

**HUMAN ACTIVITY RECOGNITION BASED ON
ELM USING DEPTH IMAGES**

AHMED KAWTHER HUSSEIN

UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA PERLIS

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**HUMAN ACTIVITY RECOGNITION BASED ON
ELM USING DEPTH IMAGES**

By

AHMED KAWTHER HUSSEIN

(1440211436)

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|-------|--|
| ACO | Ant colony optimization |
| ANN | Artificial Neural Networks |
| ASL | American Sign Language |
| BCA | Bee Colony Algorithm |
| BPNN | Back-propagation Neural Network |
| CCD | Comparative Coding Descriptor |
| CoG | Center Of Gravity |
| DAG | Directed Acyclic Graph |
| DBN | Dynamic Bayesian Network |
| DCSF | Depth Cuboid Similarity Feature |
| DFT | Discrete Fourier Transform |
| DMHIs | Two Depth Change Induced Motion History Images |
| DTW | Dynamics Time Wrapping |
| ELM | Extreme Machine Learning |
| FFT | Fast Fourier transform |
| FNN | Feed Forward Neural Network |
| GA | Genetic Algorithm |
| HAR | Human Activity recognition |
| HMCR | Harmony Search Considering Rate |
| HMM | Hidden Markov Model |

| | |
|--------|--|
| HOG | Histogram Oriented Gradient |
| HOGPH | Histogram of Oriented Gradient Pattern History |
| HOJ3D | Histograms Of 3D Joint Locations |
| HOR | Histogram-of-Oriented-Rectangles |
| HSO | Harmony search optimization |
| K-NN | K-Nearest Neighbour |
| MHI | Motion History Image |
| PAR | Pitch Adjusting Rate |
| PMT | Projected Motion Template |
| ROP | Random Occupancy Pattern |
| SA | Simulated Annealing |
| SAX | Symbolic Aggregate approximation |
| SIFT | Scale-Invariant-Feature-Transform |
| SLFNs | Single Hidden Layer Feed Forward Neural Networks |
| STF | Spatio-Temporal Feature |
| STIPs | Spatio-Temporal Interest Points |
| SVMs | Support Vector Machines |
| TS | Tabu Search |
| VMT | Volume Motion Template |
| 3D-MHI | Dimensional Motion History Image |

LIST OF SYMBOLS

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| z_{Start} | Initial position of COG on z-axis |
| z_{Min} | Minimum position of COG on z-axis. |
| z_{End} | Final position of COG on z-axis |
| z_{Hip} | The position of hip center on z-axis |
| $z_{LeftHand}$ | The position of left hand on z-axis |
| $z_{RightHand}$ | The position of right hand on z-axis |
| T_r | The distance of the right hand from the hip |
| T_l | The distance of the left hand from the hip |
| T_m | The scaling factor that is used to limit the values of the two hands distance in the range [0, 1]. |
| T_{rs} | Transitional distance between right hand and hip after scaling |
| T_{ls} | Transitional distance between left hand and hip after scaling |
| a_u | Number of actions |
| $m - 1$ | Number features that are used to identify |
| e | Number of experiments |
| s | Number of subjects |
| d | The total amount of data |
| n | Rows |
| m | Columns |
| η | The learning rate of the algorithm |

