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# Machine learning-based cloud IOT platform for intelligent tourism information services

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## Abstract

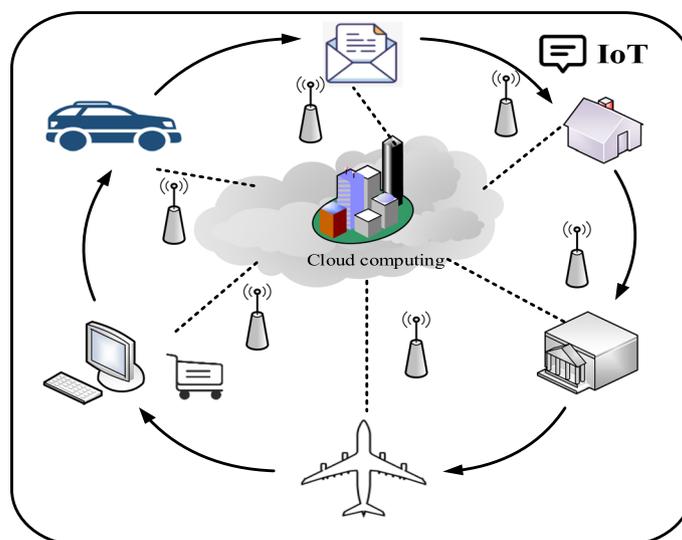
Thanks to the continuous development of the tourism industry, the application of Internet of things (IoT) begins to boom among modern tourists. Smart tourism utilizes Internet of things to facilitate the information dissemination and exchange, making IoT technology an indispensable part of next-generation travelling tool kits. In this paper, based on visitor selection behavior, we develop a hybrid intelligent categorization approach. Particularly, our proposed method of categorization could help tourists decide whether or not to visit a sightseeing attraction in a minutes. Cross-validation testing and performance assessment show that our designed platform can work effectively and efficiently by considering a variety of factors.

**Keywords:** Smart tourism, Internet of things (IoT), Machine learning, Hybrid cloud

## 1 Introduction

The Internet of things (IoT) is an indispensable part of modern Internet ecosystem, and it plays a critical role in e-healthcare, e-tourism, etc. [1]. In the future, the rapid development of business will create more e-services that take into account the location and geographic information of customers. These services requires the development of IoT connections, smart environments, and active solutions. Smart tourism will become one of the most interesting e-services in the coming years [2]. Nowadays, the main obstacles to tourism come from numerous social issues, such as security, fraud, and lack of resource information. Smart tourism system can help tourists collect and sort out all the surrounding information and data and pass it back to tourists, turning it into valuable data and individual information [3].

The Internet of things is being used in smart tourism, as shown in Fig. 1. Our designed system aims to create a tourism industry that can appeal to a wide variety of clients, as well as provide users with cutting-edge entertainment, communication, and information services and applications via a new business model. We have developed a novel travel information search method because of the need of cloud services [4]. By combining smart phones, GPS, Google Maps, and augmented reality, we will provide mobile customers with a travel mode that they never felt before [5]. Today, 5G is the most sophisticated technology on the globe, and its applications are quickly becoming commonplace. The future direction and development potential of 5G smart tourism



**Fig. 1** Smart tourism system using IoT technology

are highly promising. 5G technology encourages the intelligent upgrade of tourist sites by integrating AR, AI, social sharing, and other apps thanks to its super-speed, high-bandwidth, and low-latency characteristics. Promoting the creation of 5G smart tourism applications is an important step toward promoting tourism across the country and supporting the smart development of attractive regions, and it will be definitely beneficial to attracting tourists.

Tourism is one of the most profitable economic activities on the globe, and it is an important part of the economic growth of many countries [6]. Some countries around the world depend on tourism to promote economic development. Indeed, tourism has the potential to greatly accelerate the growth of a number of economic sectors, including local economy revival and job creation [7]. It has the potential to play an important role in promoting international collaboration and understanding.

The tourist experience is an important aspect of the business, and it has a direct impact on visitor satisfaction [8]. Traditional tourist tactics, on the other hand, may be unable to attract sufficient visitors to aid the economy's recovery. The phrase "smart tourism" was coined by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), which describes it as green, ethical, clean and experience excellent tourism" [9]. Smart tourism is an important and forward-thinking strategy for transforming the tourism industry. The tourist industry has just lately begun to move toward more user-friendly intelligent systems based on "smart tourism" information technology [10]. Customer-centric tourism attempts to cover all of a visitor's demands in terms of food, lodging, transit, shopping, and entertainment. To put it another way, smart technology should be used at every point of the journey to improve the visitor's experience.

