

Automated Bone Fracture Detection System Using YOLOv7 with Secure Email Data Sharing

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Abstract: The demand for more precise and timely bone fractures diagnosis grew resulting in integration of advanced technologies to medical imaging. This paper describes the development and realization of a deep learning system for automatic detection of bone fractures in X-ray images, which uses YOLOv7 model for improved diagnostic accuracy and efficiency. A secure mechanism to transmit medical images and reports through email is included in the system. Furthermore, this system supports direct downloading of DICOM images as well as creating simple diagnostic reports automatically thus taking out serial steps that increase delay time for patient feedback. This innovative approach leverages cutting-edge deep learning techniques to address critical healthcare needs, streamline diagnostic workflows, and enhance patient outcomes. Real-time fracture detection in the YOLOv7 model is possible because of its use of data augmentation methods during the process of training, which assures robustness and reliability in different scenarios. Through the systematic methodology of data preparation, model training, and evaluation defined in this framework, the potential of the system as a reliable asset in clinical applications is demonstrated. The proposed model minimized the dependency on manual procedures, maximized the speed of clinical decisions, and reinstated decision processes through standardized results. Hence, this framework serves as a noble contribution to modern medical diagnostics.

1 INTRODUCTION

Providing accurate diagnosis of bone fractures is an integral part of optimal patient care, with a significant role of X-ray technology in the identification and management of injuries. Historically, the diagnostic phase of X-ray analysis requires engagement and expertise from a radiologist who scans each film to assess for fractures. Human observation likely varies in reliability depending on factors such as fatigue and cognitive load, which can impact the interpretation of diagnostic images.

Given these challenges, the motivation behind this systems design is to establish a bone fracture detection system for X-ray images using the model YOLOv7, which is a real-time object detection model. The model is established in detection of

fractures in diagnostic images, thus improving accuracy and consequently efficiency in the clinical decision-making process.

The system's motive is to reduce the manual processing with neuro-scientifically expert-grounded design choices to ensure effective fracture detection. This system allows for collaborative care by ensuring that patient information can be shared effectively, which is necessary for timely intervention. The primary benefit of the system is the ability at improving the diagnostic accuracy.

By the application of deep learning, the system will then be able to process the minute detail in X-rays to detect even very small bone fractures that would otherwise be missed by the human eye. Early detection followed by prompt intervention could, therefore, lead to better outcomes for patient care. It will be used for standardization across various

health care facilities since one human interpretation may vary from another, thus reducing this variability.

This technology plays an important role in advancing medical research. It can support large studies over X-ray imaging that may advance the understanding of fracture epidemiology, risk factors, and treatment methods. Such data may also contribute to the development of new and even newer technologies for treating bone fractures that will reduce the number of occurrences and make patients recover even better.

The integration of emerging diagnostic technologies, such as explainable AI, will further enhance transparency and trust in the decision-making process, so that healthcare providers are able to understand and validate the system's conclusions. Also, the system aligns with the green Internet of Things framework, that enables secure data exchange between devices while maintaining the integrity of existing healthcare infrastructure. The accuracy of medical imaging is also supported by ongoing technological advancements in the field. Studies combining traditional diagnostic methods with modern technological integrations bring advancements to evolving models of investigation and data management. This system's approach to detecting bone fractures, combining deep learning algorithms with secure data management, offers an original progression in enhancing diagnostic methods. By stimulating diagnostic accuracy, improving workflow, and promoting positive patient outcomes, this project aims to integrate cutting-edge technology into clinical practice. As healthcare

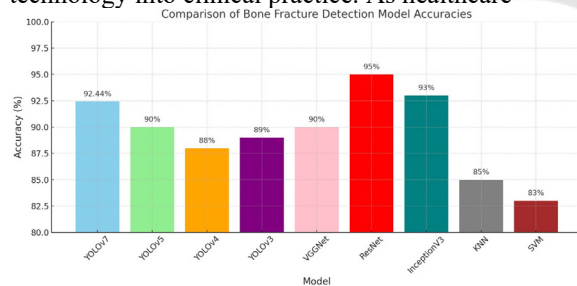


Figure 1: Accuracy comparison.

professionals adopt this modern approach, they can support the generation of informed decisions, leading to enhanced healthcare delivery and improved patient care.

