

Team name: OCM

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Overview of the problem:

Finding a parking spot on campus can be a frustrating daily routine for some people. During peak hours, it's common to drive around in circles, just hoping for a space to open up. This wastes time, builds stress, and adds to campus traffic. Most people currently rely on outdated signs, security guard updates, or group chats to figure out where to park and these just aren't reliable enough.

Solving the problem:

To make campus parking simpler and more efficient, we're developing E-Parc, a mobile app that shows real-time parking availability. With this tool, users can quickly check where open slots are, plan accordingly, and spend less time looking for parking. It's all about making the commute smoother and reducing the daily parking hassle.

The application:

- **Application name:** E-Parc
- **What it is:** E-Parc is a campus parking app that gives users live updates on available parking spaces. Whether you're in a rush or just trying to avoid the usual stress, the app helps you find a spot fast—with a design that's simple, clear, and made for everyday use.
- **Features:**
 - Live updates on which parking slots are currently open
 - GPS navigation to guide users to the nearest available space
 - Filter options for location, vehicle type, and time of day
 - Favorite zones so users can save and quickly access their go-to areas
- **Questions about the application:**

Who are the potential users? The app is for anyone who drives to campus regularly—students, staff, faculty, or visitors. Most users are familiar with mobile apps and expect real-time information that's fast, accurate, and easy to access, especially when they're running late or under pressure.

What tasks do they seek to perform?

See which parking areas currently have space

Navigate directly to an available spot

(In the future) Reserve a parking slot ahead of arrival

What functionality should any system provide these users? A clean, responsive interface is essential so people can complete tasks with just a few taps. The system should also support basic features offline or under weak signal conditions.

What constraints will be placed on your eventual design? Design constraints include possible weak signal zones around campus, which can impact app performance. The interface must be readable even in bright sunlight, which affects usability outdoors.

What criteria should be used to judge if your design is successful or not?

Success will be measured by how quickly and easily people can find a parking spot using the app ideally within three to four taps. Real-time data must be reliable to build user trust and reduce frustration. The app should load in under three seconds and remain readable in outdoor conditions. Finally, consistent usage, positive feedback, and high retention rates will indicate overall user satisfaction and system effectiveness.

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