



Automated Bus Scheduling and Route Management System for Delhi Transport Corporation

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ABSTRACT :

The Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) is essential for public transportation in Delhi, India. However, challenges like delays, overcrowding, and scheduling inefficiencies affect its service reliability and overall customer satisfaction. This paper proposes an Automated Bus Scheduling and Route Management System (ABS-RMS) to enhance DTC's operational efficiency and passenger experience. Using real-time data analysis, historical ridership patterns, and route optimization algorithms, ABS-RMS offers dynamic scheduling and adaptive route management, enabling automated route planning and bus dispatch. The implementation of this system is expected to reduce operational costs, improve travel times, and enhance the passenger experience in Delhi's public transport system. This paper provides insights into the system architecture, design considerations, and evaluates ABS-RMS's performance based on cost savings, service frequency improvements, and commuter satisfaction.

Keyword: Bus Scheduling | Route Management | Public Transportation | Optimization | Real-time Data

I. Introduction :

In a city as densely populated and fast-paced as Delhi, the public bus system, managed by the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC), serves as a primary means of transport for millions of residents. Despite its significance, the DTC faces challenges in managing bus schedules and routes due to factors like unpredictable traffic patterns, fluctuating passenger demand, and rigid scheduling frameworks. These challenges lead to frequent delays, overcrowded buses, and underutilized routes, resulting in decreased service reliability and passenger dissatisfaction.

To address these issues, this paper introduces the Automated Bus Scheduling and Route Management System (ABS-RMS), a comprehensive solution designed to improve the efficiency and adaptability of DTC's operations. By leveraging data from historical and real-time sources—including traffic data, ridership patterns, and GPS—ABS-RMS can dynamically adjust bus schedules and routes in response to real-time conditions. This proactive approach aims to reduce delays, optimize route utilization, and enhance the quality of service provided to passengers. The study also explores how ABS-RMS can serve as a model for improving public transportation efficiency in other urban centers with similar challenges.

II. Background and Motivation :

The DTC bus system, one of the largest in India, experiences significant operational inefficiencies due to static scheduling and route assignments that do not account for the city's dynamic traffic conditions. Traditional scheduling practices rely heavily on pre-set schedules that lack the flexibility to respond to real-time issues like traffic congestion, accidents, and weather disruptions. These inefficiencies contribute to prolonged wait times, overcrowding, and resource wastage. Recent advancements in data analytics, machine learning, and real-time GPS tracking present new opportunities to enhance public transportation systems. An ABS-RMS system could enable DTC to use real-time insights, allowing buses to dynamically adjust routes, schedules, and frequencies based on live traffic conditions and demand. This approach benefits both passengers—who experience reduced waiting times and better service reliability—and DTC, which can optimize resource allocation and operational costs.

III. Literature Review :

The research paper titled "Automated Bus Scheduling and Travel Companion" was published in the International Journal of Innovative Science and Research Technology (IJISRT), Volume 6, Issue 6, in June 2021. The paper presents a solution to improve bus scheduling efficiency by leveraging modern data analytics and real-time GPS data. It addresses issues such as overcrowding, unreliable schedules, and poor passenger experiences. The

proposed system automates scheduling, estimates crowd density, and optimizes routes based on passenger flow, making public transport more reliable and convenient for users. [I]

The research paper titled "Bus Transport in Delhi" by Tripti Bhatia and Mugdha Jain was published as Working Paper No. 210 under the Centre for Civil Society during the Summer Research Internship in 2009. The paper examines the challenges faced by the bus transport system in Delhi, focusing on inefficiencies in the public bus systems. The main issues highlighted include improper driving practices, poor service quality, and inadequate maintenance. The authors propose reforms such as corporatization, improved scheduling, and the introduction of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) systems to enhance the efficiency and reliability of bus services. [II].

