



CASPER: Context-Aware IoT Anomaly Detection System for Industrial Robotic Arms

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Industrial cyber-physical systems (ICPS) are widely employed in supervising and controlling critical infrastructures, with manufacturing systems that incorporate industrial robotic arms being a prominent example. The increasing adoption of ubiquitous computing technologies in these systems has led to benefits such as real-time monitoring, reduced maintenance costs, and high interconnectivity. This adoption has also brought cybersecurity vulnerabilities exploited by adversaries disrupting manufacturing processes via manipulating actuator behaviors. Previous incidents in the industrial cyber domain prove that adversaries launch sophisticated attacks rendering network-based anomaly detection mechanisms insufficient as the “physics” involved in the process is overlooked. To address this issue, we propose an IoT-based cyber-physical anomaly detection system that can detect motion-based behavioral changes in an industrial robotic arm. We apply both statistical and state-of-the-art machine learning methods to real-time Inertial Measurement Unit data collected from an edge development board attached to an arm doing a pick-and-place operation. To generate anomalies, we modify the joint velocity of the arm. Our goal is to create an air-gapped secondary protection layer to detect “physical” anomalies without depending on the integrity of network data, thus augmenting overall anomaly detection capability. Our empirical results show that the proposed system, which utilizes 1D convolutional neural networks, can successfully detect motion-based anomalies on a real-world industrial robotic arm. The significance of our work lies in its contribution to developing a comprehensive solution for ICPS security, which goes beyond conventional network-based methods.

CCS Concepts: • **Human-centered computing** → **Ubiquitous and mobile computing systems and tools** • **Hardware** → *Sensor applications and deployments* • **Computing methodologies** → *Anomaly detection*;

Additional Key Words and Phrases: Neural networks, anomaly detection, industrial robotic arms, cyber-physical systems, ubiquitous computing

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1 Introduction

Industrial cyber-physical systems (ICPS) [23], which is the backbone of Industry 4.0 [62], are the result of adapting emerging **information communication technologies (ICT)** to the **industrial control systems (ICS)**. Implementing advanced ubiquitous computing resources enables interconnecting the cyber and physical assets of ICPS. This provides the ability to supervise sophisticated industrial systems where each layer (e.g., production, corporate) contains interdependent operations. Hence, a broad range of domains that manage **critical infrastructures (CIs)**, including manufacturing, transportation, and healthcare employs ICPS. Academia and industry refer to these domains as “smart” [58] as the assets of ICPS can self-supervise. In smart systems, actuators operate according to information generated from corresponding sensors. The heterogeneity of the industrial environment may require an adaptive actuation that is directed by multiple sensor data. An autonomous robotic arm¹ executing repetitive patterns to assemble car parts, a conveyor belt that rotates based on the specific product carried, and a furnace that decreases or increases gas supply to heating elements according to processed material and temperature are such examples of cyber-physical systems.

The **International Federation of Robotics (IFR)** report published in 2022 [87] shows that **collaborative robots (cobots)** will lead the robotics industry after 2025. The rapid development of these autonomous robots that can perform repetitive tasks accelerates the utilization of highly interconnected industrial infrastructures. However, high interconnectivity means increased attack surface, which mainly occurs due to the integration of **information technologies (IT)** to **operational technologies (OT)**. Thus, ICPS are exposed to attacks that were not an issue for legacy ICS. These attacks become successful when inadequate cybersecurity measures are present causing disasters [98, 126] as ICPS supervise CIs. The majority of attack detection solutions rely on **intrusion detection systems (IDS)** [68], which only perform **network traffic analysis (NTA)**. As industrial systems have different security requirements, the characteristics of industrial IDS differ from their peers [43]. These IDS operate in the “cyber” domain of ICPS where sophisticated attacks (e.g., stealthy attacks, **advanced persistent threats (APT)**) can penetrate through to disturb the physical processes. Physics-based attack detection mechanisms [128] observe these processes to detect any kind of abnormal behaviors hence monitoring the “physical” side of ICPS.

We consider attack detection as a sub-group of anomaly detection [18] as the anomalies in ICPS may occur due to three main reasons: attack, failure due to degradation, and misconfiguration. These anomalies can be either cyber or physical while both can occur either at once or at independent times. An example where both occur due to an attack would be a successful **distributed denial-of-service (DDoS)** [84] attack that causes the stoppage of the robotic arm (physical anomaly) due to missing network packets (cyber anomaly). We consider such an attack as a cyber-physical attack [83] as the attack causes physical alterations. An example where only a physical anomaly occurs due to degradation would be a change in the acceleration of the robotic arm due to corrosion on the bearings. IDS fail to detect such deviation either when the affected asset is not monitored or when the data are spoofed by an adversary. One other precaution against cyber-physical attacks is to set thresholds for physical characteristics (e.g., setting the joint speed limit

¹From now on, an arm refers to an industrial robotic arm.

for an industrial robotic arm, and setting the heat limit for an oven). As these thresholds mostly determine upper and lower limits they fail to identify time-sensitive anomalies within these limits. Hence, these kinds of events require contextual physics-based monitoring mechanisms.

Fault diagnosis [46] an early discipline that examines unwanted physical deviations of system characteristics, has similarities with anomaly detection. However, the primary difference is that fault diagnosis aims to identify the reason for the anomaly. There are two main types of fault diagnosis: model-based [47] and signal-based [34]. Model-based approaches attempt to generate an explicit model of system behavior to predict the output while signal-based approaches process raw sensor measurements to predict the healthy state of the system. Anomaly detection also has two similar approaches: model-based [118] and data-driven [119]. The two significant drawbacks of model-based approaches are: (I) They require expert knowledge, which is hard to obtain due to the high complexity of industrial cyber-physical systems, making this task laborious and error-prone for humans. (II) They depend on the integrity of components, which must be trusted. This dependence on components' integrity raises concerns about the cybersecurity of these parameters, as they can be spoofed through integrity attacks [122]. The Stuxnet malware [60] attack on Iran's nuclear centrifuges is a real-world example of such an integrity attack, where attackers modified the gas centrifuge parameters. To address these drawbacks, data-driven approaches [88, 93] have become increasingly popular due to the rapid development of data technologies. These approaches utilize machine learning models, which can be grouped into three based on supervision [18]: supervised, semi-supervised, and unsupervised. The supervised models use labeled data for training, while the unsupervised models either do not require any training data [69] or use non-labeled data for training [57]. Semi-supervised models combine these two.

Neural networks [40] are a type of machine learning method that mimics the structure of the human brain, utilizing connected neurons and activation functions to learn from data. Neural networks are typically categorized based on network structure [61]: **shallow neural networks (SNN)**, and **deep neural networks (DNN)**. Bianchini and Scarselli [14] propose a detailed comparison regarding the complexity of these two neural network types. The flexibility and scalability of neural networks make them desirable for industrial applications. In recent years, academia presented many DNN-based research papers [37, 45, 57, 78], which offer promising results, within the context of detecting physical anomalies in ICPS.

Computing infrastructures can be grouped into three based on computing location [138]: edge, fog, and central/cloud. In short, we define "edge" as the location where real-world data are present, "cloud" as the servers that are accessed via the internet, and "fog" as anything between the edge and cloud. If we imagine an assembly line, then we consider the distributed embedded devices on arms that interfere with the sensor data as edge devices, and a local device that manages several edge devices while forwarding data (either raw or preprocessed) to the cloud as a fog device. Central (local) servers might be preferred if cloud systems are undesired or unreachable. As **Internet of Things (IoT)** devices enable access to the cloud, they are heavily utilized in both edge and fog.

Training neural networks is a resource-intensive task, requiring substantial computational resources. Cloud computing platforms such as **Amazon Web Services (AWS)** [22], Google Cloud [15], and Microsoft Azure [82] are attractive options as they offer **machine learning as a service (MLaaS)** [101]. These platforms can be integrated into local builds to establish an automated ML pipeline as such a pipeline requires edge devices to generate raw data, and an internet connection to access cloud services, IoT-based solutions become desirable choices. Local data science workstations are alternatives to these services. If the domain is industrial, then the **industrial internet of things (IIoT)** [116] is utilized. We consider IIoT as one of the requirements for advanced/smart manufacturing. While the initial IIoT solutions [59, 130] focus on increasing production efficiency,

the use of IIoT to detect anomalies [92, 112] is gaining popularity thanks to rapid developments in ubiquitous computing technologies.

In this article, we propose an anomaly detection system that detects movement-based physical anomalies occurring in an industrial robotic arm. We utilize statistical and ML-based methods, including a neural network model employing **1D convolutional neural networks (1D-CNN)** layers. Recognizing that 1D-CNNs have been applied in various domains, their use in anomaly detection for robotic arms is not extensively documented. Our study seeks to explore this and contribute to its literature. To the best of our knowledge, we are first to propose a **context-aware anomaly detection system (CASPER)** that detects movement-based anomalies by applying the 1D-CNN model on raw **Inertial Measurement Unit (IMU)** data gathered from an industrial robotic arm. This data are gathered via an edge development board while anomalies are generated via the modification of arm's joint velocity. The gathered IMU data are not subject to the network vulnerabilities. This approach addresses the concern that built-in data being susceptible to spoofing. Our choice of 1D-CNN is driven by its computational advantages, suitable for the constraints of IoT environments, and while our research does not focus on identifying a superior detection method, we explore the capabilities of 1D-CNN within this specific context. Specifically, where 1D-CNN is capable of delivering comparable detection fidelity and performance to that of more sophisticated state of the art machine approaches, whilst in combination offering superior detection speed (low-latency inference), which is key for efficient response and recovery. CASPER also ensures the integrity of data generated via a cyber-physical edge resource, as data is transmitted over **Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE)**. We summarize our key contributions as:

- We propose an anomaly detection model that utilizes 1D-CNN to detect anomalies occurring due to deviation of joint velocities of an industrial robotic arm while offering an IoT-based edge monitoring system. We demonstrate the performance of the proposed model on a real-world testbed. We present the work to the public on a well-documented GitHub repository.²
- We publish a real-world dataset that contains four files in total: (I) a file that consists of accelerometer, gyroscope, and magnetometer data of an arm that accomplishes a repetitive task, (II) two files (one per industrial arm) that consist of built-in arm parameters such as joint current, and velocity values, and (III) one pcap file that contains all the network traffic between the local PC and the industrial robotic arms.
- We present a thorough correlation analysis between the raw IMU data and the quaternion representation of orientation, demonstrating how the proposed model performs when the data are correlated.

2 Analysis of Past Industrial Incidents

Our work focuses on the application of cyber-physical anomaly detection systems to robotic arms within manufacturing environments, where cyberattacks could cause significant disruptions. In this section, we detail a selection of real-world cyber incidents, emphasizing the physical impact they had on industrial systems as explored in our prior research [52]. These incidents are chosen for their clear demonstration of how cyber threats can translate into tangible consequences in a manufacturing setting. Inspired by these examples, our experimental design involves altering the joint velocity of a robotic arm thus simulating the disruptive effects of a cyber-physical attack. This decision allows us to create test scenarios that are not only representative of real-world attacks but also applicable to the physical domains our anomaly detection system aims to safeguard.

²<https://github.com/hkayann/1D-CNN-Anomaly-Detection-via-CASPER>

In 2013, the maximum-security prison Turner Guilford Knight Correctional Center in Florida, USA had been subjected to two cyber incidents in one month [104]. The prison control system was recently upgraded for a cost of \$1.4M by a firm named Black Creek Integrated Systems. All cell gates in the prison were automatically opened, thus leading to chaos within the prison. Even though the director named the incidents a glitch, a surveillance video had shown that some prisoners were acting as if they knew the gates were about to be opened. Hence, cybersecurity researchers suspected that the first event was done to test the response of the guards, and the second was carried out for a more specific reason as two prisoners tried to attack another prisoner. These incidents have shown that even air-gapped systems can be programmed to glitch to cause a cyber incident, hence air-gapping only is not adequate to secure the systems.

