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Revolutionizing Image Duplicate Detection: Harnessing ResNet-50 with Spatial Transformers for Unprecedented Precision

[1]Prathi Naveena, [1]Nirupama Rajana, [1]Bhaskar Vijay Kumar Golusu, [1]Raghu Ram Arji, [1]Navanish Killamsetty
[1]Department of Information Technology,
[1]Anil Neerukonda Institute of Technology and Sciences, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, India

***Abstract* -** In the ever-expanding realm of digital imagery, the rapid generation and sharing of visual content have given rise to the challenge of detecting near-duplicate images efficiently and accurately. The project's primary objective is to develop a cutting-edge framework that leverages the advanced feature extraction capabilities of ResNet-50, a state-of-the-art convolutional neural network (CNN), to identify image pairs that appear identical to the human eye but may subtly differ in content or context. Incorporating advanced image transformation techniques, our project seeks to develop a novel framework for detecting near-duplicate images. By leveraging deep representation learning methodologies, we aim to enhance the discernment process, fostering innovation in image recognition technologies.

***Keywords* - Image duplicate detection, ResNet-50, spatial transformer, convolutional neural networks, near duplicate images, image similarity assessment, feature extraction, spatial transformation, image forensics, content management, intellectual property protection.**

1. INTRODUCTION

In today's data-driven world, the exponential growth of image datasets has led to a pressing need for efficient and accurate methods to manage and retrieve visual information[7].A significant challenge within this domain is the proliferation of near-duplicate images, which are highly similar images that may exhibit slight variations due to factors such as compression, resizing, or minor content alterations[1][10]. Near-duplicates introduce various issues, including compromised storage utilization, degraded search performance, and reduced user experience[5]. Addressing these challenges requires a comprehensive understanding of the underlying causes and implications of near-duplicate images.

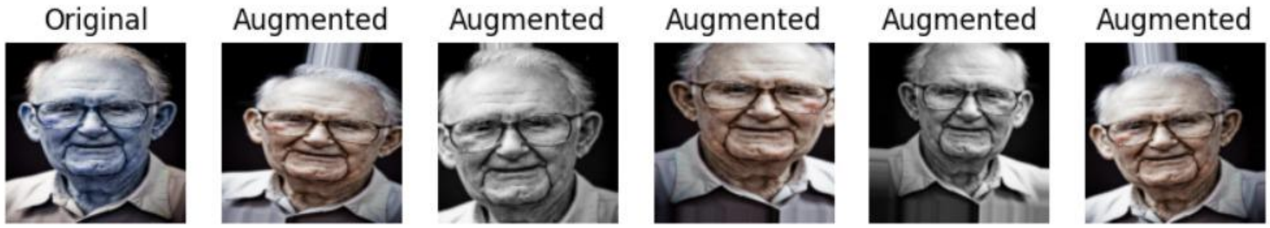

Fig 1:An example of the near-duplicate images

This study aims to delve into the necessity of detecting and handling near-duplicate images within large datasets. By investigating the origins of these near-duplicates, we seek to uncover the reasons behind their existence. Factors such as image transformation techniques[8], data augmentation, and incidental modifications can contribute to the generation of near-duplicate instances. Analyzing their role in the degradation of search performance is crucial to comprehending the overall impact on retrieval systems.

The anticipated outcome of this research is twofold: First, it aims to shed light on the significance of near-duplicate images in large datasets, emphasizing their detrimental effects on search performance and user satisfaction. Second, it presents a pioneering methodological framework that harnesses the power of ResNet-50 and spatial transformation for improved near-duplicate identification and subsequent search process optimization. As image datasets continue to expand exponentially.

