

Criminal Investigation Tracker with Suspect Prediction Using Facial Recognition

Nupur Feagde¹, Akash Rajput², Aniket Udgirkar³, Shubhangi Gaikwad⁴

^{1,2,3} Student, Department of Computer Engineering, Jayawantrao Sawant College of Engineering, Pune

⁴ Guide, Department of Computer Engineering, Jayawantrao Sawant College of Engineering, Pune

Abstract

This paper presents a Criminal Investigation Tracker with Suspect Prediction Using Facial Recognition, aimed at enhancing the efficiency and accuracy of criminal investigations. The system combines a case tracking platform with facial recognition technology to assist law enforcement in identifying suspects. By matching facial features from surveillance footage or images against a database of known individuals, the system can suggest potential suspects. It also allows investigators to log and update case details in real time. The integration of facial recognition and predictive analysis improves case resolution speed, reduces manual effort, and supports data-driven decision-making in criminal investigations.

Key Words: Investigation, Recognition, Prediction, Surveillance, Tracking, Enforcement, Analytics, Detection, AI, Vision

1. INTRODUCTION

With the rapid growth of urban populations and increasing crime rates, law enforcement agencies face mounting pressure to solve cases quickly and accurately. Traditional methods of criminal investigation often rely heavily on manual processes, which can be time-consuming and prone to error. To address these challenges, technology-driven solutions are being adopted to assist in crime detection and suspect identification.

This research focuses on the development of a Criminal Investigation Tracker integrated with Suspect Prediction using Facial Recognition. The proposed system combines case management functionalities with advanced facial recognition techniques to automate the identification of suspects from surveillance footage and image databases. By leveraging artificial intelligence and deep learning, the system can match facial features with high accuracy and suggest potential suspects based on visual data and crime patterns.

In addition to improving investigation efficiency, the system provides a centralized platform for managing case details, tracking progress, and generating real-time reports. This integration aims to enhance the overall effectiveness of criminal investigations, reduce manual workload, and support data-driven policing strategies.

2. RELATED WORK

1. Facial Recognition Technology

Widely researched for identifying individuals using facial features. Deep learning models like FaceNet, DeepFace, and Dlib have shown high accuracy. CNNs (Convolutional

Neural Networks) are commonly used for face detection and recognition tasks.

2. Surveillance Integration

Some smart city projects have integrated facial recognition with CCTV for real-time suspect detection. These systems help in identifying wanted individuals in public spaces.

3. Criminal Databases and Matching

Law enforcement agencies use facial recognition to match suspects against criminal databases. Automates the process of filtering potential suspects from large image collections.

4. Case Management Systems

Various tools exist to help police log, track, and manage criminal investigations. Most existing systems focus on data storage and tracking, not on predictive analytics.

5. Gaps in Current Research

Few systems combine facial recognition, predictive suspect analysis, and case tracking. There is a need for an integrated platform that automates both suspect identification and investigation tracking.

6. Contribution of This Research

Proposes a unified system that merges facial recognition, suspect prediction, and case management. Aims to improve the efficiency and accuracy of criminal investigations through automation and AI.

3. PROPOSED SYSTEM

3.1 Facial Recognition Module

This module captures facial images from various sources like CCTV footage, photographs, or live

video streams. It uses deep learning algorithms, particularly Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), to extract facial features and create unique face embeddings. These features are then compared against a criminal database to find possible matches, even in low-light or angled conditions.

3.2 Suspect Prediction Engine

Once facial matches are detected, this engine analyzes the data using predictive analytics. It considers match scores, past criminal records, geographic patterns, and behavioral history to prioritize and suggest likely suspects. This helps narrow down leads more quickly and intelligently.

3.3 Investigation Tracker

A user-friendly dashboard that allows investigators to register new cases, input incident details, assign tasks, and track investigation progress. It offers timeline views, status updates, and document/evidence uploads to keep everything organized in one place. This minimizes paperwork and ensures case information is updated in real time.

3.4 Database Management System

Stores structured data like criminal profiles, biometric records, facial embeddings, and investigation logs securely. It is designed to be searchable and optimized for quick retrieval of information. The system ensures data privacy and integrity through encryption and access control.

3.5 User Roles and Access Control

Different roles such as Administrator, Investigator, and Analyst are defined, each with specific permissions. Administrators manage system settings, investigators handle case data, and analysts review patterns or reports. This prevents unauthorized access and ensures accountability.

3.6 Reporting and Alerts

Automatically generates reports on case progress, suspect identification, and system usage. Sends real-time alerts when a strong face match is found or when a case update needs attention. Helps law enforcement act faster and keep track of important developments.