2 RELATED WORK

M. Nandyala, P. Kanumuri, and M. Garlapati (Nandyala, Kanumuri et al. 2023). This paper conducts a review and analysis focused on the automatic diagnosis of fractures with deep learning application techniques. Here, an attempt has been made to set up which deep learning models that can potentially be applied for the automatic fracture detection and classification from medical images are the most promising in terms of efficiency and reliability. For this purpose, authors have extensively analyzed existing literature and attempted to present the most important methodologies used, performance metrics, and validation processes across a variety of studies. By synthesizing findings from several studies, one will be able to note the trends, strengths, and limitations of current approaches in order to illustrate insights to best practices in the development and implementation of deep learning algorithms for fracture diagnosis.

S. Shelmerdine, H. Liu, O. Arthurs, R. White, and N. Sebire (Shelmerdine, Liu et al. 2022) AI in fracture detection has been the dominant line of research and commercialization in medicine. Children are the primary victims of the inadvertent over- or under-diagnosis of injuries. This is as a result of missed out fractures. The study focuses on the AI tools' diagnostic performance for pediatric fracture detection on imaging. It also aims to compare its performance with human readers where possible. Following a systematic review between 2011 and 2021, databases including MEDLINE, Embase, and Cochrane Library were analyzed. Nine from 362 identified eligible articles have found fracture detection being most frequent with the elbow mostly studied. Most of the studies were done using data from single institutions, deep learning algorithms were usually used, and external validation was lacking. The figures for AI were from 88.8% to 97.9% in terms of accuracy. In those researches where AI and the readers were compared, AI has been discovered to be more sensitive (though the difference is not significant). The analysis pointed out AI's unclear algos and thereby limited generalizabilities due to the lack of effective validation and a heterogeneous dataset. Such future research would benefit not only from the diverse patient populations of multi center studies around the world but also be the cornerstone of real-world assessments. Hence, it can be argued that such future research would give a strong ground and potential for the tools to help doctors in pediatric ways.

S. Rathor and D. P. Yadav (Rathor, Yadav et al. 2020) Given the frequency of the fractures and drawbacks of hand identification with pictures of X-Ray, the authors of this review addressed the significance of automated fracture detection. To differentiate between healthy and damaged bones, a DNN model is suggested. Overfitting on a tiny dataset is eliminated using data augmentation techniques, yielding a dataset of 4000 photos. DNN outperforms earlier techniques with accuracy of 92.4% in differentiating between broken and healthy bone. Additionally, certain subgroups yield accuracy rates of 95% and 93%, demonstrating the model's resilience.

S. Yang, W. Cao, B. Yin, C. Feng, S. He and G. Fan (Yang, Cao et al. 2020) The paper is a thorough review of diagnostic efficiency of deep learning technology for orthopedic fractures. It introduces various researches which have used deep learning algorithms for medical imaging purposes including X-rays and CT scans. The authors examine how these algorithms performed on their diagnostic tasks and to what accuracy these methods were compared with the standard ones. The article addresses the considerations that affect the diagnostic performance including the models used, the quality of the datasets and the imaging modalities.

J. Zou and M. R. Arshad (Zou and Arshad, 2024). The present article studies the customization and introduction of enhanced YOLOv7 algorithm for predicting of whole body fractures from medical images. The authors start with the problem of good fracture detection since different fractures can be of different sizes, at different locations and need to have dependable and efficient tools. They conduct a complete evaluation of the images using a large database of medical images containing different fractures of the bone.

