

1 PanayHub: Digital Ontology with ChatBot on Folk Tales, Myths, and Legends

2 from Panay Island

3 A Special Problem Proposal

4 Presented to

5 the Faculty of the Division of Physical Sciences and Mathematics

6 College of Arts and Sciences

7 University of the Philippines Visayas

8 Miag-ao, Iloilo

9 In Partial Fulfillment

10 of the Requirements for the Degree of

11 Bachelor of Science in Computer Science by

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17 January 31, 2025

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## Abstract

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Currently, little work is being done on the development of digital ontologies, particularly that of the folklore of Western Visayas. However, there exists a digital ontology developed by Dimzon and Dimzon (2015a) which stores various Western Visayan oral traditions, including folk narratives. To fill this digital preservation gap, the researchers aimed to enhance and expand the original ontology to accompany more depth of information and store more folk narratives from Panay Island, specifically myths, legends, and folk tales. In addition, the researchers aimed to create a chatbot capable of providing insights and details on the stored Panayanon folk narratives. Specifically, the researchers aimed to create a knowledge base of Panayanon folk narratives and subsequently develop and train a chatbot to understand and answer inquiries about the Panayanon folk narratives.

**Keywords:** Philippine folk literature, Digital preservation,  
Ontology-based system, Chat bot

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## 78 Chapter 1

### 79 1 Introduction

#### 80 1.1 Overview

81 Philippine folk literature is the body of oral literature of the Filipino people.  
82 Folk literature typically undergoes classification into three categories: folk nar-  
83 ratives, folk speech, and folk songs. Myths, legends, and folktales are included  
84 in the category of folk narratives, a form of literature that provides a narra-  
85 tive through prose or verse, and will serve as the focus of this project. Myths  
86 and legends are both regarded as truthful accounts of the past that provide  
87 explanations for the origins of entities in the environment. However, myths  
88 are often sacred and linked with religion, whereas legends tend to be secular  
89 in nature. On the other hand, folktales are fictitious prose narratives typically  
90 employed for entertainment purposes (Eugenio, 2007). In addition to their roles  
91 in explaining origins or providing entertainment, these three forms of folk liter-  
92 ature often function as mediums for the communication of morals, traditions,  
93 and beliefs of the Filipino people. Eslit (2023) explored 10 popular folklores  
94 in the Philippines, examining their portrayal of Filipino culture and identity.  
95 Common themes in the analyzed folklore include environmental importance,  
96 respect for elders, and justice. These forms of folk literature have played sig-  
97 nificant roles in the conveyance and instillment of key values, traditions, and  
98 identity within particular ethnolinguistic groups. However, as Eugenio (2007)  
99 notes, there is a significant lack of collections of Philippine folk literature. Con-  
100 sequently, research on Philippine folk literature presents difficulties due to its  
101 wide dispersion across the country, the necessity for translations, and the rapid  
102 decline of this literary form, which limits available research. While there has  
103 been some work addressing these challenges, access has been limited due to cost

104 and dated nature.

105 According to (Dimzon & Dimzon, 2015a), there exists no digital ontology  
106 of Western Visayas folklore as digital ontology development was a new area of  
107 research. Their pioneering work serves as the start of the digitization of the  
108 Western Visayas folklore and is the basis of the researchers' work. With this,  
109 researchers propose the development of an ontology-based chatbot capable of  
110 answering questions and providing information about folk narratives, particu-  
111 larly those from Panay.

112 Jepsen (2009) offers a practical definition of ontology. Specifically, ontology  
113 as "a method of representing items of knowledge (ideas, facts, things—whatever)  
114 in a way that defines the relationships and classifications of concepts within a  
115 specified domain of knowledge." A chatbot is a software agent with the capabil-  
116 ity for engaging in human-like conversation. The researchers aim to provide the  
117 chatbot with knowledge and understanding of the relationships between con-  
118 cepts found in Panayanon folk narratives, which enables it to answer queries  
119 about them. Through the proposed system, the creation of a central hub of  
120 knowledge on Panayanon folk narratives facilitates the streamlining and acces-  
121 sibility of research and education on Panayanon folk narratives. Furthermore,  
122 the proposed system contributes to the preservation and promotion of cultural  
123 diversity and heritage, as globalization heightens the threat of the deterioration  
124 and disappearance of cultural heritage (UNESCO, 2001).

## 125 **1.2 Problem Statement**

126 The body of knowledge regarding Philippine cultural heritage, specifically Philip-  
127 pine folk literature, remains limited. Despite efforts to collect and analyze this  
128 literature, the accessibility of such research is constrained by the cost of re-  
129 sources and the outdated nature of existing works. Eugenio (2007) affirms the



130 lack of comprehensive collections and accessible resources on Philippine folk  
131 literature, resulting in significant challenges in the study, documentation, and  
132 promotion of this literary form.

133       Damiana Eugenio, recognized as "Ina ng Folklor ng Pilipinas" by the U.P.  
134 Folklorists, Inc. and the U.P. Folklore Studies Program, has made significant  
135 contributions to the preservation of Philippine cultural heritage. Her book  
136 *Philippine Folk Literature: An Anthology*—the first volume in a seven-volume  
137 series—compiled over 150 texts and selections of proverbs and riddles from  
138 across the Philippines. However, due to the rapid digitization of global infor-  
139 mation and the fact that her works are now over 15 years old, their accessibility  
140 continues to diminish.

141       Recent efforts have sought to address this issue, with projects like the Aswang  
142 Project, created in 2006 by Jordan Clark. This project serves as an online re-  
143 source for Philippine folklore, featuring articles about various myths, creatures,  
144 and spirits found throughout the country. Furthermore, in the terminal report  
145 of Dimzon and Dimzon (2015a), they have collected and digitized Panayanon  
146 myths and legends by creating ontologies using Web Ontology Language (OWL).  
147 However, their work is not made publicly available and has not included folk  
148 tales from Panay; gaps remain in the collection of Panayanon folk narratives,  
149 which the researchers aim to explore further.

