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Integrated Intelligent Assistant for Visually Impaired

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Abstract— A person with a visual impairment finds it more difficult to recognize objects, avoid obstacles, and navigate independently. Visual impairment makes more difficult for those people to learn about their surroundings. Navigating through spaces becomes intricate, as the individual must rely on other senses and aids like canes or guide dogs to detect obstacles and safely maneuver through surroundings. Recognizing objects becomes a complex endeavor, as visual cues are limited or absent, leading to difficulties in identifying items, faces, or even familiar places. The proposed work introduces a brand-new visual assistance solution by creating a single, intelligent device that empowers visually impaired users through its multifaceted functionalities obtained by combining deep learning and machine learning algorithms. Image processing techniques such You Only Look Once (YOLO), Haar-Cascade algorithm is used for object detection and face recognition with the help of camera and other sensors. A comprehensive case study was conducted, demonstrating the real-time capabilities of YOLOv8 in detecting objects and obstacles on public roads, offering empirical evidence of its effectiveness in assisting visually impaired individuals in navigating urban environments safely and independently. The suggested prototype, in comparison to the white cane, provides the visually impaired with increased accessibility, comfort, and ease of navigation, according to the results.

Keywords— Object Detection, Face Recognition, Sensors, GPS, GSM

I.INTRODUCTION

World Health Organization (WHO) reports that one billion people worldwide have some form of vision impairment, with moderate visual impairment affecting 188.5 million, 217 million people with moderate to severe visual impairment, and 3600 million people affected with complete visual impairment [1]. According to the Medical Express, the number of visually challenged individuals will increase from 36 million to 115 million in 2050 as the population ages and expands [2]. Effective assistance is urgently needed as the number of visually impaired people increases. Most people with visual impairments require some form of assistive technology to carry out their daily tasks.

According to statistics, in India currently, 4.95 million individuals are visually challenged, among whom 70 million are completely visually challenged and 240,000 are children [3]. Visually impaired people struggle with various daily tasks, such as navigating, acquiring details, finding ways to pursue education and work, experiencing being isolated from society, and safeguarding their well-being and security. These difficulties can make it difficult for people who are visually impaired to complete everyday chores on their own or engage fully in society, emphasizing the need for ongoing work to increase accessibility and provide assistive

technology that can improve their quality of life. Access to information implies autonomy, so much of this knowledge is inaccessible to those who are visually challenged or partially sighted, limiting their freedom. This behaviour assumes that a completely visually challenged or partially sighted person needs help, even if they normally don't.

Visually challenged people may take longer to complete routine tasks. When visually challenged people helped without first asking or being asked, they may feel less autonomous and helpless. To overcome these difficulties, the proposed work focuses on developing smart device which contains two sub modules. One module is the smart stick and other module is the wearable. These two modules are integrated with each other.

The proposed model uses Raspberry as a processor connected with camera and an Arduino as a controller integrated with several sensors that performs object/obstacle detection, face recognition, and environmental condition monitoring. The Smart stick enables and leverages a wide variety of available sensors, including ultrasonic, flame, GPS and GSM sensors. There is also Emergency alert system verbally warn people with disabilities when sensors detect Aberration situation. The wearable part of the proposed model comprises of raspberry pi and camera module for respective working of the smart device.

A Raspberry Camera connected to a Raspberry Pi is used for object identification and face recognition. The Ultrasonic sensor detects the obstacles and provides audio feedback. The proposed model uses a flame sensor to detect fire and provide audio feedback. Additionally, it uses GPS/GSM to determine the user's exact location, including longitude and latitude. The panic button on the smart stick immediately alerts the surroundings and the care takers.

The Section II discusses current research on smart device for the visually impaired. The proposed technique is described in Section III, model implementation is discussed in Section IV, Section V contains the findings of this model and the conclusion is in Section VI.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

A novel visual aid system for completely blind individuals has been made with unique features, which define the novelty of the proposed design, include the Hands free, wearable, low power, and compact design, mountable on a pair of eyeglasses, for the indoor and outdoor navigation with an integrated reading assistant [4]. The Real-time, camera-based model which simplifies the design and lowers the cost by reducing the number of required sensors.

A smart stick with obstacle detection, object recognition, health monitoring, and navigation features to aid the visually impaired [5]. The smart stick can greatly improve the quality of life for visually impaired, making it easier as well as cost-effective and user-friendly.

A movement support system that uses ultrasonic sensors to identify dangerous road surfaces in order to reduce falls among the elderly [6]. By evaluating fluctuations in reflection intensity, it tackles issues with poor detection rates on rough surfaces and suggests ways to increase it. The approach's effectiveness is supported by validation experiments conducted on four different types of road surfaces, along with discussions on optimizing sample size.

