

## Breast Cancer Histopathological Image Classification Using Augmentation Based on Optimized Deep ResNet-152 Structure

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### ABSTRACT

Breast cancer is the world's second leading malignant tumor, which is susceptible to both men and women, but it is far more common in women. Multiple data mining, machine learning and deep learning techniques were developed and applied for classification. Despite significant improvements in medicine, pathological image analysis remains the most common method for diagnosing breast cancer. In pathological image analysis, Computer-Aided Diagnosis (CAD) is commonly used to assist pathologists improve diagnosis efficiency, accuracy, and consistency. Deep learning strategies have been investigated in recent studies to boost the effectiveness of pathological CAD. In this proposed work, an optimized deep ResNet structure is employed to extract more affluent and finer characteristics from clinical images. The proposed technique is evaluated on the publicly available BreakHis dataset. The results indicated that the proposed model in all the magnification levels outperforms the baseline techniques significantly.

**Keywords:** Breast Cancer, Histopathological, ResNet-152, BreakHis, Classification, CAD

### Introduction

Breast cancer is one of the most debilitating and dangerous diseases that women face today, although early identification improves survival rates significantly. The precise diagnosis of breast cancer, on the other hand, is a challenging task. The American Cancer Society (ACS) estimates that there are more than 3.7 million breast cancer patients in the United States [1]. A woman's possibility of dying from breast cancer is about 2.8%. Several tests, including mammograms, ultrasound images, MRIs, and biopsy samples, are used to detect breast cancer. In this, histopathology plays an important role in the investigation, since it is the gold standard for differentiating between benign and malignant tissue, as well as patients with in situ and invasive cancer [2]. The significant goal of cancer treatment is to cure the disease, followed by life extension and pain alleviation when cure is not possible owing to advanced disease.

Currently, 35% of all types of cancers are regularly treated successfully. When possible, treatment should result in a cure, after which the quality of life can be considered satisfactory. Symptom alleviation may occur as a result of curative treatment, but when cure is not possible, rapid symptom relief becomes critical. The current remedial for breast cancer is not a guaranteed cure and could cause extreme discomfort and hardship for affected patients. Mammography [3] and histopathology are the most commonly used breast cancer screening techniques to detect breast lesions. Even for physicians, it becomes difficult to correctly diagnose and what they do is simply to refer their patients for biopsy because of noisy images, they have their own confusions about lesions. Normally, it takes more time to consume the dataset, if this is benign or malignant. Neural network classification can do a better job classifying the data. So the residual network is a classic neural network used as a backbone for many detection tasks. It is necessary to solve the problem of identifying patches without noise.

The proposed CAD system improves the accuracy of interpreting mammograms by providing an important opinion to the radiologist. The proposed system could help radiologists

to distinguish between normal and abnormal cases. The abnormal cases are further subdivided into mass or Micro-calcifications (MCs) [4]; the abnormalities of images are further classified either as benign or malignant in the subsequent stages. The goal of this research work is to propose an effective technique for extracting the salient texture features for classification and then give the classification results to evaluate the corresponding features, thereby developing a novel technique for histopathological classification.

The main objective of this work is to design an effective and automated CAD scheme for the classification of images.

Stage 1: To classify normal and abnormal lesions in breast tumors

Stage 2: To Classify the abnormal lesions into mass and MCs

Stage 3: To Classify benign or malignant based on the abnormal severity in mass and MCs

### Related Work

For the recognition of breast cancer, Saxena et al. [5] implemented a CAD system by combining a kernelized extreme learning algorithm with ResNet50. They have used BisQue and BreakHis datasets for their analysis. They have resolved the issue of class disparity. Li et al. [6] have created a new, densely squeezed, and excited neural net (CNN) architecture. BreakHis dataset was used for assessing the architecture's performance. Wang et al. [7] combined CNN with a capsule network to create architecture for obtaining discriminate features. The authors employed histopathology data to classify breast cancer using deep feature fusion and routing. Boumaraf et al. [8] developed a transfer learning-based system for categorizing pathological images. They used a strategy of blocking sophisticated tuning and global networking standardization techniques. For efficient classification, the ResNet-18 deep neural network was utilized.

