

Visual Recognition Based System To Assist Blind Persons

MSc Research Project Cloud Computing

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Visual Recognition Based System To Assist Blind Persons

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Abstract

Blind persons are devoid of vision, which plays an important role in day-today life. The lack of vision restricts the autonomity of a blind person to a level. Computer Vision and Machine Learning have seen rapid growth in recent years and have been used in the past for developing assistive systems [1] [2] [3]. In this paper, a visual recognition based assistive system is proposed to compensate for the lack of vision. This project uses a pre-trained model obtained by training COCO dataset on MobileNet network. The YOLO algorithm has been used for object detection. Experimental results shows the proposed system performs fairly well as compared to existing applications that are available in the Google Play store. The application can handle illumination changes and transformation with negligible performance degrade. This system has its own limitations which are discussed later in the conclusion section.

1 Introduction

1.1 Motivation

Vision plays an important part in our daily life. Humans use vision for navigating through roads, to find objects, etc. However, blind persons are not blessed with Vision which makes their life quite difficult. [4] [5] The latest stats from World Health Organisation (WHO) indicates that there are approximately 2.2 Billion people diagnosed with a type of vision impairment. A report by The Journal states that this number is bound to increase threefold of its current value in 2050.

1.2 Evolution In Assistive Technology

In the past few years, many assistive systems have been introduced that promise to help blind persons based on sensors, IoT and computer vision. These systems have their own advantages and limitations. For example, portable assistive systems based on embedded systems such as Raspberry Pi[1][6]. These systems make use of computer vision for the recognition of labels and text on packaged products. These systems are limited in application as they only help the blind persons in shopping in a supermarket. The power backup of these devices is also an area of concern as well as the limited processing capabilities of the device. Another method for assisting blind persons is by using mobile phones as they are more compact and have inbuilt camera. [7] proposed their method of utilising Quick Response (QR) codes for identification of objects. This system is also concerned with shopping in a store and will detect products with a QR code on it. For this system to work, there is a need to enforce labelling of every product with a QR code which is just too much of a task. 8 proposed a mobile application of assisting blind persons by identifying labels on the products. This application is based on OCR algorithm and hence inherits the disadvantages of the algorithm along with the advantages. This application fails to detect the product label in case of changes in scale, and illumination.

1.3 Current Day Scenario

[9] Wearable technology became trending around the years 2013-2014. This technology refers to devices which can be worn on body parts such as wrist or neck. Some of the popular wearable technology devices are fitbit, pebble smartwatch, and Google glasses.
[2] propose one such method called as Finger-Eye. This system consists of an electronic wearable finger that has an embedded camera on the tips of the finger. The camera will scan the word currently under the finger and read it out for the blind user. However, the finger-eye as not successfully made completed and was tested only using a table mounted webcam.

The concept of *self driving cars* is a hot topic in technology. Studying the way these autonomous cars navigate would help to assist the navigation of a blind person. [10] propose a system for self driving cars using event cameras. Event cameras are the camera that only record events or the change in pixel intensity which makes the output of event cameras different than regular camera. These event cameras works as motion detectors to detect motion of the surrounding objects while removing redundant info.

1.4 Gaps Identified

There are a few gaps that needs to be addressed for object detection. These are:

- 1. There are conditions that can cause inaccurate results in object identification. One such condition is called as *camouflage* where an object blends into the background.
- 2. The assistive systems available today that can be actually helpful to blind persons are made of specialized hardware. Using a specialized hardware can incur additional costs.

1.5 Research Question

This leads us to our research questions that needed to be addressed for this research:

- How to build a system that has high accuracy, speed and is robust to common object identification obstacles at a minimal cost?
- How to make the system accessible to the blind persons ?

In the next section, few popular object identification methods as well as existing best solutions for helping blind persons are surveyed. A solution is then presented based on the review with methodology, design, implementation and finally the results and its implications.

2 Related Work

In this section, we discuss, the relevant work related to assistive systems for helping blind persons and Object identification Algorithms. We discuss the offerings and drawbacks and/or limitations of the algorithms/systems.

