

# CNN-BASED ROAD SIGN RECOGNITION FOR DRIVER ASSISTANCE

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**Abstract:** Considering established relevance to the GTSRB dataset, it is important to emphasize that research investigates the effectiveness of convolutional neural networks (CNN) in the field of road sign recognition. Following that wide range of techniques for comprehensive preprocessing pipelines were implemented, including data normalization and augmentation as well as resizing images. The CNN model has demonstrated the ability to overcome adverse conditions across multiple road sign classes, demonstrating outstanding scores against the performance metrics used in testing and evaluation process. Model achieved classification accuracies exceeding 99% across most categories. Nevertheless, in certain classes there is presence of performance metric decline related to the inaccurate visualization and contradiction of features. The crucial role of the preprocessing phase has been highlighted while the implementation of the CNN model has been identified as one of the most reliable approaches in the field of road sign recognition. However future implications must be considered to achieve the full potential of the model. Some of the crucial contributions for the future will be introducing real life variation in the dataset. On the other hand, occlusion, lighting and weather conditions are the important factors that should be brought into focus.

**Keywords:** road sign recognition, machine learning, convolutional neural networks, adas

## INTRODUCTION

One of the critical components of Intelligent Transportation Systems is Road Sign Recognition, whose purpose is to provide support for digital components of the vehicle in the field of traffic regulations interpretation. Taking it into account the examples of these interpretations are speed limits, hazard warnings, and navigation commands. Following that Road Sign Recognition for Driver Assistance takes into consideration important aspects such as efficiency and management of traffic flow, adherence to regulations and road safety. The real-time recognition of road signs in an Advanced Driver-Assistance System (ADAS) [1] reinforces the process of human error suppression such as missing important signals or misinterpreting them. However, the system enhances the level of situational awareness of the drivers while allowing them to make effective decisions in order to minimize chances of potential accidents.

Road sign recognition forms the difficulty of per-

ception systems in autonomous vehicles, enabling safe navigation in complex environments. Autonomous vehicles comply with the laws by monitoring traffic signs and consequently to that assist in coordinating the interactions with pedestrians and human-driven vehicles. Public safety issues in this concept are the subject of address, while enhancing the more extensive adoption of autonomous driving technologies all over the world. It is important to emphasize that there is evident utilization of Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) [2] in this project, given that these networks are specialized in extracting spatial data, consequently making them ideal for classification problems involving images.

Attention mechanisms are one of the advanced techniques that improve the model's capacity to focus on important sign regions while at the same time not compromising performance of computation. Taking that into account it is obvious that all these necessary approaches are implemented using on-the-fence

algorithms that process data in real-time, with the main purpose for deployment in dynamic real-world environments. By realizing complicated and diverse conditions in the real world, the system differentiates itself. Regarding that, the process includes reliable operating systems under all circumstances like variations of light, bad weather, and the presence of occlusions. Considering these issues, solutions are essential for developing a framework that can move applications across different environments.

This research contributes to the field by evaluating CNN-based road sign recognition using the GTSRB dataset, with emphasis on preprocessing strategies and performance metrics. The study aligns with global trends in sustainable urban mobility and intelligent vehicle technologies, bridging the gap between human-driven and AI-driven systems.

In the context of contribution to road safety and compliance with traffic regulations, it is important to emphasize that timely and precise availability of road sign recognition reduces the risk of driver distraction. The focus is on adherence of traffic regulations for the purpose of safe and legal driving behavior. Considering the above, the project corresponds with the global trends and contributes to achieving sustainable urban mobility and the implementation of intelligent vehicle technologies, as it improves road safety. It is important to emphasize that the integration of road sign recognition in the fully automated and semi-automated system closes the gap between the vehicle operated by a human and the one operated by artificial intelligence.

Taking it into consideration, among the greatest challenges that development of autonomous driving systems faces in the current decade is the reliable identification and real-time recognition of road signs under the impact of a wide range of different environmental circumstances, including various weather conditions. Road signs are critical indicators for navigation consistency and legal compliance with traffic rules. Misinterpretations or delay in recognition could undermine the performance and implementation of ADAS. In order to address the problem of misclassification, CNN model has been trained on GTSRB dataset for the purpose of ensuring efficient real-time road sign recognition, measured using performance metrics. As the result of data preprocessing and optimization of the pipeline, the model could

decrease performance efficiency. This research provides a comprehensive structure of research in neural networks and deep learning; however, it also has a direct impact on the development of the automotive industry by improving reliability and reducing driver mistakes in autonomous systems.

