

A Short Technical Report towards A8023 – EDT(P) Course

AUTOATTEND

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CERTIFICATE

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Abstract

AutoAttend is a cutting-edge, real-time attendance management system developed using the Flask framework, integrating facial recognition technology to enhance accuracy and efficiency. This system is designed to automate attendance tracking, eliminating the need for manual processes prone to errors. Using a distributed client-server architecture, AutoAttend ensures scalability and reliability, making it an ideal solution for various domains such as educational institutions, corporate offices, and event management. By leveraging facial recognition, the system captures real-time images of attendees, associates them with user profiles, and stores them in a secure database along with timestamps.

The system's robust functionality allows administrators to oversee attendance records, with the capability to add, modify, or delete entries as needed. Captured facial images are processed and stored systematically, ensuring transparency and accountability in attendance management. AutoAttend addresses long-standing issues such as proxy attendance and inefficiencies in manual record-keeping by offering a streamlined, tamper-proof solution. Additionally, its transparent reporting mechanism provides stakeholders with verifiable attendance records, fostering trust and confidence in the system's accuracy and fairness.

Designed for scalability, AutoAttend adapts seamlessly to diverse use cases, making it suitable for small classrooms or large-scale corporate events. By reducing the time and effort associated with traditional attendance methods, the system empowers organizations to manage their resources effectively. Through its innovative approach to attendance tracking, AutoAttend enhances operational efficiency, builds trust among stakeholders, and sets a new standard for reliable, transparent attendance management.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1-Objective

The primary objective of this research is to design and implement an automated attendance management system, **AutoAttend**, using face recognition technology to simplify and improve attendance tracking. Traditional attendance systems often rely on manual entry, which is prone to errors and inefficiencies [1]. By integrating face recognition, **AutoAttend** aims to automate the process of capturing and recording attendance, eliminating human error, and reducing time spent on manual tasks. Additionally, the system will ensure accuracy by preventing fraudulent activities such as proxy attendance, making it ideal for educational institutions, workplaces, and events [2]. This system will leverage the Flask framework to store captured images for face recognition and manage attendance records efficiently, while providing real-time tracking and reporting features.

1.2-Analysis

Existing attendance systems, particularly those relying on manual entry or ID cards, face challenges such as human errors, time inefficiency, and the potential for proxy attendance. These issues often lead to unreliable records and decreased operational efficiency [3]. Studies indicate that face recognition technology has the potential to significantly improve attendance accuracy and streamline the process by automating identity verification [4]. Furthermore, integrating Flask as a backend framework allows for easy data management and real-time updates, ensuring accurate tracking and reporting of attendance data. The proposed **AutoAttend** system addresses these challenges by offering a robust, scalable, and efficient solution using real-time face recognition technology and a user-friendly interface for administrators.

1.3-Findings

Research indicates that automating the attendance process with face recognition enhances accuracy, saves time, and improves security compared to traditional methods [5]. The use of automated attendance systems has been shown to reduce absenteeism and improve participation rates in educational and corporate settings [6]. Additionally, studies suggest that face recognition technology can provide more reliable attendance data, reduce fraud, and eliminate the need for physical contact or ID cards, which is increasingly important in post-pandemic scenarios [7]. The findings from this research emphasize the need for a scalable, secure, and efficient solution that can integrate with existing systems for seamless

data management and real-time updates. **AutoAttend** is designed to meet these needs, offering a contactless, accurate, and reliable attendance solution.

