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# An Optimized Approach for Defect Detection in the Flyovers Using Faster R-CNN, LSTM, and Transfer Learning



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### **ABSTRACT**

Most traditional and semi-traditional methods consume time in the evaluation of flyover/bridge defects, and they incur aggregated costs for inspection checks. In recent cases, due to natural disasters such as floods and earthquakes, flyovers have collapsed because of a lack of strict monitoring using the latest methods and technologies. The kinds of defects that occur during flyover life are cracks, spalling, corrosion, weakening in structure, deformations in structural design, poor drainage, etc. To extend the life of a flyover/bridge, early detection of initial defects would avoid major damage. To handle detection efficiently, this paper proposes a hybrid deep learning model that integrates Faster Region-based Convolutional Neural Network (R-CNN), Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM), and Transfer Learning, along with IoT sensors. In this model, Faster R-CNN detects and localizes multiple defects in a single frame, LSTM processes temporal sequences of sensor data and predicts deterioration trends, and Transfer Learning uses MobileNetV3 for reduction in power consumption and latency, where pre-trained weights are used to enhance performance with limited annotated data. The specific sensors used are strain gauges (for load information), accelerometers (for inspecting vibrations), and temperature sensors (for monitoring materials contraction and expansion—which cause structural issues—and for continuous health monitoring). The defined hybrid model would enhance structural health monitoring using drones for image capture, sensors for measuring the health of specific regions, and high precision defect localization, it will also extend the infrastructure life by alerts and follow-up process adoption. This hybrid model ensures the longevity and safety of flyovers. The proposed hybrid approach is compared with existing models such as individual Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), Support Vector Machines (SVMs), Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs), Random Forest, Transfer Learning, and Generative Adversarial Network (GANs), ultimately contributing to the extension of the flyover's lifespan.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Many reasons and factors would impact the lifetime of the flyover. The civil project flyover construction with specific additions may result in a better life for the flyover. Flyovers, like any other infrastructure, can experience various types of defects that may compromise their structural integrity, safety, and functionality. Some common defects that can occur in flyovers are material deterioration, corrosion, spalling, settlement, erosion, joint and expansion joints, structural

deformations, poor drainage, and insufficient maintenance.

The first significant issue is that cracks can develop on the concrete or asphalt surfaces of flyovers due to factors such as shrinkage, temperature fluctuations, excessive loads, or inadequate reinforcement. These cracks can range in size and severity, from superficial surface cracks to deeper structural cracks.

The second issue is spalling, which refers to the chipping, flaking, or breaking away of concrete or other construction materials from the surface of the flyover. It can occur due to factors such as corrosion of reinforcing steel, freeze-thaw cycles, or chemical reactions.

The third issue is that corrosion affects the reinforcing steel embedded within the concrete components of a flyover. Exposure to moisture, chloride ions (e.g., from deicing salts), or other environmental factors can lead to corrosion. Corrosion weakens the steel, causing cracks, spalling, and a reduction in the structural strength of the flyover.

The fourth issue is that settlement occurs when the flyover experiences uneven or excessive sinking of its foundation or supporting structure. It can occur due to factors such as soil consolidation, inadequate foundation design, or variations in soil conditions. Settlement can result in misalignment, increased stresses, and potential instability of the flyover.

The fifth issue is erosion, through which flyovers located near water bodies or areas with poor drainage systems are susceptible to erosion. Inadequate erosion control measures and water flow can gradually erode the soil beneath the flyover, compromising its foundation and stability over time.

The sixth issue is Joint and Expansion denotes Joint Issues through which flyovers often incorporate joints or expansion joints to accommodate structural movements caused by temperature variations or deformations. Issues can arise from joint failure, displacement, or insufficient maintenance, leading to a rough ride quality, increased noise, and reduced structural performance.

The seventh issue is structural deformations. Deformations can occur in flyovers due to factors such as excessive loading, settlement, foundation issues, or inadequate structural design. These deformations may manifest as excessive bending, twisting, or sagging of structural elements, compromising the stability and load-carrying capacity of the flyover.

The eighth issue identified is poor Drainage, through which inadequate or malfunctioning drainage systems can result in the accumulation of water on the surface of the flyover. Prolonged exposure to water can lead to increased deterioration, including corrosion, spalling, or erosion of the flyover's materials.

