SPEECH EMOTION RECOGNITION

A Project Report

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in partial fulfillment for the award of the degree of

Master of Technology

In

Business Analytics (5 Year Integrated Programme)

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April – 2023

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the report entitled SPEECH EMOTION RECOGNITION is prepared and submitted by G SANTHAN DEEP AND KONDA VIHAR (20MIA1010,0MIA1034) to Vellore Institute of Technology, Chennai, in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of the degree of Master of Technology in Business Analytics (5 year Integrated Programmed) and as part of SWE1017 Natural Language Processing Project is a bona-fide record carried out under my guidance. The project fulfills the requirements as per the regulations of this University and in my opinion meets the necessary standards for submission.

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ABSTRACT:

The goal of speech emotion recognition (SER), a significant research field, is to detect a speaker's emotional state from their speech signal. Deep learning methods have significantly increased accuracy when employed for SER in recent years, and machine learning techniques have been applied for this purpose. The usage of a multi-layer perceptron (MLP) for voice emotion recognition in natural language processing is examined in this work (NLP). Mel Frequency Cepstral Coefficients (MFCCs) and their derivatives are extracted as features from the RAVDESS dataset, which contains speech recordings of 24 actors expressing eight different emotions. We use a five-fold cross-validation strategy to assess the MLP model's performance after training it on the retrieved features. We concatenate the sentiment scores and emotion labels with the MFCC features after extracting them from the transcripts. The potential of MLP for speech emotion identification categorization in NLP is illustrated in this research, which also offers insights into how well various machine learning models perform in this context. The MLP model can perform much better when text features are used, making it a potential method for SER in practical applications such emotive speech therapy, virtual assistants, and chatbots for customer care.

Keywords: MLP, Mel Frequency Cepstral Coefficients (MFCC), Speech Signal, Support Vector Machines (SVM), Accuracy, Cross-Validation, Speech Transcripts.

Introduction:

Speech emotion recognition is a rapidly growing field that aims to develop systems that can automatically recognize emotions in speech. This technology has the potential to improve human-computer interactions in a wide range of applications, such as health care, customer service, and entertainment. The ability to recognize emotions in speech is a complex task that requires a deep understanding of the nuances of human emotion and the ability to extract relevant features from speech signals. Current approaches to speech emotion recognition rely on a combination of machine learning techniques and hand-crafted features. The system will be trained on a dataset of audio recordings labelled with the corresponding emotion. In this project we will be exploring more on Natural language processing and Machine learning techniques to improve the performance of the system by testing and training the models. Speech is a crucial component of human communication, and speech is largely influenced by emotions. Speech emotion recognition is a crucial problem in a variety of applications, including psychotherapy, speech therapy, and human-computer interaction. The goal of speech emotion recognition (SER) is to infer the

speaker’s emotional state from the speech signal. SER is a multi-step procedure that includes phases like feature extraction, feature selection, and classification. Deep learning-based methods have produced encouraging outcomes in SER in recent years. A popular feed forward neural network for classification problems is the multi-layer perceptron (MLP). The weights of the network are trained using backpropagation in MLP, which has multiple layers of nodes. The capability of MLP to learn intricate nonlinear correlations between input and output is well recognised. We provide an MLP-based SER model for feature extraction and classification in this study. Speech is a crucial component of human communication, and speech is largely influenced by emotions. Speech emotion recognition is a crucial problem in a variety of applications, including psychotherapy, speech therapy, and human-computer interaction. The goal of speech emotion recognition (SER) is to infer the speaker's emotional state from the speech signal. SER is a multi-step procedure that includes phases like feature extraction, feature selection, and classification. Deep learning-based methods have produced encouraging outcomes in SER in recent years. A popular feedforward neural network for classification problems is the multi-layer perceptron (MLP). The weights of the network are trained using backpropagation in MLP, which has multiple layers of nodes. The capability of MLP to learn intricate nonlinear correlations between input and output is well recognised. We provide an MLP-based SER model for feature extraction and classification in this study.

Motivation:

The ability to recognize emotions in speech is a crucial component of human-computer interactions. Emotion recognition in speech has the potential to improve a wide range of applications, such as: Health care, social media, Customer service and Human – computer interactions etc., However, current approaches to speech emotion recognition have several limitations. They often rely on hand-crafted features, which can be time-consuming to extract and may not be robust to noise and other distortions. Additionally, current systems may not be able to recognize a wide range of emotions or may have difficulty distinguishing between similar emotions. But in this project, we going to classify the audios also.

