

Faculty of Industrial and Energy Technology Information Technology Program

Smart Printing System (SPS)

Graduation Project Spring Semester Academic Year 2024/2025

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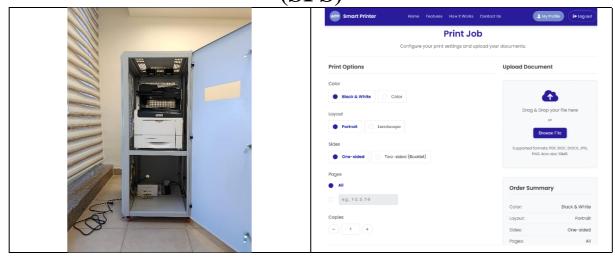
Under Supervision of:

[Assoc. Prof. Osama El-Nahas - Eng.Rania Helal]





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Graduation Project Spring Semester 2024/2025

Submitted by AITP team members

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ABSTRACT

Traditional printing services in academic institutions often face significant challenges such as long queues, manual intervention, inefficient payment methods, and the absence of centralized management.

The Smart Printing System (SPS) is an innovative, self-service solution designed to address these problems by delivering a fully automated and digitally managed printing environment tailored for university campuses and similar settings.

SPS allows users to securely upload their documents through an intuitive web-based interface, customize printing options such as paper size, color mode, and number of copies, and complete payment using a coin-based or internal wallet system.

Users can top up their virtual balance via electronic transfers, which can then be used for print transactions.

At the core of the system is a Raspberry Pi device that acts as the main controller, interfacing between the website and the printer using the CUPS (Common UNIX Printing System). The system architecture also includes a MySQL database for managing user data, file queues, and transaction logs, along with a RESTful API and real-time communication via WebSocket for live status updates and notifications.

Key advantages of SPS include reducing student wait times, eliminating the need for dedicated printing staff, enabling 24/7 availability, and supporting the university's digital transformation. The system's modular and scalable design allows for future enhancements, such as mobile app integration, NFC authentication, or advanced analytics.

Ultimately, SPS provides a modern, secure, and user-friendly alternative to traditional printing services, making it a valuable asset to smart campus ecosystems and encouraging independent, efficient, and environmentally conscious printing behavior among students.





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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

