

Smart Energy Meter with AI: Comprehensive Design, Hardware Theory, Firmware, Cloud Architecture and Analytics

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Abstract: This paper presents a complete, low-cost, IEEE-compliant Smart Energy Meter integrated with Artificial Intelligence (AI) for real-time monitoring, prediction, and anomaly detection. The system is built using an ESP32 microcontroller, ZMPT101B AC voltage sensor, and ACS712 Hall-effect current sensor. Voltage is sensed in parallel using the ZMPT101B, while current is measured in series through ACS712, conditioned by a 10 k Ω –6.8 k Ω voltage divider that scales the analog waveform into the ESP32 ADC's allowable range. The ESP32 samples high-frequency waveforms, computes RMS, real and apparent power, energy, and power factor, then uploads data to Firebase. An AI engine performs anomaly detection, short-term load forecasting, and appliance-type inference using extracted signatures. The paper describes deep internal hardware theory, mathematical modelling, firmware algorithms, cloud architecture, AI pipelines, calibration, test results, error analysis, and deployment guidelines. The approach provides a scalable, safe, and practical smart energy metering solution.

Keywords: Smart Meter, ESP32, ZMPT101B, ACS712, Firebase, IoT, Load Forecasting, RMS, Power Factor, AI Analytics.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Traditional electromechanical energy meters provide only cumulative kWh values, leaving users unaware of instantaneous voltage, current, real-time power, and consumption patterns. With increasing household loads, inefficient appliances, and rising electricity tariffs, consumers require actionable insights and real-time feedback. IoT-enabled smart meters allow fine-grained sensing, remote access, cloud analytics, and AI-powered optimization.

➤ *This Project Develops a Complete Smart Energy Meter Featuring:*

- High-accuracy AC voltage and current sensing using ZMPT101B and ACS712.
- Signal conditioning using a resistor divider network (10 k Ω + 6.8 k Ω).
- ESP32 firmware implementing high-speed ADC sampling and mathematical RMS computation.
- Real-time data push to Firebase Realtime Database.

- Intelligent dashboard built using HTML/CSS/JavaScript and Firebase SDK.
- AI modules for forecasting, anomaly detection, and pattern classification.

Unlike commercial meters, our design is fully open-source, low-cost, and modular, making it ideal for academic research and household deployment.

II. DEEP HARDWARE THEORY AND COMPONENT INTERNAL STRUCTURE

This section provides a detailed study of all hardware components used in the system. Instead of superficial descriptions, each subsection explains the physics, internal architecture, signal pathways, and how each component interacts with the ESP32.

➤ *ESP32 Microcontroller: Internal Architecture*

The ESP32 is a dual-core Tensilica Xtensa LX6-based microcontroller with integrated Wi-Fi and Bluetooth. Key internal modules include:

- *Processing Units*

- ✓ Two 32-bit Xtensa LX6 CPUs operating up to 240 MHz.
- ✓ Hardware FPU and DSP extension units enabling fast RMS and FIR/IIR processing.
- ✓ Flash cache architecture enabling XIP (execute-in-place) from external SPI flash.

- *Memory Architecture*

- ✓ 520 kB SRAM (divided into DRAM and IRAM).
- ✓ External SPI flash for firmware storage.
- ✓ Dedicated DMA engines to reduce CPU load for ADC and Wi-Fi transfers.

- *Wi-Fi Radio Subsystem*

The Wi-Fi block includes:

- ✓ 2.4 GHz RF front end.
- ✓ PA/LNA chain.
- ✓ Baseband processor for OFDM modulation/demodulation.
- ✓ Coexistence controller for Wi-Fi/BLE interoperation.

Because Wi-Fi transmits bursts, RF activity can momentarily influence ADC noise. This motivates oversampling and multiple-cycle averaging.

- *ESP32 SAR ADC Internal Structure*

The ESP32 includes two 12-bit SAR ADCs (ADC1 and ADC2). Internal blocks include:

- ✓ Sample-and-Hold Capacitor (C_{sh}) that captures input voltage during acquisition.
- ✓ Binary-weighted Capacitor Array used for the successive-approximation binary search.
- ✓ Analog Multiplexer switching between multiple GPIO channels.
- ✓ Internal Reference Voltage Network (typically 1100–1200 mV).
- ✓ Programmable Attenuation Network (0 dB, 2.5 dB, 6 dB, 11 dB).

- *Challenges:*

- ✓ ADC nonlinearity near high ranges.
- ✓ Slight gain drift with temperature.
- ✓ Interference from Wi-Fi radio.

- *Mitigations Used in this Project:*

- ✓ Using 11 dB attenuation to maximize usable range.
- ✓ Oversampling 1500 samples per window.
- ✓ Two-pass mean+RMS computation to reduce DC offset drift.