150       In the field of chatbots, Shawar and Atwell (2007) note that chatbots are de-  
151 signed to accommodate users' natural tendency to express their wishes through  
152 speaking, typing, or pointing (Zadrozny et al., 2000). Consequently, chatbots  
153 present potential as educational tools, particularly as information retrieval sys-  
154 tems. By offering quick and convenient responses similar to human interaction,  
155 chatbots hold promise for facilitating research and education. This potential is  
156 evidenced by the rapid growth of OpenAI's ChatGPT, an artificial intelligence

157 chatbot that gained one million users within days of its launch (Mortensen,  
158 2024).

## 159 **1.3 Research Objectives**

### 160 **1.3.1 General Objective**

161 The researchers aim to further expand the original digital ontology by Dimzon  
162 and Dimzon (2015a), and develop a chatbot equipped with the ontology-based  
163 framework to answer questions about Panayanon folk narratives. Ultimately,  
164 the project output should be able to contribute to the preservation, accessibility  
165 and study of Panayanon folk literature.

### 166 **1.3.2 Specific Objectives**

167 Specifically, the researchers aim to:

- 168 1. Enhance the existing ontology by adding story elements as new classes,  
169 such as events and settings. Through this, additional details of the new  
170 folk narratives can be captured and queried.
- 171 2. Expand the scope of the existing ontology by adding new entities, at-  
172 tributes, and relationships from Panayanon myths, legends, and folk tales.
- 173 3. Develop a prototype chatbot capable of understanding English questions  
174 and responding with accurate and appropriate information from the en-  
175 hanced and expanded digital ontology.

## 176 **1.4 Scope and Limitations of the Research**

177 The primary focus of this project is on the expansion and enhancement of the  
178 original digital ontology, which was first developed by Dimzon and Dimzon  
179 (2015a). The scope of the folk literature analyzed for the digital ontology will

180 be limited to folk narratives originating from the island of Panay, specifically  
181 myths, legends, and folk tales only. Further, these stories will be limited to  
182 those available during the project timeline, relying on existing research, expert  
183 consultations, and accessible resources. By building upon and expanding the  
184 original ontology, the researchers will ensure comprehensive coverage of the key  
185 entities and relationships within Panayanon folk narratives.

186 The native languages used in Panayanon folk narratives are Panayanon lan-  
187 guages, namely Hiligaynon, Aklanon, and Karay-a. However, the language used  
188 in the development of the ontology and the chatbot will be in English. This is  
189 to ensure ease of use in academic and global contexts, thereby improving the  
190 accessibility of the ontology to a broader audience. Character names and other  
191 proper nouns will be kept in the original language to preserve authenticity. To  
192 enhance the scope of the ontology, new classes will be created, such as events  
193 and settings, which were not present in the original ontology. The researchers  
194 will be consulting with literature experts to ensure that the new classes are  
195 relevant. As such, more classes may be introduced based on the suggestions of  
196 experts.

197 The chat bot will primarily be used as the tool for information retrieval from  
198 the ontology. It will be developed as a prototype, focusing on demonstrating  
199 feasibility rather than full-scale deployment. Multilingual capabilities, advanced  
200 natural language processing for more complex queries, and deployment-level  
201 optimizations are beyond the scope of this project. Future projects may address  
202 these limitations.

## 203 **1.5 Significance of the Research**

204 The study holds significant value for the field of Panayanon cultural heritage  
205 and preservation for the following reasons:

206       The proposed system addresses the problem identified by Eugenio (2007)  
207       regarding the lack of published collections of Philippine folk literature. By  
208       serving as a central repository of knowledge for Panayanon folk narratives, the  
209       system is expected to facilitate easier access to Panayanon folk literature for  
210       researchers, students, educators, and the general public.

211       Additionally, the system seeks to address the issue of the decline of Panayanon  
212       oral literature by systematically collecting and digitizing these oral traditions,  
213       thereby contributing to their preservation for future generations.

## 214 Chapter 2

## 215 2 Review of Related Literature

216 This chapter discusses the features, capabilities, and limitations of existing re-  
217 search, algorithms, or software that are related/similar to the Special Problem.

### 218 2.1 Ontologies in Computer Science

219 This chapter contains a review of research papers that: One of the ultimate  
220 goals of ontology as a philosophy is to provide a definitive, exhaustive classifica-  
221 tion of entities across all spheres of being. However, in the context of computer  
222 and information science, this goal has transformed into the pursuit of creating  
223 a single unified system that resolves the differences of terminologies and con-  
224 cepts used across diverse data and knowledge-based systems (Smith, 2012). In  
225 fact, in their study on ontologies and knowledge-base systems, Kharbat and  
226 El-Ghalayini (2008) claimed that ontology has been an emerging computer sci-  
227 ence discipline for decades. They also concluded that ontologies formalize the  
228 semantics of a domain of knowledge by explicitly describing the elements that  
229 comprise the domain. This meant that ontologies consisted of concepts that  
230 describe the internal features or attributes of an entity, as well as properties  
231 that describe the relationships between these entities.