Smart tourism strives to improve both passengers' tourist experiences and tourist destinations' competitiveness [11]. It will also contribute to the country's long-term development. Consumers may download smart applications to their phones to improve their city travel experience thanks to smart technology. Such smart apps can leverage local

food, tales, customs, and so on to enrich the information provided to tourists. Visitors should be provided with relevant and helpful information based on individual data, behavior patterns, big data analysis, and other variables to aid them in making decisions prior to or during a trip. As a consequence, smart tourism is able to fulfill both immediate economic demands and long-term development objectives.

We propose a hybrid intelligence-based approach for predicting smart travel user behavior for the reasons indicated above. This is a hybrid intelligence-based technique to predicting KNN user behavior. According to cross-validation tests and performance evaluation methodologies, the system can categorize travel users' decision-making behaviors and has a good prediction ability. The results of the classification might be utilized to predict if the trip user will decide the destination in the near future.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. Section II introduces the Internet of things and its usage in smart tourism. Section III explores the feasibility of hybrid intelligence by examining smart tourism problems in depth. Section IV develops a hybrid intelligence-based approach to forecast KNN user behavior, followed by Section V to conclude the paper.

## 2 Methods

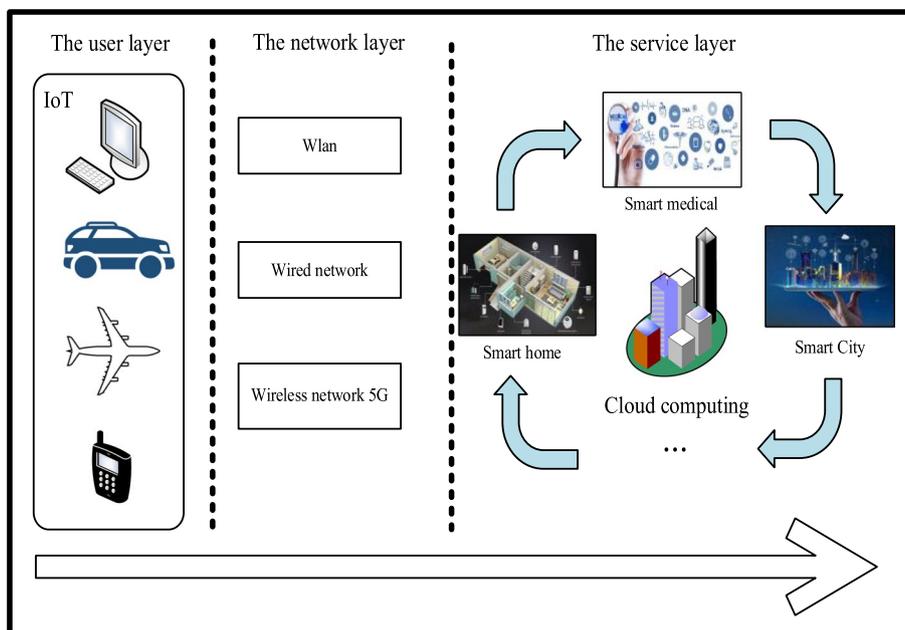
### 2.1 Basics of Internet of things

The Internet of things (IoT) is a flexible global network architecture that enables personality and interoperability based on current principles. Through the use of a huge number of devices, mobile phones, and RFID tags, the IoT is a critical focus of successful Internet growth. The arrangement of actuators and other equipment is done through their large coverage of scenes and the ability to interact with each other, to achieve the ultimate goal, such as intelligent identification, monitoring, tracking, management, and other important functions [12]. This means that in the Internet of things, it is possible to build a scene that no longer needs human management and can realize information interaction. Concurrently, IoT also has other meanings. Originally, the IoT is built on the network, and its heart remains the Web site. Secondly, as shown in Fig. 2, any client can be integrated into the IoT and actualize data exchange, with the data processing. The Internet of things with the three major distinctive features of information transmission and the gathering of data is considered a new generation of communication technology, and the most critical of these is information collection [13]. In short, the processing of data by the IoT is based on the massive collection of information.

In modern society, users esteem highly the comfort of their personal living environment. Through many sensors and actuators, the IoT can more effectively collect important things such as weather, temperature, humidity, location, historical records, and different users' reactions to this information, which can configure the most personalized comfort ring for the user.

