EXAMINATION TIMETABLE GENERATION

A PROJECT REPORT

Submitted by,

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Under the guidance of,

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in partial fulfillment for the award of the degree of

BACHELOR OF TECHNOLOGY

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At



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DECLARATION

We hereby declare that the work, which is being presented in the project report entitled EXAMINATION TIMETABLE GENERATION in partial fulfillment for the award of Degree of Bachelor of Technology in Computer Science and Engineering, is a record of our own investigations carried under the guidance of Dr. MARIMUTHU K, Professor, School of Computer Science Engineering, Presidency University, Bengaluru.

We have not submitted the matter presented in this report anywhere for the award of any other Degree.

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ABSTRACT

The "Examination Timetable Generation" is a software solution designed to simplify and automate the process of creating examination schedules for educational institutions. Timetable generation is a complex and time-intensive task, as it involves managing multiple constraints such as course schedules, availability of exam halls, student registrations, and faculty invigilator assignments. This project aims to develop an efficient, user-friendly system that minimizes manual effort while ensuring fairness, accuracy, and adherence to institutional policies.

The system leverages algorithms and optimization techniques to create conflict-free schedules. It considers input parameters such as the number of courses, total students, available exam venues, and time slots. The system also addresses specific constraints, including avoiding overlapping exams for students enrolled in multiple courses and ensuring proper utilization of resources. Furthermore, the software can handle special cases such as rescheduling due to emergencies or holidays.

The project will be implemented using modern programming languages and frameworks, with a robust database to manage data effectively. A graphical user interface (GUI) will allow users, such as administrators and exam coordinators, to input data, review generated timetables, and make adjustments if necessary. The system will also provide the option to export timetables in various formats for distribution among students and faculty.

Key benefits of the Examination Timetable Generator include improved efficiency, reduced chances of human error, and the ability to accommodate changes quickly. By automating the scheduling process, this system allows educational institutions to focus on more critical aspects of academic administration, ensuring a smooth examination experience for all stakeholders.

The successful implementation of this project will demonstrate the practicality and potential of using software solutions to address organizational challenges in academia.

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M Ranga Upendra Reddy Dilip D Sathwik B S

LIST OF TABLES

Sl. No.	Table Name	Table Caption	Page No.
1	1.1	Table of literature survey	9-10

LIST OF FIGURES

Sl. No.	Figure Name	Caption	Page No.
1	Fig 1	System architecture for Examination Timetable Generation	19
2	Fig 2	Timetable Generation page	24
3	Fig 3	Timetable Overview	24
4	Fig 4	Course Registration details	25
5	Fig 5	Faculty Enrollment Section	34
6	Fig 6	Faculty Added Status	34
7	Fig 7	Course Registration Status	34
8	Fig 8	Faculty Database	35
9	Fig 9	Course Database	35

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTE R NO.	TITLE	PAGE NO.
	ABSTRACT	vi
	ACKNOWLEDGMENT	vii
1.	INTRODUCTION	1-5
	1.1 Importance of Automation in TimetableGeneration1.2 Scope of project	2 2-4
	1.3 Significance	4
	1.4 Technologies used	4-5
	1.5 Challenges	5
2.	LITERATURE REVIEW	6-10
	2.1 Existing Methods or Frameworks for Creating Timetables	7
	2.2 Manual Techniques for Creating Timetables	7
	2.3. Automatic Systems for Timetable Generation	7
	2.4 Algorithms Used in Timetable Generation	8
3.	RESEARCH GAPS OF EXISTING METHODS	11-13
	3.1 Lack of Flexibility for Institutional Requirements	11
	3.2 Inadequate Conflict Resolution Mechanisms	11
	3.3 Scalability Issues for Large Institutions	11
	3.4 Limited Integration with Modern Technologies	12
	3.5 Suboptimal Resource Utilization	12
	3.6 Lack of User-Friendly Interfaces	12
	3.7 Dependence on Fixed Algorithms	12
	3.8 Insufficient Customization for Dynamic Adjustments	13
4.	PROPOSED METHODOLOGY	14-15
	4.1Requirement Gathering and Analysis	14
	4.2 Data Modeling and Database	14
	Design	
	4.3 Backend Development	15
	4.4 Frontend Development	15
	4.5 Testing and Validation	16
	4.6 Deployment and Maintenance	16

5.	OBJECTIVES	17-18
	5.1 Automation of Timetable	17
	Generation	
	5.2 Conflict-Free Scheduling	17
	5.3 Optimal Resource Utilization	17
	5.4 Flexibility and Customization	18
	5.5 Scalability and Performance	18
	5.6 Enhanced User Experience	18
	5.7 Reliability and Accuracy	19
	5.8 Security and Confidentiality	19
6.	SYSTEM DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION	20-21
	6.1 Frontend Technology	20
	6.2 Spring Boot backend	21
	6.3 Database	22
	6.4 User Interaction and System Flow	22
7.	OUTCOMES	24-26
8.	RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS	27-30
	9.1 Results	27
	9.2 Discussions	28
	9.3 Possible drawbacks and enhancements	29
	9.4 Upcoming improvements	30
9.	CONCLUSION	31-32
	REFERENCES	33
	APPENDIX-A (PSEUDO CODE)	34-38
	APPENDIX-B (SCREENSHOTS)	39-41

CHAPTER-1

INTRODUCTION

Generating a timetable is a critical task for managing educational institutions efficiently, significantly influencing the academic experiences of students and faculty. It involves balancing numerous factors, such as course schedules, exam planning, and resource management, while addressing challenges like student enrollments, faculty schedules, and room availability.

Effective timetable generation ensures a systematic arrangement of lectures, lab sessions, and other academic activities, optimizing the use of time, resources, and space.

In large universities with multiple departments, faculty members, and diverse course offerings, manual timetable creation becomes increasingly complex and time-consuming. Administrators must account for various constraints, such as classroom capacities, student preferences, and faculty availability, which often leads to errors, inefficiencies, and scheduling conflicts. These challenges can disrupt academic activities and negatively impact institutional operations.

The rapid expansion of educational institutions and increasing student enrollments have further compounded these scheduling difficulties. As a result, there is a growing need for automated systems that can ensure conflict-free and optimized timetables, streamline the scheduling process, and minimize manual intervention. This project aims to develop an Automatic Timetable Generation System to address these challenges by leveraging modern technologies to create efficient and accurate schedules.

Traditional methods of scheduling, which rely heavily on manual processes, are prone to mistakes such as overlapping schedules for exams or unavailability of faculty. With the growth and diversification of academic institutions, the demand for automated solutions has increased, providing seamless and efficient scheduling for academic activities.

One of the most challenging tasks in educational institutions is designing exam timetables. It involves assigning classrooms, allocating faculty invigilators, and scheduling appropriate time slots for multiple exams across departments, courses, and elective subjects. Manual scheduling methods often result in conflicts and inefficiencies, especially in institutions with large student populations and complex course structures. This project proposes an automated examination timetable generation system, developed using technologies like Spring Boot, Java, HTML, CSS, and MySQL, to overcome these challenges effectively.

1. Importance of Automation in Timetable Generation

In today's educational institutions, manual timetable management has become inefficient due to growing complexities. The primary reasons for adopting automation include:

- Constraint Complexity: Managing faculty availability, classroom assignments, and student preferences manually is both cumbersome and prone to errors. Automated systems efficiently address these constraints.
- **Time-Saving:** Creating schedules manually is time-intensive, often taking days. Automation accelerates this process, generating schedules within minutes.
- Scalability: Large institutions with thousands of students and diverse courses require systems that can manage extensive data. Automated tools can simultaneously create schedules across multiple departments.
- **Conflict Resolution:** Manual methods often lead to overlapping classes, faculty double-booking, or unassigned rooms. Automation ensures that schedules are conflict-free by validating inputs systematically.
- **Resource Utilization:** Automated systems optimize the allocation of faculty, classrooms, and time slots, enhancing institutional productivity.
- **Flexibility:** Automated tools can easily adapt to changes, such as faculty leaves, new course additions, or rescheduling requirements, ensuring minimal disruption to academic operations.

