

NYIT

Department of Computer Science

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Introduction to Software Engineering

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Parking Reservation Application

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Abstract

Application Title: Parking Reservation Application

We approached the task of implementing our parking reservation software by using specific technologies to develop an application targeted to execute on the android mobile platform. To accomplish our goal, we used various technologies such as Javascript, Node.js, React-Native, Java, Android-Studio and Google Firebase. Node.js allows us to write server-side Javascript code using a Javascript library written by Facebook known as React-Native. This Javascript library allows us to develop the user interface for our application, with Google Firebase handling user authentication and login as well as our NoSQL database named Realtime-Database. We used Android-Studio and Java to integrate our application with the android platform so we can use our application on real devices and to integrate API's to work with our application such as Google Maps. Our application is targeted towards users aged between 18 and 40 who commute frequently in high traffic and commercial areas such as large cities or famous destinations, and have access to a smartphone running the Android operating system.

Keywords: Android, Multiple-Reservations, Firebase, React-Native, NoSQL, Realtime

Introduction

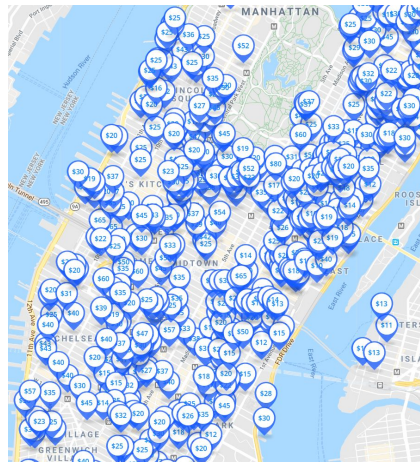
1.1) Purpose

The purpose of our application is to provide the owner of any parking-system establishment a tool that offers their customers a convenient and reliable method to reserve a maximum of three parking spaces on their own mobile device, as opposed to manually confirming reservation details on the spot, or by calling an employee.

1.2) Existing Applications / Models

1.2.1) Spot Hero

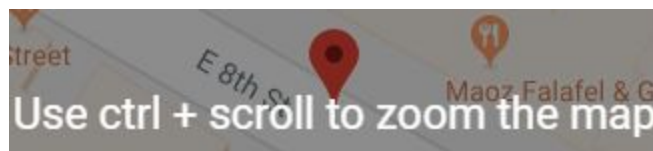
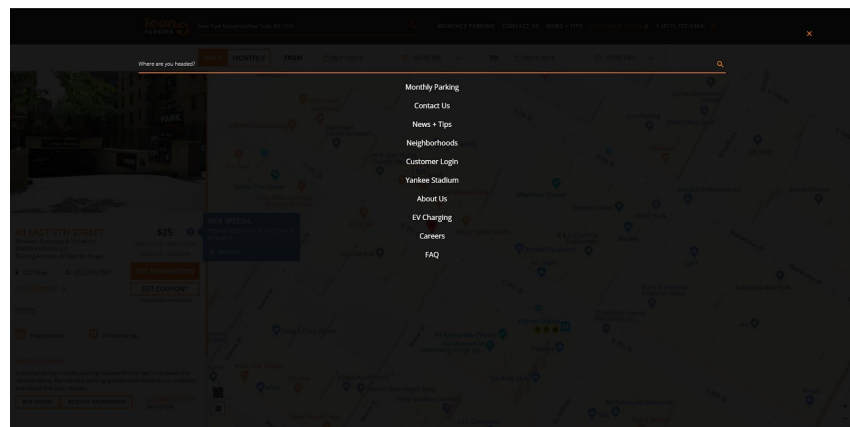
- Explanation:
 - Spot Hero is the most prominent parking reservation application on the market today. This service allows you to reserve parking spots exclusively within parking garages and valet parking areas. A user can set his or her reservation details and view information about the parking garages such as hours of operation and other information such as wheelchair accessibility.
- Disadvantages:
 - User Interface becomes extremely cluttered because it loads every single parking lot location on your map view simultaneously



- This service only targets parking garages and valet parking, disregarding other parking establishments such as hotels, airports and private companies
- User may be unaware of the advantages from the map view because it takes an excessive amount of time to render all of the parking locations with their respective prices onto the map.

1.2.2) Icon Parking Systems

- Explanation:
 - Icon Parking Systems allows their users to exclusively reserve parking locations within New York. Unlike Spot Hero, this service allows their users to reserve parking spots based on events such as concerts or plays. Daily or monthly parking passes are sold through this platform per location.
- Disadvantages:
 - Parking reservations are restricted to the area of New York
 - Mobile first approach makes it difficult to use their service on a desktop, examples include obtrusive navigation panel and inability to scroll on the map via mouse scrollwheel without use of keyboard.



