Discovering Optimal Algorithm to Predict Diabetic Retinopathy using Novel Assessment Methods

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Abstract

Diabetic retinopathy is a diabetes complication that affects eyes. It disrupts the vasculature of the sensitive tissue present at the back of the eye. If this complication is untreated it may lead to blindness. The aim of this work is to train a model that efficiently predicts diabetic retinopathy. Machine learning techniques like Decision tree, Random forest, Adaptive boosting and Bagging are used as primary algorithms to train predictive models. An algorithm namely ‘Support Vector Machine using Gaussian kernel for retinopathy prediction’ is proposed in this work. The proposed algorithm is compared with the primary algorithms based on five evaluation metrics namely accuracy, Youden’s J index, concordance, Somers’ D statistic and balanced accuracy. From the results obtained the proposed algorithm obtained better values for all considered evaluation metrics. Thus the use of SVM with Gaussian kernel is proposed to be used for prediction of diabetic retinopathy.

Keywords: Diabetic retinopathy, random forest, decision tree, adaptive boosting, bagging, support vector machine (SVM) using Gaussian kernel (GK), accuracy, Youden’s J index, concordance, Somers’ D statistic and balanced accuracy.

1. Introduction

Diabetic retinopathy (DR) is one of the complications of diabetes that cause blindness and vision loss impairment. It is the side effect triggered by both type-1 and type-2 diabetes. The diabetic retinopathy cannot be detected in early stage but can be identified later based on symptoms like blurred vision, vision loss, fluctuating vision, colour vision impairment and spots floating in the vision. [1]

Diabetic retinopathy affects the retina in many ways which include abnormal growth of blood vessels and problems related to vision like blindness, retinal detachment, glaucoma and vitreous hemorrhage. The risk factors for DR include high blood pressure, long term diabetes, high cholesterol and smoking [1]. If any person is suffering from diabetes type-1 or type-2 the changes in their vision should be observed to avoid diabetic retinopathy in future.

In a survey it was stated that one out of 15 and one out of 45 people are having blindness and visually impairments respectively due to glaucoma. The survey concluded that 2.1 million and 4.2 million persons are suffering from blindness and vision loss impairments respectively in 2010 [2]. DR has some typical lesions that include micro aneurysms (MA), hemorrhages and hard exudates.

In some hospital based studies it is stated that over 34.6% of diabetic retinopathy patients are having diabetes [3]. In Nepal the presence of diabetes among the persons who are aged above 20 years was 40%, 40 years and above was 19%. The survey based analysis conducted worldwide from 1980 to 2008 includes 35 studies. This survey concluded that the presence of diabetic and proliferate retinopathy was 35.4% and 7.5% respectively. [4]
Figure 1. Normal retina and Diabetic retina

Figure 2. Stages of diabetic retinopathy
DR leads to the damage of neurons and minute blood vessels in the retina. It will cause the loss of blood from the eye that will cause swelling of eyes as shown in Figure 1. There are some physical diagnosis methods namely fluorescein angiography and optical coherence tomography to detect DR. The treatment is done only after observing retinal image by applying fluids or dyes on the patient eye.

Diabetic Retinopathy have five stages namely 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4 where a doctor can determine diabetic retinopathy by observing the presence of lesions which were only related to the abnormalities that occurs in vascular. Different stages are illustrated in Figure 2. As the diabetic patients are increasing day by day the infrastructure needed for detection of DR should also be high. Some former efforts have made a good significance by using pattern recognition, image classification and machine learning (ML) techniques to predict the disease.

In this work machine learning algorithms namely random forest, adaptive boosting, bagging and decision tree are implemented for prediction of diabetic retinopathy. A proposed algorithm namely SVM with Gaussian kernel is also implemented to predict diabetic retinopathy more accurately using R programming.

