An Augmented Reality (AR) Indoor Navigation Mobile Application for the Faculty of Information and Communication Technology (FICT)

BY

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ABSTRACT

Outdoor navigation applications have been widely used nowadays, with the help of GPS technology these outdoor navigation application able to help users to navigate through the streets easily even not knowing the place. However, there is not much indoor navigation application in the market, as GPS signal does not work effectively indoor. Moreover, much hardware installation is needed to build an indoor navigation system. Hence the aim of this project is to develop an AR indoor navigation application that helps the students at University Tunku Abdul Rahman to find their way when first entering the vast compound of UTAR Kampar. The application created from this project will also help the student to know the purpose of certain room such as lecture hall, tutorial class and so on to prevent students from walking into the wrong classroom. The application uses AR technology to provide the user with accurate direction and information about the classroom and buildings. AR technology is used to ensure that user had an immersive navigation experience compared with traditional 2-D map. A few existing applications on the market will be reviewed and methodology to develop this application will be provided.

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AR Augmented Reality

GPS Global Positioning System

NeRF Neural radiance fields

## Chapter 1

### Introduction

while navigating indoors.

#### 1.1 Background

Ever imagine walking in a huge indoor building seamlessly and going straight to the intended destination even though it is your first time entering the indoor building? This project is to develop an indoor navigation app using Augmented Reality (AR) technology as an enhancement. AR is the real-time overlaid of digital information into the user's surrounding environment. This technology is widely used to enrich the user experience with computer-generated perceptual information and turn one's surroundings into an interactive learning environment [1]. AR can be used for a variety of purposes such as architecture and home design, gaming, product visualisation and more. Numerous industries and manufacturers have started to embrace the technology of AR because it drives operational efficiencies by reducing production downtime, identifying problems quickly, and keeping processes moving. One example of AR technology that can be used in the industry is IoT product designers who use the prototype virtual objects to test and adjust them before anything physical is built. GPS-based outdoor navigation applications are very common now in the market. Outdoor navigation applications such as Waze and Google Maps are widely used to guide users to the intended destination. However, indoor navigation isn't as widespread as outdoor navigation, primarily due to the impracticality of GPS signals within intricate multi-story buildings, GPS signals can be easily disrupted by the walls of the buildings. As a result, there are not many indoor navigation applications in the market. The primary goal of this project is to provide direction to users onscreen, overlaid on top of real environments seen through the camera of a smartphone [2]. This simplifies

the challenge of users trying to compare the real world against a reference like a map

#### 1.2 Problem Statement and Motivation

#### 1.2.1 Overwhelmed in large indoor building.

The premise of indoor buildings such as airports, and shopping malls are getting larger day by day. People often experience the feeling of being lost and not knowing how to reach their destination inside an unknown building. Trying to find a specific store in a mall with just the help of sign boards and static maps can be overwhelming sometimes especially when you are pressed for time and don't know the building well. A live update indoor navigation mobile application will be useful in this situation to guide the user to the destination.

#### 1.2.2 GPS does not work indoors.

As we all know GPS technology is great for outdoor navigation, but it is not in the case of indoor navigation because the walls of the buildings might affect the GPS signal strength. Consequently, there are not many indoor navigation applications in the market that can guide users in an enclosed environment that has a weak GPS signal. Hence an alternative solution will be used to allow indoor navigation to work even without using GPS technology.

#### 1.2.2 Inefficiency of traditional 2D indoor map.

It is very common for public indoor places to provide 2D digital maps on each floor of the building but these maps can be confusing. On many occasions, you would need to click the picture of the map, and then use your sense of direction to move around, and that isn't convenient for people who do not have much sense of direction. Often, in a foreign city, visitors face the issue of reading direction boards due to the language problem. A user-friendly indoor mobile application with the use of AR technology that will provide direction to users onscreen will be able to solve this problem.

**CHAPTER 5** 

#### 1.3 Objectives

#### 1.3.1 To develop an indoor navigation mobile application for students in FICT.

The main objective of this project is to develop a user-friendly indoor navigation mobile application so that students in FICT can navigate through the indoor building easily. The target audience of this project is mainly the new intake students who are not familiar with their surroundings environment, this app will act as a virtual tour guide for them.

#### 1.3.2 To implement AR technology into the application for immersive view.

There will be a line renderer on the user screen, integrating with the real-world environment to guide users to their intended destination. AR technology will be used to display the guiding path on user mobile devices with their camera on. This allows users to have a clearer vision of which direction they should go.

#### 1.3.3 To calculate the shortest route to the destination.

There could be many ways to walk to a certain destination, but this mobile application will always choose the shortest route for the user. By using the A* algorithm, the shortest path can be calculated easily.

#### 1.3.4 To use a QR code to locate the user's current position.

Every routable location such as classrooms or toilets will be pasted a QR code. When the user scans the QR code, it will mark the location as the starting point of the navigation. This is also known as the marker-based positioning technique.

#### 1.4 Project Scope and Direction

At the end of this project, an indoor navigation mobile application with AR technology will be developed. This mobile application will help the FICT students in UTAR Kampar to navigate through the faculty seamlessly with the immersive view of the AR

#### **CHAPTER 5**

technology. There will be a live viewing mipmap on the top right of the screen to show the current location of the user. A QR code is scanned to locate the position of the user.

#### 1.5 Contributions

This project will act as a stepping stone to future indoor navigation work. We can see that people highly rely on outdoor navigation to guide them through traffic so that they can reach their destination without any delay. So, I hope that one day in the future, an indoor navigation app can guide people who are walking inside an indoor building to their desired destination, for example, foreigners can easily find the boarding place with the help of an indoor navigation mobile application. As for now, there are not many reliable technologies that can be used to build an indoor navigation mobile application, in this project we will discover on what are the most effective and possible ways to build an efficient indoor navigation application.

Furthermore, this project will be implemented with AR technology, I believe that by implementing AR technology in our navigation application it can bring a more immersive view to the user and bring more convenience to them, as users can see clearly what is in the real world. Therefore, adding a virtual-navigation line in the real world will help the user to reach their destination on time.

## Chapter 2

### Literature Review

#### 2.1 Review of existing navigation applications

#### 2.1.1 Microsoft Path Guide

This Indoor navigation application is developed by Microsoft Research Asia's Cloud & Mobile Research group. Microsoft Path Guide is a completely plug-and-play indoor navigation service that do not need any additional equipment such as map to operate. Unlike outdoor navigation, Microsoft does not have the choice of using the satellite data to map the indoor places. Besides, it is impractical for the officials of Microsoft to visit every public indoor place and map them [3]. So, crowdsourcing is the solution Microsoft used to develop an indoor navigation system. With Path Guide, every user can generate their own routes by capturing sensory data with their smartphone while walking indoors, these users are known as the "leaders". The data of the route will be uploaded directly to the app's online database. After the route is created by the leaders, others can simply follow the routes to the same destination in a real-time manner.

As mentioned above, Microsoft Path Guide is a "peer-to-peer leader/follower" model. One can use the path recorded by other users by using the app. Every path recorded by users can be combined, hence the more the data users collect the more useful the application will be. During a leader's walk, location-specific features that are extracted from sensory data will be combined with his/her walking patterns such as steps, turns, going upstairs or downstairs to build reference traces that can be stored in cloud and share with the other user [4]. When users navigate using Path Guide, it will compare and synchronize sensor readings and the reference route recorded by the "Leader", providing real-time guidance from their starting point to destination [4].

