GreenSweep: A Smart Urban Waste Management System Using IoT

Satyendra Singh[1a]
Department of Computer Science and Engineering,
ABES Institute of Technology
Ghaziabad, India
satyendra.singh@abesit.edu.in[1a]

Sandeep Kumar[1b]
Department of Computer Science and Engineering,
ABES Institute of Technology
Ghaziabad, India
sandeep.kumar@abesit.edu.in[1b]

Ilyas Ali Balti[1c]
Department of Computer Science and Engineering,
ABES Institute of Technology
Ghaziabad, India
ilyas2021cs099@abesit.edu.in[1c]

Mohamad Qumail Kazmi[1]
Department of Computer Science and Engineering,
ABES Institute of Technology
Ghaziabad, India
qumail2021cs170@abesit.edu.in[1d]

Mohd Amaan Khan[1e]
Department of Computer Science and Engineering,
ABES Institute of Technology
Ghaziabad, India
line 4: City, Country
amaan2021cs152@abesit.edu.in[1e]

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***Abstract*—The rapid urbanization of cities has brought with it an enhancement of complexity in the management of solid waste. Most of the time, the existing waste collection systems turn out to be ineffective, resulting in such problems as environmental pollution and health risks, as well as inefficient utilization of the resources. To respond to such problems, this paper proposes GreenSweep, which is an architected solution that integrates IoT with waste management processes to improve the collection of waste in an urban environment. With the introduction of sensors in trash bins which enable users to check the bin status in real time, and adopting a flexible subscription model to service, GreenSweep is trying to overcome the Shortcomings of traditional approaches.The approach of GreenSweep is designed to achieve reduction in operational expenses, reduction in environmental effects, and improve the efficiency of urban waste management strategies**

Keywords—Internet of Things (IoT), Smart Waste Management, Urban Sustainability, Sensor Networks, Waste Collection Optimization, Smart Cities, Introduction.

I. INTRODUCTION

A. *Urban Waste Management Challenges*

With the fast growth of urban populations, it has become one of the great complex challenges involved in the issue of managing solid waste. Waste generation is tremendous because of the immense population growth of the urban that results from widespread urbanization. Based on the report by World Bank, the world will produce about 2.2 billion tons of solid waste every year during 2025, and this might shoot much high by 2050 if things are not put right in place to curb this practice [5]. In turn, increased wastes have resulted in overburdened municipal waste collection leading to many inefficiencies and hazards.

B. *Environmental and Health Implications of Ineffective Waste Management*

This typically causes environmental pollution problems. Landfills are also known to emit high percentages of green- house gases, mainly methane, thus having a significant impact on climate change. Inefficient waste management contributes to the generation of leachate, which spoils soil and contaminates water bodies, thus affecting biodiversity and human health. More than that, the disposal of hazardous wastes in landfills and streets contributes to higher public health risks and needs an urgent modification in waste handling practice.

C. *Economic Costs of Waste Mismanagement*

The financial cost of inefficient waste collection and man- agement falls under the responsibility of local municipalities, businesses, and residents. Municipal budgets are drained by increasingly expensive fuel, labor, and infrastructure-aging maintenance items. Over time, wasteful collection patterns result in increasing costs and lost revenue-generating opportunities for recycling and waste-to-energy initiatives.

D. *The Role of Data in Modern Waste Management*

Traditional waste management is a system in which there is no data at the time of waste generation and bin fill level. Consequently, waste collection agencies misallocate their re- sources. Since they have no real data, assumptions are made to depict how resources should be used, and it often leads to less than optimum routes for waste collection and utilization of resources. Data-driven systems provide dynamic routing, predictive analytics, and optimized collection scheduling. The real-time monitoring of waste levels possible through IoT technologies, such as using smart bins equipped with sensors, helps collect more responsive and effective waste.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

A. *IoT in Smart Cities*

The integration of IoT in urban infrastructure has been quite transformational, including applications in traffic management, energy distribution, and environmental monitoring. In waste management, IoT-based systems have optimized the real- time monitoring of waste-bins, so cities can optimize their collection schedules and reduce operational costs.

