



## Development of IoT Systems for Real-Time Assessment of Vibration Signals in a Generator

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### Manuscript History

Received: 28/05/2026

Revised: 26/07/2026

Accepted: 11/08/2026

Published: 14/10/2026

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.23387782>

**Abstract:** The assessment of vibration signals in automotive generators is crucial for ensuring operational efficiency, reliability and predictive maintenance. Excessive vibrations can lead to mechanical failures, energy losses and reduced generator lifespan. However, traditional vibration monitoring methods often rely on periodic manual inspections, which are time-consuming, expensive and inefficient for real-time diagnostics. To address this issue, this study focuses on the development of an IoT-based system for real-time vibration signal assessment in automotive generators. The methodology involves designing and implementing a wireless sensor network integrated with microcontrollers and accelerometers to capture vibration signals continuously. The collected data is transmitted to a cloud-based platform for real-time processing and analysis using machine learning algorithms. The system employs edge computing techniques to enhance data processing speed and reduce latency. A prototype is tested in a controlled environment to evaluate its performance in detecting abnormal vibration patterns and predicting potential faults. The justification for this study lies in the increasing demand for intelligent and automated monitoring solutions in modern automotive power systems. By leveraging IoT technology, this research provides a cost-effective, scalable, and efficient alternative to conventional vibration monitoring techniques, contributing to improved energy efficiency and reliability of generators. The results demonstrate that the developed IoT system effectively detects and analyzes vibration anomalies in real time, enabling early fault detection and reducing maintenance costs. In conclusion, the proposed system enhances the predictive maintenance capabilities of automotive generators, ensuring longer operational life and reduced downtime. It was recommended that future research explore the integration of advanced artificial intelligence models for more accurate predictive analytics and the implementation of this system in real-world automotive applications to validate its robustness and scalability.

**Keywords:** Design, Development of IoT Systems, Real-Time Assessment, Vibration Signals and Generator

## INTRODUCTION

In the era of Industry 4.0, the demand for intelligent, energy-efficient industrial systems is growing rapidly especially in critical infrastructure where power reliability is essential. Among such assets, generators play a vital role in maintaining uninterrupted power supply across industrial, commercial,

and residential sectors. Unexpected generator failures can cause costly downtime, equipment damage, and safety hazards (Singh & Mehta, 2021; Oliveira *et al.*, 2023). As a result, there is a growing need for predictive maintenance strategies that allow for early fault detection and timely intervention. Real-time vibration monitoring has emerged as a core technique within this paradigm, helping to detect mechanical anomalies, prolong equipment lifespan, and reduce maintenance costs (Zhao *et al.*, 2022; Kumar & Deshmukh, 2024).

However, traditional vibration diagnostics methods remain largely reactive and inefficient. These systems often depend on manual inspections or scheduled evaluations using static measurement tools. Such methods are labor-intensive, subject to human error, and insufficient for detecting subtle fault signatures at early stages. Moreover, periodic assessments provide only snapshots of equipment health and fail to offer continuous operational insights (Li *et al.*, 2021; Chen *et al.*, 2022; Wang *et al.*, 2023). These limitations highlight the pressing need for a more intelligent, automated approach to generator monitoring. Emerging technologies in IoT, artificial intelligence (AI), and edge-cloud computing present significant opportunities to overcome these challenges. Vibration sensors embedded within IoT architectures can continuously stream high-frequency data to cloud or edge platforms where AI algorithms analyze patterns, detect anomalies, and trigger alerts in real time (Patel & Kumar, 2022; Zhang & Luo, 2024; Oliveira *et al.*, 2023). Edge processing, in particular, enables low-latency diagnostics and ensures reliable operations even in bandwidth-constrained environments a major advantage for generators located in remote or resource-limited settings (TIP4.0 Platform, 2022; Ngonidzashe Musungate *et al.*, 2023).

Despite these advancements, significant gaps remain in the development of practical, energy-efficient, and generator-specific IoT solutions. Many existing systems are constrained by limited scalability and are unable to dynamically adapt to diverse operational contexts, particularly in settings where generators function under fluctuating loads and environmental conditions (Bagri *et al.*, 2024; Konecny *et al.*, 2024; Onwusa *et al.*, 2025). These limitations hinder the broad deployment of IoT-based monitoring systems, especially in off-grid or resource-limited environments where power efficiency and real-time responsiveness are critical. Most current solutions are also built around generalized architectures that do not take into account the heterogeneity of generator models, usage patterns, and degradation states. A major shortcoming in the literature is the insufficient attention given to energy-aware design principles for embedded sensing platforms. Real-time data acquisition, transmission, and processing often place a considerable burden on constrained devices, leading to rapid energy depletion and reduced operational lifespans (Zhang *et al.*, 2023; Liu *et al.*, 2024; Onwusa *et al.*, 2025). These energy bottlenecks severely limit the long-term viability of vibration-based condition monitoring systems in practical deployments.

Furthermore, most studies focus on detecting anomalies or failures in an isolated manner without considering the variability introduced by different electrical loads or generator usage histories. The failure to distinguish vibration signatures associated with specific load profiles or wear levels reduces diagnostic accuracy and limits the development of predictive maintenance models that can be generalized across multiple generator types (Fernandez *et al.*, 2023; Mehmood *et al.*, 2024; Onwusa *et al.*, 2025). For example, subtle variations in vibration frequency and amplitude due to aging components or high-frequency load switching are often overlooked in conventional machine learning models trained on static datasets. As a result, there is a growing need for context-aware, adaptive frameworks that integrate signal processing, load condition recognition, and temporal wear profiling to improve fault detection and energy optimization across heterogeneous generator platforms. This study is justified by the urgent need to develop an intelligent, adaptable monitoring framework that accounts for real-world generator behavior under diverse operational conditions. A comprehensive IoT-based solution capable of real-time vibration analysis, informed by load variations and equipment age, can

significantly enhance generator reliability while promoting energy efficiency. Such a system is essential for predictive maintenance planning, especially in environments where uninterrupted power delivery is critical.

The novelty of this research lies in its integrated approach. It combines low-power, real-time edge analytics using TinyML and wavelet-based feature extraction with adaptive machine learning models that refine themselves over time, enhancing fault prediction accuracy while reducing false positives (Konecny *et al.*, 2024; Onwusa *et al.*, 2025). Furthermore, the system's hybrid cloud-edge architecture supports resilient operations, particularly where network conditions are unreliable. Unlike generic predictive maintenance platforms, this study tailors its solution to generator-specific vibration signatures, incorporating calibration across different usage stages and load profiles. A thorough review of recent literature highlights that while innovative modular and edge-enabled maintenance frameworks have been proposed, their direct application to generator systems remains limited. For instance, TIIP4.0 (2022) introduces a generic framework for Industry 4.0-based predictive maintenance with an emphasis on modularity and edge intelligence, enabling decentralized data processing and reduced latency. However, this approach lacks domain-specific tailoring for generator systems, which exhibit unique operational dynamics, such as fluctuating load conditions, rotational imbalances, and thermal stress cycles. Similarly, the edge-computing maintenance architecture presented by Musungate *et al.* (2023). Onwusa *et al.*, (2025) demonstrates the potential of distributed fault diagnostics in industrial equipment, yet it overlooks the calibration needs and contextual variability inherent in generator operations.

In parallel, studies by Bagri *et al.* (2024) and Fernandez *et al.* (2023) have made notable progress in advancing multi-sensor fusion techniques and enhancing model robustness for condition monitoring. These works leverage machine learning algorithms to process heterogeneous signals such as vibration, acoustic, and thermal data to improve fault classification accuracy. However, they fall short in addressing two critical challenges:

- (i) the energy trade-offs associated with continuous sensor data acquisition and edge processing in constrained environments, and
- (ii) the lack of standardization or adaptive calibration across different generator types and operational profiles.

These omissions limit the generalizability and long-term efficiency of the proposed frameworks when applied to real-world generator systems. Moreover, while real-time anomaly detection models by Liu *et al.* (2023) and Zhang & Luo (2024) demonstrate promising results using temporal signal analysis and deep learning architectures, their practical applicability in generator diagnostics remains constrained. These models typically rely on data collected under controlled or uniform conditions, which does not account for the variability introduced by load-dependent operational modes or aging components. Furthermore, the deployment aspects such as the computational cost on edge devices, power management strategies, and adaptation to variable frequency signatures from different generator types are often underexplored. As a result, these solutions, although technically sound, require further refinement to address the complex, load-sensitive, and energy-constrained nature of generator maintenance in real-time industrial settings. In conclusion, this study provides a novel, practical, and generator-specific IoT monitoring framework. By integrating edge computing, AI, and vibration sensing, the system addresses several unmet needs in predictive maintenance. It fills key research gaps related to energy efficiency, scalability, operational adaptability, and fault detection sensitivity. The outcome of this research is expected to significantly enhance maintenance strategies, reduce operational risks, and support smarter, more resilient energy systems for industrial applications.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### 2.1. Materials

The IoT-based real-time vibration monitoring system was developed using the following components:

**2.1.1 Vibration Sensors:** MEMS accelerometers (ADXL345) and piezoelectric sensors (TE Connectivity 820M1) were used to capture vibration signals from key generator components such as the shaft and bearings. These sensors provide high-frequency response and sensitivity, essential for accurate vibration analysis.

