

A REAL-TIME DRIVER DROWSINESS DETECTION USING AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEM USING COMPUTER VISION AND MOBILE CLOUD INTEGRATION

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Abstract

Driver drowsiness is one of the major causes of severe road accidents, particularly during long-distance and night-time driving. Traditional driver monitoring systems either rely on intrusive sensors or lack real-time emergency response capabilities. This paper presents **SAFE-DRIVE**, a real-time vision-based driver drowsiness monitoring system that integrates computer vision, mobile computing, and cloud services to provide immediate safety intervention. The proposed system employs a camera-based machine learning model to detect drowsiness indicators such as eye aspect ratio, yawning behavior, and head posture. Detection results are synchronized with a Firebase Realtime Database and processed by an Android application running as a foreground service. Upon detecting prolonged drowsiness, the system triggers a multi-stage alert mechanism including a loud alarm, full-screen visual alert, live GPS tracking, SMS notification with Google Maps location, and delayed automatic emergency calling with a recorded voice message. Experimental results demonstrate reliable real-time performance, low latency, and stable background operation, making the system suitable for safety-critical transportation applications.

Key Words :

Driver Monitoring System (DMS), Computer Vision, Real-Time Systems, Mobile–Cloud Integration, Safety-Critical Applications,Smart Transportation.

I. Introduction

Road traffic accidents caused by driver fatigue and drowsiness represent a significant global safety concern. According to international road safety reports, fatigue-related accidents account for a substantial proportion of highway fatalities. Unlike alcohol impairment, drowsiness is difficult to self-detect, making automated monitoring systems essential.

Conventional approaches to driver drowsiness detection include vehicle behavior analysis, physiological sensors, and steering pattern monitoring. However, these methods often suffer from high cost, limited accuracy, or intrusive hardware requirements. Recent advancements in computer vision and mobile computing have enabled camera-based driver monitoring systems that are non-intrusive and cost-effective.

Despite these advancements, many existing systems lack real-time emergency escalation mechanisms and fail to operate reliably in background execution modes on mobile devices. To address these limitations, this paper proposes **SAFE-DRIVE**, an end-to-end driver monitoring and emergency response system that combines machine learning-based detection with mobile–cloud communication and multi-level alert strategies.

