

Ecobin

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Problem Statement

- The United States generates some 260 million tons of waste in 2018
- About 80% of what Americans throw away is recyclable, yet our recycling rate is only about 30%.

“Recycling takes too much of my time”

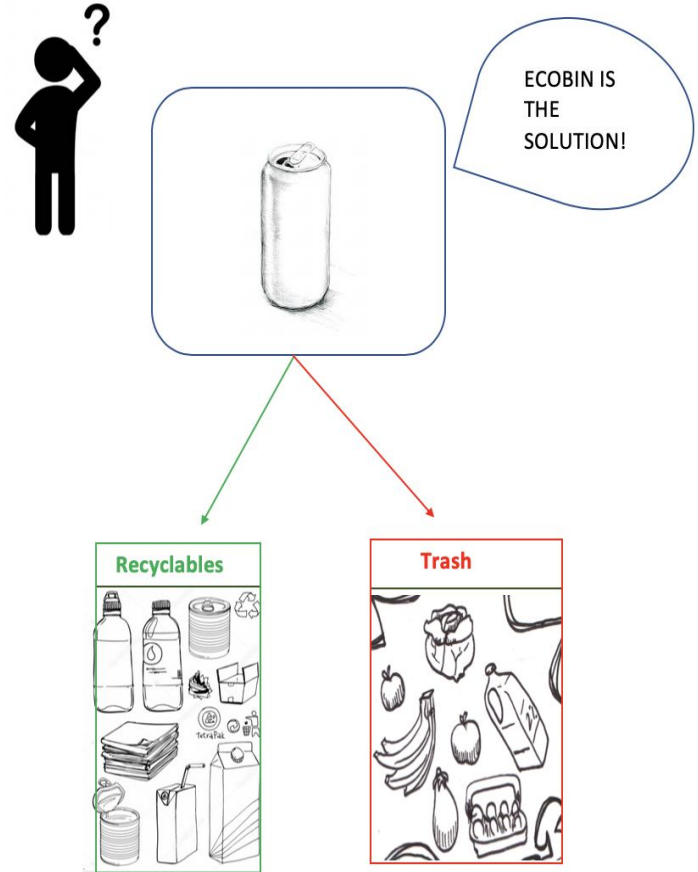
“It’s complicated to recycle”

“I don’t know exactly what can be recycled”



Introducing : Ecobin

- An smart IoT waste sorting system
- Increases household recycling by **40%**
- Aimed Accuracy: 75%+



Requirements

Hardware:

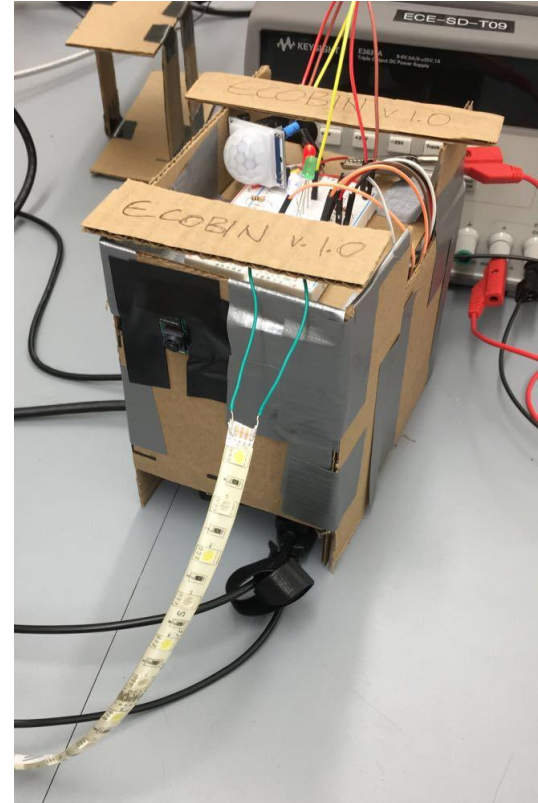
- Capture image in desired environment
- Pre-process image (crop, pixels)
- Configure all sensors and circuitry (handle all signals)
- Enable RasPi to communicate with an API, backend, database

