Machine learning based identification and classification of disorders in human knee joint – computational approach

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Abstract
Earlier identification of knee joint pathology helps the therapist to provide the appropriate clinical procedures to control the deteriorating process of arthritis. Beyond usual medical investigations, computational techniques have been used for the diagnosis of knee joint disorder. Among different methodologies, vibroarthrographic technique is employed to identify knee joint disorder. Machine learning contains number of classification methods for the given data. A novel technique called greedy sequential backward feature selection-based radial kernelized least square support vector classification (GSBFS-RKLSSVC) is introduced for accurate detection of knee joint pathology with minimum time. The proposed GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique consists of three processes, namely feature selection, feature evaluation, and classification. Initially, number of VAG signal images is taken from the dataset for detection of knee joint disorder. The relevant feature is selected through the greedy mutual informative regressed sequential backward selection algorithm to reduce an initial dimensional feature space into a low-dimensional feature subspace. Following this, the dichotomous logit regression is applied to select the best features and discard others. Therefore, the feature selection process of the proposed GSBFS-RKLSSVC minimizes the time consumption of the knee joint pathology detection. Once the signal features are extracted, RKLSSVC is applied to detect the normal and abnormal VAG signal. Decision boundary is utilized by the classifier to categorize the samples based on the similarity between the training features and testing features. As a result, the accurate classification is obtained with a minimum error rate. The observed result indicates that GSBFS-RKLSSVC achieves higher accuracy, sensitivity, and specificity and reduces time than the conventional methods.

Keywords Computation · Vibroarthrographic (VAG) signal · Greedy mutual informative regressed sequential backward selection algorithm (GSBFS) · Dichotomous logit regression · Radial basis kernelized least square support vector classifier (RKLSSVC)

1 Introduction
The human knee joint is complex and a main joint in the human body. It offers flexible movements and maintains weight of body. But the human knee joint bears excess of load and it is highly prone to injuries. Therefore, the early detection of knee joint injuries helps the physician provide appropriate treatment. Recently, the various diagnosis methods of joint disorders have been done using image-based techniques including X-ray. X-rays lack in providing a better performance measure. Vibroarthrographic (VAG) signal is a recently emerged methodology for pathology detection in human knee joints. The VAG signal-based knee joint disorder prediction provides better accuracy.

Athenvale and Krishnan (2020), a unique actigraphy-based VAG signal analysis system was introduced for identifying the knee joint conditions through the feature extraction adaptive segmentation. The designed system improves the accuracy, sensitivity, and specificity. But, the time complexity of knee joint disorder identification was not minimized. An optimal bandwidth-duration localized three-band orthogonal wavelet filter banks (OBDLTB-
OWFB) was introduced in Sharmaa and Acharya (2018) for early detection of the normal knee joints using VAG signals. The designed method failed to apply the large VAG signal sample images acquired from more subjects.

To minimize the time complexity of knee joint disorder diagnosis, better features were extracted in Befrui et al. (2018). However, the designed method failed to integrate both temporal and frequency features to improve the accuracy. The vibroarthrographic evaluation of changes in arthrokineamtics was analyzed in Ołowiana et al. (2020) with varied loads and correlation between the features. But an efficient technique was not implemented to find exact features for minimizing the complexity.

A computer-aided diagnostic (CAD) system was developed in Nalband et al. (2018) for knee joint disorders detection through the time–frequency analysis. But the designed CAD system failed to diagnose the knee joint disorders. Novel descriptors were developed in Łysiak et al. (2016) for the initial diagnosis of the healthy knee, and different stages of osteoarthritis by extracting the VAG vibroarthrographic signals. But the sensitivity and specificity analysis were not performed. A 5-class knee joint classification was performed in Adam et al. (2020) based on the VAG signal spectral features. Through the classification method increases the accuracy, the time consumption was not minimized.

An investigation of characteristics and spatial changes of VAG activity with the effect of the knee extension and flexible movements using dissimilar added loads was performed in Andersen et al. (2018). But the feature selection and classification techniques were not applied to find knee joint disorder. Vibroarthography had been utilized by Kalo et al. (2020a, b) to analyze the reliability in knee joint loading conditions using VAG signals during the movement conditions.

A pathological knee joint was detected in Kręcisz and Bączkowicz (2018) using VAG signals by extracting the various features. But the algorithms failed to apply new methods for signal analysis in categorization of VAG signals gathered from joints.

