A Voice-Assisted Billing Interface for the Kirana shopkeepers

M.Des. Project 3

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Interaction Design (2016–18)
IDC School of Design

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Spot the difference





(A)

Spot the difference





 $(A) \qquad (B)$

Organised Retail Kirana Shop

Difference in methods of billing



Organised Retail

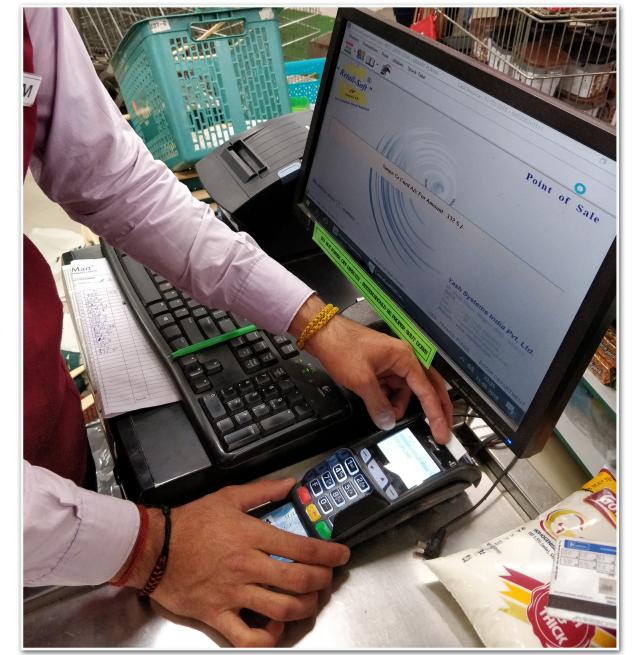


Kirana Shop

Difference in methods of billing



Organised Retail



POS systems

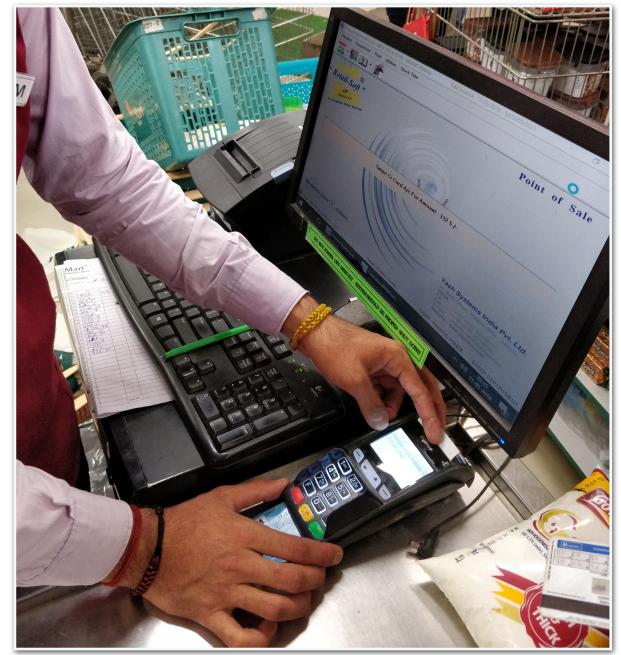


Kirana Shop

Difference in methods of billing



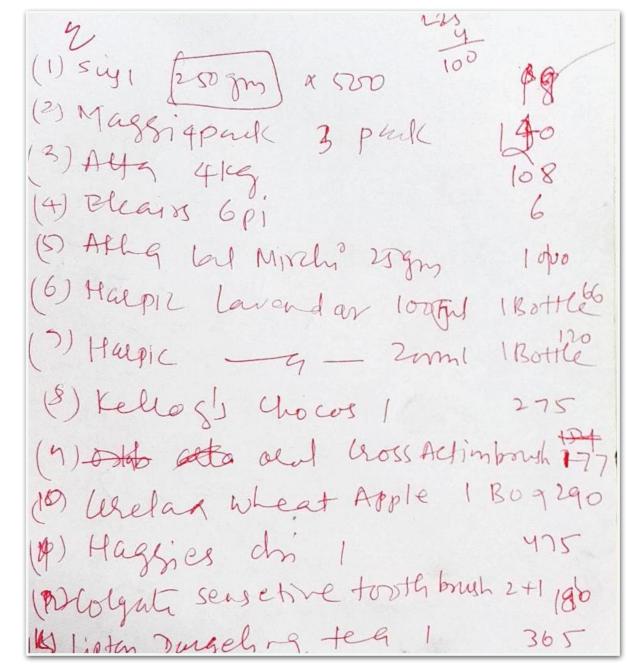
Organised Retail



POS systems



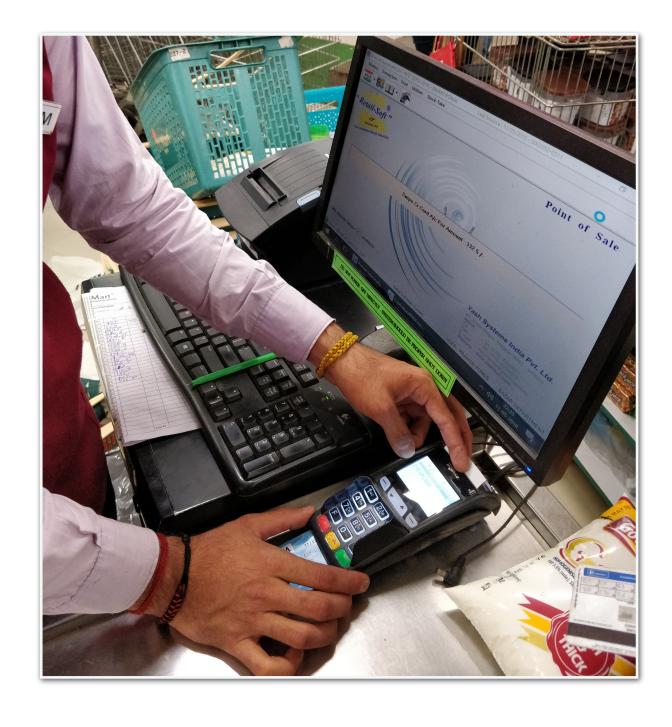
Kirana Shop



Manual bills

Why Kirana shops don't do digital billing?

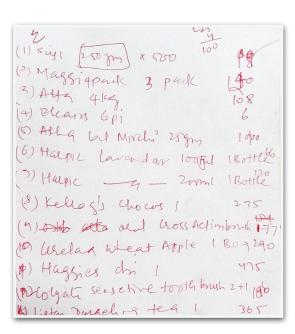




POS systems



Kirana Shop

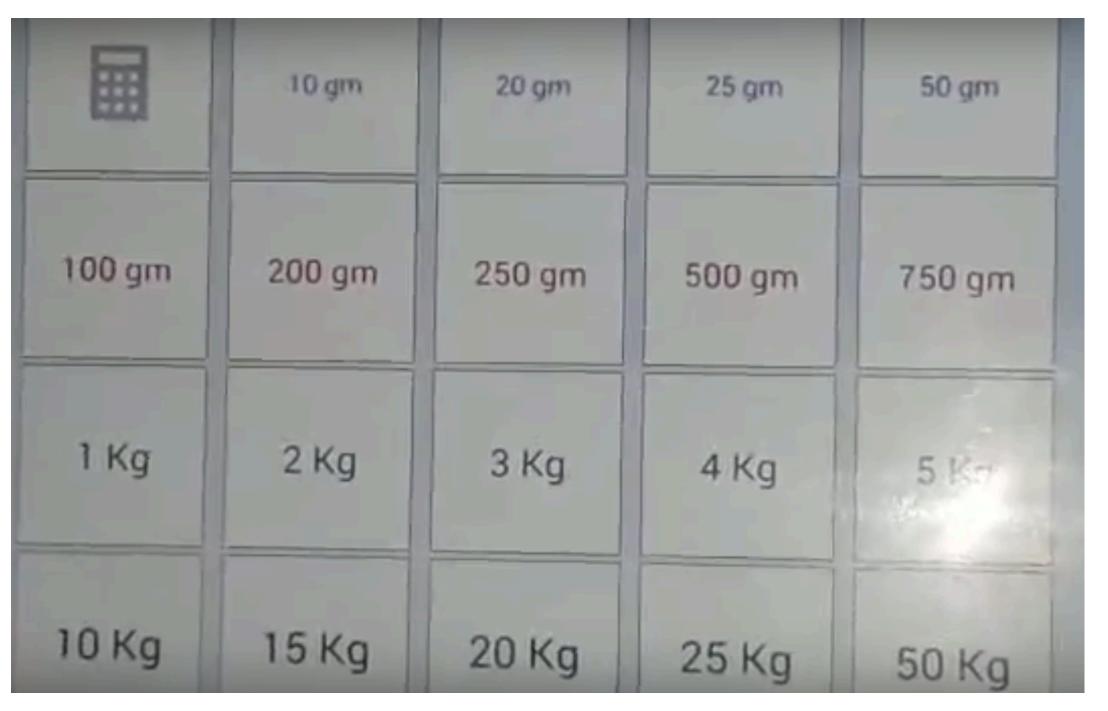


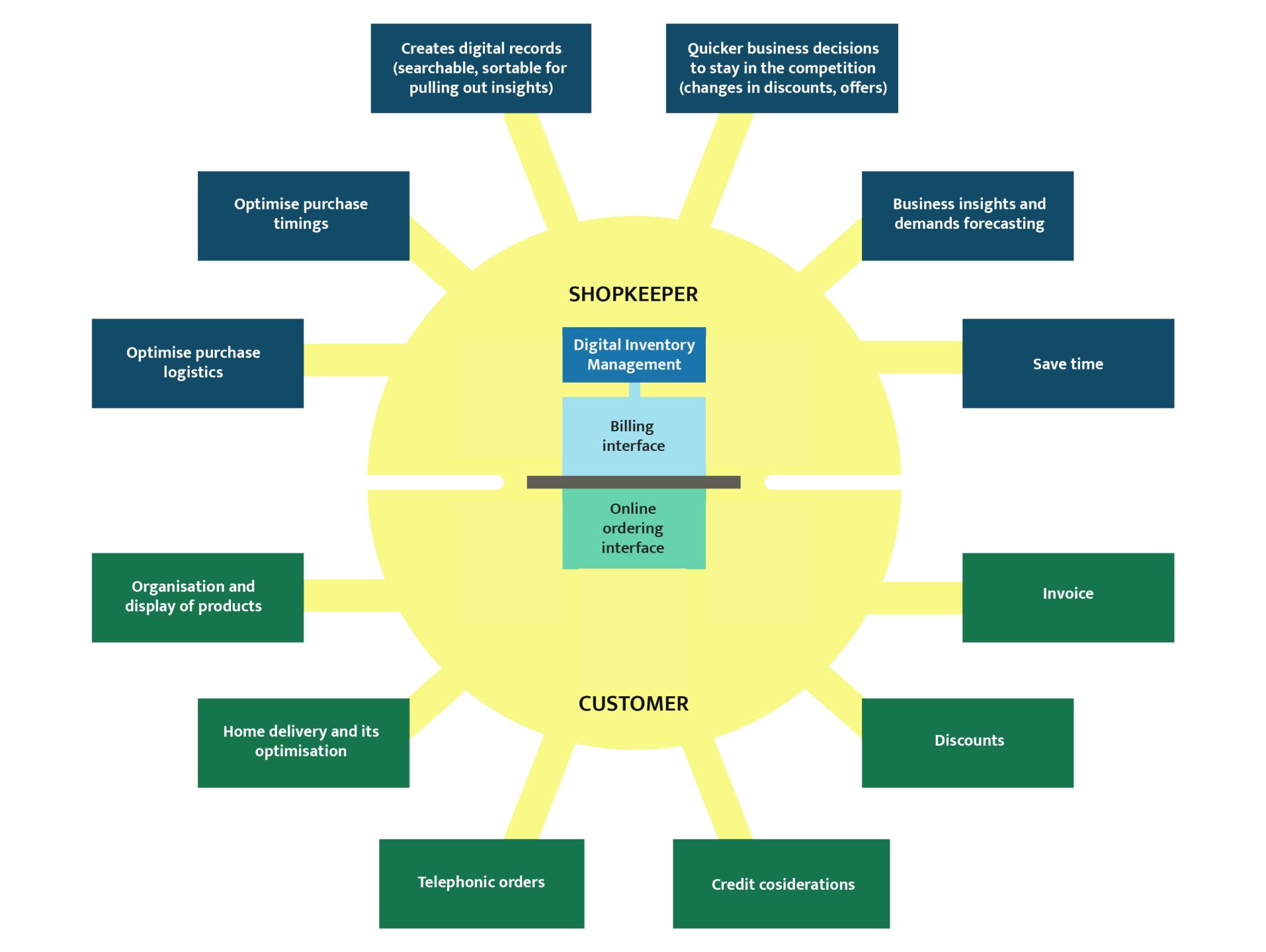
Any better POS systems in market?

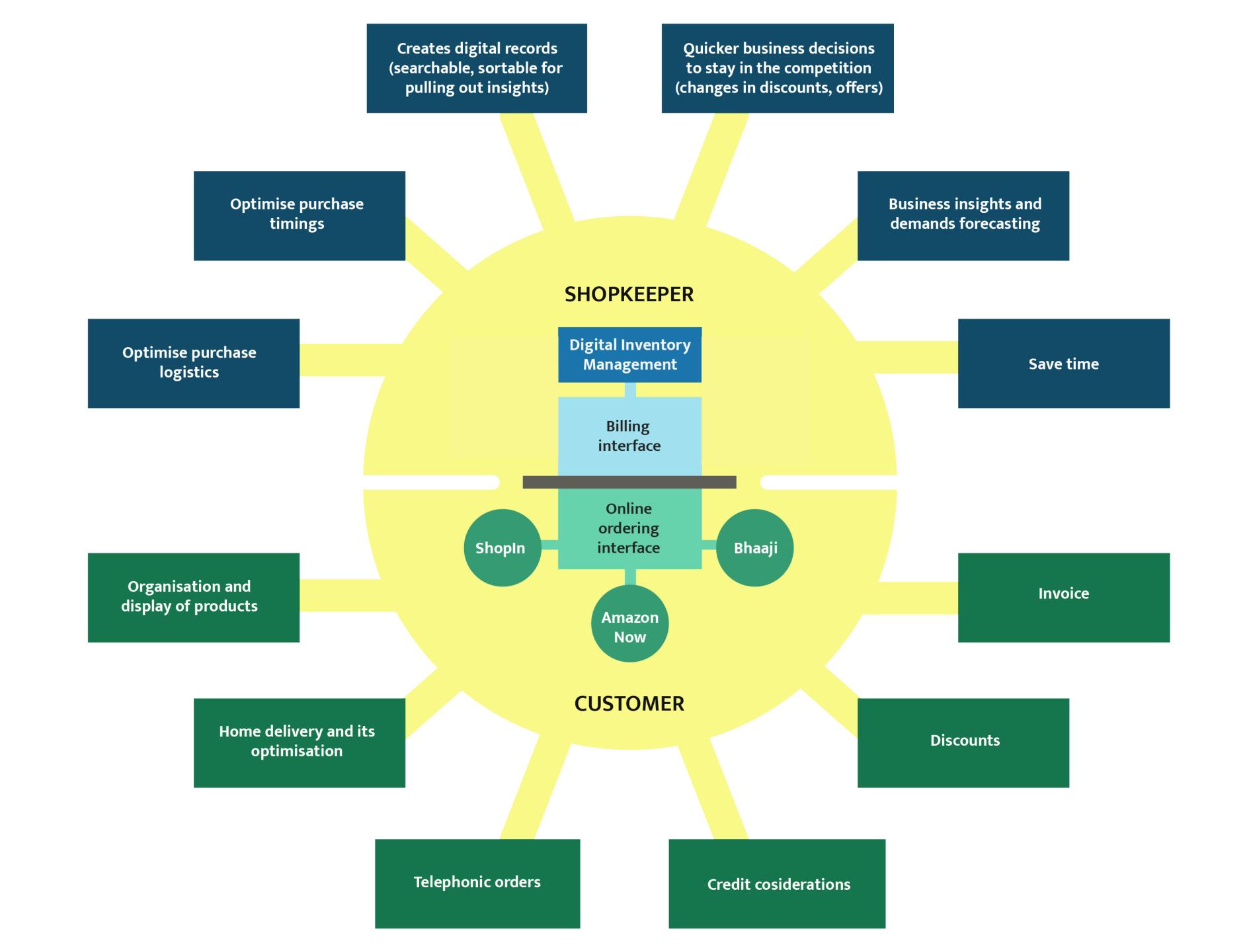


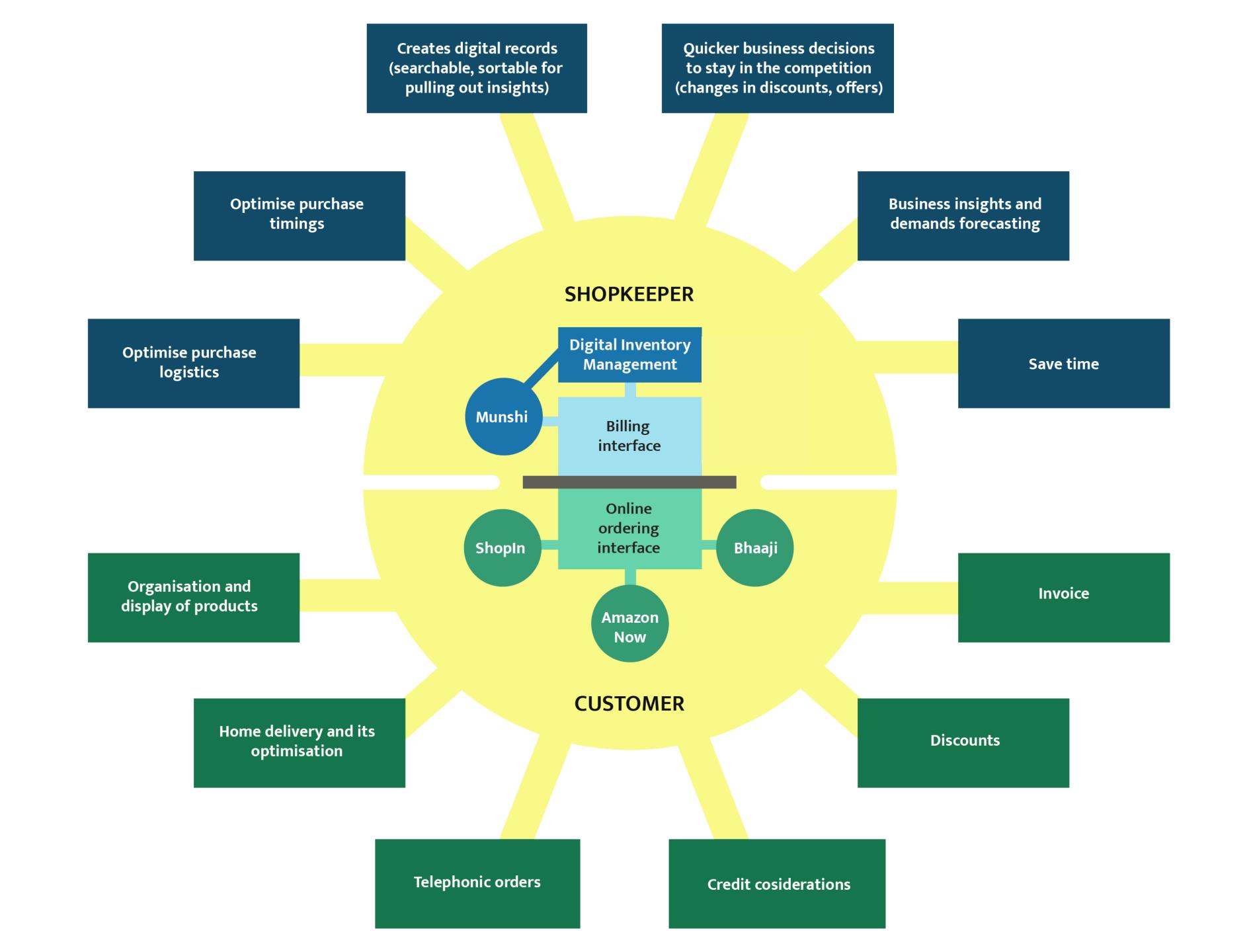
How sale of items sold loose (by weight) are handled in Snapbizz

