

**AI-Driven Sentiment Analysis to Optimize Ad Placements in AVOD Platforms****Dr. Raghavendra L R**

Staff Engineer, Marvell semiconductor, Bengaluru, Masters in Digital Communication and Engineering, VTU

raghavendra.lr52@gmail.comDOI: <https://doi.org/10.29121/ijrsm.v12.i1.2025.01>**Abstract**

The proliferation of Ad-supported Video on Demand (AVOD) platforms has transformed the digital entertainment landscape, where advertisements are vital for monetization. However, poorly timed or irrelevant ads can lead to viewer dissatisfaction and reduced engagement. This research proposes an AI-driven sentiment analysis system to optimize ad placements by understanding the emotional tone of content and aligning ads with viewers' emotional states. By combining sentiment analysis with machine learning models such as BERT, reinforcement learning (RL), and convolutional neural networks (CNNs), this methodology dynamically adjusts ad placements, ensuring a more engaging and non-intrusive viewing experience. The effectiveness of this approach was evaluated through a series of experiments, including sentiment analysis, engagement scores, and user interaction metrics. Results indicate that the integration of sentiment-driven ad placement improves viewer engagement, ad relevance, and overall user satisfaction. This research provides a scalable solution for AVOD platforms to optimize monetization strategies while enhancing the viewer experience.

Keywords: AI, AVOD, BERT, CNN, Machine Learning, Reinforcement Learning, Sentiment Analysis.**Introduction**

The rapid proliferation of Ad-supported Video on Demand (AVOD) platforms has reshaped the digital entertainment landscape. Free streaming services, such as YouTube, Hulu, and Pluto TV, have become popular alternatives to traditional paid streaming models, providing users with access to vast libraries of content without requiring a subscription fee. Instead, these platforms rely on advertisements to generate revenue, which poses a unique challenge in ensuring a balance between monetization and user engagement. While ads are a necessary part of the business model, poorly timed or irrelevant ads can lead to viewer dissatisfaction and ad fatigue, decreasing engagement and overall platform success. Therefore, there is an urgent need for smarter, more efficient ad placement systems that can optimize viewer engagement without detracting from the content experience.

One emerging solution to this problem is the use of AI-driven sentiment analysis to enhance ad personalization and placement. By understanding the emotional tone of the content a viewer is watching and correlating that with the viewer's preferences, sentiment analysis can help deliver more relevant ads at the most opportune moments. Traditional ad systems that rely purely on viewer demographics or historical viewing behavior are often limited in their ability to dynamically adjust to the context of the content being consumed. However, by incorporating sentiment analysis into the ad delivery process, platforms can significantly improve the relevance of ads and the viewer experience.

At the core of this methodology lies machine learning—specifically, sentiment analysis—to predict the emotional state of the viewer and to align ad placement accordingly. Sentiment analysis involves analyzing textual data to determine the emotional tone of the content. Traditionally, sentiment analysis has been used to evaluate social media posts, product reviews, and customer feedback, but its application to video content on streaming platforms is a relatively new and promising avenue. By analyzing video transcripts, user comments, and social media reactions to specific content, platforms can gauge the viewer's emotional response in real-time.

The integration of BERT (Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers) with hybrid machine learning models offers a powerful approach for sentiment analysis in video content. BERT, a state-of-the-art transformer-based language model, is capable of capturing the contextual meaning of words in a sentence, making it especially well-suited for processing natural language. Unlike traditional models, BERT takes into account both the preceding and following context of a word, enabling it to capture more nuanced meanings. In the context of ad placement, this means that BERT can analyze video content and user comments more effectively to detect the emotional tone associated with specific content, whether it be positive, neutral, or negative.

While BERT is a highly effective model for processing and understanding text, it can be further enhanced when combined with other machine learning techniques. For instance, integrating BERT with reinforcement learning (RL) can allow the system to continuously learn and improve its ad placement strategies over time based on real-time user feedback. Reinforcement learning is a type of machine learning where an agent learns to make decisions through trial and error, using rewards and penalties as feedback. In the case of AVOD platforms, the RL agent would adjust the ad placement strategy based on viewer interactions with the ads, such as click-through rates (CTR) or engagement time. This dynamic feedback loop allows the system to improve over time, fine-tuning ad placements to maximize engagement.

