AUTOMATIC FARE GENERATION SYSTEM FOR PARKING LOTS

Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

Bachelor of Technology

in

Computer Science and Engineering CSE2006 – Microprocessor and Interfacing

by

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the thesis entitled "AUTOMATIC FARE GENERATION SYSTEM

FOR PARKING LOTS" submitted by me, for the award of the degree of Bachelor of Technology

in Computer Science and Engineering to VIT is a record of bonafide work carried out by me

under the supervision of Prof. Ajitha D.

I further declare that the work reported in this thesis has not been submitted and will not

be submitted, either in part or in full, for the award of any other degree or diploma in this institute

or any other institute or university.

Place: Vellore

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2

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the thesis entitled "AUTOMATIC FARE GENERATION SYSTEM

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meets the necessary standards for submission.

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3

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

'The measure of intelligence is the ability of change' - Albert Einstein

Our project aims to provide an efficient and automatic fare generation system for parking lots that cater to multitudes of cars on a daily basis. The streets and areas that usually bustle with visitors every day require deployment of human sources to manage the parking of the visiting cars, calculate the estimated fares and collect the payment at the time of exit. This project will automate this procedure, thus eliminating the need to employ workers, preventing intentional over charging of fares for personal interests, providing an additional security measure in the form of image and database records, and improving the efficiency by reducing the human errors in the process.

	CONTENTS	Page No.		
	Acknowledgement	i		
	Executive Summary	ii		
	Table of Contents	iii		
	List of Figures	iv		
	Key Words	v		
1	INTRODUCTION	9		
	1.1 Objective	9		
	1.2 Motivation & Background	11		
2	PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND GOALS	12		
	2.1 Literature Review	12		
	2.2 Goals and Objectives	13		
	2.3 Solution	14		
3	DESIGN APPROACH AND ARCHITECTURE	15		
	3.1 Hardware Requirements	15		
	3.2 Software Requirements	17		
	3.3 Architecture	18		
	3.4 Vehicle Classification	22		
	3.5 Database Management	24		

4	CODE AND OUTPUT			
	4.1	CODE for PLATE.py	25	
	4.2	CODE for FARE.py	26	
	4.3	OUTPUT for PLATE.py	26	
	4.4	OUTPUT for FARE.py	27	
5	CO	NCLUSION AND FUTURE POTENTIAL	28	
	5.1	Conclusion	28	
	5.2	Future Potential	28	
6	RE	FERENCES	29	

List of Figures

Fig No	Title	Page No	
3.1	Raspberry Pie 3	15	
3.2	HC-SR04 Specifications	16	
3.3	Ultrasonic Sensor	16	
3.4	DC Motor	17	
3.5	Ultrasonic Sensor Working	19	
3.6	Plate Detection	21	
3.7	Character Segmentation	22	
3.8	Neural Network and Convolutional Neural Network	23	
3.9	Residual Network Layers	23	
3.10	Database Schema	24	
4.1	Code for PLATE.py	25	
4.2	Code for FARE.py	26	
4.3	Sample Output 1 for PLATE.py	26	
4.4	Sample Output 2 for PLATE.py	27	
4.5	Sample Output 1 for FARE.py	27	
4.6	Sample Output 2 for FARE.pv	28	

KEY WORDS

- Fare Generation
- Machine Learning
- Computer Vision
- Automobile
- Parking System
- Deep Learning
- Neural Networks

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. OBJECTIVE

In India, owing to a large population, car sales growth hikes every year. In the year 2017 itself, the growth was reported to be 9.2 percent, highest in past four years. This drives the need for strategizing methods for efficient systems that simplifies the management of these automobiles. One such domain is the Parking Lots at various locations across the country.

Our project aims to provide an efficient and automatic fare generation system for parking lots that cater to multitudes of cars on a daily basis. The streets and areas that usually bustle with visitors every day require deployment of human sources to manage the parking of the visiting cars, calculate the estimated fares and collect the payment at the time of exit.

This project will automate this procedure, thus eliminating the need to employ workers, preventing intentional over charging of fares for personal interests, providing an additional security measure in the form of image and database records, and improving the efficiency by reducing the human errors in the process.