2. Scope of the Project

The Examination Timetable Generation System is developed to simplify and streamline the process of scheduling exams in educational institutions. It tackles common challenges such as effective resource allocation (exam rooms, faculty invigilators), managing complex datasets, and avoiding scheduling conflicts.

Core Concepts of the Project include:

1. Objectives of the System:

- Automate the exam timetable creation process while adhering to the institutional policies and guidelines.
- Optimize the allocation of resources like examination halls and invigilators, ensuring efficient use of available assets.
- Provide administrators with a user-friendly platform to input essential data (e.g., course details, student information) and view generated timetables.

2. Required Input Data:

- Exam Details: Information about the exams, such as dates, times, durations, and student registrations.
- Room Availability: Data about exam room capacities and their availability during specific periods.
- Faculty Assignments: Information on faculty availability for invigilation duties, including preferences and constraints.
- Student Registrations: Records of student enrollments in specific courses to prevent overlapping exam schedules.
- Institutional Rules: Policies such as time restrictions or prohibitions on scheduling exams during certain hours.

3. System Capabilities:

- Examination Timetable Generation: Create schedules that resolve potential conflicts and consider room and faculty constraints.
- Conflict Resolution: Identify issues like double bookings or overlapping exams and provide optimized solutions.
- Efficient Resource Utilization: Ensure that all available rooms and faculty are used effectively, minimizing idle time.
- Interactive Dashboard: Offer an administrative portal to manage inputs, view generated schedules, and make adjustments.
- Real-Time Modifications: Handle dynamic changes, such as faculty absences or room maintenance, with minimal disruption.
- Detailed Analytics and Reporting: Generate insights into resource usage and highlight areas for improvement in the scheduling process.

4. Project Limitations:

- This system is solely focused on scheduling academic examinations and does not address regular class timetables or extracurricular events.
- The system does not include setups for practical examinations, such as laboratory or sports assessments.

5. Constraints and Challenges:

- While the system minimizes conflicts, it may not handle highly specific or unusual scheduling scenarios, such as unique student requests.
- Some last-minute changes, such as sudden faculty unavailability, may require manual intervention for resolution.

3. Significance

This project is highly valuable for educational institutions, especially universities like Presidency University, as it provides a practical solution to the persistent challenge of optimizing examination schedules. By automating the scheduling process, the project not only saves time and resources but also enhances the overall experience for administrators, faculty, and students.

Key benefits include:

- **Improved Efficiency:** Reduces the manual effort required to create timetables, streamlining the entire process.
- Equity and Fairness: Ensures balanced workloads for faculty and avoids scheduling conflicts for students.
- Scalability: Accommodates the increasing number of students, courses, and exams in larger institutions with ease.
- **Resource Optimization:** Uses advanced algorithms to minimize overlaps and gaps, ensuring efficient use of available resources.

4. Technologies used

The Automatic Timetable Generation System utilizes a combination of modern technologies to ensure efficient, reliable, and scalable implementation.

These technologies include:

- **Java:** Java serves as the primary programming language due to its robustness, platform independence, and object-oriented capabilities. It forms the backbone for data processing and backend logic.
- Spring Boot: Spring Boot simplifies the development of Java-based applications by
 providing tools for rapid setup and configuration. It is used to build backend RESTful
 APIs for timetable creation and management. Features like dependency injection, MVC
 architecture, and JPA integration make it an ideal framework for this project.

- MySQL: MySQL is used as the relational database to store structured data such as course details, faculty availability, classroom capacities, and generated timetables. It ensures efficient querying and management of relationships between tables.
- **Java Persistence API:** JPA enables seamless Object-Relational Mapping (ORM) by bridging the gap between Java objects and the MySQL database. It simplifies data persistence by converting Java objects into database entities and vice versa.
- **Thymeleaf (Frontend):** Thymeleaf is used to render dynamic HTML pages, providing a responsive and user-friendly interface. It allows the integration of backend data into the frontend for real-time updates.
- **Eclipse IDE:** The development, testing, and debugging of Java application code are performed using Eclipse IDE, ensuring an efficient workflow.
- **Maven:** Maven is employed as a build tool to manage project dependencies, ensuring smooth integration of Spring Boot and other required libraries for the system.

1.5 Challenges

Managing a complex scheduling system involves balancing multiple constraints, such as workload distribution, conflict-free scheduling, and resource availability. Ensuring that all constraints are met without conflicts can present several computational and logistical challenges.

- Scalability Issues: f the system is not optimized, performance bottlenecks may occur
 as the volume of courses, students, and constraints increases, impacting the system's
 efficiency.
- Resource Constraints: Scheduling conflicts may arise during peak exam periods when there is limited availability of classrooms or invigilators, affecting the smooth operation of the timetable.
- Data Accuracy: Inaccurate or missing input data, such as incorrect faculty availability or course registration errors, can lead to scheduling inaccuracies or conflicts.
- Integration with Existing Systems: Integrating the new timetable generation system with the university's current administrative tools may require additional effort, especially if the existing infrastructure is outdated or incompatible.
- User Adoption and Training: To utilize the system effectively, administrative staff may require training, which could initially postpone implementation.

CHAPTER-2

LITERATURE SURVEY

Exam scheduling is a vital function for colleges and universities, requiring careful management of multiple factors, such as classroom availability, instructor schedules, and student course enrollments. This survey reviews the technologies and methodologies used in generating exam schedules, focusing on the evolution of approaches, key advancements, and persistent challenges in the field.

The discussion begins by contrasting the efficiency of modern automated systems with traditional manual scheduling methods. While manual scheduling has been the norm for years, it is often prone to errors, inefficiencies, and difficulties in managing large-scale data. In contrast, contemporary automated systems leverage advanced technologies to address these issues, providing faster, more accurate, and conflict-free schedules.

The survey then examines how these systems tackle complex constraints, such as ensuring no overlapping exams for students, accommodating faculty availability, and managing limited resources like classrooms and invigilators. Automated systems utilize optimization techniques to handle these challenges, including algorithmic approaches like the **Greedy Algorithm**, **Genetic Algorithms**, and **Constraint Programming**, as well as heuristic methods that offer near-optimal solutions in less time.

Optimization is a key component of modern scheduling systems. The application of algorithms and heuristics allows systems to efficiently allocate resources, minimize idle times, and avoid conflicts. These methods can be tailored to different institutional needs, such as ensuring that exams are scheduled in suitable rooms with the required resources, while also balancing faculty workload and student preferences.

Finally, the survey discusses the challenges that continue to affect exam scheduling, such as the scalability of solutions as institutions grow, the integration of automated systems with existing administrative software, and the real-time adjustments required for unforeseen changes. Despite these challenges, advancements in technology, including artificial intelligence and machine learning, are expected to continue improving the accuracy, efficiency, and flexibility of exam scheduling systems.

1. Existing Methods or Frameworks for Creating Timetables

In educational institutions, the process of creating timetables has evolved from manual efforts to highly automated systems. Over time, a variety of tools, algorithms, and strategies have been developed to automate and optimize this process. This section reviews existing methods, identifies research gaps, and compares traditional manual methods with modern automated approaches.

2. Manual Techniques for Creating Timetables

Historically, timetable creation in educational institutions was a manual task performed by administrative staff. This process typically involved:

- Classroom Assignment: Classrooms were assigned to courses based on space availability and student enrollment.
- **Instructor Assignment:** Instructors were assigned to courses based on their qualifications, expertise, and availability.
- **Time Slot Management:** Ensuring that classes were scheduled in time slots that did not overlap was crucial for avoiding conflicts between courses.