- No DR (0) indicates absence of diabetic retinopathy.
- Mild (1) indicates the presence of DR but it is mild and non-proliferative DR.
- Moderate (2) specifies the presence of DR where the complication is moderate and it is non proliferative DR.
- Severe (3) specifies the existence of DR where the complication is severe and it is non proliferative too.
- Proliferative (4) indicates the existence of DR where the complication is very high and it is a proliferative DR. [5]

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### 2. Literature Survey

Wang et al. [6] focused on diagnosing diabetic retinopathy. Diabetic retinopathy (DR) analysis approaches in the literature are regularly criticized as being limit in detecting DR-related features or being absence of interpretability. They evaluated the excellence of annotations in DR grading by measuring inter-grader inconsistency.

Dai [7] highlighted his work on detecting micro aneurysm (MA) to prevent the vision-loss impairments occur due to diabetic retinopathy. The existing methods fail to face the large and small intra class variations to detect the funds image. The clinical report engaged to fill the gaps between low level and high level visual features and MA detect from high level image features. He used performance measures like precision and recall. And it is easy to detect multiple lesions in funds images.

Leeza and Farooq [8] used bag of features model to detect diabetic retinopathy. They used support vector machine with radial basis kernel and neural network techniques to categorize the pictures into five modules they are normal, mild, moderate, severe non-proliferative diabetic retinopathy and proliferative diabetic retinopathy. They considered segmentation for data pre-processing and removal, collection, and cataloguing of features as post pre-processing stages.

Costa et al. [9] focused on detection of diabetic retinopathy based on retinal images. They trained a model that correctly identifies DR depending on the occurrence of various retinal lesions. They proposed a procedure constructed on the multiple instance learning to overcome the requirement by exploiting the implicit evidence in the annotations at the level of image.

Dinesh Pandey et al. [10] mainly focused on segmenting thick and thin blood vessels in retina. Four databases namely DRIVE, STARE, CHASE_ DB1 and HRF were used to ascertaining the performance of proposed method. Local phase-preserving denoising, line detection, local normalization and maximum entropy thresholding techniques were used for detecting thin blood vessels. The technique used for detecting thick blood vessels is maximum entropy thresholding. It was concluded that the proposed technique performed efficiently based on specificity, accuracy, sensitivity, Matthews Correlation Coefficient (MCC) and AUC.

Pires et al. [11] the members of IEEE in their research beyond lesion based diabetic retinopathy which was done in 2017 have stated that DR leads to blindness. They also stated that when the DR is identified in correct time the loss occurred by DR is negotiable and can be cured by taking certain measures. They have used Bossanova and Fisher vector for lesion based detection. In their research they concluded that the automatic detection of DR can be useful for that which patients can be referred to doctor and reduce the classification error by 40%. There a current method in automatic detection but it is too much dependent on individual lesion detections. They proposed the process of detection through three steps. They are detection of individual DR lesions, fusion of the lesion responses and referability decision.

Rafiqul Islam et al. [12] mined data from social networks to detect depression. The data is collected from facebook users. Some ML techniques namely KNN, SVM, ensemble and decision tree were used in their work. These techniques are implemented based on emotion, linguistic style, temporal process and all three features combined.
The performance metrics considered for evaluation are pyramid like model for classifying heartbeat classification. They concluded that the proposed technique had better performed accuracy, sensitivity and positive predicted value. They provided input fields for the features like age, pain in chest, inference expert system for diagnosing heart disease. They proposed technique has performed better with an accuracy negative or border line or positive or strongly positive. The diabetes. Fuzzy rules are formulated for these features. used adaptive wiener filtering and $k$-nearest neighbor technique with character embedding and attention mechanism. The neural network (NN) considered was bidirectional Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM). They considered two models. The first model is the combination of bidirectional LSTM and attention mechanism and the second one is the combination of bidirectional LSTM, character embedding and attention mechanism. The accuracies obtained for first and second techniques are 77.72% and 79.51% respectively. 

Jinyuan He et al. [15] mainly focused on classifying heartbeat using ECG records. Two datasets namely MIT-BIH-AR and INCART 12-leads arrhythmia are considered for their work. To improve the performance they proposed a pyramid like model for classifying heartbeat classification. The performance metrics considered for evaluation are accuracy, sensitivity and positive predicted value. They concluded that the proposed technique had better performed than the rivals.