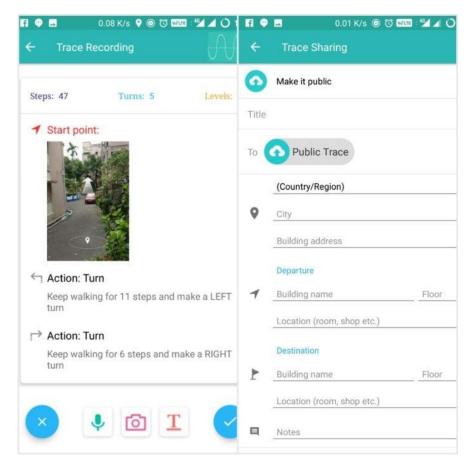


Figure 2.1.1-1 Microsoft Path Guide trace recording and trace sharing

For example, this model can be used by colleagues who have come to attend a meeting in a hotel, or a group of friends planning to catch up in a huge mall. After arriving at the designated place, the "leader" clicks the "finish recording" button to upload the path data trace to Path Guide's backend in the Cloud [5]. Anyone in his group (the "followers") who enter later the building later can then use Path Guide to follow the shared trace step-by-step to easily locate the correct room. Another useful function of this app is to trace unfamiliar places, user can record a route from his car to his destination and later follow it in reverse to find the car in car park easily. Text, audio, and photos along a path (refer to figure 2.1.2) can added to provide more information and interactivity.

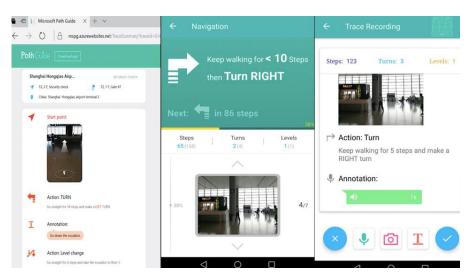


Figure 2.1.1-2 Trace route with text and annotation.

In conclusion, the benefits of the **Microsoft Path Guide** indoor navigation system are as below:

- 1) The system is complete plug-and-play and can be used in any indoor building.
- 2) Does not require any other additional equipment or map.
- 3) All recorded routes are stored in cloud, user experience will increase if the stored routes increase.

### 2.1.2 Google Map

Google Map is one of the most popular navigation apps in the market. To ensure that the information about the real world around us is accurate and up-to-date, Google Maps constantly rake in huge amounts of data from diverse sources. So, Google Map is one of the most reliable navigation application on the market. Google Map is a versatile mapping and navigation app, no matter whether you are a pedestrian, cyclist or driver, you can use google map to navigate to your destination and also estimate the arrival time based on the transportation you are using.

Finding a route to reach a destination can be intimidating using normal navigation apps. Google map has a Life View function (Figure 2.1.2-1) which is an AR technology, Follow the on-screen instructions to help Google Maps find your location, and once it knows where you are, you'll get directions through the camera view on your screen.

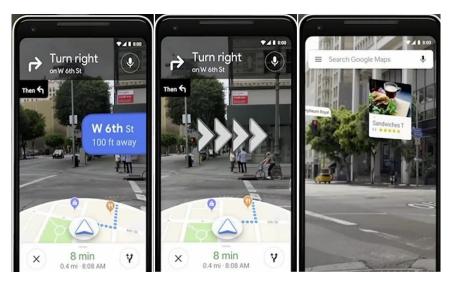


Figure 2.1.2-1 Google Map AR navigation

Google Map is now working on an immersive intuitive map that reimagines how people explore and navigate. To create these true-to-life scenes, Google use neural radiance fields (NeRF), a type of AI technique which will transforms ordinary pictures into 3D representations. With NeRF, Google recreate the full context of a place including its lighting, the texture of materials and what's in the background [6].

Augmented reality can be especially helpful when navigating tricky places, like an unfamiliar airport. In 2021, Google had introduced indoor Live View in the U.S., Zurich and Tokyo to help with just that (Figure 2.1.4). It uses AR-powered arrows to point you in the right direction so you can quickly find the closest restrooms, lounges, taxi stands, car rentals and more with confidence. As GPS is not reliable to triangulate inside buildings, Google's Street View team collected a vast amount of data using Google's 360° camera backpacks to create a digital twin of the public airport area, which would become the reference model for Google Indoor Live View to work [7].

Now, Google are embarking on the largest expansion of indoor Live View to date, bringing it to more than 1,000 new airports, train stations, and malls.

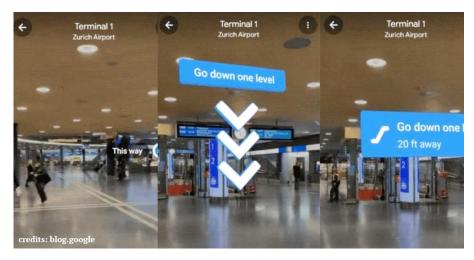


Figure 2.1.2-2: AR Indoor Navigation in Zurich Airport

As conclusion the benefits of **Google Maps** are as below:

- 1) AR technology is used in outdoor navigation with GPS.
- 2) Suitable to use for many other transportations such as walking, cycling and driving.
- 3) Neural radiance fields (NeRF) to transforms ordinary picture into 3D representations, allow user to have an immersive view of a place on the map.

#### 2.1.3 Waze

Waze is one of the top navigation application on today's market. It is one of the largest crowd-sourcing navigation applications in the market, the data collected by the apps included travel times and real-time traffic updates. Moreover, Waze also encourages users to provide mapping information, allowing anyone to add places or correct mistakes on the existing maps. These data collected are used to enhance the accuracy of navigation route, estimation time, road condition and many other features. Thus, majority of the major features of Waze require GPS support and internet connection. Waze was primarily designed for city driving, so most of the details are poured into populated city areas. GPS navigation only works with an internet connection, but most of the maps are also downloadable offline. Unfortunately, offline maps do not include real-time traffic information. When GPS enabled, Waze can keep up with your real-time location and provide real-time visual instructions. There's also a hands-free guide that involves the app giving you directions through voice-prompts. There's also turn-

by-turn guidance so that you won't need to hold on to your phone while driving. The app primarily gives traffic information. The voice navigation function will warn you about roadblocks, road closures, and speed cameras.



Figure 2.1.3-1: Waze function and feature

Furthermore, the app allows you to plan a route towards any inputted direction. It shows you multiple routes and chooses the best route for you. The app chooses the fastest route by default. Some of the fastest route requires to pay toll fee so if you don't agree with its recommendations, you can override its recommendations and select your own. Besides that, Waze will automatically help user to change route when there is other route that is less traffic and will reach to the destination faster(Figure 2.1.5).

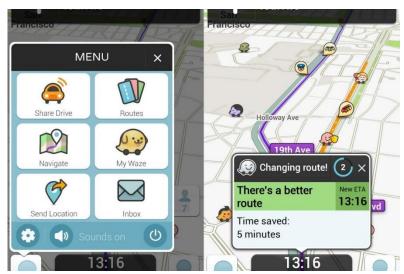


Figure 2.1.3-2: Waze change to a better route halfway

As conclusion the benefits of **Waze** are as below:

- 1) Automatic choose the fastest route for user to arrive to the destination.
- 2) Shows real time-traffic information.

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#### 2.2 Review on research paper

#### 2.2.1 Design of a Mobile Augmented Reality-based Indoor Navigation System

This article focuses on the development of an indoor navigation system utilizing augmented reality (AR) technology within the campus of Sunway University. The proposed approach leverages the inherent sensors of mobile devices to establish an efficient and cost-effective solution for real-time indoor navigation. By integrating AR technology, the system aims to enhance the overall navigation experience within the university premises.

According to the article, the indoor navigation system consists of three important component which are positioning, wayfinding, and route guidance [8]. Positioning involves determining the user's current location, wayfinding entails identifying the most optimal route from the user's position to a specified destination, and route guidance provides directional instructions that illustrate the chosen navigation path [8].

Furthermore, this article presents several indoor positioning techniques available in the market. Popular methods include GPS, Wi-Fi-based positioning, BLE beacon-based positioning, magnetic-field-based positioning, and vision-based positioning. The table below provides a comparison of these methods based on cost and robustness.

