

# Industrial 6G-IoT and Machine-Learning-Supported Intelligent Sensing Framework for Indicator Control Strategy in Sewage Treatment Process

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## Motivation

- **Global Water Scarcity:** Rising water shortages demand efficient wastewater treatment and resource reuse.
- **Energy Wastage:** Traditional aeration processes waste over 60% of energy due to reliance on manual control.
- **Critical Role of Dissolved Oxygen (DO):** Accurate DO control is essential for effective and energy-efficient treatment.
- **6G-IoT Opportunity:** Advances in 6G-IoT and machine learning enable smarter, data-driven control strategies.
- **Research Goal:** Develop an intelligent framework to optimize DO levels, lowering carbon emissions from wastewater treatment plants.

## Methodology

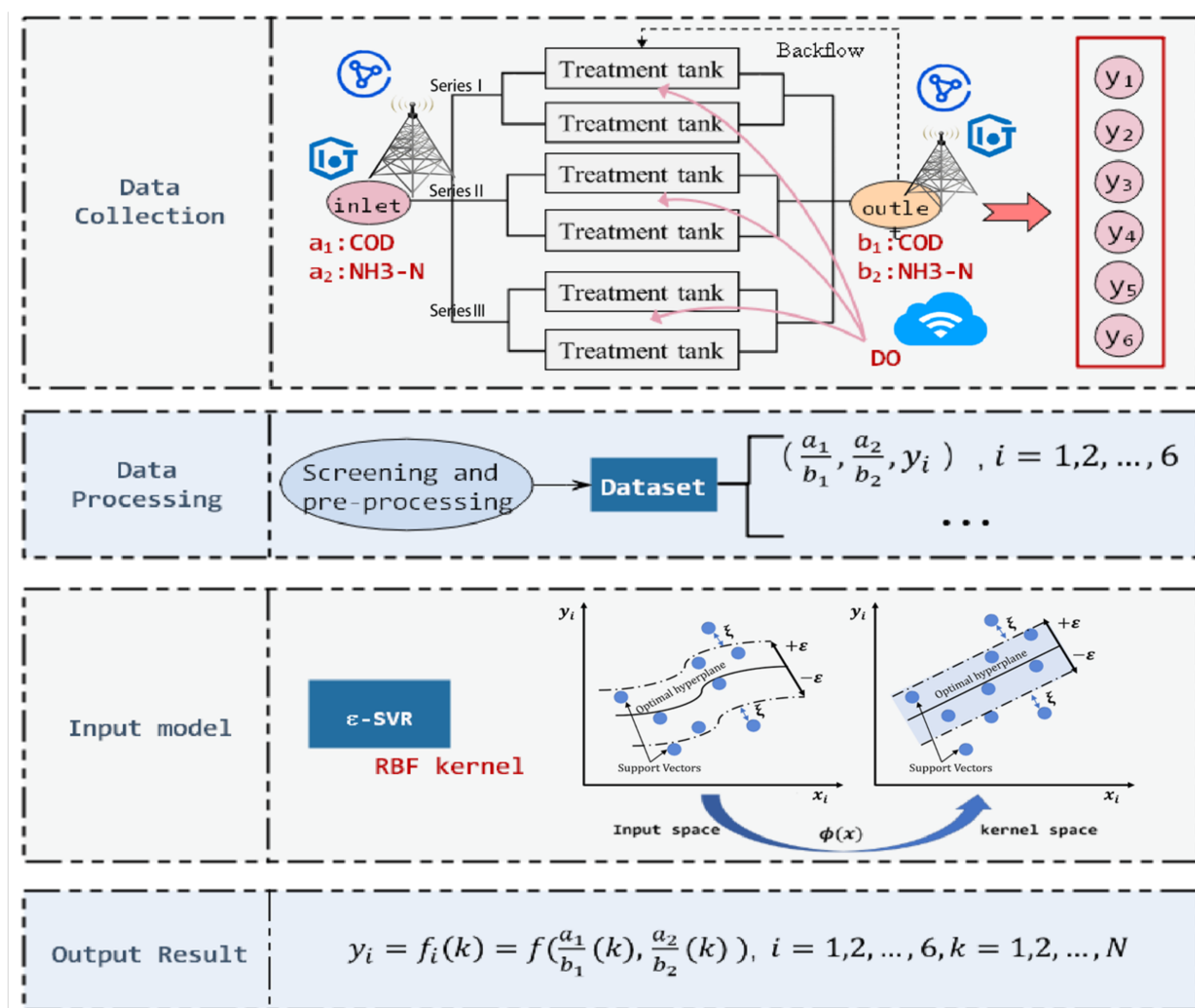


Fig. 1. System architecture of aeration research

### 1. Data Collection:

- ⇒ **1.1 Source:** Data obtained from a sewage treatment plant.
- ⇒ **1.2 Indicators:** Chemical Oxygen Demand(COD), Ammonia Nitrogen(NH<sub>3</sub>-N).
- ⇒ **1.3 Monitoring points:** Data was collected at both inlet and outlet points to evaluate pollutant removal efficiency across the treatment process.