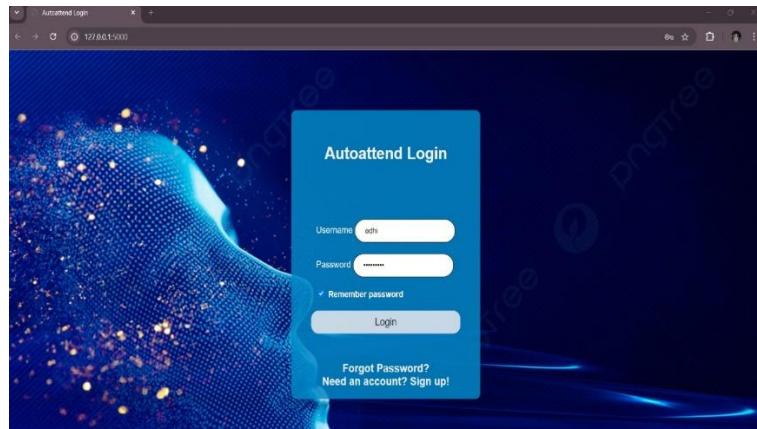


Fig. 1. Login page

1.4-Application/Improvement

The **AutoAttend** system introduces significant improvements over traditional attendance management systems by leveraging face recognition technology to automate and streamline the entire process. Unlike manual or card-based systems, **AutoAttend** reduces human error and eliminates the possibility of proxy attendance, ensuring that attendance records are both accurate and reliable [8]. By using Flask as a backend framework, the system ensures real-time data processing and easy integration with existing databases. Moreover, the system enables immediate recording of attendance as soon as a recognized face is detected, reducing waiting times and making the process more efficient. Real-time attendance updates and reports further enhance administrative control and transparency, making the management process more efficient and less prone to manipulation [9]. The scalable nature of **AutoAttend** ensures it can be used across various environments, from small classrooms to large corporate offices, without compromising performance or data security. The system's flexibility and automated nature make it an ideal solution for reducing manual attendance errors and improving overall workflow efficiency.

CHAPTER 2

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

2.1-Problem

The problem at hand lies in the inefficiency and error-proneness of traditional attendance management systems. Manual or card-based systems are not only time-consuming but also vulnerable to issues such as proxy attendance and data inaccuracies. In environments such as schools, offices, and large institutions, these challenges create administrative burdens, inaccuracies in attendance records, and wasted resources [1]. Furthermore, these systems require substantial human intervention to track and record attendance, leading to delays and additional errors. In particular, the absence of an automated and centralized system for attendance management complicates the real-time recording and analysis of attendance data, which is critical for institutions to maintain proper records and ensure smooth operations. This inefficiency hampers the ability to manage attendance efficiently, making it difficult to respond to attendance trends or address issues such as absenteeism in a timely manner. [2]

2.2-JustificationOverProblem

The justification for addressing this issue lies in the growing need for more reliable, efficient, and automated systems that can handle large volumes of attendance data with minimal human involvement. Research indicates that manual attendance tracking, particularly in large environments, leads to errors, inefficiency, and wasted time. This problem can significantly affect organizations, as inaccurate attendance records may lead to poor resource management and reduced productivity. In the case of educational institutions, such inefficiencies can also lead to academic monitoring problems, which can affect student engagement and learning outcomes [3].

Moreover, the introduction of face recognition technology offers a substantial improvement. Studies have shown that face recognition can significantly enhance the accuracy and speed of attendance systems by ensuring that only authorized individuals are marked present. Automated systems reduce the possibility of fraud, such as proxy attendance, and provide real-time updates, allowing administrators to instantly access attendance data and make timely decisions [4]. Implementing a face recognition-based system that uses Flask for real-time image storage and analysis addresses these inefficiencies while ensuring that records are reliable and tamper-proof.

With face recognition, attendance is automatically recorded as soon as an individual is recognized, eliminating the need for manual input and drastically reducing administrative workload. This system can be deployed at a large scale, providing institutions with scalable solutions that offer both flexibility and ease of integration with existing management systems. Additionally, the use of Flask ensures that the application can operate in real-time, storing images and generating reports that can be instantly accessed for further analysis or auditing purposes [5].

2.3-Solution

The **AutoAttend system** will incorporate several key features to improve efficiency and ensure accuracy in attendance recording. Real-time face detection and recognition will be conducted through the Flask application, which will store captured images in a secure database. This eliminates the possibility of proxy attendance and reduces human errors in data entry. In case of any discrepancies or failed recognition, administrators will receive notifications to address potential issues promptly [6]. Additionally, the platform will be capable of generating detailed attendance reports for review, ensuring complete transparency in attendance data.