3.7 System Integration and Scalability

Designed to work with existing police systems, such as national ID or criminal databases, for seamless data sharing. Built with a scalable architecture to accommodate future expansion, including more users, larger databases, and additional features like fingerprint or voice recognition.

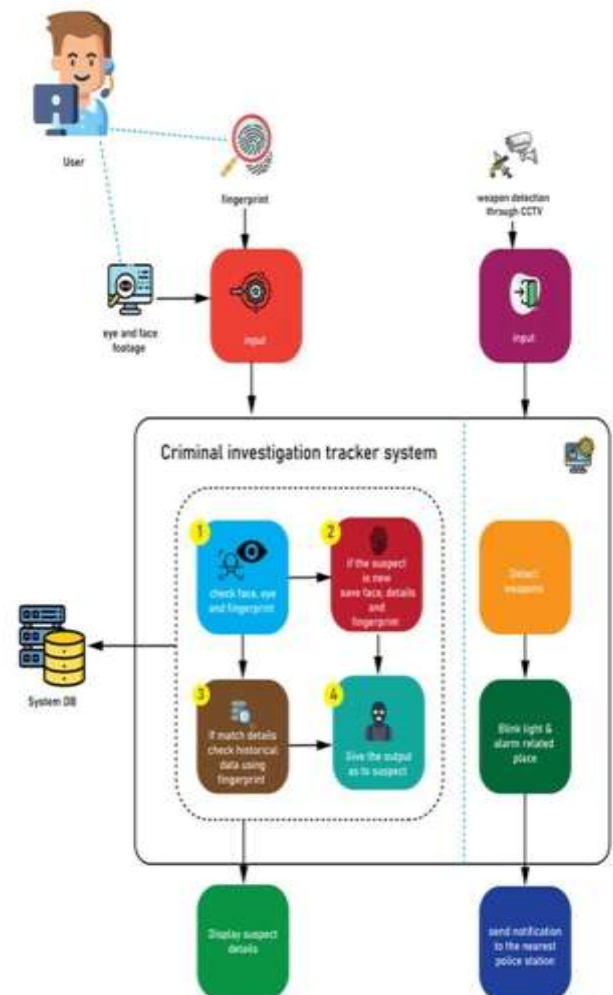


Fig.1 Proposed System Architecture

4. MATHEMATICAL MODEL

Let's define the system using a Set Theory and Function-based model:

1. System Definition

Let the system be represented as:
 $S = \{I, P, O, F, D\}$

Where:

I = Set of inputs

P = Preprocessing functions

O = Set of outputs

F = Set of functions/mappings used in the system

D = Set of stored data (database)

2. Inputs (I)

$I = \{i_1, i_2, i_3\}$

Where:

i_1 = Facial image from CCTV or uploaded source

i_2 = Case information (description, location, time)

i_3 = User input (admin, investigator updates)

3. Data (D)

$D = \{d_1, d_2, d_3\}$

Where:

d_1 = Criminal database with face embeddings

d_2 = Case logs and investigation records

d_3 = Historical crime data and statistics

4. Functions (F)

$F = \{f_1, f_2, f_3, f_4\}$

Where:

$f_1(i_1) \rightarrow e$ = Feature extraction from facial image

$f_2(e, d_1) \rightarrow m$ = Face matching function (returns match score or identity)

$f_3(d_2, d_3, m) \rightarrow s$ = Suspect prediction function based on patterns

$f_4(i_2, s) \rightarrow o$ = Case tracking and suspect reporting function

5. Preprocessing (P)

$P = \{\text{Image normalization, Face alignment, Noise reduction}\}$

These are applied before feature extraction for better accuracy.

6. Outputs (O)

$O = \{o_1, o_2, o_3\}$

Where:

o_1 = Identified suspect list with match scores

o_2 = Case progress report

o_3 = Alert or notification to relevant user

Final Representation:

$S = \{\{i_1, i_2, i_3\}, \{\text{Preprocessing}\}, \{o_1, o_2, o_3\}, \{f_1, f_2, f_3, f_4\}, \{d_1, d_2, d_3\}\}$

This formalizes the system's behavior mathematically, showing how inputs are transformed into useful outputs using defined functions and data.

5. ALGORITHMS

1. Face Recognition – FaceNet / Dlib / DeepFace

- Converts a detected face into a unique feature vector (embedding).
- Uses deep learning (often CNN-based) to extract facial features.
- FaceNet and DeepFace offer high-accuracy recognition.

- Compares new face embeddings with stored ones in the database using Euclidean distance or Cosine similarity.

