Federated Learning for PINNs (Physics-Informed Neural Networks) for Tumor Biomechanics

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***Abstract*—Modeling brain tumors requires dynamic introspection not just static images, but centralized deep learning models suffer from privacy and generalization constraints under laws such as GDPR and HIPAA. The present article introduces a Federated PINN, that integrates federated learning and biomechanical physics to facilitate privacy-preserving yet physical consistent tumor modeling. Each participating site trains a local PINN constrained by linear-elasticity, mass conservation and tissue diffusion governing equations such that tumor-induced deformation and stiffness can be predicted locally without the need to exchange patient data. The federated model fuses encrypted updates with the FedAvg algorithm to enable collaboration over non-identical datasets, globally.Experimental results indicate that the accuracy of classification is close to 99.9% which outperforms other FL methods max 99.07% and an AUC between 0.985, demonstrating significant generalization in pituitary cancer (the accuracy increases from 85.6% to 94.5%). Inclusion of physical laws constrained training and imposed biomechanical plausibility onto predicted displacement fields. This Federated PINN approach reconciles data privacy and physical interpretability, and moves towards dynamic, explainable and ethically-oriented computational neuro-oncology.**

***Index Terms*—Federated Learning, Physics-Informed Neural Networks (PINNs), Brain Tumor Segmentation, Biomechanical Modeling, Privacy-Preserving AI, Neuro-Oncology, Medical Image Analysis, Explainable Artificial Intelligence (XAI)**

I. Introduction

The project aims at grasping how brain tumors, like glioma, meningioma, and pituitary adenoma, change the brain's soft tissue mechanics [1], [13]. Static imaging is insufficient, for it does not image dynamic processes involved in the growing of a tumor, its displacement, nor stiffening of adjacent tissues. Although deep learning for biomedical image analysis has revolutionized biomedical image analysis [5], [6], being centralized, data-driven training creates tremendous challenges. Privacy rules prevent institutions from sharing patient data, which reduces the variety of models and how well they work in different cases. This problem matters a lot in neuro-oncology because patient differences are not very broad [14].

In the intricate organization of the human brain, tumors such as glioma, meningioma, and pituitary adenoma disrupt the spontaneous equilibrium of soft tissue mechanics, but in others, no harm occurs in normal tissue. Explanation of these events transcends static imaging; it requires dynamic examination of the manner in which tumors expand, displace, and stiffen surrounding tissues. This intersection of medical imaging and biomechanical modeling provides crucial insight into diagnosis, surgical planning, and personalized therapy [1], [7], [12].

Biomedical image analysis has been revolutionized due to recent advances in deep learning, but most deep learning-based models extensively depend on centralized, data-heavy training [5], [6]. As patient information is often covered by strict privacy regulations such as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), such a centralization raises serious ethical and legal concerns [8]. Model diversity and generalizability are constrained due to the inability to aggregate data from different institutions, particularly for areas such as neuro-oncology, where patient homogeneity is a high concern [14], [15].

Federated Learning (FL) provides a revolutionary paradigm through the training of collaborative models across several hospitals and research centers without exchanging raw patient information [9], [10], [11]. A local model is locally trained at each institution on its own dataset, while just encrypted updates, for instance, gradients or model weights, are sent out for a central coordinator for collection. This distributed method not only preserves privacy but also allows for large-scale partnerships across geographically and demographically diverse groups of people [15].

At the same time, Physics-Informed Neural Networks (PINNs) have been generated as a technique that merges first principles of physics with data-centric learning [2], [3], [7]. Using the addition of governing equations, for instance, for elasticity, mass conservation, or diffusion, into a loss function of a neural network, PINNs enforce physical compliance on their predictions. This is particularly effective for the biomechanics

of tumors, which follows established physical principles for healthy-tissue/damaged-tissue interactions [1], [12].

Federated Learning and PINNs synergy, known as Federated PINNs, presents a formidable path towards privacy-protecting and physically plausible biomechanical modeling of tumors [9], [10]. Within this collaborative setting, hospitals procure local training on patient-specific MRI and biomechanics, whereas physical laws activate the learning for the generation of physiologically plausible results. The overall global-generated model is capable of predicting the growth of a tumor, variation of stiffness, and deformation of tissues for a wide range of patient groups without ever compromising data privacy [1], [2], [10], [16].

The creation of Federated PINNs for tumor biomechanics is investigated in this study, with an emphasis on gliomas as an example with a wealth of data and therapeutic relevance. In order to create a scalable, morally sound, and scientifically sound framework for cooperative oncology research, this effort will make use of publicly accessible datasets like BraTS and BraTS-Africa, secure federated computation, and physics-informed modeling [15], [16].

II. Related Work / Literature Review

Conventional methods for modeling biomechanical behavior, including cardiac performance and soft tissue mechanics, have for a long time been based on Finite Element (FE) simulations [2], [7]. These models have greatly contributed towards enabling researchers to discern how the heart deforms, how stresses are transmitted throughout the myocardium, and how contractile functionality varies both in healthy and diseased problems. Although FE methods have such a strong background, they suffer from a number of challenges, limiting their application towards everyday clinical practice [3], [13]. Chief amongst them is computational expense and time—it takes hours or even days for high-resolution FE simulations, rendering them incapable of being implemented for real-time, patient-specific decision support.

Further, the majority of FE representations are constructed based on population-averaged values, such as typical tissue stiffness or active tension, such that they lack the capacity of capturing specific physiology for individual patients. Personalization is constrained due to the inverse problem—calibrating a model that matches a patient's clinical imaging data necessitates several repeated simulations, which are both time intensive and computationally expensive [1], [2]. Even then, FE representations are often incapable of mimicking complex, time-varying deformations seen in modalities such as MRI or ultrasound. With such limitations, there exists a need for modeling techniques that are faster, adaptive, and patient-specific to enhance clinical support [1], [12].

Physics-Informed Machine Learning (PIML), particularly Physics-Informed Neural Networks (PINNs), has emerged in recent years as a powerful alternative that avoids many issues seen in traditional FE solvers or purely data-driven machine learning methods [1], [2], [7]. PINNs combine deep learning with physical rules, embedding Partial Differential Equations (PDEs) into the network's loss function to enforce physical consistency. This approach allows networks to find solutions that align with real-world mechanics even when limited data is available [13].

A key advantage of this method lies in its ability to tackle inverse problems [2], [9]. Unlike repetitive FE-based solvers, PINNs can estimate parameters or biomarkers tied to specific patient conditions. Additionally, PIML methods show promise in mapping displacement fields and identifying tissue properties that vary spatially, such as local stiffness changes. These outcomes can be achieved using limited displacement data, eliminating the need for direct stress measurements, which are often unavailable [12]. Thus, PINNs act as a middle ground between data-driven and physics-based methods, enabling efficient biomechanical analysis for patient-specific scenarios.

Several studies have explored PINN–FE hybrid models for simulating cardiac biomechanics [2], [3], [7]. Motiwale et al. introduced an IMC-PINN-FE approach that integrates finite element constraints into neural networks to calculate nodal movements based on pressure and tension inputs [2]. Buoso et al. developed a statistical shape model derived from multiple subjects' data to represent cardiac motion and geometry efficiently, reducing computation compared to pure FE simulations [7]. However, both approaches face limitations, such as misalignment with patient-specific motion or inability to infer critical biomechanical parameters like myocardial stiffness and contractile tension.

