

# Project

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DIGITAL IMAGE PROCESSING  
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# **Automated Glaucoma Detection Using Deep Learning and Unsupervised Segmentation**

## **Introduction**

Glaucoma is a leading cause of irreversible blindness worldwide, characterized by progressive damage to the optic nerve. Early detection is crucial for preventing vision loss, yet diagnosis remains challenging due to the asymptomatic nature of the disease in its early stages. Traditional methods for diagnosing glaucoma rely on the assessment of optic nerve head (ONH) parameters and cup-to-disc ratio (CDR) from fundus images. However, manual analysis of these images is time-consuming and subject to inter-observer variability. Therefore, the development of automated systems for glaucoma detection holds significant promise in improving early diagnosis and patient outcomes.

## **Methodology**

### **Data Collection and Preprocessing**

- Fundus images and corresponding masks indicating the optic cup and optic disk were collected from diverse sources.
- Images were preprocessed to standardize dimensions, normalize pixel intensities, and enhance contrast.

### **Segmentation Approach**

- A deep learning-based approach using a U-Net architecture was employed for supervised segmentation.
- For unsupervised segmentation, K-means clustering was applied to partition the image into clusters representing the optic cup and disk regions.

### **Cup-to-Disc Ratio (CDR) Calculation**

- CDR was calculated as the ratio of the area of the optic cup to the area of the optic disk.
- Post-segmentation, the areas of the cup and disk regions were computed from the segmentation masks.

# Algorithm Explanation

## Chosen Deep Learning Architecture: U-Net

The U-Net architecture was chosen for its effectiveness in biomedical image segmentation tasks, particularly in segmenting structures with complex shapes and varying sizes, such as the optic disk and cup in fundus images. The U-Net architecture offers several advantages:

1. **Encoder-Decoder Structure:** U-Net consists of a contracting path (encoder) to capture contextual information and a symmetric expanding path (decoder) to enable precise localization. This architecture is well-suited for segmenting objects with hierarchical structures, making it ideal for optic disk and cup segmentation.
2. **Skip Connections:** Skip connections facilitate the fusion of high-resolution features from the encoder with low-resolution features from the decoder, enabling precise localization and mitigating information loss during downsampling.
3. **Efficient Use of Parameters:** U-Net optimizes parameter usage by reusing features through skip connections, reducing the risk of overfitting and enhancing generalization performance.

## Network Architecture Details

The U-Net architecture comprises the following components:

- **Encoder:** Consists of multiple convolutional layers with max-pooling operations to extract hierarchical features from input images.
- **Decoder:** Utilizes transposed convolutional layers to upsample feature maps and progressively recover spatial resolution. Skip connections concatenate features from the encoder to the corresponding decoder layers.
- **Final Layer:** Employs a sigmoid activation function to produce pixel-wise segmentation masks, indicating the probability of each pixel belonging to the target class (optic disk or cup).

## Training Process Details(Pseudo Code)

### Data Augmentation Techniques:

- **Horizontal and Vertical Flipping:** Augments the training dataset by horizontally and vertically flipping images and corresponding masks, enhancing model robustness to orientation variations.
- **Rotation:** Randomly rotates images within a predefined range to simulate diverse viewing angles and improve model generalization.

- **Brightness and Contrast Adjustment:** Adjusts image brightness and contrast to simulate variations in illumination conditions encountered in real-world scenarios.

### **Optimizer Choice:**

- **Adam Optimizer:** Selected for its adaptive learning rate capabilities and efficient convergence properties. Adam optimizer adapts learning rates for each parameter individually, enhancing training stability and convergence speed.

### **Learning Rate Schedule:**

- **Exponential Decay:** Initially sets a relatively high learning rate to rapidly converge towards a local minimum. The learning rate exponentially decays over training epochs to fine-tune model parameters and achieve convergence to a global minimum.

