - \hat{Y}_i|}{Y_i}$$

Figure below shows the KNN Regressor Model Performance on actual and predicted values.

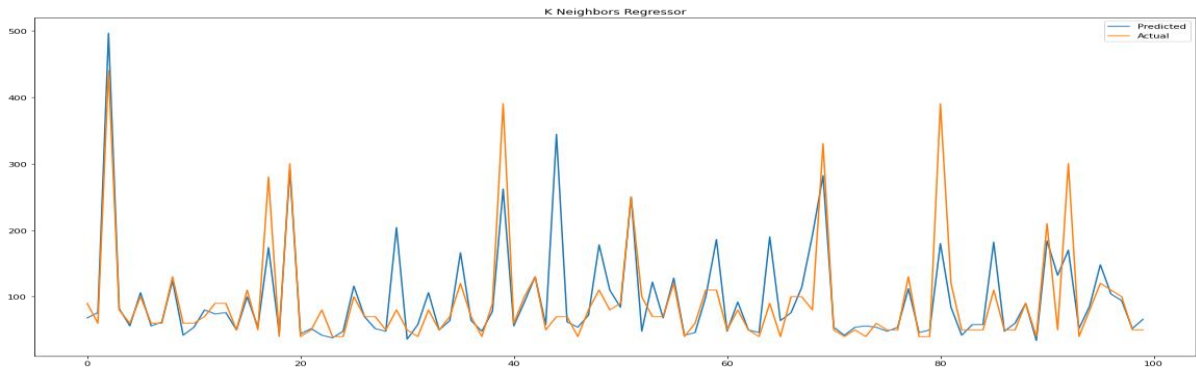


Fig:16 Sample Comparison of Actual and Predicted values of KNN Regression

Figure below shows the Random Forest Regressor Model Performance on actual and predicted values.

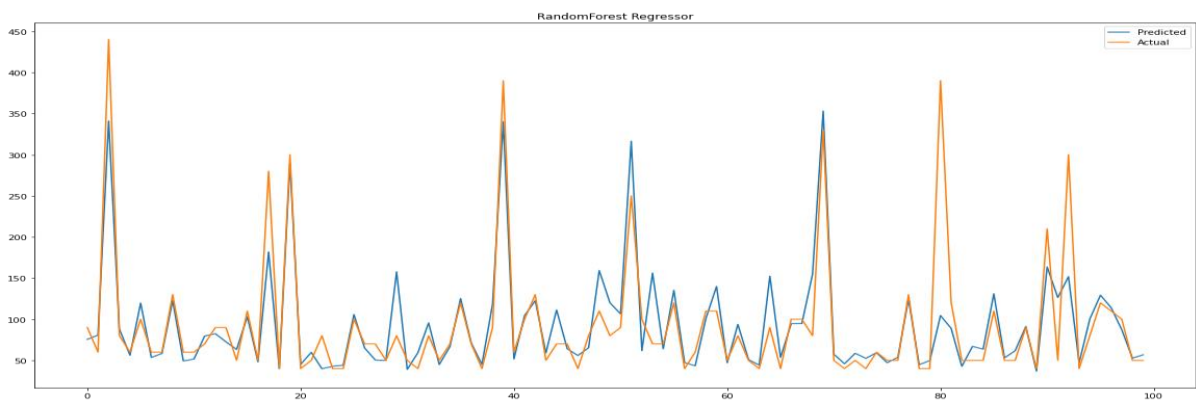


Fig:17 Sample Comparison of Actual and Predicted values of Random Forest Regression

#### d) HyperParameter Tuning

Hyperparameter tuning relies more on experimental results than theory, and thus the best method to determine the optimal settings is to try many different combinations evaluate the performance of each model. However, evaluating each model only on the training set can lead to one of the most fundamental problems in machine learning overfitting. If we optimize the model for the training data, then our model will score very well on the training set, but will not be able to generalize to new data, such as in a test set. When a model performs highly on the training set but poorly on the test set, this is known as overfitting, or essentially creating a model that knows the training set very well but cannot

be applied to new problems. It's like a student who has memorized the simple problems in the textbook but has no idea how to apply concepts in the messy real world.

```
({'n_estimators': 400,  
  'max_features': 'sqrt',  
  'max_depth': 70,  
  'criterion': 'squared_error',  
  'bootstrap': True},  
 0.5685077929384887)
```