The ninth issue is insufficient maintenance, through which neglecting regular maintenance, inspections, and timely repairs can exacerbate existing defects and contribute to the overall deterioration of the flyover. Regular maintenance of activities, including inspections and prompt repairs, is essential for preserving the structural integrity and ensuring the safety of flyovers.

Addressing these defects requires thorough inspection, accurate assessment, and appropriate repair or rehabilitation measures. Regular inspections, adherence to quality construction practices, and proactive maintenance protocols are crucial for preventing defects and ensuring the long-term safety and functionality of flyovers. The deep learning

approaches have proven to be effective in detecting defects during the construction of flyovers. Various deep learning techniques are employed for this purpose, ensuring accurate and reliable defect detection. The various deep learning techniques used are Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs), and Generative Adversarial Network (GANs), Transfer Learning, Object detection methods, ensemble methods, etc.

The first approach is that CNNs are widely utilized for image-based defect detection. By training a CNN on a diverse dataset of annotated images showcasing different types of defects in flyover construction, the model can learn to identify and classify defects with a high level of accuracy. This includes detecting cracks, spalling, corrosion, and other visual irregularities observed in images or videos of the construction process.

The second approach is that RNNs are particularly suitable for analyzing sequential data, such as time-lapse videos or sensor data collected during flyover construction. RNNs can capture temporal dependencies and identify anomalies or deviations from expected patterns. They play a significant role in monitoring the construction process and detecting any irregularities or defects that may arise.

The third method is GANs consist of a generator network and a discriminator network. They are useful for generating synthetic samples that closely resemble normal flyover construction, while the discriminator network learns to differentiate between real and synthetic samples. By comparing the generated samples with real construction data, GANs can identify discrepancies and potential defects in the construction process.

The fourth approach is Transfer Learning, which involves utilizing pre-trained deep learning models on large datasets and fine-tuning them for the specific task of defect detection in flyover construction. By leveraging knowledge learned from a related domain, such as general object recognition, Transfer Learning can expedite model training and enhance detection accuracy for flyover construction images.

The fifth detection method is the object detection models, such as Faster Region-based Convolutional Neural Network (R-CNN), Single Shot Multibox Detector (SSD), or YOLO, which are employed to detect and localize specific defects in the images of flyover construction. These models excel at identifying the presence and precise location of defects, enabling targeted inspection and remediation efforts.

The sixth approach is ensemble methods combine multiple deep learning models to improve overall performance. By aggregating predictions from multiple models, ensemble methods enhance accuracy and robustness in defect detection for flyover construction.

<b>Table 1.</b> Considered m	nethods in Flyov	ver defect detection
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Method	Description	Advantages	Limitations
Faster RNN	Objects are detected using the region	Effective regions' defect identification	Large datasets to be trained, and
raster Kinn	proposal concept with an RNN.	and ensuring accuracy.	computation-intensive.
Transfer Learning	Pre-trained models are used for	Improves performance and reduces the	Requires fine-tuning for specific
Transfer Learning	efficient feature extraction.	training time.	diseases.
Traditional CNN	For classification, CNN is preferred.	Basic feature extraction is simple using	Accuracy is low when compared
Traditional CNN	For classification, CIVIV is preferred.	this.	with advanced models.
SVM (Baseline)	SVM is preferred for the	Supports small datasets and is	Performance Issues with large,
3 v w (Baseline)	classification of defects.	interpretable.	complex data.
YOLO (Comparison)	For the detection of objects, YOLO	Suitable for real-time applications with	Accuracy issues for occluded
TOLO (Comparison)	is preferred.	fast inference.	defects.

Faster R-CNN
Proposed Method
(Faster R-CNN, LSTM, and Transfer Learning)

For the detection of regions of defects, CNN is preferred.

Faster R-CNN+LSTM+ Transfer Learning for defect detection.

Localization accuracy is better than YOLO.

Ensures speed & accuracy.

Higher resource consumption and slower than YOLO.

GPU acceleration is required for fine-tuning.

From Table 1, to assess the effectiveness of the models, one factor considered is the accuracy for the methods, such as the Proposed method (Faster R-CNN + LSTM + Transfer Learning) outperforms SVM, YOLO, and traditional CNN. The second factor is the speed at which YOLO is faster, but the proposed method offers a better speed-accuracy trade-off. The third factor is Data Efficiency, in which Transfer Learning reduces dependency on large, labeled datasets. The combination of Faster R-CNN, LSTM, and Transfer Learning involves handling very small defects as well as YOLO, SSD, with the use of pixel-level precision, determines the defect growth and fatigue life using LSTM, and addresses the varying lighting, textures using pre-trained weights, as well as processes the reduced the needed data.

