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**TRUNK-BRANCH ENSEMBLE CONVOLUTIONAL NEURAL NETWORKS FOR VIDEO-BASED FACE RECOGNITION**

**Abstract:**

Human faces in surveillance videos often suffer from severe image blur, dramatic pose variations, and occlusion. In this paper, we propose a comprehensive framework based on Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) to overcome challenges in video-based face recognition (VFR). First, to learn blur-robust face representations, we artificially blur training data composed of clear still images to account for a shortfall in real-world video training data. Using training data composed of both still images and artificially blurred data, CNN is encouraged to learn blur-insensitive features automatically. Second, to enhance robustness of CNN features to pose variations and occlusion, we propose a Trunk-Branch Ensemble CNN model (TBE-CNN), which extracts complementary information from holistic face images and patches cropped around facial components. TBE-CNN is an end-to-end model that extracts features efficiently by sharing the low- and middle-level convolutional layers between the trunk and branch networks. Third, to further promote the discriminative power of the representations learnt by TBE-CNN, we propose an improved triplet loss function. Systematic experiments justify the effectiveness of the proposed techniques. Most impressively, TBE-CNN achieves state-of-the-art performance on three popular video face databases: PaSC, COX Face, and YouTube Faces. With the proposed techniques, we also obtain the first place in the BTAS 2016 Video Person Recognition Evaluation.