International Journal of Science and Research Archive

eISSN: 2582-8185

Cross Ref DOI: 10.30574/ijsra

Journal homepage: https://ijsra.net/

(RESEARCH ARTICLE)

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Driver drowsiness detection system

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International Journal of Science and Research Archive, 2024, 12(01), 1017–1022

Publication history: Received on 16 April 2024 revised on 24 May 2024; accepted on 26 May 2024

Article DOI: https://doi.org/10.30574/ijsra.2024.12.1.0935

Abstract

In contemporary times, the escalating incidence of accidents attributable to drowsy driving presents a formidable challenge. Acknowledging the pivotal role of driver fatigue and intermittent inattention in these occurrences, this research endeavors to optimize efforts towards the real-time identification of drowsiness in drivers under authentic driving conditions, with the overarching objective of mitigating the incidence of traffic accidents. Drawing upon a corpus of secondary data gleaned from prior studies on drowsiness detection systems, a diverse array of methodological approaches has been explored. Our focus centers on the development of an interface endowed with autonomous drowsiness detection capabilities, leveraging live webcam imagery. The core aim is to explore the utilization of facial feature extraction techniques, particularly leveraging the dlib library for robust eye feature extraction. Employing state-of-the-art machine learning algorithms, the system aims to discern subtle indicators of drowsiness from the live webcam streams. Upon detection, the system will initiate an escalating alarm mechanism, employing auditory cues to rouse the driver from their somnolent state. In the event of the driver's failure to respond, an automated notification system will be activated, dispatching text messages and emails to designated emergency contacts, thereby transcending the purview of mere drowsiness detection to encompass proactive measures aimed at ensuring driver well-being. This project underscores a comprehensive, technology-driven approach towards mitigating the risks associated with drowsy driving, offering a multifaceted solution that encompasses real-time detection, intervention, and emergency notification mechanisms.

Keywords: Dlib; Facial Extraction; Drowsiness; EAR; Python; Face Detection; Eye extraction; Machine Learning

1. Introduction

Road accidents claim approximately 1.3 million lives each year, with driver distraction and drowsiness emerging as significant contributors. Drowsiness profoundly impacts a driver's cognitive functions, diminishing concentration, alertness, and decision-making abilities, thereby elevating the risk of accidents. Long journeys, often coupled with factors like sleep deprivation or external distractions, exacerbate the likelihood of accidents. To address this pressing issue, we propose a novel system aimed at alerting drivers to instances of distraction or drowsiness. [1]

Our proposed system utilizes facial recognition and image processing techniques to analyze facial images captured by an onboard camera, identifying signs of distraction or drowsiness in real-time. By harnessing tools like OpenCV and Dlib open-source libraries, alongside Python programming language, we implement a robust solution to address this challenge effectively. An infrared camera continuously monitors the driver's facial features and eye movements, with a particular emphasis on eye tracking as a key indicator of drowsiness.

The focal point of our system lies in its ability to monitor the driver's eye movements and detect signs of drowsiness promptly. Through a dedicated image processing module, facial recognition algorithms identify instances of distraction or drowsiness, facilitating timely intervention. Key functionalities include the detection of drowsiness based on the

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duration of eye closures. When prolonged closures indicative of drowsiness are detected, the system triggers an audible alarm, alerting the driver and mitigating the risk of potential accidents. This project represents a proactive approach towards enhancing road safety by addressing the critical issue of driver distraction and drowsiness.[2]

2. Proposed Work Plan

General architecture/ Flow chart/ DFD of overall system to be designed.

