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Rule-based Myanmar Language Chatbot for Travel and Tourism Domain

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Introduction

- Chatbot is a computer program that can communicate with human through natural language via text or voice input.
- Artitificial Intelligence (AI) or Natural Language Processing (NLP) is usually embedded in a chatbot to understand the context and perform much more complicated tasks than what a bot does
- Travel and tourism chatbot is a human-computer dialog system that operates through natural language via text.
- This proposed system is a virtual assistant programmed to automatically answer user requests and can perform as a travel adviser for local travelers
- It can provide 24-7 customer services and support.

Aim and Objectives

Aim

To help the users who want to travel around Myanmar

Objectives

- To provide transportation advices for the users
- To give suggestion and recommendation places for travellers
- To suggest suitable moments for the trip
- To make local people easy and comfortable for their trip

Data Preparation and Collection

- Prepare and collect parallel Myanmar sentences (Questions and Answers).
- Collect 7394 parallel Myanmar sentences for Mon State, Kachin State, Shan
 State, Mandalay and Pyin Oo Lwin regions

For example:

```
Q - မွန် ပြည်နယ် မှာ အထင်ကရ နေရာ တွေ က ဘယ် နေရာ တွေ လဲ ။
```

A - မွန် ပြည်နယ် မှာ အထင်ကရ နေရာ တွေ က ကျိုက်ထီးရိုး ဘုရား ၊ ကျိုက္ခမီ ရေလယ် ဘုရား တို့ ဖြစ်

တယ် ။

 \mathbf{Q} - မန္တလေး မှာ ဘာ ဘုရား တွေ ရှိ လဲ ။

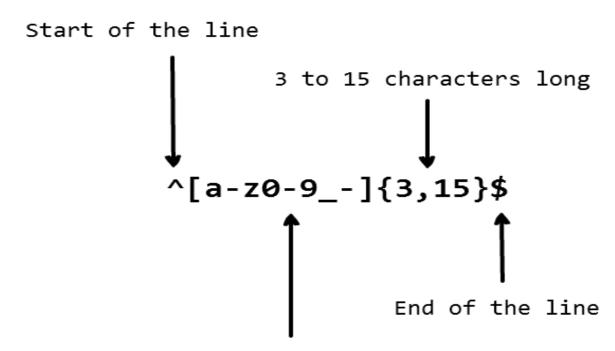
A - မဟာမြတ်မှနိ ဘုရား ၊ မန္တလေး တောင် တို့ ရှိ ပါတယ် ။

Q - ကချင် ပြည်နယ် ရဲ့ မြို့တော် က ဘယ် မြို့ လဲ ။

A - ကချင် ပြည်နယ် ရဲ့ မြို့တော် က မြစ်ကြီးနား မြို့ ဖြစ် ပါ တယ် ။

Regular Expression (RE)

- RE is a special sequence of characters that help match or find other strings using specialized pattern
- Build RE pattern with python re module



letters, numbers, underscores, hyphens

Cont'd

Parallel corpus that we created in the database

A - မွန်ပြည်နယ် မှာ ကျိုက်ထီးရိုး ဆံတော်ရှင် စေတီ၊ ကျိုက္ခမီ ဘုရား ... တို့ ရှိ ပါတယ် ။

A - မွန်ပြည်နယ် မှာ စက်စဲကမ်းခြေ၊ ကဗျာဝကမ်းခြေ ... တို့ ရှိ ပါတယ် ။

- Regular Expression pattern
 - r'(.*မွန်ပြည်နယ်.*ဘုရား.*)'
 - r'(.*မွန်ပြည်နယ်.*ကမ်းခြေ.*)'

User Input - မွန်ပြည်နယ် မှာ ရှိတဲ့ ဘုရား တွေ ကို သိ ချင် ပါတယ် ။

Chatbot - မွန်ပြည်နယ် မှာ ကျိုက်ထီးရိုး ဆံတော်ရှင် စေတီ၊ ကျိုက္ခမီ ဘုရား ... တို့ ရှိ ပါတယ် ။

