Image Analysis and Recognition using Deep Learning for Dermatological Skin Conditions

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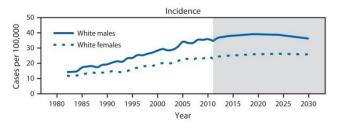
Project Background

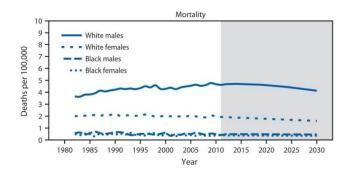
Skin cancer is the most common type of cancer worldwide and affects every race and gender.

Some of these unfortunate statistics in the United States include:

- Each year nearly 5 million people are treated for all skin cancers combined, with more than 9,500 people diagnosed with skin cancer every day, and more than two people dying every hour. 1,2
- At least one in five Americans will develop skin cancer by the age of 70.3
- Basal cell carcinoma (BCC) is the most common form of skin cancer, with an estimated **4.3 million cases of BCC are diagnosed in the U.S. each year**. ⁴
- The estimated **annual cost of treatment is estimated at \$4.8 billion in the U.S.**, with approximately \$3.3 billion dollars associated with costs attributable to melanoma.⁵
- Globally, malignant skin melanoma has increased by 104.3%, and non-melanoma skin cancer by 211.2% between 1990-2007, and 32.3% and 32.7% between 2007-2017.6

Observed and projected age-adjusted melanoma incidence and mortality rates, by sex and race — United States, 1982–2030¹



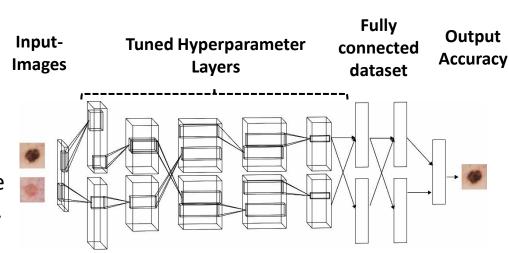


Project Background

The use of technology, and specifically machine learning provides the ability to achieve these goals. Machine Learning, deep learning and innovations with convolutional neural networks (CNNs) provide the ability to analyze imagery data, classify, and provide results from inputted data. CNNs require large datasets in order to improve accuracy and provide sensible information.

The practical application of a machine learning program with a high success rate would provide the ability for increasing accurate results from early skin condition problems. Images of skin conditions could be tested with a reliable model, compared and have a probable diagnosis. A healthcare professional could take analyze the data, take this information into account, and treat conditions accordingly.

This project has the ability to influence further development of an initiative to decrease the amount of time required for early analysis of skin conditions and guide healthcare professionals, while increasing the response time for more serious conditions, and reducing the time invested for treating less serious conditions.



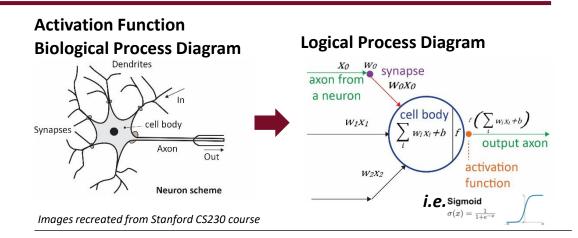
Brief Overview - Deep Learning and Convolutionary Neural Networks

Deep learning is a subset of machine learning, which reflects the human learning process and derived from the biological processing of information. Convolutional neural networks (CNN) are a category of machine learning, in which unique features from a dataset are learned using filtered layers and a backpropagation algorithm to continually learn information about a dataset.

The process of convolution, in which CNNs obtain their name, is analogous to a filter (or stencil) passing over an image which is analyzed (by an activation map). Information is learned and passed to the subsequent layer for further processing, in which several layers may be introduced to more effectively learn information about the dataset.

Inputs are introduced with a dataset, which is trained (from layers of programmed code) to make accurate predictions.

CNNs are regularized versions of multilayer perceptrons, which are fully connected neuron networks.



Convolutional Layer

The image is passed over all of the spatial locations as it is passed along to the subsequent layer(s) toward the output.

Input Layer	Hidden Layers	Output Layers			
		······································			

Brief Overview - Deep Learning and Convolutionary Neural Networks

A series of layers are introduced to create a hierarchical structure, in which each layer (controlled by tuning hyperparameters) introduces various filters and increases a level of complexity to analyze the data.

