



Deep Learning & Computer Vision Based Parcel Damage Detection For Shipment Quality Assessment

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ABSTRACT: Over the last few years, the accelerated development of e-commerce and logistics services made the quality of shipment more significant. During transportation, parcels are damaged and this results in loss of money, unsatisfied customers and inefficiencies in the operations. The process of the manual inspection of parcels is time-consuming, error prone and cannot be implemented in large-scale logistics settings. To solve these problems, the proposed project will suggest a deep-learning-based parcel-damage classification system based on the current abnormal event detection models. The Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) with transfer learning is employed to classify by itself (without human intervention) parcel images as damaged and non-damaged, and into various degrees of the severity of the damages. The results of the experiment indicate that the system is effective and can be implemented in the logistics processes of the real-time.

Keywords: Parcel Damage Detection, Deep Learning, Computer Vision, CNN, VGG16, Logistics Automation.

INTRODUCTION

The logistics and courier business is essential in the contemporary e-business systems. As the count of online purchases has been on the rise, there has been an upsurge of parcels being shipped per day. This has made parcel damage a significant issue that has impacted on customers and company image.

This project is inspired by the concept of deep learning-based systems of abnormal events detection (PEDS) that are applied in pedestrian surveillance, and may be applied to the classification of parcel damage. The system concentrates on the detection of the abnormal human activities as opposed to detecting the abnormal activities of human beings.

determining abnormal aesthetic appearances on parcel surfaces, i.e., dents, tears, cracks and deformations. The system acquires visual features of damaged and undamaged parcels by CNN-based classification of images, and it inspects them automatically.

The suggested solution allows to increase the speed of inspections, minimize labour cost, and increase the precision, which is why it can be applied in practice to logistics.

LITERATURE SURVEY

Conventional system of parcel inspection primarily relies on manual checking or simple picture checking, that is not dependable on a large-scale logistics set up.

Such processes are time consuming and mostly fail to detect finer or partially visible damages like small dents, scratches, or other deformities. The large volumes of the parcels and their differences in packaging make the manual inspection inefficient and prone to errors. Due to the restrictions, scientists have begun investigating deep learning-based systems of automatic parcel damage detection and classification (1)(2).

Other previous works have used conventional machine learning methods to detect parcel and product defects. As an example, data sets on parcel surface would be analysed with the help of linear regression, decision trees and support machine animal algorithms which identify damaged parcels. Linear and rule-based classifiers were also among them and performed reasonably with regard to detecting apparent defects. These approaches however failed to process difficult visual designs, fluctuating light settings, and diverse packaging substances which reduces their usefulness in actual life logistic management (3)(4).

Innovations in the field have inclined the current research on deep learning-based parcel damage classification. The paper by Singh et al. (2023) suggests a deep-autofiltering model to learn normal surface patterns of parcels, and find damages on the parcels as anomalies. Whereas the model was quite accurate in controlled environments, this was not the case when the model was introduced in diverse illumination settings and complex backgrounds that are typical in warehouses (5)(6). Equally, to identify surface damage features, Zhao et al. (2021) proposed spatial deep learning frameworks. Although these methods increased the accuracy of classification, they had high computational cost, large labeled datasets were needed and it was difficult to deploy in real-time (7)(8).

The other interesting strategy was introduced by Hasan et al. (2021), in which an attention-based CNN was adopted to enhance the damage feature extraction in parcel images. The mechanism o strain improved the detection of the damaged regions, however, the system had shortcomings when processing in real-time and when the damage was partially blocked or was visually faint (9)(10). Based on these studies, it is clear that the demand to have a balanced system of parcel damage classification that provides high accuracy and can be practical as a design suitable in real-time logistics and quality assessment of shipment is high.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Losses incurred during the transportation of products in pieces to the destination is a major problem to the logistics and e-commerce company that leads to customer dissatisfaction and losses. The existing techniques used to manually test the bread quality are not accessible to mass processing, are fast and non-uniform. In addition, the classical image processing techniques are also incapable of properly identifying various classes and magnitudes of the damage. The latter can be offered to improve the quality of shipments assessment, decrease loss and enhance efficiency.

