Mobile Base Sinhala Book Reader for Visually Impaired Individuals

TMP-23-198



Logbook

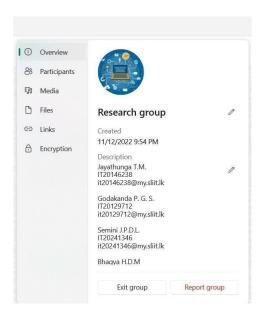
Bhagya H.D.M IT20254520

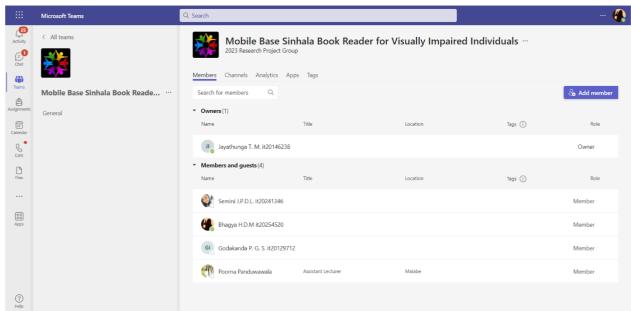
Bachelor of Science (Hons) Degree in Information Technology Specializing in Information Technology

Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology Sri Lanka

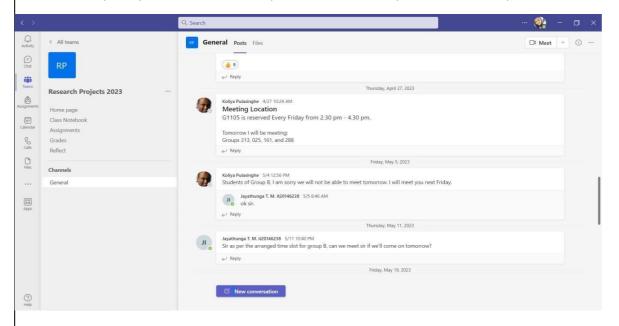
October 2023

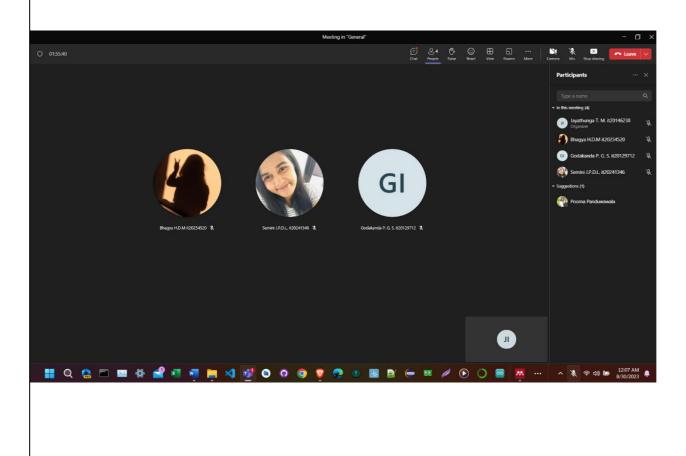
- Establish a WhatsApp group.
- Utilize WhatsApp group calls to converse about selecting a topic.
- Each of the four team members should independently research potential topics.
- Consult with our more experienced colleagues for guidance and advice..



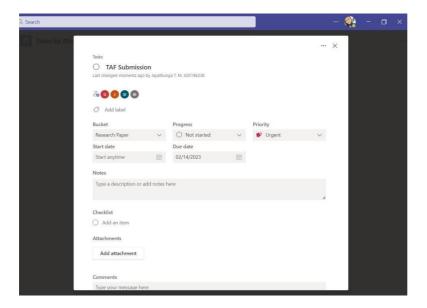


- Once we've chosen a topic, we'll create a document containing the research problem and its proposed solution.
- We will send emails to professors to request them to become our group's supervisor and cosupervisor.
- Subsequently, we received an acceptance email from supervisor and co-supervisor





Uploaded our Topic Assessment Form (TAF) document to the





10. Supervisor checklist (supervisors should fill sections 10 and 11)

Summary Sheet

The topic evaluation panel will use the summary sheet to evaluate the suitability of the <u>project</u>

1. Brief description of research problem including references (200 - 300 words max)

Blind people face several challenges when reading books, but the main problem is a lack of accessibility to printed materials . Despite advancements in assistive technology, such as text -to-speech software and Braille displays, most books are still not accessible to blind individuals in an easily readable format. This can limit the opportunities for blind people to gain knowledge, engage in literary experiences, and improve their education and employment prospects.

ue is the cost of specialized devices and software, which can be prohibitively expensive for many blind people. Even when these tools are available, they may not provide an experience that is comparable to reading a traditional printed book. For example, t ext-to-speech software can struggle with complex language and formatting, and Braille displays can be slow and clunky.

