REVIEWING THE CHALLENGES IN MAINTAINING THE RELIABILITY AND ACCURACY OF IOT SYSTEMS FOR REMAINING USEFUL LIFE PREDICTION

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**Abstract.** Internet of things (IoT) has been implemented in aviation predictive maintenance in recent years for the enhancement of better maintenance prediction, to reduce downtime, unnecessary maintenance actions, increase safety, increase system readiness, and refine the management process and to improve component design. The IoT system in predictive maintenance is very optimistic in gathering and analysing, predicting the component failures and to determine the remaining useful life of a systems. Since Remaining useful life of a system is defines as the length from the current time to the end of its useful life. Due to its futuristic increasing demand of IoT in aviation maintenance, the biggest challenge is to ensuring the reliability and accuracy of any specific IoT system allotted for monitoring aircraft components in the near future. Hence, this review paper clearly explains the challenges associated with IoT systems on predicting Remaining useful life.

1. **Introduction**

Internet of things and Artificial intelligence plays a vital role in Aircraft predictive maintenance. Internet of things (IoT) has been implemented in aviation predictive maintenance in recent years for the enhancement of better maintenance prediction, to reduce downtime, unnecessary maintenance actions, increase safety, increase system readiness, and refine the management process, and improve the component design. The Internet of things has heterogeneous applications in the aviation industry. Hence, ensuring the reliable outcome and performance of the IoT systems when synchronizing with complex computational devices in the aircraft components is necessary to reduce the prediction challenges due to false negatives and false positives data sets. Hence the same can impact the accuracy in prediction of the remaining useful life of an aircraft component. The Remaining useful life prediction for aircraft systems and subsystems can be measured using the data-driven and model-driven approaches. The theoretical methods and prognosis algorithms can be developed for predicting the remaining useful life of an aircraft component, but which has a major challenge of validation to ensure the accuracy of the predictions [1]. Similarly, structural health monitoring with IoT platforms can be used to predict the endurance of the damage and damage evaluation. The structural monitoring can be developed by obtaining real-time data which could be achieved through reliable high-speed internet and wireless sensor networks. Although, the huge challenge lies in providing a low-cost computational system amid growing maturity in IoT systems [2, 3]. The complexity also being faced
while measuring the QoS (Quality of service) of heterogeneous IoT systems, through Model-driven approach verification.[4]. The quality of data is vital in predicting the remaining useful life of a system and structure since the proposed system will have to predict less or no false negatives with a critical operating environment[5]. The limitations in the IoT system include security challenges, quality of service, constraints in obtaining the real-time data, and also difficulty in collecting remaining useful life data from a particular machine type [6]. This section reveals the complexity faced by the researchers on various techniques proposed with the IoT platform for remaining useful life prediction with high-quality reliable data.

2. Challenges in IoT System reliability

2.1. The IoT System Reliability
The major challenge lies with the heterogeneous devices from small low power to high range systems is implementing a multilayer security. Since, these heterogeneous networks are more vulnerable security attacks and providing with the fault data. So, any IoT system would contain a standard mechanism within itself to indicate the redundancy during the malfunction and security attack [7]. The IoT system with the heterogeneous multilayered infrastructure has a greater challenge in obtaining a reliable data which eventually leads to false Remaining useful life predictions. The vulnerability in the system leads to anomalous data being generated and sent which in most severe cases affect human lives [8].

![Figure 1. IoT fault syndromes leading to false RUL Prediction](image)

2.2. Challenges in Anomaly detection
IoT systems working on heterogeneous Platform are in need to generate huge amount of data which the large computation is necessary to be adopted. When it comes to handling of huge data with large computational systems, anomaly detection is largely needed for identifying the misbehaving data with normal data sets [9]. The Key issues restricting the anomaly detection and the possible causes for those issues are shown in Table 1.
| Key Issues          | Possible Causes                        |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Incomplete Data Points | Incomplete External data from Environment |
| Data Error         | Device Failure                         |
| Encrypted Data     | Protected Data                         |
| Sensor Error       | Multilayered Sensors                   |
| Data Noise         | Transmission system failure            |
| Data Surge         | Overload of Data                       |

2.3. Equipment Reliability Challenges
The Reliability of the equipment makes possible to meet the requirements expected by the manufacturers and Maintenance personals [10, 11]. Optimization of the IoT devices and equipment’s during management of large data becomes a challenge [12]. The computational and Mathematical models developed with generated data rely highly on equipment efficiency. The Quality of the data will be compromised upon reliability affected on those equipment’s which in turn leads to False Prediction of Remaining Useful life of a components [13].

![Figure 2](image)
2.4. Challenges in IoT Architecture
Due to multilayered architecture of IoT system, it is imperative that the system produces reliable output throughout its mission cycle[14-16]. In Terms of architectural challenges for IoT system itself, four major layers are considered to prove its reliability for providing the output.[17,18]. In Other words, the common multilayered IoT architecture contains Service layer, support, communication and Perception layers. Each layers on the architecture poses different failure conditions on functioning which questions the reliability and leads to false Prediction.[19,20]. The service layer in the multilayered architecture on aircraft engine components will use smart sensors to measure engine parameters like Exhaust gas temperature(EGT), N1 compressor speed, whereas the support layer intended to work on FDEP(Functional dependency), service switches, trigger switches, and in the modes of MTBF and MTTR, through where the availability of the system is measured[21,22,23].

