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Music Recommendation System based on Facial Emotion Detection using Spotify API

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Abstract: *In the world of entertainment, music holds considerable importance, especially for those who find joy in rhythmic experiences. Despite the abundance of streaming platforms that enable access to favorite songs, they often fall short in capturing the intricate emotional nuances of users. This research recognizes a spectrum of emotions, including fear, happiness, sadness, anger, and neutrality. Its goal is to enrich the user experience by developing a recommendation system that proposes songs based on the user's current emotional state. The emotion-driven recommendation engine has seamlessly integrated into Spotify, a well-known music streaming service, providing users with a smooth and individualized journey in exploring music. The system aims to simplify the user experience by eliminating the necessity for manual song searches and, instead, intuitively suggests tracks that resonate with the user's emotions. The Spotify API serves as a crucial tool for accessing curated playlists, enabling the retrieval of desired music from thoughtfully organized collections centered around specific themes or titles.*

Keywords: *Music, Spotify API, User Experience, Emotion-based, Time-saving.*

I. INTRODUCTION

Everybody is surrounded by music in their daily lives. People may now access and enjoy a vast array of music thanks to the emergence of streaming services. Music varies based on location and cultural norms. People also differ in likes, dislikes, and choices. This people's musical preferences also differs. Thus, to determine what kind of music someone could such as hearing and creating a system of recommendations to assist in reaching a variety of acts, tunes, and genres, both new and old to people. Determining the connections between different music is a laborious undertaking. It's possible that one song, a specific person enjoys or is his favorite genre is disliked by another user.

The system will determine users' musical preferences by analyzing their interactions with the Spotify app, specifically utilizing Spotify's web API to query information about users' recent top tracks. Additionally, the work explores the potential benefits of incorporating the user's emotional context into a music recommendation system (RS) to enhance accuracy and provide superior recommendations compared to existing models. While some research projects have suggested direct emotion-based playlists as recommendations, prevalent recommendation systems like Spotify employ a hybrid model that combines content-based and collaborative filtering. Objective of the paper is to introduce an innovative approach where songs, irrespective of their age or popularity, will be recommended with equal importance, taking into consideration the user's overall preferences.

II. RELATED WORKS

Work examines the following papers as part of literature evaluation, and here is a quick summary of the work that was done:

The paper compares the performance of domain-specific networks and image classification networks using two datasets: the widely-used GTZAN benchmarking dataset and a newly created, much larger dataset. Our findings indicate that the image classification network requires significantly fewer resources and outperforms the domain-specific network in our test conditions. This suggests that using the image classification network eliminates the need for expert effort in designing specialized networks.

The music industry has experienced a significant increase in new channels for browsing and distributing music, but this growth comes with challenges. As the volume of data rapidly expands, manual curation becomes increasingly difficult. Audio files contain numerous features that could streamline this process, though the best methods for utilizing these features for various tasks are not always clear. This thesis evaluates two deep learning models, convolutional neural networks (CNNs) and long short-term memory networks (LSTMs), for music genre reclassification using mel-frequency cepstral coefficients (MFCCs). The goal of paper [2] is to maximize the utility of audio data for future applications. The models were tested on the GTZAN and FMA datasets, with the CNN achieving prediction accuracies of 56.0% and 50.5%, respectively. This performance surpassed that of the LSTM model, which achieved prediction accuracies of 42.0% and 33.5%.

Automatic emotion recognition based on facial expressions is a fascinating research area with applications in safety, health, and human-machine interfaces. Researchers aim to develop techniques to interpret and encode facial expressions, and to extract these features for improved computer-based predictions. With the significant advancements in deep learning, various architectures have been leveraged to enhance performance. This paper [3] aims to review recent works on automatic facial emotion recognition (FER) using deep learning. We focus on the contributions, architectures, and databases used, comparing the proposed methods and their results. The goal of this paper is to guide and inform researchers by reviewing recent developments and offering insights for further advancements in the field.

