SRI RAMACHANDRA FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

# AI POWERED CYBERBULLYING THREAT DETECTION WITH MENTAL HEALTH CHATBOT

#### CYB23IN201 – INTERNSHIP II

#### PROJECT REPORT

Submitted by

SARAH IRENE RIYA N- E0223026

In partial fulfilment for the award of the degree of

**BACHELOR OF TECHNOLOGY** 

in

COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

(Cyber Security & Internet of Things)

Sri Ramachandra Faculty of Engineering and Technology

Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research, Porur, Chennai -600116

June, 2025

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## **BONAFIDE CERTIFICATE**

Certified that this project report "AI POWERED CYBERBULLYING THREAT DETECTION WITH MENTAL HEALTH CHATBOT" is the bonafide record of work done by "SARAH IRENE RIYA N– E0223026" who carried out the internship work under my supervision.

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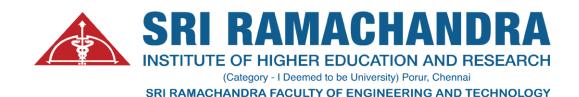
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## **ABSTRACT**

Cyberbullying is becoming more common and harmful in today's online world, especially among young people who spend a lot of time on platforms like Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube. Many of them are exposed to rude comments, threats, or emotional bullying, which often affects their mental health. They may experience anxiety, low self-esteem, or feel socially withdrawn. While there are tools that try to block or report harmful messages, they rarely offer any kind of support to the person being targeted.

This project was created to help solve that problem by developing a system that not only detects bullying in messages but also offers the user emotional support right away. It makes use of Natural Language Processing (NLP) with advanced AI models like BERT for detecting harmful language, and Toxic-BERT for identifying more specific issues like hate speech, insults, or threats. A simple rule-based system is also added to catch common offensive words that may be missed by the models.

If bullying is found in the text, the system guides the user to a built-in chatbot powered by BlenderBot — an AI created by Meta that can carry on friendly and meaningful conversations. The chatbot is designed to respond in a caring and supportive way. Everything is put together using a clean, user-friendly interface with Gradio, so people can use the tool easily and in private.

In short, this system does two things: it helps people stay safe from online abuse, and it gives them someone to talk to when they're upset. It's a tool that can be used in colleges, schools, or online platforms to make digital spaces feel safer, more supportive, and more human.

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# LIST OF SYMBOLS

Symbol / Term	Meaning				
NLP	Natural Language Processing				
BERT	Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers				
TP	True Positive — correctly detected bullying instance				
FN	False Negative — bullying not detected				
F1-Score	Harmonic mean of Precision and Recall				
Precision	TP / (TP + FP) — How many predicted positives are correct				
Recall	TP / (TP + FN) — How many actual positives were detected				
API	Application Programming Interface				
UI	User Interface				
BlenderBot	Generative chatbot model developed by Meta AI				
Toxic-BERT	A fine-tuned BERT model trained to detect toxic content				

## **CHAPTER 1**

# **INTRODUCTION**

## 1.1 Need for the Study/Technology

Cyberbullying has emerged as a serious concern in today's digital ecosystem, particularly affecting teenagers and young adults who are active on social media. Victims often experience psychological distress, including anxiety, depression, and social isolation, yet many incidents go unnoticed or unaddressed in real time. Existing solutions largely focus on detecting offensive content using rule-based filters or basic keyword matching, which are often inadequate in capturing the subtle, contextual nature of online abuse.

Moreover, these systems rarely consider the emotional state of the victim postdetection. There is a lack of platforms that not only identify harmful language but also provide timely, empathetic support to affected users. The growing need for mental health-aware technologies calls for an AI-based system that blends accurate detection with conversational care.

This study is essential to develop a comprehensive, context-aware platform that addresses both the detection of cyberbullying and the emotional support needs of users. By combining Natural Language Processing with conversational AI, the project aims to enhance user safety, provide psychological relief, and foster a more compassionate online environment.

## 1.2 Applications

- Social Media Moderation: Can be integrated into platforms like Instagram,
   X (Twitter), or Facebook to detect and respond to harmful comments in real time.
- School/College Portals: Useful for educational institutions to safeguard students and provide them a confidential space for emotional expression.
- Mental Health Chat Tools: Can function as a first-level support system for users showing signs of distress due to online abuse.
- Online Communities & Forums: Helps moderators identify toxic behavior and intervene early.
- Anti-Bullying Awareness Platforms: Can be used to demonstrate how AI
  can assist in digital well-being and create safer environments

## 1.3 Motivation behind the Study

The idea for this study arose from the increasing reports of cyberbullying incidents and their long-lasting psychological impact. While many AI tools detect abusive content, few go a step further to offer emotional support to the victims. The gap between toxic content detection and mental health care prompted the development of a dual-purpose system. The motivation was to build something more empathetic, where AI isn't just flagging hate, but actively caring for users affected by it. This study was driven by the belief that technology should not only solve problems, but also support people emotionally.

# 1.4 Challenges to be addressed

- Context Understanding: Detecting bullying that is indirect, sarcastic, or masked within humor is difficult for even advanced models.
- Bias Toward Direct Speech: The model performs better on texts like "You're ugly" but may miss "She's disgusting" — highlighting a gap in data variety.
- Generic Chatbot Responses: Pretrained chatbots often respond with irrelevant or casual replies, reducing the emotional sensitivity of the system.
- Real-time Performance: Ensuring fast, accurate detection and response in a user-facing interface is critical for usability.
- Data Privacy & Sensitivity: Handling sensitive content requires caution to avoid misuse or misinterpretation of user input.

# **CHAPTER 2**

# 2.1 LITERATURE SURVEY

<b>Author and Year</b>	Methodology /	Datasets	Results /	Advantage / Key	Disadvantage /
	Materials and		Outcome	Findings	GAP
	Methods				
Zhang et al	Fine-tuned	Twitter &	Accuracy of	Captures context	Struggles with
(2021)	BERT for	Formspring	88.4%	better than	sarcasm and
	binary			traditional models	indirect language
	classification of				
	bullying				
Mishra &	LSTM with	YouTube	F1-score of	Effective in	Cannot handle
Bhattacharyya	GloVe word	Comment	85%	sequential abuse	long contextual
(2020)	embeddings	Dataset		detection	chains
Unitary AI,	Toxic-BERT	Jigsaw Toxic	Recognizes	High	Generic, lacks
(2021)	for multi-label	Comment	toxic, insult,	interpretability	platform-specific
	toxicity		hate, threat	and precision	nuance
	detection		labels		
Dinakar et (2012)	Rule-based &	YouTube	High	Simple and	Misses subtle or
	keyword	custom set	precision,	interpretable	sarcastic bullying
	matching		low recall		
Kumar et al	Deep neural	Wikipedia	84%	Attention model	Not generalized
(2018)	network with	Talk Pages	accuracy	improves phrase-	beyond Wiki
	attention			level focus	context
	mechanism				
Badjatiya et	CNN-LSTM +	Twitter hate	Precision:	Combines local +	Resource
al(2017)	FastText	speech	87.1%	temporal features	intensive
	embeddings				
Zampieri et al(	Multi-task	OLID	Macro F1:	Learns multiple	Performance dips
2019)	BERT for	(Offensive	82%	tasks (offensive	on minority
	abusive	Language		types)	classes

