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Friend Mapper on Mobiles - Friend Locator

Ms. A.Malavika, Mrs. A.Mary Joycy

PG Scholar, Dept. of Master of Computer Applications, R.V.S College of Engineering, Dindigul, Tamil Nadu, India

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Master of Computer Applications, R.V.S College of Engineering, Dindigul,
Tamil Nadu, India

ABSTRACT: The Friend Mapper on Mobiles project is a real-time location tracking application that helps users locate and connect with friends using GPS technology. The system provides live location updates through an interactive map and reduces the need for constant phone calls or messages. It includes features like geofencing, proximity alerts, and SOS notifications to improve coordination and personal safety. The application uses technologies such as Flutter, Firebase, and Google Maps API for smooth and reliable performance. A permission-based privacy system allows users to control who can view their location details. The system also supports real-time synchronization while optimizing battery usage through smart location management. By combining social networking with geospatial technology, the project provides a secure, efficient, and user-friendly solution for modern location sharing and social connectivity.

I. INTRODUCTION

The rapid growth of mobile technology and GPS-based services has significantly changed the way people communicate and navigate in their daily lives. In modern social environments, locating friends or family members in crowded places often becomes difficult and time-consuming. Traditional methods such as phone calls and text messages are not always effective for sharing accurate real-time locations, leading to confusion and delays during coordination. Existing systems mainly depend on manual communication and temporary location sharing, which do not provide continuous tracking or instant updates.

The Friend Mapper on Mobiles project aims at developing a smart real-time location tracking application that allows users to locate and monitor the live positions of their friends through an interactive map interface. The proposed system uses GPS technology, cloud databases, and mobile communication networks to continuously collect and synchronize geographical coordinates in real time. The application also provides advanced features such as geofencing, proximity alerts, and emergency SOS notifications to improve user coordination and personal safety. By replacing manual location sharing with automated tracking, the project offers a more efficient and reliable solution for social connectivity and navigation.

The proposed system is developed using modern technologies such as Flutter, Firebase, and Google Maps API to ensure smooth performance and real-time synchronization across mobile devices. The application uses permission-based access control to provide secure and private location sharing between authorized users only. Intelligent battery optimization techniques are also implemented to reduce unnecessary power consumption during continuous tracking. The system architecture is scalable and capable of handling multiple simultaneous users without affecting performance. Overall, the Friend Mapper on Mobiles project provides a secure, user-friendly, and efficient platform for real-time social networking and location-based services.

II. EXISTING SYSTEM

The existing system for tracking friends mainly depends on phone calls, text messages, and temporary GPS sharing. Users must manually share their locations repeatedly, which causes delays and confusion in crowded places. Most systems provide only static location updates instead of continuous real-time tracking. In emergency situations, users may not be able to update their location manually. Existing methods also lack automated alerts and proper synchronization for accurate coordination. Therefore, the traditional system is inefficient, unreliable, and less effective for modern real-time location sharing and personal safety.



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DISADVANTAGES:

- Manual location sharing causes delays and confusion.
- No continuous real-time location tracking.
- Requires repeated phone calls and text messages.
- Location information becomes outdated quickly.
- Lack of automated proximity alerts.
- Poor coordination in crowded environments.
- Higher battery usage due to frequent app switching.
- Limited privacy and security controls.
- Inefficient during emergency situations.

III. PROPOSED SYSTEM

The proposed system for the Friend Mapper project provides an automated real-time location tracking platform using GPS technology and cloud synchronization. The system displays live friend locations on an interactive map and replaces manual location sharing with continuous tracking. It includes advanced features such as geofencing, proximity alerts, and emergency notifications for better coordination and safety. A permission-based privacy system ensures secure location sharing between authorized users only. The application also uses smart battery optimization and real-time database synchronization for efficient performance. Overall, the proposed system offers a secure, accurate, and user-friendly solution for modern mobile location tracking services.

