International Journal on Science and Technology (IJSAT)
E-ISSN: 2229-7677 ● Website: www.ijsat.org ● Email: editor@ijsat.org

AI-Powered Parking Infrastructure and Vehicle Identifications System for Modern Smart Cities

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ABSTRACT:
Parking plays a pivotal role in urban transportation by ensuring organized vehicle management in densely populated areas. However, the rapid surge in vehicle ownership has rendered traditional parking systems increasingly inefficient. Common issues include poor utilization of parking spaces, long wait times to find slots, added traffic congestion, and unnecessary fuel consumption. Additionally, many existing parking prediction systems fall behind due to their dependence on outdated methods, lack of live data integration, and limited ability to scale. Security is another critical concern, particularly in high-risk zones such as residential communities, government facilities, and military premises, where unauthorized access and vehicle theft remain major threats. To overcome these limitations, this project introduces an intelligent Smart Parking System powered by Edge Computing and Deep Learning. This system connects multiple parking areas through a cohesive network, enabling dynamic slot assignment and real-time updates on space availability. For enhanced security, Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) are utilized for facial recognition, accurately verifying vehicle owners during entry and exit to prevent unauthorized access and enhance theft protection. The proposed solution features an automated and centralized vehicle identification process that delivers both secure and convenient parking operations. Through real-time processing and an intuitive user interface, drivers are promptly informed about their access permissions and guided to available parking spaces. This innovative system not only boosts parking efficiency in urban settings but also strengthens security infrastructure, offering a forward-thinking response to contemporary parking challenges.

Keywords: AI parking system, Smart city parking, Intelligent parking solutions, Vehicle identification system, License plate recognition (LPR), Automated vehicle detection, Smart parking infrastructure, Urban mobility solutions, Real-time parking analytics.

1. INTRODUCTION

Parking refers to the practice of bringing a vehicle to a stop, turning off the engine, and leaving it unattended. It is commonly allowed on one or both sides of streets, although there may be certain limitations in place. Many buildings offer designated parking areas for the convenience of their occupants

or visitors. Parking plays a crucial role in car-based transportation, as vehicles generally remain unused for the majority of the time. The accessibility and cost of parking can significantly influence and encourage reliance on personal cars.

2. PROPOSED WORK

The proposed AI-driven smart parking and vehicle identification system is designed to transform the current urban mobility landscape. It aims to resolve common issues seen in traditional parking setups—such as lengthy search times, increased traffic congestion, and insufficient security—by incorporating advanced technologies like artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things (IoT), and computer vision.

1. System Architecture and Design

Develop a flexible and scalable system framework that can seamlessly integrate with pre-existing city infrastructure.

Architect the platform with distinct modules to handle:

- Vehicle recognition
- Parking slot monitoring
- User management
- Administrative control

Establish real-time data communication between physical components (such as cameras and sensors) and the backend through IoT-based protocols and APIs.

2.Intelligent Vehicle Detection and Classification

- Integrate AI-powered license plate recognition (ANPR) using computer vision tools like OpenCV, YOLO, or TensorFlow to identify vehicles automatically.
- Use deep learning models to analyze and categorize vehicles based on characteristics such as type, brand, color, and model.
- Store entry and exit logs in a secure MySQL database, supporting functions such as billing, access management, and usage analysis.

3. Automated Parking Slot Management

- Implement IoT sensor networks within parking facilities to identify which spaces are occupied or available.

- Aggregate data from the sensors and cameras to generate real-time slot availability insights.

- Allow users to reserve and manage parking spaces via a mobile-friendly web interface or app, optimizing space utilization.

3. METHODS

1. Smart Parking Web Application

The Smart Parking Web Application is crafted using a reliable technology stack, utilizing Python for backend operations, Flask as the development framework, MySQL for database management, and Bootstrap for creating a responsive and user-friendly interface.

The system is modular in design, with each component handling a dedicated function to enhance the overall parking experience. Users can register, log in, view live parking slot availability, and reserve spaces with ease. Integration with GPS services offers seamless navigation, while secure payment processing ensures smooth transactions. A centralized admin dashboard gives administrators control and visibility over the platform's operations. By bringing these modules together, the application streamlines urban parking, enhances space utilization, and supports a safer, smarter city infrastructure.

2. End User Dashboard

The End User Dashboard delivers a streamlined and secure platform for users, parking providers, and administrators to interact with the system efficiently.

2.1 User/Driver Dashboard Features

Account Creation

New users can register by submitting personal details and preferred payment options.

Login Access

A secure login mechanism ensures user identity verification and protects sensitive data.

