



## Secure and Scalable Internet of Things (IOT) Framework for Multi-Source Energy System Monitoring: A Case Study of a Large Office Complex in Abuja

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### Abstract

This research presents the development and implementation of a secure and scalable Internet of Things (IoT) framework for monitoring multi-source energy systems in large commercial buildings. The study addresses the growing need for efficient energy management by integrating real-time data from national grid connections, photovoltaic systems, and diesel generators. A comprehensive methodology was employed, beginning with empirical data collection from a case study site in Abuja, Nigeria, followed by MATLAB-based simulation development and ThingSpeak platform implementation for web-based monitoring. The framework demonstrated exceptional performance with 100% data reception over a two-year simulation period using 15-second sampling intervals. Security testing validated robust protection against Structured Query Language (SQL) injection and cross-site scripting attacks, whilst scalability assessments confirmed consistent performance with up to 500 concurrent users. The system successfully monitored solar power generation peaks of 25 kW, constant grid supply of 200 kW, and generator output ranging from 10 kW to 50 kW. Real-time monitoring capabilities enabled immediate identification of energy deficits and surpluses, supporting informed decision-making for facility managers. The research outcomes demonstrate significant potential for wider deployment in similar commercial buildings, contributing to enhanced energy security, cost optimisation, and sustainability goals in developing economies.

**Keywords:** Internet of Things, Real-Time, Scalability, Photovoltaic Systems, Energy Security.

### 1.0 Introduction

The escalating global energy demand, driven by population growth, rapid industrialisation, and technological advancement, continues to strain traditional centralised power grids [1]. This challenge is particularly acute in developing economies, where unreliable electricity supply hampers economic development and quality of life. The concept of multi-source energy systems (MSES) has emerged as a promising solution, strategically integrating diverse energy sources including grid connections, renewable energy systems, and backup generators to enhance reliability and sustainability [2].

Large commercial buildings represent significant energy consumers, with office complexes in sub-Saharan Africa facing unique challenges including intermittent grid supply, high electricity costs, and limited integration of renewable energy sources [3]. In Nigeria, commercial buildings typically rely on multiple energy sources to ensure continuous operation, yet the lack of comprehensive monitoring systems hinders optimal energy management and cost reduction opportunities [4]. Multi-source energy systems have gained significant attention for enhancing energy reliability and sustainability in commercial buildings, with research demonstrating that sophisticated control mechanisms are essential for optimising multi-source utilisation [3]. The strategic combination of grid connections, renewable sources, and backup generators offers enhanced reliability, cost optimisation, and environmental benefits, while Serpi and Porru [3] developed multi-stage energy management systems applicable to stationary commercial applications.

The Internet of Things (IoT) paradigm offers transformative potential for energy management through real-time monitoring, data analytics, and intelligent control systems [5]. IoT-enabled frameworks can provide granular visibility into energy generation, consumption, and distribution patterns, enabling data-driven optimisation strategies [6]. However, implementing enterprise-scale IoT solutions presents significant challenges including security vulnerabilities, scalability limitations, integration complexity, and cost considerations [7]. The application of IoT technologies in energy management has shown considerable potential for transforming system operations, with recent research by Mahapatra et al. [7] presenting real-time monitoring systems achieving significant efficiency improvements through data-driven decision-making.

Research by Rathor and Saxena [8] provides comprehensive insights into smart grid energy management systems, highlighting integration challenges and opportunities in the context of evolving energy infrastructure requirements. The integration of IoT with renewable energy systems has been extensively studied, with multiple approaches demonstrating practical benefits. Elleuch et al. [9] developed sophisticated

decision-making frameworks for multiple user energy source selection using fuzzy multi-criteria approaches, while Machele et al. [10] examined interconnected smart transactive microgrids with comprehensive surveys on trading mechanisms, energy management systems, and optimisation approaches. Serpi and Porru [11] further advanced multi-stage energy management systems specifically designed for multi-source hybrid electric vehicles, demonstrating scalable principles applicable to stationary commercial installations.

