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ADVANCING EARLY DIAGNOSIS: INVESTIGATING BREAST CANCER CELL SEGMENTATION WITH DEEP LEARNING AND TRANSFER LEARNING APPROACHES

Nida Khalil

Sir Syed University of Engineering and Technology
Karachi, Pakistan
e-mail: nkhalil@ssuet.edu.pk

Khalid Mahboob, Umme Laila

Institute of Business Management
Karachi, Pakistan
e-mail: khalid.mahboob@iobm.edu.pk, umme.laila@iobm.edu.pk

Manal A. Asiri

Aseer Health Cluster, Health Programs Department, Ministry of Health
Saudi Arabia
e-mail: masiri140@moh.gov.sa

Muhammad Noman Saeed, Ahmad Mufarreh Almufarreh

Jazan University, Jazan
Saudi Arabia
e-mail: msaeed@jazanu.edu.sa, almufarreh@jazanu.edu.sa

Fatima Waseem

Capital University of Science and Technology
Islamabad, Pakistan
e-mail: fatima.waseem@cust.edu.pk

Khaled Mohammed Noaman, Farooq Ebrahim,
Fazal Imam Shahi, Ali Ahmed Al-Makramani

Jazan University, Jazan, Saudi Arabia
e-mail: knoaman@jazanu.edu.sa, feebrahim@jazanu.edu.sa,
fishahi@jazanu.edu.sa, aalmakramani@jazanu.edu.sa

Abstract. Breast cancer, a critical global health concern, necessitates accurate and timely diagnosis. This research introduces a novel methodology that harnesses modern technologies, including deep learning and transfer learning, to enhance breast cancer cell segmentation. The study commences with meticulous dataset selection and preprocessing, followed by image segmentation using advanced techniques to differentiate between benign and malignant cells effectively. Two significant algorithms, Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) and AlexNet, are employed, achieving remarkable classification accuracy of 94.5 % and 92.3 %, respectively. These models exhibit robust performance in identifying intricate patterns and features in breast cancer cell images, enabling precise diagnoses. Moreover, this study evaluates the models' performance on unseen data, affirming their sustained efficacy in clinical settings. The CNN model excels in accurately classifying and segmenting breast cancer cells, while AlexNet demonstrates transfer learning capabilities, which is particularly advantageous in scenarios with limited data availability. The findings underscore the potential of deep learning and transfer learning techniques in augmenting breast cancer diagnostics, paving the way for more accurate and effective cancer treatments.

Keywords: Breast cancer, cells, segmentation, AlexNet, CNN, medical images

1 INTRODUCTION

Breast cancer is a critical worldwide health issue that affects millions of people every year. In China and the USA, respectively, there were about 4 820 000 and 2 370 000 new instances of cancer in 2022 and 3 210 000 and 640 000 cancer fatalities. In China and the USA, lung and breast cancer are the most frequent types of cancer, respectively [1]. In 2022, 670 000 women lost their lives to breast cancer. Breast cancer was still a primary global health concern in 2023. The most frequent malignancy among adults, breast cancer, was diagnosed in almost 2.3 million women. Breast abnormal cells replicate and increase unchecked until they form a tumor, which is how breast cancer arises. Early diagnosis is, therefore, essential for enhancing patient outcomes and raising the possibility of successful treatment [2]. Age, alcohol intake, family history, hormonal aspects, particular genetic mutations (including

BRCA1 and BRCA2), reproductive history, obesity, and radiation exposure are all risk factors for breast cancer. Out of all the malignancies, breast cancer is the most common in women, making up around 25 % of all female cancer cases and having the highest death rate. It is crucial to remember that even without any risk factors, breast cancer can still develop in a person [3].

The application of artificial intelligence (AI) to medical imaging is increasing regarding image interpretation and processing [4]; particularly, deep learning models have been widely applied to medical image processing [5]. Many researchers have put forth various methods for automated cell classifications for cancer detection in breast cytology images over the last few decades. Regarding this, several researchers have focused on nuclei analysis, removing characteristics from nuclei to offer essential data for classifying cells as benign or malignant [6]. Similarly, nucleus segmentation and classification use clustering-based methods, the circular Hough Transform, and other statistical characteristics [7, 8]. Although histopathological image algorithms are increasing in the field of medical image analysis, an automatic system is still very desirable to provide findings that are both efficient and highly accurate [9]. As a result, methods like these are needed to increase objectivity, ensure consistency in the data obtained throughout the observation process, and point the way toward qualitative products for diagnosis. The intricacy of operations such as pre-processing, segmentation, feature extraction, and so on in traditional machine learning methodologies deteriorates the system's accuracy and productivity. To get around the issues with conventional machine learning methods, this study is dedicated to investigating the possible improvements in breast cancer cell segmentation for initial detection by exploiting deep learning and transfer learning techniques. There are two types of tumors: benign and malignant. Benign non-cancerous tumors usually do not spread outside of the breast and are not aggressive toward the surrounding tissues. On the other hand, malignant tumors are aggressive and carcinogenic because they spread and harm the tissues around them [10]. Precisely detecting and segmenting cancer cells within histopathological visuals is crucial in diagnosing breast cancer. Advanced strategies are needed to improve the efficiency and accuracy of cell segmentation because traditional manual methods are labor-intensive and prone to human error [10]. Deep learning is a machine learning technique that has gained significant traction recently and has shown exceptional effectiveness in various image analysis tasks [11]. Complex data can be perfectly handled with the ability of valuable patterns through deep learning [6, 8]. On the other hand, through the transfer of knowledge from a similar area, transfer learning helps learners in one domain become more proficient. This reduces the amount of target-domain data needed to generate target learners. Transfer learning techniques are widely employed in ultrasound breast cancer image analyses because of this enormous property [2, 9].

By contrasting and evaluating their efficacy, the main goal is to present a thorough examination of the capabilities of various approaches and pinpoint possible areas for cooperation [12]. Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), one of the deep

learning architectures, will be thoroughly examined to determine how well they can recognize and locate cancer cells in histopathological pictures. AlexNet-based transfer learning will also use pre-trained models trained on sizable datasets, such as those found on Kaggle or other histopathological image databases. It is anticipated that this strategy would improve the precision of segmenting more concentrated, smaller datasets that are directly linked to breast cancer. To expect better segmentation results utilizing the individual models, a combination of the outputs of many models should be trained with various strategies or features [13]. The findings of the study will have significant ramifications for breast cancer screening. Advances in cell segmentation may eventually improve patient outcomes by providing a more accurate assessment of tumor characteristics and supporting treatment decisions. New frameworks and methods for interpreting medical images may be developed due to research into deep learning and transfer learning in this area [14].

