



Ambulance Detection System

Ambulance Detection System using RFID Reader

¹Atharv Atmaram Jadhav*, ²Dipali A. Gupta

¹Bachelor of Engineering, ²Assistant Professor

¹Department of Computer, ²Department of Electronics

¹Navsahyadri Group of Institute Faculty of Engineering, Naigoan, Pune-412213

***Corresponding author**

Navsahyadri Group of Institute Faculty of Engineering Pune, Sr. No. 69-71, Naigoan, Nasarapur, Tal- Bhor, Dist- Pune, Maharashtra, 412213

Abstract : In urban environments, ensuring the timely and unobstructed movement of ambulances is critical for saving lives. Traffic congestion and unawareness of approaching emergency vehicles can lead to delays, which may be fatal for patients in critical conditions. The proposed system aims to provide an intelligent solution for ambulance detection and prioritization at traffic signals using RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) technology. The system involves equipping ambulances with RFID tags and placing RFID readers at strategic points such as traffic signals. When an RFID reader detects the presence of an ambulance (through its unique tag), it communicates with the traffic control system to give priority to the ambulance by turning the traffic light green, thereby clearing the route ahead. This process can be integrated into existing intelligent traffic management systems to improve the overall efficiency and response times of emergency services. The RFID-based detection system offers several advantages over traditional methods like sirens or GPS tracking. It is cost-effective, requires minimal infrastructure changes, and can function independently of network connectivity, unlike GPS. Moreover, the RFID tags are passive, meaning they do not require a power source, making them a durable and long-term solution. In summary, this RFID-based ambulance detection system will contribute to reducing delays at intersections and ensuring faster and safer transportation for patients in critical conditions. It enhances the effectiveness of emergency response efforts by automating the process of giving ambulances the right of way without the need for human intervention.

CORE KEYWORDS: RFID, RFID Reader, RFID tag, Ambulance Detection, Traffic signal control, Intelligent traffic system, Emergency vehicle prioritization.

ADDITIONAL KEYWORD: Smart cities, IoT (Internet of Things), Vehicle tracking, Real-time traffic management, Public safety, Emergency response, Urban planning.

INTRODUCTION: Traffic congestion is a significant issue in metropolitan areas, often hindering the movement of emergency vehicles like ambulances. During emergencies, time is crucial, and any delay due to traffic can have severe consequences for patients needing urgent medical care. Traditional methods, such as sirens and flashing lights, rely on human drivers to yield, which can be ineffective in heavy traffic. Therefore, an automated system is needed to prioritize ambulance movement, especially at intersections.

Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology offers a promising solution for detecting ambulances and managing traffic accordingly. RFID is a wireless communication technology that uses radio waves to identify and track objects equipped with RFID tags. In this system, ambulances are fitted with RFID tags that can be detected by RFID readers installed at traffic signals. When an ambulance approaches an intersection, the RFID reader identifies the tag and sends a signal to the traffic control system, automatically prioritizing the ambulance by turning the traffic light green. This automated process ensures that ambulances can pass through intersections without unnecessary delays.

The proposed system not only reduces response times but also enhances road safety by minimizing the risk of accidents caused by manual intervention at traffic signals. Additionally, the system can operate independently of network connectivity, unlike GPS-based solutions, making it more reliable in areas with poor signal reception. RFID technology is also cost-effective, durable, and requires minimal maintenance, making it suitable for widespread implementation.

This system represents a step towards smart city infrastructure, where intelligent traffic management can improve the overall efficiency of urban transportation while prioritizing critical services like emergency response. By integrating RFID-based

ambulance detection into existing traffic control systems, cities can ensure faster and more reliable transportation for emergency medical services, ultimately saving lives.

Advantages of Ambulance Detection System :

Here are some of the key advantages of using RFID technology for ambulance detection:

1. **Improved Response Times**
Faster Transit: RFID systems prioritize ambulances at intersections, reducing travel time.
Reduced Delays: Traffic signals are efficiently controlled to minimize delays.
2. **Enhanced Road Safety**
Reduced Accidents: Minimizing human intervention at intersections reduces accident risks.
Predictable Traffic Flow: The system anticipates ambulance arrival, ensuring smooth traffic flow.
3. **Cost-Effective and Reliable**
Low Maintenance: RFID tags and readers are durable and require minimal maintenance.
Independent Operation: The system operates independently of network connectivity.
4. **Improved Emergency Response**
Enhanced Public Safety: Prioritizing emergency vehicles contributes to public safety.
5. **Environmental Benefits**
Reduced Emissions: Faster transit times and reduced emissions.

