

# Time Series Forecasting Based on Support Vector Machine Using Particle Swarm Optimization

ZANA AZEEZ KAKARASH<sup>1</sup>, HAWKAR SAEED EZAT<sup>2</sup>, SHOKHAN ALI OMAR<sup>3</sup>,  
 NAWROZ FADHIL AHMED<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Information Technology, Kurdistan Technical Institute, Sulaymaniyah, KRG, Iraq  
 (e-mail: zana.azeez@kti.edu.krd, nawroz.ahmed@kti.edu.krd)

<sup>2</sup>Kurdistan Institution for Strategic Studies and Scientific Research, Sulaimani, KRG, Iraq (e-mail: hawkarsaeed@kissr.edu.krd)

<sup>3</sup>Directorate of Information Technology and Statistics, University of Sulaimany, Sulaymaniyah, KRG, Iraq (e-mail: shokhan.ali16@gmail.com)

Corresponding author: Zana Azeez Kakarash (e-mail: zana.azeez@kti.edu.krd).

**ABSTRACT** In recent years, due to the non-linear nature, complexity, and irregularity of time series, especially in energy consumption and climate, studying this field has become very important. Therefore, this study aims to provide a high accuracy and efficiency hybrid approach to time series forecasting. The proposed model is called EDFPSO-SVR (Empirical Mode Decomposition- Discrete Wavelet Transform- Feature selection with Particle Swarm Optimization-Support Vector Regression). In the proposed hybrid approach, the first step is to decompose the signal into the Intrinsic Mode Functions (IMF) component using the Empirical Mode Decomposition (EMD) algorithm. In the second step, each component is transformed into subsequences of approximation properties and details by converting the Wavelets. In the third step, the best feature is extracted by the PSO algorithm. The purpose of using the PSO algorithm is feature extraction and error minimization of the proposed approach. The fourth step, using time vector regression, has dealt with time series forecasting. Four data sets in two different fields have been used to evaluate the proposed method. The two datasets are electric load of England and Poland, and the other two datasets are related to the temperature of Australia and Belgium. Evaluation criteria include MSE, RMSE, MAPE, and MAE. The evaluation results of the proposed method with other Principal component analysis (PCA) feature extraction algorithms, and comparisons with methods and studies in this field, indicate the proper performance of the proposed approach.

**KEYWORDS** Time Series; Support Vector Machine; Feature Extraction; Particle Swarm Optimization; hybrid approach.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Time series is a sequence of values (or observations) of an event in which values have a definite period, such as hourly, daily, weekly, monthly, yearly, and so on [1, 32], and time series analysis deals with dynamic nature and real data [2, 27].

Time series forecasting is commonly used in a wide range of fields for future decision making and planning [1]. One of its most widely used fields is energy. The need for energy and related services is increasing to meet human social and economic growth, welfare, and health [3] and

depends on factors such as temperature, sunlight, wind, humidity, etc. [4]. Energy is very important in many areas of life. In addition, in recent decades, humans have been almost entirely dependent on energy, especially electrical energy. Although there have been many efforts to improve energy consumption in electronic devices, many emerging devices still rely on some kind of electric power [5]. The use of high-powered electrical devices and the development of technologies such as smart grids, electric cars, and renewable energy production have also expanded. All of these factors

make it difficult to manage the power system [6], and energy companies are responsible to supply enough energy to consumers [5]. Moreover, ensuring energy supply and controlling it in climate variability, is one of the important energy challenges for a sustainable future [3]. Evidence demonstrates that energy consumption has a direct impact on the climate and has caused the production of greenhouse gases, which results in global warming [7]. Thus, electric load, as a clean and efficient source, plays a significant role in human daily life and has recently increased dramatically, therefore, it has become a fundamental issue. In addition, electricity is more suitable and efficient than other traditional energy sources, such as natural gas, coal, and petroleum, to meet the needs of an environmentally friendly community. Therefore, before making a decision on electricity generation, it is necessary to predict electricity needs and loads [6].

Electric load forecasting helps suppliers to adjust supply and demand and ensure power grids in the event of electricity shortages. Load forecasting, to achieve different goals, is divided into several categories: short-term load forecasting (a few minutes to 1 day in advance) to adjust supply and demand, medium-term load forecasting (1 day to 1 year in advance) to definitive planning of the outage and maintenance and long-term load forecasting (more than 1 year in advance), for planning the development of electrical infrastructure [8]. Accurate short-term load forecasting is essential for effective performance in the electrical sector. Load forecasting in personal homes or buildings is challenging due to more fluctuations and uncertainties in load consumption [9]. Incorrect load forecasting causes significant financial loss. Therefore, correct forecasting using a good model leads to energy savings [6].

On the other hand, climate change is one of the current problems of human society and is a threat and disaster for the planet Earth, which is important to study and predict its elements for resource planning. Temperature is one of the most important meteorological parameters that is used in many studies [2, 4]. This parameter is of special importance in the study of climate change and agriculture and other areas, so that the increase in temperature is one of the most important human environmental issues. Therefore, studying and predicting its changes in time periods can be effective on proper management of water and soil resources and meeting the water needs of plants [4, 7].

So the dynamic and non-linear nature of the climate, due to variability in temperature and precipitation, has become an attractive field in time series forecasting [10]; because climate data is part of an uncertain time series [11] and socio-economic activities, and other human activities, in most countries, depend on climate parameters variabilities, such as temperature, humidity and wind speed, sunlight and wind direction [12].

Finally, due to the nonlinear, non-stationary and non-seasonal nature of the short-term electric load time series and

air temperature, accurate prediction of the load is very challenging. As a result, the basis of any decision is based on prior information. The more complete and accurate this information is, the easier and less error-making the decision will be. Proper load forecasting, in addition to saving on investment costs, makes it possible to plan for the development of power plants and transmission and distribution networks.

Therefore, the proposed model considers a wide range of time series for electric load and temperature. So, this study aims to forecast short-term load and air temperature using the proposed MDFPSO-SVR method, which can be effective in both fields and the main question of this research is whether due to the instability of the load time series, it can be accurately and optimally predicted using the proposed method.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, Related Work for this study is presented. Proposed Research Method is given in Section 3. Evaluation and Results Simulation are shown in Section 4 and conclusion of the study is in the last section of the paper.

## II. RELATED WORKS

The conducted studies are reviewed in three categories: forecasting load forecasting, climate (temperature), and optimization. The conducted works in the field of load forecasting are:

In article [8], the goal is short-term load forecasting. The paper described four machine learning methods, SVR<sup>1</sup>, GBRT<sup>2</sup>, FFNN<sup>3</sup> and LSTM<sup>4</sup>, to forecast peak daily consumption and hourly energy in home buildings. In this research, the hourly load data set of England and London [28] was used; and also the electricity consumption of 15 houses was randomly selected and divided into 5 groups. This dataset fluctuates during peak hours and on weekends. The evaluation results show that the performance of the LSTM method is better in forecasting daily peak load consumption than other methods. The benefits of this article ensure the efficient operation of uninterruptible power supply systems for energy consumers. Intelligent meters can be provided. Also, accurate information about the energy consumption of the building opens several doors of opportunity for you. Among its disadvantages, we can only mention the forecast of daily peak load consumption. Article [13], deals with providing a solution for renewable energy and reducing carbon emissions. This paper assessed long-term load forecasting using the LSTM method and dynamic filtering of the potential highest electricity demand peaks, and to evaluate this method, a case study was conducted on the UK building management system. One of the benefits of changing energy policy is a significant increase in renewable energy production and a reduction in carbon emissions. Its disadvantages can only be used to detect and predict high energy demand events and high power consumption peaks. The article [14] deals with seasonal load forecasting using