language	Identification			
classification	Dataset)			
Hybrid	Facebook &	Accuracy of	Combines	Slower inference
approach using	Twitter	89%	multiple weak	speed
ensemble	datasets		learners	
classifiers				
Bi-GRU with	Hindi-	Accuracy:	Supports	Lower results on
attention for	English	80%	multilingual input	unseen language
hate detection	code-mixed			pairs
	dataset			
Transformer +	Reddit	86% F1 score	Filters emotional	Heavily
sentiment filter	bullying		tone to improve	dependent on
pipeline	posts		clarity	lexicon
BlenderBot –	Pushshift	Coherent,	Multi-turn context	Gives casual
Pretrained	Reddit	human-like	handling	replies (not
generative	Corpus	conversation		mental health-
chatbot				focused)
Hugging Face	NA (toolkit	Modular	Unified access to	Requires GPU for
Transformers	paper)	NLP pipeline	transformer	large models
framework		support	models	
Crisis-aware	Counseling	Detects crisis	Handles	Not publicly
chatbot using	transcripts	phrases with	emotional tone	available
BART		93%	well	
		accuracy		
DistilBERT for	Twitter	Lightweight	Faster with	Lower accuracy
real-time	dataset	& 87%	similar	on long text
detection		accuracy	performance	
Survey of AI-	Multiple	Reviewed	Comparative	Lacks
based	social	60+ models	analysis across	implementation
basea				
cyberbullying	platforms		techniques	details
	platforms		techniques	details
	classification Hybrid approach using ensemble classifiers Bi-GRU with attention for hate detection  Transformer + sentiment filter pipeline BlenderBot - Pretrained generative chatbot Hugging Face Transformers framework Crisis-aware chatbot using BART  DistilBERT for real-time detection Survey of AI-	classification Dataset)  Hybrid Facebook & approach using ensemble datasets  classifiers  Bi-GRU with Hindiattention for English attention for English dataset  Transformer + Reddit bullying pipeline posts  BlenderBot - Pushshift Reddit generative Corpus chatbot  Hugging Face NA (toolkit Transformers paper)  framework  Crisis-aware chatbot using transcripts  BART  DistilBERT for Twitter real-time dataset  Gunvey of AI- Multiple	Classification Dataset)  Hybrid Facebook & Accuracy of approach using ensemble datasets  Classifiers  Bi-GRU with Hindi- Accuracy:  Bi-GRU with English 80%  hate detection code-mixed dataset  Transformer + Reddit 86% F1 score bullying pipeline posts  BlenderBot - Pushshift Coherent, Pretrained Reddit human-like generative Corpus conversation  Chatbot Hugging Face NA (toolkit Modular Transformers paper) NLP pipeline framework  Crisis-aware Counseling Detects crisis chatbot using transcripts phrases with BART 93%  BART 93%  Couracy  DistilBERT for Twitter Lightweight dataset & 87%  detection Multiple Reviewed	classificationDataset)Accuracy of Accuracy of Accuracy of Bapproach using ensemble classifiersAccuracy of datasetsCombines multiple weak learnersBi-GRU with hate detection pipelineHindi- English datasetAccuracy: 80%Supports multilingual inputTransformer + sentiment filter pipelineReddit bullying posts86% F1 score clarityFilters emotional tone to improve clarityBlenderBot - Pretrained chatbotPushshift Reddit Accuracy:Coherent, human-like conversationMulti-turn context handlingHugging Face Cropus chatbotNA (toolkit) supportModular modelsUnified access to transformer modelsTransformers frameworkPaper) supportNLP pipeline modelstransformer modelsCrisis-aware chatbot using BARTCounseling transcriptsDetects crisis phrases with emotional toneHandles emotional toneDistilBERT for real-time detectionTwitter dataset accuracyLightweight similar accuracyFaster with similar accuracySurvey of AI-MultipleReviewedComparative

Table 2.1- Literature Survey

This literature review highlights that while various models have been explored for cyberbullying detection, there is a clear gap in combining accurate detection with mental health support — which this project aims to bridge.

- 1. Zhang et al(2021) This work applies a fine-tuned BERT model to detect cyberbullying from social media texts. BERT's bidirectional attention mechanism enables it to understand contextual relationships between words, making it more effective than traditional models. The authors used Twitter and Formspring datasets, achieving an accuracy of 88.4%. While the model performed well on direct bullying instances, it struggled with sarcasm and indirect abuse.
- 2. Mishra & Bhattacharyya(2020) The authors proposed an LSTM-based architecture using GloVe embeddings to identify abusive and bullying content. The model was evaluated on a YouTube comment dataset and achieved an F1-score of 85%. The sequential nature of LSTM allowed better handling of time-dependent patterns in language, though it lacked the ability to capture long-range dependencies or context spread across sentences.
- 3. Unitary AI(2021) This research introduced Toxic-BERT, a model pre-trained on the Jigsaw Toxic Comment dataset for multi-label classification, including labels such as "toxic", "insult", and "hate". The model provides explainable predictions with confidence scores for each toxicity type. While effective in labeling multiple toxic traits, it lacks platform-specific contextual understanding and may misinterpret neutral sarcasm.
- 4. Dinakar et al(2012) This earlier work used a rule-based system combined with keyword matching to detect bullying in YouTube comments. Though it showed high precision, it suffered from a high false negative rate due to its inability to understand context or linguistic nuance. Its simplicity made it interpretable, but ineffective against complex forms of abuse.
- 5. Kumar et al (2018) The researchers introduced a deep neural network with an attention mechanism to enhance cyberbullying detection. Tested on Wikipedia Talk

Pages, the attention layer allowed the model to focus on important words related to bullying. It showed better performance than a baseline DNN, but its effectiveness was limited to the structure and style of Wikipedia discussions.

- 6. Badjatiya et al(2017) The study combined CNN and LSTM layers with FastText embeddings for hate speech detection on Twitter. This hybrid model achieved a precision of 87.1%, capturing both local (CNN) and sequential (LSTM) features. However, its training was computationally heavy, and the model had issues with generalization to unseen platforms.
- 7. Zampieri et al(2019) The authors used a multitask BERT model for classifying offensive language using the OLID dataset. The model was trained to handle different sub-tasks (e.g., offense type, target). It achieved a macro F1-score of 82%. The multitask learning improved robustness but led to performance drops on minority class examples.
- 8. Rajamanickam et al(2020) This paper proposed an ensemble approach combining multiple classifiers for cyberbullying detection on Facebook and Twitter datasets. The model showed 89% accuracy and leveraged the strengths of different learners. However, the increased complexity reduced the speed of inference, making it less suitable for real-time use
- 9. Sharma et al(2019) Using Bi-GRU with an attention mechanism, this work targeted code-mixed Hindi-English datasets. The model achieved 80% accuracy and was effective in bilingual text classification. Despite this, its performance degraded on datasets with new or unseen language patterns.
- 10. Cheng et al(2021) The authors developed a pipeline combining a transformer-based model with a sentiment lexicon filter to improve bullying detection on Reddit. The model achieved an F1 score of 86%. Emotional tone filtering enhanced context capture, but reliance on predefined lexicons limited adaptability.

