ISSN: 2347-7431

EPRA International Journal of Climate and Resource Economic Review

-Peer Reviewed Journal

Volume: 14 | Issue:5 |May 2026 || SJIF Impact Factor (2026): 8.714 || Journal DOI: 10.36713/epra1213

DEVELOPMENT OF AN IOT-ENABLED SMART ENERGY MONITORING SYSTEM USING MACHINE LEARNING FOR CONSUMPTION OPTIMIZATION

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Article DOI: https://doi.org/10.36713/epra27543
DOI No: 10.36713/epra27543

ABSTRACT---

This study presents the development of an Internet of Things (IoT)-enabled smart energy monitoring system integrated with machine learning techniques to provide real-time energy consumption tracking and predictive analytics. The system collects electrical usage data through IoT-based energy meters and transmits the information to a processing unit for analysis. Machine learning algorithms are applied to identify consumption patterns and forecast future energy usage. The proposed system aims to enhance energy efficiency, reduce unnecessary consumption, and support data-driven decision-making. Results indicate that the system can effectively monitor real-time energy usage and provide reliable predictions, demonstrating its potential for smart energy management applications.

KEYWORDS*: IoT, Smart Energy Meter, Machine Learning, Energy Monitoring, Predictive Analytics*--------------

1. INTRODUCTION

The increasing demand for electricity has made energy monitoring and optimization an important area of research [1], [5], [6]. Efficient energy utilization has become essential due to rising consumption patterns and the need for sustainable energy management systems.

Traditional energy meters only provide cumulative readings and lack real-time analytics and predictive capabilities [2], [6]. As a result, users are unable to monitor energy usage dynamically or forecast future consumption, limiting their ability to optimize electricity usage effectively.

With the rise of Internet of Things (IoT) technology, it has become possible to collect real-time energy data using smart sensors and embedded systems [3], [14]. Cloud-based IoT platforms also enable seamless data transmission and storage for continuous monitoring [11]. When combined with machine learning techniques, IoT systems can provide predictive insights that help users optimize energy consumption and improve decision-making [4], [7], [8], [9], [13].

This study aims to design and develop a smart energy monitoring system that integrates IoT-based metering with machine learning algorithms to analyze and predict electricity usage patterns [3], [8].

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

This section presents the methodology used in the development of the proposed IoT-enabled smart energy monitoring system integrated with machine learning for consumption optimization. It describes the overall system architecture, hardware and software components, and the processes involved in data acquisition, transmission, processing, and analysis. The design focuses on real-time monitoring of electrical energy usage and predictive analytics to support efficient energy management. The following subsections provide a detailed discussion of the system components and implementation procedures.

2.1 System Architecture

The proposed system is an Internet of Things (IoT)-enabled smart energy monitoring framework integrated with a machine learning-based predictive analytics module. The architecture is designed to support real-time data acquisition, wireless transmission, centralized data storage, and intelligent energy consumption analysis.

The system follows a multi-layered IoT architecture consisting of the perception layer, network layer, processing layer, and application layer:

2.1.2 Perception Layer (Data Acquisition Layer)

This layer is responsible for capturing electrical consumption data using IoT-based sensors. It measures key electrical parameters such as voltage, current, power, and energy consumption from connected loads.

2.1.2 Network Layer (Communication Layer)

This layer handles the transmission of data from the hardware device to the server using wireless communication protocols such as Wi-Fi. It ensures real-time and reliable data transfer between system components.

2.1.3 Processing Layer (Data Analytics Layer)

This layer processes, stores, and analyzes collected data. It includes a cloud database or local server and a machine learning module that performs predictive analytics on energy consumption patterns.

2.1.3 Application Layer (User Interface Layer)

This layer provides a graphical dashboard for end-users, allowing real-time monitoring, historical data visualization, and prediction results for decision-making support.

2.2 System Components

The system is composed of five primary components that work collaboratively to achieve intelligent energy monitoring and optimization.

2.2.1 IoT Energy Meter (Sensor-Based Device)

The IoT energy meter serves as the primary data acquisition unit of the system. It is responsible for measuring real-time electrical parameters from connected appliances or load systems.

Key functions:

- Measurement of voltage (V), current (A), power (W), and energy consumption (kWh)
- Continuous monitoring of electrical load behavior
- Conversion of analog electrical signals into digital data

Common sensor modules used:

- Current sensor (e.g., SCT-013, ACS712)
- Voltage sensor module (AC voltage detection)
- Power calculation module (derived computation using sensor inputs)

This component ensures accurate and real-time acquisition of energy usage data, which serves as the input for further processing.