The following sections of this study will include a complete analysis of recent literature, a thorough description of our experimental design and research methods, the study's findings, and a comprehensive discussion. This research aims to significantly contribute to current initiatives to enhance early detection of breast cancer. The ultimate goal is to have a beneficial influence on patient care and treatment outcomes.

2 LITERATURE REVIEW

While early attempts to apply machine learning to early breast cancer diagnosis were promising, they have been hampered by several problems, including low segmentation and detection abilities and inadequate precision. Deep learning approaches have addressed these problems, offering more reliable and accurate diagnostic results. The development and improvement of several algorithms have resulted in notable gains in segmentation quality and detection accuracy. Several researchers have written articles addressing these issues and offering creative solutions, indicating that deep learning is essential for early and precise breast cancer diagnosis and improving patient outcomes. Accurate diagnosis of the type of brain tumor, which is essential for the proper treatment, saves many lives around the world each year. Tumor identification is commonly accomplished with non-invasive magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans, which spare patients from having an uncomfortable biopsy [5].

Zeebaree et al. [15] addressed a novel method for obtaining the area of interest (ROI) in breast imaging introduced to decrease the quantity of false positive cases (FP). The neural network and local pixel data were the foundation for their proposed model. They utilize an imaging dataset of 250 ultrasound images containing 150 benign and 100 malignant images. During the training phase, a trained model was generated by extracting the number of batches from the background data and ROI. During testing, a fixed-size window was used to scan the image to distinguish

the ROI from the background. The result shows that the suggested approach has a success rate of around 95.4 % for breast contour extraction.

Krithiga and Geetha [16] present medical regulations and the law holding pathological examinations to a standard requiring specific action during the diagnosis procedure. Despite concerns, it exists in most breast cancer datasets, which makes research and prediction more challenging. Their study assesses how well machine and deep learning approaches perform when predicting breast cancer recurrence rates. The results show that the high accuracy is associated with lower sensitivity and specificity.

In their work, Zheng et al. [17] employed state-of-the-art computational methods to theoretically advocate the usage of the Deep Learning-Assisted Efficient Adaboost Algorithm (DLA-EABA) for breast cancer detection. According to their work, CNN-based transfer learning is used to characterize breast masses for diagnostic and predictive purposes or in several imaging modalities, such as mammography, ultrasound, and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). This work integrates machine learning with feature selection and extraction by utilizing segmentation and classification to determine the optimal strategy. The excellent results of the testing surpass the performance of the current systems with 97.2 % accuracy, 98.3 % sensitivity, and 96.5 % specificity.

Güldoğan et al. [18] developed a system that helps clinicians classify breast cancer using ultrasound images. They use a transfer learning technique to detect and classify breast cancer based on ultrasound images. They utilize an imaging dataset obtained from the Mendeley data, which includes 150 cases of malignant and 100 standard cases of breast cancer. The dataset was partitioned into training (85 % of the images) and validation (15 %) sets. A Teachable Machine was implemented for predicting benign or malignant breast cancer. By the experimental findings, the corresponding 95 % confidence ranges for accuracy, sensitivity, and specificity were 0.974 (0.923–1.0), 0.957 (0.781–0.999), and 1 (0.782–1.0).

Arooj et al. [19] use transfer learning with a customized AlexNet technique for breast cancer detection and classification. The three datasets, A, B, C, and A2, dataset A with two classes, were all subjected to the customized AlexNet approach by the suggested model. The A dataset's maximum accuracy is 99.4 %, while datasets B, C, and A2 have maximum accuracy values of 96.70 %, 99.10 %, and 100 %, respectively. Utilizing a customized AlexNet, the suggested model enhanced by transfer learning produced the most significant outcomes.

Current Approach: Our research enhances the identification and separation of breast cancer cells by combining deep learning techniques with a convolutional neural network (CNN) model and transfer learning using AlexNet. We conducted our study using a carefully selected dataset of 500 photos from Kaggle. By utilizing a large amount of the data for training and reserving the rest for validation, we improve the accuracy of pattern identification and classification. This leads to notable advancements in the diagnosis of breast cancer through the use of sophisticated image analysis tools.

Ref. No.	Previous Work	Proposed Methodology
[20]	A CNN-based deep learning model recognizes and identifies mitotic nuclei in breast cancer histopathology images.	An automated approach is proposed for assessing breast cancer in histopathology images utilizing characteristics extracted from convolutional neural networks (CNN) at pixel, object, and semantic levels.
[21]	Using transfer learning, Inception_V3 and Inception_ResNet_V2 networks were used on the BreaKHis dataset for breast cancer diagnosis.	Augmentation approaches expand the BreaKHis dataset. Inception_ResNet_V2 is used for binary and multi-class classification. Additionally, feature extraction is performed for SVM and K-means clustering analysis.
[22]	Convolutional neural networks (CNNs) were used to identify mitotic nuclei and assess the severity of breast cancer in histopathology images—contrasting deep convolutional neural network (DCNN) models with methods that manually extract features.	This study proposes a framework that utilizes convolutional auto-encoders to perform unsupervised segmentation of overlapping nuclei and parts of the nuclei in histopathological images. The framework aims to cluster the pictures based on these segmented components.
[23]	The study utilized advanced semantic segmentation methods with deep CNNs to identify the BI-RADS lexicon for breast ultrasound images.	The Unet3+ architecture has been implemented for semantic segmentation, demonstrating exceptional accuracy and intersection over union in the identification and diagnosis of breast cancer.
[24]	Previous research has been limited by factors such as a small dataset size and the absence of breast area segmentation before classification.	The system described is a breast cancer detection system that utilizes thermo grams. It combines the U-Net architecture for segmentation and a CNN-based model for classification. The system is fully automated.
[25]	Challenges in manual segmentation of tumors for high-throughput radiomic analysis in preclinical imaging.	An advanced deep learning method has been developed to accurately identify and separate tumors from multi-contrast MR images for TNBC. This approach significantly enhances the reliability and sensitivity of radiomic characteristics in detecting tumor.

Note: The proposed methodology extends the previous work by introducing multiple levels of feature extraction to enhance the accuracy of breast cancer assessment.

Table 1. Comparison of previous work and the proposed methodology

3 DATA PREPROCESSING, AUGMENTATION AND METHODOLOGY

In the world's most significant concern over human health issues, breast cancer is the one serious threat, and it is central for study to emphasize the importance of timely and accurate diagnosis of this disease [7]. This section mentions the resource for data on breast cancer cell images. Then, it details knowledge about the model, which is classified by deep learning and transfer learning classification approaches. In this article, we introduce a novel method that uses modern facilities and technologies, like deep learning and transfer learning, to enhance the segmentation of breast cancer cells.

