

PROGRESS PREDICTION 4° WEEK

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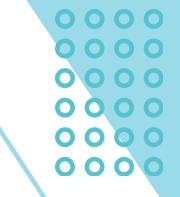
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Extract Features

Generate csv file with informaton generated from images

- 1. Metadata extracted SliceThickness and PixelSpacing
- 2. Make Lung mask
 - a. Normalize image → remove mean and divide by std
 - b. Renormalize washed images \rightarrow sub light/dark pixels with mean
 - c.K-means to separate foreground and background
 - d. Erosion → eliminate noise/small details with a 3x3 filter
 - e. Dilation → reconstruct principal areas through a 8x8 filter

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Extract Features

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- a. Label creation (skimage) \rightarrow assign labels for each portion
- b. Compute geometrical attributes (area, bounding box)
- c. Select good bounding boxes → eliminate too big/small areas
- d. Fill lung masks → 1 for lungs, 0 elsewhere
- e. Compute lung area
- f. Calculate tissue mask and extract features (lung without border)
- 3. Join extracted features to metadata and known data

Quantile definition

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```
Avg_Tissue_30_60 = round((sum(num t pixels list))/len(num t pixels list))*pixel spacing,4)

#Conver Avg_Tissue_30_60 to quartiles

df["Avg_Tissue_30_60_Quartile"] = pd.qcut(df.Avg_Tissue_30_60, q = 4, labels = ['Q1','Q2','Q3','Q4'])
```

Uses Avg_tissue_30_60 to define quantile groups and define categorical values.

Computed through:

- num_t_pixels_list: list of the number of tissue pixels detected in image slices between 30% and 60% of the lung height
- pixel_spacing : metadata

So it's the average tissue area (in mm²).

Quantile definition

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```
Avg_Tissue_30_60 = round((sum(num_t_pixels_list))/len(num_t_pixels_list))*pixel_spacing,4)

#Conver Avg_Tissue_30_60 to quartiles

df["Avg_Tissue_30_60_Quartile"] = pd.qcut(df.Avg_Tissue_30_60, q = 4, labels = ['Q1','Q2','Q3','Q4'])
```

"pd.qcut" used to divide data into 4 groups with the same amount of data 4 groups based on percentiles (25,50,75).

labels=['Q1','Q2','Q3','Q4'] assigns quartile names:

- Q1: lowest 25% of average tissue areas
- Q2: 25–50%
- Q3: 50-75%
- Q4: top 25% (largest average tissue areas)

Modeling 1

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For each patient p in the train set:

 Fits a linear regression and saves the slope (a), tab values and patient

Generates 5 folds and split patients between these 5 folds. For each iteration chooses 4 for training and 1 for validation.

Per iteration it builds a new efficient model (so for each iteration it trains the model on a slightly different training set). Per iteration each patient in the test set, gets slices and tabular values and predict a slope for each slice, choosing the slope through the quantile selected for that fold.



Modeling 1

Having the predicted slope, we can predict the FVC and Confidence for the week defined in the sample_submission csv. How:

```
fvc = A_test[p] * w + B_test[p]
sub.loc[sub.Patient_Week == k, 'FVC'] = fvc
sub.loc[sub.Patient_Week == k, 'Confidence'] = (P_test[p] - A_test[p] * abs(WEEK[p] - w) )
```

In the end we will have a different prediction for each iteration and an average will be made.

```
for i in range(N):
    sub["FVC"] += subs[i]["FVC"] * (1/N)
    sub["Confidence"] += subs[i]["Confidence"] * (1/N)
```

Preparation data

Prepare data:

- Add a train/test/val column
- Add minimum week column (earliest visit for patient)
- Baseline FVC column
- Baseline Percent column
- Add column to indicate time passed from baseline visit
- One-hot encoder for Sex and SmokingStatus
- Add image features extracted from image

Merge all data, handle outliers and noise and normalize.





