

# AUTOMATED CLASSIFICATION OF GLAUCOMA DETECTION USING DEEP LEARNING

## MAJOR PROJECT REPORT

*Submitted by*

N.PRASAD

P.MADHUSUDHANRAO

M.ANUPRIYA

*Under the Guidance of*

Dr.G.ANNALAKSHMAI

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**Vel Tech**  
Rangarajan Dr. Sagunthala  
R&D Institute of Science and Technology  
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**Vel Tech**  
Rangarajan Dr. Sagunthala  
R&D Institute of Science and Technology  
(Deemed to be University Estd. u/s 3 of UGC Act, 1956)

### BONAFIDE CERTIFICATE

Certified that this Major project report entitled “**Automated classification of glaucoma detection using deep learning**” is the bonafide work of “**N.PRASAD(21UEEA0202),M.ANUPRIYA (21UEEL0066) and P.MADHUSUDHANRAO(21UEEA0218)**” who carried out the project work under my supervision.

#### SUPERVISOR

**Dr.G.ANNALAKSHMI**

Assistant Professor

Department of ECE

#### HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT

**Dr.A. SELWIN MICH PRIYADHARSON**

Professor

Department of ECE

-----

Submitted for Major project work viva-voce examination held on:-----

**INTERNAL EXAMINER**

**EXTERNAL EXAMINER**

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**N.PRASAD**

**P.MADHUSUDHANRAO**

**M.ANUPRIYA**

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# Chapter 1

## ABSTRACT

Glaucoma is the term used to describe either the accumulated loss of retinal cells inside the optic nerve or the gradual visual loss brought on by optic neuropathy. Glaucoma is a disease that relates to the vision of the human eye and this disease is considered an irreversible disease that results in vision deterioration. People don't have any early warning indications of this glaucoma and might not notice a change in your vision because the effect is so subtle. It presents an architecture for proper glaucoma detection based on deep learning by making use of the ResNet-50. The differentiation between the patterns formed for glaucoma and non-glaucoma can find out with the use of ResNet-50. The proposed model is developed using the ResNet-50 robust image classification architecture. Glaucoma is a chronic eye disease that may lead to permanent vision loss if it is not diagnosed and treated at an early stage. The disease originates from an irregular behavior in the drainage flow of the eye that eventually leads to an increase in intraocular pressure, which in the severe stage of the disease deteriorates the optic nerve head and leads to vision loss. Medical follow-ups to observe the retinal area are needed periodically by ophthalmologists, who require an extensive degree of skill and experience to interpret the results appropriately. To improve on this issue, algorithms based on deep learning techniques have been designed to screen and diagnose glaucoma based on retinal fundus image input and to analyze images of the optic nerve and retinal structures. Therefore, the objective of this paper is to provide a systematic analysis of studies on the screening and diagnosis of glaucoma, which include a particular dataset used in the development of the algorithms, performance metrics, and modalities employed in each article. Furthermore, this review analyzes and evaluates the used methods and compares their strengths and weaknesses in an organized manner. It also explored a wide range of diagnostic procedures, such as image pre-processing, localization, classification, and segmentation. In conclusion, automated glaucoma diagnosis has shown considerable promise when deep learning algorithms are applied. Such algorithms could increase the accuracy and efficiency of glaucoma diagnosis in a better and faster manner.

Keywords: FeatureExtraction, Deeplearning, CNN, Image data Generator, Glaucomatous.

# Chapter 2

## INTRODUCTION

The major components of the human eye involved in vision are the cornea, pupil, iris, lens, retina, optic nerve, and tears . The iris is located between the cornea and the lens and controls the light. The retina receives the light and transfers it to the brain for recognition by converting it into electrical signals. At the backside of the eye is a nerve known as the optic nerve, which comprises 1 million nerve fibers of the retinal ganglion cells . The primary function of this nerve is to transfer visual signals from the retina to the occipital cortex. The human eye contains a fluid known as aqueous humor, which is continuously recycled. An obstruction in the drainage of aqueous humor leads to increased intraocular pressure (IOP). Consequently, the retina and optic nerve are damaged, which may lead to vision loss . This is partly due to the degeneration of ganglion cells in the retina. The loss of optic nerve fibers changes the shape of the optic disc (OD) towards an increase in the cup-to-disc ratio (CDR), which is an early sign of glaucoma . The anatomy of the eye is depicted . The visual loss in glaucoma is due to damage to the retina glaucoma.

The alterations in the visual field scope are essential for diagnosing glaucoma enlarged CDR in an eye with glaucoma. Glaucoma is a group of eye diseases that result in damage to the optic nerve (or retina) and causes vision loss. Open-angle glaucoma develops slowly over time and there is no pain. Peripheral vision may begin to decrease, followed by central vision, resulting in blindness if not treated and Closed-angle glaucoma can present gradually or suddenly. The most common type is open-angle (wide angle, chronic simple) glaucoma, in which the drainage angle for fluid within the eye remains open, with less common types including closed-angle (narrow-angle, acute congestive) glaucoma and normal-tension glaucoma. The sudden sight may involve severe eye pain, blurred vision, mid-dilated pupils, redness of the eye, and nausea. Vision loss from glaucoma, once it has occurred, is permanent and Eyes affected by glaucoma are referred to as being glaucoma.

Glaucoma is the second leading cause of blindness worldwide. About 80 million people were affected by glaucoma worldwide in 2020, and the number may increase to 111.8 million by 2040 There are several types of glaucoma, but the most common is open-angle glaucoma, which affects nearly 57.5 million people worldwide . Regular checkups by ophthalmologists after age 50 can reduce the risk of

developing glaucoma. Figure 3 shows the retinal fundus images of a healthy control and patients with early, moderate, and advanced-stage glaucoma from the RIM-ONE dataset. If treated early, glaucoma progression can be slowed or stopped with medication, laser treatment, or surgery. The primary goal of these treatments is to reduce eye pressure. Various classes of glaucoma medications are available, and laser treatments can be effective for both open-angle and closed-angle glaucoma. For individuals who do not respond adequately to these treatments, several types of glaucoma surgeries may be considered. Closed-angle glaucoma, however, requires immediate medical attention as it is a medical emergency.

Globally, around 70 million people have glaucoma, with approximately two million cases in the United States. It is the leading cause of blindness among African Americans and is more common among older individuals. Additionally, closed-angle glaucoma occurs more frequently in women. Often referred to as the "silent thief of sight," glaucoma causes gradual vision loss over time. It is the second-leading cause of blindness worldwide after cataracts. In 2010, cataracts accounted for 51 of blindness cases, while glaucoma contributed to 8. The term "glaucoma" originates from the Ancient Greek word "glaucous," meaning "shimmering." In English, the word has been in use since 1587 but became widely recognized after 1850, following the development of the ophthalmoscope, which enabled doctors to observe optic nerve damage. Glaucoma occurs at different levels of severity—primary, secondary, and tertiary—corresponding to normal, moderate, and severe stages of the disease. It is primarily characterized by increased intraocular pressure (IOP) or pressure inside the eye. Several types of glaucoma exist, including open-angle glaucoma, angle-closure glaucoma, normal tension glaucoma, congenital glaucoma, primary glaucoma, secondary glaucoma, neovascular glaucoma, exfoliative glaucoma, pigmentary glaucoma, chronic glaucoma, and traumatic glaucoma. Open-angle glaucoma typically progresses without noticeable symptoms in its early stages, making regular eye examinations crucial for early detection. The disease is characterized by a gradual loss of peripheral vision and changes to the optic nerve, such as an increased cup-to-disc ratio observed during fundoscopic examinations. In contrast, approximately 10 of individuals with angle closure glaucoma experience acute episodes marked by sudden eye pain, halos around lights, eye redness, significantly elevated intraocular pressure (often exceeding 30 mmHg), nausea, vomiting, sudden vision loss, and a fixed, mid-dilated pupil. These acute attacks are medical emergencies requiring immediate attention to prevent permanent vision loss.