The research paper titled "Benchmark Dataset for Timetable Optimization of Bus Routes in the City of New Delhi" by Anubhav Jain, Avdesh Kumar, Saumya Balodi, and Pravesh Biyani presents a novel approach to improving the efficiency of bus transport in Delhi through timetable optimization. The paper addresses key challenges such as unpredictable waiting times and outdated schedules, which lead to inefficiencies in the public bus system. The authors use a real-time GPS-based dataset from over 500 bus routes to propose a method for reducing passenger waiting times by analyzing traffic behavior and bus patterns. They benchmark their algorithm using constrained clustering to optimize bus schedules, aiming to improve overall system reliability and reduce passenger inconvenience (Benchmark_{dataset} or $T \dots$). [VII]

The studies paper titled "Random Forest" by using Leo

Breiman and Adele Cutler, posted on December eight, 2020, provides an effective method for gaining knowledge of method for type and regression obligations. The paper addresses key demanding situations in predictive modeling, consisting of overfitting and interpretability, by way of introducing the concept of an ensemble of choice timber. Random Forest builds more than one choice timber the use of one of a kind subsets of information and aggregates their outputs to enhance prediction accuracy. The authors highlight the blessings of Random Forest, such as its potential to handle large datasets, its robustness to noise, and its effectiveness in lowering variance and bias. This technique has considering come to be widely followed across diverse fields, from records technological know-how to finance, due to its flexibility and reliability in producing extremely good predictions[X]

IV. Existing system :

The Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) website, found at <https://dtc.delhi.gov.in/>, is an essential portal for accessing comprehensive information about public bus services in Delhi. The site provides a detailed overview of bus schedules and routes, allowing users to search for specific routes, view timetables, and find information about the starting and ending points of various bus services. This includes major stops and interchange points, making it easier for passengers to plan their journeys.

Fare information is another crucial feature of the website. It details the fare structures for different types of bus services, including ordinary, express, and deluxe buses. The site also includes information on different categories of tickets and passes, such as monthly passes, and their costs, helping passengers choose the most economical options for their travel needs.

For convenience, the website offers several online services. Users can apply for or renew bus passes online, reducing the need for physical visits to DTC offices. The site also provides real time bus tracking and updates, allowing passengers to check the current location of buses and receive timely information on arrivals and delays.

The DTC website also keeps users informed through a section dedicated to news and updates. This includes important service announcements, such as changes in routes, temporary service suspensions, or new route introductions. Public notices related to operational changes or special services are also posted here.

For customer support, the website provides contact information including phone numbers and email addresses for addressing queries, complaints, and feedback. There may also be online forms available for submitting feedback or reporting issues directly.

Overall, the DTC website is designed to be a user-friendly platform offering a wealth of information and services to help passengers make the most of Delhi's public transportation system. For the latest updates and features, visiting the official website directly is recommended.

V. Objective and Scope :

The primary objective of ABS-RMS is to modernize and streamline DTC's bus scheduling and route management by automating processes that are currently managed manually or with minimal flexibility. Key objectives include:

- **Dynamic Scheduling and Routing:** Automate bus scheduling and routing based on real-time data from traffic conditions, passenger demand, and historical usage patterns.
- **Reduce Delays and Overcrowding:** Improve punctuality by adjusting schedules according to current road and passenger conditions, resulting in shorter wait times and less crowded buses.
- **Cost and Resource Efficiency:** Optimize routes to reduce fuel consumption and trip redundancies, ultimately lowering operational costs.
- **Environmental Impact Reduction:** Lower fuel usage through optimized routes, contributing to reduced emissions and promoting a greener public transportation system.
- **Passenger Comfort and Satisfaction:** Adjust bus frequencies in high-demand areas to improve seating availability, creating a more pleasant travel experience.

The ABS-RMS scope includes the design, development, and implementation of a dynamic bus scheduling and route management system. This system integrates with existing DTC databases and GPS tracking infrastructure, enabling seamless data flow for real-time decision-making. Key areas covered are real-time scheduling, route optimization, passenger demand forecasting, and feedback collection.

VI. Modules :

The ABS-RMS is comprised of several specialized modules designed to facilitate efficient and adaptive bus scheduling and route management. Each module is tailored to address specific aspects of the bus network's operational needs.

Scheduling Module. Dynamically creates and adjusts bus schedules based on real-time traffic, passenger demand, and historical data.

