Implementation of Convolutional Neural Network in the classification of red blood cells have affected of malaria

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Abstract: Malaria is a disease caused by plasmodium which attacks red blood cells. Diagnosis of malaria can be made by examining the patient’s red blood cells using a microscope. Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) is a deep learning method that is growing rapidly. CNN is often used in image classification. The CNN process usually requires considerable resources. This is one of the weaknesses of CNN. In this study, the CNN architecture used in the classification of red blood cell images is LeNet-5 and DRNet. The data used is a segmented image of red blood cells and is secondary data. Before conducting the data training, data pre-processing and data augmentation from the dataset was carried out. The number of layers of the LeNet-5 and DRNet models were 4 and 7. The test accuracy of the LeNet-5 and DrNet models was 95% and 97.3%, respectively. From the test results, it was found that the LeNet-5 model was more suitable in terms of red blood cell classification. By using the LeNet-5 architecture, the resources used to perform classification can be reduced compared to previous studies where the accuracy obtained is also the same because the number of layers is less, which is only 4 layers.

Keywords: Classification, Convolutional Neural Network, Deep Learning, Malaria, Red Blood Cell

INTRODUCTION

Malaria is a disease caused by plasmodium. This disease is usually transmitted through Anopheles mosquito bites, blood transfusions or injections that are used interchangeably. This disease attacks the blood cells that cause fever, fatigue, mutilation, and headaches. If this disease is not treated quickly, you will experience complications such as seizures, impaired consciousness, shortness of breath and death. A malaria diagnosis can be done by examining the patient’s blood in the laboratory. Examination of patient blood in the laboratory can take a long time due to the small size of the plasmodium and the number of other objects that are similar to malaria parasites (Autino et al. 2012).

One way to speed up blood examination is by image classification of red blood cells (Poostchi et al. 2018). Several methods that have been used to classify red blood cell images are K-Nearest Neighbor (KNN) (Nanoti et al. 2016), Learning Vector Quantization (LVQ) (Rahmanti et al. 2014), Support Vector Machine (SVM) (Dave 2018), Artificial Neural Network (Sankaran et al. 2017), Random Forest (Singh et al. 2020), and others. One of the classification methods currently being developed is the Convolutonal Neural Network (CNN).

CNN is a Deep Learning method and is a development of the Multilayer Perceptron (MLP) method. The use of CNN has been frequently used in medicine to classify images of diseases such as: diabetic retinopathy (Ignatius et al. 2019), chest disease (Abiyev and Ma’aithah 2018), maize disease (Hidayat, Darusalam, and Irmawati 2019), and others (Yadav and Jadhav 2019). CNN has been shown to classify red blood cell images with sufficient accuracy compared to other image classification methods (Liang et al. 2017). In previous studies, the CNN architecture was used to classify red blood cells quite deeply (Yohannes, Develia, and Arianto 2020).

This study will implement a Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) to classify red blood cells affected by malaria using an architecture that is not deep enough. By conducting this research, it is hoped that the use of CNN can classify red blood cells that have parasites and do not have plasmodium parasites.

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LITERATURE REVIEW

In the case of malaria, several methods have been used to solve the problem of image classification of red blood cells such as K-Nearest Neighbor (KNN) (Nanoti et al. 2016), Learning Vector Quantization (LVQ) (Rahmati et al. 2014), Support Vector Machine (SVM) (Dave 2018), Artificial Neural Network (Rahmati et al. 2014), Random Forest (Singh et al. 2020) and others. The CNN method has been widely used to solve this case. From the research conducted by Yadasa SS and Jadhav SM, it was explained that the CNN method has better accuracy than other image classification methods (Liang et al. 2017).

In a study conducted by Zaohui Liang et al, prior to training, researchers performed image preprocessing such as increasing local brightness and contrast, whitening the entire image using the eigenvalues decomposition (EVD) operation on the covariance matrix. The CNN architecture used has a convolutional layer and 3 hidden layers. Architectural testing of the test data yields an accuracy of 97% (Liang et al. 2017).

