Informatics Institute of Technology In Collaboration with University of Westminster, UK



HYBRID BERT-LSTM: A TRANSFORMER AND LSTM BASED HYBRID SINHALA CHATBOT SYSTEM USING TEXT CLASSIFICATION APPROACHA

A Dissertation by Mr. Chryshel Aloka Fonseka W1761339 / 2019405

Supervised by Ms. Sachinthani Perera

May 2023

This document was submitted in partial fulfilment of the BEng (Hons) in Software Engineering degree requirements at the University of Westminster

© The copyright for this project and all its associated products resides with Informatics Institute of Technology

Abstract

With recent developments in the domain of Natural Language Processing (NLP) most of the day-to-day activities that involve natural language processing have been automated, including tasks like writing scripts, writing emails, customer support services, language translation etc. But in languages like Sinhala, those novel threads and techniques have yet to be applied and adapted because of language ambiguity and the lack of resources. Developing Sinhala language processing can contribute to its future advancements in areas such as text generation, chatbot applications, text summarization, language translations and etc.

This research focused on improving the Sinhala NLP domain by introducing a novel machine learning architecture called the Transformers architecture to chatbot application systems. This will increase the accuracy of Sinhala language chatbot systems. The Novel architecture introducing from this research study is a hybrid approach, which SinBERT and a LSTM layer combine to improve the accuracy of the model