#### 232 2.1.1 Applications of Ontologies

233 The aforementioned properties of ontologies in Kharbat and El-Ghalayini's  
234 study meant that ontologies are capable of performing a broad range of tasks  
235 across diverse research areas. The tasks that are relevant to the study in-  
236 clude: the integration of heterogeneous data sources to overcome semantic het-  
237 erogeneities (Lacroix & Critchlow, 2003); the creation of knowledge bases (Noy,

238 McGuinness, et al., 2001); deriving aspects of information systems at run time  
 239 (Guarino, 1998), and the construction of an ontology-based retrieval system that  
 240 can assist end users in browsing and understanding domain concepts (Baker et  
 241 al., 1999). Furthermore, Munir and Anjum (2018) stated that, with the recent  
 242 dramatic increase in the use of knowledge discovery applications, there is a grow-  
 243 ing complexity in terms of the database search requests that the end users are  
 244 supposed to write to retrieve the information that they wanted. Munir and An-  
 245 jum (2018) stipulated that these difficulties are attributed to the need for the end  
 246 users to have a good understanding of the complex structure of databases, and  
 247 the semantic relationships that exist between different data within the database.  
 248 It is through the use of ontologies for knowledge representation and interactive  
 249 query generation that researchers were able to improve the interface between  
 250 data and search requests, increasing the accuracy of the result sets to the user  
 251 search requirements. Building upon these applications of ontologies, the study  
 252 adopts a similar approach, creating an ontological knowledge base that consol-  
 253 idates, organizes, and classifies Panayanon myths, legends, and folk tales that  
 254 also depicts the settings, character relationships, and themes that are embedded  
 255 in these Panayanon stories.

## 256 **2.2 Ontology Development**

### 257 **2.2.1 Ontology Construction**

258 Yadav, Narula, Duhan, Jain, and Murthy (2016) further expounds on the core  
 259 components that form an ontology. These components of ontologies include: a  
 260 set of concepts that can serve as nodes in the representation of an ontology; an  
 261 optional set of properties related to the concepts, these properties can also be  
 262 summarized as the values of the concepts; a set of relational properties that im-  
 263 plies relationship between two or more concepts, often generating a hierarchical

264 path from one concept to another; a hierarchy of concepts and a hierarchy of  
265 properties as a result of the relational properties linking one concept to another;  
266 a transitive property relation that expands and allows for logical inference on  
267 relationships between properties; i.e., if Property A is related to Property B,  
268 and Property B is related to Property C, then Property A will be necessarily  
269 related to property C; symmetry and inverse symmetry relations among prop-  
270 erties; domain values related to properties that define the level of properties  
271 within classes, indicating that concepts that share the same property values  
272 have the same domains; range values related to the properties which can either  
273 be an interval, a list of elements, or a character; and minimum and maximum  
274 cardinality for each concept-property pair that define how many properties are  
275 associated with a particular concept. These core components of ontologies will  
276 be applied in developing the ontology for this study.

277

278 Yadav et al. (2016) also listed the basic steps in constructing ontologies.  
279 According to their study, the first step in constructing ontologies is determin-  
280 ing its scope. These include defining the structure of the ontology as well as  
281 the values that are associated with the ontology. Next, is the consideration of  
282 reusing ontologies. Yadav et al. (2016) stated that it's possible to re-use recent  
283 ontologies in defining the schema of the new ontology that is to be constructed.  
284 Third, is the enumeration of terms, where all terms must be clearly specified,  
285 together with the domain and range of the ontology. Fourth, is the definition  
286 of the taxonomy, where all terms are organized in a hierarchy. For example,  
287 if A is a subclass of B, then every instance of class A must be an instance of  
288 B. Fifth, is the definition of properties, which includes specifying the properties  
289 that link the classes while organizing them in a hierarchy. Next, is the definition  
290 of facets which is defined as the hierarchy of homogeneous terms that describe

an aspect of the domain where each term in the hierarchy refers to a different concept (Giunchiglia, Dutta, Maltese, & Farazi, 2012). For example, if a domain is space, then facets might refer to bodies of water, land formations, and administrative divisions. Finally, the last step of ontology construction is the definition of instances within the ontology. The steps outlined by Yadav et al. (2016) will be applied in constructing the ontology for this study. This includes the reuse of an existing ontology, building upon it by incorporating additional concepts, classes, and all of the other aforementioned core components to expand the ontology’s scope and application.

The construction of the ontology will be done through Protege, an open-source knowledge requisition system written in Java (Yadav et al., 2016; Jain & Singh, 2013). More specifically, it’s an ontology development editor that is capable of defining ontological concepts or classes, properties, taxonomies, and class instances. Protege supports ontology representation languages like OWL. Aside from constructing ontologies, Zhao, Zhang, and Zhao (2012) states that Protege is also capable of parsing an Ontology model using a Protege-based OWL API. Protege is able to: load an ontology model from the OWL file; collect the classes, subclasses, object properties, data properties; and find the domain and range relevant to a particular object property. The study will be using Protege Desktop v.5.6.4 in developing the ontological database for the Panayanon stories.

### **2.2.2 SPARQL for Ontology Querying**

SPARQL 1.1 is a set of specifications that provide languages and protocols to query and manipulate RDF graph content on the Web or in an RDF store. The standard SPARQL Query Results are written in an XML Format, and in three other alternative formats: JSON, CSV, and TSV (Picalausa & Vansummeren,



2011). SPARQL 1.1 is the query language the Protege uses to retrieve, and  
manipulate ontological data.

### 2.2.3 ApacheJena for Ontology Storage

According to the Apache Community Development Project (n.d.), ApacheJena is able to provide a complete framework for building Semantic Web and Linked Data applications in Java. ApacheJena is also equipped with the following capabilities: parsers for Turtle, N-triples, and Resource Description Framework (RDF), and Extensible Markup Language(XML); an API for programming with Java; a complete implementation of the SPARQL query language for ontological querying; a rule-based inference engine for RDF Schema (RDFS) and OWL entailments; a Triple Database (TDB) which is a non-SQL persistent triples store; a Semantic Database (SDB) which is a persistent triples store built upon a relational store, and Fuseki, an RDF server that uses web protocols. The Apache Software Foundation claims that ApacheJena complies with the relevant recommendations for RDF and related technologies from the World Wide web Consortium (W3C).