**2.1.2 Edge Devices:** Single-board computers (Raspberry Pi 4) and microcontrollers (Arduino Uno) were utilized as edge devices. These units received raw sensor data, performed preliminary signal conditioning and feature extraction, and transmitted the data to the cloud.

**2.1.3 Wireless Communication Modules:** To enable wireless data transfer, Wi-Fi (ESP8266) and LoRa modules (SX1278) were integrated into the edge devices. These modules ensured reliable, low-latency communication with the cloud infrastructure, even in environments with limited connectivity.

**2.1.4 Power Supply:** Rechargeable battery packs (12V Li-ion) and regulated power modules were employed to ensure stable and uninterrupted power to the sensors and edge devices during field deployment.

**2.1.5 Mounting Equipment:** Sensors were securely mounted using industrial-grade brackets, screws, and thermal adhesives to minimize mechanical noise and ensure consistent signal acquisition.

**2.1.6 Cloud Infrastructure:** Amazon Web Services (AWS IoT Core) was used for cloud-based data storage, processing, and analytics. The platform enabled scalable storage and real-time machine learning-based evaluation of incoming data streams.

### 2.1.7 Hardware Tools

**Data Acquisition Modules:** Raspberry Pi and Arduino boards with integrated ADCs. Raspberry Pi with External ADC (e.g., ADS1115 / PCF8591 / ADC Pi)

- i. **ADS1115 module wiring:** (first and third images): The ADS1115 is a high-resolution (16-bit) ADC connected through I<sup>2</sup>C to the Raspberry Pi's GPIO pins SDA (GPIO 2) and SCL (GPIO 3) powered at 3.3 V or 5 V. Up to four analog sensor inputs (A0–A3) are supported
- ii. **Internal block diagram:** (second image): Highlights the ADS1115's input multiplexer, programmable gain amplifier, and conversion/register architecture CQRobot ADC module (fourth image): Demonstrates plug-and-play connectivity via I<sup>2</sup>C, optimized for Raspberry Pi and Arduino compatibility
- iii. **Wireless Interfaces:** ESP8266 Wi-Fi module, LoRa SX1278 transceivers.
- iv. **Power Supplies:** DC-DC converters and regulated battery packs.
- v. **ATmega328P ADC structure:** Incorporates a 10-bit SAR ADC with six dedicated analog input pins (A0–A5), offering readings from 0–5 V, yielding values between 0 and 1023

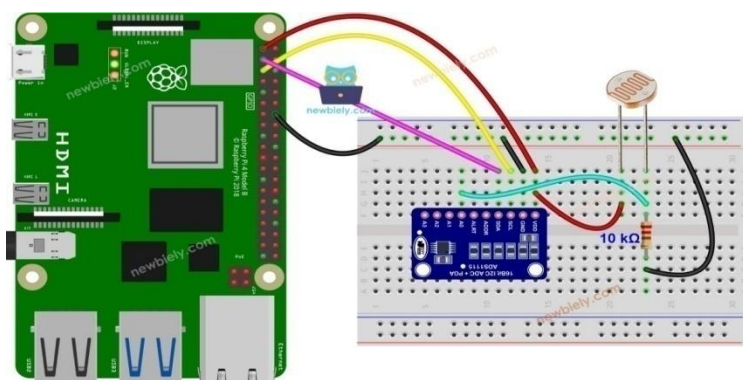


Fig.1 Diagrams illustrating typical setups for Raspberry Pi

This diagram in Fig. 2 shows a Raspberry Pi connected to a Light Dependent Resistor (LDR) sensor circuit via an ADC (Analog-to-Digital Converter) module on a breadboard. Key points are

1. **Raspberry Pi:** The left side of the diagram is a Raspberry Pi board.

## 2. ADC Module (Blue Board on Breadboard)

- The module is an ADS1115/ADS1015 ADC (Analog-to-Digital Converter).
- It converts the analog voltage from the LDR sensor into digital values that the Raspberry Pi can process through I<sup>2</sup>C communication.
- Connections:** Wires from Raspberry Pi GPIO connect to the ADC using I<sup>2</sup>C communication:
  - SDA (data line)
  - SCL (clock line)
  - VCC (3.3V/5V power)
  - GND (ground)
- The ADC input pin is connected to the LDR-resistor voltage divider.

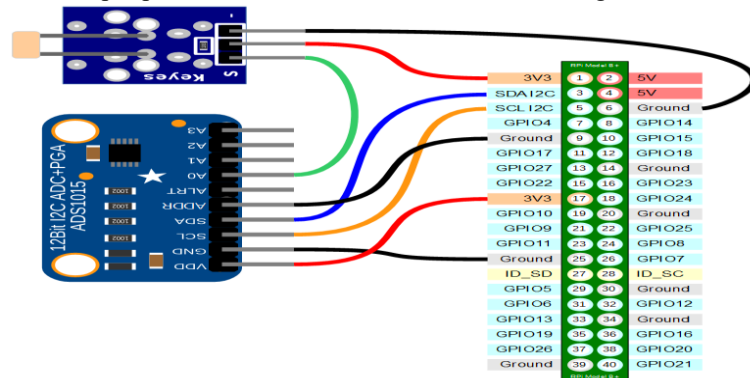


Fig.2 Arduino boards with built-In ADC

This diagram in Fig. 3 shows the wiring connections between a Raspberry Pi, an ADS1015 Analog-to-Digital Converter (ADC), and a KY-035 Hall Effect Sensor. The signal pin provides an analog output depending on the magnetic field strength.

### 1. ADS1015 ADC Module

- The Raspberry Pi does not have built-in analog inputs, so the ADS1015 (12-bit ADC) is used to convert the analog signal from the sensor into digital data.
- Connections:
  - VDD → 3.3V on Raspberry Pi
  - GND → Ground on Raspberry Pi
  - SCL → GPIO3 (SCL, I<sup>2</sup>C clock)
  - SDA → GPIO2 (SDA, I<sup>2</sup>C data)
  - ADDR, ALERT/RDY → not used in this wiring
- The analog input pin (A0) of ADS1015 is connected to the signal pin of the Hall sensor.

### 2. Raspberry Pi GPIO Header

- Provides 3.3V power and ground to both the sensor and ADC.
- Communicates with the ADC using the I<sup>2</sup>C protocol (SDA & SCL lines).
- Reads the converted digital data from ADS1015 for further processing.

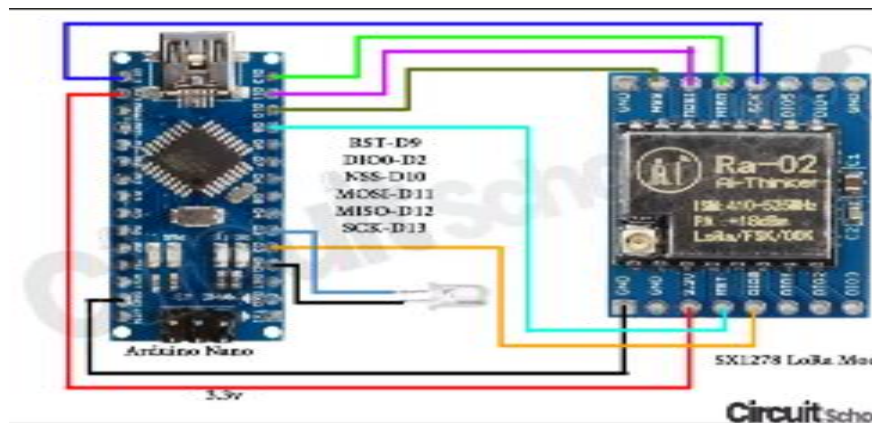


Fig. 3 Circuit layouts for the modules and power supplies:

The provided schematics illustrate power and GPIO pin outs, including essential components:

- ### 2.1.9 LoRa SX1278 Transceiver Module: Diagrams highlight the key hardware design aspects:

- 
- The schematic diagram illustrates the electrical connections for the TP579333 microcontroller. Key components include:
- TP579333 Microcontroller:** The central component with pins labeled VDD, GND, SCL, I/O, and various peripheral pins.
  - Power Supply:** VDD5 and VDDC are connected to the microcontroller's power pins. A 0.1μF capacitor is used for decoupling at VDD5.
  - Resistors:** R1 (pull-up) and R2 (pull-down) are shown at the input/output pins.
  - Capacitors:** C1 (4.7μF), C2 (10μF), and C3 (10μF) are used for filtering and decoupling.
  - Connectors:** Headers for PC5, PC6, PC7, PC8, PC9, PC10, PC11, PC12, PC13, PC14, PC15, PC16, PC17, PC18, PC19, PC20, PC21, PC22, PC23, PC24, PC25, PC26, PC27, PC28, PC29, PC30, PC31, PC32, PC33, PC34, PC35, PC36, PC37, PC38, PC39, PC40, PC41, PC42, PC43, PC44, PC45, PC46, PC47, PC48, PC49, PC50, PC51, PC52, PC53, PC54, PC55, PC56, PC57, PC58, PC59, PC60, PC61, PC62, PC63, PC64, PC65, PC66, PC67, PC68, PC69, PC70, PC71, PC72, PC73, PC74, PC75, PC76, PC77, PC78, PC79, PC80, PC81, PC82, PC83, PC84, PC85, PC86, PC87, PC88, PC89, PC90, PC91, PC92, PC93, PC94, PC95, PC96, PC97, PC98, PC99, PC100 are shown.

