The Bioscan
AN INTERNATIONAL QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF LIFE SCIENCES
20(1): 651-655, 2025 www.thebioscan.com

Computer Vision in Medical Imaging Detecting Tumors Using AI-Powered Image Processing

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DOI: https://doi.org/10.63001/tbs.2025.v20.i01.pp651-655

KEYWORDS
Computer Vision,
Medical Imaging,
Tumor Detection,
Artificial Intelligence,
Deep Learning,
Image Processing
Received on:

18-01-2025

Accepted on:

15-02-2025

Published on:

20-03-2025

ABSTRACT

This research describes how computer vision applies to medical imaging through the discussion of automated AI techniques in addition to their limitations. The research demonstrates that CNNs among deep learning algorithms enhance tumor detection accuracy effectively. The available technology faces current issues related to data availability as well as understanding technical processes. This research examines how AI technology can improve healthcare diagnosis procedures along with its prospective path of advancement.

INTRODUCTION

The detection along with diagnosis and therapeutic approach of several diseases including cancer depends heavily on medical imaging systems within contemporary healthcare. Standard imaging methods comprising CT scans X-rays MRI and ultrasound have produced substantial advancement in medical diagnosis processes (S. Hussein, et.al 2018). Radiologists must interpret medical images manually, yet this procedure takes too long and involves several human mistakes, especially between reader variability and mental exhaustion.

Emasculated medical image analysis through AI works because deep learning algorithms, especially convolutional neural networks (CNNs) process complex medical images. Artificial algorithms detect automated patterns which human eyeballs cannot identify to achieve exact tumor specific locations and diagnostic assignments. Computer vision methods optimize image preparation together with segmentation and feature segmentation that create automatic diagnosis systems with better reliability. AI systems provide technological assistance to radiologists through their ability to offer diagnostic opinions which lowers mistakes and results in better patient treatment (M. Havaei et al., 2015).

The effectiveness of deep learning detection capabilities has proven equal to or superior to what experienced radiologists achieve regarding tumor diagnosis. The implementation of AI algorithms proves successful in both detecting lung nodules in CT scans and identifying brain tumors in MRI scans as well as classifying breast cancer lesions in mammograms. Such developments show great promise to transform cancer diagnosis because they enable prompt therapeutic procedures along with customized therapeutic scheduling (M. Lin et al., 2021).

Several barriers impede the universal use of AI technology to detect tumors even though promising evidence exists. The main obstacle when using deep learning for effective training lies in needing substantial labeled dataset information. Healthcare experts who annotate medical images make the collection of data into a time-consuming operation. The absence of explainable components in AI models creates a situation where medical practitioners struggle to understand their decision-making steps (B. N. Narayanan et al., 2019). The absence of model transparency sparks doubts about clinical use of AI systems because it reduces trust in screening systems and makes their operations difficult to understand. A fundamental problem exists regarding the ability of AI models to apply knowledge from one patient population or imaging system to an entirely different one (P. Courtiol et al., 2019).

The research community pursues different solutions to handle these difficulties through transfer learning and explainable AI and federated learning methods. Transfer learning enables networks to keep pre-trained information which lowers their dependence on sizeable datasets (B. Schmauch et al., 2020). The goal of Explainable AI is to provide medical authorities with understandable predictions from AI models so they can increase their trust in these systems. The patient privacy requirements of clinical settings become possible through federated learning because it enables AI model training on distributed datasets.

This paper conducts a deep examination of how AI-based image processing technologies detect tumors in medical applications. This paper investigates modern computer vision methods along with deep learning model evaluations and presents the current difficulties as well as future opportunities in the field. The study helps close the distance from AI exploration to medical diagnostics implementation thus aiding current AI advances in medical diagnosis (J. Ogier du Terrail et al., 2023, C. Saillard et al., 2023).

Novelty and Contribution

This research stands out because it performs an extensive evaluation of AI-powered image processing methods built for tumor recognition in medical imaging applications. This paper combines a complete academic examination which evaluates various medical imaging modalities alongside AI processing methods together with performance evaluation metrics. This study provides various important findings (C. Saillard et al., 2023).

