

# The Forecasting of Renewable Energy Generation for Turkey by Artificial Neural Networks and a Auto-Regressive Integrated Moving-Average Model -2023 Generation Targets by Renewable Energy Resources

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## Research Article

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1 **THE FORECASTING OF RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION FOR**  
2 **TURKEY BY ARTIFICIAL NEURAL NETWORKS AND A AUTO-**  
3 **REGRESSIVE INTEGRATED MOVING-AVERAGE MODEL -2023**  
4 **Generation Targets By Renewable Energy Resources**

5  
6 Özlem KARADAĞ ALBAYRAK<sup>1</sup>

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7 **Abstract**

8 Turkey attaches particular importance to energy generation by renewable energy sources in  
9 order to remove negative economic, environmental and social effects caused by fossil resources  
10 in energy generation. Renewable energy sources are domestic and do not have any negative  
11 effect, such as external dependence in energy and greenhouse gas, caused by fossil resources  
12 and which constitute a threat for sustainable economic development. In this respect, the  
13 prediction of energy amount to be generated by Renewable Energy (RES) is highly important  
14 for Turkey. In this study, a generation forecasting was carried out by Artificial Neural Networks  
15 (ANN) and Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average (ARIMA) methods by utilising the  
16 renewable energy generation data between 1965-2019. While it was predicted by ANN that  
17 127.516 TWh energy would be generated in 2023, this amount was estimated to be 45.457  
18 TeraWatt Hour (TWh) by ARIMA (1.1.6) model. The Mean Absolute Percentage Error  
19 (MAPE) was calculated in order to specify the error margin of the forecasting models. This  
20 value was determined to be 13.1% by ANN model and 21.9% by ARIMA model. These results  
21 suggested that the ANN model provided a more accurate result. It is considered that the  
22 conclusions achieved in this study will be useful in energy planning and management.

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32 **Keywords:** Energy . Renewable energy sources . Renewable energy generation forecast . Artificial neural  
33 networks . ARIMA model . Time series forecast .

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## 35 Introduction

36

37 .....Energy is one of indicators of the development level of the world countries. It is an  
38 important factor, especially for reducing poverty and increasing life standards Zolfani and  
39 Saparauskas, 2013). In recent years, energy consumption has increased highly due to  
40 fundamental changes in sectors and economies in the world. Energy has a vital importance for  
41 the sustainable development of a nation in social, economic and environmental respects  
42 Suganthia and Samuel, 2018). Energy consumption has increased incrementally in the global  
43 scale in the last decade. In this regard, accurate demand forecasting is essential for decision-  
44 makers to develop an optimal strategy not only for reducing risk but also for improving  
45 economy and society as a whole (Oliveira and Oliveira, 2018), and energy supply is one of the  
46 most important issues in the global scale (Jahanshah et al. 2019). Accurate forecasting demand  
47 for fixed electricity is of paramount importance for protecting material resources (Hu et al.  
48 2019).

49 .....Forecasting energy demand in the developing markets is one of the most important policy  
50 tools used by decision-makers around the world. The energy forecasting referring to electrical  
51 demand prediction is used in all departments of the public service sector, including  
52 transmission, generation, distribution and retail sales. Energy forecasting practices develop  
53 distribution and transmission planning, power supply planning, power system maintenance and  
54 operations, demand management, rate design, financial plans (Ahmad et al. 2019). In general,  
55 terms of forecast, estimate and prediction are the words used regarding the concept of having  
56 an expected value for future demand in markets (Ghalekhondabi et al. 2016).

57 .....In the world, most of energy is provided by fossil resources such as oil, natural gas, coal  
58 which are called non-renewable resources. Extinction of fossil resources and increasing  
59 concerns about the environmental impact of fossil fuel-related greenhouse gas emissions in the  
60 atmosphere cause decision-makers to search for sustainable and renewable energy sources  
61 (Jahanshah et al. 2019, Broadny, Tutak and Saki, 2020). Renewable energy covers any  
62 permanent energy source which does not have any harmful effect on the environment and which  
63 is generated naturally. As a response to the extinction of supply and demand of fossil resources  
64 such as oil, the increase in renewable energy has become the most important issue regarding  
65 the energy planning approaches in the world (Ahmad et al. 2019).

66 .....Ranked among the developing countries, Turkey supplies most of its energy supply by  
67 fossil resources. These resources are supplied from foreign countries. For this reason, the use  
68 of renewable energy sources is considered a part of efforts for the expansion of energy sources  
69 (Alkan and Albayrak, 2020). Most of Turkey's national wealth is spent on energy supply. In  
70 addition, it is affected by global crises instantly (for example, Iran, Russia crises). This results  
71 in the problem of energy supply security. When energy is generated by RES sources, the  
72 national wealth spent on fossil resources such as natural gas, oil, coal will be used for the  
73 development of the country. In this respect, increasing the share of RES in total energy raw  
74 material supply may be considered a national issue.

75 .....This study will provide generation forecast models for energy planning of Turkey in  
76 general and its renewable energy source planning in particular. ANN and ARIMA techniques  
77 will be used for these models. Generation forecasts will be carried out referring to 2023 energy  
78 perspective of Turkey by these techniques. What is more, the efficacy of ANN and ARIMA  
79 models for RES generation forecast will be investigated.

80 .....When studies on energy demand and generation forecast are examined, it is seen that in  
81 addition to traditional techniques such as econometric and time series models, calculation  
82 method applications, utilised with a software, such as neural networks, fuzzy logic and other

83 models are also used (Ghalekhondabi et al. 2016). Most of the first studies conducted in  
84 Turkey on energy forecasting have been based on various modelling types (Ediger and Akar,  
85 2007). In the following studies administered on energy demand, techniques such as ANN,  
86 genetic algorithms, Grey prediction Models, Particle swarm optimization, ARIMA, linear  
87 regression, Seasonal Auto-Regressive Integrated Moving-Average (SARIMA) have been  
88 utilised ( Kankal et al. 2011). The reason for such a frequent use of ANN may be explained  
89 with the desire to specify the relationship among the variables such as energy demand,  
90 consumption, generation with explanatory variables such as GNP, population, amount of  
91 export, import, electricity generation or consumption. In addition, as ANN does require many  
92 conditions, it is used frequently. ARIMA models are also used frequently for forecasting but  
93 have some limitations. The first one is the fact that they can be implemented for stationary time  
94 series and recommended minimum sample size is 50 (Jamil, 2020).

95 .....In most of the forecast studies carried out in Turkey and the world regarding the energy  
96 sources, general energy forecasting models have been established by adding hydraulic resources  
97 renewable energy sources.

98 .....The efficiency of electricity demand forecast and model results have been checked by  
99 cointegration analysis and ARIMA modelling (Erdoğan, 2007). In order to forecast annual  
100 hydraulic source related generation values, a feedback and back-propagation ANN model has  
101 been suggested (Cinar and Kayakutlu, 2007). Energy demand forecasting for fossil resources  
102 was made by ARIMA and SARIMA models regarding 2005-2020 (Ediğer ve Akar, 2007).  
103 Sozen and Arcaklioglu (2007), utilised the variables of population, gross generation, installed  
104 power, net electricity consumption, import and export as inputs of the ANN model regarding  
105 the forecasting of energy sources in Turkey. Kankal et al. (2011), have used modelling and  
106 forecast approaches to analyse the energy consumption in Turkey by integrating demographic  
107 and socioeconomic indicators with regression analysis and ANN technique. A forecast has been  
108 performed by ARIMA technique by using annual time series data between 1990- 2015 on  
109 household energy consumption in the countries of Eurozone (Jahanshah et al. 2019). Energy  
110 consumption for next year has been determined to be 186244 Tonne of Oil Equivalent (TOE)  
111 by ARIMA (0,1,1) forecast model.

112 .....There are few studies on energy generation, consumption and demand forecasting models  
113 regarding renewable energy sources. For the forecasting of energy generation related to  
114 hydraulic sources in Turkey, Uzlu et al. (2014), utilised ANN and Artificial Bee Colony(ABC)  
115 algorithm together by using gross electricity energy demand, population, average annual  
116 temperature and energy consumption variables. They have estimated energy generation amount  
117 by hydraulic sources to become between 69.1 and 76.5 TWh. By employing fractional nonlinear  
118 grey, Şahin (2020), has predicted the total renewable installed power of Turkey in 2030 to be  
119 80.3 GW and its generation amount to be 241.3 TWh.

120 .....Brodny et al. (2020) have developed a model to forecast the consumption amounts of  
121 renewable energy sources in Poland as a whole and separately by utilising the ANN model. As  
122 a result of this forecast, MAPE value of the forecasting model of RES sources has been specified  
123 to be 3.07%. Forecasting results of different techniques have been compared by the deep  
124 learning framework into the basic echo state network technique, and the efficacy of this method  
125 has been determined to be quite better than MAPE Hu et al. (2020), Hydraulic source related  
126 energy consumption of Pakistan until 2030 has been estimated by ARIMA models (Jamil,  
127 2020), Approved ARIMA model (9,1,7-19) urged that there would be an approximately 24%  
128 increase in the consumption amount until 2030 around 1.5% according to MAPE. Energy  
129 demand prediction has been made in France by ANN and ARIMA models (Asensio, Darado  
130 and Duran, 2020) In this study, the efficacy of both methods has been specified to be close.

131 .....Shireena et al. (2018), have developed a method by MTL-GP-TS algorithm for solar panel  
 132 PV generation forecasting. Wang et al. (2020), have predicted the monthly energy consumption  
 133 rate of energy generated by solar in the USA through seasonal grey forecast method. Araujo da  
 134 Silva Junior (2020), has made a biomass energy generation forecast in Brazil. Mason, Duggan  
 135 and Howley (2018), have developed an ANN model to predict wind energy forecast.