On February 8, 2021, an adversary tried to poison Oldsmar, a city in Florida, USA [98]. The adversary accessed the computer that hosts the water treatment control software via a remote access program, then increased the amount of sodium hydroxide above the normal level. The water concentration change was seen by an operator and immediately reversed. Then, the remote access was disabled. How computer credentials were captured is still unknown. In this incident, having 24/7 IT staff (which is not the case for most industrial systems) to supervise the system prevented the possible disaster from happening. Also, the adversary did not fake the sensor readings hence the unexpected change was detected.

In May 2021, the US Colonial Pipeline was hit by ransomware that is developed by a group known as DarkSide [126]. The attack was directed at a pipeline not to damage but to extort money from the owner company. All the activities of the pipeline had to shut down due to being connected to a central system. The pipeline was equipped with the newest digital sensors including a smart pipeline inspection gauge. However, due to being connected to a central system, all access to sensors was blocked. Hence the operators shut down the pipeline. How the attackers deployed the ransomware is unknown but assumed to be done via phishing e-mails. This incident is an example of the downside of being highly interconnected.

In March 2021, Canadian IoT as a service provider Sierra Wireless was subjected to a ransomware attack [16]. The IT systems of the company were locked down. The company announced that there was no damage done to any production units and the confidential customer data was not affected thanks to being stored on an independent platform. However, the company halted production for over two weeks until the systems were cleared. This incident shows the importance of reaction time and having independent domains.

On December 14, 2020, HUBER+SUHNER, a fiber optic cable manufacturing company located in Switzerland, was subjected to a cyberattack [94]. When the internal IT monitoring system detected an unknown activity, the company shut down all of its operations to prevent possible damage from happening at production sites due to having a highly interconnected network. As a result, no physical damage occurred. The company contacted third-party security providers to analyze the attack, then gradually resumed its operations. In this incident, the physical damage was prevented thanks to the rapid reaction, however, the confidential data was stolen.

In February 2021, the Italian coffee capsule/machine manufacturer Caffitaly System was subjected to a cyberattack [24]. The company was outsourcing the IT services to a third-party provider, which was exploited by adversaries. The production was halted to prevent further damage as the IT and OT systems were interconnected. The reason/motivation behind the attack is unknown as the company did not share the details of the incident. While outsourcing IT/Cybersecurity services to third parties is considered a compact solution by many cybersecurity providers, this incident was caused via such a provider.

On March 22, 2021, the French artificial snow manufacturer the MND Group detected malware on its servers located in France and Austria [132]. The company shut down its all IT network

Table 1. Evaluation of Recent Cyber Incidents

Year	Incident Subject	Location	Sector	Attack Scope	IT	OT	Result
2013	Prison	USA	Utility	Cyber-Physical	●	●	Prison gates were wrongfully opened
2019	Healt Facilities	Australia	Healthcare	Cyber	●	○	Health operations were delayed.
2020	HUBER+SUHNER	Switzerland	Manufacturing	Cyber	●	⦿	All network was shut down.
2021	Colonial Pipeline	USA	Utility	Cyber-Physical	●	●	Pipeline was shut down.
2021	Water Plant	USA	Utility	Cyber-Physical	●	●	Water is poisoned.
2021	Caffitaly	Italy	Manufacturing	Cyber	●	⦿	Production was stopped.
2021	MND Group	France	Manufacturing	Cyber	●	⦿	Production was stopped.
2021	Sierra Wireless	Canada	Manufacturing	Cyber	●	⦿	Production was stopped.

Legend: ● : The domain is directly affected, ⦿ : The domain is indirectly affected, ○ : The domain is not affected.

to prevent a further breach. The OT systems were not heavily affected by the attacks thanks to being disconnected from IT systems, hence the company halted production for only a few days as a precaution. The company put a business recovery plan into practice to recover from the attack within a week. The details of the attack were not shared with the public. Having a ready-to-deploy recovery plan was the key feature to mitigate the result of this cyber incident.

In September 2019, Eastern Health facilities in Victoria, Australia were subjected to a ransomware attack [99]. Several servers that hosted financial, booking, and management data were shut down due to being captured, hence the hospitals had to delay operations including not critical surgeries. The authorities and cybersecurity experts were contacted to resolve the issue. In this incident, the attacked domain was purely cyber but, there was an indirect physical impact that occurred due to the lack of data availability.

Most private entities subjected to cyber incidents do not publish official statements. The information is made available via cybersecurity journals/bloggers, which beclouds verifying the incident details such as the cause, response, and already deployed security mechanisms. We observe the following from the aforementioned cyber incidents: (I) The example attacks demonstrate that integration of IT to OT systems clearly exposes OT systems to new threats. (II) We can safely assume that the companies have at least one intrusion detection/prevention tool (e.g., default defender, antivirus software) in place during the incident thus proving the inefficiency of these tools. (III) Additional security measures that observe the targeted infrastructure can detect the undesired changes. We see this both in the Iranian nuclear program [60] and Florida water poisoning [98] incidents where attacks were detected via the supervisory staff. The recent industrial cyber incidents (see Table 1) prove the necessity of security measures that observe the physical properties from an air-gapped/segregated network, which can ensure the integrity of industrial processes.

3 Related Work

3.1 Anomaly Detection in Industrial Systems

Anomaly detection in industrial systems is a topic where an extensive number of studies are present [18, 32, 52, 127]. Detecting anomalies based on physical behavioral changes via data-driven approaches is one of the hot sub-branches. These changes differ according to the monitored asset. We can utilize temperature data [123] to detect anomalies as malfunctioning industrial assets tend to generate unusual heat. As we can remotely measure environmental sensing data such as temperature, humidity, barometric pressure, and CO₂ level, we can deploy mobile physical anomaly detection units [36], which provide flexible real-time physical anomaly detection, in industrial sites. Unlike model-based anomaly detection approaches, data-driven approaches can be scaled into heterogeneous environments. SWaT [80] is a water treatment testbed that contains around

Table 2. Comparison of Anomaly Detection in Industrial Robotic Arms

Year	Reference	Asset	Data	Method
2018	Narayanan and Bobba [89]	Yaskawa Motoman MH5	Joint State Values	Support Vector Machines
2018	Park et al. [93]	Grinding Robot Manipulator Vacuum Ejector	Vibration	Neural Networks–LSTM
2018	Yetis and Karakose [136]	Arduino Braccio	Image	Statistical
2019	Riazi et al. [100]	Customized Robot Manipulator	Motor Output Torque	Neural Networks–Autoencoder
2020	Bayram et al. [10]	Industrial Robotic Arm*	Sound–Mel Spectrograms	Neural Networks–Autoencoder
2020	Duman et al. [28]	Industrial Robotic Arm*	Sound–Mel Spectrograms	Neural Networks–Autoencoder
2020	Chen et al. [19]	KUKA KR6R 900 SIXX	Joint Current	Neural Networks–Autoencoder
2021	Khan et al. [53]	Customized Robotic Arm	Electromagnetic Side-channel Signal	Nearest Neighbor
2023	Yun et al. [139]	KUKA KR6 R700	Sound–Mel Spectrograms	Neural Networks–Autoencoder
2023	Luo et al. [75]	Universal Robots UR5	RF Backscatter Propagation Data	Convolutional Neural Networks
2023	This work	Universal Robots UR3e	IMU Data	Neural Networks

*Data are extracted from YouTube videos.

68 sensors and actuators. Hence, the SWaT dataset contains both discrete and continuous sensor data. In addition, the sensors have different sampling rates. This kind of environment is challenging due to its high diversity. Recent research [57, 96, 133] shows that data-driven approaches do well even in such environments.

In the context of industrial robotic arms, various data-driven approaches are employed to monitor and detect anomalies, utilizing different types of data: sound data [10, 28, 139], IMU data for motion analysis [89], joint current and angle data to assess mechanical integrity [19], electromagnetic side-channel signals or RF backscatter propagation data [53, 75], tension measurements to predict mechanical failures [100], vibration data for assessing operational anomalies [93], and visual data to detect surface defects or assembly inconsistencies [136]. Each method targets specific operational characteristics of the robotic arm to ensure precise and reliable anomaly detection, although each has its advantages and drawbacks. For example, the use of acoustic data can be problematic due to the requirement for a noise-isolated environment, which is typically challenging in industrial settings, or reliance on built-in data like joint currents, which can be vulnerable to spoofing. Additionally, employing visual data requires considerable processing power, limiting the feasibility of edge detection on low-power devices. Our study acknowledges the work of Narayanan and Bobba [89] for its use of IMU data, a method closely aligned with our own except that we expand the examined techniques and opt to collect IMU data externally via an edge development board to address concerns over data integrity with built-in systems. Thus, our research investigates how movement-based anomalies of an arm are reflected in externally gathered IMU data. Table 2 summarizes the prior work on anomaly detection in industrial robotic arms.

3.2 Role of IoT within Anomaly Detection

Time series data generated by sensors in IoT applications often exhibit temporal correlations resulting in contextual anomalies where the context is time. Detection of such anomalies can be challenging as compared to point anomalies, making available solutions computationally complex [50, 93]. This poses no issue if the detection is done offline (see Section 3.4). Real-world industrial applications are mostly time-sensitive (e.g., manufacturing, fuel extraction). In this case, the common approach is to use IoT sensors/devices to enable cloud access where high computing power is available [79]. However, the occurrence of delay causes researchers to pursue alternative approaches [90, 110]. This delay can also be eliminated by applying anomaly detection on edge devices. The available methods are pretty limited but expanding [25] thanks to the rapid

development of ubiquitous technologies. IoT devices are also used for real-time monitoring [95, 97], which might be critical (see Section 2) when the other security mechanisms in place fail. We utilize IoT for edge data monitoring while considering edge anomaly detection implementation as future work.

3.3 Applying Machine Learning on Multimodal Sensor Data

In an ideal scenario, multiple sensor data sources are employed to monitor/supervise systems as each sensing modality provide unique/more context combined to produce an accurate representation of the environment. This approach is common in **human activity recognition (HAR)** applications [86, 103]. For example, the Apple Watch [7] tracks a user's sleep by combining heart rate and accelerometer data or calculates the number of steps taken based on geolocation and acceleration data. The features extracted from these modalities are either combined into a single feature vector (feature concatenation) [39, 91, 141] or utilized individually (ensemble classifiers) [6, 41, 120, 131]. Traditional **machine learning (ML)** methods use a single modality for each stage of the ML application [105]. Multimodal fusion approaches employ all modalities at each stage [12, 26]. Cross-modality learning approaches [42, 140] utilize all modalities during feature learning while training and testing are performed with the same single modality, which differs from shared representation learning [81, 137], where different modalities are used for testing and training.

3.4 Sensor Data Analysis with ML-based Approaches

Data-driven ML methods are grouped into three [35] based on the (I) supervision, (II) time, and (III) working principle. *Supervision*. ML methods are *supervised* if labels (e.g., anomaly, normal) are fed during training. Supervised methods are common in HAR [11]. However, labeled data might be hard to obtain. In this case, the *semi-supervised* method, which is a mix of supervised and unsupervised, is applied. Generating labels from unlabeled data for training is an example use case. Pipe damage detection [111] is one of the areas where semi-supervised learning is preferred. *Unsupervised* learning is applied if the model is expected to learn without any human interference. These methods are popular in anomaly detection [51] where normal data are fed during training and then the model is expected to recognize unknown/novel data. The learning also might depend on a policy where the model learns by its actions. *Reinforcement learning* is such an example that can be seen in game-playing robots [115]. The learning might be online or offline. *Online* algorithms learn on the fly while *batch/offline* learning makes use of pre-gathered data to train the model. Adaptive ML models [85] require online learning algorithms due to novel streaming data. Offline learning is more common in classification tasks such as natural language processing [71], where the capacity of the model depends on the size/content of the training data. ML models can also be classified into two according to working principles: instance-based and model-based. The instance-based ones analyze the correlation between the known points and new points while the model-based algorithm tries to understand the behavior of data patterns. Instance-based methods are popular in image classification [21] while model-based methods are seen in predictive analytics/forecasting [108].