Depending upon the data, and which layers are tested, accuracy may be determined from the test, training, and possible validation set (training and validation terminology may be interchanged). The measurement of accuracy reflects the machine's ability to learn from the data.

A series of epochs can test the data, while increasing the epochs allows the learning algorithm to run until errors have been minimized.

The accuracy of the model is tested and the hyperparameters are tuned for performance.

CNN 3D Walkthrough (animated, press play)

Convolutionary Neural Network Black Box

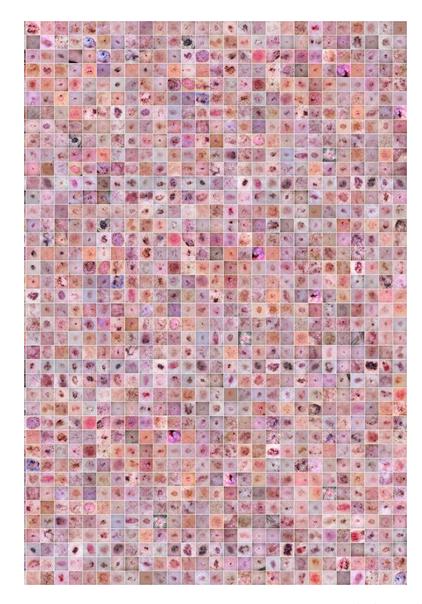
Dataset and Classification

Innovations and initiatives are taking place around the world to address a multitude of healthcare concerns using data science, machine learning, and technology.

This project includes performing machine learning algorithms for image recognition. Utilizing a subset of over 10,000 images from Harvard's Dataverse, and also part of the Kaggle "Skin Cancer MNIST: HAM10000 analysis" competition. ⁷

The dataset includes 10,000 images which contain seven categories of skin conditions. Although the CNN is capable of classifying the accuracy between each of these types of conditions, this project will focus on two specific skin conditions, including the *melanocytic nevi*, also called nevi (referred to as mole furthermore), and basal cell carcinoma, which is a form of cancerous cell.

The physical appearance of these two types of skin conditions have many similarities, however the basal cell carcinoma requires immediate attention for clinical treatment.



Clinical Characterization

The clinical characterization of these two types of cells include:

Mole characteristics 8

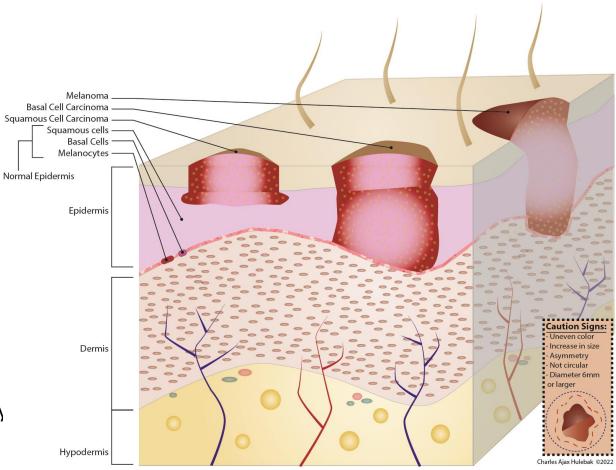
- Size: generally less than 5mm diameter, pigmented spots on the skin that usually appear between birth and childhood.
- Shape: round or oval
- Color: brown is the most common; may be tan, black, red, pink, blue, skin-toned, or colorless
- Characteristics: flat or slightly raised

Basal Cell Carcinoma characteristics 9

- Size: varies
- Shape: varies
- Color: pink or red (most common); brown, black or flecks of these colors; yellowish; white; blue
- Characteristics: may be waxy, dip in the center, scaly patch of skin, sore that may bleed, ooze, or crust over
- *There are several stages of this skin condition, which have slightly different characteristics.

There are many similar characteristics, yet distinct differences. How is a deep learning program going to distinguish between them?

Skin Cells Diagram



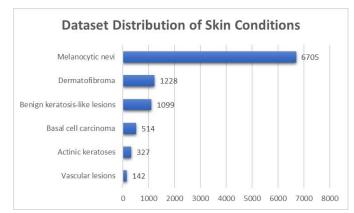
Project Walkthrough: Programming and Tuning the CNN

The initial steps for this project included downloading and reviewing both the metadata and image data for the project.

