

AI in Medicine: Making impact in Clinical Practice

Never Stand Still

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Recent breakthroughs: AI, ML, DL

- Artificial Intelligence (AI): development of smart systems and machines that can carry out tasks that typically require human intelligence
- Machine Learning: creates algorithms that can learn from data and make decisions based on patterns observed. Requires human intervention when decision is incorrect
- Deep Learning: uses complex and deep artificial neural networks to reach accurate conclusions without human intervention. Requires large-scale annotated data to train.







The Need: Augmented Intelligence

> Humans + Computers can achieve better performance than either alone

Harvard Business Review

Innovation | AI Will Change Radiology, but It Won't Replace Radiologists

Al Will Change Radiology, but It Won't Replace Radiologists

by Thomas H. Davenport and Keith J. Dreyer, DO

March 27, 2018

Augmentation or Companionship



In contrast to automation, augmentation presumes that smart humans and smart machines can coexist and create better outcomes than either could alone. AI systems may perform some health care tasks with limited human intervention, thereby freeing clinicians to perform higher-level tasks."

Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)

- A class of deep neural networks suitable for processing 2D/3D data. For e.g., Images and Videos
- CNNs can capture high-level representation of images/videos which can be used for endtasks such as classification, object detection, segmentation, etc.
- > A range of CNNs improving over the years



CNN Architecture

- > A typical CNN architecture consists of the following layers:
 - Convolution layer
 - ReLU layer (non-linearity)
 - ➢ Pooling layer
 - ➢ Flattening
 - Fully-connected layer
 - Output layer



There can be multiple steps of convolution followed by pooling, before reaching the fully connected layers.



Vision tasks

- > Image classification: Assigning a label or class to an image
- Object detection: Locate the presence of objects with a bounding box and class of the located objects in an image
- > Semantic segmentation: Label every pixel (pixel-wise classification)
- Instance segmentation: Differentiate instances



(a) Image Classification

(b) Object Detection



(c) Semantic Segmentation



(d) Instance Segmentation

Object detection with Faster R-CNN

Determine "what" and "where"

regress the coordinates of object and classify it

- Region Proposal: R-CNN, Fast R-CNN, Faster R-CNN, Mask R-CNN
 - First propose the regions likely to include objects and second classify the regions and regress the BBOX
- R-CNN: Detect Rol by Selective Search (SS) on images, resize the regions to fixed size and let them flow into CNN respectively, and classify them into the classes by SVM



R-CNN: Regions with CNN features

Object detection with Faster R-CNN

- R-CNN Issues
 - > A split between region proposal and classification
 - Too slow selective search (can't be used in real-time)
- Fast R-CNN: Do convolution first and then selective search. Adopted Rol pooling to crop fixed vector from the feature map.

Fast R-CNN:

- Rol Pooling
- Speeded up the forward propagation by sharing convolution



Object detection with Faster R-CNN

Fast R-CNN Issues

A split between region proposal and classification was not improved

- Selective Search still too slow
- Faster R-CNN
 - Adopted Region Proposal Network (RPN) and abolish Selective Search
 - Achieved high performance and high speed



Biomedical Image Segmentation with U-net

- U-net learns segmentation in an end-to-end setting
- Proven to be very powerful segmentation tool in scenarios with limited annotated data
- Doesn't contain any fully connected layers















U-net Architecture



Case Study: Automated Analysis of 4D Fetal Echocardiogram*

Problem Statement

Given a 4D Fetal echocardiogram, segment the four cardiac chambers and the mitral and tricuspid annulus, creating a 3D model of the fetal heart at End-Diastole.
Compute essential biometrics to assess the well-being of the fetus from this model by tracking it over the entire cardiac cycle.







Adult Annulus Segmentation [1]



Background

- > Heart is the **first functional organ** that develops in a fetus.
- Starts beating by Week 4
- The heart has four chambers, two atria (left and right atrium) and two ventricles (left and right ventricle)
- The fetus has a parallel circulation compared to the serial system in adults – because lungs are not functional
- Mitral (Bicuspid) Valve (MV): opens during diastole, allows blood to flow down from the LA to the LV and closes during systole to prevent the blood from flowing back to the LA
- Tricuspid Valve (TV): opens during diastole, allows blood to flow down from the RA to the RV and closes during systole to prevent the blood from flowing back to the RA





Background

- We are interested in the Annulus region, a saddle shaped fibrous ring, which moves up and down during a cardiac cycle.
- The annulus controls the opening and closing of the valves.
- The vertical displacement of the mitral annulus is termed MAPSE
- The same of the tricuspid annulus is termed TAPSE







Mitral Valve showing the fibrous annulus ring surrounding the leaflet.



