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A Research Paper on Smart Authentication System for Identity Verification

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Abstract: This research paper focuses on the creation of a web application that employs modern techniques to authenticate and verify the identities of students and employees. In the era of digital transformation, conventional identification methods have become less effective. To overcome this challenge, the proposed solution leverages advanced biometric technologies like facial recognition and QR codes to ensure precise identification of individuals. Moreover, the application offers SMS and email notifications, along with a performance chart generated by machine learning to provide comprehensive user information. The objective of this project is to develop a trustworthy and secure digital identity verification system that can cater to all citizens.

Index Terms: Web Application, Bio-metric technologies, Authentication, Verification, Security, Face Recognition, QR Code, Machine Learning

I. INTRODUCTION

An automated solution is proposed to address the challenges of authenticating student identities and tracking their movements within a college campus. This system, called the Smart Identity Card, utilizes the latest technology in the form of QR codes and facial recognition to generate and verify student ID cards quickly and securely. The ID cards display the student's name, ID number, and emergency contact, while other details are hidden under the QR code. This not only ensures the security and confidentiality of the employee work environment but also saves time and money spent on manual ID card generation.

The Smart Identity Card system is designed to be user-friendly and easy to implement. Students can easily apply for an ID card on the web application, and once the application is approved, the ID card will be generated immediately and sent to the registered email id of the student. This eliminates the need for physical visits to the college office, making the process more convenient for students.

Security guards at the entrance gate scan the QR code and the student's face to grant access. The system is robust to changes in lighting conditions, glare, noise, contrast, and shadows, making it highly secure and reliable. Additionally, once the student enters the college campus, our SMS system will send a notification to their parents, and the time he enters the college campus will be updated on an excel sheet that will be accessible by the teacher. The same will be done once the student leaves the campus, ensuring complete transparency and accountability.

The Smart Identity Card system also offers multiple benefits for the college administration. It eliminates the need for manual record-keeping, reducing the chances of errors and inaccuracies. The system also generates reports and analytics on student attendance and movements, which can be used by the college administration for decision-making and planning. The reason we use QR codes is the amount of data they can store compared to traditional barcodes. A QR code is two-dimensional, unlike a one-dimensional barcode. This means that QR codes can contain more data, and QR codes can be up to 10 times smaller than barcodes and still be readable. This makes it an efficient and convenient solution for both students and staff. Overall, the Smart Identity Card system is a secure, time-saving, cost-effective, and user-friendly solution for authenticating student identities and tracking their movements within a college campus.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Technology is becoming increasingly intertwined with our daily lives, affecting how we learn, work, and play. One area where technology has had a significant impact is in security systems. With the advent of the internet, vast amounts of information can be stored and moved quickly and easily. Many scholars have devoted significant effort to examining various features of human identification, and QR codes are seen as the next generation of barcodes, and our objective is to design a technology solution that utilizes QR codes in digital identity cards to create a new era of smart identity cards. Traditional identity cards can be prone to errors and mistakes, and barcode scanning can be hindered by scratches and requires a specialized device. QR codes, on the other hand, have a larger storage capacity, are more easily readable, and are less expensive to implement.

The Smart Identity Card system will be designed to eliminate the need for carrying multiple cards by an individual. It will store all the necessary information of the student in a single card, making it more convenient and efficient. Manual card verification can be time-consuming and tedious, particularly in situations where a large number of users are entering a building at once. Educational institutions often opt for simple non-RFID identification cards, but this manual verification process can be unreliable and leads to security gaps. The use of manual verification also increases the chances of errors and inaccuracies in record-keeping, which can have serious consequences.

Our system aims to streamline the identification and authorization of users/students in a contactless manner, eliminating the need for manual verification and reducing the possibility of image manipulation and fake cards. This system also offers a more efficient and secure approach to tackling unauthorized access. In addition, the system will also send notifications to parents and update time records for teachers, providing transparency and accountability. Moreover, the system can generate reports and analytics on student attendance and movements, which can be used by the college administration for decision-making and planning. The Smart Identity Card system is a comprehensive solution that addresses the challenges of identity verification and security in educational institutions.