### e. Cross Validation

The technique of cross validation (CV) is best explained by example using the most common method, K-Fold CV. When we approach a machine learning problem, we make sure to split our data into a training and a testing set. In K-Fold CV, we further split our training set into K number of subsets, called folds. We then iteratively fit the model K times, each time training the data on K-1 of the folds and evaluating on the Kth fold (called the validation data). As an example, consider fitting a model with K = 5. The first iteration we train on the first four folds and evaluate on the fifth. The second time we train on the first, second, third, and fifth fold and evaluate on the fourth. We repeat this procedure 3 more times, each time evaluating on a different fold. At the very end of training, we average the performance on each of the folds to come up with final validation metrics for the model.

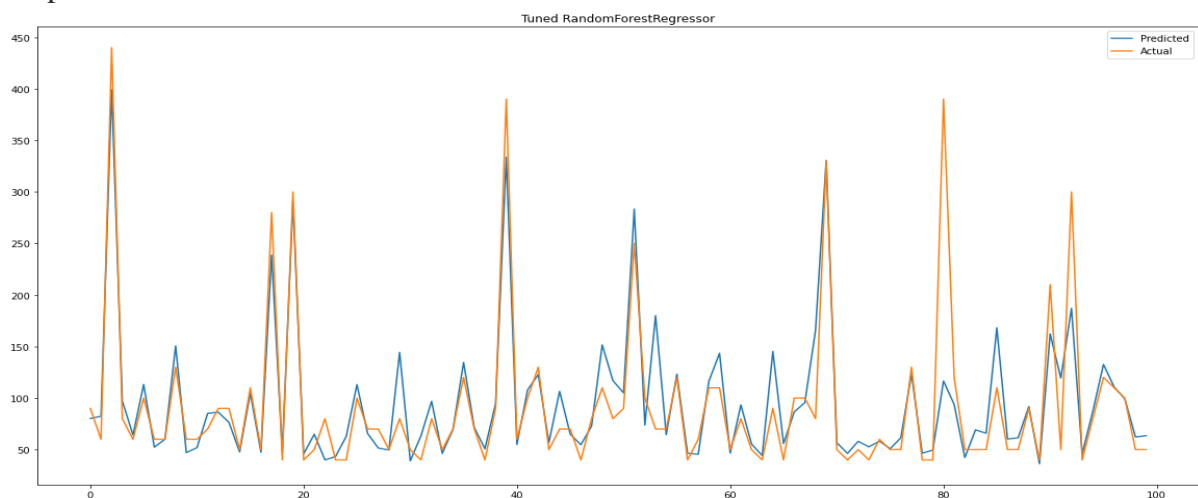
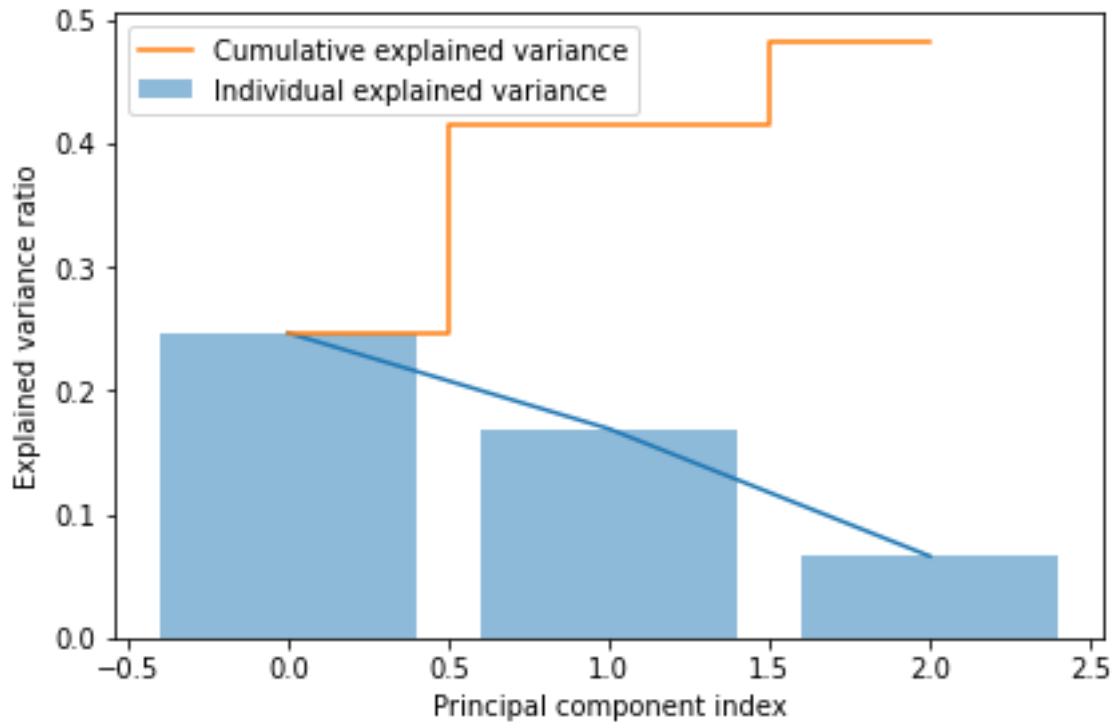