The system will also provide **real-time updates** to administrators, allowing them to track attendance dynamically, generate periodic reports, and evaluate trends such as frequent absenteeism. A **Facial Data Storage** mechanism will securely store and manage images captured during the attendance process, ensuring data privacy and compliance with relevant regulations. **User Authentication** will be built into the platform to verify individuals before capturing their image, ensuring that only authorized personnel are enrolled in the system. Furthermore, **Cloud Integration** will enable the system to be scalable, allowing multiple institutions to implement the solution without requiring extensive local infrastructure [7].

To enhance the functionality, the system will integrate an **AI-Based Face Recognition Algorithm** that continually improves its accuracy and efficiency over time by learning from prior data. The system will also support **Multiple User Roles**, allowing different levels of access for students, teachers, and administrators, which will help in managing attendance records and reports effectively. Additionally, **Multi-Language Support** will be incorporated to cater to a diverse user base, making the platform accessible to institutions globally [8]. In case of large-scale use, **Batch Enrollment** features will allow bulk uploading of registered faces, reducing the time needed for system setup in large environments [9].

Lastly, integrating **Cloud Storage** will provide secure and reliable data storage for captured images and attendance logs, with the ability to access the data remotely for analysis and reporting [10].

By implementing these features, the **AutoAttend system** aims to automate and improve attendance management, making it faster, more reliable, and more secure. The system's scalability and flexibility will enable it to be easily adopted by various organizations, reducing administrative overhead and improving operational efficiency [11]. Additionally, using face recognition technology enhances security, ensures accurate attendance tracking, and prevents fraudulent activity in the attendance system. Through real-time recognition, secure image storage, and advanced reporting mechanisms, the **AutoAttend** system aims to modernize the attendance process, reducing errors and increasing overall efficiency.

Fig. 2. Problem .

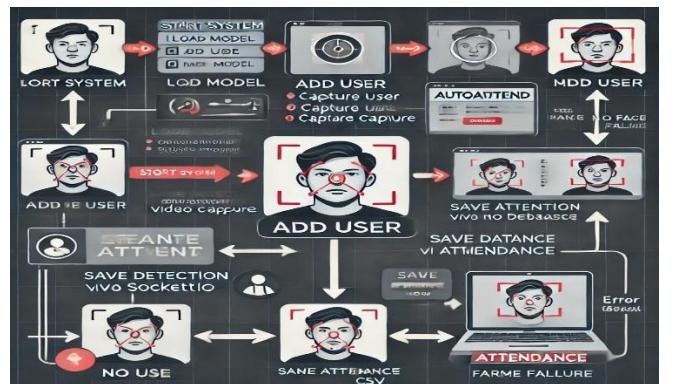


Fig 3. Register page

CHAPTER 3

COMMUNITY PARTNER RELATED PROCESS

In the context of the **AutoAttend system**, community partner-related processes play a crucial role in ensuring that attendance management is efficient, transparent, and scalable. One key community partner for this system is **Pranay**, a school teacher, who will be instrumental in supporting the system's adoption and use within educational institutions.

Pranay's involvement begins with establishing a partnership between the school and the **AutoAttend** platform. As a school teacher, Pranay understands the challenges of manual attendance and the need for a more efficient and accurate system. He helps identify the benefits of integrating face recognition technology for streamlining attendance processes and introduces the system to school administrators and faculty members.

Once the partnership is formalized, Pranay acts as a liaison between the school and the platform, ensuring clear communication and smooth implementation of the system. He helps teachers and students understand how to use the **AutoAttend** system effectively, setting up user profiles, and ensuring that facial data is accurately captured and stored. Pranay also plays a role in training other staff members and students, ensuring that they are comfortable with the system and can address any challenges that may arise during its use.

