UNIVERSITY TRANSPORT CONNECT: REAL-TIME UNIVERSITY BUS TRACKING SYSTEM USING FLASK WEBSOCKET,AND MACHINE LEARNING PREDICTIVE ANALYSIS

Karthik C
Praveen Kumar N
Mrs. S. Scinthia Clarinda
Assistant Professor

karthik200405@gmail.com praveenpravern6599@gmail.com scinthiaclarinda.s.cse@sathyabama.ac.in

Department of Computer Science and Engineering
with specialization in Data Science
Sathyabama Institute of Science and Technology

Abstract*— "University Transport Connect" (UTC) innovates campus transportation with real-time bus tracking and predictive analytics, Its primary objective is to streamline the commuting experience for users by delivering precise bus arrival times and ensuring seamless mobility. This solution addresses the critical need for improved mobility and time management within universities, surpassing existing systems that often lack precision and timely updates. University Transport Connect (UTC) integrates machine learning algorithms within Python's Flask framework and WebSocket technology to predict bus arrival times reliably. Starting with linear regression models, the project plans to advance to more sophisticated ensemble methods for increased prediction accuracy. Flask-SocketIO facilitates seamless communication between servers and clients, ensuring real-time updates on interactive maps powered by the Google Maps API. Each bus is uniquely identifiable for precise tracking, with location data stored in a scalable database system to ensure reliability. University Transport Connect (UTC) also offers personalized notifications, route optimization algorithms, and seamless integration with mobile platforms, enhancing user experience. Beyond educational institutions, Connect (UTC) also offers personalized notifications, route optimization algorithms, and seamless integration with mobile (UTC) sets a precedent for smart transportation solutions in urban environments, demonstrating technology's transformative potential in improving daily commutes and supporting sustainable campus mobility initiatives.

***Keywords:* Flask framework, WebSocket technology, Machine learning predictive analytics, Flask-SocketIO.**

I. NTRODUCTION

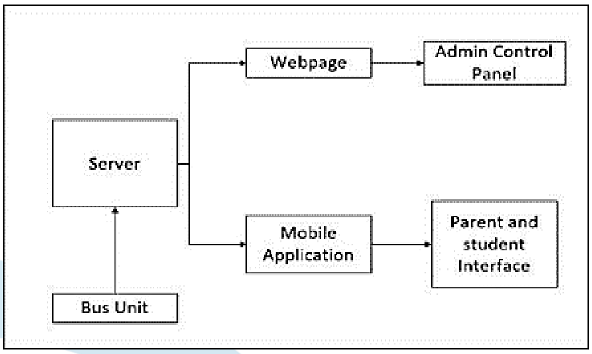
Efficient and reliable transportation is a cornerstone of enhancing the daily commuting experience for students and staff within university campuses.Current systems often suffer from a lack of precision and timely updates, resulting in uncertainty and inefficiency regarding bus arrival times. These problems can cause big wait times, anxiety, and trouble for the school folks, making it hard to keep track of time and get things done. University Transport Connect (UTC) wants to fix these problems by giving a fancy system that tracks buses in real-time and uses smart number-crunching methods. By using new web technologies and smart computer systems, UTC hopes to tell people when buses will arrive for sure, which will help make getting around easier and better for everyone who rides. At the core of UTC's innovation is the integration of Python's Flask framework with WebSocket technology to enable seamless real-time communication and updates. The initial implementation utilizes linear regression models to forecast bus arrival times, with plans to adopt more sophisticated ensemble methods to enhance prediction accuracy. Real-time location data from GPS-enabled buses is processed and stored in a scalable database system, ensuring both reliability and efficiency. UTC also incorporates interactive maps powered by the Google Maps API, allowing users to view bus locations in real time. Additionally, personalized notifications and route optimization algorithms are included to further enhance the user experience, providing tailored information and recommendations based on individual commuting patterns. Beyond the confines of university campuses, UTC sets a new standard for smart transportation solutions in urban environments. It exemplifies the transformative potential of technology in improving daily commutes and supporting sustainable mobility initiatives. By addressing the critical need for precise and timely transportation updates, UTC aims to revolutionize campus transportation and serve as a model for similar implementations in various settings.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Reference [1] discusses a Bus Tracking System that operates on a GPS-based tracking system, collecting GPS data to monitor bus locations and estimate arrival times. It also offers route and location management within the database. UTC, using Python's Flask framework and WebSocket technology, enhances this with real-time updates and data management.[2] describes a system for travel organizations to retrieve real-time vehicle locations and detect deviations using GPS. However, it lacks advanced predictive analytics. UTC leverages Flask-SocketIO for enhanced real-time communication and machine learning models for accurate arrival predictions and route optimization.[3] focuses on a GPS-tracking application for school buses that prioritizes real-time tracking but may lack advanced predictive analytics and dynamic route management. UTC addresses this by using machine learning algorithms like linear regression and ensemble methods for better predictive analytics and route management.[4] handles bus location data and provides real-time map displays but may lack interactive features and route optimization. UTC enhances this with the Google Maps API for interactive maps and route optimization algorithms to improve user experience and efficiency.[5] proposes an Android app for optimizing university bus services, improving driver-passenger communication but lacking advanced predictive analytics. UTC extends this with real-time updates through Flask-SocketIO and machine learning models to predict bus arrival times, enhancing efficiency and user experience.[6] outlines a system using GPS and IoT for monitoring bus movements, providing real-time updates and maintaining schedules but lacking predictive analytics. UTC builds on this with predictive analytics, real-time communication through Flask-SocketIO, and interactive maps powered by the Google Maps API for improved accuracy and user experience.[7] describes a bus tracking application focusing on real-time updates using mobile technology but lacking predictive analytics. UTC leverages mobile GPS technology and smart computer rules to see buses as they move, helping things be better and faster.[8] discusses a public transportation system offering real-time bus tracking but struggling with scalability and interactive features. UTC addresses these issues by using a scalable database system, Flask for data management, and Google Maps API for interactive map displays, enhancing scalability and user experience.[9] outlines a university bus tracking system using basic GPS and manual route updates, lacking real-time flexibility and predictive analytics. UTC enhances this with Flask-SocketIO for real-time communication, machine learning for predictive analytics, and mobile GPS technology for live location tracking, ensuring accurate and timely updates.[10]highlights common drawbacks in existing bus tracking systems, such as inadequate real-time communication, reliance solely on GPS without predictive analytics, static route management, and scalability issues with GSM modules. UTC addresses these by using mobile GPS technology for live location tracking, Flask-SocketIO for real-time updates, machine learning for predictive analytics, and the Google Map API for interactive maps and route optimization.

