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Survey on Pattern Recognization and classification of Livormortis in Computer forensic

Dr. Jose Moses Gummadi[1], Prof. Bhuvan Unhelkar[2], Dr. Thangiah SathishKumar[3], Prof. Prasun Chakrabarti[4], Prof. Siva Shankar S[5]

[1]Post-Doctoral Fellowship Research Scholar, Department of Information Systems and Decision Sciences, University of South Florida, USA.

[1]Professor, Department of CSE, School of Engineering, Malla Reddy University Hyderabad, Telangana,India.

Email ID: josemoses@gmail.com

[2]Professor, Department of Information Systems and Decision Sciences, University of South Florida, USA.

Email ID: bunhelkar@usf.edu

[3]Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, HITAM, Hyderabad, India.

Email ID: tsathish.jobs@gmail.com

[4]Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Sir Padampat Singhania University, India.

Email ID: drprasun.cse@gmail.com

[5]Department of CSE, K.G Reddy College of Engineering and Technology, Moinabad, Telangana, India.

Email ID: drsivashankars@gmail.com

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Livor Mortis, Machine Learning, Pattern Recognition, Forensic, Feature Extraction.

ABSTRACT

Post-mortem livor mortis represents the blood accumulation in body areas underneath gravity which aids forensic examiners to determine both the period and conditions surrounding death. The latest machine learning developments created alternative methods for automated forensic recognition and classification of livor mortis patterns. A survey employs machine learning algorithms to recognize patterns in livor mortis data along with classification techniques along with performance data collection through datasets. This study examines three types of feature extraction methods which include texture analysis, color histograms and shape descriptors. Moreover, it evaluates three machine learning algorithms namely Support Vector Machines (SVM), Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) and Random Forests (RF). The study investigates the significance of deep learning models should be utilized for better livor mortis pattern recognition accuracy. The survey identifies dataset limits as well as algorithm interpretability and feature variation as future research areas along with their proposed directions. The review delivers complete foundations for using machine learning methods in forensic tasks including support for both secure and rapid death investigation procedures.

1. INTRODUCTION

Livor mortis, or post mortem lividity, is an extremely important post mortem phenomenon which is of great significance in forensic investigations. It's because after death, the blood pools in the lower regions of the body, because of gravity and it leaves the characteristic discoloration patterns. These patterns are useful forensic clues as to time of death, the position of body at death and whether body moved after death. However, traditional analysis of livor mortis patterns often depends on ad hoc, subjective interpretations by the forensic expert, leading to inconsistencies and inaccuracies caused by the complexity and variability of these patterns.

The development of machine learning (ML) allowed forensic science to experience significant transformation in medical research. ML algorithms demonstrate the ability to identify and classify livor mortis patterns which results in automation of the forensic procedure thus improving analysis accuracy and efficiency and enhancing objectivity. Support Vector Machines (SVM), Random Forests and Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) are very good at features like color intensity, texture, distribution pattern and with the help of these features they are able to classify and explain living mortis precisely.