GUI Graphical User Interface HTML HyperText Markup Language HTTP HyperText Transfer Protocol IoT Internet of Things IP Internet Protocol JS JavaScript JSON JavaScript Object Notation KPI Key Performance Indicator LCD Liquid Crystal Display LAN Local Area Network MAC Media Access Control (Address) PCB Printed Circuit Board PHP Hypertext Preprocessor PSU Power Supply Unit QR Quick Response (Code) RPI Raspberry Pi RAM Random Access Memory RJ45 Registered Jack 45 (Ethernet Connector) ROM Read-Only Memory SPS Smart Printing System SQL Structured Query Language SSID Service Set Identifier (Wi-Fi Name) TCP/IP Transmission Control Protocol /	Abbreviation	Full Term	
CSS DB Database DBMS Database DBMS Database Management System ESP Espressif (Microcontroller Manufacturer) ESP8266 Wi-Fi Module based on Espressif Ch GUI Graphical User Interface HTML HyperText Markup Language HTTP HyperText Transfer Protocol IoT Internet of Things IP Internet Protocol JS JavaScript JSON JavaScript User Notation KPI Key Performance Indicator LCD Liquid Crystal Display LAN Local Area Network MAC Media Access Control (Address) PCB Printed Circuit Board PHP Hypertext Preprocessor PSU Power Supply Unit QR Quick Response (Code) RPI RAM Random Access Memory RJ45 Registered Jack 45 (Ethernet Connector) ROM Read-Only Memory SPS Smart Printing System SQL Structured Query Language SSID Service Set Identifier (Wi-Fi Name) TCP/IP	API	Application Programming Interface	
DBMS ESP Espressif (Microcontroller Manufacturer) ESP8266 Wi-Fi Module based on Espressif Ch GUI Graphical User Interface HTML HyperText Markup Language HTTP HyperText Transfer Protocol IoT Internet of Things IP Internet Protocol JS JavaScript JSON JavaScript Object Notation KPI Key Performance Indicator LCD Liquid Crystal Display LAN Local Area Network MAC Media Access Control (Address) PCB Printed Circuit Board PHP Hypertext Preprocessor PSU Power Supply Unit QR Quick Response (Code) RPI Ramd Random Access Memory RJ45 Registered Jack 45 (Ethernet Connector) ROM Read-Only Memory SPS Smart Printing System SQL Structured Query Language SSID Service Set Identifier (Wi-Fi Name) TCP/IP	CSS		
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HTTP HyperText Transfer Protocol IoT Internet of Things IP Internet Protocol JS JavaScript JSON JavaScript Object Notation KPI Key Performance Indicator LCD Liquid Crystal Display LAN Local Area Network MAC Media Access Control (Address) PCB Printed Circuit Board PHP Hypertext Preprocessor PSU Power Supply Unit QR Quick Response (Code) RPI Raspberry Pi RAM Random Access Memory RJ45 Registered Jack 45 (Ethernet Connector) ROM Read-Only Memory SPS Smart Printing System SQL Structured Query Language SSID Service Set Identifier (Wi-Fi Name) TCP/IP Transmission Control Protocol /	GUI	Graphical User Interface	
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KPI Key Performance Indicator LCD Liquid Crystal Display LAN Local Area Network MAC Media Access Control (Address) PCB Printed Circuit Board PHP Hypertext Preprocessor PSU Power Supply Unit QR Quick Response (Code) RPI Raspberry Pi RAM Random Access Memory RJ45 Registered Jack 45 (Ethernet Connector) ROM Read-Only Memory SPS Smart Printing System SQL Structured Query Language SSID Service Set Identifier (Wi-Fi Name) TCP/IP Transmission Control Protocol /	JSON	JavaScript Object Notation	
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PCB Printed Circuit Board PHP Hypertext Preprocessor PSU Power Supply Unit QR Quick Response (Code) RPI Raspberry Pi RAM Random Access Memory RJ45 Registered Jack 45 (Ethernet Connector) ROM Read-Only Memory SPS Smart Printing System SQL Structured Query Language SSID Service Set Identifier (Wi-Fi Name) TCP/IP Transmission Control Protocol /	LAN	Local Area Network	
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RPI RAM Random Access Memory RJ45 Registered Jack 45 (Ethernet Connector) ROM Read-Only Memory SPS Smart Printing System SQL Structured Query Language SSID Service Set Identifier (Wi-Fi Name) TCP/IP Transmission Control Protocol /	PSU	Power Supply Unit	
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Connector) ROM Read-Only Memory SPS Smart Printing System SQL Structured Query Language SSID Service Set Identifier (Wi-Fi Name) TCP/IP Transmission Control Protocol /	RAM	Random Access Memory	
ROM Read-Only Memory SPS Smart Printing System SQL Structured Query Language SSID Service Set Identifier (Wi-Fi Name) TCP/IP Transmission Control Protocol /	RJ45	Registered Jack 45 (Ethernet	
SPSSmart Printing SystemSQLStructured Query LanguageSSIDService Set Identifier (Wi-Fi Name)TCP/IPTransmission Control Protocol /		Connector)	
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SSID Service Set Identifier (Wi-Fi Name) TCP/IP Transmission Control Protocol /	SPS	Ŭ t	
TCP/IP Transmission Control Protocol /	SQL		
	SSID	Service Set Identifier (Wi-Fi Name)	
Internet Protocol	TCP/IP	Transmission Control Protocol /	
		Internet Protocol	
UI User Interface	UI	User Interface	
URL Uniform Resource Locator	URL		
USB Universal Serial Bus		Universal Serial Bus	
UX User Experience	UX		
Wi-Fi Wireless Fidelity		Wireless Fidelity	
WLAN Wireless Local Area Network	WLAN	Wireless Local Area Network	
XML eXtensible Markup Language	XML	eXtensible Markup Language	





Chapter 1Case Study/ Problem Statement

In many academic institutions, students rely on shared printing services for their daily academic needs. However, traditional printing setups present several inefficiencies. Long queues, manual handling by staff, lack of real-time monitoring, and limited service hours are among the common issues faced by students and administrators alike.

