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Vision-Based Driver State Recognition in Alert Systems Using Deep Learning

Prof. R. S. Vaidya¹, Ujwal Jagtap², Priyanshu Upadhyay³, Pramit Wagh⁴, Pranay Dedge⁵

Department of Information Technology, Sinhgad College of Engineering, Pune, India

ABSTRACT: Distracted driving, particularly due to drowsiness, is a major cause of road accidents. This study proposes a new system for driver fatigue detection using deep learning. The system leverages a Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) to analyse facial features and eye movements in real-time. Trained on a vast dataset encompassing various fatigue levels, the CNN effectively classifies the driver's state of alertness. Furthermore, the system can be integrated with sensor technology to monitor vital signs, like heart rate, for improved accuracy. Experiments validate the system's efficacy in detecting driver fatigue, promoting safer roads.

KEYWORDS: Drowsiness, Deep Learning, Driver State Monitoring.

I. INTRODUCTION

Traffic statistics consistently highlight driver fatigue as a leading cause of accidents. The drowsy driver's cognitive decline manifests in slower reaction times, impaired judgment, and reduced situational awareness. This translates into missed cues, tardy braking, and potentially catastrophic outcomes. The economic impact is also substantial, with costs associated with medical care, property damage, and lost productivity. Current fatigue detection systems primarily rely on monitoring steering patterns, lane departure, and vehicle behaviour. While these methods provide some value, they often lack sensitivity to the driver's state and can be triggered by external factors like strong winds or uneven roads. Additionally, they might not detect early signs of fatigue before it significantly affects driving ability.

The emergence of deep learning, particularly Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), has revolutionized computer vision tasks. CNNs excel at extracting crucial features from images and videos, making them ideal for analysing facial expressions and eye movements. These subtle changes are often the first indicators of fatigue, such as drooping eyelids, prolonged blinking, or head nods. By training a CNN on a vast dataset encompassing diverse fatigue levels, the system can learn to recognize these signs with high accuracy.

This proposed driver fatigue detection system based on deep learning and sensor fusion has the potential to significantly improve road safety. By providing real-time warnings to drowsy drivers, the system can prompt them to take a break or activate safety features in the vehicle. This proactive approach can prevent accidents before they even occur.

II. RELATED WORK / LITERATURE SURVEY

Several studies focus on analyzing video footage of the driver's face to identify drowsiness based on eye closure. These systems often utilize image processing techniques to convert facial images to binary data and track eyelid movement. While offering a non-invasive approach, their accuracy can be limited by lighting conditions and individual facial variations. One of the researches propose a video-based system to detect driver fatigue by analyzing yawns. The system employs a face detector to locate the facial region and then utilizes a Kalman filter for tracking. Mouth opening is then measured based on mouth features to identify yawns. However, challenges arise when dealing with occlusions or missed detections.

Beyond facial features, studies explore the use of physiological data. This research examines head movement dispersion alongside driving performance metrics to assess sleepiness. Head movement variations have shown promise as a reliable indicator, less susceptible to external road conditions. Some other systems focus on detecting eye blink rate to identify drowsiness. These systems typically involve video analysis of the driver's face to locate and track the eyes. Blink rate is then measured to determine potential loss of awareness. While achieving promising accuracy rates, these methods might be affected by lighting variations. Recent advancements introduce deep learning for driver fatigue detection by proposing a system using Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) to categorize the driver's eye state

(open or closed). This system achieves high accuracy but relies on large datasets for training. Studies like these highlight the challenges of applying deep learning for fatigue detection, particularly achieving high accuracy with real-world data and minimizing false positives. The research explores combining deep learning with fuzzy logic or recurrent neural networks to address these issues. Recognizing the limitations of generic eye-tracking thresholds, proposes a perception-free calibration method. Another method leverages Mediapipe Facemesh to detect facial feature points and establish personalized thresholds for eye opening and closing based on individual head postures.