136 .....What is more, there are studies in which ANN and ARIMA models have been used  
 137 together in energy forecasting. Kazemzadeh, Amjadian and Amraee (2020) and Kheirkhah et  
 138 al. (2013) employed ANN and ARIMA models together for energy demand prediction. In order  
 139 to estimate wind speed of certain regions, Nair, Vanitha and Jisma (2017), have utilised ANN  
 140 and ARIMA models. ANN and ARIMA models have been also used together for the forecast  
 141 of wind energy generation and it has been provided that more efficient predictions have been  
 142 performed by ARIMA model Jafarian-Namin et al. (2019).

143 .....The possible contributions of this study may be ranked as follows:

144 -The most important contribution of this study may be to reveal that RES sources should be  
 145 used instead of fossil resources with many negative effects for Turkey related to energy demand  
 146 security, environment, economy but having 55% of all energy demand.

147 -To suggest a new model by which RES energy generation forecasting will be made for Turkey,

148 -To provide a perspective for 2023 by predicting 2023 RES generation amounts of the Republic  
 149 Turkey by this model,

150 -Turkey's sustainable development objectives, one of the most important factors in driving  
 151 forward research on renewable energy

152 - To perform a RES generation forecast in Turkey by ANN and ARIMA methods for the first  
 153 time,

154 -To reveal the efficiency of ANN and ARIMA models which are appropriate for prediction.

### 155 **Renewable Energy Sources in Turkey**

156 .....The Republic of Turkey is a country with a strategic location due to having soils in both  
 157 Asia and Europe. Most of the energy need of Turkey is supplied by fossil resources. The  
 158 potential of renewable energy sources, such as wind, solar, hydraulic, geothermal and biomass  
 159 resources, excluding wave and hydrogen energy, is quite high in Turkey. The energy amount  
 160 generated in Turkey in 2019 through renewable sources and installed power amounts is  
 161 provided in Table 1. The share of renewable energy sources, which was 30.67% within total  
 162 electricity generation in 2018, increased to 42.10% in 2019.

163 **Table 1** Renewable Energy Sources in Turkey

Sources	2019 Produce Quantity (GWh)			2019 installed capacity (MegaWatt-MW)		
	Licensed	Unlicensed	Sum	Licensed	Unlicensed	Sum
Wind	21636	113	21749	71	7521	7592
Geothermal	8930		8930		1515	1515
Biomass	4267	225	4492	76	726	802
Solar	195	9425	9620	5826	170	5996
Hydro	34.5	34.5	69	9	28493	28502

164 .....As it can be concluded by this table, the largest share among RES belongs to hydraulic  
 165 energy sources. However, only the hydraulic energy generation facilities with a river type or  
 166 reservoir area of less than fifteen square kilometres are considered renewable among all  
 167 hydraulic resources as reported in YEKDEM (Renewable Energy Resources Support  
 168 Mechanism) (2020). Turkey attaches great importance to renewable energy sources in its future  
 169 plans, especially its 2023 goals. In accordance with this goal, it is aimed to increase the RES  
 170 share in the energy generation in 2023 to 30% (The hydraulic source rate in this goal is the  
 171 generation rate only from hydraulic power plants within the scope of YEKDEM).

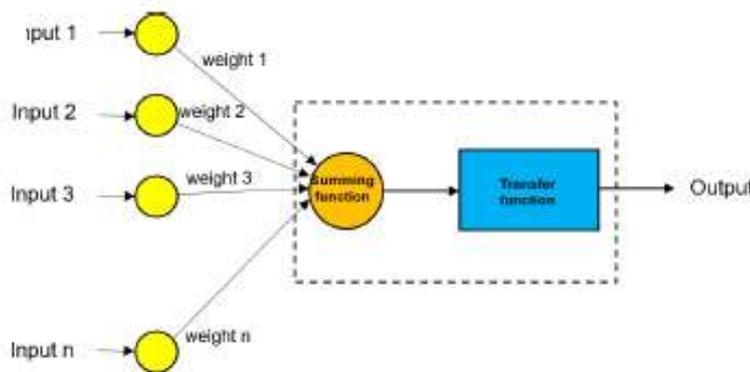
172 **Methodology**

173 **Artificial Neural Networks**

174 .....ANN is characterised as a data-based approach. ANN is widely used in practice to solve  
 175 various classes of tasks such as estimation and approach, pattern recognition and classification,  
 176 decision making and control (Abdirasilov and Śladkowski, 2018). Data are used by ANN to  
 177 specify the relationship between input and output variables and to predict output values  
 178 (Ghalekhondabi et al. 2016). ANNs are human-controlled initiatives to simulate and  
 179 understand what is happening in the nervous system by hoping to seize some of the power of  
 180 biological systems. ANNs are inspired by biological systems with a large number of neurons  
 181 and that perform tasks which cannot be even matched by the largest computers (Kankal et al.,  
 182 2011). ANN is a non-linear, easy to apply approach which forms statistical models. Although  
 183 it is a nonparametric approach, they are parametric models requiring a more comprehensive  
 184 history of many statistical classifications and statistics (Ahmad, Zhanga and Yana, 2020).

185 .....Of the different networks, feed-forward neural networks or multilayer perceptron are  
 186 generally used in the engineering. Multilayer Neural Networks (MLP) networks are normally  
 187 organized in three neuronal layers; input layer and output layer represent the input and output  
 188 variables of a model, and there are one or more hidden layers between them containing the  
 189 network's ability to learn nonlinear relationships (Kheirkhah et al. 2013). The structure of an  
 190 ANN model formed of these layers is shown in Figure 1.

191 **Figure 1** ANN structure (Brodny vd, 2020).



192 .....In ANN models, the signals in the input layer ( $x_i$ ) are transmitted to the neurons in the  
 193 hidden layer. Input signals have different loads ( $w_i^x$ ) in each neuron in the hidden layer. Total  
 194 sign ( $s_i$ ) is determined by multiplying each input signal with the weight and taking the sum  
 195 (Jasinski et al. 2016) (1).

197 
$$s_i = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i^x \cdot x_i \tag{1}$$

198 .....The activation function, which is called also transfer function, identifies the relationship  
 199 between the inputs and outputs of a node and network (Wei and Chen, 2012). Some of the

200 important activation functions used in the transformations performed by neurons are as follows  
 201 (Jahanshahi et al. 2019):

202 .....Logistic function:

$$203 \quad \varphi(x) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}} \quad (2)$$

204 .....Hyperbolic tangent function:

$$205 \quad \varphi(x) = \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}} \quad (3)$$

206 .....Exponential function:

$$207 \quad \varphi(x) = e^x \quad (4)$$

208 .....Linear function:

$$209 \quad \varphi(x) = x \quad (5)$$

210 .....The data used were transformed into values in the range of (6) [0,1] by the linear  
 211 normalization method.

$$212 \quad x_{normalize} = \frac{x - x_{min}}{x_{max} - x_{min}} \quad (6)$$

### 213 **ARIMA Models**

214 .....Time series forecasting is a significant research field in which previous data are used to  
 215 estimate future values by developing a statistical model, facilitating to develop a statistical  
 216 framework to forecast future values of the system with the least predictable error (Bhardwaj et  
 217 al. 2020). ARIMA method, the most popular forecast method, is used for stationary time series  
 218 due to its flexibility and simplicity (Kazemzadeh, Amjadian and Amraee, 2020). The ARIMA  
 219 model, proposed by Box-Jenkins in 1970, is a linear combination of historical errors and  
 220 historical values of a fixed series (Fanoodi, Malmir and Jahantigh, 2019).

221 .....In fact, the ARIMA model consists of Auto-Regressive (AR) model and Moving Average  
 222 (MA) model, and these models are called to be ARIMA (p.d.q). ARIMA models are stated as  
 223 follows (Han and Li, 2019).

224 .....AR(p) p. degree auto-regressive model;

$$225 \quad Y_t^* = \mu + \varphi_1 Y_{t-1} + \varphi_2 Y_{t-2} + \dots + \varphi_p Y_{t-p} + \varepsilon_t \quad (7)$$

226 .....MA(q) q. degree moving average model;

$$227 \quad Y_t^* = \varepsilon_t - \theta_1 Y_{t-1} + \theta_2 Y_{t-2} + \dots + \theta_p Y_{t-p} \quad (8)$$

228 .....ARMA(p,q);

$$229 \quad Y_t^* = \mu + \varphi_1 Y_{t-1} + \varphi_2 Y_{t-2} + \dots + \varphi_p Y_{t-p} + \varepsilon_t + \varepsilon_t - \theta_1 Y_{t-1} + \theta_2 Y_{t-2} + \dots + \theta_p Y_{t-p} \quad (9)$$

231 .....In ARIMA models, “d “ refers the degree to which the series are stationary.

232 .....Box-Jenkins methodology is implemented in ARIMA models. An appropriate model is  
 233 determined in the first step, then appropriate model parameters are predicted and finally, a  
 234 forecast is made by the obtained model. In the definition stage, stationary of the series is  
 235 checked by drawing a sample Autocorrelation Function (ACF). If the series are not stationary,  
 236 the series are made stationary by eliciting a difference.

237 .....All reasonable ARIMA models are identified by drawing ACF and Partial  
 238 Autocorrelation Function (PACF) in the stationary series. These appropriate models have

239 residues similar to good, white noise process and make good out-of-sample predictions [20].  
 240 The number of significant coefficients is the most important criterion to be considered for an  
 241 appropriate model. A model without a significant coefficient may be eliminated as its  
 242 coefficients do not contribute to actual data (Jamin, 2020). In addition to these, the best model  
 243 among appropriate ones may be identified according to the criteria of adjusted  $R^2$ , Akaike  
 244 Criteria (AIC) and Schwartz Bayesci Criteria (SBC).

