Voice Based Email for Visual impairment people Using AI

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Abstract: E-mail is a widely used method of communication, serving both professional and social purposes. However, for blind users, traditional email applications present significant challenges, particularly since they must rely on memory to navigate through the keyboard or keypad. The proposed system aims to address this issue by offering a voice-driven email platform, enabling blind users to send, receive, and view emails without needing to memorize a keyboard layout. This voice-based system provides access to various email folders, such as the inbox, sent items, and trash, all through spoken commands. The integration of a speech recognition model helps in recognizing both the language and voice of the user. By transcribing spoken words into written text accurately, the system allows users to interact with their email accounts hands-free. The process of converting speech to text is known as "speech-to-text" or "automatic speech recognition" (ASR). Additionally, Google Text-to-Speech (GTTS) technology is employed to convert the input text into audible speech. Two important protocols, SMTP and IMAP, are used in email communication: SMTP handles the sending of emails, while IMAP is responsible for retrieving and managing messages. The outcome of this work is the development of the "Blind-Friendly Email System" prototype.

Keywords: google text to speech (GTTS), Speech recognition, speech to text (STT), Conversational Email Assistant, Voice-Controlled Inbox Navigation

I.INTRODUCTION

In today's world, people have easy access to a wealth of information available online. One of the most significant impacts of the Internet has been on communication. Emails, in particular, have become one of the most reliable methods for sending and receiving important information over the web. However, in order to use the Internet, one must have the ability to see. In the current email systems, individuals with visual impairments face challenges as they are unable to read or compose emails. For those with disabilities, navigating the Internet and its services can be difficult. As there are no alternative methods for blind users to independently access these services, many are either unable to use or are not interested in exploring the resources the web offers. Some proposed solutions to this issue involve the inclusion of a third party who is not disabled, though the level of privacy and security in such an approach may not be ideal.

Objectives: The goal is to create a voice-activated email system that allows visually impaired and illiterate individuals to interact with modern technologies, such as sending and receiving emails. The proposed system includes features for composing emails, accessing the inbox, and reading/listening to messages. It also incorporates a login mechanism, eliminating the need for a keyboard, and operates based on speech recognition technology. The application has been adapted to function on a touch-enabled, standalone device with a specially designed, blind-friendly graphical user interface (GUI) to ensure accessibility. This leads to the development of the "Blind-Friendly Email System" prototype.

II.SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE AND METHODOLOGY

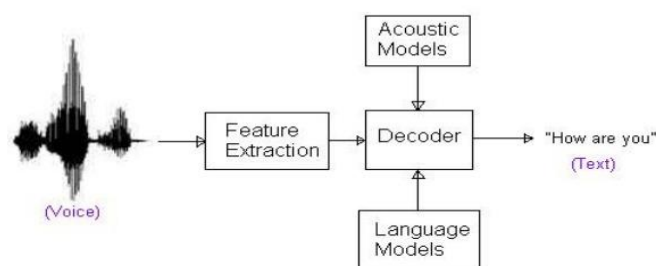The following technologies are essential for the creation of the proposed "Blind-Friendly Email System":

Fig.1 Speech Recognition System

Artificial Intelligence (AI): AI refers to the computer-driven imitation of human thinking processes. Some key applications of AI include expert systems, natural language processing, speech recognition, and machine vision. As illustrated in Figure 1, the speech recognition system consists of several components.

Training Data: The foundation of speech recognition systems relies on a well-curated dataset containing audio recordings paired with their corresponding transcriptions. These datasets enable the model to learn the correlation between spoken words and their textual representations, improving accuracy in converting speech to text.