2.2.2 Microcontroller (ESP32 / Arduino)

The microcontroller acts as the central processing and communication unit of the system.

Primary functions:

- Acquisition of sensor data from the IoT energy meter
- Real-time processing and computation of electrical parameters
- Execution of embedded firmware for data handling
- Transmission of processed data to cloud or server systems

The ESP32 microcontroller is preferred due to its:

- Built-in Wi-Fi connectivity
- High processing capability for IoT applications
- Low power consumption
- Support for real-time data transmission protocols

Arduino may also be used; however, it requires an external communication module for wireless connectivity.

2.2.3 Cloud Database or Local Server

This component serves as the central storage and management system for all collected energy consumption data.

Functions:

- Storage of real-time and historical energy data
- Organization of time-series datasets for analysis
- Data retrieval for machine learning processing
- Support for dashboard visualization queries

Possible implementations include:

- Cloud-based databases (e.g., Firebase, AWS IoT Core, Google Cloud)
- Local server databases (e.g., MySQL, PostgreSQL)

The database ensures data persistence and enables long-term energy consumption analysis.

2.2.4 Machine Learning Algorithm (Python-Based Model)

The machine learning module provides predictive intelligence to the system by analyzing historical energy consumption data.

Core functions:

- Data preprocessing (cleaning, normalization, transformation)
- Pattern recognition in energy usage behavior
- Forecasting future energy consumption
- Detection of abnormal or inefficient energy usage

Common algorithms used:

- Linear Regression (for basic prediction models)
- Random Forest Regression (for improved accuracy in pattern recognition)
- Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks (for time-series forecasting)

The model is implemented using Python with libraries such as Scikit-learn, Pandas, NumPy, and TensorFlow (if deep learning is applied).

2.2.5 User Interface Dashboard

The user interface serves as the visualization and interaction layer of the system.

Functions:

- Real-time monitoring of energy consumption
- Visualization of historical usage data through graphs and charts
- Display of predicted energy consumption values
- Generation of alerts for abnormal or excessive energy usage

Implementation tools:

- Web-based interface (HTML, CSS, JavaScript)
- Backend frameworks such as Flask or Django (Python)
- Visualization tools such as Chart.js or Plotly

The dashboard provides users with an intuitive interface for monitoring and decision-making regarding energy consumption.

2.2 System Operation Flow

The system follows a structured sequential workflow that enables real-time energy monitoring, data processing, and predictive analytics. Each stage represents a key function in the overall operation of the IoT-enabled smart energy monitoring system.

The system operates in a sequential process as follows:

2.3.1 Data Acquisition through IoT Energy Meter

The IoT energy meter collects real-time electrical consumption data from connected electrical loads. It measures parameters such as voltage, current, and power usage, which serve as the primary input for the system.

2.3.2 Data Processing and Transmission via Microcontroller

The microcontroller processes the raw sensor data and converts it into usable digital information. It then transmits the data to the server or cloud database through Wi-Fi connectivity.

2.3.3 Data Storage in Cloud Database

The transmitted data is stored in a cloud-based database in real time. This ensures data persistence, accessibility, and organization for both historical analysis and machine learning processing.

2.3.4 Machine Learning-Based Data Analysis and Prediction

The machine learning module retrieves stored data from the database and performs analysis to identify consumption patterns. It also generates predictions for future energy usage based on historical trends.

2.3.5 Result Transmission to Dashboard

The processed outputs, including analyzed data and predictions, are sent to the user interface system for visualization and monitoring.

2.3.6 User Interface Visualization and Monitoring

The user interface displays real-time energy consumption, historical data trends, and predictive insights. This allows users to monitor usage efficiently and support energy optimization decisions.

2.3 Materials Used

This section presents the hardware and software components utilized in the development of the proposed IoT-enabled smart energy monitoring system. These materials are essential in enabling real-time data acquisition, wireless communication, data processing, and visualization of energy consumption. Each component plays a specific role in ensuring the accurate measurement, transmission, and analysis of electrical usage integrated with machine learning for consumption optimization.

*2.3.1 **ESP32 Microcontroller***

The ESP32 serves as the central processing and communication unit of the system. It is responsible for reading data from the sensors, performing initial computations, and transmitting the processed data to the cloud database or server via built-in Wi-Fi connectivity. It enables real-time IoT communication between the hardware and software components of the system.

Fig. 1. ESP32 Microcontroller

2.3.2 Current Sensor (e.g., SCT-013)

The current sensor is used to measure the amount of electrical current flowing through a load or appliance. It provides real-time data on energy consumption, which is essential for calculating power usage and overall energy demand. This sensor is a critical input device for monitoring electrical consumption patterns.