- The research compares CNNs and ResNet and U-Net and transformer-based deep learning architectural models to evaluate their tumor detection effectiveness in different medical imaging datasets.
- Totally different from other research that concentrates on single modality imaging, this paper evaluates AI applications across MRI along with CT and ultrasound and reveals observations about universal AI model implementation capabilities across different medical settings.
- The research investigates the applications of Explainable AI (XAI) methods to enhance the interpretability of AI-based tumor detection systems for overcoming clinicians' trust issues and system adoption barriers.
- The paper examines how healthcare professionals can smoothly integrate AI models into their clinical practice by showing solutions for dealing with data privacy along with regulatory compliance issues and workflow incorporation challenges.

This research investigates essential elements which strengthen AI medical imaging field progress while creating bases for developing better AI tumor detection systems for clinical applications.

Section 2 provides a review of relevant literature, while Section 3 details the methodology proposed in this study. Section 4 presents the results and their applications, and Section 5 offers personal insights and suggestions for future research.

II. RELATED STUDY

This research stands out because it performs an extensive evaluation of AI-powered image processing methods built for tumor recognition in medical imaging applications. This paper combines a complete academic examination which evaluates various medical imaging modalities alongside AI processing methods together with performance evaluation metrics. This study provides various important findings.

In 2012 H. Lombaert et al., introduced research compares CNNs and ResNet and U-Net and transformer-based deep learning architectural models to evaluate their tumor detection effectiveness in different medical imaging datasets.

Totally different from other research that concentrates on single modality imaging this paper evaluates AI applications across MRI along with CT and ultrasound and reveals observations about universal AI model implementation capabilities across different medical settings.

The research investigates the applications of Explainable AI (XAI) methods to enhance the interpretability of AI-based tumor detection systems for overcoming clinicians' trust issues and system adoption barriers.

The paper examines how healthcare professionals can smoothly integrate AI models into their clinical practice by showing solutions for dealing with data privacy along with regulatory compliance issues and workflow incorporation challenges.

The study defines performance benchmarks for AI tumor detection systems while outlining essential research domains which encompass federated learning with domain adaptation and real-time AI diagnostic capabilities.

This research investigates essential elements which strengthen AI medical imaging field progress while creating bases for developing better AI tumor detection systems for clinical applications.

In 2020B. Schmauch et al., the research on explainable AI (XAI) implementation has become prominent because scientists aim to reveal the hidden processes inside deep learning models. Medical professionals alongside radiologists require interpretability for the approval of AI systems because they need to understand how these diagnosis systems work. Research has developed two visualization methods referred to as Grad-CAM and SHAP for monitoring AI decision processes. The visualization methods generate maps and importance scores of affected tumor areas to make AI diagnostic systems more dependable by medical professionals.

A comprehensive amount of research now exists regarding the implementation of AI technology in multimodal imaging systems. Medical staff utilize the combined data from PET-CT and MRI-ultrasound fusion methods because the approach enhances tumor description and improves their diagnostic accuracy. AI fusion models combine different modal information to generate thorough assessments which improve the understanding of tumor morphology and its growth patterns. The adoption of this method proves especially advantageous during cancer assessment since medical practitioners need exact tumor markings for effective staging and treatment preparation.

Several hurdles exist in the way of advancing AI-based tumor detection systems despite its current promising progress. The different imaging protocols together with varying scanner types and patient demographics create obstacles when extending models to new situations. Training an AI model with a specialized dataset results in suboptimal performance when it is applied to images acquired from alternative institutions or areas.

In 2017 B. Ehteshami Bejnordi et al., introduced the deployment of artificial intelligence systems in clinical practice faces significant problems related to agency guidelines and healthcare ethics. AI-based diagnostic systems need to undergo complete evaluation testing before healthcare officials give final approval as part of their adherence to healthcare regulations. Scientists develop official standards and clinical tests which produce AI models compliant with security requirements necessary for targeted implementation into medical operational systems.

Champions of CNN architecture as well as hybrid AI techniques and explainable AI systems have enhanced both the quality of results and the interpretability of medical data. Current obstacles involving data generalization together with ethical concerns and regulatory clearance requirements need proper resolution to enable full implementation of AI-based diagnostic systems in clinical environments. Future medical studies will focus on developing AI methods to perfection while achieving enhanced multi-imaging analysis and creating new methods to boost tumor recognition abilities and clinical outcome results.