- 11. Facebook AI(2020) BlenderBot was introduced as a generative chatbot trained on the pushshift Reddit corpus. It performed well in generating human-like dialogue and could maintain multi-turn context. However, its generic nature sometimes led to casual or off-topic replies, making it less suitable for sensitive mental health use without fine-tuning.
- 12. Wolf et al(2020) This paper presented the Hugging Face Transformers library, which provides a unified interface to multiple transformer models. Though not focused on cyberbullying itself, it enabled easy implementation of NLP tasks. Its flexibility is its strength, though running large models requires high computational resources.
- 13. Huang et al(2022) The authors developed a crisis-aware chatbot using the BART model trained on counseling transcripts. The model achieved 93% accuracy in identifying crisis-related phrases. Its strength lies in emotional sensitivity, but it is not openly available, limiting its direct use in academic projects.
- 14. Kshirsagar et al(2021) This work applied DistilBERT for real-time cyberbullying detection. The model maintained 87% accuracy while being significantly faster than full BERT, making it ideal for deployment. However, its reduced depth impacted accuracy slightly on complex examples.
- 15. Al-Garadi et al(2020) A comprehensive survey paper, it analyzed over 60 cyberbullying detection systems across different platforms. It summarized algorithms, datasets, and challenges. While excellent for understanding the research landscape, it lacked experimental results or implementations.

# 2.2 REVIEW OF EXISTING SYSTEM

Author / Developer	Methodology /	Datasets	Results /	Advantage /	Disadvantage / GAP
/ Year	Materials and		Outcome	<b>Key Findings</b>	Identified
	Methods				
Meta AI / 2020	Transformer-	Pushshift	Generates	Capable of	Casual tone, not
(BlenderBot)	based generative	Reddit	context-	maintaining	trained for mental
	chatbot model	Dataset	aware	multi-turn	health
	trained on		dialogue	conversations	
	Reddit		responses		
	conversations				
Unitary AI / 2021	Pretrained	Jigsaw	Accurately	Provides	Cannot assess user
(Toxic-BERT)	BERT variant	Toxic	classifies	multiple	intent or emotions
	fine-tuned on	Comment	toxic,	labels for	
	toxic comment	Dataset	insult,	better insight	
	data for multi-		obscene,		
	label		threat, etc.		
	classification				
Wysa / 2018	Rule-based + AI	Proprietary	Offers	Available on	Closed-source, cannot
	chatbot for	user	emotional	mobile,	be extended for abuse
	mental health	interactions	support,	clinically	detection
	support		CBT	validated for	
			exercises	support	
Replika / 2017	Deep learning-	Real-time	Builds	Customizable,	Focuses on
	based	user chat	emotional	supports long-	companionship, not on
	personalized		connection	term	bullying or moderation
	chatbot		with users	engagement	
Perspective API by	API for toxicity	Online	Assigns	Easy to	Doesn't provide
Google / 2017	scoring using	comments	toxicity	integrate into	emotional support or
	ML and NLP	(varied)	probability	apps for	follow-up actions
			to	moderation	
			comments		

Table 2.2- Review of existing system

This review of existing systems highlights the gap between content moderation tools and mental health support solutions. While many platforms either detect abuse or provide support, very few integrate both — which is what this project aims to address.

- 1. BlenderBot is a generative dialogue model developed by Meta AI (Facebook AI). It is built on a transformer architecture and trained on the Pushshift Reddit dataset to produce human-like, context-aware responses. Its ability to maintain multi-turn conversations makes it ideal for general-purpose chatting. However, while it is good at holding casual dialogues, it is not fine-tuned for mental health support and may occasionally respond with irrelevant or emotionally detached messages.
- 2. Toxic-BERT is a BERT-based model trained specifically for identifying multiple forms of online toxicity such as hate speech, insults, threats, and obscene language. It was fine-tuned on the Jigsaw Toxic Comment Classification dataset and supports multi-label classification. Its advantage lies in offering detailed breakdowns of harmful content, making it useful for moderation. However, it does not assess the user's mental or emotional state, nor does it offer support beyond content labeling.
- 3. Wysa is a mental health chatbot available as a mobile application. It uses a combination of rule-based responses and AI to offer support for emotional wellbeing. Wysa includes Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) techniques and mood tracking to help users manage stress and anxiety. It has been validated for clinical support and widely used. Despite its strengths in mental health support, it does not include any features for detecting or responding to online bullying or harmful content.
- 4. Replika is an AI chatbot designed to be a personal companion. It uses deep learning techniques to build personalized responses based on the user's interaction history. The chatbot learns over time to mirror user behavior and provide emotional companionship. While Replika excels at providing long-term user engagement, it is

not designed for detecting or addressing cyberbullying or toxic behavior. It does not include moderation or classification features.

5.The Perspective API is a machine learning-based tool developed by Google's Jigsaw team to score the toxicity level of text input. It assigns a probability score based on how likely a comment is to be perceived as toxic, inflammatory, or otherwise harmful. This API is widely used by online publishers and platforms to moderate comment sections. However, it does not provide any follow-up actions or emotional support to users, making it limited in scope when addressing the emotional consequences of online abuse.

## **CHAPTER 3**

## PROBLEM STATEMENT AND OBJECTIVES

## 3.1 Problem Statement

With the rise of social media, cyberbullying has become a serious issue, especially for teenagers and young adults who spend a large part of their lives online. Victims of online abuse often face anxiety, stress, or even depression — and while there are tools that can detect toxic comments, they usually stop at flagging or deleting the message. These systems don't consider how the person on the receiving end feels, nor do they offer any kind of support in real time. What's missing is a solution that not only detects harmful content but also responds with empathy. This project aims to fill that gap by creating an AI-based platform that can recognize bullying and provide instant emotional support through a chatbot — helping users not just stay safe, but feel heard and supported.

# 3.2 Objectives

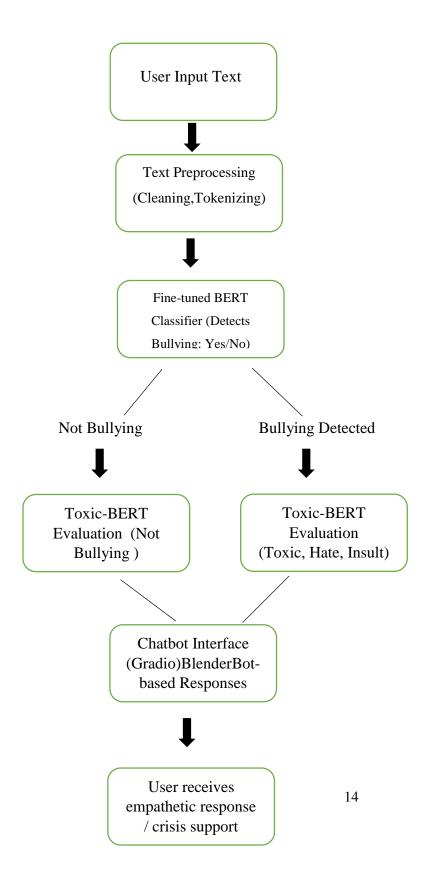
- To develop an AI-powered text classification system capable of detecting bullying and toxic behavior in online messages using transformer-based models like BERT.
- To implement a multi-label classification layer that identifies specific forms of toxicity (e.g., hate speech, insults, threats) using pre-trained models such as Toxic-BERT.