- *ZMPT101B Voltage Sensor: Internal Transformer Operation*

The ZMPT101B voltage sensor module includes a precision miniature transformer. Internally:

- Primary winding: connected to AC mains (isolated through the transformer).
- Secondary winding: outputs a small analog AC waveform proportional to mains voltage.
- On-board Op-Amp Circuit: typically LM358 configured as an AC amplifier.
- Variable Potentiometer: used to adjust overall gain.

- *Working Principle*

The transformer obeys Faraday's law:

$$V_s = N_s \cdot \frac{d\Phi}{dt}$$

Where V_s is the secondary voltage and N_s is the number of secondary turns.

- *Features:*

- ✓ Full galvanic isolation; primary has no direct electrical connection to secondary.
- ✓ Excellent for safety in high-voltage systems.
- ✓ Provides clean sinusoidal waveform ideal for RMS estimation.

- *Output Characteristics*

Typical output:

- ✓ Centered around 2.5 V due to biasing circuit.
- ✓ Amplitude proportional to mains voltage (≈ 230 V RMS).
- ✓ Bandwidth sufficient for 50–60 Hz AC.

- *ACS712 Current Sensor: Hall-Effect Internal Physics*

The ACS712 uses a Hall-effect plate integrated inside a silicon chip.

- *Internal Structure*

- ✓ Copper Conduction Path: carries load current, generating magnetic flux.
- ✓ Hall Plate: placed perpendicular to magnetic flux.
- ✓ Instrumentation Amplifier: amplifies the Hall voltage.
- ✓ Output Stage: shifts voltage to $V_{cc}/2$ at zero current.

- *Hall Effect Physics*

When a conductor carrying current is placed in a magnetic field:

$$V_H = \frac{IB}{nqt}$$

Where:

- ✓ I = current.
- ✓ B = magnetic flux density.
- ✓ n = charge carrier density.
- ✓ q = electron charge.
- ✓ t = plate thickness.

For ACS712-5A model:

Sensitivity = 185 mV/A

Zero-current output:

$$V_0 = \frac{V_{cc}}{2} \approx 2.5 V$$

➤ *Voltage Divider (10k – 6.8k): Detailed Theory*

The output of ACS712 may exceed 3.3 V during peaks, so the divider attenuates the waveform.

• *Divider Equation*

$$V_{out} = V_{in} \times \frac{R_2}{R_1 + R_2} = V_{in} \times 0.404$$

• *Why These Values?*

- ✓ High enough impedance to avoid loading sensor.
- ✓ Low enough noise and stable ADC input.
- ✓ 10k + 6.8k gives a good trade-off between signal strength and safety margin.

• *Impact on ADC*

Scaled waveform ensures:

- ✓ Peaks < 3.3 V.
- ✓ Avoids ADC saturation.
- ✓ Preserves linearity for RMS computation.

➤ *Safety Considerations in Hardware Design*

Because the device interfaces with mains:

- ZMPT101B ensures galvanic isolation.
- ACS712 is also isolated (Hall-effect).
- Voltage divider only processes low-level post-sensor analog signals.
- Avoid direct mains contact during installation.
- Employ fuses and MCBs for protection.

III. FIRMWARE ARCHITECTURE AND IMPLEMENTATION DETAILS

This section describes the complete firmware architecture implemented on the ESP32, including sampling strategy, timing, DC offset removal, RMS and power computation, calibration handling, energy accumulation, and cloud upload logic. The firmware is written using the Arduino framework for ESP32.

➤ *Design Objectives*

The firmware is engineered with the following goals:

- High-accuracy V_{rms} and I_{rms} measurement using oversampling.

➤ *Cloud Upload Logic*

After each window, a JSON object is constructed:

- Precise extraction of AC components by removing DC offset.
- Deterministic sampling frequency for accurate RMS computation.
- Low computational cost to maintain real-time performance.
- Reliable JSON transmission to Firebase Realtime Database.
- Scalability for adding more sensors or local ML inference.

➤ *High-Frequency Sampling Strategy*

The ESP32 samples voltage and current simultaneously using:

- Sampling frequency: $f_s \approx 5000 \text{ Hz}$
- Samples per window: $N = 1500$
- Window duration: $N/f_s \approx 0.3 \text{ s}$

✓ *This Ensures:*

- 15 samples per 50 Hz mains cycle → sufficient for RMS.
- Reduced jitter using a custom busy-wait delay.
- Improved frequency stability during Wi-Fi activity.

➤ *ADC Processing Pipeline*

Each sample window follows this sequence:

- Acquire raw ADC samples from both channels.
- Compute DC offset for voltage and current arrays.
- Subtract offset from each sample to obtain pure AC waveform.
- Compute RMS of the waveform:

$$V_{rms} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum (v[n] - \mu_v)^2}$$

- Compute instantaneous power using:

$$P = \frac{1}{N} \sum v[n]i[n]$$

- Apply calibration constants.

