




Embedded C Project Digital Assignment

Smart Face Recognition Security System

Integrating ESP32 for Real-Time Monitoring and Alerts

Kaushik R Haran , 22BML0022
Uday Sooraj , 22BEC0461
Asish Joy , 22BEC0341





Introduction

This presentation outlines the design and implementation of a face recognition-based security system that leverages the capabilities of the ESP32 microcontroller. The system is engineered to enhance security by identifying and verifying individuals through facial recognition, thereby reducing the risk of unauthorized access. The ESP32, with its built-in Wi-Fi and processing power, serves as the central controller, enabling seamless communication between hardware components and the web interface. A camera module captures facial images, which are then processed and compared against a database of authorized users. If a match is found, access is granted; otherwise, an alert is generated. The integrated web interface allows users to monitor the system in real time, view logs, and receive alerts remotely, making it a convenient and effective solution for modern security needs in both residential and commercial environments.



01 Data Collection

1

A Python script captures face images using OpenCV and stores them in a dataset.

2

The Haar cascade classifier detects faces in real-time from the webcam.

3

Each face is saved as a grayscale grayscale image and labeled appropriately.


4

1000 images per person are captured to ensure high accuracy in recognition.



Face image capturing using OpenCV



- ❑ A Python script utilizes OpenCV to access the webcam and detect faces in real time.
 - ❑ Multiple images are captured per person to ensure a diverse dataset.
 - ❑ Images are taken under different lighting, angles, and expressions for robustness.
 - ❑ Each captured image is converted to grayscale to reduce complexity and improve processing speed.
 - ❑ Images are labeled with unique IDs for each individual.
- The resulting dataset is used for training the face recognition model effectively
- 

Python Code

main.py python_to_esp.py

main.py > train_model

```
1 import cv2
2 import os
3 import numpy as np
4
5 DATASET_PATH = "faces"
6 MODEL_PATH = "face_model.xml"
7
8 if not os.path.exists(DATASET_PATH):
9     os.makedirs(DATASET_PATH)
10
11 face_cascade = cv2.CascadeClassifier(cv2.data.harcascades + "haarcascade_frontalface_default.xml")
12
13 def capture_faces(label):
14     """Captures face images and saves them to the dataset."""
15     cap = cv2.VideoCapture(0)
16     count = 0
17
18     while count < 300: # Capture 300 images per person
19         ret, frame = cap.read()
20         if not ret:
21             break
22         gray = cv2.cvtColor(frame, cv2.COLOR_BGR2GRAY)
23         faces = face_cascade.detectMultiScale(gray, 1.3, 5)
24
25         for (x, y, w, h) in faces:
26             face = gray[y:y+h, x:x+w]
27             filename = f"{DATASET_PATH}/{label}_{count}.jpg"
28             cv2.imwrite(filename, face)
29             count += 1
30             cv2.rectangle(frame, (x, y), (x+w, y+h), (0, 255, 0), 2)
31
32     cv2.imshow("Capturing Faces", frame)
33     if cv2.waitKey(1) == ord("q"):
```

```
34         break
35
36     cap.release()
37     cv2.destroyAllWindows()
38     print(f"Captured {count} images for {label}")
39
40 def train_model():
41     """Loads images, resizes them, trains LBPH face recognizer, and saves the model."""
42     faces, labels = [], []
43     label_dict = {}
44     label_id = 0
45
46     for file in os.listdir(DATASET_PATH):
47         if file.endswith(".jpg"):
48             label = file.split("_")[0]
49             if label not in label_dict:
50                 label_dict[label] = label_id
51                 label_id += 1
52
53             img_path = os.path.join(DATASET_PATH, file)
54             face = cv2.imread(img_path, cv2.IMREAD_GRAYSCALE)
55             face = cv2.resize(face, (400, 400)) # Ensure all images are the same size
56             faces.append(np.array(face, dtype=np.uint8)) # Convert to NumPy array
57             labels.append(label_dict[label])
58
59     if len(faces) == 0:
60         print("No face data found! Please capture faces first.")
61         return
62
63     recognizer = cv2.face.LBPHFaceRecognizer_create()
64     recognizer.train(faces, np.array(labels, dtype=np.int32)) # Ensure integer labels
```