### 2.2 5G IoT for smart tourism

The advancement of the third wave of industrialization will be accompanied by the continuous improvement in Internet information acquisition [15]. The IoT's growth will drive various fields, such as the economic field. With the advancement of the Internet of things, we will also enter a new era of globalization. It will also drive the development of

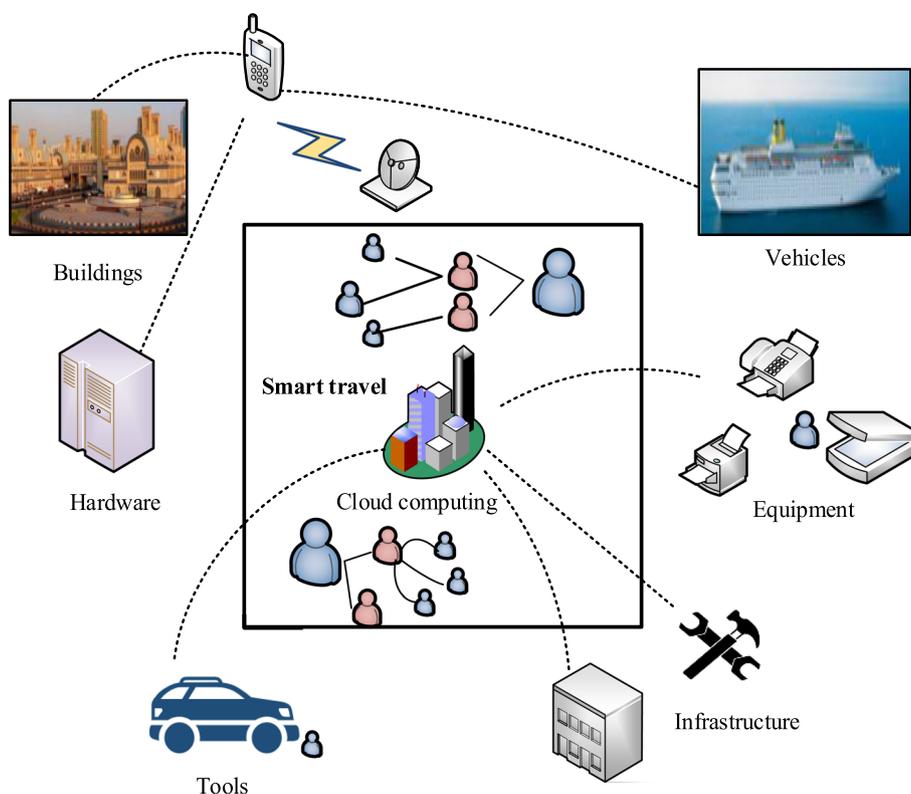


**Fig. 2** Infrastructure of 5G Internet of things

the tourism and entertainment industries. For example, the range and richness of perceptual information will be conducive to the intelligence of the tourism industry. And in smart tourism scenario shown in Fig. 3, tourism services are convenient for people. The improvement in the IoT to the tourism industry can not only reduce carbon emissions, but also improve efficiency [16], and the improvement in scenic spot management systems can drive tourism automation. The tourism scene built through the IoT can realize many functions. For the environment, it can realize gas detection, temperature and humidity monitoring, and animal and plant species monitoring. For the tourism industry itself, it can realize important functions such as tourism promotion, hotel, and surrounding facilities services. Through the information collection of numerous sensors, numerous important data can be transmitted to the server, and safety monitoring and safety management are realized, and finally the purpose of statistics, analysis, and reporting is achieved.

Visitors can use VR, 5G, AI, and other technologies to fully enjoy various beautiful sceneries and culture without leaving home. For example, users' photographs and videos can use technical methods to generate panoramic travel notes to record wonderful moments; and intelligent robots in scenic spots can quickly respond to the various needs of passengers with the help of 5G and voice recognition. In terms of safety, the invisible protective net in the scenic spot can be formed by the edge computing AI of the intelligent eagle eye system. To help tourists achieve better service and fine management, the scenic spot can also generate a panoramic experience that can be shared by tourists traveling.