<sup>1</sup> Support Vector Regression (SVR)

<sup>2</sup> Gradient Boosting Regression Trees (GBRT)

<sup>3</sup> feedforward neural networks (FFNNs)

<sup>4</sup> Long-Short Term Memory Network (LSTM)

the highest peak power consumption, by LSTM in Bangladesh. Its benefits are for Bangladesh to meet growing demand and keep pace with the growing economy. Therefore, we present a method of applying LSTM with data construction method to remove seasonality and trend from load time series of BPS for hourly electric load forecasting. One of its disadvantages is the prediction of hourly electric load. Article [15] investigated short-term load forecasting using LSTM and RNN methods for airline data. Its advantages are accurate forecasting of complex electric load time series with a long forecast horizon. One of its disadvantages is that this method has long-term dependencies in time series. In this paper [16], the aim is short-term load forecasting using the hybrid method of signal decomposition algorithm to intrinsic components and support vector regression. The proposed method is used to analyze the intrinsic components as a noise reduction step in the training data, and then the SVR is used for forecasting. The evaluation is based on the Polish electric load dataset, and the proposed method is EMD-SVR. The results show that the proposed algorithm of SVR and denoised-SVR algorithms have less error in forecasting electric load. Its advantages are the breakdown of singular into intrinsic components. One of the disadvantages is working only on the demand of daily electric load. The paper [17] deals with load forecasting using a combination of support vector regression and LSTM. The data set used was collected from Iran's Power Generation and Distribution Company. In this research, the temperature features were also used taking into account the load features. Findings show there are good results in 24-hour forecasting. The advantages of combining LSTM and SVR have been used to predict load and temperature. Of the disadvantages only on the time series of load and temperature in 24 hours, it provides a good forecast.

Practices in the field of weather forecasting include:

The paper [10] analyzes the monthly temperature and precipitation rate by correlation and regression between indices using SPSS software in India and Uttarakhand. The research results can, as a forecasting tool, help to develop better methods of climate management in the region. The advantage of this method is that it predicts future trends by fixing the data and seasonally deleting it. The disadvantages of this method are only the quarterly analysis of the monthly average minimum and maximum temperatures. According to the article [18], forecasting irregular time series has become one of the good research fields in recent years. Due to the complexity and irregularity of this type of time series, a hybrid model is needed for accurate forecasts. In this paper, a new hybrid model based on a Firefly Algorithm Optimized Neural Network called CEEMDAN – VMD – FABP is used. First, the signal is decomposed into primary components using variation mode decomposition (VMD), and Complete Ensemble Empirical Mode Decomposition with Adaptive Noise (CEEMDAN). Then, the time series is forecasted by a firefly optimized backpropagation neural network (FABP). The temperature of Melbourne, Australia is included in the dataset used in this article. The proposed model performs

better than the VMD-FABP model and has a good outlook for forecasting irregular time series and providing good results. The advantage of this method for BPNN is the firefly algorithm (FA). Disadvantages of this method Only high frequency sequences have been used. The paper [19] studied the time series forecasting for energy consumption. Temperature and humidity data sets were collected from sensors on a wireless network near an airport station in Belgium. In this paper, the following four models were used for time series forecasting: multiple linear regressions, support vector machine (SVM), random forest, and gradient boosting machines (GBM). According to the results, the performance of the GBM model has been better than the others. The advantage of this method is to filter the data to eliminate unpredictable parameters and feature ranking. Disadvantages of this method: only with weather data, atmospheric pressure (which correlates with wind speed) was selected as the most relevant variable of weather data in the forecast. The paper [20] deals with available mixed time series forecasting in nature, such as climate with unpredictable and complex features, using a combined method called EMD-ARIMA-NN-FFOTR based on EMD and neural network. First, the intrinsic component is extracted using the EMD algorithm, then, using the run test, it is divided into three categories of high, low, and medium frequencies. Next, try to forecast the high-frequency signals using fuzzy first-order transition rules trained neural network (NN-FFOTR), and applied to the medium frequency of the ARIMA model. A simulated and unreal data set with time series, Lorenz-63 and Mackey-Glass systems were used to evaluate this approach. The results indicate that the hybrid method has good convergence speed and accuracy. The advantage of this combined method is that it balances the forecast accuracy and convergence speed simultaneously during the forecast. Therefore, a hybrid model can be used to predict turbulent time series. Disadvantages of this method are used only to predict high frequency components.

The work done in using the optimization algorithm for forecasting is revealed in the following papers. In paper [5], the aim is to provide a solution to the problem of electric load forecasting using conventional feedforward neural network optimized by a PSO algorithm. In this method, the PSO algorithm is used to optimize the neural network weight. The data set used is the electricity consumption of a company in Cyprus. The network is optimized, the average MAE and MSE error is reduced, and it converges faster, and the data training is faster using this method. The advantage of this method particle swarm optimized networks boasts of faster convergence. The disadvantages of this method are only the workload per hour. According to article [21], a large part of electricity consumption is used in the production sector. Load forecasting can be useful in managing power consumption, scheduling the optimal generation, and planning for electricity maintenance. This can improve energy efficiency, and reduce production costs. In this paper, a short-term model of electrical load forecasting is presented based on the GA-PSO-BPNN hybrid algorithm. The GA-

PSO algorithm is used to optimize BPNN parameters. The data set used is the power consumption of a selected paper mill. According to the results, the proposed model can have good performance. The advantage of this method is the use of GA-PSO hybrid algorithm to optimize BPNN parameters. Disadvantages of this method are the following ones. Only real-time production data is used. It was suggested in article [22] that short-term electrical load forecasting plays an essential role in the performance of power systems. This paper presented a hybrid wavelet transform-based method, the GM algorithm, whose parameters are optimized by the PSO algorithm. The data set is the daily load of Iran and New York. In the proposed model, climate data including average temperature, average relative humidity, average wind speed, and load data of the past days are considered as model input. Wavelet transform is used to eliminate high frequency. The simulation results confirm the optimal performance of the proposed method compared to the previous one. The advantage of this method is that to improve the accuracy of STLF, the GM production factor is increased using the PSO algorithm. Disadvantages of this method are as follows. High frequency components have been eliminated. According to article [23], short-term electric load forecasting plays an essential role in the energy management system. In this paper, there is a short-term load forecasting method, based on particle swarm optimization, and Deep Belief Network DBN (PSO-DBN). The PSO algorithm has been used for the initial network values and the reduction of iterations. The simulation shows the effectiveness of the proposed method. The advantage of this method is that the weight is optimized using PSO. The disadvantages of this method are only the use of hourly load. The article [24] has addressed short-term gas load forecasting using a hybrid model. The model is CF-SA-FFOA-SVM, a combination of Cross Factor (CF) algorithm, Simulated Annealing Algorithm (SA), Fruit Fly Optimization Algorithm (FFOA), and SVM. The optimization algorithm is used to find the best SVM parameters. The data set is collected from the produced temperature of China's municipal gas consumption. The results of the proposed model are compared with four other methods, such as BPNN, which indicate the proper performance of the proposed model. The advantage of this method is that the effect of raw data grouping by feature as a result of prediction is discussed. The disadvantages of this method are the accuracy of the prediction on the maximum daily temperature is more accurate. The paper [25] has investigated the short-term electric load forecasting for a smart city using a hybrid method called LWSVR-MGOA, which is a combination of the Locally Weighted Support Vector Regression (LWSVR) algorithm and Modified Grasshopper Optimization Algorithm (MGOA). The MGOA algorithm is used to adjust the LWSVR parameters. The evaluation of the proposed method was performed on six real datasets of New York (hourly and daily) Victoria, EKPC, GEFCOM, and ISO New England, which indicate the good performance of the proposed method. The advantage of this method is that the LWSVR parameters are adjusted using the

MGOA optimization algorithm. Disadvantages of this early convergence method may affect the results.