Another issue is the limited availability of audiobooks and Braille materials. While more audiobooks are being produced, the still limited compared to the vast number of printed books. Braille books are even harder to come by, as the process of translating printed books into Braille is time -consuming and costly. This means that blind people may not have access to the latest best t-selling books or popular educational materials.

Page 17 of 30

• Submitting project chatter.

Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology

PROJECT REGISTRATION FORM

(This form should be completed and uploaded to the Cloud space on or before XXXXXXXXX)

The purpose of this form is to allow final-year students of the B.Sc. (Hon) degree program to enlist in the final-year project group. Enlisting in a project entails specifying the project title and the details of four members in the group, the internal supervisor (compulsory), the external supervisor (may be from the industry), and indicating a brief description of the project. The description of the project entered on this form will not be considered as the formal project proposal. It should however indicate the scope of the project and provide the main potential outcome.

	Mobile Individu		Sinhala	Book	Reader	for	Visually	Impaired	
--	--------------------	--	---------	------	--------	-----	----------	----------	--

RESEARCH AREA	Natural Language Processing (NLP)
(As per the Topic	0 0 0 7
Assessment Form)	

PROJECT NUMBER		(Will be assigned by the RP Team)		
	TMP-23-198			

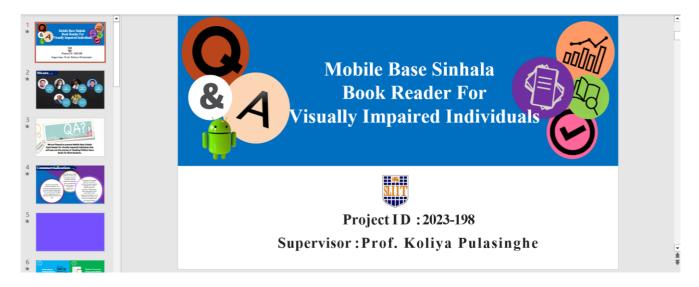
PROJECT GROUP MEMBER DETAILS: (Please start with the group leader's details)

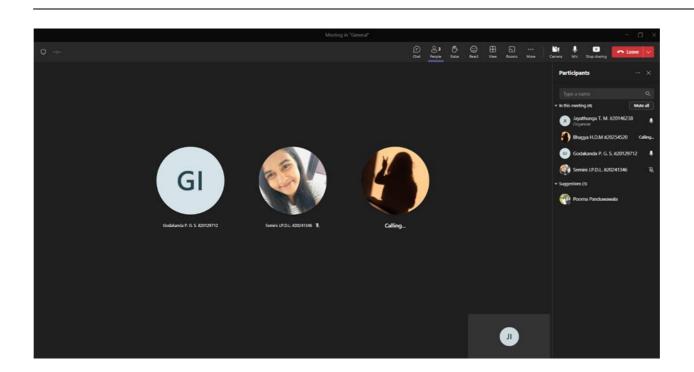
	STUDENT NAME	STUDENT NO.	CONTACT NO.	EMAIL ADDRESS
1	Jayathunga T.M.	IT20146238	0775338747	it20146238@my.sliit.lk
2	Godakanda P.G.S.	IT20129712	0715394065	it20129712@my.sliit.lk
3	Semini J.P.D.L.	IT20241346	0752608871	it20241346@my.sliit.lk
4	Bhagya H.D.M.	IT20254520	0774405896	it20254520@my.sliit.lk

• Submitting proposal report.