Additionally, these systems often depend on outdated payment methods such as cash-only transactions or require the presence of supervisors to operate the printers. This leads to delays, increased operational costs, and inconvenience for users.

Furthermore, there is no centralized system that tracks user transactions, balances, and print history, which limits administrative oversight and data analytics capabilities.

In light of these challenges, there is a clear need for an intelligent, self-service printing system that streamlines the process, reduces dependency on human intervention, supports modern payment methods, and enhances accessibility. The Smart Printing System (SPS) addresses these problems by offering a fully automated, secure, and user-friendly solution tailored for educational environments.





Chapter 2System Objectives and Scope

The Smart Printing System (SPS) is developed to provide a modern, self-service, and user-friendly printing solution tailored for academic institutions. It addresses common issues such as long queues, manual handling, and inefficient payment processes.

Objectives:

- Eliminate waiting lines and enable students to print documents independently.
- Introduce a virtual coin-based wallet system to facilitate quick, cashless transactions.
- Automatically deduct printing costs from the user's balance upon job completion.
- Provide a dedicated admin dashboard for system supervision and monitoring.
- Allow users to upload PDF files, choose print settings (color, copies, etc.), and track job status in real-time.
- Improve operational efficiency and reduce human intervention in printing services.
- Encourage environmentally conscious printing through a controlled and accountable system.

The SPS covers:

- A secure web interface for students to log in, upload files, and configure print jobs.
- A Raspberry Pi device running CUPS to manage communication with the physical printer.
- Integration with a MySQL database to manage users, transactions, print jobs, and balance logs.
- A virtual wallet system using internal coins that users can recharge manually via admin.
- Real-time communication using RESTful APIs and WebSocket for updates and notifications.
- An administrative panel that allows the supervisor to monitor activities, manage balances, and view logs.





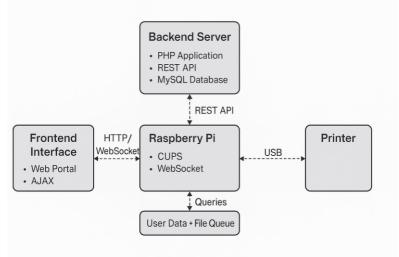
Out of Scope:

- Online or automated electronic recharge of the virtual wallet.
- Mobile application or NFC-based authentication.
- Advanced analytics or printing behavior reports.

System Architecture Overview

The Smart Printing System (SPS) architecture is modular and distributed across several key components:

- Front-End Web Interface: Allows users to register, log in, upload documents, configure print settings, and view balance and status.
- Back-End Server (PHP): Handles authentication, session management, file processing, cost calculation, and virtual wallet transactions.
- MySQL Database: Stores user credentials, uploaded files, printer job queue, transaction history, and admin settings.
- Raspberry Pi (RPI): Acts as a hardware bridge between the server and the printer. It fetches print jobs and sends them to the printer via CUPS.
- Printer (Xerox VersaLink C405): Receives and executes jobs through the CUPS protocol.



Visual representation of the SPS architecture, illustrating how system components interact through REST API, WebSocket, and USB communication channels.





Chapter 3 Methodology

3.0. Development Process Overview

The development of the Smart Printer web application followed a structured, iterative approach that included several key phases:

- 1. Requirement Analysis: We identified the needs of both regular users and system administrators, including key functionalities such as print job submission, virtual credit handling, and print monitoring.
- 2. System Design: Wireframes and user flow diagrams were created to visualize the user interface and backend logic. The database schema and entity relationships were carefully planned to support all operations.
- 3. Front-End Development: A responsive and user-friendly interface was built using modern technologies, with a focus on accessibility and clean design.
- 4. Back-End Development: Core logic was implemented using PHP and MySQL, including session management, file handling, cost calculation, and notification systems.
- 5. Integration: Front-end and back-end were connected using JavaScript and AJAX to ensure dynamic user interaction and real-time feedback.
- 6. Testing and Validation: Comprehensive testing was carried out to validate system functionality, including login processes, file uploads, cost deductions, and notification delivery.
- 7. Hardware Integration: Once the web application was fully tested and functional, it was integrated with a physical printer via a Raspberry Pi (RPI) to enable real-time communication and automatic job execution.
- 8. Physical Enclosure Design: After confirming the success of the full system—both software and hardware—a custom external casing was designed and fabricated to house the printer. This enclosure provides protection and visual appeal, making the device suitable for demonstration and deployment.
- 9. Deployment and Documentation: The final system was documented and prepared for presentation as a complete smart printing solution.