Considering previous works, the PSO algorithm and other optimization algorithms can be used to optimize the parameters of models such as neural networks, SVR, and SVM, and there is no study on this algorithm in feature extraction in time series forecasting. This has led to a new and innovative aspect of the proposed EDFPSO-SVR method in this field. The proposed method is compared with other datasets in the comparison section with other tasks. It can also be stated that the proposed method is used to predict fluctuations in high and low consumption peaks. Also, the proposed method for eliminating the disadvantages is only considering the hourly, daily or temperature load and used for the two time series of electric load forecasting and temperature.

Table 1 compares related work and summarizes the results.

**Table 1. Comparison of the related works?**

Article	Algorithm used	Results
Pirbazari et al [8]	SVR, GBRT, FFNN and LSTM	The evaluation results show that the performance of the LSTM method is better in forecasting daily peak load consumption than other methods.
Jimenez et al [13]	short-term memory neural network and dynamic filtering	The methodology demonstrate successful forecasts general applicability of the methodology for demand side response programme management, with reduction of energy consumption and indirect carbon emissions.
Al-Shaikh et al [14]	RNN and LSTM	Using this proposed approach, we forecast the electric load of one hour ahead with minimal error.
Zheng et al [15]	LSTM and RNN	Experiments are conducted to demonstrate that LSTM-based RNN is capable of forecasting accurately the complex electric load time series with a long forecasting horizon.
Yaslan and Bican [16]	EMD and SVR	The proposed EMD-SVR method integrates the EMD method to SVR algorithm by using EMD as a denoising step on the training data.
Imani [17]	LSTM and SVR	LSTM can be lonely used for both feature extraction and forecasting, but, the features extracted by LSTM can be used as input of a SVR for forecasting.
Dimri et al [10]	auto-regressive (p) integrated (d) moving average (q) (ARIMA)	The model prediction results show that the forecast data fits well with the trend in the data. However, over-predictions are found in extreme rainfall temperature results.
Xu and Ren [18]	back propagation neural network (BPNN)	The proposed hybrid model has a good prospect in the prediction of chaotic time series.
Candanedo et al [19]	multiple linear regression, SVM and gradient boosting	It has been shown that GBM performs better than other methods.

	machines (GBM)	
Tang et al [20]	empirical mode decomposition (EMD) and neural networks (NN)	These results show the following: (a) compared with other related, recent studies, the prediction accuracy of the hybrid system EMD-ARIMA-NN-FFOTR proposed in this article is higher; (b) the proposed hybrid system attains superior performance compared with single models;
Ozerdem et al [5]	particle swarm optimized feedforward neural network	The results obtained show that the both particle swarm and back propagation optimized feedforward networks are suitable regressors for modeling energy demand.
Hu et al [21]	GA-PSO-BPNN algorithm	The verification results reveal that the GA-PSO-BPNN model is superior to the other two hybrid forecasting models(GA-BPNN and PSO-BPNN) for future application.
Bahrami et al [22]	WT (wavelet transform),GM (grey model) and PSO	Simulation results confirm favourable performance of the proposed method in comparison with the previous methods studied.
Shen et al [23]	Deep Belief Network and PSO	Construct the DBN prediction model to overcome the problem that the support vector Machines (SVM) training time is long and the BP neural network method is easy to fall into the local optimum
Lu et al [24]	fruit fly optimization algorithm, simulated annealing algorithm, cross factor and SVM	The conclusions are drawn: (1) compared with other forecasting models, CF-SAFFOA-SVM model has higher gas load forecasting accuracy. (2) for Kunming city, if the daily maximum temperature is used as the input variable in the gas load forecasting model, the forecasting accuracy is higher.
Elatta et al [25]	locally weighted support vector regression and modified grasshopper optimization algorithm	The results reveal that the proposed forecasting method gives a much better forecasting performance in comparison with some published forecasting methods in all cases.

### III. PROPOSED RESEARCH METHOD

The proposed method, which is also shown in Figure 1, is as follows. In the first step, the signal is decomposed into the IMF component using the EMD algorithm. In the second stage, each component is transformed into a subset of approximation properties and details by transforming the rabies wavelet. In the third step, the best feature is extracted by the PSO algorithm. To extract the feature by PSO algorithm, a suitable objective function is selected that can minimize the model error that the MLP neural network is used. Therefore, the error of this model must be calculated according to a classification algorithm and then this error is minimized in each iteration by the PSO algorithm and these steps continue until the stop condition. The purpose of the PSO algorithm is to select the appropriate feature to minimize the error of the proposed method. In fact, after

performing IMF analysis with the EMD algorithm, the signal is decomposed into its intrinsic component. Then, by converting the wavelet with the intended depth, each of the IMF signals is expanded into signals of approximation and detail, each of which is in fact a feature of the main signals. Therefore, at this stage, using the PSO algorithm, the best signal or feature is selected for prediction. In the fourth step, time series prediction is done by Support Vector Regression. The name of the proposed method is EDFPSO-SVR (Empirical Mode Decomposition - Discrete Wavelet Transform - Feature selection with Particle Swarm Optimization-Support Vector Regression).

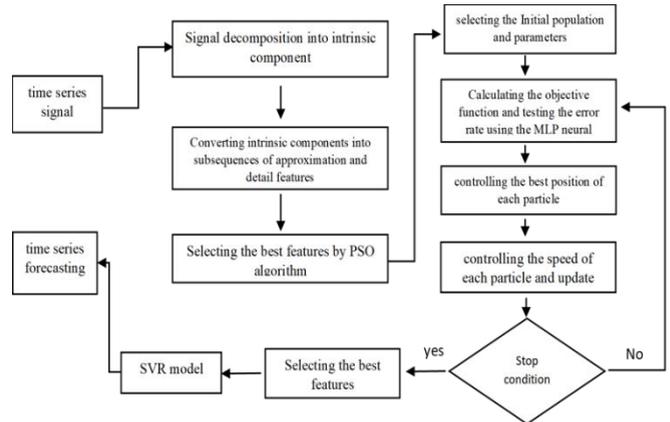


Figure 1. The Process of the proposed method

#### A. EMD ALGORITHM (EMPIRICAL MODE DECOMPOSITION)

Component decomposition into intrinsic signals is an efficient nonlinear analytical method for time series data. Non-linear and non-constant time series can be divided into a group of mean and quasi-periodic signals, each of which is called the Intrinsic Mode Functions (IMF) [16]. In the EMD algorithm, the main signal is the sum of the IMFs plus remainder, as shown in Equation 1.

$$x(t) = \sum_{i=1}^n h_i(t) + r(t). \quad (1)$$

In the above equation,  $x(t)$  is the main data, each of  $h_i^k$  indicate the  $i$ -th value of the IMF and  $r(t)$  is the remainder, and  $n$  is the number of IMFs.

#### B. DISCRETE WAVELET TRANSFORM (DWT)

Wavelet Transform is the decomposition of function based on wavelet functions. In discrete wavelet transform, the signals can be represented by approximation and detail [26]. The discrete form of the wavelet function is as equation 2.

