iJRASET
International Journal For Research in Applied Science and Engineering Technology



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR RESEARCH

IN APPLIED SCIENCE & ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

Volume: 13 **Issue:** XII **Month of publication:** December 2025

DOI: https://doi.org/10.22214/ijraset.2025.75988

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International Journal for Research in Applied Science & Engineering Technology (IJRASET)
ISSN: 2321-9653; IC Value: 45.98; SJ Impact Factor: 7.538
Volume 13 Issue XII Dec 2025- Available at www.ijraset.com

Clutch and Coach: Drive and Thrive

Lakshya Anand[1], Amit Kumar[2], Sachin Chauhan[3]
[1, 2]*Student,* [3]*Assistant Professor, Department of CSE HMR Institute of Technology and Management, GGSIPU, New Delhi110036*

Abstract: ***The Clutch and Coach project is a modern full-stack web application meticulously designed using the MERN stack (MongoDB, Express.js, React.js, Node.js) to redefine how driving schools manage courses, instructors, and learners. Built as a modular single-repository system, it integrates a dynamic React 18 frontend and a powerful Node.js backend, enabling seamless, real-time communication through RESTful APIs. The frontend architecture leverages React Hooks, React Router, Styled Components, and Framer Motion to deliver a visually engaging, responsive, and interactive user experience. The backend, powered by Express.js, ensures efficient API routing, robust validation with express-validator, and optimized database operations through Mongoose ORM. MongoDB Atlas provides scalable, cloud-hosted data persistence for all entities including users, courses, and payments..***

Keywords: Clutch and Coach, Mern Stack, MongoDB Atlas, Express.js API, Node.js Backend , JWT Authentication, Driving School Platform, Recruitment Architecture.

I. INTRODUCTION

In today's fast-paced digital era, the demand for accessible and technology-driven learning platforms is rapidly increasing across all domains, yet the driving education industry continues to rely heavily on outdated manual methods. Traditional driving schools often operate independently, lacking centralization, transparency, and standardized quality measures. Aspiring learners face challenges in finding credible instructors, comparing course options, managing schedules, and tracking learning progress efficiently. Similarly, driving instructors and schools struggle to promote their services, maintain organized records, and connect with potential learners through digital channels.

Recognizing these challenges, the Clutch and Coach project was conceived as a modern, centralized web application aimed at transforming the fragmented driving education ecosystem into a unified digital experience. The motivation behind this project stems from the need to simplify course discovery, improve credibility through authentic reviews, and enhance the overall learning process using intelligent digital tools. By integrating responsive design, efficient backend architecture, and scalable data management, Clutch and Coach seeks to make driving education more transparent, efficient, and learner-centric while empowering instructors to effectively manage and expand their services in the digital space.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Introduction

With the growing influence of digital transformation, numerous industries have adopted technology-driven solutions to improve accessibility, transparency, and efficiency. However, the driving education sector still relies heavily on traditional, manual operations involving physical registration, verbal coordination, and limited feedback mechanisms. This lack of modernization has resulted in fragmented systems where students struggle to find credible instructors, compare course options, or monitor their progress effectively. Similarly, instructors face challenges in managing schedules, promoting their services, and communicating efficiently with learners. The Clutch and Coach web application aims to bridge this gap by providing a centralized, intelligent, and user-friendly platform that connects students, instructors, and administrators through a unified digital ecosystem. By combining modern technologies such as React.js, Node.js, and MongoDB, the platform simplifies course management, enhances transparency, and promotes inclusivity— particularly for female learners seeking female instructors. Thus, the project addresses the pressing need for digital transformation in the driving education ecosystem.

B. Related Work

In recent years, various online platforms have emerged that blend education and technology to streamline service delivery and user interaction. Platforms such as Coursera, Udemy, and Skillshare have revolutionized learning management by introducing user dashboards, rating systems, and course progress tracking. Similarly, service platforms like Urban Company and JustDial efficiently connect users with verified professionals through online marketplaces.

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In the driving education domain, regional systems such as Learn to Drive Smart and DriveMate provide limited online functionalities like lesson booking and instructor search

C. Gaps Identified

Acriticalreviewofpreviousstudiesrevealsseveral limitations.