Indoor Position	Cost	Working	Robustness
Techniques	Effectiveness	Range	
Beacon-Based	High Cost	10 -20m	Small and easy to set up.
positioning			Design for indoor positioning
GPS	Low Cost	>40m	Weak signal strength when
			there are obstacles.
			Difficult to determine floor
			level.
Wi-Fi-based	Low Cost	30-40m	Uses fingerprint technique to
positioning			collect Wi-Fi signals is time
			consuming
Magnetic field	Low Cost	2-6m	Metal elements interference
signals			

				•	Time	consuming	for
					fingerpr	inting	
Vision	Based	Low Cost	Unlimited	•	Relative	accurate for tra	cking
Positioning					object i	n spaces with	small
					dimensi	ons	
				•	Affected	d by light source	:

Table 2.2.1-1 Indoor positioning technique

In this research, the author uses a fusion of techniques by combining two methods to enhance accuracy. As per the author's explanation, relying solely on GPS signals for indoor positioning is inadequate due to signal blockage by building walls. Similarly, Wi-Fi and BLE beacon signals are will also be interfere by the building structures, while vision-based positioning is impacted by varying light sources [3]. To address these limitations, the author opts for a hybrid approach, combining Wi-Fi and magnetic field signals, resulting in a median accuracy of 1.20 meters. Furthermore, through the fusion of Wi-Fi and magnetic field signals, the system reliably achieves an improved accuracy of 0.836 meters [3].

<b>Pathfinding Technique Name</b>	Description	
Dijkstra's algorithm	A mature algorithm (greedy algorithm) to find the	
	shortest path between two nodes	
A*algorithm	An extension of Dijkstra's algorithm that	
	combines the features of uniform-cost search and	
	pure heuristic search to search for optimal path	
Ant Colony Optimization	It replicates the behavior of ants walking in a	
(ACO) algorithm	graph, where the ants will tends to follow the trail	
	that has more pheromones. The Ant Colony	
	Optimization (ACO) algorithm employs a similar	
	strategy to calculate the optimal path.	

Table 2.2.1-2 Pathfinding Techniques

A few popular pathfinding techniques were also discussed in this paper. This includes Dijkstra's algorithm, A*algorithm and ACO algorithm. The techniques and explanations will be explained in a table below.

Based on the conducted tests, the ACO algorithm perform a higher accuracy and efficiency in route search compared to the A* algorithm. Although there are instances where the A* algorithm able to identifies shorter paths, the time required for A* is 8 times longer than that of the ACO algorithm [8]. Consequently, the ACO algorithm proves to be more suitable for indoor pathfinding.

The development of the mobile application is carried out in Android Studio, integrating both the IndoorAtlas Android SDK and ARCore Android SDK. For efficient database management, the application employs a local SQLite database to store comprehensive venue information. The architectural design of the application is visually represented in Figure 2.1.

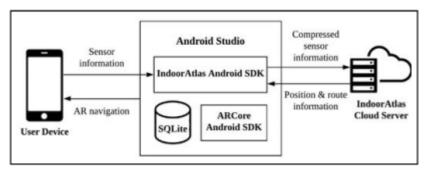


Figure 2.2.1-1 Architecture Diagram

The user interface and design are crafted using Android Studio. Pertinent details of Sunway University's venues, such as name, category, and floor level, are stored in the database. The IndoorAtlas SDK facilitates indoor positioning, with Sunway University's floor plans uploaded to the IndoorAtlas web application. Subsequently, points of interest are incorporated into the floor plan, as depicted in Figure 2.2.



Figure 2.2.1-2 Adding point of interest.

After that is fingerprinting process, the device's sensors undergo calibration, requiring physical movement across Sunway University campus to gather location information, including magnetic field and Wi-Fi signals within the buildings [8]. The collected data is then stored in the cloud, and a signals map is generated for computing the user's position.

After selecting a destination in the mobile application, the user's current position will be detected, and a route will be established to the venue. After successfully computing the route, an Augmented Reality (AR) robot guide is superimposed on the camera view, instructing the user to follow its navigation. The robot guide dynamically moves and turns in alignment with the route, utilizing the variance between the current device heading and the heading of the next node [8]. Upon reaching the destination, a prompt dialog informs the user of their arrival.

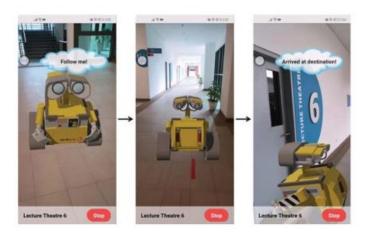


Figure 2.3.1-3 AR navigation

#### 2.3 Limitation of Previous Studies

#### Crowd-Sourcing navigation system.

Both Microsoft Path Guide and Waze are crowd-sourcing navigation systems which they collect user data and used it to improve their system accuracy. This could be a benefit to a system if the number of user is large enough, the data collected can be used to provide more information to the other users. Microsoft Path Guide needs users to record an indoor route and upload to the cloud database so that the other users able to search for the route. Look on the other perspective, this could be a limitation if the number of users is less, then the most route in an indoor building will not be found.

#### Not suitable for indoor navigation.

Both Google Map and Waze use GPS as their main technology to allow people to navigate in the outdoor. GPS signal can be known as a mature technology in navigation system, but GPS cannot be worked indoor because the signal could be blocked by the walls and roof of the indoor building.

#### Need to collect vast amounts of data.

To implement an indoor navigation application in an airport, Google Live View collected a vast amount of data using Google's 360° camera backpacks. Which I think is a limitation, because there is a lot of data need to be collected if the indoor building is too large.

#### Limited to same floor navigation only

The application that was developed in the article is only designed for floor level navigation only. The navigation system cannot create route that needs to go up a stairs or escalator.

To conclude things up a table is made to make a comparison between the strength and weakness of the application reviewed.

Application	Strength	Weakness
Microsoft Path	It is complete plug-and-play, can be	Crowd-sourcing
Guide	use in any indoor building and do not	navigation system, need
	need any maps or additional	large amount of user to
	equipment. AR technology is used to	record down the indoor

	superimpose digital information onto	path for others to use.
	the real world.	Some route might not be
		found if there is no
		"leader" to record down
		first.
Google Map	Neural radiance fields (NeRF) to	Without GPS signal,
	transforms ordinary picture into 3D	Google had to collect a
	representations. AR technology is	vast amount of data about
	used to superimpose digital	the information inside the
	information onto the real world. Can	indoor building, this could
	be used with any transportation such	be a tedious job if the
	as walking, cycling, and driving.	people who want to
		develop an app does not
		have a large team behind.
Waze	One of the best outdoor navigation	Did not use AR in their
	applications, uses GPS signal and data	navigation system. This
	collected from user to estimate the	app is only suitable for
	arrival time and display traffic info on	driving only and don't
	the map, moreover it can	have the function on
	automatically choose the fastest route	pedestrian navigation.
	for user based on the traffic condition.	

Table 2.3 Strength and weakness of application review

#### 2.4 Proposed Solutions

This project aims to propose an AR indoor navigation application in Faculty of Information System UTAR Kampar. This project mainly focusses on helping student in finding their destination easily with the help of immersive vision of AR technology. With this application, new intake students able to go to their class or finding lecturer's office with ease.

Based on the weakness and limitations of the existing application, we can see that GPS signal is the best solution for outdoor navigation. But this is not the case for indoor navigation, as the signal will be block by the roofs and walls of the indoor buildings, hence marker-based positioning techniques is proposed in this project. This method aims to localize an entity by scanning a distinct marker such as QR codes, images, or objects in the indoor environment to estimate the entity's position. Marker-based positioning is a cost-effective method because it does not require any another hardware, just a smartphone is enough. The users need to scan a nearby QR code to identify their current location, this will act as a starting point of the navigation. Afterwards, user need to choose a location as the designated destination, navigation will start, and an AR line renderer will display onscreen to guide the user.

