

e-ISSN: 2320-9801 | p-ISSN: 2320-9798



# INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF INNOVATIVE RESEARCH

IN COMPUTER & COMMUNICATION ENGINEERING

Volume 12, Issue 8, August 2024

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD SERIAL NUMBER INDIA

### Impact Factor: 8.625

9940 572 462

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www.ijircce.com | e-ISSN: 2320-9801, p-ISSN: 2320-9798| Impact Factor: 8.625| ESTD Year: 2013|



International Journal of Innovative Research in Computer and Communication Engineering (IJIRCCE)

(A Monthly, Peer Reviewed, Refereed, Scholarly Indexed, Open Access Journal)

## Classification of Skin Cancer Lesions as Malignant and Benign Using ResNet50

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**ABSTRACT** This study investigates the application of deep learning for classifying skin cancer images as benign or malignant. Utilizing the ResNet50 architecture with transfer learning, we processed a labeled dataset of skin lesions. Data preprocessing and augmentation were conducted using Tensor Flow's Image Data Generator to enhance model generalization. The ResNet50 model, pre- trained on ImageNet, was fine-tuned with additional dense layers for this specific task.

**KEYWORDS**: T ResNet50, Skin lesions.

#### I. INTRODUCTION

Skin cancer is among the most prevalent types of cancer globally, with early detection being critical for effective treatment and improved patient outcomes. Conventional diagnostic methods, such as clinical examination and histopathological analysis, can be time-consuming and subjective, leading to potential variability in diagnosis. Consequently, there is a growing need for automated and accurate diagnostic tools to assist dermatologists in identifying skin cancer.

Deep learning, particularly convolutional neural networks (CNNs), has shown remarkable performance in various image recognition tasks. Transfer learning, which utilizes pre-trained models on large datasets, further enhances the accuracy and efficiency of skin cancer diagnosis, thereby offering a promising solution to the challenges faced in the early detection of skin cancer.

#### II. RELATED WORK

capability of CNNs to adapt to specific tasks with limited data. The ResNet50 architecture, renowned for its deep residual learning capabilities, is particularly effective in medical image analysis.

This study focuses on employing the ResNet50 model for the classification of skin cancer lesions into benign and malignant categories. By processing a labeled dataset of skin lesions, applying data augmentation techniques, and fine-tuning a pre-trained ResNet50 model, we aim to develop an effective tool for skin cancer diagnosis. The model's architecture is augmented with additional dense layers to adapt it to the specific task of skin cancer classification.

We split the dataset into training and testing sets and used the Adam optimizer along with early stopping to prevent overfitting during model training. The model's performance is evaluated using accuracy and loss metrics on the test dataset. The results, including classification reports and visualizations, demonstrate the model's potential in accurately distinguishing between benign and malignant lesions.

This research highlights the feasibility of integrating deep learning models into clinical workflows, potentially improving the assessing the real-world performance and clinical applicability of AI-driven systems. Such studies





involve collaboration with dermatologists and pathologists to validate AI predictions against human diagnoses, ensuring reliability and accuracy in clinical settings. deep learning primarily rely on convolutional neural networks (CNNs) and transfer learning techniques. These systems leverage CNN architectures such as VGG, ResNet, Inception, and DenseNet for feature extraction and classification of skin lesion images. CNNs are chosen for their ability to learn hierarchical features directly from raw pixel data, which is crucial for accurately distinguishing between benign and malignant lesions based on image characteristics.

Transfer learning plays a vital role in these systems by fine-tuning pre-trained CNN models that were originally trained on large-scale datasets like ImageNet. This approach enhances model performance with limited labeled data, adapting the learned features to the specific nuances of skin cancer classification tasks. Data augmentation techniques further augment the training datasets, incorporating variations such as image rotation, flipping, scaling, and brightness adjustment. This helps improve model generalization and robustness by exposing the model to a broader spectrum of skin lesion variations.

Evaluation of these models typically includes standard metrics such as accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score. These metrics provide quantitative insights into the model's ability to correctly classify skin lesions compared to ground truth labels. Validation studies are integral to Moreover, the use of ImageDataGenerator from TensorFlow Keras for data augmentation and preprocessing sets this code apart. This approach allows for on-the-fly augmentation of images during training, improving the model's ability to generalize from limited data and adapt to diverse input conditions. The inclusion of both a pre-trained ResNet50 model with transfer learning and a simpler CNN architecture defined from scratch enables direct comparison between these methodologies within the same script. This versatility is particularly valuable for evaluating the efficacy of transfer learning versus training from scratch in skin lesion classification tasks.

Additionally, the implementation of EarlyStopping based on validation accuracy demonstrates a proactive approach to managing model training, Integrating AI systems into healthcare workflows involves developing user-friendly interfaces for healthcare professionals, ensuring seamless integration with electronic health records, and complying with regulatory standards for medical devices. Despite these advancements, challenges persist, including class imbalance in datasets, variability in lesion appearance, and the interpretability of AI predictions. Addressing these challenges through algorithmic refinements and domain- specific adjustments remains a focus for ongoing research in the field.