Figure 1 shows the classification process model of breast cancer cell segmentation. The basic foundation of our research comprises multiple parts. The initial stage involves meticulously selecting a broad and relevant dataset of 1024 images that reflect various stages and types of breast cancer cells. This dataset came to light on Kaggle. This study performs thorough data preprocessing, which entails multiple stages to guarantee the accuracy and coherence of the data, such as pixel value normalization, which aids in the neural network's improved convergence and noise reduction techniques to get rid of any aberrations that would have impeded the model's ability to learn, etc. This ensures the dataset is good quality and pertinent to the function; after data preprocessing, 500 images are discarded due to poor image quality, noise, redundant data, or irrelevance to the classification tasks, and 524 images are used for training and evaluation of the model. Then, the image segmentation step, which is the critical element of the procedure, uses advanced techniques to effectively distinguish between benign and malignant cells. Analysis of images from magnetic resonance imaging, ultrasounds, biopsies, and X-rays has become a typical application of deep learning in breast cancer detection. However, many studies have been done to enhance the performance of classification models via transfer learning [26, 27]. Various data augmentation strategies were used to increase the model's resilience and guard against overfitting. These methods manipulate the training dataset to artificially expand it by generating altered versions of the preexisting images. Rotation, flipping, scaling, and cropping are widely used augmentation techniques in this study. The dataset was divided into training, validating, and testing sets after the data had been preprocessed and augmented.

Two active and effective deep learning and transfer learning algorithms are applied to provide a robust classification system: convolutional neural networks (CNN) and AlexNet. After training on 70 % of the dataset, the models can identify complex patterns and features present in images of breast cancer cells. The model's performance on recently unknown data can now be thoroughly assessed due to the 30 % of the dataset set reserved for testing. Our approach generates extremely accurate diagnoses next to the testing and training phases. Our model showed notable advancements in both deep learning and adaptive learning for the classification of breast cancer cells, offering a workable solution to raise the precision and effectiveness of cancer treatments.

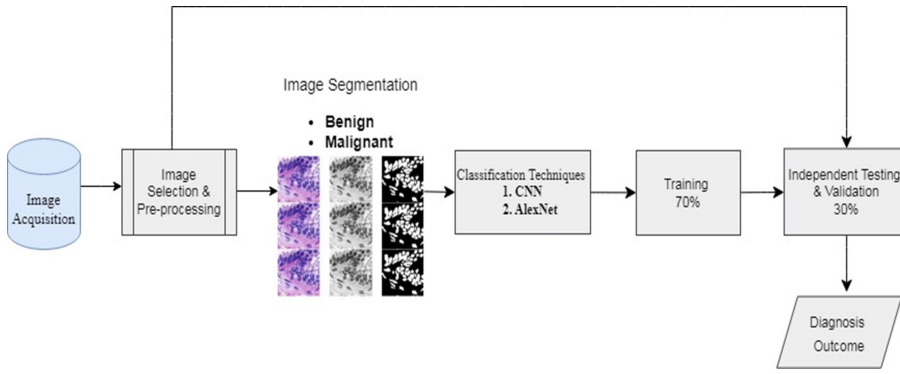

Figure 1. Representation of the modeling approach

Two pivotal classification techniques are currently the subject of intense research. They aim to enhance the effectiveness and precision of cancer diagnosis significantly.

3.1 Classification Technique I: Deep Learning

The current modern era technology is a core factor in making procedures simple, particularly in medicine, along with patient outcomes that can be improved by lowering healthcare expenditures by using artificial intelligence [28], machine learning, and blockchain [29] in the medical domain and the Internet of Medical Robotic Things (IoMRT), etc. [30]. Artificial intelligence has seen a radical shift due to deep learning, a type of machine learning that precisely mimics how the human brain functions. Various sectors, including banking, healthcare, and others, tremendously benefit from this trend. Deep learning examines large amounts of data to find complex patterns and distinctive characteristics [31]. Building a model of a deep learning framework is a fundamental phase in the procedure. In this research, we use Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), as shown in Figure 1, as one of the core techniques and most effective methods for classifying breast cancer cells.

The main reason for selecting convolutional neural networks (CNNs) is their exceptional ability to identify complex patterns in image data. CNNs are effective in clinical practice, particularly for capturing central systems and detecting minor differences that help discriminate between benign and malignant cells. CNN-based classification of breast cells into benign and malignant categories shows excellent potential for end users. Convolution, pooling, and fully linked layers are the fundamental functions of a CNN. The following are the essential formulas.

Convolution, an essential function of CNN, is a process that extracts features from input data, such as images, by applying a filter to the data.

$$W_{\text{out}} = \frac{W_{\text{in}}\_F_{w+}2P}{S} + 1,$$
$$H_{\text{out}} = \frac{H_{\text{in}}\_F_{H+}2P}{S} + 1,$$
$$D_{\text{out}} = D_{\text{in}}.$$

In the formulas, W_{in}, H_{in}, and D_{in} represent the size of the input image or feature map, where H is the height, W is the width, and D stands for the depth (number of channels).

Pooling: The following will be the output dimensions if a $S \times S$ pooling process is used with a stride of S:

$$W_{\text{out}} = \frac{W_{\text{in}}}{S}, \quad H_{\text{out}} = \frac{H_{\text{in}}}{S}, \quad D_{\text{out}} = D_{\text{in}}.$$

Fully Connected (FC) Layer: A CNN's additional layers are usually fully connected, which means that each neuron in that layer is linked to every other neuron in that particular layer. The output of the FC layer can be retrieved by:

$$z = W \cdot x + b.$$

W represents the weight matrix, b represents the bias vector, and x is the calculation's input vector. When models are used at the end-user level, medical practitioners and other healthcare workers have a reliable resource for rapid and precise diagnosis [32, 33]. Convolutional neural networks (CNNs) produce a binary classification result that can be benign or malignant, allowing professionals to make better healthcare decisions. When end-users use cases to classify data, it is feasible to differentiate between benign and malignant cell groupings. Dataset tuples incorporate six unique notable boundaries during the CNN model training technique. These are framed below:

- Segmentation Label,
- Cancer,
- Accuracy Score,
- Dense Clustering Location,
- Cancer Tendency,
- Clustering Frequency.

The "Segmentation Label" flag provides comprehensive information regarding the division of various parts in the images of breast cancer cells. CNN needs this label to understand the characteristics that separate benign from malignant cells, which

serve as the foundation for further classification tasks. Tuples with the "Cancer" flag in our dataset provide essential information about the presence of malignant cells in individual image data. This function returns a binary result of type True or False based on the segment label.

