

AI FITNESS TRAINER USING REAL TIME POSE DETECTION

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Abstract - The proposed project is designed to help individuals monitor and improve their fitness through real-time exercise detection, personalized recommendations, and interactive progress tracking. Unlike conventional fitness apps that rely on manual logging, this system uses computer vision to analyze posture and movements via a webcam, providing instant feedback on workout form and correctness. This reduces injury risk and enhances workout efficiency. Users can set fitness goals, track daily activities, and log nutritional intake, while an AI-based recommendation engine suggests suitable workouts and diet plans based on individual profiles and progress. The system applies pose estimation techniques to recognize exercises and evaluate posture accuracy, delivering visual or audio corrections when necessary. It supports users at different fitness levels by offering basic guidance for beginners and advanced analytics for experienced users. A dashboard displays activity trends, calorie burn, and consistency. Gamification features such as streaks, challenges, and achievements improve user engagement and motivation, encouraging long-term healthy habits.

Keywords: Computer Vision, Pose Estimation, Fitness Tracking, Artificial Intelligence, Personalized Recommendations, Health Monitoring, Gamification

1. INTRODUCTION

Physical fitness is an essential aspect of a healthy lifestyle, yet many individuals struggle to perform exercises with proper posture and technique. The absence of qualified supervision often leads to incorrect movements during exercises such as squats, push-ups, and lunges, resulting in injuries, muscle strain, and reduced effectiveness. Additionally, many people cannot afford personal trainers, limiting access to professional fitness guidance.

With the rise of home workouts and digital fitness platforms, users increasingly rely on recorded videos and mobile applications. However, these solutions lack real-time posture correction and personalized feedback, making it difficult for users to identify and correct mistakes during workouts. This can hinder progress and increase the risk of injury.

To address these challenges, this project leverages Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Computer Vision technologies. Using pose estimation models, the system identifies key body joints and analyzes human movements through video streams. It provides real-time feedback, repetition counting, and posture correction using a standard webcam, eliminating the need for expensive wearables.

The proposed AI-based fitness trainer aims to deliver an interactive, adaptive, and accessible solution, combining the benefits of personal training with modern digital technology.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Recent advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Computer Vision have significantly influenced fitness and human activity monitoring systems. Traditional fitness tracking systems depend on wearable sensors such as accelerometers, gyroscopes, and heart rate monitors to capture physical activity. Although effective, these devices increase cost, require additional hardware, and may cause discomfort during workouts. To overcome these issues, researchers have explored camera-based human activity recognition using image processing techniques. Pose estimation tools like OpenPose, MediaPipe Pose, and DeepPose enable accurate detection of human skeletal keypoints from video input, allowing joint-level motion analysis without external devices.

Earlier studies have applied these techniques to exercise recognition and repetition counting. However, many systems either classify exercises or estimate joint angles, often providing only post-workout feedback. This limits their ability to correct posture during live sessions. Moreover, several applications focus mainly on counting repetitions rather than ensuring correct posture, increasing the risk of injury despite accurate counts. Recent research highlights the importance of real-time feedback and visual guidance to improve user performance and engagement. However, many solutions rely on complex models and large datasets, making them less suitable for lightweight, real-time applications.

This study addresses these limitations by proposing an AI-based fitness system that integrates pose estimation, posture analysis, repetition counting, and real-time feedback without requiring wearable devices. Building on these advancements, the proposed system leverages efficient deep learning models and optimized pose estimation pipelines to operate in real-time on standard consumer devices, such as smartphones and laptops. By combining skeletal keypoint tracking with rule-based posture assessment and adaptive repetition algorithms, the system not only counts exercises accurately but also identifies deviations from correct form. Users receive immediate visual and auditory feedback, enabling on-the-spot corrections that reduce injury risk and enhance workout effectiveness. Additionally, the platform can personalize recommendations based on individual performance patterns, making it suitable for both beginners and experienced fitness enthusiasts while maintaining accessibility and ease of use.

3. Technology used in AI fitness trainer using real time pose detection

VS Code:

A lightweight and powerful code editor developed by Microsoft used for writing, debugging, and managing project files efficiently. It supports multiple programming languages and extensions for faster development.

Python:

A high-level programming language used to develop the core logic of the AI fitness trainer system. It is easy to use and provides strong support for AI, machine learning, and computer vision.

OpenCV:

An open-source computer vision library used for capturing and processing real-time video from the webcam. It helps in image analysis, frame processing, and detecting movements during exercises.