User input - မွန်ပြည်နယ် မှာ ရှိတဲ့ ကမ်းခြေ တွေ ကို အလည် သွား ချင် ပါတယ် ။

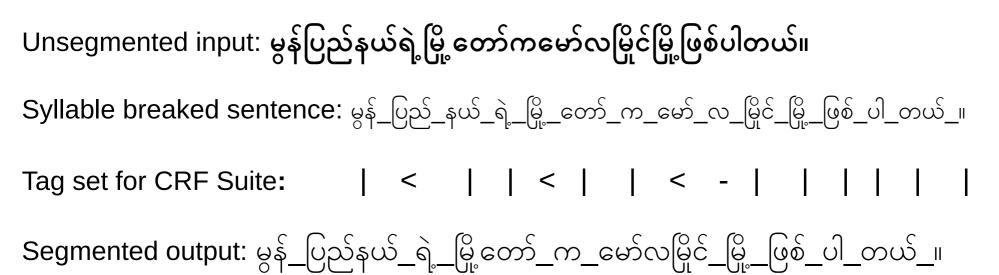
Chatbot - မွန်ပြည်နယ် မှာ စက်စဲကမ်းခြေ၊ ကဗျာဝကမ်းခြေ ... တို့ ရှိ ပါတယ် ။

Word Segmentation

- In Myanmar text, spaces are not usually inserted for word boundaries
- Words are composed of single or multiple syllables, not usually separated by white spaces
- Conditional Random Fields (CRFs) is used to develop segmentation model
- To segment Myanmar Sentences using CRF Suite
 - → Break sentence into syllable word
 - → Tag each syllable words with segmentation tags (labeling)
 - → Train the segmentation model using Conditional Random Fields (CRF suite)

Cont'd

Tag number	Tag	Position
1	<	The first syllable/character in a word
2	-	Represents both < and
3	I	Final syllable/character in a word



POS Tagging (Part of Speech)

- POS tagging is used to extract keywords from the user input and to measure string similarity between user input and existing question in database
- Only keywords (noun, verb, adj, adv) are selected and all other words (part, ppm, conj and etc) are dropped
- The input sentence is tagged with the following POS tag
 - Abbreviation(abb) → ∞∞m (Basic Education High School)
 - Adjective(adj) → ရဲရင့် (brave), လှပ (beautiful)
 - Adverb(adv) → ဖြေးဖြေး (slow), နည်းနည်း (less)
 - Conjunction(conj) → နှင့် (and), သို့မဟုတ် (or)
 - Foreign Word(fw) → 1, 2, 3, Myanmar, BBQ

- Verb(v) → നൂညီ (help), သွား (go), စား (eat)
- Noun(n) → ကျောင်း (school), စာအုပ် (book)
- Number(num) \rightarrow \circ (1), \downarrow (2), \uparrow (3)
- Particle(part) → များ (plural nouns as "-s", "-es"), လိမ့် (will)
- Post-positional Marker(ppm) → သည်, က, ကို, သို့, (at,on,in,to)
- Pronoun(pron) → ကျွန်တော် (I), ကျွန်မ (I), သင် (You), သူ (He)

Cont'd

• Unsegmented sentence:

Segmented sentence:

POS tagged sentence:

• Keyword for string similarity: မွန်_ပြည်နယ်_အထင်ကရ_ဘုရား_သိ

String Similarity

- Compare a set of two strings that how much these two strings be closed
- Use Damerau-Levenshtein Distance algorithm
- Find minimum distance between the two strings are with these operations; deletion, insertion, substitution and transposition

```
Insertion eg. cat > cart
```

Deletion eg. cart > cat

Substitution eg. cart > dart

- Transposition eg. water > watre
- Distance ('a cat', 'an cat') → 1
- Distance ('a cat', 'an act') → 2

Cont'd

Parallel corpus

```
Q - ရေးမြို့ မှာ ဘာ ကမ်းခြေ တွေ ရှိ လဲ။
```

A - ရေးမြို့ မှာ ကဗျာဝကမ်းခြေ၊ ပင်လယ်ဝကမ်းခြေ တို့ ရှိ ပါတယ်။

 \mathbf{Q} - ရေးမြို့ မှာ ဘာ ဘုရား တွေ ရှိ လဲ။

A - ရေး မြို့ မှာ လေးမျက်နှာ ဘုရား ကြီး၊ ကျိုက်မင်းပလော့ ဆံတော်ရှင် စေတီ ... တို့ ရှိ ပါတယ်။

Example of how similar two strings and the extracted keywords from the user input and existing question in database