### 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

There are many advancements in bridge or flyover defect detection. The most traditional methods, which experience human error, are time-consuming and labor-intensive. To address these issues, an automatic defect detection technique is needed, which makes use of deep learning, computer vision, and machine learning models. The significant research in CNNs, R-CNNs, and Transfer Learning would stimulate further research and advancement in providing better solutions. The demonstration of solutions is described in this context as follows: Li et al. [1] discussed the accuracy degradation using deep neural networks under varying texture and lighting. To improve adaptability and accuracy, a multibranch attention mechanism with deformable convolution. The proposed model uses the YOLOv8 architecture that enhances speed and ensures high precision in the results. Teng et al. [2] discussed the defects or cracks in the bridge surface, using YOLOv2, YOLOv3, and Faster R-CNN for faster speed and automatically. Among these, YOLOv3 was identified as the best accuracy, speed, and precision provider to other methods. It makes use of a Variant of Gaussian, such as the White Gaussian ratio, in the detection process. Xu et al. [3] discussed the issues such as the defects missing, a lack of accuracy, and the presence of false positives. To overcome these challenges, YOLOv8s is preferred with the help of ODConv in layer, 4D kernel usage, CBAM for channel attention mechanisms and spatial features, and CARAFE as an up-sampling for feature reconstruction, and reducing blurs. Rishitha et al. [4] discussed the bridge health using IoT, traditional methods, and a CNN deep learning model. The bridge's health is monitored and assessed in terms of deterioration and aging attributes. This study provides information about the bridge to the society of people and military personnel to know the safety of the environment. Li et al. [5] discussed the severity of defects in the bridges using an auto-encoder approach. Based on the vehicle's passage over the bridge and its intensity of vibrations, to determine the severity of the defect. In this, significant activities like noises are noted using the frequency domain, damage indicators are extracted, and the bridge health is predicted using damaged indicators. According to the research by Qiu et al. [6], the issues of multiscale bridges, leakages n small bridges, and lack of detection accuracy are overcome by a combination of Bidirectional pyramid feature network, Convolutional Block Attention Module (CBAM), and decoupled head with YOLO head would improve detection accuracy in the classification of defects.

Fan et al. [7] discussed the issues raised over long-span bridges, using anomaly detection methods. There are various approaches, like monitoring, inspection, and analysis. During assessment, the dynamic and static structural features are extracted, which state the health condition of the bridge. Gan et al. [8] discussed the various cracks to be identified at the bottom of the bridge, and use faster R-CNN and BIM for processing and classification. The UAVs are used for a close assessment of automatic bottom bridge crack detection. This model's accuracy and recall are evaluated. Karluklu et al. [9] demonstrated the issues of bridges during non-maintenance, and are monitored using drones, computer vision, and a machine learning approach with a color detection technique. This study explored especially steel bridges or iron bridges, where defect information is extracted, then passed to Building Information Modeling (BIM) for assessment. As reported by Li et al. [10], the abnormalities are detected using a hybrid model of LSTM, Expectation-Maximization Gaussian Mixture Model (EM-GMM) in which the former assesses the forces, depletions, and the latter approach for the number of clusters, and predicts each cluster's probability of random error influence. The accuracy of this model is compared against existing methods and applications. Santos-Vila et al. [11] discussed the real-time monitoring of the bridge, which avoids future expensive maintenance costs and ensures safety. The model used would use machine learning and signal processing concepts to eliminate labelled data and allow training over structural details, which define the current state of the bridge. Miao et al. [12] discussed the bridge performance assessment and possible identification of deterioration points. The used hybrid model involves three methods such as temporal pattern attention, Hidden Markov model, and LSTM. The measures. such as accuracy, are improved, and bridges under 30 years are inspected; better results are obtained. Yamane et al. [13] demonstrated the two methods for the extraction of images, and improve accuracy by asking questions, with reasons. Those 2 methods are Structure from Motion (SfM), and Visual Question Answering (VQA). The set of questions asked, and analyzing the cause, then estimates would achieve better accuracy in defect detection as well as lead to minimum maintenance rather than sudden, expensive budget. Amirkhani et al. [14] addressed various deep learning models and visionbased models to classify and detect bridge defects from popular databases. The models represented in this study with benefits as well as limitations. The analysis of these models helps to design an effective integrated model for classification and detection. Hou et al. [15] discussed the issues in the detection of bridge surface defects, and improve accuracy using a deep learning model U2 Network with ResNet U blocks, and detect precise contours over the bridge using 3D point cloud. This study is limited to underwater bridge surface defect detection. Cui et al. [16] discussed techniques involved in monitoring and detection for cracks, and their severity, and their severity, and their severity, and bolts loosening, etc., are determined, and analyzed. This helps to detect early, and minimize the loss of damage, and avoid expensive budgets. Wang et al. [17] discussed issues and challenges in detecting the defects while monitoring of railway bridges in terms of three approaches. First, a combination of fiber optic sensing and a computer vision approach for effective monitoring. Second, a combination of machine learning such as CNN, and Transfer Learning for efficient defect detection. Third, a combination of real-time applications and digital twins is used for monitoring. The challenges are addressed while using these approaches.

