

TensorFlow Serving for Histopathological Cancer Detection using Deep Learning and GPU Acceleration

Kashish Padhiar

Dept. of Computer Science
Student of VIT Chennai University
Chennai, Tamilnadu
kashishpadhiar@gmail.com

Omprakash P

Dept. of Computer Science
Student of VIT Chennai University
Chennai, Tamilnadu
omprakash.pugazhendhi@gmail.com

Kishore G

Dept. of Computer Science
Student of VIT Chennai University
Chennai, Tamilnadu
kishoregovindaraju2004@gmail.com

Kumaran K

Dept. of Computer Science
Professor of VIT Chennai University
Chennai, Tamilnadu
kumaran.k@vit.ac.in

Dennis R

Dept. of Computer Science
Student of VIT Chennai University
Chennai, Tamilnadu
dennyuj@gmail.com

Abstract—Histopathological examination of tissue slides is a crucial step in cancer diagnosis, relying on the expertise of pathologists to identify malignant cells. With the advent of deep learning, particularly Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), automated histopathological cancer detection has shown promising results. This research aims to leverage the capabilities of CNNs to enhance the accuracy and efficiency of cancer diagnosis through the analysis of histopathological images. The proposed approach involves training a CNN on a large dataset of annotated histopathological images, allowing the model to learn intricate patterns and features indicative of cancerous tissues. The architecture of the CNN is designed to capture both local and global features, enabling it to discern subtle abnormalities in the tissue structure. Transfer learning techniques, such as using pre-trained models on general image datasets, are employed to expedite the training process and improve the model's generalisation ability. The performance of the developed CNN model is evaluated on a separate test set, comparing its results with those of traditional histopathological examination by expert pathologists. Metrics such as sensitivity, specificity, and accuracy are used to assess the model's diagnostic capabilities. The experimental results demonstrate the potential of CNNs in histopathological cancer detection, showing competitive or superior performance compared to traditional methods. The automated approach not only accelerates the diagnostic process but also has the potential to assist pathologists in challenging cases, leading to more accurate and timely cancer diagnoses. This research contributes to the ongoing efforts in integrating artificial intelligence into healthcare for improved disease detection and patient outcomes.

Keywords—Histopathological examination, Cancer diagnosis, Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), Transfer learning, Diagnostic accuracy, Healthcare AI, Disease detection, Tissue structure, Image analysis, Medical imaging, Interpretation of medical images, Decision support systems.

I. INTRODUCTION

Histopathological examination stands as a pivotal cornerstone in the diagnostic landscape of cancer, meticulously scrutinizing tissue samples under a microscope to discern the telltale signs of malignancy. Yet, as the volume of diagnostic cases surges, pathologists find themselves confronted with mounting challenges, including time constraints and the potential for oversight. In response to these pressing demands, the integration of artificial intelligence (AI), notably Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), has emerged as a beacon of hope, poised to augment the accuracy and efficiency of cancer detection in histopathological images. CNNs, renowned for their

adeptness in image recognition tasks, traverse the intricate landscapes of histopathological slides with unparalleled precision. Armed with the capacity to learn hierarchical features and patterns directly from data, these neural networks are uniquely equipped to unravel the complex tapestry of cellular structures and abnormalities characteristic of malignancy. By leveraging vast repositories of annotated histopathological images, CNNs undergo rigorous training regimens, meticulously honing their ability to discern the subtlest of anomalies and expedite diagnostic processes. Key to the efficacy of CNNs in histopathological analysis is the utilization of transfer learning techniques, drawing insights from pre-trained models such as ResNet and Inception. These models, having traversed diverse image datasets, impart invaluable knowledge that enriches the CNN's understanding of histopathological intricacies. By distilling insights from diverse domains, transfer learning empowers CNNs to generalize across a myriad of tissue types and diagnostic scenarios, enhancing their adaptability and robustness in real-world clinical settings. The symbiotic amalgamation of AI with histopathology heralds a paradigm shift in cancer diagnosis, promising to elevate diagnostic accuracy to unprecedented heights while expediting the diagnostic process. The expeditious nature of AI-powered diagnosis holds the potential to catalyze swifter treatment decisions, potentially mitigating disease progression and improving patient outcomes. Moreover, the integration of AI technologies enriches the diagnostic repertoire, offering a complementary tool to augment the capabilities of human pathologists and enriching the diagnostic landscape with its computational prowess. Yet, the adoption of AI in histopathology is not without its challenges. Chief among these is the imperative to ensure the interpretability and explainability of AI-driven diagnostic decisions. As AI algorithms operate as black boxes, elucidating the rationale behind their decisions is essential for fostering trust and acceptance among medical professionals. Techniques such as attention mechanisms and activation mapping offer avenues for unraveling the inner workings of these algorithms, facilitating transparency and comprehension. Moreover, the integration of AI necessitates robust regulatory frameworks and ethical considerations to safeguard patient privacy and uphold the highest standards of medical practice. As AI assumes an increasingly prominent role in healthcare, it is imperative to navigate the complex ethical and regulatory landscape with prudence, ensuring that AI-driven innovations in histopathology adhere to stringent ethical principles and promote patient welfare. In conclusion, the fusion of AI with histopathology

