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Ai-Enhanced IoT for Smart City Traffic Management Through Data Analytics

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Abstract:

Smart cities have emerged over the past few decades to use technology to improve urban infrastructure, especially transportation. Traffic management previously used manual control systems like traffic signals driven by timers or sensors, which were ineffective at reacting to real-time conditions like congestion or accidents. AI-Enhanced IoT for Smart City Traffic Management optimizes traffic flow, reduces congestion, and improves transportation efficiency using AI and IoT devices. This research predicts traffic patterns, dynamically adjusts signal timings, reroutes vehicles, and prevents bottlenecks to improve traffic management decisions. Traditional road traffic management systems used static timers, basic sensor-based signal control, and human interventions, which caused poor traffic flow management and peak-hour delays. Before AI, traffic management struggled to use real-time data, respond to rapid traffic changes, and predict congestion based on current traffic patterns. Traffic congestion is a major urban issue as cities grow and vehicle numbers rise, causing lost productivity, higher pollution, and commuter annoyance. The demand for smarter, more responsive transportation systems to alleviate congestion, air pollution, and public safety drives this research. The suggested traffic control system uses AI and IoT for real-time monitoring and decision-making. The AI models can predict traffic jams, accidents, and peak congestion times by analysing live data from IoT sensors like traffic cameras, GPS data from vehicles, and road sensors. They can dynamically adjust traffic signal timings, reroute vehicles to less congested roads, and communicate with autonomous vehicles to optimize traffic flow. AI allows continuous traffic pattern learning, enabling adaptive and proactive traffic control, improving urban transportation efficiency. This technology decreases traffic congestion, travel times, and human involvement, making urban mobility management more sustainable.

Keywords: *Smart cities, Urban infrastructure, Transportation, Traffic management, AI-Enhanced IoT, Real-time conditions, Traffic patterns, Signal timings, Rerouting vehicles, Bottlenecks, Static timers, Sensor-based control*

1. INTRODUCTION

Over the past few decades, rapid urbanization has brought forth significant challenges in managing urban infrastructure, particularly transportation. The increasing number of vehicles on city roads has resulted in growing traffic congestion, causing delays, reduced productivity, elevated pollution levels, and a considerable toll on public safety. Traditional traffic management systems, which relied on

static timers, basic sensor-based signal controls, and manual human interventions, have proven inadequate in addressing these escalating issues. They failed to adapt to real-time traffic conditions, predict congestion patterns, and provide effective solutions to evolving urban mobility problems. In response to these pressing concerns, the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the Internet of Things (IoT) has emerged as a groundbreaking solution, revolutionizing how traffic is managed in smart cities. The AI-Enhanced IoT system leverages interconnected devices like traffic cameras, GPS modules,

and road sensors to monitor traffic in real time and make data-driven decisions.

These advanced systems dynamically adjust traffic signals, reroute vehicles to less congested routes, and communicate with autonomous vehicles to optimize the flow of traffic. By continuously learning and analyzing traffic patterns, AI enables adaptive and proactive traffic management, preventing bottlenecks and mitigating peak congestion times.

This innovative approach enhances transportation efficiency and promotes sustainability in urban mobility. It minimizes the reliance on human interventions while reducing travel times and traffic-related frustrations. Furthermore, AI-Enhanced IoT technologies contribute to alleviating air pollution and addressing public safety concerns by fostering smoother and more organized traffic flow. As cities continue to grow and face mounting transportation challenges, such intelligent systems pave the way for a smarter, more responsive, and sustainable future in urban traffic management.