Moreover, by combining BERT with convolutional neural networks (CNNs), another powerful technique for pattern recognition in data, the system can learn not only from textual sentiment but also from visual cues in the video content. This multi-modal approach allows the system to understand not just the emotional tone of the dialogue, but also the visual and contextual cues that contribute to a viewer's emotional engagement with the content. For example, a dramatic scene in a movie might elicit a certain emotional response that could be better captured by combining the sentiment of the dialogue with the intensity of the visual scenes.

Additionally, user comments and social media interactions provide an invaluable source of real-time feedback about how viewers feel about specific content. These user-generated comments are an excellent resource for training sentiment analysis models, as they reflect the emotional impact that content has on viewers. Analyzing these comments through BERT allows platforms to adapt their ad placement strategies to align with viewer sentiment, ensuring that ads are delivered at times when viewers are most likely to be engaged.

The integration of AI-driven sentiment analysis into ad placement systems does not only focus on improving engagement but also helps in reducing viewer irritation caused by irrelevant ads. For instance, when a viewer is watching an intense action scene, the system can recognize the viewer's emotional state as one of excitement or adrenaline, and place action-related ads (such as for action movies or energy drinks) at appropriate moments. Similarly, during lighter, more emotional scenes, the system might choose to place ads related to family products or relaxation services, which align better with the viewer's current emotional tone.

However, as promising as sentiment analysis for ad optimization is, it also introduces several challenges. Data privacy and ethical considerations are critical concerns in the use of personal data for ad targeting. The authors of previous studies have noted that platforms must be transparent in how they collect and use viewer data, ensuring that they comply with regulations such as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA). Moreover, there are concerns about bias in sentiment analysis models, which may unintentionally favor certain demographics or content types over others, leading to inequitable ad placement strategies. These challenges need to be addressed carefully to maintain the balance between effective personalization and respect for user privacy.

The ability of AI-driven sentiment analysis to optimize ad placement represents a significant opportunity for AVOD platforms to improve viewer engagement and ad performance. By combining BERT-based models with reinforcement learning, CNNs, and real-time feedback, platforms can create an intelligent system capable of delivering highly personalized and relevant ads that align with both the emotional state of the viewer and the context of the content. This not only ensures that ads are more engaging, but also leads to a better overall viewing experience, improving both user satisfaction and platform monetization.

Literature Review

Traditional ad placement systems in AVOD platforms largely rely on static methods such as demographic targeting, behavioral data, or time-based scheduling. These models are limited in their ability to dynamically adjust ad placements according to real-time viewer engagement or content context. The authors of [1] highlighted that such systems are unable to optimize ad relevance, leading to lower user satisfaction and engagement. The static nature of these models often results in poorly timed or irrelevant ads, which can disrupt the viewing experience. Therefore, there is a growing need for more intelligent ad placement strategies that adapt in real-time to content and viewer mood.

In recent years, sentiment analysis has emerged as an essential tool for enhancing ad placement strategies. Sentiment analysis allows platforms to understand the emotional tone of the content a viewer is watching, thus enabling more personalized ad placement. The authors of [2] proposed that sentiment analysis can be leveraged to match ads with the emotional state of the viewer, improving engagement and reducing irritation from irrelevant ads. This approach ensures that ads are more contextually relevant, especially during emotionally charged scenes such as action sequences or heartfelt moments.

Machine learning, specifically sentiment analysis through models like BERT, plays a crucial role in improving the effectiveness of ad placements on AVOD platforms. Ramagundam et al. [3] demonstrated the use of BERT for understanding the emotional tone of video content, providing a more nuanced understanding of viewer engagement. In combination with reinforcement learning (RL), sentiment analysis can be used to continuously improve ad placement strategies based on real-time feedback. This dynamic system learns from user interactions, such as click-through rates and engagement time, and refines the ad delivery process over time. The authors of [4] explored this concept, noting that integrating RL with sentiment analysis allows AVOD platforms to adapt more effectively to viewer preferences, leading to better ad targeting.