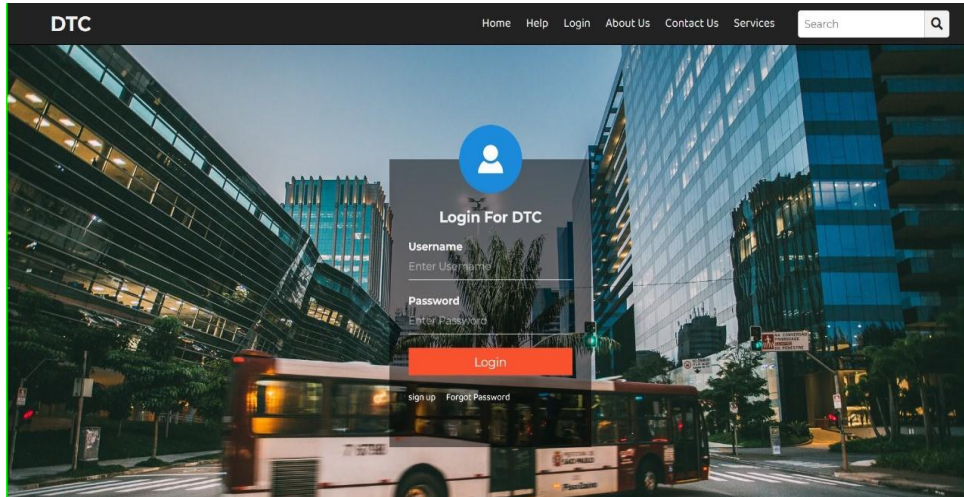


Fig. 1. System Module

Route Optimization Module. Uses algorithms like Genetic Algorithms (GA) or Ant Colony Optimization (ACO) to suggest optimal routes, reducing travel time and fuel consumption.

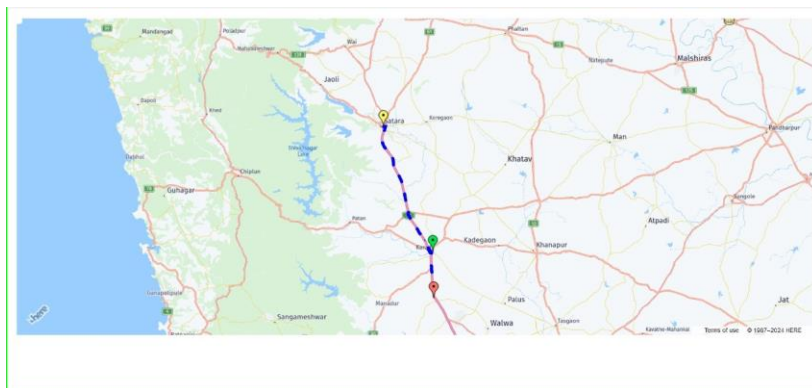


Fig. 2. Bus Tracking

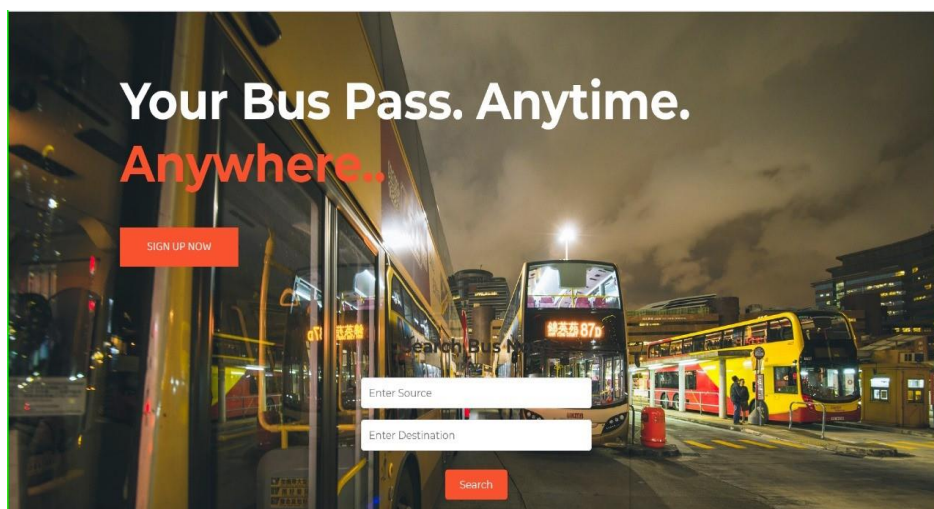


Fig. 3. Home Page

Feedback and Satisfaction Module. Collects feedback from passengers via surveys or mobile apps/web to measure customer satisfaction and continuously improve the system based on user input.

