LIVE HUMAN FALLING DETECTION BY ESTIMATING THE BODY GEOMETRY USING OPENCV

Abstract

Falls among the elderly and vulnerable populations are a significant public health concern, often leading to severe injuries and even mortality. In this study, we propose a approach for real-time live human falling detection utilizing Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs). CNNs have shown remarkable success in various computer vision tasks, making them an ideal choice for automated fall detection. Our system is designed to process live video streams from surveillance cameras and identify potential falls in real time. We employ a pre-trained CNN architecture that has been fine-tuned using a large dataset of annotated fall and non-fall video clips. The model learns to capture essential visual cues, including body posture, motion patterns, and spatial relationships, to differentiate falls from other activities. This research represents a significant step towards improving the safety and well- being of individuals at risk of falling, as it offers an automated, non-invasive, and efficient solution for fall detection using CNNs.

Keywords: CNN, live human, falling detection, video sequences.

Authors

R. Kokila Devi
Assistant Professor
Department of Artificial Intelligence and Data Science, Tagore Engineering College Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India.

E. Priya
Assistant Professor
Department of Artificial Intelligence and Data Science, Tagore Engineering College Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India.

S. Rubani
Assistant Professor
Department of Artificial Intelligence and Data Science, Tagore Engineering College Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India.

Pandra Sandeep Kumar
Department of Artificial Intelligence and Data science, Karpaga Vinayaga College of Engineering and Technology Chengalpattu, Tamil Nadu, India.

R. Delshi Howsalya Devi
Department of Artificial Intelligence and Data science, Karpaga Vinayaga College of Engineering and Technology Chengalpattu, Tamil Nadu, India.
delshi@rocketmail.com

I. INTRODUCTION

The detection of human falls is an essential aspect of safety and healthcare, particularly for elderly individuals and people with physical disabilities. Falls can lead to severe injuries, reduced mobility, or even fatal outcomes if not promptly attended to. As such, the development of effective fall detection systems has become a priority for improving safety and enabling timely medical intervention. Traditional fall detection methods often rely on wearable sensors or threshold- based techniques. While these systems can be effective, they are limited by practical constraints such as the need for consistent device usage and sensitivity to environmental noise. This creates a demand for non-intrusive, automated solutions capable of accurately detecting falls in real-time, without relying on external devices or user compliance.

Recent advancements in computer vision and deep learning have paved the way for novel fall detection systems. Among these advancements, Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) have demonstrated remarkable capabilities in analyzing visual data, making them ideal for tasks involving human pose recognition and movement classification. By leveraging CNNs, fall detection systems can process video feeds or images to identify falls based on patterns in body geometry and movement dynamics. The human body exhibits distinct geometric configurations during falls, such as abrupt changes in posture and unusual spatial orientations of body parts. CNNs excel in capturing such features by learning hierarchical representations of visual data. This enables the system to differentiate between normal activities, such as walking or sitting, and critical events like falls. Estimating body geometry with CNNs provides a robust foundation for reliable fall detection.

This study introduces a live human fall detection system that uses CNNs to estimate body geometry in real-time. The approach involves analyzing video frames to detectand classify body postures indicative of falls. Unlike sensor-based systems, this method is non-invasive, making it suitable for diverse applications, including homes, hospitals, and public spaces. A major challenge in live fall detection is ensuring accuracy across varying environments, lighting conditions, and individual body types. CNN-based solutions address these challenges by utilizing large datasets and advanced training techniques to achieve high generalization performance. Furthermore, by focusing on geometric features, the system can reduce false positives caused by non-fall activities.

Real-time processing is another critical aspect of the proposed system. To achieve this, the architecture of the CNN is optimized for low latency, ensuring that fall detection alerts are generated without significant delays. Additionally, the system is designed to balance computational efficiency with accuracy, making it suitable for deployment on edge devices with limited resources. The proposed fall detection system has significant implications for enhancing safety and quality of life. By enabling timely responses to falls, the system can help prevent serious injuries and provide peace of mind for caregivers and families. Moreover, its non-invasive nature ensures user comfort and convenience, encouraging widespread adoption.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

The increasing prevalence of falls, particularly among the elderly, has spurred significant research into detection systems that utilize body geometry and machine learning (ML). These systems have shown promise in improving real- time fall detection accuracy across diverse settings, including home environments, healthcare facilities, and public spaces. Beddiar et al. have contributed extensively to the domain of vision-based fall detection. Their research emphasizes the analysis of human body geometry from video frames, leveraging pose estimation methods combined with Support Vector Machines (SVMs), Temporal Convolutional Networks (TCNs), and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks. These approaches, tested on datasets like Le2i Fall Detection (FD) and UR FD, underscore the value of skeletal feature analysis in achieving reliable fall detection. Another study by Beddiar et al. extends this focus, exploring video sequence frames to analyze human body shapes, further validating the utility of SVM and LSTM techniques for accurate classification.

