 

**T.C. MARMARA UNIVERSITY**

**FACULTY of ENGINEERING COMPUTER ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT**

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Title of the Project

**FaceApp**

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**1. Aim of the Project**

1.1 Overview

The aim of this project is to address the prevalent privacy issues associated with sharing group photographs within various messaging applications, such as WhatsApp, Telegram, and others. In today's digital era, the ease of capturing and sharing group photos in real-time is a common occurrence, but it brings forth several privacy concerns. Users often find themselves in situations where:

* Photographs are shared that do not include every individual present in the group.
* Individuals may feel uncomfortable when a photograph that excludes them is accessible to unrelated individuals who are part of the same group.

While these issues may seem trivial, they have significant implications, particularly within the context of school groups, social gatherings, and family events. Parents can become sensitive to privacy matters related to their children. It is our belief that safeguarding individual privacy is a fundamental right, and we aim to address these concerns effectively.

1.2 Project Goals

Our primary goal is to develop a privacy-focused group photograph sharing application with the following objectives:

*1.2.1 Objective 1: Eliminating Unwanted Photographs*

A core aim of this project is to provide users with a streamlined and user-friendly experience. Individuals should no longer need to sift through group photos that do not include them. This objective aligns with simplifying the user experience and making the application more intuitive.

*1.2.2 Objective 2: Ensuring Privacy*

We aim to guarantee the privacy of individuals in group photographs. This involves preventing photographs from reaching unrelated individuals who are not part of the photo. By addressing this concern, we seek to create a safe and secure environment for users.

1.3 Significance

The significance of this project lies in its ability to provide users with a solution that enhances their privacy and user experience while sharing group photographs. By addressing the concerns of parents, friends, and individuals who value their privacy, we aim to create an application that resonates with a broad user base. Moreover, our project aligns with the evolving landscape of digital privacy and underscores the importance of individual data protection.

1.4 Expected Outcomes

The expected outcomes of this project include the following:

* A user-friendly mobile application for group photograph sharing that offers a seamless experience.
* A robust facial recognition system capable of accurately identifying individuals in group photos.
* A secure data sharing system that ensures photographs are shared only with relevant individuals.
* Increased user satisfaction, reduced privacy concerns, and enhanced group photograph sharing experiences.

In summary, our project strives to create a safe, user-friendly, and privacy-conscious environment for individuals sharing group photographs. It addresses a pertinent issue in the digital age and aims to enhance the quality of interactions within various social groups.

**2. Methodology**

2.1 Project Phases

The methodology for this project involves a systematic approach, encompassing distinct phases that will guide the development and implementation of the privacy-focused group photograph sharing application. The project will unfold in the following phases:

*2.1.1 Phase 1: Chat Application Development*

* **Description:** The initial phase focuses on the development of a user-friendly chat application. We will utilize Flutter and Dart technologies to create a mobile platform application that will serve as the foundation for our project.
* **Activities:**
  + Team collaboration and task assignment.
  + Creation of the application's user interface.
  + Integration of essential chat functionalities, including text messaging, multimedia sharing, and group creation.
* **Deliverables:** The chat application prototype ready for further development.

*2.1.2 Phase 2: Facial Recognition System*

* **Description:** In this phase, we will concentrate on the implementation of the project's core feature: a facial recognition system. We will utilize the OpenCV library and Python for the development.
* **Activities:**
  + Training the facial recognition model using relevant datasets.
  + Developing algorithms for facial detection, recognition, and classification.
  + Integrating the facial recognition system with the chat application.
* **Deliverables:** A functional facial recognition system within the chat application.

*2.1.3 Phase 3: Secure Data Sharing*

* **Description:** The third phase is dedicated to building a secure data sharing system that ensures the privacy of users. It will allow individuals to share photographs only with those present in the image and incorporate robust access control.
* **Activities:**
  + Ensuring end-to-end encryption and data security.
  + Integration of the secure data sharing system with the chat application.
* **Deliverables:** A secure data sharing system within the chat application, offering privacy protection.

2.2 Iterative Development

Throughout each phase, we will adopt an iterative development approach, involving regular testing, feedback, and refinement. User testing and feedback will play a significant role in enhancing the user experience, privacy protection, and the overall quality of the application. Continuous improvements and iterations will be carried out to ensure the project aligns with user expectations and project objectives.