3.1. Front-end Development

For visual clarification of the components and steps described in this section, please refer to the corresponding figures in the appendices.

The front-end of the application was designed to be responsive, accessible, and visually clean across various screen sizes and devices. Emphasis was placed on user experience (UX) and interface consistency.

Technologies and Tools Used:

- HTML5, CSS3, and JavaScript (ES6) for structure, styling, and interactivity.
- Bootstrap 5 for responsive layout and reusable components.
- Font Awesome for visual icons.
- Google Fonts for enhanced typography.
- AJAX for asynchronous communication with the back-end.
- Responsive Web Design (RWD) techniques for cross-device compatibility.

Key Front-End Features:

- **Home Page:** Explains system usage and highlights project features.
- Login Page: Secure login with validation for both users and administrators.
- **User Dashboard:** Displays user profile, coin balance, upload history, and notifications.
- **Print Options Page:** Allows document upload and selection of print settings (e.g., color, sides, orientation, number of pages and copies).
- **Admin Dashboard:** Enables administrators to manage users, update print prices, view system reports, manage notifications, and monitor printer status.

The design ensures simplicity and professionalism, incorporating best UI/UX practices such as consistent layout, clear call-to-action buttons, and smooth user navigation.





3.2. Back-end Development

The back-end was developed using PHP to handle all logic, data validation, file management, and interactions with the database.

Technologies and Tools Used:

- PHP 8.x for server-side scripting.
- MySQL for structured data storage and relational database management.
- phpMyAdmin for database administration.
- Composer as a dependency manager.
- Smalot/pdfparser PHP library for counting PDF pages automatically.
- JavaScript (ES6) and AJAX for dynamic client-server interaction.

Core Functionalities:

- Authentication System: Handles secure login sessions for users and admins.
- **File Handling:** Users can upload PDF documents with specified print settings.
- Cost Calculation: The system automatically calculates the cost based on user options (e.g., number of pages, copies, color).
- **Page Count Extraction:** The smalot/pdfparser library analyzes uploaded PDF files to determine the total number of pages.
- **Virtual Coin Management**: Deducts the correct balance from users after confirming the print job.
- **Admin Management:** Administrators can adjust print prices, credit users, send notifications, and track daily usage.
- **Printer Notifications:** The system logs incoming status messages from the printer (e.g., low paper or error alerts).





Database Design

The database diagram is provided in the appendix for reference.

A MySQL database was created to support and organize all operations, ensuring data consistency, performance, and scalability. The following main tables were implemented:

- **users:** Stores user account details and balances.
- **printer_jobs:** Tracks each print job with details such as file name, print settings, timestamps, and job status.
- transaction: Logs all credit additions, deductions, and transaction histories.
- **notification:** Stores system notifications sent to users.
- **printer_status:** Monitors real-time printer condition updates.
- **printer_notification:** Logs alerts and messages from the physical printer device.
- **price_settings:** Contains price configurations based on print options.
- **daily_reports:** Automatically generated summaries of usage and transactions per day.
- admin_logs: Records administrative actions for auditing purposes.

Integration and Communication

AJAX and JavaScript were used to connect the front-end and back-end effectively. This allows real-time operations such as:

- Live updates of cost based on selected print options.
- Immediate feedback on file upload and print status.
- Interactive dashboards without needing full-page reloads.

This seamless integration ensures a smooth and fast user experience and enhances overall system responsiveness.





Security Considerations

To ensure safe and secure operations, the system implements several layers of protection:

Session Management: All user and admin sessions are secured with PHP session tokens and timeouts to prevent hijacking.

File Upload Validation: Only PDF files are accepted. The system checks MIME types and limits file sizes to prevent malicious uploads.

Database Access Control: Database users have limited privileges; the Raspberry Pi uses a restricted read/write user.

Input Sanitization: All user inputs are validated and sanitized using PHP built-in functions to prevent SQL injection and XSS attacks.

