Research Article

Hardware Module Design and Software Implementation of Multisensor Fire Detection and Notification System Using Fuzzy Logic and Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)

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This paper presents the design and development of a fuzzy logic-based multisensor fire detection and a web-based notification system with trained convolutional neural networks for both proximity and wide-area fire detection. Until recently, most consumer-grade fire detection systems relied solely on smoke detectors. These offer limited protection due to the type of fire present and the detection technology at use. To solve this problem, we present a multisensor data fusion with convolutional neural network (CNN) fire detection and notification technology. Convolutional Neural Networks are mainstream methods of deep learning due to their ability to perform feature extraction and classification in the same architecture. The system is designed to enable early detection of fire in residential, commercial, and industrial environments by using multiple fire signatures such as flames, smoke, and heat. The incorporation of the convolutional neural networks enables broader coverage of the area of interest, using visuals from surveillance cameras. With access granted to the web-based system, the fire and rescue crew gets notified in real-time with location information. The efficiency of the fire detection and notification system employed by standard fire detectors and the multisensor remote-based notification approach adopted in this paper showed significant improvements with timely fire detection, alerting, and response time for firefighting. The final experimental and performance evaluation results showed that the accuracy rate of CNN was 94% and that of the fuzzy logic unit is 90%.

1. Introduction

Fires have a duality such that while they can be useful in cooking and manufacturing; they can also cause loss of lives and destruction of property. With fire and some of its by-products being employed in a lot of useful applications such as cooking, power generation, and manufacturing process, among others, it has the potential also to cause havoc.

According to the Center of Fire Statistics of the International Technical Committee for the Prevention and Extinguishment of Fire (CTIF), between 70,000 and 80,000 deaths occur annually due to fire outbreaks since the beginning of the 21st century [1]. In fact, GHC 1.74M (0.92M USD) was lost due to fire outbreaks in the first quarter of 2012 in Ghana [2].

Fire safety experts say that when there is a fire outbreak in the home, workplace, or factory, the occupants usually have just about two minutes to escape before it is too late. Fire-related loss of lives and properties continue to increase despite vigorous fire safety campaigns being carried out by the public agencies. In developing countries, typical fire detection relies on humans. In cases of distress, poor town and country planning make it difficult for firefighters to arrive on time. The problem is further compounded by inadequate alert and notification mechanisms. Fires are, however, so destructive that they can annihilate a whole
fortune within hours. Therefore, this situation must be tackled. It is of utmost importance that fire outbreaks be detected and that occupants and the fire service be alerted within a very short time.

There are three main elements required for fire to exist; these are oxygen, heat, and fuel. These make up what is known as the fire triangle. The proportion of each of these elements determines the nature of the fire. Before the introduction of technology, fire detection was done mainly by visual inspection and confirmation. This, however, changed during the late 1930s when Walter Jaeger accidentally discovered a sensor that can detect smoke, thereby paving the way for research into modern smoke sensors. Until recently, most consumer-grade fire detection systems relied solely on smoke detectors. The protection provided by these fire detectors is limited by the type of fire present and the detection technology in use. The need to produce a more reliable fire detection system devoid of false alarms has led to the adoption of multisensor approaches. Unlike fire detection approaches relying solely on smoke, this approach relies on the detection of more than one fire signature. An emerging phenomenon in fire detection is the use of multiple parameters and sensors in the detection mechanism [3, 4]. Some multisensor fire detection techniques being used currently include data fusion algorithms [5, 6]. These techniques allow different fire signatures to be captured and processed together for ultimate fire detection.

Similarly, image processing techniques with neural networks are employed in [7–9] for fire detection. These algorithms use image processing techniques with neural networks to learn from video frames and detects fire based on fire signatures such as smoke and flames. Moreover, Bayesian networks are also employed for fire detection [10].