Smart tourism has realized the integration of the Internet of things and other applications in the four core technologies of mobile communication, cloud computing, the Internet of things, and artificial intelligence, in order to maximize the Internet of things' role in facilitating people's lives [17]. The scenario use of Internet of things technology



**Fig. 3** Implementation of intelligent tourism system

will become a critical component of smart tourism, meeting the requirements of an increasing number of consumers

The implementation of the Internet of things can also help passengers choose suitable destinations and arrange travel. For each user, smart travel services can provide personalized presentations, discover more ways to travel to the place, provide useful information services, and record travel experiences, comments and other information in a timely manner to further help passengers choose the best travel arrangements and [18] improve travel efficiency.

Concurrently, the Internet of things can also help tourists arrange their itineraries and improve the travel experience. Specifically, passengers can disclose public or private traffic data through their smartphones, which can improve the user’s travel plan and further provide the latest information. At the same time, the system can automatically filter when the user interacts with the QR code and AR pictures on the mobile phone. Useless information and display effective information for travelers of different levels fully shows that the combination of tourism management system and the Internet of things has changed the past travel methods [20].

### 3 Hybrid intelligence for tourist behavior analysis

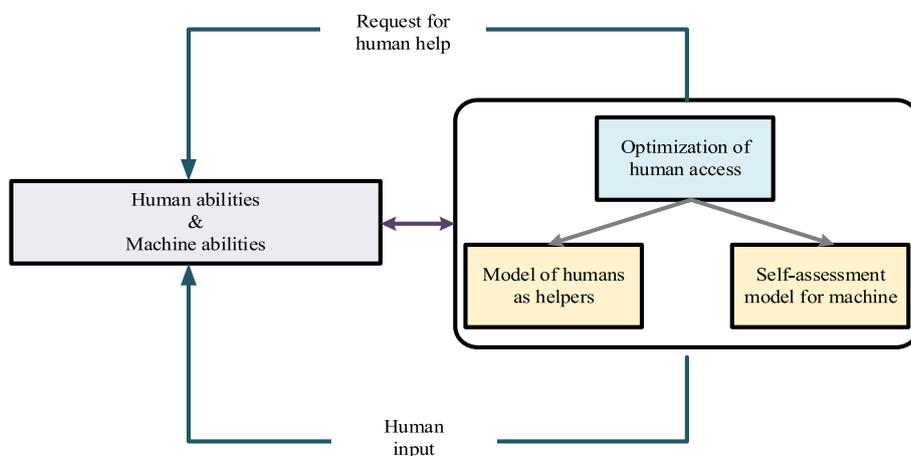
#### 3.1 Basics hybrid intelligence

Humanity and smart robots are now more inextricably linked. In our future world, human–machine communication and collaboration will be essential [21]. On either

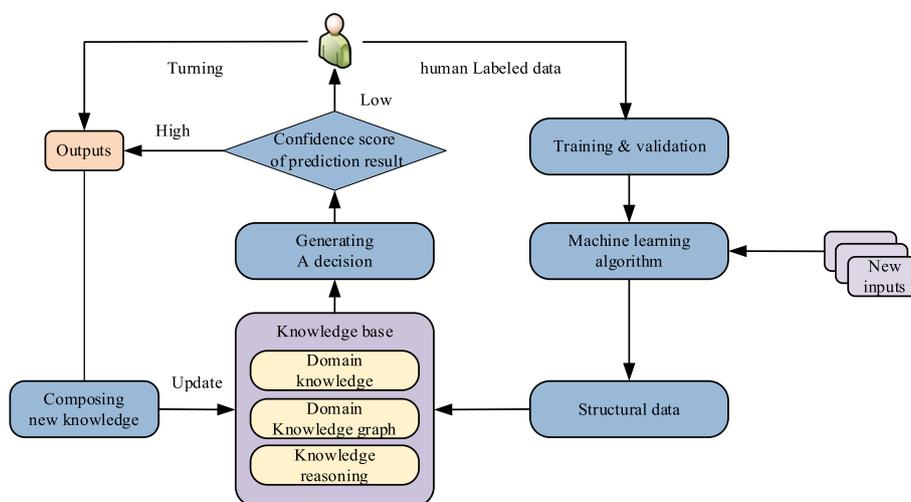
hand, human problems are often complex, confusing, and open. Because humanity is the ultimate arbiters of the purpose of sentient devices, human participation in machines has remained consistent throughout their development [22]. Additionally, even if humans provide sufficient or limitless data resources for AI systems, it is hard to rule off the possibilities of human interference in the intelligent system. Many issues with AI systems must be solved, including how to recognize the differences and ambiguities of human language and comprehending of human communication systems, as well as how to reduce the dangers and even harms caused by AI limits. To overcome the limitations of existing artificial intelligence systems, the hybrid intelligence system combines machine and human intelligence [23].