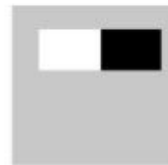

Python Code

```
65 recognizer.save(MODEL_PATH)
66
67 print(f"Model trained and saved as {MODEL_PATH}")
68
69
70 def recognize_faces():
71     """Loads trained model and detects faces in real-time."""
72     if not os.path.exists(MODEL_PATH):
73         print("Model not found! Please train the model first.")
74         return
75
76     recognizer = cv2.face.LBPHFaceRecognizer_create()
77     recognizer.read(MODEL_PATH)
78
79     # Load labels
80     label_dict = {}
81     for file in os.listdir(DATASET_PATH):
82         if file.endswith(".jpg"):
83             label = file.split("_")[0]
84             if label not in label_dict:
85                 label_dict[label] = len(label_dict)
86
87     cap = cv2.VideoCapture(0)
88
89     while True:
90         ret, frame = cap.read()
91         if not ret:
92             break
93         gray = cv2.cvtColor(frame, cv2.COLOR_BGR2GRAY)
94         faces = face_cascade.detectMultiScale(gray, 1.3, 5)
```

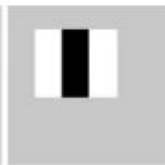
```
96         for (x, y, w, h) in faces:
97             face = gray[y:y+h, x:x+w]
98             label, confidence = recognizer.predict(face)
99
100             if confidence < 50:
101                 name = [key for key, val in label_dict.items() if val == label][0]
102                 text = f"{name} ({confidence:.2f})"
103                 color = (0, 255, 0)
104             else:
105                 text = "Unauthorised Personnel"
106                 color = (0, 0, 255)
107
108             cv2.putText(frame, text, (x, y - 10), cv2.FONT_HERSHEY_SIMPLEX, 0.8, color, 2)
109             cv2.rectangle(frame, (x, y), (x + w, y + h), color, 2)
110
111             cv2.imshow("Face Recognition", frame)
112             if cv2.waitKey(1) == ord("q"):
113                 break
114
115         cap.release()
116         cv2.destroyAllWindows()
117
118 if __name__ == "__main__":
119     while True:
120         print("\n1. Capture Faces\n2. Train Model\n3. Recognize Faces\n4. Exit")
121         choice = input("Enter choice: ")
122
123         if choice == "1":
124             label = input("Enter person's name: ")
125             capture_faces(label)
126
127             elif choice == "2":
128                 train_model()
129             elif choice == "3":
130                 recognize_faces()
131             elif choice == "4":
132                 break
133             else:
134                 print("Invalid choice! Try again.")
```

Real-time face detection with Haar cascade classifier

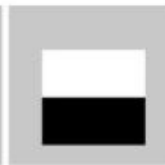
The Haar cascade classifier is employed to detect faces in real-time from the webcam feed. This method is based on machine learning and utilizes pre-trained models to efficiently recognize facial features. By analyzing frames from the video feed, the system can quickly identify and differentiate faces. To enhance accuracy, the system captures around 1000 images per person, ensuring a robust dataset for precise recognition. This approach improves the reliability of face detection, reducing false positives and enhancing the overall performance of the recognition system..



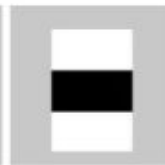
(a)
Edge Feature



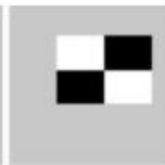
(b)
Line Feature



(c)
Edge Feature



(d)
Line Feature



(e)
Four-Rectangle Feature



02

Face Recognition

Training the Face Recognition Model

1

The dataset is loaded, and images are resized to a uniform uniform size (400x400 pixels).