Even though numbers of researches are carried in clinical examinations of knee joint disorders, it is essential for the computational society to develop a methodology that focuses mainly towards pathology identification and classification using any of the simple non-invasive data acquiring technique. Such a technique might be very much useful for the clinicians to monitor the treatment progress for any patients without involving any invasive activities. This has been taken as a motivation to develop identification and classification model that uses VAG as a data acquiring platform. Developing a non-invasive technique-based machine learning model which performs the classification between normal and abnormal samples using computational algorithms are identified as a key observation for building a novel technique. Considering the aforementioned inefficiencies in VAG signal analysis, a novel technique called GSBFS-RKLSSVC is introduced in this paper. The major contribution of the GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique is summarized as given below:

- To increase the detection accuracy of knee joint disorder, a novel GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique is introduced based on feature selection and classification.
- To minimize the time complexity, a greedy mutual informative regressed sequential backward selection algorithm is designed. The mutual information is measured to find the relevant features for knee joint disorder. Then, the dichotomous logit regression is applied to select the best features and discard the other features.
- A radial basis kernelized least square support vector classifier is employed in GSBFS-RKLSSVC to find the normal and abnormal VAG signal based on the selected relevant features. The classifier uses the radial basis kernel function to measure the similarity between the testing and training features for identifying the normal and abnormal signal with minimum error.
- Finally, experiments were conducted with various algorithms to find the performance of the GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique based on various metrics.

1.1 Organization of the paper

The initial section was an introduction. The second one discusses the related works. Section three provides a brief description of the GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique. Section four provides an experimental description of the VAG signal image dataset. Section five provides a discussion of the quantitative results of different parameters. Finally, in section six, the conclusion is presented.

2 Related works

The nature of the VAG signals is non-stationary, and the signal quality will not be same in all position due to the angular surfaces of the individual knee joint examined by Krishnan et. al (2000). Y.Fu and S. Krishnan (2009) had classified the VAG signals using features that are time dependent using LS-SVM. The potential of non-invasive identification of knee osteoarthritis was performed in (Yiallourides and Naylor 2020) using the VAG signal image during the walking conditions. But the accuracy of detection of knee osteoarthritis was not higher. Knee joint sounds were detected in Kalo et al. (2020a, b) based on the knee joint loading conditions using VAG signal. A support vector machines (SVM) classifier was developed in Fredo
(2017) to categorize normal and KJD vibroarthrographic (VAG) signals. However, the inability to classify the different stages was recorded.

A Kohonen neural network was introduced in Nouma et al. (2019) for knee pathologies classification. But the time complexity analysis was not performed. An ensemble empirical mode decomposition model was developed in Nalband et al. (2016) for classifying the knee joint vibration signals based on the entropy-based feature extraction. But the higher accuracy was not attained.

A different machine learning technology was introduced in Zheng et al. (2020) for classifying the knee joint vibration signal used for the clinical diagnosis of knee joint diseases. However, the algorithm did not focus to reduce the time complexity of disease diagnosis. Spatial dependencies were evaluated in Madeleine et al. (2020) through the multi-channel recordings of knee osteoarthritis patients. But it failed to analyze the other time domain and complexity features for identifying knee osteoarthritis.

A method that integrates the empirical mode decomposition (EMD) and wavelet transform was introduced in Gong et al. (2020) to diagnose knee osteoarthritis by recording the knee vibroarthrographic (VAG) signals. However, it was difficult to perform the early stage diagnosis. Multi-channel VAG signals were employed in Samani et al. (2020) to classify the knee osteoarthritis patients with higher sensitivity. But the complexity analysis remained unsolved. Kellgren–Lawrence (KL) grade system was developed in Shieh et al. (2016) for recording the vibroarthrographic signals to identify knee osteoarthritis. However, accurate knee osteoarthritis detection was not performed. B. Alphonse et al. (2021) had developed a multiclass model that utilized random forest methodology for classification.

3 Proposed methodology

In this section, the proposed GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique is developed for accurate VAG signals classification and knee joint disorder detection with higher accuracy and minimum time. The GSBFS-RKLSSVC consists of feature extraction and classification. In general, the VAG signals image consists of multiple features, reduces the performance of classification and it also takes more processing time. Therefore, significant feature selection is a major role in accurate VAG signal classification. In addition, significant feature selection is more efficient for reducing the computation time of VAG signal classification.

