

Development of Information System for Monitoring the Emotional State of a Student with Special Needs

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Abstract. This article is an overview of a practical implementation of monitoring the emotional state of a student with special needs. In this article, we present an in-depth review of current technologies for detecting human emotions. The purpose of this work is to create an AI system to help teachers and psychologists to observe children with special needs while they are learning or passing tests. The object is the methods and tools for emotion recognition. This system is designed to solve the problems of recognizing the emotional state of the student and helping him to properly respond to the emotional manifestations of other people. The subject of this system are processes of activity of this AI. We conclude the investigation by highlighting the aspects that require further research and development.

Keywords: Information System, Emotion, Recognition, Artificial Intelligence.

1 Introduction

Emotions are an important component of human communication and interaction. We often rely on them both in everyday life and in unusual situations. They can be expressed in various ways: facial expressions, posture, movements, voice, body response (heart rate, blood pressure, respiratory rate). However, the best reference is the human face [1-3]. There is a false statement that people with different nosologies are people who have an emotional deficit. As an example, many people with autism simply do not express emotions in the way that average people show them. That is, the idea that people with autism tend to lack empathy and cannot recognize their feelings is wrong [4].

The founder of the science of emotions and their recognition is the American psychologist Paul Ekman. He defined the classification of basic emotions of man, which are still guided in the 70's of the last century. This includes six emotions: anger, disgust, fear, happiness, sadness and surprise[5-6].

A global breakthrough in the development of emotion recognition technology has come not too long ago. He has created various applications and algorithms that can

determine the emotional state of the user. For example, the Text Analytics API is one of the Microsoft Cognitive Services, which allows developers to embed ready-made "smart" algorithms into their products. Already existing software tools often work with neural networks in real time. This allows us to apply software in various areas of our lives and thus actively influence its quality[7-8].

Today, less attention is given to identifying the emotions that children with ASD exhibit than their ability to recognize other people's facial expressions. This aspect is important for the productive and fruitful learning of children with special needs, because if interpreted emotionally correctly, it will help to modernize the learning process according to the needs of the students. The use of emotion recognition technology can make this process quite significant [9-14].

2 Description of the System

The purpose of this study is to identify the emotional state of the student as they pass lessons/tests to correct further treatment. Because inclusive classes only have a teacher and a teaching assistant, it is impossible for them to concentrate their full attention on one student, even if there are only two students. As children with special needs are very sensitive to the environment, they immediately notice changes in attitudes of adults [15]. It is also impossible to just send a few people out to track the emotional state of the students because the children simply will not allow strangers to be near them and it will take a long time to earn the trust of the children. Therefore, a system for detecting a student's condition during the lessons/tests will be perhaps the best alternative to the observation. The student will not even notice that his or her condition is being analyzed in order to further provide the collected information to the teacher and the PMPI for analysis and processing, according to which the curriculum will be adjusted individually for each student [16]. Instead, the system will teach the child to correctly recognize the emotional state of others and to respond appropriately to it. The main sections of the lessons will be the "Introduction", which includes introducing yourself and exploring yourself (self-identification), the "Main Part", in which the child will become acquainted with feelings and emotions, and the "Conclusion" in which the child can learn to distinguish friendship and love [17].

The main functionality includes:

- Introducing children to emotions: anger, disgust, fear, happiness, sadness, surprise.
- Enriching the emotional sphere, improving the emotional state of children.
- Responding to negative emotions that interfere with the proper personal growth of the child.
- Reducing anxiety, overcoming fears.
- Learning to recognize the emotional manifestations of other people on various grounds (facial expressions, voice, body movements, etc.) [18].

For a comprehensive picture of the essence of the system under study, we depict a tree of goals.

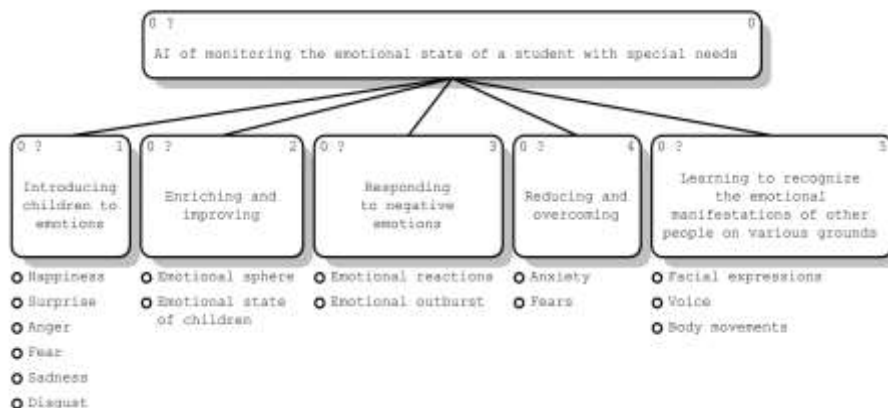


Fig. 1. Goal tree

There is a wide variety of methods for creating process diagrams. It was decided to use a data flow diagram (DFD) to describe this system, as it would be most convenient to depict the processes, relationships, and interactions between them.