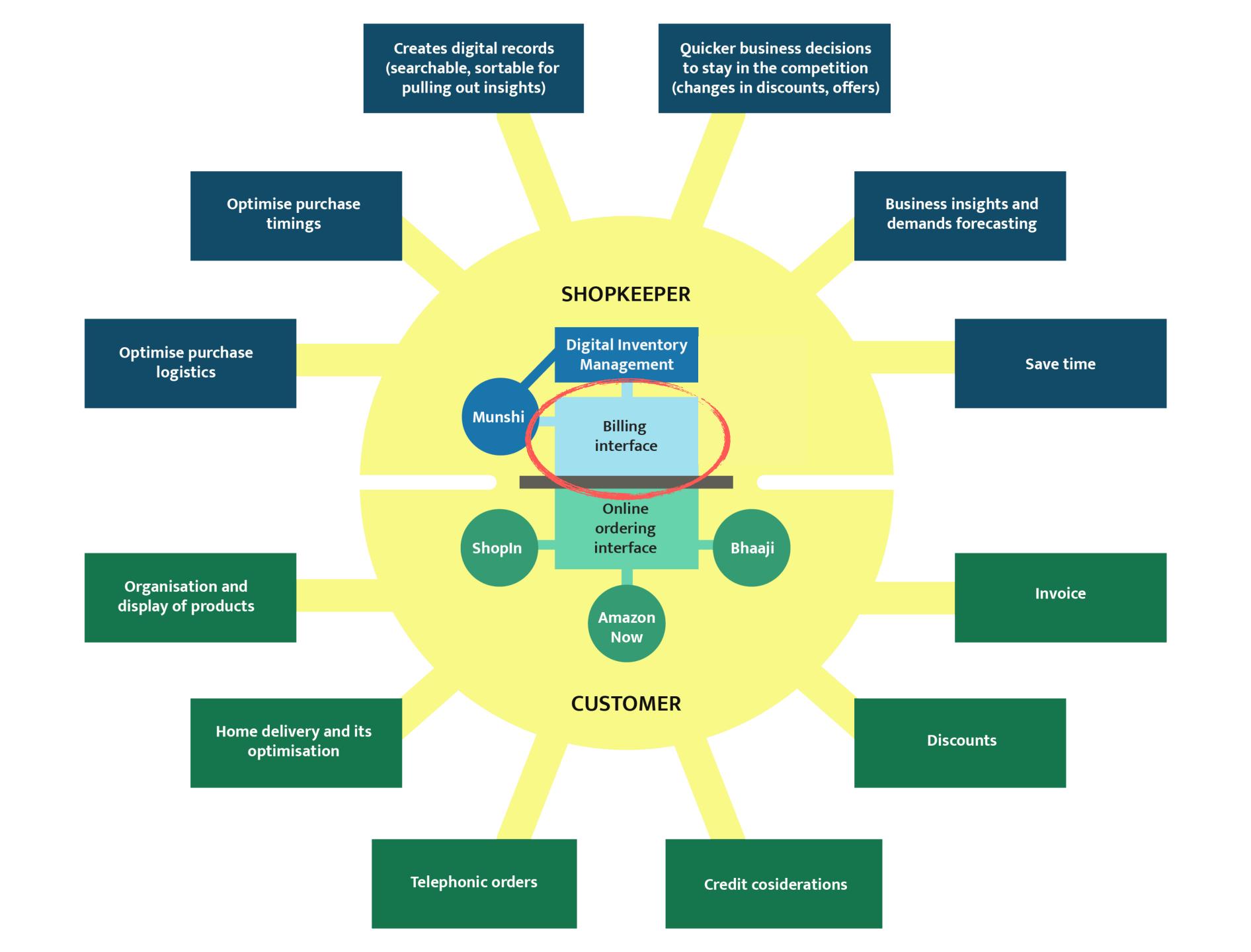


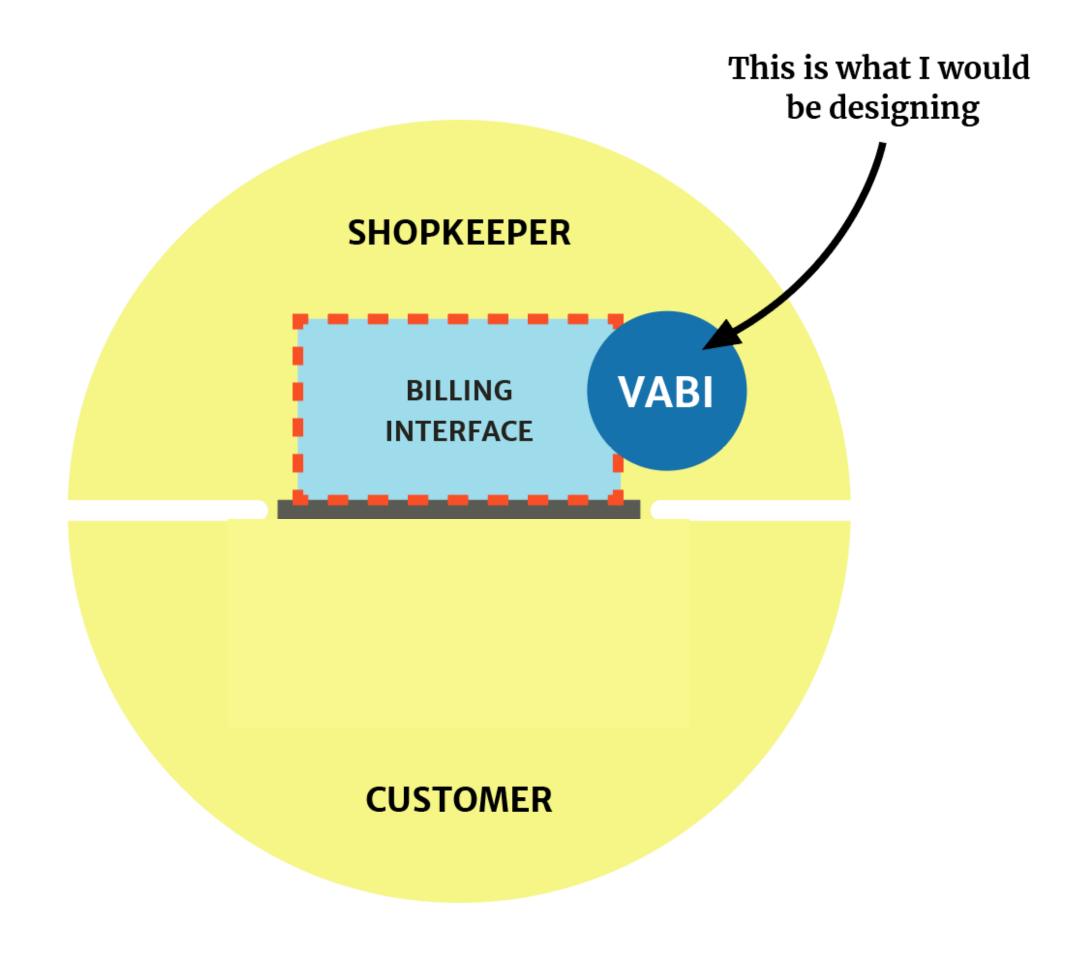




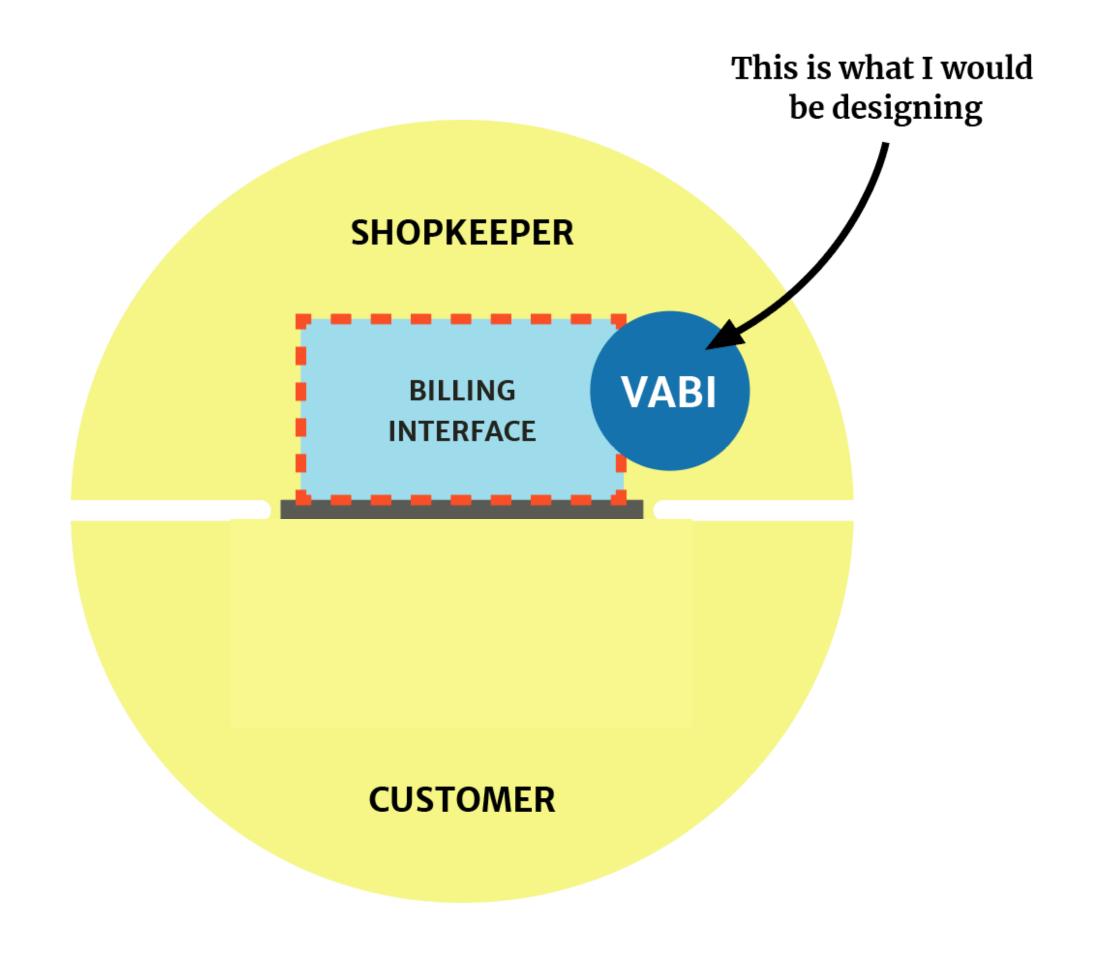








Voice Assisted Billing Interface (VABI)



Voice Assisted Billing Interface (VABI)



Why voice?

- 1. Speed
- 2. Handsfree
- 3. Does not restrict mobility
- 4. Better for directed tasks
- 5. Adoption and ease of use
- 6. Can be used for a public tasks to enhance transparency

Why touch?

- 1. Visual feedback is better in some cases
- 2. One tap can often save time spent in speaking out an entire voice command

Only voice

(Wake word), 4 kg आटा जोड़ दो

आटा 4 प्रकार में उपलब्ध है

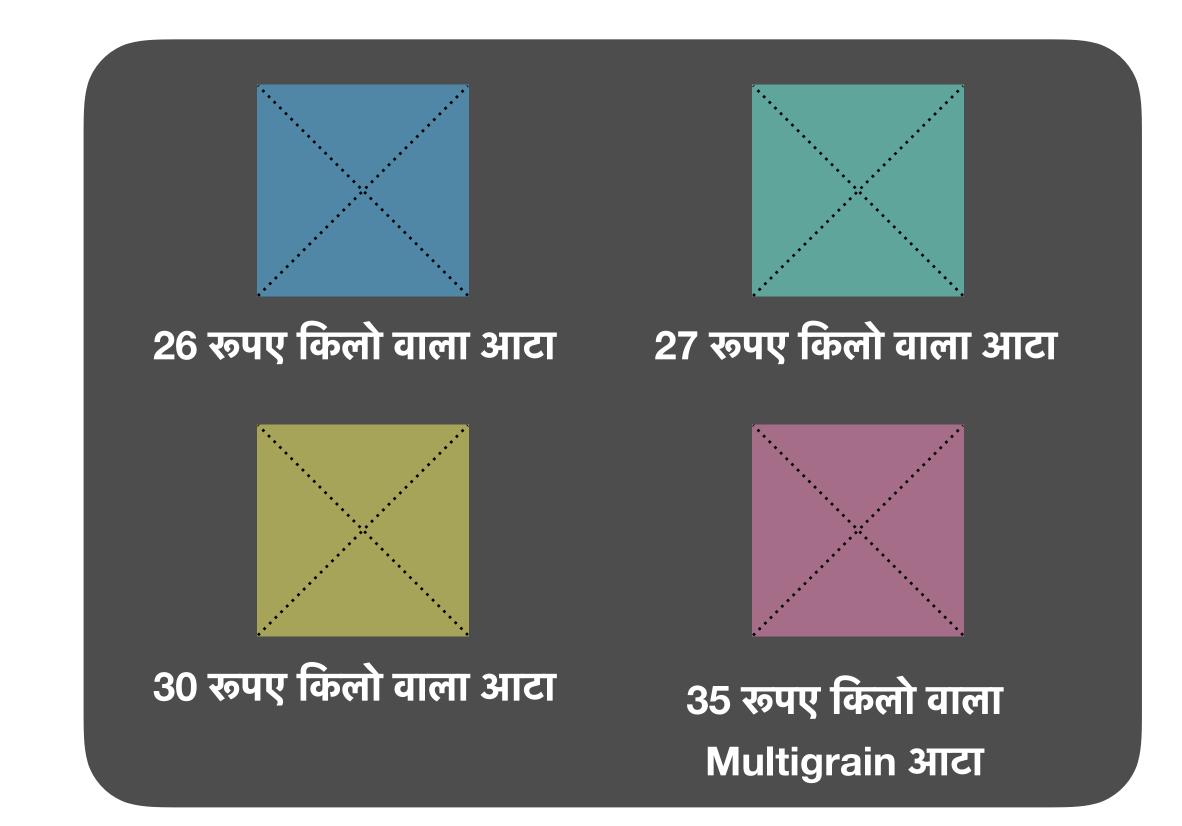
- 26 रूपए किलो वाला आटा
- 27 रूपए किलो वाला आटा
- 30 रूपए किलो वाला आटा
- 35 रूपए किलो वाला Multigrain आटा

कृपया चयन करें

voice + touch

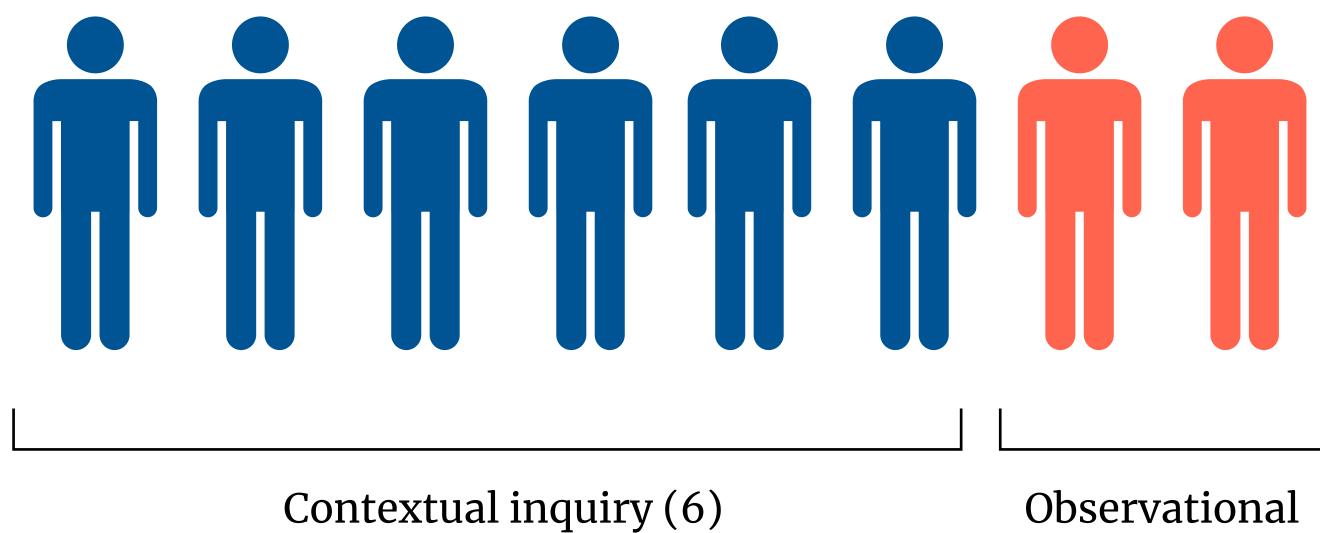
(Wake word), 4 kg आटा जोड़ दो

आटा के प्रकार का चयन करें

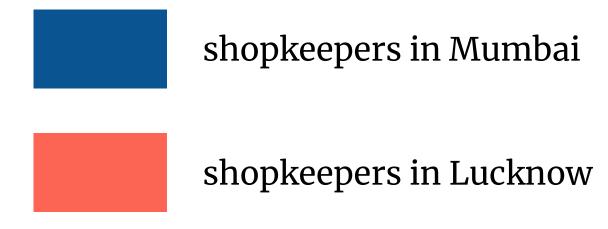


Primary Research

User Studies

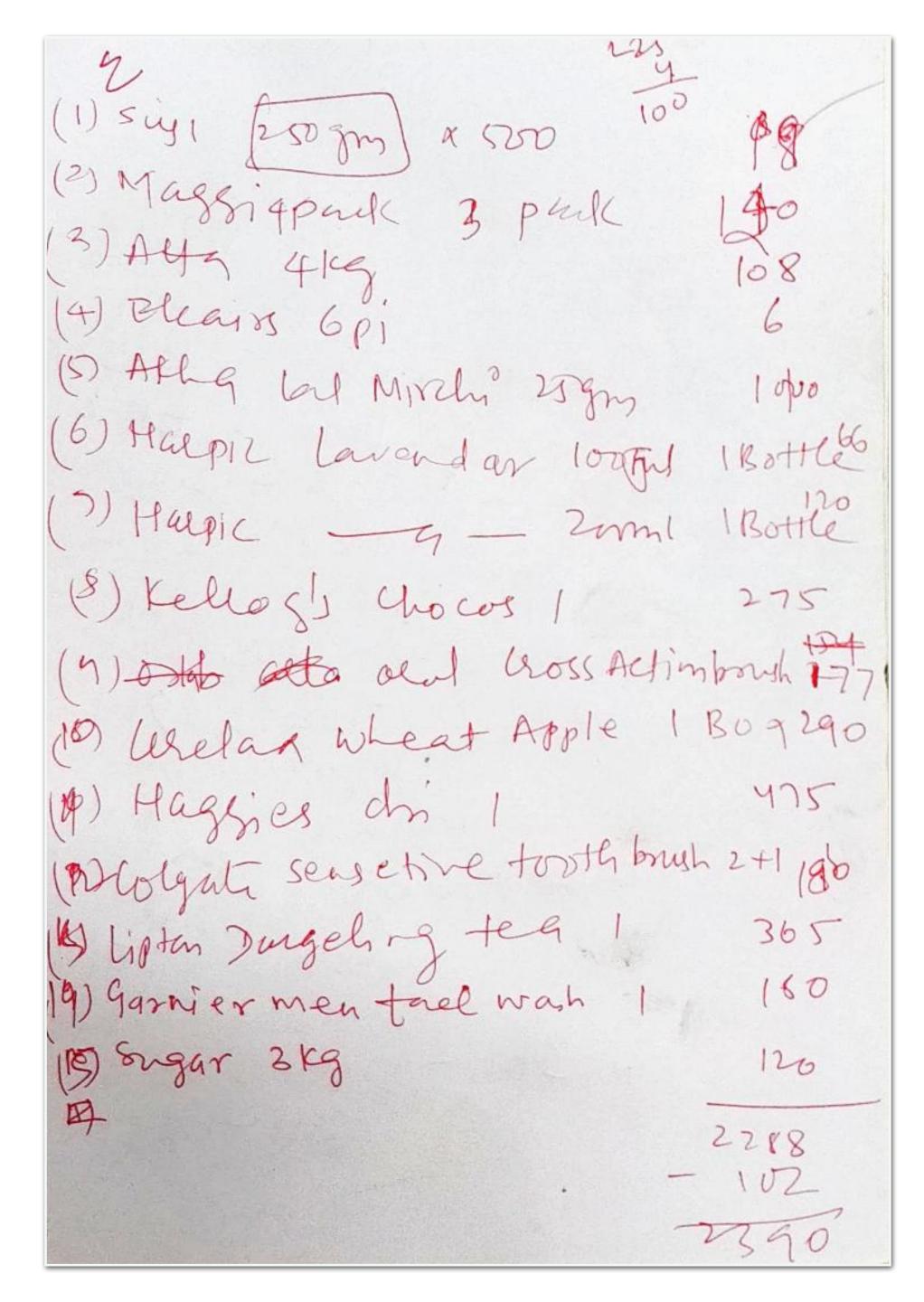


studies (2)



Findings regarding billing issues

- 1. Bills are created on pieces of paper.
- 2. A customer complained, "it appears as coded as a doctor's prescription."
- 3. A shopkeeper claimed to be able to recite the tables till 20 in reverse, as he had been making such bills for the past ten years.
- 4. Manual calculation of long bills (having more than 7–8 items) takes more time as they are verified twice to prevent any calculation errors.
- 5. A shopkeeper said, "By the time I punch in the numbers (on the calculator), I would have done it in my head."