Adult Annulus Segmentation [1]. *Joint work with Philip, Ferrieira, Tomar, Chawla, Welsh, Stevenson

Datasets

Dataset-1

- 295 Ultrasound Volumes (Acquired by 3 operators)
 - > 95 foetuses (Gestational Age: 20-37 weeks)
 - 4D data (3D + time)
 - Annotations available:
 - TAPSE/MAPSE measurements by 3 operators (3 measurements each)
 - Tricuspid/Mitral annuli annotated on 169 * 3D volumes







Dataset-2

- 385 Ultrasound Volumes (Acquired by 1 operator)
 - ➢ 32 foetuses
 - 4D data (3D + time)
 - > Probe used for data acquisition: E8-STIC, E10-STIC, E10-eSTIC
 - Annotations available:
 - 6 classes: Left Atrium (LA), Left Ventricle (LV), Mitral Annulus (MA), Right Atrium, Right Ventricle, Tricuspid Annulus (TA)
 - 2 Annotators
 - 30 Volumes (each annotated in triplicates by each annotator)



Data Preparation

- Quality Scoring System manually evaluated (out of 8)
- \succ Volumes with a score >= 4, selected

Scoring P	Score	
	4 Chamber View	1
Visibility of	Aorta	1
Visibility of	Moderator band	1
	Whole heart	1
Noise level	High/Moderate/Low	1/2/3
Re-orientat	1	
то	8	

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1. Annulus Segmentation

- U-Net architecture used to segment the tricuspid and mitral annulus
- Dice Similarity Coefficient (DSC) values of 0.78 for Tricuspid Annulus (TA) segmentation and 0.77 for Mitral Annulus (MA) segmentation were achieved.

TAPSE/MAPSE Measurement

- ➢ For TAPSE measurements, r=0.61 and RMSE=0.14 cm
- ➢ For MAPSE measurements, r=0.30 and RMSE=0.18 cm
- This automated method can provide function cardiac assessment where training is limited and skills lacking
- Presented @ IEEE ISBI 2019



Bland-Altman plots comparing automated TAPSE (A) and MAPSE (B) measurements to average expert measurement.



Annulus Segmentation - Issues

- Change in orientation of the heart due to fetal or probe movement
- Position of the SEPTUM
- Tracking not performed to confirm End-systole and End-diastole





Figure : Schematic depicting need for Registration.



2. Whole Heart Segmentation

- Instead of identifying just the SEPTUM for orientation-problem redefined to obtain it as a byproduct
- > The heart is modelled consisting of:
 - ➢ Left and Right Atrium (LA, RA)
 - ➤ Left and Right Ventricles (LV, RV), and
 - ➤ Tricuspid and Mitral Annulus (TA, MA)
- Dataset-1 could not be used
 - > Whole heart was not in view
 - Zoomed in version of the thorax



3D render of heart model, showing cardiac chambers and anuuli.



Datasets

Dataset-2

- 385 Ultrasound Volumes (Acquired by 1 operator)
 - ➢ 32 foetuses
 - ▶ 4D data (3D + time)
 - Probe used for data acquisition: E8-STIC, E10-STIC, E10-eSTIC
 - Annotations available:
 - 6 classes: Left Atrium (LA), Left Ventricle (LV), Mitral Annulus (MA), Right Atrium, Right Ventricle, Tricuspid Annulus (TA)
 - 2 Annotators
 - 30 Volumes (each annotated in triplicates by each annotator)





Issues

Inter and Intra observer Variability





Architectures

- > CNN based models:
 - ≻ U-Net
 - ≻ V-Net
 - ≻ Res-UNet

- Transformer-based models:
 - TransBTS
 - ≻ Unet-R



Training details

> Training data:

Number of patients	20
Total annotated ED volumes	30
Train volumes	25 (15 patients)
Training Patient IDs	0,2,3,4,5,6,8,9,13,14,24,26,27,28,30,31,35 (Fold 1)
Test volumes	5 (5 patients)
Test Patient IDs	1,7,10,25,32 (Fold 1)

> Training Parameters

Augmentation	Rotation at ±(3,6,9)°, Gaussian noise, Salt and Pepper noise
Training samples after augmentation	2100
Train/ Validation split	90/10
Epochs trained for	100
Optimizer	Adam
Learning rate	1e-4
Batch size	2
Data Size	64 *64 *64



Whole Heart Segmentation

1. Position Fixing

- Manually repositioned to
 - Apex down flipping data up/down
 - Mitral Annulus visible on the right side – flipping data left/right

2. Localisation (along coronal axis)

SVM classifier trained to classify coronal slices to foreground / background

25



Flowchart outlining the proposed pipeline.