Despite its widespread use in the past, manual timetable creation had several significant drawbacks:

- **Time-Consuming:** The process of creating, modifying, and rescheduling timetables manually consumed a considerable amount of time and administrative resources.
- **Prone to Errors:** Common issues included scheduling conflicts, double-booked instructors, and overlapping courses, leading to inefficiencies.
- Limited Scalability: As educational institutions grew and the number of students, teachers, and courses increased, it became difficult to manage the timetables manually without compromising efficiency.
- Inefficiency in Resource Utilization: With manual systems, resources such as
 classrooms and instructors were often underutilized or inefficiently scheduled, leading
 to wasted time and space.

3. Automatic Systems for Timetable Generation

Automated systems for timetable generation have been developed to overcome the inefficiencies and challenges of manual scheduling. These systems leverage advanced algorithms and optimization techniques to create conflict-free, efficient schedules. Common approaches include:

- Rule-based Systems: These systems create timetables by adhering to preset
 guidelines and limitations (such as class scheduling, teacher availability, and room
 capacity). Although they are easier to use, they might not provide really welloptimized solutions.
- Solutions for the Constraint Satisfaction Problem (CSP): A CSP is frequently used to describe schedule creation, in which the system aims to allocate resources (teachers, classrooms, and time slots) while meeting a number of requirements. These limitations can include room capacities, teacher availability, and the avoidance of course overlap. Choco Solver and Google OR-Tools are well-known CSP solvers.
- Genetic Algorithms: Genetic algorithms (GAs) develop a population of possible solutions by applying the laws of natural selection. By choosing the optimal solutions based on fitness factors (like minimizing conflicts), the algorithm iterates and improves the schedule across generations. GAs can be computationally costly, yet they are quite effective for large-scale issues.
- Greedy Algorithms: These algorithms choose the best option at every stage (for example, allocating a course to the first teacher available) without taking into account earlier decisions. They might not always offer the optimal global solution, despite their computational efficiency.

2.4 Algorithms Used in Timetable Generation

- **Greedy Algorithm:** Quick and simple approach where resources are assigned based on availability, but may not optimize overall efficiency.
- **Genetic Algorithms:** Mimics natural selection to explore and optimize timetable generation through iterative processes.
- **Simulated Annealing:** A probabilistic technique used to explore the solution space and minimize conflicts by gradually cooling the system.
- **Backtracking Algorithms:** Used for constraint satisfaction problems, where resources are assigned and checked recursively to ensure no conflicts.

1.1 Table of literature survey

S.no	Title of Paper/Author/	Techniques	Limitations
	Publisher/Year		
1	AUTOMATIC TIMETABLE GENERATION SYSTEM Authors: Rajshri Firke, Pratiksha Bhabad, Omkar Gangarde, Abhimannyu Magar, Prof. Anuja Tawlare IJCRT,2023	user-centered design for intuitive interfaces, customization features to meet diverse needs, and robust backend algorithms to enhance scalability and responsiveness	handling large- scale user demands, complexities in ensuring data privacy and security, and the need for ongoing updates to address user feedback.
2	Automatic Timetable Generator Authors: Prof. Jyothi Patil, Shambhavi V, Sneha N T, Sweta Jadhav, Tahura Sadaf IJRASET,2023	dimensional reduction through constraint formulation, intelligent operators for faster convergence	potential scalability issues with very large datasets, sensitivity to initial conditions in genetic algorithms
3	Design and Implementation of An Automatic Examination Timetable Generation and Invigilation Scheduling System Using Genetic Algorithm Authors: Abdulaziz Aminu; WahyuCaesarendra; UmarSHaruna; Abubakar Sani;MansurSa'id; Daniel S Pamungkas; Sumantri R Kurniawan; Endang Kurniawan IEEE,2019	Java Swing for the GUI, SQLite for database management, and permutation algorithms to optimize course and venue scheduling	limited accessibility as it's currently desktop-based, and challenges in handling complex timetable conflicts
4	An integer programming approach to curriculum-based examination timetabling Authors: Cataldo, A., Ferrer, JC., Miranda, J., Rey, P. A., & Saure, A. Annals of Operations Research-2017	integer programming techniques to develop a structured approach for curriculum- based examination timetabling, focusing on optimal allocation of exams to time slots	computationally expensive and may struggle with larger datasets due to the complexity of the integer programming formulation, leading to longer solution times.
5	Multi-objective optimization for exam scheduling to enhance the educational service performance	genetic algorithms and fuzzy logic	The reliance on heuristic methods like

	Authors: Abdallah, K. S The Journal of Management and Engineering Integration-2016		genetic algorithms can result in long computational times and difficulty in ensuring consistent quality of solutions across diverse scheduling scenarios
6	A great deluge algorithm for a real-world examination timetabling problem Authors: Mohmad Kahar, M. N., & Kendall, G. Journal of the Operational Research Society-2015	Great Deluge Algorithm, a metaheuristic optimization technique, to address real-world examination timetabling problems by iteratively improving schedules	tuning of parameters, and its performance can vary significantly depending on the specific characteristics of the timetabling problem being addressed.
7	Examination timetabling: Algorithmic strategies and applications. Authors: Carter, M. W., Laporte, G., & Lee, S. Y. Journal of the Operational Research Society-1996	Greedy Algorithms,Graph Coloring Algorithms,Integer Programming:	The techniques can struggle with scalability and efficiency, as greedy algorithms may yield suboptimal solutions and integer programming can be computationally intensive for large datasets.

CHAPTER-3

RESEARCH GAPS OF EXISTING METHODS

There has been a lot of research on the topic because developing an examination timetable is a difficult combinatorial optimization problem with many constraints and variables. The current manual and automated methods both provide answers, but they are still limited in their applicability in real-world situations by problems and constraints. There are numerous notable research gaps in the methods used today to create exam timetables, including the following:

1. Lack of Flexibility for Institutional Requirements

Many existing solutions, including software like FET and aSc Timetables, offer general-purpose timetable generation. However, they often fail to cater to the unique requirements of specific institutions, such as:

- Custom constraints for specific course combinations or faculty preferences.
- Special scheduling needs for students enrolled in overlapping courses.
- Room assignment priorities based on accessibility or proximity.

These limitations necessitate manual interventions, which reduce the efficiency of automated systems and reintroduce human errors.

2. Inadequate Conflict Resolution Mechanisms

Efficient conflict resolution is critical for creating error-free timetables. Existing systems often fall short in handling complex scenarios, such as:

- Student Clashes: When students are enrolled in multiple courses with overlapping examination schedules.
- Resource Conflicts: Double-booking of rooms or invigilators due to improper allocation.
- Last-Minute Changes: Dynamic updates such as rescheduling due to unforeseen events (e.g., emergencies or faculty unavailability).

These gaps emphasize the need for algorithms capable of dynamically resolving conflicts while adhering to all constraints.

3. Scalability Issues for Large Institutions

Institutions with large student populations, numerous courses, and multiple campuses pose significant challenges for existing systems. Problems include:

- Long processing times for timetable generation.
- Reduced system efficiency as the dataset size increases.

• Inability to handle parallel processing of multiple schedules (e.g., departmental or campus-specific timetables).

4. Limited Integration with Modern Technologies

Most existing tools are standalone desktop applications or limited web-based solutions, which lack:

- Seamless integration with existing Learning Management Systems (LMS) or Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems.
- Cross-platform accessibility, restricting usage to specific devices or operating systems.
- Support for real-time collaboration, preventing multiple users from interacting with the system simultaneously.