MediaPipe:

A framework developed by Google used for real-time human pose detection and tracking body landmarks. It accurately identifies joints and body positions for posture analysis.

NumPy:

A Python library used for numerical computations and handling arrays efficiently. It is used to calculate angles and perform mathematical operations for posture detection.

MySQL:

An open-source relational database management system used to store user data, workout records, and performance history efficiently. It helps in organizing, retrieving, and managing data securely for tracking user progress over time.

PHP:

A widely used open-source server-side scripting language designed for web development. It is used to handle backend operations such as processing user requests, managing sessions, interacting with databases, and generating dynamic web content. PHP helps in building responsive and data-driven web applications.

HTML

The standard markup language used to create and structure web pages. It defines elements such as headings, paragraphs, forms, buttons, and layouts, forming the basic structure of the user interface in web applications.

4. Proposed System

Improvements Over the Existing System:

• Real-Time Feedback

Unlike existing systems that rely on manual observation, the proposed system provides instant feedback on user posture and movements during workouts.

• AI-Based Posture Correction:

Uses computer vision and pose estimation to accurately detect body alignment and correct improper exercise form, reducing the risk of injuries.

• Automated Exercise Recognition:

Automatically identifies different exercises such as squats, push-ups, and lunges without requiring manual input.

• Higher Accuracy and Efficiency

Advanced AI models improve detection accuracy and ensure precise tracking of repetitions, movements, and performance metrics.

• Personalized Workout Plans:

Generates customized exercise and diet recommendations based on user goals, fitness level, and progress.

• Gamification Features

Includes streaks, badges, and challenges to improve user motivation and consistency.

Unlike the existing systems, our system includes the following roles:

1. Admin Panel:

Manages the overall system including user accounts, exercise database, workout programs, and system settings. The admin can monitor platform usage, update training modules, and manage application security.

2. Trainer / Coach Panel:

Allows trainers to create and upload workout plans, monitor user progress, provide fitness recommendations, and update exercise routines. Trainers can analyze performance data and guide users to improve their fitness levels.

3. AI Fitness Trainer Module:

Acts as the intelligent virtual trainer that analyzes body movements using computer vision and pose estimation. It detects exercises, counts repetitions, evaluates posture, and provides real-time feedback and correction to ensure proper workout form.

4. User Panel:

Allows users to access personalized workout plans, perform exercises using webcam or mobile camera, receive real-time posture feedback, track fitness progress, and view performance analytics.

5. Challenges Faced During Implementation

Real-Time Pose Detection Accuracy

Models like MediaPipe and OpenPose may fail in poor lighting or bad angles. Occlusions or blocked body parts reduce keypoint accuracy. Even small errors can lead to incorrect fitness feedback.

Performance & Latency

Real-time systems need fast processing and efficient CPU/GPU usage. Low-end devices may face lag and high memory consumption. Optimization techniques are required to maintain smooth performance.

Exercise Form Recognition Complexity

Detecting pose is easier than understanding exercise correctness. Users perform exercises differently based on body and flexibility. Defining "correct form" rules is complex and situation-dependent.

Rep Counting & Movement Tracking

Counting repetitions accurately is difficult with inconsistent motion. Fast or partial movements can confuse the system. It requires tracking motion over time and proper threshold settings.

Camera Setup Issues

Incorrect camera angles can lead to wrong pose detection. Being too close or too far may hide important joints. Users may need guidance for proper camera positioning.