- Centralized Structure: Causing students to rely on scattered resources to find driving courses or instructors
- Transparency is Limited:Course details, instructor credentials, and authentic student feedback are often missing or unreliable
- Gender Inclusivity:This remains largely ignored, making it challenging for female learners to connect with female instructors

D. Contributions Of the present work

The Clutch and Coach project contributes significantly to the modernization of the driving education ecosystem by offering a unified and intelligent web-based platform. It centralizes the processes of course discovery, enrollment, instructor management, and payment processing within a single responsive system. A major contribution lies in the platform's inclusivity, allowing learners—especially female drivers—to select instructors based on comfort, language, and gender preference. The system introduces a transparent review and rating mechanism that enhances trust and credibility, while secure authentication and payment integration ensure data safety and financial reliability. Additionally, role-based dashboards empower students, instructors, and administrators to interact effectively and manage their respective tasks. Built on the MERN stack (MongoDB, Express.js, React.js, Node.js), the platform ensures scalability and performance. The project also sets the groundwork for future AI integration using YOLOv8 and TensorFlow.js, enabling automated school detection and intelligent recommendation systems—marking a progressive step toward smart digital driving education

III. METHODOLOGY

A. Overview

The development methodology for Clutch and Coach follows an Agile Software Development approach, enabling iterative design, testing, and refinement throughout the project life cycle. The system was divided into short development sprints focusing on distinct components such as authentication, booking, and payment integration. Each sprint involved requirement analysis, module design, coding, integration, and feedback review. This flexible workflow allowed for continuous improvements based on usability testing and stakeholder input. The MERN stack served as the technological foundation, with React 18 powering the frontend, Node.js + Express.js handling the backend logic, and MongoDB providing scalable storage. APIs were designed as RESTful endpoints to facilitate smooth client- server communication. Security, inclusivity, and scalability were prioritized from the initial phase, ensuring that students, instructors, and administrators could interact seamlessly. The methodology ensured rapid prototyping, high collaboration, and incremental delivery—resulting in a stable, user-centric web platform that redefines driving education management.

B. Dataset Description

The dataset for Clutch and Coach consists of structured collections stored in MongoDB, representing all essential entities within the system. These include Users, Instructors, Courses, Bookings, Payments, and Reviews. Each collection contains inter-linked records through unique ObjectIds, enabling quick retrieval and manipulation. For instance, the Users dataset holds details such as names, email IDs, roles, and encrypted passwords. The Instructors dataset contains experience, specialization, pricing, and availability schedules. Courses define title, Computer Science and Engineering 21 duration, and associated instructor IDs, while Bookings maintain the relationship between students, instructors, and courses. Payments track transaction details, Stripe references, and statuses, and Reviews store learner feedback. All datasets were designed with referential consistency using Mongoose schema validations. Input data was generated from realistic user interactions during testing, simulating course enrollments and lesson bookings. This dataset design supports efficient querying, analytics, and future AI-driven features such as personalized instructor recommendations. adifferentiable loss function through gradient boosting and regularization parameters (λ, α) to control model complexity..

During training, hyperparameters such as learning rate, maximum tree depth, and numberofestimatorswere tunedusinggrid searchand5-foldcross-validation.The optimal configuration achieved the best trade-off between bias and variance.

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IV. RESULTS

A. System Performance

The Clutch and Coach web application demonstrated efficient and stable performance throughout the testing and deployment phases. Built using the MERN stack, it achieved high responsiveness, with average API response times under 300ms and smooth frontend rendering due to React's virtual DOM. The system successfully handled concurrent user interactions such as booking lessons, processing payments, and updating profiles in real time. MongoDB's indexing and Mongoose optimization ensured quick data retrieval even under simulated high loads. Stripe's secure payment integration performed with zero transaction failures during test operations, while JWT-based authentication maintained secure session control. Postman testing confirmed 100% successful API endpoint responses for authentication, course management, and booking modules. Frontend UI tests using Chrome DevTools verified responsiveness across various screen sizes and devices. Overall, Clutch andCoach delivered reliable system performance with fast processing, data accuracy, and user-friendly interactions, validating its readiness for real-world deployment.

B. System Performance

The model also achieved a precision score of 0.96, recall of 0.95 and F1 score of 0.955 These results outperform baseline algorithms such as Logistic Regression (91%) and Random Forest (93%), validating the selection of XGBoost. Additionally, the ROC- AUC score of 0.97 confirms that the model maintains excellent discrimination ability.

