

Review

# State of the Art of Machine Learning Models in Energy Systems, a Systematic Review

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Received: 12 February 2019; Accepted: 28 March 2019; Published: 4 April 2019



**Abstract:** Machine learning (ML) models have been widely used in the modeling, design and prediction in energy systems. During the past two decades, there has been a dramatic increase in the advancement and application of various types of ML models for energy systems. This paper presents the state of the art of ML models used in energy systems along with a novel taxonomy of models and applications. Through a novel methodology, ML models are identified and further classified according to the ML modeling technique, energy type, and application area. Furthermore, a comprehensive review of the literature leads to an assessment and performance evaluation of the ML models and their applications, and a discussion of the major challenges and opportunities for prospective research. This paper further concludes that there is an outstanding rise in the accuracy, robustness, precision and generalization ability of the ML models in energy systems using hybrid ML models. Hybridization is reported to be effective in the advancement of prediction models, particularly for renewable energy systems, e.g., solar energy, wind energy, and biofuels. Moreover, the energy demand prediction using hybrid models of ML have highly contributed to the energy efficiency and therefore energy governance and sustainability.

**Keywords:** energy systems; machine learning; artificial neural networks (ANN); support vector machines (SVM); neuro-fuzzy; ANFIS; wavelet neural network (WNN); big data; decision tree (DT); ensemble; hybrid models; deep learning; blockchain; renewable energy systems; energy informatics; internet of things (IoT); smart sensors; remote sensing; prediction; forecasting; energy demand

## 1. Introduction

An energy system is a group of organized elements designed for the purpose of generation, control and/or transformation of energy [1,2]. Energy systems may incorporate combinations of mechanical, chemical, thermal, and electromechanical components, covering a wide range of energy categories including renewables and alternatives [3–5]. The advancement of energy systems is facing critical decision-making tasks to satisfy numerous demanding and contradictory objectives considering functional performance, efficiency, financial burden, environmental impact, etc. [6].

The growing utilization of data collectors in energy systems has resulted in a massive amount of data accumulated. Smart sensors are now extensively used in energy production and energy consumption [7–9]. Such big data has created a vast number of opportunities and challenges for informed decision-making [10,11]. ML models have contributed to the implementation of big data technologies in various applications [12–16]. Since prediction methods based on ML models simplify the extraction of functional dependencies from observations, such data-driven models have gained popularity in the energy realm [17–19]. Today, ML models in energy systems are essential for predictive modeling of production, consumption, and demand analysis due to their accuracy, efficacy and speed [20,21]. ML models also provide an understanding on energy system functionality in the context of complex human interactions [22,23]. The use of ML models for conventional energy systems, along with alternative and renewable energy systems, has been promising [24,25]. Due to the popularity of the field, many review papers have emerged that present insight into present applications and future challenges and opportunities [26]. However, the existing review papers either survey the applications of a single ML model, e.g., ANNs [17], or cover only one energy domain, e.g., solar radiation forecasting [24]. Consequently, the advancements of ML models and their progress in various energy systems have not yet been addressed in the literature. Therefore, a comprehensive review of essential ML models is the main objective of this paper. Consequently, the contribution of this paper is to present the state of the art of ML models in energy systems and discuss their likely future trends.

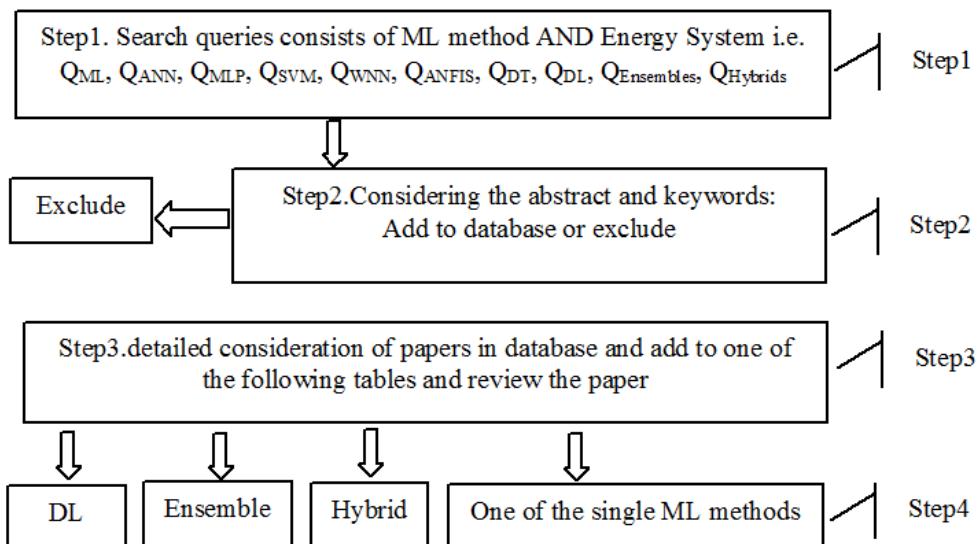
The rest of this paper is organized as follows. In Section 2 the methodology of the research is presented. In the section three state of the art of ML models in energy systems is presented with an initial analysis of the database search. The ML models are categorized and the original papers with high relevance have been reviewed. Each subsection contains a brief discussions and outlook on the results related to each subject. Section 3 also includes an overview of recently emerged hybrid ML models. Section 4 focuses on the latest advancement of hybrid ML models in the highly demanding application areas e.g., solar, wind, and demand energy systems. Finally, in Section 4, an overall discussion and conclusions are presented.

## 2. Methodology of Survey

The purpose of the research methodology is to identify, classify and review the notable ML and DL models used in energy systems. In our comprehensive review, using the Thomson Reuters Web-of-Science and Elsevier Scopus for implementation of the search queries would ensure that any paper in the database would meet the essential quality measures, originality, high impact, and high h-index. Furthermore, to present an in-depth review and understanding of each modeling technique and its progress, we aimed at having four different categories for the models used in energy systems, i.e., single ML models, hybrid models, ensemble models, and DL.

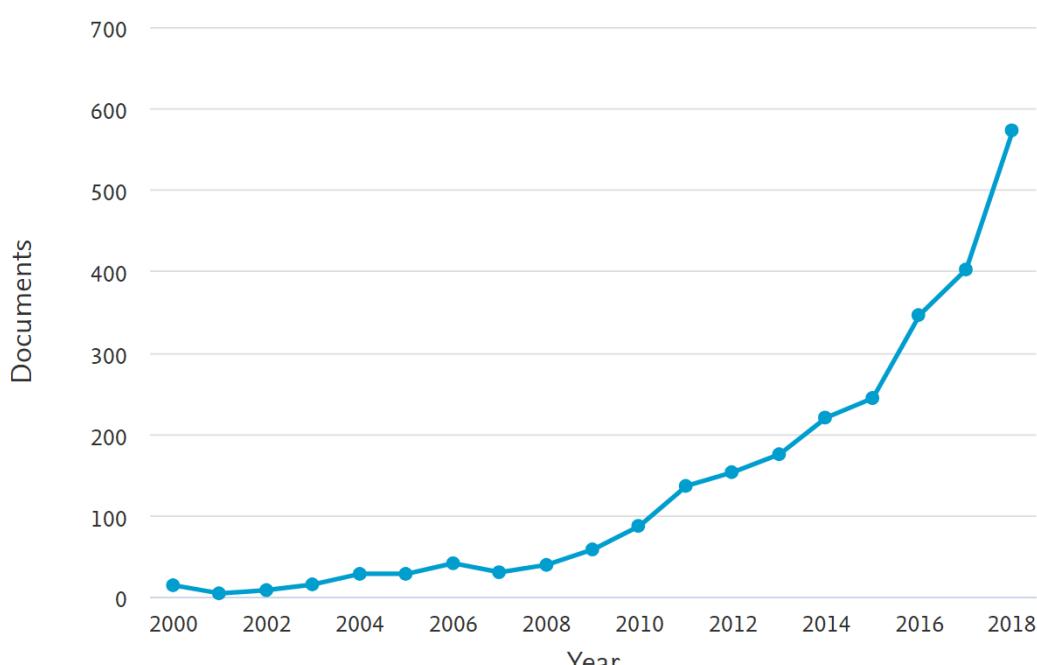
Figure 1 demonstrates the methodology of this review. In step 1 of the methodology the initial database of the relevant articles is identified based on the search queries of: “energy system” and “machine learning” or “neural network” or “support vector” or “ANFIS” or “WNN” or “DT” or “MLP” or “ELM” or “ensemble” or “deep learning.” However, for every ML method, we applied a new search query to suit that search well. These queries will identify the relevant articles, yet the queries are uncertain whether the ML model belongs to either ensemble or hybrids. Also, some articles in the initial database might not be relevant at all. For instance, a hybrid or ensemble model of ML may

include single model(s). For that reason, steps 2 and 3 of the methodology are designed in such a way to classify the ML models into the right categories for the review. In step 4 the models are classified into the four categories and arranged in separate tables to be reviewed individually.

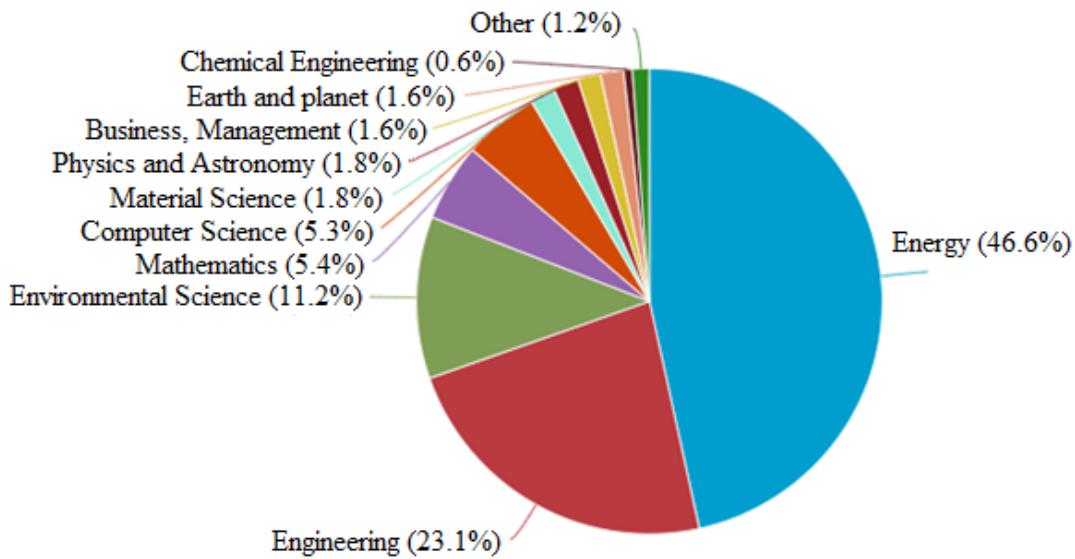


**Figure 1.** Methodology of research.

The database includes 2601 relevant documents. During step two of the methodology the number of relevant documents drops to 240. In step three the documents are reduced to 70 original papers to be reviewed in this paper. Analyzing the initial database shows a great increase in the number of articles using ML models. Figures 2 and 3 demonstrate the growth in the number of papers during the past two decades on energy systems that utilized ML and different subject areas using ML in energy systems, respectively. The increase in the number of documents in energy systems has also been due to the implementation of smart grid systems and the IoT. During the past decade, novel ML models including deep learning, ensembles, and hybrids have emerged in energy systems. Through introducing novel ML models to energy systems, the increasing number of papers represents a huge experimental effort to explore new opportunities.



**Figure 2.** The growth in the number of articles during the past two decades.



**Figure 3.** Subject areas of ML in energy systems.

The initial consideration of the database of identified articles shows an exponential increase in the quantity of the literature on the use of ML in various energy systems (see Figure 2). Considering the application areas of the database, ML models have been extensively used in diverse applications of energy systems, especially for predicting electrical energy and renewable energies demand and consumption. The continued growth of literature can also confirm the great potential of ML models in energy systems.

### 3. State of the Art of ML Models in Energy Systems

The methodology identifies 10 major ML models frequently used in energy systems, i.e., ANN, MLP, ELM, SVM, WNN, ANFIS, decision trees, deep learning, ensembles, and advanced hybrid ML models. The notable manuscripts are accordingly categorized into the relevant groups and further reviewed in this section. Note that, in the presented taxonomy, deep learning as an emerging modeling technique has been categorized under the ML models. Furthermore, it is worth mentioning that WNN and ANFIS are of a hybrid nature. However, the category of “advanced hybrid ML models” includes only recently developed algorithms.

In this section the accuracy of the ML model is further evaluated. Since different ML models are available, choosing and demonstrating the superiority of the models requires comparing their performance. Hence, some comparative performance parameters are required. The most popular comparative performance parameters are the root mean square error (RMSE) and correlation coefficient ( $r$ ), which are used to indicate the error and precision of the models [27,28]; Equations (1) and (2) represent these parameters.

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_{ti} - x_{pi})^2} \quad (1)$$

$$r = \left( 1 - \left( \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_{ti} - \bar{x}_{ti})(x_{pi} - \bar{x}_{pi})}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_{ti} - \bar{x}_{ti})^2} \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_{pi} - \bar{x}_{pi})^2}} \right) \right)^{1/2}, \quad (2)$$

where  $x_{ti}$  represents the target value,  $x_{pi}$  represents the predicted value, and  $n$  is the number of data points.

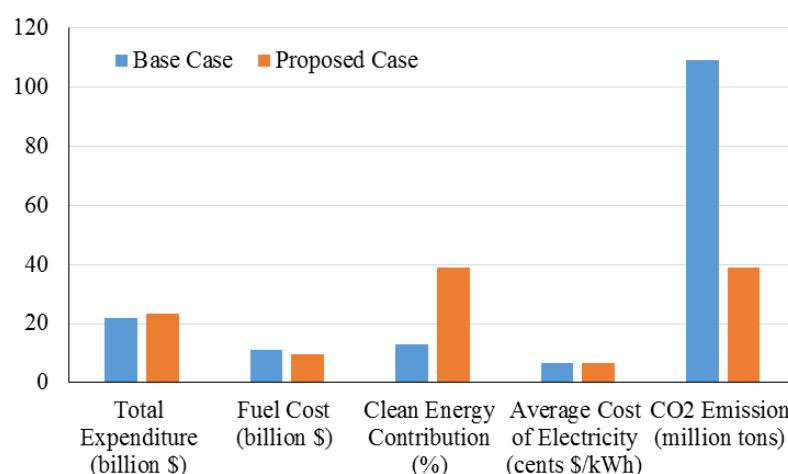
### 3.1. ANN

Artificial neural networks are frameworks for different machine learning algorithms to process complex data inputs. ANNs can be utilized for several purposes such as forecasting, regression and curve fitting. An artificial neural network fundamental unit is a neuron that utilizes a transfer function for the output formulation. The main advantage of ANN models is their lower complexity for multiple-variable problems. Table 1 demonstrates some critical papers in this field. Instead of complicated rules, ANN can learn patterns of crucial information within an intricate information domain [4]. Also, due to the noise-immune and fault-tolerant characteristics of ANNs, they can be successfully used for inherently noisy data from energy systems.

**Table 1.** Notable ANN models used in energy systems.

Year	Reference	Journal	Application
2018	Abbas et al. [29]	<i>Electronics</i> (Switzerland)	Optimization of renewable energy generation capacities
2017	Anwar et al. [30]	<i>IEEE Transactions on Power Systems</i>	Mitigation of wind power fluctuation and scheduling strategies for power generation
2017	Boukelia et al. [31]	<i>Renewable Energy</i>	Prediction of levelized cost of electricity
2016	Chatzilagorakis et al. [32]	<i>Neural Computing and Applications</i>	A forecasting model for wind speed and hourly and daily solar radiation
2018	Gallagher et al. [33]	<i>Energy and Buildings</i>	Measurement and verification of energy savings in industrial buildings

Abbas et al. (2018) [29] used genetic algorithms to optimize the generation capacities of renewable energy systems integrated with storage systems. This study evaluated the economic feasibility of the introduction of energy storage systems to the electric grid. The artificial neural network was used to validate the predicted load model. The uncertainties related to the renewable energy systems were dealt with using a chance-constrained model. Then, the problem was solved by genetic algorithms. The robustness of the proposed model was verified by its application to a case in western China. Figure 4 reports the results of the proposed method in comparison with the base case in terms of total expenditure (billion \$), fuel cost (billion \$), clean energy contribution (%), the average cost of electricity (cents \$/kWh), and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (million Tons). Based on Figure 4, the use of clean energy nearly doubled, which led to a reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from about 109 million tons to 38 million tons. Therefore the proposed case has an effective role compared with the base case.

