

Classification of Indian Classical Dance Steps using HOG Features

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ABSTRACT

In this paper Histogram Oriented Gradient (HOG) features are extracted to classify the postures in a Indian classical dance video dataset. The aim is to design an automated system that can recognize the steps of Indian classical dance in a video. As a video consists of frames of different actions, so features representing shapes can be used to interpret the dance steps. HOG based features are capable of representing the shape in varying background conditions. The proposed system performance is analyzed for total number of 50 poses taken from 9 different Bharatanatyam videos in varying background conditions. To find an optimal size of HOG based features Taguchi analysis for L-9 orthogonal array is implemented.

Keywords- *Histogram Oriented Gradient, Human activity recognition Indian Classical Dance dataset, SVM*

I. INTRODUCTION

India, being a land of diverse culture. The dance forms have also originated from different parts of India. These have been developed according to local traditions and rituals of that particular place. There are numerous styles of dances, broadly they are classified as classical dance and folk dance. Among these, the eight principal classical Indian dances are *Bharatnatyam, Kathak, Kathakali, Kuchipudi, Odissi, Sattriya, Mohiniattam and Manipuri*. There are number of particular actions and hand gestures called “*mudras*” related to each dance form [1]. Bharatanatyam is a classical dance which originally belongs to the state of Tamil Nadu. This dance form is a solo performance of a woman indicating traditional themes and spiritual ideas. It is performed in seven sub-postures or “*margam*” (*Alarippu, Jatiswaram, Shabdham, Varnam, Padam, Thillana, Attir*). Each action is representative and is clearly defined. Therefore, they can be interpreted into meaningful context. An activity recognition system can be deployed to automatically interpret these steps.

Human activity recognition is an important area of research under the field of Human Computer Interaction (HCI). The main motive of an activity recognition setup is to analyze and interpret events and their context from a video data. Its applications include surveillance systems, patient monitoring system, sports-play analysis, un-manned aerial vehicles, sign language translator and variety of systems that include interaction between human and electronic devices. Levels of human activities are categorized as follows:

- i. ACTIONS: Simple and single movements like bending, walking or running.
- ii. INTERACTIONS: Human-human, human-object interactions such as punching, lifting bag etc.
- iii. ACTIVITIES: Activities of group. The examples are playing, dancing, stealing etc.

In the work presented in this paper, human activity recognition system has been realized to recognize the steps of Bharatanatyam dance form [2-3].

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

Various works have been reported in literature in the area of human activity recognition. Vishwakarma and Kapoor analysed unified frame work for human activity recognition for KTH, Weizmann dataset and Ballet dataset. For Ballet dataset for eight poses, an average recognition rate of 94.25 % was achieved. R-transform and Spatial Edge Distribution based features were used [4]. Apiraksa *et.al* worked on simple poses. Features were extracted based on compactness and radial distance. It For 200 images for which it gave an accuracy of 91% [5]. Kaka and Uke proposed a human detection system based on Histogram of Oriented Gradients (HOG) features [6]. Amer. *et.al* proposed a sum- product network for activity recognition. The proposed method was tested on Volleyball dataset, along with the benchmark datasets VIRAT, UT-Interactions, KTH, and TRECVID MED 2011 [7]. Ciptadi and Rehg minimized human efforts in interactive tracking by learning sequence-specific model parameters. VIRAT and Infant Mother Interaction dataset were used [8]. Moon *et.al* proposed a dataset for describing Visual Events by Extending VIRAT Ground 2.0. The dataset adopted 75 video clips from VIRAT [9]. Wang and Ji presented a work on Video event recognition with Deep Hierarchical Context Model. Average recognition accuracy for VIRAT 1.0 Ground dataset is 68.88% [10]. Khodabandeh *et.al* worked on discovering human interaction in videos with limited data labeling. Dataset used were VIRAT and UT-interaction. Average accuracy of 81.40% was achieved for VIRAT and 90.83% for UT []. Collumeau *et.al* studied global, semi-local and local approaches for hand gesture recognition. In this HOG, Zernike moments (ZM), Scale Invariants Feature Transform (SIFT) were used [11]. Therefore, as reported in literature, the human activity recognition based on shape features can be used to classify the steps of any well-defined dance form such as Ballet dance. On similar lines, in this paper a HOG based classification system for Indian classical dance is presented.