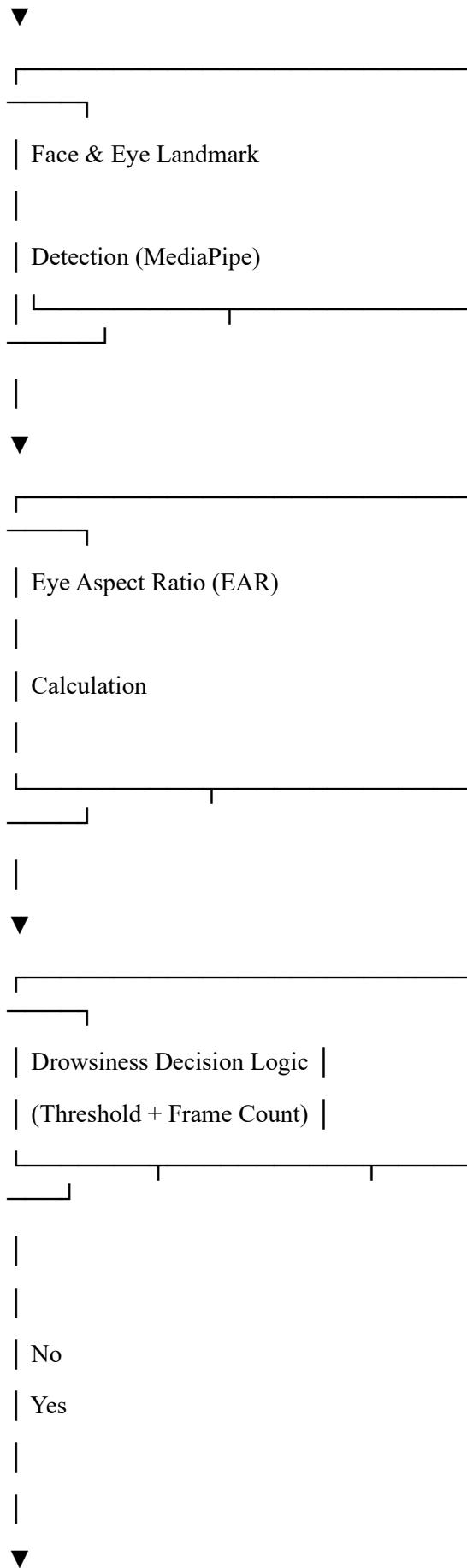
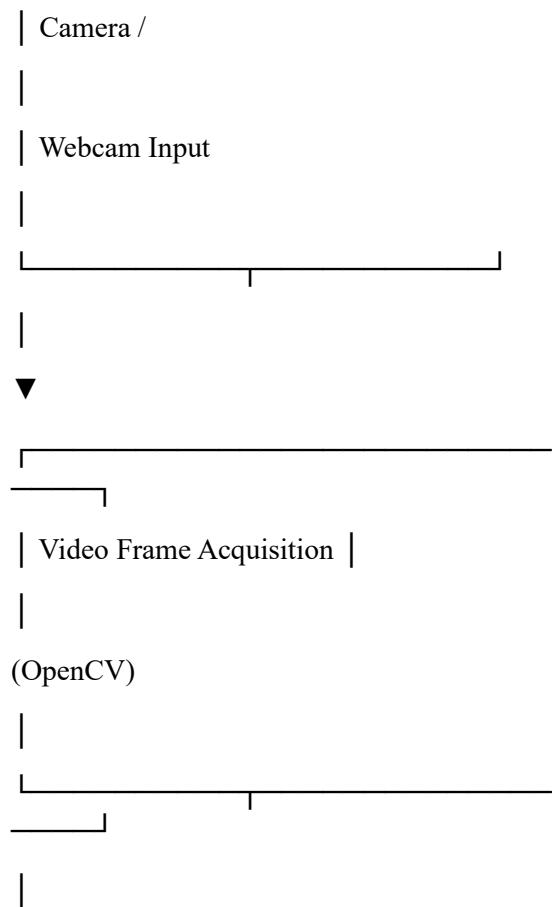
II. SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

The SAFE-DRIVE system follows a distributed architecture consisting of three major components: vision-based detection, cloud synchronization, and mobile emergency response.

A. Vision-Based Drowsiness Detection

A Python-based module uses MediaPipe Face Mesh to extract facial landmarks in real time. Drowsiness is inferred using:

- Eye Aspect Ratio (EAR) for eye closure detection
- Mouth opening ratio for yawning detection
- Nose-to-chin alignment for head tilt detection



