

Identifying Parking Spots from Surveillance Cameras using CNN

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Abstract - Parking spot detection technology is used to detect empty parking spots using machine learning and deep learning algorithms. Parking spot detection technology can solve problems like traffic congestion, utilization of space, and time of many. This technology can further be implemented in the parking of autonomous vehicles, parking guidance systems, and parking management systems. Chancing for a proper parking space in a busy metropolitan city is a grueling issue and people are facing this problem daily. Parking systems are usually handled by a person. For this reason, it's time-consuming and also inaccurate. But numerous parking areas may have parking spaces that hard motorists are ignorant of. That being parking spot detection styles are based on different sensors. Lately, vision-based results have taken over with low-cost executions and installations. The proposed system uses image features and machine learning algorithms to determine whether or not an individual parking space is occupied. Accurate detection of parking spots can improve safety, and efficiency and save time for drivers. In the future, we can develop a less expensive way to do the same process. With accurate predictions, we can break from unnecessary trouble. If we apply machine learning tools, we can save human resources and skip the complicated process.

Key Words: Parking spots, Convolutional neural network, Cameras, Detection.

1. INTRODUCTION

In metropolitan cities and popular places finding a parking spot is a time-consuming task and causes traffic congestion. Parking spot detection can help drivers to identify empty spots quickly which can save time for vehicle owners and can improve space utilization of parking lots. Finding an empty parking spot is difficult in many places it causes traffic congestion and is problematic for drivers. The parking spot detection technology has a lot of potentials and future scope. This technology can detect a parking spot with minimal resources and in short span of time. This technology can be further improved by providing a guidance system to the drivers so that they can be directed to the nearest parking spot and can decrease traffic congestion. Accurate and efficient parking spot detection can help drivers locate available parking spaces quickly, reducing the time and fuel consumption spent searching for a parking spot. This technology can be further improved to find the parking spot and then park in the place automatically. Traditionally, parking spot detection was approached using various methods such as image processing, machine learning, and computer vision techniques. These methods typically involve

extracting features from images or video frames of the parking lot and applying classification or detection algorithms to identify the presence or absence of parked vehicles. One promising approach for parking spot detection is the use of Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), which is a type of deep learning algorithm that has achieved state-of-the-art performance in various computer vision tasks. CNN's are particularly well-suited for parking spot detection due to their ability to automatically learn features from raw data and handle large amounts of variability in the data. For example, CNN can learn to recognize the shape and appearance of vehicles and parking spaces, even when the data contains variations in lighting, background clutter, or occlusion.

However, the application of CNNs for parking spot detection has not been extensively studied in the literature. In this research, we aim to investigate the potential of using CNNs for parking spot detection and evaluate their performance compared to other approaches. Our contributions include a detailed analysis of the CNN-based parking spot detection system and its comparison to other state-of-the-art methods. We will also discuss the advantages and limitations of using CNNs for parking spot detection and suggest directions for future work.

2. RELATED WORK

Parking spot detection is an important problem in intelligent transportation systems, as it can help improve the efficiency of parking and reduce congestion in urban areas. There are several approaches that have been proposed to address this problem, including traditional computer vision techniques, machine learning algorithms, and deep learning methods. One common approach to parking spot detection is the use of hand-crafted features and classifiers. For example, some studies have used color histograms, edge detection, and texture analysis to identify parking spots in images or video frames [1, 2]. While these methods can be effective in some cases, they may be sensitive to variations in lighting, shadows, and other factors that can affect the appearance of parking spots. Another approach is to use machine learning algorithms, such as support vector machines (SVMs) or random forests, to classify parking spots based on features extracted from images or video frames. These methods have been shown to be effective in some cases, but may require a large amount of labeled data for training and may not generalize well to new environments [3, 4]. Recently, deep learning methods, particularly convolutional neural networks (CNNs), have been used for parking spot detection

with promising results. CNNs are particularly well suited for this task because they can learn to extract features from images automatically, without the need for manual feature engineering. This can make them more robust to variations in lighting and other factors that can affect the appearance of parking spots. Foreexample, some studies have used CNNs to detect parking spots in images or video frames by training on large datasets of labeled images [5, 6]. In summary, there have been several approaches proposed for parking spot detection, including traditional computer vision techniques, machine learning algorithms, and deep learning methods. While each of these approaches has its own advantages and limitations, CNNs have shown promise as a powerful tool for this task due to their ability to learn features automatically from data.

