

DENSITY BASED TRAFFIC LIGHT CONTROLLER

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ABSTRACT

In present days, vehicular traffic is increasing throughout the world, especially in urban areas. As the number of road user's increase constantly a smart traffic control will become a very important issue in the future. Congestion in traffic is becoming a serious issue. Many vehicles are waiting at the signal for a long time due to this the time consumption is more for the human and there is a lot of problem for the people who go to their work and some to the business works.

In existing system the traffic control is not according to the density, and is not reducing the effect of traffic in urban areas. The traffic signals are prepared previously fixed for some time only after that time the signal will be changed to another signal. This makes the other side roads delay for long time. In some place traffic lights did not work properly.

Vehicle count is measured and accordingly the traffic will be reduced. Emergency vehicles like ambulance and fire are easily allowed from the traffic by using the RF transmitter and receiver. Vehicles like ambulance send the signal to the receiver and make the green signal to glow on that road. This makes the safety of the people in the ambulance and this will be applicable to fire vehicles also. IR sensors are used to avoid the crossings of the road when the red light is on. Traffic updates are monitored with help of density based traffic light controller.

I. INTRODUCTION

Density-based traffic light controllers are intelligent systems that aim to optimize traffic flow by dynamically adjusting the signal timings based on the real-time traffic density at each intersection. These controllers utilize advanced technologies such as sensors, microcontrollers like Arduino, and algorithms to improve traffic efficiency and reduce congestion.

This project aims to improve the efficiency of traffic light system using Arduino based model. The traffic determination is done by IR sensors on each path. Using the details provided by the IR sensor we can guide the traffic signal to work efficiently with the traffic flow. The traffic density on each road determines the change of the timing of the signal. The road with the least traffic is assigned with the red signal and the one with the most traffic is assigned the green signal. In this project we imply the use of IR sensor to work accordingly with Arduino to provide a better and efficient traffic light control system. We propose this paper with the idea of improving the traffic light system resulting in reducing the jamming level henceforth eradicating the problems like loss of fuel, energy dissipation, pollution and time loss. For the betterment of the nation the necessity to improve the traffic light system is very much necessary. The programming for the easy change in traffic light will result in the better movement of vehicles resulting in safe and easy flow of traffic density. This will also help to reduce major accidents like car crashes caused due to confusion of traffic lights due to the drivers and also problems caused due to trespassing of lanes. This system can be helpful to provide better traffic control in urban cities.

The Arduino platform, known for its versatility and ease of use, is commonly employed to develop and implement density-based traffic light controllers. Arduino boards are equipped with various input and output pins making them suitable for interfacing with sensors and controlling traffic lights.

Project Elaboration

The density-based traffic light controller project aims to optimize traffic flow at intersections by dynamically adjusting the signal timings based on real-time vehicle density.

Our project aims at reducing traffic congestion and unwanted long time delay during the traffic light switch over especially when the traffic is very low. It is designed to be implemented in places nearing the junctions where the traffic signals are placed, in order to reduce the congestion in these junctions. It keeps a track of the vehicles in each road and accordingly adjusts the time for each traffic light signal. The higher the number of vehicles on the road the longer will be the time delay allotted for that corresponding traffic light signal. The main purpose of this project is, if there will be no traffic on the other signal, one shouldn't wait for that signal. The system will

skip that signal and will move on the next

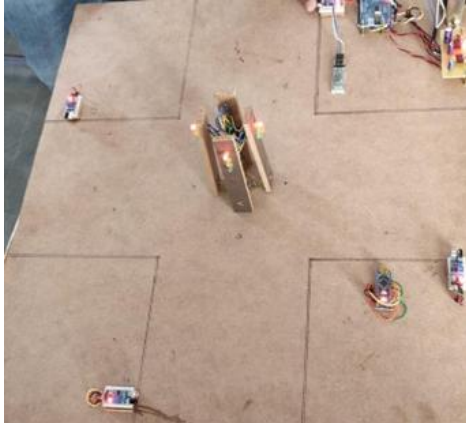


Figure 1. Working model

System Design and Implementation:

The following requirements are considered for the proposed Density based traffic light controller. Here's a system design for a density-based traffic light controller: Traffic Density Measurement:

- **Sensors:** Use sensors such as ultrasonic or infrared sensors to measure the density of vehicles in each lane.
- **Sensor Placement:** Install the sensors at appropriate locations, such as the entrance or exit of each lane, to accurately detect the presence and movement of vehicles.
- **Data Processing:** Capture sensor data and process it to determine the traffic density in each lane. This can be achieved by counting the number of vehicles within a defined range or by analyzing the rate of vehicle detection.
- **Microcontroller:** Utilize an Arduino board or a similar microcontroller as the control unit of the traffic light controller.
- **Input Interface:** Connect the sensors to the microcontroller to receive the traffic density data.
- **Output Interface:** Connect the traffic lights' control circuitry to the microcontroller to control the traffic signals.
- **Thresholds:** Define thresholds for different traffic density levels. For example, low, medium, and high traffic density levels can be established based on the number of vehicles or the rate of vehicle detection.
- **Traffic Light Phases:** Designate different traffic light phases for each traffic density level. For instance, during low density, the green signal may last longer, while during high density, the red signal may be extended.
- **Transition Conditions:** Establish conditions for transitioning between traffic light phases. For example, if the traffic density exceeds a certain threshold, switch from the current phase to the next phase.

Timing Intervals: Determine the duration of each traffic light phase based on the traffic density level. Longer green signals may be assigned to lanes with higher traffic density to facilitate smoother flow.

Synchronization: Synchronize the traffic light signals to ensure coordination among different lanes and optimize traffic flow. This can be achieved by using a master-slave configuration or a centralized control system.

Emergency Detection: Implement a mechanism to detect emergency vehicles, such as an emergency vehicle detection sensor or a manual override switch.

Priority Control: When an emergency vehicle is detected, give it priority by immediately switching the traffic lights to favor its movement. This can be done by interrupting the current traffic light phase and allocating a dedicated phase for the emergency vehicle to pass through.

Power Requirements: Provide a stable power supply for the microcontroller, sensors, and traffic lights. Use appropriate voltage regulators, batteries, or AC power sources.

Safety Considerations: Implement safety features such as surge protection, short circuit protection, and adequate grounding to ensure reliable and safe operation of the system.

Display: Include an interface to display the current traffic light status, traffic density information, and any alerts or notifications.

Monitoring: Implement a monitoring system to collect data on traffic patterns, density, and signal timings for analysis and optimization purposes.

Remember to consider local traffic regulations and standards while designing the system and ensure compliance with any necessary certifications or approvals. This system design provides a high-level overview of a density-based traffic light controller.

Implementation details, such as the specific programming code and hardware components, may vary based on your project requirements and the selected technology.