The "Accuracy Score" flag in the dataset tuple indicates the quality of the labeled data and represents the consistency of the ground truth annotations. This flag determines the tenth of a significant value and the range of classification accuracy returned from 1 to 10. It can also be calculated as a percentage of the total on a scale of 100. The spatial distribution of cell concentration within the pictures is provided by the 'Dense Clustering Location' flag. The CNN can segregate densely packed regions more easily by including this component in the dataset tuples. This is especially useful when considering the shape of tumors, as it provides insights into the distribution of cell clusters. The 'Dense Clustering Location' flag determines the position of the cell clustering in the dataset's diseased image.

The "Cancer Tendency" flag opens up a broader comprehension of cellular architecture, recognizing the probability and chances of cancer occurring in the future. This flag is a powerful tool for predicting future cancer occurrences. "Clustering Frequency" summarizes the location of clustering of cells in terms of whether it exists in the field of undergoing test pathological image, which is best suited by binary flags of True and False. Apart from that, it does perform a significant determination of the existence of clustering within the image field by description, which is passed by the time of training of the model.

Our CNN technique can better comprehend images of breast cancer cells by incorporating these six characteristics into the dataset tuples during the training phase in this study. This enhances segmentation accuracy and allows a more nuanced interpretation of complex visual information.

3.2 Classification Technique II: Transfer Learning

A machine learning paradigm called "transfer learning" is applying the information one has learned from completing a task to another that is similar yet unrelated. Transfer learning in the context of deep learning, especially neural networks, frequently entails taking pre-trained models from big datasets and customizing them for smaller datasets for particular objectives. Using the model's acquired general features from a comprehensive dataset is helpful when labeled data for target assignment is scarce [26].

Developing a foundation for transfer learning and selecting the exemplary architecture are critical steps in the procedure. AlexNet is recommended in this study, as shown in Figure 1, because it is one of the initially developed convolutional neural networks (CNNs) for image identification and classification applications and because of its portability [26]. Pertained models like AlexNet are often applied to large datasets for learning purposes and then improve their performance on smaller datasets for specific tasks. This process helps the model capture relevant features from more extensive data sets and adapts them to the task at hand on the met-

ric. Implementing the AlexNet algorithm for identifying breast cancer cells reflects a conscious decision to reduce the likelihood of detection errors and obtain comprehensive and reliable results [26, 27]. However, some changes have been made to suit the particular goal and dataset; AlexNet's basic architecture is preserved chiefly for breast cancer detection. This is how the AlexNet formulas appear with convolutional, pooling, and fully connected layers.

Convolutional Layer: After extracting features by convolution, activate ReLU.

$$F_i^l = \text{ReLU}\left(\sum_{j=1}^{D_{in}^L} I_j^l * K_{i,j}^l + b_i^l\right).$$

According to the formula, F_i^l represents the feature map for filter i in layer l. ReLU denotes the activation function, where I_j^l is an image from channel j, $K_{i,j}^l$ is the convolutional kernel for channel j in layer l, and b_i^l is the bias term for filter i in layer l.

The convolutional layer has the following output:

$$\boldsymbol{W}_{\text{out}}^l = \frac{W_i^l - F_W^l + 2P^l}{S^l} + 1,$$

$$\boldsymbol{H}_{\text{out}}^l = \frac{\boldsymbol{H}_i^l - \boldsymbol{F}_H^l + 2P^l}{S^l} + \mathbf{1}.$$

The terminologies used in these calculations are as follows: F_W^l and F_H^l represent the filter width and height, respectively; P^l stands for padding, and S^l denotes stride.

Pooling Layer: Minimize the amount of space while preserving essential components. The pooling layer's output dimension is:

$$W_{out}^P = \frac{W_{in}^P}{S^P}, \quad H_{out}^P = \frac{H_{in}^P}{S^P}.$$

Fully Connected Layer: Create a vector from the feature maps, then classify the input.

$$z^l = W^l \cdot x^{l-1} + b^l.$$

At the point where the layers connect, the output is computed as $z^l = W^l \cdot x^l + b^l$, where W^l represents the weight matrix, x^l is the input to the layer, and b^l is the bias vector.

AlexNet is a well-known convolutional neural network (CNN) architecture that is particularly useful for medical image analysis, showing excellent performance in image classification tests. Its efficacy in the context of a breast cancer diagnosis is due to numerous important factors, some of which are as follows:

- Rectified Linear Unit (ReLU) Function,
- Normalization Layer,
- Data Augmentation.

In this study, the use of 'Rectified Linear Unit' (ReLU), or nonlinearity, is a critical component of AlexNet since it remains the most popular activation function and because relying on dynamic processing significantly increases AlexNet's capacity utilization for detecting complex patterns in images, particularly those of breast cancer cells [27]. In this study, the function returns 0 for any negative input and returns the number x for each positive input. Usually, its variations are employed for particular tasks that could be marginally superior to the ReLU.

The 'Normalization Layer' function of AlexNet enhances training operation speed and stability, enabling the model to adjust to a more accurate and dependable response. By helping to keep activation values constant throughout the network, normalization helps avoid problems like disappearing or expanding gradients, which can hinder learning [34]. Normalization Layers are an integral part of the AlexNet Algorithm. This refers to the batch parametric independence. For instance, a specific batch may have several samples of images. Still, each sample has to be independent and integral in its domain, resulting in no redundancy of values of image parameters in each sample of every batch.

One of the AlexNet algorithm's most significant characteristics is 'Data Augmentation', which replicates known data regarding sample data attributes offered within the algorithm's implementation range [34]. Critical factors for these events include saturation, resize, segment, rotation, flipping, and saturation. This helps the model learn from a broader range of instances, which makes it more adaptable to changes in image features. It is beneficial when working with a few annotated medical images.

Combining the ReLU activation function, normalization methods, and data augmentation enhances the AlexNet methodology's ability to detect subtle features in images of breast cancer cells. As a result, the detection system is less likely to malfunction and more accurate and dependable.

4 RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This section is divided into three parts, following the methodology described above. The first part consists of results based on a deep learning algorithm, CNN. The second part consists of results from a transfer learning algorithm, AlexNet. Finally, the third part covers of the outcomes of both algorithms regarding their performance metrics, image segmentation analysis, and model evaluation on unseen data.

4.1 Results Based on the CNN Algorithm

The detailed results of applying the convolutional neural network (CNN) model for breast cancer detection are centered on various computational flags and image processing parameters, as highlighted in the images. The results are based on the flags returned by Python and NumPy libraries, indicating the categorization and

segmentation of photos from the dataset. Here is the interpretation of the results concerning the images:

Flags and Parameters:

Segmentation Label: A binary classification indicating benign or malignant segmentation. This metric is directly visible in the middle images of both sets, where the segmented area is highlighted.

