

SMART EV CHARGING: REAL-TIME SLOT BOOKING & STATION LOCATOR

**Mrs. B. Ramya Sri¹, Nalla Madhuri², Thodeti Ashwitha³,
Komaram Kalyani⁴**

¹Assistant Professor, CSE(AI&ML), Vignan's Institute of Management and Technology for Women, Hyderabad, India. (^{2,3,4}) B. Tech 4th year Student, CSE (AI&ML), Vignan's Institute of Management and Technology for Women, Hyderabad, India.

Abstract:

The rapid growth of electric vehicles (EVs) has increased the demand for efficient and accessible charging infrastructure. One of the major challenges faced by EV users is locating nearby charging stations and managing charging time due to limited slot availability. This project proposes a Smart EV Charging Station Locator and Real-Time Slot Booking System that helps users easily find nearby charging stations and reserve charging slots in advance through a web-based platform. The system integrates location-based services using Google Maps API to display nearby stations and provide real-time information about slot availability. Users can register, log in, search for charging stations, check available slots, and book charging sessions according to their convenience. The system also includes a secure online payment module for booking confirmation. The backend manages user information, station details, and booking records using a database. This system reduces waiting time, improves charging station utilization, and enhances user convenience while supporting the growing EV ecosystem and sustainable transportation.

Keywords: Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations, Real-Time Slot Booking System, EV Charging Station Locator, Google Maps API Integration, Smart Transportation System, Online Payment Integration, Location Based Services, Sustainable Mobility.

I. INTRODUCTION:

The increasing adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) has become an important step toward reducing carbon emissions and promoting sustainable transportation. As the number of EV users continues to grow, the demand for efficient and accessible charging infrastructure is also increasing. However, many EV users face challenges such as difficulty in locating nearby charging stations, lack of real-time information about charging slot availability, and long waiting times at charging stations. These issues create inconvenience for users and limit the effective utilization of existing charging infrastructure.

To address these challenges, a Smart EV Charging Station Locator and Real-Time Slot Booking System is proposed. This system is designed to help EV users easily locate nearby charging stations and reserve available charging slots in advance through a web-based platform. By integrating location-based services such as Google Maps API, the system allows users to identify charging stations based on their current location. The platform also provides real-time information about the availability of charging slots, enabling users to select and book a suitable slot according to their schedule.

In addition, the system incorporates a secure online payment module to confirm bookings and ensure a smooth user experience. The backend server manages user data, station details, and booking information using a database. By providing an efficient slot booking and station locating mechanism, the proposed system helps reduce waiting time, improve charging station utilization, and enhance user convenience. This project contributes to the development of smart and sustainable EV infrastructure for modern transportation systems.

II. RELATED WORK:

Several approaches have been proposed for improving electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure and smart energy management systems. Location-based services are widely used to help users identify nearby charging stations using GPS and mapping technologies [1]. These systems provide basic navigation support but often lack real-time slot availability and booking capabilities. To enhance user convenience, slot booking systems have been introduced that allow users to reserve charging stations in advance [2]. These systems aim to reduce waiting time and improve station utilization. However, many existing solutions do not provide dynamic updates of slot availability or integration with secure payment mechanisms, which limits their effectiveness. Recent advancements incorporate Internet of Things (IoT) technologies to monitor charging stations in real time [3]. These systems collect live data regarding charger status, energy consumption, and availability. Additionally, smart grid integration enables better load management and efficient energy distribution across charging stations. Despite these improvements, such systems are often complex and require high infrastructure costs.

III. EXISTING SYSTEM:

The existing systems for electric vehicle (EV) charging mainly focus on providing basic information about charging stations and their locations. Most applications use GPS and map-based services to help users find nearby charging stations. However, these systems do not provide complete solutions for managing charging activities efficiently.

1. No Real-Time Slot Availability

In many existing systems, users cannot view real-time availability of charging slots. Even if a station is shown on the map, users are not informed whether the charging points are free or occupied. This leads to confusion and increases waiting time at charging stations. Without real-time updates, users may visit stations that are already full.

2. No Advanced Booking System

Most systems do not provide a proper slot booking feature. Users have to physically visit the station and wait for their turn. This results in long queues and inefficient utilization of charging infrastructure. The absence of a reservation system reduces user convenience.

3. Lack Of Payment Integration

Existing systems often do not include secure online payment options. Users may need to pay manually at the station, which is time-consuming and less efficient. The lack of digital payment integration also makes it difficult to manage transactions and booking confirmations.

