# **Project Report**

Moodflix: AI-Driven Personalized Movie Recommendations Based on Emotions and Context

# SUBMITTED IN THE PARTIAL FULFILLMENT REQUIREMENT FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF

# **Bachelor of Technology**

(COMPUTER SCIENCE and ENGINEERING)

SUBMITTED BY

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#### CANDIDATE'S DECLARATION

I hereby certify that I have under gone six months industrial training at SABUDH FOUN- DATION and worked on project entitled, Moodflix: AI-Driven Personalized Movie Recommendations Based on Emotions and Context, in partial fulfillment of requirements for the award of Degree of Bachelor of Technology in name of the department at BML MUNJAL UNIVERSITY, having University Roll No.1232434, is an authentic record of my own work carried out during a period from August, 2024 to December, 2024 under the supervision of **Dr. Manisha Saini**.

(Bhumika Yadav)

(Vanshika Goyal)

(Shreya Sharma)

This is to certify that the above statement made by the candidate is correct to the best of my knowledge.

#### **ABSTRACT**

MoodFlix focuses on creating a movie recommendation system that adapts to user preferences, emotions, and weather conditions in real time. Traditional systems rely on past data and static algorithm, which limit their ability to provide personalized recommendations. Our system combines real-time user behavior tracking, emotion detection using facial expressions, and weather data to offer movie suggestions that suit the user's current mood and context. This project aims to enhance the user experience on streaming platforms by making movie recommendations more relevant and engaging. This project is about creating a smart movie recommendation system. The system uses advanced tools to recommend movies based on what the user likes, their emotions, and even the weather. It works in real-time, meaning it can quickly change suggestions based on what the user is doing. The goal is to give users a fun and personalized movie experience by suggesting movies that match their mood and situation.

# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

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**Dr. Manisha Saini** has provided great help in carrying out my work and is acknowledged with reverential thanks. Without the wise counsel and able guidance, it would have been impossible to complete the training in this manner.

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# **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS**

Abbreviation	Full Form
FER	Facial Expression Recognition
API	Application Programming Interface
ML	Machine Learning
AI	Artificial Intelligence
RL	Reinforcement Learning

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# **Introduction to Organisation**

BML Munjal University (BMU), located in Gurugram, Haryana, is a prestigious institution known for its commitment to academic excellence and innovative learning. Established in 2014, BMU aims to nurture ethical leaders who are skilled, knowledgeable, and capable of creating a sustainable future.

With a strong emphasis on interdisciplinary education and hands-on learning, the university has earned recognition for its programs in engineering, management, and research. BMU is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities, fostering a thriving environment for innovation and exploration.

The university's focus on cutting-edge research in Artificial Intelligence, Data Analytics, and Health Sciences provided a robust platform for the development of the "Sleep Disorder Prediction" project. The mentorship, technical support, and access to specialized datasets offered by BMU significantly contributed to the project's successful completion.

# **Introduction to Project**

#### 2.1 Overview

This project aims to build a movie recommendation system that enhances user engagement through real-time personalization, emotion-based suggestions, and weather-contextualized content. The system bridges the gap between user preferences and intelligent recommendations by integrating advanced machine learning models.

It has been investigated that research scholars spend a significant time of total research period on identifying the current and promising research areas. Even after choosing a specific research area, the prevailing research trends are not always well understood. Thus, the research area selection is critical and a time-consuming process. The researchers per-form manual literature reviews to reveal the research gaps, but they are often subjective and biased.

The system uses collaborative filtering and content-based filtering to find similar movies for users. It also integrates facial recognition tools to analyze emotions, providing a personalized experience. For instance, if the user feels happy, the system may recommend comedies or family-friendly movies. On a rainy day, it might suggest cozy dramas or thrillers. By combining multiple factors, this system delivers highly relevant and enjoyable suggestions.

### 2.2 Existing System

Most existing systems only use past data to recommend movies. They don't adapt quickly to changes in user preferences or context, such as mood or weather. Our system overcomes these issues by using real-time data, emotions, and external factors like weather. These systems analyze user ratings and viewing history but fail to adapt to immediate changes in user preferences or contextual factors like mood or weather. This results in less engaging and static recommendations.

