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Synopsis on

**“UniProject - Digital Project Hub for Universities:
Empowering Student Innovation”**

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Submitted By

4GM21CS071	R Shree Hari
4GM21CS074	RagaSudha G
4GM21CS110	Sumith M Shiralli
4GM21CS125	Yashaswini M O

Under the Guidance of

Mrs. Nayana K
Asst Professor
Department of CSE, GMIT



Visvesvaraya Technological University
JNANA SANGAMA
Belagavi-590018, Karnataka

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1.Introduction

In today's educational environment, project-based learning (PBL) stands out as a transformative method that aligns closely with the needs of modern learners. This approach not only promotes engagement and active learning but also equips students with essential skills such as critical thinking, creativity, and teamwork. However, the challenge often lies in the effective management, collaboration, and presentation of these projects, particularly across different institutions and disciplines.

To address this challenge, we introduce our website “**UniProject**”, an Online Integrated Platform (OIP) designed to revolutionize how students interact with project-based learning. It aims to provide a cohesive and user-friendly space where students from various universities and colleges can:

“UniProject - Digital Project Hub for Universities: Empowering Student Innovation” is designed to enhance project-based learning by providing a comprehensive platform that empowers students to engage more effectively in their academic pursuits. Students can create user-friendly profiles showcasing their projects, complete with multimedia elements like images and videos, while an integrated peer review system allows for constructive feedback to improve their work. The platform promotes collaboration across boundaries through a project matching algorithm that connects students with complementary skills, alongside built-in communication tools such as chat, forums, and video conferencing for seamless interaction, regardless of geographical location.

Innovation is the key to the betterment of education and students in the Indian universities/colleges put a lot of efforts on the projects as a part of the academic requirements. If a common knowledge platform (with a facility for plagiarism) is created to bring all project works taken up at various levels by the students in Technical / Higher Educational Institutes and Universities throughout the country, then it will be a great source of knowledge and also will help the student community to take up unique/innovative project works

Additionally, it facilitates the exchange of knowledge and insights through discussion boards and a resource library that includes research papers, articles, and tutorials, enriching students' learning experiences. To support their development, the platform offers guided

tutorials, workshops on project management, and mentorship opportunities that connect students with faculty and industry experts for guidance throughout the project lifecycle

By fostering creativity and collaboration, this website not only increases student engagement but also develops vital soft skills like teamwork, communication, and critical thinking. Its interdisciplinary approach encourages diverse perspectives that lead to innovative solutions, while projects can be linked to real-world challenges, allowing students to apply their knowledge practically.

Ultimately, **“UniProject - Digital Project Hub for Universities: Empowering Student Innovation”** is more than just an online platform; it is a dynamic ecosystem that prepares students to navigate the complexities of modern problem-solving, equipping them to become capable professionals ready to contribute meaningfully to society.

Problem Statement:

“Online Integrated Platform for Projects Taken up by the Students of Various Universities/Colleges”

2.Objectives

The main objective of this project is to Develop an online platform tailored to showcase and facilitate collaboration on student projects across diverse universities and colleges.

- The development of an online integrated platform that aims to facilitate collaboration and knowledge exchange among technical and higher education students.
- The platform will serve as a centralized repository where students can upload their project work, share ideas, and learn from each other.
- To Emphasizing secure authentication and plagiarism checking, peer learning, and centralized project data as advanced features of this new system therefore enabling students and faculty from different engineering colleges in India to work together in a cohesive environment.
- Implement a recommendation system to suggest relevant projects and resources based on user interests and activity, while using data analytics to monitor trends and platform performance, generating insights for admins and stakeholders.

3.Literature Survey

Author Name	Topic	Year of Publication	Description
Traylor et al	Engineering Curriculum	2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Proposed a learning platform to integrate and enhance student collaboration across topics.Goal: Equip students with innovative skills for interdisciplinary professional environments.
Correll et al	Project-Based Learning	2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Demonstrated that project-based learning improves student understanding of technical topics (e.g., AI, robotics).
Williamson et al	Peer Learning in Research	2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Studied peer learning's impact on research methods for international students.Found that peer learning improved student outcomes, but external factors influenced performance.
Bahari et al	Peer Learning Engagement	2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Emphasized the importance of peer learning in improving communication and engagement.Suggested further research to validate the framework of peer learning in education.
Makwana et al	Collaborative Peer Learning	2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Peer learning encourages student involvement and teamwork, with a focus on partnerships between students and adults.
Prasanth et al	Plagiarism Detection in Education	2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Plagiarism detection is vital for academic integrity and should be integrated into educational systems.

