

# Enhancing artificial neural network performance for energy efficiency in laboratories through principal component analysis

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## ABSTRACT

This study investigates energy efficiency challenges during laboratory activities. Inefficient energy use in the practicum phase remains a critical issue, prompting the exploration of innovative forecasting models. This research employs artificial neural network (ANN) models integrated with principal component analysis (PCA) to predict energy consumption and optimize usage. The findings reveal that PCA components, including eigenvalues, eigenvectors, and matrix covariance values, significantly influence the ANN model's performance in forecasting energy production. The ANN training achieved a high correlation coefficient ( $R=1$ ) with a mean squared error (MSE) of 0.045931 after 200,000 epochs, demonstrating the model's robustness. While testing results showed a moderate correlation ( $R=0.46169$ ), the models demonstrated potential for refinement and scalability. This integration of ANN and PCA models provides a reliable framework for accurately forecasting energy usage, offering an effective strategy to enhance energy efficiency in laboratory settings. By optimizing energy consumption, this approach has the potential to reduce operational costs and environmental impact. The strong performance metrics highlight the practical utility of these models in educational contexts, contributing to sustainable energy management and better resource allocation. Furthermore, the reduction in energy-related environmental impacts underscores the broader applicability of these models for fostering sustainable development in similar contexts.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

According to International Energy Agency (IEA) predictions for the period 2006-2030, the majority of global energy demand, accounting for 87%, is derived from non-Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) nations [1], [2]. China is expected to experience the highest rise in energy demand compared to other areas [3]–[12]. India has recently experienced a significant increase in energy

consumption, which is one rung lower than that of China [13]–[23]. In Indonesia, there have been multiple initiatives aimed at conserving indoor energy use. Additionally, the university has also implemented numerous measures to achieve efficient and consistent energy usage. The utilization of energy in order to attain energy efficiency necessitates the implementation of a smart room equipped with diverse input sensors that impact indoor energy usage [24], [25]. Energy consumption refers to the quantity of energy that a building needs to provide at any particular moment. The overconsumption of electrical energy has the potential to exacerbate energy wastage and have adverse effects on the environment [26], [27]. The anticipation of building energy consumption is a significant methodology in the realm of energy conservation, yielding advantages for both individuals and society by facilitating more prudent construction of new structures. Accurate forecasting of energy usage in buildings is crucial for enhancing energy efficiency, to attain energy conservation, and minimize ecological consequences [28]–[32].

The mismanagement of energy use has the potential to negatively affect the efficiency of energy usage, resulting in the wastage of power [33]. The present study aimed to construct a prediction model for energy consumption in the Laboratory of Electrical and Power Engineering (LEPE) at Universitas Sultan Ageng Tirtayasa. The environment has a considerable impact on energy consumption in colleges [34], [35]. Guang Dong University has done research that demonstrates the substantial energy savings achieved via the development of a conservation-oriented campus. Measuring indices of energy use has shown to be challenging in this study [36], [37]. University buildings in China implement specific energy efficiency measures tailored to local requirements, taking into account elements such as the presence of several campuses and climate conditions, which pose challenges in achieving energy efficiency in the buildings [38]. Efficient energy consumption in a building was achieved by aggregating historical data on daily electricity use in two buildings. This aggregation was performed using normalized data from six input variables [39]. The analysis of three campus buildings in Tianjin indicates that the average electricity usage per inhabitant fluctuates based on the building's purpose and the method of controlling electrical equipment [40]. Statistical regression methods are employed to comprehend the correlation between individual variables and energy consumption [41]. Previous research methods have demonstrated the applicability of enhanced modeling in other types of buildings, provided that it incorporates an energy consumption monitoring platform, rather than being restricted to campus buildings [42].

The behavior of room users is one of the input characteristics in a building that influences energy use; this behavior has a significant impact on how the space is used and complicates the calculation of the required energy consumption [43]. While features are directly used as input in the prediction step of earlier energy consumption prediction models [44]–[49], in this study, feature selection was done prior to the prediction stage. The goal of feature selection is to identify a few characteristics that have the biggest impact on energy usage [50]. It is anticipated that the selection of features will lead to a more accurate and efficient prediction stage. The aim of the feature selection approach is to reduce the set by eliminating certain features that are deemed unnecessary for text sentiment classification. This will enhance classification accuracy and shorten the training time of machine learning models [51]. To get a trustworthy transformation, attribute selection has the drawback of requiring training on a big data set [52]. Feature selection is one method for getting around the excessive dimensions of features. Reducing vector dimensions has been accomplished by using information gain [53], one of the feature selection methods [54].