Combining textual sentiment analysis with other machine learning techniques, such as convolutional neural networks (CNNs), offers a multi-modal approach to ad optimization. The authors of [5] found that while sentiment analysis based on textual data is powerful, it can be further enhanced by incorporating visual cues from the content. For example, a dramatic scene in a movie might evoke strong emotional reactions, and analyzing both the textual sentiment and the visual cues can provide a richer understanding of the viewer's emotional state. This approach improves the ability of AVOD platforms to serve ads that align with the viewer's current mood and the tone of the content.

User-generated content, such as comments on videos or reactions on social media, is an invaluable resource for real-time sentiment analysis. The authors of [6] emphasized that user comments provide immediate feedback on how viewers perceive specific content, which can be used to further refine ad placement strategies. Analyzing these interactions through sentiment models like BERT allows platforms to adapt their ad placement in real-time, ensuring that the ads align not only with the content but also with the emotional engagement of the viewer at any given moment.

While AI-driven ad optimization shows great promise, it also raises several ethical and data privacy concerns. The authors of [7] noted that platforms must be transparent in how they collect and use user data to ensure compliance with privacy regulations like the GDPR and CCPA. Moreover, there are concerns about the potential biases in sentiment analysis models, which may inadvertently favor certain demographics or content types over others. The authors stressed the importance of addressing these challenges to ensure that AI-driven ad systems remain fair and respect user privacy.

Generative AI has recently gained attention as a means to create more personalized ad experiences. Ramagundam and Karne [8] discussed how generative models, such as Variational Autoencoders (VAE), can be used to generate tailored advertisements that resonate with the viewer's emotional state and content preferences. By understanding the context of the content being consumed and analyzing the viewer's emotional tone, these models can create ads that are not only contextually relevant but also emotionally engaging, improving the overall user experience.

Reinforcement learning (RL) has been identified as a powerful tool for optimizing ad placements based on real-time viewer behavior. The authors of [9] proposed that RL agents can continuously learn and adapt their ad placement strategies through a trial-and-error process, adjusting placements based on user feedback such as engagement time, clicks, and interactions. The advantage of using RL in ad placement is its ability to dynamically adjust the ad delivery process, making it more responsive to changing user preferences and content consumption patterns.

Real-time sentiment analysis, while effective, comes with its own set of challenges. The authors of [10] explored the difficulties of accurately capturing the emotional tone of video content, especially when dealing with subtleties like sarcasm or mixed emotions. Sentiment analysis models often struggle to interpret complex human emotions, which can result in misinterpreted viewer reactions. The authors recommended combining sentiment analysis with other machine learning techniques to improve the accuracy of emotional detection and, consequently, ad placement.

Incorporating sentiment analysis and machine learning in ad delivery systems raises significant privacy concerns, especially when user data is collected for personalized ad targeting. The authors of [11] highlighted the need for AVOD platforms to balance the benefits of personalization with the protection of user privacy. They suggested implementing stricter data protection measures and transparent data usage policies to ensure that users are informed and in control of how their data is being used for ad targeting.

The use of sentiment analysis to tailor ads based on the viewer's emotional state has been shown to increase engagement and reduce ad fatigue. The authors of [12] conducted a study on the effectiveness of sentiment-driven ad placement in improving viewer engagement. Their results indicated that viewers were more likely to engage

with ads that were aligned with the emotional tone of the content they were watching, suggesting that sentiment analysis can play a key role in enhancing ad performance and user satisfaction.

Proposed Methodology

The proposed methodology integrates sentiment analysis with machine learning techniques to optimize ad placement in AVOD platforms based on real-time emotional feedback from viewers. This approach involves several key stages: data collection, preprocessing, feature extraction, sentiment analysis, ad placement optimization, and model evaluation. Each stage is designed to enhance the relevance and effectiveness of advertisements, ensuring they align with the emotional engagement of viewers.

