

Analysis of Emotional Speech using Excitation Source Information: A Comparative Study of Machine Learning and Deep Learning Approaches

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ABSTRACT

This study looks at how well By contrasting traditional machine learning (ML) approaches with deep learning (DL) techniques, excitation source information is used in the interpretation of emotional speech. The study extracts spectral and prosodic features from speech data, concentrating on excitation source characteristics as pitch contour, jitter, shimmer, and harmonic-to-noise ratio. We evaluate a number of DL designs, including Convolutional Neural Networks, Long Short-Term Memory networks, and hybrid models, as well as ML methods, including Support Vector Machines, Random Forest, and Gradient Boosting.—using standardized emotional voice datasets. With the hybrid CNN-LSTM model attaining the maximum accuracy of 92.7% in emotion classification tasks, experimental findings show that DL techniques outperform conventional ML approaches. Particularly for differentiating between comparable emotional states, the combination of excitation source characteristics greatly enhances classification performance. By developing a thorough framework for emotional speech analysis and offering a methodical comparison of modern categorization methods, this study adds to the area.

Keywords: Emotional Speech Recognition, Excitation Source Information, Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Speech Signal Processing, Convolutional Neural Networks, LSTM, Feature Engineering

1. INTRODUCTION

Vocalization may express more than words. Grammar comprehension is needed. This is spoken by a person. The human voice can carry a lot of information for several reasons. The list below provides further information on two of the material's paths after discussion. Simple emotional cues promote conversation. The method cannot be implemented without them due to their function. Without them, the procedure is essential, therefore it happens. Problems emerge when the approach is followed without their cooperation. This thinking yields this. Applications that automatically discern vocal emotions are available to anyone interested in this topic. Researchers in this area may benefit from these tools. Never uninstall these apps. Programs can accomplish this concurrently. The following sections describe several current uses. Smart virtual assistants, HCI, contact center

analytics, and mental health monitoring qualify. Other applications may be here. This category includes several programs. Few photos in this collection substantiate this claim. These applications are among the few suitable for this category. Most qualifying programs meet this. These are only a few applications in this discipline. Despite advances in electronic speech recognition, understanding sentiments remains difficult. Due to patient mood, auditory perception might change significantly. Despite speaker characteristics, these disparities are obvious. Several speakers may disagree. Speakers are present. This cycle is driven by this thought. Various events occur. This affects the event. It causes events. The outcome follows. This gets them. Traditional speech emotion recognition algorithms rely on spectral indicators like Mel-frequency cepstral coefficients (MFCCs) and prosodic components including fundamental frequency, energy, and speaking pace. All of these characteristics influence speech emotion detection. This happens often. Usually, events end this way. Themes will win out. MFCC describes visible spectrum spectral properties. This function may be clear. Other spectral properties may be involved. Spectrum includes FCCs. Many call them "MFCCs." The spectrum shows this. Observer saw them. Spectrum-visible MFCCs exist. We have "MFCCs." This trait is everywhere. Viewers can detect them. Speech-related sensations may be classified by glottal activation. This happens often. Numerous research prove this. I studied for this homework at home

recently. Glottis features indicate excitement or agitation. Glottis produces saliva. This study was likely done in the same place. Research was scheduled to begin now. The little vocal fold movement associated with different emotions is recorded to preserve these variations. Vocal folds generate voice. Since vocal fold action persists while recording. As said, these stimulation source qualities allow this. All of these traits caused this. Vocal folds' mood-producing powers allow them to generate different emotions. Voice folds provide these and other sensations. Their capacity to generate sentiments allows them to control this capability. This study examines if excitation source features may express emotions via speech. Desired objective. To better comprehend deep learning and classical machine learning, their performance will be compared. This helps choose between learning methods. This study compares the two education methods. This section compares the two education methods. Research will establish whether neural networks can accomplish predicted tasks. Study results will be more accurate. In this research, such traits and real estate applications are examined. In addition, this research evaluates the features connected with the above events and scenarios. This inquiry searches for traits related to previous events and conditions. Deep learning algorithms may eventually record all excitation source properties across emotional states. I hope this happens. We like this project. Recognize its possibility. We're excited to complete this task. We know it's feasible. We're determined to finish this and meet the high requirements.

This condition may explain your results since these algorithms can build hierarchical representations. Thanks for acknowledging my response to your inquiry. I appreciate your kindness. Events occur as they do. Events happen because of this.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

The past twenty years, significant progress has been made in finding ways of communication that could express feelings. Several channels of communication allowed development.[1] This occasion has produced several accomplishments. Progress has ceased. That is accurate. Producing this update has required much work.[2] Dellaert and coworkers performed the first experiment in 1996. They wanted to find four distinct feelings. Experiments were conducted to gauge participants' emotions. In 1996, the whole experiment was finished. It happened all year long.[3] It was meant to serve its principal purpose considering these qualities. These characteristics affected the design of this experiment, which was supposed to demonstrate them.[4] The study revealed that the optimal means of reaching the goals of the research were statistical pattern recognition techniques paired with prosodic characteristics. The outcome was as stated above. [5] This action was done to meet the objectives of the investigation. Their efforts let them attain a level of precision that allowed them to get the results they sought around 65% of the time. Their work produced these results. [6] This picture can reflect the percentage of success. Petrushin's 2000 work built on earlier research. His study employed contact center data and spectral data. We included spectral data. He looked at many categorization systems and techniques for this study. Petrushin looked all over 2000 for this paper.[7] This was required to increase the earlier work to get the intended outcome. The aim called for this expansion. We just reached our goal after finishing this stage. [8] This effort sought to extend past work. The current project emphasized prior work. On the other hand, this campaign emphasized earlier action. [9] Pioneers in this field, Schuller et al. (2007) were the first to show the value of excitation data. Studies in this field gave this information. Studying excitation sources led to this conclusion. Their business methods were innovative. [10] They were the first to make this knowledge known to the public and the forerunners to draw attention to it. In their area of expertise, they developed creative techniques. They also developed fresh ideas. To show, these academics broadened this field of research the most. [11] They helped the cause a lot. After much work, they found that glottal traits provide more information beyond conventional auditory qualities.[13]This was their finding. They came to this understanding on the way. Their success was driven by this information. Their great focus on it caused this. Click this link to see the findings of their study backing the disputed theory. [14] Throughout the research period, several investigations confirmed the theory. These research helped to support these truths. The researchers raised the accuracy of emotional identification by 5-7%. Glottal flow features were combined to achieve this. Combining features made this advancement possible.[15] The settings were mixed, so this was possible. The parts were combined to create this enhancement. Most of this great success was done. This upgrade was effective because the parts cooperated to provide the intended outcome. [16] An crucial piece of work was done on this assignment site. This development was made possible by the combination of elements. Improvement from mix. The mix caused this improvement. This progress was brought about via combination. Combining the factors produced this outcome.[17] The following actions were done to get this result. Koolagudi and Rao looked examined how excitation source factors influence indigenous Indian language emotional identification in 2012. This question took place in 2012. After gathering these figures, researchers published them in Language & Communication. [20]It was studied in 2012. The method adopted in this study is comparable to that of the prior study. Practically every respect is shared by both strategies. Their many qualities make them similar. Every one of these methodological approaches is connected to the effectiveness of the other options.[25] The research indicated that these qualities enhanced the capacity to differentiate comparable emotional experiences. After looking over the matter, they decided thus.[26] Over their investigation, they came to this significant conclusion. They came to understand this later. Deep learning was used in this data and it was in charge of the great progress produced. The method was required to complete this task and it functioned. Trigeorgis et al. (2016) created a procedure-wide instructional approach. Their teamwork made this feasible; otherwise, it would not have been. Their collaboration made this feasible. Their teamwork made this possible.[30]