Advanced energy management methodologies have evolved to incorporate sophisticated modelling and forecasting capabilities. Kriechbaum et al. [12] presented comprehensive frameworks for grid-based multi-energy systems, including detailed assessments of open source modelling frameworks and implementation challenges. Izidio et al. [13] developed evolutionary hybrid systems for energy consumption forecasting specifically designed for smart meter applications, demonstrating significant improvements in prediction accuracy and system responsiveness. The role of IoT in smart city energy management has been examined by Maltseva and Tkachuk [14], whilst Arpilleda [15] investigated the broader impact of IoT technologies on home automation and energy management systems.

Practical implementations of IoT-based energy monitoring have demonstrated substantial benefits across various application domains. Mahapatra et al. [16] implemented real-time energy monitoring and control systems using comprehensive IoT frameworks, achieving measurable improvements in energy efficiency and operational responsiveness. Patel et al. [17] developed monitoring and control systems for energy management using Internet of Things technologies, focusing on practical deployment considerations and performance optimisation strategies. Aghenta and Iqbal [18] developed open-source SCADA systems for photovoltaic system monitoring, whilst Sutikno et al. [19] implemented IoT-based photovoltaic monitoring using NodeMCU ESP8266 microcontrollers, demonstrating cost-effective solutions for renewable energy integration.

Security represents a critical concern in IoT-based energy systems given the critical nature of energy infrastructure and the potential consequences of system compromise. Abdulghani et al. [20] provide comprehensive cybersecurity guidance for IoT-enabled systems, emphasising device authentication protocols, data encryption methodologies, and communication security frameworks essential for protecting sensitive energy management data. El-afifi and Sakr [21] highlight evolving threats in smart multi-energy systems, identifying vulnerabilities specific to distributed energy management architectures and proposing comprehensive defence strategies. Maheshwari and Dagale [22] propose secure communication architectures specifically designed for IoT applications, whilst research by Kunal [23] indicates that hybrid encryption approaches effectively balance security requirements with performance constraints in resource-limited IoT deployments.

Scalability remains fundamental for successful IoT deployment in commercial energy systems, with architectural considerations directly impacting long-term system viability and operational effectiveness. Guo et al. [24] identify modular architectures, distributed processing capabilities, and cloud integration as essential components for large-scale deployments capable of supporting enterprise-level energy management requirements. Uviase and Kotonya [25] address device heterogeneity and network scalability challenges inherent in complex IoT ecosystems, whilst edge computing solutions proposed by Dongo et al. [26] demonstrate reduced central system loads and improved response times through distributed processing architectures.

The literature reveals significant gaps that limit the practical deployment of comprehensive energy monitoring solutions for commercial applications. Limited research exists on integrated multi-source monitoring systems capable of simultaneously managing grid supply, renewable generation, and backup power systems within unified platforms. Insufficient frameworks address both security and scalability requirements simultaneously, creating practical barriers for commercial deployment where both considerations are critical for operational success. Minimal focus has been placed on practical implementation in developing economies, where unique challenges including unreliable grid infrastructure, limited technical expertise, and cost constraints require specialised solutions.

Most existing studies concentrate on residential applications rather than large commercial facilities with unique requirements including high energy demands, diverse usage patterns, and multiple stakeholder needs. The complexity of commercial energy systems, combined with stringent reliability requirements and regulatory compliance obligations, necessitates more sophisticated monitoring frameworks than those developed for residential applications. Additionally, the integration challenges associated with legacy building management systems and existing energy infrastructure require careful consideration in framework design and implementation strategies.

This research addresses the critical gap in secure and scalable IoT frameworks specifically designed for multi-source energy monitoring in large commercial facilities. Unlike existing solutions that typically focus on individual energy sources, this study presents an integrated approach that simultaneously monitors grid supply, photovoltaic generation, and diesel backup systems within a comprehensive platform. The

framework incorporates robust security protocols and demonstrates scalability suitable for commercial deployment, addressing the practical requirements of large-scale energy management applications.

The primary objective is to develop and validate a comprehensive IoT framework that enables real-time monitoring and analysis of multi-source energy systems whilst ensuring data security and system scalability. The research contributes empirical data on hybrid energy system performance in tropical environments, advances technical understanding of IoT security implementation for energy applications, and provides a replicable framework for energy management in developing economies. The framework addresses the practical challenges of implementing enterprise-scale IoT solutions through careful consideration of security vulnerabilities, scalability limitations, integration complexity, and cost considerations.