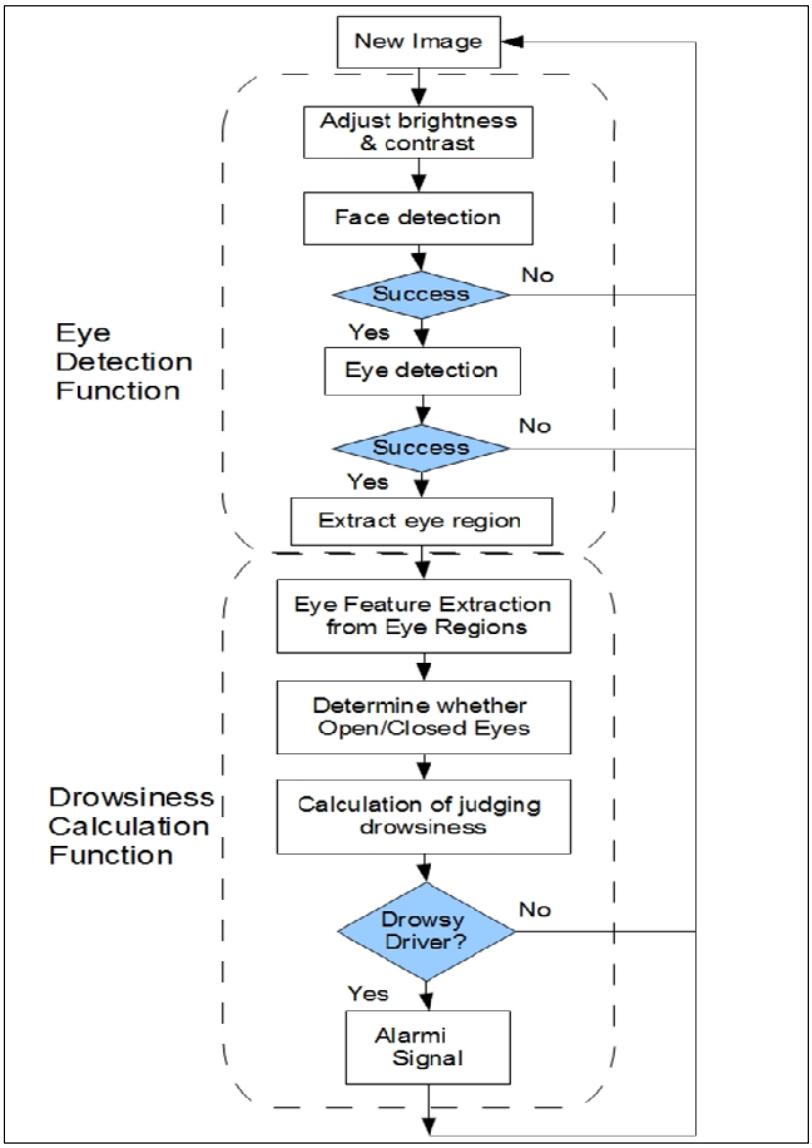

Figure 1 Driver Drowsiness Detection Flow Chart

2.1. Description of various modules of the system

2.1.1. OpenCV

OpenCV is an indispensable tool in Computer Vision, offering diverse modules and efficient memory management. Its architecture enables seamless image and video processing without memory concerns. Optimized functions ensure real-time processing for live video streams. Users can integrate custom algorithms with ease. [3][4] OpenCV's versatility empowers developers to tackle complex tasks confidently. It's a cornerstone for professionals, facilitating groundbreaking advancements in image and video processing across various domains

2.1.2. DLib

Dlib stands as a contemporary C toolkit, equipped with an array of machine learning algorithms and resources for crafting intricate C++ solutions to real-world dilemmas. Its adaptability spans a wide spectrum of industries, encompassing robotics, embedded systems, mobile devices, and expansive high-performance computing environments,[4] Embraced by open-source licenses, Dlib offers unrestricted usage, rendering it a ubiquitous choice for diverse applications. The author leverages Dlib's CNN implementation, employing meticulously optimized prediction functions and detectors to discern facial features from previously learned facial structures.

2.1.3. Eye Aspect Ratio

The equation's numerator measures the vertical distance between eye landmarks, while the denominator gauges the horizontal distance between reference points, adjusting for their singular presence. When the eye is open, its aspect ratio remains relatively constant but sharply diminishes to zero during a blink. This abrupt change is illustrated in Figure 2, signaling a blink event as the aspect ratio swiftly declines and subsequently rebounds.[7]