Deep learning has progressed significantly; neural networks can learn data with multiple levels of abstraction and automatically extract features from data, as evident in the paper published by Tao et al. in [11]. Motivated by the successes of deep learning in the area of computer vision and image processing, a convolutional neural network (CNN) was used to overcome the limitations of a sensor-based system. CNN was used to process video feeds from a surveillance camera and alert in the event of possible fire detection. To account for fire detection in wide areas, a camera surveillance unit was integrated into the system’s architecture for ease of processing images of fires over wide areas of the installed units. Most sensor-based systems are generally limited in terms of their proximity to the fires they tend to detect, the closer they are to the fire, the better the detection results; thus vast areas can be quite daunting to detect fires using only sensed fire signatures like flame, smoke, and heat. Consequently, sensors only are not useful in large areas since they require proximity to the signatures of the fire, as stipulated by Frizzi et al. in [12].

In this paper, we present the design and development of a fuzzy logic-based multisensor fire detection system with both real-time web-based and mobile-based alert notification systems with the capability for image processing of fires using CNNs. We adopted the fuzzy logic approach to fire detection because it simplifies the fusion of data from the multiple sensors, thereby making it easier to analyse the often-noisy sensor data. Fuzzy logic also best approximates the actual values of the various fire signatures observed for accurate and efficient detection.

This paper is organized into sections. Section 1 provides the introduction and necessary background for multisensor fire detection using fuzzy logic and CNNs. It presents the background and the motivation for the research work and the problem statement. Section 2 presents the literature review on fire detection systems. It highlights the various techniques for fire detection based on the use of sensors for sensing fire signatures and video sequence processing for fires. It identifies the strengths and weaknesses of such systems and proposes a novel method using fuzzy logic and CNNs. Section 3 provides the novelty of the system design architecture and methodology, including the concepts, algorithms, and flowcharts. It highlights the various modules with their design and procedures for implementation. Section 4 focuses on the actual implementations with experimental verification and corresponding integration of the developed modules. This section provides sufficient details on the testing and performance evaluation of the proposed system. Finally, Section 5 provides conclusions on the system design and methodology and makes relevant recommendations for future enhancements.

2. Literature Review

Sowah et al. [13–16] proposed the design and implementation of a fuzzy logic control system with feedback over an Arduino microcontroller system for fire detection for both homes and automobiles. The automatic system consisting of flame sensors, temperature sensors, smoke sensors, and a re-engineered mobile carbon dioxide air-conditioning unit was tested on a medium-sized physical car. Results show that the automobile fire detection and control system devoid of false alarms detects and extinguishes the fire under 20 seconds. An innovative, very promising solution module for hardware implementation in fire detection and control for automobiles has been developed by using new algorithms and fuzzy logic. The data from the sensors are fused to enable accurate detection of fire based on fire signatures.

There has been an increase in the number of publications dealing with video processing to detect fire, particularly with the usage of convolutional neural networks. Frizzi et al. [12] proposed a convolutional neural network for video fire and smoke detection. They implemented a neural network with nine layers. To detect fire and smoke in a video frame, a sliding window of size $12 \times 12$ is applied to the last feature map generated from the network. The authors chose to use a small network to increase the classification time. The proposed system was, however, designed to detect red-fire and had some challenges with smoke detection.

Muhammad et al. [17, 18] proposed a cost-effective fire detection CNN architecture for surveillance videos with less computational time and memory footprints. Their model is inspired by GoogLeNet architecture, considering its reasonable computational complexity and suitability for the intended problem compared with other computationally
expensive networks such as AlexNet. To balance the efficiency and accuracy, the model is fine-tuned considering the nature of the target problem and fire data. Experimental results on benchmark fire datasets reveal the effectiveness of the proposed framework and validate its suitability for fire detection in closed circuit television (CCTV) surveillance systems compared with state-of-the-art methods.

In the paper by Wang et al. in [19], they proposed a novel algorithm based on a CNN and support vector machines (SVMs) for fire detection in infrared (IR) video surveillance. To improve the performance of IR fire detection, they developed a 9-layer convolutional neural network named IRCNN instead of traditional empirically handcrafted methods to extract IR image features. They utilized a linear support vector machine for training with extracted features to detect fire. Experimental results show that their approach achieved both high precision (98.82%) and high recall (98.58%) on infrared (IR) flame dataset and real-time detection.