3. METHODOLOGY

Convolutional neural network (CNN) can be trained to identify empty parking spots by using a labeled dataset of images that includes both parking spots and non-parking spots. The CNN is trained to recognize the features of an empty parking spot in the images and to classify them as a parking spot.

To do this, the CNN typically goes through the following process:

- **Feature extraction:** The CNN processes the input image using a series of convolutional and pooling layers, which extract relevant features from the image. These features may include patterns, textures, edges, and shapes that are characteristic of empty parking spots.
- **Classification:** The extracted features are then passed through a fully connected layer, which uses them to classify the image as a parking spot or a non-parking spot. The fully connected layer uses a set of weights and biases that are learned during the training process to make this classification.
- **Prediction:** The CNN outputs a prediction for the class of the input image. If the prediction is a parking spot, the CNN has identified the image as an empty parking spot.
- **To train the CNN,** a large dataset of labeled images is used to teach the CNN to recognize the features of empty parking spots. The CNN is trained using an optimization algorithm, such as stochastic gradient descent (SGD), to minimize the loss function and improve the accuracy of the model. After training, the CNN can be evaluated on a separate test dataset to measure its performance.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

The parking spot detection uses the cameras to capture the input data and then the input data is analyzed and detect the empty parking spots that are in the captured images. The images captured will also contain un necessary area that is caught in the image that can be ignored and we only need to concentrate on the parking spots. After focusing on the parking area we need to identify the parking spots we need to separate the spots by drawing the lines between the spots and these are done by the model. The complete steps involved in the process are

Collect and label data: The first step in training a CNN is to collect a dataset of images that includes both parking spots and non-parking spots. Each image in the dataset should be labeled with the correct class (i.e., parking spot or non-parking spot). This dataset will be used to train the CNN to recognize parking spots in new images.

- **Preprocess the data:** The dataset may need to be preprocessed to ensure that it is in a suitable format for training the CNN. This may include resizing the images, normalizing the pixel values, and applying any necessary transformations or augmentations.

- **Define the CNN architecture:** The next step is to define the architecture of the CNN, which involves choosing the number and size of the convolutional and pooling layer. The architecture should be designed to extract relevant features from the images and classify them into the correct classes.

- **Train the CNN:** Once the architecture is defined, the CNN can be trained using the labeled dataset. This typically involves using an optimization algorithm, such as stochastic gradient descent (SGD), to minimize the loss function and improve the accuracy of the model.

- **Evaluate the CNN:** After training, the CNN should be evaluated on a separate test dataset to measure its performance. This can be done by calculating metrics such as accuracy, precision, and recall.

- **Fine-tune the CNN:** If the performance of the CNN is not satisfactory, it may be necessary to fine-tune the model by adjusting the architecture, the optimization algorithm, or the training.

```
import numpy
import os
import math
from keras import applications
from keras.preprocessing.image import ImageDataGenerator
from keras import optimizers
from keras.models import Sequential, Model
from keras.layers import Dropout, Flatten, Dense, GlobalAveragePooling2D
from keras import backend as k
from keras.callbacks import ModelCheckpoint, LearningRateScheduler, TensorBoard, EarlyStopping
```

1. Load Test and Train Files

```
files_train = 0
files_validation = 0

cwd = os.getcwd()
folder = 'train_data/train'
for sub_folder in os.listdir(folder):
    path, dirs, files = next(os.walk(os.path.join(folder, sub_folder)))
    files_train += len(files)

folder = 'train_data/test'
for sub_folder in os.listdir(folder):
    path, dirs, files = next(os.walk(os.path.join(folder, sub_folder)))
    files_validation += len(files)

print(files_train, files_validation)
```

The above lines of code are used to import the test and trained data and the modules which are used to train the model.

