

# AI-POWERED ACADEMIC HELPDESK SYSTEM

MS. PAVITHRA M, SAIRAM R, SHAKTHIVEL M, SANJAIKUMAR S B  
DEPARTMENT OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE & DATA SCIENCE, VEL TECH HIGH TECH  
DR. RANGARAJAN DR. SAKUNTHALA ENGINEERING COLLEGE, AVADI, CHENNAI-600062.

*Abstract* Higher educational institutions face challenges in providing timely academic assistance because student inquiries have increased while administrative staff numbers have decreased. The researchers developed an AI-based academic helpdesk system which uses Natural Language Processing and Machine Learning methods to provide students with academic support through live assistance. The academic system uses a web-based chatbot interface to handle common academic inquiries which include syllabus details, attendance information, examination timetables, and academic timeline events. The system uses basic design elements which enable fast performance while providing custom solutions for particular institutions instead of using sophisticated sentiment assessment systems or therapeutic application frameworks. The testing results from an academic FAQ dataset demonstrate that the intent classification system reaches 91.2% accuracy while responding to inquiries within 1.3 seconds. The system achieved better accessibility and increased student satisfaction according to user feedback, which indicates that the automated academic support model functions effectively as a practical solution for university academic support needs.

*Keywords* Academic Helpdesk System, AI Voice Assistant, Emotion Detection, Speech-to-Text, Natural Language Processing (NLP), Machine Learning, Student Support System, Human-Computer Interaction

## I. INTRODUCTION

The rapid increase in student population and academic activities within higher educational institutions has created a growing need for efficient, scalable, and continuous academic support systems. Students need information about syllabus updates and examination schedules and attendance status and internal assessments and academic deadlines.

These queries are usually answered manually by faculty or administrative staff members who can be reached more often than not with office visits, email requests, or undependable notice boards. So, such traditional methods are likely to be time-consuming, work-hour dependent, and further aggravate the issue of wrong communication as well.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Natural Language Processing (NLP) and Machine Learning (ML) have reached new achievements which enable the creation of smart conversational systems that can provide automated academic support. Students can use AI-powered chatbots to communicate through natural language which enables them to get immediate answers that enhance their access to academic content. Users can now access academic support systems through voice-based interaction which enables them to communicate without using their hands.

Beyond simple information retrieval, understanding a student's emotional state can further enhance human-computer interaction. Emotion detection through text and voice analysis enables the identification of student stress and confusion while students maintain a neutral state during their interaction. User experience improves through the implementation of emotion-aware responses which enable more helpful and situation-specific interactions that occur in academic helpdesk settings.

The existing academic chatbot systems that currently exist use advanced sentiment analysis and counseling capabilities yet their implementation requires complex system architectures which create additional challenges for both deployment and maintenance. The institutional environment needs an academic helpdesk system which meets their needs through lightweight operation and specific academic domain support while delivering instant answer service and enabling users to communicate through voice and basic emotional state recognition.

The paper presents an AI-based academic helpdesk system which uses natural language processing and machine learning to deliver real-time student assistance. The system enables users to make academic requests through both text and voice input while it processes their requests through intent detection and emotion analysis from their spoken and written responses. The system decreases faculty and administrative staff workload through its design which emphasizes simple and efficient deployment while it improves student access to services and institution response times and student happiness at college.

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

The recent adoption of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Natural Language Processing (NLP) technologies in education has enabled automated student support services for educational institutions. Academic chatbots stand out among these applications because they answer common student inquiries about courses and tests and school timetables and university rules. The main purpose of these systems exists to decrease operational tasks which faculty members and administrative personnel must complete while they deliver timely and accurate academic information to students.

Several studies have proposed text-based academic chatbot systems which use NLP techniques that include both tokenization and feature extraction and intent classification. The student queries were classified into academic intent categories through the application of machine learning models that included Logistic Regression and Support Vector Machines and Naive Bayes. The approaches demonstrate effective performance for academic queries which follow a fixed structure and use repetitive patterns but their text-only interaction system limits accessibility for some users.

Researching face-to-face communications introduces disadvantages which restrict people from actively participating in their discussions. The latest research has demonstrated that people with disabilities can improve their digital experience when they interact with chatbots that respond through voice-based systems. Voice-enabled academic assistants use speech-to-text (STT) technology for converting spoken queries into written text while they use text-to-speech (TTS) mechanisms for delivering audible responses. Studies show that voice-based systems enable users to access information more effectively because they provide a better natural experience and quick information access. The accuracy of speech recognition systems depends on background noise and accent variations and pronunciation differences.