III. HISTOGRAM OF ORIENTED GRADIENTS

Histogram of Oriented Gradients (HOG) is a descriptor, which is used for detection of objects even in complicated background [12-14]. It can be used as shape or texture feature. Fig. 1 shows the basic steps to derive HOG features. The image is divided into small-connected regions called cell of predefined number of pixels. For each cell, a histogram of gradient (number of particular gradient in an image) is compiled. If bin size is 9 then each bin is 20° . Therefore, each orientation contributes to its corresponding bin and a histogram of orientations is formed. Histogram normalization is done for a block. Block is the combination of cells. A minimum block size is 2x2. Any pre-processing of image is not required in HOG. HOG parameters like image size, cell size, bin number and gamma normalization can be varied to study the system response. The HOG parameters taken in this work are listed in Table .1.

TABLE .1 HOG Parameters

PARAMETERS	VALUES TAKEN
IMAGE SIZE	30x30
BLOCK SIZE	2x2
GAMMA VALUE	1
CELL SIZE	8x8, 12x12, 16x16
BIN SIZE	6, 9, 16
CLASSIFIERS	IBK ,NAÏVE BYES, SVM

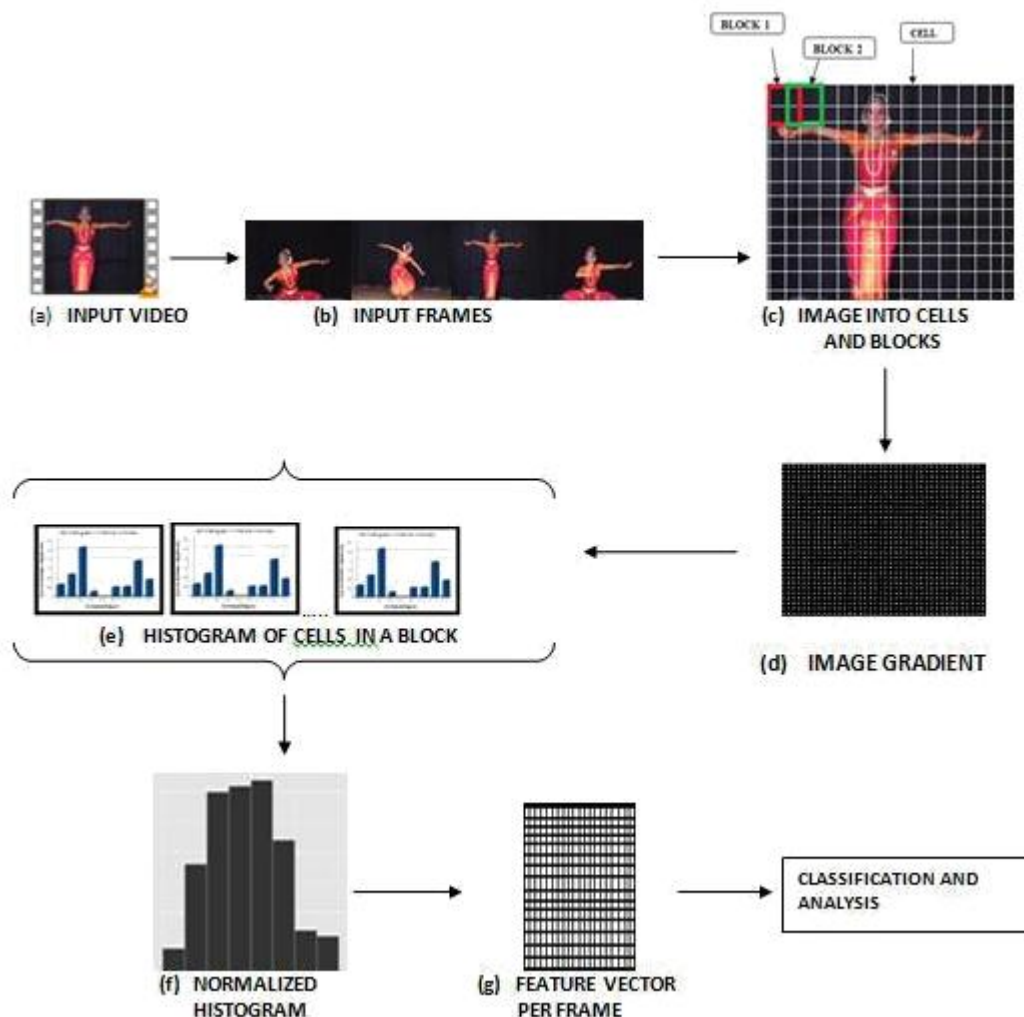


Fig. 2 STEPS TO CALCULATE HOG

IV. EXPERIMENTATION AND RESULTS

The overall system performance depends on value of parameters or factors mentioned in Table 2. To understand the influence of 3 different independent variables with each variable having 3 set values (level values). The number of experimental run required for 3 factors with 3 levels is 27 in a full factorial design. While using Taguchi DOE method, L9 orthogonal array with only 9 runs are sufficient. Minitab calculates the response by

combination of control factors. To maximize the outcome 'Larger is Better' is chosen and is given by Equation

(1). The variation of levels for each factor is listed in Table 2.

$$S/N = -10 \log_{10}(\text{Mean of Sum of Square of Reciprocal of Measured Data}) \quad (1)$$

Table 2. Variation of Parameters (3 Factors x 3 Level)

Factors	Parameter	Levels		
		1	2	3
A	Cell Size	[8x8]	[12x12]	[16x16]
B	Bin Size	6	9	12
C	Classifier	IBK	NB	SVM

No. of Runs Required in FF design= 27