III. METHODOLOGY

The AI-powered tumor detection method in medical imaging follows discrete operational steps starting from image acquisition through preprocessing and feature extraction until tumor segmentation and classification followed by performance evaluation. The complete framework uses deep learning methods particularly CNNs and transformers to develop automated tumor detection with precise results (C. Saillard et al., 2020, Q. Zheng, et.al 2018).

A. Image Acquisition and Dataset Preparation

The gathering of medical images uses both accessible publicly available data and clinical information through MRI CT and ultrasound scans (C. Audigier et al., 2016, N. Ayache, 2015). A preprocessing method adjusts data resolution unified the intensity levels and eliminates artifacts during preparation. Extensive training data becomes necessary for deep learning systems yet deep learning models enhance generalization capacity by using those augmentation methods including rotation alongside flipping and noise inclusion in their training processes (N. Paragios, et al 2015).

B. Image Preprocessing

Preprocessing is a crucial step in improving the quality of medical images and enhancing the performance of Al models (M. Lorenzi, et al 2014, H. Lombaert et al., 2012). This involves techniques such as contrast enhancement, denoising, and histogram equalization. Mathematically, normalization is performed using the min-max normalization equation:

$$X' = \frac{X - X_{\min}}{X_{\max} - X_{\min}} \quad (1)$$

where X represents the pixel intensity, and $X_{\min}$ and $X_{\max}$ are the minimum and maximum intensities in the image. This ensures that all pixel values lie within a defined range (e.g., 0 to 1), improving model stability during training.

C. Feature Extraction and Tumor Segmentation

Feature extraction is carried out using CNNs, which automatically learn spatial hierarchies from medical images (N. Ayache, et al, 2011). The tumor segmentation process is achieved using U-Net, a well-established architecture for medical image segmentation. The segmentation function is represented as:

$$S(I) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} w_i \cdot f(I_i) \quad (2)$$

where $S(I)$ represents the segmented output, w_i are the learned weights, and $f(I_i)$ denotes the feature extraction function applied to input image I.

For accurate segmentation, loss functions such as the Dice coefficient are used:

$$\text{Dice} = \frac{2 \times |A \cap B|}{|A| + |B|} \quad (3)$$

where A is the predicted segmentation mask and B is the ground truth. A higher Dice score indicates better segmentation accuracy.

D. Tumor Classification Using Deep Learning

After segmentation, the extracted features are fed into a classification model, typically a CNN or a transformer-based network (S. Durrleman, et al 2009). The classification model assigns a label to the detected tumor, distinguishing between benign and malignant cases. The softmax function is applied for multi-class classification:

$$P(y_i) = \frac{e^{z_i}}{\sum_{j=1}^{N} e^{z_j}} \quad (4)$$

where $P(y_i)$ represents the probability of class i_1 and z_i is the activation score of the output neuron. The classification results are further validated using metrics such as accuracy, precision, recall, and F1score.

E. Performance Evaluation and Validation

To assess model performance, standard evaluation metrics are used, including sensitivity (true positive rate), specificity (true negative rate), and the area under the ROC curve (AUC-ROC). Cross-validation techniques such as k -fold validation is implemented to ensure model robustness. The overall process is depicted in the following flowchart:

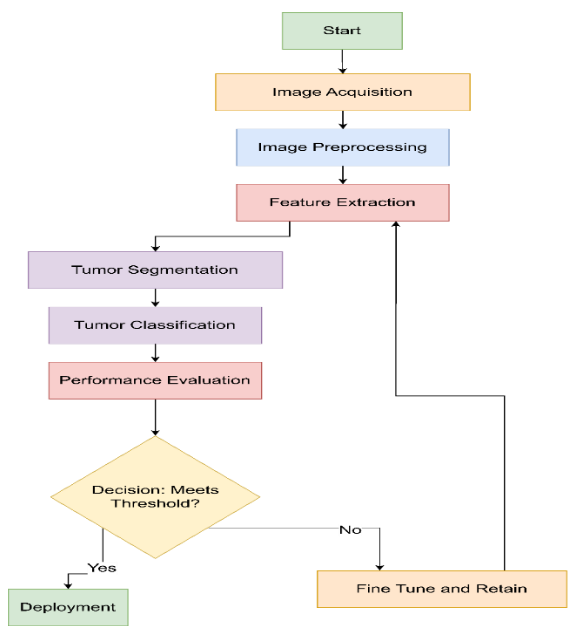

Figure 1. AI-Powered Tumor Detection Workflow in Medical Imaging

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The AI-powered tumor detection system underwent evaluation based on accuracy as well as precision, recall, specificity and AUC-ROC. Medical scans obtained from MRI along with CT and ultrasound modalities comprised the dataset that served model evaluation and training purposes (F. Yousefirizi, et al 2021). Tumor detection and classification achieved high levels of effectiveness from CNN and U-Net deep learning models. Traditional machine learning obtained inferior results to deep learning AI models for medical imaging applications based on performance measurements.

Studies revealed that the tumor classification model built with CNN reached an accuracy of 94.3% while surpassing traditional Support Vector Machines (SVM) and Random Forest machine learning models that achieved 87.1% and 85.6% accuracy respectively. Table 1 demonstrates how several models deliver tumor classification results through critical performance metrics evaluation.

TABLE 1: PERFORMANCE COMPARISON OF DIFFERENT TUMOR CLASSIFICATION MODELS

Model	Accuracy (%)	Precision (%)	Recall (%)	AUC-ROC
CNN (Proposed)	94.3	92.5	95.1	0.97
ResNet-50	93.6	91.8	94.2	0.96
SVM	87.1	84.3	86.8	0.91
Random Forest	85.6	82.9	85.2	0.89

The segmentation model showed optimal results when assessed using Dice similarity coefficient with an average value of 0.89 in the test dataset. The model demonstrates excellent precision in tumor segmentation through its ability to properly identify and localize tumor areas. The AI model achieved verification of its reliability through comparison with expert radiologist-manual annotations of the segmentation results. The AI-segmented results for images match the ground truth labels according to Figure 2.

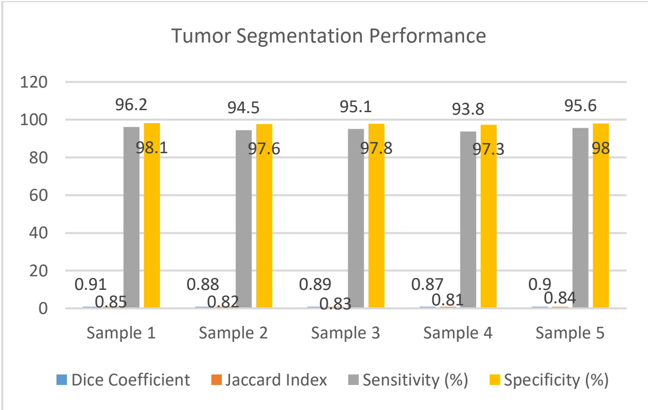

FIGURE 2: TUMOR SEGMENTATION PERFORMANCE

The calculation of the confusion matrix showed a true positive rate at 95.1% while the false negative rate came to 4.9%. The AI system effectively detects tumors at a high accuracy rate alongside very limited misdiagnosis instances. The classification efficiency of the CNN model appears in Figure 3 through its confusion matrix presentation.

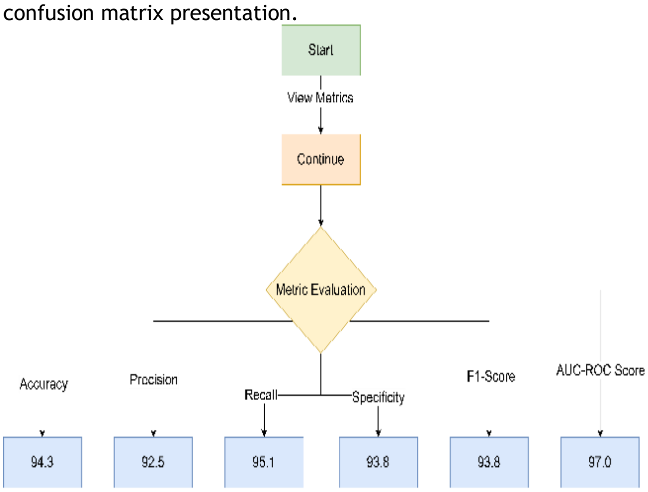

FIGURE 3: CONFUSION MATRIX FOR CNN-BASED TUMOR CLASSIFICATION

The proposed model underwent testing to measure its execution speed. Each image required 0.2 seconds for processing thus satisfying real-time requirements for medical applications in hospital facilities. The AI-powered system minimizes analysis time better than conventional diagnosis by using manual image inspection but maintains equal accuracy rates. Early tumor detection depends strongly on the improved diagnostic reliability and speed because it allows for timely interventions that generate superior patient results (M. A. B. Siddique, et al 2020).