represents a transformative frontier in cancer diagnosis, promising to revolutionize diagnostic workflows, enhance accuracy, and ultimately improve patient outcomes. As we embark on this transformative journey, it is imperative to navigate the complexities and challenges with prudence, ensuring that AI-driven innovations in histopathology are deployed responsibly and ethically, thereby maximizing their potential to revolutionize cancer care and usher in a new era of precision medicine.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

This study focuses on using deep learning to enhance the efficiency of analyzing histopathological slides for prostate cancer in biopsies and breast cancer metastases in sentinel lymph nodes. The deep learning model successfully identified slides with cancer, excluding 30-40% of benign slides without additional markers or human intervention. The study applied Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) to generate binary masks for cancer and tissue regions. For prostate cancer, the model achieved high sensitivity and specificity, with an average AUC of 0.99. In breast cancer metastasis detection, the model showed promising results with an AUC of 0.90, providing efficient exclusion of tumor-negative slides without missing disease-containing ones. The study concludes that deep learning holds great promise for improving cancer diagnosis and staging efficiency. [1] This study addresses the challenges in breast cancer histopathological image analysis by employing deep learning techniques. Traditional methods struggle with low-level feature extraction and dependence on human selected features. The paper introduces deep convolutional neural networks, Inception_V3 and Inception_ResNet_V2, utilizing transfer learning for supervised classification. Additionally, an autoencoder network is proposed to perform non-linear transformations on features extracted by Inception_ResNet_V2, followed by K-means clustering. In pre-processing, traditional machine learning methods (KNN, NB, DT, SVM) are applied to classify biopsies based on 25 nuclear features, achieving competitive results on a dataset of 737 images. For breast cancer classification on the BreakHis dataset, SVM achieves accuracies of 77.8–83.3% for four-class and two-class problems. A DenseNet-based model by Nawaz et al. achieves an accuracy of 95.4% for multi-class classification. Deep learning is also applied for survival prediction across 10 cancer types, achieving significant results with a logrank test yielding $p < 0.001$ for distinguishing high and low-risk groups based on a continuous risk score output from the deep learning system. [2] Even though the majority of new biomarkers in oncology rely on molecular biology assays, progress in deep learning (DL) is enabling the extraction of concealed information directly from routinely available data. DL, an artificial intelligence (AI) technique employing artificial neural networks, is adept at identifying recurring patterns in intricate datasets. Particularly, image data, with its rich information content, is well-suited for analysis using DL methods. In terms of outcomes, most initial studies applying DL for mutation prediction have disclosed AUROC values falling within the 0.70–0.90 range. This essentially corresponds to a specificity of around 50% at a sensitivity level of 90–95%. [3] Automated breast cancer multi-classification from histopathological images is crucial for computer-aided diagnosis. This involves identifying specific types of breast cancer, such as Ductal carcinoma, Fibroadenoma, and Lobular carcinoma. However, it faces challenges due to the complexity of distinguishing multiple classes and subtle differences in