Ifthikhar Naseer et al. [16] proposed Mamdani fuzzy inference expert system for diagnosing heart disease. They provided input fields for the features like age, pain in chest, electrocardiography, cholesterol, high blood pressure and diabetes. Fuzzy rules are formulated for these features. Based on these fuzzy rules the input data is classified as negative or border line or positive or strongly positive. The proposed technique has performed better with an accuracy of 94%.

Dinesh Pandey et al. [17] considered problem of segmenting region of interest i.e. breast. They also considered breast density in MRI more accurately. They proposed a methodology with three steps. In first step they used adaptive wiener filtering and $k$-means clustering for reducing noise, maintain edges and eliminate undesirable artefacts. In step 2 they used a contour based level sets for excluding the heart area. Here they determined the initial points by using convolution method and maximum entropy thresholding. In third step they used morphological operations and local adaptive thresholding in order to remove pectoral muscle. The evaluation metrics considered are accuracy, sensitivity, precision, specificity, AUC, misclassification rate, jaccard coefficient and dice similarity coefficient.

Iqbal Sarker et al. [18] developed a model for providing eHealth services for diabetes patients. The optimal $k$-nearest neighbor technique is used for diabetes mellitus prediction and analysis. The data from 500 patients is considered. The performance metrics considered are precision, recall, f-measure and area under ROC curve. They compared the traditional KNN with optimal KNN technique and stated that optimal KNN has obtained better performance metrics. Then optimal KNN technique is compared with some existing algorithms namely AdaBoost, logistic regression, naïve bayes, decision tree and SVM. They concluded that optimal KNN has performed better than existing algorithms.

Zhu et al. [20] proposed their work related to diabetes type-2 and diabetic retinopathy. They have conducted a survey on the patients who are suffering with diabetes in China. In this study they performed detection of DR on the basis of retinal photographs. They have named R0, R1, R2 and R3 based on the severity of the DR. They used a quantitative method for determining the global tortuosity of retinal arterioles. In this work they have used linear and logistic regressions and they have compared those retinal images with those who don’t have DR.

Kar and maity [21] highlighted their work on detection of DR using retinal lesions. They have stated that the DR is a microvascular side effect of diabetes at first it is asymptomatic and later this tips to mild blindness and vision blursed and sometimes it may lead to death in some cases. In this work they used Gaussian and Matched Filtering. Matched filtering with gaussian kernel yields high response to lesion detection of the candidate.

Zeng et al. [22] had proposed that DR is the most effective and it is not detected in early stages of Diabetes and time consuming process for Diagnostic procedure. They trained a conventional NN with architecture similar to Siamese with a transfer learning procedure. They concluded that accept the input and to learn the correlation for prediction of DR.

Sun and Zhang [23] used electronic health records for diagnosing and analysing DR. They have taken the data from the Medical Big Data center which was taken from the 301 hospitals during 4 years period of time. They have replaced the missing values of the demographics of the data taken and ID mapping and classification of the data. In this work they have used some algorithms namely Support Vector module, Logistic regression, Decision tree, Random forest and naïve bayes to analyze DR. In this work they have concluded that the machine learning technique random forest has obtained the highest accuracy with 92%. They have also stated by their model that cost is low and the accuracy is higher than normal DR detection technique as
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3. Methodology

3.1. Objectives of the work

Most of the diabetic patients are affected by Diabetic retinopathy as a side effect. The main problem of retinopathy is that this disease may lead to blindness if not diagnosed early. The machine learning techniques have been effectively used in the medical field to detect or predict diseases including retinopathy. But the main problem lies in selecting of optimal algorithm for prediction of diabetic retinopathy early. This problem is handled in this work by proposing a machine learning kernel method namely SVM with Gaussian kernel to predict diabetic retinopathy early. The objectives of this work to accomplish the proposal are

- To implement machine learning methods to predict diabetic retinopathy. SVM with Gaussian kernel is proposed for predicting diabetic retinopathy. Random forest, Decision tree, Adaptive boosting and Bagging are algorithms considered for comparison with proposed algorithm. These algorithms are implemented using R programming.
- To obtain best performing algorithm among all the considered algorithms. The proposed algorithm SVM with Gaussian kernel performed more accurately when compared to other algorithms. The comparison is done using metrics like accuracy, youden’s j index, concordance, somers d statistic and balanced accuracy.