CNNs offer several advantages over their counterparts: are widely used in various machine learning applications due to their advantages over traditional models while one of them is to extract features automatically eliminating the need for manual feature extraction, a labor-intensive task. CNNs have a lower computational complexity than fully connected models, as local neurons are only connected to a certain group of layers, and feedback loops, as seen in Recurrent Neural Networks, are not required [109]. CNNs can be either 1D, 2D, or multi-dimensional. While 2D-CNNs are the de facto choice for input data with a strong 2D structure that correlates spatially (e.g., images, and speech) [67], 1D-CNNs are useful for time series data as such data are expected to have

Table 3. 1D-CNN Efficiency Across Use Cases

Reference	Use Case	Results
Athanasakis et al. [8]	Remaining Useful Life Prediction of Turbofan Engines	1D-CNN achieves an optimal balance of efficiency compared to LSTM, XGBoost, and Random Forest.
Freire et al. [31]	Digital Signal Processing	LSTM layers have the highest complexity among Dense and 1D-CNN layers.
Kiranyaz et al. [55]	Motor Fault Detection	1D-CNN can provide detection up to 45 times faster than other neural network-based algorithms.
Shahid et al. [113]	Motor Fault Detection	1D-CNNs demonstrate performance nearly similar to 2D-CNNs but with less processing required.

strong temporal correlations [63]. 1D-CNNs are less computationally intensive and require significantly fewer operations, rendering them highly effective for real-time sensing applications. The survey of Kiranyaz et al. [55] suggests that 1D-CNNs can perform motor fault detection much faster than other neural network-based approaches. Additionally, Shahid et al. [113] demonstrate that 1D-CNNs achieve performance comparable to 2D-CNNs in classifying crank angle degree signals for engine fault detection. In predicting the remaining useful life of turbofan engines, Athanasakis et al. [8] shows that 1D-CNNs can equal the performance of other models while having smaller sizes and lower inference latency. Freire et al. [31] further provides a detailed computational complexity analysis, highlighting that 1D-CNNs scale more efficiently than their counterparts. Their efficiency extends to the point where they can be implemented on ultra-low-power devices (<1 mW),³ an aspect we plan to explore in future work. Table 3 summarizes these studies. The various recent applications of 1D-CNNs include ball bearing fault detection [44], water treatment system anomaly detection [57], HAR [20], seizure detection [49], and music genre classification [4].

4 Anomalies

In the field of data science, anomalies are data that deviate from the expected patterns of behavior. In some other various disciplines, anomalies are often described using terms such as “abnormalities” or “outliers,” although these terms can serve different purposes depending on the field. In statistics, anomalies are frequently referred to as outliers when data points significantly deviate from expected behaviors, such as acting as isolated points or forming distinct clusters. Similarly, the term “abnormalities” is commonly employed in domains involving human studies, such as medicine or psychology, to denote behaviors that differ from established norms. Throughout this article, we employ the term “anomalies” to denote unexpected behaviors in data, as we focus on identifying contextual anomalies. This section provides an overview of different types of anomalies, decision-making methods, and techniques for generating anomalous data.

4.1 Anomaly Types

Anomalies are classified into three categories [18]: (I) point anomalies, (II) contextual anomalies, and (III) collective anomalies. *Point anomalies* differ from the rest of the data. Being the most common ones, if the anomaly type is not mentioned, it usually refers to point anomalies [72, 106, 135]. *Contextual anomalies* are harder to detect as such detection requires context (e.g., time, location) analysis where defining one might be challenging. The application that generates time series data tends to contain contextual anomalies where the context is the time [17, 70]. *Collective anomalies* is a group of data that differs from the rest being relatively rare due to their nature. Triggering certain malicious network actions in order can cause a collective anomaly that can be identified

³https://github.com/tensorflow/tflite-micro/blob/main/tensorflow/lite/micro/micro_mutable_op_resolver.h

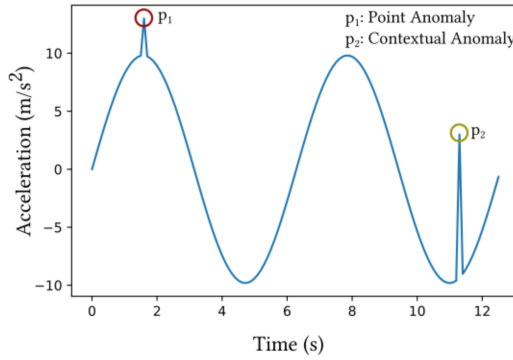


Fig. 1. Acceleration data of one industrial robotic arm joint. While the point anomaly p_1 does not appear across the data (or appears very less in numbers), the contextual p_2 does. While p_1 can be detected via simple thresholding, more sophisticated methods are required to detect p_2 . Collective anomaly is the event where point/contextual anomaly occurs simultaneously across all joints.

via network anomaly detection methods [2, 3]. Figure 1 demonstrates each type of anomaly that can occur on an industrial robotic arm that operate in manufacturing plants.

4.2 Anomaly Decision Methods for Sensor Data

Anomalies are defined as either binary (e.g., 0 for normals and 1 for anomalies) or via anomaly score, which mostly scales between 0 and 1. Then these scores might be converted into binary labels by using a certain threshold. While boundary-defining methods such as SVMs [88] tend to utilize binary definitions, decision tree-based approaches such as Isolation forest [69] utilizes anomaly scores. However, regression methods (e.g., gradient boosting, logistic regression) estimate a value. Then statistical methods are applied to the residuals that are the absolute difference between the predicted and actual values.

4.3 The Use Case Scenario and Attacker Model

While the use of public datasets [27, 37, 64, 65, 80] enables benchmarking similar works, having no control over anomaly creation beclouds the recreation of desired challenging scenarios. This also applies to simulation-only studies [30, 102]. Thus, real-world testbeds are required to assess practicality. Generating anomalies on such a testbed that replicates the original industrial process (e.g., manufacturing) is challenging due to the risk of damaging high-cost equipment. Literature review reveals a preference for non-destructive methods in generating anomalies within cyber-physical systems, especially when dealing with high-value assets like industrial robotic arms [19, 89, 117]. Direct physical attacks tend to be reserved for lower-cost equipment to avoid the high costs and risk of irreparable damage to more expensive machinery [13, 54, 116, 129]. This study follows recognized methods. Due to the high precision required by industrial robotic arms, small alterations in velocity or trajectory can lead to significant operational disruptions. While past research [89] has examined trajectory-based anomalies, our investigation concentrates on velocity adjustments introducing anomalies within operational limits. Table 4 demonstrates the anomaly creation processes of related work.

In this work, we implement a scenario inspired by the Florida water poisoning incident [98], where an adversary gains control of an industrial system. The attack unfolds in two main stages: (I) Initially, the adversary sends a phishing email to the enterprise network and gains initial access by acquiring the necessary credentials. (II) The adversary bypasses the firewall and begins spoofing the joint velocity data, thereby disrupting the manufacturing process. Due to the joint velocity data

Table 4. Anomaly Creation Methods

Reference	Testbed	Attack Anomaly Creation Method
Narayanan and Bobba [88]	Industrial Robotic Arm	– Set industrial arm to follow a different trajectory.
Chen et al. [19]	Industrial Robotic Arm	– Manually injecting faults.
Khan et al. [54]	Robotic Arm Syringe Pump	✓ Implementing control-flow hijack and firmware modification attacks.
Riazi et al. [100]	Belt-driven Robotic Arm	– Loosening and tightening the belt.
Park et al. [93]	Robot Manipulator	– Adjusting the amount of air injected into vacuum ejector.
Angle et al. [5]	High Voltage Motor Development Kit	– Modifying the firmware to allow to damage the kit.
Vuong et al. [129]	Robotic Vehicle	✓ Conducting DoS attack.
Wu et al. [134]	3D Printer	– Injecting faulty files to 3D printer to print a damaged product.
Gao et al. [33]	3D Printer	– Modifying the firmware to change printer features such as printing velocity.
Li et al. [66]	Rotor Kit	– Adding weights to a mass load.
Bezemsjij et al. [13]	Robotic Vehicle	✓ Conducting replay attack, creating rogue node, manipulating compass, and breaking wheel.
Sonntag et al. [117]	Industrial Robotic Arm	– Hitting to an industrial arm.
Sisinni et al. [116]	Robotic Vehicle	✓ Conducting DoS, command injection, and malware attack.
CASPER	Industrial Robotic Arm	– Manually manipulating the joint velocity of the arm.

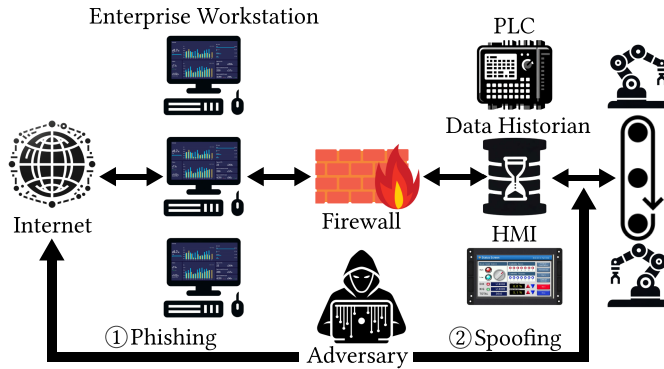


Fig. 2. Example attack scenario implemented in this work.

being spoofed, the network-based intrusion detection system fails to recognize this event, as the data appears normal. This also holds true for built-in **Human-Machine Interfaces (HMIs)**, as the staff monitoring the data would perceive everything as functioning normally. There are only two methods to detect such an event when the integrity of the network data is compromised: either the onsite staff notices the unexpected changes, or a third-party edge anomaly detection mechanism that supervises the affected industrial robotic arm, independent of the network, can be employed as proposed in this work. Figure 2 illustrates an example attack scenario.

5 Casper—System Overview

The CASPER consists of edge, fog, and central components that offer an open-source low-cost IoT-based monitoring system. In this section, we present each component of CASPER while justifying our design choices.

5.1 Edge Components

In this work, we use edge development boards that contain 32-bit microcontroller units for the following reasons: (I) These boards are easy to deploy (attachable), low-cost, and power-efficient

Table 5. Edge Development Boards Tech Specifications

Name	Arduino Nano 33 BLE Sense	Adafruit Feather nRF52840 Sense	Nicla Sense ME
SoC (Microprocessor)	nRF52840 (ARM Cortex M4)	nRF52840 (ARM Cortex M4)	nRF52832 (ARM Cortex M4)
Memory	256 KB SRAM, 1MB flash	256 KB SRAM, 1MB flash	64 KB SRAM, 512 KB flash
Connectivity	BLE 5.0	BLE 5.0	BLE 4.2
Sensor (Module Name)	IMU (LSM9DS)	IMU (LSM6DS33 & LIS3MDL)	
	Microphone (MP34DT05)	Microphone (PDM MEMS)	IMU (BHI260AP & BMM150)
	Gesture, Light, Proximity (APDS9960)	Gesture, Light, Proximity (APDS9960)	Gas, Pressure, Temperature, Humidity (BME688)
	Barometric Pressure (LPS22HB)	Barometric Pressure (BMP280)	Pressure (BMP390)
	Temperature, Humidity (HTS221)	Temperature, Humidity (SHT-30)	

devices. The IoT environments are dynamic, heterogeneous, and resource-constrained. Thus, we need the aforementioned characteristics to have a sustainable model. (II) They should support BLE, which is a wireless personal area network technology, that enables low-power encrypted wireless communication. (III) They either allow the integration of third-party sensors or come with built-in ones. The boards with built-in sensors remove the need for additional attachments thus offering accessible deployment. We compare three edge development boards based on the aforementioned requirements: (I) Arduino Nano 33 BLE Sense [124], (II) Adafruit Feather nRF52840 Sense [1], (III) Nicla Sense ME [125].⁴ Table 5 compares tech specifications of the utilized edge devices. As we focus on detecting motion-related anomalies of an arm where corresponding data generated on the edge, we consider the following:

- The edge development board should have built-in IMU sensors. These sensors measure linear acceleration, magnetic direction, and angular velocity to define an orientation.
- The edge development board must provide BLE [114] connectivity. We observed in our previous work [51] that BLE offers low power usage and flexibility thus favored in resource-constrained environments. In addition, most **system-on-chips (SoC)** provide BLE; hence, we do not need any additional modules/devices as seen in Zigbee [29] networks.

