

Enhancing wind energy prediction accuracy with a hybrid Weibull distribution and ANN model: a case study across ten locations in Java Island, Indonesia

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Article Info

Article history:

Received Aug 27, 2025

Revised Dec 10, 2025

Accepted Dec 13, 2025

Keywords:

Artificial neural network

Hybrid approach

Renewable energy

Weibull parameters

Wind speed prediction

ABSTRACT

Accurate wind speed forecasting is essential for optimizing renewable energy (RE) systems, especially in coastal and island regions with high variability. This study proposes a hybrid predictive model that combines Weibull distribution parameters with artificial neural networks (ANN) to enhance forecasting accuracy. Using ten years of hourly NASA POWER data from 10 locations across Java Island, 24 scenarios were tested with varying combinations of Weibull and meteorological variables. Results demonstrate that incorporating both Weibull shape (k) and scale (c) parameters significantly improves performance, with the best configuration (Scenario 1) achieving a MAPE of 0.44% in Garut. Excluding one or both parameters sharply reduced accuracy, with errors rising up to 35.12%. Beyond technical accuracy, the findings emphasize the practical relevance of Weibull-informed ANN models for energy planning. Reliable forecasts support better wind resource assessment, grid integration, and investment decisions, reducing uncertainties that often hinder wind power deployment. By providing accurate and stable predictions across diverse locations, this approach offers policymakers and planners a robust tool to accelerate RE development and meet national energy targets.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Indonesia holds substantial renewable energy (RE) potential, yet its RE share reached only 15% in 2023, falling short of the 23% target set for 2025 [1]. This gap highlights the need to accelerate RE deployment, with wind energy offering significant promise despite its inherent intermittency and unpredictable variability. Reliable wind speed forecasting is crucial for maximizing the efficiency of wind energy production, enhancing grid integration, supporting energy trading, and anticipating extreme events [2], [3]. Despite advances in wind energy technology, existing models remain insufficiently precise for effective energy management, particularly under Indonesia's diverse and variable wind conditions.

The Weibull distribution is widely recognized as a robust method for wind speed prediction and wind power density estimation. Defined by the shape (k) and scale (c) parameters, it effectively captures wind speed variability beyond conventional meteorological variables, enabling more accurate assessments of energy potential [4]-[6]. Both two- and three-parameter Weibull models have been applied to improve wind resource evaluation and optimize energy generation strategies [7], [8]. Comparative studies further confirm its superiority over other distributions, such as Rayleigh, making Weibull the preferred standard for wind energy assessment under diverse climatic conditions [9], [10].

While the Weibull distribution remains the foundation, advanced data-driven methods such as artificial neural networks (ANNs) are increasingly being used to improve forecast accuracy under complex wind conditions. ANNs can capture nonlinear relationships, learn from historical data of weather variables, and provide more reliable short- to medium-term forecasts compared to traditional models, thereby supporting real-time energy management and grid stability [11], [12]. Previous studies, including those [13]-[15], demonstrated that Weibull parameters significantly improve ANN-based wind prediction. However, no study has systematically examined the effect of each Weibull parameter (k and c) on prediction accuracy, either individually or combined with other meteorological variables. Moreover, earlier approaches were limited to non-varied input scenarios and did not explore ANN sensitivity in depth.

To address these gaps, this study proposes a hybrid forecasting method that integrates the statistical robustness of the Weibull distribution with the adaptive learning of ANN. The Weibull parameters (k and c) represent wind speed variability, while ANN captures nonlinear temporal patterns, resulting in higher accuracy and broader generalizability than purely statistical or machine learning models. Using ten years of hourly wind data from 10 locations across Java Island and surrounding islands, monthly Weibull parameter time series are incorporated into the ANN across 24 forecasting scenarios. This design allows seasonal variability and temporal dynamics—often neglected in previous work—to be systematically evaluated, providing detailed insights into how Weibull parameters enhance prediction accuracy.

