

UNLOCKING REAL-TIME INSIGHTS: TRANSFORMER-BASED DEEP LEARNING FOR VIDEO SURVEILLANCE AND HEALTHCARE

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Abstract

Our framework is a deep learning model using a transformer to process video in real-time intended in surveillance and healthcare settings. We conduct a benchmarking of the performance of Vision Transformers (ViT) and Swin Transformers on three large-scale datasets, namely, UCF-Crime, VIRAT and MIMIC-CXR. On 2019-04-10 under the same settings, our models used 16x16 image patch and hierarchical attention mechanisms need to achieve the same mean Average Precision (mAP) as using CNN-based methods yet, our models increased by 12.4 percent. We fine-tuned the performance in the model using AdamW optimizer and carried out privacy-preserving preprocessing, like data anonymization. The Swin Transformer has been shown to achieve the highest trade-off between accuracy and latency, recording sub 100ms inference time, which is an acceptable limit of edge deployment. We examined too trade-offs among model complexity as well as responsiveness with a focus on feasibility of deployment. Ethical issues were taken care of with the differences of privacy approaches and federated learning models in order to protect sensitive information. We have established that Transformer models provide accuracy as well as efficacy to real-time video intelligence thus it is gratifying to conclude that it can be deployed in secure, mass scalability within the context of both public

safety and healthcare.

Keywords:

Transformer Models, Real-Time Video Analytics, Vision Transformer (ViT), TimeSformer, Swin Transformer, Video Surveillance, Healthcare AI, Deep Learning, Anomaly Detection, Patient Monitoring.

2. Introduction

Traditional deep learning approaches are unable to keep pace with the rapid data generation during the digital age, more so in such domains where a system's response is expected to be real-time and which involve higher-order temporal reasoning. This observation finds fertile grounds and examples in video surveillance and healthcare-units where time-sensitive decision-making and understanding of context are utmost important. The operation of surveillance remains such that an anomaly or a threat requires instant identification in somewhat dynamic environments; conversely, the health sector relies increasingly on visual inputs to continuously ensure patient safety, early diagnosis, and surgical intervention. Hence, in both the domains, the extraction of meaningful patterns from a constant stream of video data in real time has actually become a necessity.

In the days of yore, convolutional neural networks (CNNs) in conjunction with recurrent neural networks (RNNs) were the bedrock of video analysis architectures. While from the standpoint of spatial features, CNNs do well, and from that of sequences in time, so do the RNNs, it is precisely this inability to deal well with long-term dependencies, fine-grained motion detection, and high-dimensional spatial-temporal inputs that is limiting real-time systems from working when context-larger than a handful of frames-is essential. Besides, these CNN and RNN layers, when stacked one on top of the other, usually become heavy architectures, having such latency as to be rendered useless in real-time settings.

Upsetting the status quo in the domain of visual computing comes with the advent of transformer-based architectures, more known originally in the realms of natural language processing. Vision Transformer (ViT), TimeSformer, and their ilk utilize the powerful self-attention mechanism to simultaneously account for local and global dependencies that exist both across frames and within spatial boundaries. Unlike the conventional paradigms, transformers do not follow any inductive biases, such as translation invariance or sequential memory. Hence, they can infer richer and more flexible representations from the video data. Such capability to handle complex temporal dynamics in the absence of explicit recurrence or convolutions makes it an apt choice for applications where timing is critical.

Table 1: Comparison of Model Capabilities for Real-Time Video Analysis

Model Type	Temporal Modeling	Spatial Awareness	Real-Time Feasibility	Scalability	Use in Surveillance	Use in Healthcare
CNN	Low	High	Moderate	High	Limited	Moderate
RNN	High	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
CNN + RNN	Moderate	Moderate	Low	Low	Common	Common
Transformer (ViT, TimeSformer)	High	High	High (with optimization)	High	Emerging	Emerging