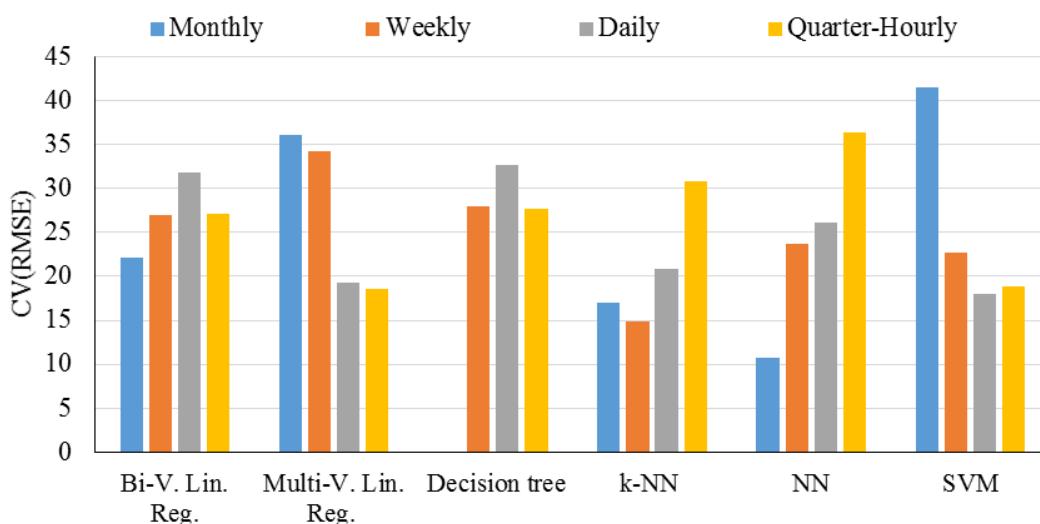


**Figure 4.** Results for study by Abbas et al. (2018). Reproduced from [29], Elsevier: 2018.

Anwar et al. (2017) [30] presented a novel strategy for generation scheduling and power smoothing for a hybrid system of marine current and wind turbines. In this study, innovative strategies were proposed to mitigate wind intermittency effects. Contrary to the randomness of wind, marine currents are highly predictable. The presented methodologies incorporate an optimal strategy for sizing for this hybrid system. Bootstrapped artificial neural networks were developed to predict intervals for wind speed—speeds of marine currents modeled utilizing the Harmonic Analysis Method. The results of the model show the robustness of the presented methodology, which can be used to successfully decrease power fluctuations, make considerable cost savings, and ensure reliable dispatch scheduling for power generation. Boukelia et al. (2017) [31] used an ANN-based approach to assess a parabolic trough solar power plant. In this study, an ANN model was developed to predict the leveled electricity cost of two parabolic trough solar thermal power plants coupled with a fuel backup system and thermal energy storage. The techno-economic study was performed comparing molten salt and thermic oil usage to optimize thermal plants' hourly and annual performance.

Chatziagorakis et al. (2016) [32] studied the control of hybrid renewable energy systems, using recurrent neural networks to forecast weather conditions. A forecasting model using a recurrent neural network for prediction of hourly and daily solar radiation and wind speed was presented. The results of the simulation indicated that a recurrent neural network was capable of delivering acceptable future estimation to evaluate the available renewable energy safely.

Gallagher et al. (2018) [33] studied the suitability of machine learning for the optimization of uncertainty in energy savings measurement and verification. In this paper, the new use of machine learning algorithms for energy savings in industrial buildings was studied. The applied machine learning techniques consisted of k-nearest neighbors, support vector machines, artificial neural networks, decision trees, and bi-variable and multi-variable ordinary least squares regression. The model's prediction performances were validated to optimize model parameters. The results demonstrated that models based on ML algorithms were more precise than conventional methods. Results of RMSE have been presented in Figure 5.



**Figure 5.** RMSE values for study by Gallagher et al. (2018). Reproduced from [33], Elsevier: 2018.

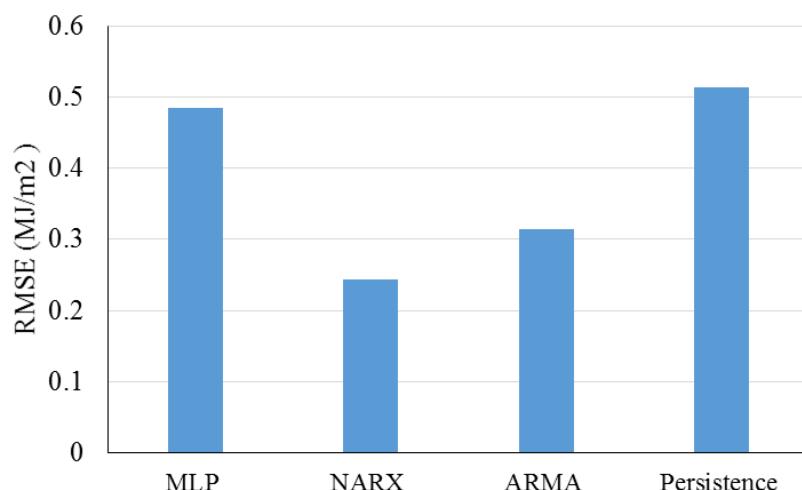
### 3.2. MLP

MLP is an advanced version of ANN for engineering applications and energy systems; it is considered a feed-forward neural network and uses a supervised and back-propagation learning method for training purposes [34–36]. This is a simple and popular method for the modeling and prediction of a process, and, in many cases, it is considered as the control model. Table 2 demonstrates some important papers in this field.

**Table 2.** Notable MLP models used in energy systems.

Year	Reference	Journal	Application
2015	Ahmad et al. [37]	Solar Energy	A day ahead prediction of hourly global solar irradiation
2017	Chahkoutahi et al. [38]	Energy	Electricity load forecasting
2017	Kazem et al. [39]	Energy Conversion and Management	Prediction of solar system power output
2017	Loutfi et al. [40]	International Journal of Renewable Energy Research	Hourly global solar radiation prediction
2017	Shimray et al. [41]	Computational Intelligence and Neuroscience	Ranking of different potential power plant projects

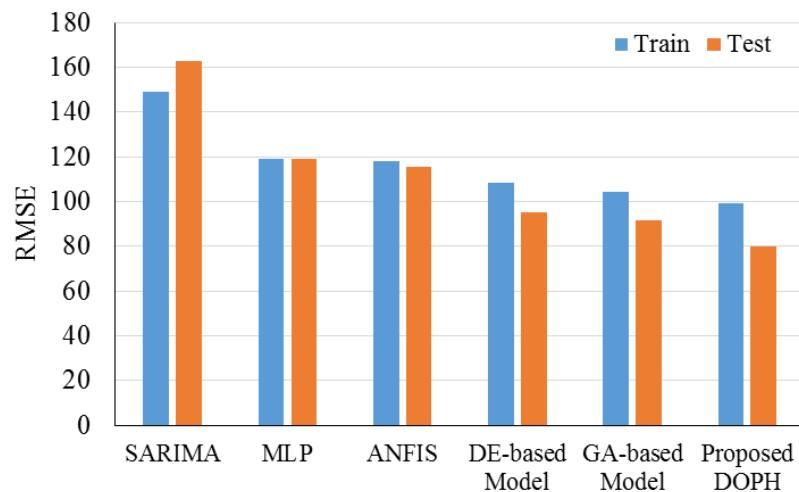
Ahmed et al. (2015) [37] performed a study on forecasting hourly solar irradiation for New Zealand. In this paper, the ability to provide 24-h-ahead hourly global solar irradiation forecasts was assessed utilizing several methods, especially incorporating autoregressive recurrent neural networks. Hourly time series were used for training and testing the forecasting methods. MLP, NARX, ARMA, and persistence methods were compared using RMSE. Figure 6 presents the related results. Based on the results, the NARX method with the lowest value of RMSE presented a precision about 49%, 22%, and 52% higher than that of the MLP, ARMA, and Persistence methods, respectively.

**Figure 6.** RMSE values for study by Ahmed et al. (2015). Reproduced from [37], Elsevier: 2015.

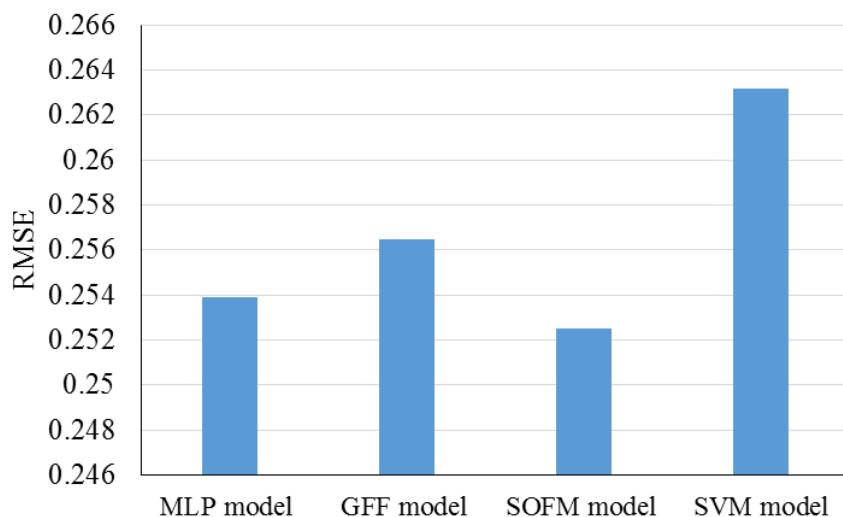
Chahkoutahi et al. (2017) [38] introduced a seasonal optimal hybrid model to forecast the electricity load. In this study, a direct optimum parallel hybrid model was presented using multi-layer perceptron neural network, Seasonal Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average, and Adaptive Network-based Fuzzy Inference System to forecast the electricity load. The main reason for using this model was to utilize these models' advantages for modeling complex systems. The validation of the presented model implies that it was more accurate than its components. Figure 7 presents the results of the proposed DOPH method against SARIMA, MLP, ANFIS, DE-based, and GA-based models. The output of each method was compared with target values using RMSE. Based on the results, the proposed method could improve the prediction capability by 51.4%, 33.18%, 31.10%, 16.44%, and 12.8%, compared with the SARIMA, MLP, ANFIS, DE-based, and GA-based models, respectively, in the test stage.

Kazem et al. (2013) [39] designed and installed a photovoltaic system for electricity production. The output of the system was measured for one year. The photovoltaic system output was simulated and predicted by self-organizing feature maps, feed-forward networks, support vector machines, and multi-layer perceptron. Ambient temperature and solar radiation data were these model's inputs,

and the PV array current and current were the outputs. The outputs of each model were compared with the target values using *RMSE* factor. The results have been presented in Figure 8. Based on the results, the SOFM generates the lowest *RMSE* value compared to the MLP model, GFF model, and SVM model. Therefore the SOFM model is suitable for this purpose.



**Figure 7.** *RMSE* values for study by Chahkoutahi and Khashei (2017). Reproduced from [38], Elsevier 2017.



**Figure 8.** *RMSE* values for study by Kazem and Yousif (2013). Reproduced from [39], Elsevier: 2013.

Loutfi et al. (2017) [40] presented an analysis of the design of solar energy systems. In this study, a comparison between multilayer perceptron and neural autoregressive with exogenous inputs was presented. The proposed model has excellent ability to produce hourly solar radiation forecasts for cheaper data such as relative humidity and temperature. The results of the best model are presented in Table 3 for the developed model. The study proposes the NARX method in conjunction with the MLP method. As is clear from Table 3, the proposed method has the best prediction capability with reference to nRMSE and correlation coefficient values.

Shimray et al. (2017) [41] performed a study on the installation of hydropower plant sites ranking using a Multi-layer Perceptron Neural Network. In this paper, a model was developed for decision makers to rank potential power plant sites based on water quality, air quality, energy delivery cost, natural hazard, ecological impact, and project duration. The case in this paper was ranking several potential plant sites in India.

**Table 3.** Results of evaluations of models by Loutfi et al. (2017). Reproduced from [40], Elsevier: 2017.

ML Model	The Best Structure	<i>r</i>	<i>f</i>
MLP	5-30-1	0.938	23.31
NARX	1 5-10-1	0.974	15.1

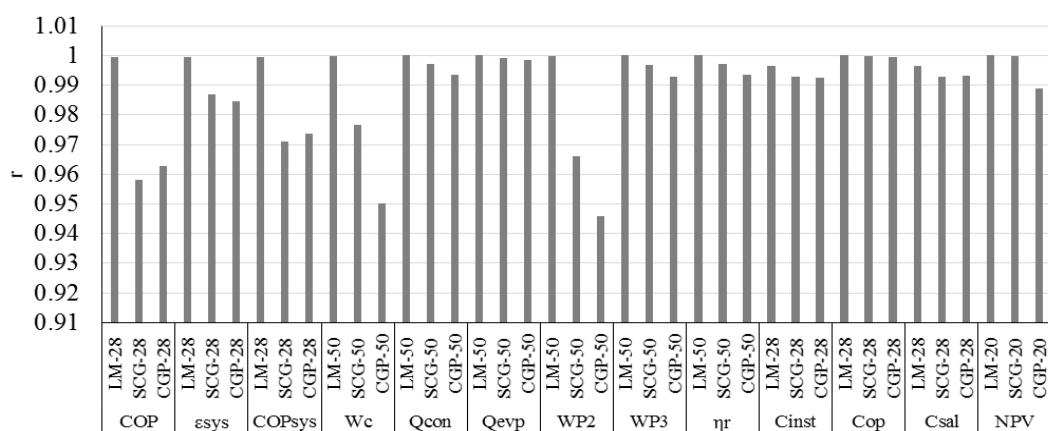
### 3.3. ELM and Other Advanced ANNs

In order to find an advanced version of ANNs, the keywords of the search here were extreme learning machine, Feed-forward neural networks, Back-propagation neural networks, functional neural network, Feedforward, and back propagation. The ELM has a high speed of learning and the proper ability of generalization. Table 4 lists some important papers in this field.

**Table 4.** Notable ELM models used in energy systems.

Year	Reference	Journal	Application
2017	Arat and Arslan [42]	Applied Thermal Engineering	Optimization of the district heating system aided with geothermal heat pump
2015	Bagnasco et al. [43]	Energy and Buildings	Electrical consumption forecasting model of a building
2018	Li, Q et al. [44]	Applied Energy	Forecasting of PV power generation
2016	Premalatha and Valan Arasu [45]	Journal of Applied Research and Technology	Monthly average global radiation prediction
2014	Yaici and Entchev [46]	Applied Thermal Engineering	Performance forecasting of a solar thermal energy system

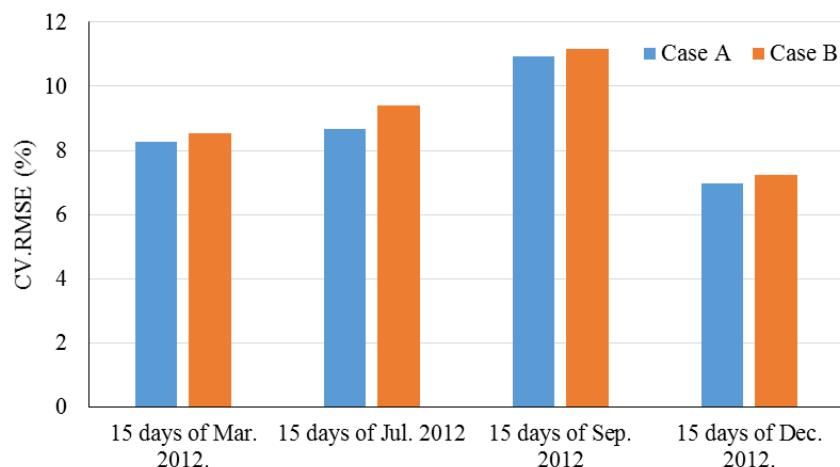
Arat and Arslan (2017) [42] presented an optimum design for a geothermal heat pump for a district heating system. Three different back propagation learning algorithms was used. These algorithms were Pola–Ribiere Conjugate Gradient, Levenberg–Marquardt, and Scaled Conjugate Gradient. The presented ELM model was composed of two stages. The second stage of the ELM structure was composed of three levels of ANN models in this proposed model. The results of this study showed that the values obtained from ANN were very close to the analytical data. Figure 9 demonstrates the correlation coefficient values, and Table 5 presents the RMSE values for each parameter separately.