- User must have a specific address to enter to view map and choose parking location. There is no other way to access the map.

1.2.3) Other Existing Applications

- There are various existing applications and models we did not mention such as ParkWhiz and Parking Panda. We chose not to study these solutions in depth for the sake of brevity. These solutions also contain similar features and disadvantages as the applications listed above.

1.3) Proposed Idea

In consideration of the existing software solutions, we chose to approach the task of building a parking reservation system by targeting the android mobile platform and providing our users the unique functionality of reserving upto three parking spots simultaneously. We accomplished our goal by leveraging the power of a NoSQL database through Google Firebase and their NoSQL Realtime-Database. NoSQL allows us to implement multiple reserved spots as a JSON array within the database. The exchange of information through JSON works perfectly with our technology stack because we chose to use Javascript and the React-Native Javascript library to implement our application. JSON stands for Javascript Object Notation and the conversion from Javascript objects to JSON is simplistic, allowing us to send and retrieve data smoothly between our application and our database.

1.3.1) Software Engineering Model

To develop our application we chose to utilize the Spiral Model. We chose this model over other models such as waterfall, prototype and incrementals models because of its inclusion of risk analysis and team structure. Technical risks such as the storage of user passwords and authentication as well as cost of production was considered in the analysis stage of software development. The cost of production was not assessed on real money, instead we assessed the cost of production in correlation to the cost of time it will take to implement each feature based on the number of developers we have. We logically segmented our team based on features such as information retrieval and implementation of our NoSQL database, user interface, and overall semantic structure of our system and code base. That includes anything from the logical segmentation and slicing of our code base to formatting the code for consistency with our developer code guidelines.

1.4) User Access Levels

Our application distinguishes user access levels based on authentication. The two groups of users represented within our application are authenticated users and anonymous users. Our application functions in an establishment and consumer fashion, therefore establishments implement our software with the expectation that not every user will sign up for the service. Instead of forcing users to sign up for our service, we distinguish between authenticated users and anonymous users with one slight difference. Authenticated users are able to view their current reservations in a proprietary view, allowing them to modify their current reservations by extending or deleting reservations in various establishments. Anonymous users do not have this functionality, however they are able to use our application for initial reservations.

1.5) Technologies

- Languages
 - Java SE 8
 - Javascript ECMAScript 6
 - Node.js [Enables Javascript On Back End] [8.10.0]
 - React-Native [Front End UI Development] [0.5.4]
- Tools
 - Android Studio [3.0.1]
 - Integrated Development Environment
 - Atom [1.24.1]
 - Lightweight Text Editor
 - Google Firebase [Back End]
 - User Registration & User Authentication
 - Firebase Realtime Database [NoSQL]
 - Git & Github [Concurrent Developer Tracking]

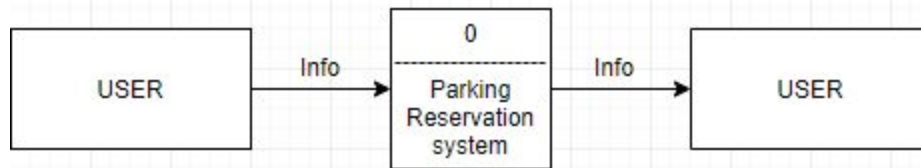
1.5.1) Implementation Of Technologies

For an overview on the specific uses of each technology, please refer to the abstract section on page 2 within this documentation.

