energy_price_prediction

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1 Machine Learning Engineer Nanodegree

1.1 Capstone Project

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1.2 I. Introduction

The Bundesnetzagentur's electricity market information platform "SMARD" is an abbreviation of the German term "Strommarktdaten", which translates to electricity market data. Data that is published on SMARD's website gives an up-to-date and in-depth overview of what is happening on the German electricity market.

The SMARD Website offers real time data for analysis. This data is available for download in different formats. Link to SMARD Website

The following electricity market data categories can be accessed/downloaded:

- Electricity generation
 - Actual generation
 - Forecasted generation
 - Installed capacity

- Electricity consumption
 - Realised consumption
 - Forecasted consumption
- The market
 - Wholesale market price
 - Commercial exchanges
 - Physical flows
- System stability
 - Balancing energy
 - Total costs
 - Primary balancing capacity
 - Secondary balancing capacity
 - Tertiary balancing reserve
 - Exported balancing energy
 - Imported balancing energy

The above data is available from 2015 onwards. The statistical data available is visuallized and limited to a specific subcategory (for example: Electricity generation --> Actual generation). The visualization does not convey how the data is correlated to one another and also the correlation of data between different catagories like "Actual generation" and "Wholesale market price" would be a very interesting to determine.

What makes SMARD Data so interesting?

- Data is already consolidated from different transmission system operators in a standard format
- High frequency of data (in 15 minute / hourly intervals) provides a good basis for data analysis
- Data available from 2015 ist constantly updated

1.3 II. Problem Statement

The problem to be solved is the prediction of the wholesale market price of energy [Euro/MWh] using the data available above. The problem at hand is a supervised learning problem in the field of Machine Learning. From the **Datasets and Inputs** section below, we have the following input data:

- a. Actual generation
- b. Realized Consumption
- c. Balancing energy

It is important to find correlations among the above input features and use this information to predict the wholesale market price of energy.

All data is available in CSV format

1.4 III. Analysis and Preprocessing

The data sets can be downloaded at https://www.smard.de/en/downloadcenter/download_market_data Select category, subcategory, country = Germany, Dates: 01/01/2015 - 31/12/2015, Filetype: CSV and download file.

We will consider a Data sets for the years 2015 and 2016.

The subcategories below refer to feature sets. If a sub-category is not relevant, all features in the feature set can be discarded. Partial relevance means that a part of the the features need to be considered.

Category	Sub-category	Relevant?	Data frequency	Details
Electricity generation	Actual generation	yes	15 mins	Amount of energy generated by different sources at a specific time period
	Forecasted generation	no	15 mins	Forecasted features are not relevant
	Installed Capacity	no	NA	Not enough data

Category	Sub-category	Relevant?	Data frequency	Details
Electricity	Realized	yes	15 mins	Energy
consumption	consumption			consump-
-	-			tion at
				specific
				time
				period
	Forecasted	no	15 mins	Forecasted
	consumption			features
	1			are not
				relevant
The Market	Wholesale market	yes	15 mins	Energy
	price	(partially)		price per
	1	(P ar aranz))		MWh.
				Only data
				for
				Germany
				is relevant
	Commercial	no	60 mins	Energy
	exchanges	110	oo minis	Imports
	exchanges			and
				Exports
				are out of
				scope for
				price
				•
	Dlanai aal flanna		(Oi	prediction
	Physical flows	no	60 mins	Energy
				Imports
				and
				Exports
				are out of
				scope for
				price
				prediction

Category	Sub-category	Relevant?	Data frequency	Details
System stability	Balancing energy	yes	15 mins	Overall energy balancing volumes and balancing price
	Total costs	no	monthly	Not enough data
	Primary balancing capacity	no	15 mins	Energy balancing efforts and resulting costs are not in scope
	Secondary bancing capacity	no	15 mins	Energy balancing efforts and resulting costs are not in scope
	Tertiary balancing reserve	no	15 mins	Energy balancing efforts and resulting costs are not in scope

Category	Sub-category	Relevant?	Data frequency	Details
	Exported balancing energy	no	NA	No data available for 2015
	Imported balancing energy	no	NA	No data available for 2015

After the initial screening we have the following features:

Category	Sub-category	Feature	Data frequency	Comments
		Date		Date starting 01/01/2015 - 31/12/2015
		Time of day		Timestamps in 15 min intervals for the date range specified above
Electricity generation	Actual generation	Hydropower[M	IW∄ֆ mins	Generated energy in MWh
		Wind offshore[MWh]	15 mins	Generated energy in MWh
		Wind onshore[MWh]	15 mins	Generated energy in MWh
		Photovoltaics[N	∕IW h mins	Generated energy in MWh
		Other renewable[MW	15 mins h]	Generated energy in MWh
		Nuclear[MWh]	-	Generated energy in MWh
		Fossil brown coal[MWh]	15 mins	Generated energy in MWh

Category	Sub-category	Feature	Data frequency	Comments
		Fossil hard	15 mins	Generated
		coal[MWh]		energy in MWh
		Fossil	15 mins	Generated
		gas[MWh]		energy in MWh
		Hydro pumped	15 mins	Generated
		storage[MWh]		energy in MWh
		Other	15 mins	Generated
		conventional[MV	Vh]	energy in MWh
Electricity consumption	Actual consumption	Total[MWh]	15 mins	Feature name
				needs to be
				modified to
				Total
				consumption
				for simplicity
The Market	Wholesale market price	Germany/Austria 60 wxima bourg [Euro/		
				of other
				countries are
				not relevant
				and need not be
				considered. The
				feature name
				will be
				renamed to
				Price Germany
				for simplicity
System stability	Balancing energy	Balancing	15 mins	Balancing
		energy		energy in MWh
		volume[MWh]		
		Balancing	15 mins	Price for
		energy		balancing
		price[Euro/MWl	h]	energy
				Euro/MWh

Each of the features in the dataset contains a value for a particular time period/interval. The feature we like to predict "Wholesale market price" is available every 60 minutes. This implies that the input features which are currently available every 15 minutes need to be reduced to once every 60 minutes to correspond with the predicted feature.

Why is this data set relevant for the problem?

From the information presented in [2], we see clearly

The electricity market brings supply and demand together.

The main element to control the market is the Price. We already have supply data i.e. energy supply data from different sources and demand data which is the consumption data. We also have the energy price for any give time period. If supply and demand are key factors which influence the price, we already have the relevant data to analyse using Supervised Machine Learning.