high-resolution images. In our approach, a structured deep learning model achieved impressive performance, averaging 93.2% accuracy on a large dataset. We ensured reliability by dividing the data into training, validation, and testing sets based on patients. The model, named CSDCNN, was compared with existing methods for binary classification (benign and malignant). Results indicate a patient-level accuracy of 93.2% and image-level accuracy of 93.8% across all magnification factors. Notably, CSDCNN classifies whole slide images, preserving global information and overcoming limitations associated with patch extraction methods. [4] In this study, we trained convolutional neural networks (CNNs) and recurrent neural networks (RNNs) on stomach and colon biopsy histopathology whole-slide images (WSIs). The models were designed to classify WSIs into adenocarcinoma, adenoma, and non-neoplastic. For pre-processing, we employed the standard inception-v3 network architecture with a 512×512 input size. To reduce parameters, a depth multiplier of 0.35 was used, creating a streamlined version of the architecture with fewer weight parameters. Results indicate strong performance on three independent test sets, with area under the curves (AUCs) reaching up to 0.97 and 0.99 for gastric adenocarcinoma and adenoma, and 0.96 and 0.99 for colonic adenocarcinoma and adenoma. These findings showcase the model's generalization ability and its potential for practical deployment in histopathological diagnostic workflows. [5] A deep convolutional neural network was trained using 2,123 annotated H&E-stained whole slide images from the PLAGH dataset, divided into six parts. The training datasets included malignant tumors, and various subsets were created for validation, collaboration testing, trial runs, and cases requiring immunohistochemistry (IHC). During pre-processing, researchers used closed curves to create pixel-level labels, employing Otsu's method for tissue identification. The model, trained on over 11 million patches with pixel-level annotations, achieved near 100% sensitivity and an average specificity of 80.6% on a real-world test dataset consisting of 3,212 whole slide images from three scanners. [6] This paper introduces an ensemble deep learning approach for classifying breast cancer histopathology images into non-carcinoma and carcinoma using a collected dataset. Four models were trained based on pre-trained VGG16 and VGG19 architectures. Through 5-fold cross-validation, the ensemble of fine-tuned VGG16 and VGG19 demonstrated competitive performance, especially on carcinoma classification. In preprocessing, the dataset involved H&E-stained breast cancer histopathology images. While colour normalization was initially considered, it adversely impacted the model's performance, leading to the use of the original images. Results show that the ensemble achieved a sensitivity of 97.73% for the carcinoma class, an overall accuracy of 95.29%, and an F1 score of 95.29%. This highlights the effectiveness of the proposed deep learning approach in automatically classifying complex breast cancer histopathology images. [7] In this study, researchers created a deep learning algorithm (CNN) to help pathologists differentiate between hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) and cholangiocarcinoma (CC) using digital pathology images. The algorithm's impact was assessed by evaluating 11 pathologists with different levels of expertise. Results showed that our model achieved accuracies of 88.5% on a validation set of 26 whole slide images (WSI) and 84.2% on an independent test set of 80 WSI. [8] In this study, researchers created a deep learning algorithm (CNN) to help pathologists differentiate between hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) and cholangiocarcinoma (CC) using