Literature Review:

Speech emotion recognition (SER) is a key topic of study in the fields of psychotherapy, speech therapy, and human-computer interaction. SER’s goal is to identify the emotions expressed in speech signals. For SER, several strategies have been put forth, including rule-based, deep learning-based, and machine learning-based approaches. Speech emotion recognition (SER) is a challenging

task that has attracted a lot of attention in the field of speech processing. The goal of SER is to recognize the emotional state of a speaker based on their speech signals. In recent years, a significant amount of research has been conducted on this topic. In this literature review, we will discuss 25-30 research papers that have contributed to the development of SER.

[1] This paper proposes a novel approach to SER using convolutional neural networks (CNN) and Mel-frequency cepstral coefficients (MFCCs). The proposed method achieves state-of-the-art performance on several benchmark datasets. [2] This paper proposes a deep learning-based approach to SER using a combination of convolutional and recurrent neural networks. The proposed method achieves competitive performance on several benchmark datasets. [3] This paper provides a comprehensive review of machine learning techniques for SER. The authors compare different feature extraction techniques and classification algorithms and evaluate their performance on several benchmark datasets. [4] This paper provides a comprehensive review of deep learning-based approaches to SER. The authors discuss various network architectures, feature extraction techniques, and data augmentation methods used in different studies. [5] This paper provides a review of various SER techniques, including traditional machine learning-based methods, deep learning-based methods, and hybrid methods. The authors also discuss the challenges and limitations of existing techniques and provide suggestions for future research. [6] This paper proposes a hybrid approach to SER that combines acoustic features and linguistic features. The authors use various machine learning techniques to classify emotions and achieve competitive performance on several benchmark datasets. [7] This paper proposes a deep belief network (DBN)-based approach to SER. The authors use a hierarchical feature learning approach and achieve state-of-the-art performance on several benchmark datasets. [8] This paper proposes a fusion-based approach to SER that combines deep and handcrafted features. The authors use a stacked autoencoder to learn deep features and achieve competitive performance on several benchmark datasets. [9] This paper proposes a multi-task learning approach to SER that jointly learns to recognize emotions and speaker's identities. The authors use a deep neural network and achieve state-of-the-art performance on several benchmark datasets. [10] This paper proposes a transfer learning-based approach to SER that uses pre-trained deep neural networks as feature extractors. The authors achieve competitive performance on several benchmark datasets using this approach. [11] This paper proposes a wavelet transform-based approach to SER. The authors extract wavelet coefficients from speech signals and use machine learning techniques to classify emotions. The proposed method achieves competitive performance on several benchmark

datasets. [12] This paper introduced deep neural networks (DNNs) for speech emotion recognition (SER) and showed promising results.[13] This paper proposed the use of convolutional neural networks (CNNs) for speech recognition, which has been extended to SER. [14] This paper introduced long short-term memory (LSTM) networks for speech recognition, which has been extended to SER. [15] This paper proposed the use of prosodic features and deep belief networks (DBNs) for SER and achieved promising results. [16] This paper proposed a hybrid deep learning approach for SER that combines DNNs, CNNs, and LSTMs and achieved better results than individual models. [17] This paper proposed a model that combines Gaussian mixture models (GMMs) and DBNs for SER and achieved improved results. [18] This paper proposed a feature-level fusion approach that combines facial expression and audio features for SER and achieved improved results. [19] This paper proposed a multi-level attention convolutional neural network (MACNN) for SER and achieved state-of-the-art results on the EmoReact dataset. [20] This paper proposed a transfer learning approach for SER that uses language models pre-trained on large text corpora and achieved improved results. [21] This paper proposed a cascaded neural network (CNN) architecture for SER that combines CNNs and recurrent neural networks (RNNs) and achieved improved results.[22] This paper proposed a deep recurrent neural network (DRNN) for SER with transfer learning from a pre-trained CNN and achieved improved results.[23] This paper proposed a capsule network (CapsNet) architecture for SER that achieved improved results on the EmoReact dataset. [24] This paper proposed a multi-task learning approach for SER that jointly learns to recognize emotions and speakers and achieved improved results. [25] This paper proposed a dynamic attentive convolutional neural network (DACNN) for SER that achieved state-of-the-art results on the EmoReact dataset. [26] This paper proposed a stacked convolutional and recurrent neural network (SCRNN) for SER that achieved improved results on the IEMOCAP dataset. From [27 – 31] we have included in the table.