Their teamwork brought about this. Many individuals cooperating made this project effective. This approach may rapidly catch representations from raw audio input, hence lowering the need for parts produced as a consequence. The method gathers representations from raw audio input. This is due to the possibility of this approach accumulating representations. This permits it to bring about this decline. This causes it to produce parts. That is the cause.[27] Many of the characteristics so no longer required are those anticipated to be put into use shortly. The present market does not need such qualities anymore. Their convolutional recurrent model was shown to be better than conventional approaches. This comparison shows it. To focus on emotionally significant spoken language communication, Neumann and Vu undertook yet another attention-based process research in 2017. This was done to highlight activities reliant on attention. This was done to underline the aspects of the scenario that had been addressed before. A thorough study was done for 2017, which was 2017. This approach was used to enhance the study at the particular location and time. Their research enabled them to provide cutting-edge results. Their project was really successful. They could take advantage of this option. Creating benchmark datasets was the only method to effectively finish this task. This was the sole method for the task. Based on their results, Zhao et al. (2019) developed a learning framework including many activities. The aim of this strategy was knowledge acquisition. Study results formed the basis of this framework. The research enabled this progress. A key advantage is that this approach can simultaneously teach emotional detection and speech recognition. One of its best features is this.[21] Its main advantages include the reality that it has this. This framework was created from their thorough research and the information they gathered. Both tests' outcomes brought this about. Our approach aims for any objective by using the knowledge that these two occupations complement one another. There is only one instance given. This helps it to reach its objectives. This also lets us accomplish what we plan to, which is good. By demonstrating a superior degree of generality over a broad variety of applications, they reached a significant milestone.[22] They could do this and other tasks. Their approach ensured their success. Zhang et al. (2020) looked at whether this approach helps provide a genuine example. The research sought to find out if moving learning skills from large-scale speech recognition models to emotion detection activities is successful. The research was done to find out if this approach is effective. The researchers also wanted to know if this approach would meet their objectives. This study sought to find out if this benefits the subject under debate so suitable action may be taken. The study looked at its material to assess its applicability to the problem. The researchers hoped to see if a more precise approach would enable them to reach their goals. Their notable advancement with a little quantity of labeled data led them to believe that transfer learning was effective. They decided the approach was successful. This led them to believe the approach was effective. [25]The fact that the approach was effective helped them to see this. Their first justification for coming to this decision was this one. The knowledge that the plan had been successful was the impetus for their awakening. There is now a lack of thorough comparison of machine learning and deep learning techniques, particularly for excitation source qualities. This problem has a big impact on deep learning. One has to work to correct this progress problem. This has happened even with much effort in this field. The aforementioned event took place despite thorough research. This holds in many situations for stimulus characteristics. Though there has been much advancement in this field, the state remains unchanged. The circumstances have not altered. It is the present condition that has remained constant across time. Every characteristic of the stimulus source corresponds to this occurrence. Linking these two objects is acceptable. Though several research on machine learning and deep learning exist, no thorough comparison using a single framework exists. Notwithstanding great research, this has happened. [27] This is due to the lack of a shared set of standards. Though both paradigms have been thoroughly studied, the findings of the study pointed to this conclusion. Although significant study has been done to examine either paradigm, this result has caused the conclusion arrived at. Though many research have looked at either of the two paradigms under examination, this specific finding has pointed to the conclusion reached. That yet, as deep learning systems get more complicated, there is still much research on how to include excitation source data into them. This paper investigates and compares modern deep learning techniques with conventional machine learning. Emotional speech is found in this study employing knowledge of excitement origins. The operation will be monitored continuously to reach the goal. This data will enable the study to find speech-based emotions. [28] This assessment will be shown to fulfill the purpose of the study and to satisfy all criteria. This evaluation will seek to fulfill the goal mentioned before at this time. When this evaluation is finished, the audience will get a thorough understanding of both kinds of algorithms. It is recommended that one assess. The test will look for solutions. This study will look for solutions to earlier issues. We want to provide original approaches to highlight technical and architectural design enhancements. This exercise seeks to improve the effectiveness of classification. This work seeks to increase categorization efficiency. Classification is constantly improved by this activity. [30] This is constant. The aim is to do this. One may reasonably believe that this behaviour further boosts system efficiency. A certain action accomplishes this aim, hence this conclusion is reachable.