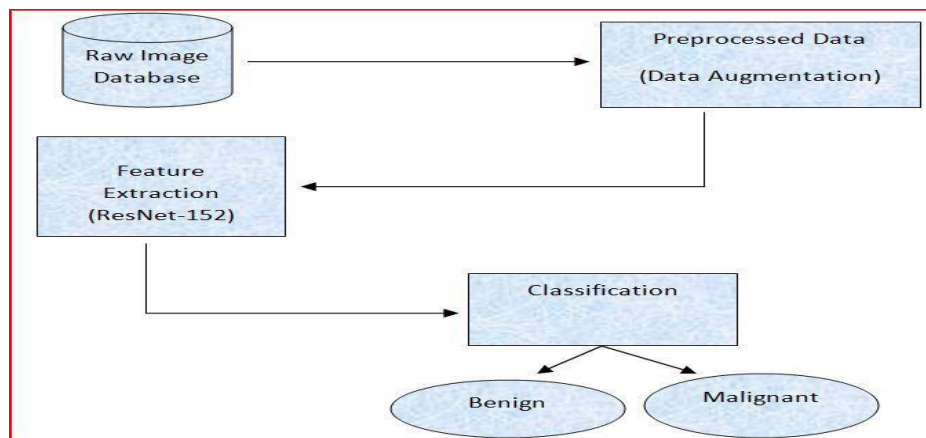
Toğaçar et al. [9] implemented BreastNet, a CNN-based architecture. The augmentation technique has been used to process and transfer the image. They used the BreakHis dataset for their analysis and obtained an accuracy of 98.8%. The study of machine learning (ML) and transfer learning methodologies was proposed by Sharma and Mehra [10]. The handcrafted features are evaluated using ML algorithms. To evaluate the global features, transfer learning approaches are applied. They discovered that combining VGG16 with the Support Vector Machine (SVM) [25] produces the better outcome for all magnification factors of histopathological images. Burcak et al. [11] created a deep CNN technique for detecting breast cancer. They used various gradient algorithms to calculate the network's initial weight and update model parameters to improve learning and achieve better results.

Sharma and Mehra [12] designed a layer-by-layer fine-tuning technique to improve classification performance in a variety of medical care domains. They can also help with the selection of suitable layers from pre-trained networks. They fine-tuned the network using a transfer learning methodology and histopathology images for analysis. Asare et al. [13] used an augmented-based CNN approach to classify histopathological images. The model is built from scratch and minimizes overfitting. The authors used four deep learning optimization algorithms and demonstrated that the CNN model outperformed the other models with an accuracy of 89.92%. Carvalho et al. [14] used histopathological images to implement a CAD system to diagnose breast cancer. They extracted texture attributes from phylogenetic indexes. The extracted feature information is used to classify the data into four categories.

### Materials and Methods

The proposed system's work flow is shown in **Figure**

1whichincludescollectionofthebenigngroupandmalignant groupdatafromBreakHisdataset [15].Thecollecteddataispre-processedandstandardized to obtainimportant features. With the aid of ResNet-152 [16], pre-training and efficient feature set selection from the retrieved features are accomplished, and the selected features are categorized into one of two groups: benign and malignant.



**Figure 1. Proposed CAD System flow**

### BreakHis Dataset

The Breast Cancer Histopathological Image Classification (BreakHis) [15] is made up of 7,909 microscopic images of breast tumor tissue obtained and magnified by 400X, 200X, 100X, and 40X from 82 patients. This includes 5,429 malignant, and 2,480 benign with 700X460 pixels samples, RGB 3-channel samples, 8-bit depth on each channel of PNG format. The P & D Laboratory - Pathological Anatomy and Cytopathology, Brazil, collaborated on the creation of this database.