Furthermore, this approach advances hybrid forecasting research, which has increasingly integrated clustering, fuzzy inference, signal decomposition, and deep learning to reduce uncertainty and capture nonlinear dynamics [16]-[19]. Building on these advances, this study contributes by systematically assessing the role of shape (k) and scale (c) parameters in strengthening ANN-based forecasting, thereby supporting more accurate wind energy planning and deployment in Indonesia's coastal and island regions.

2. METHOD

2.1. Dataset

The data for this study were sourced from the NASA Langley Research Center (LaRC) prediction of worldwide energy resource (POWER) Project, funded by NASA's Earth Science/Applied Science Program (<https://power.larc.nasa.gov/data-access-viewer/>). The study focused on 10 locations across Java Island and nearby small islands, with coordinates listed in Table 1 and shown in Figure 1. These locations were chosen to provide a comprehensive view of wind dynamics across the region.

The dataset comprises a 10-year hourly time series (2013–2022) of wind speed and direction (10 m), air temperature, relative humidity, and surface pressure, totaling 87,648 records. These parameters were used in the hybrid prediction model to capture seasonal patterns, long-term trends, and variability. The methodology includes data preprocessing, Weibull parameter estimation, scenario design, data mining, and error analysis, as summarized in Figure 2.

Table 1. Research locations

Location	Lat	Long
Pandeglang	-6.86	105.54
Sukabumi	-7.22	106.52
Garut	-7.57	107.88
Baron	-8.13	110.54
Cirebon	-6.76	108.65
Situbondo	-7.81	114.44
Banyuwangi	-8.09	114.39
Sebira Island	-5.2	106.46
Gili Ketapang Island	-7.68	113.25
Bawean Island	-5.78	112.65

2.2. Preprocessing data and Weibull parameters

This process generated monthly values of Weibull parameters k and c , as well as wind speed, wind direction, temperature, surface pressure, and humidity for the entire ten-year period. Additionally, the

software produced a monthly diurnal profile of wind speed, revealing cyclical patterns throughout each day of each month. These analyses offer a comprehensive view of the wind dynamics at the study sites over the decade.

For Weibull parameter calculation, we employed the maximum likelihood method (MLM) to estimate the Weibull distribution parameters: the parameter k and c . The advantages of the MLM method include its computational efficiency and fast convergence due to the absence of complex calculations [20], its ability to provide parameter estimates that closely fit the observed data distribution [21], and its asymptotic efficiency, making it suitable for large datasets [22]. The MLM estimates the shape parameter (k) and scale parameter (c) using the following formulas:

$$\text{Shape parameter, } k = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^i \ln \frac{x_i}{c} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Scale parameter, } c = \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^k \right)^{\frac{1}{k}} \quad (2)$$

It should be noted that because the equations for estimating k and c are interdependent, the MLM employs an iterative procedure. An initial guess for k is made, followed by the calculation of c . The values are then updated iteratively until convergence is achieved. This process ensures accurate and stable estimation of the Weibull parameters.

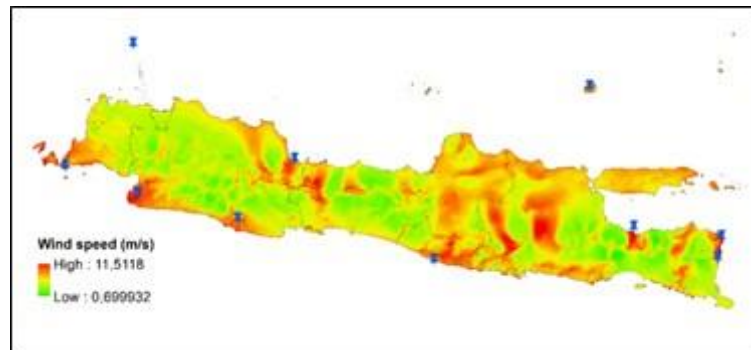


Figure 1. Research location and wind speed distribution at 100 meters above ground level (Source: Global Wind Atlas)