2.1 Object Detection Algorithms

2.1.1 SIFT Algorithm

[39] Before Deep Learning took over the SIFT algorithm was one of the most popular algorithms for object detection. [66] [37] [38] [65] [64] [42] present their solutions for detection and tracking of objects in videos. SIFT algorithm is used to extract key features from the frame. Then these key features are grouped using improved k-means clustering algorithm to detect the moving object [37] have used log polar transform to stabilise the video, which makes the video frame robust to scaling and rotation [41]. The results obtained from their proposed solution is then compared with SIFT-ME algorithm to compare their transformation affinity.

[65] combines SIFT and SURF algorithm to detect object resulting in a robust algorithm for object tracking. The result from the above experiments shows that SIFT has high accuracy but it is slow. The results show that their method performs well in general but suffers with common object identification obstacles such as scaling, cluttering, and illumination changes.

2.1.2 SURF

SIFT's accuracy was high and it was able to handle scaling. But the downfall was the algorithms speed i.e. it was very slow. In order to increase the speed of object identification a new algorithm **SURF** or Speeded Up Robust Features 40.

[63] [45] [43] [61] [60] [47] [46] [75] [76] performed their studies on the SURF algorithm. These studies includes SURF performance enhancements and comparative studies with respect to algorithms such as SIFT, ORB, BRIEF etc. The enhancements aim to make the SURF algorithm illumination invariant, and to attain higher matching rates. The findings from their experiment are presented as follows:

- Combining SURF with the best bin first algorithm results in faster matching. However, it cannot increase matching accuracy
- More feature points can be detected if geometric algebra is introduced in SURF
- The descriptor dimension can be reduced by dividing the sampling points into 2 groups
- Illumination invariance can be achieved by deriving descriptors from the intensity order pattern of an image
- SURF outperforms SIFT in case of noisy images
- SURF requires less computational power than SIFT

2.1.3 OCR

OCR is another algorithm which has been widely used for object identification. It has been mainly used for detecting text from an image. The following works include the usage of OCR algorithm for object identification:

[8] 54 [2] 55 58 discuss the use of the OCR algorithm for object detection. These studies consists of various experiments siuch as using the OCR algorithm for food label detection, expiry date detection, ID card information retrieval. The results from all these experiments can be summarized as follows:

- \bullet OCR performs good in case of reading texts with accuracy as high as 70-90%
- OCR suffers with varying light and rotation
- reflective surface also pose a problem to the OCR algorithm
- OCR performs accurate retrieval of information
- There is a performance degradation in case of face detection

[51] in their paper implement their proposed approach for elevator button detection. This study aims to help service robots in navigating to their desired floor through button detection. The authors have combined OCR and Faster R-CNN into a single neural network called OCR-RCNN. They have generated a custom dataset of elevator panels. The experimental results show good performance of their system even on untrained elevator panel images.

2.1.4 YOLO

YOLO or You Only Look Once algorithm has been popular since its release. YOLO as its name suggests only needs to look once for object detection. Yolo is a single shot detector, which means that it performs the localization and Image classification in only 1 step instead of doing it in two different steps. This speeds up the overall process of object recognition but introduces a minor degradation in accuracy [II]. Over the years there has been 2 major upgradations to YOLO algorithm: Yolo v2 and v3 and while the original algorithm is called as Yolo v1.

[22] [24] [50] [74] [12] [57] use YOLO for object detection and comparison against Faster-RCNN. These systems use a pre-trained model that has been obtained by training a dataset on a deep neural network. The results from their experiments are as follows:

- The results show that YOLO v3 is faster than its predecessors and is more accurate
- YOLO and Faster-RCNN have comparative accuracy. However, Yolo v3 is better than Faster R-CNN in case of recall rate
- Combining Spatial pyramid with YOLO can increase the mean Average Precision(mAP) of the algorithm
- Increasing the scale of the detection can help with detecting smaller objects
- YOLO3 inherits few problems from the old YOLO v1 such as the localization issues when multiple small objects are near to each other

2.2 R-CNN

[31] in their paper propose MaskLab to solve the problem of Instance Segmentation. The MaskLab model is built on top of Fast-RCNN and feature extraction is performed using ResNet-101[36]. MaskLab has 3 main features: box detection, semantic segmentation, & direction estimation. They have used the COCO instance segmentation benchmark to evaluate the effectiveness of MaskLab. MaskLab shows some promising results in the experimental evaluation.

