

1 DEFECTRA: ROAD DEFECT SEVERITY ASSESSMENT  
2 AND CLASSIFICATION

3 A Special Problem Proposal  
4 Presented to  
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6 College of Arts and Sciences  
7 University of the Philippines Visayas  
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## Abstract

21 From 150 to 200 words of short, direct and complete sentences, the abstract should  
22 be informative enough to serve as a substitute for reading the entire SP document  
23 itself. It states the rationale and the objectives of the research. In the final Special  
24 Problem document (i.e., the document you'll submit for your final defense), the  
25 abstract should also contain a description of your research results, findings, and  
26 contribution(s).

27 Suggested keywords based on ACM Computing Classification system can be  
28 found at [https://dl.acm.org/ccs/ccs\\_flat.cfm](https://dl.acm.org/ccs/ccs_flat.cfm)

29 **Keywords:** Keyword 1, keyword 2, keyword 3, keyword 4, etc.

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# Chapter 1

## Introduction

### 1.1 Overview

According to the National Road Length by Classification, Surface Type, and Condition of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), as of October 2022 approximately 98.97% of roads in the Philippines is paved which is either made of concrete or asphalt (DPWH, 2022). Since the DPWH is an institution under the government, it is paramount to maintain such roads in order to avoid accidents and congested traffic situations especially in heavily urbanized areas where there are a lot of vehicles.

In an interview with the Road Board of DPWH Region 6 it was stated that road condition assessments are mostly done manually with heavy reliance on engineering judgment. In addition, manual assessment of roads is also time consuming which leaves maintenance operations to wait for lengthy assessments (J. Chua, Personal Interview. 16 September 2024). In a study conducted by (Ramos, Dacanay, & Bronuela-Ambrocio, 2023), it was found that the Philippines' current method of manual pavement surveying is considered as a gap since it takes an average of 2-3 months to cover a 250 km road as opposed to a 1 day duration in the Australian Road Research Board for the same road length. Ramos et al. (2022) recommended that to significantly improve efficiency of surveying methods and data gathering processes, automated survey tools are to be employed. It was also added that use of such automated, surveying tools can also guarantee the safety of road surveyors (Ramos et al., 2023).

If the process of assessment on the severity of road defects can be automated then the whole process of assessing the quality of roads can be hastened up which

92 can also enable maintenance operations to commence as soon as possible if nec-  
93 essary. If not automated, the delay of assessments will continue and roads that  
94 are supposedly needing maintenance may not be properly maintained which can  
95 affect the general public that is utilizing public roads daily.

96 Existing studies involving road defects such as potholes mainly focus on the  
97 detection of potholes using deep learning models and almost not considering the  
98 severity of detected potholes or did not incorporate any depth information from  
99 potholes (Ha, Kim, & Kim, 2022; Kumar, 2024; Bibi et al., 2021). In addition,  
100 for studies that include severity assessment on potholes, the main goal of the  
101 study is not directed towards road maintenance automation but other factors such  
102 as improvement of ride quality for the vehicle. Another issue found in existing  
103 solutions is the lack of incorporation to the context of Philippine roads. With  
104 these issues in mind, the study aims to utilize stereo vision from StereoPi V2  
105 in order to obtain multi-perspective views of detected potholes to be used in  
106 severity assessment by focusing on estimating the depth of individual potholes  
107 for automated road condition monitoring.

## 108 1.2 Problem Statement

109 Roads support almost every aspect of daily life, from providing a way to transport  
110 goods and services to allowing people to stay connected with their communities.  
111 However, road defects such as cracks and potholes damage roads over time, and  
112 they can increase accident risks and affect the overall transportation. The current  
113 way of inspecting the roads for maintenance is often slow as it is done manually,  
114 which makes it harder to detect and fix defects early. The delay in addressing  
115 these problems can lead to even worse road conditions (J. Chua, Personal Inter-  
116 view. 16 September 2024). There are several research studies into automated  
117 road defect classification that have advanced in recent years but most of them  
118 focus on identifying the types of defects rather than assessing their severity or  
119 characteristics like depth. Without reliable data on the depth of the defect, road  
120 maintenance authorities may underestimate the severity of certain defects. To ad-  
121 dress these challenges, advancements are needed across various areas. An effective  
122 solution should not only detect and classify road defects but also measure their  
123 severity to better prioritize repairs. Failing to address this problem will require  
124 more extensive repairs for damaged roads, which raises the cost and strains the  
125 budget. Additionally, road maintenance would still be slow and cause disruptions  
126 in daily activities. Using an automated system that accurately detects, classifies,  
127 and assess the severity of road defects by incorporating depth are necessary to  
128 efficiently monitor road quality.