The section Literature review will include reviews of 10 research papers in the context of their research purpose, methodology, and findings and its relation to the topic of proposed investigation. The proposed dataset is going to be subject of training and assessment, including the stages of preprocessing data, model training and its evaluation. In the Dataset and Methodology section the theoretical background will be explained in relation to methodology. Sections related to Results and Discussion are going to contain the analysis and comparison related to the contributions and limitations of the model. The reference is going to be to the tables and figures where collected data is going to be sorted. Afterwards the whole research paper is going to be summarized.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

In the context of literature related to the topic of road sign recognition it is important to take into consideration a variety of approaches related to the topic of research. There is evident contribution of recent research to find out methodologies addressing recognition, accuracy, and reliability issues in real time. However, the following investigations are implementing techniques including deep learning models, classic approach to machine learning as well as optimization, while providing a comprehensive overview and discussion. The alignment of the following papers to corresponding research is in the field of efficiency and accuracy of machine learning models for the purpose of advancement in real time road sign recognition while developing driving safety as well as improving autonomous driver assistance systems.

It is important to emphasize that a structured protocol was employed for the purpose of identifying, selecting, and synthesizing the reviewed literature. Considering that these relevant studies were retrieved from IEEE Xplore, ScienceDirect, Springer-Link, and Google Scholar using keywords associated with road sign recognition and deep learning. Taking it into account the inclusion criteria required, the peer-reviewed research papers are interpreting pro-

posed machine-learning or deep-learning methods in the field of road sign detection or classification, reporting quantitative performance, and interpreting clearly defined datasets. Evaluating the abstracts as well as complete texts, the final research papers were selected based on relevance experimental results, methodological quality, or relevant computational modeling in the field of road sign recognition. On the other hand, work that does meet the criteria that was subject of evaluation has not been taken into consideration.

Observing the approach introduced in [3], it is important to emphasize that the purpose of this research is performance evaluation while addressing issues related to real-time road sign recognition. This process is determined by implementation of CNNs. Through the analysis of this research, it has been discovered that methods of this investigation are based on development of transfer learning, which was a crucial element related to GTSRB evaluation presented in [4]. The results have shown that the accuracy rate of CNN reaches 98.9%, suggesting substantially reduced computational cost. When it comes to the relevance of the approach [4] to proposed research, it could be scientific proof of efficiency related to the CNNs in the field of road sign recognition, while reinforcing the theory of accurate and safe models development.

When it comes to the work discussed in [5] the main focus is on the advancement of YOLO (You Only Look Once) models which are related specifically for traffic sign recognition in complex environments, in fact circumstances which are not controlled. Taking it into consideration, the YOLOv4 modified model emphasizes pyramid networks method as an important feature while enhancing effective detection under low light conditions. The outcome has shown advancement in precision and recall results, while accuracy rate reached 95% under more challenging occasions. This could be useful for proposed research in the field related to ensuring reliability associated with real-time sign recognition for driver assistance, while optimizing YOLO for complex environments.

The focus of research discussed in [6] the research paper is on the multimodal data creation and implementation related to the traffic signs recognition under the impact of comparative weather conditions. They have utilized a combination of CNNs and RGB

images as main methods, while considering thermal data to perform data fusion. The results have shown improvements in recognition accuracy that have risen by 7%, in comparison with RGB methods alone where the environment was dark and cloudy. The relevance of the research to the implementation of corresponding work is discussed in [6] in the context of combining infrared with RGB data in order to improve recognition under the impact of poor lighting, while focusing on achieving safe driving conditions.

Key idea for idea introduced in [7] is establishing attention models to enhance more efficient optimization and acquisition around traffic sign identification models. In order to achieve that idea there has been an elevated technique of self-attention in compliance with CNN architecture. At the end the outcome suggested a rise in accuracy of detection in the field of partially covered and small signs, with a high percentage of F1 score equal to 97.8%. Considering the purpose of proposed investigation and the idea of the work discussed in [7], the alignment is emphasized in the domain of elevating reliability, while implementing attention mechanisms in order to enhance detection of small or relatively covered signs.

When it comes to the idea introduced in [8], the aim was to alter MobileNet compact architecture related specifically to the low-power devices. There have been techniques related to aggressive data augmentation which include training of MobileNet models on the dataset presented in [4]. The findings have shown that accuracy rate achieved 95.5% under the circumstances where memory consumption has been reduced in order to be suitable for embedded systems. It aligns with the focus of proposed research on implementation of real-time applications which are resource-efficient, suitable for autonomous vehicles as well as the Advanced Driver-Assistance System (ADAS).