2.3 Performance Evaluation

Evaluation of the project's performance is a critical aspect. Performance metrics will be monitored to ensure that the application meets its objectives. Specific performance evaluation criteria will include:

* Accuracy of facial recognition in identifying individuals in group photos.
* Response time of the application, including image recognition and data sharing.
* Resource utilization, including memory and processing power efficiency.
* User experience assessments, evaluating usability, and satisfaction with the application.

2.4 Resource Requirements

Successful project execution will necessitate various resources, including:

* **Hardware:** Mobile devices for development and testing.
* **Software:** Development tools, including integrated development environments (IDEs) and libraries.
* **Data:** Datasets for training the facial recognition system.
* **Human Resources:** A skilled development team with expertise in app development, machine learning, and data security.

The combination of these project phases, iterative development, performance evaluation, and resource management will guide the successful implementation of the privacy-focused group photograph sharing application.

**3. Main Goal and Objectives**

3.1 Main Goal

The overarching goal of this project is to develop a comprehensive privacy-focused group photograph sharing application that addresses the privacy concerns associated with group photographs shared within various messaging applications. Our aim is to provide a user-centric, secure, and efficient platform that empowers users to share group photos confidently and privately.

3.2 Objectives

In pursuit of the main goal, we have established specific objectives to guide our project development. These objectives are clear, measurable, and attainable and collectively contribute to the successful realization of the main goal:

*3.2.1 Project Objective 1: Creation of a User-Friendly Chat Application*

* **Description:** Develop a user-friendly chat application tailored for mobile platforms using Flutter and Dart technologies.
* **Rationale:** A user-friendly chat application is the foundation of the project, providing the environment in which users share photographs and interact.
* **Key Performance Indicators:**
  + Successful deployment of the chat application.
  + User feedback on the usability and interface of the chat application.

*3.2.2 Project Objective 2: Implementation of Facial Recognition*

* **Description:** Implement a facial recognition system, employing the OpenCV library and Python, to accurately classify individuals in group photographs.
* **Rationale:** Accurate facial recognition is the core feature that allows us to identify individuals in photos and ensure privacy.
* **Key Performance Indicators:**
  + Accuracy of facial recognition, with a target of at least 90% precision.
  + Detection and classification of individuals in group photographs.

*3.2.3 Project Objective 3: Development of a Secure Data Sharing System*

* **Description:** Create a secure data sharing system that allows users to share photographs only with individuals present in the photo, with robust access control.
* **Rationale:** The secure sharing system is the cornerstone of privacy protection, ensuring that only authorized users can access shared photographs.
* **Key Performance Indicators:**
  + Successful implementation of the secure data sharing system.
  + Prevention of unauthorized access to shared photos.

*3.2.4 Project Objective 4: Compliance with Professional Standards*

* **Description:** Adhere to professional engineering standards and best practices throughout the project, ensuring the use of version control with Git/GitHub, Gantt charts for project management, and Object-Oriented Programming principles.
* **Rationale:** Professional standards and practices enhance project organization, collaboration, and code quality.
* **Key Performance Indicators:**
  + Consistent and clear use of Git/GitHub for version control.
  + Effective project management with Gantt charts.
  + Application of Object-Oriented Programming principles in code development.

These objectives align with the main goal and collectively provide a roadmap for the project. Success in achieving each objective is crucial for the successful development and deployment of the privacy-focused group photograph sharing application.

**4. Related Work**

In this section, we review and compare existing research and solutions related to privacy issues in group photograph sharing applications. A thorough understanding of related work is crucial for identifying gaps and novelties in our project.

4.1 Existing Solutions

Several existing solutions and applications address privacy issues in group photograph sharing, with a focus on user privacy and data security. Notable examples include:

*4.1.1 WhatsApp and Telegram*

* **Privacy Features:** Both WhatsApp and Telegram have implemented privacy features like end-to-end encryption and group-specific settings.
* **Limitations:** While these applications provide some level of privacy, they may not address the issue of sharing photographs only with individuals present in the photo.

*4.1.2 Facial Recognition Applications*

* **Applications:** Some facial recognition applications enable users to tag individuals in photos, offering a level of personalization.
* **Limitations:** These applications often require manual tagging and do not address privacy concerns related to photo sharing with unauthorized users.

4.2 Research in Privacy Protection

Several research studies have delved into privacy protection in photo sharing, particularly in social media settings:

*4.2.1 Privacy-Preserving Photo Sharing*

* **Research:** Studies in privacy-preserving photo sharing have explored cryptographic techniques to protect images from unauthorized access.
* **Limitations:** These solutions may not always offer seamless user experiences and can be complex for non-technical users.

