

HematoVision: Advanced Blood Cell Classification Using Transfer Learning

Introduction

HematoVision is a deep learning-based tool aimed at the automated classification of blood cells using transfer

learning. This system utilizes a pre-trained MobileNetV2 model to accurately classify Red Blood Cells (RBCs)

from microscopic images, offering a scalable solution in the medical imaging domain.

1. Project Overview

The goal of HematoVision is to simplify and enhance the accuracy of blood cell analysis, a critical task in

diagnosing hematological disorders. With transfer learning, even small datasets can yield robust classification

performance. Although the ultimate goal includes multi-class detection, this version focuses on single-class

classification-identifying RBCs.

2. Dataset

Source: Blood Cell Images Dataset - Kaggle

Structure:

- JPEGImages/: Contains blood cell images (.jpg)

- Annotations/: Contains XML annotation files with bounding boxes and class labels

Data Challenge & Solution:

The dataset mostly includes annotations for RBCs, leading the project to adopt a binary classification approach-

detecting presence or absence of RBCs-rather than a multi-class strategy.

3. Environment Setup

Prerequisites:

- Python 3.x

- pip (Python package installer)

Setup Instructions:

1. Create and activate virtual environment:

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python3 -m venv hematovision_env source

hematovision env/bin/activate (Linux/macOS)

- .\hematovision_env\Scripts\activate (Windows)
- 2. Install Required Libraries: pip install tensorflow keras scikit-learn matplotlib opencvpython numpy

Note: Use tensorflow-cpu or tensorflow-gpu based on hardware compatibility.

4. Data Preprocessing

Script: preprocess data.py

Steps:

- 1. Load image and annotation files
- 2. Parse XML for bounding boxes and labels
- 3. Crop and resize blood cell regions
- 4. Normalize pixel values
- 5. Encode labels numerically
- 6. Split data into train/val/test
- 7. Save as preprocessed data.npz

Command: python3 preprocess data.py

5. Model Architecture & Training

Model: MobileNetV2

- Final classification layer adapted for single-class
- Data augmentation: flips and rotations
- Early stopping and validation

Loss Function: Binary Crossentropy

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Optimizer: Adam

Metrics: Accuracy, Precision, Recall

6. Results & Evaluation

- Training Accuracy: ~98%

- Validation Accuracy: ~96%

- Test Accuracy: ~95%

Evaluation used confusion matrix and ROC curve.

7. Conclusion

HematoVision demonstrates the powerful utility of transfer learning in medical image classification. Its ability to detect RBCs with high accuracy using a lightweight MobileNetV2 backbone is a significant step toward automated blood analysis.

Future Enhancements:

- Multi-class classification
- Real-time detection
- UI integration
- Larger dataset usage

8. References

- Paul T. (n.d.). Blood Cell Images. Kaggle: https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/paultimothymooney/blood-cells -TensorFlow & Keras documentation