For the purpose of examination of work presented in [9], regarding the methodological approach in this specific research, there has been evident comparison of the traditionally based approach such as SVMs and K-NN against the deep learning models used to interpret dataset. The traditional method is mainly based on predefined elements, since relevant features are manually extracted. The outcome has shown CNNs as the most relevant approach to this kind of data, since the MLP model reached an accuracy rate equal to

98.98%, while the CNN achieved accuracy of 99.46%, on the specific dataset. The relevance of this specific research to the topic of corresponding research is shown in the concept that includes evaluation of traffic sign recognition systems in order to support development of ADAS.

Keeping track of demonstrating the efficacy of the deep neural networks was in the focus of work introduced in [10] in order to implement reliable multi-class traffic sign recognition. In the context of methods used it is important to emphasize that this approach interprets deep neural networks in the combination with application to the dataset as reported in [4]. The results have shown that accuracy rate reached 99.46%, emphasizing differences to the previously used methodologies. It is important to take into account that the approach of research discussed in [10] aligns with proposed research in the field of implementation of deep neural networks in order to achieve high accuracy rate, emphasizing application of deep learning in real time in order to achieve road safety.

Research presented in [11] aims to explore the implementation of traffic sign recognition, while elevating the hierarchical classification method. Following that there has been utilized a combination of hierarchical classification and cascade classifier techniques. Considering the results it is important to take into account that classification accuracy reached a rate equal to 98.96% on the GTSRB dataset reported in [4]. This research aligns with the purpose of authors' work in the context of improving accuracy rates in the real time, complex traffic environments.

Considering the work presented in [12] the focus was on evaluating model performance of traffic sign recognition under the impact of data augmentation. Methods that acknowledge this approach include applied transformation techniques such as scaling, rotation and adaptation of brightness, implemented to train data. The outcome suggests accuracy rate that achieves 98.9%, while highlighting robustness of the performed techniques. This research is related to proposed investigation within the framework of robustness of potential implementation in real time driving conditions.

The main idea of work proposed in [13] is the examination of the local binary patterns (LBP) application in combination with SVMs for the purpose

of effective traffic sign recognition. Considering the focus of the research, there have been implemented approaches that include implementation of the LBP and SVM related techniques in order to gather hand-crafted features. However, in the field of this research, it is important to emphasize that there are significant outcomes related to the accuracy rate, which has been reported as a percentage of 98.78% on the GTSRB dataset is presented in [4]. Considering the approach of research discussed in [13], there is the prospect of applying the relevant techniques in the context of this investigation.

Considering the previously reviewed literature and the resources authors have used, the research hypothesis will be stated as follows: "The Convolutional Neural Networks (machine learning) model can efficiently recognize road signs in real-time, for the purpose of autonomous and safe driving development." Such a methodology is most appropriate, since the experimental design controls the ability of the model to recognize signs effectively in real time conditions.

## METHODS AND MATERIALS

Taking into consideration the dataset that is planned to be used in this project, GTSRB (German Traffic Sign Recognition Benchmark Dataset) has been chosen, as noted in [4]. Dataset originates from the 2011 ISI GTSRB competition and takes into consideration road sign images from the real-world conditions from German roads. This dataset includes 50000 images, traffic signs and its representation which has been organized in 43 categories. It is important to emphasize for the purpose of machine learning processing, images are conformed and resized to a uniform dimension which is equal to 32×32 pixels ratio.

Corresponding dataset requires ordinary pre-processing steps such as implementing fixed input size, conducting pixel values normalization while at the same time applying data augmentation. GTSRB represents robust benchmark that can be used for the purpose of evaluation and comparison, since it adopts wide range of different images. Considering the structure and characteristics, images have different height, angle and illumination, while providing a substantial dataset for testing and training.



**Table 1** Columns of GTSRB dataset: The table contains relevant information regarding metadata of images included in the dataset.

Column	Description
Filename	Name of file
Width	Width of image
Height	Height of image
Roi.X1	X-coordinate of the top-left corner of the Region of Interest (ROI).
Roi.Y1	Y-coordinate of the top-left corner of the ROI.
Roi.X2	X-coordinate of the bottom-right corner of the ROI.
Roi.Y2	Y-coordinate of the bottom-right corner of the ROI.
ClassId	Road sign classification label[4]

However, in the context of annotations, as shown in “Table 1” we should highlight that each image contains metadata sorted in the form of columns: Filename, Width, Height, ClassId, and bounding box coordinates (Roi.X1, Roi.Y1, Roi.X2, Roi.Y2) as we can see from “Table 1”. The resolution of the images in the dataset has a different range of quality, depending on the conditions and environment where the image has been taken. It is important to emphasize that dataset specified in [4] is frequently used for the purpose of benchmarking models related to road sign detection.