Read CSV Data We start by reading data which have a frequency of 15 mins:

- 1. Actual generation
- 2. Actual consumption
- 3. Balancing energy

 α

```
dataset has 70271 samples with 14 features each.
dataset has 70271 samples with 3 features each.
dataset has 70271 samples with 4 features each.
   Actual generation (Frequency = 15 mins)
In [4]: data_freq_15min[0].head()
Out[4]:
                Date Time of day
        0 2015-01-01
                        12:00 AM
                                        1005.50
        1 2015-01-01
                        12:15 AM
                                        1007.00
        2 2015-01-01
                        12:30 AM
                                        1006.50
        3 2015-01-01
                                        1005.25
                        12:45 AM
        4 2015-01-01
                         1:00 AM
                                         998.75
                              Photovoltaics[MWh] Other renewable[MWh]
           Wind onshore [MWh]
        0
                     2028.25
                                              0.0
        1
                     2023.00
                                              0.0
                     2040.25
                                              0.0
```

2036.50

2045.75

Hydro pumped storage[MWh]

3976.25

3963.25

3924.75

3871.75

3899.00

192.50

0.0

0.0

686.00

721.25

1521.75

Other conventional[MWh]

9

3

0

1 2

3

4

0

1	149.75	1498.00
2	173.25	1503.25
3	95.00	1518.75
4	67.50	1491.75

The amount of energy in MWh(Megawatt hour) from different energy sources for each time period is listed above

```
In [5]: # Fix column names with Whitespaces and Uppercases
        data_freq_15min[0].columns = data_freq_15min[0].columns.str.strip().str.lower().str.replace(' ', '_').
                                        str.replace('(', '').str.replace(')', '').str.replace('[', '_').str.replace(']', '')
        data_freq_15min[0].head()
Out[5]:
                                  biomass_mwh hydropower_mwh wind_offshore_mwh \
                date time_of_day
                        12:00 AM
        0 2015-01-01
                                      1005.50
                                                        288.25
                                                                           130.00
        1 2015-01-01
                        12:15 AM
                                      1007.00
                                                        287.75
                                                                           129.25
        2 2015-01-01
                        12:30 AM
                                      1006.50
                                                        292.75
                                                                           128.50
        3 2015-01-01
                                      1005.25
                                                        289.50
                        12:45 AM
                                                                           128.75
                         1:00 AM
        4 2015-01-01
                                       998.75
                                                        295.25
                                                                           128.75
           wind_onshore_mwh photovoltaics_mwh other_renewable_mwh nuclear_mwh \
                                                                          2685.50
        0
                    2028.25
                                           0.0
                                                                14.5
        1
                    2023.00
                                           0.0
                                                                14.5
                                                                          2646.25
        2
                    2040.25
                                                                14.5
                                                                          2660.75
                                           0.0
        3
                    2036.50
                                                                14.5
                                                                          2718.00
                                           0.0
        4
                    2045.75
                                                                14.5
                                                                          2772.25
                                           0.0
           fossil_brown_coal_mwh fossil_hard_coal_mwh fossil_gas_mwh \
        0
                         3976.25
                                                 686.00
                                                                 263.00
                         3963.25
                                                721.25
                                                                 261.75
        1
                         3924.75
                                                 695.75
        2
                                                                 260.50
        3
                         3871.75
                                                 664.75
                                                                 241.50
        4
                         3899.00
                                                 520.50
                                                                 202.25
           hydro_pumped_storage_mwh other_conventional_mwh
        0
                             192.50
```

1521.75

```
    1
    149.75
    1498.00

    2
    173.25
    1503.25

    3
    95.00
    1518.75

    4
    67.50
    1491.75
```

Actual consumption (Frequency = 15 mins)

```
In [6]: data_freq_15min[1].head()
Out[6]:
                Date Time of day Total[MWh]
                       12:00 AM
        0 2015-01-01
                                    10606.25
        1 2015-01-01
                       12:15 AM
                                    10505.25
        2 2015-01-01
                        12:30 AM
                                    10517.00
        3 2015-01-01
                        12:45 AM
                                    10468.50
        4 2015-01-01
                                    10307.50
                         1:00 AM
```

The amount of energy consumed in MWh(Megawatt hour) for each time period is listed above

```
Balancing energy volume[MWh] \
Out[8]:
               Date Time of day
       0 2015-01-01
                       12:00 AM
                                                        -475.0
       1 2015-01-01
                       12:15 AM
                                                        -181.0
       2 2015-01-01
                                                        154.0
                       12:30 AM
        3 2015-01-01
                       12:45 AM
                                                        137.0
       4 2015-01-01
                       1:00 AM
                                                         463.0
```

```
Balancing energy price[Euro/MWh]
0 -49.41
1 -19.69
```

```
74.70
        2
        3
                                        62.28
        4
                                        63.71
In [9]: # Fix column names with Whitespaces and Uppercases
        data_freq_15min[2].columns = data_freq_15min[2].columns.str.strip().str.lower().str.replace(' ', '_').
                                          str.replace('(', '').str.replace(')', '').str.replace('[', '_').str.replace(']', '')
   Wholesale market price (Frequency = 60 mins)
   Wholesale market price/Day ahead price has a frequency of 60 mins. Therfore, we will read this data separately to merge them later
with the 15 min data set, which will be reduced to a frequency of 60 minutes.
In [10]: prices_freq_60min = sc.read_csv(os.path.join(source_path,
                                                         "DE_Day-ahead prices_2015-2017.csv"))
dataset has 17568 samples with 14 features each.
In [11]: prices_freq_60min.head()
                 Date Time of day Germany/Austria/Luxembourg[Euro/MWh] \
Out[11]:
         0 2015-01-01
                          12:00 AM
                                                                       NaN
         1 2015-01-01
                           1:00 AM
                                                                       NaN
         2 2015-01-01
                           2:00 AM
                                                                       NaN
         3 2015-01-01
                           3:00 AM
                                                                       NaN
         4 2015-01-01
                           4:00 AM
                                                                       NaN
            Denmark 1 [Euro/MWh]
                                  Denmark 2[Euro/MWh] France[Euro/MWh]
         0
                           25.02
                                                 27.38
                                                                      NaN
         1
                           18.29
                                                 18.29
                                                                      NaN
                           16.04
                                                 16.04
                                                                      NaN
         3
                           14.60
                                                 14.60
                                                                      {\tt NaN}
```

14.95

NaN

Northern Italy [Euro/MWh] Netherlands [Euro/MWh] Poland [Euro/MWh] \

 ${\tt NaN}$

NaN

14.95

NaN

0

12

1 2

```
3
                                  NaN
                                                          {\tt NaN}
                                                                            NaN
                                  NaN
                                                          NaN
                                                                            NaN
            Sweden 4[Euro/MWh]
                                 Switzerland[Euro/MWh]
                                                        Slovenia[Euro/MWh] \
                                                 44.94
         0
                          27.38
                                                                      27.30
         1
                          23.37
                                                                      23.25
                                                  43.43
         2
                         19.33
                                                  38.08
                                                                      22.20
         3
                         17.66
                                                                      19.56
                                                  35.47
                         17.53
                                                  30.83
                                                                      18.88
            Czech Republic [Euro/MWh] Hungary [Euro/MWh]
         0
                                26.48
                                                    45.07
                                24.20
         1
                                                    44.16
                                22.06
                                                    39.17
         3
                                20.27
                                                    26.93
         4
                                19.17
                                                    20.94
In [12]: # Fix column names with Whitespaces and Uppercases
         prices_freq_60min.columns = prices_freq_60min.columns.str.strip().str.lower().str.replace(' ', '_').
                                          str.replace('(', '').str.replace(')', '').str.replace('[', '_').str.replace(']', '')
   Reduce frequency of all features to 60 minutes and merge to a single data set
In [13]: data_freq_60min = sc.convert_multiple_to_hourly(data_freq_15min)
Modified dataset has 17568 samples with 14 features each.
Modified dataset has 17568 samples with 3 features each.
Modified dataset has 17568 samples with 4 features each.
In [14]: # view reduced data for actual generation
         data_freq_60min[0].head()
```