Following the analysis of the data and determination of the project objective, the intent was to compare two variables, much like the "Cats vs. Dogs" project. In this case, we are assessing the difference between two types of skin cells that are difficult to distinguish with the eye.

The original dataset included 6,705 mole images, and 514 basal cell carcinoma images. Although this was sufficient for preliminary testing, I decided to create more basal cell carcinoma images by rotating and mirroring these images, to create 4,112 images. Increasing this volume of data provides the ability to generate more accurate predictions for the testing and training data. The new combined testing data is 10,817 images.

In addition, the image sizes were very large, amounting to over 2GB of data and lengthy initial testing. The images were reduced from 650px x 450 px at 300dpi to 300px * 225px at 200dpi.



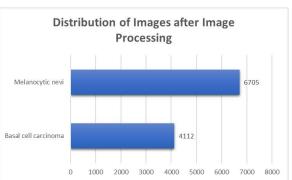
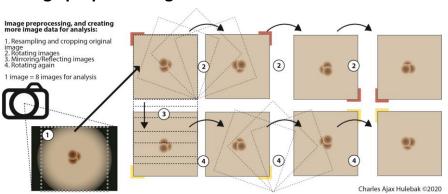


Image preprocessing



Charles A. Hulebak

Project Walkthrough: Programming and Tuning the CNN

The Cats vs. Dogs project provide a great baseline for testing various features within the CNN. I imported programming libraries that were necessary to conduct analysis for the project, including Pandas for data processing, NumPy for linear algebra, the Scikit-image package, TensorFlow, Keras, and a few others shown within the code section.

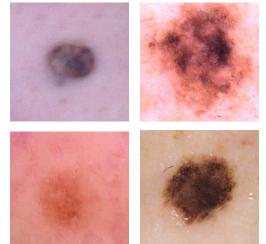
The initial testing results were significantly higher for early models, and it was evident that greater dpi resulted in higher accuracy for models. For example, the image dataset which contained images that were 450px x 450px at 300dpi had initial results around 85% with a single epoch.

Whereas this same image dataset that was reduced to 225px x 225px at 300 dpi were testing with a 65% accuracy rate.

A third dataset was used with smaller images, and resulted with an average of a 55% accuracy rating.

The time required to test the larger dataset was also significantly longer, and I was more interested in testing more models for performance than reaching a very high rating on the large dataset (which might be considered in the future).

Mole Images



Basal Cell Carcinoma Images

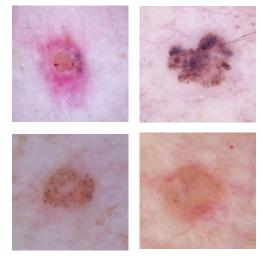
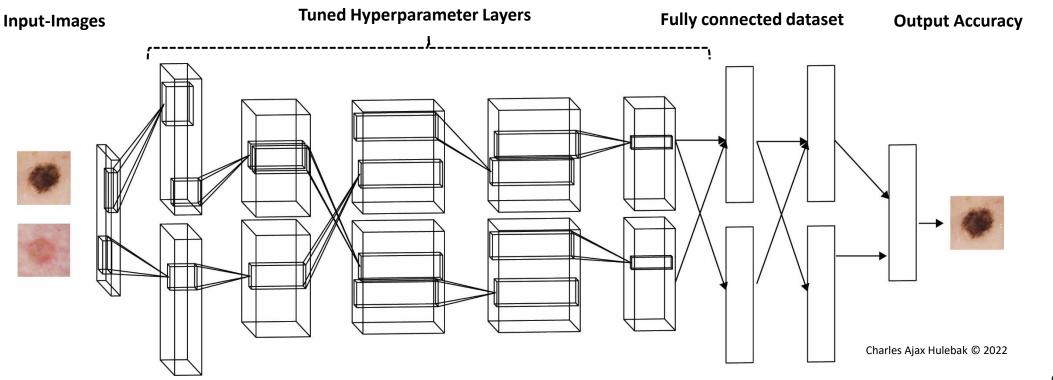


Image Credit: HAM10000 dataset

Project Walkthrough: Programming and Tuning the CNN

Through the process of modifying layer filters and tuning hyperparameters, I initially tested the model to determine the highest accuracy rate on a single epoch.

I continued to tune various layers and chose the best performing model within a single epoch. Then tested these on two epochs, followed by selecting the best performing model for further analysis. This model was tested with 10 epochs and evaluate the test accuracy, which resulted in 92.15% for the test data. It was evident that the learning process during these epochs provided much better results into this fully connected machine learning network.



