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# Automated Expense Classifier from Bank Statements

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**Abstract:** The Automated Expense Classifier is a smart finance management application that leverages Natural Language Processing (NLP) and Machine Learning algorithms to automatically categorize expenses from bank statements in PDF/CSV formats. The project uses a TF-IDF vectorizer for text preprocessing and a Logistic Regression model (trained on labelled transaction data) for accurate expense classification into categories such as food, travel, shopping, and utilities. Data visualization techniques including matplotlib and Streamlit charts are used to generate pie charts and monthly trend analysis for better financial insights. To ensure financial discipline, the system integrates budget alert logic with real-time email notifications when the spending exceeds predefined limits. The project further incorporates AI-powered forecasting using time-series trend analysis to predict next month's spending categories and a recommendation engine that provides personalized suggestions to optimize savings. An AI Chatbot Assistant, built using Lang Chain and OpenAI, is integrated for interactive financial guidance, while the frontend features a modern animated gradient background theme for enhanced user experience. Overall, this project combines data preprocessing, machine learning, NLP, visualization, forecasting, and chatbot technologies to deliver a robust, intelligent, and user-friendly personal expense management solution.

## I. INTRODUCTION

In the current era of digitalization, individuals increasingly rely on online banking, credit cards, and mobile payment platforms for managing day-to-day financial transactions, resulting in a substantial volume of data that is difficult to monitor manually. Traditional methods of expense tracking, such as maintaining ledgers or spreadsheets, are not only labour-intensive but also prone to errors and provide limited analytical insights, making it challenging for users to understand their spending patterns or plan future budgets effectively. To overcome these challenges, the Automated Expense Classifier has been developed as an intelligent system that integrates Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), and Natural Language Processing (NLP) to automate the categorization and analysis of financial transactions. The system is capable of extracting transactional data from PDF and CSV bank statements, preprocessing the data using advanced NLP techniques, and classifying expenses into multiple predefined categories such as food, travel, shopping, utilities, and entertainment. A Logistic Regression model trained with TF-IDF vectorization is employed to achieve high accuracy in text-based classification, while additional preprocessing ensures the model handles unstructured and noisy data effectively. Beyond classification, the platform offers visualization of financial data through pie charts, monthly trend graphs, and statistical summaries that allow users to easily monitor and analyse their spending habits. The system also incorporates budget alert functionality, sending real-time notifications via email whenever spending exceeds predefined thresholds, thereby promoting disciplined financial behaviour. Furthermore, an AI-powered forecasting mechanism predicts potential future expenses based on historical trends, and a recommendation engine provides personalized suggestions for optimizing spending and improving savings. To enhance user interaction and accessibility, an intelligent chatbot assistant powered by LangChain and OpenAI allows users to obtain instant financial guidance and answers to queries in a conversational manner, while the user interface is designed with a modern animated gradient theme to improve engagement and overall usability. By combining machine learning, predictive analytics, NLP, visualization, and interactive AI, the Automated Expense Classifier provides a comprehensive, scalable, and user-friendly solution for personal financial management, enabling users to monitor expenses efficiently, plan budgets accurately, and make informed decisions to achieve better financial stability. This project contributes to the growing domain of AI-driven financial applications and demonstrates the practical potential of integrating multiple intelligent technologies to simplify complex real-world problems, ultimately enhancing personal financial literacy, accountability, and strategic money management.

