

ISSN 1840-4855
e-ISSN 2233-0046

Original Scientific Article
<http://dx.doi.org/10.70102/afts.2025.1833.952>

DEVELOPMENT OF A HYBRID AI-DRIVEN WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR URBAN AREAS IN INDIA

Dr. Sanjay Kumar^{1*}, Dr. Sapna Bawankar²

^{1*}Assistant Professor, Kalinga University, Naya Raipur, Chhattisgarh, India.
e-mail: ku.sanjaykumar@kalingauniversity.ac.in, orcid: <https://orcid.org/0009-0004-2958-2902>

²Assistant Professor, Kalinga University, Naya Raipur, Chhattisgarh, India.
e-mail: ku.sapnabawankar@kalingauniversity.ac.in, orcid: <https://orcid.org/0009-0005-9651-582X>

Received: September 12, 2025; Revised: October 16, 2025; Accepted: November 29, 2025; Published: December 20, 2025

SUMMARY

This article introduces a cutting-edge solution, called the Hybrid AI-Driven Water Management System, to solve the critical issues of managing water resources in urban India. Most major Indian cities suffer from an increase in demand for water, poorly managed pipe networks, and an excessive amount of water being wasted due to leaks and other outdated pipe infrastructure. The system combines artificial intelligence (AI) techniques, including machine learning (ML) and optimization, with data from various kinds of sensors (IoT), such as temperature, humidity, pressure, etc., that have been installed on the water pipes of urban water distribution systems. The Hybrid model employs a Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) Algorithm to predict real-time demand surge events and uses Reinforcement Learning to dynamically optimize water distributions with respect to minimization of losses. Additionally, this hybrid approach combines predictive analytics with real-time measured data processing which allows better allocation of resources, increases operational efficiency, and provides more accurate predictions through advanced modeling techniques. The key performance measures (Mean Absolute Error — MAE; RMSE) demonstrate that the Hybrid AI Model performed significantly better than traditional models on average with an MAE of 0.18 & RMSE of 0.22 respectively. The Hybrid Model also proved to reduce water loss. Through more intelligent usage of the IoT based real-time sensor data, Autonomous Water Management was achieved by eliminating human oversight/management through Autonomous Water Usage Strategy Development, effectively reducing overall operational cost thru cost reductions associated with time saved and human labor utilized for monitoring pipe networks. The proposed system is designed to help cities make the transition from inefficient water management systems to sustainable, efficient, and cost-effective systems.

Key words: *artificial intelligence, water management, hybrid systems, urban areas, iot, water optimization, machine learning.*

INTRODUCTION

Growth in population, urbanization, climatic changes, and ineffective distribution networks are some of the factors that are increasingly challenging the urban water management in India [2]. Indian cities like Delhi, Bengaluru, and Chennai have serious problems such as water shortage, intermittency of water

supply, water leakage, and poor infrastructure. With the rising population in urban areas, the demand of water is on an increase and the capacity to distribute and manage this significant resource effectively is on the decline. This leads to unequal access of water, particularly among marginalized communities, and higher cost of operation of the municipalities [13][14]. Therefore, some new solutions are required to elevate the water management systems and make the use of water sustainable [10].

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and hybrid systems have a transformative potential in the context of dealing with the increasing urban water challenges. Machine learning (ML) and other AI techniques would be helpful in predicting the water demand, identifying leaks, and optimizing the functioning of water distribution systems in real time. A data-driven strategy to water management can be made more responsive and representative because of the hybrid systems, which embrace the use of AI and Internet of Things (IoT) streams of data [15]. With water sensors, weather prediction, and usage patterns, AI may help make decisions and real-time predictions more accurate to help urban areas maximize their available water resources and reduce wastage.

Nevertheless, the gap in adopting AI models in conjunction with real-time data to manage the water in India is still a significant gap even despite the improvement of the water management technologies. Most of the solutions in the market are usually based on a simple predictive model or manual optimization methods that are unable to dynamically respond to the dynamics. The proposed work seeks to fill this gap by introducing a hybrid AI-based system of water management, which combines the IoT data streams, uses the advanced AI models in real-time demand prediction, and optimizes the water distribution process to enable the improvement of efficiency and sustainability in Indian cities.

The Key Aims of This Study Include

1. To create a hybrid AI model, which will be a combination of machine learning (ML) and optimization approaches to real-time water demand forecasting and system optimization.
2. To combine IoT sensor streams of data to provide precise and timely information in the AI model.
3. In order to assess the performance of the proposed system based on real-life data in urban locations in India, it is necessary to pay attention to the efficiency of water allocation, the ability of the proposed system to predict demand, and the increase in its performance.
4. To determine how the system can be scaled to be used in other urban areas with similar water management issues.