2.0) Analysis

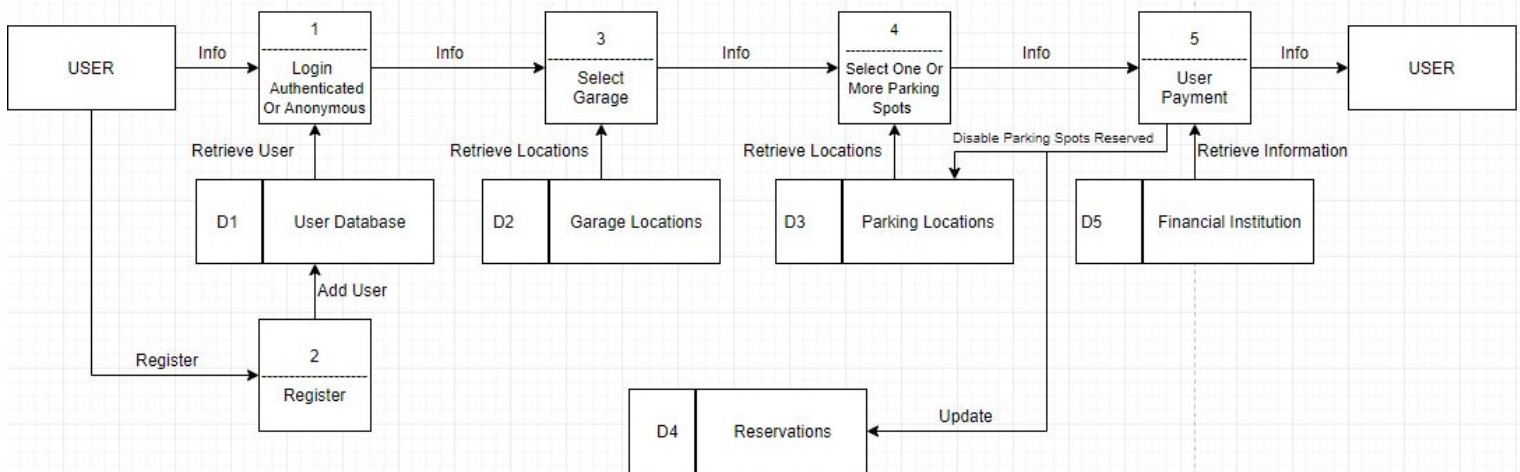
2.0.1) Context Diagram

Context Diagram



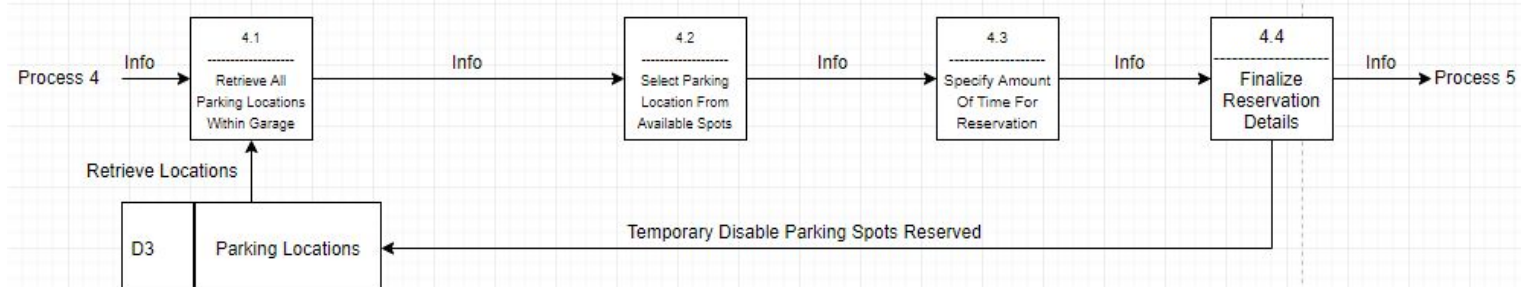
2.0.2) Data Flow Diagram

Data-Flow-Diagram



2.0.3) Child Data Flow Diagram

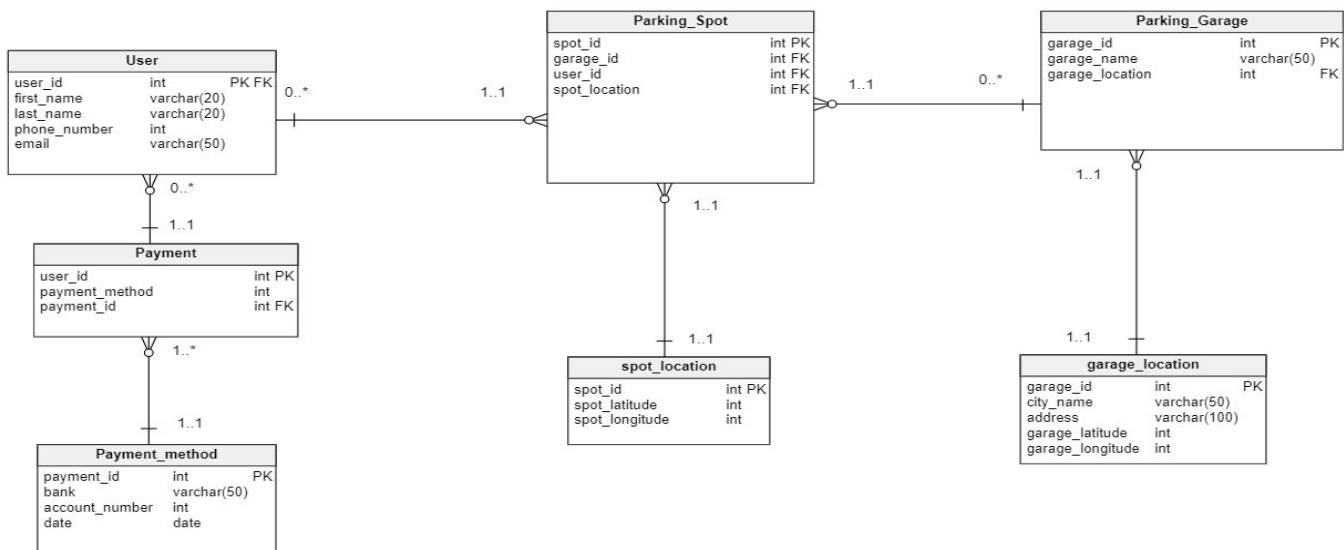
Child Data-Flow-Diagram



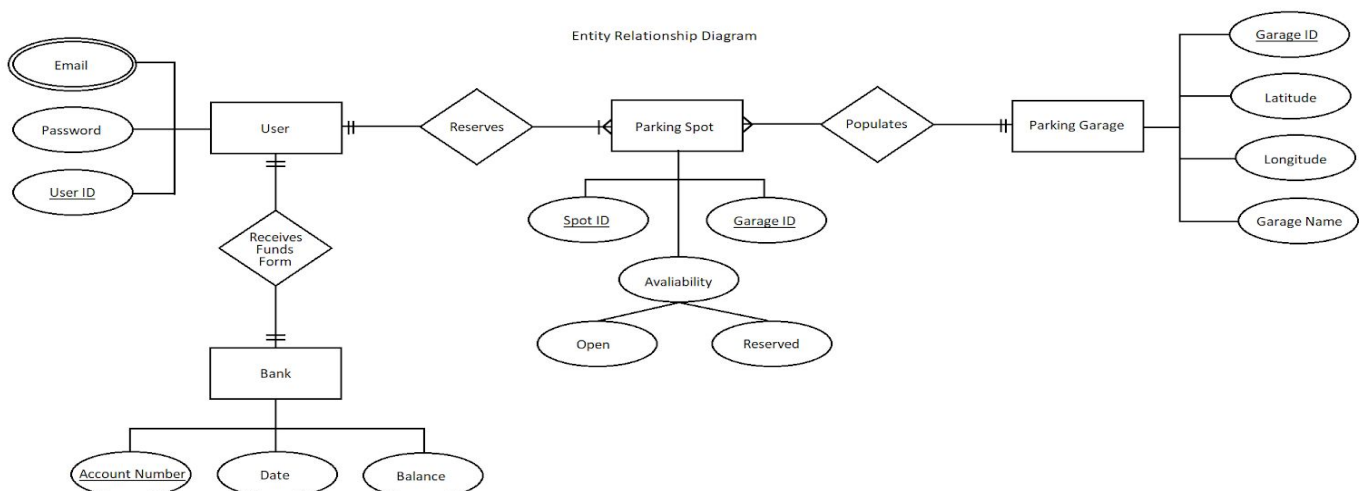
3.0) Data Modeling

This project was designed using Google Firebase's NoSQL Realtime-Database. We decided to leverage the power of a NoSQL database because it works well with our technology stack. Previously this was explained within section 1.3 when we proposed our idea. NoSQL allows us to implement multiple reserved spots as a JSON array within the database. The exchange of information through JSON works perfectly with our technology stack because we chose to use Javascript and the React-Native Javascript library to implement our application. JSON stands for Javascript Object Notation and the conversion from Javascript objects to JSON is simplistic, allowing us to send and retrieve reservation data smoothly between our application and our database.

