

# Using AI for Accessibility

Android app to help people  
with visual impairment  
navigate *better*

Human AI Interaction Course Project - Track B  
By Ruchita Maitri (rmaitri)



[https://github.com/RuchitaMaitri/HumanAI\\_Interaction\\_Project.git](https://github.com/RuchitaMaitri/HumanAI_Interaction_Project.git)



## **Pilot User Study - Learnings**

Obvious UI Improvements

Getting more data for 'Yellow' class, improving data quality

Improving model prediction

Actual Real-Time, eliminating need of image capture

# Famous Apps for Visually Impaired People



**NavCog**

Computer Vision  
based navigation  
application



**Eye Note**

U.S. paper Currency  
Detector application



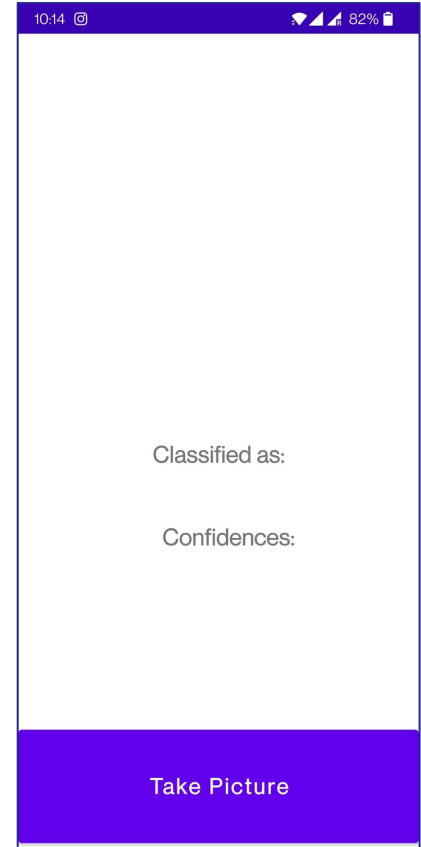
**TapTapSee**

Generic object  
detection application



# Traffic Signal Light Predictor

- Android application
- Real-time (almost) prediction of traffic signal light after image capture
- Audio output



# Pilot User Study - Results



Classified as:  
**Red signal, please wait**

Confidences:

Red: 99.9%  
Yellow: 0.0%  
Green: 0.1%

Take Picture



Classified as:  
**Green signal, you can cross  
the road now.**

Confidences:

Red: 0.1%  
Yellow: 0.1%  
Green: 99.9%

Take Picture



Classified as:  
**Red signal, please wait**

Confidences:

Red: 99.4%  
Yellow: 0.6%  
Green: 0.0%

Take Picture



Classified as:  
**Not sure, please adjust the  
camera.**

Confidences:

Red: 94.3%  
Yellow: 0.0%  
Green: 5.7%

Take Picture



# About Visual Impairment

Almost 20 million Americans - 8% of the U.S. population - have visual impairments.

They find it particularly difficult to navigate unknown areas.

Necessitates a live surrounding captioning application.



## Data Source

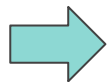


- Udacity's Intro to Self Driving Car Course
- Image classification problem
- Red, Yellow, Green Signals as classes
- Total ~1500 images (Red - 900, Green - 500, Yellow - 100)

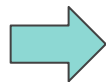


# Model and Android Application Development

Used  
Teachable  
Machine



Tensorflow-  
Lite Model



Android Studio  
for Application  
Development



Text-To-Speech  
API for final  
audio output

*No coding AT ALL!*



# Design choices

**Privacy:** Protecting privacy of people in the surrounding by not storing the data at all

**Usability:** 'Take a picture' button is specifically made bigger keeping in mind the user base

**Lacks model explainability:**  
We know what the model does, but cannot completely eliminate the chances of erroneous prediction, nor can we explain them.  
(ModileNet network at the backend of Teachable Machine)



**Thank you!**