#### III. METHODOLOGY

The proposed system showcases a comprehensive approach to skin lesion classification using deep learning techniques, highlighting several unique aspects compared to existing systems. Firstly, it starts by efficiently extracting and organizing image data from a ZIP file, which is a practical consideration often streamlined in machine learning workflows but not always explicitly shown in system implementations. This initial step is followed by thorough data visualization using matplotlib and seaborn, providing immediate insights into the distribution of classes within the dataset, a step that enhances understanding and preparatory analysis.

Data Acquisition and Preparation:

halting it when improvements diminish, thereby preventing overfitting and optimizing efficiency. Post-evaluation, the comprehensive reporting of model performance metrics such as accuracy, loss, and a detailed classification report provides clear feedback on model efficacy. Finally, the visual confirmation of predictions alongside ground truth labels offers intuitive insights into model behavior and performance, enhancing the interpretability and trustworthiness of results.

This system not only integrates essential steps like data handling, visualization, model training, and evaluation but also introduces unique elements like dynamic data augmentation, dual-model architecture comparison, and proactive training management. These features collectively contribute to a robust and adaptable framework for skin lesion classification, distinguishing it through its comprehensive approach and nuanced handling of key machine learning pipeline components.



Data Preprocessing and Augmentation:

ImageDataGenerator: To prepare the image data for model training, the code employs ImageDataGenerator from TensorFlow Keras. This generator allows for real-time data augmentation and preprocessing. During training, it applies transformations such as normalization (via preprocess\_input from ResNet50) and augmentation techniques like rotation, flipping, and zooming. These augmentations help enhance the model's ability to generalize to new, unseen data and improve its robustness against variations in input images.

Train-Test Split:

Data Partitioning: Using train\_test\_split from sklearn.model\_selection, the code partitions the dataset into training (train) and testing (test) sets. The split is configured to allocate 25% of the data to the test set (test\_size=0.25), ensuring that the model is evaluated on data it has not been trained on. This separation is essential for accurately assessing the model's performance and generalization ability.

captures its file path and determines its label by extracting the parent directory's name. This approach organizes the image data into a structured format where each image is associated with a corresponding label (e.g., types of skin lesions).

#### Data Visualization:

Class Distribution: Using seaborn and matplotlib, the code creates a bar plot to visualize the distribution of different types of skin lesions present in the dataset. This visualization is crucial for understanding the dataset's composition, including potential class imbalances. By visualizing the frequency of each class (type of skin lesion), researchers and practitioners can gain insights into how prevalent each type is within the dataset.

effective for image classification tasks, thereby enhancing the model's ability to classify skin lesions accurately. Custom CNN Model: In addition to ResNet50, the code defines a custom Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) model using Sequential from tensorflow.keras.models. This custom model includes convolutional layers (Conv2D), maxpooling layers (MaxPooling2D) for spatial downsampling, and dense layers (Dense) for classification. The custom CNN serves as a baseline model for comparison against the more complex ResNet50-based architecture.

Model Compilation and Training: Compilation: Early Stopping:

To prevent overfitting, EarlyStopping is implemented as a callback during model training. It monitors validation accuracy (monitor='val\_accuracy') and halts training if improvements in accuracy stagnate (patience=2). This early stopping mechanism helps optimize the training process by stopping the training when further training iterations are unlikely to improve the model's performance on unseen data.

#### Model Evaluation: Performance Metrics:

File Extraction: The process begins by assuming that a ZIP file ('deep learning project.zip') contains image data. The code extracts this file into a specified directory ('/content/') using Python's zipfile module. This step ensures that the image data is accessible for subsequent processing.

Image File Handling: Once extracted, the code utilizes os.walk to traverse through the extracted directory ('/content/deep learning project'). It recursively searches for image files ('.jpg', '.jpeg', '.png') within this directory structure. For each image file found, the code.

#### Model Architecture:

Transfer Learning (ResNet50): The code incorporates a pre-trained ResNet50 model, a state- of-the-art deep learning



architecture pretrained on the ImageNet dataset. ResNet50 is instantiated with its top layers removed (include\_top=False) and global average pooling (pooling='avg') added to extract features from input images. This approach leverages ResNet50's is implemented as a callback during model

#### Prediction Visualization:

Using matplotlib, the code visualizes predictions made by the models on a subset of the test data. It displays sample images along with their true labels and predicted labels.

#### Flowchart



Once trained, both models are evaluated on the test set using model.evaluate(test\_gen, verbose=0). This computes metrics such as loss and accuracy to quantify how well each model performs on unseen data. The results provide insights into their predictive accuracy and effectiveness in classifying skin lesions.



#### **IV. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS**





#### V. CONCLUSION

The implemented deep learning model using the HAM10000 dataset demonstrated effective classification of skin lesions. Leveraging the pre- trained ResNet50 model and employing data augmentation techniques enhanced the model's robustness and generalizability. Early stopping helped prevent overfitting, ensuring consistent performance on unseen data. The model's ability to accurately distinguish between various lesion types highlights its potential as a valuable tool in dermatological diagnostics. Future research could focus on expanding the dataset and exploring additional architectures to further improve accuracy and reliability.

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