Soleymani, Aljanaki, Wiering, Veltkamp, et al. [4] developed a recommendation system (RS) that incorporated psychological aspects of users' musical preferences, supplementing the conventional genre-based suggestions. The system employed regression analysis to identify key qualities using features from auditory modulation analysis. Unlike other recommendation systems relying on user- based or genre-based approaches, this unique research demonstrated superior performance, as indicated by lower root-mean-square error values. As a result, work opted to select parameters distinct from genre for recommendation system.

To simplify the complex process of explicit feature extraction in traditional facial expression recognition, a method based on a convolutional neural network (CNN) and image edge detection is proposed in paper [5]. Initially, facial expression images are normalized, and the edges of each image layer are extracted during the convolution process. The extracted edge information is superimposed onto each feature image to maintain the edge structure of the texture image. Dimensionality reduction of the extracted implicit features is then performed using the maximum pooling method. Finally, a Softmax classifier is used to classify and recognize the expressions in the test sample images. To test the robustness of this method for facial expression recognition in complex backgrounds, a simulation experiment was conducted by combining the Fer-2013 facial expression database with the LFW dataset. The experimental results demonstrate that the proposed algorithm achieves an average recognition rate of 88.56% with fewer iterations and has a training speed approximately 1.5 times faster than that of the comparison algorithm.

Paper [6] utilizes deep learning to categorize human facial expressions, enabling the filtering and mapping of corresponding emojis or avatars. The goal is not to solve a real-world problem but to make communication more vibrant. Emojify is software designed to streamline the creation of emojis and avatars.

A hybrid technique was utilised by Akrafi et al. [7]. The user's context—that is, whether they are working or dancing—is another factor that the algorithm considers. A playlist including the top-N songs was suggested, and four distinct recommendation algorithms were applied. There is no detailed description of the strategies, and a 96% accurate supervised kNN model is employed.

III. PROPOSED METHOD

There are three modules: Emotion Detection Module, Face Detection Module and Song Recommendation Module.

The Face Detection module looks for Haar-like features in the webcam input to identify faces using the Viola-Jones technique. The library used for this is called OpenCV. Once the face has been identified, the CNN facial expression recognition model from the Emotion Recognition Module is used to categorise the facial input into an emotion category.

The music recommendation engine takes the identified emotion category as an input. Users are prompted to login to their Spotify account, following which the Spotify web API is utilized to fetch information about their latest favorite songs. An additional set of ten songs is recommended from the pool of songs based on the emotion deduced from the facial expression.

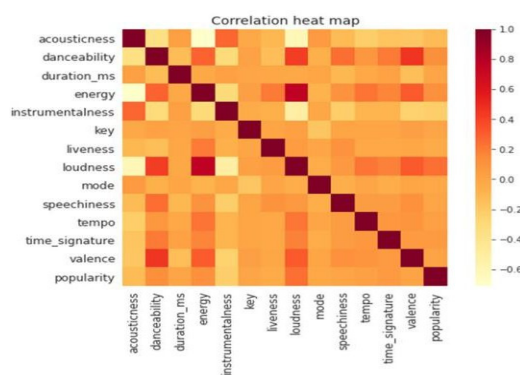


Fig.1: Correlation Heat Map

In above Fig. 1,the heat map shows the correlation between 13 audio features of a song. Each feature is listed on the left and right sides of the heatmap, and the strength of the correlation between each pair of features is represented by the color intensity in the corresponding square. The heat map reveals several interesting patterns:

- 1) *Acousticness and valence* show a positive correlation, indicating that acoustic songs generally evoke more positive emotions. This aligns with the common perception that acoustic music is often linked to a sense of tranquility and serenity.
- 2) *Danceability and energy* exhibit a positive correlation, suggesting that danceable songs typically possess high energy levels. This finding is in line with the expectation that dance music is crafted to inspire movement and excitement.
- 3) *Speechiness and instrumentalness* display a negative correlation, indicating that content with a significant amount of spoken word (like audiobooks or podcasts) tends to have fewer accompanying instruments. This is logical, considering spoken word content usually doesn't require a musical backdrop.
- 4) *Loudness and valence* show a slight negative correlation, implying that louder songs tend to have lower positive emotions. This could be attributed to the association of loud music with emotions like anger or aggression.