Pengecaman Aktiviti Manusia Berdasarkan Imej-Imej Kedalaman

ABSTRAK

Aktiviti Pengiktirafan Manusia (HAR) telah mendapat faedah penyelidikan yang agak besar dalam beberapa dekad kebelakangan ini kerana aplikasi yang luas terutamanya dalam bidang perubatan, pengawasan, interaksi manusia-mesin, permainan dan hiburan. Pengekstrakan ciri adalah satu langkah penting dalam algoritma HAR. Walau bagaimanapun, pada masa ini kebanyakan penyelidikan memberi tumpuan kepada ciri-ciri biasa seperti spatial domain dan domain frekuensi ciri-ciri. Ciri-ciri tersebut tidak mempunyai konteks dan tidak menyeluruh dalam alam semula jadi. Malangnya, membina ruang ciri yang menyeluruh daripada aktiviti manusia adalah sukar kerana keluasan dan jenis uncountable tindakan manusia. Ini membawa kepada masalah yang mencabar mereka bentuk sistem HAR yang menggunakan berasaskan konteks ciri pengekstrakan tindakan manusia. Dalam karya ini ruang ciri kontekstual komprehensif untuk pengecaman aktiviti manusia dibentangkan menggunakan imej kedalaman, jumlah fratures adalah 11. dalam aspek klasifikasi, mesin pembelajaran extrem hanya menggunakan lelaran tunggal dalam peringkat latihan untuk menentukan berat output. mesin pembelajaran extrem amat berkesan kerana ia cenderung untuk mencapai optimum global berbanding dengan kaedah pembelajaran FNN tradisional yang mungkin akan terperangkap dalam optimum tempatan. Kelemahan algoritma ELM memegang nombor terhingga darjah kebebasan untuk meniru satu set data yang diberikan. Ini darjah terhingga kebebasan adalah akibat daripada sifat rawak juga wajaran yang ditetapkan antara input dan lapisan tersembunyi. A potensi kemajuan yang mungkin dalam prestasi dalam kajian ini boleh dicapai dengan memberikan wajaran berdasarkan pengoptimuman functionan Objektif (ELM) menggunakan meta-heuristik itu. Harmony Cari Algoritma yang merupakan sebahagian daripada fungsi pengaktifan meta-heuristic dan Tansig yang mengeluarkan neuron tersembunyi un diperlukan juga turut dipersembahkan dalam kerja ini. pendekatan yang dikemukakan oleh itu menyelesaikan masalah ijazah yang tidak terhingga kebebasan berat input serta menghadkan bilangan neuron dalam lapisan tersembunyi, sekali gus meningkatkan prestasi algoritma ELM itu. algoritma ELM dioptimumkan kemudiannya digunakan untuk melaksanakan pengelasan konteks yang dibangunkan berdasarkan ruang ciri. Ketepatan dicapai adalah 100% dalam latihan dan 94.95% semasa ujian dengan tindakan membuang dan 100% dalam latihan dan 100% dalam ujian tanpa tindakan membuang. pengoptimuman Gready MPE dengan HSO telah acehived ketepatan 94.95%. Selain itu, 60% daripada ciri-ciri yang telah mencapai ketepatan lebih 100%. Oleh itu, pendekatan yang boleh digunakan untuk melaksanakan pengecaman aktiviti manusia untuk pelbagai tujuan.

Human Activity Recognition Based On ELM Using Depth Images

ABSTRACT

Human Activity Recognition (HAR) has gained considerable research interest in recent decades due to its vast applications especially in the fields of medicine, surveillance, human-machine interaction, gaming and entertainment. Feature extraction is a key step in HAR algorithms. However, at present most research is focused on common features such as spatial domain and frequency domain features. Such features lack context and are not comprehensive in nature. Unfortunately, building a comprehensive feature space of human activities is difficult due to the vastness and uncountable nature of human actions. This leads to the challenging problem of designing a HAR system that uses context-based feature extraction of human actions. In this work a comprehensive contextual feature space for human activity recognition is presented using depth image, the total number of features is 11. In classification aspect, extreme learning machine uses only a single iteration in the training stage to determine the output weights. Extreme learning machine is extremely effective as it tends to achieve the global optimum compared to the traditional FNN learning methods which might get trapped in a local optimum. The drawback of ELM algorithm holds an infinite number of degrees of freedom for approximating a given data set. These infinite degrees of freedom are a consequence of the random nature of the weights assigned between the input and the hidden layer. A possible potential improvement in performance in this research can be achieved by assigning the weights based on an objective function optimization of the (ELM) using the meta-heuristic Harmony Search Algorithm which is a part of meta-heuristic and Tansig activation function which remove unneeded hidden neuron are also presented in this work. The presented approach hence solves the problem of the infinite degree of freedom of the input weights as well as restricting the number of neurons in hidden layer, thus increasing the performance of the ELM algorithm. The optimized ELM algorithm is then used to perform the classification of the developed context based on feature space. The accuracy achieved was 100% during training and 94.95% during testing with throw action and 100% during training and 100% during testing without throw action. Greedy optimization of the ELM with HSO has achieved an accuracy of 94.95%. Moreover, 60% of the features have achieved an accuracy of over 100%. Thus, the approach can be utilized to perform the human activity recognition for various purposes.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Human Activity Recognition (HAR) is defined as a process of identifying human actions based on a set of observational data. HAR has gained considerable research interest in recent decades due to its vast applications especially in the field of medicine, surveillance, human machine interaction, gaming, and entertainment. A robust HAR system would change the way humans interact with technology. In the field of medicine, HAR systems can be used to assist rehabilitation processes and also used as a supervisory monitoring system for patients. In addition, HAR systems provide a huge impact on gaming and entertainment industries as it makes the media consumption a much more interactive and immersive experience for users.