Results and Conclusion

I am very satisfied with the results from this project, as well as confident that the accuracy rating can be increased by analyzing higher resolution photographs, as well as increasing the sample size.

This project has a lot of potential, as well as other affiliated scientific and technology applications.

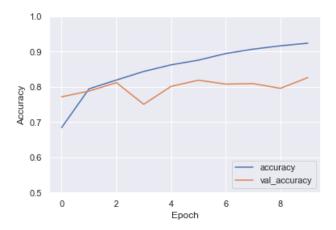
I was originally inspired to perform this project in light of the current COVID-19 pandemic, which is a global challenge and being addressed from many different perspectives to contain this virus, reduce the spread, and treat the those that have been infected. How can technology improve and control a condition such as this?

The CNN for this project has the ability to analyze a multitude of imagery, ranging from X-rays, to biological matter. Analysis can be conducted much faster for detection and containing than some of the other methods currently available.

I am certain that machine learning will continue to positively influence our future.

Testing and Training Data Results

```
Train on 8653 samples, validate on 2164 samples
- val loss: 0.4868 - val accuracy: 0.7717
Epoch 2/10
- val loss: 0.4902 - val accuracy: 0.7879
8653/8653 [========================== ] - 1343s 155ms/sample - loss: 0.4104 - accuracy: 0.8193
- val loss: 0.4831 - val accuracy: 0.8119
Epoch 4/10
8653/8653 [============] - 1352s 156ms/sample - loss: 0.3609 - accuracy: 0.8436
- val loss: 0.5081 - val accuracy: 0.7505
Epoch 5/10
8653/8653 [============== ] - 1300s 150ms/sample - loss: 0.3224 - accuracy: 0.8624
- val loss: 0.4634 - val accuracy: 0.8013
Epoch 6/10
8653/8653 [================== ] - 1316s 152ms/sample - loss: 0.2949 - accuracy: 0.8758
- val loss: 0.4709 - val accuracy: 0.8189
8653/8653 [============] - 1335s 154ms/sample - loss: 0.2599 - accuracy: 0.8945
- val loss: 0.5123 - val accuracy: 0.8078
Epoch 8/10
- val loss: 0.4601 - val accuracy: 0.8091
Epoch 9/10
8653/8653 [================ ] - 1395s 161ms/sample - loss: 0.2118 - accuracy: 0.9164
- val loss: 0.5344 - val accuracy: 0.7957
Epoch 10/10
- val loss: 0.5419 - val_accuracy: 0.8262
```



References

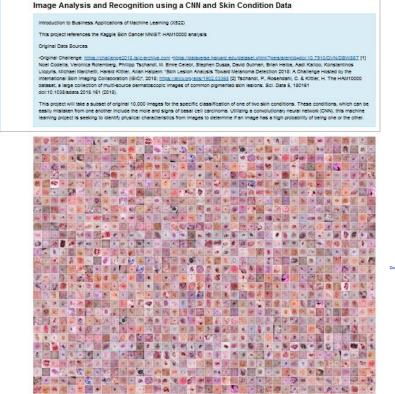
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Addendum A - Global Prevalence of Skin Conditions