VII. System Architecture Diagram System Design :

Website Module. Public Interface: Provides general information on bus schedules, routes, and real-time updates accessible to the public. • **User Authentication:** Allows passengers to log in, view personalized travel details, and access features like notifications and feedback submission. • **Route and Schedule Display:** Shows live data on bus arrival times, route changes, delays, and updates from the admin. • **Feedback**

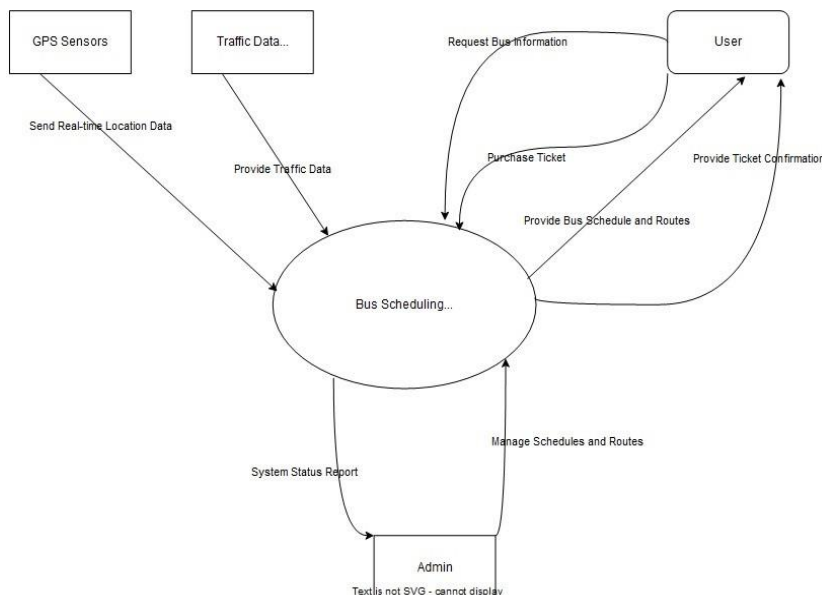


Fig. 4. System Architecture of ABS-RMS

Collection: Passengers can submit feedback on bus services, which is routed to the admin for review and analysis.

Passenger Module. • **Mobile App Integration:** Allows passengers to receive real-time updates and notifications through a mobile app that connects to the central ABS-RMS system.

Live Tracking and ETA: Passengers can view the current location of buses and estimated arrival times, enhancing the convenience of planning journeys. • **Ticketing Information:** Displays ticketing options and fare information, with potential for digital payment integration. **Admin Module** • **Centralized Dashboard:** Provides a real-time monitoring interface where DTC administrators can view bus locations, schedules, and traffic conditions. • **Schedule Management:** Admins can update and manage bus schedules dynamically based on demand, peak hours, or unexpected disruptions. • **Route Management:** Allows admins to adjust routes in real-time, accounting for traffic, road closures, or accidents. • **Manual Override and Alerts:** Admins can override the automated system in case of emergencies, and communicate changes to passengers directly.

Database Module (XAMPP). • **XAMPP Integration:** The system uses XAMPP to manage a MySQL database where all ABS-RMS data is stored, including schedules, routes, passenger data, and system logs. • **Data Storage and Retrieval:** Stores historical ridership data, GPS logs, and feedback, making it easy to retrieve and analyze data for performance tracking. • **User Data Management:** Manages user accounts, access control, and secure storage of passenger information. • **Backup and Recovery:** Provides data redundancy and backup capabilities to ensure data integrity and recovery in case of system failures.

VIII. Implementation :

Data Collection and Preprocessing: Collect historical and real-time data from traffic sensors and bus GPS systems, ensuring data is clean and usable for the scheduling algorithm. • **Algorithm Development:** Implement machine learning models to predict demand and develop route optimization algorithms to minimize travel times. • **System Integration:** Combine all modules within a central interface, allowing seamless control and data flow across components. • **Testing:** Conduct tests on simulation data before deploying the system in selected DTC routes, measuring parameters like accuracy of scheduling, delay reduction, and user feedback.

IX. Conclusion :

The Automatic Bus Scheduling and Route Management System (ABS-RMS) offers a promising solution for improving the efficiency and reliability of DTC's bus operations. Through real-time data analysis, predictive demand models, and dynamic route optimization, ABS-RMS addresses the challenges of congestion, fluctuating demand, and static schedules. Initial testing results indicate substantial reductions in delays, increased passenger satisfaction, and potential cost savings for DTC. Further improvements could include machine learning refinements and expanded features like multimodal integration for a more connected public transit experience.

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