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| UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO SCHOOL OF COMPUTING | | |
| Draft Introduction and Literature Review | | |
| 3204 - Individual Project | | |
| **Project Name** | **:** | **Content and Collaborative based Sinhala Book**  **Recommendation System** |
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# Introduction

# Chapter Overview

This chapter provides a foreword for the project in terms of background study, problem domain, the main aim, objectives, scope and activities that will be carried out towards the completion of the research. Finally, the chapter concludes with an overview on how the other chapters of the document fit into the project context.

# Background

From our childhood, everyone has heard that “Reading makes a man perfect”. People acquire the knowledge by reading a variety of materials. These materials could be a book, an internet article, a newspaper, a magazine, or even a piece of paper, and the gain knowledge by reading these materials is intense. People who read a lot tend to know more about life and are smarter when making decisions and handling difficult situations. (Marappan 2022) It may not be possible for the reader to “know it all,” but a lot of reading brings man close to perfection. Most of them like to read books as a hobby because it imagines readers' own movie in their mind rather than watching a movie directed by someone.

Book readers normally select books by reading some random pages or recommended by someone. When reading that book, if he finds that the book is not interesting, he will not read any book after that. therefore, it is better to suggest books that he is interested in. With the increase in library collections, it is diﬃcult for readers to quickly ﬁnd the books they want when choosing books. It is diﬃcult for readers to ﬁnd Sinhala books of interest in a short period of time in the face of various bibliographies. Therefore, the user experience of the traditional library borrowing method is poor (Dhanda and Verma 2016). Due to the Covid-19 pandemic situation and the geographical barriers also it becomes a tremendous challenge for them (Sarma, Mittra, and Shahadat 2021) to find a relevant book as they do not like to go out and spend time searching books of their preference.

# Motivation

When we navigate through social media specially in Facebook there are so many groups available for almost everything. If you are living in an area, there is a group for that area, if you have an aqua car, there is a group created for aqua car owners. The benefits of such group are you can learn many things and if you have any doubt you can ask from the group and get it clarified. For Sinhala book readers also, there are so many groups available in the Facebook. You can share what your thought for a book or you can see what are latest books released through the groups if you follow those groups. One thing I have noticed is many people ask I have read ‘Adaraniya Victoria’ any one can suggest similar type of books. And some of members ask what are the books related to Sri Lankan history. Some other have asked whether the book is good to read by uploading an image of the book. When considering these three scenarios I thought like it is better to have a system that displays what other users’ thoughts about a book and how much of rate could be given to the book and what are other similar books. It gives the motivation to initiate kind of such system for Sinhala book readers.



# Problem Domain

Most organizations have implemented their recommendation system when users buy products online. But almost all the websites are not developed for the buyer's interest; the organizations force add-on sales to buyers by recommending unnecessary and irrelevant products (Sarma, Mittra, and Shahadat 2021). For instance, if a user has read a book named ‘Madol Duwa’, he would like to read similar books and there is no Sinhala book recommendation system to address this problem. Additionally, some members of readers groups on Facebook have problems like, is this book good or I have read this book and are there any similar kind of books like the mentioned book? Many personal book recommendation systems have emerged to conduct eﬀective search based on user rating and interest.

This paper proposed an effective Sinhala book recommendation system for online users that rated a book list using the content and collaboration (hybrid) method. The solution could be used by all Sinhala book readers to find interesting or suitable books without wasting time or money. Authors also could use the system to have an idea of what kind of books readers rate and are interested more and write books accordingly.

# Aim

The main aim of the research is to analyze, design, implement and evaluate an accurate Sinhala book recommendation system using content and collaboration algorithms with attractive user-friendly interface which display the searched book details along with reviews and recommended books. The main aim can be further divided to three sub aims as;

* Input Data will be the dataset collected from readers.
* Preprocess by removing null values and unwanted data then apply the content and collaborative algorithm
* Final output data will be displayed in the system.

# Objective

The final outcome of this project is helping Sinhala book readers to find correct and recommend books based on their preferences using content and collaboration algorithm. There is no exact formula for determining how much data would be enough for a recommendation system. Even though capturing many data sets, ends up with manageable data sets after preprocessing and removing null values from the collection list. The most online dataset contains parsed data.

The main goal of this research will be achieved by targeting the following objectives.

