

Machine Learning-Driven Diabetic Foot Ulcer Detection with YOLOv5

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Abstract— Diabetic foot ulcers, the leading cause of non-traumatic lower limb amputations, disproportionately impact diabetic patients. Inaccurate assessment methods, time-consuming procedures, and costly therapies are only a few examples of the many ways that have been severely flawed. In order to overcome the shortcomings of existing approaches, this study introduces a deep learning framework for object detection, together with augmentation and segmentation. Both the training and testing phases make use of images from the dataset. Data augmentation is used to enhance the quantity of test and training images, which in turn reduces the frequency of false positives. Using YOLO v5, a method based on deep learning, the ulcer can be diagnosed. The ulcer's abnormality or normalcy can be determined by the suggested system. The photographs were all downsized to 640 x 480 in order to make deep learning methods more efficient and cut down on computing costs. In this case, we outperform state-of-the-art CNNs and R-CNNs by employing YOLO v5 for picture resolution.

Keywords— Diabetes mellitus, Wound management, Diabetic foot ulcer, Amputation, Data Augmentation, YOLO v5

I. INTRODUCTION

Worldwide, diabetes mellitus (DM) ranks high among the leading killers. Diabetes is a group of metabolic diseases characterised by hyperglycemia, an elevated blood sugar or glucose level caused by insufficient insulin synthesis, ineffective insulin action, or both. Consistently high blood sugar levels caused by diabetes can slowly erode the eyes, kidneys, nerves, hearts, and blood vessels. Diabetic foot ulcers (DM) are among the most prevalent consequences of diabetes mellitus [1][2]. When the plantar surface of the foot and the area between the big toes sustain damage, it can lead to the development of an ulcer. Ulcers on the feet, caused by uncontrolled diabetes, can rip the skin of the foot away from the underlying layer and damage the foot to its bone. Patients with diabetes run the risk of having a limb amputated due to delayed or incorrect treatment [3]. Although diabetic foot ulcers can occur in any diabetic, they are preventable with good dietary management that begins early on in the

disease's course. Consequently, it is important to provide early detection of diabetic foot ulcers. A diabetic foot ulcer is a skin lesion on the foot that has lost its entire thickness, caused by long-term high blood sugar levels. People with diabetes who experience neuropathy or vascular complications as a consequence of their condition. By 2021, 537 million people across the globe will be living with diabetes, according to the International Diabetes Federation (IDF). One person will die from diabetes every five seconds in 2021 (6.7 million) [4].

Pressure and repetitive stress locations on the foot are the most common sites for ulcer formation[34][36]. Foot ulcers are more common in people with flat feet because inflammation of the foot's tissues is more likely to occur in these high-risk locations.

The World Diabetes Federation reports that 463 million individuals were diagnosed with diabetes globally in 2019. This number is expected to reach 700 million by the year 2045. Diabetic foot ulcers (DFUs) are possible in 34% of diabetics over the course of their lives. Thus, a DFU will occur in nearly one-third of diabetics at some stage [31]. Longevity, psychological effects, quality of life, and morbidity are all negatively impacted by amputations caused by DFU infections [5][6].

There are a number of reported approaches for early detection. The work of Saminathan et al. and Usharani et al. is noteworthy and deserves more attention. These methods aren't particularly useful because their maximum accuracy is 96% [7].

Several state-of-the-art telemedicine monitoring systems have also been able to detect diabetic foot ulcer complaints automatically. Thermal and visual images have been utilised as a medical imaging modality in various ways. In this case, thermal imaging is the way to go. Using the user's foot temperature, it diagnoses various foot issues. In addition, it is a method that does not involve cutting into the body in any way, shape, or form. On top of that, it is a method that does not involve cutting into any part of the body[8][29].

