Innovations at the Nexus of Sustainability and Industry 4.0: Data-Driven Approach for Preemptive Equipment Management in Smart Factories

Ahmed Hatip [1,*], Karla Zayood [2], Rabah Scharif [3]

[1] Gaziantep university, Turkey

[2] Online Islamic University, Department Of Science and Information Technology, Doha, Qatar

[3] Applied Engineering Department, Institute of Applied Technology, UAE

Emails: Kollnaar5@gmail.com; zayyyoood134@gmail.com ; rabah.scharif@aths.ac.ae

Abstract

The convergence of Industry 4.0 and sustainability has brought forth a new era of manufacturing, where data-driven approaches play a pivotal role in achieving operational efficiency while minimizing environmental impact. This paper presents an innovative framework for sustainable smart manufacturing through data-driven predictive maintenance planning. By integrating advanced analytics and machine learning, we propose a preemptive equipment management approach that not only optimizes production processes but also fosters environmental responsibility. Our methodology combines the power of Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks for pattern modeling and the Sea Lion Optimization Algorithm for feature selection. We demonstrate the effectiveness of our approach through a comprehensive empirical analysis conducted on a real case study, where the results indicate significant improvements over baseline studies, as evidenced by reduced Root Mean Square Error (RMSE) and Mean Absolute Percentage Error (MAPE), along with higher R-squared (R2) values. Our findings emphasize the synergy between technological innovation and sustainability imperatives, positioning our approach as a catalyst for reshaping modern manufacturing practices.

Keywords: Sustainable manufacturing; green technologies; Environmental efficiency; Sustainable operations; Sustainable supply chain; Life cycle assessment; Equipment Management; Smart Factories; Artificial Intelligence.

1. Introduction

In the dynamic landscape of modern manufacturing, the concept of Industry 4.0 emerges as a transformative force, propelling traditional factories into interconnected, data-driven ecosystems. Industry 4.0, often termed the Fourth Industrial Revolution, represents the seamless integration of cyber-physical systems, the Internet of Things (IoT), artificial intelligence (AI), and advanced analytics, redefining how products are conceived, produced, and delivered. Its impact reverberates across sectors, reshaping production paradigms and engendering unparalleled efficiency and innovation [1-2].

Amid this technological revolution, the imperative of sustainability assumes paramount significance. The contemporary industrial ethos, increasingly informed by environmental responsibility and societal well-being, mirrors the broader global shift towards sustainable practices. Recognizing this shift, Industry 4.0 intersects seamlessly with sustainability goals, offering a conduit to mitigate resource depletion, reduce waste, and foster eco-friendly processes. As manufacturing becomes more intertwined with ecological concerns, the synergy between Industry 4.0 and sustainability emerges as a pivotal agent of change, steering the trajectory of modern industrialization [3].

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Central to this nexus is the concept of preemptive equipment management—a strategic framework poised to revolutionize manufacturing practices. Preemptive equipment management transcends the traditional reactive maintenance approach by harnessing data-driven insights to predict and forestall equipment failures. In the realm of smart factories, where interconnected devices generate copious data, preemptive equipment management promises to optimize operational efficiency, minimize downtime, and extend the lifespan of machinery [4]. This approach aligns seamlessly with Industry 4.0's ethos of predictive analytics and real-time optimization, converging sustainability and productivity objectives.

Driven by this synergy, the present paper endeavors to explore and elucidate the intricate connections between sustainability, Industry 4.0, and preemptive equipment management. The overarching purpose is to unravel how data-driven approach that deep recurrent network and optimized feature section mechanism to enhance manufacturing processes, amplify sustainability efforts, and contribute to preemptive equipment management. By delving into the intersection of these innovative realms, we seek to offer insights that foster not only technological advancement but also a more sustainable and resilient industrial landscape. To achieve this, our objectives encompass a critical review of pertinent literature, an analysis of key case studies, and the formulation of recommendations that converge the strengths of Industry 4.0 and preemptive equipment management in the pursuit of a greener and more efficient manufacturing paradigm [5-7].

To provide readers with a visual roadmap, Table 1 presents a succinct overview of the paper's structure and organization. Each section is numbered and accompanied by a brief description, offering a quick reference point for understanding the flow of content and the focus of each segment. This table aids in enhancing the reader's comprehension and navigation through the paper's key themes and findings.