[32] [49] [53] [30] in their studies use RCNN for object detection. These studies include proposing an improved version to introduce illumination aware, optimize regional proposals etc. [30] built their system using a model called ResNet-101 with a FPN or Feature Pyramid N/W [35] [48] The results of the above experiments can be summarized as follows:

- The experiment results show that the algorithm has been able to learn the association between different objects, but it is unclear what information is learned by the relation module 32
- Optimizing the regional proposal creation proves to introduce efficient iterative refinements and performs better than other RPN algorithms with WIDER, AFW and Pascal Faces
- Adding illumination aware network to Faster R-CNN improves its performance as compated to regular Faster R-CNN for pedestrian detection
- taking large dataset and simple heuristics can improve the performance of the algorithm

2.3 Existing solutions for assisting blind persons

[3] in their paper propose a vision based system to help visually impaired persons navigate through their surroundings. This system consists of a camera, a haptic feedback device to aware blind persons of an object, and an embedded computer. This system is wearable by the blind users thus providing mobility to users. Regional proposals are used to find empty spaces through the navigation path. The authors test their system by making a blind person walk through a maze wearing their system. The experiment results show that this system greatly helps blind user to navigate through a path without collisions. However, navigation using this system is slower as compared to using cane. If this system is combined with cane for blind user, the speed of navigation can be improved.

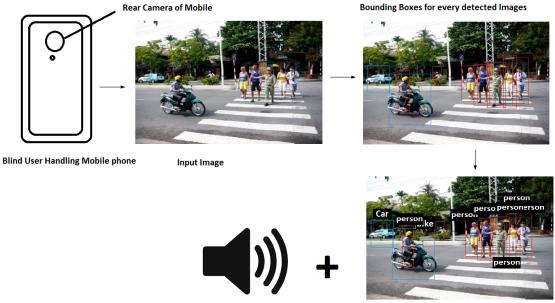
2] in their paper propose an assistive system to help blind persons read using the OCR algorithm. This system is in the form of a glove with camera embedded index that can be worn by the blind user. The blind user after wearing the glove will place their index finger over the first sentence from left to right. The camera underneath the finger will process the image of the text and give output in the form of audio. The experiment results show that the finger can successfully read the text under the camera, but the process is slow as the algorithm uses multiple images of the same frame to create a high resolution image. The feasibility of the project is also a matter consideration as the experiments were conducted on a webcam mounted on a table for reading the text. The actual result may vary if finger tip camera is used.

[1] [25] propose an assistive system to help blind users. Their system makes use of Raspberry Pi, which is an embedded computer for processing text present in the images. While [1] uses the OCR algorithm, [25] uses YOLO v1. Text To Speech (TTS) library is used to read out the text to the blind user. The camera is placed on the glasses of the user and is connected to Raspberry Pi. The experiment results show that the OCR algorithm is good in reading text but suffers from poor performance in face detection. YOLO can attain accuracy around 83% with good detection speed.

Algorithm	Authors	Advantages	Limitations
SIFT	37 38 42 47 64 66	High accuracy, invari-	Requires high com-
	65	ance to scaling	putational power, low
			speed, performs bad
			against occlusion,
			blurring, & change of
			illumination, patented
SURF	43 45 46 44 60 61	High speed, robust to	Lower accuracy than
	63 46	transformations, low	SIFT, detects fewer
		computation power	keypoints than other
		required	algorithm, patented
OCR	8 2 59 58	Faster and accurate in	Low accuracy in de-
	55 54 51	recognising texts	tecting images, Not
			resilient to illumina-
			tion
Regional Pro-	30 31	Fast, ability to handle	Time required to
posal Networks	56 53 52 49 32	transformations, good	train the model is
		in dealing with illu-	quite high, It is a 2
		mination changes	stage process making
			it slower than SSDs
Single Shot De-	12 22 24 25 57 29	It performs all the	Lower accuracy than
tectors (YOLO)	50	computations in 1	SIFT
		step: making it	
		fastest among all	
		the algorithms, ro-	
		bust to transforma-	
		tions, Performs well in	
		case of occlusion and	
		illumination changes	

3 Methodology

After reviewing various literature, we have decided that implementing the system by using mobile application will provide blind persons mobility and ease of use. In our system, the blind person will hold the mobile phone in their hand while naivgating through the streets while the application is running. The application will identify the objects present in the frame and announce the name of the object detected in the form of audio through headphones worn by the blind user. The audio announcement consists of the name of the object as well the position. The blind user can then use this information to navigate.