Fig:18 Sample Comparison of Actual and Predicted values of Random Forest regression with hyperparameter tuning

### f. Model with Principal Component Analysis

Principal components are new variables that are constructed as linear combinations or mixtures of the initial variables. Principal component analysis (PCA) simplifies the complexity in high-dimensional data while retaining trends and patterns. It does this by transforming the data into fewer dimensions, which act as summaries of features. Hence it is used for feature reduction.



### g. Optimal Model with Feature Reduction

Figure below shows the optimal tuned Random forest regressor model with R2 score 0.64 and following features as significant features.

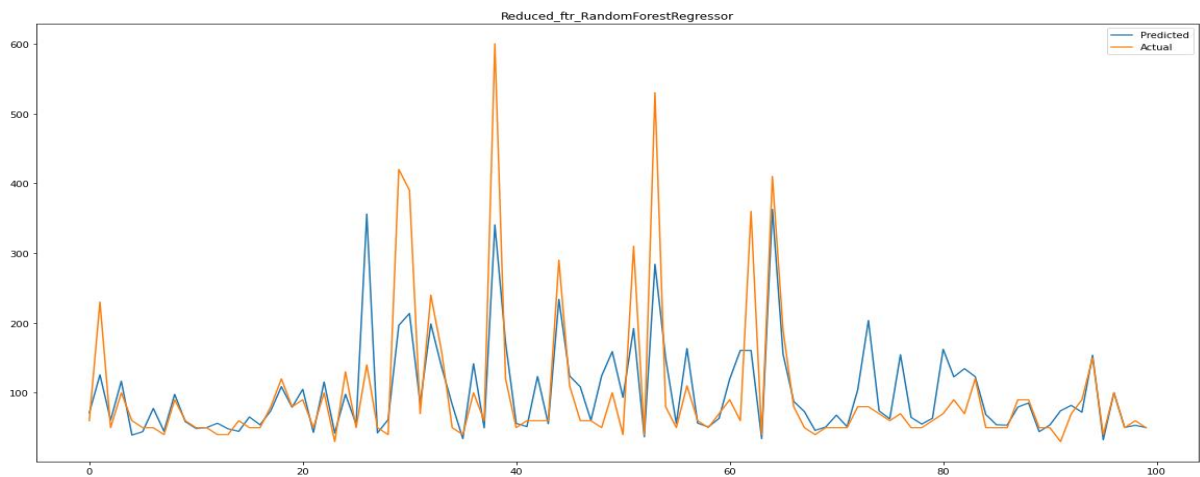


Fig:19 Sample Comparison of Actual and Predicted values of Random forest regression with PCA

