



Driver Behavior Analysis in Simulated Jaywalking and Accident Prediction Using Machine Learning Algorithms

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Received: 20 December 2022 / Revised: 22 March 2023 / Accepted: 15 January 2024

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Abstract

Road safety can be improved if traffic accidents can be predicted and thus prevented. The use of driver-related variables to determine the possibility of an accident presents a new analysis paradigm. We used a driving simulator to create a jaywalking scenario and investigated how drivers responded to it. A total of 155 valid participants were identified across demographics (age group and gender) and participated in the experiment. We collected driver-related data on eight types of perception/reaction times, vehicle-control data, accident occurrence data, and maneuvers used for obstacle avoidance. From the statistical analysis, it was possible to derive six variables with significant differences based on whether a traffic accident occurred. Furthermore, we identified the data's significant difference according to demographics. Artificial intelligence (AI)-classification models were used to predict whether an accident would occur with up to 90.6% accuracy. The data associated with the dangerous scenario obtained in this study were identified to predict the occurrence of traffic accidents.

Keywords Accident analysis · Classification · Driver behavior characteristic · Prediction

1 Introduction

According to the World Health Organization (WHO) accident report, traffic accidents result in 1.35 million fatalities annually (World Health Organization, 2018). Retting reported that the number of pedestrian deaths increased consistently between 2009 and 2018 in the US, accounting for 17% of traffic accident-related deaths in 2018 (Retting, 2020). Furthermore, the total number of accidents increased by two percent in 2018 compared with that in 2009, but the number of pedestrian deaths increased by 53%. The number of accidents involving pedestrians is consistently increasing. In addition, when an obstacle, such as a pedestrian, appears

abruptly, it is difficult for the driver or an autonomous driving system to react immediately. This delay might cause a road accident.

In our study, we aimed to predict an accident occurrence from our dataset and to provide an insight to prevent an accident. Therefore, we first acquired data on the general behavioral characteristics in dangerous situations and identified the tendencies in the data of general drivers.

For this, we set the vehicle speed (60 and 80 km/h) and pedestrian speed (3 km/h), at which accidents are prone to occur, in a simulator, and acquired the data on the general behavior of drivers. In terms of the behavioral characteristics of drivers, we acquired the following data: time to perceive a dangerous situation, time to react to the situation, and method of reaction. We analyzed the acquired data and presented the result on the behavioral characteristics of general drivers (Han et al., 2021; Lee et al., 2022). We identified significant differences in some data between the cases with accidents and the cases with no accidents. (Perception time, accelerator release time, brake reaction time, steering reaction time, max brake pedal force, and the difference between max and min velocities.)

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