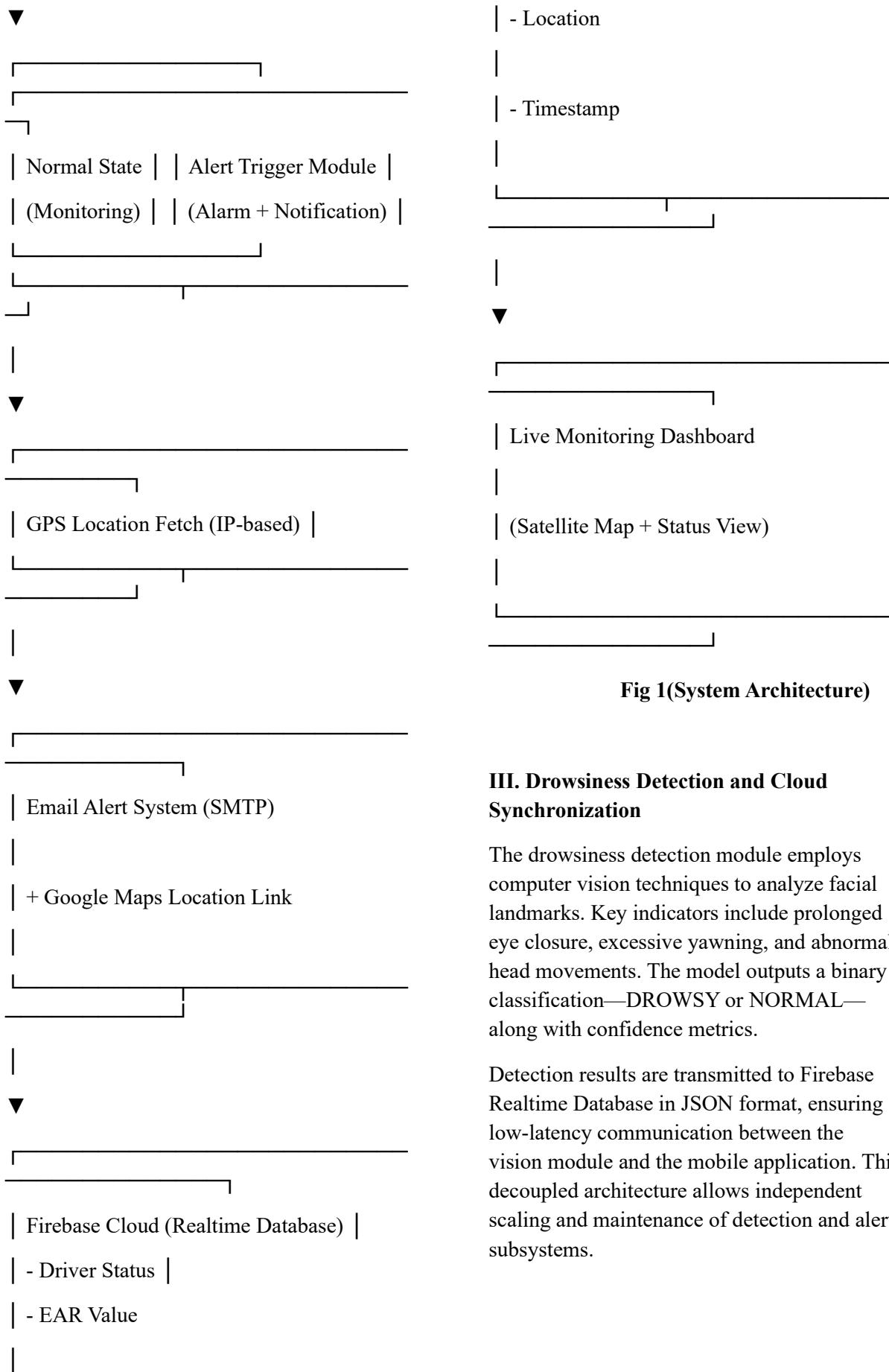


Fig 1(System Architecture)

III. Drowsiness Detection and Cloud Synchronization

The drowsiness detection module employs computer vision techniques to analyze facial landmarks. Key indicators include prolonged eye closure, excessive yawning, and abnormal head movements. The model outputs a binary classification—DROWSY or NORMAL—along with confidence metrics.

Detection results are transmitted to Firebase Realtime Database in JSON format, ensuring low-latency communication between the vision module and the mobile application. This decoupled architecture allows independent scaling and maintenance of detection and alert subsystems.

IV. Emergency Alert and Response Mechanism

SAFE-DRIVE follows a priority-based alert escalation strategy:

1. **Immediate Alarm:** A loud audible alarm is triggered as soon as drowsiness is detected.
2. **Delayed Verification:** The system waits for a configurable duration (e.g., 15 seconds) to verify if the driver regains alertness.
3. **Visual Alert:** If drowsiness persists, a full-screen alert UI overrides the device interface.
4. **Voice Warning:** A pre-recorded emergency voice message is played.
5. **SMS Notification:** A message containing a live Google Maps location link is sent to a predefined emergency contact.
6. **Automatic Emergency Call:** If the driver remains unresponsive, an emergency call is placed automatically.

This staged approach minimizes false positives while ensuring rapid intervention during critical situations.

V. Live GPS Tracking and Battery Optimization

The Android application employs Google's Fused Location Provider to obtain accurate real-time GPS coordinates. Location updates are optimized using adaptive sampling intervals to reduce power consumption.