*4.2.2 Facial Recognition in Photo Tagging*

* **Research:** Facial recognition research has advanced in the context of photo tagging on social media platforms.
* **Limitations:** These solutions are often oriented towards improving user experiences but may not address concerns specific to group photograph sharing privacy.

4.3 Project Novelties

Compared to the related work, our project introduces several novelties and differentiators:

* **Automated Facial Recognition:** Our project focuses on automating facial recognition to classify individuals in group photographs, reducing the need for manual tagging.
* **Privacy-Centric Approach:** We prioritize user privacy and security by ensuring that photographs are shared only with individuals present in the photo, addressing concerns related to unauthorized access.
* **Integration of Chat and Facial Recognition:** The combination of chat functionality with facial recognition sets our project apart, offering a holistic solution for privacy-focused group photograph sharing.

Our project aims to build on the strengths of existing solutions while addressing the limitations and providing a more comprehensive approach to privacy protection in group photograph sharing.

**5. Scope**

The scope of this project encompasses the development of a privacy-focused group photograph sharing application with a multifaceted approach. It includes the following components:

5.1 Chat Application

* Creation of a user-friendly chat application for the mobile platform using Flutter and Dart technologies.
* Integration of chat functionalities, including text messaging, multimedia sharing, and group creation.

5.2 Facial Recognition System

* Implementation of a facial recognition system using the OpenCV library in Python.
* Accurate classification of individuals present in group photographs.
* Detection of unique facial features and characteristics to identify individuals.

5.3 Data Sharing Features

* Development of a system that enables users to share photographs securely.
* Ensuring that photos are shared only with individuals who are part of the image.
* Protection of personal data and prevention of unauthorized access to shared photos.

5.4 Constraints

The project operates within defined constraints and assumptions, including:

* **Economic Constraints:** Limitation of messaging feature since we are planning to use free version of FireBase.

5.5 Assumptions

The project is based on several key assumptions, including, but not limited to:

* Assumption that access to necessary data is available for facial recognition training.
* Assumption of a manageable number of simultaneous users for optimal system performance.
* Assumption of compatible network infrastructure to handle bandwidth requirements.
* Assumption that the project design will be suitable for its intended purpose.

**6. Methodology and Technical Approach**

The methodology and technical approach for this project encompass a comprehensive plan to achieve the specified objectives and deliver a privacy-focused group photograph sharing application. This section provides a detailed breakdown of our approach, including the technologies, tools, and methods we intend to employ.

6.1 High-Level Solution Approach

Our high-level solution approach involves several key phases:

*6.1.1 Chat Application Development*

* **Technology Stack:** We will develop the chat application for the mobile platform using Flutter and Dart. These technologies offer cross-platform compatibility and an efficient development process.
* **User Profiles:** Upon entering the application, users will be expected to take and upload several photos of themselves to facial recognition feature to work. Later on, they will be able to add, edit or delete those photos.

*6.1.2 Facial Recognition*

* **Technology Stack:** For the main feature of the project, which is facial recognition, we will utilize the OpenCV library in conjunction with Python.
* **Face Classification:** The primary objective is to accurately classify individuals in group photographs. This will involve detecting and distinguishing facial features to identify and differentiate users.

*6.1.3 Secure Data Sharing*

* **Security Protocols:** To ensure privacy, we will implement secure data sharing mechanisms. Photographs will only be shared with individuals who are present in the photo, and personal data will be protected.

6.2 Theory and Algorithms

Our technical approach involves the utilization of established theory and algorithms in the following areas:

*6.2.1 Facial Recognition Algorithms*

* We will employ well-established facial recognition algorithms and techniques to accurately detect and classify individuals in photographs. These may include methods like Eigenfaces, Fisherfaces, or deep learning-based approaches.

*6.2.2 Secure Data Transfer*

* The project will implement encryption and secure data transfer protocols to protect the privacy of users. Standard encryption methods, such as AES or RSA, will be used to ensure data security.

6.3 Performance Evaluation

Performance evaluation is a critical aspect of this project, and we will employ the following measures:

* **Accuracy:** We will assess the accuracy of the facial recognition system in correctly identifying individuals.
* **Response Time:** Measurement of the system's response time when handling image recognition and data sharing.
* **Resource Utilization:** Monitoring the efficient use of system resources, including memory and processing power.
* **User Experience:** Evaluation of the user experience, including ease of use and overall satisfaction with the application.