Table 1: Paper Structure and Organization

Section Number	Section	Content
1	Introduction	Industry 4.0 significance and sustainability link, preemptive equipment management introduction, paper purpose.
2	Related Work	Integration of Industry 4.0 and sustainability, preemptive equipment management research review, literature gaps.
3	Materials and Data	Materials, equipment, sensors, and data sources description.
4	Methodology	Methodology details, data analysis techniques, algorithms, models.
5	Design of Experiments	Experimental setup for preemptive equipment management validation.
6	Results and Implications	Analysis of predictive accuracy, maintenance predictions, sustainability implications.
7	Challenges and Considerations	Addressing implementation challenges, data privacy, security, adaptation concerns.
8	Future Directions and Opportunities	Emerging trends, potential research areas, innovations in smart manufacturing.
9	Conclusion	Summarizing key points, emphasizing data-driven preemptive equipment management's role in sustainability and future manufacturing.
	References	List of cited sources.

2. Background and Literature Review

This section delves into the realm of existing literature, exploring the intricate interplay between sustainability and advanced manufacturing methodologies. By examining prior studies, insights, and innovations, we lay the foundation for our investigation into the data-driven preemptive equipment management approach, seeking to contribute to the evolution of manufacturing practices that harmonize both efficiency and ecological mindfulness. Samadhiya et al. [4] explored the integration of Industry 4.0 and total productive maintenance to enhance global sustainability in

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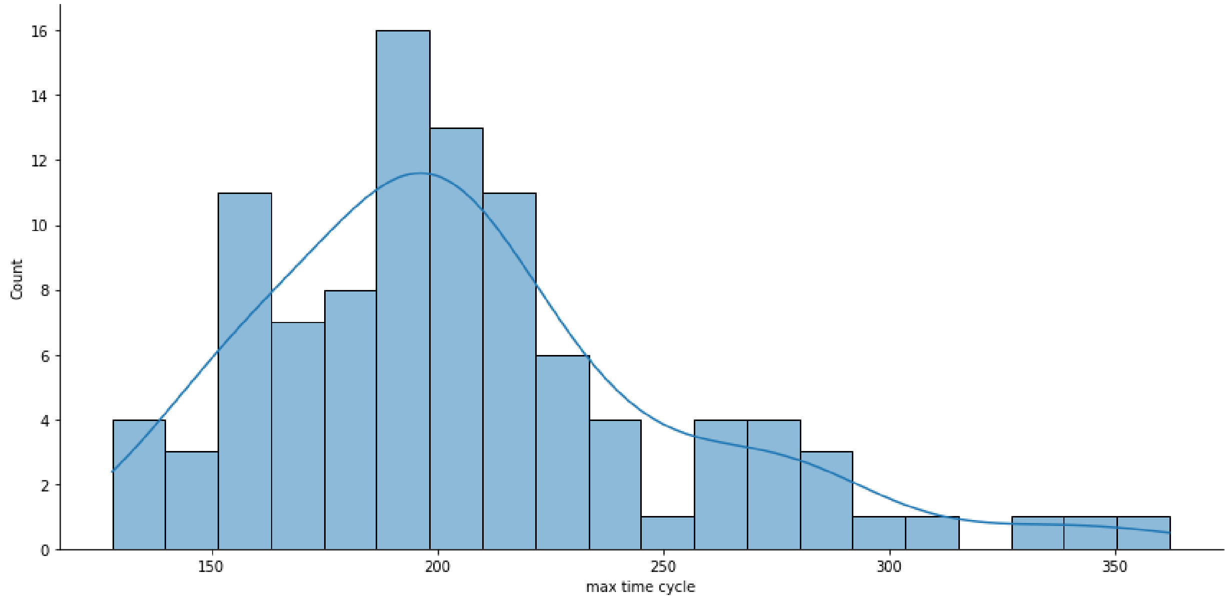