Segmentation results

- > No matter the architecture used, clear **performance improvement with data enhancement**
- > Performance improvement with data enhancement

> 19% \uparrow in DSC for CNNs and a 16% \uparrow for transformer-based networks

Туре	Architecture	Enh.	LV	RV	LA	RA	TA	MA
		A	0.60	0.67	0.40	0.69	0.48	0.37
	U-Net [7]	Р	0.76	0.70	0.55	0.74	0.49	0.42
		L	0.82	0.77	0.62	0.72	0.50	0.47
		A	0.54	0.52	0.16	0.46	0.32	0.22
CNN-Based	V-Net [13]	P	0.64	0.65	0.38	0.66	0.42	0.39
		L	0.74	0.73	0.44	0.65	0.39	0.37
		A	0.36	0.32	0.26	0.48	0.24	0.16
	Res U-Net [14]	P	0.63	0.63	0.40	0.71	0.42	0.37
		L	0.74	0.76	0.53	0.68	0.42	0.36
		A	0.59	0.55	0.26	0.60	0.35	0.21
	TransBTS [15]	P	0.74	0.69	0.59	0.75	0.49	0.47
TF-Based		L	0.80	0.78	0.65	0.72	0.45	0.46
22 20000		A	0.53	0.49	0.26	0.54	0.22	0.16
	U-NetR [16]	P	0.66	0.62	0.37	0.67	0.31	0.31
		L	0.70	0.67	0.35	0.57	0.28	0.26

Comparison of segmentation performance measured by DSC for multiple deep learning methods. Segmentation was performed using models trained on data using three different enhancements (A = Augmentation only; P = Augmentation + Position Fixing; L = Augmentation + Position Fixing + Localization). Best accuracy for each class is shown in bold

Results analysis

- > Physical size constraints reflected in segmentation results
 - Segmentation performance of ventricles > atria > annuli
- U-Net gave the best results
 - V-Net, UNet-R and Res-UNet highly sensitive to noise and fails to learn the general shape of the region
 - TransBTS very similar architecture to U-Net except for the transformer block results very close to U-Net
- Mean DSC improvement after data enhancement:
 - ➤ U-Net: 0.12
 - ≻ V-Net: 0.18
 - ➢ Res-UNet: 0.28
 - ➤ TransBTS: 0.22
 - > UNETR: 0.11

3. Automatic segmentation of human placenta in 3D Ultrasound

- The placenta is a critical and complex organ that provides oxygen and nutrition to the growing fetus and removes waste from its blood
- Fetal health strongly depends on the functionality of the placenta
- Any abnormality of the placenta could be harmful to the fetus and the mother
- Assessment of placenta in vivo across gestation is critical to understand placental structure, function, and development



Need for 3D placenta volume segmentation

- 2D US is the standard clinical imaging modality used for accessing placental health and diagnosis of its abnormalities
- In 2D US imaging, physician create 3D model in their mind and subjectively determine volume, location, and features of the placenta – challenging task
- Need To automatically segment placenta in 3D (voxel-level classification) for qualitative and quantitative analysis
- Manual segmentation of the placenta is timeconsuming and have high inter-observer and intraobserver variability
- Automatic 3D placenta segmentation could be used in clinical practice for monitoring conditions that result in pregnancy and birth complications such as PAS, fetal growth restriction, and suspicion of intrauterine fetal demise



Dataset

- Total 400 studies having Gray-scale (Bmode) and power doppler (PD) volumes are provided
- For ground-truth (GT) segmentation mask, manual annotation and the best 'threshold' images are computed using the following rules:
 - use same image in case there is only one annotated (segmented) image
 - compute intersection image (i.e., voxelwise logical AND operation) in case there are two annotated (segmented) images
 - compute image based on majority voxel-wise voting in case there are three annotated (segmented) images













O_ ♥ ▼ Axial ▼ 0_thres

Dataset Pre-processing



(a) B-mode Axial

(b) B-mode Coronal



- > Pre-processing needed to make data suitable for the framework.
- Pre-processing:
 - \geq 3D volumes should be of same isotropic size (same size in x, y, z direction)
 - Adata to be provided in numbered format with each sample in folders from 0 to X, where X is the maximum number of studies
- > All data (B-mode US, Power Doppler US, and annotated masks) were resized to 64 x 64 x 64
- > B-mode and PD volumes are normalized by rescaling pixel values between range 0 to 255.