Identified objects with names announced

Figure 1: Working of the System

3.1 Data Selection and PreProcessing

COCO dataset has been used for matching which is collected from [70]. COCO dataset has the following features:

- More than 330K images with around 200K labeled images
- Around 80 categories of object
- More than 1 million object instances

The COCO dataset is trained on mobileNet Convolutional Network which is specialised for training computer vision models. The latest version of MobileNet i.e. MobileNet v2 is used. MobileNet v2 performs much better than its predecessor in every aspect. It is about 35% faster than MobileNet v1 with same accuracy.

4 Design Specification

After an intensive review of the latest algorithms and developments in computer vision and machine learning, we have decide to use YOLO algorithm. YOLO is chosen as it is the fastest among all the algorithm and provides robust object detection capabilities [22][24][50][74][12][57]. The successive improvements since YOLO v1 has led to the developments of a new better algorithm, called Yolo V3. YOLO V3 overcomes the limitations of YOLO V1 and V2. and provides better results in terms of robustness and finding distinct objects within a given image. MobileNet Network has been used to train the model. COCO dataset is used to store images and pre-trained weights. We are using Tensorflow to implement the YOLO algorithm [77].

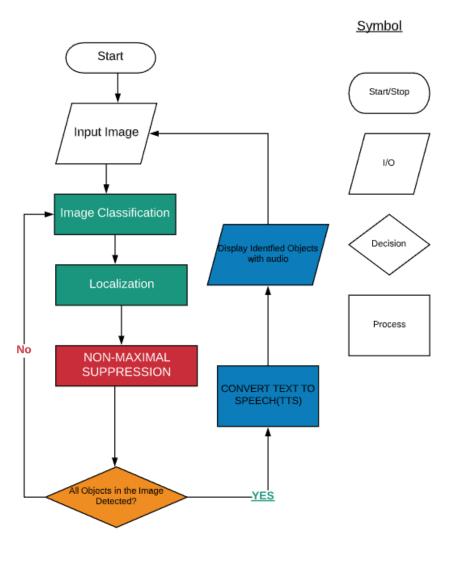


Figure 2: Improvised Algorithm

4.1 Steps in YOLO

After opening the application, the rear camera will capture images in front of the blind person in realtime. Then we apply YOLO algorithm to identify the object and announce it. 2 shows the steps involved in the object identification performed by YOLO.

4.1.1 Image Classification

Image classification refers to predicting the object present in an image. For example, consider an image classifier for fruits. We can have several different fruits such as apple, Papaya, guava, Kiwi, Dragon Fruit etc. Performing classification on any given image will give us a value depicting the likelihood of a fruit being present in th given image.

4.1.2 Localization

After we have classifed the image, the next thing for us to do is to find the location where these objects could be found in the image. This process is known as *Localization*.

YOLO segments the given input image into a grid of size NxN. Every grid on the input image plays a part in the detection of the object. These grid are referred to as regions. Afterwards, these regions predicts the number of anchor boxes for an object [68]. An achor box defines the boundaries of any detected objects. Repeating Localization along with image classification will give us all the object present in any image.

4.1.3 Non-Maximal Supression

Any object identification algorithm tends to detect the same object for multiple times. YOLO solves this problem by using a process called as Non-Maximal Suppression. It performs this operation by calculating the confidence value of every bounding box and then removing the ones with the low scores while keeping the ones with highest confidence values. Repeating these steps guarantee that one object is only identified once.