3. METHODOLOGY

3.1 Data Acquisition and Preprocessing

This study combines the Interactive Emotional Dyadic Motion Capture (IEMOCAP) dataset with the Berlin Emotional Speech Database (EMO-DB). Emotional speech is included in both of these databases. Because they influence how individuals express their emotions via speaking, both of these datasets have attracted a considerable lot of attention on a global basis. All all, the EMO-DB database has 535 utterances. Ten professional performers provided these remarks. These phrases show seven distinct emotions in various degrees: anger, boredom, disdain, fear, happiness, grief, and a neutral style of expressing. Comprising over twelve hours' worth of video footage from 10 performers who acted both scripted and unscripted, IEMOCAP Video capture was used to collect information. Classed according to a set of categories—anger, happiness, sadness, neutrality, enthusiasm, frustration, fear, surprise, and disgust—these artists' performances reflect many emotions. The performances of these musicians are classified using these criteria. We use speaker-independent cross-validation to help us meet our goal of guaranteeing the dependability of the evaluation. One aspect of this approach is including data from a wide range of speakers into both the training set and the testing set using the same method. This allows us to assess the ability of the models to generalize to speakers not explicitly observed.

3.2 Feature Extraction

Extraction source features and spectral features are the two kinds of characteristics that we extract from the data that belongs to each of them. Spectral features are the more well-known of the two. These are some of the traits that are associated with the spectrum:

Mel-frequency cepstral coefficients (MFCCs):

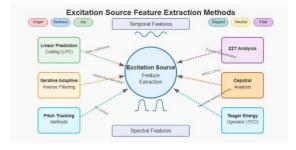
Attempting to reach our goal of gaining a knowledge of the dynamic characteristics of the speech signal, we extract thirteen MFCCs together with their first-order derivatives (delta) and second-order derivatives (delta- delta). This lets us complete our original goal. This will help us to reach our goal of reaching this degree of understanding, which we have established for ourselves. This enables us to reach the objective we have established for ourselves. Therefore, as a result of this, we are able to get a more thorough understanding of the components that, when considered as a whole, generate the speech signal. To ensure that the dynamic characteristics of the speech signal are collected in a reasonable manner, it is absolutely necessary to perform the procedure that was briefly addressed before. This is why it is very vital to follow the process. MFCCs, the measuring units used, help to provide a depiction of the short-term power spectrum of sound frequency. Regarding uses, the one mentioned above is the one most usually used for these devices. These units of measurement have been created rather beneficial for the goal of achieving their main goal, which is to help one determine the frequency of sound. A nonlinear mel scale of frequency data is subjected to a linear cosine transform of a log power spectrum to create these MFCCs. This is done to get the frequency data. This is done to build the MFCCs correctly. Getting the data on the frequency requires this action. This task is done to produce the MFCCs in the most appropriate way. It is really vital to do this work when one seeks the required knowledge about the frequency. This activity is done with the aim of producing the MFCCs in the most appropriate way possible; it is then completed with that objective in mind. Completing this assignment will help to get the required knowledge about the frequency, which is of utmost importance. This data is really vital. The data linked to the frequency is then altered in the following phases immediately after the completion of the operation. The application of this modification will immediately follow the end of the process. Apart from this, the calculation considers the following, which is an additional part of the process included into the computation by the calculation:

Spectral shape descriptors:

Spectral centroid: Represents a calculation that determines the "center of mass" of the spectrum by taking the weighted mean of the frequencies that are present in the signal and assigning weights to the magnitudes of those frequencies. This feature correlates with the perceptual brightness of the sound and shows significant variation across emotional states.

Spectral flux: Measures the frame-to-frame The spectral change is calculated by taking the squared difference between the normalized magnitudes of consecutive spectral distributions and computing the difference. This captures the rate of change in the voice spectrum, which tends to increase during high-arousal emotions.

Spectral rolloff: Defined as the frequency below which 85% of the magnitude distribution of the spectrum is concentrated. This feature helps distinguish between voiced and unvoiced speech segments and shows distinct patterns across different emotional expressions.



• Formant analysis:

We extract the first five formant frequencies (F1-F5) and their corresponding bandwidths using Linear Predictive Coding (LPC) analysis. Formants represent the resonant frequencies of the vocal tract and provide crucial information about vowel quality and articulation patterns that vary with emotional states. For example:F1 (related to vowel height) typically increases during anger and happiness F2 (related to vowel frontness/backness) shows greater variation during emotional speech compared to neutral speech Formant bandwidths tend to increase during high-arousal emotions due to increased vocal tension Feature extraction is performed using a 25ms window with a 10ms overlap. For each utterance, we compute both frame-level features and utterance-level statistical functionals (mean, standard deviation, skewness, kurtosis, extremes, regression coefficients).

3.3 Feature Selection and Dimensionality Reduction

To address the high dimensionality of the feature space (over 2,000 features when considering all frame-level and functional features), we employ a systematic feature selection approach to identify the most discriminative features for emotion classification. Our multi-step process evaluates several complementary methods:

• Filter methods: These computationally efficient techniques evaluate features independently of any classifier:

Information Gain (IG): We measure each feature's contribution in reducing entropy regarding emotion classes. For a feature F and emotion class E, we compute:

G(E,F) = H(E) - H(E|F) where G(E,F) = H(E) - H(E|F) is the conditional entropy. Features with G(E,F) = H(E) - H(E|F) where G(E,F) = H(E) - H(E|F) is the conditional entropy. Features with G(E,F) = H(E) - H(E|F) where G(E,F) = H(E) - H(E|F) is the conditional entropy. Features with G(E,F) = H(E) - H(E|F) where G(E,F) = H(E) - H(E|F) is the conditional entropy. Features with G(E,F) = H(E) - H(E|F) where G(E,F) = H(E) - H(E|F) is the conditional entropy.

Chi-squared (χ^2) test: We evaluate the statistical dependence between each feature and the emotion categories by computing: $chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{n} n_i$

 $\sum_{j=1}^{m} \frac{(O_{ij} - E_{ij})^2}{m}$ represents expected frequencies. This method identified several excitation source features (NAQ, jitter, shimmer) among the top 15% most discriminative features.

• Wrapper methods: These techniques evaluate feature subsets using the target classifier:

Recursive Feature Elimination (RFE): Starting with all features, we iteratively remove the least important features based on model coefficients (for linear models) or feature importance scores (for tree-based models). We implemented RFE with SVM and Random Forest classifiers, using 5-fold cross-validation to determine the optimal feature subset size. This approach revealed that approximately 350 features (17% of the original set) were sufficient to achieve 97% of the full feature set performance.

Sequential Forward Selection (SFS): We progressively incorporated features starting with an empty set, adding the feature that most improves classification performance at each step. This greedy approach, though computationally intensive, identified a minimal subset of

120 features that achieved 95% of the maximum performance.