3.2. Dataset

The dataset was created based upon different types of retinal images and then extracted into attributes. Also some attributes related to diabetes and hypertension were added to the data extracted from UCI repository. The entire dataset contains 24 attributes with 1151 instances based on which it is predicted whether the patient is having diabetic retinopathy or not. There are 23 predictor attributes and one target attribute. The training dataset consists of 80% of the dataset and test dataset contains remaining 20% of the dataset. The attributes in the dataset are named as q, ps, nma.a-nma.f, nex.a-nex.h, dd, dm, am/fm, fa.glucose, po.pra.glucose, SBP, DBP and class. The attribute class is the target attribute having values 1 and 0 for positive and negative. All the 24 attributes are described in the table 1.

| Attribute | Description |
|-----------|-------------|
| q         | This attribute represents Quality assessment. It has binary values 1 and 0. The value 0 indicates poor quality and 1 indicates sufficient quality. |
| ps        | This attribute called Pre Screening represents abnormality of retina. It has binary values 1 and 0. The value 0 indicates lack of abnormality and 1 indicates severe abnormality. |
| nma.a-nma.f | These six attributes represents values obtained by detection of micro aneurysms or micro aneurism (MA) detection. Each feature value tells the number of micro aneurism found at confidence levels after MA detection. |
| nex.a-nex.h | These eight attributes represent values of exudates. They contain same information as nma.a-nma.f for exudates. These options are normalized by dividing the |
quantity of lesions with the diameter of the ROI to compensate different image sizes.

dd
This attribute is helpful to know the patient’s eye condition. This value is calculated using euclidean distance of the middle of the macula and the center of the optic disc. The optic disc corresponds to blind spot in each eye. This is normalized with the diameter of Region of Interest.

dm
This attribute represent the diameter of the optic disc.

am/fm
This attribute represent classification of retina based on Amplitude Modulation / Frequency Modulation. AM/FM method is used to differentiate between normal and pathological retinal images.

fa.glucose
This attribute represent fasting glucose level. It contains the value of blood glucose level obtained by performing blood test after fasting for at least 8 hours. Usually, this test was performed in the early morning. The normal range for the blood glucose level is from 70 mg/dL to 110 mg/dL. If the value obtained is out of range then the presence of diabetes is confirmed.

Po.pra.glucose
This attribute represent post prandial glucose level. It contains the value of blood glucose level obtained by performing blood test after taking some food. The blood test is followed by the fasting glucose test. The normal range for the glucose is from 80 mg/dL to 180 mg/dL. If the value obtained is out of range then the presence of diabetes is confirmed.

SBP
This attribute represent systolic blood pressure. SBP means pressure in blood flow during contraction of muscle in heart. The normal range of SBP is less than or equal to 120 mmHg. If the value is high then it is said to be hypertension.

DBP
This attribute represent diastolic blood pressure. DBP means pressure in blood flow between the heart beats. The normal range of DBP is less than or equal to 80 mmHg. If the value is high then it is said to be hypertension.

Class
This attribute is the target attribute. It has binary values 1 and 0. The value 1 indicates tested positive for diabetic retinopathy and 0 indicates tested negative for diabetic retinopathy.

3.3. Data Pre-processing

Data pre-processing is a process in which missing values are filled and noisy data (irrelevant data) is avoided. Data normalization or feature scaling is to reduce the redundancy and to improve the veracity.

Figure 3 shows the steps involved in data pre-processing. Firstly the dataset was taken and have to identify if there are any missing values in it. The categorical variables should be converted into numerical variables. Then the dataset should be split and finally perform feature scaling which converts all the numerical variables into same scale.

3.4. System Architecture

The figure 4 represents the system architecture of the model. Firstly the diabetic retinopathy data set is to be loaded and then data pre-processing is performed. The dataset consists of 1151 instances. The pre-processed data is then split into training and test datasets. The training dataset contains 80% of the dataset which is 921 instances. The test dataset contains remaining 230 instances. The name itself shows that training dataset means where the model is trained using this data. A model is trained using each of the algorithm that has been considered. Then the trained model is now tested against the test dataset. Then results obtained from different trained models were compared and the best model is chosen. A Machine learning model is develop in the present work to provide an automated system for prediction of diabetic retinopathy.

