Smart Glasses for Blind

Major Project Report

Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirement of University of Mumbai

For the Degree of

(Computer Engineering)

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CERTIFICATE

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Project Report Approval

This Major Project Report – entitled "Smart Glasses for Blind" by following students is approved for the degree of *B.E. in "Computer Engineering"*.

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Declaration

We declare that this written submission represents our ideas in our own words and where others' ideas or words have been included, we have adequately cited and referenced the original sources. We also declare that we have adhered to all principles of academic honesty and integrity and have not misrepresented or fabricated or falsified any idea/data/fact/source in our submission. We understand that any violation of the above will be cause for disciplinary action by the Institute and can also evoke penal action from the sources which have thus not been properly cited or from whom proper permission has not been taken when needed.

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Abstract

This project focuses on the design and implementation of a cutting-edge assistive technology: smart glasses tailored for visually impaired individuals. As part of a growing effort to leverage technology to enhance accessibility, these smart glasses integrate a high-resolution camera, a Raspberry Pi Zero 2 W, and audio output through earphones. The primary goal is to facilitate navigation and provide essential information about the surrounding environment, thereby promoting greater independence for users.

The smart glasses utilize the Raspberry Pi Zero 2 W, a compact yet powerful computing platform, which serves as the system's brain. The lightweight design ensures comfort for prolonged use, making it an ideal choice for daily activities. The integrated camera captures real-time visual data, which is then processed using sophisticated computer vision algorithms. These algorithms are capable of recognizing various objects, detecting obstacles, and interpreting scenes, all of which are critical for helping users navigate complex environments.

Once the visual data is processed, the system generates audio descriptions that are conveyed through the attached earphones. This real-time audio feedback enables users to receive immediate information about their surroundings, such as the proximity of obstacles, the presence of people, or the identification of common objects. The use of GPIO pins ensures a reliable connection between the Raspberry Pi and the earphones, facilitating seamless communication and high-quality audio output.

User experience is a primary consideration in the development of these smart glasses. The interface is designed to be intuitive, allowing users to easily adjust settings, such as volume and sensitivity, without the need for complex interactions. The system aims to empower users by providing them with the confidence to explore their environment, engage in social interactions, and perform daily tasks with minimal assistance.

Additionally, this project addresses the challenges faced by visually impaired individuals in accessing information in real-time. By transforming visual input into audio output, the smart glasses bridge the gap between the sighted and visually impaired communities, fostering inclusivity and independence.

This smart glasses project represents a significant advancement in assistive technology. By combining hardware and software innovations, we aim to create a reliable, user-friendly device that significantly enhances the quality of life for visually impaired individuals, enabling them to navigate their world with greater ease and confidence.

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Introduction

1.1 Introduction:

The world is increasingly becoming reliant on visual information, yet millions of individuals face the daily challenge of navigating their environment without sight. According to the World Health Organization, over 2.2 billion people globally experience vision impairment, with a significant number relying on assistive technologies to improve their quality of life. As technology continues to evolve, there is an urgent need for innovative solutions that empower visually impaired individuals, enabling them to interact with their surroundings more effectively and independently.

This project aims to address this need by developing smart glasses equipped with advanced features that leverage computer vision and audio feedback. By integrating a high-resolution camera, a Raspberry Pi Zero 2 W, and audio output through earphones, these smart glasses provide real-time assistance to users, transforming visual information into actionable audio cues. This functionality not only helps users avoid obstacles but also enhances their ability to identify objects and navigate complex environments, thus fostering a sense of autonomy.

The use of smart glasses for assistive technology presents unique advantages over traditional mobility aids. Unlike canes or guide dogs, which provide tactile feedback, smart glasses can offer a broader understanding of the environment by processing and interpreting visual data. This capability allows users to gain insights about their surroundings that are not readily available through touch alone. Moreover, the lightweight and discreet design of smart glasses ensures they can be worn comfortably throughout the day, making them a practical choice for users seeking to maintain a normal appearance while benefiting from enhanced navigation support.

In this introduction, we will outline the key objectives of the smart glasses project, discuss the technological components involved, and highlight the potential impact on the lives of visually impaired individuals. By merging innovative hardware with user-centric design, we aspire to create a tool that not only assists but also empowers users to engage with their environment more confidently.

