

Intelligent Star Finder Using Deep Learning Algorithm

Shravani Motarwar¹, Sparsh Kanugo², Anjali Patil³

^{1&3}Student, Department of E&TC, Dr D.Y. Patil Institute of Engineering Management And Research, India

²Dr. Priya Charles, Associate Professor, Department of E&TC, D.Y. Patil International University,

E-mail: shravanimotarwar@gmail.com, sparshkanugo@gmail.com, anjalipatil27092003@gmail.com

Abstract – Intelligent Star finder contains building of Automated Star Finder using Arduino and integration with deep learning technologies to locate and observe astronomical objects in the dark sky. The setup includes a camera attached to span and tilt devices controlled through an assembly of servos mounted on an Arduino system which then takes output; the images of the sky. These images were visualized through a laptop or an onboard microcontroller which is able of performing deep learning tasks. As deep learning requires training on prerequisite data, an underlying dataset comprising star maps and star systems is leveraged by training purposes where in the on-board system parses and pin point stars, galaxies, and even constellations from the footage. The system will be using the information from the deep learning image recognition model and directs the camera to the expected position to find star and its location. This automated process allows searching to be done in continuous and accurate manner which can be used in applications regarding education and practical astrophotography. Such an apparatus might be very convenient and helpful to gather the information about star; its constellation patterns through advanced technologies like deep learning and its desirable hardware setup.

Keywords: Deep Learning, Astronomical Imaging, Star Identification, Real Time Star Tracking, Celestial object detection, Sky Survey Automation.

I. INTRODUCTION

Intelligent Star Finder is a sophisticated tool that uses deep learning algorithms and cameras to detect and track objects, especially stars, in the night sky. The program aims to support astronomers and astronomer by programming the identification of stars and their locations. With features such as tracking, real-time feedback and detection accuracy, the intelligent star finder dramatically improves the simplicity and accuracy of stargazing through advanced computer vision techniques in addition to astronomy, this technology represents a huge leap forward although the various table text styles are provided. The formatter will need to create these components, incorporating the applicable criteria that follow. Using a camera to capture the image of the sky, the star finder analyze data in real time using deep learning model trained on large scale data on stellar shapes, galaxies and celestial bodies in a variety of scenarios even stars can be seen clearly as well part of star obscured by clouds, light pollution or other environmental factors.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

The integration of the sky imaging analysis with deep learning techniques for photovoltaic (PV) output now casting has garnered significant attention in recent years, driven by the need of improve solar energy forecasting due to the inherent variability of solar irradiance. This literature

review examines key studies and advancement in this field, highlighting methodologies, finding and future directions Maintaining the Integrity of the Specifications.

A. Sky Imaging and cloud

Several studies have focused on the use of sky cameras for cloud detection and monitoring. For instance, Gonzalez et al (2017) employed all sky imagers to analyze cloud cover and assess its impact on solar irradiance. Their work demonstrated that sky imaging can effectively capture cloud dynamics, providing valuable data for short-term solar forecasting. Micheletti et al (2019) further developed algorithms for cloud segmentation and classification, allowing for the differentiation between various cloud types and their effects on solar output. These advancements underscore the importance of accurate cloud detection as precursor to effective nowcasting. Astrophotography has long relied on traditional systems and hardware, including star array, to detect and position stars. Classical techniques such as the Hogg transform and K-means clustering have been widely used to identify stars in noisy sky images. These methods, although reliable, are computationally expensive and not suitable for variable conditions such as light pollution or camera noise. The study of Schildknecht et al (1994) highlighted the limitations of non-machine learning methods, especially in dealing with blocked or faint stars. In contract, deep learning methods provide a way to extract stellar features from complex astrophysical data. Sky imaging and cloud detection are key components in meteorology, climate studies, and solar energy applications.