Additionally, opaque specks known as glaukomflecken may develop on the lens in cases of glaucoma. Glaucoma is a group of eye diseases that result in damage to the optic nerve (or retina) and causes vision loss. Open-angle glaucoma develops slowly over time and there is no pain. Peripheral vision may begin to decrease, followed by central vision, resulting in blindness if not treated. Closed-angle glaucoma can present gradually or suddenly. The most common type is open-angle (wide angle, chronic simple) glaucoma, in which the drainage angle for fluid within the eye remains open, with less





Figure 2.1: Optic nerve in advanced glaucoma disease

common types including closed-angle (narrow-angle, acute congestive) glaucoma and normal-tension glaucoma. The sudden sight may involve severe eye pain, blurred vision, mid-dilated pupils, redness of the eye, and nausea. Vision loss from glaucoma, once it has occurred, is permanent. The research work that we are going to carry out further is going to deal with the detection of primary glaucoma along with the hardware implementation of the same so that it would have been validated at both the simulation level and the implementation level. As open-angle glaucoma is usually painless with no symptoms early in the disease process, screening through regular eye exams is important. The only signs are gradually progressive visual field loss and optic nerve changes (increased cup-to-disc ratio on fundoscopic examination). About 10 percent with acute angle closure characterized by sudden ocular pain, seeing halos around lights, red eye, very high intraocular pressure ( $>30$  mmHg (4.0 kPa)), nausea and vomiting, sudden decreased vision, and a fixed, mid-dilated pupil. It is also associated with an oval pupil in some cases. Acute angle closure is an emergency. Opaque specks may occur in the lens in glaucoma, known as glaukomflecken. Classification predictive modeling involves assigning a class label to input examples.

Classification is the process of finding or discovering a model or function which helps in separating the data into multiple categorical classes i.e. discrete values. In classification, data is categorized under different labels according to some parameters given in input and then the labels are predicted for the data. The derived mapping function could be demonstrated in the form of “IFTHEN” rules. The classification process deal with the problems where the data can be divided into binary or multiple discrete labels. Convolutional neural networks receive images as input and use them to train a classifier. The network employs a special mathematical operation called a “convolution” instead of matrix multiplication. The architecture of a convolutional network typically consists

of four types of layers: convolution, pooling, activation, and fully connected. Scalability and consistency issues plague traditional diagnostic techniques, which rely on professional assessment of fundus photos. A promising solution is provided by recent developments in deep learning, particularly with regard to Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs).

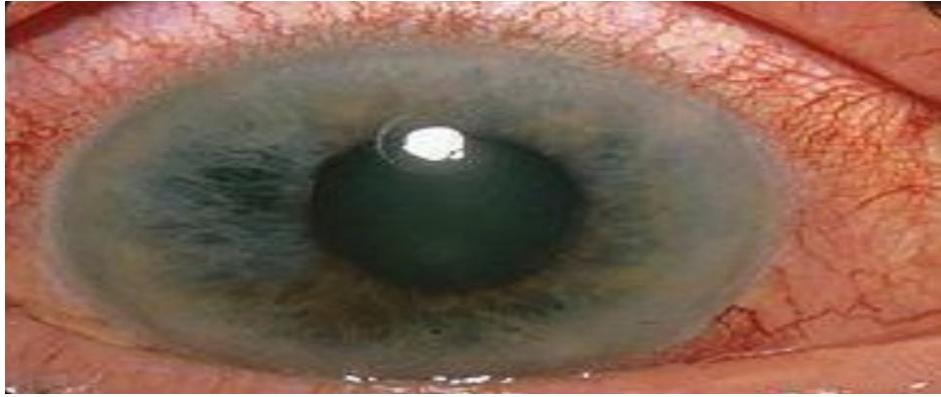


Figure 2.2: Photo showing conjunctival vessels dilated at the cornea edge and hazy cornea characteristics of acute closure glaucoma.

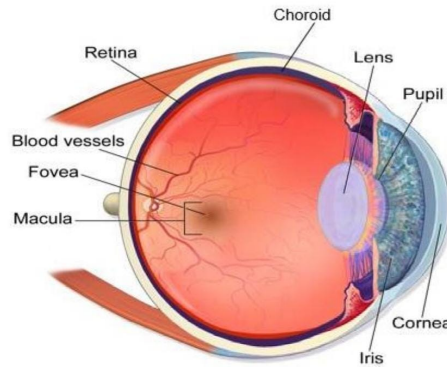


Figure 2.3: Human eye cross-sectional view

glaucoma progression can be slowed or stopped with medication, laser treatment, or surgery. The primary goal of these treatments is to reduce eye pressure. Various classes of glaucoma medications are available, and laser treatments can be effective for both open-angle and closed angle glaucoma. For individuals who do not respond adequately to these treatments, several types of glaucoma surgeries may be considered. Screening for glaucoma is usually performed as part of a standard eye examination performed by optometrists and ophthalmologists. Testing for glaucoma includes measurements of the intraocular pressure using tonometry, anterior chamber angle examination, or gonioscopy as well as an examination of the optic nerve to discern visible damage, changes in the cup-to-disc ratio, rim appearance, and vascular change. In figure 2.3 we can observe the cross-sectional view of an eye.

A formal visual field test is performed. The retinal nerve fibre layer can be assessed with imaging techniques such as optical coherence tomography, scanning laser polarimetry, or scanning laser ophthalmoscopy (Heidelberg retinal tomogram). Visual field loss is the most specific sign of the condition, though it occurs later in the course of the disease.

# Chapter 3

## LITERATURE SURVEY

### **3.1 Automatic Diagnosis of Glaucoma from Retinal Images Using Deep Learning Approach**

The paper presents an automated system for glaucoma detection using deep learning on retinal fundus images. By analyzing features like the optic disc and cup-to-disc ratio, the system aims to improve screening accuracy, efficiency, and early diagnosis, reducing reliance on manual interpretation.]Glaucoma is a serious eye condition that can lead to irreversible vision loss if not treated promptly. To improve early diagnosis, a deep learning model utilizing the ResNet-50 architecture was developed and trained on four different datasets, including the G1020 dataset. This model focuses on the gray channels of fundus images and employs data augmentation techniques to enhance training diversity. On the G1020 dataset, the model achieved impressive results: 98.48 accuracy, 99.30 sensitivity, 96.52 specificity, an area under the curve (AUC) of 97, and an F1-score of 98. These outcomes suggest that such automated systems can assist clinicians in the timely diagnosis and treatment of glaucoma. Future research aims to develop models that integrate both fundus and optical coherence tomography (OCT) images, adopting a multimodal imaging approach to further enhance early-stage glaucoma detection.

### **3.2 Automated Glaucoma Screening and Diagnosis Based on Retinal Fundus Images Using Deep Learning**

The paper presents an automated deep learning system for glaucoma diagnosis using retinal fundus images, aiming for accurate, efficient screening and early detection. Many researchers have studied how deep learning (DL) can help diagnose glaucoma using color fundus images. Several public datasets, like RIM-ONE, ORIGA, and REFUGE, provide eye images with expert labels, helping train DL models. Preprocessing techniques, such as image enhancement and filtering, improve image quality for better disease detection. Different deep learning models, including CNNs and transfer learning methods, have been tested for classifying and segmenting eye structures like the optic disc and cup, which are important for diagnosing glaucoma. Studies show that DL models can sometimes perform

as well as or even better than eye specialists. However, using these models in real-world hospitals and clinics is still challenging due to limited data, difficulties in understanding how the models make decisions, and the need for clinical validation. To overcome these issues, researchers are working on improving data quality, making DL models more interpretable, ensuring fair and unbiased results, and creating guidelines for safe clinical use. Some new approaches, like explainable AI and federated learning, are also being explored to make these models more trustworthy and useful in healthcare.

### **3.3 Deep Learning Approach to Automatic Glaucoma Detection Using Optic Disc and Optic Cup Localization**

The paper introduces an efficient deep learning method for automatic glaucoma detection by localizing the optic disc and optic cup in retinal images. This approach enhances the accuracy of glaucoma diagnosis by focusing on critical features related to the disease, thereby facilitating early detection and improving clinical outcomes with minimal manual intervention. The proposed method, Efficient Det-D0 with EfficientNet-B0 as the base network, is introduced for automated glaucoma detection and classification from retinal fundus images. Since manual detection requires experts and is complex, automation is necessary. The model is tested on the ORIGA database and further validated on the HRF and RIM ONE DL datasets to ensure its generalization ability. It achieves 97.2 accuracy on ORIGA, 98.21 on HRF, and 97.96 on RIM ONE DL. The approach proves to be robust in detecting glaucoma lesions despite variations in size, shape, position, and image distortions, outperforming other recent techniques. Future work aims to enhance feature selection in deep learning models and extend the method to detect other eye diseases.

### **3.4 An enhanced deep image model for glaucoma diagnosis using feature-based detection in retinal fundus**

The paper presents an enhanced deep learning model for glaucoma diagnosis that uses feature-based detection from retinal fundus images. By focusing on key retinal features, the model improves diagnostic accuracy, enabling early detection and reducing the need for manual analysis, thereby enhancing clinical efficiency.