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	Microsoft	Google Map	Waze	FICT indoor Navigation
	Path Guide			Mobile app
AR tech	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Indoor	Path needs to	Still developing on	Only	Yes, QR code is used to locate
Navigation	record by	the indoor	applicable	user's current location
	other user and	navigation, still	for	
	shared to the	mainly focus on	outdoor	
	cloud	outdoor navigation	navigation	
	database		using GPS	
			technology	
Notable	Non	Can be used with any	Will	A Mipmap on top to
Features	applicable	transportation such	change the	let user have different
		as walking, cycling,	route	a view.
		and driving.	according	• Choose the shortest
			to the	Path.
			traffic	AR line renderer and
			conditions	navigate instructions.
				A virtual map of the
				building

Table 2.4 Comparison between others application

## Chapter 3

# System Methodology/Approach OR System Model

#### 3.1 System Methodology

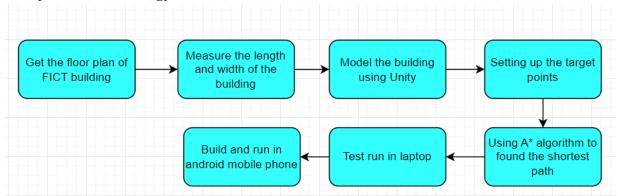


Figure 3.1 Developing flow of the project.

First and foremost, set up the Unity editor working environment into android platform. Then a FICT building floor plan is get from UTAR official website to start the virtual modelling of the building. The width and length of the building is measured by using Meesure app. By walking through the building while opening the app, an approximate width and length of the building can be determined easily. After that modelling of the building can be started by using the walls in Unity. After finish modelling the building, a few target points are set. A build in function in Unity known as NavMesh is used to calculate the shortest path. After setting up everything, a prototype is run on the laptop first before building it into android device.

#### 3.2 System Requirement

#### 3.2.1 Hardware

The hardware involved in this project is laptop and android mobile device. A laptop is used to design the mobile application and implement AR technology. A mobile device is used for testing and deploying this AR application in FICT building.

Description	Specifications
Model	Asus Vivo Book
Processor	Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-1065G7 CPU @ 1.30GHz 1.50 GHz

Operating System	Windows 11
Graphic	NVIDIA GeForce MX330
Memory	20GB
Storage	476GB

Table 3.2.1 Specifications of laptop

### 3.2.2 Software/Technologies used.

Software/Technologies name	Description
Unity Editor	Unity Editor will be the main platform to
	build this mobile application. It is used to
<b>W</b> unity	model the indoor building, running
W di iity	simulations before build, and run in the
	mobile phone
Visual Studio	The main IDE used to write the script for
	this project, it can integrate well with
	unity editor. All the scripting such as set
	navigation target, finding the path will be
	using visual studio and attach it into unity
	editor.
ARCore	A plugin that must be download in the
	mobile android device to use AR
	function.
ARCore	
71110010	
Meesure: Measuring by moving	Used to measure the length and width of
	a premise easily
	a premise cashy

# **Chapter 4**

# **System Design**

### 4.1 System Design Diagram

#### 4.1.1 Flowchart

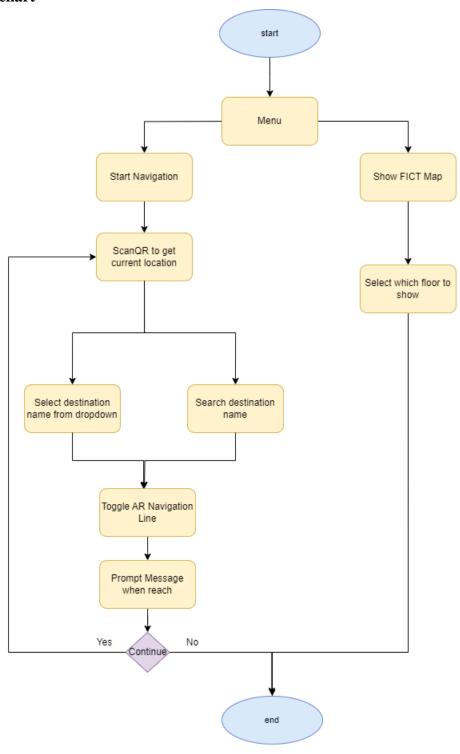


Figure 4.1.1 Flowchart

After Starting the app, user can choose to navigate straight away or choose to get a lay of the land of the FICT indoor map before starting to navigate. Going into the navigation screen, user needs to toggle the scanner frame to scan the QR code and determine their current location in the building. After the current location is determined, user can choose which destination they wanted to go by scrolling the dropdown box or searching the name of the location such as "N003" directly. An AR guiding path will appear on the screen right after user choose their destination. This guiding path will overlay directional arrows into the real-world view through user's smartphone camera. User can also choose to toggle on or off the guiding path, as there will be also a mini map on top right of the screen to let user have another view on their current location. Once user reach the destination, the guiding path will disappear, and a message will be prompt to tell user the destination is reached. User can now choose to continue navigating by scanning the QR code or choose to end the program.

If the user chooses to have a look on the FICT indoor map, then they can choose either to view the first floor or the second floor one. After that user can choose to go back to the menu screen or start navigating.

#### 4.1.2 Architecture Diagram

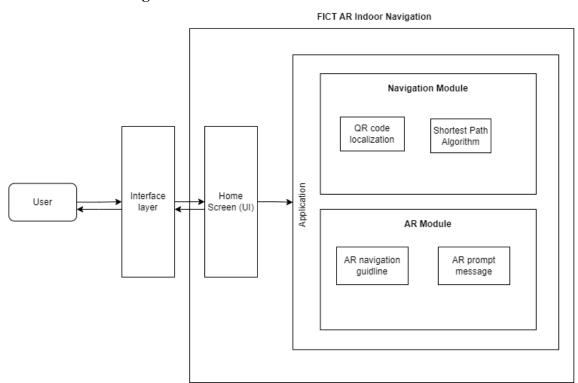


Figure 4.1.2 Architecture Diagram

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This whole application consists of mainly 2 module which is the "Navigation Module" and "AR Module".

#### **Navigation Module**

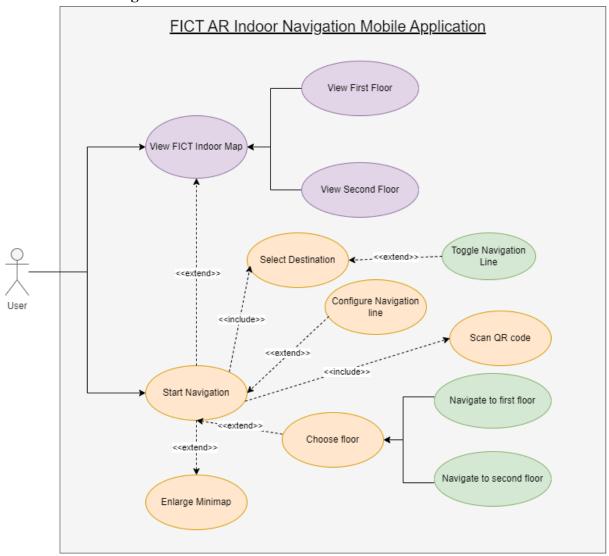
This is the main module for the application. In this module user can user QR Code to determine their current location. Upon scanning the scanner will decodes the QR code and retrieve the embedded location data such as the name of the target location, this method is known as QR code localization. FICT indoor map is built into a model and A* algorithm is used to find the shortest path, it will calculate all the possible routes when user select a destination from a starting point, the shortest path is display to the user on the screen.