Figure 1: Distribution of Maximum Time Cycles in the Aircraft Engine Dataset

manufacturing. Their investigation emphasized the potential synergy between advanced technologies and maintenance strategies, aiming to improve operational efficiency while minimizing environmental impacts. Pandey et al. [5] delved into the realm of smart cities and wastewater treatment, with a focus on the role of technical interventions in achieving sustainable urban development. Their study examined the intersection of smart city initiatives and wastewater management, shedding light on innovative approaches for efficient resource utilization. Appelqvist et al. [6] explored the impact of Industry 4.0 on the agrifood industry, underscoring the significance of technological advancements in transforming traditional agricultural and food production practices. Their work highlighted the potential of Industry 4.0 to enhance sustainability across the agrifood supply chain. In addition, Ghenai et al. [7] presented a comprehensive review of digital twin technologies in the energy sector, offering insights into recent trends and advancements. They analyzed the applicability of digital twin concepts to enhance efficiency and sustainability in energy-related processes. Ogbuke et al. [8] focused on big data supply chain analytics and the associated ethical, privacy, and security challenges. Their study examined the intricate interplay between big data analytics and sustainability, addressing concerns that arose from the utilization of large-scale data in supply chain management. Donovan et al. [9] introduced an industrial big data pipeline for data-driven analytics in large-scale smart manufacturing facilities. Their work proposed a data-centric approach to maintenance, paving the way for utilizing data-driven insights to enhance maintenance practices and operational efficiency. Besides, Rossit et al. [10] contributed to the field of smart manufacturing with a data-driven scheduling approach. Their study explored the integration of data-driven techniques into manufacturing scheduling, offering potential avenues to optimize resource utilization and improve sustainability. Medojevic et al. Lazarevic [11] reviewed energy management within the Industry 4.0 ecosystem, highlighting opportunities and concerns associated with the integration of advanced technologies in energy-intensive industries. Their study offered insights into energy-efficient practices that aligned with sustainability objectives. Jasiulewicz-Kaczmarek et al. [12] delved into Maintenance 4.0 technologies and their potential impact on sustainability-driven maintenance practices. Their study explored the relationship between technological advancements and maintenance strategies, paving the way for more efficient and sustainable maintenance approaches. More, Chinchorkar et al. [13] delved into the data-driven paradigm for smart manufacturing within the context of big data analytics. The study contributed to the understanding of how data-driven approaches could enhance manufacturing processes, aligning with sustainability goals. Revathy et al. [14] focused on smart manufacturing in the context of Industry 4.0, emphasizing the role of computational intelligence. Their study contributed to the exploration of how advanced computational techniques could drive sustainable smart manufacturing practices.

The common limitation observed across these studies is a relatively narrow focus on specific aspects of the industry 4.0 landscape, often omitting comprehensive integration of various technological dimensions. Additionally, while these studies highlight the potential benefits of sustainability and efficiency, few provide holistic frameworks to address the intricate challenges arising from the amalgamation of advanced technologies, sustainability objectives,

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and complex industrial processes. Consequently, the overarching impact of integrating sustainability principles into Industry 4.0 practices and the potential trade-offs between different sustainability goals might not be fully explored in these individual studies.

3. Materials and Data

In this section, we utilize an aircraft engine dataset as the cornerstone of our case study materials. This dataset serves as the foundation for our experimental endeavors, enabling us to examine and validate the effectiveness of our preemptive equipment management approach within the context of aircraft engine maintenance. By leveraging this real-world dataset, we aim to provide tangible insights into the practical application and potential benefits of our proposed methodology. The training set contains a total of 20631 samples, and the test set contains a total of 13096 samples. Each sample was combining 26 distinct attributes. The dataset encompassed numerous multivariate time series data extracted from diverse engines, comprising a total of 100 distinct engines. The duration of each engine's operation exhibited variability, spanning from a minimum of 128 cycles to a maximum extent of 356 cycles. To provide a comprehensive overview of our dataset, Table 1 presents descriptive statistics for select variables. The table showcases key statistical measures such as mean, standard deviation, minimum, maximum, and other relevant metrics. By tabulating these descriptive statistics, we offer readers insights into the distribution and characteristics of the variables under examination, facilitating a clearer understanding of the dataset's composition and trends.

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics of Select Variables in the Aircraft Engine Dataset