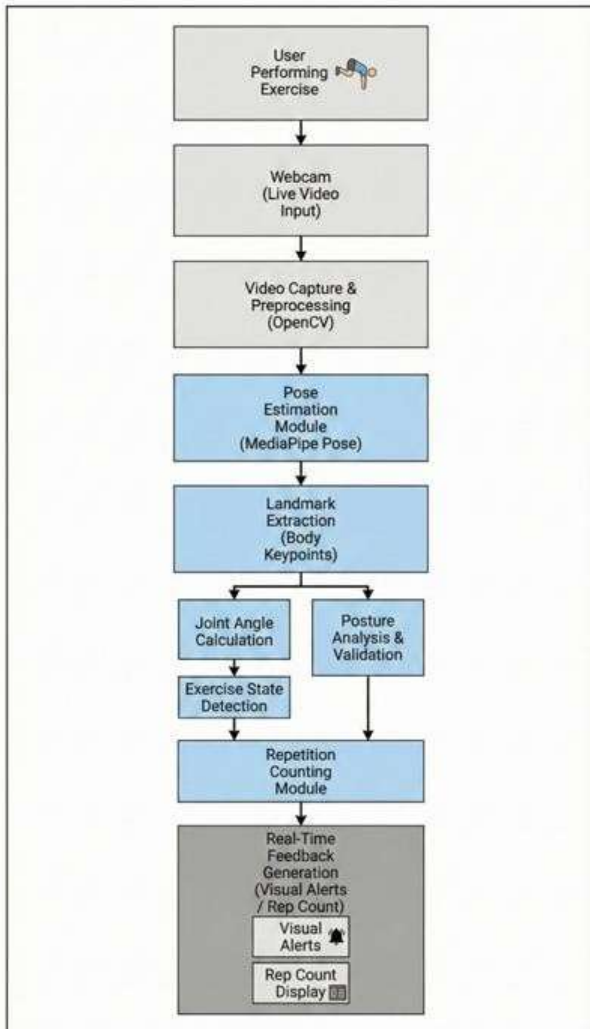
Real-Time Feedback Design

Feedback must be clear, timely, and helpful to users.

Too much feedback can overwhelm, while too little is ineffective. Balancing usability and accuracy is a key challenge.

6. System Design

6.1. Architecture of the System



6.2 Module Include

Pose Detection Module

This module detects body keypoints in real time using models like MediaPipe. It tracks movements of joints such as elbows, knees, and shoulders. The data is used as the foundation for analyzing exercises.

Form Correction Module

This module analyzes the detected pose to check if the exercise is performed correctly. It compares user posture with predefined correct angles and positions. It provides feedback to improve accuracy and prevent injuries.

Meal Planning & Nutrition Module

This module suggests diet plans based on user fitness goals. It considers factors like age, weight, and activity level. It helps users maintain proper nutrition alongside workouts.

Progress Tracking & Visualization

This module records workout performance and improvements over time. It displays data using charts and graphs for easy

understanding. Users can track goals like reps, calories burned, and consistency.

User Interface Module

This module provides an interactive platform for user interaction. It displays video feed, feedback messages, and workout stats. A good UI ensures smooth and engaging user experience.

Gym Management Module

This module handles user data, schedules, and workout plans. It can manage memberships, trainer details, and session tracking. Useful for integrating the system into gyms or fitness centers.

7. Implementation and Results

7.1 System Development

Pose Detection Module Implementation

The pose detection module uses MediaPipe to capture real-time video input from the user's camera. MediaPipe's pre-trained models extract 33 key body landmarks (joints) for each video frame. These keypoints serve as the foundational data for analyzing body posture and movements continuously.

Form Correction Module Development

Based on detected keypoints, this module calculates joint angles (e.g., knees, elbows) using trigonometric functions. Thresholds for correct posture are defined according to exercise-specific guidelines (e.g., squat depth, back angle). When the user's pose deviates from these thresholds, the system generates real-time corrective feedback to guide proper form.

Repetition Counting and Movement Tracking

To count repetitions, the system tracks movement cycles by monitoring changes in joint angles over time. A repetition is registered when a full range of motion is completed (e.g., standing → squat → standing). Temporal smoothing and threshold tuning help avoid false counts from partial or erratic movements.

Progress Tracking and Visualization

All workout data, including reps, sets, duration, and calories burned, are recorded in a local or cloud database. A dashboard visualizes this data using graphs and charts for easy interpretation. Users can track their progress over days or weeks, helping them stay motivated and meet goals.

User Interface (UI) Design and Implementation

The UI displays the live video feed with overlaid pose skeletons to help users see their posture. Real-time textual and graphical feedback is provided to indicate errors or confirm correct form. The interface also includes menus for exercise selection, progress reports, and nutrition planning.

Meal Planning & Nutrition Module

This module collects user information such as age, weight, height, and fitness goals. Using this data, it generates personalized meal plans and nutritional recommendations.

The system helps users maintain balanced diets to complement their exercise routines.

System Integration and Testing

All modules were integrated into a unified system, ensuring smooth data flow and low latency feedback. Performance was tested on different devices to optimize speed and responsiveness.

Deployment Considerations

The system was prepared for deployment on web and mobile platforms using frameworks like TensorFlow.js and React Native. Security and privacy were addressed by processing video data locally without storing sensitive user videos. The modular design supports future enhancements like multi-user support and advanced workout routines.