The most significant segment of intelligent transportation systems and advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS) [1] is represented in the field of road sign detection. Taking into consideration this model, authors must emphasize optimizing safety of drivers as well as the accomplishment of the legal requirements. The key idea of road sign detection is implementing computer vision and machine learning techniques to analyze graphical information. Considering the theoretical background of road sign recognition, it is important to emphasize the scope of computer vision in the field of traffic sign detection and classification. The main purpose of this system is the advancement of driver assistance framework. This system is already integrated into modern cars enhancing the autonomous drive, with the main purpose of reducing human error while elevating road safety. CNNs are based on principles of feature extraction, pattern recognition and image classification, with the primary objective to reduce manual engineering of features, while highlighting its fundamental implementation.

CNNs [2] as a type of deep learning network have been used in coordination with algorithms for real-

time processing. They are ideal for categorizing image data since they are establishing spatial hierarchies by implementing convolutional layers. Characteristics of this class of algorithm are related to the high efficiency consequently to its architecture which is based on identification of the organizational structure of images. The structure includes filters and pooling layers, with the main objective of minimizing spatial dimensions to maintain critical patterns. Subsequently these learned features are classified into predefined categories. The CNNs are optimal for precise road sign detection and classification, considering that they are in line with the methodology of biological vision systems. The type of research design and methodology that is going to be conducted is in accordance with the purpose of the proposed research with strong relation to optimization of the machine learning model in real time focusing on the driving safety as well as the autonomous driving assistance. The proposed method for research is focused on real-time implementation of machine learning to recognize road signs for advanced safety and performance of autonomous vehicles. The context of strategy in general involves measures such performance comparison to each method in this experiment-driven approach. The focus is going to be on experimental methodology where the model will be evaluated on a benchmark dataset, in relation to the dataset specified in [4].

Wide range of libraries and frameworks were utilized to build models, prepare and manipulate data, as well as visualize the results afterwards. TensorFlow, representing the machine learning framework developed by Google[14], has been used alongside Keras, a tool that implements a high level neural network API[15], for the purpose of development and training of the CNN model. Additionally, NumPy library includes the various numerical computations mainly focused on arrays and matrices consisting of a wide range of mathematical functions necessary for operating with data structures [16]. It is important to emphasize that NumPy has been used in combination with Pandas as one of the fundamental Python libraries [17] for the purpose of manipulation and analysis of structured data formats. Another important library that has been used throughout the process is Matplotlib [18], which serves data visualization and performance metrics calculation. The research design is structured as follows (Figure 1):

**Exploratory Design:** This phase is mainly focused on the review of the dataset presented in [4], primarily focusing on the characteristics including class distribution as well as quality of images.

**Experimental Design:** This phase involves the process of training and testing CNN model relating to the preprocessed data. The main subject of this type of design includes learning rate optimization, batch size, as well as the optimizers on their own, for the purpose of elevating proposed outcomes.

**Quantitative analysis:** Capability of models to effectively recognize traffic signs will be evaluated using the following performance metrics: accuracy, precision, recall as well as F1 Score.



Figure 1 Stages of the research process

All the processes related to the preprocessing of dataset, training a CNN model, evaluating performance metrics, and testing the model in the real-world conditions following the corresponding steps for road sign identification. The GTSRB is the dataset

that has been used in the field of training and testing of the model as noted in [4], with preprocessing to enhance coherence and reliability related to the input requirements of the proposed model. Data preprocessing stage involves preprocessing of the images contained in the highlighted dataset, considering the process of resizing to the dimension of 32x32 pixels, including the pixel value normalization as well as encoding labels for the purpose of multi-classification. In order to evaluate performance of the proposed model in real time as specified in [4] dataset has been split into two subsets, including training and testing subset in the ratio 80:20. The primary model that is going to be trained is the CNN model, in the form of a separate step of the research process as shown in Figure 1. The proposed model has been already confirmed as a proficient model for managing the process of image recognition. In the field of classification of traffic signs, convolutional, pooling and dense layers optimization has been completed. It is important to consider that accuracy, precision, recall and F1 Score as well as the confusion matrix are figures used to determine efficiency of the proposed model, indicating the evaluation stage.

## RESULTS

This method ensures precision and enables the management of variables such as sign recognition, type of signs and on the other side the setup of a model. Implementation of these methods includes a comparison of traditional models with those based on machine learning.

