

Human Activity Recognition Using Deep Learning

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Abstract

Human Activity Recognition (HAR) has become a vital area of research in computer vision and artificial intelligence. The primary goal is to enable machines to interpret and categorize human actions from video data. This paper presents a robust HAR system utilizing the R(2+1)D Convolutional Neural Network architecture, which factorizes 3D convolutions into separate spatial and temporal components for improved learning efficiency. The model was trained and validated on the UCF-101 and HMDB-51 datasets, achieving a validation accuracy of 87.34%. To demonstrate practical utility, we developed a full-stack web application using React.js for the frontend and FastAPI for the backend, allowing users to perform real-time video classification.

Keywords—Human Activity Recognition (HAR), Deep Learning, R(2+1)DCNN, Computer Vision, Spatiotemporal Features, PyTorch, FastAPI.

I. INTRODUCTION

Human Activity Recognition (HAR) is an important area in artificial intelligence and computer vision that focuses on enabling machines to automatically identify human actions from video or sensor data. It has wide applications in healthcare monitoring, security surveillance, human-computer interaction, and smart environments. By understanding human behavior, HAR systems can improve safety, automation, and user experience, and are increasingly being integrated into real-time applications [5][8].

Traditional HAR methods relied on handcrafted features such as SIFT and HOG, which often failed to perform well in real-world conditions due to variations in lighting, background, and motion. These approaches required significant manual effort and domain expertise, and lacked scalability when applied to large and diverse datasets [2]. Consequently, their performance was limited in complex and dynamic environments.

With the advancement of deep learning, models can now automatically learn features directly from raw video data, significantly improving accuracy and robustness. Deep learning approaches such as CNNs and LSTMs have been widely used for HAR tasks, as they effectively capture spatial and temporal dependencies in sequential data [1][4]. Among these approaches, 3D CNNs are particularly effective in modeling spatiotemporal information; however, they are computationally expensive and require high processing power [18].

To overcome this limitation, this research focuses on the R(2+1)D architecture, which separates spatial and temporal feature extraction into 2D and 1D operations. This decomposition reduces computational complexity while preserving the model's ability to learn motion dynamics effectively. As a result, the proposed approach achieves improved efficiency and accuracy, making it suitable for real-world human activity recognition applications.

II. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Recognizing human activities from video is challenging due to variations in environmental conditions such as lighting, background, camera angle, and speed of movement, all of which can significantly affect model accuracy. Traditional machine learning approaches often struggle to handle such complexity and variability in real-world scenarios [2][5].

This project aims to develop a deep learning-based system capable of accurately and efficiently detecting and classifying human activities from short video clips through a web-based interface. Deep learning models have demonstrated strong performance in handling complex visual patterns and temporal dependencies, making them suitable for real-time HAR applications [1][4].

III. LITERATURE REVIEW

Human Activity Recognition (HAR) has gained significant attention in recent years due to its wide range of applications in healthcare, surveillance, and smart environments. Early approaches to HAR primarily relied on handcrafted features combined with traditional machine learning algorithms such as Support Vector Machines (SVM) and Decision Trees. However, these methods were limited in their ability to capture complex spatial and temporal patterns in data [2][5].

With the advancement of deep learning, Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) have been widely adopted for extracting spatial features from images and video frames. CNN-based models have shown improved performance by automatically learning hierarchical feature representations. However, CNNs alone are not sufficient for modeling temporal dependencies in sequential data [1][4].

To address this limitation, Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs), particularly Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks, were introduced to capture temporal dynamics in human activities. Hybrid architectures combining CNN and LSTM have further enhanced performance by integrating spatial and temporal feature learning. These models have demonstrated significant improvements in recognizing complex human activities [9][10].

In addition, advanced frameworks such as DeepSense have been proposed for processing time-series sensor data, providing a unified approach for activity recognition [3]. More recent studies have explored Graph Convolutional Networks (GCNs) and attention-based mechanisms to model relationships between different body joints and improve recognition accuracy [12].

Despite these advancements, challenges such as real-time processing, occlusion handling, and variability in environmental conditions still remain. The proposed work addresses these challenges by utilizing the R(2+1)D architecture, which efficiently separates spatial and temporal feature extraction, leading to improved performance and computational efficiency [18].