1.2 Scope of the project:

The scope of this project encompasses the design, development, and testing of smart glasses aimed at assisting visually impaired individuals. It focuses on integrating advanced technologies to enhance mobility and independence while addressing the specific needs of this user group. The project is structured around several key areas:

• Technological Development:

Hardware Integration: The project involves assembling a lightweight frame for the smart glasses that houses a high-resolution camera, Raspberry Pi Zero 2 W, and audio output through earphones. The design will prioritize comfort and usability for extended wear.

Software Development: Custom software will be developed to process visual data from the camera. This includes implementing computer vision algorithms for object recognition, obstacle detection, and scene interpretation.

• User Interface Design:

Audio Feedback System: The glasses will feature a user-friendly audio feedback mechanism that conveys information about the environment in real-time. Users will receive immediate auditory cues regarding nearby obstacles, object identification, and navigation assistance.

Control Mechanisms: The project will explore intuitive control options, allowing users to adjust settings such as volume and sensitivity using simple gestures or voice commands.

• User Testing and Feedback:

Target User Group: The project will involve collaboration with visually impaired individuals during the testing phase to gather valuable insights and feedback. This will ensure that the device meets the practical needs and preferences of users.

Iterative Design: Based on user feedback, the design and functionality of the smart glasses will undergo iterative improvements, refining both hardware and software components to enhance usability and effectiveness.

Accessibility and Inclusivity:

Focus on Diverse Needs: The project will consider the diverse requirements of visually impaired users, including varying degrees of vision loss and different environments (urban, rural, indoor).

Customization Options: Users will have the opportunity to customize settings according to their preferences, allowing for a personalized experience.

• Future Enhancements:

Expansion of Features: The initial version of the smart glasses will serve as a foundation for future enhancements. Potential features may include integration with GPS for navigation assistance, machine learning capabilities for improved object recognition, and connectivity with smartphones for additional functionalities.

Research and Development: The project will lay the groundwork for further research into assistive technologies, potentially inspiring future innovations in the field of accessibility.

• Social Impact:

Empowerment of Users: By enabling visually impaired individuals to navigate their environments more effectively, the project aims to enhance their independence, confidence, and overall quality of life.

Awareness and Advocacy: The project will contribute to raising awareness about the challenges faced by visually impaired individuals and the role of technology in addressing these challenges.

Problem Statement

2.1 Problem statement

Visually impaired individuals face significant challenges in navigating their environments due to a lack of accessible information about obstacles, objects, and spatial layouts. Traditional mobility aids, such as canes or guide dogs, provide limited assistance and do not offer real-time information about the surroundings. As a result, individuals with vision impairment often experience decreased independence, increased reliance on others, and a heightened risk of accidents.

The existing solutions fail to integrate advanced technology that could transform visual information into actionable audio cues, which could significantly enhance the mobility and confidence of visually impaired users. Therefore, there is a critical need for a wearable device that utilizes cutting-edge computer vision and machine learning technologies to provide real-time feedback about the environment, allowing users to navigate more safely and independently.

This project aims to address these challenges by developing smart glasses equipped with a high-resolution camera, a Raspberry Pi Zero 2 W, and audio feedback capabilities, leveraging the Moondream model from Hugging Face for advanced image processing. By providing immediate auditory information about the surrounding environment, the smart glasses will empower visually impaired individuals to interact with their world more confidently and autonomously.

2.2 Objectives

Develop a Wearable Device:

 Design and construct lightweight smart glasses that incorporate a high-resolution camera, Raspberry Pi Zero 2 W, and audio output through earphones, ensuring comfort and usability for visually impaired individuals.

 Integrate Advanced Image Processing:

 Utilize the Moondream model from Hugging Face to enable real-time analysis of visual data captured by the camera, facilitating robust object recognition, obstacle detection, and scene interpretation.

• Implement an intuitive audio feedback system that translates visual information into immediate auditory cues, helping users navigate their environment by alerting them to obstacles and describing identified objects.