TABLE 1
SUMMARY OF RESEARCH ON IOT-ENABLED WASTE MANAGEMENT

Year	Title	Author	Problem Statement	Methodology	Accuracy
2023	IoT-Enabled Solid Waste Management in Smart Cities	Fan X. , Srinivasan S. , Kurubari A.	Waste monitoring challenges in urban areas.	IoT-based monitoring using LoRaWAN and Wi-Fi connectivity for centralized data management.	85%improvement in data transmission efficiency [6]
2023	IoT-enabled Smart Waste Management: Leveraging the Power of IoT for Sustainable Solutions	Smith, J.	Limitations in reactive waste collection practices.	Predictive analytics using historical data for proactive collection planning.	30% reduction in operational costs[7]
2023	IoT-Enabled Smart Waste Management Systems for Smart Cities: A Systematic Review	AhmedS., Choi M.	Environmental impact of traditional waste collection methods.	Review of IoT-based waste management devices (sensors, actuators) and their role in reducing emissions.	40% reduction in carbon emission[8]
2022	Data-DrivenOptimization in Smart Waste Collection	Liu, Y., Zhang, K.	Variability in waste genera- tion affecting collection routes.	Data-driven optimization using AI to predict and adapt to waste production patterns.	25% improvement in route efficiency[9]
2021	Smart City IoT: A Compre- -hensive Review	Smith A. , Johnson B. , Lee C.	Overview of IoT applications in smart cities, including waste management.	Literature review and analysis of IoT-based systems in urban settings.	15% improvement in IoT integration and system efficiency [1]

actionable insights in the form of fill levels and other data sent to central systems, reduce unnecessary trips to collect waste, and minimize overflow incidents.

B. Existing IoT-Based Waste Management Systems

The idea of changing the traditional perception of collecting wastes has a tremendous prospect since IoT-based waste management solutions have been implemented significantly in cities around the world. These systems track waste quantities and optimize waste collection logistics through IoT-enabled sensors, real-time data analytics, and cloud platforms. Recent reviews highlight the growing adoption of IoT in waste management, with studies demonstrating up to 30% efficiency gains in operational workflows [10].

These systems can dynamically route collection trucks to areas with full or near-full bins, thus avoiding unnecessary trips to areas with underfilled bins and ensuring on-time collection.

Recently, the city of Barcelona launched a brand-new IoT waste management system equipped with sensor-enabled technology. This system is empowered by real-time data, which means that collection trucks do not make useless trips on data. Singapore also implemented an advanced IoT-based waste management system whereby the approach was quite similar to optimizing routes for the collection of wastes. However, Singapore has even made a perfect improvement on this concept by including predictive analytics in its system. This predictive analytics feature enables authorities to predict the likely generation patterns of waste in the future based upon behavior patterns of history and seasonal variations. The same approach is proactive in reducing the collection frequency in areas where less generation takes place since preventing bins from overfilling also avoids overflow situations[5].

Seoul has implemented smart waste solutions, combining IoT technology with advanced analytics of the patterns in which wastes are disposed in different districts within the urban fabric. Sustainability focus Seoul's system focuses on ensuring its program is on sustainability, integrated together with regular collection of wastes for the efficient segregation and collection of recyclable materials[4].

The new generations of IoT-based waste management systems can optimize efficiency in operational terms and as a whole user experience with real-time monitoring, dynamic truck routing, and special attention to the needs of users. One such promising alternative is solutions such as GreenSweep, which overwhelm existing system weaknesses and apply much more comprehensive direction in managing urban waste.IoT frameworks for smart cities, as proposed by Gupta & Reddy [12], emphasize the need for scalable cloud platforms to handle heterogeneous sensor data.