rActivity exten... CameraActiv... ImageReader.OnImageAvailableList Bitmap) : Lis SizeChoser(size:Size_rotation:int ssim... ():void /outid():int wFra S...():Size Д ectionA PIMode wObjectDe Classifier Δ CameraActivity extends Activ RESULTS: int geReader.OnImageAvailableLis NS_REQUE...:int utSize: int LOGGER: Loage PERMISSIONS PERMISSION_STORA... : String rThread Ha ndierThread (bByt... : int[] RowStride: in reviewWidth:int oreviewHeight int ostInferenceCallb... :Runnable mageConverter:Runnable extToSpe... :TextToSpeech urrentRecogniti... :List<Recog vObjectDetectionAPIM... () etMana... AssetMana... , modelFilena... String, labelFilename:String, inputSi... lnt):Clas mage(bitmap:Bitmap):List<Recogniti... enableStatLogg... (logSta... boolean):void .. (): String

4.2 Class Diagram

Figure 3: Class Diagram of the application

5 Implementation

5.1 Tools and Languages Used

Android platform has been chosen as it owns around 75% of the global market share of smartphone Operating Systems. The target is Smartphones with version of Android Loliipop or above as they have higher adoption than older versions as well as older versions run at a risk of being dropped out of support. We are using XML and Java for developing the application.

5.2 Models Developed

The app will identify the objects from the image taken via the camera. The output will be all the identified objects in the image with a label presenting the class of object and the confidence as well as an audio notification of their name and position. Fig. 4 shows the outputs of the application. To account for the accessibility, the application will automatically run if headphone jack is inserted which is accustomed to the needs of a blind person for opening the application.



(a) Bottle



(b) Laptop and Mouse

Figure 4: Output(s)

5.2.1 Code Developed

The algorithm takes input then performs image classification using a pre-trained COCO dataset which is trained using MobileNet-v1 Neural Network and localization iteratively to retrieve all the objects present inside the input image. YOLO has 24 convolution layers whose output is fed to 2 Fully connected layers [68]. After applying YOLO, a confidence score is calculated. This score indicates the probability of the class of objects present in a given image. Then the class with the highest confidence is chosen and rest others are dumped. The output class is converted to speech which is obtained by using text to speech API. The fig. [5] shows the implementation of text to speech of the objects detected.

6 Evaluation

We define the following performance metrics to evaluate the result:

- Accuracy: Accuracy determines the correctness of the predicted class. It is the percentage of the total correct predicted classes to total trials.
- Confidence: Confidence is the likeliness of the predicted object to the actual object.
- Execution Time: The time taken for the algorithm to detect subsequent objects. The lesser the better.

The evaluation is done by operating the application to detect object under different conditions such as change of lighting, scaling, rotation of the object, camera angles etc. We

```
private void speak() {
      final double rightStart = previewWidth / 2 - 0.10 * previewWidth;
     final double rightFinish = previewWidth;
final double letStart = 0;
final double letFinish = previewWidth / 2 + 0.10 * previewWidth;
final double previewArea = previewWidth * previewHeight;
     StringBuilder stringBuilder = new StringBuilder();
     for (int i = 0; i < currentRecognitions.size(); i++) {
    Classifier.Recognition recognition = currentRecognitions.get(i);</pre>
           stringBuilder.append(recognition.getTitle());
           float start = recognition.getLocation().top;
           float end = recognition.getLocation().bottom;
           double objArea = recognition.getLocation().width() * recognition.getLocation().height();
           if (objArea > previewArea / 2) {
                 stringBuilder.append(" in front of you ");
           } else {
                if (start > letStart && end < leftFinish) {</pre>
                stringBuilder.append(" on the left ");
} else if (start > rightStart && end < rightFinish) {
   stringBuilder.append(" on the right ");</pre>
                 } else {
                      stringBuilder.append(" in front of you ");
                 ì
          }
```

Figure 5: Text To Speek(TTS) Functionality

have used Logger to log the time of object detection These results are compared against the results from the app *Object Detection* [73]. Table column meaning

