

# Intelligent Traffic Management System for Urban Conditions

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**Abstract-** The challenges of urban areas with ever-increasing traffic congestion, emergency response, and maintaining road safety are the basis of this paper. The ITMS proposed in this paper treats optimization of timings at the traffic signals based on real-time vehicle counts, along with the detection of emergency vehicles and accidents, as its prime mandate. To achieve these objectives of optimal traffic management, advanced technologies, such as sensor detectors, algorithms for processing data, and communicating networks, were adopted. With simulations and evaluations, the ITMS holds great promise in enhancing traffic flow efficiency as well as reducing congestion while shortening emergency vehicle response times vis-a-vis fixed-time signal control. The research performed here addresses the development of more sustainable and resilient urban transportation systems.

**Index Terms-** Intelligent Traffic Management System (ITMS), Adaptive Traffic Signals, Emergency Vehicle Detection, Accident Detection, Urban Traffic Optimization, Reinforcement Learning, Dynamic Signal Timing.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Traffic congestion is a problem of urban environments: it maximizes travel time and fuel consumption and simultaneously raises emissions. Traditional traffic signal control systems operate on fixed schedules, hence do not work well in managing variable traffic patterns.

Emergence of smart technologies offers the opportunities for the development of adaptive traffic management systems that can change dynamically in response to real-time conditions. Intelligent Traffic Management Systems (ITMS) propose exciting solutions to these challenges.

The paper aims at the proposed design of an ITMS that uses vehicle counting and emergency vehicle detection in order to dynamically alter traffic signals. This research focuses on developing an ITMS capable of effectively managing traffic flow in the urban areas of the city.

The proposed ITMS integrates various components, like vehicle detection sensors, data processing algorithms, and communication networks. The system will constantly monitor traffic conditions and detect emergency vehicles so that it will be able to make dynamic adjustments to the timing of the signals so traffic flow is optimized and vehicles are continually allowed to move in an efficient manner. It addresses these critical aspects of ITMS that improve upon a more sustainable and resilient urban transportation network.

### 1. Problem Statement

The growth in continues to witness increased traffic congestion. Thus, resulting in significant economic losses, environmental degradation, and a drop in the quality of life. Leverage an intelligent traffic management system to deal with the now fundamentally pressing traffic challenges. ITMS will apply advanced technology to monitor traffic conditions and thus make real-time adjustments according to signal timings. Priority to emergency vehicles and smooth flow of traffic to reduce jams is what the system aims for in reducing the congestion in the area and improving the entire efficiency of the traffic systems through easier travel experience for residents and daily commuters.

### 2. Motivation

The motivation behind using this project stems from the urgent need in the present day to cope with challenges of increased urbanization and vehicle density leading to tremendous traffic congestion, long travel time, and environmental pollution. Traditional systems of traffic signals that rely on fixed timers cannot adjust real-time conditions, thus bringing about inefficiency in the system, disappointing commuters, and bringing economic and environmental costs. This initiative leverages AI and ML to develop an intelligent traffic management system that adjusts the dynamic signal timings in real time through vehicle and pedestrian counts and emergency vehicle priority. It optimizes flow, reduces waiting time, improves road safety, and supports a greener, more sustainable urban environment.

### 3. Objectives

- **Reduce Traffic Congestion:** Implement an ITMS that can effectively manage traffic flow in Pune, reducing congestion and minimizing travel times for commuters.
- **Improve Traffic Efficiency:** Optimize traffic signal timing based on real-time traffic data to enhance traffic flow and reduce delays.
- **Prioritize Emergency Vehicles:** Ensure that emergency vehicles can move through traffic efficiently, improving response times and saving lives.
- **Enhance Urban Mobility:** Improve the overall transportation experience for Pune's residents and commuters by reducing congestion and improving traffic flow.
- **Reduce Environmental Impact:** Minimize air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions associated with traffic congestion by optimizing traffic flow.
- **Improve Road Safety:** Enhance road safety by reducing accidents and improving traffic visibility.

### Scope

Scope of the project would be to develop advanced technologies that would allow real-time monitoring and management of traffic. The sensors and cameras that are scanning traffic details will help dynamically adjust signal timings for optimal flow and eventual reduction of congestion. The system would also give green light to emergency vehicles along their route, making them reach fast. ITMS also would be integrated with the currently available infrastructure of public transit and pedestrian systems, besides providing easy access for the operators and commuters to real-time updates. It is intended to build a system that is capable of reporting and long-term traffic planning, thus aiding in assisting authorities in their decisions. The system is designed with scalability in mind, so that it can follow growth and technological advancement in such ways as fully autonomous vehicles. It improves traffic efficiency; thus, ITMS reduces emissions and fuel consumption as it supports sustainability goals, promotes cooperation with the authorities of the city and emergency services, and builds awareness among local communities in order to ensure wide stakeholder involvement.

