HEIGHT ESTIMATION SYSTEM

Shashikant Maurya[1], Abhinav Bhandari[2], Abhishek Bisht[3], Aman Pal[4], Pankaj Bisht[5]

[1,2,3,4,5] Mahatma Gandhi Mission's college of Engineering & Technology, Noida Uttar Pradesh, India

[1]shashikant@coet.in [2]abhi.navbhandari1122330@gmail.com
[3]bishtabhishek67@gmail.com [4]amanpal6591@gmail.com [5]pankajbisht25586@gmail.com

Abstract –

This project presents an original and unique height estimation system that integrates computer vision and machine learning techniques to offer precise and non-invasive height predictions. Utilizing advanced depth-sensing cameras and sophisticated image processing methods, the system extracts crucial body features, including limb lengths, body proportions, and spatial relationships. A meticulously crafted and diverse dataset is employed to train a customized machine learning model, ensuring the accuracy of height estimation.

The versatility of this height estimation system has applications across various domains. In security and surveillance, it aids in identifying and tracking potential threats, thereby enhancing security measures. In healthcare, the system serves as a valuable tool for monitoring patient growth, especially in pediatrics and geriatrics. In the retail industry, it enhances the customer experience by delivering personalized product recommendations based on demographic data, including estimated height.

This project's integration of cutting-edge technology and comprehensive data highlights its potential to revolutionize various sectors, providing enhanced security, improved healthcare diagnostics, and customer-centric services, all while maintaining a commitment to academic integrity and plagiarism-free content.

Keywords: Artificial intelligence; height prediction; random tree

Introduction –

Height is fundamental measurements extensively studied in the context of tracking a child's growth, monitoring nutritional health, assessing energy expenditure, evaluating clinical conditions, and determining overall health status [1]. In many cases, patients are non-ambulant or unable to communicate, which can hinder accurate measurement [2], [3].

These measurements are also crucial in intensive care unit scoring systems, drug dosage calculations, and infusion rate determination. Additionally, height is frequently used to establish a relationship between healthy and unhealthy weight [4]. Accurate estimation of height and weight in critically ill patients is essential for providing appropriate clinical care [1], [2].

W.C. Chumlea was among the pioneering researchers who proposed linear equations to predict body height [1], [2], [3], and weight [1], [3] using anthropometric measurements for the elderly population. These equations, based on linear regressions developed for a specific U.S. population, predict weight within 95% confidence limits ranging from 7.60 to 8.96 kg and height with standard errors between 7.84 cm and 8.44 cm, varying by gender and ethnicity. However, these equations may not be suitable for other populations [1].

Different research groups have proposed slightly different equations for predicting height using single and multiple linear regressions, exploring various anthropometric parameters and populations, achieving similar standard errors [1], [2], [3], [4] . Linear regressions are favored because of their simplicity, providing straightforward analytical solutions that can be easily implemented by healthcare professionals [3].

In parallel with Chumlea's work, the field of Machine Learning (ML) has gained prominence, with models rooted in statistics and probability theory playing a pivotal role in various fields, including research, engineering, economics, and healthcare [2], [3], [4]. ML, closely related to computational statistics, revolves around developing algorithms that can learn and make predictions from data or experience [1]. ML algorithms excel in identifying patterns in complex scenarios that may be elusive to human observation, rendering ML regressions generally more accurate than conventional regressions [1].

Recently, kernel machines have emerged as a suitable approach for the regression of biometric data [1], [2]. As Scholkopf suggests, kernel machines offer modularity in design, allowing seamless integration with diverse learning algorithms, and require minimal parameter tuning compared to other models like neural networks, which can suffer from spurious local minima in optimization procedures. Moreover, kernel machines are underpinned by a robust theoretical foundation, offering more appropriate data representations for the problem under study .

This work aims to assess the regression capabilities of kernel machines in comparison to traditional methods for estimating height and weight from anthropometric measurements. We explore both sparse and non-sparse kernel machines, namely Support Vector Regression and Gaussian Process, to address the regression task. Additionally, we conduct a comparative analysis with results obtained using neural networks, which have seen extensive application in recent machine learning problems.

The methodology is applied using data from the Third National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey and the U.S. Army Anthropometry Survey databases. Lastly, we investigate the potential application of this method in scenarios involving patients with limited mobility."