245 **Model Efficiencies**

246 .....If the data used in methods and models are raw material and were previously processed  
 247 in any other scale, MAPE is appropriate to identify error rates Kankal (2011). Different error  
 248 measures have been used in the literature to measure the performance of the models offered for  
 249 forecasting. These are Mean Absolute Error (MAE), MAPE and Root Mean Square Error  
 250 (RMSE) methods. MAPE was specified in order to compare the efficiency of obtained total  
 251 renewable energy generation forecasts (10). The model with the lowest MAPE percent was  
 252 accepted to be mode efficient.

253 
$$MAPE = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left| \frac{x_o - x_p}{x_o} \right| * 100\% \quad (10)$$

254 .....In this formula,  $x_o$  represents observed value,  $x_p$  refers to the predicted value.

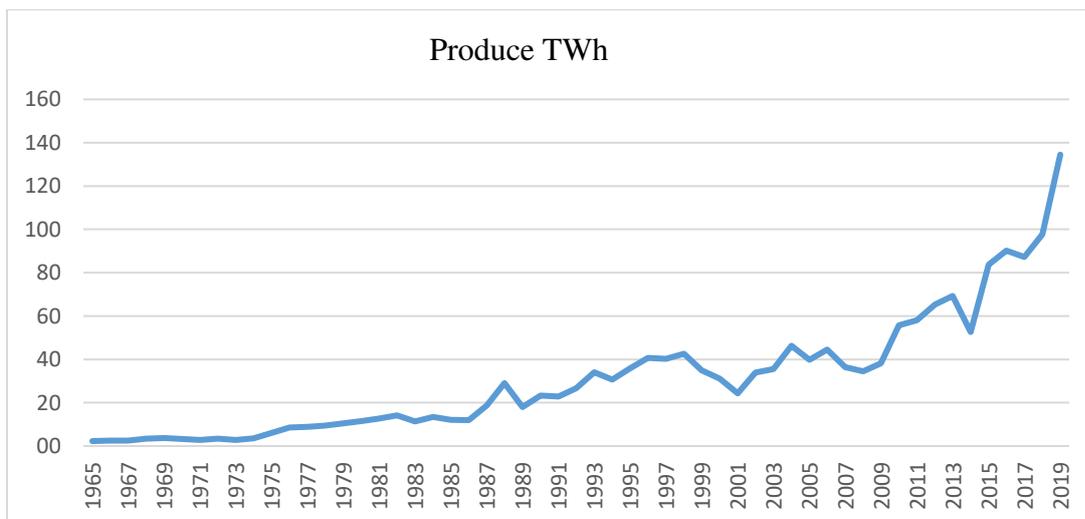
255 **Results and discussion**

256

257 **Data Set**

258 .....In this study, the energy amounts, which were obtained by oil and obtained from the  
 259 energy-related internet site of British Petroleum company, generated by the renewable sources  
 260 of solar, wind, geothermal and biomass and hydraulic power plants in TWh in Turkey between  
 261 1965-2019 were used BP (2020). As seen in the general renewable energy generation graph for  
 262 Turkey (Figure 2), the generation amount increased in Turkey over the years. The studies in the  
 263 literature were benefited when specifying the variables in this study. Generation obtained from  
 264 renewable energy sources is determined by the total generation from solar, wind, biomass,  
 265 geothermal and hydraulic sources. The statistical structure of the data set used in the study is  
 266 provided in Table 2.

267 **Figure 2** Turkey 1965-2019 Renewable Energy Production (TWh).



268

269

270

271 **Artificial Neural Networks Model Result**

272 .....In this study, nonlinear autoregressive neural networks (NARX) were used in MATLAB  
 273 program in order to make a forecasting by the ANN method. The data in annex 1 were used for  
 274 input and output variables of network. In this study, geothermal and biomass data from  
 275 renewable energy sources were accepted as a single input variable. Therefore, more data were  
 276 achieved. There are five input variables in the study: energy amounts generated by solar, wind,  
 277 geothermal and biomass and hydraulic sources, and the variable (in TWh) consisting of  
 278 historical values of energy amounts obtained by total renewable sources. On the other hand, the  
 279 total amount of renewable energy generation is the output variable as a single variable in TWh.

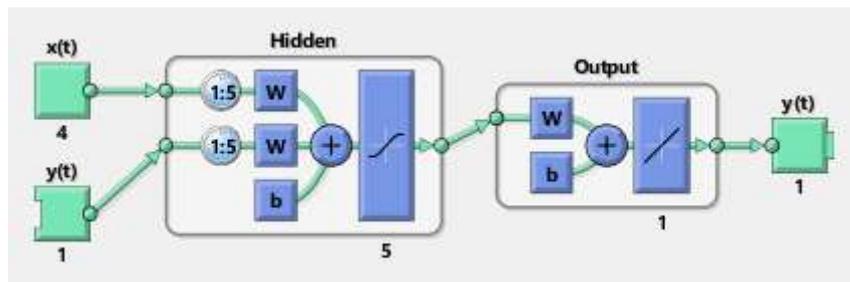
280 **Table 2** Statistical Structure of the Data Set

Variable Name (TWh)	Mean	Standard Deviation	Min.	Max.
Produced Amount of Energy from the Sun	0.41	1.82	0.0	10.91958
Produced Amount of Energy from the Wind	2.17	5.27	0.0000	21.7040
Produced Amount of Energy from the Geothermal and Biomass	1.07	2.56	0.0000	12.7106
Produced Amount of Energy from the Hydro	27.55	20.97	2.1790	89.1593
Produced Amount of Energy from Renewable Energy+ Hydro	31.20	28.32	2.2790	134.4934

281 .....In this study, three layers of the ANN model was used. These layers are input layer,  
 282 hidden layer and output layer. While 70% of the data were used for network training in ANN,  
 283 the remaining 30% was used for confirmation and test. All these data were normalized using  
 284 Peer 6 so that all inputs could be scaled within a certain range.

285 Network training should be provided in the first stage of ANN implementation. The  
 286 neuron number in the hidden layer revealing the features of network should be specified for  
 287 network training. The layer number in network is determined by trial according to certain rules.  
 288 Alternatives of 5, 10,12 and 15 were used for appropriate neuron number in the hidden layer  
 289 and 2-3-4-5-6 network alternatives were tried for lag lengths. Each model was retrained until  
 290 the reduction in validation error ended. This process continued until minimum performance  
 291 values that is mean square error (MSE) was achieved. Tried networks and performance results  
 292 are provided in Table 3. Levenberg-Marquardt Algorithm (TRAINLM), used most in the  
 293 literature, was utilised for all neuron numbers. As seen in this table, the best ANN algorithm  
 294 structure has 5 hidden neurons and 5 delayed multi-layer network structures according to the  
 295 performance value. This network structure is shown in Figure 3.

296 **Figure 3** Optimal Network Structure



**Table 3** Comparison of Network Structures

Network	Network Structure	Delay Number	Activation Function	Hidden Layers	Performans (MSE)	Training R
1	MLP 5-5-1	2	LM	1	0.00200	0.981
2	MLP 5-5-1	3	LM	1	0.00125	0.990
3	MLP 5-5-1	4	LM	1	0.00150	0.977
4	<i>MLP 5-5-1*</i>	5	<i>LM</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0.00033*</i>	<i>0.996</i>
5	MLP 5-5-1	6	LM	1	0.00418	0.963
6	MLP 5-10-1	2	LM	1	0.00265	0.972
7	MLP 5-10-1	3	LM	1	0.00080	0.994
8	MLP 5-10-1	4	LM	1	0.00111	0.989
9	MLP 5-10-1	5	LM	1	0.00171	0.984
10	MLP 5-10-1	6	LM	1	0.00135	0.986
11	MLP 5-12-1	2	LM	1	0.00110	0.990
12	MLP 5-12-1	3	LM	1	0.00096	0.989
13	MLP 5-12-1	4	LM	1	0.00726	0.990
14	MLP 5-12-1	5	LM	1	0.00102	0.990
15	MLP 5-12-1	6	LM	1	0.00210	0.977
16	MLP 5-15-1	2	LM	1	0.00789	0.924
17	MLP 5-15-1	3	LM	1	0.00072	0.992
18	MLP 5-15-1	4	LM	1	0.00276	0.986
19	MLP 5-15-1	5	LM	1	0.02690	0.926
20	MLP 5-15-1	6	LM	1	0.00149	0.988

LM:Levenberg-Marquardt

299 .....In order to transform data in TWh unit, the output and forecast values of the last decade  
300 were first subjected to denormalization process by using the network model forecasted, then  
301 the MAPE value of the forecasting was determined (Table 5).

302

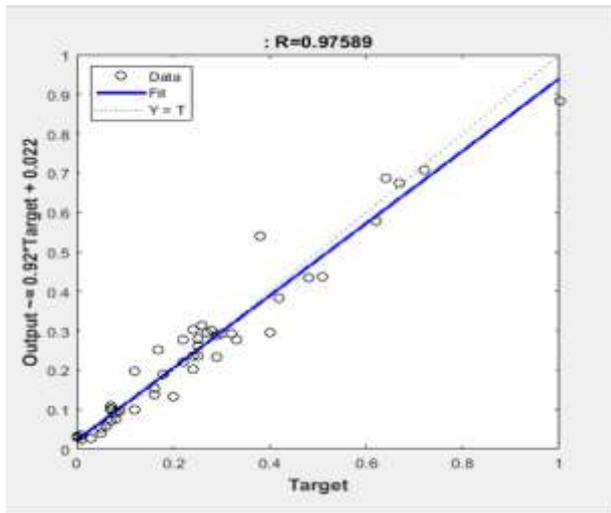
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304

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306

307 **Figure 4** Regression Plot Between Output and Target



308

309 .....Correlation coefficient was reviewed to examine the fit between the forecast values  
 310 obtained in this network structure and real values. This value was determined to be 0,97, which  
 311 was very high. The predictive power of the model used is clearly seen in the regression graph  
 312 (Figure 4) between output and target.