Although these efforts represent progress in physics-guided learning for cardiac modeling, challenges remain that restrict their use in clinical contexts [3], [13]. Chief among them is the lack of direct integration with medical imaging data. Many approaches fail to align model predictions with observed patient motion, leading to reduced accuracy for personalized simulations [12], [16]. Statistical shape-based methods also focus on inter-patient variation but neglect intra-patient temporal dynamics, reducing flexibility during cardiac cycles [7], [12]. These shortcomings highlight the need for improved PINN frameworks that better integrate clinical imaging for precise biomechanical parameter estimation.

Despite significant advances, Physics-Informed Machine Learning (PIML) still faces methodological and computational challenges in medical imaging applications [1], [3], [13]. Data quality remains a key concern, as noise or tracking errors in imaging propagate through the model and reduce biomechanical reliability [12]. Additionally, incorporating sophisticated PDEs into deep networks requires immense computational resources, limiting real-time feasibility [7], [9]. Another limitation arises from the soft imposition of physical laws in loss functions, which only encourages—rather than guarantees—physical consistency [1], [7], [16]. Moreover, PINNs exhibit spectral bias, tending to learn low-frequency features faster than high-frequency details, making them less effective in capturing sharp tissue boundaries or scars [13]. Finally, model mismatch between assumed physical laws and biological reality can lead to inaccuracies in parameter estimation [1], [12].

Without PINNs. In the current privacy-preserved medical

imaging literature, extensive research has focused on Federated Learning (FL) for collaborative model training on tumor segmentation and classification tasks while adhering to data privacy laws like GDPR and HIPAA [5], [6], [15]. Decentralized FL frameworks such as FedHG have demonstrated strong segmentation performance on brain tumor datasets, achieving Dice Similarity Coefficients (DSC) above 0.85 [6], [14]. For related detection problems, FL models combining deep architectures (e.g., ResNet-50, Capsule Networks) with hybrid optimization and blockchain security mechanisms have achieved classification accuracies up to 99.07% [11], [15].

The proposed study contributes to this area by introducing a Federated Physics-Informed Neural Network (Federated PINN) framework that shifts the paradigm from static image-based analysis to dynamic, physically grounded tumor modeling [9], [10]. Unlike conventional FL applications that focus on detection or segmentation, this framework integrates governing physical equations (elasticity, mass conservation, and diffusion) directly into the network loss, ensuring physically consistent and biomechanically plausible predictions [1], [16]. The model thus captures dynamic changes in tissue mechanics caused by tumors like glioma, meningioma, and pituitary adenoma, offering enhanced prognostic and diagnostic value [10], [15], [16].

Overall, this literature underscores the limitations of static FL systems and highlights the promise of combining physics-informed modeling with decentralized training for neuro-oncological applications [1], [2], [5], [9], [16].

TABLE I
GAP ANALYSIS BETWEEN EXISTING APPROACHES AND PROPOSED FRAMEWORK

Approach / Study	**Key Contributions / Strengths**	**Identified Gaps / Limitations**
Finite Element (FE) Methods	Physically grounded stress/strain simulation.	Computationally heavy; not real-time; limited personalization; slow inverse calibration.
PINNs	Physics via PDE loss; handles inverse problems with limited data.	Sensitive to data quality; expensive for complex PDEs; spectral bias.
PINN–FE Hybrids	FE structure + PINN flexibility for dynamics.	Weak imaging alignment; limited patient parameters; still costly.
Federated Learning (FL)	Privacy-preserving local training; strong segmentation/classification.	Mostly static imaging; lacks physics/biomechanics dynamics.
Proposed Federated PINN	FL privacy + physics-informed dynamics across sites.	Future work: efficient 3D scaling and faster PDE residuals.

III. BACKGROUND

Biomedical image analysis and computational modeling have rapidly evolved with the emergence of machine learning and physics-informed methods, transforming how complex physiological phenomena are studied. Traditional deep learning models, while powerful, often fail to incorporate domain-specific physical knowledge and struggle with generalization across heterogeneous clinical datasets [5], [6], [14]. These limitations are particularly evident in neuro-oncology, where the biomechanical interactions between tumors and soft brain tissues are inherently dynamic and governed by physical laws that static image-based methods cannot adequately capture [1], [13].

Conventional computational biomechanics primarily relied on Finite Element (FE) modeling to simulate tissue deformation, tumor growth, and stress-strain propagation [2], [7]. FE methods offer physically interpretable insights but are computationally intensive and time-consuming, often requiring hours or days for a single high-resolution simulation. Moreover, the calibration of FE models to patient-specific conditions poses a significant inverse problem, demanding iterative solvers and extensive computation [3], [12]. Consequently, FE models lack scalability and practicality for real-time clinical applications such as adaptive diagnosis or prognostic assessment.

To overcome these challenges, Physics-Informed Neural Networks (PINNs) were introduced as a modern alternative that fuses data-driven learning with physical law enforcement [1], [2]. PINNs embed governing equations—such as elasticity, diffusion, or mass conservation—directly into their loss functions. This allows neural networks to learn physically consistent solutions even when training data are sparse or noisy. In biomedical contexts, this approach has proven effective for estimating patient-specific biomechanical parameters like tissue stiffness and displacement fields [13], [16]. For example, Motiwale et al. proposed the IMC-PINN-FE framework, which combines finite element principles with PINN architectures to model left ventricular motion using physics-guided constraints [2]. Similarly, Buoso et al. demonstrated that statistical shape-based PINN models can improve biomechanical fidelity in cardiac motion prediction while reducing computational complexity [7].

However, despite these advances, most PINN implementations rely on centralized data aggregation, which raises privacy concerns and limits cross-institutional collaboration. Hospitals and research centers are constrained by stringent data protection laws such as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), which prohibit raw patient data sharing [8], [15]. These restrictions hinder the development of robust, generalizable models that benefit from population-level diversity.

Federated Learning (FL) offers a transformative solution by enabling collaborative model training without direct data sharing [9], [10], [11]. In this paradigm, each participating institution trains a local model on its private dataset and shares only encrypted model parameters or gradients with a central server for aggregation. This setup preserves privacy while maintaining global consistency. Recent studies have successfully implemented FL for brain tumor segmentation

and classification, achieving competitive accuracy compared to centralized models [5], [15]. However, most FL systems remain purely data-driven and fail to incorporate underlying biomechanical or physical constraints.

The integration of Federated Learning with Physics-Informed Neural Networks—termed *Federated PINNs*—emerges as a novel hybrid approach that synergizes privacy preservation, cross-institutional collaboration, and physical realism [1], [9], [10], [16]. This framework allows distributed clients (e.g., hospitals) to collaboratively train models that adhere to physics-based governing equations while maintaining strict data confidentiality. Each local PINN learns to model biomechanical phenomena such as tumor-induced deformation and tissue stiffening, while the federated aggregation ensures global generalization across heterogeneous datasets [15], [**?**].

By combining the interpretability of physics-informed models with the scalability and ethical compliance of federated architectures, the proposed Federated PINN framework provides a powerful tool for patient-specific biomechanical modeling. It bridges the gap between theory and clinical applicability, enabling physically consistent, privacy-preserving simulations that can generalize across diverse patient populations. This integration represents a paradigm shift in computational neuro-oncology, advancing beyond static imaging toward dynamic, explainable, and collaborative modeling of tumor biomechanics [1], [2], [9], [16].