5. Suboptimal Resource Utilization

Efficient allocation of resources such as rooms, invigilators, and time slots remains a challenge. Existing systems often fail to optimize:

- Room assignments based on size or location.
- Equal distribution of invigilation duties among faculty.
- Time slots to balance workloads for students and staff.

These inefficiencies lead to underutilized resources and uneven workloads, causing dissatisfaction among stakeholders.

6. Lack of User-Friendly Interfaces

While automation simplifies timetable generation, the usability of these systems is equally important. Many existing tools have:

- Complicated interfaces that are difficult for non-technical users to navigate.
- Limited options for visualizing the generated timetable or constraints.
- Poor user-experience due to outdated design and functionality.

A user-friendly interface, coupled with interactive features, is crucial for widespread adoption of the system.

7. Dependence on Fixed Algorithms

Several systems rely on rigid algorithmic approaches, such as Greedy or Genetic Algorithms, which may not always adapt well to diverse or changing requirements. This lack of adaptability results in:

- Suboptimal solutions for institutions with unique constraints.
- Inability to incorporate new constraints or policies without significant rework.

An adaptable algorithmic framework is essential to address the evolving needs of institutions.

3.8 Insufficient Customization for Dynamic Adjustments

Real-world scenarios often require last-minute changes, such as:

- Adding or removing courses from the examination list.
- Reallocating resources due to unforeseen circumstances.
- Incorporating feedback from stakeholders to improve the schedule.

Existing systems provide limited flexibility for such dynamic updates, resulting in a time-consuming and error-prone process for administrators.

CHAPTER-4

PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

1. Requirement Gathering and Analysis

The first step involves identifying the requirements and constraints specific to the institution. This includes:

- **Input Data:** Gathering information about courses, students, examination dates, room availability, and invigilator assignments.
- Constraints Identification: Listing hard constraints (e.g., no student should have overlapping exams, room capacity must not be exceeded) and soft constraints (e.g., scheduling exams for related courses on different days).
- **Stakeholder Feedback:** Engaging administrators, faculty, and students to understand their scheduling preferences and challenges.

This phase ensures that the system is designed to meet the unique needs of the institution.

2. Data Modelling and Database Design

A robust database is essential for storing and managing scheduling data. The system will use a **relational database** (e.g., MySQL or PostgreSQL) with the following structure:

• Tables:

- ➤ Courses: Stores details about courses, including course codes and student enrolments.
- **Rooms:** Tracks room capacities, locations, and availability.
- ➤ **Timetable:** Contains generated timetable entries with course, room, and invigilator assignments.

• Relationships:

- Mapping students to courses.
- ➤ Allocating rooms and invigilators to examination slots.

Hibernate will be used for Object-Relational Mapping (ORM) to simplify database operations.

4.3 Backend Development

The backend, built using **Spring Boot**, will handle business logic and timetable generation. Key components include:

1. Constraint Validation Engine:

- Ensures adherence to hard constraints like non-overlapping schedules and room capacities.
- Optimizes for soft constraints, such as even distribution of exams over multiple days.

2. Timetable Generation Algorithm:

- A combination of Greedy Algorithm for initial slot allocation and Constraint
 Satisfaction Problem (CSP) techniques for conflict resolution.
- Iterative improvement mechanisms to refine the timetable for optimal resource utilization.

3. API Layer:

- Exposes RESTful APIs for communication with the frontend.
- Provides endpoints for data input, timetable retrieval, and real-time updates.

4.4 Frontend Development

The frontend, developed using React/Angular, will provide a user-friendly interface for interacting with the system. Key features include:

1. Data Input Forms:

• Easy-to-use forms for administrators to input course, room, and invigilator details.

2. Timetable Visualization:

- Displays the generated timetable in a clear, interactive format.
- Allows administrators to view schedules by course, room, or date.

3. Customization Tools:

- Enables manual adjustments to the generated timetable.
- Provides warnings and suggestions when constraints are violated.

4. Responsive Design:

 Ensures accessibility across devices, including desktops, tablets, and mobile phones.

4.5 Testing and Validation

Comprehensive testing will be conducted to ensure system reliability and accuracy:

- Unit Testing: Validates individual modules, such as constraint checks and API endpoints.
- **2. Integration Testing:** Ensures seamless communication between the backend and frontend.
- **3. Performance Testing:** Assesses the system's ability to handle large datasets and complex constraints.
- **4. User Acceptance Testing (UAT):** Involves stakeholders to verify that the system meets their requirements.

4.6 Deployment and Maintenance

The final system will be deployed on a cloud platform (e.g., AWS, Azure) to ensure scalability and availability. Key aspects include:

- **Deployment Pipeline:** Automates the build and deployment process for updates.
- **Data Security:** Implements encryption and secure authentication to protect sensitive data.
- Maintenance Plan: Includes regular updates to incorporate feedback and address evolving needs.

CHAPTER-5

OBJECTIVES

The Examination Timetable Generation System is designed to address the challenges faced by educational institutions in managing examination schedules. The primary objectives of the project are to enhance efficiency, accuracy, and usability in the timetable generation process. The following objectives highlight the system's scope and goals, categorized into key areas of focus:

1. Automation of Timetable Generation

• **Objective:** Replace the manual scheduling process with an automated system that minimizes human intervention.

Details:

- ➤ Automatically assign examination slots, rooms, and invigilators based on input constraints.
- ➤ Reduce the time required to create timetables, particularly for large institutions with complex scheduling needs.
- ➤ Ensure seamless updates and modifications without disrupting the overall schedule.

2. Conflict-Free Scheduling

 Objective: Eliminate scheduling conflicts, such as overlapping exams or doublebooked resources.

• Details:

- > Implement robust algorithms to detect and resolve conflicts in student schedules, room allocations, and invigilator assignments.
- Ensure that all constraints, such as room capacities and non-overlapping exams for individual students, are strictly adhered to.
- ➤ Provide real-time conflict alerts to administrators during manual adjustments.

1. Optimal Resource Utilization

• **Objective:** Ensure efficient use of available resources, including rooms, time slots, and invigilators.

• Details:

Assign rooms based on capacity, proximity, and availability to avoid underutilization or overcrowding.

- ➤ Distribute invigilation duties evenly among faculty to balance workloads.
- Allocate time slots to minimize student fatigue, avoiding back-to-back exams where possible.

4. Flexibility and Customization

• **Objective:** Provide administrators with the ability to customize timetables to meet specific institutional requirements.

• Details:

- ➤ Enable manual adjustments to generated timetables for special cases or unforeseen changes.
- ➤ Allow institutions to define unique constraints, such as preferences for specific exam timings or room priorities.
- ➤ Incorporate features for dynamic updates, such as adding new courses or rescheduling exams.

5. Scalability and Performance

• **Objective:** Design a system capable of handling large datasets and complex scheduling scenarios.

• Details:

- > Support institutions with thousands of students, courses, and multiple campuses.
- Ensure that timetable generation remains efficient and responsive, even as data size and complexity grow.
- > Optimize algorithms to minimize processing time and computational resources.

6. Enhanced User Experience

• **Objective:** Create an intuitive and user-friendly interface for all users.

• Details:

- ➤ Develop an accessible frontend with easy-to-navigate forms, visualizations, and dashboards.
- Provide real-time feedback and guidance to users during data entry or timetable customization.
- Ensure cross-platform compatibility, allowing users to access the system on desktops, tablets, and smartphones.

5.7 Reliability and Accuracy

• **Objective:** Deliver a dependable system that consistently produces accurate results.

• Details:

- ➤ Incorporate rigorous testing to ensure the system performs under various conditions.
- ➤ Validate data inputs to prevent errors during timetable generation.
- > Provide backup and recovery options to secure data and ensure system reliability.

5.8 Security and Confidentiality

• **Objective:** Protect sensitive data and ensure authorized access to the system.

