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DD-Net: Dynamic Network Architecture for Optimized Curve Segmentation and Reduce Computational Redundancy





Main content

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Background

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Proposed method

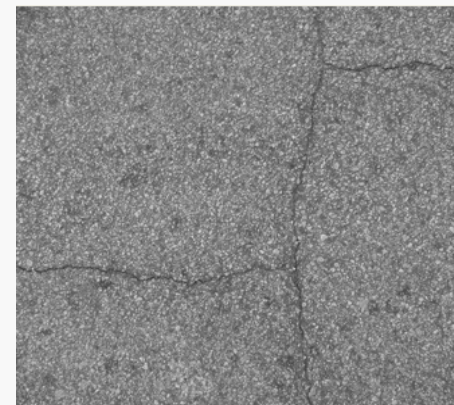
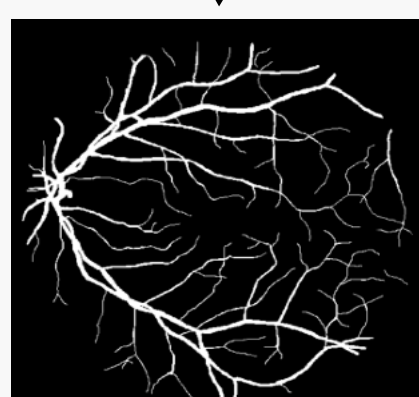
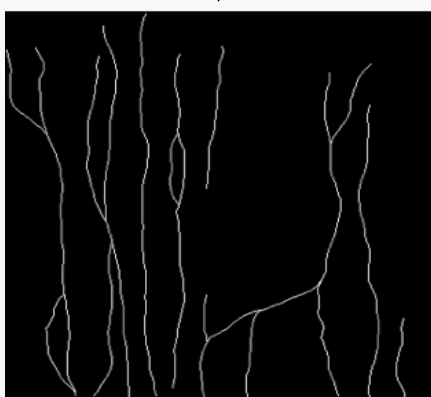
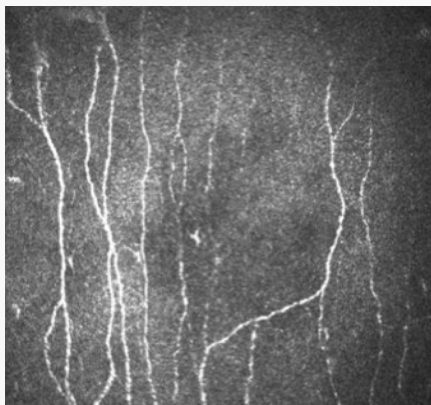
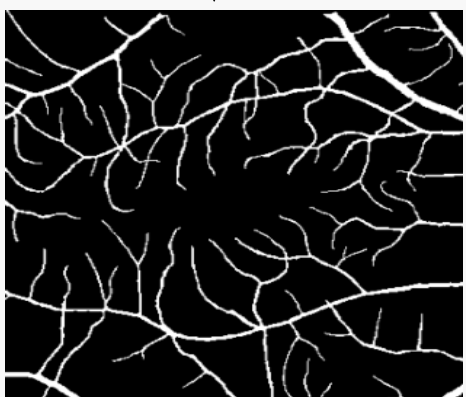
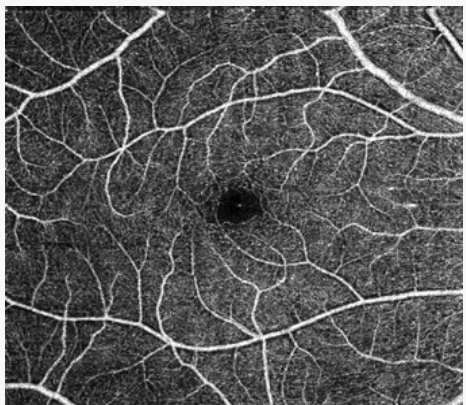
03

Experimental Results

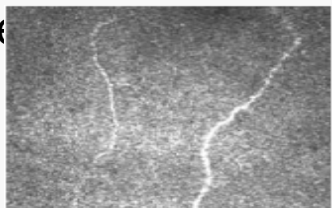
04

Summarize

Curve structure refers to a set of connected lines or curves with a certain width and morphological continuity in the image. Curve segmentation is to separate the curve from the background or other elements. In medical images, incorrect curve segmentation may affect the location and diagnosis of the lesion area. In the segmentation of road or wall cracks, incorrect segmentation may cause non-crack areas to be misjudged as cracks, or the real crack area to be missed.