Human intelligence may be incorporated into AI systems in hybrid intelligence systems, as illustrated in Fig. 4, to complement machine functions throughout the life cycle. To address the limitations of AI systems, hybrid intelligence systems may share computational duties with humans as required. Human involvement may prevent AI systems from making mistakes and failing, and human input can lead to a virtuous development loop, enabling the system to learn constantly [24].

Additionally, hybrid intelligence systems may be used to address complex problems to train or classify using machine learning. In many fields, hybrid intelligence measures should be adopted differently. The basic framework of mixed intelligence systems, which should be seen as a mixed learning model, is shown in Fig. 5. Hybrid intelligence models integrate artificial intelligence and human decision-making. It uses machine learning (guided and unguided) to establish a model with training data or a small amount of samples and then uses the model to evaluate fresh data [25]. The mix learning framework determines if the forecast should be manually adjusted or whether human participation is necessary when system is abnormal or computer-predicted mistake rate is high and the system’s information base is updated automatically. As a matter of fact, human involvement in the algorithm may increase the system’s accurateness and reliability. Without doubt, in order to handle the majority of the job by computers, hybrid intelligence must reduce human participation. The hybrid learning model’s intelligence may significantly enhance the scope and efficiency of activities that people can perform.



**Fig. 4** Reasoning capabilities of hybrid intelligence systems



**Fig. 5** Basic framework of hybrid intelligence

### 3.2 Tourist behaviors

Many travel Web sites now offer the following services as a result of the development of different travel Web sites: travel information, traffic information, airline or hotel bookings, and so on. The ultimate destination will provide as a reminder to new tourist consumers of a reasonable journey time and a big amount of prior orders. We would want to use current data to anticipate database managing information so that visitors may make decisions based on previous orders or browsing data, if we assess different indicators of user behavior.

### 3.3 Hybrid intelligence for tourist behavior analysis

We can assist customers in rapidly determining their travel destinations by studying their travel activities. For data analysis, hybrid intelligence is a useful method. We can organize and classify user behavior and anticipate user choice behaviors using artificial intelligence.

Unfortunately, using artificial intelligence methods to analyze consumers with limited private information or fewer prior orders would also provide inferior results and may even enhance the system’s inaccuracy, which is why we use mixed intelligence approaches to analyze user behavior. Specific users may be deleted or tagged manually using manual techniques.

## 4 Results and discussion

We use a large amount of travel data from more than 50,000 travel APP users to further evaluate the user’s travel status. In order to ensure the rationality of the data, these data carefully include the user’s order browsing record, the user’s historical record on the APP orders, and the user’s comments on the browsing history of different orders.

Through the comparative analysis of data, we believe that the user’s choice of travel destination is predictable, and through the following characteristic variables, we can

select the variable as the user's decision-making object and predict the decision-making result:

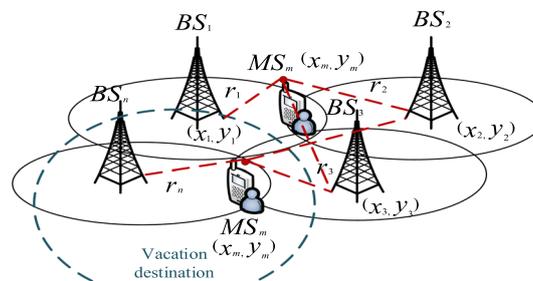
1. The user searches for travel information before deciding to go to the destination.
2. Estimate the value of travel destinations based on the history of user orders.
3. Use a system that has been trained and predicted, combined with various indicators to determine whether the user will go to the destination. All of the above will ultimately ensure that the user's initial travel time is shortened.

#### 4.1 Dataset labeling

Tag-based user positioning technology must be based on recording the user's ideal destination. At present, there are two main types of positioning technology: global positioning system (GPS) and location-based services (LBS) [26]. In the GPS method, the basic principle of a mobile station (MS) is to receive and measure the signal characteristics of at least four satellites from the 24 GPS satellites in the current network. This allows GPS to have an accurate system, and the user location based on GPS is extremely accurate. On the other hand, GPS-based methods make it necessary to place a GPS receiver in the mobile device, and this receiver will not only increase operating costs, but also will consume more battery power, and more importantly, it will expose the user's geographic location to a certain extent.