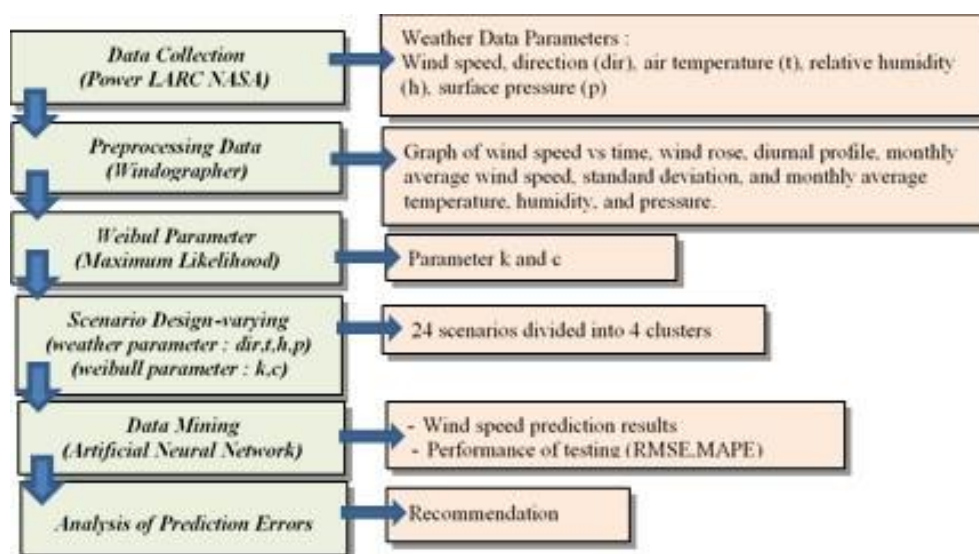


Figure 2. Flow diagram of research methodology

2.3. Scenarios and prediction model

In testing this prediction model, the input parameters involve Weibull parameters as well as environmental parameters (temperature t , humidity h , pressure p , and wind direction dir). A total of six parameters will be assessed in this test. To further understand the role of Weibull parameters in improving the accuracy of the prediction model, this research determines 24 scenarios, which are grouped into four clusters as shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Prediction model testing scenarios with Weibull and environmental parameter variations

Cluster	Scenario	Parameter input	Purposes
I	Sce 1	k, c, t, h, p, dir	Analyzing the extent to which the presence of Weibull parameters (k and c) impacts the performance of the prediction model, both independently and in combination with other environmental parameters
	Sce 2	k, c, t, h, p	
	Sce 3	k, c, t	
	Sce 4	k, c, h	
	Sce 5	k, c, p	
	Sce 6	k, c, dir	
	Sce 7	k, c	
II	Sce 8	c, t, h, p, dir	Assess the influence of each Weibull parameter (k and c) separately, and evaluate the model performance when only “c” as scale Weibull parameter is included in the prediction
	Sce 9	c, t, h, p	
	Sce 10	c, t	
	Sce 11	c, h	
	Sce 12	c, p	
	Sce 13	c, dir	
	Sce 14	c	
III	Sce 15	k, t, h, p, dir	Assess the influence of each Weibull parameter (k and c) separately, and evaluate the model performance when only “k” as shape Weibull parameter is included in the prediction
	Sce 16	k, t, h, p	
	Sce 17	k, t	
	Sce 18	k, h	
	Sce 19	k, p	
	Sce 20	k, dir	
	Sce 21	k	
IV	Sce 22	t, h, p, dir	Identifying the influence of environmental parameters (without k and c) on the prediction model, evaluating model performance in the absence of Weibull parameters.
	Sce 23	t, h, p	
	Sce 24	dir	

The study proposes a hybrid model, combining the strengths of each approach. The proposed hybrid model is a machine learning-based integration of Weibull and neural network parameters. Each model is expected to contribute unique advantages to wind speed forecasting. The overall design of the study is depicted in Figure 3.