In a study conducted by Chokshi and Panchal (2022), they were able to construct a Job Search Ontology on Protégé, integrated the ApacheJena Fuseki Server with the ontology, and executed SPARQL queries on the ApacheJena Fuseki Server without using the Protégé tool. This study demonstrated that it is possible to construct a SPARQL endpoint with Apache Jena. ApacheJena will be mainly used for storing data about the study's ontology. An Apache Fuseki Server will publish the study's ontology as a SPARQL endpoint, making it available for querying and data sharing over the internet.

## 342 **2.3 Natural Language Question to SPARQL Translation**

### 343 **2.3.1 Natural Language Question (NLQ) Preprocessing**

344 spaCy is an open-source library for advanced natural language processing (NLP)  
345 in Python. spaCy is designed to handle preprocessing tasks with high efficiency  
346 and speed. spaCy’s features and functionalities include: tokenization, lemmatization,  
347 part-of-speech (POS) tagging, and named entity recognition (Nawaz,  
348 2023; SpaCy Documentation, n.d.). In the study, spaCy will be used to preprocess  
349 the NLQ through tokenization, and lemmatization.

### 350 **2.3.2 Entity and Relationship Extraction with Semantic Parsing**

351 According to Nawaz (2023), spaCy is capable of named entity recognition (NER)  
352 and dependency parsing. In the study, spaCy’s NER and dependency parsing  
353 will be used to extract entities like folk tale titles, names of researchers, character  
354 names, and even the relationships between entities. These will be passed to the  
355 SPARQL query constructor to create a SPARQL query and retrieve information  
356 from the study’s ontology.

### 357 **2.3.3 Semantic Parsing with SBERT**

358 Sentence Transformers or SBERT, is a Python module used for accessing, using,  
359 and training text and image embedding models. It can be used to compute  
360 embeddings using Sentence Transformer models or to calculate similarity scores  
361 using Cross-Encoder models. SBERT’s features and functionalities include: semantic  
362 search, semantic textual similarity, and paraphrase mining. The Semantic  
363 Textual Similarity (STS) application aims to produce embeddings for  
364 all texts involved and calculate the similarities between them. The text pairs  
365 with the highest similarity score are considered to be the most semantically  
366 similar (SentenceTransformers Documentation, n.d.). In the study, STS will be

used to embed phrases in the NLQ and compare them with the embeddings of the ontology’s object and data property labels. STS will also be used to help resolve ambiguous queries where multiple relationships can potentially be extracted from the query.

### 2.3.4 Query Construction/Generation

RDFLib is a pure Python package made for working with RDF. RDFLib’s features and functions include: parsers and serializers for RDF/XML, N3, NTriples, N-Quads, Turtle, TriX, JSON-LD, HexTuples, RDFa and Microdata; Store implementations like memory stores, and remote SPARQL endpoints; Graph interface either to a single graph or to multiple named graphs; and SPARQL 1.1 implementation (RDFLib Team, n.d.). In the study, RDFLib will be used to dynamically generate SPARQL queries together with the extracted entities, and relationships of the NLQ.

## 2.4 Chatbot Development

### 2.4.1 RASA Framework

Rasa Open Source is a Python framework that enables teams to build chatbots, voice assistants, and other automated conversation systems by connecting to messaging channels and third party systems through a set of APIs (Rasa Technologies, 2024).

In a study conducted by Mishra, Agarwal, Swathi, and Akshay (2022), they created a closed domain ontology for a hostel system using Protégé, which was then referenced by an AI-powered chatbot through RASA that was able to formalize natural language queries into SPARQL to query knowledge bases. More specifically, in the study they were able to design a natural language query formalization pipeline that had intent recognition to determine the type

392 of the user's natural language query, entity extraction, and query generation to  
393 translate the query's intent and extracted entities into a SPARQL query. The  
394 study by Mishra et al. (2022) has shown that it's possible to incorporate a NLQ  
395 to SPARQL pipeline within the chatbot. In the study, RASA open source will  
396 be used to construct the chat-bot.

## 397 **Chapter 3**

### 398 **3 Research Methodology**

399 This chapter lists and discusses the specific steps and activities that will be  
400 performed to accomplish the project.

#### 401 **3.1 Research Activities**

402 As illustrated in Figure 1, the researchers will conduct a series of research ac-  
403 tivities. They will first consult domain experts to gather data, clarify its inter-  
404 pretation, and discuss enhancements on the ontology’s structure. The gathered  
405 data will then be encoded into the digital ontology, incorporating the suggested  
406 enhancements. Parallel to this, chatbot development will begin, using only some  
407 of the initially encoded data to expedite progress rather than waiting for the  
408 completion of encoding all gathered folk narratives. The chatbot will undergo  
409 training and testing based on the specific metrics detailed below. If the results  
410 are satisfactory, it will be deployed on a website.