313 **ARIMA Model’s Result**

314 .....When making a forecast by the ARIMA model, stationaries of series should be first  
 315 examined. Augmented Dickey-Fuller test (ADF) was administered for renewable source related  
 316 energy generation amount series (y) by EViews 10 package program. Renewable energy source  
 317 data are not generally stationary, but series may be rendered stationary with very little  
 318 difference elicit Bhardwaj et al. (2020). As seen in the cologram in Figure 5, it is not stationary  
 319 at serial level in 24 delayed stationary test.

320 **Figure 5** Renewable Sourced Energy Generation Data Collogram (1965-2019).

Autocorrelation	Partial Correlation	AC	PAC	Q-Stat	Prob
		1 0.877	0.877	43.134	0.000
		2 0.765	-0.019	76.600	0.000
		3 0.664	-0.014	102.32	0.000
		4 0.631	0.235	125.97	0.000
		5 0.569	-0.129	145.63	0.000
		6 0.505	-0.032	161.48	0.000
		7 0.436	0.003	173.54	0.000
		8 0.370	-0.092	182.43	0.000
		9 0.341	0.136	190.14	0.000
		10 0.314	-0.013	196.82	0.000
		11 0.295	0.014	202.88	0.000
		12 0.255	-0.022	207.51	0.000
		13 0.227	-0.008	211.28	0.000
		14 0.180	-0.096	213.69	0.000
		15 0.153	0.029	215.49	0.000
		16 0.134	0.030	216.90	0.000
		17 0.136	0.058	218.41	0.000
		18 0.121	-0.031	219.62	0.000
		19 0.089	-0.071	220.30	0.000
		20 0.041	-0.091	220.44	0.000
		21 -0.015	-0.118	220.46	0.000
		22 -0.059	-0.041	220.79	0.000
		23 -0.100	-0.038	221.75	0.000
		24 -0.129	0.005	223.42	0.000

321

322 .....Series should be rendered stationary as no prediction may be made in non-stationary  
 323 series, consisting of a unit root. In order to make the series stationary, the 1<sup>st</sup> difference of the  
 324 series was elicited and its stationary was rechecked. The series of which cologram is seen in  
 325 Figure 6 is the first-degree stationary.

326 **Figure 6** The correlogram of the differenced data. (1965-2019).

Autocorrelation	Partial Correlation	AC	PAC	Q-Stat	Prob
		1 -0.248	-0.248	3.3920	0.066
		2 -0.020	-0.087	3.4151	0.181
		3 -0.037	-0.069	3.4940	0.322
		4 -0.130	-0.172	4.4817	0.345
		5 0.067	-0.022	4.7529	0.447
		6 0.184	0.194	6.8291	0.337
		7 -0.015	0.087	6.8425	0.445
		8 -0.028	-0.001	6.8935	0.548
		9 0.047	0.090	7.0361	0.633
		10 -0.151	-0.072	8.5576	0.575
		11 0.036	-0.045	8.6483	0.654
		12 -0.050	-0.126	8.8238	0.718
		13 0.029	-0.036	8.8862	0.781
		14 0.003	-0.043	8.8869	0.838
		15 -0.067	-0.108	9.2271	0.865
		16 -0.023	-0.049	9.2684	0.902
		17 0.026	0.034	9.3215	0.930
		18 0.026	0.065	9.3780	0.950
		19 -0.020	0.006	9.4137	0.966
		20 0.092	0.115	10.150	0.965
		21 -0.198	-0.110	13.687	0.883
		22 0.127	0.055	15.207	0.853
		23 0.070	0.106	15.683	0.869
		24 -0.053	-0.022	15.966	0.889

327  
 328 .....In figure 6, the ACF coefficients 1,4 and 6 numbered delays (q values) and PACF  
 329 coefficients 1,4 and 6 delays (p values) are close to the 95% confidence interval limit. Even if  
 330 they are not accepted completely, these delays will be added to the model and tried to prevent  
 331 the error. In this regard, 9 models were examined in ARIMA ((p, d, q) form (d: shows the degree  
 332 to which the series is stationary). The ARIMA models which were found to be statistically  
 333 significant ( $\alpha < 0.05$ ) in these forecast models are provided in Table 4. Of these models, 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 334 model forecast was determined to be the most appropriate model in line with the criteria of  
 335 adjusted R2, AIC and SIC.

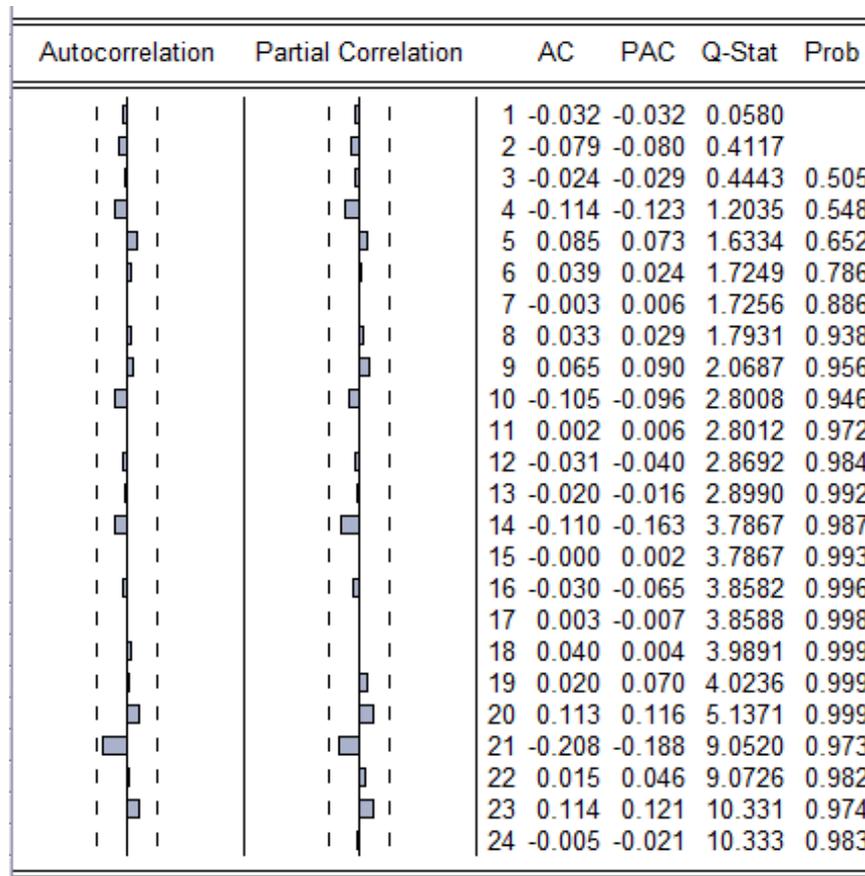
336 .....The cologram of residues was examined for checking the fit of the 3<sup>rd</sup> model. As seen in  
 337 figure 7, ACF and PACF values are within the confidence interval for all delays, that is all  
 338 required data and knowledge were included in the model.

339  
 340  
 341  
 342  
 343  
 344

**Table 4** Comparison of ARIMA Models

Model Numbers	ARIMA Model	Significant Number of Parameters	Variance	Variance for residuals(SIGMASQ)	Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	AIC	SIC
1	(1.1.1)	2	6.9600	7.4600	0.0210	6.78	6.93
2	(1.1.4)	2	6.8000	6.7800	0.0510	6.75	6.90
<b>3</b>	<b>(1.1.6)*</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6.4700</b>	<b>6.6300</b>	<b>0.1400</b>	<b>6.68</b>	<b>6.83</b>
4	(4.1.1)	2	6.8200	6.8600	0.0440	6.76	6.91
5	(4.1.4)	0	7.1300	7.0600	-0.0220	6.82	6.97
6	(4.1.6)	1	6.7500	4.8500	0.0600	6.75	6.90
7	(6.1.1)	2	6.6100	6.7000	0.1050	6.70	6.85
8	(6.1.4)	0	6.8300	5.5600	0.0430	6.79	6.92
9	(6.1.6)	0	6.7900	4.9600	0.0550	6.77	6.92

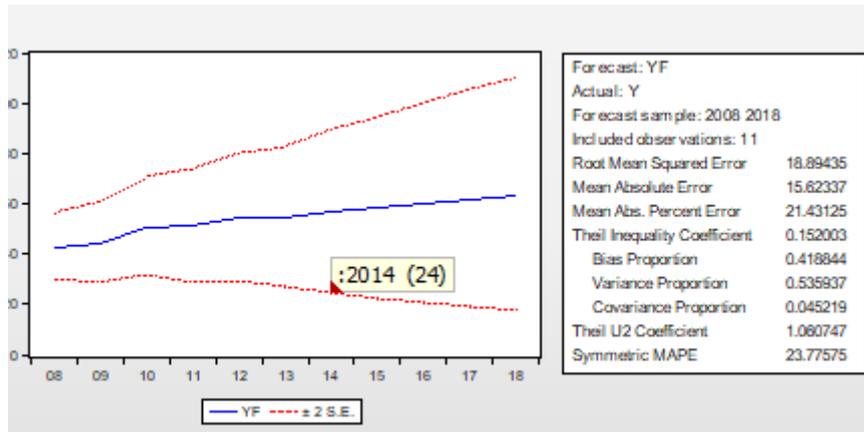
347 **Figure 7** Collogram of Residuals of the Optimal ARIMA Model



349 .....In order to check the validity of the ARIMA(1.1.6) model determined and to examine its  
 350 performance, a forecast was made between 2008-2018. The graph of forecasts obtained by this  
 351 ARIMA model is provided in Figure 8. The regression equation of the model used for prediction  
 352 is as follows;

$$353 \Delta y_t = 1,74 - 0,30y_{t-1} + 0,47\varepsilon_{t-6} + \delta \quad (11)$$

354 **Figure 8** Forecasting with Optimal ARIMA Model (2008-2018)



355  
 356

### 357 Conclusion

358 .....In this study, the energy amounts, which were obtained from the BP, generated by the  
 359 renewable sources of solar, wind, geothermal and biomass and hydraulic power plants between  
 360 1965-2019 were used as data. According to a statement made by the Republic of Turkey,  
 361 Energy Market Regulatory Authority (2020) the share of renewable energy sources (including  
 362 hydraulic) in total licensed electricity generation was 30.67% in 2018 and 42.10% in 2019  
 363 (123789 GWh= 123.789 TWh). Total energy amount generated in 2019 was determined to be  
 364 134.49 Twh according to the data provided by BP (2020).

