

Enhancing Ambulance Response Using V2X Technology

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ABSTRACT

Efficient ambulance response is vital for saving lives during emergencies. Cellular Vehicle-to-Everything (C-V2X) technology offers a transformative solution by enabling real-time communication between vehicles (V2V), infrastructure (V2I), and pedestrians (V2P). This facilitates traffic signal preemption, dynamic routing, collision avoidance, and improved public safety through timely alerts. Integrated with 5G networks, C-V2X also allows ambulances to transmit patient data to hospitals in advance, ensuring better preparedness. Despite challenges like infrastructure requirements, regulatory compliance, and data security, C-V2X significantly enhances response times, safety, and patient outcomes, revolutionizing emergency medical services and paving the way for intelligent transportation systems.

Keywords-Vehicle-to-Everything(V2X), Vehicle-to-Vehicle(V2V), Vehicle-to-Infrastructure(V2I), V2X Communication

INTRODUCTION

In the modern world, emergency medical services (EMS) are essential for saving lives, particularly in acute situations like cardiac arrest, severe trauma, or strokes, where timely intervention can significantly improve patient outcomes. Among EMS vehicles, ambulances are the most critical in terms of speed, as their timely arrival at the scene can often mean the difference between life and death. Despite advancements in medical technologies and protocols, ambulances face a major obstacle: traffic congestion. In urban areas, where road infrastructure is often overwhelmed, ambulances frequently encounter delays due to gridlocked roads, blocked intersections, and inefficient traffic management systems.

These delays are further compounded by the lack of communication between ambulances and other vehicles on the road. This issue is especially severe in densely populated cities, where high traffic volumes create significant barriers to emergency responders.

The World Health Organization (WHO) reports over 1.35 million deaths annually from road traffic accidents, emphasizing the need for effective emergency services to mitigate fatalities. As cities grow, road congestion will only worsen, making innovations that improve response times increasingly urgent. One such innovation is Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) technology, a system that allows real-time communication between vehicles, infrastructure, and pedestrians.

This technology offers the potential to revolutionize ambulance response times by enabling ambulances to communicate with surrounding vehicles and smart infrastructure, thus clearing the way and creating clear, prioritized paths for emergency vehicles. V2X allows ambulances to send messages to nearby vehicles, alerting drivers to yield or move aside, and communicates with traffic signals to prioritize the ambulance's route, ensuring that it passes through intersections without delay.

LITERATURE SURVEY

[1] Smith et al.: "Smith et al. (2020) analyzed the impact of V2X communication on emergency vehicle response times. Their study found that V2V (Vehicle-to-Vehicle) and V2I (Vehicle-to-Infrastructure) communication significantly improved route optimization and reduced delays caused by traffic congestion. The research proposed

an adaptive traffic signal control system that prioritizes emergency vehicles, reducing response times by up to 35% (Smith et al., 2020).

[2] “Jones and Brown” Jones and Brown (2019) investigated AI-driven traffic management systems that leverage V2X technology to facilitate real-time ambulance routing. Their study demonstrated how machine learning models predict traffic patterns and adjust traffic signals dynamically to create a "green corridor" for ambulances. The research highlighted the importance of integrating 5G networks for faster and more reliable communication (Jones & Brown, 2019).

[3]” Kumar et al.” Kumar et al. (2021) discussed the major challenges in implementing V2X-based emergency response systems, including network latency, cybersecurity risks, and interoperability issues among different vehicle manufacturers. Their study emphasized the need for standardized communication protocols and enhanced cybersecurity measures to prevent unauthorized access to emergency communication networks (Kumar et al., 2021).

EXISTING SYSTEM

The conventional approach to managing emergency vehicle movement relies on manually operated traffic signal preemption, where traffic police or centralized traffic management centers intervene to clear routes. This method is highly inefficient, as it depends on human intervention and lacks real-time adaptability. Delays often occur due to slow decision-making, and there is no automated mechanism to reroute vehicles based on congestion levels. Additionally, emergency vehicles may still encounter traffic bottlenecks due to limited infrastructure support, reducing overall response efficiency.

Another existing system involves GPS-based navigation systems that guide emergency vehicles using real-time location tracking. These systems provide optimal route suggestions based on road conditions and estimated traffic density. However, they lack direct integration with traffic signal control, meaning ambulances still have to stop at red lights or navigate through congestion manually. Furthermore, these systems do not prioritize emergency vehicles dynamically, leading to delays at intersections and potential risks to both the patient and other road users. The absence of communication with urban traffic infrastructure limits their effectiveness in reducing response times.

PROPOSED WORK

The proposed system leverages Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) communication to enhance ambulance response times by enabling real-time data exchange between emergency vehicles, traffic signals, and urban infrastructure. This system integrates Dedicated Short-Range Communication (DSRC) and Cellular-V2X (C-V2X) to dynamically control traffic lights, prioritizing ambulances while minimizing disruptions to other vehicles. By utilizing IoT sensors and GPS tracking, the system provides accurate real-time location updates, ensuring optimal route selection. Additionally, cloud-based data processing enables rapid decision-making and coordination between traffic management centers and emergency services.