The system operates as a foreground service with appropriate service types, ensuring reliability even when the application is backgrounded or the device screen is locked. Battery usage is further minimized by event-

driven activation of intensive operations only during drowsiness events.

VI. Applications and Use Cases

SAFE-DRIVE is applicable to:

- Personal vehicle safety systems
- Commercial fleet monitoring
- Long-haul transportation
- Smart city traffic safety platforms
- Driver assistance systems in semi-autonomous vehicles

VII Output:

coding:

```
last_firebase_time = 0
```

```
FIREBASE_MIN_INTERVAL = 0.5 #  
seconds (minimum interval between updates)
```

```
def firebase_update_async(data):
```

```
    """Send small updates to Firebase in a  
background thread (non-blocking)."""
```

```
global last_firebase_time
```

```
now = time.time()
```

VIII. Experiment Result:

The proposed system was tested on real Android smartphones under practical driving conditions. Performance metrics included detection latency, alert response time, GPS accuracy, and battery consumption.

Results show that SAFE-DRIVE detects drowsiness within seconds and triggers alerts with minimal delay. The system remained stable during prolonged background operation with acceptable battery usage.

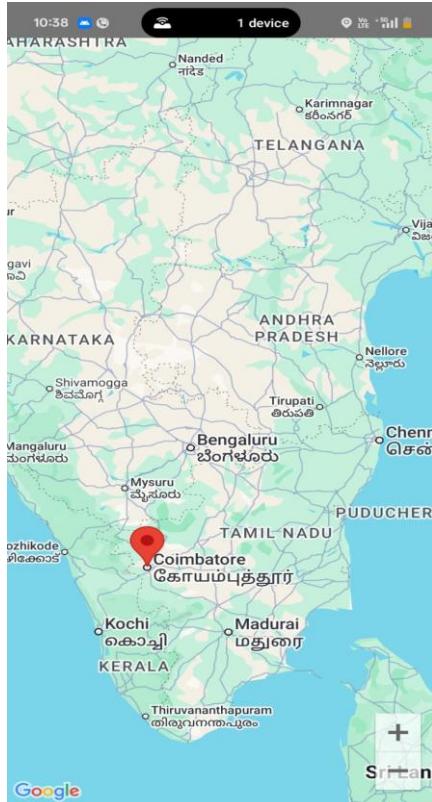


Fig 2(Live GPS Location Visualization)

Figure 2 illustrates the real-time geographic tracking functionality of the proposed driver drowsiness monitoring system. The application continuously acquires the driver's current GPS coordinates using the smartphone's built-in location services. The retrieved latitude and longitude are rendered on an interactive Google Maps interface, allowing precise visualization of the driver's position.

The map automatically centers on the driver's location and updates dynamically as the vehicle moves. This feature ensures accurate live tracking, which is essential for emergency response and fleet monitoring applications.

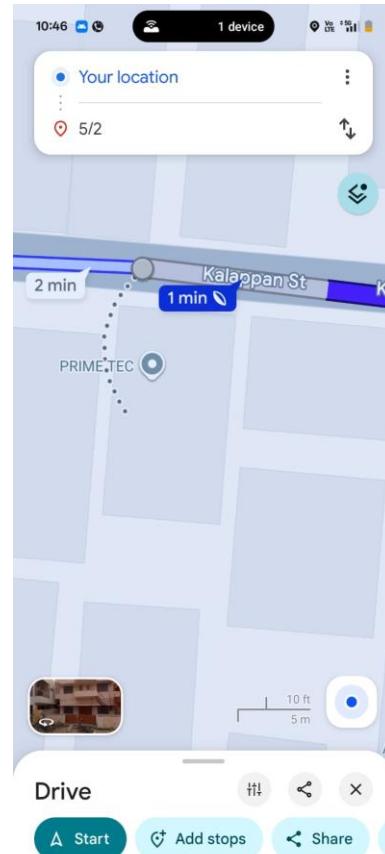


Fig3(Fine-Grained Location Tracking)

Figure 3 presents a zoomed-in view of the driver's location at street level. The system maintains high spatial accuracy, enabling emergency responders or guardians to identify the exact road and nearby landmarks. The continuous marker movement confirms successful integration of GPS sensors with the mobile application.