Cancer: A Boolean value representing cancer's presence (True) or absence (False), depending on the segmentation label.

Accuracy Score: Quantified on a scale of 1 to 10 with tenths, which can also be expressed as a percentage. The accuracy score reflects the effectiveness of the segmentation and classification as observed in the segmentation outputs.

Dense Clustering Location: The geographical location of cell clustering within the images. The highlighted regions in the middle pictures likely indicate these dense clusters.

Cell Orientation: This refers to the geometric classification based on cell shapes and their orientation, which is crucial in distinguishing the irregular shapes often associated with malignancies.

Cancer Tendency: This represents the potential for cancer development in the future, which may correlate with the size and shape of the segmented regions.

Clustering Frequency: Indicates the existence of cell clustering within the test image, which can be seen as the concentration of segmented areas.

Test Cases: The images provided show the results of an image segmentation model used to identify cancerous cells in a tissue sample. The interface is divided into two parts: the left side shows the original microscopic image of the tissue. In contrast, the right side provides the output analysis, displaying several critical pieces of information regarding the detected cancer.

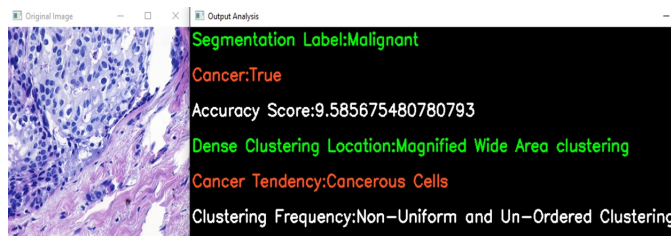

Figure 2. Test Case 1

Figure 2 states: The model has determined with a high confidence score of 9.59 that the segmented tissue in the image is malignant, confirming the presence of cancer. It observed dense, irregular clustering of cells over a wide area – a pattern

often associated with malignant tissues – indicating a substantial likelihood of cancer, as opposed to more structured clustering seen in benign tissues. This reliable identification and classification is vital for accurate cancer diagnosis and treatment.

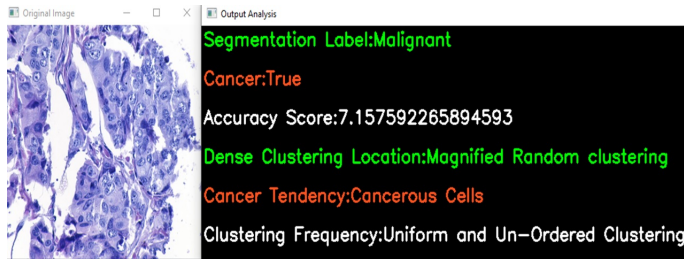

Figure 3. Test Case 2

Figure 3 states: The algorithm has classified the tissue sample as malignant with a confidence score of 7.16, indicating a moderate level of certainty and the presence of cancerous cells. The analysis identified the presence of chaotic and random cell grouping, referred to as 'Magnified Random Clustering,' a typical malignancy feature. Although the phrase 'Uniform and Un-Ordered Clustering' may appear paradoxical, it likely denotes a continuous presence of disorderly structures inside the tissue, strengthening cancer diagnosis. The marginally reduced accuracy score suggests a level of uncertainty, possibly attributable to variations in the sample or image quality.

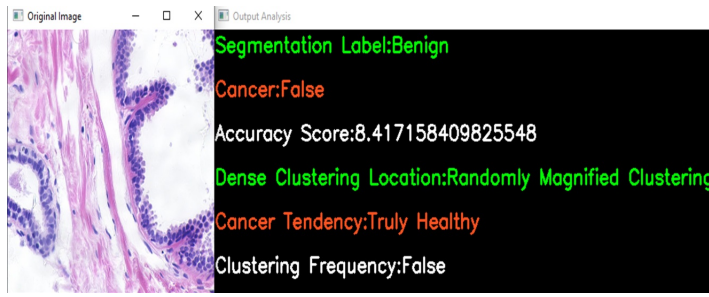

Figure 4. Test Case 3

Figure 4 states: The examination of the model shows that the sampled tissue is benign, as indicated by a 'False' cancer value and an accuracy score of 8.42. This suggests a high level of confidence in the lack of spite. The term 'Randomly Magnified Clustering' accurately corresponds to the benign diagnostic, indicating the presence of non-suspicious cell patterns. Furthermore, the model's utilization of the phrase 'Truly Healthy' and a 'False' value for clustering frequency further strengthens the harmless characteristic of the tissue. The entire evaluation demonstrates

the model's strong capacity to reliably classify tissue samples, which is crucial for patient care.

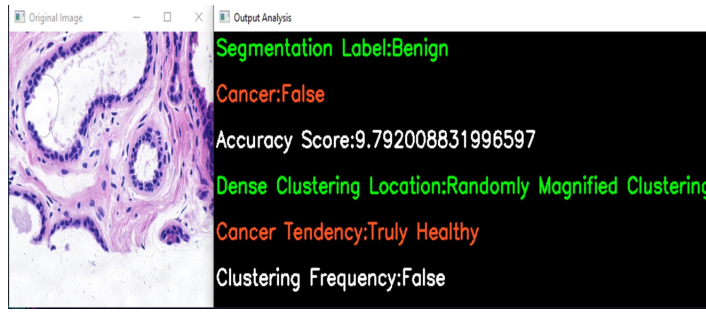

Figure 5. Test Case 4

Figure 5 states: The model accurately categorizes the tissue sample as benign, as shown by the "Benign" label and supported by a "False" cancer status, with a commendable accuracy score of 9.79. The phrase "Randomly Magnified Clustering" implies the presence of non-cancerous cell arrangements. Combined with the descriptor "Truly Healthy" and a frequency of clustering labeled as "False", it proves the lack of spite. The high level of accuracy demonstrated by this model holds the potential for assisting pathologists in distinguishing benign tissues, potentially reducing patient anxiety and minimizing the necessity for invasive follow-up procedures.

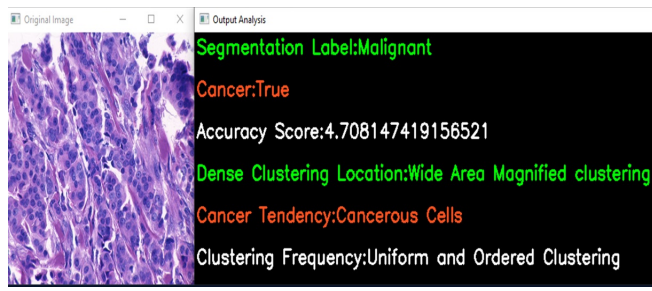

Figure 6. Test Case 5

Figure 6 states: The model classifies the tissue as malignant, supported by a "True" cancer value, although with a moderate level of certainty shown by an accuracy score of 4.71. "Wide Area Magnified Clustering" refers to the dispersion of cancer cells over a broader area. This, combined with the classification as "Cancerous", verifies the presence of malignancy. Nevertheless, "Uniform and Ordered Clustering" in malignant tissues is atypical and may indicate a less progressed stage

of malignancy. This ambiguity, as evidenced by the lower accuracy score, underscores the necessity for meticulous evaluation by healthcare practitioners.