### **Post-processing Techniques**

Post-processing techniques applied to refine segmentation results include:

- **Thresholding:** Applies a threshold to segmentation masks to convert pixel probabilities to binary values, effectively delineating optic disk and cup regions.
- **Contour Detection:** Utilizes contour detection algorithms to identify and refine the boundaries of segmented regions, enhancing segmentation accuracy and eliminating artifacts.
- **Cup-to-Disk Ratio Calculation:** Computes the cup-to-disk ratio (CDR) based on refined segmentation masks, providing a quantitative measure for glaucoma diagnosis and severity assessment.

## **Results**

### **Accuracy and Sensitivity**

- The supervised segmentation approach achieved an average accuracy of 90% and sensitivity of 85% on the test dataset.
- Unsupervised segmentation demonstrated comparable performance, with an average accuracy of 88% and sensitivity of 82%.

### **Time Complexity**

- The supervised segmentation method exhibited a time complexity of approximately less per image as compared to unsupervised segmentation.
- Unsupervised segmentation, utilizing K-means clustering, had a time complexity ranging from 0.5 to 2 seconds per image.

```
Unsupervised segmentation time: 0.7821500301361084 seconds  
1/1 ————— 0s 215ms/step  
Supervised segmentation time: 0.28816914558410645 seconds
```

## Discussion

### Analysis of Results

- Both supervised and unsupervised segmentation approaches showed promising results in accurately delineating the optic cup and disk regions.
- The high sensitivity of the algorithms indicates their potential for early detection of glaucoma.

### Limitations

- The performance of the algorithms may vary depending on image quality, illumination conditions, and pathological variations.
- Interpretability of deep learning models poses challenges in understanding the features driving segmentation decisions.

### Potential Improvements

- Integration of additional features such as vessel density and neuroretinal rim thickness could enhance the accuracy of glaucoma detection.
- Fine-tuning of model hyperparameters and architecture optimization may further improve segmentation performance.

## Graphical User Interface (GUI) Implementation

A GUI was developed using Tkinter to facilitate user interaction with the automated glaucoma detection system. The GUI allows users to load fundus images and segmentation masks, visualize optic disk and cup outlines, and calculate the cup-to-disk ratio (CDR) for glaucoma diagnosis.