Students' emotional states require assessment because it has become a critical research field that extends beyond academic question resolution. Researchers have studied text and voice analysis methods to detect emotional states which include happiness stress confusion and sadness. Text-based emotion detection methods commonly rely on keyword analysis or machine learning classifiers, while voice-based emotion recognition uses acoustic features that include pitch tone and intensity. The implementation of emotion-aware chatbot systems enables users to interact better with the system because the system generates responses that show understanding and flexibility.

Multiple systems available today provide academic help together with emotional support services yet these systems need complicated technical frameworks which require extensive data resources.

The development process for such systems creates the additional expenses for both their operational implementation and ongoing system upkeep. Academic institutions require fast solutions which can solve everyday academic question without needing advanced comprehensive systems.

The existing research demonstrates that specialized datasets are essential for academic chatbots to function effectively because these chatbots operate within controlled environments that follow institutional regulations and academic schedules and institutional policies. Maurya and Deepshikha (2025) developed an academic chatbot which used artificial intelligence to provide students with academic help and real-time emotional support through sentiment analysis methods. The system showed better user interaction and emotional assistance capabilities but needed complicated system designs and large data collections which made it unsuitable for academic automation at particular institutions.

Xiao and Zhang (2021) studied intelligent tutoring systems through advanced NLP methods which enabled personalized learning experiences. The researchers developed their system to produce better learning results through enhanced semantic comprehension and contextual response generation abilities. The proposed system mainly provided learning assistance while it did not perform common academic helpdesk tasks which included schedule management and attendance tracking and institutional policy enforcement.

## III. IMPLEMENTATION

### 3.1 Overview

The AI-powered Academic Helpdesk System functions as an online platform which provides students with immediate academic assistance through text and voice communication. The system uses Natural Language Processing (NLP) and machine learning for intent classification and speech processing methods and emotion detection to automate the processing of common academic inquiries.

The complete implementation process requires academic datasets which organizations need to create and complete the processing of textual and speech data and establish intent classification models and perform user emotion analysis through text and voice data and produce suitable responses. The system operates through a compact and expandable complete web solution which delivers optimal performance and the permits straightforward integration into educational settings.

### 3.2 Data Loading and Preprocessing

The proposed system uses its main dataset which contains academic Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) specific to different institutions together with their related query-response pairs that were obtained from college academic resources. The dataset includes various academic queries which encompass all information about syllabus details attendance status examination schedules timetables internal assessments and academic deadlines.

Textual data preprocessing was performed to standardize user inputs and improve model performance. The process started by converting all text to lowercase which included removing all punctuation marks and stop words while applying tokenization and lemmatization methods to normalize the queries. The system utilized speech-to-text (STT) technology to transform spoken inputs into written text which then underwent the same NLP preprocessing pipeline.

The unified preprocessing approach maintains identical processing standards for both text and voice inputs which improves the performance and precision of intent classification.

### 3.3 Feature Extraction

The process extracted essential textual elements from student queries which had been preprocessed to achieve correct intent classification. Natural language inputs were transformed into numerical representation through Term Frequency-Inverse Document Frequency (TF-IDF) and bag-of-words methods. The different query categories are represented through these two methods which succeed in capturing crucial academic terms together with their associated contextual patterns.

The system processed voice-based inputs by first converting speech signals into text through speech-to-text (STT) technology before extracting features from the textual data. The system extracted emotion-related features from keywords with sentiment value in text data and from vocal input features which included pitch and energy measurements. The selected features helped decrease processing requirements yet they enabled the system to achieve peak performance.

### 3.3.1 Intent Classification Model

The academic helpdesk system depends on its intent classification module. Supervised machine learning techniques, including Support Vector Machine (SVM) and Logistic Regression, are utilized to categorize student queries into predefined academic intent classes. The SVM method works effectively with high-dimensional text data because it can handle complex decision boundaries whereas Logistic Regression provides stable probability results that make model understanding easier. The system uses the predicted intent to fetch the appropriate academic response from the knowledge base which it delivers to the user instantly.