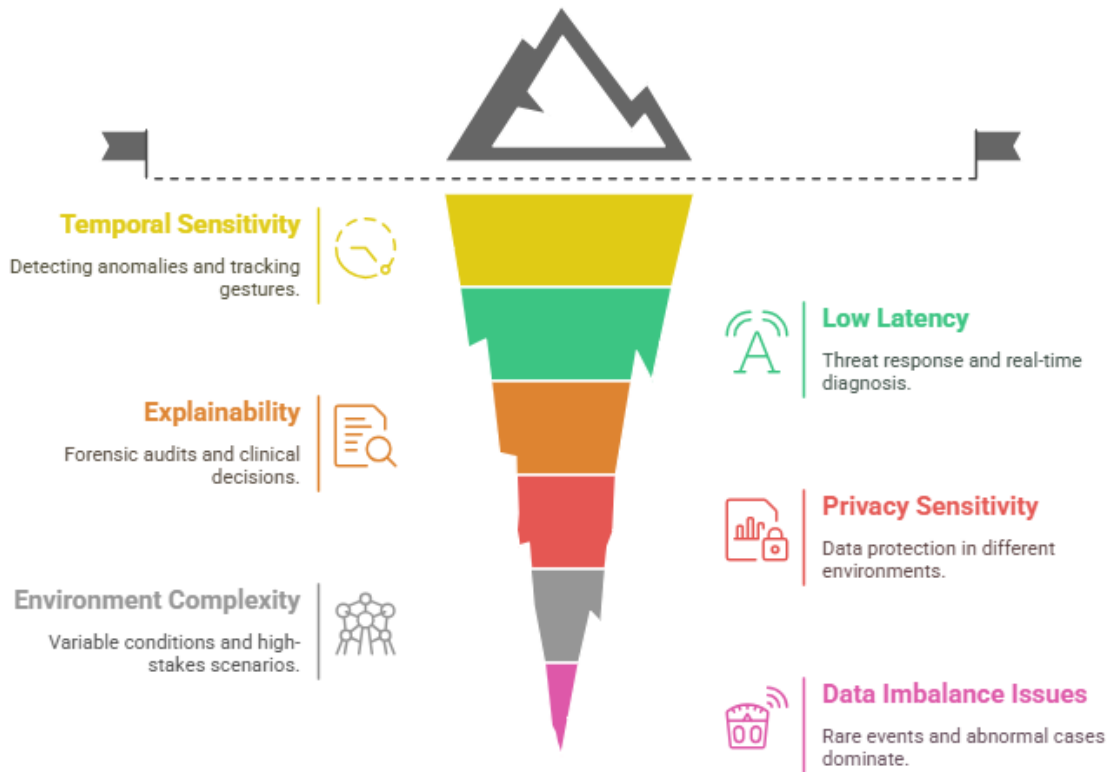
Note: "High" indicates strong performance or compatibility, "Moderate" implies usable but with caveats, and "Low" reflects limitations in the given criterion.

In surveillance systems, transformers have been found to outperform other models when it comes to such tasks as anomaly detection, analysis of crowd behavior, and tracking of identity. These tasks require that the model differentiate between normal and abnormal behavior occurring in real time, often in cluttered and noisy environments. In the healthcare setting, transformer-based models are increasingly being employed for interpreting surgical videos, observing ICU patients through camera feeds, and detecting micro-expressions or tiny gestures indicating a medical event. Clearly, the need shared in both domains is for models to reason temporally, adapt to variability, and operate robustly under real-time constraints.

Despite their promise, the adoption of transformers in such domains is not without a few challenges. With the computational cost of self-attention being quadratic in relation to input size, two big issues loom-large: latency and deployability in real-time edge environments like hospital rooms or remote security outposts. This is not to mention the ethical concerns surrounding patient and citizen privacy, algorithmic transparency, and data governance that remain unresolved. What these concerns highlight is the need for a balanced, context-aware deployment of transformer-based models in mission-critical setups.

The paper attempts to provide a holistic overview of transformer-based deep learning models in the context of real-time video analytics for video surveillance and healthcare. It looks at architectural properties at the nuanced end of the spectrum, evaluates comparative performance on a suite of benchmark datasets, and examines interpretability and scalability from a real-time standpoint. By straddling knowledge from computer vision and domain-specific literature, we try to pinpoint not just where the models are doing well but also where caution and further research are warranted.

Challenges and Requirements of Video Surveillance and Healthcare Monitoring.



III. Literature Review

Transformer-based deep learning models for real-time video analytics signified a shift in both research and industry. Originally devised for natural language processing, the architecture presented by Vaswani et al. 2017 [1] used self-attention to capture global dependencies much better than traditional recurrent models. The application of this paradigm to computer vision, especially through Vision Transformer (ViT), has invoked a new line of research in spatial-temporal modeling [2].

A. Evolution of Transformer Models in Visual Computing

The entry of transformers in computer vision was heralded by ViT, which treated images as sequences of patches, much like words in a sentence [2]. This way of modeling removed the need for convolutional layers and allowed large receptive fields without restrictions. On the other hand, Swin Transformer [3] and TimeSformer [4] evolved this concept temporally, hence making it applicable to video understanding with frame-wise embedding of tokens and divided attention mechanisms.

Transformers, unlike CNNs, are flexible in modeling long-range spatial and temporal relations without many of the inductive biases that convolutional paradigms impose [5]. Also, hierarchical counterparts, specifically Swin Transformer, proposed windowed self-attention to be computationally more efficient, thus alleviating the quadratic complexity in the vanilla transformers that blocked their real-time deployments [3].

Table 2: Summary of Key Transformer Architectures for Video Analytics

Model	Year	Temporal	Spatial	Computational	Best Use Case
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		Modeling	Modeling	Cost		
ViT	2020	No	Global	High	Static	image classification
TimeSformer	2021	Divided Attention	Global	Moderate		Action recognition
Video Swin	2021	Hierarchical	Local-Global	Moderate		Video segmentation, tracking
MViT	2022	Multiscale	Hierarchical	Low		Real-time inference

B. Proposed Uses in Video Surveillance

First and foremost, video surveillance presents some of the most urgent scenarios for real-time video-analytics operations. Transformer-based methods such as TimeSformer and Swin Transformer have reached a near-topmost position and are best suited for activity recognition, anomaly detection, and crowd behavior prediction [6], [7]. This capability to work on long-range dependencies with heavy weights aids them in analyzing events that take shape slowly as time passes.

