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Urban IoT System for AI-Driven Smart Solar Energy Management in Smart Cities

Nidhi Patil[1] and Abdul Razzaque[2]
[1]Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, Nagpur, India
[2]Professor, Department of CSE, Anjuman College of Engineering & Technology, Nagpur, India

***Abstract*— Modern cities have been facing lots of difficulties in terms of sustainability, operational efficiency, environmental degradation, and grid reliability as a result of rapid urbanization which has greatly increased the energy consumption in the cities. The existing systems of urban energy management are mostly reactive and not proactive and predictive and therefore ineffective in their use of renewable energy and overdependence on the conventional power grids. The paper will present a detailed Urban IoT-based framework that will be used to transform the traditional cities into sustainable smart cities by means of AI-enhanced solar energy management. The framework combines IoT-enabled solar panels, weather sensors, intelligent meters, and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) based deep learning models to predict solar power under different environmental conditions. An organized process with real-time data collection, smart pre-processing, multi-horizon forecasting, energy optimization, anomaly detection, visualization and feedback learning makes it possible to utilize energy optimally. The system was tested during a Nagpur Smart City pilot implementation which showed a 28% decrease in grid reliance and a substantial efficiency improvement in renewable energy usage.**

***Index Term*— Smart City, Urban IoT, Artificial Intelligence, Solar Energy Forecasting, LSTM Networks, Energy Management, Smart Grid, Sustainability.**

I. INTRODUCTION

The current urbanization has made cities very modern. linked and resource based ecosystems, accounting. for more than 78 percent energy solar is an environmental friendly clean and abundant renewable source that is especially abundant. can be used appropriately in urban applications via rooftop implementations and distributed generation systems. But the nature of solar power which is intermittent in its character is also inherent. alterations of weather hourly cycles and season. diversifications are a great challenge to its massive assimilation to urban power systems [1]. Without accurate solar energy can be adopted and comprising forecasting and adaptive control. result in grid instability and in-effective energy use. Conventional urban energy management systems are largely based on the traditional planning methodologies, past projections. and reactive controlling mechanisms. This study attempts to provide solutions to these drawbacks by suggesting an elaborate Urban IoT engineering. that incorporates AI based solar energy prediction, smart decision support systems and lifelong learning. The suggested system allows cities to plan in advance energy consumption, maximize the use of solar energy minimize reliance on the traditional power grids, cut down on functioning. cost savings, and realize long-term sustainability and reduction of emissions [2]

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II. PROBLEM STATEMENT

The existing urban energy systems are confronted by several serious issues that limit the effective and dependable integration of renewable energy sources, especially, solar power, into city level power networks. The major challenge is the one of the primary challenges. unpredictability of solar supply. These aspects have the ability to. cause sharp and large changes in power output, with reduction in generation levels of between 70 and 90 per cent. within a few span of time. minutes. These sudden changes have severe challenges to postpone grid stability and make real-time balancing of energy prob-lematic in. urban environments. On the other hand, when the weather is cloudy or the sun is not available, cities are compelled to use much traditional grid power, resulting to higher costs of operation and a decline in overall system efficiency. This is further restricted by the absence of intelligent control mechanisms. the performance of current systems of urban energy management. The old systems are not proactive and cannot. take the initiative to schedule important procedures like battery recharging, load shift-ing, and anticipated solar based demand response. generation patterns. Because of this, resources of energy are not. allocated in the most optimal way, decreasing reliability and performance. of the urban power infrastructure. Another major challenge to holistic optimization of urban energy is data silos and fragmentation. Energy generation data, weather data and consumption data are frequently. operated on its own in the various departments of the city or platforms. This is the absence of integration that would allow a comprehensive one. Planning and co-ordination of decision making, thus constraining the the possible value of smart energy management solutions. Lastly, scalability is also a significant drawback of the existing. approaches. Current energy man- agement solu-tions are not usually formulated to accommodate metropolitan scale deployments which involve. thousands of devices that are IoT-enabled are constantly producing. massive amounts of non-homogenous and multi-modular data. As The volume of data can grow, urban infrastructures of IoT become bigger. scales to petabytes, crushing outdated data processing and analytics frameworks. Overcoming these scalability issues. is necessary to make it strong, inventive, and future-oriented. urbanary energy management systems.

III. RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

The main aim of the study is to create and create a smart, scalable and data-driven city energy. system of management that would be able to sustain. smart city operations. In order to fulfill this objective, the proposed The specific objectives that have been studied are as follows: To develop a scalable Urban IoT architecture that is competent. of serving over 1000 nonhomogeneous sensors. installed on commercial premises, residential quarters, and real time energy and environmental data acquisition infrastructure. Trying to develop and train Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) based artificial intelligence models fulfilling a mean. absolute percentage error (MAPE) that is below 10in short-term solar power forecasting against prediction. horizons between 1 and 24 hours. To execute a smart decision-making engine that maximizes dispatch and allocation of energy amongst various. Sources, including solar photovoltaic (PV) systems, battery energy storage fa-cilities and the. traditional smart grid, based on approximate generation and demand patterns. To implement anomaly detectors with the ability to detecting operating condi-tions that are abnormal like sudden power failures sensor failures equipment malfunction and possible cyber attacks hence enhancing system reliability and resilience. To pre-pare and create urban visualization dashboard. that can give real time data on power production, consumption, accuracy of predictions, and performance of the system which makes it possible to make data-driven decisions in regard to city. government and policy makers. To show a 30 percent or better improvement in the use of renewable energy sources and a drastic decrease. in grid dependency by pilot deployment through the The environment of Nagpur Smart City. To create an elastic and expandable framework that is able. be can be optimized to multi-energy with the incorporation of. other renewable energy sources like wind and. hydro energy in future smart cities implementation.

IV. RESEARCH ASSUMPTIONS AND SCOPE

The proposed study is carried out in the environment of realistic conditions. and viable assumptions indicative of common smart city energy. deployment environments. On these assumptions it assists in defining the. scope of functionality of the proposed sys-tem and at the same time guaranteeing. practicability and relevance in practice in an urban environment. This is assumed to have a dependable communication structure, Lo-RaWAN and fifth-generation (5G) networks, among others, are also such. that provides the large-scale IoT connectivity to transmit realtime data by distributed sensors, smart meters, and surveillance equipment. The study will presuppose the presence of publicly available solar energy data, which are also provided as supplementary. and meteorological information on a region basis was gathered. improve the predictability of Nagpur urban area. local relevance [3,4]. The assumption is that smart energy meters will be rolled out to various areas. Over 70demand patterns and real-time demand of electricity. monitoring. The system presumes that there is energy of a battery source. storage systems capac-ity of between storage systems capacity of storage systems capacity of between 10-20 MWh/neighborhood level microgrid, which can be permitted. low cost storage of surplus solar energy and assist. load balancing when the generation is low. City authorities and policymakers are assumed to be. determined to realize at least 30 percent renewable energy. institutionalized by a year 2030, and offering penetration. support and policy support of the deployment of smart energy management solutions. The proposed struc-ture presupposes the presence of already existing middleware platforms in smart cities, including FIWARE. or CitySDK, in order to be connected smoothly with existing. city information systems and interoperability. in a variety of services in the cities. Under this umbrella, the study is mainly on solar. intelligent energy decision-making, energy forecasting. Urban environment optimization at the system level. While the framework has been made to be extensible and the present implementation focuses on solar-based energy management and does. not specifically take up detailed market modeling of the economy or regulatory policy analysis. The proposed architecture consists of five layers [5].

V. LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Evolution of Smart City Energy Systems

The initial study of smart city development was mainly concentrated on. on maximizing the individual urban domain like intelligent. transportation systems, waste management based on datadriven solutions, water resources monitoring. These researches proved that digital technologies could be used to. increase effectiveness in remote urban services. However, these siloed articulations were usually not successful at considering interdepen-dencies between various city systems, especially energy. multidimensional patterns of con-sumption. More modern research cites the necessity of integrated smart. city platforms which bring together a mix of urban services in a. unified architecture. These platforms utilize common information. infrastructures, cloud based services and interoperable mid-dleware to facilitate coordinated decision making in transportation, energy, public safety and environmental monitoring. The superiority of the deep learning is noted in the recent literature. techniques in forecasting solar energy because it has the capacity to. acquire temporal and spatial dependencies automatically on. large datasets. They are well de-pendent on time-series solar data. appropriate in the short to medium term forecasting jobs. Convolutional Neural Networks Hybrid Architectures. The use of (CNNs) contain-ing LSTM layers further enhances the performance. epitomizing spatial correlations of weather data and time series of power generation Also, the attentionbased mechanisms have been implemented to aid longsequence forecasting, by dynamically weighting useful time. steps, resulting in increased accuracy of prediction with complex. and variable conditions.

B. IoT Energy Management Frameworks

IoT-based energy management systems are important. function in facilitating real-time operating, regulating and optimisation of the energy systems in urban areas. Scalable solutions are offered with standardised smart city middleware platforms, including FI-WARE. Ingestion of IoT data, context management, and interoperability of heterogeneous devices and services. These data with platforms open up easy integration of energy data. other urban services, which assist in cohesive smart city activities. A number of stud-ies have investigated the use of energy management systems using microgrids and have shown successful deployments. at restricted places like on university campuses and in-dustrial parks. The systems are used to manage local effectively. generation, storage and consumption by rule-based or optimization-driven controllers. The available solutions are mostly however not validated at city scale and tend to target. dispersed microgrids instead of connected city energy. ecosystems. There is a definite gap in the body of research regarding the creation of holistic Urban IoT energy management systems that merge effectively with precise solar prediction, smart optimization methods, anomaly detection techniques, and real-time visualization. under one scalable architecture.