Puttagunta, M., Ravi, S (Puttagunta and Ravi, 2021) This paper examines the numerous DL architectures, from CNNs, to RNNs, to hybrid models, and explains how they are effective and ineffective at dealing with different medical imaging, whether that be X-rays, MRIs, CT scans, or ultrasounds. The review is about how models can be trained on huge datasets to recognize patterns that might indicate certain diseases or abnormalities, like tumors or fractures. In this article, the authors provide cases where deep learning systems have been used in a clinical setting, not to replace the radiologist or any other medical personnel, but to help them make the most accurate and timely diagnosis possible.

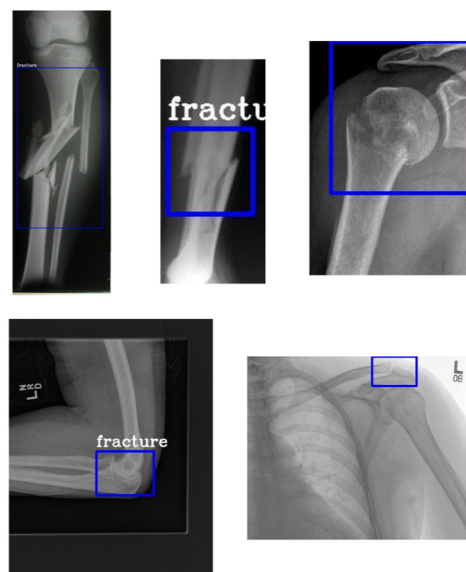


Figure 2: Bone fracture detection output.

W. Kim, S. Kim, Y. Kim, G. Moon, Y. Jeong and H. S. Choi: (Kim, Kim et al. 2022) In this study, the researchers propose a novel approach that leverages advanced object detection algorithms to automatically identify and classify facial bone fractures from medical imaging data. It describes the performance metrics of the system, which compares the diagnostic accuracy with conventional methods. The authors point out that their CA-FBFD system would take less time to diagnose and would have more consistent fracture identification which would really help radiologists and other medical professionals in a clinical setting.

L. T. Martin et al. (Martin, Nelson et al. 2022) It is no doubt that the increasing diversity of the data has the potential of pointing health decision-making in a new direction. However, the problems are quite profound. As such, the difficulties include setting data sharing and interoperability standards, developing new methodological and workforce models, and, more importantly, ensuring strong data stewardship and governance that will accompany the data to protect public health data integrity. The review including literature, environmental scan, and insights from the National Commission to Transform Public Health Data Systems inform the discussion of this article on the major obstacles in data sharing and reuse. It highlights the sector's possibilities to close the gaps by improved interoperability and better data ownership practices.

S. Dash, S. K. Shakyawar, M. Sharma, and others (Dash, Shakyawar et al. 2019) The challenges that are associated with using big data in healthcare are discussed in the study, including issues with data privacy, interoperability, and the need for skilled professionals for assessing and interpreting the data. They go over a variety of big data management techniques and technologies, such as frameworks for processing large data sets, data integration tools, and data storage options. These techniques and technologies can be applied to enhance patient outcomes, manage healthcare more effectively, and ultimately transform the way that healthcare is delivered.

Aiello, M., Esposito, G., Pagliari, G (Aiello, Esposito et al. 2021) The authors begin by providing context on the importance of DICOM as a foundational standard that governs the storage, transmission, and sharing of medical imaging data. The paper highlights DICOM's structured data format, which includes not only image data but also rich metadata. This metadata encompasses essential information such as patient demographics, imaging protocols, and clinical notes, facilitating better organization and retrieval of information. Such structured data is crucial for effective analysis in big data applications.

Sun, Y.; al. (Sun, Li et al. 2023) The paper aimed at improving detection accuracy and efficiency in various applications by outlining the limitations of existing YOLO models, particularly in terms of their performance in complex environments and under varying conditions. To counter these challenges, the authors included a number of major adjustments to the YOLOv7 framework. Key to these includes the development of the Parallel Backbone Architecture, known as PBA, to facilitate better feature extraction at several scales. The authors carried out extensive experiments against the baseline YOLOv7 and other state-of-the-art object detection models to validate the performance of the PBA-YOLOv7 model. This is accomplished by using benchmark datasets on the model, hence assessing performance on metrics such as precision, recall, and mean Average Precision (mAP). Based on performance, PBA-YOLOv7 performs much better compared to its predecessors, especially in complex scenarios related to occlusion or change of object size.