The architecture of GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique is depicted in Fig. 1 with different processing steps, namely VAG signal image collection, feature selection, evaluation, and classification. The numbers of VAG signal images are collected from the database $s_1, s_2, s_3, \ldots, s_n$. Then, the next process of the proposed GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique is to perform the feature selection through the greedy mutual informative regressed sequential backward selection (GMIRSBS) algorithm. This is followed by the feature valuation which is done with the help of the dichotomous logit (i.e. logistic) regression. Finally, the classification is done with the extracted signal features using radial basis kernelized least square support vector classifier (RBKLSSVC). Earlier models which had utilized machine learning methodologies to classify or predict the pathologies are a fully classification model. Such models had to be validated using any of the mathematical notations for real time applications, whereas the proposed classification model had inculpated kernel tricks to scrutinize the linearity and nonlinearity of the model.

3.1 Greedy mutual informative regressed sequential backward selection

The first process in GSBFS-RKLSSVC is to perform feature selection from VAG signal image. The VAG signal consists of multiple time and frequency domain features, complexity features, and nonlinear features. While considering the entire features, it takes more complexity in classification. Therefore, more relevant features are chosen to reduce the complexity in classification. Feature selection is a major concern since it helps to minimize the errors from the irrelevant features. The proposed GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique uses the GMIRSBS algorithm for selecting the best feature and discards the word features based on the mutual information.

Figure 2 given above illustrates the flow process of relevant feature selection and worst features selection. The features extracted from the VAG signal are time and frequency domain features, complexity features, and nonlinear features. VMS is mean-squared values of obtained signal, and R4 indicates signal amplitude measured as the difference among mean of four minimum and maximum values. F470, F780, P1, P2 are spectral feature vectors. Complexity features are FF (form factor), SHE (Shannon entropy), TC (turns count), DFA (fractal scaling index), and MSE (multiscale sample entropy). The nonlinear features are RR, DET (determinism), LAM (laminarity score), ENT (entropy), TT (trapping time), and LMAX (max line).

Consider number of features obtained from VAG signal is expressed in below equations

$$F = \{f_1, f_2, f_3, \ldots, f_n\} \in \text{VAG signal}$$  \hspace{1cm} (1)

From (1), $F$ is set of original features $f_1, f_2, f_3, \ldots, f_n$ in VAG signal. Among several features, greedy mutual informative sequential backward selection begins with original feature set. For each iteration, mutual information
gain is computed between the features and objective (i.e. knee joint disorder).

The mutual information of two random variables is used to find the mutual dependence between them.

\[ MD(F, O) = \log_2 \left( \frac{P(F, O)}{P(F)P(O)} \right) \]  

where \( MD(F, O) \) denotes a mutual dependence, \( F \) denotes a set of original features, \( O \) represents the objective function, \( P(F, O) \) represents the joint probability distribution of \( F \) and \( O \), \( P(F)P(O) \) symbolizes the marginal probability distribution of \( F \) and \( O \), respectively.

The proposed feature selection algorithm also uses the dichotomous logit (i.e. logistic) regression to evaluate the features based on the mutual information. In machine learning, regression is utilized to develop a mathematical notation which differentiates between the given data. In the proposed work, we not only directly classify between the features, but also utilized a regression methodology dichotomous logit regression to analyze the mutual information gain value and to obtain dichotomous outcomes (i.e. two possible outcomes) coded as 1 (select best features with maximum information gain score) or 0 (discard the worst features with minimum information gain). Numerical representations 0 and 1 will intimate the classification model either to consider or to reject a feature for building the model.

Figure 3 shows the dichotomous logit regression analysis to identify the best features and discard the worst features. After that, the best feature is selected based on the maximum mutual information between the feature set and objective function.

\[ f(x) = \begin{cases} 1; & \text{if } \arg \max \{MD(F, O)\} \\ 0; & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \]  

where \( f(x) \) denotes an output of regression function, \( \arg \max \) denotes an argument of the maximum function to maximize the mutual information \( MD \). The sequential backward selection is to sequentially discard the features from the given features list and to reach the list of minimum best features. At every step of removal, the feature that causes the least performance loss gets removed. In this way, the relevant feature subset is obtained.
Algorithm 1 given above describes the greedy mutual informative regressed sequential backward selection algorithm. The number of features is extracted from the VAG signal image. Then, the extracted features are given to the sequential backward selection algorithm to sequentially remove the features and select the best features. The best and worst features are identified based on the regression analysis. The dichotomous logit regression function analyses the mutual information gain between the features and objectives. The maximum mutual dependence is used to select the relevant best features. Otherwise, the worst feature gets discarded from the feature list. Thus, GMIRSBS chooses relevant features for accurate detection of knee joint disorder with minimum time complexity.