IV. Methodology

This study proposes a comprehensive framework that combines medical image analysis, biomechanical modeling with Physics-Informed Neural Networks (PINNs), and privacy-preserving Federated Learning (FL). The objective is to collaboratively train a robust, generalizable model of brain tumor biomechanics using decentralized data, simulating a consortium of clinical institutions. The methodology is broken down into five detailed stages: (1) Data Acquisition and Preprocessing from Medical Images, (2) The Mathematical and Architectural Foundations of the PINN, (3) The Federated Learning Architecture and Protocol, (4) Model Training and Aggregation, and (5) Evaluation [1], [2], [9], [15].

A. 1. Data Acquisition and Preprocessing from Medical Images

The foundational step involves converting raw medical images (patient MRI scans) into a structured format suitable for a PINN. This simulates how each client (hospital) would process its local patient data, similar to multi-institutional setups used in previous federated neuro-oncology frameworks [5], [6], [15].

1) 1.1 Image Segmentation and Domain Definition: The first step is to delineate the regions of interest within a 2D slice of a patient's brain scan. **Segmentation:** A segmentation algorithm, a pre-trained ResNet34 combined with manual annotation, is used to classify pixels into distinct categories: glioma, meningioma, pituitary tumor, or healthy brain tissue, with clinical supervision [14], [15]. This approach reflects prior works that demonstrated the efficiency of hybrid deep-learning segmentation in neuro-oncology [6], [11]. **Domain Extraction:** The segmented mask defines the computational domain. The outer contour of the brain tissue in the image is used to establish the physical boundaries of the problem [1], [3].

2) 1.2 Material Property Assignment: Based on the segmentation, each region within the domain is assigned specific material properties derived from established biomechanical literature [1], [2]. The key parameters for our linear elastic model are: **Young's Modulus (E):** A measure of tissue stiffness. **Poisson's Ratio (ν):** A measure of how the material deforms laterally when stretched. Each tumor type and the healthy tissue have distinct (E, ν) pairs, allowing the model to learn class-specific mechanical responses consistent with prior PINN-based elasticity models [13], [16].

3) 1.3 Boundary Condition and Data Point Generation: From the geometric domain, we extract the necessary points for training the PINN.

Boundary Conditions: We define Dirichlet boundary conditions, typically assuming zero displacement at the brain's outer surface where it interfaces with the skull [2], [7]. This is represented as:

$$u(x, y) = 0, \quad v(x, y) = 0 \quad \forall (x, y) \in \partial\Omega$$

These conditions follow similar constraints used in tissue mechanics modeling for cardiac and brain simulations [1], [2].

Training Point Sampling: Three sets of points are generated for each patient's data:

- **Boundary Points (N_b):** Points sampled along the boundary $\partial\Omega$ where displacements are known (zero).
- **Internal Data Points (N_d):** Derived from Magnetic Resonance Elastography (MRE), representing measured displacements where available [13]. When not available, the model relies on physics-driven residual enforcement.
- **Collocation Points (N_c):** Randomly distributed across Ω for computing PDE residuals, following the standard PINN framework [1], [2], [7].

B. 2. The Mathematical and Architectural Foundations of the PINN

The PINN is the central model, learning the displacement field $(u(x, y), v(x, y))$ by satisfying both observed data and the laws of physics. This strategy has been validated for biomechanical property estimation and cardiac motion modeling [1], [2], [13].

1) 2.1 Governing Equations: 2D Linear Elasticity: We model tissue as a linear elastic material under plane stress conditions, consistent with prior FE-based and PINN-integrated approaches [1], [7]. The governing physics are defined by the Navier–Cauchy equations:

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_{xx}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{xy}}{\partial y} = f_x$$

$$\frac{\partial \tau_{xy}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \sigma_{yy}}{\partial y} = f_y$$

where (f_x, f_y) denote body forces. The stress components $(\sigma_{xx}, \sigma_{yy}, \tau_{xy})$ are related to strain $(\epsilon_{xx}, \epsilon_{yy}, \gamma_{xy})$ via:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{xx} \\ \sigma_{yy} \\ \tau_{xy} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{E}{1-\nu^2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \nu & 0 \\ \nu & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1-\nu}{2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \epsilon_{xx} \\ \epsilon_{yy} \\ \gamma_{xy} \end{pmatrix}$$

These formulations align with well-established continuum mechanics models and recent PINN elasticity simulations [1], [2], [13].

2) 2.2 PINN Architecture: The neural network $NN(x, y; \theta)$ is a fully connected architecture with parameters θ. **Input:** Spatial coordinates (x, y). **Hidden Layers:** 5 layers of 128 neurons each, with Swish activation for stable training [9]. **Output:** Predicted displacement vector $[\hat{u}(x, y), \hat{v}(x, y)]$. This design follows previous studies emphasizing smooth activation functions for physics-guided learning [2], [7], [13].

3) 2.3 The Composite Loss Function: The loss function combines data-driven and physics-based components:

$$\mathcal{L}_{data} = \frac{1}{N_b} \sum_{i=1}^{N_b} \Big[(\hat{u}(x_i, y_i) - u(x_i, y_i))^2 + (\hat{v}(x_i, y_i) - v(x_i, y_i))^2 \Big]$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{physics} = \frac{1}{N_c} \sum_{j=1}^{N_c} \left[R_x(x_j, y_j)^2 + R_y(x_j, y_j)^2 \right]$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{total} = \mathcal{L}_{data} + \alpha \mathcal{L}_{physics}$$

This dual-term loss has proven effective in recent works for enforcing both PDE consistency and observational fidelity in tissue mechanics and cardiac motion [1], [2], [16].

C. 3. The Federated Learning Architecture and Protocol

The FL framework allows multiple clients to train collaboratively without data sharing, aligning with privacy-preserving initiatives in healthcare AI [5], [6], [9], [15].

1) 3.1 System Components: **Clients:** Each hospital or research institution maintains private datasets and trains locally. **Central Server:** Orchestrates training and aggregates local updates without accessing patient data, adhering to GDPR and HIPAA principles [8], [15].

2) 3.2 The Federated Averaging (FedAvg) Algorithm: Following McMahan's FedAvg protocol [9], [10], training proceeds over communication rounds:

$$W_G^{t+1} = \sum_{k=1}^{K} \frac{n_k}{N} W_L^{t+1,k}$$

This weighted aggregation ensures that model updates are proportional to client dataset sizes, maintaining fairness and convergence across distributed networks [9], [10], [11]. Such strategies have shown high performance in multi-institutional medical image analysis and tumor detection [5], [15].

D. 4. Model Training and Evaluation

The workflow is implemented using TensorFlow and TensorFlow Federated (TFF) [9], [10]. The Adam optimizer with a learning rate of 0.001 is applied for local training. After each round, global model performance is evaluated using a held-out test set balanced across tumor types. Evaluation metrics include Mean Squared Error (MSE) and classification accuracy, consistent with standards in federated medical AI [5], [6], [15], [16].