# 2.3 User Requirement Analysis

This project addresses the limitations of existing systems by incorporating real-time personalization. It delivers a user-centric experience, improving satisfaction and engagement. Streaming platforms can use this approach to enhance user retention and gain a competitive edge.

### 2.4 Feasibility Study

The recommendation system can dynamically adjust suggestions based on user feedback and activity, ensuring high relevance. The use of facial emotion detection improves user engagement by personalizing content.

### Literature Review

To develop the proposed movie recommendation system, extensive research was conducted in the fields of collaborative filtering, emotion recognition, contextual personalization, and reinforcement learning. The key studies referenced for this project are discussed below, categorized by topic.

The work of **Pazzani and Billsus** (2007) emphasized the importance of item attributes, such as movie genres, actors, and keywords, in content-based filtering. This approach uses the characteristics of previously watched movies to recommend similar ones. However, the study noted that this method often suffers from overspecialization, as it tends to suggest movies that are too similar to the user's past preferences.

Modern recommendation systems often combine collaborative and content-based filtering. **Burke** (2002) introduced hybrid recommendation systems, demonstrating their ability to overcome the limitations of individual methods. For instance, collaborative filtering's cold start problem can be mitigated by leveraging item attributes through content-based filtering.

Collaborative filtering and content-based filtering are the most commonly used methods for recommendations. While effective, they often fail to incorporate real-time feedback or external factors.

Studies on emotion detection using facial expressions show that recognizing emotions like happiness, sadness, and anger can significantly improve personalization. Tools like FER have been successfully implemented in small-scale projects.

# 3.1 Comparison

Recommendation systems have evolved significantly over the years, transitioning from simple heuristic-based methods to complex machine learning algorithms. A comparative analysis of the methodologies highlights the strengths and limitations of existing systems while emphasizing the innovations introduced in this project.

### 1. Traditional Approaches:

Early recommendation systems relied heavily on heuristic-based algorithms, such as rule-based filtering and popularity-based suggestions. These systems worked well in static environments but lacked personalization. For example, a popularity-based model would recommend the same set of movies to all users, ignoring individual preferences.

### 2. Content-Based Filtering:

Content-based filtering emerged to address some of the limitations of collaborative filtering by focusing on the attributes of items, such as genres, actors, or directors. While effective for new users, this approach suffered from over-specialization, recommending movies too similar to those the user had already seen.

#### 3. Hybrid Models:

Modern systems often combine collaborative and content-based filtering, using the strengths of both methods to overcome their respective weaknesses. Netflix's recommendation system is a notable example, utilizing hybrid models to deliver highly personalized suggestions.

#### 4. Contextual Recommendations:

Recent advancements incorporate contextual factors like time, location, and weather to enhance relevance. Studies like those by Gao et al. (2013) demonstrated how incorporating contextual data improves user satisfaction. However, these systems remain underutilized due to their complexity and data dependency.

#### 5. Emotion-Aware Recommendations:

Emotion recognition introduces a new dimension to personalization by understanding user moods. Tools like DeepFace and AffectNet use deep learning to classify facial expressions into emotions. While promising, these models face challenges like real-time integration and varying user expressions.

In comparison, this project combines the strengths of hybrid recommendation systems with contextual and emotion-aware features. By integrating collaborative filtering, content-based filtering, and reinforcement learning, it adapts dynamically to user feedback. The inclusion of weather data and emotion recognition further enhances its personalization capabilities, setting it apart from traditional system.

### 3.2 Objectives of Project

The primary objective of this project is to design and implement a dynamic movie recommendation system that improves upon existing methodologies by leveraging real-time feedback, emotion detection, and contextual data. These objectives are broken down into the following key points:

#### 1. Real-Time Personalization:

Traditional systems rely on historical data, which limits their ability to adapt to immediate changes in user preferences. This project aims to overcome this limitation by implementing real-time tracking. The system monitors user activity continuously, such as the type of movies they are viewing, to provide timely and relevant suggestions.