Dimension reduction is an additional strategy that can be employed to address the issue of high feature dimensions, alongside feature selection techniques. The dimension reduction technique aims to acquire novel data representations that are effectively reduced in size [55]. The dimensional reduction linear model comprises the singular value decomposition (SVD) model and the PCA model [56]. Nevertheless, the linear model of dimensional reduction has a drawback in that it generates a linear combination of all features, which can be influenced by noise and diminish the performance of the classification model. Additionally, the linear model of dimensional reduction encounters challenges when dealing with non-linear data [57]. The present study employed the PCA model for feature selection, and the artificial neural network (ANN) model for the prediction stage. The data utilized for energy consumption prediction encompassed various parameters, namely temperature sensor DHT22, temperature sensor BMP180, pressure, humidity, voltage, current, power, altitude, and light intensity. Concurrently, the prediction model produces energy consumption as its output.

## 2. METHOD

Figure 1 depicts the flowchart of an energy consumption prediction model that employs PCA as a feature selection technique. Based on the analysis of historical data utilized as inputs for PCA models, it is evident that the input variables initially comprised 9 sensors. However, in order to streamline the data and enhance its display efficiency, the ANN model was employed, resulting in a reduced set of 4 input variables. Additionally, the PCA model serves the function of transforming the initially correlated data into

uncorrelated data. Consequently, the data will be more visually presented and the subsequent stage of the ANN model will be completed more quickly [29]. The initial step in getting the covariance matrix needed to calculate the values of eigenvectors and eigenvalues in PCA is normalization [58]. The assignment of eigenvectors and eigenvalues can provide insight into the extent to which input variables influence PC variables.

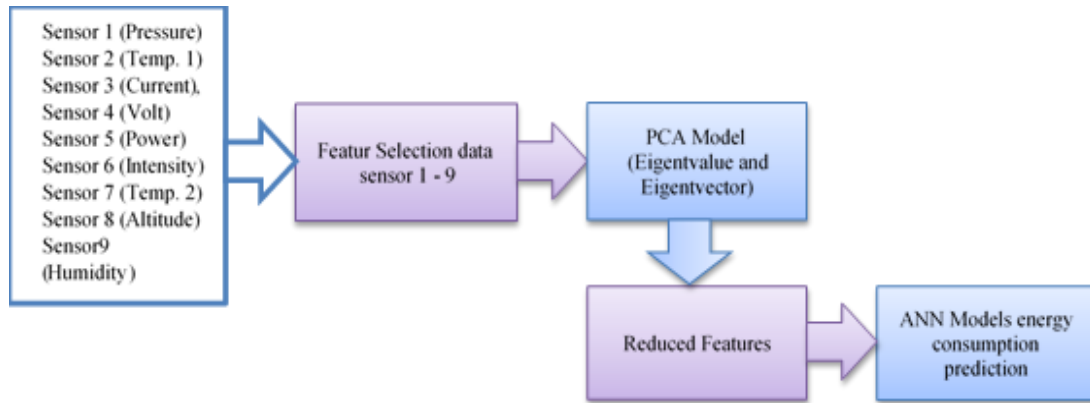


Figure 1. Flowchart of the PCA and ANN-based method for energy consumption prediction

According to the data presented in Figure 1, it is evident that the data collected is real-time data obtained from the LEPE. The design employs a total of 9 sensors that are interconnected with the device utilized for data retrieval. Sensor 1 comprises data pertaining to pressure, whereas sensor 2 and sensor 7 encompass data pertaining to temperature. Sensor 3 is associated with the data pertaining to the electrical current within the circuit. Sensor 4 is a voltage-connected data sensor. The data retrieval of sensor 8 pertains to the altitude distance, as it is directly associated with the forecast of energy consumption.