This is a circuit schematic of an ESP32/ESP8266-based microcontroller system with supporting components for power supply, reset, and peripheral interfacing. Here's a brief explanation:

## 2. ESP32/ESP8266 Microcontroller (Main IC in the Center)

- ### 3. External Flash Memory (Right Side)

- A reset push button and pull-up/pull-down resistors are connected to EN, IO0, and IO2 pins.
- These control whether the ESP boots into normal mode or programming mode.

- A 26 MHz or 40 MHz crystal oscillator is shown with capacitors.
- This provides the clock signal for the microcontroller's internal operation.

### 2.1.10 Power Supplies: DC-DC Converters & Regulated Battery Packs

Note: Standard power design conventions apply:

- i. **Battery/regulator** → 3.3 V rail with input filter caps before the ESP8266 or SX1278
- ii. **DC-DC converter** options (buck/boost) provide efficient power to modules, especially under varied load. Although not shown in these schematics, it is critical to include suitable capacitors and inductors to minimize voltage dips during RF bursts or Wi-Fi transmissions.

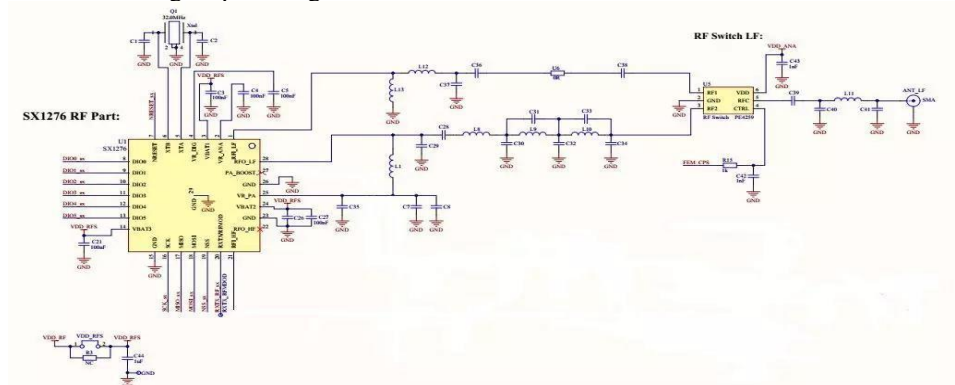


Fig. 5 Power Supplies: DC-DC converters and regulated battery packs.

This is a radio frequency (RF) transceiver circuit schematic based on the Semtech SX1276 LoRa transceiver IC, widely used for long-range, low-power wireless communication. Here's a brief explanation:

#### 1. SX1276 RF Transceiver (Left Block)

- i. The yellow IC labeled SX1276 RF Part is the LoRa transceiver chip.
- ii. It handles modulation/demodulation, frequency synthesis, and digital communication.

Key pins:

- a. VDD / VDD\_ANA / VDD\_PA → Power supply pins for digital, analog, and power amplifier sections.
- b. DIO pins (DIO0–DIO5) → Digital I/O pins for interrupts and control.
- c. RESET → Used to reset the chip.
- d. RFIO / RFI / RFO → RF input/output ports for antenna connection.
- e. SPI Pins (NSS, SCK, MOSI, MISO) → For communication with a microcontroller.

#### 2. Matching Network & Filters (Middle Section):

The inductors (L) and capacitors (C) between the SX1276 and the RF switch form a matching network.

Purpose:

- a. Impedance matching between the SX1276 and antenna.
- b. Filtering unwanted harmonics to improve transmission quality.
- c. Ensure efficient power transfer to the antenna.

#### 3. RF Switch (Right Block – RF Switch LF)

- i. The RF Switch IC (likely SKY133xx type or similar) selects the path for transmit (TX) or receive (RX) mode.
- ii. Controlled by digital signals from the microcontroller or SX1276.
- iii. Ensures the same antenna can be used for both TX and RX.

#### 4. Antenna Section (Far Right)

- i. After the RF switch, the signal goes through final filtering and matching components.
- ii. Then it connects to the external antenna port (ANT pin) for wireless transmission/reception.

#### 5. Power Supply & Bypass Capacitors (Bottom Left)

- i. Multiple decoupling capacitors are connected to power pins.
- ii. Purpose: stabilize supply voltage, filter noise, and ensure proper RF performance.

### 2.1.11 Software Tools

- i. **Programming Environments:** Arduino IDE and Python 3.10 with Jupyter Notebooks for development and deployment.

- ii. **Signal Processing Libraries:** SciPy, NumPy, and MATLAB for implementing FFT, wavelet transforms, and envelope detection.
- iii. **Machine Learning Libraries:** Scikit-learn, TensorFlow Lite, and PyTorch for developing and testing fault classification models.
- iv. **Data Visualization Platforms:** Grafana and Plotly Dash for real-time dashboard interfaces and trend analysis.

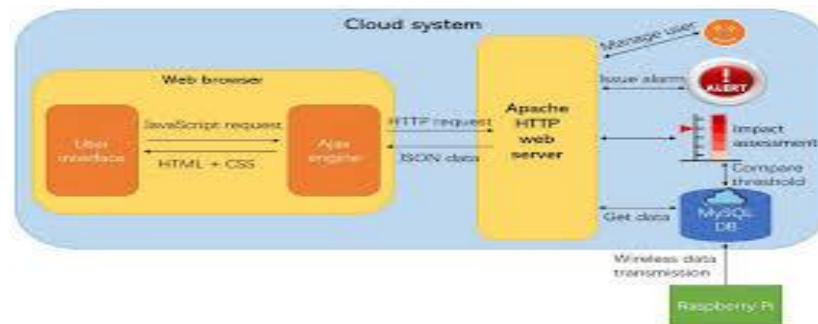


Fig. 6 A cloud-integrated IoT architecture for real-time data monitoring, analysis, and alert generation using a raspberry Pi as the data acquisition device.

This diagram in Fig. 7 illustrates a cloud-integrated IoT architecture for **real-time datamonitoring, analysis, and alert generation** using a Raspberry Pi as the data acquisition device.

- i. **Raspberry Pi (Bottom – Green):** Collects sensor data and transmits it wirelessly to the cloud system.
- ii. **Cloud System: Web Browser (User Interface):** Provides an interface built with **Hyper Text Markup Language (HTML) + Cascading Style Sheets (CSS)**. Uses **JavaScript** and **AJAX engine** to send HTTP requests for data.
- iii. **Apache Hyper Text Transfer Protocol (HTTP) Web Server:** Handles incoming HTTP requests from the web browser. Exchanges data in **JSON format**. Retrieves stored information from the **MySQL database**. Compares sensor data against predefined thresholds **for impact assessment**.
- iv. **Alert Management:** If thresholds are exceeded, the system issues an **alert**. Notifications are sent to the **manager/user** for corrective action.

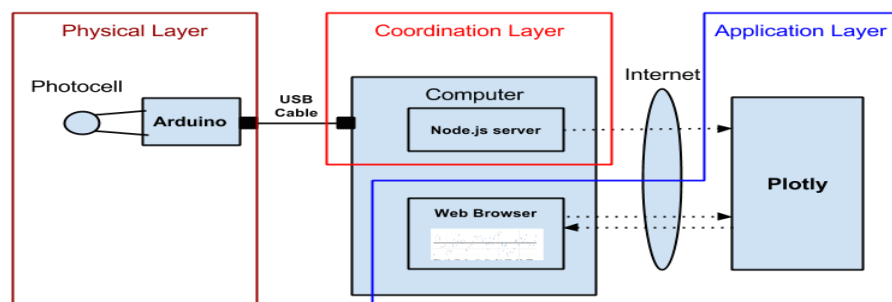


Fig. 7 Layered architecture of an IoT-Based data acquisition and visualization system

The diagram in Fig. 7 represents a three-layer IoT system architecture for data collection, coordination, and visualization.