Identify area of interest

```
def filter_region(image, vertices):
    """
    Create the mask using the vertices and apply it to the input image
    """
    mask = np.zeros_like(image)
    if len(mask.shape) == 2:
        cv2.fillPoly(mask, vertices, 255)
    else:
        cv2.fillPoly(mask, vertices, (255,)*mask.shape[2]) # in case, the input image has a channel dimension
    return cv2.bitwise_and(image, mask)

def select_region(image):
    """
    It keeps the region surrounded by the 'vertices' (i.e. polygon). Other area is set to 0 (black).
    """
    # first, define the polygon by vertices
    rows, cols = image.shape[:2]
    pt_1 = [cols*0.05, rows*0.90]
    pt_2 = [cols*0.05, rows*0.70]
    pt_3 = [cols*0.30, rows*0.55]
    pt_4 = [cols*0.6, rows*0.15]
    pt_5 = [cols*0.90, rows*0.15]
    pt_6 = [cols*0.90, rows*0.90]
    # the vertices are an array of polygons (i.e. array of arrays) and the data type must be integer
    vertices = np.array([[pt_1, pt_2, pt_3, pt_4, pt_5, pt_6]], dtype=np.int32)
    return filter_region(image, vertices)

# images showing the region of interest only
roi_images = list(map(select_region, edge_images))

show_images(roi_images)
```

In the image data that is obtained it also contains the area which does not have any parking spot so the above lines of code are used so that we can focus on the parking area rather than the whole area. This helps us remove the unnecessary image data.

Hough line transform

```
def hough_lines(image):
    """
    `image` should be the output of a Canny transform.
    Returns hough lines (not the image with lines)
    """
    return cv2.HoughLinesP(image, rho=0.1, theta=np.pi/10, threshold=15, minLineLength=9, maxLineGap=4)

list_of_lines = list(map(hough_lines, roi_images))

def draw_lines(image, lines, color=[255, 0, 0], thickness=2, make_copy=True):
    # the lines returned by cv2.HoughLinesP has the shape (-1, 1, 4)
    if make_copy:
        image = np.copy(image) # don't want to modify the original
    cleaned = []
    for line in lines:
        for x1,y1,x2,y2 in line:
            if abs(y2-y1) <= 1 and abs(x2-x1) >= 25 and abs(x2-x1) <= 55:
                cleaned.append((x1,y1,x2,y2))
    cv2.line(image, (x1, y1), (x2, y2), color, thickness)
    print("No lines detected: ", len(cleaned))
    return image

line_images = []
for image, lines in zip(test_images, list_of_lines):
    line_images.append(draw_lines(image, lines))

show_images(line_images)
```

The above lines of code are used so that from the image data we need to identify the parking spot which has some width and height. This helps us to separate the spots from one another. The code draws lines between the spots so that it can separate two spots in the parking area.