### 3.3.2. Emotion Detection Using Text and Voice

The system uses an emotion detection module to track student emotional states which include happiness and stress and confusion and sadness. The system uses sentiment-oriented keywords together with machine learning classification methods to perform text-based emotion detection. The system uses acoustic features analysis which includes pitch and intensity and speech rate to achieve emotion recognition during voice-based interactions.

### 3.3.3. Web Application Architecture

The academic helpdesk system operates on a client-server web architecture which enables users to interact with the system through reliable real-time connections. The frontend component provides a responsive and user-friendly chatbot interface that supports both text-based input and voice interaction which allows students to communicate with the system in a flexible manner across different devices. The backend component uses Natural Language Processing (NLP) pipelines to handle user queries which are processed through the system.

The system uses intent classification to determine academic request types and it uses emotion detection techniques to assess the user's emotional state. The backend system fetches the correct academic response from the knowledge base based on its predicted intent and detected emotion which it sends to the frontend system in actual time.

The system uses a lightweight database to store academic content and frequently asked questions (FAQs) and predefined response templates and user interaction logs. The logs serve dual purposes because they enable system performance tracking and they enhance response accuracy measurement throughout the system's operation. The modular design of the system architecture enables scalability, simplifies maintenance, and allows seamless integration with existing institutional systems, making the solution suitable for deployment in real-world academic environments.

## IV.MODEL ARCHITECTURE

The system architecture diagram shows how users interact with two components of the system which are the chatbot interface and the backend application that connects to a database. The system lets students use a chatbot interface to make inquiries by choosing between text and voice input methods. The application layer receives the submitted queries which through processing will result in response generation after analysis.

The complete system structure includes the following elements:

- **Input Layer:** The system receives student inquiries through both written text and spoken word. The system first transforms spoken input into text through the speech-to-text (STT) module which then sends the text to subsequent stages of operation.
- **Preprocessing Layer:** The system uses text normalization processes which include tokenization and stop word and punctuation removal and lemmatization to create standardized user input that eliminates unnecessary data elements.

- **Feature Representation Layer:** The layer uses Term Frequency-Inverse Document Frequency (TF-IDF) and bag-of-words methods to convert preprocessed text into numerical feature vectors. The representations show important academic terms together with the contextual patterns which students use in their queries.
- **Intent Classification Layer:** The system uses Support Vector Machine (SVM) and Logistic Regression models to classify user queries into specific academic intent categories through its supervised machine learning framework.
- **Emotion Detection Layer:** The system determines user emotional states through sentiment analysis of text input and analysis of pitch and intensity vocal features from voice input.
- **Decision & Response Mapping Layer:** The system uses academic intent predictions and emotional state detection results to choose appropriate academic response templates from its knowledge base.
- **Output Layer:** The chatbot system provides students with precise and compassionate answers through its realtime interface which enables text and voice interaction.
- **Data Storage Layer:** The system uses a lightweight database to store academic FAQs and response templates and user interaction logs which support system monitoring and ongoing system development.

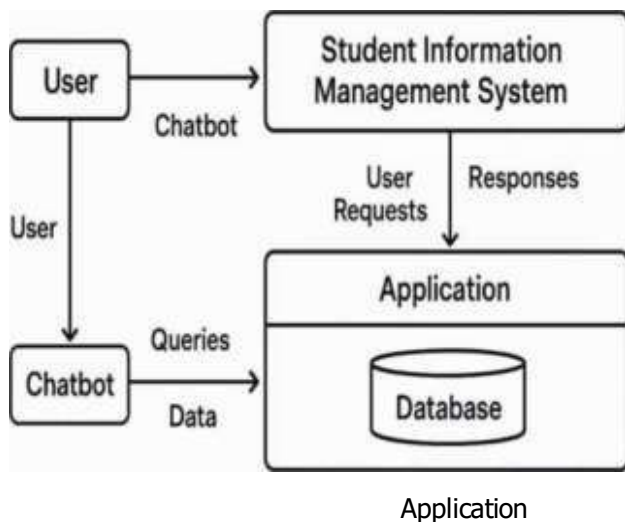


Fig no:1

## V. TRAINING AND TESTING

The intent classification system together with the emotion detection system required optimization during the training and testing phase to achieve accurate results for all academic questions which students submitted. The organization used a training pipeline which followed predefined steps to achieve dependable model results that could perform well with new data. The pipeline contained five stages which included dataset preparation, feature extraction, model training, validation, and final testing.