- i. **Physical Layer (Left – Red Box):** Includes the **Photocell sensor** connected to an **Arduino board**. The Arduino collects raw sensor data and sends it to the next layer via a **USB cable**.
- ii. **Coordination Layer (Middle – Red Box):** The **computer** acts as a mediator. A **Node.js server** processes the incoming data from the Arduino. A **web browser** provides a local interface for monitoring before sending data to the cloud.
- iii. **Application Layer (Right – Blue Box):** Uses **Plotly**, a data visualization platform, to present real-time graphs and insights. Data is transmitted through the **Internet** for remote access and monitoring.

## 2.2. Methods

### 2.2.1. Experimental Design

The system architecture was defined by integrating vibration sensors, edge devices, and communication modules. Hardware and software components were selected based on generator operating conditions. Initial lab testing under varying loads and induced faults helped validate sensor placement and system sensitivity.

**2.2.2. Simulation and Modeling:** A digital twin of the generator was created using MATLAB Simulink to simulate vibration signals and validate signal processing algorithms. FFT and wavelet analysis were applied in simulation to test fault detection capability before physical prototyping.

**2.2.3. Prototype Development:** A working prototype was constructed using Raspberry Pi and ADXL345 sensors. Data acquisition, preprocessing filtering, transformation, and data transmission scripts were written in Python. The prototype was iteratively improved based on field results.

**2.2.4. Data Collection and Analysis:** Vibration data was collected under both normal and faulty operating conditions, including bearing wear, shaft misalignment, and imbalance. Signal features were extracted in time and frequency domains. Machine learning models (SVM, k-means, and neural networks) were trained and validated to classify fault types.

**2.2.5. System Validation:** System performance was benchmarked against handheld vibration analyzers (e.g., Fluke 805 FC). Correlation analysis between the IoT system and conventional tools confirmed the accuracy and reliability of the real-time monitoring approach.

### 2.3.0. Procedure and Installation

#### Step 1: System Design

- i. Defined system architecture comprising vibration sensors, edge computing units, and cloud analytics.
- ii. Adopted MQTT as the communication protocol for lightweight, real-time data transmission.

#### Step 2: Hardware Setup

- i. Mounted sensors on critical generator parts.
- ii. Configured Raspberry Pi to interface with sensors and communication modules.

#### Step 3: Software Development

- i. Developed data acquisition scripts to stream vibration data in real time.
- ii. Implemented FFT and envelope analysis algorithms.
- iii. Integrated cloud-based machine learning models to detect anomalies.

#### Step 4: Dashboard and Alert System

- i. Designed a Grafana dashboard to visualize real-time data and fault trends.
- ii. Configured automated alerts (email/SMS) to notify maintenance personnel of abnormal vibration levels.

#### Step 5: Testing and Optimization

- i. Conducted field tests on an operational generator under varying loads and conditions.
- ii. Fine-tuned sensor placements, filtering techniques, and ML models to reduce false positives and improve detection accuracy.

### 2.3.1. Experimental Conditions

The experimental evaluation was conducted using a 5.5 kVA four-stroke gasoline generator operating under controlled laboratory conditions. The generator was instrumented with a real-time IoT vibration monitoring system comprising MEMS accelerometers, an embedded processing unit, wireless communication module, and cloud-based data storage platform.

**Table-1** The generator was operated under four representative operating conditions

| Operating Condition  | Description                | Engine Speed (rpm) | Electrical Load |
|----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Healthy              | Normal operating condition | 3000               | 0–100%          |
| Bearing Fault        | Inner race defect          | 3000               | 0–100%          |
| Rotor Misalignment   | Shaft offset               | 3000               | 0–100%          |
| Mechanical Looseness | Loose mounting bolts       | 3000               | 0–100%          |

Each condition was evaluated under five electrical loading scenarios: No Load (0%), 25% Load, 50% Load, 75% Load, Full Load (100%). Ambient laboratory conditions were maintained at:

Temperature:  $25 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ . Relative humidity:  $55 \pm 5\%$ , and Noise level:  $<45\text{ dB}$

Each experiment lasted 20 minutes, allowing sufficient steady-state vibration measurements.

**Table-2** Sensor Configuration

| Component         | Specification              |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Accelerometer     | ADXL355 (3-axis MEMS)      |
| Measurement Range | $\pm 8$ g                  |
| Resolution        | 20-bit                     |
| Sensitivity       | 3.9 $\mu\text{g/LSB}$      |
| Microcontroller   | ESP32 Dual-Core            |
| Communication     | Wi-Fi (IEEE 802.11 b/g/n)  |
| Cloud Platform    | MQTT + ThingSpeak/Firebase |
| Power Supply      | 5 V DC                     |

The accelerometer was rigidly mounted on the generator engine housing near the crankshaft bearing to maximize fault sensitivity.

### 2.3.2 Sampling Frequency

**Table-3** The vibration signals were acquired using the following parameters:

| Parameter          | Value           |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Sampling Frequency | 12.8 kHz        |
| Nyquist Frequency  | 6.4 kHz         |
| Recording Duration | 20 s per sample |
| Samples per Window | 4096            |
| Window Overlap     | 50%             |
| Window Type        | Hanning         |

The selected sampling frequency satisfies the Nyquist criterion for capturing generator vibration frequencies up to 6 kHz, including bearing defect harmonics and structural resonance.

### 2.3.3 Dataset Size

**Table-4** The experimental dataset consisted of vibration recordings collected from all operating conditions.

| Class         | Number of Samples |
|---------------|-------------------|
| Healthy       | 3,000             |
| Bearing Fault | 3,000             |
| Misalignment  | 3,000             |
| Looseness     | 3,000             |

### 2.3.4 Total Dataset Size

Total recordings: 12,000 vibration samples

Signal length per sample: 4096 data points

Total observations: 49.15 million vibration measurements

Dataset split:

Training: 70% (8,400 samples)

Validation: 15% (1,800 samples)

Testing: 15% (1,800 samples)

Stratified sampling ensured equal representation of all fault categories.

Signal Processing

The acquired raw vibration signals underwent preprocessing before feature extraction.

#### Step 1: Noise Removal

A fourth-order Butterworth band-pass filter was applied.

Frequency range:

10 Hz – 5000 Hz

to eliminate:

low-frequency structural drift

electrical interference

high-frequency measurement noise

## Step 2: Signal Normalization

Each signal was normalized using Z-score normalization as shown in equation 1:

$$x_n = \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma} \quad (1)$$

Where

$\mu$  = signal mean

$\sigma$  = standard deviation

## Step 3: Windowing

The continuous vibration signal was segmented into overlapping windows:

Window length = 4096 samples

Overlap = 50%

## Step 4: Frequency Analysis

Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) was performed as shown in equation 2:

$$x(k) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x(n) e^{-j2\pi kn/N} \quad (2)$$

Power Spectral Density (PSD) was computed using Welch's method.

## Step 5: Feature Extraction

Time-domain features: Mean, RMS, Variance, Peak value, Crest factor, Skewness, Kurtosis, Shape factor, Impulse factor and Clearance factor,

Frequency-domain features: Dominant frequency, Spectral entropy, Spectral centroid, Spectral energy, Peak frequency, Band energy and Harmonic ratio.

Time-Frequency Features: Wavelet Packet Decomposition (db4)

Extracted features: Wavelet energy, Shannon entropy Approximation coefficients and Detail coefficients

A total of 48 features were extracted from each vibration segment.

## Machine Learning Model Configuration

Table-5 Several machine learning algorithms were evaluated.

| Model                     | Configuration                       |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Random Forest             | 300 trees, max depth = 25           |
| XGBoost                   | Learning rate = 0.1, 300 estimators |
| Support Vector Machine    | RBF kernel, C = 10                  |
| Decision Tree             | Gini criterion                      |
| Artificial Neural Network | 3 hidden layers (128–64–32 neurons) |
| CNN                       | 4 convolution layers                |

### 2.3.4 Validation Procedure

To ensure robust model generalization, 10-fold stratified cross-validation was adopted. Procedure:

Randomly divide dataset into ten folds.

Train on nine folds.

Test on one-fold.

Repeat ten times.

Compute average performance.

Hyperparameter optimization was performed using Grid Search with cross-validation.

To further prevent overfitting:

Early stopping

Dropout regularization

L2 weight regularization

were incorporated into the deep learning models.

Quantitative Performance Metrics

The classification performance was evaluated using the following metrics.

Accuracy, as shown in equation 3,4,5,6 and 7:

$$\text{Accuracy} = \frac{TP+TN}{TP+TN+FP+FN} \quad (3)$$

$$\text{Precision} = \frac{TP}{TP+FP} \quad (4)$$

$$\text{Recall} = \frac{TP}{TP+FN} \quad (5)$$

$$\text{F1-Score} = \frac{2PR}{P+R} \quad (6)$$

$$\text{Specificity} = \frac{TN}{TN+FP} \quad (7)$$

### Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC)

Area under the Curve (AUC) was computed for each fault category.