Identify rectangular blocks of parking

```
def identify_blocks(image, lines, make_copy=True):
    if make_copy:
        new_image = np.copy(image)
    #Step 1: Create a clean list of lines
    cleaned = []
    for line in lines:
        for x1,y1,x2,y2 in line:
            if abs(y2-y1) <= 1 and abs(x2-x1) >= 25 and abs(x2-x1) <= 55:
                cleaned.append((x1,y1,x2,y2))

    #Step 2: Sort cleaned by x1 position
    import operator
    list1 = sorted(cleaned, key=operator.itemgetter(0, 1))

    #Step 3: Find clusters of x1 close together - clust_dist apart
    clusters = {}
    dIndex = 0
    clus_dist = 10

    for i in range(len(list1) - 1):
        distance = abs(list1[i+1][0] - list1[i][0])
        # print(distance)
        if distance <= clus_dist:
            if not dIndex in clusters.keys(): clusters[dIndex] = []
            clusters[dIndex].append(list1[i])
            clusters[dIndex].append(list1[i + 1])
        else:
            dIndex += 1

    #Step 4: Identify coordinates of rectangle around this cluster
    rects = {}
    i = 0
    for key in clusters:
        all_list = clusters[key]
        cleaned = list(set(all_list))
        if len(cleaned) > 5:
            cleaned = sorted(cleaned, key=lambda tup: tup[1])
            avg_y1 = cleaned[0][1]
            avg_y2 = cleaned[-1][1]
            # print(avg_y1, avg_y2)
            avg_x1 = 0
            avg_x2 = 0
            for tup in cleaned:
                avg_x1 += tup[0]
                avg_x2 += tup[2]
            avg_x1 = avg_x1/len(cleaned)
            avg_x2 = avg_x2/len(cleaned)
            rects[i] = (avg_x1, avg_y1, avg_x2, avg_y2)
            i += 1

    print("Num Parking Lanes: ", len(rects))
    #Step 5: Draw the rectangles on the image
    buff = 7
    for key in rects:
        tup_topLeft = (int(rects[key][0] - buff), int(rects[key][1]))
        tup_botRight = (int(rects[key][2] + buff), int(rects[key][3]))
        # print(tup_topLeft, tup_botRight)
        cv2.rectangle(new_image, tup_topLeft, tup_botRight, (0, 255, 0), 3)
    return new_image, rects

# images showing the region of interest only
rect_images = []
rect_coords = []
for image, lines in zip(test_images, list_of_lines):
    new_image, rects = identify_blocks(image, lines)
    rect_images.append(new_image)
    rect_coords.append(rects)

show_images(rect_images)
```


3. Build model on top of a trained VGG

```

model = applications.VGG16(weights = "imagenet", include_top=False, input_shape = (img_width, img_height, 3))
# Freeze the layers which you don't want to train. Here I am freezing the first 5 layers.
for layer in model.layers[:10]:
    layer.trainable = False

x = model.output
x = Flatten()(x)
# x = Dense(512, activation="relu")(x)
# x = Dropout(0.5)(x)
# x = Dense(256, activation="relu")(x)
# x = Dropout(0.5)(x)
predictions = Dense(num_classes, activation="softmax")(x)

# creating the final model
model_final = Model(inputs = model.input, outputs = predictions)

# compile the model
model_final.compile(loss = "categorical_crossentropy",
                    optimizer = optimizers.SGD(lr=0.0001, momentum=0.9),
                    metrics=["accuracy"]) # See learning rate is very low

C:\Users\adith\anaconda3\lib\site-packages\keras\optimizers\optimizer_v2\gradient_descent.py:111: UserWarning: The 'lr' argument
is deprecated, use 'learning_rate' instead.
super().__init__(name, **kwargs)

```

The above code uses the predefined model that is provided by the keras module. VGG16 model is used to analyze the images and it uses the CNN to do that it consist of many layers which can be trained and the data is passed to this model so that it can learn from the given data and make predictions later. The validation data is used to validate the model and check how accurate it is to the real data.

Start training!

```

history_object = model_final.fit_generator(
    train_generator,
    steps_per_epoch = math.floor(nb_train_samples/batch_size),
    epochs = epochs,
    validation_data = validation_generator,
    validation_steps = math.floor(nb_validation_samples/batch_size),
    callbacks = [checkpoint, early])