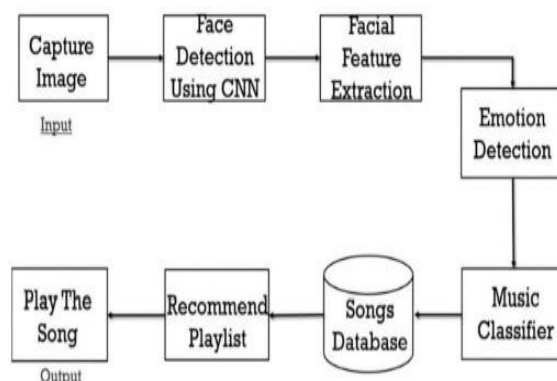


Fig.2:Flow Diagram of the System

The above Fig. 2 depicts a system that captures the user's face using a camera. A CNN detects facial features like eyes and mouth. Information like eye distance and mouth shape is extracted. A machine learning model identifies emotions (e.g., happiness, sadness) based on extracted features. The system suggests songs or playlists matching the detected emotion (e.g., upbeat pop for happiness, melancholic ballad for sadness). The recommended music is played through speakers or headphones, offering a personalized listening experience.

IV. MODULE DESCRIPTION

A. Emotion Detection Module

- 1) *Get the Data:* This approach functions on the FER2013 dataset, consisting of images with a resolution of 48*48 pixels. Each image is associated with a label indicating one of six emotions: anger, disgust, fear, happiness, sadness, surprise, or neutrality. The dataset is organized into three columns: emotion, pixels, and usage. The two primary applications of the dataset are for testing and training purposes.



Fig.3:Seven Emotions

- 2) *Prepare the Data:* To make sure the data is in the right format, preprocessing is done on it. Two subsets of the dataset have been identified: X_train, X_test and y_train, y_test. The former is for strings of pixels, and the latter is for emotion labels (integer encoded labels). There are seven emotion classes in use, according to the value num_classes. The following parameters are added to the data to create a 4D tensor for training: row_num, width, height, and channel.
- 3) *Build and train the model:* Conv2D layer, Batch- Normalization, Max-Pooling2D, Dropout, and Flatten are used to construct blocks for the CNN model. These blocks are then piled one on top of the other. The final output is produced using Dense Layer. Adam optimises the model during compilation. 0.001 is the learning rate maintained. On an Intel i3 Windows PC, training takes 30 minutes for one epoch.

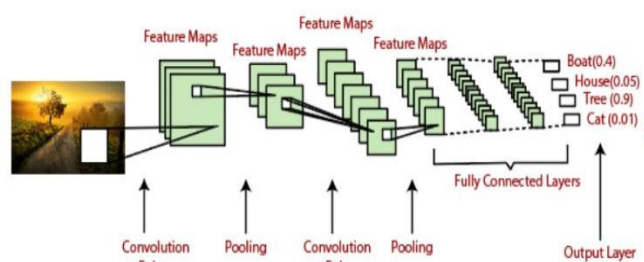


Fig.4: Layer of Convolution Neural Network

B. Face Detection Module:

- 1) *Load the model:* The initial step involves importing the weights and the trained model architecture. Once the Haar-cascade method is employed to identify the position of the face, the faces are then cropped.
- 2) *Data Preprocessing:* The emotion label is obtained through the variable "emotion_prediction," and the OpenCV Python Library for image processing is responsible for reading it. To rescale the test image, it is divided by 255. The coordinates of the identified face in the input are represented as (x, y, w, h) within 4D tensors formed from 3D matrices.

C. Song Recommendation Module:

Users will initially receive their credentials (client ID and client secret key) through the Spotify online dashboard. Upon obtaining credentials, the user will be presented with their most-played tracks. Subsequently, these tracks will be fed into the recommender engine, which will analyze their attributes such as dance, tempo, mode, valence, etc.

To identify the most effective features for the recommendation engine, a heat map will be utilized as a visualization technique (refer to Fig 1). In this scenario, the analysis revealed four features that demonstrated optimal outcomes, highlighting either the feature with the strongest correlation with others or the one exhibiting the most positive association. Once the feature selection process is concluded, the chosen values will be input into a separate dataframe, and any unnecessary ones will be eliminated to form the song data frame.