5.2 Fog Components

The fog device manages several edge devices while acting as a bridge between the edge and the cloud. As the edge devices are resource-constrained, in an IoT environment, connecting internet via the fog device is an optimal solution in most cases. However, as ICPS supervise CIs, one might prefer not to have a cloud connection due to security challenges [107]. In this case, the fog device is also expected to have enough capacity to perform preconfigured tasks (e.g., data monitoring, edge device supervision, data preprocessing). Low cost is another deciding factor as they might be required in great numbers depending on the capacity of industrial area. Based on these, we use an embedded **single-board computer (SBC)** as a fog device in this work. We consider the following as key characteristics: (I) It must be portable, small, and low-cost, (II) must be able to connect to the internet, (III) must support BLE as we send edge data over BLE to SBC, (IV) must be able to run an **operating system (OS)** that supports software tools such as Node-RED (nodered.org) and Grafana (grafana.com). We explain details regarding these tools in the following section.

In this work, we utilize Raspberry Pi 4 (RPi4) as SBC as previous research [9, 38] offer promising benchmarking results [74]. RPi4 runs on DietPi OS [56], that minimizes resource usage when running Node-RED and Grafana. A more cost-efficient option would be using an edge development board as fog device, however, due to a lack of on-device training and visualizing support, currently they are not feasible.

⁴From now on, we may mention these boards with their initial names only.

Table 6. Cloud/Central/Fog Tech Specifications

	Google Colab Pro	Data Science Workstation	Raspberry Pi 4B
GPU	Tesla P100-PCIE-16GB	NVIDIA RTX A6000-48GB	None
CPU	Intel Xeon @2.20GHz	Intel Xeon W-2245 @3.90GHz	Broadcom BCM2711, Quad core Cortex-A72 64-bit SoC @ 1.5GHz
RAM	24 GB	128 GB	4 GB

5.3 Cloud/Central Components

As ML model training is a resource-intensive task, a cloud or central device with high computing power is required. In an ideal scenario where ML models are deployed for real-world applications, online learning is implemented to prevent the fade of model's efficiency due to undesired events such as concept drift. However, in this work, we do offline learning as our primary target is to investigate the efficiency of 1D-CNN for anomaly detection while offering real-time IoT-based monitoring on a realistic environment. We use local data science workstation as central component for resource-intensive operations (e.g., training, development of alternative ML algorithms for comparison) while utilizing fog device to supervise edge data. Table 6 demonstrates the key specifications of central, fog device, and an example of Google Colab Pro instance to give an insight about the capability of utilized workstation.

6 Evaluation

This section presents a detailed description of the experimental setup utilized in this study, including the essential components of the testbed and the use case scenario. We conduct a comparative analysis of three different edge development boards in terms of the generated IMU data and introduce the CASPER dataset. We assess the effectiveness of various statistical and machine learning-based methods in detecting movement-based anomalies of an industrial robotic arm. We conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the proposed approach on a real-world industrial robotic arm testbed.

6.1 Experimental Setup

6.1.1 Testbed Components. We utilize a real-world industrial testbed that simulates a pick-and-place task seen in manufacturing systems. Table 7 and Table 8 present the testbed components while explaining their key features and tasks. Figure 3 visualizes each component, demonstrates how each component communicates, defines the purpose of each joint of the arm and shows rotations, presents the use case scenario step-by-step, and proposes the real testbed image where the control boxes are not visible due to being located under the desk. The frame and mounting plates of the custom platform are made of aluminum while the legs are made of steel.

6.1.2 Use Case Scenario. 9-DOF multi-jointed industrial robotic arms are used in various industrial applications. These applications include manufacturing-related tasks such as welding, soldering, screw driving, brazing, placing, casting, and painting. The trajectory of the arm depends on the task. For instance, pick-and-place applications mostly require a horizontal trajectory while screw-driving ones require both. The arms repeat the same high-precision tasks, which are completed within the certain time intervals. In this work, we examine a pick-and-place scenario (see Figure 3(b)) while considering the following assumptions:

- The movement is repetitive, has a certain frequency, and continuous.
- The arm is autonomous hence does not require any human interaction aside from the initialization phase where no adversarial behaviors are in place.

Table 7. Hardware Components

Component Name	Key Features	Purpose	Location
UR3e 6-DoF Industrial Grade Arm	5kg payload, 500mm reach	Pick and place.	Edge
2FG7 OnRobot Parallel Gripper	37mm maximum width 140N maximum gripping force	Gripping, and releasing the steel ball.	Edge
Controller Box	Built-in ethernet port Input/output (IO) sockets	Main control unit of the arm. Enables remote controlling via urp scripts.	Edge
Custom Platform	~2.5 meter width, ~1 meter height ~1.5 meter length, mostly steel	Base for the arms. Contains two inclined parts that allows ball to roll.	Edge
Steel Ball	25.40mm diameter, 66.84g weight	It is passed from one arm to another via inclined platform.	Edge
Nicla Sense ME	BLE connectivity IMU sensors	Generates IMU data and forward to fog over BLE.	Edge
Pi-HMI	Touchpad Screen ML capable BLE & Wi-Fi connectivity	Supervises the IMU data and resource usage.	Fog
Network Switch	Power over ethernet (PoE)	Provides TCP/IP communication between PC and arms. Powers Pi-HMI.	Fog
Laptop	Runs Ubuntu, RTDE compatible	Runs Python script to control arms. Generates dataset.	Central
Data Science Workstation	High computing power	Does the training/evaluation of proposed/compared ML models	Central

Table 8. Software Components

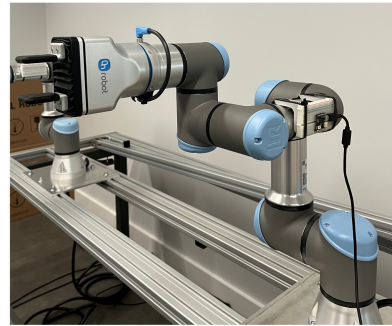
Software Name	Purpose	Version
Grafana	Provides interactive visualization of IMU data.	9.0.9
InfluxDB	Stores the IMU data.	1.8
DietPi OS	Manages Pi-HMI. Power efficient OS for Pi.	8.0
Ubuntu	Manages the central PC.	20.04
Python	Enables programming of the simulation.	3.8
Universal Robot Scripts (urp)	Communicate with python script to execute commands.	5.11
Arduino Sketch	Runs on Nicla Sense ME. Generates and transmits the IMU data.	1.6.10
Node-RED	Sets up the BLE connection between Pi-HMI and Nano BLE Sense.	3.0

- The adversary aims to disrupt the physical process. Thus, the behavior of the arm deviates as a result of an attack. The deviation from the behavior might occur as a result of accidental events (e.g., bumping into an industrial arm) as well.
- The integrity of the built-in data is compromised as the adversary has complete control over the communication between the central laptop and the robotic arms.

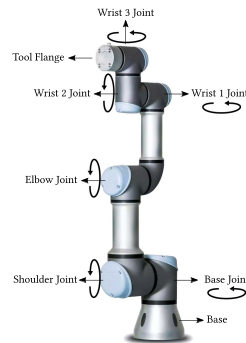
6.2 Sensor Fusion and Edge Development Board Comparison

Micro-electro-mechanical systems (MEMS) sensors that generate IMU⁵ data are: (I) accelerometer, (II) gyroscope, and (III) magnetometer. The accelerometer measures the linear acceleration, which defines the velocity change in units of either gravitational force (g) or meters per second squared (m/s^2). The gyroscope measures the angular velocity, which defines the rotational change in motion in units of **degrees per second (dps)**. The magnetometer measures local magnetic field strength in units of **Tesla (T)**. These three sensors are used in **attitude heading reference systems (AHRS)** (also known as **magnetic, angular rate, and gravity (MARG)**) to define an accurate 3D orientation [48]. Sensor fusion algorithms are applied to come up with accurate

⁵Sometimes IMU is defined as magnetic and inertial measurement unit (MIMU) due to the presence of magnetometer.



(a) Demonstrates the testbed. We transfer edge data to Raspberry Pi via BLE. The local PC controls two industrial robotic arms over TCP/IP. (b) The real image of the industrial robotic arm.

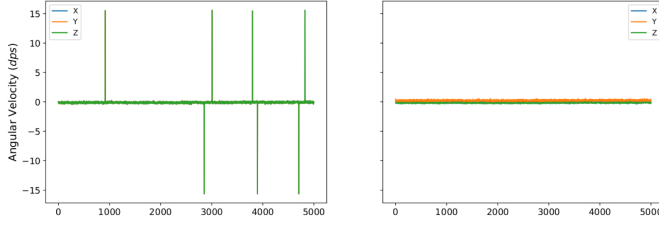


(c) The demonstration of the pick-and-place use case scenario. Both arms are in a home position at the beginning. The steel balls stand near the stopper. The scenario steps are as follows: **(I)** First, the arms grab the steel ball from the inclined platform. **(II)** Then, they drop the steel ball to the other inclined platform. **(III)** Steel balls roll down until the stopper. Each arm completes the process around 20 seconds (see §6.1.2 for further details).

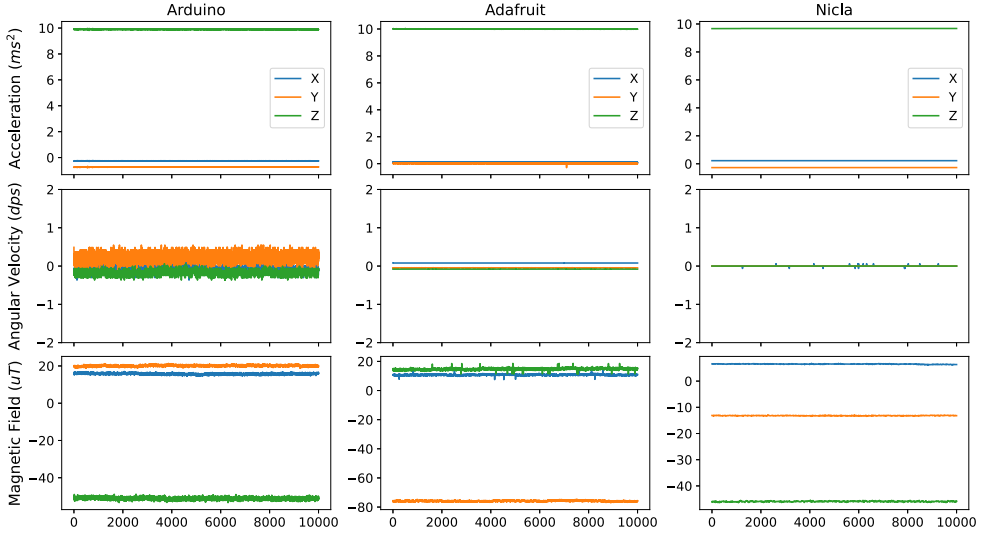
Fig. 3. Testbed and use case scenario.