Block Diagram of Density based traffic light level controller

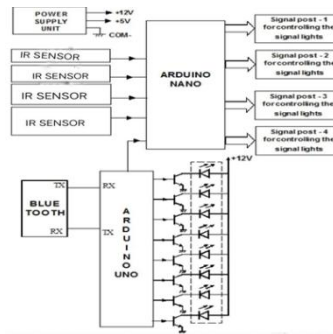


Figure.2 Block diagram of density based traffic light controller

Details of Block Diagram

- A density-based traffic light controller is designed to regulate the flow of traffic at an intersection based on the density of vehicles present on each lane. The controller uses sensors to measure the vehicle density and adjusts the traffic light timings accordingly to optimize traffic flow and minimize congestion. While the specific block diagram can vary depending on the implementation, here are the key components typically involved.
- Vehicle Density Sensors: These sensors are placed at strategic locations near the intersection to detect the presence of vehicles on each lane. They can use various technologies such as infrared sensors, loop detectors, or cameras to monitor the traffic density.
- Microcontroller/Processor: The microcontroller or processor acts as the brain of the traffic light controller. It receives input from the vehicle density sensors and makes decisions based on the programmed logic to control the traffic lights effectively. It executes the control algorithm and sends signals to the traffic light signals.
- Control Algorithm: The control algorithm is responsible for determining the appropriate traffic light timings based on the input from the density sensors. It analyzes the vehicle density data and calculates the optimal timing patterns to allocate green, yellow, and red signals to each lane.
- Traffic Light Signals: The traffic light signals indicate the right-of-way for each lane of traffic. They typically consist of red, yellow, and green lights. The signals are controlled by the microcontroller, which sends signals to activate the appropriate lights based on the control algorithm's decisions.
- Power Supply: A power supply unit provides the necessary electrical power to operate the entire traffic light controller system, including the microcontroller, sensors, and traffic light signals.
- Communication Interface: In some advanced implementations, the traffic light controller may include a communication interface to connect with a central traffic management system or other traffic controllers in the area. This allows for coordination between multiple intersections to further optimize traffic flow.
- User Interface (optional): A user interface may be included in the traffic light controller for configuration and monitoring purposes. It could include buttons, switches, or a graphical display to adjust settings or view system status.
- The block diagram illustrates the flow of information and signals between these components, highlighting how they interact to control the traffic lights based on the measured density of vehicles.

II. ARDUINO UNO

The Arduino Uno R3 is a development board based on the ATmega328. It has 14 digital input/output pins, 6 analog inputs, a 16 MHz ceramic resonator, a USB connection, a power jack, an ICSP header, and a reset button. It contains everything needed to support the microcontroller; simply connect it to a computer with a USB cable or power it with an AC-to-DC adapter or battery to get started. The Arduino UNO can be powered via a USB connection or with an external power supply. The power source is selected automatically. External (non-USB) power can come either from an AC-to-DC adapter (wall-wart) or a battery. The board can operate on an external supply of 6 to 20 volts. If supplied with less than 7V, however, the 5V pin may supply less than five volts and the board may be unstable. If using more than 12V, the voltage regulator may overheat and damage the board. The recommended range is 7 to 12 volts.

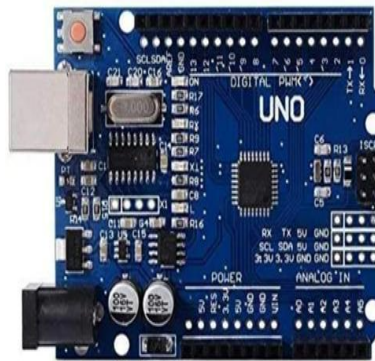


Figure 3 Arduino UNO

IR SENSORS

IR technology is used in a wide range of wireless applications which includes remote controls and sensing. The infrared part in the electromagnetic spectrum can be separated into three main regions: near IR, mid-IR & far IR. The wavelengths of these three regions vary based on the application. For the near IR region, the wavelength ranges from 700 nm - 1400 nm, the wavelength of the mid-IR region ranges from 1400 nm – 3000 nm & finally for the far IR region, the wavelength ranges from 3000 nm – 1 mm.

The near IR region is used on fiber optic & IR sensors, the mid-IR region is used for heat sensing and the far IR region is used in thermal imaging. The range of frequency for IR is maximum as compared to microwave and minimum than visible light. This article discusses an overview of the IR sensor and its working. The photodiode used in this is very sensitive to the infrared light generated through an infrared LED. The resistance of photodiode & output voltage can be changed in proportion to the infrared light obtained. This is the fundamental IR sensor working principle. The type of incident that occurred is the direct or indirect type where indirect type, the arrangement of an infrared LED can be done ahead of a photodiode without obstacle. In indirect type, both the diodes are arranged side by side through a solid object ahead of the sensor. The generated light from the infrared LED strikes the solid surface & returns back toward the photodiode.

The IR sensor module includes five essential parts like IR Tx, Rx, Operational amplifier, trimmer pot (variable resistor) & output light emitting diode (LED). The IR sensor module is representing in the figure below. The pin configuration of the IR sensor module is discussed below.