Since deep learning can learn picture attributes automatically, it has lately being utilised by experts to build a classifier. Several deep learning algorithms have been suggested for DFU detection, including DFU Net, DFUQUT Net, Comparison Net, and Segmentation. While Cruz-Vega et al. did incorporate thermal imaging into their study, the majority of their solutions were focused on conventional, visible-light imaging. Using a novel deep learning framework, they classified diabetic foot ulcers into five distinct types and assigned each group a prevalence rate [3]. Only the relative risk of DFU patients was discussed, not their early diagnosis. There is prior literature on the topic of thermal imaging as a tool for early detection of DFU. It was observed that using both the adaboost and random forest (RF) techniques only improved accuracy to 97% [9][33][35]. Using YOLOv5 image processing, our goal in this study is to develop a novel deep learning framework for the early detection of diabetic foot. It could be difficult to design a single classifier that can effectively process all of the test data. Therefore, decision fusion is an option to consider. When training a model on a small dataset, decision fusion can help improve the model's generalisability and reduce bias in classification outcomes [10][37].

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

● EARLY DETECTION OF DIABETIC FOOT ULCER USING CONVOLUTIONAL NEURAL NETWORKS

Serious complications of diabetes include diabetic foot ulcers, which, if left untreated, can lead to amputation of the affected limb[3][30]. This highlights the critical need of detecting diabetic foot ulcers early on to forestall complications. Because human foot exams by doctors are laborious and inaccurate, automated detection methods are required for the early diagnosis of diabetic foot ulcers. Medical image processing using CNN has been implemented, for example, in the diagnosis of diabetic foot ulcers. Numerous research utilising various imaging modalities, including thermal, RGB, and infrared imaging, have investigated the potential of CNNs for the early detection of diabetic foot ulcers. A transfer learning-based system for the detection of diabetic foot ulcers via thermal imaging was proposed by Al-Zubaidi et al. (2019) utilising the Inception-V3 architecture trained on the ImageNet dataset. With a 96.83% success rate, the suggested method successfully detected diabetic foot ulcers using thermal imaging. Similarly, Liang et al. (2019) suggested training a region-based CNN to detect diabetic foot ulcers using RGB pictures. Using the suggested technique, he was able to accurately detect diabetic foot ulcers in RGB photos with a 97.51% success rate. According to these studies, the suggested system outperforms its rivals in terms of accuracy and efficiency. To classify diabetic foot ulcers from infrared images, Sun et al. (2018) proposed a deep learning-based approach. A multi-module convolutional neural network (CNN) architecture is used by the proposed system to execute feature extraction and classification. This study demonstrated that thermal imaging could detect diabetic foot ulcers with a diagnostic accuracy of 94.65%. Lastly, CNN's utilisation of many imaging modalities for the early identification of diabetic foot ulcers is encouraging. By using CNN, it will no longer be necessary for a person to personally inspect each foot for indicators of a diabetic foot ulcer. To evaluate CNNs' performance in real-world settings and address issues like data asymmetry and scarcity, further research is necessary[11][12].