Zhang et al. (2016) developed a combination of facial features and driving performance to detect driver fatigue. They achieved more than 90% fatigue detection using the support vector machine (SVM) classifier. Similarly, Dong et al. (2018) achieved 85% accuracy in detecting driver fatigue using CNN to analyze facial images. Other researchers have focused on using physiological measurements such as heart rate variability (HRV) and electroencephalography (EEG) to detect fatigue. Liang et al. (2017) used HRV signals to detect fatigue and achieved an accuracy of 82% using random forest classification. Zhao et al. (2020) Using EEG and CNN signals to diagnose fatigue with 88% accuracy. By understanding these diverse approaches and their limitations, we can develop a more robust and accurate driver fatigue detection system for our project. The reviewed studies provide valuable insights into effective methodologies and highlight the potential for further advancements in this crucial field.

III. SYSTEM FLOWCHART

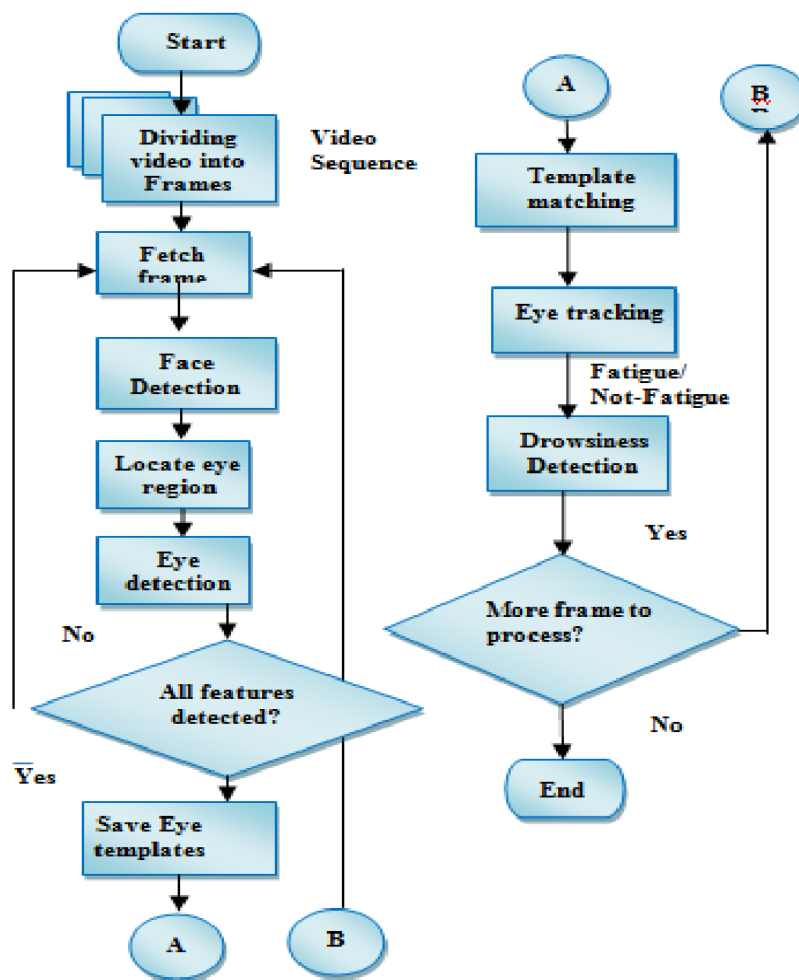


Figure 1: Flow Chart

This driver fatigue detection system leverages deep learning for a multi-step process. First, data is collected, including facial images, eye movement information, and physiological sensor readings. This data undergoes pre-processing to ensure it's clean and usable, with facial images receiving additional enhancements for better feature extraction. Deep learning then takes center stage: convolutional neural networks (CNNs) analyze facial expressions and eye movements

to extract relevant features. These features are then combined using multi-modal fusion techniques, creating a unified picture of the driver's state. Finally, this comprehensive data is fed into a pre-trained deep learning model that identifies signs of fatigue. In real-time operation, the system continuously monitors the driver and triggers alerts if fatigue is detected.