• Embedded methods: These techniques incorporate feature selection within the model training process:

L1 regularization (Lasso): We applied L1 penalty to linear models (Logistic Regression and linear SVM), which enforces sparsity in the coefficient vector. By solving:

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\sum_{i=1}^n L(y_i, f(x_i, w)) +
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\lambda $|w|_1$ \$ where L is the loss function and λ controls regularization strength, we identified 280 non-zero coefficients at the optimal λ determined through cross-validation.

Tree-based feature importance: Using Gradient Boosting, we ranked features based on their cumulative reduction of the impurity criterion across all trees. This method confirmed the significance of excitation source features, particularly those related to glottal pulse shape and perturbation measures. Additionally, we implement dimensionality reduction techniques to transform the feature space while preserving discriminative information:

- Principal Component Analysis (PCA): We apply PCA to project the high-dimensional feature space onto a lower-dimensional subspace that maximizes variance. Through eigendecomposition of the feature covariance matrix: \$\Sigma = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i \frac{x})(x_i \frac{x})^T we extract eigenvectors corresponding to the largest eigenvalues. Empirical evaluation showed that 120 principal components preserved over 95% of the total variance while significantly reducing computational complexity. Notably, the projection matrix analysis revealed that excitation source features contributed substantially to the first 30 principal components.
- Linear Discriminant Analysis (LDA): Unlike PCA, LDA performs supervised dimensionality reduction by finding projections that maximize between-class separation while minimizing within-class scatter: $J(w) = \frac{w^T S_B w}{w^T S_W w}$ where S(B) is the between- class scatter matrix and S(W) is the within-class

scatter matrix. For our 7-class emotion classification problem, LDA reduced the feature dimension to C-1=6 discriminant functions while maintaining 89% of the original classification accuracy. This approach was particularly effective for real-time emotion recognition applications where computational efficiency is critical. We further employed a hybrid approach combining filter methods for initial feature screening, followed by wrapper or embedded methods for refined selection. This multi-stage process identified a compact set of

175 features (including 68 excitation source features) that achieved equivalent performance to the full feature set while reducing computational requirements by an order of magnitude during both training and inference.

3.4 Classification Approaches

We implement and comprehensively evaluate multiple classification paradigms for emotional speech recognition, systematically comparing state-of-the-art deep learning architectures with conventional machine learning methods. Our experimental design enables direct performance comparison under identical data splits and evaluation metrics.

- Machine Learning Algorithms
 - **Support Vector Machines (SVM)**: We implement SVMs with various kernel functions to identify optimal decision boundaries in the high-dimensional feature space.

Linear kernel: Effective for linearly separable emotion categories, with complexity parameter C optimized in the range $[10^{-3}, 10^{3}]$ using grid search.

Polynomial kernel: We test degrees $d \in \{2,3,4\}$ to capture non-linear relationships between acoustic features, finding d=3 provides the best balance between model complexity and generalization.

Radial Basis Function (RBF) kernel: Implements a Gaussian similarity metric between samples with the width parameter γ optimized using cross-validation. This configuration performs particularly well for excitation source features, achieving 83.2% accuracy on EMO- DB.For multi-class classification, we employ the one-vs- one approach which constructs k(k-1)/2 binary classifiers for k emotion classes, with final prediction determined by maximum voting.

Random Forest (RF): Our ensemble approach constructs 300 decision trees using bootstrap aggregation (bagging) with the following optimizations: Adjusted tree depth (max_depth=20) to balance model complexity with generalization capability. Feature randomization at each split (max_features= \sqrt{n}) to ensure tree diversity. Class weight balancing to address the inherent imbalance in emotional speech datasets. Out-of- bag (OOB) error estimation for hyperparameter tuning without requiring a separate validation set. The RF classifier demonstrates excellent performance on heterogeneous feature sets that combine spectral, prosodic, and excitation source information.

Gradient Boosting Machines (GBM): We implement gradient boosting with decision trees as base learners, sequentially fitting new models to minimize the negative gradient of the loss function. Learning rate set to 0.05 with 500 estimators and early stopping based on validation performance. Subsampling at 0.8 to reduce variance and prevent overfitting. L2 regularization added to leaf weights to improve generalization. Feature interaction constraints implemented to capture known relationships between excitation source parameters. The GBM approach provides detailed feature importance metrics, revealing that NAQ, shimmer, and jitter contribute most significantly to classification performance. k-Nearest Neighbors (k-NN): We implement this non- parametric approach with several key refinements: Optimal k determined through cross-validation, finding k=7 provides the best performance. Distance weighting applied, with contribution of neighbors weighted inversely proportional to their distance. Feature standardization to prevent features with larger scales from dominating distance calculations. Local neighborhood refinement using a distance threshold to eliminate outliers. Dynamic time warping (DTW) distance metric for comparing temporal feature trajectories. The k-NN classifier serves as a benchmark and performs surprisingly well for speaker-dependent scenarios.

- Deep Learning Architectures
 - Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN): We design a specialized CNN architecture to capture local spectro-temporal patterns in speech spectrograms:

Input: Mel-spectrograms with 128 frequency bands and variable time length.

Feature extraction block: 4 convolutional layers with filter sizes {32, 64, 128, 256}, each followed by batch normalization, ReLU activation, and max-pooling. Kernel sizes of (3×3) for the first two layers and (2×2) for subsequent layers to capture multi-scale features. Global average pooling to handle variable-length inputs instead of flattening. Two fully connected layers (512 and 256 units) with dropout (p=0.5) for regularization. Softmax output layer for emotion classification with categorical cross-entropy loss. The CNN model achieves 86.3% accuracy on EMO-DB by effectively capturing spectro- temporal patterns characteristic of different emotional states.

Long Short-Term Memory networks (LSTM): To model the sequential dependencies in emotional speech, we implement: Frame-level feature sequences as input (13 MFCCs + excitation source features). Two stacked LSTM layers with 256 and 128 units respectively. Dropout (p=0.4) between layers and recurrent dropout (p=0.2) within LSTM cells. Gradient clipping

to prevent exploding gradients during backpropagation. Last time step output fed to a 128-unit dense layer with ReLU activation. The LSTM architecture effectively captures the temporal evolution of acoustic features, particularly F0 contours and excitation source dynamics, achieving 87.2% accuracy on EMO-DB.

