

Hangzhou ET City Brain — China's AI platform for smart city governance and traffic management

AI in the Public Sector · Good practice · China

Quality score: 53/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

Hangzhou's ET City Brain, co-developed by the city government and Alibaba Cloud, uses computer vision and ML to optimise traffic signals and route emergency vehicles. By 2020, Hangzhou fell from 5th to 57th most congested city in China; ambulance response times fell 50%.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured public value	2/3
Transparency, fairness & accountability	1/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	2/3
Scalability beyond pilot	2/3
Governance, capability & sustainability	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-06-25

[Hangzhou Municipal Government; Alibaba Cloud](#) — accessed 2026-06-25

[IET Smart Cities 2019](#) — peer-reviewed paper — accessed 2026-06-25

[Caprotti & Liu, Exeter University — Platform urbanism and City Brain \(PMC, 2020\)](#) — accessed 2026-06-25

[Atlas of Urban Tech — Hangzhou case study](#) — accessed 2026-06-25

[ResearchGate — Optimizing Urban Mobility in Hangzhou \(2025\)](#) — accessed 2026-06-25

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