Logo	at	
	Xiaomi Redmi Note 5 Android 8 🔹 comankit.detection (10253) 🔹 Verbose 💌 🔍	🔽 Regi
÷	2019-12-05 12:17:27.105 10253-10333/com.ankit.detection D/tensorflow: DetectorActivity: 1575548247106	
	2019-12-05 12:17:27.135 10253-10333/com.ankit.detection D/tensorflow: DetectorActivity: 1575548247135	
⊒	2019-12-05 12:17:27.167 10253-10333/com.ankit.detection D/tensorflow: DetectorActivity: 1575548247167	
1	2019-12-05 12:17:27.177 10253-10328/com.ankit.detection I/tensorflow: DetectorActivity: Title: tv	
Ť	2019-12-05 12:17:27.178 10253-10328/com.ankit.detection I/tensorflow: MultiBoxTracker: Processing 1 results	
¥	2019-12-05 12:17:27.200 10253-10333/com.ankit.detection D/tensorflow: DetectorActivity: 1575548247200	
5	2019-12-05 12:17:27.200 10253-10333/com.ankit.detection I/tensorflow: DetectorActivity: Preparing image 297 for detection in bg thread	I.
÷	2019-12-05 12:17:27.241 10253-10328/com.ankit.detection I/tensorflow: DetectorActivity: Running detection on image 297	
	2019-12-05 12:17:27.241 10253-10333/com.ankit.detection D/tensorflow: DetectorActivity: Total Time:41	
G	2019-12-05 12:17:27.280 10253-10333/com.ankit.detection D/tensorflow: DetectorActivity: 1575548247280	
>>	2019-12-05 12:17:27.353 10253-10333/com.ankit.detection D/tensorflow: DetectorActivity: 1575548247353	
	Gradle build finished in 8 s 909 ms (2 minutes ago) 724:101	CRLF 🗘 U

Figure 6: Time in System Logs

Actual: Refers to the actual object present in the image

Detected₁: Objected predicted by the proposed application $Detected_2$:Objected predicted by the object detection application

 $\mathbf{CV_1}$: The confidence value calculated by proposed solution $\mathbf{CV_2}$: The confidence value calculated by object detection application

 $\mathbf{T_1}:$ Time taken by the proposed solution for detection $\mathbf{T_2}:$ Time taken by object detection application

6.1 Experiment 1: Good lighting Conditions

Table 2 represents the observations under good lighting and medium distance between the camera and the object. The images were taken in a room with bright lighting.

Table 1: Output(s) of Object Detection App [73]

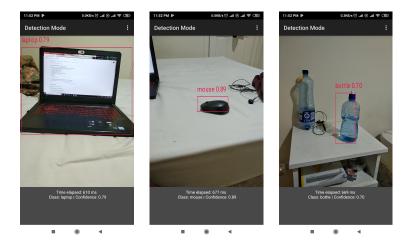


Table 2: Observation 1

Actual	Detected ₁	CV_1	T ₁	Detected ₂	CV_2	T_2
Mouse	Mouse	0.95	23mS	Mouse	0.82	420mS
Bottle	Bottle	0.89	25mS	Bottle	0.89	120mS
Cellphone	Cellphone	0.72	30mS	Cellphone	0.98	107mS
Chair	Chair	0.94	42mS	Chair	0.65	200mS
Cup	Cup	0.96	20mS	Cup	0.63	356mS

6.2 Experiment 2: Low Light Conditions

Table 3 represents the observations in low light. The images were taken in a room with dim lighting.

Actual	$Detected_1$	CV_1	T ₁	Detected ₂	CV_2	T_2
Mouse	Mouse	0.59	$25 \mathrm{mS}$	Mouse	0.80	677mS
Bottle	Bottle	0.89	25mS	Bottle	0.56	560mS
Cellphone	Cellphone	0.77	40mS	Cellphone	0.78	190mS
Chair	Chair	0.67	42mS	Chair	0.53	200mS
Cup	Cup	0.67	24mS	Cup	0.51	300mS

Table 3: Observation 2

6.3 Experiment3: Objects from top

Table 4 represents the observations of object from top.

6.4 Experiment4: Camouflaged Objects

Table 5 represents the observations of object in case where they are kept with other objects of same colour such that they blend in with other objects.