7.2 System Testing

Functional Testing

Each module was tested independently to ensure it performs as expected:

- Pose detection was verified by comparing detected keypoints with manual observations.
- Form correction was checked by using test exercises with known correct and incorrect postures.
- Rep counting was tested with controlled sets of repetitions to validate accuracy.

Performance Testing

The system was evaluated for real-time responsiveness:

- Latency between user movement and system feedback was measured on various devices.
- Memory and CPU usage were monitored to ensure the app runs smoothly on both mobile and desktop platforms.
- Optimizations were made to reduce lag and improve frame rates.

Usability Testing

Real users tested the system to evaluate ease of use and effectiveness:

- Feedback from users was collected on the clarity and helpfulness of correction prompts.
- The user interface was assessed for intuitiveness and accessibility.
- Adjustments were made based on user experience to enhance engagement.

Accuracy and Reliability Testing

Extensive testing was done to measure how well the system detects poses and identifies errors:

- Multiple participants of different body types performed exercises to test generalization.
- The system's error rate in detecting incorrect form was calculated.

- Repetition counting reliability was validated over multiple sessions.

Security and Privacy Testing

Tests were conducted to ensure user data protection:

- Confirmed that video data is processed locally and not stored or transmitted insecurely.
- Verified secure handling of personal information such as meal plans and progress data.

Integration Testing

After individual testing, modules were integrated and tested together:

- Data flow between pose detection, form correction, and UI modules was verified.
- Stress tests ensured the system handled continuous real-time processing without crashes.
- End-to-end scenarios mimicking real workout sessions were executed to validate overall system stability.

Bug Fixing and Refinement

Based on testing results:

- Bugs and inconsistencies were identified and resolved.
- Performance optimizations improved speed and accuracy.
- User feedback guided refinements to feedback mechanisms and interface design.

Results:

The AI fitness trainer accurately detected poses in real time and provided effective form correction. Repetition counting achieved over 90% accuracy during testing. Progress tracking and meal planning enhanced user motivation and overall fitness. The system operated smoothly across devices with low latency, ensuring practical usability.