– *Adafruit consumes less power overall.* Out of three edge development boards, the power consumption of Adafruit is significantly lower than Arduino while being closer to Nicla. If

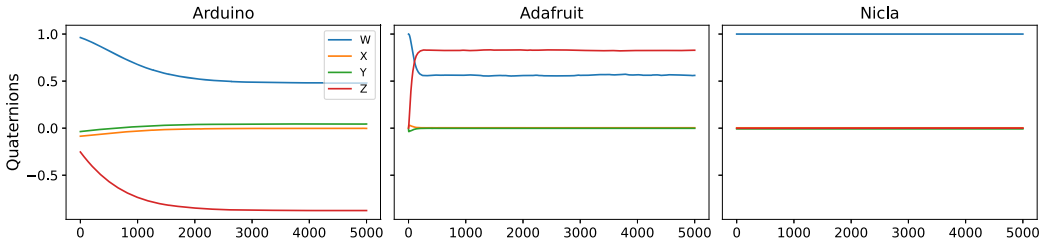
⁸<https://github.com/arduino/nicla-sense-me-fw>



(a) The gyroscope from Arduino generates random spikes when we query with magnetometer data. Thus, we applied a smoothing filter (moving median with a window length of three) to eliminate these. The graph on the left is without the filter.



(b) We generated three sample datasets with 5000 data points at 20Hz to observe the behavior of IMU sensors of each edge board. We applied the available calibration methods (the methods provided in open-source code repositories) and have not tweaked the source codes. Our findings show that Nicla generates less noisy data overall.



(c) We generated quaternion data from each edge development board. The comparison shows that Nicla generates the most stable quaternion data while Adafruit and Arduino are subjected to initial drift.

Fig. 4. Edge data generation comparison.

we supply these boards with 9 V 250 mAh battery, then we would expect the Adafruit to run around 20 h, Nicla to run around 16 hours, and Arduino to run around 10 h.

—*Nicla provides the most stable data.* As Adafruit and Arduino generate a higher noise, it is hard to judge if the resolution reflects the actual change. However, analysis of gyroscope

Table 9. Edge Development Board Testing

Edge Development Board	Arduino Nano 33 BLE Sense	Adafruit Feather nRF52840 Sense	Nicla Sense ME
Charge Consumption (mAh) [Quaternion, *Raw Data]	[24.1, 24.2]	[12.9, 12.6]	[14.9, 15.7]
Sensor Type (Range & Sensitivity)	Acc. $([-4, 4] \text{ g} \& 0.122 \text{ mg})$ Gyro. $([-2000, +2000] \text{ dps} \& 70 \text{ mdps})$ Mag. $([-400, +400] \mu\text{T} \& 0.014 \mu\text{T})$	Acc. $([-4, 4] \text{ g} \& 0.732 \text{ mg})$ Gyro. $([-2000, +2000] \text{ dps} \& 1 \text{ mpds})$ Mag. $([-400, +400] \mu\text{T} \& 0.014 \mu\text{T})$	Acc. $([-4, 4] \text{ g} \& 0.239 \text{ mg})$ Gyro. $([-2000, +2000] \& 30 \text{ mdps})$ Mag. $([\pm 1300 \text{ (x, y), } \pm 2500 \text{ (z)}] \mu\text{T} \& 0.02 \mu\text{T})$
Cost	35.10 \$	31.92 \$	59.82 \$

*By “Raw,” we mean accelerometer, gyroscope, and magnetometer data. T : Tesla, dps : degrees per second, g : G-force. Acc: Accelerometer, Gyro: Gyroscope, Mag: Magnetometer. Ranges are the default ones.

Table 10. Generated Anomalies

Time Interval (minutes*)	900-936	972-1008	1044-1080	1116-1152	1188-1224	1260-1296	1332-1368	1404-1440
Velocity Change	10% Increase	35% Increase	65% Increase	100% Increase	50% Decrease	5% Decrease	20% Increase	25% Decrease

*Whole test is 1460 minutes. The arm joints runs at normal velocity during non-mentioned time intervals.

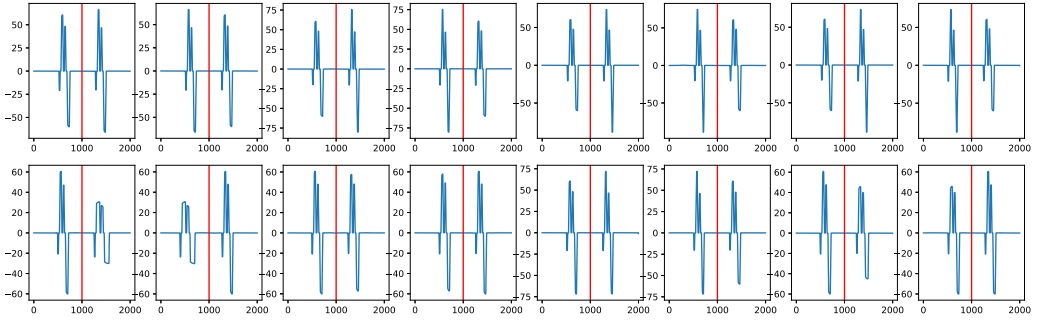


Fig. 5. Plots illustrate the transitions between non-anomalous and anomalous operations, as detailed in Table 10. A red line in each plot marks the point of transition. The first plot shows the change from non-anomalous to anomalous operation. Subsequent plots alternate between depicting transitions from anomalous back to non-anomalous, and then from non-anomalous back to anomalous. This pattern repeats across all the plots.

data revealed the existence of random spikes, which may introduce potential outliers to the data.

6.3 Dataset Generation and Characteristics

In this work, we change the arm’s motion by modifying the joint velocity to create anomalies. We apply changes at different magnitudes to evaluate the sensitivity of the proposed anomaly detection system. Thus, we have two states: *normal state* where the arm joints move at default velocity (1.05 rad/s), *anomalous state* where the arm joints move at various velocities. The anomalous state also has two phases: the first phase where the joint velocities are higher than the default, and the second phase where the opposite applies. We explore a range of velocities, from a 100% increase, which is the maximum permitted due to safety constraints, to a 5% decrease, which represents the smallest change that consistently results in observable data alterations. These variations are pre-defined and timed hence allowing us to accurately label the dataset with the exact timestamps when the arm’s movements transition from normal to anomalous behavior. Table 10 illustrates the anomalies over time, while Figure 5 shows the transition from normal to anomalous operation, where the contextual nature of the generated anomalies can be observed.

Table 11. CASPER Dataset

Data	Features	Number of Data Points/Packets	Size
Nicla - IMU	Accelerometer (x, y, z)	1,750,932	138.9 MB
	Gyroscope (x, y, z)		
	Magnetometer (x, y, z)		
Arm Parameters*	Timestamp	1,762,650	2.0 GB
	Joint Positions		
	Joint Velocities		
	Joint Currents		
	Joint Voltages		
	Cartesian Coordinates		
	Generalized Forces		
	Joint Temperatures		
	Execution Time		
	Safety Status		
	Norm of Cartesian Linear Momentum		
	Robot Current		
	Tool Acceleration		
	Tool Current		
	Tool Temperature		
	Tool velocity		
	Elbow Position		
	Elbow Velocity		
	TCP Force		
	Anomaly State		
Network	267**	14,582,826	3.7 GB

*This is for only one single arm, we have two arms in total. **This is the number of common TCP features that can be extracted from the pcap file. The total number of available features ([wireshark.org/docs/dfref/](https://www.wireshark.org/docs/dfref/)) are a lot more.

In total, the CASPER dataset is a time series dataset containing four files generated from a pick-and-place operation lasting around 24 hours: The first Comma Separated Values file consists of IMU data. We gather data via Nicla attached to one of the arms (see Figure 3(b)). The data include accelerometer, gyroscope, and magnetometer data. The second and the third files (one file per arm) contain built-in arm parameters (e.g., joint positions, velocities, and currents). We gather both data at 20 Hz, which corresponds to 50 ms difference between two consecutive data points. The final file is a PCAP containing the network traffic between the local controller PC and the arms. Table 11 demonstrates the datasets while providing the feature names and characteristics. In this study, our focus is solely on the data generated by Nicla, as our objective is to investigate the effectiveness of an air-gapped IoT anomaly detection system. We share the built-in and network data for researchers who are working in related fields.

6.4 Anomaly Detection

Anomaly detection application on IMU data obtained from an edge development board attached to an industrial robotic arm that performs repetitive tasks contains the following challenges: (I) Each arm is idle for a certain period causing data to contain a high number of near-zero data points. This beclouds the use of common feature extraction methods for time series data, such as applying rolling mean/median to input windows. (II) IMU data by nature contain highly correlated features, which can lead to unstable predictions generated by less reliable models due to multicollinearity. (III) There is a possibility of label mismatching. We modify the joint velocity of the arms via a controller PC. However, the data that we apply anomaly detection to is generated via a different source (an edge development board). Hence, we also utilize one of the features (X-axis of a gyroscope)

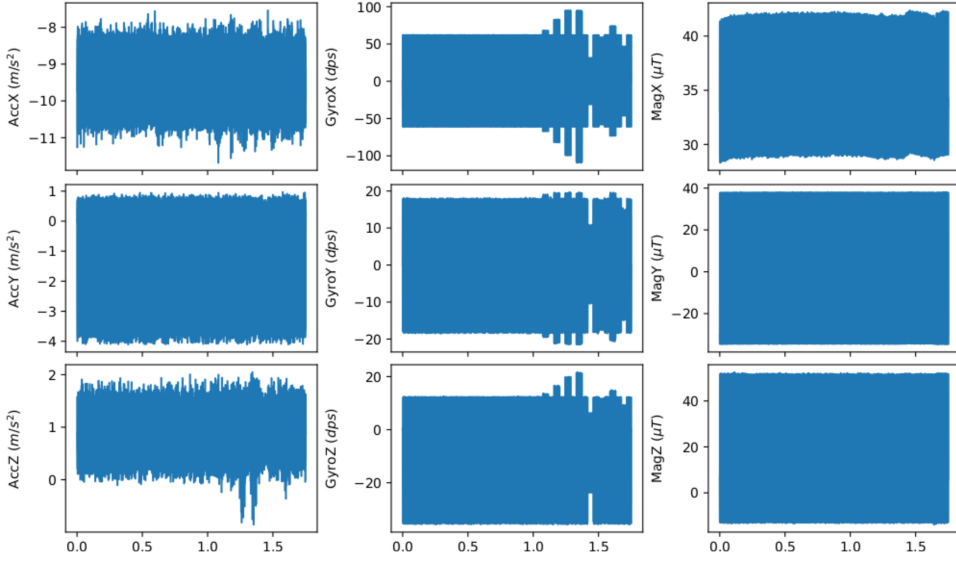


Fig. 6. IMU data generated via an edge development board attached to an industrial robotic arm. We can easily see that the anomalies reflect on the X-axis of gyroscope data.

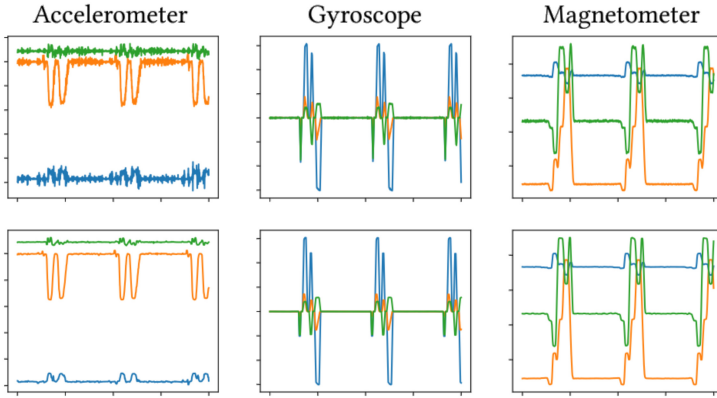


Fig. 7. Effect of noise removal on all features. The bottom three figures are the noise-removed data.

where anomalies are obvious to generate accurate anomaly labels. Figure 6 presents the IMU data generated by Nicla where we can spot the anomalies on the aforementioned feature. The anomaly detection methodology as follows: The dataset is divided into two sets, non-anomalous and anomalous, and the optimization of anomaly detection algorithms is done on the non-anomalous set where we target the minimized loss (RMSE) without overfitting the models. Then, anomalous windows are inputted into these optimized models where window labeling is performed through thresholding where thresholds are determined via grid search. The performance of these models is then evaluated using the confusion matrix, and relevant performance metrics (accuracy, recall, F1 score, and precision) are generated.