IV. PROPOSED TECHNOLOGY

Deep Learning Engines: Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) are the workhorses for extracting informative features from facial images and eye movement data. These features capture subtle changes that might indicate fatigue, like drooping eyelids or gaze instability. For analyzing time-series data like heart rate and skin conductance, Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs) or Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks come into play. These networks excel at identifying patterns in sequential data, offering valuable insights into the driver's state.

Sensor Integration: Capturing clear facial details is crucial, so high-resolution cameras are employed to provide the necessary data for facial image analysis. These sensors precisely track eye movements, detecting signs of fatigue like prolonged blinking or loss of focus.

Data Fusion Techniques: To create a comprehensive picture of driver fatigue, information from various sources needs to be combined. Merging features extracted from different data sources (facial images, eye movements, physiological signals) at an early stage in the processing pipeline is involved. Outputs from individual deep learning models trained on specific data modalities are combined at a later stage. These advanced techniques can dynamically focus on the most relevant features from each data source, leading to more robust fatigue detection.

Real-Time Processing for Timely Alerts: For effective intervention, the system prioritizes real-time processing. This requires streamlining data acquisition, pre-processing, and feature extraction from multiple sensors to minimize delays. Designing deep learning models that can make fast predictions while maintaining accuracy.

Machine Learning Libraries: Open-source libraries like TensorFlow or PyTorch provide powerful tools for building and training complex neural networks, forming the backbone of the system's intelligence.

