COMSYS Hackathon-5 2025: Technical Summary

Title:

Robust Face Recognition & Gender Classification under Adverse Visual Conditions

Team:

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Problem Statement

Develop robust AI models for:

- Task A: Gender Classification (binary: Male/Female)
- **Task B:** Face Recognition (identity matching, multi-class)

using the **FACECOM** dataset, which contains faces under challenging conditions (blur, fog, rain, low-light, overexposure, etc.).

Solution Overview

Our solution consists of two specialized pipelines (see architecture diagram below):

1. Face Matching (Siamese Network with Triplet Loss)

- Preprocessing: CLAHE, gamma correction, bilateral filtering, face alignment.
- Model: Siamese network with shared ResNet-50 backbone.

- **Embedding:** 128-dimensional, L2-normalized vectors.
- Loss: Triplet loss to maximize inter-class distance and minimize intra-class distance.
- **Matching:** Euclidean distance thresholding for verification.

2. Gender Classification (CNN)

- Preprocessing: Same as above.
- Model: EfficientNet-B3 backbone, followed by:
 - Dense(512, ReLU) → BatchNorm → Dropout
 - Dense(256, ReLU) → BatchNorm → Dropout
 - Dense(1, Sigmoid) for binary output.
- Loss: Binary crossentropy.

3. Data Augmentation

- **Techniques:** Horizontal flip, rotation, brightness/contrast, fog, rain, motion blur.
- **Purpose:** Simulate adverse conditions and improve generalization.

4. Test-Time Augmentation

- Multiple augmented versions per test image.
- Ensemble predictions for robust inference.

Evaluation & Results

Task	Accuracy	Precisio n	Recall	F1-Scor e
Gender Classification	0.92	0.93	0.92	0.91

Face Recognition	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.88
Final Weighted Score	0.89	_	_	_

Key Innovations

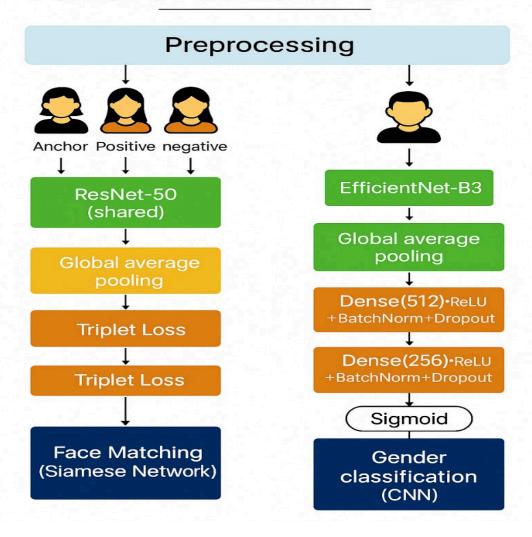
- Adversarial preprocessing pipeline for challenging real-world conditions.
- Siamese network with triplet loss for robust face verification.
- EfficientNet-based gender classifier with advanced regularization.
- Comprehensive data augmentation and test-time augmentation.
- Weighted scoring as per competition rules.

Limitations & Future Work

- Extreme occlusion and very low-resolution faces remain challenging.
- **Future:** Explore transformer-based backbones and self-supervised pretraining for further robustness.

Architecture Diagram

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