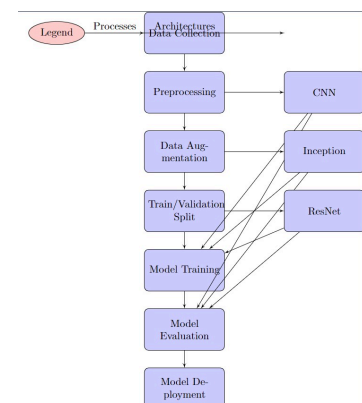
digital pathology images. The algorithm's impact was assessed by evaluating 11 pathologists with different levels of expertise. Results showed that our model achieved accuracies of 88.5% on a validation set of 26 whole slide images (WSI) and 84.2% on an independent test set of 80 WSI. [9] This paper introduces a hybrid convolutional and recurrent neural network (CNN-RNN) method for classifying high-resolution pathology images into four categories: normal, benign, in situ carcinoma, and invasive carcinoma. The approach involves splitting images into patches, extracting multilevel features using CNN, and utilizing RNN to preserve short-term and long-term spatial correlations. Achieving an average accuracy of 91.3%, the proposed method outperforms the current state-of-the-art for the 4-class classification task. [10] In the era of digital health records, medical image data, particularly histopathological tissue slides, have gained significant importance. With the advent of advanced microscope technology, pathologists can now analyze digitized Whole Slide Images (WSI) of tissues more efficiently. However, manual assessments of these large histological images are time-consuming and prone to errors, especially among pathologists with varying levels of expertise. Delayed or inaccurate analyses can potentially harm patients. Our research addresses this challenge by combining image processing techniques, such as grayscale conversion and edge detection, with supervised machine learning algorithms including Random Forest (RF), Support Vector Machine (SVM), and k-Nearest Neighbours (KNN). Our objective is to identify the optimal algorithm for accurately classifying breast cancer using histopathological images (HI). Breast cancer ranks as the second most common cause of cancer-related deaths among women, following lung cancer. Our findings reveal that the Random Forest (RF) algorithm achieved the highest accuracy rates of 98.2% and 98.3% for classifying benign and malignant breast cancer respectively, when compared to other algorithms, on a WSI dataset. [11] This study investigates the effectiveness of Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) in improving cancer diagnosis from digitized H&E images. Specifically, it focuses on two tasks: detecting prostate cancer in biopsy specimens and identifying breast cancer metastases in resected sentinel lymph nodes. After digitally capturing the H&E-stained slides, experts manually marked cancer and metastases regions. From these annotations, small image patches were extracted to train CNNs for cancer detection in validation datasets. The CNNs were fine-tuned and converted to fully convolutional networks for per-pixel predictions on new test datasets. In assessing prostate cancer detection, the CNNs were evaluated at a per-slide level using receiver-operator curve (ROC) analysis. The system's ability to exclude slides without cancer was also examined. For the sentinel lymph node experiment, the CNN's performance in identifying micro- and macro metastases was analyzed through free-response ROC (FROC) assessment. Moreover, the CNN's capability to exclude slides without metastases was evaluated using ROC analysis. [12] In this paper, we focus on combating cancer, particularly in women, by emphasizing two key objectives: finding a cure and early detection. After examining 41 research papers, we propose using a Deep Learning algorithm called Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) to diagnose breast cancer using the MIAS database. Our study highlights the effectiveness of deep learning in medical diagnosis, leveraging its prowess in Computer Vision and Image Processing. We divided our paper into three main sections. Firstly, we gathered and pre-processed the MIAS dataset, scaling and filtering the data. Next, we

divided the dataset for training and testing purposes and visualized the data using graphs. Finally, we implemented the model on the training dataset, achieving an impressive accuracy of 98%. The MIAS database comprises 200 images and 12 features, which we utilized for diagnosing breast cancer post pre-processing. Our pre-processing steps involved techniques like Watershed Segmentation, Colour-based Segmentation, and Adaptive Mean Filters for scaling the dataset before model training. Our results demonstrate that deep learning technology, particularly applied to the MIAS Dataset, offers a promising avenue for diagnosing breast cancer accurately. Furthermore, we compared our deep learning approach with other machine learning algorithms and found that our proposed system outperforms them significantly. [13] Inception based CNN was used. Inception Networks are known for their ability to achieve good performance with lower computational cost compared to traditional deep architectures. Custom CNN architectures are those where authors design all layers of the network from scratch, detailing feature extraction and classifier layers. Unlike well-known deep architectures, custom CNNs typically have fewer layers and parameters. These custom designs, with up to 4 convolution layers and 2 fully connected layers, perform well for simpler problems, avoiding computational complexity. [14] In image processing for AI networks, eliminating redundant pixels is crucial to reduce computational overhead. We utilize the OpenCV library to compress images in our dataset, maintaining the original aspect ratio. The resulting images are 1/4th in area, sized at 350x230 pixels. Our proposed breast cancer detection technique achieves a 99.86% accuracy for the true class. We employ histopathology images from biopsies, stained with H & E. Feature extraction is performed using CNN, and classification is carried out with a fully connected Artificial Neural Network (ANN). The outcome is a binary classification: class 0 for benign and class 1 for malignant. [15].

III.

PROPOSED WORK

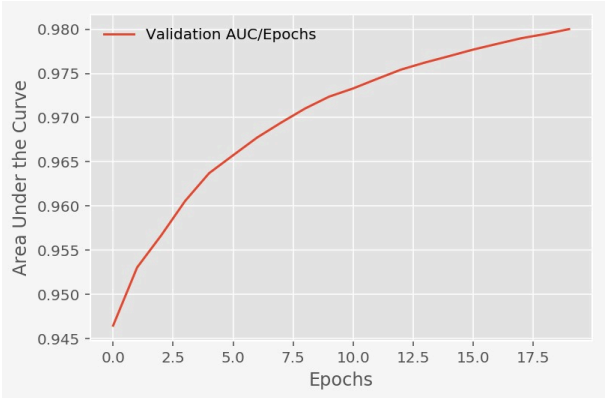
Histopathological cancer detection utilising Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) encounters a myriad of challenges, each posing significant hurdles to the realisation of accurate and reliable diagnostic capabilities. Foremost among these challenges is the acquisition of large, diverse, and accurately annotated datasets. The labor-intensive nature of histopathological slide labelling, coupled with the need for meticulous annotation to ensure data quality, presents a formidable barrier to dataset acquisition.