Acoustic Modeling: Acoustic modeling plays a crucial role in speech recognition by mapping audio features to phonetic components such as phonemes or sub-word units. This process allows the system to distinguish between different sounds, ensuring accurate interpretation of spoken language.
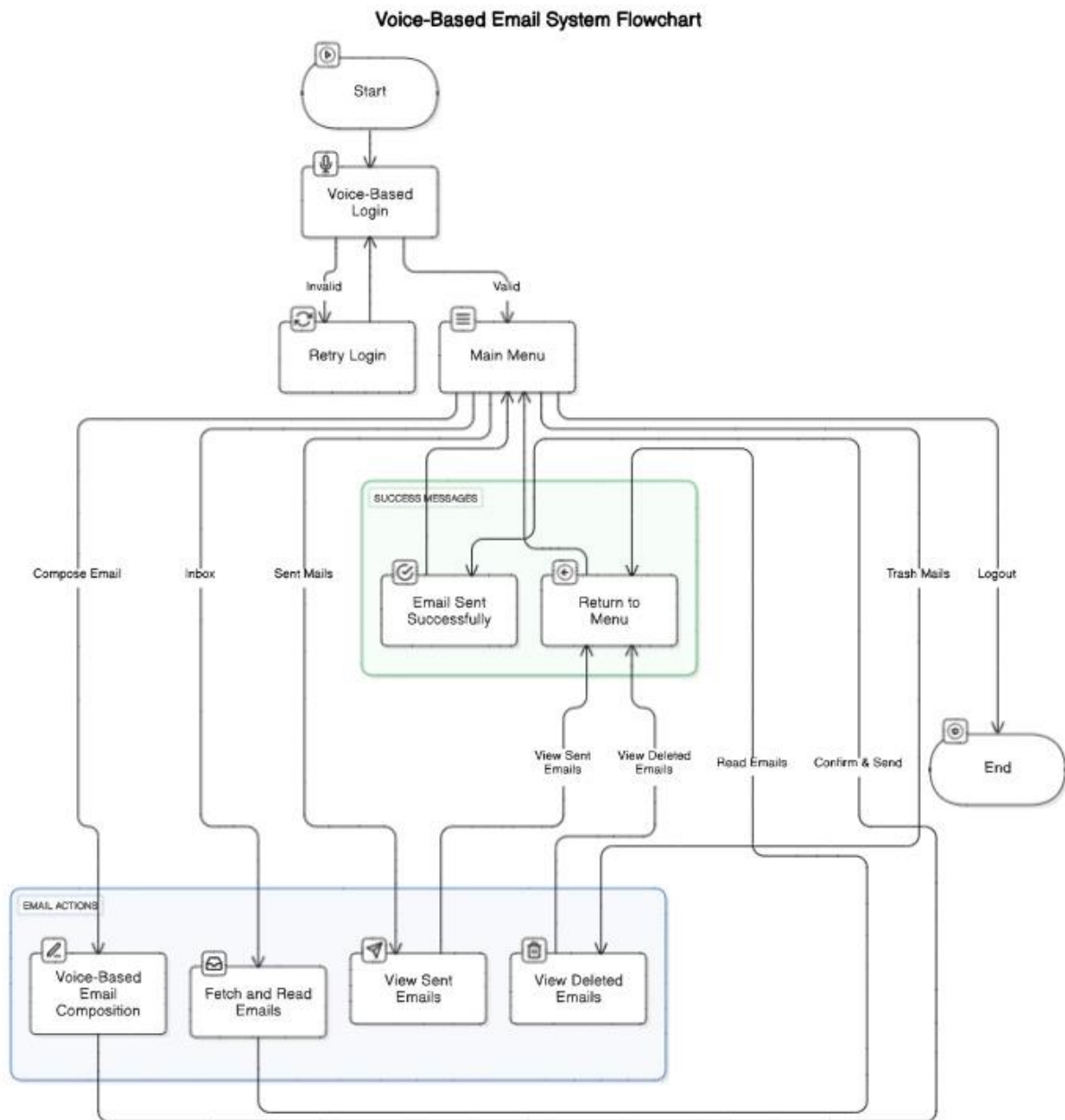

Fig.2 System Architecture

Language Modeling: Language models enhance speech recognition by incorporating contextual knowledge of a specific language. These models improve word prediction accuracy by analyzing commonly occurring phrases and sentence structures, making the transcription process more precise and meaningful.

In the proposed system, a desktop application is developed using Python along with several built-in libraries, seamlessly integrating with the Gmail client. The application utilizes various libraries to enhance functionality, each serving a specific purpose.

Speech Recognition Integration: The speech recognition library plays a key role in converting spoken language into written text. It serves as an interface for multiple speech recognition engines and APIs, ensuring efficient speech-to-text (STT) conversion. This process enables the application to accurately transcribe verbal input into text format, improving usability and accessibility.

Libraries Used in the Proposed System: The desktop application incorporates various Python libraries to facilitate text-to-speech conversion, audio processing, and email integration. Each library serves a distinct function to enhance the overall performance and usability of the system.

Google Text-to-Speech (TTS) Library Provided by Google, this library enables the conversion of text into speech. It allows users to generate audio files from written text, making the application more accessible and interactive.PyAudio is a library that facilitates audio processing by supporting both recording and playback of sound streams. It plays a crucial role in handling audio input and output within the application.

Imaplib is a built-in Python library designed for accessing and managing email messages via the IMAP protocol. It allows users to retrieve emails, search for specific messages, and perform various email-related operations efficiently.

OS Library is the built-in library allows interaction with the operating system, making it easier to manage files, check their existence, access environment variables, and execute system commands. In our project, it plays a crucial role in handling file operations and system interactions directly from Python.Threading Library This module enables the creation and management of threads, allowing multiple tasks to run concurrently. By implementing threading, the application can execute several operations simultaneously, improving performance and responsiveness.