#### **AR Module**

This module will overlay the digital information into the real-world surroundings and provide user a more immersive view. A navigation guideline will display into the real-world surroundings through the smartphone cameras providing user navigation assistance.

Both two modules need to integrate to successfully build an AR indoor navigation application which will provide more immersive view and more user friendly.

#### 4.1.3 Use Case Diagram



*Figure 4.1.3* Figure 4.1.3

Figure 4.1.3 is the use case diagram where shows how user can interact with the system. User can interact with the system mainly in two ways, which is view the FICT Indoor Map and start the navigation straight away. User can choose to view the first floor or second floor of the indoor map in the "view indoor map" scene.

Inside the navigating screen, user have 4 option to choose, "Select Destination", "Navigation line settings", "Scan QR" and "Choose floor". To navigate to the destination successfully, user need to scan the QR, and then select the destination name they intend to go. During navigation, user can also try to change the settings of the navigation line such as the line height and the line type. If user cannot find a certain room in the floor, then user may need to select the change floor button to navigate to the second floor or vice versa. Moreover, user can also press the mini map to enlarge it to have a better look on the navigation route.

#### 4.1.4 Activity Diagram

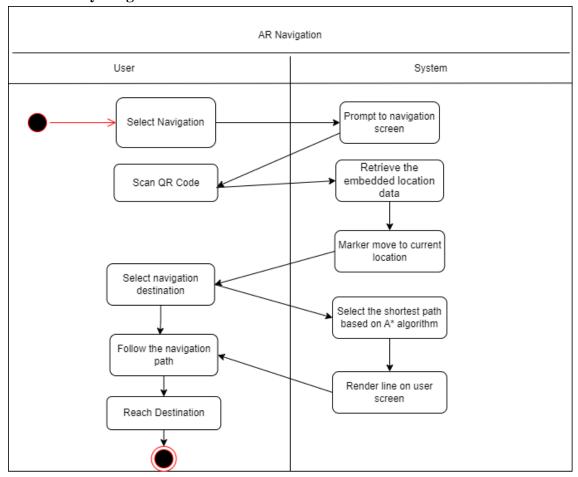


Figure 4.1.4-1 AR Navigation Activity Diagram

Figure 4.1.4-1 shows the activity flow of the navigating module. User need to first Scan the QR code of the location, the system will retrieve the embedded location data and the marker will move to the current location in the map. User can now select the navigation destination. The system will automatically provide user the shortest path based on the A* algorithm. The navigation path will be appeared on user's screen for immersive view. User follow the path until the destination is reached.

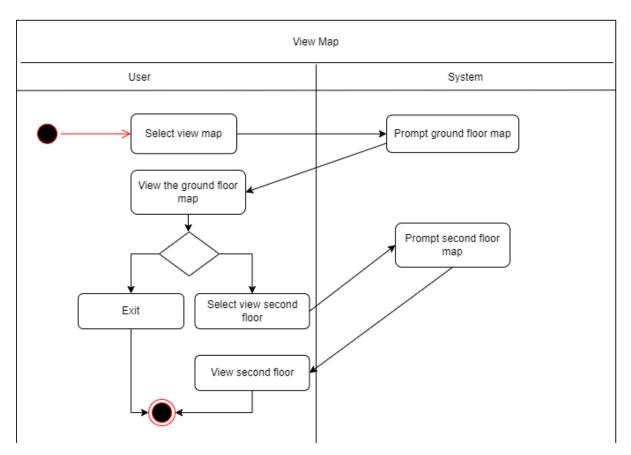


Figure 4.1.4-2 View Map Activity Diagram

Figure 4.1.4-2 shows the activity diagram for user choosing to have a view on the FICT indoor map. The first floor will be shown by default from the system and then user can choose to view the second floor of the indoor map by selecting it in the menu. This is to let user to have a better view on the FICT indoor map, so that they can briefly understand where their destination is before start navigating.

## **Chapter 5**

## **System Implementation**

- 5.1 Project Environment Setup
- 5.1.1 Unity Setup for developing AR applications.

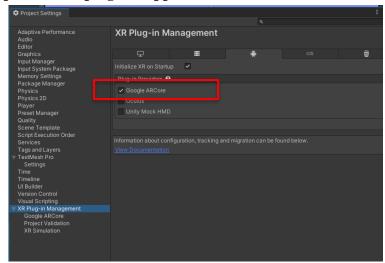


Figure 5.1.1-1 Enabling GoogleARCore

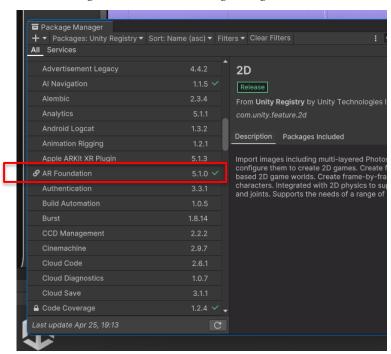


Figure 5.1.1-2 Download AR Foundation Package

Unity will be used as the main platform to develop this system. A few necessary setups are needed to build an AR application. Google ARCore plugin and AR Foundation package had to

ready in the unity platform to start developing the AR indoor navigation system. Below are the details:

Go to edit >> project settings >> XR plug-in Management to tick the GoogleARCore Window >> package manager >> Unity Registry to download the AR Foundation

#### 5.1.2 Modelling building of FICT

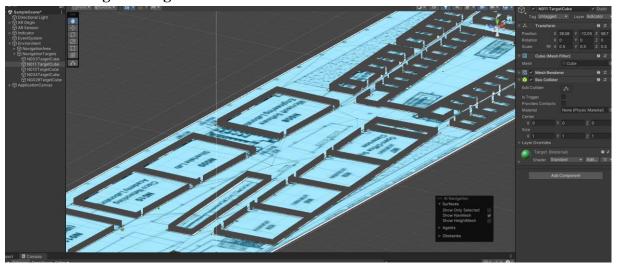


Figure 5.1.2 Model of FICT

After finish setting up the unity platform, a model of FICT building is built. Firstly, a floor plan is used as guidance to build up the walls on it. A cube game object in unity is used to create the walls one by one. After setting up the building, using the NavMesh function to calculate the walkable path in the map, the wall in the model is set as an obstacle so that the navigation line will not pass through the walls.

#### 5.1.3 Setting up target location

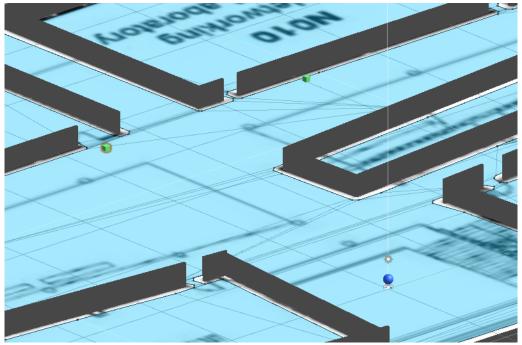


Figure 5.1.3 Indicator and target location

The green block is the target location then user can navigate to, while the blue sphere is the indicator. The indicator will be placed in the origin of the map which has the coordinate of (0,0), this will act as a starting point of the navigation. An AR camera will be placed in the component of the indicator so that it is able to capture the surroundings of and overlay a navigation path to the environment. Besides that, a top-down camera is place on top of the indicator, so a mipmap can be formed to show user an alternative view.

#### **5.1.4 ZXing.Net Library**

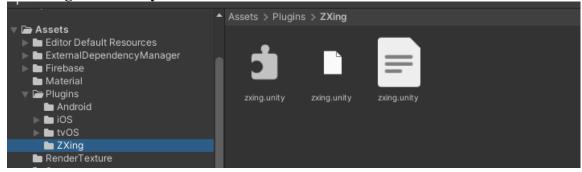


Figure 5.1.4 Zxing.Net Library plugin

Zxing.Net Library is a free open-source library which supports decoding and generating of barcodes. QR code decoding will allows the application to interpret the data encoded within a scanned QR code. This library is import to the project as a plugin to allow QR code scanning for localization later.

