CoMoSeg: Anatomical Consistency and cross Modality Guidance for robust brain tumor Segmentation using partially labeled MR sequences





Intelligence

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BACKGROUND

- Accurate MR Images brain tumor segmentation is critical for diagnosis and treatment planning.
- Multi-modality MR sequences offer distinct features, aiding in precise tumor identification.

CHALLENGES

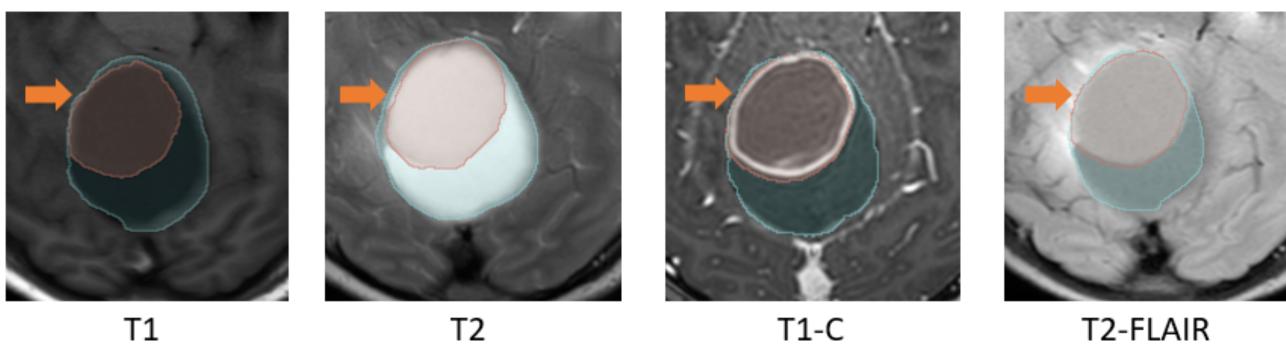


Fig. 1. Tumor annotations in different sequences of the same subject. Red: tumor core; blue: edema. Notice the slight differences of masks across different modalities.

- Lesion appearances vary across MR sequences
- Precise annotations often require tedious delineation

EXPERIMENTS & RESULTS

Mask	Metric	V-Net(T2)	V-Net(T1-C)	gMIS	CoMoSeg
Edema	Dice	$86.36{\pm}12.02$	-	$83.10{\pm}12.63$	$87.18{\pm}8.97^*$
	Recall	$91.67{\pm}11.51$	-	$83.56 \!\pm\! 14.19$	$88.59 {\pm} 9.89$
	Precision	83.76 ± 13.88	-	$84.90\!\pm\!13.05$	$87.49 \pm 11.72^*$
Tumor Core	Dice	_	$82.29{\pm}19.76$	$80.68 {\pm} 19.72$	$86.58{\pm}12.58^*$
	Recall	_	$\bf 86.22 {\pm} 19.52$	$77.53 \!\pm\! 21.37$	$85.36{\pm}15.57$
	Precision	_	$82.28{\pm}21.13$	87.87 ± 15.30	$89.95{\pm}9.60^*$

Table.1. Comparison of different models

Modality	Method	Tumor Core		Edema	
1,10 atol110		Dice	Recall	Dice	Recall
T1	IIC CoMoSeg	$62.14{\pm}24.38$ $64.07{\pm}24.02$	56.75 ± 25.63 60.46\pm25.42	74.52 ± 15.59 75.11 ± 17.11	$69.05{\pm}18.22$ 71.51${\pm}$19.20
T1-C	baseline IIC CoMoSeg	80.56 ± 22.72 82.19 ± 23.53 86.58 ± 12.58	78.69 ± 22.95 80.59 ± 24.52 85.36 ± 15.57	-74.13 ± 15.47 76.61\pm14.88	$-68.82{\pm}17.87$ 74.88${\pm}$17.37
T2	baseline IIC CoMoSeg	$-63.11{\pm}25.70$ $66.02{\pm}23.91$	$-60.17{\pm}26.37$ $67.06{\pm}22.61$	83.88±14.09 82.16±15.00 87.18±8.97	83.11 ± 15.04 78.43 ± 16.15 88.59 ± 9.89
T2- FLAIR	IIC CoMoSeg	$63.20{\pm}24.34$ $66.78{\pm}24.58$	62.68 ± 25.49 71.82\pm22.06	76.67 ± 17.33 79.91\pm15.89	74.88 ± 19.23 84.91\pm17.11