Wavelet Transform is the decomposition of function based on wavelet functions. In discrete wavelet transform, the signals can be represented by approximation and detail [26]. The discrete form of the wavelet function is as equation 2.

$$\Psi_{j,k}(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|s_0^j|}} \Psi\left(\frac{t - k\tau_0 s_0^j}{s_0^j}\right), \quad (2)$$

where  $\Psi_{j,k}$  is the wavelet function, for certain values of  $k$  and  $j$  (integers),  $t$ , time ( $s > 1$ ) is a constant of dilation parameter,  $\tau_0$  is a time transfer constant, and is dependent on  $s_0$ .

### C. PARTICLE SWARM OPTIMIZATION ALGORITHM (PSO)

The PSO algorithm is a universal optimization method, which can be used to deal with problems whose answer is a point or surface in  $n$ -dimensional space. In such a space, there are hypotheses, and an initial velocity is assigned to the particles. Each particle has a position, which determines the particle coordinates in the multidimensional search space. As the particle moves over time, its position changes.  $X_i(t)$  specifies the position of the  $i$ -th particle at time  $t$ . Moreover, each particle needs a velocity to move in space.  $V_i(t)$  specifies the velocity of the  $i$ -th particle at time  $t$ . Accelerating the position of each particle causes a new position for the particle. Equation 3 indicates the particle position update.

$$X_i(t + 1) = X_i(t) + V_i(t). \quad (3)$$

Whether the position of a particle in the search space is good or not is assessed by a fitness function. Particles are able to remember the best situation they have ever been in. The best individual experience of a particle, or the best position met by the  $y_i$  particle is called  $pbest$ <sup>5</sup> in some algorithms), and the particles can also know the best position met by the whole group, which is called  $\widehat{y}_i$ . (In some algorithms  $\widehat{y}_i$  is also referred to as  $gbest$ <sup>6</sup>.) The particle velocity vector, in the optimization process, reflects the empirical knowledge of the particle, its information, and the particle population information. Each particle considers two components to move in the search space: 1- Cognition Component, which is the best solution that a particle can get alone ( $pbest$ ). 2- Social Component which is the best solution that is recognized by the whole group ( $gbest$ ), was mentioned in the previous section.

According to  $gbest$  and  $pbest$ , each particle uses equations 4 to 6 to determine the next position, and is updated:

$$V_{ij}(t + 1) = WV_{ij}(t) + c_1 r_1 (p_{ij}(t) - X_{ij}(t)) + c_2 r_2 (p_{ij}(t) - X_{ij}(t)), \quad (4)$$

$$X_{ij}(t + 1) = X_{ij}(t) + V_{ij}(t + 1), \quad (5)$$

$$W(t + 1) = w_{max} - \left(\frac{w_{max} - w_{min}}{t_{max}}\right) \cdot (t + 1). \quad (6)$$

In these equations,  $i$  is the particle subscript. The constants  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  in the above equations determine the personal and global learning parameters (impact rate) for  $pbest$  and  $gbest$ .  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  are random numbers in the range [1 and 0].  $X_{ij}(t)$  and  $V_{ij}(t)$  are the current positions and the velocity of the particles respectively.  $W$  is a parameter that controls the particle motion inertia, which at the beginning of the algorithm decreases more rapidly, and after a while, decreases more slowly as we get closer to the answer [5].

For the simulation and steps of the PSO algorithm, first, the initial particle population is randomly generated, and the number of initial particles and other parameters is defined. The next step of evaluation calculates the particle's objective function (calculation of cost or viability), which the function considered in this study, is calculated by Equation 7.

$$f = \min\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^N e_i^2\right). \quad (7)$$

The next step is recording the best position for each particle ( $P_{i.best}$ ), and the best position among all the particles ( $P_{g.best}$ ), and its updating, until the end of stop condition.

Collate acknowledgements in a separate section at the end of the article before the references and do not, therefore, include them on the title page, as a footnote to the title or otherwise. List here those individuals who provided help during the research (e.g., providing language help, writing assistance or proofreading the article, etc.).

### D. SUPPORT VECTOR REGRESSION

The goal is the regression of the backup vector based on the SVM regression model, which is adapted from the regression tasks and classification. The support vector machine is a type of supervised learning system that is used both for grouping and estimating the data fitting function in regression problems so that the least error occurs in the data grouping or fitting function. This method is based on statistical learning theory, which takes advantage of the principle of structural error minimization and leads to a global optimum answer [17]. To implement support vector regression, the data is shown according to Equation 6.

$$SVR = \{x_i, t_i\} \quad \forall x_i \in R^m, t_i \in R, \quad (8)$$

where  $x_i$ 's are inputs that can have  $m$  dimensions and  $t_i$  is the target. From Equation 7 we can define SVR according to regression.

$$t_i \approx y_i = w^T x_i + b \quad \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, N. \quad (9)$$

Its penalty function is defined according to Equation 8.

$$L_\epsilon(t_i, y_i) = \begin{cases} 0 & |t_i - y_i| \leq \epsilon \\ R_+ & \text{other} \end{cases}, \quad (10)$$

<sup>5</sup> previous best position

<sup>6</sup> global best position

where  $L_\varepsilon$  is the penalty function, and such that the desired output should be defined between the positive and negative interval of  $\varepsilon$  equal to  $\aleph_i = |t_i - y_i| - \varepsilon$  that for  $y_i$  the desired output of the network,  $\aleph_i$  the error due to the target and the output should be less than  $\varepsilon$ . Eventually, for the penalty function we will have:

$$L_\varepsilon(t_i, y_i) = \begin{cases} 0 & |t_i - y_i| \leq \varepsilon \\ |t_i - y_i| - \varepsilon & \text{other} \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

for all data with the operational risk, it should be minimized according to Equation 9. Therefore, in general, the target will be achieved according to Equation 10.

$$\min \frac{1}{2} w^T w + C \sum_{i=1}^N (\aleph_i^+ + \aleph_i^-). \quad (12)$$

In the above equation, the value of  $C$  is a constant number. Now if for the above equations we consider its dual form, for  $-t_i + y_i + \varepsilon + \aleph_i^+ \geq 0$  the coefficient  $\alpha_i^+$ , for  $t_i - y_i + \varepsilon + \aleph_i^- \geq 0$  the coefficient  $\alpha_i^-$ , for  $\aleph_i^+ \geq 0$  the coefficient  $\alpha \mu_i^+$ , and for  $\aleph_i^- \geq 0$  the coefficient  $\mu_i^-$  is replaced. If in the above equation the derivation operation is taken with respect to weight, bias, we will finally have equation 11 for the dual target function:

$$\min \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \sum_j (\alpha_i^+ - \alpha_i^-) (\alpha_j^+ - \alpha_j^-) x_i^T x_j - \sum_i (\alpha_i^+ - \alpha_i^-) t_i + \sum_i (\alpha_i^+ - \alpha_i^-) \varepsilon, \quad (13)$$

$$\text{s.t. } \sum_i (\alpha_i^+ - \alpha_i^-) = 0, \quad 0 \leq \alpha_i^+ \leq C, \quad 0 \leq \alpha_i^- \leq C. \quad (14)$$