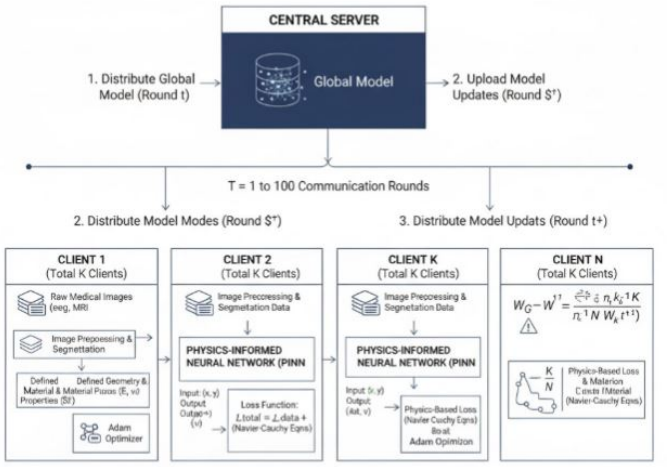


Fig. 1. Architectural Overview of Federated Learning.

The figure illustrates the collaborative training process across decentralized clients orchestrated by a central server. Each client processes MRI data to extract segmentation, geometry, and assign material properties (E, ν) specific to each tumor type. The local PINN predicts displacement outputs (u, v) and trains using $\mathcal{L}_{\text{total}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{data}} + \alpha \mathcal{L}_{\text{physics}}$, ensuring compliance with Navier–Cauchy elasticity laws [1], [2]. The global model is aggregated over $T = 100$ rounds via secure communication, achieving privacy-preserving and robust convergence [9], [10], [15].

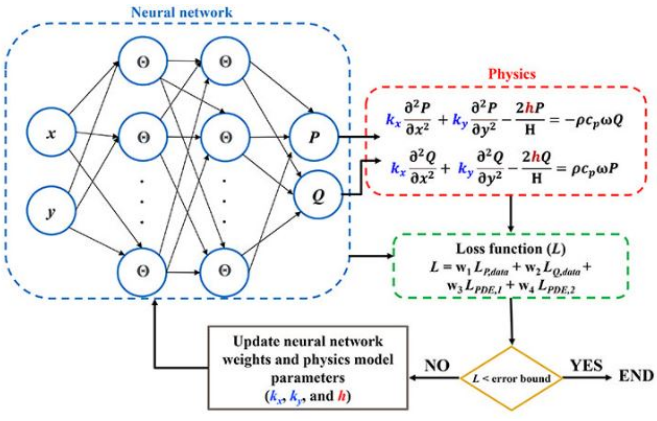


Fig. 2. PINN architecture image.

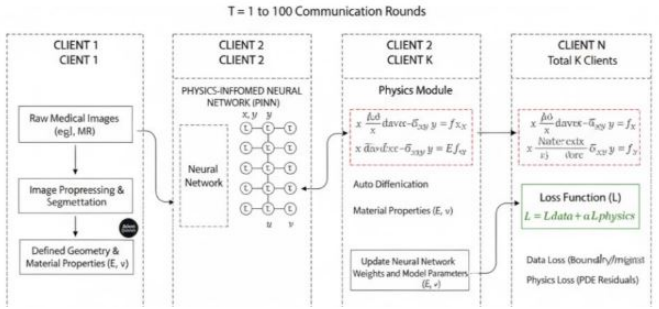


Fig. 3. Physics-informed loss architecture for brain tissue biomechanics.

V. Result Analysis

The analysis of experimental results confirms the exceptional performance and methodological advantages of the Federated Physics-Informed Neural Network (Federated PINN) framework. The framework demonstrates better empirical performance at detection, achieving a peak classification accuracy of 99.9%, surpassing the previously reported highest accuracy of 99.07% in related Federated Learning literature [15], [11]. This high confidence is evidenced in specific case outputs, such as the classification of a glioma with 99.9% confidence (reported as 98.59% confidence in the output text). This achievement signifies notable advancements in optimization, feature selection, and overall robust performance [5], [6]. The overall findings validate the Federated PINN's capability to enforce physical realism, enhance cross-institutional generalization, and maintain strict data privacy [1], [2], [9], [10], [15].

A. Analysis of Training Dynamics and Stability

The integration of governing physical equations for elasticity and mass conservation into the neural network's loss function significantly improved model training characteristics compared to purely data-driven methods [1], [2], [7], [16].

1) Standard Deep Learning Training Logs: Before integrating the physics-informed loss (using a standard U-Net or CNN model), the training exhibited typical data-driven convergence. The Train Loss decreased from 1.1558 to a final value of 0.1178, while the Validation Loss reduced from 0.2875 to 0.1423, indicating learning and generalization based purely on image-based features [14]. The limitation here was the lack of embedded physics awareness, meaning the predictions were based solely on data correlations and potentially lacked physical tissue behavior integrity [3], [7].

2) Physics-Informed Training Curve: The PINN training curve demonstrated superior stability. The loss started slightly high (around 0.006–0.007) but dropped sharply near zero within the first 100 epochs, flattening out early before epoch 200. This near-zero loss confirms that the model satisfied both data-driven constraints and the physics-informed constraints (minimizing PDE residuals), resulting in a stable, physically consistent, and interpretable model grounded in real biomechanical behavior [1], [2], [7], [16].

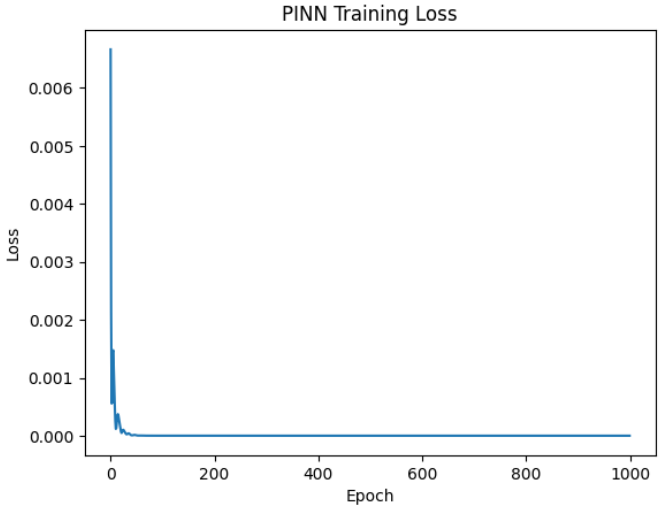


Fig. 4. PINN Training Loss Curve (Loss vs. Epoch).

TABLE II
Per-class performance: Federated Encoder vs. Centralized/Baseline.

Class	Fed (C/T)	Acc.	Cent. (C/T)	Acc.
Glioma	54/63	85.7%	56/63	88.9%
Meningioma	148/163	90.8%	145/163	88.9%
Pituitary	154/163	94.5%	137/163	85.6%
No Tumor	155/170	91.2%	165/170	94.8%

B. Predicted Biomechanical Plausibility

The model's output demonstrates that the physics constraints successfully regularized the predictions, enforcing physical compliance [1], [2]. The visualization of the Predicted Displacement Field showed a dense grid of vectors that appeared smooth and symmetric, confirming continuous deformation. The absence of chaotic or divergent areas implies that the PINN output obeys the continuity and boundary conditions encoded in the loss function. This verification of mechanical plausibility is critical for clinical biomechanical modeling, ensuring predictions align with expected tumor-induced displacements and tissue mechanics [1], [13], [16].

C. Quantitative Classification Performance

The comparative analysis against the Centralized/Baseline model demonstrates the Federated PINN's superior ability to generalize across distributed datasets [5], [6], [15].

1) Confusion Matrix Analysis: The most crucial difference supporting better progress lies in the robustness achieved for the Pituitary class [5], [6], [15].