### Preprocessing

Pre-processing [16] is a term used to describe manipulation of images at the most basic abstractions for both input and output images. It is explicitly used to improve image data by suppressing undesired distortion or enhancing certain visual qualities that are relevant for later processing. Data Augmentation [17] is a technique for obtaining more images that employs random horizontal flipping, resize cropping, and rotation. The way the results of the final data processing are interpreted could be influenced by image pre-processing.

### Image Augmentation

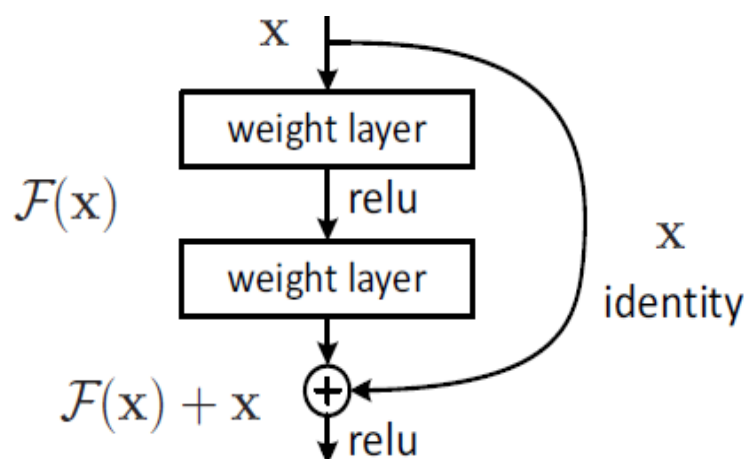
Image augmentation is a strong approach for creating variations in obtainable images so that an obtained image data set can be expanded [17]. This generates creative and new images from an obtained image dataset that contains a wide range of possibilities. Deep learning Networks (CNN) [11] need a huge number of images to be appropriately learned. This contributes to the performance of the model through better generalization and reduction of the over fit. The proposed ResNet-152 may classify objects in different sizes, directions or illumination due to its variable property and this is shown in Table 1. As a result, augmentation [17] produces a wide variety of images for the classification, detection, or segmentation of images from a small set of images.

**Table 1** Augmentation Operations

Operations	Description
Randomrotation	The image is rotated and preserved.The rotations provide an intuitive, optional enhancement to generate a unique coordinate system.
Randomflip	The image is flipped so that an object as its mirror image can be identified. The flipping often used here is horizontal flipping.
Randomcrop	Cropping serves as a regulator, allowing us to construct a finer detector by usingneighboring regions as negative instances.

### FeatureExtraction using ResNet-152

Residual networks, a type of neural network, have been proposed for extraction of features.ResNet[18] includes a residual learning unit to overcome the deterioration of deep-neural networks.This unit is designed as a feed forward network with a shortcut link that allows new inputs and outputs to be added.The key advantage is that it improves classification accuracy without adding to the model's complexity. This creates the ResNet - 152 layer [19] by combining more three-layer blocks.The 152-layer ResNet has a less complex architecture than the 34-layer network VGG-16/19.The links between residual blocks were of significant benefit to the ResNet[18] architecture's residual connections.It maintains the information gained through training and enhances model building by raising the network's capacity.The following **Figure 2** shows the singleresidual block structure.



**Figure 2.**Single residual block

### Classification

Classification is asupervised learning [21] [22] technique which dividesbreast cancer into categories by various criteria. Classification [20][23] in machine learning is the identification of which groups belong to the new instance based on training data that includes instances known to their class association.The histopathological type, the tumor grade, the tumor stage, expression of proteins and genes are the four major categories. Inthiswork,binary classification is done which will determine whether the image dataset is either benign or malignant.