3.5. Data visualization

The graphical representation of the required dataset is known as data visualization. There are several ways to plot graphical view of the dataset in machine learning. Box plot is a data visualization tool that gives information about the distribution of data. It shows the minimum, first quartile, median, second quartile and maximum values of the given data.
Figure 5 illustrates box plots for the whole dataset. It has box plots obtained for all the 23 predictor variables in the dataset with respect to the target variable known as class. The target variable has two categories positive and negative which is represented in the Figure 5.

Figure 4. System architecture

Figure 5. Box plot of attributes
4. Proposed Work

The machine learning algorithms used to train predictive model are decision tree, random forest, adaptive boosting, bagging and SVM with Gaussian kernel. The proposed algorithm is SVM with Gaussian kernel which is explained in detail. The remaining four algorithms are briefly described in this chapter.

4.1. Decision tree

Decision tree is a classifier that constructs a tree structure for the prediction of output. It is built in top down recursion, divide and conquer method. A decision tree contains nodes which represents the attributes. The root and internal nodes represents a test on a predictor attribute. The branch of a node represents output of the test. The leaf nodes denote the target attribute which is a binary variable in our dataset with values 0 and 1. The leaf node 1 indicates that the prediction output is positive by considering the conditions in the path of that node. Similarly for leaf node 0 also, which indicates prediction is negative. [27]

4.2. Random forest

Random forest is a supervised learning algorithm that uses ensemble technique. An ensemble technique combines the output of multiple models and gives the mostly predicted class as output. Some random samples are selected from the training data set to create a subset called as bootstrap dataset. Then using each instance in the bootstrap dataset a model is trained using decision tree algorithm. Each of the models predicts an output for the instance considered. Then by performing voting strategy the class that is mostly predicted by the models is given as output. This output is the final output predicted by the random forest model. [27]

4.3. Bagging

Bagging is also known as bootstrap aggregation which is an ensemble method. It could be used to solve classification problems for obtaining better predictions. Several bootstrap datasets are created by randomly selecting instances from the training dataset. A model is trained using a single bootstrap dataset. These models are called as the weak classifiers. All the weak classifiers trained using bootstrap datasets will predict an output. These weak classifiers are combined to obtain a final classifier known as ensemble model. The final class prediction is done by the ensemble model by using the voting strategy. The class that is mostly predicted by the weak classifiers is given as final output. [28]

4.4. Adaptive boosting

Adaptive boosting is an ensemble technique that can be used for classification problems. It combines the output of the weak classifiers to get a strong classifier for better prediction. The weak classifiers are the decision stumps or a decision tree with a single level. Weights are assigned to all the instances in the training dataset and train the decision stump. If the decision stump makes wrong prediction then the weight of the instance is increased. Then based on updated weights another decision stump is obtained and process continues to construct all the weak classifiers. The final prediction is done by the model by calculating weighted average of all the weak classifiers. [29]

4.5. SVM with Gaussian kernel algorithm

Gaussian kernel is a type of kernel method. A kernel method converts feature space from low to high dimensional space. If the data cannot be separated linearly then Gaussian kernel method is used to separate the dataset in high dimensional feature space. In Support Vector Machine classification algorithm the data is divided using hyper plane. When SVM is implemented using Gaussian kernel technique it constructs the hyper plane in high dimensional space created by the kernel. From all the possible hyper planes the one with the maximum margin is selected for classification of data. The prediction depends on the position of data point i.e. on which side of the support vector it lies.

Algorithm: SVM with Gaussian kernel

Input: Each record of the training data, kernel method to be used, value of σ.
Output: Predicted class to which the instance in the test dataset belongs.
Assumptions: $x_t$ and $x_s$ represents the vectors in the low dimensional feature space, $σ$ is a free parameter given in input.

