© MAY 2026 | IRE Journals | Volume 9 Issue 11 | ISSN: 2456-8880
DOI: https://doi.org/10.64388/IREV9I11-1717964

Autonomous Traffic Violation Detection Using Machine Learning and Computer Vision

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Abstract- Traffic violations such as red-light jumping, over-speeding, and riding without helmets are among the leading causes of road accidents and fatalities worldwide. With the rapid increase in the number of vehicles in urban areas, traditional traffic monitoring systems based on manual observation and CCTV surveillance have become inefficient, time-consuming, and prone to human error. Existing research has explored various machine learning and deep learning approaches, such as Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) and YOLO- based object detection models, for detecting specific traffic violations. However, most of these systems are limited to detecting a single type of violation and lack integration for real-time multi- violation detection and data analytics. This paper presents a comprehensive literature review of existing traffic violation detection techniques and identifies key research gaps in scalability, integration, and real-time performance. Based on these gaps, a novel framework is proposed that utilizes deep learning models for detecting multiple traffic violations simultaneously. The system also incorporates a structured database to store violation data and perform analytical reporting. The proposed approach aims to improve accuracy, efficiency, and scalability in intelligent transportation systems and contributes toward the development of smart city traffic management solutions.

Keywords - Traffic Violation Detection, Machine Learning, Computer Vision, Deep Learning, YOLO, Intelligent Transportation Systems, Smart Cities

I. INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Traffic management has become a critical challenge in modern urban environments due to the rapid increase in population and vehicle usage. Road traffic violations such as red-light jumping, over- speeding, and riding without helmets are among the leading causes of accidents, injuries, and fatalities worldwide. According to global road safety reports, a significant percentage of road accidents occur due to human negligence and non-compliance with traffic rules. As cities continue to expand and vehicle density increases, ensuring road safety and efficient traffic regulation has become increasingly complex.

Traditional traffic monitoring systems primarily rely on manual supervision by traffic police and the analysis of CCTV footage. While these methods have been effective to some extent, they are labor-intensive, time-consuming, and prone to human error.

The vast amount of video data generated daily makes it impractical for manual analysis, leading to delays in identifying violations and taking necessary actions. Furthermore, human monitoring is limited by fatigue, attention span, and subjectivity, which reduces overall efficiency.

Recent advancements in Machine Learning (ML) and Computer Vision (CV) have opened new possibilities for automating traffic monitoring systems. Deep learning techniques, particularly Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) and object detection models such as YOLO (You Only Look Once), have demonstrated remarkable performance in analyzing visual data. These technologies enable real-time detection and classification of objects, making them highly suitable for traffic violation detection applications.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Despite the availability of advanced technologies, existing traffic violation detection systems still face several limitations. Most current approaches are designed to detect only a single type of violation, such as helmet detection or red-light violation, without providing a comprehensive solution. Additionally, many systems lack integration between

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detection, data storage, and analytical components, which limits their usefulness in real- world applications. The reliance on small or simulated datasets further reduces the generalization capability of these models. Moreover, real-time processing remains a challenge due to computational constraints, making it difficult to deploy such systems at a large scale. These limitations highlight the need for a unified and scalable system capable of detecting multiple violations in real time while providing meaningful insights.

MOTIVATION

The motivation behind this research stems from the urgent need to improve road safety and enhance traffic management systems. With the increasing number of vehicles and frequent violations, manual monitoring is no longer sufficient to ensure compliance with traffic regulations. Automated systems powered by machine learning can significantly reduce human effort, improve detection accuracy, and enable faster response to violations. Furthermore, integrating analytics into the system can provide valuable insights into traffic patterns, helping authorities make informed decisions. The growing availability of surveillance infrastructure and computational resources makes it feasible to implement such intelligent systems, thereby contributing to the development of smart cities.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To analyze existing machine learning and deep learning techniques for traffic violation detection
- To identify research gaps in current systems
- To develop a framework for multi-violation detection
- To design a system for storing and analyzing violation data
- To improve efficiency and scalability of traffic monitoring systems

CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE PAPER

This paper makes several important contributions to the field of intelligent transportation systems. Firstly, it provides a comprehensive review of existing research in traffic violation detection, covering various approaches such as traditional methods, machine learning, deep learning, and IoT- based systems. Secondly, it identifies key research gaps, including the lack of integration, scalability issues, and limited real-world validation. Thirdly, it proposes an integrated framework that combines multi-violation detection, real-time processing, and data analytics. Finally, the study highlights the potential of using advanced deep learning models to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of traffic monitoring systems.