To implement this, the type of the vehicle and its identification, the license plate, are necessary to be determined by the system designed. This project engages Computer Vision and Machine Learning tools for the same.

1.2. MOTIVATION & BACKGROUND

Over the last decades the number of cars on Indian roads have expanded rapidly. As the size of cities has reduced even further due to population overload, the need for systems that aim to efficiently manage expulsion of automobiles came to existence. The parking of vehicles has always been a matter of concern especially in metropolitans and with that insight the creation smart-parking systems took the foreground.

Even with the development of techniques that improve the efficiency of the parking space available, the responsibility of fare collection is left to the human workforce, which more often than not, has proven to be a drawback.

The conventional fare collection system usually involves issuing of slips mentioning the entry and their collection along with the decided fare at the time of exit. This process, at the time of entry, slows down invariably due to less workforce and larger number of visiting cars. And the slips then issued are required to be kept safe and handy, proves to be quite a task for regular users.

Furthermore, it's a common occurrence that the users are overcharged by the employed workers for personal gains by printing misleading prices of the slips that don't abide by the set rules. This, along with no record of the parked cars apart from the paper slips, have an added security risk to the vehicles. All of these discrepancies not only make the process cumbersome for the users but prove to be a hindrance in the making of a smart parking system.

As the world treads the path of Artificial Intelligence, renovating the systems to make them as human management independent as possible has utmost importance. An automatic system thus not only pave way for a hassle free fare generation but increases the overall efficiency thus saving time and money of the users.

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND GOALS

2.1. LITERATURE REVIEW

Computer Vision is the core of Artificial Intelligence which allows computers to take intelligent decisions based on the visual details around them. It includes various takes such as object detection and recognition, image classification and segmentation. Image classification is the task of categorizing images into one of several predefined classes, is a fundamental problem in computer vision.

Vehicle classification done using a visual-based dimension estimation method [17], extracts moving vehicles from traffic image sequences and fits them with a simple deformable vehicle model. A set of coordination mapping functions are derived from a calibrated camera model and relying on a shadow removal method, vehicle's width, length and height are estimated [17].

Jun-Wei Hsieh et al. [15] developed a Make- and -Model Recognition system to detect vehicles and recognize using a symmetrical SURF descriptor. The vehicle's front region is separated into several grids and different weak classifiers trained on these grids are integrated to build an accurate ensemble classifier [15].

In recent years, deep learning models that exploit multiple layers of nonlinear information processing, for feature extraction and transformation as well as for pattern analysis and classification, have been shown to overcome these challenges. Among them, CNNs (LeCun, Boser, Denker, Henderson, Hubbard, & Jackel, 1989a, 1989b) have become the leading architecture for most image recognition, classification, and detection tasks (LeCun, Bengio, & Hinton, 2015) Zhen Dong et al. [16] used semi-supervised convolutional neural network to perform vehicle type classification using vehicle frontal-view images extracts rich and discriminative information of vehicles is captured using sparse Laplacian filter learning to obtain the filters of the network with large amounts of unlabeled data. The softmax classifier, used as the output layer is trained by multitask learning with small amounts of labeled data [16].

ResNet is a newly developed CNN architecture which won the 1st place in the ImageNet Large Scale Visual Recognition Challenge (ILSVRC) 2015 classification task [3]. ResNet enhances the number of layers by inserting shortcut connections which turn the network into its counterpart residual version. These shortcut connections perform the identity mappings in the network [3]. ResNet-based vehicle classification method has been used before by Heechul Jung [18] for real-time traffic surveillance recordings by utilizing a MIOvision traffic dataset, which comprises 11 categories such as bicycle, motorcycle, car, bus etc which achieved an accuracy of around 97.95% on average.