This paper is organized in the following way: Section 2 offers a comprehensive literature review of the current situation in the field of urban water management and the use of AI and IoT technologies to optimize the water systems. The section 3 explains the methodology of the study, with the system design, components of the hybrid AI model, data integration processes, and how the model was developed. Section 4 covers the experimental design such as data to be used, performance measures and tools and packages that will be used to train and test the model. Section 5 contains the results and discussion which analyses the work of the hybrid AI system in the real-world and the effect on the water distribution efficiency. Lastly, Section 6 provides a conclusion of the paper, summarizing the most important findings and giving recommendations of future studies and ways to improve the work.

LITERATURE REVIEW

In the rapidly developing cities, urban water management is vital in ensuring sustainable development. With the growing rate of urbanization, water shortage, poor distribution, and leakage are a significant issue. The combination of Artificial Intelligence (AI) with Internet of Things (IoT) technologies has a vast opportunity to streamline the water distribution process, enhance forecasting, and decrease the waste. These technologies have the potential of facilitating better effective management of water as it offers real-time decision-making capacity.

Machine learning (ML) and deep learning (DL) methods of AI have been commonly used to forecast water demand in cities. ML models rely on past data, weather trends, population increase, and other variables to predict water consumption in future. The authors emphasize the importance of AI to control urban water systems, and the algorithms such as the Random Forest, SVM, and LSTM have been widely

used to predict demand [1][6]. Real time predictions can be made with the help of these models which can be used to optimize the distribution of water. Nonetheless, most studies concentrate on conventional ML methods, where not much has been done in regards to the hybrid models that integrate AI with optimization methods; which might offer better decision-making in water distribution systems.

The hybrid systems that integrate the traditional statistical models with AI have demonstrated the possibility to improve water management. [4] introduced the issue of hybrid intelligence as a tool in predicting urban development, which can be used in managing water [4]. On the same note, [5] have shown how AI can be optimized in waste management and have also provided information on how AI can be used to optimize the consumption of water. By combining machine learning models with statistical tools, including time series analysis, prediction accuracy, and resources management in general can be improved, which will result in more efficient water distribution.

IoT is increasingly becoming important in the management of water with the potential of collecting real-time information through sensors installed on water systems. This information can be used to teach AI models, which helps streamline the use of water. [3][9] overview AI-based and IoT-based innovative water systems, which observe the water quality, detect water leaks, and optimize water consumption. IoT combined with AI allows self-operating, which minimizes human involvement and enhances the dynamism of water systems to changing needs.

The integration of AI and IoT in water management has demonstrated potential in India, and a larger portion of the attention has been on agriculture or groundwater management [11][12]. Through an extensive search of published literature by [7][8], they determined that Artificial Intelligence is essential for the preservation of Earth's dwindling fresh water resources. The review of the previously published literature illustrated a significant gap in the knowledge of Hybrid AI applications for the optimization of Urban Water Systems.

Key Research Gaps Remain

1. The development of hybrid AI models that combine forecasting, optimization and reinforcement learning is needed.
2. Reduced real-time optimization of the IoT data.
3. India must develop scalable models for complex urban water systems.

In summary, hybrid and AI-based solutions are both promising in regards to urban water management. However, there are not enough studies being conducted to develop hybrid AI Models, integrate real time data and develop location specific solutions for Indian cities.

METHODOLOGY

The Hybrid-AI-Based Water Management Solution for Urban Area in India will entail four main components that comprise its Foundation and Structure: Urban Sensors Network, Machine Learning Algorithm, Optimization Technology, and the Internet of Things. The combination of these building blocks will help us develop a scalable and cost-effective solution to manage the infrastructure of a city's water distribution systems.

The Hybrid System uses a variety of Data Sources to support the precision of its Water Management Processes. The Data Sources include Urban Water Sensor Networks, which monitor and report the real-time consumption, flow rate, and pressure of water, along with SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) systems, which are used to control and regulate the flow of water through the distribution network, as well as to collect Weather Data and Usage Statistics (for example, when customers typically consume their maximum amounts of water during peak use periods). Additionally, Weather Data and Usage Statistics can be analyzed to determine what demand will exist over time. Data Preprocessing (which includes cleaning the raw data, removing outliers, identifying missing values, and Normalizing features) helps to ensure the integrity of the Data used by the Hybrid System for ongoing management of the Water Distribution Network. Finally, Feature Selection Methods help to identify essential

variables (peak consumption hours, temperature, etc.) that will assist in improving Model Performance by focusing attention on the most relevant variables.