#### 2. Context-Aware Recommendations:

The system integrates weather data from API to consider external factors in its recommendations. For instance, it may suggest cozy dramas on rainy evenings or adventure movies on sunny days, enhancing the user's viewing experience.

### 3. Dynamic Learning Through Feedback:

Implementing reinforcement learning enables the system to improve over time based on user interactions. Positive feedback, such as watching a recommended movie till the end, strengthens similar future recommendations. Negative feedback, like skipping a movie, adjusts the system to avoid similar content.

#### 4. Improved User Engagement and Satisfaction:

The ultimate goal is to create a system that users find engaging and enjoyable. By providing highly personalized recommendations, the system keeps users satisfied, encouraging them to spend more time on the platform.

#### 5. Scalability and Robustness:

The system is designed to handle large datasets and multiple users simultaneously. Its modular architecture ensures easy scalability, allowing it to be deployed on streaming platforms with minimal modifications.

# **Exploratory Data Analysis**

#### **Dataset**

The dataset used in this project is the **MovieLens dataset**, which is widely regarded as a benchmark for developing and testing recommendation systems. It contains millions of ratings and metadata for thousands of movies, making it an ideal choice for this project. The dataset includes the following key components:

- 1. **User Data**: Information about users, including unique user IDs and their historical ratings for movies.
- 2. **Movie Metadata**: Attributes such as movie titles, genres, release years, and tags.
- 3. **Ratings**: User ratings on a scale of 1 to 5, providing insights into user preferences.

### **Data Collection and Scraping Methods**

- The dataset was directly downloaded from the **Kaggle website**, ensuring reliability and ease of use.
- Additional weather data was retrieved in real-time using the **API**, which provided contextual factors like temperature, weather conditions, and location. The API calls were automated using Python scripts to fetch data during the movie recommendation process.

#### 1. **Data Cleaning**:

- Removed duplicate entries and null values.
- Standardized column names and converted categorical data (e.g., genres) into numerical formats using one-hot encoding.

# 2. **Data Integration**:

 Merged the MovieLens data with real-time weather data and emotion labels generated from DeepFace.

#### 3. Data Transformation:

- Scaled numerical features like ratings using Min-Max normalization to standardize inputs for machine learning models.
- Extracted time-based features, such as viewing hours, to understand temporal patterns in user behavior

### **Exploratory Data Analysis and Visualizations**

Details EDA was conducted to uncover trends and patterns in the dataset. The insights gained guided the development of the recommendation engine and highlighted user behavior.

### **Key Findings from EDA**

### 1. Genre Popularity:

- Comedies and action movies were among the most highly rated genres.
- o Dramas had consistently high engagement during evenings.

#### 2. Temporal Viewing Patterns:

- Users tended to watch light-hearted genres (e.g., comedies) in the morning.
- o Thrillers and dramas were more popular in the evening, likely due to their immersive nature.

### 3. Emotion-Genre Mapping:

- Users who showed "happiness" preferred comedies and romantic movies.
- Users displaying "sadness" leaned toward comforting dramas or feel-good content.

# 4. Impact of Weather:

- Rainy weather saw an increase in drama and romantic movie recommendations.
- Sunny days prompted interest in adventure and action genres.

#### **Visualizations**

Several charts and plots were created to visualize the dataset:

#### 1. Genre Distribution:

A bar chart depicting the frequency of each genre in user ratings.

o Tools: Matplotlib and Seaborn.

#### 2. Time-Based Patterns:

Heatmaps illustrating user activity during different times of the day and days of the week.

#### 3. Emotion-Based Trends:

Pie charts showing genre preferences for various emotional states detected using DeepFace.

#### 4. Weather-Based Viewing Patterns:

A stacked bar chart correlating weather conditions with popular genres.

#### **Related Sections**

The insights from EDA directly influenced the development of the machine learning models and the recommendation engine. Key sections that relied on this analysis include:

#### 1. Model Training:

 Features like genre preferences, emotion labels, and weather data were used as inputs for collaborative and content-based filtering models.