Fig:4 IR Sensor Module

LEDs

Light-emitting diode (LED) is a widely used standard source of light in electrical equipment. It has a wide range of applications ranging from your mobile phone to large advertising billboards. They mostly find applications in devices that show the time and display different types of data. A light-emitting diode (LED) is a semiconductor device that emits light when an electric current flows through it. When current passes through an LED, the electrons recombine with holes emitting light in the process. LEDs allow the current to flow in the forward direction and block the current in the reverse direction.

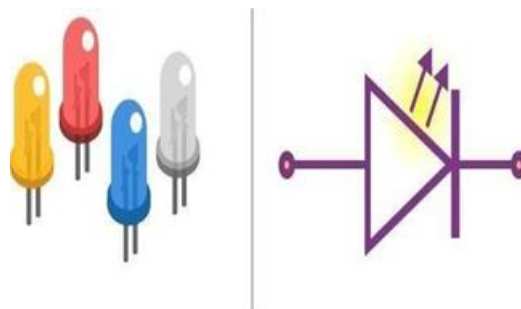


Figure 5 LEDs

BLUETOOTH HC-05

- It is used for many applications like wireless headset, game controllers, wireless mouse, wireless keyboard, and many more consumer applications.
- It has range up to <100m which depends upon transmitter and receiver, atmosphere, urban conditions.
- It is IEEE 802.15.1 standardized protocol, through which one can build wireless Personal Area Network (PAN). It uses frequency-hopping spread spectrum (FHSS) radio technology to send data over air.

It uses serial communication to communicate with devices. It communicates with microcontroller using serial port (USART).

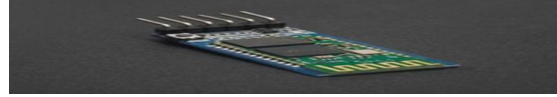


Figure 6: Bluetooth HC-05

III. CIRCUIT DIAGRAM AND DESCRIPTION

Circuit Diagram of Density Based Traffic Light Controller

This project aims to improve the efficiency of traffic light system using Arduino based model. The traffic determination is done by IR sensors on each path. Using the details provided by the IR sensor we can guide the traffic signal to work efficiently with the traffic flow. The traffic density on each road determines the change of the timing of the signal. The road with the least traffic is assigned with the red signal and the one with the most traffic is assigned the green signal. In this project we imply the use of IR sensor.

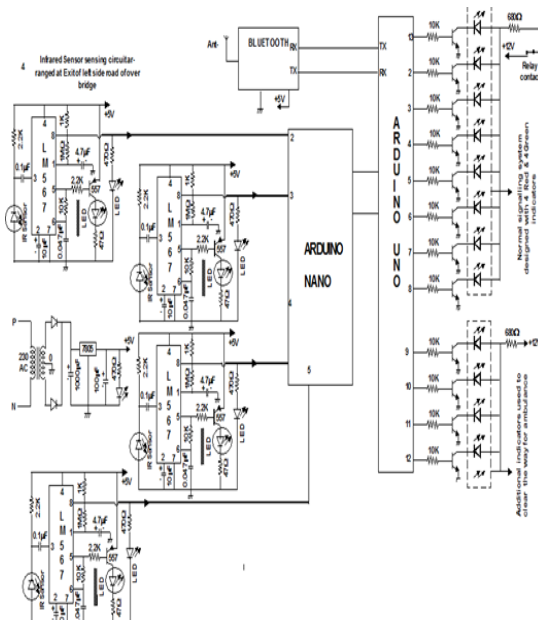


Figure 7. Circuit Diagram

Using Arduino Uno and HC-05 Bluetooth module, we can create a system for ambulance traffic clearance by implementing a wireless communication system between the ambulance and traffic signal control system. Here's a general outline of the process:

1. Hardware setup:

- Connect the HC-05 Bluetooth module to the Arduino Uno.
- Connect appropriate LEDs or signal lights to the Arduino Uno, representing the traffic signals.
- Ensure that the Arduino is powered and connected to a power source.