Socket Library provides low-level networking capabilities, allowing applications to establish connections, send and receive data over various protocols such as TCP/IP and UDP. In our system, the socket library is used to check the device's internet connectivity. At the initial stage of the application, it verifies whether the device is online and provides a voice command to inform the user about the network status.

System Features and User Interface: The proposed system is designed to support essential functionalities such as voice-based interaction, composing, reading, sending, and receiving emails. To provide a user-friendly experience, the interface is developed using HTML, CSS, JavaScript, and AJAX modules in Python. This combination ensures smooth interactions, dynamic content updates, and a visually appealing layout.
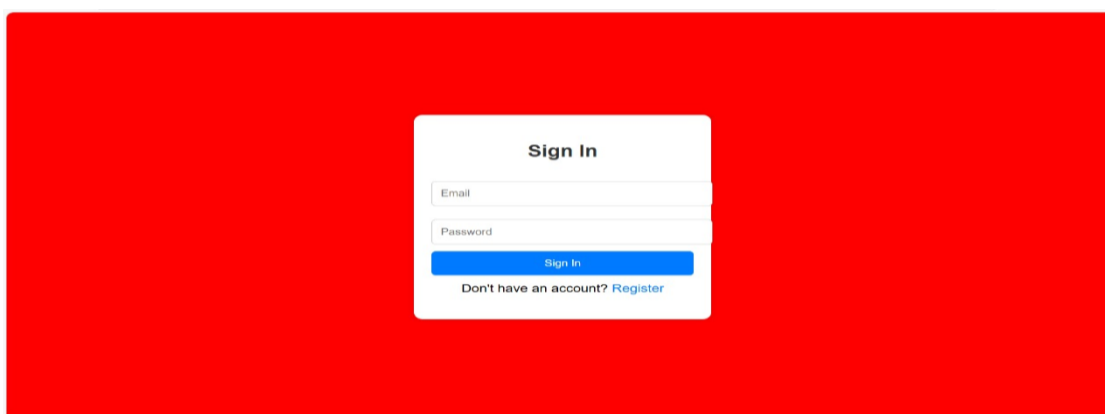
III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Fig.3 User login page

Fig.4 Register page

User Login Page/Register page: The login module of the email system is entirely voice-operated, requiring users to log in using their email ID and password. When a user verbally provides their credentials, the system confirms the details and asks for verification. If the user acknowledges that the information is correct, they can proceed with their activities. However, if any detail is incorrect, the system will prompt them to re-enter their email ID and password. The login page's front-end is built using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript, while AJAX is utilized in the Python-based backend to manage user authentication.

Fig.5 Menu page

Menu Page / Option Selection Page: After successfully logging in, the user will be directed to the menu page. To proceed, the user must click anywhere on the screen using the mouse. Upon clicking, the email system will display a prompt, allowing the user to choose from various options: accessing the compose page, viewing the inbox, checking the sent items, or opening the trash folder. If the user does not wish to select any of these options, they can log out by providing a voice command.
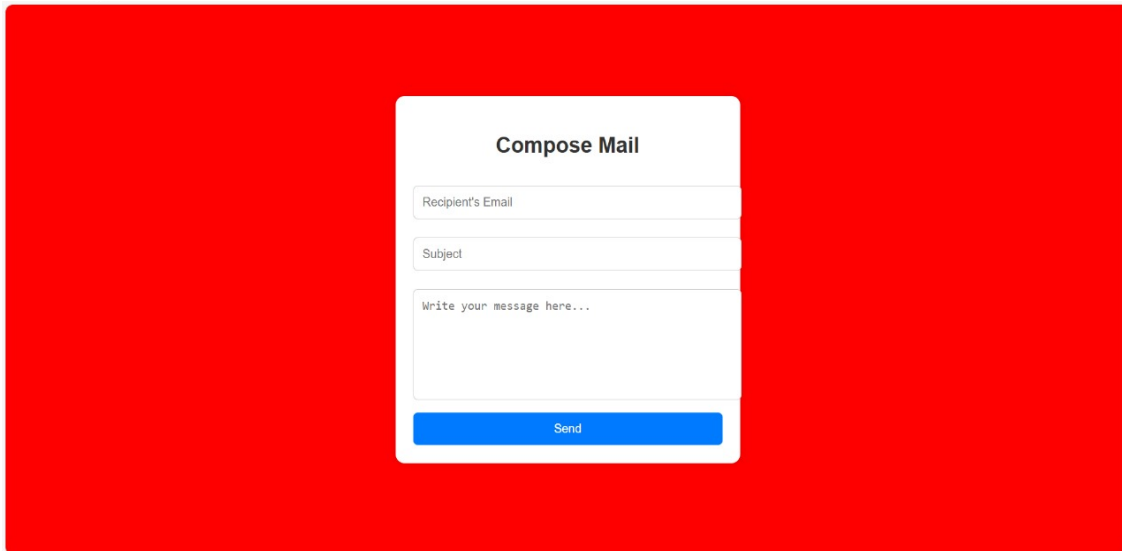
Fig.6 Composing mail at sender side