III. PROPOSED SYSTEM

The proposed University Transport Connect (UTC) system contains two interfaces. The first interface is designed for the adminsitrator which is called as net interface, while second interface is smartphone interface is for users. Firebase console used to securely store user's information. Administrator can select and see details such as localization and user reports. Information about user’s and buses. The live location can be tracked by the users to know predicted arrival times.



[Figure.1: Block diagram of the University Transport Connect]

A. Web page of University Transport Connect

Administrator users log in to access the dashboard. where he can manage all bus information Add or delete student and location details and modify bus routes. Administrators can also access reports and bus arrival times through the web on daily basis.

B. Flask a web framework

A Python library called Flask which is utilized to build the web application. Flask is lightweight frame work tool allows for efficient handling of backend operations and seamless integration with other technologies used in the project.

C. Back end of University Transport Connect

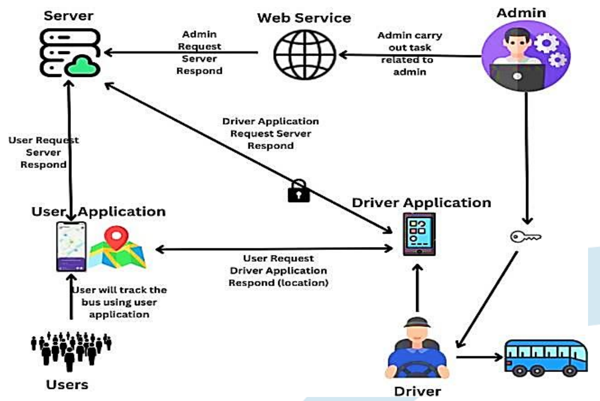
Its backend is powered by google fibrebase a realtime database, which is used to host remotely on google server. It connects the application to these databases. How is this done? It contains information about users , as well as bus information, routes, and daily reports. Data access is restricted to authorized users only.

D. Front end of university Transport Connect

The application's front end is built using React and JavaScript, which promotes interaction and handles client data. It is a multi-platform app. Therefore, it works perfectly on Android and iOS devices. The integration of Map API provides interactive map displays, that allows user to see the real-time bus location and route.