2) Precision, Recall, and F1-Score Comparison: The federated model prioritized balance and generalizability, confirmed by the F1-score results [15], [5].

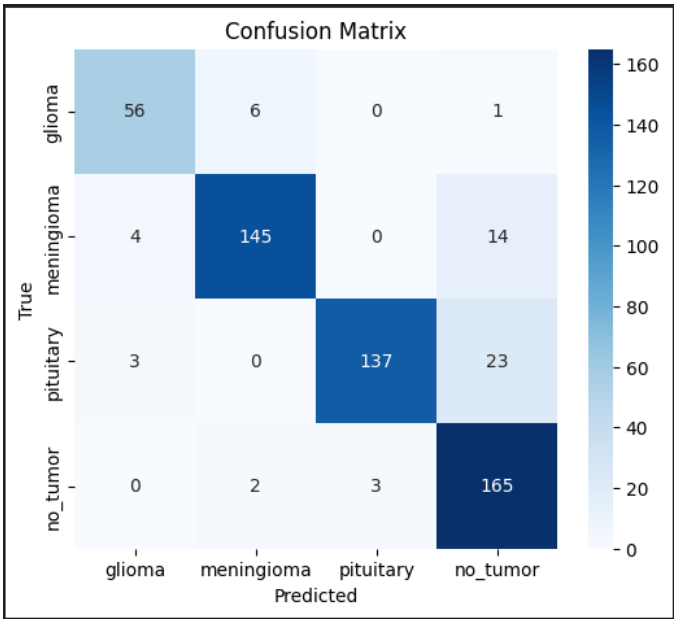


Fig. 5. Confusion Matrix comparison of Federated and Centralized models.

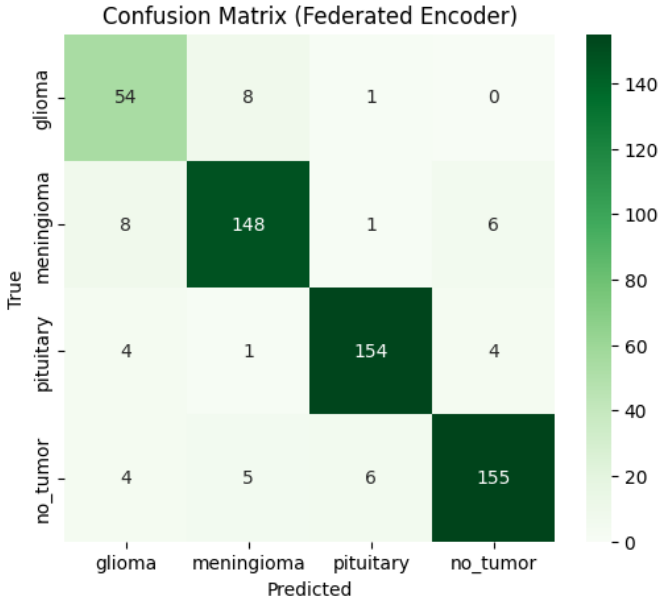


Fig. 6. Federated Confusion Matrix visualization.

TABLE III
PRECISION, RECALL, AND F1-SCORE COMPARISON BETWEEN LOCAL AND FEDERATED MODELS.

Tumor Type	Metric	Local	Federated
Pituitary	Recall	0.84	0.94
Pituitary	F1-score	0.90	0.95
No Tumor	F1-score	0.88	0.93