LBS is another location-collecting technology. This technology collects the location of mobile terminal users through the wireless communication network of telecommunications and mobile operators [27]. This technology uses base stations to more accurately locate users' locations without the need for cellular network coverage area and uses blind spots. There is no requirement for the hardware configuration of the mobile terminal equipment, and it does not consume the power of the user's mobile terminal equipment. And compared with GPS, this technology is more practical. Therefore, the positioning method in this article is the LBS base station placement method. The location of the mobile user is measured by the signal received by the network base station. The base station monitors the signals and sends them to the central station for further processing and calculation to obtain the position of the mobile station [28, 29].

To estimate the MS position, the data fusion phase integrates measurement data from several BSs. Let  $(x_m, y_m)$  represent the MS position coordinates in the Cartesian coordinate system, as illustrated in Fig. 6. Let the BSs' ( $BS_1$ ,  $BS_2$ , and  $BS_3$ ) coordinates be



**Fig. 6** TDOA data fusion using multiple BSs

$(x_1, y_1)$ ,  $(x_2, y_2)$ , and  $(x_3, y_3)$ , respectively  $(x_3, y_3)$ . Only the x and y coordinates are used in the derivation for simplicity's sake, and the z coordinates are disregarded. This is the situation when BSs and mobile users are situated on a reasonably level surface. BS1 is set as the origin of the Cartesian coordinate system, that is,  $(x_1, y_1) = (0, 0)$ . The signal characteristics of the MS signal are angle and amplitude. To establish the user's approximate position, we utilize the time difference of arrival (TDOA) technique. For example, in Fig. 6, the MSm detects through the BS that its coordinate position is within the coordinate range of the trip destination, and it is presumed that it has arrived at the destination in an acceptable period of time, and it may be recorded as "1." If the MSm's coordinates do not match those of the attractions, it is presumed that it has not arrived at the destination in a timely way and may be logged as "0."

To better calculate the location of this point, we introduce the triangular dissection mechanism, which is an extension of the problem based on the intersection of two circles. To find the intersection of two circles, we need to determine whether the two circles intersect at point 1, at point 2, or at no intersection, and the solution is to introduce circles of radius  $r$  and  $s$  with centers  $(a, b)$  and  $(c, d)$  through the following system of equations:

$$(x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2 = r^2 \quad (1)$$

$$(x - c)^2 + (y - d)^2 = s^2 \quad (2)$$

In order to solve the equations, we can convert these equations to linear form. One of the solutions is to find the intersection point by translation and rotation of the axes. The algorithm is discussed as follows: The intersection points of two circles  $(x_1, y_1)$  and  $(x_2, y_2)$  are calculated as follows:

$$e = c - a \quad (3)$$

$$f = d - b \quad (4)$$

$$p = \sqrt{e^2 + f^2} \quad (5)$$

$$k = \frac{p^2 + r^2 - s^2}{2p} \quad (6)$$

So we get the result:

$$x_1 = a + \frac{ek}{p} + \frac{f}{p} * \sqrt{r^2 - k^2} \quad (7)$$

$$y_1 = b + \frac{fk}{p} + \frac{e}{p} * \sqrt{r^2 - k^2} \quad (8)$$

$$x_2 = a + \frac{ek}{p} - \frac{f}{p} * \sqrt{r^2 - k^2} \quad (9)$$

$$y_2 = b + \frac{fk}{p} - \frac{e}{p} * \sqrt{r^2 - k^2} \quad (10)$$

So we get the extended solution of this problem and find the point involving the intersection of the three circles called intersection and the most suitable point.

#### 4.2 KNN Classification for tourist behavior

After that, we need to classify user behavior data; the classification method used is the k-nearest neighbor (KNN) technique. KNN is a distance-based supervised learning method. This method uses the nearest neighbor category to identify the new data category [33]. This method separates different new data by calculating the distance between the new data and the original marked data point [32]. When calculating the distance, we use the Euclidean technique and finally get the closest training data of the first k distances. See who has the most data in each category, and use this category as the new data category. When it comes to selecting K values, there is no one-size-fits-all approach. A smaller number is usually chosen depending on the sample distribution, and an appropriate K value may be found via cross-validation.

#### 4.3 KNN tourist activity classification based on HITL

The classic KNN algorithm without the involvement of artificial intelligence suffers from inaccuracies in processing some more complicated data's edge information. The introduction of incorporating embedding human intelligence into intelligent systems, enhanced cognitive processes for the aim of analysis and reaction in a hazy and unclear situation issues may be closely coupled with machine intelligent systems. As a result, the two adapt to one another and cooperate to create a two-way information and control structure. Bringing human vision together, ability to think, ability to interpret information in a machine, and storage ability can result in "1 + 1 > 2" boosted intelligence hybridization. The KNN algorithm is then used in conjunction with hybrid intelligence to classify consumers.