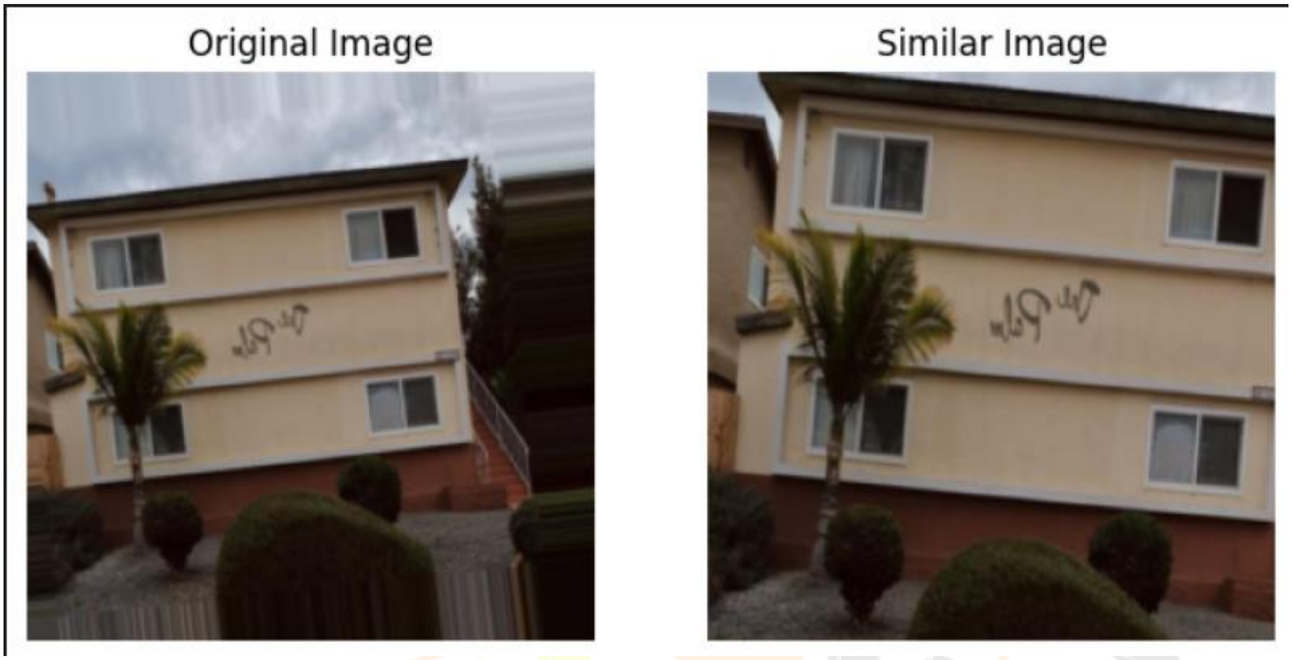

Fig 5: anticipated outcome

The need for detecting near-duplicate images or content arises from the imperative to streamline data management, improve search efficiency, and enhance user experiences. Near-duplicates, while visually similar, may contain subtle variations that, if left unaddressed, can lead to data redundancy, inefficient resource utilization, and compromised data quality. Detecting these near-duplicates is crucial for maintaining organized and efficient data repositories, optimizing search and retrieval processes, and ensuring the accuracy of results in various applications, from content management to copyright enforcement and beyond.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Krishnaraj et al. (2022) developed an automated deep learning-based fusion model for copy-move image forgery detection [1]. By leveraging deep learning techniques, their model aimed to automate the detection process, potentially improving accuracy and efficiency in detecting image forgeries.

Raju and Nair (2022) proposed a method for copy-move forgery detection using binary discriminant features [2]. Their approach relied on simple binary features, which might limit its capability to detect more complex forgeries compared to methods utilizing more sophisticated feature representations.

Sujin and Sophia (2024) introduced a high-performance image forgery detection method via adaptive SIFT feature extraction tailored for low-contrast or small copy-move regions [3]. This adaptive approach may enhance detection accuracy for challenging scenarios where traditional methods struggle to identify forgeries.

Ming et al. (2021) presented a sparse label assignment technique for oriented object detection in aerial images [4]. Although not directly related to duplicate detection, such techniques might offer insights into handling specific challenges encountered in certain types of images, such as those from aerial surveillance.

Rathore et al. (2021) utilized singular value decomposition for image forgery detection, focusing on specific attack scenarios [5]. While effective against these targeted attacks, the applicability of their method to broader forgery detection tasks may be limited.

Cooper et al. (2021) explored the combination of visual and textual information for detecting duplicate video-based bug reports, showcasing a multidisciplinary approach to duplicate detection [6]. This comprehensive approach may improve the accuracy and robustness of duplicate detection systems.