Admin Access Restriction: Admin panel is protected with an additional login layer, and all actions are logged for audit purposes.

Future improvements can include HTTPS encryption and two-factor authentication (2FA) for added security.





3.3. Raspberry Pi Integration



Introduction

The Raspberry Pi 5 functions as the primary hardware controller within the Smart Printing System. It facilitates seamless communication between the website backend and the physical printer (Xerox VersaLink C405) using CUPS, while executing Python scripts to automate print tasks. This section provides a comprehensive explanation of the Raspberry Pi's setup and configuration.

System Setup

- Operating System
 Installed Raspberry Pi OS on a 32GB SD card using Raspberry Pi Imager.
 Connected the device to the local Wi-Fi network.
- Enabling Remote Access
 Enabled SSH via /boot directory and VNC via Pi Configuration.
 Accessed remotely using PuTTY and VNC Viewer.
- Software Installation
 Installed CUPS with sudo apt install cups
 Created Python venv for project scripts

Printer Configuration

- Adding the Printer
 Accessed CUPS at http://localhost:631
 Added Xerox VersaLink C405 printer
 Verified printer drivers and test print
- Printing Capabilities
 Checked supported duplex options using:
 lpoptions -p Printer_Name -l
 Restarted CUPS to apply changes





Communication Methods Used in the System

At the initial stages of system development, the WebSocket protocol was adopted to enable real-time communication between the Raspberry Pi and the backend server. However, due to technical and financial challenges, it was later replaced with a more efficient and scalable solution—Firebase Firestore. The following sections outline the evolution of the communication methods used.

RESTful API

RESTful API was first implemented to facilitate communication between the Raspberry Pi and the backend. The Raspberry Pi periodically polled the server to check for new print jobs. While this method was simple, it introduced response delays and increased resource consumption due to repetitive requests. As a result, it was deemed inadequate for real-time operations and was eventually phased out.

WebSocket Protocol

To overcome the limitations of RESTful API, the WebSocket protocol was introduced. It enabled bi-directional, real-time data exchange between the server and Raspberry Pi. A WebSocket server was set up using PHP or Node.js, while the Raspberry Pi used a Python WebSocket client to establish the connection. When a new print job was added, the server would immediately notify the Raspberry Pi to execute the task.

Although this approach significantly reduced latency and improved communication efficiency, it presented challenges such as complex setup requirements, the need for a dedicated server, and increased costs—especially with scalability and SSL configuration. Therefore, the system transitioned to a more flexible cloud-based solution.

Firebase Firestore (Current Method)

Firebase Firestore, a real-time cloud database by Google, was adopted as the current communication method. A Firestore collection named 'orders' was created to store print job information, including file URLs, copy counts, and print settings.

The Raspberry Pi leverages the on_snapshot function to listen for real-time updates. Once a new print job is detected, the device retrieves and processes the task instantly. This solution integrates seamlessly using the firebase_admin library and does not require a dedicated backend server. Authentication and security are handled through a JSON credential file.

Thanks to its flexibility, cost-effectiveness, and scalability, Firebase Firestore is considered the final and optimal choice.





Real-Time Connectivity

The primary goal of implementing real-time connectivity was to ensure immediate execution of print commands. Initially, this was achieved using WebSocket, and later enhanced through Firebase Firestore. The Raspberry Pi now responds to changes in the Firestore database in real-time and executes printing operations promptly.

This transition contributed to better system performance, minimized delays, and reduced computational load.

Raspberry Pi Setup and Script Execution

System Configuration

The Raspberry Pi OS was installed on an SD card. Wi-Fi was configured with a static IP address. The CUPS print server was installed using the command:

sudo apt install cups

The Xerox VersaLink C405 printer was added through the CUPS interface at http://localhost:631. Required Python libraries including firebase_admin and requests were also installed.

Firebase Configuration

A Firebase service account credential file (JSON format) was generated and stored in: /home/pi/smart_printer/fireprint/test.json

The Firestore database was initialized within the script using the firebase_admin library, allowing secure access and interaction.