A related study was conducted by Shahnaj Rahman, Parvin, and Abdur (Shahnaj, Rahman et al. 2024), wherein the proposed model was strengthened by integrating different imaging modalities like CT scans, X-rays, and MRI scans,

resulting in a more extensive collection of images. They applied advanced architectures in deep learning, such as convolutional neural networks (CNNs), to appropriately analyze these different types of images. Their paper highlights the importance of multimodal data in capturing the intensity of fractures, as the appearance can vary greatly from one imaging method to another.

Research conducted by Gupta A. (Gupta, 2024) discusses various optimization algorithms such as Stochastic Gradient Descent and its variants. The author also studies optimizers like Adam and AdaGrad, highlighting their individual advantages when applied in specific cases. The paper compares the performance of these optimizers using empirical data, providing valuable insights into their effectiveness across different deep learning tasks.

A new loss function was proposed by Zheng Z. et al. (Zheng, Wang et al. 2019), named Distance-IoU Loss, which aims to improve the accuracy and efficiency of bounding boxes. The authors highlight shortcomings of existing loss functions like Intersection over Union (IoU) and its variants, which often encounter convergence issues, speed limitations, and optimization stability problems. To support their argument, the authors conducted extensive experiments using well-known benchmark datasets such as Pascal VOC and COCO. The results showed that models utilizing Distance-IoU Loss performed better than those using conventional IoU-based loss functions. The paper provides a robust comparison of detection accuracy and training time, offering strong evidence to validate the effectiveness of the proposed method.

Li X. et al. (Li, Wang et al. 2020) introduced a novel loss function designed to enhance the performance of dense object detection tasks, particularly in situations with class imbalance and overlapping bounding boxes. The authors propose a "generalized focal loss" that addresses these challenges through two key innovations: qualified bounding boxes and a distributed approach to box regression. The concept of qualified bounding boxes allows the model to prioritize certain boxes based on their confidence and relevance, helping to mitigate the impact of noise from less relevant detections.

Beyaz et al. (Beyaz, Acıci et al. 2020) reported a convolutional neural network (CNN) architecture achieving an accuracy of 97.4%. The study involved a total of 1,341 femoral neck fracture images, including 765 non-fracture images. The probability threshold for the current version process was set at 0.5.

In the research conducted by Mutasa et al. (Mutasa, Varada et al. 2020), the main focus was on convolutional neural networks to automate the detection and classification of femoral neck fractures in medical images. This research aims to overcome the challenges of accurately diagnosing femoral neck fractures, which is crucial for determining appropriate treatment and care for patients. The model was trained using a dataset of annotated X-ray images containing both normal and fractured femoral necks. CNNs enabled the system to learn spatial hierarchies of features directly from raw image data, automating feature extraction that previously required significant expertise and manual intervention. These deep learning models are designed not just to detect fractures but also to determine their type and severity, enabling doctors to make better decisions for patient care. The results from the study indicate that these models outperform conventional diagnostic methods, sometimes even surpassing human radiologists, providing greater precision and faster results. Such capabilities enable consistent and reliable fracture detection, reduce diagnostic errors, and facilitate quicker decision-making processes. The integration of these automated systems into clinical practice could greatly assist radiologists, particularly in low-resource settings or high-volume environments, by facilitating timely and effective patient care. Overall, the study highlights the transformative potential of deep learning in medical imaging, particularly in the diagnosis and classification of femoral neck fractures, leading to improved health outcomes. Deep learning methods show great potential to revolutionize medical imaging and enhance healthcare outcomes, especially in diagnosing and classifying femoral neck fractures.