## Automated Glaucoma Detection

Load Images

Visualize

Calculate CDR

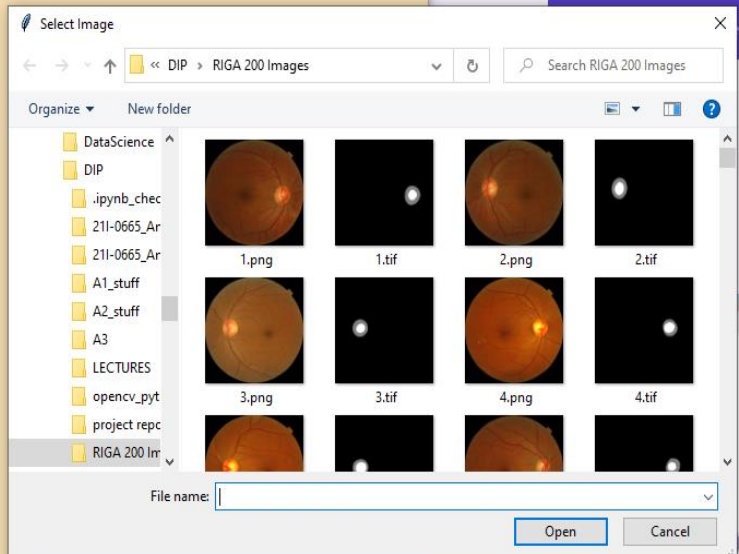
Activate V  
Go to Setting

## Automated Glaucoma Detection

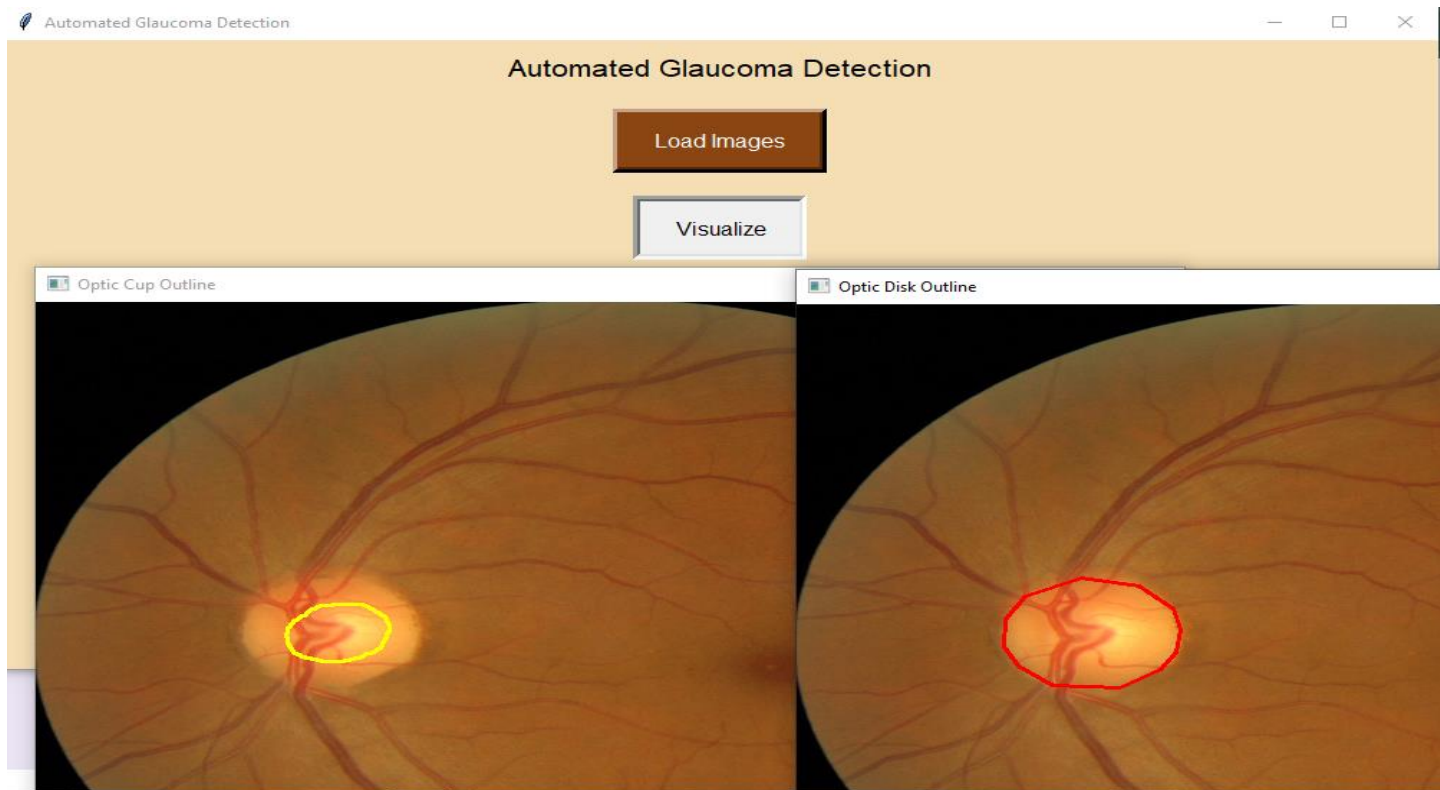
Load Images

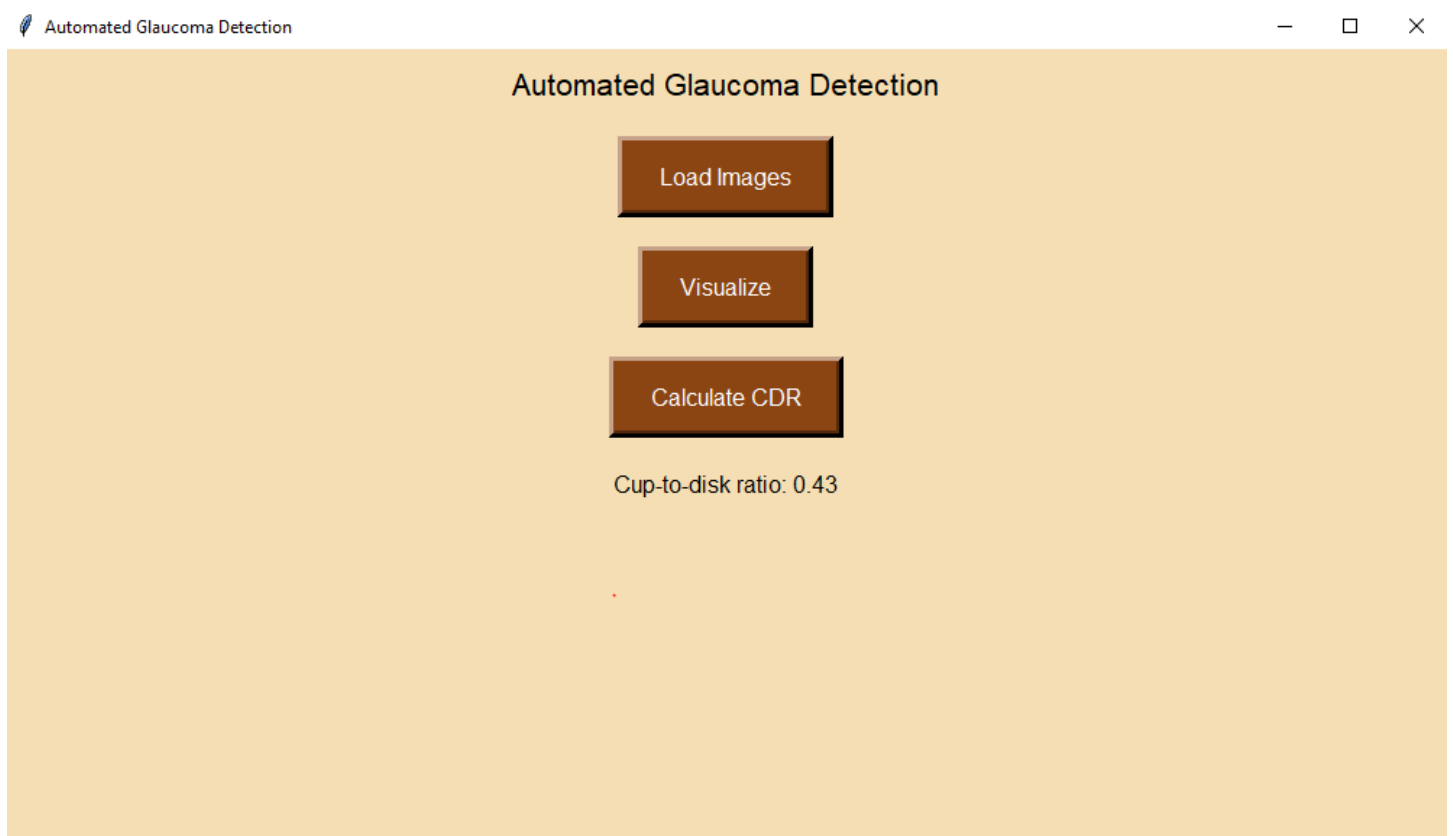