	Dravalance (thousand-) 2047	Incidence (thousands) 2047		YLDs (thousands)			
	Prevalence (thousands) 2017 counts	Incidence (thousands) 2017 - counts	2017 counts	Percentage change in counts, 1990–2007	Percentage change in counts, 2007–17	Percentage change in age- standardised rates, 1990–2007	Percentage change in age- standardised rates, 2007–17
	7 369 526-2 (7 344 769-0 to 7 392 430-8)	38 480 253·2 (36 469 390·1 to 40 567 963·0)	853 042·6 (642 084·6 to 1 097 347·2)	29·8% (28·8 to 30·8)	17-0% (16-4 to 17-6)	-3·0% (-3·5 to −2·5)	-0·9% (-1·4 to -0·4)
Malignant skin melanoma	2324·4 (1794·8 to 2796·2)	308·7 (237·6 to 365·9)	140-9 (90-8 to 201-6)	104·3% (82·1 to 111·6)	32·3% (27·0 to 36·9)	41·3% (24·4 to 46·9)	4·9% (0·9 to 8·6)
Diagnosis and primary therapy phase of malignant skin melanoma	64·1 (49·0 to 76·8)	308·7 (237·6 to 365·9)	17·5 (11·0 to 25·2)	110·3% (89·4 to 118·3)	32·4% (26·1 to 38·8)	46·4% (30·5 to 52·6)	5·4% (0·5 to 10·6)
Controlled phase of malignant skin melanoma	2208·7 (1709·0 to 2662·4)		101·2 (59·9 to 154·2)	113·8% (93·9 to 121·4)	32·9% (27·7 to 37·9)	50·2% (34·9 to 55·4)	6·4% (2·3 to 10·7)
Metastatic phase of malignant	44-3 (32-7 to 49-6)		18·4 (11·3 to 25·1)	68·4% (40·0 to 80·0)	29·5% (22·6 to 35·5)	12·5% (-7·3 to 20·9)	-1·6% (-6·9 to 3·2)
Terminal phase of malignant skin	7-3 (5-4 to 8-2)		3·9 (2·4 to 5·2)	64·2% (37·2 to 73·7)	28·7% (21·6 to 33·9)	9·0% (-9·7 to 15·6)	-2·6% (-7·8 to 1·3)
Non-melanoma skin cancer	2537·1 (1666·4 to 3696·8)	7663·6 (5251·1 to 10 570·3)	90·2 (49·5 to 149·0)	211·2% (142·3 to 305·0)	32·7% (25·3 to 40·0)	96·8% (46·7 to 162·7)	-2·0% (-7·7 to 3·9)
Non-melanoma skin cancer (squamous-cell carcinoma)	2158-9 (1294-8 to 3255-8)	1778·8 (1068·8 to 2620·9)	87·7 (46·9 to 146·3)	221·7% (148·5 to 334·5)	32·8% (25·0 to 40·0)	102·5% (47·3 to 180·3)	-2·0% (-7·8 to 4·0)
Non-melanoma skin cancer (basal- cell carcinoma)	596·8 (325·9 to 947·0)	5884·8 (3702·9 to 8742·9)	2·5 (0·9 to 5·2)	44·5% (20·3 to 76·5)	30·8% (23·1 to 37·0)	-3·8% (-21·1 to 18·1)	-1·0% (-6·4 to 3·2)
Skin and subcutaneous diseases	1 974 238·4 (1 916 671·8 to 2 034 645·7)	4 185 971·3 (3 971 760·5 to 4 391 218·2)	41 621·9 (27 371·7 to 61 859·5)	24·0% (22·9 to 25·3)	13·0% (12·5 to 13·6)	0·9% (0·4 to 1·4)	0.6% (0.1 to 1.1)
Dermatitis	291 689-4 (276 520-7 to 308	274 034·1 (246 120·0 to 302	11 128·1 (6484·1 to 17 733·4)	19·3% (18·2 to 20·7)	12·1% (11·3 to 12·8)	-0·1% (-0·7 to 0·5)	1·1% (0·4 to 1·8)
Atopic dermatitis	205 517·2 (193 701·2 to 218	27 134·4 (25 282·9 to 29 055·0)	9003·4 (4887·0 to 14 981·0)	17·0% (16·1 to 17·9)	11·6% (10·8 to 12·5)	0·4% (-0·4 to 1·1)	1·7% (0·9 to 2·6)
Contact dermatitis	79 666·7 (70 425·7 to 89 554·9)	221 252·8 (193 7/5·3 to 249	1989-2 (1304-4 to 2950-5)	31·0% (28·8 to 33·2)	14·4% (12·6 to 16·2)	-1·6% (-2·3 to -1·0)	-1·1% (-1·7 to -0·5)
Seborrhoeic dermatitis	10 035·9 (9450·2 to 10 668·4)	25 646·9 (23 981·6 to 27 315·9)	135·6 (78·1 to 215·0)	20·8% (18·5 to 23·3)	8·4% (6·6 to 10·3)	-7·7% (-9·0 to -6·4)	-7·1% (-8·3 to -5·8)
Psoriasis	64 609·6 (62 454·3 to 66 767·5)	7846·6 (7564·9 to 8162·8)	5569·5 (3956·1 to 7354·3)	43·1% (42·0 to 44·2)	21·1% (20·3 to 21·9)	5·1% (4·3 to 5·8)	2·3% (1·6 to 2·9)
Bacterial skin diseases	11 397·9 (11 061·4 to 11 741·7)	266 779-7 (260 229-3 to 273	177-9 (112-3 to 274-1)	29·2% (27·2 to 31·0)	15·5% (14·0 to 17·1)	2·0% (-0·5 to 4·4)	0·8% (-1·1 to 2·9)