Different fire signatures such as a flame, smoke, and heat were used for fire and smoke detection using CNN by different researchers [20–26]. Some authors extended their work to include the detection of forest fires and enable fast response time for firefighting and the performance of rescue operations. Moreover, indoor fire detection using gas chemical sensing provides faster fire alarm responses than conventional smoke-based fire detectors. Gas-based fire detection could provide an additional level of safety to building occupants in the event of fire [27]. But, these detectors rely heavily on one or two of the three fire signatures, which are inadequate for effective fire detection and firefighting.

A real-time fire detection method combining AdaBoost, local binary pattern (LBP), and a convolutional neural network in video sequence was produced by Maksymiv et al. in [28]. The proposed framework for emergency detection consisted of two main parts; the first part generates regions or areas where flame or smoke may be present in the video stream. This operation is performed by the AdaBoost and LBP combined. Then a final classification is done by CNN. The generation of the possible regions reduces the computational time of CNN significantly but is prone to a high rate of false positives.

This research paper adopts the strengths of the real-time fire detection methods reviewed using convolutional neural networks on video sequence frames and integrates that with proximity detection of fires using sensors that fuse all the three fire signatures for early detection and alerts notification while providing navigational aid to the scene of fire for the fire rescue team to respond appropriately. This novelty in the choice of using both scalar and vision sensors overcomes the inherent problems highlighted in the review of fire detection systems.

### 3. System Design and Development

#### 3.1. System Overview

**3.1.1. Sensor-Based Fire Detection Unit.** The general overview of the hardware module design and software implementation of the multisensor fire detection system is shown in Figure 1. The hardware components of the sensor-based fire detection unit, as shown in Figure 2, is a device meant to be installed in some premises similarly as a conventional smoke detector. At a high level, it comprises sensors and a global system for mobile communication (GSM) module connected to a microprocessor that runs the fuzzy logic fire detection program. The microprocessor polls the sensors at a regular interval and runs the inputs through the fuzzy logic application. If it concludes that a fire has been detected, a fire alert message is sent out through the web portal and the mobile app through the management information systems (MISs) to the occupants of the premises and the nearest fire station. If sending the message over the data connection is unsuccessful, then it sends the message out via short message service (SMS). The fire detection unit comprises the physical components, including the sensors and the microprocessor board, and the software that embodies the fuzzy logic fire detection algorithm and essentially drives the system.

The software subsystem is that nonphysical part of the fire detection unit, which is concerned with reading inputs from the sensors, determining whether the readings are indicative of a fire or not, and raising alerts in cases of fires. The sensors used, respectively, in [28–31] were chosen based on detection range, size, and cost. By adopting a multisensor approach, the need to fuse the data arises. Fuzzy logic provides an easy way of dealing with uncertain data from multiple sensors by aggregating these to make a decision. Fuzzy logic is a type of logic that tries to mimic the human brain by incorporating the imprecision with which humans make decisions. As a practical example, if a human is tasked to describe the temperature of a cup of beverage, he or she would typically just say that it is hot, cold, cool, warm, not too hot, etc. rather than stating that it is 25°C or 52°C as a computer. Fuzzy logic is therefore based on imprecision, and it uses linguistic variables, defined as fuzzy sets, to codify common sense and hence approximate human reasoning. In this regard, each of the three fire signatures (variables) three states (sets) are defined and described by membership functions. The output is also defined as three possible states (sets): no fire, potential fire, and fire. Fuzzy rules describing combinations of the various sets which indicate a fire or no fire or a potential fire are coded into the system. Then as the system operates, it takes the raw readings from the sensors and fuzzifies and defuzzifies them to give an output. Thus, rather than saying there is x units of fire, it will say there is a fire, or there is a potential fire, or there is no fire. The basic configuration of the fuzzy logic unit of the fire detection system is shown in Figure 3.

The size of the rule base of a fuzzy logic system is affected by its inputs and sets used. A reduced number of fuzzy sets results in a reduced rule base and vice versa. For each sensor input (linguistic variable), three fuzzy sets were created using grade, reverse grade, and triangular membership functions. To determine these membership functions, data collected from each sensor during tests was used to tune the membership of the various fuzzy sets. We used the center of area (CoA) defuzzification method to obtain the system output, which gives the likelihood of a fire. Figure 3 shows a basic configuration of a typical fuzzy logic system. Figure 4 shows...
(i) Detects fire scenarios
(ii) Sends alerts to web portal.
(iii) SMS alerts.