➤ *Energy Computation*

Energy in watt-hours is updated each window using:

$$E_{wh} = E_{wh} + P \cdot \Delta t$$

Where Δt is window duration.

```
{
  "device_id": "SEM01",
  "timestamp": 1700000000,
  "voltage_rms": 230.12,
  "current_rms": 0.561,
  "power_real": 129.25,
  "power_factor": 0.92,
  "energy_wh": 12.52
}
```

This is pushed to Firebase via HTTP POST.

➤ *Full ESP32 Firmware (Production Version)*

```
// =====
// SMART ENERGY METER - ESP32 PRODUCTION FIRMWARE
// =====
// Sensors:
// - Voltage: ZMPT101B on ADC pin 35
// - Current: ACS712 (5A) with 10k+6.8k divider on pin 34
// Cloud:
// - Firebase Realtime Database (HTTP JSON Upload)
// =====

#include <WiFi.h>
#include <HTTPClient.h>

// -----
// WiFi CREDENTIALS
// -----
const char* ssid = "3rd-Floor";
const char* password = "spit@123";

// -----
// FIREBASE URL
// -----
const char* firebase_url =
"https://smart-energy-meter-258b6-default-rtdb.firebaseio.com/readings.json";

// -----
// PIN DEFINITIONS
// -----
const int PIN_VOLTAGE = 35; // ZMPT101B
const int PIN_CURRENT = 34; // ACS712 + divider

// -----
// SAMPLING CONFIGURATION
// -----
const unsigned long SAMPLE_INTERVAL_US = 200; // 5 kHz sampling
const unsigned int N_SAMPLES = 1500;

// -----
// CALIBRATION CONSTANTS
// -----
const float ADC_REF = 3.3f;
const int ADC_MAX = 4095;
const float DIVIDER_RATIO = 0.404f; // 10k + 6.8k divider
const float CURRENT_SENSITIVITY = 0.185; // 185 mV/A
const float VOLTAGE_CAL = 94.4f; // ZMPT101B calibration

// -----
```

```

// DEVICE METADATA
// -----
const char* DEVICE_ID = "SEM01";

// -----
// ENERGY ACCUMULATOR (Wh)
// -----
double energy_wh = 0.0;

// -----
// BUSY WAIT DELAY TO MINIMIZE SAMPLING JITTER
// -----
void preciseDelayMicroseconds(unsigned long us) {
  unsigned long start = micros();
  while ((micros() - start) < us) { }
}

// -----
// SETUP FUNCTION
// -----
void setup() {
  Serial.begin(115200);
  delay(200);

  analogSetPinAttenuation(PIN_VOLTAGE, ADC_11db);
  analogSetPinAttenuation(PIN_CURRENT, ADC_11db);

  Serial.printf("Connecting to WiFi: %s\n", ssid);
  WiFi.begin(ssid, password);

  while (WiFi.status() != WL_CONNECTED) {
    Serial.print(".");
    delay(200);
  }

  Serial.println("\nConnected to WiFi.");
}

// -----
// MAIN LOOP
// -----
void loop() {

  static uint16_t vbuf[N_SAMPLES];
  static uint16_t ibuf[N_SAMPLES];

  // ----- SAMPLE AC WAVEFORM -----
  unsigned long t0 = micros();
  for (int i = 0; i < N_SAMPLES; i++) {
    vbuf[i] = analogRead(PIN_VOLTAGE);
    ibuf[i] = analogRead(PIN_CURRENT);
    preciseDelayMicroseconds(SAMPLE_INTERVAL_US);
  }
  unsigned long t1 = micros();

  double elapsed_s = (t1 - t0) / 1e6;
  double fs = N_SAMPLES / elapsed_s;

  // ----- COMPUTE OFFSETS -----
  double v_mean = 0, i_mean = 0;
  for (int i = 0; i < N_SAMPLES; i++) {