In this study, we limited the ANN inputs to meteorological parameters (t , h , p , dir) and Weibull parameters (k , c) to isolate the effect of Weibull distribution characteristics on prediction accuracy. Higher-level descriptors such as diurnal pattern strength, monthly averages, and autocorrelation coefficients were not included, as they are statistical derivatives of the wind speed series and could introduce redundancy or bias into the training process. Nevertheless, these variables remain valuable, and their integration into ANN frameworks is recommended for future studies to further enhance the robustness of wind speed forecasting models.

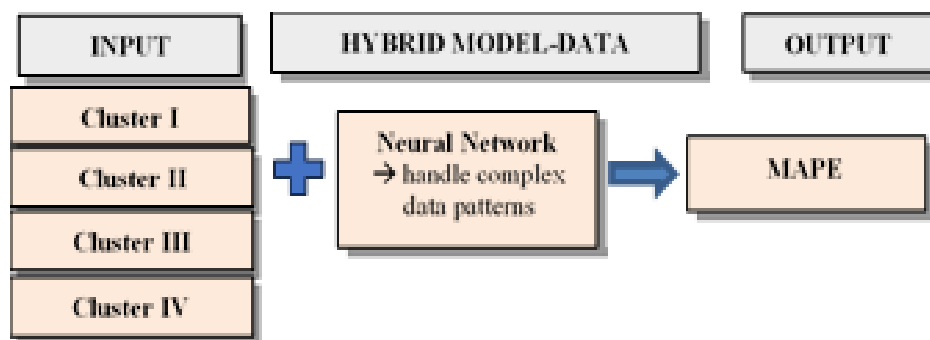


Figure 3. Grand design proposed integrated model

2.4. ANN architecture and error analysis

The ANN learning algorithm was employed in this study using wind speed and environmental parameters as inputs, with the software platform (RapidMiner) used for implementation. From the monthly dataset, 70% of data points were used for training and 30% for testing, with performance validated through 10-fold cross-validation. The ANN architecture as shown in Figure 4 consisted of an input layer with nodes corresponding to the number of parameters, two hidden layers (size=2) with a linear activation function, and a single output node. Model parameters were set to 200 training cycles, a learning rate of 0.01, momentum of 0.9, and an error epsilon of $1.0\text{E-}4$ to ensure stable convergence and avoid local minima.

It should be noted that the original hourly dataset was aggregated into a monthly series. Weibull parameters (k and c) were computed monthly, while meteorological parameters were averaged every month. Therefore, each input to the ANN corresponds to one month, and the ANN output layer produces one predicted wind speed value per month. For the 10-year dataset, this yields a total of 120 predicted monthly values.

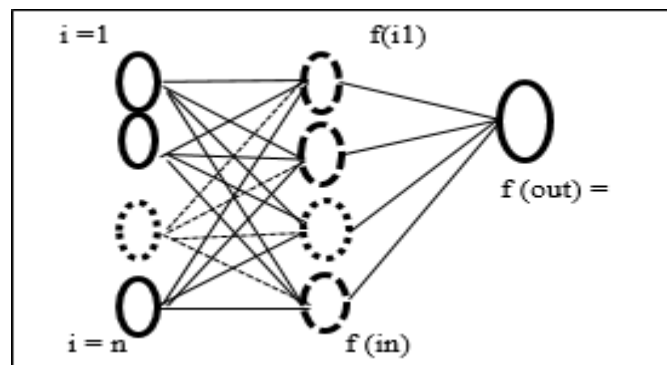


Figure 4. Architecture of the ANN for all scenarios

Model performance was evaluated using two error metrics: root mean square error (RMSE) and mean absolute percentage error (MAPE). RMSE (3) measures the average deviation between predicted and actual values, providing insight into the magnitude of prediction errors. MAPE (4) expresses the average absolute percentage difference between predicted and actual values, offering a readily interpretable measure of forecasting accuracy. Its widespread use stems from its relative ease of understanding compared to other metrics.