## 2.1. Feature selection using principal component analysis

The study employed PCA to enhance computation precision and decrease training time [59]. PCA was employed to reduce and transform the data utilized in this study. This involved excluding irrelevant data throughout the PCA process, computing the covariance matrix of the data, and identifying eigenvectors and eigenvalues. The process began with calculating the covariance matrix to capture the relationships and variance among all features in the dataset. Eigenvectors and eigenvalues were subsequently derived to identify the principal components that account for maximum variance within the data. These principal components were then utilized to transform the original dataset into a reduced feature space while preserving its most critical informational content. This methodological approach enhanced computational efficiency by reducing the overall feature set and mitigated the risk of overfitting, thereby improving the model's generalizability. The process of selecting features using the PCA approach involves the following steps:

- i) The computation of the covariance matrix involves the subtraction of the mean value of feature data characteristics.
- ii) The eigenvectors and eigenvalues of the covariance matrix are computed. The process involves selecting  $m$ -number eigenvalues from the list of eigenvectors and subsequently assigning these eigenvectors as  $v_1, \dots, v_m$ .
- iii) Calculating the contribution of each feature with the (1).

$$c_j = \sum_{p=1}^m |v_{pj}| \quad (1)$$

- iv) Choosing the largest number of  $c_j$  values according to the number of features you want to maintain, so you get the  $j$ th feature which is a significant feature.

Several carefully selected features, derived from the preprocessing and dimensionality reduction stages, were subsequently utilized as input variables for the energy consumption prediction phase. This step aimed to ensure that the most relevant and significant features contributed to the predictive modeling process, thereby enhancing the accuracy and reliability of the results. Two distinct predictive algorithms were utilized for this purpose, including the ANN algorithm, a recognized method noted for its strong ability to model complex nonlinear relationships. The study utilized these algorithms to produce accurate and dependable

predictions of energy consumption, highlighting the effectiveness of feature selection and algorithmic adaptability in tackling complex forecasting issues.

## 2.2. Energy consumption prediction using artificial neural network and principal component analysis algorithms

Pressure, temperature sensor DHT22, current, voltage, power, light intensity, temperature sensor BMP180, altitude, and humidity all influence the estimation of electrical energy requirements in the LEPE. The laboratory collected an average of 67 days of data using a single layer of hidden network in order to reduce the computational time required for prediction using ANN [60]. The ANN technique is used as a computational tool using a feedforward network type to estimate the energy consumption of the two laboratories at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering (FKE), Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Malaysia. The results indicate that the ANN is effectively trained to forecast energy usage [33]. A study conducted by [61], indicates that both the improved particle swarm optimization (iPSO)-ANN and a hybrid genetic algorithm (GA)-ANN surpass the conventional ANN in terms of prediction accuracy. Additionally, the improved particle swarm optimization (iPSO)-ANN model most significantly reduces computational time, establishing it as a feasible choice for real-time energy forecasting. Boujoudar *et al.* [62] is currently engaged in the integration of ANN to estimate the state of charge (SOC) of batteries and to manage bidirectional converters. The performance and robustness of the suggested control strategy are elucidated by the simulation results obtained in the MATLAB/Simulink environment. In order to enhance the efficacy of the ANN in forecasting the demand for electrical energy within a laboratory setting, it is imperative to consider the impact of eigenvectors and eigenvalues of the principal component of each input variable on the reduction and transformation processes.

## 2.3. Artificial neural network and principal component analysis prediction performance test

To assess and evaluate the precision of data collected in real-time in the LEPE, one can compare the actual data or original data using the ANN approach. The mean square error (MSE) formula was employed to compare actual measurement data with predicted data generated by the ANN model. The MSE is employed to assess the precision of forecasting outcomes in relation to the initial dataset of laboratory measurements. The range of forecasting results and MSE values is from 0 to infinity, with 0 representing the optimal value [63]. The MSE can be computed using the (2).

$$MSE = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y})^2}{n} \quad (2)$$