A smartphone-based navigation system for visually impaired people indoors [7]. It uses a combination of pre-built maps, real-time obstacle detection with a camera, and feedback mechanisms (voice and smart cane) to help users navigate safely and independently.

An integrated CPU uses the depth information and obstacle distance to give the AR glasses an augmented reality representation and aural feedback via earphones [8]. Its limitation is that it's meant for indoor environments exclusively.

An AI-based method to help blind people assist pedestrians at zebra crossings [9]. Artificial intelligence (AI) techniques can be used by blind persons to assist them in traffic signals. Test findings show that this approach has an accuracy rate of 90%, which is very high.

Radiometric computations are used to optimize the shielded path [10]. Protection zones consisting of an opening, a side panel, a front panel, and a post are investigated for common obstacle configurations. Additionally, the findings are shown in actual setups with parked automobiles, trees, and trash cans.

A Blind Assistant, an integrated modular, expandable, open-source software package, with the goal of demonstrating that it is possible to create low-cost, high-impact assistive technology for the visually impaired by simply porting software that is currently only available for bulky personal computers [11].

A new electronic device called NavGuide helps visually impaired people navigate without obstacles [12]. It conveys priority data through vibration and audio feedback and provides consumers with streamlined environmental information without being overbearing. An evaluation with seventy visually impaired people in real-world settings shows that it performs better than typical white canes in detecting obstructions, damp surfaces, and climbing stairs by using vibration motors, ultrasonic sensors, and a battery.

Utilizes vision sensors and cloud computing to enhance system performance [13]. Picture selection is improved by using picture quality evaluation creatively. Convolutional neural networks are employed by binocular vision sensors to obtain images for cloud analysis. The results indicate that visually handicapped people are more satisfied.

These research articles provide insights into creative approaches and strategies meant to help blind people become more independent and participate in daily life. The

suggested designs include smart AI-powered pedestrian assistance techniques, and smart sticks with obstacle detection. These aids are made more functional and accessible by utilizing technologies like machine learning, deep learning algorithms and other sensors. Furthermore, wearable technology such as augmented reality glasses and AI-enabled glasses offers ideas to enhance the proposed model in future. The significance of accessibility and inclusion for the visually impaired community is underscored by the integration of inexpensive assistive technology that yield significant effects.

III.PROPOSED WORK

The proposed system consists of both software and hardware elements. The setup consists of ultrasonic sensor, flame sensor, GPS, GSM, camera module, speaker. The above components are integrated with a Raspberry. The Real-time video of the environment can be recorded with the camera. The block diagram of the suggested system is shown in Figure 1.

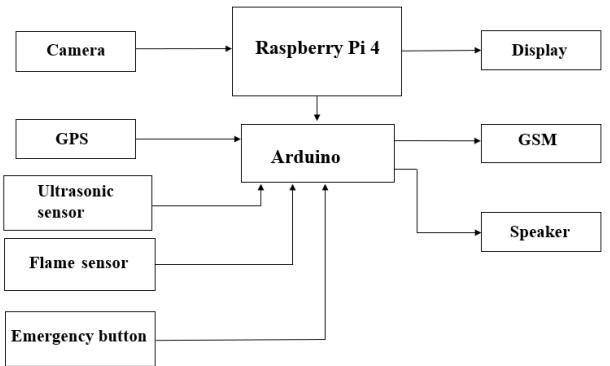


Figure 1: Block diagram of proposed system

The camera captures the real time environment and sends data to the Raspberry Pi for various purposes, such as object, face recognition. The Raspberry Pi serves as the central processing unit for the visual assistant system. It would be responsible for processing information from the pi camera. The Raspberry pi itself detects the objects in front of the user and provide the audio output of the name of the detected object. This employs the python and other library like OpenCV, text-to-speech (TTS) to detect and recognize objects in the frames and also audio output. The proposed model employs the Haar Cascade algorithm to detect and recognize faces in the frames. Based on the recognition results, the Pi identifies the person and assigns a unique ID. The Pi uses the serial communication to send this single ID value to the Arduino. The Arduino receives the ID through the specified serial port. It interprets the ID based on its string format. Then the Arduino which is programmed with C++, process data from the Pi and it provide the audio output of the face recognition. An ultrasonic sensor uses sound waves to detect objects in its path. This could be helpful for obstacle avoidance or navigation. A flame sensor used to detect fires and alert the user. The GPS module used to track the user's location, which could be helpful for navigation or for emergency purposes.