**Figure 9.** *r* values of study of Arat and Arslan (2017). Reproduced from [42], Elsevier: 2017.

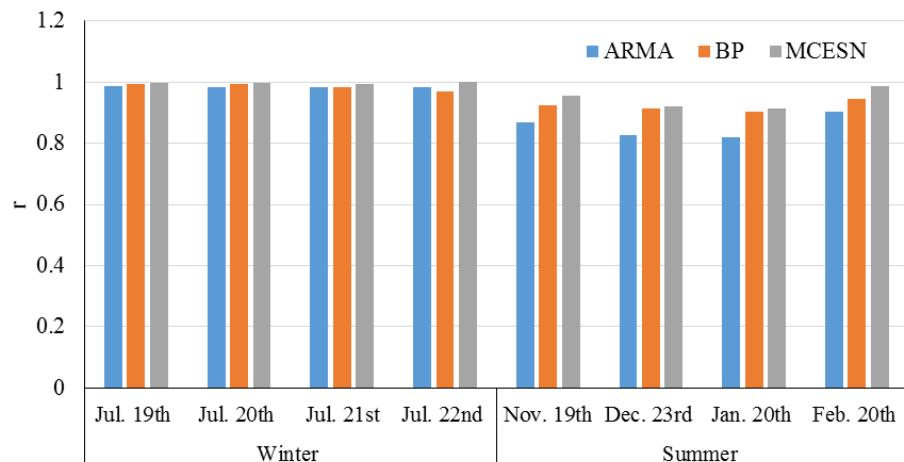
**Table 5.** RMSE values of the study of Arat and Arslan (2017). Reproduced from [42], Elsevier: 2017.

Parameter	Model	RMSE	Parameter	Model	RMSE	Parameter	Model	RMSE
COP	LM-28	0.07506	Cinst	LM-28	229,835	WP2	LM-50	58.3957
	SCG-28	0.79114		SCG-28	335,283		SCG-50	606.962
	CGP-28	0.77328		CGP-28	345,108.6		CGP-50	862.943
$\epsilon_{sys}$	LM-28	0.00335	Cop	LM-28	32,357.74	WP3	LM-50	1.14269
	SCG-28	0.01616		SCG-28	183,385.5		SCG-50	13.3365
	CGP-28	0.01963		CGP-28	384,134.8		CGP-50	22.8781
Wc	LM-50	98.07454	NPV	LM-20	45,456.24	Hr	LM-50	25.2462
	SCG-50	1044.513		SCG-20	3,104,498		SCG-50	294.616
	CGP-50	1939.327		CGP-20	20,565,006		CGP-50	498.103
Qcon	LM-50	87.0961	COPsys	LM-28	0.03824	Qevp	LM-50	2.208349
	SCG-50	1027.196		SCG-28	0.31434		SCG-50	465.1691
	CGP-50	1754.37		CGP-28	0.29927		CGP-50	575.9355

Bagnasco et al. (2015) presented a study of power consumption forecasting (load forecasting model) in hospitals. The presented artificial neural network utilizing a backpropagation training algorithm can take loads, time of the day, data concerning the type of day (e.g., weekday/holiday) and weather data. The proposed forecast algorithm can be easily integrated into the Building Management Systems real-time monitoring system. Case A includes no weather data, and Case B includes day-ahead temperature data. RMSE values have been presented in Figure 10.

**Figure 10.** RMSE values for study by Bagnasco et al. (2015). Reproduced from [43], Elsevier: 2015.

Li et al. (2018) [44] presented a multi-clustered echo state network model to directly forecast PV electricity generation. Measured and estimated PV electricity generation data characteristic such as stationarity (or non-stationarity), seasonality and complexity analysis were investigated through data mining approaches. The simulation results showed that the presented multi-clustered echo state network model can accurately forecast photovoltaic power output one hour ahead. The one-day forecast has 91–98% correlation coefficient for cloudy days and 99% for sunny days. Figure 11 presents the correlation coefficient values for the study based on day and method.



**Figure 11.** Correlation coefficient values for the study by Li et al. (2018). Reproduced from [44], Elsevier: 2018.

Premalatha and Valan Arasu (2016) [45] utilized ANN models to predict global solar radiation. The main purpose of this study was to develop an ANN model for accurate prediction of solar radiation. Two different ANN models based on four algorithms were considered in this paper. The last 10 years of meteorological data were collected from five different sites in India to train the models. The criteria for determining best ANN algorithm were a minimum mean absolute error, root mean square error, and maximum linear correlation coefficient of 3.028, 3.646, and 0.927, respectively.

Yaici and Entchev (2014) [46] utilized artificial neural networks to predict the performance of a solar thermal energy system. This system was used for space heating and domestic hot water—two different variants of the back-propagation learning algorithm (scaled conjugate gradient algorithms and the Levenberg-Marquardt). The presented model was applied for predicting several performance parameters of the system such as the temperature stratification of the preheat tank, the derived solar fractions, the solar collectors' heat input to the heat exchanger, and auxiliary propane-fired tank heat input. This methodology can be used for condition monitoring and fault detection of a solar thermal energy system.

### 3.4. SVM

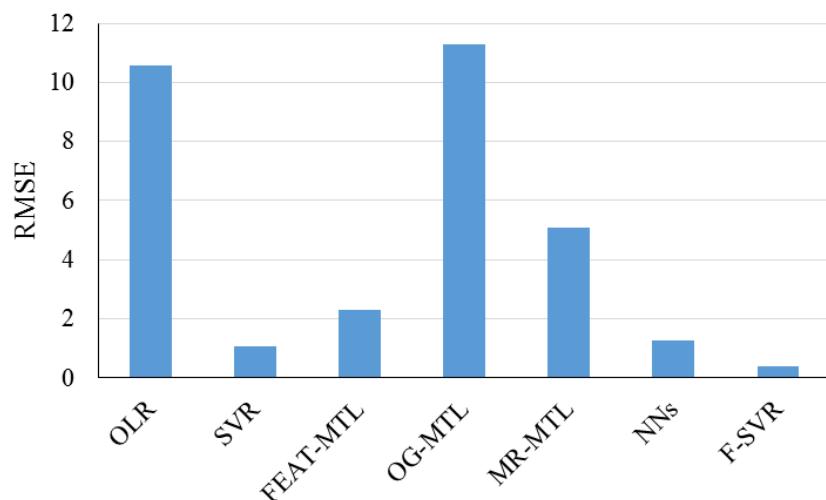
SVMs are machine learning algorithms built on statistical learning theory for structural risk minimization. In pattern recognition, classification, and analysis of regression, SVMs outperform other methodologies. The significant range of SVM applications in the field of load forecasting is due to its ability to make generalizations. Also, local minima lead to no problems in SVM. Table 6 presents some important papers in this field.

Arabloo et al. (2015) [47] introduced a novel methodology for the optimization of the oxygen-steam ratio in the gasification process of coal. A methodology utilizing support vector machine algorithm was presented for estimation of proper steam-oxygen ratio to balance the heat requirement and released heat in the coal gasification process. A comparison of experimental data and predicted values showed the precision of the predictive model that can be used for commercial implications in the coal gasification process. Arikan et al. (2013) [48] performed a study to classify power quality disturbances utilizing support vector machines. In this paper, five kinds of power quality disturbances and pure sine was utilizing support vector machines that were based on wavelets. The proposed method performance was validated utilizing synthetic data derived from the mathematical model and real-time measurements. Support vector machines, artificial neural network, and the same future vector and data Bayes classifier were compared. It was observed that support vector machines gave the best results both for synthetic data and in real time.

**Table 6.** Notable SVM models used in energy systems.

Year	Authors	Journal	Application
2015	Arabloo et al. [47]	Fuel	Estimation of optimum oxygen-steam ratios
2013	Arikan et al. [48]	International Review of Electrical Engineering	Classification of power quality disturbances
2017	Ma et al. [49]	IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems I: Regular Papers	Estimation of irradiance levels from photovoltaic electrical characteristics
2016	Özdemir et al. [50]	Neural Network World	Harmonic estimation of power quality in electrical energy systems
2016	Pinto et al. [51]	Neurocomputing	An electricity market price prediction in a fast execution time

Ma et al. (2017) [49] developed a soft sensor (a field-support vector regression) to upgrade the estimation accuracy of solar irradiance levels from photovoltaic electrical parameters. The soft sensor collected its input data into several groups based on ambient temperature. The introduced soft sensor can be implanted in a photovoltaic module, a current sensor, or a thermometer. It was validated by experimental prototype and simulations utilizing measured outdoor conditions. Figure 12 presents the RMSE values for the study.

**Figure 12.** RMSE values of the study of Ma et al. (2018). Reproduced from [49], Elsevier: 2018.

Özdemir et al. (2016) [50] used Support Vector Machine for harmonic distortion estimation. The power distribution network was studied, and the predicted results were compared with the quantified real data. The presented approach was compared with the artificial neural network and linear regression methods. The validation of the predicted results demonstrated that Support Vector Machine is robust for total harmonic distortion in the power network. Pinto et al. (2016) [51] developed a multi-agent system for modeling competitive electricity markets. This study proposed applying support vector machines to lay out decision support for electricity market players. The presented model was coupled with an Adaptive Learning Strategic Bidding System to be used as a decision support system. This methodology was validated and then compared with the artificial neural network. The results were encouraging: a robust price forecast for electricity market was obtained quickly.

### 3.5. WNN

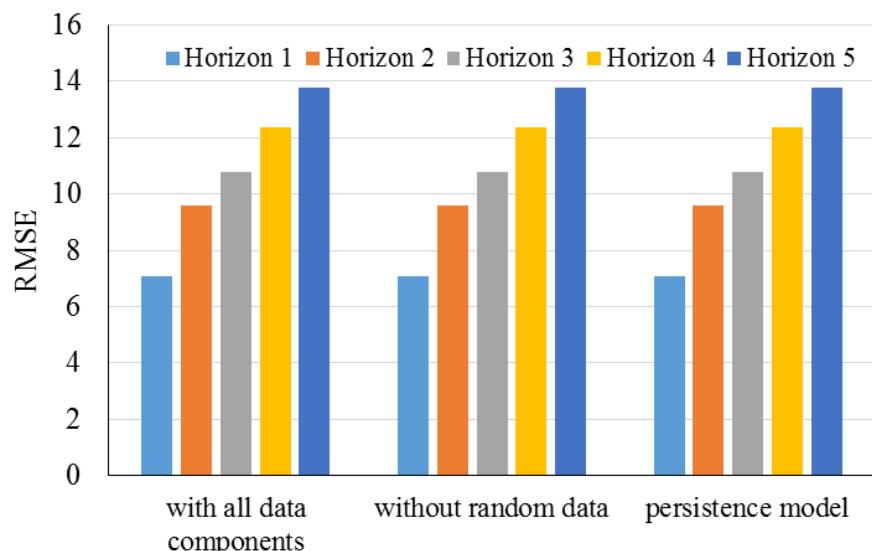
WNN takes the benefits of both the theory of wavelets and neural networks and combines them. This method contains an FFNN with one hidden layer. One of the missions of WNNs is to estimate the

function of a process or a trend or computing. A WNN can train the structure of a function using a series of data and generate or compute an expected output value for a given input value [52]. WNN has several advantages over other neural networks. WNN needs a smaller training amount than the MLP method, and has fast convergence. Table 7 presents some important papers in this field.

**Table 7.** Notable WNN models used in energy systems.

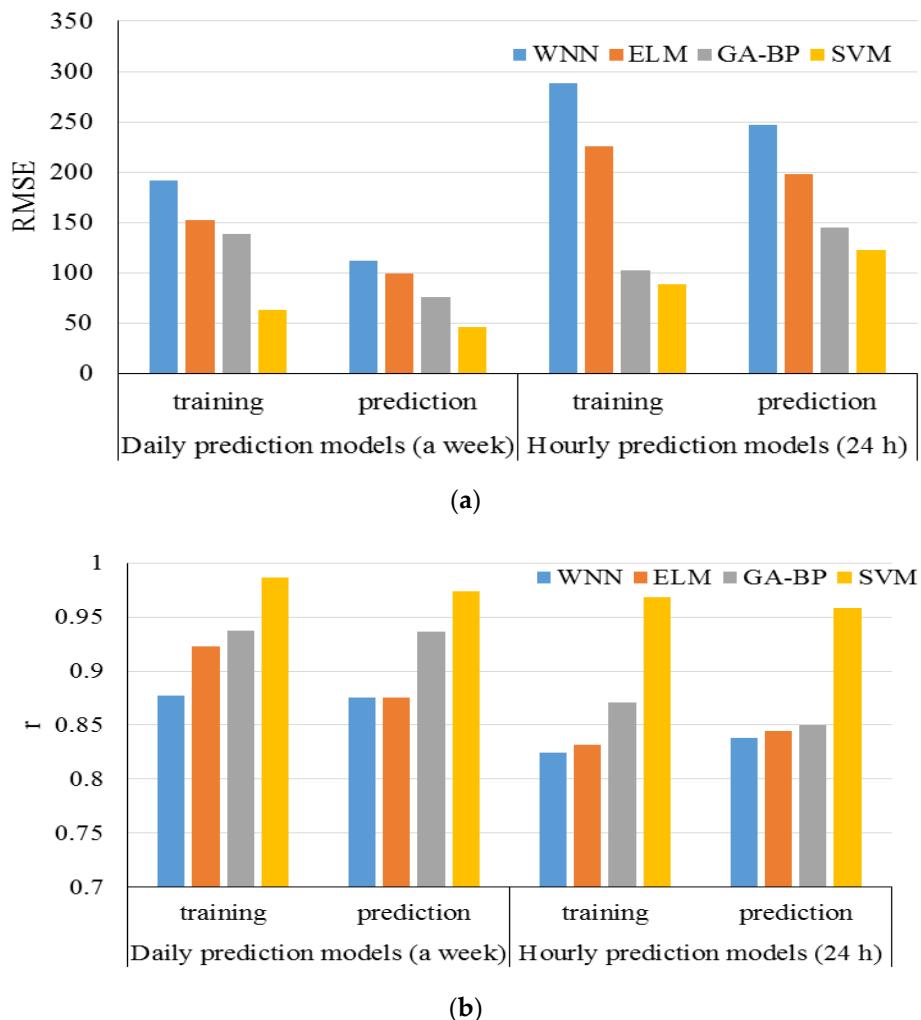
Year	Authors	Journal	Application
2016	Doucoure et al. [53]	Renewable Energy	Prediction of time series for renewable energy sources
2018	Gu et al. [54]	Energy	Heat load perdition in district heating systems
2018	He et al. [55]	Applied Energy	Wind speed forecasting (reduction of the influence of noise in the raw data series)
2018	Qin et al. [56]	Algorithms	Simultaneous optimization of fuel economy and battery state of charge
2017	Sarshar et al. [57]	Energy	Uncertainty reduction in wind power prediction

Doucoure et al. (2016) [53] developed a prediction methodology for renewable energy sources to promote the use of renewable energy isolated and grid-connected power systems. The presented method was based on artificial neural networks and wavelet decomposition. The predictability of every component of the input data utilizing the Hurst coefficient was analyzed in this study. To ensure the predictability of the information, some components with low predictability potential were eliminated to reduce the computational algorithm complexity. Figure 13 presents the *RMSE* values for the study in three terms, with all data components, without random data and persistence data related to the proposed method.