365 .....Renewable energy sources will promote development in both economic and social  
 366 respects for the countries which are dependent on outside energy sources like Turkey. Spending  
 367 the sources of country for purchasing energy from other countries will be reduced and new  
 368 sectors for employment will grow by means of RES. Energy dependence makes countries more  
 369 sensitive against political conflicts. To provide security of energy transmission lines, for  
 370 example, pipelines in our country, requires an additional effort. In addition to economic, social  
 371 and political effects of energy dependence, negative effects of fossil resources on the  
 372 environment is an issue with a high awareness level around the world. In this regard, Turkey  
 373 attempts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with the international agreements,  
 374 such as the Madrid protocol to which Turkey became a party in 2017.

375 .....The Republic of Turkey is exerting effort to extend the use of RES. To increase the share  
 376 of RES in total energy generation to 30% is one of the 2023 goals of Turkey. Turkey is  
 377 approaching this goal swiftly, and 5000 MW installed solar energy sources, which is a 2023  
 378 target, was even achieved in 2018.

379 .....Although our country has been affected negatively by Covid-19 pandemic in economical  
 380 respect as it is across the world, the duration in the renewable energy support mechanism was  
 381 extended for 6 months. Such examples are indicators to what extent the expansion of RES is  
 382 attached importance in our country. Prediction of generation or consumption amounts is of  
 383 paramount importance for the interests of the country so that renewable energy sources can be  
 384 planned in accordance with this goal.

385 .....Most of the previous studies revealed that energy consumption will increase in the  
 386 following years. However, this increasing trend can continue for a while [9]. The global  
 387 economic slowdown, caused by Covid-19 pandemic and which we do not know for now how  
 388 long its effect will last, will certainly affect the generation of renewable energy sources. The  
 389 forecasts made in this study revealed that the generation amount would decrease until 2023  
 390 when compared to 2019. This may be explained by the fact that the energy generation amounts  
 391 by RES do not have a regular course in Turkey and this cannot be only referred to Turkey. In  
 392 Turkey, there was a natural gas problem in 2009 due to the problem between Russia and Ukraine  
 393 because of transmission price. Moreover, similar problems were also seen in 2006 when  
 394 Ukraine-Russia ceased natural gas and in 2007 when Iran cut off natural gas. There was a  
 395 tension with Russia after the plane crisis occurred in November 2016. All these examples have  
 396 made the strategy of energy generation by renewable sources one of the most significant issues  
 397 of the energy policy of the country. As seen in the generation amounts in Annex....., different  
 398 energy strategies developed in different circumstances are in a tendency to increase or decrease  
 399 from time to time by both own investments and incentives of the state.

400 .....In this study, ANN, used to predict the energy to be generated by renewable energy  
 401 sources and has shown good results in many studies, and ARIMA models, a time series  
 402 application, were used. MLP 5-5-1 model in ANN networks and ARIMA (1.1.6) models were  
 403 determined to be appropriate for forecasting. In order to check the validity of the results  
 404 obtained by the developed model, 11-year data between 2008-2018 were separately predicted  
 405 by these two models (Table 5).

406 **Table 5** Comparison of Prediction Models

Years	Actual	ANN Forecasting	ANN Differs%	ARIMA (1.1.4)	ARIMA Differs%
2008	34.421	42.450	-23.3	42.730	-24.1
2009	38.141	41.157	-7.9	44.490	-16.6
2010	55.715	41.383	25.7	50.800	8.8
2011	58.102	52.759	9.2	51.000	12.2
2012	65.221	59.772	8.4	54.430	16.5
2013	69.227	59.915	13.5	54.340	21.5
2014	52.629	73.822	-40.3	56.640	-7.6
2015	83.658	78.754	5.9	58.210	30.4
2016	90.244	91.290	-1.2	60.000	33.5
2017	87.263	93.122	-6.7	61.730	29.3
2018	97.768	95.686	2.1	96.630	1.2
<b>MAPE%</b>		<b>13.1</b>		<b>21.9</b>	

408 .....While MAPE value was specified to be approximately 13.1% in the ANN model, this rate  
 409 was found to be 21.9% in ARIMA model. This variable refers to the deviation rate in the  
 410 forecasting model. The predictive power of the model is considered to be “excellent” when  
 411 MAPE rate is 10%<, “good” when MAPE rate is between 10% and 20%, “reasonable” when  
 412 MAPE rate is between 20% and 50% and “wrong” when MAPE rate is between above 50%  
 413 Ghalekhondab et al. (2016). As it is seen, ANN showed a quite better performance in this  
 414 study when compared to the ARIMA model. When previous studies were examined, it was  
 415 observed that ANN mostly provided better results compared to other methods (Ghalekhondabi  
 416 et al. 2016). In this study, the results of the model obtained with ANN are more efficient.

417 .....Another goal of this study was to investigate the efficiency of these two models. In this  
 418 study, the efficiency of the ANN model was found to be higher than the ARIMA model. Their  
 419 MAPE values are 13.1 % and 21.9 %, respectively. It was also stated in previous studies that  
 420 ANN models are more efficient in prediction. Kazemzadeh et al. (2020), made an energy  
 421 demand by ANN and ARIMA models. While MAPE values were determined to be  
 422 approximately 16% and 19% for two ARIMA models, it was 1.5% for the ANN model. Nair et  
 423 al (2017), found out the MAPE values to be 14% and 18%, respectively for ANN and ARIMA  
 424 models they used to estimate wind speeds of certain regions. Contrary to these results,  
 425 Kheirkhah et al. (2013), argued that ARIMA model provided a better result in their energy  
 426 demand forecasting models due to its dynamic structure (MAPE: 0,103).

427 .....The primary goal of this study was to predict the renewable sources related energy  
 428 generation amount of the Republic of Turkey until 2023. The renewable sources related energy  
 429 generation amount of the Republic of Turkey, forecasted by ANN and ARIMA (1.1.6) models  
 430 in accordance with 2023 goals, is given in Table 6.

431 .....The prediction of hydraulic related energy generation amount of Turkey performed by  
 432 Uzlu et al (2014), through the ANN model has been between 69.1 and 76.5 TWh for 2021. In  
 433 addition, Şahin (2020), reported the amount of renewable energy production of Turkey in 2023  
 434 to be 141.0–150.8 (MAPE 7,1) TWh, and 57.3–69.7 TWh (MAPE 9.1) amount of this has been  
 435 forecasted to be generated by hydraulic energy generation. Şahin (2018), has predicted that  
 436 109.1 TWh energy would be generated by hydraulic sources, 5.8 TWh by geothermal sources  
 437 and 50.63 TWh by wind-related sources in 2023.

438 **Table 6** Estimating the Amount of Energy to be Produced (TWh).

Years	ANN Estimation	ARIMA Estimation
2020	115.599	89.451
2021	116.558	75.631
2022	115.176	58.484
2023	127.516	45.457

439  
 440 .....In this study, when the data related to renewable energy sources were obtained, hydraulic  
 441 sources were not included in, and this type of source has the biggest share in energy generation  
 442 by RES sources. In Turkey, only the hydraulic energy generation facilities with a river type or  
 443 reservoir area of less than fifteen square kilometres are considered renewable among all  
 444 hydraulic resources. However, there is no data regarding the generation amount by hydraulic  
 445 sources considered within the renewable class between 1965-2019, revealing the separation of

446 generation amounts. The generation amount obtained by hydraulic sources is included in this  
447 study as hydraulic sources are domestic and there is no external dependence on main source  
448 supply. In further studies, forecasting models can be developed by utilising the variables, such  
449 as wind speed, sunshine duration, water temperature of the geothermal resource, which are  
450 determinant of generation amount of each renewable energy source. What is more, generation  
451 amount of each source is of importance as they may be used as a guide by policymakers,  
452 especially regarding energy investment planning.  
453 .....There are many different forecasting methods, excluding the ones used in this study.  
454 There are many various determinants of energy generation amount by renewable sources, and  
455 the technique selected depends on these different determinants. For this reason, predictions may  
456 also be carried out by different forecasting methods.

457

## 458 **Declarations**

459 **Ethics approval:** This study follows all ethical practices during writing.

460 **Consent to participate:** Not applicable

461 **Consent for publication:** Not applicable

462 **Competing interests :**The authors declare no competing interests.

463 **Funding:** There are no funding providers.

464 **Authors Contributions:** The entire article has been created by the corresponding author.

465 **Availability of data and materials:** The complete data set is available in Appendix 1.