Design Goals

Functional goals

- 1. Automatic calculation
- 2. Printable format
- 3. Multiple bill creation simultaneously
- 4. Editing of bills

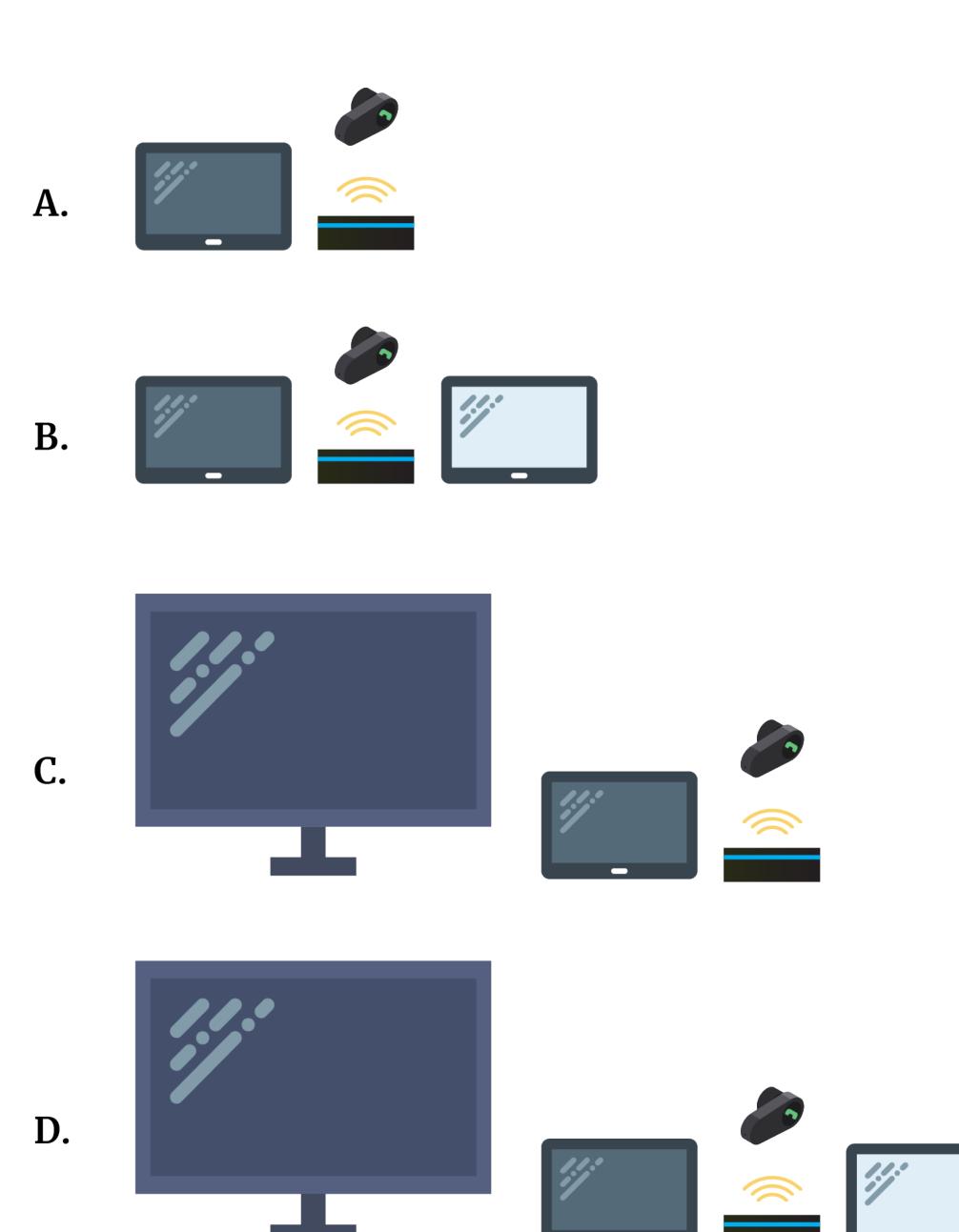
UX goals

- 1. As fast (if not faster) than manual billing
- 2. Multitasking
- 3. Longer-range of distances (say 5 metres)
- 4. Feedback
- 5. Low learning curve
- 6. Maximising information, and enhancing transparency



Hardware Setup for VABI

- (A.) Tablet + Smart speaker housing voice assistant+ wireless Bluetooth headset,
- (B.) Tablet + Mirrored display + Smart speaker housing voice assistant + wireless Bluetooth headset
- (C.) Tablet + 24" monitor screen + Smart speaker housing voice assistant + wireless Bluetooth headset
- (D.) Tablet + 24" monitor screen + Mirrored display + Smart speaker housing voice assistant + wireless Bluetooth headset



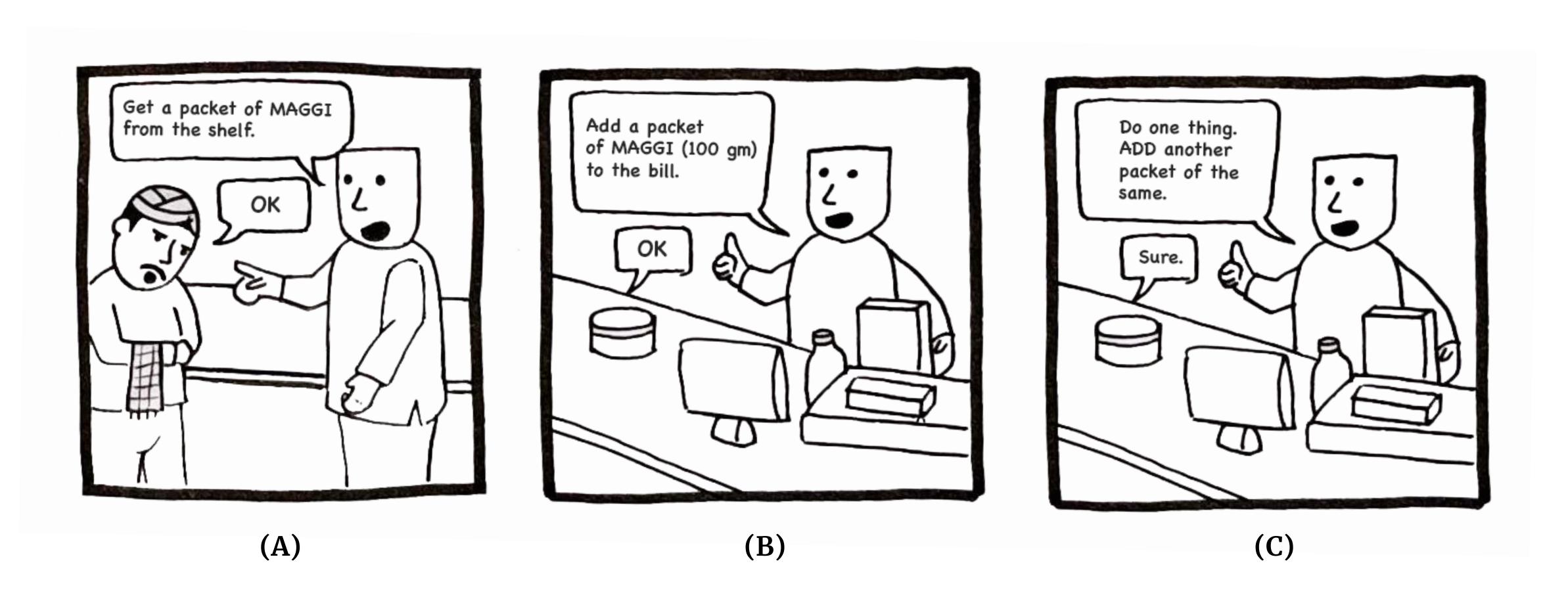
Issues in Voice UI Design

Conversational voice assistant

VS

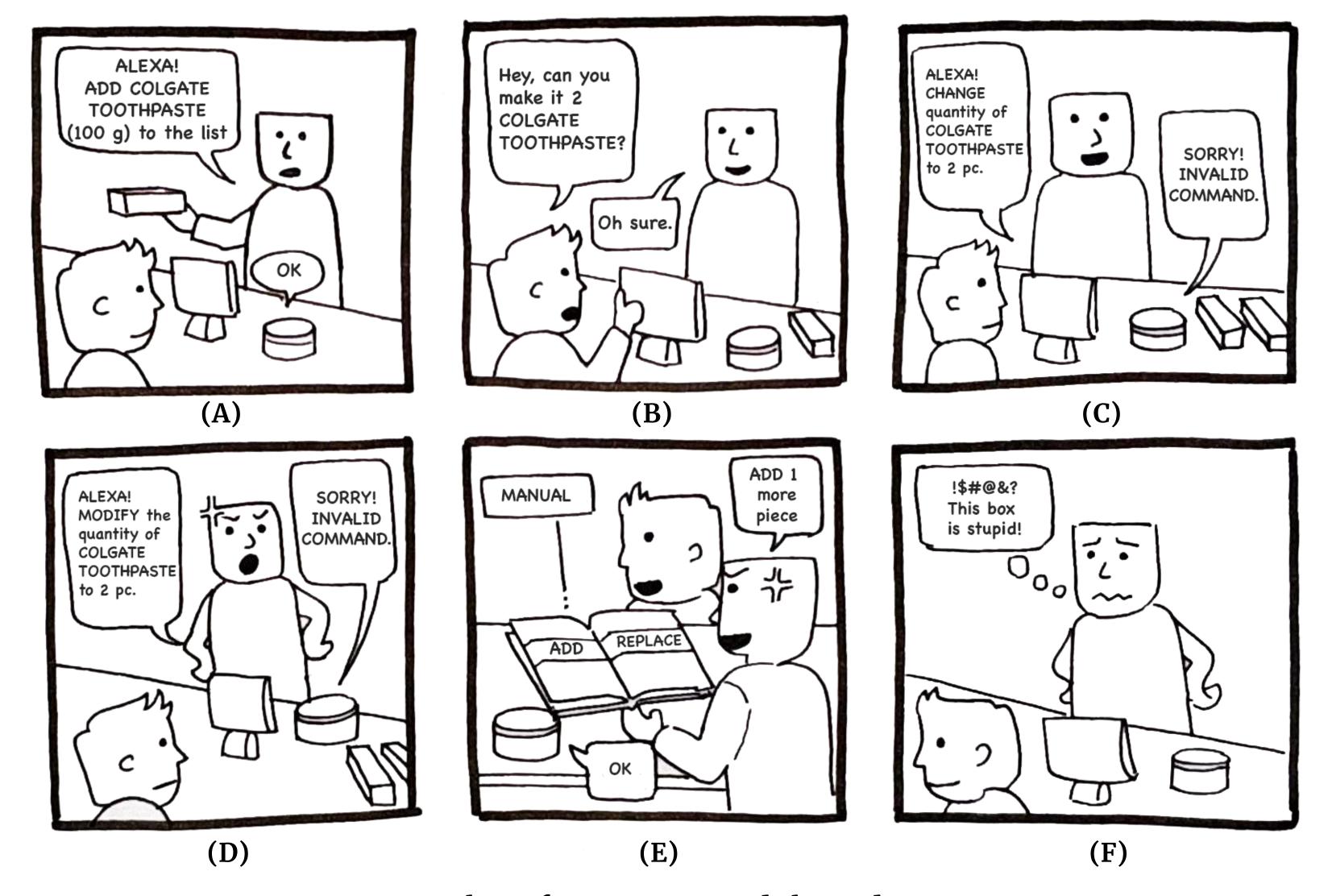
Set-command based VUI

Conversational voice-assistant



Conversational Voice Assistant would be the ideal thing

Set-command VUI



Hassles of set command-based VUI

Conversational voice-assistant

VS

Set-command VUI

1. Do not need to remember command syntax

1. Need to remember command syntax

2. Prone to more errors (47% accuracy)

2. Prone to less errors (*speculation*) as shorter commands have greater accuracy rates (55% accuracy)

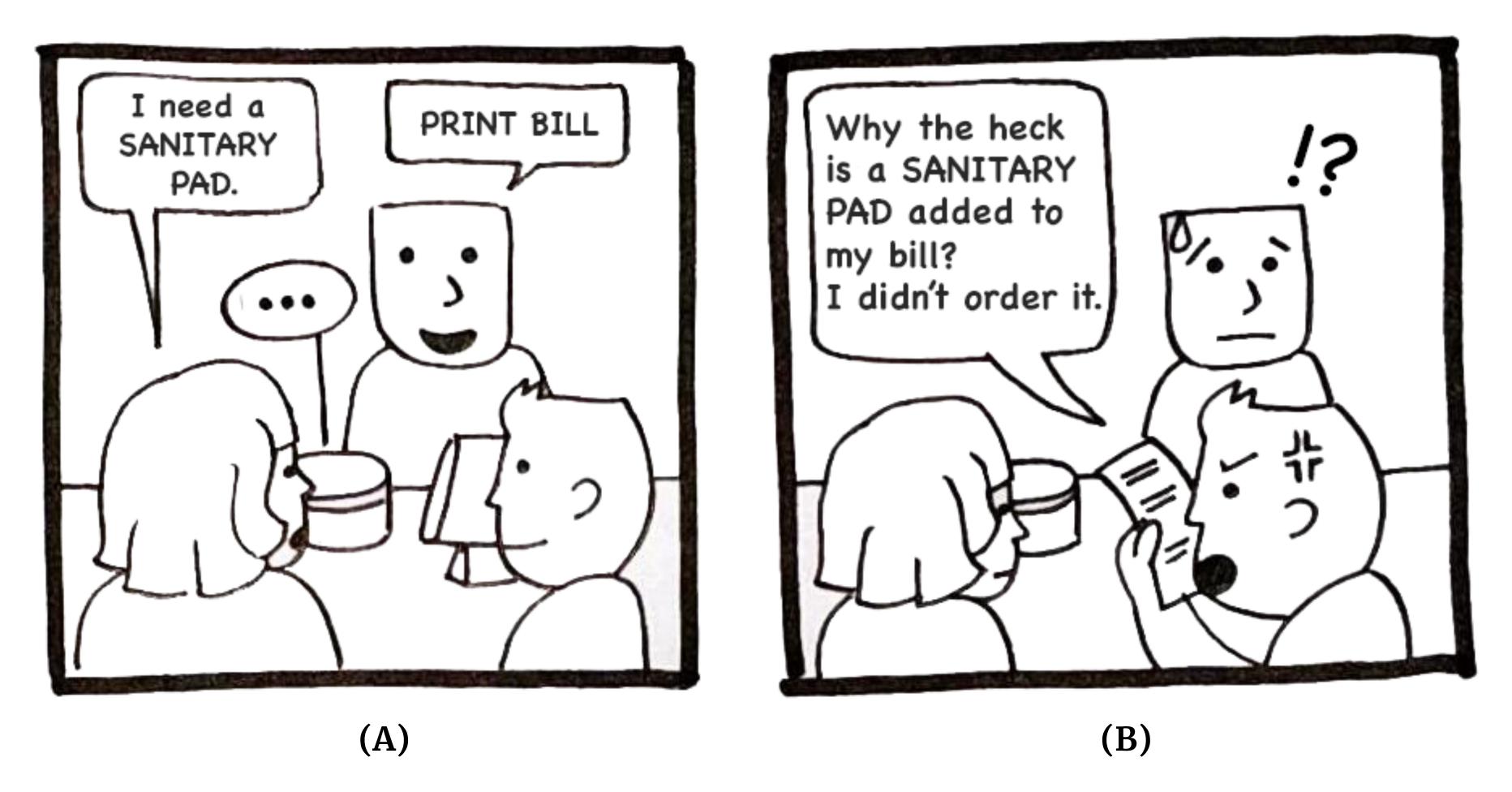
3. Not feasible with present voice-recognition technology

3. Feasible with present voice- recognition technology



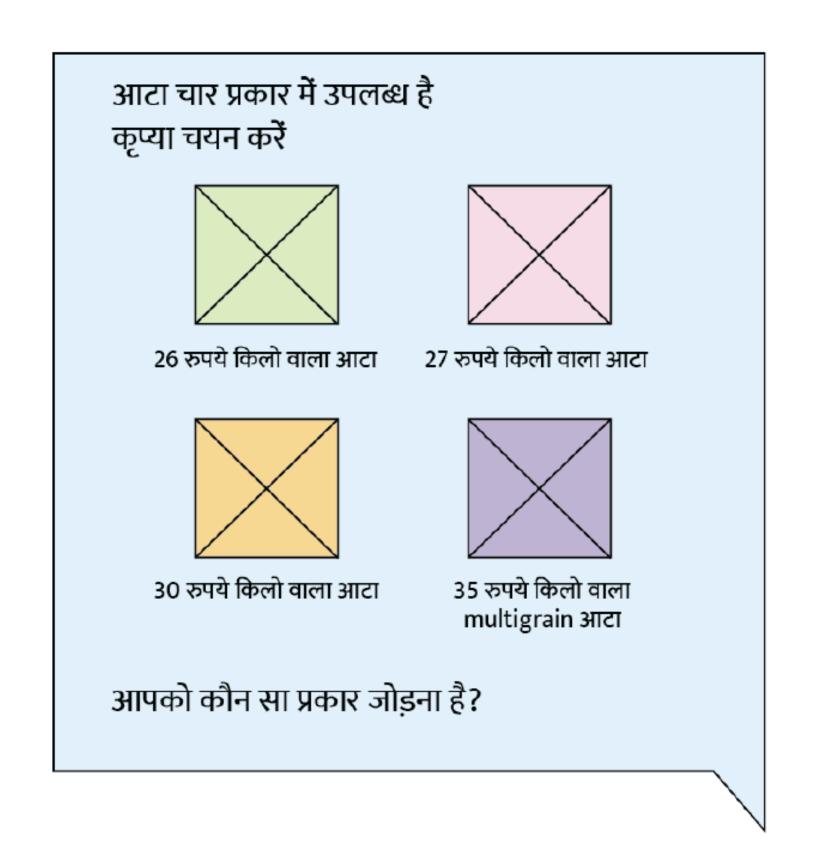
would be discussed in the evaluation section

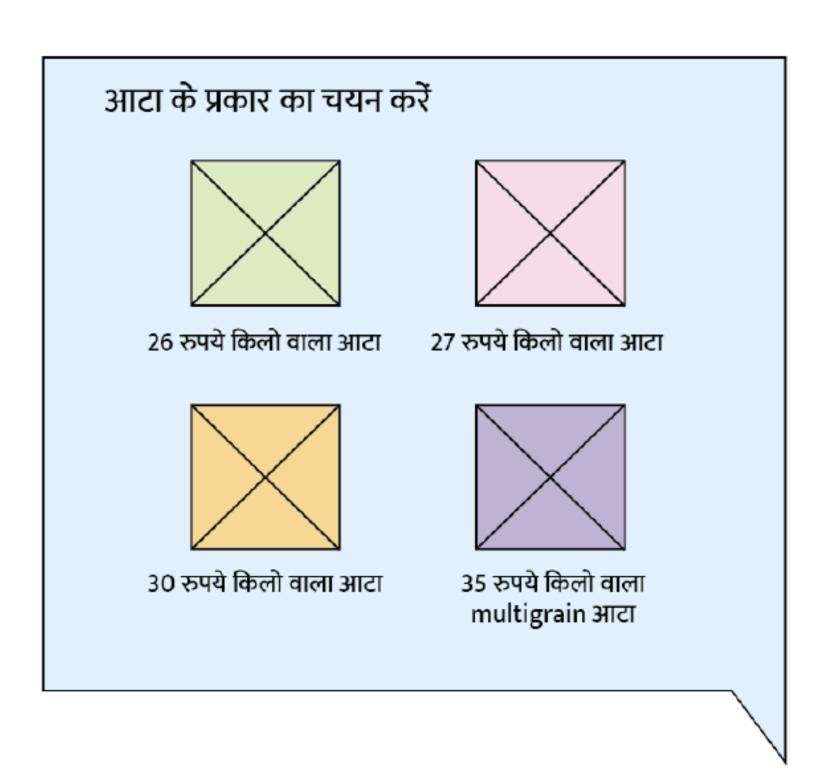
Control of operation



What might happen if the customers share the control

Level of Details and Speed of Feedback





3x 2x 1x

More Detailed Less Detailed Speed of speech



Confirmation and Disambiguation: validated

Shopkeeper: "एक हगीज"

VUI: "हगीज डायपर्स, एक पीस"

Shopkeeper: "तीन पीस हार्पिक लेवेंडर सौ एमएल"

VUI: "हार्पिक लेवेंडर सौ एमएल, तीन पीस"

Implicit confirmation

Confirmation and Disambiguation: validated

Shopkeeper: "गार्नियर मेन पाँवरव्हाइट"

VUI: "गार्नियर मेन पाँवरव्हाइट का size बताइये"

Shopkeeper: "सी ग्राम"

VUI: "गार्नियर मेन पॉवरव्हाइट, सौ ग्राम, एक पीस"