## 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The present study employed the PCA model for feature selection, and the ANN model for the prediction stage. The data utilized for energy consumption prediction encompassed various parameters, namely temperature sensor DHT22, temperature sensor BMP180, pressure, humidity, voltage, current, power, altitude, and light intensity. Concurrently, the prediction model produces energy consumption as its output. The network was trained using MATLAB 2019a. The algorithms underwent testing in order to ascertain the most optimal algorithm for application. The Levenberg-Marquardt method [64]–[66] was evaluated for its ability to create output in accordance with the intended iteration target. The algorithm was found to be the fastest in terms of training results and testing correlation coefficient  $R=1$ , indicating that the average error in the training data from each test is close to zero. The binary sigmoid and identity activation functions were selected based on the highest performance in all experiments. When the iteration objective is met, the training on data is terminated after 1,000 iterations, with an epoch of 200,000. The training data utilized variable input derived from sensor data, which underwent feature selection using the PCA model. Table 1 demonstrates that the eigenvector and eigenvalue aligned with (1) following the grouping of the data and the acquisition of PCA results presented in Table 1.

The data in Table 1 indicates that the dimension reduction process, particularly the selection of principal components (PC1 to PC9), yields eigenvectors and eigenvalues that outperform those chosen for the ANN model. Table 1 shows that the eigenvalues for PC1 to PC4 surpass the threshold value of 1, indicating that these components significantly contribute to the variance in the dataset. This finding underscores the efficacy of the PCA method in isolating the most informative components while minimizing noise and redundancy. In the next phase, the values corresponding to PC1 and PC4, recognized as the most significant principal components, will be utilized as inputs for the ANN model [67]–[69]. This selection seeks to utilize the essential features for forecasting energy consumption in the LEPE.

Table 1. The performance of PCA transformation results

No	Principle component analysis (PCA)	Reduction $PCA = c_j = \sum_{p=1}^m  v_{pj} $
1	PCA 1	3.2
2	PCA 2	1.7
3	PCA 3	1.5
4	PCA 4	1.1
5	PCA 5	0.7
6	PCA 6	0.5
7	PCA 7	0.2
8	PCA 8	0.05
9	PCA 9	0.03

$$var(Pressure (atm)) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n-1} \quad (3)$$

$$var(Temp ^\circ C) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2}{n-1} \quad (4)$$

Variants of each data were obtained using (2) and (3) to determine eigenvectors and eigenvalues. In epoch 1,000, the MSE training [70] achieved a value of 0.045931. The test yielded a correlation coefficient  $R=0.35136$ , with 9 input variables and one output. The ANN structure employed the gaussmf input membership function. Figure 2 displays a dataset consisting of 50 training data points, which resulted in a correlation coefficient of  $R=1$  after 2,000 epochs. Figures 2(a) and 2(b) show PCA and ANN data training with  $R=1$  and dataset index, while Figure 2(c) displays the best training performance. Gradient, validation check, and learning rate can be seen in Figure 2(d) and the training state plot in Figure 2(e).

Figure 2 demonstrates that the ANN model achieves a high level of accuracy in both the distribution of real data and predicted data. The correlation coefficient  $R$  is 1, and the MSE is 0.045931, indicating that the model has met its aim after 1,000 iterations. A learning rate of  $2.3732e-05$  was observed. The duration required to reach the designated objective was 6.29 minutes. In each epoch, the gradient value was recorded as 2.0265, the validation check was set to 0, and the learning rate was maintained at  $2.3732e-05$ .

Similar to the data training phase, the testing phase employed ANN [59], [61], [68], [71] set with both binary and identity sigmoid activation functions to guarantee the best performance in modeling nonlinear interactions within the data. This phase sought to confirm the model's generalizability and its capacity to reliably forecast energy consumption using previously unexamined test data. The testing procedure produced an MSE score of 0.045931, signifying little error and high predicted accuracy. Figure 3 presents a comprehensive comparison between the anticipated energy values from the ANN model and the actual energy usage data. This image underscores the model's capacity to accurately replicate real-world energy computations, demonstrating its durability and the efficacy of the ANN design in identifying the fundamental patterns within the data. The correlation between training and testing results highlights the dependability and relevance of the ANN model in real-world energy forecasting contexts.

The comparison of actual energy data with testing data using ANN and PCA models in the LEPE, as depicted in Table 2 and Figure 3, demonstrates a comparable level of resemblance. The ANN+PCA model accurately predicts the real energy use in the LEPE for training data ranging from 1 to 50. A disparity was seen in the 41st dataset, where the measured energy was 192.017959 Wh, however, the energy measurement obtained by the utilization of the ANN+PCA model was 191.9991 Wh. The test utilized an actual energy difference of 348.7287 Wh for the 50th data, whereas the ANN+PCA model utilized 235.3984 Wh. Figure 4 shows testing prediction energy (actual) vs. ANN+PCA, specifically Figure 4(a) shows the testing and output data, and Figure 4(b) shows the testing dataset index.