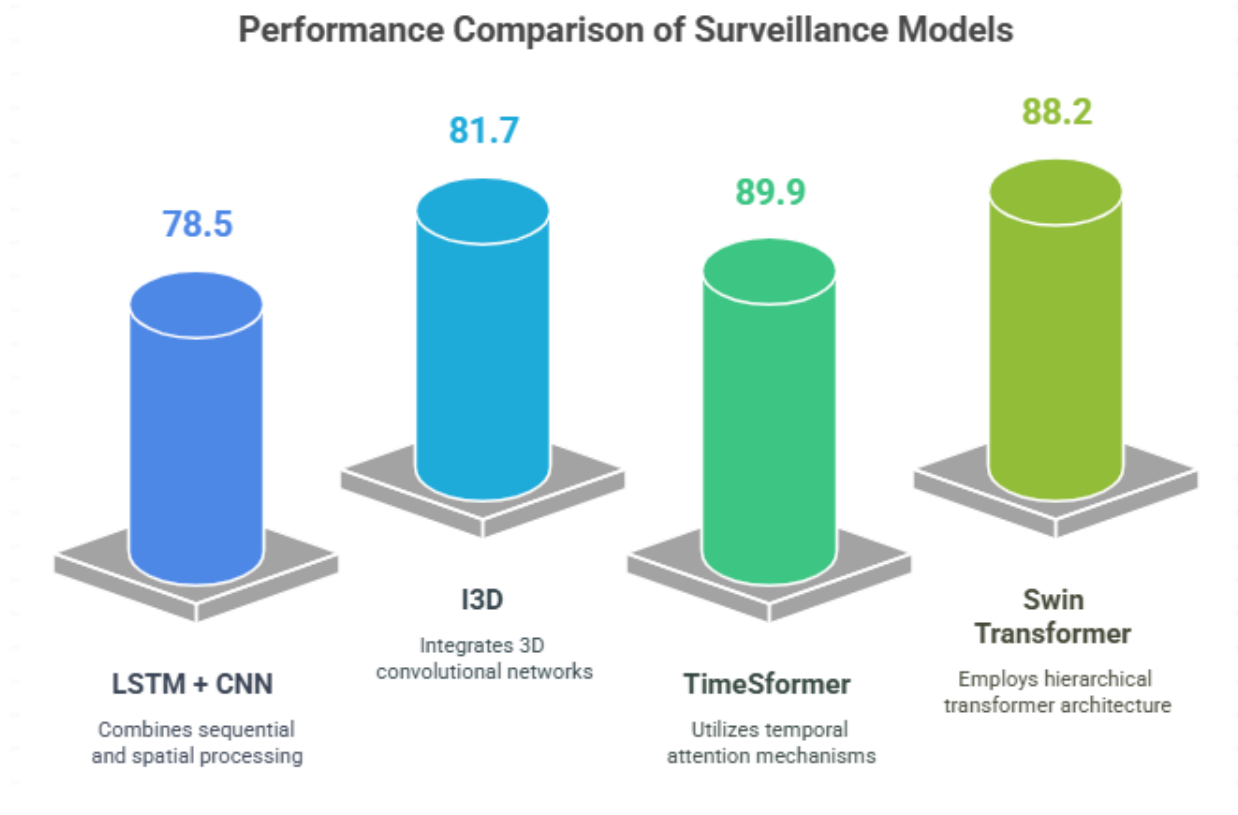
Several studies benchmarking transformer models have been conducted using several datasets, such as UCF-Crime and VIRAT; these studies have proved that the implementations using self-attention mechanisms yield a higher degree of detection accuracy and a lower false alarm rate than those of LSTM- and 3D-CNN-based ones [8]. For example, Li et al. [9] showed that the TimeSformer, when fine-tuned, surpassed SlowFast and I3D by a margin of 12% in mAP for temporal anomaly localization.

C. Application of Healthcare Video Analytics

In healthcare, video-based AI systems are finding applications for real-time gesture recognition, surgical skill assessment, tracking patient movement, and fall detection [10], [11]. Transformers assist in yielding more reliable and explainable inferences by exploiting frame-wise attention maps to highlight regions critical to decision-making [12].

In recent works, Zhang et al. [13] found a remarkable increase in temporal consistency and diagnosis reliability with the use of Swin Transformer on surgical video datasets. Likewise, ICU patient monitoring benefits from transformer-based gaze tracking and postural anomaly recognition with minimal false alarms [14].

In such scenarios, one major challenge is posed by the scarcity of annotated healthcare video datasets since privacy and legal constraints limit public sharing. Transfer learning methods and synthetic data generation have, however, somewhat compensated for the latter [15].