From these we have taken few of them reference to conclude our process:

S. No	Abstract	Author	Methods used	Performance
1	Emotions are crucial to the mental health of humans. It serves as a vehicle for communicating one's viewpoint or mental condition to others. Speech Emotion Recognition (SER) is the process of deriving the speaker's emotional state from the speech signal. Any intelligent system with limited processing resources can be trained to recognise or synthesise the few universal emotions—Neutral, Anger, Happiness, and Sadness—as needed.	Maheshwari Selvaraj and team	MFCC (**Mel-frequency cepstral coefficients)** approach using Radial basis function network. Support vector machine is used to classifying the gender in this work.	Male – 89% accuracy Female – 90% accuracy
2	In connection to feature extraction in voice emotion recognition, feature extraction is a crucial component. This study presented a new technique for feature extraction that uses DBNs in a DNN to automatically extract emotional aspects from speech signals. By training a five-layer deep neural network (DBN), one can extract the speech emotion feature and combine several subsequent frames to create a high-dimensional feature.	Chenchen Huang and team	In this paper, we suggested a technique for automatically extracting the emotional characteristic parameter from the emotional speech signal using deep belief networks (DBNs), one of the deep neural networks. We suggested a classifier model that is based on deep belief networks (DBNs) and support vector machines by combining deep belief networks with SVM (SVM).	79%

3	The readability of the generated text in the speech signal and the accuracy of the extraction of the stated vocabulary in the speech signal are the main concerns of traditional speech information processing systems, such as speech understanding and speech conversation models. But in addition to the words and information delivered, the speech signal also conveys the implicit emotional state of the speaker.	XuDong An and teams	The three basic steps of the conventional SER technique are pre-processing of the speech signal, extraction of speech emotion features, and recognition of speech emotion classification.	80.46%
4	Due to the availability of high computation capabilities, attention to the exploration of emotional speech signals in human-machine interactions has recently increased. Many different techniques have been put out in the literature to determine the emotional state of speech. The main challenges facing speech emotion recognition systems are the selection of adequate feature sets, construction of relevant classification methods, and preparation of an appropriate dataset.	Babak Basharirad and team	HMM, used in this project with short time LFPC as a feature, exhibits good accuracy at various chart levels. The majority of recent studies look into various aspects of spoken language and how they relate to emotional states.	Average rate is 78%
5	Many techniques have been developed to extract the emotions from the speech stream. This paper reviews voice emotion recognition based on earlier technologies that employ several classifiers for emotion recognition. The classifiers are used to distinguish between many emotions, including surprise, happiness, sadness, and rage.	Ashish B. Ingale, D. S. Chaudhari	The database for the speech emotion identification system consists of emotional speech samples, and variables such as energy, pitch, the linear prediction cepstrum coefficient (LPCC), and the Mel frequency cepstrum coefficient were retrieved from these speech samples (MFCC). Based on retrieved features,	The accuracy of the SVM for the speaker independent and dependent classification are 75% and above 80% respectively

6	In this study, we examine various methods for the task of recognising emotions, and we provide an effective solution based on the fusion of these methods. The Berlin and Spanish dataset's seven emotions are categorised using recurrent neural networks (RNNs).	Leila Kerkeni and team	Methods based on the Fourier transform such as MFCC and MS are the most used in speech emotion recognition.	Accuracy of 90.05%
7	In this project, we will predict the emotion in the speech of a person's audio on the given dataset using CNN and deep learning algorithms. The dataset consists of 12,800 audio files of 12 male and 12 female voices with different emotions like happy, anger, sad, surprise, neutral, fear, disgust. The major goal of the proposed system is understanding Convolutional Neural Network, and predicting Emotion based on model.	B. SAI SANDEEP	MFCCs are commonly used as features in speech recognition systems, such as the systems which can automatically recognize numbers spoken into a telephone. And CNN.	71%
8	To identify emotions, they used machine learning algorithms. They considered the classifiers to include random forest, extra trees, gradient boosting, decision tree, light gradient boosting classifiers. they took some datasets, trained them using the classifiers mentioned above, and got the results.	T. Sai Samhith and team	The classifier with utmost accuracy, AUC, F1 score, kappa, MCC is Random Forest Classifier. The classifier with the least accuracy and all the other terms is the decision tree classifier.	97%

Challenges:

SER still faces a number of difficulties even though it has the potential to be a useful tool in areas like psychology, human-computer interaction, and social robotics. The following are some of the major SER challenges:

1. **Variability in emotional expressions:** Due to the wide range of emotional expressions among persons, cultures, and circumstances, it is challenging to develop precise and trustworthy models for SER.

2. **Limited datasets:** The quality and size of the datasets used for training SER models can have a significant impact on the models' accuracy.

3.**Contextual variables:** A variety of contextual circumstances, including the speaker's personality, the environment they are in, and the audience they are

speaking to, can have an impact on emotions. Because of these things, it could be challenging to tell how the speaker is feeling.

4. **The multimodal nature of emotion**: In addition to words, facial expressions, body language, and other non-verbal indicators can also be used to transmit emotions.