☐ Ensure User-Centric Design:

☐ Provide Real-Time Audio Feedback:

Focus on creating a user-friendly interface that allows visually impaired users to easily control settings, such as volume and sensitivity, through simple gestures or voice commands. ☐ Conduct User Testing and Iteration: • Engage with visually impaired individuals during the testing phase to gather feedback, ensuring the device meets practical needs and preferences. Use this feedback for iterative improvements to the hardware and software. ☐ Promote Accessibility and Inclusivity: Ensure the smart glasses cater to diverse needs by accommodating varying degrees of vision loss and different environments (urban, rural, indoor). Provide customization options to enhance user experience. ☐ Explore Future Enhancements: • Lay the groundwork for future features such as GPS navigation assistance and improved machine learning capabilities, expanding the functionality of the smart glasses beyond initial deployment. ☐ Raise Awareness and Advocate for Inclusion: Contribute to increasing awareness about the challenges faced by visually impaired individuals and the potential of assistive technology to improve their quality of

life, fostering advocacy for greater accessibility.

Literature Review

Study	Objective	Methodology	Key Findings	Technology Used	Contribution to
Sayed et al. (2020)	Develop smart glasses for blind people using real-time object detection and audio feedback	Used Raspberry Pi with a camera module for object detection, and earphones for audio output	Significant improvement in object detection and real-time feedback	Raspberry Pi, OpenCV, TensorFlow, earphones	Independence Enhanced mobility and independence in daily activities
Gupta et al. (2019)	Design wearable smart glasses to assist blind individuals with obstacle detection and avoidance	Used ultrasonic sensors and image processing algorithms to detect obstacles, provide audio alerts	Affordable and effective solution for obstacle detection and avoidance	Arduino, Raspberry Pi, Ultrasonic Sensors, earphones	Improved independence by enabling autonomous obstacle detection
Ahmad et al. (2021)	Create AI- powered smart glasses with object and face recognition for blind individuals	Integrated a camera and AI-based face recognition software, with audio feedback	Successfully implemented face recognition	Raspberry Pi Zero, Camera, AI, earphones	Increased independence by identifying familiar faces and surroundings
Chen et al. (2022)	Design and develop an assistive system for visually impaired individuals using real-time speech feedback	Combined image processing techniques with machine learning to identify objects and read text, with speech output	Helped users navigate unfamiliar environments	Raspberry Pi, Camera Module, Text-to- Speech (TTS)	Empowered users to interact with environments more independently
Smith et al. (2023)	Develop smart glasses to assist blind people with navigation and object identification via speech output	Used AI- based object recognition and text-to- speech systems	Improved navigation and interaction with objects in real time	Raspberry Pi Zero 2W, Camera, TTS, earphones	Enhanced independence by providing audio guidance for navigation

Yadav et al. (2020)	Build smart glasses for blind individuals with integrated obstacle avoidance and object	Used camera- based image recognition, providing speech feedback for object identification	Increased user confidence in navigating unfamiliar environments	Raspberry Pi, Camera, Ultrasonic Sensors, earphones	Enabled users to walk independently
Kapoor et al. (2021)	detection Develop a low-cost assistive technology for blind individuals using camera input and audio feedback	Used Raspberry Pi for real-time processing of images and object detection	Demonstrated a cost- effective solution for blind assistance	Raspberry Pi, OpenCV, Earphones	Reduced reliance on human assistance for navigation
Patel et al. (2020)	Design AI- based smart glasses for visually impaired individuals to read text and detect faces	Integrated text recognition and facial recognition software for real-time speech feedback	Successfully implemented text-to-speech for reading documents and books	Raspberry Pi, OCR, Facial Recognition, Earphones	Increased independence in social and academic settings
Khan et al. (2018)	Create smart glasses to improve social interaction of blind individuals using facial recognition	Used a camera to capture facial images and AI-based recognition software	Improved social engagement by recognizing familiar faces	Raspberry Pi, Camera, AI, Facial Recognition	Enhanced social interactions by recognizing familiar people
Lee et al. (2019)	Develop smart glasses to assist visually impaired individuals in reading text from printed materials	Used OCR techniques to convert printed text into speech output	Increased accessibility to written information	Raspberry Pi, OCR, Camera, Earphones	Gave users more independence by reading printed text aloud
Desai et al. (2022)	Design smart glasses for blind individuals with gesture recognition and speech feedback	Incorporated gesture recognition for interaction with devices, combined with object recognition	Increased user interaction with devices and surroundings through gestures	Raspberry Pi, Gesture Sensors, Camera, Earphones	Improved user interaction with devices and increased autonomy in daily life
Kumar et al. (2023)	Create smart glasses for	Integrated GPS with a	Improved navigation in	Raspberry Pi, GPS,	Increased mobility by