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2} \quad (3)$$

$$MAPE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left| \frac{A_i - F_i}{A_i} \right| \times 100\% \quad (4)$$

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This study explores the impact of Weibull distribution parameters integrated into the ANN model to predict wind speed. Predictions are based on Weibull parameters and weather variables, as explained in subsection 2.3. The 24 prediction scenarios are grouped into four clusters (I–IV) based on input combinations. Model accuracy is evaluated using MAPE values at 10 locations across three regions: the South Coast of Java, the North Coast of Java, and small islands. Table 3 presents the MAPE values for these scenarios.

The analysis results are discussed per cluster, outlining the key insights and trends found in each scenario configuration, namely:

Cluster I (Scenario 1–7)

- Cluster I shows the best performance (MAPE 0.369–1.311%), with Scenario 1—using all variables—achieving notably low errors in several sites such as Pandeglang (0.608%), Sukabumi (0.508%), Baron (0.449%), Sebira Island (0.521%), and Gili Ketapang (0.847%).
- Key insight: the integration of both Weibull parameters (k and c) with weather variables leads to significantly improved accuracy across diverse geographical locations. This confirms that combining these parameters optimizes the wind speed prediction model's performance.

- Exception: in Garut, Scenario 6 achieves slightly better accuracy, while in Banyuwangi, Scenario 7 outperforms others, higher than other southern coastal areas. This variation is likely due to coastal dynamics, also present in Banyuwangi, which is influenced by monsoon winds and upwelling currents in the strait between Java and Bali. These factors complicate predictions and lead to higher MAPE values [23], [24].

Table 3. Results of model prediction error evaluation at ten (10) different study locations

Cluster	Scenario	Input	MAPE (%)									
			South Coast of Jawa				North Coast of Jawa			Small Island North of Jawa		
			Pandeglang	Sukabumi	Garut	Baron	Banyuwangi	Cirebon	Situbondo	Sebira Island	Gili Ketapang Island	Bawean Island
I	Sce 1	k, c, t, h, p, dir	0.61	0.51	0.44	0.45	1.31	1.10	1.31	0.52	0.85	1.15
	Sce 2	k, c, t, h, p	0.66	0.59	0.50	0.62	1.46	1.07	1.46	0.56	1.23	0.82
	Sce 3	k, c, t	0.70	0.67	0.40	0.48	1.46	1.17	1.46	0.57	1.36	0.96
	Sce 4	k, c, h	0.71	0.56	0.48	0.49	1.61	1.20	1.61	0.61	1.29	0.93
	Sce 5	k, c, p	0.71	0.60	0.42	0.51	1.49	1.16	1.49	0.61	1.44	0.98
	Sce 6	k, c, dir	0.66	0.56	0.37	0.50	1.55	1.13	1.55	0.60	1.12	0.90
	Sce 7	k, c	0.72	0.60	0.44	0.50	1.15	1.21	1.15	0.62	0.89	1.13
II	Sce 8	c, t, h, p, dir	1.00	1.00	0.61	0.92	1.36	1.32	1.36	0.89	0.98	1.27
	Sce 9	c, t, h, p	0.95	1.18	0.56	0.66	1.43	1.17	1.43	0.78	1.25	1.26
	Sce 10	c, t	1.23	1.27	0.58	0.66	1.61	1.18	1.61	0.80	1.40	1.30
	Sce 11	c, h	1.22	1.28	0.68	0.68	1.53	1.21	1.53	0.73	1.39	1.49
	Sce 12	c, p	0.94	1.15	0.60	0.82	1.35	1.27	1.35	0.81	1.09	1.54
	Sce 13	c, dir	1.20	1.22	0.65	0.70	1.37	1.22	1.37	0.66	1.15	1.33
	Sce 14	c	1.18	1.21	0.50	0.68	1.44	1.43	1.44	0.76	1.14	1.82
III	Sce 15	k, t, h, p, dir	10.04	10.17	8.75	7.32	10.17	10.36	10.17	9.51	8.96	11.97
	Sce 16	k, t, h, p	11.98	10.51	9.37	9.53	10.14	11.48	10.14	8.36	8.94	13.04
	Sce 17	k, t	12.04	10.31	9.96	11.14	10.53	11.91	10.53	9.15	12.59	13.90
	Sce 18	k, h	11.01	11.08	12.30	10.03	10.98	13.47	10.98	9.90	10.39	11.98
	Sce 19	k, p	10.69	11.86	10.52	11.58	11.20	14.71	11.20	10.77	14.63	16.03
	Sce 20	k, dir	11.33	10.07	11.43	10.96	10.77	12.93	10.77	9.76	12.54	13.92
	Sce 21	k	14.26	13.64	12.95	12.71	11.29	12.00	11.29	10.30	13.98	21.00
IV	Sce 22	t, h, p, dir	16.67	13.37	10.61	7.95	10.53	11.29	10.53	11.74	13.11	26.10
	Sce 23	t, h, p	19.07	14.59	11.60	10.95	11.11	14.27	11.11	13.44	14.68	24.58
	Sce 24	Dir	23.08	21.71	18.84	16.61	19.76	25.93	19.76	15.13	21.21	35.12