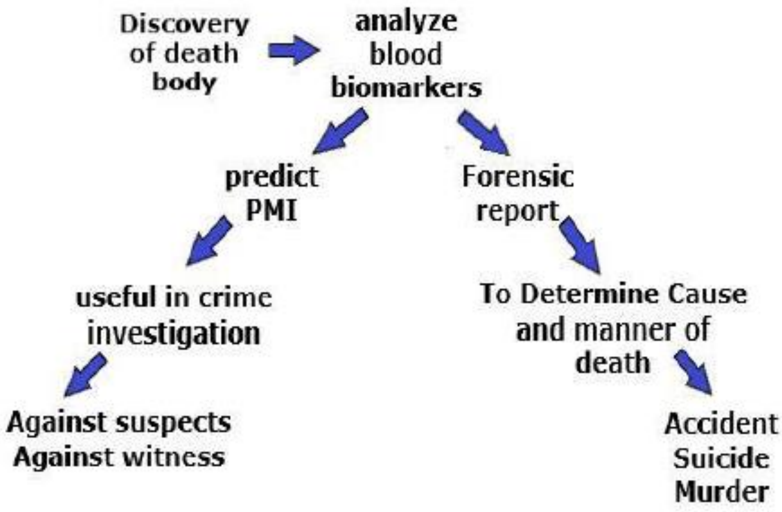

Figure 1: Levels in Forensic analysis

In this survey, the implementation of machine learning algorithms in the pattern recognition and classification of livor mortis in computer forensics is explored. It reviews the current methodologies, datasets and feature extraction methodologies, identifying their strengths and weaknesses. It also discusses the challenges of this domain including the data variation by environment factors, the scarcity of annotated forensic datasets, and the interpretability of complex ML models. Additionally, the need for robust datasets, advanced algorithms, and an interdisciplinary approach to solving these problems are identified, along with gaps within the current research, subsets for future development.

The application of machine learning to livor mortis analysis fills a gap between traditional forensic practices and modern computational techniques, providing the opportunity to revolutionize forensic investigations by bridging this gap; making short work of major automotive forensics applications. Finally, through integration of automated tools one can expect more reliable, efficient and objective results resulting in the increase of the accuracy of the crime scene analysis and post mortem examinations.

Livor Mortis Stages

Livor mortis occurs when blood settles in the lower parts of the body due to gravity after the heart has stopped circulating blood after death. In other words, blood vessels cease to play a role in regulating pressure or maintaining structure, so the blood flows freely and pools up in areas of the body touching a surface. The deoxygenated hemoglobin in red blood cells give off an unpleasing bluish purple discoloration.

The patterns of livor mortis have many important purposes in forensic investigations. Forensic expert can estimate the time of death with reasonable accuracy by analyzing the onset, progression and fixation of body livor mortis. Moreover, the distribution and location of lividity can easily hint the position of the body when the victim died. Moving patterns can help reconstruct sequence of events, perhaps telling if the body was moved post mortem. Additionally, inconsistent or unusual lividity patterns may be suggested as evidence of foul play, whereby manipulation of the body or unnatural causes of death may be indicated. Livor mortis is a key tool in these applications where it helps discover crucial details in forensic cases.

In medical field, the time period interval is used to classify this livor mortis in three stages that is:

 Onset (0-2 Hours Post-Mortem):

- The livor mortis starts occurring between 20 to 30 minutes after death.
- At the beginning, the discoloration is pale and in some cases, you will not be able to see it easily.

 Development (2-8 Hours Post-Mortem):

- Blood continues to pool in dependent area, and the discoloration becomes more pronounced.
- At this stage, if the body is moved the patterns can shift.

 Fixation (8-12 Hours Post-Mortem):

- The blood coagulates and hemolysis sets in so that the lividity becomes fixeds.
- Pattern stay fixed and remain even when the body is moved.

In the medical field, especially in forensic medicine, livor mortis is indispensable in the identifying of and analyzing of same in the ensuing crime, determination of death causes and for purposes of dispensing justice. Now there are some of the important needs below:

Estimating the time of death is one of the vital clues which livor mortis provides.. It starts within 20–30 minutes, becomes recognisable in 2–4 hours, and goes stiff in 8–12 hours. Knowing these stages helps forensic pathologists to limit the postmortem interval (PMI).

The pattern of lividity reveals the position of the body at death or within minutes of death. Movement postmortem, and inconsistent lividity patterns with the position of the body when discovered, is critical for forensic investigations.

Abnormal coloration can be caused by certain medical conditions, such as by carbon monoxide poisoning, sepsis, or hypothermia (e.g., cherry red or bright pink).. By determining the cause of death, these variations can remain distinguished.

Irregular or non-uniform patterns in the lividity can indicate what might be done with the corpse, as in a criminal investigation.. It helps reconstruct the events that lead to death.