In a study conducted by Yohannes et al, a CNN with a deep architecture was used. Researchers also combine the saliency method to perform classification. The accuracy obtained was 95% (Yohannes, Devella, and Arianto 2020).

In a study conducted by Soner Can Kalkan and Ozgur Koray Sahingo, researchers used a self-constructed CNN architecture to classify red blood cells. The architecture used has 3 convolutional layers and 1 hidden layer. Architectural testing of the test data yields an accuracy of 95% (Kalkan and Sahingo 2019).

In a study conducted by Aimon Rahman et al, researchers conducted preprocessing and data augmentation. The preprocessing of data is image normalization, rescaling, standardization, while data augmentation is done by reversing the image horizontally, vertically, performing filtering, rotation, and so on. The architecture used is VGG16 and a custom built architecture consisting of 8 convolution layers and 2 hidden layers. Architectural testing of the test data yields a fairly good accuracy, namely above 90% (Rahman et al. 2019).

In a study conducted by Jaspreet Singh Chima et al, researchers conducted preprocesses such as dividing data, changing image sizes, and changing categories of image classes. The architecture used in this study is Resnet-50. Architectural testing of the test data yields a fairly good accuracy that is above 95% (Chima et al. 2020).

In a study conducted by Nwankpa C et al, researchers used several architectures such as Alex-net, VGG-16, Resnet-50, Xception, DenseNet-121, and self-created architectures. The results of this study Resnet-50 has a fairly good performance.

METHOD

In this study, the research procedures are as follows:

Data Collection

The data used in this study is secondary data that can be accessed publicly. The red blood cell data can be downloaded via the website at https://ceb.nlm.nih.gov/repositories/malaria-datasets (Rajaraman et al. 2018). The data used in this study consisted of 27,558 images of red blood cells. From these data, there are 13,775 images of red blood cells infected with plasmodium parasites and 13,813 images of red blood cells that are not infected with plasmodium parasites.

![Fig. 1 Normal Red Blood Cells (a) Malaria Red Blood Cells (b)](image_url)

Preprocessing and Augmentation

Before doing the training process, the image from the red blood cell data will go through preprocessing and augmentation. The preprocessing that will be carried out on the image is as follows:

- **a. Change the image size**
  - In this process, the entire image will be converted into the same size. The size that is changed will match the size of the input in the Convolutional Neural Network architecture.

- **b. Rescaling**
  - In this process, each pixel of the image will be divided by 255 to produce a value between 0 and 1. This process aims to accelerate convergence during training (Rahman et al. 2019).

- **c. Grouping Data**
  - In this process, the data will be grouped into 2 groups, namely training and testing. The ratio used to separate this data is 8:2.
Meanwhile, the augmentation process carried out in this research is rotation, reversing horizontally and vertically, and cutting the image.

**Training**

In this process, data from the training group will be trained using a Convolutional Neural Network architecture. Due to limited resources, the architecture used in this study will not be very deep. The following is the architecture that will be used in this study:

a. **LeNet-5**
   
The architecture of this model consists of 2 convolution layers followed by an Average Pooling layer, and 2 hidden layers. The architecture uses an input size of 224 pixels x 224 pixels (Ignatius et al. 2019).

b. **DRNet**
   
The architecture of this model consists of 4 layers of convolution followed by the Average Pooling layer, and 2 hidden layers [8]. The architecture uses an input size of 128 pixels x 128 pixels (Ignatius et al. 2019).