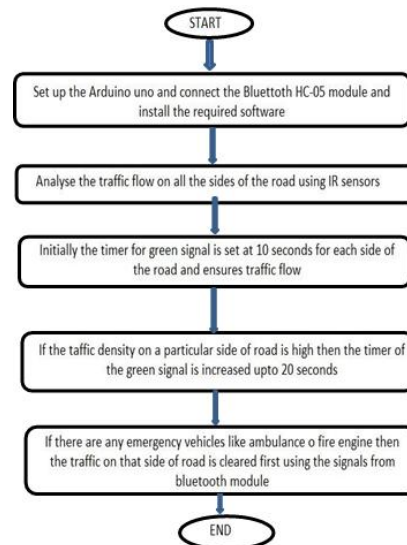
2. Coding the Arduino:

- Install the Arduino IDE and open a new sketch.
- Include the necessary libraries for Bluetooth communication.
- Set up the communication parameters for the HC-05 module (e.g., baud rate).
- Define the pin connections for the signal lights and configure them as outputs.
- Set up the Bluetooth connection and wait for incoming data.
- When a signal is received via Bluetooth, interpret the data to determine the action required (e.g., ambulance approaching).
- Based on the received data, control the signal lights accordingly to clear the traffic for the ambulance.

3. Programming the Ambulance Device:

- Set up an Arduino or a microcontroller on the ambulance.

- Connect the HC-05 Bluetooth module to the Arduino or microcontroller.
 - Program the Arduino to send a specific signal when the ambulance is approaching.
4. Establish a Bluetooth connection with the traffic control system and send the signal indicating the ambulance's approach. Testing and Deployment:
- Upload the code to both the traffic control system and the ambulance device.
 - Verify the hardware connections and ensure that the Bluetooth modules are properly paired.
 - Test the system by sending signals from the ambulance to the traffic control system and observe if the traffic lights respond appropriately.
 - Fine-tune the system as necessary and ensure its reliability.
 - Once the system is working correctly, mount the hardware in the appropriate locations and integrate it with the existing traffic signal infrastructure.



Advantages

- **Efficient Traffic Flow:** DBTLC systems can optimize traffic flow by dynamically adjusting signal timings based on the actual density of vehicles at an intersection. This helps to reduce congestion and improve overall traffic efficiency.
- **Reduced Travel Time:** By responding to the real-time traffic conditions, DBTLC systems can minimize delays and queue lengths, leading to reduced travel times for vehicles.
- **Flexibility and Adaptability:** DBTLC systems are adaptable to changing traffic patterns and can adjust signal timings in response to varying traffic demands throughout the day. This flexibility allows for better coordination between intersections and improves the overall traffic network performance.
- **Improved Safety:** With optimized signal timings, DBTLC systems can enhance safety by minimizing the chances of collisions and reducing conflicts between vehicles and pedestrians.

4.2 Disadvantages

- **Accuracy:** The accuracy of the density-based traffic light controller depends on the quality of the sensors used to measure traffic density. If the sensors are not accurate or malfunction, the traffic flow may be affected.
- **Maintenance:** The use of sensors in the controller increases the complexity of the system and may require additional maintenance. The sensors may need to be calibrated periodically to ensure accurate measurements.
- **Complexity:** The implementation of a density-based traffic light controller using Arduino requires advanced programming skills and knowledge of electronic circuits. This complexity can make it difficult for beginners to work.

Applications

- **Urban Traffic Management:** DBTLC systems are well-suited for managing traffic in urban areas with high traffic volumes and complex intersection configurations. They can help optimize traffic flow and reduce congestion in busy city streets.
- **Intersection Control:** DBTLC systems can be implemented at intersections to regulate traffic signal timings based on real-time vehicle density. They can dynamically adjust the green, yellow,

and red light durations to optimize the movement of vehicles through the intersection.

- **Smart City Initiatives:** DBTLC systems align with the concept of smart cities, where technology is utilized to improve urban infrastructure and enhance the quality of life for residents. Implementing these systems can contribute to better traffic management and more sustainable transportation networks.
- **Special Traffic Situations:** DBTLC systems can be particularly useful in managing traffic during special events, emergencies, or road works. They can adapt signal timings based on the changing traffic conditions to minimize disruptions and improve traffic flow.