Cellulitis	2071·5 (1952·2 to 2186·2)	42 958·6 (40 535·7 to 45 172·9)	118·2 (78·7 to 167·8)	26·7% (24·9 to 28·6)	12·9% (11·7 to 14·2)	-2·6% (-3·8 to -1·3)	-2·9% (-3·8 to -2·0)
Pyoderma	10 557-2 (10 245-5 to 10 853-2)	223 821 2 (217 649 U to 230	59-6 (23-9 to 123-5)	35·0% (33·7 to 36·4)	20·9% (19·8 to 22·2)	13·0% (11·9 to 14·2)	8-8% (7-8 to 9-9)
Impetigo	4620·7 (4358·2 to 4870·5)	84 007·5 (79 485·3 to 88 529·9)	26·4 (10·4 to 55·8)	35·7% (33·6 to 37·8)	20·7% (18·7 to 22·7)	24·1% (22·2 to 26·0)	13·4% (11·5 to 15·2)
Abscess and other bacterial skin diseases	5936·4 (5770·4 to 6098·7)	139 813·6 (135 314·1 to 143 965·8)	33·2 (13·4 to 69·5)	34·5% (32·8 to 36·3)	21·1% (19·7 to 22·6)	5·5% (4·2 to 6·8)	5·1% (3·8 to 6·4)
Scables	175 406·7 (154 517·9 to 198	527 476·5 (462 050·9 to 598	4528·7 (2506·4 to 7414·6)	16·1% (13·8 to 18·5)	6-6% (5-3 to 8-0)	-4·3% (-5·0 to -3·6)	-3·1% (-3·6 to -2·6)
	404·1) 743 458·4 (681 568·4 to 808	087·9) 2 126 927·9 (1 917 361·6 to 2	, ,	, ,	, ,	, ,	
Fungal skin diseases	149·7) 160 239·3 (133 390·6 to 194	317 274·7) 303 016·6 (245 340·4 to 369	4154·5 (1651·4 to 8633·2)	21·5% (19·0 to 24·0)	10-9% (9-2 to 12-5)	-3·1% (-3·8 to -2·4)	-4·4% (-5·4 to -3·4)
Tinea capitis	439-3)	760-2)	916·5 (357·3 to 1965·4)	-5·8% (-7·3 to -4·3)	-13·0% (-14·5 to -11·3)	-13·8% (-15·0 to -12·7)	-19·0% (-20·4 to -17·3)
Other fungal skin diseases	583 219·1 (526 500·8 to 645 363·9)	1 823 911·3 (1 638 297·9 to 2 009 788·9)	3238·0 (1305·4 to 6694·4)	37·1% (35·2 to 39·3)	20·2% (19·0 to 21·6)	1·8% (1·5 to 2·1)	1·3% (1·1 to 1·5)
Viral skin diseases	130 639·2 (125 604·0 to 136 047·9)	116 329-8 (111 012-4 to 121 710-1)	4033·0 (2595·4 to 5995·6)	10·4% (9·8 to 11·1)	6·4% (6·0 to 6·9)	-2·8% (-3·2 to -2·3)	-1·8% (-2·2 to -1·4)
Viral warts	54 309·6 (52 104·2 to 56 403·2)	30 140·5 (29 078·5 to 31 211·0)	1662·2 (1066·0 to 2439·8)	13·7% (12·8 to 14·6)	5·6% (4·8 to 6·3)	-6·8% (-7·3 to -6·3)	-4·8% (-5·4 to -4·3)
Molluscum contagiosum	,	86 189·3 (80 984·6 to 91 427·2)	2370·7 (1511·7 to 3525·9)	8·2% (7·5 to 8·9)	7·1% (6·5 to 7·6)	0·2% (-0·3 to 0·8)	0·3% (-0·3 to 0·8)
Acne vulgaris	119 082·3 (107 127·9 to 133 651·4)	60 118·8 (53 260·2 to 68 180·7)	2547·6 (1518·8 to 4056·6)	46·1% (44·6 to 47·6)	16·2% (15·2 to 17·2)	19·8% (18·6 to 20·9)	11·4% (10·3 to 12·5)
Alopecia areata	15 981·0 (15 477·3 to 16 515·9)	28 185·2 (27 302·2 to 29 126·3)	523·1 (334·9 to 774·8)	28·8% (27·6 to 30·1)	12·7% (11·8 to 13·8)	-2·3% (-3·1 to -1·4)	-1·5% (-2·3 to -0·6)
Pruritus	71 224·3 (63 948·2 to 80 034·2)	55 643·1 (49 208·3 to 62 689·4)	755·6 (356·1 to 1433·2)	36·4% (34·1 to 38·8)	18·9% (17·5 to 20·4)	2·9% (2·5 to 3·4)	1·6% (1·2 to 2·0)
Urticaria	83 610·0 (73 335·4 to 95 162·9)	147 198·5 (129 941·2 to 166 345·6)	5014·8 (3321·0 to 7046·4)	19·3% (17·4 to 21·5)	10·8% (9·8 to 11·9)	0·7% (0·2 to 1·2)	0-3% (-0-2 to 0-8)
Decubitus ulcer	1143·7 (1022·6 to 1288·5)	4199·3 (3752·4 to 4741·3)	181-2 (125-8 to 244-3)	45·2% (42·7 to 47·7)	28·9% (26·3 to 31·9)	-3·3% (-4·9 to -1·8)	-0·4% (-2·2 to 1·5)
Other skin and subcutaneous diseases	550 810·3 (538 490·7 to 563 961·3)	571 231·9 (558 726·3 to 584 649·5)	3008·1 (1446·7 to 5557·4)	45·1% (44·6 to 45·6)	25·6% (25·2 to 26·0)	6·6% (6·4 to 6·8)	4·3% (4·1 to 4·5)