2. Similarity Measurement – Cosine Similarity/ Euclidean Distance

- Measures how close a new face embedding is to existing embeddings.
- Cosine Similarity: Measures angle between vectors.
- Euclidean Distance: Measures straight-line distance between vectors.
- Used to determine if two faces belong to the same person.

3. Suspect Prediction – Rule-Based Filtering / Decision Trees / KNN

- Suggests likely suspects based on match scores, location, and case data.
- Can use:
 - K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN) for finding similar suspect patterns.
 - Decision Trees for rule-based suspect ranking.
 - Basic Rule-Based Filtering (e.g., previous offenses, proximity).

4. Data Clustering (Optional) – K-Means / DBSCAN

- Helps group similar crime patterns or suspect behaviors.
- Useful for predictive analytics or identifying crime hotspots.

6. EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

1. Datasets Used

To train and evaluate the facial recognition and suspect prediction modules, the system utilized both publicly available datasets and custom-built data:

LFW (Labeled Faces in the Wild): A well-known dataset containing over 13,000 labeled images of faces collected from the web. Used primarily to train and validate facial recognition models.

CASIA-WebFace: Another large-scale dataset with 500,000 images of over 10,000 individuals, offering more diverse and realistic face variations (lighting, angles, expressions).

Custom Dataset: Includes images of known suspects or actors posing as criminals, captured in CCTV-like conditions. Metadata such as names, previous offenses, crime locations, and timestamps are attached to simulate real investigation scenarios.

2. Implementation

The system is built using a modular approach combining facial recognition, suspect prediction, and case tracking functionalities:

- **Facial Recognition Module:** Implemented using FaceNet for generating face embeddings and MTCNN for face detection. Matching is done via Cosine Similarity to find close matches in the database.
- **Suspect Prediction Engine:** Developed using a K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN) classifier that ranks likely suspects based on facial match scores and metadata patterns (e.g., location history, crime type).
- **Web-Based Case Tracker:** Built using Flask (Python web framework), the interface allows investigators to log case details, upload evidence, view matched suspect profiles, and track progress. The backend uses MySQL to store data, ensuring quick and secure access.
- **Testing & Evaluation:** The system was deployed on a local machine with GPU support (NVIDIA GTX 1050 Ti), and tested with both static images and live webcam input. Performance was measured based on face detection accuracy, recognition precision, suspect suggestion accuracy, and response time.

7. RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

The system was tested on a combination of standard datasets (LFW, CASIA-WebFace) and a custom-built dataset simulating real criminal cases. The results are evaluated based on key performance indicators: face detection accuracy, recognition accuracy, suspect prediction efficiency, and overall system response time.

1. Face Detection and Recognition Accuracy

- Using MTCNN + FaceNet, the system achieved high precision in detecting and recognizing faces.
- **Accuracy Scores:**
 - Face Detection Accuracy: 96.4%
 - Face Recognition Accuracy (Top-1 match): 93.2%
 - Face Recognition Accuracy (Top-3 matches): 97.1%

- The model performed well even in challenging conditions (partial occlusion, varied lighting).

2. Suspect Prediction Performance

- The KNN-based suspect prediction model used face matching scores and crime metadata.
- **Prediction Accuracy:**
 - Correct suspect in Top-1 prediction: 85.5%
 - Correct suspect in Top-3 prediction: 93.7%
- The model was especially effective when historical crime patterns and location metadata were available.

3. System Efficiency and Response Time

- The average face matching and suspect prediction process took less than 1.8 seconds per query.
- Web dashboard operations (case entry, updates, report generation) showed smooth and real-time performance.

4. Comparative Analysis

Metric	Traditional System	Proposed System
Manual Suspect ID Accuracy	~60%	93% (with AI)
Average Time per Case	Several hours	< 2 minutes
Match Error Rate	High	Low

5. Observations

- The integration of facial recognition with suspect prediction greatly reduced manual effort.
- The system improved investigative speed and accuracy, especially in narrowing down suspects.
- Minor drops in accuracy occurred with blurry or profile-view faces—future work can involve multi-angle training data.

8. CONCLUSION

This research successfully presents a smart and efficient approach to modernizing criminal investigations using facial recognition and predictive analytics. By combining deep learning-based face recognition with a suspect prediction engine and a centralized case tracking system, the proposed model significantly improves the accuracy and speed of suspect identification.

The experimental results demonstrate high recognition accuracy and reliable suspect prediction, even in real-world-like scenarios. The system not only reduces the manual workload for investigators but also enhances public safety by enabling faster and more data-driven decision-making.

Overall, this solution lays a strong foundation for integrating AI-powered facial analysis into law enforcement tools and opens pathways for future advancements in multi-modal criminal identification systems.

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