The sum of the support vector can also be calculated using the value of  $\alpha_i^+$  and  $\alpha_i^-$  and the product of this value must be zero. Finally, if  $\{x_i, t_i\}$  is the input  $\forall i = 1, 2, \dots, N$  and the output is equal to  $y_i = w^T x_i + b$ , we will have:

$$w = \sum_i (\alpha_i^+ - \alpha_i^-) x_i, \quad (15)$$

$$b = \frac{1}{|S|} \sum_{i \in S} [t_i - w^T x_i - \text{Sing}(\alpha_i^+ - \alpha_i^-) \varepsilon]. \quad (16)$$

In the support vector regression, a kernel function is used where if it is replaced in the relation  $y = wx + b$  equal to  $\sum_i (\alpha_i^+ - \alpha_i^-) x_i^T x_i + b$ , equation 14 will be formed.

$$y = \sum_i (\alpha_i^+ - \alpha_i^-) K(x_i, x) + b. \quad (17)$$

Linear, sigmoid, polynomial, and radial (RBF) basis functions are the most common kernels. Due to the computational efficiency of RBF over the years, this kernel

is known as one of the best kernels and in this study, this kernel that is shown in Equation 15 has been used as well.

$$K(x_i, x_j) = \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right). \quad (18)$$

In the above equation,  $\sigma$  is the width of RBF. Therefore, since the kernel function is nonlinear, we have equation 19 [16].

$$b = \frac{1}{|S|} \sum_{i \in S} [t_i - \sum_i (\alpha_i^+ - \alpha_i^-) K(x_i, x) - \text{Sing}(\alpha_i^+ - \alpha_i^-) \varepsilon]. \quad (19)$$

#### IV. EVALUATION AND RESULTS

In this paper, the simulation environment using MATLAB R2018b software has been used for modeling, and the computer for simulation with an Intel i3-2350 series CPU and 4 GB of memory and 500 GB of hard drive.

##### A. DATA SET

In different studies in the field of time series forecasting, depending on the proposed method and the purpose of the problem, different data sets belonging to various countries have been used. The data set used to evaluate the proposed method is presented in Table 2.

**Table 2. The data set used to evaluate the proposed method**

Title	Number of sample data	The maximum value	The minimum value	The unit
London [28]	1000	1.04	0.06	KW/h
Poland [29]	1400	1.34	0.61	MB
Australia [30]	520	26.29	2.11	Santigrad
Belgium [31]	1002	23.78	18.39	Hourly

The first data set belongs to the United Kingdom and the City of London, which includes daily loads collected up to 2014.

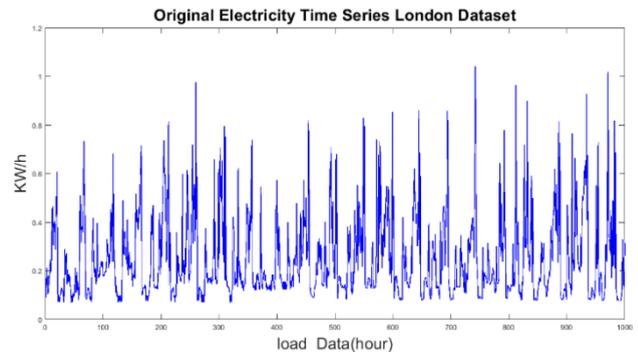


Figure 2. Dataset loading

The second data set belongs to Poland, which includes daily the load daily hourly collected up to 1990. Figure 3 shows this dataset.

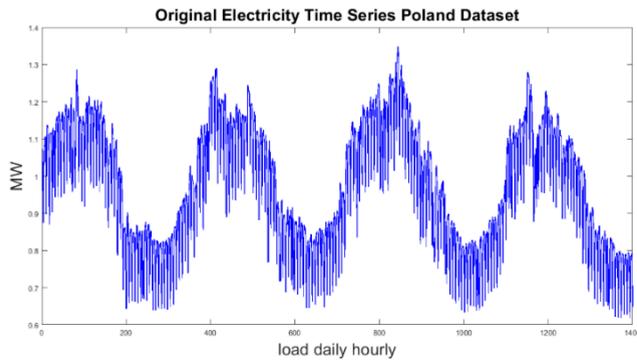


Figure 3. Polish daily load data set

The third dataset belongs to Australia and the city of Melbourne, which includes daily temperature of Melbourne, which was collected from 1981 to 1990. Figure 4 shows this dataset.

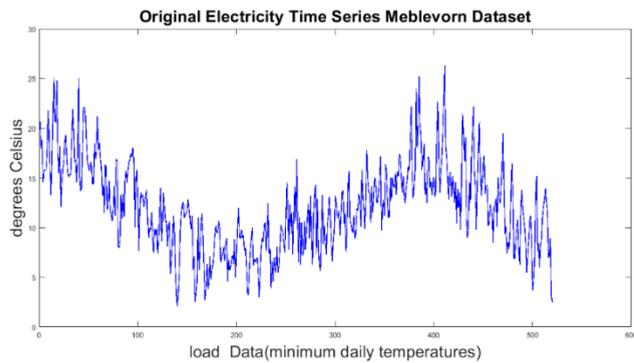


Figure 4. Melbourne, Australia, Temperature Database

The fourth data set belongs to Belgium. This data set includes temperature-controlled by a ZigBee wireless sensor network. Each wireless node transmits temperature and humidity in about 3.3 minutes. This data set had been collected until 2017. Figure 5 shows this dataset.

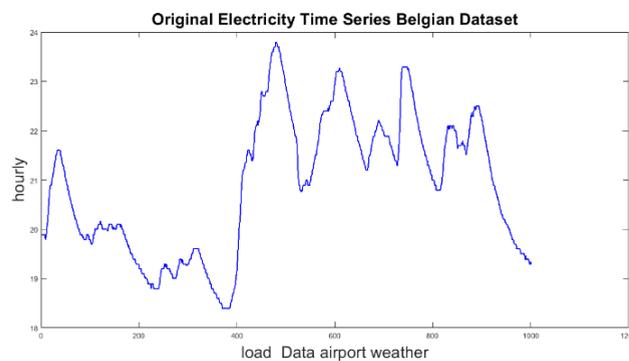


Figure 5. Belgium Temperature data set

## B. EVALUATION CRITERIA

All studies in the field of time series forecasting used different criteria, and the criteria used in all articles have been used in this study too. The evaluation criteria of the proposed model are given in equations from 27 to 30. These

criteria include: mean square error (MSE), Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE), mean absolute percent error (MAPE) and Mean Absolute Error (MAE). MAPE and MSE measure the prediction deviation from the actual data. MSE is a method of estimating the amount of error that is actually the difference between the estimated values and what is estimated. MSE is almost everywhere positive (not zero) for two reasons: first, because it is random, and second, because the estimator does not count information that can produce more accurate estimates. So this index, which always has a non-negative value, the closer it is to zero, the lower the error rate. Root Mean Square Error (RMSE) is the standard deviation of the residuals (prediction errors). Residuals are a measure of how far from the regression line data points are; RMSE is a measure of spreading out these residuals. MAPE is a measure of prediction accuracy of a forecasting method in statistics [16, 24]. MAE is a measure of errors between paired observations expressing the same phenomenon [20].

$$MSE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (P_i - A_i)^2 \quad (27)$$

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (P_i - A_i)^2}, \quad (28)$$

$$MAPE = \frac{100}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{|(P_i - A_i)|}{P_i}, \quad (29)$$

$$MAE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |(P_i - A_i)|. \quad (30)$$

In the above equations  $A_i$  is the real value,  $P_i$  is the forecasted value,  $n$  is the number of samples.