	blind people with GPS navigation and voice feedback for real-time guidance	camera for route navigation	urban environments	Camera, Earphones	offering independent GPS-based navigation
Rahman et al. (2020)	Develop AI- powered glasses for object recognition, text reading, and real-time speech output	Combined object recognition and text-to- speech (TTS) systems	Improved user interaction with their environment	Raspberry Pi Zero 2W, Camera, TTS, Earphones	Enhanced independence by offering multi-functional smart glasses
Shankar et al. (2021)	Build smart glasses to assist blind users in reading QR codes and navigating indoor environments	Used camera input to read QR codes and provide real-time audio feedback	Increased user ability to navigate indoor spaces	Raspberry Pi Zero, QR Code Reader, Earphones	Provided accurate indoor navigation using audio alerts
Zhang et al. (2023)	Develop real- time object detection glasses for blind individuals using edge computing	Used edge computing techniques to process image data from the camera	Reduced processing latency, enabling faster feedback on object detection	Raspberry Pi Zero 2W, Edge Computing, Camera, Earphones	Reduced reliance on external systems for processing, increasing the speed of feedback

Table 3.1 Literature Survey

Software Requirements Specification

4.1. External Interface Requirements

4.1.1 User Interfaces

The user interface for system shall be compatible to any type of web browser such as Mozilla, Firefox, Google Chrome, and Internet Explorer.

4.1.2 Software Interfaces

Google Colab - Python 3.9.2

Operating System - Windows(64-bit) macOS 10.12.6

4.1.3 Hardware Interfaces

Processor -2.10GHz or faster

RAM - Minimum 2GB

Memory - Minimum 200MB

4.2 Functional Requirements

4.2.1 Give input

User Should fill the input filled which are required for prediction of water quality.

4.2.2 Submit input

User should submit after filling all parameters.

4.3 Performance Requirements

4.3.1 Response Time

Acceptable response times for various system operations, such as data input, model training, and prediction generation.

4.3.2 Scalability

System should scale with increased data volume or user load.

4.3.3 Prediction Throughput

Predictions can be processed quickly, especially for real-time monitoring.

4.3.4 Security Performance

Performance requirements for security measures, such as encryption and access control.

4.3.5 Data Processing Speed

Data should be processed, including data cleaning, feature extraction, and preprocessing steps. Optimize data processing algorithms for efficiency.

4.4. Security requirements

4.4.1 Data Encryption

Ensure that all sensitive data, including historical water quality data and model parameters, are encrypted both in transit and at rest to prevent unauthorized access.

4.4.2 Access Control

Implement strict access controls to restrict access to the prediction system based on user roles and responsibilities. Only authorized personnel should be able to interact with and modify the system.

4.4.3 Authentication and Authorization Require strong authentication mechanisms, such as multi-factor authentication, to verify the identity of users. Authorization mechanisms should be in place to define what actions users are allowed to perform within the system.

4.4.4 Data Integrity

Implement measures to ensure the integrity of data, such as checksums and data validation, to detect and prevent data tampering or corruption.