Experimental setup

- Data split into training (60%), validation (20%), and testing (20%) without any data leakage (no patient overlap within sets)
- ➤ 400 studies divided as below:
 - ➤ training -> 240
 - ➤ validation -> 80
 - ➤ testing -> 80
- Data divided into 5 folds, keeping same ratio in each fold (240 training, 80 validation, and 80 testing)



Fusion strategies

- > Early-fusion: concatenates original features at the input level
- Multi-stage or joint-fusion: concatenates extracted features
- > Late-fusion: aggregates predictions at the decision level



Methodology



Results

Segmentation results comparing U-Net model performance for five folds of the final dataset with each fold having #train=240, #validation=80, and #test=80 3D ultrasound volumes. Results are averaged values over all studies in the test set with \pm standard deviation of metric for that test set.

Fold# (Dataset)	DSC	Jaccard Index	HD (mm)	MSD (mm)
Fold 1	0.823 ± 0.101	0.708 ± 0.102	8.645 ± 6.322	1.501 ± 0.454
Fold 2	0.825 ± 0.058	0.706 ± 0.076	7.920 ± 4.665	1.595 ± 0.631
Fold 3	0.823 ± 0.064	0.704 ± 0.082	10.500 ± 6.111	1.664 ± 0.887
Fold 4	0.814 ± 0.075	0.692 ± 0.093	7.978 ± 4.839	1.722 ± 0.912
Fold 5	0.821 ± 0.045	0.698 ± 0.062	8.262 ± 4.420	1.572 ± 0.408

Segmentation results comparing U-Net++ model performance for five folds of the final dataset with each fold having #train=240, #validation=80, and #test=80 3D ultrasound volumes. Results are averaged values over all studies in the test set with \pm standard deviation of metric for that test set.

Fold# (Dataset)	DSC	Jaccard Index	HD (mm)	MSD (mm)
Fold 1	0.828 ± 0.076	0.706 ± 0.067	4.898 ± 3.156	1.196 ± 0.752
Fold 2	0.819 ± 0.042	0.694 ± 0.113	7.348 ± 5.245	2.039 ± 0.574
Fold 3	0.824 ± 0.056	0.700 ± 0.018	7.615 ± 4.758	1.502 ± 0.626
Fold 4	0.833 ± 0.107	0.715 ± 0.045	4.690 ± 3.167	1.340 ± 0.285
Fold 5	0.840 ± 0.072	0.725 ± 0.057	4.123 ± 3.032	1.177 ± 0.377



Results

Segmentation results with and without data augmentation. Results are averaged values over all studies in the test set with \pm standard deviation of metric for that test set.

Method	DSC	Jaccard Index	HD (mm)	MSD (mm)
U-Net, without data augmentation	0.824	0.700	7.615	1.502
U-Net, with data augmentation	0.833	0.714	4.690	1.340
U-Net++, without data augmentation	0.839	0.722	7.141	1.279
U-Net++, with data augmentation	0.847	0.725	4.123	1.177

Segmentation results applying applying early fusion, intermediate fusion, and late fusion for the two modalities, namely, B-mode and Power Doppler 3D ultrasound volumes. Results are averaged values over all studies in the test set with \pm standard deviation of metric for that test set.

Method	DSC	Jaccard Index	HD (mm)	MSD (mm)
Early fusion (U-Net, without data augmentation)	0.831	0.711	8.944	1.078
Intermediate fusion (U-Net, without data augmentation)	0.825	0.702	5.196	1.484
Late fusion (U-Net, without data augmentation)	0.818	0.693	9.110	1.582
Early fusion (U-Net++, without data augmentation)	0.847	0.725	4.472	1.137
Intermediate fusion (U-Net++, without data augmentation)	0.831	0.710	5.830	1.442
Late fusion (U-Net++, without data augmentation)	0.826	0.704	16.643	1.229
Early fusion (U-Net, with data augmentation)	0.838	0.722	4.898	1.144
Intermediate fusion (U-Net, with data augmentation)	0.829	0.708	7.071	1.818
Late fusion (U-Net, with data augmentation)	0.822	0.698	7.549	2.229
Early fusion (U-Net++, with data augmentation)	0.849	0.738	4.051	1.007
Intermediate fusion (U-Net++, with data augmentation)	0.839	0.722	7.141	1.279
Late fusion (U-Net++, with data augmentation)	0.835	0.717	10.295	1.025

