IARJSET ISSN (O) 2393-8021, ISSN (P) 2394-1588

International Advanced Research Journal in Science, Engineering and Technology

Impact Factor 8.311 ⁜ Peer-reviewed & Refereed journal ⁜ Vol. 13, Issue 3, March 2026

DOI: 10.17148/IARJSET.2026.133107

Industry 4.0 Based Smart Yarn Monitoring and Alert System

Mr. Shakthivel M. R[1], Mr. Gunasekaran S[2], S. Sabarish[3], P. Bharanidharan[4], G. Sai Shankar[5], G. M. Satheesh[6]

Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, SNS College of Technology, Coimbatore[1]

Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, SNS College of Technology, Coimbatore[2]

Undergraduate Students, Department of Mechanical Engineering, SNS College of Technology, Coimbatore[3,4,5,6]

Abstract: This paper presents an Industry 4.0-based Smart Yarn Monitoring and Alert System designed to enhance efficiency, accuracy, and automation in textile production environments. The proposed system utilizes an ESP32 microcontroller with integrated Wi-Fi capability to enable real-time monitoring and remote data access. An E18-D80 infrared (IR) sensor is employed for continuous yarn thread detection, allowing immediate identification of thread breakage. Additionally, a proximity sensor is used to count roller rotations, enabling indirect estimation of yarn weight through calibrated per-rotation measurements.The system provides both local and remote monitoring functionalities. A 16×2 LCD with I2C interface displays real-time parameters such as yarn status, rotation count, and estimated weight.

Simultaneously, data is transmitted to the Blynk IoT platform, facilitating live monitoring and instant alert notifications via a mobile application. The hardware is powered by a 12V $LiFePO_4$ battery, with an LM2596 buck converter ensuring stable voltage regulation for system components.The proposed solution offers a cost-effective, reliable, and scalable approach for automated yarn production monitoring. It significantly reduces manual intervention, minimizes material wastage, and improves operational productivity. The system demonstrates strong potential for deployment in smart textile industries, aligning with Industry 4.0 principles of digitalization, real-time analytics, and remote accessibility.

Keywords: ESP32, Internet of Things (IoT), Yarn Monitoring System, Industry 4.0, Infrared Sensor, Proximity Sensor, Real-Time Monitoring, Smart Textile System, Weight Estimation, Blynk Platform, Automation, Wireless Monitoring, Fault Detection.

I. INTRODUCTION

The textile industry plays a vital role in global manufacturing, where continuous yarn production and quality monitoring are essential for ensuring product consistency and operational efficiency. Traditional yarn monitoring systems largely depend on manual supervision and mechanical counting methods, which are often prone to human error, delayed fault detection, and inaccurate production tracking. These limitations can lead to increased material wastage, reduced productivity, and higher operational costs.With the emergence of Industry 4.0, there is a growing demand for intelligent, automated, and connected systems that enable real-time monitoring and data-driven decision-making. The integration of Internet of Things (IoT) technologies into industrial processes has opened new possibilities for improving efficiency, accuracy, and remote accessibility. In textile industries, adopting IoT-based monitoring systems can significantly enhance yarn production tracking and fault detection mechanisms.This paper presents an Industry 4.0-based Smart Yarn Monitoring and Alert System that utilizes an ESP32 microcontroller for real-time data acquisition and wireless communication. The system employs an infrared (IR) sensor to detect yarn thread presence and identify breakage instantly. A proximity sensor is used to count roller rotations, enabling indirect estimation of yarn weight through calibrated measurements. The collected data is displayed locally on an LCD and transmitted to a cloud-based platform for remote monitoring and alert notifications.The proposed system aims to minimize manual intervention, improve accuracy in production monitoring, and reduce yarn wastage. By combining sensor technology, embedded systems, and IoT connectivity, the solution provides a cost-effective and scalable approach for modern textile industries. This work aligns with Industry 4.0 principles by incorporating automation, real-time analytics, and smart monitoring capabilities into traditional manufacturing processes.