Overall, the Smart Identity Card system is a secure, time-saving, cost-effective, and user-friendly solution for authenticating student identities and tracking their movements within a college campus. It utilizes the latest technology in the form of QR codes and facial recognition to generate and verify student ID cards quickly and securely, while also providing additional features such as notifications, record-keeping and analytics.

III. SYSTEM DESIGN

The following section provides a detailed overview of how the software functions. As shown in Fig [1] The software comprises three main user roles, namely students, security guards, and administrators. Users register themselves on the platform, and their data is only accessible to the administrator, who is the super user. The platform also allows users to view their performance chart, which presents their data in a graphical format. The Security Guard is responsible for scanning the QR Code and the face of the user. Their scanning tasks are directly linked to the administrator, and they cannot modify any user data.

To create a facial recognition system, a diverse dataset of 1000 images with various faces was compiled. This dataset contained pictures captured in various settings and lighting conditions. Optimal algorithms were used to extract faces precisely from any location. Facial recognition technology involves image acquisition equipment that captures data on human faces and inputs it into a computer for program calculation. The computer algorithm technology processes the collected face data, analyzes it, and extracts features for identity recognition.

The software process flow starts with the client receiving a job and assigning it to the server. The client processes the face image and sends the job to the processor for automated facial recognition. The processor retrieves the result of the image sequence and uses it to identify the user accurately and efficiently. This process is reliable and effective for tracking and authenticating student identities within a college campus. It is essential for maintaining campus security and ensuring that only authorized individuals can access certain resources. Overall, the software process flow is a dependable solution for managing student identities.

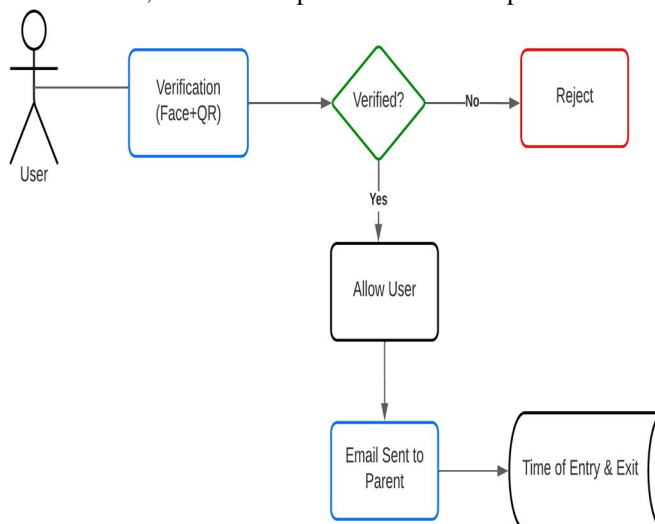


Fig. 1. High Level Working Diagram

A. System Design for Deep Face Library

Deepface is a cutting-edge framework for face recognition and analysis that has been designed to be lightweight and easy to use. It boasts an impressive array of state-of-the-art models, including VGG-Face, Google FaceNet, OpenFace, Facebook DeepFace, DeepID, ArcFace, Dlib and SFace, all of which have been integrated into the system to provide unparalleled accuracy and performance.

With its advanced facial attribute analysis capabilities, Deepface can accurately identify a person's age, gender, emotion and race with remarkable accuracy. In fact, experiments have shown that Deepface is capable of achieving a level of accuracy that surpasses even that of human beings, with a remarkable accuracy rate of 97.53%. One of the key features of Deepface is its powerful face verification function, which can be used to verify whether two faces belong to the same person or not. The function is capable of processing exact image paths, as well as numpy or base64 encoded images, making it incredibly versatile and easy to use.

Deepface is built on top of the TensorFlow library, which is one of the most widely used deep learning libraries in the world. By leveraging the power of TensorFlow, Deepface is able to take advantage of cutting-edge algorithms and models to achieve exceptional performance and accuracy in its face recognition and analysis tasks.

