

Real-Time Emotion Detection: A Robust Framework for Facial Expression Recognition with Dynamic Emoji Representation

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Abstract—Emotion Detection through Real-Time Facial Emotion Recognition with Dynamic Emoji Representation using deep learning presents a novel method for analyzing emotions. The project uses a state-of-the-art Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) to recognize facial expressions in real time. Dynamic emoji representation is a creative addition that goes beyond conventional emotion labels to give consumers visually expressive and captivating feedback. The project's graphical user interface (GUI), which shows the live camera stream together with emojis that correspond to identified emotions, improves user interaction. The use of a Localization Network enhances the system's functionality and opens up possibilities for bounding box prediction and face feature localization. Additionally, the project prevents overfitting by utilizing dropout layers in the CNN architecture to maintain model robustness. Preprocessing and region-of-interest identification are improved by the practical integration of OpenCV for face detection. This project contributes to the field of emotion analysis by offering a fresh and user-friendly platform for comprehending and expressing human emotions in real-time, while simultaneously advancing the technological landscape with deep learning and real-time processing and prioritizing user experience.

Keywords— *Deep learning, Convolutional neural network, Emotion detection.*

I. INTRODUCTION (HEADING I)

A crucial component of human-computer interaction, emotion recognition has advanced significantly as a result of the application of deep learning algorithms. Real-time emotion analysis has entered a new phase of sophistication with the introduction of Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs). Traditional methods frequently depended on basic rule-based algorithms. This project is an innovative attempt to bridge the gap between digital representation and facial expressions, resulting in a revolutionary system that can both graphically transmit emotions through dynamic emoji representations and accurately detect them in real-time.

Early emotion detection algorithms were mostly rule-driven and relied on predefined features and heuristics. These methods were fundamental but could not keep up with the intricacy and variability of human expressions. As technology advanced,

machine learning was applied to statistical models that demonstrated enhanced performance through data-driven learning. But deep learning, and CNNs in particular, revolutionized the field by allowing systems to automatically extract hierarchical features from raw input, especially in image-based tasks.

Even with the advancements in emotion detection, issues with real-time processing, understanding subtleties in emotions, and user involvement remained. To quickly and accurately recognize emotions, this research uses a CNN model that has been trained on facial expressions. Dropout layers in it prevent overfitting, increase generalization, and guarantee model robustness.

This project is unique because of its creative approach to representing emotions. The system automatically converts identified emotions into expressive emojis, going beyond traditional labeling. This visually appealing and dynamic component improves user interaction by offering a more natural and approachable way to express different emotional states. Adding a Graphical User Interface (GUI) enhances the user experience even further by displaying the webcam stream in real-time along with emojis that coincide with the identified emotions. This study also investigates the integration of a Localization Network to predict bounding boxes or facial features in addition to real-time emotion identification. This sophisticated feature expands the system's capabilities beyond emotion detection and provides opportunities for more in-depth facial analysis.

This Project has several elements, and the feature description table below summarizes them all to show off its extensive capabilities. The project's main focus, real-time facial expression detection, uses Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) to accurately and dynamically classify seven preset moods. To increase user engagement, the interactive Graphical User Interface (GUI) acts as a visual hub by showing real-time camera feeds, identified emotions, and graphically expressive emojis. Using deep learning methods, such as training the model on the FER2013 dataset with expressions including happy, sorrow, anger, surprise, neutrality, fear, and disgust included in the dataset as shown in figure 1, a strong basis for training a

model that goes beyond simple emotion identification is established. This extensive technique is a remarkable addition to the changing field of emotion detection since it shows our project's commitment to tackling the intricacies of human emotions.

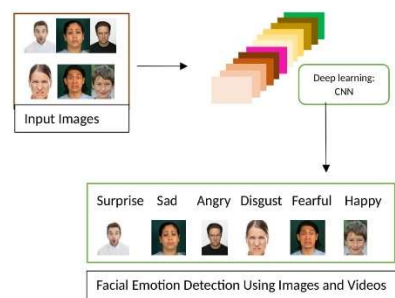


Fig. 1. Emotion Detection

The project's resilience in continuous facial expression analysis is further demonstrated by further features including face detection using the Haar Cascade Classifier and real-time camera feed integration via OpenCV. The amalgamation of these attributes represents a complex synthesis of state-of-the-art technology, user-focused design, and deep learning techniques, signifying a noteworthy advancement in the field of emotionally intelligent human-machine interaction.