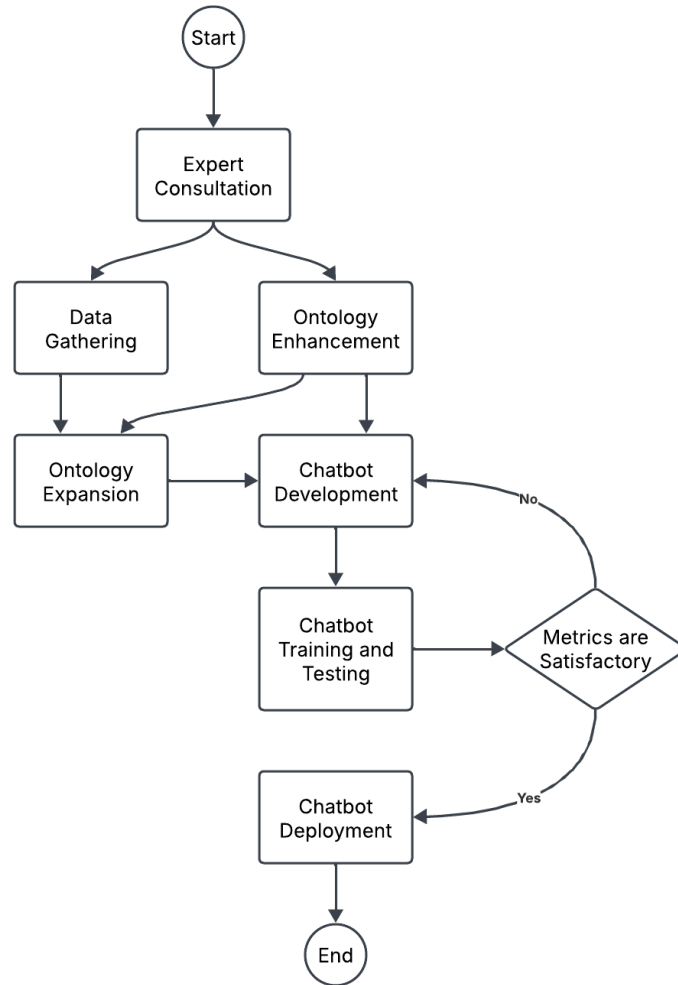


Figure 1: Process Diagram of Special Project

### 3.1.1 Data Collection

The researchers will collect Panayanon myths, legends, and folktales from reliable resource persons. Other sources may be explored, including written records, research papers, and digital archives. For validation, the collected folk narratives will be presented and consulted on by the researchers with literature ex-

416 perts from the UPV Division of Humanities to verify the authenticity of the  
417 collected folk narratives.

418     The expected outcome of this process is a comprehensive and authentic col-  
419 lection of folk narratives that reflects the breadth and richness of Panayanon  
420 culture. This step is scheduled to start in December 2024 and must be accom-  
421 plished halfway through January 2025, with a total duration of one and a half  
422 (1.5) months.

### 423 **3.1.2 Ontology Enhancement**

424     The researchers will engage in extensive consultations with experts from the  
425 UPV Division of Humanities. They will focus on creating new classes for the  
426 digital ontology, specifically story elements such as geographical features and  
427 gender which are not present in the current ontology. Other possible classes  
428 may be explored. This will also be used to ensure consistency with standards  
429 in the field of literature.

430     These new classes will be designed utilizing Protégé, an open-source ontology  
431 editor that supports OWL (Web Ontology Language) for formalizing domain  
432 knowledge. Each new class will be defined in terms of its relationships with  
433 other entities to create a structured and interconnected narrative representation.  
434 Protégé features such as logical constraints and reasoning will be utilized to  
435 ensure consistency and to infer relationships that enhance the semantic depth  
436 of the digital ontology.

437     The expected outcome is an enhanced ontology structure that has more  
438 depth of information on Panayanon folk narratives than the original. This step  
439 is scheduled to start in mid-December 2024 and must be accomplished halfway  
440 through January 2025, with a total duration of one (1) month.

### 441 **3.1.3 Ontology Expansion**

442 To follow good practices in the field of literature, the researchers will consult  
443 with experts to gain insights into the analysis of folk narratives, the identifi-  
444 cation of key story elements, and the contextual relationships between entities.  
445 With this, the researchers will closely read and examine each story from their  
446 collection, looking for relevant story elements and relationships. From their find-  
447 ings, they will expand the digital ontology by populating it with new stories,  
448 entities and relationships based on the enhanced ontological structure.

449 Protégé will be utilized for ontology expansion for its extensive support in  
450 OWL files and SPARQL querying, reasoning and consistency checking features,  
451 as well as collaboration features. Throughout this whole process, the researchers  
452 will present and consult with literature experts from the UPV Division of Hu-  
453 manities on the expanding ontology to validate the findings and ensure consis-  
454 tency with conventions and practices in the field of literature.

455 The expected outcome is an expanded ontology that includes new details  
456 from the collected folk narratives based on the enhanced ontological structure.  
457 This step is scheduled to start in mid-January 2024 and must be accomplished  
458 by the end of April 2025, with a total duration of three and a half (3.5) months.

### 459 **3.1.4 Chatbot Development**

460 In this step, the researchers will develop a chatbot prototype that can handle  
461 English queries from users, query the ontology to search for relevant data, and  
462 present the information to the user in comprehensible English sentences. Specif-  
463 ically, the researchers will utilize Python as the primary programming language  
464 to develop the chatbot, SpaCy as the natural language processing (NLP) library  
465 to analyze and process user queries, Rasa as the machine learning framework  
466 to extract the entities and intents of user inputs, GraphDB as the knowledge



base to host the ontology, and a natural language generation (NLG) server to generate conversational responses to the user.

Figure 2 shows the flow of data from user input to chatbot response generation. The ontology is converted into a graph database that can be queried for relevant information. The Rasa Agent works as a controller to easily orchestrate the dialogue flow of the chatbot, and manage the interaction of the different components.

When the user inputs a message, the NLU pipeline will first process it to extract its entities and intents. The extracted information is then passed through the Rasa Agent to the Dialogue Policies, which determine the appropriate action. If an external query is required, the Action Server requests information from the Knowledge Base. The data retrieved from the query is passed through an NLG server that contains RASA’s contextual response rephrases to generate more natural, and conversational responses. The Rasa Agent receives this to then output the response to the user. The Tracker Store also receives the extracted entities, intents, and executed actions in order to maintain conversation history, which will help the Dialogue Policies make more context-aware decisions over time.