At present, if the segmentation accuracy of deep learning-based segmentation technology is insufficient, the topological connectivity of the curve will be reduced, resulting in curve breakage. In addition, curves are often embedded in a background with large interference, and their texture or artifacts may have a high similarity with the target structure, which increases the difficulty of segmentation.



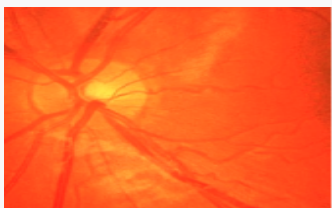
Image



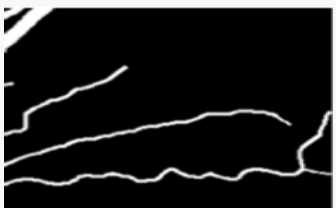
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U-Net



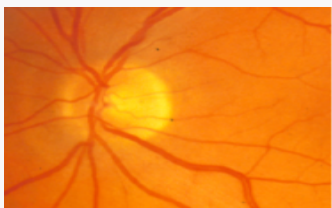
Image



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IterNet



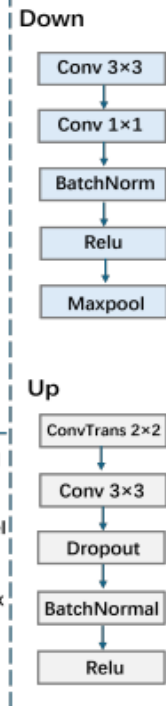
Image



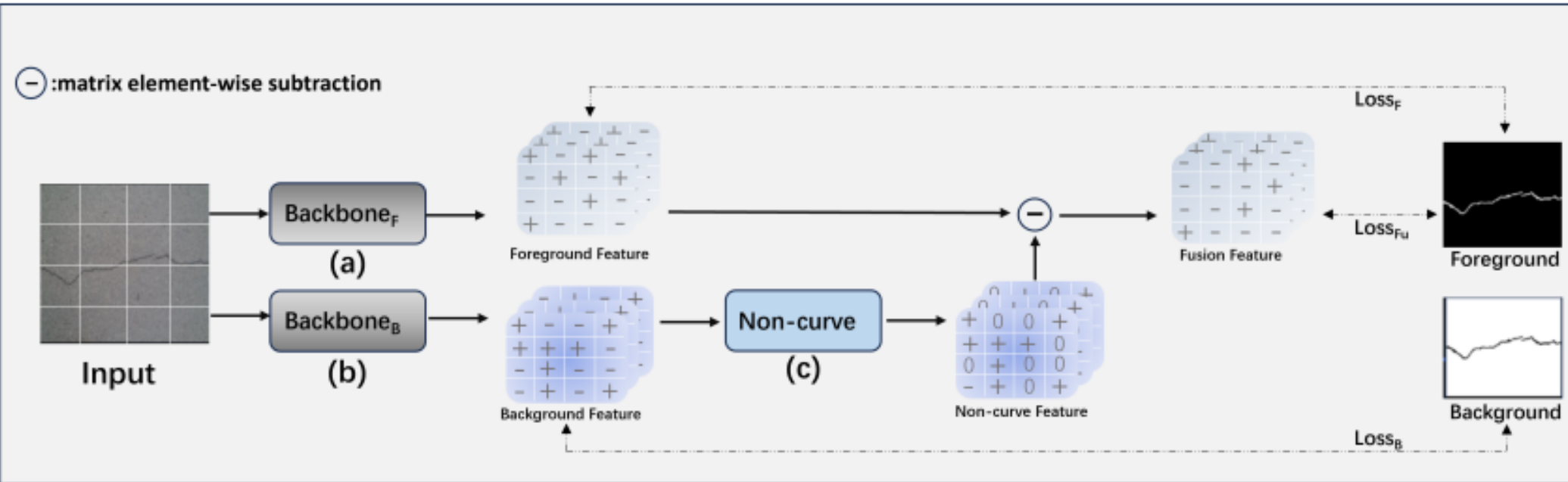
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FR-UNet


$$x_{i+1} = (\frac{\mathbf{S}_i}{\mathbf{S}_{i+1}} \cdot \hat{x}_i) \cup (\frac{\mathbf{S}_{i+1}}{\mathbf{S}_i} \cdot \hat{x}_j)$$

where \mathbf{S} is a learnable dynamic scaling parameter, and $\mathbf{U} \parallel (\cdot)$ is concat along the channel dimension. By introducing this dynamic structure, we can dynamically adjust the level of feature retention or discard in our