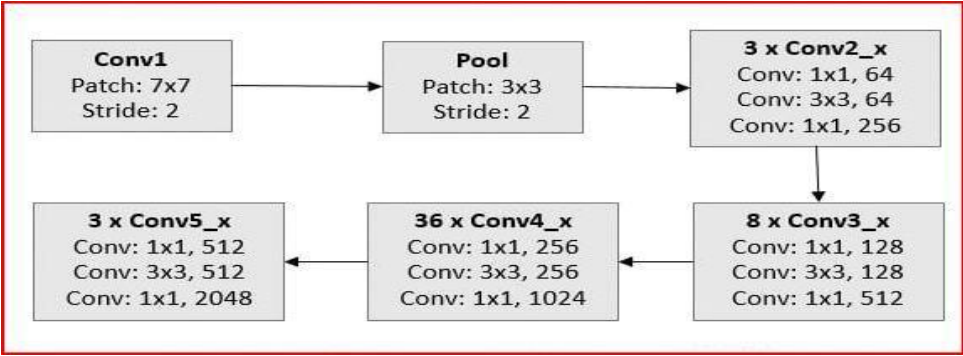
### Deep Residual Network

ResNet employs skip connections to fit input from one layer to the next without altering it [18].Skip connection allows for a deeper network as illustrated in Figure 3. They commonly have convolution layers for typical deep learning networks that are connected, for classification tasks such as VGGNet,ZFNet, and AlexNet.The vanishing gradient problem occurs whenever the networksare deeper.A shortcut connection is introduced to the input x

following several convolution layers to resolve this problem.Shortcut carries out identity mapping, with additional zero padding and no extra parameters. All shortcuts are projections. This is used mostly to increase dimensions instead of identity. F(x) is any mapping that allows two layers of weight to fit R(x),

$$F(x)= R(x)+x \tag{1}$$

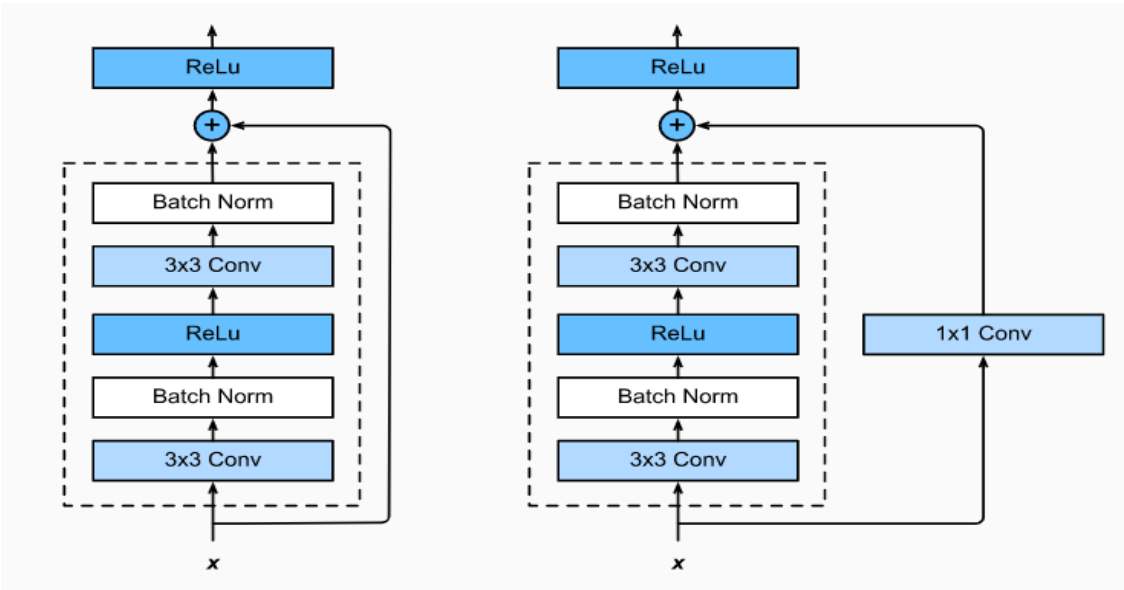
R(x) denotes a residual mapping with regard to identity. If identity were optimal, it would be simple to set weights to zero.It is easier to find little fluctuations if the optimum mapping is closer to identity.Allplain or residualnetsaretrainedfromscratch and usestandard hyper-parameters to augmentation, and normalize batches. Deep ResNets can be trained without any difficulties and it is presented in **Figure 4**.