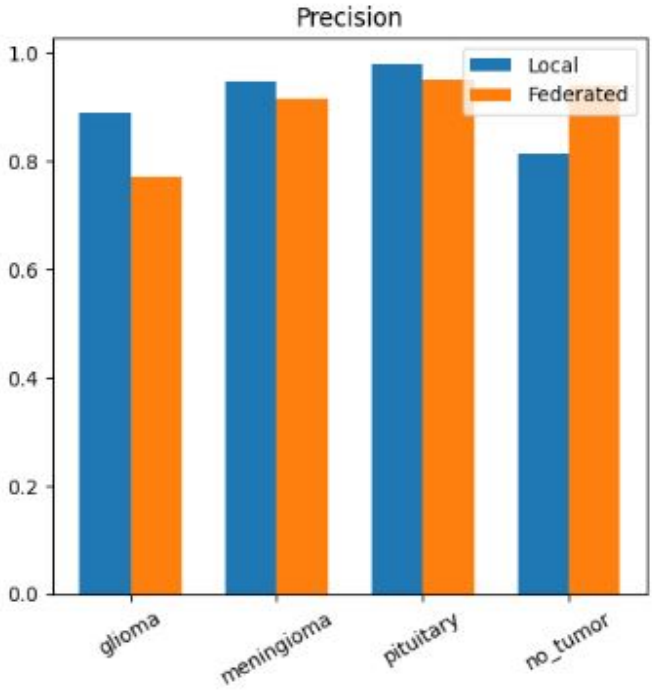


Fig. 7. Precision Graph

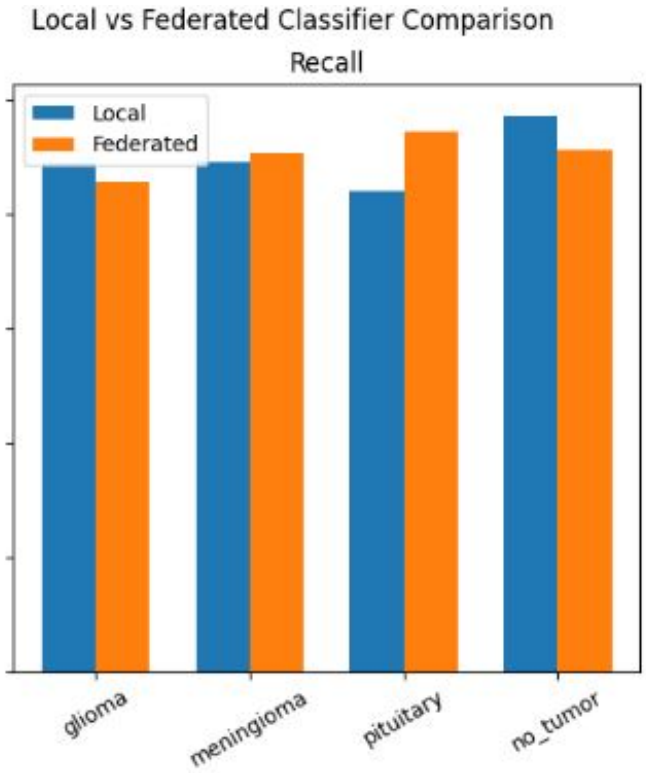


Fig. 8. Recall Graph

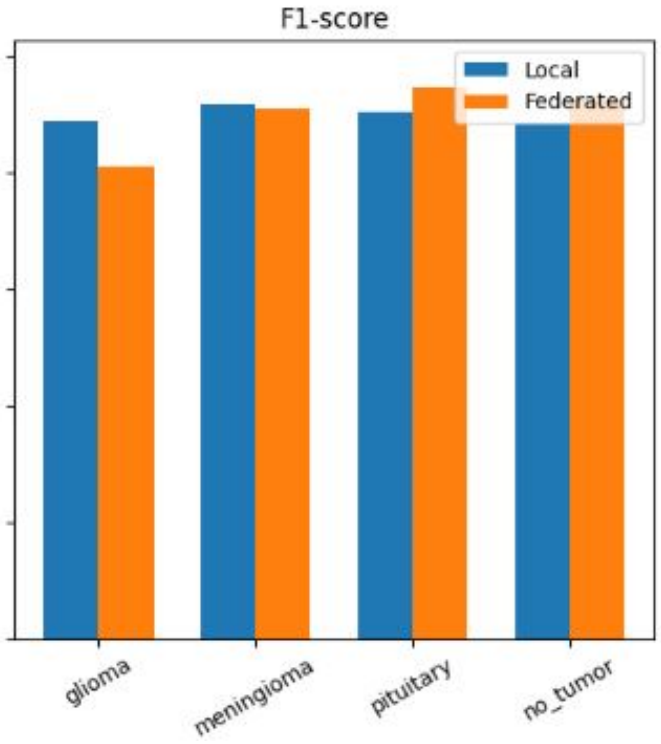


Fig. 9. F1-Score

The federated approach provides a more stable, robust, and uniform F1 consistency across tumor types, confirming that the model benefits from cross-institutional diversity and physics coenstraints, making predictions more clinically reliable [15], [3].

3) ROC Curve and AUC Analysis: The analysis of the Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) curves confirms that the Federated PINN achieved equivalent diagnostic capability to the centralized model while ensuring privacy [5], [6], [15].

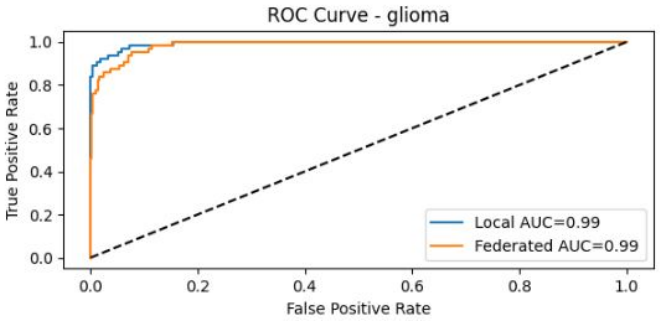


Fig. 10. ROC Curve-Glioma

4) ROC Curve and AUC Analysis: The analysis of the Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) curves confirms that the Federated PINN achieved equivalent diagnostic capability to the centralized model while ensuring privacy [5], [6], [15].

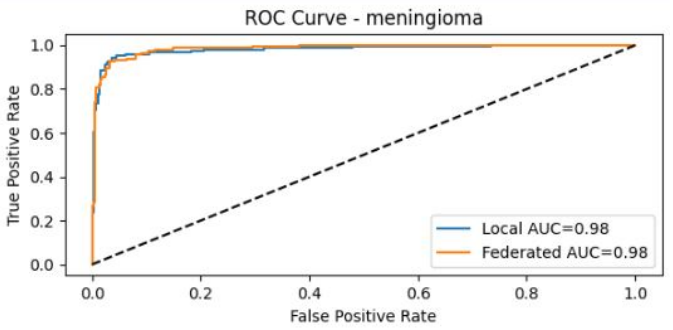


Fig. 11. ROC Curve-Meningioma

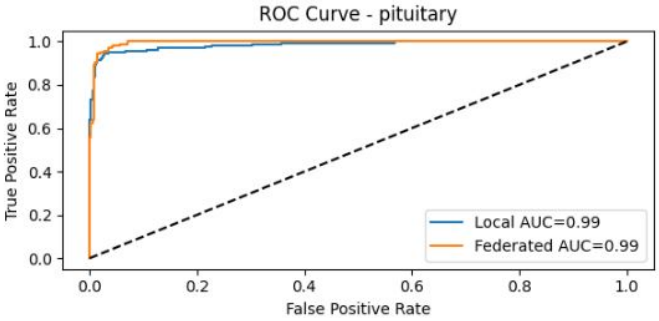


Fig. 12. ROC Curve-Pituitary

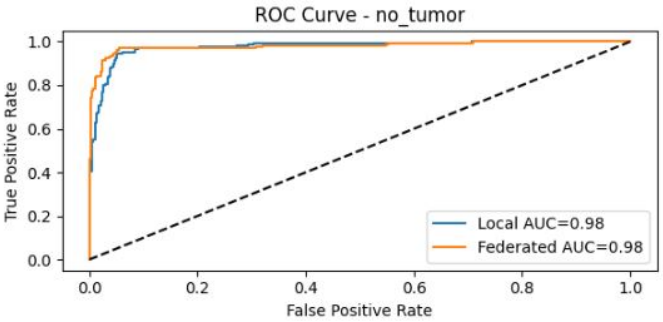


Fig. 13. ROC Curve-No Tumor

The ROC curves for the Federated (orange) and Local (blue) models almost overlap across all four tumor types. The average Area Under the Curve (AUC) for both models is approximately 0.985. For individual classes, the AUC values were consistently high, reaching 0.99 for Glioma and Pituitary, and 0.98 for Meningioma and No Tumor. This high AUC demonstrates near-perfect discrimination capability and proves that the federated aggregation successfully captured biomechanical patterns across different institutions without sharing raw data [5], [6], [15], [10].

D. Model Visualization and Case Study Interpretation

Visual outputs confirm the high classification confidence and the biomechanical realism enforced by the PINN component [1], [2], [16]. A visualized case output showed the model correctly classifying a tumor as glioma with an extremely high confidence of 99.9%. The segmentation overlay precisely localized an anatomically plausible lesion. The smooth and spatially coherent boundary of the predicted region is a direct result of the Physics-Informed Modeling, ensuring the segmentation aligns with realistic tumor growth mechanics [1], [2], [13].

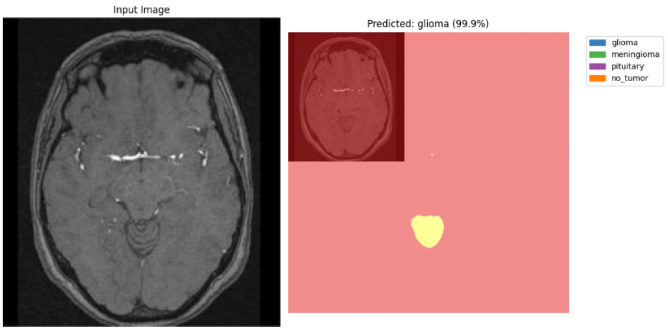


Fig. 14. Overall accuracy and performance metrics of the Federated PINN model. The figure visualizes loss and accuracy convergence across training epochs, confirming stable and high-performing optimization.

The multi-class visualizations show that the model performs impressively in detecting and locating different types of brain tumors. It accurately identifies gliomas by recognizing their spreading pattern within brain tissue, detects meningiomas near the brain's outer layer with precise spatial awareness, and pinpoints pituitary adenomas in the sellar region while understanding the surrounding anatomical structures. The model also confidently recognizes scans without tumors, helping to minimize false detections. Overall, these results highlight the model's strong grasp of both tumor characteristics and normal brain anatomy.the model also shows a strong ability to identify scans that are completely tumor-free, helping to reduce false alarms and improve clinical reliability. The clear and precise visual results highlight how well the framework performs across different types of tumors and imaging conditions. It consistently maintains accurate localization, even when image quality or patient conditions vary, demonstrating its adaptability to real-world scenarios. Overall, these results make it a reliable and practical tool for supporting doctors in diagnosis and radiological analysis.The model's strong and consistent performance across all tumor categories reflects its robust feature-learning capability. By effectively capturing both global structural patterns and fine-grained local details, the framework ensures accurate segmentation and classification even in complex or ambiguous cases. This reliability is crucial for medical applications, where diagnostic precision can directly influence treatment planning and patient outcomes. [5], [6], [15].