3.0.1) Table Schema



3.0.2) Entity Relationship Diagram



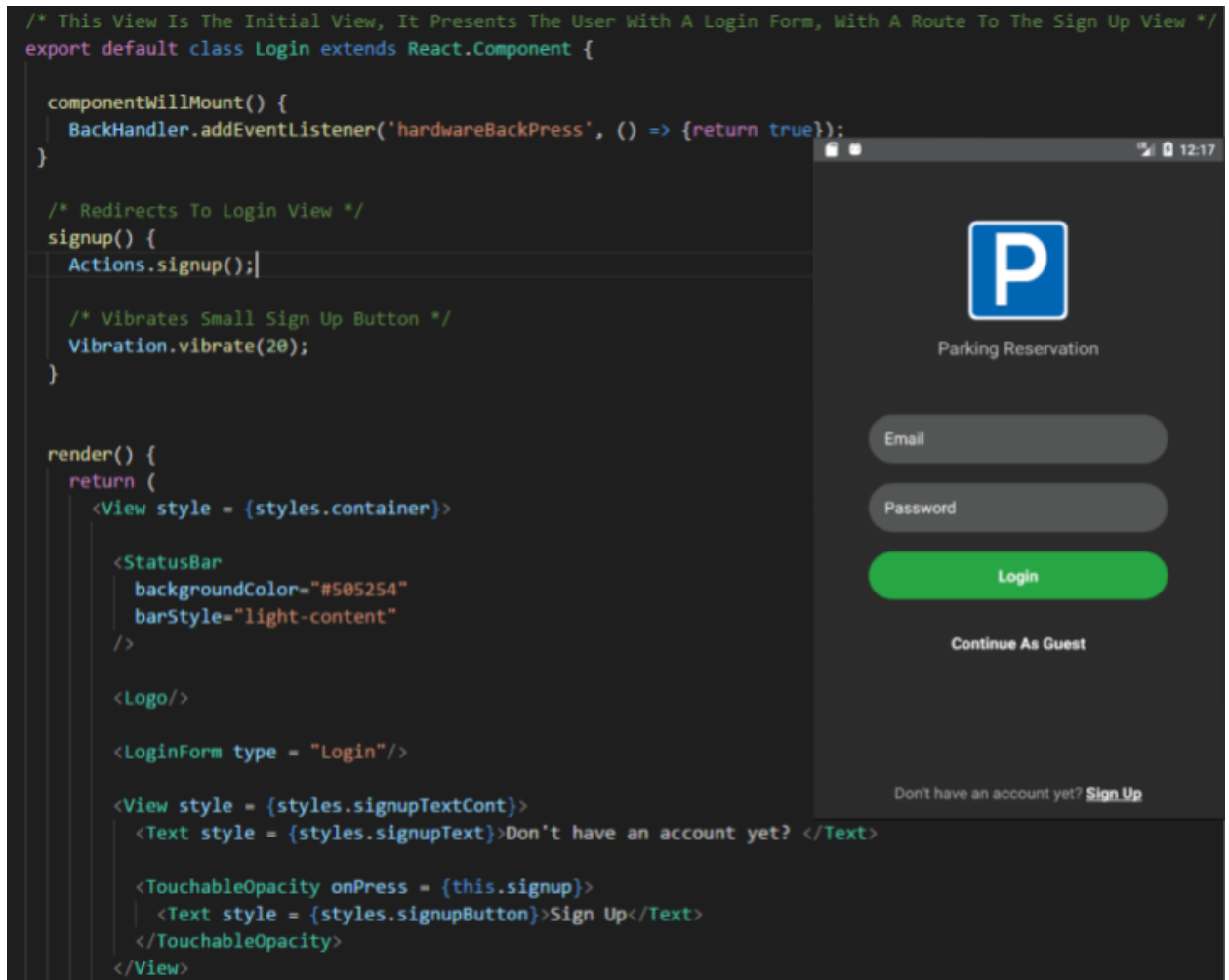
4.0) Implementation

This project was designed using technologies such as...