• Details:

- > Implement robust authentication mechanisms to restrict access to administrators, faculty, and students.
- ➤ Encrypt data during storage and transmission to prevent breaches or unauthorized modifications.

Maintain a secure environment for hosting the system, especially in cloud-base deployments.

CHAPTER-6 SYSTEM DESIGN & IMPLEMENTATION

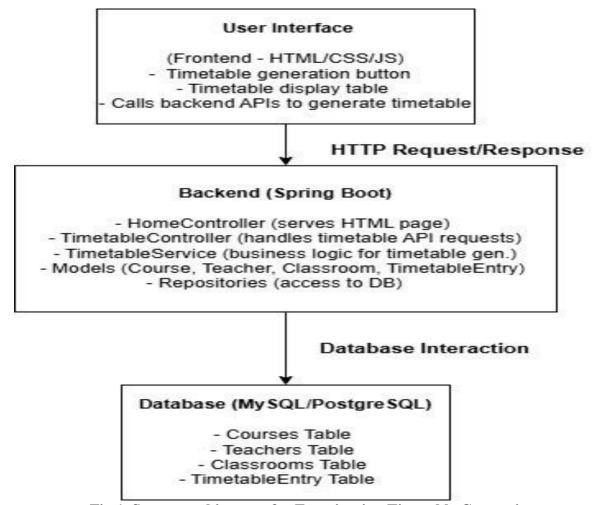


Fig 1. System architecture for Examination Timetable Generation

The purpose of the system is to automate the creation of class, instructor, and classroom schedules. It combines a relational database (like MySQL or PostgreSQL) with a front-end user interface and a backend Spring Boot application. The system's architecture and implementation, broken down into the Frontend, Backend (Spring Boot), and Database levels, are shown below.

1. Frontend Technology (User Interface)

The user interface (UI) for interacting with the timetable generation system is built
using JavaScript, HTML, and CSS, with the Thymeleaf template engine to render
dynamic content. The UI is designed to be simple and user-friendly, providing users
with a straightforward way to generate and view the timetable.

Key Features of the UI:

- **Generate Timetable Button:** A button labelled "Generate Timetable" allows users to initiate the timetable creation process. When clicked, it triggers a JavaScript function that makes an API call to the backend system to start the timetable generation process.
- **Timetable Display Table:** Once the timetable is successfully created, the system populates an HTML table with the generated timetable data. This is achieved through a second API call, which fetches the timetable items and dynamically displays them in the table.
- The UI focuses on simplicity and clarity, ensuring users can easily navigate the system without requiring technical expertise.
- Responsive Design: The UI is designed to adapt seamlessly across devices, including
 desktops, tablets, and mobile phones. This is achieved through CSS media queries and
 frameworks like Bootstrap, ensuring that users can interact with the system regardless
 of the device they use.
- **Dynamic Content Rendering with Thymeleaf:** Thymeleaf dynamically generates HTML content by injecting data directly into templates at the server-side. This ensures that users are served up-to-date information without relying heavily on JavaScript for rendering.

2. Spring Boot backend

The **backend** of the timetable generation system is responsible for managing all the business logic, database interactions, and the creation of the timetable. It is structured into several components that handle specific tasks to ensure the system works efficiently.

- Validation Logic: The backend ensures data integrity by validating user inputs and API requests. This includes:
 - > Checking that classrooms have enough capacity.
 - ➤ Verifying that teachers are available during assigned slots.
 - Preventing duplicate timetable entries.

• API Endpoints Design:

- ➤ RESTful APIs: Designed to handle CRUD operations for courses, teachers, classrooms, and timetable entries. Endpoints are secured and follow RESTful principles to ensure scalability and maintain standards.
- > POST / api / timetable/generate for initiating timetable creation.
- > GET / api / timetable/entries for retrieving all timetable entries.

Key Components:

• Controllers:

These manage incoming HTTP requests and send appropriate responses. Controllers act as the intermediary between the frontend and backend, processing requests and returning the results. For example:

- **HomeController:** Handles requests to the home page ("/") and serves the HTML interface to the user.
- **TimetableController:** Provides the API endpoints for creating and retrieving timetable entries. It handles the core functionalities such as generating timetables and fetching schedule data for display.
- **Services:** The **TimetableService** contains the business logic for timetable generation. It processes the data and coordinates the scheduling logic, interacting with the repositories to store or retrieve necessary information.

• Repositories:

These manage database operations, ensuring that data related to courses, teachers, classrooms, and timetable entries are properly stored, retrieved, updated, or deleted. Each repository corresponds to a specific entity:

- **TimetableRepository:** Handles the CRUD operations for timetable entries, such as creating, updating, or deleting a specific timetable.
- **CourseRepository:** Manages the CRUD operations for courses, including adding new courses and retrieving course data.
- **TeacherRepository:** Responsible for managing teachers' data, such as assigning and retrieving teacher details.
- ClassroomRepository: Manages classroom-related CRUD operations, including tracking room availability and assignments.

Core Elements:

Models/Entities:

These represent the data structures used in the application. Each model corresponds to a real-world entity:

- **Course:** Represents courses being scheduled in the timetable.
- **Teacher:** Represents the instructors responsible for teaching the courses.
- **Classroom:** Represents the classrooms where the exams or classes are held.
- **TimetableEntry:** Represents an individual entry in the generated timetable,

linking a course, teacher, and classroom to a specific time slot.

3. Database (PostgreSQL/MySQL)

The database plays a critical role in storing and organizing all the essential data for the timetable generation system. It uses **relational tables** to ensure that the relationships between the various entities (courses, teachers, classrooms, and timetable entries) are maintained efficiently.

Database Entities:

- Course information (id, name, and code) is stored in the Courses Table.
- **Teachers Table:** Holds teacher information (name, email, and ID).
- Classrooms Table: Holds information about the classroom (id, name, and capacity).
- **TimetableEntry Table:** Holds the created schedule, including the day, start time, and end time, as well as references to the class, teacher, and course.

4. User Interaction and System Flow:

The frontend (HTML page) is how the user accesses the system. To request that the schedule be generated, the user hits the "Generate Timetable" button.

- Calls to APIs: The timetable generation process is started by sending a GET request to /api/timetable/generate.
- To produce the timetable, the backend invokes the TimetableService's generateTimetable () function. The user receives a success message once the timetable has been generated.
- **Showing the Timetable:** To retrieve all of the created timetable entries, another GET request is made to /api/timetable/entries. The frontend refreshes the HTML table with the timetable data after receiving it in JSON format.
- **Database Communication:** JPA repositories are used by the backend to communicate with the database, saving and retrieving information as required.

CHAPTER-7 OUTCOMES

The Presidency University's Automated Examination Timetable Generation Project is a pioneering initiative designed to leverage technology for addressing the complexities associated with scheduling examinations. This project focuses on creating a fair, efficient, and adaptable system that caters to the needs of students, faculty, and administrative staff. The key outcomes of this project:

1. Conflict-Free Exam Scheduling:

One of the primary objectives of the project is to eliminate scheduling conflicts for students enrolled in multiple courses. By employing advanced algorithms and data analysis, the system will ensure that no two exams for a student are scheduled at the same time. This conflict-free scheduling not only enhances fairness but also ensures that students can adequately prepare for each exam without undue stress. Additionally, the system will consider factors such as exam duration, the number of students enrolled in each course, and dependencies between courses to create a seamless timetable.

The implementation of conflict-free scheduling also extends to addressing overlapping exam slots for students with special accommodations, such as extra time or alternative exam formats. By accounting for these variables, the system guarantees equitable access to examination opportunities for all students.