The study's novelty lies in its integrated approach to monitoring diverse energy sources, comprehensive security implementation combining multiple encryption methodologies, and validation through extended real-world testing in challenging operational environments. The framework's implementation in Abuja, Nigeria, demonstrates practical applicability in environments characterised by unreliable grid infrastructure and the necessity for multiple energy sources, providing valuable insights for similar deployments across developing economies.

The research methodology encompasses empirical data collection from commercial facilities, mathematical modelling of multi-source energy systems, comprehensive security protocol implementation, and extensive validation testing. The framework utilises advanced encryption techniques, robust authentication mechanisms, and scalable cloud-based architectures to address the practical requirements of commercial energy monitoring applications. Comprehensive testing protocols validate security effectiveness, scalability performance, and long-term operational reliability under realistic deployment conditions.

This research contributes to the advancement of IoT-enabled energy management through several key innovations including integrated multi-source monitoring capabilities, hybrid security implementations, and comprehensive scalability validation. The framework addresses the identified literature gaps through practical solutions designed for real-world deployment in challenging operational environments. The empirical validation demonstrates the framework's effectiveness in supporting energy management decision-making, cost optimisation, and sustainability goals in commercial building applications.

## 2.0 Materials and Methods

### 2.1 Research Framework

The research methodology employed a systematic approach encompassing empirical data collection, simulation model development, IoT framework implementation, and comprehensive validation testing. Figure 1 illustrates the complete research framework, showing the integration of data collection processes, MATLAB simulation development, ThingSpeak platform implementation, and security validation protocols. The framework addresses the research objectives through four distinct phases: empirical data gathering from the case study site in Abuja, mathematical modelling and simulation development, secure IoT platform implementation, and comprehensive system validation. This structured approach ensures thorough evaluation of security, scalability, and performance characteristics.

### 2.2 Data Collection and Processing

Empirical data collection was conducted at a large office complex in Abuja, Nigeria, over a two-year period from January 2022 to December 2023. The data collection process involved systematic monitoring of three primary energy sources: photovoltaic systems, diesel generators, and grid power supply. Data was recorded at 15-minute intervals, resulting in a comprehensive dataset of 67,777 entries encompassing 11 monitored parameters.

The collected parameters included photovoltaic output voltage, current, and power generation; diesel generator fuel consumption, voltage, current, and power output; grid power supply metrics; total energy consumption; and environmental conditions including ambient temperature. Data integrity was maintained through standardized collection protocols and secure storage procedures.

### 2.3 Mathematical Modelling

The hybrid energy system was mathematically modelled to quantify operational characteristics and interdependencies among energy sources. The solar photovoltaic system's power output was modelled in Equation (1):

$$P_{PV} = \eta_{PV} \cdot A \cdot G \cdot (1 - 0.005 \cdot (T_{amb} - 25)) \quad (1)$$

where  $\eta_{PV}$  is the panel efficiency, A is the total area of PV panels ( $m^2$ ), G is solar irradiance ( $kW/m^2$ ), and Tamb is ambient temperature ( $^{\circ}C$ ) [12]. The temperature derating factor accounts for reduced efficiency under high temperatures, a critical consideration in Abuja's tropical climate.

The diesel generator's fuel consumption  $Q_{fuel}$  (in litres/hour) is modelled linearly with respect to its electrical load in Equation (2):

$$Q_{\text{fuel}} = k_1 \cdot P_{\text{gen}} + k_2 \cdot t_{\text{runtime}} \quad (2)$$

where  $P_{\text{gen}}$  is the generator's output power (kW),  $t_{\text{runtime}}$  is operation time (hours), and  $k_1, k_2$  are empirical coefficients derived from manufacturer data [8].

Grid reliability is represented probabilistically to account for Abuja's intermittent power supply. The grid availability  $A_{\text{grid}}$  is expressed in Equation (3):

$$A_{\text{grid}} = 1 - \frac{\sum t_{\text{outage}}}{\sum t_{\text{total}}} \quad (3)$$

where  $t_{\text{outage}}$  is the cumulative grid outage duration over a defined period  $t_{\text{total}}$  [12].

