IJIRIS: International Journal of Innovative Research in Information Security E-ISSN: 2349-7017
Volume 11, Issue 09, November 2025 P-ISSN: 2349-7009
https://www.ijiris.com/archives
https://doi.org/10.26562/ijiris.2025.v1109.15

Smart Energy Monitoring System

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Publication History
Manuscript Reference No: IJIRIS/RS/Vol.11/Issue09/NVIS10094
Research Article Open Access| Double-Blind Peer-Reviewed| Article ID: IJIRIS/RS/Vol.11/Issue09/NVIS10093 Received: 28, October 2025, Revised: 05, November 2025, Accepted: 12, November 2025, Published Online: 21, November 2025.
https://www.ijiris.com/volumes/Vol11/iss-09/15.NVIS10094.pdf
Citation:Dr.Karthika,Thrupthi,Taahani,Sankeerthana,Umme(2025),Smart Energy Monitoring System, IJIRIS: International Journal of Innovative Research in Information Security, Volume 11, Issue 09 of 2025 pages 540-543
Doi:> https://doi.org/10.26562/ijiris.2025.v1109.15
BibTeX Key: Dr.Karthika@2025Smart
IJIRIS papers should be cited as IJIRIS (International Journal of Innovative Research in Information Security, AM Publications, India 2025, ISSN 2349-7017, https://doi.org/10.26562/ijiris.2025.v1109.15 The journal's official abbreviation is IJIRIS. Orcid: https://orcid.org/0009-0004-9398-7488

Abstract: The Smart Energy Monitoring System is an innovative solution designed to optimize energy consumption and promote efficient power management in residential, commercial, and industrial environments. The system integrates IoT (Internet of Things) technology, microcontrollers, and real-time data analytics to monitor and control electrical energy usage intelligently. Through sensors and smart meters, the system continuously tracks power consumption at various points, transmitting data to a centralized platform for processing and visualization. Users can access this information via a web or mobile interface, enabling them to identify high-energy-consuming devices, detect anomalies, and implement energy-saving strategies. The system can also incorporate machine learning algorithms to predict consumption trends and suggest optimal usage patterns. By providing real-time feedback and automated control, the Smart Energy Monitoring System not only enhances energy efficiency but also reduces operational costs and contributes to environmental sustainability. This approach supports the development of smart grids and aligns with global efforts toward sustainable energy management.

I. INTRODUCTION

The growing emphasis on sustainable energy practices, combined with the rapid adoption of smart technologies, has created an urgent demand for innovative systems that can efficiently monitor, manage, and optimize energy consumption in both residential and commercial environments. Conventional energy management systems often lack the capability for real-time monitoring and fail to provide users with meaningful insights into their electricity usage patterns. As a result, users are unable to make informed decisions that could help reduce energy waste and improve overall efficiency. This limitation highlights the need for advanced solutions that not only offer comprehensive energy monitoring and management features but also promote long-term sustainability and cost reduction. The Smart Energy Monitoring System (SEMS) aims to address these challenges by delivering an integrated and user-friendly approach to energy management. By harnessing modern technologies such as the Internet of Things (IoT), cloud computing, and data analytics, SEMS enables users to gain real-time visibility into their power consumption behavior. This real-time feedback empowers users to take proactive steps toward minimizing energy waste, lowering operational costs, and reducing their environmental footprint. This paper presents the design, development, and evaluation of the SEMS platform, emphasizing its core functionalities, system architecture, and operational workflow. It discusses the motivation behind developing SEMS, its relevance within the broader context of energy management, and the specific objectives pursued in this research. The structure of this paper is organized as follows: Section II reviews related studies and technologies in the field of smart energy management, providing an overview of existing methods and systems. Section III outlines the architecture, major components, and essential features of the proposed SEMS. Section IV details the system implementation, describing the hardware and software components, communication mechanisms, and data processing techniques. Section V explains the experimental setup and presents the performance evaluation results, followed by a discussion of key findings. Finally, Section VI concludes the paper, summarizing the main contributions and suggesting potential directions for future research and system enhancement.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

In recent years, the global focus on energy conservation and sustainability has driven significant research and development in the field of smart energy management systems.

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Various studies have explored the integration of digital technologies such as the Internet of Things (IoT), wireless sensor networks (WSNs), and data analytics to enhance the monitoring and optimization of power consumption. This section reviews key research works and technologies that have contributed to the evolution of smart energy monitoring solutions. Several researchers have proposed IoT-based energy monitoring systems to collect and analyze real-time power consumption data. For example, systems developed using Arduino or Raspberry Pi microcontrollers with current and voltage sensors enable continuous tracking of energy usage and data transmission to cloud platforms for visualization and analysis. Such systems allow users to access consumption data remotely through web or mobile interfaces, facilitating better decision-making and load management. In another study, cloud-based energy management platforms were introduced to improve scalability and data accessibility. These systems use cloud servers to store and process consumption data, allowing predictive analytics and automated control features such as turning off idle devices during non-peak hours. Similarly, the integration of machine learning algorithms has enabled systems to predict future energy consumption trends and optimize load distribution, further enhancing efficiency and reducing operational costs. Researchers have also focused on developing smart meters capable of two-way communication between consumers and utility providers. This has paved the way for the implementation of smart grids, which allow dynamic pricing, demand-side management, and efficient distribution of electrical power. Moreover, some studies emphasize the importance of user engagement through intuitive dashboards and feedback mechanisms, which help users adopt more energy-conscious behaviors. Despite these advancements, many existing systems face challenges such as limited interoperability, high implementation costs, and lack of integration between hardware and software components. These limitations highlight the need for an affordable, scalable, and user-friendly solution that combines real-time monitoring, intelligent analytics, and automated control. The proposed Smart Energy Monitoring System (SEMS) builds upon these research foundations by offering a comprehensive, IoT-enabled platform that integrates cloud-based data processing, real-time monitoring, and user interactivity. The system is designed to overcome the drawbacks of existing solutions while promoting energy efficiency and sustainability through intelligent insights and automation.

III. OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of the Smart Energy Monitoring System (SEMS) is to develop an efficient, intelligent, and user-friendly platform that enables real-time monitoring, analysis, and management of electrical energy consumption. By leveraging modern technologies such as the Internet of Things (IoT), cloud computing, and data analytics, the system aims to empower users to make informed decisions that promote energy efficiency and sustainability.

The specific objectives of this project are as follows:

1. To design and develop a real-time energy monitoring system that accurately measures and records power consumption across various electrical appliances or loads.
2. To implement an IoT-based communication framework for seamless data transmission between sensors, microcontrollers, and cloud servers, enabling remote access and control.
3. To create a user-friendly web or mobile application interface that allows users to visualize real-time and historical energy usage data in an intuitive and interactive manner.
4. To integrate data analytics and visualization tools for identifying consumption patterns, detecting anomalies, and providing actionable insights for energy optimization.
5. To enable automated control mechanisms that allow users to remotely switch devices on or off, or schedule their operation to reduce unnecessary power consumption.
6. To evaluate the performance and effectiveness of the SEMS through experimental testing, focusing on accuracy, reliability, and efficiency in monitoring and managing energy usage.
7. To promote sustainable energy practices by encouraging users to adopt energy-efficient behaviors and reduce their overall environmental footprint.

IV. METHODOLOGY

The methodology of the Smart Energy Monitoring System (SEMS) involves the systematic design, development, and integration of hardware and software components to achieve efficient, real-time energy monitoring and management. The proposed system architecture is based on IoT technology, which facilitates data collection, transmission, processing, and visualization through interconnected devices and cloud services.

The overall methodology can be divided into the following stages:

A. System Design

The SEMS consists of three primary layers: sensing layer, processing and communication layer, and application layer.

1. Sensing Layer:
2. This layer includes sensors such as current and voltage sensors (e.g., ACS712 and ZMPT101B) used to measure electrical parameters of connected appliances. The sensors continuously collect real-time data on voltage, current, and power consumption.
3. Processing and Communication Layer:
4. The core of this layer is a microcontroller unit (MCU), such as an ESP32 or Arduino, which processes the sensor data and transmits it to the cloud platform via Wi-Fi or MQTT protocol. The MCU also computes instantaneous and cumulative energy usage using mathematical formulas before sending the data to the server.

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5. Application Layer: This layer provides a web-based or mobile application interface through which users can monitor, analyze, and control energy usage. The application fetches real-time and historical data from the cloud and displays it using interactive charts, graphs, and notifications.

B. Data Acquisition and Transmission

The system continuously gathers analog signals from the voltage and current sensors. These signals are converted into digital values using the ADC (Analog-to-Digital Converter) of the microcontroller. The processed data, including parameters such as voltage (V), current (I), power ($P = V \times I$), and energy (E), is transmitted securely to a cloud database using IoT communication protocols like MQTT or HTTP.

C. Cloud Storage and Data Processing

Once transmitted, the data is stored on a cloud platform such as ThingSpeak, Firebase, or AWS IoT. Cloud computing enables data analytics and visualization while ensuring scalability and reliability. The stored data can be processed to identify trends, predict energy consumption patterns, and generate alerts when abnormal usage is detected.

