



Edge AI for Predictive Maintenance in High Value Manufacturing



Background:

- High Value Manufacturing is the backbone of our whole economy.
- Machine breakdowns cause massive losses in production and efficiency. Predicting them is challenging.
- Traditional non-AI-based solutions cause
 - Unplanned downtime & reduction in productivity
 - Severe accidents and reduced lifetime of machines
 - Financial losses
- AI has the potential to solve the above. However, current solutions rely on cloud computing, and suffer from
 - High power consumption and increased carbon footprint
 - Data Privacy Issues
 - High Cost



Fig 1. Kuka KR6 robotic arm



Fig 2. Edge Processing System

Objective:

- This project aims to create low-powered embedded system solutions that uses AI to predict and prevent machine breakdowns with high data privacy and at a fraction of the cost
- The solution designed must utilise Edge AI computing using microcontroller devices and low-cost sensors.



Fig 3. Teensy 4.1



Fig 4. ISM330DLC



Fig 5. Raspberry Pi 4.0

Setup:

- 1 week of machine data was collected from a PCB assembly process using the Kuka KR6 robotic arm presented in Figure 1 at the MTC research factory.
- The AIRS ML Edge Processing System presented in Figure 2 was used for collecting the data.
- This system consisted of the Teensy 4.1 MCU (Figure 3), the ISM330DLC (Figure 4) as the 3 axis MEMS accelerometer and a raspberry pi 4.0 was used as the sensor hub (Figure 5).
- The entire setup for the pilot is presented in Figure 6.

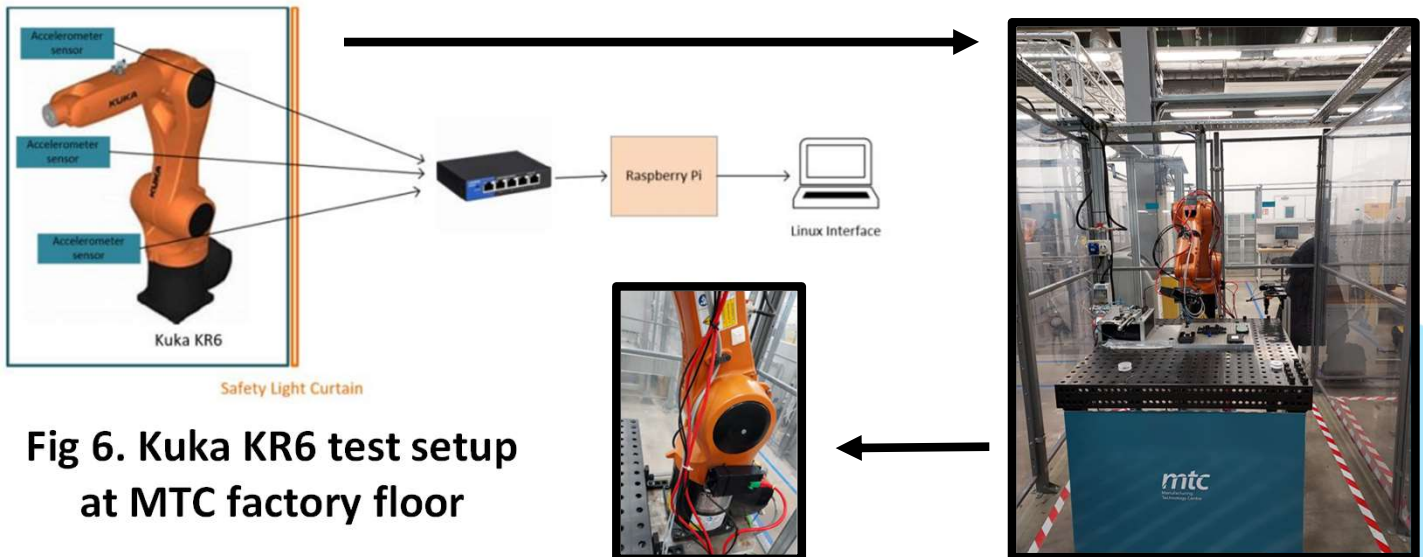


Fig 6. Kuka KR6 test setup at MTC factory floor

Machine Learning:

- The collected data was used to create an unsupervised anomaly detection system that does not require failure cases to train.
- The trained model was quantized and pruned to reduce the size. The implemented system is shown in figure 7.
- The model performance is presented in the confusion matrix below, displaying high accuracy at predicting anomalous operation.

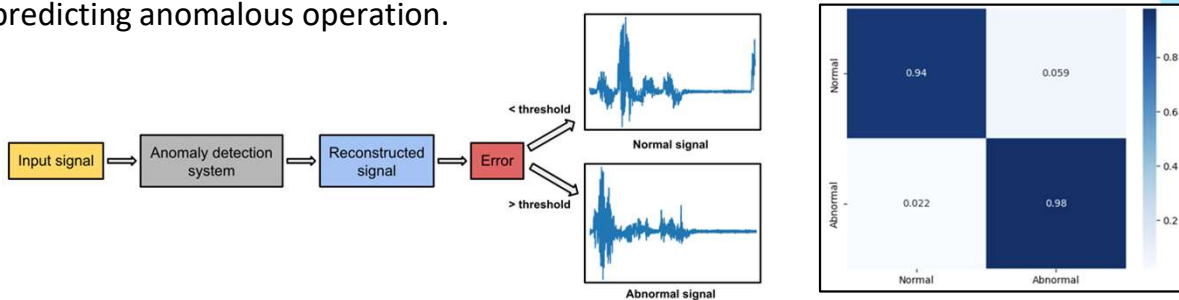


Fig 7. Unsupervised Anomaly Detection

Conclusion:

- The Edge Processing System (EPS) has now been advanced to a more robust monolithic solution as shown in Figure 8. The EPS is capable of interfacing with 24 sensors. It can sample at a frequency of 4 KHz and communicates at 1.5 Mbps.
- The trained AI model shows a very high accuracy of 96% and a high sensitivity of 94.1%. The model also has a high specificity of 97.8% which will help reduce the instances of a false alarm.
- The solution is capable of thus interfacing with a wide variety of machines. It can help collect high fidelity data which can be processed using advanced AI and ML techniques at the edge using the EPS and Sensor Hub.



Fig 8. Monolithic Edge Processing System

Testimonial:

Reza Faghii, Technical Specialist, Data & Information Systems, Manufacturing Technology Centre

“This marked the first phase of development by AIRS ... The defined use cases and scenarios serve as examples of industrial applications, and advanced predictive maintenance models can contribute to increasing process efficiency.”