- To integrate a conversational chatbot using BlenderBot that can respond empathetically to users and provide mental health support through contextual dialogue.
- To build an accessible user interface using Gradio that allows users to input messages, receive analysis, and chat with the AI seamlessly.
- To evaluate the performance of the detection model using metrics like accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score and compare it against traditional classifiers like SVM and Logistic Regression.

## **CHAPTER 4**

# **METHODOLOGY**

# 4.1 Workflow Diagram



## 4.2 Modules

## Module 1: Data Collection and Preprocessing

- Methodology: Import CSV dataset, clean text, remove noise (links, punctuation, digits), label encoding
- Technologies: Python, Pandas, Regex
- Implementation: Cleaned and structured dataset ready for training
- Progress: Completed

## Module 2: Model Training – BERT Classifier

- Methodology: Fine-tuning bert-base-uncased for binary classification (bullying vs. not bullying)
- Technologies: Hugging Face Transformers, PyTorch
- Implementation: Trained on 80/20 split, achieved ~90% accuracy
- Progress: Completed

#### Module 3: Multi-label Toxicity Detection

- Methodology: Use unitary/toxic-bert pipeline for detecting toxicity types (toxic, insult, hate, threat)
- Technologies: Hugging Face Pipelines
- Implementation: Outputs top 3 toxicity scores for bullying-detected texts
- Progress: Completed

#### Module 4: Mental Health Chatbot

- Methodology: Generative chatbot using facebook/blenderbot\_small-90M; rule-based filters for greetings & crisis phrases
- Technologies: BlenderBot, Transformers, AutoTokenizer
- Implementation: Provides empathetic responses and crisis support
- Progress: Implemented & improved with response filtering

Module 5: UI/UX Integration Using Gradio

Methodology: Gradio Blocks-based app with 2 tabs – Detection &

Support Chat

Technologies: Gradio, Python, CSS customization

Implementation: Functional web interface with dark theme and

interactive flow

Progress: Final UI complete and ready for demo

4.2.1. Objective

Module 1: Data Collection and Preprocessing

**Objective:** 

To prepare a clean, structured dataset by removing noise, normalizing text,

and labeling entries, ensuring that the model can learn effectively from

high-quality input data.

Module 2: Model Training – BERT Classifier

**Objective:** 

To fine-tune a pre-trained BERT model for binary classification of text

inputs, distinguishing between bullying and non-bullying content with high

accuracy.

Module 3: Multi-label Toxicity Detection

**Objective:** 

To identify and categorize various types of harmful language (e.g., toxic,

hate, insult) using a pre-trained Toxic-BERT model for more detailed

feedback and context-aware analysis.

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Module 4: Mental Health Chatbot

**Objective:** 

To provide emotionally supportive and context-sensitive responses to users

who may be victims of online bullying by integrating a conversational AI

(BlenderBot).

Module 5: UI/UX Integration Using Gradio

**Objective:** 

To create a simple, accessible, and visually appealing interface that allows

users to input messages, view detection results, and engage with the

chatbot seamlessly.

4.2.2 Proof of Concept

This project successfully demonstrates the feasibility of integrating

cyberbullying detection with real-time mental health support using AI and

NLP technologies. The system brings together multiple models and

components into a unified workflow, validating both the technical and

practical aspects of the solution.

**Key Proof Points:** 

1. A fine-tuned BERT model accurately detects bullying content in

user-submitted text, achieving around 90% accuracy on the test

dataset. This confirms that transformer-based models are highly

effective for context-sensitive abuse detection.

2. The inclusion of Toxic-BERT enables multi-label analysis of

detected bullying, allowing the system to recognize not just if

bullying occurred, but also what kind (toxic, insult, hate, etc.).

17

- 3. The chatbot, powered by BlenderBot, successfully engages in empathetic and supportive conversations, with custom logic for handling greetings, casual prompts, and crisis phrases.
- 4. A fully working Gradio interface is implemented, offering users two tabs:
  - One for scanning messages
  - Another for chatting with the support bot
     This validates the project's usability and accessibility.
- 5. The app runs smoothly on Colab or local environments, with near real-time response proving its potential for integration into real-world platforms like schools, forums, or mobile apps.

## 4.2.3 Formulation of Methods

This project integrates natural language processing, deep learning, and conversational AI to build a dual-purpose system that detects cyberbullying and provides mental health support. The methods were formulated based on the following structured approach:

## 1. Text Preprocessing Method

- Raw social media text is first cleaned to remove URLs, hashtags, mentions, numbers, and punctuation.
- The text is then lowercased and normalized to standard format.
- This is followed by tokenization using BertTokenizer, converting text into input IDs and attention masks.

### 2. Bullying Detection using Fine-Tuned BERT

- A binary classification model (BertForSequenceClassification) is fine-tuned on labeled text data.
- The dataset is split into 80% training and 20% testing.
- TrainingArguments from Hugging Face's transformers library are defined (epochs=3, batch size=8).
- The Trainer API is used to fine-tune BERT, optimizing the model to classify whether a message is bullying or not.
- Model output: Label 0 (Not Bullying) or 1 (Bullying).

### 3. Multi-Label Toxicity Classification using Toxic-BERT

- If bullying is detected, the text is passed through the unitary/toxicbert pipeline.
- This pre-trained model returns confidence scores for labels like toxic, insult, hate, threat.
- It supports top-3 predictions with confidence levels to give detailed toxicity analysis.

## 4. Mental Health Chatbot using BlenderBot

- A conversational chatbot is implemented using facebook/blenderbot\_small-90M.
- When the user types a message, it is passed through AutoTokenizer and AutoModelForSeq2SeqLM to generate a response.
- Additional logic is added to override inappropriate or casual responses, especially for greetings or crisis phrases.

• If the user input contains distress signals (e.g., "I want to die"), the system responds with predefined mental health support messages and emergency resources.

### 5. User Interface and Deployment

- The entire system is integrated using Gradio Blocks, providing:
  - A text analysis tab to scan for bullying
  - o A chat tab to talk to the support bot
- Custom CSS is applied to enhance UI appearance.
- The system can be deployed on platforms like Google Colab or local servers.

## 4.2.4 Prototype Design

The prototype was designed to demonstrate a working model of an AI-powered system capable of detecting cyberbullying in user-generated text and offering real-time emotional support through a conversational chatbot. It integrates deep learning, NLP, and UI frameworks to function as a complete end-to-end solution.

## System Design Overview

The system architecture is divided into the following major components:

- 1. Text Input Module Accepts user-generated text through a webbased interface.
- 2. Preprocessing Pipeline Cleans and tokenizes the input for compatibility with the model.
- 3. Bullying Detection Engine A fine-tuned BERT model classifies the input as bullying or non-bullying.