Actual	$Detected_1$	CV_1	T_1	$Detected_2$	CV_2	T_2
Mouse	Mouse	0.70	25mS	Mouse	0.87	413mS
Bottle	Bottle	0.65	30mS	Bottle	0.57	780mS
Cellphone	Cellphone	0.61	19mS	Cellphone	0.78	670mS
Chair	Chair	0.57	50mS	Chair	0.69	456mS
Cup	Cup	0.76	30mS	Cup	0.89	120mS

Table 4: Observation 3

Table 5: Observation 4

Actual	$Detected_1$	CV_1	T ₁	Detected ₂	CV_2	T_2
Mouse	Mouse	0.70	25mS	Mouse	0.87	451mS
Bottle	Bottle	0.65	30mS	Bottle	0.57	490mS
Cellphone	Cellphone	0.51	34mS	Cellphone	0.69	567mS
Chair	??(Unidentified)	NA	50mS	Chair	0.76	700mS
Cup	Cup	0.70	29mS	Cup	0.78	466mS

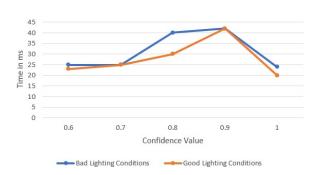


Figure 7: Graph of CV vs time in good and bad lighting conditions

6.5 Discussion

From the observations, we can see that our application performs quite well in every condition. Although, there are minor performance degradations in terms of speed and the confidence level but when compared to Object Detection app, the proposed app is faster and faster in terms of detection and is robust to various object identification obstacles. Fig. 7 shows plot of CV against time in good and bad lighting conditions. Observing the graph, we can say that the time required in case of well-lit condition is less and the object recognition is done with higher confidence as opposed to bad lighting conditions. This indicates that the illumination affects the ability of the algorithm, but the effect is not so severe. Android smartphone has been chosen to deploy the application as most people are using android phones and to use this application they need not buy any other special hardware in as in case of [1] [25] [3] so as to limit the cost that could incur for running the application. This answers our first research question [1.5]. Our system is implemented in such a way that provides accessibility to the user of the application.

To open the application, the blind person has to insert headphone jack into the mobile phone, this will start the application. As soon as the application starts, the camera detects and announces the name of the objects without needing any intervention from the blind person. This answers our second research question 1.5. As for now this application can be used to detect around 100 objects within 20 classes. In the future, the model can be enhanced to detected much more objects. Meanwhile, the Object Detection application can detect around 80 classes of objects. Another concern for the working of the app is related to optical illusions and dimension of the object. For example, if a blind person is walking through a street and at the end of the street there is a wall with photo of a dog. The app is more likely to detect it as a dog. So, it is essential to know if we are identifying the actual object or a picture of that object.

7 Conclusion and Future Work

This paper proposes a computer vision-based system that assists blind persons in navigation as well as tries to answers the questions raised in the Introduction section. The proposed system is tested for different conditions and against similar applications present on the Appstore. It is evident from the observations that the application performs fairly well under different circumstances and is faster and efficient than its alternatives. The application is also fairly accessible to blind users as it allows the blind user to open the application by inserting earphone jack into the mobile phones which is missing in many other applications. In the current state of application, this application can be used for navigation but has a few limitations. There are still many areas that are a concern for improvement.

- As of now this application can detect around 100 objects and about 20 classes of objects, this could be improved to encompass more classes of objects
- The application can be improved by merging it with Internet of Devices technology devices to account for better object detection
- With enhancements in deep learning and YOLO algorithm, the application will see better performance in the future
- The application is limited to android phones and needs redesigning be able to run on cross platform in the future

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Configuration Manual

MSc Research Project Cloud Computing

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Configuration Manual

Ankit Dongre x18147054

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this document

This Configuration Manual is done based on the NCI Research project requirements described in the Project Handbook. Main purpose of this document is to describe the required software tools and settings in order to successfully deploy the assitive application.

1.2 Document Structure

Section	Purpose
General Information	This module explains the minimum information
	and prerequisites required for the Android Stu-
	dio setup
Development Environment prerequisites	This module explains steps required for success-
	ful setup of development environment used for
	development and update of the solution
Solution Deployment Procedure	This module explains deployment procedure of
	the Composite model
Validations	This module explains the minimum require-
	ments to validate fruitful deployment of the
	solution

2 General Information

2.1 Objective

The main objective of Composite model is to assist blind person in navigating. The key is to use the YOLO algorithm on a mobile device to enhance the mobility of the user while restricting the expenses.