3 METHODOLOGY

We propose a thorough approach to detect objects using the latest deep learning architectures, YOLOv7 in particular. To improve detection accuracy and operating efficiency, our strategy incorporates multiple components: training techniques, model architecture, assessment metrics, and data preparation.

The trained deep learning models assist in extracting observations/assessments from pictures. Much use of CNN-based techniques is utilized in this research to recognize and categorize images according to their characteristics. This section will highlight preparation procedures of the data for model

architecture and evaluation of the model performance. This section incorporates all the steps of methodology including training processes, evaluation metrics, model architecture, and data pre-processing to ensure maximized predictability of the learnt model.

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2} \quad (1)$$

$$r = \frac{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sqrt{n}} \quad (2)$$

$$t = \frac{\bar{x} - \mu}{\frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}} \quad (3)$$

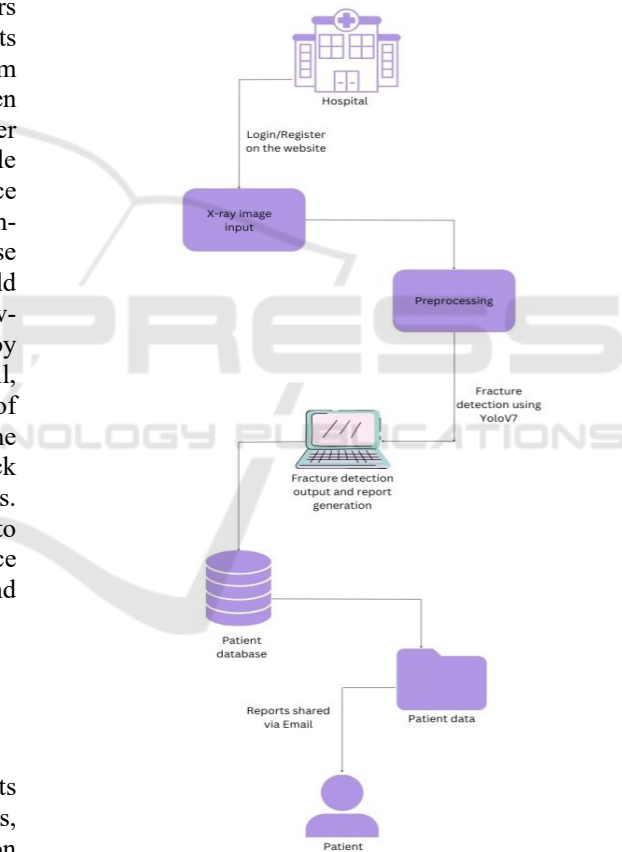


Figure 3: System architecture.

YOLOv7: This architecture is optimized for performance and efficiency, making use of a new backbone network and tuned anchor box settings. It achieves a great mAP while keeping the inference time small, so it allows real-time detection. The first task was to generate an appropriately diverse dataset of representative objects of interest. The collected

data was then preprocessed to have the same size; each image was scaled to 640 x 640 pixels for YOLOv7 model input. Among the various data augmentation techniques applied were random rotations, flips, and color variations, ensuring diversity in the training dataset. This was done to counter overfitting and make the model robust with regard to changes.

Our proposed system employs the highly accurate and fast YOLOv7 architecture. The architecture detection cases. While maintaining the positive traits of earlier YOLO versions, it adds numerous features to enhance its performance.

3.1 Training Deep Learning Model

Data preparation constitutes one of the critical components in any deep learning project. The quality and quantity of data directly influence the model's ability to generalize from the data in training to unseen data.

Dataset Collection: For this study, we collected a dataset containing images labeled either fractured or normal. The dataset is taken from public medical imaging databases, supplemented with synthetically generated images using image transformation techniques. The diversity of this dataset is essential for strong model performance in real-time applications across various domains.