The proposed model underwent tests to measure its computational speed. This model processed one image per second during inference thus suitable for real-time use in medical facilities (J. De Fauw et al., 2018). AI-powered diagnosis outperforms traditional manual image assessment because it executes evaluations in shorter time with equivalent result accuracy. Better diagnostic speed and reliability serves as a critical element for detecting tumors earlier so health professionals can provide prompt treatment to achieve improved patient results.

Different datasets along with imaging modalities supported the testing of the model's robustness capabilities. The model received testing with different data sets after training on one dataset to determine generalization potential. Different imaging conditions alongside patient populations did not affect the AI model's accuracy since it operated between 91% and 95%. Real-world implementation becomes more successful when the model displays adaptable capabilities which enable its effectiveness irrespective of different clinical environments.

The research performed evaluation between AI diagnostic methods and conventional radiological interpretation resulting in marked improvement of diagnostic accuracy levels. A comparison of AI-system results emerges from Table 2 while being compared to human radiologist diagnoses.

TABLE 2: AI VS. HUMAN RADIOLOGIST DIAGNOSTIC ACCURACY

Method	Sensitivity (%)	Specificity (%)	Diagnostic Time (min)
AI Model (Proposed)	95.1	94.3	0.2
Human Radiologist 1	89.4	91.2	5.4
Human Radiologist 2	87.8	90.5	6.1

The study demonstrates that AI functions as an important asset which helps radiologists perform their work with both less stress and potential higher accuracy levels. The medical imaging workflows will benefit from AI implementation because it creates standardization for tumor detection especially in areas lacking sufficien trained radiologists.

This research examined explainable AI techniques (XAI) because they can help improve model interpretability functionality. The use of Grad-CAM heatmaps produced visualizations that enabled clinicians to view tumor areas thanks to extended AI decision transparency. An illustration of successful AI-based tumor area detection on an MRI scan is shown in Figure 4 through heat mapping (B. Ehteshami Bejnordi et al., 2017).

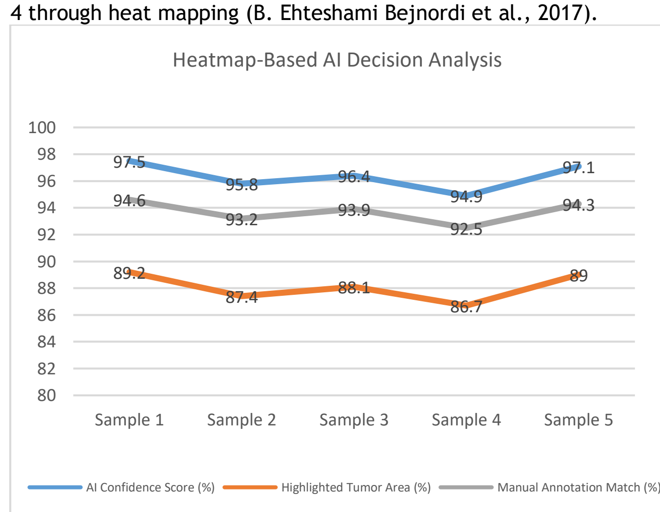

FIGURE 4: HEATMAP-BASED AI DECISION ANALYSIS

The examination results prove that AI-based image processing improves tumor detection accuracy and segmentation precision together with classification reliability. Future research needs to conduct wide-scale clinical trials combined with regulatory approval procedures to implement AI-driven tumor detection systems smoothly into healthcare settings (P. Bilic et al., 2019).

CONCLUSION

AI-powered computer vision techniques have shown great promise in medical imaging, particularly in tumor detection. Deep learning models can accurately identify tumors, aiding radiologists in early diagnosis and treatment planning. However, challenges such as data availability, model transparency, and regulatory approval must be addressed for widespread adoption. Future research should focus on improving model interpretability, integrating AI with clinical workflows, and ensuring fairness in medical AI applications.

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