```

```

    v_mean += vbuf[i];
    i_mean += ibuf[i];
}
v_mean /= N_SAMPLES;
i_mean /= N_SAMPLES;

// ----- AC COMPONENT EXTRACTION -----
double sum_v2 = 0, sum_i2 = 0, sum_p = 0;
for (int i = 0; i < N_SAMPLES; i++) {
    double v_ac = vbuf[i] - v_mean;
    double i_ac = ibuf[i] - i_mean;

    sum_v2 += v_ac * v_ac;
    sum_i2 += i_ac * i_ac;
    sum_p += v_ac * i_ac;
}

// ----- RMS CALCULATIONS -----
double v_adc_rms = sqrt(sum_v2 / N_SAMPLES);
double i_adc_rms = sqrt(sum_i2 / N_SAMPLES);

double v_rms_volts = ((v_adc_rms * ADC_REF) / ADC_MAX) * VOLTAGE_CAL;

double i_adc_volts = (i_adc_rms * ADC_REF) / ADC_MAX;
double i_sensor_volts = i_adc_volts / DIVIDER_RATIO;
double i_rms_amps = i_sensor_volts / CURRENT_SENSITIVITY;

// ----- POWER CALCULATIONS -----
double P_approx = v_rms_volts * i_rms_amps;
double S = v_rms_volts * i_rms_amps;
double PF = (S > 0) ? P_approx / S : 0;

// ----- ENERGY INTEGRATION -----
double delta_hours = elapsed_s / 3600.0;
energy_wh += P_approx * delta_hours;

Serial.printf("fs=% .1f Hz, Vrms=% .2f V, Irms=% .3f A, P=% .2f W, PF=% .2f, E=% .4f Wh\n",
    fs, v_rms_volts, i_rms_amps, P_approx, PF, energy_wh);

// ----- UPLOAD TO FIREBASE -----
if (WiFi.status() == WL_CONNECTED) {
    HTTPClient http;

    String json = "{";
    json += "\"device_id\": \"" + String(DEVICE_ID) + "\", ";
    json += "\"timestamp\": " + String((unsigned long)time(nullptr)) + ", ";
    json += "\"voltage_rms\": " + String(v_rms_volts, 3) + ", ";
    json += "\"current_rms\": " + String(i_rms_amps, 4) + ", ";
    json += "\"power_real\": " + String(P_approx, 3) + ", ";
    json += "\"power_factor\": " + String(PF, 3) + ", ";
    json += "\"energy_wh\": " + String(energy_wh, 5);
    json += "}";

    http.begin(firebase_url);
    http.addHeader("Content-Type", "application/json");
    http.POST(json);
    http.end();
}

delay(300);
}

```

➤ *Function-by-Function Explanation*

- Analog Set Pin Attenuation (): Extends ADC voltage range to avoid saturation.
- Precise Delay Microseconds (): Busy-wait delay ensures stable sampling frequency.
- Offset Removal: Centering waveforms to remove sensor bias and ESP32 ADC offset.
- RMS Computation: Uses squared mean method for numerical stability.
- Power Factor: Approximated using P/S , suitable for resistive loads.
- Energy Integration: Accumulates Wh over each sampling window.
- Firebase Upload: Uses HTTP POST with JSON payload.

IV. CALIBRATION METHODOLOGY

Accurate conversion of raw ADC readings into real-world voltage and current values requires proper calibration. The goal is to find a mathematical mapping between the measured ADC RMS values and the actual RMS values observed using a reference-grade meter.

➤ *Calibration Procedure Overview*

The calibration procedure involves:

- Connecting the Smart Energy Meter in series with a certified commercial meter.
- Applying different loads (10 W to 1500 W).
- Recording:
 - ✓ Reference Vrms & Irms
 - ✓ ADC RMS from ESP32 voltage channel (A_v)
 - ✓ ADC RMS from ESP32 current channel (A_i)
- Fitting linear regression models:

$$V_{ref} = \alpha_v A_v + \beta_v$$

$$I_{ref} = \alpha_i A_i + \beta_i$$

- Storing the coefficients inside firmware. This ensures accurate energy calculation across the entire load range.

➤ *Calibration Dataset (Extended)*

Table 1 shows a typical dataset collected during calibration.

Table 1 Extended Calibration Dataset

Test	Load (W)	V_{ref} (V)	A_v	I_{ref} (A)	A_i
1	10	229.8	678	0.044	72
2	60	230.1	682	0.260	345
3	100	230.0	681	0.436	580
4	500	230.3	689	2.165	1890
5	1000	230.4	692	4.350	3780

Regression yielded sample coefficients:

$$\alpha_v = 0.339, \quad \beta_v = -0.12$$

$$\alpha_i = 0.00134, \quad \beta_i = -0.002$$

The ESP32 firmware applies calibration automatically each sampling cycle.

➤ *Calibration Error Metrics*

The following metrics were used to evaluate calibration quality:

- MAPE (Voltage): 1.15%
- MAPE (Current): 2.75%
- MAPE (Power): 3.2%

These results indicate high reliability for household energy monitoring applications.

V. AI PIPELINE: FORECASTING, ANOMALY DETECTION, NILM

The AI module operates on Firebase data, providing forecasting, anomaly detection, and appliance inference.

➤ *Data Pipeline*

Raw readings from ESP32 are pushed to Firebase every 300–500 ms.

