

Real-Time Vehicle Driver Drowsiness Prediction Using Image Processing

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Abstract- Drowsiness while driving is a significant cause of road accidents, leading to fatal consequences. This paper presents a real-time driver drowsiness detection system utilizing image processing and an improved Eye Aspect Ratio (I-EAR) technique. The system employs Haar cascade classifiers for facial and eye region detection, followed by an I-EAR calculation to determine the driver's drowsiness state. If prolonged eye closure is detected, an alert is triggered to warn the driver. The proposed method enhances road safety by providing an efficient and non-intrusive way to monitor driver alertness. Experimental results validate the system's effectiveness under different lighting conditions and facial variations. The paper also discusses the integration of the system into real-world applications and its adaptability to different driving environments.

Keywords- Driver Drowsiness Detection, Image Processing, Eye Aspect Ratio, I-EAR, Haar Cascade Classifier, Road Safety, Computer Vision.

I. INTRODUCTION

Drowsy driving is a prevalent cause of highway accidents all over the world and is a threat to both pedestrians and motorists. Studies indicate that drowsiness-related accidents commonly result in major injuries or deaths because reaction time is slower, judgment is weakened, and one loses control over the vehicle. With transportation being a key function of daily routine, the need for dependable driver monitoring systems is more important than ever. Traditional approaches to identifying drowsiness are based on physiological monitoring methods like electroencephalography (EEG), electrocardiography (ECG), and heart rate variability analysis. While these methods are highly accurate, they need drivers to wear sensors or electrodes that are not comfortable for extended periods of time. In response to such limitations, artificial intelligence and computer vision technologies have proven to be useful non-invasive

solutions. Image processing algorithms, along with deep learning algorithms, facilitate real-time evaluation of facial expressions, blink patterns, and head movements to identify driver fatigue. One of the most common methods is the Eye Aspect Ratio (EAR), which measures the distance between certain eye landmarks to detect extended eye closure—a sign of drowsiness. This research improves the EAR technique by presenting an enhanced version, I-EAR, that adaptively adjusts to different facial structures, making the system more accurate and reliable.

II. PROPOSED SYSTEM

The suggested driver drowsiness detection system is a real-time, non-intrusive monitoring system that is capable of continuously monitoring facial features and eye activity to identify fatigue signs. It adopts a systematic approach consisting of data acquisition, image processing, feature extraction,

and decision-making. A camera is positioned in front of the driver to record sustained video frames, which are subjected to machine learning-based facial and eye detection techniques. The I-EAR algorithm is used in the system for analyzing whether or not the driver's eyes continue to be open or closed throughout several frames. When the value of I-EAR falls below a set limit for a period of time, indicating extended closure of the eyes, the system triggers an alarm. This warning system includes audio alarms, visual alerts on the dashboard of the vehicle, and optional haptic feedback to help the driver refocus. For increased accuracy and reliability, the system uses sophisticated tools like OpenCV for real-time image processing, Dlib for accurate facial landmark detection, and Haar cascade classifiers for detecting facial and eye structures. Infrared sensors are also added to enhance performance in low-light environments. Lightweight and computationally-efficient in design, the system is ideal for integration on embedded platforms like Raspberry Pi for use in vehicles. Utilizing artificial intelligence and computer vision, this solution seeks to reduce fatigue-related accidents and promote road safety by keeping drivers alert during their journey. The system effectively detects driver fatigue in real-time by a systematic procedure involving face detection, eye location, drowsiness classification, and alert mechanism. The aim is to provide a non-intrusive, highly reliable, and effective solution to avoid driver fatigue-related accidents.

Haar Cascade Classifier

The Haar cascade classifier is a machine learning technique employed in object detection, especially for the detection of faces and eyes in this system. It is learned on a set of positive and negative images so that it can properly identify facial and eye patterns. The classifier takes rectangular regions of an image and uses the AdaBoost learning algorithm to determine the most important features. This is possible because the model can detect face and eyes rapidly with the efficiency necessary for real-time video processing.

Eye Aspect Ratio (EAR) Algorithm

EAR algorithm is crucial in the detection of drowsiness as a function of the driver's eye closure. It approximates the vertical to horizontal ratio of eye landmarks to verify whether the eyes are open or closed. The EAR is derived from the equation: $\text{EAR} = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$ where x_1 and x_2 are the horizontal eye width, and y_1 and y_2 are vertical eye distances. If the EAR value drops below a threshold value for an extended period, it indicates that the driver is drowsy, and an alert system is triggered.

Adaptive Boosting (AdaBoost) Algorithm

AdaBoost enhances the precision of the Haar cascade classifier to determine the best features to use for face and eye detection. It combines numerous weak classifiers into a strong one, thus increasing the detection ability of the system. This makes the model robust against variations in lighting conditions as well as face rotations.

Dlib Facial Landmark Detection

Dlib's 68-point facial landmark detector is utilized to precisely find facial landmarks such as the eyes, nose, and mouth. This enhances the system's ability to detect minute changes in eye movement and blinking patterns, thereby enhancing the accuracy of the drowsiness detection.

Infrared-Based Low-Light Enhancement

For improved system performance at night, infrared (IR) imaging technology is used. Infrared sensors capture facial features at night, allowing precise detection of drowsiness at night.