The entity of “Student with special needs” - in this case, is a child with ASD who needs help in expressing emotions to facilitate the learning process.

The entity of Teacher is important for controlling the learning process. It receives definitive recommendations from the system for further work and the direction in which it is necessary to promote further learning.

The entity of “PMPI” is a psychological, medical and pedagogical institution, that is, an organization comprising specialists of medical, pedagogical and psychological profile. The main task of the commission is to identify the causes of problems in the child's education and to recommend him an educational program that he can successfully master.

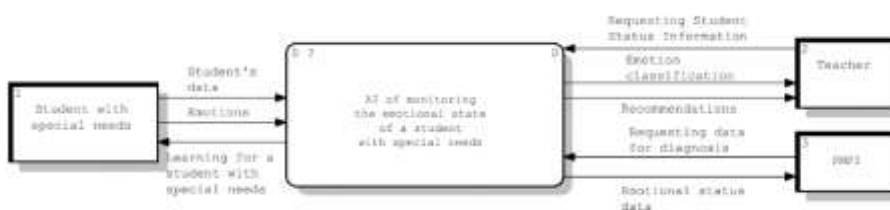


Fig. 2. Contextual diagram of data flows

In order to describe the next level of DFD, you have to decompose the main process into five others. These will include the following processes: "Download video with emotions", "Set options for learning neural network", "Analyze images using a neural network", "Get emotional statistics", "Provide guidance on learning through AI". For

reliable implementation, we also have to add two databases: "Emotions", "Data from students with special needs".

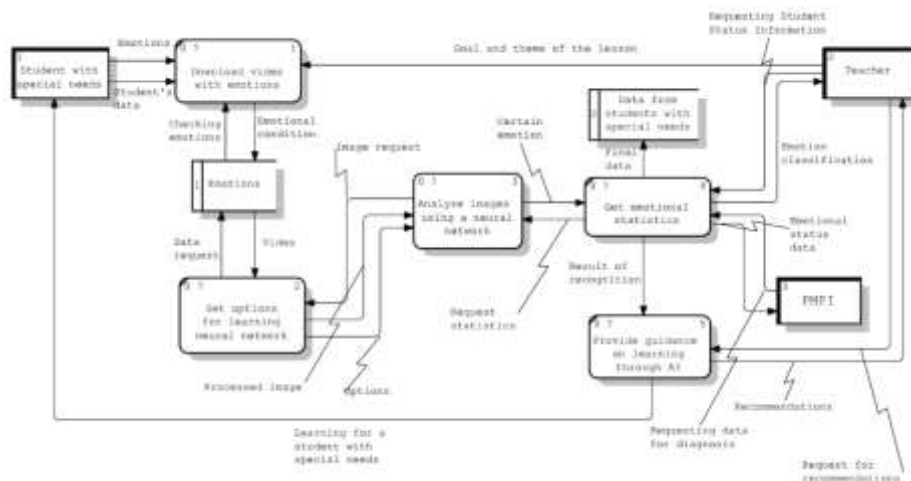


Fig. 3. DFD1

3 Conclusions

As a result of this review article, a preliminary version of a programmatic implementation of monitoring the emotional state of a student with special needs was created. After proceeding a detailed analysis, we can conclude that after successfully completing the course with this program children's the level of anxiety, aggression and fear should significantly reduce. They would become more calm, balanced, confident in themselves, "appeasable" on the lessons of other professionals (speech therapists, teachers) and less conflict with other children. It should be noted that in similar studies, parents note a qualitative improvement in children's communication skills, their greater openness to social contact. Given the recent progress in predictive psychiatry, adequately applied AI offers the possibility of fully grasping the complexity of emotional learning assistance, with particular emphasis on spontaneous nonverbal behavior during social gatherings with the others. It is important to recognize that we are now in a time where knowledge about AI, VR, AR and MR is "in-change". Any curriculum or professional knowledge of teachers regarding the technical, social and ethical aspects of technology should be updated regularly (possibly annually) [31-32].

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