**Figure 13.** *RMSE* values for study by Doucoure et al. (2016). Reproduced from [53], Elsevier: 2016.

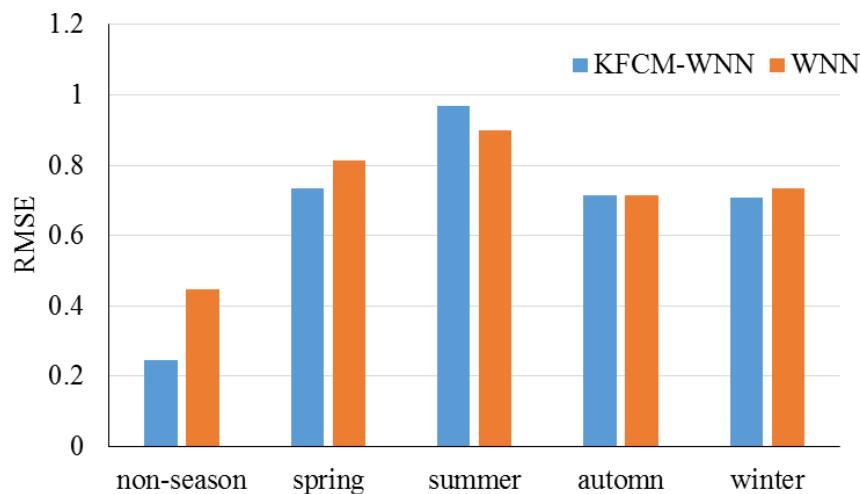
Gu et al. (2018) [54] studied heat load prediction utilizing different prediction models such as extreme learning machine, wavelet neural network, support vector machine, back propagation neural network optimized using a genetic algorithm, and wavelet neural network. Historical loads and indoor temperature were assumed to be influential. The support vector machine demonstrated smaller errors compared to the three other neural network algorithms. Figure 14 presents the values of *RMSE* and correlation coefficient for the study.



**Figure 14.** RMSE and  $r$  values for study by Gu et al. (2018). Reproduced from [54], Elsevier: 2018.

He et al. (2018) [55] proposed a hybrid forecasting model which was composed of three modules: data clustering, data preprocessing and forecasting modules. The decomposing technique was used to decrease the noise influence within the raw data series to achieve a more stable sequence to extract traits from the original data. A similar fluctuation pattern was selected for the training database in the forecasting module to improve the forecasting accuracy. The experimental data demonstrate that the presented model outperforms other discussed forecasting models in the paper. Figure 15 presents the RMSE values in cases of non-season and season datasets.

Qin et al. (2018) [56] introduced online energy management control of hybrid electric vehicles based on NDP to optimize battery state of charge and fuel economy at the same time. In the proposed NDP method, the action network was a conventional wavelet neural network, and the critic network was a multi-resolution wavelet neural network. The action network was constructed on the Morlet function, and the critic network was stem from the Meyer wavelet function. Based on results, the NDP EMS have a high capability the same as the NDP in online applications. Based on comparisons, the RBFNN-based NDP EMS supports the efficiency of the CWNN and MRWNN.



**Figure 15.** RMSE values for study by He et al. (2018). Reproduced from [55], Elsevier: 2018.

Sarshar et al. (2017) [57] presented an adaptive probabilistic concept of the confidence interval for addressing randomness of wind speed. To increase forecasting accuracy, wavelet decomposition was utilized for time series of wind power, and the results were used in the artificial neural network. Then predicted wind power dependable levels adaptive probabilistic concept of confidence interval were calculated. An energy storage system was used to decrease the impact of forecasting errors on the micro-grid and to increase planning flexibility. Finally, the presented algorithm was validated with a typical micro-grid case study. The results indicated that the presented adaptive probabilistic concept of confidence interval worked well and demonstrated the superiority of WNN to ANN.

### 3.6. ANFIS

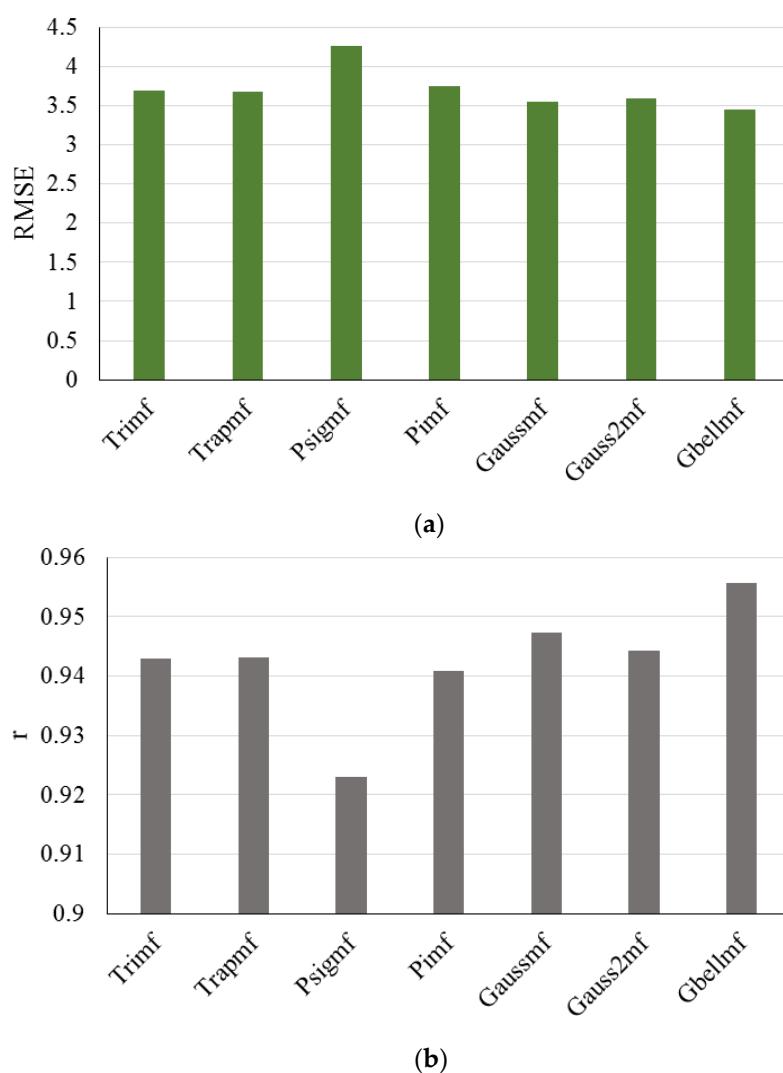
ANFIS is a modeling method that employs an artificial neural network based on the Takagi–Sugeno fuzzy inference system. This technique benefits from the capabilities of both fuzzy logic and neural network. ANFIS is a method with five main layers. This method is considered as an early form of the hybrid ML method [28]. Table 8 presents some important papers in this field.

**Table 8.** Notable ANFIS models used in energy systems.

Year	Reference	Journal	Application
2018	Abdulwahid et al. [58]	Sustainability (Switzerland)	A protection device for a reverse power protection system
2017	Bassam et al. [59]	Sustainability (Switzerland)	Module temperature estimation of PV systems
2018	Kampouropoulos et al. [60]	IEEE Transactions on Smart Grid	Prediction of the power demand of a plant and optimization of energy flow
2016	Mohammadi et al. [61]	Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews	Identification of the most relevant parameters for forecasting of daily global solar radiation
2016	Sajjadi et al. [62]	Journal of the Taiwan Institute of Chemical Engineers	Transesterification yield estimation and prediction of biodiesel synthesis

Abdulwahid and Wang (2018) [58] introduced a novel protection method for preventing reverse power flow developed on neuro-fuzzy networks for utilization in the smart grid. This study presented an upgraded protection device using a newly developed intelligent decision support system (IDSS). The presented IDSS was a decision system support system that coupled the robust specification for fuzzy inference systems and neural networks. The proposed methodology can monitor extreme environmental conditions.

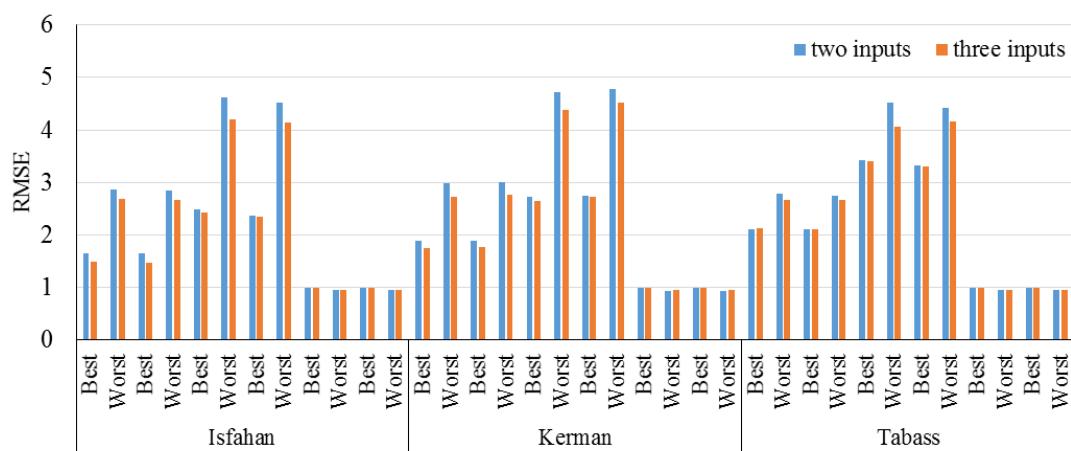
Bassam et al. (2017) [59] developed an adaptive neuro-fuzzy inference to estimate the temperature of photovoltaic systems. Experimental measurements for the learning process were comprised of six environmental variables, namely wind velocity, temperature, wind direction, irradiance, atmospheric pressure, and relative humidity and PV power output as an operational variable, which were used for training parameters. The model was validated with experimental data from a photovoltaic system with a high value for fitness correlation parameter. The results of the model show that the presented methodology was a reliable tool for modules' temperature estimation using environmental variables. Figure 16 presents the RMSE (a) and correlation coefficient (b) values for the study. This comparison is in line with choosing the best type of membership function for ANFIS. As is clear from Figure 16, a Gbell membership function with a low RMSE and a high correlation coefficient value has the highest accuracy compared with the other types.



**Figure 16.** (a) RMSE and (b) correlation coefficient values for study by Bassam et al. (2017). Reproduced from [59], Elsevier: 2017.

Kampouropoulos et al. (2018) [60] introduced a novel approach for multi-carrier energy systems' energy optimization. In this study, an adaptive neuro-fuzzy inference system was applied to forecast the power demand of a factory, and a genetic algorithm was used to model its energy flow. The objective of the optimization algorithm was to fulfill the power demand of the factory to reduce optimization criteria. The proposed method was validated at SEAT.

Mohammadi et al. (2016) [61] presented a method to identify the essential parameters for forecasting global solar radiation utilizing an ANFIS selection procedure. In this study, a methodology based on ANFIS was applied to identify the most related parameters for daily prediction of global solar radiation. Three different cities were considered as case studies. Nine parameters of extraterrestrial radiation, sea level pressure, relative humidity, water vapor pressure, minimum, average and maximum air temperatures, maximum possible sunshine duration, and sunshine duration were considered for selection in ANFIS process. The results indicated that the optimal sets of inputs were different for different case studies. This study demonstrated the significance of the selection of input parameters for predicting daily global solar radiation. Figure 17 indicates the value of RMSE in terms of two and three inputs. Based on the results, three inputs provide better prediction performance compared with that for the two inputs.



**Figure 17.** RMSE values for study by Mohammadi et al. (2016). Reproduced from [61], Elsevier: 2016.

Sajjadi et al. (2016) [62] performed a sensitivity analysis using catalyzed-transesterification as a renewable energy production system [63] by an ANFIS-based methodology. Influential parameters on transesterification yield should be analyzed and predicted. ANFIS was applied in this paper to select the most critical parameters based on operational variables. Experimental results were used to extract training data for an adaptive neuro-fuzzy inference system network. The robustness of the presented method was verified by the simulation results.

### 3.7. Decision Trees

The decision tree method is used to approximate discrete-valued target functions that the learned function is illustrated by a decision tree. These methods are among the most powerful inductive inference algorithms and are successfully used in many different energy systems. Table 9 presents some important papers in this field.

**Table 9.** Notable decision trees models used in energy systems.

Year	Authors	Journal	Application
2018	Aguado et al. [64]	IEEE Transactions on Smart Grid	Railway electric energy systems optimal operation
2016	Costa et al. [65]	Electric Power Systems Research	Security dispatch method for coupled natural gas and electric power networks
2017	Kamali et al. [66]	Applied Energy	Prediction of the risk of a blackout in electric energy systems
2016	Moutis et al. [67]	Applied Energy	energy storage planning and energy controlling
2016	Ottesen [68]	Energy	Total cost minimization in energy systems for the prosumers' buildings

Aguado et al. (2018) [64] introduced a methodology for railway electric energy systems optimal operation considering PV panels and wind turbines as renewable energy sources, hybrid electric energy storage systems, and regenerative braking capabilities. The uncertainties related to renewable energies were considered through a scenario tree methodology. All the compliments were coupled into a multi-period optimal power flow problem. Results were reported for different cases for different operation modes.

Costa et al. (2016) [65] presented a security dispatch method based on decision trees, which can be applied to coupled natural gas and electric power networks against contingencies that may cause interruptions. Preventive measures to the optimal gas production and electric energy generation were performed based on boundaries of controllable variables and security regions determined by decision trees. The decision tree's rules give details of the security regions were tractable constraints and were included in the optimization procedures of gas production and power generation rescheduling. Kamali et al. (2017) [66] presented a novel two-stage method to predict the risk of a blackout in an electric power network. Firstly, electric islands' boundaries were determined to utilize a mixed integer nonlinear programming method that optimized the cost of load curtailment and power generation re-dispatch. Secondly, a data-mining method was completed to forecast the risk of an electric island separation from the rest of the network. Several scenarios such as island and non-island situations were analyzed and then used by the decision tree classification method to forecast a possible blackout.

Moutis et al. (2016) [67] presented a novel tool for utilization of decision trees for planning storage systems in microgrids and controlling energy resources to balance energy for planned community microgrids. The presented methodology was validated by sensitivity analysis for several case studies. A test implementation was introduced for the utilization of distributed controller hardware to run the algorithm of energy balancing in real-time. Ottesen et al. (2016) [68] used decision tree for energy balancing and planning for planned community microgrids. The goal of this paper was to minimize the total cost by trading in an electricity market and considering grid tariffs costs, imbalance penalization and fuels use. The flexibility properties of the energy systems in the buildings of prosumers was modeled bidding rules and handling the interrelations between hours were considered. Uncertain parameters' information structure was captured through scenario trees. Therefore, a two-stage stochastic mixed-integer linear program was applied for bidding decisions and scheduling.

### 3.8. Deep Learning

Deep learning aims at modeling the hierarchical characterization behind data prediction patterns through stacking multi-layer information processing modules. Increasing computing power and increasing data size resulted in the popularity of deep learning. Table 10 presents some important papers in this field.

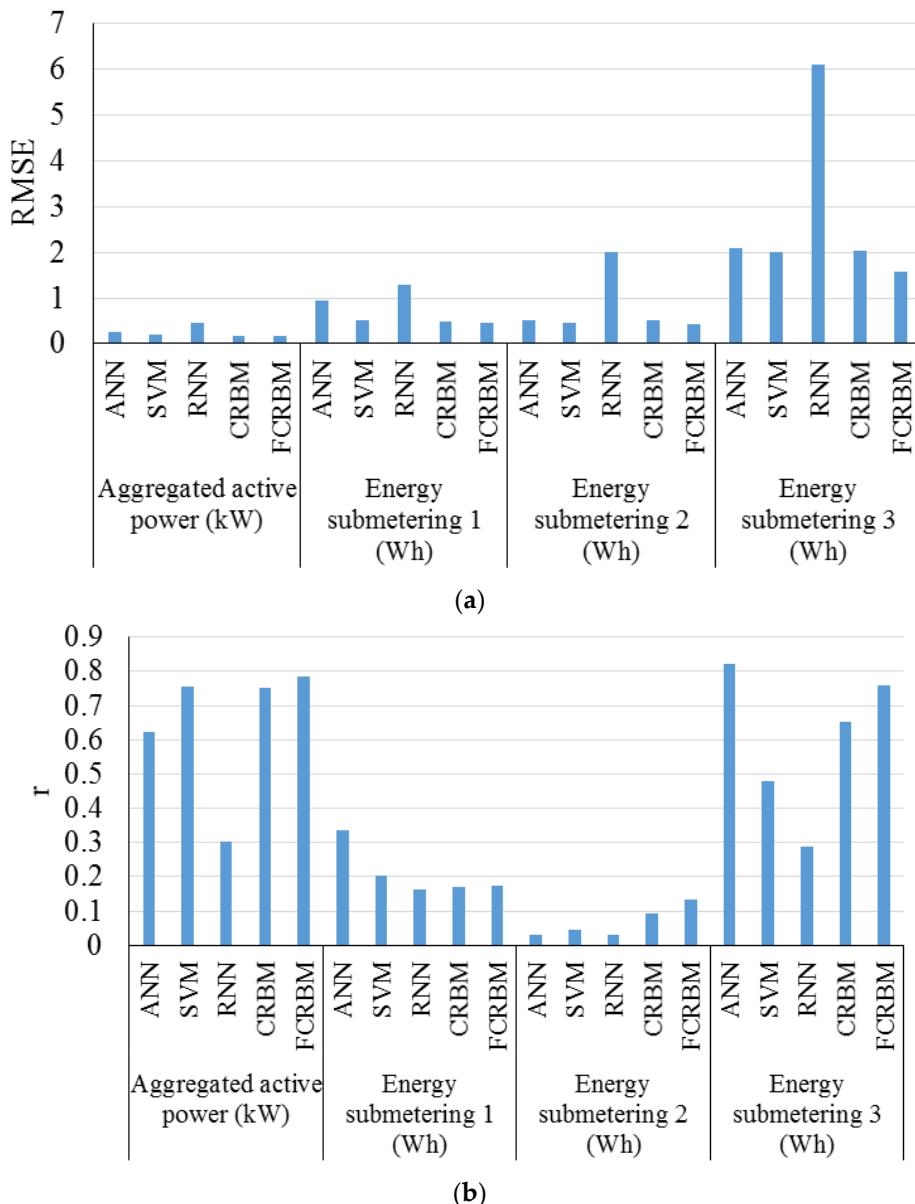
**Table 10.** Notable deep learning models used in energy systems.