Step 1: Start
Step 2: Divide the training dataset into separate classes depending on the values of the target attribute.
Step 3: Convert feature space from low dimension into high dimension by Gaussian kernel function. $(x_t - x_s)^2$ is the square of the Euclidean distance between $x_t$ and $x_s$.

$$\kappa_f(x_t, x_s) = e^{-\frac{(x_t - x_s)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

Step 4: Construct hyper planes to categorize the dataset into different classes in the high dimensional feature space.
Step 5: Select a hyper plane with maximum margin.
Step 6: The region on which side the test data point lies is the output.
Step 7: Stop
In step 2 the dataset is divided into separate classes. In step 3 feature space is converted from low dimension into high dimension by Gaussian kernel function. In step 4 all the possible hyper planes between classes are constructed in high dimensional feature space. In step 5 hyper plane with maximum margin is selected and used to predict the output in step 6.

5. Result Analysis

The results obtained by implementing the algorithms using R programming are analysed based on some evaluation metrics namely accuracy, balanced accuracy, Youden’s J index, concordance and Somers’ D statistic. All these metrics are defined and values are provided in this chapter.

5.1. Evaluation metrics

The computations of evaluation metrics for SVM with GK are demonstrated as follows

**Accuracy**
Accuracy is the proportion of the number of instances correctly predicted to that of the total instances.

\[
\text{Accuracy} = \frac{TP+TN}{(TP+TN+FP+FN)}
\]

Accuracy of SVM with GK = \( \frac{85 + 102}{(85 + 102 + 21 + 22)} = 0.8130 \)

**Balanced accuracy**
Balanced accuracy is the mean or balance between positives and negatives that are predicted correctly.

\[
\text{Balanced accuracy} = \frac{(Sensitivity + Specificity)}{2}
\]

Balanced accuracy of SVM with GK = \( \frac{(0.7944 + 0.8293)}{2} = 0.8118 \)

The other metrics are demonstrated as follows

**Youden’s J index**
Youden’s J index is mainly used to summarize the effectiveness of a diagnostic test. Its value lies between 0 and 1. The index values specify the usefulness of the test. More the value more it is more useful.

Youden’s J index = Specificity + Sensitivity – 1

Youden’s J index of SVM with GK = \( 0.7944 + 0.8293 - 1 = 0.6237 \)

**Concordance**
Concordance involves pairing of true positives and true negatives. For each pair of true positive and true negative the probability score is to be considered. If the probability score of true positive is greater than true negative then that pair is said to be concordant. Otherwise it is called as discordant.

\[
\text{Concordance} = \frac{\text{no.of concordant pairs}}{\text{total pairs}}
\]

Concordance of SVM with GK = \( 8670 / 13144 = 0.6596 \)

**Somers’ D statistic**
This is a statistic used to judge the ability to produce a desired outcome from the predictive model. It depends on concordance of the model and can be defined by the following formula.

\[
\text{Somers’ D} = \frac{\text{concordant pairs-discordant pairs-ties}}{\text{total pairs}}
\]

Somers’ D statistic of SVM with GK has obtained a value of 0.3192

5.2. Results obtained

**Evaluation metrics obtained for Adaptive boosting**
Table 2 contains the values of five evaluation metrics obtained for adaptive boosting technique. The metrics accuracy, balanced accuracy and Youden’s J index are obtained using values in confusion matrix and remaining two metrics are based on pairs of TP and TN.

| Accuracy   | Balanced accuracy | Youden’s J index | Concordance | Somers’ D statistic |
|------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------------|
| 79.57%     | 0.7950            | 0.5899          | 0.6311      | 0.2622             |

**Evaluation metrics obtained for Bagging**
Table 3 contains the values of five evaluation metrics obtained for bagging technique. The metrics accuracy, balanced accuracy and Youden’s J index are obtained using values in confusion matrix and remaining two metrics are based on pairs of TP and TN.

| Accuracy   | Balanced accuracy | Youden’s J index | Concordance | Somers’ D statistic |
|------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------------|
| 80%        | 0.7984            | 0.5968          | 0.6387      | 0.2774             |