3.2 Radial basis kernelized least square support vector classifier

The proposed GSBFS-RKLSSVC performs the early detection of knee joint pathology using a radial basis kernelized least square support vector classifier (RBKLSSVC) with the selected feature extracted from the VAG signal. The proposed RBKLSSVC is a type of supervised learning that categorizes the input VAG signal images into normal or abnormal (i.e. knee joint pathology). The proposed technique uses a radial basis kernel for measuring the similarity between any pair of inputs. The least square is the process of minimizing the difference of the squares between an observed value and predicted value obtained from the classification process. This is also called an error. Kernel function is a tactic in machine learning which performs linear classification to solve a problem that is identified to be nonlinear one. A kernel function is utilized in the proposed method to minimize the probability of error rate in classification phase. Therefore, the proposed RBKLSSVC technique improves the accuracy of knee joint disorder detection and minimizes the error.

Let us consider the training data samples \( \{(f_1, y_1), (f_2, y_2), \ldots, (f_n, y_n)\} \) where \( f_n \) denotes selected features and \( y_i \) represents the outcomes whose value is found by observation. The outcomes variable provides the two label as \( y_i = +1\) normal, and the output \( y_i = -1\) abnormal. Therefore, the normal or category image samples are obtained by using a separating hyperplane. The construction of RBKLSSVC is shown in Fig. 4.

Figure 4 given above illustrates the classification process of the radial basis kernelized least square support vector. As shown in Fig. 4, the separating hyperplane (\( \phi \)) is used as a decision boundary to categorize the given input samples either upper or lower. The classifier also uses the two support vectors for the upper and lower side of hyperplane. The upper sides of categorized samples are termed normal, whereas lower labelled samples are abnormal. These two classes are obtained by using the following mathematical equations.

A separating hyperplane is written as a set of the input satisfying the following equation
where $\varphi$ denotes a hyperplane (i.e. decision boundary), $f$ denotes training samples (i.e. selected features), ‘$c$’ indicates a bias and $w$ denotes a normal weight vector to the hyperplane ($\varphi$). When training samples are linearly separable, two parallel support vectors are chosen which separate two classes (+1 and −1). Therefore, the input that belongs to the above and below side of the decision boundary is formulated as follows:

\[ \varphi \rightarrow w \cdot f + c = 0 \]  

\[ z_1 \rightarrow w \cdot f + c > 0 \text{(Above the boundary is of one class, with label 1)} \]  

\[ z_2 \rightarrow w \cdot f + c < 0 \text{(Below the boundary is of one class, with label 0)} \]  

where $z_1$ and $z_2$ denote lower and upper support vectors to categorize the images as above and below the boundary. The sample classified above the boundary is called normal and below the boundary is called abnormal. The predicted output ($y'$) of the classifier with the kernel function is given below:
\[ Y = \text{sign} \sum w_i \beta(f_i, f_n) \]  
(7)

where \( Y \) represents predicted classification results, “\( \text{sign} \)” denotes whether predicted classification as positive or negative, \( \beta(f_i, f_n) \) indicates kernel function which calculates similarity among selected feature (i.e. training feature) \( f_i \) and normal knee joint features \( f_n \) (i.e. testing feature), \( w \) indicates weights of training samples. Here, radial basis kernel function is applied to measure the similarity between the selected feature and the normal knee feature. The radial basis kernel \( \beta(f_i, f_n) \) is expressed as follows:

\[ \beta(f_i, f_n) = \exp \left( \frac{-\|f_i - f_n\|^2}{d^2} \right) \]  
(8)

where \( d \) indicates a deviation. The feature which is more similar to the normal knee joint features is classified above the decision boundary; hence, it is called normal. The features classified below the decision boundary are called abnormal (i.e. knee joint disorder). Based on the kernel measurement, the decision boundary correctly classifies the given input samples. After the classification, the least squares function in the proposed classification technique is to minimize the error which is expressed as given below:

\[ Q \rightarrow \arg \min E \]  
(9)

\[ E = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (Y_a - Y)^2 \]  
(10)

From (9) and (10), \( Q \) denotes the least square function, \( E \) denotes an error rate, \( Y_a \) denotes actual classification results, \( Y \) denotes a predicted output, \( \arg \min \) denotes an argument of a minimum function to minimize the error and improve the classification results with minimum time. In this way, knee joint pathology is correctly detected through the classification using a VAG signal image.