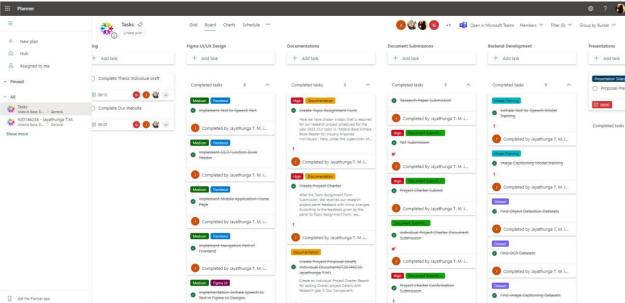


- Started Creating the proposal presentation slides.
- Practiced for the proposal presentation through teams meeting with the group members

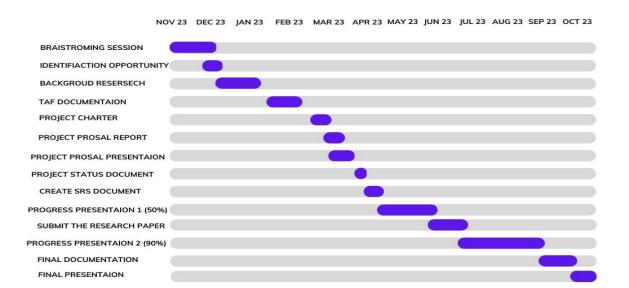




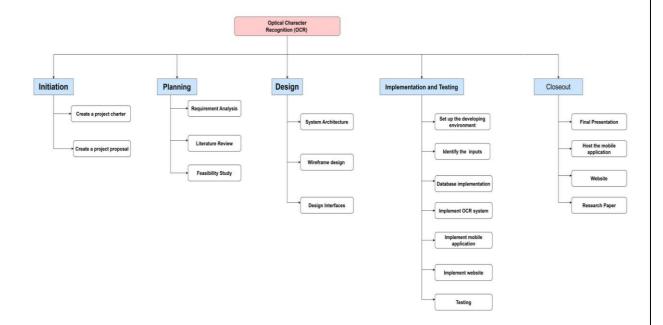
Making a task planner with team members.



• Making the Gantt chart. We continued to work on our proposal report.



- We conducted additional in-depth research on machine learning algorithms like CNN and RNN.
- We delved into more research papers.
- We initiated the process of implementing our findings.
- Making system breakdown chart.



Getting the field visit permission letter.



INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

16th Floor, BoC Merchant Tower, No. 28, St. Michael's Road, Colombo 03

Date:28/04/2023 Your Ref: My Ref: 2023-198

The Ceylon School for the Deaf & Blind RDC Donations office 521, Galle Road, Sri Lanka

Dear Sir / Madam,

Certifying the project titled "Mobile Base Sinhala Book Reader for Visually Impaired Individuals" is conducting as a BSc in IT final year research project,

The Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (SLIIT) is the largest Degree Awarding Institute in the field of information Technology recognized by the University Grants Commission under the Universities Act. It was established in the year 1999 to educate and train Information Technology (IT) Professionals required by the fast-growing IT Industry in Sri Lanka.

This letter is to certify that the following students.

IT20146238 - Jayathunga T.M. IT20129712 - Godakanda P.G.S. IT20241346 - Semini J.P.D.L. IT20254520 - Bhagya H.D.M.

They are final year undergraduate students who conduct research entitled "Mobile Base Sinhala Book Reader for Visually Impaired Individuals" as partial fulfillment of the B.Sc. in Information Technology degree at Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (SLIIT). The students are conducting the research under the supervision of Prof. Koliya Pulasinghe

I kindly request your assistance in enabling these students to collect data from your organization to build their dataset for the research project. If you have any questions or require further clarification about the project, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your cooperation Emmelle.