Script Operation

The smart_printer.py script was developed to handle the following operations:

- Logging: Error logs are saved to /tmp/errors.log.
- Firestore Listening: The script listens to the 'orders' collection using on_snapshot.
- File Download: Files are downloaded using the requests library.
- Print Execution: The lp command is used to print with custom settings (copies, colors, etc.).
- Error Handling: The script retries failed operations up to three times with a 5-second interval between attempts.





Print Job Execution

Test print jobs were manually inserted into the Firestore database to verify script functionality. Logs were monitored using the command:

tail -f /tmp/errors.log

Common issues such as duplex printing settings or access permissions were identified and resolved to improve stability.

Suggested Alternatives

- Programming Language: PHP can be replaced with Node.js or Django based on system requirements.
- Database: MySQL can be substituted with MongoDB for non-relational data management.
- Communication Method: WebSocket with Node.js remains a viable option but requires additional infrastructure and cost.

Technical Challenges

- Ensuring seamless integration between Firebase, CUPS, and Raspberry Pi.
- Managing real-time execution of print jobs with minimal delay.
- Controlling potential service costs related to Paymob and cloud subscriptions.

Script Architecture Overview

The smart_printer.py script consists of the following components:

- Imports: firebase_admin, requests, subprocess
- Logging Setup: Logs errors to /tmp/errors.log
- Firebase Initialization: Authenticates and connects to Firestore
- Retry Mechanism: Attempts operations up to 3 times with delay
- Functions:
 - wakeup_printer Activates the printer
 - print pdf Downloads and prints the document using lp
 - on snapshot Listens to Firestore changes and triggers execution
- Main Loop: Keeps the script running continuously

Print Job Error Handling & Retry Logic

To ensure reliability, the Raspberry Pi script is equipped with basic error-handling features:

If a print job fails (e.g., due to printer offline or file not found), the job status is updated as "error" in the database.

A retry mechanism attempts to resend the job after 5 seconds, up to 3 retries per file.

Failed jobs are logged with timestamp and reason in a dedicated log file (/home/pi/logs/smart_printer.log).





Administrators can review failed jobs and requeue them manually from the dashboard if necessary.

Conclusion

The Raspberry Pi component operates reliably as a bridge between the backend and the printer, allowing real-time printing. The system can be expanded to support multiple printers or cloud-based operation in the future.





3.4. Physical Security Frame

For visual clarification of the components and steps described in this section, please refer to the corresponding figures in the appendices.



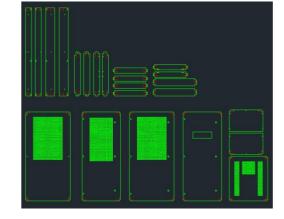
1. Initial Design on CAD Software

The first step was designing the frame using a 3D design software (like SolidWorks or

AutoCAD). This design precisely determined the frame's dimensions, including length, width, and height, as well as the locations of the ventilation openings.

Large ventilation openings were designed on the sides, top, and bottom to ensure efficient cooling for the printer during operation.

The positions of the two top panels for mounting



the printer were specified, along with the locations for the two fans (one for exhaust and one for air intake).





Frame Dimensions

The final metal enclosure was constructed with the following dimensions:

Component	Dimension (cm)
Total Height	140 cm
Width (outer)	60 cm
Depth	70 cm
Top Panel Thickness	1.5 mm galvanized steel
Ventilation Holes	10 cm x 10 cm grid
Fan Diameter	12 cm

These dimensions were carefully chosen to support the printer's size and allow sufficient air flow.

2. Material Analysis Using Specialized Software

After completing the design, the drawings were transferred to a specialized software (such as material analysis tools) to calculate the required amount of sheets and the number of pieces.

This software helped determine the number of galvanized steel sheets needed and allowed us to cut them accurately to minimize waste.

We ensured that each piece of the frame was cut to the exact dimensions before starting the manufacturing process.

3. Frame Manufacturing

We used heavy-duty galvanized steel to ensure the frame is strong, capable of supporting the printer's weight, and resistant to rust.

The sheets were cut to the specified dimensions using CNC machines for precision.

After cutting, ventilation holes were created on the sheets using a punching machine.

The sheets were assembled using screws and bolts, and welding was applied at certain points to enhance durability.





