

A Machine Learning Method for the Automatic Classification of Strokes



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An Image Classification System Designed to Aid and Accelerate the Stroke Diagnosis and Detection Process

Background

Strokes



800,000

people in the United States alone suffer from a stroke each year. Strokes are the second leading cause of death worldwide, the leading cause of long term disability, and often leave patients with limited mobility.

Strokes occur when blood flow to brain is prevented

Ischemic Strokes

87%

of all stroke cases

Methods of Diagnosis

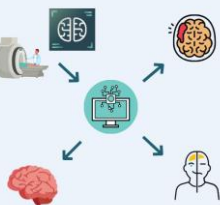
- CT Scans
- MRI Scans
- Microwave imaging

Symptoms and Effects

- Numbness or weakness, especially on one side of the body
- Sudden confusion or difficulty speaking
- Sudden severe headache
- Could potentially lead to loss of mobility or death



Abstract



Materials



Problem Statement

Current stroke detection methods require too much time for the interpretation of scan results and classification process, delaying treatment and increasing the chance of lasting effects.

Engineering Objective

The objective of this project was to create a machine learning model to automatically detect and classify strokes using CT images in order to aid with the diagnostic process.

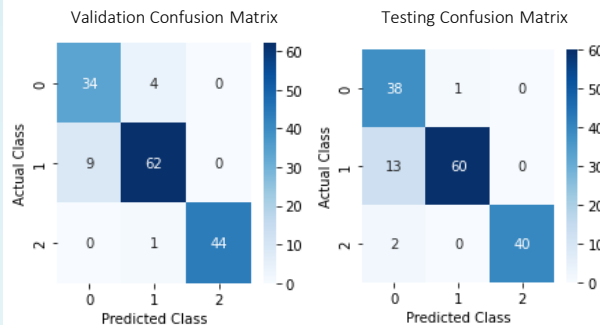
Methods

- 01 — Prelabeled CT images from various medical centers were collected
- 02 — Each image was normalized and used to create a training, testing, and validation set
- 03 — Using the images from the training and validation sets, an image classification model was developed
- 04 — The model was evaluated using the testing data, and the model's metrics were collected
- 05 — Steps 3 and 4 were repeated until the optimal model was developed

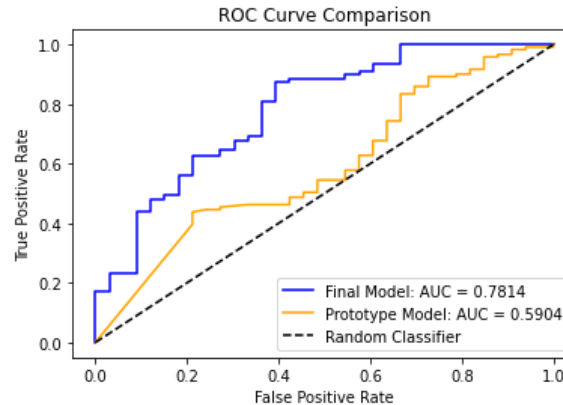
Design Matrix

Evaluation of Common Classification Techniques in Image Classification					
Criteria	Max	Decision Tree	SVM	KNN	CNN
Suitable with small datasets	6	3	5	2	4
High accuracy of output	10	6	8	7	8
High testing and training speed	9	6	8	4	8
Capable of dealing with large number of features	8	3	5	6	7
Easily improved and configured	7	3	5	5	6
Total	40	21	31	24	33
Percent	100%	53%	78%	60%	83%

Results



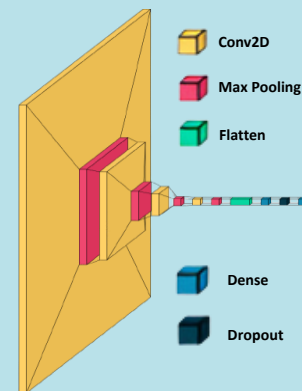
0 – Normal Scans | 1 – Hemorrhagic Strokes | 2 – Ischemic Strokes



Conclusions

- Final model classifies strokes with **89.6%** testing accuracy and **90.3%** validation accuracy
- Demonstrates the use of neural networks as a viable method of stroke classification
- Final model returns chance of abnormality from cranial CT scan
- Final model was a significant improvement over the first model, with a p-value of **0.0001**

Model Architecture



Extensions

- Testing on larger datasets
- Increasing classes to include other cranial diseases
- Testing during the real-time stroke diagnosis process
- Testing on other types of medical imaging (MRI or microwave imaging)

References

1. Chawla, M., Sharma, S., Sivaswamy, J., & Kishore, L. (2009). A method for automatic detection and classification of stroke from brain CT images. *2009 Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society*. doi:10.1109/iembs.2009.5335289
2. Ireland, D., & Bialkowski, M. E. (2011). Microwave Head Imaging for Stroke Detection. *Progress In Electromagnetics Research M*, 21, 163-175. doi:10.2528/PIERM11082907