Real-time Human Emotion Recognition

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Background

Recognizing Human Facial Expression (1994) - Yaser Yacoob and Larry S. Davis

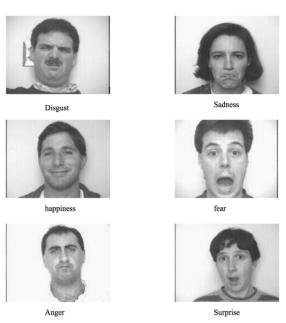


Figure 1: Six universal (i.e., pan-cultural) expressions expressed by six faces.

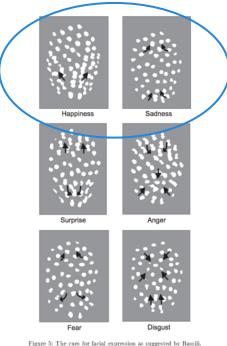


Figure 2: The flow of the facial analysis algorithm.

Expression Description from the Labels

Dense Sequence of Images

Region Tracking

Optical Flow Computation at Points of High Gradient Values

Analysis of Spatial Distribution of Motion Direction Field

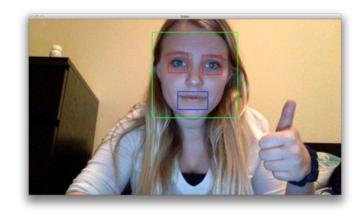
Characterization of Gross Motions of Natural Facial Components

Objectives

- 1. Use computer's webcam to implement realtime face tracking
- 2. Detect eyes and mouth from a face in a live video
- Recognize basic emotions from a face in a live video using Yacoob and Davis' research methods

Methods - Face Tracking

- Haar cascade classifiers
- Known layout of a face
 - i.e. mouth is below eyes and above bottom of face, there are only two eyes, etc.



Methods - Optical Flow

- Definition: the apparent motion of brightness patterns in the image
 - Sensitive to lighting changes
- Can be used to calculate the motion of points in a video across frames
- For emotion recognition, we care about the direction of the motion of points in key regions, such as the mouth

Methods - Emotion Recognition

- Happiness points in the mouth region are moving upward and outward
- Sadness points in the mouth region are moving upward and inward
- Neutrality baseline

Results - Successes

- Detect and track key facial regions
- Use optical flow to calculate the direction the points in these key regions are moving
- Recognize happiness, sadness, and neutrality from a live video feed

Results - Limitations

- Single face
- Plain background, good and consistent lighting
- Only detecting change in emotion from a neutral state
- Relies heavily on accuracy of mouth detection

Demo

Q&A

Any questions?