Chapter 3 Proposed Solution and Analysis

3.1 High Level Architectural Diagram

In simplest terms, the system, named "Routed" (Refer Fig 3.1), which we aim to develop, is a bus scheduler to optimize the transport system currently in place. With the current scenario of crowded buses and the delay and discomfort caused by the crowd as well as the traffic, this system hopes to alleviate the aforementioned problems.

The schedule manager has to input the data records for buses i.e., the tickets sold for the previous weeks into the "Routed" system and simply wait to receive the output - an optimized bus schedule for the coming week and the number of buses per route – as the system goes about working on the input. The system essentially groups the data according to various grouping criteria and then uses the input data to predict travel patterns so as to come up with an "intelligent" solution i.e., the optimized schedule which is given to the schedule manager and a count of the number of buses along each route given to the bus regulator who can then decide which bus should make trips on which route.

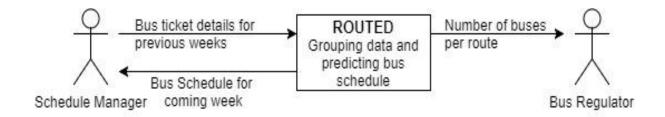


Fig 3.1 High Level Architectural Diagram

3.1 Low Level Architectural Diagram

The "Routed" System is aimed at optimizing bus schedules on specific routes so as to alleviate traffic problems and the delay caused because of the same. The entire system can be broken down into multiple modules with each module responsible for certain tasks. The system is divided into the following modules (Refer Fig 3.2):

1) Data Cleansing and Validation:

Input: Bus records from previous weeks (Fed by Schedule Manager)

Output: Cleaned and validated dataset

Function: To check the input data records for attributes, data range and format of data.

2) Clustering Data Records:

Input: Cleaned Dataset

Output: Data records on each route with attribute list

Function: To group data records into clusters based on the route corresponding to that data record. For example, data clusters will be labelled as Route X, Route Y and so on with the records in that cluster being either a sub-route or the route itself.

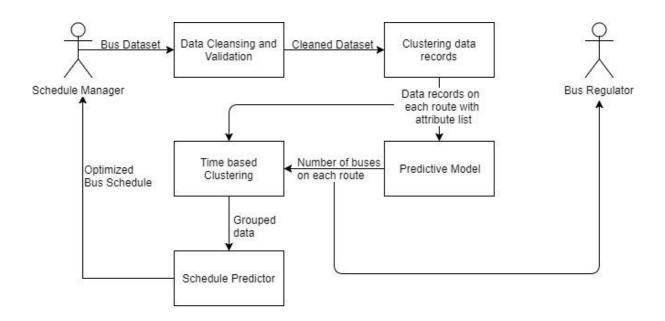


Fig 3.2 Low-Level Architectural Diagram

3) Predictive Model:

Input: Data records on each route with attribute list

Output: Number of buses on each route (Sent to Bus Regulator)

Function: To determine the number of buses on a route based on the traffic and frequency of passengers on that route. This information can be used by the Bus Regulator to decide which buses would run on which route.

4) Time based Clustering:

Input: Number of buses on each route and Data records on each route with attribute list

Output: Grouped data

Function: To further form clusters inside the existing cluster based on the timestamps to identify time slots where there is greater need for buses as compared to other time slots.

5) Schedule Predictor:

Input: Grouped data from Time based Clustering

Output: Optimized Bus Schedule (Sent to Schedule Manager)

Function: To prepare an optimized bus schedule based on the clusters within clusters generated using modules 2 and 4. The module uses information like peak time of boarding and the number of journeys on a particular route.

3.2 Use Case Diagram

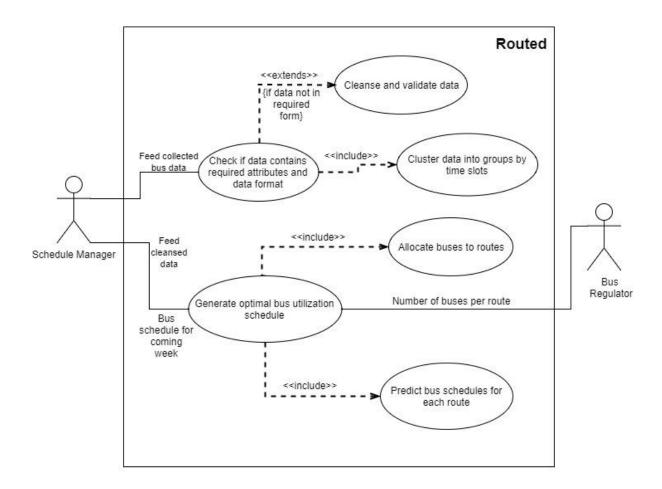


Fig 3.3 Use Case Diagram for the "Routed" System