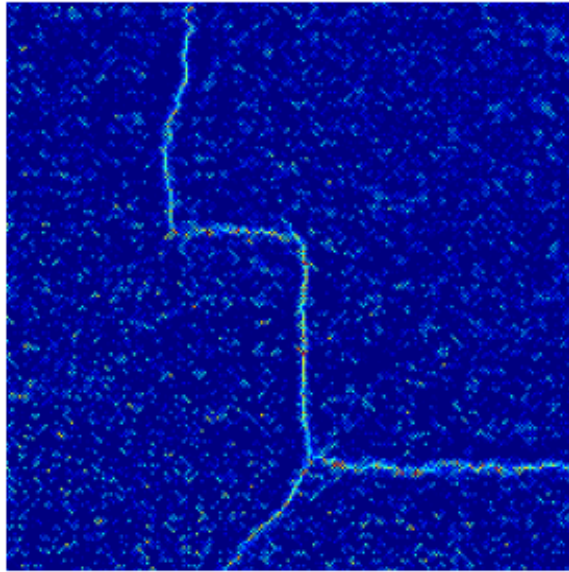


Among them, the foreground is the prediction result of the curve, the background is the prediction result of the part outside the curve, and the non-curve background is the result after masking the prediction of the curve in the background prediction. For the output X_{fu} of each model cascade layer, it can be expressed as:

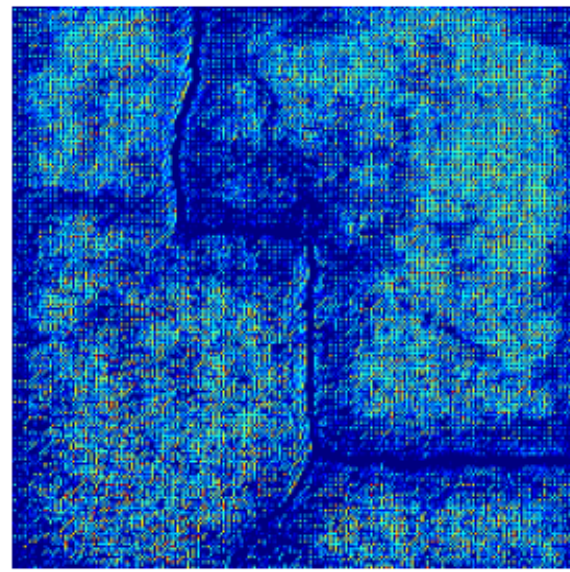
$$X_{fu} = X_f - \begin{cases} 0 & X_b < 0 \\ X_b & \text{other} \end{cases}$$



(a)