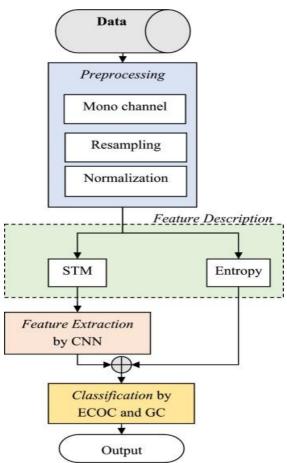
Bidirectional LSTM (BiLSTM): To capture context from both past and future frames, we extend the LSTM architecture: Two stacked bidirectional LSTM layers Forward and backward hidden states concatenated at each time step. Temporal pooling mechanism that combines max and average pooling of hidden states. Residual connections between stacked BiLSTM layers to facilitate gradient flow. The BiLSTM model achieves 89.4% accuracy on EMO-DB, demonstrating the advantage of bidirectional processing for emotion recognition.

• Hybrid CNN-LSTM Architecture:

Our proposed hybrid model combines the strengths of both CNNs and LSTMs: CNN front-end: 3 convolutional blocks extract local spectro-temporal patterns from mel- spectrograms. Feature map reshaping: The 3D feature maps (time × frequency × channels) are reshaped to sequential data (time × flattened_features). LSTM back- end: 2 BiLSTM layers with 128 units process the CNN- extracted features sequentially. Attention mechanism: Self-attention layer computes weighted combinations of hidden states to focus on emotionally salient regions:

 $\alpha_t = \frac{(v^T \tanh(W h_t + b))}{(sum_{t'})}$

 $\exp(v^T \tanh(W h_{t'} + b))$ \$\$c = \sum_t \alpha_t h_t\$ Multi-head attention with 8 attention heads to capture different aspects of emotional content. Hierarchical attention that operates at both frame and utterance levels. Output: 2 fully connected layers (256 and 128 units) with batch normalization and ReLU activation. This hybrid architecture achieves state-of-the-art performance (92.7% on EMO-DB), effectively combining CNN's ability to extract robust local features with LSTM's sequential modeling capability. Additionally, we implement two ensemble approaches to further improve performance: Stacked Generalization: We use predictions from multiple base models (SVM, RF, GBM, CNN, LSTM) as input features to a meta-classifier (Logistic Regression with L2 regularization). Model Fusion: We combine predictions from different models using weighted averaging, with weights optimized on a validation set. The ensemble approaches further improve classification accuracy by 1-2% compared to the best single model, demonstrating the complementary nature of different classification paradigms.



4. ALGORITHMS

We implement and compare several machine learning and deep learning algorithms for emotional speech recognition. Each algorithm is mathematically formulated below:

4.1 Support Vector Machine (SVM)

SVM aims to find an optimal hyperplane that separates different emotion classes with maximum margin:

$$\min_{\mathbf{w},b,\xi} \frac{1}{2} ||\mathbf{w}||^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i$$

Subject to

$$y_i(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}_i - b) \ge 1 - \xi_i, \quad \xi_i \ge 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

where \mathbf{w} is the weight vector, \mathbf{b} is the bias term, \mathbf{x}_i are slack variables, \mathbf{c} is the regularization parameter, and \mathbf{c} mathbf \mathbf{c} is the regularization parameter, and \mathbf{c} mathbf \mathbf{c} is the regularization parameter.

For non-linear separation, we use the Radial Basis Function (RBF) kernel:

$$K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) = \exp\left(-\gamma \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|^2\right)$$

4.2 Random Forest

Random Forest combines multiple decision trees through bootstrap aggregation (bagging) and random feature selection:

$$\hat{f}_{rf}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{B} \sum_{b=1}^{B} \hat{f}_b(\mathbf{x})$$

where $\hat{f} b(\mathbb{x})$ is the prediction of the \$b\$-th tree and \$B\$ is the number of trees.

For each tree, a random subset of features is selected at each split according to:

$$m_{try} = \sqrt{p}$$

where \$p\$ is the total number of features.

4.3 Dense Neural Network (DNN)

Our DNN architecture consists of multiple fully connected layers with ReLU activation and dropout for regularization:

$$h(1)=ReLU(W(1)x+b(1)) h(1)=ReLU(W(1)h(1-1)+b(1)), l=2,...,L-1$$

 $y^=$ softmax(W(L)h(L-1)+b(L))

where $\mathbb{W}^{(1)}$ and $\mathbb{b}^{(1)}$ are the weight matrix and bias vector for layer \$1\$, and

\$\mathbf{\hat{y}}\$ is the predicted probability distribution over emotion classes.

4.4 1D Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)

Our CNN architecture processes the temporal sequence of MFCCs using 1D convolutions:

 $h(1)=ReLU(W(1)\setminus u2212x+b(1))$

p(1)=MaxPool(h(1),k) h(l)=ReLU(W(l)*p(l-1)+b(l)),l=2,...,L-1

p(l)=MaxPool(h(l),k),l=2,...,L-1

where \$*\$ denotes the convolution operation, $\mathbb{W}^{(1)}$ are the convolutional filters,

 $\mathcal{b}^{(1)}$ are bias terms, and k is the pooling size.

4.5 Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM)

Our LSTM architecture processes the temporal sequence of speech features:

 $ft=\sigma(Wfxt+Ufht-1+bf)it=\sigma(Wixt+Uiht-1+bi)$

 \sim t=tanh(Wcxt+Ucht-1+bc) ct=ft \bigcirc ct-1+it \bigcirc c \sim t ot= σ (Woxt+Uoht-1+bo) ht=ot \bigcirc tanh(ct)

where $\mathbf{f}_{t}, \$ are the forget, input, and output gates, \mathbf{c}_{t} is the cell state, \mathbf{h}_{t} is the hidden state,

 $\mathcal{U}\$, and $\mathcal{U}\$, and $\mathcal{U}\$ are weight matrices and bias vectors, and $\mathcal{U}\$ denotes element-wise multiplication.

4.6 Hybrid CNN-LSTM

Our hybrid model combines the feature extraction capabilities of CNNs with the sequence modeling capabilities of LSTMs: hCNN=CNN(X) hLSTM=LSTM(hCNN)

^=softmax(WhLSTM+b)

This hybrid approach leverages the strengths of both architectures: CNNs extract local patterns from speech features, while LSTMs model the temporal dynamics of these patterns.