License Plate Detection systems have been employed widely over the world for real time tracking of vehicles, curb criminal activities etc. Various techniques have been developed using different softwares like LabView, MATLAB, OpenCV using different approaches like edge based, neural networks, sliding window techniques amongst others were used. While the initial edge based techniques didn't produce accurate results, with no license plate detection or incorrect detection [13], the techniques developed later on which used median-filters and neural networks, though gave a better accuracy, but could only be used to detect english characters.[14]

2.2 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Our project aims to provide an efficient and automatic fare generation system for parking lots that cater to multitudes of cars on a daily basis. The streets and areas that usually bustle with visitors every day require deployment of human sources to manage the parking of the visiting cars, calculate the estimated fares and collect the payment at the time of exit. This project will automate this procedure, thus eliminating the need to employ workers, preventing intentional over charging of fares for personal interests, providing an additional security measure in the form of image and database records, and improving the efficiency by reducing the human errors in the process.

2.3 SOLUTION

In this project, we will be creating such a device which will detect the approaching vehicle towards it with the help of a ultrasonic sensor and after a certain threshold it will send the signal for execution of code which will scan the number plate of the vehicle and register it in the database. At the time of exit, again the ultrasonic sensor will repeat the same process and again give the signal for execution of code. Since the vehicle is already registered, the device will fetch the entry time from the database and based on the current time calculate the hours and generate fare based on the type of vehicle. The fare generated will be auto debited from the wallet of the individual if there is sufficient balance available.

3. DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURE

3.1 HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS

3.1.1 Raspberry Pi 3

Raspberry Pi is a series of small single-board computers developed in the United Kingdom by the Raspberry Pi Foundation to promote the teaching of basic computer science in schools and in developing countries. It is an SoC (System on chip), which integrates all the components of a computer or other electronic systems on a single chip like a GPU, Wifi-Module etc.

Raspberry Pi 3 Specifications:

SoC: Broadcom BCM2837

CPU: 4× ARM Cortex-A53, 1.2GHz

GPU: Broadcom VideoCore IV RAM: 1GB LPDDR2 (900 MHz)

Networking: 10/100 Ethernet, 2.4GHz 802.11n wireless Bluetooth: Bluetooth 4.1 Classic, Bluetooth Low Energy

Storage: microSD

GPIO: 40-pin header, populated

Ports: HDMI, 3.5mm analogue audio-video jack, 4× USB 2.0, Ethernet, Camera Serial

Interface (CSI), Display Serial Interface (DSI) [20]

OS USED: Raspbian Stretch



Fig 3.1: Raspberry Pi 3

3.1.2 UltraSonic Sensor (HC-SR04)

The human ear can hear sound frequency around $20HZ \sim 20KHZ$, and ultrasonic is the sound wave beyond the human ability of 20KHZ.[21] HC-SR04 is an ultrasonic ranging module that provides 2 cm to 400 cm non-contact measurement function. The ranging accuracy can reach to 3mm and effectual angle is $< 15^{\circ}$. It can be powered from a 5V power supply.[19]

Working Voltage	DC 5 V
Working Current	15mA
Working Frequency	40Hz
Max Range	4m
Min Range	2cm
MeasuringAngle	15 degree
Trigger Input Signal	10uS TTL pulse
Echo Output Signal	Input TTL lever signal and the range in
	proportion
Dimension	45*20*15mm

Fig 3.2: HC-SR04 Specifications



Fig 3.3: Ultrasonic Sensor

3.1.3 DC MOTOR

The human ear can hear sound frequency around 20HZ ~ 20KHZ, and ultrasonic is the sound wave beyond the human ability of 20KHZ.[21] HC-SR04 is an ultrasonic ranging

module that provides 2 cm to 400 cm non-contact measurement function. The ranging accuracy can reach to 3mm and effectual angle is < 15°. It can be powered from a 5V power supply.[19]



Fig 3.4: DC Motor

3.2 SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS

3.2.1 TENSORFLOW

TensorFlow is an open source software library for high performance numerical computation, originally developed by researchers and engineers from the Google Brain team within Google's AI organization, it comes with strong support for machine learning and deep learning. Owing to its flexible architecture, it allows deployment across different platforms ranging from desktops to mobile and EDGE devices. [3]

3.2.3 KERAS

Keras is a high-level neural networks API, written in Python and capable of running on top of TensorFlow, CNTK, or Theano, two of the top numerical platforms in that provide the basis for Deep Learning research and development. [5] It was developed with a focus on enabling fast experimentation. Keras Python library that provides a clean and convenient way to create a range of deep learning models.