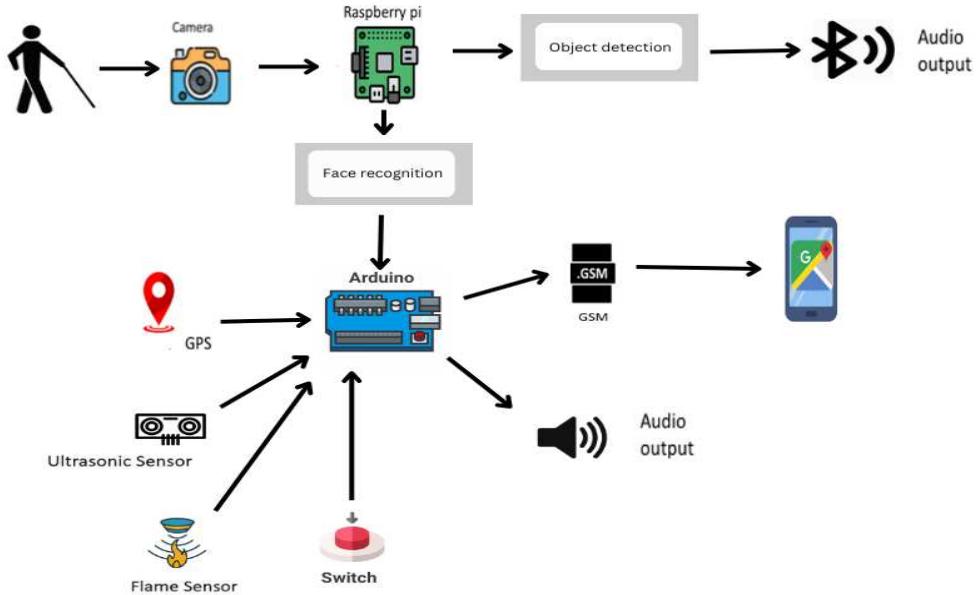


Figure 2: Structure of proposed system

A GSM module provide cellular connectivity, which could be used for sending text messages for emergencies. An emergency button would allow the user to call for help in case of an emergency. An Arduino used to manage various tasks and process data from Raspberry Pi, various sensors and above mentioned modules, Then provide the auditory output through speaker. The structural diagram of the overall proposed model is given in Figure 2.

A) Data Acquisition of the hardware components:

The Raspberry Pi 4 model B key features include a high-performance 64-bit quad-core processor, dual-display support at resolutions up to 1080p via a pair of micro-HDMI ports, hardware video decode at up to 1080p60, 2GB of RAM, dual-band 2.4 GHz wireless LAN, Bluetooth 5.0, Gigabit Ethernet, USB 3.0, and PoE capability.

The Raspberry Pi Camera Module Rev 1.5 features a 5-megapixel resolution for sharp still images and supports video recording up to 720p at 60fps. The module connects via MIPI CSI-2 interface and is compatible with Raspberry Pi models featuring a CSI camera connector.

Arduino UNO is a microcontroller board which has 14 digital input/output pins, 6 analog inputs, a 16 MHz ceramic resonator, a USB connection, a power jack and a reset button.

Ultrasonic sensor uses a frequency range of 30 kHz to 500 kHz. This range is important because higher frequencies provide better resolution but shorter range, while lower frequencies offer longer range but lower resolution. The operation is not affected by sunlight or black material, although acoustically, soft materials like cloth can be difficult to detect. It comes complete with ultrasonic transmitter and receiver module.

Flame Sensor detects flame flicker in the infrared range with adjustable sensitivity, offering a range of 0-1 meter and a 60-degree detection angle. This sensor operates

on low voltage (3.3V-5V) with both analog and digital outputs for easy integration.

The SIM808 is a powerful module that combines cellular connectivity, GPS functionality, and basic audio capabilities. It operates on most 2G networks globally thanks to its quad-band GSM/GPRS support. For location tracking, it boasts a high-sensitivity GPS receiver with 22 tracking channels for pinpoint accuracy of around 2.5 meters.

B) Data Acquisitions of software used:

The smart device used in the proposed work is created using deep learning and machine learning algorithms.

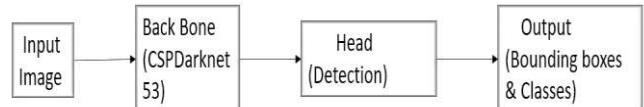


Figure 3: YOLO architecture used for object detection

The architecture of YOLOv8 is represented as shown in Figure 3. The deep learning algorithm used in this model is YOLO V8, which is a new state-of-the-art object detection model known for its speed and accuracy. This model is quite good at instantly identifying and categorizing objects in pictures and videos in real-time. YOLOv8 is a single-stage object detection algorithm. This means it predicts bounding boxes and class probabilities for objects in an image. A grid is created within the image. The duty of every cell is to anticipate objects in its vicinity. YOLOv8 is anchor-free, in contrast to earlier iterations that employed anchor boxes. It accurately forecasts the size and center of each grid cell's objects. The real time image to analyze for objects is fed into the network. Backbone is the workhorse of the model.