Year	Authors	Journal	Application
2018	Chemali et al. [69]	Journal of Power Sources	Battery State-of-charge estimation
2017	Coelho et al. [70]	Applied Energy	Household electricity demand forecasting
2017	Kim et al. [71]	Computational Intelligence and Neuroscience	Estimation of the power consumption of individual appliances in the distribution system
2016	Mocanu et al. [72]	Sustainable Energy, Grids, and Networks	Prediction of building energy consumption
2017	Wang et al. [73]	Energy Conversion and Management	PV power forecasting

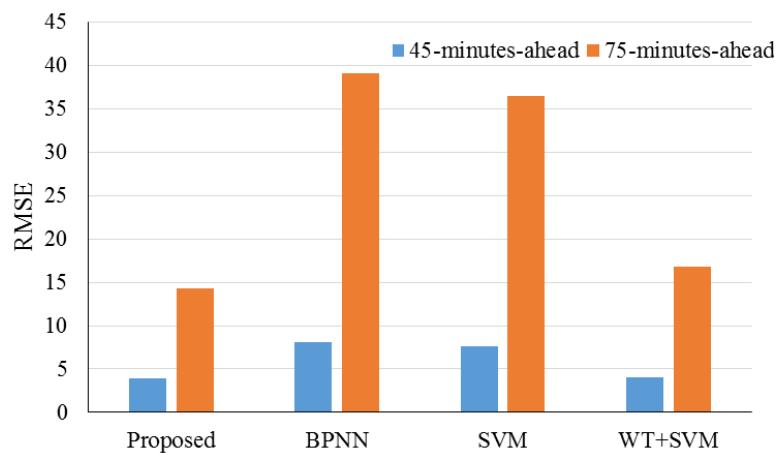
Chemali et al. (2018) [69] introduced a machine learning methodology for state of charge (SOC) estimation in Li-ion batteries utilizing deep neural networks. In this study, a new approach utilizing deep neural networks was presented for estimating battery SOC. Training data were generated in the laboratory by applying drive cycle loads for different ambient temperatures to a Li-ion battery. As a result, the battery can be exposed to variable dynamics. The ability of deep neural networks to encode dependencies into the network weights in real time was demonstrated. Coelho et al. (2017) [70] presented a deep learning model for Graphics Processing Unit for time series forecasting. A new parallel methodology for time series learning was designed. The presented methodology was applied in a hybrid metaheuristic model for mini/microgrid forecasting problem (household electricity demand). Calculated results demonstrated that the presented graphics processing unit learning methodology was a robust deep learning tool to be used in smart sensors. Kim et al. (2017) [71] presented a nonintrusive load monitoring method based on advanced deep learning. In this study, an energy disaggregation utilizing advanced deep learning and long short-term memory recurrent neural network model was proposed. Then, a new signature to upgrade the proposed model classification performance in multistate appliance case was designated. It was demonstrated that the combination between novel signature and advanced deep learning could be a robust solution for improving load identification performance.

Mocanu et al. (2016) [72] introduced two novel models, namely Factored Conditional Restricted Boltzmann Machine and Conditional Restricted Boltzmann Machine, for prediction of energy consumption time series. The models were evaluated by four years of one-minute electric consumption data gathered from a residential building. The results demonstrated that Factored Conditional Restricted Boltzmann Machine outperformed ANN, SVM, RNN, and CRBM. In this study, predictions were performed in various scenarios. *RMSE* and correlation coefficient were employed to compare the results to choose the best model. Figure 18 presents the *RMSE* (a) and correlation coefficient (b) values in case of prediction for a year with a weekly resolution.

Wang et al. (2017) [73] introduced a new method for photovoltaic electricity forecasting utilizing wavelet transform and deep convolutional neural network. The deep convolutional neural network was used to extract invariant structures and the nonlinear features exhibited in each frequency. Numerical results demonstrated that the introduced methods could improve the accuracy of forecasting for various seasons and different prediction horizons. Figure 19 presents the average *RMSE* values in two scenarios, 45- and 75-min-ahead PV power forecasting.



**Figure 18.** (a) RMSE and (b) correlation coefficient values for study by Mocanu et al. (2016). Reproduced from [72], Elsevier: 2016.



**Figure 19.** RMSE values for the study by Wang et al. (2017). Reproduced from [73], Elsevier: 2017.

### 3.9. Ensemble Methods

Ensemble methods employ multiple learning algorithms in machine learning and statistics, in order to reach the best modeling performance compared any other single learning algorithms. In statistical mechanics, the ensemble method contains only a concrete finite set of alternative models but allows for a flexible architecture to exist among alternative models [74]. Table 11 presents some important papers in this field.

**Table 11.** Notable ensemble models used in energy systems.

Year	Authors	Journal	Application
2015	Burger and Moura [75]	Energy and Buildings	forecasting of building electricity demand
2017	Changfeng et al.	International Journal of Control and Automation	Non-linear fault features extraction
2018	Fu, G. [76]	Energy	Cooling load forecasting in buildings
2015	Gjoreski et al. [77]	Applied Soft Computing Journal	Human energy expenditure estimation
2016	Hasan and Twala [78]	International Journal of Innovative Computing, Information, and Control	Prediction of the underground water dam level

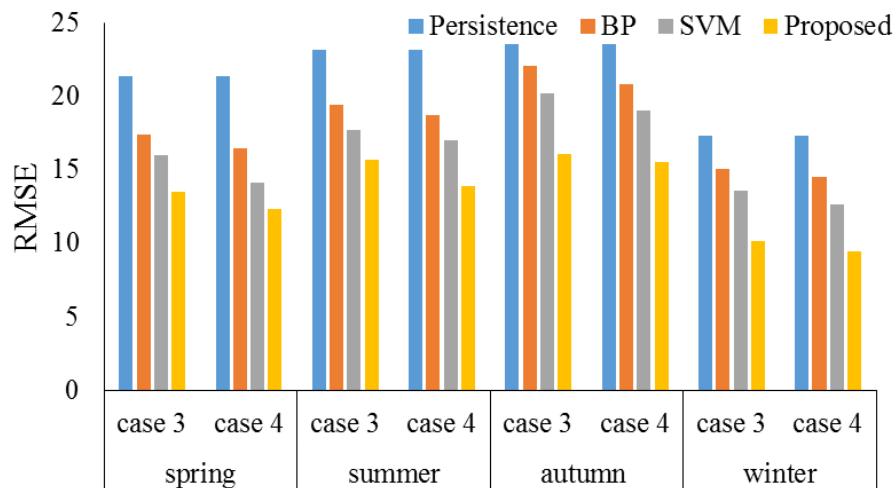
Burger and Moura (2015) [75] worked on the generalization of electricity demand forecasting by formulating an ensemble learning method to perform model validation. By learning from data streams of electricity demand, this method needed little information about energy end use, which made it desirable for real utilization.

Changfeng et al. (2017) used ensemble empirical mode decomposition (EEMD) and multiclass relevance vector machine for diagnosis of faults of self-validating air data sensing system. The EEMD working principle was highlighted for distinct faults features extraction. The multiclass relevance vector machine was utilized for fault diagnosis in a self-validating air data sensing system. By the failure mode analysis and prototype design of the self-validating air data sensing system, an experimental system was designed to verify the execution of the presented methodology.

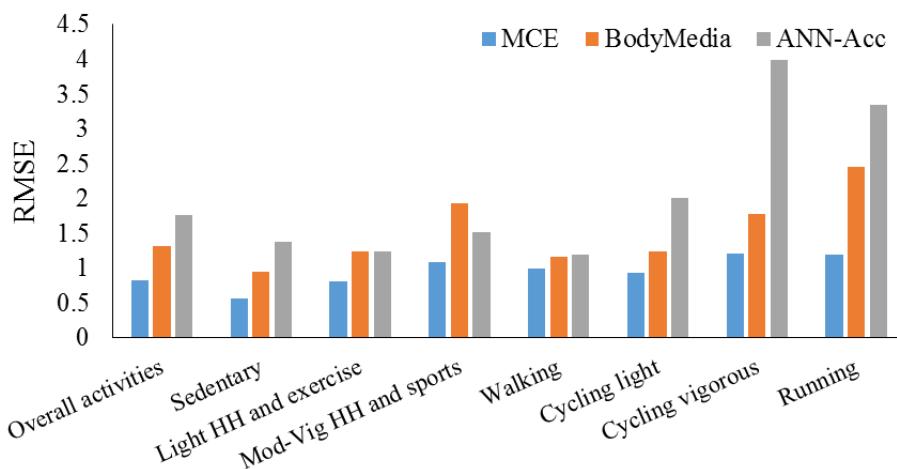
Fu (2018) [76] presented an ensemble approach for forecasting of the cooling load of the air-conditioning system. The presented approach was used for deterministic forecasting of the cooling load with high precision. In this approach a deep belief network, empirical mode decomposition, and the ensemble technique were utilized. The data series of the original cooling load was decomposed into several components. The ensemble method was used to mitigate the influence of uncertainties, such as data noise and model uncertainty, on forecasting precision. Figure 20 presents the RMSE values of the study for each season by the employed models.

Gjoreski et al. (2015) [77] utilized the ensemble method for estimation of human energy expenditure. In this paper, a multiple contest ensemble method was presented to extract multiple features from the sensor data. Every feature was utilized as a context for building multiple regression models and applying other features as training data. The models related to the feature values in the evaluated sample were assembled regression models ensemble to estimate the energy expenditure of the user. Figure 21 presents the RMSE values of the study for each activity by the employed models.

Hasan and Twala (2016) [78] presented an ensemble technique to monitor and predict the underground water dam level. Six different classifier methods were applied for this goal. The paper introduced a new method to select the most appropriate classifiers to construct the most accurate ensemble. This methodology was based on the determination of the amount of mutual information between pairs of classifiers and was utilized to find the optimum number of classifiers to build the most precise ensemble.



**Figure 20.** RMSE values for study by Fu (2018). Reproduced from [76], Elsevier: 2018.



**Figure 21.** RMSE values for study by Gjoreski et al. (2015). Reproduced from [77], Elsevier: 2015.

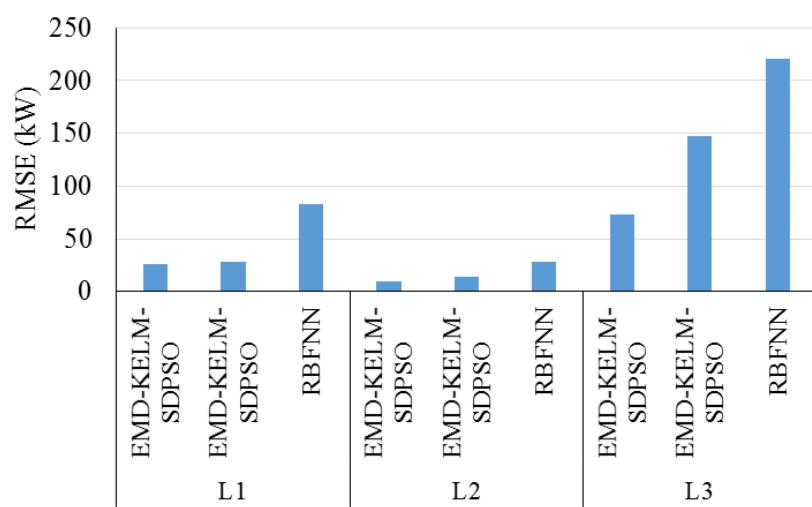
### 3.10. Hybrid ML Models

Hybrid models benefit from multiple ML methods and/or other soft computing and artificial intelligence methods. Data preprocessing and optimization tools have now become common to produce high-accuracy hybrid models for improved prediction capabilities. In these models, usually, one part is for prediction or acts as an estimator, and the other part acts as an optimizer. These models are mainly employed when there is a need for an accurate estimation. ANFIS and WNN are among the early generation of hybrid models [36,79]. Table 12 presents some important papers in this field.

**Table 12.** Notable papers of hybrid models in energy systems.

Year	Reference	Journal	Application
2018	Deng et al. [80]	Journal of Renewable and Sustainable Energy	Short-term load forecasting in microgrids
2016	Dou et al. [81]	Electric Power Components and Systems	prediction of renewable energy loads in microgrids
2016	Peng et al. [82]	Energies	Electric load forecasting
2016	Qu et al. [83]	Advances in Meteorology	Reliable wind speed prediction
2017	Yang and Lian [84]	Applied Energy	Electricity price prediction
2019	Dehghani et al. [85]	Energies	Hydropower generation forecasting
2017	Mosavi et al. [86]	Intelligent Systems	General energy sectors

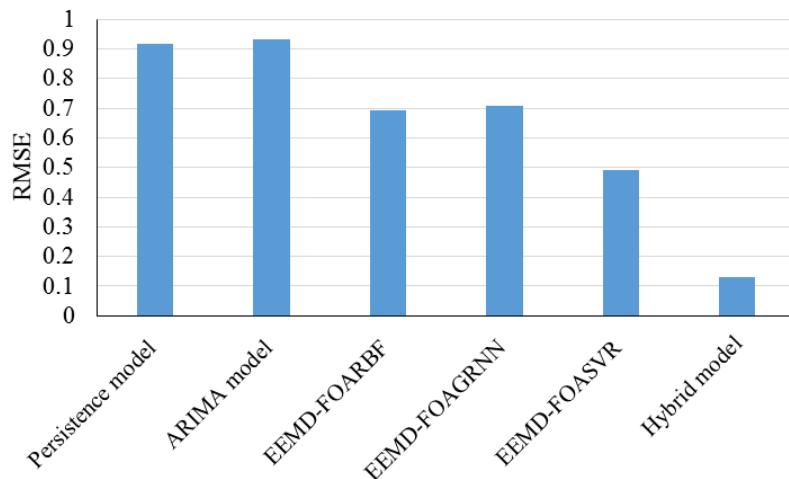
Deng et al. (2018) [80] presented a hybrid short-term load-predicting model optimized by switching delayed particle swarm optimization. In this study, this method was proposed based on switching delayed particle swarm optimization, extreme learning machine with different kernels and empirical mode decomposition. At the first stage, the load database history was decomposed into independent intrinsic mode functions, and the intrinsic mode function sample entropy values were computed. The intrinsic mode function was categorized into three groups. Then the extreme learning machine was applied to predict the three groups. Lastly, the prediction results were gathered to achieve the final prediction result. The experimental results showed that the presented perdition model was robust. Figure 22 presents the RMSE values of the study for each load by the employed models. In this figure, L1, L2, and L3 are user-load datasets for three micro-grids located in Beijing, Yanqing, Guangdong Province, Dong'ao Island, and Xinjiang, Turpan, respectively.