Dr. Jayantha Amararachchi

Assistant Professor/ Research Project Coordinator,

jayantha.a@sliit.lk

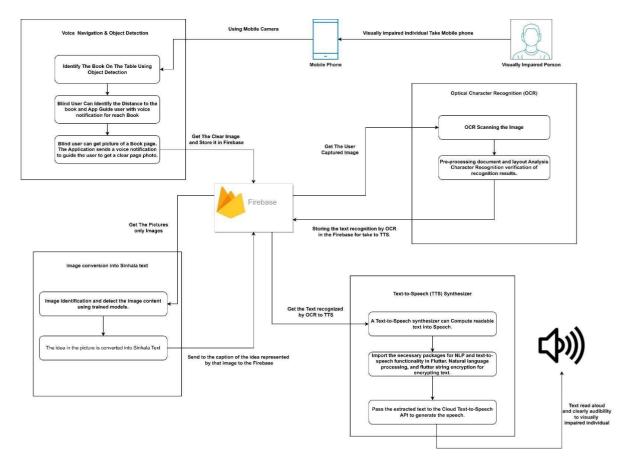
+94 11 754 4103

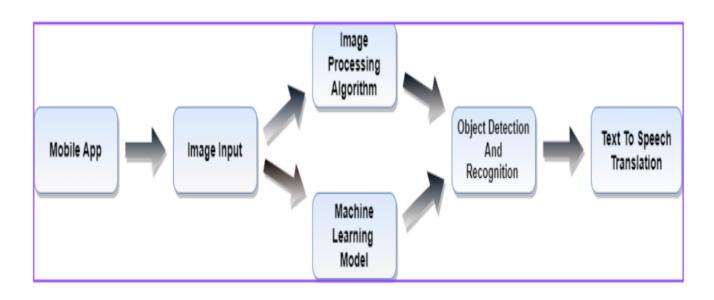
Tel: +94(0)11 2301904 - 5

Fax: +94(0)11 2301906

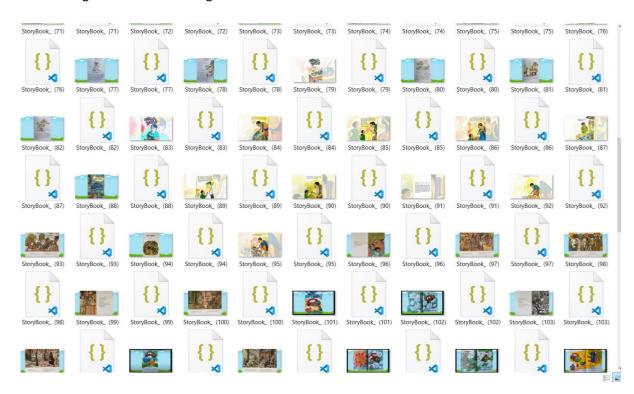
E-mail: info@sliit.lk URL: www.sliit.lk

• Designing the system overview diagram .





· Creating dataset and labeling



• Submitting status document 1

Mobile Base Sinhala Book Reader for Visually Impaired Individuals

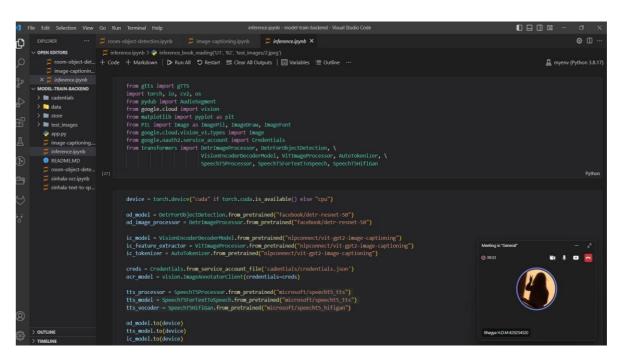
Project ID: 2023_198

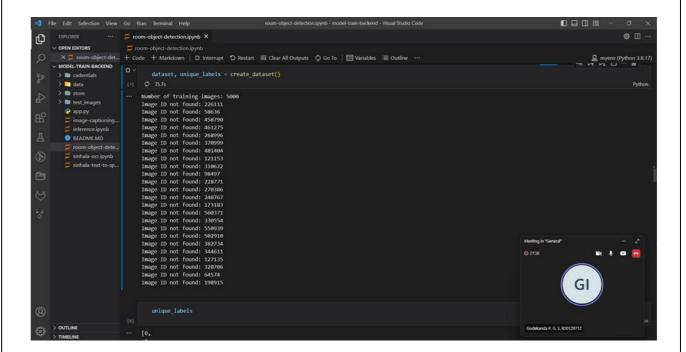
Status Document 1 Bhagya H.D.M – IT20254520

Bachelor of Science (Hons) Degree in Information Technology Specializing in Information Technology