Data Augmentation: Data augmentation is a statistical methodology used to artificially enhance the training dataset size by implementing various transformations on the images. This includes rotations, scaling, flipping, and color alterations. These transformations help augment the data, thereby addressing overfitting and making the model robust. Augmentations were applied dynamically during training, with each epoch exposing the model to different image variations.

$$\Sigma(z_i) = \frac{e^{z_i}}{\sum_{j=1}^k e^{z_j}} \quad (4)$$

$$l = \frac{-1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^k y_{i,k} \log(y_{i,k}^{\wedge}) \quad (5)$$

$$w_{ij}^{(t+1)} = w_{ij}^{(t)} - \eta \frac{\partial J}{\partial w_{ij}} \quad (6)$$

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n l(y_i - y_i^{\wedge})^2 + \lambda ||\theta^2 \quad (7)$$

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (True_i - Pred_i)^2} \quad (8)$$

$$\alpha = \frac{TP}{TP+FP} \quad (9)$$

$$\beta = \frac{TP}{TP+FN} \quad (10)$$

$$\gamma = 2 \cdot \frac{\alpha \cdot \beta}{\alpha + \beta} \quad (11)$$

where:

α represents precision

β represents Recall

γ represents F1-Score

Data Splitting: The dataset was divided into training, validation, and test sets with proportions of 80%, 10%, and 10% respectively. This division facilitates effective model training, smooth hyperparameter tuning, and performance evaluation.

In this application, we use a combination of CNNs and YOLOv7 architecture to effectively classify and detect bone fractures in X-ray images. Together, these technologies enable image classification and object detection, with high sensitivity to subtle differences in bone fractures.

CNNs are effective for image-related tasks due to their hierarchical feature extraction capabilities. The architecture consists of multiple layers that process the input image:

Convolutional Layers: These layers apply convolutional operations using filters (kernels) to learn image features such as edges, textures, and shapes.

Activation Functions: Applied after convolutional layers to introduce non-linearity, enabling the network to learn complex patterns.

Pooling Layers: Pooling layers (e.g., max pooling) reduce the spatial dimensions of feature maps, decreasing computational load and mitigating overfitting while preserving key features.

Fully Connected Layers: These final layers take the flattened output from previous layers to perform classification tasks, outputting probabilities for each class (healthy or fractured).

YOLOv7 is an advanced object detection framework providing real-time detection capabilities, ideal for medical image analysis:

Single-Stage Detector: Processes the entire image in a single forward pass, enhancing speed and efficiency.

Grid System: Divides the input image into a grid to predict bounding boxes and class probabilities for each cell, enabling multi-object detection.

Feature Pyramid Networks (FPN): Extracts features at multiple scales, crucial for detecting both small and large fractures.

Anchor Boxes: Handles different aspect ratios and sizes of fractures effectively, improving detection accuracy.

Preprocessing steps before model input include image resizing (to 640x640 pixels), normalization (scaling pixel values between 0 and 1), and data augmentation (e.g., rotation, flipping, brightness adjustment).

The training process involves:

Loss Function: Categorical cross-entropy loss for classification, with additional localization and confidence loss for object detection.

Optimizer: Adaptive optimizers like Adam or SGD are used to minimize loss during training, enhancing model fit.

Training Stages: The model undergoes multiple training stages with regular validation checks to monitor performance and prevent overfitting.

Model Compilation: The model is compiled with the chosen optimizer, loss functions, and evaluation metrics. Adam optimizer and binary cross-entropy loss are commonly used for binary classification tasks.

The integration of CNNs and YOLOv7 provides a robust framework for detecting bone fractures from X-ray images. Leveraging the strengths of both architectures improves diagnostic accuracy and supports timely medical interventions. Advanced image processing techniques and effective training strategies further enhance model performance for real-world clinical applications.

3.2 Performance Analysis

Evaluating the model's performance is crucial to determine its effectiveness in classifying unseen data. Evaluation is conducted using the test dataset, independent of the training and validation datasets.

Evaluation Metrics: Key metrics include accuracy, precision, recall, F1-score, and Area Under the Curve (AUC). Accuracy measures the proportion of correctly classified instances, while precision and recall provide insights into the model's performance on positive cases. The F1-score balances precision and recall, offering a comprehensive performance metric.