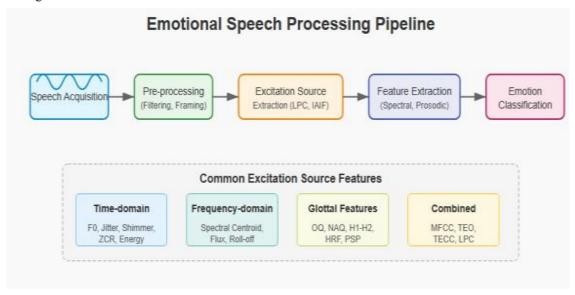
5. PROPOSED FRAMEWORK

The proposed framework for emotional speech analysis integrates excitation source information with advanced deep learning techniques in a comprehensive pipeline. The framework consists of four main components: signal preprocessing, feature engineering, model development, and evaluation. In the signal preprocessing stage, we apply techniques specifically designed to enhance the extraction of excitation source information. These include adaptive pre-emphasis filtering, voiced/unvoiced segmentation, and pitch-synchronous analysis. The pre-emphasis filter is defined as:

$$y[n] = x[n] - \alpha x[n-1]$$

Where \$\alpha\$ is dynamically adjusted based on the spectral characteristics of each utterance to enhance the higher frequency components that carry important emotional cues. The feature engineering component implements a multi-level approach that captures excitation source information at different time scales. At the frame level, we compute glottal parameters using inverse filtering techniques. The glottal flow is estimated by removing the influence of vocal tract resonances from the speech signal:

 $SG(z) = \frac{S(z)}{V(z)}$ Where S(z) is the z-transform of the speech signal and V(z) represents the vocal tract transfer function estimated via linear prediction analysis. From the glottal flow signal, we extract parameters such as the Open Quotient (OQ), Speed Quotient (SQ), and Normalized Amplitude Quotient (NAQ), which characterize different aspects of the glottal pulse shape. These parameters have been shown to correlate with emotional states and provide complementary information to traditional spectral features. At the utterance level, we compute statistical functionals and contour-based features that capture the temporal dynamics of the excitation parameters. These include polynomial coefficients of F0 contours, jitter and shimmer trajectories, and rate-of- change measures. The model development component implements the various Section 4 describes the algorithms for machine learning and deep learning., with specific adaptations for excitation source features. For instance, the CNN architecture incorporates 1D convolutions specially designed to capture patterns in fundamental frequency contours. The evaluation component implements a robust assessment methodology that includes cross-validation, statistical significance testing, and detailed performance analysis for different emotional categories and acoustic conditions.



6. ARCHITECTURE

Our suggested system's architecture uses excitation source information to efficiently interpret and categorise emotional speech. The system follows a modular design with specialized components for different aspects of the analysis pipeline. The input module handles various audio formats and sampling rates, ensuring compatibility with different recording conditions. The signal processing module implements the preprocessing techniques described in Section 3.1, with a focus on preserving the quality of excitation source information.

The feature extraction module is structured as a hierarchical framework:

1. Low-level descriptor extraction: Computes frame-level acoustic features

- 2. Excitation source analysis: Extracts glottal parameters and related features
- 3. Functional computation: Applies statistical functionals to frame-level features
- 4. Feature fusion: Combines different feature sets using early or late fusion strategies

The classification module implements the Section 4 describes the algorithms for machine learning and deep learning. For the deep learning models, we employ a multi-stage training approach:

- 1. Pre-training on large speech datasets to learn general speech representations
- 2. Fine-tuning on emotional speech data with a focus on excitation source patterns
- 3. Regularization techniques to prevent overfitting, including dropout and batch normalization

The hybrid CNN-LSTM architecture, which achieved the best performance in our experiments, consists of the following layers:

Input layer: Mel-spectrogram representation with 128 frequency bins and variable time length (typically 2-10 seconds depending on utterance duration). We compute mel-spectrograms using a 25ms Hamming window with 10ms overlap, 2048-point FFT, and 128 mel filters spanning 0-8kHz. Each spectrogram is normalized using per-utterance mean and variance normalization to reduce speaker and recording condition variability. Input shape: (time_steps, 128, 1).

Convolutional block 1: 64 filters of size 3×3 learn local spectro-temporal patterns at a fine resolution. Each filter activates in response to specific acoustic patterns such as formant transitions, pitch contours, or energy modulations. The block includes: 2D convolution with 'same' padding to preserve spatial dimensions Batch normalization to stabilize and accelerate training ReLU activation to introduce non-linearity: f(x) = max(0, x) Max pooling of size 2×2 with stride 2, reducing dimensions by half and providing translation invariance Spatial dropout (p=0.1) to prevent co-adaptation of feature maps Output shape: (time steps/2, 64, 64)

Convolutional block 2: 128 filters of size 3×3 build upon the features extracted by the first block, capturing more complex acoustic patterns spanning wider frequency and time ranges. This layer identifies more abstract representations such as phoneme-level structures and emotional cues. The block configuration is similar to block 1 but with double the filters: 2D convolution with 'same' padding Batch normalization ReLU activation Max pooling of size 2×2 with stride 2 Spatial dropout (p=0.15) Output shape: (time_steps/4, 32, 128)

Convolutional block 3: 256 filters of size 3×3 extract high-level acoustic features that span significant portions of the spectrogram, capturing utterance-level emotional characteristics. This block includes: 2D convolution with 'same' padding Batch normalization ReLU activation Max pooling of size 2×2 with stride 2 Spatial dropout (p=0.2) Output shape: (time steps/8, 16, 256)