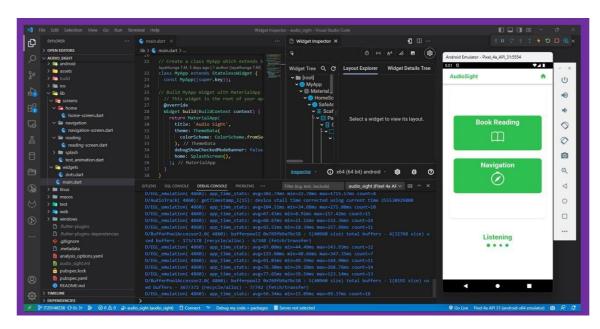
> Department of Information Technology Faculty of Computing

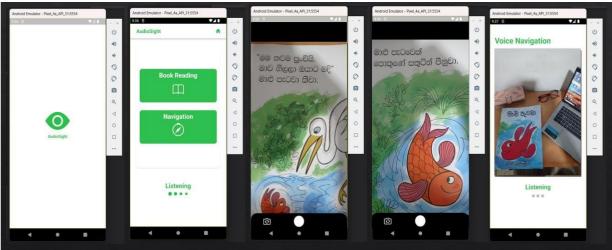
Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology Sri Lanka • Dataset processing and training .Backend implementations



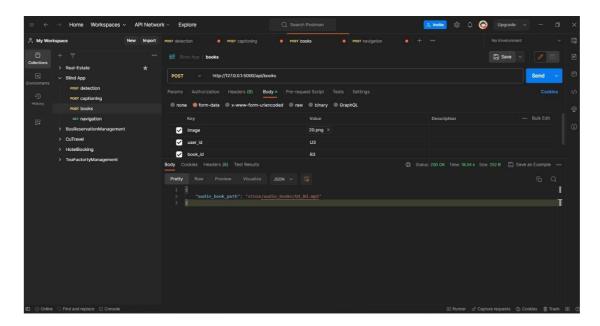


• Frontend implementations

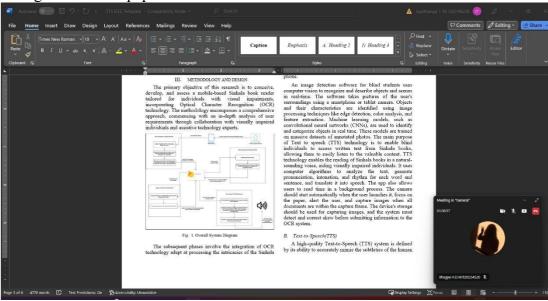




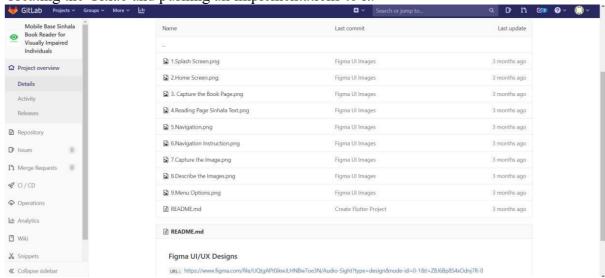
• API testing

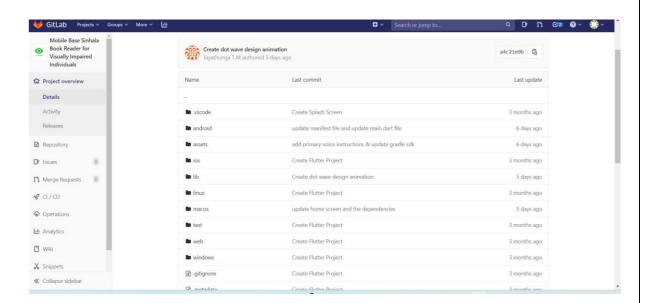


• Making the research paper .



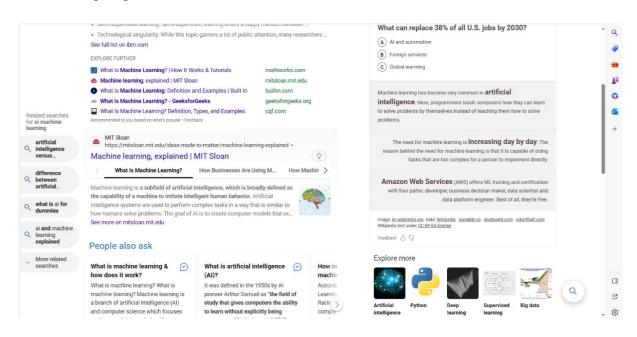
Creating the Gitlab and pushing all implementations to it.