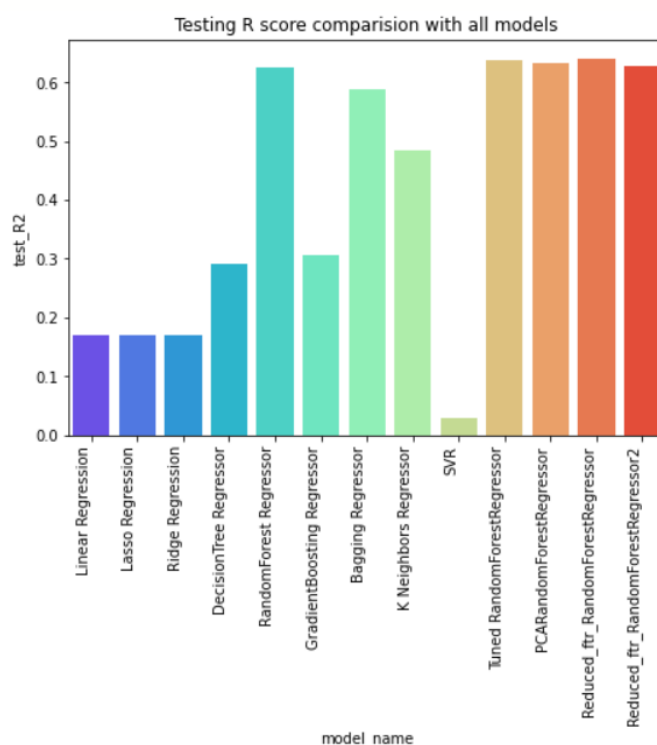
Features=["T1",'RH\_1','T2','RH\_2','T3','RH\_3','T4','RH\_4','T5','RH\_5','T6','RH\_6','T7','RH\_7','T8','RH\_8','T9','RH\_9','T\_out','Press\_mm\_hg','RH\_out','Windspeed','Tdewpoint','hour','Phase\_of\_Day\_AfterNoon','Phase\_of\_Day\_Evening','Phase\_of\_Day\_Morning','Phase\_of\_Day\_Night']

Table below shows the Comparison between different trained models with R2score, adjusted R2 score, MAE, RMSE of test data and R2 score of Training data

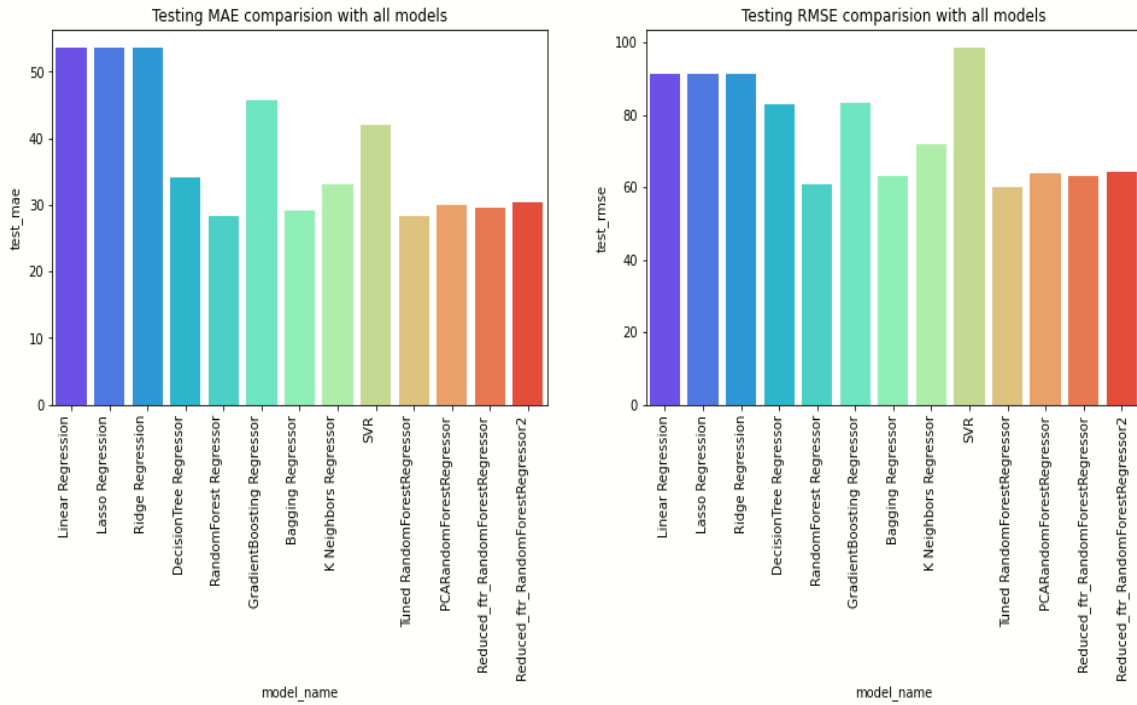
	model_type	model_name	test_mse	test_rmse	test_mae	test_R2	test_adjusted R2	training_R2
0	Linear	Linear Regression	8304.561934	91.129369	53.616417	0.170132	0.160774	0.176617
1	Linear	Lasso Regression	8304.550793	91.129308	53.616228	0.170133	0.160776	0.176617
2	Linear	Ridge Regression	8303.598268	91.124082	53.595284	0.170229	0.160872	0.176597
3	Tree	DecisionTree Regressor	6855.434507	82.797551	34.162655	0.314942	0.307217	1.000000
4	Ensemble Method	RandomForest Regressor	3677.424758	60.641774	28.294908	0.632518	0.628374	0.945464
5	Ensemble Method	GradientBoosting Regressor	6948.264897	83.356253	45.701002	0.305666	0.297836	0.365512
6	Ensemble Method	Bagging Regressor	3987.352166	63.145484	29.224474	0.601547	0.597054	0.925809
7	Neighbours	K Neighbors Regressor	5162.465670	71.850300	32.989612	0.484119	0.478302	0.678579
8	SVM	SVR	9722.610917	98.603301	42.019490	0.028428	0.017472	0.019664
9	Ensemble Method	Tuned RandomForestRegressor	3625.693802	60.213734	28.249189	0.637688	0.633508	0.946755
10	Ensemble Method	PCARandomForestRegressor	4093.815912	63.982935	29.901596	0.631854	0.627607	0.945857
11	Ensemble Method	Reduced_ftr_RandomForestRegressor	3994.559141	63.202525	29.487129	0.640780	0.638212	0.946692
12	Ensemble Method	Reduced_ftr_RandomForestRegressor2	4140.840791	64.349365	30.339638	0.627625	0.626299	0.945306