VI. PROPOSED SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

Architecture of Urban IoT of AI-based solar energy management. Smart Solar Compre-hensive Urban IoT Architecture. Energy Management The proposed architecture will have five integrated layers, which will guarantee a scale down to the neighborhood level and scale up. microgrids to city wide rollout. Each layer performs a specialized func-tionality, which allows real-time monitoring, intelligent. prediction, and optimum energy control of urban smart solarpowered environments.

A. IoT Sensing Layer

The sensing layer constitutes the foundational data acquisition infrastructure, consisting of over 500 LPWAN-enabled sensors deployed across the Nagpur Smart City pilot.

These include: The base layer of data acquisition is the sensing layer that is made up of more than 500 LPWAN-enabled. sensors throughout the Nagpur Smart City pilot.

These in-clude: Measurement of pyranometers with 1 W/m 2 resolution (150). direct normal and global horizontal irradiance (GHI). irradiance (DNI) 200 intelligent photovoltaic (PV) inverters in real-time. generation data 100 temperature weather stations (0.5 ° C), at-mospheric pressure, humidity and humidity. 50 intelligent energy meters monitoring the

consumption patterns. through residential and commercial properties. Sensors are all connected through LoRaWAN which has longrange capabilities. Introduced Raspberry Pi 4 units in the form of edge gateways carry out firstlevel data aggregation and pre-processing at the time intervals of 15 minutes to minimize the bandwidth consumption and enhance real time responsiveness.

All sensors communicate via LoRaWAN, enabling longrange connectivity. Edge gateways, implemented with Raspberry Pi 4 units, perform initial data aggregation and preprocessing every 15 minutes to reduce bandwidth usage and improve real-time responsiveness.

B. Edge-Cloud Data Pipeline

Raw IoT data streams are fed through a three-step pipeline to guarantee accuracy, consistency and relevance:

- Edge Filtering: The outlier detection, missing value imputation and simple anomaly checks will be conducted at the edge layer to preserve quality of data.
- Cloud Aggregation:Data is aggregated between 15-minute blocks into hourly summaries, beneficial to time. uniformity between various sources of data.

C. AI Intelligence Layer

The intelligence level makes use of a stacked Long ShortTerm. Self attention and LSTM neural network. (memory). mechanisms. This architecture has 24-hour temporal process-ing. windows and forecasts renewable energy solar power production between 1-24hour. horizons.

The model itself is a self capture of the nonlinear. complicated cor-relations between weather conditions and solar power, which makes use of them unnecessary. features in a manual manner and enhancing them. prediction of accuracy in operational decision-making.

D. Decision Optimization Layer

The decision layer uses a Model Predictive Control (MPC) approach to optimize the energy dispatch among several.

sources:

High solar prediction: The surplus solar energy is stored in batteries and activation of demand response is achieved.

Medium solar forecast: Energy is used as it comes in with partial storage to equalize future.

demand.

Low solar forecast: Electricity is obtained via the grid and load shifting plans are utilized to decrease peak stress.

This dynamic optimization makes sure that clean and renewable energy is optimally utilized without being compromised.

reliability of the system and reducing operational expenses.

E. Smart City Application Layer

The application layer offers RESTful API interfaces to interface with urban infras-tructure platforms to enable. controlled automated operations and energy-aware operations:

Active light dimming of public lighting in order to minimize unnecessary energy use.

Charge electric vehicles (EVs) with priority on the utilization of solar energy that is available.

Shifting of loads to develop HVAC systems according to forecasted availability of sunlight.

Timing of traffic lights in a manner that is energy conscious so that the energy usage can be optimized at the city level.

VII. SYSTEM MODEL

In this section the mathematical formulation is presented and artificial intelligence struc-ture proposed in the paper. intelligent solar energy controller. Let Ps(t) denote the true solar power produced at time moment t, and denote Pˆ. s(t+H) represent the forecasted H hours of solar power. Accurate estimation of Pˆ The s(t+H) is fundamental to proactive energy planning, energy storage management, and smart city intelligent decision-making. The solar power forecasting task can be modeled as a time-series prediction problem of multivariate forecasting, with the history of solar. As inputs, there are generation data and meteorological parameters. examples to a deep learning model. Network to acquire nonlinear information of the relationships between the conditions of the environment and the output of the solar power. The mapping The learned data of the AI model can be represented as:

$$P\hat{}s\ (t + 1{:}\ t + 24) = LSTM\ (It, Tt, Ps\ (t - 24{:}\ t), Mt) \quad (1)$$

(1) where It represents solar irradiance at time t, Tt denotes ambient temperature, Ps(t 24 : t) corresponds to historical solar power generation over the previous 24-hour window, and Mt denotes additional meteorological features such as humidity, cloud cover, wind speed, and atmospheric pressure. The LSTM model learns.temporal de-pendencies of the input data, which allows to perform strong multi-horizon forecasting over time intervals as short as.