2

The LBPH (Local Binary Patterns Histograms) face recognizer is used for training.

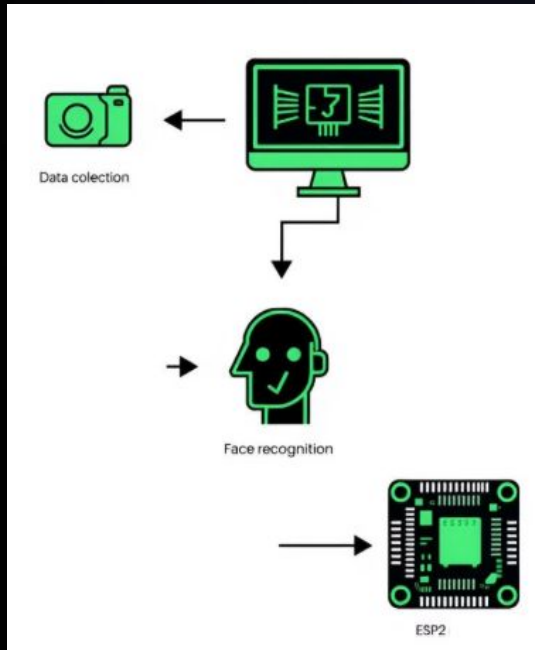
3

Images are converted to NumPy arrays, and labels are assigned.

4

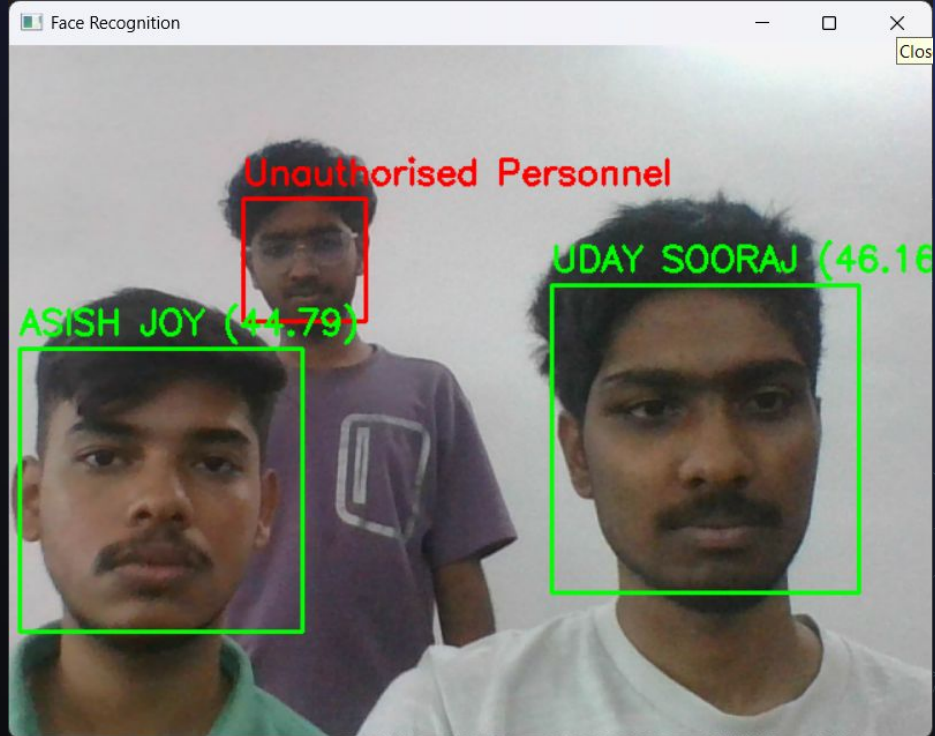
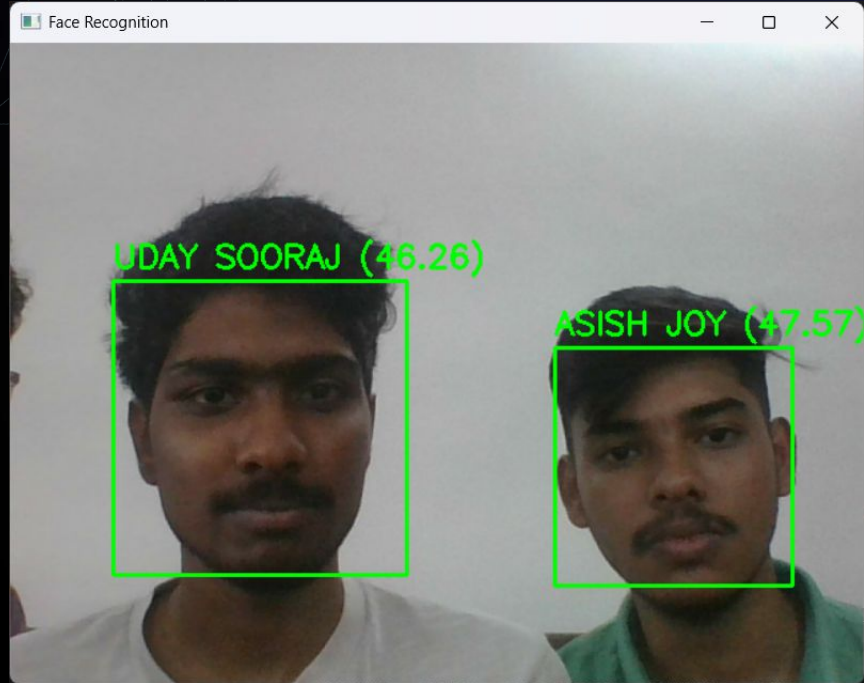
The trained model is saved as an XML file for future recognition tasks.