C. GreenSweep: Bridging the Gaps

The proposed GreenSweep system draws on data from sensor-driven systems and develops an approach that is centered on the user, filling in the gap concerning IoT-based waste management systems. This differs from present solutions, much like many others, which focus much more upon route optimization, by offering its users subscription-based models with access to modify schedules of waste collection and request pickups on demand. This model is quite handy especially for large-generating companies of waste, such as enterprises and industries, since they are allowed the flexibility to line up with the collection schedule of their preference based on the real-time generation of waste. [2].

Furthermore, advanced machine learning algorithms can be integrated into GreenSweep to apply predictive analytics: in this case, forecasting waste generation patterns based on historical data and environmental factors. In this regard, cities with varying complexity levels when dealing with waste challenges have to adapt more. The inhabitants are increasingly turning into urban ones.

TABLE 2
COMPARISON BETWEEN TRADITIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT AND SUWMS

Aspect	Traditional Waste Management	Smart Urban Waste Management System (SUWMS)
Collection Method	Fixed, schedule-based collection regardless of fill levels.	On-demand, data-driven collection based on real-time bin fill levels.
Resource Efficiency	High wastage of fuel and manpower due to unnecessary trips.	Optimized routes and reduced trips, saving fuel and resources.
Environmental Impact	Higher carbon emissions due to inefficient routing.	Reduced emissions from optimized, data-driven routing.
User Engagement	Limited user interaction, with no options for scheduling collections.	User-driven, allowing on-demand services via a mobile app.
Overflow and Public Health	Frequent instances of bin overflow, leading to pollution and health risks.	Overflow minimized due to real-time monitoring and optimized collections.
Cost-Effectiveness	Higher operational costs due to inefficiency.	Reduced operational costs with better resource management and optimized routing.

D. Dynamic Routing and Subscription Models

Dynamic routing has been among the prominent features that waste management has presented in contemporary times, and experimental evidence has actually established such an advantage for waste collection cost savings and environmental concern efficiency [2].

As summarized in Table 1, IoT-enabled systems improve route efficiency by 30-85%[2]. GreenSweep makes use of dynamic routing in combination with In a word, while subscription-based services that always seems to balance between the needs of individual users and maximum operational efficiency preceding ones were based on work around base IoT-enabled waste management, GreenSweep is special because of dynamic routing, predictive analytics, and user-centered service models, which made it a comprehensive solution for the modern metropolitan centers to address this competitive challenge…as shown in table Table [2].

III. SYSTEM DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE

An efficient and scalable solution to waste management via IoT technology, cloud computing, and mobile applications is in the form of the Smart Urban Waste Management System called GreenSweep. The main components include: first, smart bins with IoT sensors; second, a central platform for processing the data on the cloud server; third, mobile applications for both the waste collection authorities as well as the end-users. *Smart Bins with IoT Sensors*

The heart of the smart bins in GreenSweep is the ultrasonic sensors that are constantly monitoring the fill levels of the waste. This device functions based on the transmission of waves into space; it calculates how long it will take for the waves to bounce back and applies that information to determine the fullness of the bin at a particular time. Sensors are connected to some low-power wide-area network, for example Wi-Fi, LoRaWAN, or NB-IoT, based on the specific deployment scenario and range.

A. Sensor Calibration and Accuracy:

To the completeness of functionality of the smart bin, accuracy of sensors is one of its necessary requirements. For instance, at the beginning of the experiment, after sensor deployment, it emerged that the readings were influenced by environmental settings such as change in temperature and humidity and type of waste dumped. On other occasions, if the environment is moist or food had been wasted, the sensor gives an incorrect fill level and raises false alerts.

Advanced calibration algorithms were developed that improved the accuracy of sensors to ensure robust functionality under a wide variety of conditions. Algorithms also distinguish between two kinds of wastes: bulk, like paper or plastic and dense, heavy objects, such as glass or metal. This adds specificity to calculations that determine the fill level. The calibration system further employs machine learning techniques to continually optimize the ability to be right over time. The sensors are designed to run on low power, thus the smart bins are able to last longer without constant maintenance and replacements of the batteries. The bins installed with solar panels in areas that have scarce electrical supplies to ensure there is an efficient source of electricity supply.