3.2.3 PYTHON 3.6.4

Python is an interpreted high-level programming language for general-purpose programming. Created by Guido van Rossum and first released in 1991, Python has a design philosophy that emphasizes code readability, notably using significant whitespace. It provides constructs that enable clear programming on both small and large scales. Python features a dynamic type system and automatic memory management. It supports multiple programming paradigms, including object-oriented, imperative, functional and procedural, and has a large and comprehensive standard library.

3.2.4 LIBRARIES USED

The following Libraries were used in this project:

- Open CV
- Pytesseract
- NumPy
- Pandas
- Matplotlib
- Augmentor
- Theano

3.2.5 GITLAB

GitLab is the leading integrated product for modern software development. It connects issue management, version control, code review, CI, CD, and monitors into a single, easy-to-install application which helps teams go faster from planning to monitoring. [28]

3.3 ARCHITECTURE

3.3.1 Object Detection

When a vehicle approaches the entry barrier, its presence is detected using an ultrasonic sensor. The ultrasonic sensor intimates the processor of the presence of the vehicle which then turns on the camera. The camera captures the image of the vehicle and that image is then used to recognize license plate detection and vehicle classification. Ultrasonic Sensor is the most commonly used sensor to detect a moving target and estimate the approximate distances it is present at.

Ultrasonic sensors work on the principle of emitting short, high-frequency sound pulses at regular intervals. These propagate in the air at the velocity of sound. If they strike

an object, then they are reflected back as echo signals to the sensor, which itself computes the distance to the target based on the time-span between emitting the signal and receiving the echo. As the distance to an object is determined by measuring the time of flight and not by the intensity of the sound, ultrasonic sensors are excellent at suppressing background interference. Virtually all materials which reflect sound can be detected, regardless of their color. Even transparent materials or thin foils represent no problem for an ultrasonic sensor. [11]

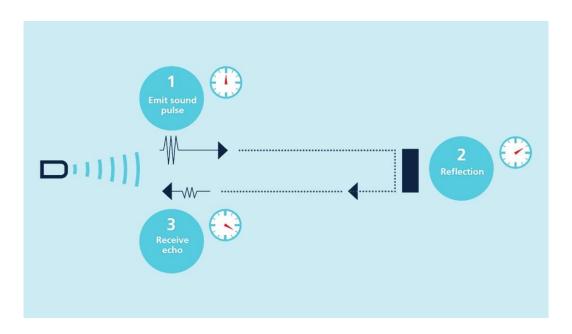


Fig 3.5: Ultrasonic Sensor Working

3.3.2 LICENSE PLATE RECOGNITION

License Plate Recognition uses the concepts of Digital image Processing and Optical Character Recognition to extract the registered vehicle number from the license plate. This procedure is divided into three steps:

3.3.2.1 PLATE DETECTION

The image is first converted into its grayscale equivalent and then into binary image. A certain threshold is decided and all gray level values above the threshold

are mapped to 1 and below it to 0. Thresholding an image converts it into one with black background with all high frequency components in white.

```
Y = 0; GL < Threshold 1;

GL >= Threshold
```

Contours are then drawn for all the objects in the binary image using openCV commands findContours() and drawContours(). A contour is a numpy array of coordinates(x,y) of all the points forming the boundary of images. findContours() returns a list of all the contours in the image;the retrieval mode and contour approximation method are set by the programmer, in this case the same being simple chain approximation(cv2.CHAIN_APPROX_SIMPLE). The list created using findContours() is give as argument to drawContours() which draws contours around all objects of the list. Possible characters are detected from the above image by comparing the dimensions, area and aspect ratio of the bounding rectangle of possible character to predefined pixel dimensions, area and aspect ratio.

```
if (possible Char. int Bounding RectArea > MIN\_PIXEL\_AREA \ and \ possible Char. int Bounding RectWidth > MIN\_PIXEL\_WIDTH \ and \ possible Char. int Bounding RectHeight > MIN\_PIXEL\_HEIGHT \ and \ MIN\_ASPECT\_RATIO < possible Char. flt AspectRatio \ and possible Char. flt AspectRatio < MAX\_ASPECT\_RATIO): \\
```