ORGANIZATION OF THE PAPER

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows: Section 2 presents a detailed literature review of existing traffic violation detection techniques. Section 3 describes the proposed methodology, including system architecture and workflow. Section 4 discusses the expected results and performance evaluation metrics. Section 5 concludes the paper and outlines future research directions.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

OVERVIEW OF EXISTING RESEARCH

Traffic violation detection has gained significant attention in recent years due to the increasing demand for intelligent transportation systems and smart city solutions. Researchers have explored a wide range of approaches, including traditional image processing methods, machine learning algorithms, deep learning techniques, and Internet of Things (IoT)-based systems. While these approaches have shown promising results, each has its own strengths and limitations in terms of accuracy, scalability, and real-world applicability.

THEMATIC CLASSIFICATION

- Traditional Methods: Image processing techniques
- Machine Learning: SVM, Random Forest
- Deep Learning: CNN, YOLO, Faster R-CNN
- IoT Systems: Sensor-based monitoring

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COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

Author	Ye ar	tho d	Dataset	forma nce	iitati on
harma et al.	2024	YOLO v5	CCTV images	90% accuracy	Small dataset
eepika et al.	2023	IoT Sensor s	nulat ed	Real-time detection	No AI integrati on
Yumaga nov et al.	2021	CNN + Modul ar	RL A	High success rate	Simulati on only
an et al.	2022	LO R	Traffic images	High precision	Limited validati on
iad et al.	2022	YOLO v5	Helmet dataset	92% accuracy	Single violatio n

OVERVIEW OF EXISTING RESEARCH

Traffic violation detection has gained significant attention in recent years due to the increasing demand for intelligent transportation systems and smart city solutions. Researchers have explored a wide range of approaches, including traditional image processing methods, machine learning algorithms, deep learning techniques, and Internet

TRADITIONAL APPROACHES

Early research in traffic violation detection relied on traditional image processing techniques such as edge detection, background subtraction, and color segmentation. These methods were used to identify vehicles, lane boundaries, and traffic signals.

Although these techniques are computationally less expensive and easy to implement, they lack robustness in complex environments. Variations in lighting, weather conditions, and camera angles significantly affect their performance. Moreover, these approaches require manual feature engineering, making them less adaptable to dynamic real-world scenarios.

MACHINE LEARNING APPROACHES

With the advancement of machine learning, researchers began using algorithms such as Support Vector Machines (SVM), Decision Trees, and Random Forests for traffic violation detection. These methods improved classification accuracy compared to traditional techniques and were capable of handling structured data more effectively. However, machine learning approaches still depend heavily on manual feature extraction, which limits their ability to process complex visual data. Additionally, their performance decreases when applied to large-scale datasets or real-time video streams.

DEEP LEARNING APPROACHES

Deep learning has emerged as the most effective approach for traffic violation detection due to its ability to automatically extract features from raw data. Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) have been widely used for image classification tasks, while advanced object detection models such as YOLO (You Only Look Once), Faster R-CNN, and RetinaNet have significantly improved detection accuracy and speed.

YOLO-based models, in particular, are highly suitable for real-time applications as they perform detection in a single forward pass, making them faster than other region-based methods. Several studies have demonstrated the effectiveness of YOLOv5 and YOLOv8 in detecting vehicles, helmets, and traffic violations with high accuracy. However, most of these systems focus on detecting a single type of violation and do not provide a comprehensive solution for multi-violation detection.

IOT-BASED SYSTEMS

IoT-based traffic monitoring systems use sensors, microcontrollers, and cloud platforms to collect and analyze traffic data in real time. These systems are effective for applications such as vehicle counting, speed monitoring, and congestion analysis. While IoT systems provide real-time data collection and remote monitoring capabilities, they lack advanced intelligence for complex decision- making. Additionally, sensor-based systems may not capture detailed visual information required for detecting

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specific violations such as helmet usage or signal jumping.

HYBRID AND RECENT APPROACHES

Recent studies have focused on combining multiple technologies to improve system performance. Hybrid approaches integrate deep learning models with IoT systems and cloud computing to achieve better accuracy and scalability. Some research also explores the use of blockchain for secure data storage and autonomous driving systems for advanced traffic management. Although these approaches show potential, they are still in the earlystages of development and often lack large-scale real-world validation.