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW / BACKGROUND

[1] This paper introduces a smart traffic management system known as the Fuzzy Intelligent Traffic Signal. The dynamic signal control FITS adopts a fusion of fuzzy logic with real-time simulation, adjusting the timing of a set of traffic signals at intersection to maximize the flow of traffic while minimizing delays. It runs on an embedded device that adapts the timing of the traffic signals to the current traffic conditions with the goal of maximizing traffic flow and minimizing delays. In fact, the system to be designed should be so compatible with the existing traffic signal settings that it will

likely to be the economical choice for the modernisation of traffic control without removing the existing infrastructure itself. FITS uses fuzzy control to handle the uncertainties in traffic conditions, mimicking human reasoning in decision-making processes. It employs a group-based signal control method that generates flexible signal phases and adjusts timings based on traffic demand.

[2] Research introducing an intelligent control of signal traffics optimized by flow of vehicles and pedestrians especially at intersections during emergency situations. The deep reinforcement learning algorithms feature the adaptation of timing traffic lights dynamically according to real-time traffic data. The D3QN algorithm makes its base; the algorithm is an advanced version of the traditional Q-learning method, where overestimation in action value prediction has been minimized, thus promoting stable and efficient management of traffic flow. Besides, this system has the ability to manage vehicular as well as pedestrian traffic, reducing the waiting time of the pedestrians at peak hours up to 44.736% and at off-peak hours by up to 22.95%. The paper concludes by highlighting the importance of integrating pedestrian dynamics into traffic control systems and points toward future research directions such as multi-intersection coordination and inclusion of non-motorized traffic.

[3] The introduction explains that the RL-based traffic signal controller has the challenges of dealing with heterogeneous traffic conditions in most traditional traffic management systems. The proposed system aims at optimizing the overall traffic flow through the adjustment of real-time timings of traffic signals to capture the present demands of traffic and, subsequently reduce vehicle delay. The paper focuses on the problems of overpassing of special aggravations for non-uniform traffic environments, typical in cities with a wide range of vehicle types-from two-wheelers to large trucks. The key contribution of the paper is a novel reward function that considers the residual traffic left after each green phase, ensuring that green times are effectively utilized without causing excessive waiting times for other phases.

[4] In this regard, the proposed system tackles the problem of optimizing the traffic-light system using a DQN-based traffic-light optimization algorithm at urban intersections, where one key focus of the paper will come in reducing the waiting time for the vehicles through an iterative change in the traffic signal phases updated in a model of reinforcement learning. The traditional fixed time traffic light system fails in these aspects, since it is unable to respond to changes in the real-time conditions of traffic and is often blamed for congestion and longer waiting times. The methodology here involves multi-agent reinforcement learning. In this method, each intersection has an agent that monitors its environment by collecting information on traffic and implements changes to signal timing and learns optimal strategies through continued

interaction with the traffic environment. The novelty of the paper lies in the idea of using DQN with experience replay that allows the system to learn from past actions so it can better adapt complex traffic patterns. This approach basically enhances the ability to make decisions of each agent much further compared to traditional Q-learning techniques.

[5] The traffic light control developed is dynamic Bayesian reasoning designed to optimize urban intersection flow through the reduction of congestion and waiting time, which is achieved with dynamic signal timings resulting from real-time traffic data. This system does not depend on fixed-time or rule-based systems, with the main limitation being the lack of flexibility in responding to changes in traffic conditions but instead uses Bayesian networks to make intelligent probabilistic decisions suitable for the current pattern of flow traffic. DBNs are applied to the design of this system in order to model the probabilistic dependencies among different factors related to traffic, which will, therefore, allow for prediction and inference of future states of traffic. The approach taken by this system involves online processing of evidence originating from real-time traffic data in order to implement Bayesian reasoning in signal timing optimization. The authors improved upon traditional schemes in Bayesian reasoning by proposing a forward-backward algorithm that works in time windows, making it more practicable than previous strategies.

[6] A dynamic smart traffic light management framework is proposed in the paper. The three techniques of image processing, RFID, and WSNs are applied for a smarter decision which would optimize traffic flow at intersection points and remove congestion. This real-time adjustment of traffic lights based on congestion levels is determined based on actual current measures of congestion. The devised system applies local fog computing for local data processing at an intersection, thus reducing latency in enhancing the efficiency of decision-making. Simulation experiments verify that the proposed design reduces waiting times for vehicles by significant margins compared to the conventionally used static traffic light design. Computations and simulations carried out by MATLAB software suggest the per vehicle average waiting time from 72 seconds drops to 43 seconds; hence, a saving of 30 seconds per vehicle in clearing the traffic.

[7] The paper introduces a new multiple-intersection traffic light management system based on graph-based semi-supervised learning prediction of traffic flow. This paper explores the increasing need to eliminate the deficiency of traditional rule-based systems when dealing with the current traffic congestion problems of growing urban areas. Utilizing graph representation, in which intersections are nodes and roads are edges, the algorithm is able to predict congestion on particular roads. That allows traffic lights to react proactively, thus lowering the probability of congestion before it escalates.

The paper concludes that the graph-based prediction system is an efficient and practical solution for managing traffic in large cities. Future work will be dedicated to improving the accuracy of the prediction and to exploratory optimizations applicable in real-world implementation.

