




KATbot

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Application Area

Storytelling robot that interacts with people to aid in language and reading comprehension

- Merging AI with educational tools
- Target Audience: early elementary school age children
- Child-friendly user experience



Solution Approach

Speech Processing & Text to Speech: Convert speech to ML input and ML output to speech

1. Text to speech dialogue prompts user for input
2. User speech is processed and sent to the ML model
3. ML model returns the rest of dialogue

Robot: Custom-made robot inspired by Japanese lucky cats

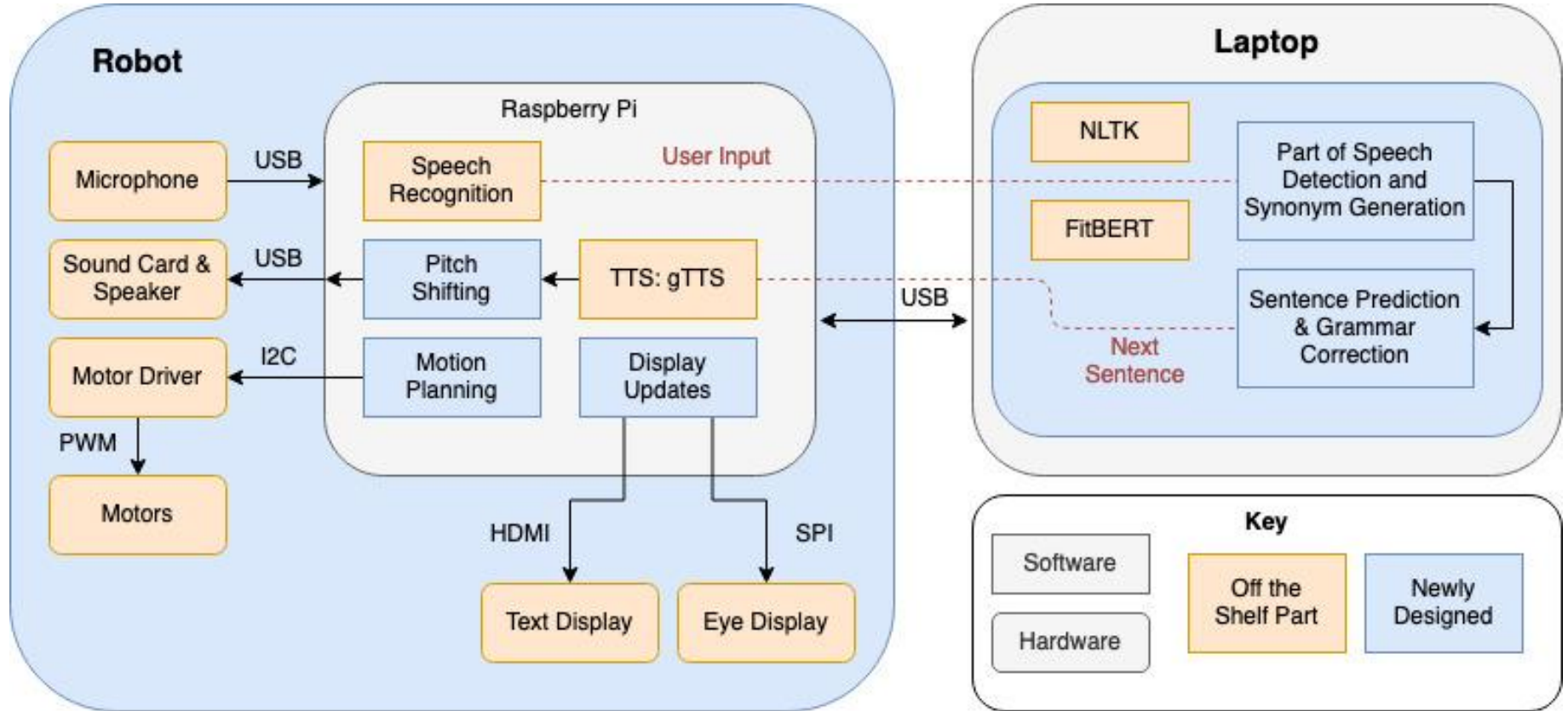
1. Robot houses all electronics needed for project
2. 2x one degree of freedom robot arms
3. Text display to display current sentence
4. Eye displays