This level of granularity is particularly useful in urban environments where rapid assistance is required.

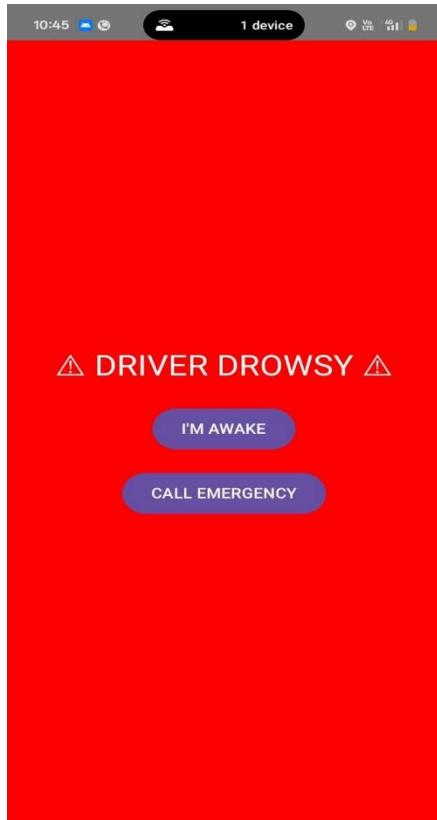


Fig 4(Full-Screen Drowsiness Alert Interface)

Figure 4 shows the full-screen alert interface triggered when the system detects a persistent drowsy state. Once the machine learning model confirms drowsiness and the status remains unchanged beyond the defined delay threshold, the application overrides all background activities and displays a high-visibility alert screen.

The alert interface uses a red background with clear warning text to immediately capture the driver's attention. Two interactive options are provided:

- “**I’m Awake**”, allowing the driver to acknowledge the alert and cancel emergency escalation.
- “**Call Emergency**”, enabling manual initiation of an emergency call.

This design ensures that visual cues complement the audible alarm, reducing the risk of missed warnings.

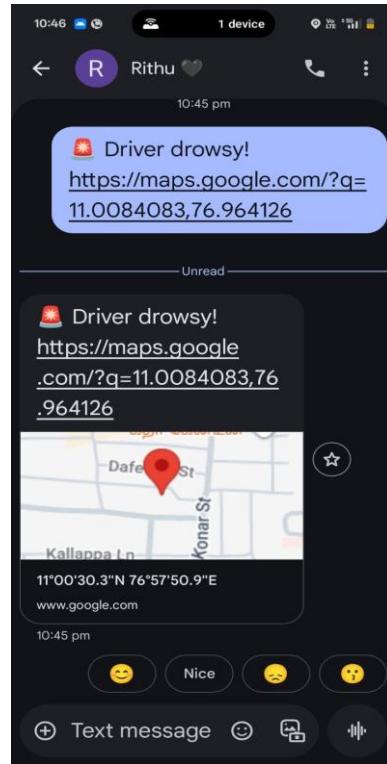


Fig 5(Emergency SMS with Live Location Link)

Figure 5 demonstrates the automated SMS notification sent to the predefined emergency contact. The message includes a clear drowsiness warning along with a Google Maps link containing the driver's real-time GPS coordinates.

By clicking the link, the recipient can instantly view the driver's location on Google Maps without requiring any additional application. This mechanism enables rapid situational awareness and timely intervention.

IX. Conclusion

This paper presented SAFE-DRIVE, a real-time vision-based driver drowsiness monitoring and emergency response system using mobile–cloud integration. The system effectively combines computer vision, cloud communication, and Android foreground services to deliver reliable safety interventions. Experimental evaluation confirms its robustness, real-time performance, and suitability for safety-critical transportation applications.

Future work will focus on deep learning-based attention modeling, adaptive alert personalization, large-scale fleet dashboards, and sensor fusion with wearable devices.

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