```

```

def predict_on_image(image, spot_dict = final_spot_dict, make_copy=True, color = [0, 255, 0], alpha=0.5):
    if make_copy:
        new_image = np.copy(image)
        overlay = np.copy(image)
        cnt_empty = 0
        all_spots = 0
        for spot in spot_dict.keys():
            all_spots += 1
            (x1, y1, x2, y2) = spot
            (x1, y1, x2, y2) = (int(x1), int(y1), int(x2), int(y2))
            #crop this image
            spot_img = image[y1:y2, x1:x2]
            spot_img = cv2.resize(spot_img, (48, 48))

            label = make_prediction(spot_img)
            print(label)
            if label == 'empty':
                cv2.rectangle(overlay, (int(x1),int(y1)), (int(x2),int(y2)), color, -1)
                cnt_empty += 1

        cv2.addWeighted(overlay, alpha, new_image, 1 - alpha, 0, new_image)

        cv2.putText(new_image, "Available: %d spots" %cnt_empty, (30, 95),
            cv2.FONT_HERSHEY_SIMPLEX,
            0.7, (255, 255, 255), 2)

        cv2.putText(new_image, "Total: %d spots" %all_spots, (30, 125),
            cv2.FONT_HERSHEY_SIMPLEX,
            0.7, (255, 255, 255), 2)

        save = False

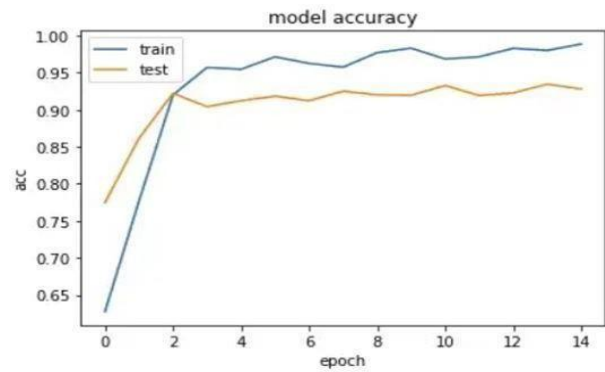
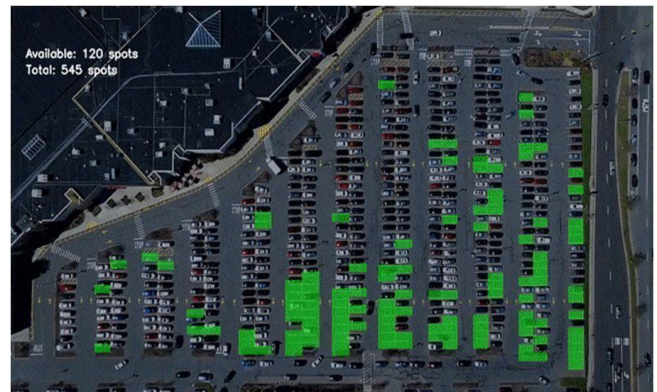
        if save:
            filename = 'with_marking.jpg'
            cv2.imwrite(filename, new_image)

        return new_image

predicted_images = list(map(predict_on_image, test_images))
show_images(predicted_images)

```

Results:



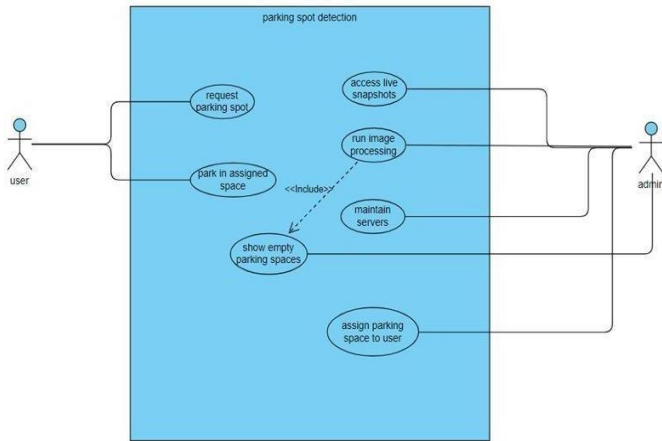
CNN model test and train accuracies

Epoch 15: val_accuracy improved from 0.9231 to 0.9375, saving model to car1.h5
1/1 [.....] - 3s 3s/step - loss: 0.2890 - accuracy: 0.9688 - val_loss: 0.3223 - val_accuracy: 0.9375