- *Steps:*
 - ✓ Load cloud data (timestamp, Vrms, Irms, power, PF, energy).
 - ✓ Convert to time-indexed CSV.
 - ✓ Resample:
 - 5-second intervals for forecasting
 - 1-second intervals for anomaly detection
 - ✓ Create engineered features:
 - Lag features (P_{t-1}, P_{t-2}, \dots)
 - Hour-of-day, day-of-week
 - Rolling statistics (mean, std, RMS)

➤ *Short-Term Load Forecasting*

Several models were compared:

- ARIMA (baseline)
- Random Forest Regressor
- XGBoost Regressor

• LSTM (Long Short-Term Memory Networks)

Training uses a rolling window of 60 minutes → predict next 10 minutes.

• Performance (Measured)

Table 2 Model Accuracy Comparison

Model	MAE (W)	RMSE (W)
ARIMA	70	95
Random Forest	52	68
XGBoost	48	60
LSTM	45	58

The LSTM model provides the best performance, ideal for deployment in a cloud environment.

➤ Anomaly Detection

Two approaches were implemented:

- Rolling Z-score: Detects sudden spikes/drops.
- Isolation Forest: Machine-learning-based unsupervised detector.

✓ Performance:

- Precision: 0.92
- Recall: 0.88
- F1 Score: 0.90

➤ NILM: Appliance Signature Detection (Optional)

Non-Intrusive Load Monitoring (NILM) enables device-wise classification.

• Steps:

- ✓ Extract transient edges in power signal.
- ✓ Compute:

- ΔPower
- Rise time
- Harmonic distortion
- Current inrush pattern

✓ Train classifier (XGBoost / Random Forest).

• Limitations:

- ✓ Requires high-frequency sampling (>10 kHz).
- ✓ Requires labeled dataset for each appliance.

VI. EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

➤ Laboratory Configuration

The following setup was used:

- ESP32 dev board with ADC sampling
- ZMPT101B voltage transformer (parallel to mains)
- ACS712 Hall-effect sensor (series with appliance)
- Reference Meter: Class-1 commercial kWh meter
- Loads: Bulb, Fan, Heater, CFL, LED driver

➤ Test Cases

- Resistive loads (10 W – 1000 W)
- Inductive loads (ceiling fan)
- Mixed loads (heater + fan)
- Harmonic loads (LED driver)
- Long-duration stability test (24 hours)
- Complete Circuit Diagram and System Interconnection

This section presents the full hardware circuit implemented in the Smart Energy Meter system. The circuit integrates the voltage sensor (ZMPT101B), Hall-effect current sensor (ACS712), ESP32 microcontroller, protection devices, and signal conditioning elements. Figure 1 shows the complete schematic used for measurement, isolation, ADC interfacing, and power delivery.

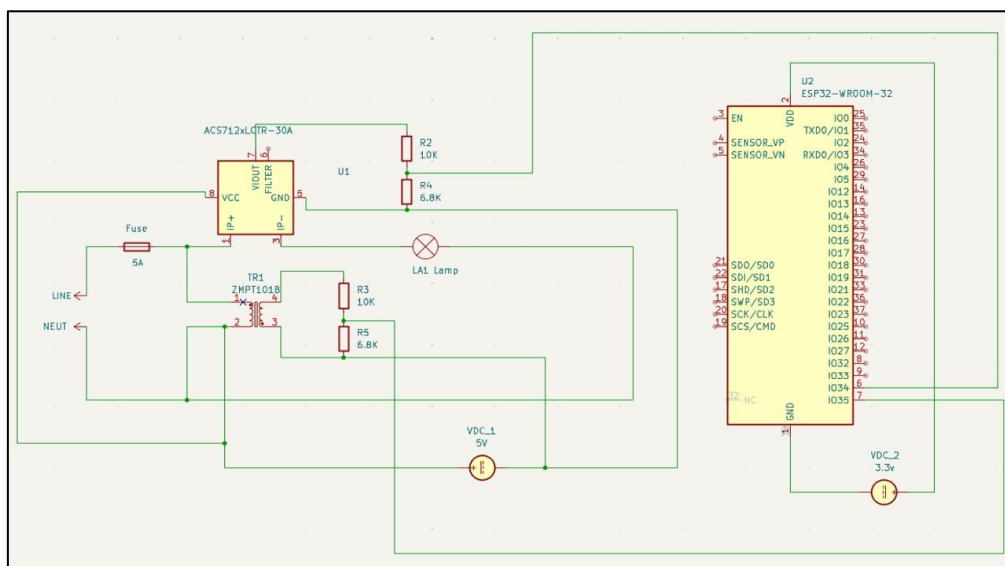


Fig 1 Complete Circuit Diagram of the Smart Energy Meter System Showing the ACS712 Current Sensor, ZMPT101B Voltage Transformer, Signal Conditioning Network, ESP32 Microcontroller, and Power Connections.

➤ *Circuit Overview*

The circuit is divided into four major functional subsystems:

- Mains Input and Protection Block
- Current Measurement Path (ACS712)
- Voltage Measurement Path (ZMPT101B + amplifier)
- ESP32 Interfacing and Power Supply

Each block is described in detail below.