Wu and Huang [18] discussed the challenges raised during monitoring of the bridges and tunnels. The benefits are highlighted when the defects are identified early. The damage identification methods, sensing technologies, and monitoring approaches would extend the life of the bridges. This study also helps to search for new solutions to overcome deformations of the bridge. Zhang et al. [19] demonstrated various techniques such as sensing approaches, devices, wireless transmission models, and alerting on noise or irregularity using data preprocessing and warning models. The challenges are addressed and given for future research refinements. Chakurkar et al. [20] found defects and cracks on

roads using conventional computer vision methods and deep learning models. The advantages of deep learning techniques are highlighted against the traditional models. The roads with the texture of cement, asphalt require extensive research for future directions. Shen et al. [21] demonstrated weak structures in bridges and tunnels using various means of deformation detection techniques such as stochastic models. change detection in ground deformation, and most civilian public rock mountains. The summary of benefits, pitfalls, and their applications is discussed in this study. In regard to reference [22], it ensures resource optimization by maintaining local and global stability and achieves predictive load balancing using a variant of Particle Swarm Optimization. Based on reference [23], optimize the cloud data centers using a hybrid model as well as introduce a novel performance evaluation approach for balancing the load over the network. Based on reference [24], ensures accuracy and security in digital transactions using a hybrid model to identify fraudulent transactions in a digital era, and optimizes the accuracy as well as performance. The studies mentioned would stimulate a novel approach to be designed, and ensure better accuracy and robustness. Table 2 demonstrates the significant studies, and listed gaps along with methodologies applied in those.

Table 2. Significant methods in the defect detection

Reference Study	Methodology	Gap Identified	
Li et al. [1]	Multi-branch attention mechanism with YOLOv8 addresses	Limitations on nightmare conditions and not integrating	
Li et al. [1]	the accuracy reduction for varying textures.	with sensor data.	
Teng et al. [2]	Uses YOLOv2, YOLOv3, and Faster R-CNN for crack	Failed to detect temporal defects and micro defects.	
Teng et al. [2]	detection.	*	
Xu et al. [3]	Uses a combination of OLOv8s with ODConv, CBAM, and	Time-consuming, and failed to detect multi-scale	
Au ct al. [3]	CARAFE to reduce false positives and missed defects.	defects.	
Rishitha et al. [4]	Uses IoT and CNN for the identification of the aging of	Scarcity of Large labelled datasets.	
Kisiiilia et al. [4]	defects.	Scarcity of Large labelled datasets.	
Li et al. [5]	Uses autoencoders for defect identification over vehicle-	Frequency domain methods failed to address, and	
Li et al. [3]	induced vibrations.	vibration data alone failed to assess defect severity.	

In the proposed model, the integration of Faster R-CNN, LSTM, and Transfer Learning would involve the key aspects such as identifying the defects like spalling, cracks, using Faster R-CNN, defect progression over time is tracked and alerted using LSTM, and ensuring performance by pre-trained weights using Transfer Learning ResNet-50.