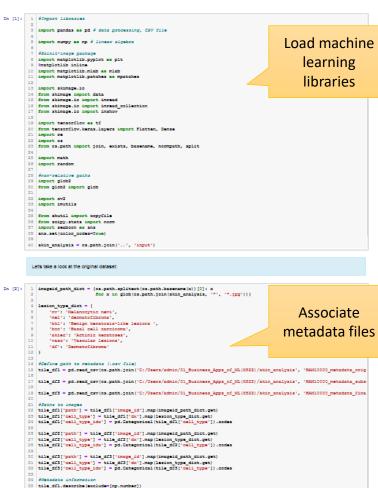
Table: Global prevalence, incidence, and YLDs for 2017; percentage change of YLD counts; and percentage change of age-standardized YLD rates for 1990–2007 and 2007–17 for both sexes combined for all Level 5 causes, nature of injury aggregates, and nine impairments (abbreviated content)⁶

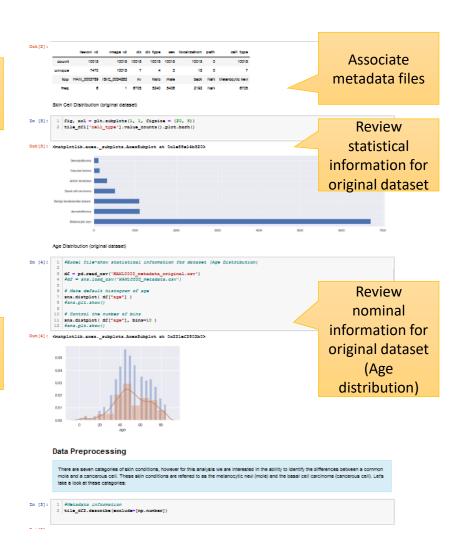
Addendum B-Jupyter notebook excerpts (1)