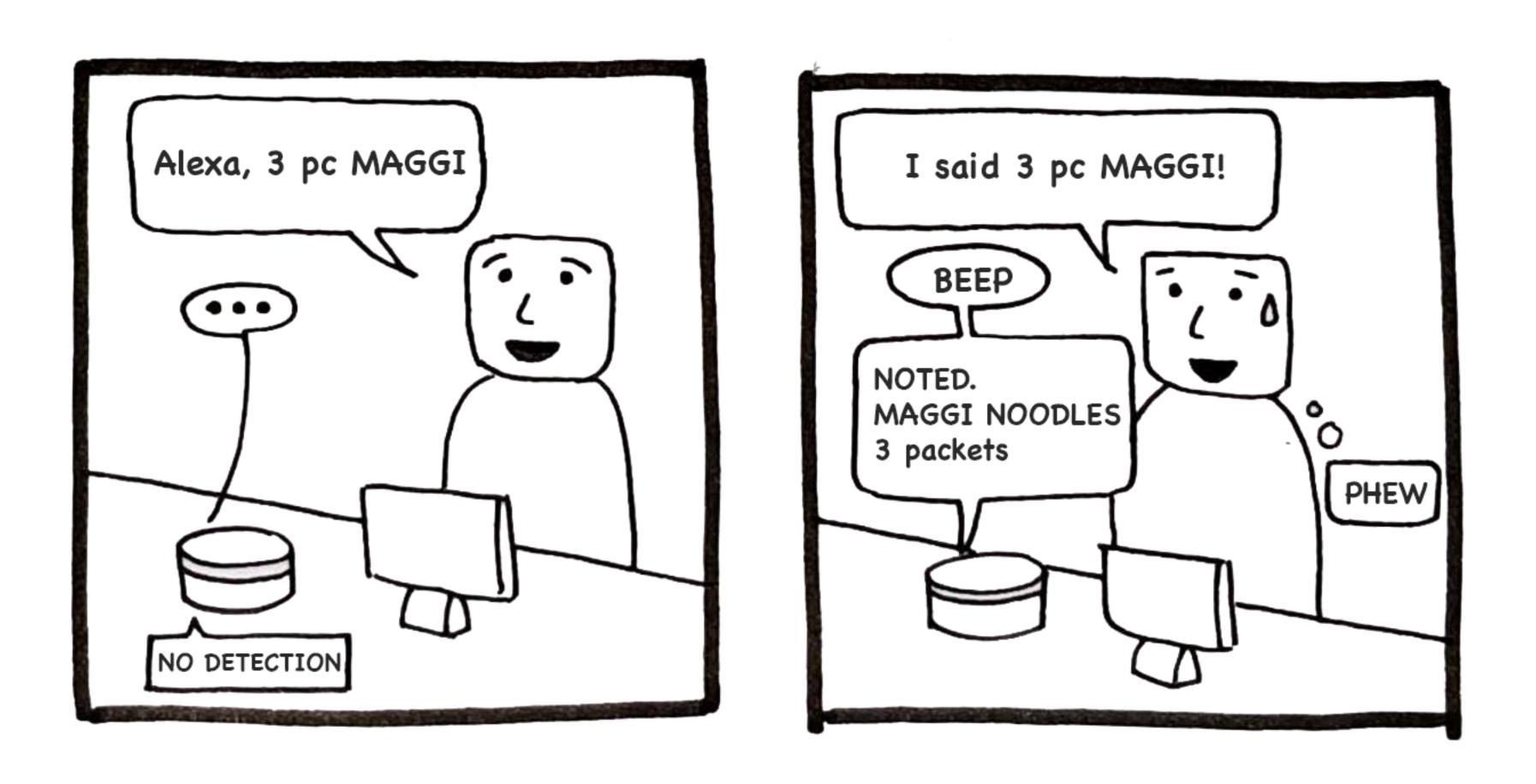
Explicit confirmation

Confirmation and Disambiguation

S.no.	Item name	Rate (₹)	Quantity	Price (₹)	
1	Sooji	36.00 /kg	500 g	18.00	
2	Maggi Noodles (pack of 4)	40.00 /pc	3 pc	120.00	
3	Aata	27.00 /kg	4 kg	108.00	
4	Eclairs	1.00 /pc	6 pc	6.00	
5	Sabut Lal Mirch	400.00 /kg	25.0 g	10.00	
6	Harpic Lavendar (100 ml)	66.00 /pc	1 pc	66.00	
	Total	6 items		₹ 328.00	

