

Object Counting in Video Sequences

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Abstract—This paper addresses the problem of counting the number of object in an image frame. This paper presents a human detection model, that is designed to work with object. The system proposed does learning through templates. The model makes use of Haar based features to form templates performs matching of Haar-transformed images. Object can be detected irrespective of the texture and color of their clothing as well as orientation.

Index Terms—Object detection, Haar templates, object counting

I. INTRODUCTION

This paper attempts to provide a Wavelet based human detection system. Human beings are non rigid objects and as such detecting them is a hard problem, due to the various possible combinations that arise out of clothes being worn, their texture, the orientation of the individual. To overcome this, we need a system that is invariant to the colour differences, this is made possible by using Haar transforms. These have the property that they extract information from a given image, which is invariant to the absolute colour and makes use of only color changes. The problem of handling multiple orientations can be tackled by having a sufficiently large database of object in different orientations. Having a learning system simplifies the task of adding more templates as and when needed to handle new cases that may arise. Multi resolution Haar transform were found for human templates and Pyramidal search was carried out to match human beings. Human detection and counting has numerous advantages in real life problems. Some of the major applications are:

- Human Intrusion detection.
- Tracking usage of Resource / Preferences of object. (Unobtrusive monitoring)
- Optimizing working of road crossing signals.
- Getting a rough count of the number of object in an enclosed area (malls & bank).

II. PREVIOUS WORK

Oren et al [1] present a wavelet based technique for pedestrian detection. It is based on Haar wavelets and template matching. The detection is restricted to frontal and rear views of pedestrians. The training set is static. Viola Jones [2] presents a method of speeding up Haar transform using integral imaging.

III. METHODOLOGY

We are finding number of people in a frame as object

detection and classification problem i.e. given an image to determine at what locations object of a particular class is present in the image. In this case we need to define HUMAN class which represents all people. This class is defined using a set of templates. In the learning phase, a database of these templates has to be created using ground truth. These templates are then matched in test images to detect and count people. The method of creating templates is based on “Haar Wavelet Features” and is mainly inspired by the work of Oren et al [1].

IV. ALGORITHM

A. Build Template Database (Learning)

In order to build a template database, we used Background Subtraction to identify Foreground objects. The foreground objects were marked in the original input using coloured rectangles. and simultaneously foreground portion of the input image was cropped and saved.

Once Background subtraction has run on all the input image set, we use the UI tool generated for Template generation. Main purpose of UI was to assist the system in identifying False Positives, and help the system in learning from True Positives only, so that invalid data did not get into the templates database.

The UI application displays the image with foreground object marked with rectangles. The user is then shown a separate window having ability to show the cropped images. In this window we can select the cropped images which are TRUE positives and label them.

Labeling is the process of assigning a class to each cropped image, there can be multiple classes. We can have a class from frontal views of object, side views, object on cycle, etc. Note that this feature can be used to extend the system to detect and count non human objects as well.

Once the cropped images are either rejected or labeled (put into appropriate directories) we compute the Haar of the cropped images. Steps followed for finding Haar Transform of an image are as follows:

Convert the image to grayscale using the equation: $\text{color} = 0.3\text{RED} + 0.59\text{GREEN} + 0.11\text{BLUE}$

Depending on the level of the Haar, we find the average of two adjoining regions of the gray scale image, We then find the difference in the average of the two regions and save it in place of the original image pixel

The Haar transform can be computed using basis functions of a varying number of shapes, however we have restricted our use to only rectangular Haar features - Horizontal, Vertical and Diagonal Haar features. In case of Vertical Haar transform we find the difference between two adjoining blocks placed in different rows. Horizontal Haar is obtained by finding the difference between the two

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adjoining blocks placed in different columns. Diagonal Haar was computed in similar way for blocks in different row and column.