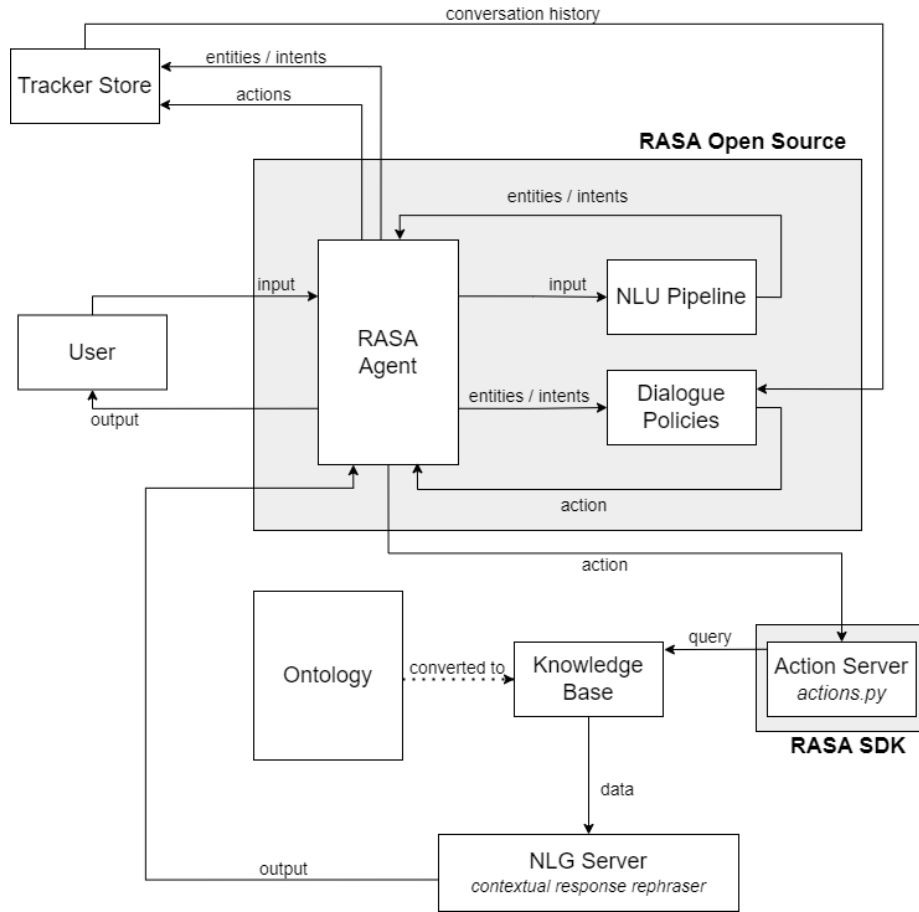


Figure 2: Diagram of Rasa Framework

Figure 3 illustrates RASA’s natural language understanding pipeline. The first component, the spaCy tokeniser, splits the user’s input into tokens. The second component, the spaCy featurizer, is a dense featurizer, that extracts features used for entity extraction, intent identification of the user’s message, and response classification. The regex featurizer is a sparse featurizer, that creates a vector representation of the user’s message using regular expressions for the purpose or entity extraction and intent identification. Next, is the lexical syntactic featurizer, a sparse featurizer, that creates lexical and syntactic features for a

493 user's message for the purpose of entity extraction. The fifth component, count  
 494 vectors featurizer, generates a bag-of-words representation of the bot user's mes-  
 495 sage, intent, and response for the purpose of intent identification and response  
 496 selection. The DIET Classifier, is a multi-task transformer architecture that is  
 497 responsible for intent classification and entity extraction. The final component,  
 498 is the Entity Synonym Mapper that maps entities to their synonyms if they  
 499 appeared in the training data. The extracted entities and identified intents in  
 500 the NLU pipeline, will then be passed to the dialogue policies of the chatbot to  
 501 determine the appropriate actions that the bot will perform.

502 The components within the pipeline are used to process the user's input and  
 503 extracts entities and intents from the user's input. This will be then queried  
 504 through the knowledge base. Finally, the query results will be formatted into  
 505 English through NLP techniques. With each iteration of the chatbot, the re-  
 506 searchers will perform tests to verify chatbot query accuracy and response rel-  
 507 evance, assess user interaction with the chatbot, and measure response times  
 508 and optimize as needed.

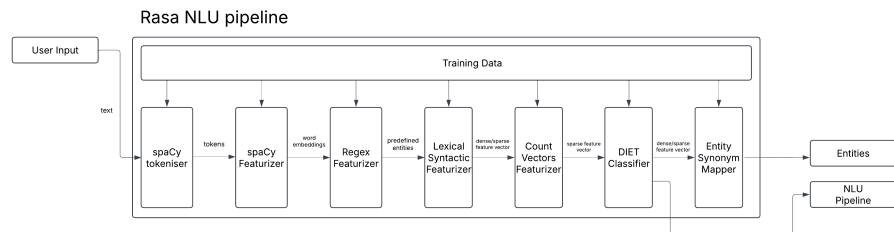


Figure 3: Diagram of NLU Pipeline

509 The evaluation of the PAROT model by Ochieng (2020) involved the use of  
 510 QALD-9 challenge metrics, including accuracy, recall, and F-measure. Similarly,  
 511 the utilization of these metrics will be applied in the evaluation of the model  
 512 under development of this special project. When the chatbot has achieved

513 acceptable results in testing, it will then be deployed on a website.