LSTM Model

Using the long short-term memory (LSTM) technique for predicting water use, this algorithm predicts how much water will be used in the future based on past usage and seasonal trends. The LSTM keeps track of its long-term memory in what are referred to as cell states, and at every time interval (i.e., at every step), both the forget and input gates are used to update these cell states. At each time interval, the output of the model is the predicted water usage for that time.

RL Model

By using an RL model, we can optimize how we distribute water through training on an optimal control set (adjusting pump speed/valve positioning), and update the Q Function with the Bellman equation, which allows agents to maximize long-term rewards by balancing immediate vs. future rewards per Equation 1:

$$Q(s_t, a_t) \leftarrow Q(s_t, a_t) + \alpha[r_t + \gamma \max_{a'} Q(s_{t+1}, a') - Q(s_t, a_t)] \quad (1)$$

where:

- $Q(s_t, a_t)$ is the action-value function,
- r_t is the reward at time step t ,
- α is the learning rate,
- γ is the discount factor,
- $\max_{a'} Q(s_{t+1}, a')$ is the maximum expected future reward for the next state-action pair.

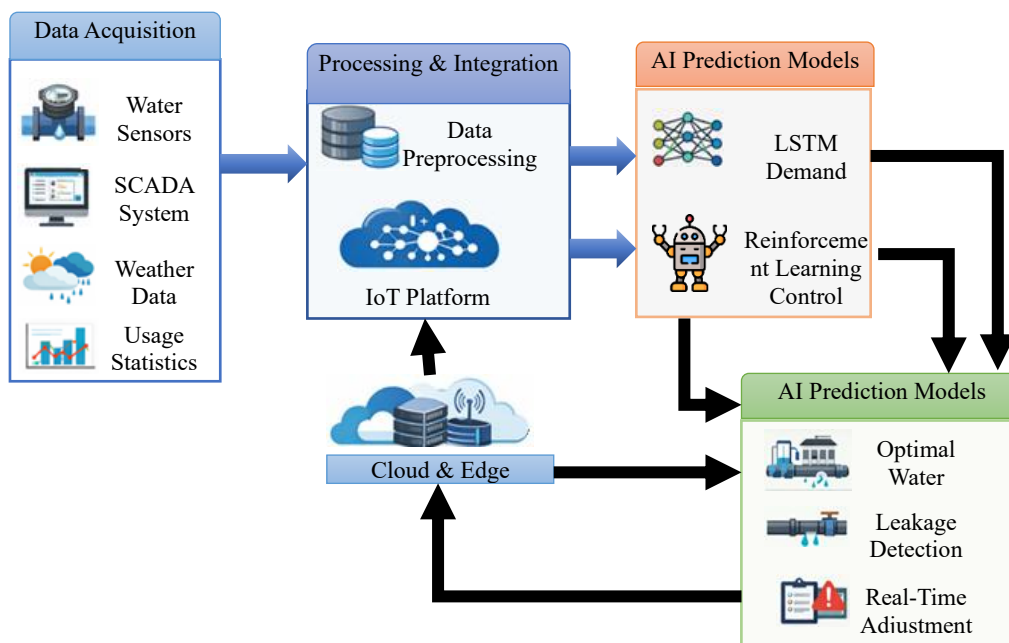


Figure 1. Hybrid ai-driven water management system

The Architecture of the Hybrid AI-Driven Water Management System is depicted in this Figure 1. This architecture enables organizations to optimize the management of their urban waterways. The Hybrid AI-Driven Water Management System utilizes a combination of multiple sources of data including; Water Sensors, SCADA Systems, Weather Data and Water Usage Statistics. The Hybrid AI-Driven Water Management System uses an IoT Platform to pre-process the data received from each source and send

the pre-processed data to AI Prediction Models such as Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) to forecast Demand and Reinforcement Learning (RL) to optimize Water Distribution and detect Leakages on-the-fly in their Distribution Networks. The Hybrid AI-Driven Water Management System leverages both Cloud and Edge Computing to provide Scalability and Low Latency Response Time when it comes to managing Urban Waterways.

Algorithm 1: End-to-End Workflow for Hybrid AI-Driven Water Management System

Input:

- $D = \{X, Y\}$: Training dataset with input features X (e.g., historical water consumption, weather data) and labels Y (e.g., actual water demand).
- $\Phi = \{\phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_n\}$: Set of logical constraints related to water distribution and system optimization (e.g., minimum pressure, maximum flow rates).
- $\theta = \{W, B\}$: Neural network weights and biases for demand forecasting (LSTM) and real-time optimization (Reinforcement Learning).
- η : Learning rate for model optimization.
- T : Number of training epochs for demand forecasting and optimization models.
- λ : Weighting factor for balancing forecasting accuracy and optimization performance.