The Algorithm 2 explains the process of radial basis kernelized least square support vector classifier based normal and abnormal VAG signal classification. Extracted and selected features are sent to the classifier. The classifier uses the decision boundary to categorize the samples based on the similarity between the training features and testing normal knee joint features. These two features are more similar, and the hyperplane classifies the VAG signal into...
the upper side, i.e. normal. Otherwise, it is classified into the below hyperplane, i.e. abnormal. Based on the results, the proposed technique classifies the VAG signal, and the least square function minimizes the training error.

4 Experimental setup

Experimental assessment of the proposed GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique and the two existing Athavale and Krishnan (2020) and Sharmaa and Acharya (2018) is implemented using MATLAB coding for detecting the normal or abnormal VAG at an earlier stage. For the experimentation, VAG signal images of samples are collected from the https://people.ucalgary.ca/~ranga/enel563/SIGNAL_DATA_FILES/. 89 VAG signal images which are given in file format are considered for measuring the performance of our proposed as well as existing methods. Out of 89 signal images, 38 are abnormal and remaining 51 images are normal signal images. The feature data matrix is constructed based on the reference through 150 sample feature data matrix obtained through mendeley dataset.

Initially, the multiple time and frequency domain features are extracted from the input VAG signal images, and the more relevant features are selected by applying the greedy mutual informative regressed sequential backward selection algorithm. Finally, the extracted features are given to the radial basis kernelized least square support vector classifier. The classifier analyses the extracted features and classifies the VAG signal images into normal or abnormal.

5 Performance results and discussion

In this section, quantitative analyses of the proposed GSBFS-RKLSSVC and Athavale and Krishnan (2020) and Sharmaa and Acharya (2018) are discussed with different performance metrics such as accuracy, sensitivity, specificity, and detection time. For the discussion of the quantitative results, VAG signal images are taken from the database. In machine learning, analyzing the performance is an essential criterion for any of the model that is developed. The various measures for analyzing the performance mainly include accuracy, specificity, sensitivity, and time complexity. A model must be evaluated using the mentioned measures which are essential for comparison for the proposed and existing methods.

5.1 Performance analysis of Accuracy

Accuracy is measured as number of image samples that are correctly detected as a knee joint pathology from given input VAG signal images. The accuracy computation is mathematically expressed as given below

$$A = \frac{TN + TP}{TN + TP + FN + FP} \times 100 \quad (11)$$

where ‘A’ denotes an accuracy, $TP$ denotes a true positive, $TN$ indicates a true negative, $FN$ denotes a false negative, $FP$ denotes a false positive. The accuracy is measured in terms of percentage (%).

Table 1 reports the performance analysis of accuracy versus number of VAG signal images ranges from 15 to 150. For each method, ten outcomes are observed with number of inputs. From the attained outcomes, the GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique achieves higher accuracy than the other two methods. This is validated through the mathematical evaluation. Let us consider 15 VAG signal image samples for calculating the accuracy. By applying the GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique, 86.66% of accuracy is
observed, whereas the accuracy of existing Athavale and Krishnan (2020) and Sharmaa and Acharya (2018) are 73.33% and 66.66%, respectively. Similarly, nine results are obtained and the accuracy of the proposed technique is compared to the existing methods. The average of ten comparison results indicates that the accuracy of the GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique increased by 10% and 16% than the conventional methods.

Figure 5 depicts the comparison plot of accuracy using three different methods, namely GSBFS-RKLSSVC, Athavale and Krishnan (2020), and Sharmaa and Acharya (2018). The graphical plot shows that the VAG signal images are taken in the ‘x’ axis, and the classification accuracy is obtained in the ‘y’ axis. The accuracy of three different methods is represented by three various colours, namely blue, red, and green. The graphical plot indicates that the GSBFS-RKLSSVC increases the performance of accuracy by applying the radial basis kernelized least square support vector classifier. The proposed classifier uses the radial basis kernel function to measure the similarity between the selected features and the testing normal features. Based on the similarity value, the normal and abnormal VAG signals are classified into either side of the decision boundary with higher accuracy.