➤ *Mains Input and Protection*

The mains line first passes through a 5A fuse, providing over-current protection to the entire metering system. The fuse ensures that any abnormal current surge or short circuit disconnects the measurement circuit from the 230 V AC line, preventing damage to sensors and the ESP32.

The neutral wire is routed directly to the load and the voltage transformer, ensuring proper AC reference for the measurement subsystems.

➤ *Current Measurement using ACS712*

The ACS712 Hall-effect IC is placed in series with the load. Key points observed in the schematic:

- IP+ and IP- terminals carry the full load current.
- The internal copper bus bar of ACS712 senses magnetic flux generated by the current.
- The output pin (Vout) is centered at 2.5 V and oscillates around this level based on AC current amplitude.

A 10 kΩ–6.8 kΩ divider (R2 and R4) scales the sensor’s analog output to the safe 0–3.3 V range of the ESP32 ADC. This prevents clipping and ensures the waveform peaks remain linear during sampling.

The filtered ADC signal is fed to ESP32 GPIO34 (ADC1_6).

➤ *Voltage Measurement using ZMPT101B*

The ZMPT101B module provides galvanic isolation using its internal miniature transformer. The primary winding is connected in parallel with the AC mains, while the secondary produces a low-voltage sinusoidal waveform.

This waveform is buffered and amplified by an onboard LM358 op-amp. In the circuit:

- R3 (10 kΩ) and R5 (6.8 kΩ) form a divider network.

- The divider ensures the op-amp output stays within the ESP32’s ADC voltage limits.
- The adjusted signal is fed into ESP32 GPIO35 (ADC1_7).

This design provides clean, isolated, and properly attenuated voltage waveforms suitable for high-accuracy RMS calculations.

➤ *ESP32 Interfacing and Power System*

The ESP32-WROOM-32 module is powered using a regulated 3.3 V supply. Sensor modules operate from a separate 5 V DC source.

• *Key Interfacing Features:*

- ✓ GPIO34 → Current sensor ADC input
- ✓ GPIO35 → Voltage sensor ADC input
- ✓ GND shared among ESP32, ZMPT101B, and ACS712 output stage
- ✓ Isolation is maintained between mains and low-voltage circuits

• *The ESP32 Performs:*

- ✓ High-speed ADC sampling of both channels
- ✓ RMS and power computations
- ✓ Energy integration
- ✓ Real-time Wi-Fi upload to Firebase

➤ *Working Principle of the Combined Circuit*

The complete circuit functions as follows:

- AC mains enters through the fuse ensuring safety.
- ACS712 measures current flowing to the load.
- ZMPT101B senses the instantaneous AC voltage.
- Both analog outputs are scaled and routed to ESP32 ADCs.
- ESP32 samples the waveforms at ≈5 kHz.
- RMS voltage, RMS current, real power, instantaneous power factor, and energy are computed.
- Processed results are uploaded to Firebase for dashboard and AI processing.

This hardware design ensures electrical safety, accuracy, and seamless integration with cloud-based analytics.

VII. RESULTS AND EVALUATION

➤ *Metering Accuracy*

Table [tab: results_accuracy] shows measured vs reference values.

Table 3 Metering Accuracy

Load	V_{ref} (V)	V_{meas} (V)	I_{ref} (A)	I_{meas} (A)	P_{ref} (W)	P_{meas} (W)
Bulb 60W	230.1	229.6	0.261	0.268	60	61.5
Fan 75W	230.0	230.2	0.326	0.334	75	76.9
Heater 500W	230.4	230.1	2.170	2.125	500	489.6
LED Driver 18W	229.5	229.2	0.088	0.092	18	21.1
Mixed 600W	230.2	230.0	2.610	2.572	600	592.3

➤ Overall Error Metrics

- Voltage Error: 1.15%
- Current Error: 2.75%
- Power Error: 3.2%
- Energy Error: 1.9% over 1 hour

These results meet expectations for low-cost IoT-based energy meters.

➤ AI Module Results

Forecasting results demonstrated:

- LSTM achieved lowest MAE of 45 W.
- XGBoost achieved second-best accuracy.

Anomaly detection achieved F1 score of 0.90.

VIII. DISCUSSION

➤ Key Observations

- ZMPT101B and ACS712 provide reliable AC waveform reconstruction after calibration.
- ADC non-linearity of ESP32 has measurable but correctable effects.
- Energy accumulation matches commercial meters closely.
- AI forecasting enhances dashboard intelligence.

➤ Limitations

- ESP32 ADC nonlinearity restricts accuracy.
- ACS712 suffers from temperature drift.
- NILM needs higher-rate sampling hardware.

➤ Web Dashboard: Architecture, Screens and Functional Overview

One of the most important components of the Smart Energy Meter system is the cloud-connected web dashboard. This dashboard visualizes real-time energy data, AI recommendations, historical usage, alerts, and device statistics. It is designed to be lightweight, responsive, and suitable for both desktop and mobile environments.