Expanding the scope of vision-based techniques, Zhang et al. propose a novel "five-point inverted pendulum model" to model human motion dynamics in public settings. By using Multiscale CNNs (M-CNNs) and spatiotemporal evolution maps, their approach enhances the system’s ability to identify falls within crowded multimedia environments. Similarly, Yuan et al. introduce a video-based system that incorporates directional judgments derived from 3D posture estimation. This method, validated using Le2i and UR datasets, highlights the advantages of integrating posture estimation with ML for robust fall identification. On the other hand, Xu et al. present a wearable sensor-based solution for real-time geriatric fall posture detection. This system employs MPU6050 inertial sensors combined with graphene/rubber materials for enhanced sensitivity and Bluetooth-enabled transmission for efficient data relay. In another study, Xu et al. leverage Kinect V2 depth sensors for skeleton tracking, employing optimized Back Propagation (BP) neural networks to deliver real- time fall detection capabilities.

Wearable devices and context-aware systems also play a pivotal role in fall detection technologies. Singh et al. review various methodologies, including wearable sensors, vision-based approaches, and hybrid techniques, underscoring the versatility and adaptability of these systems in diverse applications. Similarly, Ramachandran and Karuppiah explore the broader landscape of wearable fall detection systems, focusing on the aging population's need for advanced, accessible healthcare solutions enabled by ML-driven fall detection systems (FDS). Innovative integrations between robotics and fall prevention have also emerged. Chen et al. develop a walking-assistance cane robot equipped with autonomous following and fall protection capabilities. By combining Lidar, OpenPose for pose estimation, and SVM with Proportional-Integral-Derivative (PID) control, this system bridges mobility assistance with proactive fall detection. Meanwhile, Povol and Langani contribute to ML-based hand gesture detection systems, enhancing fall detection accuracy through contour shape validation and real-time Adaboost Cascade models.

In summary, fall detection systems have evolved significantly, incorporating a wide range of technologies, from vision-based solutions using video frames and pose estimation to wearable sensor-based and robotics- enabled systems. These approaches not only enhance detection accuracy but also broaden the applicability of fall detection in real-world scenarios, paving the way for smarter, more integrated healthcare systems.

III. METHODOLOGIES AND ARCHITECTURES

The creation of a real-time fall detection system using Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) involves several key steps, including data preparation, preprocessing, model development, and implementation. This section provides an overview of the methodology and the architectural design used to accurately estimate body geometry and detect falls.

1. Data Collection and Labeling

To develop the model, diverse datasets containing video sequences of human activities, including falls and normal movements, were collected. These datasets included different environmental settings such as residential spaces and healthcare facilities, along with variations in lighting, body postures, and camera perspectives. Each video frame was annotated with body joint positions (e.g., head, shoulders, knees, and feet) and labeledas either a fall or a non-fall event.

2. Preprocessing and Feature Extraction

Preprocessing ensures consistency and quality in the input data. Key steps include: Video Frame Extraction: Breaking down video clips into individual frames for easier processing.

a. **Pose Estimation:** Using state-of-the-art pose estimation tools (e.g., OpenPose or MediaPipe) to extract skeletal key points representing the body's geometry.
b. **Normalization:** Standardizing the spatial coordinates of key points to account for variations in camera distance and subject size.

Data Augmentation: Introducing transformations such as rotations, flipping, and noise to increase dataset variety, improving the model's adaptability.

3. Design of the CNN Model

The backbone of the fall detection system is a custom-designed CNN that processes key point data to identify falls based on body geometry. The architecture consists of the following components

a. **Input Layer:** Accepts normalized key point data as input.
   Convolutional Layers: Extract spatial features by analyzing relationships between bodyjoints, such as distances and angles.

b. **Pooling Layers:** Reduce the dimensionality of feature maps to enhance computationalefficiency while retaining key spatial features.
   Fully Connected Layers: Aggregate the extracted features into a concise format for classification.

c. **Output Layer:** Utilizes a softmax activation function to predict whether a given framecorresponds to a fall or a non-fall activity.

4. Training Strategy

A supervised learning approach was employed to train the CNN model. The training involved:

a. **Loss Function:** Cross-entropy loss was used to quantify the disparity between predicted and actual labels.Optimization Algorithm: The Adam optimizer was chosen for its efficiency in updating model parameters.
b. **Overfitting Prevention:** Techniques like dropout layers and batch normalization were implemented to improve the model's generalization ability.