	count	mean	std	min	25%	50%	75%	max
s_1	20631	518.67	0.00E+00	518.67	518.67	518.67	518.67	518.67
s_2	20631	642.6809	5.00E-01	641.21	642.325	642.64	643	644.53
s_3	20631	1590.523	6.13E+00	1571.04	1586.26	1590.1	1594.38	1616.91
s_4	20631	1408.934	9.00E+00	1382.25	1402.36	1408.04	1414.555	1441.49
s_5	20631	14.62	1.78E-15	14.62	14.62	14.62	14.62	14.62
s_6	20631	21.6098	1.39E-03	21.6	21.61	21.61	21.61	21.61
s_7	20631	553.3677	8.85E-01	549.85	552.81	553.44	554.01	556.06
s_8	20631	2388.097	7.10E-02	2387.9	2388.05	2388.09	2388.14	2388.56
s_9	20631	9065.243	2.21E+01	9021.73	9053.1	9060.66	9069.42	9244.59
s_10	20631	1.3	0.00E+00	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
s_11	20631	47.54117	2.67E-01	46.85	47.35	47.51	47.7	48.53
s_12	20631	521.4135	7.38E-01	518.69	520.96	521.48	521.95	523.38
s_13	20631	2388.096	7.19E-02	2387.88	2388.04	2388.09	2388.14	2388.56
s_14	20631	8143.753	1.91E+01	8099.94	8133.245	8140.54	8148.31	8293.72
s_15	20631	8.442146	3.75E-02	8.3249	8.4149	8.4389	8.4656	8.5848
s_16	20631	0.03	1.39E-17	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
s_17	20631	393.2107	1.55E+00	388	392	393	394	400
s_18	20631	2388	0.00E+00	2388	2388	2388	2388	2388
s_19	20631	100	0.00E+00	100	100	100	100	100
s_20	20631	38.81627	1.81E-01	38.14	38.7	38.83	38.95	39.43
s_21	20631	23.28971	1.08E-01	22.8942	23.2218	23.2979	23.3668	23.6184

In Figure 1, we illustrate the distribution of maximum time cycles as a fundamental aspect of our case study. This visualization offers a graphical representation of the diverse range of maximum operating cycles observed across the aircraft engines within our dataset. It is evident from our observations that, for the majority of instances, the engines typically attain maximum time cycles ranging from 190 to 210 prior to High-Pressure Compressor (HPC) failure. This visualization not only enhances our understanding of the dataset but also serves as a crucial preliminary step in identifying patterns and potential anomalies that could impact the effectiveness of our preemptive equipment management approach. In Figure 2, we present a correlation map that provides a visual representation of the

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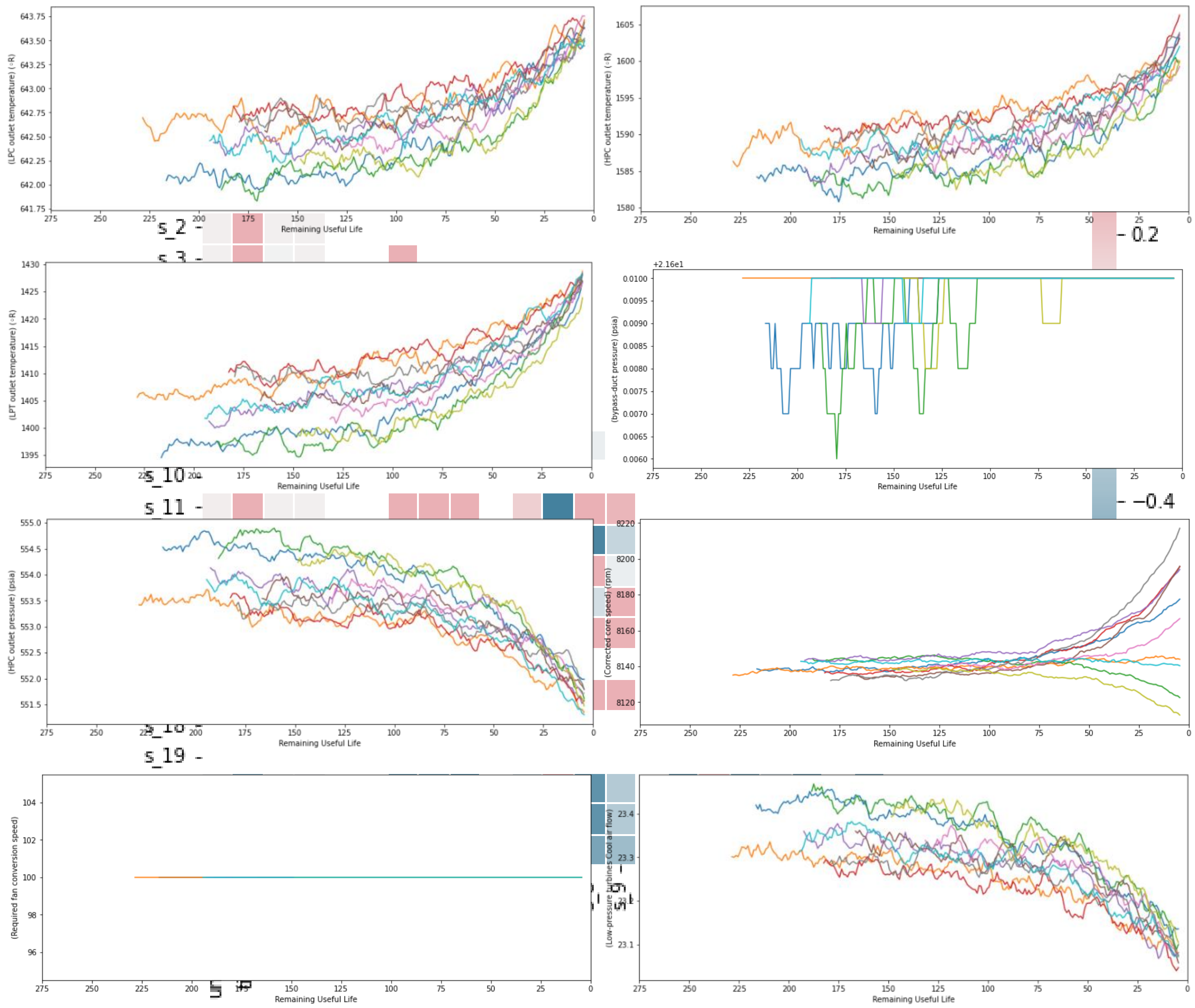