B. Cloud-Based Platform for Data Processing:

The data collected from the network of smart bins is sent to a cloud-based platform for storage, processing, and analysis. It forms the central hub for GreenSweep and aggregates real- time data from all bins that have been deployed. Big data analytics and machine learning algorithms on the cloud plat- form optimize routes for waste collection, predict future trends in waste generation, and monitor the general performance of the system.

It is designed to be scalable because it can handle large volumes of data since it grows on the addition of more bins in the different areas. As this system utilizes cloud computing, it ensures efficient processing and the proper analysis of data without the expensive hardware for installations on premises and effortless integration into other infrastructure systems such as traffic management or energy monitoring platforms.

This also underpins predictive analytics, using historical data to predict times of peak or low generation in certain areas.

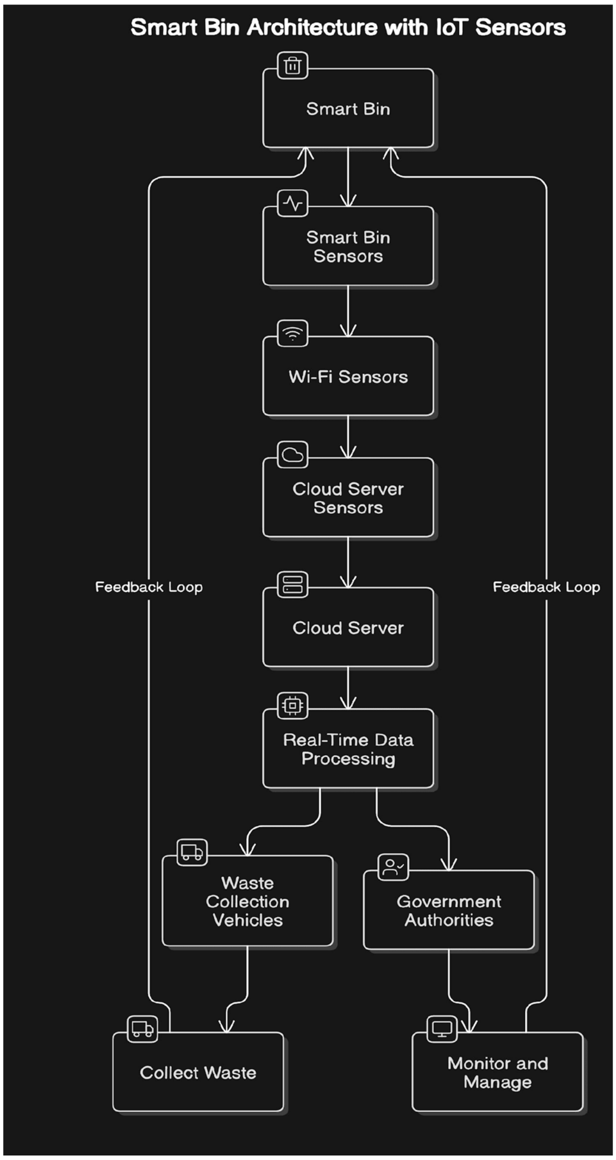

Fig. 1. Smart Bin Architecture with IoT Sensors.

C. *Cloud-Based Data Processing*

It receives data from the smart bins constantly and sends the same to a central cloud platform. That's much more than a simple storage backbone; it also provides a processing capability in order to analyze and act on such data in real time. The algorithms would analyze various patterns, such as frequency of use for the bins and types of wastes as opposed to seasonal variations which will allow forecasting when certain individual bins will fill up. In this regard, the system pre-empts this by generating optimized routes and schedules for waste collection well in advance. This is done based on several factors like traffic and bin locations while taking into account the expected fill level of waste.