D. User Interface and Visualization

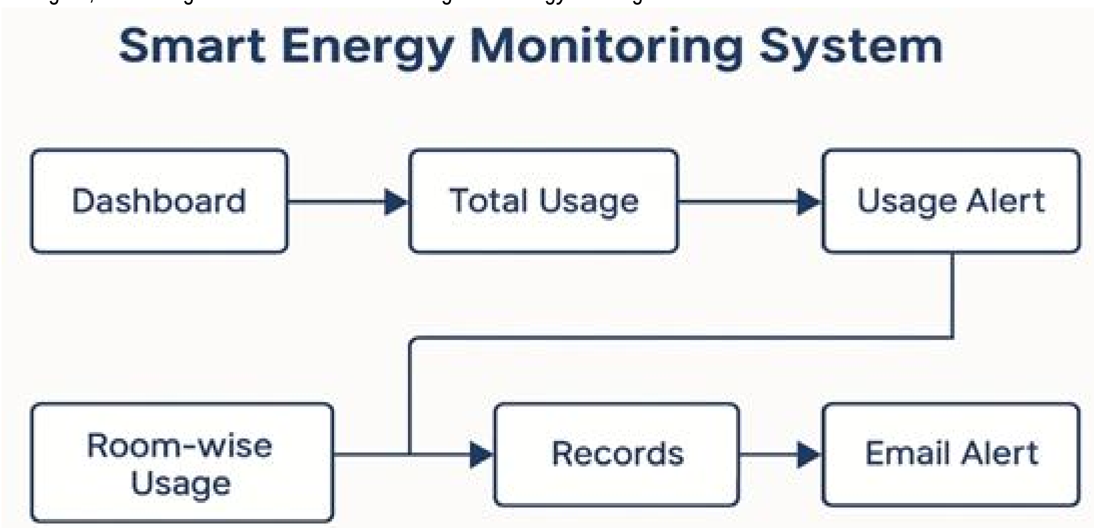
A user-friendly dashboard is developed to allow users to monitor energy consumption remotely. The interface displays key parameters such as current, voltage, power, and total energy usage in real-time. Users can also view historical data, compare daily or monthly consumption, and receive alerts via notifications or emails.

E. Automation and Control

To enhance efficiency, the system integrates remote control and automation features. Users can manually or automatically control connected appliances through the application. Automation rules can be configured based on time schedules, threshold limits, or predefined conditions to optimize energy use and prevent overconsumption.

F. Testing and Evaluation

The SEMS prototype is tested under various load conditions to verify the accuracy of measurements and reliability of communication. Performance metrics such as response time, data accuracy, and system stability are evaluated to ensure the system meets design objectives. The test results validate the system's effectiveness in providing real-time insights and improving energy efficiency. The proposed methodology thus ensures a seamless integration of hardware, software, and cloud technologies, resulting in a scalable and intelligent energy management solution.



V. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

To ensure the successful development and deployment of the Smart Energy Monitoring System (SEMS), several hardware, software, and network requirements must be met.

These requirements facilitate accurate data acquisition, seamless communication, effective data processing, and intuitive user interaction. The application requirements are categorized as follows:

A. Hardware Requirements

1. Microcontroller Unit (MCU): A suitable microcontroller such as ESP32 or Arduino is required to interface with sensors, process data, and transmit information to the cloud. The MCU should support Wi-Fi or other communication protocols for connectivity.
2. Sensors:

- Current Sensor (e.g., ACS712): For measuring the electrical current flowing through the load.
- Voltage Sensor (e.g., ZMPT101B): For measuring the supply voltage. These sensors must provide accurate and reliable readings for real-time monitoring.

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3. Communication Modules:
   Wi-Fi modules or other IoT communication hardware to enable data transmission from the microcontroller to the cloud platform.
4. Power Supply:
   A stable power source to operate the sensors, microcontroller, and communication modules continuously without interruption.

B. Software Requirements

Firmware and Embedded Software: Software programs running on the microcontroller to read sensor data, process it, and send it to the cloud using appropriate protocols such as MQTT or HTTP.
Cloud Platform: A cloud service such as AWS IoT, ThingSpeak, or Firebase for data storage, processing, and remote access. The platform should support scalability, real-time data handling, and security features.
Backend Server: Backend technologies like Flask or FastAPI to manage data ingestion, processing, user authentication, and integration with AI/ML models for analytics and predictions.
Database Management System: Relational or NoSQL databases such as PostgreSQL, MongoDB, or SQLite to store historical energy consumption data and user information.
Frontend Application: Web or mobile app developed using frameworks like React.js, Flutter, or standard web technologies (HTML, CSS, JavaScript) to provide a user-friendly interface for visualization and control.

C. Network Requirements

1. Internet Connectivity: Reliable and continuous internet access to ensure real-time data transmission between the hardware devices and cloud servers.
2. Security Protocols: Implementation of secure communication protocols such as TLS/SSL to protect data integrity and privacy during transmission.

D. User Requirements

1. Device Compatibility: The application interface should be accessible across multiple devices, including desktops, tablets, and smartphones, with responsive design for varying screen sizes.
2. User Authentication: Secure login and user management features to restrict unauthorized access and protect user data.

VI. CONCLUSION

The Smart Energy Monitoring System (SEMS) presented in this study offers an innovative solution for real-time monitoring and management of energy consumption in residential and commercial environments. By integrating IoT technology, cloud computing, and data analytics, SEMS provides users with detailed insights into their electricity usage, enabling informed decision-making aimed at reducing energy waste and lowering costs. The system's intuitive interface and automation capabilities further enhance user engagement and promote sustainable energy practices. Through the design, implementation, and testing phases, SEMS demonstrated accuracy, reliability, and scalability, confirming its potential as an effective tool for energy management. This project highlights the importance of leveraging modern technologies to address the growing need for energy efficiency and environmental responsibility. Future work may focus on expanding the system's functionality by incorporating advanced machine learning models for predictive analytics, integrating renewable energy sources, and enhancing user experience with personalized recommendations. Overall, SEMS represents a significant step toward smarter and more sustainable energy consumption.

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