Non-speech confirmation

Handling of errors

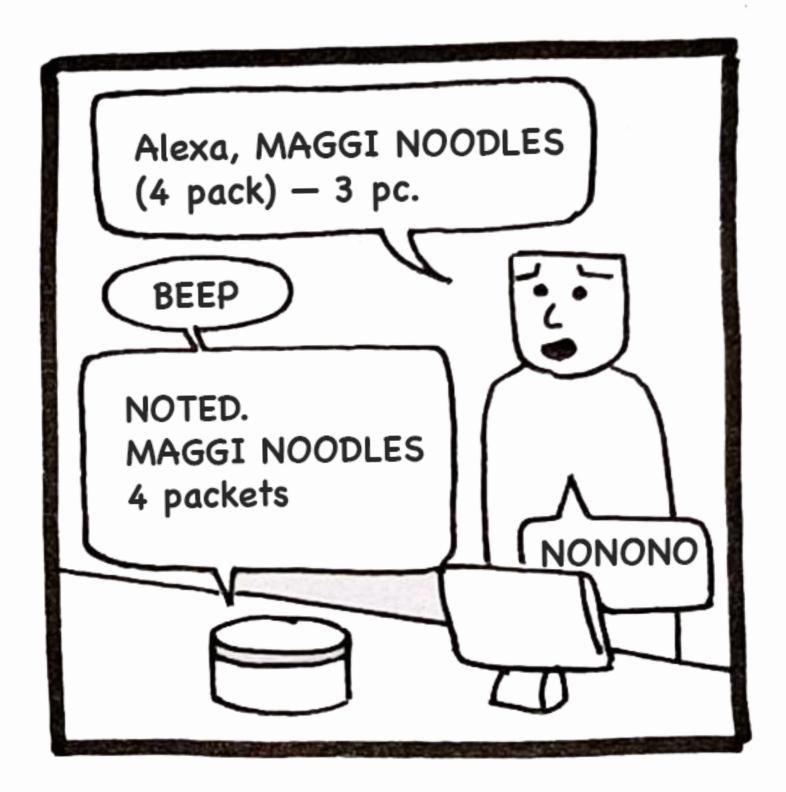


Case 1: No speech is detected

Handling of errors



Case 2: Speech detected, but nothing was recognised

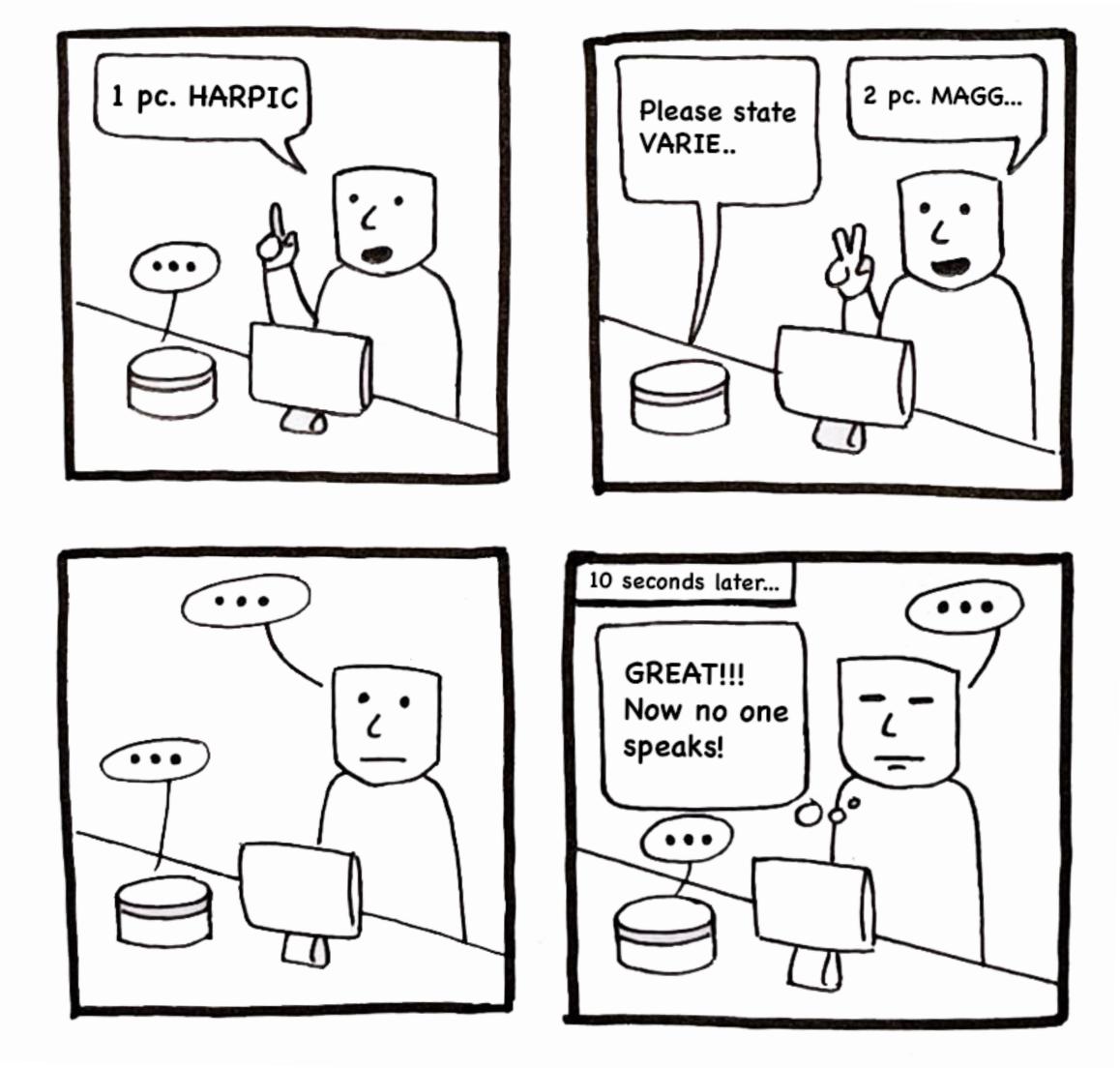


Case 3: Voice recognised correctly, but wrongly handled



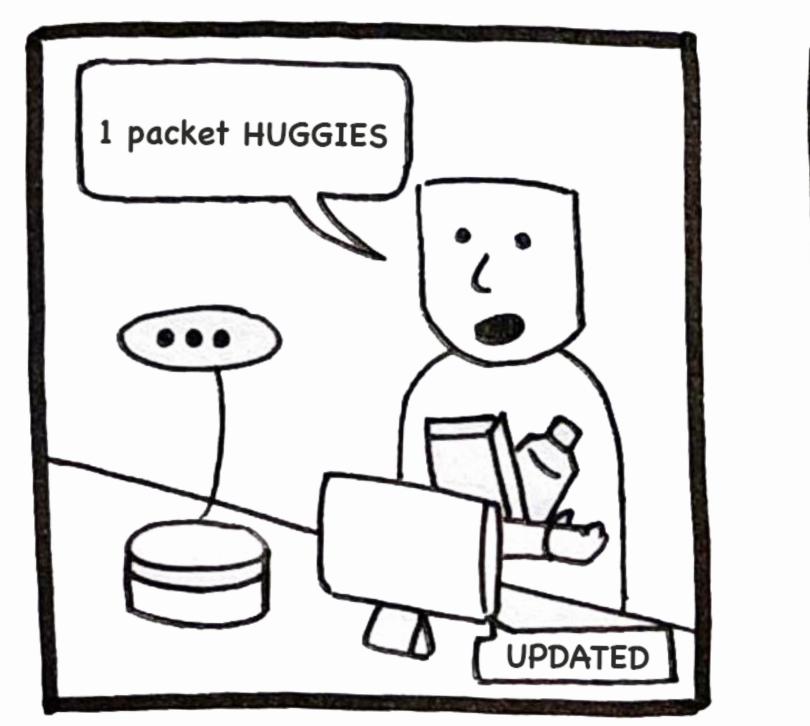
Case 4: Incorrect voice recognition

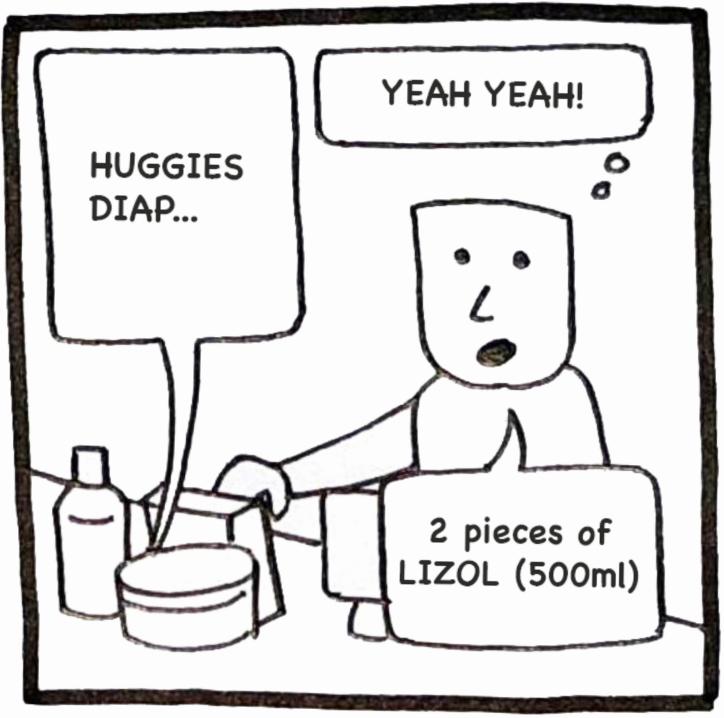
Interruptions

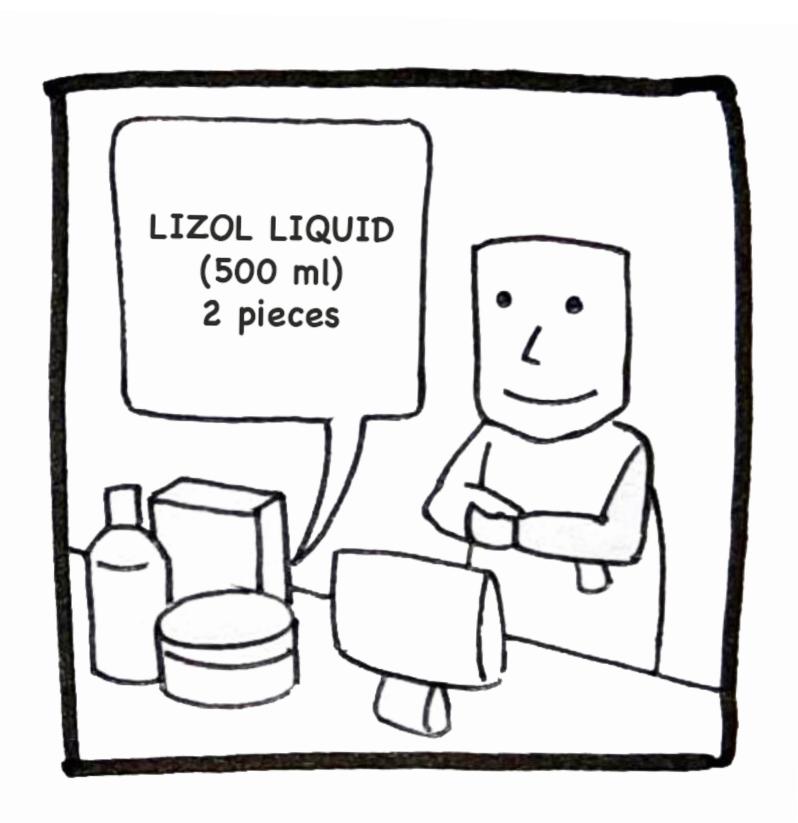


Case 1: Accidental interruptions

Interruptions







Case 2: Barge-In

Interruptions

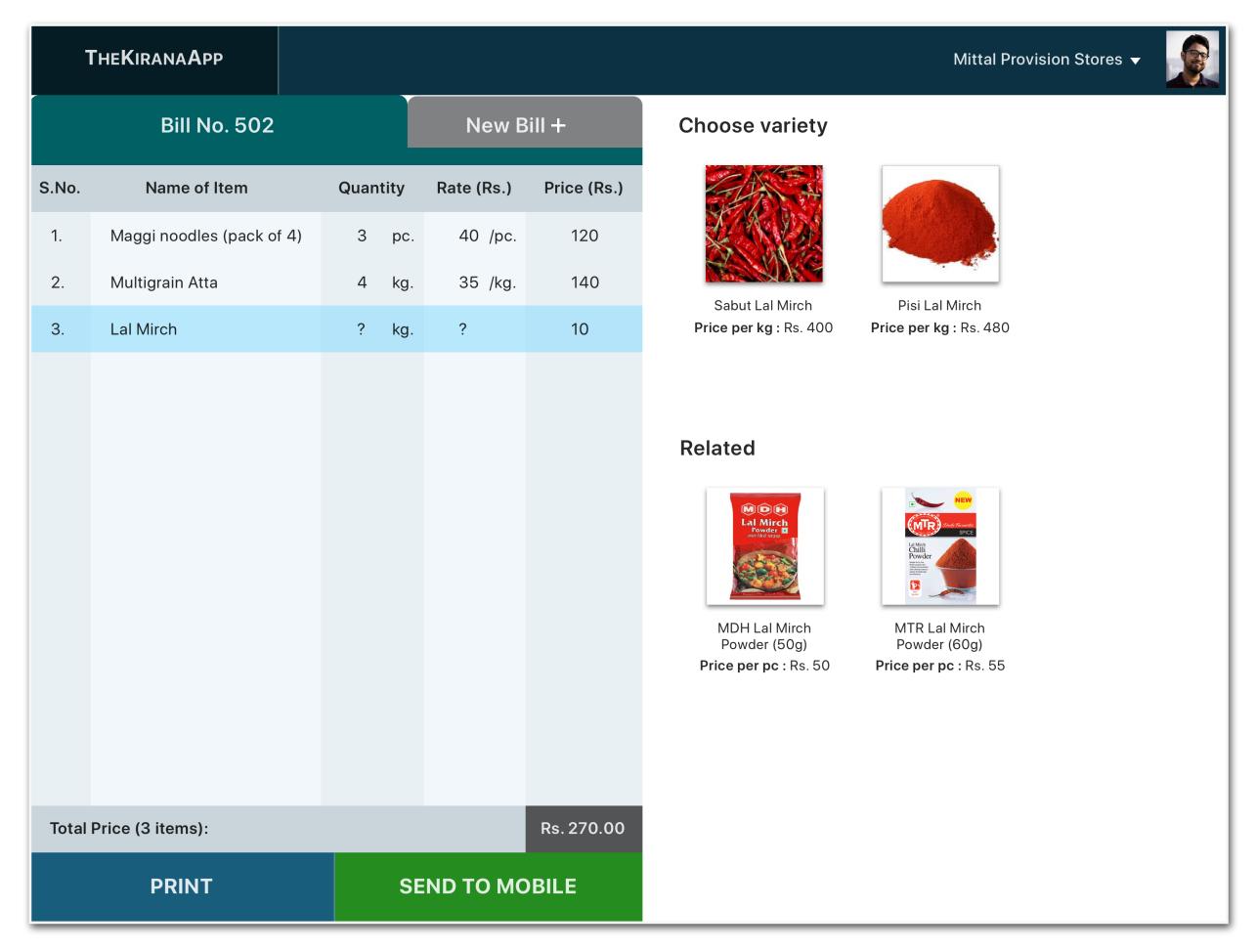


Case 3: Wrong prompt-design

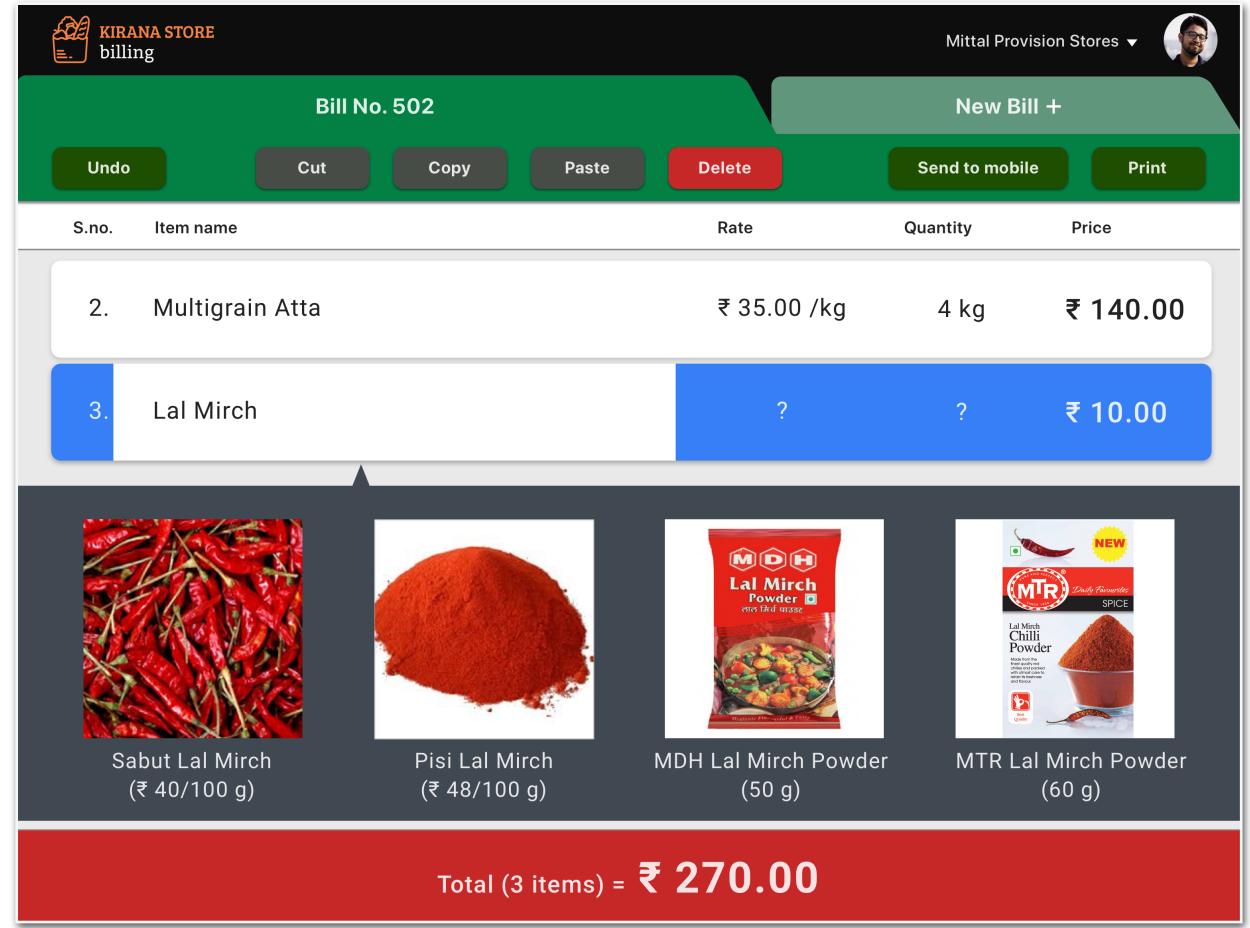
Issues in Screen UI Design

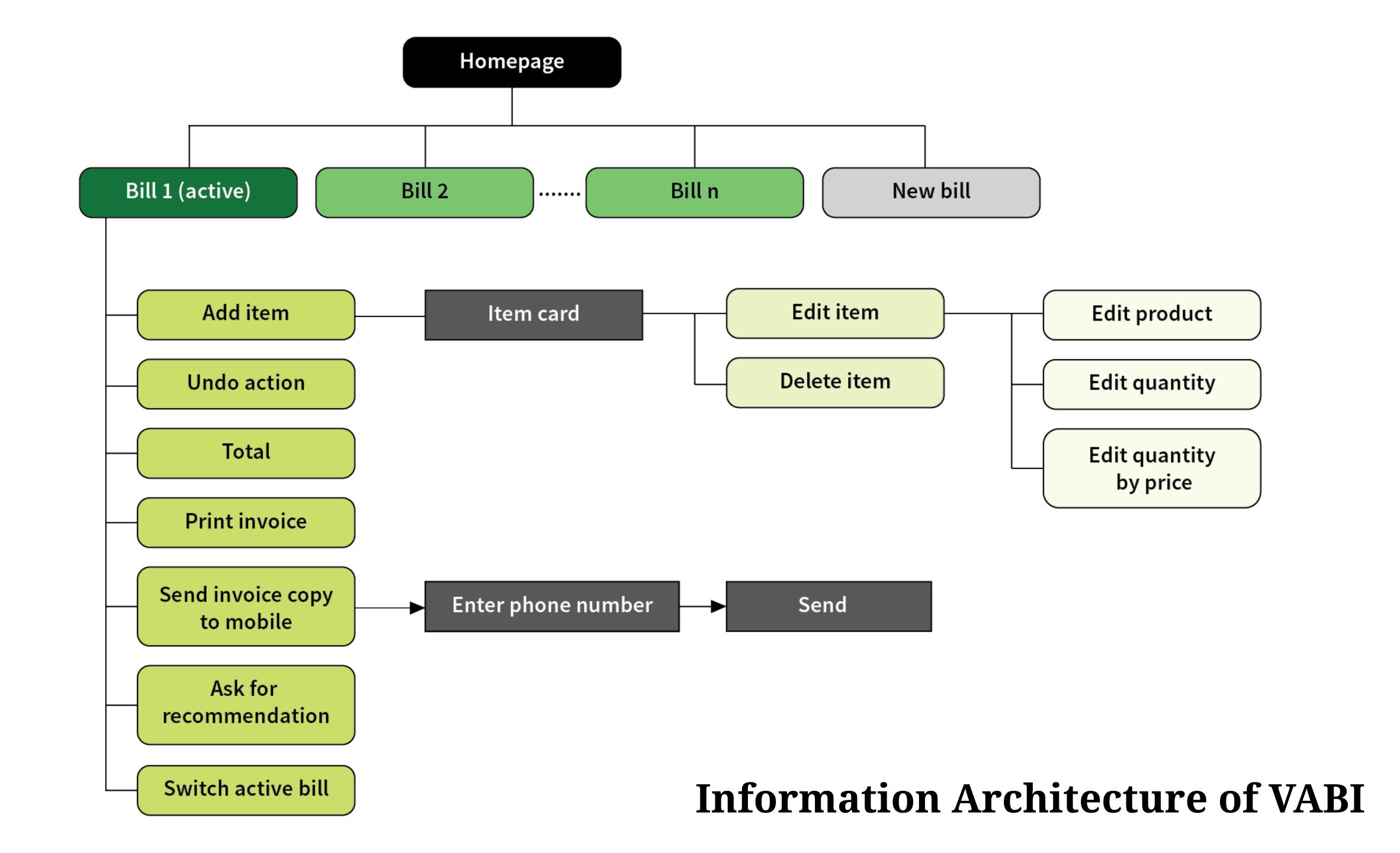
Disambiguation

version 1



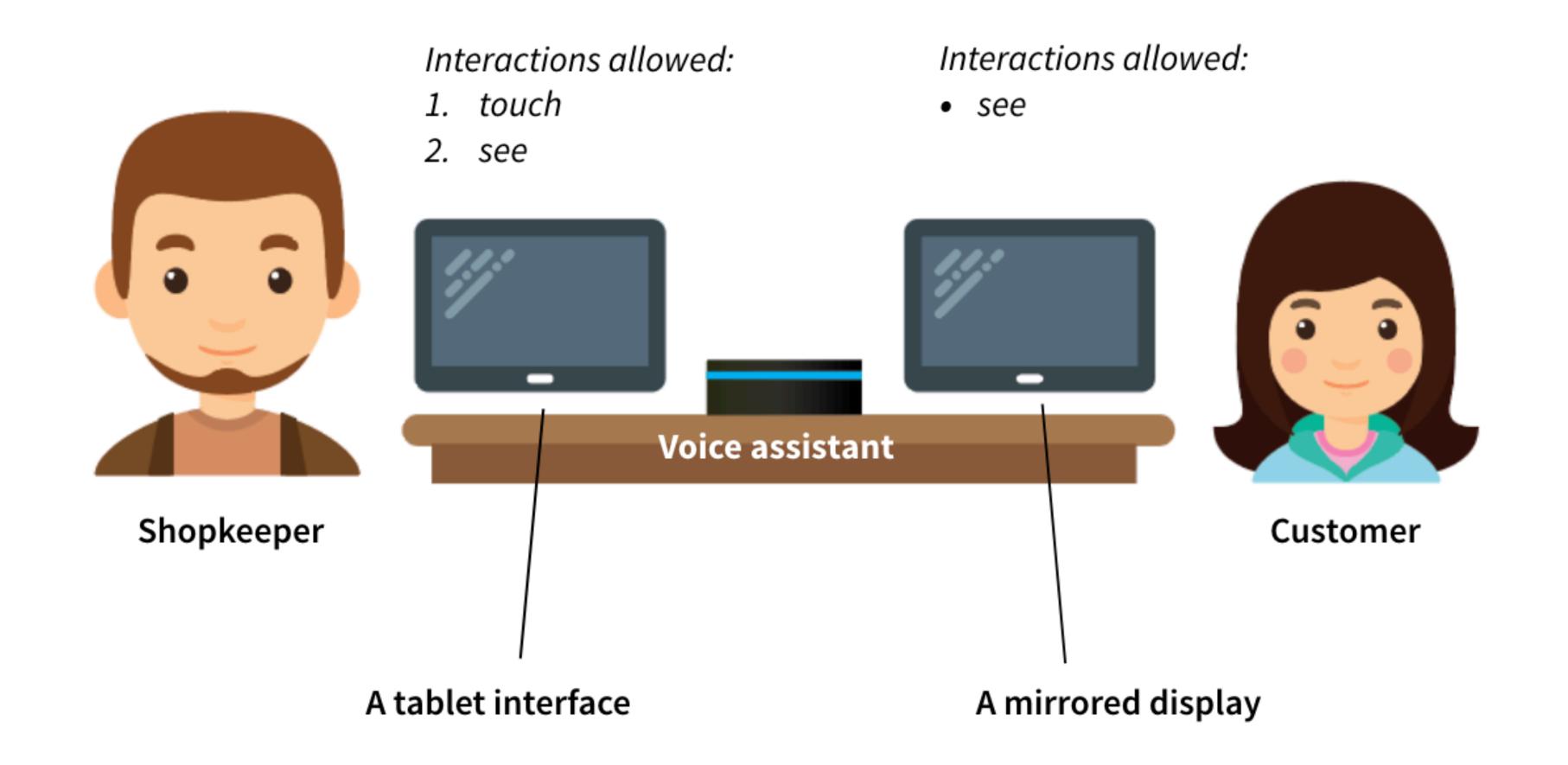
version 2





Design Explorations

Iteration 1





	Bill No. 502		New Bill +			
S.No.	Name of Item	Quantity	Rate (Rs.)	Price (Rs.)		
1.	Maggi noodles (pack of 4)	3 рс.	40 /pc.	120		

Selected



Maggi noodles (pack of 4) Price per pc : Rs. 40

Related



Maggi masala-emagic Price per pc : Rs. 3



Maggi soup- small (vegetable) Price per pc : Rs. 10



Maggi atta noodles

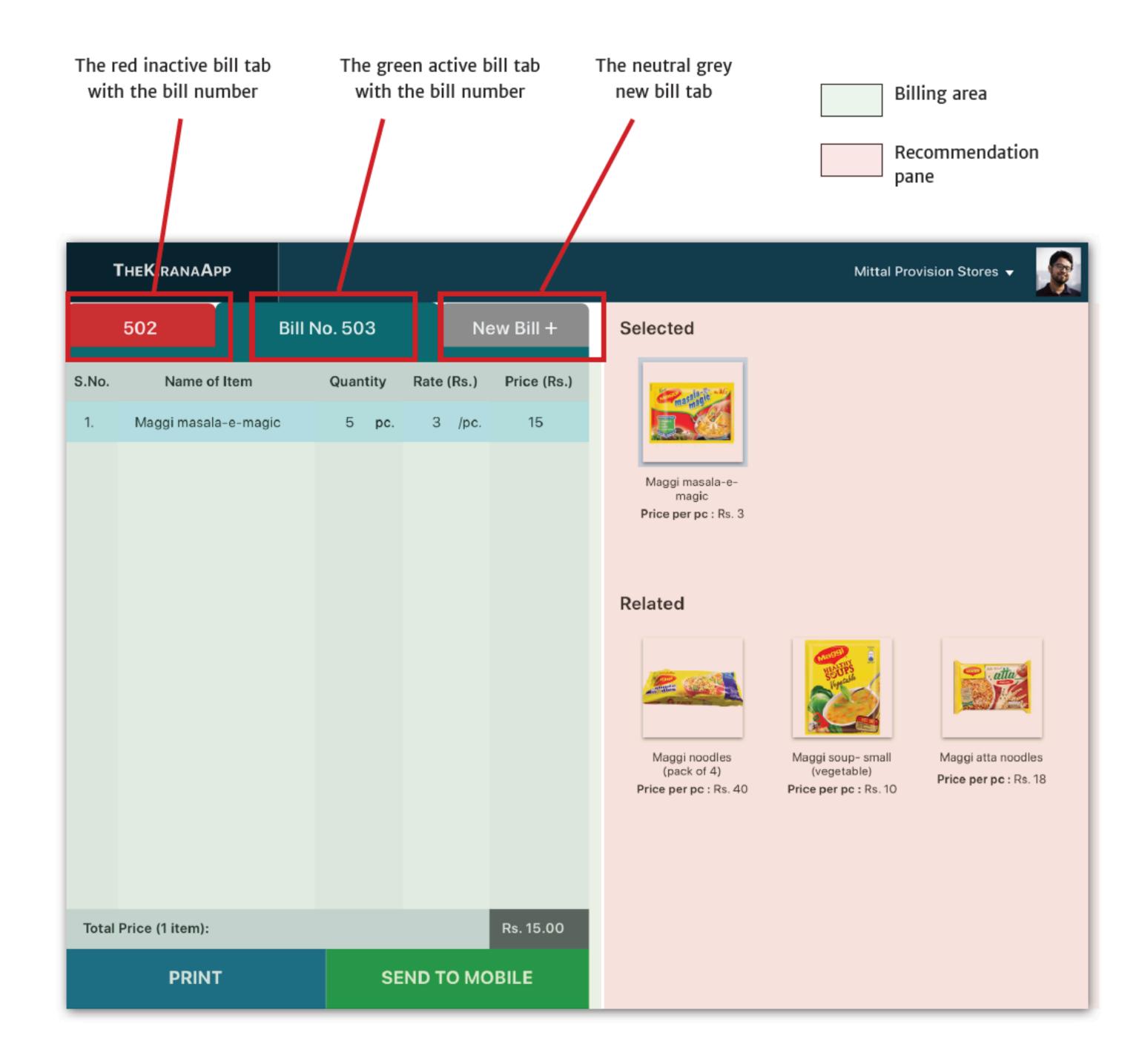
Price per pc : Rs. 18

Total Price (1 item):