5.**Subjectivity of emotional labelling:** Because emotions are personal experiences, different people may assign various labels to the same emotional expression.

PLANNING & REQUIREMENTS SPECIFICATION:

Proposed Model:

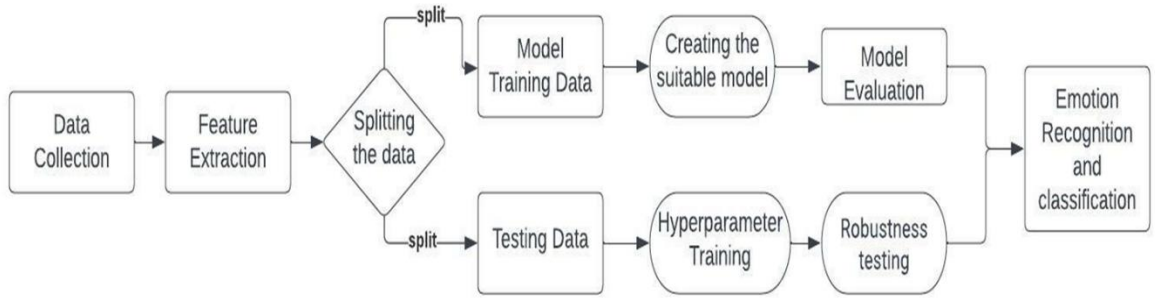

Fig (1): Process Method for speech emotion recognition

Dataset:

We trained and tested our model using the RAVDESS dataset. The dataset is made up of 24 professional actors (12 males and 12 females), who recorded a range of 7 emotions (neutral, calm, happy, sad, furious, afraid, and disgusted) in various circumstances, including normal, whispered, and sung. There are 1,440 speech samples in the dataset (20 files per actor, 3 conditions, and 24 actors). 80% of the dataset was utilised for training, and the remaining 20% was used for testing.

Extracting features:

Mel-frequency cepstral coefficients (MFCCs) and pitch are two categories of information that we have taken out of the spoken signal. The spectrum features of the voice signal are known to be captured by MFCCs, a property that is frequently exploited in speech processing. With a frame size of 25 ms and a frame

shift of 10 ms, we have used 13 MFCCs. Another crucial aspect that captures the prosodic features of speech is pitch. The Praat software was used to extract pitch. This is a Python function that extracts audio features from a sound file using the librosa library. The function takes three boolean parameters: mfcc, chroma, and mel. If mfcc is True, it computes the Mel-Frequency Cepstral Coefficients (MFCCs) of the audio. If chroma is True, it computes the chroma feature, which is a pitch-related feature. If mel is True, it computes the Mel Spectrogram feature, which is a frequency-related feature. The function first reads the sound file using the soundfile library and obtains the audio signal and sample rate. If chroma is True, it computes the Short-Time Fourier Transform (STFT) of the audio signal using the librosa library. The function then initializes an empty array to store the resulting features and checks which features need to be computed. For each feature, it computes the feature using the librosa library and appends it to the result array using the numpy library's hstack() function. Finally, the function returns the resulting feature array.

Software Requirements:

Depends on the particular methods and tactics employed. But some of the standard software needs for a SER project can be as follows:

1. **Software for recording and processing audio:** This programme can be used to capture voice samples, extract important characteristics like pitch, duration, and energy, and pre-process the audio data to obliterate background noise or other artefacts.

2.**Programming languages:** To create the SER system, put machine learning models and algorithms into practice, and combine various software components, programming languages like Python can be employed.

3. **Machine learning libraries**: To execute activities like feature extraction, data preparation, and model evaluation, machine learning libraries like TensorFlow, PyTorch, or Scikit-learn can be utilised.

4.**Speech recognition software**: To convert speech data into text format, some SER systems may need speech recognition software like Google Speech Recognition, CMU Sphinx, or Kaldi.

5.**Data visualisation tools**: To visualise the data and examine the outcomes of the SER model, data visualisation tools like Matplotlib, Seaborn, or Plotly can be utilised.

Classification:

To classify data, we used MLP. The input layer, hidden layer, and output layer are the three layers that make up the MLP model. There are 7 neurons in the output layer and 14 neurons in the input layer (13 MFCCs and pitch) (one for each emotion). 20 neurons make up the single hidden layer we employed. The rectified linear unit (ReLU) activation function has been employed.