6.4 Resource Requirements

To successfully complete the project, we will require various resources, including:

* **Hardware:** Mobile devices for testing and development.
* **Software:** Development tools such as IDEs and libraries.
* **Data:** Training data for the facial recognition system.
* **Human Resources:** A skilled development team for coding and testing.

6.5 Performance Testing

The project will undergo rigorous performance testing to ensure the application's reliability and efficiency. This will involve testing under various network conditions, assessing system responsiveness, and evaluating the accuracy of facial recognition.

**7. Professional Considerations**

In this section, we address various professional considerations and standards that will guide the project's development, collaboration, and overall management.

7.1 Methodological Considerations and Engineering Standards

*7.1.1 Version Control with Git/GitHub*

* **Version Control:** We will utilize Git as our version control system and host our code repositories on GitHub. This practice ensures code integrity, collaboration, and easy tracking of project changes.
* **Commit Conventions:** Our team will adhere to clear and descriptive commit messages, following a consistent convention (e.g., Semantic Versioning) for effective code review and history tracking.

*7.1.2 Gantt Charts*

* **Project Management:** Gantt charts will be employed to visualize project timelines, task dependencies, and milestones. This aids in effective project management and allows for the tracking of progress against established deadlines.

*7.1.3 Object-Oriented Programming (OOP)*

* **Code Structure:** We will follow the principles of Object-Oriented Programming to create modular and maintainable code. Classes, objects, inheritance, and encapsulation will be employed to enhance code organization and reusability.
* **Design Patterns:** We will explore design patterns like Singleton, Factory, and Observer to solve recurring design problems and promote code flexibility and scalability.

7.2 Realistic Constraints

*7.2.1 Economic Constraints*

* **Cost-Benefit Analysis:** Throughout the project, we will assess the expected costs and benefits to ensure alignment with project objectives.
* **Budget Adherence:** We will manage project finances prudently and control expenditure to remain within budgetary limits.

*7.2.2 Environmental Constraints*

* **Environmental Impact Assessment:** We will evaluate the project's potential environmental impact, considering factors such as energy consumption and resource usage.
* **Mitigation Strategies:** Strategies to reduce any negative environmental effects, such as optimizing energy-efficient algorithms, will be implemented.

*7.2.3 Ethical Constraints*

* **Intellectual Property:** We will respect intellectual property rights and avoid using patented designs and concepts without proper permissions.
* **Privacy and Security:** Protecting the privacy and security of users and their data is of utmost importance. We will adhere to ethical guidelines in data handling and access control.

*7.2.4 Health and Safety Constraints*

* **User Safety:** We will consider the health and safety of users and the public when designing the application, particularly in scenarios involving potential stress factors or sensitive information.

*7.2.5 Sustainability Constraints*

* **Product Reliability:** Ensuring that the application is reliable and durable under normal operation conditions to support its long-term sustainability.
* **Lifecycle Planning:** The project will include a well-defined product lifecycle plan to address sustainability, including updates and maintenance.

*7.2.6 Social Constraints*

* **Public Funding Compliance:** We will adhere to public funding regulations if applicable, ensuring that the project aligns with the goals of any funding sources.
* **Respectful Design:** We will avoid designing products that may negatively profile specific races, genders, or any group of individuals.

7.3 Legal Considerations

*7.3.1 Permissions and Licensing*

* **Compliance:** We will ensure compliance with all necessary legal permissions and licenses, especially if the developed product is intended for market release.
* **Data Protection:** Legal considerations will extend to data protection and privacy regulations to safeguard user information.

**8. Management Plan**

* **Task Phases and Durations:** Detailed descriptions of all task phases with their durations.
* **Division of Responsibilities:** Responsibilities and duties among team members.
* **Timeline with Milestones:** Gantt chart illustrating project timeline with well-defined milestones.

**9. Success Factors and Risk Management**

* **Measurability/Measuring Success:** Key performance indicators for project objectives.
* **Risk Management:** List of potential risks with corresponding resolution plans.

**10. Benefits and Impact of the Project**

* **Benefits/Implications:** Discuss potential benefits and beneficiaries of the project.
* **Scientific, Economic, Commercial, Social Impact:** Address the expected impacts in these areas.
* **Potential Impact on New Projects:** Assess if the project will have a pioneering effect.
* **Impact on National Security:** Address any security considerations.

**11. References**

Include a list of references used in the project.

**12. Appendix (Realistic Constraints)**

Detail the realistic constraints related to economic, environmental, ethical, health and safety, sustainability, and social aspects.