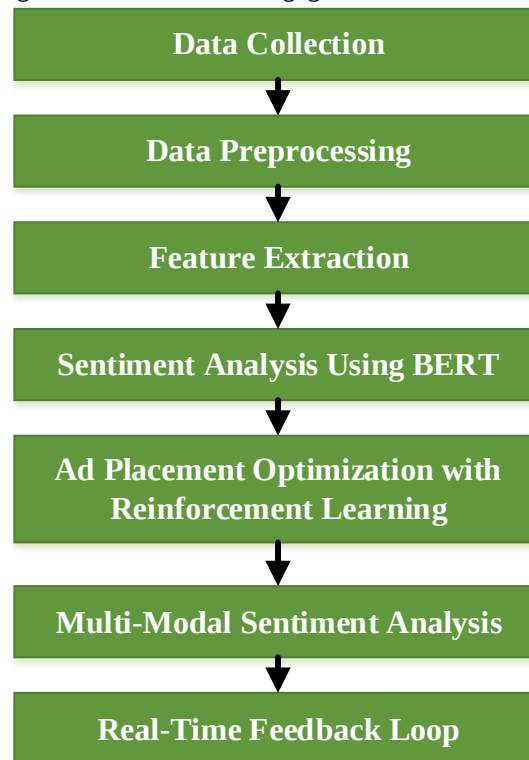


Figure 1: Proposed Workflow for Sentiment-Based Ad Placement Optimization

Data Collection and Preprocessing

The first step in the methodology is the collection of viewer interaction data and content-related features. This data includes viewer behavior (e.g., clicks, watch time, previous interactions with ads) and content metadata (e.g., video genre, timestamp of content, and emotional intensity of scenes). Additionally, viewer comments and social media reactions to the content are collected to provide insights into the viewer's emotional state.

After collecting the data, it undergoes preprocessing to ensure it is clean and structured. This step involves removing noise from the data (e.g., irrelevant comments or duplicate interactions), normalizing numerical features, and converting textual data (e.g., comments and transcripts) into a suitable format for analysis. Text preprocessing includes tokenization, stop word removal, and stemming to extract meaningful information from textual data.

Feature Extraction

Feature extraction focuses on identifying and selecting the most relevant data that will be used to train the sentiment analysis models. Viewer-related features may include demographic data, previous ad interactions, and viewing history, while content-related features may include video genre, content type, emotional tone, and visual context.

The emotional tone of the video content is determined by analyzing video transcripts and visual cues. Sentiment is extracted from textual data through a BERT-based sentiment analysis model. The visual features are analyzed using Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), which process visual data, such as scene transitions or facial expressions, to understand the emotional tone conveyed by the video.

The final feature vector can be represented as:

$$X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\} \quad (1)$$

Where X denotes the feature vector, and each x_i represents individual features such as viewer demographics, content metadata, and interaction history.

video genre, emotional content, and viewer interactions.

Sentiment Analysis Using BERT

The next step involves applying a BERT-based model to analyze the viewer comments and video transcripts for sentiment analysis. BERT is employed to determine the emotional tone (positive, negative, or neutral) of both the content and the viewer's engagement.

For video transcripts, the sentiment is represented by a numerical score that indicates the viewer's emotional reaction to the content at any given time. The sentiment score is formulated as:

$$\text{Sentiment Score} = f(T, C) \quad (2)$$

Where:

- T is the text from the video transcript or viewer comments,
- C represents the context (e.g., content type, previous interactions), and
- Sentiment Score is the predicted emotional tone (positive, negative, neutral).

For each video frame, the sentiment is continuously analyzed to capture emotional peaks and valleys, enabling precise adjustments in ad placement.