## 1.3 Research Objectives

### 1.3.1 General Objective

This special problem aims to develop an automated system that will accurately detect and assess the severity of potholes on road surfaces by using image analysis, depth measurement technologies, and a combination of machine learning and computer vision techniques. The system will focus specifically on measuring the depth of potholes to assess their severity, enabling faster and more accurate road maintenance decisions, and there are no current practices in the Philippines involving depth information of potholes in assessing their severity. In accordance with the Department of Public Works and Highways Region 6's manual for road maintenance, the study will classify potholes into different severity levels such as low, medium, and high, which will be primarily based on their area and depth. In order to measure the system's accuracy, precision and recall will be used in order to determine the number of true positives and true positive rate and also the number of false positives and negatives detected by the system. In addition, in order to calculate the average precision and recall of the system the F-1 Score will also be used. Lastly, the Mean Absolute Error will be utilized in order to provide a straightforward measure of average error magnitude and Root Mean Square Error as a measure for performance since data is continuous.

### 1.3.2 Specific Objectives

Specifically, this special problem aims:

1. To collect high-quality images of road surfaces that capture potholes including their depth in various lighting, camera distance and orientation.
2. To measure the accuracy of the system by comparing the depth measurements against ground truth data collected from actual road inspections and to utilize precision and recall, F1-score, root mean square error, and mean absolute error as metrics for evaluation.
3. To develop a prototype system that can detect and measure road potholes from image input, analyze their depth, and assess their severity that will be deployed through stereo camera mounted vehicles used for road surveying.

## 159 1.4 Scope and Limitations of the Research

160 This system will focus solely on detecting and assessing the severity of potholes  
161 through image analysis and depth measurement technologies. The scope includes  
162 the collection of pothole images using cameras and depth-sensing tools under  
163 various lighting and weather conditions, ensuring the data captures real-world  
164 variations. High-quality and diverse image datasets will be crucial for training  
165 the model to accurately assess pothole severity based on depth.

166 Depth-sensing tools, such as stereo cameras, will be used to record the depth  
167 of potholes specifically. The system will not address other road defects like cracks  
168 or other surface deformations; therefore, it will detect and analyze only potholes.  
169 Additionally, only accessible potholes will be measured, meaning those that are  
170 filled with water or obscured by debris may not be accurately assessed.

171 The machine learning model developed will focus exclusively on detecting pot-  
172 holes and assessing their severity through depth measurement. The accuracy of  
173 the model's depth measurements will be evaluated by comparing them against  
174 data collected from actual field inspections. However, this comparison will be  
175 limited to selected sample sites, as collecting field data over a large area can be  
176 time-consuming and resource-intensive.

177 Environmental factors such as lighting, road surface texture, and weather con-  
178 ditions may impact the model's performance. The accuracy and reliability of the  
179 model will depend on the quality and variety of the training dataset. Its ability  
180 to generalize to unseen pothole images will need to be carefully validated.

## 181 1.5 Significance of the Research

182 This special problem aims to be significant to the following:

183 *Computer Science Community.* This system can contribute to advancements  
184 in computer vision and machine learning by using both visual and depth data to  
185 assess the severity of road defects. It introduces a more comprehensive approach  
186 compared to the usual image-only or manual inspection methods. This combina-  
187 tion can be applied to other fields that need both visual and depth analysis like  
188 medical imaging.

189 *Concerned Government Agencies.* This system offers a valuable tool for road  
190 safety and maintenance. Not only can this detect and classify anomalies, it can

191 also assess the defect's severity which allows them to prioritize repairs, optimal  
192 project expenditures, and better overall road safety and quality.

193     *Field Engineers.* In the scorching heat, field engineers are no longer required  
194 to be on foot unless it requires its engineering judgement when surveying a road  
195 segment. It can hasten the overall assessment process.

196     *Future Researchers.* The special problem can serve as a baseline and guide of  
197 researchers with the aim to pursue special problems similar or related to this.

## Chapter 2

# Review of Related Literature

## 2.1 Frameworks

This section of the chapter presents related literature that is considered essential for the development of this special problem.