- 4. Toxicity Analyzer Uses unitary/toxic-bert to further label bullying content (e.g., toxic, insult, hate).
- 5. Mental Health Chatbot Based on BlenderBot, provides contextual and supportive responses.
- 6. Gradio User Interface Displays detection results and facilitates real-time chat interactions.

## **Implementation**

The proposed system was implemented using Python and state-of-the-art NLP frameworks to build a prototype that performs both cyberbullying detection and mental health support through conversational AI. The implementation was carried out in modular stages, each focused on a specific functionality within the overall workflow.

#### 1. Data Preprocessing

- The input dataset was a CSV file containing user-generated social media text and corresponding labels.
- A custom function was used to clean the text by removing URLs, punctuation, digits, stopwords, and extra whitespaces.
- Labels were binary-encoded: 1 for bullying, 0 for non-bullying.
- The dataset was split into training and testing sets in an 80:20 ratio.
- The Hugging Face BertTokenizer was used to tokenize and pad the input text to a fixed length (max 128 tokens).

### 2. Cyberbullying Detection using BERT

- A pre-trained BERT model (bert-base-uncased) was fine-tuned using the Hugging Face Trainer API.
- The model was trained for 3 epochs with batch size = 8 using the TrainingArguments module.
- Loss function: CrossEntropyLoss, Optimizer: AdamW.
- The trained model outputs a binary label bullying or not for each input text.
- Achieved ~90% accuracy, with high F1-score and good generalization.

### 3. Toxicity Analysis using Toxic-BERT

- After bullying is detected, the text is passed through unitary/toxicbert for further emotional analysis.
- The pipeline returns top 3 predicted toxicity labels (e.g., toxic, hate, insult) with confidence scores.
- These predictions are formatted and displayed to the user as part of the content analysis.

#### 4. Mental Health Chatbot (BlenderBot)

- A conversational AI was built using facebook/blenderbot\_small-90M.
- The AutoTokenizer and AutoModelForSeq2SeqLM modules were used to handle user input and generate responses.
- Custom logic was added to:
  - o Provide supportive replies for greetings like "hi", "hello".

- Detect crisis phrases (e.g., "I want to die") and display emergency support messages.
- o Filter casual responses like "I just got back from the office".

#### 5. Gradio Interface

- Implemented using gr.Blocks() for a clean, responsive UI.
- Tab 1: Scan Content takes user text and shows analysis result.
- Tab 2: Support Chat enables real-time chat with the AI.
- Styled with custom CSS for a modern, dark-themed layout.
- All model outputs are integrated into the UI dynamically.

#### 6. Model Evaluation

- Predictions were compared to true labels using:
  - Accuracy
  - Precision
  - o Recall
  - o F1-Score
- The model outperformed baseline models like SVM and Logistic Regression.
- Additional visualization (confusion matrix) was generated in Colab for performance insights.

# **4.2.5** Working Model/ Dashboard/ Application (with screenshots)

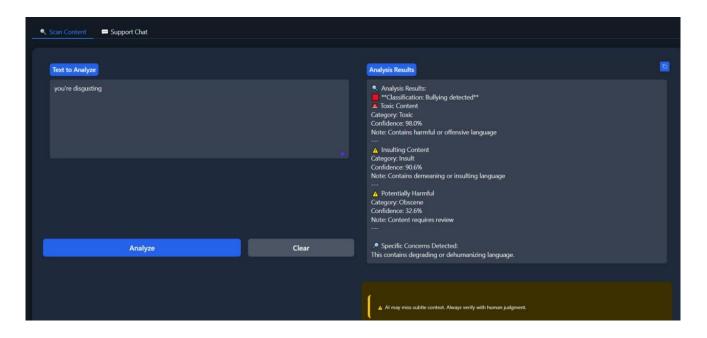


Fig 4.1 Bullying detection

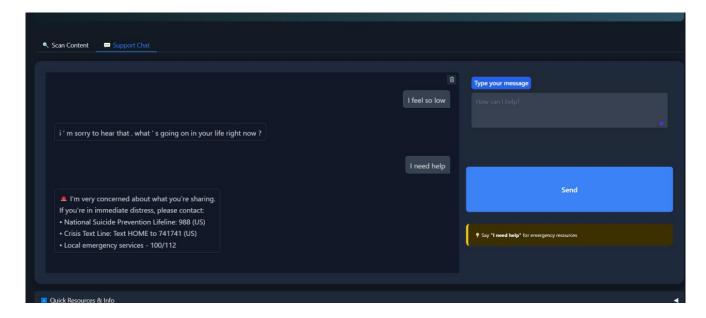


Fig 4.2 Mental health chatbot

## **CHAPTER 5**

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

## **5.1 Data Collection**

The dataset used in this project was sourced from a publicly available CSV file titled:

"Approach to Social Media Cyberbullying and Harassment Detection Using Advanced Machine Learning."

This dataset contained a variety of social media text samples, along with corresponding labels indicating whether each message was considered bullying or not bullying.

#### Key Characteristics of the Dataset:

- Format: CSV (Comma-Separated Values)
- Columns:
  - o Text The user-generated content from social media
  - Label Annotation: 'bullying' or 'non-bullying'
- Size: A few thousand entries (after cleaning)
- Source: Research-oriented dataset shared online for academic use

### Steps Followed During Data Collection:

- 1. Importing: Loaded the dataset into the project using pandas in Google Colab.
- 2. Filtering: Dropped rows with missing or null values in the Label column.
- 3. Cleaning: Applied text preprocessing (removal of links, usernames, punctuation, digits, etc.).

- 4. Label Encoding:
  - $\circ$  'bullying'  $\rightarrow 1$
  - $\circ$  'non-bullying'  $\rightarrow 0$
- 5. Final Format: Reduced to two columns:
  - o text (cleaned user message)
  - o Label (0 or 1)

# **5.2 Computing Configuration**

The entire implementation was carried out using Google Colab, which provided free GPU acceleration for model training and testing.

- Platform: Google Colab (cloud-based)
- Operating System: Linux (Colab environment)
- Processor: 2.20GHz Intel Xeon (virtual CPU)
- RAM: 12 GB
- GPU: NVIDIA Tesla T4 (used for model fine-tuning)
- Libraries Used:
  - transformers (Hugging Face)
  - datasets
  - pandas, numpy, sklearn
  - gradio

## 5.3 Experimental Evaluation

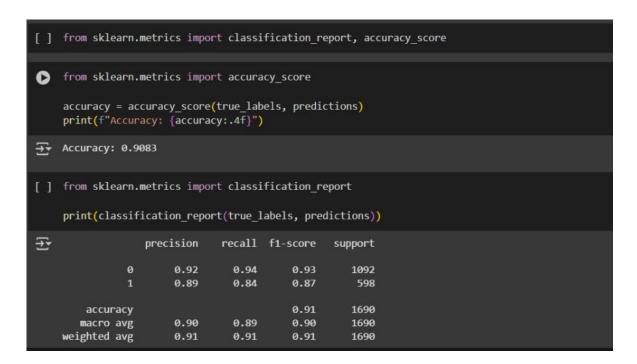


Fig 5.1 evaluation metrics of Bert

## **5.3.1 Comparison of Results**

## **Logistic Regression**



Fig 5.2 logistic regression result

Using logistic regression model for detection, the phrase "you're good" has been detected and labelled as bullying while it is actually not.