### 2. Data Preprocessing:

- ⇒ **2.1 Filtered:** Removed noisy and unstable data points to ensure data reliability.
- ⇒ **2.2 Derived:** Input variables as inlet-to-outlet **COD and NH<sub>3</sub>-N ratios**.
- ⇒ **2.3 Normalized:** Standardized variables for model compatibility.
- ⇒ **2.4 Split:** 80% dataset for training, 20% for testing.

### 3. Model Input and Training:

- ⇒ **3.1 Input Features:** Ratios of COD and NH<sub>3</sub>-N concentrations at inlet and outlet.
- ⇒ **3.2 Prediction Targets:** DO levels from the treatment plant's six zones, representing different aeration stages.
- ⇒ **3.3 Model:** Radial Basis Function Support Vector Regression (RBF-SVR), chosen for its ability to handle high-dimensional data and capture nonlinear relationships.
- ⇒ **3.4 Training Process:** The model learns to map input features to DO levels, aiming to support intelligent aeration control.

### 4. Output:

- ⇒ **4.1 Predicted Values:** The model predicts DO concentrations for six zones, providing data to optimize aeration control.
- ⇒ **4.2 Application:** Provides a foundation for implementing intelligent aeration strategies.
- ⇒ **4.3 Goal:** Enable energy-efficient operation by optimizing aeration control in wastewater treatment.

## Dataset

(1). **Source:** Collected from a sewage treatment plant, **300,000 tons/day**, **8760 hours** of continuous monitoring data. (2). **Input:** COD Ratio: indicates the change in organic matter concentration [2.4, 133.5]. NH<sub>3</sub>-N Ratio reflects nitrogen concentration changes [1.3, 240.4]. **Output:** Six zones of DO values for aeration control, [0, 5].

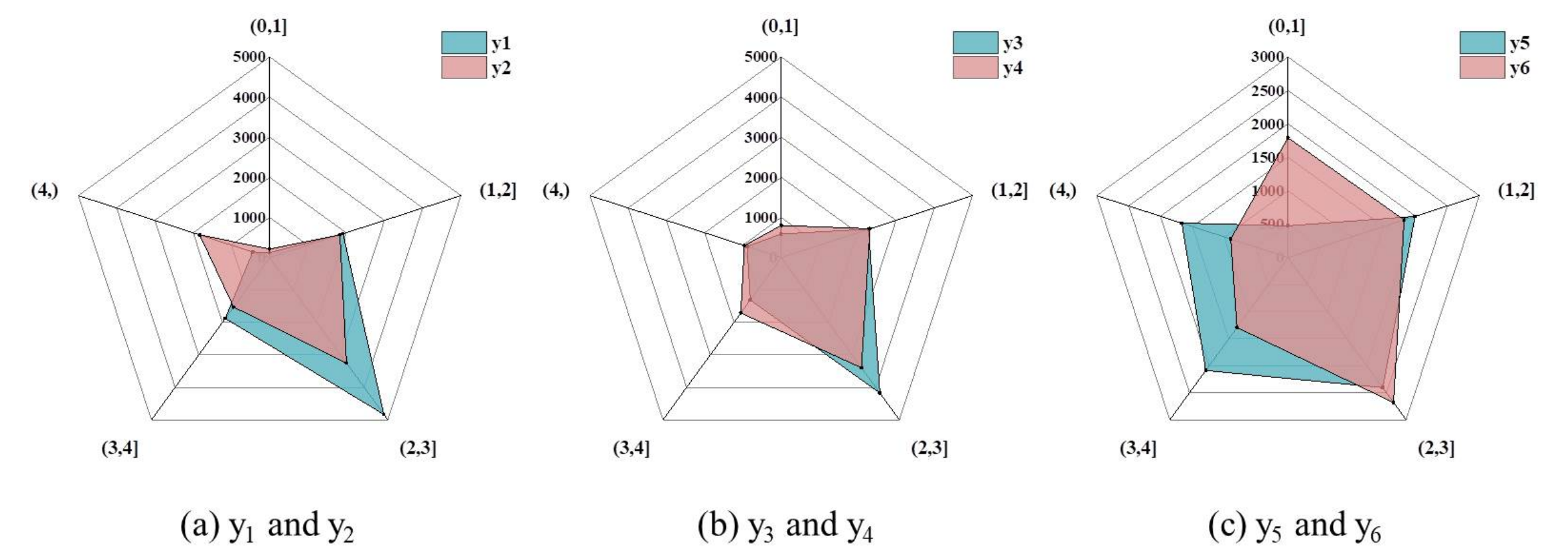


Fig.2. DO density distributions across six zones of the dataset ( $y_1, \dots, y_6$  are DO values for different tanks).

## Results

**1. Models and Metrics:** (1.1). **Ours:** RBF-SVR. **Baseline:** Linear-SVR, MLP, RFR. (1.2). Mean Absolute Error (MAE), Root Mean Square Error (RMSE), Mean Absolute Percentage Error (MAPE).