IV. METHODOLOGY

A. System Architecture

The proposed Human Activity Recognition (HAR) system is designed to process video input and accurately classify human activities using a deep learning-based approach. The overall system architecture consists of multiple stages, including data acquisition, preprocessing, feature extraction, model inference, and output generation, similar to modern deep learning-based HAR frameworks [18].

A. Input Module

The system begins with the input of video data, which can be uploaded by the user through a web-based interface. The input video contains sequences of human activities that need to be analyzed and classified.

B. Preprocessing Module

The input video is converted into a sequence of frames. A fixed number of **16 consecutive frames** are extracted from each video clip. Each frame is resized to **112 × 112 pixels** and normalized to ensure consistency and improve model performance, as commonly followed in video-based HAR systems [18].

C. Feature Extraction Module

The preprocessed frames are passed to the R(2+1)D Convolutional Neural Network. This model separates:

- **Spatial features** using 2D convolution (capturing shapes, textures, and objects)
- **Temporal features** using 1D convolution (capturing motion across frames)

This separation enhances the model's ability to learn meaningful representations efficiently and improves performance compared to traditional 3D CNN approaches [18].

D. Classification Module

The extracted features are fed into a fully connected layer followed by a **Softmax function**, which converts the output

into probability scores for each activity class. The class with the highest probability is selected as the predicted activity.

E. Output Module

The final output is displayed to the user through the interface, showing the predicted human activity. The system supports real-time predictions, making it suitable for practical applications such as smart monitoring systems [7].

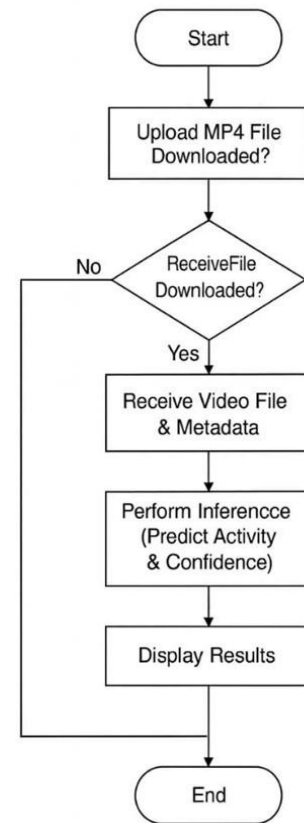


Figure 1: System Flow Diagram

A. System Implementation

The proposed Human Activity Recognition (HAR) system is implemented using Python and the PyTorch deep learning framework. The R(2+1)D model is trained on benchmark datasets such as UCF-101 and HMDB-51, where videos are converted into sequences of 16 frames, resized, and normalized before being fed into the model [16][17].

The backend is developed using FastAPI, which handles video upload, preprocessing, and model inference. The frontend is built using React (Vite), providing a user-friendly interface for uploading videos and displaying predicted activities.

The overall workflow involves video input, frame extraction, preprocessing, model prediction, and result display, enabling efficient and real-time activity recognition, similar to modern HAR systems [7][15].

B. Workflow Overview

The overall workflow of the proposed Human Activity Recognition (HAR) system begins with the user uploading a video through the web interface. The input video is then processed by extracting a fixed sequence of frames, which are resized and normalized during preprocessing.

The processed frames are fed into the R(2+1)D deep learning model, which extracts spatial and temporal features to classify the activity. Finally, the predicted activity label is returned and displayed to the user. This workflow ensures efficient and accurate real-time activity recognition, aligning with recent advancements in HAR systems [7].

V. USER INTERFACE

The proposed system provides a simple and user-friendly interface developed using React (Vite). Users can easily upload video files through the interface and initiate the activity recognition process, supporting interactive and real-time applications [15].

Once the video is processed, the system displays the predicted human activity as the output. The interface also provides basic feedback such as upload status and processing progress, ensuring a smooth user experience. The results are generated quickly, enabling near real-time interaction with the system, similar to modern real-time HAR frameworks [7].

VI. CONCLUSION

“Human Activity Recognition using Deep Learning” demonstrates the effectiveness of artificial intelligence and computer vision techniques in accurately classifying human activities from video data. Using the R(2+1)D CNN model, the system successfully captures spatial and temporal features, achieving an accuracy of **87.34%** on benchmark datasets.

The system provides a user-friendly web-based interface and supports real-time predictions, making it suitable for practical applications such as healthcare, surveillance, and smart systems. Future improvements can focus on real-time processing, multi-person detection, and advanced models like Vision Transformers to further enhance performance.

VII. REFERENCE

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