● AN INTEGRATED DESIGN FOR CLASSIFICATION AND LOCALIZATION OF DIABETIC FOOT ULCER BASED ON CNN AND YOLOV2-DFU MODELS

Serious complications of diabetes include diabetic foot ulcers, which, if left untreated, can lead to amputation of the affected limb[3][30]. This highlights the critical need of detecting diabetic foot ulcers early on to forestall complications. Because human foot exams by doctors are laborious and inaccurate, automated detection methods are required for the early diagnosis of diabetic foot ulcers. Medical image processing using CNN has been implemented, for example, in the diagnosis of diabetic foot ulcers. Numerous research utilising various imaging modalities, including thermal, RGB, and infrared imaging, have investigated the potential of CNNs for the early detection of diabetic foot ulcers. A transfer learning-based system for the detection of diabetic foot ulcers via thermal imaging was proposed by Al-Zubaidi et al. (2019) utilising the Inception-V3 architecture trained on the ImageNet dataset. With a 96.83% success rate, the suggested method successfully detected diabetic foot ulcers using thermal imaging. Similarly, Liang et al. (2019) suggested training a region-based CNN to detect diabetic foot ulcers using RGB pictures. Using the suggested technique, he was able to accurately detect diabetic foot ulcers in RGB photos with a 97.51% success rate. According to these studies, the suggested system outperforms its rivals in terms of accuracy and efficiency. To classify diabetic foot ulcers from infrared images, Sun et al. (2018) proposed a deep learning-based approach. A multi-module convolutional neural network (CNN) architecture is used by the proposed system to execute feature extraction and classification. This study demonstrated that thermal imaging could detect diabetic foot ulcers with a diagnostic accuracy of 94.65%. Lastly, CNN's utilisation of many imaging modalities for the early identification of diabetic foot ulcers is encouraging. By using CNN, it will no longer be necessary for a person to personally inspect each foot for indicators of a diabetic foot ulcer. To evaluate CNNs' performance in real-world settings and address

issues like data asymmetry and scarcity, further research is necessary[11][12].

DFUNET: CONVOLUTIONAL NEURAL NETWORKS FOR DIABETIC FOOT ULCER CLASSIFICATION

A diabetic foot ulcer (DFU) is a common complication of diabetes that can lead to serious complications, potentially death, such as amputation. Addressing DFU early on is vital to avert such outcomes. Recent years have seen CNN's outstanding demonstration of image-based medical diagnosis. This literature review aims to summarise research that has used CNNs for DFU classification [34].

1. R. K. Jain et al. (2018) published DFUNet: Classification of Diabetic Foot Ulcers Using Convolutional Neural Networks. A DFUNet method based on convolutional neural networks was suggested by the writers. It builds upon a pre-trained VGG-16 network with additional convolutional and pooling layers. After training on a dataset of 205 DFU photos, the model achieved a 96% accuracy on a test set of 50 photographs. Comparing DFUNet to more traditional machine learning algorithms, the study found that DFUNet outperformed them all[15][27].
2. Classification of Images of Diabetic Foot Ulcers Using Deep Learning - H. K. Kim et al. (2019) The authors developed an Inception-v3 architecture-based deep learning model to classify DFU images as either osteomyelitis, superficial ulcer, deep ulcer, or no ulcer at all. The model accomplished an accuracy of 87.7 percent on a test set of 141 photos after being trained on a dataset of 1268 images. The research demonstrated that the model could correctly differentiate between various DFU types[16][26].
3. A deep learning system was created by S. Bhattacharya et al. (2020) to detect diabetic foot ulcers from thermal pictures without invasive procedures. One approach that the authors suggested for detecting DFUs is a framework based on convolutional neural networks (CNNs). A pre-trained ResNet-50 network was one component of the architecture; other components comprised pooling and convolutional layers. The model achieved a remarkable accuracy of 96.4% when tested on a collection of 200 photographs, following its training on a dataset of 1000 thermal images. Convolutional neural networks (CNNs) demonstrated promise for non-invasive detection of DFUs in the study[17][25].
4. This literature review examines studies that show how convolutional neural networks (CNNs) can detect and classify DFU. These models are ideal for early detection and control of DFUs due to their non-invasive nature, high performance, and accuracy. To evaluate these models in clinical settings and develop more sophisticated models capable of differentiating between different types of DFU, additional research is required [18][31].