Software:

- Correctly detect objects with >70% accuracy
- Stable cloud back end with 99th percentile latency
- Interactive GUI with LCD display
- Stable database ready for multiple users

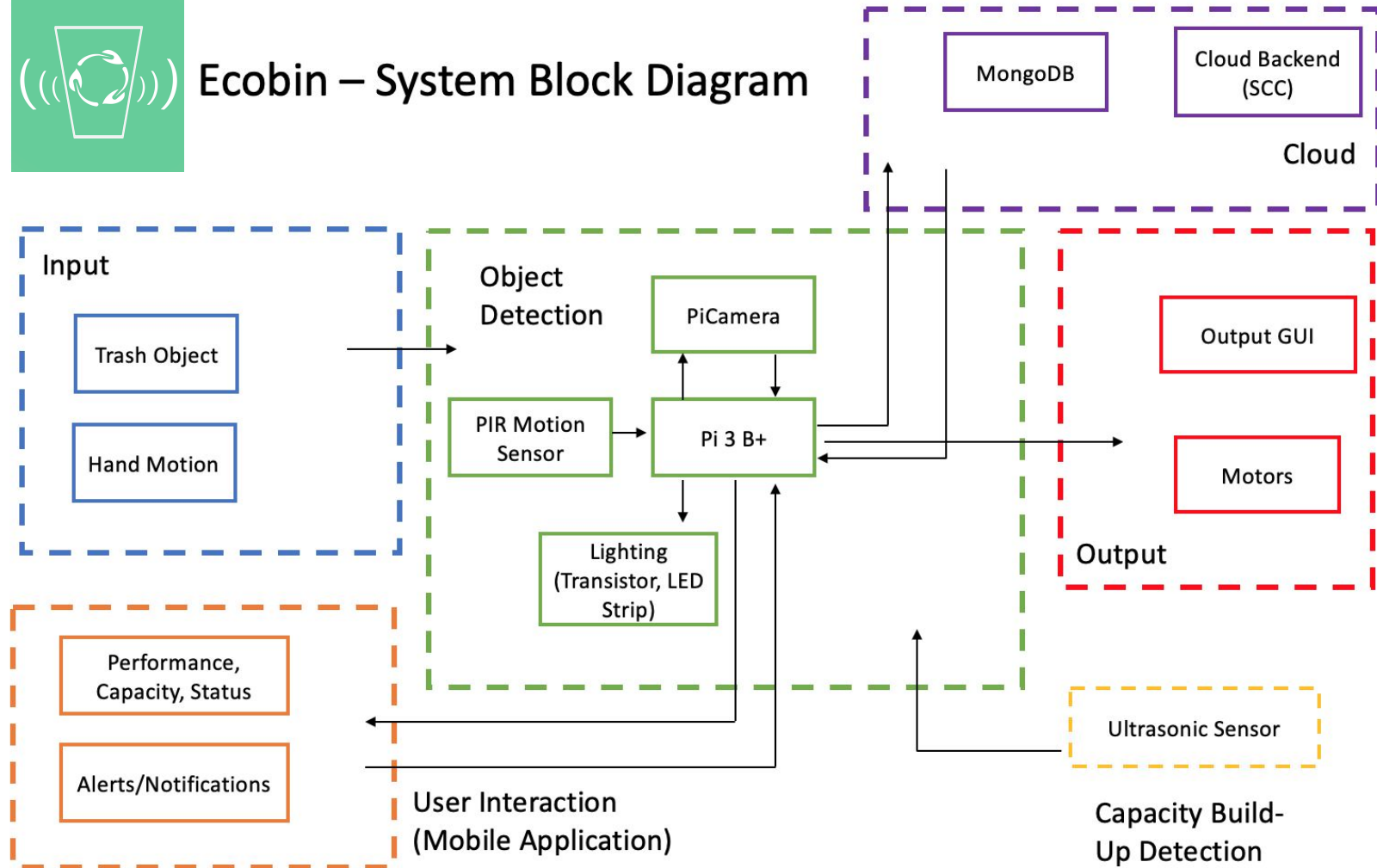
Recap Before Prototype 2

- No testing environment for object detection
- Faulty motion sensor
- Trash build-up detection feature did not exist
- Recognition using VGG16 (pre-trained model)
- No database/API to interface RasPi with backend
- No GUI to output the results
- The main program ecobin.py was not modular