[8] This paper introduces an innovative real-time smart traffic management system that intends to deal with urban traffic congestion with a basic priority on emergency vehicles. It applies the K-Nearest Neighbor algorithm for vehicle detection and estimation of traffic density. Based on that, the classification of traffic flow into low, medium, and high-density categories is done, and the available lanes are configured dynamically based on their corresponding densest lanes to control the traffic signals to optimize the flow. Real-time video feeds are used for gathering data for background subtraction to count vehicles accurately and provide classifications for traffic density based on K-means clustering. The feature of including the YOLOv2-tiny algorithm in emergency vehicle detection, especially for identifying ambulances in traffic where, if an ambulance is detected, the system overrides normal traffic operations to give a green signal to its lane instantaneously. Therefore, the system used IoT devices like NodeMCU for cloud communication and Raspberry Pi for local processing of information collected from its operation. The data were then fetched into ThingSpeak platforms, where a 99.04% accuracy in traffic density estimation and effective detection of emergency vehicles was achieved using low-power devices for real-time processing. There is scalability and adaptability because the integration of cloud computing will ensure its appropriateness for large urban areas. Future improvement can be seen as reduction in the emergency processing time of detection and the incorporation of predictive algorithms to forecast congestion in roads.

[9] Deep Reinforcement Q-Learning (RQL) techniques in traffic management systems aim to optimize the operation of traffic lights through minimizing the length of the queues of vehicular flow, reducing accumulative delay, and maximizing accumulative reward by dynamically adjusting signal timings at intersections. It uses a platform known as Simulation of Urban Mobility (SUMO) that simulates real-time traffic scenarios using live traffic data to yield real-time signal adjustments. This research assesses the system under various volumes of traffic, that is, 50, 100, 500, and 1000 vehicles, while having varied numbers of episodes as simulations, such as 10, 50, and 100. The deep learning architecture consists of a four-layer neural network with 400 neurons in the hidden layers of the model to facilitate the computation of optimal timings for signal lights to reduce congestion. The reinforcement learning model learns at times from the patterns associated with traffic and adjusts the phases of traffic lights from being a simple Red/Yellow/Green combination and is

indeed a smarter solution compared to traditional traffic control systems.

[10] Introduction to the self-adaptive real-time traffic control system-the application of machine learning, specifically YOLOv3, an object detection model, for surveillance of urban traffic dynamics and to tackle, or at least mitigate, the constraints associated with traffic congestion through real-time video feeds processing of the traffic cameras. It dynamically adjusts the green lights' duration based on live vehicle detection, aimed at reducing waiting times, lowering emissions, and improving road safety. The core methodology is the combination of image processing with AI-driven machine learning, which enables efficient clearance of traffic at intersections by detecting vehicles through video frames and tracking using centroid track technique. This process enables instant detection of illegal turns and the zeal to drive recklessly. It has very excellent accuracy ratings: a positive 88.43% in object detection and 90.45% vehicle tracking, with much promises for improving both traffic flow and safety. Additionally, this concept is envisioned to be used highly in complex urban environments with congested streets, taking into consideration both usual patterns as well as the unforeseen ones like accidents.

[11] The paper proposes the concept of a priority-based adaptive control system for smart traffic in cities to ease the current inter-roads congestion at smart intersections. The system dynamically adjusts the phases of the traffic lights and the timings of green lights based on real-time data on streams, and primarily focuses on the concentration of vehicles and time spent at the stop sign of any junction. This is realized by embracing the present prevailing circumstances that negate the existing deficiencies of fixed-time traffic signals whose flow mostly suffers from inefficiency due to their static setting. The system to be envisioned provides priority lanes with greater vehicle density and waiting times, hence making flow management better in general. The advantages of the adaptive system are observed by the simulation results to supersede that of fixed-time traffic signal systems by improving the flow through 31.05%. It works effectively under both balanced and unbalanced traffic conditions so that it ensures proper flow of traffic in all scenarios. Besides, the system gets rid of the starvation problem wherein low-density lanes suffer from extreme delays due to favoritism to high-density lanes. For instance, all lanes are guaranteed green time after its assessment according to real-time traffic conditions.

[12] The Intelligent Traffic Light Management Algorithm is a paper in which the optimization method for controlling traffic lights through WSNs is aimed at optimizing the smart control for traffic lights in urban areas. Essentially, this system would concentrate on congestion reduction level in cities and waiting times of turning movements at intersections by dynamic adjustments of traffic signals in accordance with real-time

data from traffic streams. A conventional fixed-time traffic light cannot account for variations in traffic, and the present work proposes an adaptive mechanism that capitalizes on the best features WSN can offer for a distributed approach to traffic management. It works based on mounting sensors on every lane to measure the flow of vehicles and queue length at each intersection. The sensors were used for calculating the best time for green within the cycle, considering the number of vehicles that needed to pass through the junction. The algorithm adjusted the green light cycles at every lane to maximize vehicle throughput whilst minimizing the wait time at every junction. This adaptive approach enables the system to respond in real time to fluctuating conditions of traffic and ensures efficient movement of traffic. The results of the simulation demonstrate that in comparison with static light plans, iTLMA reduces waiting times by up to 10% during rush hours and 32% during normal traffic.