## 2. Personalization Algorithms:

 User behavior patterns informed the reinforcement learning framework for adapting recommendations in real time.

#### 3. System Architecture:

 Real-time feedback mechanisms integrated findings from temporal and contextual analysis to adjust recommendations dynamically.

# Methodology

# **5.1 Introduction to Languages (Front End and Back End)**

#### **Back End**

The back-end infrastructure is responsible for processing user data, generating recommendations, and managing real-time interactions.

#### Python Version- 1.5.3

Acts as the primary programming language for the back end due to its extensive libraries for data analysis, machine learning, and (OpenWeatherMap App) API integration

Facilitates seamless communication between the front end and the recommendation engine.

## **5.2** Any other Supporting Languages/ packages

#### **Machine Learning and Data Analysis**

#### Pandas and NumPy:

- Facilitated data manipulation, cleaning, and preprocessing.
- Helped in creating user-item interaction matrices required for collaborative filtering.

#### Matplotlib and Seaborn:

- Created visualizations such as bar charts, heatmaps, and scatter plots for exploratory data analysis.
- Helped interpret user behavior and movie trends effectively.

#### API:

- Provides weather data for contextual recommendations.
- Automatically updates based on user location to adjust movie suggestions.

#### **5.3** User characteristics

- Preferences for specific genres, such as comedies, thrillers, or dramas.
- Interest in trending movies, critically acclaimed content, or personalized favorites.

#### ☐ Behavioral **Patterns**:

- Morning viewers might prefer light-hearted genres, while evening users lean towards immersive or thought-provoking content.
- Seasonal patterns, such as an interest in holiday movies during festive periods.

#### ☐ Interactive **Users**:

- Users who actively provide feedback through ratings, reviews, or interactions with the system.
- Require accurate responses to their inputs for a more satisfying exp

### 5.4 Constraints

#### **Integration of APIs:**

• Dependence on external APIs introduced limitations such as rate limits and potential downtime, which could affect the functionality of weather-based recommendations.

#### **Data Availability:**

• User interaction data was limited to the dataset's scope and simulated feedback, making it challenging to validate the system in diverse, real-world conditions.

#### **Time Constraints:**

• Building a fully functional system, integrating various components (e.g., APIs, ML models, and real-time tracking), and testing within a semester posed significant time challenges.

# 5.5 Charts/Graphs

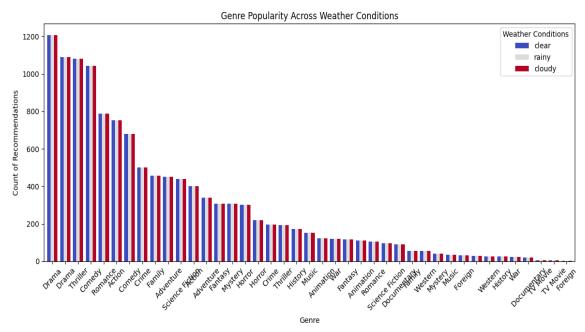


Fig 5.5-(1)

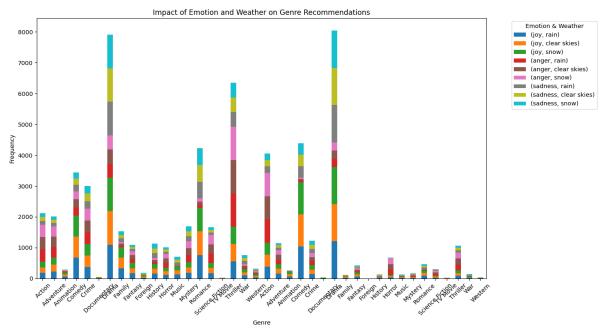


Fig 5.5-(2)

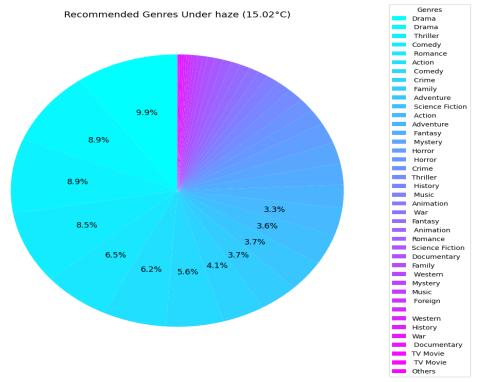


Fig 5.5- (3)