Solution Approach

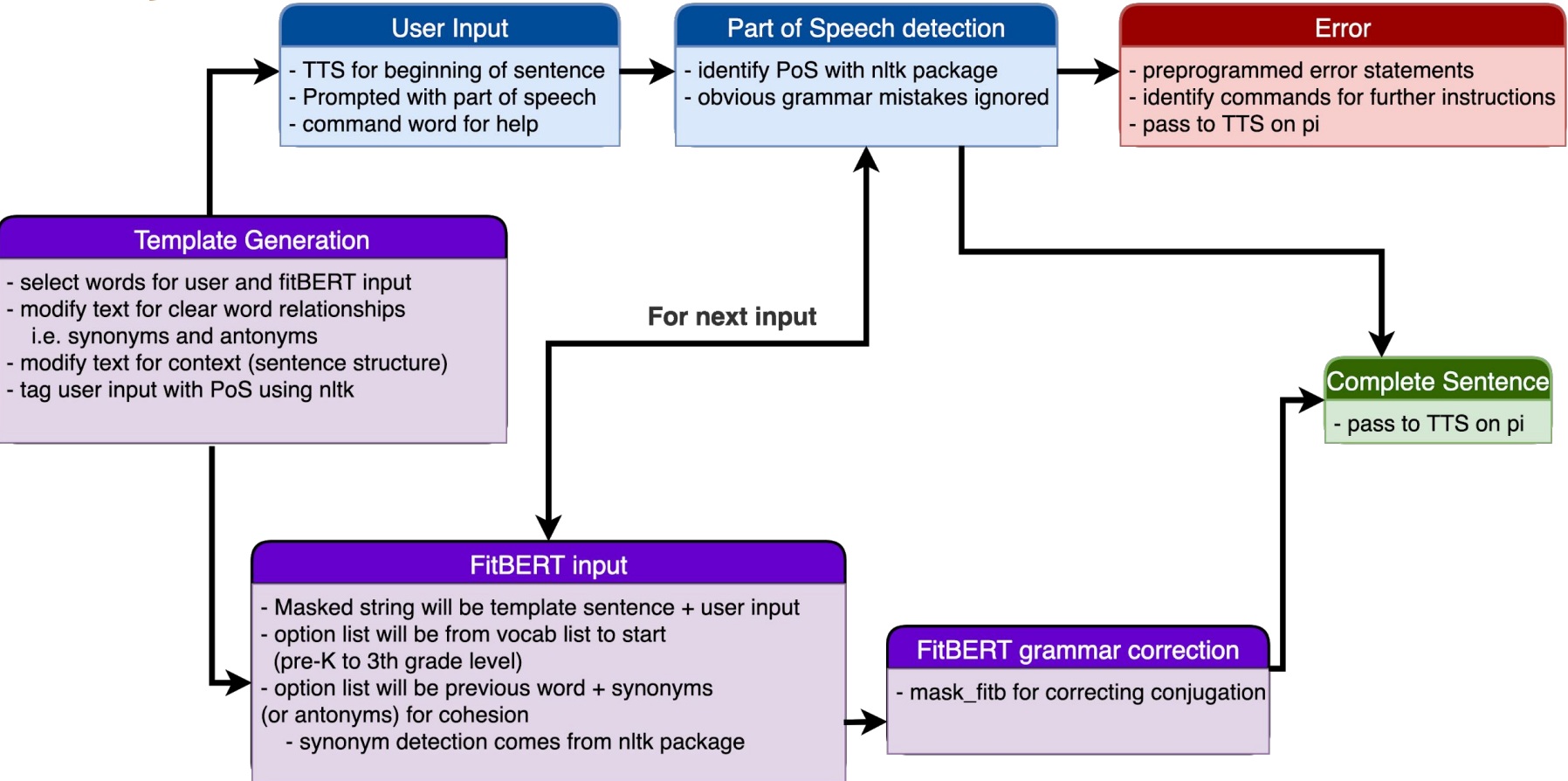
Machine Learning: receive user's input word, output sentence by sentence to TTS

1. Start with manually configured template, keywords removed
2. Prompts user for part of speech
3. User input goes through error detection and grammar correction
4. Algorithm predicts dependent words to customize the story