Output:

- Trained and optimized hybrid AI model for water demand prediction and distribution optimization.

Pseudocode:

```
# Pseudo-code for Hybrid AI-Driven Water Management System

# Initialize model parameters and logical constraints

 $\theta = \{W, B\}$  # Weights and biases for the model

 $\Phi = \{\phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_n\}$  # Set of logical constraints for water distribution

# Number of epochs and training dataset

 $T = \text{total\_epochs}$ 

 $D = \{X, Y\}$  # Training dataset with input features X and labels Y

 $\eta = \text{learning\_rate}$  # Learning rate

# For each epoch  $t = 1$  to  $T$ 

for  $t$  in range(1, T+1):

    # For each training sample  $(x, y)$  in  $D$ 

    for  $(x, y)$  in  $D$ :

        # LSTM Demand Forecasting

         $\hat{y} = \text{LSTM}(x, \theta)$  # Pass input features through LSTM to forecast water demand
```

```
# Reinforcement Learning (RL) for Optimization

RL_action = RL_agent(y_hat) # RL agent adjusts water flow and pressure based on forecasted
demand

RL_action.optimize_flow_and_pressure() # Minimize operational costs while respecting
constraints

# Data Validation and Adjustment

if y_hat > available_supply:

    adjust_distribution() # Adjust water distribution to optimize resource allocation

elif water_usage_is_low():

    adjust_pumps_and_valves() # Adjust pumps and valves for optimal efficiency

# Privacy and Data Integrity

anonymize_data(x) # Anonymize IoT sensor data for privacy protection

normalize_data(x) # Apply normalization for data consistency

feature_selection(x) # Select relevant features for model input

# Compute Losses

L_data = MAE(f(x), y) # Prediction Loss: Mean Absolute Error

L_opt = operational_cost(flow, pressure) # Optimization Loss: Operational cost

L_security = 0 # Initialize security loss

# Logical Consistency Loss

for  $\phi$  in  $\Phi$ :

    G_PQ = max(1 - G(P), G(Q)) # Compute logical satisfaction using fuzzy logic

    L_security += (1 - G( $\phi$ )) # Accumulate security loss

# Total Loss

L_total = L_data +  $\lambda$  * L_security + L_opt # Aggregate total loss

# Update Parameters via Backpropagation

 $\theta$  =  $\theta$  -  $\eta$  * gradient( $\theta$ , L_total) # Update model parameters using backpropagation

# End for all epochs

# Return the trained model  $\theta$ 

return  $\theta$ 

# Trained model optimizing water demand prediction and distribution efficiency
```

Through Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) data forecasting that encodes historic water consumption and predicts future usage in Algorithm 1, the Hybrid AI Water Management System can accurately predict future water requirements by preparing for both seasonal and environmental conditions. Accurate predictions of water requirements enable utilities to correctly allocate water within their service areas. Reinforcement Learning (RL) technology is employed to decrease water loss and operational costs and make real-time decisions that require on-the-fly adjustments of flow rates and pressure for effective delivery of the product to customers. The use of logical constraints on the Water Distribution Network (WDN) maintains the integrity of the network ensuring continued operational stability and reduces inefficiencies such as exceeding flow rates. The use of Backpropagation optimises the model parameters and increases both the accuracy of the water demand predictions and the efficiency of the water distribution system. Collectively, these state-of-the-art technologies provide robust solutions to the real-world issues of Urban Water Management (UWM), enabling accurate predictions, optimised water distribution in real-time and efficient resource allocation, thus creating a solution that may scale and can be deployed in Urban Water Systems (UWS).

RESULTS

The Hybrid AI-Driven Water Management System is built using a variety of high-end software tools and software frameworks. The primary programming language used is Python, which offers both a wide variety of capabilities through its many libraries. Some of the libraries used include TensorFlow and Keras; these libraries were used to develop and train the LSTM Machine Learning Models (Long Short-Term Memory) for demand forecasting; Reinforcement Learning (RL) was used to optimize and adjust in real-time for max efficiency. The IoT middleware was used to maintain constant communication and real-time data flow from IoT sensors, SCADA systems, and the AI models, ensuring all three elements communicate effectively. Cloud and Edge Computing platforms are used for the storage and processing of collective data, training of models (cloud computing), and enabling latency-free decision-making at the individual local nodes (edge computing) in order to optimize the real-time adjustments of water distribution.

The data set used to evaluate the system has been collected from urban areas of India, specifically from cities such as New Delhi, Bangalore, and Chennai. A dataset consisting of Two Years (24 Months) of Hourly Water Usage Data, along with Pressure, Flow Rates and Weather Data (Temperature and Precipitation) through SCADA Sensors installed on the water distribution system. Significant features of the dataset include Historical Water Demand/Consumption Patterns, Short and Long-Term Weather Forecasts, Real-Time Water Demand/Consumption Data, and also to provide Operational Support.