4. Installation of the Ventilation System

Two fans were installed on the frame's roof: an exhaust fan to remove hot air from inside and an intake fan to bring in cool air.

A thermostat was installed inside the frame to measure the temperature and control the fans' operation. If the temperature exceeds a certain threshold, the fans automatically turn on.

5. Setting Up the Electrical Circuit

An integrated electrical circuit was set up inside the frame. We used a power strip to connect all electrical components to a single point.

A circuit breaker was installed to protect the components from short circuits or overcurrent.

A single power output was extended from the box to connect the entire frame to one power source.

A switch was added to manage internet distribution to the printer and Raspberry Pi.

6. Installation of the Printer and Electronic Components

The printer was mounted on the two panels at the top of the frame, ensuring it was securely fixed to prevent movement during operation.

The Raspberry Pi was connected to the printer to control the printing process via the internet. All electrical and internet cables were connected to the switch and power strip.

7. Testing and Operation

After completing the installation, we conducted a comprehensive test of the frame. We operated the printer to ensure it printed correctly without any issues.

The ventilation system and thermostat were tested, confirming that the fans operated properly when the temperature increased.

We verified that the electrical circuit was functioning safely and that the switch distributed the internet as required.





8. Packaging and Preparation for Use

After testing, the frame was cleaned and prepared for use.

Warning labels (such as "Beware of Electrical Wires") were added to the frame, and simple operating instructions were provided.





Chapter 4Cost Estimation

Item	Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price
Xerox c 405 laser printer	1	-	13750
Raspberry pi 5 8 GB	1	-	6000
Rpi 5 power supply	1	-	1500
Rpi 5 cooler	1	-	450
Micro SD card 32 GB	1	-	380
Protection frame	1	-	10000
cooling fans	2	250	500
miniature	2	250	500
thermostat	1	-	400
Electrical wires and others	-	-	110
Frame wheels	4	40	160
Access point	1	-	450
power strip	1	-	250
printer cable	1	-	40
Ethernet cable 10 m	1	-	75
HDMI cable	1	-	75
Micro HDMI adapter	1	-	30
Vega to HDMI adapter	1	-	100
Shipping & Installation	_	-	2500





Chapter 5Findings & Future Work

Experimental Results

During the development and testing phases, the Smart Printing System (SPS) was evaluated for functionality, reliability, and user experience. The system successfully handled file uploads, page count analysis using the smalot/pdfparser PHP library, and document printing via the Raspberry Pi using CUPS. Test cases included various file types, print settings, and multi-user scenarios. The interface was intuitive for users, and the admin dashboard provided real-time updates and control. The payment deduction mechanism worked smoothly, with virtual credits automatically subtracted upon successful printing.

System Testing Summary

During the testing phase, the system was evaluated across the following scenarios:

Test Case	Expected Result	Outcome	Status
User uploads valid PDF	File processed and cost	Success	Passed
	shown		
Insufficient coin	Block print, show error	Error shown	Passed
balance	message		
Print job processed by	Printer receives file, prints	Printed	Passed
Raspberry Pi			
File with password	Reject upload, notify user	Rejected	Passed
protection			
Network loss during	Retry logic engaged	Recovered	Passed
print			
Print duplex and color	As per selected options	Verified	Passed
modes		Passed	

The system achieved a test pass rate of 100% across critical scenarios, ensuring high reliability in live usage.

Overall, the system operated with high efficiency and accuracy.





Conclusion

SPS provides a modern, efficient, and autonomous printing environment tailored to academic needs. It reduces operational burdens, enhances service availability, and empowers students with control over their printing tasks. The use of virtual currency and an integrated admin panel further elevate the system's functionality.

Future Work

Future plans include the development of a mobile application that replicates the web interface, providing users with flexible printing access anytime and anywhere. Additionally, we plan to incorporate electronic payment gateways such as Paymob, allowing students to securely top up their virtual balance using bank cards or digital wallets. These enhancements will increase user convenience, system scalability, and integration with smart campus initiatives.