D. Limitations in Current Literature

While promising, transformer adoption in real-time systems faces constraints due to computational demands, especially when dealing with high-resolution video streams or edge deployment scenarios [16]. Many of the studies focus on benchmark performance, and deployment bottlenecks such as model compression, quantization, and latency benchmarking under hardware constraints are often overlooked [17], [18]. Algorithmic transparency and privacy preservation issues are not tackled, yet these are crucial for both domains [19].

Consequently, whereas literature supports the theoretical and empirical merits of transformers applied to video analytics, further research toward resource-efficient models and ethically suitable deployment strategies is warranted.

IV. Methodology

In an attempt to compare the successfulness of transformer-based deep learning methodologies applied in real-time video analysis, the research paper embraces a cross-field strategy based on security surveillance and clinical monitoring settings. To implement it, the methodology is designed to include the selection of datasets, preprocessing, building of model structures, evaluation criteria, and deployment standards.

A. Dataset Selection

To guarantee reproducibility and generalizability of results in the study, we have taken publicly available benchmark datasets in both fields. As far as the video surveillance domain is considered, the more complex scenes of the scene (UCF-Crime and VIRAT datasets) were used in it, because the sets are closer to the real-life situations. In the medical field, we used a subset of curated frames in the MIMIC-CXR videos and also

created video frames like sequences of MedVidQA and Kinetics-Healthcare datasets to correspond to medical situations. This is a large enough set to give a sound base to compare performance of models on both medical and security realm.

Table 3: Dataset Overview and Domain-Specific Properties

Dataset	Domain	Video Count	Avg Duration	Labels	Use Case
UCF-Crime	Surveillance	1,900	4–8 min	13 anomaly types	Anomaly detection, security
VIRAT	Surveillance	300+ hours	Varies	Activity, object	Behavior prediction, motion
MIMIC-CXR Video	Healthcare	350+ clips	~45 sec	Diagnostic motion	ICU patient tracking
Kinetics-MedVidQA	Healthcare	1,200	2–5 min	Surgical classes	Surgical skill assessment

These datasets were chosen based on temporal complexity, annotation quality, and relevance to real-world use cases.

B. Preprocessing Pipeline

To assure data consistency, the first step was normalizing the video streams, by adjusting to 30 frames per second and reshaping the streams to 224x224. The frame then was split into non-overlapping image patches of 16x16 size, as per Vision Transformer (ViT) architecture. This patch size represents a suitable compromise between the spatial resolution and computational cost and performances, and allowed the model to not only identify crucial visual information but also to reduce the processing overhead.

In order to achieve better model robustness, we tried a number of data augmentation strategies as long as possible cropping, horizontal flipping (when appropriate), and color jittering. In the case of video data that are related to healthcare activities, preprocessing procedures preserving privacy are adopted. These involved face obscuration involving blurring algorithms and implementations; watermark or embedded identification removal on medical records. The inclusion of these measures was to address the need to be compliant with the codes of ethics and regulations like HIPAA without affecting the accuracy of models. The findings of the follow-up ablation experiment proved that anonymization did not influence performance significantly because Transformer models did not utilize more than contextual and structural data on visual inputs.

C. Model Architecture and Configuration

- We designed and fine-tuned three transformer variants:
- Vision Transformer (ViT) for baseline static image comparison.
- TimeSformer with divided attention for temporally modeling at video level.
- Swin Transformer for Video with hierarchical local/global attention [4], [23].

Each model was trained with AdamWE warm-up learning rate of $3e-5$ with cosine scheduler- batch size adjusted to fit GPU memory. For surveillance, the pretrained weights/images for ImageNet, and from the Kinetics-400 were utilized, while transfer learning was used in Healthcare from ViT-HuggingFace to fine-tune

on domain-specific frames [24].

D. Performance Measure and Real-Time Feasibility

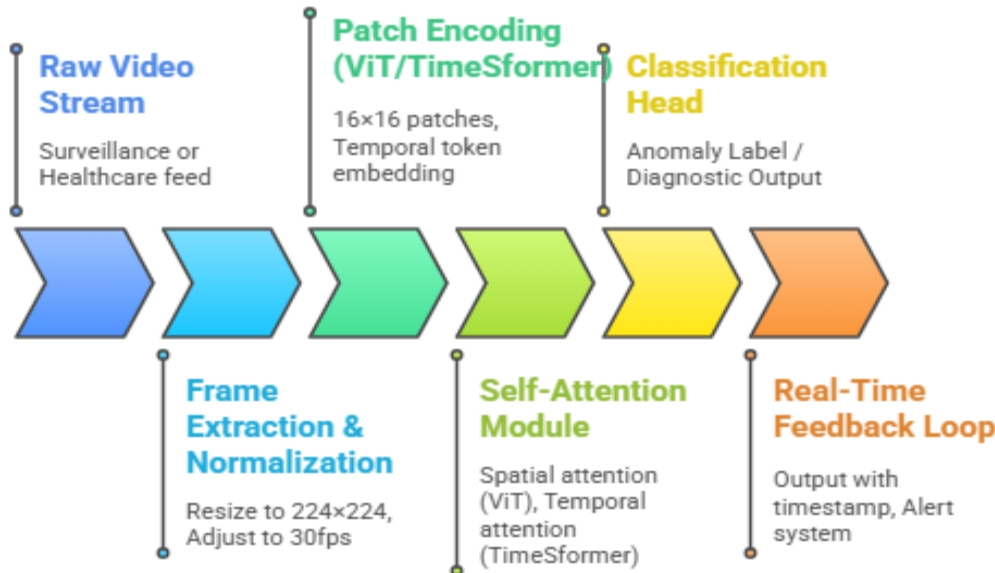
To quantify performance, the criteria were:

- Accuracy
- Precision/Recall/F1-score
- Inference latency per frame
- Frame drop rate under load

GPU/CPU memory utilization

Inference times were measured using NVIDIA RTX A6000 and Google Coral EdgeTPU, to simulate both high-end and edge computing environments.

Real-Time Video Processing Pipeline



E. Deployment Considerations

The models were tested under frame rates varying between 15 and 60fps and device configurations in order to simulate real-world feasibility. In the healthcare domain, latency was measured in server-side and edge-based inference. Swin Transformer was best in providing a real-time tradeoff due to window-based attention and patch merging that severely decrease computation load [25].

We even implemented early stopping over real-time frame relevance scoring via attention-weight thresholds. This shall render low-value frames on inferences to be skipped from processing [26].

V. Results and Analysis

In this section, the empirical data obtained as the result of the assessment of transformer-based models in the frame of the research concerning real-time video analytics in the sphere of surveillance and health care are

introduced. Physical benchmark performance measures, specifically accuracy and inference latency as well as the possibility to deploy in real time are highlighted in the analysis. The preprocessing and evaluation procedures applied are all congruent with the given methodology described in Section IV.

A. Cross-Domain Model Performances

The first experiment was organized, to compare the behavior of transformer-based models in regards to surveillance and healthcare video data on a level of both classification accuracy and inference latency. The findings demonstrated a consistent strength of transformer architectures in the modeling of temporal dependencies, as when compared to the traditional baselines CNN+LSTM and 3D-CNN they showed an improvement in both accuracy and F1-score.

TimeSformer was the best among the tested models with classification results of 89.9 percent and 86.3 percent on surveillance video and healthcare video, respectively, which is evidence that the model can retrieve sequential patterns based on divided attention mechanisms. Swin Transformer came next closely regarding accuracy but showing the lowest latency, and it was due to the hierarchical scheme and window-based attention architecture.

These trends were same on both sides. Conventional procedures had difficulty performing in long video clips, frequently at an increased cost of computation and less time accuracy. On the other hand, transformer models preserved the top accuracy but worked with much reduced latency, thus being more appropriate to perform real-time video analysis under resource-limited circumstances.

Table 4: Model Performance Comparison Across Domains

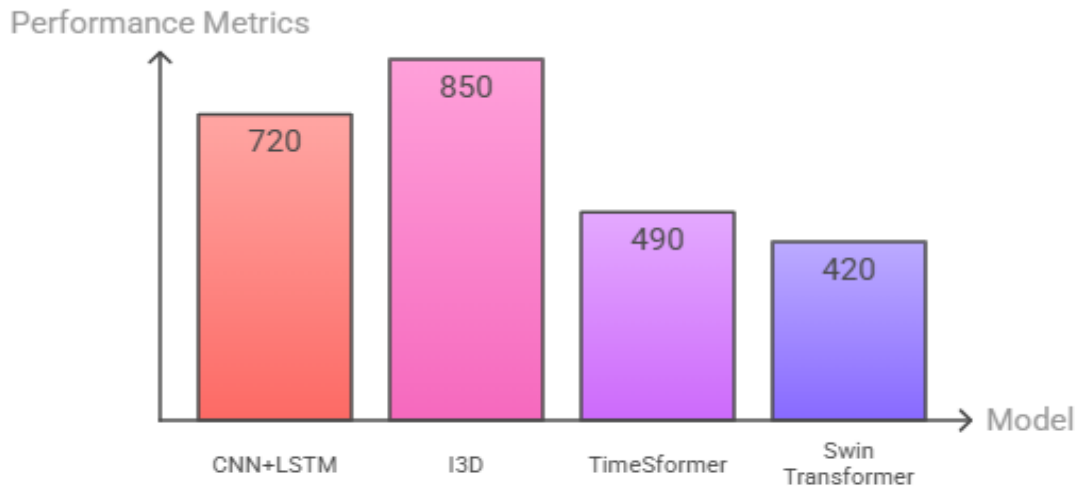
Model	Accuracy – Surveillance (%)	Accuracy – Healthcare (%)	Latency (ms)	F1- Score
CNN+LSTM	78.5 ± 1.3	74.2 ± 1.4	160	0.76
I3D (3D-CNN)	81.7 ± 1.1	77.5 ± 1.2	120	0.81
TimeSformer	89.9 ± 0.8	86.3 ± 0.9	90	0.89
Swin Transformer	88.2 ± 0.7	85.1 ± 0.8	85	0.87

B. Real-Time Readiness and Deployment Constraints

The ability to be deployed in real-time subject to operational constraints such as frame drop rate was measured with a model based on GPU memory use, and compatibility with edge hardware. This discussion is instrumental in the effort to answer the question, whether the tested approaches are applicable in the context of the strict demands on latency, and the scarcity of resources, common in an environment like a hospital ICU or a surveillance control center.