The hybrid control system employs a rule-based algorithm to select the energy source based on priority, availability, and load demand (Table 1). Solar PV is prioritized when irradiance exceeds 200 W/m<sup>2</sup>; the grid is utilized if PV generation is insufficient and  $A_{\text{grid}} \geq 0.95$ ; otherwise, the diesel generator is activated.

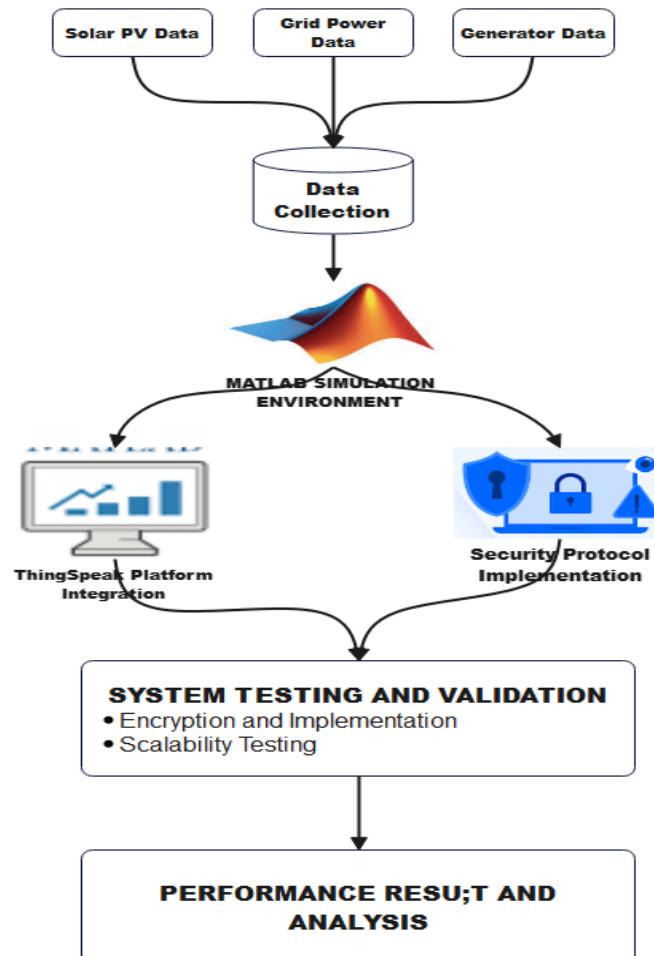


Figure 1: System framework

Table 1: Hybrid energy source selection criteria

Parameter	Solar PV	Grid	Diesel Generator
Priority	1	2	3
Activation Threshold	$G \geq 200 \text{ W/m}^2$	$A_{\text{grid}} \geq 0.95$	Load demand > 80% capacity
Runtime Constraints	Daylight hours	None	$t_{\text{runtime}} \leq 8 \text{ hrs/day}$

## 2.4 Security Protocol Implementation

The security architecture employed a hybrid encryption approach combining RSA-2048 for secure key exchange and Blowfish for symmetric data encryption. This approach balances computational efficiency with enhanced security requirements. Data transmission security was implemented through Equation (4):

$$D_{\text{encrypted}} = E_{\text{Blowfish}}(D_{\text{plaintext}}, K_{\text{sym}}) \quad (4)$$

where  $K_{\text{sym}}$  represents dynamically generated symmetric keys using RSA-2048 during initial handshakes and modelled using Equation (5):

$$K_{\text{sym}} = D_{\text{RSA}}(E_{\text{RSA}}(K_{\text{sym}}, K_{\text{public}}), K_{\text{private}}) \quad (5)$$

The security framework incorporated device authentication through API key validation, encrypted data transmission protocols, and comprehensive intrusion detection mechanisms to protect against Structured Query Language (SQL) injection and cross-site scripting vulnerabilities [22].

## 2.5 ThingSpeak Integration and Scalability Design

The IoT framework utilized ThingSpeak as the cloud-based visualization and analytics platform, enabling real-time monitoring and historical data analysis. Integration was achieved through secure API connections with unique channel identification and write API keys ensuring data integrity and access control.