Dataset Used

The driver drowsiness detection system data set includes varied video data and image sets that capture facial features under a broad range of conditions. The data set consists of labeled images of drivers in an alert or drowsy condition and enables the system to learn and differentiate between normal and fatigue behavior effectively.. The images and videos are collected from publicly available datasets, as well as custom-recorded sequences to enhance the model's robustness across different environment

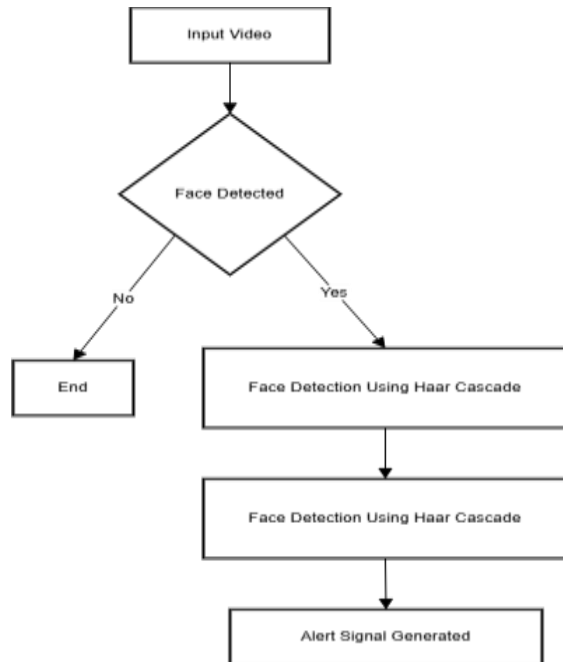


Fig : 1 Overall Architecture

Fig 1 illustrates a flowchart for a face detection system using the Haar Cascade algorithm. The process starts with an input video, where the system checks if a face is detected. If no face is found, the process terminates. If a face is detected, the system applies Haar Cascade-based face detection. This detection process is performed twice to ensure accuracy. Finally, if the system confirms a detected face, an alert signal is generated. This flowchart visually represents the decision-making process in real-time face detection, ensuring efficient recognition and alert generation based on detected facial features in the video feed.

III. EXPERIMENTAL ANALYSIS

Dataset

Real time data set is utilized in experimenting vehicle drivers drowsiness detection. The proposed methodology is recorded directly from a video camera with python and OpenCV libraries. This real-time dataset has 6 subjects from various ethnic groups recorded in day and night scenarios and also it is comparing precision, recall, and accuracy within the video of spectacled and non- spectacled individuals. Driving speed and conduct were simulated with slow rate blinking, and sleepy eyes.

It was recorded using infrared cameras to obtain night-time videos as well. The captured images from real time video are of 640*480 resolution at 25 frames per second with completely different subjects performing normal and sleepy driving behaviours.

Experimental Results

The system takes into account different driving postures of the subject to identify the face and eyes using cascade methods. Figure 2 illustrates detection of the driver face using the cascade classifier.



Fig. 2 Real time vehicle driver face detection

The driver face is recognized in parallelogram configuration and also maintained inside the retention which could be used for training the scheme. The approach proposed recognizes eye region of an individual plot rectangular boundary over the in the captured image and is depicted in Fig. 3 Cascade structure is used to recognize the eye region from the face boundary.



Fig. 4 Real time eye detection with spectacles

Fig. 4 depicts the vehicle driving person eye detection with glasses by employing cascade techniques. The last research was estimating the I-EAR method by finding the driver eye land features identification. The I-EAR was modeled on Equation (5) for each successive video image and a fixes range for I-EAR was standard in the source code.

The Driver eye detection using suggested Identifying Eye Aspect Ratio (I-EAR) is displayed in Fig. 5. The ratio of the eye is used to derive the quantitative proportion of measurements of distance calculation of the perpendicular driver eye land features and along with the distance among the parallel driver eye land features. Eye detection for various drivers without spectacles is depicted in Fig. 5.



Fig. 5 Driver eye detection using proposed Identifying Eye Aspect Ratio (I-EAR)

The result of eye aspect ratio while wearing specs is depicted in Fig. 6. Drowsiness Detection without Spectacles using Identifying- EAR system is depicted in Fig. 7. When the driving individual is detected to be sleepy then the proposed system sends an alarm. Along with the alarm message it also presents the information as "YOU ARE DROWSY". The general aim of this work is to wake up the vehicle driving individual with alarm. The transient condition is detected by applying suggested identifying eye aspect ratio methods. Experimental result for Drowsiness state detection with specifications is shown in Fig. 8. If the driving individual of the car appears to be identified as drowsy then it'll provide an alarm. Alarm signals will be in the form of information such as "YOU ARE DROWSY" and even in form of information.

The proposed system offers a balance between accuracy and usability while eliminating the need for intrusive wearable sensors. Additionally, the adaptability of the system to various environmental conditions provides an edge over traditional approaches.

IV.COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

Technique	Accuracy	False Positive Rate	Intrusiveness
Wearable Sensors	95%	Low	High
Machine Learning-Based Image Processing	85%	Medium	Low
Proposed I-EAR Technique	90%	Low	None

V. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

This article proposes an affordable driver drowsiness detection system using image processing and the I-EAR technique. The system is non-invasive, inexpensive, and can be deployed in real time. Future work will involve: Improve accuracy in low light conditions through infrared sensors. Implement deep learning-based classification models for enhanced feature extraction. Install the system in commercial vehicles for large-scale field testing. Investigate integration with vehicle control systems to avoid accidents due to drowsiness. With the integration of AI-based decision-making and image processing, the system can be further optimized for practical application to make roads safer and lower accident rates.

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