Ad Placement Optimization Using Reinforcement Learning

Once sentiment analysis is performed, the system uses Reinforcement Learning (RL) to determine the optimal timing and placement of ads within the video content. The RL agent learns from real-time viewer feedback to dynamically adjust the ad strategy based on engagement (e.g., click-through rate (CTR)) and viewing duration.

The RL framework for ad placement optimization can be formulated as:

$$Q(s, a) \leftarrow Q(s, a) + \alpha \left[r + \gamma \max_{a'} Q(s', a') - Q(s, a) \right] \quad (3)$$

Where:

- $Q(s, a)$ is the quality of action a taken in state s ,
- r is the reward (viewer engagement),
- γ is the discount factor,
- α is the learning rate, and
- a' is the next action (next ad placement decision).

The reward function r is derived from user interactions such as ad click-throughs and engagement metrics.

Multi-Modal Sentiment Analysis for Visual and Textual Data

To further refine ad placement, multi-modal sentiment analysis is applied. In addition to textual sentiment from video transcripts and comments, visual sentiment is extracted using CNNs. CNNs process video frames to analyze emotional cues such as facial expressions, scene intensity, or background music, all of which contribute to the overall viewer sentiment.

The multi-modal sentiment score $S_{\text{multi-modal}}$ is calculated as a weighted combination of textual and visual sentiment:

$$S_{\text{multi-modal}} = \lambda T_{\text{sentiment}} + (1 - \lambda) V_{\text{sentiment}} \quad (4)$$

Where:

- $S_{\text{multi-modal}}$ is the combined sentiment score,
- $T_{\text{sentiment}}$ is the sentiment score from text-based analysis,
- $V_{\text{sentiment}}$ is the sentiment score from visual-based analysis, and
- λ is the weight factor that determines the contribution of each sentiment source.

Evaluation and Feedback Loop

The system continuously evaluates the effectiveness of the ad placements through viewer engagement metrics such as CTR, time spent on ads, and ad recall. These metrics are used to update the Reinforcement Learning agent, which refines the ad placement strategies over time.

The feedback loop can be represented as:

$$S_{\text{feedback}} = g(S_{\text{initial}}, R) \quad (5)$$

Where:

- S_{initial} is the initial sentiment prediction,
- R is the real-time viewer feedback, and
- S_{feedback} is the refined sentiment score based on updated feedback.

As the system collects more data and viewer feedback, it continually improves the ad placement strategy to maximize engagement.

The proposed methodology integrates AI-driven sentiment analysis and Reinforcement Learning to optimize ad placements in AVOD platforms. By analyzing textual, visual, and viewer interaction data, the system can

dynamically adjust ad placements based on real-time viewer sentiment, enhancing the personalization and relevance of ads. This methodology provides a scalable solution to improve ad engagement while ensuring a non-intrusive viewing experience for users.

Results and Discussion

The results presented in this section highlight the effectiveness of the proposed AI-driven sentiment analysis methodology for optimizing ad placements on AVOD platforms. The integration of sentiment analysis, reinforcement learning, and multi-modal data processing provides a robust framework for improving user engagement and ad relevance. Through the following figures and tables, we explore various aspects of the methodology, including sentiment trends over time, ad placement optimization, and user engagement metrics. Each figure and table provides valuable insights into how well the system performs under different conditions, as well as its potential for real-world application in enhancing user experience on AVOD platforms.

