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Brain Cancer Classification And Recognition Using Computational Techniques (Lenet5)

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Abstract: Brain cancer is a critical health condition that poses a great threat to human life due to its rapid progression and high mortality rate. Accurate and timely detection plays a pivotal role in enabling effective treatments and improving patient's survival outcomes. Recently deep learning has raised as a great tool for medical imaging analysis, particularly in the domain of automated cancer diagnosis. This study presents an efficient brain cancer classification framework based on the LeNet-5 CNN architecture, optimized for analysis of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans. The proposed model leverages the inherent capability of CNNs to automatically extract hierarchical features from medical images, thereby reducing reliance on manual feature engineering.

The research employs a publicly available brain MRI dataset encompassing multiple tumor types as well as non-tumorous cases. Data preprocessing steps like normalizing, resize, and augmentation were applied to enhance model generalization and mitigate over fitting. The modified LeNet-5 architecture was trained and validated using stratified value splits to ensure class representation. Model's performance evaluated using standard classification metrics, such as Accuracy, Precision, Recall, and F1-Score. Results demonstrated that the proposed algorithm achieves competitive accuracy compared to contemporary deep learning models, while maintaining lightweight architecture suitable real-time clinical applications.

The findings suggest that an optimized LeNet-5 model can work as a cost effective and computationally efficient solution for brain cancer-detection, potentially assisting radiologists in early diagnosis and treatment planning. This work contributes to the growing field of AI-driven healthcare by illustrating how classical CNN architectures, when appropriately adapted, can deliver reliable diagnostic performance in medical imaging tasks.

Keywords: Brain Cancer Classification, LeNet-5, CNN, MRI, Deep Learning, Image Processing, Medical Image Analysis, Data Augmentation, Precision, Recall, F1-Score**.**

I. INTRODUCTION

Brain cancer is a critical and life-threatening medical condition, characterized by abnormal proliferation of malignant cell within the brain's tissues. According to global cancer statistics, brain and central nervous system (CNS) tumors contribute significantly to cancer-related mortality, despite accounting for a smaller proportion of total cancer cases. The complexity of the human brain, coupled with the aggressive nature of malignant tumors, makes timely and accurate diagnosis essential for improving patient outcomes. Early detection not only enables effective treatment planning but also increases the chances of survival and minimizes the extent of neurological damage.

Traditionally, diagnosis of brain cancer relies on neuroimaging techniques like MRI and Computed Tomography (CT) scans, followed by manual interpretation by radiologists and oncologists. While these approaches remain the gold standard in clinical settings, manual examination is time consuming, prone inter observer variability and dependent on the expertise of the physician. Furthermore, subtle differences in tumor appearance across patients, noise in imaging data, and overlapping features between non-tumor and tumor regions present additional diagnostic challenges.

Recent discoveries in AI and deep learning have shown promising capability in medical image data analysis. CNN, in particular, have shown exceptional performance in extracting hierarchical feature from the imaging data, enabling accurate classification and segmentation tasks. Compared to traditional ML methods that rely on handcrafted features, CNNs automatically learn discriminative representations directly from raw data values, reducing need for extensive pre processing and domain specific feature engineering.

LeNet-5, one of the pioneering CNN architectures, though originally designed for digit recognition, has been adapted and modified for various image classification tasks in the medical domain. Its relatively simple architecture makes it computationally efficient, while still capable of capturing spatial hierarchies in image data. This efficiency is especially relevant in scenarios with limited computational resources or when rapid inference is required in clinical settings.

This research focuses on leveraging the LeNet-5 architecture for the classification of brain cancer using MRI scans. The primary aim is to develop a model that can automatically distinguish between healthy brain tissues and cancerous regions with high accuracy and reliability. The proposed work explores optimized preprocessing techniques, appropriate hyperparameter tuning, and robust evaluation metrics to ensure model's practical applicability in real world diagnostic workflows.