**Figure 3.**Deep Residual Network

Deeper ResNets have lower training errors, and alsorepresentation, optimization, and generalization ability with the following advantages:

- (1) Allow models to go deeper
- (2) It allows for very smooth forward and backward propagation, making it much easier to optimize deeper models
- (3) Good deeper address generalization



**Figure 4.**Left: regular ResNet block; Right: ResNet block with 1x1 convolution

**Experimental Results**

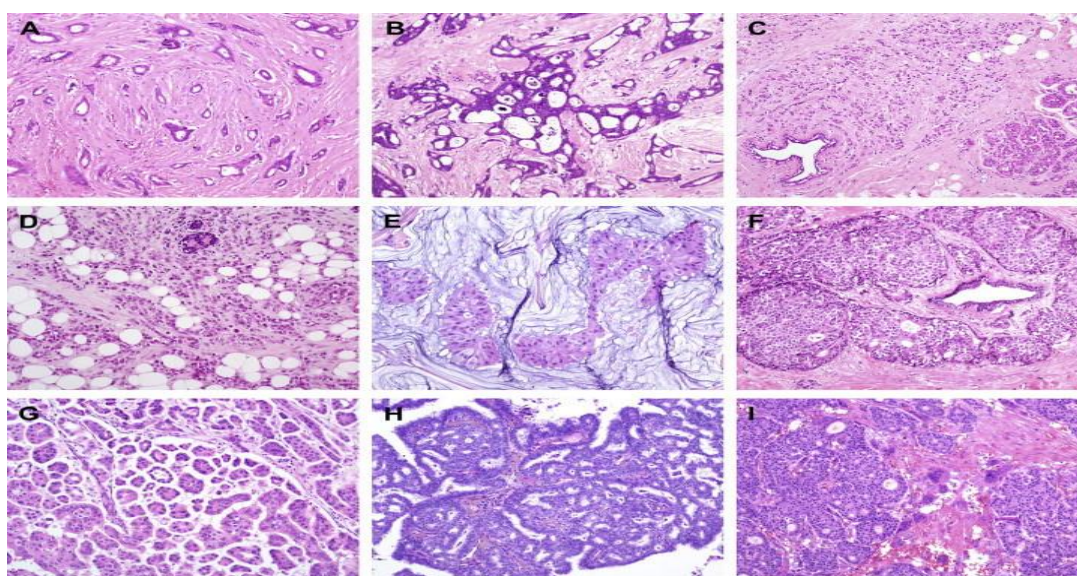
The proposed system is implemented by using NVIDIA Tesla K40 GPUs with Tensorflow.Histopathological database BreakHis dataset [15] that includes 8 sub-



categories of breast cancers is used for analysis. The data set consists of 2 groups: benign tumors and malignant ones as shown in Table 2. Both breast tumors can be classified by pathologists based on the microscope aspect of tumor cells as illustrated in **Figure 5**. It will be categorized into 4 types of benign breast tumors: tubular adenoma, adenosis, phyllodes tumor, and fibroadenoma; and 4 malignant tumors: carcinoma, papillary, lobular, and mucinous carcinoma.

**Table 2.** BreakHis Dataset

Magnification	Total	Benign	Malignant
400x	1820	588	1232
200x	2013	623	1390
100x	2081	644	1437
40x	1995	652	1370
<b>Total</b>	<b>7909</b>	<b>2480</b>	<b>5429</b>



**Figure 5.** Sample BreakHis dataset images

In the testing phase, data augmentation [17] with 90 degree rotations and horizontal flipping is chosen. The result obtained is evaluated for specificity, accuracy, sensitivity, precision, F1-score, and recall. These measures are associated with the rate of false-negative (FN), true negative (TN), true positive (TP), and false positive (FP) respectively. These metrics are expressed in the following equations 2 to 6.

