

Image Processing and Deep CNN-Based Automatic Liver Cancer Detection

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Abstract

Liver cancer ranks among the leading causes of mortality for people worldwide. In the current situation, manually identifying the cancer tissue is a challenging and time-consuming task. Treatment planning, response monitoring, tumor load assessment, and prediction are all made possible by the segmentation of liver lesions in CT scans. To address the current problem of liver cancer, the Hybridized Fully Convolutional Neural Network (HFCNN), which has been theoretically modeled, has been proposed for liver tumor segmentation in this research. HFCNN has been a useful tool for liver cancer analysis in semantic segmentation. Making the distinction between cancerous lesions and those that are not is vital, even though the CT-based lesion-type characterization establishes the diagnosis and treatment plan. It requires resources, knowledge, and skills from highly qualified people. On the other hand, a thorough end-to-end learning strategy has been examined to aid in the differentiation of benign cysts from colorectal cancer metastases in abdominal CT scans of the liver. Our approach combines residual and pre-trained weights with the effective extraction of features from Inception. The original image voxel features have been consistently represented in feature maps, and the significance of features appears to reflect the most pertinent imaging criteria for each class. This deep learning system demonstrates the idea of illuminating certain decision-making stages of a pre-trained deep neural network by describing aspects that result in predictions and analyzing the inner layers.

Keywords: Liver cancer detection, deep learning, fully convolutional neural network, tumor segmentation, semantic segmentation

INTRODUCTION

The most frequent primary form of hepatic cancer in humans is hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC), which is also the leading cause of cancer-related deaths globally [1]. Unlike many other forms of cancer, the incidence of HCC is still rising [2]. For these individuals, early detection and diagnosis of HCC can

lead to improved outcomes and faster recovery [3]. Since cross-sectional imaging has improved and become more widely available, there is less need for invasive diagnostic biopsy, particularly for primary liver tumors [4]. This is because imaging now plays a more central role and has a unique status. The liver is among the most typical organs for CT, and metastases are a common technique for hepatic lesion detection, diagnosis, and management. The most prevalent are liver disorders [5]. Prior to and following the injection of a competing drug with optimal lesion detection in the portal phase image, photos are taken [6, 7]. Utilizing a 3-dimensional Computed Tomography scan, which may involve several lesions, the radiologist must verify the manual diagnosis and segmentation process, which can be tiresome [8]. Moreover, the magnitude of this

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difficulty highlights the necessity of computational analytics to support physicians in the identification, assessment, and diagnosis of hepatic metastases in CT scans [9]. The different contrast actions of parenchymatic and hepatic lesions have made automatic detection and segmentation very difficult [10].

RELATED WORK

Vincey Jeba Malar V., et al. [11] Liver cancer symptoms and indicators are unknown until the disease has progressed to an advanced stage. Thus, the primary issue is early detection. Because of the structure of cancer cells, early detection can assist medical therapy in limiting the threat, but this is a difficult task. Even for highly experienced doctors, interpreting medical images can be challenging and time-consuming. A significant amount of training data and processing time are required by most conventional medical diagnosis algorithms. A medical diagnosis system based on the Hidden Markov Model (HMM) is given with an emphasis on finding solutions to these issues [12]. This study describes a computer-aided liver cancer diagnosis system that uses CT scans of the chest to identify liver tumors early on. The diagnosis confidence is raised, and the time complexity is decreased by this automation procedure. This paper discusses an innovative approach to CT image segmentation. Two CT scans were taken to conduct this investigation. The suggested work was completed in five stages. The first part involves acquiring images of the liver's features, and the second involves segmenting the ROI features of the liver, which can be done by applying segmentation algorithms like the region-growing technique. The third stage is noise abatement. The related hepatic nodule is extracted during the fourth phase, known as feature extraction. The liver nodules that were removed are then categorized. The writers of this research analyze the data for two photographs. Thus, there is a good chance that liver cancer cells can be found early, which lowers the risk [13–15].

PROPOSED WORK

The Hybridized Fully Convolutional Neural Network is suggested in this paper for the identification and segmentation of liver tumors. For every neural network, the system has a training phase and a testing procedure. the paper. During the training phase, certain techniques known as data augmentation have improved the obtained CT data. The expanded knowledge – also referred to as input data – is then supplied into the neural network system to produce a qualified framework. We have tested multiple CNN layers in our feature extraction method to identify an optimal feature extraction network. To overcome the constraints that contemporary spatial 3D knowledge does not fully utilize for neural network identification has been applied to distinguish irregular hepatic lesions from hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC), liver cysts, and hemangiomas during the classification detection stage.