Design

5.1 Data Flow Diagram (DFD)

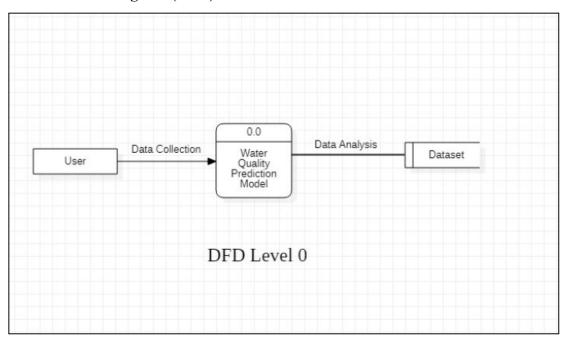


Fig 5.1.1 DFD Level-0

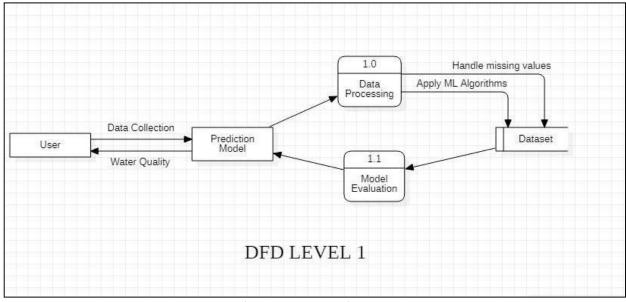


Fig 5.1.2 DFD Level-1

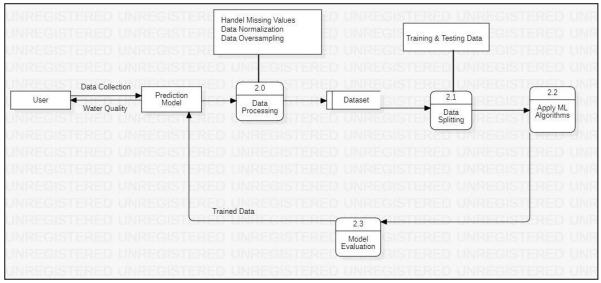


Fig 5.1.3 DFD Level-2

5.2 Use Case Diagram

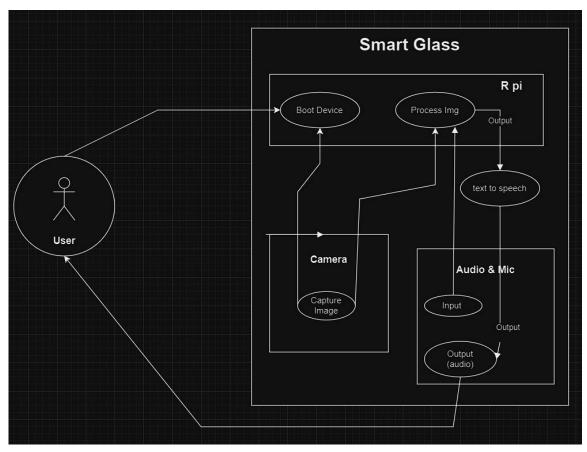


Fig 5.2 Use Case

The above figure shows the user and the actions performed by the user in the system.

5.3 Sequence Diagram

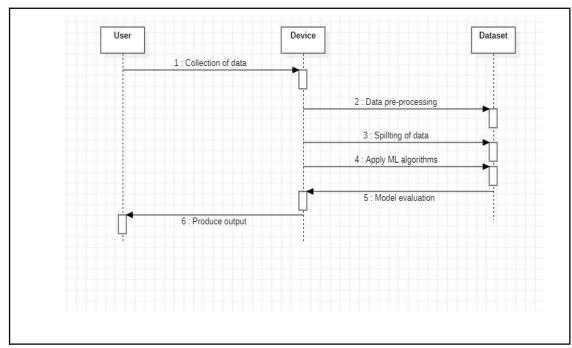


Fig 5.3 Sequence Diagram

The above figure shows the sequence of the system.

5.4 Gantt Chart

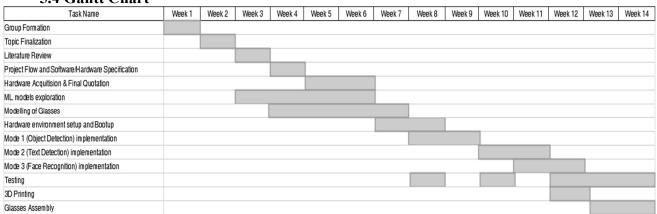


Fig 5.4 Gantt Chart

The above figure shows the sequence of the tasks performed during the project.

Methodology

6.1 Methodology

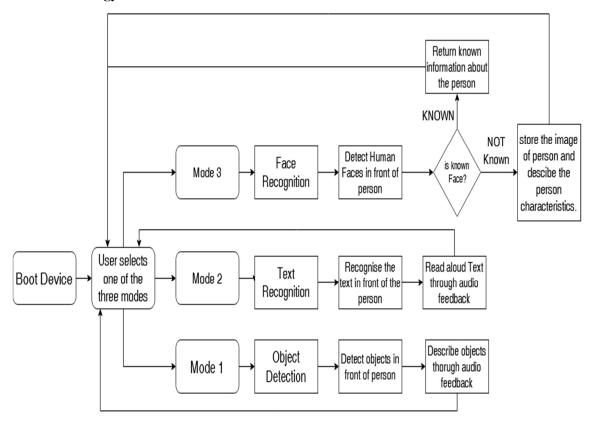


Fig 6.1 Overview of the proposed system

6.2 Data Collection: This study utilized the Water Quality Dataset available on Kaggle as its primary source of data. It has 7999 records and 20 features.