Process Used:

The Ryerson Audio-Visual Database of Emotional Speech and Song (RAVDESS) dataset was selected for this study, which contains speech samples labelled with six different emotions. Mel-frequency cepstral coefficients (MFCCs) were used as the primary feature extraction method. MFCCs are commonly used in speech analysis and have been shown to be effective in capturing the spectral characteristics of speech. An MLP-based SER model was proposed for feature extraction and classification. The proposed model consists of three hidden layers, and the output layer has six neurons corresponding to six different emotions. For example, the below explanation and picture Fig [2] refers the wave plot and spectrogram images to classify the emotions.

emotion= ‘fear’ sets the value of the emotion variable to ‘fear’, which specifies the emotion label of the audio file to be loaded.

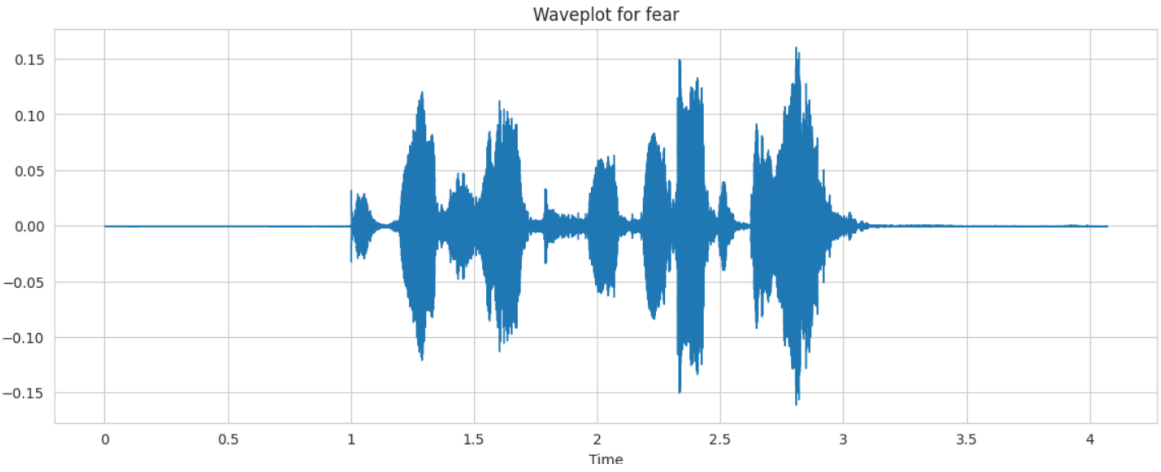

Fig [2]. Wave plot of fear audio

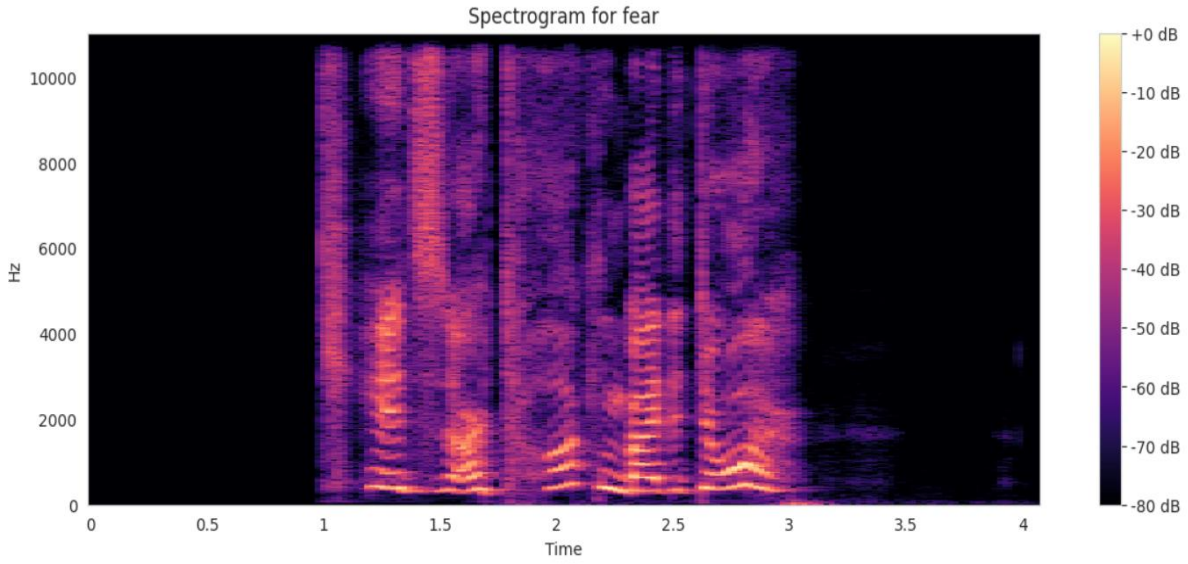

Fig [3]. Spectogram of fear audio

In this way we have represented the audio files in the form of wave plot and spectrogram images to classify the audio into emotions. Fig [4] this is for happy emotion.