 ${\tt NaN}$

NaN

 ${\tt NaN}$

 ${\tt NaN}$

 ${\tt NaN}$

 ${\tt NaN}$

```
Out[14]:
                 date time_of_day biomass_mwh hydropower_mwh wind_offshore_mwh \
         0 2015-01-01
                         12:00 AM
                                       1005.50
                                                        288.25
                                                                           130.00
         1 2015-01-01
                         1:00 AM
                                        998.75
                                                        295.25
                                                                           128.75
         2 2015-01-01
                          2:00 AM
                                                        293.25
                                                                           129.00
                                       1001.00
         3 2015-01-01
                          3:00 AM
                                       1008.00
                                                        284.25
                                                                           128.50
         4 2015-01-01
                          4:00 AM
                                       1008.75
                                                        279.25
                                                                           129.75
            wind_onshore_mwh photovoltaics_mwh other_renewable_mwh nuclear_mwh \
         0
                     2028.25
                                            0.0
                                                                14.5
                                                                           2685.50
         1
                     2045.75
                                            0.0
                                                                           2772.25
                                                                14.5
         2
                     2134.50
                                            0.0
                                                                14.5
                                                                           2774.00
         3
                     2149.50
                                            0.0
                                                                14.5
                                                                           2759.25
                     2184.00
                                            0.0
                                                                14.5
                                                                           2766.50
            fossil_brown_coal_mwh fossil_hard_coal_mwh fossil_gas_mwh \
                          3976.25
         0
                                                 686.00
                                                                 263.00
         1
                          3899.00
                                                 520.50
                                                                 202.25
                                                 449.25
         2
                          3774.50
                                                                 101.00
         3
                          3574.00
                                                 483.50
                                                                 101.00
                          3540.25
                                                 469.50
                                                                 101.25
            hydro_pumped_storage_mwh other_conventional_mwh
         0
                              192.50
                                                     1521.75
         1
                               67.50
                                                     1491.75
         2
                              167.00
                                                     1480.25
         3
                              136.50
                                                     1537.00
         4
                              142.25
                                                     1476.00
In [15]: # join new dataframes list with the previous join to get master dataframe
         data_freq_60min.extend([prices_freq_60min])
In [16]: # Merge all dataframes in the list iteratively with keys= date, time_of_day
         master_data = sc.join(data_freq_60min)
In [17]: # Columns containing price data for other countries are not relevant for the current problem. Drop them
         master_data.drop(['denmark_1_euro/mwh','denmark_2_euro/mwh', 'france_euro/mwh',
```

```
'northern_italy_euro/mwh', 'netherlands_euro/mwh', 'poland_euro/mwh',
                           'sweden 4 euro/mwh', 'switzerland euro/mwh', 'slovenia euro/mwh',
                           'czech_republic_euro/mwh', 'hungary_euro/mwh'], 1, inplace=True, errors='ignore')
In [18]: # Rename columns for better readability
         master_data.rename(columns={'total_mwh': 'total_consumption_mwh',
                                     'germany/austria/luxembourg_euro/mwh': 'price_germany_euro/mwh'}
                                        , inplace=True)
         # Dataset characteristics
         print("Number of instances in dataset = {}".format(master_data.shape[0]))
         print("Total number of columns = {}".format(master_data.columns.shape[0]))
         # List number of null values pro Feature
         print("Column wise count of null values:-")
         print(master_data.isnull().sum())
Number of instances in dataset = 17596
Total number of columns = 18
Column wise count of null values:-
date
                                      0
time_of_day
                                      0
biomass_mwh
                                    203
hydropower_mwh
                                    135
wind offshore mwh
                                    113
wind_onshore_mwh
                                    117
photovoltaics mwh
                                    146
other renewable mwh
                                    212
nuclear mwh
                                     96
fossil_brown_coal_mwh
                                    196
fossil_hard_coal_mwh
                                    168
fossil_gas_mwh
                                    150
hydro_pumped_storage_mwh
                                    121
other_conventional_mwh
                                   1017
total_consumption_mwh
                                      0
balancing_energy_volume_mwh
                                      0
```

```
balancing_energy_price_euro/mwh 0
price_germany_euro/mwh 120
dtype: int64
```

As we can see above, 12 features contain missing or NaN values. Let us explore the data in detail to determine how to deal with NaNs.

1.4.1 Data Exploration

We have 4 types of data and we have to explore them separately.

- a. Actual generation contains values of individual energy sources
- b. Realized Consumption total energy consumption (Germany)
- c. Balancing energy Energy required for balancing and price Euro/Mwh
- d. Wholesale energy price target variable

```
In [19]: # columns for actual generation
         actual_generation = ['biomass_mwh','hydropower_mwh','wind_offshore_mwh',
                              'wind_onshore_mwh', 'photovoltaics_mwh', 'other_renewable_mwh',
                              'nuclear_mwh', 'fossil_brown_coal_mwh', 'fossil_hard_coal_mwh',
                              'fossil_gas_mwh','hydro_pumped_storage_mwh', 'other_conventional_mwh']
         \#actual\_consumption = ['50hz\_consumption', 'amprion\_consumption', 'tennet\_consumption', 'transnetbw\_consumption']
         actual_consumption = ['total_consumption_mwh']
         balancing_energy = ['balancing_energy_volume_mwh', 'balancing_energy_price_euro/mwh']
         target = ['price_germany_euro/mwh']
In [20]: master_data[actual_generation].describe()
Out [20]:
                 biomass_mwh hydropower_mwh wind_offshore_mwh wind_onshore_mwh \
         count 17393.000000
                                17461.000000
                                                    17483.000000
                                                                      17479.000000
                 1059.656126
                                   453.039030
                                                      285.107447
                                                                       1907.624707
         mean
                   89.666552
                                  128.472593
                                                      231.897884
                                                                       1606.903028
         std
```

min 25% 50% 75% max	660.500000 986.250000 1080.250000 1147.000000 1206.000000	202.250000 354.250000 423.750000 530.750000 785.250000	85 210 481	.000000 .750000 .250000 .750000	28.000000 726.250000 1412.250000 2616.250000 7738.250000
count mean std min 25% 50% 75% max	photovoltaics_mwh 17450.000000 985.667722 1511.748379 0.000000 0.000000 17.250000 1579.000000 6563.000000	23 15 6 16 25 27		nuclear_mwh 17500.000000 2345.017114 360.398637 1130.500000 2156.250000 2457.000000 2630.250000 2868.500000	
count mean std min 25% 50% 75% max	fossil_brown_coal_ 17400.000 3762.06 576.35 1332.500 3453.000 3836.750 4186.500 4807.500	0000 3707 2412 0000 0000 0000	ard_coal_ 17428.000 2337.405 1231.525 103.750 1250.062 2393.125 3350.562 5169.500	000 17446. 899 362. 012 311. 000 7. 500 153. 000 235.	gas_mwh \ 000000 094334 543847 250000 312500 125000 187500 750000
count mean std min 25% 50% 75%	175 226 0 1 74	age_mwh other .000000 .073462 .936886 .000000 .250000 .500000	143 60 17 102 133	onal_mwh 9.000000 7.941764 9.139779 4.750000 1.750000 4.500000 6.750000	

Actual generation depicts real time energy generation data. If we have missing values here, it implies that the particular energy source did not produce energy for the time period. We can replace the missing values with 0s.