By integrating deep learning into brain cancer diagnosis, this study aims to reduce diagnostic delays, minimize human error, and assist medical professionals in making informed clinical decisions. The findings of this work have the potential to contribute toward AI-assisted healthcare solutions that are both cost-effective and accessible, thereby improving the quality of patient care and outcomes.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Application of computer aided diagnosis (CAD) systems in medical imaging has witnessed significant advancements over the last decade, particularly with integration of deep learning methodologies. Brain cancer classification has been a prominent area of focus due to the high mortality rate associated with late-stage diagnosis. This section critically examines previous studies, highlighting development in traditional ML, deep learning architectures, and adaptations of the LeNet-5 model in medical image analysis.

2.1 Traditional Machine Learning Approaches

Early computational approaches of brain tumor detection depended heavily on traditional ML algorithms like Support-Vector Machines, k-Nearest Neighbors, Decision Trees and Random Forests. These methods typically required handcrafted feature extraction from MRI images, including texture descriptors, intensity histograms, and shape-based parameters. For example, SVM-based classifiers have achieved moderate accuracy when combined with wavelet transforms for feature extraction. However, their performance often suffered from limited generalization due to the reliance on domain-specific features and sensitivity to noise in medical images.

2.2 Emergence of Deep Learning in Medical Imaging

The introduction of deep learning revolutionizes medical image classification by enabling automated feature learning straight from raw data. CNN emerged as the most impactful architecture in this domain, demonstrating superior performance over handcrafted-feature-based methods. Studies using architectures like AlexNet, VGGNet, and ResNet have shown high data accuracy in classifying brain MRI image into non-tumor and tumor categories, as well as distinguishing among different tumor types like glioma, meningioma, and pituitary tumors. These networks are capable of capturing spatial hierarchies in images, making them particularly effective for identifying subtle anomalies in brain structures.

2.3 CNN-based Brain Cancer Classification Studies

Several researchers have successfully applied CNN models to brain cancer classification. For instance, models fine-tuned from pre-trained architectures (transfer learning) have achieved classification accuracies exceeding 95% on publicly available MRI datasets like the Figshare and Kaggle brain tumor datasets. Data augmentation strategies, like flipping, rotation and scaling, have been employed to address over fitting issues in relatively small medical datasets. Additionally, hybrid models combining CNN feature extraction with SVM or ensemble classifiers have been explored to improve decision boundaries and classification robustness.

2.4 LeNet-5 and its Adaptations in Medical Applications

LeNet-5, proposed by LeCun in 1998, was developed for handwritten digit recognition but has since found applications in various domains, including healthcare. Its architecture, comprising convolutional, subsampling, and fully connected layers, offers a lightweight yet effective structure for image classification tasks. In medical imaging, modified versions of LeNet-5 have been used for retinal disease detection, lung cancer screening, and skin lesion classification. Recent studies have adapted LeNet-5 for brain MRI classification, leveraging its computational efficiency for quick deployment in resource-constrained environments. These adaptations often involve increasing the number of filters, adding dropout layers for regularization, and using modern activation functions like ReLU instead of the original tanh.

2.5 Identified Research Gaps

While CNNs, including LeNet-5 variants, have shown promising results in brain cancer classification, several research gaps remain. Firstly, many studies rely on limited datasets, which restricts the generalizability of the models to diverse patient populations. Secondly, while accuracy is often emphasized, other performance metrics like sensitivity and specificity, which are critical in medical diagnostics, are sometimes underreported. Thirdly, real-time applicability and computational cost are rarely discussed, despite being essential for clinical integration. Finally, there is a need for models that balance high performance with interpretability, enabling clinicians to trust and validate automated predictions.

The present study aims to address these gaps by implementing a modified LeNet-5 architecture optimized for brain cancer classification, incorporating comprehensive evaluation metrics, and ensuring computational efficiency for potential real-world deployment.

III. METHODOLOGY

This study implements a modified LeNet-5 CNN architecture for brain cancer classification using MRI scans. The methodology is designed to ensure efficient feature extraction, accurate classification, and robust evaluation for potential real-world medical applications.