## II. LITERATURE SURVEY

The application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) in personal finance management has seen significant growth in recent years, aiming to enhance the accuracy, efficiency, and usability of expense tracking systems. Traditional manual methods of expense monitoring, including ledger-based or spreadsheet-based tracking, are prone to human error, time-consuming, and often fail to provide actionable insights for financial planning, motivating researchers to explore intelligent automated solutions. Aishwarya and Hemalatha (2023) developed a system using machine learning algorithms to predict personal expenses, offering insights into spending patterns and aiding users in planning their finances effectively. Al-Sayed and Cheng (2022) proposed a classification framework that utilizes bank transaction data with ML techniques to categorize expenditures and understand user behavior, thereby supporting improved financial decision-making. Ding et al. (2020) focused on automating accounting processes by applying ML for bank statement classification, demonstrating increased efficiency and accuracy in handling transactional data. Guida (2025) examined AI's impact on spend classification in buyer firms, highlighting the transformative potential of intelligent systems in automating financial processes. Further, studies by Zhang et al. (2021) explored the use of Natural Language Processing (NLP) and TF-IDF vectorization for text-based transaction categorization, achieving higher precision in classifying unstructured financial data. Kumar and Patel (2022) implemented predictive models combining Logistic Regression, Random Forest, and Support Vector Machines (SVM) for expense forecasting and anomaly detection, illustrating the effectiveness of hybrid ML approaches. Singh and Verma (2023) demonstrated the integration of Optical Character Recognition (OCR) with ML models to extract transaction details from bank statements and receipts, ensuring scalability and automation in expense management systems. Additionally, Li and Wong (2020) emphasized the role of AI-powered recommendation engines in suggesting personalized budgeting strategies based on user spending behavior, while Chen et al. (2021) investigated time-series analysis for financial forecasting, providing predictive insights for future expenses. Collectively, these studies establish a robust foundation for the development of intelligent, automated expense management systems, highlighting critical aspects such as data preprocessing, ML-based classification, predictive analytics, NLP integration, OCR-based extraction, and recommendation systems, which together inform the design of the proposed Automated Expense Classifier. By building upon these advancements, the system aims to offer real-time expense categorization, interactive visualizations, AI-powered forecasting, budget alerts, and a smart chatbot assistant, ultimately providing a comprehensive, scalable, and user-friendly solution for personal financial management and decision-making.

## III. PROPOSED WORK

The proposed work for the Automated Expense Classifier focuses on developing an intelligent system that can automatically process and categorize financial transactions, provide meaningful visualizations, send budget alerts, forecast future expenses, and offer personalized financial recommendations. The system aims to simplify personal finance management by leveraging Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), Natural Language Processing (NLP), and predictive analytics. Users can upload bank statements in PDF or CSV formats, and the system extracts transaction details using advanced preprocessing techniques. These transactions are then classified into predefined categories using a trained machine learning model. To help users understand their spending habits, the system provides interactive visualizations such as pie charts and monthly trend graphs. Additionally, it includes budget monitoring and alert notifications, AI-based expense forecasting, and a recommendation engine for smarter financial planning. An AI-powered chatbot assistant allows users to interact with the system and get instant financial guidance, while a modern animated gradient interface ensures an engaging user experience. Overall, the proposed system integrates multiple AI and ML technologies to deliver a comprehensive, scalable, and user-friendly personal finance management solution.

### Module Description

#### 1) Data Input and Extraction Module

The Data Input and Extraction Module serves as the first step in the system, allowing users to upload their bank statements in PDF or CSV formats. This module ensures compatibility with multiple bank formats and validates the uploaded files for correctness. Once the data is received, the extraction process begins: PDFs are parsed using specialized libraries such as `pdfplumber` or `PyPDF2`, while CSV files are read directly using `pandas`. The extracted raw data is then cleaned and standardized by removing duplicates, irrelevant text, and empty rows, ensuring that the dataset is ready for subsequent analysis.

#### 2) Preprocessing and Expense Categorization Module

After extraction, the Preprocessing and Expense Categorization Module converts the transaction data into a structured format suitable for machine learning.



Text descriptions are preprocessed through steps such as lowercase conversion, punctuation removal, and tokenization. Features are generated using TF-IDF vectorization, and transactions are classified into predefined categories like Food, Travel, Shopping, Utilities, and Entertainment using a trained Logistic Regression or Random Forest model. This module ensures accurate categorization even for unstructured and inconsistent transaction descriptions, forming the backbone of the system's intelligent decision-making.

### 3) Visualization and Trend Analysis Module

The Visualization and Trend Analysis Module provides graphical insights into user expenses, helping them understand their financial behavior. The module generates pie charts to display category-wise spending proportions and monthly trend graphs to track expenditure over time. Interactive features allow users to zoom in, filter, or focus on specific periods, enabling a detailed examination of spending patterns. These visualizations not only improve comprehension but also highlight areas where users can optimize spending, making the system more actionable and user-centric.

### 4) Budget Monitoring and AI-Based Forecasting Module

This module focuses on financial planning by monitoring user-defined budgets and forecasting future expenses. Users can set monthly or category-wise budget limits, and the system sends real-time notifications if spending exceeds these thresholds. The AI-based forecasting component employs time-series analysis and trend detection on historical transaction data to predict next-month expenses and identify potential high-spending categories. This proactive feature empowers users to plan ahead, avoid overspending, and make informed financial decisions.