**Figure 22.** RMSE values for study by Deng et al. (2018). Reproduced from [80], Elsevier: 2018.

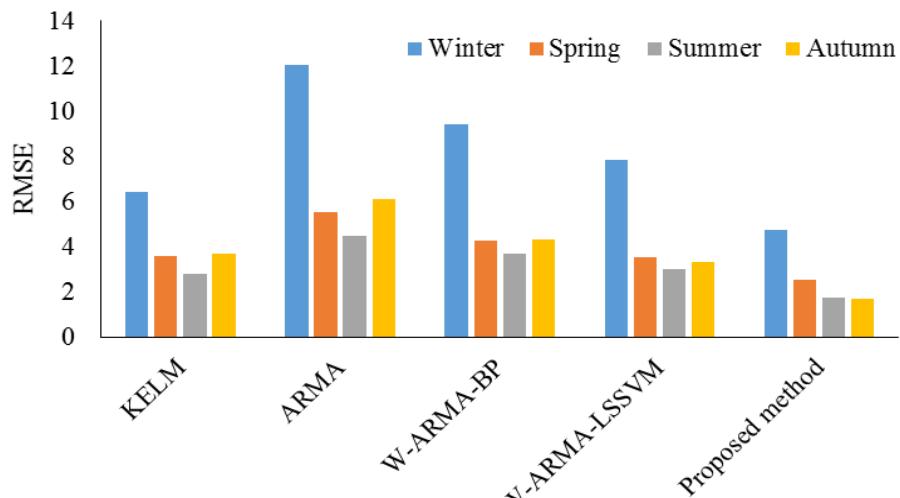
Dou et al. (2016) [81] presented energy management strategies for a microgrid by utilizing a renewable energy source and load prediction. An energy management system based on a two-level multi-agent was built. Then, in the upper-level EMA, strategies of the energy management were constructed by using a PSO method based on renewable energy sources and load probabilistic forecasting. Ensemble empirical mode decomposition coupled with sparse Bayesian learning was used for forecasting of the lower-level renewable energy source and load agents. Simulation results examined the validity of the proposed method.

Peng et al. (2016) [82] introduced a method to hybridize differential empirical mode decomposition and quantum particle swarm optimization algorithm with support vector regression in electric load forecasting. The differential empirical mode decomposition method was applied for decomposing the electric load to several parts related to high frequencies and an approximate part related to low frequencies. The quantum particle swarm optimization algorithm was utilized for optimizing the parameters of support vector regression. The validation of the method demonstrated that it could provide forecasting with good precision and interpretability. Qu et al. (2016) [83] introduced a hybrid model for wind speed forecasting based on fruit fly optimization algorithm and ensemble empirical mode decomposition. The original data of wind speed was divided into a set of signal components using ensemble empirical mode decomposition. Then, the fruit fly optimization algorithm was used to optimize parameters of prediction artificial intelligence models. The final prediction values were acquired by reconstructing the refined series. The empirical results demonstrate that the presented hybrid model was better than some of the existing forecasting models. Figure 23 presents the RMSE values of the study by the employed models.



**Figure 23.** RMSE values for study by Qu et al. (2016). Reproduced from [83], Elsevier: 2016.

Yang et al. (2017) [84] presented a hybrid model for electricity price forecasting utilizing ARMA, wavelet transform, and KELM methods. SAPSO was applied for searching the optimal kernel parameters. After the test of the wavelet decomposition components, the ARMA model was used to predict stationary series. SAPSO-KELM model. The proposed method performance is validated utilizing electricity price data from several cities. The real data demonstrated that the presented method was more accurate than individual methods. Figure 24 presents the RMSE values of the study for each season by the employed models.



**Figure 24.** RMSE values for the study by Yang et al. (2017). Reproduced from [84], Elsevier: 2017.

Renewable energy systems such as wind and solar are site-dependent and highly difficult to predict [7,87,88]. The prediction model using hybrid ML models effectively contributes to increased solar energy production [89]. The economic and environmental aspects of solar photovoltaic as a renewable energy source have caused a significant rise in the number of PV panels in recent years. The high level of computational power and data has empowered ML models for more precise predictions. Due to the significance of prediction in solar photovoltaic power output for decision makers in the energy industry, ML models are employed extensively. Table 13 lists some critical papers in this field.

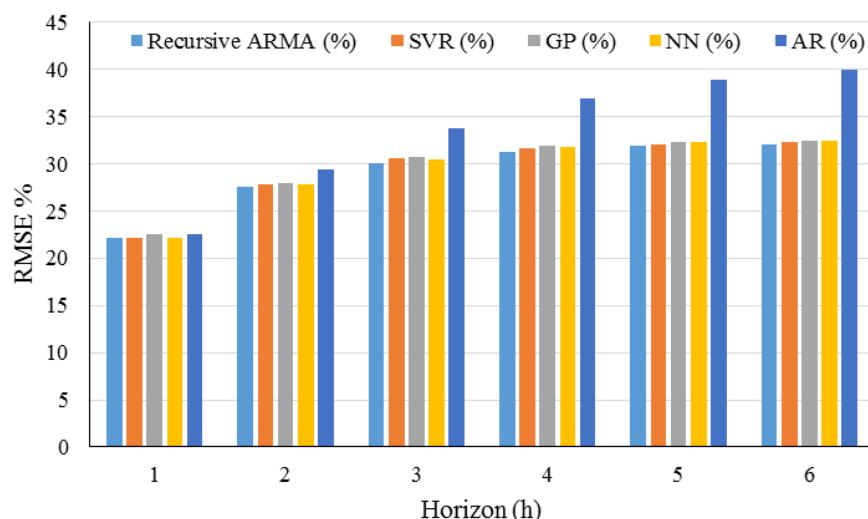
**Table 13.** Notable hybrid ML models in solar energy systems.

Year	Reference	Journal	ML Model	Application
2016	David et al. [90]	Solar Energy	Hybrid ARMA-GARCH model	Forecasting of the solar irradiance
2017	Feng et al. [91]	International Journal of Hydrogen Energy	GRNN, RF, ELM and optimized back propagation GANN	Estimating daily Hd
2017	Hassan et al. [92]	Applied Energy	Gradient boosting, RF and bagging	Modeling solar radiation
2018	Salcedo-Sanz et al. [93]	Applied Energy	A hybrid CRO-ELM model.	Estimation of daily global solar radiation in Queensland, Australia.
2017	Salcedo-Sanz et al. [94]	Renewable Energy	A hybrid CCRO-ELM model.	Global solar radiation prediction at a given point
2017	Touati et al. [95]	Renewable Energy	Hybrid of MA, AR and ARMA modeling	Forecasting the output power of PV panels in environmental conditions.
2017	Voyant et al. [96]	Energy	linear quadratic estimation	Prediction of solar yields
2017	Voyant et al. [97]	Energy	Hybrid of multilayer perceptron	Forecasting of global radiation time series

David et al. (2016) [90] evaluated performances of a combination of ARMA and GARCH models in econometrics to establish solar irradiance probabilistic forecasts. A testing procedure has been utilized to evaluate probabilistic forecasts and point forecasts. The results are presented in Table 14 and Figure 25.

**Table 14.** Results related to the study by David et al. (2016). Reproduced from [90], Elsevier 2016.

Method	RMSE
Recursive ARMA	20.8%
SVR	20.8%
NN	20.6%
AR	21.3%

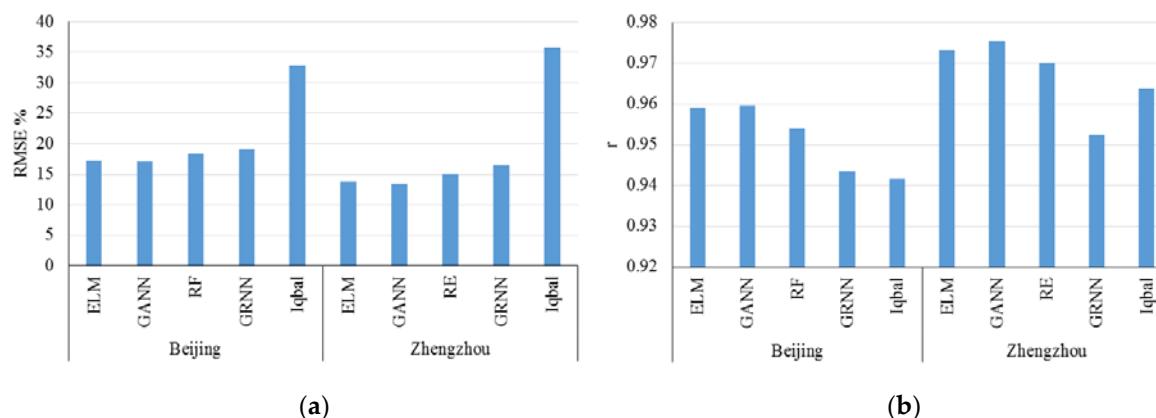
**Figure 25.** RMSE values for study by David et al. (2016). Reproduced from [90], Elsevier: 2016.

As is clear from Table 14 and Figure 25, Recursive ARMA has a low value for RMSE compared with other models. Therefore it can be claimed that the presented model can carry out point forecasts as accurately as other models established on machine learning techniques, and the accuracy of the proposed model is same as the other machine learning techniques for both point and probabilistic forecasts.

Feng et al. (2017) [91] incorporated GRNN, RF, ELM, and optimized back propagation GANN to estimate daily Hd for two stations in northern China. All presented artificial models were compared with the empirical model (Table 15 and Figure 26).

**Table 15.** Results related to the study by Feng et al. (2017). Reproduced from [91], Elsevier: 2017.

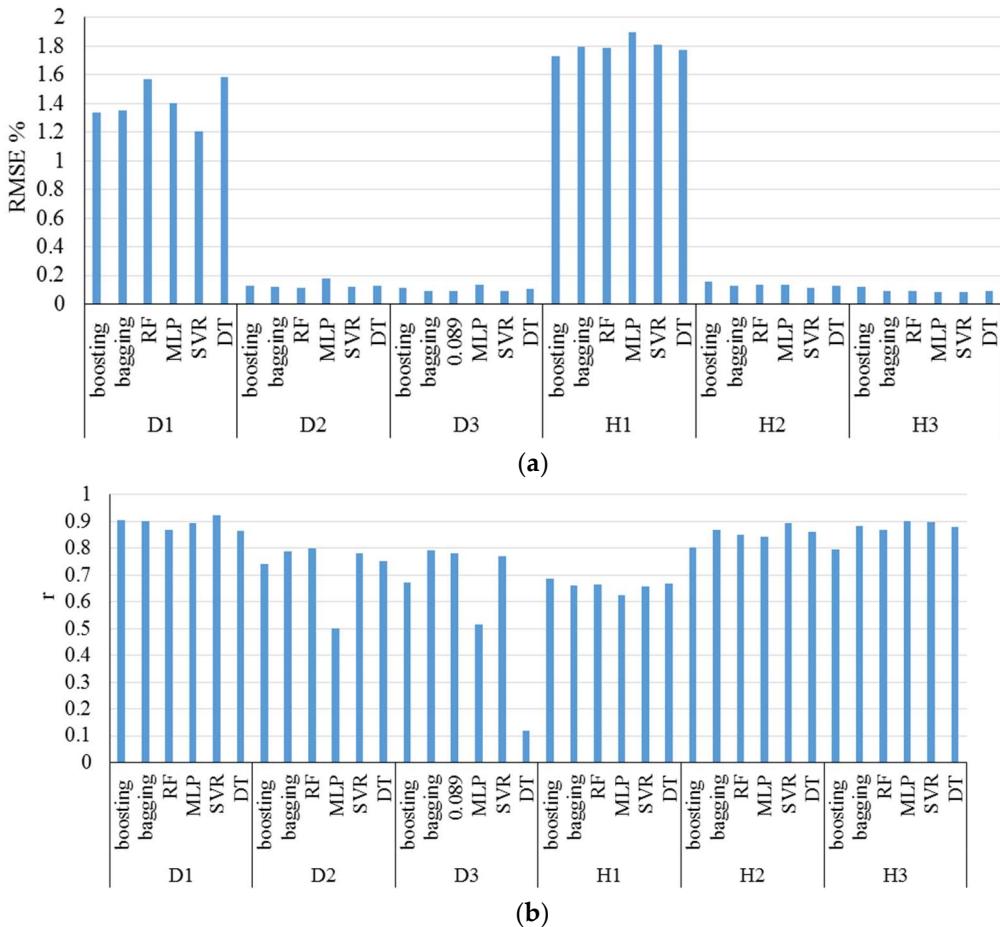
Station	ML Model	RMSE	r
Beijing	ELM	17.3	0.9196
	GANN	17.1	0.9209
	RF	18.3	0.9102
	GRNN	19.2	0.8902
	Iqbal	32.9	0.8865
Zhengzhou	ELM	13.8	0.947
	GANN	13.4	0.9515
	RE	15	0.9408
	GRNN	16.5	0.9072
	Iqbal	35.8	0.929



**Figure 26.** (a) RMSE and (b) r values for study by Feng et al. (2017). Reproduced from [91], Elsevier: 2017.

Based on Figure 26 and Table 15, the GANN model presents the best accuracy due to its lowest RMSE and highest r values compared with those for others for both Beijing and Zhengzhou stations.

Hassan et al. (2017) [92] presented ensemble models for solar radiation modeling. Gradient boosting, RF and bagging were developed to estimate radiation in hourly and daily time scales. These novel ensemble models were developed to generate synthetic radiation data to be utilized to simulate the performance of solar energy systems with different configurations. Figure 27 presents the results of the study in detail. In this study, D1 is a daily model with day number, sunshine fraction as inputs and horizontal global irradiation as the output of the model. D2 is a daily model with global clearness index, day number as inputs and a diffuse fraction as the output of the model. D3 is a daily model with global clearness index, day number as inputs, and normal clearness index as the output of the model. H1 is an hourly model with horizontal global irradiation, sunshine time, day number as inputs, and horizontal global irradiance as the output of the model. H2 is an hourly model with global clearness index, sunshine fraction, day number as inputs, and a diffuse fraction as the output of the model. H3 is the hourly model with global clearness index, sunshine time, day number as inputs, and normal clearness index as the output of the model.