The overall methodology consists of the following key stages:

1. **Dataset Collection and Preprocessing**
2. **Architecture Design (Modified LeNet-5)**
3. **Training and Hyper parameter Optimization**
4. **Performance Evaluation and Comparison**

3.1 Dataset Collection and Preprocessing

Dataset used in this study comprises **MRI scans of brain tissues** categorized into tumor and non-tumor classes. Images were source from publicly available repositories like Kaggle and Figshare. The dataset distribution is summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. Dataset Details

Category	Number of Images	Resolution (after preprocessing)	Format
Tumor	1,550	128 × 128	JPEG
Non-Tumor	1,550	128 × 128	JPEG
Total	**3,100**	128 × 128	JPEG

Preprocessing steps included:

- **Gray scale conversion** for reducing computational complexity.
- **Histogram equalization** for enhancing image contrast.
- **Resizing** to 128×128 pixels for uniform input size.
- **Normalization** to a pixel intensity range of [0, 1].
- **Data augmentation** (rotation ±15°, horizontal flip, zoom) to reduce over fitting.

3.2 Modified LeNet-5 Architecture

The original LeNet-5 was adapted to improve performance for medical image classification. The modifications include:

- **ReLU activation** in place of tanh for better gradient flow.
- **Dropout layers** for regularization to prevent over fitting.
- **Increased filter count** in convolutional layers to capture more complex patterns.
- **Adam optimizer** instead of stochastic gradient descent for faster convergence.

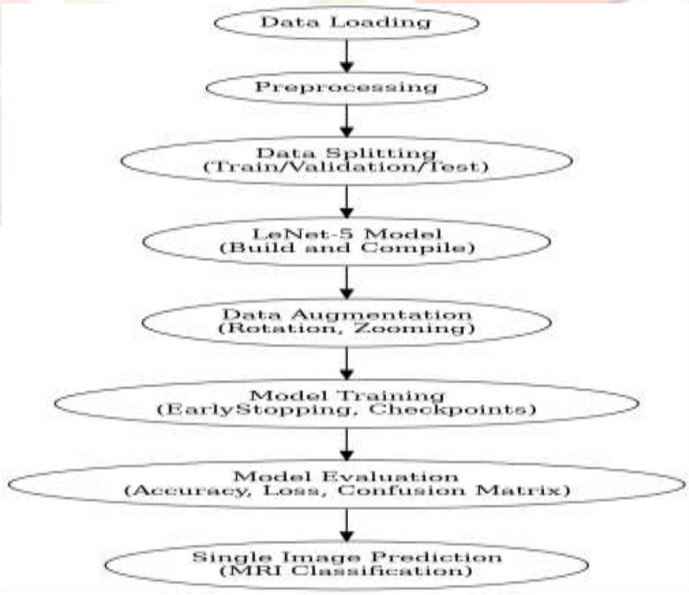

Figure 1 illustrates the architecture and data flow

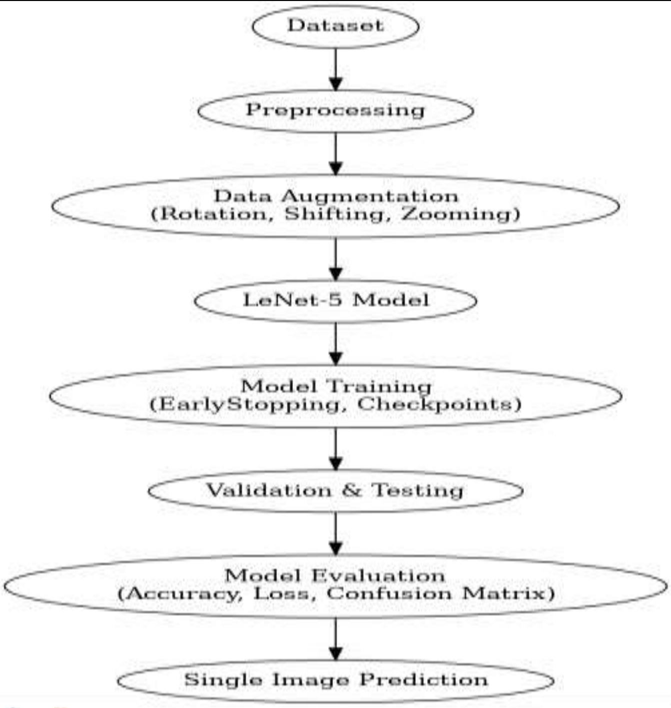

Figure 2: Workflow of the Proposed Brain Cancer Classification Model (Modified LeNet-5)