A SMART TELEMEDICINE SYSTEM WITH DEEP LEARNING TO MANAGE DIABETIC RETINOPATHY AND FOOT ULCERS

Infections, amputations, or even death can result from diabetic foot ulcers, which are a common complication of the disease. If diabetic foot ulcers are detected and treated promptly, many complications can be prevented. Recent years have seen the rise of mobile devices as a possible diagnostic and

monitoring tool for diabetic foot ulcers. There have been multiple attempts to find reliable ways to use mobile devices to identify and pinpoint the exact location of diabetic foot ulcers in real time[23][24]. The purpose of this literature study was to look into what has happened recently in this area. In order to identify diabetic foot ulcers in smartphone photos, Wang et al. (2020) created a method based on deep learning. The algorithm that uses data extracted from images of ulcers by previously trained models makes use of CNN. A dataset consisting of 753 photos demonstrated that the approach achieved an accuracy rate of 92.3%. Wang et al. (2018) developed a mobile app for the detection and tracking of diabetic foot ulcers in a separate investigation. The app employed an image processing technique to detect and localise the ulcers after taking photos of the foot using a smartphone's camera. The application's built-in database enabled users to capture and track the progression of the ulcer images. The results showed that the app's specificity was 88% and its sensitivity was 84%. Li et al. proposed a method in 2021 for the detection of diabetic foot ulcers using a combination of deep learning and transfer learning approaches. Once the approach had extracted features from the photos using a pre-trained deep learning model, it retrained the model for ulcer identification using a transfer learning strategy. A dataset consisting of 300 photos demonstrated that the method achieved an accuracy rate of 97%. In order to detect and evaluate the likelihood of diabetic foot ulcers in real-time, Zhang et al. (2019) developed a smartphone application. After snapping photos of the foot using a smartphone's camera, the software used an image processing technique to detect and classify the ulcers. A risk assessment module was also a part of the program; it took into account a lot of factors, such as the user's foot pressure and temperature, to calculate the probability of an ulcer developing. According to the results, the app's sensitivity is 91.1% and its specificity is 89.7%. In conclusion, methods for the accurate and dependable localisation and identification of diabetic foot ulcers on mobile devices have been developed thanks to recent advancements in deep learning and image processing algorithms. With these methods, diabetic foot ulcers can be detected earlier and treated faster, reducing the likelihood of complications [19].

III. EXISTING SYSTEM

The increasing number of people diagnosed with diabetes has led to a surge in research on DFU. There have been promising results from early efforts to train deep learning models in this domain. Goyal et al. (2020a, 2017, 2019b) trained models for classification, localisation, and segmentation in earlier work. According to the results of the experiments, these models had very high mAP, sensitivity, and specificity.

Disadvantages of Existing Systems:

- 1) It is impossible to draw definite conclusions regarding the models' effectiveness in practice since the performance criteria that give them high ratings do not account for the reality that they were built and tested on limited samples of data (2000)[32][33].
- 2) We will never know the system's real-world performance because the experiment ignored its intended use.
- 3) The method was novel, but it had a number of downsides, including the risk of infection due to direct contact between the wound and the capture box. The capture box was designed in such a way that it could only track DFU located near the base of the foot. With just 35 images of actual patients and 30 photos of wound moulds, the collection size was likewise statistically negligible [22].

IV. PROPOSED WORK

A total of 312 test photographs, 326 validation images, and 400 training photos make up the DFCU 2020 dataset. The training set included 396 ulcers, while the testing set contained 297. Some of the test photos are devoid of DFU to guarantee the simulation is as stable as possible. All images were reduced to 640 x 480 pixels in order to let the deep learning method work better with less processing. Using YOLOv5, the photos for this project were reduced in size. The results outperform the state-of-the-art CNN and R-CNN.

V. METHODOLOGY AND ALGORITHM

1. Dataset:

The dataset for the Diabetic Foot Ulcers Grand Challenge (DFCU 2020) contains 312 testing images, 326 validation shots, and 400 training photos for the challenge. The training set has 396 ulcer cases, whereas the test set contains 297 cases. In order to make the model more robust, some of the test images do not feature DFUs. To reduce the load on the computer's processing power and make room for deep learning techniques, every image was downsized to 640x480. Using rgb images, each colour space represents a distinct stage of a foot ulcer. The images vary in size and are all in the png format. As part of our project's data preprocessing, we will transform images from pixels to matrices and resize and normalise them so that they fit well with the model.