## C. EFFICIENCY RESULTS

To evaluate the proposed method, first, all the steps are described on the first data set, and then, in the end, the results of the proposed method are stated on the other data set. The first data set is daily electric load in London. First, the input signal is extracted using the EMD algorithm and its IMF components and it is shown in Figure 6.

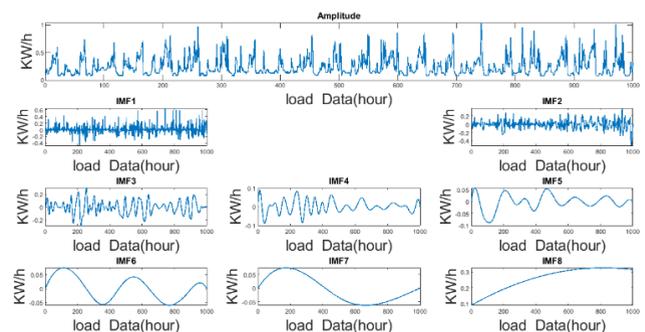


Figure 6. Signal decomposition using EMD algorithm to IMF components

Second, each decomposed component is transformed into a subsequence of approximations and details using depth 5 discrete wavelet transform, and examples of which are given in Figures 7, 8, and 9. Fig. 7 shows the subsequence of approximation and details of the first IMF.

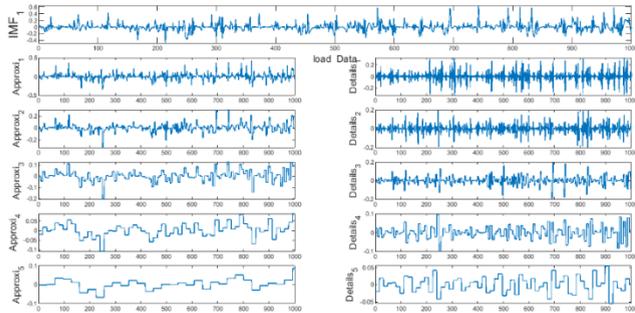


Figure 7. Subsequence of approximation and details of the first IMF

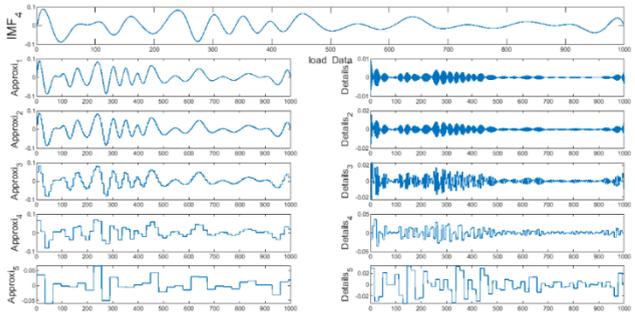


Figure 8. Subsequence of approximation and details of the fourth IMF

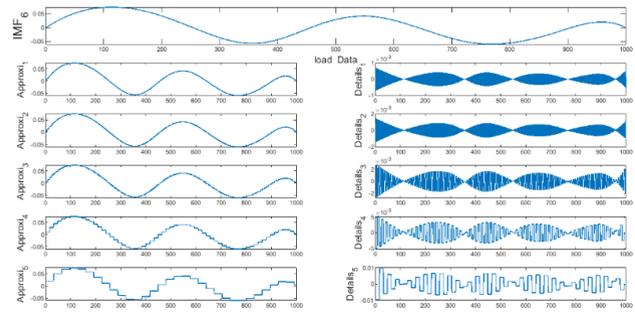


Figure 9. Subsequence of approximation and details of the sixth IMF

The output of the second stage contains 80 signal features from the subsequence of approximation and details. The third step is feature extraction using Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO). The required parameters of the PSO algorithm (initial particle population, selection of initial particles, and coefficients) are given in Table 3.

Table 3. The Parameters of PSO

Simulation and PSO parameters		
PSO algorithm	Initial population	30
	Iteration	10
	$\varphi_1, \varphi_2$	2.05
	$\varphi$	$\varphi_1 + \varphi_2$
	$\rho$	$2/(\varphi - 2 + \sqrt{\varphi^2 - 4 * \varphi})$
	w (inertia coefficient)	$\rho$
	c1 (personal learning coefficients)	$\rho * \varphi_1$
c2 (Global learning coefficients)	$\rho * \varphi_2$	

Selecting the appropriate cost function is one of the most important parts of the optimization algorithm. The cost function for selecting a feature is to find the least possible error between the features and the purpose of the problem. So, by minimizing the model error (mean squared error), we can extract the best features which reduce problem error based on the order of its effect. Therefore, first, the error of this model must be calculated according to a classification algorithm, and then, each iteration is minimized by the PSO algorithm, and these steps continue until the stop condition. To this end, MLP neural network has been used to calculate the error. The cost function of this research is calculated according to Equation 31.

$$f = \min \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^N e_i^2 \right). \tag{31}$$

Figure 10 shows the mean squared error minimized by the PSO algorithm for feature selection.

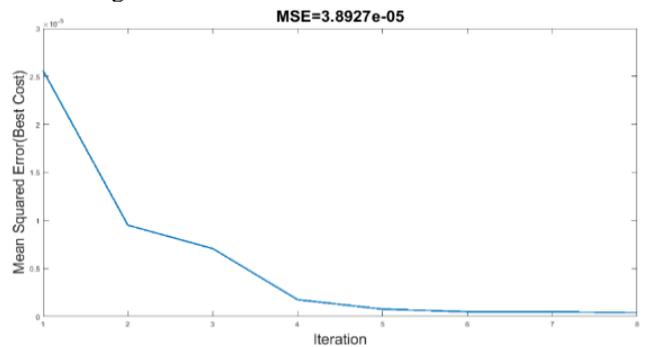


Figure 10. Mean square error with PSO algorithm for feature selection

According to Figure 10, the PSO algorithm shows the best cost function, and the least possible error of the proposed model, with 20 features equal to 3.8927e-05 in 10 iterations. Therefore, the output of the third step is to select 20 features or 20 signals from the 80 signals of the previous step, which are extracted by the PSO algorithm. The fourth step is time series forecasting by SVR. In Figure 11 the red data is related to time series forecasting of electric load forecasting and black color is related to the original signal.

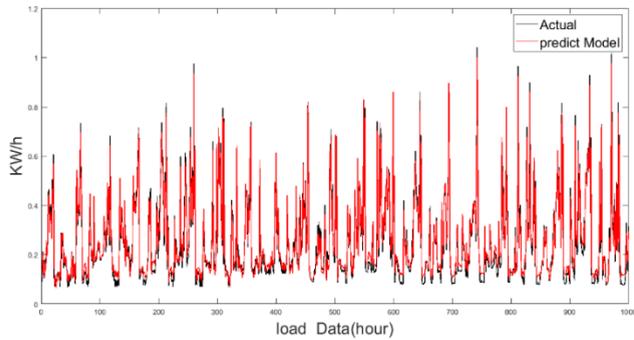


Figure 11. Time series forecasting data, plotted on each other, related to the London data set

Figure 12 shows the load prediction signal output and original signal separately.