5.UML DIAGRAMS

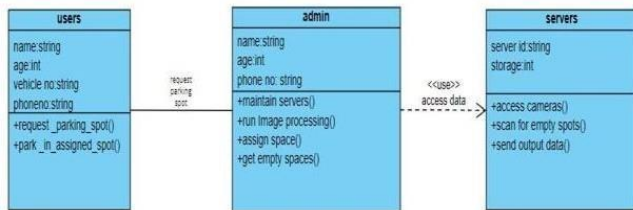
5.1Use Case Diagram

The use case diagram of the parking spot detection is given as below .It has two actors user and admin. Admin handles the system and maintains the servers, user requests for the parking spot and the admin access to the system while the user can obtain the information regarding empty parking spot. Use case diagrams are useful for communicating the high-level requirements of a system to stakeholders, and for identifying the main functionality that the system needs to provide. They are also useful for identifying the actors and their interactions with the system, and for identifying any additional functionality that may be needed to support the interactions.



5.2 Class Diagram

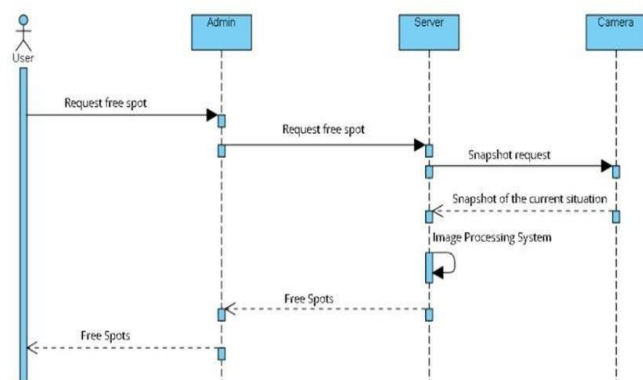
Class diagrams are useful for representing the static structure of a system, and for understanding the relationships between the classes and their attributes and operations. They are also useful for identifying the interfaces and dependencies between the classes, and for specifying the attributes and operations of the classes in more detail.



5.3 Sequence Diagram

The sequence diagram of the parking spot detection shows the interactions and the life time of the components.

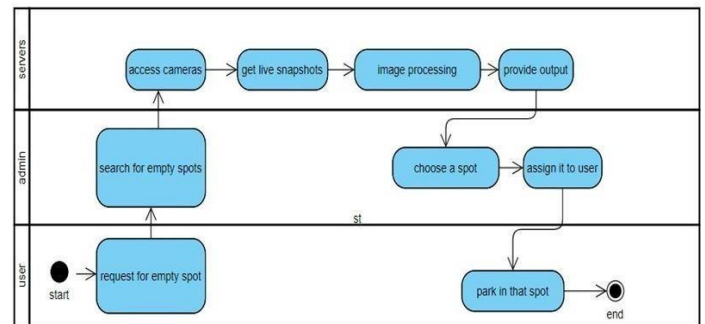
Sequence diagrams are useful for representing the dynamic behavior of a system, and for understanding the interactions between the objects or components in the system. They are also useful for identifying the relationships and dependencies between the objects or components, and for visualizing the flow of control between them.



5.4 Activity Diagram

The activity diagram of the parking spot detection show the action flow and shows where the process started and where it was ended and it has swim lanes which shows the sequence action performed by the objects.

Activity diagrams are useful for representing the flow of activities or actions in a system, and for understanding the decision points and branching paths that may occur. They are also useful for identifying the relationships and dependencies between the activities or actions, and for visualizing the flow of control in the system.



6. CONCLUSION

In this research paper, we explored the use of CNNs for the task of parking spot detection. We described the specific CNN architecture that we used, as well as the dataset that we used for training and testing. We presented the results of our experiments and discussed any insights or observations that we gained from analyzing the results.

Overall, our results showed that CNNs can be effective for parking spot detection in images captured by a monocular camera mounted on a vehicle. We found that the CNN was able to learn complex features from the data and was relatively robust to variations in lighting conditions and object appearances.

However, there are still many challenges to be addressed in this area, including the development of more robust and efficient CNN architectures and the creation of larger, more diverse datasets for training and evaluation. In future work, it will be important to investigate these issues in more depth, as well as to explore the potential applications of CNN-based parking spot detection in real-world scenarios.

7. REFERENCES

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