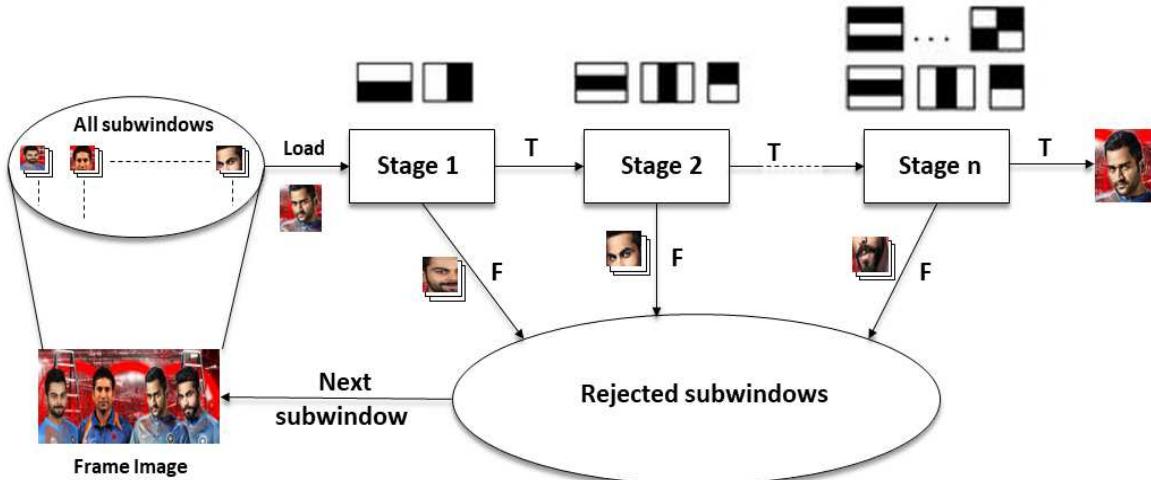


Figure 4: Haar Cascade architecture used for face detection

YOLOv8 a pre-trained network based on the CSPDarknet53 architecture. This part extracts features from the image at different levels of detail - low-level (edges, corners), mid-level (textures), and high-level (entire objects). The Head section is responsible for object detection. It takes the feature maps from the Backbone and performs several convolutional layers followed by fully connected layers. These layers predict bounding boxes for potential objects in the image and classify them into specific categories. The final output of YOLOv8 is a set of bounding boxes for detected objects along with their corresponding class labels (e.g., "car," "person," "dog").

YOLOv8 enables real-time object detection, leveraging CSPDarknet53 for feature extraction. It utilizes PAN to combine features, followed by fusion of multiple-scale feature maps. With three detection heads, it efficiently predicts bounding boxes and class probabilities. YOLOv8 ensures precise object localization and classification. Key elements include convolutional layers, upsampling, concatenation, and offset-based bounding box prediction, facilitating rapid and accurate detection across scenarios.

The machine learning algorithm used in this model is Haar cascade algorithm. The ability of the Haar-like features to differentiate between face features including the eyes, nose, and mouth makes Haar Cascade very useful for facial detection. Using a set of positive and negative photos, the system first builds a Haar Cascade classifier in order to detect faces. The system recognizes edges and lines in the image by using rectangular features known as Haar features. Basic facial characteristics, such as lighter areas for the forehead and darker areas for the eyes, can be captured by these features. Haar features make use of an integrated image representation to increase efficiency. This makes it possible to quickly calculate feature values at various image places. There are several steps in the trained classifier. In the first stage, the entire image is analyzed using a Haar feature. A Haar feature is a set of rectangle filters that add and subtract pixel intensities within regions of a detection window. The first stage applies the Haar feature. If a certain amount of Haar features are found, the region is passed to the next stage. Regions that don't meet the criteria are rejected. Subsequent stages perform more complex classifications using additional Haar features. Each stage that a subwindow passes brings it closer to being classified

as a face. Subwindows that fail any stage are rejected. The threshold is a value used to determine if a certain feature passes a stage. A higher threshold reduces the number of false positives but also increases the likelihood of missing faces. After all stages are processed, the remaining subwindows are classified as faces as given in Figure 4.

C) Obstacle detection:

Ultrasonic sensors accurately identify nearby objects. High-frequency sound waves that are inaudible to humans (typically above 20 kHz) are commonly emitted by ultrasonic sensors in the range of 2-400 cm. A transducer, which functions as both a transmitter and a receiver, is the essential part. It is capable of converting both electrical signals and ultrasonic sound waves. The transducer produces a burst of ultrasonic sound waves when it is triggered, usually by a microcontroller pulse. The sound wave returns to the sensor as an echo if it collides with an object along its path. The echo signal that returns is detected by the transducer.