Fig. 1 Sky Imaging and Cloud

Figure 1 visually represents the concept of sky imaging and cloud detection. It showcases an all-sky camera capturing the sky with various cloud formations, accompanied by digital overlays indicating cloud segmentation, classification, and solar irradiance data. Additionally, it features astrophotography elements with a telescope observing stars, comparing classical star detection methods such as K-means clustering and Hough transform with modern deep learning techniques. This illustration highlights the applications of sky imaging in meteorology, climate monitoring, and solar energy forecasting by

analyzing cloud coverage, movement, and their impact on sunlight availability.

It emphasizes how advanced algorithms and imaging techniques contribute to accurate weather prediction and efficient renewable energy management. Sky imaging involves capturing images of the sky using ground-based cameras or satellite sensors. These images are then analyzed to identify cloud coverage types, and movements, offering insight into weather conditions and solar radiation levels.

Cloud detection, specially, focuses on distinguishing clouds from clear sky areas in these images. Various methods, including machine learning and image processing techniques, are used to identify clouds based on color, texture, and shape differences. Accurate cloud detection helps in weather forecasting, climate monitoring, and optimizing the performance of solar energy systems by predicting sunlight availability. Combining sky imaging with cloud detection technology provides comprehensive tool for understanding atmospheric conditions and managing renewable energy resources.

B. Deep Learning Approaches

Deep learning has emerged as a powerful tool in analyzing complex patterns in sky images. Zhou et al. (2020) explored the application of Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) for predicting solar irradiance from sky images, achieving methods. Their models leveraged large data sets of sky images and corresponding solar output, illustrating the effectiveness of deep learning in handling high-dimensional data. Similarly, Lopez et al. (2021) implemented hybrid model combining CNNs with LSTM networks, which demonstrated improved performance in capturing temporal correlations in solar irradiance variations over time. Deep learning approaches have revolutionized star-finding systems by enabling the accurate and automated identification of stars and other celestial objects. Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), which are particularly effective for images analysis, are commonly used in this field. They excel at detecting patterns with in noisy or complex astronomical images by learning features directly from pixel data. For instance, CNN architectures like VGG, ResNet, and Inception have been adapted for astronomy, significantly improving star and galaxy classifications accuracy compared to traditional methods. Additionally, object detection networks such as Faster R-CNN, YOLO (You Only LOOK Once), and SSD (Single Shot Multibox Detector) have been employed to identify stars across the night sky. These models can locate and classify stars in real time, making them ideal for satellite navigations and space exploration. Transfer learning has also proven valuable, where models pretrained on general image datasets are fine-tuned for astronomical tasks, allowing for high accuracy even with limited labeled data. These deep learning approaches have proven far more adaptable and robust than previous algorithms, facilitating advancements in astrophotography, telescope imaging, and autonomous navigation systems in space.

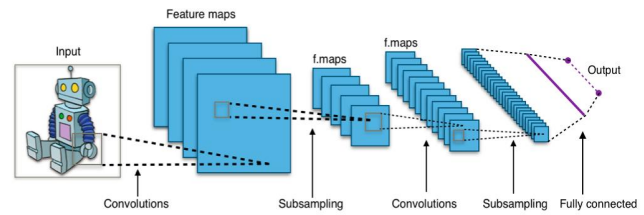


Fig. 2 Nutshell of CNNs

Figure 2 shows a nutshell of CNNs which are specialized in image detection. They use filters to scan images, looking for specific patterns like edges or textures. Imagine these filters as tiny magnifying glasses that highlight certain features. The CNN learns to recognize these patterns and use them to identify objects or features within the image. CNNs are powerful because they can learn these patterns directly from the image data itself, making them highly adaptable and accurate. Additionally, transfer learning is commonly applied, where models are pretrained on large datasets like ImageNet before being fine-tuned on astronomical data. This technique allows models to generalize well from limited labeled datasets, adapting to the characteristics of star images with greater efficiency. By leveraging data augmentation and synthetic datasets, deep learning models trained for star identification gain robustness against variations in brightness, orientations, and noise, further enhancing their real-world applicability. As these methods continue to evolve, they promise to improve the accuracy, speed, and adaptability of star finders, benefiting applications in both observational astronomy and autonomous navigation in space.