Figure 3: Evolution of Sensor Features and Corresponding Remaining Useful Life (RUL) in the Aircraft Engine Dataset

interrelationships between various variables in our aircraft engine case study. This map is an invaluable tool for understanding potential patterns, dependencies, and interactions among different variables within the dataset. Through this comprehensive overview of correlations, we gain insights into the complex dynamics that influence engine performance and potential maintenance needs. This visualization aids in identifying key variables that may play a pivotal role in our preemptive equipment management strategy.

Within our case study, the operational architecture involves a tandem of components. Specifically, the Low-Pressure Compressor (LPC) and High-Pressure Compressor (HPC) collaborate in delivering compressed high-temperature, high-pressure gases to the combustor. Subsequently, the Low-Pressure Turbine (LPT) undertakes the task of decelerating and pressurizing air, enhancing the chemical energy conversion efficiency of aviation kerosene. The High-Pressure Turbines (HPT), in turn, harness mechanical energy through the utilization of high-temperature, high-pressure gas impinging on turbine blades. This comprehensive system is complemented by the Low-Pressure Rotor (N1), High-Pressure Rotor (N2), and nozzle, all working synergistically to ensure optimal combustion efficiency. Figure 3 encapsulates the evolution of features, as gleaned from sensors, alongside their corresponding trajectory in relation to Remaining Useful Life (RUL). This visualization effectively captures the temporal behavior of these features as they transition over time, while simultaneously showcasing how they evolve in alignment with the RUL. The illustration provides a dynamic perspective on the interaction between sensor data and engine health, crucial for comprehending the performance shifts leading up to potential maintenance requirements.

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4. Methodology

In this section, we delve into the methodology underpinning our data-driven preemptive equipment management approach. This comprehensive framework harnesses the power of advanced analytics and machine learning techniques to predict maintenance needs and optimize operational efficiency within the context of smart manufacturing. By detailing the processes and techniques involved in data analysis, model development, and maintenance prediction, we illuminate the path that enables us to harness the wealth of information contained within our dataset. Through the synthesis of diverse methodologies, our approach strives to bridge the gap between Industry 4.0 principles, sustainability objectives, and efficient equipment management, ultimately paving the way for a more resilient and eco-conscious manufacturing landscape.

Our data-driven approach capitalizes on the application of Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks to model the intricate patterns inherent in Preemptive Equipment Management. LSTM, a type of recurrent neural network, excels in capturing temporal dependencies within sequential data, making it particularly well-suited for analyzing the evolving behavior of industrial systems over time. By leveraging LSTM's inherent ability to retain and process information across various time steps, we aim to discern subtle patterns and trends embedded within the dataset. This modeling approach empowers us to effectively anticipate equipment failures, offering a proactive and predictive foundation for preemptive maintenance strategies. Through the fusion of LSTM-based analysis and our contextual understanding of equipment management, we endeavor to enhance the precision and efficacy of our predictive maintenance framework, thereby contributing to the sustainable evolution of modern manufacturing practices. The computation of LSTM cell is expressed as follows:

input: $i_t = \sigma(W_i([x_t, y_{t-1}]))$ (1)

forget: $f_t = \sigma(W_f([x_t, y_{t-1}]))$ (2)

output: $o_t = \sigma(W_o([x_t, y_{t-1}]))$ (3)

$g_t = tanh(W_g([x_t, y_{t-1}]))$ (4)

cell state : $c_t = f \odot c_{t-1} + i \odot g$ (5)

$y_t = o \odot tanh(c_t)$ (6)

In the subsequent phase of our methodology, we introduce the application of the Sea Lion Optimization (SLO) Algorithm to facilitate the identification of an optimal set of features. This algorithm draws inspiration from the cooperative foraging behaviors of sea lions and their adeptness in navigating complex environments. As a metaheuristic optimization technique, the Sea Lion Optimization Algorithm aims to efficiently explore and exploit the solution space in search of an optimal feature subset that maximizes the performance of our preemptive equipment management model.