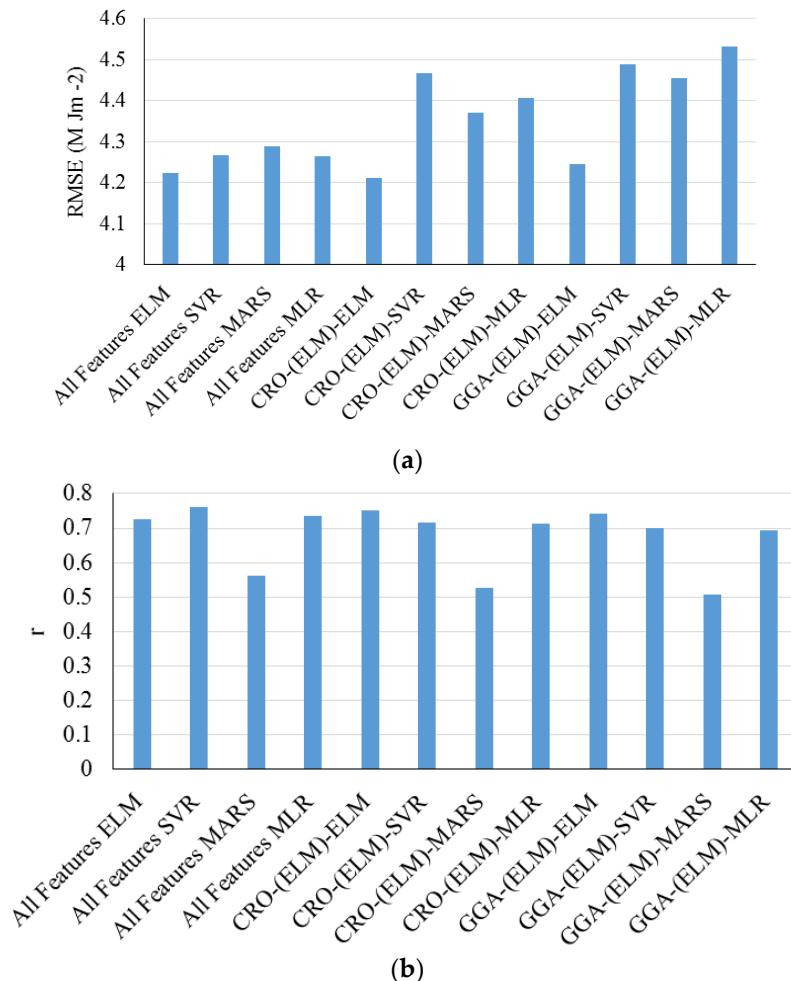


**Figure 27.** (a) RMSE and (b)  $r$  values for study by Hassan et al. (2017). Reproduced from [92], Elsevier: 2017.

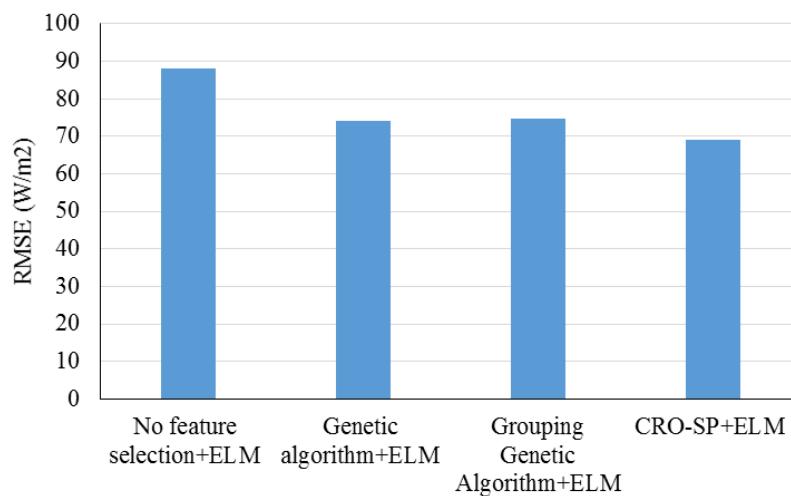
Based on Figure 27, generally, SVR has the best prediction ability compared with the other techniques because it has a high correlation coefficient and a low average RMSE compared with the other models employed by Hassan et al. [14]. Salcedo-Sanz et al. (2018) [93] integrated the CRO with the ELM model in their study. The presented algorithm was applied in two stages. An ELM algorithm was used for the feature selection process, and solar radiation was estimated using the optimally screened variables by the CRO-ELM model (Figure 28).

Based on Figure 28, the hybrid CRO-(ELM)-ELM model has the highest accuracy compared with that for hybrid CRO-(ELM)-MLR, CRO-(ELM)-MARS, and CRO-(ELM)-SVR and the GGA models. Generally, the CRO-based hybrid system is carefully screened through a wrapper-based modeling system. The hybrid CRO-(ELM)-ELM model presents clearer advantages compared with the alternative machine learning approaches.

Salcedo-Sanz et al. (2017) [94] studied the prediction of global solar radiation at a given point incorporating a multilayer perceptron trained with extreme learning machines. A coral reefs optimization algorithm with species was used to reduce the number of significant predictive variables. Based on the results (Figure 28), the proposed model (CRO-SP) has been tested by Toledo (Spain) data. The average best result of RMSE was equal to  $69.19\text{ (W/m}^2)$ , which led to higher accuracy of predictions compared with other machine learning techniques. This claim is evident in Figure 29, which presents the average values of RMSE for the four developed techniques.

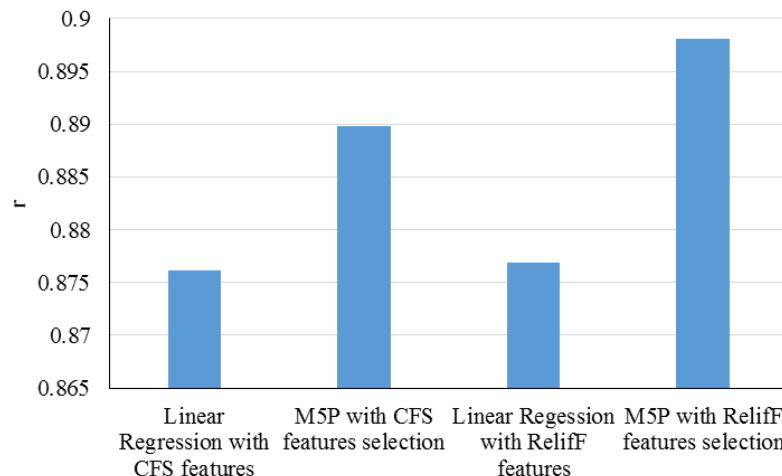


**Figure 28.** (a) RMSE and (b)  $r$  values for study by Salcedo-Sanz et al. (2018). Reproduced from [93], Elsevier: 2018.



**Figure 29.** RMSE values for study by Salcedo-Sanz et al. (2017). Reproduced from [94], Elsevier: 2017.

Touati et al. (2017) [95] predicted output power from photovoltaic panels under different atmospheric conditions. This study's goal was to investigate photovoltaic performance in the harsh environmental conditions of Qatar. The ML model was used to relate various environmental factors such as irradiance, PV surface temperature, wind speed, temperature, relative humidity, dust, and cumulative dust to power production. Figure 30 presents the results of the analysis with correlation coefficient.



**Figure 30.** Correlation coefficient values for study by Touati et al. (2017). Reproduced from [95], the Elsevier: 2017.

As is clear from Figure 30, Linear Regression and M5P tree decision algorithms have been developed for prediction proposes equipped with CFS and RelifF to select subsets of relevant and high-quality features. Based on the results, the M5P model equipped with RelifF creates more accurate predictions due to its high correlation coefficient value; on the other hand, the developed models are relatively simple and can be readily equipped to predict PV power output.

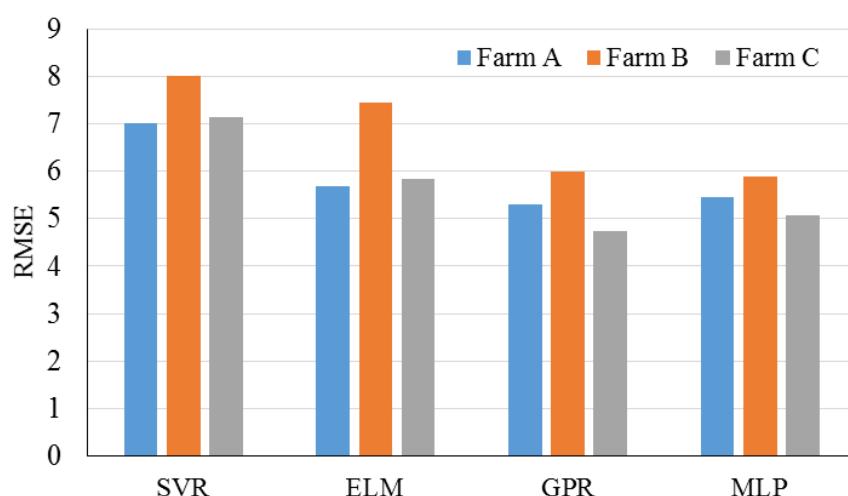
Voyant et al. (2017) [96] proposed models based on the Kalman filter to forecast global radiation time series without utilizing historical data. These methodologies were compared with other data-driven models with different time steps using *RMSE* values. The results claimed that the proposed model improved the prediction purposes. Voyant et al. (2017) [97] presented a method to better understand the propagation of uncertainty in the global radiation time series. In this study, the reliability index has been defined to evaluate the validity of predictions. The presented method has been applied to several meteorological stations. The comparisons were performed using *RMSE* factor. The results were promising for successfully applying in these stations in the Mediterranean area.

There are many novel hybrid ML models proposed to forecast solar radiation. Hybrids of the ANN method have often been used for this purpose and SVM and SVR are being used more extensively nowadays. SVM and SVR usually have the same forecasting performance. Also, the ensemble models were reported to generally deliver higher performance. SVR, GP, and NN have better forecasting performance than AR in forecasting solar radiation. The *RMSE* values of ELM, GANN, RF, and GRNN [18] shows that there is no meaningful difference between them in terms of forecasting performance.

In order to integrate highly volatile wind power in a power grid, precise forecasting of wind speed is crucial. This would result in less of a need to control the energy provided by wind, having battery loading strategies and planning reserve plants. ML models can predict a time interval from seconds to hours and, as a result, are essential for energy grid balancing. Table 16 shows some critical papers in this field. The estimation of the total power collected from wind turbines in a wind farm depends on several factors such as the location, hub height, and season. Cornejo-Bueno et al. (2017) [98] applied different machine learning regression techniques to predict WPRES. Variables from atmospheric reanalysis data were used as predictive inputs for the learning machine. *RMSE* was employed as a comparison factor among the developed models. The results have been presented in Figure 31. In general, GPR followed by MLP has the lowest *RMSE* compared with SVR and ELM for each farm. This shows the high prediction capability of GPR and MLP models, in line with the purpose of the study.

**Table 16.** Notable hybrid ML models in wind energy systems.

Year	Reference	Journal	ML model	Application
2017	Cornejo-Bueno et al. [98]	Energies	SVR, MLP and ELM, GPs, ERA-Interim reanalysis	Accurate prediction of Wind Power Ramp Events
2018	Khosravi et al. [99]	Applied Energy	MLP, SVR, fuzzy inference system, ANFIS, and group model of data handling	Prediction of wind speed data for Osorio wind farm
2017	Burlando et al. [100]	International Journal of Renewable Energy Research	Hybrids of ANNs	Accurate wind power forecast
2018	Pandit et al. [101]	Energies	Hybrid of GP	Predictive condition monitoring
2018	Sharifian et al. [102]	Renewable Energy	PSO, the Type-2 fuzzy NN	The wind power accurate forecasting

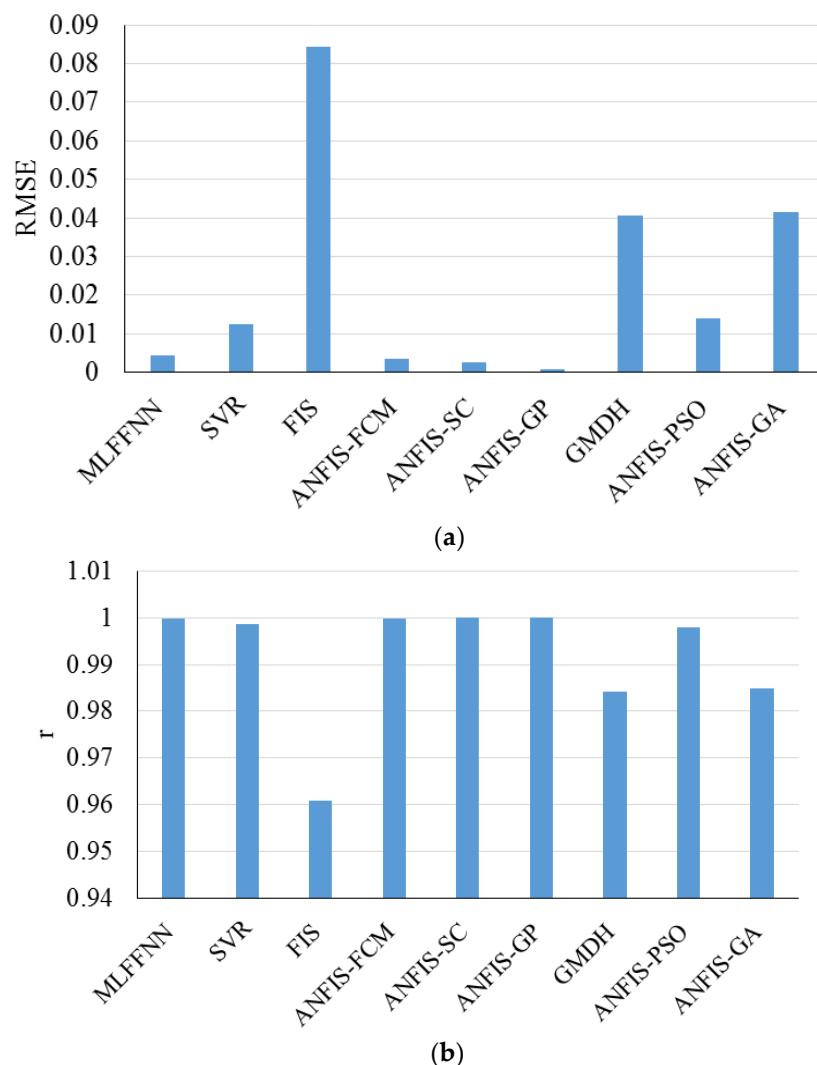
**Figure 31.** RMSE values for study by Cornejo-Bueno et al. (2017). Reproduced from [98], Elsevier: 2017.

Accurate forecasting of WPREs is necessary for the efficient integration of a wind farm into an electricity system [103]. Khosravi et al. (2018) [99] developed models based on a group model of data handling type neural network, adaptive neuro-fuzzy inference system, ANFIS optimized with an ant colony, ANFIS optimized with particle swarm optimization algorithm, ANFIS optimized with genetic algorithm, and multilayer feed-forward neural network. Day, month, average air temperature, minimum and maximum air temperature, air pressure, wind speed, relative humidity, latitude, longitude, and top of atmosphere insulation. The group method of data handling-type neural network was the best-developed model. Figure 32 demonstrates the RMSE and correlation coefficient for each model for making the best comparison.

Burlando et al. (2017) [100] compared a pure ANN model and a hybrid model. Both models had similar performance. Both models were validated against the wind farm SCADA data. However, the hybrid model made better predictions during high and low ranges of wind speed, and ANN better predicted medium wind speed ranges. The results were compared using the normalized root mean square error and the normalized mean absolute error. The best results (the lowest value of comparison factors) were calculated for NWP height of 100 and 200 m for both layout 1 and 2.

Pandit and Infield (2018) [101] performed a study to reduce the costs of operation and maintenance of the wind turbine. Predictive condition monitoring based on SCADA was applied to identify early failures, boost production, limit downtime, and lower the energy cost. A Gaussian Process algorithm was presented to roughly calculate operational curves, which can be utilized as a reference model to recognize critical failures of the wind turbine and enhance power performance. Figure 33 presents the correlation coefficient for the prediction results of four variables using Gaussian process compared with

the target values. Based on Figure 33, this model successfully estimated the power curve compared with other variables. Sharifian et al. (2018) [102] presented a new model based on the fuzzy neural network to forecast wind power under uncertain data conditions. The proposed model was established using a particle swarm optimization algorithm. This model was based on the neural network's learning and expert knowledge of the fuzzy system. The presented model was validated against a real wind farm. The results are presented in Figure 34 using RMSE values for each case study. As is evident, RMSE for the first case study has the lowest value and for the fifth case study has the highest value. Therefore, it can be claimed that the precision of the employed model for the first case study is higher than that of other case studies.

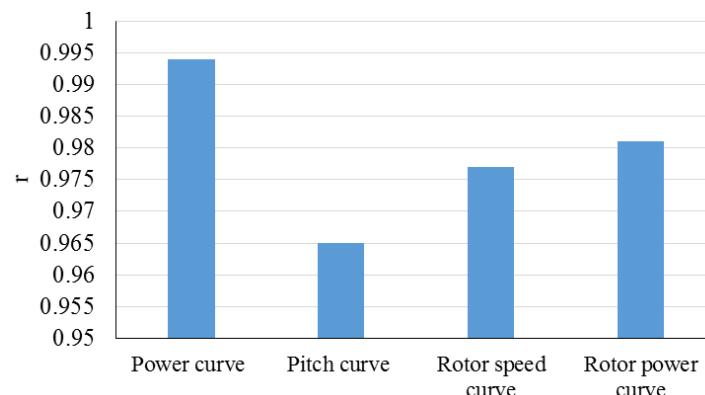


**Figure 32.** (a) RMSE and (b)  $r$  values for study by Khosravi et al. (2018). Reproduced from [99], Elsevier: 2018.

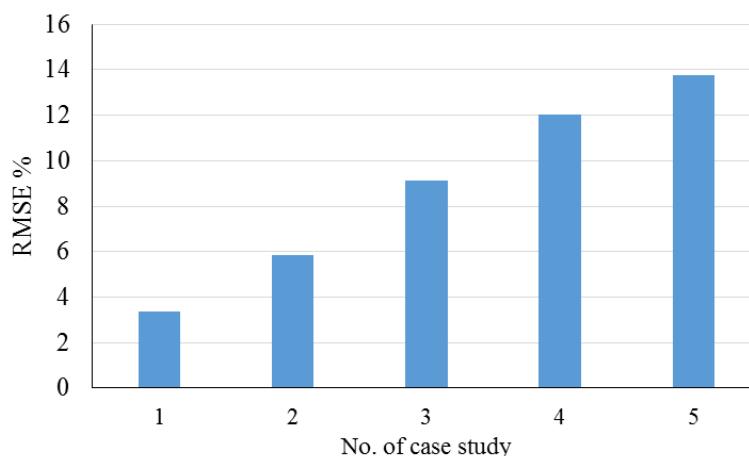
For proper integration of wind power into the power grid, a high-performance forecasting model to compute the forecasting of wind speed at a reasonable speed is needed. It can be concluded that the multilayer perceptron ANN model has better forecasting performance for wind speed than SVM and regression trees [25]. Also, hybrid models such as the ANFIS model have better performance than SVR models. For wind speed forecasting, the hybridization of ANFIS with GP has better performance than its hybridization with PSO and GA [26].