### Tuned Random Forest Regression Model with

**hour,'T1','RH\_1','T2','RH\_2','T3','RH\_3','T4','RH\_4','T5','RH\_5','T6','RH\_6','T7','RH\_7','T8','RH\_8','T9','RH\_9','T\_out','Press\_mm\_hg','RH\_out','Windspeed','Tdewpoint'**  
variables have maximum R2 score as 0.64 after hyper parameter tuning and Less MAE, RMSE.



**Fig:20 R2 Score Comparison of all ML Models**



**Fig:21 MAE and RMSE Error Comparison of all ML Models**

RMSE and MAE should be less for best fitted model. As per above comparison Random Forest model with feature reduction is best fitted model.

## **h. Model Explainability**

Model explainability refers to the concept of being able to understand the machine learning model Importance: Feature Importance refers to techniques that assign a score to input features based on how useful they are at predicting a target variable. Feature importance scores provide insight into the data and the deployed model.

## **i. Feature Importance**

By looking at the Feature Importance graphs and the contribution chart from ELI5, we can gather that the appliance energy consumption largely depends on the 'T1','RH\_1','T2','RH\_2','T3','RH\_3','T4','RH\_4','T5','RH\_5','T6','RH\_6','T7','RH\_7','T8','RH\_8','T9','RH\_9','T\_out','Press\_mm\_hg','RH\_out','Windspeed','Tdewpoint'.

**Figure below shows the comparison between random forest regressor model and optimal random forest regressor with feature reduction.**