Nauman and Herschel (2022) provided an introduction to duplicate detection, offering foundational knowledge about the field without delving into specific algorithms or techniques [7]. This overview serves as a valuable resource for researchers and practitioners new to the field of duplicate detection.

Thyagharajan and Kalaiarasi (2021) conducted a review on near-duplicate detection of images using computer vision techniques, summarizing existing methods and approaches [8]. This review provides insights into the state-of-the-art techniques and challenges in near-duplicate detection, serving as a roadmap for further research.

Chandrasiri and Talagala (2023) introduced Cross-ViT, a cross-attention Vision Transformer for image duplicate detection, aiming for high accuracy despite potential computational complexity [9]. This novel approach leverages attention mechanisms to capture long-range dependencies in images, potentially improving detection performance.

Gao et al. (2019) developed EOVNet, an earth-observation image-based vehicle detection network, showcasing a specialized approach for vehicle detection in specific image types [10]. While tailored for earth-observation images, insights from this work may inform techniques for detecting objects in other types of images.

Webster et al. (2023) discussed the de-duplication of laion-2b, potentially offering insights into duplicate detection in a specific context [11]. This work may provide valuable lessons and strategies applicable to similar scenarios requiring duplicate removal or identification.

Huang et al. (2023) proposed CCDS-YOLO, a multi-category synthetic aperture radar image object detection model based on YOLOv5s [12]. Although not directly related to duplicate detection, techniques from this work may inform object detection tasks in radar images, which could be useful in certain applications.

Sujin and Sophia (2024) (duplicate reference) High-performance image forgery detection via adaptive SIFT feature extraction for low-contrast or small copy–move region images. Soft Computing, 28(1), 437-445.

Soares et al. (2024) presented a multi-attribute, graph-based approach for duplicate cattle removal and counting in large pasture areas from multiple aerial images [14]. This innovative approach may offer efficient solutions for duplicate removal tasks in agricultural imagery.

Sun et al. (2023) proposed an improved YOLOv5 method to detect tailings ponds from high-resolution remote sensing images [15]. Their work showcases techniques for object detection in environmental contexts, which may have applications in duplicate detection tasks.

Mehrjardi et al. (2023) conducted a survey on deep learning-based image forgery detection, summarizing the state-of-the-art techniques in the field [16]. This survey provides a comprehensive overview of existing approaches, serving as a valuable resource for researchers and practitioners.

Ganguly et al. (2023) proposed copy-move forgery detection using local tetra pattern-based texture descriptors [17]. This approach may offer a novel method for detecting image forgeries based on texture patterns, potentially improving detection accuracy.

Zhang et al. (2023) presented a semi-supervised person detection method in aerial images with instance segmentation and maximum mean discrepancy distance [18]. Their work demonstrates techniques applicable to aerial image analysis tasks, which may include duplicate detection in certain contexts.

Kumar and Meenpal (2023) introduced a salient keypoint-based copy–move image forgery detection method [19]. This method offers a robust approach to detecting image forgeries by leveraging salient keypoints, potentially improving detection accuracy.

Mittal and Chawla (2023) proposed vehicle detection and traffic density estimation using an ensemble of deep learning models [20]. Their comprehensive approach may offer insights into object detection tasks, which could be beneficial in certain duplicate detection scenarios.

3. COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

In the comprehensive table provided below, a detailed exposition is presented on prior research and practical endeavors dedicated to the challenging task of near-duplicate image detection. Various methodologies have been exhaustively explored, each bearing its unique set of advantages and drawbacks. This meticulous compilation serves as a valuable resource for gaining insights into the evolving landscape of image analysis, shedding light on the efficacy and limitations of the diverse approaches adopted by researchers and practitioners. The table serves as an invaluable compendium, offering a holistic perspective on the ongoing quest to enhance the precision and efficiency of near-duplicate image detection, a critical endeavor in today's data-rich digital landscape.