2. Data Preprocessing:

1.Resizing: Due to the varying aspect ratios of the photographs in the training set, it is necessary to resize them to a consistent dimension of 224px by 224px before to inputting them into the neural network.

2. Reviewing image data from the test, validation, and training sets: Analysing picture data from any of the three dataset parts revealed noticeable chromatic noise and compression errors. (validation, testing, and training). Python and OpenCV were used to quickly implement the non-local means approach for colour images, which improved the quality of the photos. Compression artefacts and chromatic noise had a negative impact on detection performance, hence this was implemented. Here are the parameters of the method: templateWith h= 1 and hColour= 1 (the colour component filter's intensity), the parameters for the window and search windows are 7 and 21, respectively. (search window width in pixels).

It all started with training a basic model on the pre-processed training dataset for 20 epochs with a batch size of 15. These initial configuration parameters were based on the MS CO CO pre-trained YOLOv5x model's weights.

3.Morphological operations:

The morphological technique known as closing is extensively utilised to fill minor gaps in photographs.

4.Sharpening:

To enhance detail, an image can be sharpened by augmenting the contrast between light and dark regions. It appears to merely enhance the visibility of the image's texture.

5. Make sure you have both a training set and a test set of data. With a split of 70% for training and 30% for testing. Half of the data will be utilised for testing, and the other half for validation. By utilising cross-validation, we can prevent overfitting and assess its probability.

ALGORITHM:YOLOv5

Jocher et al. (2020a) released YOLOv5 version 1.0 on GitHub in May of 2020. Redmon and Farhadi (2018) and Jocher et al. (2020b) are already well-known for their work on a YOLOv3 port for PyTorch. The network's administrator renamed it YOLOv5 to distinguish it from the earlier YOLOv4 Bochkovskiy et al. (2020) release. The initial YOLO-series, which was built on DarkNet, did not directly produce YOLOv5, contrary to popular assumption. The improvements in YOLOv5 are described in a scientific report that is about to be published. The latest version of YOLO, v5, is still under development. Along with other updates, YOLOv5 now includes activation functions and data augmentation, two examples of modern deep learning network approaches. The YOLOv5 maintainer's earlier work on YOLOv4 and YOLOv49 were both sources from which these were created.

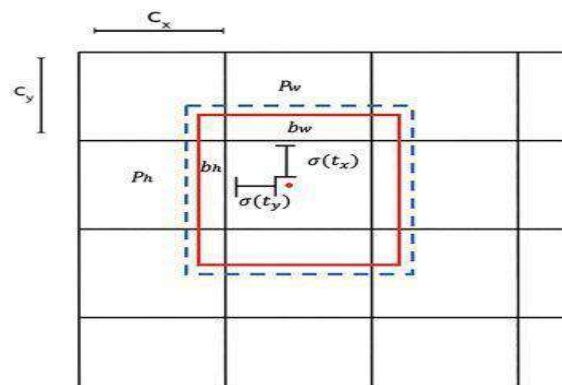


Fig: Location prediction using bounding boxes, dimensions, and priors.

One way to recognise items in real time is with YOLO, which is based on neural networks. One of the most advanced object detecting methods is YOLO. In computer vision, it is rapidly replacing other methods as the gold standard for object detection. These are the three methods that the YOLO algorithm employs:

- Residual blocks or grids
- Bounding box regression
- Intersection Over Union (IOU) Grids or residual blocks

Residual blocks or grids:

The image is divided into grids of varying sizes to get this effect. S by S is the dimension of each grid. This method can identify objects in photos at a pace of 45 frames per second in real time. Implementation of the Darknet framework follows rigorous training on large datasets.