1. To Collect selected Sinhala book details like title, author, publisher, description, image url and keywords. Online book stores will be used for collecting the details of books.
2. To produce a data set containing user details, selected Sinhala books and rates given by users for those books.
3. To implement web application along with login and registration features.
4. To recommend ten books based on specific field of interest using Content and Collaborative (Hybrid) methodology.
5. To determine the categories preferred by readers so that it motivates authors to write books as per the user’s preference.
6. To Increase the number of book readers by recommending books according to their preferences.

# Scope

The scope of the project can be defined as bellow.

1. Sharing a google form containing selected books along with authors and collecting user rates and reviews for those books based on previous readers experience.
2. Applying sentimental analysis for the reviews collected from above and assigning a new rate.
3. Provide facilities for readers to login or register to the system with their email id which is unique.
4. Provide facilities for readers to search a specific book in the repository and it will display the details such as author, publisher and image along with the reviews and rates given by users.
5. Additionally, the system will display a list of recommended Sinhala books based on users’ rates and reviews of specific interested field. Content based and Collaborative based (Hybrid) approach will be taken place in order to recommend books.
6. Only Sinhala books are recommended and it is based on users’ rates and reviews as well as keywords provided for selected books

We can use library to collect book details, but we will not be able to collect user reviews and rates for selected books. I am using online book store to collect book details but I preferred to get user reviews and rates from users themselves so that they are aware that they have provided the information for the application rather than just coping from the online without their awareness. Until now, around 3750 records have been collected and targeting to collect around 7000 records for the research.

# Resource Requirement

In order to implement and execute the application, following hardware and software requirements should be satisfied.

# Hardware requirement

* A Laptop or desktop with core i3 or above processor
* At least 4GB Ram
* At least 30GB

# Software requirement

* Python latest version – 3.11.5
* VS code as IDE for implementation and execute the application
* MS Excel and Notepad ++ for viewing and manipulating data
* Stable internet connection for downloading relevant libraries.
* GitHub for storing images and implemented code.

# Chapter Walkthrough

The outline of the chapters are as follows.

# Chapter 02: Literature Survey

This chapter will discuss about the review, conducted on the proposed project. It will extensively describe on the stakeholders, the problem, existing solutions, methodologies, and approaches along with their benefits and limitations.

# Chapter 03: Methodology

This chapter will discuss about the methodology to be used to implement the solution. The stakeholders, main technology, libraries, prioritized items, how the collected data is analyzed and the how the architecture of the system will be organized will be in detailed discussed. Furthermore, why the selected technology is more suitable than other existing technologies will be clarified.

# Chapter 04: Implementation

This chapter covers the implementation stage of the project. Algorithms used and challenges faced and how they are resolved will be discussed in this phrase. Screen shots and code segments for some selected functionalities are also provided to facilitate easier understanding and manipulating over the project implementation.

# Chapter 05: Evaluation and Results

The evaluation chapter provides how the results are evaluated based on the feedback collected from Domain experts in this projects Authors. The project will be shown to them and get the feedback for the evaluation. Other than that validation methods will be used to further evaluate the accuracy of the system.

# Chapter 06: Conclusion and Future work

The objectives that were able to be successfully achieved will be discussed in conclusion chapter. The challengers and the limitation of implemented system will be highlighted in order for someone to enhance the system.

# Chapter Summary

The chapter began with explanation on background and problem domain of the system. Although many applications have been developed for book recommending systems, most of them are related to English books. Proper applications that satisfy all the requirements with user satisfaction were limited. The main approach is to make an application that help all Sinhala book readers to recommend Sinhala books based on their preference. A goal followed by objectives was defined to make the effort to be success.

# Literature Review

# Chapter Overview

This chapter provides a foreword for the project in terms of background study, problem domain, the main aim, objectives, scope and activities that will be carried out towards the completion of the research. Finally, the chapter concludes with an overview on how the other chapters

# Chapter Summary

This chapter

# Methodology

# Chapter Overview

Earlier Literature review chapter helped to identified what are similar systems available in the world and what are the limitations in those applications. This chapter is mainly focused on how the problem is analyzed and identify the methodologies that can be used to implement the system. Further, architectural diagram will be explained along with why hybrid-based application is focused rather than one particular model will be discussed in details.