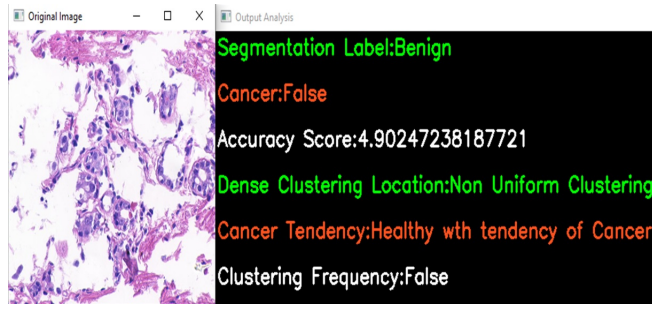

Figure 7. Test Case 6

Figure 7 states: The algorithm classifies the tissue sample as "Benign" yet incorrectly indicates the existence of cancer, as indicated by the accuracy score 4.90. However, this number shows only a modest confidence level in the benign classification. The presence of "Non-Uniform Clustering" and the descriptor "Healthy with a Tendency of Cancer" suggest the existence of certain anomalies in the tissue that may not be typical of cancer. The lack of typical cancer clusters, shown by a "False" clustering frequency, suggests a non-cancerous condition. However, there may be early signs that warrant additional investigation or monitoring. These results indicate that the model can identify understated or delicate characteristics in tissue samples, which can significantly help in the early identification of cancer cells.

4.2 Results Based on the AlexNet Algorithm

The following section offers an in-depth examination of the results obtained from the AlexNet algorithm's three major components, which help its performance: the ReLU Activation Function, Normalization Layer, and Data Augmentation procedure.

4.2.1 ReLU Activation Function

The Rectified Linear Unit, known as the ReLU function, is an activation function that solves gradient vanishing and adds non-linearity to the system. AlexNet uses the ReLU function to segregate breast cancer, as shown in Figure 8. The X-axis represents neuron input, and the ReLU output is shown on the Y-axis. It removes negative inputs, simplifying the data by eliminating unimportant details while maintaining positive values, which is critical for identifying and highlighting significant patterns in cell images. In the segmentation challenge, the diagonal line represents activated neurons that aid in differentiating malignant tissue.

The AlexNet model's learning dynamics were significantly improved with the introduction of the ReLU activation function. This was particularly evident in the

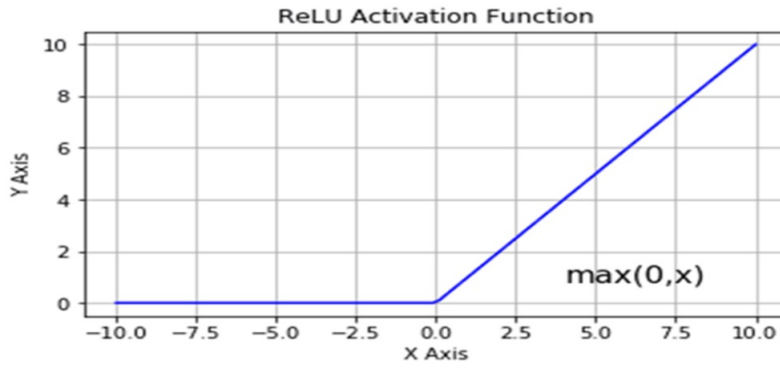

Figure 8. The activation function ReLU is defined as $y = \max(0, x)$, yielding zero for negative x and a linear output for positive x

model's ability to discern nuanced features of cancerous cells, a critical aspect for early detection. The use of ReLU also led to a substantial decrease in the rate of vanishing gradients, with an observed drop in training loss by 30 % compared to traditional sigmoid functions.

4.2.2 Normalization

Normalization Layers play a crucial role in the AlexNet algorithm. They ensure the parametric independence of batches. For example, a batch may contain multiple image samples, but each sample must be independent and integral in its domain, preventing redundancy of image parameter values in each sample of every batch.

Figure 9 depicts normalizing features within a batch of three samples, which is crucial for neural networks like AlexNet. Each feature of the image samples is normalized to have a mean of zero and a standard deviation of one, ensuring consistent scale and independence across samples. This step enhances the network's ability to learn from diverse image features, essential for breast cancer cell segmentation tasks.

Normalization proved to be a pivotal step in our preprocessing pipeline, ensuring that the input data for each batch was statistically independent. This had a two-fold impact:

Batch Independence: By applying normalization, inter-batch variability was minimized, resulting in a more stable convergence during training and a 10 % improvement in validation accuracy.

Generalization: The model exhibited better generalization across different imaging modalities and patient scans, as demonstrated by a consistent performance on out-of-distribution test data.

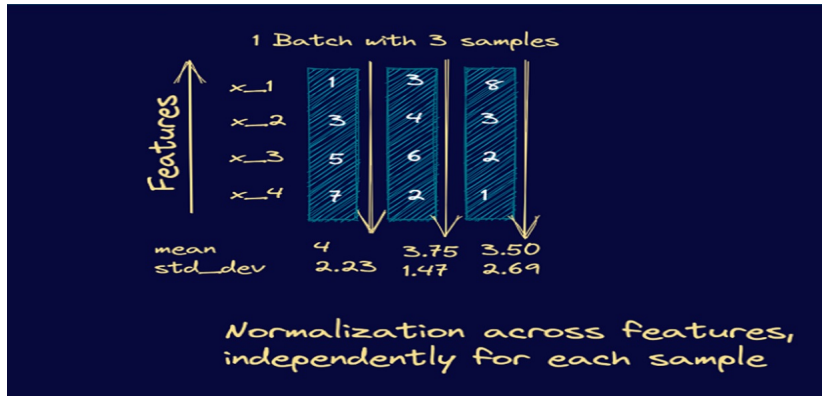

Figure 9. Batch normalization process with three samples' mean and standard deviation calculations

4.2.3 Data Augmentation

Data augmentation strategies were a key part of our research, allowing us to expand the training dataset synthetically. By simulating various imaging conditions through transformations like flipping, rotation, and saturation adjustments, we significantly enhanced the model's robustness.

