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Machine Learning for Predictive Maintenance in Industries

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Abstract: *In industrial environments, unexpected machine failures can lead to increased downtime, high maintenance costs, and reduced productivity. Traditional maintenance strategies such as reactive and preventive maintenance are often inefficient as they either respond after failure or rely on fixed schedules without considering the actual condition of equipment. To overcome these limitations, predictive maintenance has emerged as an effective approach that enables early fault detection based on real-time data analysis.*

This paper presents a machine learning-based predictive maintenance system designed for industrial applications. The proposed system utilizes sensors to continuously monitor key parameters such as temperature, vibration, and current. The collected data is processed and analyzed using machine learning algorithms to identify patterns and detect anomalies that indicate potential equipment failures. The model is trained using historical data to improve prediction accuracy and reliability.

The results demonstrate that the proposed system can effectively predict faults in advance, thereby reducing unplanned downtime and optimizing maintenance schedules. Additionally, the system enhances operational efficiency and extends the lifespan of industrial machinery. This study highlights the potential of machine learning techniques in transforming traditional maintenance practices into intelligent and data-driven solutions.

Keywords: *Predictive Maintenance, Machine Learning, Industrial Automation, Fault Detection, Real-Time Monitoring, Sensor Data Analysis, Condition Monitoring, Anomaly Detection, Industrial IoT (IoT), Equipment Failure Prediction.*

I. INTRODUCTION

In modern industrial environments, the reliability and continuous operation of machinery are critical for maintaining productivity and reducing operational costs. Unexpected equipment failures can lead to significant downtime, financial losses, and safety risks. Traditionally, industries have relied on reactive maintenance (repair after failure) and preventive maintenance (scheduled servicing). However, these approaches often result in either unnecessary maintenance or delayed fault detection. With the advancement of digital technologies and data-driven systems, predictive maintenance has emerged as a more efficient and intelligent solution. Predictive maintenance utilizes real-time monitoring and historical data to predict potential failures before they occur. This approach not only minimizes downtime but also optimizes maintenance schedules and extends equipment lifespan.

Machine Learning (ML), a subset of artificial intelligence, plays a vital role in enhancing predictive maintenance systems. ML algorithms can analyze large volumes of sensor data such as temperature, vibration, pressure, and current to identify patterns and anomalies associated with machine faults. Unlike traditional rule-based systems, ML models can learn from data and improve their prediction accuracy over time. Despite significant progress, many existing systems face challenges such as limited accuracy, lack of real-time implementation, and inability to handle multi-parameter data effectively. These limitations highlight the need for a more robust and scalable predictive maintenance framework.

This research aims to develop a machine learning-based predictive maintenance system for industrial applications. The proposed system focuses on real-time data acquisition using sensors and applies ML algorithms to predict potential machine failures. The objective is to improve fault detection accuracy, reduce unexpected downtime, and enhance overall system efficiency.

II. WORKING PRINCIPLE

A. System Overview

The proposed system is designed to implement a real-time predictive maintenance framework for an induction motor by integrating sensing, processing, communication, and protection mechanisms.

The system continuously monitors key operational parameters such as temperature, vibration, and current, which are critical indicators of motor health. The overall operation is based on a data-driven monitoring approach, where sensor data is acquired, processed, analyzed, and used to detect abnormal conditions. Upon detection of faults, appropriate control actions such as alert generation and system shutdown are executed to ensure safety and reliability.

B. Power Supply and Protection Mechanism

The system is powered through an AC mains supply, which is first passed through an energy meter to monitor overall power consumption. A Miniature Circuit Breaker (MCB) is installed to provide protection against over current and short-circuit conditions. The AC supply is converted into regulated DC using a Switched Mode Power Supply (SMPS). Further voltage regulation is achieved using DC-DC buck converters to provide stable voltage levels required by the microcontroller, sensors, and communication modules. In case of excessive current flow, the MCB automatically trips, thereby disconnecting the system and preventing equipment damage.

C. Data Acquisition Layer

The data acquisition layer consists of multiple sensors that continuously monitor the operating condition of the induction motor:

Temperature Sensor: Measures the thermal condition of the motor and helps in identifying overheating issues.

Vibration Sensor: Detects mechanical irregularities such as misalignment, imbalance, or bearing faults.

Current Sensor: Measures the electrical current drawn by the motor and is used to detect overload and short-circuit conditions.

These sensors generate real-time signals corresponding to the physical parameters, which are then fed into the processing unit.