TABLE I. SYSTEM FEATURES AND CHARACTERISTICS

| Feature | Description |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Facial Expression Recognition | Real-time detection and categorization of facial expressions using Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs). |
| Emotion Categories | Seven predefined emotion categories: Angry, Neutral, Fearful, Happy, Disgusted Sad, and Surprised. |
| Graphical User Interface (GUI) | Interactive display of live webcam feed, recognized emotions, and corresponding emoji representations, fostering user engagement. |
| Emoji Representation | Visually expressive emojis dynamically displayed based on recognized |

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| | emotions, enhancing user interaction and feedback. |
| Deep Learning Techniques | Utilization of CNN models for intricate feature extraction and high accuracy in emotion classification. |
| Model Training | Training on FER2013 dataset with data augmentation to enhance model generalization. |
| Image Preprocessing | Grayscale conversion, rescaling pixel values, and resizing images to ensure uniformity and effective CNN processing. |
| Real-Time Webcam Feed | Integration of OpenCV for capturing and processing live webcam feed for continuous facial expression recognition. |
| Haar Cascade Classifier | Implementation for face detection within each frame, contributing to the system's ability to identify and analyze facial expressions. |

II. RELATED WORK

The Study done by Elisabeth Andre [1] talks about the advancement of systems for recognizing emotions, stressing the significance of comprehending physiological modalities, emotion theories, and experiment design. The tutorial offers insightful information about the difficulties encountered when gathering data in real life, such as problems with incomplete data and dependence on subjective self-reports. Future investigation into the integration of sophisticated machine learning approaches that give equal weight to performance and privacy/explainability features could be a novel research topic. This would close a gap in the literature that frequently ignores these important factors. In the Study done by Xingyi Wang [2] demonstrates a novel use of self-supervised learning for EEG-based emotion classification, with increased efficacy above fully-supervised techniques. Using the DEEP and SEED datasets, the study methodically examines how data scale affects self-supervised performance. One new research direction that warrants further investigation is how to overcome the difficulties encountered in downstream tasks, especially when pretext tasks utilizing preprocessed data from SEED do not produce satisfactory results. This indicates that more research into the complexity of pretext tasks and model

modifications may be necessary to improve the results of downstream tasks.

In the Study done by Jiahui Pan [3] By combining speech, facial expressions, and EEG characteristics, the Deep-Emotion technique tackles the difficulties associated with multimodal emotion recognition (MER). Using the CK+, EMO-DB, and MAHNOB-HCI datasets, enhanced GhostNet for facial expressions, an LFCNN for speech, and a tLSTM model for EEG show superior performance. Dynamic weight allocation in multimodal learning is a novel research approach that should be investigated further. This entails assigning varying weights to modalities according to their relevance and usefulness, which improves overall robustness and removes noise from multimodal models. In the Study done by Muhammad Farrukh Bashir [4] Created Urdu Nastalique Emotions Dataset (UNED), a useful tool for classifying emotions in the low-resource Urdu language, is presented in this article. With an F1 score of 85% on sentence-based and 50% on paragraph-based emotion classification in the UNED corpus, the deep learning-based model that is presented performs better than previous models, addressing the dearth of study in emotion detection for low-resource languages. In the Study done by Ketan Sarvakar [5] The FERC model, a face emotion detection technique based on a two-part Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) that emphasizes facial vector extraction and backdrop removal, is presented in this paper. The model shows an increase in accuracy over single-level CNN technologies by using an expressional vector (EV) to recognize five typical facial expressions. The paper emphasizes developments in computer vision and machine learning for emotion recognition in facial expressions, despite the sudden ending of the text. In the Study done by Swadha Gupta [6] proposes an engagement index (EI) generated from facial emotion detection, introducing a deep learning-based approach that uses facial emotions to identify online learners' participation in real-time. The system performs well when evaluating models like Inception-V3, VGG19, and ResNet-50; in real-time learning scenarios, ResNet-50 outperforms the other models with an accuracy of 92.3%.