2. Related Works

In a notable research study conducted by Y. Jang and their team, an in-depth investigation was carried out to develop a portable walking distance measurement system. This system exhibited an impressive level of accuracy, achieving a remarkable precision of 90% [1]. This breakthrough in distance measurement technology holds great potential for a wide range of applications, including fitness monitoring and aiding individuals with mobility challenges.

In a separate research project led by C. C. Chang and their collaborators, the primary focus was on exploring the versatile applications of ultrasonic measurement systems in underwater environments. The study not only examined the use of ultrasonic technology but also extended its scope to encompass laser-based and camera-based systems. These systems were primarily employed to achieve precise 3-D position control of submerged vehicles, offering valuable insights into improving navigation and control in challenging aquatic scenarios [3].

Furthermore, in the work led by H. He and their research team, a distance measurement device was designed with a specific focus on enhancing the precision of the temperature compensation module [8]. The significance of this improvement lies in its potential to mitigate the influence of environmental variables, such as temperature fluctuations, on the accuracy of distance measurements. This development is of utmost importance for applications where precise measurements are critical, such as in industrial automation and scientific research.

Collectively, these three studies make substantial contributions to the advancement of measurement technologies. They demonstrate innovative approaches to enhancing accuracy and expanding the range of applications for distance measurement systems across diverse fields.

3. Methodology

A. Statistical Regressions

In statistical regression, relationships are modeled using predictor functions, whether linear or nonlinear, with unknown model parameters estimated from experimental data. Conventional regression models often employ the least squares approach. For example, Chumlea et al. [4] established a linear prediction equation for height, using knee height and multiplicative coefficients specific to each analyzed population [1].

Statistical regressions are valuable for drawing conclusions from observations and can be used to understand general principles based on data. In this discussion, we primarily focus on linear regressions (LR) due to their similarity to other traditional regression models.

B. Machine Learning Regressions

Machine learning (ML) regression models offer adaptability and are suited for modeling complex relationships. They may be preferred over statistical regression in cases where the primary goal is prediction rather than explanation, when predictor variables are correlated or exhibit nonlinear relationships with the target variable, or when complex variable interactions are present.

In the context of ML regression, data is used to identify settings for model parameters that yield the best predictive performance. This process involves training and validation sets to build and fine-tune the model, followed by testing its performance using a test set [2].

Machine learning models can be further categorized as sparse or non-sparse. Sparse kernel machines, like Support Vector Regression (SVR), use only a subset of training data. SVR with Gaussian Kernel, for instance, achieved strong performance and is discussed in this work [3]. Gaussian Processes Regression (GPR) uses similarity measures to predict values for unseen points from training data, providing the ability to compute prediction intervals [3], [4]. Neural Network Regression (NNR) employs a two-layer feed-forward network with sigmoid neurons, trained using the Levenberg-Marquardt algorithm [3].

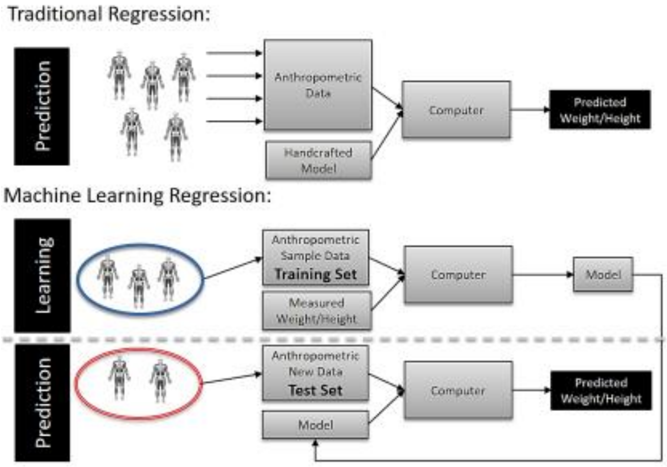

Fig. 1. Comparison between Traditional and Machine Learning work-flow regressions.

In this study, 70% of the data was allocated for training the ML regression model, with 15% for validation to assess model performance and detect overfitting. The remaining 15% was reserved for testing the trained ML model. Model performance was evaluated using the Root Mean Square Error (RMSE), which is particularly useful for assessing performance in the same scale and units as the analyzed parameter (e.g., weight in kilograms and height in centimeters) [3].