4.Methodology and Architecture

1. Methodology

The methodology used for the development and implementation of the “**UniProject - Digital Project Hub for Universities: Empowering Student Innovation**” involves several key steps and approaches. Here's a suggested methodology outline:

1. Requirement Gathering and Analysis:

- **Stakeholders Identification:** Identify stakeholders like students, universities, mentors, and admins who will interact with the platform.
- Conduct interviews, surveys, and focus groups with stakeholders (students, faculty, administrators) to understand their needs, challenges, and preferences regarding project management and collaboration.
- Identify the key requirements and features of the online platform based on the feedback and insights gathered.
- **Functional Requirements:** Gather user needs and functionalities like project management, collaboration spaces, dashboards, and analytics.
- **Non-Functional Requirements:** Determine performance, scalability, security, and ease-of-use requirements.
- **Scope Definition:** Outline the scope, including features like trending projects, plagiarism checker, recommendation system, and analytics.

2. Research and Literature Review:

- Conduct a thorough literature review to gain insights into existing student learning platforms, recommendation systems, collaborative learning approaches, and best practices in web application development.
- This research will provide a foundation for decision making and identifying key features and technologies to incorporate into the project.

3. System Design and Architecture:

- Based on the gathered requirements and research findings, design the system architecture and user interface for the web application.
- Develop wireframes, mockups, and prototypes of the online platform using design tools or prototyping software.

- Iterate on the designs based on feedback from stakeholders to ensure usability, accessibility, and user satisfaction.
- Finalize the design and architecture of the platform, including the user interface, navigation flow, and data structures.

4. Development:

Front-end Development:

- Implement the front-end of the web application using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript.
- Focus on creating an intuitive and visually appealing user interface that facilitates easy navigation, project uploads, profile viewing, blog writing, and chat functionalities.
- Ensure the design is responsive and compatible with different devices and screen sizes.

Back-end Development:

- Develop the back-end functionality of the web application using the chosen technologies such as **Python and Django**.
- Implement user authentication and authorization mechanisms to ensure secure access to the application.
- Develop the **Smart Recommendation System**, using machine learning techniques.
- Integrate user data and project metadata to generate recommendations in real-time.
- Implement **plagiarism checking** logic by comparing submitted projects against a database of existing projects using algorithms like **Levenshtein Distance** or **Cosine Similarity**.

Database Development:

- Structure the database to store user interactions, preferences, project metadata, and the results of plagiarism checks.
- Keep user history, like previously viewed projects or uploaded content, to feed into the recommendation engine.

5. Integration and Testing:

- Integrate the front-end and back-end components of the web application.
- Perform comprehensive testing to ensure functionality, performance, and compatibility across different browsers and devices.
- Conduct user acceptance testing to gather feedback and make necessary improvements.

6. Deployment:

- Deploy the web application on a server or hosting platform, ensuring it is accessible to the intended users.
- Set up the necessary infrastructure, such as server configurations, domain mapping, and SSL certificates, to ensure a secure and reliable deployment.
- Communicate the launch of the application to the college community.

7. User Training and Support:

- Provide training and documentation to users on how to use the web application effectively.
- Offer technical support channels for users to address any issues or queries they may have.
- Gather user feedback and incorporate necessary enhancements or bug fixes based on user reports.

8. Evaluation and Iteration:

- Continuously monitor and evaluate the usage and performance of the web application.
- Collect user feedback and conduct surveys or interviews to assess user satisfaction, engagement, and the achievement of project goals.
- Use the feedback to iterate and enhance the application over time.

2. Architecture:

1. Client Layer (Frontend):

- Users (Visitors, Students, Universities, Mentors, Admins) interact with the system via browsers like Chrome or Firefox.

2. Web Application Layer (Middleware):

- This layer acts as an intermediary between the client system and the backend server.
- Processes client requests and sends them to the server. It serves as the user interface and handles communications.

3. Server (Backend):

- The server handles user requests, processes data, communicates with the database, and generates responses.
- The backend is developed using Python Django Framework and works with the Smart Recommendation System, Data Analytics, Plagiarism Checker, and SAS modules.