Accuracy: indicates the contribution of model to positive road sign identification in the relation to the to the overall predictions by a model, reflecting its efficiency

$$\text{Accuracy} = (\text{True Positives} + \text{True Negatives}) / (\text{True Positives} + \text{True Negatives} + \text{False Positives} + \text{False Negatives})$$

Precision: percentage of road signs that have been correctly identified.

$$\text{Precision} = \text{True Positives} / (\text{True Positives} + \text{False Positives})$$

Recall: capability of model reflecting how many existing traffic signs were positively detected.

$$\text{Recall} = \text{True Positives} / (\text{True Positives} + \text{False Negatives})$$

F1-Score: indicates the relation between precision

and recall in the field of reliability of the model.

$F1 - Score = (Precision * Recall) / (Precision + Recall)$   
[19]

As mentioned in the former part of the research, there will be a combination of exploration and experimental design, while quantitative analysis is going to be utilized for evaluation. Considering the collection of data related to machine learning based road sign detection, this approach is going to include use of the pre-existing dataset called GTSRB as presented in [4]. When it comes to the data collection method, data that have been part of manipulation and the analysis process are classified as secondary data. The experiment will be applied in a controlled environment which involves computer-based condition, where the external factors were subject to control. In the field of this research, independent variable refers to the type of selected model. Metrics related to the accuracy, precision, recall, and F1 Score, used to determine performance of specific models, are represented as dependent variables. Taking into account the experimental design, this method mostly fits with classification of quasi-experimental designs alongside with quantitative analysis. The reasons are that datasets are evaluated in the environment, which was not controlled or altered in real-time, while evaluating performance results. Optimizing machine learning models in real time conditions to recognize road signs. The primary focus is on improving road safety and enhancing development of autonomous driving techniques, emphasizing making decisions with precision. In the following section the results related to training and examination of the dataset noted in [4] are going to be presented and evaluated according to the performance metrics.

**Table 2** Class Labels and Corresponding Road Sign Descriptions in the GTSRB Dataset

Class ID	Description	Class ID	Description
0	Speed limit (20km/h)	22	Bumpy road
1	Speed limit (30km/h)	23	Slippery road
2	Speed limit (50km/h)	24	Road narrows on the right
3	Speed limit (60km/h)	25	Road work
4	Speed limit (70km/h)	26	Traffic signals
5	Speed limit (80km/h)	27	Pedestrians
6	End of speed limit (80km/h)	28	Children crossing

7	Speed limit (100km/h)	29	Bicycles crossing
8	Speed limit (120km/h)	30	Beware of ice/snow
9	No passing	31	Wild animals crossing
10	No passing for vehicles over 3.5 tons	32	End of all speed and passing limits
11	Right-of-way at the next intersection	33	Turn right ahead
12	Priority road	34	Turn left ahead
13	Yield	35	Ahead only
14	Stop	36	Go straight or right
15	No vehicles	37	Go straight or left
16	Vehicles over 3.5 metric tons prohibited	38	Keep right
17	No entry	39	Keep left
18	General caution	40	Roundabout mandatory
19	Dangerous curve to the left	41	End of no passing
20	Dangerous curve to the right	42	End of no passing by vehicles over 3.5 tons
21	Double curve		

The “Table 2” demonstrates the mapping from each class ID to the name of the corresponding road sign, from the GTSRB dataset. This classification is important for interpreting the model output and understanding the semantic meaning of predictions in the field of road recognition.

**Table 3** Classification metrics for road sign recognition using CNN model

Class ID	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	F1 Score
0	1.00	0.98	1.00	0.99
1	0.99	1.00	1.00	1.00
2	0.99	0.99	0.99	0.99
3	0.98	0.98	0.99	0.99
4	1.00	0.99	1.00	1.00
5	0.99	0.99	0.96	0.98
6	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99
7	0.98	1.00	0.98	0.99
8	0.99	0.98	0.99	0.99
9	0.99	1.00	1.00	1.00
10	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
11	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99
12	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
13	1.00	0.99	1.00	1.00
14	1.00	0.99	1.00	1.00
15	1.00	1.00	0.99	1.00
16	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
17	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
18	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