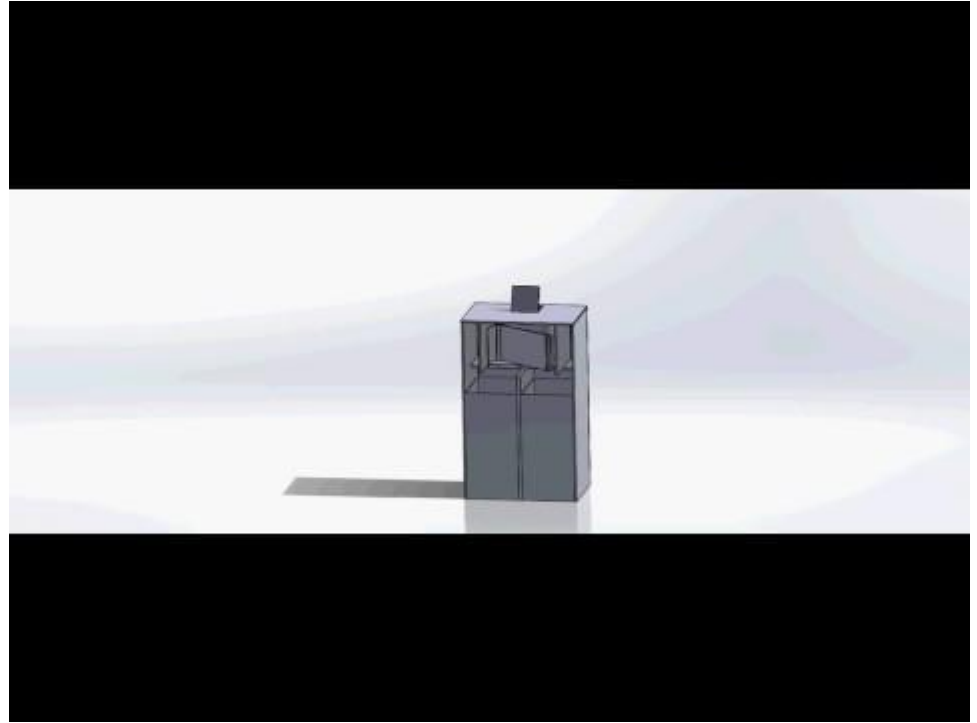
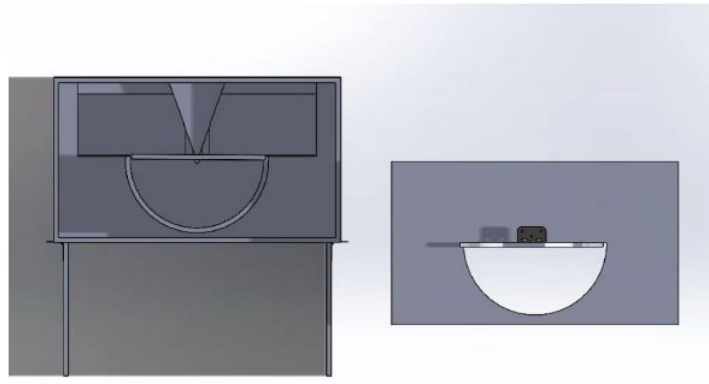
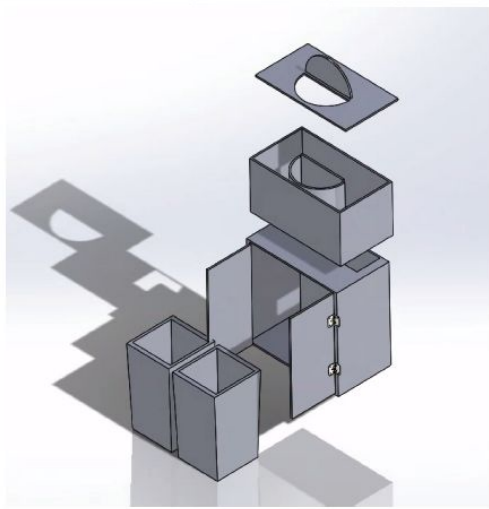