Web portal+ service

(i) Management Information System (MIS)
(ii) Sends alerts to mobile app.
(iii) Sends alerts to fire service.

Mobile app

Management Information System (MIS)
Receives alerts on fire detections

Figure 1: General overview of the system.

GSM module
Smoke sensor
Temperature sensor
Beaglebone board
Flame sensor

Figure 2: Sensor-based detection unit of the system.

Fuzzifier
Defuzzifier
Fuzzy inference
Fuzzy rule
Input
Output

Figure 3: Basic configuration of a fuzzy logic system.

(a) Smoke density.
(b) Temperature.
(c) Flame.

Figure 4: Fuzzy membership sets. (a) Smoke density. (b) Temperature. (c) Flame.
the membership functions for each of these sets. The ambient smoke density data from the smoke sensor were grouped into three fuzzy sets (low, medium, and high). The temperature sensor readings have been classified into cold, normal, and hot fuzzy sets. The fuzzy rules for fire status are shown in Tables 1–3 for different scenarios of smoke levels.

When the three sensor inputs are supplied to the system, the inputs are then fuzzified using the various membership sets. The output of this process gives the fire status where a fire alert may be activated.

Based on the output of the system, a fire event is either dispatched to the web-based notification system, and house owner(s) or no action is taken. The flow diagram for the fire detection system is shown in Figure 5.

3.1.2. Convolutional Neural Networks. Convolutional neural networks are multilayer artificial neural networks designed to handle two-dimensional input data like images [32]. It is inspired by the mode of operation found in the visual perception of living creatures [18].

Figure 6 shows the structure of CNN. The layers of the network are made up of multiple two-dimensional planes. Each 2-D planes consists of several neurons that make CNNs suitable for handling image data.

The presence of a convolutional layer and a pooling layer in the architecture enables easy extraction of local features and reduction of complexity as stipulated by Pei in [33].

The Inception structure in GoogLeNet [34] can extract more relevant features with less computational effort by establishing and exploiting the sparse structure, thus improving the accuracy of the network. GoogLeNet has 22 layers, deeper than AlexNet’s 12 layers, but the parameters are only one-twelfth of AlexNet’s, and the accuracy is higher. The basic structure of GoogLeNet is the Inception module, which is shown in Figure 7. The Inception module has two main features, namely, (1) union of convolution cores with multiple sizes and (2) dimension conversion using $1 \times 1$ convolution [34]. Experiments show that, although dimensionality reduction is first carried out, as long as the output dimension remains unchanged, the process of dimensionality reduction in the middle will not affect the accuracy of the network. Inception V3 further decomposes a larger two-dimensional convolution into two smaller one-dimensional convolutions. That means $1 \times N$ convolution followed by $N \times 1$ convolution can replace $N \times N$ convolution. The set $n = 7$ is used to handle feature maps of $17 \times 17$ image size [34].

In the convolution operation, feature maps are generated by applying kernels of different sizes to the input data. A pooling operation is performed on the feature maps with maximum activations from small neighbourhood in the feature maps, as published by Muhammed et al. [18, 36]. The pooling operation handles the computational overhead of passing the features extracted directly to the classifier, as proposed by Aloysius and Geetha in [32]. This approach using pooling operation is essential for images with high resolution and large sizes to be handled in a computationally efficient manner. For the intended classification task, the Inception-V3 module was used. Inception-V3 is the 3rd version in a series of Google’s deep learning convolutional architectures. It was trained using a dataset of 1,000 classes from the original ImageNet dataset, which was trained with over 1 million training images.