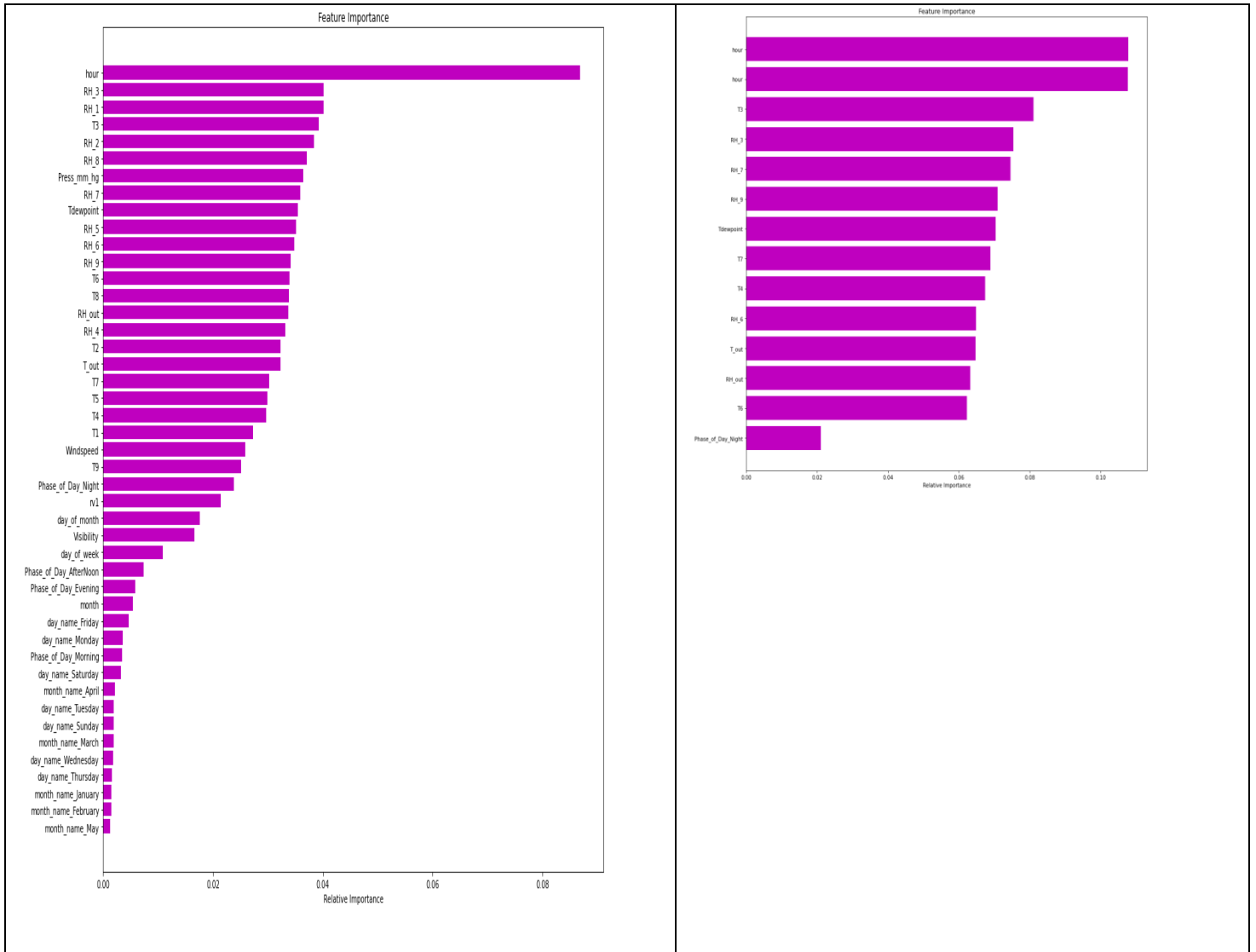
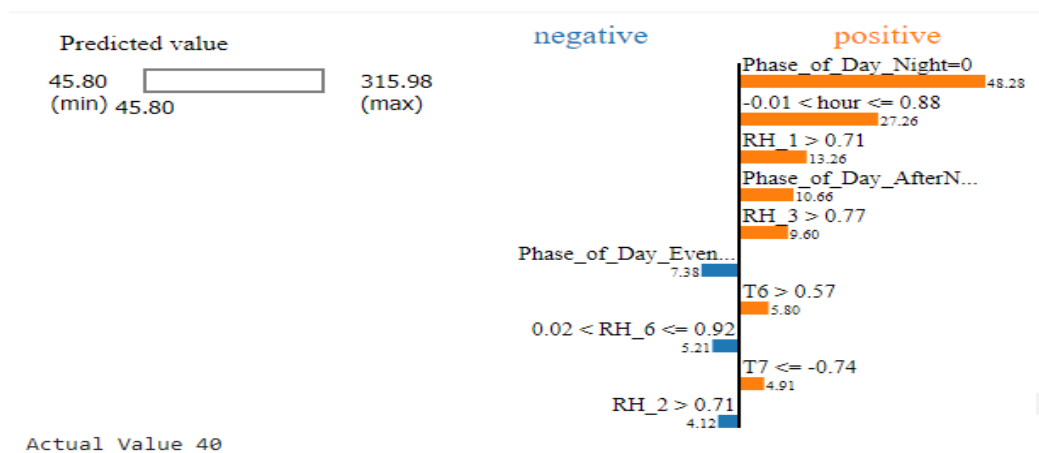