- Javascript
- Node.js
- React-Native
- Java
- Android-Studio
- Google Firebase

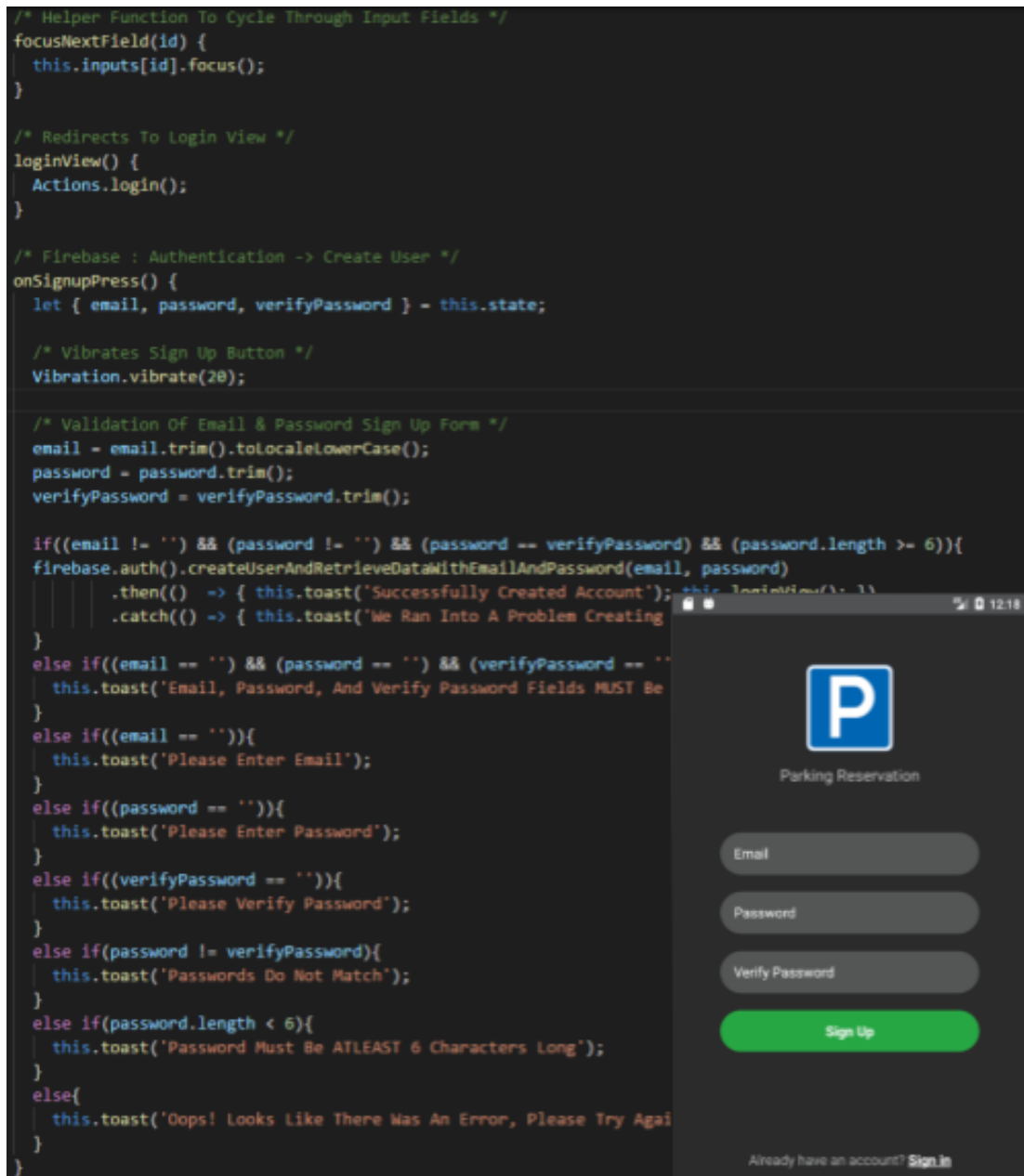
We had chosen **React Native** over other mobile development languages because it allowed us to avoid the steep learning curve needed to develop Android & IOS applications. To develop in an Android environment alone would have taken months of time to grasp the concepts needed to create a market ready application. Luckily React Native is in a sense a flavor of **Javascript**, so if one knows Javascript they could easily work with React Native. **Node.js** is a JavaScript runtime open source server environment that enabled us to develop and test our application as it was being developed. Additionally we used **Android Studio** which is the official IDE for the Android operating system, to further assist us in the development of the application. Finally we used Google's **Firebase** which allowed us to set up database without needing knowledge of a server side programming language. Firebase allowed us to store user data on its real-time database as well as syncing up data seamlessly.

4.0.1) Login Page



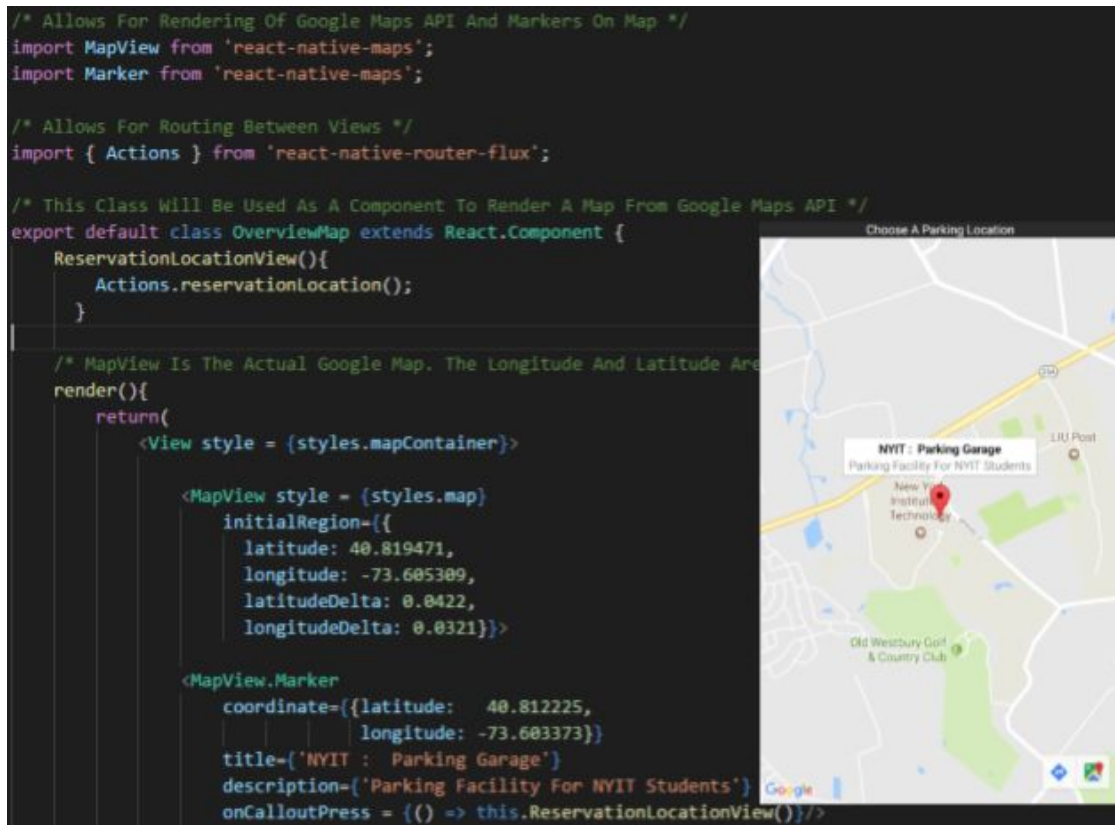
This is login page when users launch the application. Users can either sign in if registered, sign up or continue as guest as they prefer. Email and Password has to be matched as the data in Firebase. After hit the login button, it will direct to the google map.