TensorFlow provides a powerful platform for building and training deep neural networks, and its flexible architecture makes it well-suited for a wide range of applications. With its robust set of tools and libraries, TensorFlow has become a go-to choice for researchers and developers working in the field of deep learning. By incorporating TensorFlow into its framework, Deepface is able to benefit from the latest advances in deep learning research, making it one of the most powerful and accurate face recognition and analysis tools available today. Deepface and TensorFlow provide the tools needed to achieve exceptional results in facial recognition and analysis.

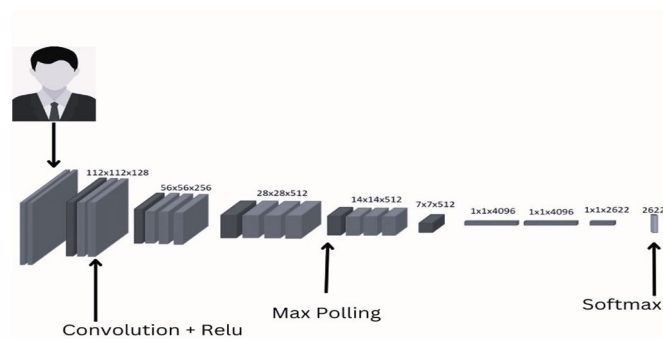


Fig. 2. Deep Face Neural Network

B. System Design for QR Code

The secure image generator employs a preprocessing stage that serves three critical functions. Firstly, the generator transforms picture data into character string data, which can then be modified as needed. The next step involves compressing the text-based data to fit within the data capacity allowed by the QR code. Finally, the optimized data is encrypted using a text-based encryption method to ensure its security before being used to generate a QR code-based secure picture.

QR codes are highly versatile in terms of the information they can store, and can encode a significant amount of data in a small area. This includes sensitive information such as authentication data and personal details of students. However, it is important to note that QR codes also pose potential security risks. Unauthorized access to the information contained within QR codes is possible if appropriate security measures are not put in place. Thus, it is crucial to use QR codes only in situations where their benefits outweigh the risks, and to implement robust security protocols such as authentication and access controls to prevent data breaches.

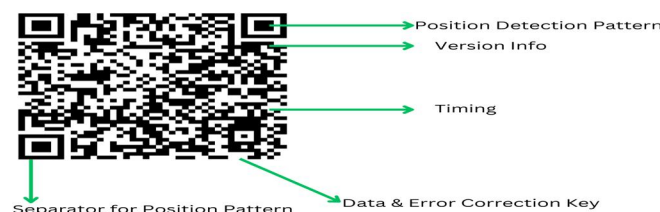


Fig. 3. QR Code Diagram

IV. UML CLASS DIAGRAMS

A. Class Diagram for User

To begin, the user needs to register for an account on the web application and provide their login information. They must provide their password and confirm it for the website, then click the register button. The web page will automatically add their username and password to the database. To prevent unauthorized access, users can input the email ID provided by the institute. Once the account is created, the user will need to fill out the student form with all the necessary details, including uploading an image for verification. After submitting the form, a QR Code will be generated.

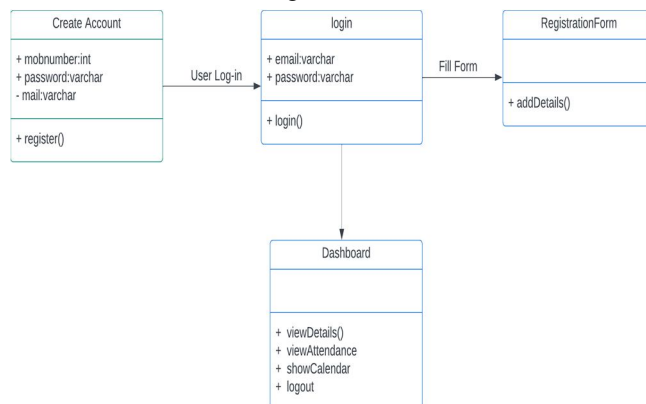


Fig. 4. UML Class Diagram - User

B. Class Diagram for Admin

The admin has the ability to view all user information, but only after creating an account with a unique username and password. Once logged in, the admin can access the relevant data. If a user leaves the session prematurely, the admin can delete their record from the database. The admin is also responsible for updating any necessary information. User privileges are limited to viewing records and data in Essentials. If the admin attempts to access the Admin Portal without the proper administrative privileges, an error message will appear. Additionally, the Admin Portal only displays information that is relevant to the admin's authorization level. The admin has the ability to add teacher details, and teachers are only permitted to access internal student data for attendance purposes.