Real-time recognition process



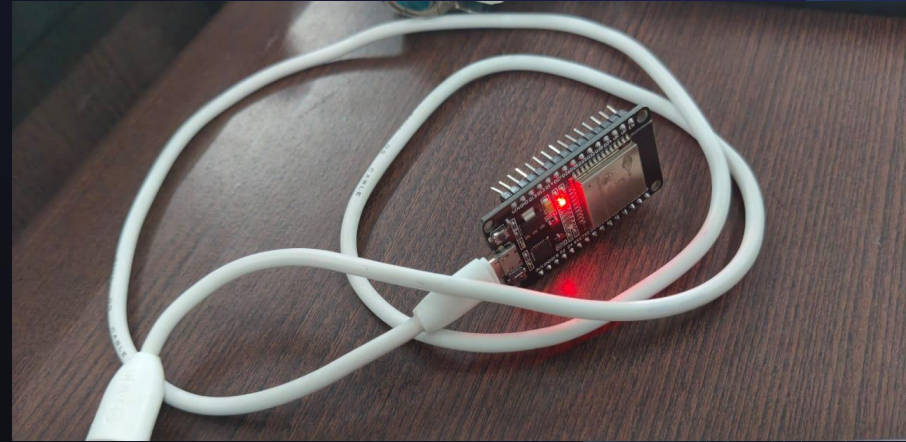
During the recognition process, the trained model is loaded into the system to detect faces in real-time. The model analyzes the captured images and compares them with stored facial data to determine identity. If a recognized face is detected but its confidence level falls below a predefined threshold (e.g., 50), the system considers it as an uncertain match and displays the corresponding name. On the other hand, if the system encounters an unknown face, it immediately triggers an alert mechanism to notify security personnel or take necessary actions. This approach ensures a robust and reliable security framework, minimizing the chances of unauthorized access while maintaining high accuracy in face recognition.

Results



ESP32 Serial Communication for status updates

The Python script facilitates communication between the face recognition system and the ESP32 using PySerial, ensuring seamless data transfer. When a face is recognized, the script sends the corresponding identification results to the ESP32, which then updates its web interface to reflect the status of the detected individual. If the person is authorized, the system displays their identity, confirming safe access. Conversely, if the person is unidentified or deemed an intruder, an alert is triggered, notifying users of potential security concerns. This bidirectional communication enables real-time monitoring, allowing for swift responses to unauthorized access attempts and enhancing the overall effectiveness of the security system.