The training process used institution-specific academic queries to help models develop their ability to recognize academic intent through linguistic pattern identification. The model parameters received validation to establish their optimal settings while testing used new queries to assess actual operational effectiveness. The system evaluated user inputs through both text and voice channels to achieve uniform performance across all interaction methods.

The primary objective of this phase was to achieve high intent classification accuracy while maintaining low response latency suitable for real-time academic support.

The research dedicated its main focus to finding a solution which would enable the system to deliver quick and dependable results through its text and voice interaction capabilities within an institutional setting.

### 5.1 Dataset Preparation

The academic dataset which belongs to the institution contains student queries together with their corresponding intent labels and the dataset serves as the foundation for training and evaluation of the proposed system. The dataset includes queries related to syllabus information, attendance status, examination schedules, timetables, internal assessments, and academic deadlines. For emotion detection, each query was also associated with emotion labels such as happiness, stress, confusion, and neutral.

The researchers used stratified sampling to divide the dataset because they wanted to achieve equal distribution of different academic intent categories. The data was split as follows: 70% for training to enable model learning, 15% for validation to support hyperparameter tuning, and the remaining 15% for testing to provide an unbiased evaluation of model performance.

The First Step of Text Processing Involves standardizing text through lowercase conversion and punctuation elimination. The Second Step of Text Processing Involves dividing text into parts while lemmatizing to preserve language integrity. The third step of the process requires text analysis through TF-IDF and bag-of-words methods to extract essential features. The system uses speech-to-text technology to transform voice recordings into written text before it starts the preprocessing stage. The system defines its target variable through multi-class academic intent labels which serve as its academic intent labels.

### 5.2 Model Architecture

The intent classification model architecture which we present handles academic inquiries from institutions through its ability to process both text and voice interactions. The system uses multiple processing layers which work together to achieve precise intent detection and instant response generation.

- The Preprocessing Layer handles text normalization through its three processes which include tokenization and stop word removal and lemmatization to produce consistent and clean student query results.
- The Feature Representation Layer uses Term Frequency-Inverse Document Frequency (TF-IDF) and bag-of-words methods to transform preprocessed queries into numerical feature vectors. These methods capture important academic keywords and contextual patterns across different query categories.

**Intent Classification Layer:** According to the research, the layer uses Support Vector Machine and Logistic Regression supervised machine learning models to identify distinct patterns which exist between different academic intent categories while processing highdimensional textual data.

- **Ensemble Decision Layer:** The system combines SVM and Logistic Regression predictions through a soft-voting mechanism which improves model stability and classification accuracy.

- **Output Mapping Layer:** The layer maps intent probability predictions to established academic intent categories which enable real-time retrieval of suitable academic responses from the knowledge base.

### 5.3 Model Training Process

The model training process aimed to minimize intent classification mistakes while it tried to achieve accurate results and successful generalization of student queries. The academic helpdesk system performance needed to meet real-time requirements so the training process used an organized method which included systematic procedures.

- **Cross-Validation:** Five-fold stratified cross-validation created academic intent categories that maintained consistent performance while decreasing training class imbalance effects.

- **Hyperparameter Optimization:** GridSearchCV identified the best hyperparameters for classifiers which included kernel selection and regularization strength in the Support Vector Machine (SVM) model and regularization coefficients for Logistic Regression.

- **Loss Function:** Log-loss (cross-entropy loss) optimization enabled probabilistic intent classification while it enhanced confidence estimation for predicted intent classes.

- **Training Strategy:** The models were trained using TF-IDF feature vectors derived from preprocessed academic queries which enabled the models to learn relevant linguistic patterns.

- **Stopping Criteria:** The research team used validation accuracy and F1-score values to track training progress because these metrics helped them achieve model convergence while stopping overfitting.

### 5.4 Testing and Evaluation

The AI-driven academic support system underwent testing after its training ended by using a separate student query test set which had not been used in either training or validation processes. The assessment method used to evaluate the system functioned as a testing tool which evaluated system performance using actual academic environments. The testing process evaluated both text and voice inquiries to confirm that the system operated consistently with all types of input. The academic intent labels which were predicted by the system were compared to the actual ground-truth annotations to calculate standard classification performance metrics.

The accuracy metric assessed how many student queries the system accurately determined their academic intent. The system used precision to assess how accurate its predictions were for different academic intent categories which included examination-related and attendance-related inquiries.