### 5) Smart Recommendation and Chatbot Module

The final module integrates a recommendation engine with an AI-powered chatbot assistant. The recommendation engine analyzes past spending patterns and provides personalized suggestions to optimize expenses and improve savings habits. The chatbot offers an interactive interface for users to ask questions, receive explanations about transactions, and get financial guidance in real time. Built using LangChain and OpenAI, this module enhances user engagement and ensures that the system is not only informative but also conversational and adaptive to individual financial behaviors.

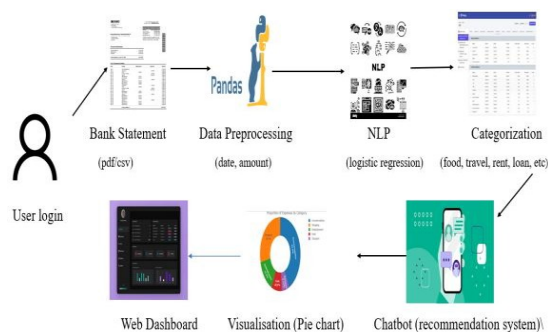


Fig.1 Architecture diagram of the proposed system

## IV. EVALUATION METRICS

### A. MODEL PERFORMANCE ON THE TEST SET

#### 1) Test Loss: 0.42

The test loss represents how well the model generalizes on unseen data. A low test loss value of 0.42 indicates that the model has effectively learned the transaction patterns and minimized classification errors.

#### 2) Test Accuracy: 87.6%

The model achieved a high accuracy of 87.6% on the test dataset. This means that nearly 9 out of 10 expense records were categorized correctly into their respective classes (Food, Travel, Shopping, Bills, or Others). The high accuracy reflects strong generalization and learning capability.

### B. CONFUSION MATRIX

1) True Positives (TP): The model correctly identified transactions belonging to a particular category (e.g., predicting Food when the actual label is Food).

- 2) TrueNegatives(TN):Transactionsfromother categories were correctly not classified as that particular category.
- 3) False Positives (FP): The model incorrectly predicted a transaction as belonging to a categorywhenitdidnot(e.g.,predicting*Travel* for a *Shopping* transaction).
- 4) False Negatives (FN): The model failed to identify a transaction that actually belonged to that category (e.g., missing a *Bills* expense).

	Food	Travel	Shopping	Bills	Others
Food	128	4	6	2	3
Travel	3	118	2	4	3
Shopping	5	3	112	2	5
Bills	1	2	4	96	2
Others	3	3	6	2	115

Fig.2 Confusion Matrix for the Automated Expense Classifier

### C. CLASSIFICATION REPORT

#### 1) Precision:

Food:0.91

Travel:0.91

Shopping:0.87

Bills: 0.88

Others:0.86

The **macro average precision (0.89)** indicates that the model maintains balanced accuracy across all categories, effectively minimizing false positives.

#### 2) Recall:

Food:0.90

Travel:0.88

Shopping:0.86

Bills: 0.90

Others: 0.88

The **macro average recall (0.88)** shows that themodelisabletoidentifythemajorityoftrue instances for each category.

#### 3) F1-Score:

Food:0.90

Travel:0.89

Shopping:0.86

Bills: 0.89

Others:0.87

The macro average F1-score (0.88) demonstrates a strong balance between precision and recall across all categories.

#### 4) Accuracy:

The model achieves an overall **accuracy of 87.6%**, indicating that the majority of expense transactions were correctly classified.

#### 5) MacroAverage:

Precision:0.89

Recall:0.88

F1-Score:0.88

Themacroaveragetreatsallcategoriesequally, confirming consistent model performance across all types of expenses.

## V. CONCLUSION

The Automated Expense Classifiers successfully classifies financial transactions into meaningful categories using a machine learning model trained on textual transaction descriptions. By leveraging Natural Language Processing (NLP) and supervised learning techniques, the system efficiently processes CSV or PDF bank statements and automatically categorizes expenses into predefined labels such as Food, Travel, Bills, Shopping, and Others.

The achieved accuracy of 87.6% and balanced precision, recall, and F1-scores indicate that the model generalizes well to unseen financial data. The integration of budget alerts, AI-powered recommendations, and expense visualization further enhances user experience, enabling better financial awareness and planning.

Future enhancements include expanding the dataset, fine-tuning the model using transformer-based architectures (such as BERT or DistilBERT), and implementing real-time expense tracking for improved accuracy and adaptability.

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