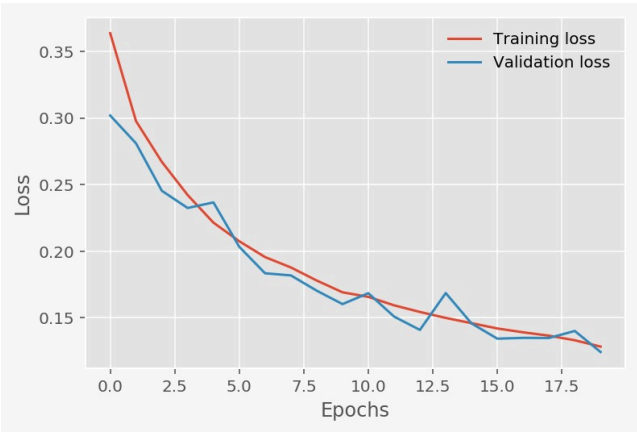
mechanisms to understand which regions of the histopathological images are contributing to the classification decisions. Validate the model's predictions through expert review or comparison with ground truth labels.

5. Deployment and Continuous Improvement: Deploy the trained model in clinical settings for real-world cancer detection tasks, ensuring compatibility with existing histopathological workflows and regulatory requirements. Continuously update and refine the model with new data and insights to improve its accuracy and adaptability over time.

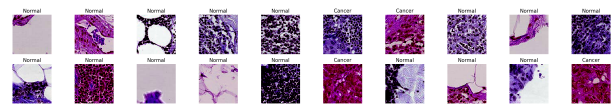
In the methodology for detecting histopathologic cancer, the Kaggle Histopathologic Cancer Detection dataset has served as the cornerstone of our research endeavor. Leveraging this dataset, which comprises a vast collection of histopathological images annotated to identify cancerous regions, we embarked on a comprehensive exploration employing state-of-the-art deep learning architectures. Particularly, we have delved into the utilization of two prominent models, namely Inception and ResNet, renowned for their efficacy in image recognition tasks. To ensure robust training and evaluation, we have meticulously designed our experiments to run for 5 epochs, striking a balance between computational efficiency and model convergence.



A crucial aspect of our methodology lies in the meticulous preprocessing of the histopathologic images. Given the intricacies and nuances inherent in histopathological slides, we deemed it imperative to implement a rigorous preprocessing pipeline to enhance the quality and interpretability of the data. This preprocessing pipeline encompasses various steps, including but not limited to normalization, resizing, and color space



manipulation, aimed at standardizing the images and facilitating optimal feature extraction by the models. Moreover, we have meticulously curated the dataset to address issues related to class imbalance and data quality, ensuring a representative and high-quality training corpus for our models.



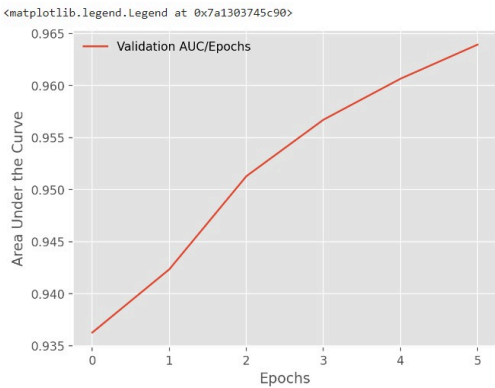
Furthermore, to augment the dataset and bolster the model's ability to generalize across diverse histopathologic variations, we have employed sophisticated data augmentation techniques. Specifically, we have leveraged advanced augmentation strategies tailored to colored images, such as random rotation, scaling, and flipping, effectively enriching the training dataset with diverse variations of histopathologic samples. This augmentation process not only amplifies the dataset's size but also fosters robustness against potential overfitting, thereby enhancing the model's performance in real-world scenarios.