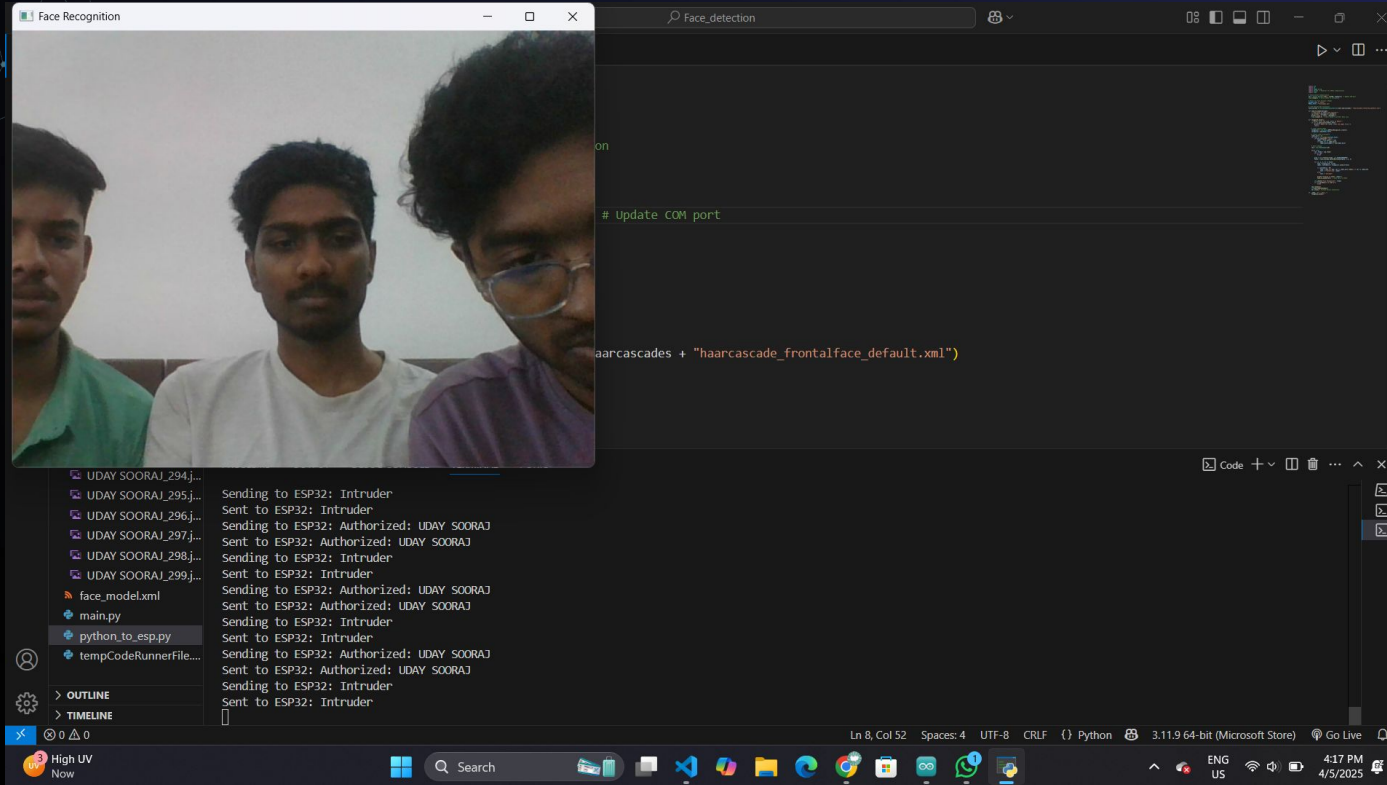


ESP32 Code

```
1 #define BLYNK_TEMPLATE_ID "TMPL3a3a0N114"
2 #define BLYNK_TEMPLATE_NAME "Quickstart Template"
3
4 #include <WiFi.h>
5 #include <WebServer.h>
6 #include <BlynkSimpleEsp32.h>
7
8 const char* ssid = "Chandrraahas's WIFI";
9 const char* password = "12345678";
10
11 #define BLYNK_AUTH_TOKEN "pNePuQq_dqHIVd0Tzdl-AYQdnpzAKX"
12
13 WebServer server(80);
14
15 String statusMessage = "System Ready";
16 unsigned long lastUpdateTime = 0;
17 const unsigned long resetInterval = 5000;
18 bool intruderDetected = false;
19
20 void handleRoot() {
21   String html = "<html><head>";
22   html += "<meta name='viewport' content='width=device-width, initial-scale=1'>";
23   html += "<style>";
24   html += "body { font-family: Arial, sans-serif; text-align: center; background-color: #121212; color: white; }";
25   html += ".container { margin: 0 auto; width: 50px; }";
26   html += ".status-box { padding: 20px; border-radius: 10px; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold; }";
27
28   if (statusMessage.startsWith("Authorized")) {
29     html += ".status-box { background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; }";
30   } else if (statusMessage == "Intruder") {
31     html += ".status-box { background-color: #FF5733; color: white; }";
32   } else {
33     html += ".status-box { background-color: #2196F3; color: white; }";
34   }
35
36   html += "</style>";
37   html += "<script>";
38   html += "setInterval(() => { fetch('/status').then(response => response.text()).then(data => { document.getElementById('status').innerHTML = data; }); }, 1000);";
39   html += "</script>";
40   html += "</head><body>";
41   html += "<div class='container'>";
42   html += "<h1>ESP32 Security System</h1>";
43   html += "<div class='status-box' id='status'>Status: " + statusMessage + "</div>";
44   html += "</div></body></html>";
45
46   server.send(200, "text/html", html);
47 }
48
49 void handleStatus() {
50   server.send(200, "text/plain", "Status: " + statusMessage);
51 }
52
53 void setup() {
54   Serial.begin(115200);
55
56   WiFi.begin(ssid, password);