Qualitative Results

DSC: 0.7135 Jaccard Index: 0.5546 Hausdorff Distance (HD95): 9.4339 MSD: 304.4385







(b) B-mode Coronal



(c) B-mode Sagittal



(d) PD Axial



(e) PD Coronal



(f) PD Sagittal



(g) GT Axial

(j) Predicted Axial



(h) GT Coronal

(k) Predicted Coronal



(i) GT Sagittal



(I) Predicted Sagittal



Singh et al., "Automatic 3D Multi-modal Ultrasound Segmentation of Human Placenta using Fusion strategies and Deep Learning", Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology, 2023 [Submitted]

Qualitative Results

DSC: 0.9039 \triangleright Jaccard Index: 0.8247 Hausdorff Distance (HD95): 3.0000 MSD: 0.7189



(a) B-mode Axial

(d) PD Axial



(b) B-mode Coronal

(c) B-mode Sagittal





(e) PD Coronal



(f) PD Sagittal



(g) GT Axial



(h) GT Coronal



(i) GT Sagittal



(I) Predicted Sagittal



Next steps – Whole placenta segmentation

- Placenta size grows with the gestation age
- It is hard to capture entire placenta at late gestation
 - Limited field-of-view (FOV)
 - A single US probe have too small FOV to capture the whole placenta
- ➤ The Need Stitching
 - The entire placenta can be captured by acquiring, aligning, and stitching multiple 3D US images to get large FOV



Estimated	Mean±SD				
gestational age (weeks)	Placenta thickness (mm)	Estimated fetal weight (g			
15	22.6±2.5	147.0±16.5			
16	22.5±1.9	181.5±17.4			
17	26.0±0.0	212.5±0.0			
18	24.0±0.2	233.3±40.0			
19	27.6±2.8	330.5±21.7			
20	29.1±5.6	357.8±31.2			
21	27.8±4.9	421.7±36.5			
22	31.5±5.2	542.5±63.9			
23	31.2±3.4	599.8±65.2			
24	31.9±3.9	691.5±64.6			
25	30.7±2.7	805.3±46.0			
26	33.2±3.4	963.5±68.9			
27	34.0±3.2	1063.7±66.8			
28	34.0±2.2	1235.2±69.2			
29	35.5±4.9	1375.9±79.3			
30	38.9±5.9	1539.3±211.9			
31	36.0±5.3	1617.0±137.0			
32	33.5±3.5	1766.6±206.7			
33	38.8±6.4	2148.1±202.7			
34	39.0±5.3	2348.1±106.1			
35	41.4±11.6	2292.4±764.9			
36	40.9±7.2	2710.0±275.2			
37	40.1±4.8	2884.8±251.6			
38	38.5±2.5	3148.4±505.4			
39	39.3±4.4	3187.4±305.4			
40	39.3±5.7	3304.8±284.6			



Source: Adeyekun et al. (2015). Relationship between 2-D ultrasound measurement of placental thickness and estimated fetal weight. Image source: Zimmer et al. (2019). Towards Whole Placenta Segmentation at Late Gestation using multi-view US images. MICCAI.

Whole placenta segmentation

Placenta size grows with the gestation age



(b) Multi-view US images



Other Medical Imaging and Informatics projects



Analysis and Enhancement of MR Neuroimages



Medical Visual Question Answering (Med-VQA)

Q: What is the plane of

this MRI?

Q: The CT scan shows

A: Spine and contents

what organ system?

A: Sagittal

(b) Plane category example



(a) Modality category example



alarming RI?

(c) Abnormality category example (d) Organ system category example







Brain Brain

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*Projects shown are undertaken by PhD, MPhil and Hons Thesis candidates and are supervised by academics in Computer Vision group at UNSW CSE in collaboration with clinical collaborators.



Other Medical Imaging and Informatics projects

Vertebral Compression Fracture (VCF) Multimodal Severity Detection for Black Prostate Segmentation from MR Images Detection in CT images Lung Disease Ground Truth Prediction Comparison mage Trut UNet (a) (c) Multi-organ and Tumor Segmentation from **Quantification and Severity Estimation of Automated Segmentation of Coronary Abdominal CT images Acute Diverticulitis** Arteries Case#1 Output#1 **TGNet** Case#2 Output#2 Axial CT w/ Contrast (2)

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Concluding Remarks

> Computational methods have an increasing role in medical imaging

Challenges

- big raw data but limited curated data
- combining imaging and non-imaging data
- data visualisation
- ➤ moving from 2D to 3D
- explainable and interpretable models
- ethical and legal dilemmas





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Questions?