### 3. METHODOLOGY

In this section, four activities are demonstrated in one aspect mentioned in terms of module interaction as depicted in Figure 1 of the proposed hybrid system, such as data collection, data preprocessing, real-time monitoring, multi-modal fusion, hybrid model detection, and evaluation of effectiveness. The second aspect is demonstrated in terms of the flow of actions performed to assess the effectiveness of the hybrid model, as predicted in Figure 2, which involves the installation of sensors and CCTVs, data collection, preprocessing, and other related activities to detect the defects The third aspect is described in Table 3, in which modules are specified with their purpose and technologies needed. The fourth aspect demonstrates its functionality through a pseudo procedure, PS1.

Table 3. Modules, their responsibilities, and technologies used

Module	Responsibility	Technologies Needed
Sensor Data Ingestion	Use sensors for strain, vibration, and temperature data.	Sensors like accelerometers, strain gauges, MQTT protocol
Image Acquisition	Capture high-res images/videos of flyover surfaces.	CCTV, LiDAR, and drones
Data Preprocessing	Sensor data to be normalized, images to be augmented, and missing values to be replaced.	Scikit-learn, Pandas, and OpenCV
Visual Defect Detection	Cracks/spalling to be identified using object detection.	Faster R-CNN with ResNet backbone and Transfer Learning
Sensor Analytics	Structural anomalies are identified from sensor time series.	LSTM
Multimodal Fusion	For total assessment, must combine sensor and visual data.	Attention Mechanisms and TensorFlow
Alert System	Alert every critical defect.	Twilio (SMS), REST APIs, and email
Maintenance Dashboard	Defects, repairs prioritization, and costs report.	Django and Tableau

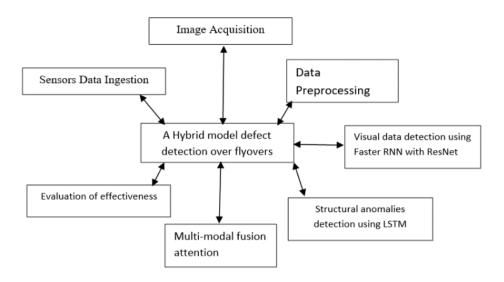


Figure 1. Significant modules' interaction in the hybrid model for flyover defect detection

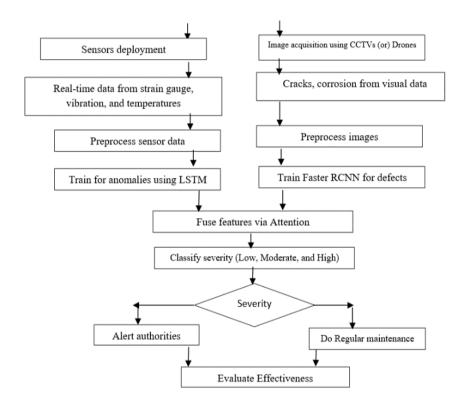


Figure 2. Flow of activities in the hybrid Faster R-CNN – LSTM model for flyover defect detection

From PS1, the hybrid model of LSTM, Faster RNN, and Transfer Learning takes input from sensors and visual images from CCTVs. Then, data is collected, and follows data preprocessing for clean data, in which Kalman filtering and min-max normalization for sensor data, while enhancing images, would use denoising, augmentation, segmentation. The hybrid model processes sensor data with LSTM and attention mechanism, image data by faster RNN, and a pre-trained MobileNet for reducing training time, and cross-layer fusion for ensuring better classification accuracy. The hybrid model uses LSTM for abnormal vibrations, and Faster R-CNN for major defects identification, then fuses the predictions of the defect is severe, requiring high attention. The effectiveness is measured in accuracy, precision, and recall, and ensures better real-time flyover health monitoring and alerting of critical infrastructure.

The usage of MobileNet over other pre-trained models is

less parameter consumption due to depth-wise separable convolutions, supporting edge deployment with less resource-constrained hardware environment, experiences optimistic fine tuning, and supports of cross layer fusion, avoiding computational bottlenecks.

In overall, firstly, data preprocessing is applied for structural dynamic changes using Kalman filtering and minmax normalization, localizing defects using denoising, augmentation and segmentation, then processing the images using Faster R-CNN, processing the sensor data using LSTM, fusion the features of LSTM, R-CNN using Cross-modal Transformer. In Transfer Learning using MobileNetV3, it ensures speed and simplifies computation on edge devices, as well as ensures deployment. The fusion using Query Key Value (QKV) would enhance context-aware defect detection, especially spatial-temporal relationships.