Table 1: Performance of RBF-SVR model on different datasets(tanks).

Dataset	MAE (↓)	RMSE (↓)	MAPE (↓)
Y1 ( $y_1$ )	0.5047	0.7733	21.44%
Y2 ( $y_2$ )	0.7079	0.9807	29.82%
Y3 ( $y_3$ )	0.5127	0.7783	22.07%
Y4 ( $y_4$ )	0.5878	0.7926	23.16%
Y5 ( $y_5$ )	0.6254	0.9273	25.66%
Y6 ( $y_6$ )	0.5927	0.8283	24.80%

**2. Main Results on RBF-SVR(Table 1):** (2.1). Best Performance on Y1: The RBF-SVR model achieves the lowest MAE (0.5047), RMSE (0.7733), and MAPE (21.44%) on the Y1 dataset. (2.2). Poor Performance on Y2: Y2 has the highest MAE (0.7079), RMSE (0.9807), and MAPE (29.82%) due to inconsistencies in input data increasing model fitting difficulty. (2.3). The RBF-SVR model demonstrates good predictive performance across all datasets.

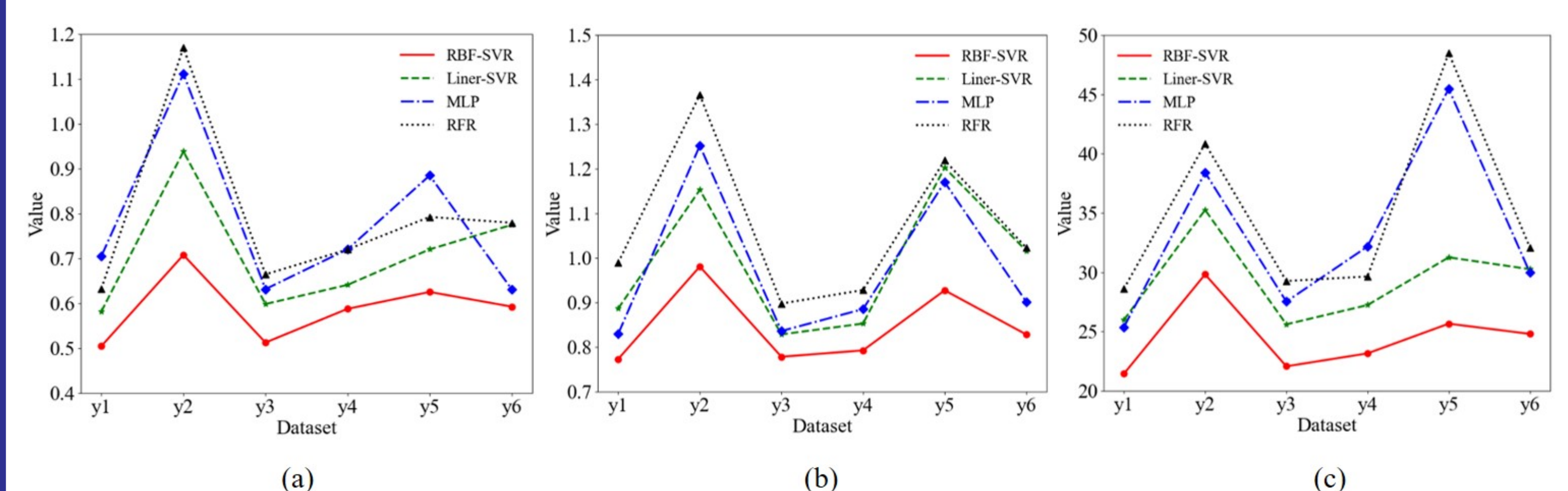


Fig. 3. Models with different series of DO datasets: (a) MAE, (b) RMSE, (c) MAPE.

**3. Main Results on Models (Fig.3):** (3.1). The RBF-SVR model consistently outperforms all baselines (MLP, Linear-SVR, RFR) across MAE, RMSE, and MAPE metrics. (3.2). The proposed method achieves the best performance, with an average MAE improvement of 0.2, and excels particularly when using the  $y_1$  or  $y_3$  series as input. (3.3). MLP and Linear-SVR occasionally outperform RFR, but **RBF-SVR is the most effective model overall**.

## Conclusions

- **Innovative Control:** Proposed an RBF-SVR-based intelligent sensing model for precise DO prediction in wastewater treatment.
- **Superior Performance:** RBF-SVR outperforms baseline models with a 5% improvement and prediction deviation below 0.6.
- **Energy Efficiency:** Accurate DO prediction enables optimized aeration control, leading to energy-efficient operation.

### Key References

[1] Z. Guo, Y. Shen, C. Chakraborty, F. Alblehai and K. Yu, "Industrial 6G-IoT and Machine-Learning-Supported Intelligent Sensing Framework for Indicator Control Strategy in Sewage Treatment Process," in IEEE Internet of Things Journal, vol. 11, no. 18, pp. 29308-29320, 15 Sept.15, 2024,