return True

else:

return False

If the above condition are satisfied it adds the characters to a list called listofPossibleChars. Each possible character is compared with listofPossibleCharacter to find matching Characters. Distance and angle between characters, change in area, height and width is calculated to do the same. Based on listofMatchingCharacters the length on the found. new list. ListofListsofMatchingCharacters, of all matching character sequences which could

be possible plates is created. From this list, possible plates are extracted and cropped.



Fig 3.6: Plate Detection

3.3.2.2 CHARACTER DETECTION IN PLATES

All possible plates are resized for the purpose of clarity and preprocessed. The image is inverted, converted to gray scale and then into binary by thresholding. Possible characters are detected as in the case of plate detection following the exact same steps.

After generating the ListofListsofMatchingCharactersinPlate, the overlapping characters are removed. The longest length of matching chars is chosen to be the actual licence plate. The characters are recognized using KNN (K Nearest Neighbor) classification model.



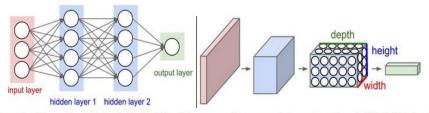
Fig 3.7: Character Segmentation

3.4 VEHICLE CLASSIFICATION

Vehicle classification is performed using Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN or ConvNets) which are a special kind of multi-layer neural networks. Convolutional Neural Networks are designed to recognize visual patterns directly from pixel images with minimal preprocessing [24] . We have used pretrained Residual Network deep learning architecture and then fine-tuned the network to fit our dataset of images of Cars and Bikes.

3.4.1 CONVOLUTION NEURAL NETWORK

Convolutional Neural Networks take advantage of the fact that the input consists of images and they constrain the architecture accordingly[2]. Unlike a regular Neural Network, the layers of a ConvNet have neurons arranged in 3 dimensions: width, height, depth. Moreover, the neurons in a layer will only be connected to a small region of the layer before it, instead of all of the neurons in a fully-connected manner[2]. Basically, a ConvNet is made up of Layers. Every Layer has a simple API: It transforms an input 3D volume to an output 3D volume with some differentiable function that may or may not have parameters[2].



Left: A regular 3-layer Neural Network. Right: A ConvNet arranges its neurons in three dimensions (width, height, depth), as visualized in one of the layers. Every layer of a ConvNet transforms the 3D input volume to a 3D output volume of neuron activations. In this example, the red input layer holds the image, so its width and height would be the dimensions of the image, and the depth would be 3 (Red, Green, Blue channels).

Fig 3.8: Neural Network and Convolutional Neural Network

3.4.2 RESIDUAL NETWORK

Residual Network, popular as ResNet is the most groundbreaking work done in the Computer Vision/Deep Learning community in the last few years[1]. Developed by Microsoft, ResNet, is a residual network framework which makes training of deep neural networks easier by eliminating the problem of vanishing gradient and performance degradation.

As the more and more layers are added to neural network i.e. as it goes deeper, it faces a vanishing gradient problem. As the gradient back propagates to earlier layers, repeated multiplication may make the gradient infinitesimally small. As a result, the accuracy of the network gets saturated and then degrades rapidly. ResNet with 50 layers has been used for vehicle classification. It requires images with input size of 229x229x3. The linear and non-linear transformations are applied on the image as it passes through the subsequent layers of the ConvNet. Since ResNet50 is originally pre trained on ImageNet dataset comprising of 1.2 million images with 1000 categories, the last layers are stripped off to perform transfer learning by fine-tuning the architecture.