System Diagram



Story Generation Model



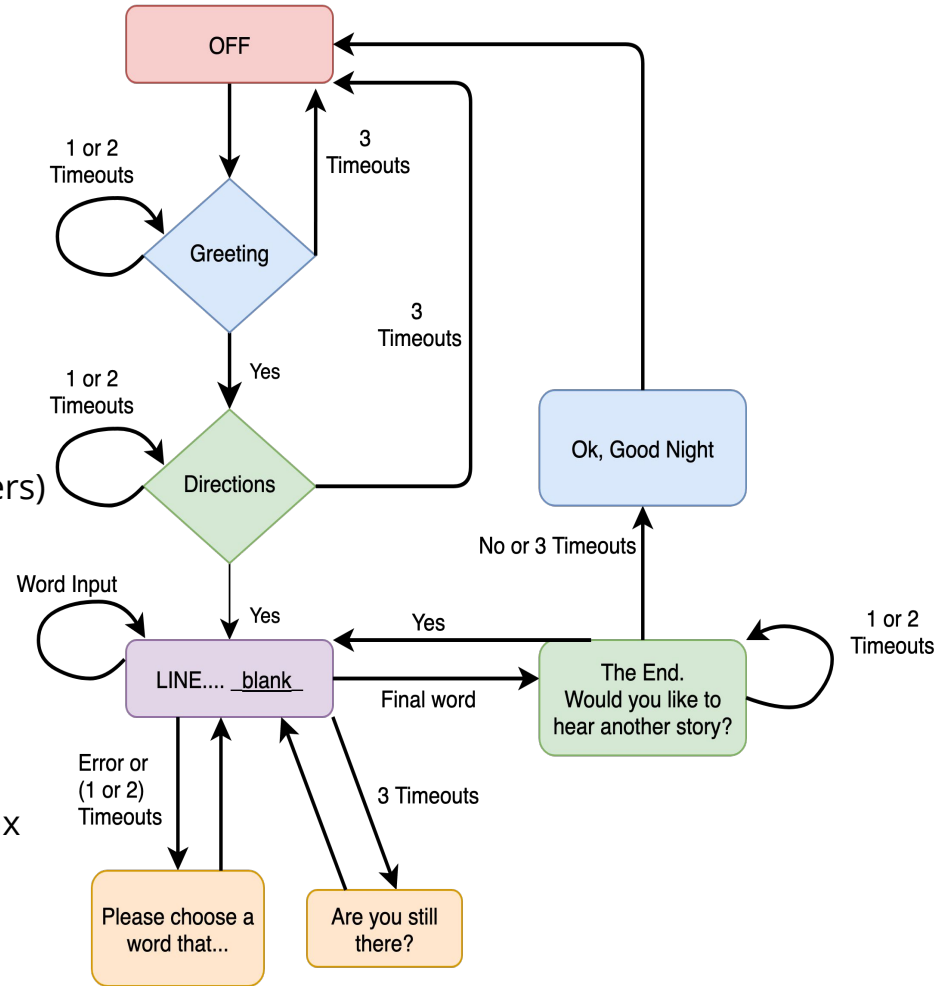
Implementation Plan

Machine Learning Storytelling

- Templates from Aesop's Fables (177 stories)
- NLTK - natural language processing speech package
 - Part of speech tagging
 - Synonym generation and recall
- FitBERT - 'Fill in the blanks' BERT (Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers)
 - Sentence prediction
 - Grammar correction
- Laptop for MVP, aim to put it on Nvidia Jetson Nano