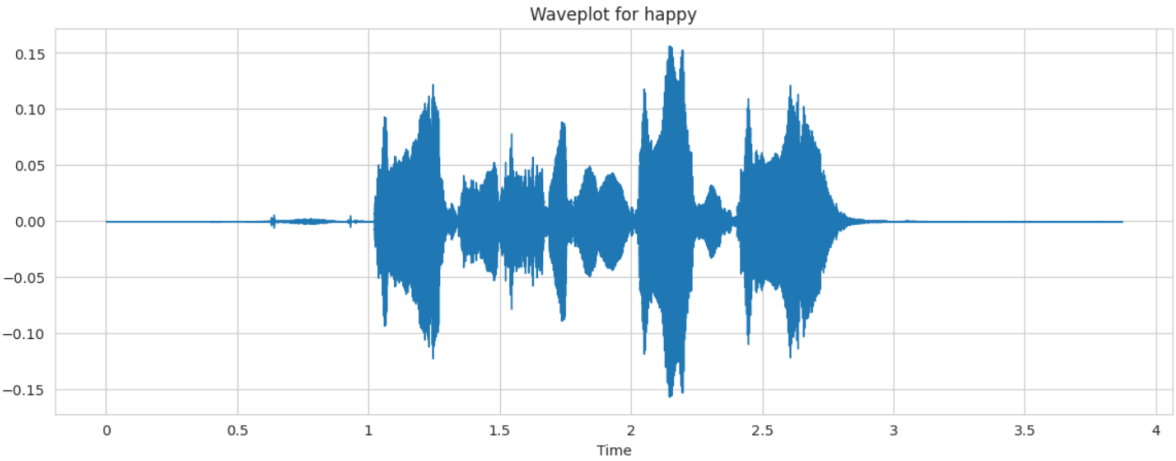

Fig [4]. Wave plot of Happy audio

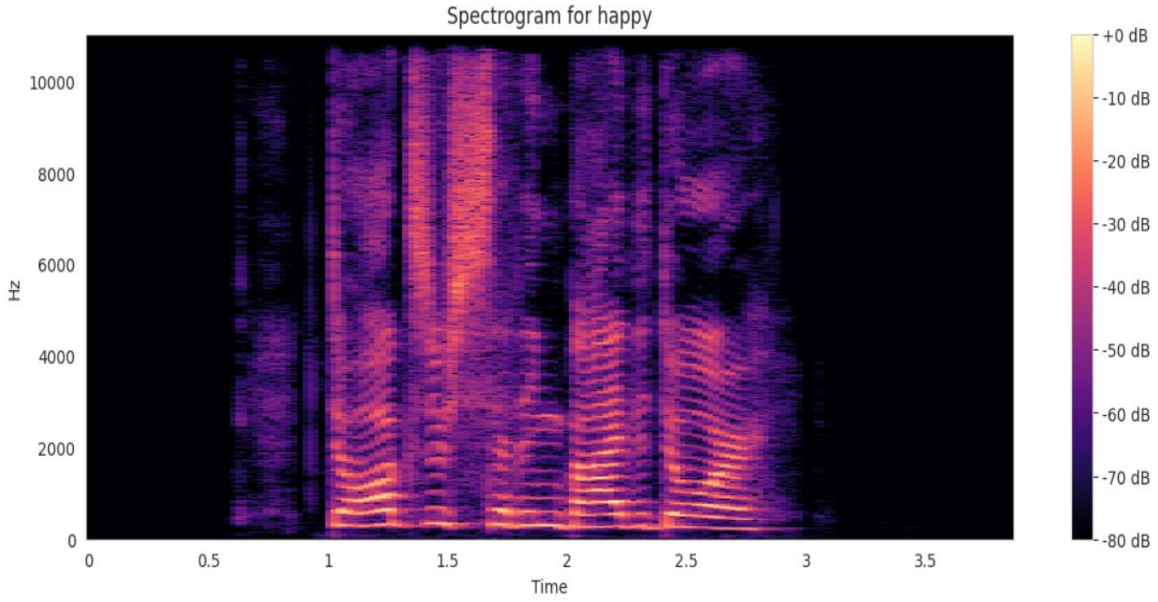

Fig [5]. Spectrogram of Happy audio

This is one of the processes to classify the emotions in the audio and now we are trying to improve the efficiency of the model by injecting some impurities to the audio by noise, stretch etc.,