8127.500000

We also notice that the mean and median values of the different features vary to a large extent. Hence, in a later stage we should scale our data.

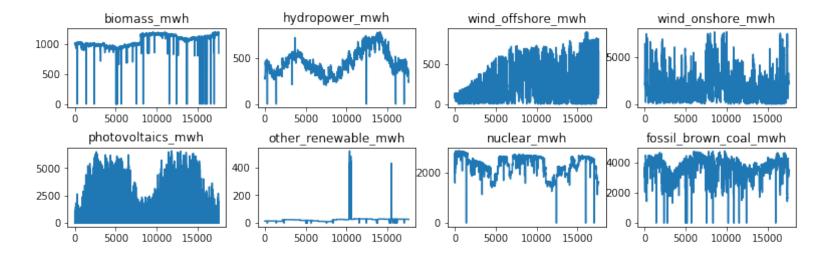
```
In [21]: # Fill missing values with zeros
        master_data['biomass_mwh'].fillna(0,inplace=True)
        master_data['hydropower_mwh'].fillna(0,inplace=True)
        master_data['wind_offshore_mwh'].fillna(0,inplace=True)
         master_data['wind_onshore_mwh'].fillna(0,inplace=True)
         master_data['photovoltaics_mwh'].fillna(0,inplace=True)
        master_data['other_renewable_mwh'].fillna(0,inplace=True)
        master_data['nuclear_mwh'].fillna(0,inplace=True)
        master_data['fossil_brown_coal_mwh'].fillna(0,inplace=True)
        master_data['fossil_hard_coal_mwh'].fillna(0,inplace=True)
        master_data['fossil_gas_mwh'].fillna(0,inplace=True)
        master_data['hydro_pumped_storage_mwh'].fillna(0,inplace=True)
        master_data['other_conventional_mwh'].fillna(0,inplace=True)
```

1.4.2 Data Visualization

1. Detecting yearly patterns As the data is spread over 2 years, we visualize the data to discover yearly patterns.

```
In [22]: # Plot actual generation
         fig = plt.figure(figsize=(13,8))
         fig.subplots_adjust(hspace=.5)
         plt.subplot(4,4,1)
         master_data['biomass_mwh'].plot()
         plt.title('biomass_mwh')
         plt.subplot(4,4,2)
         master_data['hydropower_mwh'].plot()
```

```
plt.title('hydropower_mwh')
        plt.subplot(4,4,3)
         master_data['wind_offshore_mwh'].plot()
         plt.title('wind_offshore_mwh')
         plt.subplot(4,4,4)
         master_data['wind_onshore_mwh'].plot()
         plt.title('wind_onshore_mwh')
         plt.subplot(4,4,5)
         master_data['photovoltaics_mwh'].plot()
         plt.title('photovoltaics_mwh')
         plt.subplot(4,4,6)
         master_data['other_renewable_mwh'].plot()
         plt.title('other_renewable_mwh')
         plt.subplot(4,4,7)
        master_data['nuclear_mwh'].plot()
         plt.title('nuclear_mwh')
        plt.subplot(4,4,8)
         master_data['fossil_brown_coal_mwh'].plot()
         plt.title('fossil_brown_coal_mwh')
Out[22]: Text(0.5,1,'fossil_brown_coal_mwh')
```



```
In [23]: fig = plt.figure(figsize=(13,8))
    fig.subplots_adjust(hspace=.5)

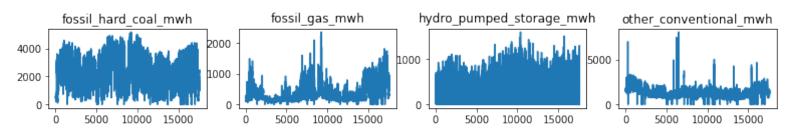
plt.subplot(4,4,9)
    master_data['fossil_hard_coal_mwh'].plot()
    plt.title('fossil_hard_coal_mwh')

plt.subplot(4,4,10)
    master_data['fossil_gas_mwh'].plot()
    plt.title('fossil_gas_mwh')

plt.subplot(4,4,11)
    master_data['hydro_pumped_storage_mwh'].plot()
    plt.title('hydro_pumped_storage_mwh')

plt.subplot(4,4,12)
    master_data['other_conventional_mwh'].plot()
    plt.title('other_conventional_mwh')
```

Out[23]: Text(0.5,1,'other_conventional_mwh')



We currently have 17596 hourly dataset rows over a persiod of 2 years 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 i.e. 8798 per year.

Looking at the above data we can observe that non-renewable sources of energy have a pattern which can be predicted if we were to divide the graphs right in the middle. This is true for nuclear, fossil brown coal, fossil hard coal, fossil gas, hydro pumped storage and other conventional energy sources.

The same is not consistent for renewable sources. Wind energy is weather dependent which does not have set patterns. If we observe biomass and hydropower, they reflect similar patterns but in varying sizes. This could be a result of increasing yearly investments in these energy sources. Photovoltaics appears to be consistent with a predictable pattern.

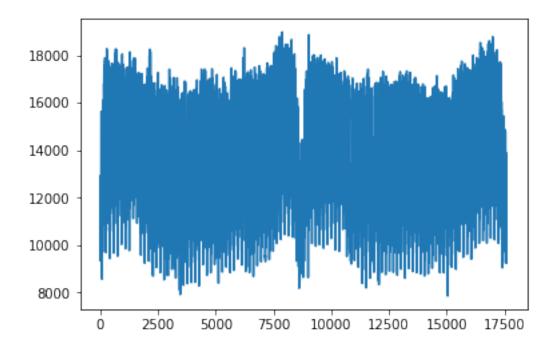
In [24]: master_data[actual_consumption].describe()

Out[24]:		${\tt total_consumption_mwh}$
	count	17596.000000
	mean	13663.896255
	std	2477.577389
	min	7856.750000
	25%	11586.750000
	50%	13582.500000
	75%	15906.437500
	max	18975.250000

The mean and median of 'total_consumption_mwh' varies to a large extent when compared to features grouped under 'actual_generation'. Scaling is therefore necessary.

```
In [25]: master_data['total_consumption_mwh'].plot()
```

Out[25]: <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0xa8efb70>



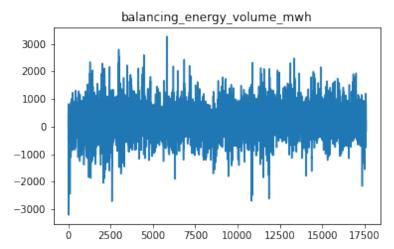
The consumption data for the second year seems to follow a similar pattern as the first year. This implies that the energy consumption for a certain time of year is consistent to the previous year.