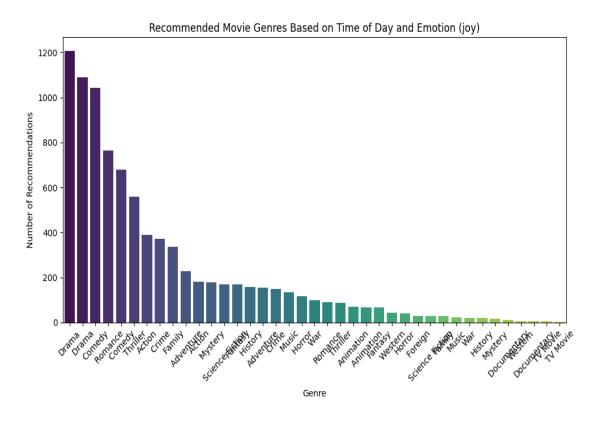


Fig 5.5- (4)

#### 5.6 Database design

The database design for the movie recommendation system is structured to store and retrieve user data, movie information, and interaction logs efficiently. The system is modeled using relational databases to ensure consistency and scalability.

#### **Key Entities**

- 1. Users: Stores user-related information, including unique identifiers and demographic data.
- 2. Movies: Contains metadata for each movie, such as title, genre, and release year.
- 3. **Ratings**: Captures user-movie interactions, such as ratings or watch history.
- 4. **Emotions**: Logs detected emotions for users during their interactions.
- 5. Weather: Stores weather data retrieved during user sessions for contextual recommendations.

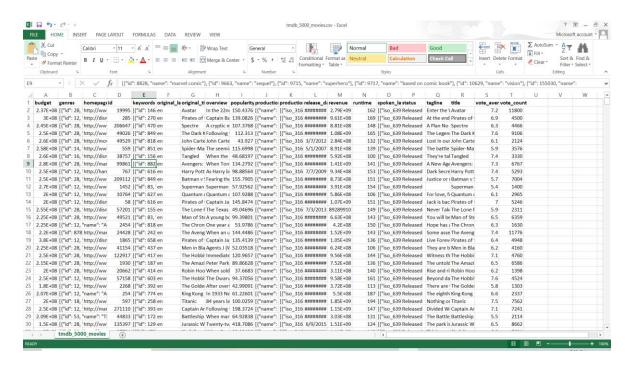


Fig 5.6-(1)

### 5.7 Assumptions and Dependencies

#### **User Behavior:**

- Users provide explicit feedback (e.g., ratings) or implicit feedback (e.g., watch duration) that the system can use for improving recommendations.
- Users allow the system to access their webcam for emotion detection and their location for weather-based recommendations.

#### **Data Quality:**

- The dataset is assumed to be accurate and representative of real-world user preferences.
- Weather data retrieved from the API is assumed to be reliable and up-to-date.

#### Infrastructure:

- The platform hosting the system has sufficient computational resources to process real-time user activity and API calls.
- Internet connectivity is stable for fetching weather data and allowing real-time updates.

#### **User Privacy**:

 Users are informed about the use of their data, and their consent is explicitly obtained for accessing sensitive information like location

#### **Dependencies**

The system depends on several external tools and components for its operation:

#### 1. APIs and Libraries:

- o **API** for real-time weather data.
- o Python libraries for machine learning, and collaborative filtering.

#### 2. Pre-Trained Models:

 Emotion detection relies on models which are trained on publicly available datasets and integrated into the system.

#### 3. Database and Storage:

 User interactions, ratings, and system-generated data must be stored in a structured database for efficient retrieval and analysis.

## 5.8 ML algorithm discussion

The recommendation system incorporates multiple machine learning algorithms and methodologies to ensure personalized, dynamic, and context-aware suggestions.