Fig. 2. Current Sensor

2.3.3. Voltage Sensor

The voltage sensor measures the electrical voltage supplied to the load. When combined with current readings, it allows the system to compute power consumption (P = V × I). This data is essential for accurate energy monitoring and analysis in the system.

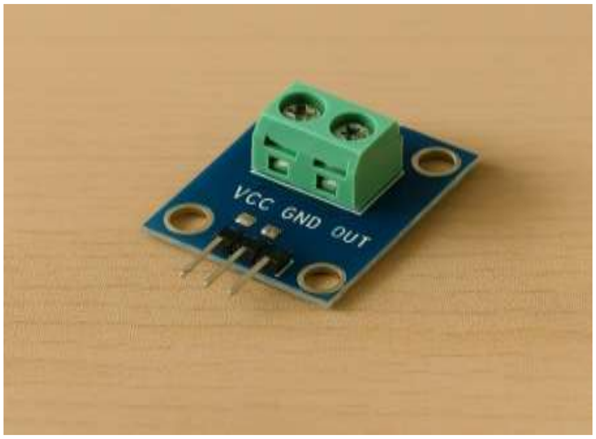

Fig. 3. Voltage Sensor

2.3.4. Breadboard and Wires

The breadboard and jumper wires are used for prototyping and circuit assembly without permanent soldering. They allow flexible connections between the microcontroller, sensors, and other components during system development and testing. This makes it easier to modify or troubleshoot the hardware setup.

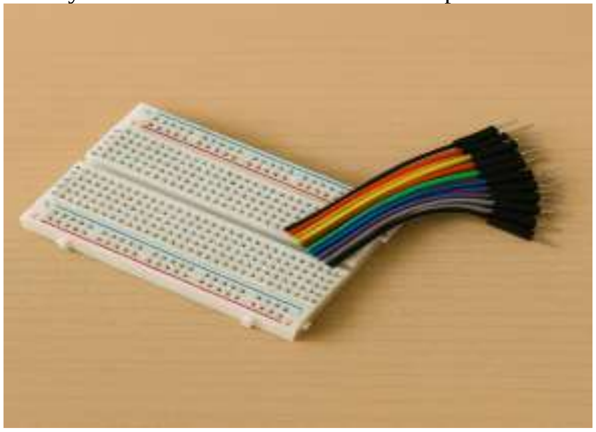

Fig. 4. Breadboard and Wires

2.3.5. LCD / Web Dashboard

The LCD or web-based dashboard serves as the output and visualization interface of the system. It displays real-time energy consumption data, including voltage, current, power usage, and predicted energy trends generated by the machine learning model. The web dashboard provides remote access, while the LCD offers local monitoring.

Fig. 5. LCD / Web Dashboard

2.4 Data Collection Process

Energy consumption data is collected in real-time using sensors connected to the microcontroller. The data is then transmitted to a database where it is processed for analysis.

2.5 Machine Learning Model

A supervised learning algorithm is used to predict energy consumption patterns based on historical data. The model analyzes features such as:

- Voltage
- Current
- Time of usage
- Load variation

Possible algorithms:

- Linear Regression
- Random Forest
- Decision Tree

3. SYSTEM IMPLEMENTATION

The system implementation describes the step-by-step operational workflow of the proposed IoT-enabled smart energy monitoring system integrated with machine learning. Each stage represents a key process in transforming raw electrical measurements into meaningful insights for energy consumption optimization.

3.1 Sensor Data Acquisition

In this stage, the sensors collect real-time electrical parameters from connected loads. The current and voltage sensors continuously measure energy usage, which serves as the primary input data of the system. This ensures accurate and continuous monitoring of electrical consumption.

3.2 Signal Processing by Microcontroller

The microcontroller receives the raw signals from the sensors and performs initial processing. It converts analog signals into digital data and computes essential electrical parameters such as power consumption. This step ensures that the data is properly formatted for transmission and analysis.

3.3 Data Transmission to Database

After processing, the microcontroller transmits the data to a cloud-based or local database through a wireless communication module (e.g., Wi-Fi via ESP32). This allows real-time storage and centralized access to energy consumption data for further processing and historical analysis.

3.4 Machine Learning-Based Data Analysis

The stored data is retrieved by the machine learning module, where it undergoes preprocessing and analysis. The model identifies consumption patterns and performs predictive analytics to forecast future energy usage. This enables the system to provide intelligent insights for energy optimization and decision-making.