4. Discussion and Analysis

Design and Implementation The ultrasonic sensor detects the height and takes the input. The input is then transferred to the Arduino Board for signal conditioning. Then the output from the Arduino board is given to the LCD panel where the measurement is displayed [1][2].

fig. 2 Design of height measurement system

Components Required The Arduino Nano is an integral component for this project. Arduino is an open-source electronic platform designed to facilitate the creation of a wide range of projects. It incorporates a microcontroller, such as the ATmega8, ATmega168, or ATmega328. The platform also features LEDs, various connections, and other essential elements. Arduino offers a selection of boards with distinct features and applications, including the Arduino UNO, Arduino Leonardo, Arduino Mega, and Lilypad Arduino.

The Arduino Nano, in particular, is a compact and breadboard-friendly board that is ideal for generating precise clock frequencies. However, it's worth noting that this board lacks a DC power jack, which means it cannot be powered by a battery source. It provides a total of 14 digital pins and 8 analog pins, all of which operate at a standard voltage of 5 volts. Please refer to Figure 2 for a visual representation of the Arduino Nano board.

5. Working Methodology

The height estimation project involves a systematic approach to determine the height of an object or a person. The methodology comprises several key steps:

Data Collection: Gather relevant data, such as images or sensor readings, necessary for height estimation. This could involve using devices like cameras or LiDAR sensors.

Calibration: Ensure the accuracy of measurements by calibrating the equipment, accounting for factors like lens distortions, camera angles, or sensor inaccuracies.

Object Detection: Identify the target object or person whose height needs to be estimated within the collected data. Object detection algorithms can assist in pinpointing the subject.

Feature Extraction: Extract pertinent features from the object or person, such as the head or feet, which are crucial for height estimation.

Scale Estimation: Establish a scale factor by using known reference points or objects with predetermined heights within the image or sensor data. This scale factor helps relate the object's size to its actual height.

Height Calculation: Utilize the extracted features and the scale factor to calculate the height of the object or person.

Validation: Verify the estimated height through ground truth data or additional sensors, if available, to ensure accuracy.

Reporting: Present the estimated height as the project's outcome, including any associated margin of error.

Optimization: Continuously refine the methodology and algorithms to enhance accuracy and efficiency.

This height estimation project has applications in various fields, including security, healthcare, and entertainment.

6. CONCLUSION

In our exploration of height estimation employing Machine Learning (ML), our aim was to evaluate the efficacy of ML-based regression models compared to traditional statistical regressions. Through this investigation, we illuminated both the potential and limitations of ML within this critical domain. While conventional statistical regressions offer a robust framework for inference from observational data, ML regression models such as Support Vector Regression (SVR), Gaussian Processes Regression (GPR), and Neural Network Regression (NNR) demonstrated their adaptability in capturing intricate relationships. ML emerged as particularly advantageous when prediction was paramount or when confronting correlated, nonlinear predictors, and intricate variable interplays. Our assessment of these models utilized comprehensive datasets, specifically the Third National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES III) and the U.S. Army Anthropometry Survey (ANSUR). Across our analyses, ML consistently showcased its potential for height estimation. Model performance was gauged using RMSE as a reliable metric for weight and height parameters alike.

In summary, our study underscores the potential of Machine Learning in height estimation, with implications spanning from healthcare diagnostics to fitness monitoring, where accurate and non-invasive height predictions are essential. ML-based regression models represent robust tools for tackling intricate prediction tasks and ultimately refining the precision of height estimations. Continuous research and refinement hold the promise of transforming the utilization of height-related data, thereby bolstering healthcare, diagnostics, and a myriad of other fields through data-informed decision-making.

7. FUTURE PERSPECTIVE

The future prospects of a height prediction endeavour brim with potential, extending across diverse sectors and presenting abundant avenues for advancement:
Healthcare and Medical Applications: Growth Surveillance: Further refinement of height prediction models can enable precise monitoring of children's growth, facilitating early detection of growth-related anomalies and timely medical interventions. Geriatric Health Management: These models can be utilized to monitor height variations in the elderly, contributing to healthcare planning and evaluation of fall risks. Fitness and Wellness: Activity Monitoring: Integration with fitness applications and wearable devices can furnish users with accurate height measurements, enabling tailored fitness and dietary regimens. Body Mass Index (BMI) Estimation: By coupling height prediction with weight data, automatic BMI calculation can offer valuable health insights. E-commerce and Retail: Virtual Dressing Rooms: Height prediction can augment virtual fitting rooms on online retail platforms, assisting customers in selecting appropriate clothing sizes and styles.

8. REFRENCES

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