CRITICAL ANALYSIS

A detailed analysis of existing literature reveals several important observations. Deep learning models provide high accuracy but require large computational resources and extensive training data. Many studies rely on limited or simulated datasets, which reduces their effectiveness in real-world environments. Furthermore, most systems are designed to solve specific problems rather than providing a unified solution. The lack of integration between detection, storage, and analytics components limits the practical applicability of these systems. Scalability is another major concern, as many models are not optimized for large-scale deployment in smart cities.

RESEARCH GAP

Based on the analysis of existing literature, several research gaps have been identified. Most studies focus on detecting a single type of traffic violation and do not address the need for multi-violation detection. There is a lack of integrated systems that combine detection, data storage, and analytical capabilities. Additionally, many approaches are tested only in controlled or simulated environments, which limits their real-world applicability. The absence of large, diverse datasets further affects the generalization ability of models. These gaps indicate the need for a comprehensive, scalable, and real-time traffic violation detection system.

SUMMARY OF LITERATURE REVIEW

In summary, the literature review highlights the evolution of traffic violation detection systems from traditional image processing methods to advanced deep learning techniques. While significant progress has been made, existing approaches still face challenges related to scalability, integration, and real-world deployment. The identified research gaps provide a strong foundation for developing an improved system that addresses these limitations and contributes to the advancement of intelligent transportation systems.

III. PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

The proposed system is designed as an integrated and scalable framework for autonomous traffic violation detection using machine learning and computer vision techniques. The architecture consists of multiple interconnected modules that work sequentially to capture, process, analyze, and store traffic data. The input module is responsible for capturing real-time video streams from CCTV cameras installed at traffic junctions and highways. These cameras act as the primary data source and continuously provide visual information for analysis.
The captured video data is then passed to the processing module, where it is converted into individual frames suitable for analysis. Preprocessing techniques such as noise reduction, resizing, and normalization are applied to improve image quality and ensure consistency in input data. The processed frames are fed into the YOLO-based detection module, which is responsible for identifying objects such as vehicles, riders, and traffic signals in real time.

Following object detection, the violation detection module applies rule-based logic and machine learning techniques to identify different types of traffic violations. These include detecting whether a rider is wearing a helmet, identifying vehicles that cross the stop line during a red signal, and estimating vehicle speed for over-speeding detection. Once a violation is detected, relevant information such as timestamp, location, and captured image is forwarded

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to the database module.

The database module stores all violation-related data in a structured format, enabling efficient retrieval and analysis. This stored data is further processed by the analytics module, which generates reports, identifies patterns, and provides insights into traffic behavior. Finally, the output module presents the results in the form of alerts, dashboards, and reports that can be used by traffic authorities for monitoring and decision-making.

WORKING PROCESS

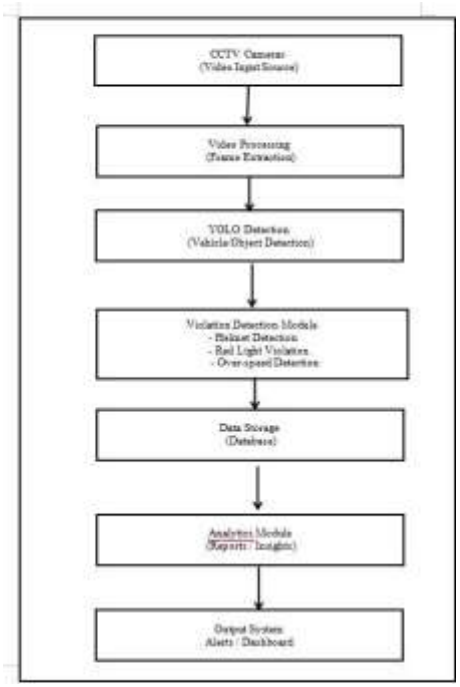
The working process of the proposed system follows a systematic pipeline for real-time traffic violation detection. Initially, video streams are captured continuously from CCTV cameras and divided into frames for analysis. These frames are then processed using a YOLO-based object detection model, which identifies vehicles, riders, and relevant objects within the scene.

Once the objects are detected, the system evaluates predefined traffic rules to identify violations. For instance, helmet detection is performed by analyzing the head region of riders, while red-light violations are detected by comparing vehicle positions with traffic signal status. Over-speeding detection is achieved by analyzing motion patterns across consecutive frames. If a violation is identified, the system records the event along with necessary details and stores it in the database.