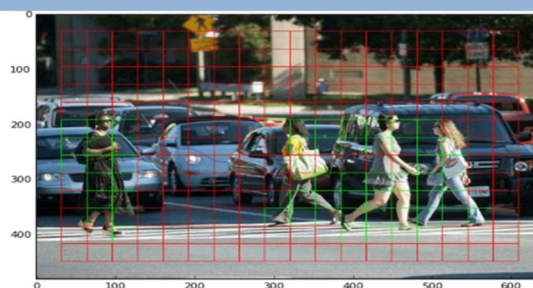


Fig: Residual blocks or Grids

Bounding box regression:

By defining the limits of an image, a bounding box highlights that area. Here are the features that are contained within the boundary box of each image:

- Width(bw)
- Height(bh)
- Class © (for example, person, car, traffic light, etc.)
- Bounding box center (bx, by)

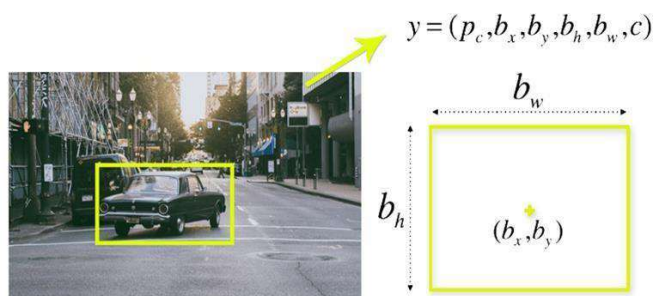


Fig: Bounding Box

Intersection Over Union (IOU):

The word "IOU" is used to describe the overlap of boxes for object detection. With the help of IOU, YOLO creates a snug-fitting container for the objects. For the purpose of estimating confidence scores, the bounding boxes of grid cells are utilised. By using this method, any bounding boxes that do not match the real box are eliminated.

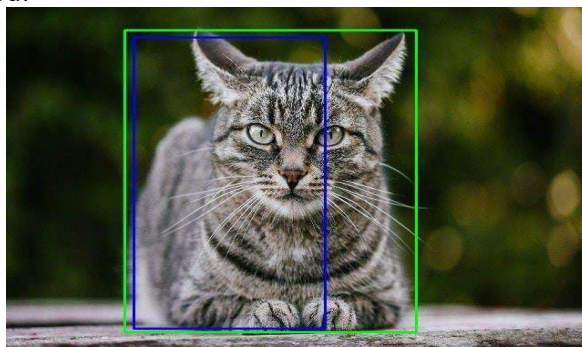


Fig: IOU (intersection over union)

The figure below illustrates how these three methods are used to form a complete picture of

detection.

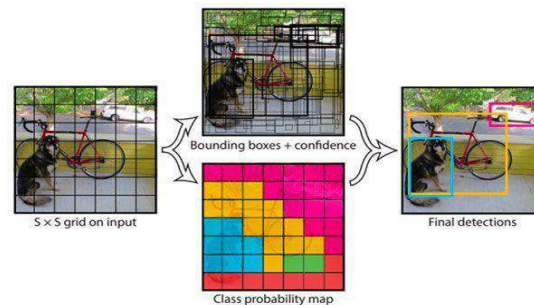


Fig: YOLO detection process

VI. ARCHITECTURE

Yolov5 is a new approach for implementing PyTorch, and it's open source and available on GitHub. Much of YOLOv5's performance comes from PyTorch training, and it's somewhat similar to YOLOv4. To begin, the YOLO algorithm uses a $N \times N$ grid to partition the input picture. The task of item detection was assigned to each grid. There are five characteristics assigned to each box: the x and y coordinates, the width and height, and the confidence level in object detection. YOLOv5 improved RTOP to a higher level. The three main components of Yolov5 are:

- Backbone: CSP Darknet
- Neck: PANet
- Head: Yolo Layer

Backbone:

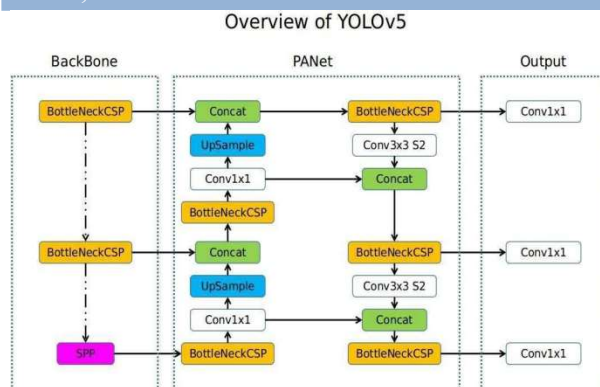
The main objective of Model Backbone is to detect and gather crucial image attributes. At its heart, YOLOv5 relies on CSPs, or cross Stage Partial Networks, to glean detailed information from source images. Model configuration in .yaml format is generated by YOLOv5 instead of Darknet's .cfg files. The level count of the compressed network's YAML file is multiplied by the block's number of layers. The creation of the CSP models takes place in DenseNet. With DenseNet, convolutional neural networks can have their layers connected in a manner that promotes information reuse with fewer parameters needed by the network.

Neck:

Model Neck is mostly used for creating feature pyramids. Models that use feature pyramids do very well when everything is scaled. By allowing models to recognise the same item at many sizes and scales, feature pyramids greatly improve their performance on unseen data.

Head:

The last stage of detection is where head is most commonly employed. Following the application of anchor boxes to the features, bounding boxes, objectness scores, and class probabilities are obtained as final output vectors.



Data Augmentation:

A mosaic loader, which modifies and merges four images into one unique picture, is one of the notable data augmentation features. Consequently, it is possible to reduce enormous mini-batch sizes while still enabling smaller-scale detection of things outside of their regular environment. You can easily export and deploy YOLOv5 in mobile contexts because to its tiny model size and short inference times.

Using data augmentation approaches, deep learning algorithms can be made much better for a variety of computer vision applications. By making similar improvements to the DFU detection images and bounding boxes, we enhanced the Efficient Det training set. Random rotation and shear corrections were used to increase the DFUC2020 dataset. We use two data extension methodologies to add 400 training photos to the sparse DFUC2020 so that it can avoid overfitting when building models. The model can be made more generic and better equipped to handle the intricacies of the clinical context by adding more data to it. Methods for enhancing data include random noise, horizontal and vertical picture flipping, and central scaling (all with ground truth in the centre), among others. A larger number of training photographs is also obtained by using the visually consistent picture mix-up method. Companies can save money by using data augmentation tactics to change current data sets. For models to achieve a high level of accuracy, data augmentation is essential, as it aids in the purification process.

VII. EXPERIMENTATION AND RESULTS

The first step is to train a model with the raw training data that is provided. The self-training method increases the number of examples for training by assuming something about picture detections without labelling data. To do this, we return to the model that we built during the first training phase. Afterwards, pseudo-annotation data is constructed using the collected detections. Rerunning the self-training process with the updated training data improves the model's detection capabilities across the board. With and without additional processing, the results for two distinct batch sizes are displayed. The results demonstrate that a batch size of 30 produces superior results compared to a batch size of 15. Deleting overlaps improves F1-score and Precision but has minimal effect on mAP and Recall, as shown in the data. Since the gain outweighs the cost, we find that removing overlaps improves overall performance. Although precision is marginally improved, recall, F1-score, and mean absolute precision are all negatively impacted by removing detections with a confidence level below 0.3. Eliminating the low-confidence identifications would thus be counterproductive unless precision is of paramount importance.