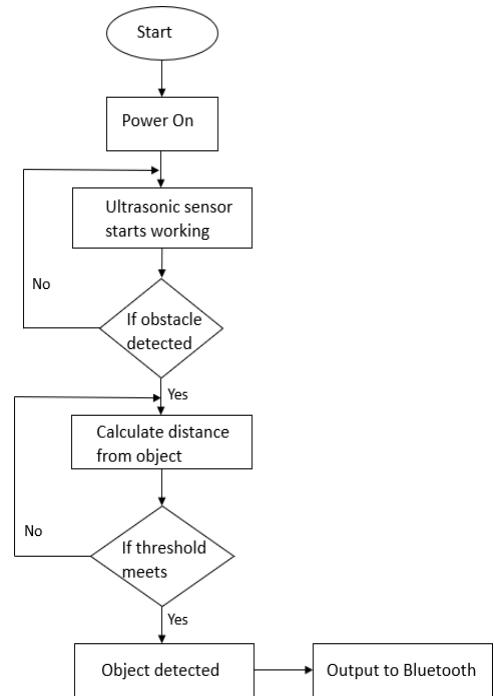


Figure 5: Obstacle detection using Ultrasonic Sensor

A microcontroller like Arduino can be used to control the sensor, process the data, and trigger actions based on obstacle detection. As a consequence, it gathers information and transmits them to the microcontroller, which modifies it to speech as in Figure 5.

D) Fire Detection:

Flame sensor is an important component of smart sticks for the visually impaired as this help detect potential fire hazards. Equipped with a flame sensor, smart sticks can sense heat and flames and warn users with alarms and vibrations to avoid touching fire. This helps prevent injury and property damage and gives users peace of mind. In addition, flame sensors can detect obstacles that may go unnoticed due to visual impairment, helping visually impaired people navigate their surroundings safely. Overall, flame sensors are an important safety feature for the visually impaired and can be a valuable tool for independent living. A flame sensor is attached to the stick to detect the stick and sound an alarm. When the sensor value exceeds threshold, it outputs that a fire has been detected to the visually impaired. The Figure 6 represents the flame detection using flame sensor.

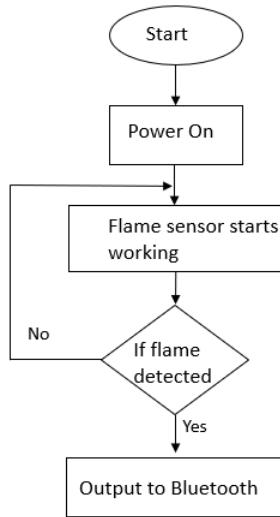


Figure 6: Flame detection using Flame Sensor

E) GPS monitoring:

The smart stick incorporates a GPS module, which receives signals from a network of satellites orbiting the Earth. These satellites continuously transmit precise timing and location data. When the visually impaired individual carries the smart stick, the GPS module within it receives signals from multiple satellites overhead. By triangulating signals from at least three satellites, the GPS module calculates the user's exact position on the Earth's surface through a process known as trilateration. The calculated position data is then processed within the smart stick's system, which may include an onboard microcontroller Arduino. This feature enhances safety and allows caretakers to respond promptly to any potential risks or emergencies. Table 1 shows the characteristics of the GPS

Table 1: Specifications of GPS

| Features | Specifications |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Receiver Type | 16 channels, L1 frequency, C/A code |
| GPS update rate | 4 Hz |
| Position / Velocity update rate | 100 Hz |
| Accuracy position SPS | 2.5 m CEP |
| Altitude | 18 Km |
| Velocity | 515 m/s |
| No of channels | 20 |

F) Emergency Alerts:

Many visually impaired persons require assistance from their neighbours. Since almost all smartphones have emergency alert features, this mechanism is built inside the stick. The visually impaired individual only has to press the button. Upon pressing the emergency alert button, the system embedded within the smart stick is activated. This triggers a series of predefined actions aimed at alerting caretakers and nearby individuals to the emergency situation. Short messaging service (SMS) messages are sent using GSM by the system. In an emergency, this will safeguard those who are visually impaired. Table 2 displays the GSM characteristics.

Table 2: Technical features of GSM

| Features | Specifications |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Frequency Band | 850 MHZ / 900 MHZ /1800 MHZ/ 1900 MHZ |
| Voltage Rating | 3.2 V – 4.8 V dc |
| Power Supply | 12 V |
| Communication Protocol | UART |
| Baud Rate | 9600 |

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation view of the proposed system is shown in Figure 7:

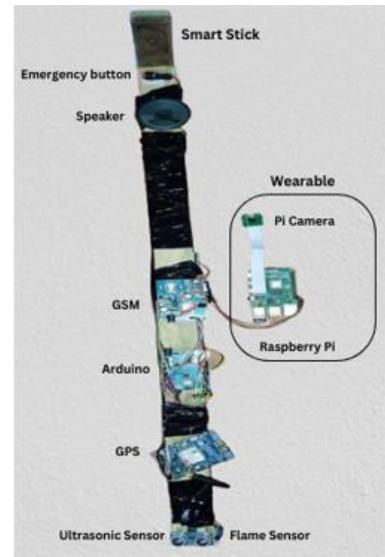


Figure 7: Hardware setup of proposed smart stick

Real-time video is being captured by the camera module, and the objects present in are being recognized using a deep learning algorithm based on a trained model. It draws a bounding box on an object and tries to predict the object type based on the trained data. The device can also detect multiple objects, with different confidence levels, from one video frame. Our model can easily identify up to four or five objects, simultaneously, from a single video frame. The confidence level indicates the percentage of times the system can detect an object without any failure.

i) Object detection:

Visually challenged people face many problems because they cannot see nearby objects. A Raspberry Pi camera is used for visual object detection. The Raspberry Pi camera is lightweight, affordable, and capable of recording in various resolutions. There are over 80 different object kinds that are recognized, including housewares, vehicles, etc., The object detection process is shown in Figure 8.

The proposed design is also an updatable database, as new object types are registered in the template data set. To achieve this, the above described deep learning algorithm, YOLOv8 is proposed to locate objects in real time.

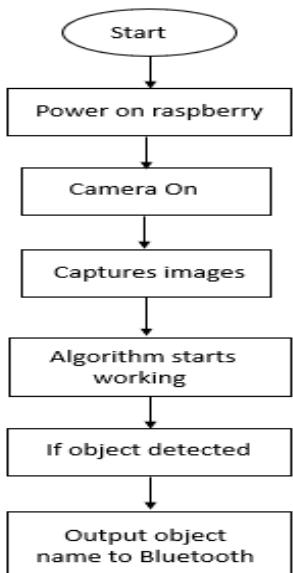


Figure 8: Schematic diagram on object detection

ii) Face recognition:

Face recognition module is powered by a state-of-the-art Haar Cascade algorithm, The smart device excels in unknown person detection, further augmenting its capabilities in ensuring user safety. This sophisticated AI-driven technology enables the device to distinguish between familiar and unfamiliar individuals, empowering users to make informed decisions about their surroundings. In essence, this smart device embodies the convergence of cutting-edge technology and compassionate design, offering unparalleled safety, independence, and peace of mind to visually impaired individuals as they navigate through their daily lives.

The system includes a hardware module and a software module. Image acquisition is done using a digital camera. Software module includes image processing. Image processing involves face detection and face recognition.

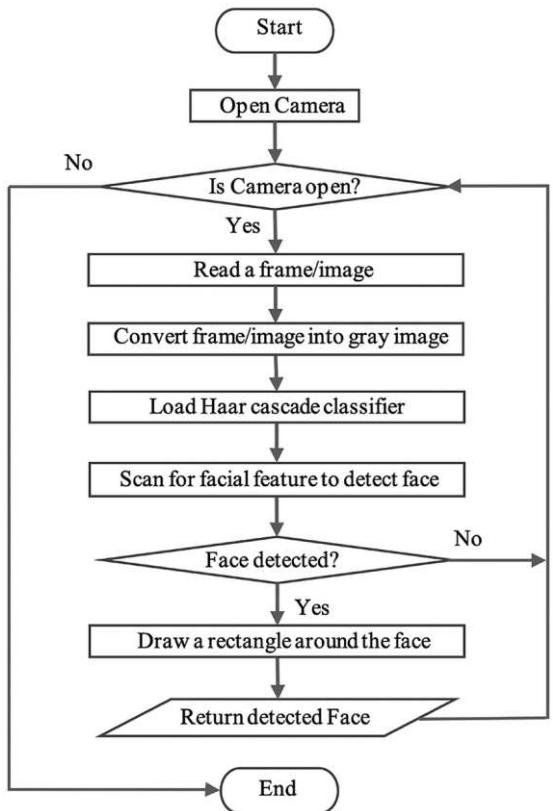


Figure 9: Schematic diagram on face recognition

Camera will be capturing image and send the image to raspberry pi, the raspberry pi starts processing the image. Image processing system mainly consist of two subsystems: 1) Face detection system and 2) Face recognition system. Phase in which there is an extraction of face portion from an image and creation of database is called as enrolment phase and phase in which a new face is compared with database is called authentication phase. Face detection helps to extract face region alone from the whole image. Face can be detected using Haar Cascade algorithm.

Haar Cascade is a machine learning-based algorithm used to detect objects in images or videos. The algorithm uses a set of Haar-like features, which are rectangular patterns of pixel values, to distinguish between the object and the background. The algorithm trains a classifier using these features, which can then be used to detect objects in new images or videos. The proposed model is trained with 120 dataset images per person for face recognition.