The system's capability to correctly identify all relevant queries which belong to a specific intent category was assessed through recall measurements. The F1-score served as an equal assessment of classification accuracy for different intent categories through its combination of precision and recall metrics. The study used a confusion matrix to examine how different academic intents were misclassified while it detected cases of overlapping or unclear query types.

The testing process included response time measurement to verify that the chatbot could provide answers in real-time for both text and voice interactions. The evaluation results demonstrate that the proposed system accurately classifies student queries while maintaining fast response times. The findings demonstrate that the AI-powered academic helpdesk system operates as a dependable and expandable solution which educational institutions can use to deliver ongoing academic assistance in their actual environments.

## VI. EXPERIMENTS

The system's capability to correctly identify all relevant queries which belong to a specific intent category was assessed through recall measurements. The F1-score served as an equal assessment of classification accuracy for different intent categories through its combination of precision and recall metrics. The study used a confusion matrix to examine how different academic intents were misclassified while it detected cases of overlapping or unclear query types.

The testing process included response time measurement to verify that the chatbot could provide answers in real-time for both text and voice interactions. The evaluation results demonstrate that the proposed system accurately classifies student queries while maintaining fast response times. The findings demonstrate that the AI-powered academic helpdesk system operates as a dependable and expandable solution which educational institutions can use to deliver ongoing academic assistance in their actual environments.



Fig no:2

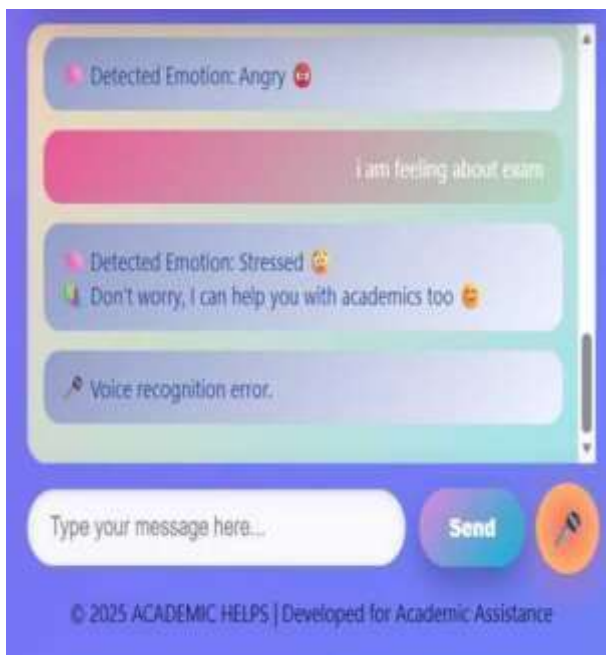


Fig no:3

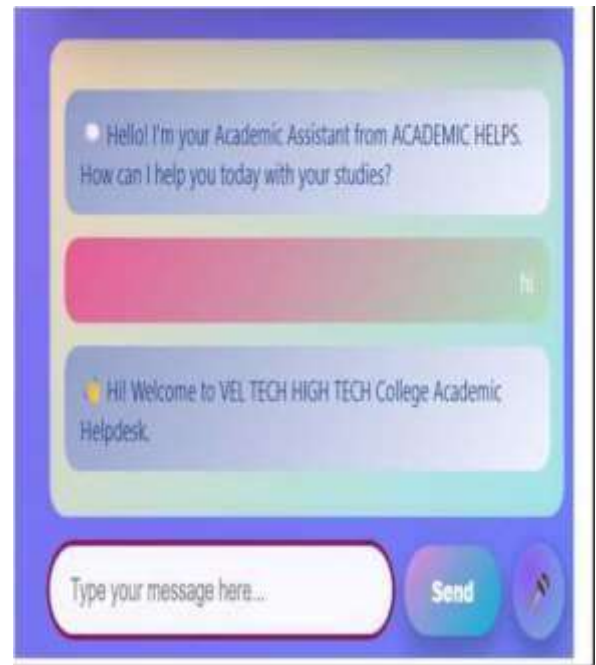


Fig no :4

## VII.RESULT

The AI-powered academic helpdesk system performance testing used key metrics about intent classification accuracy and response time and overall usability. The experimental results demonstrate that the hybrid intent classification method successfully detects student queries about syllabus information and attendance status and examination schedules and timetables and academic deadlines.