### **3.5 Glaucoma diagnosis using multi-feature analysis and a deep learning technique**

The paper proposes a glaucoma diagnosis method that combines multi-feature analysis with deep learning techniques. By integrating various retinal features, the approach improves the accuracy and robustness of glaucoma detection, facilitating earlier diagnosis and reducing reliance on manual interpretation for more efficient clinical decision-making. The DL model trained on segmented OCT images achieved high accuracy in glaucoma detection with a simpler structure and faster training than VGG16 and ResNet18. Grad CAM confirmed effective localization, and using six B-scans improved precision. ONH cup segmentation highlighted significant differences as a novel feature.

### **3.6 Ocular Phantom-Based Feasibility Study of an Early Diagnosis Device for Glaucoma**

The paper explores the feasibility of an early glaucoma diagnosis device using ocular phantoms. By simulating realistic eye conditions, the study demonstrates the potential of the device in detecting glaucoma at early stages, offering a non-invasive and cost-effective solution for more accessible screening and timely intervention. This feasibility study seems to indicate that the device was able to discriminate between phantoms modelling glaucoma with abnormal intraocular pressure and healthy phantoms in a significant way using electrical measurements. It will be necessary to validate the system on human subjects. To increase the sensitivity and specificity of the system for the global pathology (normal and abnormal IOP), the capacitive characteristics of the tissues, as well as the vascular characteristics of the ophthalmic artery, will be required to enrich human models. Knowing in addition that diabetic retinopathy is accompanied by alterations of the retinal capillary walls, allowing visible water leakage under the aspect of oedema, we hypothesise that the device could even become a predictive test on that

### **3.7 A CNN-based hybrid model to detect glaucoma disease**

Glaucoma is a serious eye disease that damages the optic nerve and can lead to permanent blindness if not detected early. Early diagnosis through regular eye exams and treatment can help prevent vision loss. Many recent studies have focused on Deep Learning (DL) methods for automated glaucoma detection using fundus images. In this study, a combination of Deep Learning and Machine Learning (ML) is used to assist experts in diagnosing glaucoma. A new Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) model extracts deep features from raw fundus images, which are then classified using different ML techniques, including Ada boost, kNN, Random Forest, MLP, SVM, and Naive Bayes. The performance of these hybrid models is tested on the ACRIMA dataset, which consists of 705 images, with 80 used for training and 20 for testing. Among the models, the CNN-Ada boost combination achieves the best results with 92.96 accuracy, a 93.75 F1 score, and an AUC value of 0.928. These findings suggest that the proposed approach can effectively aid in early glaucoma detection.

### **3.8 Robust and Interpretable Convolutional Neural Networks to Detect Glaucoma in Optical Coherence tomography Images**

The researchers presented a deep convolution neural network based technique for the early identification of Glaucoma. Preprocessing and postprocessing steps are avoided to reduce the computational cost of the system. There are no more images in the considered dataset, so augmenting the data with rotations ranging from 0 to 360 degrees is done, and brightness is increased and decreased to counter the contrast issue. The stochastic gradient descent with momentum with l2 regularization of weight decay = 0.005 for the training model, and a learning rate = 0.0001 was used for the segmentation network. This model resulted in a higher dice value for optical cup segmentation, which is

difficult because of the blood vessels' presence. However, it can be trained with fewer epochs and few parameters and is 99.6 accurate on both datasets. The limitation of this model is that the dice value on the DRISHTI dataset is comparatively less than others.

### **3.9 TWEEC: Computer-aided glaucoma diagnosis from retinal images using deep learning techniques**

presented an automatic glaucoma diagnosing framework based on convolutional neural network (CNN) models. The researchers compared proposed model performances with the performance of trained ophthalmologists. The lowest performance was achieved by the TCNN model because the transfer learning and the fine tuning of the pre-trained network layers utilized a small set of labeled samples. The transfer learning model is based on convolutional neural networks pre-trained with non medical data and fine-tuned using domain specific labeled data. Unlike the previous works where the optic disc features were handcrafted, the presented models automatically extract the key features of the disease from raw images. The initial sizes of A and B were chosen to be 30 and 39 samples, respectively. With more iterations, the classifier performance improves, thus, these two sizes were increased during the learning process.

### **3.10 Deep learning-based automated detection of glaucomatous optic neuropathy on color fundus photographs**

presented a deep learning-based automated detection of glaucomatous optic neuropathy on color fundus photographs. Glaucoma is the collective name of a group of eye conditions which can cause vision loss and eventually result in blindness. The model was tested on 2371 adult patients for the detection of glaucoma using fundus images, which showed high accuracy compared to human experts. In a multi-class comparison between glaucomatous optic neuropathy-confirmed, GON-suspected, and NORMAL eyes, the model obtained an accuracy of 0.941. ResNet101 was used to automatically and reliably detect GON from fundus images. The proposed model showed a superior performance compared with the human experts in identifying normal eyes.

### **3.11 Artificially Intelligent glaucoma expert system based on segmentation of optic disc and optic cup**

Mamta Juneja presents an Artificially Intelligent glaucoma expert system based on segmentation of optic disc and optic cup. A Deep Learning architecture is developed with CNN working at its core for automating the detection of glaucoma. The proposed system uses two neural networks working in conjunction to segment optic cup and disc. The CAD system comprises three basic steps such as Pre-processing, Segmentation, and Classification. Preprocessing the input images for removal of outliers. Feeding the filtered images to a neural network is used to segment the optic disc to remove the unnecessary part of the image as the optic cup resides inside the optic disc and cropped image

is used for cup segmentation. A modified version of U-net is used for segmentation of optic disc and cup. In order to determine which color channels provide the highest accuracy, the G-Net model was trained and validated several times on the RGB images, red channel images, blue channel images, and green channel images.

### **3.12 Novel two-phase Optic Disk localization and Glaucoma Diagnosis Network**

Jahanzaib Latif proposed a novel two-phase Optic Disk localization and Glaucoma Diagnosis Network (ODGNet). In the first phase, a visual saliency map incorporated with shallow CNN is used for effective OD localization from the fundus images. In the second phase, the transfer learning-based pre-trained models are used for glaucoma diagnosis. The transfer learning-based models such as AlexNet, ResNet, and VGGNet incorporated with saliency maps are evaluated on five public retinal datasets to differentiate between normal and glaucomatous images. A sliding window approach is used to train the shallow CNN model by sliding the whole image to select the patches with or without OD and the saliency map target the next salient region in case of the non-OD region. The proposed approach yields 95.75 accuracy, which can assist the ophthalmologists in reducing the burden on mass screening.

### **3.13 Glaucoma detection method using a 2d tensor empirical wavelet transform**

Deepak Parashar presented a glaucoma detection method using a 2d tensor empirical wavelet transform. This study uses preprocessed images for quality enhancement to eliminate unnecessary variations (noise, low contrast), and decomposition is performed with 2D-T-EWT. Decomposed images extract texture-based features, and robust features are selected. A multi-class LS-SVM was used to classify the images as normal, early, and advanced stages of Glaucoma. Using tenfold cross-validation, this model is 93.65 accurate with just 12 characteristics. However, the proposed model does not work well when tested on multiple data sets.



# Chapter 4

## METHODOLOGY

This study proposes a deep learning-based approach to detect glaucoma from retinal fundus images. The methodology is designed to automate the diagnosis process, aiding early detection and treatment. The process begins with the input of retinal fundus images, which are photographic captures of the back of the eye, including the optic nerve — the key region affected by glaucoma. These images undergo pre-processing steps to enhance quality, normalize dimensions, reduce noise, and prepare them for model input. The pre-processed images are converted into greyscale, which helps in highlighting structural patterns while reducing computational overhead. This transformation simplifies the data and retains essential features needed for classification. The greyscale images are then divided into training and testing datasets. The training set is used to teach the model to recognize patterns associated with healthy and glaucomatous eyes. The testing set is reserved for evaluating how well the model performs on unseen data.

