Machine Learning Engineer Nanodegree Program
Capstone Proposal
STEM NGUYEN
Blindness Detection (Kaggle Competition)

Domain Background

Imagine being able to detect blindness before it happened.

Millions of people suffer from diabetic retinopathy, the leading cause of blindness among working aged adults. Aravind Eye Hospital in India hopes to detect and prevent this disease among people living in rural areas where medical screening is difficult to conduct. Successful entries in this competition will improve the hospital's ability to identify potential patients. Further, the solutions will be spread to other Ophthalmologists through the 4th Asia Pacific Tele-Ophthalmology Society (APTOS) Symposium.

Currently, Aravind technicians travel to these rural areas to capture images and then rely on highly trained doctors to review the images and provide diagnosis. Their goal is to scale their efforts through technology; to gain the ability to automatically screen images for disease and provide information on how severe the condition may be.

Problem Statement

This is a deep learning problem. Inputs are the images and the goal is to predict severity of diabetic retinopathy on a scale of 0 to 4:

  0 - No DR

  1 - Mild

  2 - Moderate

  3 - Severe

  4 - Proliferative DR

Datasets and Inputs

The datasets are provided on Kaggle competition website. They are free to download.

Dataset files

train.csv - the training labels

test.csv - the test set (you must predict the diagnosis value for these variables)

sample_submission.csv - a sample submission file in the correct format

train.zip - the training set images

test.zip - the public test set images

Solution Statement

I used OpenCV to preprocess the images. OpenCV loads the images and resize the images to 224x224.

After that I used the image-classifiers (https://github.com/qubvel/classification_models) to classify the images.

Benchmark Model

Reference - https://github.com/BloodAxe/Kaggle-2019-Blindness-Detection

Solutions	Accuration	Data
Resnet18	0.9077 ± 0.0045 (Cross validation 4 folds)	3662 images
SEResnext50	0.9213 ± 0.0033 (Cross validation 4 folds)	3662 images
SEResnext101	0.9176 ± 0.0080 (Cross validation 4 folds)	3662 images
reg_resnext50_rms	0.9234 ± 0.0035 (Cross validation 4 folds)	3662 images

Evaluation Metrics

Accuracy, Precision, and Recall:

		Actual	
		Positive	Negative
Predicted	Positive	True Positive	False Positive
	Negative	False Negative	True Negative

A. Accuracy

Accuracy is the quintessential classification metric. It is pretty easy to understand. And easily suited for binary as well as a multiclass classification problem.

Accuracy = (TP+TN)/(TP+FP+FN+TN)

Accuracy is the proportion of true results among the total number of cases examined.

B. Precision

Let's start with precision, which answers the following question: what proportion of predicted Positives is truly Positive?

Precision = (TP)/(TP+FP)

In the asteroid prediction problem, we never predicted a true positive.

And thus precision=0

C. Recall

Another very useful measure is recall, which answers a different question: what proportion of actual Positives is correctly classified?

Recall = (TP)/(TP+FN)

In the asteroid prediction problem, we never predicted a true positive.

And thus recall is also equal to 0.

Project Design

Data Visualization: Tried multiple predictors, each predictor I separate the dataset based on k-fold Cross-Validation with 80% for training and 20% for testing.

Data Preprocessing: Scaling and Normalization operations on data and splitting the data in training, validation and testing sets.

Feature Engineering: Tried multiple predictors and take the best one.

Model Selection: Experiment with various algorithms to find out the best algorithm for this use case.

Model Tuning: Fine tune the selected algorithm to increase performance without overfitting.

Testing: Test the model on testing dataset.