No. of Runs in Taguchi Design= 9 using L9 orthogonal array

Table 3 L-9 Orthogonal Array

Run	Cell Size (A)	Bin Size (B)	Classifier (C)	Accuracy (%)	Size	Time (sec)
1	[8x8]	6	IBK	97.92	865	2.77
2	[8x8]	6	NB	82.62	385	.95
3	[8x8]	6	SVM	91.96	97	6.82
4	[12x12]	9	IBK	97.92	1297	2.98
5	[12x12]	9	NB	83.23	577	9.02
6	[12x12]	9	SVM	95.07	145	8.63
7	[16x16]	12	SVM	97.92	1729	49.59
8	[16x16]	12	IBK	78.45	49	.01
9	[16x16]	12	NB	83.61	193	.14
Confirmation Run	[8x8]	9	SVM	99.39	1297	41.81



Fig. 4 Main Effect Plot for 3 Level 3 Factor Design

Taguchi analysis calculates the Rank of each factor on basis of Delta value. In this experiment Bin Size is placed at Rank 1, followed by choice of classifier and cell size is at Rank 3. Therefore, it can be concluded that the Bin Size is important as compared to the Classifier and Cell size as can be seen in main effect plot for accuracy in Fig.3. Weka software is used for classification. System performance SVM, IBK and NB is analysed. Table .3 shows the accuracy of different classifiers corresponding to Bin size 9, Cell Size [8x8] and SVM gives are the best set of values .Maximum accuracy comes 99.39% as seen in confirmation run.

Taguchi Analysis: Accuracy versus Cell Size, Bin Size, Classifier

Factors: 3

Runs: 9

Columns of L9 (34) Array**

1 2 3

Response Table for Signal to Noise Ratios

Larger is better

Level A B C**1 17.04 20.29 17.22****2 17.74 15.14 15.72****3 16.97 16.33 18.80****Delta 0.78 5.15 3.08****Rank312**

V. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

Indian classical dance recognition system has been designed based on Human activity recognition. 9 Bharatanatyam videos [16] are considered to extract 50 different dance steps. SVM gives the maximum accuracy for the set of HOG parameters selected using Taguchi analysis. The work can be extended to include more complex datasets, subject variations, number of poses, complex background and further classifying the sequence of steps rather than a stand alone step. Recognition of complex actions and automatic removal of redundant frames in a video is a major challenge in this field.

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