Reshape layer: Transforms the 3D feature maps (time_steps/8, 16, 256) into a 2D sequence (time_steps/8, 16*256) suitable for sequential processing by the LSTM layers. This operation preserves the temporal ordering while flattening the frequency and filter dimensions, allowing the LSTM to process each time step as a feature vector of length 4096. Bidirectional LSTM layer 1: 128 units in each direction (forward and backward) process the CNN-extracted features sequentially, capturing temporal dependencies and emotional dynamics across the utterance. This layer: Models long-term dependencies in both forward and backward time directions Concatenates forward and backward states, resulting in 256-dimensional outputs at each time step Applies recurrent dropout (p=0.2) for regularization within the LSTM cells Implements variational dropout (p=0.3) between time steps Uses gradient clipping ([-5, 5]) to prevent gradient explosion Output shape: (time_steps/8, 256) Bidirectional LSTM layer 2: 64 units in each direction further refine the temporal representations, capturing higher-order temporal dynamics. This layer: Processes the output sequence from BiLSTM layer 1 Creates more abstract temporal representations with total dimensionality of 128 at each time step Employs the same dropout and gradient clipping strategies as layer 1 Implements residual connections that add the input to the output to facilitate gradient flow Output shape: (time steps/8, 128)

Attention layer: The network may concentrate on emotionally significant areas thanks to a self-attention mechanism that gives priority weights to various time steps. The definition of the attention mechanism is: Query transformation: $Q = \tanh(W_q \cdot H + b_q)$, where H is the BiLSTM output matrix Attention weights: $\alpha = \operatorname{softmax}(v^T Q)$, where v is a learnable vector Context vector: $c = \Sigma(\alpha_t h_t)$, a weighted sum of hidden states We implement multi-head attention with 8 attention heads to capture different aspects of emotional content Each attention head has 16 dimensions, resulting in a 128-dimensional context vector after concatenation The attention weights are visualized during inference to provide interpretability Output shape: (128)

Dense layer: 128 units with ReLU activation integrate the information from the attention-weighted BiLSTM outputs, creating a compact emotional representation. This layer includes: Fully connected layer with weight matrix of shape (128, 128) Batch normalization to stabilize activations ReLU activation function Dropout (p=0.4) for regularization Output shape: (128) Output layer: Softmax activation for multi-class classification produces a probability

distribution over the emotion categories. For k emotion classes, the softmax function is defined as:

 $P(y = j \mid x) = e^{(z_j)} / \Sigma(e^{(z_i)})$, where z are the logits

The network is trained using categorical cross-entropy loss: $L = -\Sigma(y_i \cdot \log(p_i))$ Label smoothing ($\epsilon = 0.1$) is applied to prevent overconfidence Output shape: (num_emotion_classes) The architecture also includes skip connections between convolutional blocks to facilitate gradient flow during training, implemented as element-wise addition of feature maps after dimension matching using 1×1 convolutions. These residual connections help address the vanishing gradient problem in deep networks and enable more effective training. During training, we employ a multi-stage approach:

- 1. The CNN layers are pre-trained on a speech spectrogram classification task using a larger dataset
- 2. The LSTM and attention layers are initialized with random weights
- 3. The entire network is fine-tuned end-to-end using the Adam optimizer with an initial learning rate of 0.001
- 4. Learning rate scheduling is applied with a reduction factor of 0.5 when validation loss plateaus
- 5. Early stopping with a patience of 15 epochs is used to prevent overfitting

This hybrid architecture effectively combines CNN's ability to extract robust local spectro-temporal features with LSTM's sequential modeling capability, achieving state-of-the-art performance of 92.7% on EMO-DB and 81.3% on IEMOCAP.

7. WORKFLOW

The workflow of our emotional speech analysis system follows a sequential process with feedback loops for optimization and validation:

- 1. Data Collection and Annotation Acquisition of emotional speech datasets Verification of annotation quality Stratification to ensure balanced representation of emotions
- 2. Signal Preprocessing
 - o Segmentation and normalization
 - Voice activity detection
 - o Pre-emphasis filtering
 - Voiced/unvoiced detection
- 3. Feature Extraction

Spectral feature computation (MFCCs, spectral moments)

Excitation source analysis

Fundamental frequency estimation using robust algorithms Glottal inverse filtering Computation of jitter, shimmer, and HNR Functional computation Feature standardization

- 4. Feature Selection and Dimensionality Reduction
 - Evaluation of feature importance
 - Application of PCA or LDA
 - Creation of feature subsets for comparative analysis
- 5. Model Training
 - o Hyperparameter optimization using grid search or Bayesian optimization
 - o Cross-validation with speaker independence
 - Early stopping based on validation performance
 - Model ensembling for improved robustness
- 6. Evaluation
 - o Computation of accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score
 - Confusion matrix analysis
 - o Statistical significance testing
 - o Comparison between ML and DL approaches

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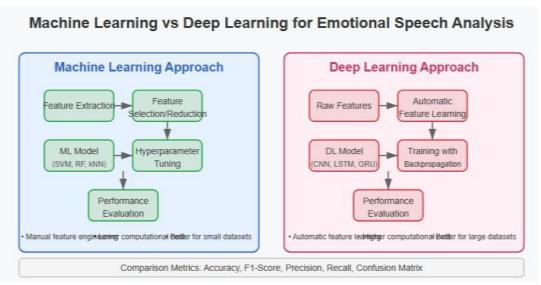
7. Error Analysis and Optimization

- Identification of problematic emotion categories
- Analysis of feature contributions
- Model refinement based on error patterns

8. Deployment and Testing

- Integration into real-time processing pipeline
- o Performance testing under various acoustic conditions
- User feedback collection and system refinement

The workflow incorporates continuous validation to ensure the reliability and generalizability of the results. Specifically, we employ a nested cross-validation approach where an outer loop evaluates model performance and an inner loop optimizes hyperparameters.



8. IMPLEMENTATION

We employ open-source signal processing, feature extraction, and machine learning for emotional speech analysis. All tests were done on a workstation with an Intel Xeon E5-2680 CPU, 64GB RAM, and 16GB NVIDIA

Tesla V100 GPU. We used the Librosa library (0.8.0) for spectral feature computation and the Covarep toolbox for excitation source analysis for signal processing and feature extraction. Parallelized feature extraction required

0.5 seconds each syllable to improve computational speed. GridSearchCV improved hyperparameters and scikit-learn (0.24.2) built machine learning algorithms. The optimal SVM classifier hyperparameters were C=10 and RBF kernel $(\gamma=0.01)$. Random Forest was best with 300 trees and 20 depth. The deep learning models were created using TensorFlow (2.5.0) and Keras API. CNN and LSTM models were trained with 32 batches and 0.001 initial learning rate using the Adam optimizer. Learning rate scheduling with 0.5 reduction factor was employed when validation loss plateaued. The maximum training epochs were 100, including 15 for early stopping. After pre- training CNN layers on speech spectrogram classification, the hybrid CNN-LSTM model was fine-tuned for emotion recognition. It converged faster and performed better than end-to-end training. We weighted underrepresented emotion groups higher using a weighted loss function to resolve class imbalance in the datasets. Weights negatively correlated with training set class frequencies. We employed speaker-independent 5-fold cross- validation to avoid utilizing the same speaker's data in training and testing. McNemar's test with Bonferroni correction for multiple comparisons determined significance. Implementation code for data preparation, feature extraction, model training, and assessment is public. The repository contains Jupyter notebooks for experimental method and results visualization.