A total of 17 and 50 training data sets were carefully chosen for the testing phase to guarantee a broad representation of the dataset. The selection of test data conformed to the criteria outlined in Table 3, guaranteeing consistency and alignment with the experimental design. The test results, shown in Figure 5, demonstrate significant differences between the anticipated test data points and the actual target test data points when using the ANN model. The scatter plot clearly illustrates this discrepancy, showing that the model's predictions diverge markedly from the target values. The test produced a correlation coefficient ( $R$ ) of 0.46169, indicating a reasonable but inadequate connection between the anticipated and actual results. This outcome highlights the difficulties encountered by the ANN model in precisely representing the connections within the test dataset, which may be attributable to constraints in model complexity, data unpredictability, or the need for further optimization of input features and hyperparameters. Additional study and enhancement of the ANN model may be necessary to augment its predicted accuracy and resilience.

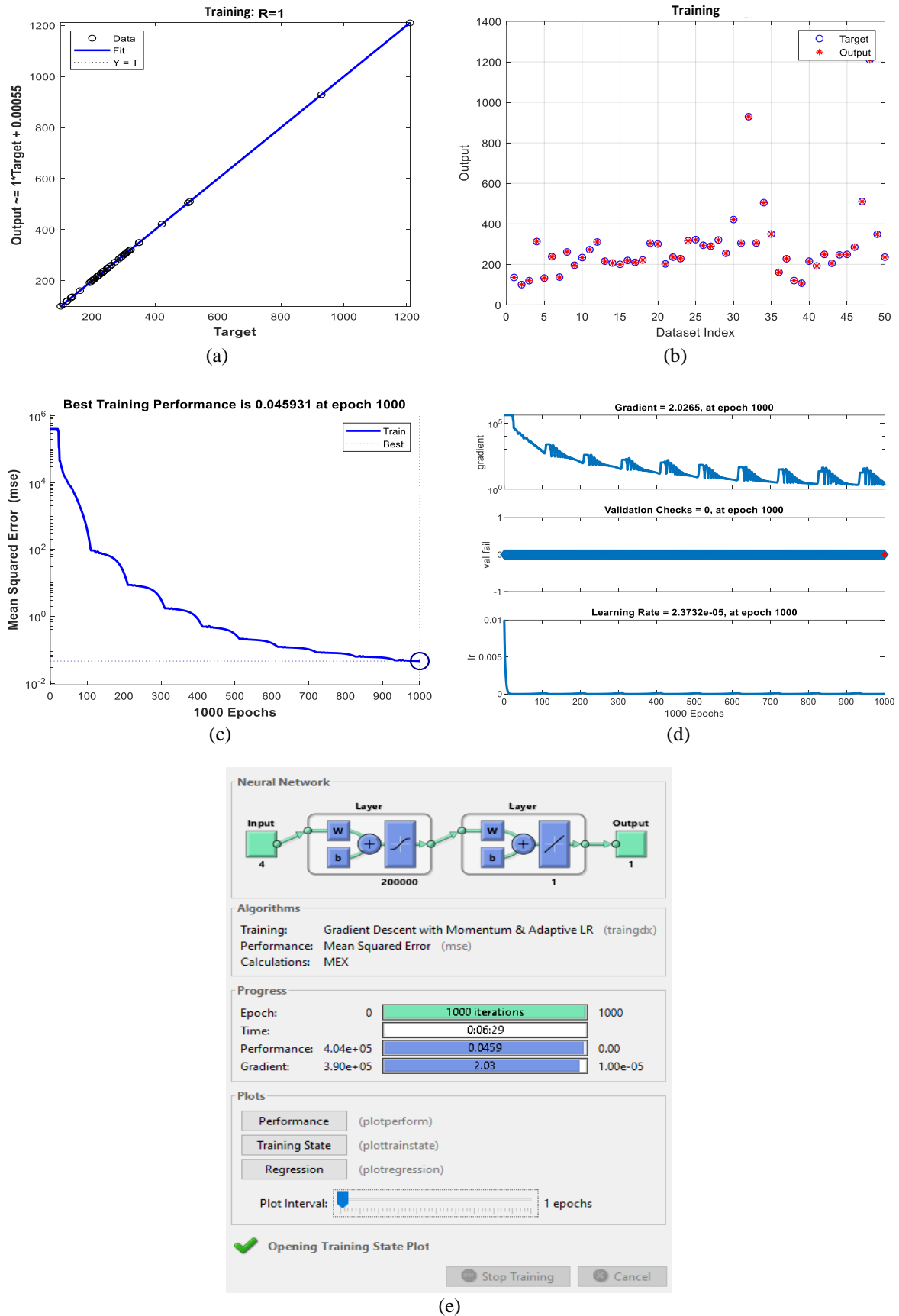


Figure 2. PCA and ANN data training of (a) training  $R=1$ , (b) output and target, (c) best training performance, (d) gradient, validation check, and learning rate, and (e) training state plot

Table 2. Training data

No	Day/Date	Pressure (atm)	Energy (actual) (Wh)	Prediction ANN+PCA (Wh)
1	Mon, 6-1-20	0.9928	135.111837	135.1109
2	Tue, 7-1-20	0.992116327	99.6604082	99.6609
3	Wed, 8-1-20	0.991714286	119.275102	119.2747
4	Thu, 9-1-20	0.992320408	312.561633	313.6165
5	Fri, 10-1-20	0.991587755	132.153469	132.1516
6	Mon, 13-1-20	0.991695918	237.80898	237.8186
7	Tue, 14-1-20	0.992167347	138.8847	136.7702
8	Wed, 15-1-20	0.99155102	261.102041	261.0997
9	Thu, 16-1-20	0.990463265	195.777959	195.7711
10	Fri, 17-1-20	0.991891837	233.271837	233.2715
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50	Wed, 18-3-20	0.992332653	349.33551	235.3984