4. Database (DB):

- The MySQL database stores all user profiles, project information, interaction logs, recommendations, and other structured data required by the system.
- The server retrieves this data when needed.

5. Services Layer:

- External services or in-house developed services handle recommendation generation, plagiarism checking, data analytics and multilingual support.

6. Security Layer:

- Uses Django's built-in authentication framework for secure login.
- Ensure proper validation for all user inputs to prevent SQL injection and XSS attacks.

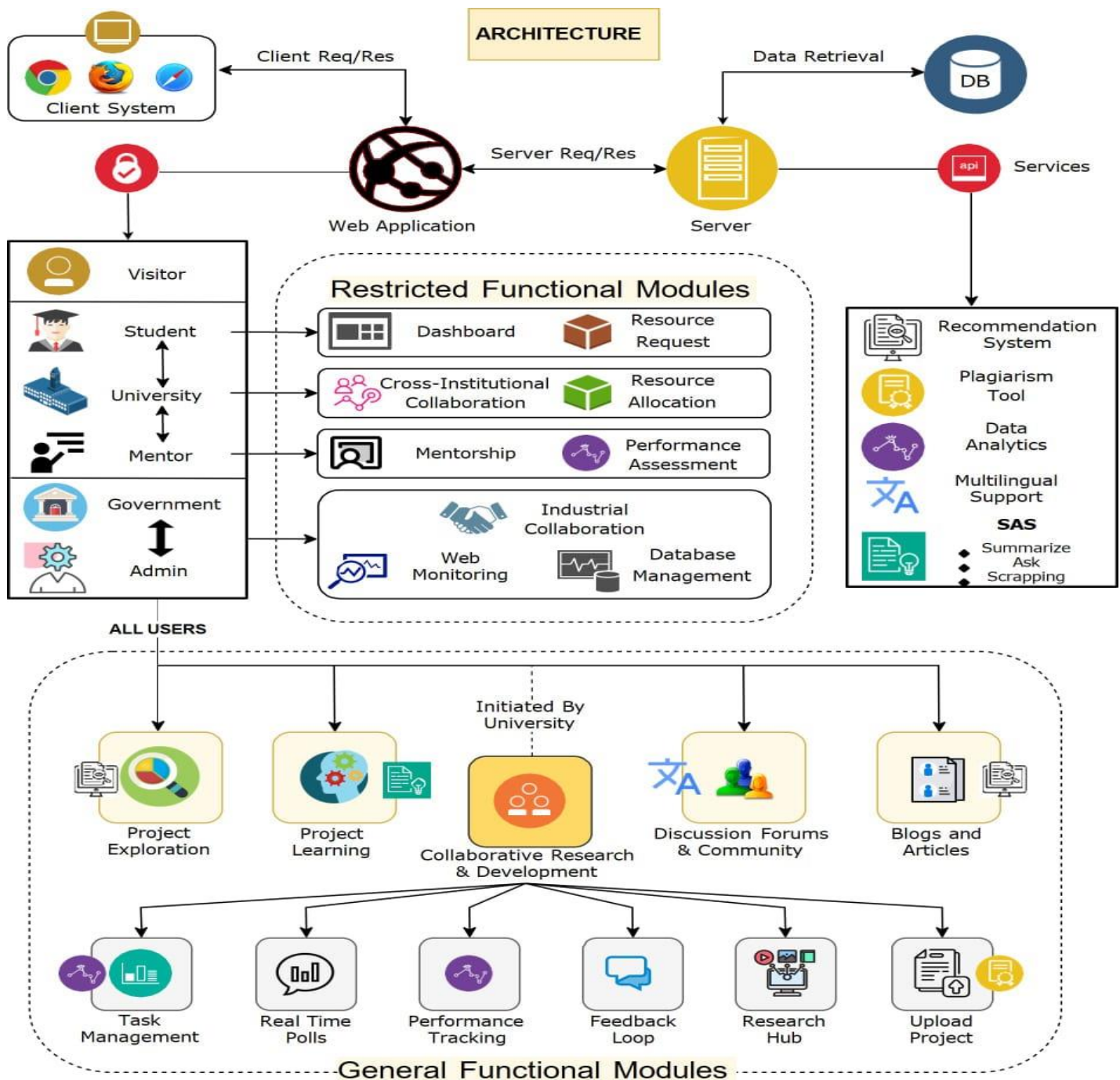


Fig: System Architecture

5. Software and Hardware Requirements

➤ Hardware Requirements:

1. **Processor:** Multi-core processor (Intel Core i5 or equivalent recommended).
2. **Graphic Card:** AMD Radeon R9 or GTX 1650 with DirectX 11 or higher.
3. **Memory (RAM):** 8 GB or higher.
4. **Storage:** SSD (Solid-State Drive) with a minimum of 256 GB for faster read/write speeds.