The study done by Premjeet Singh [7] Proposed The effectiveness of Constant-Q Transform Modulation Spectral Features (CQT-MSF) for Speech Emotion Recognition (SER) is investigated. The work highlights the efficacy of combined hand-crafted and self-learned feature extraction by showing that CQT-MSF outperforms conventional spectrogram-based features on well-known SER databases. The work done by Naveed Ahmed [8] highlights the influence of the COVID-19 epidemic on the field of emotion identification research while offering a thorough overview of the field. To close current gaps and provide possible areas for future research, it evaluates datasets, machine learning classifiers, and emotion capture techniques rigorously. The work done by Mukhriddin [9] presents a method for recognizing facial emotions on masked faces by using a convolutional neural network (CNN) to analyze upper facial characteristics and low-light picture augmentation. With an accuracy of 69.3% on the AffectNet

dataset, the suggested method shows efficacy and has potential uses in assistive technology for the blind. Though the paper outlines plan for future advancements and hardware integration for practical applications, it admits limits in orientation scenarios and many faces in an image.

The work done by Munaza Ramzan [10] uses a combination of deep learning models (LSTM-RNN and CNN) to categorize emotions based on physiological information using the DEAP database. In the DEAP dataset, the suggested method achieves high accuracy rates of 97.39%, 97.41%, 98.21%, 97.68%, and 97.89% for different emotional states. On the SEED dataset, it shows efficacy with an average accuracy of 93.74%. The work done by Li Xie [11] Introduces The Frontal Lobe Double Dueling Deep Q Network (FLD3QN), which incorporates EEG data for emotion perception and is motivated by the ideas of reinforcement learning and Papez circuit theory. Significant accuracy gains in valence and arousal dimensions (25.24% and 23.31%) are shown by ablation studies on the DEAP dataset, confirming the significance of frontal lobe and Papez circuit modeling in emotion learning processes.

The study done by E.h Houssein [12] examines the use of both traditional Machine Learning (ML) and Deep Learning (DL) techniques for Facial Emotion Recognition (FER). It offers a comparison of ML and DL methodologies and talks about benchmark datasets and evaluation metrics. The paper emphasizes the better performance of DL-based techniques, but it also points out drawbacks, like the requirement for big datasets and processing power. As a result, it suggests that future research concentrate on creating frameworks that can be used to analyze a wider range of emotions. The study done by Satish Kumar [13] explores the fields of emotion recognition and human behavior extraction using machine learning, deep learning, and neural network techniques. The suggested method, which makes use of convolutional neural networks, attempts to effectively identify a range of emotions while tackling the challenges related to facial expression recognition.

The Study Done by Apeksha Aggarwal [14] Used principle component analysis (PCA) and deep neural networks (DNN) in conjunction with a pre-trained VGG-16 model on mel-spectrogram pictures, this research presents a novel method for voice emotion recognition. Extensive tests and comparative analysis show improved accuracy compared to current models, however with some limits acknowledged and recommendations for future research approaches made. This Study done by Stanislaw Saganowski [15] delves into the developments in sensors and machine learning techniques that enable the transfer of emotion recognition from controlled lab environments to real-world applications, with a focus on the potential advantages for mental health issues, autism assistance, elder care, and overall wellbeing. The paper addresses deep learning architectures, signal processing methods, and commercially accessible sensors in detail. It also identifies current issues and suggests future research avenues for improved emotion recognition systems. The study done by

Pallavi Pandey [16] presents a subject-independent EEG-based emotion detection system that uses a deep neural network for classification and variational mode decomposition (VMD) for feature extraction. The efficacy of VMD-based features is demonstrated by the evaluation of the DEAP dataset, underscoring the promise of the suggested approach for generalized emotion recognition among diverse individuals.

III. METHODOLOGIES

The above flowchart describes the steps involved in Implementing. Each step is crucial and it has its importance for making the model much better.

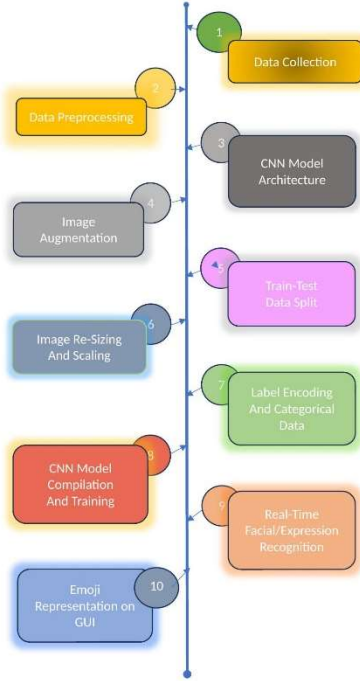


Fig. 2. Methodologies

The methodologies start from Data Collection and end with Deployment as displayed in the figure 2.