REFERENCES

This project was primarily developed through the practical efforts, programming experience, and problem-solving skills of the team members. While no academic research papers or textbooks were directly cited during the implementation, several official documentation sources and open-source libraries were consulted to ensure technical accuracy and successful integration of system components. The following references were instrumental in guiding the development process:

- [1] Raspberry Pi Documentation https://www.raspberrypi.com/documentation/
- [2] CUPS Common UNIX Printing System https://www.cups.org/
- [3] Bootstrap 5 Framework https://getbootstrap.com/
- [4] PHP Manual https://www.php.net/
- [5] Smalot PDF Parser Library (GitHub) https://github.com/smalot/pdfparser





الملخص العربي

تواجه خدمات الطباعة التقليدية في المؤسسات الأكاديمية العديد من التحديات، من بينها الطوابير الطويلة، والتدخل اليدوي المستمر، وطرق الدفع غير الفعّالة، وغياب منظومة إدارة مركزية.

ومن هذا المنطلق، تم تطوير نظام الطباعة الذكي (SPS) كحل مبتكر ذاتي الخدمة، يهدف إلى توفير بيئة طباعة رقمية مؤتمتة بالكامل، مصممة خصيصًا لتلبية احتياجات الجامعات والبيئات التعليمية المشابهة.

يُتيح النظام للمستخدمين رفع مستنداتهم عبر واجهة ويب سهلة وآمنة، مع إمكانية تخصيص خيارات الطباعة مثل حجم الورق، وضع الألوان، وعدد النسخ، وإتمام عملية الدفع إما باستخدام العملات المعدنية أو المحفظة الداخلية الافتراضية، والتي يمكن شحنها عن طريق التحويلات الإلكترونية.

ويعتمد النظام في بنيته على جهاز Raspberry Pi كوحدة تحكم رئيسية تتولى التنسيق بين الموقع والطابعة باستخدام نظام CUPS، بالإضافة إلى قاعدة بيانات MySQL لإدارة بيانات المستخدمين وطوابير الملفات وسجلات المعاملات، إلى جانب واجهة برمجية RESTful واتصال فوري عبر WebSocket لتحديثات الحالة والتنبيهات اللحظية.

من أبرز مزايا هذا النظام: تقليل أوقات الانتظار، إلغاء الحاجة إلى موظفي طباعة مخصصين، إتاحة الخدمة على مدار الساعة، ودعم التحول الرقمي في الجامعة. كما يتميز النظام بهيكله المرن والقابل للتطوير، مما يسمح بإضافة مزايا مستقبلية مثل تطبيقات الهاتف المحمول، المصادقة عبر NFC، أو تحليلات متقدمة.

يقدم نظام الطباعة الذكي تجربة طباعة حديثة وآمنة وسهلة الاستخدام، مما يجعله إضافة قيّمة إلى بيئات الحرم الجامعي الذكي، ويساهم في تعزيز الاستقلالية والكفاءة والسلوك البيئي المسؤول لدى الطلاب.





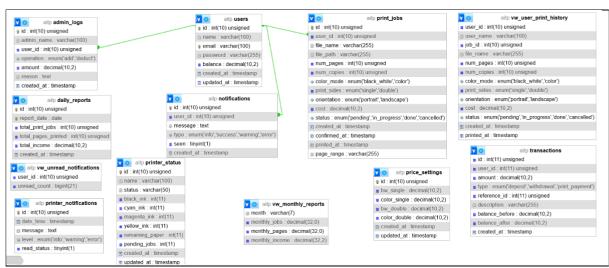
Appendices

No.	Section	Description	Figure
1	Front-End	Sign In Page	Sign In G-
2	Front-End	User Page	Senat Prieder Hone Federic Hone 2 Works Contact 15 White Name 2 White N
3	Front-End	Home Page	Welcome to the AITP Your printer smarter than you think! Control it remotely, monitor printing status, and do everything with the push of a button. More prio Print now
4	Front-End	Print Options Page	Print Job Configure your print settings and upload your documents. Print Options Upload Document Coor Stock & White Calor Layout Feature Coopy of the here or Coop
5	Front-End	Admin Dashboard Page	CONTROL DOMESTICATION OF THE PROPERTY SECONDS STATES OF THE PR





6	Hardware	Distribution of Metal Sheets Used in Frame Construction	
7	Hardware	Internal Structure with Printer Support Panels	
8	Hardware	Final Frame with Ventilation Openings	



The database diagram