466

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## 553 Appendix

### 554 Ap1. Dataset

	Ç-G5	G1	G2	G3	G4
Years	Produced Amount of Energy from the Renewable and Hydro -TWh	Produced Amount of Energy from the Sun - TWh	Produced Amount of Energy from the Wind - TWh	Produced Amount of Energy from the Geothermal and Biomass- TWh	Produced Amount of Energy from the Hydro - TWh
1965	2.2790	0.0	0.0000	0.1000	2.1790
1966	2.4601	0.0	0.0000	0.1220	2.3381
1967	2.5548	0.0	0.0000	0.1730	2.3818
1968	3.3538	0.0	0.0000	0.1790	3.1748
1969	3.6229	0.0	0.0000	0.1780	3.4449
1970	3.1988	0.0	0.0000	0.1660	3.0328
1971	2.7722	0.0	0.0000	0.1620	2.6102
1972	3.3792	0.0	0.0000	0.1750	3.2042
1973	2.8004	0.0	0.0000	0.1970	2.6034
1974	3.5628	0.0	0.0000	0.2070	3.3558
1975	6.1236	0.0	0.0000	0.2200	5.9036
1976	8.5358	0.0	0.0000	0.1610	8.3748
1977	8.7903	0.0	0.0000	0.2180	8.5723
1978	9.4718	0.0	0.0000	0.1370	9.3348
1979	10.4339	0.0	0.0000	0.1450	10.2889
1980	11.4842	0.0	0.0000	0.1360	11.3482
1981	12.7261	0.0	0.0000	0.1100	12.6161

1982	14.1667	0.0	0.0000	0.0000	14.1667
1983	11.3427	0.0	0.0000	0.0000	11.3427
1984	13.4484	0.0	0.0000	0.0221	13.4263
1985	12.0509	0.0	0.0000	0.0060	12.0449
1986	11.9162	0.0	0.0000	0.0436	11.8726
1987	18.6757	0.0	0.0000	0.0579	18.6178
1988	29.0180	0.0	0.0000	0.0684	28.9496
1989	18.0022	0.0	0.0000	0.0626	17.9396
1990	23.2277	0.0	0.0000	0.0801	23.1476
1991	22.8030	0.0	0.0000	0.1197	22.6833
1992	26.6847	0.0	0.0000	0.1167	26.5680
1993	34.0849	0.0	0.0000	0.1340	33.9509
1994	30.7159	0.0	0.0000	0.1300	30.5859
1995	35.8492	0.0	0.0000	0.3083	35.5409
1996	40.7343	0.0	0.0000	0.2591	40.4752
1997	40.1929	0.0	0.0000	0.3768	39.8161
1998	42.5605	0.0	0.0055	0.3260	42.2290
1999	34.9119	0.0	0.0205	0.2139	34.6775
2000	31.1534	0.0	0.0334	0.2415	30.8785
2001	24.3459	0.0	0.0624	0.2736	24.0099
2002	33.9664	0.0	0.0480	0.2346	33.6838
2003	35.5585	0.0	0.0614	0.1676	35.3295
2004	46.3106	0.0	0.0577	0.1692	46.0837
2005	39.7479	0.0	0.0590	0.1284	39.5605
2006	44.5226	0.0	0.1305	0.1479	44.2442
2007	36.4568	0.0	0.3511	0.2549	35.8508
2008	34.4210	0.0	0.8465	0.3047	33.2698
2009	38.1412	0.0	1.4954	0.6874	35.9584
2010	55.7154	0.00240	2.9164	1.0011	51.7955

2011	58.1025	0.00286	4.7239	1.0371	52.3386
2012	65.2213	0.00426	5.8608	1.4913	57.8650
2013	69.2269	0.00678	7.5575	2.2422	59.4205
2014	52.6287	0.01740	8.5201	3.4466	40.6447
2015	83.6580	0.19412	11.6525	4.6655	67.1458
2016	90.2443	1.04310	15.5171	6.4532	67.2309
2017	87.2631	2.88930	17.9038	8.2515	58.2185
2018	97.7680	7.79980	19.9492	10.0805	59.9385
2019	134.4934	10.91958	21.7040	12.7106	89.1593

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# Figures

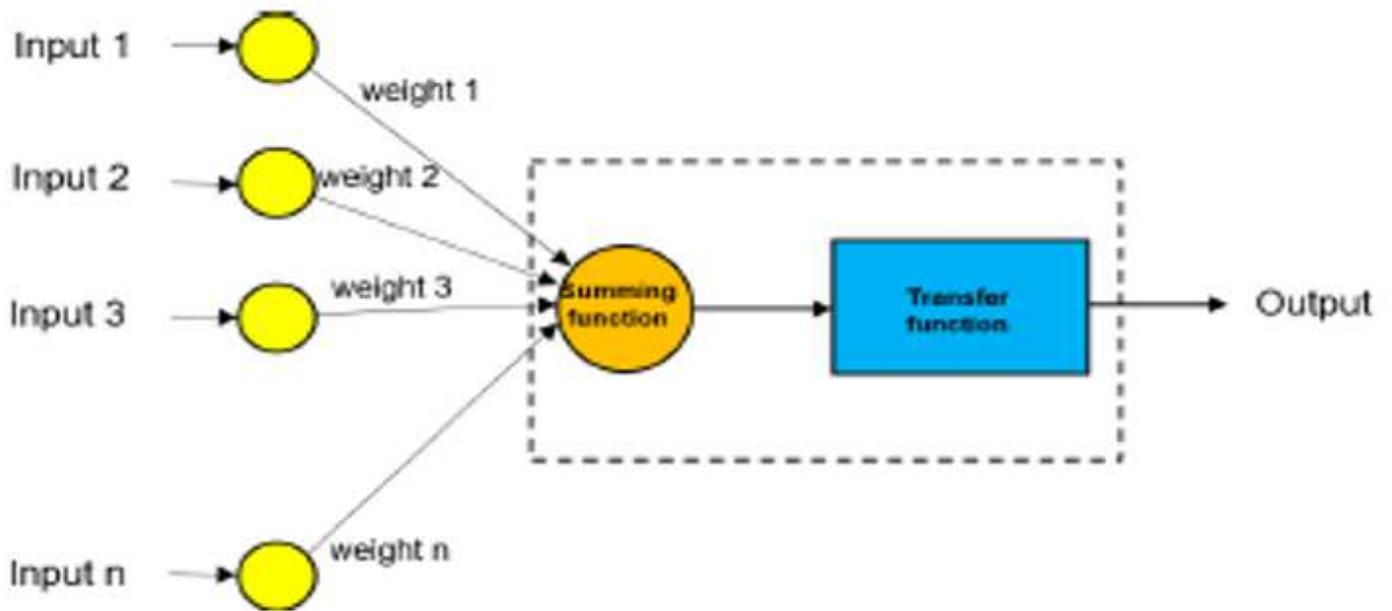


Figure 1

ANN structure (Brodny vd, 2020).

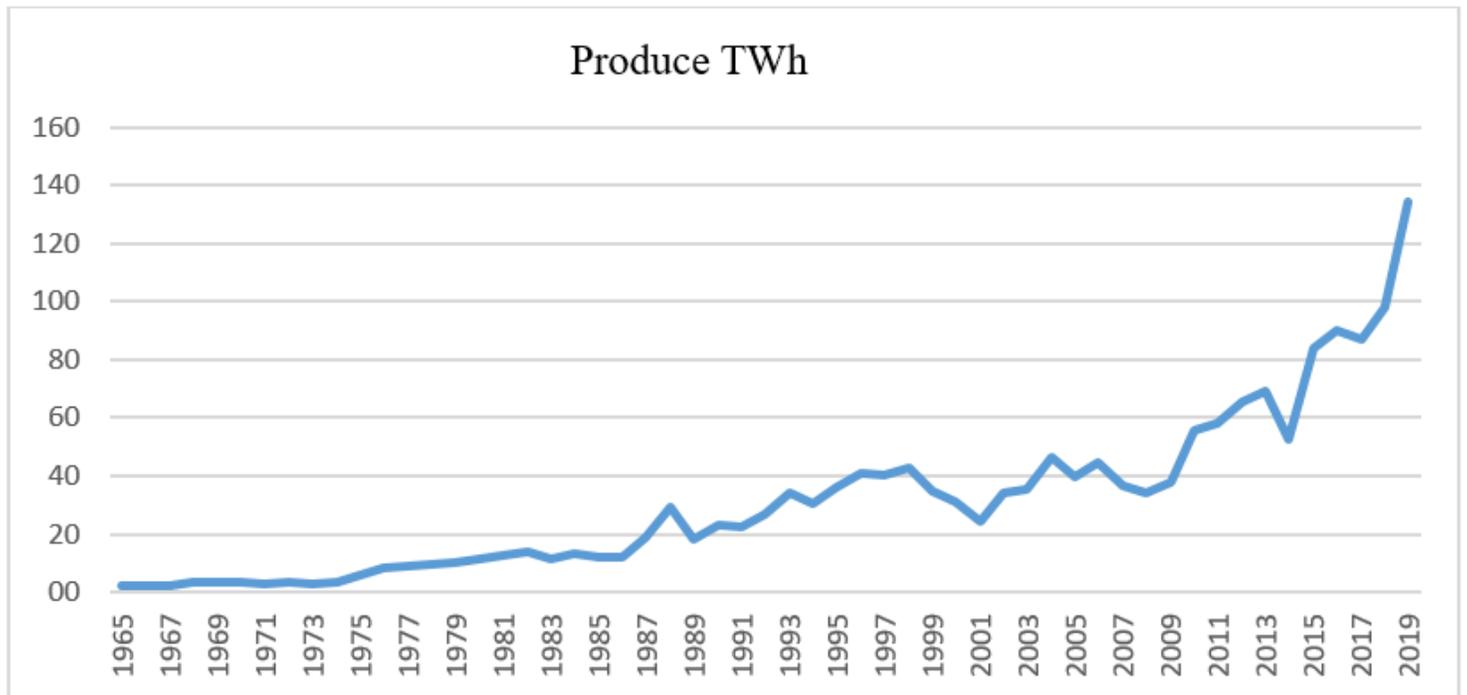


Figure 2

Turkey 1965-2019 Renewable Energy Production (TWh).