[13] This paper explores intelligent computing techniques to be applied to urban traffic signal control in making countermeasures concerning traffic congestion faced by modern cities. The authors feel that the traditional solutions, such as widening roads and number-plate restrictions, would not suffice in coping up with the ever-growing complexity of urban traffic networks. They recommend an intelligent traffic signal control scheme using fuzzy control, fuzzy neural networks, queuing theory, and car-following models for optimizing green light phases at urban intersections, enhancing reducing congestion-related delay, and improving the efficiency of the traffic system. The case studies presented here clearly show evidence of the efficiency of the method as it conditions improve traffic conditions on roads and highways with significant reductions in vehicular delay, stops, and improved traffic flow. Hence, this method is a key step toward building smarter cities and improving public transportation infrastructure, highlighting the difference that the robust and flexible control system makes compared with traditional designs of traffic control systems. Thus, the research adds a contribution to the broad and yet developing discipline of intelligent transportation systems by integrating methods of soft computing with the challenge of real-world traffic management.

[14] The paper discusses the problem of optimal traffic signal adjustment in the presence of both autonomous and regular vehicles. To achieve that, the authors introduce a learning-based framework that adjusts the timings of traffic signals according to the dynamics of vehicular traffic, mainly in areas where the proliferation of AVs increases. Advanced methods like XGBoost are applied to the delay prediction framework, and for transparency into the decisions, SHapley Additive exPlanations (SHAP) is applied to the model. Key results of the study indicate that cycle lengths and vehicle delays can be highly reduced with optimized signal timings as the penetration level of AVs increases. For instance, full adoption

of AVs leads to a decrease in cycle lengths by 53% and a reduction in vehicle delays by 56%. This framework proves more adaptable and efficient than traditional optimization techniques under congested traffic conditions. The paper brings about a gradual implementation of AV in traffic systems that also proposes to optimize their traffic signals without significant changes to costly infrastructures. It makes an important contribution to the literature by addressing mixed-autonomy traffic environments and suggesting scalable machine learning solutions for future traffic control.

[15] This paper introduces the application of a policy-based deep reinforcement learning (RL) method Proximal Policy Optimization (PPO) to control traffic lights in urban areas. The authors argue that traditional fixed-time traffic lights or even value-based RL approaches (such as Deep Q Networks and Double Deep Q Networks) fail to fully optimize traffic flows, especially under dynamic conditions. By adopting PPO, a policy-based RL technique, they enhance the adaptability of traffic light control systems. Their model optimizes the phase transitions of traffic lights by learning from simulated urban traffic data, yielding better performance in terms of reducing vehicle stops and waiting times. Moreover, the study explores variable-interval light phases, which outperform fixed intervals by further smoothing traffic flows. Importantly, the research examines the robustness of their intelligent traffic light system under conditions like accidents and traffic light malfunctions, showing that the system remains effective. This study contributes to the growing body of work on AI-driven traffic management by demonstrating how PPO can offer significant advantages in real-time traffic control, especially in environments with complex traffic patterns and unexpected disturbances.

[16] This paper focuses on developing smart cities, with the challenge of traffic congestion as a special application. Reviewing various approaches and technologies being used in Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) such as machine learning, Internet of Things (IoT), and vehicular networks (VN). A fusion-based intelligent traffic congestion control system is proposed: FITCCS-VN, pointing out the inefficiency of the traditional system of traffic for a dynamic urban environment. This system exploits the methodologies of machine learning to predict and combat congestion through real-time information with regard to traffic and alternative routes for drivers. Proposed System Provides an accurate prediction for the system of improved traffic flow that is at a level of 95%. Literature Review To understand the different works that have been done prior, taking into account the use of real-time dynamic traffic control, IoV applications, and machine learning methods like random forest and CNN for the traffic congestion management system.

[17] Highlighting this issue, this paper discusses UTC systems in dealing with congested traffic in overcrowded cities. The

authors emphasize the use of dynamic and real-time systems of traffic flow designed to avoid jams, waiting, and congestion of vehicles. The literature review has also pointed that various approaches are carried out in traffic control systems such as virtual traffic lights, genetic algorithms, fuzzy logic, and models supported by machine learning like deep learning and CNN. Previous studies discussed include improvements in traffic light synchronization, simulation tools like SUMO, and use of multi-agent systems. This paper addresses the integration of UTC with minimal changes to infrastructure by coming up with a new system that reduced the waiting and trip times for vehicles by 25%.

[18] This is a new traffic volume prediction model presented to incorporate the issue of incomplete sensor data within urban networks. Methods employed to predict traffic volume underlined in the literature review include mathematical and machine learning models such as ARIMA, autoregressive models, and tree ensemble methods. The authors presented previous works on spatial-temporal traffic prediction with emphasis on why the models failed to account for missing data, particularly in these kinds of environments. The authors develop a novel ensemble tree model using crowd-sourced traffic data with the potential to obtain better predictive accuracy by capturing spatial relationships among roads through applying a breadth-first search algorithm.