Profile Management

Users can update personal and payment information at any time.

Find Parking

Users can locate parking slots based on preferred areas and time windows.

Search Results Display

Parking availability results are shown with all essential information, aiding quick decision-making.

Reserve Spot

Users can book selected slots, choosing their desired time and parking duration.

Cancel Reservation

Option to cancel bookings if plans change, avoiding unnecessary charges.

Extend Time

Lets users increase the duration of an active parking session if needed.

Process Payments

Handles secure transactions via integrated payment gateways.

Booking History

Users can review all past reservations with timestamps and payment details.

Payment Records

Displays the full transaction history for user reference.

Real-Time Alerts

Sends notifications for booking updates, confirmations, and payment receipts.

2.2 Parking Provider Admin Panel

Provider Registration

Enables providers to submit details for account creation and approval.

Approval Notifications

Sends confirmation once registration is verified by system administrators.

Secure Login

Ensures access control for space providers via authenticated login.

Profile Editing

Administrators can manage contact details and business info.

Manage Parking Slots

Add, modify, or delete parking slot details such as location, availability, and price.

Rate Management

Define and update pricing strategies including dynamic and seasonal tariffs.

Confirm Bookings

Verify and oversee user reservations.

Facial Recognition on Entry

Capture driver images for database training to increase entry-point security.

Facial Capture on Exit

Captures facial images on exit to verify user identity and reduce theft.

Booking Records

Displays a list of past and current bookings for analysis.

Transaction History

Tracks all payments made via the platform.

User Communication

Send alerts, announcements, or updates directly to users.

2.3 Web Admin Dashboard

Admin Login

Secure access for web administrators.

Provider Account Approvals

Review and approve registrations from parking providers.

User Account Oversight

Manage users, roles, access rights, and profile activity.

System Maintenance

Handle routine updates, issue fixes, and ensure smooth application performance.

3. User Account Management

This module governs user interactions, access levels, and security:

- Secure account creation, login, and password recovery.
- Role-based permissions to control access.
- Admin tools for enabling/disabling accounts, tracking activity, and issuing alerts.
- Integrated notifications and user behavior analytics to maintain a secure, engaging environment.

4. Parking Space Management

This component is responsible for managing parking inventory.

Add Slots: Register new spaces with details like location and size.

Edit Slots: Update attributes such as pricing or availability.

Remove Slots: Deactivate spaces temporarily or permanently.

Live Availability Tracking: Monitor current status of all parking spots.

Occupancy Detection: Avoid double-bookings and congestion.

Map Integration: Visual display of space locations using mapping tools.

5. Pricing & Tariff Control

This module enables flexible and dynamic pricing models.

Create/Edit/Delete Plans: Manage hourly, daily, and event-based pricing.

Dynamic Rates: Adjust prices based on demand and time.

Special Rates: Configure promotional or holiday pricing.

Tariff Integration: Link pricing with specific slots.

Transparent Display: Show real-time prices to users.

Seasonal/Multilevel Pricing: Offer tiered rates for different parking needs.

Promotions & Discounts: Apply deals to attract users.

Payment Gateway Sync: Ensure pricing reflects accurately during checkout.

6. Parking Space Finder

This tool simplifies the process of locating a spot.

Location-Based Search: Identify available slots in a chosen area.

Time Filters: Search based on arrival time and duration.

Live Status Updates: Present the most current availability.

Filter Options: Sort results by features like EV support or covered parking.

Integrated Map View: Visual location display using maps.

Slot Preview: View slot details before booking.

7. Slot Visualization Interface

The visualizer helps users understand slot status and layout.

Live Status Display: View real-time slot usage.

Color Indicators: Use visual cues for availability, reservation, or occupancy.

Interactive Parking Map: Navigate the layout visually.

Slot Info Popups: View pricing and features upon clicking a slot.

Live Syncing: Get instant updates as slot statuses change.

Dashboard Integration: Switch between the visualizer and user features.

8. Reservation Management

This module streamlines the entire reservation workflow.

Slot Selection: Choose spaces from an interactive interface.

Schedule Selection: Define time and duration for booking.

Integrated Pricing: View applicable rates during the booking process.

Flexible Booking: Options for one-time, recurring, or long-term reservations.

Instant Confirmation: Receive real-time booking confirmations.

Cancel Option: Simple cancellation process with refund rules.

Extend Time: Lengthen active bookings directly from the app.
History Log: View and manage previous bookings.