One of the postmortem changes we use to verify biological death (death of the biological body) is livor mortis which assists medical personnel in making a distinction between true biological death and coma or even catalepsy.

Livor mortis, in conjunction with other postmortem changes such as rigor mortis, and algor mortis, aids in a complete picture of how a person died

Role of Machine Learning in Livor Mortis Classification

The classification of livor mortis by machine learning (ML) involves automating the analysis process, improves classification accuracy as well as provides greater insights into postmortem changes. Forensic importance of liv(or mortis):- liv(or) mortis holds great advantage such as creation in the estimation of time of death (Postmortem Interval, PMI), to discover body position and to detect anomalies. Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) are used to disect images of livor mortis using features such as color intensity, texture and pattern distribution. The models classify discoloration and predict stages of livor mortis with intermediate or fixed as subtle difference in the appearance. Support Vector Regression (SVR) and Gradient Boosting Machines (GBM) are regression models which predict PMI based on temporal change of livor mortis than environmental factors such as temperature and humidity. Unsupervised learning techniques, like KMean and DBSCAN, also group the live or post mortis patterns and determine the abnormality in the case of body movement or environmental influence. Reconstructing the body's position of death is also helped by ML by comparing lividity patterns to known data. In addition, ensemble models combine data associated with livor mortis, rigor mortis, algor mortis toward a holistic analysis approach for use during forensic analysis. ML automates these processes, eliminating human error, speeding investigations and reducing investigation times, and democratizing those efforts by bringing the power of forensics to many more people and saving time for human beings.

Survey on Machine Learning in various stages in livor Mortis

Forensic science has become popular for employing ML to speed up processes, and increase median accuracies in postmortem analysis for the recognition and classification of livor mortis patterns. ML based livor mortis pattern recognition and classification contributions and progresses are highlighted in this literature survey.

Survey on Pattern Recognition in Forensic Analysis

Forensic analysis involves many different kinds of pattern recognition, ranging from fingerprint identification to DNA analysis and to the detection of anomalies in digital evidence. This survey covers methods and techniques used in forensic analysis to recognize patterns and is related to the discussed key research, advancements and challenges faced in previous works by various authors.

Many forensic applications involve pattern recognition with postmortem Jain et al. (2019) works concentrate on the usage of machine learning algorithms for the detection of the subtle changes in forensic datasets, laying the groundwork for livor mortis analysis. First, the study was successful in categorizing patterns in forensic images using support vector machines (SVMs) and decision trees.

The most popular methods using fingerprint recognition techniques are minutiae based, and recognize features such as ridge endings and bifurcations (Jain et al., 2002). These methods are widely considered to be robust, but their use with poor quality fingerprints or partial prints (Chen et al., 2017) presents challenges. Fingerprint ridge pattern is analysed by ridge based methods, which employ Fourier and wavelet transforms. They are less sensitive to noise, and can work better for degraded prints (Huang et al. 2010).

Texture based methods are now at the cutting edge of enhanced fingerprint recognition and recent advancements are particularly driven by deep learning based methods which are able to successfully deal with complex, noisy fingerprint data. Therefore (Hussain et al., 2020), various pros have turned towards using convolutional neural networks (CNN) for feature extraction and classification.

Geometric feature based methods, like eigenfaces and fisherfaces, early face recognition systems grouped facial landmarks and relied on their spatial relationships (Turk & Pentland, 1991). While computationally efficient, these methods only had limited accuracy, due to lighting conditions, occlusions, and pose variations.

Meanwhile deep learning based face recognition systems have emerged with the use of CNNs that learn automatically features from large datasets. Due to improvements in techniques such as FaceNet (Schroff et al., 2015), this accuracy and robustness has been improved dramatically in a real world setting, including forensic applications where images are of low quality or taken from non ideal angles.