# Data Set

For any machine learning application, a dataset plays a significant role. While going through some initial process I was trying to find a data set from popular dataset providers like Kaggle. All those data providers have lot of datasets related to book recommendation system. But the limit is all of them related to English books. There were no data set for Sinhala books. Therefore, a google form is created to collect the dataset. The google form is shared in all book readers groups in Facebook and able to collect fair amount of data which can be used to build a model.

Following fields are listed in the form to be provided by the book readers.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Input Field | Usage | Google form |
| Email | Unique id to differentiate the user |  |
| Age Range | Drop down list with age range |  |
| Gender | Radio button with two fields of male and female |  |
| Book | This will be a dropdown list which contains 304 books |  |
| Rate | This is a range field from 1 to 10 |  |
| Reason | The input will be considered as a review and taken for sentiment analysis |  |

Initial stage of the implementation, an input text filed is given to provide books. But readers entered different data for same value for example, ‘Madol duwa’, ‘Madol Duuwa’. Therefore, a list is created for readers to be selected. In additionaly, if any preferred books are not listed, those books can be included at the end of the form so that the books can be added in to the list by admins in future. high level architecture diagram will be depicted as below.

# Architectural Diagram

# sssss

According to the above architectural diagram, initially data is collected and then it needs to be categorized and store in separate 3 tables as Book\_Details, User\_Details and Rate\_Details. All user related information will be stored in User\_Details table. Additional book data like ISBN, publisher, year should be added in Book\_Details table to display the details of the book when a user search for a particular book. Ratings given for a book by users are stored in Rate\_Details table. If a review exists for a book, a separate review rate will be assigned for the review after completing of the sentimental analysis and include it in Rate\_Details table as a separate column. For the final calculation, mean value of review rate and normal rate will be taken. If there is no review given, normal rate will be taken for the calculation.

Before starting the recommendation process, collected data need to be preprocessed in order to remove unwanted data like null rate values. And data like giving maximum rate for just one and only book should be eliminated as those kinds of books should not be recommended

Then the process of applying the algorithms will be taken place. In user based collaborative algorithm, first we need to build a matrix upon users and books with the rating given. Then cosine similarity, which is one of the techniques of K Nearest Neighbor (KNN) will be computed for each user in the matrix. The KNN is a machine learning algorithm to find clusters of similar users based on common book ratings. The cosine similarity first collects books in which is evaluated by all the users in the nearest neighbors, and then the candidate list which the target user has rated or reviewed is removed. Finally, a list of recommended books will be generated based on the similarity.

In content-based approach, it is based on the description of the book and a user’s preference. The algorithm tries to recommend books which are similar to those that a user rated in the past. Initially it abstracts the features such as title, author, genre of books in the system. Then information such as books user read and the rates given will be considered to create user preference vector. Finally various candidate items are compared with the books previously rated by the user and the best matching books are recommended.

According to the researches most of them use hybrid method which combines both collaborative filtering and content-based filtering. Even though there are multiple strategies to apply the hybrid method, applying content-based and collaborative filtering separately and then combining them together will be adopted as it is more effective in book recommendation system. Therefore, the common book list which are generated from collaborative filtering and content-based filtering will be displayed as the final recommended book list.

# Flow Chart

# Technology Selection

The main technology along with other related technologies and libraries which will be used for the system is as follows.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Front End** | **Logic** | **Data Persistence** |
| CSS - WikipediaInstalling Python 3 and Flask on GoDaddy | by Jordan Ireland | Towards Data  ScienceHTML5 - WikipediaLearn Bootstrap Tutorial - JavaTpoint | Natural Language Processing using NLTK (Python)Google Translator in Python scikit-learn - WikipediaIT12A01: FUNDAMENTALS OF PYTHON PROGRAMMING (SF) - NTUC LearningHub | MySQL Workbench | GPL, Oracle | MySQL is an open source relational databas…  | Relational database management system, Database management system,  Relational database Hosted MySQL - Amazon RDS for MySQL - AWS |

# Chapter Summary

The chapter explains the main architecture of the system along with the technology which will be used to implement the system. The clarification between the methodologies and why the hybrid method is used is also described in this chapter.

# Implementation

# Chapter Overview

After describing the methodology of the system, the next task is to convert the methodology into a functional prototype. The prototype of the proposed system should address the main objectives that were identified in the first chapter. This chapter will discuss the implementation details individually for identified modules. At the end of the chapter the decisions taken on the low-level implementation would be discussed.