Additionally, Pranay's school can collaborate with other community partners, such as local NGOs and government organizations, to integrate attendance data with wider efforts, such as student welfare programs or community outreach initiatives. He may help to organize awareness campaigns or informational sessions to engage the broader community about the benefits of automated attendance systems and how they can improve school operations.

Furthermore, Pranay can support **volunteer engagement** by working with students or local community members to assist with data collection, system maintenance, and troubleshooting, particularly in case of system updates or large-scale use. Volunteers can help maintain accurate attendance records, offer technical support, and ensure that the system is functioning properly during peak periods.

CHAPTER 4

DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF PRODUCT

4.1-Components:

Component Description Technologies & Tools Used Purpose / Functionality

Component	Description	Technologies & Tools Used	Purpose / Functionality
Web Framework	The core framework for building the web application.	Flask	Provides routes for user interaction, web pages for login, registration, attendance, etc.
Frontend (UI)	User interface interacting with the application.	HTML, CSS, JavaScript, Jinja2	Provides user forms for login, signup, capturing images, viewing attendance, etc.
Face Detection	Detects faces in real-time from a webcam feed.	OpenCV (Haar Cascade Classifier)	Detects faces in video frames to capture relevant facial data for recognition.
Face Recognition	Recognizes and identifies the detected face based on pre-trained data.	K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN), joblib	Classifies a face based on the training data and identifies the person based on their stored facial features.

Component	Description	Technologies & Tools Used	Purpose / Functionality
Model Training	Trains a machine learning model to recognize users based on their facial images.	Scikit-learn (KNN), OpenCV	Takes images of users, extracts features, and trains a KNN classifier for facial recognition.
Database (User Management)	Stores user details (login info, registration, etc.) and attendance records.	SQLAlchemy, SQLite	Manages the users' credentials and attendance records. Stores user information and logs attendance entries.
Real-Time Communication	Enables real-time notifications for attendance updates.	Flask-SocketIO	Sends real-time updates via WebSockets for new attendance and face identification.
File Handling (Image Storage)	Stores images of users for training and attendance verification.	OpenCV (for saving images), OS file handling	Saves images for registered users, stores the attendance images in the directory, and manages file storage.
CSV Logging	Keeps a log of attendance in CSV format for easy export.	Python's CSV module, Pandas	Logs attendance (name, roll number, time, image path) in CSV for daily reports.
Authentication	Manages user registration, login, and password management.	Flask, Flask-WTF, Flask-Login, Werkzeug	Handles user authentication, login validation, password hashing, and user registration.

Component	Description	Technologies & Tools Used	Purpose / Functionality
User Registration & Profile	Allows users to sign up, register, and store their profile details.	Flask Forms, SQLAlchemy	Provides the form for users to register their details and store them in the database.
Password Hashing	Ensures that passwords are securely stored.	Flask-Bcrypt (or Werkzeug)	Hashes passwords using secure hashing algorithms before saving them in the database.
Attendance Tracking	Records the attendance of identified users with their name, time, roll number, and image.	Flask-SQLAlchemy, Pandas, OpenCV	Tracks when each user attends and records their presence in the system along with their photo.
Image Capture for User Addition	Captures images from the webcam for new users to train the face recognition model.	OpenCV (VideoCapture), PIL	Captures images from the user's webcam to train the face recognition model.
Video Stream	Provides live video feed from the webcam for real-time processing and face detection.	OpenCV (cv2.VideoCapture)	Captures live video from the webcam, processes frames, and detects faces in real time for attendance.
Face Image Directory	Organizes images of each user for training and future recognition.	File System (OS module)	Stores each user's images in their individual folders for model training and recognition.

Component	Description	Technologies & Tools Used	Purpose / Functionality
Date Management	Manages the date format for attendance logging and daily records.	Python's datetime library	Handles the current date for generating daily logs and organizing attendance per day.
Error Handling & Debugging	Provides debugging and error handling functionality for the application.	Python's try-except, Flask Error Handling	Ensures that errors (such as missing files, invalid data) are caught, and appropriate feedback is provided.
Model File Management	Saves the trained face recognition model for future use.	joblib (for model serialization)	Saves and loads the trained model using joblib to avoid retraining on every run.
Attendance Export	Allows the attendance to be exported in CSV format for reports.	Pandas, CSV	Allows the user to download the attendance logs for the day in a structured CSV format.