D. Data Processing Unit

The Arduino UNO microcontroller serves as the central processing unit of the system. It performs the following functions: Acquisition of sensor data, Conversion of analog signals into digital form, Filtering and conditioning of sensor inputs, Comparison of real-time values with predefined threshold limits. Based on this analysis, the system classifies the operating condition into different states such as normal, warning, critical, and fault.

E. Communication Module

The ESP32 module is used for wireless communication and IoT integration. It transmits the processed data to external platforms such as cloud servers or monitoring dashboards.

This enables: Remote monitoring of system parameters. Data storage for historical analysis. Integration with Machine Learning models for predictive analysis.

F. Fault Detection and Decision Logic

The fault detection mechanism is based on threshold-based and pattern-based analysis of sensor data. A gradual increase in temperature and vibration indicates normal operational variation. A sudden rise in current indicates electrical abnormalities such as overload or short circuit. Simultaneous abnormal variations in multiple parameters indicate severe fault conditions. The system continuously evaluates these parameters and determines the operational state of the motor.

G. Control and Protection System

A relay module is incorporated to control the power supply to the motor. Under normal conditions, the relay remains energized, allowing the motor to operate. When abnormal conditions are detected, the system generates an alert using a buzzer. The relay is deactivated to disconnect the motor. In severe fault conditions, the MCB trips automatically, ensuring complete system shutdown and protection.

H. Display and Alert Mechanism

An LCD display is used to provide real-time visualization of system parameters such as temperature, vibration, current, and system status. Additionally, a buzzer is activated during abnormal conditions to provide immediate auditory alerts to the operator.

I. Machine Learning Integration

The system supports Machine Learning-based predictive maintenance by utilizing the collected sensor data. The data is used to train models that can identify patterns associated with normal and faulty conditions. This enables: Early fault prediction, Improved decision-making accuracy, Reduction in unexpected failures.

J. System Operation Workflow

The overall operation of the system can be summarized as follows:

The system is powered ON through the AC supply. Sensors continuously collect real-time data from the motor. Arduino processes and analyzes the sensor data. ESP32 transmits the data for remote monitoring and analysis. The system evaluates the condition of the motor. If abnormal conditions are detected: Alerts are generated, Relay disconnects the motor. In case of severe fault: MCB trips, System shuts down completely

III. RESULT

The developed predictive maintenance system was tested under both normal and fault conditions of the induction motor. Real-time data of temperature, vibration, and current were continuously monitored and recorded. The system successfully captured the variation in parameters over time and identified the transition from normal operation to fault conditions.

Analysis of Temperature and Vibration:

Sr.no	Time	Temperature(C)	Vibration(mm/s)	System status
1	50	42	2.0	Warning
2	60	48	2.5	Warning
3	70	55	3.2	Critical
4	80	62	4.2	Fault Detected
5	90	70	5.5	Shutdown

Table 1: Temperature and Vibration Analysis

From the above data, it is observed that both temperature and vibration increase gradually with time. Initially, the system operates within a warning range, indicating minor deviations from normal conditions.

At around 70 seconds, the system enters a critical state where temperature and vibration exceed safe thresholds. Further increase leads to fault detection at 80 seconds, and eventually, at 90 seconds, the system reaches a shutdown condition. This behavior indicates that increasing vibration and temperature are strong indicators of mechanical degradation and impending failure.

Analysis of Current Variation:

Sr.No	Time(ms)	Normal current(A)	Fault Current(A)	System Condition
1	0	5	5	Normal
2	10	5.2	5.3	Normal
3	20	5.1	5.5	Normal
4	30	5.3	20	Fault Starts
5	40	5.2	50	Severe Fault
6	50	5.4	100	Short Circuit
7	60	5.3	0	MCB Trips

Table 2: Real-Time Current Analysis

The current remains nearly constant (~5A) during normal operation, indicating stable motor performance. However, at 30ms, a sudden increase in fault current is observed, marking the initiation of a fault condition. The current rapidly rises to 50A and then to 100A, representing severe fault conditions such as overcurrent or short circuit. At 60 ms, the current drops to zero, indicating the successful tripping of the MCB and shutdown of the system. This demonstrates the system's ability to detect electrical faults and activate protection mechanisms in real time.

This analysis clearly shows the relationship between electrical and mechanical parameters during fault progression.

