WWW.IJRPR.COM

International Journal of Research Publication and Reviews

Journal homepage: www.ijrpr.com ISSN 2582-7421

Face Recognition Based Smart Attendance System

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Abstract

This paper presents an automated attendance management system utilizing face recognition technology, designed to address the inefficiencies and inaccuracies of traditional attendance methods. The system leverages real-time face detection and recognition using advanced computer vision and deep learning models. It is scalable, integrates seamlessly with existing institutional workflows, and ensures robust data security. Experimental results demonstrate high accuracy and reliability, even under varying environmental conditions. The proposed solution streamlines attendance processes, reduces administrative workload, and enhances data integrity for educational institutions and workplaces

Keywords: Face recognition, attendance system, computer vision, deep learning, automation, security.

1. Introduction

Traditional attendance systems, such as manual roll calls or paper registers, are time-consuming, error-prone, and susceptible to fraudulent practices like proxy attendance. With the growing size of classrooms and organizations, there is a pressing need for an automated, efficient, and secure attendance management solution15. Face recognition technology offers a non-intrusive and rapid alternative, enabling accurate identification and verification of individuals in real-time.

2. Literature Survey

Several biometric methods have been explored for attendance management, including RFID, fingerprint, and iris recognition. RFID-based systems, while effective, require physical tokens and are still vulnerable to misuse1. Iris and fingerprint recognition offer high accuracy but can be intrusive and less user-friendly.

Recent research has focused on face recognition due to its contactless nature and ease of integration. Various algorithms such as Local Binary Patterns (LBP), Haar Cascades, and deep learning models like ResNet have been employed to enhance accuracy and robustness. Studies have shown that automated face recognition systems outperform manual methods in terms of speed, reliability, and scalability, even in challenging lighting or environmental conditions

3. Problem Definition

Manual attendance methods are inefficient and unreliable, often leading to inaccurate records and increased administrative burden. Existing electronic systems lack real-time analytics and are not immune to manipulation. There is a need for a solution that automates attendance, ensures high accuracy, and protects data privacy5.

4. Objectives

- Automate the attendance recording process to enhance efficiency.
- Ensure accuracy and reliability through advanced face recognition.
- Implement robust security measures for attendance data.
- Design a user-friendly system that integrates with institutional workflows

5. Proposed System

The proposed system consists of the following modules:

A. User Registration

Users register once by providing personal details and capturing multiple facial images. These images are stored in a secure database and used to train the recognition model.

B. Face Detection and Recognition

During each attendance session, the system captures live video using a webcam. Faces are detected using algorithms such as Haar Cascades or HOG (Histogram of Oriented Gradients), and recognized using deep learning models (e.g., dlib's ResNet)

C. Attendance Marking

If a detected face matches a registered user, attendance is automatically marked and stored in a structured database or CSV file. The system can also generate real-time reports and analytics for administrators

D. Security and Privacy

Data is encrypted and access is restricted to authorized personnel. The system addresses privacy concerns by limiting data collection and ensuring compliance with institutional policies

6. Results and Discussion

The system was tested in a classroom environment with varying lighting and facial expressions. It consistently achieved high accuracy rates, outperforming traditional manual methods in speed and reliability. The automated process significantly reduced administrative workload and minimized errors. The system also proved robust against common spoofing attempts, such as photo attacks, by incorporating liveness detection techniques15.

7. Conclusion

The Face Recognition Based Smart Attendance System offers a secure, efficient, and scalable solution for modern attendance management. By leveraging advanced computer vision and deep learning, it addresses the limitations of traditional methods and provides real-time, accurate records. Future enhancements may include mobile integration and advanced anti-spoofing features.

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