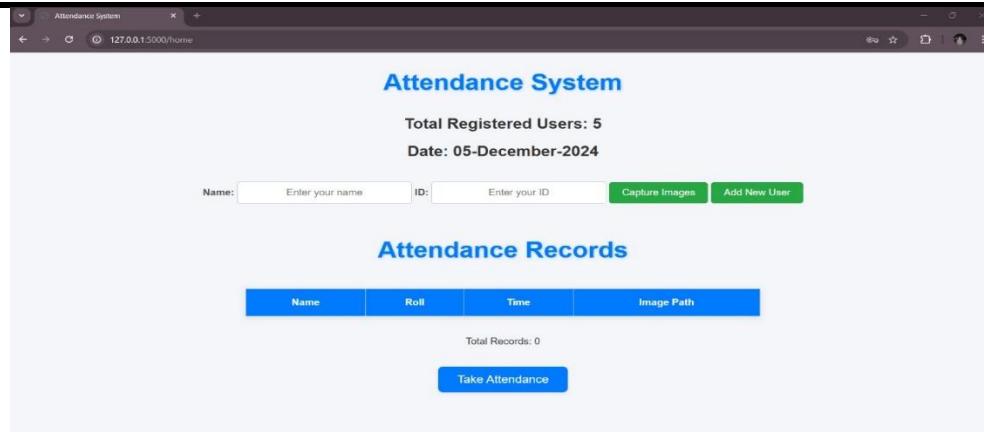


Fig 4. Home page

4.2-Software used:

The **software** used in the system includes both frameworks, libraries, and tools for development, as well as auxiliary software for various tasks:

1. Flask:

- **Purpose:** A lightweight Python web framework used to build the backend of the system (handling routes, form processing, etc.).

2. OpenCV:

- **Purpose:** OpenCV is used for computer vision tasks like face detection (using Haar cascades) and image processing.

3. Scikit-learn:

- **Purpose:** A machine learning library used to train the K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN) model for face recognition.

4. Pandas:

- **Purpose:** A powerful data manipulation library used for reading, writing, and processing CSV files to log and export attendance.

5. SQLite:

- **Purpose:** A lightweight relational database used for storing user details, attendance records, and other application-related data.

6. Flask-SocketIO:

- **Purpose:** Enables real-time communication between the backend and the frontend, allowing live updates of attendance information.

7. Joblib:

- **Purpose:** Used for saving and loading machine learning models, specifically the face recognition model, for later use without retraining.

8. Werkzeug:

- **Purpose:** A library used for password hashing to securely store user passwords in the database.

9. PIL (Pillow):

- **Purpose:** A Python Imaging Library used to handle image saving and manipulation (e.g., saving captured user images for training).
-

10. Flask-Migrate:

- **Purpose:** Used for handling database migrations in SQLAlchemy, allowing the modification of database schema without losing data.

11. HTML, CSS, JavaScript:

- **Purpose:** Frontend technologies for designing the user interface, handling form submissions, and providing interactivity for users.

12. Jinja2:

- **Purpose:** Template engine used in Flask for rendering HTML pages dynamically, inserting data like user information and attendance details.

13. Web Browser:

- **Purpose:** Used by the end-user to interact with the web application, view attendance, and register new users.

Additional Tools/Technologies that may be used:

1. **Flask-WTF:** For form handling and validation.
2. **Flask-Login:** For managing user login sessions.
3. **Flask-Migrate:** For database migrations.
4. **Pandas:** For manipulating CSV files and handling attendance data.
5. **SocketIO:** To send live updates of attendance to the frontend.
6. **Werkzeug:** For hashing passwords securely.
7. **Scikit-learn:** For training the KNN classifier used in face recognition.

