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Context-Based Emotion Recognition Using EMOTIC Dataset using Deep Learning

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Abstract: Emotion recognition from images is a challenging task due to variations in facial expressions, body posture, and environmental context. Facial features alone are often insufficient to accurately identify emotions in real-world scenarios. This paper presents an implementation of a context-based emotion recognition system using deep learning and the EMOTIC dataset. The proposed approach employs a dual-stream convolutional neural network architecture that separately processes human-centric and contextual information. Features extracted from both streams are fused to predict discrete emotion categories and continuous affective dimensions. Experimental results demonstrate that the inclusion of contextual cues significantly improves emotion recognition performance compared to human-only models, validating the effectiveness of the proposed implementation.

Keywords: Emotion recognition, EMOTIC dataset, deep learning, context-aware learning, CNN, affective computing.

I. INTRODUCTION

Emotion recognition plays a vital role in human–computer interaction, intelligent surveillance, social robotics, and behavioural analysis. Early emotion recognition systems relied primarily on facial expressions; however, in unconstrained environments, facial cues may be unclear due to occlusion, lighting conditions, or non-frontal views. mail. Humans naturally interpret emotions by considering contextual cues such as body posture, surrounding objects, and scene semantics. Motivated by this observation, context-aware emotion recognition has emerged as an effective alternative. The EMOTIC dataset provides a suitable benchmark for this task by offering real-world images annotated with both discrete emotions and continuous affective dimensions. This paper focuses on the implementation of a deep learning-based context-aware emotion recognition system using the EMOTIC dataset.

II. RELATED WORK

Traditional emotion recognition approaches are based on facial expression analysis using handcrafted features or deep CNNs. Although effective in controlled settings, these methods perform poorly in real-world images. Recent research incorporates body posture and contextual information to overcome these limitations. Dual-stream and multi-modal deep learning architectures have shown promising results by combining human-centric and scene-level features. The EMOTIC dataset has enabled significant progress in this direction by providing rich annotations and bounding box information for human subjects.

A. Page Layout

Your paper must use a page size corresponding to A4 which is 210mm (8.27") wide and 297mm (11.69") long. The margins must be set as follows:

- Top = Bottom= 19mm (0.75")
- Left = Right = 14.32mm (0.56")

III. EMOTIC DATASET DESCRIPTION

The EMOTIC (EMOTION In Context) dataset consists of approximately 23,000 images collected from diverse real-world scenarios. Each image includes:

- Human bounding boxes
- Discrete emotion labels (26 categories such as happiness, anger, fear, sadness)
- Continuous emotion dimensions:
  o Valence
  o Arousal
  o Dominance

IV. SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

A. Overview

The implemented system follows a dual-stream deep learning architecture, consisting of:

1) Human Stream Network
2) Context Stream Network

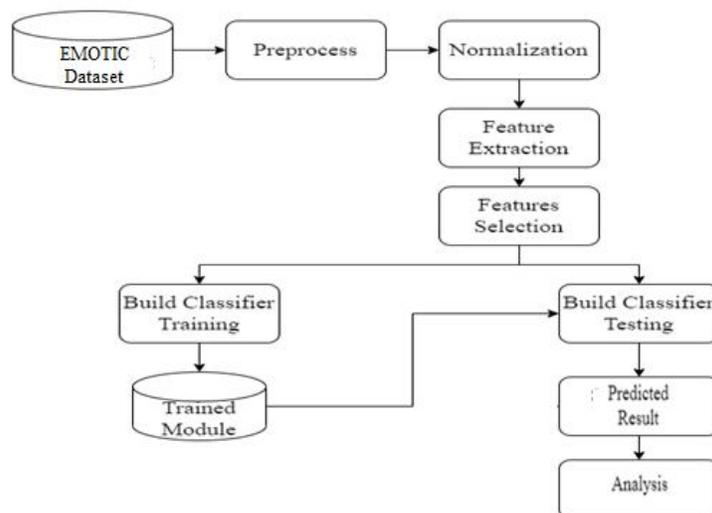The outputs of both networks are fused to predict emotional states.

Figure 1: Proposed System Design Implement Module

B. Human Stream

The human stream processes cropped images of detected persons using the bounding boxes provided in the EMOTIC dataset.

This stream focuses on:

1) Body posture
2) Clothing
3) Facial and gesture cues

A pretrained ResNet-50 model is used as the feature extractor. The final fully connected layer is removed, and high-level features are extracted.

C. Context Stream

The context stream processes the full image with the human region masked to avoid redundancy. This stream captures:

1) Scene semantics
2) Surrounding objects
3) Environmental cues

A separate ResNet-50 network is used to extract contextual features.

D. Feature Fusion

Features from both streams are concatenated and passed through fully connected layers. This fusion enables the model to learn relationships between human appearance and contextual information.

E. Emotion Prediction

The fused feature vector is used for:

1) Discrete emotion classification using a Softmax layer
2) Continuous emotion regression (VAD) using fully connected regression layers

V. IMPLEMENTATION DETAILS

A. Preprocessing

1) Images are resized to 224 × 224

2) Human bounding boxes are cropped for the human stream

3) Data augmentation includes horizontal flipping and normalization

4) Context images are generated by masking the human region

B. Model Training

1) Optimizer: Adam

2) Learning Rate: 0.0001

3) Batch Size: 3

4) Epochs: 30

C. Loss Functions

1) Cross-Entropy Loss for discrete emotion classification

2) Mean Squared Error (MSE) for continuous emotion regression

The total loss is computed as a weighted sum of classification and regression losses.

VI. CONCLUSION

This paper presented an implementation of a context-based emotion recognition system using deep learning and the EMOTIC dataset. By combining human-centric and contextual features through a dual-stream architecture, the proposed model achieves improved performance over baseline approaches. Future work will explore attention mechanisms and multi-modal inputs such as audio and text for enhanced emotion understanding.

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