# Preprocessing

When considering the dataset, it is noted that the dataset contains reviews that were written in Sinhala language. Since we are planning to apply sentiment analysis for the reviews, it is compulsory to have the review data in English language. There for the very first task would be to convert the reviews written in Sinhala to English language.

# Language Translation

In order to convert the language, Google Translator library could be used as below. Then all the reviews written in Sinhala will be converted to English reviews which ultimately could be applied sentiment analysis on top of the reviews.

from googletrans import Translator

translator = Translator()



# Sentimental analysis

Sentiment analysis is the process of analyzing a given text and determine if the text means to positive, negative or neutral. It basically helps to understand the human feelings via text. It is one of the Natural Language Processing (NLP) technique used to analyze the text. There are several ways to apply sentiment analysis for a text. Following are some of them

# Using libraries

# VADER - Valence Aware Dictionary and sEntiment Reasoner

It is a lexicon and rule-based sentiment analysis tool that is specifically attuned to sentiments expressed in social media.  It is available in the NLTK package and can be directly applied to a text and gives both polarity(positive/negative) and intensity or strength. The feature depends on a dictionary which maps lexical features with sentiment score.

from vaderSentiment.vaderSentiment import SentimentIntensityAnalyzer

sent\_analyzer = SentimentIntensityAnalyzer()

text = "the greatest story"

sentiment = sent\_analyzer.polarity\_scores(text);

print("Analyser ----", sentiment)



# TextBlob

It is another lexicon based python library which can be used to process a text and gives two main values polarity and subjectivity.Other than sentiment analysis, the library contains lot of features like noun phrase extraction, tokenization, lemmatization, spelling correction. As per the below example the text contains the word ‘greatest’ which textblob consider as the sentiment analyser and return positive value 1.0

from textblob import TextBlob

text = "the greatest story"

testimonial = TextBlob(text)

print("textblob -- ", testimonial.sentiment)



<https://www.analyticsvidhya.com/blog/2021/10/sentiment-analysis-with-textblob-and-vader/>

# Compare VADER and Textblob

# Using own mechanism

There are some limitations when use any libabry in our system like not able to customized and not able to understand the logic behind the functionality. There for own mechanism of implementing sentimental analysis would be used. Following are the list of main steps for building the model then implement the pipeline for the model built.

In order to train the model for sentiment analysis, ‘Kindle reviews’ dataset was taken from Kaggle. The dataset looks like as below



# Convert Uppercase to Lowercase

The review text contains uppercase as well as lowercase. As a first step all the characters to be converted to lowercase so the case sensitiveness can be ignored when comparing values.



# Remove Links

Since the links do not have any meaning for sentiment analyzer, those links to be removed with below code.



# Remove Punctuations

Since the punctuations also do not have any meaning for sentiment analyzer, all the punctuations to be removed with below code. Punctuation list can be found in string library. A function is defined to remove the punctuations and it is invoked in all the review text.



# Remove Numbers

There were numbers also added in the review test and those were also to be removed as they do not have any meaning for sentiment analyzer process. Removing numbers in a text can be achieved by below code.



# Remove Stop words

There were numbers also added in the review text and those were also to be removed as they do not have any meaning for sentiment analyzer process. The list of stop words can be download from nltk library to a folder specified.



A variable is defined to store the list of stop words as below.



Finally, the stop words are removed from the review text with following code



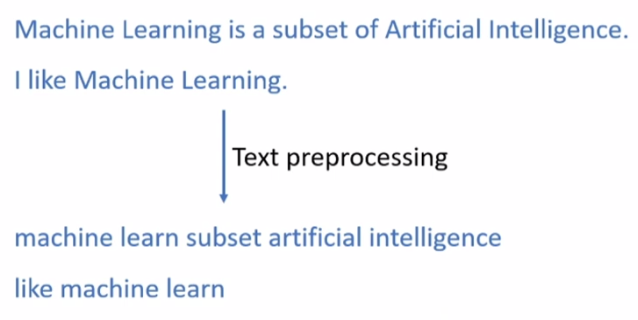
# Apply Stemming

After removing all unnecessary values in the text, the next phrase is convert different verb formats to a common pattern. As an example, write, wrote, written, writing are converted to base form write. This process is called as stemming and the following code snippet will do the conversion.