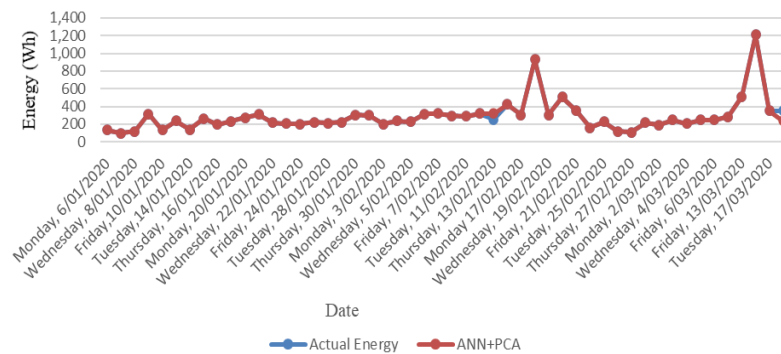


Figure 3. Training prediction energy (actual) vs. ANN+PCA

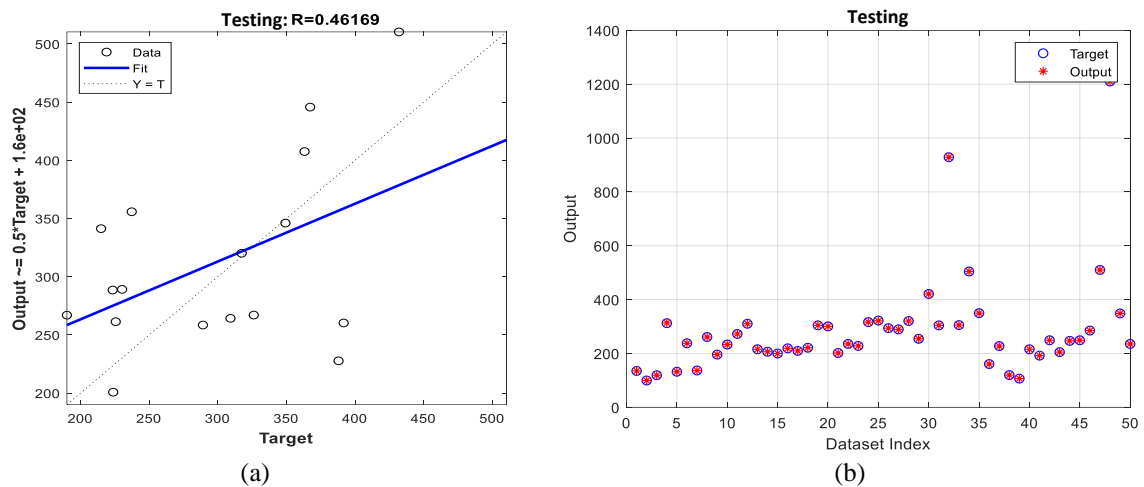


Figure 4. Testing prediction energy (actual) vs. ANN+PCA of (a) testing and output and (b) testing dataset index

Table 3. ANN+PCA testing

No	Day, Date	Pressure (atm)	Energy (actual) (Wh)	Prediction ANN+PCA (Wh)
1	Mon, 6-1-20	0.9928	135.111837	135.1109
2	Tue, 7-1-20	0.992116327	99.6604082	99.6609
3	Wed, 8-1-20	0.991714286	119.275102	119.2747
4	Thu, 9-1-20	0.992320408	312.561633	313.6165
5	Fri, 10-1-20	0.991587755	132.153469	132.1516
6	Mon, 13-1-20	0.991695918	237.80898	237.8186
7	Tue, 14-1-20	0.992167347	138.8847	136.7702
8	Wed, 15-1-20	0.99155102	261.102041	261.0997
....	....	....	....	....
67	Fri, 10-4-20	0.993185714	391.766531	260.263

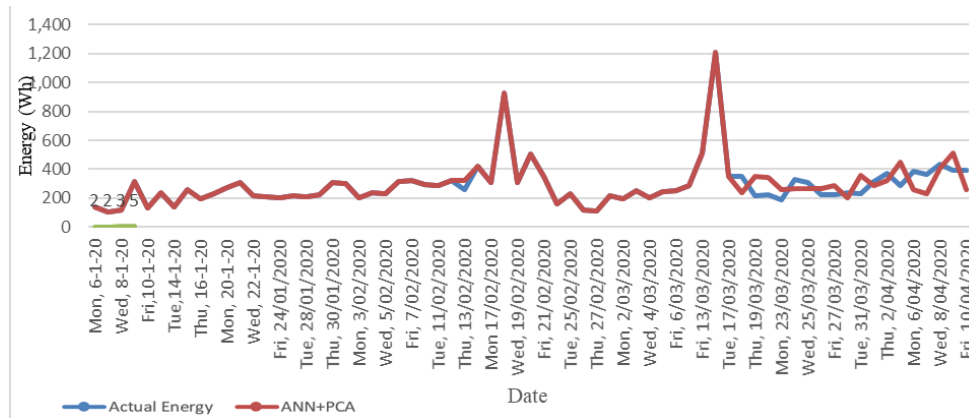


Figure 5. Prediction energy actual vs. ANN+PCA

From Figure 5, it can be seen that the difference between actual energy data and data from ANN+PCA indicates a considerable difference in 17 test data against the output target based on conventional calculations. For training data from 1 to 50, the predictions of actual energy usage in the LEPE were almost the same as prediction data with ANN+PCA models. Meanwhile, the test data from data 51 to 67 showed that the data changes were quite significant in test data 62, which resulted in -156.541002 Wh, and significant in test data 65, which showed 24.47521633 Wh.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of the research conducted at the LEPE, the comparison between the real data and the predicted data using the ANN model, with feature selection employing PCA, yielded highly favorable results. The correlation coefficient during training was  $R=1$ , however, during testing, the correlation coefficient was  $R=0.4883$  with an MSE of 0.045931 in epoch 1,000. Based on the findings of a three-month research study, it was observed that the actual data and traditional calculation data closely aligned with the data generated through the application of the ANN model using PCA feature selection. Hence, the ANN model, employing PCA for feature selection, is highly effective in forecasting energy requirements in a laboratory setting, while also considering the comfort of students during their practicum in the room.

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C : Conceptualization	I : Investigation	Vi : Visualization
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Fo : Formal analysis	E : Writing - Review & Editing	

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

The authors state no conflict of interest.

## DATA AVAILABILITY

The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author [D and NAB], upon reasonable request.

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