57   Serial.print("Connecting to WiFi");
58   while (WiFi.status() != WL_CONNECTED) {
59     delay(500);
60     Serial.print(".");
61   }
62 }
```

```
63 Serial.println("\nWiFi Connected!");
64 Serial.println(WiFi.localIP());
65
66 Blynk.begin(BLYNK_AUTH_TOKEN, ssid, password);
67
68 server.on("/", handleRoot);
69 server.on("/status", handleStatus);
70 server.begin();
71 }
72
73 void loop() {
74   server.handleClient();
75   Blynk.run();
76
77   while (Serial.available() > 0) {
78     String incoming = Serial.readStringUntil('\n');
79     incoming.trim();
80
81     if (incoming.length() > 0) {
82       statusMessage = incoming;
83       lastUpdateTime = millis();
84
85       if (incoming.startsWith("Authorized")) {
86         Blynk.virtualWrite(V1, 0);
87         intruderDetected = false;
88       } else if (incoming == "Intruder") {
89         if (!intruderDetected) {
90           Blynk.logEvent("intruder_alert", " 🚨 Intruder Detected! 🚨 ");
91           Blynk.virtualWrite(V1, 255);
92           intruderDetected = true;
93         }
94       }
95       Serial.println("Received: " + incoming);
96     }
97   }
98
99   if (millis() - lastUpdateTime > resetInterval) {
100     if (statusMessage != "System Ready") {
101       statusMessage = "System Ready";
102       Blynk.virtualWrite(V1, 0);
103       intruderDetected = false;
104     }
105   }
106 }
```


Serial Transmission Results



The screenshot displays a software interface for face recognition. On the left, a window titled "Face Recognition" shows a video feed of three individuals. Below the video, a list of serial transmission logs is visible, showing messages such as "Sending to ESP32: Intruder" and "Sent to ESP32: Authorized: UDAY SOORAJ". The right side of the interface features a code editor window titled "Face_detection" with a dark theme, containing Python code for face detection using OpenCV and Haar cascades. The code includes comments like "# Update COM port" and "# Update COM baud rate". The bottom of the screen shows a Windows taskbar with various application icons and system information, including the date and time (4:17 PM, 4/5/2025).