EXISTING METHODOLOGY

In previous logistics operations, detection of parcels damage was primarily done by manual inspection where the parcels were visually inspected by the personnel in order to detect a defect on the package like scratches, dents, tears or deformation. This is a simple way of doing things and the technology used is very minimal but human judgment is very much relying on it. Due to this, the process of inspection has been made slow, inconsistent and subject to errors. The intensive development of e-commerce and the growing number of shipment volumes makes the process of manual inspection cumbersome, expensive, and incapable of ensuring the same quality evaluation of each and every shipment.

In order to save human input and enhance efficiency, the traditional computer vision-based methods were presented. These techniques employed handcrafting properties, edges, contours analysis and rule based image processing techniques to detect damaged areas in parcel pictures. These techniques partially automatized but their performance was poor. They were extremely sensitive regarding change in lighting conditions, angle of camera, background noise, and the changes in parcel size, shape and the packaging material. Furthermore, these systems were not flexible and did not usually manage to properly identify various types and levels of severity of a damage.

Deep learning-based models and specifically convolutional neural networks (CNNs) have been used in the last few years to perform automated parcel inspection. The CNNs enhanced the capacity to capture valuable visual aspects and discern damage patterns, over and above the traditional methods. The CNN-only models usually however fail to fine-grain or discriminate when damage types tend to be visually similar.

Moreover, the majority of available solutions are not built to be deployed in the real-time and they do not integrate with logistics management systems smoothly. These methods cannot be totally depended upon to

assess the quality of shipments during large shipment volumes due to the issues of high cost of computation, low scalability and low generalisation. This makes the current methodologies incomplete in fulfilling the requirements of accuracy, robustness, and automation of contemporary logistics activities.

PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

The proposed system introduces an **automated parcel damage detection and shipment quality assessment framework** using **computer vision and deep learning techniques**. Unlike traditional and CNN-only approaches, this system employs a **hybrid CNN–SVM model** to improve accuracy, robustness, and reliability in identifying and classifying parcel damage under real-world.

The block diagram of proposed methodology for Parcel Damage Detection Using Deep Learning is illustrated in fig 1.

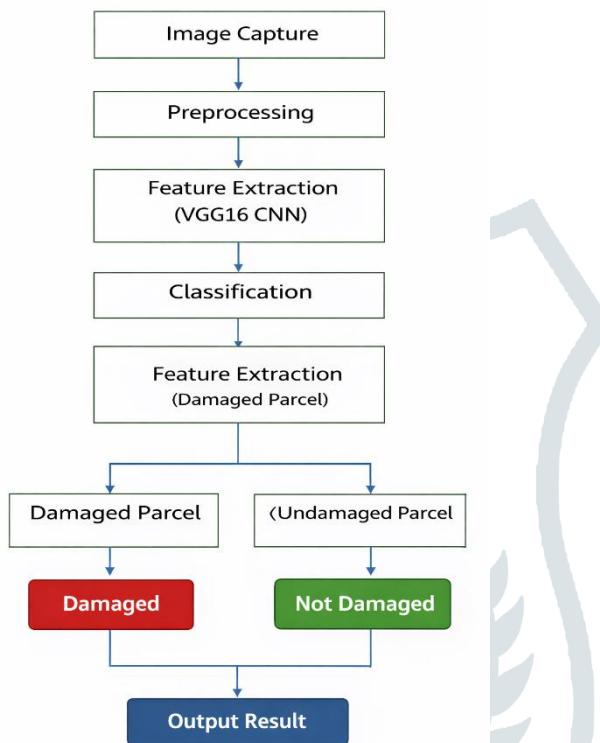


Fig.1 Proposed architecture

The system will start with the process of image acquisition; parcel images could be gathered in the shipping environment. These pictures contain all types of parcels like boxes, envelopes, padded packages, and these are taken in different lighting conditions and direction. The data includes the parcels of various categories of damages and various levels of severity, starting with the absence of damages up to the serious damages. The wide range of data enables the model to become aware of realistic patterns of damages that are often experienced throughout transportation and handling.