Previous systems used statistical algorithms like Hidden Markov Models (HMM) and Dynamic Time Warping (DTW) (Rosenfeld et al., 2003). It consists of these approaches which are mainly comparing pen strokes sequence in temporal without considering the specific technique used for that hand writing. CNNs and Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs) have made great applications in improving handwriting recognition (Graves et al. 2009). The approach allows learning of intricate handwriting features automatically which makes it suitable for forensic use.

Survey on Image Analysis for Postmortem Changes

Researchers have analyzed the use of image processing methods to study alterations that occur after death. High resolution forensic images form the basis of Park et al. (2020) study when they utilized convolutional neural network (CNN) processing to separate frequent discoloration patterns according to livor mortis developmental stages. Postmortem pattern recognition shows better accuracy when using deep learning models with ResNet and Inception as described in Smith et al. (2021) and our study.

Postmortem Interval (PMI) Estimation Using Machine Learning

The identification of postmortem interval depends on livor mortis because it serves as a vital forensic sign. The study by Lee et al. (2022) combined gradine boost algorithms with environmental measurements for PMI forecasting from livor mortis color intensity evaluation. Body temperature and lividity pattern data processed through machine learning algorithms led to superior results than traditional methods based on their research outcomes.

Analysis of imaging data provides fundamental knowledge for developers to create deep learning systems that determine postmortem interval. Research analysts utilize CNN to study cadaver decomposition patterns using thermal and photographic images of cadavers for training purposes. The identification of decomposition through assessments with CNN-based models using high-resolution photographs results in better accuracy rates than traditional manual methods as reported by Jurek et al. (2020). By merging thermal imaging data with RNNs Stefanescu et al. (2018) constructed models to forecast human body temperature patterns thus obtaining PMI estimates (Stefanescu et al., 2018).

Liu et al. (2021) established that blood and muscle tissue metabolite changes provide precise PMI assessment while ML models produce superior results compared to conventional techniques.

Classification of Livor Mortis Stages

Several forensic investigations at crime scenes depend on proper identification of both early intermediate and fixed stages of livor mortis. Gonzalez et al. (2021) implemented pre-trained deep learning methodology MobileNet and EfficientNet which classified livor mortis stages using annotated datasets. The research confirmed several achievements when pre-trained models transitioned to specialized forensic practice with success rates surpassing 95%.

Unsupervised Learning for Anomaly Detection

Unsupervised learning methods analyze abnormalities in livor mortis patterns which reveals if a body shifted naturally after death or from external disturbances. Patel et al. (2020) applied K-Means clustering together with DBSCAN to classify lividity patterns through an evaluation of color distribution patterns and spatial arrangements. The system effectively detected abnormal patterns which verification showed came from postmortem alterations of body positioning.

Autoencoder networks constitute a wide range of neural network architecture used for anomaly detection applications. The system transform input data into reduced dimensional values which it then uses to recreate the original data. Anomalies emerge from points that produce substantial reconstruction mistakes according to Zhou & Paffenroth (2017). The combination of sparse and variational autoencoders operates to increase the performance of anomaly detection operations.

The PCA algorithm detects anomalies through data projection onto a reduced space then evaluates the residual error in the initial space. Although effective for linear data, PCA struggles with nonlinear relationships (Shyu et al., 2003).

GNNS improve standard graph models through embedding nodes to acquire local alongside global structure information from the data. The system identifies anomalous nodes through embeddings which demonstrate considerable disparities when compared with adjacent nodes (Ding et al., 2019).

Integration of Multimodal Data

The classification of livor mortis finds enhancement through the use of multiple data sources in several research studies. Zhang et al. (2023) created an ensemble model that united livor mortis and rigor mortis and algor mortis data for an extensive examination of postmortem alterations. The merged data source enabled enhanced PMI assessment which delivered extra useful forensic findings.