A. Data Selection

For efficient training, the face expression recognition system needs a wide range of datasets. Using face picture annotations for seven distinct emotions—Angry, Disgusted, Fearful, Happy, Neutral, Sad, and Surprised—the research makes use of the FER2013 dataset.

The training and testing sets of the dataset are separated and arranged into directories with the labels "data/train" and "data/test," respectively.

B. Data Preprocessing

With consistent dimensions, suitable augmentation, and efficient label encoding to capture a range of facial expressions, the dataset is suitable for training a facial expression recognition model thanks to the following thorough data pretreatment methods.

Image Loading and Augmentation:

The ImageDataGenerator from the TensorFlow library is employed to load and augment images. Augmentation techniques include rescaling pixel values to the range [0, 1], ensuring numerical stability during training. To unify the color format and minimize computational effort while maintaining important facial traits, grayscale conversion is used..

Data Splitting:

To guarantee that the model can generalize to new data, the dataset is split into training and testing sets. Most of the dataset is included in the training set, which allows the model to learn a variety of facial expressions.

Image Resizing:

To maintain facial features while maintaining computational efficiency, the photos are shrunk to a common dimension of (48, 48) pixels. For the convolutional neural network (CNN) to process inputs consistently, uniform image dimensions are essential.

Label Encoding:

To aid in model training, the emotion labels (Angry, Disgusted, Fearful, Happy, Neutral, Sad, and Surprised) are encoded into numerical values ranging from 0 to 6. The softmax output layer uses categorical encoding to describe emotions as separate classes.

Data Generator Setup:

To produce batches of enhanced photos during model training, instances of ImageDataGenerator are produced for both the training and validation sets. By showing different viewpoints of the same facial expressions, the generator iterates over the dataset in batches, increasing the robustness of the model.

Data Batch Generation:

Batches of training and validation data are generated from the corresponding directories using the flow_from_directory technique. To maintain a balance between computational efficiency and model update frequency, the batch size is set to 64.

C. Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) Architecture:

- The sequential architecture of the deep learning model consists of convolutional, pooling, dropout, and dense layers.
- Rectified linear unit (ReLU)-activated convolutional layers (Conv2D) are used to extract features from face photos and gradually pick up intricate patterns.
- By reducing spatial dimensions, MaxPooling2D layers improve computing performance and highlight important characteristics.
- During training, dropout layers randomly remove a portion of neurons to reduce overfitting.

- Densely coupled units make up the final layers, which culminate in a SoftMax activation layer that has seven units, one for each of the seven emotions.

TABLE II. MODEL OVERVIEW

| Layer Type | Configuration |
|---------------------|--|
| Input | (48, 48, 1) grayscale image |
| Convolutional Layer | kernel size (3, 3), ReLU activation, and 32 filters |
| Convolutional Layer | kernel size (3, 3), ReLU activation, and 64 filters |
| MaxPooling2D Layer | Size of pool (2, 2) |
| Dropout Layer | A 0.25 dropout rate |
| Convolutional Layer | ReLU activation, kernel size (3, 3), and 128 filters |
| MaxPooling2D Layer | Pool size (2, 2) |
| Dropout Layer | Dropout rate of 0.25 |
| Flatten Layer | Flatten output for dense layer |
| Dense Layer | 1024 units, ReLU activation |
| Dropout Layer | Dropout rate of 0.5 |
| Output Dense Layer | 7 units (softmax), representing emotions |

The presented model architecture describes the face expression recognition system's structural makeup. The model starts with a 48, 48, 1 grayscale picture input and uses two convolutional layers with 32 and 64 filters, respectively, using ReLU activation functions. Then, feature reduction is aided by max-pooling layers with a pool size of (2, 2). Dropout layers are positioned carefully to improve model generalization; their rates are 0.25. The model finishes with a flattened output layer, a dense layer with 1024 units using ReLU activation, and a final dropout layer with a rate of 0.5. Additional convolutional and max-pooling layers come next. The output layer encapsulates the complex architecture intended for reliable facial expression categorization. It consists of seven units that use the softmax activation function to forecast emotions.