In order to observe the classifications error rate of KNN, we define the training error rate as the ratio of KNN training set tags to input tags, and the error rate is defined as

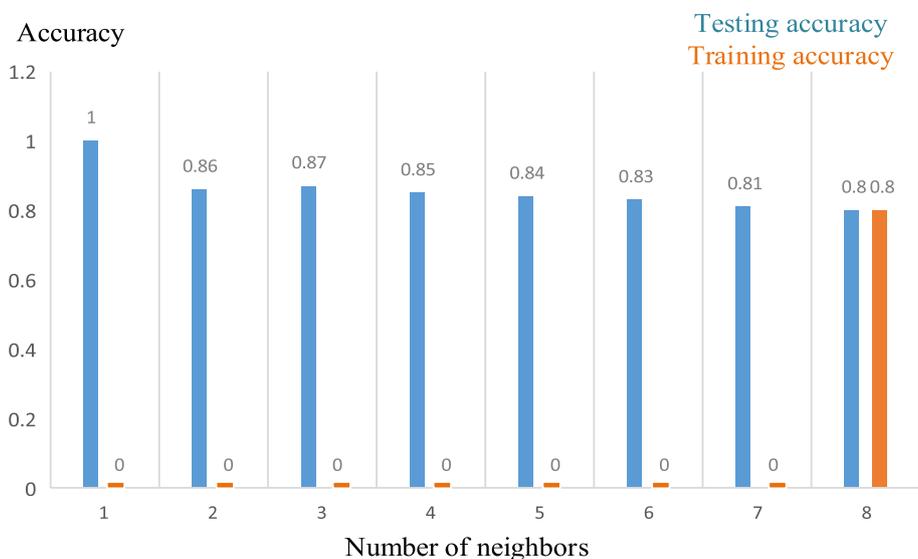
$$\frac{1}{K \sum_{x_i \in N_K(x)} I(y_i \neq c_i)} = 1 - \frac{1}{K} \sum_{x_i \in N_K(x)} I(y_i = c_j) \quad (11)$$

As a result, the appropriate value of k can be increased.

$$\frac{1}{K} \sum_{x_i \in N_K(x)} I(y_i = c_j) \quad (12)$$

in the exercise set.

To test the correctness of the categorization, we utilize to get the best K value and use grid search and cross-validation [34]. We began by screening the data. There were a total of 40,307 data after filtering. The information was split into six categories.



**Fig. 7** Results of cross-validation

**Table 1** “Confusion Matrix” of this experiment’s classification conclusions

True label Confusion matrix Predicted label	0	1
0	13,298	2542
1	184	108

Cross-validation was performed on the first five groups. There were 6717 data points in each category. Out of a total of 33,585, the sixth group has 6722 data. For the last accuracy check, the data are used.

For training, we use four sets of data and one set of data for testing. For testing in cross-validation, each dataset has a chance to become the test set, as illustrated. When K is equal to 8, the training error rate is equal to low, according to the grid search results. Figure 7 depicts the accuracy of the training and test sets with varying numbers of neighbors. We can see that when the number of neighbors is less than 8, the accuracy on the test set is much larger than the accuracy on the training set. When the number of neighbors is 8, the accuracy of both is equal and both reach 80%. Finally, the final verification set of 6722 data was reviewed, and the accurate rate was 84.06 percent.

In the realm of machine learning, a confusion matrix is a specific matrix used to illustrate the performance of an algorithm [34]. In predictive analysis, the confusion matrix is a table that comprises false positives, false positives, genuine positives, and true positives. It is simple to check if the learning machine obfuscates two classes that are similar using an obfuscation matrix [34]. The confusion matrix is used to visualize the performance of an algorithm [29]. In predictive analysis, the confusion matrix is a table made up of false positives (FP), false negatives (FN), true positives (TP), and true negatives (TN) (Table 1) obviously, assuming that TP, FP, TN, and FN reflect the relevant sample numbers:

$$TP + FP + TN + FN = Total \tag{13}$$

The ROC curve may be used to investigate the features of the model’s distinguishing types in order to assess the model’s generalization performance more fully [35]. The ROC curve is usually more effective when the class distribution is not uniform. The “True Positive Rate” is defined as (14) on the vertical axis, and “False Positive Rate” is defined as (14) on the horizontal axis of the ROC curve (15).