**RESULT**

**Preprocessing and Augmentation**

Before conducting data training, preprocessing and augmentation were carried out on the dataset. Some of the preprocessing methods used in this study are as follows:

a. **Change Image Size**
   
   In this process the various image sizes are converted into one size, namely 224 x 224 pixel and 128 x 128 pixels. The following is an example of the result of resizing the image where the original image has a size of 127 x 151 pixels which is converted to 128 x 128 pixels.

b. **Rescaling**
   
   In this process, the entire image is normalized where each pixel of the image is divided by 255. The value of each image pixel is between 0-1.

c. **Splitting data**
   
   In this process, the dataset is divided into 2 groups, namely the training and testing group. With the use of a ratio of 8: 2, the training group will use 17,638 data and the test group will use 4,408 data.

   Several augmentation methods used in this study are rotation, horizontal and vertical flipping, and image cropping. The rotation carried out in this study was 45 degrees.
Training

The number of parameters trained in the Lenet-5 model is 1,628,046 while in the DrNet model is 63,959. The training is planned to be carried out for 100 iterations. Training will be stopped when the model has overfitting. Here is a graph of accuracy and loss in the training process.

The following is a visualization of the feature extraction of red blood cell images obtained in the convolution layer during training in the convolution layer:

a. LeNet-5

- Fig. 5 Image Rotation
- Fig. 6 Horizontal Flipping
- Fig. 7 Vertical Flipping
- Fig. 8 Lenet-5’s Training Accuracy and Loss
- Fig. 9 DRNet’s Training Accuracy and Loss

- Terinfeksi Malaria
- Tidak Terinfeksi Malaria
Based on the figure above, the features that distinguish red blood cells in feature extraction that occur in the LeNet model convolution layer are white spots. Where the red blood cells infected with malaria have white spots, it is seen in Figures 10a and 11 whereas in Figures 10b and 11 they do not have white spots.

b. DRnet
Based on the figure above, the feature that distinguishes red blood cells in feature extraction that occurs in the LeNet model convolution layer is the presence of holes in the blood cells. Where the red blood cells infected with malaria have holes in the blood cells, seen in Figures 14, 16, 17a and 18a while figures 13, 15, 17b and 18b do not have holes in the blood cells.

**Testing**

Below are the test results of a model that has been trained on the test data, where the test results with a value of 1 are normal and 0 is malaria.

| No | Figure | Actual | LeNet Predict | DrNet Predict |
|----|--------|--------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. | Malaria | Malaria | Malaria       | Malaria       |
The results of the model testing on the test data will be presented in a configuration matrix. The following is a configuration matrix of the results of model testing against test data

| Predict  | Malaria | Malaria | Malaria |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|
| Actual   |         |         |         |
| Malaria  | 2631    | 72      |         |
| Normal   | 166     | 2643    |         |

Table 2
Lenet-5’s Testing Confussion Matrix

| Predict  | Malaria | Normal |
|----------|---------|--------|
| Actual   |         |        |
| Malaria  | 2650    | 147    |
| Normal   | 128     | 2587   |

Table 3
DrNet Testing Confussion Matrix
DISCUSSIONS

Based on the test results, the Lenet-5 model and the DRnet model managed to classify correctly with an accuracy value above 80%. But when compared to the two models, the Lenet-5 model is more precise in the case of classification of red blood cells affected by malaria. This can be seen where the evaluation value of the Lenet-5 model is higher than the DRnet model.

The following is a comparison of some of the evaluation values of Lenet-5 and DRnet which are presented in the form of table and chart charts.

Table 4
Comparison of Evaluation Score

| Model Name | Accuracy | Recall | Precision |
|------------|----------|--------|-----------|
| LeNet-5    | 95.7%    | 97.3%  | 94%       |
| DRnet      | 95%      | 94.7%  | 95.4%     |

Fig. 20 Comparison of Evaluation Values Graph

CONCLUSION

Based on the experimental results, the CNN method with the Lenet-5 and DRnet models can classify blood cells well where the accuracy obtained based on the Lenet-5 and DRnet models is 95.7% and 95%, respectively. For the case of red blood cell classification, Lenet-5 is more appropriate where the evaluation value of Lenet-5 is higher than DRnet.

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