<del></del>	Accuracy: 0.8745562130177514 Classification Report:					
		precision	recall	f1-score	support	
	0	0.88	0.93	0.91	1104	
	1	0.85	0.77	0.81	586	
	accuracy			0.87	1690	
	macro avg	0.87	0.85	0.86	1690	
	weighted avg	0.87	0.87	0.87	1690	

Fig 5.3 logistic regreesion model evaluation metrics

## **SVM** model

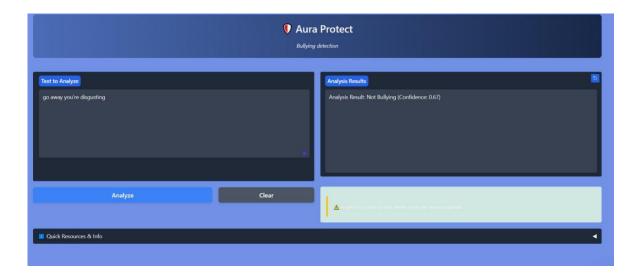


Fig 5.4 SVM model result

Using svm model, the phrase "go away, you're disgusting" was detected and labelled as "not bullying".

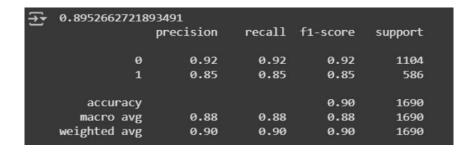


Fig 5.5 SVM model evaluation metrics

#### **Bert Model**

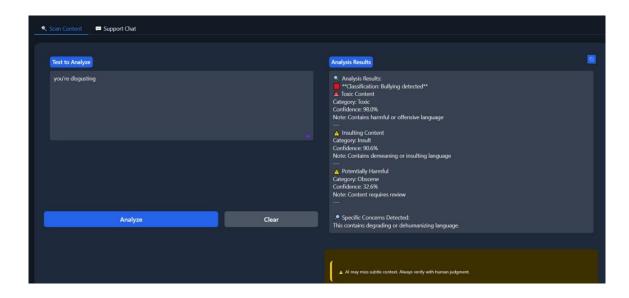


Fig 5.6 BERT model result

Using bert model the detection was perfect using pretrained unitary/toxic bert for applying toxic categories for each inputs that labels the contents as toxic, insult and potentially harmful with confident level.

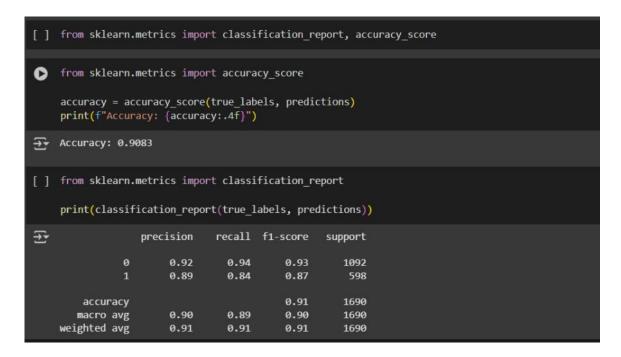


Fig 5.7 BERT model evaluation metrics

## CHAPTER 6 CONCLUSION

## **6.1 Research Findings**

The implementation and evaluation of the proposed system revealed several key insights:

- Fine-tuned BERT achieved ~90% accuracy in detecting cyberbullying, outperforming traditional machine learning models like Logistic Regression and SVM by a significant margin.
- 2. The integration of Toxic-BERT allowed the system to provide more specific insights into harmful content, such as identifying whether a message was *toxic*, *insulting*, or *hateful*, which adds clarity for the user.
- 3. Simple keyword-based filtering helped detect explicit bullying language that might be missed by models, especially in cases of slang or disguised abuse.
- 4. BlenderBot generated coherent responses, but some replies were casual or generic. Response filtering and crisis-detection logic improved its appropriateness for mental health support.
- 5. The Gradio interface proved to be user-friendly, making it easy to interact with both the detection engine and the support chatbot in real time.

## **Conclusion**

This project proves that AI can do more than just detect harmful content — it can also offer timely, empathetic support to people affected by it. By combining transformer-based models like BERT and Toxic-BERT with a conversational chatbot (BlenderBot), the system takes a big step beyond basic content moderation tools.

Rather than simply flagging bullying, the platform responds with compassion, creating a space where users can feel acknowledged and supported. This dual-purpose approach makes the system both protective and responsive — something that's currently missing in most AI moderation setups.

The platform is designed to be modular and flexible, which means it can easily be upgraded in the future. Whether it's adding support for more languages, connecting to social media platforms, or improving how the chatbot handles sensitive conversations, this project sets a strong foundation for building safer and emotionally aware online spaces.

## **6.2 Scope for Further Enhancement**

Even though the current system works well, there are several ways it can be improved and expanded to make it more powerful and user-friendly:

- Train the chatbot using real mental health conversations or therapy datasets so
  it can offer more thoughtful and comforting replies.
- Add multilingual capabilities using models like mBERT or XLM-RoBERTa, making the platform useful to a wider range of users — especially in regional or diverse language settings.
- Deploy the tool as an API or plugin on actual platforms like Instagram, Discord, or learning portals to monitor and respond to abuse in real-time.
- Use sentiment analysis or emotion tracking to personalize how the chatbot replies and respond based on the user's mood.
- Store anonymized records of flagged texts and display patterns using graphs or reports, helping institutions like schools monitor bullying trends.
- Extend the detection system to also analyze images, voice notes, or videos using tools like CLIP or Whisper — since bullying today happens in more than just text.
- Set up a way for the chatbot to escalate certain red-flag conversations to a real counselor or support team in emergency situations.