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**Table 1:** Rules for fire status when the smoke is low.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flame intensity</th>
<th>Ambient temperature</th>
<th>Far</th>
<th>Not far</th>
<th>Near</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flame intensity</td>
<td>Cold</td>
<td>No fire</td>
<td>No fire</td>
<td>Potential fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flame intensity</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>No fire</td>
<td>No fire</td>
<td>Potential fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flame intensity</td>
<td>Hot</td>
<td>No fire</td>
<td>No fire</td>
<td>Potential fire</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 2:** Rules for fire status when smoke is medium.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flame intensity</th>
<th>Ambient temperature</th>
<th>Far</th>
<th>Not far</th>
<th>Near</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flame intensity</td>
<td>Cold</td>
<td>No fire</td>
<td>No fire</td>
<td>Fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flame intensity</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Potential fire</td>
<td>Fire</td>
<td>Fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flame intensity</td>
<td>Hot</td>
<td>Potential fire</td>
<td>Fire</td>
<td>Fire</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 3:** Rules for fire status when smoke is high.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flame intensity</th>
<th>Ambient temperature</th>
<th>Far</th>
<th>Not far</th>
<th>Near</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flame intensity</td>
<td>Cold</td>
<td>Potential fire</td>
<td>Potential fire</td>
<td>Fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flame intensity</td>
<td>Normal</td>
<td>Potential fire</td>
<td>Potential fire</td>
<td>Fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flame intensity</td>
<td>Hot</td>
<td>Fire</td>
<td>Fire</td>
<td>Fire</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 5:** Flow diagram for fire detection software.
In traditional classification learning, to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the training classification model, there are two fundamental assumptions, namely, (1) the trainingsamples for learning and the new test samples must satisfy the same distribution independently and (2) sufficient trainingsamples must be available. However, as time goes on, previously available labelled sample data may become unavailable. Also, labelled sample data are often scarce and difficult to obtain.

Transfer learning is a new machine learning method that uses existing knowledge to solve problems in different but related fields [37]. It relaxes two underlying assumptions in traditional machine learning, aimed at migrating existing knowledge to solve learning problems in target areas where only a small amount of labelled sample data are available. The more the factors shared by two different fields, the easier it is to transfer learning. Transfer learning can be divided into three main categories: firstly, case-based transfer learning; secondly, feature-based transfer learning in isomorphic space; thirdly, transfer learning in heterogeneous space [37]. Therefore, through transfer learning, relevant instances, or features in massive data sets can be migrated to micro data sets, thus improving the generalization ability and recognition accuracy of the model.

With the transfer learning technique which allows an existing model to be retrained, resulting in a significant reduction in the training time, we retrained the Inception modules with over 1000 images of both instances fires and nonfire situations. The architecture of the Inception model is shown in Figure 7.

The Inception module performs multiple convolutions on given input and decides which one is best for the image. This was necessary to handle the issue of varying resolutions of images and enable efficient classifier computations.

3.1.3. Web Application. The web portal provides an interface for general users, manufacturers, and the fire service, while the web service serves as a link between the fire detector and the mobile app. It is the backing store for the entire system. It performs the same functions as the mobile application and informs firefighters nearby the detected fires and enables the
manufacturers to track production units. The use case diagram for the web application is shown in Figure 8.

3.1.4. Mobile Application. As our mobile phones are handy devices, it is expedient to have a mobile app to complement conventional siren. This way, in the cases of a fire incident, users (occupants and owners of the place on fire) can be notified wherever they are. After a person acquires and installs the fire detection unit in an area of his/her choice, he/she can mark that place within the app by providing a name and marking its location on a map. The user can then add the fire detection units installed to that place hence creating an association between the fire detection units. Then that user may add other users to that place by entering their e-mail addresses. The use case diagram for mobile application development is shown in Figure 9.

3.2. System Architecture. The system architecture consists of both hardware and software components. The hardware components comprise of the multisensor fire detection system, which will have the installation of the software components when the user purchases the unit and installs it at residential, commercial, or industrial premises. The user will configure the system based on the number of units purchased. For enhanced fire detection, a surveillance camera unit is incorporated as part of the hardware system implementation, which will continuously monitor the premises and send the video feed to a centralized server for fire incident detection and alert notification. In the case of fire detection, the owner of the property will be alerted and also an alert will be sent to the fire service for the fire and rescue crew with locational mapping and navigational instructions using Google Map API. The overall system architecture is depicted in Figure 10. Based on the development and testing of the multisensor fire detection, the hardware components were configured according to the diagram shown in Figure 11, and the actual hardware implementation for fire detection is also given in Figure 12.