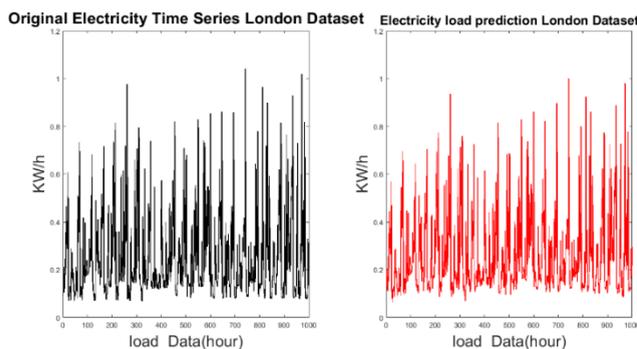


Figure 12. Separated time series forecasting data for the London dataset

**Table 4. The forecasted error value of the proposed method on the London dataset.**

Error	MSE	RMSE	MAPE	MAE
MDFPSO-SVR	6.3166e-04	0.0251	12.5721	0.0058

To show the efficiency of the PSO algorithm, its feature selection should be compared with the PCA and EMD-SVR.

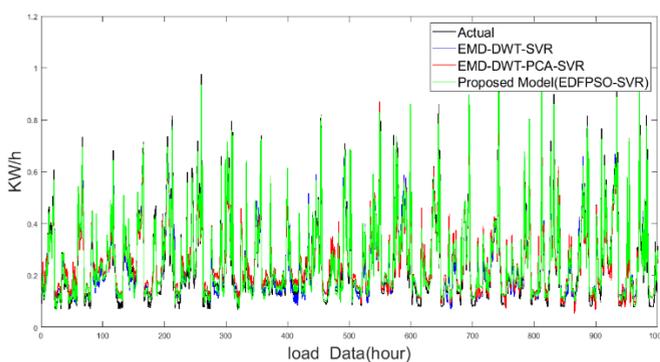


Figure 13. Output Comparison of the proposed model with other algorithms

Table 5 shows a comparison of the forecasted error values of the proposed method with other methods on the London dataset.

**Table 5. Comparison of the forecasted error value of the proposed method with other methods on the London Electric Load Database**

Error	MSE	RMSE	MAPE	MAE
EMD-DWT-SVR	8.6297e-04	0.0294	15.2977	0.0039
EMD-DWT-PCA-SVR	9.5408e-04	0.0309	16.3081	0.0117
MDFPSO-SVR	6.3166e-04	0.0251	12.5721	0.0058

Figure 14 shows the time series forecasting of the proposed method with other methods and Table 6 shows the comparison of the forecasted error value of the proposed method with other methods on the Polish data set.

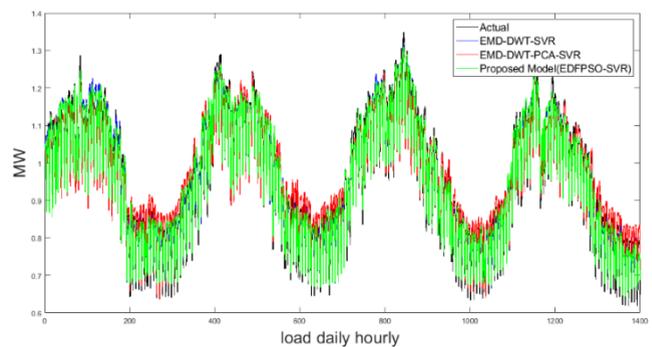


Figure 14. Comparison of time series forecasting with the proposed method and other methods on the Polish electric load dataset

Figure 15 shows the time series prediction of the proposed method with other methods and Table 6 shows a comparison of the predicted error value of the proposed method with other methods on the daily temperature of Melbourne Australian dataset.

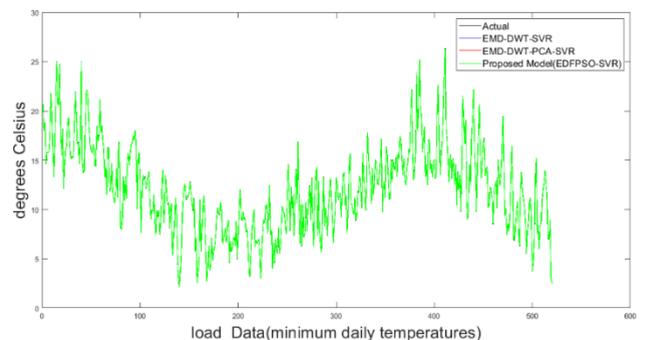


Figure 15. Comparison of time series forecasting with the proposed method and other methods on the daily temperature of Melbourne Australian dataset

As Figure 15 shows, the prediction is very close to the input signal and the EMD-DWT-SVR results are almost

similar to the MDFPSO-SVR, but again the prediction method works better.

**Table 6. Comparison of the forecasted error value of the proposed method with other methods on the Australian temperature data set**

Error	MSE	RMSE	MAPE	MAE
EMD-DWT-SVR	9.4926e-08	3.0810e-04	0.0025	5.7219e-05
EMD-DWT-PCA-SVR	1.2249e-07	3.4999e-04	0.0030	5.6486e-05
<b>MDFPSO-SVR</b>	9.4899e-08	3.0806e-04	0.0024	5.7159e-05

Figure 16 shows the time series forecasting of the proposed method with other methods and Table 7 shows the comparison of the forecasted error value of the proposed method with other methods on the Belgian data set.

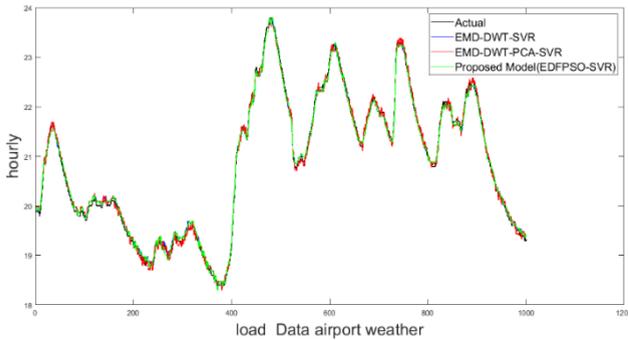


Figure 16. Comparison of time series forecasting with the proposed method and other methods on the Belgium temperature data set

**Table 7. Comparison of the forecasted error value of the proposed method with other methods on the Belgium temperature data set**

Method	MSE	RMSE	MAPE	MAE
EMD-DWT-SVR	0.0055	0.0742	0.3336	9.7261e-04
EMD-DWT-PCA-SVR	0.0057	0.0756	0.3373	0.0033
<b>MDFPSO-SVR</b>	0.0047	0.0687	0.2988	4.9486e-04

Considering the comparison of the forecasted error value tables, it can be concluded that the proposed model, which is based on feature selection, has been able to reduce the error rate using the PSO algorithm. As can be seen, if the feature extraction algorithm does not work well, it can also increase the model error, which in some datasets, the application of the PCA algorithm has increased error. Moreover, according to the findings, this proposed model can be used in other fields for time series.

**D. COMPARISON WITH RIVALS' WORK**

In this part, the proposed method is compared with other similar works in this field. It should be noted that the

comparison is based on common data sets and the same number of data. Chart 1 shows the forecasting error of the proposed model, and other similar articles to the London dataset, with the MAPE criterion.

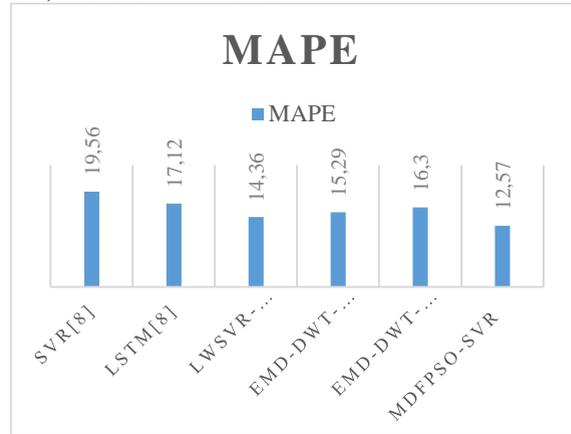


Chart 1. Comparison of the proposed method with other articles of London data set, with MAPE criteria

As can be seen, the result of the proposed method is better than other ones, and the only method close to it is LWSVR-MGOA. It should also be noted that an efficient hybrid method may work better than a robust algorithm such as the LSTM.