4.0.3) Sign up Page



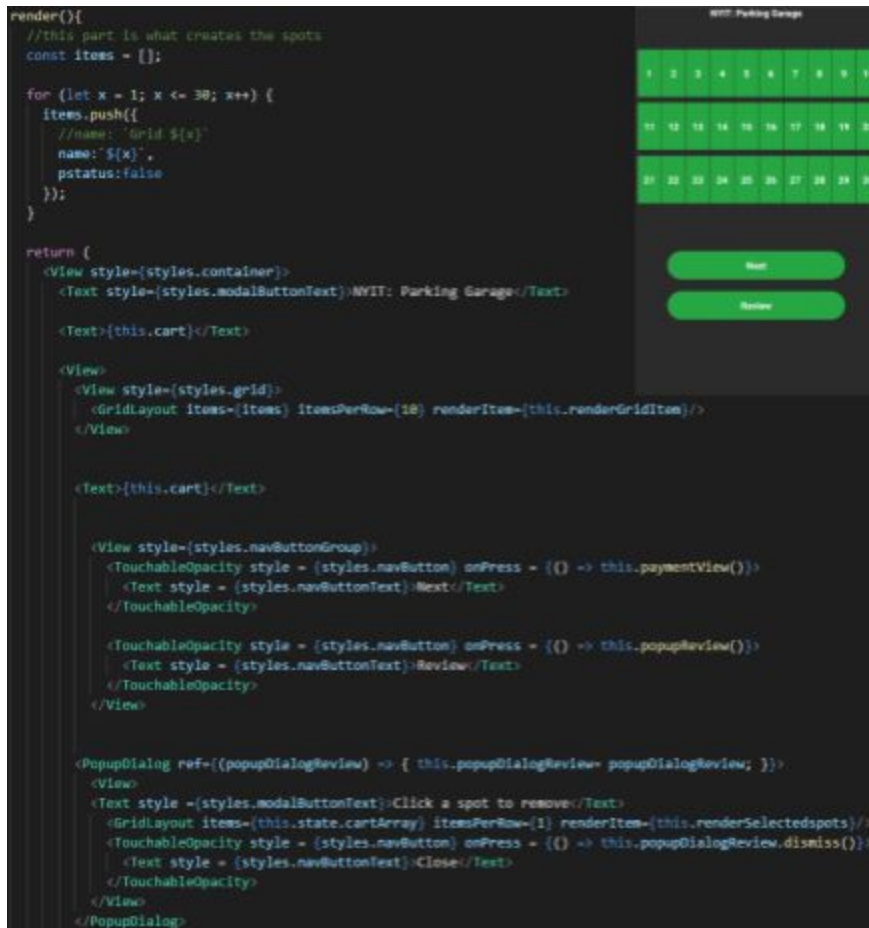
This is *Sign Up* page where users have to enter a valid email which includes @, and matches passwords, else users will not sign up. If users successfully create their account, informations will be updated and stored in Firebase, make authentications each time when user trying to sign in. After they hit sign up, it will redirect to the sign in page.

4.0.4) Google Map



This is the page of the Google Map. For now it located at NYIT Old Westbury Campus, however, companies can add more locations if it is necessary. Users have to click “*NYIT: Parking Garage*” in order to get in *Reservation Page*.