layer name	output size	18-layer	34-layer	50-layer	101-layer	152-layer
conv1	112×112			7×7, 64, stride 2		
				3×3 max pool, strid	le 2	See See
conv2_x	56×56	3×3, 64 3×3, 64 ×2	3×3,64 3×3,64 ×3	1×1, 64 3×3, 64 1×1, 256	1×1, 64 3×3, 64 1×1, 256	1×1, 64 3×3, 64 1×1, 256
conv3_x	28×28	$\left[\begin{array}{c} 3 \times 3, 128 \\ 3 \times 3, 128 \end{array}\right] \times 2$	3×3,128 3×3,128 ×4	1×1, 128 3×3, 128 1×1, 512 ×4	1×1, 128 3×3, 128 1×1, 512	1×1, 128 3×3, 128 1×1, 512 ×8
conv4_x	14×14	\[\begin{array}{c} 3 \times 3, 256 \ 3 \times 3, 256 \end{array} \times 2	3×3, 256 3×3, 256 ×6	1×1, 256 3×3, 256 1×1, 1024 ×6	\[\begin{array}{c} 1 \times 1, 256 \\ 3 \times 3, 256 \\ 1 \times 1, 1024 \end{array} \] \times 23	1×1, 256 3×3, 256 1×1, 1024
conv5_x	7×7	$\left[\begin{array}{c}3\times3,512\\3\times3,512\end{array}\right]\times2$	$\left[\begin{array}{c} 3 \times 3, 512 \\ 3 \times 3, 512 \end{array}\right] \times 3$	1×1, 512 3×3, 512 1×1, 2048	1×1,512 3×3,512 1×1,2048	1×1,512 3×3,512 1×1,2048
	1×1		aw	erage pool, 1000-d fc,	softmax	
FLO	OPs	1.8×10 ⁹	3.6×10 ⁹	3.8×10 ⁹	7.6×10 ⁹	11.3×10 ⁹

Fig 3.9: Residual Network Layers

3.5 DATABASE MANAGEMENT

Csv (Comma Separated Values) file is used to store the following information:

- 1. License Plate No.
- 2. Vehicle Type
- 3. Entry Time
- 4. Balance

As soon as a new number plate is detected, all the above information is stored in the database of the Parking system and whenever an existing number plate is recognized, the fare is calculated on the basis of exit time and all the information regarding the vehicle is removed from the database. This is implemented using Pandas in Python.

After registering the above information in the database, the barricade gets opened so that the vehicle can enter the parking lot. Also, at the time of exit, the fare is calculated and barricade opens again for vehicle to exit.

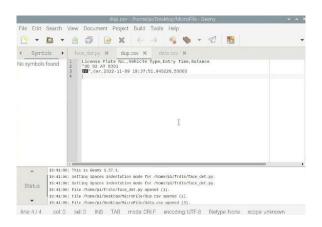


Fig 3.10: Database Schema

4. CODE AND OUTPUT

4.1. CODE for PLATE.py

```
olate.py X fare.py X
     import cv2
import csv
from datetime import datetime
import inutils
     import numpy as np
      import pytesseract
      from PIL import Image
      img = cv2.imread('images/10.jpg',cv2.IMREAD_COLOR)
     img = cv2.resize(img, (620,480))
gray = cv2.cvtColor(img, cv2.COLOR BGR2GRAY) #convert to grey scale
gray = cv2.bilateralFilter(gray, 11, 17, 17) #Blur to reduce noise
edged = cv2.Canny(gray, 30, 200) #Perform Edge detection
# find contours in the edged image, keep only the largest
     # ones, and initialize our screen contour crise ev2./inoContourscreen contour crise ev2./inoContours(edged.copy), v2.ReTR_TREE, cv2.CHAIN_APPROX_SIMPLE) cnts = inutils.grab contours(cnts) cnts = sorted(cnts, key = cv2.contourArea, reverse = True){:18} screenCnt = None # loop over our contours for c in cnts:
      # approximate the contour
      peri = cv2.arcLength(c, True)
33 approx = cv2.approxPolyDP(c, 0.018 * peri, True)
      # if our approximated contour has four points, then
       \ensuremath{\text{\#}} we can assume that we have found our screen
      if len(approx) == 4:
       screenCnt = approx
       break
     if screenCnt is None:
      detected = 0
      print ("No contour detected")
      else:
     detected = 1
     if detected == 1:
     cv2.drawContours(img, [screenCnt], -1, (0, 255, 0), 3)
    # Masking the part other than the number plate
    mask = np.zeros(gray.shape,np.uint8)
     new image = cv2.drawContours(mask,[screenCnt],0,255,-1,)
     new_image = cv2.bitwise_and(img,img,mask=mask)
    (x, y) = np.where(mask == 255)
     (topx, topy) = (np.min(x), np.min(y))
     (bottomx, bottomy) = (np.max(x), np.max(y))
     Cropped = gray[topx:bottomx+1, topy:bottomy+1]
```