The intent classification model achieved an accuracy of approximately 91%, demonstrating reliable understanding of diverse academic queries. The system demonstrates its ability to identify both common and rare query types because it achieved high precision and recall results across various intent categories. The confusion matrix analysis proved that the system correctly identified academic intents because it showed only small instances of misclassification between similar academic intents.

## VIII. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE SCOPE

This paper introduced an AI-powered academic helpdesk system which delivers immediate student assistance through its use of Natural Language Processing (NLP) and Machine Learning (ML) technologies. The proposed system effectively automates routine academic queries related to syllabus information, attendance status, examination schedules, timetables, and academic deadlines through a web-based chatbot interface. The system enables users to interact through both text and voice while it also detects emotional states, which results in better accessibility and improved user satisfaction.

The experimental results demonstrate that the intent classification model achieves high accuracy together with quick response times, which makes the system appropriate for implementation in actual higher educational settings.



The lightweight and modular system architecture enables easy maintenance and scalability, while it decreases faculty members and administrative staff workload by a significant amount. User interaction results show that students experience higher satisfaction levels and better access to services when using automated academic helpdesk systems instead of traditional manual systems. Future development work will enable the system to develop multilingual capabilities as a solution for students with different language needs.

The combination of advanced deep learning models with enhanced contextual understanding techniques will improve intent classification accuracy. System functionality will improve through the addition of voice-only assistants and mobile application support and deeper institutional management system integration which will also drive user adoption.

## IX. REFERENCES

- 1 D. Jurafsky and J. H. Martin, *Speech and Language Processing*, 3rd ed. Pearson, 2023.
- 2 A. K. Maurya and D. Deepshikha, "AI-powered chatbots for real-time academic support and counseling," *International Research Journal of Engineering and Technology (IRJET)*, vol. 12, no. 4, pp. 1120-1126, 2025.
- 3 L. Xiao and Y. Zhang, "Intelligent tutoring systems using natural language processing," *IEEE Transactions on Learning Technologies*, vol. 14, no. 3, pp. 345-356, 2021.
- 4 G. Winkler and M. Sollner, "Unleashing the potential of chatbots in higher education," in *Proc. IEEE Int. Conf. on Education Technology*, 2018, pp. 1-8.
- 5 C. D. Manning, P. Raghavan, and H. Schütze, *Introduction to Information Retrieval*. Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge Univ. Press, 2008.
- 6 T. Joachims, "Text categorization with support vector machines: Learning with many relevant features," in *Proc. European Conf. on Machine Learning (ECML)*, 1998, pp. 137-142.
- 7 J. Ramos, "Using TF-IDF to determine word relevance in document queries," in *Proc. First Instructional Conf. on Machine Learning*, 2003.
- 8 S. Young, M. Gasic, B. Thomson, and J. Williams, "The spoken language understanding pipeline," *IEEE Signal Processing Magazine*, vol. 30, no. 3, pp. 64-75, 2013.
- 9 A. Graves, A. Mohamed, and G. Hinton, "Speech recognition with deep recurrent neural networks," in *Proc. IEEE Int. Conf. on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (ICASSP)*, 2013, pp. 6645-6649.
- 10 P. Ekman, "An argument for basic emotions," *Cognition and Emotion*, vol. 6, no. 3-4, pp. 169-200, 1992.
- 11 A. Hassan, A. Mahmood, and S. Asghar, "Emotion detection using text and speech analysis," *Journal of Artificial Intelligence and Soft Computing Research*, vol. 10, no. 2, pp. 85-96, 2020.
- 12 J. Devlin, M. Chang, K. Lee, and K. Toutanova, "BERT: Pre-training of deep bidirectional transformers for language understanding," in *Proc. NAACL-HLT*, 2019, pp. 4171-4186.
- [13] R. Yan, Y. Song, and H. Wu, "Learning to respond with deep neural networks for short-text conversation," in *Proc. IEEE Int. Conf. on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing*, 2016, pp. 5110-5114.
- [14] M. Adamopoulou and A. Moussiades, "Chatbots: History, technology, and applications," *Machine Learning with Applications*, vol. 2, pp. 1-10, 2020.
- [15] S. K. Das and S. Dey, "Design and implementation of an AI-based student helpdesk system," *International Journal of Computer Applications*, vol. 182, no. 45, pp. 12-18, 2019.