6.4.1 Feature Processing. We employ several feature processing techniques. First, we remove some of the noise by applying rolling median filter (see Figure 7). The optimal window length for

Table 12. Autocorrelation Analysis for Non-anomalous and Anomalous Runs

Run Type	AccX	AccY	AccZ	GyroX	GyroY	GyroZ	MagX	MagY	MagZ
Non-Anomalous (r , w)	0.995, 755	0.998, 755	0.977, 755	0.997, 755	0.996, 755	0.995, 755	0.998, 755	0.999, 755	0.999, 755
Anomalous (r , w)	0.994, 757	0.998, 799	0.971, 769	0.997, 770	0.996, 791	0.993, 775	0.997, 759	0.999, 799	0.998, 775

Note: r represents the Pearson correlation coefficient and w denotes the window length.

Table 13. Canonical-correlation Analysis

Accelerometer-Gyroscope	Accelerometer-Magnetometer	Gyroscope-Magnetometer
[0.48561, 0.07371, 0.02834]	[0.96962, 0.58022, 0.27068]	[0.41173, 0.30430, 0.07603]

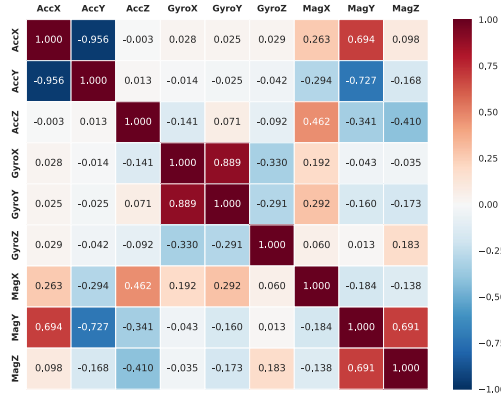
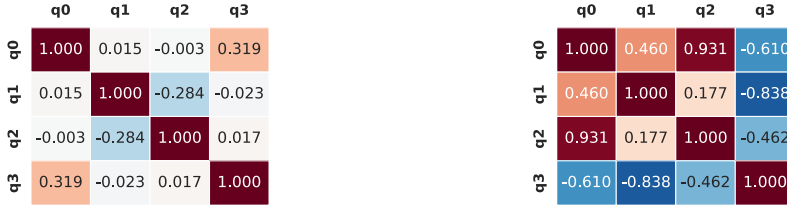


Fig. 8. Correlation of input features. We see that several features are highly correlated (e.g., X- and Y-axes of accelerometer). This is expected due to the nature of IMU data.

the filter is found via grid search considering the trade-off between information loss and noise reduction. We apply z-score normalization to the data-driven models only, by fitting the models exclusively with the training data to prevent the validation/test data from having access to any training data characteristics.

6.4.2 Correlation Analysis. We apply autocorrelation to find the highest time-dependent Pearson correlation coefficient (r) denoted as ρ where E is the expected value, μ is the mean and σ is the standard deviation (see Equation (1)) to find the periodicity. Our autocorrelation analysis reveals the period with the highest Pearson correlation coefficient, which guides us to set a 755-point window size for the 1D-CNN and other detection methods enhancing anomaly sensitivity. Non-anomalous runs show a different periodicity that becomes evident when comparing with the anomalous ones as seen in Table 12. We also analyze how features (sets of features) correlate with each other due to the aforementioned reasons. We make the following observations from the feature correlation heatmap (see Figure 8), and canonical-correlation analysis (CCA) (see Table 13): (I) The X- and Y-axes of the accelerometer are the most correlated features followed by the Y-axes of accelerometer and magnetometer. (II) Gyroscope features do not correlate with others. (III) The accelerometer and gyroscope features are the least correlated features. (IV) CCA shows that the overall, accelerometer and magnetometer features correlate. As correlated input features are undesired, we also investigate the correlation of the quaternion representation of IMU data. We see two main advantages of utilizing quaternions over raw IMU: (I) The transformation reduces the number of input features from 9 to 4; (II) the quaternions generated via the Madgwick



(a) Correlation heatmap of Madgwick Quaternions. (b) Correlation heatmap of Mahony Quaternions.

Fig. 9. Comparison of correlation heatmaps of two common quaternion algorithms.

algorithm do not show any collinearity on the contrary of Mahony algorithm. Figure 9 compares the correlation heatmap of quaternions generated by both algorithms.

$$\rho_{XX}(t_1, t_2) = \frac{E[(X_{t_1} - (\mu_{t_1})(X_{t_2} - (\mu_{t_2}))]}{\sigma_{t_1} \sigma_{t_2}}. \quad (1)$$

6.4.3 Baseline. We employ a statistical baseline as a benchmark to validate the effectiveness of data-driven approaches. This baseline is crafted by segmenting the data into input windows derived exclusively from non-anomalous segments. The length of these windows corresponds to the period identified through our correlation analysis, which reflects the strong periodicity due to the robotic arm's movement patterns. We focus on the temporal correlations by adjusting the window sizes via reducing the lag observed between the input windows. This lag, initially varying from -3 to 3 data points, tends to increase over time, potentially leading to a quarter-window delay. To address this and strengthen our baseline, we select the initial window, comprising 755 data points, as our reference. Both mean and median windows are then computed from this reference. Subsequently, we assess the baseline performance by calculating the overall RMSE, as detailed in Equation (2):

$$\text{RMSE} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2}, \quad (2)$$

where y_i is the actual and \hat{y}_i is the predicted value. The mean baseline beats the median one hence used to detect anomalies via thresholding based on RMSE. This optimized approach ensures that the baseline is not only simple but also robust capturing the periodic nature of our dataset. We measure the performance of anomaly detection methods via a confusion matrix consisting of four main parameters: (I) **True positives (TP)**—when an anomaly is detected as an anomaly, **false positives (FP)**—when normal is detected as an anomaly, **true negatives (TN)**—when normal is detected as normal, **false negatives (FN)**—when normal is detected as an anomaly. We calculate performance metrics, which are accuracy, precision, F1-score, and recall via these parameters as shown below. Figure 10 demonstrates the lag, mean, and median baselines and their difference, and confusion matrix of baseline.

6.4.4 Partial Least Squares Regression. Due to the high correlation of input features, we investigate the feasibility of using Partial Least Squares regression as an anomaly detection method. PLS reduces the number of predictors to 7 capturing around 99% of the variation of the data where the correlations between the predictors are near-zero. The computational complexity of PLS is far less than data-driven approaches. While the loss (RMSE) is similar to data-driven approaches, the PLS fails to generate relatively high RMSEs when the input consists of anomalous points.

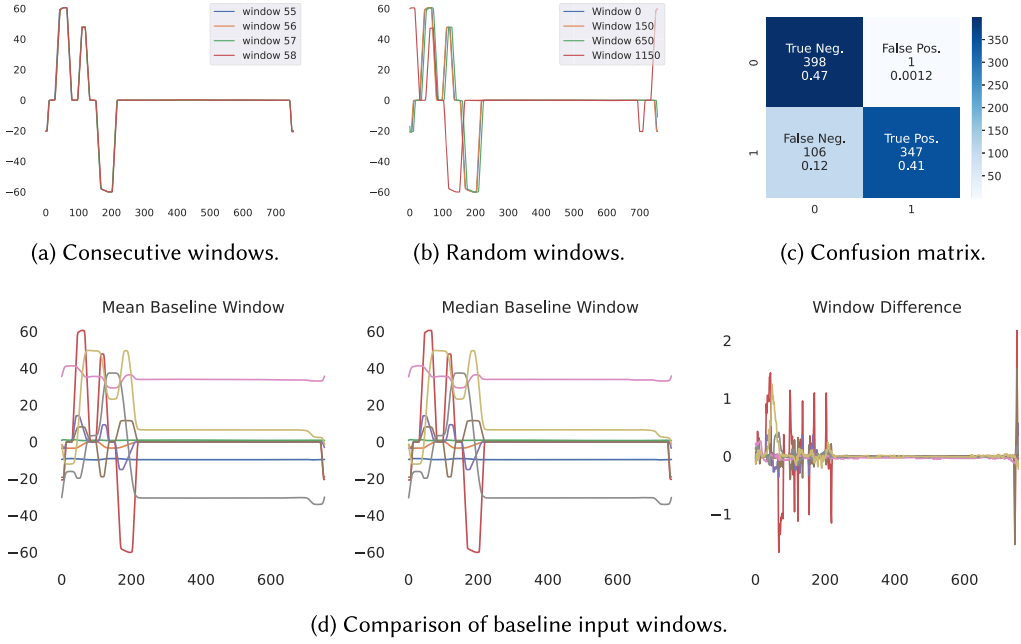
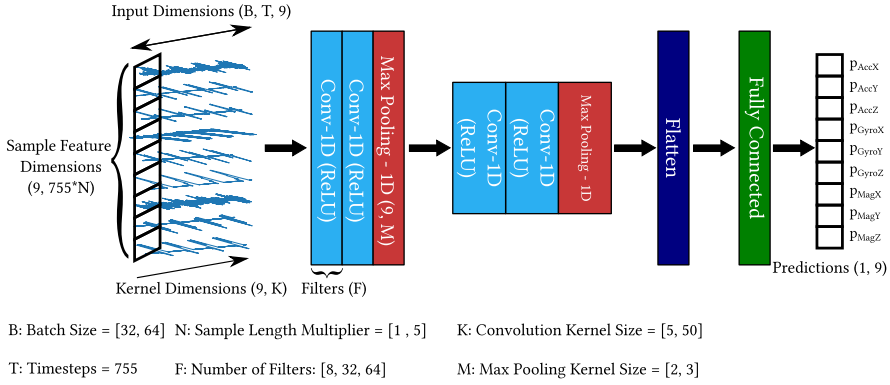


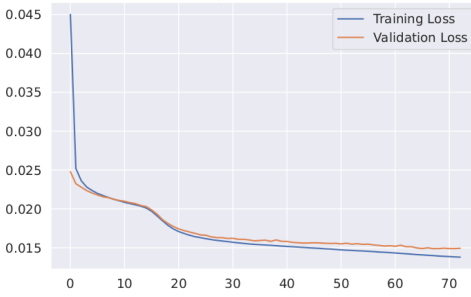
Fig. 10. Lag is obvious as the gap between the window increases. Mean baseline RMSE is 0.3909, while the median one is 0.3999. Hence, mean baseline performs better than the medium baseline with metrics of 84.6% accuracy and 83.4% F1 score.

6.4.5 1D Convolutional Neural Network. We design a 1D-CNN-based ML algorithm to detect anomalies. We expand the receptive field by stacking two 1d-CNN layers to extract deeper local/temporal features. These layers are followed by a max pooling layer that makes the model more robust to overfitting. Finally, we output our features via the fully connected layer. We are implementing a sliding window approach in which the input window consists of 755-time steps (window length), while the output window consists of only 1-time step, then we shift by 1-time step. We do not manually eliminate any lags as we have done for the baseline. **Rectified Linear Unit (ReLU)** is used as an activation function, because it is well-known for its computational efficiency and its ability to introduce non-linearity, which is essential for capturing the complex patterns in the IMU data without overfitting [121]. We employ grid search for hyperparameter tuning, optimizing loss on non-anomalous data to ensure our model generalizes. Hyperparameter limits are set to prevent overfitting, halting adjustments when they compromise model performance or loss metrics. We follow the same approach for the anomaly labels. The sliding windows with more anomaly points are accepted as anomalous (see Algorithm 1). We see that the 1D-CNN beats the baseline by a high margin. Figure 11 demonstrates the model architecture, hyperparameters tried during the grid search, and the related confusion matrix.