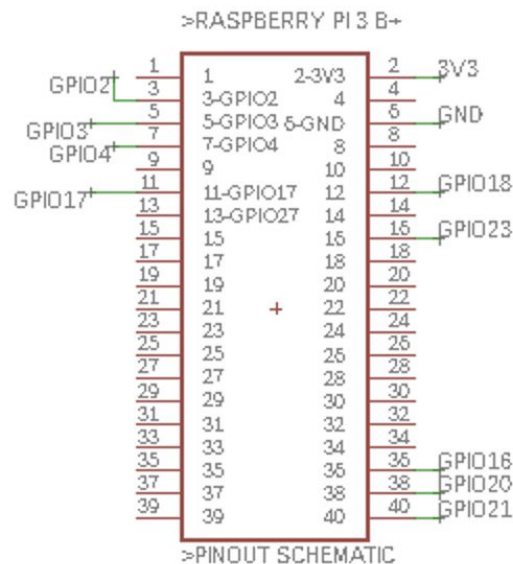
Ecobin – System Block Diagram



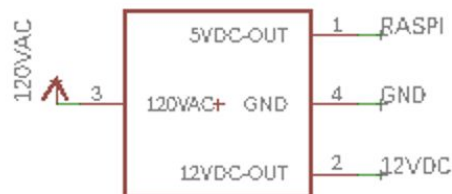
Mechanical Design



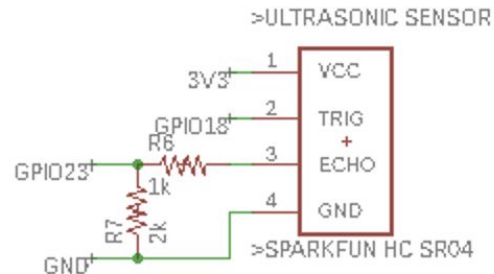
Hardware Schematic



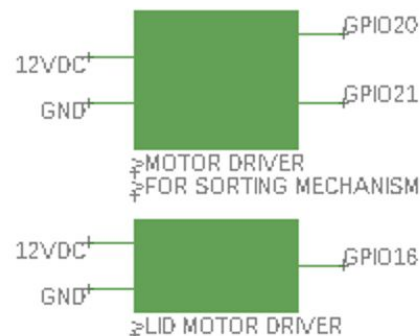
>PINOUT SCHEMATIC



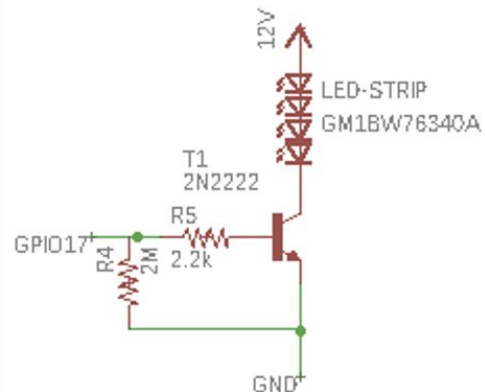
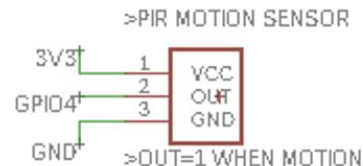
>TRASH BUILDUP DETECTION