5.2 Performance analysis of sensitivity

The sensitivity is the ratio of true positive rate to the summation of a truly positive and false negative. The sensitivity is calculated as given below:

\[
\text{Sensitivity} = \frac{TP}{TP + FN} \times 100
\]

where ‘TP’ denotes a true positive, FN denotes a false negative. The true positive refers to the abnormal samples correctly identified, and the false negative refers to the normal samples incorrectly identified as abnormal samples. Sensitivity is measured in terms of percentage (%) Table 2 and Fig. 6 given above report the performance comparison of sensitivity analysis of three techniques, namely GSBFS-

| Table 1 Comparison of accuracy |
|-----------------------------|
| Number of VAG signal images | Accuracy (%) |
|                            | A unique actigraphy-based VAG signal analysis system |
|                            | OBDLTB-OWFB |
|                            | GSBFS-RKLSSVC |
| 15                        | 73.33 | 66.66 | 86.66 |
| 30                        | 80    | 70    | 90    |
| 45                        | 82.22 | 77.77 | 91.11 |
| 60                        | 83.33 | 78.33 | 91.66 |
| 75                        | 85.33 | 82.66 | 93.33 |
| 90                        | 85.55 | 83.33 | 94.44 |
| 105                       | 87.61 | 85.71 | 95.23 |
| 120                       | 87.5  | 85.83 | 95.83 |
| 135                       | 88.88 | 86.66 | 96.29 |
| 150                       | 90.66 | 88.66 | 96.66 |

| Table 2 Comparison of sensitivity |
|-----------------------------|
| Number of VAG signal images | Sensitivity (%) |
|                            | A unique actigraphy-based VAG signal analysis system |
|                            | OBDLTB-OWFB |
|                            | GSBFS-RKLSSVC |
| 15                        | 80    | 77.77 | 91.66 |
| 30                        | 86.36 | 78.94 | 96    |
| 45                        | 91.17 | 87.5  | 94.73 |
| 60                        | 91.66 | 86.95 | 96.15 |
| 75                        | 91.66 | 89.65 | 96.87 |
| 90                        | 91.42 | 89.70 | 97.33 |
| 105                       | 92.85 | 91.46 | 97.77 |
| 120                       | 92.92 | 91.75 | 98.09 |
| 135                       | 93.91 | 92.03 | 98.36 |
| 150                       | 95.23 | 94.26 | 98.48 |

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**Fig. 5** Accuracy versus the number of VAG signal images
RKLSSVC, Athavale and Krishnan (2020), and Sharmaa and Acharya (2018). The observed results noticed that the GSBFS-RKLSSVC outperforms well in terms of achieving higher sensitivity results than the other existing methods. Let us consider the 15 VAG signal image samples as input, the true positive rate of the GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique is 11 and the false-negative rate is 1, then the sensitivity value is 91.66%. But the sensitivity values of Athavale and Krishnan (2020) and Sharmaa and Acharya (2018) are 80% and 77.7%, respectively. Likewise, nine sensitivity results are obtained for each method with a number of VAG signal images. Then, the percentages of the sensitivity value of the proposed technique are compared to existing methods. The average results confirm that the GSBFS-RKLSSVC increases the performance of sensitivity by 7% and 10% than the state-of-the-art methods. This is due to the reason of the proposed GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique uses the least square function after the classification to reduce the error rate, and it improves the accurate classification of normal or abnormal VAG signal images.

Table 3 Comparison of specificity

| Number of VAG signal images | Specificity (%) | A unique actigraphy-based VAG signal analysis system | OBDLTB OWFB | GSBFS RKLSSVC |
|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------|--------------|
| 15                         | 60             | 50                                            | 66.66      |
| 30                         | 62.5           | 54.54                                         | 60         |
| 45                         | 54.54          | 53.84                                         | 71.42      |
| 60                         | 50             | 50                                            | 62.5       |
| 75                         | 60             | 58.82                                         | 72.72      |
| 90                         | 65             | 63.63                                         | 80         |
| 105                        | 66.6           | 65.21                                         | 80         |
| 120                        | 61.90          | 60.86                                         | 80         |
| 135                        | 60             | 59.09                                         | 76.92      |
| 150                        | 66.66          | 64.28                                         | 83.33      |

5.3 Performance analysis of specificity

Specificity is defined as the ratio of actual negatives and the summation of true negative and false positives.

\[
\text{Specificity} = \frac{TN}{TN + FP} \times 100
\]

where ‘TN’ denotes a true negative, FP denotes false positive. It is calculated in percentage (%).