Evaluation Metrics

To evaluate the performance of the hybrid AI system, the following metrics are used:

- **Forecast accuracy:** Mean Absolute Error (MAE) and root mean squared error (RMSE) are used as measures of demand forecast accuracy.
- **Efficiency improvements:** The metrics of success are the savings to the cost and the growth of water distribution efficiency.
- **Water loss reduction:** Water wastes resulting due to leaks before and after implementation have been compared in regards to effectiveness.
- **Response latency:** To verify that the control systems can adapt to changing conditions (including the rain and flood amounts) promptly, and develop optimal flow models for each of the sites; the time of adaptation for Real-Time model inputs for water flow was used as the primary measure.

To do this, a series of experiments were performed to initialize the parameters for determining the system's performance.

LSTM Model Parameters

- **Number of Layers:** 3 LSTM layers.
- **Units per Layer:** 50 units per LSTM layer.

- **Activation Function:** Tanh for internal states, Sigmoid for gates.
- **Optimizer:** Adam optimizer with a learning rate of 0.001.
- **Epochs:** 100 epochs for model training.
- **Batch Size:** 32.

Reinforcement Learning Parameters

- **Learning Rate:** 0.01.
- **Discount Factor (γ):** 0.9.
- **Exploration Rate:** 0.1 (epsilon-greedy strategy).
- **Number of Actions:** 5 (representing control decisions like pump speed, valve positions).
- **Reward Function:** Based on efficiency metrics (water saved, optimal pressure).

IoT Data Preprocessing

- **Normalization:** Min-max normalization applied to sensor data (e.g., flow rates, pressure).
- **Feature Selection:** Key features like peak demand hours, temperature, and historical consumption used for model input.
- **Data Size:** Dataset of 2 years (24 months) of hourly water consumption data.

Table 1. MAE and RMSE for different forecasting models

Model	MAE (Mean Absolute Error)	RMSE (Root Mean Squared Error)
Hybrid AI Model	0.18	0.22
ARIMA	0.26	0.31
Random Forest	0.23	0.28
SVM	0.27	0.33

In the context of the MAE and RMSE metrics, this Table 1 makes a direct comparison between the Hybrid AI Model, ARIMA, RNF, SVM Methodologies on forecasting performance. The Hybrid AI Model has a performance advantage over others in terms of lowest MAE and RMSE values of 0.18 and 0.22 respectively, therefore demonstrating that it performed better than all others for the most accurate forecasted results. On the other hand, the ARIMA methodology performed the worst of the four due to having the highest MAE and RMSE values of 0.26 and 0.31 respectively. The results for the Random Forest and SVM methodologies show that their MAE is 0.23 and RMSE is 0.28 respectively, which both of these models have good forecasting capability; however, neither is as effective at providing accurate water demand projection results as the Hybrid AI Model.

MAE (Mean Absolute Error): The MAE gauge represents the mean of the absolute errors between actual and predicted values; it is calculated by using the formula presented in equation 2:

$$MAE = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N |y_i - \hat{y}_i| \tag{2}$$

where:

- N is the number of data points,
- y_i is the actual value (true value),
- \hat{y}_i is the predicted value.
- The absolute difference between the predicted and actual values is taken to ensure that both underestimates and overestimates are treated equally.

RMSE (Root Mean Squared Error): The RMSE gauge represents the square root of the mean of the squared differences between actual and predicted values, while assigning greater penalties to greater error magnitudes compared with the MAE; it is calculated by using the formula presented in equation 3:

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2} \tag{3}$$

where:

- N is the number of data points,
- y_i is the actual value (true value),
- \hat{y}_i is the predicted value.