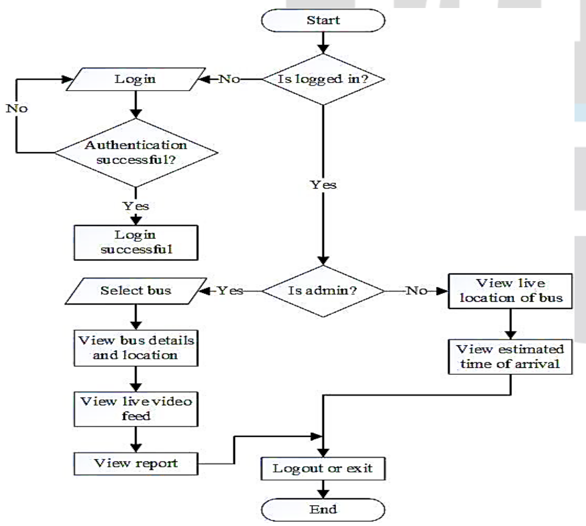
IV. SYSTEM DESIGN

The various modeling tools are utilized to illustrate the structure and functionality of the proposed system. A significant resource is an architecture diagram, which illustrates the system's primary elements and their interconnections, and a flow chart, where the steps in various processes are organized. Visual tools are essential in understanding the system's workings, as they provide technical teams and stakeholders with a clear view of how parts harmonize and information moves through the network. The clarification aids in streamlining development and communication throughout the project.



[Figure 2: System Architecture of university transport connect]

The architecture of the proposed University Transport Connect (UTC) system integrates state-of-the-art technologies for a comprehensive real-time bus tracking solution. Mobile GPS technology from driver's smart phone is employed to track the bus, transmitting data to the server every few seconds. Server, built using Flask and utilizing Flask-SocketIO for real-time updates, processes this data and manages secure storage with firebase a realtime database. Users can access the system through a mobile app that provides real-time bus tracking. Estimated arrival time and notifications for boarding departure and notification of absence. Administrators use a web interface to manage the bus fleet, view live video feeds, modify routes, and access detailed reports. The system's comprehensive functionality ensures smooth communication and data processing, while also utilizing advanced machine learning algorithms for route optimization and predictive analytics, which enhance user experience and operational efficiency.



[Figure 3: Flow Chart of the System]

The "University Transport Connect (UTC) " system flowchart, as illustrated in Figure 3. Logging into the mobile or web application is the first step in this process. Upon entering the user's credentials, the system verifies them. If the login is successful, the system will verify that the user is an admin. This ensures users are directed to the appropriate features and controls for their role. The administrator is presented with options to manage the bus route, which includes selecting a bus to view its details, current location, and live video feed. Administrators can manage comprehensive reports that include detailed information about buses such as routines and schedules. They can also manage information related to user and route. This ensures that the system remains organized and updated. For non-administrator users The application has a set of resources designed to facilitate or unlock it. They can visualize the real-time bus location and get an estimated departure time. It helps us track buses and plan trips more efficiently. This guarantees a quieter and more efficient travel experience for everyone.

V. Comparison with Existing Systems

Compared with existing systems, our approach offers several significant improvements. Traditional bus tracking systems often face limitations due to their reliance on installed GPS devices, which can be challenging to install and maintain on every bus. Our method overcomes these challenges by capturing the location using the driver's mobile device, ensuring seamless and flexible tracking for all buses. This eliminates the need for fixed GPS boards, thereby reducing installation and maintenance complexities. By leveraging mobile GPS technology and integrating real-time data processing with Flask-SocketIO, our system provides more accurate and reliable bus tracking, enhanced with predictive analytics for better user experience and operational efficiency.

VI. Scope and future of the PROJECT

The project has significant scope for growth and development, with many potential ways to improve its features and benefits for users. Adding advanced machine learning algorithms is one of the primary areas where improvements are needed. These could be integrated into the system to provide more accurate bus arrival times, making commuting less stressful and more comfortable for users. Strengthening security measures to ensure the protection of user data will be a crucial aspect. To ensure the safety of sensitive data and maintain user confidence, effective security measures will be implemented as the system matures. Another area in which we should focus is improving the user experience. Upgrading the interfaces of both the mobile app and the web portal will make the system more intuitive and enjoyable to use, ensuring that users can easily access the information they need. In addition, collaboration with transportation authorities and integration into smart city initiatives has great potential. The integration of University Transport Connect (UTC) with wider transportation networks could play a significant role in the development of streamlined and connected all eduactional transport systems, catering to university campuses.

VII.CONCLUSION

The University Transport Connect (UTC) project effectively addresses the limitations of existing bus tracking systems by utilizing Python's Flask framework, Flask-SocketIO for real-time updates, and mobile GPS technology for seamless tracking. Through the integration of advanced predictive analytics and dynamic route management, UTC enhances accuracy and efficiency. The use of the Google Maps API provides interactive map displays, and the scalable architecture ensures the system can grow with demand. Overall, UTC offers a comprehensive and reliable solution for university campuses, significantly improving the user experience and operational efficiency.sustainable management of outdoor spaces, making it a valuable advancement in smart weather-responsive technology. Overall, it enhances convenience and reliability in everyday urban living.

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