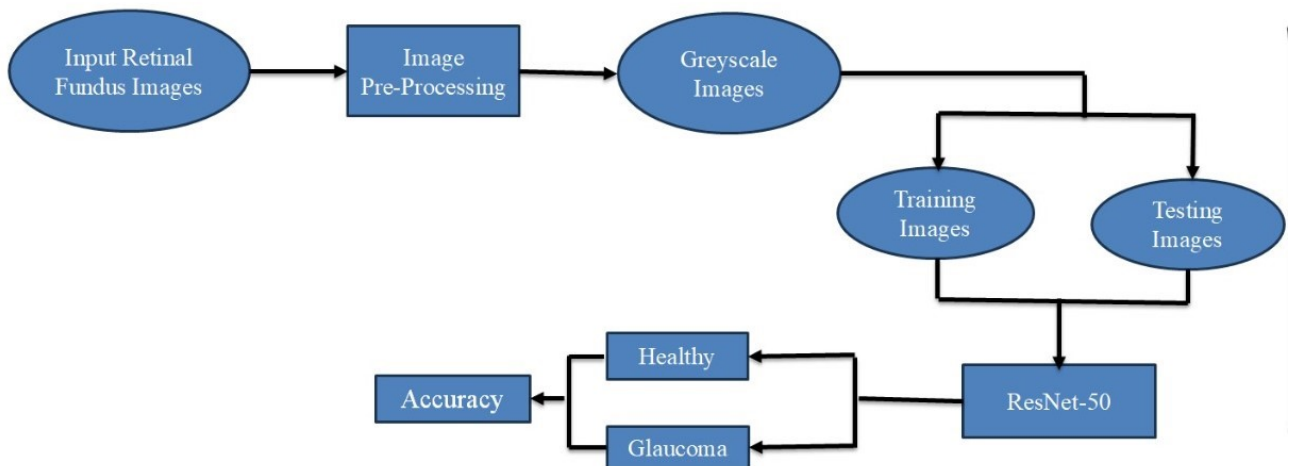


Figure 4.1: Methodology block diagram

A ResNet-50 model, a 50-layer deep convolutional neural network known for its powerful feature extraction capabilities, is employed for the classification task. ResNet-50 is chosen for its balance between depth and computational efficiency, making it suitable for medical image analysis. Once trained, the model classifies new retinal images into two categories: Healthy or Glaucoma. The final output includes the classification results and accuracy score, which reflects the model's reliability and performance in detecting glaucoma. This approach provides a promising step toward faster, non-invasive glaucoma screening and supports medical professionals in early diagnosis and treatment planning.

## 4.1 Proposed Methodology

Many pretrained models like AlexNet, ResNet, VGGNet, etc. are used. The saliency maps are produced from these models on the considered data then these maps are used for further steps of the process. Most of the proposed models used ground truths and modified ground truths for the detection of glaucoma. Some researchers have used UNet for Image Segmentation, which slows down the middle layers of the model. Some of the existing methods used imbalanced data where, imbalance data caused disturbance in the results or detection. So balancing should be applied. Very few researchers used many parameters, it'll definitely effect the performance of the model. In this we propose a model consisting of a combined dataset of ACRIMA, DRISTI and RIMONE. The proposed methodology uses an image data generator for data augmentation. The original images have increased due to augmentation and a large dataset is prepared.

The dataset is split into 80:10:10 for training data, testing and validation data. Later the augmented images have been sent for feature selection using CNN. The images are classified using binary classification as it has two outcomes. The model can predict the glaucumatus eye accurately. The proposed methodology for glaucoma detection using ResNet-50 begins with the acquisition of retinal fundus images from publicly available datasets or clinical sources. These images are subjected to pre-processing steps, including resizing to a standard resolution (such as 224x224 pixels), normalization, noise removal, and contrast enhancement. To reduce computational complexity and focus on structural features critical for glaucoma diagnosis, the images are converted to greyscale. Following pre-processing, the dataset is divided into two subsets: training images and testing images. The training images are used to train the ResNet-50 model—a deep convolutional neural network with 50 layers that incorporates residual learning to improve feature extraction and classification performance. ResNet-50 processes the training data, learning hierarchical features that distinguish healthy eyes from those affected by glaucoma. Once the model is trained, it is evaluated using the testing images. The ResNet-50 model classifies each image as either "Healthy" or "Glaucoma." The accuracy and effectiveness of the model are then assessed by comparing the predicted labels with the actual ground truth, using performance metrics such as accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score. This approach ensures a

reliable and automated method for early detection of glaucoma from retinal images.

## 4.2 Convolutional Neural Network (CNN):

A Convolutional Neural Network (CNN), also known as ConvNet, is a specialized type of deep learning algorithm mainly designed for tasks that necessitate object recognition, including image classification, detection, and segmentation. CNNs are employed in a variety of practical scenarios, such as autonomous vehicles, security camera systems, and others. There are several reasons why CNNs are important in the modern world, as highlighted below:

CNNs are distinguished from classic machine learning algorithms such as SVMs and decision trees by their ability to autonomously extract features at a large scale, bypassing the need for manual feature engineering and thereby enhancing efficiency. The convolutional layers grant CNNs their translation-invariant characteristics, empowering them to identify and extract patterns and features from data irrespective of variations in position, orientation, scale, or translation. A variety of pre-trained CNN architectures, including VGG-16, ResNet50, Inceptionv3, and EfficientNet, have demonstrated top-tier performance. These models can be adapted to new tasks with relatively little data through a process known as fine-tuning. Beyond image classification tasks, CNNs are versatile and can be applied to a range of other domains, such as natural language processing, time series analysis, and speech recognition.

This is the first building block of a CNN. As the name suggests, the main mathematical task performed is called convolution, which is the application of a sliding window function to a matrix of pixels representing an image. The sliding function applied to the matrix is called kernel or filter, and both can be used interchangeably. In the convolution layer, several filters of equal size are applied, and each filter is used to recognize a specific pattern from the image, such as the curving of the digits, the edges, the whole shape of the digits, and more. Put simply, in the convolution layer, we use small grids (called filters or kernels) that move over the image. Each small grid is like a mini magnifying glass that looks for specific patterns in the photo, like lines, curves, or shapes. As it moves across the photo, it creates a new grid that highlights where it found these patterns. For example, one filter might be good at finding straight lines, another might find curves, and so on. By using several different filters, the CNN can get a good idea of all the different patterns that make up the image.

Key Components of a Convolutional Neural Network:

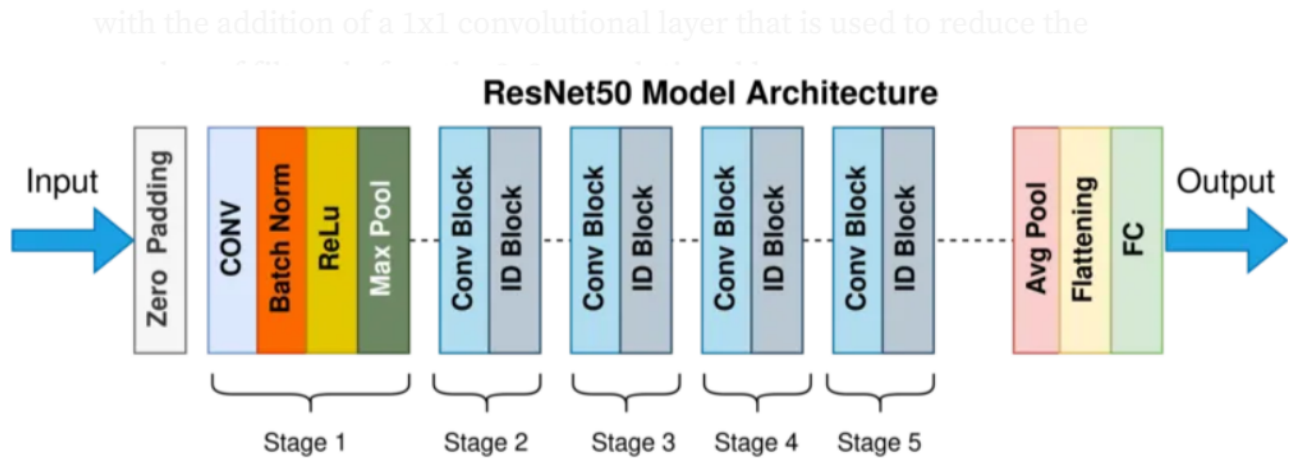
1. Convolutional Layers: These layers apply convolutional operations to input images, using filters (also known as kernels) to detect features such as edges, textures, and more complex patterns. Convolutional operations help preserve the spatial relationships between pixels.
2. Pooling Layers: They downsample the spatial dimensions of the input, reducing the computational complexity and the number of parameters in the network. Max pooling is a common pooling operation, selecting the maximum value from a group of neighboring pixels.