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II. EXISTING SYSTEM VS PROPOSED SYSTEM

2.1 EXISTING SYSTEM

In conventional textile industries, yarn monitoring is primarily performed using manual inspection and basic mechanical devices. Operators visually monitor yarn continuity and detect breakage, which often results in delayed response and production loss. Roller rotation is typically measured using mechanical counters that lack precision, especially at high speeds. Yarn weight is measured separately using weighing machines after production, making real-time estimation impossible. Furthermore, there is no provision for remote monitoring or data logging, limiting the ability to analyze production performance. These systems are highly dependent on human intervention, leading to errors, inefficiency, and increased material wastage.

2.2 PROPOSED SYSTEM

The proposed system introduces an Industry 4.0-based smart monitoring solution using IoT technology. An ESP32 microcontroller is used to automate yarn monitoring with real-time data processing and wireless communication. An infrared (IR) sensor continuously detects yarn presence and instantly identifies thread breakage. A proximity sensor accurately counts roller rotations, enabling indirect yarn weight estimation through calibration. The system provides real-time data display on a 16×2 LCD and enables remote monitoring through the Blynk IoT platform. Instant alerts are generated in case of faults, ensuring quick corrective action. This system reduces manual effort, improves accuracy, minimizes wastage, and supports data-driven decision-making.

2.3 EXISTING SYSTEM VS PROPOSED SYSTEM – COMPARISON TABLE

Feature	Existing System	Proposed System
Monitoring Method	Manual inspection	Automated using sensors
Yarn Break Detection	Delayed / manual	Instant (IR sensor-based)
Rotation Counting	Mechanical counters	Digital proximity sensor
Weight Measurement	Separate weighing	Real-time estimation
Accuracy	Low to moderate	High accuracy
Remote Monitoring	Not available	Available via IoT (Blynk)
Data Logging	Not available	Cloud-based storage
Alerts	Not available	Instant notifications
Human Dependency	High	Low
Efficiency	Low	High

III. LITERATURE REVIEW

S. No	Reference	Title / Work	Methodology / Technology Used	Key Findings
1	[1] S. Kumar & A. Patel (2021)	IR Sensor Based Yarn Break Detection	Infrared sensors, signal processing	Fast yarn break detection with reduced false alarms
2	[2] L. Zhang & M. R. Singh (2020)	Rotation Counting using Proximity Sensors	Proximity sensor, pulse counting	Improved accuracy in high-speed rotation measurement
3	[3] R. Hernández & P. Bose (2019)	Non-Contact Yarn Monitoring	Optical sensors, microcontroller	Reliable defect detection without physical contact
4	[4] J. Ferreira & K. Ito (2022)	Yarn Mass Estimation	Calibration, rotation-based calculation	Accurate indirect weight estimation method
5	[5] M. Alvarez & T. Nguyen (2023)	ESP32 IoT Monitoring System	ESP32, IoT cloud, Blynk/MQTT	Real-time remote monitoring with low power usage
6	[6] P. Roy & N. Das (2020)	LCD I2C Interface System	I2C communication, LCD display	Reduced wiring complexity and efficient display

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7	[7] H. S. Lee & V. Kumar (2018)	Buck Converter Analysis	LM2596 DC-DC converter	Stable power supply with high efficiency
8	[8] A. Mensah & F. Oliveira (2022)	IoT in Textile Industry	IoT sensors, cloud analytics	Increased productivity and reduced waste
9	[9] K. B. Thomas & S. R. Iyer (2021)	Signal Processing in Sensors	Filtering algorithms, noise reduction	Improved accuracy in noisy environments
10	[10] E. Rossi & Y. Chen (2019)	Smart Yarn Monitoring System	IoT + LCD + cloud integration	Faster operator response and reduced downtime
11	[11] Gomathy et al. (2023)	Yarn Tension Monitoring	IR sensor, alert system	Real-time yarn condition monitoring
12	[12] Kalavathi Devi et al. (2022)	IoT Yarn Monitoring System	ESP32, Blynk platform	Remote monitoring with instant alerts
13	[13] Idzik (2025)	High-Speed Yarn Break Detection	Accelerometer-based sensing	Ultra-fast detection compared to traditional methods
14	[14] IJPREMS (2025)	Predictive Maintenance in Textile	Machine learning, IoT sensors	Reduced downtime using predictive analytics
15	[15] Hannigan et al. (2024)	Smart Textile Sensing	Embedded fiber sensors	Continuous monitoring of textile conditions
16	[16] Kurnia (2025)	AI-based Yarn Defect Detection	AI, image processing	Improved defect detection accuracy