Compose page: The compose page is one of the key features offered by the email system, allowing users to create and send emails. After selecting this option, the system prompts the user to provide the recipient's email ID through voice input and offers the option to add multiple recipients. Once the recipient's email ID is spoken, the system confirms it and asks for verification. If the user confirms the details, they can proceed; otherwise, the system requests the email ID again. After confirming the recipient, the system prompts the user to dictate the subject and body of the email. Once the message is completed, the system asks whether the user wants to add an attachment, which can be an audio recording or a file in formats like JPG, PNG, or PDF. The recognized recipient's email, subject, and body text are displayed in their respective fields for user confirmation.
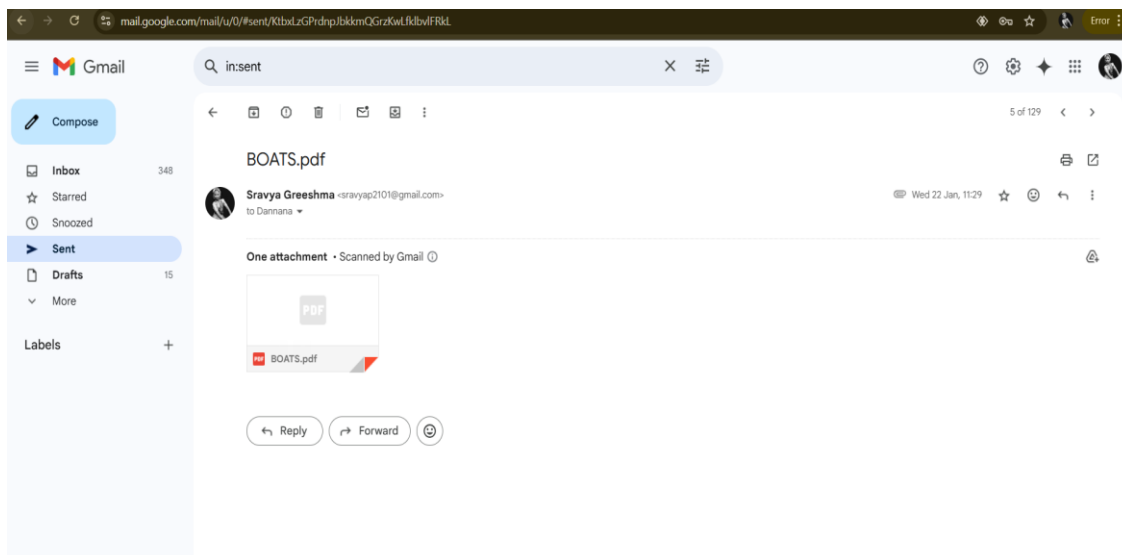

Fig.7 Acknowledgement at receiver side

IV.CONCLUSION

The development of a Voice-Based Email System for the Visually Impaired Using **AI** represents a significant step toward making digital communication more accessible and inclusive. By leveraging speech recognition, natural language processing, and text-to-speech technologies, this system eliminates the need for traditional screen-based interactions, enabling visually impaired individuals to send, receive, and manage emails independently. This project not only enhances accessibility but also improves efficiency and user experience by offering a hands-free, voice-driven email interface.

The integration of AI further refines the system by enabling adaptive learning, improved speech accuracy, and seamless email management While the system provides a strong foundation for accessibility, future enhancements further improve usability and adoption. With continued advancements in AI and voice technology, voice-based email systems can significantly bridge the digital divide for the visually impaired, fostering greater independence and connectivity in the digital world.

V.   FUTURE SCOPE

The future scope of this voice-based email system is vast, as advancements in artificial intelligence and natural language processing continue to evolve. With improved speech recognition accuracy, dialects, and even personalized voice profiles for enhanced user authentication. Integration with AI-powered virtual assistants like Alexa or Google Assistant could enable hands-free email management across various devices. Additionally, incorporating sentiment analysis can help categorize emails based on urgency or tone, improving user experience. Future developments may also include enhanced security features such as biometric voice recognition and end-to-end encryption for privacy. Expanding accessibility options for visually impaired users can make email communication more inclusive. As AI technology advances, this system has the potential to revolutionize email interactions by making them more intuitive, efficient, and accessible.

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