In order to enhance fire detection over a wider area that has a monitoring camera installation, we employ convolutional neural networks for efficient video processing during the testing phase of the development. This architecture, with the incorporated video processing capability, is depicted in Figures 10 and 12.

In the development of the video processing unit of the fire detection system, we considered the processing speed of the entire system. That is because, in the event of a fire outbreak, an alert of the fire must be delivered on time for necessary measures to be taken. Since the data stream being fed to the convolutional neural network is primarily a video stream, there was the need for a high processing power to run the recognition model on the data feed. Due to this need, the option of running the recognition module on the Beaglebone microprocessor unit was not an efficient option to consider due to its memory capacity limitation. The prospect of incorporating a dedicated server to run all video processing was therefore employed. Hence, the video stream from the surveillance camera is sent to the server where the CNN model is run on the data, and if a fire is detected, the alerting system is thereby triggered.

4. System Implementation and Testing

The convolutional neural network was trained on over 1000 images of instances of fire and nonfire situations. The data were collected from online image data sources. Sample images used for the convolutional neural networks are shown in Figure 13. The model was trained through 800 steps with a batch size of 100 and the 0.01 default initial learning rate. As a principle for the training of neural networks, the dataset was split into training and testing sets. The module was trained on Google Colab, Google’s free cloud service for Artificial Intelligence (AI) developers. Colab helps develop deep learning applications on a graphics processing unit (GPU) for free. The GPU specifications are 12 GB GDDR5 VRAM having 2496 CUDA cores [38]. To get an inference from the model, test video streams were used as input and passed through to the system. The classifier outputs probabilities for the two classes: “fire” and “no fire.” The class with the maximum probability score is considered as the result of the classifier. The classifier module was implemented with Google’s TensorFlow. TensorFlow is an open-source software library provided by Google for numerical computation using data flow graphs. [35, 39, 40]. After the training the network on the data, a classifier with an accuracy of 94% was achieved. The classification process is as follows; the video feed is preprocessed, and frames are extracted from the video. The extracted frames/images are classified to determine the condition of the area.

The system hardware specification for the different sensors and system components are shown in Table 4.

4.1. System Testing and Results. Given the requirements of the various divisions of the system, they were tested to verify that they met those requirements. For the sensor-based fire detection unit, tests were run in the lab using strong fumes from the methylated spirit to trigger the smoke sensor, a flame from the matchstick triggered the flame sensor and the temperature sensor. The readings that were taken from the sensors were logged to files and inspected to see if they reflected the presence and absence of the various fire signatures. Logs were also kept for all requests made to the web service so that we could ascertain whether the fire detection unit was able to send the alert when a fire was detected. Occasionally, we also disabled the Internet connection on the fire detector to verify if it sent SMS alerts under such circumstances. Field tests were conducted in the lobby outside the lab and in the corridor at the School of Engineering Sciences, University of Ghana, Legon, with fire from burning paper. The results of the mobile application development and test runs, as well as web application interface, are shown in Figures 14(a)–14(e). The Google API enabled navigation to the location of the detected fire. It gives fire service personnel quick response time as it gives them the time of day navigation to avoid heavy traffic jams along the path to the location.
The field tests performed for the different components and scenarios, and the corresponding results are given in Table 5.

The video classification task for the system’s use case is a basic binary classification task. The system indicates whether there is an incidence of a fire or otherwise; the classes for classification are “fire” and “no fire.” Figures 15(a) and 15(b) show the results obtained from test instances of fire and no fire situations, respectively. The test cases used considered the occurrence of fire both indoors and outdoors.
surveillance camera. Table 6 shows the results of the test cases with corresponding accuracy values obtained.

