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## REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-55429

**Title:** Feasibility of a Real-Time Mobile Emotion Recognition System for Children

**Recommendation:**
Accept as it is .....
Accept after minor revision.....
Accept after major revision .....
Do not accept (*Reasons below*).....

| Rating | Excel. | Good | Fair | Poor |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Originality | | | | |
| Techn. Quality | | | | |
| Clarity | | | | |
| Significance | | | | |

Reviewer Name: Dr Gulnawaz

## *Detailed Reviewer'sReport*

The manuscript titled *"Feasibility of a Real-Time Mobile Emotion Recognition System for Children"* presents a relevant and timely study addressing an important gap in facial emotion recognition research, particularly the limited availability of child-centric FER systems. The authors clearly articulate the motivation for focusing on children aged 7–12 and appropriately highlight ethical considerations related to privacy and data protection, which is a strong aspect of the work. The overall structure of the paper is logical, with a clear flow from introduction and related work to methodology, implementation, results, and discussion. The comparison of three well-established deep learning architectures—DenseNet-201, ResNet-101, and Inception-V3—is well justified, and the selection of DenseNet-201 based on empirical performance is adequately supported by experimental results.

The methodology is described in sufficient detail, particularly with respect to dataset selection, preprocessing, model training, and system implementation using a cross-platform mobile framework. The inclusion of user acceptance testing adds practical value and demonstrates the system's usability beyond theoretical performance metrics. The discussion thoughtfully acknowledges key challenges such as optimization trade-offs, system latency on mobile devices, and limitations in recognizing a broader range of emotions. These reflections indicate a realistic and critical understanding of deploying deep learning models in real-time mobile environments. The conclusions are consistent with the presented results, and the future work section provides clear and feasible directions for improving system accuracy and performance.

However, there are certain areas that require improvement. The reported accuracy, while acceptable for a feasibility study, remains relatively modest and would benefit from deeper discussion on dataset

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suitability for children-specific emotion recognition, given that the training data spans a very wide age range. Additionally, the reduction of recognized emotions from seven to three, although practically motivated, should be more explicitly justified and aligned with the study's original objectives. Minor language refinements, clearer figure referencing, and tighter presentation in some sections would further enhance the manuscript's clarity and academic rigor.

**Recommendation**

**Accept after minor revision.**
The manuscript makes a meaningful contribution to the field of mobile affective computing for children. Addressing the noted concerns regarding dataset justification, clarification of scope reduction, and minor editorial refinements will strengthen the paper and make it suitable for publication.