To further enhance efficiency, the system incorporates AI-driven traffic prediction models that analyze historical and real-time congestion data to identify the fastest possible routes. These predictive algorithms enable proactive adjustments to traffic signals, reducing delays at intersections and ensuring smooth passage for ambulances. Furthermore, edge computing is utilized to minimize latency in data processing, allowing for immediate decision-making at critical junctures. The integration of an automated traffic control mechanism ensures seamless operation across different urban regions, improving overall emergency response effectiveness.

The proposed system also emphasizes security and scalability, ensuring that data transmission between vehicles and infrastructure remains protected through blockchain-based encryption. The use of decentralized data management prevents unauthorized access and ensures system reliability. Additionally, the system is designed to be easily adaptable to future advancements in autonomous emergency vehicles, enhancing long-term viability. By implementing this intelligent emergency response framework, cities can significantly improve ambulance transit times, reduce congestion, and enhance public safety in urban environments.

METHODOLOGY

The Emergency Activation Module is the starting point of the V2X communication system. It is activated whenever an ambulance is in emergency mode, signifying that it needs immediate priority passage. This module is integrated with the ambulance’s onboard systems, allowing it to be triggered manually by the ambulance driver or automatically upon emergency activation.

Once activated, this module not only initiates the transmission of priority signals but also establishes a continuous feed of the ambulance’s location, speed, and direction. This module lays the foundation for V2X communication, ensuring that all necessary modules are engaged in real-time and capable of handling high-speed, prioritybased transmissions.

The Ambulance Broadcast Module is responsible for sending V2X-based priority signals from the ambulance to surrounding vehicles and infrastructure. This module is crucial for broadcasting alerts that instruct other vehicles to move aside and traffic lights to adjust accordingly. The broadcast signal covers a range of up to one kilometer, ensuring that vehicles and traffic signals within this radius are notified well in advance of the ambulance’s approach.

The module transmits data in real-time, including updates on the ambulance’s location, direction, and estimated arrival times at key intersections. The signals generated by this module are designed to be compatible with On-Board Units (OBUs) in other vehicles, which process the information and generate driver alerts. The Ambulance Broadcast Module ensures that the ambulance is continuously transmitting alerts, facilitating an unimpeded path through congested areas. By maintaining a steady data stream to all relevant components, this module enables efficient, synchronized responses from nearby vehicles and traffic infrastructure.

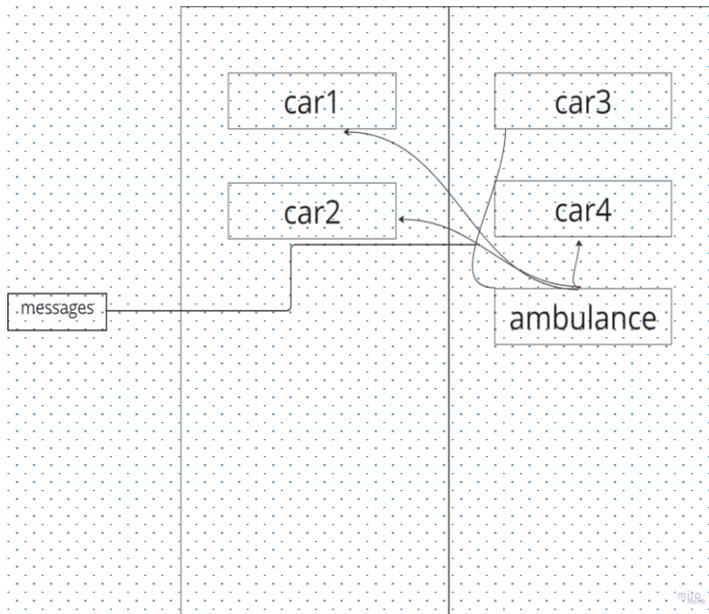


Fig. 1: Architecture 1

A. initiation modules

Emergency Activation Module: This module triggers the entire V2X system when the ambulance is in emergency mode. It initiates communication with nearby vehicles and traffic infrastructure.

Location and Route Tracking Module: Tracks the ambulance’s real-time position, direction, and speed, forming the basis for alert and route management.