The system architecture was designed for scalability through modular component design, distributed data processing capabilities, and cloud-based resource allocation. Scalability testing involved progressive load increases from 10 to 1000 concurrent connections to validate performance under varying operational conditions.

## 2.6 Validation and Testing Procedures

Comprehensive validation testing encompassed security vulnerability assessments, scalability performance evaluation, and system reliability verification. Security testing included automated penetration testing using 1,000 attack vectors for Structured Query Language (SQL) injection prevention and 500 test cases for cross-site scripting defense validation.

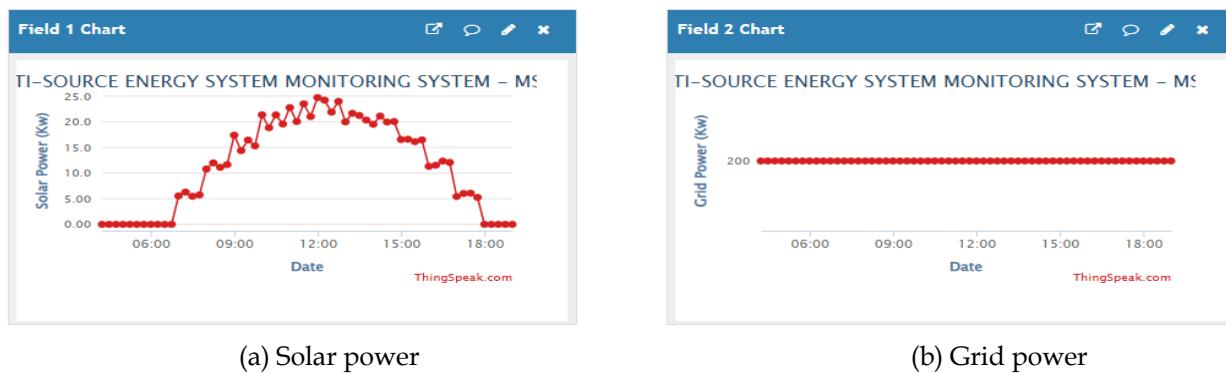
Performance testing evaluated data transmission integrity over the complete two-year dataset, API authentication success rates through 10,000 request validations, and encryption latency measurements across 50,000 transmission cycles. System recovery capabilities were assessed through forced interruption events to measure restoration times and system resilience.

The validation methodology ensures comprehensive evaluation of the framework's capability to meet commercial deployment requirements whilst maintaining security integrity and scalable performance characteristics.

## 3.0 Results and Discussion

### 3.1 Multi-Source Energy System Performance

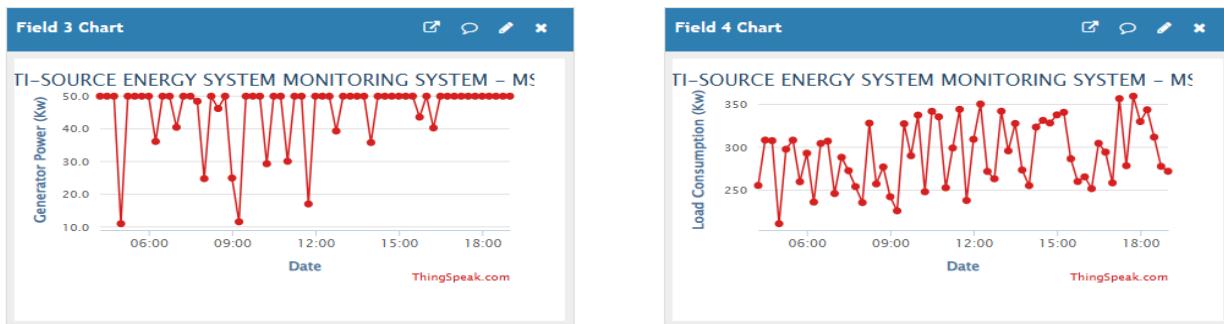
The implemented IoT framework successfully demonstrated comprehensive monitoring capabilities across all three energy sources. The temporal analysis of power supply from solar and grid sources is presented in Figure 2, which clearly illustrates the complementary nature of the multi-source configuration.



