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Sign language recognition using deep learning

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Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Background

Communication is a process of sending and receiving information among people. Humans communicate with others by a lot of ways but the most effective way is face-to-face communication. Many people believe that the significance of communication is like the importance of breathing. Indeed, communication facilitates the spread of knowledge and forms relationships between people.

Deep learning added a huge boost to the already rapidly developing field of computer vision. With deep learning, a lot of new applications of computer vision techniques have been introduced and they are now becoming parts of our everyday live.

Alongside with the power of today's computers, there are now various algorithms that were developed to enable the computers to perform tasks such as object tracking and pattern recognition.

In this study, the focus will be on hand gestures detection and live tracking.

1.2 Problem Statement

Communication difficulties arising from damage to hearing directly affect quality of life. Difficulties in communication may result in deviations in the emotional and social development and can have a significant impact on the quality of life of every person. It is well recognized that hearing is critical to speech and language development, communication, and learning. People with listening difficulties due to hearing loss or auditory processing problems continue to be an underidentified and underserved population. The earlier the problem is identified and intervention begun, the less serious the ultimate impact [1]. The communication between hearing-impaired and other people is a huge gap need to be filled up. In order to overcome this challenge many researches and products have been developed to solve these problem, but there is a lot to be enhanced.

1.3 Objectives

- To study sign language gestures.
- To develop a new hand gesture into voice algorithm.
- To construct a hand gesture into voice model.