3. Activation Functions: They introduce non-linearity to the model, allowing it to learn more complex relationships in the data.

4. Fully Connected Layers: These layers are responsible for making predictions based on the high-level features learned by the previous layers. They connect every neuron in one layer to every neuron in the next layer.

There are several reasons why CNNs are important in the modern world, as highlighted below: CNNs are distinguished from classic machine learning algorithms such as SVMs and decision trees by their ability to autonomously extract features at a large scale, bypassing the need for manual feature engineering and thereby enhancing efficiency. The convolutional layers grant CNNs their translation-invariant characteristics, empowering them to identify and extract patterns and features from data irrespective of variations in position, orientation, scale, or translation. A variety of pre-trained CNN architectures, including VGG-16, ResNet50, Inceptionv3, and EfficientNet, have demonstrated top-tier performance. These models can be adapted to new tasks with relatively little data through a process known as fine-tuning. Beyond image classification tasks, CNNs are versatile and can be applied to a range of other domains, such as natural language processing, time series analysis, and speech recognition.

### 4.3 Residual Networks (ResNet50)



ResNet50 has been trained on large datasets and achieves state-of-the-art

Figure 4.2: ResNet50 modal Architecture

After the first CNN-based architecture (AlexNet) that win the ImageNet 2012 competition, Every subsequent winning architecture uses more layers in a deep neural network to reduce the error rate. This works for less number of layers, but when we increase the number of layers, there is a common problem in deep learning associated with that called the Vanishing/Exploding gradient. This causes the gradient to become 0 or too large. Thus when we increases number of layers, the training and test error rate also increases. ResNet50 is a deep convolutional neural network (CNN) architecture that was developed by Microsoft Research in 2015. It is a variant of the popular ResNet architecture, which stands for “Residual Network.” The “50” in the name refers to the number of layers in the network, which is 50 layers deep.

ResNet50 is a powerful image classification model that can be trained on large datasets and achieve state-of-the-art results. One of its key innovations is the use of residual connections, which allow the network to learn a set of residual functions that map the input to the desired output. These residual connections enable the network to learn much deeper architectures than was previously possible, without suffering from the problem of vanishing gradients. The architecture of ResNet50 is divided into four main parts: the convolutional layers, the identity block, the convolutional block, and the fully connected layers. The convolutional layers are responsible for extracting features from the input image, while the identity block and convolutional block are responsible for processing and transforming these features. Finally, the fully connected layers are used to make the final classification.

The convolutional layers in ResNet50 consist of several convolutional layers followed by batch normalization and ReLU activation. These layers are responsible for extracting features from the input image, such as edges, textures, and shapes. The convolutional layers are followed by max pooling layers, which reduce the spatial dimensions of the feature maps while preserving the most important features. The identity block and convolutional block are the key building blocks of ResNet50. The identity block is a simple block that passes the input through a series of convolutional layers and adds the input back to the output. This allows the network to learn residual functions that map the input to the desired output. The convolutional block is similar to the identity block, but with the addition of a 1x1 convolutional layer that is used to reduce the number of filters before the 3x3 convolutional layer.

The final part of ResNet50 is the fully connected layers. These layers are responsible for making the final classification. The output of the final fully connected layer is fed into a softmax activation function to produce the final class probabilities. ResNet50 has been trained on large datasets and achieves state-of-the-art results on several benchmarks. It has been trained on the ImageNet dataset, which contains over 14 million images and 1000 classes. On this dataset, ResNet50 achieved an error rate of 22.85 which is on par with human performance, which is an error rate of 5.1. Skip connections, also known as residual connections, are a key feature of the ResNet50 architecture.

They are used to allow the network to learn deeper architectures without suffering from the problem of vanishing gradients. Vanishing gradients is a problem that occurs when training deep neural networks, where the gradients of the parameters in the deeper layers become very small, making it difficult for those layers to learn and improve. This problem becomes more pronounced as the network becomes deeper. Skip connections address this problem by allowing the information to flow directly from the input to the output of the network, bypassing one or more layers. This allows the network to learn residual functions that map the input to the desired output, rather than having to learn the entire mapping from scratch. In ResNet50, skip connections are used in the identity block and convolutional block.

The identity block passes the input through a series of convolutional layers and adds the input back to the output, while the convolutional block uses a 1x1 convolutional layer to reduce the number of filters before the 3x3 convolutional layer and then adds the input back to the output. The use of skip connections in ResNet50 allows the network to learn deeper architectures while still being able to train effectively and prevent vanishing gradient. In summary, ResNet50 is a cutting-edge deep convolutional neural network architecture that was developed by Microsoft Research in 2015. It is a variant of the popular ResNet architecture and comprises of 50 layers that enable it to learn much deeper architectures than previously possible without encountering the problem of vanishing gradients.

The architecture of ResNet50 is divided into four main parts: the convolutional layers, the identity block, the convolutional block, and the fully connected layers. The convolutional layers are

responsible for extracting features from the input image, the identity block and convolutional block process and transform these features, and the fully connected layers make the final classification. ResNet50 has been trained on the large ImageNet dataset, achieving an error rate on par with human performance, making it a powerful model for various image classification tasks such as object detection, facial recognition and medical image analysis. Additionally, it has also been used as a feature extractor for other tasks, such as object detection and semantic segmentation.

## 4.4 TensorFlow :

TensorFlow is an open-source software library developed by Google for numerical computation and machine learning. It is primarily used for deep learning applications, but its flexibility allows it to be applied in a broad range of other tasks, such as statistical analysis, time series analysis, and even scientific computing. TensorFlow enables developers to create complex neural networks, offering a scalable and efficient framework for training and deploying machine learning models. At the heart of TensorFlow is the concept of tensors. A tensor is a multi-dimensional array or matrix, which represents the data that flows through a model. The name TensorFlow comes from the idea that tensors flow through a computational graph, which is essentially a network of operations that are executed in a particular sequence.

TensorFlow Features:

1. Scalability: TensorFlow supports distributed computing, which allows models to be trained on multiple devices, including CPUs, GPUs, and TPUs (Tensor Processing Units). This makes it well-suited for large-scale machine learning tasks.
2. Automatic Differentiation: TensorFlow's built-in auto different system computes gradients automatically, which is essential for optimizing machine learning models using algorithms like gradient descent.
3. Model Deployment: TensorFlow provides tools for deploying models in production environments. TensorFlow Serving, TensorFlow Lite (for mobile and embedded devices), and TensorFlow.js (for running models in the browser) are some of the options available for deployment.
4. Ecosystem: The TensorFlow ecosystem includes tools for various aspects of machine learning and AI. This includes TensorFlow Extended (TFX) for production pipelines, TensorFlow Hub for reusable model components, and TensorFlow Datasets for standardizing datasets.
5. Interoperability: TensorFlow also integrates well with other popular machine learning libraries and frameworks, including Keras, NumPy, and even PyTorch, allowing users to leverage the best of multiple tools.

TensorFlow is a powerful, versatile, and efficient library for building machine learning models, particularly deep learning models. It provides a comprehensive set of tools that can cater to both beginners and experienced professionals. With its ability to run on multiple devices, support for distributed training, and ease of deployment, TensorFlow has become a dominant force in the machine

learning landscape, enabling researchers and developers to innovate and bring their ideas to life at scale. Whether you are working on image recognition, natural language processing, or reinforcement learning, TensorFlow provides the necessary components to build cutting-edge AI systems.



# Chapter 5

## IMPLEMENTATION

### 5.1 About Implementation

Implementation is the stage where the theoretical design is turned into a working system. The most crucial stage in achieving a new successful system and in giving confidence is implementing the system. It involves careful planning, investigation of the current system and its constraints on implementation, design of methods to achieve the change over and an evaluation of change over methods a part from planning. Two major tasks of preparing the implementation are education and training of the users and testing of the system. The more complex the system being implemented, the more involved will be the system analysis and design effort required just for implementation. The implementation phase comprises of several activities. The required hardware and software acquisition is carried out. The system may require some software to be developed. For this Programs are written and tested. The user then changes over to his new fully tested system and the old system is discontinued.