SYSTEM CONFIGURATION

The software applications used included:

- Ubuntu 22.04 LTS or Windows 10/11
- Python 3.9 or higher
- Django 5.0.6

d) TensorFlow 2.16.2

e) Ultralytics YOLOv7

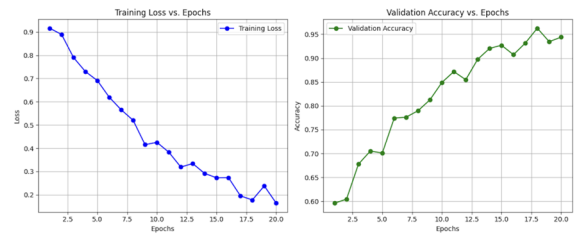


Figure 4: Training vs Epoch and Accuracy vs Epoch.

3.3 Training Parameter Setting

Training was conducted using carefully selected parameters to optimize performance:

Batch Size: A batch size of 32 balanced memory utilization and convergence speed, ensuring efficient GPU resource use while maintaining data diversity in each iteration.

Learning Rate: An initial learning rate of 0.001 was set, with a scheduler reducing it by a factor of 0.1 after a set number of epochs without validation loss improvement. This approach refines learning as the model approaches optimal weights.

Number of Epochs: Models were trained for 50 epochs, providing sufficient learning time without overfitting. Early stopping was implemented to halt training when validation loss did not improve for three consecutive epochs.

Optimizer: Adaptive optimizers like Adam were used to optimize learning, with binary cross-entropy loss suitable for binary classification tasks. This comprehensive methodology supports robust model training, performance evaluation, and application in medical image analysis.

4 RESULT ANALYSIS

The system involves new techniques for fracture detection in bones through advanced deep learning methods combined with state-of-the-art medical diagnostic techniques. It achieves up to 92.44% accuracy in classification using the YOLOv7 architecture, demonstrating high precision and reliability, making it suitable for healthcare applications.

A pipeline integrating this network with resizing, normalization, and advanced data augmentation is in place. It can adapt to various sizes, orientations, and imaging conditions of fractures. By employing

anchor box methods followed by Feature Pyramid Networks, the system enhances its ability to precisely identify fractures, ensuring dependable and consistent detection across complex datasets. These capabilities are crucial for minimizing diagnostic errors and enabling timely intervention for patients.

The YOLOv7 architecture strengthens the system’s feature extraction, allowing it to detect even minor cracks that might be missed through manual analysis. This ability to analyze patterns in X-ray images is a valuable asset for radiologists, as it helps reduce mental and decision fatigue. The system’s real-time detection capabilities, supported by extensive training data and refined through adaptive learning rate scheduling and regularization

techniques, make it an effective tool for time-sensitive and critical situations, such as emergency cases where rapid diagnosis can be life-saving.

In addition to its diagnostic function, the system includes a secure email feature for transmitting clinical images and reports, facilitating easier communication among healthcare professionals. This feature ensures strong data protection and enhances collaborative efforts within medical teams. The system speeds up patient management workflows by minimizing delays in sharing important information, resulting in quicker and more efficient treatment. These efficiencies are especially beneficial in resource-limited settings, where prompt access to diagnostic information is crucial.