2. Optimal Resource Allocation:

The Efficient allocation of resources is another cornerstone of this project. The system is designed to allocate examination rooms and faculty members effectively, ensuring the optimal use of available resources. By analyzing classroom capacity, faculty availability, and other constraints, the project aims to:

- Assign examination halls based on student enrollment numbers, ensuring that no room is overcrowded or underutilized.
- Distribute faculty members for invigilation duties in a balanced manner, preventing overburdening of specific individuals.
- Integrate facilities such as audio-visual equipment for exams requiring special arrangements, ensuring that all technical requirements are met.

The system's resource allocation capabilities will significantly reduce the manual effort involved in organizing examinations while maintaining accuracy and efficiency.

3. Reduced Administrative Burden:

Traditionally, creating an examination timetable involves a time-intensive and errorprone process, requiring significant manual effort from administrative staff. This project aims to automate the timetable generation process, thereby alleviating this burden. By utilizing cutting-edge technologies such as artificial intelligence and machine learning, the system will:

- Automatically process large datasets, including course schedules, faculty availability, and room assignments.
- Generate accurate timetables within minutes, eliminating human errors caused by manual scheduling.
- Provide an intuitive interface for administrative staff to make adjustments or review the schedule as needed.

This automation not only enhances operational efficiency but also frees up administrative staff to focus on other critical tasks, such as academic planning and student support services.

4. Enhanced Student Experience:

The project places a strong emphasis on improving the academic experience for students. A well-organized and fair examination timetable plays a crucial role in reducing the stress and anxiety associated with exams. Key features contributing to an enhanced student experience include:

- Balanced Scheduling: Ensuring that students do not have multiple exams on the same day or back-to-back exams, allowing adequate preparation time.
- Accessibility: Providing students with easy access to their personalized exam schedules through a user-friendly online portal or mobile application.

By addressing these aspects, the project ensures that students can approach their examinations with confidence and clarity.

5. Scalability and Flexibility:

The system will be designed with flexibility in mind, allowing it to adapt to changes in course offerings, student enrollments, and faculty assignments. This ensures the long-term usability and scalability of the solution as the university grows and evolves.

- Growth in Enrollment: Accommodating an increasing number of students and courses without compromising efficiency.
- Dynamic Faculty Assignments: Adapting to changes in faculty availability or

teaching assignments across semesters.

 New Course Offerings: Incorporating new courses and examination patterns into the system seamlessly.

To achieve these goals, the system will employ modular architecture and cloud-based infrastructure, enabling effortless upgrades and expansions. This forward-looking approach ensures that the system remains relevant and effective as the university evolves.

These outcomes are geared toward optimizing both the operational efficiency of the university and the overall experience of students and faculty.

6. Sustainability and Environmental Benefits

This project also contributes to sustainability goals:

- **Paperless Scheduling:** By digitizing the timetable process, the project significantly reduces paper consumption.
- **Energy Efficiency:** Optimized resource allocation, such as grouping exams in fewer buildings, minimizes energy usage.
- Reduced Travel: Personalized schedules reduce unnecessary travel for students and faculty.

7. Collaboration with Stakeholders

A key factor in the project's success is collaboration:

- **Faculty Engagement:** Ensuring faculty have input into scheduling preferences and constraints.
- **Student Feedback Mechanism:** Incorporating student feedback to refine features and address usability concerns.
- Administrative Oversight: Empowering administrative staff with the ability to override or adjust automated schedules when necessary.

8. Risk Mitigation Strategies

Anticipating challenges is vital for successful implementation:

- Data Security: Implementing robust encryption and access control measures to safeguard sensitive student and faculty data.
- **Backup Systems:** Ensuring data redundancy and disaster recovery mechanisms to prevent disruptions.
- **System Testing:** Conducting rigorous testing to identify and resolve issues before full deployment.

Additional Benefits and Features

In addition to the core outcomes, the project offers several supplementary benefits and features, including:

- Data Analytics and Reporting: Providing administrators with detailed insights into exam scheduling patterns, resource utilization, and potential bottlenecks for continuous improvement.
- Integration with Learning Management Systems (LMS): Synchronizing with existing university platforms to streamline data management and improve overall efficiency.
- Customizable Parameters: Allowing administrators to set specific constraints or preferences, such as prioritizing certain courses or faculty members.

The Automated Examination Timetable Generation Project represents a significant step forward for University in embracing technology to enhance academic operations. By addressing challenges such as scheduling conflicts, resource allocation, and administrative workload, the project ensures a fair, efficient, and student-centric examination process. Its scalability and adaptability position it as a sustainable solution that will continue to benefit the university community in the years to come.

CHAPTER-8

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

1. Results

The automated examination timetable generation system has successfully completed the following tasks:

• **Timetable Creation:** The backend generates schedules based on predefined constraints, ensuring that instructor availability, classroom capacity, and course duration are adhered to. The system can handle multiple classes, instructors, and classrooms, organizing them across several days and time slots.

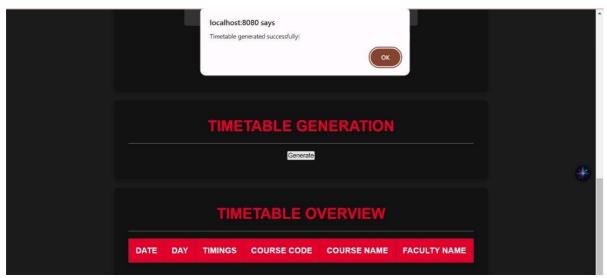


Fig 2. Timetable Generation

• **Timetable Display:** Once generated, the timetable is dynamically displayed on the frontend in a tabular format. After the user clicks the "Generate Timetable" button, a notification is sent, confirming that the timetable was successfully generated. The system fetches the timetable from the backend and populates the database with details such as course, teacher, classroom, day, start time, and end time.



Fig 3. Timetable Overview

- Data Integrity: All necessary details—course, teacher, classroom, day, start and end times—are accurately recorded and stored in the database. The system ensures no conflicts by validating assignments before storing them.
- **User Engagement:** The user interface is intuitive, and the interactive table helps users easily view the timetable. The "Generate Timetable" button offers a clear action to trigger timetable creation.



Fig 4. Course registration details

9.2 Discussions

 Scalability: The system is designed to handle a growing number of classes, instructors, and classrooms without significant changes to its core structure. It is adaptable to future additions and more complex scheduling needs, such as additional restrictions or variable scheduling parameters.

- Automatic Conflict Resolution: The system validates every timetable entry before storing it in the database, ensuring there are no conflicts such as overlapping instructor assignments or double-booked classrooms.
- **Usability:** The frontend offers a simple and user-friendly interface for users to generate and view timetables. Features such as notifications and auto-populated tables enhance the user experience.
- Separation of Concerns: The system maintains clear distinctions between the
 frontend, backend, and database, facilitating easier management and updates. While
 the frontend focuses on user interaction, the backend manages business logic and
 scheduling processes.

9.3 Possible Drawbacks and Enhancements:

• Complex Restrictions: The current system handles basic scheduling constraints effectively but may struggle with more complex requirements such as student preferences, course prerequisites, and overlapping class times. To further improve the timetable creation process, for example, restrictions like student preferences, course prerequisites, and overlapping course timings should be introduced.

Enhancement: Implementing optimization algorithms (e.g., Genetic Algorithms or Constraint Programming) could accommodate more sophisticated scheduling constraints.

 Error Handling: The system lacks comprehensive error handling, and may fail to respond appropriately to unexpected situations, such as database issues or invalid data inputs.

Enhancement: Incorporating robust error handling, input validation, and failure recovery strategies would ensure smoother operation and resilience in real-world environments.

 Performance: The timetable generation process could slow down as the number of classes, instructors, and classrooms increases, especially with large datasets. Large datasets may render the existing algorithm ineffective.

Enhancement: Optimizing the algorithm with parallel processing, caching frequently used data, and other performance-enhancing techniques would improve the system's responsiveness.