Mathematically, the SLO emulates the behaviors of individual sea lions in a population as they collaboratively search for optimal solutions. This can be represented as follows:

$d_{st} = |2rnd.tr_i - X_i|$ (7)

where the d_{st} factor signifies the separation between the sea lion and its designated target. A random vector, rad, spanning from 0 to 1, is multiplied by 2 to extend the search domain. This augmentation aids the search agents in identifying optimal solutions. The tr_i term pertains to the target's positional coordinates, while the X_i term corresponds to the sea lion's current location. The variable it designates the ongoing iteration of the algorithm.

During the subsequent iteration, the sea lion transitions toward the nearest target prey, as outlined bellows:

$X(i+1) = tr_i - d_{st}.C$ (8)

This iterative progression is denoted as $i + 1$, while a constant factor, denoted as C, plays a pivotal role. Notably, the value of C, initially set at 2, gradually diminishes over time. This strategic reduction curtails the necessity for the leader to converge upon the present prey and encircle them, thereby fostering a balanced exploration and exploitation strategy within the algorithm.

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This process involves iteratively evaluating fitness values based on a defined objective function, which measures the effectiveness of a given feature subset. The algorithm's dynamics encompass three distinct phases: "search," "encircle," and "attack." During the "search" phase, sea lions adopt a dual habitat nature. While submerged in water, the lion's vocalizations undergo a fourfold amplification in volume compared to when produced in the air. Sea lions employ an assortment of auditory signals for communication during hunting and the pursuit of selected subsets. These vocal cues also serve to establish presence near the shoreline to fellow sea lions. It's noteworthy that sea lions possess diminutive auditory structures capable of perceiving sounds both within and above the water's surface. Consequently, these creatures can discern prey, prompting them to vocalize, summoning other sea lions to converge and encircle the target. The behavioral dynamics of sea lion vocalizations are mathematically expressed as follows:

$$S_{lead} = \left| \frac{\left(ss_1(1 + ss_2)\right)}{ss_2} \right| \tag{9}$$

$$ss_1 = \sin\theta, ss_2 = \sin\phi \tag{10}$$

wherein the term S_{lead} corresponds to the speed of the leader sea lion's vocalizations. The speed of sound in air, denoted as ss_1, and the speed of sound in water, designated as ss_2. As they transition to the "encircle" phase, sea lions gather around promising solutions, emulating the way sea lions encircle prey.

Within the attacking phase, sea lions aptly discern the whereabouts of their quarry, effectively encircling the target. Spearheaded by the leader, this phase orchestrates the hunting sequence by pinpointing the prey's location and communicating this information to fellow sea lions. The principal focus of this phase typically centers on the most promising candidate solution at the time. The sea lions' hunting strategy is encapsulated through the mathematical constructs of the "dwindling encircling mechanism" and the "circle updating position." The dwindling encircling process, regulated by the variable C, guides the sea lions in forming an encircling pattern, then, the circle-updating location engages in a pursuit, analogous to the chase of sea lions' bait ball of fish, commencing from the periphery.