514 To enhance user experience, the chatbot will be designed to exhibit a conver-  
515 sational tone while maintaining the accuracy and professionalism required for  
516 ontology-based information retrieval. By incorporating NLG techniques, the  
517 chatbot will aim to engage users with dynamic and contextually appropriate  
518 responses that emulate human-like interaction. This conversational approach is  
519 expected to improve user engagement and satisfaction, especially when address-  
520 ing more complex queries that may require clarification or follow-up interactions.

521 With this chatbot, users will be able to interact with the ontology in natural  
522 language in a conversational and friendly manner. This is in pursuit of data  
523 querying, which is Manansala, Bruskiewich, and Naval (2007)) third and final  
524 pillar of ontology frameworks. The prototype chatbot will only serve to demon-  
525 strate the feasibility of chatbots as an information retrieval tool of the digital  
526 ontology.

527 The expected output is a chatbot prototype that can semantically under-  
528 stand complex user questions in English, and answer them with accurate infor-  
529 mation from the ontology in a natural language format. This step is scheduled  
530 to start in February 2024 and must be accomplished by the end of May 2025,  
531 with a total duration of four (4) months.

### 532 **3.1.5 Documentation**

533 The researchers will document relevant results and information throughout the  
534 project. It shall cover data, methodology, results, and analysis. Additionally,  
535 insights and validations provided by expert consultations and testing phases will  
536 also be documented. Google Docs will be used for its simplicity and familiarity  
537 with the researchers, and Overleaf will be utilized for final formatting.

538 Applying software engineering principles, the researchers will also create di-  
539 agrams such as use case diagrams, and sequence diagrams. For diagrams, com-

puter assisted software engineering (CASE) tools will be utilized. The software will also be documented and stored in a GitHub repository.

This step ensures that all information has been transparently communicated for future reference to be used by other researchers and interested parties. The expected output is complete project documents, including technical details, the software itself, and a final project report. This step is scheduled to start in December 2024 and must be accomplished by the end of May 2025, with a total duration of five (6) months.

### 3.2 Calendar of Activities

Table 1 shows a Gantt chart of the activities. Each bullet represents approximately one week worth of activity.

Table 1: Timetable of Activities

Activities (2025)	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Data Collection	••••	••				
Ontology Enhancement	••	••				
Ontology Expansion		••	••••	••••	••••	
Chatbot Development			••••	••••	••••	••••
Documentation	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••

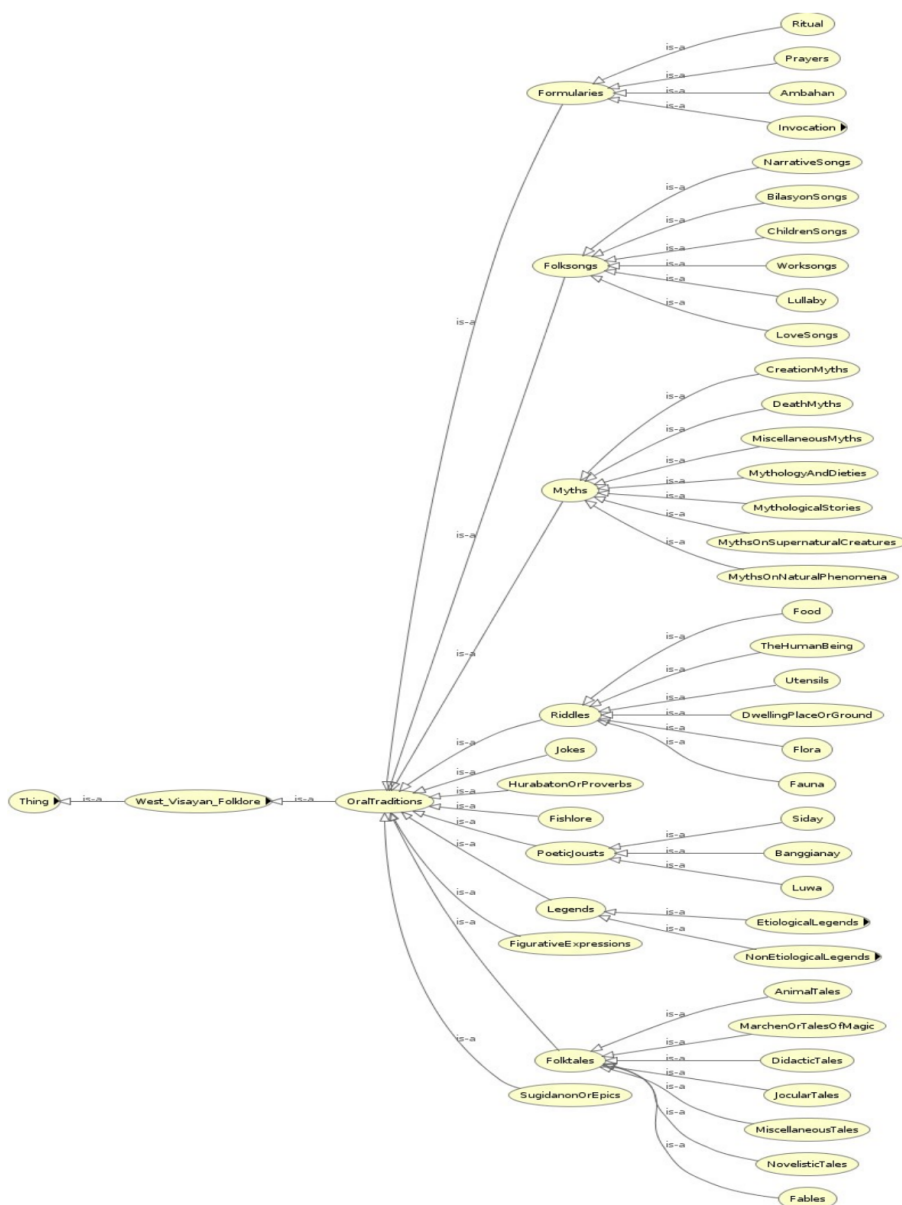


Figure 4: Diagram of The Original Ontology by Dimzon and Dimzon (2015a)

As illustrated in Figure 4, the original ontology by Dimzon and Dimzon (2015a) does not contain story details but rather the classification of the different oral traditions found in the cultures of Western Visayas. This presents the knowledge gap that the researchers propose on exploring. Specifically, the ontology will be expanded with story elements for the Myths, Legends, and Folktales entities present in the current iteration of the ontology.