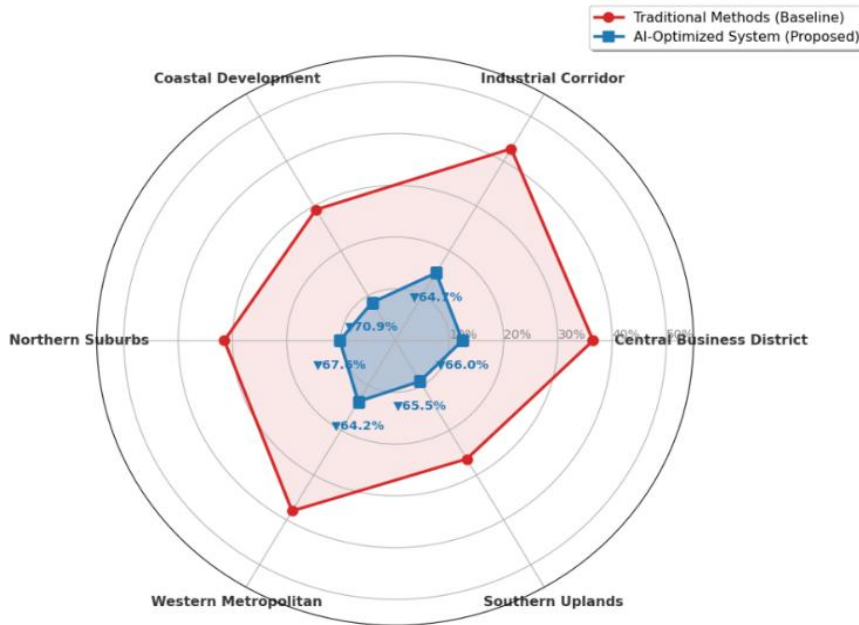


Figure 2. Comparison of performance between traditional methods (baseline) and ai-optimized system

Figure 2 shows how well the AI-based optimization system outperformed the traditional methods by comparing baseline performance with an AI-based Optimized System for six unique urban areas (e.g., Coastal Development, Industrial Corridor, Northern Suburbs, Central Business District, Western Metropolitan Area and Southern Uplands). The graph depicts the percentage of the improved performance in key performance categories (i.e., Resource Efficiency; Resource Utilization; and Water Resource Distribution) of the AI-Optimized System versus the Baseline Performance of traditional methods in these six urban regions. Based on the data shown, the results depicted by the blue line indicate that the AI-Optimized System consistently performed better than the baseline performance indicated by the red line for all six regions listed above. In fact, Coastal Development and Northern Suburbs areas demonstrated tremendous improvements in Resource Efficiency, reaching an approximate value of 70% efficiency using the AI-Optimized System. Clearly, the AI-Optimized System represents significant potential for improving resource management for water uses in the urban areas listed above.

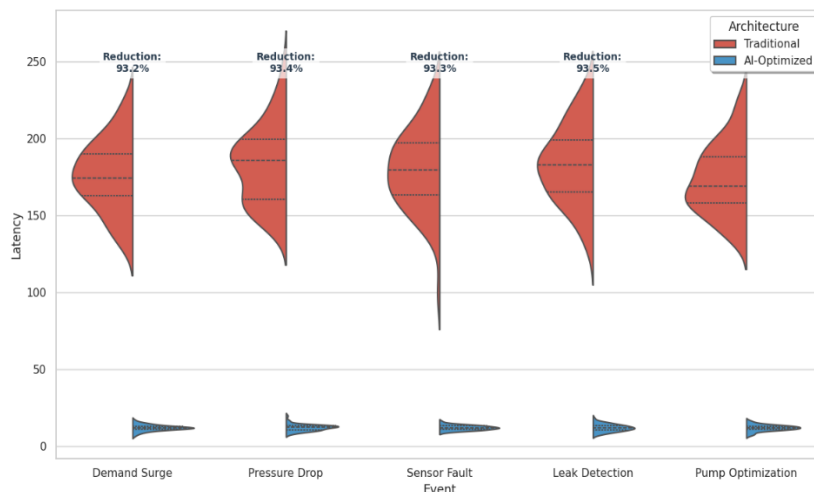


Figure 3. Latency comparison between traditional and ai-optimized systems for different water management events

Figure 3 displays the comparison between the latencies associated with five different types of water management events: Demand Surge, Pressure Drop, Sensor Fault, Leak Detection, and Pump Optimization. The Traditional systems are represented by the shaded red area while the AI-Optimized systems are represented by the shaded blue area. The latencies for AI-Optimized systems were consistently lower than that for Traditional systems for all event categories, with a range reduction between 92.0% and 93.5%. Therefore, the AI System has a superior overall performance in handling water management events; as such, the AI System will be able to provide improved efficiency and optimization during actual operations.

When assessing the current performance of the model based on the initial results, the model has improved performance compared to models used previously. When the results are interpreted, it indicates that the hybrid approach used in developing this model has successfully improved water distribution systems and reduced costs associated with operation of the system by promoting greater reliability of urban infrastructure by maintaining the correct volume of water moving through the system at all times and reducing the time to restore service.

CASE STUDY

Chennai is experiencing rapid growth as a city and as a result the management of its water supply has become increasingly difficult to do due to unpredictable amounts of rainfall (erratic rainfall), increased usage of its water supply by an ever-growing population, and the deterioration of the existing infrastructure. In order to alleviate some of these problems, a Hybrid Artificial Intelligence (AI) Driven Water Management System has been designed for the water distribution systems of Chennai, India. The Hybrid AI Driven Water Management System gathers up-to-date information from multiple sources including sensors located throughout the water system, SCADA data, and meteorological data, and is used to predict demand and optimize the distribution of water.