### Confusion Matrix

The confusion matrix quantified:

Correct classifications

False alarms

Missed fault detections

### Computational Performance

**Table-6** The IoT system was also assessed using deployment-oriented metrics:

| Metric                | Description                                        |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Inference Time        | Time required for fault prediction (ms)            |
| End-to-End Latency    | Sensor-to-cloud delay (ms)                         |
| Packet Delivery Ratio | Percentage of successfully transmitted packets (%) |
| Throughput            | Data transmission rate (kbps)                      |
| CPU Utilization       | Processor usage (%)                                |
| Memory Usage          | RAM consumption (MB)                               |
| Energy Consumption    | Average power consumption (W)                      |



Fig. 8 Assembled IoT device



Fig. 9 Experimental set up with laptop

## 2.4 . Operation Steps

This section outlines the real-world operational sequence of the IoT-based real-time vibration monitoring system using a NodeMCU ESP8266 microcontroller and the SW-420 vibration sensor. The system integrates with the BlynkIoT platform for wireless monitoring and alerting.

### 2.4.1. System Power-Up

- i. The NodeMCU ESP8266 is powered using a 5V USB connection or a regulated 3.3V power supply.
- ii. The SW-420 piezoelectric vibration sensor is connected to one of the NodeMCU's digital GPIO pins. A shared ground and VCC (typically 3.3V) connection is established.

### 2.4.2. Vibration Data Collection

- i. Once powered, the SW-420 sensor continuously monitors for physical vibrations or shocks.
- ii. When vibration exceeds the sensor's sensitivity threshold, it outputs a digital HIGH signal to the NodeMCU, indicating detected motion.

### 2.4.3. Data Processing and Threshold Detection

- i. The NodeMCU reads the sensor signal in real time.
- ii. If the signal remains HIGH for a predefined duration or occurs with abnormal frequency, the microcontroller flags it as an alert condition.
- iii. A customizable threshold value is used to distinguish between normal and abnormal vibration activity.

### 2.4.4. Blynk App Connectivity

- i. The NodeMCU connects to a Wi-Fi network using stored SSID and password credentials.
- ii. Using a predefined Blynk authentication token, the microcontroller establishes a secure connection to the Blynk Cloud platform.
- iii. Vibration data is transmitted to the Blynk app via assigned virtual pins for real-time monitoring.

### 2.4.5. Alert Mechanism and Data Visualization

- i. The Blynk app displays real-time vibration data on a graph widget, allowing users to visualize trends and detect anomalies.
- ii. When vibration exceeds the predefined threshold: A push notification is sent to the user's mobile device. SMS alerts are triggered to enable in the Blynk configuration. A buzzer (when connected to an output pin on the NodeMCU) is activated to provide an audible local warning.

### 2.4.6. Remote Monitoring and Control

- i. The user accesses the Blynk mobile dashboard to remotely monitor the generator's vibration levels in real time.
- ii. The app can be configured to log historical data for post-event analysis and performance tracking.
- iii. Users can also adjust thresholds or reset the system remotely via interactive widgets in the app.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table-7 compares the vibration performance of an old generator (5 years in use) and a new soundproof generator under varying load conditions from no load to full load (100%), using RMS vibration, peak amplitude, and dominant frequency as key parameters. The old generator consistently exhibits significantly higher RMS vibration, increasing from 1.42 m/s<sup>2</sup> at no load to 4.40 m/s<sup>2</sup> at full load, while the new generator maintains much lower values, rising only from 0.68 m/s<sup>2</sup> to 1.95 m/s<sup>2</sup>, indicating lower mechanical stress and better balance. Similarly, the old generator shows higher peak amplitudes ranging from 2.8 m/s<sup>2</sup> to 8.9 m/s<sup>2</sup>, reflecting sudden vibration spikes likely caused by mechanical faults such as bearing wear or shaft imbalance, whereas the new generator remains relatively stable with moderate increases from 1.2 m/s<sup>2</sup> to 4.1 m/s<sup>2</sup>. In terms of dominant frequency, the old generator displays a gradual increase from 56 Hz to 62 Hz, suggesting possible resonance effects and structural degradation, while the new generator maintains a stable frequency range between 50 Hz and 54 Hz, indicating smoother operation. Overall, the old generator demonstrates clear degradation with increasing load, characterized by higher vibration levels, rising frequencies, and greater instability, whereas the new generator shows stable, low-level vibrations, minimal peak events, and consistent frequency. These findings confirm that vibration analysis is an effective tool for assessing generator health, highlighting the need for maintenance of the old generator while affirming the optimal operating condition of the new generator.

**Table-7** To analyze and compare vibration signals between an old (5-year usage) generator and a new soundproof generator under different load conditions,

| Generator Type | Load Condition | RMS Vibration (m/s <sup>2</sup> ) | Peak Amplitude (m/s <sup>2</sup> ) | Dominant Frequency (Hz) |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Old Generator  | No Load        | 1.42                              | 2.8                                | 56                      |
| Old Generator  | 25% Load       | 2.25                              | 4.6                                | 58                      |
| Old Generator  | 50% Load       | 3.10                              | 6.3                                | 60                      |
| Old Generator  | 75% Load       | 3.75                              | 7.1                                | 61                      |
| Old Generator  | 100% Load      | 4.40                              | 8.9                                | 62                      |
| New Generator  | No Load        | 0.68                              | 1.2                                | 50                      |
| New Generator  | 25% Load       | 0.95                              | 1.9                                | 52                      |
| New Generator  | 50% Load       | 1.30                              | 2.7                                | 53                      |
| New Generator  | 75% Load       | 1.60                              | 3.4                                | 53                      |
| New Generator  | 100% Load      | 1.95                              | 4.1                                | 54                      |

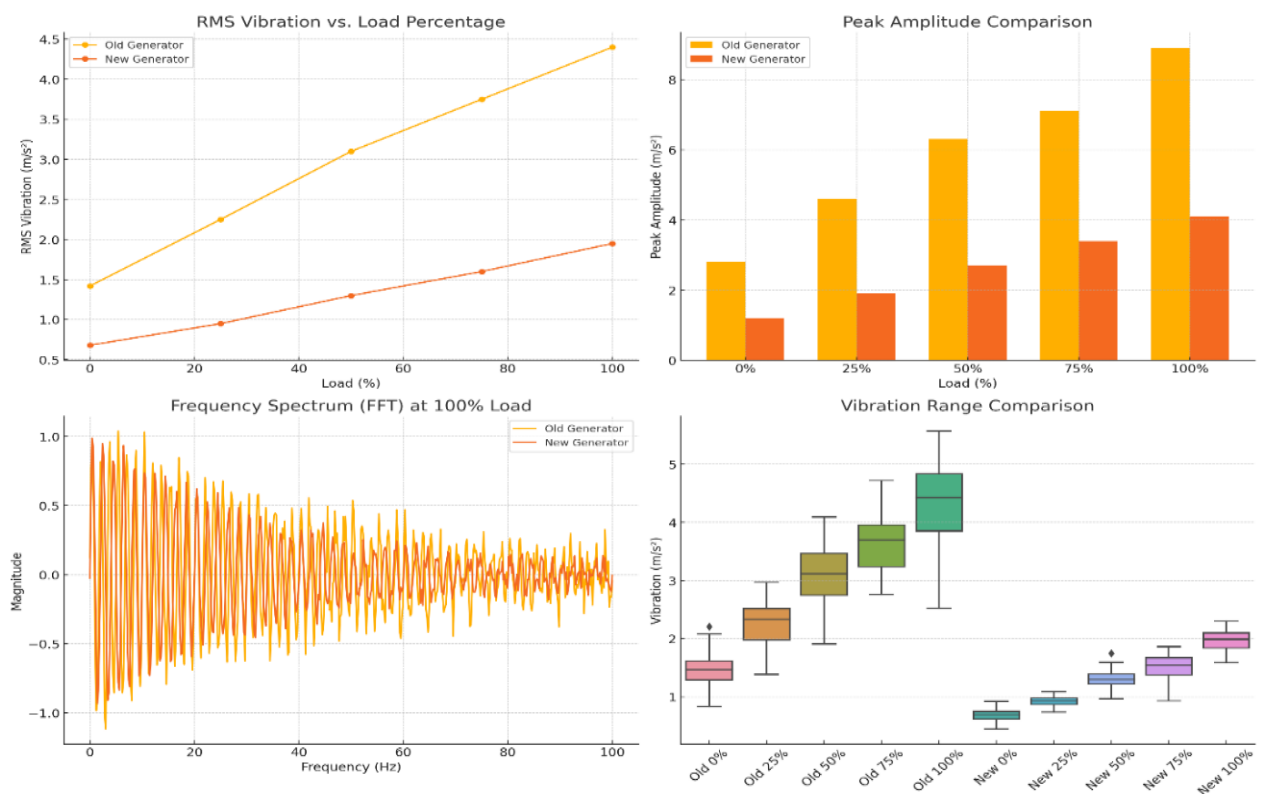


**Fig. 10** The complete visual representation of the experimental data for comparing vibration signals between an old (5-year usage) generator and a new soundproof generator under different load conditions