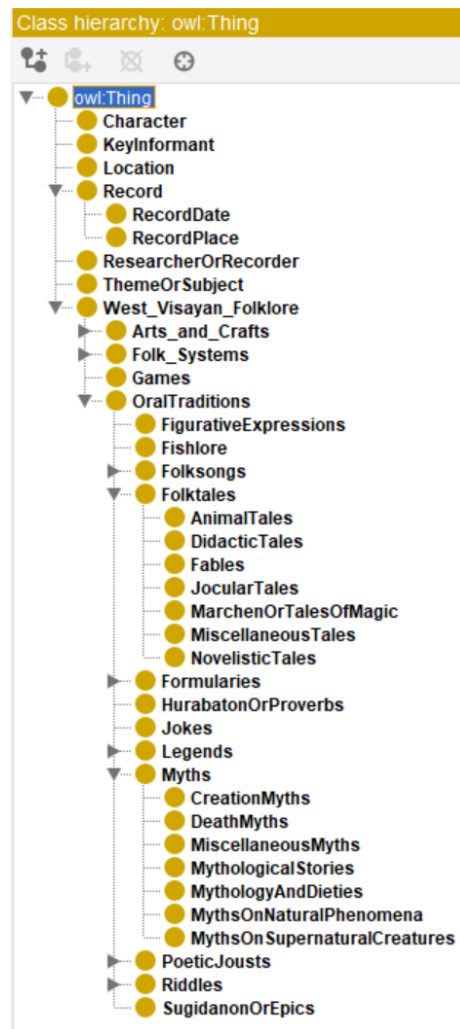


Figure 5: Class Hierarchy of Original Ontology

Figure 5 presents the class hierarchy of the objects in the original ontology as presented in Protege. Classes are categories or types of things in the ontology, representing a group of objects or individuals that share common characteristics. Instances of these classes are called individuals in Protege, representing a specific thing that belongs to the class. In the ontology enhancement phase, the researchers will introduce new classes in close guidance with literature experts. In the ontology expansion phase, the researchers will be populating relevant classes with new individuals.

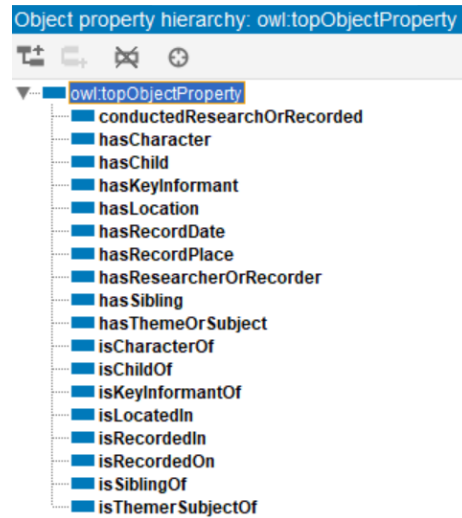


Figure 6: Object Property Hierarchy of Original Ontology

Figure 6 presents the hierarchy of the object properties in the original ontology as presented in Protege. Object properties define relationships between two individuals in the ontology, and are used to link classes or instances. In the ontology enhancement phase, the researchers will introduce new object properties to accommodate the new classes. In the ontology expansion phase, the researchers will encode relevant object properties that were present in the folk narratives.



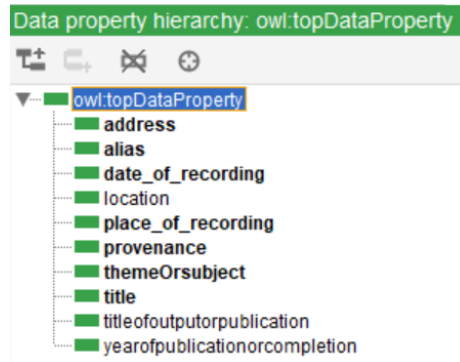


Figure 7: Data Property Hierarchy of Original Ontology

Figure 7 presents the hierarchy of the data properties in the original ontology as presented in Protege. Data properties define relationships between an individual and a literal value, such as a string, number, or date. In the ontology enhancement phase, the researchers will introduce new data properties to accommodate the new classes. In the ontology expansion phase, the researchers will encode relevant data properties that were present in the reports papers of the folk narratives.

## 4.2 Initial Data Gathering

The researchers have contacted their contact person Prof. Dimzon on her collection of folk narratives. She gave a Terminal Report Dimzon and Dimzon (2015b) on her completed project on collecting myths and legends from Western Visayas. It listed a total of 189 stories, 28 being myths and 161 being legends. Each folk narrative has already been categorized into their respective types, including etiological legends, non-etiological legends, and others. Below is a list of the different types of folk narratives collected, their subtypes, and their count.

I. Myths: 28

592	II. Legends: 161
593	A. Etiological Legends: 69
594	i. How Legends: 59
595	a. Origin of Animals: 14
596	b. Origin of plants and forms of plant life: 4
597	c. How places and things got their names: 41
598	B. NonEtiological Legends: 83
599	i. Heroic Legends - great men, culture heroes: 18
600	ii. Religious/Saints Legends: 9
601	iii. Legends on Supernatural/Enchanted Beings: 56
602	C. Others: 9

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