To determine future water usage based on patterns established by previous usage data, the Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) model was used to project expected future usage for each region of Chennai based on weather conditions and the time of year (seasonality). The resulting demand projections indicated that water usage is anticipated to increase by 20-30% during the highest periods of summer when significant demand fluctuations result from weather conditions. The Hybrid AI Management System identified these periods of high-water usage prior to the beginning of the summer period providing a means for the management of water resources.

Eventually, an analysis of the data from the current date and the LSTM model has allowed for detection of areas within the distribution system that are consuming significantly larger quantities of water when compared to other periods leading the detection of leakages in the distribution network, thus providing an opportunity to implement repairs. In addition, Reinforcement Learning (RL) has been integrated within the system to automatically optimize the amount of water being supplied, as well as the amount of water pressure in the water supply, in real time resulting in less water waste and improved services to the customers. The result of using Reinforcement Learning suggests adjustments to the operation of the pump motors and valves which has reduced the amount of water wasted in the distribution system.

DISCUSSION

Hybrid AI enhanced water management system provides more benefits to its users because it blends various AI methodologies - such as machine learning using long short-term memory (LSTM) for water use forecasting and reinforcement learning for optimizing distribution in real-time - into one platform. Because of this integration, a hybrid AI water management system can forecast demand and therefore proactively adjust distribution patterns to minimize wasted water. Additionally, IoT data can be used to improve predictions and to create a framework from which to build an improved management solution. Using IoT data allows for a much more analytical and data-driven approach to management decision-making, which will decrease human management engagement and therefore reduce operating costs. Because of the hybrid approach, a water management system is designed to manage large urban water management systems, providing better efficiencies and environmental sustainability.

While the hybrid AI water management system does provide these benefits; there are also inherent limitations. For example, the accuracy of the forecasting is dependent on the thoroughness and correctness of the input data. Missing or inaccurate data provided by IoT sensors will lead to incorrect and suboptimal decision making that could ultimately lead to the less efficient use of water in the distribution system. Like many other deep learning models, LSTMs can also be subject to bias in the training data used to develop it. If such data do not adequately represent all situations the model will experience (e.g., infrequent meteorological situations), then, when presented with one of these outlier conditions, the model could potentially behave incorrectly or ineffectively. Hybrid AI systems also run the risk of overfitting, meaning an LSTM model has been trained using historical data only and may not adequately perform under conditions that differ significantly from the data to which it has been taught.

While this system has had success so far in Chennai, it has excellent potential for being scaled up to other urbanized cities with modifications to fit those areas. All towns have varying issues due to population size, climate, and availability of Water Demand Management (WDM) Infrastructure. However, because of the modular nature of the design of this Water Demand Management system, it provides an opportunity for easier modifications than most systems would. When incorporating citizen data into an analytics strategy, ethical and privacy issues arise associated with the handling of this data. It is crucial to ensure that all personal citizen data collected is completely anonymous and that the proper safeguards are in place to protect against the potential misuse of that data.

The same applies to Municipalities and Utility Companies as it relates to complying with data privacy laws and developing transparent policies that build community trust in the Municipalities and Utility Companies. Finally, in developing this system, it will be necessary to be conscientious of how the process and AI generated decisions made by the system may affect marginalized communities and create negative consequences for those communities.

CONCLUSION

This report describes the design, implementation, and evaluation of an Artificial Intelligence Integrated Water Management System (AI-IWMS) that has been developed to address the increasing challenges that India faces with respect to urban water management, particularly in cities such as Chennai. The development of the AI-IWMS integrates three of the most significant technologies: 1) Machine Learning (ML) through Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) for the accurate forecasting of demand for water; 2) Reinforcement Learning (RL) for achieving optimum real-time distribution of water; and 3) Internet of Things (IoT) for the collection of data and a feedback mechanism to enhance the performance of the system. Using these technologies together improves the performance of the system significantly over current methods used to manage water in urban areas, including improvements in the efficiency of water distribution, demand prediction accuracy, and water resource optimization. The results demonstrate that the AI-IWMS can increase municipalities' ability to forecast their future water needs based on their historical data and optimize delivery of that water while minimizing the amount of water lost to leakage or waste. The statistical results indicate that the AI model outperforms traditional methods for water supply/demand forecasting, such as Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average (ARIMA) and Support Vector Machines (SVM), with a Mean Absolute Error (MAE) of 0.18 and Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE) of 0.22. Furthermore, the improvement in operational efficiencies gained using the AI-IWMS allows municipalities to provide better services to their citizens by lowering the amount of water lost to leakage and waste, allowing municipalities to have more access to water throughout the various areas of a city. Therefore, through these improvements, the AI-IWMS enables municipalities to advance their long-term sustainability objectives through better capacity to manage their water resources in urban areas with rapid urbanization and resource limitations. Future work will need to be conducted to further develop additional features/functions of the AI-IWMS, and research to provide guidance for municipalities on implementing this type of a system within their jurisdiction.