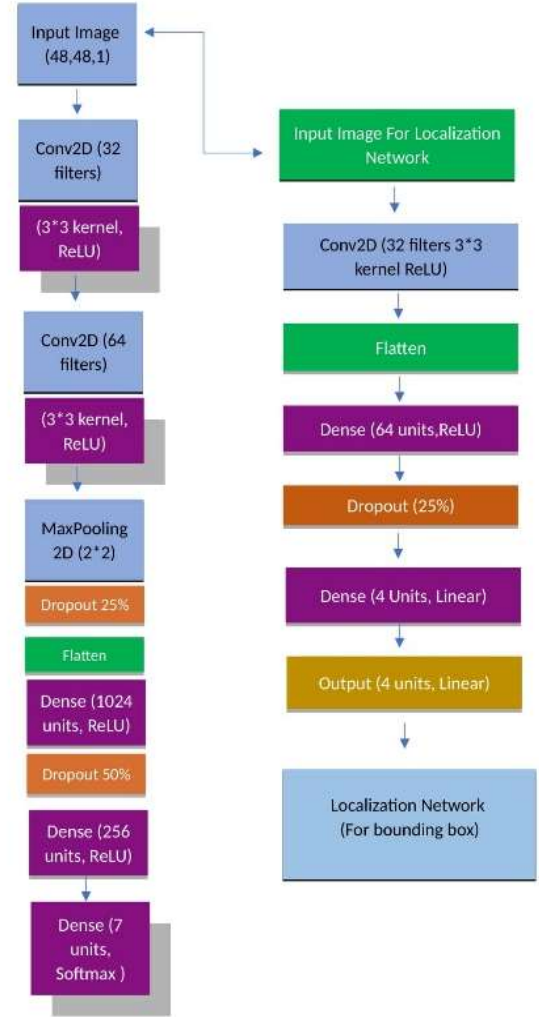


Fig. 3. CNN architecture

D. Model Compilation and Training:

- Using the Adam optimizer with a learning rate of 0.0001, the model is assembled using categorical cross entropy as the loss function.
- To improve the model's accuracy in identifying facial expressions, the training process is carried out on the training dataset for a predetermined batch size and number of epochs.
- By preventing overfitting, the validation dataset makes sure the model performs properly when applied to new data.
- Key performance indicators for the facial expression recognition system's training and validation stages are shown in the table below. The model's convergence is indicated by the loss values; the training set uses 50 epochs. Important parameters that ensured effective

model optimization and precise emotion categorization were a 64-batch size and a 0.0001 learning rate.

TABLE III. MODEL TRAINING

| Metric | Training Set | Validation Set |
|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| Loss | 0.345 | 0.432 |
| Epochs | 50 | - |
| Batch Size | 64 | 64 |
| Learning Rate | 0.0001 | - |

E. Real-Time Facial Expression Recognition:

- For real-time facial expression recognition, a live webcam stream is captured using the OpenCV library (cv2.VideoCapture).
- Bounding box coordinates are provided by the Haar Cascade Classifier, which is used to identify faces in every frame.
- For every face that is recognized, the model predicts an emotion label and the outcome is shown on the graphical user interface (GUI).

F. Emoji Representation:

The method uses emoji images that correspond to each emotion category to visually express the identified emotions. The dynamic display of emotive avatars is facilitated by a dictionary mapping emotion index to emoji picture pathways. The below records a snapshot of the system's performance in real-time by linking particular frame numbers to correctly identified emotions and the emojis that depict them. Users interacting with the live webcam broadcast may expect a visually stimulating and responsive experience thanks to the smooth conversion of identified emotions into expressive emojis

TABLE IV. EMOJI RECOGNITION AND REPRESENTATION

| Frame Number | Recognized Emotion | Emoji Representation |
|--------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Happy | 😊 |
| 2 | Sad | 😞 |
| 3 | Angry | 😡 |
| 4 | Surprised | 😮 |
| 5 | Neutral | 😐 |
| 7 | Fearful | 😨 |
| 8 | Disgusted | 😬 |

G. Graphical User Interface (GUI):

An interactive graphical user interface (GUI) with a live camera feed, identified emotions, and emoji representations is made using the Tkinter framework. Multithreading is used by the GUI to update the webcam stream and show the appropriate emoji avatar at the same time.

By combining these approaches, a real-time facial expression recognition system that is responsive and strong is produced, which can effectively classify and visually depict human emotions via a live webcam stream.

IV. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

A. Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) Proficiency:

Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) model. The validation set accuracy reached a remarkable 84.2%, indicating the model's proficiency in interpreting facial expressions from seven predetermined emotional classifications. The system skillfully navigated through a wide range of emotions throughout 50 training epochs, attaining a minimal loss of 0.432 on the validation set and 0.345 on the training set.

