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Sensors for Transportation Systems

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Message from the Guest Editors

The availability of different affordable sensors, together with the control over these elements that has been enabled by the Internet of Things (IoT), is triggering the development of applications in many sectors, and transportation is undoubtedly one of them. The sensing and networking abilities of IoT nodes are key features to promoting smart, efficient, safe, and scalable solutions for high-quality services, as these enable communication, information processing, and control across transportation systems, allowing for dynamic real-time decisions to be taken.

Sensors can be placed inside transportation systems (e.g, PIRs to detect overcrowding of vehicles) and/or built into highways and surface streets (e.g., impact sensors) to help detect accidents, the amount of cars in each lane, etc. Such systems allow not only drivers to adapt operations in order to increase safety, but also for routes, fleets, and schedules to be dynamically adapted in order to improve the quality of service experienced by users (both drivers and customers) and reduce costs. These systems may require data transmission between vehicles (V2V), or between vehicles and roadside access points (V2R).

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