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ISBI Challenge on Cancer Metastasis Detection in Lymph Node



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Outline of the proposed method

Preprocessing:

Determining lymph node sections on Layer 7 images

Classification:

CNN on sliding windows on Layer 2 images

Post Processing:

Decision fusion for metastasis regions and slides



Preprocessing of Whole Slide Images

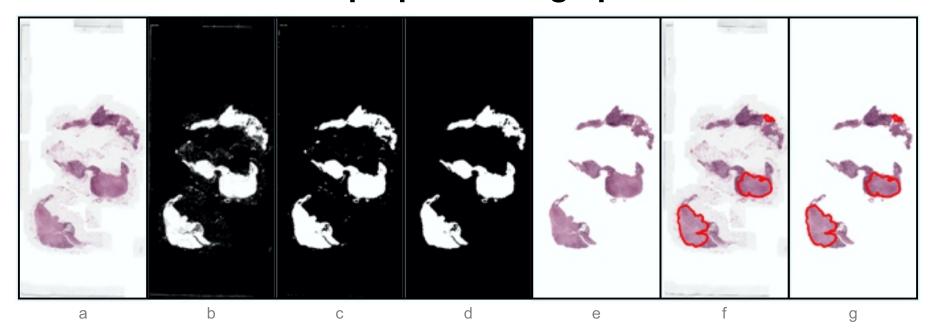
To eliminate background (Layer 7)

- OTSU thresholding
- Median filtering
- Connected component analysis
- Elimination of small noisy parts
- Converting to binary

Output: Mask of lymph node sections in the WSIs



Effects of preprocessing operations



- a Original image
- b Otsu thresholding
- c Median filtering
- d Small connected component elimination (mask)
- e Final output of preprocessing stage (masked image)
- f Metastasis region boundaries shown on original image
- g Metastasis region boundaries shown on masked image



Dataset for training CNN

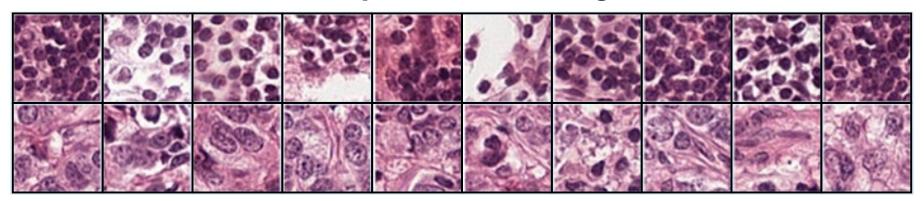
- 480,000 randomly selected 64x64x3 RGB sub-images (Layer 2)
- Half from slides with label NORMAL
- Half from metastasis regions of slides with label TUMOR
- Images with more than 75% background eliminated

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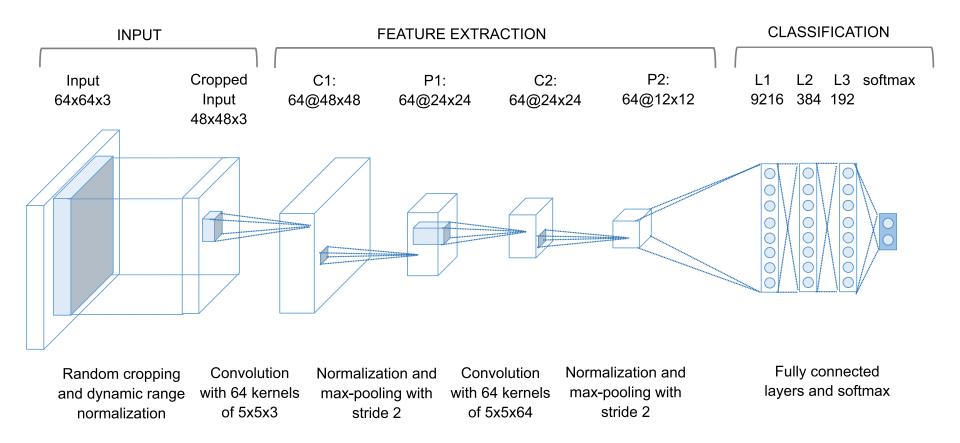
Example dataset images



First row: Samples with label NORMAL Second row: Samples with label TUMOR



Convolutional Neural Network architecture





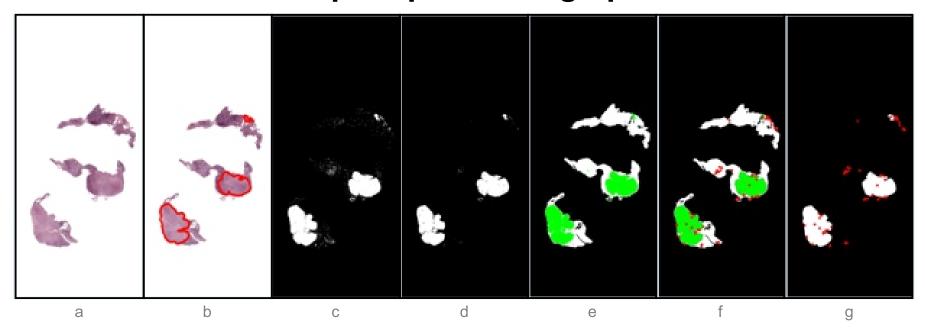
Metastasis detection and localization

Postprocessing consists of:

- Elimination of small regions
- Confidence Filtering (Gaussian like) on CNN output
- Extraction of metastasis region representatives by connected component analysis for Evaluation 2
- · Whole slide probabilities for Evaluation I



Effects of post processing operations



- a Final output of preprocessing stage (masked image)
- b Metastasis Region Boundaries shown on masked Image
- c Binary image showing metastasis regions constructed from CNN output labels,
- d Eroded binary image eliminating small regions
- e Probability image obtained after Confidence Filtering (green area)
- f Metastasis represantative points shown on probability image
- g Metastasis representatives shown on evaluation mask image

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Results on training set:

Evaluation I

AUC ROC: 0.920087

Evaluation II

Average FROC: 0.5349