2. LITERATURE SURVEY

This research acknowledges the existing body of work on traffic management systems but emphasizes the ongoing relevance of intelligent traffic monitoring, especially with the advent of technologies like the Internet of Things (IoT) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) [1]. Smart cities, characterized by the integration of advanced technologies, have emerged with the goal of improving the quality of life for inhabitants and enhancing the efficiency of urban services (Mohammed Sarraf, Supriya Pulparambil & Medhat Awadalla,) [2]. This article addresses the global issue of traffic congestion, emphasizing its widespread impact on various transportation modes and socioeconomic groups (Manoj Kumar, Kranti Kumar & Pritikana Das) [3]. The rapid urbanization and technological advancements witnessed in modern cities have posed significant challenges in effectively managing traffic, primarily due to the increasing urban population and resulting traffic congestion [4]. machine learning algorithm used for classification and regression tasks. It operates by finding the k-nearest neighbors to a given data point and making predictions based on their characteristics. In the case of traffic prediction, k-nearest neighbors can be applied to identify similar traffic patterns and make predictions based on the behavior of nearby instances [5]. Linear regression is a statistical model that analyzes the linear relationship between a dependent variable and a set of independent variables. It seeks to establish a linear equation that best fits the data, enabling predictions of the dependent variable based on the independent variables [6]. However, the sheer volume, velocity, and variety of traffic-related data generated by IoT devices present both challenges and opportunities for traffic prediction [7]. The purpose of this study is to compare and identify the smartness of major Australian cities to the level of development in multi-dimensions. Eventually, the research introduces the openings to make cities smarter by identifying the focused priority areas [8].

The platform chosen to manage the management of the underlying infrastructure and the provision of services to end-users and/or application developers is based on FIWARE enablers [9]. Many IoT

frameworks and platforms claimed to have solved these issues, aggregating different sources of information, combining their data flows in new innovative services, providing security robustness with respect to vulnerability and respecting the GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) of the European Commission [10]. Intelligent and smart connectivity of devices through machine to machine, machine to human, human to machine communication by using standard protocols is also a unique feature which differentiates IoT network from Non IoT systems [11].

IoT technologies enable real time monitoring and communication of interconnected things without human intervention, however, lack of security and awareness as well as complexity due to heterogeneity are serious challenges [12]. Among the many urban problems, parking lot is one of the issues that has been heavily debated in recent years [13]. In this paper, articles were selected from top journals across various databases. (Neelakandan et al.) reported the outcomes of a benchmarking research study on an IoT-based traffic prediction and signal management system for a smart city [14]. To tackle this pressing issue, emerging technologies such as the internet of things (IoT) have garnered substantial interest [15].

3. PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

This proposed methodology focused on improving the visibility and quality of images captured under low-light or challenging lighting conditions. The primary goal of the proposed model is to enhance the details and visual appeal of such images, making them clearer and more visually appealing. It employs a deep learning-based approach to enhance low-light images. It utilizes techniques from computer vision, image processing, and deep neural networks to achieve its objectives. Overall, this research is designed to address the challenges posed by low-light images by applying deep learning-based techniques to enhance image quality, improve visibility, and provide visually appealing results. It finds applications in a variety of fields where low-light image enhancement is critical for obtaining meaningful and usable visual data.

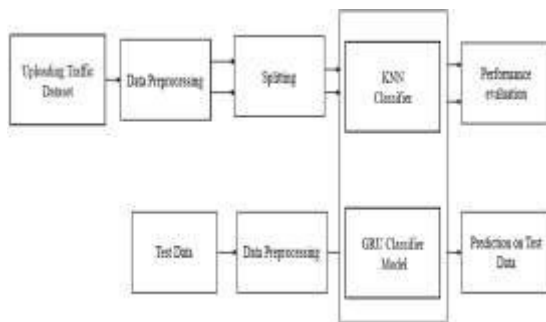


Figure 1: Architectural Block Diagram of Proposed System.

Step 1: Smart Dataset

The first step involves working with a carefully curated dataset designed for smart city traffic management. This dataset includes various attributes such as traffic flow, congestion levels, time intervals, road conditions, weather impacts, and other relevant traffic-related parameters. These variables collectively reflect the dynamic nature of traffic in urban areas. The dataset is uploaded through the application, allowing users to analyze and understand the structure of the data, including the presence of null values and statistical summaries.