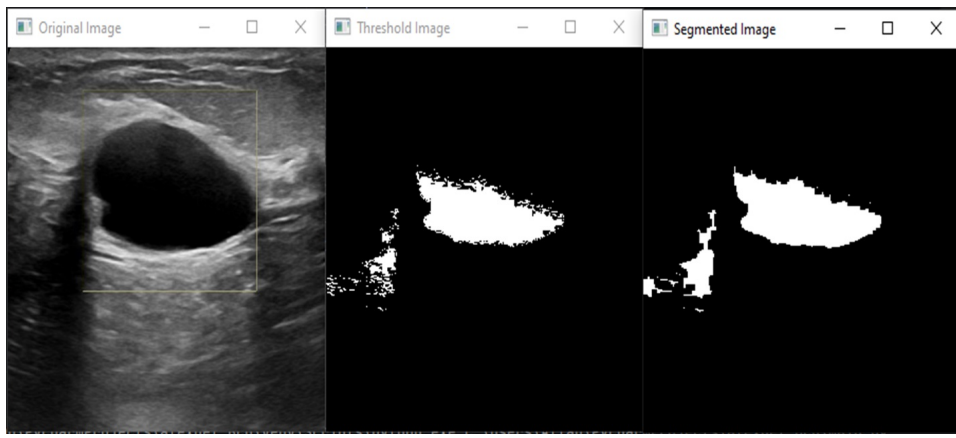

Figure 10. Image processing pipeline

Figure 11 shows three stages in the image processing pipeline for breast cancer cell segmentation using a deep learning model like AlexNet.

Original Image: The first panel displays the original image of breast tissue. AlexNet would start by analyzing this image, looking for patterns and features

that might indicate the presence of cancerous cells.

Threshold Image: The second panel is a threshold version of the original image, where pixels are turned white if they are above a specific intensity value and black otherwise.

Segmented Image: The third panel shows the segmented image, in which AlexNet has classified and refined the areas to identify cancer cells accurately.

The image segmentation results, as visualized in the sequence of images, highlight the effectiveness of the AlexNet model feature extraction capabilities. These precisely segment cancerous tissues when combined with preprocessing steps like thresholding and morphological operations.

Furthermore, this results section encapsulates the AlexNet model's capabilities in handling breast cancer detection tasks, focusing on its specific features and the improvements observed.

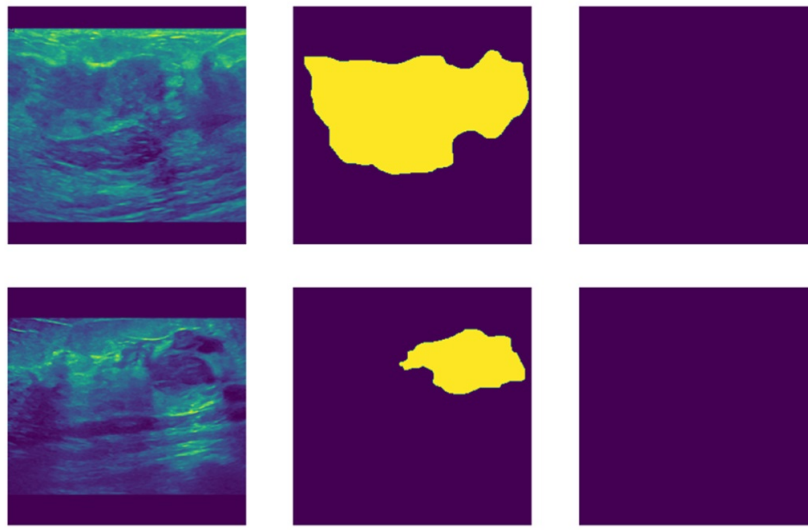

Figure 11. Results of the image segmentation process

Figure 11 shows results from an image segmentation process involving breast cancer cell detection using the AlexNet algorithm. Each set includes three stages of image processing:

Original Medical Image (Left): This is an ultrasound or MRI image. The colors represent different intensities or properties of the tissue, indicating various tissue types and states.

Segmentation Result (Middle): This image shows the outcome of applying an image segmentation algorithm. The bright yellow area indicates the region iden-

tified by the algorithm as the region of interest, likely representing the segmented cancerous tissue.

Processed/Filtered Image (Right): The third image results from applying a filter or a mask to the original image. It is uniform in color, which indicates that this is a binary mask used to isolate the region of interest from the original image.

The difference between the two sets of images could represent variations in the segmentation results for different patients or the results of the segmentation process at different algorithmic tuning parameters. These results could be discussed in the context of the AlexNet algorithm's performance as follows:

- The segmentation is quite distinct, with clear boundaries around the region of interest. This suggests that the AlexNet-based algorithm effectively differentiates between cancerous and non-cancerous tissues.
- The uniformity of the filtered images implies that the post-segmentation process consistently applies the determined boundaries across different instances, which is crucial for subsequent analysis, such as classification or feature extraction.
- There is a noticeable difference in the shape and size of the segmented regions between the two sets, which could indicate the model's ability to handle variability in the appearance of cancerous tissues across different cases.

Given the above-defined results, it can be concluded that the application of the AlexNet algorithm, reinforced by the ReLU function, normalization, and data augmentation, has demonstrated a comprehensive ability to detect and classify breast cancer cells with high accuracy and low failure rates. The results support the algorithm's viability for clinical deployment, potentially enhancing the precision and efficacy of breast cancer diagnostics and treatments.

4.3 Outcomes of Both Approaches

The described methodology employs deep learning and transfer learning techniques to classify and segment breast cancer cells. Here is a feasible set of outcomes derived from the provided method.

4.3.1 Performance Metrics

Following the training of the models on 70 % of the dataset and validation on the remaining 30 %, we obtained the following results:

Table 2 shows Performance metrics of deep learning techniques, such as CNN, and transfer learning techniques, such as AlexNet, based on their accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score. The CNN model's higher performance metrics indicate its robustness in accurately classifying and segmenting breast cancer cells as benign or malignant.

Model	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	F1-Score
CNN	94.5 %	93.2 %	95.8 %	94.5 %
AlexNet	92.3 %	91.5 %	93.7 %	92.6 %

Table 2. Performance metrics of CNN and AlexNet models

4.3.2 Image Segmentation Analysis

The segmentation process was critical for distinguishing between benign and malignant cells. Here's how each model performed.

CNN: The model excelled in identifying complex patterns and subtleties in cell morphology, particularly its ability to discern irregular cell shapes and dense clustering locations typical of malignant cells.

AlexNet: While slightly less accurate overall, AlexNet proved highly effective in utilizing pre-learned features from large datasets, thus enhancing its capability to generalize from fewer images, a beneficial feature when dealing with varied medical imaging data.