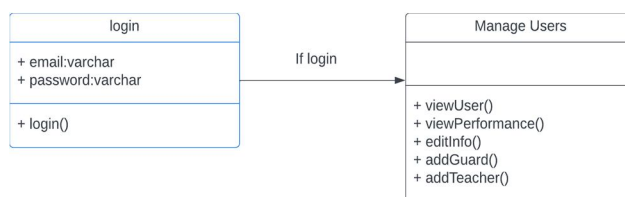


Fig.5. UML Class Diagram – Admin

C. Class Diagram for Security Guard

The security guard must first register to create their account. As there will only be one account, the admin is solely responsible for creating it. The security guard will have access to a scanner through the web app, which is used to scan a student's face and QR code. Real-time data will be updated accordingly. If the verification process is successful, an SMS notification will be sent to the parent's cell phone, and the performance chart will be updated with the same information.



Fig. 6. UML Class Diagram - Guard

D. Class Diagram for Teacher

The admin has the exclusive authority to add teachers to the system. Once the teacher logs into their account, they will be presented with an interface containing filters to select the class and division. A table will then be displayed, showing the names of students and attendance mark columns. The teacher will mark the checkbox for each student who is present on that day and submit the attendance record

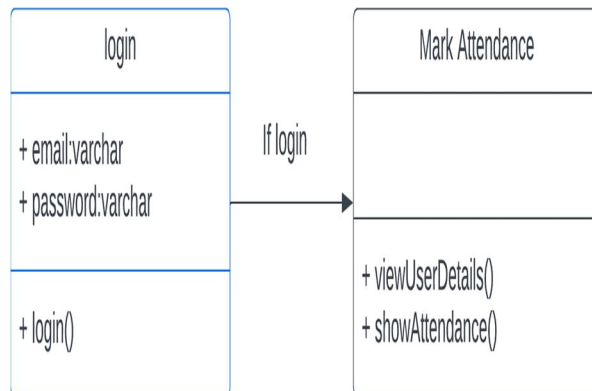


Fig. 7. UML Class Diagram - Teacher

V. DEVELOPMENT METHODOLOGIES

A. Technologies & Languages

1) Backend: Python (Flask / Flask-RESTful API).

Flask is an open-source web framework. It's a Python package that makes it simple to create web apps. It has a modest and simple core: it's a microframework without an ORM (Object Relational Manager) or other functionalities.

2) Frontend: ReactJs.

ReactJS is a JavaScript toolkit for creating reusable UI components that is declarative, fast, and versatile. It is an open-source, component-based front-end library that is exclusively responsible for the application's view layer.

3) Database: SQLite

SQLite is a software package that offers a serverless, transactional SQL database engine with zero setup. SQLite is the world's most popular SQL database engine.

4) Security/Authentication: JWT (JSON Web Token).

JWT, or JSON Web Token, is an open standard that allows two parties — a client and a server — to exchange security information. Each JWT includes encoded JSON objects as well as a set of assertions.

B. Features Included

- 1) Face-Recognition.
- 2) QR-Code verification.
- 3) Email Service.
- 4) Performance Chart.
- 5) Teacher Access.

VI. ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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VII. CONCLUSION

Our system helps to digitize the traditional methods of identifying and verifying individuals, and we can ensure that it overcomes the flaws of the existing system. By implementing a Smart Authentication System with Identity Verification, we aim to increase efficiency and reduce human error.

Computerizing this system is a significant step forward in modernizing the process of identification and verification, making it more accessible to a broader range of users. This technology is particularly advantageous for developing countries, as they can introduce the system to various educational institutions and benefit from its efficiency and accuracy.

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