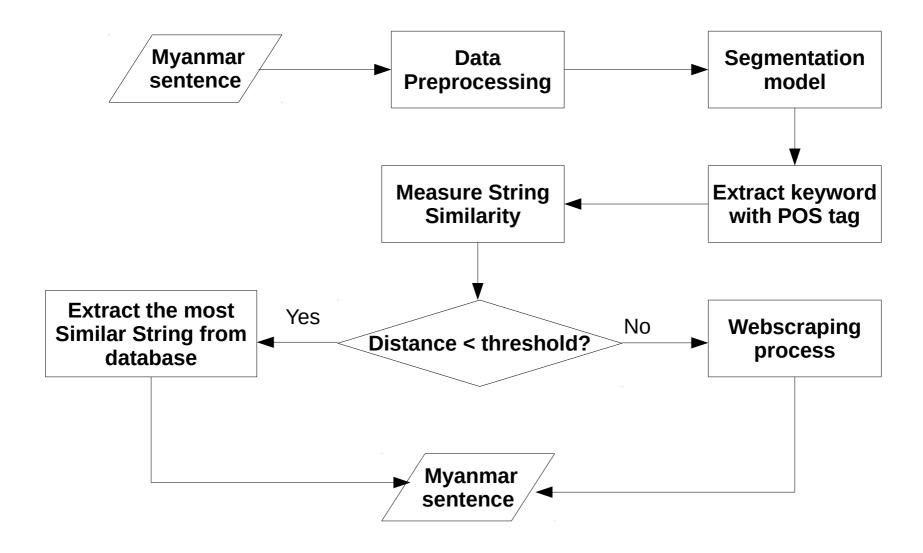
User input – ရေးမြို့ မှာ ကမ်းခြေ တွေ ကို လည် ချင် တယ် ။

Distance ("ရေးမြို့ မှာ ဘာ ကမ်းခြေ တွေ ရှိ လဲ။" , "ရေးမြို့ ကမ်းခြေ လည်") \rightarrow 17

Distance ("ရေးမြို့ မှာ ဘာ ဘုရား တွေ ရှိ လဲ။" , "ရေးမြို့ ကမ်းခြေ လည်") \rightarrow 23

Chatbot Reply - "ရေးမြို့ မှာ ကဗျာဝကမ်းခြေ၊ ပင်လယ်ဝကမ်းခြေ တို့ ရှိ ပါတယ်။"

System Design



System Implementation

- Python 3.7.3
- Flask framework

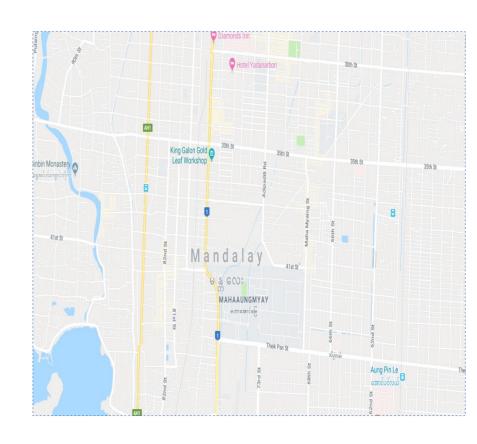
Python Library

- Python re module
- Beautifulsoup4
- Urllib2
- request
- google_images_download

Google Map Implementation

- Google map feature is used to search and reply google map when the users ask questions about the location or direction
- Regular expression pattern to check if the user asks for the location or direction:

• User input – ပြင်ဦးလွင် မြို့ ကို **လမ်းညွှန်** ပေး ပါ ဦး ။



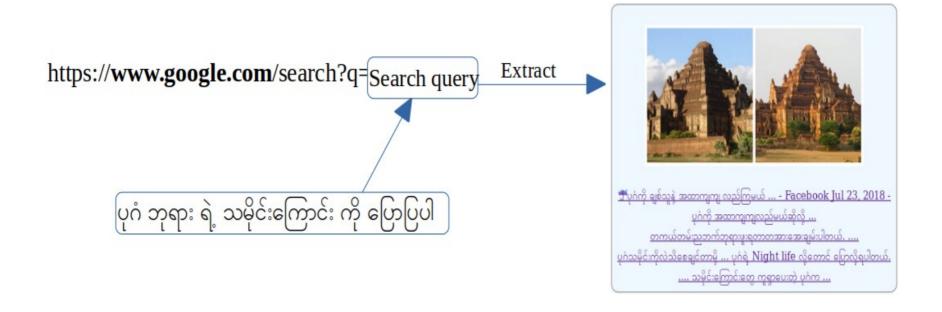
YouTube Video Implementation

- Chatbot can reply both text message and videos from YouTube that the user can be satisfied.
- Beautifulsoup4 and urllib libraries are used to implement YouTube Videos
- Example of search query -
 - Url → "https://www.youtube.com/results? search_query=" + query
- User input ကချင် ပြည်နယ် က လှ လား ။
- Chatbot Scrape YouTube video that is corresponding with the user search input