The Communication layers poses failures on wireless communication, noisy data, attenuation of signals and perception layer provides challenges in reliable monitoring in terms of sensor nodes failures to determine measurements like temperatures and Humidity, which all provides False output or no output condition. Figure 3 shows the IoT architectural layers and possible failure modes leading to false RuL Prediction.

![Figure 3. IoT Architecture and Possible failures](image)

2.5. Performance Challenges
The Heterogeneity of an IoT system will have the complexity and constraints on hardware and software which requires massive computational system which leads to noticeable degradation on the performance parameters in terms of High throughout, latency of the system, and accuracy of the data.
Specifically, the high accuracy requirement in the IoT system may affect the control aspects in case of unmanned air vehicle which affects the Ultra, Low and End to End latencies. Also the entire system would liable to provide unique complex challenges in terms of sensors [25, 26]. Table 2 Shows the specific possible causes which affects the performance efficiency of any Multilayered IoT Systems.

### Table 2. Performance Affecting Parameter and Causes

| Possible Causes | Performance affecting Parameters |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Infeasible Raw Data | High Throughputs and frames |
| Communication Delay | Low Latencies |
| High accuracy Requirement | Control failure |

2.6. Challenges on Data Registration

The Future challenges on Data registration and Data generation need to incorporate rich sensors like LiDAR [26] and high computational systems for maximum reliability. The complexity is defined in data segregation, data extraction and categorisation of data in timely manner [27].

Considering the aircraft systems, the connected IoT systems may use both Operational data and BITE Data for Flight warning systems(FWS) and Central fault display unit(CFDS) for indication and creating a maintenance reports using cloud platforms. Since the fault syndromes developed in the sensors would eventually leads to Non-Reliable maintenance indications to the crew and leads to false prediction. The review points out the possible challenges from data registration to remaining useful life prediction.

Especially on the studies conducted for data registration over years, major precise fault happens due to sensor overlapping at the close proximity regions [28, 29]. This is highly susceptible in heterogeneous systems. Figure 4 Shows the Overview of Challenges in Multi-layered CFDS system on RuL Prediction and data extraction.
2.7. Hardware Reliability Challenges

The hardware non-reliability on the IoT system is highly susceptible due to non-quantification and evaluation of physical materials in the connected system. So the whole challenges create the necessity for prediction methodologies for assessing the hardware reliability. The common methods are Physics of Failure (PoF) Prediction [30].

The Physics of Failure method is commonly used method which provides potential results for accurate prediction of RuL and mode of failure. Figure 5 Shows the steps involved in Physics of Failure (PoF).
2.8. Challenges in Network Reliability
The Major challenge in maintaining network reliability in the IoT Systems is very crucial where importantly Assessing QoS (Quality of Service) and Continuous Quantification should be considered. So always the user-friendly assessment and prediction technique should be assigned to evaluate the network efficiency of the system [30, 31]. Quantification of delay throughputs for QoS metric analysis is carried out to provide sufficient information on reliability of end to end IoT systems [32]. The QoS Profile generation which is linked with various components in the multi-layered system has been proposed for determination of latency and bandwidth [33]. The Statistical Modelling approach is carried out to calculate the QoS metrics like time consuming, time of response, and Repair times [34]. The Redundancy models were studied the infrastructure of Gateway and ISP redundancy [35]. The Various findings have been carried out by past researchers on assessing network reliability on the IoT systems. The Previous works carried out on Network reliability assessment will make a pathway for future researchers for selecting suitable and appropriate method for multi-layered systems.

2.9. System Security Challenges
The heterogeneous Multilayered IoT System will have more vulnerability for security attacks. To address this issues the IoT system design must be optimized to have important factors which includes Perfect Physical coupling, Communication, security, Scalability and Privacy requirements [36]. Especially various types of threats have been identified by previous researchers. Table 3 Shows the Summarized Literature review showing contribution of each works related to security attacks on the IoT System.

Table 3. Summarized Literature review showing contribution of Each Works related to Security Attacks on the IoT System

| Contribution          | Work                                      | Findings                                                                 |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cyber-attacks         | P. McDaniel et al.(2009)[37]              | Several Potential Cyber-attacks have been discussed through this works where Active and Passive attacks poses significant threats based on spy, eavesdrop and DoS |
|                       | A.O.Otuoze et al.(2018)[38]               |                                                                          |
|                       | S.Goel et al.(2015)[39]                   |                                                                          |
|                       | V. Delgado-Gomes et al[40]                |                                                                          |
| Spoofing Attacks      | P. Pradhan et al.(2016)[41]               | The Major Challenge in the IoT system is that susceptibility to the Spoofing attacks where GPS spoofing is due to high strength incorrect signals and ARP Spoofing is due to false messages linkage to MAC address of the hackers. The control protocol is affected which may mislead the network operating systems. |
|                       | P. Risbud et al.(2018)[42]                |                                                                          |
| Replay Attacks        | J. Zhao et al.(2016)[43]                  | The Authenticity of the Information is highly intercepted due to replay attacks in the IoT systems. Those Incorrect information may lead |
3. Validation and Prediction Challenges