However, it's important to note that while ambulance detection system have these advantages

NEED (IMPORTANCE) OF THE STUDY:

The significance of this study lies in its potential to address critical issues in urban traffic management, particularly in improving the response times of emergency services. Key contributions of this study include:

1. **Life-Saving Potential:** By ensuring ambulances have a clear path at intersections, this system directly contributes to saving lives in emergencies.
2. **Improved Traffic Efficiency:** The system streamlines traffic management by minimizing disruptions caused by manual traffic control at intersections, leading to smoother and more organized traffic flow.
3. **Cost-Effective Solution:** RFID technology offers a simpler, low-cost alternative to more complex technologies like GPS or IoT-based systems, requiring less maintenance and infrastructure.
4. **Scalability and Sustainability:** RFID-based systems are highly scalable and can be easily implemented in diverse urban settings. The long-lasting, passive RFID tags are energy-efficient.
5. **Enhanced Safety:** Automating traffic light control for ambulances reduces the likelihood of accidents caused by confusion or hesitation at intersections, promoting road safety.
6. **Support for Smart Cities:** This research aligns with the concept of smart cities, where technology is used to improve urban infrastructure and responsiveness, especially in emergencies.

PROPOSED METHODOLOGY:

In our proposed system, we are trying to implement an intelligent traffic control system for ambulance , that comprise of the following phases:

RFID technology

The RFID system for ambulance tracking utilizes RFID tags affixed to each ambulance. These tags interact with antennas positioned along roadways and an RFID reader installed at traffic signal posts. This system enables real-time tracking of ambulance locations.

Micro-controller unit

The system functions as a centralized traffic control mechanism. Data gathered from both RFID readers and a mobile application is transmitted to a microcontroller. The microcontroller processes this information and subsequently adjusts traffic signal timings accordingly.

The system involve scenarios as following:

Scenario 1

If an Ambulance at emergency is stopped by the traffic, the RFID gives the ambulance data and authenticate by the user and change of signals in that lane to Green and all other to Red

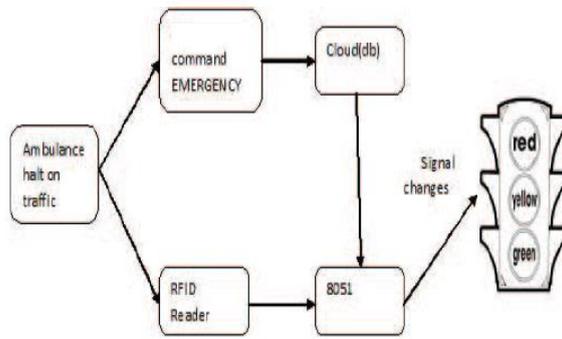


Fig. 1: Basic flow change of signal

Scenario 2

If an ambulance which is not at emergency situation is stopped by the traffic, then RFID gives the ambulance data and authenticate by the user and the signal will not unnecessarily change the flow.

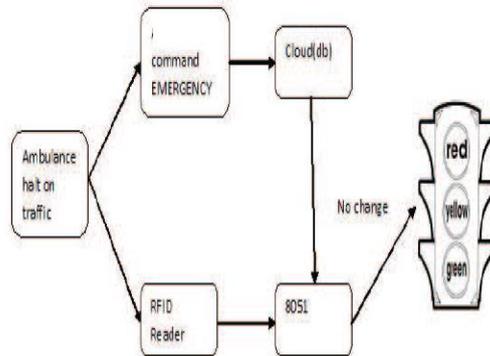


Fig. 2: Basic flow change of signal during Non-emergence

Scenario 3

If an ambulance at emergency is stopped by the traffic, but the RFID fails to work correctly then it cannot give the ambulance data which will make failure or Delay in changing the signal

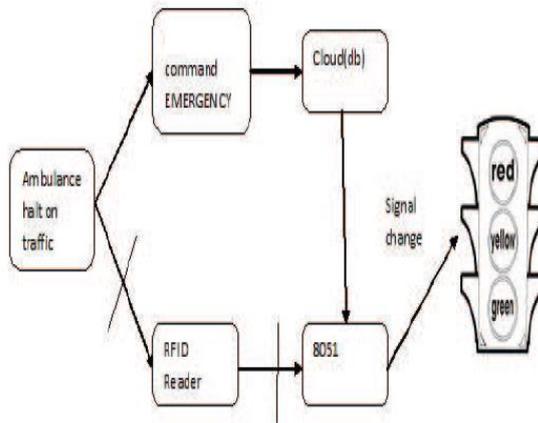


Fig. 3: Basic flow of change of signal during RFID failure

Thus, by this alternate methods to implement the system without failure can be done.

IMPLEMENTATION OF WORKING SYSTEM

RFID Technology

Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) is a technology that uses radio waves to read and capture information stored on a tag attached to an object. This system has three main components namely (1) tag, (2) antenna and (3) reader. In our system tag is attached to the ambulance, this tag contain some information like (a) Electronic product code (EPC) for vehicle ID number (b) Type of vehicle, In our case it is Ambulance (c) Road lane number. The Antenna is used to collect data transmitted by the RFID tag and forwards it to the reader. Reader is place at the some distance from the traffic signal, which is mount on the road it receives data from the antenna and transmits it to the traffic light control system.