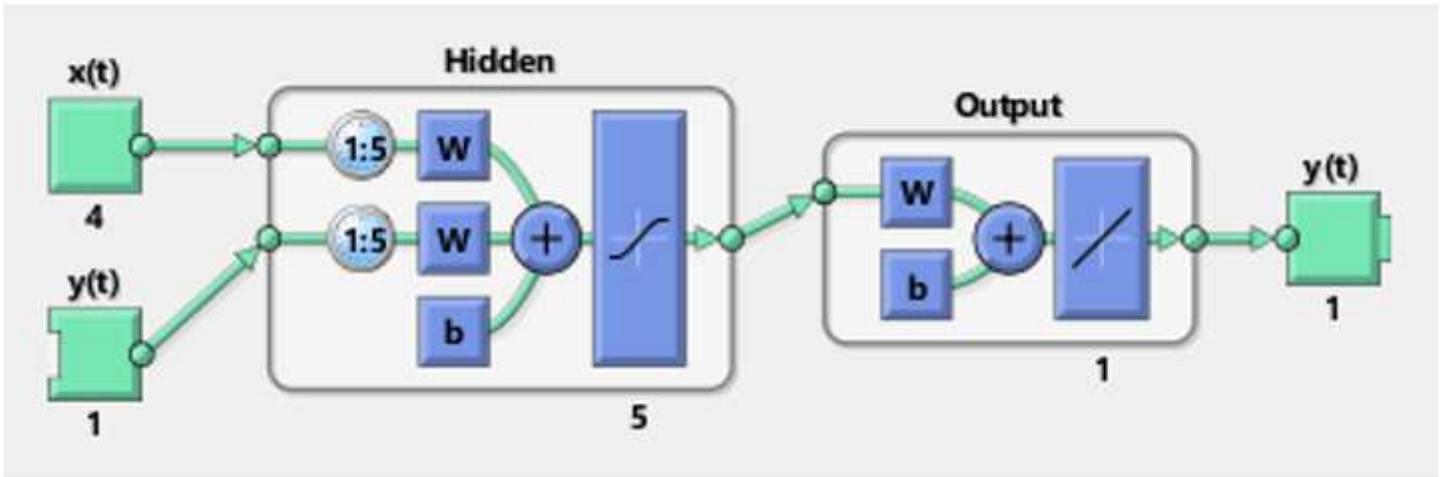


Figure 3

Optimal Network Structure

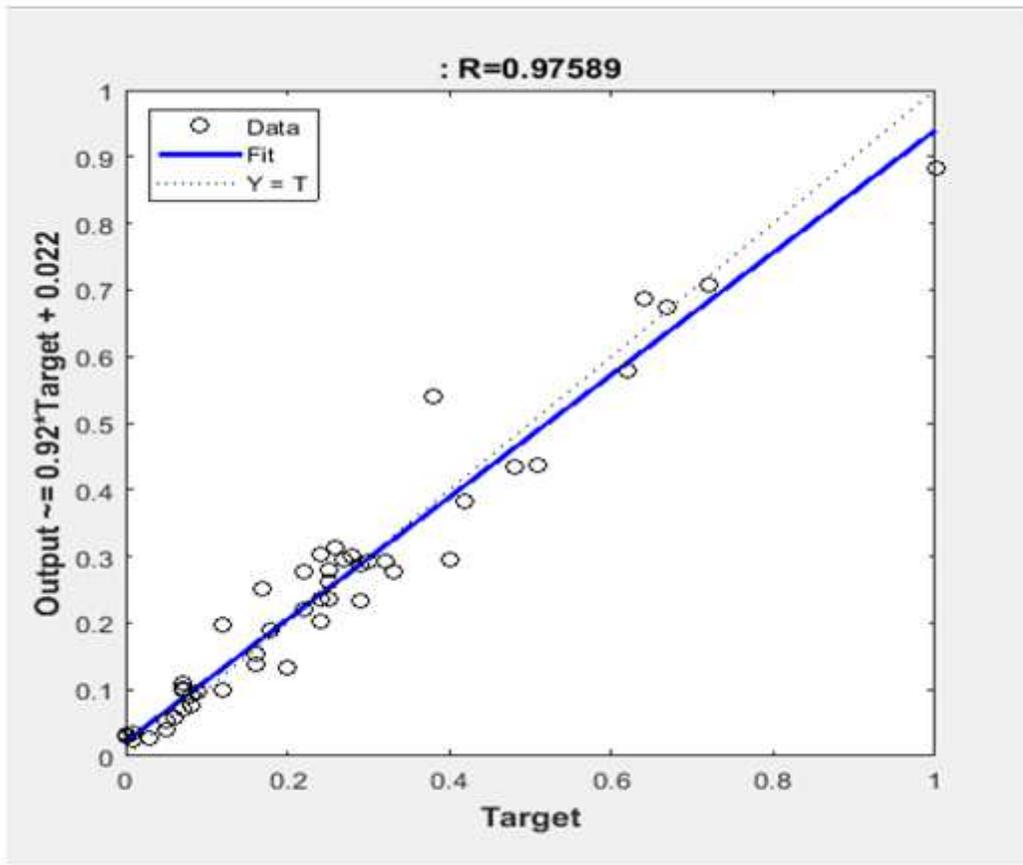


Figure 4

Regression Plot Between Output and Target

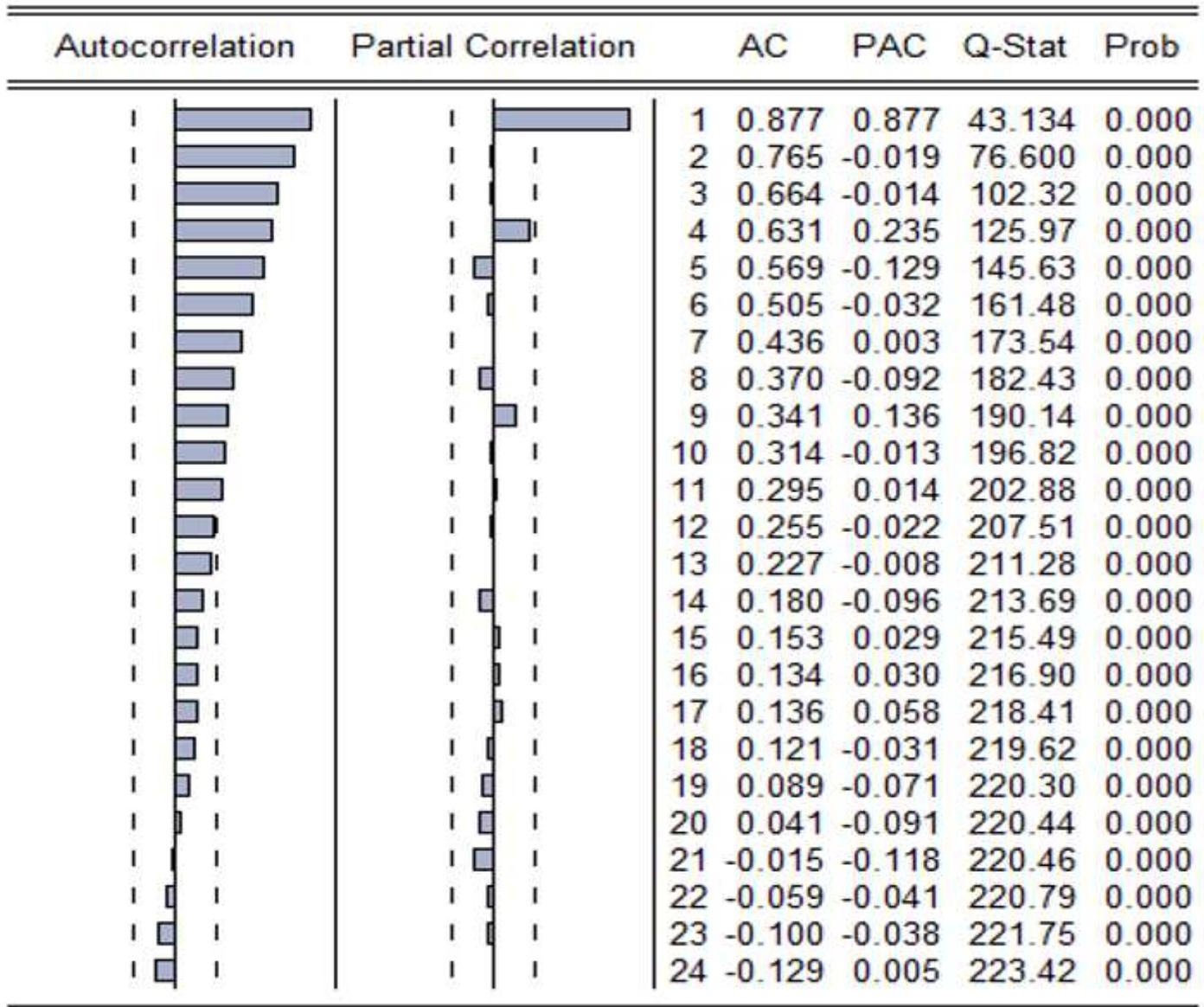


Figure 5

Renewable Sourced Energy Generation Data Collogram (1965-2019).