C. Data Fusion and Multi-Source Inputs

The integration of multiple data sources, including meteorological data and satellite imagery, has been a recurring theme in the literature. Fang et al. (2018) proposed a data fusion approach that combines sky imaging data with ground-based weather station readings, enhancing the predictive capabilities of their nowcasting model. This trend towards multi-source inputs highlights potential for more robust and accurate forecasting system that can adapt to varying environmental conditions. Data fusion is the process of integrating data from multiple sources to produce more consistent, accurate, and useful information than what can be achieved with individuals data sources alone. By combining data from diverse inputs, such as sensors, databases, or even social media feeds. Multi-sources input plays a critical role in this process, as it allow for cross-validation and enriches the dataset, often uncovering patterns that a single source might miss. This approach is widely used in areas such as military intelligence, healthcare, and autonomous system, where robust and reliable data integration is essential. By merging data from different domains or formats, organizations can reduce uncertainty, enhance decision-making, and improve the accuracy of predictive models.

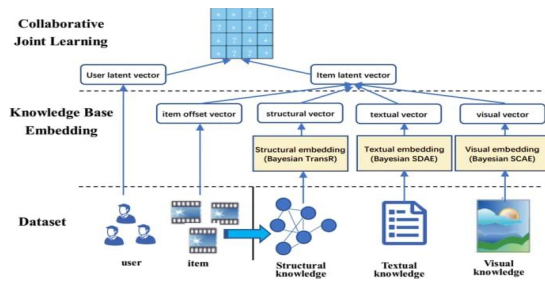


Fig. 3 Data Fusion and Multi source inputs

Figure 3 shows the data fusion and multi-source integration. During data fusion, these inputs are processed to reduce noise, fill in gaps, and resolve conflicts between differing data points. Techniques like filtering, statistical analysis, and machine learning algorithms are often used to define the data. Advanced data fusion systems apply contextual understanding to prioritize or weigh sources differently based on reliability or relevance, creating a synthesized output that reflects the most likely scenario. This comprehensive data set allows for better-informed decisions, as it mitigates the risks associated with relying on a single data source, improving accuracy and robustness in applications from autonomous vehicles to financial and healthcare diagnostics. Data fusion and multi source input can be regarded as key component of R&D activities in many technologies today including sensor networks, machine learning and decision aiding systems. According to the definition given by Stojanovic, data fusion is process whereby information from several sources is merged in order to have sufficient size and is actionable. This is particularly beneficial when each data source is only capable to providing either a fraction or a distorted image.

D. Transfer Learning in Astronomical Star-Finding Authors and Affiliations

Transfer learning where models built on wide-ranging image datasets for example ImageNet and the further trained specifically for star identification tasks shows some prospects in terms of cut down on training times and enhancing accuracy. It has been shown that transfer learning methods can be effectively applied for the construction of astronomical models even with relatively small datasets adopting the appropriate characteristics to the model. Transfer learning is starting to be used as a relevant method for the deep learning 4problems of astronomical star finding, including but not limited to the issue of the lack of labeled astronomical datasets. In broad strokes, transfer learning means taking a model trained on a large datasets (such as ImageNet) and training it on a more specific datasets (in this case, identifying stars). The pretrained models have already learned a set of common features (edges, textures, shapes) applicable to a variety of tasks, which is useful in generalizing them to the specific complexities of celestial images. With these models, the spatial star-finding models can perform better without much annotating star data. Such approach greatly shortens the training time without affecting the effectiveness of the model, because it now only has to learn how to differentiate stars from noise and other objects in the pictures taken of space. For instance, ResNet and