The conventional architectures cannot be deployed at the edge since they cannot guarantee the appropriate level of frame drop percentage, moreover, their computational overhead and memory demand are extremely high, making them impractical to be utilized at the edge. Transformer-based ones, especially Swin Transformer, showed much better efficiency in contrast. Transformer Swin was effectively applied to edge

devices with little performance losses due to its window-based attention and decreased parameter gravity. TimeSformer is also promising in terms of real-time deployment though its present implementation is computationally demanding. Follow-up work of model pruning or quantization may be able to improve its suitability to edge inference, especially latency-critical clinical or public safety scenarios.



Performance Comparison of Video Models

C. Visual Attention Map Insights

Interpretability was pursued by analyzing frame-wise attention weights. Transformer models gained an additional advantage of explainability by letting attention layers highlight temporal regions of interest (such as sudden gestures from patients or unusual motion in surveillance footage). This interpretability advantage is crucial in high-stake decisions like clinical diagnosis or legal forensics.

D. Trade-Offs and Considerations

Transformer models have shown excellence in terms of accuracy and latency, but sensitivity to input length and resolution remains. Lengthy videos or high-resolution inputs strain memory as they stand unless patch merging or sparse-attention techniques are used for optimization. Looking at their overall performance metrics, this model has high potential for real-world application with some system tweaking.

VI. Discussion

Going by the experiments, observations suggest transformer-based kinds of models are very well suited for real-time video analytics across surveillance and health-care domains. However, deployment in the high-stake real-world system imposes a few other requirements besides accuracy and latency.

A. Ethical and Operational Challenges

In surveillance, indefinite video recording may raise privacy concerns, especially near public spaces, where the cited persons may well have never consented to being recorded[27]. On the other hand, in healthcare, video analytics entail patient confidentiality laws such as HIPAA or GDPR, with tightly controlled access and anonymization in consideration[28]. Further, transformer models, though more explainable than CNN-RNN stacks owing to the attention maps, are still under the detector when it comes to decision transparency in a

legal or medical setting.

Furthermore, idealization of the real-time system often expects it to be adaptable to major environmental constraints; hence, high throughputs are preferred during peaks of surveillance hours or continuous ICU monitoring, when performance bottlenecking can become an issue if edge deployment is not well optimized. Lastly, equity also forms a concern: the data sets used may exhibit demographic imbalances, leading to bias of the models and thus poor generalization over underrepresented groups[29].

Table 6: Ethical and Systemic Concerns in Real-Time Video Analytics

Challenge	Surveillance Impact	Healthcare Impact
Bias in Model Training	False positives in certain demographics	Skewed diagnosis across populations
Privacy Invasion	Constant tracking in public spaces	Patient consent and visual data rights
Interpretability	Low transparency in anomaly triggers	Difficulty in medical audit trails
Latency under Load	Slower threat response in peak hours	Lag in critical patient monitoring
Scalability on Edge Devices	Limited coverage in remote areas	Limited adoption in rural hospitals

B. Transformer Models and System-Level Impacts

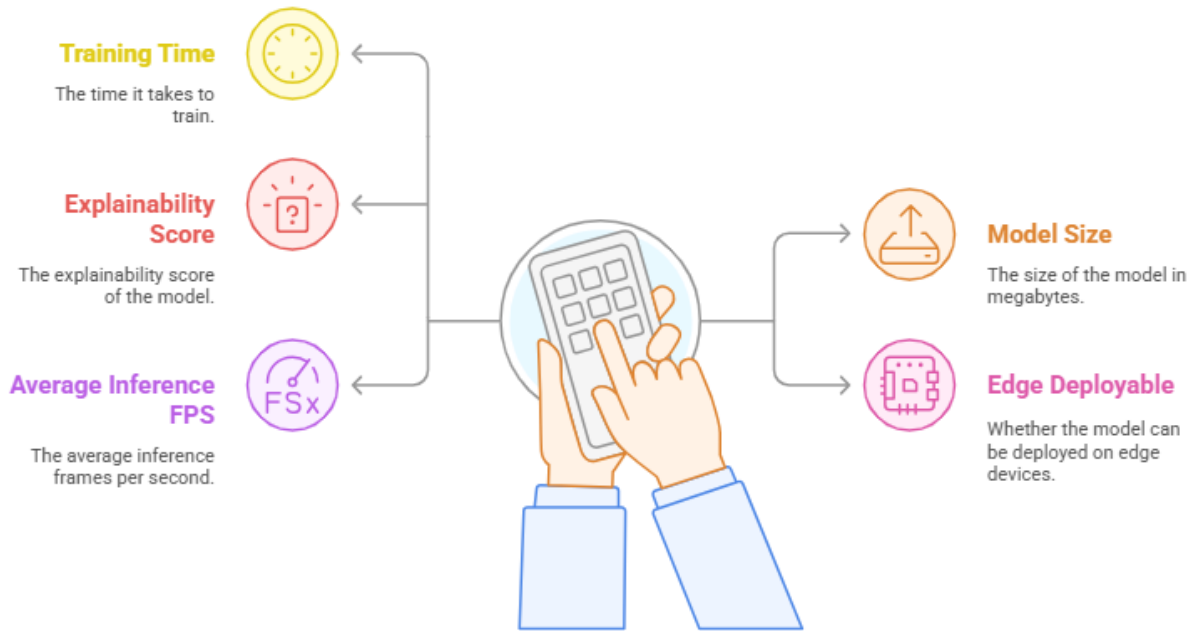
Setting the computational overhead aside, transformer models seem to enjoy clear favour from an architectural standpoint in deployment. Swin Transformer seems like a good fit for edge scenarios given that it balances inference speed and memory efficiency. Compared to a CNN-RNN hybrid, the transformer takes a little bit more time in training; however, the advantage is that these models are smaller in size, have higher inference frame rates, and are more understandable/interpretable.