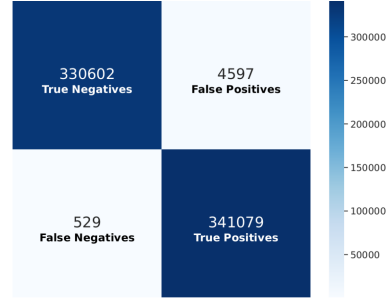
6.4.6 Long Short-term Memory Recurrent Neural Network. For time series data, **Long Short-term Memory (LSTM)** networks are often the go-to choice due to their ability to effectively “remember” past inputs over extended time intervals. In our approach, we utilize an LSTM model specifically tailored to our dataset’s characteristics. The model consists of two LSTM layers, each followed by batch normalization to improve training stability. The first LSTM layer returns sequences to ensure continuity of state across the time steps, while the second LSTM layer does not, serving as a form of feature extraction. To mitigate overfitting, a dropout layer is included after the



(a) The architecture of the 1D-CNN model and the utilized hyperparameters.



(b) The loss graph of the model.



(c) The confusion matrix for 1D-CNN.

Fig. 11. Neural network architecture, loss graph, and confusion matrix. One epoch takes around 4 min for the final chain of cross-validation.

first batch normalization. This model also includes additional dense layers to further process the learned features. The final dense layer reshapes the output to match the number of features in our dataset, ensuring that the model's output is appropriately structured. Detailed insights into the performance of the model, loss graph, and specific hyperparameters are available in our GitHub repository.

6.4.7 XGBoost. Among decision tree regressors, we adopt the XGBoost, which is a state-of-the-art boosting algorithm. We specify the mean squared error loss function and train our model. Experimental results reveal that XGBoost is capable of achieving comparable performance, even when trained on just 10% of the data corresponding to the first fold of cross-validation, while also boasting greater computational efficiency than its neural network counterparts. Notably, we implement Algorithm 1 with a singular modification, wherein we shift data with window length generating only two windows (input and target, which is the window length shifted version of input) instead of traditional sliding windowing that we implemented on 1D-CNN. This is necessary as tree-based algorithms rely on two-dimensional inputs. Optimal hyperparameters, including the number of estimators and the maximum depth, are selected via grid search. We do not manually eliminate the lag as we have done for the baseline.

6.4.8 One-class SVM. The One-class SVM is employed for its unique method of defining the normal operational state without requiring labeled anomaly data. This feature proves beneficial in situations where anomalies are not frequent (e.g., industrial cyber-physical systems). The

Algorithm 1: Sliding Window-based Anomaly Detection Algorithm

Inputs: Test data $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 9}$, $\mu_{training} \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 9}$, $\sigma_{training} \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 9}$, threshold list $T \in \mathbb{R}^k$

Output: List $P \in \{0, 1\}^l$, where $l = m - 755 + 1$, where $m = n - 755$, where $n = |X|$.

```

1:  $\hat{X} = \frac{X - \mu_{training}}{\sigma_{training}}$  ▷ Normalize data via training parameters
2:  $W \in \mathbb{R}^{755 \times 9}$  ▷ Initialize a sliding window with size 755
3:  $R = [], S = [], P = []$  ▷ Initialize empty lists for RMSE values, RMSE rolling sums and final labels
4: for  $i = 1$  to  $n - 755$  do
5:    $W = \hat{X}_{i : i + 754, :}$  ▷ Select the  $i$ th window of test data
6:    $\hat{y} = f_{1D-CNN}(W) \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 9}$  ▷ Predict the next point using 1D-CNN model
7:    $y = \hat{y} \cdot \sigma + \mu \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 9}$  ▷ Inverse normalize the predicted value
8:    $r_i = \sqrt{\frac{1}{9} \sum_{j=1}^9 (y_{i,j,target} - y_{i,j})^2}$  ▷ Calculate RMSE per time step
9:    $R \leftarrow [r_i]$  ▷ Append to RMSE list
10: end for
11:  $S_i = \sum_{j=i-W+1}^i R_j$  ▷ Apply rolling sum for RMSEs with window length  $W$  for  $i = W, W + 1, \dots, |R|$ 
12: for  $j \leftarrow 1$  to  $|T|$  do ▷ Generate a prediction label list via thresholding
13:    $P \leftarrow []$ 
14:   for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $|S| - W + 1$  do
15:     if  $S_i > T_j$  then
16:        $P \leftarrow P + [1]$ 
17:     else
18:        $P \leftarrow P + [0]$ 
19:     end if
20:   end for
21: end for

```

One-class SVM creates a boundary that seeks to contain all these data points by constructing a model based on the “non-anomalous” operational data. Anomalies are then identified as data points that fall outside this decision boundaries. In our work, the One-class SVM fails to perform optimally. It struggles with contextual anomalies, which are anomalies defined by their occurrence within specific contexts in a temporal sequence. These anomalies require an analysis of temporal relationships between data points to be accurately identified, a capability the One-class SVM does not have.

6.4.9 Autoencoders. Autoencoders are designed to compress data into a reduced dimensionality and subsequently reconstruct it back to its original form. In anomaly detection applications, the reconstruction error is used to determine whether an input is anomalous. Their versatility comes from the types of layers used, such as LSTM, 1D-CNN, 2D-CNN, or dense layers, each offering different characteristics. Autoencoders are computationally more expensive than previously mentioned neural network regression methods due to their dual components and the necessity to reconstruct the entire input. In this work, we implement three types of autoencoders: Dense-AE, 1D-CNN-AE, and LSTM-AE. The Dense-AE effectively detects anomalies when there is an increased joint velocity but struggles with decreased velocity runs, as the reconstructed samples mimic anomalous behavior, resulting in low RMSEs. However, both 1D-CNN-AE and LSTM-AE perform well for both types of anomalous runs. The best performing network architectures and hyperparameters are identified via grid search.

6.4.10 Comparison of Anomaly Detection Methods. Table 14 showcases the performance of various anomaly detection systems implemented on IMU data. To provide a foundational benchmark, we include a null model that consistently predicts the majority class in the dataset (for example, “All Anomaly”), alongside the statistical baseline. This approach validates the efficacy of more complex, data-driven methods. The statistical baseline, adjusted manually to eliminate lags, demonstrates

Table 14. Comparison of Anomaly Detection Approaches

Approach	Accuracy	Recall (TPR*)	FPR*	Precision	F1 Score	Inference Latency (μ s)
Null Model	0.505	1.0	1.0	0.505	0.671	NA*
Statistical Baseline	0.9576	0.9339	0.0180	0.9814	0.9571	124.18
One-class SVM	0.502	0.506	0.6352	0.637	0.564	896.07
PLS	0.5047	1.0	1.0	0.5047	0.6708	41.73
1D-CNN	0.9924	0.9984	0.0137	0.9867	0.9925	36.97
XGBoost	0.9920	0.9995	0.0154	0.9850	0.9922	5.27
LSTM	0.9226	0.8922	0.0463	0.9514	0.9209	51.80
Dense-AE	0.7464	0.5783	0.0818	0.8782	0.6974	103.96
1D-CNN-AE	0.9954	0.9982	0.0073	0.9928	0.9955	214.66
LSTM-AE	0.9118	0.8957	0.0717	0.9272	0.9112	1031.3

NA*: Not applicable.

FPR*: False-positive Rate.

TPR*: True-positive Rate.

strong performance, achieving approximately 96% accuracy. PLS faces challenges in anomaly detection, struggling to differentiate between normal and anomalous data, which results in small losses and renders thresholding methods ineffective. Similarly, the One-class SVM performs poorly, primarily due to its inability to account for the temporal nature of the data and lack of contextual understanding. In contrast, 1D-CNN-AE and 1D-CNN show robust performance with low inference latency. 1D-CNN-AE achieves the highest F1 score, followed by the 1D-CNN, XGBoost, and the statistical baseline. Despite having the lowest inference latency, XGBoost maintains high accuracy and precision, making it ideal for time-sensitive applications. However, it generates a higher amount of false positives than 1D-CNN, which affects its desirability in real-world settings compared to the savings in detection latency for the time that would be taken analyzing false alarms.

In this work, we opted to introduce an anomaly via manipulating the joint velocity for the following reasons:

- The utilized asset (UR3e) allows direct manipulation of joint velocity, enabling an attacker with system access to subtly alter the behavior of the arm by tweaking the velocity values.
- The change in velocity is shared across all joints and is not immediately visible to the naked eye due to the complexity of the movement. The selected movement type, *moveJ*, calculates the movements of its joints based on given waypoints. Manipulating the joint velocity causes the arm to reach these waypoints either sooner or later than expected, which can disturb operations, particularly in tasks such as pick-and-place, impacting the output at the end of the manufacturing line.
- Velocity manipulation is a subtle intervention that may not trigger standard fault detection systems, which typically monitor for abrupt or significant deviations. This type of anomaly can degrade the performance of the system gradually, affecting precision without causing immediate or obvious failures. Such anomalies can persist undetected over time, potentially causing cumulative damage in output quality, crucial in precision-dependent tasks.

Figure 1 demonstrates how changes in joint velocity are reflected in externally gathered IMU data. The changes in the gyroscope readings are the most apparent, while other modalities show no significant alterations. Although analyzing only the gyroscope data might improve performance, it would restrict the scope of our anomaly detection. Therefore, we employ multivariate analysis, incorporating all modalities to ensure a comprehensive approach. Figure 5 illustrates

Table 15. Nicla Resource Usage

	RAM Usage (bytes)	Charge Consumption (Ah)
Idle	7720 (12%)	0.0103
IMU*	36224 (56.3%)	0.0154
BLE**	36360 (56.6%)	0.0176

IMU*: *imu.cpp* file only generates IMU data. *ble.cpp* generates IMU data and sends over BLE to PiHMI.

the transitions from normal to anomalous operations, where, in some cases, the differences are subtle. The high anomaly detection performance, as shown in Table 14, suggests that our system is capable of detecting even these subtle anomalies, indicating its potential effectiveness against various contextual anomalies not encountered in this study.

Overall, the experimental results support our choice of selecting 1D-CNN as a viable low-latency and accurate model architecture for cyber-physical anomaly detection. Our testing shows that it delivers superior or comparable detection performance to more complex algorithms and model architectures, with superior detection speed. This makes it better suited to scenarios requiring accelerated response and recovery. All models utilized in this study are available in our GitHub repository for further exploration and use.

6.5 IoT Supervision System

In this work, we present a method for real-time monitoring in an industrial environment where industrial robotic arms present. Our system employs an IoT device to collect IMU data from the arm. This data are then transmitted to a local fog device (PiHMI) for instant monitoring. Data transfer from the edge is conducted over BLE, with the Nicla Sense ME leveraging an nRF52832 microcontroller for BLE 4.2 connectivity. This ensures encrypted data transmission. We use Node-RED, an open-source flow-based programming tool, to build our real-time monitoring system. We utilize a Node-RED package,⁹ which we developed to enable receiving data from the edge device at the fog layer. This setup enables continuous IMU data monitoring, vital for safety and efficiency in industrial processes as evidenced by past incidents (refer to Section 2). InfluxDB is used as a data historian akin to those in industrial settings. Grafana retrieves IMU data from InfluxDB and displays it in real-time on the screen of the PiHMI. Fog device runs on DietPi OS, which is a lightweight operation system. Figure 12(a) demonstrates the Node-RED setup, Figure 12(b) displays the Grafana dashboard, and Figure 12(c) presents the utilized hardware and software tools.

We prefer open-source and lightweight tools that offers high degree of customization and system longevity. The edge device runs a *cpp* file, and the fog device is configured using Node-RED and Grafana interfaces while the database is set up using the **command line interface (CLI)** of InfluxDB. Table 15 reveals the RAM usage and power consumption of the Nicla Sense ME. Generating IMU data accounts for 44.3% of RAM usage, while the effect of use of BLE on RAM usage is negligible. A moderate increase in resource consumption, especially in BLE and data visualization phases, indicates the system can function effectively without straining the hardware. With a 9-volt 500 mAh battery, Nicla operates for 32.5 h generating IMU data, 48.5 h when idle, and 28.4 h transmitting data over BLE. Table 16 displays PiHMI's resource usage. The minimal active CPU and RAM usage of PiHMI highlight the lightweight nature of the employed tools. These insights confirm the system's ability to meet real-time data processing and visualization demands, a critical component for immediate monitoring and decision-making in industrial settings.