>MOTORS FOR LID OPERATION AND SORTING

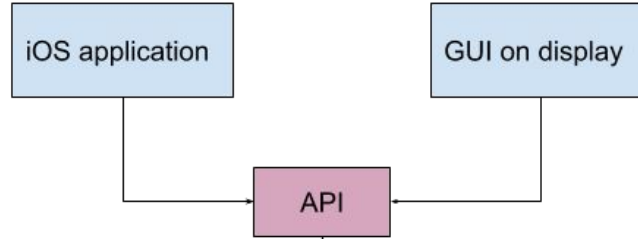


>OBJECT DETECTION
>ALONGSIDE PI CAMERA

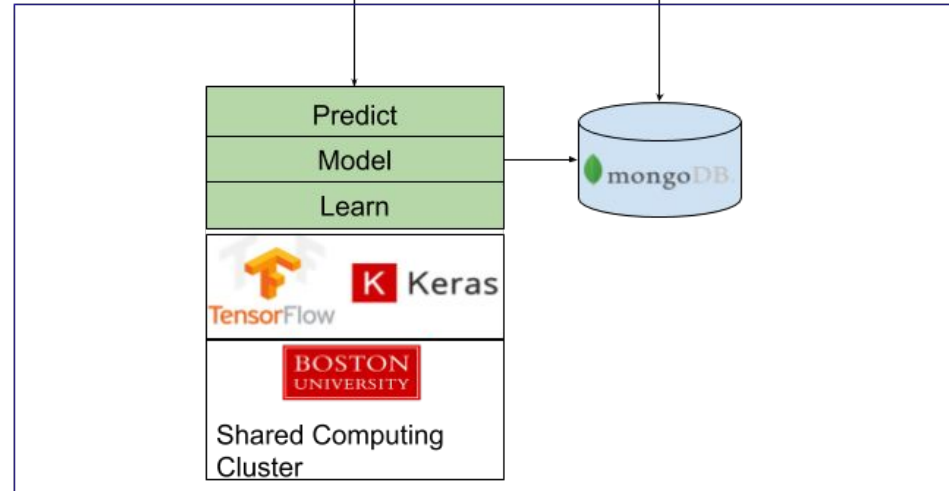


Software Diagram

Front End



Back End



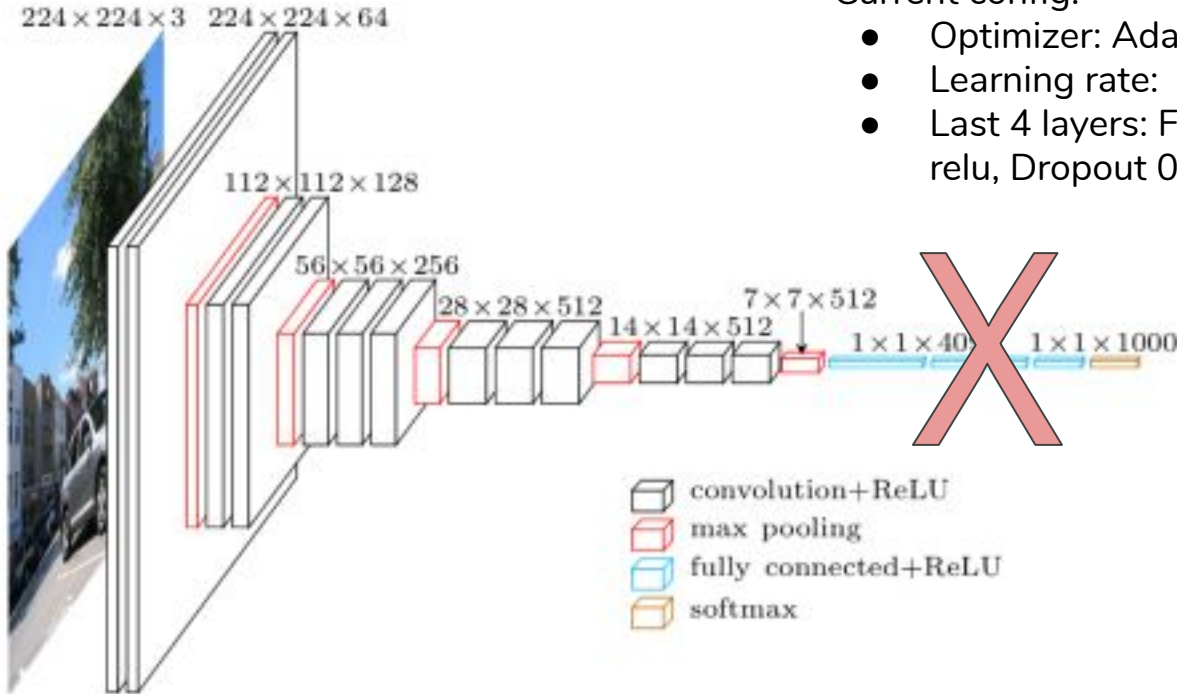


Machine Learning Training & Results

- Powered by Keras and Tensorflow
- Fine-tuning on VGG16