Face Recognition

Face_detection

on

Update COM port

haarcascades + "haarcascade_frontalface_default.xml")

Code

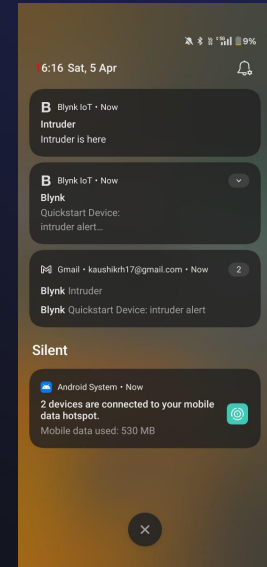
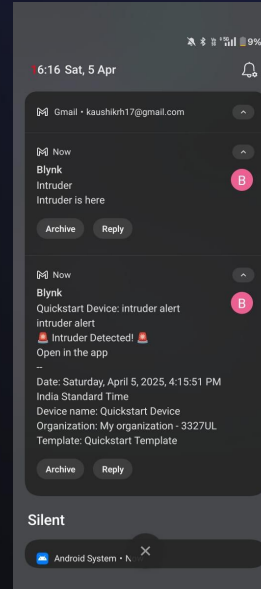
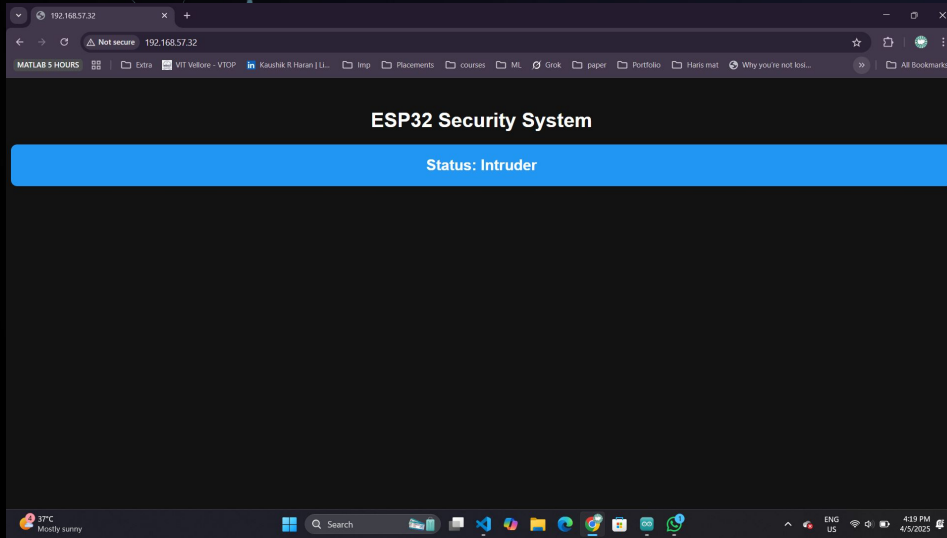
Ln 8, Col 52 Spaces: 4 UTF-8 CRLF Python 3.11.9 64-bit (Microsoft Store) Go Live

High UV Now

Search

4:17 PM 4/5/2025

Web Server notifications





Conclusions

This project successfully combines face recognition technology with the ESP32 microcontroller, yielding an effective security system. With real-time monitoring and alerts, it enhances access control, providing a reliable solution for modern security needs.

Github Link to repository with codes :

[Face-Recognition-Based-Security-System](#)