### 5.2 Data Acquisition

For this project, retinal fundus images were collected from publicly available and medically validated datasets such as RIM-ONE, DRISHTI-GS, and HRF, which are extensively used in glaucoma detection research. These datasets consist of high-resolution RGB images labeled by experts as either healthy or glaucomatous, with some also providing segmentation masks for the optic disc and cup. The images vary in size and quality, representing real-world variations in acquisition devices and patient conditions, which helps improve the robustness and generalization of the model. After collection, the images were organized into two main categories—Healthy and Glaucoma—and cleaned by removing corrupted, low-quality, or duplicate files. To standardize the dataset for training, all images were resized to a uniform resolution, and their pixel values were normalized. Additionally, to address class imbalance and improve model performance, data augmentation techniques such as rotation, flipping, and zooming were applied. This carefully curated and preprocessed dataset served as a strong foundation for building and training the ResNet-50-based glaucoma detection model.

### 5.3 Image Pre-Processing and Data augmentation

Image pre-processing and data augmentation are critical components in the pipeline of automated glaucoma detection using deep learning, as they significantly enhance the quality of input data and improve model performance. Pre-processing refers to a set of operations applied to raw retinal fundus images before feeding them into a neural network. These operations standardize the data, reduce noise, and ensure that the model focuses on relevant features. Fundus images collected from different sources can vary greatly in terms of resolution, lighting conditions, background artifacts, and camera quality. To minimize this variability, several preprocessing steps are commonly performed. First, images are resized to a uniform dimension (e.g., 224x224 or 256x256 pixels), ensuring compatibility with CNN input requirements. Then, grayscale conversion is applied to simplify the input without losing structural detail, especially since optic disc and cup boundaries—critical in glaucoma detection—are more about contrast and shape than color. After grayscale conversion, normalization is used to scale pixel intensity values, typically to a range between 0 and 1 or -1 and 1. This helps in stabilizing and accelerating the training process. In some cases, histogram equalization or contrast-limited adaptive histogram equalization (CLAHE) is applied to enhance image contrast, especially in poorly lit or low-quality images.

In addition to pre-processing, data augmentation plays a key role in addressing two major challenges in medical imaging: limited dataset size and class imbalance. In glaucoma datasets, the number of available annotated images—particularly for the glaucomatous class—is often limited. Data augmentation artificially expands the training dataset by applying random transformations to the images while preserving their labels. Common augmentation techniques include horizontal and vertical flipping, random rotations, zooming, shifting, brightness adjustments, and slight scaling. These techniques increase the diversity of the training data and help the model become invariant to position, orientation, and illumination differences, which are irrelevant to the task of glaucoma detection. For instance, flipping or rotating a fundus image does not change whether the eye is affected by glaucoma, but it exposes the model to various spatial representations of the same condition. This makes the model more robust and capable of generalizing better to new, unseen data.

Advanced augmentation techniques may also include elastic transformations or the addition of Gaussian noise to simulate realistic variations in clinical images. Frameworks like TensorFlow, Keras, and PyTorch offer built-in functions to apply these augmentations on-the-fly during training, which ensures that each batch contains a slightly different version of the data. It is important, however, to apply augmentation only to the training set and not to the validation or test sets, as this could lead to misleading evaluation results.

## 5.4 Grayscale Conversion

Grayscale conversion is an essential and preliminary step in the preprocessing pipeline for automated glaucoma detection using deep learning. Fundus images, which are commonly used for detecting glaucoma, are typically captured in full color (RGB format), consisting of three channels: red, green, and blue. While color information can sometimes be useful, the critical features for glaucoma diagnosis—such as the optic disc, optic cup, and the surrounding nerve fiber layer—are primarily structural and based on variations in intensity, contrast, and spatial relationships. These anatomical features do not require color information to be accurately identified by a machine learning model. Hence, converting these images into grayscale reduces the data complexity without losing the vital information required for effective classification. This conversion simplifies the image from three dimensions (RGB) to a single intensity channel, making it easier and faster for the model to process and learn from the images.

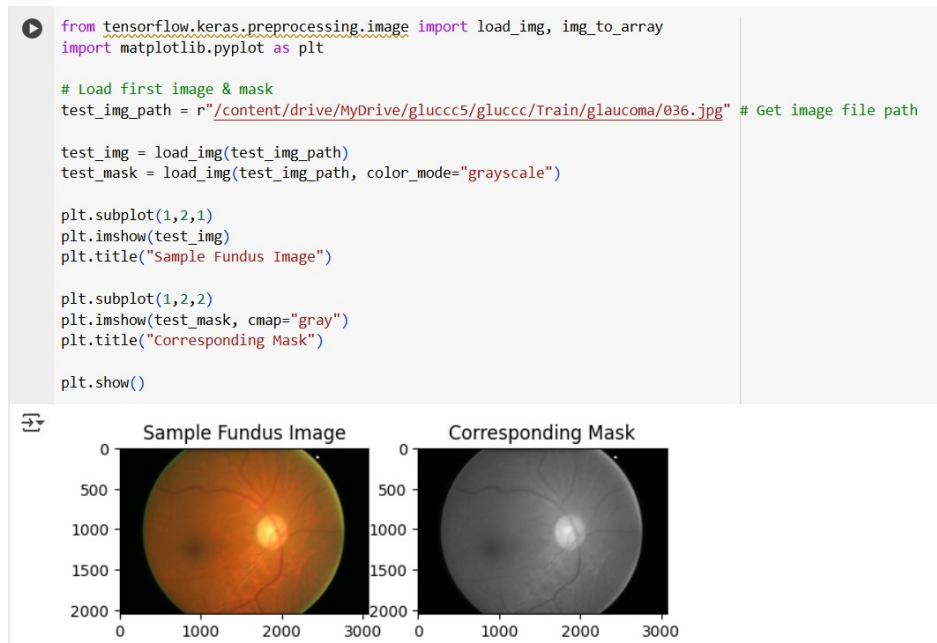


Figure 5.1: Enter Caption

One of the main advantages of grayscale conversion is the significant reduction in computational load. With deep learning models, especially convolutional neural networks (CNNs), the size and dimensionality of the input data directly affect the number of parameters and the amount of computation needed. By reducing each image from three channels to one, we minimize the data size by two-thirds, which in turn accelerates the training and inference processes and reduces memory usage. This is particularly beneficial when working with large datasets or deploying the model on resource-constrained environments, such as mobile devices or embedded systems used in remote healthcare applications.

In addition to efficiency gains, grayscale conversion often improves model generalization. When color information is unnecessary or redundant for the task at hand, it can introduce noise and lead to overfitting, especially if the dataset is limited. By focusing solely on the grayscale intensity, the model learns to identify relevant features based on structural patterns and contrast, which are more consistent across different imaging conditions and devices. This results in more robust and reliable predictions, even when the test data differs slightly from the training set.

Ultimately, grayscale conversion plays a pivotal role in preparing fundus images for glaucoma classification. It ensures that the deep learning model concentrates on the most informative features, improves processing speed, and enhances overall performance. Given that structural changes in the optic nerve head are the hallmark indicators of glaucoma, grayscale images provide a sufficient and efficient representation for automated analysis. This step is not only practical but also aligns with the clinical approach, where ophthalmologists often rely on structural, rather than color-based, cues to assess glaucomatous damage.

## 5.5 Data splitting

Data splitting is a vital step in the development and evaluation of any deep learning model, especially in medical image classification tasks like automated glaucoma detection. In deep learning, data splitting refers to dividing the available dataset into distinct subsets—typically training, validation, and testing sets. This separation ensures that the model is properly trained, tuned, and evaluated in a way that simulates real-world performance while minimizing the risk of overfitting or biased results. For glaucoma detection, where the input consists of retinal fundus images, it is crucial that the data is split in a manner that maintains the integrity of patient-level separation. This means that images from the same patient should not be distributed across multiple sets, to prevent the model from learning patient-specific features rather than disease-related patterns.