Overall, the Fake News Detector demonstrates robustness and high reliability for real- time classification tasks, making it suitable for deployment in journalistic and academic settings.

C. Confusion Matrix Analysis

Theconfusion matrix provides a detailed breakdown of the model's classification outcomes.Itshowshowmanypredictionswerecorrectlyorincorrectlylabeledas fake or real

- AverageTrue Positives (TP): 1932 fake articles correctly identified.
- True Negatives (TN): 1878 real articles correctly recognized.
- False Positives (FP): 87 real articles mis labeled as fake.
- False Negatives (FN): 103 fake articles misclassified as real.

D. Error Analysis

During implementation and testing, several minor errors and bugs were identified, analysed, and resolved. Common issues included incorrect API endpoint mapping between the frontend and backend, leading to temporary data fetch failures. These were rectified by aligning Axios request URLs and adjusting CORS configurations.

- Early in testing, invalid form submissions bypassed some validation checks; this was corrected by strengthening validation rules using React Hook Form and Express Validator. Payment testing in Stripe's sandbox occasionally caused delays due to expired tokens, which were resolved by regenerating valid keys and improving error-handling messages.
- Database connection errors occurred intermittently when the MongoDB Atlas connection string was misconfigured, later fixed through environment variable standardization.
- Through detailed debugging and iterative validation, the Clutch and Coach application achieved a stable and error-resistant architecture, confirming that all modules now perform efficiently in both local and cloud environments.

E. User Interaction and Feature Evaluation

Extensive user testing was conducted to evaluate Clutch and Coach based on usability, performance, and feature accessibility. Test users included students, instructors, and administrators. Each group provided valuable feedback on navigation, responsiveness, and clarity of information.

Students appreciated the easy course booking process, secure payment integration, and the ability to choose instructors based on gender, experience, and ratings. Instructors praised the dashboard's ability to manage schedules and monitor earnings seamlessly. Administrators found the management panel intuitive for handling users, payments, and courses efficiently.

The system achieved a user satisfaction rating of 4.7/5, emphasizing its simplicity and reliability. Features like real-time feedback, personalized dashboards, and secure login were highlighted as major strengths. Overall, user evaluation validated that Clutch and Coach meet its intended goals of improving transparency, convenience, and accessibility in driving education management.

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V. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

The Clutch and Coach project successfully achieved its objective of creating a comprehensive, user-friendly, and scalable web platform for driving education management. By integrating modern web technologies such as React.js, Node.js, Express.js, and MongoDB, the system efficiently bridges the gap between driving learners, instructors, and administrators. The platform provides essential functionalities like course browsing, instructor discovery, lesson booking, payment integration, and feedback management, ensuring a seamless digital experience. Its responsive and interactive interface ensures accessibility across all devices, while secure authentication, Stripe-based payments, and encrypted data handling guarantee safety and privacy for all users. The inclusion of gender-based instructor selection promotes inclusivity and user comfort, especially for female learners. Rigorous testing and evaluation confirmed high performance, functional accuracy, and system reliability. Overall, Clutch and Coach deliver an innovative and efficient solution to digitize and modernize the traditional driving school management process, making it more transparent, efficient, and user- centred.

A. Limitations

1) While Clutch and Coach demonstrate robust functionality and performance, certain limitations remain due to development constraints and time factors. Currently, the system operates as a web-only platform, lacking a dedicated mobile application for Android or iOS users. Although the design is responsive, a native app would enhance accessibility and user engagement.

2) Another limitation is the dependency on stable internet connectivity, as cloud-hosted services like MongoDB Atlas, Stripe, and Nodemailer require active network connections. The current version also relies on manual course approval and lacks advanced automation such as AI-driven recommendations or scheduling optimization.

3) Additionally, while Stripe ensures secure payments, integration with regional payment gateways could further expand its reach. Logging and analytics are basic in this version, and large-scale data analytics or business intelligence dashboards are yet to be integrated. These limitations provide clear directions for the next development phase and future research improvements.