D. Dataset

The FER2013 dataset comprises around 30,000 facial RGB images representing various expressions, each constrained to a size of 48x48 pixels. The primary labels in the dataset can be categorized into seven types: 0 for Angry, 1 for Disgust, 2 Neutral.

E. Convolutional Neural Network

The architecture of CNN is almost exactly the same as the neuronal communication patterns found in the human brain. Fig. 4 depicts the visualization of the layers of a convolutional neural network (CNN) feature map. It uses local receptive fields to process human perception. Deep learning typically uses the neural network idea for speech processing and image recognition. The CNN approach is employed to recognize images by utilizing a range of attributes that enable differentiation. Compared to other classification techniques, CNN requires less preprocessing. To ensure accurate predictions, the CNN design is structured to resize the image in a manner that facilitates easy processing without compromising essential features. The CNN method functions by passing the input image through a sequence of layers, including Convolutional layer, Rectified Linear Unit, pooling layer, and Fully Connected layer.

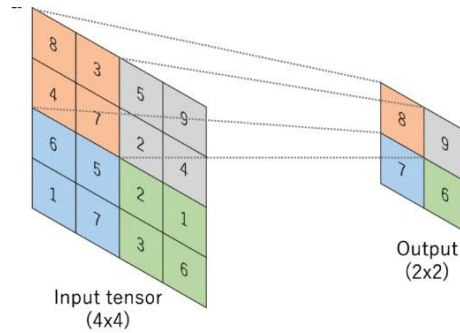


Fig.5:Max-Pooling in CNN

1) Convolutional Layer

Convolutional layer transmits the output to the next layer by performing a convolution operation on the input. Each pixel within the receptive area of a convolution is amalgamated into a singular value. To illustrate, employing a convolution on an image leads to a decrease in image size and the amalgamation of all the information within the field into a single pixel. The ultimate output of the convolutional layer is a vector. The selection of convolution types depends on the features targeted for learning and the nature of the problem being addressed.

2) Relu Layer

The layer uses activation functions to send the convolution layer's output as input, making it nonlinear. The convolved feature's noise is eliminated and replaced with 0. The best answer to the absence of gradient problems has been shown to be corrected linear units.

3) Pooling Layer

By summing or averaging values across the convolved feature maps, this layer aimed to isolate the feature maps. The pooling layer reduces the spatial dimensionality in order to provide flexible convolved features. The convolved feature in which the convolved map's size exceeds the pooling filter is covered by the filter as it is dragged over it in this layer. Average and Max pooling are two popular pooling methods. In order for Average Pooling to function, each patch's average from the convolved feature is determined. The convolved feature is used to determine each patch's ceiling value in order for max pooling to function.

F. Haar Cascade

To capture the image from the user's live stream, a cascade classifier is employed to detect the user's face in the canvas provided by the JavaScript object. Subsequently, the image is converted into bytes using a rectangle bounding box through base64 and the haar function. This process enables

the video to be saved in an XML file, highlighting the contrast between darker and lighter regions by traversing rectangles over pixels from the two-stage features to the 38

stages, effectively minimizing the false negative ratio. Haar value is the product of the sum of the pixels in the lighter and darker regions.

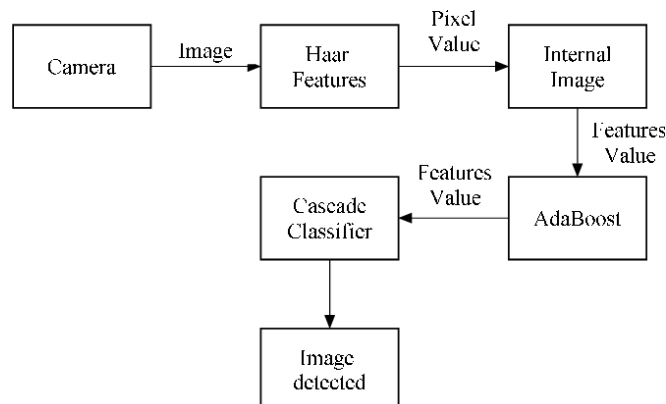


Fig.6:Flow Diagram of Haar-cascade

V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Emotion derived then mapped to the Spotify API to fetch the random song from the respective emotional playlist from the database. As the song from the happy genre has to be recommended.