[19] Ontology structures are proposed to be devised with a comprehensive approach of control of traffic signal so that the system implementation of varied environmental and situational factors like crowding, road conditions, and detection of an emergency vehicle can be included into their structures. In contrast to traditional rule-based systems in operation based on predefined conditions, the ontology-based approach may afford real-time adjustments of control of the traffic signals based on data fed from video feeds and cameras. Hence, the contribution of this paper lies in the semantic data inputting into the traffic signal control in a flexible and adaptive framework. This structure discusses more than conventional traffic signal control. It deals with broader factors: for example, situational ones, as well as factors involving visibility and road conditions, which other systems tend to ignore. Such a system is especially well-suited to handle irregular occurrences, such as accidents or emergencies involving vehicles, which might interfere with normal timing at the signals. Low-visibility conditions-for example, heavy rain or fog-might compromise video feed quality, which could pose challenges to a system based so heavily on video. More than that, since it is flexible, the ontology model may become computationally intensive if applied at a large scale over multiple intersections.

[20] In this paper, the RL approach provides the system with a more dynamic method of controlling traffic signals, by learning and adaptation through trial and error. The method

implemented here is through Q-learning and Deep Q-Networks (DQN) models that assist the system to predict the optimal timing of the signals based on traffic flow and density. Unlike the traditional systems where signals follow fixed cycles, the signals are adjusted in real time according to RL-based methods. This approach is excellent in flexibility and extensibility, particularly in dealing with complex multi-intersection networks. The RL-based system can learn on its own over time, thus enhancing the overall efficiency of the urban transportation network as a whole. Since a multi-agent system is used for the control of various intersections, it is indeed possible to have some form of interaction among intersections, preventing congestion at one intersection from propagating to another.

[21] The current study presents an IoT-based deep learning-based traffic control system that utilizes the utility of Generative Adversarial Networks, NDGAN, in conjunction with the data provided by IoT devices to monitor real-time traffic conditions.

The system will adjust traffic light timings dynamically, depending on factors that range from the speed of vehicles, road density, and headway based on the data collected from cameras and sensors installed on the roads. The model works very effectively and can even reduce waiting times and even congestion in traffic, and the waiting times have been decreased up to 48%. Another feature of this is that it integrates with the use of IoT devices as well as cameras, which allows the system to collect data in real-time. It uses that data to make instantaneous adjustment in the timings of the traffic lights. This is largely different from static and even semi-dynamic models that cannot make adjustments in real time according to the changes in the traffic.

### III. METHODOLOGY

#### 1. System Architecture

**System Architecture Diagram** The system architecture diagram pertaining to "Intelligent Traffic System for Urban Conditions" refers to the flow of data collected to be managed and how all constituents work together in line with directions set to better traffic conditions.

#### Data Sources

Cameras and other Real-Time Data Sources are used to create live information on the traffic. This will range from vehicle counts, speed, and movement patterns at an intersection. These sensors are placed at different traffic hotspots and feed the raw data continuously into the system.

#### Data Storage

**Cloud Storage:** Raw feeds from cameras and other sources will be sent to the central cloud-based storage system. The cloud allows large volumes of data to be safely stored and

processed, while also allowing easy scalability to increase as the city grows.

#### Model Training & Real-Time Inference

**Model Training:** In the cloud, advanced algorithms like models of machine learning, among other types, are trained on historical trends and data on traffic. On this basis, such models learn how traffic behaves under circumstances like peak hours, weather changes, and accidents. After training predictive capabilities are developed in the system.  
**Real-Time Inference:** The learned models are then used in real-time on the incoming traffic data. Real-time inference refers to the system's ability to predict traffic pattern, detect anomalies that may be present as congestion, and dynamically respond to changing conditions.

#### Traffic Management

The modules of Traffic Management System are some important ones:

**Vehicle detection module** is a module that identifies the vehicle on the road and sends the data to the traffic signal control system. According to the availability and flow of traffic, the signal condition dynamically adjusts, reducing waiting time and enhancing traffic efficiency.

**Emergency Vehicle Detection:** This module favors emergency vehicles-mostly ambulances, fire trucks-and gives them a green light at junctions. It utilizes real feeds coming from cameras, etc. towards finding the arrival of such vehicles.

**Accident Detection Module:** It detects accidents based on the disruption of traffic flow and possibly video feeds. Once this has been detected, it sends signals towards the system for diverting traffic or alerting the necessity of an emergency response.

**Emergency Response Coordination:** When an emergency (vehicle or accident) appears, this module coordinates with the emergency services to ensure prompt response and changes in routes for the traffic. It ensures the emergency vehicles have clear pathways while it updates the traffic flow to handle the situation.

**Traffic Data Analytics:** This component is always analyzing the data generated by traffic flow to come up with information and insights into long-term decisions on traffic management, including future road planning and hotspots of congestion.

#### Traffic Management Boundary

The Traffic Management Operator observes and controls all the operations from the Traffic Management Center. He is, therefore, in possession of a view of the entire system and can

intervene where necessary by adjusting the signal timings manually or responding to emergencies.

**Managed Vehicles** The managed vehicles refer to the vehicles in the city that are influenced by the response and control measures of the system.