2.2 Solution Summary

The Composite model solution consists of six phases which are interconnected and acts as one architecture.

- The input phase takes live images from the camera.
- The second phase is Image classification which predicts the object present in an image.
- In third phase, the model finds the location where these objects could be found in the

image.

- In the fourth phase, phase two and three are itererated so as to get all the objects present in the image

- In fifth phase, the name of the objects with their respective positions is announced.

- In sixth phase a new input image is taken and the control goes back to phase 1 until the application is terminated

2.3 Architecture Requirements

This section describes the required tools required for developing the application.

2.3.1 Android Studio

The installation and setting up of Android Studio, step-by-step guide *Install Android Studio : Android Developers* (n.d.).

2.3.2 COCO pre-trained model

Download the COCO pre-trained tensorflow model from Tensorflow (n.d.).

2.3.3 JDK

To install and setup JDK and Java environment follow the steps given in *Installing the JDK Software and Setting JAVA_HOME* (n.d.)

2.4 Android Debugging Bridge

Android Debugging Bridge(ADB) is required for deploying application on an android device. The ADB is specific to the mobile phone vendor.

2.5 Required Skills

In this guide, we assume that user has basic knowledge of using IDEs like Eclipse. The user also needs to have knowledge of Java, XML, Gradle and Maven.

3 Development Environment Requirements

3.1 Code Repository

Refer the zip file submitted in the ICT solution.

3.2 Required Programming Languages

Java Version 1.6+

Android studio lets you create android applications using Java backend with XML frontend. Some of the libraries that are essential for the development of the application are:

 $\bullet\,$ and roid.hardware.camera2.*

- android.speech.tts.TextToSpeech
- org.tensorflow.*

3.3 Importing the project into android studio

Open Android Studio: File \rightarrow Open \rightarrow browse to the root of the directory containing the project \rightarrow click ok.

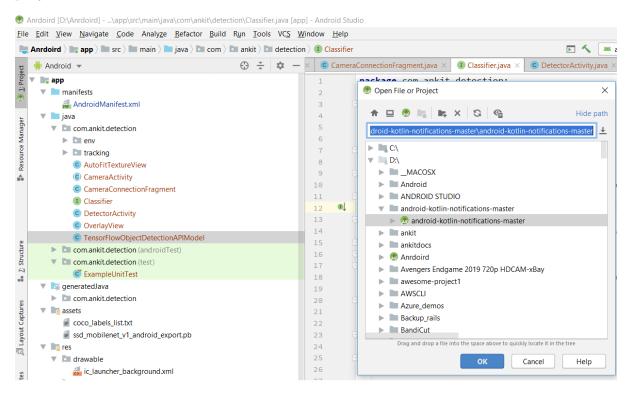


Figure 1: Creating the function

3.4 Gradle Syncing

Android Studio will automatically sync Gradle online. In case of issues refer to *Troubleshoot* Android Studio : Android Developers (n.d.)

3.5 Enabling Developer Mode

To be able to run the application on an android device, the usb debugging option should be enabled. This mode is inside developer options which is hidden. To unhide developer options: In your android phone goto settings \rightarrow about phone \rightarrow tap the build number 7 times \rightarrow the Developer mode is now enabled \rightarrow return to settings \rightarrow find developer options \rightarrow enable usb debugging

4 Validation

Make sure your and roid phone is connected to your pc via usb. Select the mode of connection as $\mathit{file\ transfer}$

- 1. Make sure your android phone is connected to your PC via USB
- 2. Select the mode of connection as file transfer
- 3. In Android Studio, click the green triangle button to deploy the application on the phone or press shift+F10 keys simultaneously
- 4. Select the device to deploy. Fig. 2 shows the deployment target selection
- 5. The app will ask for permission to download. Note: The installation will fail if the option to install applications from SD card is disabled
- 6. After installation the app will ask for permission if opening for the first time. Grant all the permissions
- 7. Open the app again
- 8. For every object successfully identified it will show the the class with confidence score whereas for unsuccessful object identification it will show question '?¿

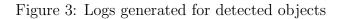
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Figure 2: Selecting Deployment Target

Running the Test case:

- 1. Follow the same procedure as above till the installation of application step
- 2. Now, the application will

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