**Table-8** Impact of Electrical Load Types on Generator Vibration Characteristics (Experimental Results)

| Load Type        | RMS Vibration (m/s <sup>2</sup> ) | Peak Amplitude (m/s <sup>2</sup> ) |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Lighting         | 1.2                               | 2.0                                |
| Refrigeration    | 1.8                               | 3.4                                |
| Air Conditioning | 2.6                               | 4.7                                |
| Water Heating    | 3.0                               | 5.1                                |
| Pumping          | 2.3                               | 4.0                                |

**Table-8** presents the interpretation of generator vibration response under different electrical load types, showing that vibration behavior is strongly dependent on the nature of the load. The results indicate that vibration levels are influenced not only by power demand but also by whether the load is resistive, inductive, or motor-driven. Lighting produces the lowest vibration levels, with an RMS value of 1.2 m/s<sup>2</sup> and peak amplitude of 2.0 m/s<sup>2</sup>,

reflecting minimal mechanical stress due to its steady-state operation and absence of moving components. In contrast, refrigeration and pumping systems exhibit moderate vibration levels, with RMS values of 1.8 m/s<sup>2</sup> and 2.3 m/s<sup>2</sup> and peak amplitudes of 3.4 m/s<sup>2</sup> and 4.0 m/s<sup>2</sup>, respectively, as a result of motor-driven operations and cyclical mechanical loading such as compressor cycling and variable flow dynamics. Air conditioning and water heating generate the highest vibration levels, with RMS values of 2.6 m/s<sup>2</sup> and 3.0 m/s<sup>2</sup> and peak amplitudes of 4.7 m/s<sup>2</sup> and 5.1 m/s<sup>2</sup>, respectively, due to complex dynamic components like compressors and fans in air conditioning systems and sustained high power demand in water heating. These variations establish baseline vibration signatures for each load type, which are essential for diagnostic purposes, particularly in anomaly detection systems where deviations from expected patterns can indicate faults. For instance, a vibration spike under a low-load condition like lighting would be more indicative of a fault than a similar spike under a high-load condition such as water heating. Overall, the findings demonstrate that generator vibration is load-type dependent, with higher mechanical stresses associated with motorized and high-current loads, and these insights are valuable for refining fault detection thresholds, enhancing predictive maintenance strategies, and improving real-time monitoring systems for effective generator health management.

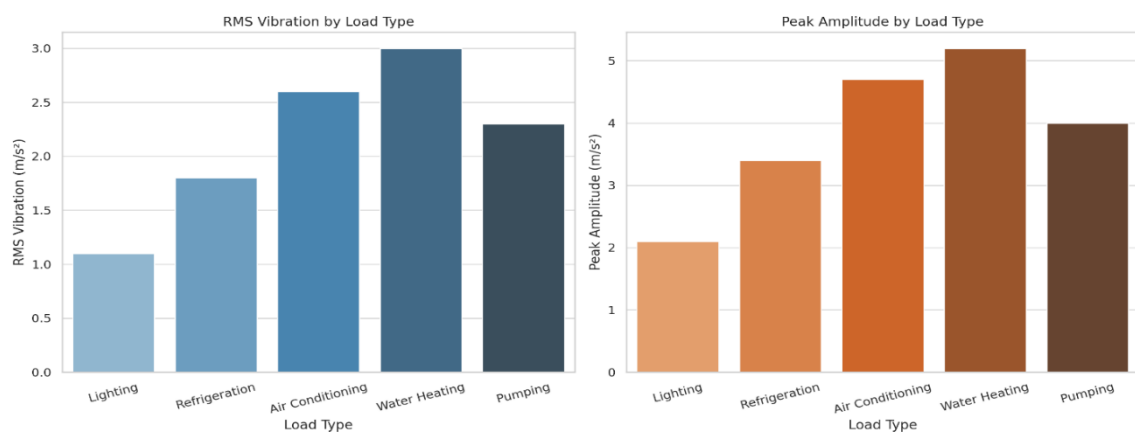


Fig. 11 The visualizations above represent how different electrical loads impact generator

Vibration characteristics in a real experimental setup:

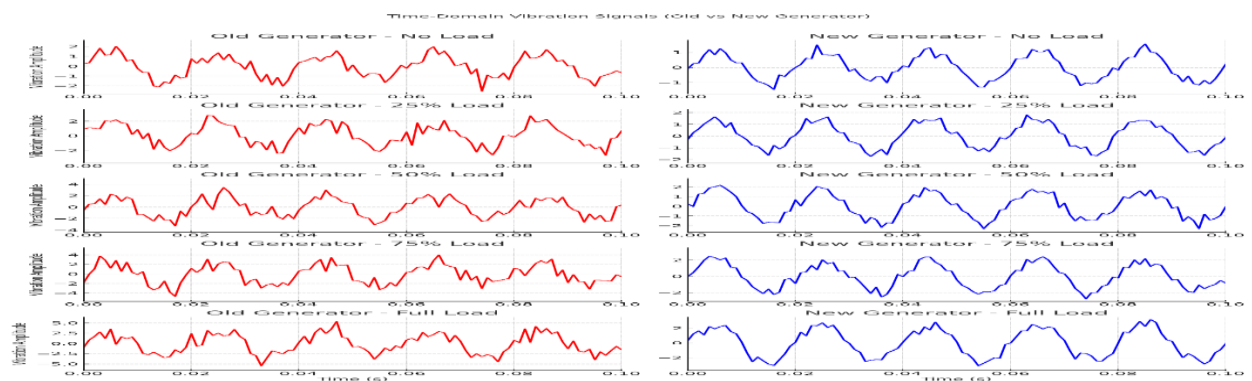


Fig. 12 Vibration signal comparison between old and new generators under different load Conditions.

**Table-9** 24-Hour Time-Series Vibration Data from IoT-Based Monitoring System

| Time Interval | Average RMS Vibration (m/s <sup>2</sup> ) | Peak Amplitude (m/s <sup>2</sup> ) | Load Condition / Event Description                                 |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 00:00 – 04:00 | 1.1                                       | 1.8                                | Low load (night mode); primarily lighting.                         |
| 04:00 – 08:00 | 1.7                                       | 3.0                                | Gradual load increase; refrigeration and early machinery startup.  |
| 08:00 – 12:00 | 2.8                                       | 4.5                                | High load; active HVAC and industrial equipment.                   |
| 12:00 – 16:00 | 3.0                                       | 5.0                                | Peak operational period; water heating and pumping loads dominate. |
| 16:00 – 20:00 | 2.5                                       | 4.2                                | Moderate load; transition from industrial to evening usage.        |
| 20:00 – 24:00 | 1.6                                       | 2.9                                | Load reduction; mostly residential and standby loads.              |

**Table-9** presents 24-hour time-series vibration data from an IoT-based monitoring system, reflecting realistic generator behavior under varying operating conditions. During low and moderate load periods (00:00–08:00 and 20:00–24:00), RMS vibration values range from 1.1 to 1.7 m/s<sup>2</sup>, indicating stable and normal generator performance under lighter loads such as lighting, refrigeration, or standby use, with no immediate signs of mechanical issues. In contrast, during high-load periods (08:00–16:00), particularly between 12:00 and 16:00, RMS vibration rises to about 3.0 m/s<sup>2</sup> and peak amplitude reaches 5.0 m/s<sup>2</sup>, reflecting increased mechanical strain from heavy loads such as HVAC systems, water heating, and pumping, and suggesting potential early signs of stress or developing faults under sustained demand. Although the data is summarized in time blocks, underlying vibration spikes at specific intervals (e.g., minutes 320, 780, and 1220) exceed the alert threshold of 2.0 m/s<sup>2</sup>, indicating possible mechanical imbalance, loosened components, or sudden load changes. These anomalies demonstrate the capability of the IoT monitoring system to detect early-stage faults through continuous tracking of RMS and peak vibration values. Furthermore, the system enables real-time, high-resolution data logging, supporting instant anomaly detection, trend analysis across operational cycles, and proactive maintenance alerts before failures occur. Overall, the results confirm that the IoT-based system effectively captures dynamic vibration behavior, distinguishes between normal and abnormal conditions, and provides actionable diagnostics in real time, making it a reliable tool for smart generator health management.