VGG Architectures, which were trained on large number of images, were used to detect stars and galaxies. The same holds true for Inception architectures. Noise and low-resolution model images, often present in astronomy data, degrade the model performance. Transfer learning facilitates model robustness to such noise during the image. In identification of stars in space, transfer learning greatly speeds up model training and allows one to deal with practical problems of the domain such as noise, low intensity, and a wide range of star densities. As vast labeled datasets are pretty hard to come by astronomy, it would only require a limited amount of retraining for models already pre-trained on general image datasets to be modified for astronomical sectors. With these layers from ResNet, Inception, or VGG models, their general patterns are first extracted and then used to identify specific patterns in the images of celestial objects. This helps the models adapt more quickly and easily while maintaining important features, thus the specialized features for learning the specific domain only exist in the final layers of the model. Furthermore, transfer learning enables models to be more accurate and consistent across telescope/satellite data source, making it very useful for models used in real life applications for star identification in which the data conditions can differ greatly. Transfer is indeed a highly useful technique is astronomical star finding as it helps to learn complex models that can generalize very few data.

E. Real Time Implementation and Application Identify the Headings

The practicality of real-time PV output now casting has been demonstrated in various studies. Prabhaet al. (2022) implemented a real time forecasting system using sky imaging and deep learning techniques for solar farming India. Their findings indicated that real time nowcasting could significantly improve operational efficiency and decision making for solar energy management. Furthermore, the application of nowcasting in smart grids has been explored, emphasizing its role in enhancing grid stability and optimizing energy distribution. The real-time use of star finder has revolutionary benefits in applications such as space exploration, autonomous navigation, and observational astronomy. With deep learning star finders are suddenly able to perform rapid and highly accurate identification and localization of stars in single second or less, even under adverse conditions like noisy or low level lighting. This capability is essential for spacecraft autonomous navigation methods, where star identification allow precise orientation and trajectory correction maneuvers when far from Earth. Just like a GPS enables us to know where we are and what route to take, real-time star finders can aid a spacecraft "self-locate" in space by quickly processing pattern so stars throughout different regions. This would also be useful on land, for things like telescope alignment in astrophotography or identifying targets by amateur astronomers. Real-time systems typically use more efficient architecture such as YOLO(You Only Look Once) or single Shot Multiplex Detector(SSD), which process

many stars in one run balancing speed and accuracy. In addition, if we consider that star finders are embedded in space instruments or deployed on specialized hardware like FPGAs (Field Programming Gate Arrays) or GPUs, they can be made much faster and power-efficient. The integration of speed, accuracy and adapt ability in real-time star finders increases the reliability of navigation for both crewed and uncrewed space missions while adding a new dimensions to star gazing experience on Earth.

III. CONCLUSION

In conclusion the integration of deep learning into star finding represents a significant advancement in both astronomical research and space navigation. Conventional methods even if good in limited environments much fight with blatant partial or disingenuous information which is where sound acquisition excels. By leveraging powerful procedures such as Convolutional Nerve-related Webs (CNNs) and object finding representations like YOLO or Faster R-CNN star finders can now accurately identify and track stars in real-time under various observational condition. In this paper we presented an smart star research procedure using a deep learning procedure combined with image-based camera. This procedure improves star fanion and celestial guidance using convolutional Nerve-related Webs are used to find stars from real time sky images .using camera based access increases the portability of the unit devising it good for employ away master astronomers and recreational stargazers utilizing real-time see methoding and advance sound acquisition techniques this unit provides astronomers with amp iron and prompt drive for hand-operated astrophotography or telescopes right extraordinary it is not necessary. Furthermore deep learnings ability to learn from large information sets and adjust to new scenarios has made star finding more reliable and efficient even in challenging environments like low-light or high-noise conditions. As computational power continues to improve and information sets become more promising offering increased precision speed and adjustability across a wide range of astronomical and space exploration. Uses finally sound acquisition has changed lead determination from amp abstract construct to amp pragmatic real-world drive that is reshaping the room we search and read the world.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The kind of help and resources offered by Dr. D.Y. Patil Institute Of Engineering Management And Research was sincerely appreciated and we express our deepest gratitude.