The performance evaluation of specificity along with the number of input VAG signal image samples in the counts from 10 to 150 is reported in Table 3. The specificity is calculated based on true negatives and false positives. Let us consider the 15 VAG signal image samples for computing the specificity. Among the 15 VAG signal images, the number of true negatives is 2 and the false positives is 1. Therefore, the specificity of the GSBFS-RKLSSVC is 66.66%. The specificities of the existing Athavale and Krishnan (2020) and Sharmaa and Acharya (2018) are 60% and 50%, respectively. Similarly, the specificity is calculated for different VAG signal images. The specificity is increased by 21% and 26% as compared to Athavale and Krishnan (2020) and Sharmaa and Acharya (2018), respectively.

Figure 7 depicts the experimental results of specificity versus a number of VAG signal images taken from the datasets. The graphical plot indicates that the GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique provides better performance when compared to the conventional methods. Radial basis kernelized least square support vector classifier uses the decision boundary to classify the given samples based on the similarity between the training features and testing normal knee joint features. This helps to minimize the false positives and false negatives. In addition, the least square function reduces the training error and provides an accurate classification.
5.4 Performance analysis of time complexity

Time complexity is calculated as the amount of time consumed to discover knee joint disorder based on classification. The overall time consumption is calculated as follows:

$$TC = n \times T(COS)$$  \hspace{1cm} (14)$$

where $TC$ indicates a time complexity, $n$ represents the number of samples, $T(COS)$ indicates a time for classifying one VAG signal image. The time complexity is measured in milliseconds (ms).

Table 4 reports the performance rustles of the time complexity of normal or abnormal classification of VAG signal images. As shown in the tabulated results, the proposed technique outperforms well than the other two methods. Let us consider the 15 VAG signal images, the time taken to classify the input VAG signal images is 12 ms by using the GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique. Similarly, the amount of time consumed by Athavale and Krishnan (2020) and Sharmaa and Acharya (2018) are 14 ms and 16 ms, respectively, based on the similar count of VAG signal image samples. The overall ten results of proposed technique are compared to existing results and noticed that GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique minimizes time complexity by 10% and 17% as compared to Athavale and Krishnan (2020) and Sharmaa and Acharya (2018), respectively.

Figure 8 portrays results of time complexity with number of VAG signal images. As shown in Fig. 8, the time complexity is increased for all the methods while increasing the input VAG signal images. But comparatively, the proposed GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique consumes lesser time complexity than the others. This is due to the
application of the greedy mutual informative regressed sequential backward selection algorithm. The number of features is obtained from the VAG signal image. Extracted features are given to the sequential backward selection algorithm to select the best features for classification and discard the remaining features based on the mutual information gain. The dichotomous logit regression is applied to analyze and evaluate the mutual information between the features and select the more relevant features. Then, the classification is presented with selected features to find normal or abnormal VAG signal image with minimum time.

6 Conclusion

In the proposed article, a GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique is employed for VAG signal analysis. The main aim of the GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique is to detect the knee joint pathology based on the VAG signal image analysis through two different processes, namely feature selection and classification. The GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique initiates the feature selection process using a greedy mutual informative regressed sequential backward selection algorithm. The dichotomous logit regression is applied in the dichotomous logit regression for feature evaluation based on the mutual information. The regression function returns the best features and it is used for classification. This increases classification and reduces time complexity. Then, GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique performs the classification based on the radial basis kernelized least square support vector classifier. Finally, the kernel-based classification technique identifies the normal and abnormal VAG signal images with higher accuracy and lesser time consumption. The comprehensive experimental assessment is carried out with VAG signal images. The quantitative evaluation is done, and the results proved that the GSBFS-RKLSSVC technique achieves higher accuracy of VAG signal classification with lesser time and error rate when compared to other related works. The proposed model can be extended by implementing fuzzy ranking system along with hypergraph for categorizing the signal which can depict the cumulative analysis for the collection of samples will be performed as a future work.

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Declarations

Conflict of interest The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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