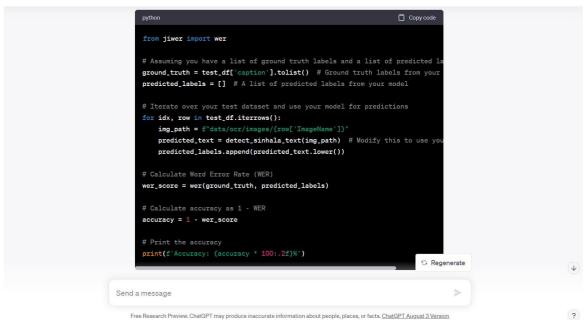


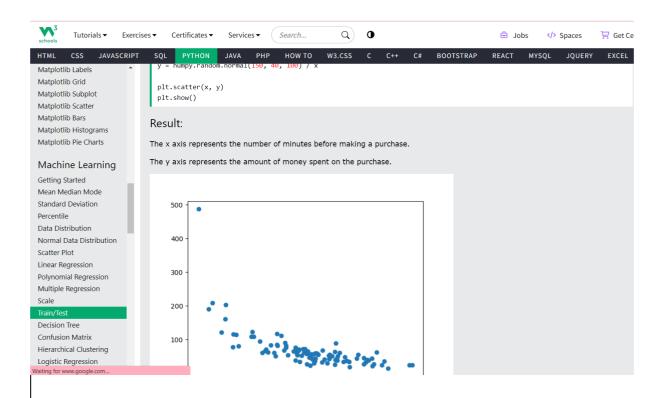




• Getting help from extra resources.



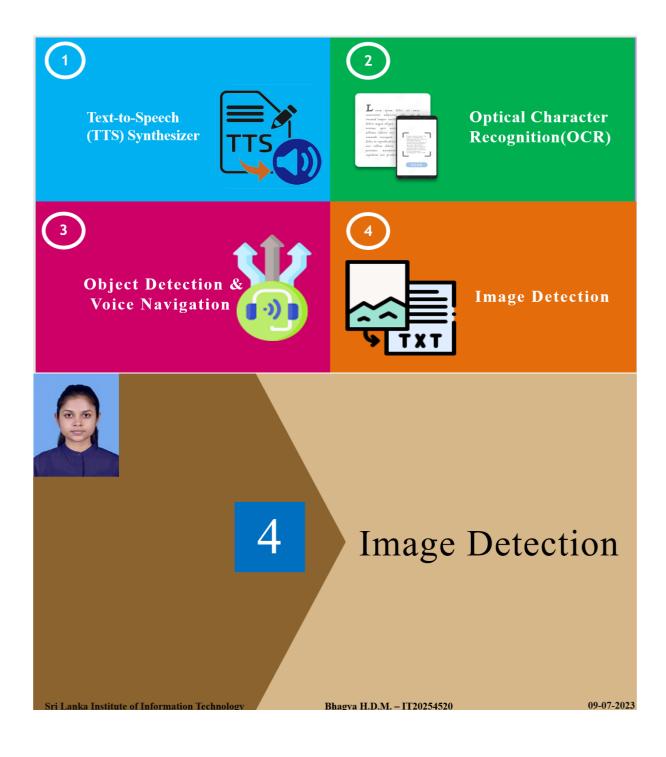




Submitting the status document 2.



• Making the PP2 presentation.



• Submitting the final individual and group thesis.



Research paper acceptance and completing research paper.