#### **5.1.5 QR Code Generator**

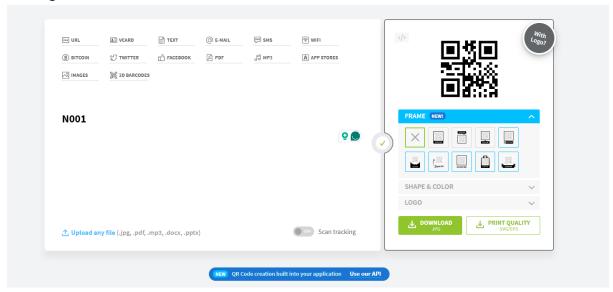


Figure 5.1.5 Generating the QR code

Use a free QR code generator website to generate the QR code for localization later. The name of the QR code is used to track back the location in the unity map, so the name place while generating the code must be the same with the one inside the Unity project so that the system is able track the correct information while scanning.

#### **5.2 Software Setup**

#### 5.2.1 Linkage between software

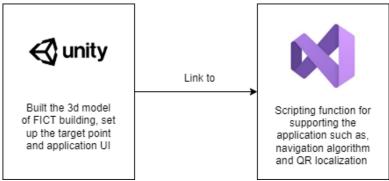


Figure 5.2.1 Relationship among software

Visual Studio 2019 is required to be linked with Unity for scripting the functions of the applications. The steps for linking the Unity and Visual Studio 2019 are as follow:

- 1. Open Unity Editor
- 2. Go to Edit > Preferences > External Tools
- 3. Set the External Script Editor as Visual Studio 2019

#### 5.2.2 ARCore

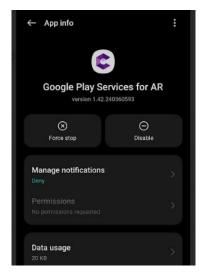


Figure 5.2.2 Google Play Service for AR

ARCore or also known as Google play service for AR is a built-in application for most of the android phone. ARCore is needed for the navigation line to display over the real-world object. Oppo Reno 7z 5G with the ARCore installed is used to test run the application built.

#### **5.3** System Operation (with Screenshot)

#### 5.3.1 Home Page



Figure 5.3.1 Home Page

Figure 5.3.1 shows a simple menu implemented in this system as this application is made focus on the group of new intake students of UTAR. The intention of this app is to allow new intake students to navigate to their destination in the shortest and easiest way, so there is no need for user to sign up and login in this application. Moreover, there is no need of student's data to keep in this application because the main function of this application is just indoor navigation. In the main menu page, user have two options which is to start the navigation straight away or have a detail look on the FICT map.

#### **5.3.2** Navigation Home Screen

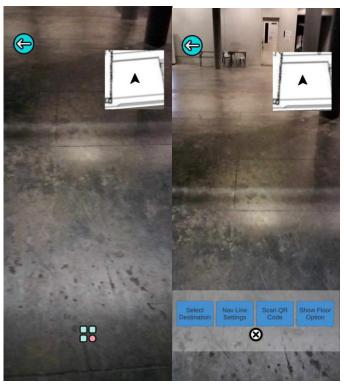


Figure 5.3.2 Navigation screen and Menu

Figure 5.3.2 shows the Navigation screen when user first starts the navigation session. There is a menu button below of the screen, inside the panel of the menu button, it consists of different functions that will help users to navigate to his/her destination. There are four functions inside the menu which are "Select Destination", "Nav Line Settings", "Scan QR Code", and show "Floor Option".

#### 5.3.3 Scan QR Code for localization



Figure 5.3.3 Scanning N003 QR Code

Figure 5.3.3 shows a demo when user press the "Scan QR code" button, a frame will appear on the screen. Fit the location's QR code into the frame then it will scan it. After successfully scanned, the marker in the mini map will immediately change its position to N001. This is how the indoor localization by QR code works. Improving from FYP1, QR code scanner is only toggle out when user wants to scan QR code, this is to prevent the mobile phone from capturing image non-stop so that the app will no lag due to insufficient cache memory.

#### 5.3.4 Choose destination and start navigating.



Figure 5.3.4-1 Choosing the destination after postioning



Figure 5.3.4-2 Start navigating

User can now select the destination they want to navigate to after determining their current position in the building. Clicking the "Select Destination" button in the menu panel will prompt two buttons on the top left which is "show line" and a drop-down list of locations. User can now choose their desire destination and press show line to toggle the AR navigation line on the screen. The system allow user to hide the line is to prevent it from blocking the user's vision when choosing the destination.

#### **5.3.4 Choose Floor Option**

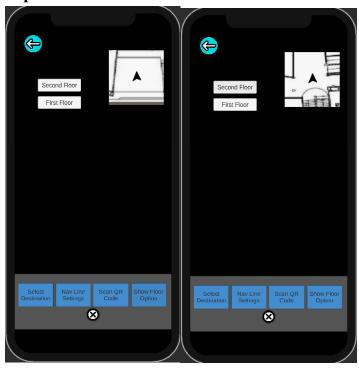


Figure 5.3.4 Choose different level

To navigate from first floor to the second floor or vice versa, user had to manually toggle the "Select Floor Option" to prompt "Second Floor" and "First Floor" button. Whenever user toggle to the second floor, the destination drop-down list will also change to all the destination available in second floor. User can try to toggle to the second floor if cannot find the desire destination in the first floor.

#### **5.3.5** Mini Map Enlargement

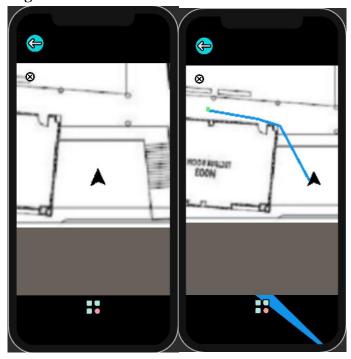


Figure 5.3.5 Enlarge mini map

User can click the mini map on the top right corner to enlarge it. This expanded view provides a clearer understanding of the overall building layout, the navigation route, and their current location within a broader context and have a bigger view on where the navigation line is leading them to. Users can pan and zoom around the map to explore the surrounding areas. This lets them identify nearby points of interest (POIs) like restrooms and staircase enhancing their spatial awareness within the building.

#### 5.3.6 Toggle height



Figure 5.5.6 Line blocking user vision

Figure 5.3.6 shows the example of the navigation line blocking the user visions. Sometimes due to some bug the AR navigation line will block the user vision, so a toggle bar that can adjust the height of the navigation is very helpful. It can lower the line when it is blocking and adjust higher when user cannot see the line.

## Chapter 6

## **System Testing and Performance Metrics**

#### **6.1 System Testing**

To ensure the system functions correctly before release, system testing is needed to discover the flaws and bugs in the code. Component testing is the method used to test out the feasibility of the application. Component testing is a type of software testing in which the testing is performed on each individual component separately without integrating with other components. This technique is used to test the lowest or smallest unit in the application, each of the unit will pass as an input and the output must match with the expected output, if both are matched then the test is considered as pass.

Firstly, each component in a screen is tested individually to ensure that every component is working fine. For example, there are a few buttons in the navigation page of this application, each function of the button is test separately by clicking it and observe the output, it is considering pass if output and the expected output matched. Furthermore, a few test cases have been prepared to test the functionalities of the system build.