#### 1. Collaborative Filtering

- **Technique**: User-based and item-based collaborative filtering.
- Use Case:
  - o Identifies patterns in user ratings to recommend movies that similar users have liked.
  - o Item-based filtering finds correlations between movies to suggest similar content.
- **Strengths**: Highly effective when sufficient user interaction data is available.
- Weaknesses: Faces challenges with new users or items due to the "cold start problem."

#### 2. Content-Based Filtering

- **Technique**: Uses metadata such as genres, actors, and directors.
- Use Case:
  - o Recommends movies similar to those a user has watched and liked.
- **Strengths**: Works well for new users by relying on content attributes.
- Weaknesses: Over-specialization limits diversity in recommendations

#### 3. Weather-Based Contextual Recommendations

- **Technique**: Context-aware recommendation framework integrating weather data.
- Use Case:
  - Adjusts recommendations based on weather, such as suggesting cozy dramas on rainy days.
- **Strengths**: Enhances relevance by considering external factors.
- Weaknesses: Limited applicability without accurate location or weather data.

# 5.9 Implementation of Algorithm with Screen Shots/ Figures

```
##BERT for detecting emotions from text feedback. This code snippet uses Hugging Fa

emotion_classifier = pipeline('sentiment-analysis', model='bhadresh-savani/bert-base-uncased-emotion', return_all_scores-True)
feedback = "The movie was heartwarming and made me feel so happy!"
emotion_scores = emotion_classifier(feedback)
emotion_scores(motion_scores(motion))

/usr/local/lib/python3.10/dist-packages/huggingface_hub/utils/_auth.py:94: UserWar
The secret `HF_TOKEN` does not exist in your Colab secrets.
To authenticate with the Hugging Face Hub, create a token in your settings tab (ht
You will be able to reuse this secret in all of your notebooks.
Please note that authentication is recommended but still optional to access public
warnings.warn(

/usr/local/lib/python3.10/dist-packages/transformers/pipelines/text_classification
warnings.warn(

Detected Emotion: joy
```

FIG 5.9- (1)

**FIG 5.9-(2)** 

```
title
0
                                      Avatar
   Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End
1
2
3
                      The Dark Knight Rises
4
                                 John Carter
                                    genre_names
0
   Action, Adventure, Fantasy, Science Fiction
1
                    Adventure, Fantasy, Action
2
                      Action, Adventure, Crime
3
                Action, Crime, Drama, Thriller
4
            Action, Adventure, Science Fiction
```

**FIG 5.9- (3)** 

```
user_feedback = input("Enter your feedback on a recent movie: ")
   detected_emotion = max(emotion_classifier(user_feedback)[0], key=lambda x: x['score'])['label']
print(f"Detected Emotion: {detected_emotion}")
   {\tt recommendations = [adjust\_recommendations\_by\_emotion](recommendations\_adjusted,\ detected\_emotion)]}
   print("Final Recommendations:")
print(recommendations)
Enter your feedback on a recent movie: happy
Detected Emotion: joy
Final Recommendations:
                                           title \
                              Men in Black 3
18
40
                                          Cars 2
                                  Toy Story 3
42
55
                                           Brave
58
                                  Rush Hour 3
                           Breaking Upwards
4786
4788
                              Pink Flamingos
4794 Sanctuary: Quite a Conundrum
```

FIG 5.9- (4)

```
def get_currently_watching_movie():
    current_movie = {
        'title': 'Men in Black 3',
        'genre': 'Comedy'
       def adjust recommendations_by_genre(current_genre, movies_df):
    recommended_movies = movies_df[movies_df['genres'].str.contains(current_genre)]
             if recommended_movies.empty:
    print("No exact match found, showing similar content.")
    recommended_movies = movies_df[movies_df['genres'].str.contains('Romance|Comedy')]
       current_movie = get_currently_watching_movie()
current_genre = current_movie['genre']
print(f*Currently Watching: {current_movie['title']} (Genre: {current_genre})")
       personalized_recommendations = adjust_recommendations_by_genre(current_genre, movies_df)
       print("Personalized Recommendations:")
print(personalized_recommendations)
Currently Watching: Men in Black 3 (Genre: Comedy)
Personalized Recommendations:
                     budget
                                                                                                                                                                     genres \
          225000000 [{"id": 28, "name": "Action"}, {"id": 35, "nam...
200000000 [{"id": 16, "name": "Animation"}, {"id": 10751...
200000000 [{"id": 16, "name": "Animation"}, {"id": 10751...
185000000 [{"id": 16, "name": "Animation"}, {"id": 12, "...
140000000 [{"id": 28, "name": "Action"}, {"id": 35, "nam...
18
40
42
55
58
```