Fig.7: Results on Sad Emotion

In above Fig. 7, user makes a sad expression resulting in a playlist containing sad songs.

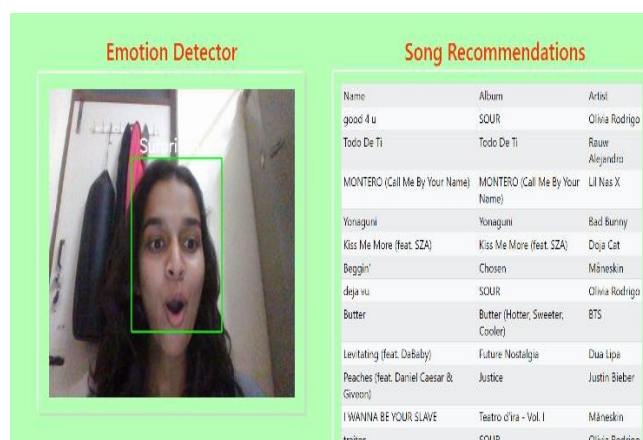


Fig.8: Results on Surprised Emotion

Fig. 8, depicts results on Surprised Expression by user. Fig.9 and 10 depict angry and Happy expression of the user.

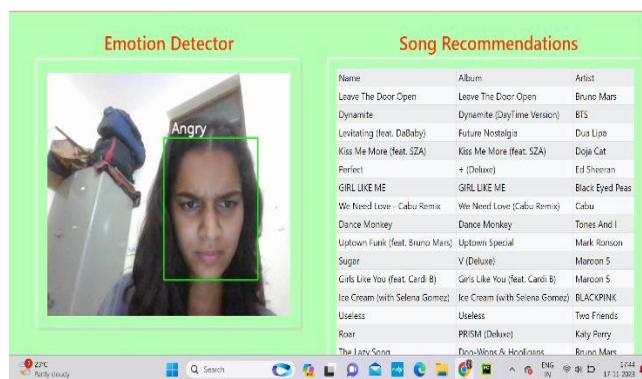


Fig.9: Results on Angry Expression



Fig.10.Result on Happy Expression

Recommendation systems play a vital role in enriching a user's musical preferences and introducing them to diverse music sources, given the widespread enjoyment of music through online streaming services worldwide. Concurrently, these algorithms aid in the exploration of songs spanning different time periods. In this project, the primary objective was to create a recommendation engine utilizing Spotify's Web API to identify related music from a database of 1.2

VI. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE SCOPE

In summary, the amalgamation of facial emotion detection with the Spotify API in our music recommender system represents a unique and captivating approach to enriching user interactions. Employing the FER13 dataset ensures precise identification of emotions, allowing our system to not only leverage advanced technology but also interpret users' nuanced facial expressions, providing music recommendations that are not just personalized but emotionally resonant.

Our recommender system strengthens its bond with users by interpreting facial cues and linking them to emotional states, aligning their musical preferences with their current moods. The real-time matching of songs to users' evolving emotional states, coupled with the seamless integration with the extensive Spotify API, ensures a diverse and expansive music selection.

This innovative methodology goes beyond traditional recommendation systems, offering a responsive and dynamic music discovery experience. As users convey their emotions through facial expressions, our system adapts, curating playlists and suggesting songs that mirror the shifting emotional landscape. The harmonious interplay between Spotify's vast music library and facial emotion detection transforms the system into more than just a recommendation tool—it becomes a companion in the user's emotional journey.

Positioned at the intersection of emotion, technology, and music within the dynamic realm of personalized technology, this music recommender system promises a comprehensive and immersive user experience. As the work progresses, continual enhancements and the incorporation of state-of-the-art technologies will ensure that this system remains a frontrunner in delivering tailored musical experiences, redefining how users engage with and appreciate the impact of music in their lives.

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