ADVANTAGES:

- Provides real-time live location tracking.
- Reduces the need for phone calls and messages.
- Improves coordination between friends and family.
- Supports automated geofencing alerts.
- Enhances personal safety with SOS notifications.
- Ensures secure and private location sharing.
- Optimizes battery usage during tracking.
- Offers accurate and continuous GPS updates.

IV. SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

The system architecture of the Friend Mapper project consists of multiple interconnected components that work together to provide real-time location tracking and social connectivity. The Mobile Application acts as the user interface where users can log in, track GPS locations, manage friend requests, and view live locations on maps. The application communicates with the Backend Server through internet and API calls. The Backend Server handles important operations such as user authentication, business logic, location processing, and geofencing management for accurate tracking and coordination.

The Real-Time Database stores user profiles, live location data, and friend relationship details securely in the cloud. The Map Service uses Google Maps API to display map rendering, live location markers, and distance calculations between users. The Notification Service is responsible for sending alerts and geofence notifications to users in real time. All these components work together to ensure secure, continuous, and efficient location sharing with improved user coordination and personal safety.



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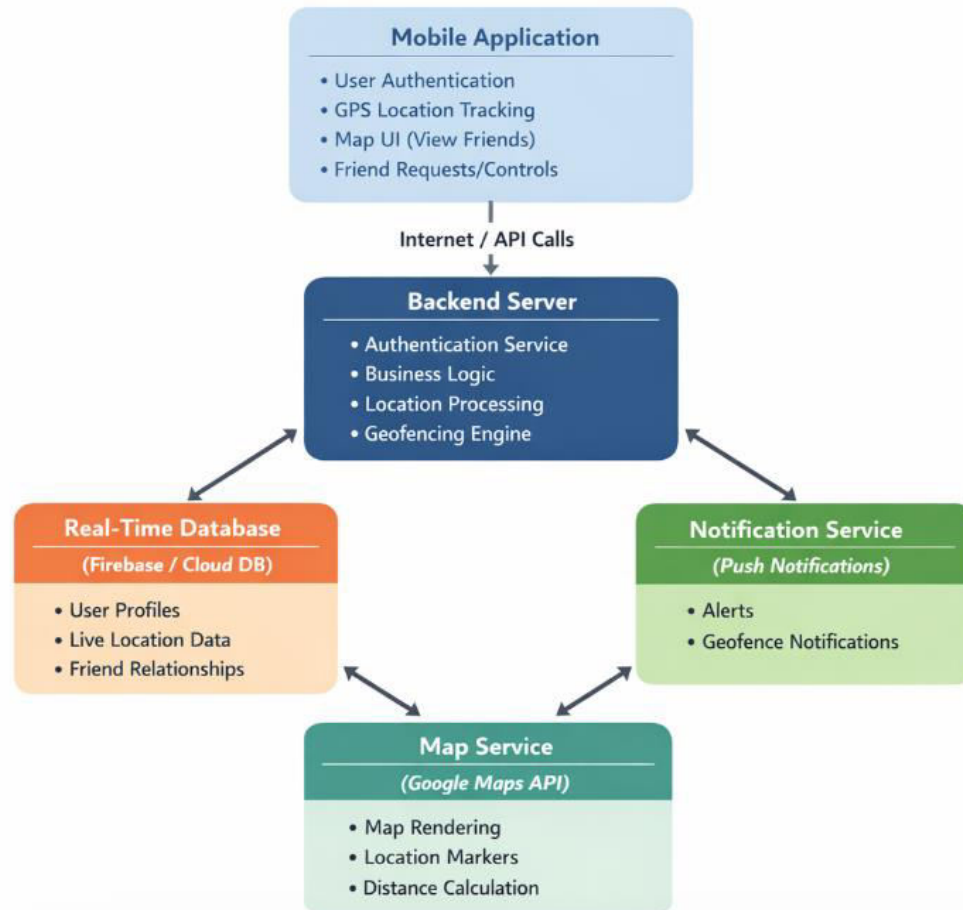