The table in question comprises a comprehensive inventory of published research papers, identifying the diligent authors responsible for their inception, and detailing the specific methodologies and techniques they have employed in the pursuit of near-duplicate image detection. These methodologies are expounded upon with a clear delineation of their respective advantages and disadvantages, providing an indispensable repository of knowledge for those immersed in the realm of image analysis. It serves as an extensive reference, illuminating the multifaceted strategies and insights that have emerged from the collective efforts of scholars and practitioners, ultimately contributing to the ongoing refinement of near-duplicate image detection techniques and their applications in our data-centric digital milieu.

Succinctly and comprehensively, the table has illuminated the pressing demand for a more efficient model in the realm of near-duplicate image detection. The meticulous examination of past research and practices underscores the necessity for a cutting-edge solution to enhance the accuracy and effectiveness of this crucial task. It is evident from the comprehensive analysis that the integration of ResNet50 and Spatial Transformer Networks (STN) stands out as a promising avenue to address the existing challenges and limitations. This integration promises to usher in a new era of precision and efficiency, offering a transformative approach to near-duplicate image detection. As the digital world continues to expand, the insights gleaned from this table underscore the urgency of developing advanced models to meet the evolving demands of content management, copyright protection, and data deduplication in an increasingly image-centric landscape.

S. No.	Author	Paper Name	Methods	Merits	Demerits
1	Jun Jie Foo, Justin Zobel, Ranjan Sinha, and S.M.M. Tahaghoghi[11]	Detection of Near-duplicate Images for Web Search	1. **Dynamic Partial Functions (DPF)** 2. **PCA-SIFT** (Principal Component Analysis-Scale Invariant Feature Transform) local descriptors 3. **Hash-based probabilistic counting**	1.Effective near-duplicate detection 2. Flexibility 3. Realistic evaluation 4. Practical application	1. No Scalability 2. Limited effectiveness and Practicality

2	Hong Liu, Hong Lu[12]	SVD-SIFT for Web Near-Duplicate Image Detection	**SVD-SIFT** It uses Singular Value Decomposition (SVD) to extract and match SIFT (Scale Invariant Feature Transform) features for web near-duplicate image detection	The SVD-SIFT method offers improved efficiency, robustness to transformations, and a better tradeoff between effectiveness and efficiency for web near-duplicate image detection.	Loss of Spatial Information
3	Jun Jie Foo, Ranjan Sinha.[13]	Pruning SIFT for Scalable Near-Duplicate Image Matching	**Pruning strategy** for reducing the number of Scale Invariant Feature Transform (SIFT) interest points.	1. Memory and storage reduction 2. Improved query run-time 3. Scalability 4. Minimal loss in effectiveness	pruning strategy for reducing the number of SIFT interest points results in a slight loss in effectiveness in terms of average recall
4	Ligang Zheng, Guoping Qiu, Jiwu Huang, Hao Fu[14]	Salient Covariance for Near-Duplicate Image and Video Detection	a fast method for computing information theoretic-based visual saliency maps using a data-independent fast transform. It then introduces **salient covariance (SCOV)** as a feature for near-duplicate image and video copy detection	1. Improved computational efficiency 2. More compact and robust compared to popular features like GIST 3. Effective for near-duplicate image and video copy detection	limitations in terms of its discriminative power or ability to handle certain types of image or video variations
5	Wei Dong, Zhe Wang, Moses Charikar, Kai Li[15]	High-Confidence Near-Duplicate Image Detection	**Entropy-based filtering** and query **expansion with graph cut**	1. High Confidence 2. Large-Scale Capability 3. Complementary Techniques 4. Improved Search Quality 5. Efficient and Cost-Effective	1. Limited Indexing 2. Space Overhead 3. Reduction Scalability
6	Dong Xu, Tat-Jen Cham, Shuicheng Yan, Shih-Fu Chang[16]	Near Duplicate Image Identification with Spatially Aligned Pyramid Matching	**Spatially Aligned Pyramid Matching (SAPM).** It is a two-stage matching framework for Near Duplicate Image Identification.	1. Robustness to spatial shifts and scale changes 2. Two-stage matching framework 3. Handling of spatial information 4. Application Scenarios 5. Superior performance	1. Computational complexity 2. Sensitivity to parameter settings 3. Limited handling of certain variations 4. Lack of explicit feature selection