➤ Software Requirements:

1. **Operating System:** Windows 10 or higher, Linux or macOS.
2. **Web Server:** Nginx or Apache to handle HTTP requests.
3. **Code Editor/IDE:** Visual Studio Code, PyCharm for Python/Django development.
4. **Version Control:** Git Bash.
5. **Programming Language:** Python.
 - **Backend Framework:** Django for server-side logic.
 - **Frontend Technologies:** HTML, CSS, JavaScript, or React for user interaction.
 - **Other:** Machine Learning Algorithms, Natural Language Processing, Artificial Intelligence, Web Scrapping and Data Analytics.
6. **Database:** MySQL for structured data storage.

6. Applications:

1. Academic Collaboration and Project Management

- **Collaborative Learning:** Students from different universities can collaborate on projects, share resources, and develop cross-disciplinary solutions.
- **Project Repository:** A centralized repository for student projects allows universities to track, evaluate, and share academic work.
- **Inter-university Competitions:** The platform can host competitions, fostering innovation and collaboration across universities.

2. Talent Discovery and Recruitment

- **Showcasing Skills:** Employers can use the platform to scout for talented students by viewing their project portfolios, fostering job recruitment and internship opportunities.
- **Industry Collaborations:** Industries can collaborate with universities through this platform by proposing projects or hiring students for research and development.

3. Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Detection

- **Plagiarism Prevention:** The platform's plagiarism checker ensures that students submit original work, thus promoting academic integrity.
- **Automated Report Generation:** Professors and administrators receive automatic plagiarism reports, saving time in reviewing project submissions.

4. Personalized Learning and Project Recommendations

- **Smart Recommendation System:** The platform suggests relevant projects based on students' interests and past work, encouraging personalized learning pathways.
- **Project-Based Learning:** Facilitates experiential learning, where students apply theoretical knowledge in real-world projects across multiple domains (e.g., engineering, arts, social sciences).

5. University Administrative Tools

- **University Dashboards:** University administrators can monitor student engagement, project progress, and research collaborations.
- **Analytics for Decision Making:** Admins can gain insights into project trends, popular categories, and student progress using data analytics.

6. Project Documentation and Management

- **Efficient Project Management:** Tools like Kanban boards, calendars, and Gantt charts help students manage their project timelines and tasks efficiently.
- **Archiving:** Acts as a long-term repository for student projects, which can be used for future reference, research, or even commercialization of ideas.

7. Training and Skill Development

- **Hands-on Learning:** Through project-based learning, students acquire real-world skills that enhance their academic and professional careers.
- **Skill Assessment:** Employers or institutions can assess students' skills based on their project work, helping them design more effective training and educational modules.

8. Resource Optimization for Universities

- **Cost-effective Learning:** Universities can cut costs related to project storage, management, and assessment by digitizing the entire process.
- **Inter-university Resource Sharing:** Universities can share their resources (labs, tools, mentorship) on collaborative projects across campuses.

9. Enhanced User Engagement

- **User Interaction and Collaboration:** Integrated chat support, real-time collaboration tools, and student dashboards foster better communication and teamwork among students.
- **Trending Projects:** Highlights popular projects, promoting engagement and inspiration among students.

10. Research Analysis and Trends

- **Data Analytics:** The platform can be used for analyzing project trends, popular research areas, and emerging technologies, providing universities with insight into academic and industrial trends.

11. Capstone and Final-Year Projects

- **Final Year Project Management:** Ideal for managing large-scale capstone projects across universities, helping students document and present their final work.
- **Research Output Monitoring:** Universities can track the research output of their students and showcase this to accrediting bodies or for university rankings.

12. Showcasing Innovation and Creativity

- **Project Exhibitions:** The platform can be used to showcase innovative student projects to a broader audience (public or private), opening doors to new opportunities.

By offering tools that enhance learning, collaboration, and project management, this platform becomes a critical educational technology solution in the academic and professional landscape.

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