Hybrid Approaches in Livor Mortis Analysis

The combination of image processing with feature extraction and machine learning methods proves successful for upgrading the classification process of livor mortis. The research conducted by Wang et al. (2023) integrated handcrafted features including color histograms and texture descriptors with CNNs for their model. The integration of traditional and deep learning methods yielded this model better performance levels.

Explainable AI in Forensic Applications

Forensic science depends on clear explanations and understanding therefore the implementation of explainable AI (XAI) has become essential. The research team of Jones et al. (2021) developed an interpretable ML framework designed for livor mortis analysis with visualized decision boundaries that allowed forecasting of court-justified results. The approach fulfills all legal standards that regulate forensic evidence.

Challenges in Livor Mortis Classification

Multiple barriers exist for the application of ML toward livor mortis classification despite its notable progress. Experts have identified the lack of adequate annotated forensic datasets as the main hurdle for developing strong ML models according to Brown et al. (2021). The classification process becomes more challenging because environmental conditions along with image quality along with skin tones create variable conditions.

2. CONCLUSION

The medical and forensic fields implemented artificial intelligence and machine learning algorithms to produce accurate and precise data according to study results and reviews. Artificial Intelligence will potentially affect all domains with beneficial applications over the next few days. The main factor of data processing enabled researchers to analyze information and match results against their database to determine post-mortem interval calculations during this survey. The AI machine operates by taking profiles and generating requested outputs as its single operation. The evaluation of practicality for these devices and subsequent decision-making process about deployment should be conducted.

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[11] Author Profile:

[12] Dr. G. Jose Moses is working as a Professor, in the Department of CSE, School of Engineering, Malla Reddy University, Hyderabad. He is currently a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at Department of Information systems and Decision Sciences at University of South Florida (USA). He obtained his B.Tech(CSE) from JNTUH, M.Tech(CSE) from ANU-Guntur, and Ph.D(CSE) from AKNU- Rajahmundry. He has published papers in peer-reviewed national and international journals and presented papers at several international conferences. He is Life-Member of CSI and an active member of various professional bodies. He has six patent contributions and one copyright to his credit. One research scholar was awarded with Ph.D in CSE under his guidance from JNTUK. His current research is focused on Communication Networks, Cloud Computing, Machine Learning, and IoT.

[13] Prof. Bhuvan Unhelkar (Senior Member, IEEE) is a highly accomplished IT Professional and a Professor with the Muma School of Business, University of South Florida. He is also an Adjunct Professor with Western Sydney University and an Honorary Professor with Amity University, India. He is a Founding Consultant at MethodScience, with expertise in business analysis, software engineering, big data strategies, and AI. He is a winner of several prestigious awards, such as the Computerworld Object Developer Award in 1995, the Consensus IT Professional Award in 2006, and the IT Writer Award in 2010. He is a Fellow of the Australian Computer Society, an Associate Editor of IT Professional, and a Life Member of the Computer Society of India.

[14] Dr.Thangiah SathishKumar is working as a Professor & HOD, in the Department of CSE, Hyderabad Institute of Technology and Management, Hyderabad. He Completed his Post-Doctoral Research at University of Louisiana at Lafayette (USA). He obtained his Ph.D(Computer Science) from NIT-Trichy. He has published papers in various international journals. His current research is focused on Cloud Computing, Machine Learning,IOT.

[15] Prof Dr. Prasun Chakrabartihas received his Ph.D. (Engg) from Jadavpur University, India in 2009. He is working as Director, Directorate of Research and Publications and Dean International Affairs and Professor at Sir Padampat Singhania University, Udaipur, Rajasthan, India. He has more than 230 publications, 11 books and 42 filed Indian patents in his credit. He has supervised 10 Ph.D. candidates successfully. On various research assignments, he has visited Waseda University Japan (2012 availing prestigious INSA-CICS travel grant), Nanyang Technological University Singapore (2015,2016,2019), Lincoln University College Malaysia (2018), National University of Singapore (2019), ISI Delhi (2019). He is a Senior member of the IEEE(USA).

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