ML models can provide accurate energy consumption and demand prediction, and can be used at the managerial level such as by building commissioning project managers, utility companies, and

facilities managers to introduce energy-saving policies. Table 17 demonstrates some critical papers in this field.



**Figure 33.** Correlation coefficient values for study by Pandit and Infield (2018). Reproduced from [101], Elsevier: 2018.



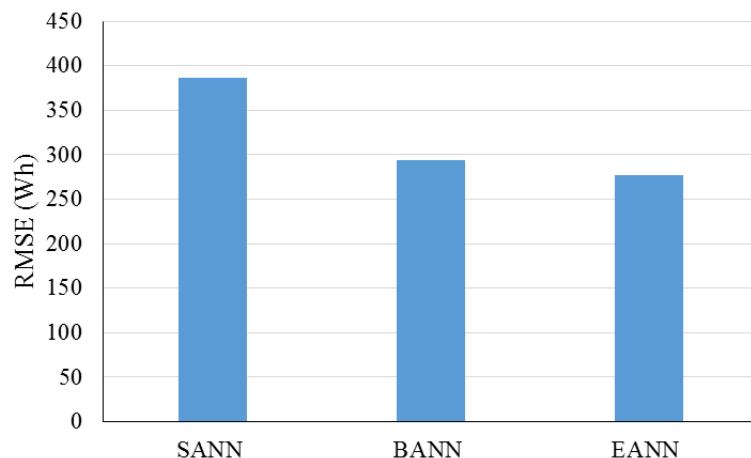
**Figure 34.** RMSE values for study by Sharifian et al. (2018). Reproduced from [102], Elsevier: 2018.

**Table 17.** Notable hybrid ML models in energy consumption and demand prediction.

Year	Reference	Journal	ML Model	Application
2016	Albert and Maasoumy [104]	Applied Energy	predictive segmentation technique	Predictive segmentation technique for energy companies
2018	Alobaidi et al. [105]	Applied Energy	Hybrids	Predicting the average daily energy consumption on a household level
2016	Benedetti et al. [106]	Applied Energy	Hybrids of ANN	Control of energy consumption in energy-intensive industries
2018	Chen et al. [107]	Energy	ensemble learning technique (feedforward deep networks and extreme gradient boosting forest)	Prediction of the household electricity consumption
2018	Kuroha et al. [108]	Energy and Buildings	Support Vector Regression, Particle Swarm Optimization, Predicted Mean Vote	Improving thermal comfort and reduction of electricity costs
2018	Torabi et al. [7,88]	Sustainable Energy	Hybrid ML models	Solar radiation forecasting

Albert and Maasoumy (2016) [104] presented a predictive segmentation technique to create the targeting process and highly-interpretable segmentation for energy companies. The presented model

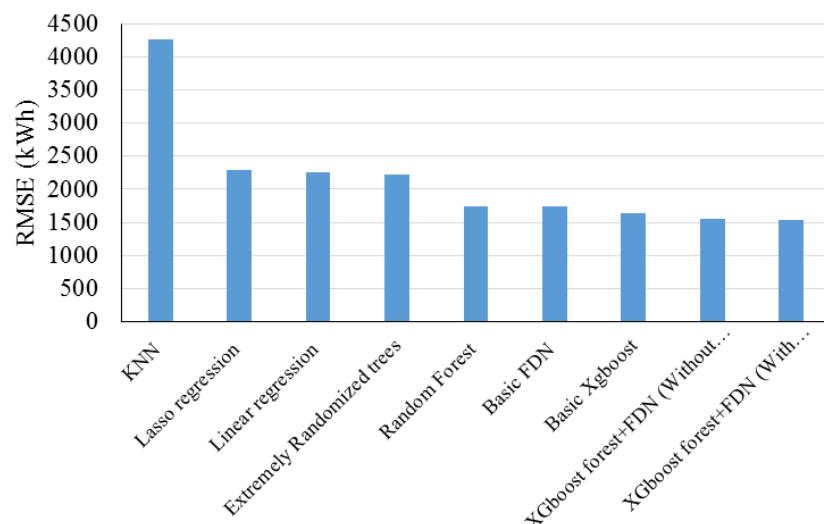
utilized demographics, consumption and program enrollment data to make predictive patterns. This model displayed homogeneous segments that were 2- to 3-fold more productive for targeting. Alobaidi et al. (2018) [105] proposed an ensemble learning framework for household energy consumption forecasting. In this paper, a prediction framework was presented to predict individual household average daily energy consumption. The results showed the robustness of the proposed ensemble model to provide prediction performance using limited data. Figure 35 presents the results of *RMSE* for each model separately.



**Figure 35.** *RMSE* values for study by Alobaidi et al. (2018). Reproduced from [105], Elsevier: 2018.

Benedetti et al. (2016) [106] introduced a new methodology for control automation of energy consumption utilizing adaptive algorithms and artificial neural networks. Three neural network structures were presented and trained to deal with an enormous amount of data. Three indicators were used to identify the best structure for creating a control tool for energy consumption. The accuracy of the model was investigated. Finally, the model was applied to a case study of a building in Rome, Italy.

Chen et al. (2018) [107] worked on a novel approach for predicting residential electricity consumption using ensemble learning. In this study, a data-driven framework was introduced to forecast the annual electricity consumption of household utilizing ensemble learning model. Ridge regression was used to combine feed-forward deep networks and extreme gradient boosting forest. Figure 36 presents the results of the study in comparison with those of the other models. As is clear from Figure 36, the proposed models have the highest accuracy with the lowest *RMSE* in comparison with the other models.



**Figure 36.** *RMSE* values for the study by Chen et al. (2018). Reproduced from [107], Elsevier: 2018.

Kuroha et al. (2018) [108] presented an operational planning model for residential air conditioners. In this study, the focus was on automatic air conditioners for thermal comfort improvement and electricity cost reduction. An energy management methodology was introduced to provide an air conditioner operation plan by learning the installation environment characteristics from result data of the historic operation. Based on the results, the proposed model could reduce the electricity cost about 39.7% compared with that for the benchmark method.

The type of data that is available today is continuously evolving. Some data already encode information that is used as proxy metrics to predict energy consumption in buildings. For example, geometry, size, and height can be used to predict energy consumption in buildings. Wang et al. [109] developed the Unige Building Identifier to correspond attribute data and building energy to smooth the way for corresponding across datasets. Depecker et al. [110] matched the consumption of heating of the buildings and their shape. In this study, the criterion for the shape of buildings was presented. Fourteen buildings were chosen based on their shape varieties. The results demonstrated that the energy consumption of buildings is inversely proportionate to the building's compactness. Qi and Wang [111] introduced a novel model for calculation of shape coefficient of buildings utilizing Google Earth. Astronomy principles, geometry, and GIS slope analysis were used for calculation of shape coefficient of buildings. This new model can be used for energy-saving measures in existing buildings.

ML and big data have led to believe that personally identifiable information is released when predicting energy patterns, and so forth. However, this is not often the case. The following studies show how to protect data privacy while predicting and disclosing information about energy in commercial buildings. Livingston et al. [112] presented a solution to measure the impact of modifying the utility meter aggregation threshold for dweller privacy and on buildings that are qualified for energy usage reporting. As the threshold rises, lesser buildings are qualified for disclosure of energy use data. This paper's goal was to study the resemblance between whole-building totals and individual utility meters at various aggregation levels. Sweeney et al. [113] proposed a solution for data privacy. The solution included a formal protection model titled k-anonymity as a series of accompanying policies. For this definition of privacy, in a k-anonymized dataset, every record is identical from at least k-1 other records. Machanavajjhala et al. [114] studied two problems about k-anonymity; little diversity in sensitive attributes and background knowledge of attackers. They introduced a new privacy criterion called l-diversity that can shield against such attacks. The hybridization of ML models in energy demand field demonstrated that the accuracy of energy demand forecasting could improve significantly. Also, an ensemble model has significantly higher generalization ability than ANN and SVM models, and it has a lower uncertainty of forecasting [7,32].

### 3.11. Comparative Analysis of ML Models

Table 18 provides a comparative study of ML models and deep learning for prediction in different energy systems. In this table, the complexity of ML models, user-friendliness, accuracy, speed, and dataset type are summarized. Hybrid ML models are reported to be superior in terms of user-friendliness, accuracy, and speed. However, the complexity of their methodologies has increased.

There is not any meaningful difference in the forecasting performance of SVR, GP, and NN models [17]. Therefore, their quality of forecasting is the same. Considering the reviewed papers, these models have the same statistics of error. Also, SVM and SVR have similar performance, with no statistical forecasting performance difference among them. SVR models have lower forecasting performance than ELM, GPR, and MLP models [20]. Decision Tree models have a lower fluctuation of performance than SVM and NN models for quarter-hourly, daily, and weekly periods [46]. The RMSE value of SVM models are higher than the MLP models, and therefore it has lower forecasting performance [52]. The hybrid models have a lower RMSE value than ARIMA, EEMD-FOASVR, and EEMD-FOAGRNN [96]. Hybridizing existing methodologies and algorithm ensemble are among the most effective ways to improve the ML models.

**Table 18.** Comparative study of ML models in energy systems.

ML Model	Complexity	User-Friendliness	Accuracy	Speed	Dataset Type
ANN	Reasonably high	Low	High	Reasonable	Historical
MLP	Reasonable	Reasonable	Reasonably high	High	Historical
ELM	Reasonable	Reasonably high	Reasonable	Reasonably high	Historical
SVM	Reasonably high	Low	High	Low	Historical
DT	Reasonable	Low	Reasonable	Reasonable	Historical
DL	High	Reasonable	High	Reasonable	Historical
Ensemble	High	Low	Reasonable	High	Historical
WNN	Reasonable	Low	High	Low	Historical
ANFIS	Reasonable	Reasonable	Reasonable	High	Historical
Hybrids	Reasonable	High	High	High	Historical

#### 4. Conclusions

Smart sensors, smart grid, and IoT technologies have enabled big data with new challenges and opportunities to the energy systems. The ML models have gained popularity in putting big data in the constructive use for informed-decision and more efficient models. The state of the art of ML models in energy systems identified 10 groups of ML algorithms with the highest popularity for model building in energy systems, i.e., ANN, MLP, ELM, SVM, WNN, ANFIS, decision trees, deep learning, ensembles, and advanced hybrid ML models. Diverse applications of each ML models have been reviewed showing the popularity and effectiveness of ML models almost in any energy domain. The example application of ML models include energy consumption prediction, demand prediction, cost prediction, wind speed estimation, load forecasting, solar radiation prediction, ranking, various optimization tasks, power generation forecasting, power quality estimation, time series forecasting, load perdition, wind speed forecasting, power demand prediction, risk prediction, storage planning, energy control, peak load management, dynamic energy pricing, cost minimization, battery charge estimation, price prediction and more. Further investigation of the accuracy and generalization ability of the various ML models suggested that novel hybrid models are superior to the more conventional ML models. The trend in advancement of hybrid ML models will continue to deliver higher performance and sophisticated energy models.

The progress of renewable energy systems is dependent on the advancement of ML models. Note that renewable energy systems have recently gained popularity due to climate protection and sustainability concerns, so it is more acceptable to extract energy from the wind, sun, and other renewable energy resources. The central aspect of all renewable energy resources is their dependence on the environment and huge barriers to controlling and planning. Furthermore, due to the expansion of the electricity grid, it is necessary to forecast power generation and demand. Nevertheless, fluctuations in wind and solar energies and energy demand have a negative impact on the grid and its users if not managed properly. Therefore, ML models have become essential in such energy systems. The review of these particular applications has demonstrated the promising robustness of the ML models. Based on the results, the research direction is moving toward personalized ML models designed for a particular application. This trend has shown that the highest degree of accuracy can be achieved though case-based ML model development. Although the hybrid ML models are reported as the optimal choice and the future trend in energy systems, further evaluation and comparison of various hybrid ML models are essential, considering alternative comparative performance parameters besides the RMSE and  $r$ .

**Author Contributions:** Review, data curation and analyzing the results, M.S., A.M., and S.F.A.; energy expertise, M.S., T.R., S.S., and A.V.-K.; machine learning expertise, A.M., S.S., A.V.-K., and S.F.A.; management, database, conceptualization, writing, administration and methodology, A.M.; visualization, S.F.A.; supervision, resources, software, expertise, revision, and verifying the results, S.S., A.V.-K. and T.R.

**Conflicts of Interest:** The authors declare no conflict of interest.

## Acronyms

AR	Autoregressive
ARMA	Autoregressive Moving Average
ANNs	Artificial Neural Networks
ANFIS	Adaptive Neuro-Fuzzy Inference System
BANN	Back Propagation Neural Network
BP	Back Propagation
CFS	Correlation based Feature Selection
CGP	Cartesian Genetic Programming
CRBM	Conditional Restricted Boltzmann Machines
CRO	Coral Reefs Optimization
CWNN	Convolutional-Wavelet Neural Networks
DL	Deep Learning
DOPH	Direct Optimum Parallel Hybrid
DT	Decision trees
EANN	Evolutionary Artificial neural networks
EEMD	Ensemble Empirical Mode Decomposition
ELM	Extreme Learning Machine
EMD	Empirical Mode Decomposition
FCRBM	Factored Conditional Restricted Boltzmann Machine
FFNN	Feed Forward Neural Network
FIS	Fuzzy inference system
FOARBF	Fruit Fly Optimization Algorithm Radial Basis Function
FOAGRNN	Fruit Fly Optimization Algorithm Generalized Regression Neural Networks
FOASVR	Fruit Fly Optimization Algorithm Support Vector Regression
GA	Genetic Algorithm
GANN	Neural Networks by Genetic Algorithm
GARCH	Generalized Autoregressive Conditional Heteroskedasticity
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GFF	General Factorization Framework
GP	Gaussian Processes
GPR	Gaussian Processes Regression
GRNN	Generalized Regression Neural Networks
IDSS	Intelligent Decision Support System
IoT	Internet of Things
KELM	kernel-based extreme learning machine
KFCM	Kernel Fuzzy C Means
KNN	K-Nearest Neighbors
LM	Levenberg-Marquardt
MARS	Multivariate Adaptive Regression Splines
ML	Machine Learning
MLP	Multilayer Perceptron
MR	Multi-Resolution
MLR	Multiple linear regression
MTL	Method of transmission lines
MRWNN	Multi-Resolution Wavelet Neural Network
NARX	Nonlinear Auto-Regressive with external input
NDP	Neuro-Dynamic Programming
NN	Neural Networks
NWP	Numerical Weather Prediction
OLR	Outgoing long-wave radiation
PR	Persistence model
PSO	Particle Swarm Optimization
PV	Photovoltaic

r	Correlation coefficient
RBF	Radial Basis Function
RBFNN	Radial Basis Function Neural Networks
RF	Random Forests
RMSE	Root Mean Squared Error
RNN	Recurrent Neural Network
SANN	Subsequent Artificial Neural Networks
SAPSO	Self-Adaptive Particle Swarm Optimization
SARIMA	Seasonal Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average
SCADA	Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition
SCG	Scaled Conjugate Gradient
SE	Solar radiation
SEAT	A car manufacturing plant in Spain
SOC	State of Charge
SOFM	Self-Organizing Feature Map
SVM	Support Vector Machine
SP	Coral Reefs Optimization algorithm with species
SVR	Support vector regression
WPRE	Wind Power Ramp Events
WNN	Wavelet Neural Network

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