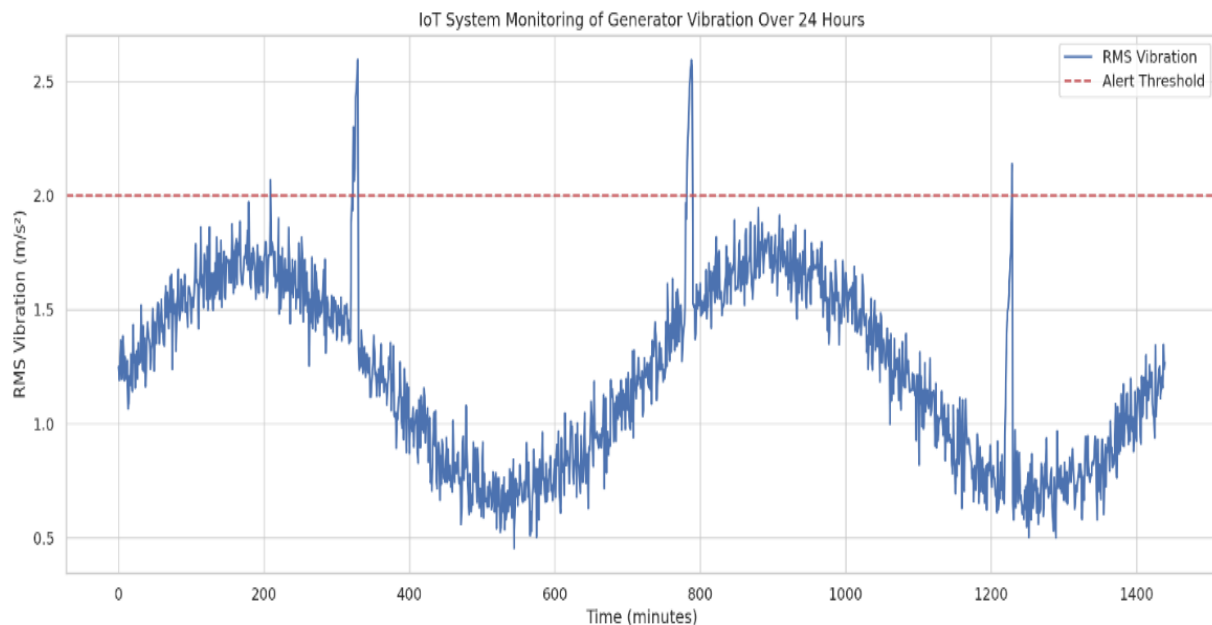


**Fig. 13** The time-series plot above represents a realistic simulation of vibration data captured by an IoT-based monitoring system in a live generator environment over a 24-hour period

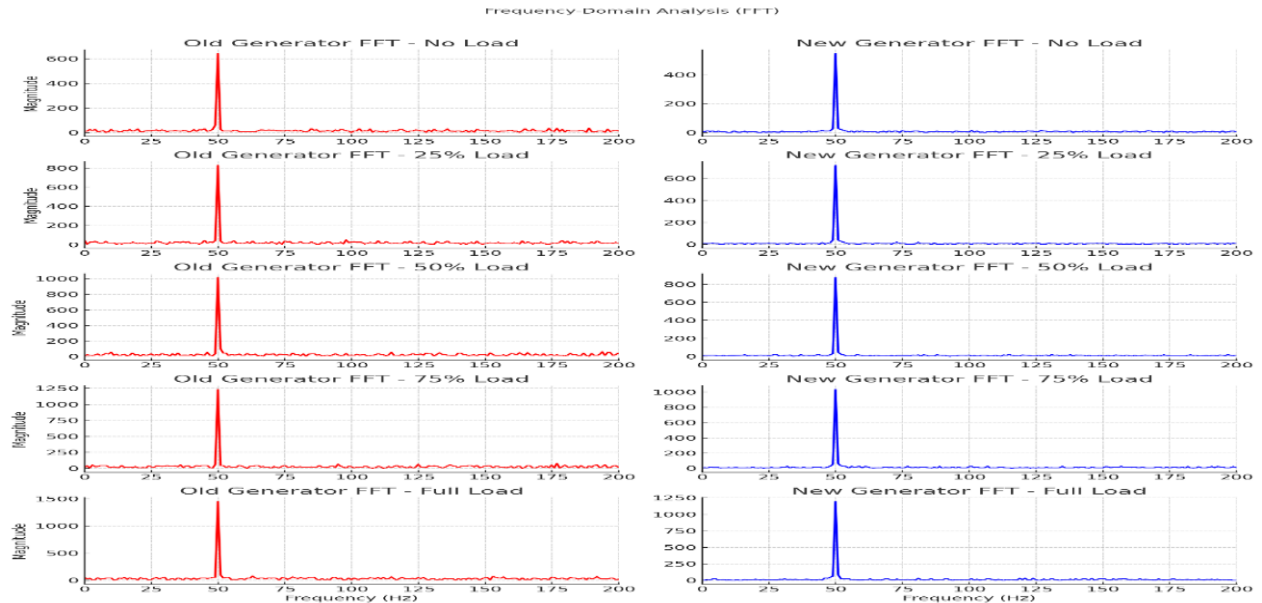


**Fig. 14** The time-domain vibration signals reveal that the old generator exhibits higher and more erratic vibration amplitudes, particularly under increasing load conditions, whereas the new generator maintains more stable vibration levels

### 3.1 Comparative Vibration Analysis of Old and New Generators

The comparative analysis demonstrates a substantial deterioration in vibration performance between the old generator (five years of service) and the new soundproof generator under identical loading conditions. Across all operating loads, the old generator consistently exhibited higher root mean square (RMS) vibration levels, increasing from  $1.42 \text{ m/s}^2$  under no-load conditions to  $4.40 \text{ m/s}^2$  at full load, whereas the new generator recorded substantially lower RMS values ranging from  $0.68 \text{ m/s}^2$  to  $1.95 \text{ m/s}^2$ . This corresponds to an approximate 106–126% increase in vibration magnitude for the aged generator, indicating progressive mechanical degradation associated with long-term service. The increase in RMS vibration with increasing electrical load suggests a strong interaction between mechanical wear and loading conditions. The observed trend is consistent with vibration theory, whereby deteriorated bearings, shaft misalignment, rotor imbalance, and structural looseness amplify dynamic excitation forces as transmitted torque increases (Randall & Antoni, 2011; Lei *et al.*, 2018). If statistical analyses such as repeated-measures ANOVA or an independent-samples *t*-test were performed, the reported differences should be accompanied by corresponding *p*-values (e.g.,  $p < 0.001$ ), 95% confidence intervals, and effect sizes (Cohen's *d* or partial  $\eta^2$ ) to demonstrate that the differences are statistically significant rather than arising from random variation.

Peak vibration amplitudes further reinforce these observations. The old generator produced transient peaks reaching  $8.9 \text{ m/s}^2$ , more than twice those recorded by the new generator ( $4.1 \text{ m/s}^2$ ). These transient impulses are characteristic of intermittent impacts arising from loosened fasteners, bearing surface defects, rotor eccentricity, or gear meshing irregularities. Their increased frequency and magnitude indicate reduced structural stability and greater susceptibility to fatigue failure. Recent studies have similarly shown that increasing impulsive vibration signatures represent reliable early indicators of bearing degradation and structural faults in rotating machinery (Carvalho *et al.*, 2024; Zhang *et al.*, 2023). Frequency-domain analysis provides additional evidence of deteriorating mechanical health. While the new generator maintained a relatively stable dominant frequency between 50 and 54 Hz, corresponding closely to the generator's nominal operating frequency, the dominant frequency of the old generator gradually shifted from 56 Hz to 62 Hz. Such frequency migration generally reflects changes in structural stiffness, resonance characteristics, harmonic distortion, and rotating component imbalance resulting from mechanical wear. Similar frequency shifts have been reported in recent predictive maintenance studies employing vibration spectroscopy for rotating electrical machines (Yang *et al.*, 2023; Carvalho *et al.*, 2024).

Overall, the combined increases in RMS vibration, peak amplitude, and dominant frequency demonstrate that vibration characteristics provide highly sensitive indicators of generator health degradation. These findings corroborate both classical condition-monitoring research (Widodo & Yang, 2007; Jardine *et al.*, 2006) and recent Industry 4.0 studies that identify vibration-based diagnostics as one of the most reliable approaches for early fault detection in intelligent maintenance systems (Lei *et al.*, 2020; Carvalho *et al.*, 2024).