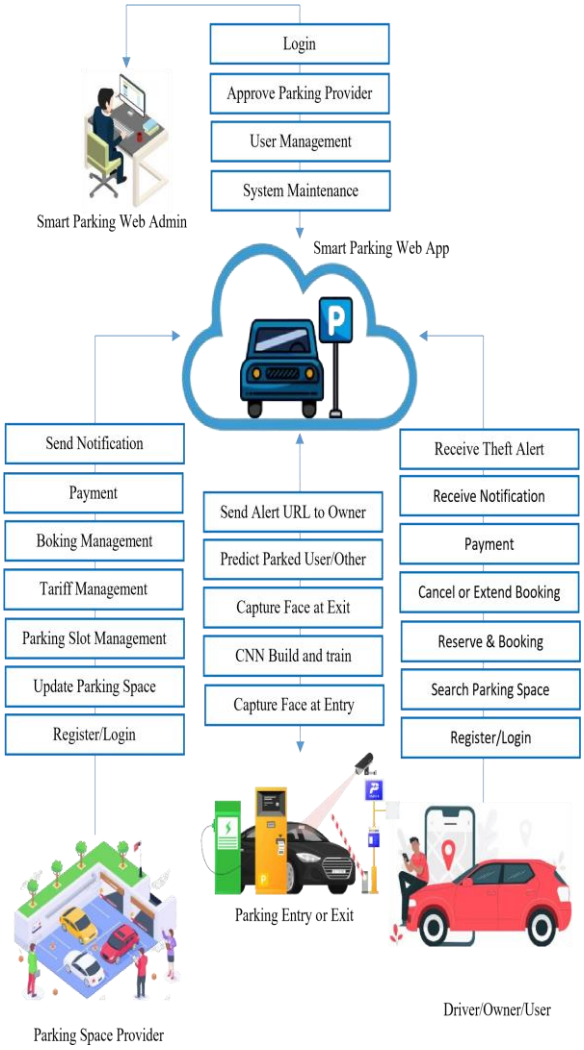


Figure 1: System Architecture

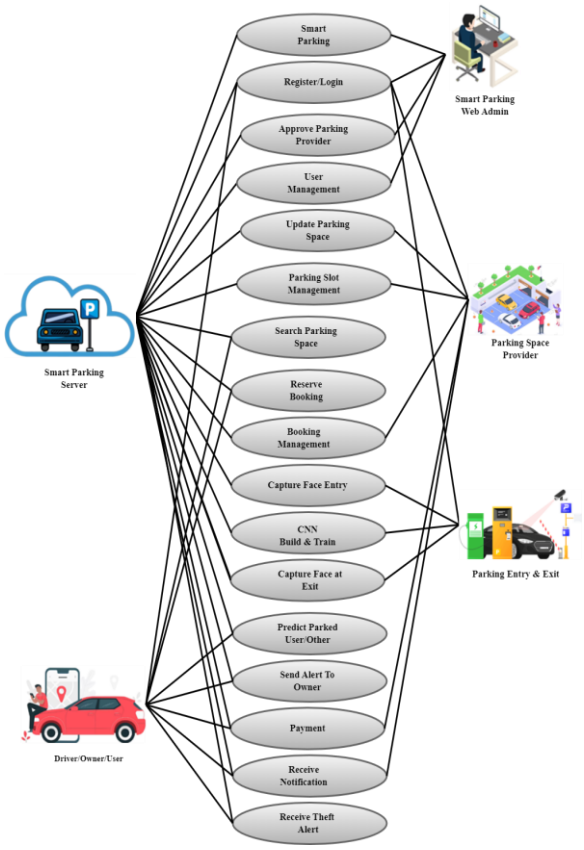


Figure 2: UML Diagram

4. RESULT

Efficient and Intelligent Parking Management

Live Slot Detection: AI-driven sensors continuously monitor and update the availability of parking spaces, ensuring real-time accuracy.
Minimized Traffic Congestion: Smart navigation guides drivers directly to vacant spots, significantly cutting down the time spent circling for parking and easing traffic flow.

AI-Driven Vehicle Recognition

License Plate Detection (ANPR): Advanced camera systems integrated with artificial intelligence precisely identify vehicle plates, facilitating smooth and secure access.
Enhanced Security Measures: The system uses intelligent algorithms to recognize cloned or altered license plates, deterring unauthorized access and fraud.

Seamless Urban Integration

IoT and Cloud Connectivity: The platform syncs with cloud services and IoT devices to enable smooth communication between parking infrastructure, traffic systems, and mobile platforms.

Smart City Readiness: Designed to interconnect with broader smart city solutions, such as digital governance systems, public transport, and urban mobility platforms.

