Project 95: Four-Way Traffic Signal with Emergency Mode

A Comprehensive Study of Advanced Digital Circuits

By: Abhishek Sharma , Ayush Jain , Gati Goyal, Nikunj Agrawal

Documentation Specialist: Dhruv Patel & Nandini Maheshwari

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1 Project Overview

To develop a traffic signal system that effectively manages a four-way intersection, ensuring smooth traffic flow and providing an emergency mode for prioritizing emergency vehicles like ambulances, fire trucks, and police vehicles.

Key Features: ***Four-Way Signal Control:***

- Sequential control of Red, Yellow, and Green lights for four roads.
- Adjustable signal timing based on traffic density (optional feature).

Emergency Mode:

- Detects the presence of an emergency vehicle (via sensors, RFID, or wireless communication).
- Temporarily overrides the normal traffic signal sequence to allow the emergency vehicle to pass safely.

Manual Override:

- Allows traffic authorities to manually control the signals during special circumstances.

Adaptive Signal Timing (Optional):

- Uses sensors (IR, cameras, or ultrasonic) to measure traffic density and dynamically adjust signal timing.

Power Backup:

- Ensures the system continues to function during power outages using a backup battery or solar power.

2 Four-Way Traffic Signal with Emergency Mode

2.1 Key Components of Four-Way Traffic Signal with Emergency Mode

Traffic Signal LEDs:

- Red, Yellow, and Green LEDs for each direction.

Microcontroller/Processor:

- Controls the signal sequence and processes input from sensors (e.g., Arduino, Raspberry Pi, or any microcontroller).

Sensors:

- IR sensors, cameras, or RFID readers for traffic density and emergency vehicle detection.

Emergency Vehicle Detection System:

- RFID tags or GPS-based communication with emergency vehicles.

Display and Alert System:

- A digital display to show the countdown for signal change and emergency alerts.

Power Supply:

- Includes a battery backup or solar panels for uninterrupted operation.

Communication Modules (Optional):

- Bluetooth, ZigBee, or GSM for real-time communication with authorities or vehicles.

2.2 Working of Four-Way Traffic Signal with Emergency Mode

Normal Mode:

- The system cycles through the standard Red, Yellow, and Green light sequence for each direction.
- Timings are pre-programmed or dynamically adjusted based on traffic density.

Emergency Mode:

- Emergency vehicle detection triggers an override in the normal sequence.
- The signal for the direction of the emergency vehicle turns Green, while others remain Red until the vehicle has passed.

Transition Back to Normal Mode:

- Once the emergency vehicle is out of the intersection, the system resumes the normal sequence.

2.3 RTL Code

Listing 1: Four-Way Traffic Signal with Emergency Mode

```
1
2  module four_way_traffic_signal (
3      input  logic clk, reset,
4      input  logic emergency, // Emergency vehicle presence (1 =
           emergency, 0 = normal)
5      output logic [3:0] traffic_lights // 4-bit output for each
           direction (North, East, South, West)
6  );
7
8      // Traffic light states for each direction
9      typedef enum logic [1:0] {RED = 2'b00, GREEN = 2'b01, YELLOW =
           2'b10} light_state_t;
10     light_state_t north, east, south, west;
11
12     // Emergency Mode Control
13     always_ff @(posedge clk or posedge reset) begin
14         if (reset) begin
15             north <= RED;
16             east <= RED;
17             south <= RED;
18             west <= RED;
19         end else if (emergency) begin
20             // In emergency mode, give priority to the North direction
                   (example)
21             north <= GREEN;
22             east <= RED;
23             south <= RED;
24             west <= RED;
25         end else begin
26             // Normal operation with cycling between the lights
27             if (north == GREEN) begin
28                 north <= YELLOW;
29                 east <= RED;
30                 south <= RED;
31                 west <= RED;
32             end else if (north == YELLOW) begin
33                 north <= RED;
34                 east <= GREEN;
```

```
                south <= RED;
                west <= RED;
            end else if (east == GREEN) begin
                east <= YELLOW;
                south <= RED;
                west <= RED;
            end else if (east == YELLOW) begin
                east <= RED;
                south <= GREEN;
                west <= RED;
            end else if (south == GREEN) begin
                south <= YELLOW;
                west <= RED;
            end else if (south == YELLOW) begin
                south <= RED;
                west <= GREEN;
            end else if (west == GREEN) begin
                west <= YELLOW;
                north <= RED;
            end else if (west == YELLOW) begin
                west <= RED;
                north <= GREEN;
            end
        end
    end

    // Output traffic lights
    always_comb begin
        traffic_lights[3:2] = (north == GREEN) ? 2'b01 : (north ==
            YELLOW) ? 2'b10 : 2'b00;
        traffic_lights[1:0] = (east == GREEN) ? 2'b01 : (east ==
            YELLOW) ? 2'b10 : 2'b00;
    end
endmodule
```