In this face recognition module, whenever the trained faces are detected as well as recognized, our python program is designed in such a way to make the respective General-Purpose Input/Output (GPIO) pins set to high. Thus, these GPIO pins are in serial communication with Arduino. Then Arduino proceeds to generate the audio output whether the detected person is known or unknown, also if the person is known it provide the name of the person.

V. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

The proposed work includes variety of sensors integrated into the smart stick and camera that are integrated into the wearable, enabling the model to assist with object/obstacle detection, face recognition and positioning. The stick also helps detect fire to prevent accidents. The device is also equipped with speaker that provide users with acoustic feedback for improved awareness of their surroundings. This smart device is designed to monitor visually impaired (location, etc.) and send emergency alert.

Ultrasonic sensors detect obstacles and help visually impaired people move from left to right. Ultrasonic sensors emit high-frequency sound waves. They don't require complex object identification. Any solid object reflecting the sound wave is detected as an obstacle. The final output is in the audio format and sent to the visually challenged ear via Bluetooth/Speaker. Unlike light-based sensors, ultrasonic sensors work in all lighting conditions, making them suitable for day, night, or even dusty environments.

The flame sensor in the proposed model effectively detects the presence of open flames, potentially preventing fires and accidents. Flame detection achieves more accuracy.

The smart device uses a camera to take pictures of objects or currency in front of it. This is used by the Raspberry Pi microcontroller to recognize objects. Figure 10 shows images of various detected objects which is converted to audio format and sent to the visually impaired ear via Bluetooth.

TABLE 3

PERFORMANCE OF SINGLE AND MULTIPLE OBJECT DETECTION

| Test Cases | Actual Object (s) | Predicted Object (s) | Failure case (s) |
|------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | Person | Person | None |
| 2 | Mouse | Mouse | None |
| 3 | Notebook | Notebook | None |
| 4 | Cell Phone | Cell Phone | None |
| 5 | Person, Chair, Mouse | Person, Chair, Mouse | None |
| 6 | Cell Phone, Notebook | Cell Phone, Notebook | None |
| 7 | Bottle, Cell Phone | Bottle, Cell Phone | None |
| 8 | Notebook, Person | Notebook, Person | None |
| 9 | Clock, Backpack | Clock, Backpack | None |
| 10 | Person, Car, Motorbike | Person, Car, Motorbike | None |
| 11 | Truck, Auto rickshaw | Truck, Truck | Auto rickshaw |

Table 3 summarizes the results from single and multiple object detection, for 11 unique cases, consisting of either a single item or a combination of items, commonly found in indoor and outdoor setups. The system can identify

single items with high accuracy and zero failure cases. Where multiple objects are in the frame, the proposed system can recognize each known object within the view. For any object situated in the range of 15–20 m from the user, the object can be recognized with at least 80% accuracy. The camera identifies objects based on their ground truth values (in %).



Figure 10: Classroom (Indoor Environment)

Figure 10 displays the outcome of object detection conducted during our class session. The detection process successfully identified multiple objects, including persons and laptops, within the captured image. This illustration showcases the effectiveness of our object detection system in accurately recognizing and categorizing various objects present in the environment.



Figure 11: Road

Figure 11 shows a row of cars parked on the side of a road. Object detection software could be used to identify these cars and provide audio descriptions to the user, letting them know how many cars are there and their relative location. In addition to cars, object detection can be used to identify a wide variety of other objects outdoors, including people, bicycles, trees, and potholes. This information can be used to help visually impaired people safely navigate their surroundings.

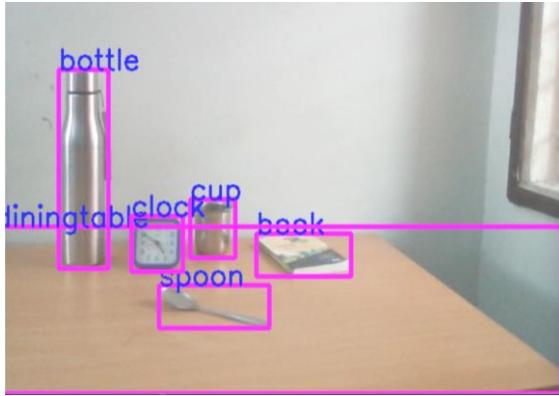


Figure 12: Other Detected Objects

Figure 12 depicts the real-time output generated by the YOLOv8 algorithm during its application in detecting various objects. The image showcases the algorithm's capability to identify and classify different objects seamlessly, including items such as spoons, dining tables, books, cups, clocks, and bottles.

```
*IDLE Shell 3.8.7*
File Edit Shell Debug Options Window Help
0: 480x640 1 bottle, 1 cup, 1 spoon, 1 dining table, 1 book, 1 clock, 120.1ms
70 124 147 351
Confidence --> 89 %
Class name --> bottle
213 262 280 340
Confidence --> 82 %
Class name --> cup
285 388 315 359
Confidence --> 68 %
Class name --> book
0 617 308 479
Confidence --> 53 %
Class name --> diningtable
179 299 368 412
Confidence --> 33 %
Class name --> spoon
149 205 297 354
Confidence --> 32 %
Class name --> clock
Speed: 0.0ms preprocess, 120.1ms inference, 0.0ms postprocess per image at shape
(1, 3, 480, 640)
```