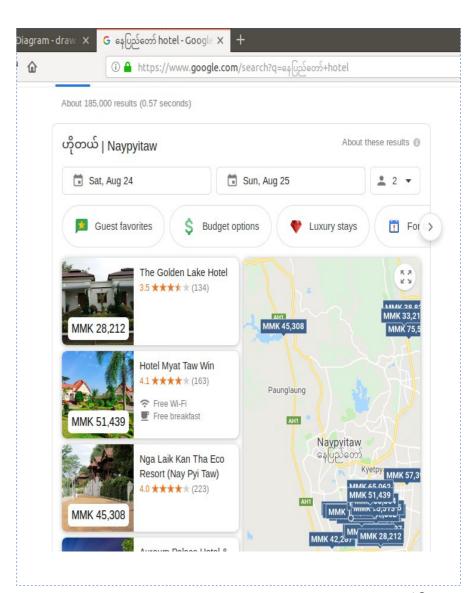
Web Scraping Link, Image for out of Database State

 Chatbot will also response search results with corresponding website link, description and images about the user input from Google

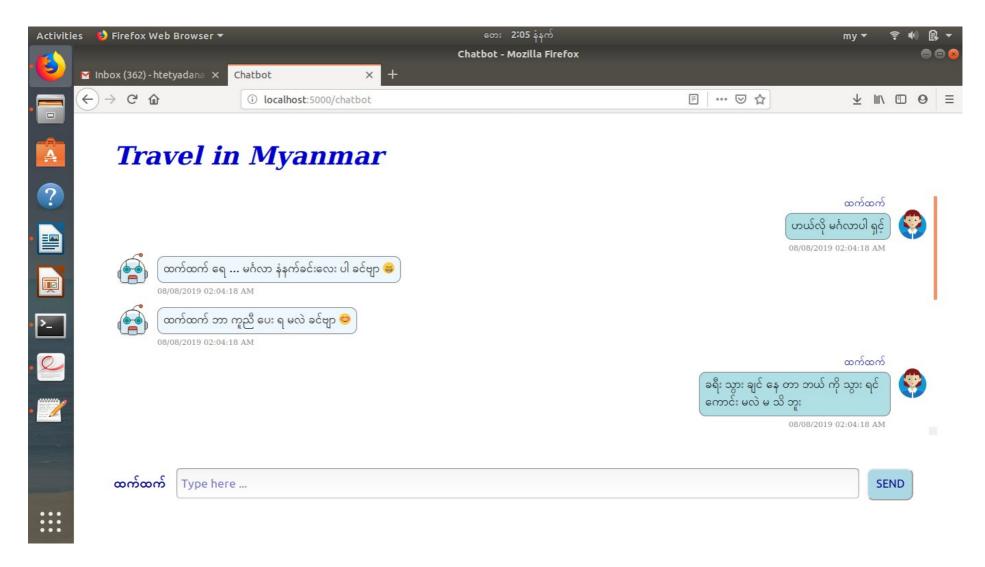


Scraping Hotel Link

- Chatbot can reply hotel link, description and price of hotel
- Regular Expression pattern to check if the input is to search Hotel
 - .*ဟိုတယ်.*
 - *ဟော်တယ်.*
 - .*တည်းခိုခန်း.*
 - .*hotel.
 - *မိုတယ် *
- User input နေပြည်တော် မှာ ဘာ **ဟိုတယ်** တွေ ရှိ လဲ။
- Url → https://www.google.com/search q=နေပြည်တော်**+hotel**



System output



Evaluation

- A Likert scale is a rating scale that measures how people feel about products, services, or experiences
- Eight user satisfaction survey questions are prepared and each question was defined with satisfaction range 1 to 5
- Ten conversation scenarios are created based on several categories such as pagodas, hotels, beaches, etc
- This system is evaluated with 16 users (13 females and 3 males), the age range is between 22 and 26

Overall Likert scale evaluation

	User 1	User 2	User 3	User 4	User 5	User 6	User 7	User 8	Overall
Easy to use	5	3	3	4	3	3	4	5	3.75
Easy to understand	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	2.88
Fast to reply	3	4	5	4	3	4	3	4	3.75
Satisfied on response	2	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	2.63
Expected response	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	3	2.63
Give help and advice	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	2.88
Resonable response	3	2	3	2	3	2	2	3	2.5
Future use	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	4	3.38

Features and Limitations

FEATURES

- Give informations about pagoda, popular events, famous places, restaurants, markets, hotels, beaches, waterfalls, monastery, weather, transportation
- Reply Google Links, images, YouTube videos, Google map direction when the user input is not in created database

LIMITATIONS

- Only questions about Mon State and Mandalay region can be replied because only data of these two places have been cleaned and structured
- Only Myanmar Language is supported

Future Extensions

- To prepare and collect more detailed informations about places in Myanmar
- To develop voice recognition between user-chatbot interaction
- To be enable to translate conversation of users and chatbot to English Language to support for the foreigners
- To develop chatbot interface on Messenger platform

Thank You ...

QUESTIONS?