- Deep Learning neural network with 16 layers
- 12 classes of objects
- Dataset collection with Google web scraper and Imagenet



Machine Learning Training & Results



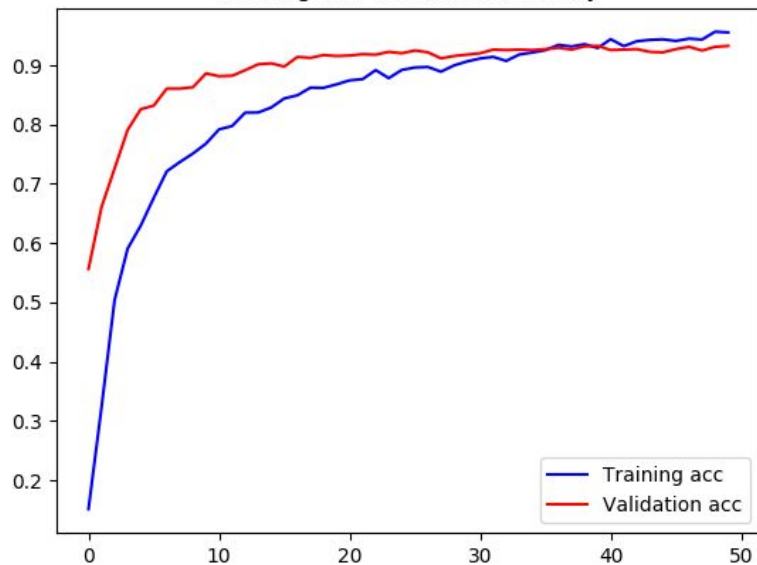
Current config:

- Optimizer: Adam
- Learning rate: $5e-5$
- Last 4 layers: Flatten, FC 4096, relu, Dropout 0.8, Softmax 12