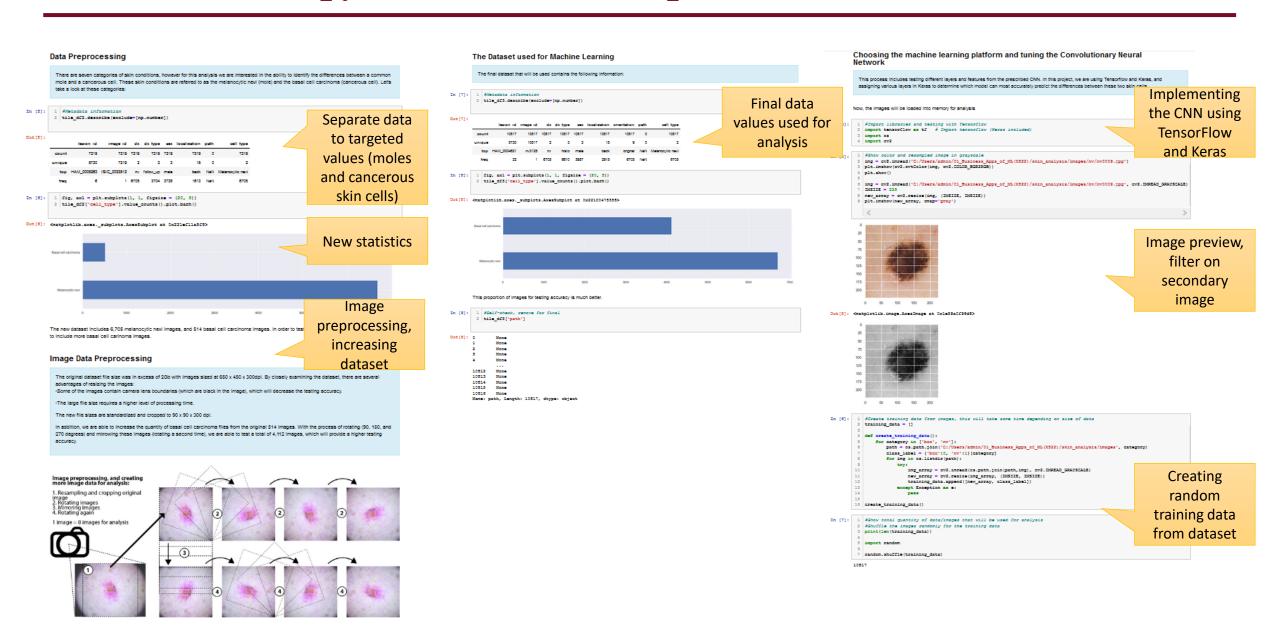
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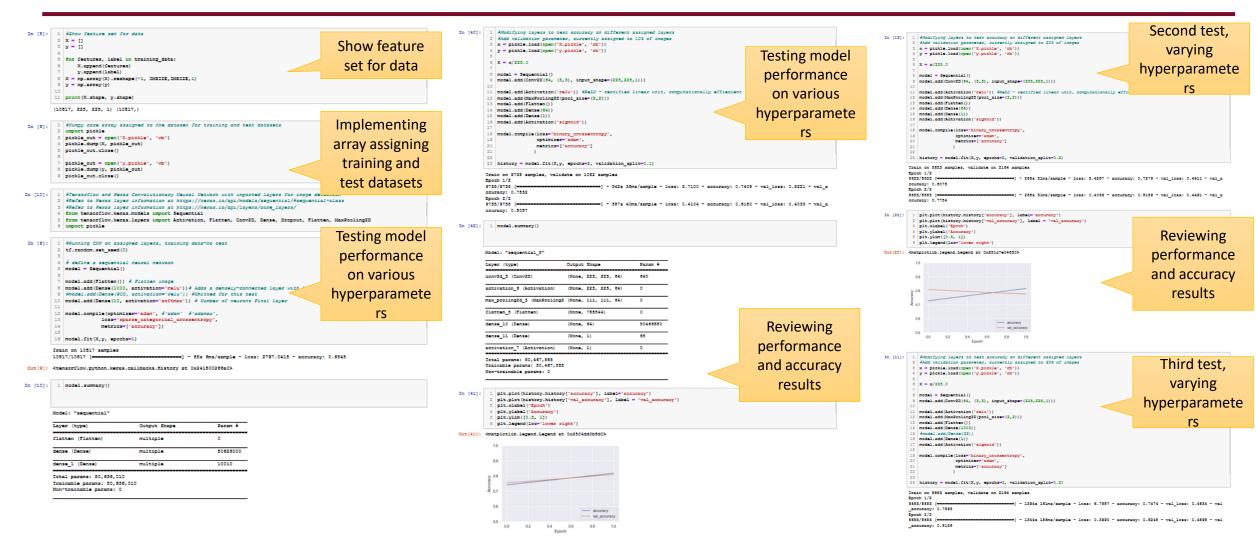




Addendum B-Jupyter notebook excerpts (2)



Addendum B-Jupyter notebook excerpts (3)



Addendum B-Jupyter notebook excerpts (4)



(slightly better than initial 91.25%)

Thank you



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