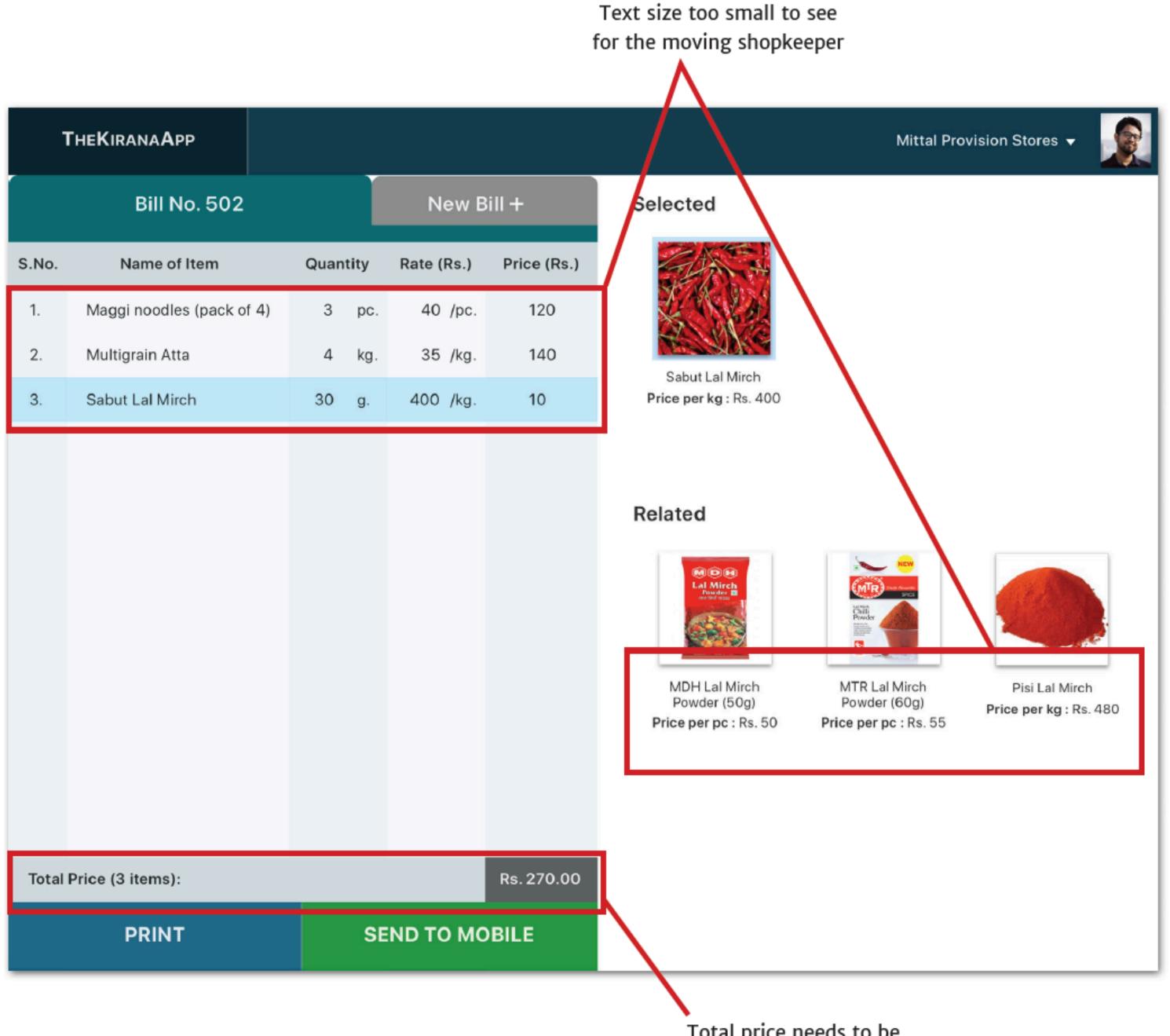
Rs. 120.00

PRINT

SEND TO MOBILE

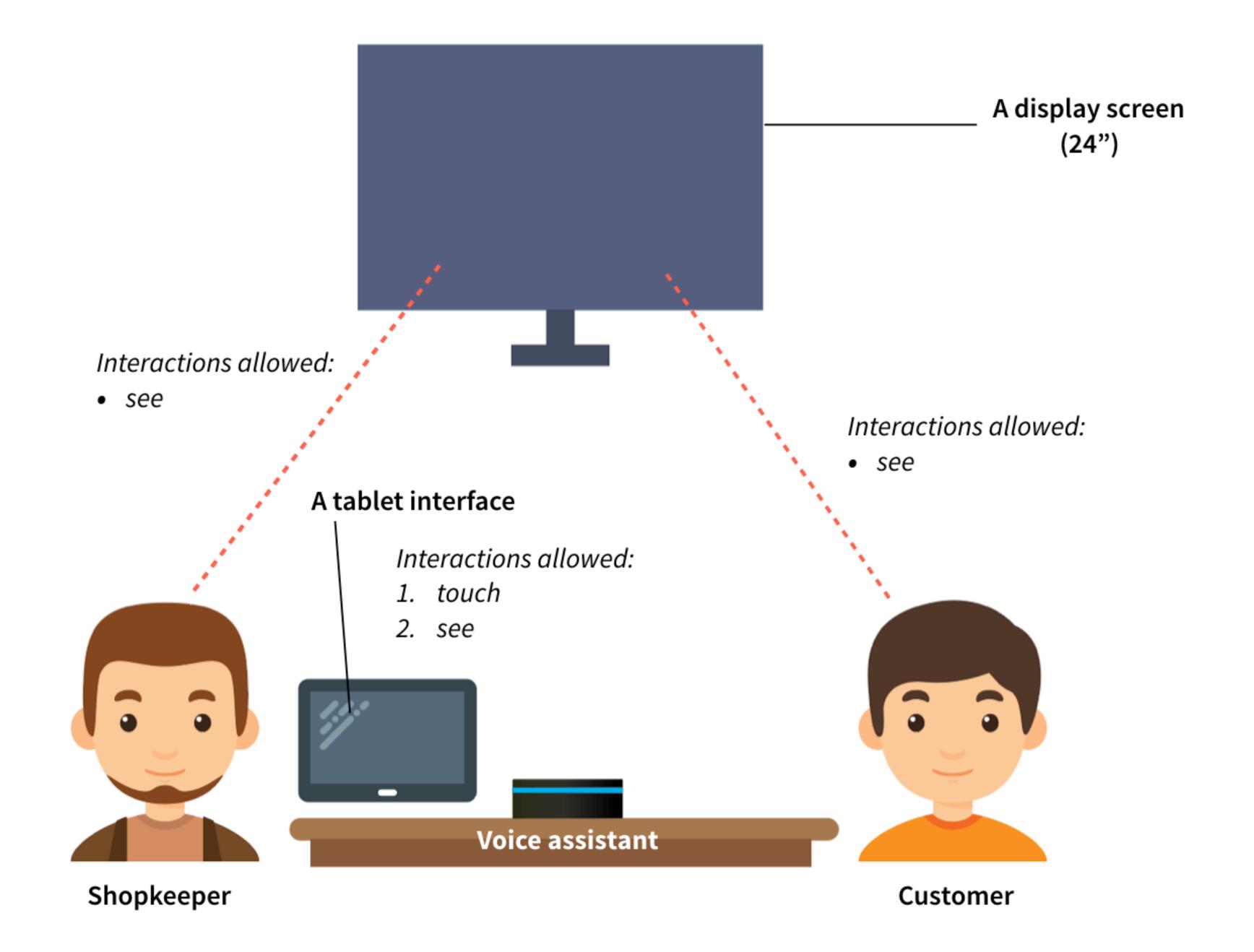


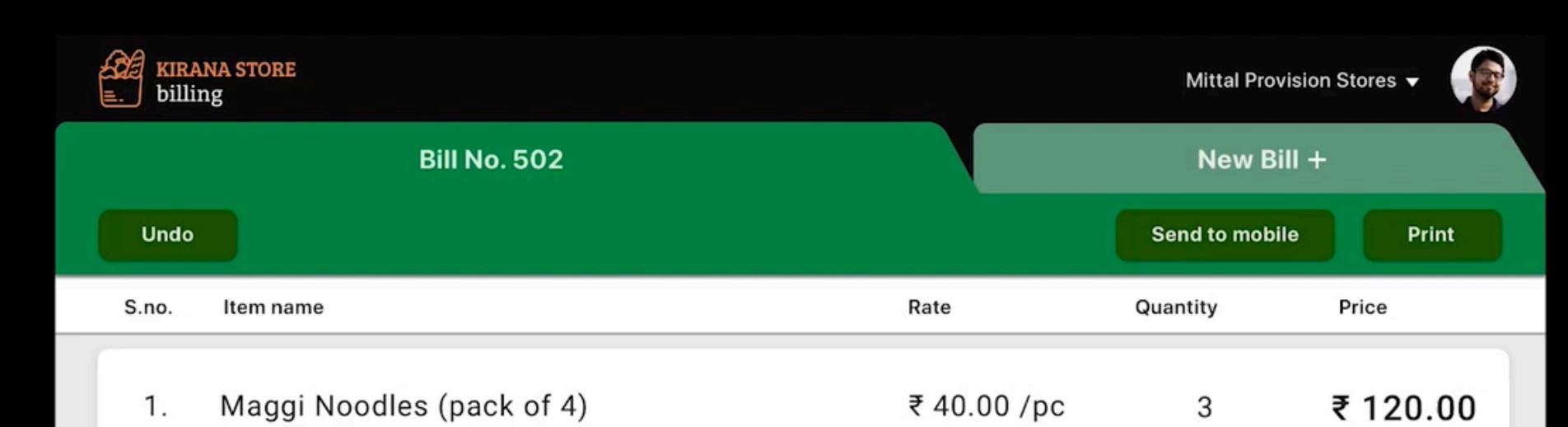
Limitations of Iteration 1



Total price needs to be highlighted

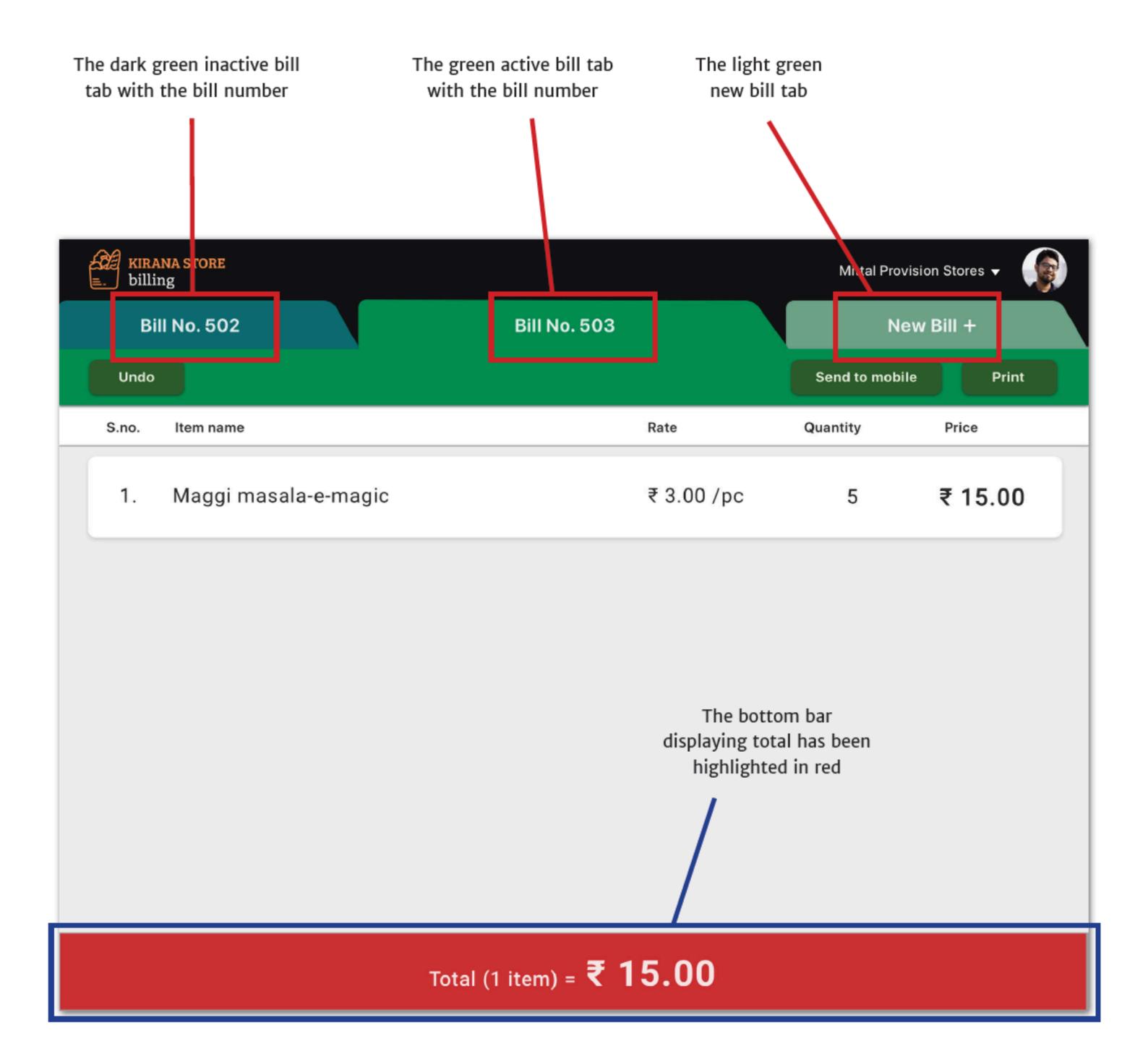
Iteration 2

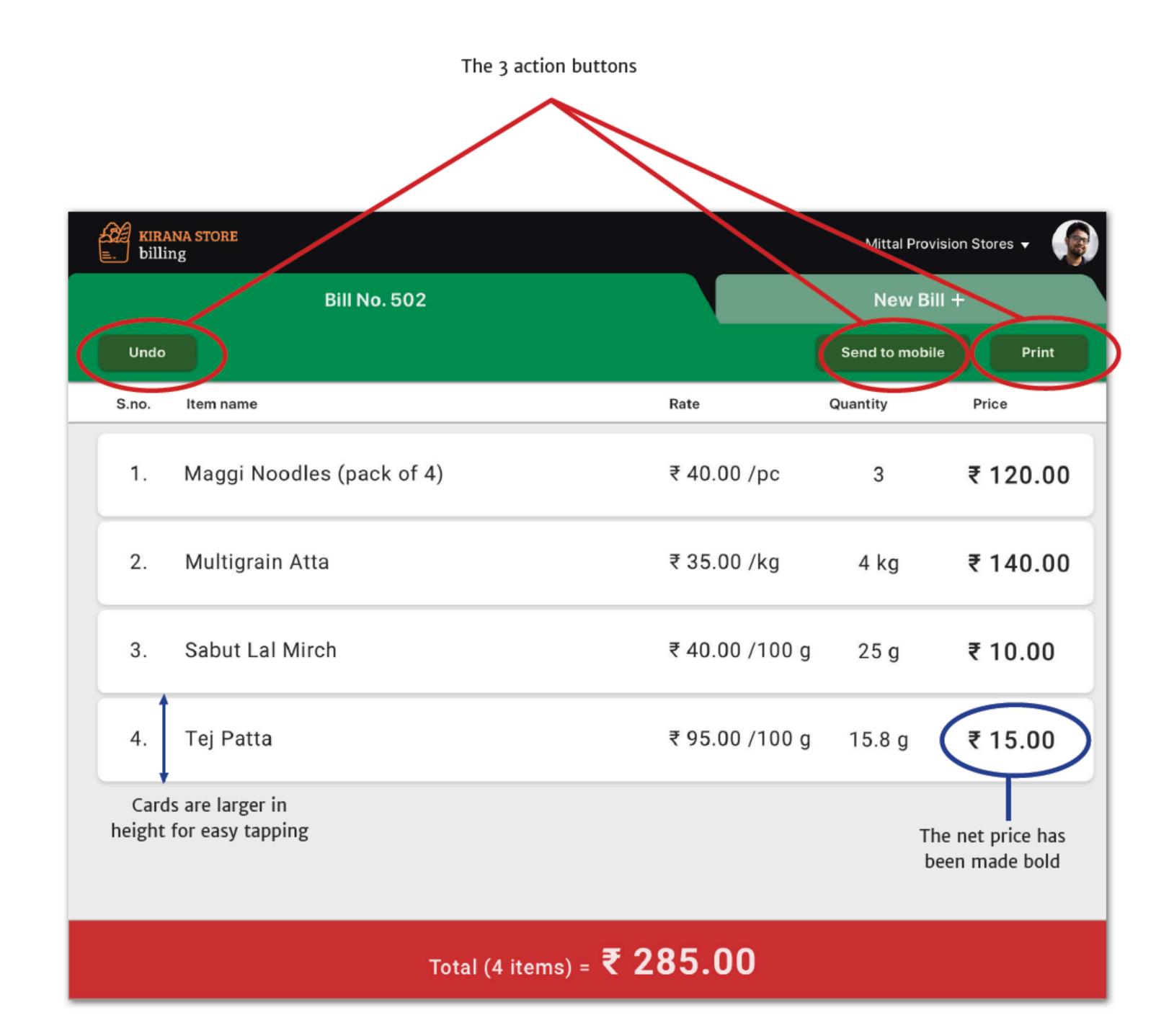


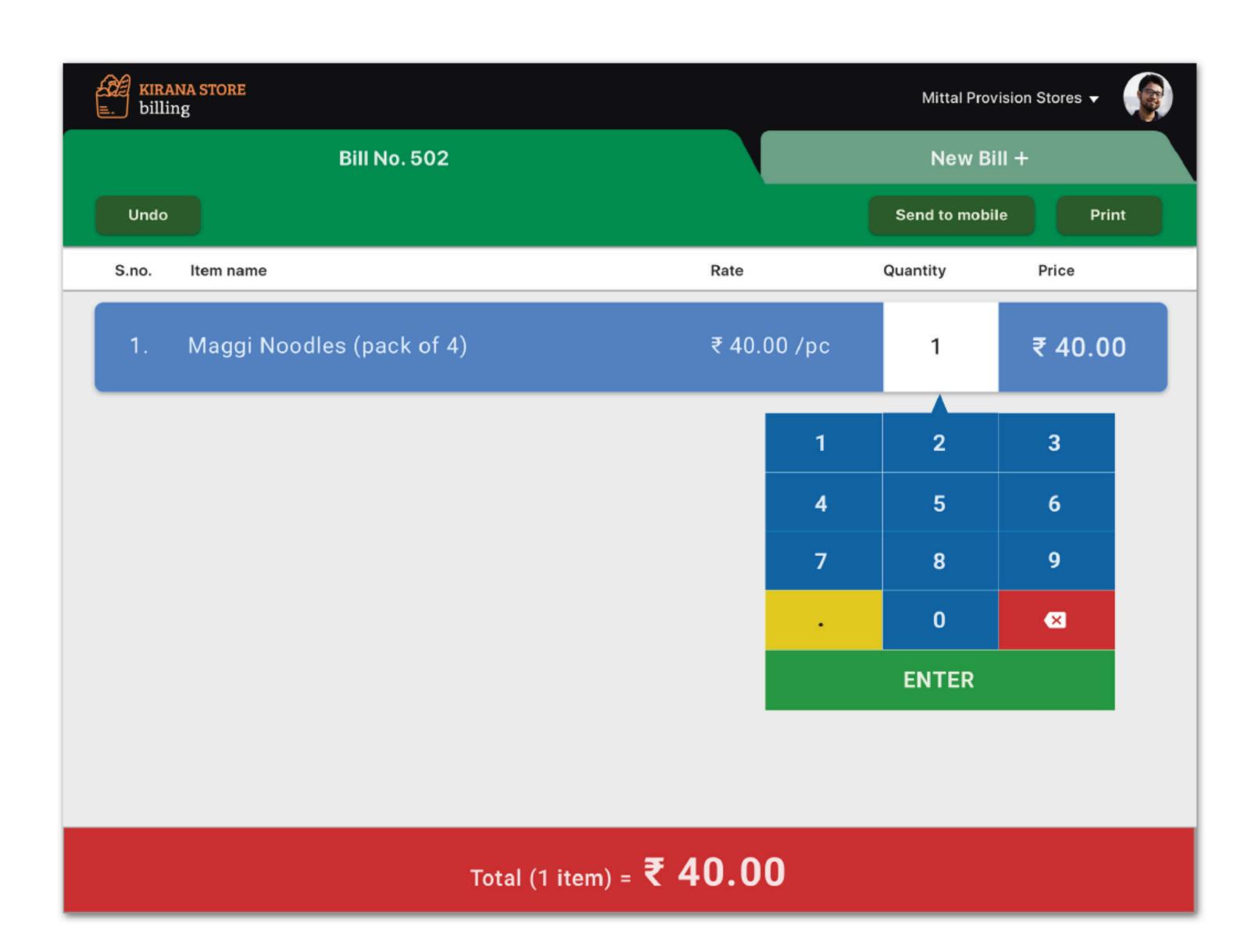


₹ 40.00 /pc

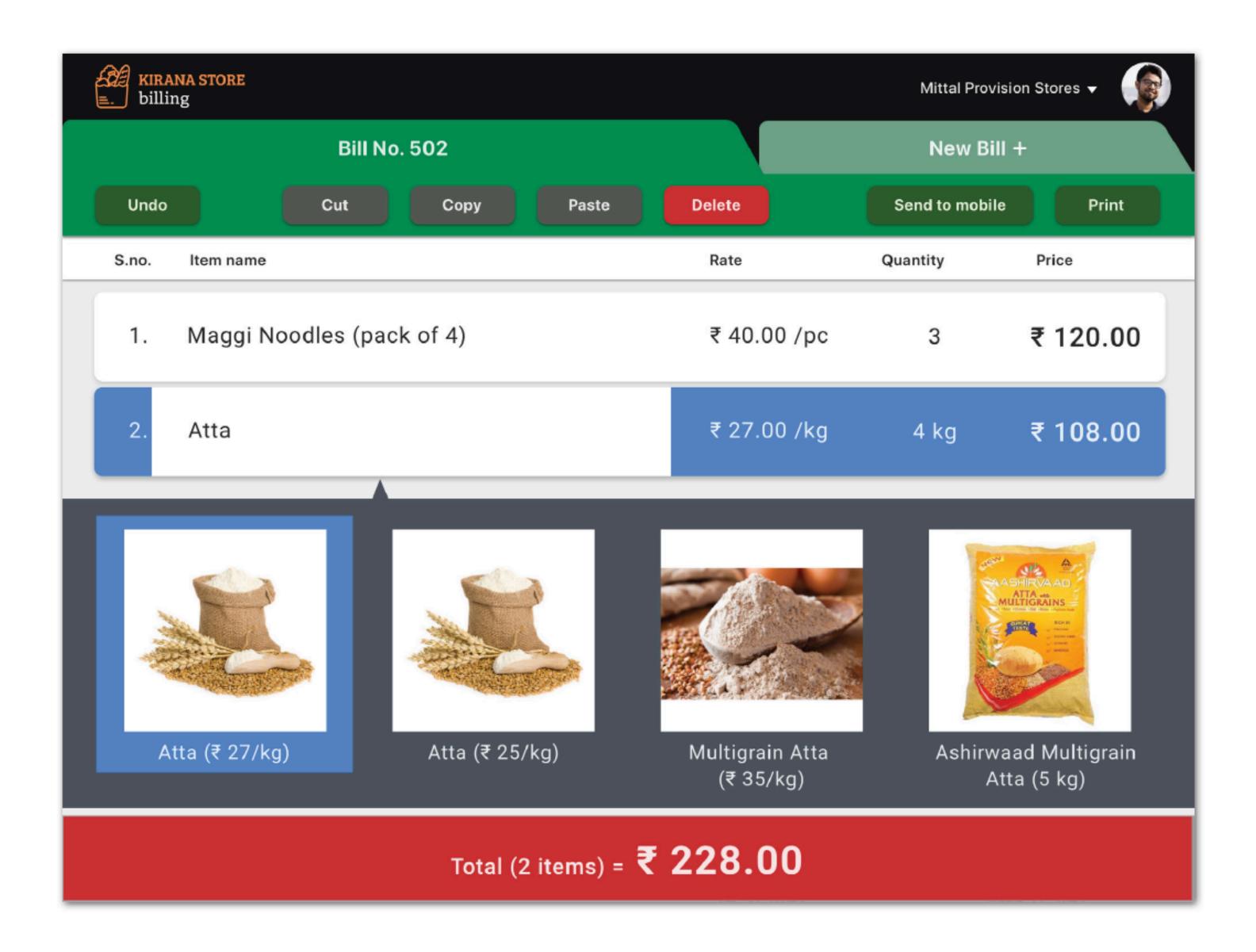
3

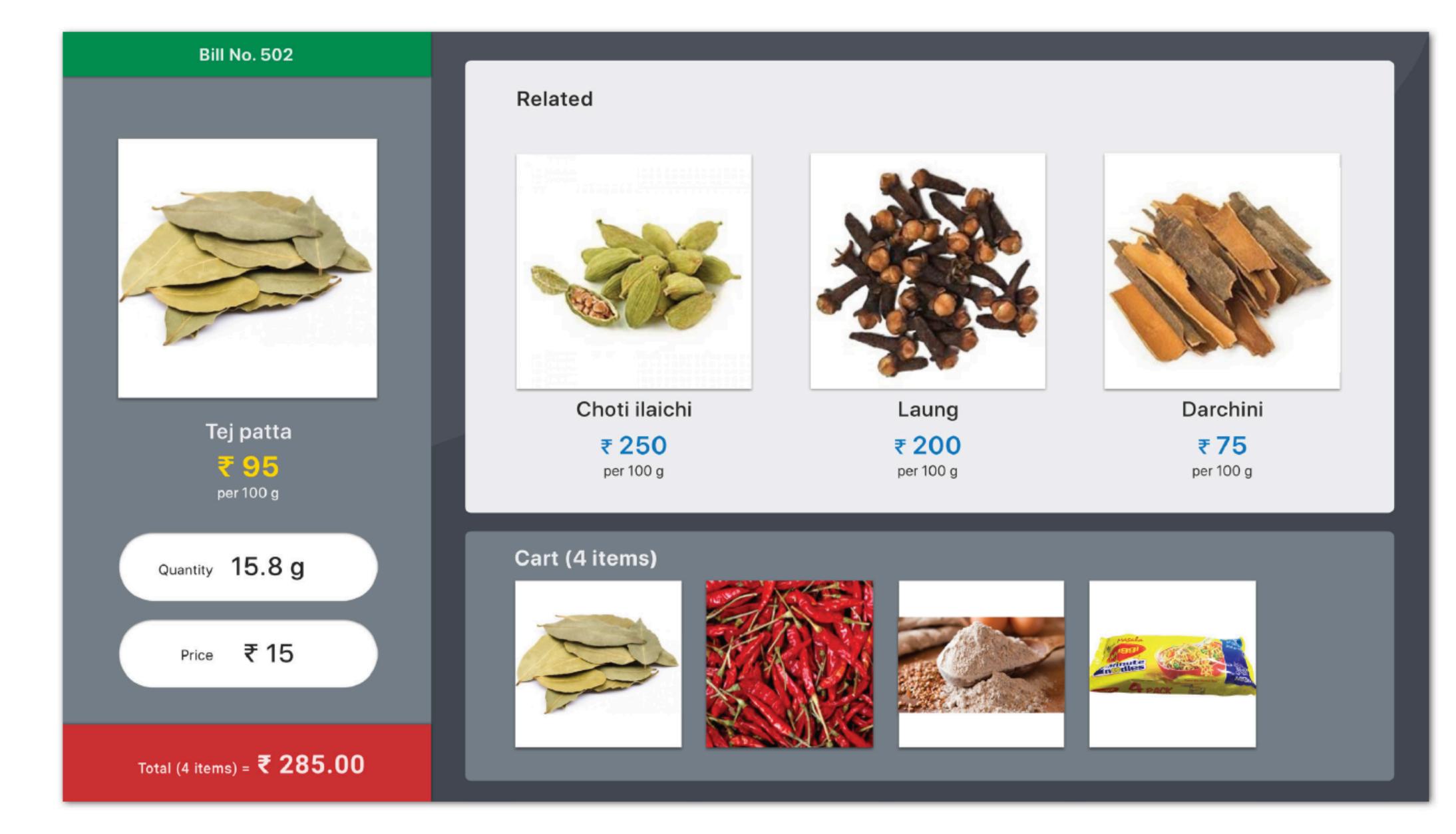




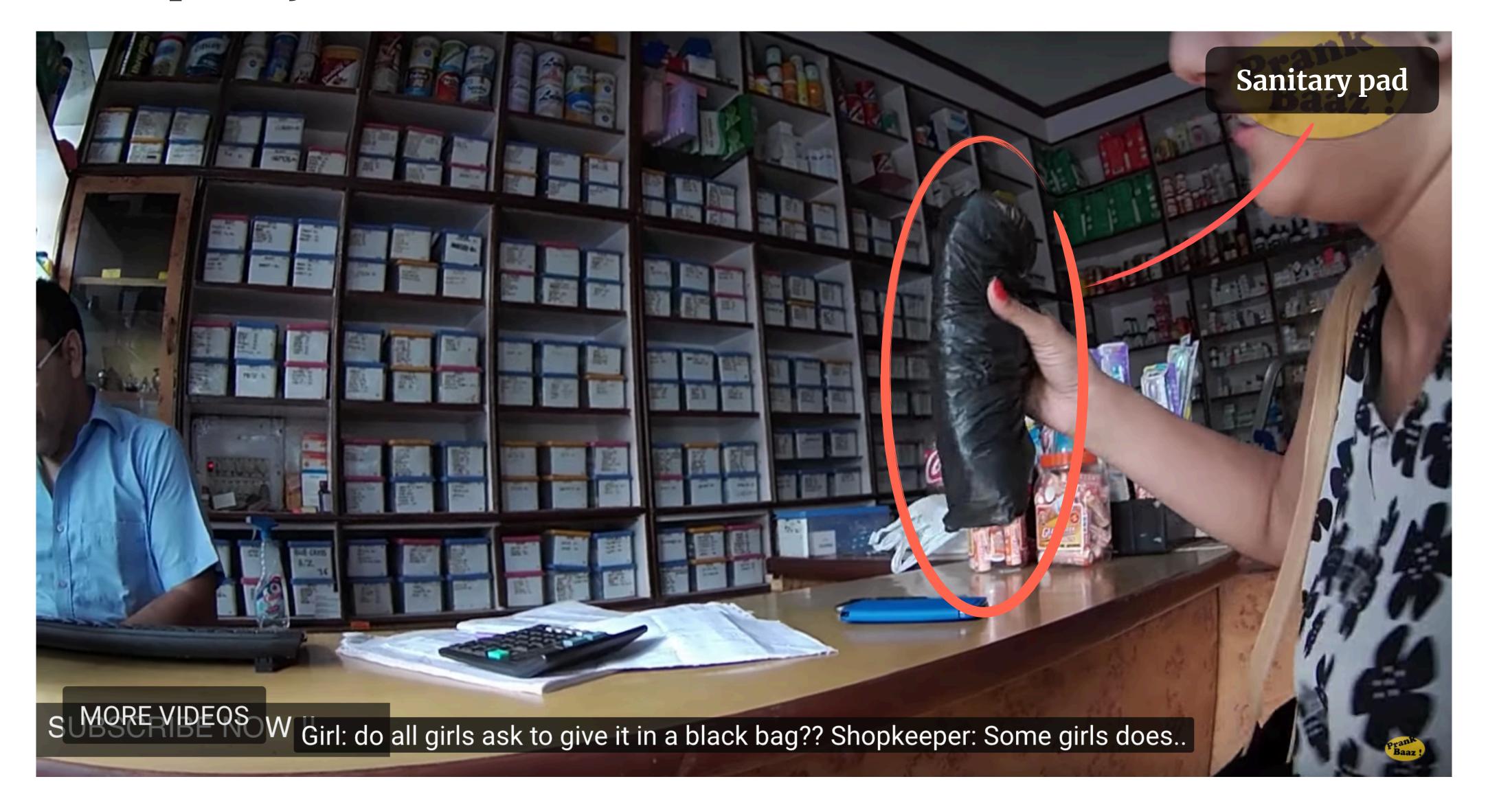


Limitations of Iteration 2

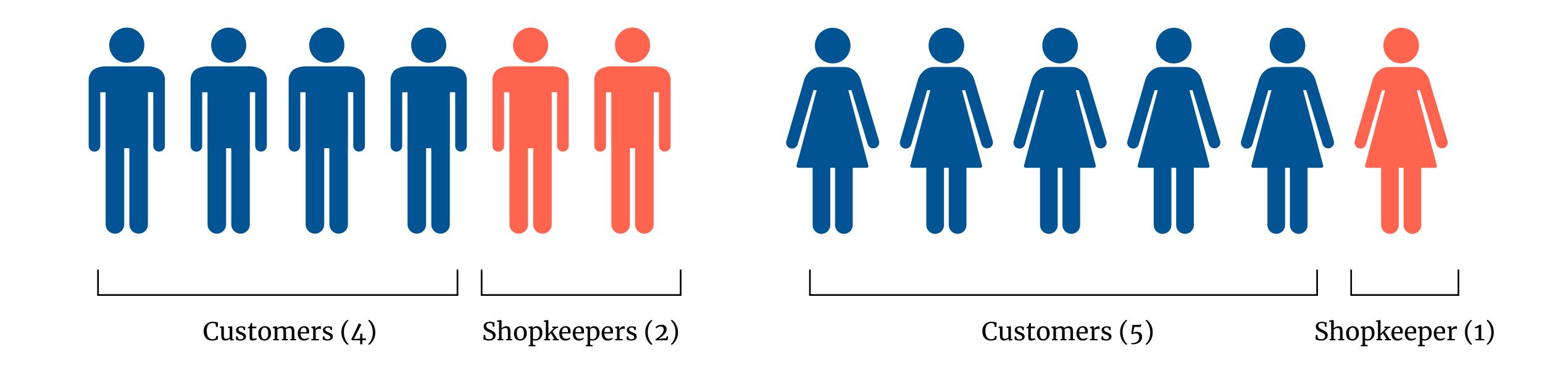




Concerns for privacy



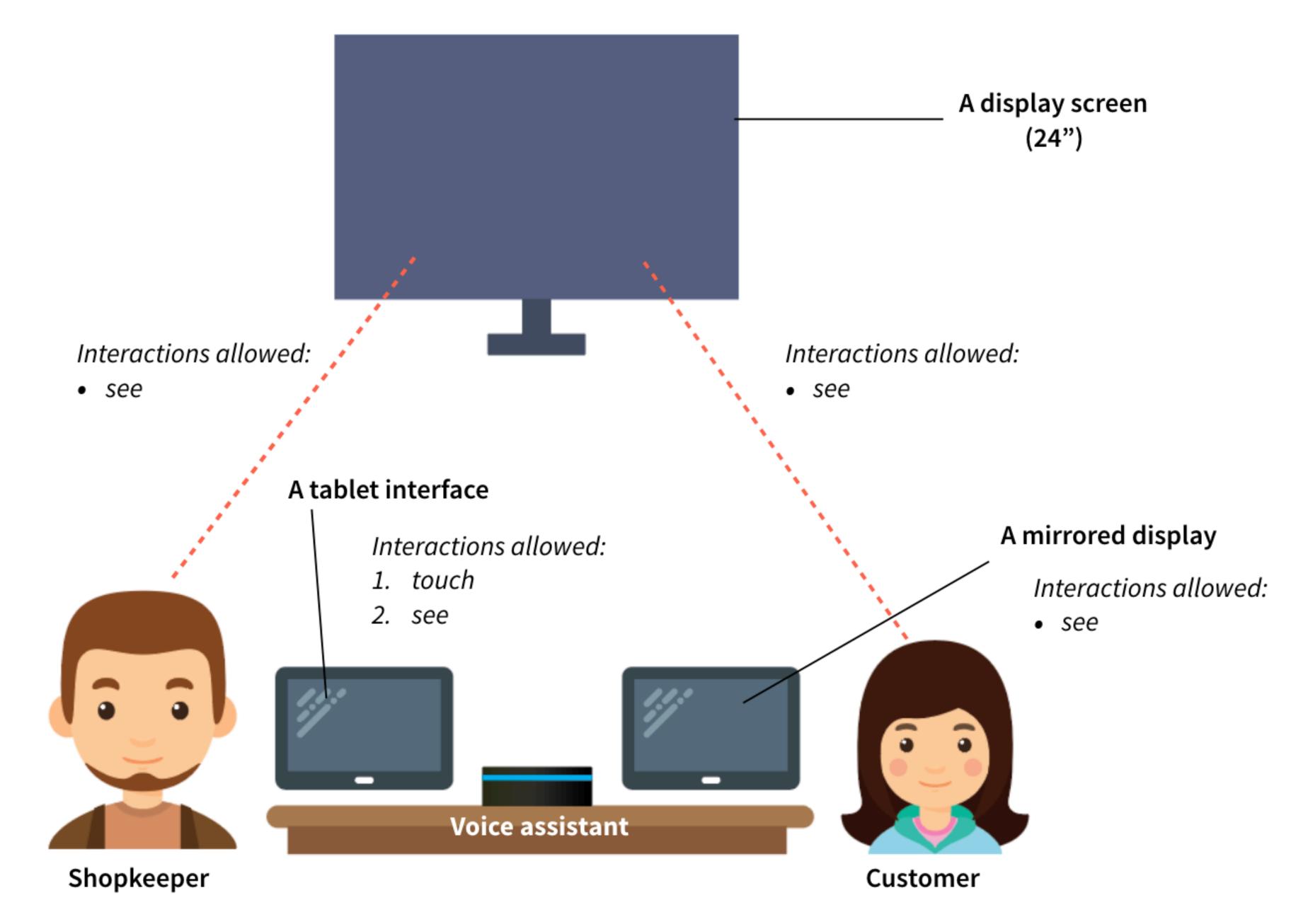
Concerns for privacy: investigated

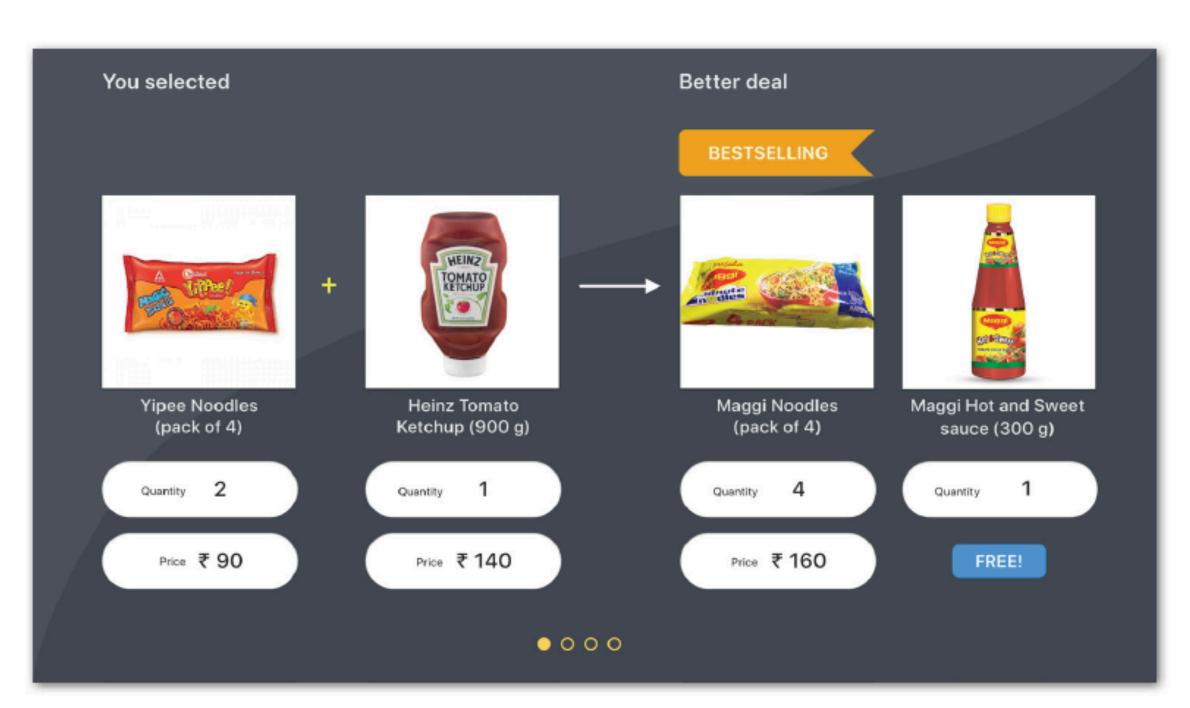