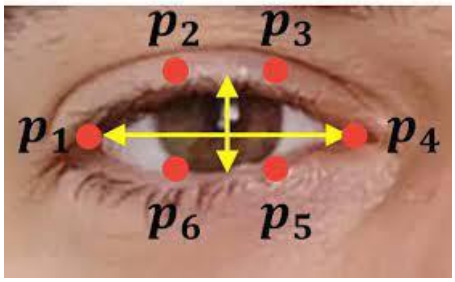

Figure 2 Eye Aspect Ratio

2.2. Face Recognition

This section delineates the Eigenface, Fisherface, and Histogram of Local Binary Pattern (LBPH) face recognition algorithms, along with their integration into OpenCV. LBPH, initially proposed by Li in 1990 and refined by Wang in 2009 through fusion with histogram-oriented gradients, demonstrates enhanced performance on specific datasets. By dividing images into 4x4 pixel cells and comparing surrounding pixel values with central ones, LBPH generates feature codes. This technique, yielding an 8-bit value per cell, is robust against variations in image brightness.[8]

2.2.1. Algorithm

- Step 1: Using the camera capture the image.
- Step 2: Identify and delineate the facial features to establish a focal area.
- Step 3: Isolate and extract the eyes within this focal area and transmit them to the classification system.
- Step 4: Utilize the classifier to determine the status of the eyes, discerning whether they are open or closed.
- Step 5: Compute a drowsiness score based on the classifier's output to ascertain the individual's level of alertness.

3. Outcome screens shot

3.1. When you start the program, the initial screen is displayed.

When the camera activates, it detects the face. If the eyes are open, the score remains zero based on these conditions.