3.1. Overview of Consideration and Challenges in IoT System Architecture design

This Section Provides the Summary of Literature review for various Modern Tool Validation Approaches in Providing Safety Aspect and Statistical prediction including Machine learning and Deep Learning Approaches. Especially, while concerning the importance of security in the IoT systems various challenges and Considerations have been put forth to design and Validate the system. The Consideration includes Better interaction of the IoT system with the Physical World [50], Constraints in the available resources [51], heterogeneity [52], Large Scale data registration [53] and segregation, Security breaches, Privacy settings [54] and trust management [55].

Table 4. Summarized Literature review showing contribution of Each Works related to Security Attacks on the IoT System

| Consideration                | Challenges                                      |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Physical World Integration  | • OS Update                                    |
|                             | • Compatibility                                |
|                             | • Coupling with Physical and Cyber world        |
| Heterogeneity               | • Continuous Monitoring needed                 |
|                             | • Reliable Detection Mechanism for Abnormal Behaviour |
|                             | • Reliability issues over Traditional Mechanisms|
|                             | • Reliable Security                            |
3.2. RUL Prediction approaches and drawbacks

The section provides the summary of different modern prediction approaches which includes Deep learning and Machine learning models used for RUL Prediction using IoT Systems. RUL Prediction derived from the concept of Prognostics where future of the entire system is predicted using observations, statistical and mathematical models [55]. Any RUL Prediction is defined as observing the functional range of the entire system or component before it reaches the fatigue or failure range [56].

The RUL Prediction can be predicted and analysed through various approaches which includes traditional supervised and unsupervised machine learning, and deep learning models[57,58]. The Modern prognostic approaches contains various challenges in RUL Prediction process. Table 4 shows the summary of review of challenges and drawbacks considered on the various RUL Prediction approaches.

| RUL Prediction Approach       | Work                                | Challenges                                                   |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Physics Based Approach       | A. Cubilo et al.(2016)[59]          | • Intense Computations Requirement                           |
|                              | H.M Elattar et al.(2016)[60]       | • High fidelity                                              |
|                              |                                     | • Complexity on modelling the defect                         |
|                              |                                     | • Reusable limits are less                                   |
|                              |                                     | • Complex mechanical systems                                |
|                              |                                     | • Difficulty on identifying the fault                        |

Table 5. Shows the summary of review of Challenges considered on Various RUL Prediction Approaches
Hybrid based Approach  M. Schwabacher (2005)[61]  Youdao Wang et al(2020)[58]  
- Noisy data
- Inaccuracy because of Noisy data
- Both Model and Data Required

Data-Driven Approaches  X. S. Si et al(2011)[62]  Youdao Wang et al(2020)[58]  
- Intense and Large algorithms required
- Short Prediction ranges
- Inadequate and shortage of data for new systems

Supervised Machine learning  Brownlee et al(2016)[63]  Kushal . R. D(2020)[57]  
- Labelling of Data
- Huge Labelling requires Intense training of the models
- Identification of Inputs and Outputs

Unsupervised Machine Learning  Kushal . R. D(2020)[57]  Shanthamallu et al.(2017)[64]  
- Large Volume of Clustering
- High Monitoring needed for Unlabelled Information

4. Conclusion

To the best of our knowledge, this paper will be able to reveal the challenges associated with remaining useful life prediction of components or system using the IoT platform, and recommends the pre-requisites and requirements to be considered for any IoT infrastructure if in case of false data sets with sensor and system failure. Also, the literature review briefs the specific challenges obtained from the heterogeneous IoT network. This includes system reliability challenges, challenges in anomaly detection using IoT systems, challenges associated with constructing the IoT architecture, challenges in data registration and data segregation, challenges associated with hardware reliability, and security challenges. Also, one of the other major challenge lies with validation of the selected IoT model in consideration with different real time factors as discussed in chapter 3 from this paper. The IoT model which is constructed for Remaining useful life prediction basically perform on the three approaches which includes physics based, hybrid and data-driven approaches. The summary on table 4 describes the drawbacks encountered by the researchers on testing the model with these three different approaches. The challenges are summarised to provide the knowledge on the machine learning approaches which incorporates IoT system for remaining useful life prediction.

We believe this review will be able to provide the insights for researchers to identify the adoptability of IoT systems on aviation Predictive maintenance with reliable and cost-effective computational systems. The outcome of this review is to provide the understanding of the challenges associated with multi-layered IoT systems and leads to consider the consequences developed on the specific conditions in the system prior to construction of the IoT Model. So we strongly believe, these consideration and knowledge about the system construction and performance of the particular model would eventually reduce the downtime, enhance the cost saving in the aviation predictive maintenance.

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