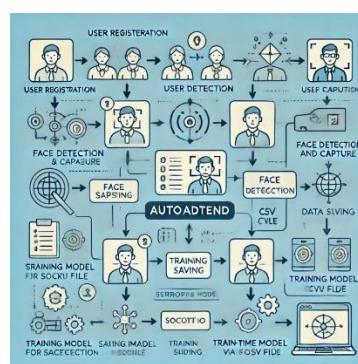


Fig 5. User Register Block

CHAPTER 5

STAGES OF INNOVATION IMPLEMENTATION

5.1. Applications of Auto-Attendance System

The Auto-Attendance System is revolutionizing the way educational institutions manage student attendance. By using facial recognition technology, this system automates the process of marking attendance, improving accuracy and efficiency. Key applications include:

1. Instant Attendance Recording: Students' attendance is automatically recorded through facial recognition, eliminating the need for manual roll calls, which saves time [1].
2. Real-Time Notifications: Students and teachers receive real-time notifications about attendance status, ensuring immediate updates and better engagement [2].
3. Integration with Timetable: The system integrates with the institution's timetable, automatically marking attendance during scheduled classes, providing a seamless experience [3].
4. Attendance Analytics: The system tracks attendance patterns and generates reports that help teachers monitor student engagement and identify attendance-related issues [4].
5. Data Security: Advanced encryption and security protocols are used to ensure that sensitive attendance data is protected from unauthorized access [5].
6. Saves Time: Automates administrative tasks like attendance recording, reducing manual effort and administrative workload [6].