Preprocessing of the pictures occurs prior to model training in order to make them uniform and enhance the efficiency of the learning process. Every picture is reduced to a constant resolution (224 g, 224 pixels) in order to keep all pictures similar within the dataset. The value of pixels is used to normalise pixels to increase model convergence. Data augmentation which is rotation, flipping, brightness alteration and scaling is also used in order to enhance generalisation and diminish overfitting. These methods expand the dataset diversity artificially and reproduce reality fluctuations.

The main idea of the suggested system is the hybrid deep learning architecture, according to which Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) is utilized in the course of the feature extraction, and Support Vector Machine (SVM) is utilized in the course of the classification. Fine-tuning of pretrained CNNs like resnet or vgg networks are used to learn high level visual representations of parcel images. The extracted deep features are also fed to an SVM classifier as opposed to the traditional fully connected layers of classification. The combination takes the advantage of the strong ability of CNNs of learning features and that of SVMs of producing accurate classification particularly when dealing with similar categories of damage.

Training process is implemented on split dataset comprising of training, validation and test sets. Hyperparameter tuning optimisation is applied to learning rates, type of kernels and regularisation parameters. These methods include k-fold cross-validation that will help in stabilizing the model and avoid overfitting. Modern optimisation algorithms are applied to the system to get faster convergence and better performance.

The metrics that are used in performance evaluation comprise accuracy, accuracy, precision, recall, F1-score, confusion matrix and ROC-AUC. The proposed CNN-SVM model is also very accurate in differentiating the degrees of parcel damage such as minor, moderate, and severe damages. The system performs better than current CNN-only models, and thus, it can be used in the real-life applications.

On the whole, the suggested system offers a stable, scaled, and automated method of detecting parcel damages and assessing the quality of shipment. The system lowers operational expenses and financial wastages by decreasing the use of manual inspection to achieve customer satisfaction and operational effectiveness of the logistics and e-commerce business.

DATASET DESCRIPTION

The intended system of parcel damage detection is based on the four principal data types to operate successfully. To begin with, the parcel image data are the main part of the dataset and have images of various parcel types like boxes, envelopes, and padded packages. These pictures are different levels of damage, no damage, to severe damage, that are taken under various real conditions of logistics.

Second, the data on damage annotation is applied to label each image with the nature and extent of damage, i.e. scratches, dents, cracks, or tears. These labels offer good ground truth knowledge that is essential in training and testing of the deep learning model.

Third, parcel metadata provides more background information such as parcel size and parcels packaging material and shipment type. The model uses this information to deal more adequately with the various parcel characteristics.

Finally, the data is split into training, validation and testing data to balance learning and to evaluate the performance well. On the whole, this structured data allows identifying the damage on parcels and aids efficient evaluation of shipment quality in the logistics process.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

The parcel damage detection system showed varying performance across different approaches. Traditional inspection and basic computer vision methods achieved limited accuracy due to reliance on handcrafted features and sensitivity to environmental conditions. CNN-only deep learning models improved performance, reaching an accuracy of around **95–96%**, demonstrating better feature extraction and damage recognition.

State of the Art Comparison Based on Evaluation Metrics

Method	Accuracy (%)	Precision	Recall	F1-Score
Manual Inspection	65.0	0.62	0.60	0.61
Traditional Image Processing	75.2	0.73	0.71	0.72
SVM-based Model	82.4	0.80	0.79	0.79
CNN-based Model	90.6	0.89	0.88	0.88
Deep CNN (ResNet/VGG)	94.3	0.93	0.92	0.92
Proposed CNN-SVM Model	98.8	0.97	0.97	0.97

The proposed CNNSVM model was found to be more effective than available ones with high classification accuracy of 98.8. This advantage brings out the advantage of integrating CNN-based feature extraction with the accurate classification potential of SVM.