⁹<https://www.npmjs.com/package/node-red-contrib-ble-sense>

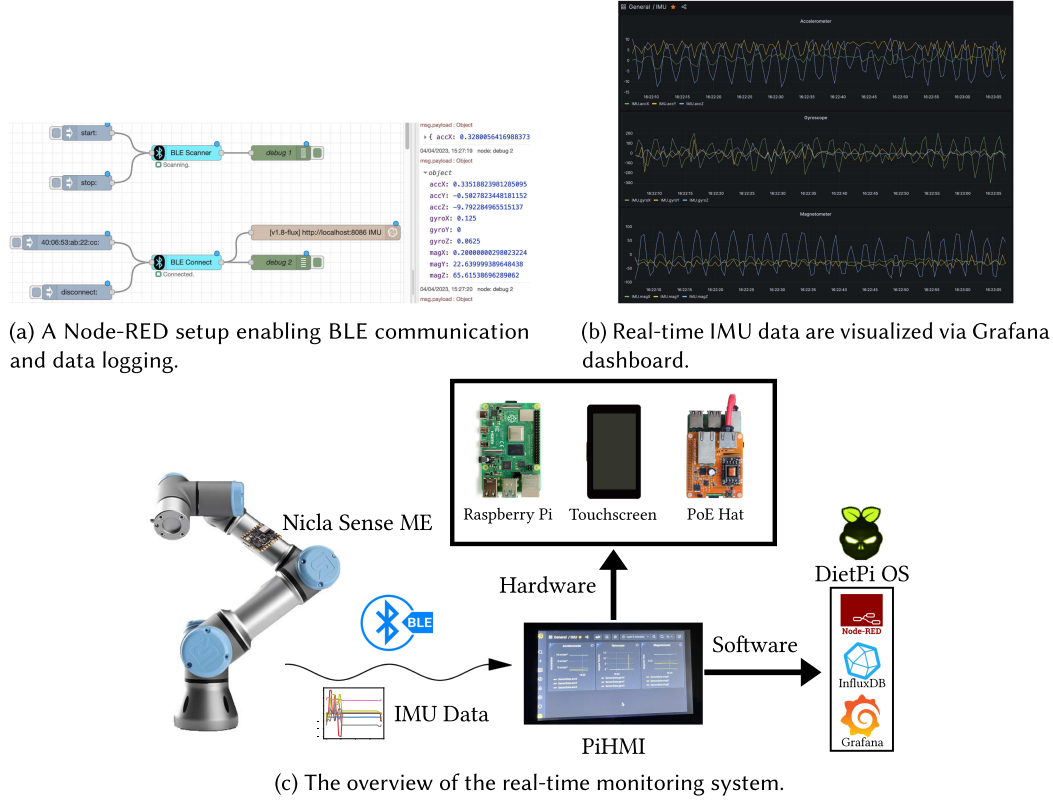


Fig. 12. Open-source real-time IoT-based monitoring system.

Table 16. PiHMI Resource Usage

	RAM Usage (Megabytes)	CPU Usage
Idle	179 (5%)	0.8%
BLE*	235 (6.2%)	5%

BLE*: When PiHMI is actively displaying IMU data on dashboard.

6.6 Discussions

Undesired delay due to lack of control. We utilized two UR3e industrial robotic arms classified as collaborative robots equipped with a control box and an HMI (known as a teach pendant). The intended use of the manufacturer for this arm involves control through the teach pendant limiting synchronization with other industrial edge components such as additional robotic arms or conveyor belts. To address this issue, the manufacturers developed a custom protocol, known as **Real-time Data Exchange (RTDE)**, which enables remote control. This protocol relies on the Python socket library,¹⁰ which provides TCP/IP communication. However, due to the limited control over delay offered by the library, the local PC and both robotic arms were not entirely synchronized during the experiment, which resulted in undesired delays.

¹⁰<https://docs.python.org/3/library/socket.html>

Matching anomaly labels from a different data source. The anomalies are created via the local controller PC, which also generates the built-in data. The anomaly detection is done on the data generated from an attached edge development board. Both data-generating processes (fixed at 20 Hz) are independent of each other. Due to mismatching lengths of these two data occurring due to the edge development board not running at 20 Hz exactly, we utilize one of the features where the anomalies are obvious to generate correct anomaly labels. This requires manual identification of the drift and the obvious presence of anomalous behavior on a certain feature, which might not be the case for all scenarios.

Correlated input features due to nature of an IMU data. The correlation of IMU features is expected as they define the aspects of motion. Our correlation analysis demonstrates that the accelerometer and magnetometer features exhibit a high correlation for the pick-and-place use case scenario. This finding highlights the effectiveness of the proposed 1D-CNN-based model even in the presence of highly correlated input features. As our future work aims to run this model on an edge development board, we have analyzed the feature correlation of quaternion representations, which consists of only four features allowing us to reduce computational complexity. Our analysis shows that Madgwick quaternions are less correlated than Mahony quaternions making them more promising for our research work with the current dataset.

Realistic data with high number of zeros. In industrial environments, it is common for edge actuators to remain idle during periods of cooperation. In our investigation, we simulated an environment where two industrial robotic arms operated consecutively, resulting in a dataset with a large number of near-zero values. Disregarding these values is not feasible, as anomalies can be identified through variations in idle time. However, the presence of a high number of near-zero values presents two significant challenges: (I) Traditional feature extraction methods for time series data (e.g., mean, median, kurtosis, and skewness) lose their validity. (II) Window sampling based on the highest Pearson correlation coefficient can produce unaligned windows, necessitating manual lag elimination for approaches that require aligned windows.

Grid search to find optimal hyperparameters and thresholds. Grid search is a commonly used approach for identifying optimal hyperparameters in data-driven methods. However, the computational complexity of this technique increases exponentially with each additional parameter, rendering the process time-consuming. Since grid search is often conducted manually, there is a possibility of human error. Despite guidelines for conducting grid search effectively, there remains a need for a more optimized methodology for initializing and accurately estimating the best parameters. This issue is also relevant when determining the most appropriate threshold for anomaly detection implemented via forecasting. Therefore, it is crucial to explore novel methodologies that enable more efficient and reliable hyperparameter optimization and anomaly threshold estimation.

Cause independent cyber-physical detection. The proposed 1D-CNN model demonstrates the ability to detect the smallest anomaly introduced in the experiment, a 5% reduction in joint velocities. 1D-CNN layers trained on non-anomalous data can extract discriminative features that capture the precise pattern of the time series data in a way that when the input (predictor) consists of anomalies the output (response) is disrupted enough to be detected through thresholding. As a result, the proposed approach's performance is independent of the cause of an anomaly, whether it be due to a cyberattack, aging, power failure, or a physical accident. This approach is vulnerable to adversarial attacks if the adversary gains control over the industrial robotic arm during the training process, which is unrealistic, given the accuracy requirements of industrial applications, any unexpected physical deviation would likely have been detected by the relevant staff, leading to a halt in training/production.

Contextual anomaly detection via 1D-CNN-based sliding window approach. We focus on detecting contextual anomalies, which pose significant challenges in industrial settings due to their potential

to be introduced by attackers seeking to inflict maximum damage (see Figure 5). To explore this, we adjusted joint velocities in our simulations across a range from 5% to 100%. Detecting such anomalies might seem straightforward if the data under inspection were joint velocities alone, as the anomalies would be visibly apparent. However, the integrity of the built-in data cannot be assured, as previous incidents have shown that these values can be manipulated by attackers with network access (see Section 2). Our findings demonstrate that these anomalies can be detected using externally gathered IMU data in the context of an industrial robotic arm. Our approach effectively identifies contextual anomalies even with minimal changes, proving its ability to detect “physics-based” anomalies. Although our experiments focus on joint velocity manipulation, we anticipate that our method would be equally effective in other scenarios involving physical discrepancies, such as deviations in robotic paths [89] or mechanical failures [100]. However, due to the sliding window approach applied, our method might mask point anomalies within normalized sequences, preventing them from exceeding the detection threshold. As point anomaly detection is considered straightforward and can be achieved through statistical analysis, it was beyond the scope of this article.

Continuous anomalous runs longer than the input window. The proposed baseline approach relies on a sample window generated through averaging non-anomalous windows. A stronger baseline approach that accounts for these correlations would involve averaging the RMSEs of consecutive windows. However, while this method can effectively detect the beginning of an anomalous run, it is prone to failure when the input window contains anomalous points. Similarly, linear regression methods are sensitive to anomalous data, as such data can skew the regression line. Data-driven approaches, which learn non-anomalous feature representations of sequence data, are more robust to anomalous inputs. These models may struggle to accurately predict anomalous data, since it deviates from the learned pattern during training, leading to higher RMSE, which enables the detection of anomalous windows via thresholding. The proposed 1D-CNN model, representing a data-driven approach, shows promising results in anomaly detection, particularly for industrial cases where high accuracy is crucial.

7 Conclusions and Future Work

IT and OT convergence continues to accelerate the development of smart manufacturing systems, where ubiquitous network connectivity and automation optimize production process quality, output speed/volume, and reduce maintenance downtime. However, this greater connectivity and automation inversely lead to an expanded attack surface, exposing cyber-physical systems to attacks and exploitation. Now, more than ever, these can lead to cascading impacts and safety incidents across industrial operations. Today, while network security monitoring is heavily relied upon to detect threats across OT systems, network-based intrusion detection systems alone are not sufficient. Modern attackers targeting industrial domains often evade network monitoring tools by “living off the land” and using insecure-by-design industrial applications and devices for lateral system movement and attack execution. As the primary motivations for attacks against cyber-physical systems are sabotage or denial of service, where attackers aim to manipulate physical sensing or actuation, building resilience in detecting and responding to such incidents is key. Cyber-physical monitoring mechanisms that can learn and report abnormal physical and process behavior are crucial. Moreover, these mechanisms require a higher order of data integrity for analysis, which necessitates: (i) segregated analysis mediums and data sources resistant to tampering, (ii) low-resource edge computing systems practical for deployment, and (iii) low-latency inference for rapid anomaly detection and response.

Toward addressing these challenges, we proposed CASPER, an out-of-band IoT anomaly detection system for cyber-physical systems that utilizes physical machine analytics to detect movement-based anomalies in an industrial robotic arm process. Our experimental results showed

that a 1D-CNN-based model is capable of accurately detecting contextual anomalies in the robotic system with comparable performance and lower detection latency than state-of-the-art machine learning and deep learning methods. Furthermore, our feature-design and model architecture enable the system to learn the behavior of time series (sequential) data, even when input features are highly correlated. For instance, the proposed model can detect a 5% decrease in joint velocities, the minimal applied deviation for the system. We also proposed and demonstrated the deployment of the anomaly detection system on an open-source IoT monitoring platform using BLE to transmit edge data via Node-RED. This exemplifies the feasibility of our approach as a practical retrofitted edge-computing platform for a realistic autonomous industrial endpoint system. Future research and development are expected to follow two paths: (1) The continued development of edge-based cyber-physical anomaly detection systems for industrial OT and IoT endpoints, using our architecture as a reference template, and (2) the exploration of 1D-CNNs as an effective machine learning architecture and model for resource-efficient and accurate AI-driven anomaly detection in resource-constrained edge security systems. In future work, we plan to expand the range of cyber-physical anomaly use cases where we also include point anomalies (e.g., adding additional weight, touching the arm, shaking the testbed) to show the efficiency of the system across various cyber-physical threats, implement online anomaly detection learning via cloud/fog system architecture, use quaternions as an anomaly detection feature to increase model accuracy and resource efficiency, and enable near real-time edge-based anomaly detection to minimize detection latency for rapid incident response and system recovery.

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