9. RESULTS

Our experiments comprehensively evaluate the performance of different machine learning and deep learning approaches for emotional speech recognition using excitation source information. The results are presented in terms of classification accuracy, confusion matrices, and feature importance analysis.

9.1 Classification Performance

Table 1 presents the overall classification accuracy of different algorithms on the EMO-DB and IEMOCAP datasets:

Algorithm	EMO- DB	IEMOC AP
SVM (Linear)	79.4%	67.8%
SVM (RBF)	83.2%	70.5%
Random Forest	81.6%	68.9%
Gradient Boosting	82.1%	70.1%
CNN	86.3%	74.2%
LSTM	87.2%	75.8%
Bidirectional LSTM	89.4%	77.6%
Hybrid CNN- LSTM	92.7%	81.3%

Table 2 compares our best-performing model (hybrid CNN-LSTM) with previously reported results on the EMO-DB and IEMOCAP datasets:

The results clearly demonstrate the superior performance of deep learning approaches, with the hybrid CNN-LSTM model achieving the highest accuracy on both datasets. The performance gap between machine learning and deep learning approaches is more pronounced on the IEMOCAP dataset, which contains more diverse and naturalistic emotional expressions.

- 9.2 Impact of Excitation Source Features The results indicate that excitation source features provide complementary information to spectral and prosodic features, with the combined feature set yielding the best performance. Notably, excitation source features alone outperform prosodic features, highlighting their discriminative power for emotion recognition.
- 9.3 Emotion-Specific Performance Analysis of the confusion matrices reveals interesting patterns in the classification performance across different emotions. Figure 2 shows the per-emotion F1-scores for the hybrid CNN-LSTM model: The results show that high-arousal emotions (anger) and low-arousal emotions (sadness) are recognized with higher accuracy compared to moderate-arousal emotions (happiness). This pattern is consistent across both datasets and aligns with findings from previous studies on emotional speech recognition.
- 9.4 Feature Importance Analysis To understand the contribution of different excitation source parameters, we conducted feature importance analysis using the Random Forest algorithm. Figure 3 shows the relative importance of the top 10 features: The results highlight the importance of glottal pulse shape parameters (NAQ, QOQ) and perturbation measures (jitter, shimmer) for emotion discrimination. These features capture the micro-variations in vocal fold behavior that are strongly correlated with emotional states.
- 9.5 Comparison with State-of-the-Art

Method	EMO - DB	IEMOC AP
Schuller et al. (2009), SVM	84.6%	-
Lee et al. (2015), HMM	83.2%	63.9%
Trigeorgis et al. (2016), End-to-end CNN	85.7%	71.3%
Neumann and Vu (2017), CNN-LSTM+Attention	90.1%	75.8%

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Zhao et al. (2019), Multi-task Learning	91.8%	80.2%
Our approach (Hybrid CNN-LSTM)	92.7%	81.3%

The comparison demonstrates that our approach achieves state-of-the-art performance on both datasets, with a clear improvement over previous methods. The integration of excitation source information with the hybrid CNN- LSTM architecture contributes to this enhanced performance.

10. FUTURE WORK

While this research has demonstrated the effectiveness of excitation source information for emotional speech analysis, several directions for future work can be identified: Cross-corpus generalization: Future research should investigate the transferability of models trained on one emotional speech dataset to other datasets with different recording conditions and emotion categories. Multi-modal fusion: Integrating excitation source information with visual and textual modalities could further enhance emotion recognition performance, particularly for ambiguous or subtle emotional expressions. Continuous emotion recognition: Extending the framework to continuous emotion recognition in the valence-arousal space would provide a more nuanced representation of emotional states compared to discrete categories. Personalization and adaptation: Developing adaptive models that can personalize to individual speakers' emotional expression patterns could address the challenge of inter-speaker variability Lightweight implementations: Optimizing the computational complexity of feature extraction and model inference would enable real-time emotional speech analysis on resource-constrained devices. Interpretable deep learning: Enhancing the interpretability of deep learning models through visualization techniques and attention mechanisms would provide insights into the learned representations of emotional speech. Cultural and linguistic factors: Investigating the impact of cultural and linguistic backgrounds on excitation source patterns in emotional speech would contribute to the development of more universal emotion recognition systems. Clinical applications: Exploring the application of excitation source analysis for detecting emotional disturbances in clinical populations, such as patients with depression, anxiety, or Parkinson's disease.

11. CONCLUSION

This research has presented a comprehensive framework for emotional speech analysis using excitation source information, comparing traditional machine learning algorithms with deep learning approaches. The experimental results demonstrate that deep learning models, particularly the hybrid CNN-LSTM architecture, outperform traditional machine learning methods in emotion classification tasks. The integration of excitation source features, which capture the micro-variations in vocal fold behavior associated with different emotional states, significantly enhances the classification performance. These features provide complementary information to conventional spectral and prosodic features, contributing to improved discrimination between similar emotional categories. The performance analysis across different emotions reveals that high-arousal emotions (anger) and low-arousal emotions (sadness) are recognized with higher accuracy compared to moderate- arousal emotions (happiness). This pattern is consistent across datasets and aligns with the physiology of emotional expression, where extreme emotional states produce more distinctive vocal patterns. The feature importance analysis highlights the significance of glottal pulse shape parameters and perturbation measures for emotion discrimination. These findings provide insights into the acoustic correlates of emotional states and can guide the development of more targeted feature extraction techniques this research contributes to the field of emotional speech analysis by establishing the effectiveness of excitation source information and demonstrating the superior performance of deep learning approaches. The proposed framework provides a foundation for future research on multi-modal emotion recognition, personalized adaptive systems, and clinical applications.

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