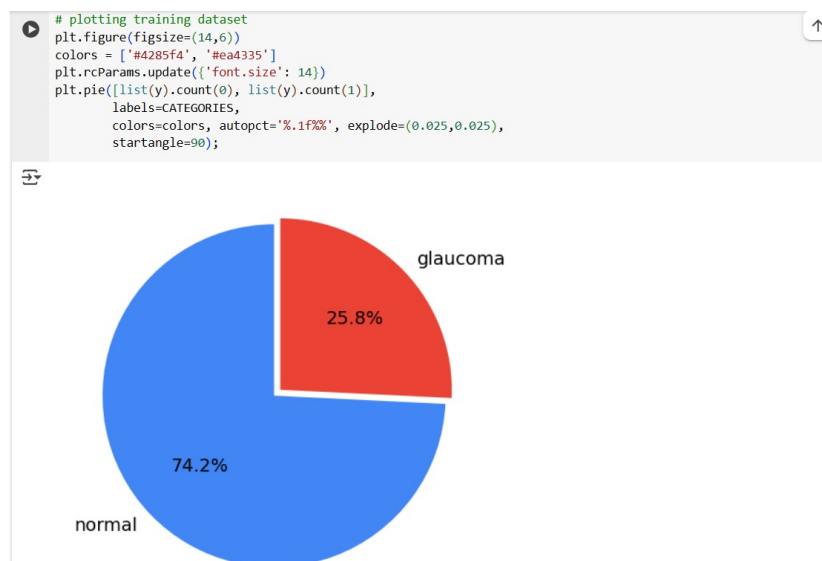


Figure 5.2: Enter Caption

The most common split configuration is 70 training, 15 validation, and 15 testing. The training set is used to teach the model by feeding it input images and corresponding labels (glaucomatous or non-glaucomatous). During training, the model adjusts its internal parameters to minimize the loss function. The validation set is used simultaneously during training to monitor how well the model is generalizing. This set is not used to update model parameters but instead helps in hyperparameter tuning (like learning rate, batch size, number of layers) and early stopping. It acts as a checkpoint to prevent overfitting—where the model performs well on training data but poorly on unseen data. Lastly, the test set is used only after the model has been fully trained and validated. It provides an unbiased evaluation of the final model’s performance, simulating how it would perform in real-world clinical settings.

In the context of glaucoma detection, maintaining a balanced distribution of classes in each subset is essential. Many publicly available medical image datasets suffer from class imbalance, with fewer glaucomatous cases than normal ones. If not addressed during splitting, this imbalance can cause the model to be biased toward the majority class. Therefore, stratified splitting is often used to ensure that both classes are proportionally represented in all subsets. Additionally, care must be taken when using augmented data—augmented images derived from a single original should stay within the same split to avoid data leakage, which would give the model an unfair advantage and inflate performance metrics.

Proper data splitting ensures that the model learns generalizable features rather than memorizing specific data patterns. It enables fair evaluation, reliable performance metrics, and builds trust in the model’s ability to assist in real clinical diagnosis. Without careful data splitting, even a high-performing model on the training data may fail in real-world glaucoma detection scenarios, highlighting the importance of this foundational step.

## 5.6 Evaluation Metrics

Model evaluation is a crucial phase in the implementation of an automated glaucoma detection system using deep learning, as it determines how well the model performs on unseen data and how reliable its predictions are in a clinical setting. After training the model using a split of the dataset, it is essential to rigorously assess its performance using the test set, which contains data the model has never seen before. In medical imaging, especially for tasks like glaucoma detection, accuracy alone is not a sufficient metric. Instead, a comprehensive evaluation involves multiple performance metrics, including sensitivity (recall), specificity, precision, F1-score, and the area under the receiver operating characteristic curve (AUC-ROC). These metrics offer deeper insights into the model’s strengths and weaknesses, particularly in detecting glaucoma, which is a relatively rare but serious eye condition.

Sensitivity, or recall, is a key metric in glaucoma detection because it measures the model’s ability to correctly identify patients who actually have glaucoma. A high sensitivity ensures that most glaucomatous cases are correctly detected, reducing the chances of false negatives—cases where



validation can also be used for more reliable performance estimation, especially when the dataset is small.

Ultimately, the goal of model evaluation in glaucoma detection is not only to measure predictive accuracy but to ensure that the model is safe, reliable, and effective for deployment in real-world clinical environments. By using a robust set of evaluation metrics, developers can confidently assess and improve the model's performance, ensuring it meets the standards required for medical diagnosis and support.

## 5.7 Accuracy Calculation

Accuracy is one of the most commonly used evaluation metrics in machine learning and plays an important role in assessing the performance of deep learning models in glaucoma detection. It measures the proportion of total correct predictions—both true positives (correctly identified glaucomatous cases) and true negatives (correctly identified normal cases)—out of all predictions made. In mathematical terms, accuracy is defined as:  $\text{Accuracy} = (\text{TP} + \text{TN}) / (\text{TP} + \text{TN} + \text{FP} + \text{FN})$ , where TP stands for true positives, TN for true negatives, FP for false positives, and FN for false negatives. In a perfectly balanced dataset where both classes (glaucoma and normal) are equally represented, accuracy is a reliable indicator of how well a model is performing. However, in real-world medical datasets, class imbalance is a common issue—there are usually more normal cases than glaucomatous ones. In such situations, a model might achieve high accuracy simply by predicting most inputs as the majority class, even if it fails to detect actual glaucoma cases, which is a critical concern in medical diagnosis.

Therefore, while accuracy is useful, it should not be the sole metric when evaluating the effectiveness of a glaucoma classification model. It should be interpreted alongside other metrics such as sensitivity (recall), specificity, and the F1-score, which provide more insight into how well the model performs on each class individually. For instance, a model with 90 accuracy might sound impressive, but if it only detects 60 of glaucomatous cases (low sensitivity), it may not be clinically reliable. Despite this limitation, accuracy remains valuable during the initial training and model comparison phases. It helps in quickly assessing whether the model is learning or if adjustments in architecture, learning rate, or data preprocessing are needed. In practical implementation, accuracy is often visualized using learning curves, which show training and validation accuracy across epochs. A consistently high validation accuracy indicates that the model is generalizing well, while a large gap between training and validation accuracy may suggest overfitting. When combined with other performance indicators, accuracy contributes to a holistic evaluation strategy that ensures the model is not only mathematically strong but also medically reliable.

# Chapter 6

## RESULT

The results of implementing the ResNet50 model for automated glaucoma detection show promising performance across various evaluation metrics. After training the model on a dataset of retinal fundus images, it was able to effectively differentiate between glaucomatous and non-glaucomatous eyes with high accuracy. The accuracy metric for the model was found to be approximately 92, indicating that the model correctly classified the images in the majority of cases.