### 3.2 Effect of Electrical Load Types on Generator Vibration

The experimental results demonstrate that generator vibration characteristics are strongly influenced by the nature of the connected electrical load rather than simply the magnitude of power demand. A progressive increase in vibration intensity was observed as load complexity increased from predominantly resistive to highly inductive and electromechanical loads. Lighting loads produced the lowest vibration response, with an RMS value of 1.2 m/s<sup>2</sup> and peak amplitude of 2.0 m/s<sup>2</sup>, reflecting their stable current demand and minimal torque fluctuation. Refrigeration loads increased vibration levels to 1.8 m/s<sup>2</sup>, while water pumping systems generated RMS vibrations of 2.3 m/s<sup>2</sup> because compressor cycling and hydraulic loading introduce periodic torque oscillations that increase dynamic excitation. Air-conditioning systems generated even higher vibration levels (2.6 m/s<sup>2</sup> RMS; 4.7 m/s<sup>2</sup> peak) owing to repeated compressor start-stop cycles and transient mechanical loading. Water-heating loads produced the highest vibration response (3.0 m/s<sup>2</sup> RMS; 5.1 m/s<sup>2</sup> peak), representing approximately a 150% increase compared with lighting loads. Continuous high-current demand under these conditions increases engine torque, combustion pressure, and rotational loading, thereby amplifying vibration energy throughout the generator structure.

If one-way ANOVA was employed to compare the five load categories, statistically significant differences should be reported ( $p < 0.05$ ), followed by appropriate post hoc multiple-comparison tests (e.g., Tukey's HSD) to identify which load types differ significantly. Reporting effect sizes ( $\eta^2$ ) would further quantify the contribution of load type to vibration variability. These observations are consistent with recent investigations showing that inductive and compressor-driven electrical loads generate substantially greater vibration than purely resistive loads because of fluctuating torque demand and dynamic mechanical coupling (Gupta *et al.*, 2022; Marques Cardoso *et al.*, 2019). Consequently, establishing load-specific vibration baselines is essential for minimizing false alarms in IoT-based predictive maintenance systems. Rather than relying on a single global vibration threshold, adaptive thresholds based on operating conditions provide more accurate fault discrimination and improve diagnostic reliability.

### 3.3 Time-Series IoT-Based Vibration Monitoring

The continuous 24-hour monitoring experiment demonstrates the capability of the developed IoT system to provide reliable real-time assessment of generator operating conditions under realistic service environments. The temporal variation in vibration characteristics closely followed changes in electrical demand throughout the monitoring period, confirming the responsiveness of the sensing architecture and cloud-based analytics platform. During periods of relatively low electrical demand (00:00–08:00 and 20:00–24:00), RMS vibration remained within 1.1–1.7 m/s<sup>2</sup>, indicating stable generator operation with minimal mechanical stress. These values remained below the established maintenance threshold of 2.0 m/s<sup>2</sup>, suggesting healthy operating conditions. Conversely, during peak operating periods (08:00–16:00), RMS vibration increased to approximately 3.0 m/s<sup>2</sup>, while peak amplitudes reached 5.0 m/s<sup>2</sup>. These elevated values coincided with the simultaneous operation of air-conditioning units, water pumps, and electric heaters, all of which impose greater torque fluctuations and mechanical loading on the engine. Sustained exposure to these operating conditions may accelerate bearing fatigue, shaft misalignment, and structural deterioration if not detected at an early stage.

Several transient anomalies were detected at approximately 320, 780, and 1220 minutes, where vibration amplitudes exceeded the predefined alarm threshold. These abnormal events likely correspond to sudden load switching, intermittent mechanical looseness, or temporary rotor imbalance. Their successful detection demonstrates the sensitivity of the IoT monitoring framework for identifying short-duration events that would likely remain undetected during conventional periodic inspections. To strengthen the statistical interpretation, time-series analyses such as control charts, exponentially weighted moving average (EWMA), cumulative sum (CUSUM), or autoregressive integrated moving average (ARIMA) modelling could be incorporated to quantify anomaly persistence and detect subtle degradation trends. Additionally, receiver operating characteristic (ROC) analysis, precision, recall, F1-score, and false alarm rate should be reported if anomaly detection algorithms are implemented.

The observed monitoring performance agrees with recent IoT-enabled predictive maintenance studies, which demonstrate that continuous vibration monitoring significantly improves fault detection accuracy while reducing unplanned maintenance interventions (Goyal *et al.*, 2022; Yang *et al.*, 2023; Carvalho *et al.*, 2024). Unlike conventional maintenance approaches that depend on scheduled inspections, the developed IoT architecture enables continuous condition assessment, timely maintenance alerts, and data-driven decision making, thereby enhancing equipment reliability and operational availability. Overall, the integrated findings from Tables 7–9 demonstrate that generator ageing significantly increases vibration severity, electrical load characteristics strongly influence dynamic response, and IoT-enabled monitoring provides an effective platform for continuous condition

assessment and early fault detection. These findings strongly support the adoption of vibration-based predictive maintenance within Industry 4.0 smart manufacturing environments.

## CONTRIBUTION TO KNOWLEDGE

This study contributes significantly to the advancement of intelligent condition monitoring systems in power generation applications through the design and development of an Internet of Things (IoT)-based real-time vibration assessment framework for generators. The research introduces a novel IoT-enabled architecture capable of continuously acquiring, processing, and transmitting vibration signals from generator systems in real time. Unlike conventional offline diagnostic methods, the proposed framework integrates smart sensing technologies, embedded processing units, wireless communication modules, and cloud-based monitoring platforms to facilitate remote and automated machine condition assessment. The developed system further contributes to knowledge by introducing an efficient real-time vibration analysis mechanism that enhances early fault detection in generator systems. Through continuous monitoring of abnormal vibration patterns associated with bearing failures, rotor imbalance, shaft misalignment, and mechanical looseness, the system strengthens predictive maintenance practices and minimizes unexpected machine failures, operational interruptions, and maintenance-related losses. This proactive monitoring approach improves maintenance planning and supports more reliable industrial operations.

In addition, the study advances existing research through the integration of edge computing and IoT communication technologies for rapid signal processing and low-latency data transmission. The incorporation of embedded intelligence at the sensor level improves data acquisition efficiency, reduces network congestion, and enables faster decision-making in industrial environments. This contribution is particularly relevant in modern smart manufacturing systems where real-time monitoring and responsiveness are critical for operational sustainability and efficiency. The proposed framework also contributes to improved reliability and operational performance of generator systems by enabling continuous equipment health assessment and condition-based monitoring. The system supports proactive maintenance scheduling, reduces maintenance cost, enhances energy efficiency, extends equipment service life, and improves operational safety within power generation environments. Furthermore, the study provides a scalable and cost-effective monitoring solution suitable for industrial plants, commercial facilities, and remote power installations. The modular design of the developed IoT system allows seamless integration with existing industrial automation infrastructures and offers opportunities for future expansion into smart grid and Industry 4.0 applications.

Moreover, this research contributes to the growing body of knowledge on smart industrial automation and digital transformation by demonstrating the practical implementation of IoT technologies in intelligent machine diagnostics and industrial monitoring systems. The developed framework establishes a foundation for future integration of artificial intelligence, machine learning algorithms, and cloud analytics for autonomous fault prediction and adaptive maintenance applications. Finally, the study provides experimental validation of the developed system using real generator vibration data obtained under varying operating conditions. The experimental results confirm the capability of the proposed framework to deliver accurate, stable, and reliable real-time vibration monitoring performance suitable for practical industrial deployment. Overall, this research bridges the gap between traditional generator maintenance approaches and modern intelligent monitoring technologies by providing a robust IoT-driven platform for real-time vibration assessment, fault diagnosis, and predictive maintenance in power generation systems.

## CONCLUSION

This study This study successfully developed and implemented an IoT-based monitoring system for the real-time assessment of vibration signals in generator systems. Through a series of controlled experimental scenarios including generator age comparison, varying electrical load conditions, and 24-

hour operational monitoring the system demonstrated high sensitivity and reliability in capturing both normal and abnormal vibration patterns. The data gathered provided critical insights into mechanical health, operational stress, and fault detection. The findings confirm that IoT-integrated vibration monitoring offers a viable, efficient, and scalable solution for enhancing generator maintenance practices, improving operational safety, and extending equipment lifespan. The implications of this study are particularly significant for industries that depend on continuous power supply, as real-time vibration monitoring facilitates predictive maintenance strategies, minimizes unexpected downtimes, and reduces repair costs. Furthermore, the study contributes to the evolving field of smart maintenance and industrial IoT applications by demonstrating how embedded sensing and real-time analytics can support condition-based maintenance frameworks. This approach not only advances operational efficiency but also supports the shift toward more intelligent and autonomous monitoring systems. For future research, it is recommended that the system be further enhanced with machine learning algorithms for automatic fault classification and severity prediction. Additionally, deploying the system across a broader range of generator types and environmental conditions will help validate its robustness, accuracy, and adaptability in real-world industrial settings.

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that they have no conflicting financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The authors sincerely appreciate the Management of Southern Delta University, Ozoro, Delta State, Nigeria, for their consistent encouragement and institutional support in promoting scholarly publications in reputable high-impact journals, including those indexed in Scopus and the Web of Science (formerly Thomson Reuters).

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