After completing the preprocessing part for the reviews, the text came up without uppercases, links, punctuations, numbers and stop words. Finally stemming has been applied to convert all the text to their base form. Following depict shows how the convertion has been done up to now



# Build Vocabulary

In order to build a model, the machine is not able to read and understand the text or string and they need to converted to numerical values. The building the vocabulary is the process of converting the text to appropriate numerical values. As the first step a unique vocabulary set to be created from the converted text. In the above example, following is the list.



# Vectorization

The next step of converting the text to numerical values, is vectorization process. As per the above example, all the sentence could be converted to numerical value which has the length of six (06). The value is same as the length of the vocabulary list. The list contains values which are called as features. In this example there are six features in the vocabulary.





After the process, all the reviews will be converted to a numeric value which have the same length. After that the output can be fed to machine learning model.

Following code will check the size of the vocabulary list simply a number of features. The list contains a unique text and the number of time the text is used in the review.



As per the above result, there are 33,599 features found in the reviews. In the scene, all the reviews will be represented as numeric value which has the length of 33,599. But the Kindle review data set contains around 12,000 records. If this much of features are used, the model will be over fit. The number of features should be less than the number of records in order for model to be a good one.

To overcome the issue, the feature selection will be used to reduce the feature count as bellow. Then the feature count is reduced to 3645.



The final out put of vocabulary list will be saved as bellow



# Model training and Evaluation

# Logistic Regression

# Collaboration based Filter

# Content based Filter

# Web Application

The web application is developed using Flask in python and it contains user interface and the authentication.

# User Interface

The graphical user interface (GUI) of the web application is implemented using python flask, HTML, CSS and Bootstrap. The main file which defines the routes of the application is as follows.

from flask import Flask, render\_template, request, redirect, session

import pickle

import numpy as np

import pandas as pd

import mysql.connector

import os

app = Flask(\_\_name\_\_)

app.secret\_key=os.urandom(24)

@app.route('/')

def login():

    if 'user\_id' in session:

       return redirect('/home')

    else:

       return render\_template('login.html')

@app.route('/register')

def register\_ui():

    return render\_template('register.html')

@app.route('/logout')

def logout():

    session.pop('user\_id')

    return redirect('/')

@app.route('/login')

def login\_ui():

    return render\_template('login.html')

@app.route('/register\_user', methods=['post'])

def register\_user():

    loginName = request.form.get('login\_name')

    password = request.form.get('password')

    query = "INSERT INTO users VALUES ('" + loginName + "', '" + password + "');"

    try:

        connection = mysql.connector.connect(host="localhost", database="sinhala\_book\_recommendation", user="root", password="admin");

        cursor = connection.cursor();

        cursor.execute(query);

        connection.commit();

    except Exception as e:

        print("Something went wrong", e);

    finally:

        if connection.is\_connected:

            connection.close();

    return render\_template('login.html')

@app.route('/validate\_user', methods=['post'])

def validate\_User():

    loginName = request.form.get('login\_name')

    password = request.form.get('password')

    query = "SELECT \* FROM users WHERE login\_name='" + loginName + "' AND password='" + password + "';"

    try:

        connection = mysql.connector.connect(host="localhost", database="sinhala\_book\_recommendation", user="root", password="admin");

        cursor = connection.cursor();

        cursor.execute(query);

        users = cursor.fetchall();

    except Exception as e:

        print("Exception when login", e);

    finally:

        if connection.is\_connected:

            connection.close();

    if len(users) > 0:

        session['user\_id'] = users[0][0]

        return redirect('/home');

    else:

        return redirect('/');

if \_\_name\_\_ == '\_\_main\_\_':

    app.run(debug=True)









# Authenticate

The authentication also integrated with the application so that none of a user can view the data without login to the system and it was done to improve the security of the application. Admin user will be added as the main user who can view all the top rated, most popular and recommended books. User management and book management will be implemented as the project is still under implementation.

# Database

In order to store persistence data like book details, user login details my sql database is used. MySql workbench is used to manage data in mysql databse. Even there are multiple database like oracle, postgres available and can be used for the same purpose, Mysql was used as it is open source and can easily be managed. Mysql connector in python was used to connect the application with the database.





import mysql.connector

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# Evaluation and Results

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