4. Limited System Integration

Many applications work independently and are not fully integrated with backend systems such as databases and real-time monitoring services. There is a lack of proper communication between modules like location services, booking systems, and payment gateways. This results in poor system performance and user experience.

5. Complex And Costly Smart Systems

Some advanced systems use IoT and smart grid technologies to monitor charging stations in real-time. While these systems provide better accuracy and monitoring, they are complex to implement and require high infrastructure cost. Hence, they are not suitable for small-scale or general – purpose applications.

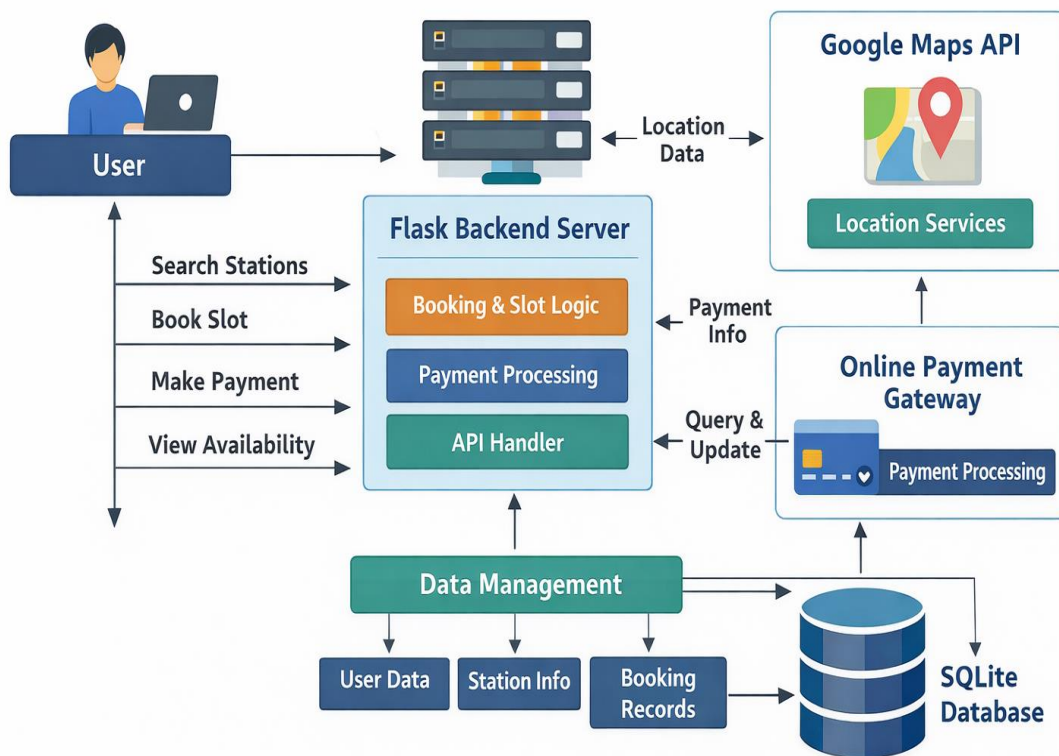
IV. PROPOSED SYSTEM:

The proposed system is a Smart EV Charging Station Locator and Real-Time Slot Booking System designed to improve the efficiency of electric vehicle charging. It provides a user-friendly platform where users can locate nearby charging stations using location-based services such as Google Maps API. The system displays real-time information about station availability, allowing users to check free charging slots before visiting. Users can select a suitable charging station and book a slot in advance, which helps in

reducing waiting time and congestion. The system also includes a secure online payment module to confirm bookings. The backend manages user data, station details, and booking records using a database, ensuring that slot availability is updated dynamically. By integrating location tracking, slot booking, and payment processing, the system offers a simple and efficient solution. It enhances user convenience, improves resource utilization, and supports the growing demand for EV charging infrastructure

V.SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE:

The proposed Smart EV Charging Station Locator and Slot Booking System consists of multiple interconnected modules that work together to provide real-time station locating, slot booking, and payment processing. The system follows a client server architecture where user requests are processed through the backend server and integrated services.



A. User Layer

This module represents the end user who interacts with the system through a web interface. The user can search for nearby charging stations, check slot availability, book charging slots, and make payments. All user actions are sent to the backend server for processing.

B. Backend Processing Layer

The Flask-based backend server handles all core functionalities of the system. It includes modules such as booking and slot management, payment processing, and API handling. The server processes user requests, communicates with external services, and updates the database accordingly.