4.0.5) Reservation page



This is reservation page, users can select up to THREE parking spots. After users select a spot, it require users to select the range of time that they wish to park. After they hit next, it will redirect to *Payment Page*. If they click review, a popup will display their current selected spots, which they can cancel or not before proceeding to the *Payment Page*

5.0) Conclusion

5.1) Testing

The type of testing done was regression testing. Regression testing is the repeated testing after modification of the program. When we add and modify each others codes, we keep run the application to see the code works fine or makes any errors. Our scope of project application is not really big, so we could repeat testing the application everytime we modified the code. If we find any error while testing, we fixed it and tested it again to go next step of development.

5.2) Team Members Contribution

Leader: Rajendra Bhagroo

- Login View & Login Form Component
- Registration View & Registration Form Component
- Integration Of Google Maps API With Android Studio
- Map View & Map Overview Component
- Integration Of Google Firebase With Android Studio
- Implementation Of Gradle Files Used By Android Studio
- Implementation of Anonymous Users, Authenticated Users & Verification / Validation Of Authenticated Users
- Code-Consistency In Cooperation With Developer Code Guidelines
- Overall Styling Of Elements Across Project
- Entity Relationship Diagram (1)
- Constructed Final Data Flow Diagram
- Constructed Final Child Data Flow Diagram
- Written Project Proposal
- Inclusion Of Haptic Feedback For A Better User Experience On Mobile Devices

Member 1: Christopher Guevarra

- Reservation Location View
- Data Flow Diagram
- Child Data Flow Diagram
- Parking Space Data Format
- Debugging

Member 2: Chengjun Dong

- Table Schema Diagram

- Payment View
- Project Proposal

Member 3: Myeongkeun Kim

- Main Menu View
- Registration Review View
- Block Hardware Back
- Entity Relationship Diagram (2)

5.3) Learning Outcomes

Leader: Rajendra Bhagroo

- I used this project as a challenge to utilise technologies that I am not familiar with in order to gauge learning capabilities in a team environment. I enjoyed creating a mobile application and learning about new technologies such as react-native and integrating the Google Maps API. Also, this is an important project where I got to work in a team of developers and learn how to share and incorporate ideas and feedback into the project as we were in the code implementation phase. I also learned how to properly budget time to expect the unexpected and finish the project while continuously meeting deadlines.

Member 1: Christopher Guevarra

- What I took away from this project was basically experience learning a new language on the fly, as well as how to work in a team setting. I know in the actual work field there will be times when I'm left with no choice but to learn the bare necessities of a language to meet project requirements and deadlines. After completing this project I'm assured if this situation ever comes up again I'll be able to face it easily, but personally would still prefer to know all the nitty gritty parts of a language before using it for market ready applications. Additionally I've learned that communication is key in a team setting.

Member 2: Chengjun Dong

- Before I started this project, I have never heard of React-native and Android studio. I have known what is github and node before, but I have never used it. In addition, my laptops does not run the whole app because node.js and java SE had conflict, have tried many times to reinstall from

the beginning but did not work eventually. However, I have managed to create Payment View page with Expo. I also learned that communications between teammates and greater team leading skill is really important for the team project. Finally, even though I have learned javascript for html, there is difference with react-native, and I am getting hand of it.

Member 3: Myeongkeun Kim

- From this Parking Reservation Application development project, I learned a lot of new things such as React Native, Android Studio, Node Js, Github, Firebase, and more about Java language. I never heard about these programs before and did not use them. I learned how to run the emulator in Android Studio and connect React Native and Node Js together. The React Native helps and allows to use JavaScript to develop the application. So I could learned more about JavaScript's codes that I don't know before.

6.0) References

6.0.1) Development:

<https://facebook.github.io/react-native/>

<https://developers.google.com/maps/documentation/>

<https://www.npmjs.com/package/react-native-layout-grid>

<https://github.com/react-community/react-native-maps>

<https://github.com/aksonov/react-native-router-flux>

<https://firebase.google.com/>

<https://firebase.google.com/docs/guides/?authuser=0>

6.0.2) Research:

<https://spothero.com/>

<https://iconparkingsystems.com/>

<https://www.parkwhiz.com/>

<https://www.parkingpanda.com/>

6.0.3) Logo:

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/c/cb/Japanese_Road_sign_\(Parking_lot_A,_Parking_permitted\).svg/450px-Japanese_Road_sign_\(Parking_lot_A,_Parking_permitted\).svg.png](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/c/cb/Japanese_Road_sign_(Parking_lot_A,_Parking_permitted).svg/450px-Japanese_Road_sign_(Parking_lot_A,_Parking_permitted).svg.png)

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