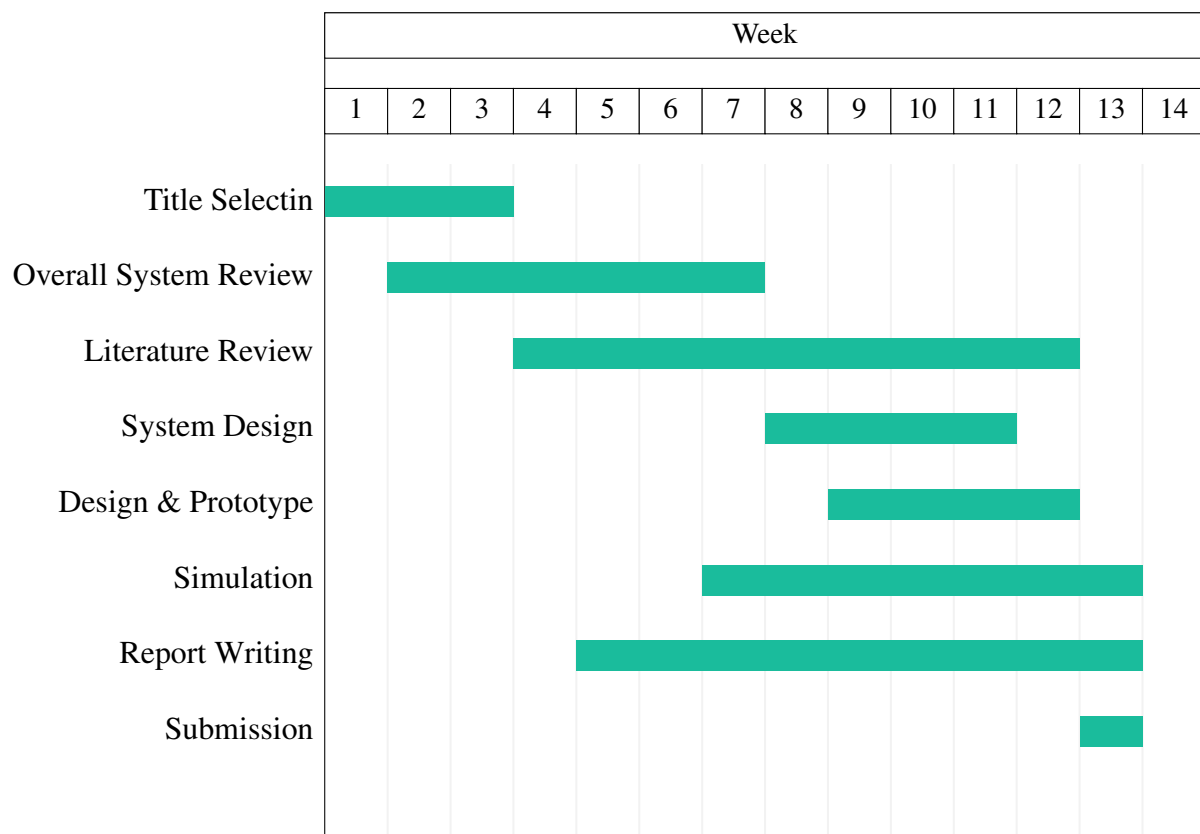
1.4 Scope

This research aims to develop a sign language recognition algorithm, and converting it into voice.

1.5 Significance

Give the hearing-impaired the power to communicate with hearing ones, in order to make a strong connected community.

1.6 Timeline



Chapter 2

Literature review

2.1 Introduction

This chapter includes reviews of other previous researcher and their proposed methods they used in implementing deep learning to recognize hand gestures. These researches will help to grasp the knowledge to achieve the project's objectives.

2.2 Previous works

Peijun Bao, Ana I. Maqueda, Carlos R. del-Blanco, and Narciso Garcia, (2017) proposed a Deep convolutional neural network algorithm for hand-gesture recognition without hand localisation, since the hands only occupy about 10% of the image. They used a combination of 9 convolution layers, 3 fully connected layers, interlaced with ReLU(Rectified Linear Unit) and dropout layers as shown in figure 2.1. Alongside this architecture the apply some image processing techniques to have sufficient computation efficiency and memory requirement. According to the paper the accuracy achieved was 97.1% in the images with simple backgrounds and 85.3% in the images with complex backgrounds. However, the main disadvantage of of the proposed algorithm is the training set which only includes 7 different gestures, and it tends to have bad accuracy with complex backgrounds.

Soeb Hussain, Rupal Saxena Xie Han, Jameel Ahmed Khan, Prof. Hyunchul Shin, (2018) introduced a CNN based classifier trained through the process of transfer learning over a pretrained convolutional neural network which is trained on a large dataset. We are using VGG16 figure 2.3 as the pretrained model. The According to the paper the accuracy was 93.09%,while using AlexNet figure 2.4 was 76.96%. the same problem here with the other papers which is the small number of sign that begin trained on 7 signs, and the accuracy need to be improved as well.