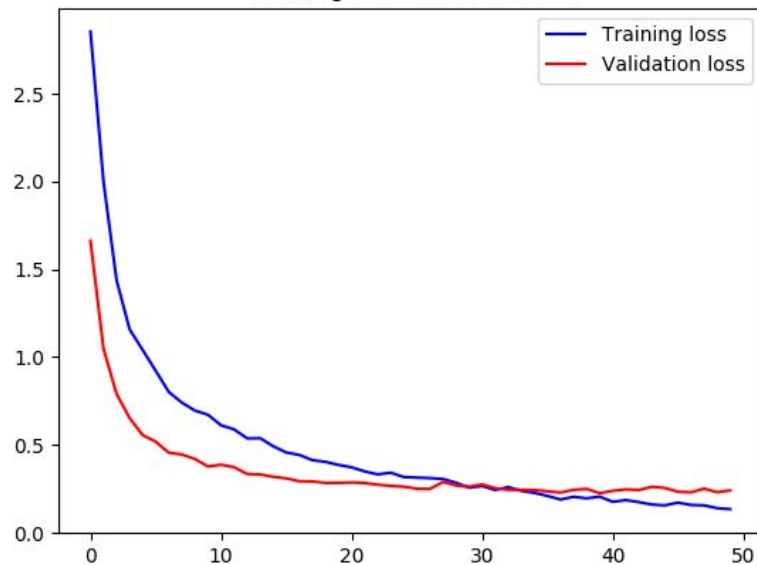


Machine Learning Training & Results

Training and validation accuracy



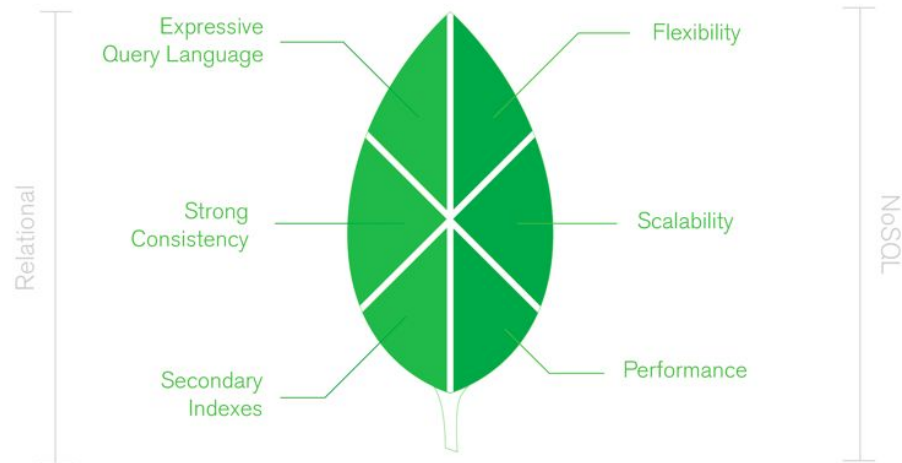
Training and validation loss






Database Architecture

- 2-Tier Architecture
- Flexible Schema
- 2 Document types: **Temp** and **UserData**
- Temp Variables
 - Image Data (binary)
 - Result and Confidence Percentile
 - Flag
- UserData Variables
 - Weekly data
 - Opt: Location





```
"_id": {
  "$oid": "5c760183118d262d045c35e2"
},
"user_id": "temp",
"img": "",
"flag": "0",
"result": "",
"percentage": ""
```

- MLab Cloud Database
- Synchronization with IOS application
- <0.2s processing time

```
{
  "_id": {
    "$oid": "5c75fab9118d262c5f8496cc"
  },
  "user_id": "User1",
  "2_23_2019": "orange*apple*paper*plastic_bottle*paper",
  "2_24_2019": "paper*paper*orange*can*apple*glass_bottle"
}
```

GUI display

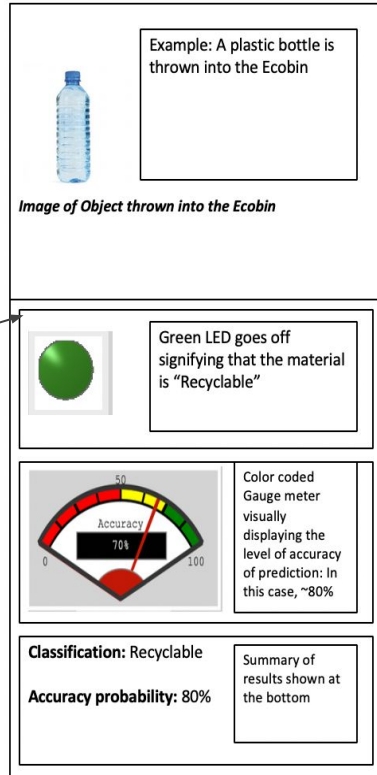


Image that is captured when placed into the ecobin

Extension tk_tools to implement the visual display of "gauge meter" and "LED"

Pack results into frame with summary



Prototype Testing & Results

1. Able to **differentiate between common cases** of Recyclables Trash
2. Success rate of **83%** based on 12 unique cases.
3. The loss of 17% came from **excessively white background** detection
4. **Most common anomaly** from external casing which resembles a “water bottle”