C. Location Services Layer

This module uses Google Maps API to provide real-time location data. It helps in identifying nearby charging stations based on user location and displays them on the map interface.

D. Payment Gateway Layer

The online payment gateway processes user transactions securely. It handles payment requests and returns transaction status to the backend system, ensuring secure and reliable payment processing.

E. Data Management Layer

This layer manages all system data, including user information, station details, and booking records. It ensures proper storage, retrieval, and updating of data.

F. Database Layer

The SQLite database stores all application data such as user details, station information, and booking history. It supports efficient data management and ensures data consistency.

VI. IMPLEMENTATION:**A. Development Environment**

The proposed system is developed using Python and web technologies. The backend is implemented using the Flask framework, while the frontend is designed using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript. The system runs on a local server and uses APIs for external services such as maps and payment processing.

B. User Interface and Interaction

The user interacts with the system through a web-based interface. Users can register, log in, search for nearby charging stations, check slot availability, and book slots. The interface is designed to be simple, responsive, and user-friendly for smooth navigation.

C. Location-Based Station Detection

The system integrates Google Maps API to fetch and display nearby EV charging stations. The user's location is captured, and relevant stations are shown on the map. This enables users to easily identify and select charging stations.

D. Slot Booking and Management

The booking module allows users to select available time slots and reserve them in advance. The system checks slot availability from the database and updates it dynamically after each booking to avoid conflicts.

E. Payment Processing

The system includes an online payment module that processes transactions securely. After selecting a slot, the user completes the payment through the payment gateway. The payment status is verified and updated in the system.

F. Data Storage and Management

All system data such as user details, station information, and booking records are stored in an SQLite database. The database ensures efficient data storage, retrieval, and updates.

G. Backend Processing

The Flask backend handles all user requests, processes data, communicates with APIs, and updates the database. It ensures smooth interaction between all modules of the system.

VII. ALGORITHM:**A. System Initialization**

The system starts and initializes the Flask backend server. The database is connected to store user, station, and booking details. APIs such as Google Maps and Payment Gateway are activated.

B. User Request Processing

The user accesses the system through the web interface. The user registers or logs into the system. The system verifies user credentials and grants access.

C. Location Detection and Station Search

The system captures the user's location using location services. The Google Maps API retrieves nearby charging stations. The system displays stations on the map with details.

D. Slot Availability Check

The user selects a charging station. The system retrieves slot availability from the database. Available and occupied slots are displayed to the user.

E. Slot Booking Process

The user selects a preferred time slot. The system checks if the selected slot is available. If available, the system temporarily reserves the slot.

F. Payment Processing

The user proceeds to payment. The payment gateway processes the transaction securely. The system receives payment status (success/failure).

G. Booking Confirmation

If payment is successful, the booking is confirmed. The system updates slot availability in the database. A confirmation message is sent to the user.