Mobile Base Sinhala Book Reader For Visually Impaired Students

J.Thirosh Madhusha
Faculty of Computing
Sri Lanka Institute of Information
Technology
Malabe, Sri Lanka
thiroshmadhusha0520@gmail.com

J.P.Dulmi Semini
Faculty of Computing
Sri Lanka Institute of Information
Technology
Malabe, Sri Lanka
dulmilaknasewnz9811@gmail.com

H.D.Madushi Bhagya
Faculty of Computing
Sri Lanka Institute of Information
Technology
Malabe, Sri Lanka
madushihd@gmail.com

Prof. Koliya Pulasinghe Faculty of Computing Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology Malabe, Sri Lanka koliya.p@sliit.lk Sajeewa Godakanda Faculty of Computing Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology Malabe, Sri Lanka sajeewagodakanda@gmail.com

P.K.P.G. Panduwawala Faculty of Computing Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology Malabe, Sri Lanka poorna.p@slit.lk

Abstract—The project aims to improve the reading experience and skills of visually impaired students in Sri Lanka by creating a mobile application that allows them to easily read printed books and stationery in Sinhala. The mobile application uses optical character recognition (OCR) technology and voice navigation, incorporating text-to-speech features of the event synthesis framework. The application accurately captures characters on a page of a Sinhala book and distinguishes them using OCR technology, enabling visually impaired people to convert text into accessible digital formats. The extracted text is then made audible via text-to-speech. Sinhala Voice Navigation support is provided for users to navigate the app, get feedback from the user, and identify objects in the surrounding room. The application uses image recognition and description algorithms to describe pictures in Sinhala, helping visually impaired children understand the visual content and improve their reading skills. The platform also offers features to adjust reading speed and choose between male or female voices.

Keywords—Visually Impaired Individuals, Sinhala Text-to-Speech(TTS), Sinhala Optical Character Recognize(OCR), Sinhala Voice Navigation, Image Recognition, Sinhala Object Detection

I. INTRODUCTION

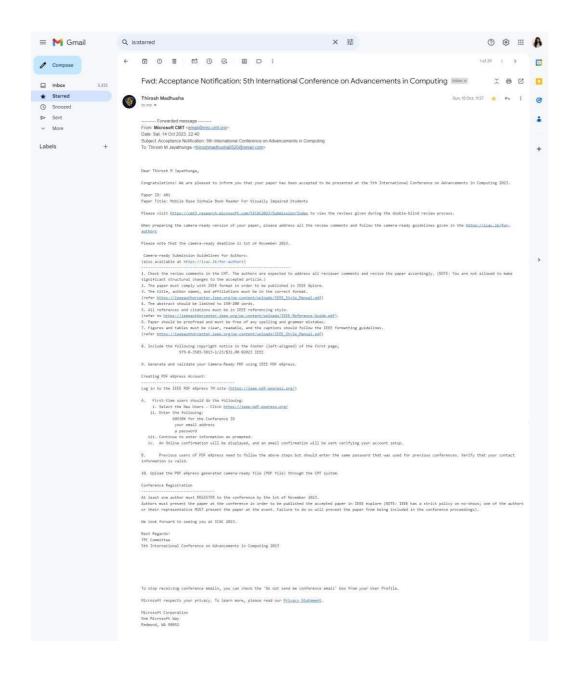
Knowledge is the most important factor for surviving in this century. One way to gain knowledge is through reading, even for those who are visually impaired, who can use the braille system [1]. However, traditional braille systems are becoming outdated as computer-assisted braille systems and text-to-speech systems are becoming more common. Unfortunately, these technologies are not widely available in Sinhala, and these devices are too expensive for the average Sri Lankan. An Android-based solution using OCR, TTS, image recognition, and voice navigation was considered for this study to improve the reading experience and accessibility for the visually impaired "Sinhala Book Reader Mobile Application".

The quality of a Text-to-Speech (TTS) system depends on its ability to imitate human speech and ensure clear understanding. The absence of natural expressions in TTS output has a substantial influence on application usability. This emphasizes a key issue in TTS development for creating a synthesized speech [2] that closely matches the human voice from the text. TTS technology's major goal is to recreate the complete range of human speech, including different speech patterns, subtleties, and intonations, while reducing the mechanical or robotic quality of the output voice.

The Sinhala language, the mother tongue of most Sri Lankans, is a crucial area for TTS development due to its complexities and nuances. Despite the large number of Sinhala speakers in Sri Lanka, there is a need for research on Sinhala voice recognition. The complexities of the Sinhala language make it difficult for computers to understand and reproduce it. Currently, there is little progress in developing TTS systems for the Sinhala language. However, this is a key research frontier that must be explored. An efficient TTS system for Sinhala would bridge the gap between human language skills and machine-generated speech [1], improving user experiences and bridging the gap between human language skills and machine-generated speech. There have been only a few attempts made to develop a Sinhala language TTS. This is still a major research area that requires investigation, which is one of the key motivations for this research.