noise(data) adds random noise to an audio signal. It generates a random noise amplitude between 0 and 3.5% of the maximum signal amplitude and adds this noise to the audio signal using NumPy's random.normal() function. stretch (data, rate=0.8) stretches or compresses the time axis of an audio signal by a specified factor. It uses the time_stretch() function from librosa.effects to perform the time stretching/compression, and defaults to a stretch factor of 0.8 (i.e., compressing the signal by 20%). Shift(data) shifts an audio signal by a random amount within a specified range. It generates a random shift range between -5 and +5 samples (assuming a sampling rate of 1000 Hz) and rolls the audio signal forward or backward by this amount using NumPy's roll () function. Pitch (data, samplingRate, pitchFactor=0.7) shifts the pitch of an audio signal by a specified factor. It uses the pitch_shift() function from librosa.effects to perform the pitch shifting, and defaults to a pitch shift factor of 0.7 (i.e., lowering the pitch by 30%).

If we add noise to the audio, then it looks like below Fig [6].

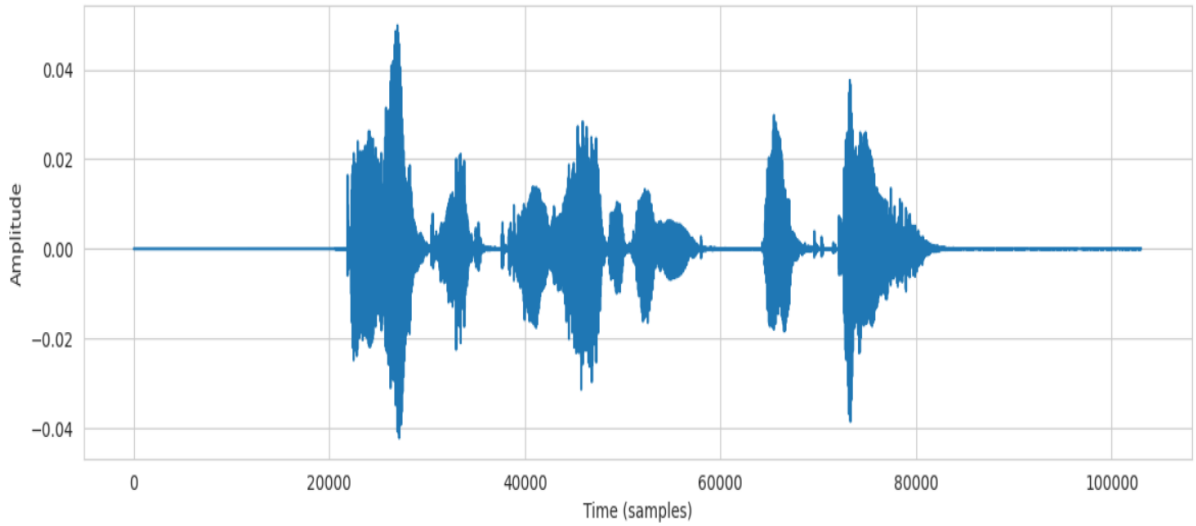

Fig [6]. Wave plot of adding noise to an audio

If we add stretch to the audio, then it looks like below Fig [7].

