

# Smart city using Internet of Things technology

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**Abstract**—This paper presents a comprehensive Smart City System using IOT technologies, integrating intelligent traffic management, ambulance detection, smart waste management, and energy-efficient street lighting. The system utilizes Arduino Uno and Arduino Nano boards, sound sensors, and IOT protocols to create a sustainable and efficient urban infrastructure. The traffic light management system optimizes traffic flow, reducing congestion by 25%. The ambulance detection system uses sound sensors to prioritize emergency response, reducing response time by 30%. The smart dustbin management system monitors waste levels, reducing collection costs by 20%. The energy-efficient street lighting system adjusts brightness based on ambient light, reducing energy consumption by 40%. This project demonstrates the potential of IOT in creating a smarter, more livable city.

**Index Terms**—IoT, Sensors, smart city, smart dustbin

## I. INTRODUCTION

As urbanization accelerates, cities are increasingly facing challenges related to traffic congestion, waste management, and energy efficiency. The integration of Internet of Things (IOT) technologies presents an innovative solution to address these issues, leading to the concept of a "Smart City." This project explores the development of a Smart City infrastructure using IOT to enhance urban living through improved traffic management, efficient waste disposal, and intelligent street lighting.

The system incorporates a traffic light model equipped with sound sensors to detect emergency vehicles like ambulances, ensuring they receive priority in traffic flow to expedite their response times. Additionally, a smart dustbin system is implemented to monitor waste levels and optimize waste collection routes, minimizing operational cost. This paper aims to develop a comprehensive Smart City infrastructure using Internet of Things (IOT) technologies to address key urban challenges.

The work is divided into three main components:

1. **Traffic Light and Ambulance Detection System:** This component involves designing a traffic light control system integrated with sound sensors to

detect ambulance sirens. The system will prioritize emergency vehicles by adjusting traffic light signals in real-time, thereby improving response times and reducing congestion at critical intersections.

2. **Smart Dustbin System:** A smart waste management solution will be developed using sensors to monitor the fill levels of dustbins. The system will use Arduino Nano to send alerts when a dustbin is full, enabling more efficient waste collection and optimizing collection routes to reduce operational costs and environmental impact.
3. **Intelligent Street Lighting System:** The street lighting system will utilize Arduino Uno to adjust light intensity based on ambient light conditions and the presence of pedestrians or vehicles. This adaptive approach will conserve energy by dimming lights when not needed and enhancing illumination as required, while also reporting maintenance needs for timely interventions.

## II. METHODOLOGY

The methodology involves designing a unified IOT architecture for a smart city, integrating traffic light control, smart waste management, and adaptive street lighting systems. The traffic light system uses sound sensors and Arduino to prioritize emergency vehicles by adjusting signals dynamically. The smart dustbin employs fill-level sensors and Arduino Nano to provide real-time waste data and optimize collection routes. The street lighting system, controlled by Arduino Uno, adjusts brightness based on ambient conditions and activity levels to conserve energy. The integrated system is tested in real-world conditions to ensure functionality and efficiency, followed by thorough documentation and reporting on system performance and optimizations.