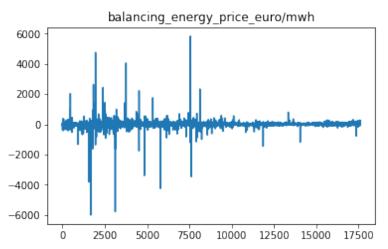
In [26]: master_data[balancing_energy].describe()

Out[26]:	balancing_energy_volume_mwh	balancing_energy_price_euro/mwh
count	17596.000000	17596.000000
mean	165.372471	31.917856
std	464.695247	150.874693
min	-3210.000000	-5997.420000
25%	-102.250000	1.890000

50%	160.000000	39.940000
75%	437.000000	60.882500
max	3271.000000	5824.630000

Similar to 'total_consumption_mwh', Data Scaling is also required.





The balancing energy volume contains a consistent yearly pattern. This does not apply to the balancing energy price which appears more random.

50%

75%

max

We still have 120 missing values for **price_germany**. The reason for missing values could be an error in the logging system. In other cases if we look at the data above, we notice negative values. In certain rare periods particularly at the end of the year, there is a such a surplus of wind energy produced that the prices go below zero i.e the consumer gets paid for consuming energy. In the energy market, there is always supply and demand and hence, a price for each time period. Earlier for energy generation we replaced all missing values with zeroes. The case here is different and a price of zero has a false implication and would have a negative influence on the prediction.

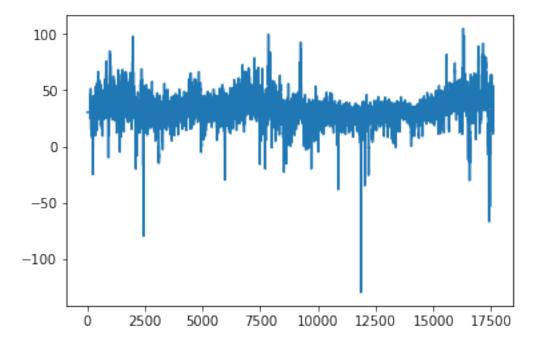
The best strategy here would be to either use the Median or the mean.

29.660000

37.060000 104.960000

Median = 29.66 Mean = 30.386641

Since there isn't a large difference between Median and Mean, let us consider the Mean value to fill the missing values



From the above figure we can observe a pattern with a lot of activity at start and end of the year. As the year proceeds, it appears more constant. The pattern cannot be reproduced the next year 100% but the tendency and value ranges remain the same. Moreover, pricing is a complex issue which not only depends on demand and supply but other factors which we haven't considered in our case. One factor could be the increase of investment every year in renewable energies increasing output but also at the same time making renewable energy expensive in the initial phases.

Since the machine learning models cannot handle timeseries data, we will delete time related data like 'date' and 'time_of_day', however perserving the order of recorded data as the order of data is essential for training a supervised regression model for time series.

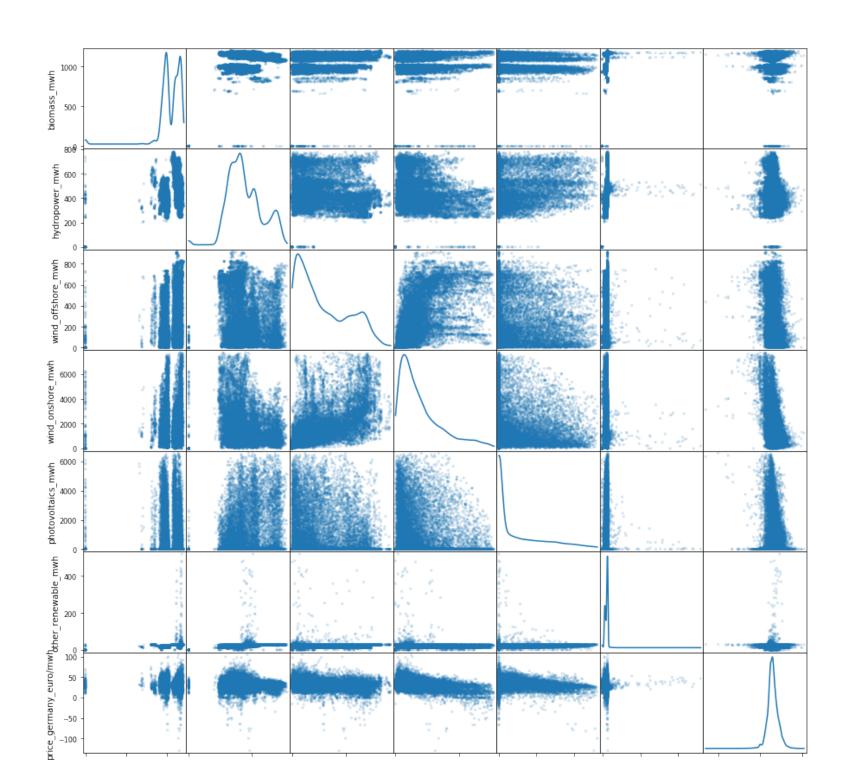
```
In [31]: # Drop date and time
    master_data.drop(['date','time_of_day'], axis=1, inplace=True)
```

Our final list of features can be seen below.

```
In [32]: list(master_data)
Out[32]: ['biomass_mwh',
          'hydropower_mwh',
          'wind_offshore_mwh',
          'wind_onshore_mwh',
          'photovoltaics_mwh',
          'other_renewable_mwh',
          'nuclear_mwh',
          'fossil_brown_coal_mwh',
          'fossil_hard_coal_mwh',
          'fossil_gas_mwh',
          'hydro_pumped_storage_mwh',
          'other_conventional_mwh',
          'total_consumption_mwh',
          'balancing_energy_volume_mwh',
          'balancing_energy_price_euro/mwh',
          'price_germany_euro/mwh']
```

2. Linear correlation among input features and target variable In the scatter plots below, we attempt to find linear correlations between the input features and the target variable.

