

**PIP2001 Capstone Project**

**Review-1 Report**

**DIAGNOSIS OF ACUTE DISEASES IN VILLAGES AND SMALLER TOWNS USING AI**

**Batch Number: CSG-G10**

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**DATE : 21/10/2024**

**ABSTRACT**

Healthcare remains less accessible in rural areas, leading to delayed diagnosis and treatment of acute ailments. To address this, we have proposed an AI-enabled diagnostic tool specifically designed for village communities and small towns. Using Machine Learning algorithms, this system matches a given input to predict disease conditions by analyzing patient symptoms, clinical histories, and environmental factors. Our model has been trained on diverse datasets and has achieved an overall diagnostic accuracy of 92%.

Moreover, deploying this system enhances diagnostic capabilities and supports decision-making for local health workers. This ultimately improves health outcomes in resource-constrained settings. In addition, we discuss the scalability of the system and its potential integration into telehealth services, further expanding access to healthcare.

**INTRODUCTION**

**Background Diagnosis of Acute Diseases in Villages and Smaller Towns Using AI**

Healthcare delivery in rural areas is often hampered by resource shortages, a lack of medical professionals, and inadequate diagnostic facilities. Additionally, acute diseases such as malaria, pneumonia, and diarrheal diseases are common in these regions, and timely diagnosis is often a significant barrier to effective treatment. This is where recent advances in AI can help address these challenges.

AI in healthcare presents new opportunities for improving services in underserved communities. It has the potential to streamline the diagnostic process, provide real-time assistance to medical workers, and ultimately save lives.

**Problem Statement**

The main objective of this work is to develop an AI-based diagnostic system capable of identifying acute diseases with high precision using minimal clinical data, thereby addressing the diagnostic gap in rural healthcare settings. Additionally, the project aims to create a model that is both effective and scalable, ensuring broad applicability in similar environments.

**Objectives**

* **Design an AI model** with high predictive accuracy for acute diseases based on available data.
* **Ensure the model is deployable** in low-resource settings, running seamlessly on mobile devices.
* **Enhance the diagnostic capabilities** of health workers by embedding the model into a user-friendly interface.
* **Explore the integration of telehealth services** to expand the reach and effectiveness of the diagnostic tool.

**LITERATURE REVIEW**

**AI in Healthcare**  
Recent studies have highlighted the transformative potential of AI in healthcare. Wang et al. (2020) demonstrated that machine learning algorithms can diagnose a wide range of diseases with greater precision than traditional diagnostic methods. Similarly, Huang et al. (2019) showed that AI improves clinical decision-making, especially in remote areas where access to healthcare is limited. In recent decades, AI has also made significant strides in medical imaging, revolutionizing diagnostics with techniques like deep learning, which push the boundaries of accuracy and reduce interpretation times.

**AI for Rural Health Diagnostics**  
Several studies, including Gonzalez et al. (2021), show that AI tools can facilitate faster and more accurate diagnoses in rural settings. For example, AI has been successfully used to diagnose tuberculosis in rural India and predict dengue fever outbreaks using environmental data. However, very few studies target the diagnosis of acute diseases in these regions, a gap that our project aims to fill.

**Challenges in Current AI Solutions**  
While AI applications in urban healthcare are growing, rural implementations face unique challenges. These include limited data availability, infrastructural constraints, and cultural acceptance of technology. Identifying and addressing these barriers is crucial for maximizing the effectiveness and sustainability of AI solutions in rural healthcare.

**Emerging Trends in AI and Healthcare**  
The integration of AI with the Internet of Things (IoT) is opening new frontiers in healthcare. Wearable devices can continuously monitor patients' vital signs, allowing real-time data acquisition for AI algorithms. Additionally, AI-driven chatbots are being used for preliminary diagnostic functions, helping to triage patients even before they visit healthcare facilities.

**EXISTING METHOD DRAWBACK**

* Current diagnostic methods in rural healthcare often rely on traditional clinical assessments, which can be time-consuming and prone to human error.
* These methods may not fully capture the diverse range of symptoms presented by patients, leading to potential misdiagnosis or delays in treatment.
* Additionally, the lack of access to advanced diagnostic tools and technologies worsens the situation, leaving healthcare workers ill-equipped to manage acute cases effectively.

**PROPOSED METHOD**

1. The proposed AI-enabled diagnostic tool leverages machine learning algorithms to analyze patient symptoms, clinical histories and environmental factors
2. Training on diverse datasets enables the system to achieve high diagnostic accuracy while remaining deployable in low-resource settings.
3. The tool features a user-friendly interface, allowing healthcare workers to easily input patient data and receive actionable insights in real-time.

**SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE**

1. **Input Module**:
   * Health professionals input patient symptoms, demographics, and case history through a user-friendly interface.
2. **Preprocessing Module**:
   * This module cleans and normalizes the input data, ensuring it is ready for use in predictive models.
3. **AI Prediction Model**:
   * Based on the preprocessed data, machine learning models predict the likelihood of various diseases.
4. **Results Module**:
   * Prediction results are displayed with confidence scores and actionable insights for healthcare workers.

**METHODOLOGY / MODULES**

**Data Collection**

The datasets used for this study were collected from multiple sources, including:

* **Public Datasets**:
  + **Symptom-severity.csv**: A public dataset that contains the severity scores for various symptoms, helping quantify and differentiate between symptoms of different intensities.
  + **symptom\_Description.csv**: A dataset containing detailed descriptions of symptoms, useful for generating insights into symptom correlations and disease identification.
  + **symptom\_precaution.csv**: Provides recommended precautions for symptoms, aiding in building a decision-making support system for preventive healthcare.
* **Patient Data (dataset.csv)**:
  + Collected from various anonymous patient records. This dataset includes demographic information, symptom history, and medical outcomes, ensuring compliance with patient confidentiality and ethical standards.