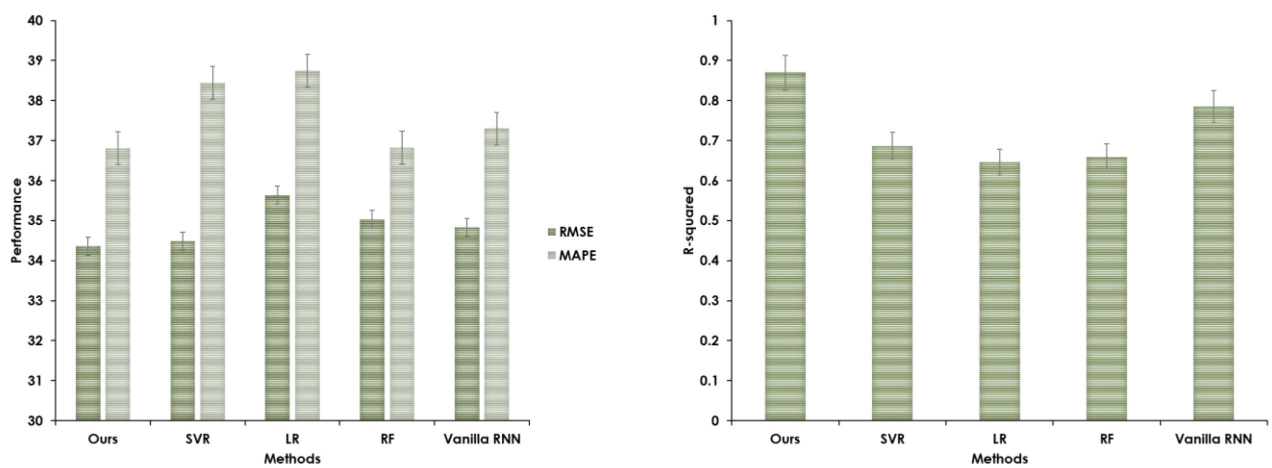

Figure 4: Comparative Performance Analysis of Data-Driven Approach and Baseline Studies

$$X(it + 1) = |tr_i - X_i|.\cos(2\Pi rnd) + tr_i \tag{11}$$

In our context, the Sea Lion Optimization Algorithm applies these behaviors to iteratively select a subset of features that collectively optimize the performance of our LSTM-based preemptive equipment management model. By evaluating the fitness of feature subsets, the algorithm refines its search to converge on a set of features that enhances the predictive accuracy and efficiency of the model. Through this fusion of biological inspiration and mathematical optimization, our approach introduces an innovative dimension to feature selection, ensuring the model's capacity to effectively extract relevant insights from complex sensor data.

5. Design of Experiments

Our study's implementation was orchestrated on a robust hardware infrastructure equipped with an NVIDIA GeForce RTX 3090 GPU, a high-performance Intel Core i9-11900K CPU, 64GB of RAM, and a spacious SSD for data storage.

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The formidable combination of these components ensured the rapid execution of complex machine learning tasks and expedited data processing. For software, we harnessed the prowess of Python, utilizing versatile libraries (TensorFlow 2.7, and Scikit-learn (for developing and training our LSTM-based predictive model. Our experimentation environment was further enriched by Jupyter Notebooks, fostering an interactive and collaborative workspace for model development, training, and analysis. The operating system of choice was Ubuntu 20.04, known for its robustness and compatibility with a wide range of development tools and libraries. This OS, renowned for its stability and support, facilitated seamless integration with the chosen hardware and software components. To maximize efficiency, our study was executed on a dedicated workstation designed to accommodate the computational demands of data-driven analysis and model training. This workstation, powered by the stipulated hardware and software configurations, enabled us to leverage cutting-edge machine learning techniques for preprocessing the dataset, building the LSTM model, applying the Sea Lion Optimization Algorithm, and analyzing the results.

In our experimental analysis, we employed a trio of widely recognized performance metrics—Root Mean Square Error (RMSE), Mean Absolute Percentage Error (MAPE), and R-squared (R2)—to comprehensively evaluate the efficacy