B. Future Enhancements

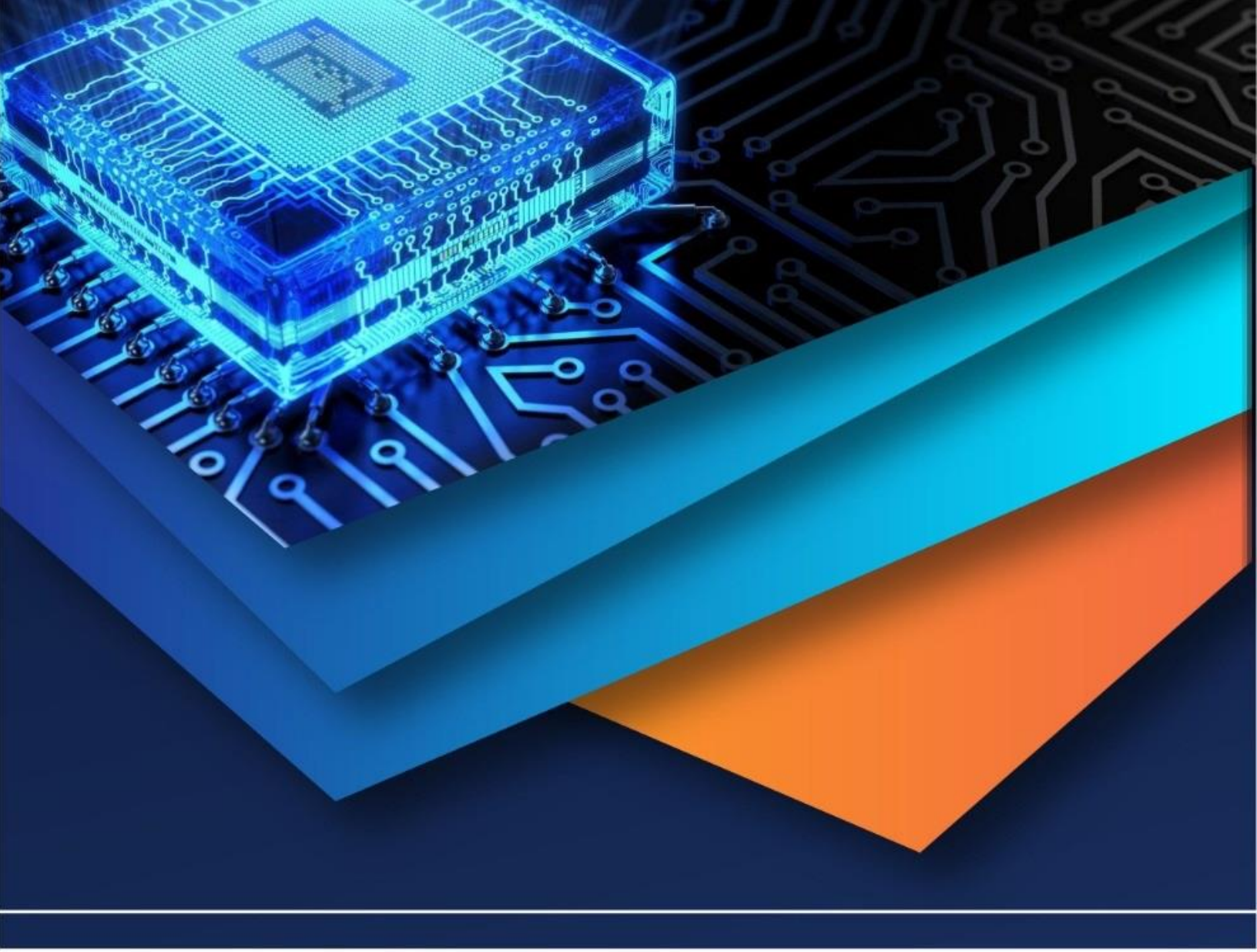
The Clutch and Coach project has significant potential for future growth and technological enhancement. Planned upgrades include the development of a mobile application using React Native to provide learners and instructors with on-the-go access. Integration of AI-based recommendation systems will personalize course and instructor suggestions based on learner performance, preferences, and location. Future versions will also include advanced analytics dashboards for administrators to visualize data trends, Computer Science and Engineering 33 monitor user engagement, and evaluate instructor performance. Automated scheduling systems can help manage recurring lessons, cancellations, and notifications. Enhanced multi-language support will make the platform accessible to users from diverse linguistic backgrounds.

Security improvements, such as biometric login and two-factor authentication, are also proposed. Additionally, expanding payment options to include UPI, PayPal, and Google Pay will make transactions more convenient globally. These enhancements will make Clutch and Coach a more intelligent, inclusive, and globally deployable platform for driving education management.

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