Cluster II (Scenario 8–14)

- Cluster II loses accuracy when the Weibull shape parameter k is removed and only the scale parameter c is retained, as shown in Table 3 by higher MAPE values of 0.56 %–1.43 % for Scenarios 8–9. Including wind direction in Scenario 8 partly offsets this drop, improving predictions at some sites such as Sukabumi (1.003 %) and Gili Ketapang Island (0.979 %).
- Key insight: while the absence of the shape parameter reduces accuracy, wind direction still contributes positively to the model's performance in specific locations. However, Scenario 9 (which excludes wind direction) still performs well at locations like Pandeglang (0.946%) and Cirebon (1.170%), suggesting that weather variables other than wind direction can still be effective.
- Trend: despite good results in certain locations, the absence of the shape parameter results in lower overall consistency, highlighting the importance of both Weibull parameters for reliable, high-accuracy predictions.

Cluster III (Scenario 15–21)

- Cluster III, using only the Weibull shape parameter (k) with specific weather variables, shows poor performance, with MAPE values ranging from 7.32% to 14.71%, as presented in Table 3. Scenario 15, which includes wind direction, gives the best performance in Pandeglang (10.042%), Garut (8.745%), and Baron (7.325%).
- Key insight: the elimination of the Weibull scale parameter (c) results in a marked reduction in accuracy. Even the best scenario in this cluster still produces higher MAPE values than those in Cluster I and Cluster II, indicating that the scale parameter (c) plays a crucial role in improving prediction accuracy.
- Trend: This cluster clearly demonstrates the importance of both Weibull parameters in enhancing the model's ability to predict wind speed accurately across varied conditions.

Cluster IV (Scenario 22–24)

- Cluster IV relies solely on weather variables, with Scenario 24 (using only wind direction) showing the poorest performance in Table 3, with MAPE values reaching 35.12% in Bawean Island.
- Key insight: the drastic performance drop in Cluster IV shows that wind direction alone is inadequate for accurate wind speed prediction. Without Weibull parameters, particularly the scale parameter, the model fails to capture wind speed distribution, resulting in high errors.
- Trend: Bawean Island performs poorly in Scenario 24, underscoring the limitation of using only wind direction and the necessity of Weibull parameters, while local factors such as wind conditions, topography, and environment also strongly influence model effectiveness [25].