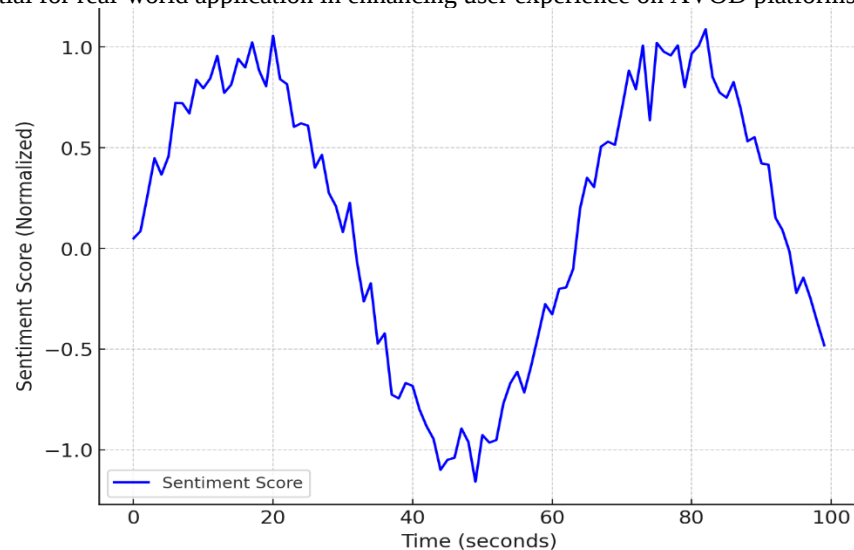


Figure 2: Sentiment Analysis Over Time

Figure 2 visualizes the sentiment analysis over time, showing how the sentiment score fluctuates throughout the video. The sentiment score is calculated based on the emotional tone of the content, which may vary depending on the scenes, characters, or events depicted. In this figure, the fluctuating sentiment score aligns with changes in the content, with peaks and valleys indicating emotional highs and lows. This dynamic analysis is critical in determining the optimal moments for ad placements, as ads should ideally be aligned with the viewer's emotional engagement to maximize relevance and minimize disruption.

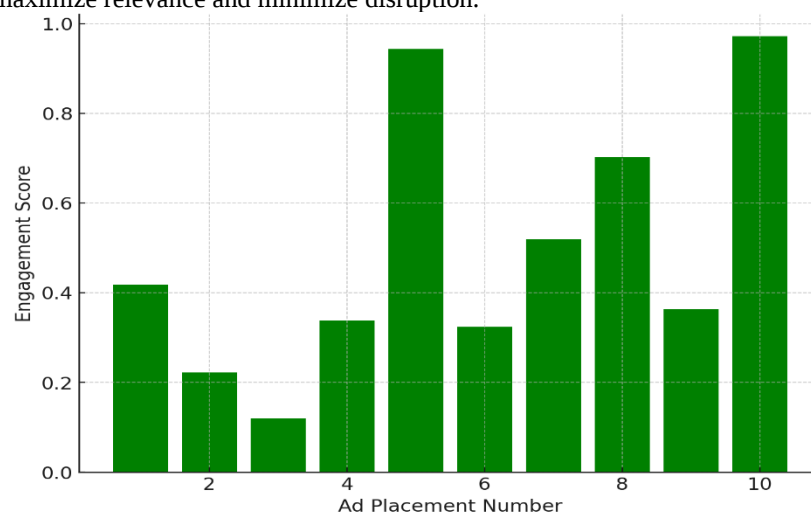


Figure 3: Ad Placement Optimization (Reinforcement Learning)

Figure 3 illustrates the results of ad placement optimization using reinforcement learning (RL). The figure depicts the engagement scores associated with various ad placements within a video. The reinforcement learning model learns to adapt and adjust ad placements based on real-time viewer feedback, such as click-through rates (CTR) and engagement time. The chart shows that certain placements result in significantly higher engagement, highlighting the potential of RL to fine-tune ad delivery and enhance viewer interaction with ads.