3.5 Data Visualization on Dashboard

The final processed results, including real-time measurements and predicted values, are displayed on a user interface dashboard. This allows users to monitor energy consumption trends, view analytical results, and make informed decisions to improve energy efficiency.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section presents the results obtained from the testing and implementation of the proposed IoT-enabled smart energy monitoring system integrated with machine learning. It discusses the system’s performance in terms of real-time energy data acquisition, accuracy of sensor readings, data transmission efficiency, and the effectiveness of the machine learning model in predicting energy consumption. The findings are analyzed and interpreted to evaluate the overall functionality and reliability of the system in supporting energy monitoring and optimization.

4.1 Energy Consumption Monitoring

The developed IoT-enabled smart energy monitoring system was tested under simulated and real-load conditions to evaluate its capability for real-time data acquisition. The system successfully captured electrical parameters such as voltage, current, and power consumption with minimal delay and stable data transmission.

The recorded data shows that the system can consistently monitor variations in energy usage as different loads are applied. An increase in current values correspondingly resulted in higher power consumption readings, confirming the accuracy of the sensor integration and computation process.

Table 1: Energy Consumption Data

Time	Voltage (V)	Current (A)	Power (W)
8:00 AM	220	0.5	110
9:00 AM	220	0.8	176
10:00 AM	220	1.2	264

Table 1 presents the sample energy consumption data collected by the developed system at different time intervals. The voltage remains constant at 220 V, indicating a stable power supply during the testing period. However, the current values show a gradual increase from 0.5 A to 1.2 A, which corresponds to an increase in electrical load.

As a result, the computed power consumption also increases proportionally from 110 W to 264 W. This demonstrates the direct relationship between current and power consumption, validating the system's ability to accurately calculate power using real-time sensor data.

The results confirm that the system can effectively capture variations in energy usage over time. The consistent and logical progression of values indicates reliable sensor performance and accurate data processing by the microcontroller. This further supports the system's capability for real-time energy monitoring and its suitability for practical energy management applications.

4.2 Prediction Results

To evaluate the machine learning component, historical energy consumption data was used to train and test the prediction model. The model was then applied to forecast energy usage based on observed patterns.

The results show that the predicted values closely match the actual recorded energy consumption, with only minimal deviation. This indicates that the model is capable of learning consumption trends effectively.

Table 1: Comparison of Actual and Predicted Energy Consumption

Actual Power (W)	Predicted Power (W)	Error Rate (%)
150	145	3.3%
180	176	2.2%
200	195	2.5%
220	215	2.2%
250	244	2.4%

Table 2 presents the comparison between the actual measured power consumption and the values predicted by the machine learning model. It can be observed that the predicted values are very close to the actual readings, indicating that the model is capable of accurately estimating energy consumption based on historical data.

The error rates range from approximately 2.2% to 3.3%, which are relatively low and within acceptable limits for energy forecasting applications. This demonstrates that the model has effectively learned the consumption patterns and can generalize well to new data.

Although minor discrepancies are present, these variations may be attributed to real-time fluctuations in electrical load and possible sensor measurement tolerances. Despite these factors, the overall performance of the model remains consistent and reliable.

The results confirm that the integration of machine learning enhances the system's capability by providing predictive insights, making it a valuable tool for energy monitoring and optimization.

4.3 Discussion

Based on the conducted testing, the proposed system successfully demonstrated the integration of IoT-based monitoring and machine learning-based prediction. The real-time data acquisition function performed reliably, with stable readings from the sensors and accurate transmission to the database.

The machine learning model showed good performance in identifying energy consumption trends and producing near-accurate predictions. Although slight variations were observed between actual and predicted values, these differences are within acceptable limits for basic forecasting applications.

Overall, the results confirm that combining IoT technology with machine learning enhances the capability of traditional energy monitoring systems by not only tracking consumption but also providing predictive insights. This supports more informed decision-making in energy management and optimization.

5. CONCLUSION

The developed IoT-enabled smart energy monitoring system with integrated machine learning was successfully implemented and tested. The system was able to perform real-time energy monitoring, accurate data logging, and predictive analysis of energy consumption patterns.

Testing results confirmed that the system can reliably capture electrical parameters and provide reasonably accurate forecasts of future energy usage. This demonstrates the effectiveness of combining IoT technology with machine learning for intelligent energy management applications.

Future improvements may include the integration of mobile-based monitoring applications, the use of more advanced deep learning models such as LSTM for improved prediction accuracy, and the expansion of the system to support multi-device and industrial-scale energy monitoring.

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