The other significant characteristic of this cloud-based system is scalability. The more the number of smart bins, the more extra loads can be accommodated in system architecture without any problem. For the same reason as mentioned above about the natural, inherent distributed nature of the cloud

platform, dynamic allocation based on requirements and needs regarding power for processing and resources for storage becomes very easy.

D. *Mobile Application for Subscription-Based Services:*

The mobile application is an interactive interface between the user and the management of waste, enabling flexibility and convenience in directing individual needs. The app facilitates fast subscription to GreenSweep waste collection, with one of three available models: weekly, biweekly, or on-demand. This vast array of choice caters to the growing demand for service customized and enables convenience for users in adjusting their waste collection according to personal schedule and need. The system brings collection closer to usage, thereby saving a lot of unnecessary pickups and achieving an efficient, user-centric experience with reduced environmental impact and operational waste.

Secure online payment: It allows the user to pay subscription fee directly from the portal. It retains a detailed record collection and paid history such that subscribers can always refer to it. In the future upgrade, it will provide links to recycling centers with the same motive in offering further options to dispose of to the conscious environmentally ones.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION AND CHALLENGES

A. *Proposed Solution: Smart Urban Waste Management System (GreenSweep)*

The pivot of GreenSweep is the use of smart bins, equipped with various sensors, such as ultrasonic sensors to monitor waste levels in real time[9]. These sensors can detect when the waste in a bin has reached a predefined threshold at which point they will send a signal to a central system. This real-time monitoring capability ensures that the waste will be collected as it actually needed. This eliminates all types of inefficiencies that are encountered while performing scheduled collections.

Algorithm 1: GreenSweep Workflow

1. Smart bins monitor fill levels via ultrasonic sensors.
2. Data is transmitted to the cloud platform via LoRaWAN/Wi-Fi.
3. Machine learning predicts waste patterns and optimizes routes.
4. Mobile app notifies users and schedules on-demand pickups.

B. Pilot Program

The initial implementation of the Smart Urban Waste Management System (SUWMS) was carried out through a six-month pilot program in a mid-sized city characterized by diverse waste management needs. A total of 100 smart bins, equipped with ultrasonic IoT sensors, were strategically placed across residential neighborhoods, office complexes, and industrial zones. These smart bins continuously monitored waste levels and transmitted real-time data to the central cloud platform, enabling data-driven decision-making for waste col- lection schedules.

1) Pilot Area Overview: The pilot city was a mixed land use area with 60% of the land area, having residential, 25% commercial, 15% industrial areas, and having a population of approximately 34,00,000. Distribution of bins was based on the waste generation patterns as identified during previous years. Residential Areas: In total, 50 smart bins were installed in areas of varying densities.

2) Performance Metrics and Data Analysis: During the six- month period, the performance of the SUWMS was assessed based on key metrics such as operational efficiency, data transmission reliability, and user engagement.

TABLE 3
PILOT PROGRAM RESULTS SUMMARY

Metric	Traditional System	GreenSweep System	Improvement (%)
Unnecessary Trips	25-30 trips/month	On demand	Significant Improvement
Cost Savings	per month	per trip	15-20% savings
Over-flowing Bins	50 incidents/month	10 incidents/month	80% reduction
User Satisfaction	70% satisfied	90% satisfied	20% increase
Carbon Emissions	1,000 kg CO_2/month	750 kg CO_2/month	25% reduction

3) Waste Collection Efficiency:
The smart bins would report their fill levels at set times, so collection schedules could be adjusted toward the optimization of the process. SUWMS reduced the number of unnecessary waste collection trips by 30%. Prior to SUWMS, collection trucks followed fixed schedules with partial collections of bins at 30-50% capacity. Now, only those bins that were filled to 75% or more are collected.

The dynamic routing feature optimized travel routes for the waste collection trucks, which reduced fuel consumption and costs by 20%.