We then found the average image of all the Haars, and saved the image so obtained, this was repeated for different sized Haars. We computed the Haar for levels 1 to 3 and saved them. To speed up the computation of Haar features “Integral image representation” of the image is computed. The method is based on the one described in [2] and general discussion on Haar transforms for 2-d images given in [3].

❖ Find Haar Transforms

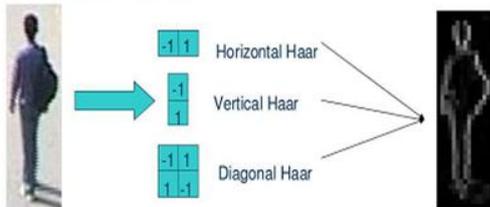


Fig. 1. Finding haar transform

V. MATCHING

Read input image and find the Haar Transform of the input image using the steps mentioned above.

Now perform Pyramidal search on the transformed image using all the Templates loaded at start-up. Matching is done using Pearson’s coefficients.

We maintain a global Threshold for the match to be true. When a match is found we mark the area in the input image using colored rectangles.

In order to prevent multiple matches in same area we maintain an array of matched regions.

We added the newly matched regions to this array to keep track of the regions that need not be searched again.

Every time we find a match we keep track of it using a global variable.

VI. RESULTS

The method used for detecting object gave a variable accuracy across image frames. As we try to detect object in frames further away in time from the one in which we collected the templates, we see that the number of False negatives increases. This could be on account the change in posture of the object across the frame sequence.

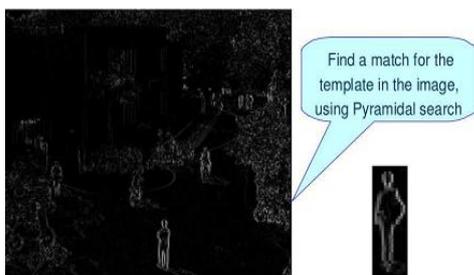


Fig. 2. Matching process using Haar transform

VII. LIMITATION

People of small sizes cannot be detected reliably If

threshold background subtraction is lowered to form smaller templates, smaller images are detected. However, this result in generation of large number of false detections Detection fails if a template of that shape is not present in the database. As the detection is done by template matching, the detection will fail if appropriate template is unavailable in the database



Fig. 3. Matched people

TABLE I: MATCHING RESULTS

Image	True Positive	False Positive	Actual People	Accuracy
LHCVideo1_002000.jpg	6	0	11	54.55
LHCVideo1_002001.jpg	5	0	11	45.45
LHCVideo1_002002.jpg	4	0	11	36.36
LHCVideo1_002003.jpg	4	0	11	36.36
LHCVideo1_002004.jpg	4	0	11	36.36
LHCVideo1_002005.jpg	3	1	11	27.27
LHCVideo1_005000.jpg	3	1	10	30
LHCVideo1_005001.jpg	2	0	10	20
LHCVideo1_005002.jpg	2	1	10	20
LHCVideo1_005003.jpg	1	0	10	10
LHCVideo1_006000.jpg	6	0	12	50
LHCVideo1_006000.jpg	2	0	12	16.67
LHCVideo1_006000.jpg	1	0	12	8.33
LHCVideo1_007000.jpg	5	0	11	45.45
LHCVideo1_007001.jpg	4	0	11	36.36
LHCVideo1_007002.jpg	2	0	11	18.18
Total	54	3	175	30.86

VIII. OCCLUSION

If a person gets occluded by a shape the detection fails as it distorts the Haar features.

IX. FUTURE DIRECTION

Need to build a larger database of templates efficient matching algorithm is required. In a video frame sequence the number of object does not change drastically in adjacent frames, therefore the search space could be reduced by tracking object across frames.

X. CONCLUSION

The basic working of Haar based matching and people counting were implemented, however the accuracy was founding Table I .GUI for template database creation to be very low. This can be improved by increasing number of templates. The code for matching needs to be speeded up based on heuristic approach or a probabilistic model.

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