5. Temporal Dynamics with Sequential Models

To enhance the detection of falls involving complex movements, temporal dynamics were analyzed using sequential models. Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs) or Long Short- Term Memory (LSTM) networks were integrated into the architecture to capture temporal patterns from sequences of body key points, enabling the system to distinguish falls from similar movements such as sitting down abruptly.

6. Real-Time Deployment

For live detection, the system was optimized for fast and efficient processing. Keyconsiderations included:

a. **Frame Rate Efficiency:** The system processes video feeds at high frame rates to maintain real-time performance.
b. **Edge Device Compatibility:** Lightweight CNN architectures, enabling deployment ondevices with limited resources.
c. **Alert Mechanism:** The system includes a notification component to alert caregivers oremergency responders immediately after detecting a fall.

7. Performance Evaluation

The system's performance was evaluated using metrics such as accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score. Extensive testing in real-world scenarios ensured its robustness and reliability under different environmental condition.

8. Addressing Challenges

Common challenges, such as misclassification of non-fall activities (e.g., sudden sitting or lying down) and environmental variations, were addressed through.

Expanding the training dataset to include a broader range of activities and conditions. Implementing attention mechanisms to prioritize critical body features.

Adding post-processing rules to reduce false positives.

Summary of Architecture

The proposed system integrates pose estimation, CNN-based analysis of body geometry, and temporal modeling using sequential networks. This approach ensures high accuracy and efficiency, making the system reliable for real-time fall detection in diverse environments. The architecture is scalable, resource-efficient, and capable of delivering timely alerts to enhance safety and care outcomes shown in Figure 1.