4.2. Results and Discussion. The Beaglebone microprocessor was central to the system since it performs all the processing functions. The smoke and flame sensors, being analog devices, rely on the ADC on-board the microprocessor to perform the conversion. The ADC on-board produces outputs from 0 to 4096. The sensor units’ tests conducted were intended to ensure the accuracy of each sensor. From the result obtained from the temperature sensor, we observed an error margin of ±2°C for each reading. For the smoke sensor, a higher value indicates high smoke obscurcation and vice versa. With three output states of the fuzzy logic algorithm, fire alerts only get activated when either the potential fire state or fire state pertinence is high. Unlike a single signature-based detection system which operates by
comparing the sensor output to a set threshold, our multisensor approach decides based on the weight of each input. This implies that the system can operate without necessarily relying on all signatures. This means the system can detect a flaming fire that produces flame and heat with little or no smoke. This property of the system allows for potential fire warning to be issued. Sample simulation results from the fuzzy logic algorithm are shown in Table 5. The temperature values are given in degrees.

The video classifier performed very well on the tests run on the classifier module. To avoid the instances of false alarms being triggered, a threshold for the classifier

Figure 12: Video processing unit on a dedicated server.

Figure 13: Sample images for classes.
### Table 4: Hardware specification.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Specifications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Temperature sensor</td>
<td>DHT11 temperature sensor (digital)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flame sensor</td>
<td>Infrared flame sensor (analog)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smoke sensor</td>
<td>MQ2 gas sensor (analog)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microprocessor</td>
<td>Beaglebone black rev. C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power</td>
<td>5 V 2 A. 5.5 mm + 2.1 mm barrel power adapter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GSM module</td>
<td>SIMCOMM SIM800H-based Adafruit FONA 2G GSM breakout board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>uFL antenna</td>
<td>Sticker type 2 dBi uFL antenna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Li-poly battery</td>
<td>1200 mAH 3.7 V rechargeable battery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perforated board</td>
<td>4 cm × 6 cm perforated board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resistors</td>
<td>22 kΩ, 10 kΩ and 4.7 kΩ 1% resistors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surveillance camera</td>
<td>5 megapixel camera with accessories</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Figure 14: Continued.](image-url)
### Detectors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Serial Number</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Last Seen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Detector 2</td>
<td>2016BB82146</td>
<td>F10 First floor</td>
<td>2016-11-23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demo Detector</td>
<td>1514BB8K0E33</td>
<td>Kitchen Ground floor</td>
<td>2017-01-12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detector 2</td>
<td>2016BB82147</td>
<td>Kitchen Ground floor</td>
<td>2016-11-23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Detector</td>
<td>2016BB82149</td>
<td>B9 Ground floor</td>
<td>2016-12-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Detector 1</td>
<td>2016BB82145</td>
<td>Huawei Lab Ground floor</td>
<td>2016-12-07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ORID Test Detector</td>
<td>2016BB82328</td>
<td>Huawei Lab Ground floor</td>
<td>2016-12-30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figure 14**: Continued.
confidence was set. Hence, the alarm is only triggered when the confidence is greater or equal to the threshold. The aim is to detect a fire from the video stream with very high accuracy and trigger an alert as quickly as possible. To boost the speed of the classifier, TensorFlow’s “optimize_for_inference” script was used to remove all unnecessary nodes in the module. The script also does a few other optimization processes like normalizing operations into the convolutional weights that help speed up the model. Figure 16 shows a plot of the cross entropy against the number of steps.

The cross entropy is a statistical measure of the error between computed outputs and the desired target outputs of the training data [41]. From the graph, the cross entropy reduces as the step size increases, an indication of a functional and suitable classification module. The video