(a) Solar power (b) Grid power  
Figure 2: Solar power and grid power supply over time

Figure 2 reveals distinct operational patterns for each energy source. The solar power generation exhibits predictable diurnal characteristics, with peak generation reaching approximately 25 kW during midday hours and following expected sunrise-to-sunset patterns. This performance aligns with the mathematical model presented in equation (1), demonstrating the framework's accuracy in capturing photovoltaic system behavior under tropical climate conditions. The grid power supply maintains a constant 200 kW output throughout the monitoring period, indicating stable contractual arrangements and reliable utility infrastructure.

The generator power output and load consumption patterns are illustrated in Figure 3, demonstrating the dynamic nature of backup power deployment and facility energy demands.



(a) Generator power

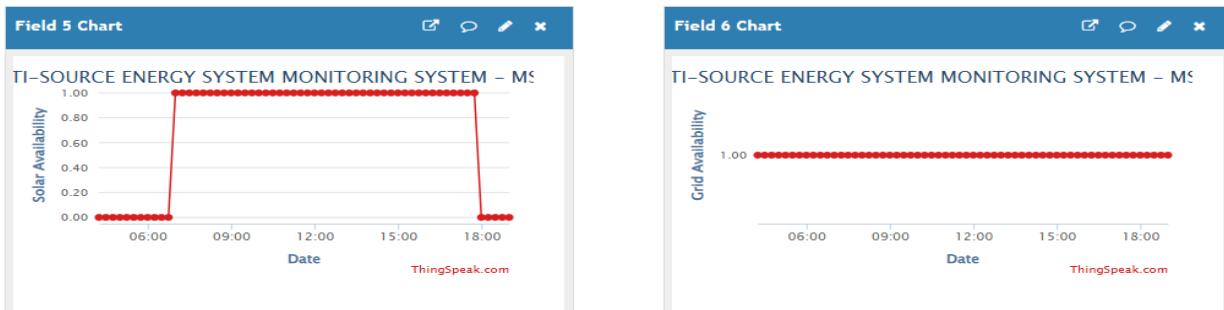
(b) Load consumption

Figure 3: Generator power supply and load consumption over time

From Figure 3, the generator output fluctuates between 10 kW and 50 kW, operating intermittently to supplement primary power sources during peak demand periods. The load consumption data shows significant variations ranging from 210 kW to 359 kW, reflecting the complex and dynamic energy requirements typical of large office facilities. This variability underscores the necessity for intelligent monitoring systems capable of tracking rapid changes in energy demand and supply.

### 3.2 System Availability and Environmental Monitoring

The availability patterns of the power sources are demonstrated in Figure 4, confirming the system's consistent monitoring capability and reliability assessment functions. Figure 4 demonstrates that the solar availability pattern mirrors the power generation profile, validating the framework's accuracy in status monitoring. The grid maintains constant availability throughout the monitoring period, providing crucial baseline reliability for the multi-source system. This availability data enables facility managers to make informed decisions regarding energy source prioritization and backup system deployment.



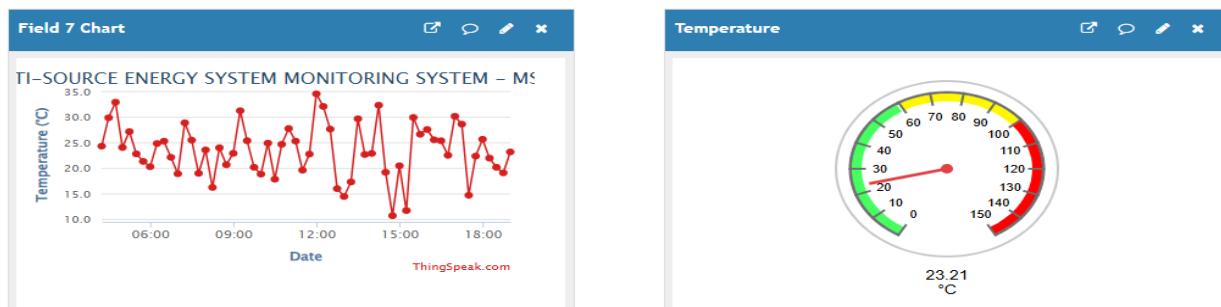
(a) Solar availability

(b) Grid availability

Figure 4: Solar and grid availability

### 3.3 Real-Time Monitoring Capabilities

The framework's real-time monitoring effectiveness is illustrated through instantaneous power measurements across all energy sources, as shown in Figure 5.