#### 6.2 Testing setups and testing results

#### **6.2.1 Component Testing**



Figure 6.2 Testing

An android device (Oppo Reno 7z 5G) is used to run and test the application. Each of the button in the screen will be test one by one. The test result is shown below:

Inputs	Expected output	Pass
User press back button	Back to home page	Yes
User press "Select	Prompt "show line" button	Yes
Destination" button	and destination drop-down	
	list	
<b>User select destination such</b>	Navigation line will direct to	Yes
as "N001" in the drop-	the location	
down list.		
User press "show line"	AR navigation line will be	Yes
button	shown on the screen	
User press "Nav line	Prompt a toggle bar to allow	Yes
settings" button	user to adjust the height	
User press "Scan QR	A QR scanner will appear on	Yes
Code" button	the screen	
Scan the QR code with	Navigation indicator will	Yes
scanner	move to the location based	
	on the QR code	
User press "Show floor	Prompt "First Floor" and	Yes
option" button	"Second Floor" button	
User press "First Floor"	Navigation indicator move to	Yes
button	first floor	
User press "Second Floor"	Navigation indicator move to	Yes
button	second floor	
User press the mini map	Mini map enlarges	Yes

Table 6.2 Component test results

After testing, all the outputs of the components are match with the expected output, we can conclude that each of the component are able to work fine individually without any integration within each other.

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**6.2.2 Test Cases** 

To further test on the application, a few test cases based on the real-life situation is used to

simulate the real situation when user is using this application. The test cases and the result are

shown below. T for test cases, S for solution or recommendation.

1) T: User start the application at the main entrance

S: User do not need to scan QR code for localization as the default starting point in this

application is the main entrance of FICT. But, scanning the QR code is recommended

for better accuracy performance.

2) T: User start the navigation other than the main entrance

S: User need to open scanner to scan the nearby QR code to get their current location

3) T: The destination drop-down list will only show all the destination that belongs to the

same floor.

S: User need to try to choose the other floor if they cannot find their desire destination

in the current floor.

4) T: User scan the QR code from the second floor

S: As mentioned above the default starting point of the application is the first-floor main

entrance, so when user start up the application in the second floor and scan the QR code

the navigation indicator will change its position and the location in the destination drop-

down list will also change, do not need to press "second floor" button again.

**6.3 Project Challenges** 

There are a few issues and challenges faced while developing this project. Below are some of

the major challenges during the implementation of this project.

**Measuring and Scaling problem** 

The building of FICT is too large for us to measure manually using a ruler so an approximate

scale is used to model the building in Unity at the beginning of this development. But the

accuracy of the navigation is extremely low using this method. The navigation line is totally

out of scale and cannot guide the user correctly. This issue is solved by using a virtual

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measuring app known as Meesure, length and width can be calculated easily by opening this app while walking through the indoor building.

#### **6.4 Objectives Evaluation**

#### Objective 1: To develop an indoor navigation mobile application for students in FICT.

Aligned with the project title, the mobile application is created to help students to navigate through the indoor building of Faculty of Information and Communication Technology. With the help of a build in component in Unity Editor known as Nav Mesh the navigation line can avoid all the obstacles build in the model and successfully navigate to the destination. A* path finding algorithm is also used to find the shortest path before the navigation starts. As sum, this application can guide students to their respective destination, but in terms of accuracy it might be a bit low due to lack of modelling and positioning techniques.

#### Objective 2: To implement AR technology into the application for immersive view.

With the help of Google ARCore plugin and AR Foundation package, an AR technology can successfully build and implement into the application using Unity Editor. The AR technology is used in the navigation line that will guide user to their destination. Although the coordination of the line will be off sometimes, but implementing a height adjustment for the navigation line helps a lot so that it will not block the vision of the user while navigating.

#### Objective 3: To calculate the shortest route to the destination.

By using NavMesh to prevent the line renderer from colliding into the real-world object and A* algorithm is used to calculate the shortest path. The A* algorithm is already implemented in the Nav Mesh component, so I do not need to code it manually. Therefor this objective has been successfully achieved, every path that the application guide user to is the shortest path it can be.

#### Objective 4: To use QR code for localization.

To successfully build a scanner in the application, Zxing.Net library is used. After that the QR code for each of the location is created using free QR code generator online, each of the QR are given their classroom name such as "N001". The name of the QR code had to be match with the one build in the Unity model so that the marker will be set to the correct position when the QR code is scanned. As sum, this objective is successfully achieved.

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#### **6.5 Concluding Remark**

After reviewing all the testing and evaluation of the application, the application passed all of the test, besides that all of the objective has also been achieved, but there is still more room for improvement.

## **Chapter 7**

## **Conclusion and Recommendations**

#### 7.1 Conclusion

Throughout the entire development process, there are a lot of issues and challenges that have been encountered, such as the needing more time to learn the new tools and software that are required to develop this project, setting up the project environment alone takes a long time. Moreover, AR and VR are the field that I have not learnt before, so it requires extra effort to learn and understand the theory behind it. Furthermore, when trying to create a mobile application using Unity, there are a lot of issues that I have encountered, the most common issue is regarding the user interface. The interface is quite complicated for a new user, I need to keep on try and error on how some of the functions work.

As conclusion, this project has fulfilled all the objectives stated above and successfully come out with an AR indoor navigation mobile app that is able to guide students and visitors through FICT building. By integrating AR technology with the faculty surrounding, it gives user a more immersive experience. This project had also successfully demonstrated the potential of AR technology in helping human to solve future problems easily.

#### 7.2 Recommendations

There is still a lot of room for improvement in this mobile application. As this application is only build for FICT students, this application could scale up more into UTAR Kampar Campus indoor and outdoor navigation application. Moreover, the navigation accuracy of this mobile application is still not yet 100%. Other positioning methods such as WiFi, beacons positioning can be used so that the distance between each point can be more accurate, with that the navigation route can achieve a 100% accuracy.

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Trimester, Year: Trimeseter3, Year 3 Study we	eek no.: 2	
Student Name & ID: Goh Brian Joon Jian 20ACB02750		
Supervisor: Ts Saw Seow Hui		
<b>Project Title:</b> AR Indoor Navigation For FICT		
1. WORK DONE		
Review FYP 1		
2. WORK TO BE DONE		
Brainstorm how to implement new things in FYP2		
3. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED		
No		
4. SELF EVALUATION OF THE PROGRESS		
Good progress		
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Claw.		
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Supervisor's signature	Student's signature	

Trimester, Year: Trimeseter3, Year 3 Study w	eek no.: 4
Student Name & ID: Goh Brian Joon Jian 20ACB027	750
Supervisor: Ts Saw Seow Hui	
Project Title: AR Indoor Navigation For FICT	
1. WORK DONE	
Brainstorm how to implement new things in FYP2	
2. WORK TO BE DONE	
Make it more user friendly	
3. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED	
NO	
4. SELF EVALUATION OF THE PROGRESS	
Everything going find	
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Supervisor's signature	Student's signature