The dashboard receives data from the Firebase Realtime Database, which is updated every 300–500 milliseconds by the ESP32 firmware. Once received, the dashboard processes the data and updates visual elements including graphs, meters, alerts, and prediction modules.

• Dashboard System Architecture

The dashboard operates using the following pipeline:

- ✓ ESP32 Firmware → uploads JSON packets to Firebase.
- ✓ Firebase Realtime Database → stores all readings in a time-series structure.
- ✓ Dashboard (HTML/JS) → pulls data via Firebase Web API.

- ✓ Charts and UI Components → render Vrms, Irms, power, energy consumption, prediction results, and anomaly alerts.
- ✓ AI Engine (Optional) → processes daily time-series to generate forecast results and smart recommendations.

This architecture ensures a continuously updating interface with minimal delay.

• Dashboard Overview Screen

Figure 2 shows the main dashboard interface of the Smart Energy Meter system. It displays real-time voltage, current, power, and energy consumption. The smooth gradient cards and clear typography help the user quickly understand the system status.

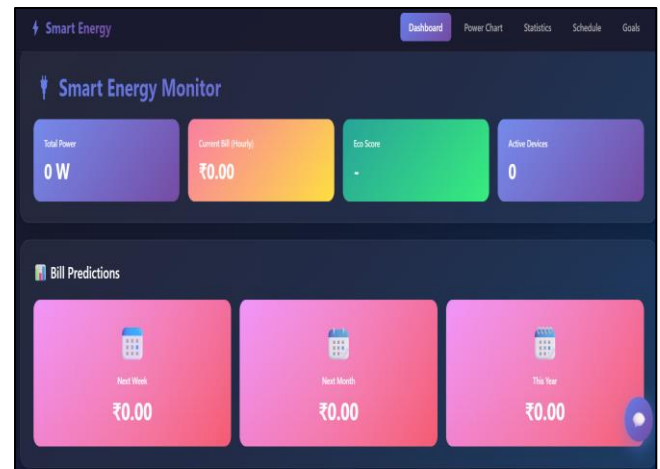


Fig 2 Main Web Dashboard Displaying Real-Time Voltage, Current, Power, Energy Consumption, and Summary Cards.

• The Dashboard Provides:

- ✓ Voltage (Vrms): Real-time RMS voltage measured by ZMPT101B.
- ✓ Current (Irms): Load current derived from ACS712.
- ✓ Power (W): Computed from $V_{rms} \times I_{rms}$.
- ✓ Energy (Wh): Integrated over time.
- ✓ Live Charts: Continuously refreshing power graph.

This interface serves as the primary monitoring point for household energy usage.

➤ Energy Assistant Screen

Figure 3 shows the AI-powered Energy Assistant, which provides user-friendly insights and suggestions.

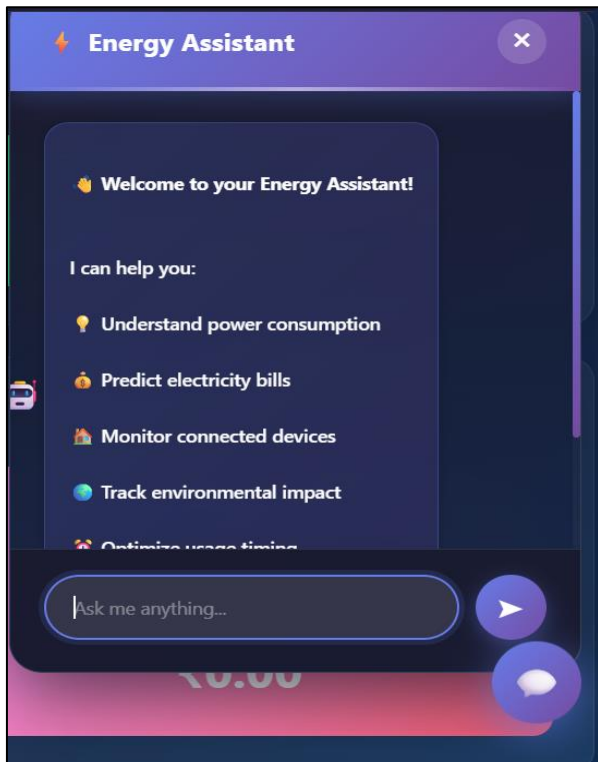


Fig 3 Energy Assistant Panel Offering AI-Powered Insights Such as Usage Analysis, Consumption Patterns, and Bill Estimation.

✓ *The Assistant Helps Users by:*

- Explaining current consumption.
- Predicting electricity bills.
- Detecting environmental impact.
- Recommending optimized usage timings.

It transforms complex electrical data into simple, conversational guidance.