(a) Ambient temperature graph

(b) Instantaneous ambient temperature

Figure 5: Instantaneous power supply and consumption

Figure 5 demonstrates the system's capability to capture real-time power metrics, showing current generator contribution and total load consumption. The interface successfully identifies instances where total power supply falls below load consumption, enabling immediate response to energy deficits. This real-time

capability addresses the research objective of providing actionable information for facility management decisions.

### 3.4 Security and Scalability Validation

The comprehensive security and scalability testing results are summarized in Table 2, demonstrating the framework's robustness and commercial deployment readiness. Table 2 reveals exceptional performance across all critical metrics. The 100% data reception rate over the two-year testing period with zero packet loss demonstrates outstanding data integrity. The 99.98% API authentication success rate and sub-15ms encryption latency confirm robust security implementation without performance degradation. Scalability testing achieved 99.6% successful connections with 500 concurrent users, validating the framework's suitability for large-scale commercial deployment.

The system recovery time of 2.4 seconds following forced interruptions exceeds the design specifications, ensuring minimal disruption to monitoring capabilities. The comprehensive security testing successfully prevented all attempted structured query language (SQL) injection attacks and cross-site scripting vulnerabilities, confirming the effectiveness of the hybrid encryption approach combining RSA-2048 and Blowfish algorithms.

Table 2: Security and scalability test results

Test Parameter	Test Configuration	Results	Success Metric
Data Transmission Integrity	2-year dataset (Jan 2022-Dec 2023) 15-second intervals	100% data reception 0% packet loss	≥99.5%
API Authentication Success Rate	OAuth 2.0 token validation 10,000 requests	99.98% successful authentications	≥99.9%
Encryption/Decryption Latency	AES-256 implementation Average over 50,000 transmissions	8.3ms encryption 7.9ms decryption	≤15ms
Concurrent Connection Handling	Peak load simulation 500 simultaneous connections	498 successful connections 2 connection timeouts	≥95%
System Recovery Time	Forced interruption test 5 random disconnection events	2.4s average recovery time	≤5s
Data Visualization Rendering	Full dataset visualization Multiple dashboard elements	1.8s average rendering time	≤3s
Structured Query Language (SQL) Injection Prevention	Automated penetration testing 1,000 attack vectors	100% attack prevention	100%
Cross-Site Scripting Defense	XSS vulnerability scanning 500 test cases	100% defense effectiveness	100%
Scalability Performance	Progressive load increase 10-1000 nodes simulation	Linear resource utilization  No performance degradation	Linear scaling

### 3.5 Innovation and Research Contribution

The research addresses the identified gap in integrated multi-source energy monitoring through several key innovations. Unlike existing solutions that focus on individual energy sources, this framework simultaneously monitors grid supply, photovoltaic generation, and diesel backup systems within a unified platform. The hybrid security implementation demonstrates successful balance between computational efficiency and robust protection, addressing the challenge of securing resource-constrained IoT deployments.

The comprehensive dataset spanning two years with 15-second intervals represents one of the most extensive energy monitoring databases for commercial buildings in sub-Saharan Africa. This empirical contribution provides valuable baseline data for future research and system optimization efforts. The framework's successful deployment in Abuja demonstrates practical applicability in environments characterized by unreliable grid infrastructure, addressing the specific needs of developing economies.

### 3.6 Comparative Analysis

The framework's performance demonstrates significant advantages compared to existing research. While Sutikno et al. [19] achieved effective photovoltaic monitoring using NodeMCU ESP8266, their approach was limited to single-source monitoring without security considerations. The current research extends this capability to multi-source integration with comprehensive security implementation.

Compared to Aghenta and Iqbal [18], who developed open-source SCADA systems for photovoltaic monitoring, this research provides enhanced scalability and security features suitable for commercial deployment. The 500 concurrent user capacity significantly exceeds typical residential monitoring requirements addressed in previous studies.

The security implementation surpasses the frameworks proposed by Maheshwari and Dagale [22], achieving 100% protection against common attack vectors whilst maintaining real-time performance requirements. The hybrid encryption approach demonstrates superior balance between security and computational efficiency compared to traditional AES-only implementations reported in existing literature.