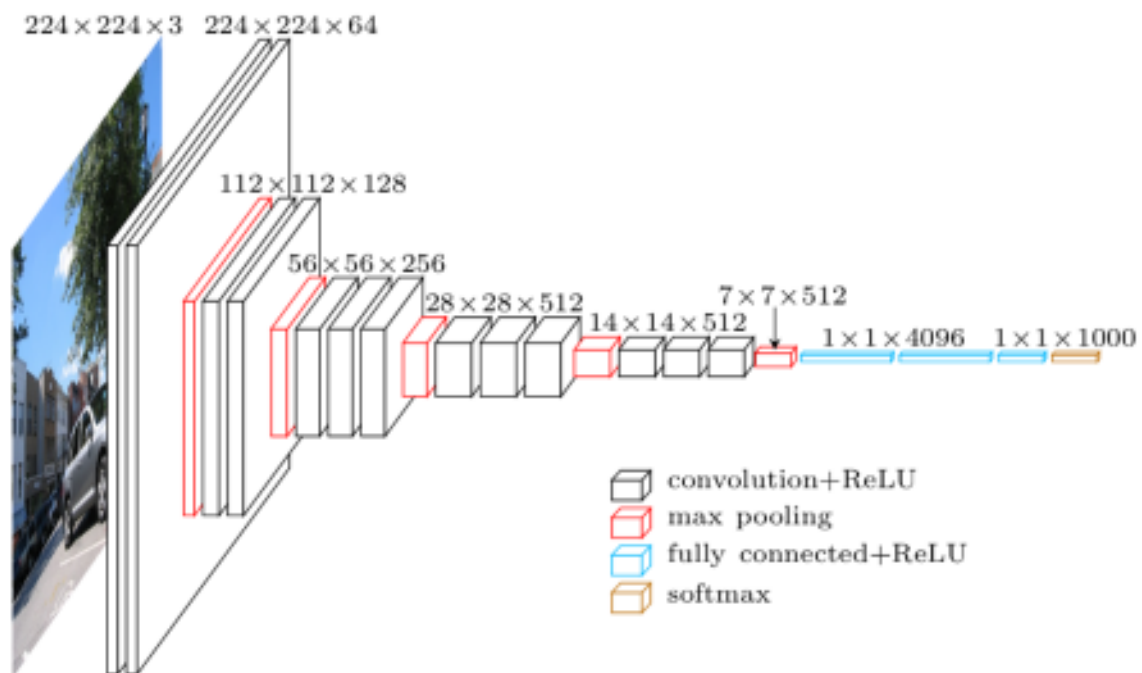


Figure 2.3: VGG16 architecture. Retrieved from www.cs.toronto.edu

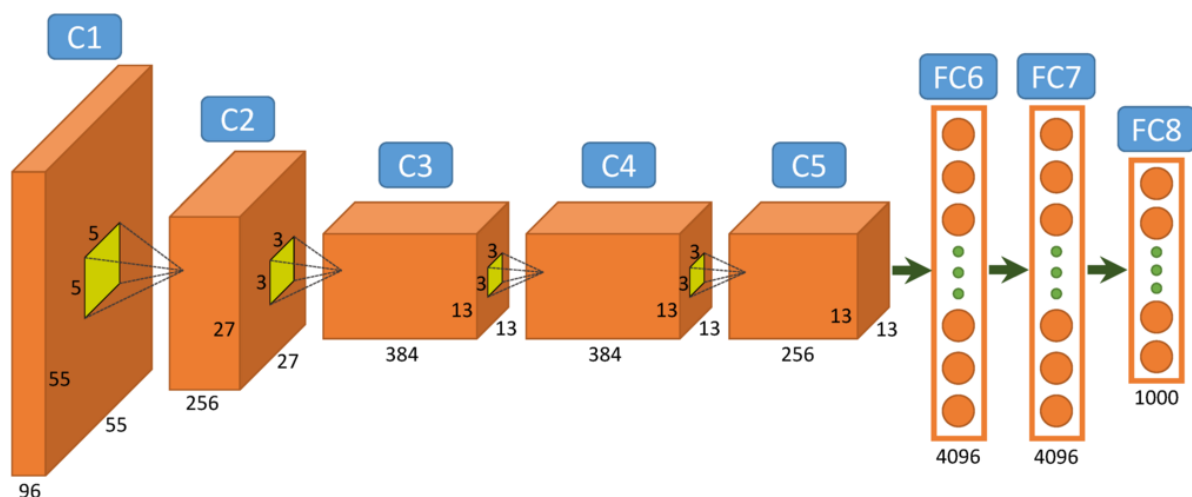


Figure 2.4: VGG16 architecture. Retrieved from www.saagie.com

2.3 Summary

This chapter illustrates some works have been done previously on hand gesture and sign language recognition using deep learning. Table 2.1 the Summary of the literature review.

Table 2.1: Summary of the literature review

| Title | Year | Accuracy | Software |
|---|------|----------|-----------|
| Tiny Hand Gesture Recognition without Localization via a Deep Convolutional Network | 2017 | 97.1% | CNN |
| Deep Convolutional Neural Networks for Sign Language Recognition | 2018 | 92.88% | CNN |
| Hand Gesture Recognition Using Deep Learning | 2017 | 93.09% | CNN VGG16 |

References

- [1] J. B. Frajtag¹ and J. D. Jelinic². Communication problems and quality of life people with hearing loss. *Glob J Otolaryngol*, 2017.