IV. PROBLEM STATEMENT

In textile and spinning industries, effective monitoring of yarn production is essential to ensure product quality, minimize material wastage, and maintain operational efficiency. However, existing yarn monitoring systems primarily rely on manual supervision and basic mechanical methods, which introduce several limitations. These include delayed detection of yarn breakage, inaccurate rotation counting, and lack of real-time production tracking.Manual monitoring increases dependency on human operators, leading to errors, inefficiency, and higher labor costs. Additionally, yarn weight is typically measured using separate weighing processes after production, making it difficult to obtain real-time insights into production output. The absence of integrated monitoring systems also prevents timely corrective actions, resulting in increased downtime and material loss.Furthermore, conventional systems lack remote monitoring capabilities and digital data storage, limiting the ability to analyze production trends and optimize performance. In the context of Industry 4.0, there is a clear need for a smart, automated, and connected system that can continuously monitor yarn status, accurately count roller rotations, estimate yarn weight in real time, and provide instant alerts for fault conditions.Therefore, the problem addressed in this work is the development of a cost-effective, reliable, and IoT-enabled yarn monitoring system that reduces manual intervention, improves accuracy, enables real-time monitoring, and enhances overall productivity in textile industries.

V. METHODOLOGY AND SYSTEM DESIGN

5.1. System Methodology

The proposed smart yarn monitoring system is designed to enable real-time detection of yarn continuity, rotation counting, and weight estimation using IoT technology. The system operates based on non-contact sensing and continuous data processing using an ESP32 microcontroller. Initially, the system is powered by a 12V DC source, which is regulated to 5V using a buck converter for safe operation of the controller and sensors. Upon initialization, the ESP32 configures all input and output peripherals, including the infrared (IR) sensor, proximity sensor, LCD display, and Wi-Fi communication module. The IR sensor continuously monitors the presence of the yarn thread. Any interruption in the reflected signal indicates yarn breakage, which is immediately detected by the controller. Simultaneously, the proximity sensor generates pulse signals corresponding to roller rotations. These pulses are counted by the ESP32 to determine the total number of rotations. Based on a predefined calibration factor, the system computes the yarn weight in real time. The processed data is displayed locally and transmitted to a cloud-based IoT platform for remote monitoring and alert generation.

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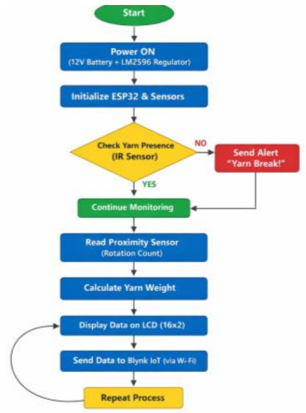
5.2. System Flow



(Fig.1- Smart yarn monitoring system)

The system flow begins with initialization and continuous monitoring of yarn presence. If a yarn break is detected, an alert is generated. Otherwise, the system proceeds with rotation counting, weight calculation, data display, and IoT transmission. The process is repeated continuously to ensure real-time monitoring.