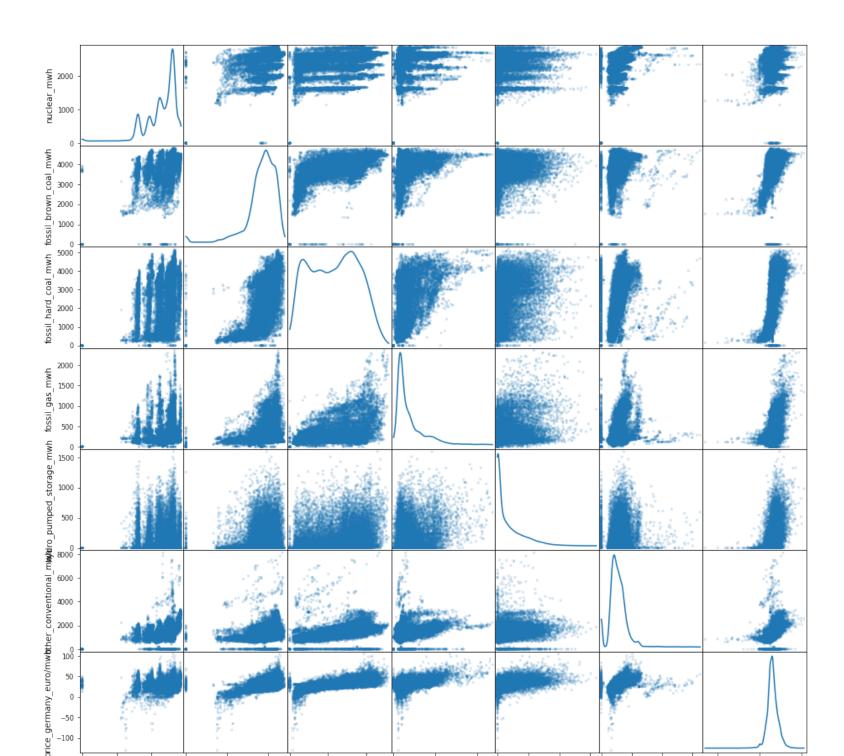
```
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000AE46748>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000AE6FDD8>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000B1804A8>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000B1A9B38>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x00000000B1DB208>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000B204898>],
[<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x00000000B22AF28>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000B25D5F8>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000B285C88>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000B2B5358>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000B2DE9E8>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000B3100B8>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000B337748>],
[<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x0000000000B3D1DD8>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000B4044A8>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000B42AB38>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000C56F208>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000703898>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x00000000072EF28>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000CBFF5F8>],
[<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x00000000000CC26C88>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000CCB9358>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000CCE09E8>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000CD120B8>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000D229748>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x00000000D252DD8>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000D2854A8>],
[<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000D2ADB38>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x00000000D2DF208>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000D308898>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000D37FF28>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000D3AF5F8>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000D41AC88>,
<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000D44B358>],
```

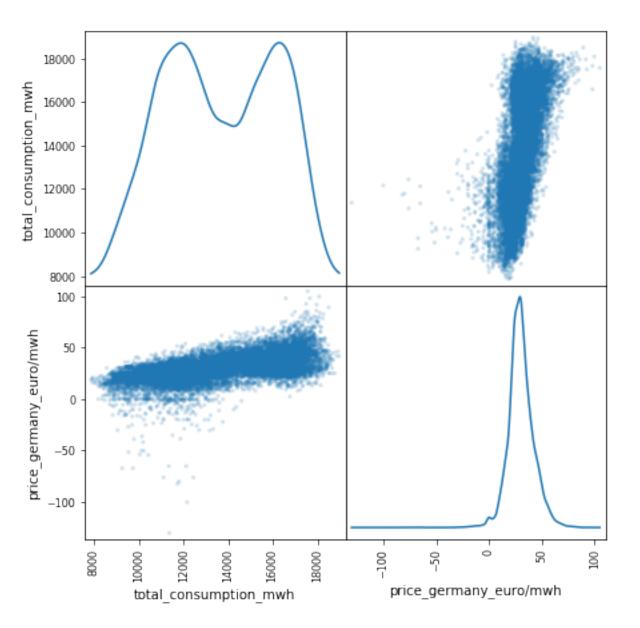


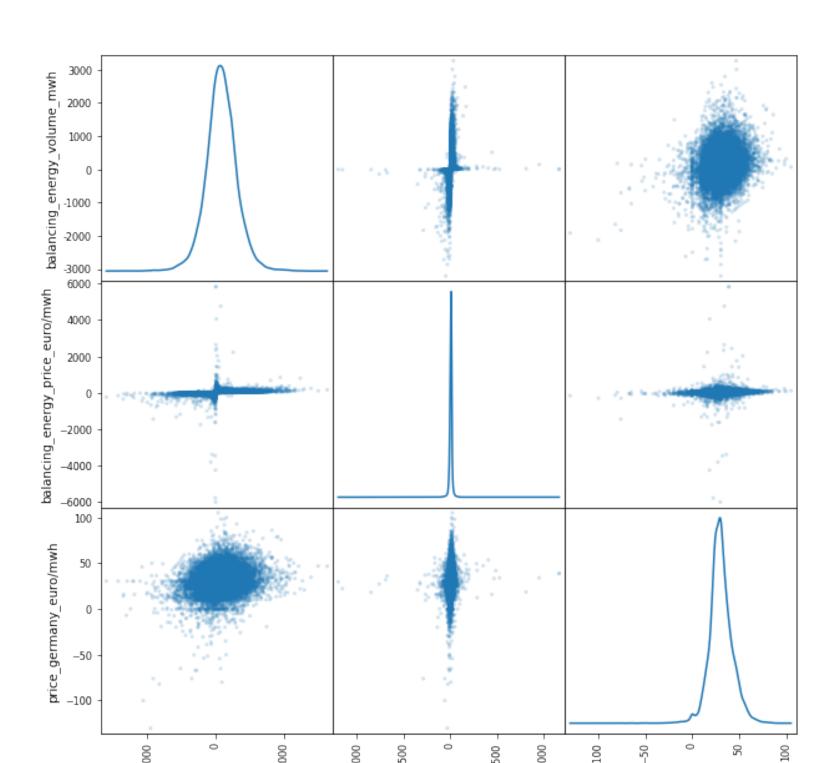
```
30
```

```
In [34]: scatter_matrix(master_data[['nuclear_mwh','fossil_brown_coal_mwh','fossil_hard_coal_mwh',
                              'fossil_gas_mwh', 'hydro_pumped_storage_mwh', 'other_conventional_mwh',
                                     'price_germany_euro/mwh']], alpha=0.2, figsize=(15.5,15.5), diagonal='kde')
Out[34]: array([[<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000CAD04E0>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000CABB5CO>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000CAF4A90>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000CB180F0>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x0000000000B3F780>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000CB3F7B8>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000CB984E0>],
                [<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000DA6EB38>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x00000000DAA1208>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x00000000DAC9898>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x00000000DAF3F28>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x00000000DB235F8>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x00000000DB4CC88>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x00000000DFAE358>],
                [<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x00000000DFD59E8>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000E0070B8>,
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                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000E058DD8>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000E08A4A8>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000E0B0B38>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000E526208>],
                [<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000E54A898>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000E574F28>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000E5A75F8>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000E5CFC88>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000E600358>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000E62C9E8>,
                 <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000E65C0B8>],
```

```
[<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000E683748>,
  <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000E6AADD8>,
  <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000E8FC4A8>,
  <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000E925B38>,
  <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000E955208>,
  <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000ECAE898>,
  <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000ECD5F28>],
 [<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000ED085F8>,
  <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000ED32C88>,
  <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000ED63358>,
  <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000ED8A9E8>,
  <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000EDBB0B8>,
  <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000EDE3748>,
  <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000EEOBDD8>],
 [<matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000EE404A8>,
  <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000FE67B38>,
  <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000FE98208>,
  <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000FEC1898>,
  <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000FEE9F28>,
  <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000FF1A5F8>,
  <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot object at 0x000000000FF44C88>]],
dtype=object)
```







As we can observe we cannot identify a direct linear correlation between the input features and the target variable.