IV. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Density based traffic light controller has been designed by using four IR sensors for four approaching roads at a signal junction. These IR sensors count the number of vehicles in each direction and give this information to the arduino. Depending on the information received, the controller takes the decision to give green signal to those particular direction vehicles whose density is much higher than other directions and allows them. And the rest of the signals will be in red for the duration of period defined in the controller. Likewise the priority is given to that particular direction whose density is more and clears the traffic. Then the controller again checks the sensor inputs and will give signals appropriately depending on the density and for emergency vehicles like ambulance, fire engine etc. the communication system installed in the vehicles can clutch the traffic at signals until they cross the signal post. The system is designed for junction/cross-roads, where often ambulance has to wait until the normal traffic is cleared. This is quite inconvenience for the patient who needs immediate treatment. There by this system is designed which can by-pass the existing signaling system temporarily. There are traffic signals across the road to organize vehicles passage to avoid traffic congestion. Apart from this traffic maintenance, we should clear traffic for ambulances. But there is no such kind of systems at traffic signals. Traffic lights operated by police when it needs. Ambulance should have Bluetooth app in smart phone to give road priority to main system.



Figure 8. Result

V. CONCLUSION

A density-based traffic light controller has the potential to significantly improve traffic flow, reduce congestion, enhance efficiency, increase safety, and offer scalability and adaptability to varying traffic conditions. By dynamically adjusting signal timings based on real-time vehicle density, the controller can optimize traffic movements, minimize delays, and maximize the utilization of road capacity. However, the effectiveness of a density-based traffic light controller relies on the accuracy of sensing technology, reliability of communication infrastructure, and coordination with other traffic control measures. Further research and real-world trials are necessary to validate the performance and feasibility of such controllers in different scenarios. Overall, implementing a density-based traffic light controller holds promise for creating smarter and more efficient transportation systems.

FUTURE SCOPE

The future scope of density-based traffic light controllers holds significant potential for advancements in traffic management and transportation systems. Here are some specific areas of future development and application for density-based traffic light controllers. **Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning:** Integrating artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) techniques can enhance the capabilities of density-based traffic light controllers. By analyzing large amounts of data, these controllers can learn and adapt to changing traffic patterns, optimize signal timings, and make proactive decisions based on real-time conditions. **Internet of Things (IoT) and Sensor Technology,** Cooperative Vehicle- to- Infrastructure (V2I) Communication information.

Edge Computing and Fog Computing: To handle the immense volume of data generated by sensors and connected devices, the implementation of edge computing and fog computing can be explored. These technologies enable data processing and decision-making closer to the source, reducing latency and enhancing the responsiveness of density-based traffic light controllers.

Integration with Navigation Systems: Collaborating with navigation systems and intelligent transportation systems can enable more effective coordination between traffic lights and individual vehicles.

Dynamic Traffic Control Strategies: Future density-based traffic light controllers can employ dynamic traffic control strategies, such as platooning and priority-based signal control. By grouping vehicles traveling in the same

direction and providing them with green wave coordination, traffic flow can be optimized, reducing delays and improving fuel efficiency.

Adaptive Infrastructure Design: Density-based traffic light controllers can influence infrastructure design and planning. By analyzing traffic patterns and density data, these controllers can provide valuable insights for designing road networks, intersections, and traffic signal placements to optimize traffic flow and reduce congestion.

Integration with Sustainable Transportation Initiatives: Density-based traffic light controllers can align with sustainable transportation goals by prioritizing modes such as public transportation, cycling, and walking. These controllers can allocate green time based on the density of sustainable modes, encouraging their use and reducing reliance on single-occupancy vehicles.

Simulation and Testing Environments: Future research can focus on creating realistic simulation and testing environments to evaluate the performance and feasibility of density-based traffic light controllers under various scenarios. This allows for robust testing and validation before real-world implementation.

In summary, the future scope of density-based traffic light controllers involves advancements in AI, ML, IoT, sensor technology, V2I communication, edge computing, and integration with navigation systems. Additionally, exploring dynamic traffic control strategies, adaptive infrastructure design, and integration with sustainable transportation initiatives can further enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of these controllers in managing traffic flow and reducing congestion.

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