- **UI/UX Improvements:** While the user interface is functional, there are opportunities for enhancements, such as adding filtering options, drag-and-drop functionality for manual adjustments, and improved feedback mechanisms.
 - **Enhancement:** The user experience would be improved by including graphical representations of the schedule (such as a calendar or grid style) and offering real-time updates.
- **Security:** At the moment, the system lacks security features like authorization and authentication. If the system is to be deployed in a real-world situation, this would be required, particularly to prevent illegal access to timetable data.
 - **Enhancement:** Production-grade systems must incorporate security features including secure API endpoints, role-based access control (RBAC), and login systems.
- Database Design: Only the most important fields pertaining to classes, instructors, classrooms, and timetable entries are stored in the present, straightforward database design. To offer more sophisticated capabilities, it might be expanded to incorporate more specific information (such as room capacity, teacher credentials, and student enrollment).

Enhancement: Expanding the schema to include more details (e.g., room capacity, teacher qualifications, student enrollment, etc.) would allow for more flexibility and advanced scheduling features.

9.4 Upcoming Improvements

- Optimization: Advanced optimization algorithms, such as AI-based strategies, could
 be implemented to dynamically adjust schedules based on additional constraints like
 class capacity or student preferences, etc.
- **Mobile Application:** Developing a mobile version of the system would provide users with on-the-go access to their timetables and real-time notifications or updates.
- Integration with Other Systems: Integrating the timetable system with existing college or university administration tools could reduce manual data entry and improve efficiency by automatically syncing course, instructor, and classroom data.

CHAPTER-9

CONCLUSION

The Examination Timetable Generation system aims to streamline and automate the complex process of exam scheduling, addressing the challenges and inefficiencies often faced by educational institutions. By automating the scheduling process, the system minimizes human error and significantly reduces the administrative burden associated with manual timetable creation. This automation not only saves time but also ensures more efficient utilization of available resources.

One of the key achievements of the system is its ability to optimize the allocation of critical resources such as classrooms, instructors, and invigilators. By ensuring that these resources are scheduled efficiently, the system helps to avoid conflicts such as overlapping teacher schedules or double-booked classrooms. This optimal resource allocation enhances the overall efficiency of the exam process, ensuring that no resources are wasted. Furthermore, by balancing exam schedules for both students and instructors, the system helps reduce stress and avoid scheduling overloads, promoting a fairer distribution of workloads and enhancing overall exam experience.

The system's user-friendly interface ensures that non-technical users, such as administrators and faculty members, can easily interact with and operate it. This ease of use allows stakeholders to quickly make adjustments when necessary, ensuring that the timetable remains up to date. Additionally, the system's real-time scheduling capabilities make it easier to manage unexpected changes, offering quick resolutions without requiring manual intervention.

For stakeholders, the system offers significant benefits. Administrators benefit from a drastic reduction in the time spent on manual scheduling tasks, allowing them to focus on other essential administrative functions. For students, the system ensures a more balanced and fair exam schedule, minimizing the chances of having too many exams on the same day or during inconvenient times. This balanced approach reduces stress and improves the academic experience for students. Faculty members are also protected from being overburdened with conflicting exam schedules, ensuring they are not overloaded during peak exam periods.

The institution as a whole stand to benefit from improved resource utilization, streamlined administrative workflows, and increased satisfaction among faculty, students, and staff. The ability to create an efficient and balanced exam schedule helps the institution run more smoothly, contributing to a positive and productive learning environment. Additionally, the system's scalability means it can accommodate the growing needs of an expanding institution without compromising on performance or user experience.

Despite its current success in fulfilling the basic requirements of timetable generation, there is still potential for future enhancements. The system could be further optimized by incorporating advanced features such as student preferences, room types, and machine learning algorithms. By considering more variables and historical data, these enhancements could further refine the scheduling process. Moreover, integrating the system with student portals for real-time notifications and updates would keep all stakeholders informed about schedule changes, ensuring better communication and reducing confusion.

In conclusion, the Examination Timetable Generation system represents a significant advancement in managing academic schedules. It addresses many of the challenges faced by educational institutions, providing a more efficient, fair, and automated approach to exam scheduling. By optimizing resources and simplifying administrative tasks, the system enhances productivity, reduces stress, and improves the academic experience for students, faculty, and administrators. With further enhancements, this system has the potential to revolutionize exam scheduling in higher education, offering scalable solutions for growing institutions while ensuring the effective management of resources and workloads.

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APPENDIX-A PSUEDOCODE

1. Controller layer

1. Home Controller

```
HomeController {

Method index {

Return "index" view
}
```

2. TimetableController

```
TimetableController {
    Method generateTimetable {
        Call TimetableService.generateTimetable()
        Return success message
    }
    Method getAllTimetableEntries {
        Fetch all timetable entries from TimetableService
        Return timetable entries
    }
}
```

2. Model layer

1. Classroom

```
Classroom {
    Define fields `id`, `name`, `capacity`.
}
2. Course
Course {
    Define fields `id`, `name`, `code`.
}
```

3. Teacher

```
Teacher {
       Define fields 'id', 'name', 'email'.
}
4. TimetableEntry
TimetableEntry {
       Define fields 'id', 'courseId', 'teacherId', 'classroomId', 'startTime', 'endTime'.
}
3. Repository layer
Repository Layer {
  Define repositories for `Classroom`, `Course`, `Teacher`, `TimetableEntry`.
4. Service layer
TimetableService
Class TimetableService {
  Method generateTimetable {
    Fetch all courses from CourseRepository
    Fetch all teachers from TeacherRepository
    Fetch all classrooms from ClassroomRepository
    Define daysOfWeek, startTime, endTime, duration
    For each course in courses {
       For each day in daysOfWeek {
         Set current time to startTime
         While current time + duration < endTime {
           Assign teacher and classroom based on availability
            Create TimetableEntry with course, teacher, classroom, day, startTime,
endTime
```

```
Save TimetableEntry to TimetableEntryRepository

Move to next available time slot

}

Move to next teacher and classroom in a round-robin fashion
}

Method getAllTimetableEntries {

Fetch all timetable entries from TimetableEntryRepository

Return timetable entries
}
```

5. Main Application

Timetablegenerator

```
MainApplication {
    Run the Spring Boot application with `TimetableGeneratorApplication`.
}
```

HTML code

Start

1. Show Page Components

- Display Title: "Timetable Generator"
- Display Header: "Welcome to the Timetable Generator"
- Add a Button labeled "Generate Timetable"
- Add a Table with columns:
 - ➤ "Day"
 - ➤ "Course"
 - ➤ "Teacher"
 - "Classroom"
 - > "Start Time"
 - ➤ "End Time"

2. Set Up Button Click Action

- When the "Generate Timetable" button is clicked:
 - Execute the generateTimetable function

Function: generateTimetable()

1. Send Request to Generate Timetable

- Make an API call to /api/timetable/generate
- If the call succeeds:
 - ➤ Show a confirmation message: "Timetable generated successfully!"