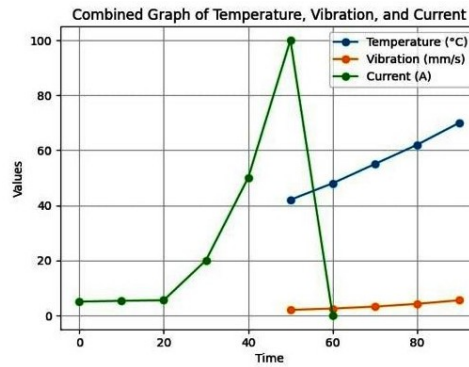


Fig. The graph shows real-time Temperature, Vibration and current then a sudden increase indicates a fault condition

IV. CHALLENGES AND FUTURE SCOPE

A. Challenges:

Despite the advantages of machine learning-based predictive maintenance, several challenges remain in its practical implementation:

1) Data Quality and Availability

Accurate predictions require large volumes of high-quality data. However, in industrial environments, data is often noisy, incomplete, or inconsistent.

2) Real-Time Data Processing

Processing continuous streams of sensor data in real time is computationally intensive and can lead to delays in decision-making.

3) Model Accuracy and Reliability

Machine learning models may sometimes produce incorrect predictions, such as false positives or false negatives, which can affect maintenance decisions.

4) Integration with Existing Systems

Integrating modern ML-based solutions with legacy industrial systems is complex and may require significant modifications.

5) High Implementation Cost

The initial cost of deploying sensors, data acquisition systems, and machine learning infrastructure can be high.

B. Future Scope:

1) Adoption of Deep Learning Techniques

Advanced techniques such as neural networks and deep learning can further improve prediction accuracy and performance.

2) Integration with IoT and Cloud Computing

Combining predictive maintenance with IoT and cloud platforms will enable real-time monitoring, remote access, and scalable solutions.

3) Implementation of Edge Computing

Processing data at the edge (near the source) will reduce latency and improve response time for critical applications.

4) Digital Twin Technology

Creating a digital replica of machines can enable real-time simulation and more accurate fault prediction.

5) Automated Maintenance Systems

Future systems may become fully automated, capable of scheduling and performing maintenance with minimal human intervention.

V. APPLICATION

1) Manufacturing Industry

Predictive maintenance is used to monitor the health of machines such as CNC machines, motors, and conveyors. It helps in detecting potential failures in advance, thereby preventing production interruptions.

2) Power Generation Systems

In thermal and hydroelectric power plants, predictive maintenance is applied to turbines, generators, and transformers. It ensures continuous power generation by identifying faults such as overheating and excessive vibration.

3) Oil and Gas Industry

Machine learning models are used to monitor pipelines, compressors, and drilling equipment. These systems help in detecting leakages, pressure variations, and equipment faults, reducing the risk of accidents.

4) Automotive Industry

Predictive maintenance is applied in assembly lines and robotic systems to ensure smooth operation. It also helps in predicting failures in vehicle components during testing and production.

5) Smart Factories (Industry 4.0)

In smart manufacturing environments, predictive maintenance is integrated with IoT systems to enable real-time monitoring and automated decision-making for maintenance scheduling.

VI. CONCLUSION

The proposed system successfully demonstrates a cost-effective and efficient approach for predictive maintenance of an induction motor using real-time monitoring and Machine Learning concepts. The experimental setup, as illustrated in the implemented hardware model, integrates Arduino UNO, ESP32, and multiple sensors including temperature, vibration, and current sensors to continuously analyze motor health conditions.

From the observed results, it is evident that the system is capable of identifying gradual as well as sudden variations in key parameters. Under normal operating conditions, temperature and vibration show a steady increase within permissible limits, while current remains stable. However, during fault conditions, a significant rise in current is observed, accompanied by increased vibration and temperature, indicating the onset of electrical and mechanical faults.

The system effectively classifies operational states into different stages such as warning, critical, and fault conditions. At the critical stage, early warning signals are generated, allowing preventive action before complete system failure. In severe fault conditions, such as short circuits, the system activates protective mechanisms including relay disconnection and MCB tripping, ensuring complete shutdown and preventing equipment damage.

The graphical analysis and tabulated data further validate the relationship between electrical and mechanical parameters during fault progression. The sudden spike in current followed by a drop to zero confirms the successful operation of the protection system.

Additionally, the integration of ESP32 enables real-time data transmission, making the system suitable for IoT-based industrial applications. The collected data can be further utilized for training Machine Learning models to enhance predictive accuracy and enable intelligent decision-making.

Overall, the developed system provides a reliable and scalable solution for industrial condition monitoring. It significantly reduces unexpected downtime, improves operational safety, and minimizes maintenance costs. The practical implementation of this system demonstrates its potential for real-world industrial applications and supports the advancement of smart maintenance systems in the context of Industry 4.0.

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