### 2.1.1 Deep Learning

(Kelleher, 2019) states that deep learning is inclined on making large-scale neural networks geared towards creating data-driven decisions. Furthermore, it was also argued that deep learning is oriented towards large-scale, complex data.

### 2.1.2 YOLOv5

According to (Solawetz, 2024), YOLOv5 is a model from a family of computer vision models used for object detection. YOLOv5 is reported to perform comparably to state-of-the-art techniques. It is designed to extract features from raw input images, used primarily in training object detection models alongside various data augmentation techniques.

### 213    **2.1.3    Image and Video Processing**

214    (Kumar, 2024) defines image processing as a process of turning an image into its  
215    digital form and extracting data from it through certain functions and operations.  
216    Usual processes are considered to treat images as 2D signals wherein different  
217    processing methods utilize these signals. Like image processing, (Resources, 2020)  
218    defines video processing as being able to extract information and data from video  
219    footage through signal processing methods. However, in video processing due to  
220    the diversity of video formats, compression and decompression methods are often  
221    expected to be performed on videos before processing methods to either increase  
222    or decrease bitrate.

### 223    **2.1.4    Stereo Vision**

224    MathWorks (n.d.) defines stereo vision as a process of utilizing multiple 2D per-  
225    spectives in order to extract information in 3D. In addition, most uses of stereo  
226    vision involve estimating an objects distance from an observer or camera. The 3D  
227    information is stated to be extracted with stereo pairs or pair of images through es-  
228    timation of relative depth of points in a scene which are then represented through  
229    a stereo map that is made through the matching of the pair’s corresponding points.

## 230    **2.2    Related Studies**

231    This section of the chapter presents related studies conducted by other researchers  
232    wherein the methodology and technologies used may serve as basis in the devel-  
233    opment of this special problem.

### 234    **2.2.1    Deep Learning Studies**

#### 235    **2.2.1.1    Automated Detection and Classification of Road Anomalies in** 236    **VANET Using Deep Learning**

237    In the study of Bibi et al. (2021) it was noted that identification of active road  
238    defects are critical in maintaining smooth and safe flow of traffic. Detection and  
239    subsequent repair of such defects in roads are crucial in keeping vehicles using  
240    such roads away from mechanical failures. The study also emphasized the growth

241 in use of autonomous vehicles in research data gathering which is what the re-  
 242 searchers utilized in data gathering procedures. With the presence of autonomous  
 243 vehicles, this allowed the researchers to use a combination of sensors and deep  
 244 neural networks in deploying artificial intelligence. The study aimed to allow au-  
 245 tonomous vehicles to avoid critical road defects that can possibly lead to dangerous  
 246 situations. Researchers used Resnet-18 and VGG-11 in automatic detection and  
 247 classification of road defects. Researchers concluded that the trained model was  
 248 able to perform better than other techniques for road defect detection (Bibi et al.,  
 249 2021). The study is able to provide the effectiveness of using deep learning models  
 250 in training artificial intelligence for road defect detection and classification. How-  
 251 ever, the study lacks findings regarding the severity of detected defects which is  
 252 crucial in automating manual procedures of road surveying in the Philippines.

#### 253 **2.2.1.2 Road Anomaly Detection through Deep Learning Approaches**

254 The study of (Luo, Lu, & Guo, 2020) aimed to utilize deep learning models in  
 255 classifying road anomalies. The researchers used three deep learning approaches  
 256 namely Convolutional Neural Network, Deep Feedforward Network, and Recurrent  
 257 Neural Network from data collected through the sensors in the vehicle’s suspension  
 258 system. In comparing the performance of the three deep learning approaches, the  
 259 researchers fixed some hyperparameters. Results revealed that the RNN model  
 260 was the most stable among the three and in the case of the CNN and DFN  
 261 models, the researchers suggested the use of wheel speed signals to ensure accuracy.  
 262 And lastly, the researchers concluded that the RNN model was best due to high  
 263 prediction performance with small set parameters (Luo et al., 2020).