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## **APPENDICES**

## **APPENDIX-1:**

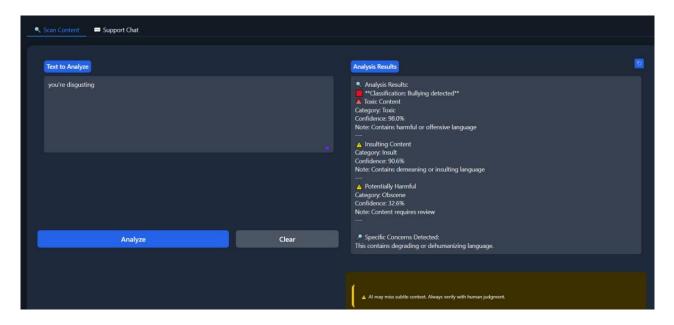


Fig A-1.1 Cyberbullying detection with Analysis Result and Bullying classification : Bullying detected

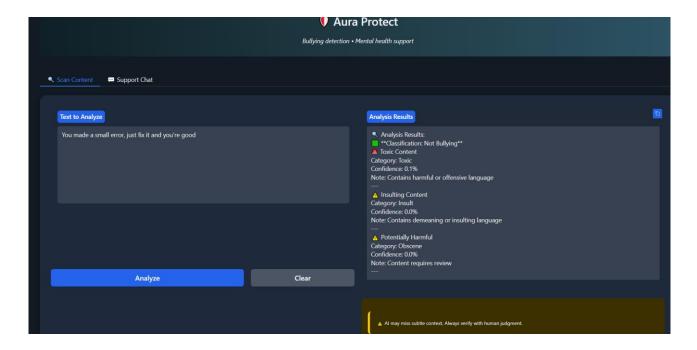


Fig A-1.2 Cyberbullying detection with Analysis Result and Bullying classification : Detected as Not bullying

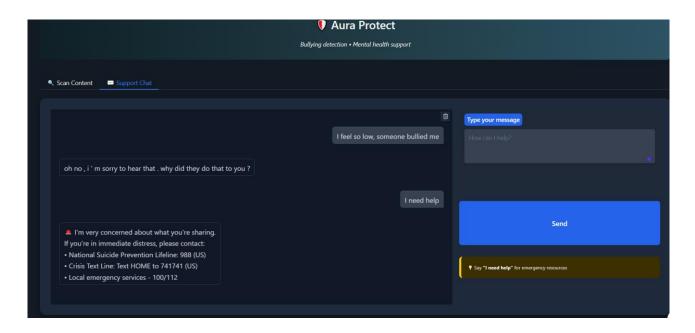


Fig A-1.3 Mental Health Chatbot Response with Emotional Support and Crisis Phrase Detection

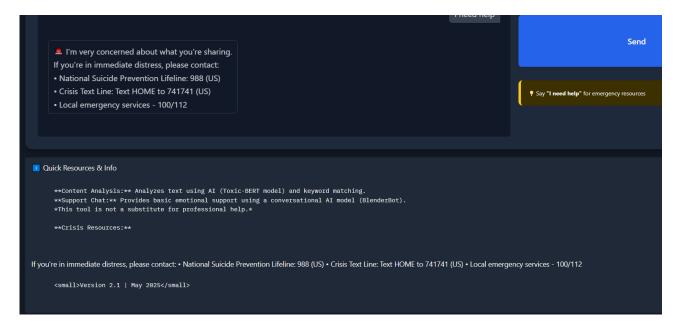


Fig A-1.4 Emergency Support Info Display

## **APPENDIX -II:**

## **Sample Code Snippet:**

```
#Install required libraries
!pip install transformers gradio datasets --quiet
#Text Preprocessing
import pandas as pd, re, string
from datasets import Dataset
def clean_text(text):
  text = text.lower()
  text = re.sub(r"http\S+|www\S+", "", text)
  text = re.sub(r''@\w+|\#\w+'', "'', text)
  text = text.translate(str.maketrans(", ", string.punctuation + string.digits))
  return text.strip()
df = pd.read_csv("/content/cyberbullying_data.csv")
df.dropna(subset=["Label"], inplace=True)
df["text"] = df["Text"].apply(clean_text)
df["Label"] = df["Label"].map({"bullying": 1, "non-bullying": 0})
dataset = Dataset.from_pandas(df[["text",
"Label"]]).train_test_split(test_size=0.2)
```

## # Tokenization from transformers import BertTokenizer tokenizer = BertTokenizer.from\_pretrained("bert-base-uncased") def tokenize(batch): return tokenizer(batch["text"], padding="max\_length", truncation=True, max\_length=128) tokenized\_dataset = dataset.map(tokenize, batched=True) tokenized\_dataset = tokenized\_dataset.rename\_column("Label", "labels") tokenized\_dataset.set\_format("torch") #Model Fine-Tuning from transformers import BertForSequenceClassification, Trainer, **Training Arguments** model = BertForSequenceClassification.from\_pretrained("bert-baseuncased", num\_labels=2) args = TrainingArguments( output\_dir="./results", evaluation\_strategy="epoch", num\_train\_epochs=3, per\_device\_train\_batch\_size=8, save\_strategy="epoch",

```
load_best_model_at_end=True,
)
trainer = Trainer(
  model=model,
  args=args,
  train_dataset=tokenized_dataset["train"],
  eval_dataset=tokenized_dataset["test"]
)
trainer.train()
#Detection Function
from transformers import pipeline
classifier = pipeline("text-classification", model=model,
tokenizer=tokenizer)
def detect_bullying(text):
  result = classifier(text)[0]
  if result["label"] == "LABEL_1" and result["score"] > 0.5:
    return f" Bullying Detected (Confidence: {result['score']:.2%})"
  return f" Not Bullying (Confidence: {result['score']:.2%})"
#Chatbot Function (Mental Health Support)
```

```
from transformers import AutoTokenizer, AutoModelForSeq2SeqLM
chat_model =
AutoModelForSeq2SeqLM.from_pretrained("facebook/blenderbot_small-
90M")
chat_tokenizer =
AutoTokenizer.from_pretrained("facebook/blenderbot_small-90M")
def support_chat(user_input):
  crisis_keywords = ["i want to die", "help me", "suicide"]
  if any(word in user_input.lower() for word in crisis_keywords):
    return " I'm concerned about your message. Please reach out to a
crisis helpline or talk to someone you trust."
  inputs = chat_tokenizer([user_input], return_tensors="pt")
  reply_ids = chat_model.generate(**inputs, max_new_tokens=50)
  return chat_tokenizer.decode(reply_ids[0], skip_special_tokens=True)
#Gradio Interface
import gradio as gr
with gr.Blocks() as demo:
  with gr.Tab("Scan Text"):
    input_text = gr.Textbox(label="Enter text to analyze")
    output = gr.Textbox(label="Result")
    button = gr.Button("Analyze")
    button.click(fn=detect_bullying, inputs=input_text, outputs=output)
  with gr.Tab("Chat Support"):
```

```
chatbot = gr.Chatbot()
  user_msg = gr.Textbox(label="Say something")
  send_btn = gr.Button("Send")send_btn.click(lambda msg, chat: chat +
[(msg, support_chat(msg))], inputs=[user_msg, chatbot], outputs=chatbot)
demo.launch()
```

## WORKLOG REVIEW-I WORKLOG



#### EXTERNAL INTERNSHIP WORK LOG SHEET - CYB23IN201

STUDENT NAME: SARAH IRENE RIYA N

UNIQUE ID: E0223026

PROJECT TITLE: AL-POWERED CYBERBULLYING THREAT DETECTION WITH MENTAL HEALTH CHATBOT COMPANY NAME: WHIRLDATA LABS

DATE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DAY'S ACTIVITY
02.05.25	Project planning and discussion
05.05.25	Defined project scope and objectives
06.05.25	Collected cyberbullying datasets from kaggle
07.05.25	Sent survey through Google forms to collect information based on cyberbullying
08.05.25	Encoded label:
09.05.25	Developed unitary/toxic-bert MODEL with datasets
12.05.25	Started to create a mental health chatbot using API



## **REVIEW-II WORKLOG**



#### EXTERNAL INTERNSHIP WORK LOG SHEET - CYB23IN201

STUDENT NAME: SARAH IRENE RIYA N

UNIOUE ID: E0223026

PROJECT TITLE :AI-POWERED CYBERBULLYING THREAT DETECTION WITH MENTAL HEALTH CHATBOT COMPANY NAME: WHIRLDATA LABS Inc.