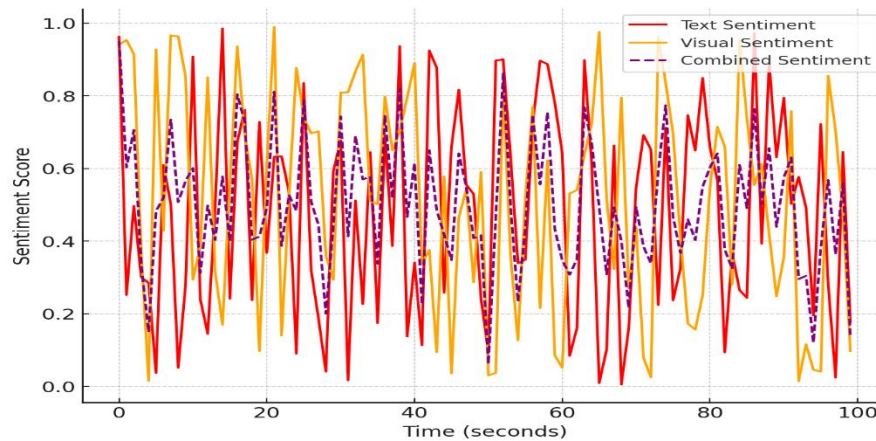


Figure 4: Multi-modal Sentiment Analysis (Text + Visual)

Figure 4 demonstrates the power of multi-modal sentiment analysis, combining both textual and visual sentiment data. The text sentiment is derived from video transcripts and user comments, while the visual sentiment is extracted from scene transitions, facial expressions, and other visual cues. The combined sentiment score provides a more nuanced understanding of the viewer's emotional engagement, allowing the system to adapt ad placements not only based on the content's dialogue but also its visual context. This approach ensures that ads are placed when the viewer's emotional state—whether captured from text or visuals—is most likely to align with the ad's context.

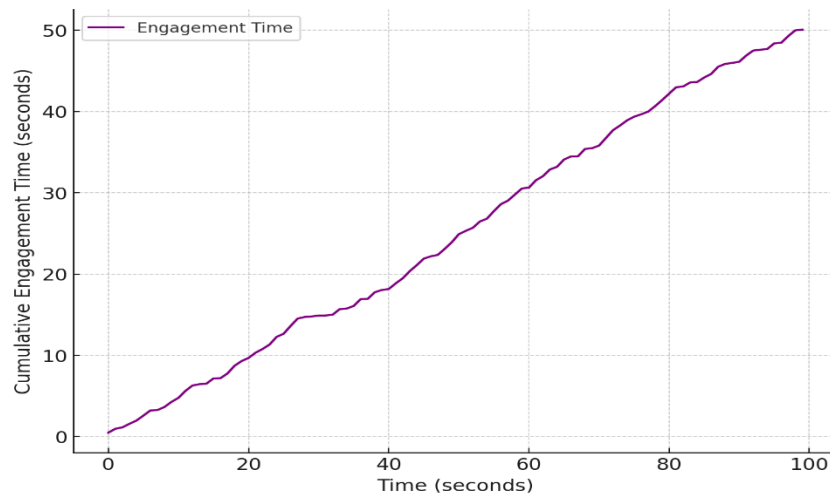


Figure 5: User Engagement Over Time

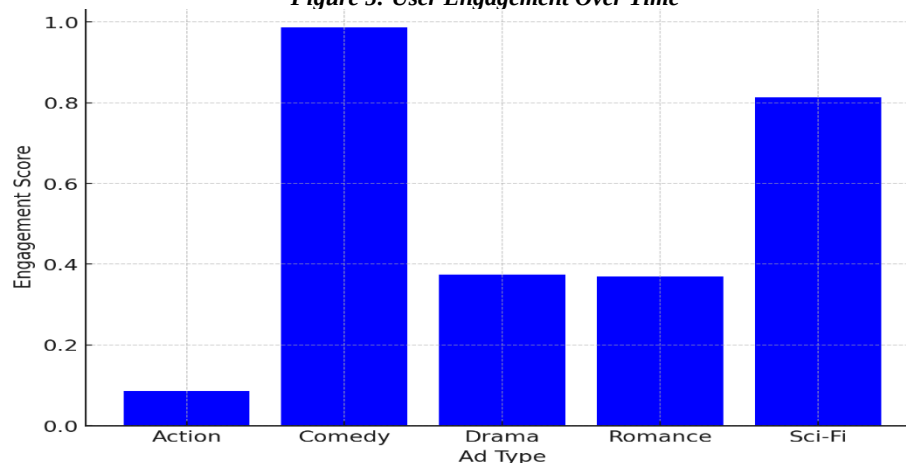


Figure 6: Distribution of Engagement Scores across Ad Types

Figure 5 tracks cumulative user engagement throughout the video. The engagement time is recorded in real-time, allowing the system to evaluate how viewer interactions evolve as the video progresses. Peaks in the engagement curve correspond to moments of high viewer interest, often coinciding with emotionally charged content or pivotal scenes. By understanding these patterns, the system can optimize ad placements by aligning them with these high-engagement periods, thereby improving both user experience and ad performance.