Fig 4.1: Code for PLATE.py

4.2 CODE for FARE.py

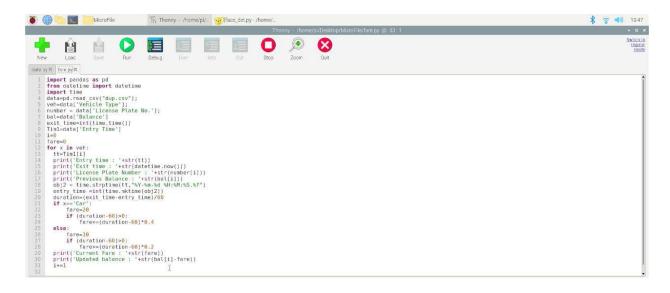


Fig 4.2: Code for FARE.py

4.3 OUTPUT for PLATE.py

Sample Output 1

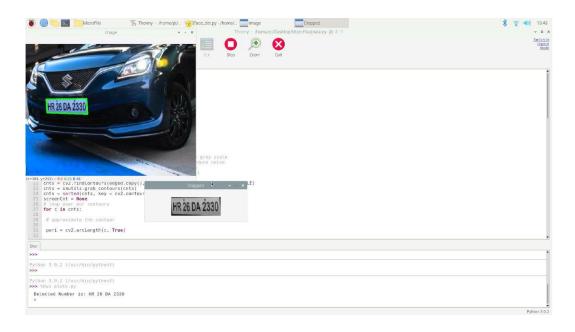


Fig 4.3: Sample Output 1 for PLATE.py

Sample Output 2

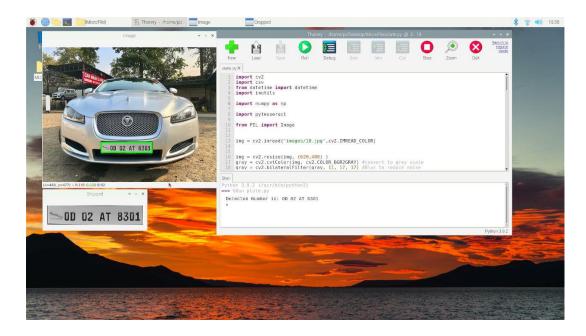


Fig 4.4: Sample Output 2 for PLATE.py

4.4 OUTPUT for FARE.py

Sample Output 1



Fig 4.5: Sample Output 1 for FARE.py

Sample Output 2



Fig 4.6: Sample Output 2 for FARE.py

5. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE POTENTIAL

5.1 CONCLUSION

An efficient and time saving parking system can be created with an Automatic Fare Generation System. As the world treads the path of Artificial Intelligence, renovating the systems to make them as human management independent as possible has utmost importance. An automatic system thus not only pave way for a hassle-free fare generation but increases the overall efficiency thus saving time and money of the users.

5.2 FUTURE POTENTIAL

The project can be extended to develop an app to convert traditional parking spaces into a smart parking lot. The app functionality will include:

- 1. Each user can have an account with single or multiple license plates registered
- 2. The user will get all information regarding payment and receipts available in his account.
- 3. The user will be able to identify the number of parking slots left in a particular lot, to help the users to find space for parking their car without the assistance of the human workforce.
- 4. Machine learning can further be deployed to give discount to the users on the basis of their usage of that particular parking lot.
- 5. By linking Aadhar/syncing account info fare can be automatically deducted.

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