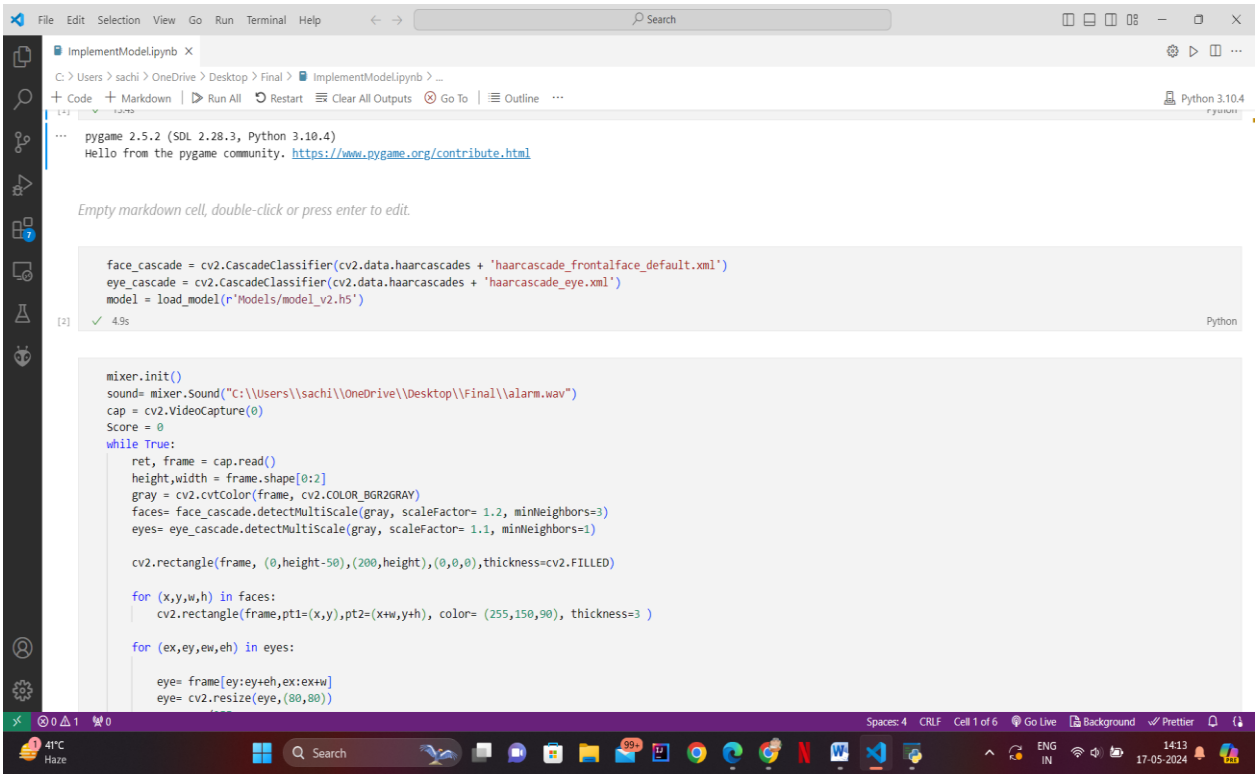

Figure 3 Initial screen while running program

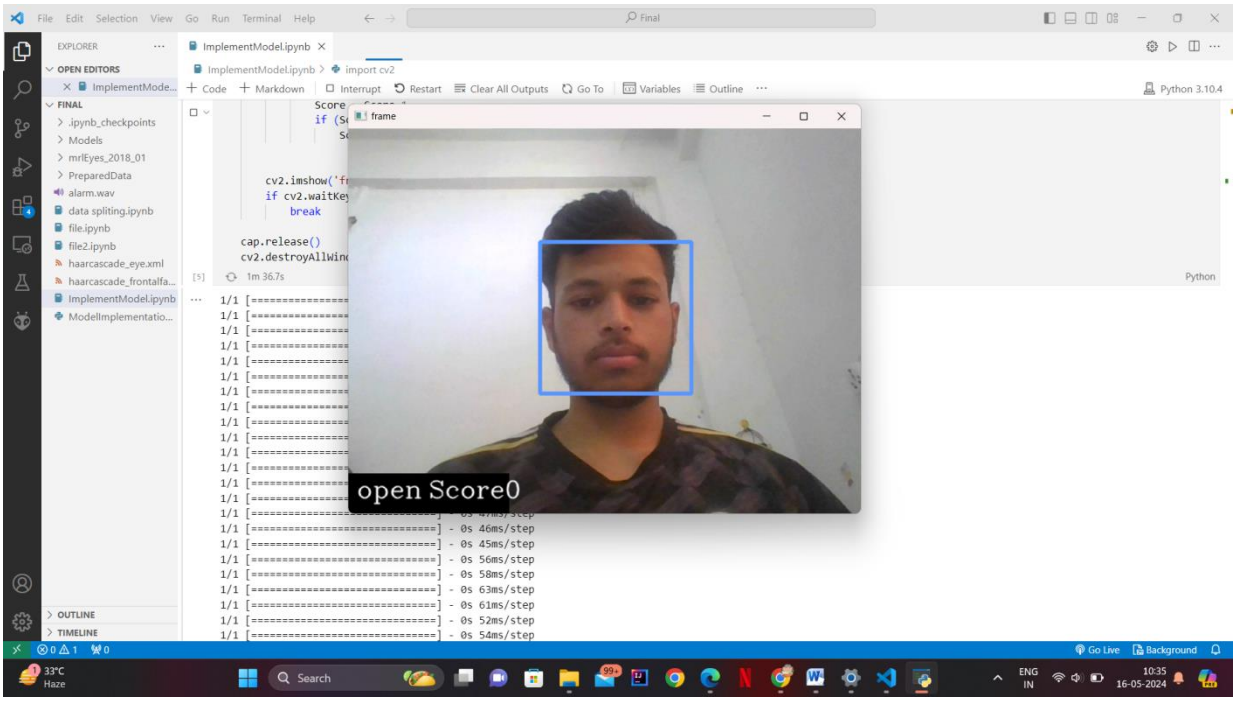

Figure 4 When eyes are open drowsiness is not detected

If the eyes are closed and the score exceeds the set threshold of 2, the alarm will sound to alert the driver.