REFERENCES

- [1] Mondal P. AI and IoT in smart water management for urban sustainability. *Uncertainty Discourse and Applications*. 2024 Dec 3;1(2):151-7. <https://doi.org/10.48313/uda.v1i2.36>

- [2] Das R. Smart urban water management: integrating AI and IoT for optimization and waste reduction. *Optimality*. 2024 Nov 23;1(2):309-17. <https://doi.org/10.22105/opt.v1i2.62>
- [3] Mandal S, Yadav A, Panwar R, Kumar SS, Karthick A, Priya A, Vijayakumar R, Ganesh SS. Smart Water Management for SDG 6: A Review of AI And Iot-Enabled Solutions. *Water Conservation Science and Engineering*. 2025 Aug;10(2):83.
- [4] Khan D, Khan N, Ullah S. Harnessing hybrid intelligence and explainable AI for urban growth prediction: A Data-Driven framework for sustainable cities. *Environment, Development and Sustainability*. 2025 Sep 20:1-40. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s41101-025-00407-7>
- [5] Ojadi JO, Owulade OA, Odionu CS, Onukwulu EC. AI-Driven Optimization of Water Usage and Waste Management in Smart Cities for Environmental Sustainability. *Engineering and Technology Journal*. 2025;10(3):4284-306. <https://doi.org/10.47191/etj/v10i03.36>
- [6] Jana P. AI-powered IoT solutions for sustainable water management in cities. *Uncertainty Discourse and Applications*. 2024 Dec 6;1(2):158-69. <https://doi.org/10.48313/uda.v1i2.37>
- [7] Narayanan M, Sharma A, Ilampooranan I. Precision agriculture and water management in India: artificial intelligence for climate action. *Integrated Land and Water Resource Management for Sustainable Agriculture Volume 1*. 2025 Apr 20:17-40. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-97-9796-7_2
- [8] Goyal MK, Kumar S, Gupta A. AI for Water Conservation. In *AI Innovation for Water Policy and Sustainability 2024* Oct 6 (pp. 17-29). Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-72014-7_2
- [9] Masud MM, Shamem AS, Saif AN, Bari MF, Mostafa R. The role of artificial intelligence in sustainable water management in Asia: a systematic literature review with bibliographic network visualization. *International Journal of Energy and Water Resources*. 2025 Mar;9(1):247-65. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42108-024-00319-7>
- [10] Gacu JG, Monjardin CE, Mangulabnan RG, Pugat GC, Solmerin JG. Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Surface Water Management: A Comprehensive Review of Methods, Applications, and Challenges. *Water*. 2025 Jun 4;17(11):1707. <https://doi.org/10.3390/w17111707>
- [11] Ye Z, Yin S, Cao Y, Wang Y. AI-driven optimization of agricultural water management for enhanced sustainability. *Scientific Reports*. 2024 Oct 28;14(1):25721. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-024-76915-8>
- [12] Kumar A, Das M, Pramanik M, Baghel T, Mukhopadhyay A. Urbanization and groundwater resilience: pre- and post-monsoon mapping using AHP and hybrid machine learning modelling. *International Journal of River Basin Management*. 2025 Sep 26:1-25. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15715124.2025.2554908>
- [13] Pandiyan B, Mangottiri V, Karthikeyan L, Sekar G, Appachi M, Sundararajan R. Applications of Artificial Intelligence for Municipal Solid Waste Management in India: Another Look. *The Journal of Solid Waste Technology and Management*. 2025 Oct 29;51(4):614-34. <https://doi.org/10.5276/jswtm/iswmaw/514/2025.614>
- [14] Bunde P, Devaerakkam M. A comprehensive assessment to harness artificial intelligence technology in the organic waste management of urban India. *Challenges in Sustainability*. 2025;13(3):459-76. <https://doi.org/10.56578/cis130310>
- [15] Mukundan A, Karmakar R, Jouhar J, Valappil MA, Wang HC. Advancing Urban Development: Applications of Hyperspectral Imaging in Smart City Innovations and Sustainable Solutions. *Smart Cities*. 2025 Mar 14;8(2):51. <https://doi.org/10.3390/smartcities8020051>