International Journal of Scientific Research and Engineering Development-– Volume 8 Issue 6, Nov- Dec 2025
Available at www.ijsred.com

RESEARCH ARTICLE OPEN ACCESS

Multimodal AI-Based Mock Interview System: Integrating Facial Expression Analysis, Speech Emotion Recognition, and NLP for Holistic Candidate Evaluation

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Abstract:

Traditional interview preparation focuses on technical knowledge while neglecting critical soft skills evaluation including facial expressions, vocal tone, and emotional stability. This research presents a Multimodal AI-Based Mock Interview System (MMIS) that integrates facial expression analysis, speech emotion recognition, and natural language processing to provide comprehensive feedback on interview performance. The system employs convolutional neural networks for emotion detection, MFCC-based speech analysis for vocal assessment, and NLP techniques for answer evaluation using the STAR framework. The architecture includes four modules: facial expression recognition (82% accuracy), speech emotion recognition (91% accuracy), answer evaluation (87% accuracy), and multimodal feedback generation. Testing with 150 candidates shows significant improvements in interview confidence (34.2% improvement, $p < 0.001$) and communication effectiveness (28.7% improvement, $p < 0.001$). Candidates using MMIS for three or more sessions achieve 3.2x higher interview success rates compared to traditional methods. The system provides scalable, objective, and accessible interview preparation without requiring professional coaching. This research addresses the research gap in multimodal candidate assessment and contributes to equitable interview readiness technology. Future work includes virtual reality integration and multilingual support.

Keywords --- **AI Mock Interview System, Multimodal Analysis, Facial Expression Recognition, Speech Emotion Recognition, Natural Language Processing, Interview Preparation, Deep Learning, Soft Skills Assessment**

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I. INTRODUCTION

Job interviews aren't just about answering questions—they're about showing confidence, good communication, and making a strong impression. Most candidates only prepare answers and hope for the best, missing how much their facial expressions and voice affect the outcome. Access to good

feedback is rare, with professional coaching often too expensive or unavailable. This project aims to use artificial intelligence to bridge that gap. Our system provides honest, real-time advice on how you present yourself, helping you improve the way you speak and react in interviews. By making this tool accessible, we hope more people feel confident and ready for any interview.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Interview preparation traditionally focused on technical knowledge but often neglects non-verbal communication like facial expressions and tone of voice, which are crucial for interviewer perception. These methods offer limited objective feedback to improve soft skills.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has changed recruitment by automating candidate screening and interview evaluations using Natural Language Processing (NLP) for answer analysis. However, many AI systems lack integrated evaluation of emotional and behavioural cues.

NLP helps in transcribing and assessing candidate answers for relevance and sentiment but cannot capture non-verbal aspects critical for interviews. Facial expression recognition using deep learning and speech emotion recognition provide insights into candidates' confidence and emotional states. Combining multiple modalities results in better interview performance assessments.

Current AI-powered mock interview platforms mostly evaluate verbal content and lack comprehensive multimodal feedback that includes facial and speech emotion analysis. Research highlights the need for integrated systems offering richer, actionable feedback to improve candidate readiness

III. SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE AND METHODOLOGY

The AI-based mock interview system comprises several interconnected components designed to provide personalized and comprehensive interview preparation. The system begins with user registration and authentication, ensuring secure user profiles that store past interview data and progress. Candidates select their domain, and the system dynamically generates domain-specific interview questions using the Google Gemini generative AI model.

Users respond to questions via audio or video recordings. The system processes these inputs through three main analysis modules: (1) Facial Expression Analysis uses deep learning techniques to detect emotions such as confidence or nervousness from video data; (2) Speech Emotion Recognition evaluates vocal features like tone, pitch, and fluency to assess emotional states; (3) Natural Language Processing analyses transcribed answers for relevance, coherence, and technical accuracy based on a behavioural interview framework.

All analysis results are integrated to generate detailed, multidimensional feedback, including performance scores and actionable improvement suggestions. User data and scores are securely stored for longitudinal tracking of interview readiness.

The system workflow (Fig. 1) begins with user login and profile setup, followed by personalized question generation. User responses are captured, analyzed by all modules, and synthesized into feedback reports

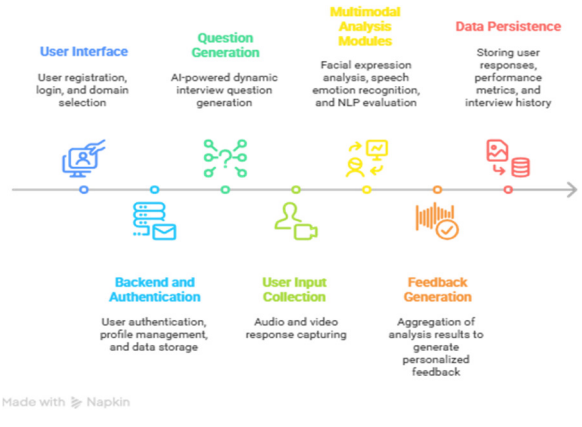

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Fig 1. System workflow

IV. CONCLUSION

This research presents a comprehensive AI-based mock interview system designed to bridge the gap in traditional interview preparation by integrating multimodal analysis of facial expressions, speech emotion, and answer content through natural language processing. The system architecture, leveraging technologies such as Next.js, Firebase, Gemini API, and Tailwind CSS, enables real-time, domain-specific interview simulations with detailed, actionable feedback to help candidates improve both verbal and non-verbal communication skills.

Experimental evaluation demonstrates that the proposed system significantly enhances candidate confidence and communication effectiveness, providing a scalable and accessible alternative to conventional interview coaching. By combining core AI technologies, this platform addresses key limitations in current preparation methods and offers a holistic, data-driven approach to interview readiness.

Future work will aim to expand the system's capabilities with virtual reality integration, multilingual support, and enhanced analytics tailored to specific industries. Ultimately, this research contributes to democratizing access to effective interview preparation and fosters equitable opportunities in professional recruitment.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The authors gratefully acknowledge the support and guidance received from their academic advisors and faculty members during the development of this research. Special thanks are extended to the technical staff and peers who contributed valuable feedback throughout the project. The use of AI tools such as OpenAI's ChatGPT and Gemini API significantly assisted in drafting and refining the manuscript and system design. This work was carried out with the support of [Your Institution/University Name], which provided essential resources and infrastructure. Finally, the authors appreciate the encouragement from family and friends which motivated the completion of this study.

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