Improved User Interaction

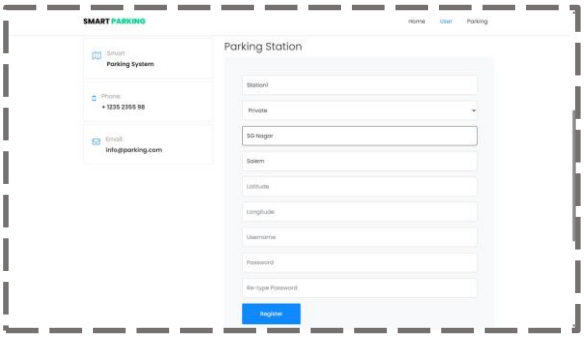
Mobile Access and Features: A user-friendly application or web dashboard allows drivers to find, reserve, and pay for parking digitally.
Touchless Transactions: Supports advanced payment technologies including QR codes, mobile wallets, and NFC for a fully contactless experience.

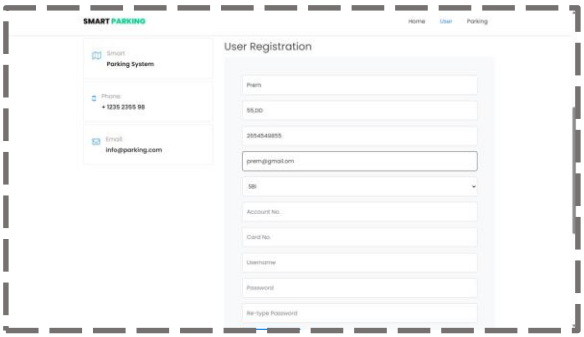
Eco-Friendly Advantages

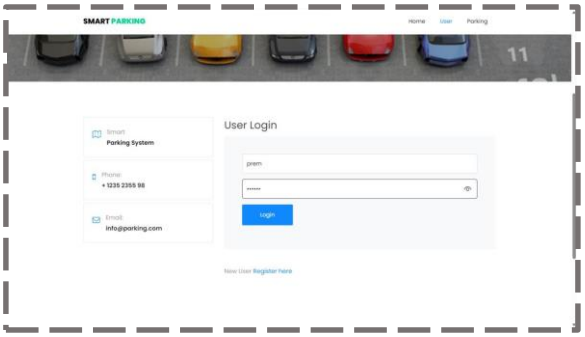
Lower Carbon Emissions: Quicker parking results in less engine idling, contributing to reduced pollution levels.
Energy Efficiency: Intelligent lighting and power systems operate only when needed, leading to substantial energy savings.

Advanced Data Insights

Forecasting and Optimization: AI tools predict high-demand periods, enabling dynamic pricing and efficient resource allocation.
Operational Monitoring: Comprehensive dashboards provide real-time statistics and detailed reports on usage, income, and flow patterns for administrators.







5. CONCLUSION

This project emerges as a groundbreaking innovation aimed at transforming the way urban parking is managed. By harnessing cutting-edge technologies and forward-thinking features, it effectively tackles the inefficiencies of traditional parking systems, delivering a smooth, reliable, and secure experience for users. The use of Edge Computing paired with Deep Learning algorithms forms a powerful base for real-time analysis and rapid decision making significantly boosting the effectiveness and security of parking operations in city environments.The Smart Parking System's ability to interconnect multiple parking facilities into a cohesive network fosters a collaborative parking ecosystem, ensuring maximum utilization of available spaces. Notably, the inclusion of a Vehicle Theft Prevention mechanism, which utilizes facial recognition and AI-driven analytics, highlights the project's strong emphasis on safety. This feature not only protects vehicles but also gives owners the ability to act swiftly against suspicious activity, strengthening user confidence in the system.Comprehensive platform components such as the End User Dashboard, administrative tools for parking space providers, and Web Admin controls contribute to a user-first design. End users enjoy seamless registration, easy navigation to available parking slots, and clear information on pricing. Meanwhile, parking providers can efficiently manage resources, and system administrators maintain oversight of security and system performance.Looking toward the future, the project holds vast potential. Incorporating IoT devices, predictive analytics, and aligning with broader smart city initiatives could further elevate its capabilities. Enhancements in user experience and system intelligence promise continued evolution in line with urban development trends.Ultimately, this initiative marks a vital step in shaping smarter, safer, and more sustainable urban infrastructures. As cities grow and mobility demands increase, the project's role in reducing congestion, minimizing environmental impact, and bolstering public safety becomes increasingly valuable. It is not merely a solution for today but a dynamic, future-ready platform set to grow alongside the evolving needs of modern urban life.

6. ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The authors declare that they have no reports of acknowledgments for this

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