The stored data is then used to generate analytical reports, which provide insights into traffic patterns, violation frequency, and high-risk zones. These reports can assist authorities in implementing effective traffic management strategies. The entire process is designed to operate in real time, ensuring timely detection and response to traffic violations.

WORKFLOW DIAGRAM

Input (CCTV Video)
↓
YOLO Detection Model
↓
Violation Detection (Helmet / Speed / Signal)
↓
Database Storage
↓
Output (Reports & Alerts)



WORKFLOW DESCRIPTION

The workflow of the system begins with the acquisition of video data from CCTV cameras, which is then processed using deep learning models for object detection. The detected objects are analyzed to identify traffic violations based on predefined rules. Once a violation is detected, the information is stored in a centralized database. The system then generates outputs in the form of alerts and analytical reports, which can be accessed through dashboards for monitoring and decision- making. This structured workflow ensures seamless integration between different modules and enables efficient processing of large volumes of traffic data.

ADVANTAGES OF PROPOSED SYSTEM

The proposed system offers several advantages compared to existing approaches. One of the key benefits is its ability to perform real-time processing, which enables immediate detection and response to traffic violations. The use of deep learning models ensures high detection accuracy and robustness in complex environments. Unlike traditional systems that focus on a single violation, the proposed system is capable of detecting multiple types of violations simultaneously, making it more comprehensive and efficient.

The system is designed with scalability in mind, allowing it to be deployed across multiple locations in smart city environments. Additionally, the integration of a database and analytics module enables data-driven decision-making, providing valuable insights into traffic patterns and violation trends. The reduction in human intervention minimizes errors and improves overall system efficiency, making it a practical solution for modern traffic management systems.

DATASET DESCRIPTION

The dataset used in the proposed system consists of a combination of real-time traffic surveillance data and publicly available datasets. Traffic surveillance videos are collected from CCTV cameras installed at various locations, providing real-world scenarios for model training and testing. Public datasets, such as those available on Kaggle, are used to supplement the training data and improve model generalization.

The dataset includes diverse traffic conditions, different vehicle types, and various environmental scenarios such as daytime, nighttime, and varying weather conditions. Preprocessing techniques such as image resizing, normalization, and data augmentation are applied to enhance dataset quality and improve model performance. The use of a diverse and comprehensive dataset ensures that the system can perform effectively in real-world environments.

EXPECTEDRESULTSAND DISCUSSION

The proposed system is expected to achieve significant improvements in traffic violation detection compared to existing methods. By leveraging advanced deep learning techniques, the system is capable of achieving high accuracy in detecting various types of violations. The real-time processing capability ensures that violations are detected instantly, enabling prompt action by authorities.

The system is also expected to reduce the workload on traffic personnel by automating the monitoring process. The integration of analytics allows for better understanding of traffic patterns, which can be used to optimize traffic management strategies. Compared to existing systems, the proposed model offers improved integration, scalability, and efficiency, making it suitable for large-scale deployment in smart city environments.

APPLICATIONS AND USE CASES

The proposed system has a wide range of applications in modern transportation systems. It can be used in smart city traffic management systems to monitor and control traffic flow efficiently. Highway monitoring systems can utilize this technology to detect over-speeding and prevent accidents. Law enforcement agencies can use the system to automate the detection of violations and improve compliance with traffic rules.

Additionally, the system can play a crucial role in accident prevention by identifying risky behaviors and alerting authorities in real time. The data collected by the system can also be used for urban planning and infrastructure development by analyzing traffic patterns and identifying congestion-prone areas. These applications highlight the practical significance of the proposed system in improving road safety and traffic management.

CONCLUSION

In this study, a comprehensive review of existing traffic violation detection systems based on machine learning and computer vision has been presented. The analysis of various research works indicates that while significant progress has been made in detecting specific violations, most existing systems are limited in scope and lack integration with real-time analytics and scalable deployment.

To address these limitations, this paper proposes an integrated framework for autonomous traffic violation detection that combines multi-violation detection, real-time processing, and data storage for further analysis. The use of advanced deep learning models enables accurate and efficient detection, while the inclusion of a database system supports long-term monitoring and informed decision- making.

The proposed system aims to enhance efficiency, reduce human effort, and improve road safety in smart city environments. By addressing the gaps identified in existing research, this work contributes to the development of intelligent transportation systems capable of handling real-world challenges. Future work can focus on improving system robustness under varying environmental conditions and integrating the system with broader smart city infrastructure for large-scale implementation.

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