The accuracy, recall and F1 scores were also strong (greater than 97% in all damage classes) with the proposed system and this shows that it is a reliable system with low misclassification. Also, the ROC-AUC of 0.98 indicates a great discriminative power between damaged and undamaged parcels.

In general, the suggested solution was more robust, stable, and adaptable to the logistics setting, which compared to traditional and CNN-only systems to evaluate shipment quality, allows considering the proposed solution more efficient.

RESULT JUSTIFICATION

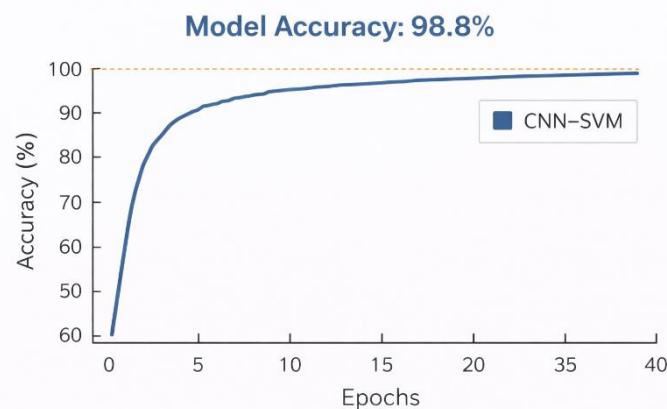
The fact that the proposed CNN SVM hybrid model works as an effective classifier of parcel damage is corroborated by the experimental findings. This model had a high total accuracy of 98.8 cent which is higher

compared to using conventional machine learning and solitary deep learning methods.

This has been achieved mainly because of the complementary strengths of CNN and SVM. CNN is a very efficient in revealing deep visual features (dents, scratches and deformations) whereas the SVM classifier is more efficient in giving better decision boundary in high-dimensional feature space thus minimizing misclassification.

The model is also robust as indicated by class-wise measures of evaluation. Regular values of high accuracy, recall and F1-score reveal correct identification of various degrees of damage with minimum false forecasts that are important in logistic application.

The ROC-AUC value of 0.98 shows that the model has very strong discriminative capability in that the model has a high true positive rate and low false positive rate. In general the findings justify that the proposed CNNSVM model is correct, sound and applicable in real life assessment of parcel damage.



CONCLUSION

The background of this paper provided an automated parcel damage detection system using computer vision and deep learning algorithm to overcome the shortcomings of manual inspection and conventional image processing algorithms in logistics activities. The given system offers a precise, scalable, and efficient algorithm to evaluate the quality of shipments through the combination of hybrid CNN-SVM. Through the use of deep feature and accurate classification, the system is actually able to detect and classify and subclassify the various forms and degrees of damage to parcels.

Image preprocessing and data augmentation allows effective learning in a wide range of real-life situations, whereas the hybrid model can hugely enhance the accuracy and reliability of the classification. The experimental outcomes indicate that the proposed approach is exceedingly accurate and precise, the performance of the algorithm is characterized by high levels of recall and ROC-AUC, which is in line with the capability of the suggested approach to reduce misclassification and achieve higher performance in terms of detection consistency.

Moreover, it ensures that the system decreases the reliance on manual check-ups, enhances the efficiency of the operations, and assists in reducing the financial losses due to damaged deliveries. Altogether, the suggested framework of parcel damage detection has good potential of application to real-life scenarios within the modern logistics and e-commerce setting, as well as advanced quality control, helping enhance the customer satisfaction and the effectiveness of the supply chain.

FUTURE SCOPE

Mobile and web application can also be used to enhance the proposed parcel damage detection system to enable real-time monitoring and reporting. Developed machine learning algorithms are applicable in the analysis of past data and in warning about the risks of damage during transportation. In the future, it should be possible to upgrade the system with the use of IoT-based monitoring, automated claim processing, and the integration with smart logistics platforms to enhance scalability and efficiency in operations.

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