1.4.3 Outlier Detection and Elimination

Using Tukey's method of Outlier detection [], we look for datasets which are 1.5 times below the 1st quartile (25th percentile) and 1.5 times above the 3rd quartile (75th percentile) and delete them from the master dataset.

```
In [37]: temp_frame = master_data.copy()
         # get only source features for scaling
        x_features = ['biomass_mwh','hydropower_mwh','wind_offshore_mwh','wind_onshore_mwh',
                       'photovoltaics_mwh', 'other_renewable_mwh', 'nuclear_mwh',
                       'fossil_brown_coal_mwh', 'fossil_hard_coal_mwh', 'fossil_gas_mwh',
                       'hydro_pumped_storage_mwh','other_conventional_mwh','total_consumption_mwh',
                       'balancing_energy_volume_mwh']
In [38]: from collections import Counter
         out_counter = Counter()
         # For each feature find the data points with extreme high or low values
         for index,feature in temp_frame[x_features].T.iterrows():
             # TODO: Calculate Q1 (25th percentile of the data) for the given feature
             Q1 = np.percentile(feature, 25)
             # TODO: Calculate Q3 (75th percentile of the data) for the given feature
             Q3 = np.percentile(feature,75)
             # TODO: Use the interquartile range to calculate an outlier step (1.5 times the interquartile range)
             step = (Q3 - Q1)*1.5
             # Display the outliers
```

new_data = temp_frame[~((temp_frame[index] >= Q1 - step)

1.4.4 Feature Scaling

From our data analysis we observed that each of the features are on a different scale. There are significant differences in the mean values of each of the individual features. We cannot use this data to train the machine learning model without scaling them. In our case, we will use the MinMaxScaler to scale all the features as some features also include negative values. The values will be scaled between -1 and 1 [5].

& (temp_frame[index] <= Q3 + step))]

1.4.5 Avoiding Look ahead bias and cross validation for the energy Time Series data set

The available data set is a time series data set on an hourly basis. Regular cross validation methods like kfold, holdout are not appropriate due to the look ahead bias they generate. Considering the current time 't', we are predicting data for a future time period 't + n', where x is the difference in time to reach the target time for our prediction. Here it is important to not use future data for out training set. We need a special function 'TimeSeriesSplit' to generate training and testing data sets without look forward bias. 'TimeSeriesSplit' ensures that the future data is always used as the test set for prediction to simulate learning under real conditions.

1.5 Benchmark Model

Since energy price prediction is a classic regression problem, we will start with Linear Regression as our benchmark model.

```
rmse list = []
         # set start time
         start = time.time()
         # generate train and test indices and train each set
         for train_index, test_index in l_cv:
             #print("TRAIN:", train_index, "TEST:", test_index)
            X_train, X_test = X.iloc[train_index], X.iloc[test_index]
            y_train, y_test = y.iloc[train_index], y.iloc[test_index]
             l_reg.fit(X_train,y_train)
            y_pred = l_reg.predict(X_test)
             train_score = l_reg.score(X_train,y_train)
             test_score = l_reg.score(X_test,y_test)
             train_list.append(train_score)
             test_list.append(test_score)
             rmse = np.sqrt(metrics.mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred))
             rmse_list.append(rmse)
         # set end time
         end = time.time()
        print("Average RMSE Score = ",np.mean(rmse_list))
        print("Average Train Prediction Accuracy =",np.mean(train_list))
        print("Average Test Prediction Accuracy =",np.mean(test_list))
        print("Execution time: ",end - start)
Average RMSE Score = 4.953005879681328
Average Train Prediction Accuracy = 0.758279100701416
Average Test Prediction Accuracy = 0.4243483359932581
Execution time: 0.7720000743865967
```