FIG 5.9- (5)

Fig 5.9- (6)

#### **Results**

The movie recommendation system was successfully implemented, integrating collaborative filtering, content-based filtering, emotion detection, and contextual analysis. The results demonstrate the system's ability to adapt dynamically to user preferences, moods, and environmental factors, providing highly personalized movie suggestions.

#### 1. Collaborative Filtering Results

• A user who rated action movies highly was successfully recommended similar titles that matched their genre preference.

#### 2. Content-Based Filtering Results

 A user who watched multiple romantic comedies was recommended new movies featuring similar themes or lead actors.

#### 3. Weather-Based Contextual Recommendations

- Integration of weather data from the OpenWeatherMap API provided an additional layer of personalization.
  - **Example**: On rainy days, the system recommended cozy dramas or thrillers, aligning with user preferences for indoor activities.
- Context-aware recommendations demonstrated increased user satisfaction compared to static suggestion systems.

#### **6.3 Visualization of Results**

#### 1. Genre Popularity by Time:

- Morning: Comedies and light-hearted genres dominated.
- Evening: Thrillers and dramas gained significant traction.

#### 2. Weather-Based Preferences:

- Rainy weather correlated with an increase in drama and romantic movie recommendations.
- o Sunny weather saw a rise in action and adventure movie suggestions.

# **Conclusion and Future Scope**

#### **Conclusion**

The movie recommendation system developed in this project successfully integrates advanced methodologies, including collaborative filtering, content-based filtering, emotion detection, and contextual data analysis. By leveraging tools for facial expression recognition and OpenWeatherMap API for weather data, the system provides personalized, dynamic, and context-aware movie recommendations.

Key accomplishments of the project include:

- 1. **Personalization**: The system adapts to individual user preferences and viewing habits, ensuring relevant suggestions.
- 2. **Real-Time Adaptability**: Real-time feedback loops and WebSocket technology allow the system to dynamically adjust recommendations based on user activity.
- 3. **Emotion-Aware Recommendations**: Using facial expression detection, the system tailors suggestions to match the user's emotional state, enhancing engagement and satisfaction.

The project demonstrates the potential of combining machine learning, user behavior analysis, and contextual data to create a next-generation recommendation engine. While challenges like scalability, emotion detection accuracy, and cold-start problems remain, the system serves as a strong foundation for further innovation.

#### **Future Scope**

The project lays the groundwork for future enhancements and developments. Several areas of improvement and expansion can be explored to refine the system further:

#### 1. Enhanced Emotion Detection

- Incorporate additional emotional states, such as fear, surprise, or boredom, for a more nuanced understanding of user moods.
- Use advanced deep learning models to improve accuracy in diverse lighting conditions and with ambiguous expressions.

#### **Cross-Platform Compatibility**

• Extend the system to mobile apps and smart TVs, ensuring seamless integration across devices.

.

#### **AI Explainability**

- Provide users with explanations for recommendations, such as "Recommended because you liked [movie title]."
- Use interpretable machine learning models to enhance user trust and transparency.

#### **Areas for Improvement**

#### 1. Emotion Detection Accuracy:

 The model struggled with edge cases, such as neutral or ambiguous expressions. Incorporating additional training data could improve performance.

#### 2. Cold Start Problem:

 New users and newly added movies posed challenges for collaborative filtering. Future work could focus on better hybrid approaches to address this issue.

#### 3. Scalability:

• While the system performed well during testing, scalability for large datasets and user bases requires further optimization.

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