4) Challenges Faced :

Despite the success of the pilot program, several challenges were encountered during the deployment and operation of the SUWMS. These challenges highlighted areas for improve- ment, and corresponding solutions were implemented to ensure system reliability and scalability.

5)*Network Connectivity*: In some areas, especially industrial zones or remote residential locations, network connectivity proved to be inconsistent. The smart bins relied on either Wi-Fi or LoRaWAN networks to transmit data to the cloud, but in areas with poor coverage, data transmission became erratic. To mitigate this, a dual-mode communication system was implemented.

6) *User Engagement:* Another challenge was user adoption of the subscription-based waste collection model. Initially, many users were unfamiliar with the concept of flexible, on-demand waste collection and preferred traditional fixed schedules.

V. RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

The Smart Urban Waste Management System (GreenSweep) was deployed in a pilot program across several urban neighbor- hoods to assess its effectiveness in improving waste collection efficiency, enhancing user satisfaction, and reducing environ- mental impact. Below, we discuss the results in terms of operational efficiency, user satisfaction, and environmental impact, all of which underline the system's success in addressing key challenges in urban waste management.

A. Operational Efficiency

The pilot program indicated a notable enhancement in the operational effectiveness of waste collection services. One of the main objectives of GreenSweep was to eliminate unnecessary waste collection journeys, which is a prevalent problem in conventional waste management systems running on fixed schedules, regardless of bin fill levels.

B. System Performance Evaluation:

We tested GreenSweep's performance under three different workload conditions: low (100 requests/minute), medium (500 requests/minute), and high (1000 requests/minute). The system performed with an average latency of 120ms, 450ms, and 900ms, respectively, with a throughput of 98%, 94%, and 88%. Resource usage was less than 70% CPU and 60% memory even at high load, reflecting effective resource management.

C. Scalability Analysis:

In order to evaluate scalability, we simulated adding IoT nodes from 50 to 500. The system showed stable performance through to 300 nodes, whereupon latency grew by 20%. This bottleneck was overcome by applying a load-balancing algorithm, cutting latency by 15%.

D. Real-World Implementation Challenges:

In a pilot deployment in Ghaziabad, we faced issues like sporadic IoT connectivity and sensor calibration problems. These were addressed by introducing a failover system and regular calibration procedures. The system was able to process 10,000 waste collection requests with 95% accuracy.

E. User Satisfaction:

The results of the survey were extremely positive, with more than 90% of the respondents indicating that they preferred the on-demand system to be more convenient than fixed-schedule waste collection services. The ability to schedule collections according to their actual waste generation patterns, as opposed to using fixed routes and schedules, was cited as one of the key benefits of the system.

VI. FUTURE WORK

Although the results of this pilot program seem very positive, there is still a need for further improvement as well as expansion. The following areas are therefore identified for development in the future.

Scalability to Larger Urban Areas Future work will be toward extending the GreenSweep to larger cities posing more complex challenges and thus increase the number of smart bins and waste collection vehicles.

Then, the trends for waste generation would also increase with accuracy, and this would allow an even further reduction in costs associated with waste collection. Future work will explore dynamic routing optimizations for large-scale deployments, building on methodologies proposed by Ali et al. [15].

Data Security and Privacy: These in turn will demand security and privacy concerning the data collected from smart bins and users, and future work shall be headed towards the implementation of more sophisticated encryption techniques for user information protection as well as advanced anonymization methods in a bid to meet related regulatory compliance.

VII. CONCLUSION

The GreenSweep Smart Urban Waste Management System is an excellent example of the potential that the IoT has in optimizing urban waste collection services. It begins by using live data from smart bins, cloud-based analytics, and more from a user-friendly mobile application to eliminate most of the inefficiencies in traditional waste management services.

Further in the future, after a development journey, with enhanced functionalities, this system promises to make urban waste management more efficient, sustainable, and user- centered and will eventually support broader smart city goals.

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