2.4 Testbench

Listing 2: Four-Way Traffic Signal with Emergency Mode

```
module tb_four_way_traffic_signal();
    logic clk, reset;
    logic emergency;
    logic [3:0] traffic_lights;

    four_way_traffic_signal uut (
        .clk(clk),
        .reset(reset),
        .emergency(emergency),
        .traffic_lights(traffic_lights)
    );

    // Clock generation
    initial begin
        clk = 0;
        forever #5 clk = ~clk; // 10ns clock period
    end

    // Test scenario
```

```
    initial begin
        reset = 1; emergency = 0; // Start with reset and no emergency
        #10 reset = 0;            // Deassert reset

        // Test normal traffic light operation (no emergency)
        #10 emergency = 0;
        #100; // Simulate normal operation for some time

        // Test emergency mode (priority for North direction)
        #10 emergency = 1; // Emergency vehicle arrives
        #50;  // Emergency mode active, only North light green

        // Test back to normal operation
        #10 emergency = 0; // Emergency ends
        #50;

        #100 $stop; // Stop simulation
    end

    // Monitor outputs
    initial begin
        $monitor("Time: %0t | Emergency: %b | Traffic Lights: %b",
                 $time, emergency, traffic_lights);
    end
endmodule
```


3 Results

3.1 Simulation

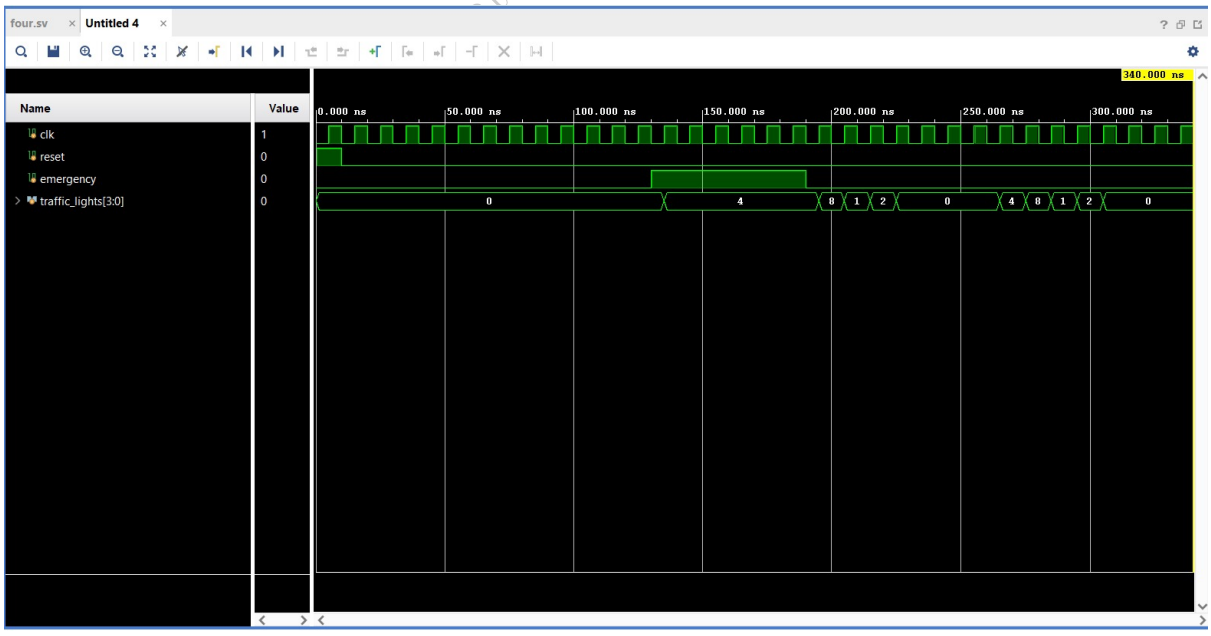

Figure 1: Simulation of Four-Way Traffic Signal with Emergency Mode

3.2 Schematic

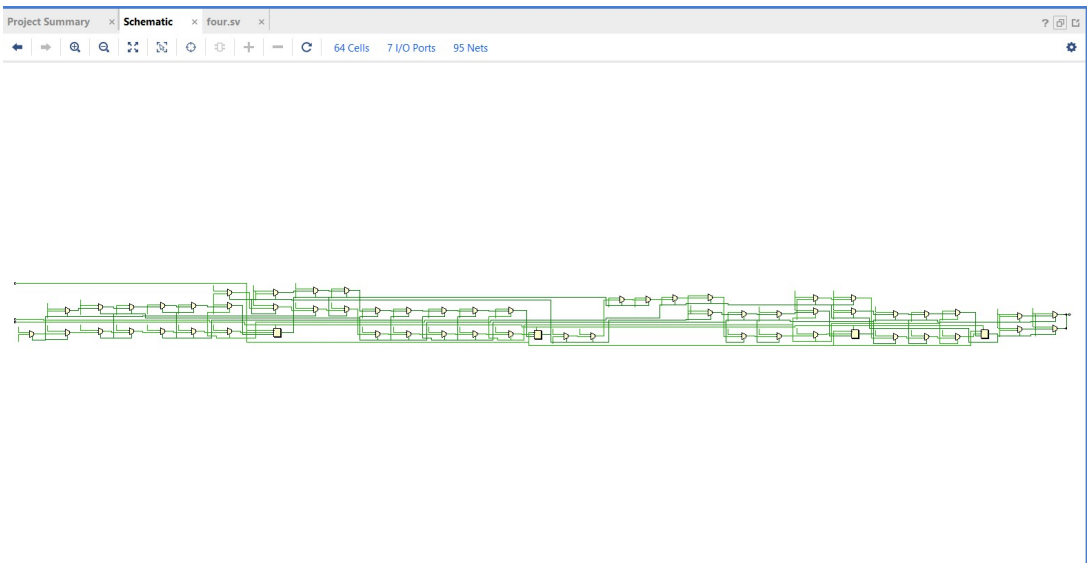

Figure 2: Schematic of Four-Way Traffic Signal with Emergency Mode

3.3 Synthesis Design

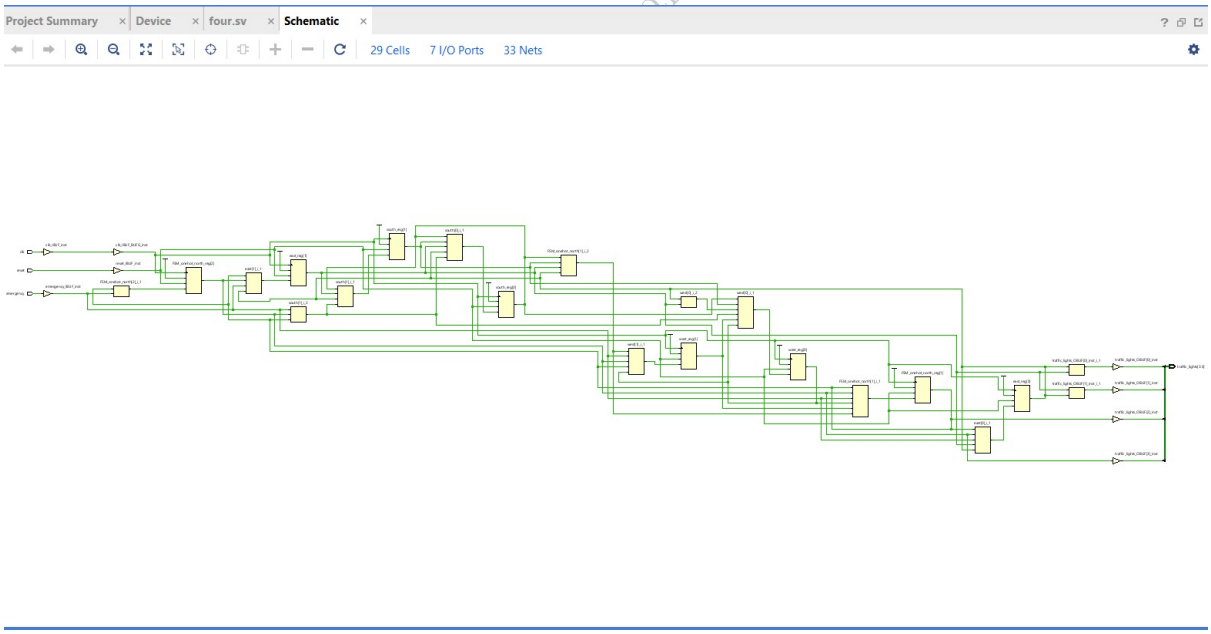

Figure 3: Synthesis Design of Four-Way Traffic Signal with Emergency Mode

4 Advantages of Four-Way Traffic Signal with Emergency Mode

- **Enhanced Safety:** Reduces accidents by ensuring orderly traffic flow and priority for emergency vehicles.
- **Faster Emergency Response:** Provides a clear path for ambulances, fire trucks, and police vehicles.
- **Reduced Traffic Congestion:** Efficiently manages vehicle flow, minimizing delays at busy intersections.
- **Dynamic Control:** Can adapt to varying traffic densities using sensors for optimized signal timing.
- **Cost-Effective:** Prevents the need for manual traffic management during emergencies.
- **Eco-Friendly:** Reduces idle time and fuel consumption by minimizing traffic jams.
- **Reliable Operation:** Ensures uninterrupted functioning with power backup systems.
- **Scalability:** Can integrate with smart city infrastructure and IoT for broader traffic management solutions.

5 Disadvantages of Four-Way Traffic Signal with Emergency Mode

- **High Initial Cost:** Implementation requires investment in sensors, communication systems, and microcontrollers.
- **Complex Maintenance:** Advanced components like sensors and communication modules may need frequent maintenance.
- **Emergency Vehicle Detection Challenges:** Issues like interference, malfunctioning RFID tags, or missed detection can disrupt operations.
- **Traffic Confusion:** Abrupt signal changes for emergency vehicles may confuse regular drivers, increasing accident risk.
- **Dependency on Technology:** System failures due to power outages, software bugs, or hardware malfunctions can cause significant disruptions.
- **Scalability Issues:** Integrating the system with existing infrastructure might be challenging and costly.
- **Environmental Limitations:** Weather conditions like rain, fog, or snow may reduce sensor accuracy.
- **Potential Hacking Risk:** Systems connected to communication networks can be vulnerable to cybersecurity threats.