1 to 24 hours ahead. Evaluation metrics can be defined, as follows:

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}(P_i - \hat{P}_i)^2} \qquad MAE = \frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N} \mid P_i - \hat{P}_i \mid$$

Pi, P i are the observed and predicted values of the solar power, respectively, and N is the number of observations. The smaller values of RMSE and MAE demonstrate the increased precision of the forecasts and enhanced trustworthiness of the suggested model of the system to be used in smart cities management when it comes to the energy management.

VIII. METHODOLOGY

RMSE and MAE have redder values, which are good. enhanced reliability of the proposed and fore-casting accuracy. clever. system model city energy management system The section elaborates on the choice of the dataset, preprocessing of the in this study, data, artificial intelligence model applica-tion and experimental validation plan were taken to test the performance of the suggested smart solar energy management systems applications.

A. Dataset Description

This dataset is well-suited with 87,360 hourly observations of eight urban sites on solar energy prediction on the city scale.

The dataset will contain the following attributes:

Input Features:

- Global Horizontal Irradiance (GHI)
- Direct Normal Irradiance (DNI)
- Ambient Temperature
- Atmospheric Pressure
- Humidity
- Wind Speed

Target Variable:

Photovoltaic (PV) electricity generation, up to 1-5 MW installed.

Data Split:

They were divided into chronological blocks and 70% of the dataset was used in training, 15% validation and the rest in validation 15% for testing. This methodology maintains the time dependencies and avoids data leakage.

The dataset will be enhanced to become more regionally relevant and increase the accuracy of predictions to the area of deployment was also enhanced to Nagpur-specific weather conditions. This augmentation enables the model to record local climatic variation patterns, such as monsoon-related variations and seasonal temperature variations.

B. AI Model Implementation

Forecasting of solar power is executed in the form of a. long short term memory deep learning architecture. The well-designed and sequential and temporal data are (LSTM) networks. The paradigm deals with historical time. has 24 hour windows and generates multi-horizon forecasts. for the next 24 hours. The network structure is determined as follows:

Input (24 × 12) → LSTM (128) → Dropout (0.2) → LSTM (64) → Attention→ Dense (32) → Dense (24)

The attention mechanism enables the model to dynamically spend time in the most significant time steps by the input. sequence. in this way improving the performance of forecasting in changing rapidly changing weather conditions. Early stopping with a The value of patience of 15 epochs is used to avoid overfitting. Further, Bayesian optimization of hyperparameters.

IX. Experimental Results

This section critically analyses the proposed. Smart solar energy management system, which is AIbased and concentrates on. precision of forecasting, operating per-formance in reality, and effectiveness of anomaly detection.

Input (24 × 12) → LSTM (128) → Dropout (0.2) → LSTM (64) → Attention → Dense (32) → Dense (24)

The attention mechanism lets the model dynamically pay attention to the most interesting time steps in the. input sequence. This enhances the accuracy of forecasting especially in swiftly shifting weather conditions. Early stopping using a patience of 15 epochs is used to avoid overfitting. Additionally, Bayesian optimization is used for systematic hyperparameter tuning to enhance model performance and generalization capability.

TABLE I: NEXT-HOUR FORECASTING PERFORMANCE

Model	RMSE	MAE	MAPE
Persistence	50.2	36.8	27.0
ARIMA	33.0	25.2	18.9
SVR	20.6	14.9	11.9
XGBoost	17.2	12.4	9.8
Plain LSTM	13.6	9.4	8.5
Proposed Attn-LSTM	10.8	7.5	7.5

A. Nagpur Pilot Results

28 percent less grid dependency • 24,000/month savings on costs • 180 ms response time 99.8 percent system uptime.

X. Smart City Integration

Use cases may include:
Optimizing commercial rooftop PV systems • Managing smart street lighting systems • Coordinating neighborhood microgrids • Energy-efficient public utilities

XI. Limitations

Expensive infrastructure setup costs • Unpredictability of severe weather conditions • Regulatory constraints • Cyber security threats

XII. Future Work

Predictions of hybrid renewable generation • Federated learning among cities • AI at the edge

XIII. Conclusion

The AI-enabled IoT system for urban cities shows great promise for sustainable energy transformation in smart cities. The attention-based LSTM neural network model recorded an MAPE score of 7.5%, which is a massive improvement compared to existing benchmarks. The trial conducted at Nagpur confirmed its practical applicability with the notable benefits of reduced reliance on grids and improved efficiency.

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