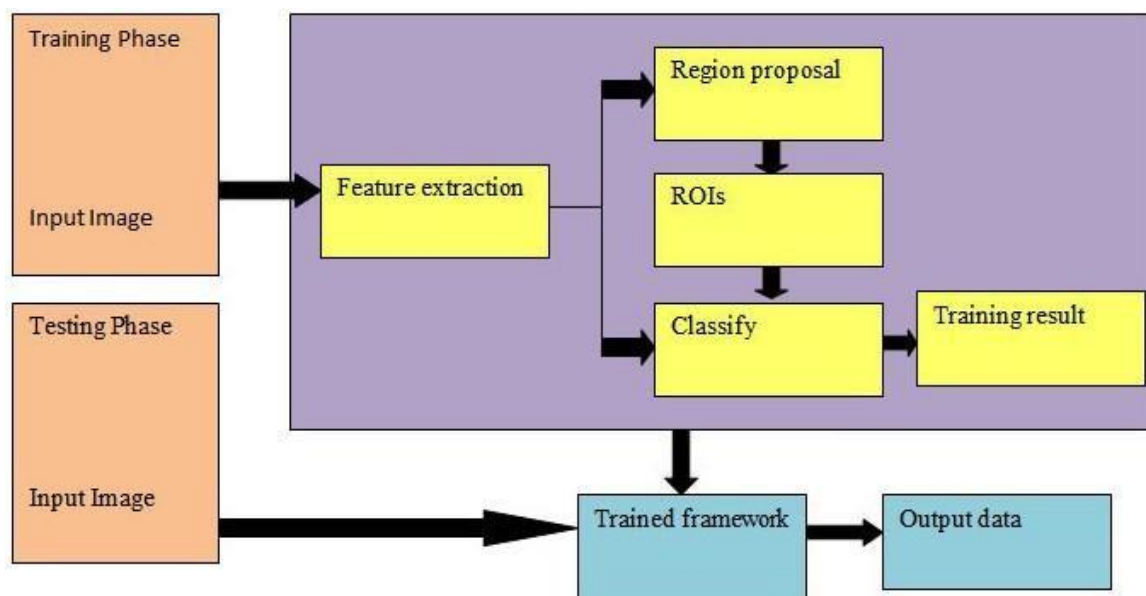


Figure 1. Pipeline for liver lesion detection HFCNN.

For this project, multiple iterations were carried out throughout the training phase to improve the model structure. Using further CT imaging data, the system was ultimately tested throughout the testing phase. The hepatic lesion detection pathway is depicted in Figure 1. In a clinical retrospective investigation, the liver was imaged using CT three times (enhanced, arterial, and delayed without the use of a contrast agent). A mass that only appears during a specific period cannot reveal the nature of the lesion. As a result, a diagnosis needs to be verified by analyzing the variations in contrast injection over time. As a result, a diagnosis needs to be verified by analyzing the variations in contrast injection over time.



Figure 2. The proposed HFCNN classification system.

The typical method of building the network is as deep as possible – a false positive reduction of lung CT nodule classification – because the number in the deep learning network has a substantial influence on the final classification and recognition performance. a classification scheme powered by CNN. To lessen the false positives of the initially identified lung nodule candidates, a 2D CNN based classification method has been created to categorize the lung nodule candidates as positive lung nodules and negative non-nodules. The suggested HFCNN classification scheme is depicted in Figure 2.

CONCLUSIONS

This study introduces the Hybridized Fully Convolutional Neural Network (HFCNN) method for detecting and segmenting liver cancer lesions. The approach enhances the accuracy of medical image identification by incorporating neighborhood features across multiple layers of the neural network. During feature extraction, 2D feature maps are paired with several image slices, resulting in precise liver volume measurements with an accuracy of 97.22%. The segmentation method demonstrated exceptional performance, achieving an average Dice coefficient of 0.92. The results highlight the effectiveness of the FCN when incorporating neighboring slices, adaptive class weights, and handling data variations. Testing was conducted using threefold cross-validation on a limited dataset. Convolutional Neural Networks were trained on baseline liver masks to differentiate between healthy tissue and tumors, using CNN as a voxel classifier to refine tumor segmentation. The final output was further improved by addressing segmentation leaks, leading to highly accurate identification of liver cancers with the proposed HFCNN approach.

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