Various HAR systems have been developed using different types of sensors. Much work has been done in vision-based HAR systems as in the case of Rougier, Meunier, St-Arnaud, and Rousseau (2011) and Raptis, M., & Sigal, L (2013). Vision-based systems usually suffer from certain limitations such as light sensitivity, background distinction, and environmental noise. Hence, other sensing methodologies such as RGB-D based sensing and data-based sensing have attracted researchers as in the case of Chattopadhyay and Maurya (2014), Ni et al. (2013), and Aggarwal and Ryoo (2011). Depth information in

such systems serves as complimentary information and can improve the robustness of the HAR system.

Furthermore, depth cameras are insensitive to illumination changes and can extract skeleton features easier than vision-based systems. Wearable sensors are another way to extract data for HAR systems. Lara and Labrador (2013) presented a survey on the wearable sensor based HAR systems.

1.2 Problem Statement

HAR systems are, in essence, pattern recognition systems and hence have four main components i.e. sensing, preprocessing, feature extraction, and classification (Jain, Duin, & Mao, 2000). Even though HAR systems have a rich research base, there are certain issues lacking in the literature. The work presented hereby will focus on two issues in the existing HAR systems namely, feature extraction techniques and classification.

Feature extraction is a key step in HAR algorithms. In the available literature, most research is focused on common features such as spatial domain and frequency domain features. Such features however, are lack of context and not comprehensive in nature. Unfortunately, building a comprehensive feature space of human activities is difficult due to the vastness and uncountable nature of human actions. This leads to a challenging problem in designing a robust HAR system that uses context based feature extraction of human actions. This work therefore aims to develop a comprehensive contextual feature space for human activity recognition such that any similar actions having similar features performed by different individuals should be identified by the system.

Several classification algorithms such as Support Vector Machine (Khemchandani & Sharma, 2016), *K*-Nearest Neighbor (Chua, Leman, & Pham, 2011), Neural Network (NN) based algorithms, and etc. have been proposed in the literature. A common problem in those classifiers is the degree of freedom is insufficient to optimize the results of classification. This work will focus on a neural network based algorithm known as Extreme Learning Machine (ELM) (Huang et al., 2006).

Extreme Learning Machine (ELM) algorithm was adopted for human activity recognition system. Even though ELM algorithm has better performance than the conventional NN, there are two issues that ELM suffers from. First, the input weights of the ELM algorithm are randomly assigned. This leads to an infinite number of degree of freedom for approximating a data set. Second, the number of neurons in the hidden layer of ELM is assigned arbitrarily. Both of these issues limit the optimization performance of ELM algorithm. Niu, Ma, Li, Yan, and Li (2016) identify the same problems with the ELM algorithm and proposed a self-adjusting ELM (SA-ELM) based on the idea of the improved the teaching learning based optimization, the input-weights and the bias of hidden layer of extreme learning machine are adjusted with “teaching phase” and “learning phase” to minimize the objective function values. This work hence aims at optimizing the ELM algorithm in the two identified areas.