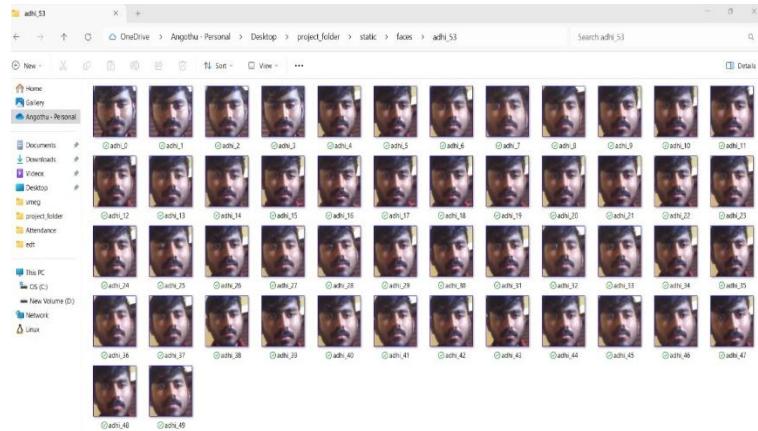


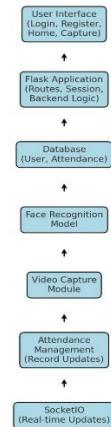
Fig 6 . Captured images for recognition

5.2. Disadvantages of Auto-Attendance System

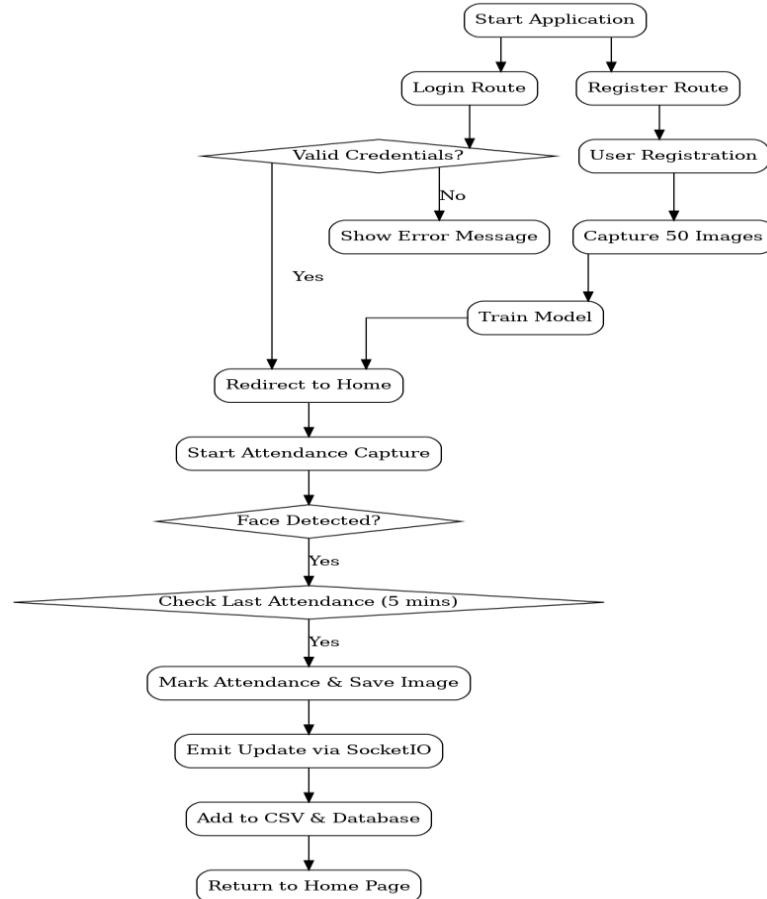
While the Auto-Attendance System offers several benefits, there are also some disadvantages:

1. Data Security and Privacy Concerns: Storing facial recognition data may lead to privacy issues, and there is always a risk of cyberattacks on sensitive student information [6].
2. Digital Exclusion: Not all students have access to the necessary technology, such as cameras or stable internet, which can exclude them from using the system, particularly in rural or underprivileged areas [7].
3. Implementation Costs: Setting up and maintaining an auto-attendance system can be costly, especially for smaller educational institutions with limited budgets [8].
4. Technical Issues: The system may encounter issues such as false recognitions, camera malfunctions, or software glitches, which can affect attendance accuracy [9].
5. Overreliance on Technology: Excessive use of technology can reduce face-to-face interaction, which may affect student-teacher relationships and the learning environment for those who prefer personal connections [10].

