CENG 491 Proposal:
COLLMOB
Mobile Application for Hobby Collectionist
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Team: Puzzle

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1.MOTIVATION

The hobby of collecting includes seeking, locating, acquiring, organizing, cataloging, displaying, storing, and maintaining whatever items are of interest to the individual collector. Some collectors are generalists, accumulating merchandise, or stamps from all countries of the world. Others focus on a subtopic within their area of interest, perhaps 19th century postage stamps, milk bottle labels from Sussex, or Mongolian harnesses and tack.[1]

On past collectors had to find unique collection items by communicating with other collectors. Having developed technologies such as computers, internet, database systems and smartphones, they can search for requested items through internet or they can keep track of owned collected items by using their databases or smartphones.

Previous solutions have based on primitive and restricted approaches. For example, they use bar-coding systems, catalogs or search through internet search engines. There is no such system that merges these features to provide users better solutions, collectors had to use each facility separately. Most of the time facilities are not available to collectors from where they are. In order to reach an item to learn it's properties collector have to look into the entire catalog item belongs to and find the item from there.

2.BACKGROUND

Collection manager application is a tool that adding items to the collection is as quick and easy as typing the items tile and selecting supported source. After typing program will fetch all the related information from the Web. Program Automatically formatted names, sorting by any property, filters, automatic ISBN validation and full customization for printing or display. Collector may also search and filter collections by many criteria.

There can be additions like:

- Ratings.
- Tags.
- Comments.
- Item search locally or on web.

There are many applications used by collectors such as, Tellico[2] , Griffith[3] , Shazam[4]. However, portability, ease of use and searching items by context are missing.

For user friendliness, we need a new collection manager program such that searching items by its content or its cover and reach the specific information about item by connecting databases via smartphones.

3.PROPOSAL

In this project, existing features from common collection manager applications will be combined with the technology of smartphones.

Collector can search an album in its collection by taking photos via image processing. By using existing database technologies that smartphones contain, collectors will have chance of use its fast and user friendly features to find the requested album.

Collectors can also use shared database which resides in public shopping web areas allows them to exchange or shopping their items. They can also search items by their contents.

REFERENCES

[1] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Collecting

[2] http://tellico-project.org/

[3] http://www.griffith.cc/

[4] http://www.shazam.com/