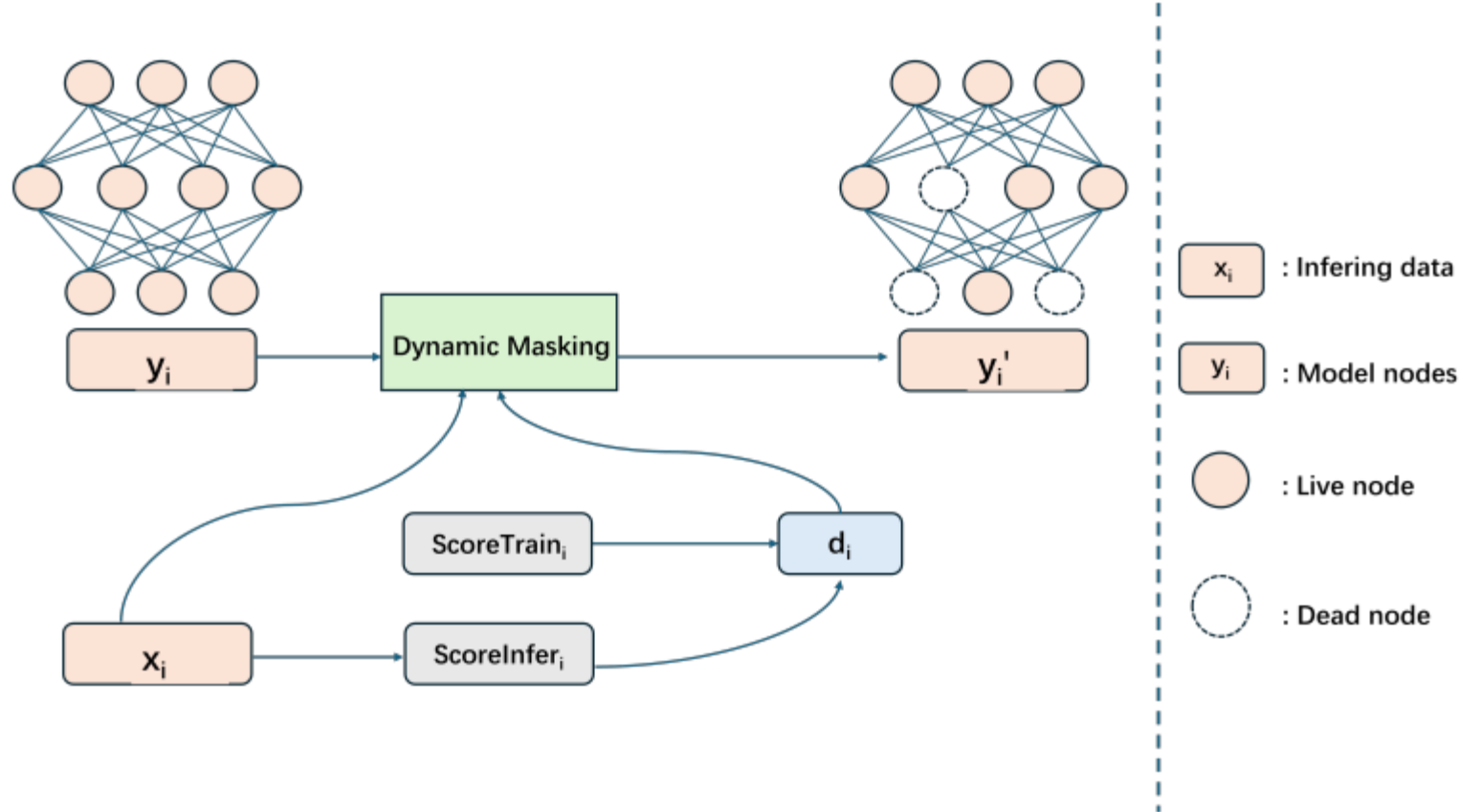


(b)



(c)

(a) represents the original image, while (b) and (c) depict the heat maps showcasing the model's attention to the foreground and background, respectively. Brighter colors indicate areas where the model pays more attention.



$$ScoresTrain_i = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n x_{ij} - \sigma(x_{ij})$$

$$d_i = \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n x_{ij} - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \hat{x}_{ij} + \sigma(\hat{x}_{ij}) - \sigma(x_{ij}) \right|$$

$$p_{ik} = \frac{x_i y_{ik}}{d_i^2}$$

Masking of useless parameter nodes based on data scores: Comparison between ScoreTrain acquired during model layer training and ScoreInfer obtained in the current inference process.



Dataset	Method	F1↑	Pre.↑	Rec.↑	mIoU↑	Mcc↑	Qua.↑
CORN-1	U-Net [20]	65.73	74.85	59.20	49.28	65.72	49.11
	IterNet [9]	66.67	74.92	60.60	50.32	66.56	50.17
	CS-Net [16]	65.93	75.80	58.54	49.45	65.94	49.22
	FR-UNet [12]	<u>66.83</u>	<u>75.08</u>	<u>60.72</u>	<u>50.46</u>	<u>66.71</u>	<u>50.34</u>
	DD-Net	68.93	70.46	68.12	52.93	68.50	52.51
CRACKF.	U-Net [20]	67.29	69.24	70.24	52.13	67.67	27.66
	IterNet [9]	69.04	<u>72.93</u>	69.48	<u>54.03</u>	69.29	28.94
	CS-Net [16]	67.86	72.51	68.37	53.67	68.11	<u>29.39</u>
	FR-UNet [12]	<u>69.23</u>	66.34	76.19	53.81	<u>69.48</u>	27.33
	DD-Net	72.63	74.72	<u>72.63</u>	57.76	72.39	31.44
CRACKT.	U-Net [20]	65.68	71.69	61.39	49.32	65.97	48.86
	IterNet [9]	71.16	80.22	64.61	55.86	71.65	55.65
	CS-Net [16]	66.60	<u>80.11</u>	57.44	50.56	67.53	50.47
	FR-UNet [12]	<u>72.45</u>	78.86	<u>67.53</u>	<u>57.36</u>	<u>72.70</u>	<u>57.03</u>
	DD-Net	74.99	79.14	71.61	60.49	75.08	60.48

$$MCC = \frac{tp \times tn - tp \times fn}{\sqrt{(tp + fp) \times (tp + fn) \times (tn + fp) \times (tn + fn)}} \quad (7)$$