#### 264 **2.2.1.3 Assessing Severity of Road Cracks Using Deep Learning-Based** 265 **Segmentation and Detection**

266 In the study of (Ha et al., 2022), it was argued that the detection, classification,  
 267 and severity assessment of road cracks should be automated due to the bottleneck  
 268 it causes during the entire process of surveying. For the study, the researchers  
 269 utilized SqueezeNet, U-Net, and MobileNet-SSD models for crack classification and  
 270 severity assessment. Furthermore, the researchers also employed separate U-nets  
 271 for linear and area cracking cases. For crack detection, the researchers followed  
 272 the process of pre-processing, detection, classification. During preprocessing im-  
 273 ages were smoothed out using image processing techniques. The researchers also  
 274 utilized YOLOv5 object detection models for classification of pavement cracking  
 275 wherein the YOLOv5l model recorded the highest accuracy. The researchers how-  
 276 ever stated images used for the study are only 2D images which may have allowed

277 higher accuracy rates. Furthermore, the researchers suggest incorporating depth  
278 information in the models to further enhance results.

#### 279 **2.2.1.4 Roadway pavement anomaly classification utilizing smartphones** 280 **and artificial intelligence**

281 The study of (Kyriakou, Christodoulou, & Dimitriou, 2016) presented what is  
282 considered as a low-cost technology which was the use of Artificial Neural Net-  
283 works in training a model for road anomaly detection from data gathered by  
284 smartphone sensors. The researchers were able to collect case study data us-  
285 ing two-dimensional indicators of the smartphone’s roll and pitch values. In the  
286 study’s discussion, the data collected displayed some complexity due to accelera-  
287 tion and vehicle speed which lead to detected anomalies being not as conclusive as  
288 planned. The researchers also added that the plots are unable to show parameters  
289 that could verify the data’s correctness and accuracy. Despite the setbacks, the  
290 researchers still fed the data into the Artificial Neural Network that was expected  
291 to produce two outputs which were “no defect” and “defect.” The method still  
292 yielded above 90% accuracy but due to the limited number of possible outcomes  
293 in the data processing the researchers still needed to test the methodology with  
294 larger data sets and roads with higher volumes of anomalies.

### 295 **2.2.2 Machine Learning Studies**

#### 296 **2.2.2.1 Smartphones as Sensors for Road Surface Monitoring**

297 In their study, (Sattar, Li, & Chapman, 2018) noted the rise of sensing capabilities  
298 of smartphones which they utilized in monitoring road surface to detect and iden-  
299 tify anomalies. The researchers considered different approaches in detecting road  
300 surface anomalies using smartphone sensors. One of which are threshold-based  
301 approaches which was determined to be quite difficult due to several factors that  
302 are affecting the process of determining the interval length of a window function  
303 in spectral analysis (Sattar et al., 2018). The researchers also utilized a machine  
304 learning approach adapted from another study. It was stated that k-means was  
305 used in classifying sensor data and in training the SVM algorithm. Due to the  
306 requirement of training a supervised algorithm using a labeled sample data was  
307 required before classifying data from sensors, the approach was considered to be  
308 impractical for real-time situations (Sattar et al., 2018). In addition, (Sattar et  
309 al., 2018) also noted various challenges when utilizing smartphones as sensors for  
310 data gathering such as sensors being dependent on the device’s placement and

orientation, smoothness of captured data, and the speed of the vehicle it is being mounted on. Lastly, it was also concluded that the accuracy and performance of using smartphone sensors is challenging to compare due to the limited data sets and reported algorithms.

#### **2.2.2.2 Road Surface Quality Monitoring Using Machine Learning Algorithms**

The study of (Singh, Bansal, Kamal, & Kumar, 2021) aimed to utilize machine learning algorithms in classifying road defects as well as predict their locations. Another implication of the study was to provide useful information to commuters and maintenance data for authorities regarding road conditions. The researchers gathered data using various methods such as smartphone GPS, gyroscopes, and accelerometers. (Singh et al., 2021) also argued that early existing road monitoring models are unable to predict locations of road defects and are dependent on fixed roads and static vehicle speed. Neural and deep neural networks were utilized in the classification of anomalies which was concluded by the researchers to yield accurate results and are applicable on a larger scale of data (Singh et al., 2021). The study of (Singh et al., 2021) can be considered as an effective method in gathering data about road conditions. However, it was stated in the study that relevant authorities will be provided with maintenance operation and there is no presence of any severity assessment in the study. This may cause confusion due to a lack of assessment on what is the road condition that will require extensive maintenance or repair.