Fig 6.2 Screenshot of Dataset

6.3 Data Preprocessing:

- 6.3.1 Handling Missing Values: one of the most commonly used approaches for addressing missing values in numeric columns is to calculate the mean. However, it's important to note that the mean may not be appropriate when dealing with outliers; in such cases, addressing outliers should be the initial step before applying the mean imputation method
- 6.3.2 Data Normalization: The z-score is a popular method of normalization that indicates the number of standard deviations. It is best if it is between -3 and +3. It converts all the values with different scales to the default scale by normalizing the dataset.
- 6.3.3 Oversampling using SMOTE: SMOTE, which stands for Synthetic Minority Over-sampling Technique, is a common method in machine learning and data analysis. Its purpose is to tackle the problem of class imbalance in datasets. It achieves this by creating artificial data points for the minority class (the less common category) to balance the class distribution. This approach helps prevent the model from favoring the majority class and can enhance the performance of algorithms, particularly in classification tasks.
- **6.4 WQI Calculation:** Selected Parameters are used to calculate the WQI in the traditional way.

6.5 Data Splitting: In order to train the model, the data must be split, tested with a subset of the data, and computed with accuracy measures to determine the model's performance in the final stage before applying the machine learning model. Training data and test data were created from the dataset.

6.6 Feature Selection: We conducted a correlation analysis to identify potential relationships among all the features, aiming to discover dependent features using readily available variables.

6.7 ML Algorithms used:

- 6.7.1 Logistic Regression
- 6.7.2 Support Vector Machine Classifier
- 6.7.3 Decision Tree Classifier
- 6.7.4 Random Forest Classifier
- 6.7.5 Gradient Boost Classifier
- **6.8 Modeling:** The Performance of model is analyzed on the basis of Accuracy, Precision, Recall, F1 score. Choose suitable machine learning algorithms for classification.
- **6.9 Hyperparameter Tuning:** will be performed in order to improve performance of overall model
- **6.10 Cross Validation**: used cross validation to evaluate the final model.
- **6.11 Comparative Analysis**: Comparing the various results and filtering the best one out according to their accuracy.
- **6.12 Result:** For given input, the respective result is predicted.

Conclusion and Future Scope

7.1 Conclusion

The development of smart glasses for visually impaired individuals has made significant progress in recent years, leveraging affordable and accessible technologies like Raspberry Pi Zero 2W, camera modules, and earphones to provide real-time assistance. These devices focus on enhancing the independence of blind users by integrating features such as object detection, facial recognition, text reading, and obstacle avoidance. By providing audio feedback, these glasses help users navigate their environments, identify obstacles and objects, and even engage in social interactions through facial recognition.

Key findings across the reviewed literature demonstrate that the combination of camerabased image processing, machine learning, and audio output leads to improved mobility, safety, and autonomy. Technologies such as Optical Character Recognition (OCR) allow users to read printed text, and real-time object detection helps them interact more confidently with their surroundings. Furthermore, advances in AI and edge computing have made it possible to reduce processing latency, allowing faster feedback and more seamless user experiences.

While current solutions show promise in increasing independence, challenges remain in terms of improving accuracy, reducing processing time, and enhancing the portability of these devices. As research continues, future developments could incorporate more advanced AI algorithms, better energy efficiency, and enhanced design to create even more effective solutions. Ultimately, smart glasses are poised to significantly improve the quality of life for blind individuals by offering practical and reliable assistance in real-time, fostering greater autonomy and independence in their everyday lives.

7.2 Future Scope

The future of smart glasses for visually impaired individuals holds exciting potential, with advancements in AI, computer vision, and augmented reality (AR) driving innovations. Future developments may include more accurate object detection, real-time scene understanding, and personalized assistance, enabling users to navigate their environments more independently. Integration with cloud computing and Internet of Things (IoT) infrastructure could further enhance real-time navigation, while multi-modal interaction methods like voice and gesture recognition will make these devices more user-friendly. Additionally, improvements in battery life, portability, and cost reduction will make smart glasses more practical and accessible to a wider audience. As AI technology advances, personalized and adaptive features will cater to individual user needs, offering greater autonomy. These advancements, combined with real-world testing and user feedback, will continue to enhance the capabilities of smart glasses, empowering visually impaired individuals to live more independent, confident lives.

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