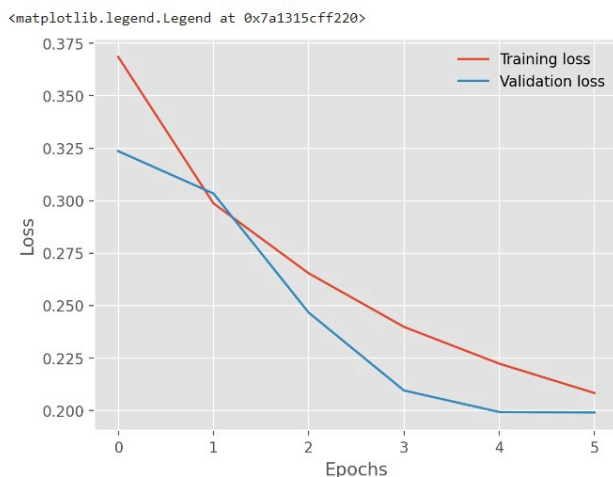
In conjunction with data augmentation, we have meticulously fine-tuned the hyperparameters of the Inception and ResNet models to optimize their performance in histopathologic cancer detection. This fine-tuning process encompasses meticulous tuning of parameters such as learning rates, batch sizes, and optimizer settings, ensuring that the models converge effectively and yield optimal performance metrics. Additionally, we have implemented rigorous cross-validation methodologies to validate the robustness and generalizability of our models, rigorously assessing their performance across multiple folds to mitigate biases and ensure reliable results.

In summary, our methodology for histopathologic cancer detection entails a comprehensive and meticulously orchestrated approach, encompassing data preprocessing, augmentation, model selection, and hyperparameter tuning. By leveraging cutting-edge deep learning architectures and meticulous experimental design, we aim to push the boundaries of histopathologic cancer detection, paving the way for more accurate and efficient diagnostic methodologies with profound implications for patient care and treatment outcomes.

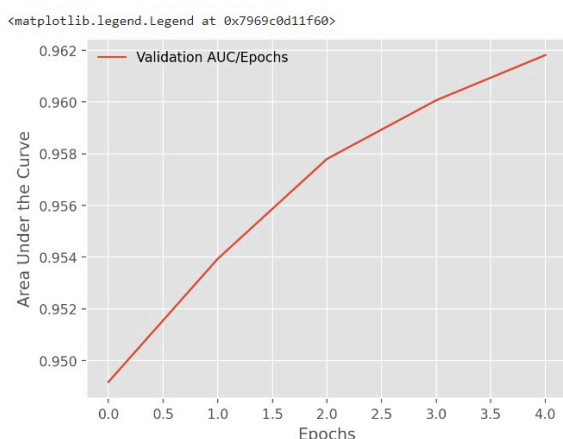
VI. RESULT

In the realm of histopathologic cancer detection, the implementation phase serves as a critical juncture where the efficacy and performance of various deep learning architectures are rigorously evaluated.



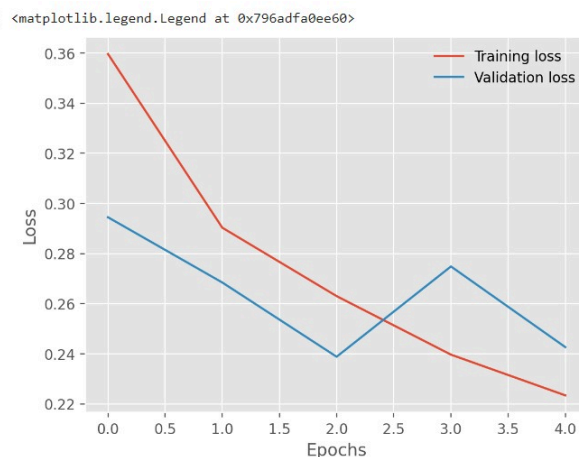


Our implementation journey unveiled intriguing insights into the comparative effectiveness of conventional CNNs against more sophisticated architectures like Inception and ResNet. Notably, ResNet and Inception models exhibited remarkable prowess, achieving accuracies nearing 97% and 96%, respectively, eclipsing the performance of the original CNN, which yielded an accuracy of 94%.