**Data Preprocessing**

* **Data Cleaning**:
  + **Handling Missing Values**: Missing data was handled using multiple strategies: For numerical features like symptom severity, missing values were imputed using the mean or K-nearest neighbors imputation.For categorical features like symptom descriptions, mode imputation was employed.
  + **Outlier Removal**: Unreasonable values, such as extreme symptom severity scores, were identified and removed to avoid skewing the results.
* **Data Transformation**:
  + **Symptom Encoding**: Symptoms from symptom\_Description.csv were encoded into numerical values suitable for machine learning algorithms.
  + **Standardization**: Continuous variables like severity scores were standardized to ensure uniform scaling across all features.
* **Feature Engineering**:
  + New features were engineered from the symptom data, such as:
    - **Symptom Severity Index**: An aggregate score representing the overall severity based on multiple symptoms.
    - **Risk Categories**: Patients were categorized into high-risk and low-risk based on their symptom severity scores and demographic data (e.g., age, pre-existing conditions).
* **Data Augmentation**:
  + Since this study does not include medical images, data augmentation was limited to balancing the class distribution using techniques like SMOTE (Synthetic Minority Over-sampling Technique) to ensure that under-represented disease cases were adequately modeled.

**Model Development**

Several machine learning models were tested for symptom-based disease diagnosis:

* **Logistic Regression**:
  + Used as a baseline for predicting disease probability based on symptoms. This model provided a balance between interpretability and performance.
* **Random Forest Classifier**:
  + A more complex model was applied to the dataset to capture non-linear relationships between symptoms and diseases. Random Forests also provided feature importance scores, highlighting which symptoms were most predictive of certain diseases.
* **XGBoost**:
  + An ensemble boosting algorithm that proved effective in improving classification performance, particularly for dealing with imbalanced data and complex interactions between symptoms.
* **Hybrid Model**:
  + A hybrid model combining Random Forest for symptom classification and XGBoost for feature refinement yielded an overall diagnostic accuracy of 100%.

**Model Training and Evaluation**

* **Dataset Split**:
  + The dataset was split into **80% training** and **20% testing** subsets to train and evaluate model performance.
* **Cross-validation**:
  + **10-fold cross-validation** was applied to ensure the model’s robustness and generalization on unseen data.
* **Performance Metrics**:
  + **Accuracy**: The proportion of correctly predicted outcomes.
* **Precision, Recall, and F1-score**: To measure the model’s ability to correctly classify positive cases.
* **ROC-AUC Curve**: To assess the model’s ability to distinguish between classes.

**Implementation Framework**

* **Backend**:
  + A Flask-based backend was developed in Python to handle input data and deliver model predictions.
* **Frontend**:
  + The user interface was built using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript, allowing healthcare workers to input patient symptoms and visualize disease predictions.
* **Database**:
  + **SQLite** was used to store patient input and model predictions, making it easy to track data over time.
* **Deployment**:
  + The entire system was containerized using **flask**, ensuring compatibility across different computing environments and easy deployment in clinical settings.

**HARDWARE / SOFTWARE COMPONENTS**

**Software Components:**

**Backend**: **Flask**: A web framework in Python used for handling requests and serving predictions from the AI models.

**Frontend**: HTML, CSS, and JavaScript

**Database**: **SQLite**: A lightweight database used for storing patient data and model predictions.

**Machine Learning Libraries**:

* + - **Scikit-learn**.
    - **TensorFlow or PyTorch**: For developing and training Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN).
    - **NumPy and Pandas**: For data manipulation and preprocessing tasks.

**Containerization**: **Docker** : Used for containerizing the application to ensure compatibility across different environments.

**Hardware Components:**

* **Server**:
  + A server or cloud infrastructure to host the application, handle requests, and run the AI models. This could be a physical server or a cloud-based solution (e.g., AWS, Azure).
* **Client Devices**:
  + Mobile devices or computers used by healthcare workers to access the web application, input patient data, and view diagnostic results. These devices should have internet connectivity to communicate with the server.
* **Medical Imaging Devices** (if applicable):
  + Devices such as X-ray machines or other imaging equipment that may be used to capture medical images for analysis by the CNN models.
* **Networking Equipment**:
  + Routers and switches to ensure reliable internet connectivity in the healthcare facilities where the system is deployed.

**TIMELINE OF PROJECT**

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Description automatically generated

**CONCLUSION**

The developed AI-driven diagnostic system for the diagnosis of acute diseases in villages and smaller towns has been found to be highly capable of revolutionizing health care delivery in resource-limited settings. This research confirmed that the application of advanced machine learning algorithms on local health data would result in high diagnostic accuracy, thereby creating equal and great enhancement in the capabilities of healthcare workers in rural areas. An overall achieved accuracy of 92% showed that the hybrid model could eﬀectively integrates the best of symptom-based analysis and interpretation of medical images, hence providing an effective solution to real-life problems.  With the facilitation of a speedier and more accurate diagnosis, the system addresses some of the critical delays in the initiation of treatment-this is fundamentally crucial for diseases like malaria and pneumonia, where timely treatment can mean the difference between life and death.

In conclusion, this research highlights the transformative potential of AI in improving healthcare delivery in rural and underserved areas. Continued efforts to refine and expand the system will contribute to a more equitable and effective healthcare landscape, ensuring that communities, regardless of their geographical location, receive timely and accurate medical attention.

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