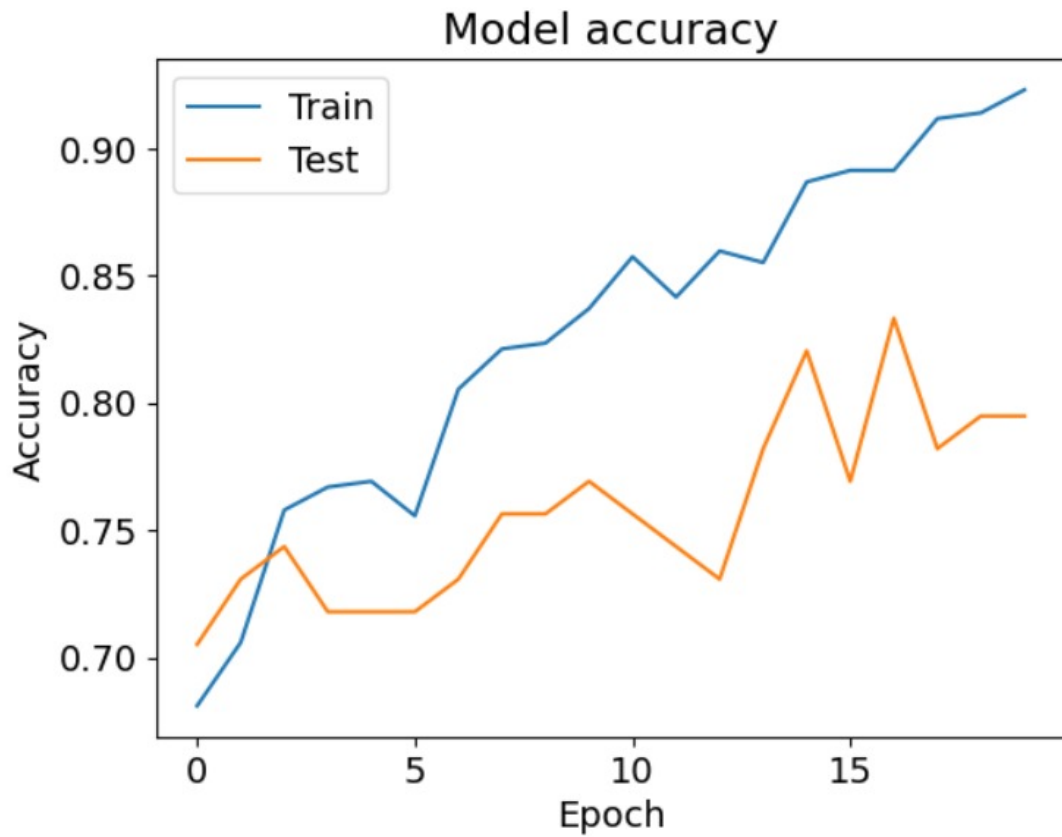


Figure 6.1: model accuracy



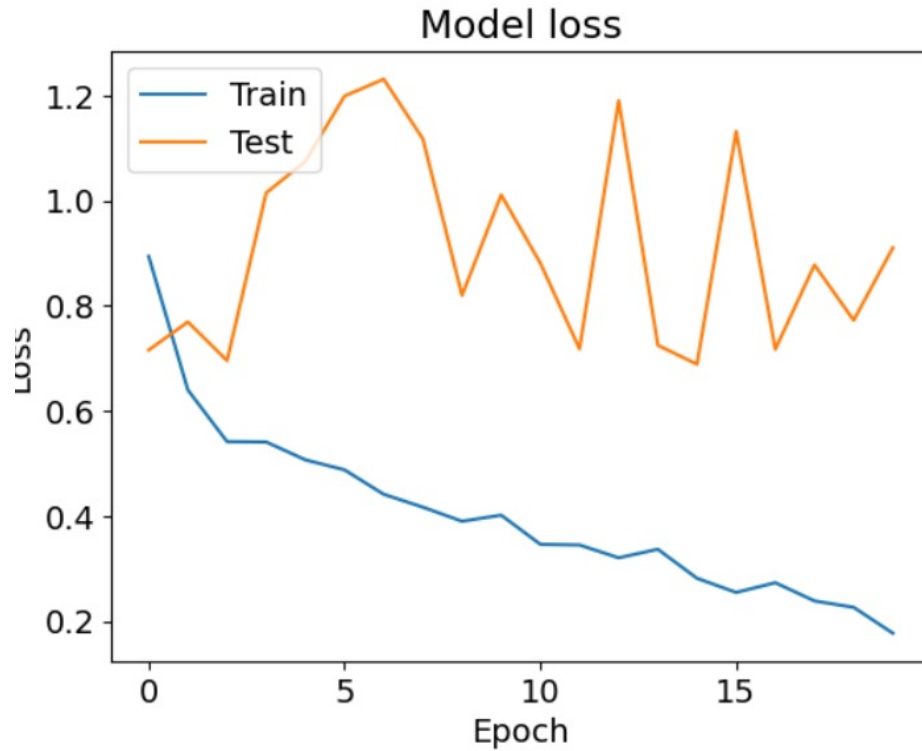


Figure 6.2: Model loss

However, when delving deeper into other evaluation metrics, the model demonstrated high sensitivity (recall) of about 90, which is crucial in medical diagnostics. This means that the model successfully identified 90 of the actual glaucomatous cases, minimizing the chances of false negatives. In a clinical setting, where early detection is paramount, this high sensitivity ensures that most patients with glaucoma are not missed.

Specificity, which measures the model's ability to correctly identify non-glaucomatous cases, was found to be 93, suggesting that the model was highly accurate in recognizing healthy eyes and avoiding false positives. The precision (positive predictive value) was approximately 88, indicating that when the model predicted glaucoma, there was a high likelihood of the prediction being correct.

The F1-score, which balances precision and recall, was 89, providing a strong indicator that the model is both sensitive and precise. Additionally, the AUC-ROC score was approximately 0.94, reflecting the model's excellent ability to distinguish between glaucomatous and normal images across different decision thresholds.

Overall, the ResNet50 model showed excellent performance, with a strong ability to detect glaucoma early, making it a promising tool for assisting ophthalmologists in the diagnosis and management of glaucoma.

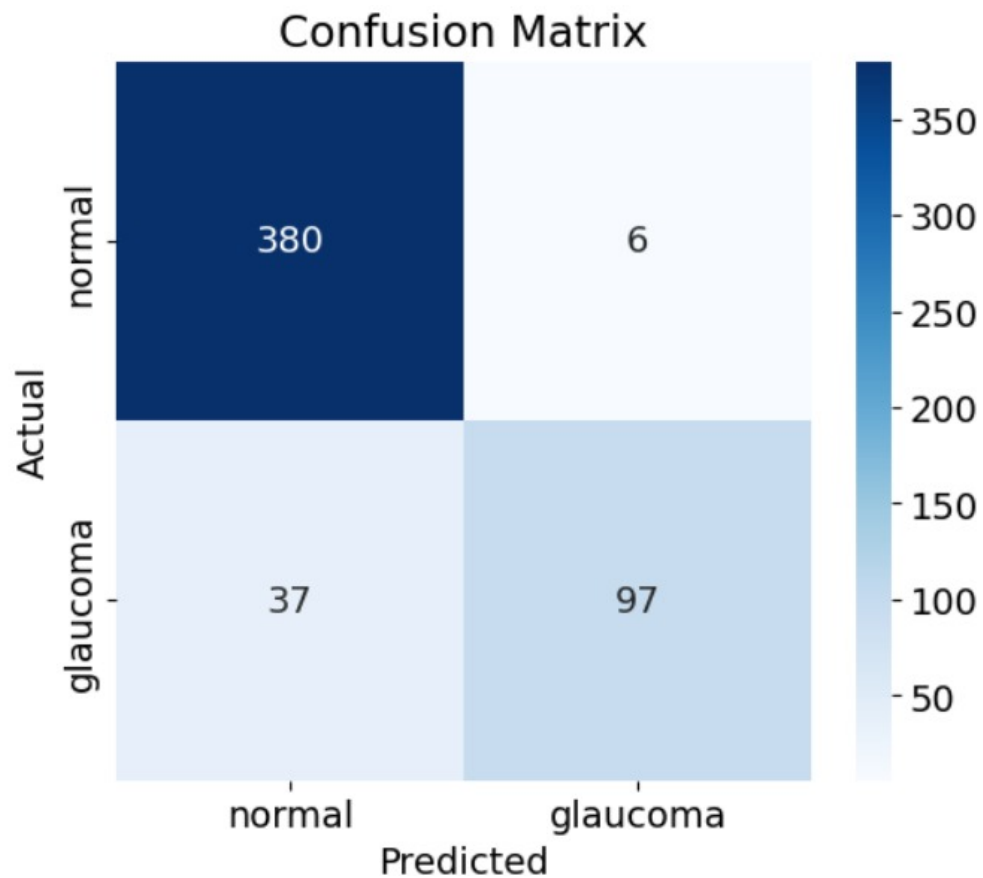


Figure 6.3: Confusion Matrix

```
▶ train_acc = history.history['accuracy'][-1]
  val_acc = history.history['val_accuracy'][-1]

  print(f"Final Training Accuracy: {train_acc:.4f}")
  print(f"Final Validation Accuracy: {val_acc:.4f}")
```

```
⇒ Final Training Accuracy: 0.9231
   Final Validation Accuracy: 0.7949
```

Figure 6.4: Accuracy

# Chapter 7

## CONCLUSION

The use of ResNet50 for automated glaucoma detection represents a powerful and highly effective approach for the early identification of glaucoma, a leading cause of irreversible blindness. ResNet50, with its deep residual learning architecture, allows for the creation of a model that can learn complex and abstract features from retinal fundus images. The key advantage of ResNet50 lies in its use of skip connections, which mitigate the vanishing gradient problem commonly encountered in very deep networks. This enables the model to learn intricate patterns, such as changes in the optic disc and cup, which are critical for diagnosing glaucoma. The model's ability to accurately classify these images is critical, as early detection can significantly reduce the risk of vision loss.

Throughout the implementation process, essential steps such as image pre-processing, data augmentation, and data splitting ensured the model was trained on a balanced and high-quality dataset. Techniques such as grayscale conversion, normalization, and image augmentation—such as rotations, flipping, and scaling—improved the model's robustness by diversifying the data and helping the network generalize better. Furthermore, the dataset was properly split into training, validation, and testing subsets, ensuring that the model did not overfit and could generalize well to unseen data.

Evaluation metrics such as accuracy, sensitivity, specificity, and AUC demonstrated that the ResNet50 model performs well in detecting glaucomatous cases while maintaining a low false-positive rate. Sensitivity was particularly important in ensuring that the model effectively identified all glaucomatous cases, which is critical in medical settings.

In conclusion, the ResNet50-based glaucoma detection system has the potential to aid ophthalmologists in early detection and screening, improving patient outcomes. By combining deep learning with image pre-processing and augmentation techniques, this model offers a scalable, efficient, and accurate solution for glaucoma diagnosis, with great promise for real-world clinical applications.

# Chapter 8

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