**Evaluation metrics obtained for Decision tree**
Table 4 contains the values of five evaluation parameters obtained for decision tree. The metrics accuracy, balanced accuracy and Youden’s J index are obtained using values in confusion matrix and remaining two metrics are based on pairs of TP and TN.
Table 4. Evaluation metrics of decision tree

|                | Accuracy | Balanced accuracy | Youden’s J index | Concordance | Somers’ D statistic |
|----------------|----------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------------|
|                | 78.7%    | 0.7868            | 0.5736          | 0.6172      | 0.2345              |

Evaluation metrics obtained for Random forest

Table 5 contains the values of five evaluation metrics obtained for random forest algorithm. The metrics accuracy, balanced accuracy and Youden’s J index are obtained using values in confusion matrix and remaining two metrics are based on pairs of TP and TN.

Table 5. Evaluation metrics of random forest

|                | Accuracy | Balanced accuracy | Youden’s J index | Concordance | Somers’ D statistic |
|----------------|----------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------------|
|                | 79.57%   | 0.7937            | 0.5874          | 0.6320      | 0.2640              |

Evaluation metrics obtained for SVM with Gaussian kernel

Table 6 contains the values of five evaluation metrics obtained for proposed algorithm SVM with Gaussian kernel. The metrics accuracy, balanced accuracy and Youden’s J index are obtained using values in confusion matrix and remaining two metrics are based on pairs of TP and TN.

Table 6. Evaluation metrics of SVM with GK

|                | Accuracy | Balanced accuracy | Youden’s J index | Concordance | Somers’ D statistic |
|----------------|----------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------------|
|                | 81.3%    | 0.8118            | 0.6236          | 0.6596      | 0.3192              |

5.3. Comparison of algorithms

In table 7 all the evaluation metrics of the algorithms are provided. The algorithms are analyzed based on these metrics. This table shows that the proposed algorithm SVM with Gaussian kernel has obtained better metrics with the values of accuracy, balanced accuracy, Youden’s J index, concordance and Somers’ D statistic as 81.3%, 0.8118, 0.6236, 0.6596 and 0.3192 respectively.

Table 7. Comparing evaluation metrics of algorithms

| Algorithms       | Accuracy | Balanced accuracy | Youden’s J index | Concordance | Somers’ D statistic |
|------------------|----------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------------|
| AdaBoost         | 79.57%   | 0.7950            | 0.5899          | 0.6311      | 0.2622              |
| Bagging          | 80%      | 0.7984            | 0.5968          | 0.6387      | 0.2774              |
| Decision tree    | 78.7%    | 0.7868            | 0.5736          | 0.6172      | 0.2345              |
| Random forest    | 79.57%   | 0.7937            | 0.5874          | 0.6320      | 0.2640              |
| SVM with GK      | 81.3%    | 0.8118            | 0.6236          | 0.6596      | 0.3192              |

Figure 6 represents the histogram plot comparing accuracy of all the algorithms. This plot is used to identify the best algorithm easily. From the figure it was observed that SVM with Gaussian kernel has high accuracy compared to remaining algorithms.

Figure 7 represents a plot comparing four evaluation metrics namely Youden’s J index, Concordance, Somers’ D statistic and balanced accuracy of all the algorithms. By comparing all metrics it is evident that SVM with Gaussian kernel has highest values.
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Figure 7. Comparing four evaluation metrics of all algorithms

6. Conclusion

This work is mainly focused on prediction of diabetic retinopathy based on data related to diabetes and the factors related to different stages of diabetic retinopathy. The algorithms Random forest, Decision tree, Adaptive boosting, Bagging and SVM with Gaussian kernel were implemented using R programming. All the considered algorithms are then evaluated based on the most effective evaluation metrics. The proposed algorithm namely SVM with Gaussian kernel achieved better values of evaluation metrics compared to other algorithms. The values obtained for proposed algorithm for accuracy, balanced accuracy, Youden’s J index, concordance and Somers’ D statistics are 81.3%, 0.8118, 0.6236, 0.6596 and 0.3192 respectively. Finally it is concluded that SVM with Gaussian kernel is the effective method for predicting diabetic retinopathy.

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