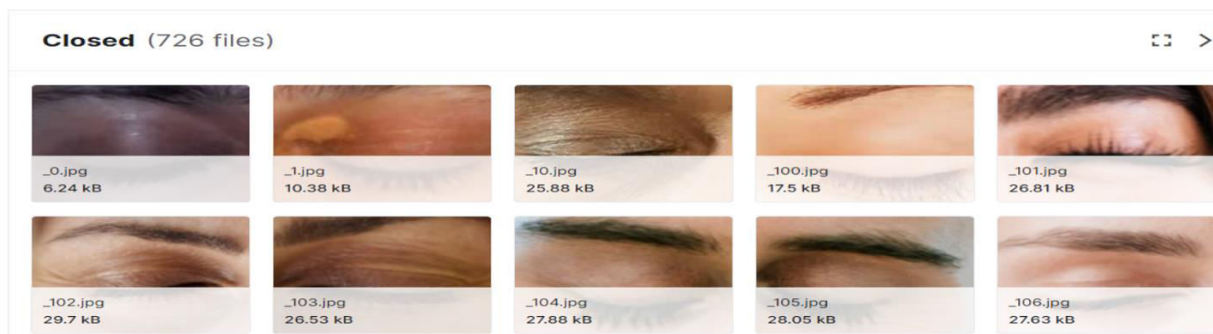


Figure 2: Closed Eyes Dataset

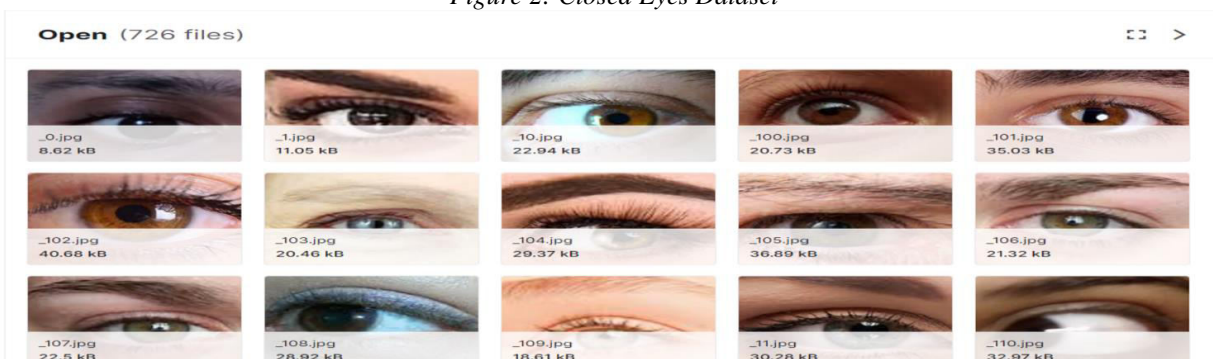


Figure 3: Open Eyes Dataset

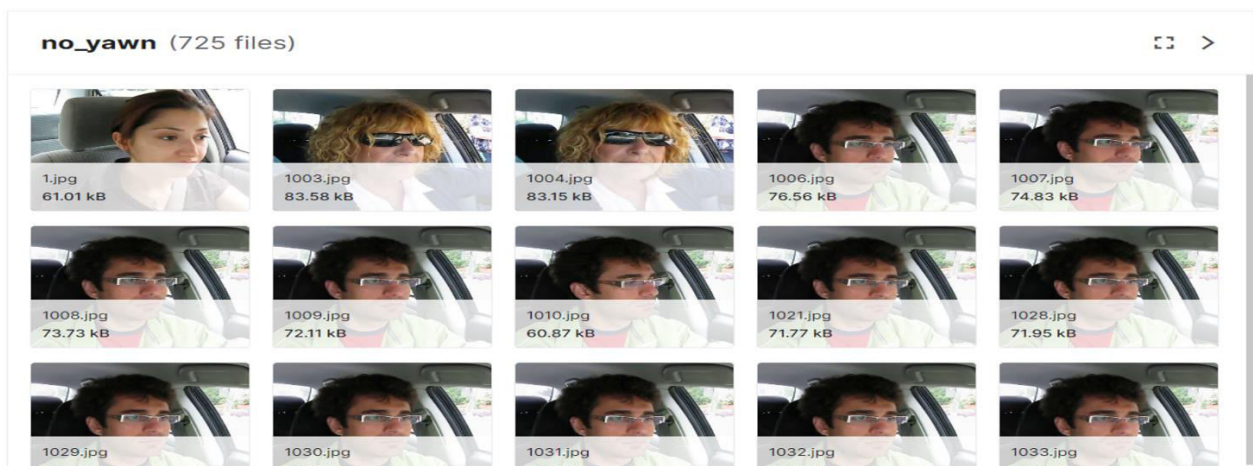


Figure 4: Non-Yawning Faces Dataset

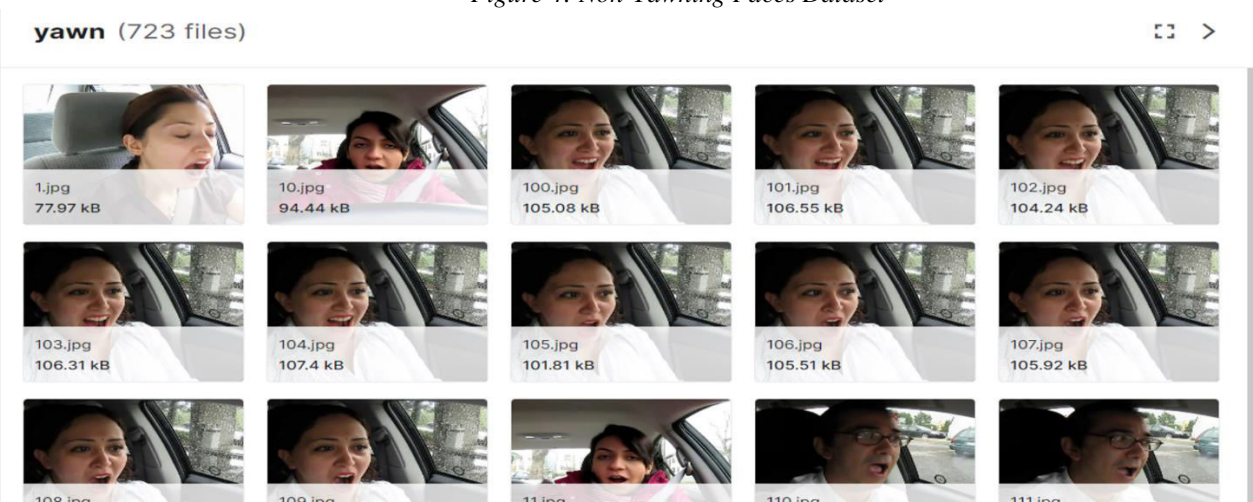


Figure 5: Yawning Faces Dataset

User Interface: The interface should be easy to understand and non-distracting for the driver. It should provide clear real-time feedback, displaying alerts or recommendations when fatigue is detected.

Scalability and Security Considerations: Cloud computing offers a scalable and accessible platform for data storage, processing, and model deployment. This allows the system to handle large datasets and future growth. Implementing robust security measures is paramount to protect the system and user data from unauthorized access.

By combining these elements, the driver fatigue detection system aims to create a comprehensive and real-time solution for improved road safety.