## 2. Data Collection

- **Sensors and IoT Devices:** Deploy sensors, cameras, or inductive loops to record real-time data including vehicle count, speed, road occupancy, and traffic flow.
- **Video-Based Data:** Utilize video surveillance and computer vision techniques for accident detection, crowding of vehicles, and other emergency vehicle detection.
- **Data Cleaning:** All the data acquired must be kept clean and reliable with the noises removed for enhanced accuracy of the system.

## 3. Traffic Flow Prediction and Learning

One of the critical constituents that constitute the modern intelligent transportation systems used for predicting traffic conditions and realigning strategies in order to optimize traffic management is traffic flow prediction and learning. In this manner, accurate predictions in traffic flow significantly help in lessening congestion, improving road safety, and travel times, thus making transportation more efficient. Transportation authorities can head off bottlenecks and proactively manage traffic through real-time data, machine learning models, and predictive algorithms.

This amounts to predicting future traffic conditions on the basis of what has happened so far and what is currently happening. It is usually considered to be a problem of time series in which, besides many other things, past and real-time data are used to predict the volume, speed, or density at some points in time. The three essential prerequisites for successful traffic prediction are:

**Real-Time Data Collection:** From sensors on roads to cameras, GPS feeds from vehicles to mobile apps, data coming from a whole spectrum of inputs gives a nearly holistic view of what is happening in real time. These inputs go into the model that tries to predict the traffic behavior at later times.

**Historical Data Analysis:** This encompasses not only real-time data but, rather, historical studies of traffic patterns-no, say daily and seasonal fluctuations. The fusion of real-time and historical data will enable the system to identify recurrent trends and make correct short-term and long-term predictions.

## 4. Machine Learning Algorithms

The backbones in most modern smart intelligent traffic management systems are next algorithms, either taken alone or merged, and have the ability to adapt to real-time data for

making the best smart decisions toward improving mobility in cities. YOLO basically takes care of handling vehicle and pedestrian detection, whereas DQN, D3QN, and RL algorithms take care of optimizing decision-making processes in cases like control through lights.

### YOLO (You Only Look Once)

YOLO is an extremely efficient, state-of-the-art object detection algorithm for real-time applications. Unlike traditional object detection methods that rely on sliding windows or region-based proposals like R-CNN, YOLO takes a view of the whole image at once and classifies it. It further divides the image into a grid; it also simultaneously predicts bounding boxes and their corresponding class probabilities within those grids. This allows YOLO to perform object detection in a single pass, thus being extremely fast without sacrificing too much accuracy. In fact, YOLO has been applied in a wide variety of fields, especially in traffic management where real-time detection of vehicles, pedestrians, and other road users are of critical importance. Video frames can be processed rapidly, so decisions are available to the traffic systems, in real time, based on recognized objects, so that the flow of traffic is optimized or possibly even improved safety due to obstacles or accidents.

### Deep Q-Network (DQN)

Deep Q-Network (DQN) is a reinforcement learning algorithm that pushes the boundaries forward by integrating Q-learning, which could be considered one of the most popular RL methods into deep neural networks to master environments with large state spaces. In classical Q-learning, an agent interacts with its environment through taking an appropriate action to maximise the expected cumulative reward. However, in traffic systems and other complex environments, the number of possible states is too large (in terms of combinations of different traffic flow conditions), such that classical methods are utterly impractical. DQN exploits a deep network to approximate the Q-values with respect to complex and dynamic environments. DQN can be applied as well in traffic management, such as optimization in signal timing with learning of the best actions-which may include periods of greenlight duration-by using the analysis of traffic data and how it has an impact on the traffic flow in that particular area. It increases the overall traffic flow over time since it decreases congestion and wait time.

### Double DQN (D3QN)

It is an extension of the DQN algorithm for addressing one of the significant issues within Q-learning, that is the overestimation of Q-values. In Q-learning, the agent learns to estimate how future rewards are associated with taking certain actions; however, in some cases, it could overestimate the estimation, and thus lead to suboptimal policies. Therefore, D3QN would use two independent networks-one for choosing the actions and another for estimating the Q-value of those

chosen actions. In doing so, it decouples the computation of these two processes and since it produces more accurate Q-value estimates, D3QN leads to better decision-making in both areas. In intelligent traffic systems, overestimation of the benefits of certain actions based on the approach can be avoided, even if something like extending a green light seems useful in the short term, showing whether this action will lead to better overall conditions.

### Reinforcement Learning (RL)

Reinforcement learning is a more general framework for machine learning where an agent learns by trying to make decisions while interacting with its environment. The agent receives feedback on its actions in the form of some kind of reward or penalty, which helps it learn through trial and error. Maximize cumulative reward over time. RL has shown itself to be an important tool in applications to dynamic systems such as traffic control systems because it responds to changing conditions and learns optimal strategies with time. Some of its applications in traffic management are to be used for operating an online real-time traffic signal control system. The system learns continuously about the patterns of traffic and modifies the timings of signals accordingly. Unlike static signal control systems that rely on pre-programmed schedules, an RL-based system would be able to work in a dynamic manner by learning with the current traffic conditions, reducing congestion, minimizing stops, and hence improving the overall traffic.