6 Applications of Four-Way Traffic Signal with Emergency Mode

- **Urban Traffic Management:** Ensures smooth vehicle flow in busy city intersections.
- **Emergency Vehicle Priority:** Provides faster clearance for ambulances, fire trucks, and police vehicles.
- **Hospitals and Emergency Centers:** Facilitates rapid access to critical care facilities.
- **Disaster Management Zones:** Helps manage traffic during evacuations or emergency responses.
- **Smart Cities:** Integrates with IoT systems for intelligent traffic control.
- **High-Density Areas:** Reduces congestion in areas with heavy traffic flow.
- **Event Management:** Optimizes traffic control during large public events.
- **Military Applications:** Ensures secure and prioritized movement for defense vehicles.

7 Conclusion

The Four-Way Traffic Signal with Emergency Mode is a practical and innovative solution to modern traffic management challenges, addressing both routine and critical needs at intersections. It combines traditional traffic control mechanisms with advanced technologies like sensors and communication systems to optimize traffic flow and ensure priority passage for emergency vehicles. This dual functionality significantly improves road safety, reduces response times for emergencies, and minimizes traffic congestion.

The system's capability to adapt to real-time traffic density enhances its efficiency, making it a valuable addition to urban infrastructure. Its integration with smart city initiatives can further expand its utility, connecting it with IoT frameworks for broader traffic and resource management. Additionally, features like manual override and power backup ensure reliability and flexibility under various scenarios, making it suitable for diverse applications, from urban intersections to disaster response zones.

However, the implementation of such a system is not without challenges. Initial setup costs, maintenance requirements, and potential technological failures pose limitations. Moreover, ensuring consistent and accurate detection of emergency vehicles remains a critical factor for the system's effectiveness. Addressing these challenges through robust design, regular updates, and integration with advanced technologies like AI and machine learning can enhance the system's functionality and reliability.

In conclusion, the Four-Way Traffic Signal with Emergency Mode represents a significant step forward in intelligent traffic management. By balancing the needs of regular commuters and emergency services, it has the potential to save lives, improve urban mobility, and contribute to sustainable transportation systems. With further development and widespread adoption, this solution could play a crucial role in shaping the future of smart, efficient, and safe traffic management systems worldwide.

8 FAQs

1. What is a Four-Way Traffic Signal with Emergency Mode?

- It is a traffic management system designed for four-way intersections that manages routine traffic flow and prioritizes emergency vehicles by temporarily overriding the normal signal sequence.

2. How does the emergency mode work?

- Emergency vehicles are detected using sensors, RFID, or communication modules. Once detected, the system overrides the regular signal cycle to provide a clear path for the emergency vehicle.

3. What components are required to build this system?

- LEDs for traffic lights
- Microcontroller (e.g., Arduino, Raspberry Pi)
- Sensors (e.g., IR sensors, RFID readers)
- Emergency detection system
- Communication modules (optional)
- Power backup

4. What are the advantages of this system?

- Enhances road safety
- Reduces emergency vehicle response time
- Manages traffic congestion efficiently
- Adapts to real-time traffic density
- Supports smart city initiatives

5. What are the limitations of this system?

- High initial setup cost
- Dependency on technology, prone to malfunctions
- Sensor accuracy may be affected by weather
- Requires regular maintenance

6. Can the system operate during power outages?

- Yes, it can be equipped with a power backup system such as batteries or solar panels for uninterrupted operation.

7. Where can this system be implemented?

- It is suitable for urban intersections, emergency zones, disaster management areas, and smart city projects.

8. Can the system handle multiple emergency vehicles simultaneously?

- Yes, with appropriate programming, the system can prioritize multiple emergency vehicles and manage their passage effectively.

9. How is traffic density measured?

- Sensors like IR, ultrasonic, or cameras are used to detect the number of vehicles, helping adjust signal timing dynamically.

10. Can the system be integrated into existing traffic management systems?

- Yes, it can be integrated with existing infrastructure, though this may require additional customization and upgrades.