DATE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DAY'S ACTIVITY
14.05.25	Including chatbot integration and performance comparison.
15.05.25	Finalized plan to integrate a mental health chatbot using BlenderBot.
16.05.25	Started initial integration of BlenderBot into the Gradio app.
19.05.25	Connected chatbot to activate only when bullying is detected.
20.05.25	Tested chatbot responses – noticed generic or off-topic replies.
21.05.25	Explored prompt engineering techniques to improve responses.
22.05.25	Updated user flow to allow access to the chatbot regardless of bullying detection outcome.
23.05.25	Listed features to be showcased.
26.05.25	Integrated cyberbullying classification output with chatbot
27.05.25	Planned visual flow and outlined key functional modules for chatbot and detection system.



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Integrated cyberbullying detection with conditional chatbot trigger logic (backend logic setup).
Improved preprocessing pipeline: handled edge cases in slang, emojis, and text noise.
Planned modular structure: separated classifier logic, chatbot API, and frontend interaction.
Researched alternate transformer models to compare with BERT for optimization.
Implemented chatbot backend response limiter to avoid irrelevant long replies.
Tuned threshold in bullying probability to reduce false positives during testing.
Debugged and refining chatbot handoff logic post-bullying detection (still in progress).



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## **FINAL REVIEW**



#### EXTERNAL INTERNSHIP WORK LOG SHEET - CYB23IN201

STUDENT NAME: SARAH IRENE RIYA N

UNIQUE ID: E0223026

PROJECT TITLE :AI-POWERED CYBERBULLYING THREAT DETECTION WITH MENTAL HEALTH CHATBOT COMPANY NAME: WHIRLDATA LABS

DATE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DAY'S ACTIVITY
09.06.25	Spent time improving how the charbot reacts when someone types something serious or emotional. I
	adjusted the way it picks up distress phrases so it gives a more appropriate reply.
10.06.25	Tried out lots of different messages — some casual, some sarcastic, and a few really emotional —
	just to see how the chatbot handles them. If anything felt off, I changed the logic or responses to make
	it feel more natural.
11.06.25	Cleaned up the user interface in Gradio. Moved a few things around so it looks neater and feels easier
	to use when someone is either scanning content or chatting.
12.06.25	Noticed an issue with how the chatbot was handling past messages in long conversations. Fixed the
	message flow so it remembers replies properly and doesn't repeat itself weirdly.
13.06.25	Did a full round of testing on both the bullying detection and the chatbot. I wanted to make sure
	everything works well across different types of input, not just obvious cases.

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16.06.25	Wrote a few backup replies for the chatbot, so even if it doesn't fully understand what the user says,
	it still gives a helpful or polite response instead of going blank.
17.06.25	Worked on connecting the detection model and the chatbot better. Now, the chat only starts if the
	message actually seems harmful — otherwise, it stays out of the way.
18.06.25	Ran some real-life examples — even subtle or sarcastic bullying — to see if the model could still
	catch it. Found a few weak spots but it's improving.
19.06.25	Before wrapping up, I checked the entire flow: typed something in, saw the detection, tried the chat,
	and made sure everything felt smooth and stable, like it's ready to be used by anyone.
20.06.25	Spent the day doing a full final check of the project. Ran through the entire system step by step —
	from entering sample messages to checking if the bullying detection triggers correctly, and making
	sure the chatbot responds naturally. Also tried out a few edge cases just to be sure nothing breaks last
	minute. Everything felt smooth, and I'm happy with how it turned out. It's ready to be shown and
	used — all the core parts are working as planned.



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## **OFFER LETTER**



#### LETTER OF APPOINTMENT

April 29, 2025

To

Ms. Sarah Irene Riya Reg. No.: E0223026 B.Tech. Computer Science and Engineering (Cyber Security & IoT) Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education & Research

Dear Ms. Sarah,

Sub: Internship Offer Letter

We are pleased to appoint you to the position of Solutions Trainee. This appointment shall start on <u>02<sup>∞</sup> May 2025</u>. You are expected to join us at our Offshore development centre Whirldata Labs, 3, 6th Cross St, South Phase, Sundar Nagar, Ekkatuthangal, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600 032.

During the internship period, you will undertake the roles and responsibilities delegated to you by your supervisor.

We look forward to working with you soon.

Best Regards,

Human Resources

8, Second Avenue, Sundar Nagar, Ekkattuthangal, Chennai 600 032

Email: info@whirldatascience.com Website: www.whirldatascience.com

## **CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION**



June 24, 2025

#### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This is to certify that Ms. Sarah Irene Riya N (Intern Id: <u>INT2020525</u>) has successfully completed her Internship in our company during the period from <u>02/05/2025</u> to <u>20/06/2025</u>.

We wish her all the best in all her future endeavours.

For WHIRLDATA LABS PVT. LTD.,

Human Resources

8, Second Avenue, Sundar Nagar, Ekkattuthangal, Chennai 600 032

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# ATTENDANCE FORM REVIEW-I ATTENDANCE FORM



#### EXTERNAL INTERNSHIP – ATTENDANCE FORM CYB23IN201

STUDENT NAME: SARAH IRENE RIYA N

UNIQUE ID: E0223026

YEAR OF STUDY: 2023-2027

DEGREE & BRANCH: B.Tech Computer Science Engineering (Cybersequrity and IoT)

STARTING DATE: 02.05.25

ENDING DATE: 12.05.25

NO OF HOURS WORKED: 35 hours

REMARKS:



## **REVIEW-II ATTENDANCE FORM**



#### EXTERNAL INTERNSHIP – ATTENDANCE FORM CYB23IN201

STUDENT NAME: SARAH IRENE RIYA N

UNIQUE ID: E0223026

YEAR OF STUDY: 2023-2027

DEGREE & BRANCH: B.Tech Computer Science Engineering (Cybersecurity and IoT)

STARTING DATE: 14.05.25

ENDING DATE: 05.06.25

NO OF HOURS WORKED: 85 hours

REMARKS:

EXTERNAL GUIDE SIGN & COMPANY SEAL
(SIGN WITH DATE)

## FINAL REVIEW ATTENDANCE FORM



#### EXTERNAL INTERNSHIP – ATTENDANCE FORM CYB23IN201

STUDENT NAME: SARAH IRENE RIYA N

UNIQUE ID: E0223026

YEAR OF STUDY: 2023-2027

DEGREE & BRANCH: B.Tech Computer Science Engineering (Cybersecurity and IoT)

STARTING DATE: 09.05.25

ENDING DATE: 20.05.25

NO OF HOURS WORKED: 50 hours

REMARKS:

EXTERNAL GUIDE SIGN & COMPANY SEAL

(SIGN WITH DATE)