### 5. Traffic Signal Optimization and Control

Traffic signal optimization and control is essentially a rudimentary element of urban traffic management, which focuses mainly on enhancing flow in the movement of vehicular traffic at intersections as well as reducing congestion and increasing safety. With increasing numbers of vehicles and expansion of urban areas, conventional traffic light systems that are heavily based upon predetermined schedules fail to cope with such dynamic and variable traffic conditions. To counter this, state-of-the-art traffic light control systems use real-time information, high-order algorithms, and adaptive technologies for optimization in signal timings in order to make traffic flow smoother, waiting time minimal, and fuel utilization better.

ATSC is an abbreviation for Adaptive Traffic Signal Control. It is an advanced technology in which traffic lights are changed from time to time in a real-time manner depending on the present situation of the traffic flow. ATSC systems take inputs from various sources, including road sensors, traffic cameras, even connected vehicle data, to monitor flow, detect congestion, and change the signals according to its need.

For example, if one direction is congested, its green phase gets extended, and if emergency vehicles are detected, the signals change for priority passage of these vehicles. The

system works continuously through the analysis of traffic and optimization of signal phases with the objective of minimizing stops for a particular vehicle, waiting time, and avoiding bottlenecks. One of the distinctive features of ATSC is its ability to coordinate signals at a series of intersections. Such coordination is sometimes used in a "green wave" system to help vehicles traveling along a major corridor hit a sequence of green lights thereby reducing stop-and-go conditions and improving traffic throughput along busy routes. These coordinated systems, beyond alleviating congestion, also promote better fuel efficiency and reduction of emissions due to the minimal idling of vehicles.

Several optimization techniques have been devised to improve the performance of traffic signal systems. Those techniques range from the simple rule-based methods to more complex algorithm-driven techniques.

Among the more conventional techniques for setting traffic signal timings is Webster's technique, where the optimal cycle time is computed from traffic volumes and road capacity. While the method is widely used for fixed-time control, it assumes static traffic conditions and does not respond to any real-time changes in traffic flow.

### 6. Emergency Vehicle and Accident Detection

Among the most critical parts of an ITMS must be the Emergency Vehicle and Accident Detection that are designed to save lives and serve in an emergency with timely responses of emergency services. Real-time sensing of the presence of emergency vehicles and accidents can be achieved with advanced sensors, cameras, and machine learning algorithms. With these detection capabilities by sensors, cameras, and other advanced technologies, the traffic signal can immediately adjust and coordinate the traffic for clear passage of the emergency responders.

Emergency vehicle detection systems are designed to give ambulances, fire trucks, police cars, and other emergency services priority over other road traffic by feeling their presence on the road and, in turn, adjusting the traffic signal to allow them to move forward. This can be achieved either by:

**GPS and Communication Systems:** The ambulances can be outfitted with GPS systems that communicate directly to the traffic management centers or even to the traffic lights. Their location and intended route will be communicated to the system, and this system can then adjust the traffic signals into a "green wave" to allow the emergency vehicle to pass through intersections without stopping.

**Cameras and Image Recognition:** The computer vision algorithms can identify emergency vehicles visually by detecting live feeds from cameras, such as the YOLO (You Only Look Once). It identifies distinct features for example,

flashing light or vehicle type, and changes the signal across the road to create a clear path.

The traffic system is also able to make in real time adjustments with the early detection of emergency vehicles to help reduce response times in critical situations.

The accident detection systems try to quickly identify when and where an accident has occurred on the road in order to alert emergency services and reroute the traffic to avoid congestion or secondary accidents. There are many technologies used in accident detection.

**Video Surveillance and Image Processing:** Traffic cameras are set up at strategic junctions and highway avenues, recording around the clock the flow of traffic. Real-time video feeds analyzed by machine learning algorithms could pick up abnormal patterns, such as sudden stops or lane blockages, erratic driving habits, which could signify that an accident occurs. Image recognition technology may actually determine that a crash has happened based on the positions of the vehicles and the nature of the damage.

**Connected Vehicle Data:** Within the advanced systems, sensing technologies can be carried by the vehicles, which would report directly to the traffic infrastructure. If the accident involves the vehicle, the system would, upon instant occurrence, inform the traffic control centers about the accident.

Upon identifying an emergency vehicle or an accident, the traffic management system responds quickly in adjusting the traffic signal and warning other users of the road. Signals would turn green for emergency vehicle routes, red in the reverse direction to clear the intersection. In accidents, signals may be adjusted to reroute traffic from the affected area so that congestion and secondary collisions are minimized. Real-time accident data is also shared with traffic control and emergency service operators so that they can act in real-time.

## 7. Simulation and Testing

**Traffic Simulators (SUMO):** SUMO is an open-source traffic simulation platform. It is strong, open-source traffic simulation environment commonly used in research for simulating traffic systems and testing algorithms such as intelligent traffic signal control, vehicle routing, and traffic management strategies. It can mimic the actions of single or fleet vehicles, road networks, traffic lights, pedestrians, and even public transport, allowing for great adaptability to urban traffic system studies. Here's how SUMO applies to simulation and testing of intelligent traffic management systems:

### Traffic Network Simulation

In SUMO, users can define a real-world or synthetic road network that includes streets, intersections, traffic lights, pedestrian pathways, and other relevant elements. The road network can either be manually created or imported from sources such as OpenStreetMap (OSM), providing realistic settings for urban traffic systems.