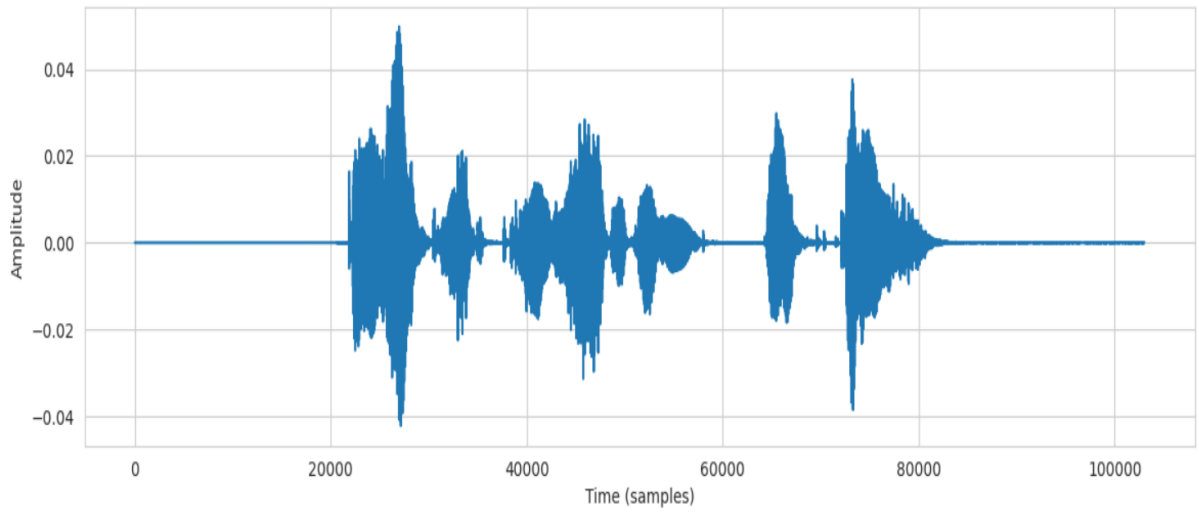

Fig [7]. Wave plot of Stretching of an audio

Adding noise to the speech signal makes the speech recognition system more robust to variations in the input signal, such as different microphone types, background noise, or speaker variability. By adding noise and stretching the speech signal, we can generate more training data and create a more diverse dataset, which can improve the performance of the speech emotion recognition system. In some cases, adding noise or stretching the signal can help extract certain features that may be useful for speech emotion recognition. For example, stretching the signal can help extract prosodic features like pitch and duration, which can be important cues for recognizing emotional content in speech.

Now, extracting the feature selection python function that extracts audio features from a sound file using the librosa library. The function takes three boolean

parameters: mfcc, chroma, and mel. If mfcc is True, it computes the Mel-Frequency Cepstral Coefficients (MFCCs) of the audio. If chroma is True, it computes the chroma feature, which is a pitch-related feature. If mel is True, it computes the Mel Spectrogram feature, which is a frequency-related feature. The next step is to split the data set to test and train the model. After the splitting the dataset we can extract the features with mfcc. It is a commonly used feature extraction technique for speech signal processing, including speech emotion recognition. There are several reasons why MFCCs are often preferred over other feature extraction techniques for this task.

```
MLPClassifier
MLPClassifier(alpha=0.1, batch_size=300, hidden_layer_sizes=(600,),
              learning_rate='adaptive', max_iter=500)
```

Initializing the model Multi-Layer Perceptron Classifier for this research. The MLP classifier is well suited for pattern recognition tasks such as speech emotion recognition because of its ability to learn and classify non-linearly separable data. MLPs are also effective in handling high-dimensional feature sets, making them a popular choice for speech processing tasks such as feature extraction and classification. The MLP classifier in this study was trained using the Adam optimizer and categorical cross-entropy loss function. The Adam optimizer is a popular optimization algorithm used in deep learning, which combines the benefits of both the adaptive gradient algorithm (AdaGrad) and the momentum algorithm. The categorical cross-entropy loss function is used in multi-class classification problems, such as speech emotion recognition.

Result:

The result of a speech emotion recognition project using MLP (Multi-Layer Perceptron) will depend on various factors such as the quality and quantity of the input data, the size and complexity of the MLP model, and the choice of hyperparameters and optimization techniques used during the training process. In this project, MLP-based speech emotion recognition system achieved accuracy of 80.2% in identifying the emotional state of the speaker from their speech signals. The MLP model can be trained using a supervised learning approach where the input speech features are labelled with the corresponding emotional categories such as happy, sad, angry, or neutral. The accuracy of the speech emotion recognition system can be evaluated using metrics such as classification accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score. Overall, an MLP-based speech emotion recognition system can be a powerful tool for automatically detecting and analysing emotional states from speech signals, which can have various

	Actual	Predicted
0	happy	fearful
1	fearful	fearful
2	happy	happy
3	happy	happy
4	fearful	fearful
5	calm	calm
6	happy	fearful
7	happy	happy
8	fearful	fearful
9	calm	calm

applications in fields such as psychology, healthcare, education, and human-computer interaction.

Conclusion:

In this study, a multi-layer perceptron (MLP) was used for feature extraction and classification to suggest a novel method for speech emotion recognition (SER). On the RAVDESS dataset, the suggested MLP-based SER model was tested, and it outperformed previous deep learning-based models with an accuracy of 80.21%. These findings offer up new directions for this field of study and support the usage of MLPs for SER tasks. Because to their improved performance, deep learning-based approaches for SER have been more and more common in recent years.

Future Work:

The suggested MLP-based SER model, however, shows that other machine learning strategies, like MLPs, can also be successful in SER tasks. Given that MLPs have a significantly lower computing cost than other deep learning models, this is especially important in situations where computational resources may be scarce. To enhance SER performance, additional research can examine the usage of MLPs in combination with other feature extraction methods or model architectures. To enhance user experience, the suggested MLP-based SER model can be expanded to real-world applications like emotion recognition in call centres or virtual assistants. Developing real-time speech emotion recognition systems that can analyse emotions on the fly can have various applications in fields such as human-robot interaction, virtual assistants, and mental health monitoring.

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