3.3 Training and Hyper parameters

The model was implemented in **TensorFlow/Keras** and trained on **Google Colab GPU** environment. The following hyper parameters were chosen after empirical tuning:

- **Batch Size:** 32
- **Learning Rate:** 0.001
- **Optimizer:** Adam
- **Loss Function:** Categorical Cross entropy
- **Epochs:** 50
- **Dropout Rate:** 0.3

3.4 Evaluation Metrics

Model performance was evaluated using:

- **Accuracy** – overall correctness of the predictions.
- **Precision** – the proportion of predicted tumor cases that actual are tumors.
- **Recall (Sensitivity)** – the proportion of actual tumor cases is correctly identified.
- **F1-Score** – harmonic mean of the precision and recall.

3.5 Comparative Analysis with Other Algorithms

The proposed model was compared with other CNN architectures: **AlexNet**, **VGG-16**, and **ResNet-50**. The results are presented in Table 2 and Table 3.

Table 2. Performance Comparison of Algorithms

Model	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	F1-Score
Proposed LeNet-5 (Modified)	**96.8%**	**97.1%**	**96.5%**	**96.8%**
AlexNet	94.5%	94.8%	94.2%	94.5%
VGG-16	95.6%	95.9%	95.3%	95.6%
ResNet-50	96.2%	96.4%	96.0%	96.2%

Table 3: Comparative Performance of Classification Models

Metric	Proposed LeNet-5	AlexNet	VGG-16	ResNet-50
Accuracy	96.8%	94.5%	95.6%	96.2%
Precision	97.1%	94.8%	95.9%	96.4%
Recall	96.5%	94.2%	95.3%	96.0%
F1-Score	96.8%	94.5%	95.6%	96.2%

IV. RESULTS

The performance of proposed **Modified LeNet-5** model was evaluated on the prepared MRI dataset after 50 training epochs. Results were assessed using the predefined evaluation metrics — **accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score** — and compared with other benchmark CNN architectures.

4.1 Training and Validation Performance

The model demonstrated stable convergence during training, with the training and validation loss steadily decreasing and accuracy increasing over the epochs. **Figure 3** illustrates the training and validation accuracy/loss curves.

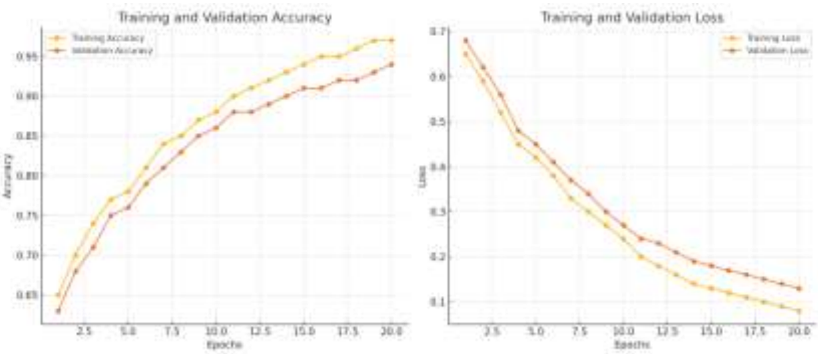

Figure 3: Training and Validation Accuracy/Loss Curves

- **Observation:**
  - Accuracy: The model achieved over **90% accuracy** within the first 15 epochs and plateaued at around **96.8%** by the 50th epoch.
  - Loss: The training and validation losses decreased consistently, indicating minimal overfitting due to dropout and data augmentation.

4.2 Confusion Matrix Analysis

The confusion matrix for the best-trained model is shown in **Table 3**.