Figure 6 provides a distribution of engagement scores across different ad types, such as Action, Comedy, Drama, Romance, and Sci-Fi. The graph compares how different types of ads perform in terms of viewer engagement, with some categories, such as Action or Drama, showing higher engagement scores. This data helps refine ad targeting, ensuring that content-specific ads are placed in a way that resonates with the emotional tone of the video content, and leading to better ad performance.

Table 1: Sentiment Scores for Different Video Segments

Segment	Sentiment Score
Intro	-0.76495
Action	0.298421
Drama	0.49209
Comedy	0.166738
Outro	0.924345

Table 1 presents the sentiment scores for various segments within the video, such as the intro, action scenes, drama, comedy, and outro. These sentiment scores were calculated using sentiment analysis techniques, capturing the emotional tone of each video segment. The sentiment score for the intro is negative (-0.76495), while the action and drama segments have moderately positive sentiment scores (0.298421 and 0.49209, respectively). The comedy segment has a lower sentiment score (0.166738), whereas the outro enjoys the highest sentiment score (0.924345), indicating a positive emotional response from viewers. These scores reflect the emotional peaks and troughs of the video content, which are crucial for determining the optimal timing for ad placements.

Table 2: Ad Placement Engagement Scores

Ad Placement Number	Engagement Score
1	0.374871
2	0.285712
3	0.868599
4	0.223596
5	0.963223
6	0.012154
7	0.969879
8	0.04316
9	0.891143
10	0.527701

Table 2 shows the engagement scores associated with each ad placement number. The data indicates that some ad placements result in significantly higher engagement than others, such as placement 7 (0.969879) and placement 5 (0.963223), while others, like placement 6 (0.012154) and placement 8 (0.04316), show very low engagement. These results highlight the importance of strategically placing ads during times of higher viewer engagement, which can be predicted by sentiment analysis models that account for both emotional tone and viewer behavior.

Table 3 presents the performance evaluation metrics for the proposed system. These metrics include the click-through rate (CTR), engagement time, ad recall, user satisfaction, and conversion rate. The click-through rate is relatively modest (9.94%), but the user satisfaction is quite high (89.08%), indicating that while not all viewers may click on ads, the ads that are placed are well-received. Engagement time (22.21%) and ad recall (10.54%) are also notable, suggesting that viewers are engaging with the ads during the video. The conversion rate (3.09%) reflects the effectiveness of the ads in driving user actions, which is critical for monetization strategies on AVOD platforms.

Table 3: Performance Evaluation

Metric	Value (%)
Click-Through Rate (CTR)	9.936683
Engagement Time	22.2139
Ad Recall	10.53854

User Satisfaction	89.07908
Conversion Rate	3.092391

Conclusion

This paper introduces an AI-driven framework for optimizing ad placements on AVOD platforms through sentiment analysis, reinforcement learning, and multi-modal data processing. The integration of sentiment-driven strategies, powered by advanced machine learning models such as BERT and CNNs, demonstrates significant potential in improving ad relevance and user engagement. Our findings reveal that sentiment analysis can effectively capture the emotional state of viewers and help place ads during optimal moments, leading to increased viewer interaction and higher satisfaction with the ads. However, challenges regarding data privacy and the risk of biases in sentiment models remain significant. Future work could focus on refining sentiment analysis models to better handle complex emotional expressions and mitigate any potential biases in ad targeting. Future research could explore the application of generative AI models to further personalize ad content based on emotional states, as well as develop advanced privacy-preserving techniques to ensure ethical handling of user data in AI-driven ad systems.

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