Consider one-pixel width segmentation, let the confusion matrix between the prediction skeleton and the ground truth skeleton of the thin curve are: TP_{sk} , FP_{sk} , TN_{sk} , FN_{sk} . The *Quality* is defined as:

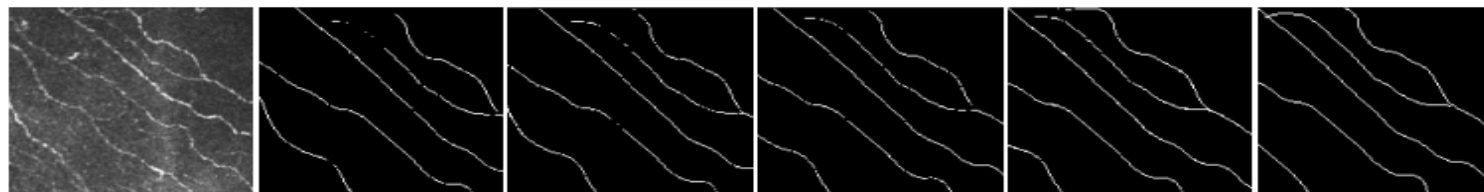
$$Quality = \frac{TP_{sk}}{FP_{sk} + TP_{sk} + FN_{sk}} \quad (8)$$

To evaluate the effectiveness of our method on curve segmentation, we conduct qualitative and quantitative experiments on three different datasets, including CRACKTREE200 , CORN-1 , and CRACKFOREST.

To augment the data, we utilize horizontal flipping and random cropping techniques. All the networks are optimized by Adam with an initial learning rate of 0.001. During training, all training samples are cropped to a size of 256×256 , and our network is trained with a batch size of 4.



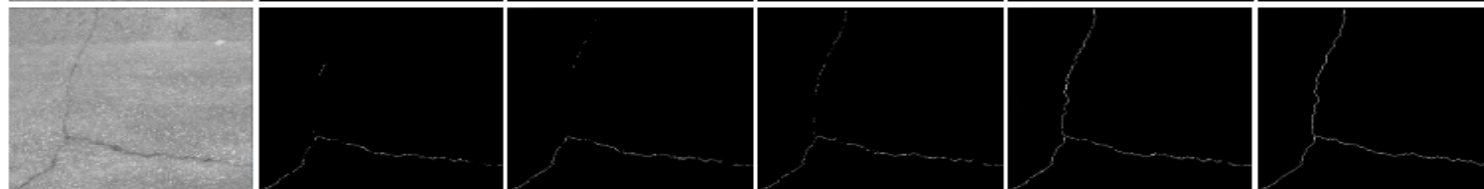
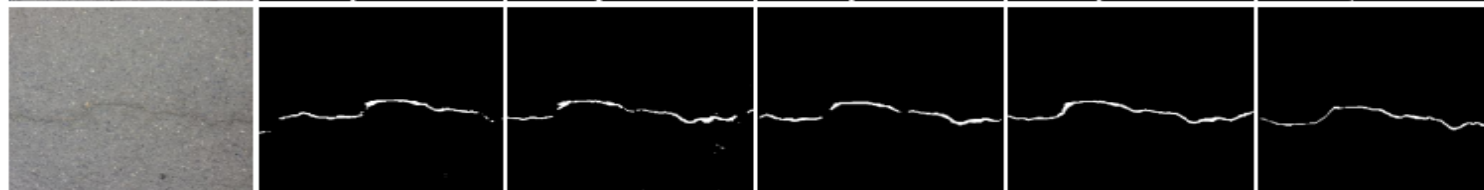
CORN-1



CRACKF.



CRACKT.