Step 2: Dataset Preprocessing

Preprocessing transforms raw data into a clean and structured format, making it suitable for analysis and modeling. Features are separated into inputs (traffic characteristics) and outputs (traffic density categories). The dataset undergoes scaling using the Standard Scaler method to ensure uniformity in data magnitude. This technique standardizes the data by centering it around zero with a unit variance, enhancing the accuracy of machine learning models. Additionally,

normalization is applied to feature columns, ensuring consistent numerical ranges across variables. Any missing values are identified and managed, and redundant or highly correlated features are removed to avoid multicollinearity.

Step 3: Label Encoding

Since the target variable, "Traffic Density Category," is categorical in nature, it is transformed into numerical values using Label Encoding. Each category is assigned a unique integer, which simplifies the modeling process while retaining the inherent information of the target variable. This transformation facilitates compatibility with machine learning algorithms, ensuring the efficient processing of class labels during training and testing phases. The encoding ensures that the categories "High," "Low," "Medium," and "Very High" are seamlessly integrated into the analytical workflow.

Step 4: Existing KNN Classifier Algorithm

The K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN) classifier is a traditional machine learning algorithm used to classify traffic density. It works by analyzing the proximity of data points in the feature space, where the class of a given data point is determined based on the majority class of its nearest neighbors. KNN is trained on the preprocessed dataset, allowing it to establish patterns and relationships in traffic data. Despite its simplicity and interpretability, KNN is limited in its ability to handle complex temporal dependencies and non-linear dynamics often observed in real-world traffic scenarios.

Step 5: Proposed GRU Classifier Algorithm

The GRU (Gated Recurrent Unit) classifier is a type of recurrent neural network designed to handle sequential data, making it well-suited for time-series traffic analysis. The GRU model captures temporal dependencies and learns from past traffic patterns to predict future congestion levels. The input data is reshaped to a three-dimensional format to match the GRU architecture. The model includes stacked GRU layers with dropout for regularization, followed by a dense output layer activated by softmax for multi-class classification. The GRU model is trained on labeled data to recognize complex patterns, offering enhanced accuracy and predictive capabilities compared to traditional methods.

Step 6: Performance Comparison

Performance metrics such as accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score are computed for both the KNN and GRU classifiers to evaluate their effectiveness in classifying traffic density categories. The application generates detailed performance reports, including confusion matrices and classification reports, providing insights into each model's strengths and limitations. Graphical visualizations compare the metrics side by side, highlighting the superior performance of the GRU classifier in terms of handling complex traffic data and achieving higher accuracy across various metrics.

Step 7: Prediction of Output from Test Data with GRU Algorithm Trained Model

The final step involves using the trained GRU model to predict traffic density on unseen test data. The application allows users to upload a new dataset for prediction. The test data undergoes preprocessing steps similar to the training data, including scaling and reshaping for compatibility with the GRU architecture. The GRU model generates predictions, which are then mapped back to their categorical labels. These predictions provide actionable insights into real-time traffic conditions, enabling better decision-making and efficient traffic management.

Applications:

- **Dynamic Traffic Signal Control:** AI-powered traffic signals can adjust timings in real time to accommodate varying traffic loads, ensuring smoother traffic flow and reducing wait times.

- **Intelligent Rerouting:** The system provides drivers with alternate routes during congestion, accidents, or road blockages, minimizing delays and improving overall commuting efficiency.
- **Autonomous Vehicle Coordination:** Smart systems communicate directly with self-driving cars to align their routes and ensure they follow optimal paths, enhancing safety and reducing conflicts.

Advantages:

- **Efficient Learning:** GRUs require fewer parameters compared to LSTMs, making them faster to train.
- **Handles Long Sequences:** GRUs can capture dependencies over long sequences without succumbing to vanishing gradients.
- **Simplicity:** GRUs have a simpler architecture than LSTMs, which reduces computational complexity while maintaining comparable performance.
- **Better Generalization:** Due to fewer parameters, GRUs are less prone to overfitting, especially on smaller datasets.