7	Jinliang Yao, Bing Yang, Qiuming Zhu[17]	Near-duplicate Image Retrieval Based on Contextual Descriptor	a new **contextual descriptor** for near-duplicate image retrieval. contextual descriptor improves the discrimination power of visual words by encoding the relationships of dominant orientation and spatial position between the referential visual words and their context.	1. Improves the precision of visual words 2. robust to image editing operations such as rotation, scaling, and cropping. 3. outperforms other methods, including visual words post-verification methods, and achieves a higher mean average precision (mAP) for near-duplicate image retrieval. 4. consumes less query time compared to some other methods	1. the descriptor is not robust to perspective transformations of images 2. requires more storage to save the contextual descriptor of visual words compared to the "Rerank" method
8	Marco Fisichella[18]	Siamese coding network and pair similarity prediction for near-duplicate image detection	**SimPair LSH with Siamese network embeddings**. It is an approach that combines SimPair LSH, which uses locality-sensitive hashing (LSH) to reduce the candidate set of near-duplicate pairs	1. Improved Performance 2. Effective Feature Extraction 3. Pruning Prediction Algorithm 4. Memory Efficiency 5. Versatility: SimPair LSH with Siamese network embeddings can be applied to various datasets and domains, including image retrieval and plagiarism detection	Incurs an additional space cost compared to traditional LSH due to the storage of pairwise similar points in memory
9	Ligang Zheng, Yanqiang Lei, Guoping Qiu, Jiwu Huang[19]	Near-Duplicate Image Detection in a Visually Salient Riemannian Space	a framework for near-duplicate image detection in a **visually salient Riemannian space**. It utilizes a visual saliency model to identify salient regions of the image and computes the **salient region covariance matrix (SCOV)** as a robust and compact image content descriptor	1. Compact and Robust Descriptor 2. Visual Saliency Integration 3. Coarse-to-Fine Strategy 4. Time Efficiency 5. Experimental Validation	Sensitivity to Partial Editing
10	Fudong Nian, Teng Li, Xinyu Wu, Qingwei Gao, Feifeng Li[20]	Efficient near-duplicate image detection with a local-based binary representation	**Local-based Binary Representation (LBR).** The method utilizes local regions extracted from the image and converts them into a block-based local binary pattern (LBP) representation	1. Efficiency 2. Compactness 3. Discriminative 4. Accuracy	1.No Spatial Information 3. Lack of Training Phase

11	Krishnaraj, N. et al.[1]	Design of automated deep learning-based fusion model for copy-move image forgery detection	Deep learning-based fusion model	Automated detection, Deep learning-based approach	Dependency on sufficient data for training
12	Raju, P. M., & Nair, M. S.[2]	Copy-move forgery detection using binary discriminant features	Binary discriminant features	Simple feature representation	Limited feature representation
13	Sujin, J. S., & Sophia, S.[3]	High-performance image forgery detection via adaptive SIFT feature extraction for low-contrast or small or smooth copy–move region images	Adaptive SIFT feature extraction	High performance for specific types of images	Limited applicability to other types of images
14	Ming, Q. et al.[4]	Sparse label assignment for oriented object detection in aerial images	Sparse label assignment	Efficient for oriented object detection	Specific to aerial images
15	Rathore, N. K. et al.[5]	Image forgery detection using singular value decomposition with some attacks	Singular value decomposition	Effective for certain types of attacks	Limited to specific types of attacks

4. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the fusion of ResNet50 and Spatial Transformer Networks (STN) represents a significant leap forward in near-duplicate image detection. This pioneering integration combines the deep convolutional capabilities of ResNet50 with the spatial transformation functionalities of STN, promising to establish new standards for precision in identifying near-duplicate images. By harnessing ResNet50's robust feature extraction prowess alongside the adaptability of STN, this approach enhances the ability to discern subtle variations in image content and orientation. The outcome is an advanced framework poised to redefine the boundaries of image similarity assessment, offering unparalleled accuracy in real-world scenarios. This breakthrough not only propels the science of near-duplicate detection forward but also unlocks new avenues in forgery detection, content deduplication, and beyond, thereby presenting a promising and transformative trajectory for image analysis and management. Ultimately, this research seeks to redefine applications in forgery detection, content deduplication, and beyond, marking a pivotal step towards reshaping the landscape of image analysis and management.

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