Chart 2 shows the forecasting error of the proposed model, and other similar articles to the Polish dataset, with the MAPE criterion.

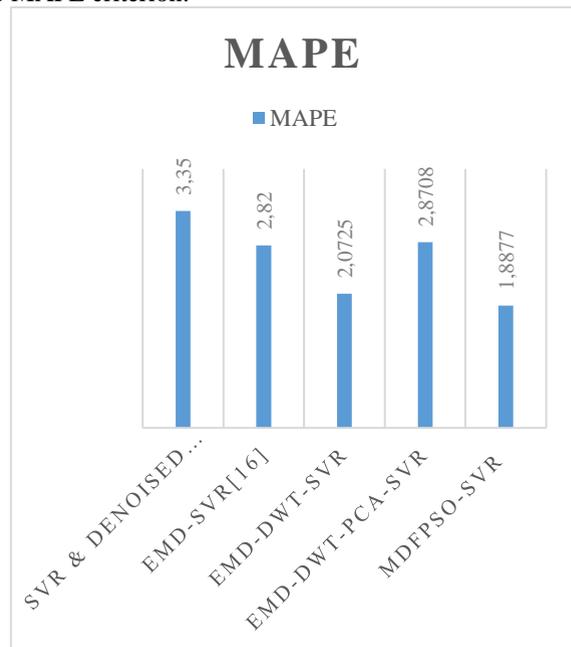


Chart 2. Comparison of the proposed method with other articles of Polish data set, with MAPE criteria

Chart 2 shows the forecasting error of the proposed model, and other similar articles to the Australian dataset, with the MAPE criterion.

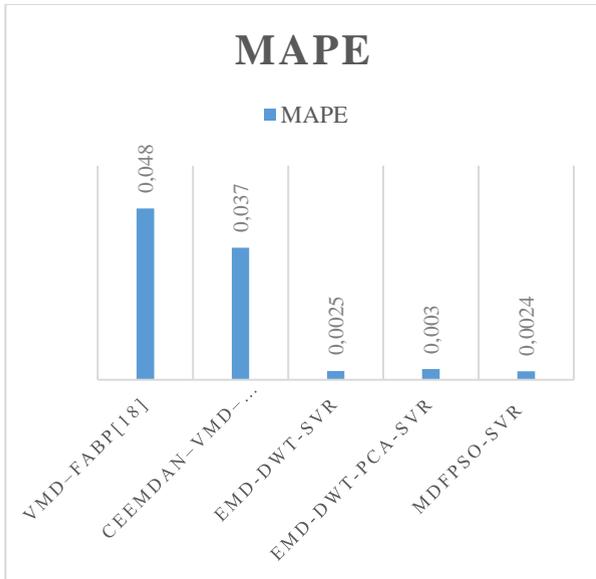


Chart 3. Comparison of the proposed method with other articles of Australian data set, with MAPE criteria

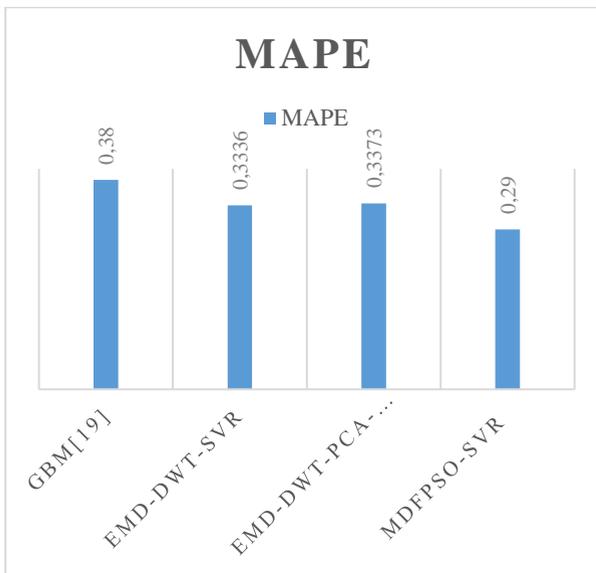


Chart 4. Comparison of the proposed method with other articles of Belgian data set, with MAPE criteria

According to the results of comparing the charts of the MAPE evaluation criterion used in most articles the proposed method in all comparisons has better results in time series forecasting, which indicates the proper performance of the proposed method.

### V. CONCLUSION

Time series analysis dealing with dynamic nature and real data and time series forecasting is commonly used in a wide range of fields for future decision making and planning. One of its most widely used fields is energy and climate. Due to the dynamic and non-linear nature of the climate and energy consumption, it has become an attractive field in time series forecasting. Therefore, this study aims to forecast short-term

load and air temperature using the proposed MDFPSO-SVR method, which can be effective in both fields. The first step is to decompose the signal into the IMF component using the MED algorithm. In the second stage, each component is transformed into a subsequence of approximation and detail features by converting the Haar wavelet. In the third step, the best feature is extracted by the PSO algorithm. The cost function for selecting a feature is to find the least possible error between the features and the purpose of the problem. The purpose of the PSO algorithm is to select the appropriate feature to minimize the error of the proposed method. The fourth step, using support vector regression tries to forecast time series. The results show that the hybrid model of the proposed method has better results than the compared methods, and the proposed method can be used for time series forecasting in both the field of the electric load and air temperature. Moreover, it should be noted that an efficient hybrid method may work better than a robust algorithm such as the LSTM method.

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**ZANA AZEEZ** has a MSc degree in Computer Science from Bharati Vidyapeeth University, Pune City, India, PhD student from Razi University, Kermanshah, Iran. He has been working as a Instructor in Human Development University from 2010 to 2020, now working as a instructor in Kurdistan Technical institute since 2020. Main courses he taught Mobile Application, Object Oriented Programming, Data Structure and Algorithms and Machine Learning in IT department. He has also been supervised for several scientific and computer system development of student projects.



**HAWKAR SAEED EZAT**, Bachelor of Engineering, Faculty of Electrophysics and Electronic Equipment, National Research Tomsk Polytechnic University, Tomsk, Russia, 2010. Master of Engineering in Computer Aided Measurement and Control at National Research Tomsk Polytechnic University, Tomsk, Russia in 2012. Now works at Zanist Non-Government Institute and as Assistant Lecturer at Kurdistan Institution for Strategic Studies and Scientific Research (KISSR). Research interests: Web architecture, Web application development PHP and MySQL.

**SHOKHAN ALI OMAR**, graduated B.Sc. at the University of Sulaimania, College of Commerce, Statistics and Computer Department in 2007. M.Sc. at the Firat University of Turkey, College of Engineering, Software Engineering Department in 2017. Now works at Kurdistan Institution for Strategic Studies and Scientific Research, Sulaimani. Areas of interests: Information technology and Statistics, Software and communication Engineering.



**NAWROZ FADHIL AHMED** has a MSc degree in Information technology from Estern Mediterranean University, North Cyprus. She has been working as a Instructor in Kurdistan Technical institute since 2017. Main courses she taught Web Development and IT project management in IT department. She has also been supervised for several scientific and computer system development of student projects.

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