$$\text{Accuracy} = (TN + TP) / (FP + TN + FN + TP) \quad (2)$$

$$\text{Specificity} = TN / (TN + FP) \quad (3)$$

$$\text{Precision} = TP / (FP + TP) \quad (4)$$

$$\text{Recall} = TP / (FN + TP) \quad (5)$$

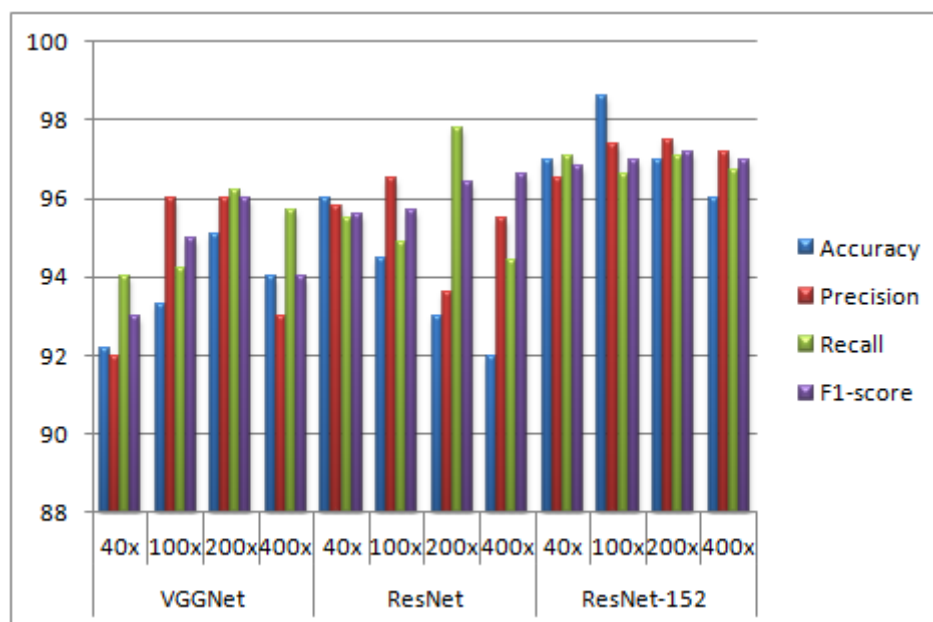
$$\text{F1 - score} = 2 * ((\text{recall} * \text{precision}) / (\text{precision} + \text{recall})) \quad (6)$$

The following **Table 3** presents the performance comparison of the deep learning models VGGNet, ResNet and ResNet-152. It is clearly shown that the proposed augmented ResNet-152 outperforms the compared models and gives effective results.

**Table 3** Performance comparison of the various Network model

Model	Magnification	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	F1-score
VGGNet	40x	92.2	92	94	93
	100x	93.3	96	94.2	95
	200x	95.1	96	96.2	96
	400x	94	93	95.7	94
ResNet	40x	96	95.8	95.5	95.6
	100x	94.5	96.5	94.9	95.7
	200x	93	93.6	97.8	96.4
	400x	92	95.5	94.4	96.6
<b>Proposed work (ResNet152)</b>	40x	97	96.5	97.1	96.8
	100x	98.6	97.4	96.6	97
	200x	97	97.5	97.1	97.2
	400x	96	97.2	96.7	97

The visualization of the performance comparison is demonstrated in following Fig.6. It is demonstrated that the proposed ResNet-152 having higher rates for all magnification factors compared to other methods.



**Figure 6.** Visualization of performance comparison

### Conclusion

The proposed deep learning technique ResNet-152 is a useful and responsible approach in comparison to traditional methods. This research also focused on detecting cancer subtypes. In this work, ResNet-152 deep learning structure is used for feature extraction and classification. Compared to other network models, deeper ResNets have lower training errors, optimization, and generalization ability. It allows for very smooth

forward and backward propagation, making it much easier to optimize deeper models, and deeper address generalization. The empirical results demonstrated that ResNet-152 with augmentation gives better results compared to VGGNet, ResNet at all the magnification levels. In the future, other kinds of deep learning techniques will be considered and improved for breast cancer diagnosis. The proposed framework could be extended to different medical applications for the diagnosis of pathological images.

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