Speech Processing & Text to Speech

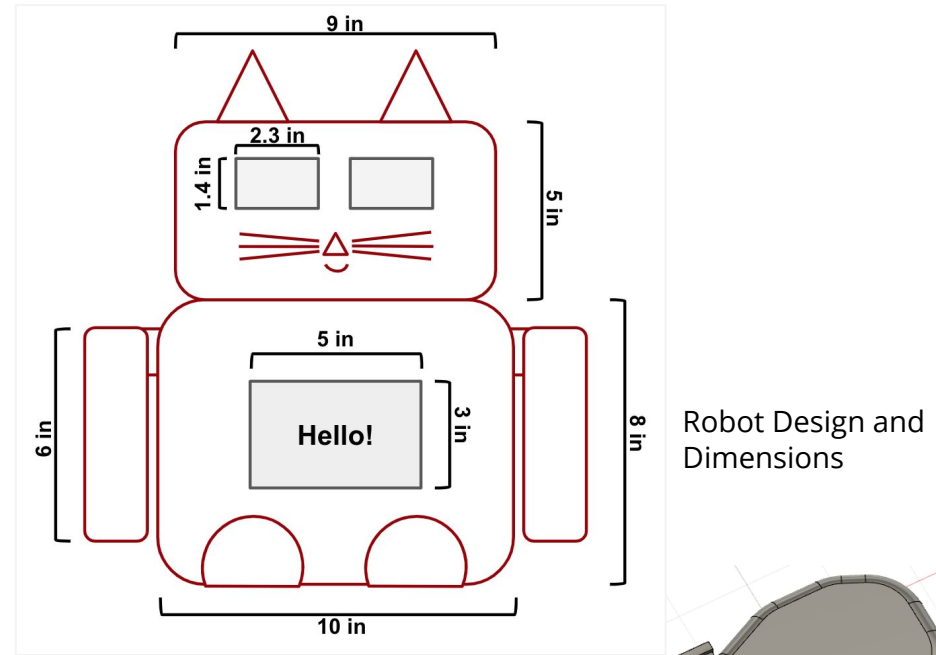
- Conference Microphone / USB Speakers
- Python Speech Processing Package with PocketSphinx
- Python gTTS
- Create a friendly voice by pitch shifting with PSOLA



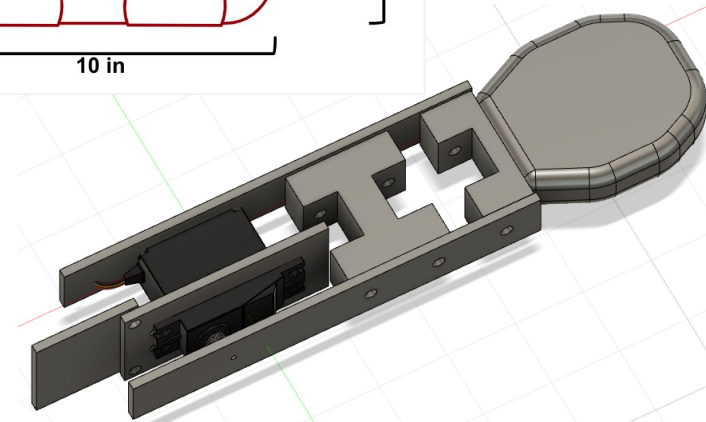
Implementation Plan

Custom-made Robot

- Laser-cut acrylic frame for support with 3D-printed shell for aesthetics
- Body dimensions: 8" x 8" x 10"
Head dimensions: 6" x 6" x 9"
 - Houses Raspi, batteries, displays, cables, etc
- 2x 1-DoF Robot Arms
 - Dimensions: 1.5" x 1.5" x 6"
 - Servo motors provide enough torque to move weight of acrylic/PLA arm



CAD of Robot Arm Frame



Metrics and Validation

Description	Goal	Verification Method
Part of Speech Error Detection	90% accuracy	SW Testing - Test Dataset
Synonym Recall	85% accuracy	SW Testing - Test Dataset
Speech Processing Accuracy	15% Word Error Rate	Measure decoding errors
System Latency	4 - 6 sec	Time user i/p to speech o/p
Power	30 - 45 min	User testing

Metrics and Validation

Description	Goal	Verification Method
Story Cohesion	Cohesion level falls between original stories and random stories	User survey - grade three types of stories based on 5 variables: <i>Logical Sense, Themes, Genre, Narrator, Style</i>
User Satisfaction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Liked the stories (87.5%)- Wanted to play again (100%)- Robot was friendly (87.5%)- Robot's stories were interesting (87.5%)- Robot's stories were understandable (100%)	User Survey

Risk Management

Component	Risk Factor	Backup Plan
Story Creation	Poor cohesion, Poor fill in the blank choices	Reduce number of user/FitBERT inputs in story templates
Speech Recognition / TTS	Both rely on internet connection	Have local speech recognition and TTS capable packages