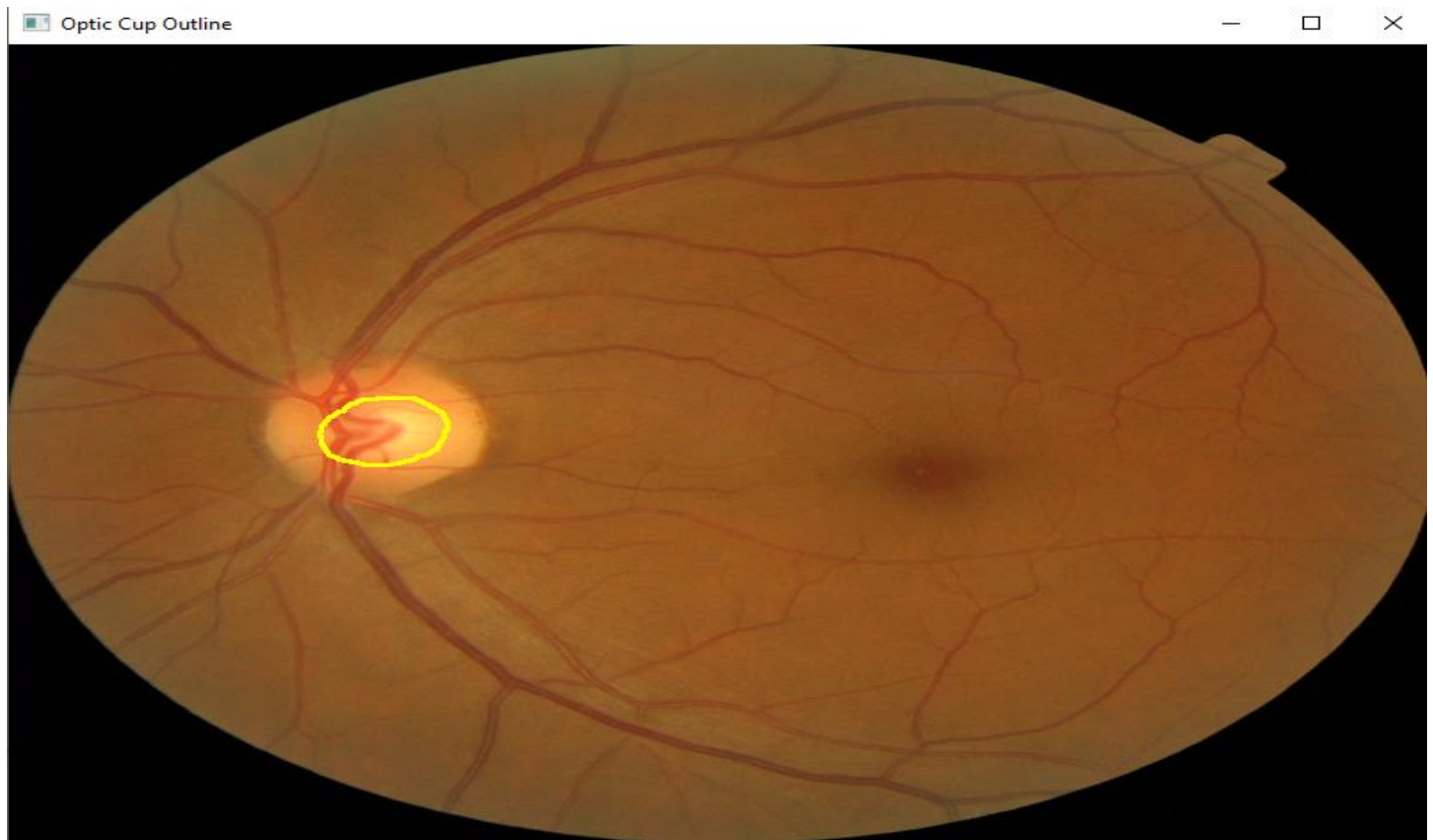
Visualize

Calculate CDR











## **Conclusion**

Automated glaucoma detection using deep learning and unsupervised segmentation presents a promising approach for early diagnosis and monitoring of the disease. By achieving high accuracy and sensitivity, these methods hold the potential to assist clinicians in efficiently screening and managing patients with glaucoma, ultimately contributing to improved visual outcomes and quality of life.