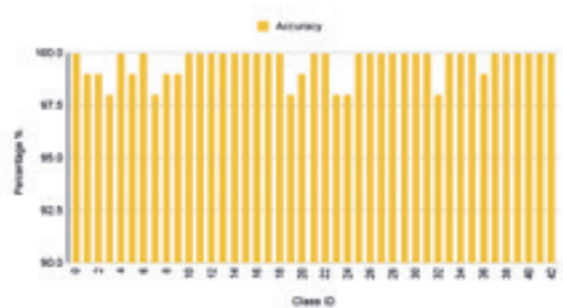
19	0.98	1.00	0.98	0.99
20	0.99	0.99	0.99	0.99
21	1.00	0.98	0.98	0.98
22	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
23	0.98	0.98	0.99	0.99
24	0.98	1.00	1.00	1.00
25	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99
26	1.00	0.99	1.00	1.00
27	1.00	1.00	0.98	0.99
28	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
29	1.00	0.95	1.00	0.98
30	1.00	1.00	0.99	0.99
31	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
32	0.98	1.00	1.00	1.00
33	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
34	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.99
35	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
36	0.99	1.00	1.00	1.00
37	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
38	1.00	1.00	0.99	1.00
39	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
40	1.00	0.98	1.00	0.99
41	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
42	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Average	0.9874	0.9837	0.9837	0.9835

The “Table 3” represents precision, recall and F1 Score, for each road sign class, establishing multiple performances of the CNN model across different categories. The overall evaluation implied that performance of the CNN model is outstanding. Main reasons for that are figures related to F1 Score where average results is 0.99, indicating that model is characterized by successful generalization in the combination with minimal overfitting. However high supported classes were established consequently to strong training, while qualification of the low supported classes was determined by insignificant variations. This correlates the performance of CNN architectures concerning the recognition tasks based on the images. The classification report clearly indicates that CNN model performs well in the field of precision, recall and F1 Scores. Taking into consideration Class 1 and Class 2 where results indicated 1.00 for all performance metrics. Marginal declines are present in Class 29 and Class 5 where a challenging aspect was misclassification of road signs that have been sharing similar attributes. Considering evidence there is limited scope

of sign detection in particular classes, while in general CNN model has considerable capacity for effective road sign recognition. The corresponding report indicates comprehensive assessment related to performance of the CNN model’s in recognizing traffic signs on German roads, where each Class ID is used to represent a unique category of road sign within the GTSRB dataset. For instance, Class 1 stands for the speed limit (30 km/h), Class 2 for the speed limit (50 km/h), Class 13 for yield, Class 14 for a stop sign, and similar. A total of 43 classes were instructed to the model. The CNN model had an outstanding performance, with accuracy rates around or equal to 1.00 for almost every class. It is important to emphasize that the precision, recall, and F1-scores were relatively high, proposing the fact the model was not only characterized with high accuracy rates, but with remarkable consistency when it comes to recognition of road signs.

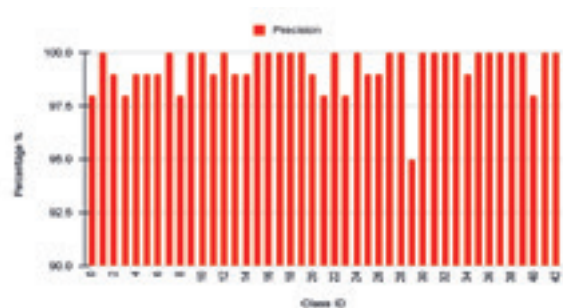
Results have shown all metrics effective classification (1.00) for multiple classes including Class 1, 2, 10, 12, 13, and 16, and demonstrated that traffic signs represented by these classes were perfectly classified. A few declines in performance were noticed in classes including Class 5 (speed limit 80 km/h) and Class 29 where the F1-scores have marginally fallen (0.98). The main reason was close visual comparison these classes have with surrounding or related signs, resulting in unidentified classification. Following that the average accuracy throughout all classes is approximately 98.7%, indicating that the model performed effectively in general. It is important to emphasize, even the lowest-performing class in this case Class 19 has achieved an F1-score of 0.99, indicating exceptional strength. This performance demonstrates the capacity of the model to generalize previously unidentified information as well as distinguish between various types of road signs, even if the changes are minimal. The insignificant number of misclassifications could be related to shared visual characteristics, including color or shape, between the two classes, which could result in deceiving of a human eye. In general, the table demonstrates the distribution of the classification performance of the model for each class, indicating capability of the CNN to perform road sign detection and classification tasks, considering it a crucial step towards implementing ADAS.