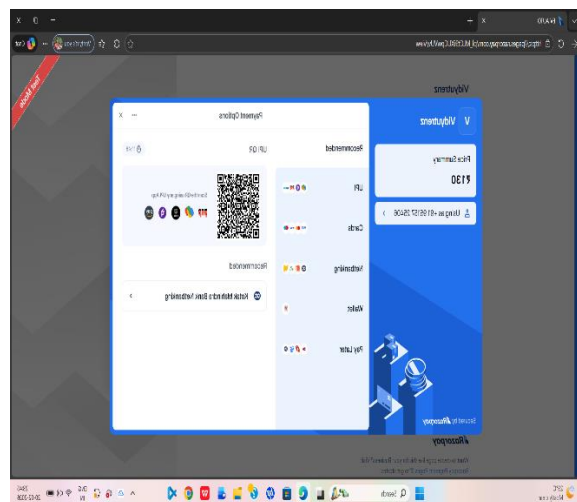
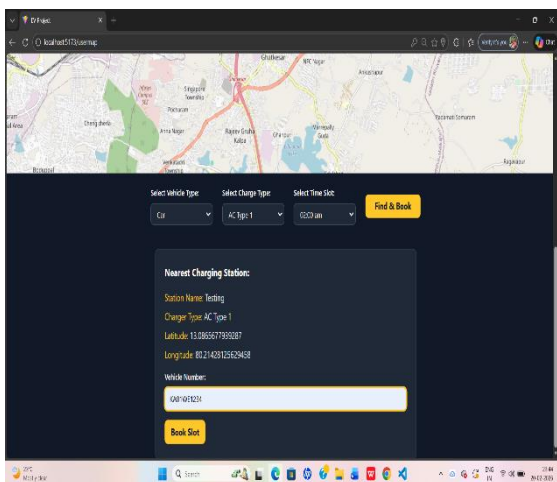
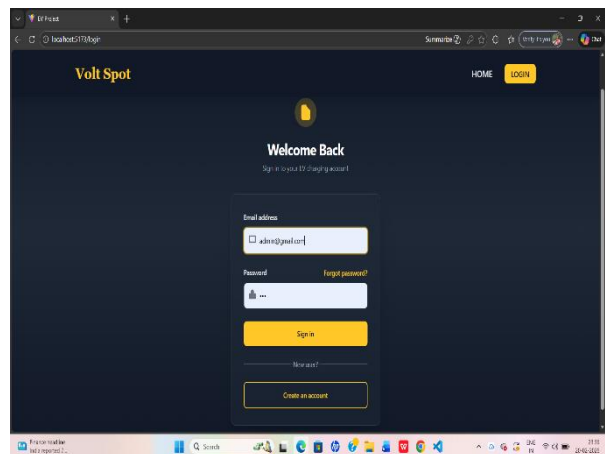
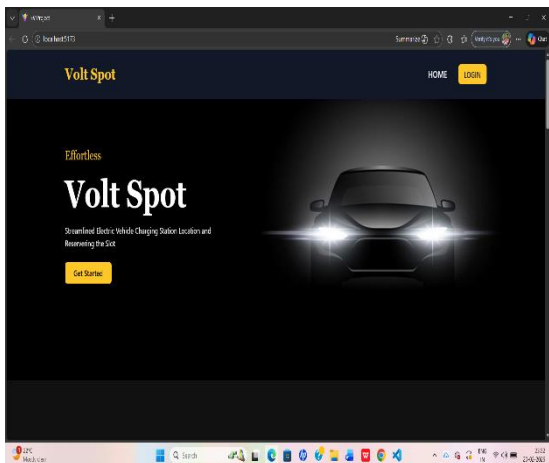
H. Error Handling

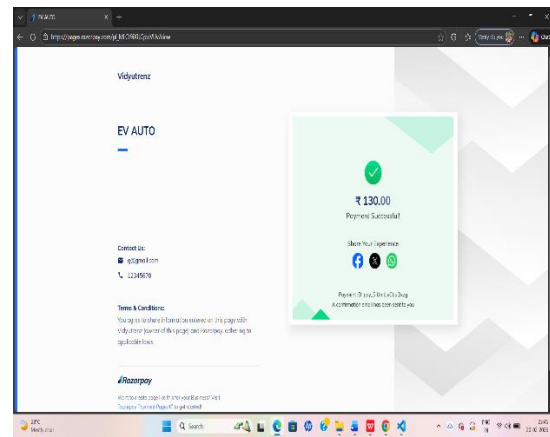
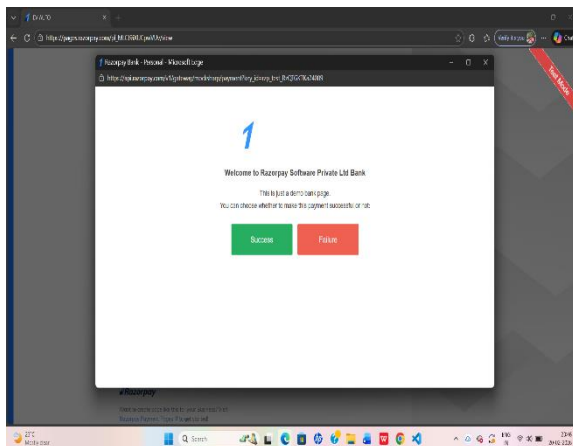
If payment fails, the booking is cancelled. The reserved slot is released back to availability. The user is notified with an appropriate message.

I. End Process

The system stores booking details in the database. The process ends with updated system records.

VIII.RESULTS:





IX.CONCLUSION:

The Smart EV Charging Station Locator and Real-Time Slot Booking System to improve the efficiency of EV charging infrastructure. The system integrates location-based services, real-time slot availability, and secure payment processing into a single platform. It allows users to find nearby charging stations, book slots in advance, and reduce waiting time. The system ensures better utilization of charging resources and minimizes congestion. With a user-friendly interface and efficient data management, it provides a practical solution for EV users. Overall, the system supports sustainable transportation and contributes to the development of smart and efficient EV charging systems.

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