The heatmap in Table 4 shows performance degradation from Cluster I to IV, underscoring the importance of Weibull parameters. Cluster I performs best, while Cluster II shows moderate accuracy. Cluster III drops significantly, and Cluster IV performs worst, particularly in Bawean (MAPE 28.6%). Weibull parameters (k and c) are thus essential for accurate predictions, especially in complex wind regimes. Wind direction adds value in Cluster II but cannot substitute Weibull parameters. Nonetheless, Cluster II remains suitable for simpler models in stable wind conditions.

The findings of this study are consistent with previous works by Tian and Wei [16] and Tang *et al.* [17], yet demonstrate slightly improved MAPE values using 10 years of hourly data. Notably, Scenario 22 without Weibull parameters (k and c) yielded a lower MAPE (7.95%) compared to Kadhem *et al.* [15] (16.4–20.3%), whereas Scenario 24, relying solely on wind direction, resulted in the highest MAPE (35.12%). These results further emphasize the critical role of Weibull parameters and meteorological variables in enhancing prediction accuracy.

Table 4. Heatmap of average MAPE by location and cluster

Location	Cluster				
	I	II	III	IV	
Banyuwangi	1.43	1.44	10.73	13.8	
Baron	0.51	0.73	10.47	11.84	-25
Bawean Island	0.98	1.43	14.55	28.6	
Cirebon	1.15	1.26	12.41	17.16	
Garut	0.44	0.6	10.75	13.68	-15
Gili Ketapang Island	1.17	1.2	11.72	16.33	
Pandeglang	0.68	1.1	11.62	19.61	
Sebira Island	0.58	0.78	9.68	13.44	-5
Situbondo	1.43	1.44	10.73	13.8	
Sukabumi	0.58	1.19	11.09	16.56	

4. CONCLUSION

This study demonstrates that integrating Weibull parameters with weather variables significantly improves wind speed prediction accuracy. Cluster I, which uses both Weibull parameters (k and c), provides the best results, emphasizing the importance of these parameters for regions with complex wind dynamics. The findings show that Weibull parameters enhance prediction accuracy, which can be further refined through hyperparameter tuning, advanced architectures, and larger datasets for greater model robustness.

For utilities and planners, integrating Weibull distribution with high-frequency wind speed measurements (such as those taken every 5 or 10 minutes) can further improve prediction accuracy by providing more granular data. Additionally, applying models like autoregressive integrated moving average (ARIMA), long short-term memory (LSTM,) and gated recurrent unit (GRU) for longer-term forecasting (predicting wind speeds over extended periods such as days or weeks) will help in more effective planning and optimization of wind energy resources. While this study relies on satellite data, which may be less accurate in complex terrains, future research should incorporate ground-based observations and geospatial artificial intelligence (AI) to enhance the reliability and precision of the model's predictions.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors would like to express their gratitude to NASA LaRC POWER for providing the time series weather data used in this study. We also extend our sincere appreciation to all co-authors for their valuable contributions to this manuscript.

FUNDING INFORMATION

This research is part of an independent study required to complete a Master's program, supported by a Degree by Research scholarship from the National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN). The research funds are self-funded by the authors.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS STATEMENT

This journal uses the Contributor Roles Taxonomy (CRediT) to recognize individual author contributions, reduce authorship disputes, and facilitate collaboration.

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C : **C**onceptualization

M : **M**ethodology

So : **S**oftware

Va : **V**alidation

Fo : **F**ormal analysis

I : **I**nterpretation

R : **R**esources

D : **D**ata Curation

O : **O**riginal Draft

E : **E**diting

Vi : **V**isualization

Su : **S**upervision

P : **P**roject administration

Fu : **F**unding acquisition

CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

The Authors state that there is no conflict of interest

DATA AVAILABILITY

Derived data supporting the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author [Prima Trie Wijaya] on request.




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