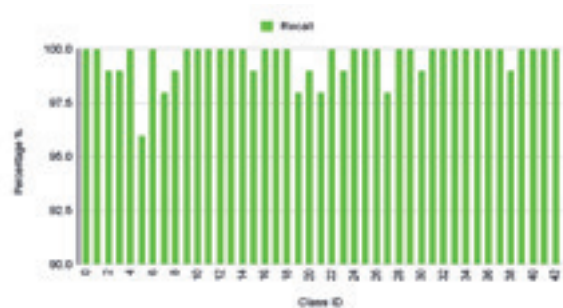
**Figure 2.** Accuracy scores for road sign recognition by class

Gives an accurate score for each individual class of road sign, which demonstrates the extent to which the model accurately identified signs over road sign types. Many of the classes had extremely high accuracy, frequently 100% or very close as shown in Figure 2., meaning the model was reliably and accurately identifying the sign in most cases. Minor variations in accuracy suggest small misclassifications, consisting of the odd visual similarity in the classifications that resulted in misclassification.



**Figure 3.** Precision scores for road sign recognition by class

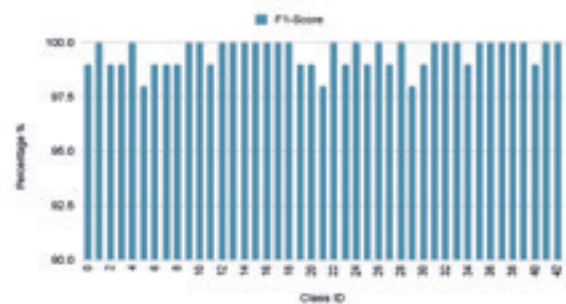
Shows precision scores on each road sign class indicating the accuracy of the model to predict each class without false positives. The vast majority are precise to almost 100% as shown in Figure 3., indicating the model could avoid misinterpretation of different signs as the particular class being considered. There are slight declines for certain classes, but this



**Figure 4.** Recall scores for road sign recognition by class

could be as a result of visual overlaps, or other ways less distinct features.

Shows recall scores for each class of road sign and the extent to which the model was able to correctly classify all relevant instances of a class. Recall is high across all signs so, for the most part as presented in Figure 4., we can conclude that the model was not often missing any correct signs for a class. The small drops in recall for a few classes of road signs seems to suggest that it is sometimes difficult for the computer vision system to detect signs with similar shapes or distinctive features.



**Figure 5.** F1-scores for road sign recognition by class

Shows the F1-scores for each road sign class, which reflects the trade-off of precision and recall. The consistent high F1-scores for each class show that the model is reliably detecting and correctly identifying each sign type, as displayed on Figure 5. The slight variation between classes indicates that you lose a few borderline classes to topics of explained interest between false positives and false negatives.

Since results reveal the significance of establishing preprocessing techniques (normalization and augmentation), analysis can suggest there is evident contribution to advancement in performance of the model among different classes. In the field of classes characterized by balanced distribution and reduced ambiguity, the evaluation indicates high performance results. Despite minor changes in the certain metrics, the model performed consistently, since the approach of deep learning techniques has overcome adverse conditions related to complex classification for multiple classes. Perhaps the data is imbalanced and consequently signs appear similar or complex for visual interpretation. Considering that evidence shows difficulties in classification of similar signs indicat-

ing recall decline for Class 5. On the other hand, low precision for Class 29 illustrates inaccurate visualization and contradiction of features in relation to other classes. Outlined challenges highlight requirements for diversification as well as the feature extraction mechanisms involving more refined approaches.

## DISCUSSION

The reviewed studies together indicate a tendency of evolving road sign recognition technologies in terms of accuracy, robustness, and real time application. It is important to consider that these technologies, from CNNs and YOLO optimizations through data fusion and lightweight models, are demonstrating the importance of machine learning in order to achieve safe driving conditions. Along with that, attention mechanisms, hierarchical models, and data augmentation provide core for addressing the problems of occlusion, poor illumination, and limited resources in real time. However, the development of a reliable road sign recognition model that operates in real time in alignment with main objectives of ADAS, is generated throughout the context of these studies.

Author's work is demonstrating that CNN algorithm acquires architecture that can achieve almost optimal performance using the GTSRB. Following that, arguments considering GTSRB as an appropriate benchmark model in the field of evaluating the performance of different road sign recognition algorithms is justified. It is important to emphasize that results from the corresponding research demonstrate that all forms of systematic preprocessing whether normalization, augmentation, and resizing are fundamental element of the process, while directly providing space for improving model robustness and decreasing the degree of intra-class variability and responsiveness. The research proved that the architecture incorporated within the pipeline created during this project has all the appropriate components to effectively identify and analyze road signs in a broad range of situations, thus demonstrating its flexibility. The authors are going to obtain valuable insight into developing an improved pipeline for identifying and interpreting road signs by using information from the research to make comparisons about the performance of the architecture with different categories of signs in future research.