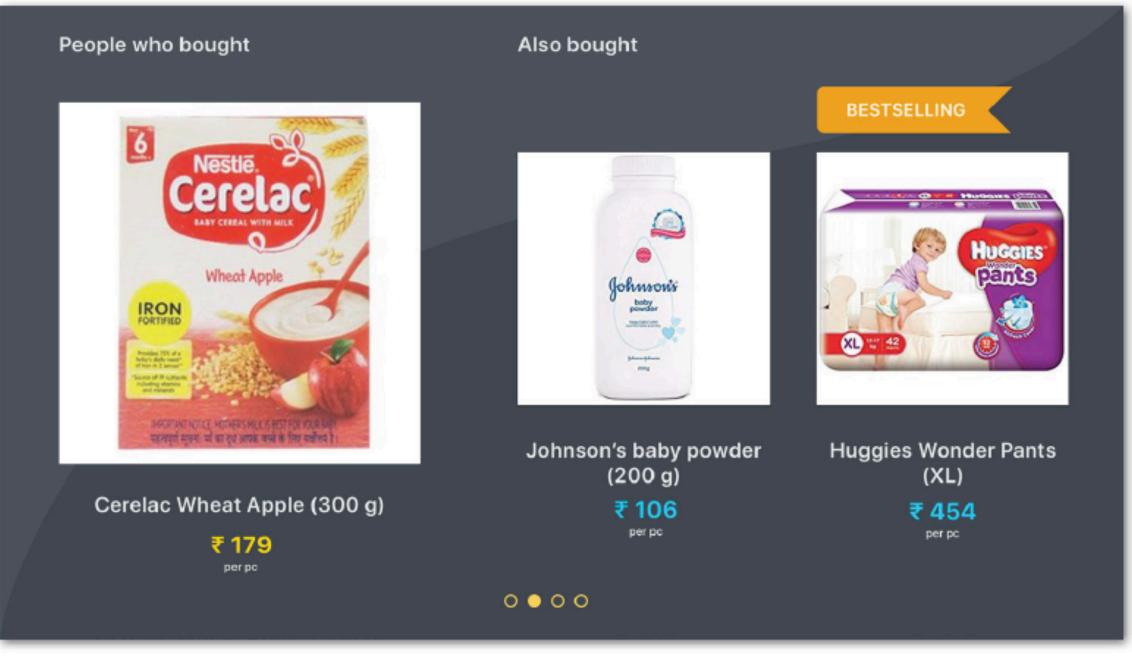


except a few items like sanitary pads

Iteration 3





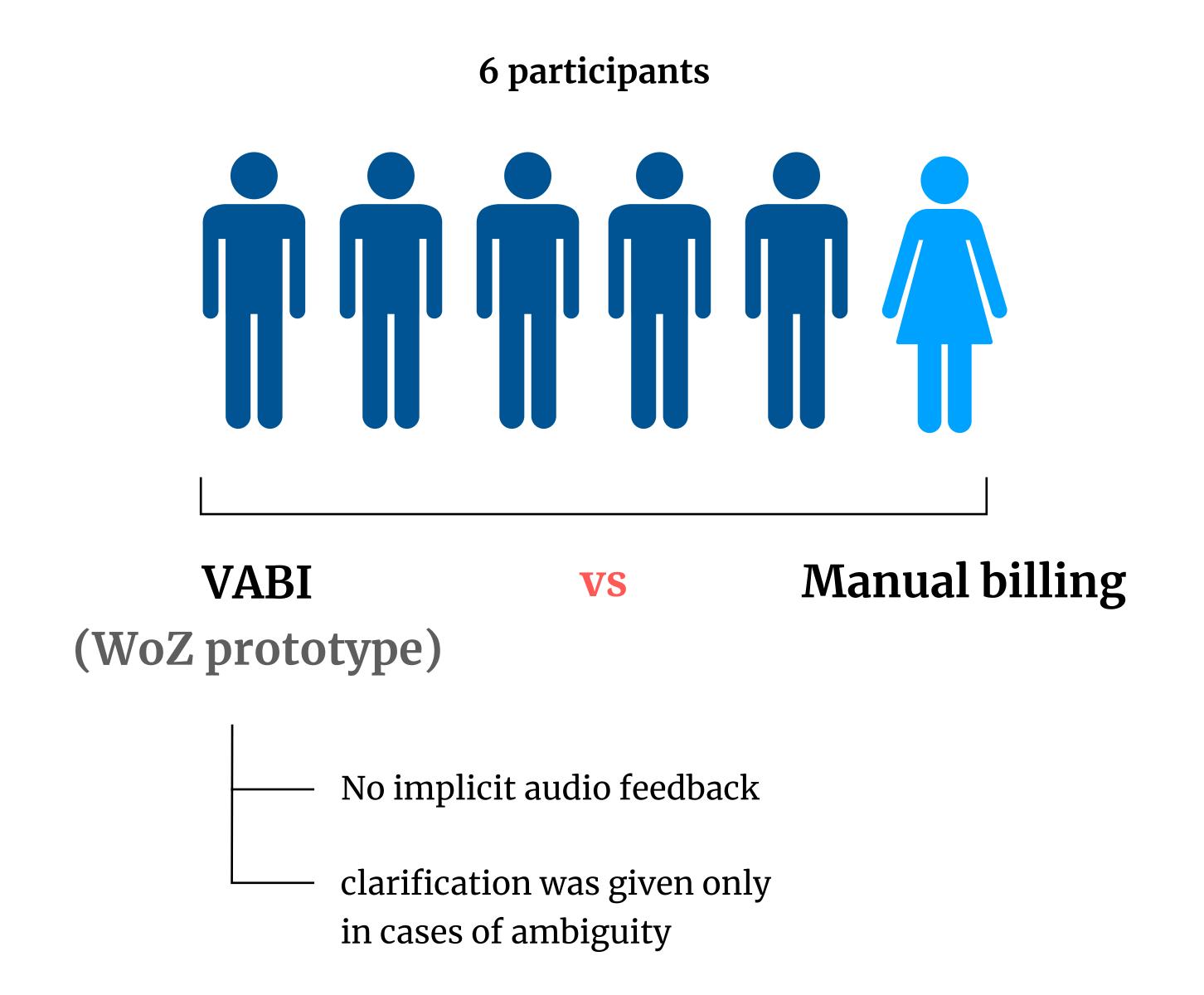






Quantitative Longitudinal Study

Performance Evaluation



Counterbalancing

USERS	Day 1		Day 2		Day 3		Day 4	
	task 1	task 2	task 3	task 4	task 5	task 6	task 7	task 8
User 1	Ma	Va	Vb	Mb	Мс	Vc	Vd	Md
User 2	Vb	Mb	Mc	Vc	Vd	Md	Ma	Va
User 3	Mc	Vc	Vd	Md	Ma	Va	Vb	Mb
User 4	Vd	Md	Ma	Va	Vb	Mb	Мс	Vc
User 5	Ma	Va	Vc	Мс	Mb	Vb	Vd	Md
User 6	Vd	Md	Mb	Vb	Vc	Мс	Ma	Va

Guide					
М	Manual Billing				
V	Billing using VABI (without implicit audio feedback)				
а	Shopping list A				
b	Shopping list B				
С	Shopping list C				
d	Shopping list D				

Tasks



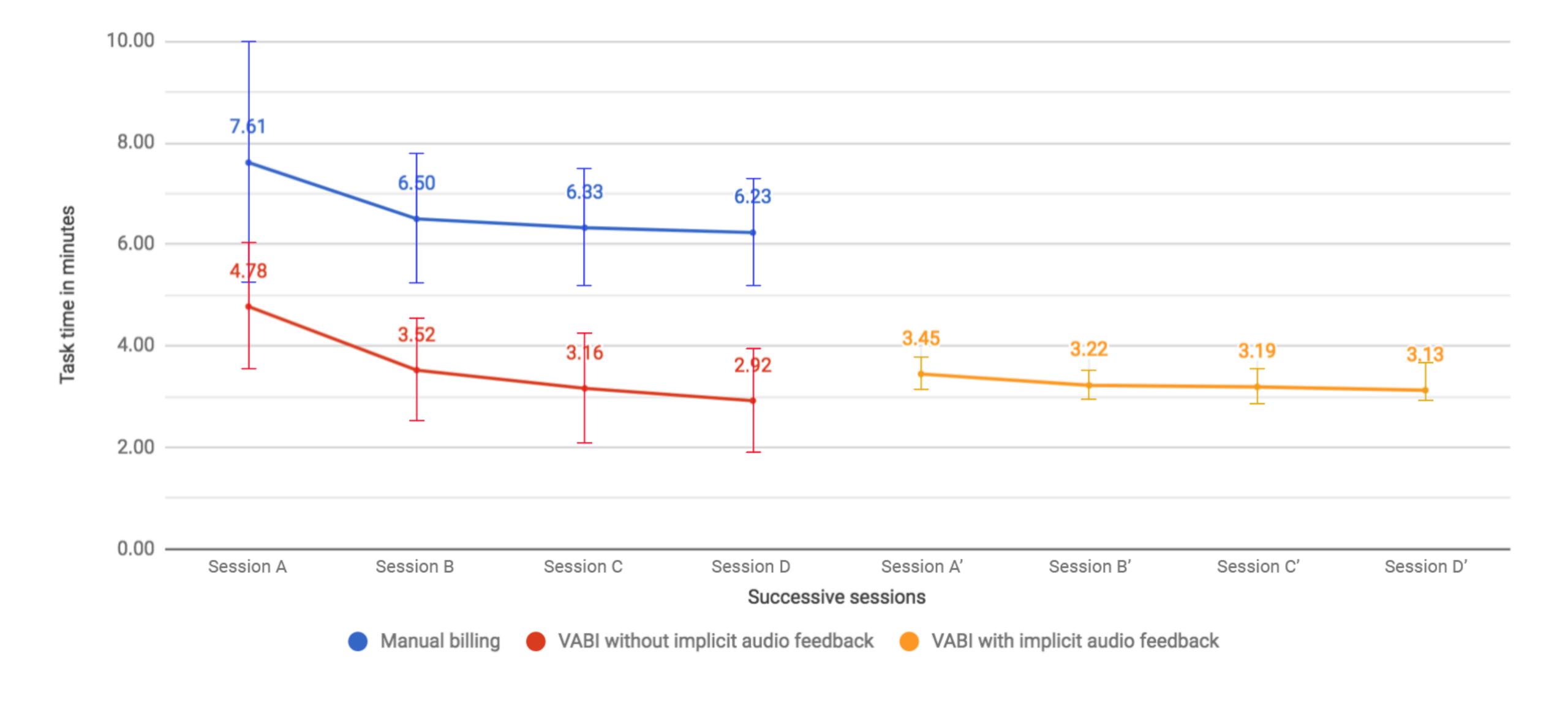


Manual billing

VABI
(WoZ prototype)