Fig: 22 Feature Importance Comparison

## j. LIME

LIME, the acronym for local interpretable model-agnostic explanations, is a technique that approximates any black box machine learning model with a local, interpretable model to explain each individual prediction.



The features Phase\_of\_Day\_night, hour, RH\_1 , RH\_3, T6, T7 are contributing positively for predicting the Energy use. Actual value of this particular instance is 40 and predicted value is 45.80. LIME is used to explain Feature contribution in Black Box Models.

## 9. Limitations

One of the main limitations of this study is that the analysis was done for only one house. Important information could be found when analyzing several houses, and other relationships can be studied with appliances' energy consumption in combination with: occupant's age, number of occupants, ownership of pets, building's geometry etc. Another research limitation is the length of continuous analyzed data. Different energy use patterns can potentially be found depending on the season of the year. Regarding the weather station, the predictions of appliances energy use could probably be better if the weather station was closer to the house. This research has not looked into the problem of optimal location of the wireless indoor sensors for improvement of the energy prediction. It is also possible that more sensors and better sensor accuracy could help to improve the energy prediction.

## 10. Conclusion

- The household appliance energy consumption prediction models based on Linear Regression, Lasso Regression, Ridge Regression, Decision Tree Regressor Random Forest Regressor, Adaptive Boosting Regressor, Gradient Boosting Regressor, Bagging Regressor, K Neighbors Regressor and Linear SVM are explored.
- Upon appropriate preprocessing and fitting the ten models, we compare and evaluate the best model with lowest error and the highest R-squared score.
- When evaluating the influence of Random Variable attribute the linear models have assigned near zero weights to the random variable, negating its influence in prediction of the target variable.
- Random Forest Regressor was found to be the best performing model with an R-squared score of 0.64.
- After optimizing the hyperparameters of the Random Forest Regressor, doing principal Component Analysis, its R-squared score increased from 0.62 to 0.64.
- We find that this model's predictions are mainly contributed by the hour,'T1','RH\_1','T2','RH\_2','T3','RH\_3','T4','RH\_4','T5','RH\_5','T6','RH\_6','T7','RH\_7','T8','RH\_8', 'T9', 'RH\_9','T\_out','Press\_mm\_hg','RH\_out','Windspeed' ,'Tdewpoint'. Temperature and Relative Humidity of kitchen, living room, laundry room, Ironing room, outside surrounding are playing important role in Energy Prediction.
- Data from a wireless sensor network that measures humidity and temperature has been proven to increase the prediction accuracy. The data analysis showed that data from the kitchen, laundry room, living room and bathrooms had the most important contributions. Data from the other rooms also helps in the prediction. When looking at the appliances in each room, it can be seen that the laundry, kitchen and living rooms would be expected to have the highest contributions because of the equipment

present. The prediction of appliances' consumption with data from the wireless network indicates that it can help to locate where in building the main appliances' energy consumption contributions are found.

- When using all the predictors the light consumption was ranked highly. However, when studying different predictor subsets, removing the light consumption appeared not to have a significant impact. This may be an indication that other features are correlated well with the light energy consumption.
- The possible explanation for why the pressure has a strong prediction power may be related to its influence on the wind speed and higher rainfall probability which could potentially increase the occupancy of the house.
- As this dataset has a time component to it, we believe that better performances can be achieved by using Time Series Analysis concepts.
- This study has found curious relationships between variables. Future work could include considering weather data such as solar radiation and precipitation. Also, occupancy and occupant's activity information could be useful to improve the prediction and find its relationship with other parameters (exterior weather for example). The wireless sensors could also measure CO<sub>2</sub> and noise to help in the prediction and to track the occupant's movement from room to room and time spent in each room

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