Fig No: 4.1

MODULES

1. User Authentication & Security Module
2. Real-Time Geolocation Engine Module
3. Interactive Map Visualization Module
4. Social Connectivity & Permissions Module
5. Geofencing & Proximity Alert Module

V. MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

1. User Authentication & Security Module

This module serves as the primary gateway to the application, ensuring that only registered and verified users can access the mapping features. It implements secure login and registration protocols using encrypted credentials to protect user data from unauthorized access. By managing unique user IDs, the module maintains a distinct identity for every individual on the network. It also handles session management, allowing users to remain logged in securely across multiple app launches. This foundational layer is critical for maintaining the integrity and privacy of the entire location-sharing ecosystem.

2. Real-Time Geolocation Engine Module

The Geolocation Engine is the core technical component responsible for fetching and transmitting precise spatial coordinates from the mobile hardware. It utilizes a Fused Location Provider to intelligently switch between GPS, Wi-Fi, and cellular data to maintain accuracy while conserving battery life. Once the latitude and longitude are retrieved, this module pushes the data to a real-time cloud database at optimized intervals. It is designed to run as a background



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service, ensuring that the user's location remains updated even when the app is not actively open. This constant data stream forms the basis for all real-time tracking within the application.

3. Interactive Map Visualization Module

This module provides the graphical user interface by integrating high-fidelity map APIs to render a visual representation of the world. It processes the raw coordinate data from the database and converts it into dynamic, moving markers that represent each friend's current position. Users can interact with the map through gestures like zooming, panning, and tilting to get a better perspective of their surroundings. Additionally, the module overlays essential metadata such as street names, landmarks, and traffic conditions for better navigation. It bridges the gap between complex numerical data and an intuitive, user-friendly visual experience.

4. Social Connectivity & Permissions Module

The Social Connectivity module manages the network of relationships between users through a strict permission-based architecture. It facilitates the sending, receiving, and management of friend requests to ensure that location data is never shared without mutual consent. Within this module, users can categorize their contacts and set specific visibility rules, such as a "Ghost Mode" for temporary privacy. It acts as a filter for the database, ensuring that a user only receives location packets from individuals they have explicitly authorized. This ensures that the platform remains a safe and controlled environment for social interaction.

5. Geofencing & Proximity Alert Module

This module introduces intelligent automation by monitoring virtual boundaries around specific geographical points of interest. Users can define a radius around themselves or a destination, and the module constantly calculates the Haversine distance between those points and their friends. When the system detects that a friend has crossed a boundary, it automatically triggers a push notification to alert the user of the arrival or departure. This eliminates the need for manual monitoring, allowing users to be notified of proximity in real-time without looking at their screens. It adds a layer of proactive utility that enhances the overall coordination capabilities of the app.

VI. RESULTS

Home Page



Fig No: 6.1 Live Location Tracking Page



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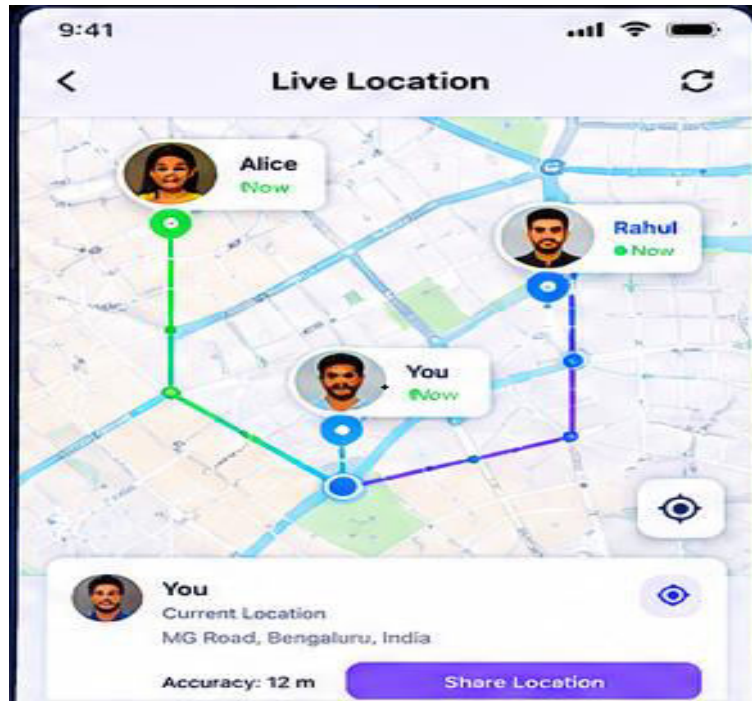