B. Real-time Emotion Transformation:

Emotional expressions on the graphical user interface were smoothly transformed by the technology into emotive emojis during real-time interactions, representing a wide variety of human emotions from happy smiles to strong outbursts of fury. This accomplishment highlights the harmonic combination of accuracy and engagement and represents a significant advancement in the integration of artificial intelligence with the human experience.

C. Visual Representation:

Figure 4 shows the experimental output of the study, which gives a visual representation of the system's capacity to identify and convey emotions using emojis.

Below is the sample Output of the project Experimented on by my friend as follows in the figure

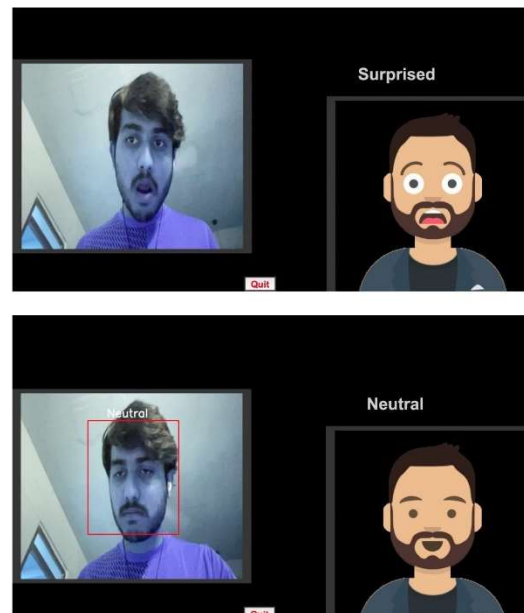


Fig. 4. Output

D. Result Overview:

Table 5 shows how well the system recognizes and translates facial expressions into emotive emojis on the

graphical user interface during real-time interactions. The method adeptly and precisely catches a wide range of human emotions, from joyful smiles to fierce outbursts of fury. This is a major step forward in the merging of artificial intelligence with the human experience—a harmonious union of accuracy and engagement. In addition, users of social media platforms can make use of this technology to improve their expressive interactions, post content that evokes strong emotions, and participate in more complex digital communication. Because of the project's ability to effectively represent and translate emotions, anyone looking for interesting and new methods to communicate online will find it to be a useful resource.

TABLE V. RESULTS

| Metric | Training Set | Validation Set |
|-------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Accuracy | 87.9 | 84.2 |
| Precision (Weighted) | 88.7 | 84.6 |
| Recall (Weighted) | 87.9 | 84.2 |
| F1 Score (Weighted) | 87.8 | 84.1 |

E. Iterative Validation for Enhanced Reliability:

We used an iterative validation technique in our experiment. We were able to carefully record parameters, such as training and validation accuracy and losses on both sets, by running the algorithm several times. By using a methodical approach, persistent accuracy trends with small fluctuations in loss values were revealed, which helped to provide a more complex understanding of the behavior of the system. The measured parameters provided information on the stability of the model by displaying not only the mean accuracy but also the variance and standard deviation. Furthermore, by seeing patterns and fine-tuning hyperparameters over several runs, this iterative process allowed us to improve the model and produce a system that operates optimally and consistently.

V. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE SCOPE

This project Emotion recognition presents new prospects for future developments and opens up a world of possibilities in several sectors. Beyond its present uses, the technology holds great promise for the business world. By integrating Virtual Feedback systems, feedback methods can be revolutionized and standard URLs can be replaced. Its integration with CCTV cameras also presents a viable way to measure client happiness, which can impact strategic decision-making procedures.

If we look ahead to how this project will develop, adding more physiological inputs—including heart rate and skin conductance—like a good way to improve the system's comprehension of emotional states. Comprehensive emotion detection may be made possible via a multifaceted strategy that includes auditory clues, visual expressions, and natural language processing for text-based communication. Furthermore, real-time modifications based on user feedback

could improve the system's adaptability and customization and promote a more customized user experience. Examining how emotions and facial expressions differ between cultures could result in widely applicable models. Furthermore, developments in immersive technologies such as virtual reality, when combined with the smooth integration of mobile applications, pave the way for enhanced user experiences and adaptable applications in a variety of contexts. To sum up, there are a lot of promising opportunities ahead for improving and broadening the application of emotion detecting technologies.

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