Fig 7. Block diagram



5.3 Flowchart:



CHAPTER 6

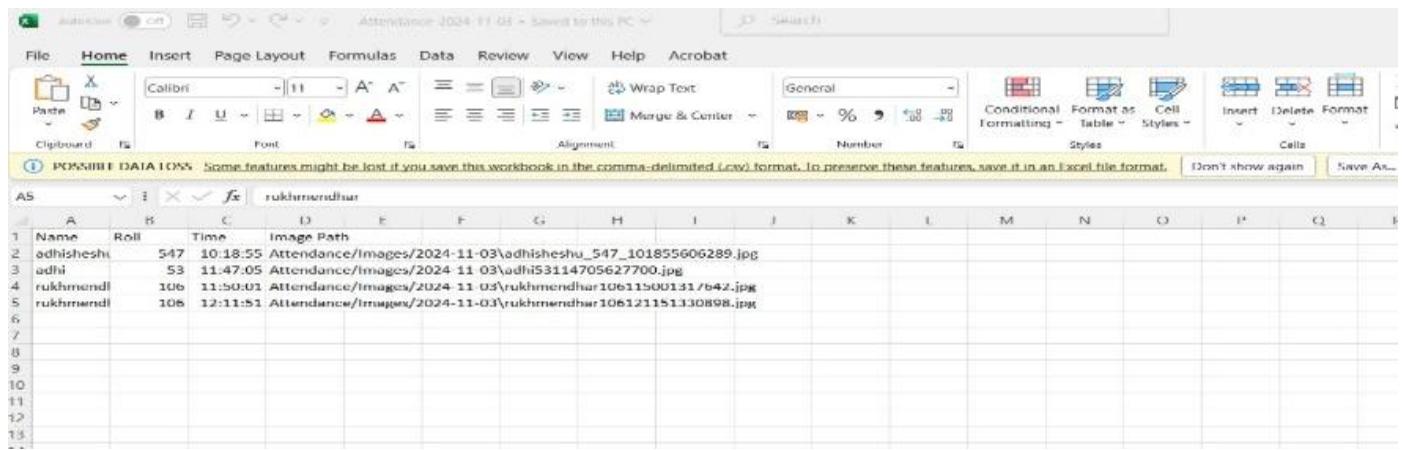
Conclusion

In this research, we proposed an **Auto-Attendance System** designed to revolutionize how educational institutions manage student attendance. The primary objective was to enhance the efficiency, accuracy, and transparency of attendance tracking, ensuring that the process is seamless, automated, and reliable. By integrating key features such as facial recognition, real-time notifications, and attendance analytics, the system allows for a more organized and efficient way to track attendance across various educational environments [1]. The implementation of integration with timetables and automated attendance marking further enhances the user experience by providing students and faculty with immediate feedback and updates on attendance status. For institutions, this system provides valuable insights into attendance patterns, helping identify issues such as absenteeism and enabling proactive intervention [2]. Additionally, the system promotes a more connected and efficient educational environment, making it easier for teachers and students to focus on the learning experience, rather than administrative tasks.

However, challenges remain, including concerns related to data privacy, the digital divide, and the cost of implementation. While the auto-attendance system offers significant advantages, it is important to note that a balanced approach, integrating both digital and traditional methods, may be necessary to ensure accessibility for all students, especially those in underserved regions [3]. Moreover, the adoption of strong cybersecurity protocols is essential to safeguard sensitive student data and build trust in the system.

Ultimately, the **Auto-Attendance System** holds substantial promise for transforming how educational institutions manage attendance, particularly in ensuring accuracy, transparency, and efficiency. By leveraging technology, we can reduce administrative burdens, enhance data accuracy, and improve the overall student experience. Moving forward, this system can serve as a model for educational institutions globally, creating more efficient and responsive educational environments that foster a better learning experience for all students [4].

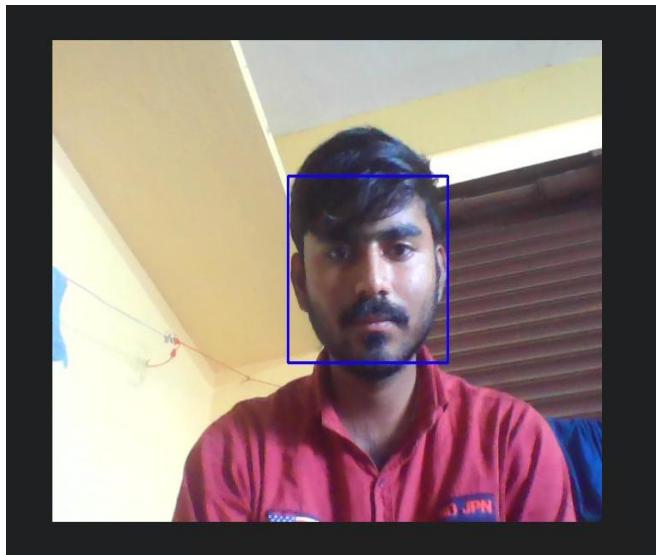
Fig 8. Attendance marked



A screenshot of Microsoft Excel showing a spreadsheet titled "Attendance-2024-11-03 - Saved to this PC". The spreadsheet contains data for five students across four columns: Name, Roll, Time, and Image Path. The "Image Path" column displays the captured images of each student.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
1	Name	Roll	Time	Image Path														
2	adhishehi	547	10:18:55	Attendance/Images/2024-11-03\adhishehi_547_101855606289.jpg														
3	adhi	53	11:47:05	Attendance/Images/2024-11-03\adhi53114705627700.jpg														
4	rukhsenndh	106	11:50:01	Attendance/Images/2024-11-03\rukhsenndhur10611500131\b42.jpg														
5	rukhsenndh	106	12:11:51	Attendance/Images/2024-11-03\rukhsenndhur106121151330898.jpg														

Fig 9. Captured current image



CHAPTER 7

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