V. RESULTS

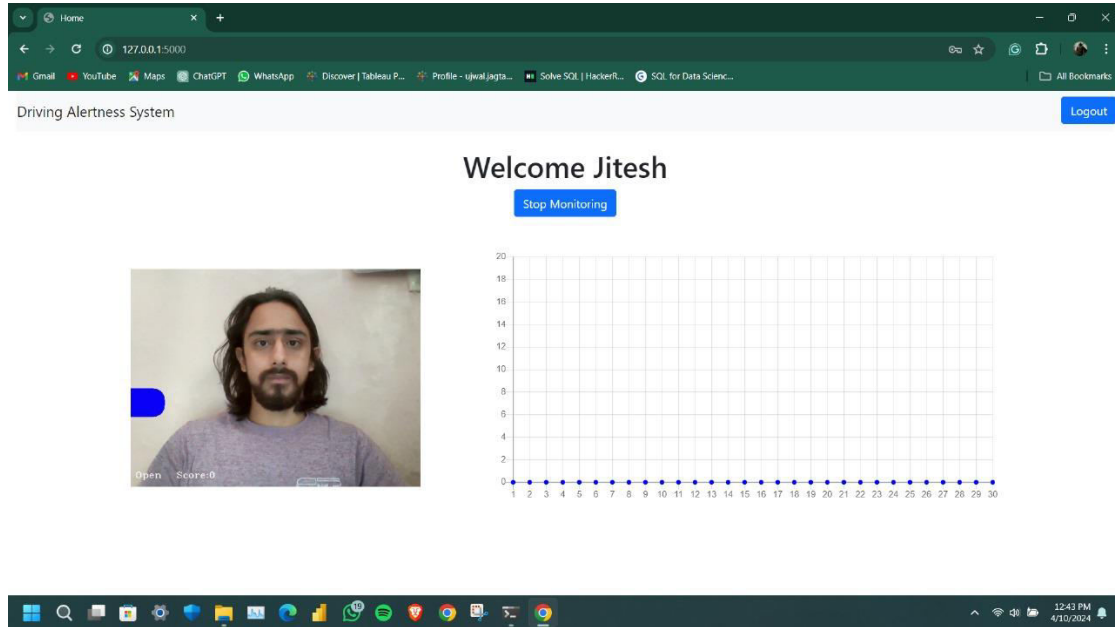


Figure 6: Test Case 1- Alert OFF

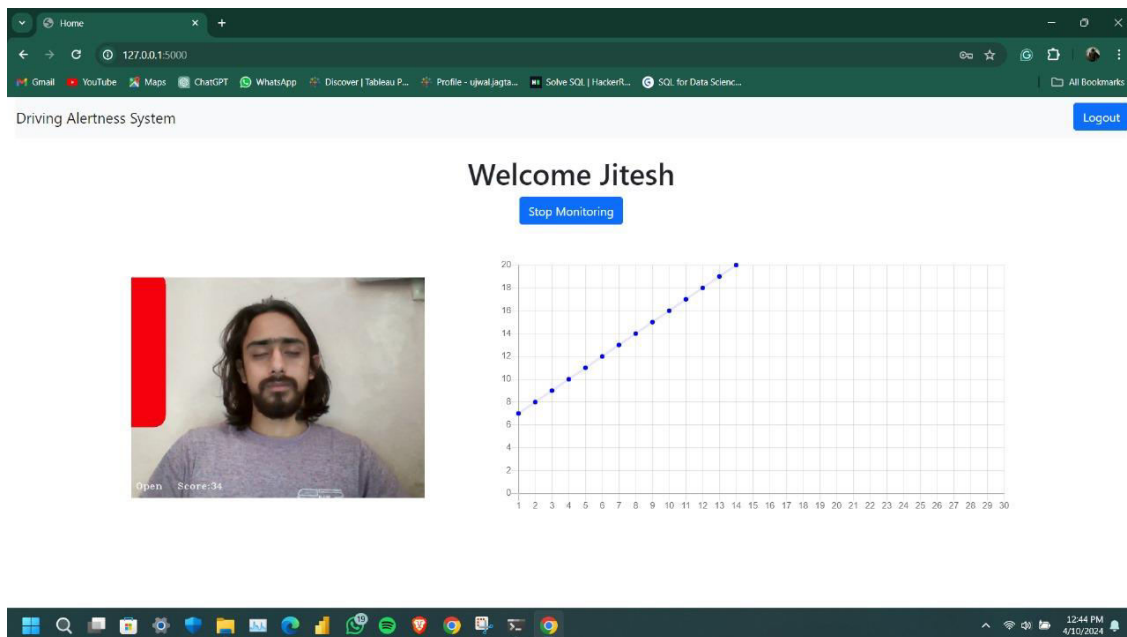


Figure 7: Test Case 2- Alert ON

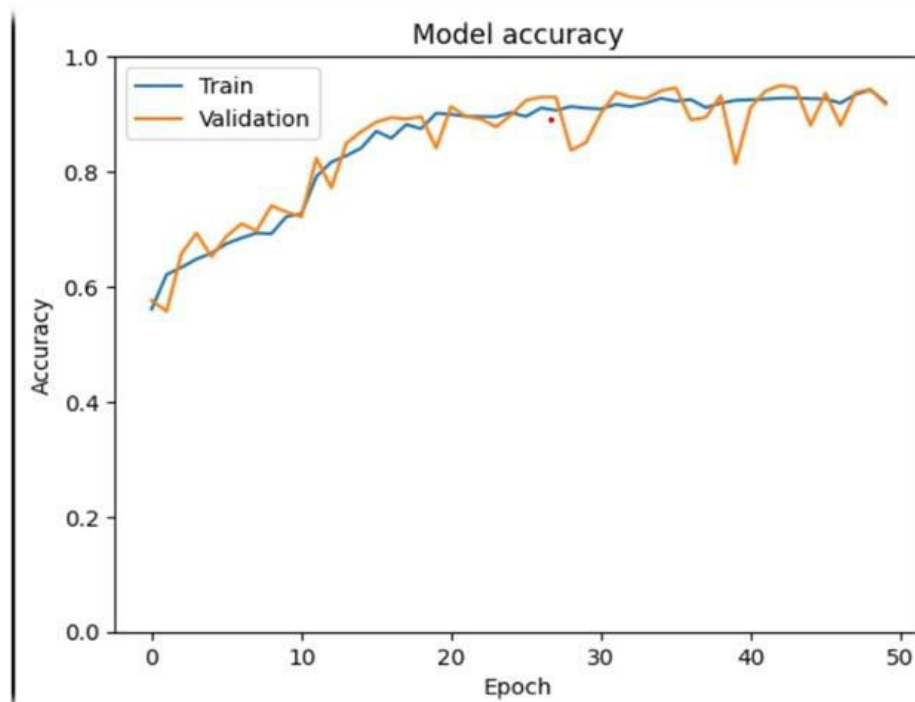


Figure 8: Model Accuracy

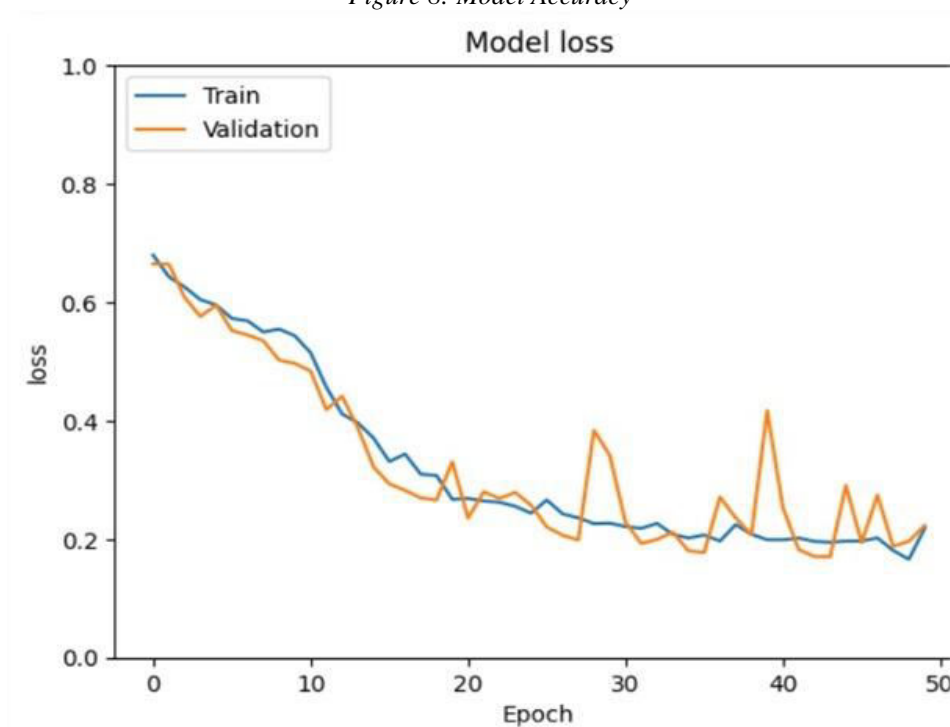


Figure 9: Model Loss

VI. CONCLUSION

This deep learning-powered driver fatigue detection system presents a compelling solution to combat the dangers of drowsy driving. By harnessing multiple data sources like facial expressions, eye movements, and physiological signals, the system achieves real-time, accurate fatigue detection. Deep learning techniques like convolutional neural networks

(CNNs) coupled with advanced sensor technology empower the system's reliability, making it a valuable asset in the pursuit of safer roads. The system's adaptability to individual drivers and its continuous monitoring capabilities ensure its effectiveness in diverse driving situations. Furthermore, the seamless integration of machine learning libraries and cloud computing facilitates efficient data processing and model deployment, leading to prompt fatigue identification. In essence, this system signifies a substantial leap forward in driver safety technology, holding the potential to significantly reduce fatigue-induced accidents and save lives on the road. Continued exploration and development in this field are crucial to further refine the system's performance and user-friendliness, ultimately paving the way for a safer driving experience for all.

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