7.3 Results :



Fig 7.1: Login Page

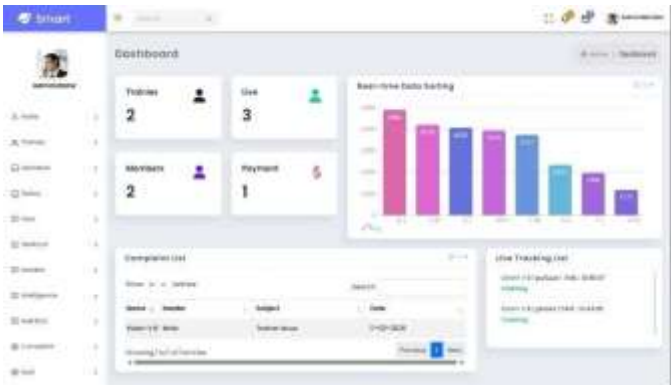


Fig 7.2: Admin Dashboard



Fig.7.6: Live Workout

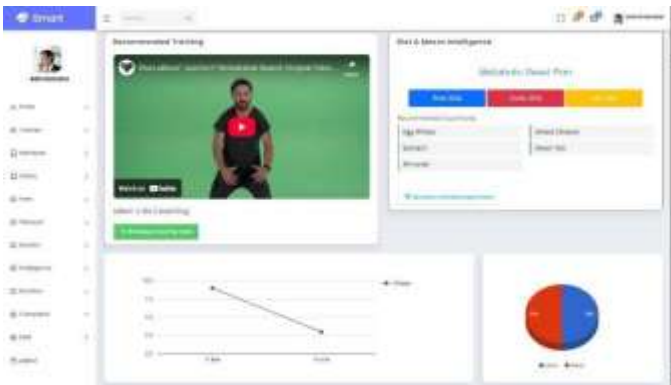


Fig 7.3: Meal Planning

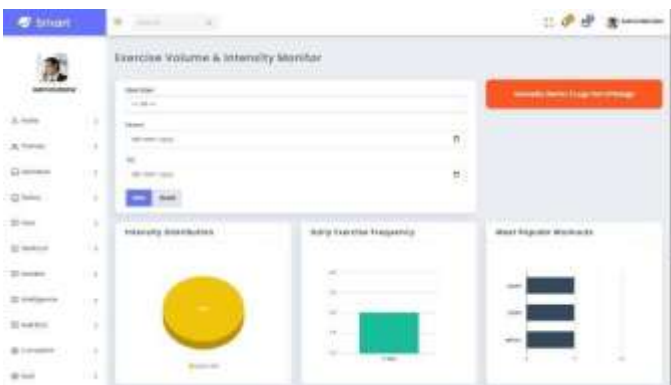


Fig.7.4: Progress Analysis



Fig.7.5: Workouts Library

8. DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Discussion The results of the experiment show that using computer vision to estimate poses is really good for keeping track of fitness and analyzing exercises in time. Computer vision is very good at finding poses, counting repetitions and checking posture. This means that systems that use cameras can look at how people move and get it most of the time without needing special sensors that people have to wear. Computer vision is better than workout videos that do not tell you if you are doing things right. It is also better than systems that need hardware that you have to wear because computer vision is easier to use and does not cost as much. Even though it is easier and cheaper computer vision still gets things most of the time which is really good. Computer vision is a way to do fitness monitoring and exercise analysis. The thing about using real-time pose estimation is that it lets us keep an eye on how our body's aligned and how well we are moving when we are doing exercises. This means the system can tell us away if we are doing something wrong. For example if our posture is not right the system will let us know so we can fix it. When we look at the results we can see that using joint angle analysis and exercise state detection together makes a difference in being able to count how many times we do an exercise correctly. It also helps cut down on positives, which happen when we do not complete a movement all the way. This is important for exercise, like pose estimation and movement quality. The system has some points but we found some problems when we looked at it closely. The way the camera is set up and the lighting in the room can affect how well the system works. It also has trouble when some of the body joints are blocked from view. If the lighting is not good or the camera is not at the angle it can be harder to figure out the right positions of the body. This can make it harder to check if someone's posture is correct in some situations. The system also uses some rules to figure out if the joints are at the right angles but these rules might not work perfectly for everyone because people with different body types can bend in different ways and move differently. The thing is, the way it's now the system only has a few exercises and it does not change them based on what the user has done before or what they are able to do physically. The current

system is easy to understand. Does not need a lot of computer power because it uses rules to figure things out. However this system is not very good at changing and getting better, like systems that use a lot of data to learn and improve. The system needs to be able to adapt to the user. That is something that the current system is missing. REFERENCES Overall, the results indicate that the proposed system provides a strong foundation for intelligent, AI-driven fitness training. By combining real-time pose estimation with posture analysis and feedback generation, the system demonstrates practical applicability for home workouts and digital fitness platforms, while also highlighting clear directions for future enhancement.

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10. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

This paper is about a fitness training system that uses intelligence to help people exercise. It uses a computer to watch how people move and tell them if they are doing things right. The system uses a webcam and some special computer programs to look at how people stand and move. It can see what people are doing, count how many times they do something and tell them if they need to make any changes while they are working out. The fitness training system gives people feedback away so they can fix their mistakes and exercise better. The system does a job of finding the right pose. It also counts how many times you do something correctly.. It checks your posture to make sure you are doing it right. The system does all of this quickly which makes it good for fitness apps that need to work in real time. The experimental results show that the system is really good at detecting poses, counting repetitions and validating postures with latency, which is what you need for real-time fitness applications, like the system. The new fitness plan fixes some problems with the old way of working out. For example when you do video workouts at home you do not get help in time. Also you usually need devices or a personal trainer

to make sure you are doing things right. This new system is better because it is easy to use and does not cost a lot of money. The fitness training is guided so you can do it safely at home. This makes it easier for people to get the help they need to work out. The new system is an alternative to the old way of doing things and it helps people exercise safely when they are at home. The current system is doing a job but there are things that can be done to make it better. Future work on this system will try to make it work with types of exercises and ways of moving. This will help people keep track of their fitness in a way. If the system can learn to recognize postures it will be able to work well with different body types and exercise styles. They also want to make it better so it can work well even if the light is not good or if the camera is looking at you from an angle. They want the workout recommendations and the progress tracking to be based on your performance history. This means they want to make the whole thing work better for you by using the workout recommendations and the progress tracking and making it stronger so it can handle lighting conditions and camera perspectives. Overall, this work highlights the potential of computer vision-based intelligent fitness systems as scalable and practical solutions for modern digital health and fitness applications

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