Future Goals & Expectations

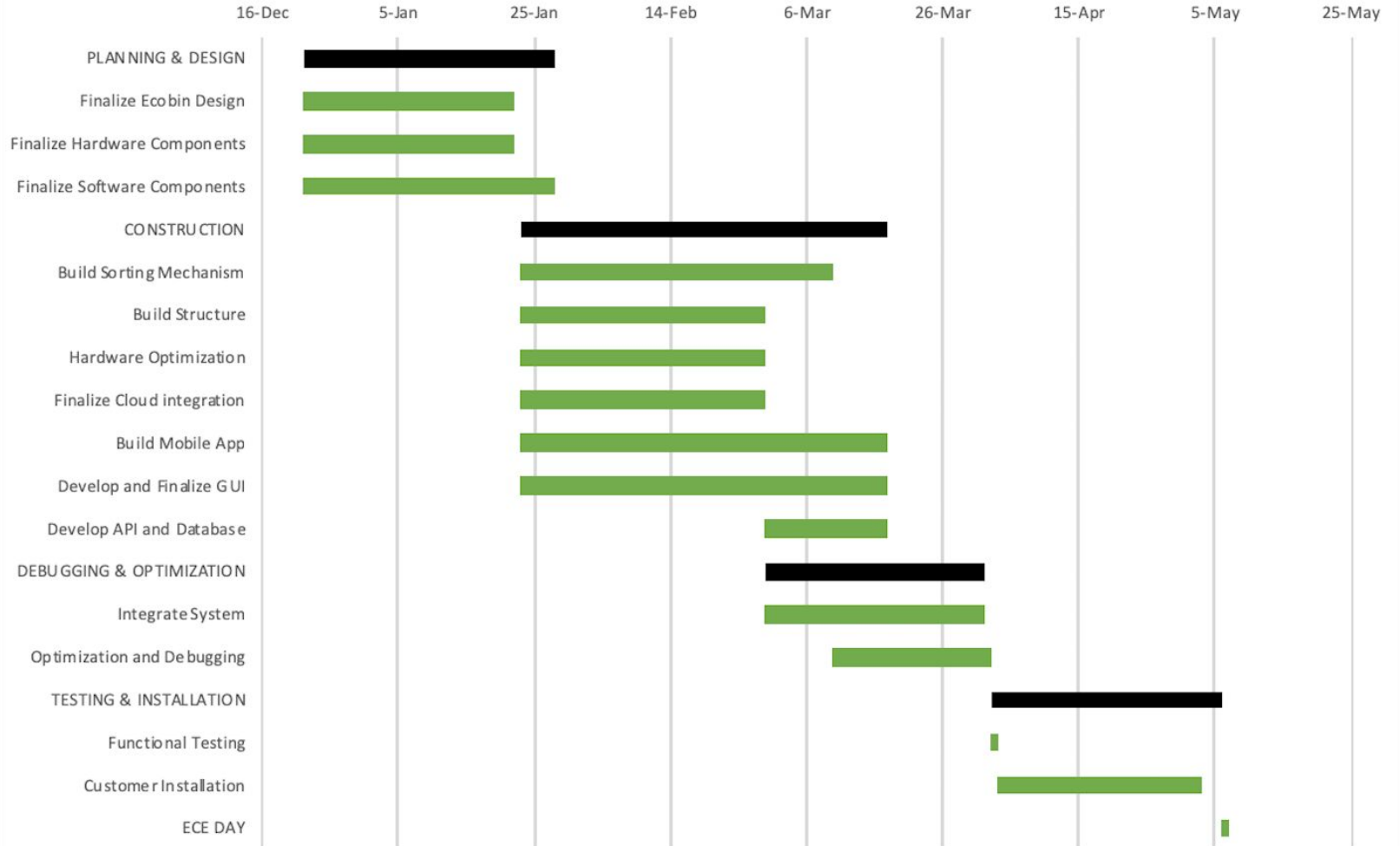
Hardware:

- Use VNC instead of HDMI to display the GUI output
- Implement the LCD screen in the final product
- Configure power supply for all hardware (sensors, RasPi, motors, LED strip, etc)
- Reposition camera angle and position to capture better picture

Software:

- ML Model: Increase the number of classes to 15. Train more classes of objects for a more comprehensive classification system
- Build and apply a RESTful API (Flask)
- iOS application
- Optional: Remove background noise using HSV/OpenCV methods to ensure that it does not detect unnecessary features

Ecobin Gantt Chart





Thank You