1.5.1 Considered Regression Models for prediction

Regularized versions of Linear Regression

- 1) Ridge
- 2) Lasso

Ensemble models

- 3) Random Forest Regression
- 4) Gradient Boosting Regression

Tree Based Gradient Boosting

5) Light GBM Regression

Gradient Boosted Decision Tree

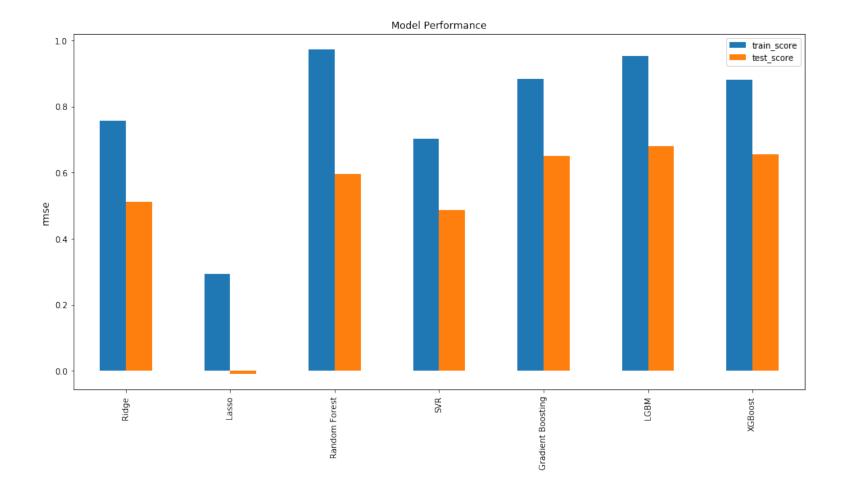
6) XGBoost Regression

1.5.2 Build Data Pipeline

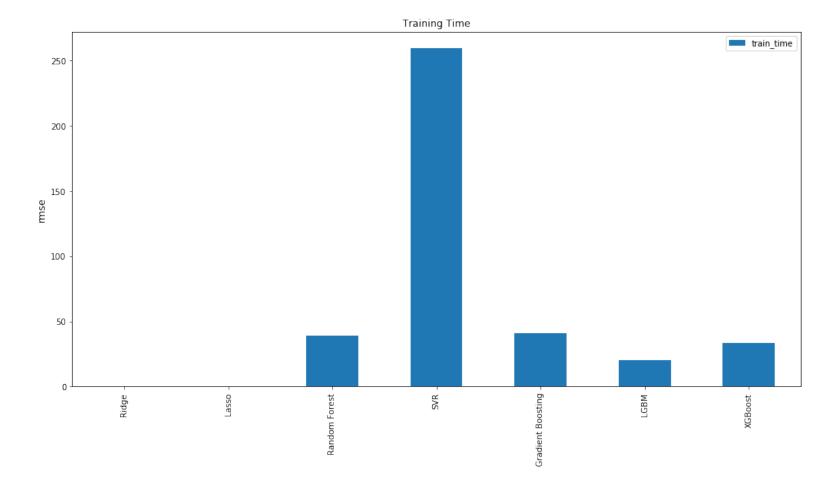
```
# simple pipeline function to run mutiple regression models sequentially
def run_pipeline(estimators, splits, X, y):
    perf_summary = []
    for est in estimators:
        tscv = TimeSeriesSplit(n_splits = splits)
        cv = tscv.split(X)
        # Initialize regressor
        perf = execute_regressor(est, X, y, cv)
        #print(perf)
        perf_summary.append(perf)
    return perf_summary
# function to execute a specific regression model provided earlier in the pipeline
def execute_regressor(reg, X, y, cv, **kwargs):
   reg_perf = {}
    rmse l = []
    train 1 = []
    test 1 = []
    # record start
    start = time.time()
    regressor = reg(**kwargs)
    for train_index, test_index in cv:
        X_train, X_test = X.iloc[train_index], X.iloc[test_index]
       y_train, y_test = y.iloc[train_index], y.iloc[test_index]
        regressor.fit(X_train,y_train)
        y_pred = regressor.predict(X_test)
        train_score = regressor.score(X_train,y_train)
        test_score = regressor.score(X_test,y_test)
        train_l.append(train_score)
        test_l.append(test_score)
```

```
rmse = np.sqrt(metrics.mean_squared_error(y_test, y_pred))
                 rmse_list.append(rmse)
             #record end time
             end = time.time()
             reg_perf["name"] = reg.__name__
             reg_perf["train_time"] = end - start
             reg_perf["train_score"] = np.mean(train_1)
             reg_perf["test_score"] = np.mean(test_1)
             reg_perf["rmse"] = np.mean(rmse_list)
             return reg_perf
In [45]: # define regression functions
         estimators = [Ridge, Lasso, RandomForestRegressor, SVR,
                       GradientBoostingRegressor, LGBMRegressor, XGBRegressor]
         # Run pipeline and get performance of regressors
        perf_list = run_pipeline(estimators, 70, X, y)
In [46]: # Construct dataframe from dictionary list
         model_summary = pd.DataFrame.from_dict(perf_list)
        model_summary.rename(index={0:'Ridge',1:'Lasso', 2:'Random Forest',
                                     3: 'SVR', 4: 'Gradient Boosting', 5: 'LGBM',
                                     6: 'XGBoost'}, inplace=True)
         model_summary
Out [46]:
                                                           rmse test_score \
                                                 name
         Ridge
                                                Ridge 4.976745
                                                                   0.511779
                                                Lasso 5.529965
                                                                  -0.008370
         Lasso
                                RandomForestRegressor 5.401900
         Random Forest
                                                                   0.596863
         SVR
                                                  SVR 5.387532
                                                                   0.486393
         Gradient Boosting GradientBoostingRegressor 5.260943
                                                                   0.649664
         LGBM
                                                      5.150525
                                                                   0.679183
                                        LGBMRegressor
         XGBoost
                                         XGBRegressor 5.070604
                                                                   0.655381
```

```
train_score train_time
        Ridge
                              0.758339
                                             0.268
                                             0.260
        Lasso
                              0.292662
         Random Forest
                              0.972212
                                            39.046
        SVR
                              0.701419
                                           259.357
        Gradient Boosting
                              0.883455
                                            40.815
        LGBM
                              0.953913
                                            20.458
        XGBoost
                              0.882269
                                            33.593
In [47]: # Plot train and test scores
         axis = model_summary[["train_score", "test_score"]].plot(kind="bar",
                            title="Model Performance", figsize=(16, 8))
         axis.set_ylabel("rmse", fontsize="large")
Out[47]: Text(0,0.5,'rmse')
```

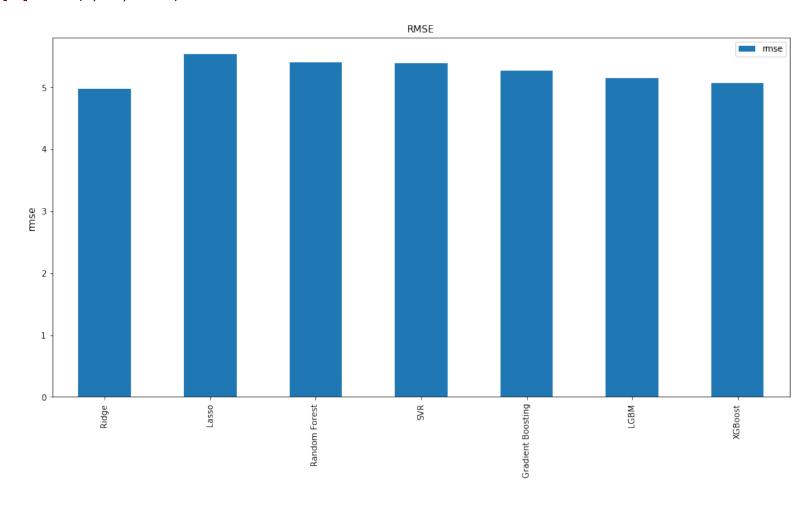


The best model according to test scores is LGBM. Although XGBoost and Gradient Boosting Regressor perform quite well.



LGBM doesn't only have the best accuracy, but also has the least training time. Accuracy and training time are 2 important factors if we consider to deploy this model in a productive environment.

Out[49]: Text(0,0.5,'rmse')



The RMSE Scores for all considered models are on a similar level and LGBM has a lower RMSE compared to most of the models. **Best Model**: LGBM Regression **Worst Model**: Lasso

1.5.3 Hyper Parameter Tuning

The hyper parameters of LGBM Regressor can now be tuned using GridSearch CV for better fitting leading to higher accuracy of prediction.

Accuracy: 67.91% Error rate (RMSE): 4.36

1.6 Reflection

Based on the results obtained from real world energy data, an accuracy of 68.22% is a good result when we take into account the factors that we haven't accounted for in our problem.

Hypothesis 1 We have only considered the energy produced and consumed inside Germany. Germany also exports and imports energy from its neighbours. These factors have not been accounted for in this dataset. If the exports or import needs have changed between 2015 and 2016, they have not been considered.

Hypothesis 2 Some of the energy generation features are dependent on weather, for example wind or water. We have to calculate certain amount of loss with these features.

Hypothesis 3 The information available does not account for the local energy distribution within Germany and the network structures. If a certain amount of energy is available at a certain point of time, this does not guarantee that the energy can be supplied throughout Germany when demand arises.

For any given market, supply and demand define the price. The energy data that was analyzed shows the complexity of an energy market and multiple dependencies that determine prices. Therefore a greater increase in prediction accuracy can only be achieved when we increase the complexity of the current model.

1.6.1 References

[1] http://colingorrie.github.io/outlier-detection.html (Tukey's Method for outlier detection) [2] https://medium.com/apteo/avoid-time-loops-with-cross-validation-aa595318543e (Look ahead bias) [3] https://machinelearningmastery.com/gentle-introduction-xgboost-applied-machine-learning/ (XGBoost) [4] https://smard.de [5] http://benalexkeen.com/feature-scaling-with-scikit-learn/ (MinMaxScaler)