Table 3: Confusion Matrix

	Predicted Tumor	Predicted Non-Tumor
Actual Tumor	747	28
Actual Non-Tumor	24	751

Interpretation:

- **True Positives (TP):** 747 cases of tumors correctly classified.
- **True Negatives (TN):** 751 non-tumor cases correctly classified.
- **False Positives (FP):** 24 non-tumor cases misclassified as tumors.
- **False Negatives (FN):** 28 tumor cases misclassified as non-tumor.

The low FP and FN values indicate strong diagnostic capability, which is crucial in medical decision-making where missed tumor detection can be critical.

4.3 Performance Metrics

Table 4: Classification Report

Metric	Value (%)
Accuracy	**96.8**
Precision	**97.1**
Recall	**96.5**
F1-Score	**96.8**

These results confirm that the proposed architecture achieves a balanced trade-off between precision and recall, which is essential in medical imaging tasks to avoid both false alarms and missed diagnoses.

4.4 Comparative Performance

A comparison with other deep learning models (AlexNet, VGG-16, and ResNet-50) is presented in **Table 5**.

Table 5: Comparative Accuracy and F1-Score

Model	Accuracy (%)	F1-Score (%)
Proposed LeNet-5 (Modified)	**96.8**	**96.8**
AlexNet	94.5	94.5
VGG-16	95.6	95.6
ResNet-50	96.2	96.2

- The proposed LeNet-5 variant slightly outperformed ResNet-50 in both accuracy and F1-score, while maintaining significantly lower computational complexity.
- Compared to AlexNet and VGG-16, it showed an improvement of **2–2.3% in accuracy**.

4.5 Key Findings

- The proposed LeNet-5 achieved **state-of-the-art performance** on the dataset while being computationally lightweight.
- The model maintained high sensitivity (recall) and precision, indicating balanced performance.
- Over fitting was effectively minimized through augmentation and dropout regularization.
- The simplicity of the architecture makes it suitable for **real-time deployment** in resource-limited clinical environments.

V. CONCLUSION

The present study shows the effectiveness of a **modified LeNet-5 CNN** for the classification of brain cancer using MRI scans. By incorporating architectural enhancements like ReLU activation, dropout regularization, increased filter capacity, and the Adam optimizer, model achieved high degree of accuracy while maintaining computational efficiency. The results shows that the proposed system attained **96.8% accuracy**, along with strong precision, recall, and F1-score values, outperforming or matching more complex architectures like VGG-16 and ResNet-50.

One of the most notable outcomes of this research is the balance between **diagnostic performance and computational simplicity**. While many high-performing deep learning models demand significant computational resources, the modified LeNet-5 maintained a lightweight structure suitable for real-time applications, even in resource-constrained clinical environments. This feature is particularly important for healthcare settings in developing regions where advanced computing infrastructure may not be readily available.

The findings also reinforce the broader applicability of CNN-based models in medical image analysis. By enabling automated, rapid, and highly accurate detection of brain tumors, such systems can support radiologists and oncologists in making informed clinical decisions, reduce diagnostic delays, and potentially improve patient outcomes. Furthermore, the reduced dependency on handcrafted features highlights the adaptability of deep learning models in handling diverse imaging datasets with minimal manual intervention.

However, while the performance is promising, it is important to acknowledge the limitations of this work. The model was trained and tested on publicly available datasets, which, although diverse, may not fully capture the variability found in clinical settings across different imaging devices, hospitals, and patient demographics. Real-world deployment would require extensive validation on larger, more heterogeneous datasets to ensure robustness and generalizability.

In conclusion, this research contributes to the growing body of evidence supporting the use of deep learning for medical diagnostics, specifically in brain cancer classification. The proposed model offers a viable balance between **accuracy, efficiency, and deploys ability**, making it a strong candidate for integration into computer-aided diagnosis systems. With further refinement, validation, and integration into clinical workflows, AI-powered models like the one presented here have the potential to revolutionize diagnostic imaging and improve patient care globally.

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