## PS1: Flyover\_defects\_detection\_using\_Hybrid\_model(Hardware[][],dataset1[][], dataset2[][], Accuracy):

Input: Hardware[][],dataset1[][], dataset2[][] in which Hardware denote sensors, CCTVs, Drones, Dataset1 denote data read by sensors, and other devices, dataset2 denote images

Output: Accuracy computation

**Step 1:** Initiate data collection from sensors and CCTV cameras, and deploy sensors

- 1.1 Strain gauges for load inspection, accelerometers for vibration measuring, temperature sensors for expansion or contraction.
- 1.2 Humidity sensors for induced corrosion, and Cameras for visual cracks.
  - 1.3 Collect maintenance data

### Step 2: Initiate Data preprocessing

- 2.1 For sensor data, use Kalman Filtering for Noise removal, use min-max normalization for scaling sensor readings, and use imputation for handling missing data.
- 2.2 For visual image data, use denoise filters for image enhancement, use augmentation in terms of rotation, flipping, and brightness adjustment for images, and use segmentation to isolate defect regions.
- **Step 3:** Build a Hybrid model using LSTM, Faster R-CNN, and Transfer Learning
  - 3.1 Apply LSTM for time-series sensor data
- 3.2 Use an attention mechanism for adjusting the weights for the weighted features
- 3.3 Use the pretrained model MobileNetV3 for freeze the initial layers
- 3.4 Use adaptations for extracting features relevant to flyover, and do fine-tuning
- 3.5 Cross-modal fusion, in which fused features are extracted from the LSTM and the CNN features
- 3.6 Use fused features based on the Query, Key, and Value concept.

Step 4: Do training with the hybrid model

- 4.1 Use the Binary cross-entropy loss function for defects, such as present or absent
  - 4.2 Use AdamW optimizer
- 4.3 Do regularization in which Dropout is applied to LSTM and Dense layers, and early stopping is identified there is more validation loss observed.

Step 5: Checking the Inference pipeline

- 5.1 In sensor data, use LSTM and attention weights, alert when more than 80% vibration is observed.
- 5.2 In image monitoring, a faster RNN for fixing defect regions.
- 5.3 Fusion is applied to classify the defect, such as anomaly\_score in LSTM if high, and defect score in Faster CNN is high, then the defect is severe. Otherwise, the defect is normal level.

**Step 6:** Evaluate the effectiveness of the model using accuracy, precision, and recall.

Accuracy=True Positives + True Negatives / Total Number of

Cases Where

Precision=True Positives (TP) / (True Positives (TP)+ False Positives (FP))

Recall (Sensitivity)=True Positives (TP) / (True Positives (TP)+False Negatives (FN))

From Figure 3, the system initiates the first hardware setup that includes sensors, CCTVs for data collection, and real-time monitoring, then preprocesses the data into quality data, then uses Faster R-CNN on images for defects and LSTM on temporal features, then fuses the significant features, then applies a hybrid model of Faster R-CNN and LSTM, then evaluates the accuracy that defines the effectiveness of the model.

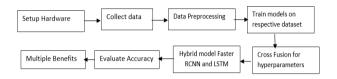


Figure 3. Flow of modules in the hybrid Faster R-CNN-LSTM model

### 4. RESULTS

In this, the various methods are considered and their benefits, shortfalls, and use cases are demonstrated in Table 4. From which, rather than individual models, the proposed hybrid LSTM-Faster RNN-Transfer Learning would outperform in accuracy, as well as be scalable for large infrastructures like flyovers. The effectiveness of the models is demonstrated in Table 5 in terms of accuracy, precision, and recall. In this, the dataset is considered from online sources, such as SDNET2018: A concrete crack image dataset for machine learning applications, where defects such as spalling, cracks, and corrosion are classified as multi-class defects. Tested over the dataset in terms of accuracy, which denotes the total number of correctly predicted instances in out of all, precision denotes correctly predicted instances in total predictions (false predictions), recall denotes actual predictions (missed predictions), interpretability denotes how best explains the predictions, and robustness denotes very less impact on accuracy as well as resolution.

From Table 4, the hybrid model only performs better accuracy, and is suitable for small bridges to large flyovers. The evaluated values are demonstrated in Table 4, with better understandability and bias bias-free detection aspect.