5.3. Hardware Design

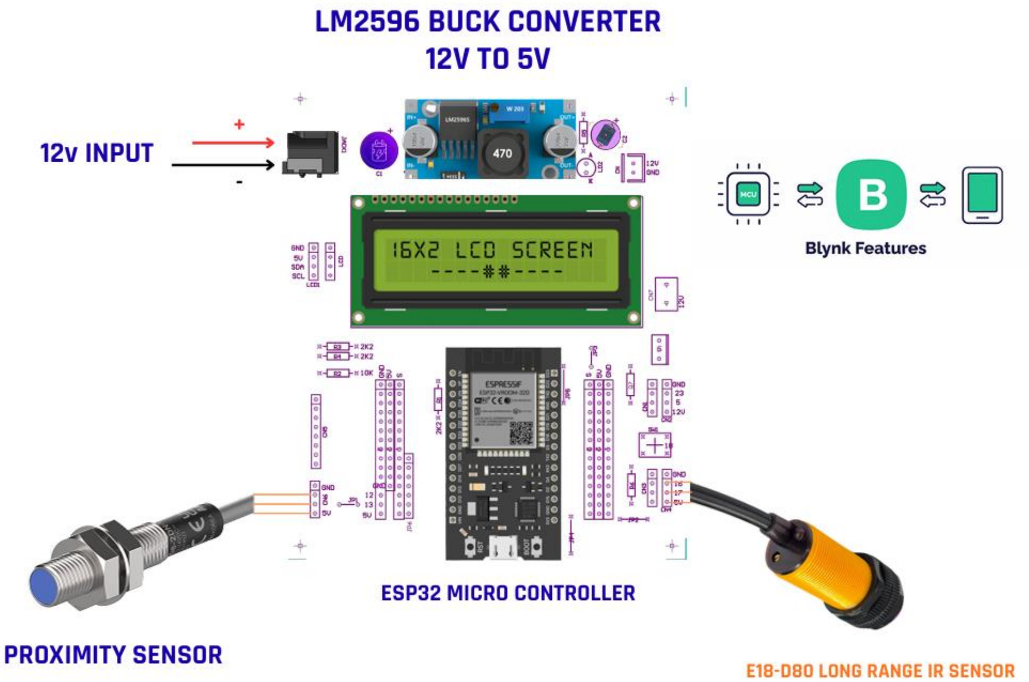


Fig. 2. Hardware architecture of the proposed system.

The hardware architecture consists of an ESP32 microcontroller interfaced with sensing, display, and communication modules. The IR sensor is used for yarn presence detection, while the proximity sensor is utilized for rotation counting. A 16×2 LCD with I2C interface provides local visualization of system parameters.

The ESP32 processes sensor data and transmits it via Wi-Fi to the IoT platform for remote access. The entire system is powered by a regulated DC supply using a buck converter, ensuring stable and efficient operation.

5.4. System Operation

The system operates continuously by acquiring sensor data, processing inputs, and updating outputs in real time. When the yarn is intact, the IR sensor maintains a stable output, and the system proceeds with rotation counting. In the event of yarn breakage, the system detects the condition instantly and triggers an alert notification.

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The proximity sensor detects each rotation of the roller, and the total count is used to estimate yarn production. The calculated values are displayed on the LCD and transmitted to the IoT platform for remote monitoring. This ensures timely fault detection, improved production tracking, and reduced material wastage.

5.5. Mechanical Design

Fig. 3. 3D mechanical design of the smart yarn monitoring system.

The mechanical design of the proposed system illustrates the physical arrangement of sensors, roller mechanism, and supporting structure. The yarn passes over a rotating roller, where a proximity sensor is positioned to detect rotational movement using a metallic marker attached to the roller surface. An infrared sensor is strategically mounted along the yarn path to continuously monitor thread presence and detect breakage. All components, including the ESP32 controller, display unit, and power supply, are mounted on a compact base structure to ensure stability and ease of installation. The design ensures proper alignment of sensors for accurate detection while maintaining a compact and robust structure suitable for industrial environments.

VI. CONCLUSION

This paper presented an Industry 4.0-based smart yarn monitoring and alert system designed to enhance efficiency, accuracy, and automation in textile production processes. The system integrates an ESP32 microcontroller with infrared and proximity sensors to enable real-time detection of yarn continuity, rotation counting, and indirect weight estimation. The experimental results demonstrate that the proposed system effectively detects yarn breakage with minimal delay, accurately counts roller rotations, and provides reliable real-time monitoring through both local display and IoT-based remote access. The integration of the Blynk platform enables continuous data visualization and instant alert notifications, thereby improving responsiveness and reducing production downtime. The proposed solution significantly reduces manual intervention, minimizes material wastage, and enhances production monitoring accuracy. In addition, the use of cost-effective components and simple architecture makes the system suitable for small- and medium-scale textile industries. Although the system performs efficiently under normal operating conditions, its performance may be influenced by factors such as sensor alignment, environmental conditions, and calibration accuracy. Future improvements can focus on advanced filtering techniques, adaptive calibration, and integration of machine learning algorithms for predictive maintenance and enhanced fault detection. Overall, the proposed system provides a scalable, reliable, and intelligent solution aligned with Industry 4.0 principles, contributing to the advancement of smart textile manufacturing.

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DOI: 10.17148/IARJSET.2026.133107

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