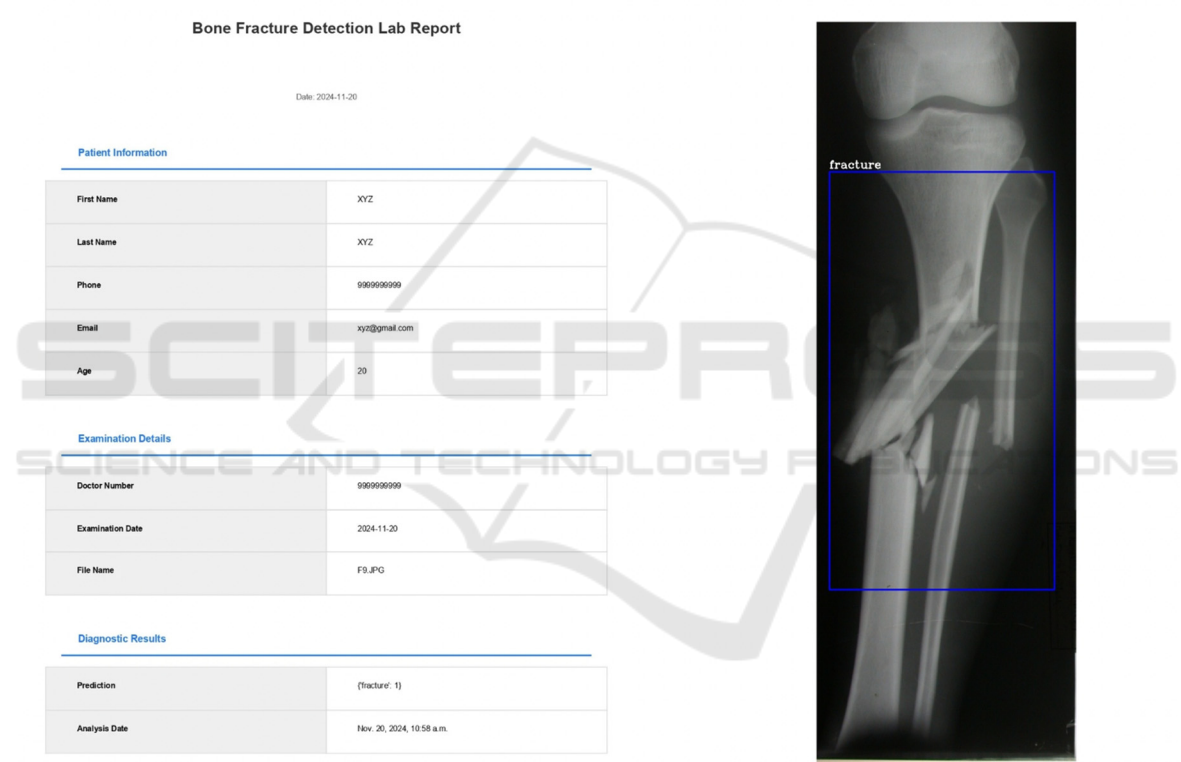


Figure 5: Generated report.

Table 1: Comparison with other papers.

Aspect	Details
Task	Bone Fracture Classification
Model Used	YOLOv7 (You Only Look Once v7)
Fracture Types Classified	Normal vs. Fractured bones
Image Modality	X-ray Images
Detection Approach	Object detection (real-time, single-stage)
Preprocessing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Resizing images to 640x640 - Normalization of pixel values to [0, 1] - Data augmentation (rotation, flipping, scaling, color variations)
Training Data	500 X-ray images (fractured and normal)
Model Evaluation Metrics	Accuracy, Precision, Recall, F1-Score
Accuracy	92.44%
Precision	93%
Recall	95%
F1 score	93.44%
Performance	High accuracy for detecting bone fractures
Real time application	Yes
Training duration	50 epochs with Adam optimizer
Loss function	Categorical Cross-Entropy

5 CONCLUSIONS

It has been established that a YOLOv7-based framework works efficiently in line with the requirements proposed, aiming at real-time detection of bone fractures with a high accuracy of 92.44%. The system, by combining fracture detection features with CNN-based feature extraction capabilities, effectively handles fractures of various sizes and complexities. Strong preprocessing techniques and optimized training convergence enhance the model's reliability, making it highly deployable from a clinical perspective. Real-time detection, automated report generation, and secure data sharing improve diagnostic workflows, ensure patient data privacy, and facilitate communication among medical personnel. The architecture is scalable and flexible, adaptable to

broader healthcare settings, thereby transforming diagnostic practices. In essence, deep learning has significantly contributed to advancing medical imaging processes, leading to better patient outcomes and fostering innovations in healthcare technology solutions.

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