Table 4. Overview of methods for flyover defect detection

Method	Advantages	Limitations	Best Use Case	
Manual Inspection	Skills and expertise are provided for humans to inspect. No training needed	Subjective type, expensive, and slow	Small-scale inspections	
Traditional ML (Support	Support smaller datasets and faster	Can't support temporal data and	Vibration anomaly detection (no	
Vector Machines)	tabular sensor data	is poor with image/video type	images)	
Traditional ML (Random	Handles missing data and extracts	Overfits and weaknesses on	Support for Corrosion risk	
Forest)	feature importance	sequential data	prediction	
Transfer Learning (ResNet, VGG)	Reuses pre-trained weights and ensures high accuracy	Requires fine-tuning	Support the quick deployment of visual cracking and spalling	
CNN-only	Automatic defect detection for Good for image defects	Large, labelled datasets, and ignores sensor data	Support pure visual inspections	
RNN-only	Support time-series patterns	Struggles with vanishing gradient descent and spatial defects	Health monitoring using sensor data	

LSTM-only	Handles past states and long-term dependencies	Weak on image processing, and heavy computations	Fatigue monitoring using sensors
GANs	Synthetic data generation with augmentation handles increased datasets	Training is unstable and yields unrealistic defects	Rare defect identification
Faster RNN + Transfer Learning + Sensors	Supports Multimodal data with real-time and ensures high accuracy	Higher computational cost	End-to-end monitoring with early alerts
Hybrid model (Faster R- CNN+ LSTM +Transfer Learning Mobile Net + IoT enabled sensors)	Ensures the best accuracy and is scalable for large infrastructures	High resource consumption and requires annotations	Requires large-scale infrastructures like flyovers

Table 5. Measures assessment over specific methods for flyover defect detection

Method	Accuracy (%)	Precision (%)	Recall (%)	Interpretability	Robustness
Manual Inspection	80	85	80	High	Medium
SVM	90	90	85	Medium	Medium
Random Forest	92	94	90	High	High
Transfer Learning (ResNet/VGG)	95	96	94	Low	High
CNN-only	98	95	97	Low	High
RNN-only	90	86	92	Medium	Medium
LSTM-only	94	92	95	Medium	High
GANs	82	86	80	Very Low	Medium
Faster RNN + TL + Sensors	97	97	96	Medium	Very High
Hybrid Model (Faster R-CNN+LSTM+IoT)	99	98	98	Medium	Very High

# Effectiveness of models 120 80 60 40 20 0 Regular, total Re

Figure 4. Effectiveness of models w.r.to accuracy and performance

Table 5 is demonstrated in Figure 4 for better end-user understanding of the effectiveness of the models. The false defect detection is reduced by the hybrid model.

**Table 6.** Inference times, and precisions over specific methods

Model	mAP@0.5	Inference Time
YOLOv8 (Xu et al. [3])	82.1%	40 ms
Faster R-CNN (ResNet50)	97%	62 ms
Pure LSTM (Li et al. [5])	92%	15 ms
Hybrid Model (Faster R-CNN, LSTM, and TL)	97.7%	28 ms

From Table 6, precision and inference times are evaluated, and observed that the proposed hybrid model (Faster R-CNN, LSTM, and TL) would perform better in implementation time than other models, such as YOLOv8, individual Faster R-CNN, and individual LSTM.

### 5. CONCLUSIONS

A unified framework is required that ensures accuracy and real-time detection over visual and sensor data deployed on mobile devices. A hybrid LSTM, Faster R-CNN, and Transfer Learning model ensures the LSTM approach over sensor data, Transfer Learning, and Faster R-CNN over image and visual

data. The pre-trained MobileNetV3 provides a light-weight architecture and low-cost approach for defect detection, supporting real-time processing of edge devices. It makes the complex environment also simpler in terms of less parameter consumption, faster configured edge devices support, flexible resource constraint environment, and better fine-tuning. It is superior to heavier models like ResNet, and VGG models. After processing with LSTM, Faster R-CNN, and fusing the features using cross-layer attention, it would effectively fuse the sensor and image data for early defect detection over flyovers and avoid expensive future maintenance costs. The asset of this system is real-time monitoring using drones and CCTVs. This significant module results in flyover longevity and safety. The LSTM for anomaly identification, Faster RNN for defect regions fixing, then fusing these, would determine whether the defect is severe or normal, so that the safety of the flyover is ensured. In the future, still better to increase longrange dependency support and reduce annotations using advanced lightweight modeling and contrastive learning.

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