Table.2. Ablation of IIC and CMG

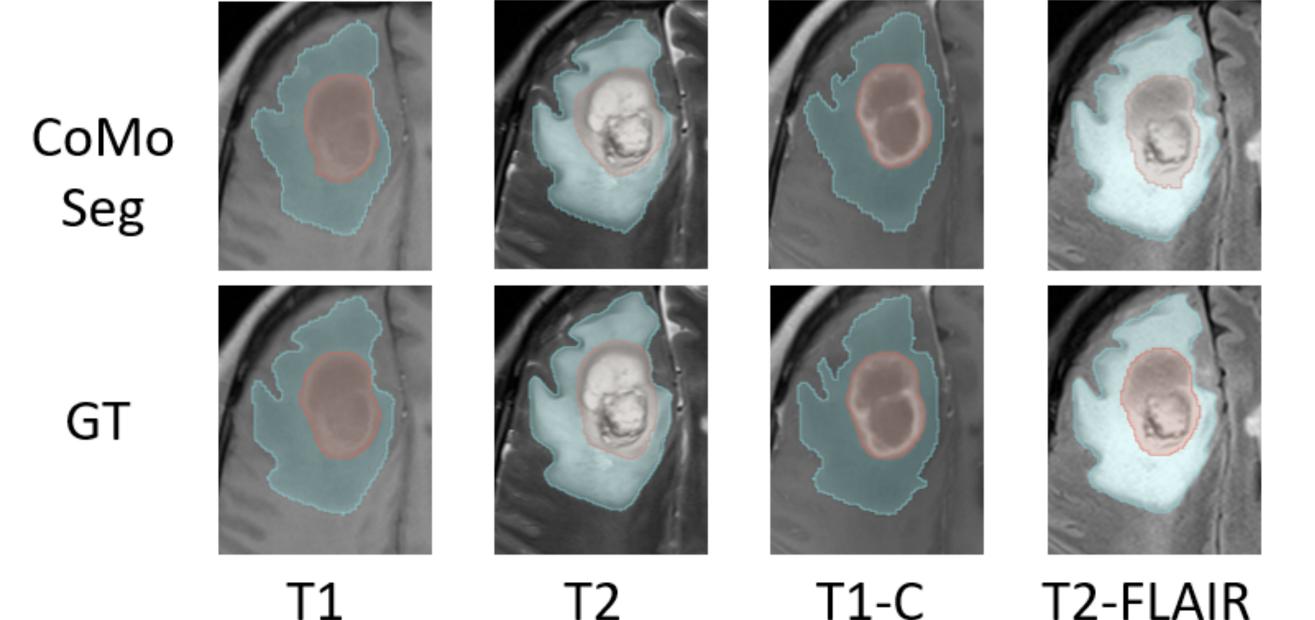


Fig.3. Typical segmentation results. Top: CoMoSeg result; bottom: Ground truth.