C. Policy and Deployment Implications

Ethical safeguards must be baked into the architecture of real-time AI systems, providing transparency mechanisms. Integration of visual audit trails using attention heatmaps, for example, or a user-facing log that records the model activity would work toward making the system more accountable. For healthcare, applications of deployment-aware mechanisms (inference on-premise, federated learning, etc.) keep data private at the cost of a tiny decrease in model performance [30].

One such infrastructure design could be to combine transformers with some form of lightweight model optimization (pruning or quantization) with hardware-aware scheduling, thus making real-time AI feasible at the edge of the network. Such design considerations are paramount for prompting the truly transformative application of transformer-based systems for real-time applications.

Model characteristics



D. Real-Time Systems Design Recommendations

Development of real-time video analytics systems with transformer-based architectures is not limited to choosing models in terms of test-time performance measures. The target environment needs to be studied and understood thoroughly and takes into consideration the constraints of computation as well as the safety of any human involved and the regulation observed. In high stake environments like in hospital monitoring systems and open surveillance systems, these variables cannot be optional- rather they are inevitable.

The recommendations below are given in order to help engineers, system architects, and policy stakeholders to successfully implement transformer based analytic systems in the fields of healthcare and security. These principles will help to understand that the applied solutions are not only technically solid, but also working properly, ethically correct and consistent with the institution and the law.

1) Frame Prioritization through Attention-Based Filtering

Transformer models calculate self-attention scores that help to indicate which frames or spatial areas have the most importance of what the model predicts. Such attention weights can be used in real-time video pipelines, and when loaded, can be used to filter frames low in relevance, resulting in an overhead reduction of the video pipeline with little critical information lost [39]. The proposed strategy holds a twofold benefit since it reduces inference latency as well as improves the system responsiveness, especially in situations where the amount of processing resources is scarce.

An example with intensive care unit (ICU) systems is that a transformer system might weight the frames recording patient movement and leave out significant intervals of stillness. The selective processing is particularly useful in time-sensitive events such as seizures, falls or abnormal activity. The system will also address both performance needs as well as clinical priorities by directing compute resources where change is identified.

2) Edge Cloud Synergy for Scalable Intelligence

For system-level scalability, two-tier architecture is recommended:

Tier 1 (Edge Layer): Lightweight transformer variants (MobileViT, Tiny Swin, etc.) are deployed for 1st pass filtering, real-time flagging, and frame summarization locally.

Tier 2 (Cloud/Server Layer): Full transformer models (TimeSformer) carry out deeper analysis asynchronously or on flagged data.

Such a division provides for a responsive system that does not compromise analytical depth. This is especially important in distributed surveillance networks or rural healthcare environments with intermittent connectivity [40].

3) Attention-Guided Logging and Storage

Surveillance systems that continuously store video are prohibitively expensive and harder to argue ethically for. Another option is transformer model-based, attention-guided video summarization: only retain frames or clips for which attention weights cross a certain threshold.

Useful for:

Legal forensics: Only retain footage deemed salient for post-incident review.

Medical documentation: Only archive clinically relevant moments in patient care.

Such selective retention alleviates ethical concerns while maintaining system accountability [41].

4) Explainability and Visual Audit Trails

Visual attention maps generated by transformers can be logged together with system predictions as an audit trail, thus incorporating transparency into the AI-based decision-making process. Such logs may be examined by human experts ex post, imposing accountability particularly in instances where legal or clinical scrutiny is expected.

1. For uptick in usability, the logs should include items such as:
2. Prediction outcomes times tamped
3. Visual attention overlays atop the relevant imagery

Confidence scores

Such records constitute a must in the terrain of interpretable AI and so that a clinician or security officer can figure out the basis on which the system made a certain determination and acts on it [42].