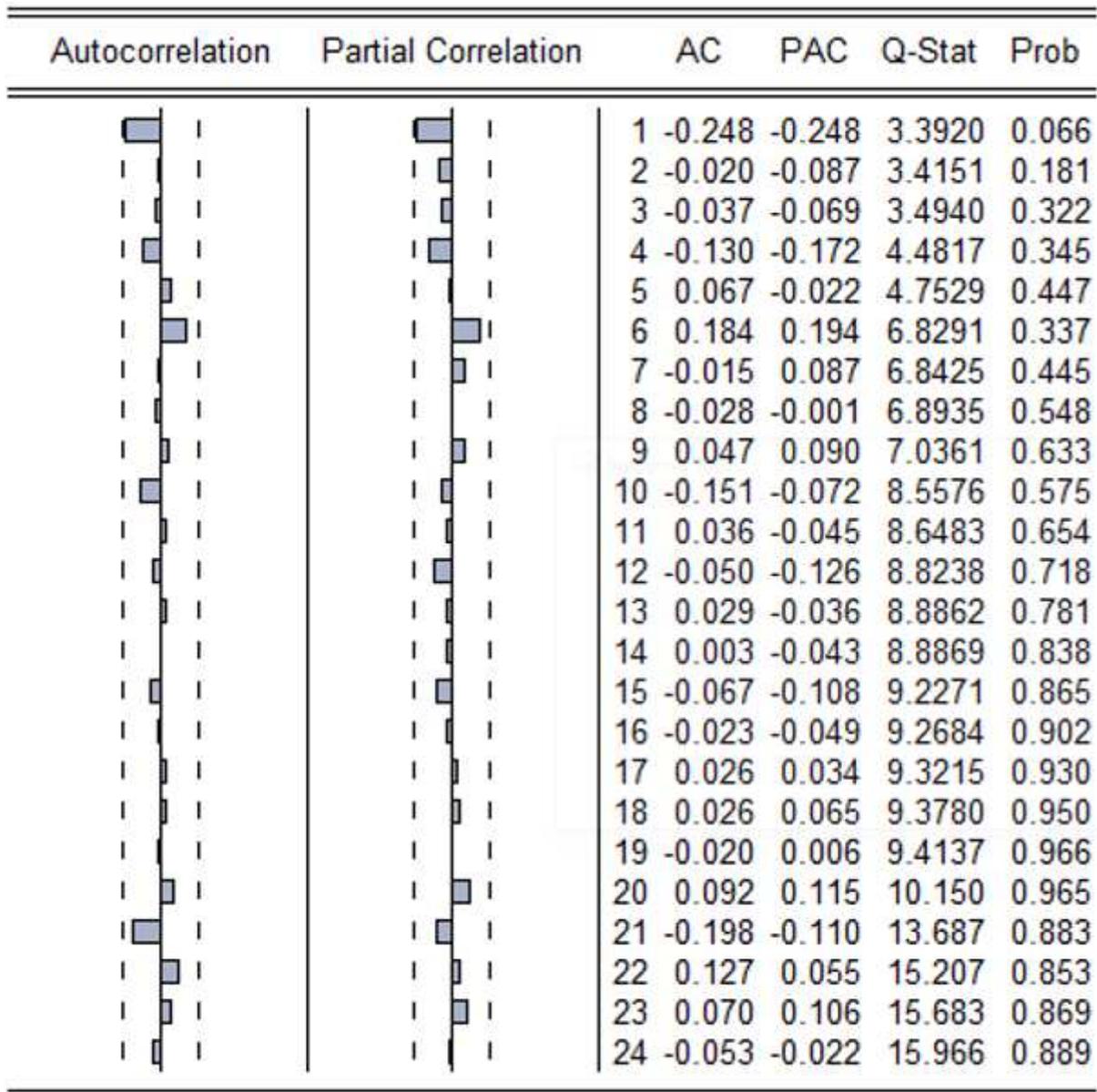


Figure 6

The correlogram of the differenced data. (1965-2019).

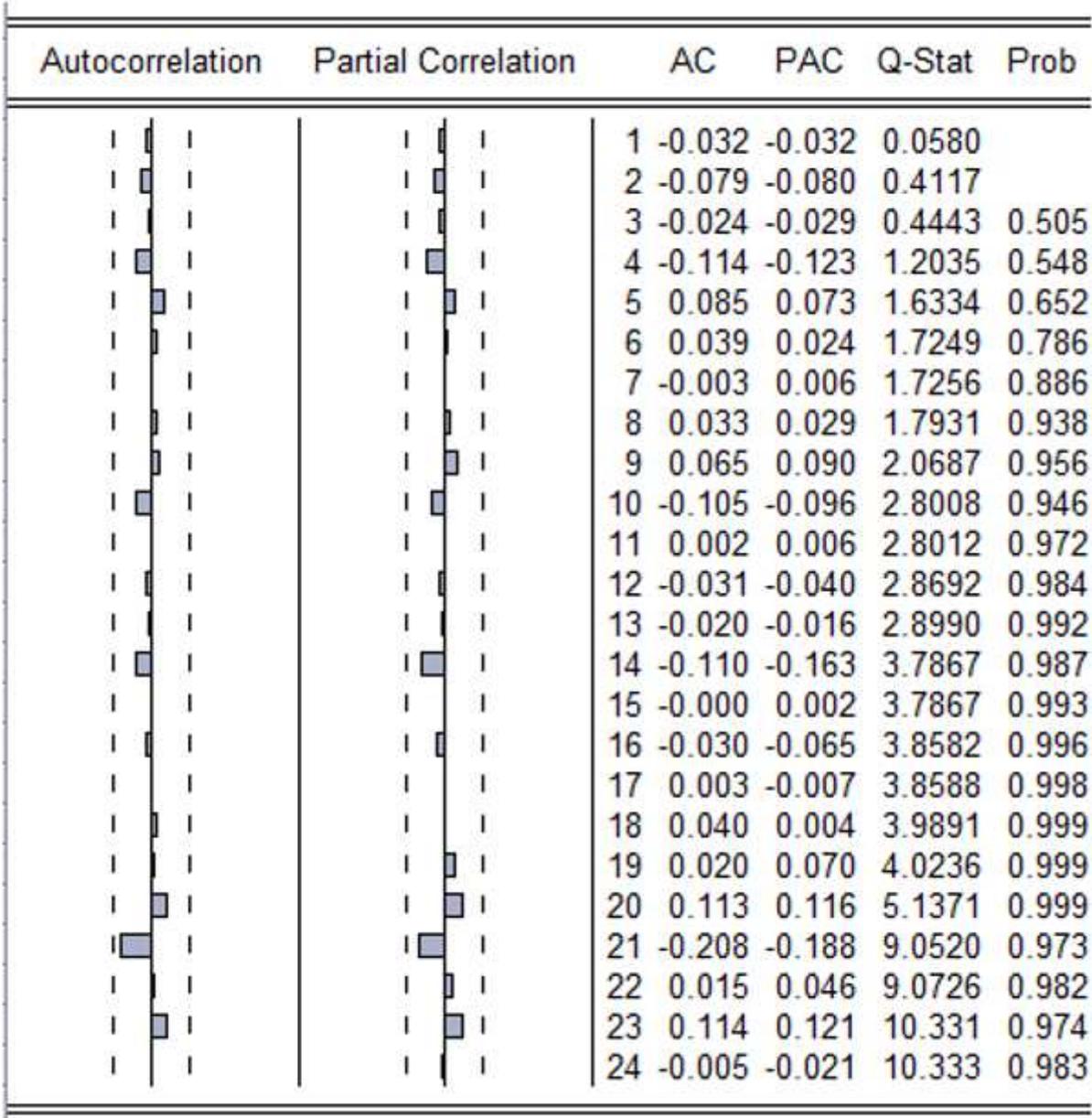
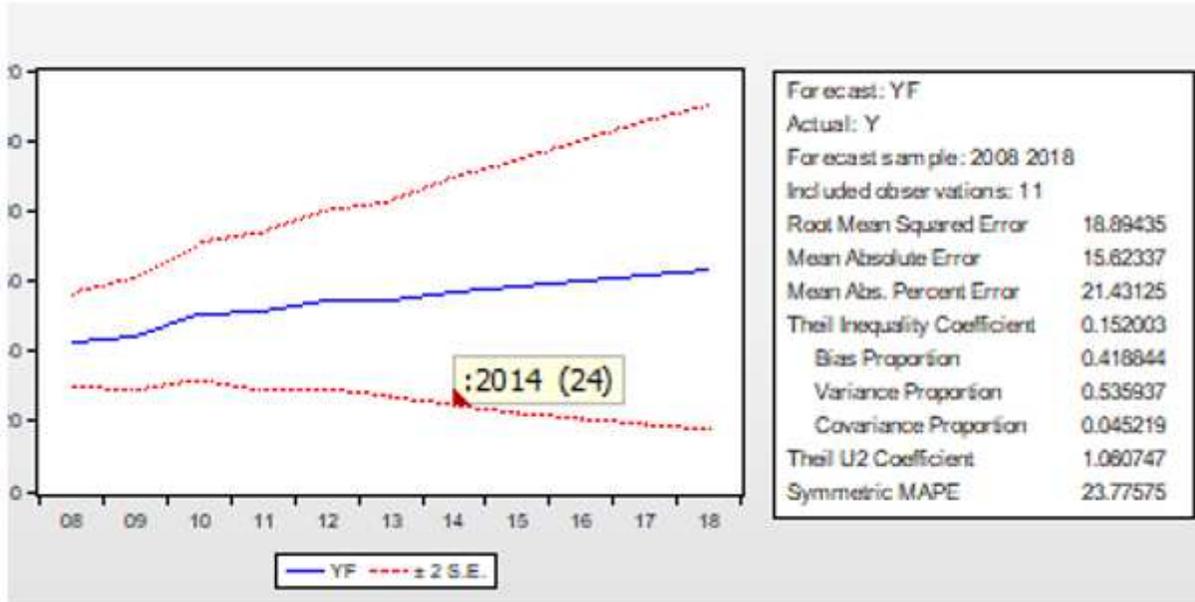


Figure 7

Collogram of Residuals of the Optimal ARIMA Model



**Figure 8**

Forecasting with Optimal ARIMA Model (2008-2018)