Modeling 2

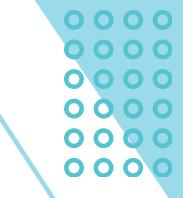
The models final output is formed by three values:

[y_lower, y_pred, y_upper]

Representing the lower quantile, median and upper quantile estimates of FVC for a patient at a given week.

The model uses a combined loss (mloss):

- qloss → encourages predictions for each quantile to bracket the true value correctly
- score → approximates the laplace log-likelihood



Modeling 2

5 Neural Networks, each work on a slightly different feature set:

Collects all predictions and search for optimal ensemble weights - in a brute-force way - across the 5 models.



Modeling 2

The final ouput FVC and Confidence is given by:

- FVC: median value (y_true)
- Confidence: y_upper y_lower

Then finally it blends the predictions to the first model:

- 40% image-based model
- 60% metadata model

Comparison to other approaches



• 5th Place:

Small network with only tabular data Inputs → [WeekInit, WeekTarget, WeekDiff, FVC, Percent, Age, Sex, CurrentlySmokes, Exsmoker, Never Smoked]

6th Place:

Each measurement in the dataset is treated as if it were a baseline measurement. A new feature week_passed is created and extracted image features as base data. Used 5 models and weighted them

[Lasso, Ridge, ElasticNet, SVM, NN] = [0.68573749, 0., 0., 0.07551167, 0.23750526]

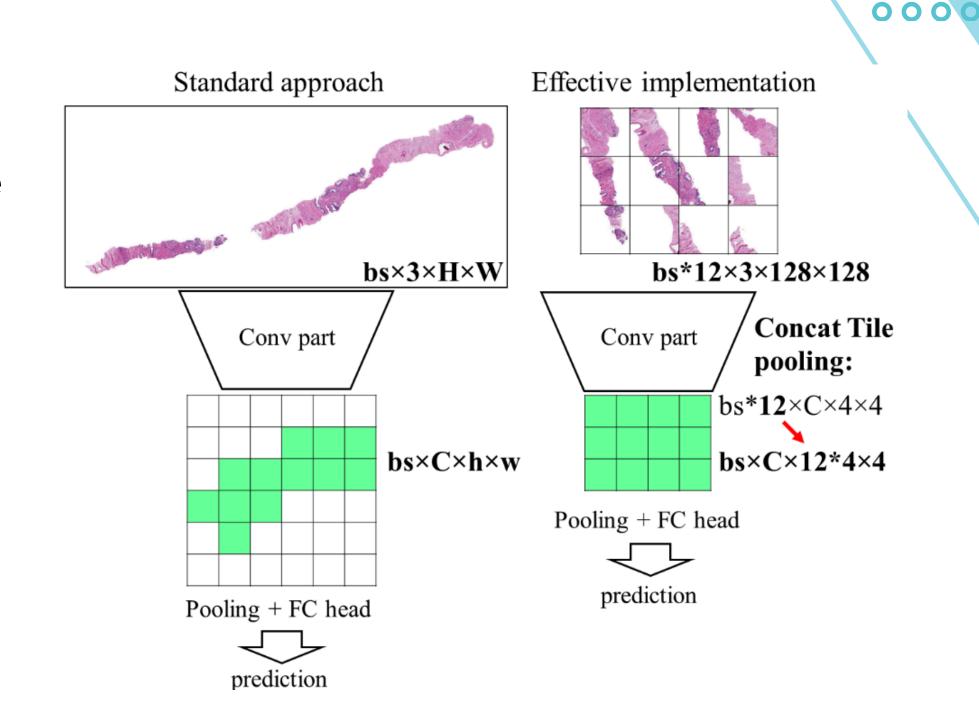
• 9th Place:

Use of Concatenate Tile Pooling approach for 2D CT scans, aggregates information across multiple CT layers and assigns a single label to the entire scan.

Concatenate Tile Pooling

Instead of passing an entire image as an input, N tiles are selected from each image based on the number of tissue pixels and passed independently through the convolutional part.

The outputs of the convolutional part is concatenated in a large single map for each image preceding pooling and FC head.



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