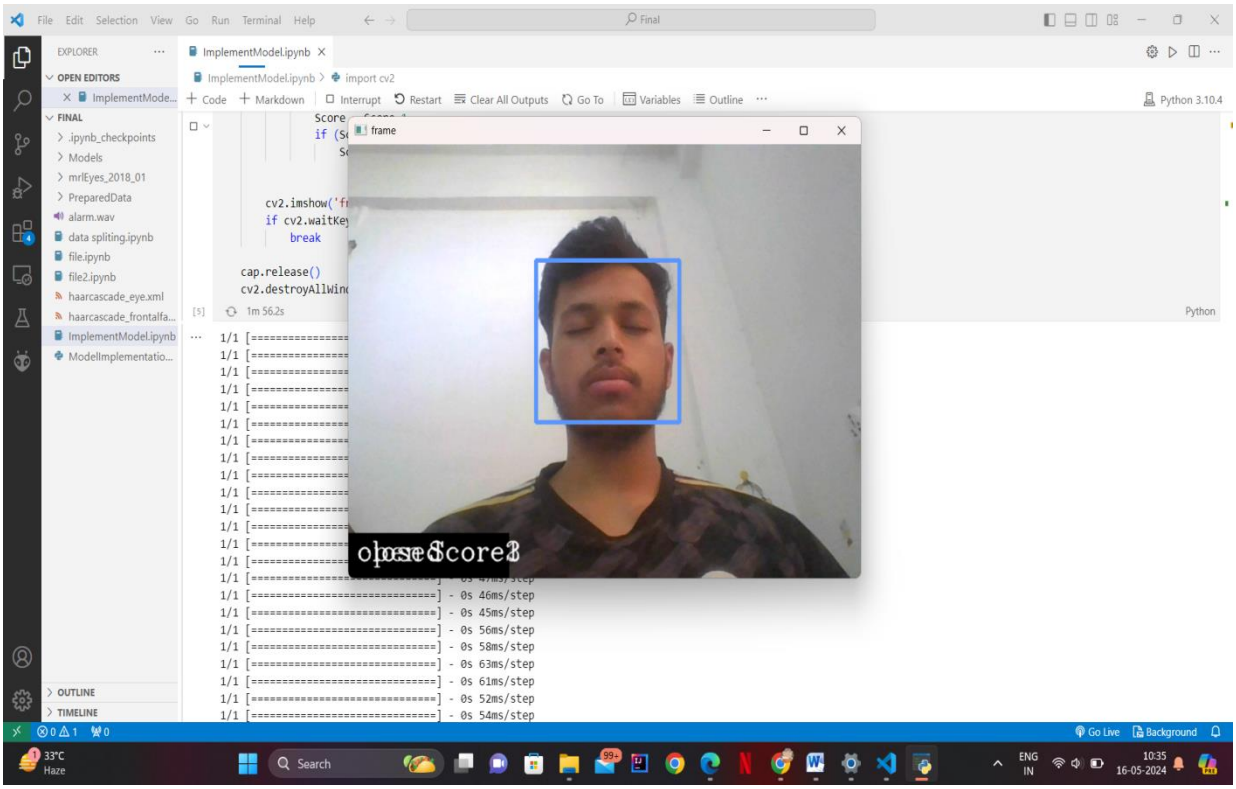

Figure 5 When eyes are closed the drowsiness is detected.

4. Conclusion

In conclusion, the driver drowsiness detection system represents a pivotal advancement in vehicle safety technology, serving as a vital tool in preventing injuries and fatalities resulting from drowsy driving incidents. Early detection and timely alerts are essential in averting potential accidents and saving lives on the road. The proposed system utilizes image processing techniques, specifically Eye Aspect Ratio (EAR) measurement, to gauge the level of driver drowsiness. By establishing a threshold EAR value indicative of drowsiness, the system can effectively identify and alert drivers to mitigate the risk of accidents.

Currently, the detection system demonstrates consistent performance in identifying driver drowsiness with minimal limitations. The alarm system functions reliably, providing timely alerts to drivers, thereby reducing the incidence of accidents caused by drowsy driving. However, variations in individual Eye Aspect Ratios necessitate further refinement to optimize alarm triggering thresholds. Future enhancements should focus on automating the threshold determination process, eliminating the need for manual calibration for each driver. This adaptive approach will ensure sensitivity to individual differences in drowsiness detection, catering to diverse user preferences and safety requirements.

In summary, the ongoing evolution of drowsiness detection technology holds immense promise in enhancing road safety and reducing the toll of accidents attributed to driver fatigue. By leveraging advanced image processing techniques and incorporating adaptive alarm systems, future iterations of the driver drowsiness detection system will further bolster vehicle safety standards, ultimately saving lives and preserving well-being on our roads.

Compliance with ethical standards

Disclosure of conflict of interest

No conflict of interest to be disclosed.

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