2. Retrieve Timetable Entries

- Make another API request to /api/timetable/entries
- If this call is successful:
 - ➤ Convert the JSON response into a list of timetable entries

3. Update Table with Timetable Data

- Clear all rows from the timetable table body
- For each entry in the timetable list:
 - > Create a new row
 - ➤ Add the following details to the row:

- > Day of the Week
- ➤ Course Name/ID
- > Teacher Name/ID
- Classroom Name/ID
- > Start Time
- ➤ End Time
- Add the row to the table body

End

APPENDIX-B

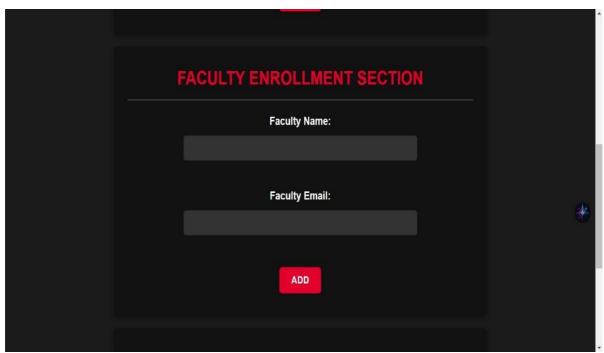


Fig 5. Faculty Enrollment Section

This page allows you to enter the details of the faculty

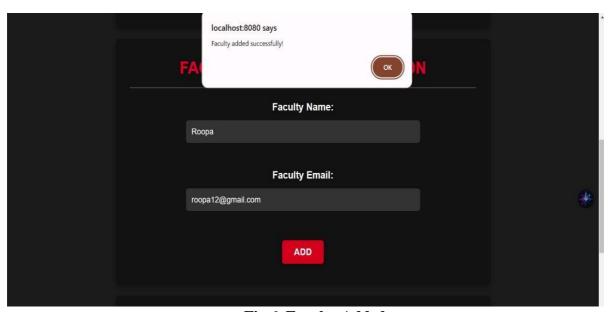


Fig 6. Faculty Added

This page shows the entered details of faculty are stored in the database

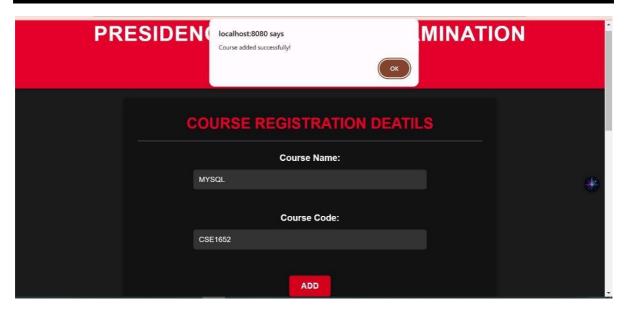


Fig 7. Course Registration

This page allows you to enter the course details and entered details are stored in the database



Fig 8. Faculty Database

Overview of the faculty details which are stored in the database

```
nysql> select * from course;
                       code
 id
      name
      PPS
                         PPS103
  2
      English
                         Eng101
                         phy101
  3
      Physics
  4
      Game Design
                         CSE2021
  5
      OOAD
                         CSE2029
  6
      Finance
                         CSE123
      Marketing
  7
                         MGT2021
      JAVA
  8
                         CSE3120
  9
      Cloud Computing
                         CSE3251
      Data Science
                         CSE6212
 10
      AL & ML
 11
                         CSE3087
 12
      C++
                         CSE5123
      C#
 13
                         CSE3678
 14
      Social Science
                         CSE2087
 15
      EVS
                         CSE9321
 16
      BIOSCIENCE
                         CSE4028
 17
      DBMS
                         CSE5646
 18
      Compute Networks
                         CSe8753
 19 MYSQL
                         CSE1652
9 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

Fig 9. Course Database

Overview of the course details which are stored in the database

APPENDIX-C

Journal publication/Conference Paper Presented Certificates of all students.

Examination Timetable Generation

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Abstract—The creation of academic timetables is a complex and time-consuming task for educational institutions, requiring adherence to various constraints such as university regulations, faculty workloads, and resource availability. Traditional manual methods are often inefficient and error-prone, making it essential to develop automated solutions. This paper proposes an intelligent imetable generation system that leverages advanced optimization algorithms, including Evolutionary Algorithms, Tabu Search, Simulated Annealing, and Scatter Search, to address the challenges associated with manual scheduling.

The system takes inputs such as semester-wise subjects, faculty availability, and workload constraints to dynamically generate conflict-free and resource-efficient timetables. Designed to accommodate multiple courses and semesters, the proposed system ensures scalability, flexibility, and compliance with institutional policies. By integrating automation with customizable features, the system reduces administrative effort, enhances accuracy, and optimally utilizes available resources. This paper presents the design, implementation, and evaluation of the system, highlighting its ability to adapt to dynamic requirements and provide a robust solution for academic scheduling.

Keywords-Time tabling, Scheduling, Dynamic Scheduling, Conflict-Free Scheduling, Academic Timetabling, Timetable Generator.

1. INTRODUCTION

Timetables serve as structured schedules that outline the specific times at which events are planned to take place. In educational institutions, the process of preparing examination timetables is especially challenging due to the need to accommodate a wide range of constraints. Manually generating such schedules requires significant effort, as it involves ensuring the availability of resources such as examination halls and supervisors while also considering the predefined university guidelines for each course and semester.

One of the primary challenges in examination timetable creation is to allocate time slots in a manner that avoids conflicts, such as overlapping examinations for students enrolled in multiple courses or scheduling the same supervisor for overlapping sessions. The process becomes even more complex when managing large-scale examinations across multiple departments, where clashes and inefficiencies can easily arise if handled manually. The proposed system addresses these challenges by automating the generation of examination timetables using Machine Learning techniques. By collecting inputs such as semester-wise course details, the availability of faculty as invigilators, examination hall capacities, and

scheduling constraints, the system dynamically generates an optimized and conflict-free timetable.

The system leverages advanced algorithms to ensure efficient allocation of resources while adhering to institutional policies. It reduces the time and effort required for manual scheduling and provides a reliable solution for handling large-scale examinations with minimal errors. By automating the process, the proposed system not only ensures smooth and efficient scheduling but also offers flexibility to accommodate changes, such as rescheduling exams due to unforeseen circumstances or adding new courses.

2. LITERATURE SURVEY

1. Constraint Satisfaction Problem (CSP) Approach:

Timetable generation is often modeled as a Constraint Satisfaction Problem (CSP) where constraints such as room availability, faculty workload, and class schedules must be satisfied. Schaerf (1999) provided a comprehensive survey on automated timetabling, categorizing it as a combinatorial optimization problem. CSP approaches typically use backtracking and heuristic-based algorithms to find feasible solutions.

2. Genetic Algorithms (GA):

Evolutionary algorithms, particularly Genetic Algorithms, have been widely used to tackle timetable scheduling. S. Abdullah et al. (2007) demonstrated the effectiveness of GAs in handling complex constraints by encoding timetable elements into chromosomes and applying crossover and mutation operators to optimize schedules. GAs have been shown to produce near-optimal solutions, especially for large datasets with conflicting constraints.

3. Tabu Search:

Tabu Search is another popular optimization technique used for timetable generation. Ahuja et al. (2002) applied Tabu Search to academic scheduling, demonstrating its ability to explore a solution space while avoiding local optima through memory-based mechanisms. The approach effectively handles multi-constraint problems but may require fine-tuning for larger instances.

4. Simulated Annealing:

Simulated Annealing has been employed for timetable scheduling due to its ability to escape local optima and find globally optimized solutions. Abramson (1991) applied this method for exam timetable generation, highlighting its adaptability and robustness in achieving conflict-free







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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Examination Timetable Generation aligns most closely with SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth)

SDG 4: Quality Education

A well-designed examination timetable ensures equal opportunities for all students to participate in exams without unnecessary stress or scheduling conflicts. By accommodating diverse needs, such as special provisions for students with disabilities, the system promotes inclusivity in education. It enhances fairness by distributing exams evenly and providing adequate preparation time. This contributes to a supportive learning environment, enabling students to excel academically.

SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

Automating the timetable generation process reduces the administrative burden on educators, freeing them to focus on teaching and student development. It ensures efficient resource allocation, such as classrooms and staff, minimizing downtime and inefficiencies. This leads to better productivity and an improved work environment for teachers and administrators. By streamlining operations, the system supports sustainable economic growth within the education sector.