We sincerely thank our respected mentor Dr. Priya Charles who provided wise counsel, constructive advice, and kind nurturing throughout our hard work on the study. The members of the research team and other accomplices deserve our thanks for offering encouraging remarks and fruitful criticisms at each bend of the road during this research work. We express our special appreciation to the people who have contributed to the development of the open-source libraries and data sets in use for this work. We also extend our sincere thanks to our respective families and friends for their unqualified support, kindness, and understanding, which they showered on us so fancifully, thereby motivating us to finish this research.

REFERENCES

- [1] J. Wang, F. Shi, J. Zhang, and Y. Liu, "A new calibration model of camera lens distortion," *Pattern Recognition*, vol. 41,no.2,pp. 607–615, Feb. 2008.
- [2] R. V. F. Lopes and M.D.Shuster,"Parameter interference in distortion and alignment calibration," *J. Astron. Sci.*,vol.51,no.3,pp.261–277, Sep. 2003.
- [3] C. V. Tao and Y. Hu,"Acomprehensivestudyofthierational function model for photogrammetric processing,"*Photogramm. Eng. Remote Sens.*, vol. 67, no. 12,pp.1347–1357, Dec. 2001.
- [4] E. Lorenz, J. Hurka, D. Heinemann, andH. G. Beyer,"Irradiance forecasting for the power predictionof gridconnectedphotovoltaic systems," *IEEE J. Sel. Top. Appl. EarthObs.Remote Sens.*, vol. 2, no. 1, pp. 2–10, 2009.
- [5] P. Bacher, H. Madsen, and H. A. Nielsen, "Onlineshort-termsolar power forecasting," *Sol.Energy*, vol. 83, no. 10, pp. 1772–1783, 2009.
- [6] Zhang, G.; Zhang, G. *Star IdentificationUtilizingNeuralNetworks; Springer*: Berlin/Heidelberg, Germany, 2017.
- [7] Gose,E.;Johnsonbaugh,R.;Jost,S.*PatternRecognitionand Image Analysis; PrenticeHall,Inc.*: Hoboken, NJ, USA, 1996.
- [8] Mantas J.Methodologies in pattern Recognition and image analysis—A briefsurvey.*PatternRecognit.*1987,20,1–6.
- [9] Salomon, P.M.; Glavich, T.A. Image signal signal processing in sub-pixel accuracystartrackers.
- [10] vesanto, J.; Alhoniemi, E. Clustering of the self- organizing map.
- [11] IEEE Trans. Neural Netw. 2000, 11, 586– 600. [CrossRef] [PubMed]
- [12] Terasic. DE1-SoC Development Kit User Manual; DE1- SoC Manual; Terasic:Hsinchu,Taiwan,2016.
- [13] B. Zhou , Y. Zhang, X. Chen, and S. Shen,"Fuel:Fast UAV exploration using incremental frontier structure and hierarchical planning ,"*IEEE Robot.Automat. Lett.*, vol. 6,no. 2,pp. 779-786, Apr. 2021.
- [14] C. Cao, H. Zhu, H. Choset, and J. Zhang, "TARE: A hierarchical framework for efficiently exploring complex 3D environments,"*Proc.Robot.:Sci.Syst.*, vol. 5,2021,pp. 1-8.
- [15] T. Dhang, C. Papachristos, and K. Alexis, "Autonomous exploration and simultaneous object search using aerial robots," in *Proc. IEEE Aerosp.Conf.*, 2018,pp. 1-7.
- [16] H. Kim , S. Lee, and K. Alexis, "Autonomous exploration in a cluttered environment for a mobile robot with 2D-map segmentation and object detection," *IEEE Robot. Automat. Lett.*, vol. 7, no. 3,pp. 6343-6350,Jul. 2022.