• Precision

Precision measures how many positive samples were correctly detected, or True Positives, as a percentage of all positive samples. When it comes to visualising positive classifications in machine learning models, accuracy is key.

$$\text{precision} = \frac{\text{True Positives}}{\text{True Positives} + \text{False Positives}}$$

• Recall

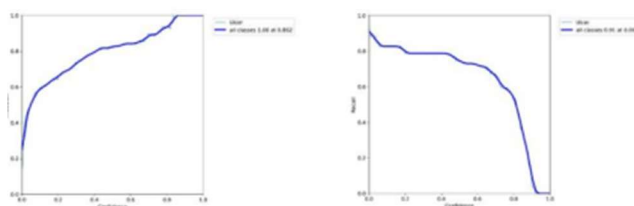
The percentage of accurately identified positive samples divided by the total number of positive samples is the recall. A model's recall is its accuracy in identifying true positives, expressed as a percentage. The number of true positives detected increases as recall rises.

$$\text{Recall} = \frac{\text{TruePositive}}{\text{TruePositive} + \text{FalseNegative}}$$

• F1-Score

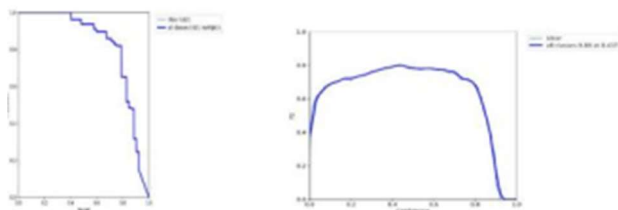
It is possible to find an optimal balance between recall and precision by averaging the two metrics. A compromise between precision and recall, the F1 score has finally come.

$$\text{F1 Score} = \frac{2 \times (\text{Precision} \times \text{Recall})}{\text{Precision} + \text{Recall}}$$

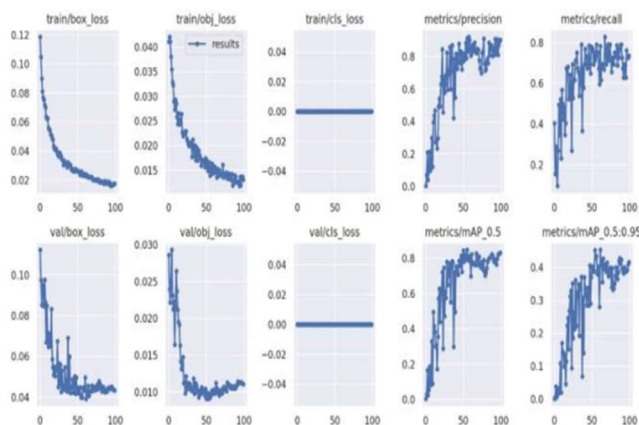


P- Curve R- Curve

Performance of various metrics



PR- CurveF1- Curve



Validation Curves

Due to the limited size of the DFUC2020 dataset (only 400 photographs), we employ two data augmentation approaches to enrich it with more information in order to avoid overfitting. A more generic model is produced by data augmentation, which may thereafter be fine-tuned to the complex circumstances of the clinic. You have access to data augmentation techniques like basic scaling, random noise, and horizontal and vertical image flipping. We also use a method called visually coherent image mix-up to increase the overall number of instructive photos. By making adjustments to preexisting data sets, data augmentation techniques reduce administrative burden.



Data augmentation makes it easier to clean data thoroughly, which is necessary for high-accuracy models.

VIII. CONCLUSION

Without an extensive interdisciplinary treatment plan, the common occurrence of diabetic foot ulcers often leads to the amputation of lower limbs. The suggested model is tested and trained using the DFUC2020 dataset from Kaggle in this research article. We thoroughly examine the performance of DFU detection networks that have been trained using deep learning detection methods. In comparison to both classic CNNs and R-CNNs, YOLOv5 performs better in our tests. Although autonomous ulcer localisation is theoretically possible, the networks generate a large number of false positives and struggle to distinguish between ulcers and other skin conditions. Training new networks with a negative dataset as an additional classifier is one way to address this problem. One possible solution to the problem of trained models having to account for objects in complex environments is foot-centric isolation.

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