The conclusion that the CNN architecture remains the most sophisticated approach for structured vi-

sual classification tasks and therefore is still effective in the context of intelligent transportation systems is strongly supported through this study. This study provides a clear route for conversion from benchmark data to real-world settings. It also makes clear the types for variation in the real-life conditions that need to be considered, such occlusion, illumination variations, weather, and imaging system noise. Additionally, to develop a technique for process replication and scaling in the field of future research, authors' work improves the knowledge of how to combine preprocessing, developing models, and failure analysis into an integrated workflow.

CNN model responds well in multiple areas, while there is room for improvement regarding Class 29 and Class 5 because of the quiet decline of the performance metrics. Considering the evidence, there is indicated a need for advancement in preprocessing or implementation of systems based on hierarchical classification for discrete road signs. Findings suggest that models based on the deep learning approach have better performance compared to the traditional models such as SVMs and k-NN. This statement is supported by performance metrics reaching high figures with remarkable consistency derived from training and examination of dataset noted in [4]. The most important task was to develop a robust road sign recognition model, which has been implemented by training and testing CNN to the dataset described in [4]. Whole concept of the research design has been oriented towards the form of exploratory design with focus on dataset review in combination with experimental design (training and testing model) and quantitative analysis (performance metrics evaluation). Consequently, relevant methods that have been utilized include data preprocessing, data augmentation and architectural optimization. The final phase includes evaluation of results according to the performance metrics formulas.

The results highlight elevated performance of precision, recall and F1 Score metrics while achieving results of 0.99 or higher. In the classes that include speed limits and directional signs F-score has accomplished a perfect result which equals 1.00. These two classes are fundamental for autonomous driving systems. On the other side marginal decline is present in precision results for Class 29 reaching 0.96, indicating that road signs are sharing similar attributes

leading the model to misclassification. However, recall drop-in Class 5 indicates limited representation within the dataset, which also happened in the work discussed in [11]. Both these declines have an impact on F1 Score of proposed classes, since it evaluates the relationship between precision and recall. It is important to emphasize that proposed numerical analysis is designed to highlight the significance of class balance in addition to improvement of visual distinctiveness in the field of categories that have low performance results.

The results of the research highlight the effectiveness of CNN model compared to the traditional learning classifiers such as Support Vector Machines (SVM) and k-Neighbours (k-NN), which aligns with findings of highlighted in [10]. In the field of examination image data from real conditions, these two classifiers have not achieved expected outcome compared to the deep learning approach. Following that findings demonstrate the significance of CNN model as core structure for development of autonomous driving technologies while highlighting effectiveness of optimization and preprocessing techniques in the process of handling road sign recognition in real time.

## CONCLUSION

Considering the results evaluated throughout the proposed research paper, the hypothesis: "The Convolutional Neural Networks (machine learning) model can efficiently recognize road signs in real-time for the purpose of autonomous and safe driving development." is supported. This research paper includes examination of performance metrics related to CNNs in the field of classification of road signs in Germany. This process represents a crucial function associated with development of autonomous driving systems. The specified process has been addressing different phases that have been mentioned above, but the main fundamental ones are preprocessing, model training and evaluation of the dataset. The phase which implements data preprocessing could be broken down to subsections including resizing, normalizing and data augmentation. The main purpose of this subdivision is to achieve database generalization. Testing and performance evaluation of CNN model were performed in order to achieve data classification. Since the model has been trained using the 80/20 training-validation split, alongside Adam optimization, it is

important to emphasize that the same performance measure parameters were compared.

In the context of reviewing the purpose behind CNN model in the field of road sign recognition, this research contributes to scientific development by targeting phases that include data augmentation and preprocessing, while achieving consistent and high-performance results. Despite the outstanding results it is important to take into consideration the limitations of this research illustrated by controlled experimental conditions while testing static datasets. The research also faces high computational load problems, reflecting the problems for potential application in conditions where resources are constrained.

In order to accomplish the full potential of the model future contributions should be performed by introducing real life variation in the dataset, while taking into consideration factors such as occlusion, lighting and weather conditions, also described in [3]. On the other side the research should elevate proficient architectures including hybrid models and the transformer techniques, in order to be able to reach higher accuracy in classification. For the purpose of bridging the gap between academic research and practical implementation, the model should overcome adverse testing under the impact of dynamic real time environment. This will guarantee reliability and efficiency of the model in the field of autonomous driving systems.

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