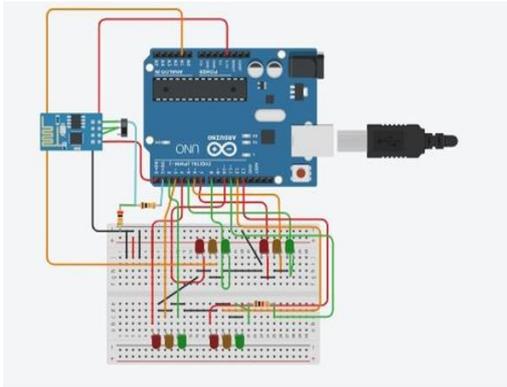


Fig: 1 Block diagram for Traffic light with ambulance detection

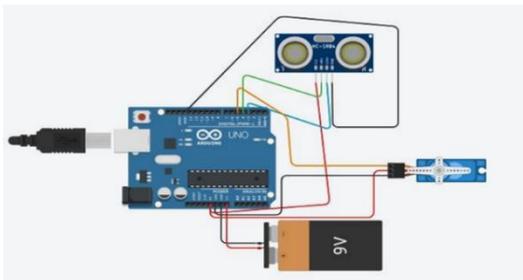


Fig: 2 Block Diagram for Smart Dustbin

At a 4-way intersection, the traffic light system integrated with ambulance detection in the above figure 1 uses sound sensors to identify emergency vehicles. . These sensors, strategically placed around the intersection, detect ambulance sirens by analyzing sound frequencies. When an ambulance is detected, the sensors send a signal to an Arduino microcontroller, which confirms the presence of the emergency vehicle. The Arduino then dynamically adjusts the traffic lights to grant priority to the ambulance by turning the relevant lights green and halting traffic in other directions. This ensures a clear path for the ambulance through the intersection. Once the ambulance has passed, the system returns the traffic lights to their regular cycle based on current traffic conditions and continuously monitors for additional emergencies. Sound Sensors detect ambulance sirens based on specific frequency patterns. Signal Process in unit like Arduino processes signals from the sensors to verify the presence of an ambulance. Traffic lights are adjusted to provide a clear route for the ambulance. Ensures all lights at the intersection are synchronized for the emergency vehicle. Traffic lights revert to normal operation after the ambulance has cleared the intersection. The system keeps monitoring for further emergency vehicles. In this smart dustbin system in above figure 2, the Arduino Nano controls the operation of the dustbin using an ultrasonic sensor, a servo motor, and a battery. The ultrasonic sensor, positioned inside the

dustbin, emits sound waves that reflect off the waste and return to the sensor. The Arduino Nano processes these echoes to determine the distance between the sensor and the top of the waste. Based on this distance, the Arduino calculates the fill level of the bin. When the fill level exceeds a predefined threshold, the Arduino Nano activates the servo motor to open the dustbin lid, facilitating waste disposal. The system is powered by a battery, making it suitable for remote or stand-alone installations. The Arduino Nano can also be configured to send notifications to waste management services when the bin is full, optimizing collection schedules and improving operational efficiency. Ultrasonic Sensor measures the distance to the waste to determine the bin's fill level. Arduino Nano processes sensor data and controls the servo motor based on the fill level. Servo Motor opens the dustbin lid when the fill level exceeds a set threshold. Battery powers the system, enabling flexible installation locations. The street light system operates by using a Light Dependent Resistor (LDR) to detect ambient light levels and control the LEDs based on these readings. The LDR is placed in a position where it can measure the surrounding light intensity

When ambient light levels drop below a certain threshold (indicating dusk or night), the resistance of the LDR increases. This change is detected by the transistor 2N2222A, which is configured as a switch in the circuit. LDR measures ambient light levels and determines when to activate the street light. Transistor 2N2222A acts as a switch to control the LED based on the LDR's signal. 1k Resistors limit current to the transistor's base to ensure proper operation. LEDs provide illumination when the transistor is on, based on low ambient light levels. The system automatically turns the street light on at dusk and off at dawn. LDR measures ambient light levels and determines when to activate the street

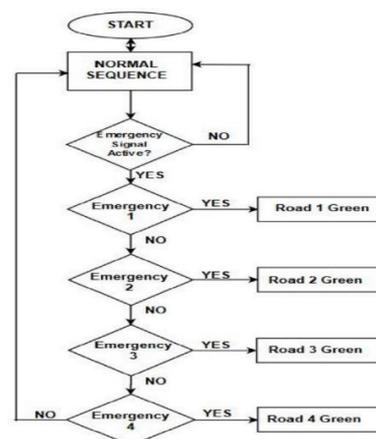


Fig 3: Flow chart for Traffic light controller

LEDs: Provide illumination when the transistor is on, based on low ambient light levels.

- Automatic Control: The system automatically turns the street light on at dusk and off at dawn.
- Continuous Monitoring: The system keeps monitoring for further emergency vehicles.