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**Fire Detections**

Figure 14: (a) Mobile application screenshots. (b) Web application home page. (c) Detector inventory. (d) Entity-relationship diagram. (e) Web application map navigation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Expected result</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Power on fire detection unit</td>
<td>The fire detection unit boots automatically sets its date and time, tells the web service that it is online, and starts running the fuzzy logic detection algorithm</td>
<td>It was successful most of the time; occasionally it failed to automatically update the date and time; a fix for that is soon to be tested</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leave the fire detection unit running under normal environmental conditions for three days</td>
<td>The fire detection unit keeps running the main detection program and keeps logs of readings from sensors</td>
<td>The system kept running; one of the units, however, overheated; this was attributed to the lack of a proper cooling system on the microprocessor board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expose the fire detection unit to fire</td>
<td>The readings from the various sensors vary with the intensity of the flames, temperature, and smoke; the fuzzy logic algorithm classifies the inputs as a definite fire and sends an alert</td>
<td>For all the tests conducted, the system was able to detect the fire; beyond a 1-meter radius; however, the detected fire level had to be significant before the system could detect it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expose the fire detection unit to very high levels of only one or two fire signatures</td>
<td>The fuzzy logic algorithm classifies the input as a potential fire</td>
<td>Successful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Send alert to web service on the detection of fire</td>
<td>The fire detection unit makes a request to the web service to alert all concerned users and the fire service about the detected fire</td>
<td>Successful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Send alert via SMS on detection of fire and absence of Internet connection</td>
<td>The fire detection unit sends the fire detection alert via SMS to all the concerned users and the fire service</td>
<td>Successful</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5: Field test results.
Figure 15: (a, b) Screenshots from the video classifier test.

Table 6: Video output results for the fire detection and classification.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scenario</th>
<th>Class detected</th>
<th>Accuracy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indoor (no fire)</td>
<td>No fire</td>
<td>0.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor (fire)</td>
<td>Fire</td>
<td>0.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor (no fire)</td>
<td>No fire</td>
<td>0.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor (fire)</td>
<td>Fire</td>
<td>0.99</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 16: Graph of cross entropy against step size.

Table 7: Performance evaluation of subsystem modules.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subsystem</th>
<th>Performance remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Microcontroller unit</td>
<td>The microcontroller works all the time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GSM module unit</td>
<td>GSM mobile is not always reliable due to network problems and power requirement issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sensor unit</td>
<td>Sensor data spikes sometimes lead to unreliable data from the sensors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convolutional neural network</td>
<td>The CNN unit works as expected to provide high accuracy levels for detected fires from video feeds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuzzy logic system</td>
<td>Due to test setup constraints, the extensive fire test could not be conducted, hence the incorporation of the surveillance camera hardware system for broader area coverage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire notification subsystem</td>
<td>The system shows fire notifications in real-time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 8: Performance evaluation of fire detection.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Smoke</th>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Flame</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>647.1</td>
<td>83.31</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>Fire (0.708)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>338.92</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>844.30</td>
<td>Fire (0.602)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>548.5</td>
<td>28.93</td>
<td>918.49</td>
<td>Potential fire (0.459)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
classifier also supported different video resolutions since the Inception module performs multiple convolutions on input and decides which kernel size suits the image best.

Based on the performance evaluation and testing, all the subsystem modules of the developed hardware and software system were tested, and the results are recorded and given in Tables 7 and 8. The magnitude of the sensed parameters (such as smoke, temperature, and flame) received from the sensors used, enabling easy fire detection as they offer greater flexibility in handling imprecision and nonlinearities.

5. Conclusion and Recommendation

A multisensor fire detection system using fuzzy logic has been designed, developed, and deployed successfully. The fuzzy logic detection unit was augmented by a convolutional neural network to classify video stream to detect and alert homeowners of the occurrence of a fire. Unlike the existing fire detectors, this system employs a multisensor approach whereby the outputs of three sensors sensing three different fire signature parameters (smoke, flame, and temperature) contribute to the fire alert decision and hence produce a more reliable fire detection system devoid of false alarms. Experimental results obtained by introducing strong fumes from methylated spirit to trigger the smoke sensor, a flame from the matchstick triggered the flame sensor, and the temperature sensor to the device shows that the system can effectively enhance the reliability of a fire detection system. When a fire alert is detected, the system automatically reports them to the fire and rescue service and also notifies the owner(s) on their cell phones. The system also provides the fire and rescue service with a map-assisted navigation system to help locate the scene of a fire outbreak which is very helpful when there are poor house and street addressing system in a neighbourhood. There is, however, a need to design a good packaging for the fire detection unit. The package must be able to accommodate the entire unit while allowing light, air, and smoke to reach the sensor. A possible improvement to the developed system is the incorporation of neuro-fuzzy to substantially improve the detection rate and more images to train the network for higher accuracy.

Data Availability

The data used for training the convolutional neural network are available online.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

References