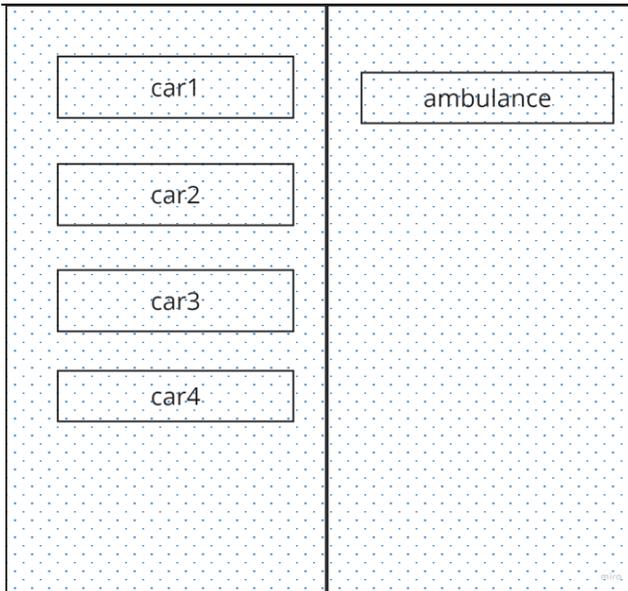


Fig.2.Architecture 2

B. communication and alert modules

Ambulance Broadcast Module: Sends priority signals from the ambulance to all relevant vehicles and traffic lights within the specified range. **Vehicle Alert Module (OBU Interface):** Receives and displays the ambulance's signal on the vehicles' On-Board Units, instructing drivers to clear the way.

C.data management and security modules

Traffic Light Control Module: Adjusts traffic light sequences in the ambulance's path, ensuring it receives priority at intersections. **Intersection Coordination Module:** Synchronizes traffic signals across multiple intersections, allowing for continuous ambulance movement.

D. Traffic management modules

Traffic Light Control Module: Adjusts traffic light sequences in the ambulance's path, ensuring it receives priority at intersections. **Intersection Coordination Module:** Synchronizes traffic signals across multiple intersections, allowing for continuous ambulance movement.

E. Monitoring and maintenance modules

System Health Monitoring Module: Continuously checks the status of all active components, identifying and reporting any potential issues. **Performance Feedback and Update Module:** Gathers data on system performance metrics, manages software updates, and adapts the system based on real-time feedback for continuous improvement.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The implementation of V2X (Vehicle-to-Everything) technology in ambulance response systems has the potential to significantly reduce emergency response times, enhance road safety, and improve overall efficiency in healthcare logistics.

By enabling real-time communication between ambulances, traffic signals, and other road users, V2X technology ensures priority passage for emergency vehicles, minimizing delays caused by congestion and traffic bottlenecks. This project is technically feasible, given the advancements in V2X communication, GPS tracking, and smart traffic management. Financial feasibility depends on securing government funding, private sector investment, and potential partnerships with smart city initiatives.

Operationally, phased implementation and pilot testing in select urban areas will help refine the system before a full-scale rollout. While challenges such as high implementation costs, integration complexities, and cybersecurity risks exist, they can be mitigated through government collaboration, strategic planning, and robust security measures. Overall, this project presents a transformative approach to modernizing emergency medical response systems.

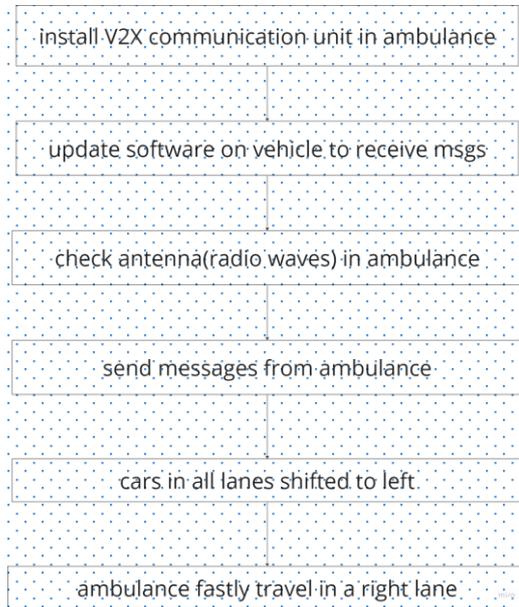


Fig 3: Deployment Workflow

CONCLUSION

Implementing C-V2X technology in ambulances is a promising solution to reduce emergency response times in busy urban environments. By enabling direct communication between ambulances and surrounding vehicles up to a 1 km range, C-V2X facilitates timely notifications, allowing other drivers to yield and make way efficiently. The integration of an On-Board Unit (OBU) in vehicles, coupled with a specialized application, enables seamless processing and display of these alerts on infotainment systems. This system can greatly enhance road safety, improve traffic flow during emergencies, and save lives by ensuring that first responders reach critical situations faster. As C-V2X continues to evolve with advancements in 5G, this approach will become increasingly reliable and effective, setting the foundation for safer, smarter cities. The proposed V2X-based ambulance response system successfully enhances emergency vehicle transit efficiency by leveraging AI-driven traffic control and real-time communication technologies. By integrating GPS tracking, machine learning for traffic analysis, and blockchain for data security, the system significantly reduces ambulance response times.

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