U-Net

IterNet

FR-UNet

DD-Net

GT

Dataset	Method	F1↑	mIoU↑	CR↓
CORN-1	DD-Net w/o DM	68.92	52.92	100%
	DD-Net	68.93	52.93	87.35%
CRACKF.	DD-Net w/o DM	72.59	57.71	100%
	DD-Net	72.63	57.76	87.35%
CRACKT.	DD-Net w/o DM	74.98	60.48	100%
	DD-Net	74.99	60.49	87.4%

Dataset	Method	F1↑	mIoU↑	Mcc↑
CORN-1	IterNet	66.67	50.32	66.56
	IterNet w/ DS	67.35	51.09	67.03
CRACKF.	IterNet	69.04	54.03	69.29
	IterNet w/ DS	69.39	54.30	69.67
CRACKT.	IterNet	71.16	55.86	71.65
	IterNet w/ DS	71.42	56.34	72.45

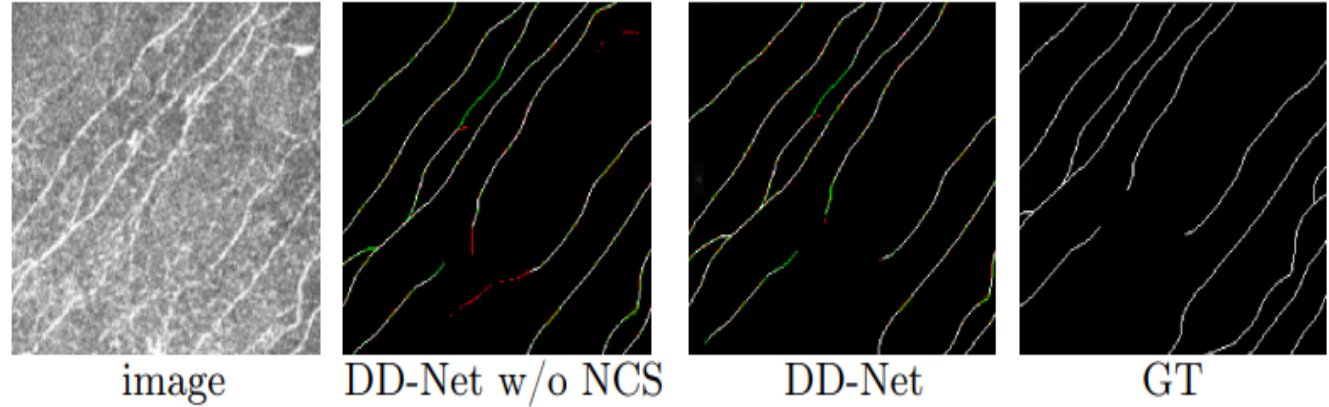
$$CR = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|}{N \sum_{j=1}^m |y_j|}$$

Dataset	Method	F1↑	mIoU↑	Mcc↑
CORN-1	U-Net	65.73	49.28	65.72
	U-Net w/ DS	67.14	50.81	66.93
CRACKF.	U-Net	67.29	52.13	67.67
	U-Net w/ DS	68.94	53.86	69.23
CRACKT.	U-Net	65.68	49.32	65.97
	U-Net w/ DS	67.38	51.51	68.39

It can be observed that the introduction of DS improves the performance of U-Net on various metrics across different datasets.

Dataset	Method	F1↑	mIoU↑	Mcc↑
CORN-1	U-Net	65.73	49.28	65.72
	U-Net w/ NCS	66.94	50.57	66.82
CRACKF.	U-Net	67.29	52.13	67.67
	U-Net w/ NCS	68.67	53.78	69.22
CRACKT.	U-Net	65.68	49.32	65.97
	U-Net w/ NCS	71.45	56.26	72.22

Dataset	Method	F1↑	mIoU↑	Mcc↑
CORN-1	DD-Net w/o NCS	67.76	51.60	67.34
	DD-Net	68.93	52.93	68.50
CRACKF.	DD-Net w/o NCS	71.83	56.93	71.83
	DD-Net	72.63	57.76	72.39
CRACKT.	DD-Net w/o NCS	73.96	59.25	74.05
	DD-Net	74.99	60.49	75.08



Non-curve suppression serves as a valuable aid in suppressing erroneous foreground information.

The performance enhancement achieved by NCS sets the ability to generalize on different data. Certainly, we are interested in understanding the contribution of NCS to our DD-Net model. By comparing the performance of DD-Net with and without NCS, we can quantify the specific improvement brought about by this technique.



- We propose a dynamic structure based on trainable dynamic scaling parameters to scale global feature, selectively retaining interesting parts of the model and proportionally discarding irrelevant information.
- We propose a dynamic inference strategy designed to adaptively adjust computations based on varying spatial locations within image data. This method can adaptively reduce the amount of redundant calculations only through inference.
- We introduce a non-curve suppression mechanism to enhance the preservation of the global feature integrity of the data by supplementing background feature information.



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