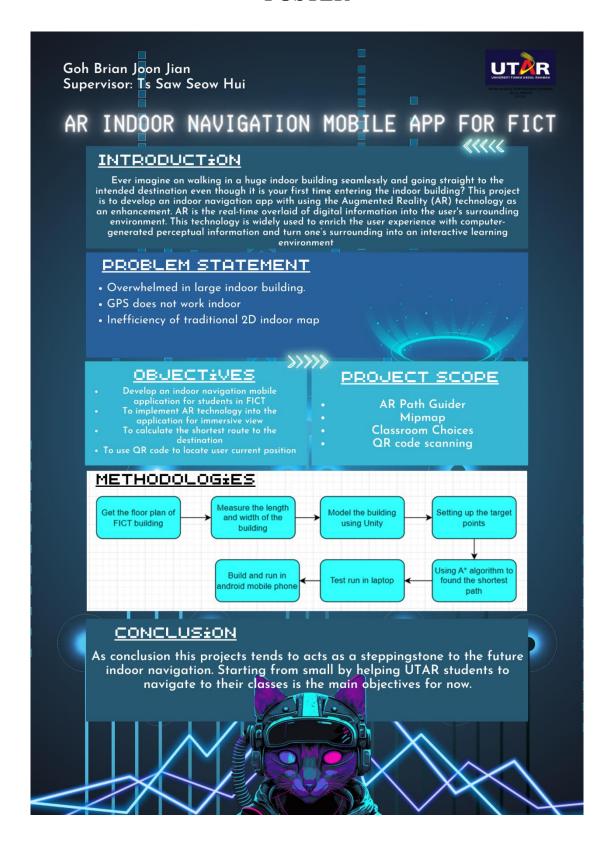
Trimester, Year: Trimeseter3, Year 3 Study week no.: 6		
Student Name & ID: Goh Brian Joon Jian 20ACB02750		
Supervisor: Ts Saw Seow Hui		
Project Title: AR Indoor Navigation For FICT		
1. WORK DONE		
Make the UI more friendly.		
2. WORK TO BE DONE		
Implement new functions.		
-		
4 DRODI EMC ENCOUNTEDED		
3. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED Everything ok		
Everything ok		
4. SELF EVALUATION OF THE PROGRESS		
Avoid procrastination.		
1		
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Claw.		
Supervisor's signature	Student's signature	

Trimester, Year: Trimeseter3, Year 3 Study w	veek no.: 8	
Student Name & ID: Goh Brian Joon Jian 20ACB02750		
Supervisor: Ts Saw Seow Hui		
Project Title: AR Indoor Navigation For FICT		
1. WORK DONE		
Develop the home screen and menu for the navigation	screen.	
<u> </u>		
2. WORK TO BE DONE		
Set up the scanner to scan QR code.		
3. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED		
No		
4. SELF EVALUATION OF THE PROGRESS		
On track		
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Supervisor's signature	Student's signature	
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Trimester, Year: Trimeseter3, Year 3 Study week no.: 10		
Student Name & ID: Goh Brian Joon Jian 20ACB02750		
Supervisor: Ts Saw Seow Hui		
Project Title: AR Indoor Navigation For FICT		
1. WORK DONE		
QR code scanner		
2. WORK TO BE DONE		
Implement multiple floor.		
3. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED		
Need to use AI for automate multi-level navigation.		
4. SELF EVALUATION OF THE PROGRESS		
Need to try harder		
	0.4	
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Supervisor's signature	Student's signature	

Trimester, Year: Trimeseter3, Year 3 Study week no.: 12		
Student Name & ID: Goh Brian Joon Jian 20ACB02750		
Supervisor: Ts Saw Seow Hui		
Project Title: AR Indoor Navigation For FICT		
1. WORK DONE		
Implement manual multi-level navigation.		
2. WORK TO BE DONE		
Integrate everything together, start report.		
2 DRODI EMC ENICOTAMEDED		
3. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED		
No		
A CELE ENAL HARION OF THE PROCEEDS		
4. SELF EVALUATION OF THE PROGRESS		
On track		
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Supervisor's signature Student's signature		

POSTER



PLAGIARISM CHECK RESULT

ORIGIN	IALITY REPORT				
5 SIMIL	% ARITY INDEX	% INTERNET SOURCES	5% PUBLICATIONS	% STUDENT PA	APERS
PRIMA	RY SOURCES				
1	Mobile / Navigat Sympos	Ng, Woan Ning Augmented Rea ion System", 202 ium on Multidis ive Technologies	lity-based Indo 20 4th Interna ciplinary Studi	oor tional es and	3
2		Deaves. "Notes IUP), 2024	", Oxford Univ	ersity	1
3	Chen. "l Smartpl Annual I	no Shu, Kang G. Last-Mile Naviga nones", Proceed International Co ing and Networ	ition Using ings of the 21 inference on N	st Mobile	<1
4	Liut. "Co Position Confere	, Lazar Lolic, Sha omparing and Ev ing Techniques" nce on Indoor P ion (IPIN), 2021	aluating Indo , 2021 Interna	or tional	<1

5	Ton Duc Thang University Publication	<1%
6	Ziad M. Elias. "Finite elements for Mindlin and Kirchhoff plates based on a mixed variational principle", International Journal for Numerical Methods in Engineering, 2021 Publication	<1%
7	Elena Denia Navarro. "Percepción social de la ciencia y participación digital: impacto de la comunicación científica en Twitter", Universitat Politecnica de Valencia, 2020 Publication	<1%
8	Rosen Ivanov. "An algorithm for on-the-fly K shortest paths finding in multi-storey buildings using a hierarchical topology model", International Journal of Geographical Information Science, 2018	<1%
9	"Deriving configurable process models using process mining", Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile, 2019	<1%
10	Babeş-Bolyai University	<1%

Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman			
Form Title: Supervisor's Comments on Originality Report Generated by Turnitin			
for Submission of Final Year Project Report (for Undergraduate Programmes)			
Form Number: FM-IAD-005	Rev No.: 0	Effective Date: 01/10/2013	Page No.: 1of 1



FACULTY OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

Full Name(s) of Candidate(s)	Goh Brian Joon Jian
ID Number(s)	20ACB02750
Programme / Course	Bachelor of Computer Science (Honours)
Title of Final Year Project	AR Indoor Navigation For FICT

Similarity	Supervisor's Comments (Compulsory if parameters of originality exceeds the limits approved by UTAR)
Overall similarity index: 5 %	The percentage meets the requirement.
Similarity by source Internet Sources: 0% Publications: 5% Student Papers: 0%	
Number of individual sources listed of more than 3% similarity: 1	He frequently consults this paper that is directly relevant to his work. Thus, the percentage is 3%

Parameters of originality required and limits approved by UTAR are as Follows:

- (i) Overall similarity index is 20% and below, and
- (ii) Matching of individual sources listed must be less than 3% each, and
- (iii) Matching texts in continuous block must not exceed 8 words

Note: Parameters (i) – (ii) shall exclude quotes, bibliography and text matches which are less than 8 words.

 $\underline{Note} \;\; Supervisor/Candidate(s) \; is/are \; required \; to \; provide \; softcopy \; of \; full \; set \; of \; the \; originality \; report \; to \; Faculty/Institute$

Based on the above results, I hereby declare that I am satisfied with the originality of the Final Year Project Report submitted by my student(s) as named above.

Claw.	
Signature of Supervisor	Signature of Co-Supervisor
Name: Ts Dr Saw Seow Hui	Name:
Date: 26/4/2024	Date:



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CHECKLIST FOR FYP2 THESIS SUBMISSION

Student Id	20ACB02750
Student Name	Goh Brian Joon Jian
Supervisor Name	Ts Saw Seow Hui

TICK (√)	DOCUMENT ITEMS
	Your report must include all the items below. Put a tick on the left column after you have
	checked your report with respect to the corresponding item.
V	Title Page
V	Signed Report Status Declaration Form
$\sqrt{}$	Signed FYP Thesis Submission Form
$\sqrt{}$	Signed form of the Declaration of Originality
$\sqrt{}$	Acknowledgement
	Abstract
$\sqrt{}$	Table of Contents
$\sqrt{}$	List of Figures (if applicable)
	List of Tables (if applicable)
	List of Symbols (if applicable)
	List of Abbreviations (if applicable)
V	Chapters / Content
	Bibliography (or References)
V	All references in bibliography are cited in the thesis, especially in the chapter
	of literature review
	Appendices (if applicable)
V	Weekly Log
	Poster
	Signed Turnitin Report (Plagiarism Check Result - Form Number: FM-IAD-005)
V	I agree 5 marks will be deducted due to incorrect format, declare wrongly the
	ticked of these items, and/or any dispute happening for these items in this
	report.

*Include this form (checklist) in the thesis (Bind together as the last page)

I, the author, have checked and confirmed all the items listed in the table are included in my
report.
G
(Signature of Student)
Date: 25-4-2024