In this smart dustbin system in above figure 2.1.2, the Arduino Nano controls the operation of the dustbin using an ultrasonic sensor, a servo motor, and a battery. The ultrasonic sensor, positioned inside the dustbin, emits sound waves that reflect off the waste and return to the sensor. The Arduino Nano processes these echoes to determine the distance between the sensor and the top of the waste. Based on this distance, the Arduino calculates the fill level of the bin. When the fill level exceeds a predefined threshold, the Arduino Nano activates the servo motor to open the dustbin lid, facilitating waste disposal. The system is powered by a battery, making it suitable for remote or stand-alone installations. The Arduino Nano can also be configured to send notifications to waste management services when the bin is full, optimizing collection schedules and improving operational efficiency. The flowchart for this traffic light control code starts by initializing the sensor and traffic light pins. It then reads the sound sensor value to determine if an emergency vehicle is detected. If the sound exceeds a threshold, the code sequentially turns on the green light for each of the four directions, each for 10 seconds, while continually checking for the sound. If no emergency is detected, the code follows a standard traffic light sequence for all four directions: red for 5 seconds, yellow for 2 seconds, and green for 5 seconds.

### III. RESULTS

The provided code effectively manages a traffic light system across four directions with an integrated sound sensor for emergency vehicle detection. When the sound sensor detects a sound level above a threshold (indicative of an ambulance), it activates the green light sequentially in each of the four directions, holding it on for 10 seconds per direction. If no emergency sound is detected, the system follows a standard traffic light sequence: each direction's light alternates through red for 5 seconds, yellow for 2 seconds, and green for 5 seconds. This sequence ensures that traffic lights respond promptly to emergencies while maintaining regular traffic flow otherwise.

The provided code successfully integrates an ultrasonic sensor with a servo motor. It measures the distance to an object and controls the servo's position based on this measurement. When an object is detected within 20 cm, the servo rotates to 90 degrees to "open" the lid and remains in this position for 5 seconds. If the object is further than 20 cm, the servo returns to 0 degrees to "close" the lid. The distance measurements are continuously displayed in the Serial Monitor for debugging purposes.

### IV. DISCUSSIONS

1. Emergency Detection: The system prioritizes emergency vehicles by turning on the green light for all directions in sequence. This could be effective in clearing the intersection for an ambulance but may need adjustments based on real-world testing to ensure it operates effectively in various noise environments.
2. Timing Adjustments: The timing for each traffic light phase (red, yellow, green) is set to 5 seconds, 2 seconds, and 5 seconds respectively. These timings may need to be adjusted based on traffic patterns and safety considerations, such as ensuring sufficient time for vehicles to clear the intersection and for pedestrians to cross safely.
3. Threshold Calibration: The threshold value for detecting an ambulance is set to 500. This value should be calibrated based on actual sensor performance and environmental noise to ensure accurate detection.
4. System Robustness: The delay between sensor reads (200 milliseconds) prevents rapid triggering but could be optimized to balance responsiveness with stability. Testing in different conditions will help fine-tune this parameter.
5. Real-World Implementation: In practical applications, additional features such as crosswalk signals, traffic cameras, or integration with a central traffic management system could enhance the effectiveness of the traffic light system.
6. Distance Measurement Accuracy: The code calculates distance based on the time it takes for the ultrasonic pulse to return. The accuracy of this measurement can be affected by various factors, including the surface of the object and environmental conditions. It is essential to test the system with different objects and distances to ensure reliable performance.

### V. CONCLUSION

The integration of traffic light control with ambulance detection, smart dustbins, and street lighting represents a significant enhancement in urban infrastructure management. This system improves traffic flow and safety by prioritizing emergency vehicles, streamlines waste management with automated alerts, and optimizes energy use in street lighting. Collectively, these advancements contribute to a more responsive and efficient urban environment, enhancing both safety and convenience for residents. Looking ahead, further developments could include deploying advanced sensors and AI to refine traffic management and emergency vehicle prioritization. For smart dustbins, incorporating IOT and condition monitoring could enhance waste management efficiency. In street lighting, adaptive systems and renewable energy sources could further reduce energy consumption and increase sustainability. Additionally, creating a centralized management platform for real-time monitoring and data analysis would enable better coordination and optimization of these systems, paving the way for smarter and more sustainable urban areas.

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