METHOD

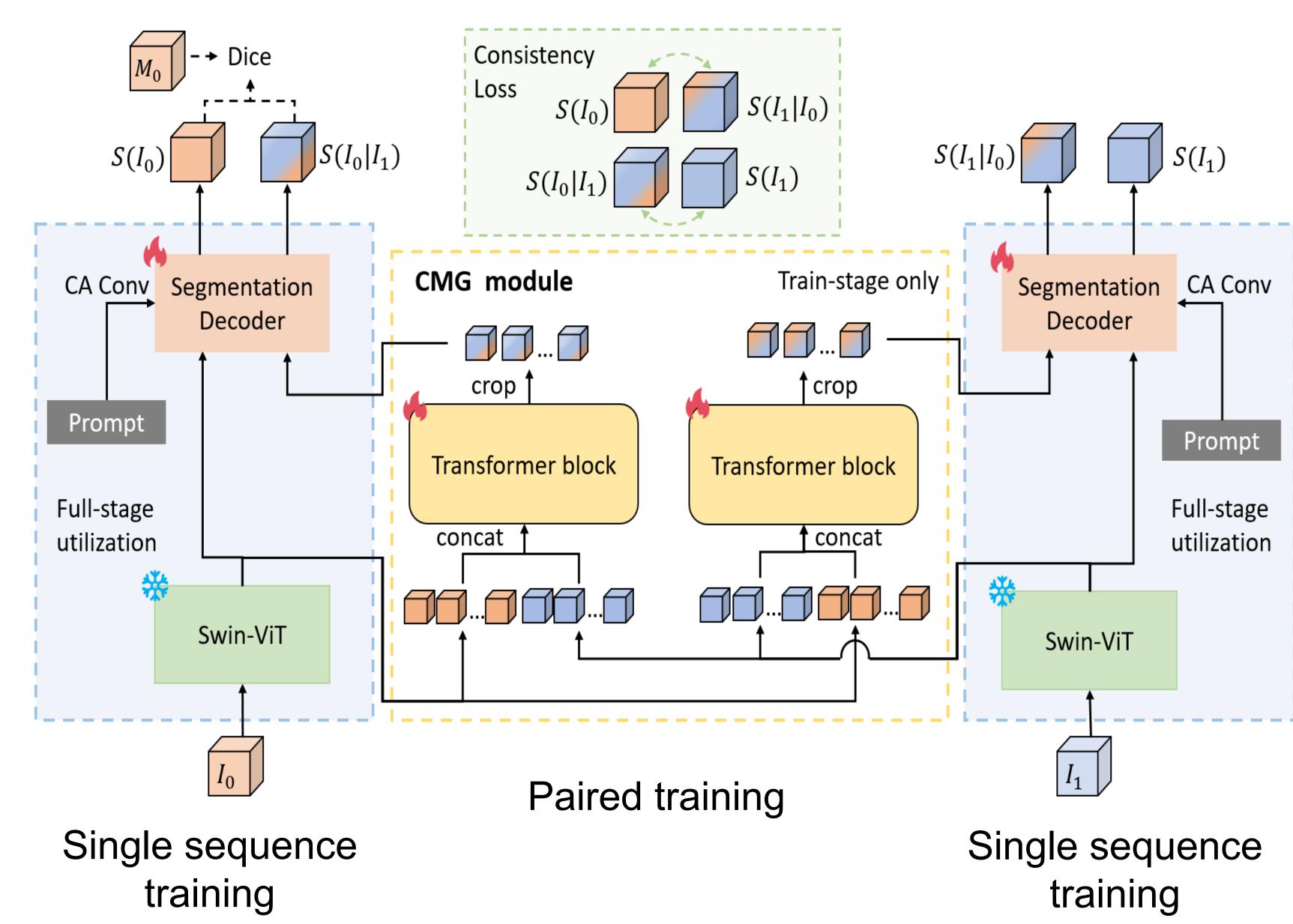


Fig. 2. The proposed CoMoSeg framework.

Framework:

- **Single Sequence**: CoMoSeg generates a segmentation mask for a given MR sequence based on a text prompt, which is applied to two different sequences (I_0 and I_1 , See Fig. 2).
- **Paired Sequences**: Used for partial labeled image. Fuse features between a pair of images, one with a mask and the other without (paired I_0 with I_1).
 - Cross-Modality Guidance (CMG) module accomplishes feature alignment between the two sequences.
 - Swapping training strategy ensures that the model is not overly reliant on any one modality's features for segmentation.
 - Intra-Individual Consistency (IIC) Loss uses the inherent relationships within the same subject's images.

CONCLUSION

- We have proposed CoMoSeg, which leverages CMG module and IIC loss to exploit anatomical consistency across MR sequences, enabling effective brain tumor segmentation with limited or partially labeled annotations.
- CoMoSeg was trained on **3,709 MR sequence pairs** and evaluated on **73 subjects** (each with 4 MR sequences) collected from multiple centers (4 hospitals and 2 public datasets).
- CoMoSeg significantly outperformed V-Net and gMIS in both Dice coefficient and precision (*p*-value < 0.05).
- The model shows strong potential for accurate brain tumor diagnosis and treatment planning through enhanced feature alignment and anatomical consistency.