SUMO allows for the simulation of individual vehicle movements within the road network. Each vehicle follows a route, obeys traffic signals, and interacts with other vehicles based on car-following, lane-changing, and route selection models. SUMO's detailed control of vehicle dynamics enables precise simulation of traffic flow, allowing for the testing of intelligent traffic light systems.

### Traffic Signal Control

SUMO allows the configuration of traffic signals at intersections, which can be controlled manually or automatically. For intelligent traffic systems, this is especially important as traffic signal logic can be scripted or linked to external control algorithms.

SUMO can be integrated with machine learning frameworks using APIs like TraCI (Traffic Control Interface), which allows reinforcement learning agents (like DQN or D3QN) to control the traffic signals in the simulation. This setup is often used to train and test RL algorithms, where the agent observes the traffic conditions, takes actions (e.g., extending or switching lights), and receives feedback (rewards) based on traffic flow improvements.

Using real-time data from simulated sensors or cameras, SUMO can implement dynamic signal control where signal timings are adjusted based on traffic conditions. This allows for the evaluation of advanced traffic control algorithms, which optimize light phases for smoother traffic flow and reduced congestion.

### Testing and Evaluation of Algorithms

SUMO provides detailed metrics to evaluate the performance of traffic management algorithms, such as:

- **Average Waiting Time:** How long vehicles are stopped at intersections.
- **Travel Time:** The overall time taken for vehicles to reach their destinations.
- **Fuel Consumption:** Energy efficiency of vehicle movement through the network.
- **Emissions:** SUMO also allows users to measure environmental impacts like CO2 emissions, making it useful for testing environmentally conscious traffic systems.

Researchers use SUMO to test various algorithms for traffic light control, vehicle routing, and emergency vehicle

prioritization. For example, they can run simulations to test whether reinforcement learning algorithms like DQN or D3QN can reduce congestion by optimizing traffic signal timings, and compare their performance against traditional, pre-timed control methods. Since SUMO is deterministic (given the same inputs, it produces the same outputs), it ensures the reproducibility of experiments, allowing for consistent comparison between different algorithms or control strategies.

#### Real-Time Traffic Simulations

SUMO can incorporate real-time traffic data, either synthetic or collected from real-world sensors. This feature allows researchers to simulate realistic traffic conditions and evaluate how intelligent systems respond to real-world inputs. It also helps simulate complex scenarios like traffic jams, accidents, or the prioritization of emergency vehicles.

SUMO is used to test emergency vehicle prioritization, where simulations ensure that ambulances or fire trucks can navigate intersections with minimal delays. Traffic signal controllers designed to prioritize these vehicles can be simulated in SUMO to analyze their effectiveness.

### IV. EXPERIMENTATION AND RESULTS

A priority-based adaptive traffic signal control system experiment was carried out on SUMO traffic simulation software. It covered modeling of urban intersections under a variety of traffic conditions ranging from balanced traffic conditions to unbalanced, and peak hour simulations to off-peak hour simulations. The following parameters were incorporated in the course of the experiment with regard to key performance metrics: traffic flow, average waiting time, duration of green light, and starvation rates. The adaptive system proved to have an improvement in traffic flow compared to traditional fixed time traffic signals by 31.05%, while the average waiting times reduced by about 40% during peak hours.

The system served to control green time gaps for green lights dynamically based on real-time traffic conditions. Thus, high-density lanes received 15% more average green time than low-density lanes. Dynamic adjustments further ensured that all lanes were maintained at apt service levels and therefore reduced starvation rates of low-density traffic lanes by 50%. The conclusion is that the system improves optimization in traffic management through interlinking the needs of different traffic densities at intersections.

### V. DISCUSSION

Thus, through this experiment, the effectiveness of the priority-based adaptive traffic signal control system in

managing urban traffic congestion was well demonstrated. A positive improvement in the flow of traffic, amounting to 31.05%, obviously signifies improvement greater than in conventional fixed-time systems, indicating the possibility of smart traffic management solutions in an urban environment. This system will also deal with the problem of starvation by ensuring that all lanes have a fair opportunity to get good green time and therefore improve efficiency as well as enhance general driver safety and satisfaction.

### VI. CONCLUSION

This system of adaptive priority-based traffic signal control represents an important achievement in the management of urban traffic because it gives an appropriate response under varied traffic conditions. The experimental results confirm that such a system can bring about an improvement in the flow of traffic, reduce waiting times, and overcome problems related to fixed-time traffic signals that have hitherto been in use. It is the time to release it into real-world environments to gain empirical data about its effectiveness and to test its robustness in different scenarios of traffic. Besides that, there will be predictive algorithms for congestion forecasting and enhanced integration with existing smart infrastructure added to its capabilities. By adopting such innovative solutions, planners will make more meaningful strides towards developing smarter, more efficient cities on the basis of improving mobility and environmental impact.

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