1.3 Motivation

The motivation for developing a robust HAR system arises from the many fold applications that such systems have. As mentioned, HAR systems provide huge benefit in

the field of medicine and medical care. Loblaw, Nielsen, Okoniews, and Lakhani (2013) presented a system for respiratory sensing using an infrared camera. A similar sleeping respiration measurement system was also introduced by Kuo, Lee, and Chung (2010). Furthermore, a nursing care monitoring system for understanding human behavior using HAR was discussed in Liu, Chung, Chung, and Thonnat (2007). In addition, HAR systems are also applied in video surveillance. Vishwakarma and Agrawal (2013) provided a framework for application of human action recognition in video surveillance. Human Machine Interaction is yet another area of interest in HAR systems. Chaudhary, Raheja, Das, and Raheja (2011) presented a survey of human machine interaction using hand gestures.

HAR is needed for wide range of applications to provide the perception functionalities. For example: with HAR robots can deal with human in more effective way. Moreover, different services with HAR can be automated without the need to human being.

Due to the vast area of application of HAR systems, it is incentivizing to develop a robust and comprehensive HAR system that caters to such applications.

1.4 Research Questions

The research questions of this work are as follows:

- i. How to develop a computational scheme for feature development that is scalable and comprehensive in nature.
- ii. How to develop and optimize the ELM algorithm in order to get an improved performance.

1.5 Objectives

This research aims at achieving certain objectives which are as follows:

- i. To develop a scalable scheme for feature development in HAR system.
- ii. To develop an optimization scheme of Extreme Learning Machine (ELM) algorithm for classification purposes.
- iii. To evaluate the developed schemes and algorithms using standard benchmark data.

1.6 Scope

The research presented in this work operates under a set of scope. First, an RGB-D camera was used for the detection of human activity. The Kinect sensor contains many advanced sensing hardware such as RGB camera and a depth sensor that provide full-body 3D motion capture. Furthermore, the Kinect is known for its capability of human skeletal tracking making it a better choice over a regular RGB camera. The research used only one stationary camera to collect the human activity data. There are no other sensors such as inertial measurement sensor, wearable sensors, and etc. that are used to collect the data. There are 10 action types: walk, sit down, stand up, pick up, carry, throw, push, pull, wave hands, clap hands. There are 10 subjects; each subject performs each action twice (as the design of the UTkincet data set). Lastly, the data collected is divided into training data and testing data such that a part of the data is used for training purposes and the remaining part is used for testing purposes.

1.7 Contribution

The contributions of the research presented are as follows:

- i. The research presented a computational scheme for development of features in HAR system.
- ii. A Harmony Search Optimization (HSO) was introduced to assign input weights for the ELM algorithm. The proposed (HSO) introduces roulette probability distribution to select the harmonics. The roulette probability distribution helps in selecting harmonics from the memory according to their fitness. Furthermore, a Tansig activation function was used to limit the number of hidden layer neurons in order to improve the performance of the ELM.

1.8 Thesis Outline

This thesis consists of five chapters namely, Introduction, Literature review, methodology, Experimental results, and Conclusion.

In chapter one, the overview of human activity recognition and their applications is described. The problem statements, objectives, and research scope are also presented.

Chapter two reviews the literature of features representation in HAR such as Space-time Features, Frequency Features, Local Descriptor, Optical Flow Based, and Skeleton Joints. In addition, the role of classifier in the HAR system is also described.

Chapter three presents the design of skeleton based features for human activity recognition. The chapter presents the process of joint reduction and defines different features used for HAR. The chapter discusses the action provided by UTkinect dataset and

mapped them the corresponding features. Furthermore, this chapter discusses the design of machine learning used in this research. The chapter describes the conventional methods of training the neural networks, especially using the back propagation (BP) algorithm, and identifies the drawbacks associated with the conventional methods. The extreme learning machine algorithm, which is proposed as an alternative to the BP algorithm is used in the current work.

Chapter four presents and discusses the results of the work that was developed in chapter three.

In Chapter five, the conclusion of the overall chapters is provided. Furthermore, discussion and future works are presented.

1.9 Summary

This chapter introduced the HAR systems which will be the main focus of this work. A short discussion on the previous works and the possible applications for the HAR system were discussed, followed by a discussion on the motivations behind the current work. The chapter then presented several challenges faced while developing a robust HAR system. Moreover, the challenges for ELM optimization were discussed in this chapter. The objectives of the current work were laid out and research questions were developed. Lastly, the chapter defined the scope of the research and ended with outlining the main contributions presented by this work.