$$TPR = \frac{TP}{TP + FN} \tag{14}$$

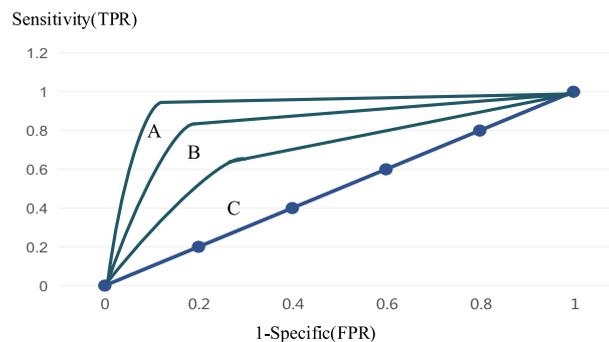
$$FPR = \frac{FP}{TN + FP} \tag{15}$$

The region beneath the ROC curve (AUC) is a metric used to assess the learning machine’s performance [36]. AUC is calculated by adding the area of each component under the ROC curve. The AUC may be calculated by linking a sequence of coordinate points (x1,y1), (x2,y2), (x3,y3), ..., (xm, ym) in a sequential manner to construct the ROC curve.

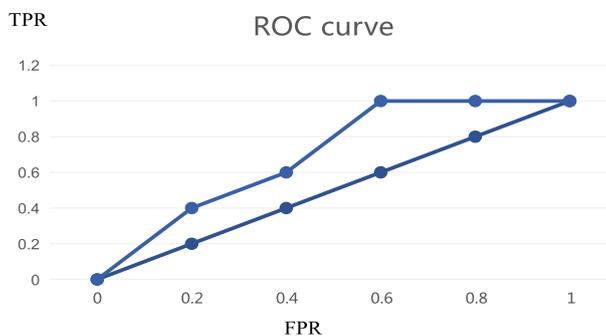
$$AUC = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} (x_{i+1} - x_i) \cdot (y_{i+1} + y_i) \tag{16}$$

The difference reflected in the AUC-ROC curve is due to the different performance statistics caused by the different threshold settings. ROC is a probability curve, and AUC is a measure of separability. ROC symbolizes the ability of characteristic values to stand out from other data. The larger the AUC, the better the model can distinguish between 0 and 1, so it can better predict the user’s decision.

The ROC curves are illustrated in Fig. 8, where FPR is plotted on the x-axis and TPR is plotted on the y-axis. The AUC of the different classification results of the three different parameters is represented by regions A, B, and C, respectively. Through the comparative analysis of the three curves, we can get the conclusion that the AUC-ROC curve corresponding to AUC-A has the best performance. Also, the TPR of AUC-A converges to the maximum value when the FPR is about 0.1, twice as fast as that of AUC-B.



**Fig. 8** Comparison of different ROC-AUC curves



**Fig. 9** ROC curve of our proposed model

Figure 9 demonstrates the ROC curves for the classification model we developed. We get a semi-ellipse approximately  $AUC=0.809$ , indicating that our model has wonderful classification capability. With our developed model, travelers can confidently make a decision on whether or not pick destination A. More than that, travelers are supplied with relevant services based on the categorization findings.

### 5 Conclusions

As tourism grows, incorporating the IoT into tourist activities becomes a promising tech trend. Smart tourism makes use of the Internet of things to improve data analysis and integration, allowing for quick and easy information transmission between users. To put it another way, the Internet of things will become a critical component in meeting the demands of an entirely new generation of travelers. In this work, we present a hybrid intelligence KNN classification-based tourist behavior decision-making approach. Based on previous order information and browsing history, this categorization system may effectively assist travelers to decide whether or not to visit a specific vacation location.

#### Abbreviations

IoT	Internet of things
UNWTO	United Nations World Tourism Organization
GPS	Global positioning system
LBS	Location-based services
TDOA	Time difference of arrival
KNN	K-nearest neighbor
FP	False positives
FN	False negatives
TP	True positives
TN	True negatives

#### Author contributions

WZ participated in the design of the study and performed the statistical analysis. HC conceived of the study and participated in its design and coordination and helped to draft the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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#### Availability of data and materials

Data are private.

## Declarations

### Ethics approval and consent to participate

There are no conflicts of interest declared by the authors.

### Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interest.

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