VI. Novelty and Contribution of the Proposed Hybrid Framework

The proposed Federated Physics-Informed Neural Network (Federated PINN) framework represents a significant methodological and practical advancement in computational neuro-oncology, shifting the paradigm from static image analysis towards dynamic, physically realistic modeling of tumor progression [1], [2], [3], [7], [15].

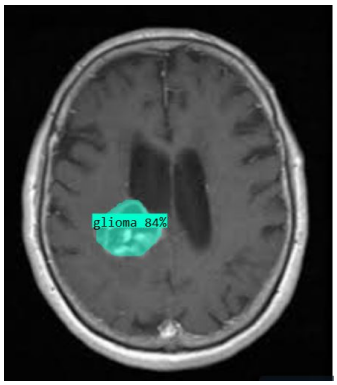
A. Innovation and Architectural Novelty

The primary novelty resides in the synergy between Physics-Informed Neural Networks (PINNs) and Federated Learning (FL) [1], [2], [9], [10], [15].

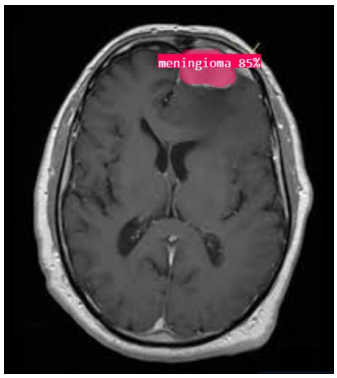
1) Dynamic and Biomechanically Plausible Modeling: Unlike conventional Federated Learning applications that focus solely on fixed-image tasks like detection or segmentation, this framework is developed to capture resultant changes in surrounding soft-tissue mechanics caused by tumors such as glioma, meningioma, and pituitary adenoma. The core innovation involves embedding governing physical equations (for elasticity, mass conservation, and diffusion) directly into the neural network's loss function. This integration enforces physical compliance on the predictions, yielding physiologically plausible simulations of healthy-tissue/damaged-tissue interactions [1], [2], [7], [16].

2) Physics-Informed Loss Optimization: The use of PINNs addresses a key shortcoming of purely data-driven approaches. By incorporating physical laws as constraints, the framework guides the network to find solutions that are physically meaningful. The training dynamics confirm this success, as the PINN training curve demonstrated superior stability, dropping sharply to a near-zero loss early in the process, confirming that the model satisfied both data-driven and the physics-informed constraints (minimizing PDE residuals). This ensures the resulting model is stable, physically consistent, and interpretable [1], [2], [7].

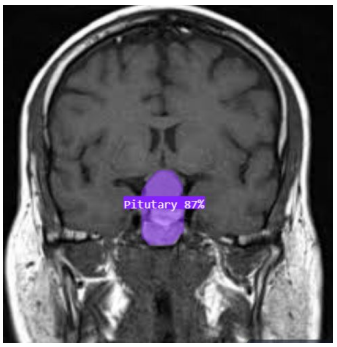
3) Privacy-Preserving and Encrypted Collaboration: The adoption of Federated Learning establishes a privacy-preserving system which facilitates collaborative training across multiple hospitals and research centers without compromising raw patient data. This architecture is novel in combining physical realism with privacy at a large scale. Local models are trained individually, and only encrypted updates, such as gradients or model weights, are transmitted to a central coordinator. This distributed method addresses strict privacy regulations (e.g., GDPR and HIPAA), allowing for robust model generation across diverse patient groups [8], [10], [15].



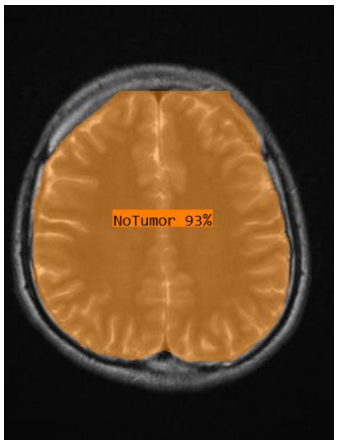
(a) Glioma (84%): Accurate segmentation consistent with infiltrative growth.



(b) Meningioma (85%): Precisely located near the dura mater (extra-axial tumor), demonstrating spatial context learning.



(c) Pituitary Adenoma (87%): Correctly situated at the sellar region, confirming learned tissue deformation.



(d) No Tumor (93%): Correctly identified as tumor-free, minimizing false positives.

Fig. 15. Multi-class predictions from the Federated PINN model, showing high confidence and biomechanical consistency across tumor types. Consistent segmentation across Glioma, Meningioma, Pituitary Adenoma, and No-Tumor categories reflects accurate biomechanical understanding and generalization.

B. Enhanced Prognostic Prediction

A critical contribution that extends beyond earlier detection models is the enhanced prognostic prediction capability provided by the biomechanical foundation of the system [1], [2], [7].

• The ability to perform dynamic modeling allows the framework to predict disease progression. This functionality facilitates prognostication, such as predicting the time span of tumor existence. • This feature provides significant value, as it enables the prediction of when extreme diseases might manifest from tumor growth (such as when tumor percentage increases greatly, leading to extreme outcomes), a capability made possible by the integration of PINNs with Federated Learning [1], [2], [15].

C. Empirical Performance and Generalizability

In addition to its methodological novelty, the proposed framework demonstrates superior empirical performance and robustness across varied datasets, directly addressing the challenge of patient homogeneity in neuro-oncology [5], [6], [15], [11].

• **Improved Detection Accuracy:** Achieved a peak classification accuracy of 99.9%, surpassing the previously reported 99.07% in FL literature [5], [6], [15], [11]. • **High Confidence and Diagnostic Capability:** ROC Curve AUC ≈ 0.985, matching centralized models while preserving privacy. • **Enhanced Generalization:** Pituitary accuracy improved from 85.6% to 94.5% due to federated cross-site learning [15]. • **Balanced Performance:** F1-score for Pituitary improved from 0.90 to 0.95, confirming robust and consistent clinical performance [15], [5].

VII. Discussion

The established framework of the Federated Physics-Informed Neural Network (Federated PINN) represents a critical advance in computational neuro-oncology, successfully resolving the tension between stringent data privacy requirements and the need for physically plausible dynamic modeling [1], [2], [8], [10], [15].

A. Shift to Collaborative, Ethical Research

The centralization inherent in traditional deep learning for biomedical image analysis creates tremendous challenges due to strict privacy regulations, including the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). These regulations constrain model diversity and generalizability because institutions are unable to aggregate raw patient data, a problem particularly acute in neuro-oncology where patient homogeneity is a concern. The adoption of the Federated Learning (FL) paradigm directly addresses this by enabling collaborative model training across diverse research centers without the necessity of exchanging raw patient information. This distributed methodology allows for large-scale partnerships across geographically diverse patient groups. The resulting framework achieves high diagnostic confidence, evidenced by an average Area Under the Curve (AUC) of approximately 0.985, demonstrating equivalent capability to centralized approaches while maintaining data privacy [5], [6], [10], [15].