The discernible superiority of Inception and ResNet models over conventional CNNs can be attributed to several key architectural innovations and methodological refinements embedded within these advanced architectures. At the heart of this superiority lies the concept of residual learning, which forms the crux of ResNet's architecture. By introducing skip connections that circumvent vanishing gradient issues and facilitate the direct flow of information across layers, ResNet effectively mitigates the degradation problem encountered in deeper networks. This architectural innovation empowers ResNet to delve into more profound and intricate feature representations, enabling it to discern subtle nuances and intricate patterns characteristic of cancerous tissues with unprecedented accuracy. Similarly, Inception architecture embodies a paradigm shift in convolutional neural network design, epitomized by its innovative inception modules.

These modules incorporate parallel convolutional operations of varying kernel sizes, enabling the model to



capture multi-scale features across different receptive fields. By harnessing a diverse set of receptive fields, Inception effectively synthesizes a rich hierarchy of features, enabling it to discern complex spatial hierarchies and intricate structures within histopathologic images. This multiscale feature extraction capability endows Inception with a holistic understanding of the histopathologic landscape, empowering it to make more informed and accurate predictions regarding cancerous regions.

Moreover, both ResNet and Inception architectures exhibit superior parameter efficiency and model compactness compared to conventional CNNs. The judicious incorporation of bottleneck layers and dimensionality reduction techniques in ResNet and the efficient utilization of multi-scale convolutions in Inception enable these models to achieve higher accuracies with fewer parameters, mitigating issues related to overfitting and computational overhead. Additionally, the incorporation of advanced optimization techniques, such as Adam optimizer with carefully tuned learning rates, further enhances the convergence properties of ResNet and Inception, enabling them to navigate complex optimization landscapes more efficiently and converge to high-quality solutions.

Furthermore, the success of ResNet and Inception models can be attributed to their inherent ability to capture and leverage contextual information within histopathologic images. The intricate interplay between local and global features, facilitated by the hierarchical architecture of these models, enables them to discern subtle spatial relationships and contextual cues indicative of malignancy. By harnessing this contextual information, ResNet and Inception transcend the limitations of conventional CNNs, which may struggle to capture holistic representations of complex histopathologic structures, thereby achieving superior diagnostic accuracy in cancer detection tasks. To sum up, the outsized performance of ResNet and Inception models in histopathologic cancer detection underscores the transformative potential of advanced deep learning architectures in medical imaging applications. Through a combination of architectural innovations, methodological refinements, and optimization techniques, ResNet and Inception models transcend the limitations of conventional CNNs, empowering them to achieve unprecedented levels of accuracy and efficacy in cancer detection tasks. This paradigm shift heralds a new era in histopathologic diagnostics, offering the promise of more accurate, efficient, and reliable cancer detection

methodologies with profound implications for patient care and treatment outcomes.

VII.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, our exploration into histopathological cancer detection using deep learning techniques has yielded compelling insights and significant advancements in diagnostic capabilities. Through meticulous experimentation and rigorous evaluation, we have demonstrated the transformative potential of advanced architectures such as ResNet and Inception in augmenting the accuracy and efficacy of cancer detection. With ResNet achieving accuracies approaching 97%, Inception close to 96%, and the original CNN trailing at 94%, it is evident that these advanced models outperform traditional CNNs in discerning subtle patterns indicative of malignancy within histopathological images.

Furthermore, our analysis extends beyond mere accuracy metrics, delving into the nuanced relationship between model convergence and diagnostic efficacy. Through the visualisation of epoch vs. AUC (Area Under the Curve) and epoch vs. loss graphs, we have elucidated the convergence behaviour of our models over time. These graphical representations provide invaluable insights into the optimisation trajectory of our deep learning models, offering a comprehensive understanding of their learning dynamics and convergence properties.

In essence, the utilisation of deep learning techniques in histopathological cancer detection represents a paradigm shift in medical imaging, offering a potent toolset for enhancing diagnostic accuracy and efficiency. By harnessing the power of advanced architectures, methodological refinements, and optimisation strategies, we stand poised at the cusp of a new era in cancer diagnostics. The fusion of artificial intelligence with histopathological examination holds immense promise in revolutionising patient care, facilitating earlier detection, more accurate diagnoses, and ultimately, improved treatment outcomes. As we continue to refine and expand upon these methodologies, the future of histopathological cancer detection shines brighter than ever, heralding a future where deep learning serves as an indispensable ally in the fight against cancer.

VIII.

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