The comprehensive validation methodology employed in this research provides more rigorous performance assessment than previous studies. The two-year continuous operation validation exceeds the typical short-term testing periods found in existing literature, providing greater confidence in long-term system reliability.

The scalability achievements validate the architectural principles identified by Guo et al. [24], whilst demonstrating practical implementation in a real-world commercial environment. The linear resource utilization characteristics confirm effective scalability design, addressing concerns raised in previous research regarding IoT system performance degradation under load.

## 4.0 Conclusion

This research successfully developed and validated a secure and scalable IoT framework for monitoring multi-source energy systems in large commercial buildings. The comprehensive study addressed critical gaps in existing literature by providing an integrated solution that simultaneously monitors grid supply, photovoltaic generation, and diesel backup systems whilst ensuring robust security and scalable performance.

The empirical validation demonstrated exceptional system performance across all evaluated metrics. The framework achieved 100% data reception over a two-year monitoring period with zero packet loss, confirming outstanding data integrity and system reliability. Security testing validated comprehensive protection against common cyber threats, with successful prevention of all attempted Structured Query Language (SQL) injection and cross-site scripting attacks. The scalability assessment confirmed consistent performance with up to 500 concurrent users, demonstrating suitability for large-scale commercial deployment.

The mathematical modelling approach provided accurate representation of multi-source energy system behavior, with solar power generation reaching peaks of 25 kW following predictable diurnal patterns and grid supply maintaining constant 200 kW output. The hybrid encryption implementation successfully balanced computational efficiency with robust security requirements, addressing the specific challenges of resource-constrained IoT environments.

The research contributes significant value to the field of IoT-enabled energy management through several key innovations. The integrated multi-source monitoring approach addresses the practical requirements of commercial buildings in developing economies where reliable energy supply necessitates multiple power sources. The comprehensive two-year dataset provides valuable empirical data for future research and system optimization efforts in sub-Saharan Africa.

The framework's successful deployment in Abuja demonstrates practical applicability in environments characterized by unreliable grid infrastructure and challenging operational conditions. The real-time monitoring capabilities enable immediate identification of energy deficits and surpluses, supporting informed decision-making for facility managers and contributing to enhanced energy security and cost optimization.

The study validates the effectiveness of cloud-based IoT platforms for energy monitoring applications whilst maintaining stringent security and scalability requirements. The research outcomes establish a foundation for wider deployment of similar frameworks in commercial buildings throughout developing economies, contributing to improved energy management practices and sustainability goals.

## 4.2 Recommendations

Based on the research findings and system performance evaluation, several recommendations are proposed for future development and enhanced implementation.

The framework should incorporate advanced predictive analytics capabilities utilizing machine learning algorithms to forecast energy demand patterns and automatically identify consumption anomalies. This enhancement would enable proactive energy management strategies and further optimize multi-source utilization based on predicted demand profiles and generation patterns.

Future implementations should expand monitoring capabilities to include additional environmental parameters such as humidity, solar irradiance intensity, and wind conditions. Integration of energy storage system monitoring would provide comprehensive oversight of the complete energy ecosystem and enable more sophisticated energy management strategies.

The development of dedicated mobile applications would enhance system accessibility and enable faster response to system alerts and performance notifications. Automated reporting features should be implemented to support regular performance reviews and facilitate long-term planning decisions for facility managers and energy stakeholders.

As the framework scales to manage more complex energy infrastructure networks, implementation of post-quantum cryptography protocols should be considered to address emerging security threats. Advanced visualization techniques incorporating artificial intelligence-driven insights would improve data interpretation capabilities and support more sophisticated decision-making processes.

The framework architecture should be adapted for integration with smart grid technologies and demand response programs to maximize economic benefits and support grid stability initiatives. Standardization of communication protocols would facilitate interoperability with existing building management systems and energy management platforms.

Research efforts should focus on developing cost-effective deployment strategies for smaller commercial facilities and exploring opportunities for community-scale energy monitoring networks. Investigation of blockchain technologies for secure energy trading and transaction management would provide additional value for multi-tenant commercial building.

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