### **2.2.3 Computer Vision Studies**

#### **2.2.3.1 Stereo Vision Based Pothole Detection System for Improved Ride Quality**

In the study of (Ramaiah & Kundu, 2021) it was stated that stereo vision has been earning attention due to its reliable obstacle detection and recognition. Furthermore, the study also discussed that such technology would be useful in improving ride quality in automated vehicles by integrating it in a predictive suspension control system. The proposed study was to develop a novel stereo vision based pothole detection system which also calculates the depth accurately. However, the study focused on improving ride quality by using the 3D information from detected potholes in controlling the damping coefficient of the suspension system. Overall, the pothole detection system was able to achieve 84% accuracy and is



345 able to detect potholes that are deeper than 5 cm. The researchers concluded  
346 that such system can be utilized in commercial applications. However, it is also  
347 worth noting that despite the system being able to detect potholes and measure  
348 its depth, the overall severity of the pothole and road condition was not addressed.

## 2.3 Chapter Summary

The reviewed literature involved various techniques and approaches in road anomaly detection and classification. These approaches are discussed and summarized below along with their limitations and research gaps.

Study	Technology/ Techniques Used	Key Findings	Limitations
Automated Detection and Classification of Road Anomalies in VANET Using Deep Learning	Resnet-18 and VGG-11	Trained model is able to provide the effectiveness of using deep learning models in training artificial intelligence for road defect detection and classification.	Lacks findings regarding the severity of detected defects.
Smartphones as sensors for Road surface monitoring	Machine Learning, Smartphones	Approach was considered impractical for real-life applications.	Sensors are dependent on device's placement and orientation, smoothness of data, and speed of vehicle it is mounted on. Accuracy of results is difficult to compare.
Road Anomaly Detection through Deep Learning Approaches	Convolutional Neural Network, Deep Feedforward Network, and Recurrent Neural Network	Identified that RNN was the best deep learning approach due to high prediction performance.	Data collection is considered too difficult and complicated to execute due to sensors being mounted on an integral part of the vehicle.
Assessing Severity of Road Cracks Using Deep Learning-Based Segmentation and Detection	SqueezeNet, U-Net, YOLOv5, and MobileNet-SSD models	YOLOv51 model recorded the highest accuracy.	Only 2D images are used for the study which may have allowed higher accuracy rates, and the study also lacked depth information.
Stereo Vision Based Pothole Detection System for Improved Ride Quality	Pair of stereo images captured by a stereo camera	System was able to achieve 84% accuracy and is able to detect potholes that are deeper than 5 cm.	Overall severity of the pothole and road condition was not addressed.

Table 2.1: Comparison of Related Studies on Road Anomaly Detection using Deep Learning Techniques and Stereo Vision

## Chapter 3

# Methodology

This chapter outlines the systematic approach that will be taken to address the problem of classifying and assessing road defects using artificial intelligence. The methodology will be divided into key phases: data collection, algorithm selection, design, testing and experimentation, and challenges and limitations. Each phase will play a crucial role in accurately classifying and assessing road defects. Each phase will be essential for accurately classifying and assessing road defects.

### 3.1 Research Activities

#### 3.1.1 Data Collection

The researchers conducted initial inquiries to understand the problem domain and existing road maintenance practices. This phase included consulting the engineers under the Road Maintenance Department of the government agency Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH). An interview with Engr. Jane Chua provided a comprehensive overview of the DPWH's road maintenance manual, which was crucial in aligning this project with existing standards. This collaboration with DPWH provided insights into road pothole classification standards, ensuring that the collected data will align with industry standards. Pothole severity will be classified based on a combination of area and depth. The DPWH manual primarily focuses on the volume of detected potholes within a road segment as a measure of severity. However, since depth is not explicitly measured in their current procedures, the study will supplement this by referencing international standards such as the Long-Term Pavement Performance (LTPP) classification

376 used in the United States. The LTPP categorizes potholes based on depth thresh-  
377 olds, which will be integrated with DPWH’s volume-based assessment to provide  
378 a more comprehensive severity classification framework. The data collection will  
379 involve capturing at least 500 images of potholes from various locations within  
380 the UP Visayas Campus and the Province of Iloilo. These locations were selected  
381 based on reports of road deterioration and input from the DPWH to ensure the  
382 dataset represents real-world conditions. Ground truth data of pothole depth  
383 will be collected by the researchers by measuring the depth of different points  
384 in an individual pothole and then solving for its average depth. The aforemen-  
385 tioned process was validated by Engr. Benjamin Javellana, Assistant Director of  
386 DPWH Region 6. In order to individually locate or determine each pothole where  
387 the ground truth data is collected, images taken will be labeled with their corre-  
388 sponding coordinates, street names, and nearby landmarks. In addition to locally  
389 collected data, open-source datasets such as the Dataset by Eric Tam from the  
390 Crowdsensing-based Road Damage Detection Challenge focusing on road defects  
391 and the Dataset by Atikur Rahman Chitholian, featuring 665 labeled pothole im-  
392 ages from urban streets will be reviewed to supplement the model training and  
393 improve generalization.