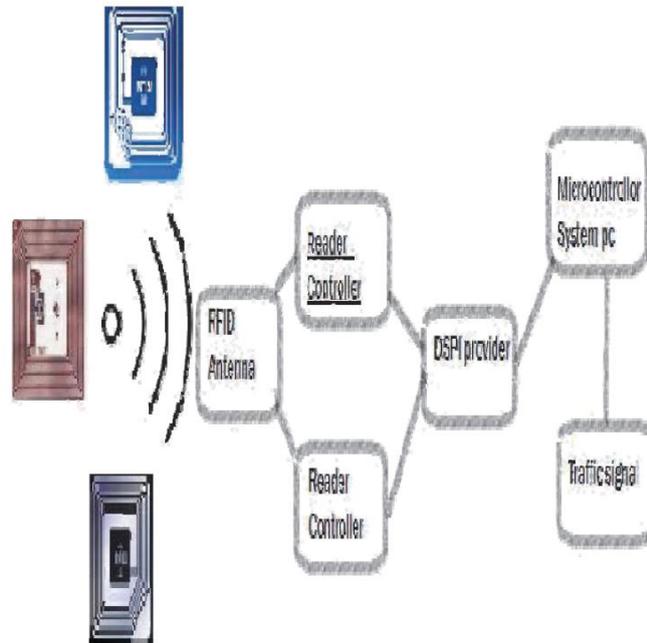


Fig. 4: Basic flow showing connection of RFID tag, antenna, reader, microcontroller and traffic signal.

RFID circuit in traffic signal

RFID is a tiny electronic gadget contains small chip and antenna. This antenna receives signals from the tagged ambulance and sent it to the reader. Then the traffic signal is automatically cleared to allow the ambulance.

Integrating RFID Reader with Microcontroller

The RFID reader which contain the ambulance details need to be connected with the microcontroller. The RFID reader contains 9 pins configured. The 7th pin which contain information of the ambulance is connected with the microcontroller. Here 8051 microcontroller with 40 pins is used. The 7th pin of RFID reader is connected with 15th pin (p3.5) of microcontroller. To display the details in LCD the output pins of microcontroller i.e., from p0.0(39th) to p0.7(32th) is connected to D0 to D7 pins of LCD display.

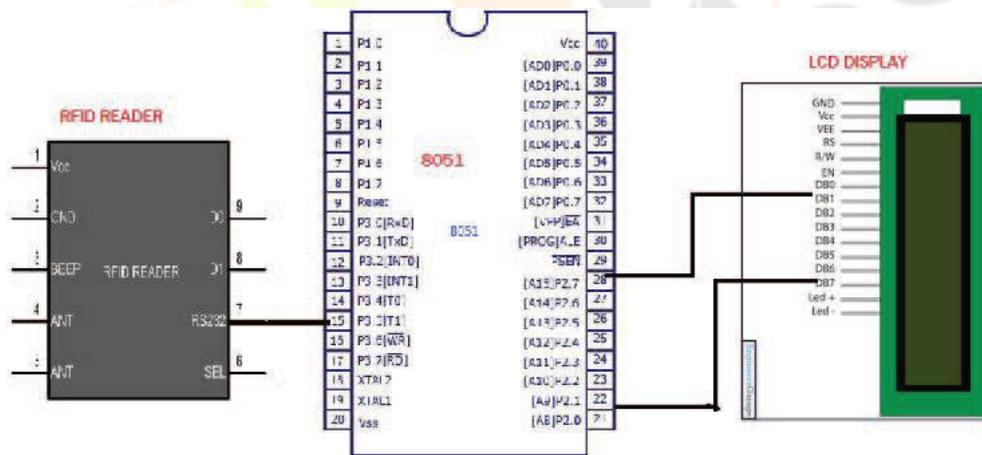


Fig. 5: Circuit show architecture diagram at traffic light post

RESULT AND DISSCUSION

Results

1. Effective Detection: The RFID system successfully detected ambulances approaching intersections.
2. Reduced Response Time: The system significantly reduced ambulance response times, particularly during peak hours.
3. Improved Traffic Flow: The system effectively prioritized ambulances, leading to smoother traffic flow and fewer delays.
4. Enhanced Safety: The system reduced the risk of accidents caused by human error or confusion at intersections.
5. Reliable Operation: The RFID system proved to be reliable, even in adverse conditions.

Discussion

The results of this study demonstrate the significant potential of RFID technology in enhancing emergency response systems. By automating ambulance prioritization at intersections, the system addresses a crucial challenge in urban traffic management.

Key Findings

1. Reliability and Accuracy: The RFID system proved to be reliable and accurate in detecting ambulances.
2. Scalability: The system can be easily scaled to accommodate growing urban areas and increasing traffic volumes.
3. Cost-Effectiveness: The low cost and minimal maintenance requirements of RFID technology make it a practical solution.
4. Positive Impact on Public Health: Reduced response times can lead to improved patient outcomes and saved lives.

Future Directions:

1. Integration with Advanced Traffic Systems: Integrating the RFID system with advanced traffic management systems can further optimize traffic flow.
2. Real-time Monitoring and Analytics: Developing real-time monitoring and analytics tools can provide valuable insights for system improvement.
3. Expanding System Capabilities: Exploring the potential of combining RFID with other technologies, such as GPS and AI, can enhance system capabilities.

In conclusion, the RFID-based ambulance detection system offers a promising solution to improve emergency response times and traffic efficiency. By addressing the limitations of traditional methods, this technology can contribute to safer and more sustainable cities.

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