In an increasingly digitized world, accessibility to information and literature remains a challenge for visually impaired individuals. Mobile technology and Optical Character Recognition (OCR) can solve this issue. This introduction elucidates the significance of mobile-based Sinhala book readers employing OCR technology as a transformative solution for individuals with visual impairments. By harnessing the power of mobile devices and OCR, these readers offer the potential to convert printed Sinhala text into accessible digital formats, thereby facilitating independent and inclusive access to literature for visually impaired individuals. This section introduces the key components of this paper, including the integration of OCR technology, the unique context of the Sinhala language, and the overarching goal of enhancing accessibility and enriching the reading experiences of visually impaired individuals [3].

Our Sinhala book reader app for blind users delivers a ground-breaking feature: picture detection within Sinhala children's books, at the nexus of accessibility and education. By allowing those who are blind to enjoy the rich world of



Creating the poster



AudioSight

AudioSight

A MOBILE APPLICATION TO HELP VISUALLY IMPAIRED CHILDREN FOR READING BOOKS

Supervisor - Prof. Koliya Pulasinghe Co-supervisor -Ms. Poorna Panduwawala

INTRODUCTION

Traditional braille systems are becoming outdated, and computer-assisted braille and text-do-speed reystems are becoming more common. However, these technologies are not widely available in Shinala and are expensive for the average Sri Lankan. To address this, an Android-based solution called the "Shinala Book Reader Micbile Application" was developed utilizing ORF. ITS, imaging and address the shinal solution called a second and accessfully.

reading experience and accessority.

In today's digital world, people with visual imparaments face challenges in accessing information and titerature. However, the use of the property of the

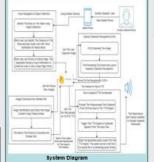
RRESEARCH PROBLEM

METHODOLOGY

The aim of this research is to create a Sinhala book reader for visually impaired children that utilizes mobile technology. The development process involves a comprehensive analysis of user needs in collaboration with visually impaired youngsters and assistive technology sperits. The process includes the incorporation of GCR technology that can effectively recognize the nuances of the Sinhala script, the creation of a user-friendly interface with sacille and auditory feedback, and the implementation of a technologoech synthesis that accurately viocalized digitated Sinhala text. The main functions we have addressed here are.

1. Sinhala Optical Character Recognition (DCR) System.

- The main functions we have addressed here are 1. Sinhala Optical Character Recognitic 2. Sinhala Text-to-Speech (TTS) System 3. Sinhala Voice Navigation System. 4. Object Detection System.



OBJECTIVES

- Optical Character Recognition (OCR)
 Text-to-Speech (TTS) Synthesizer
 Object Detection & Voice Navigation
 Image Detection

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This app is designed for trind Sinhala readers and offers a range of helpful features, such as OCR, TTS symhesis, object recognition and novigation, and picture detection. The OCR feature has been successful in accurately contacting Sinhala best from printed images with a 93% accuracy rate. Users have been highly satisfied with Per TTS synthesis system, which has a 97% customer satisfaction rate and can convert extracted Sivilala text in the relativity of the state of th

CONCLUSIONS

REFERENCES

[1] WHO, World report on vision, sol. 214, no. 14, 2019. [Online]. Available: https://www.who.in/publications-dates/social-sport-on-vision.

ap. 623–628, 2019. doi: 10.1008/CDSE.2016.546006.
3314. July and C.R. Saranya, A. Pall Research on Anthrold Based Visco Recognition Application, 1nt. J. Recom Technol. Eng., vol. 8, no. 4, pp. 1272–7277.
2010. doi: 10.356/40/jnn.15264.154910.
4) S. Charech, S. Pal, and U. Falt Vindro-doise Sinhais Barril and Englah script sherrification using Gaussian Series Series. – int. Conf. Pattern Recognit, pr. Faltoniay 2015; 2000. doi: 10.1008/epi.2008.07816.
31) E. Catego, "Analysis of Sinhais Lang Natural Language Professioning Series Language Language Professioning Series Language Professioning Series Language Professioning Series Language Language Professioning Series Language Langu