### 394 **3.1.2 Algorithm Selection**

395 Potential solutions, algorithms, and system architectures were discussed by the re-  
396 searchers and the special problem adviser in this phase. These sessions, conducted  
397 in class and virtually via Zoom, helped narrow down the overview of the system,  
398 leading to the selection of the main architecture YOLOv5 for pothole detection  
399 and Epipolar Spatio-Temporal Networks (ESTN) for depth estimation.

#### 400 **3.1.2.1 Pothole Detection**

401 YOLOv5 was selected due to its high accuracy and ability to process images in  
402 real-time, making it suitable for detecting road defects in dynamic environments.  
403 Its architecture is optimized for speed and performance, which is crucial for large-  
404 scale deployment in road inspections.

#### 405 **3.1.2.2 Severity Assessment**

406 The Multi-view Depth Estimation using Epipolar Spatio-Temporal Networks was  
407 selected due to the high cost and limited accessibility of LiDAR technology. By

408 applying epipolar geometry and temporal consistency across sequential frames,  
409 this approach provides an accurate depth estimation from standard video footage  
410 (Long, Wang, Zhang, Mei, & Shen, 2021).

### 411 **3.1.3 Design, Testing, and Experimentation**

412 This section outlines both the design and testing of the system, as well as the  
413 experimentation process to validate the selected methodologies.

#### 414 **3.1.3.1 Model Design**

415 The system was designed to operate with two core components: YOLOv5 for  
416 pothole detection and ESTN for depth estimation. The model architecture was  
417 chosen based on the real-time processing capabilities and the need for accurate  
418 depth estimation from standard video footage. The design ensures that the system  
419 can detect defects and provide severity assessments in a seamless workflow.

#### 420 **3.1.3.2 Data Set**

421 The YOLOv5 model was trained using two datasets from Universe Roboflow. One  
422 of the data sets was posted by a user named Eric Tam. It was also stated that  
423 the images from the dataset are sourced from a Crowdsensing-based Road Damage  
424 Detection Challenge from 2022 in Japan. The challenge involves contestants being  
425 required to submit road damage datasets, shortlist their data set, and use the data  
426 set for road damage detection and classification models. The use of this data set  
427 in training models for road damage detection and classification ensures that the  
428 data is viable for training the YOLOv5 model. The dataset contains various road  
429 defects in Japan. Another data set used in training the YOLOv5 model was also  
430 uploaded in Universe Roboflow by a user named Atikur Rahman Chitholian which  
431 was stated to be part of his undergraduate thesis. The dataset is comprised of 665  
432 images with potholes being labeled. It was also stated that the data set can be  
433 utilized in automatically detecting and categorizing potholes found in the streets  
434 of cities. Data preprocessing techniques were applied to both datasets to improve  
435 model accuracy and generalization. These included resizing images to a uniform  
436 size, applying augmentation techniques (flipping, rotation, and color adjustment)  
437 to increase dataset variability, and normalizing pixel values to ensure consistency  
438 across images.

### 439 3.1.3.3 Prototype Development

440 A prototype system will be developed in order to test the effectiveness of the  
441 model. The prototype will involve the StereoPi V2 Kit which was acquired through  
442 an official international distributor. After assembling the camera, it was further  
443 modified to address the it's heating and make it suitable for outdoor use.

### 444 3.1.3.4 Performance Metrics

445 The performance of the YOLOv5 model will be evaluated using mean Average  
446 Precision (mAP). mAP is a widely used metric in object detection tasks and is  
447 particularly useful for assessing models that need to detect and classify multiple  
448 object categories. In this case, mAP will provide a comprehensive evaluation of the  
449 model's ability to detect and classify potholes, offering an aggregated score across  
450 the relevant detection thresholds. This ensures a balanced assessment of both  
451 detection accuracy and classification performance, which is essential for accurately  
452 identifying potholes across varying conditions. The effectiveness of mAP for this  
453 task is well-established in object detection literature (Everingham et al., 2015; Lin  
454 et al., 2014).