Fig No: 6.2

Admin Dashboard

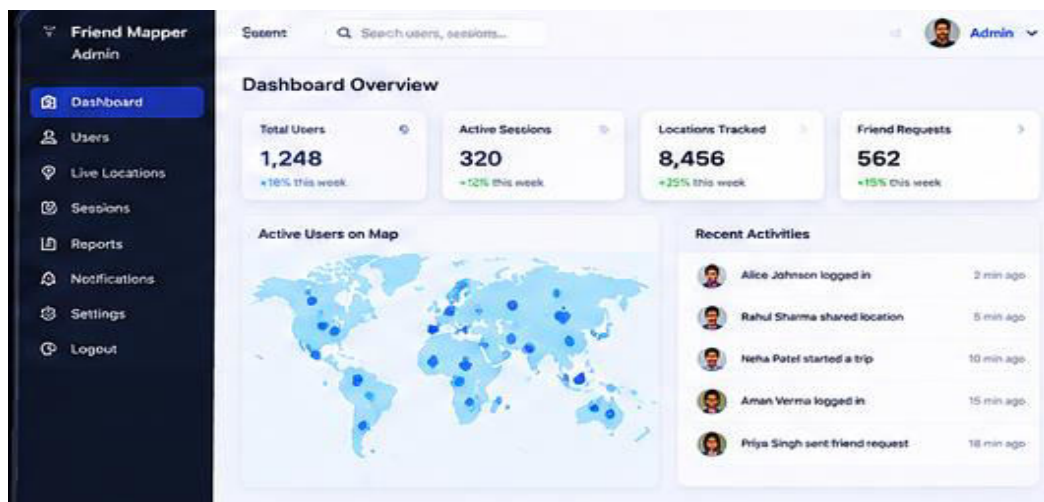


Fig No: 6.3



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Report & Analytics Page



Fig No: 6.4

VII. CONCLUSION

The Friend Mapper on Mobiles project successfully provides a smart and efficient solution for real-time location tracking and social connectivity. By using GPS technology, cloud databases, and interactive map services, the system allows users to track and monitor the live locations of their friends accurately. The application reduces the difficulties faced in traditional location sharing methods and improves coordination in crowded or dynamic environments.

The project also enhances personal safety through features such as geofencing, proximity alerts, and emergency SOS notifications. The permission-based privacy system ensures that location sharing remains secure and accessible only to authorized users. In addition, the use of modern technologies like Flutter, Firebase, and Google Maps API helps in achieving reliable performance and smooth user experience across mobile platforms.

Overall, the Friend Mapper system demonstrates how mobile computing and geospatial technology can be integrated to create a secure, scalable, and user-friendly application. The project offers better communication, improved navigation, and real-time monitoring while maintaining data privacy and battery efficiency. It serves as an effective solution for modern location-based services and social networking applications.

VIII. FUTURE ENHANCEMENT

In the future, the Friend Mapper on Mobiles project can be enhanced by integrating advanced technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, Augmented Reality, and indoor navigation systems for more accurate and intelligent tracking. Features like predictive route suggestions, voice-based navigation, and smart emergency response systems can further improve user experience and safety. The application can also support wearable devices and multi-platform integration to provide better accessibility, real-time monitoring, and enhanced social connectivity in smart environments. Additional security mechanisms such as biometric authentication and encrypted cloud storage can further improve data protection and privacy. The future system may also include offline tracking support and advanced analytics for better performance and user convenience.



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