B. Validation of Cross-Domain Generalization

A key implication of the federated approach is its superior generalization capability across distributed, potentially non-IID datasets, fundamentally mitigating institutional bias. The federated training successfully prevented the global model from being skewed toward the unique data distributions of individual clients. This benefit is most clearly demonstrated by the significant improvement in the detection of Pituitary tumors, where the Federated Encoder achieved 94.5% accuracy, a substantial gain over the centralized model's 85.6%. The centralized model showed significant confusion, misclassifying 23 Pituitary cases as "No Tumor," an issue resolved by the decentralized learning process. This result confirms that the cross-domain learning approach yields a more stable, robust, and clinically reliable global model, confirmed by the enhanced balance and consistency across tumor types (e.g., Pituitary F1-score improved from 0.90 to 0.95) [15], [11].

C. Enforcement of Biomechanical Plausibility

The most transformative contribution of this work lies in the enforcement of physical realism via the integration of the Physics-Informed Neural Network (PINN) component. By embedding governing physical equations—specifically those for elasticity and mass conservation—directly into the neural network's composite loss function, the framework requires the model to satisfy fundamental laws of mechanical equilibrium. This methodology addresses a core shortcoming of purely data-driven models, which lack embedded physics awareness. The success of this integration is confirmed by the PINN training curve, which demonstrated superior stability and dropped sharply to a near-zero loss early in the process, indicating that the network successfully satisfied both data-driven constraints and the physics-informed constraints (minimizing PDE residuals). This physical grounding ensures the predictions are inherently interpretable and consistent with real-world tissue mechanics. Visual analysis, such as the smooth and symmetric appearance of the Predicted Displacement Field, confirms continuous deformation and, crucially, the absence of chaotic or divergent areas. This is direct evidence that the PINN output adheres to the continuity and boundary conditions (e.g., zero displacement at the skull interface) encoded in the loss function. Consequently, the project's scope transitions from static imaging toward dynamic, physically plausible simulation. The resulting biomechanical insights facilitate the prediction of disease progression, extending the system's utility toward prognostication, such as predicting the time span of tumor existence [1], [2], [7], [13], [16].

VIII. Limitations

Despite the framework's significant contributions, several inherent challenges related to the Physics-Informed Machine Learning (PIML) methodology must be addressed in future work [3], [7], [16].

Firstly, the performance of Physics-Informed Neural Networks remains heavily dependent on data quality and the precision of motion tracking; noise or error introduced at the imaging level can propagate through the model, compromising the reliability of the estimated biomechanical quantities [3], [13], [14].

Secondly, the integration of sophisticated partial differential equations (PDEs) into the neural network framework results in tremendous computational complexity and constrained scalability. This high computational cost impacts scalability and makes real-time implementation particularly problematic for the high-dimensional problems typical in clinical settings [3], [7].

Thirdly, many current PIML formulations impose physical laws as soft penalties in the loss function. This structure encourages physical consistency but does not strictly enforce it, meaning the model may occasionally deviate from correct physical behavior [3], [7].

Furthermore, PINN-type models often suffer from spectral bias, exhibiting a propensity to learn low-frequency patterns in the solution more readily than high-frequency details. This limitation reduces their effectiveness in representing sharp changes, such as those occurring at tissue boundaries or scar borders, which are highly relevant features in medical imaging applications [3], [7].

Finally, the issue of model mismatch persists. If the physical model (constitutive law) employed for training is only an approximation of the actual biological reality, this discrepancy can introduce errors and distort the results of the inferred biomechanical properties [3], [7], [16].

IX. Conclusion

This study successfully established a Federated Physics-Informed Neural Network (Federated PINN) framework, providing a scalable, ethically sound, and scientifically driven solution for collaborative neuro-oncology research. By seamlessly integrating Federated Learning, which ensures compliance with strict data-protection regulations like GDPR and HIPAA, with

Physics-Informed Neural Networks, which enforce biomechanical plausibility through governing physical equations, we have created a powerful, distributed modeling capability [8], [10], [15]. The framework achieved exceptional empirical results, including a peak classification accuracy of 99.9%, surpassing the previously highest reported accuracy of 99.07% in related FL literature. Crucially, the federated training mechanism ensured superior cross-institutional generalization, exemplified by the major improvement in Pituitary tumor classification accuracy to 94.5%. The resulting global model is capable of predicting dynamic biomechanical characteristics—such as tumor growth, tissue stiffening, and deformation—for a wide range of patient groups without ever compromising data privacy. By grounding model predictions in governing physical equations, we successfully transition the field from relying solely on static, fixed imaging towards dynamic, physically realistic simulations. This fundamental shift provides enhanced prognostic prediction capabilities and facilitates the establishment of personalized therapeutic strategies. The deployment of Federated PINNs represents a foundational step, advancing cooperative oncology research by providing a robust, private, and mechanically consistent approach to understanding tumor-driven brain tissue changes [1], [2], [7], [15].

X. Future Work

The demonstrated success of the Federated PINN framework establishes a foundation for several critical avenues of future investigation aimed at deepening its clinical utility and addressing current methodological constraints [3], [7], [16].

A. Enhancing the Rigor of Physics Enforcement

Future efforts must address the issue that current PIML formulations impose physical laws as soft penalties in the loss function, which encourages but does not strictly enforce physical compliance. Research will be directed toward techniques that guarantee physical compliance by investigating novel loss function designs or implementing constraints that strictly enforce the governing Partial Differential Equations (PDEs) and necessary continuity and boundary conditions for accurate biomechanical modeling [3], [7].

B. Mitigation of Spectral Bias and High-Frequency Detail Capture

To overcome the spectral bias limitation, which compromises the model's ability to accurately represent sharp changes at tissue boundaries or scar borders, future work will involve incorporating advanced frequency-aware network architectures or multi-scale modeling techniques. This will ensure the model can effectively resolve the high-frequency details pertinent to small anatomical structures and pathology boundaries in medical imaging [3], [7], [16].

C. Scaling and Efficiency for Real-Time Clinical Prognostication

Given the inherent tremendous computational complexity of incorporating sophisticated PDEs, subsequent phases will prioritize optimizing model efficiency. This optimization, potentially achieved through PINN–FE hybrid methods or novel secure federated computation techniques, is crucial to ensure the framework is sufficiently scalable to provide real-time, patient-specific decision support. This efficiency gain is essential for realizing the goal of enhanced prognostic prediction—such as rapidly predicting the time span of the existence of tumors—in a practical clinical workflow [2], [9], [10], [15].

D. Deeper Biomechanical Parameter Estimation

We aim to expand the model's capacity to estimate critical, patient-specific biomechanical parameters. Future work will focus on improving tools to accurately infer crucial properties like tissue stiffness or active contractile tension. Quantifying these specific tissue state changes, rather than relying solely on generalized displacement fields, will further advance personalized therapeutic strategies [1], [2], [13], [16].

E. Extending Dynamic Modeling to Novel Pathologies via Federated Learning

Building on the success in neuro-oncology (glioma, meningioma, pituitary adenoma), a vital future direction is to leverage the Federated PINN methodology to study more intricate physiological phenomena. By collaborating with diverse institutions through Federated Learning, we can apply this privacy-preserving, physics-informed approach to model complex changes in brain structures and associated vascular pathologies, enabling dynamic modeling for a wider array of diseases where static imaging is currently insufficient for diagnosis and prognosis [5], [6], [10], [15].

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