455 For the accuracy of depth estimation using the Epipolar Spatio-Temporal Net-  
456 works (ESTN), Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE) and Mean Absolute Error  
457 (MAE) will be used. RMSE is chosen for its ability to penalize larger errors more  
458 heavily, making it suitable for assessing depth estimation performance where larger  
459 deviations from the ground truth are more significant (Zhang et al., 2018). MAE is  
460 also employed to provide a straightforward measure of average error magnitude,  
461 offering a complementary evaluation of depth estimation without emphasizing  
462 larger errors as much (Zhang et al., 2020).

### 463 3.1.3.5 Testing and Validation

464 The testing process will begin with a detailed testing plan that includes both  
465 simulated and real-world testing scenarios. Initially, the model will be tested in  
466 controlled environments to ensure it can detect and assess road defects accurately.  
467 Following this, real-world testing will be conducted using the StereoPi kit on local  
468 roads, specifically at the University of the Philippines Visayas Miagao Campus.  
469 The system's performance will be validated by comparing its predictions with  
470 ground-truth data collected from manual inspections.

#### 471 **3.1.3.6 Documentation**

472 Throughout the research activities, thorough documentation will be maintained.  
473 This documentation will capture all methods, results, challenges, and adjustments  
474 made during the experimentation phases. It ensures the reproducibility of the  
475 work and provides transparency for future research endeavors.

### 476 **3.1.4 Challenges and Limitations**

#### 477 **3.1.4.1 Availability of Local Datasets**

478 The lack of locally labeled datasets for road defects has posed a challenge in  
479 training accurate models. The majority of available datasets are sourced from  
480 international locations, which may not fully represent the road conditions found  
481 in the study area. To address the lack of locally labeled datasets, the researchers  
482 will create a pilot dataset from local roads within the University of the Philippines  
483 Visayas Miagao Campus. This dataset will be manually annotated according to  
484 DPWH’s classification standards, ensuring local relevance.

#### 485 **3.1.4.2 Data Quality and Variability**

486 Variations in the quality and resolution of the data collected from different sources  
487 may impact the performance of the trained models. In particular, images captured  
488 under varying weather conditions or lighting may affect the accuracy of pothole  
489 detection. To address this, the researchers plan to use the StereoPi kit to capture  
490 images under optimal weather and lighting conditions, such as mid-morning or  
491 early afternoon on clear days, ensuring consistent image quality for stereo vision  
492 analysis. The kit’s stereo cameras will be calibrated for uniform resolution and  
493 focus. Data augmentation techniques will also be applied to simulate varying con-  
494 ditions, and pre-processing steps like noise reduction and contrast enhancement  
495 will be used to improve the quality of the captured data. This approach aims  
496 to minimize the impact of environmental factors on the accuracy of road pothole  
497 detection and depth estimation.

498

## 3.2 Calendar of Activities

499

Table 1 shows a Gantt chart of the activities. Each bullet represents approximately

500

one week's worth of activity.

Table 3.1: Timetable of Activities for 2024

Activities (2024)	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Pre-proposal Preparation	<b>W4</b>				
Literature Review	<b>W3</b>	<b>W1</b>			
Data Collection	<b>W2</b>	<b>W2</b>			
Algorithm Selection		<b>W2</b>			
System Design		<b>W1</b>	<b>W2</b>	<b>W2</b>	
Preliminary Testing				<b>W2</b>	<b>W1</b>
Documentation and SP Writing	<b>W4</b>	<b>W4</b>	<b>W4</b>	<b>W4</b>	<b>W2</b>

Table 3.2: Timetable of Activities for 2025

Activities (2025)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Data Collection	<b>W4</b>					
System Design	<b>W3</b>	<b>W2</b>	<b>W2</b>			
Model testing	<b>W3</b>	<b>W4</b>	<b>W4</b>			
Results Analysis			<b>W2</b>	<b>W4</b>		
Conclusion Formulation				<b>W2</b>	<b>W3</b>	
Documentation and SP Writing	<b>W4</b>	<b>W4</b>	<b>W4</b>	<b>W4</b>	<b>W4</b>	<b>W2</b>



## 501 Chapter 4

# 502 Preliminary Results/System 503 Prototype

504 This chapter presents the preliminary results or the system prototype of your SP.  
505 Include screenshots, tables, or graphs and provide the discussion of results.

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555 **Appendix A**

556 **Appendix Title**

## 557 **Appendix B**

### 558 **Resource Persons**

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