The Wizard of Oz Setup

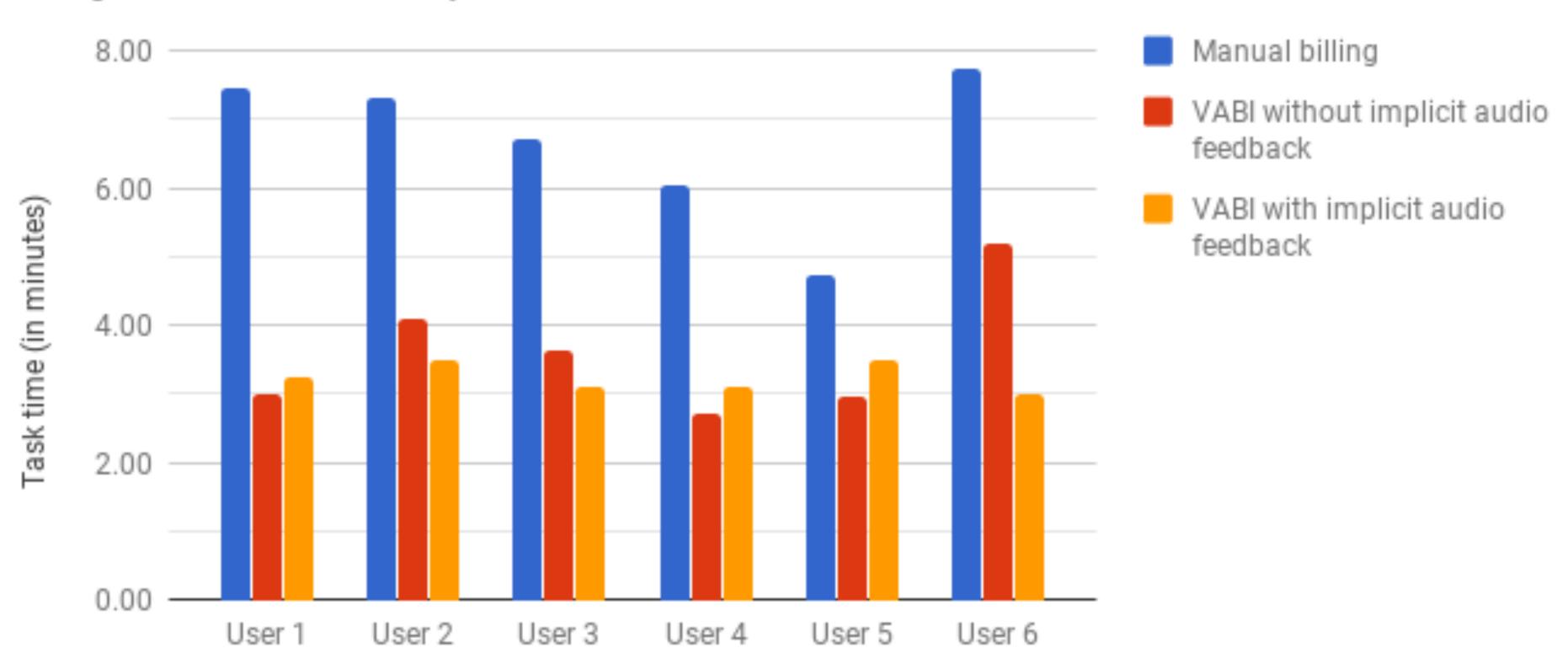
Speed and Learnability



Overall results

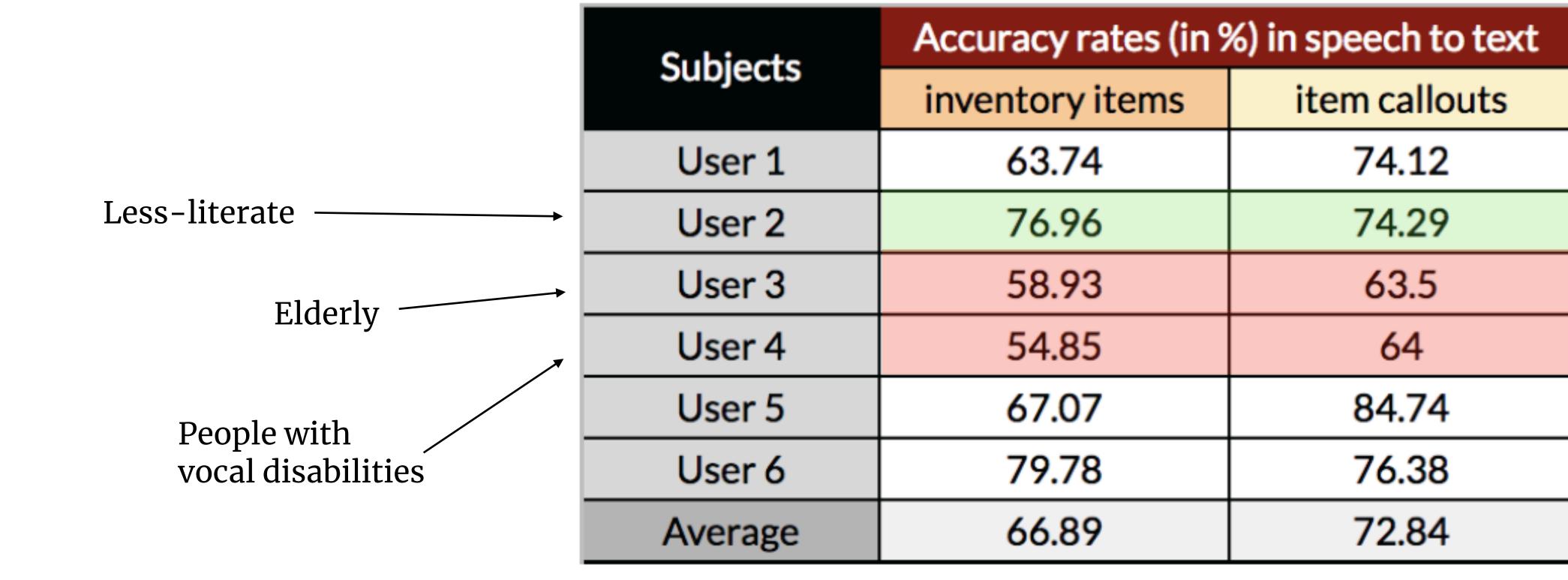
Subjects	Average time (in minutes) taken for different systems					
	Manual billing	VABI without implicit audio feedback	VABI with implicit audio feedback			
User 1	7.46	3.00	3.25			
User 2	7.32	4.08	3.50			
User 3	6.71	3.63	3.11			
User 4	6.06	2.71	3.12			
User 5	4.72	2.97	3.51			
User 6	7.74	5.19	3.00			

Average time taken for different systems



Subjects

Issues with the elderly, less-literate and people with vocal disabilities



Findings related to user behaviour

- 1. Calculation errors, and effect of comparison on users
- 2. User never tried to barge-In
- 3. VABI with implicit audio feedback took more time, but was considered smoother in operation
- 4. "Bill first, get items later"

Issues faced by the wizard

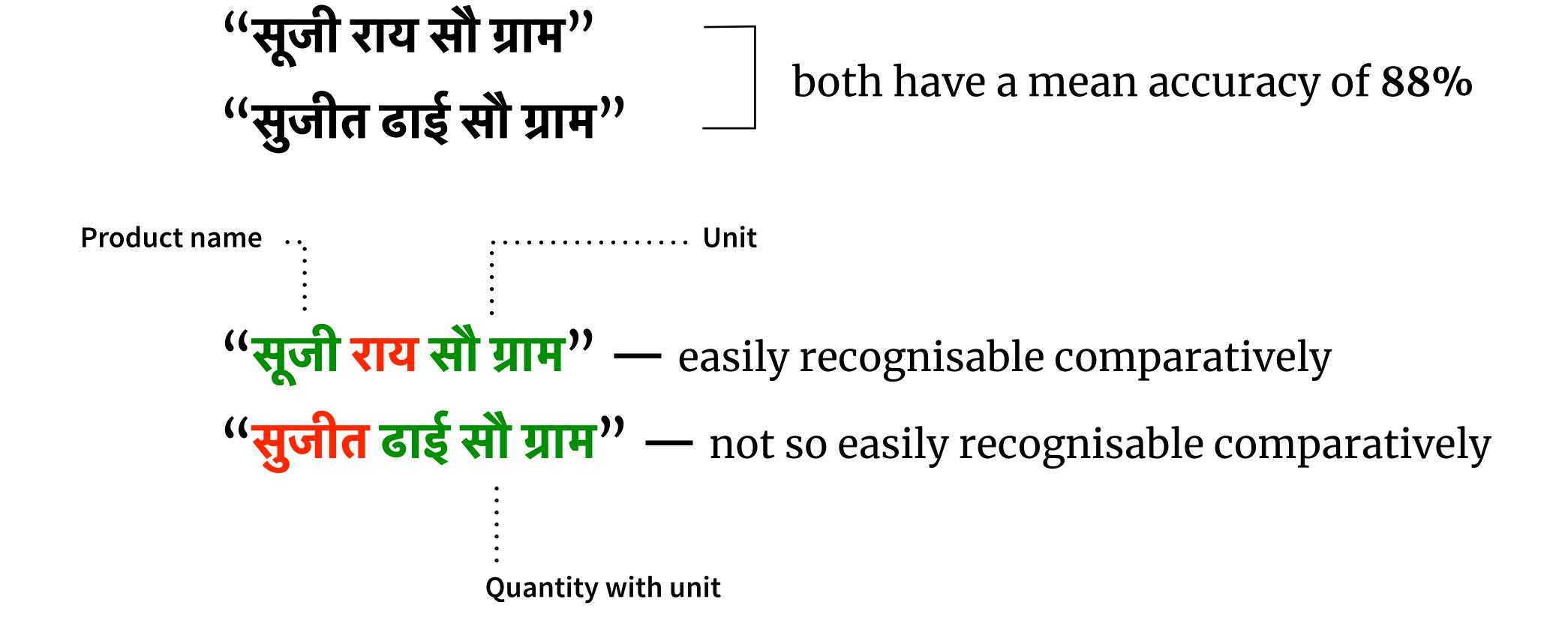
- 1. The wizard often could not distinguish between the voices of the user and the moderator over the phone.
- 2. The users on several occasion confused between the size (eg. 220 ml) and the price of the item (eg. Rs. 260), and the variety (eg. lavender fragrance) and type of the item (eg. toilet cleaner). The users at times gave incomplete informations even after asking several times for clarification.

Unexpected errors in voice recognition

"हगीज डायपर्स" had a mean accuracy of 31% "एक्लेयर्स" had a mean accuracy of 69%

"दैट ऑल" in "एक पीस दैट ऑल लिक्विड " "डेटोल" in "डेटोल लिक्विड पांच पीस"

Findings related to the design of the voice-commands



Is there a better way to determine accuracy rate in the retail context?

Item name in ENGLISH	HINDI translation (expected)	User 1	User 2	User 3	User 4	User 5	User 6
Lipton darjeeling tea (250 g)	लिप्टन दार्जीलिंग टी ढाई सौ ग्राम	विल एंड डार्लिंग की नाइग्रा	केट टर्न राइजिंग की ढाई सौ ग्राम	लिप्टन डार्जिलिंग टी टाइस होगा	लिप्टन डार्लिंग टीम प्रोग्राम	कलेक्ट एंड दार्जिलिंग टी टू फिफ्टी ग्राम्स	लेक्टरन दार्जिलिंग टी का सो ग्राम
Lizol surface cleaner (200 ml)	लाइज़ोल सरफेस क्लीनर दो सौ एमएल	लाइज ऑल सरफेस क्लीनर टू हंड्रेड एमएल	लाइसेंस सर सर्फ एक्सेल क्लीनर दो सोमेल	आइजोल सरफेस क्लीनर दो सौ एमएल	राइस ऑफ सर्विस के	लाइज ऑल सर्विस क्लीनर टू हंड्रेड एमएल	लाइज ऑल सरफेस क्लीनर दो सौ में
Maggi Noodles (pack of 4)	मैगी नूडल्स पैक ऑफ़ फोर	मैगी नूडल्स पैक ऑफ फोर	मैगी नूडल्स पैक ऑफ फोर	मैगी नूडल्स पैक ऑफ फोर	मैगी नूडल्स स्टेक ऑफ फोर	मैगी नूडल्स पैक ऑफ फोर	मैगी नूडल्स पैक ऑफ फोर
Oral B Cross-Action Toothbrush	ओरल बी क्रॉस एक्शन टूथब्रश	ओरल बी क्लास एक्शन टू ड्रा	ओरल बी फ्रांस एक्शन टू क्रश	फॉर वेल वी क्रॉस सेक्शन थ्रू	फोर फॉर री प्रोजेक्शन टू क्रश	कोरल भी क्रॉस सेक्शन टूब्रश	कोरल भी क्रॉस सेक्शन टूब्रश
Park Avenue deodorant (Voyage)- 220ml	पार्क एवेन्यू डिओडोरेंट वोयाज (दो सौ बीस एमएल)	फॉर ए वेन्यू ड्यू रेनवाटर टू ट्वेंटी एमएल	पार्क वेन्यू डियोडोरेंटस वोयेज दो सौ बीस एमएल	पार्क केविन ड्यूरेंट वायर्स दो सौ बीस एमएल	आर्ग्यूड एंड वायर दो सौ बीस सेवन	ऑर गिवेन यू टू यू एंड योर	पार्क एवेन्यू डियोडरेंट वेज दो सौ बीस एम एल
Pisi Lal Mirch	पीसी लाल मिर्च	पी सी लाल मिर्च	पीसी लाल मिर्च	किसी रायल मेस	किसी लाल मिस	पीसी लाल मिर्च	पी सी लाल मिर्च
Sabut Lal Mirch	साबुत लाल मिर्च	साबुत लाल में ए	साबुत लाल मिर्च	साबू क्लाइमेक्स	साबुत लाल मिस	साबुत लाल मिर्च	साबुत लाल मिर्च
Saffola Gold (2 lt)	सफोला गोल्ड दो लीटर	सपोला गोल्ड दो लीटर	सपोला गोल्ड दो लीटर	सपोला गोल्ड टू लीटर्स	बोरा गोल्ड दो लीटर	सफला गोल्ड दो लीटर	सपोला बोर्ड टू लीटर्स
Sooji	सूजी / रवा	सूजी	सूजी	सूजी	सूजी	सूजी	सूजी रवा
Sugar	शुगर / चीनी / शक्कर	शुगर	शुगर चिन्नी शक्कर	शुगर चीनी शक्कर	शक्कर	शुगर	शुगर
Surf Excel Matic (2 kg)	सर्फ एक्सेल मैटिक दो केजी	सर्फ एक्सेल मैटिक टू	सर फैक्स मेटिंग दो केजी	सर सेसिल मेडिक टू के जी	सेल में मैंने पिक कर दोगे जी	सर्फ एक्सेल मैटिक क्यों क्लोज	सर्फ एक्सेल मैटिक दोगे जी
Tetley darjeeling tea (25 bags)	टेटली दार्जीलिंग टी (पच्चीस बैग)	बेट्टी जीन द ट्वेंटी फाइव	डेडली डार्जिलिंग टी पच्चीस में	टेटली राइजिंग की बच्ची है	एट्टी डार्लिंग टीम व्हिच इज बैक	टेटली डार्जिलिंग टी ट्वेंटी फाइव टी बैग्स	टेटली दार्जिलिंग भी पच्चीस पे

Findings related to the design of the voice-commands

Subjects	Accuracy rates (in 9	%) in speech to text	% commands identifiable		
Subjects	inventory items	item callouts	inventory items	item callouts	
User 1	63.74	74.12	66.67	47.06	
User 2	76.96	74.29	55.56	47.06	
User 3	58.93	63.5	40.74	26.47	
User 4	54.85	64	22.22	38.24	
User 5	67.07	84.74	74.07	79.41	
User 6	79.78	76.38	74.07	44.11	
Average	66.89	72.84	55.56	47.06	

Conversational voice-assistant

1. Do not need to remember command syntax

2. Prone to more errors (47% accuracy)

Not feasible with present voicerecognition technology

VS

Set-command VUI

- 1. Need to remember command syntax
- 2. Prone to less errors (speculation) as shorter commands have greater accuracy rates (55%)
- 3. Feasible with present voice- recognition technology

Better chances of recognition

"हार्पिक वंडर्स सो एम एल"

"हार्पिक लेवेंडर स्वयं में"

If "Harpic" is recognised correctly, prompts could be given for disambiguation

Please choose your Harpic



Training the recognition system

"क्लेयर्स"

"डिक्लेर्स"

"एक्लेयर्स"

all could be mapped to "Eclairs"

"देट ऑल" "डेटोल"

both could be mapped to "Dettol"

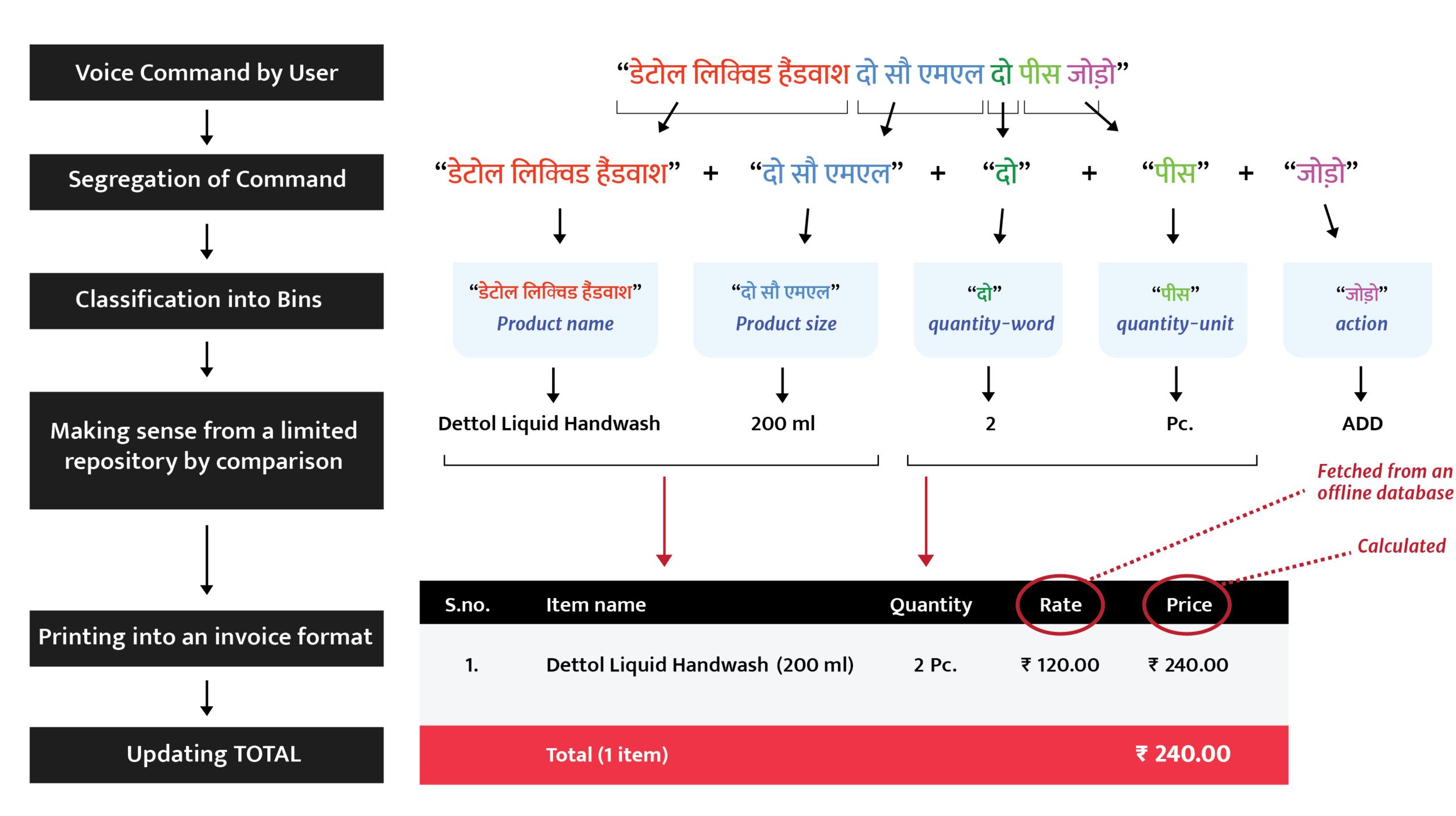
"रेड हार्पिक"

"हार्पिक बाथरूम क्लीनर"

both could be mapped to



Proof-of-concept prototype



"जोड़ो"

action

ADD

Fetched from an

offline database

T

Conclusion and Future Research

- 1. Multi-modal Interface; feasible for deployment
- 2. VABI emerged faster in performance evaluation
- 3. A set-command based VUI is *more practical* in present: *have to be evaluated for effectiveness*
- 4. Confirmations and Disambiguation: validated
- 5. Detail and Speed of Feedback: needs future work
- 6. Handling of Internal Errors: needs future work
- 7. Number of sessions need to be increased to investigate Barge-In: needs future work
- 8. Concerns for privacy: investigated
- 9. Touch-based interface and Error correction: needs future work
- 10. Need of a different evaluation measure for measuring accuracy of voice commands in contextual settings like **Retail**

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