Figure 13: Accuracy of detected objects

Figure 13 illustrates the accuracy rates associated with the detection of various objects by our object detection system. The system achieved an accuracy of 89% for detecting bottles, 82% for cups, 68% for books, 53% for dining tables, 33% for spoons, and 32% for clocks. The accuracy of object detection can vary depending on the lighting conditions and the quality of the camera.

These are outputs obtain while undergoing case studies in the public road as well as indoor environment. The detected object is captured and processed by the raspberry pi and the filter result will be announced by bluetooth connection with audio signal. The people were detected with an accuracy of above 90 percent. Other objects are detected with an accuracy of above 80 percent.

Many visually impaired people have incidents such as collisions with moving vehicles, but the proposed model has more accuracy in detecting the moving vehicles.

Basically visually impaired people in the indoor environment encounter many situations such as collision with objects

The system accurately identifies faces from a pre-built database with a high success rate. Faces not found in the database are flagged as unknown, allowing for further categorization. Figure 14 shows image of recognized person which is converted to audio format and sent to the visually impaired ear via Bluetooth.

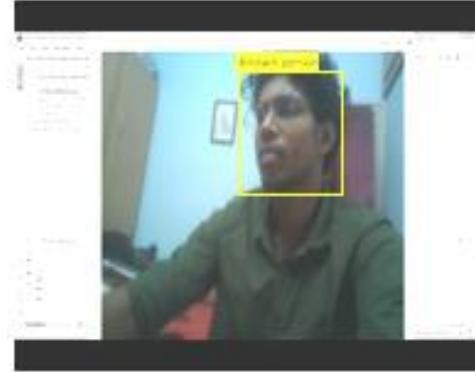


Figure 14: Results of face recognition

Figure 15 shows the SMS notification sent to the caregiver's mobile phone when the visually impaired person is in an emergency along with the current location of the visually impaired person.

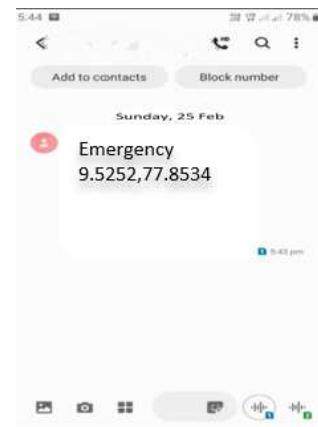


Figure 15: Results of GPS and GSM

V. COMPARISONS

In the existing model, the ultrasonic sensor placed in spectacles had a limited detection range, rendering it ineffective for object detection. But the proposed model employs the sensors attached to the stick. However, when placed on a stick, it could detect objects on the ground. Due to the risk of damaging the spectacles, the Raspberry Pi couldn't be fixed, prompting a modification to a wearable setup. Additionally, GSM and GPS modules are added to send the wearer's location to caregivers, a feature absent in the existing model. Furthermore, while the existing model

only focused on object detection, the improved version incorporates face detection for identifying known and unknown individuals. An emergency button on the stick allows the wearer to alert caregivers of emergencies, a feature not present in the existing model. The innovation in the proposed model lies in the combination of features and the uses of deep learning and machine learning algorithms.

VI. CONCLUSION

The proposed work provides solutions to problems that people with visual impairments may encounter. The proposed smart device has the uniqueness of combining machine learning and deep learning to provide supreme support. With its many uses, this smart cane gives its users more flexibility and autonomy. Offering a full array of functions such as object/obstacle identification, facial recognition, and position awareness, which is beyond simple obstacle detection. An additional layer of safety is added by the special integration of fire detection, which may help to prevent accidents. The gadget also uses a speaker to deliver real-time audio feedback, which increases users' awareness of their surroundings. This smart stick's small form factor, low cost, scalability, and battery-efficient performance make it ideal for broad use.

VII. FUTURE SCOPE

The future works includes expanding the system to incorporate voice assistance is a promising future scope. This addition enables hands-free operation through voice commands, offers spoken feedback and alerts, facilitates assistive navigation with step-by-step directions, and can be personalized to individual preferences. Integration with natural language processing and popular virtual assistants further enhances functionality. Continuous updates ensure the system remains current and effective, ultimately empowering visually impaired individuals with greater autonomy and convenience.

VIII. REFERENCES

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