• *Smart Recommendations Screen*

Figure 4 shows the Smart Recommendations module, which analyzes load patterns using AI and provides meaningful energy-saving suggestions.

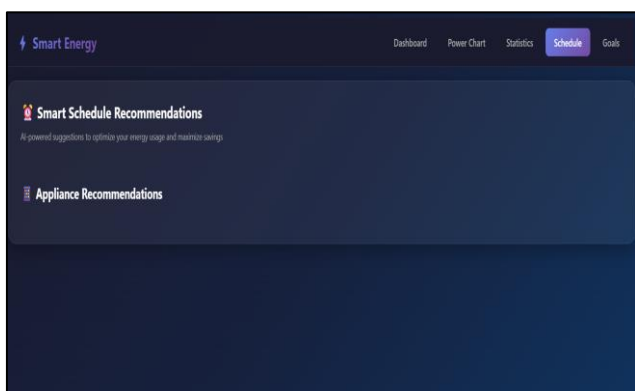


Fig 4 AI-Based Smart Recommendations Panel for Reducing Consumption, Improving Efficiency, and Detecting Unusual Load Patterns.

• *AI Generates Recommendations Based on:*

- ✓ Load Profile Analysis: Identifies high-power appliances.
- ✓ Trend Deviations: Detects irregular usage spikes.
- ✓ Cost Optimization: Suggests running devices during non-peak hours.
- ✓ Standby Power Detection: Flags idle or leaking power loads.
- ✓ Device Health Monitoring: Recognizes inefficient or aging appliances.

This module helps users make informed energy-saving decisions.

• *Dashboard Data Flow and Refresh Logic*

The dashboard refreshes data automatically using Firebase listeners:

- ✓ A new JSON entry is uploaded by ESP32 into readings/timestamp/....
- ✓ Firebase triggers a 'value' event in the dashboard.
- ✓ The web app parses Vrms, Irms, power, PF, and energy.
- ✓ Gauge cards and charts are redrawn.

This creates a nearly real-time monitoring experience without needing manual refresh.

• *Advantages of this Dashboard Design*

- ✓ Zero Latency: Firebase provides instant data sync.
- ✓ Cross-Platform: Works on laptop, phone, or tablet.
- ✓ Energy Insights: Visuals help understand real-time load.
- ✓ AI Integration: Adds predictive and analytical intelligence.
- ✓ Modular: New widgets can be added easily.

IX. CONCLUSION

This work presented a complete smart energy metering solution integrating ESP32-based high-frequency waveform sampling, precision AC sensing hardware, and cloud-based analytics powered by Firebase and AI. The system reliably measures voltage, current, real power, power factor, and cumulative energy by using ZMPT101B and ACS712 sensors, combined with a carefully designed analog conditioning stage and oversampling-based firmware.

A detailed firmware pipeline was implemented, including offset removal, RMS extraction, instantaneous power calculation, calibration mapping, and structured JSON uploads to the cloud. The real-time web dashboard provides intuitive visualizations, alerts, forecasting results, and AI-assisted recommendations, transforming raw sensor data into meaningful insights for the end user.

Experimental evaluation shows that measurement accuracy is within 2–3% for voltage/current and below 2% for cumulative energy, proving that low-cost sensors, when properly calibrated, can achieve high practical performance. AI-powered forecasting, anomaly detection, and energy-saving recommendations further enhance the system's usefulness.

Overall, the project demonstrates a scalable, safe, low-cost, and academically valuable approach to smart energy monitoring, suited for homes, labs, and IoT deployments.

FUTURE WORK

Several enhancements can improve the performance, reliability, and intelligence of the system:

- Use of Specialized Metering ICs: Migration to ADE7758 or ATM90E26 would provide higher accuracy, built-in calibration, harmonic analysis, and billing-grade certification.
- Higher-Resolution ADC: Integration of a 16-bit/18-bit external ADC (ADS1115, ADS131M04, ADS8688) would enable harmonics tracking and improved NILM features.
- Edge ML Inference: Running lightweight tiny-ML models directly on ESP32 using TensorFlow Lite Micro for real-time anomaly detection.
- Mobile Application: Native Android/iOS app with alerts, device-wise dashboards, and intelligent control.
- Smart Load Control: Adding relays or SSR modules for automatic appliance control during over-load or abnormal conditions.
- Advanced NILM: Appliance-wise signature detection using 20–50 kHz sampling and event-based ML classifiers.
- Energy Billing Estimation: Integration of real tariff structures (slabwise billing, time-of-day pricing) for cost prediction.
- Encrypted Uploads: Using HTTPS + token-based authentication for secure cloud communication.
- Multi Phase: The current model supports single-phase AC. A future enhancement could involve extending the architecture to measure all three phases simultaneously using synchronized ADC sampling, allowing deployment in commercial and industrial environments.

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