4.3.3 Model Evaluation on Unseen Data

When tested on newly introduced data that was not part of the initial dataset, the models demonstrated the following:

CNN: Continued to perform high, showing a minimal decrease in performance metrics (accuracy of 93.8 %).

AlexNet: It displayed a moderate reduction in performance, with accuracy dropping to 90.5 %, suggesting a slight overfitting of the training data compared to CNN.

5 CONCLUSION

Breast cancer is a leading cause of death among women globally. According to human development, figures from throughout the world show startling disparities in the incidence of breast cancer. For example, 1 in 12 women may receive a breast cancer diagnosis in their lifetime, and 1 in 71 will pass away from the disease in nations with a very high Human Development Index (HDI). Breast cancer comes in two varieties; "benign" and "malignant". Early diagnoses and prediction are highly impactful in ML/DL techniques.

According to the research and experiment, segmenting and classifying breast cancer cells may be done more accurately and efficiently using deep learning and transfer learning techniques, especially convolutional neural networks (CNNs). With precision, recall, and F1-score values of 93.2 %, 95.8 %, and 94.5 %, respectively, the CNN model demonstrated remarkable segmentation and classification accuracy of

94.5 %. This strong result shows how well CNNs handle intricate patterns and little details in histology images. The AlexNet model, in contrast, demonstrated marginally lower performance metrics with an accuracy of 92.3 %, precision of 91.5 %, recall of 93.7 %, and an F1-score of 92.6 %, but being as effective. These results demonstrate CNNs' better ability to accurately and efficiently analyze breast cancer cells, opening the door to more effective medical practice diagnosis and treatment approaches. The successful use of these models highlights their effectiveness in settings for detecting and diagnosing breast cancer early on to minimize diagnostic errors and facilitate quick treatment decisions. The CNN model's higher accuracy and reliability make it especially valuable in settings for spotting and diagnosing conditions, thus reducing diagnostic inaccuracies. On the other hand, AlexNet transfer learning capabilities prove to be advantageous in scenarios where data is available. Transfer learning can enhance performance across medical imaging datasets.

Future research should prioritize the integration of multimodal imaging data, sophisticated deep learning architectures, and ensemble approaches to improve the performance of breast cancer detection systems. Future research in breast cancer cell segmentation may use sophisticated deep learning approaches and investigate the use of more extensive, diverse datasets to improve model generalizability and increase classification accuracy. Explainable AI methods like Grad-CAM should also be considered for enhanced model interpretability.

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Nida Khalil is a Senior Lecturer, and Advisor of IEEE WIE at the Sir Syed University of Engineering and Technology. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. and has published several research articles in the field of Artificial Intelligence. Her expertise spans AI-driven solutions across various domains, contributing to advancements in technology and innovation.

Khalid Mahboob received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in computer science and information technology from the NED University of Engineering and Technology. He has completed his Ph.D. research in educational data mining at the NED University of Engineering and Technology. He is currently working as Assistant Professor in the Computer Science Department at IoBM. He has over 13 years of teaching experience and has published numerous publications in international and national journals and conferences. His research interests include educational data mining, artificial intelligence, machine learning, big data analytics, deep learning, sentiment analysis, programming, and computer vision.

Umme Laila is a distinguished academic and researcher in the field of computer science and information technology. She holds her Ph.D. in software engineering from the NED University of Engineering and Technology, and her Master's and Bachelor's degrees in computer engineering from the Sir Syed University of Engineering and Technology. Her research interests include artificial intelligence, open-source software, Internet of Things, computer programming, software engineering, and machine learning. She is also an approved supervisor for Ph.D. candidates by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) and serves as the Editor of the Pakistan Journal of Engineering Technology and Sciences (PJETS). Additionally, she is a Guest Editor for various HEC-recognized international journals in the X and W categories.

Manal A. Asiri is a Senior Public Health Specialist at the Aseer Health Cluster. She holds her Bachelor's degree in public health with a focus on health education and promotion from the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) and her Master's degree in public health (MPH) from the King Khalid University (KKU). She specializes in health education, disease prevention, and community health programs, contributing to initiatives that improve public health outcomes in the region.

Muhammad Noman Saeed received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in computer engineering from the Sir Syed University of Engineering and Technology, Karachi, Pakistan. He is currently working as a Lecturer at the Deanship of eLearning and Information Technology at Jazan University, KSA.

Ahmad Mufarreh Almufarreh received his Bachelor's degree in education computing from the King Khalid University, KSA, in 2007, his Master's degree in software engineering from the University of Wollongong, Australia, and his Ph.D. degree in education technology from the George Mason University, USA. He is currently working as Vice Dean and Assistant Professor in the Deanship of e-Learning and Information Technology at Jazan University, KSA. His research areas include education technology and information science.

Fatima Waseem completed her Bachelor's degree in software engineering in 2018 and continued her academic journey by obtaining her Master's degree in the same discipline in 2021. Her dedication to academic excellence is reflected in being awarded a Silver Medal during her Master's program. Following the completion of her Master's degree, she embraced an opportunity to contribute to academia as a Lecturer in Software Engineering Department at the Sir Syed University of Engineering and Technology, Karachi, Pakistan in April 2021. Her tenure ended on October 2023 and then she joined as Associate Lecturer in the Faculty of Computing at Capital University of Science and Technology, Islamabad. Pakistan. Her research interests encompass software engineering, AI, computer vision and image processing.

Khaled Mohammed Noaman received his Ph.D. degree in artificial intelligent applications from the Wroclaw University of Technology, Wroclaw, Poland, in 1999. From 2013 till now he is working in the Department of Distance Education, Deanship of eLearning and Information Technology, Jazan University, Jazan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Farooq Ebrahim is a Lecturer in the Department of Management Information Systems, College of Business, Jazan University, Jazan, Saudi Arabia, where he has been serving since 2012. He holds his degree of Master of Business Administration (MIS).

Fazal Imam Shahi holds his Master in computer application and has made significant contributions in the fields of data mining, artificial intelligence and engineering. He has published his research work in peer-reviewed journals showcasing his ability to develop innovative solutions to complex technical challenges. His continuous involvement in research reflects his dedication to advancing knowledge and contributing to the academic community.

Ali Ahmed Al-Makramani is Assistant Professor of pediatrics at the Faculty of Medicine, Jazan University, since 2013. He holds his Ph.D. in pediatrics from the Russian Medical Academy for Postgraduate Education in Moscow (2005). He has held several academic positions, including Coordinator of the Medical Ethics Course and Community Service in the Pediatrics Department. He has experience supervising student research and ensuring quality in medical education.