4. EXPERIMENTAL ANALYSIS

The experimental analysis of the traffic management system involves a series of steps aimed at evaluating and comparing the performance of different machine learning algorithms in classifying traffic density. Figure 4.1 shows the analysis of the projects and the performance of the proposed system.

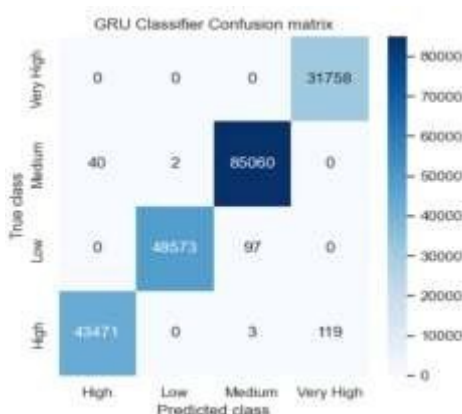


Figure. 4.1: The Performance metrics and Confusion Matrix Plot of the GRU Classifier model.

1. Dataset Preparation

- A dataset is curated, which includes attributes like traffic flow, congestion levels, time intervals, road conditions, weather impacts, and other traffic-related parameters.
- The dataset is uploaded, and users can analyze its structure, including null values and statistical summaries.

2. Dataset Preprocessing

- Raw data is transformed into a clean and structured format.
- Features are separated into inputs (traffic characteristics) and outputs (traffic density categories).
- Scaling is applied using the Standard Scaler method to ensure uniformity in data magnitude.
- Normalization is applied to feature columns to ensure consistent numerical ranges across variables.
- Missing values are identified and managed, and redundant or highly correlated features are removed to avoid multicollinearity.

3. Label Encoding

- The target variable, Traffic Density Category, is transformed into numerical values using Label Encoding.
- Each category is assigned a unique integer to simplify the modeling process.

4. Model Building and Training

- Two machine learning models are implemented:
- K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN) classifier: A traditional algorithm used to classify traffic density by analyzing the proximity of data points in the feature space.
- GRU (Gated Recurrent Unit) classifier: A type of recurrent neural network designed to handle sequential data and capture temporal dependencies in traffic patterns.
- The models are trained on the preprocessed dataset.

5. Performance Comparison

- Performance metrics such as accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score are computed for both KNN and GRU classifiers.
- Graphical visualizations are used to compare the metrics and highlight the superior performance of the GRU classifier. Figure 4.2 shows Presents the Performance comparison graph of all models

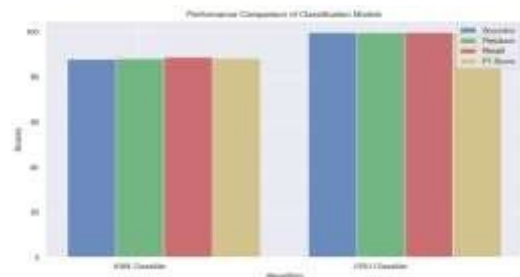


Figure. 4.2: Presents the Performance comparison graph of all models.

6. Prediction and Testing

- The trained GRU model is used to predict traffic density on unseen test data.
- Test data undergoes preprocessing steps similar to the training data.
- The GRU model generates predictions, which are then mapped back to their categorical labels.

5. CONCLUSION

This research successfully demonstrates the application of advanced machine learning techniques and AI models to manage traffic density in smart cities. By leveraging a comprehensive dataset encompassing diverse factors such as weather, economic conditions, vehicle types, and time-based patterns, the system effectively predicts traffic density and categorizes it into manageable classes. The use of both an existing KNN Classifier and a proposed GRU model provides a comparative study, showcasing the superior performance of GRU in handling temporal dependencies and complex relationships within the data. The integration of data preprocessing steps, including scaling, normalization, and encoding, ensures the models are trained on high-quality, standardized inputs, leading to improved accuracy and reliability.

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