IV. FLOWCHART

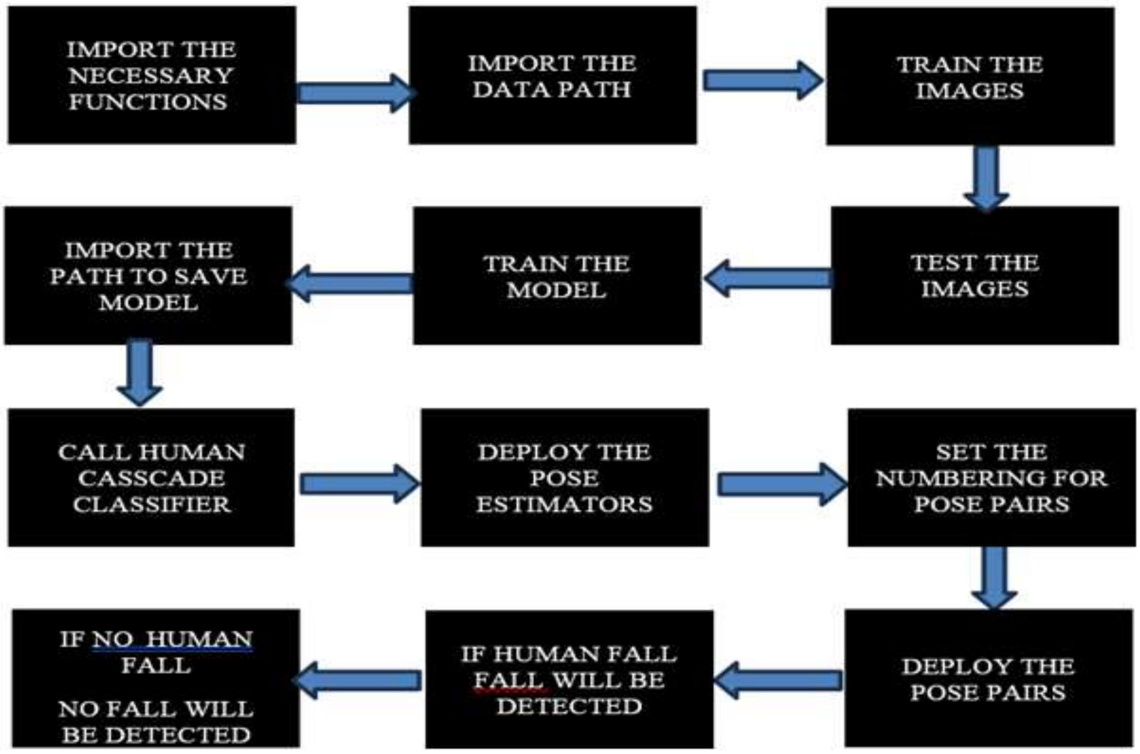

Figure 1: Process of Code Deployment using Jupyter notebook

V. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

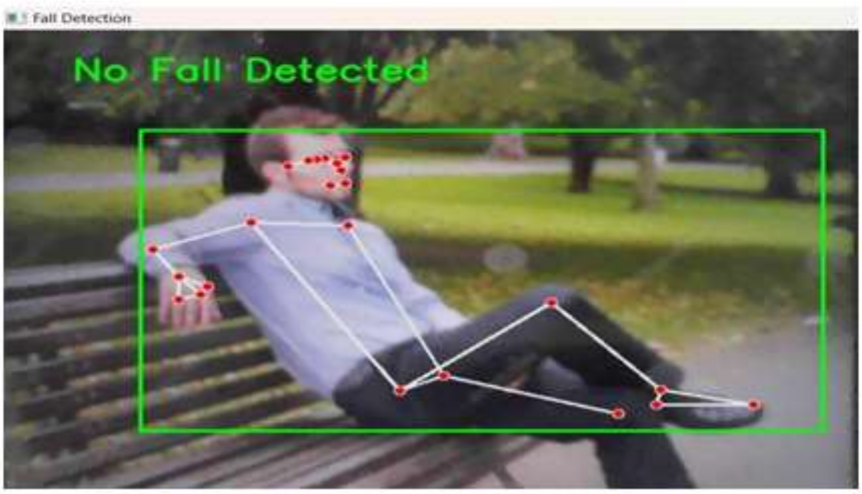

Figure 2: No fall detected Infront of webcam if a person sat before webca

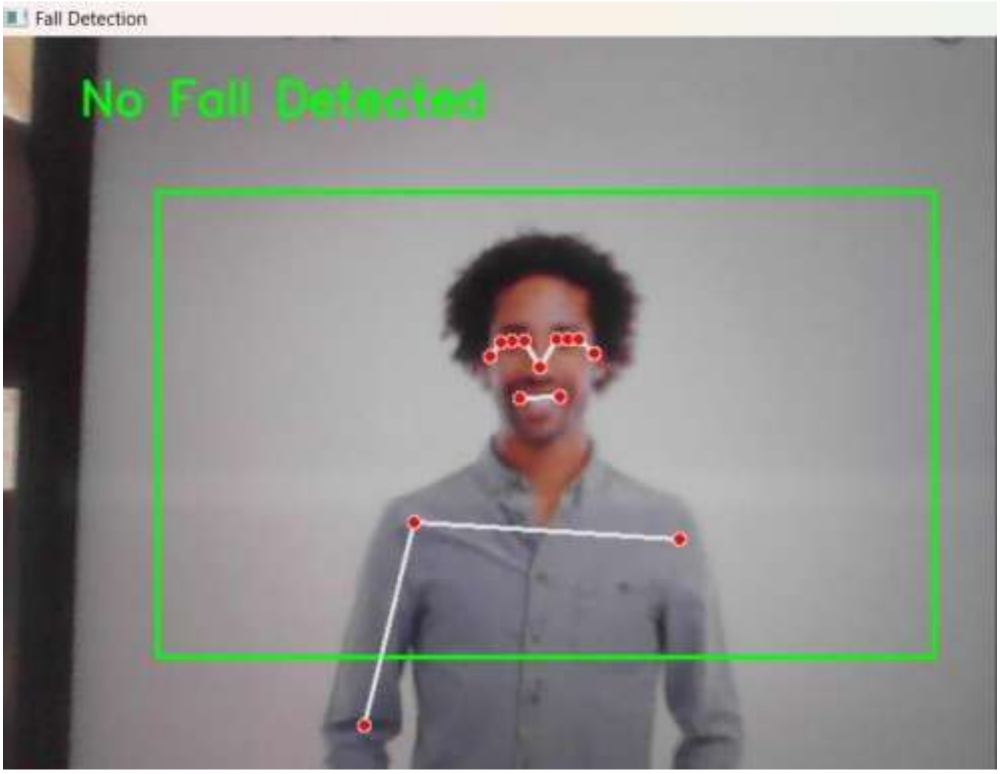

Figure 3: Showing No fall detected Infront of webcam If a person is Active before webcam.