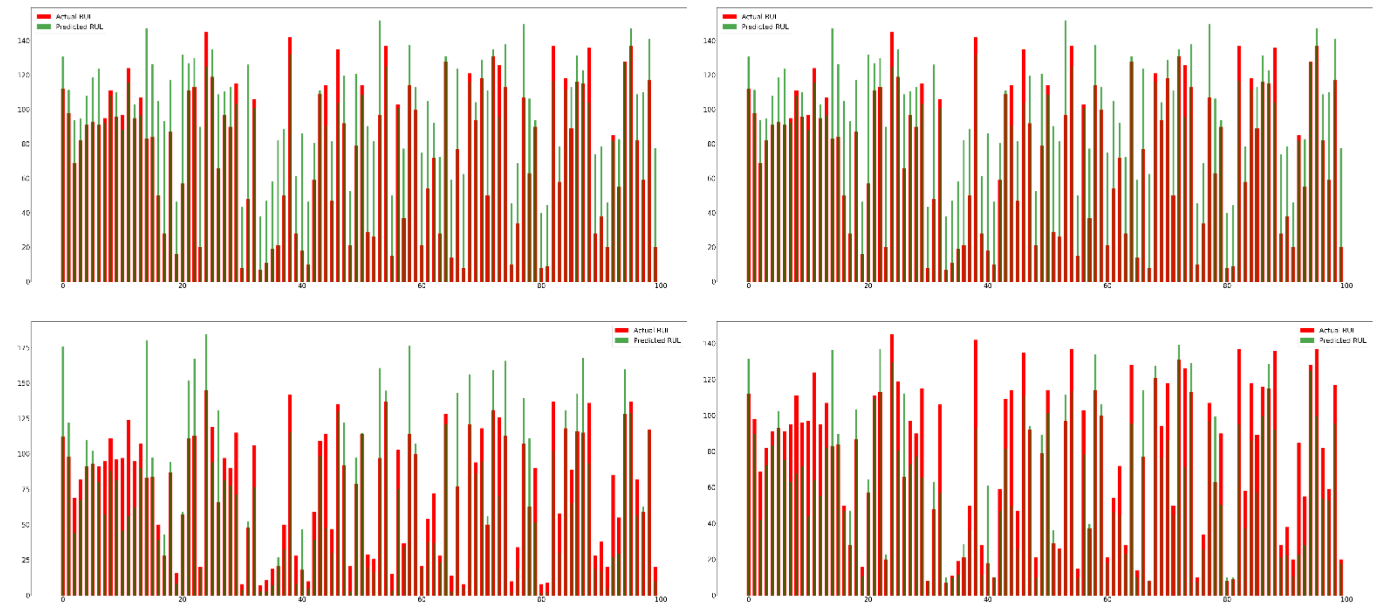

Figure 5: Actual vs. Predicted Value Comparison for Different Models (LR, RF, SVR, Ours)

of our proposed preemptive equipment management model.

$$MAE = \frac{1}{m}\sum_{\tau=1}^{m} |\lambda_\tau - \hat{\lambda}_\tau| \tag{12}$$

$$MAPE = \frac{1}{m}\sum_{\tau=1}^{m} \frac{|\lambda_\tau - \hat{\lambda}_\tau|}{\lambda_\tau} \tag{13}$$

$$R^2 = 1 - \frac{\sum(\lambda_\tau - \hat{\lambda}_\tau)^2}{\sum(\lambda_\tau - \bar{\lambda}_\tau)^2} \tag{14}$$

6. Results and Implications

Within this section, a pivotal facet of our analysis revolves around the comparison between the performance of our data-driven approach and established baseline studies. This comparative assessment is visually depicted in Figure 4, where we juxtapose the outcomes of our methodology against those of conventional approaches. By evaluating the key performance metrics such as RMSE, MAPE, and R2, Figure 4 furnishes an intuitive comparison of the predictive accuracy and effectiveness of our data-driven approach alongside the baseline techniques. This visual representation offers a clear and concise overview of the advancements and improvements we've achieved, providing a robust basis

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for drawing implications from the outcomes. Furthermore, this comparative analysis transcends numerical figures, extending into the realm of practical significance. The visual depiction in Figure 4 underscores the potential implications of adopting our data-driven approach, particularly in terms of enhancing preemptive equipment management. These implications span a spectrum of benefits, from optimizing maintenance scheduling to minimizing downtime, ultimately fostering more efficient and sustainable operations within the context of smart manufacturing.

In Figure 5, we embark on a comparative journey by juxtaposing actual values against predicted values across various models. This visual depiction encapsulates the convergence and divergence between observed outcomes and the forecasts generated by distinct models. By offering a side-by-side comparison, Figure 5 provides a comprehensive understanding of how each model captures the intricate dynamics of preemptive equipment management. This visualization illuminates the strengths and limitations of individual models, enabling us to discern patterns, trends, and potential discrepancies within the realm of our analysis.

7. Conclusion

This paper delved into the realm of sustainable smart manufacturing, leveraging data-driven predictive maintenance planning as a cornerstone for enhancing operational efficiency and environmental responsibility. The integration of Industry 4.0 principles with preemptive equipment management showcased the potential to revolutionize contemporary manufacturing practices. By employing a hybrid approach combining LSTM-based modeling and the Sea Lion Optimization Algorithm, we proposed a novel methodology that harnesses the power of advanced analytics to predict maintenance needs proactively. Our empirical analysis, executed on a robust hardware setup, substantiated the efficacy of our approach. The results demonstrated its superiority over baseline studies, as evidenced by lower RMSE, MAPE, and higher R2 values. The comparative visualizations illustrated the capability of our methodology to accurately predict maintenance requirements, thereby minimizing unplanned downtime and maximizing operational sustainability.

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