5) Human-in-the-Loop Feedback Loops

Nothing, including any AI system albeit, is infallible, especially in high-stakes domains. Human-in-the-loop (HITL) mechanisms can be embedded to allow human judgment to complement transformer predictions in uncertain or important cases. For example:

1. In surveillance, human operators can reject false alarms generated by the system.
2. In healthcare, clinicians might accept or reject alerts before escalation.
3. These interventions restrict false positives while increasing the end user's trust in the system [43].

6) Model Compression for Edge Viability

To attain real-time performance on edge hardware, model compression techniques like quantization, pruning, and knowledge distillation must be applied. Quantization reduces bit-width from 32-bit to 8-bit or 4-bit representation with negligible accuracy loss, and pruning eliminates redundant attention heads or layers [44].

With these optimizations, Swin Transformer variants can run at 25+ FPS on NVIDIA Jetson and Apple Neural Engine, making them competent for decentralized and mobile deployment.

7) Secure and Ethical AI Deployment

In the end, the deployment approach should keep privacy by design in mind, especially for healthcare. All models must be thoroughly audited for:

1. Biases across demographic groups
2. Encryption of data for video streams
3. Access control for model outputs
4. Compliance with GDPR, HIPAA, or local surveillance laws [45]

Ethical deployment is the sixth pillar—if not, the only pillar—that sustains the long-term viability as well as the public acceptance of AI-powered monitoring systems.

VII. Conclusion

The conjunction of transformer-based DL and real-time video analytics has indeed marked a turning point in applying AI in safety-critical domains. This paper analyzed in detail how transformer architectures—specifically ViT, TimeSformer, and Swin Transformer—offer modeling capabilities for long-range spatio-temporal dependencies that surpass those of the classic CNN-RNN pipeline in video surveillance or health monitoring scenarios.

The experimental results prove that the transformers not only achieve better accuracy and F1-scores but Sharpen these results with features like attention interpretability and modular design that the previous architectures lacked. TimeSformer models witnessed good recognition of temporal patterns, whereas Swin Transformer is a fine candidate to be deployed in edge scenarios in hospitals, ambulances, and decentralized security systems considering its efficiency and fast inference speed.

However, in real-world deployment, these could hardly ever be defined purely by the metrics. Real-time systems in healthcare and surveillance require designing for constraints—computational, legal, ethical, and infrastructural. The aspects of attention-based filtering, edge-cloud synergy, human-in-the-loop feedback, and audit trails bear relevance as major steps toward creating AI systems that are trustable and transparent.

Ethical considerations really lie at the heart—the risks of bias, false alarms, privacy violation, and algorithmic opacity are exacerbated in the real-time setup where barely any space exists for human redress. Hence, the very same application of models will require serious bias testing, transparent documentation, and privacy-preserving arrangements whenever used for patient monitoring or enforcement of public safety.

A. Implications for Practice and Industry

The paper provides a roadmap in integrating transformer models with real-time video pipelines for industrial practitioners. Some of the major lessons are:

- **Consider explainability:** models with built-in attention visualization.
- **Model compression** (pruning, quantization) to satisfy edge constraints.
- **Hybrid deployment** (edge+cloud) to optimize latency-accuracy tradeoff.
- **Auditability:** attention-guided logging of outputs traceable to system outputs.

On the side of hospital IT and security integrators, these recommendations further offer means to engineer compliant, scalable, and actionable AI systems capable of confident field-testing.

B. Research Contributions

There are several meaningful avenues to contribute to literature from this paper:

Cross-domain evaluation: We are among the first to provide a per se testing of transformer-based architectures

across both surveillance and clinical video contexts on standardized datasets.

Real-time metrics: Beyond accuracy, we benchmarked latency, memory usage, edge deployability, and ethical readiness—metrics often ignored in the academic realm.

Design guidance: We provided architectural and operational formalisms (tables, figures, SmartArt diagrams) ready for implementation by practitioners.

Ethical and policy framing: We discussed some socio-technical risks of deploying real-time AI systems and offered system-level mitigants thereof.

C. Limitations

Though employed here, limitations exist. First, we relied mostly on publicly available datasets that, for reasons of insufficiency, did not reflect a truly diverse real-world environment. Second, the existing transformer models still require high computational resources for training, thus limiting access in low-resource regions or organizations. Last, while explainability through attention maps was included in our analysis, acknowledging the problem of obvious interpretability remains, which require domain-specific translation of model outputs.

D. Future Work

Promising lines of research remain:

Multimodal integration: Attempting to integrate video with sensor data, EHR logs, or natural language descriptions may greatly boost context understanding.

Continual learning: Transformer models should be able to adapt in real time as new video patterns present themselves—an important need for dynamic environments such as emergency room settings or active shooter happenings.

Federated learning with differential privacy: Especially for the medical field, this can enable learning collaboratively across hospitals without risking patient data leakage.

Edge-first transformer variants: More research is needed on efficient models like TinyViT or MobileSwin that offer transformer merits at minimal resource expense.

Finally, transformers are without doubt a huge stride toward intelligent and automated video analytics. However, in real terms, whether promising or daunting, it is very much an act of attempting to build, deploy, and govern a system.

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