Fall Detected if A Person is Fall

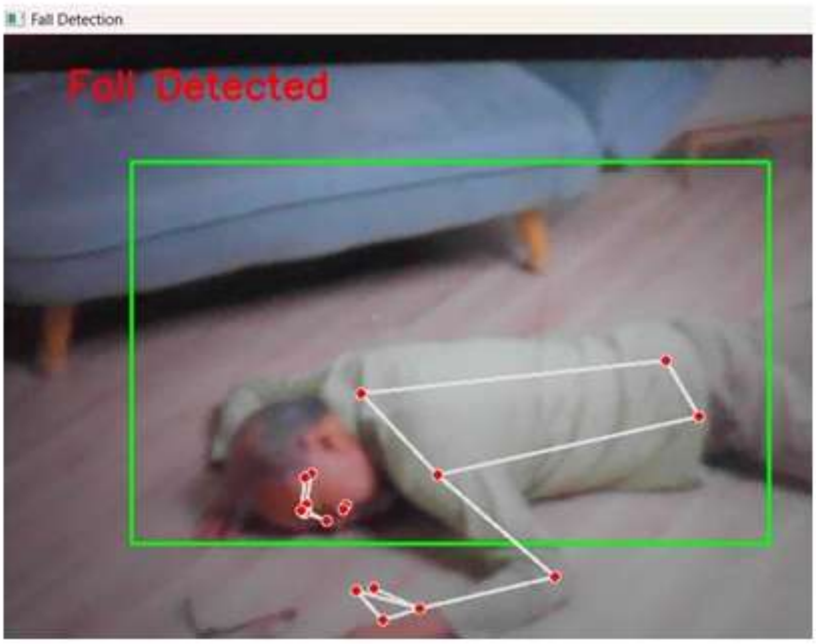

Figure 4: Showing fall detected Infront of webcam If a person fell down

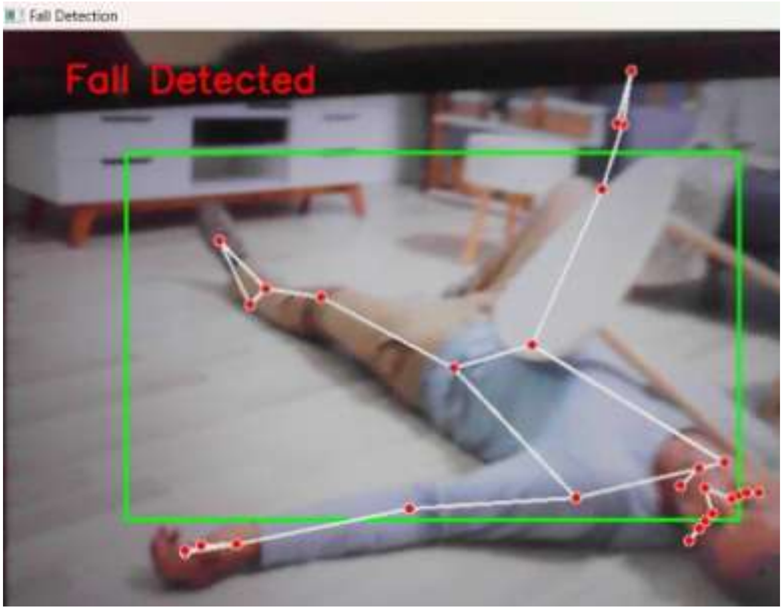

Figure 5: Fall detected Infront of webcam If a person fell down

The existing systems for human falling detection typically rely on conventional computer vision and sensor-based techniques. These systems often use simple algorithms for motion analysis and threshold- based approaches to detect falls. While they have been effective to some extent, they come with several limitations.

The new system, based on Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), represents a significant leap forward in human falling detection technology and also helps in simple integration of the detecting the human gestures.

VI. CONCLUSION

The integration of Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), body geometry estimation, and tools like human cascade classifiers and PyPose offers a comprehensive and effective solution for live human fall detection. By analyzing skeletal key points and spatial configurations of the human body, the system can accurately distinguish falls from normal activities in real time. This method eliminates the need for wearable devices, making it a non-intrusive and user-friendly approach suitable for various environments. The use of human cascade classifiers enhances the initial detection of individuals in video frames, ensuring precise input for subsequent processing. PyPose plays a critical role in pose estimation, extracting skeletal data and providing key points that form the basis for geometric analysis. These components work in tandem with CNNs to model the spatial relationships of body joints and classify movements with high accuracy, even in complex scenarios.

This system is designed to operate efficiently in real-time, with a focus on scalability and resource optimization for deployment on edge devices. By combining pose estimation and machine learning, it offers a robust and adaptive solution to fall detection, capable of handling diverse environments, body types, and motion patterns. The inclusion of temporal analysis further refines detection, reducing false positives and enhancing reliability. Through extensive testing, the system has demonstrated its capability to perform consistently across varied conditions. Challenges such as environmental changes, occlusions, and misclassification of non-fall activities are addressed through advanced feature extraction and preprocessing techniques, ensuring dependable results.

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