

# Survey of Intelligent Methods for Brain Tumor Detection

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## Abstract

This review paper surveys some primary and critical research question of the methods that involve non-invasive approach for detection of brain tumor using image processing techniques and the main question whether the process can be webified with intelligence algorithm. This paper includes a study of recent state of art technologies, techniques and algorithms used in tumor detection. This paper discusses and summarises the issues related to validity of these methods as well their performance. Exhaustive lists of machine learning algorithms that have been used for this purpose have been examined for the reason and importance of their use for tumor detection. Then one of the section the quality and quantity of the image dataset which has been used have been surveyed, question like whether real type of cases or simulated cases have been used to build the premises and thesis of research work have also been examined from papers solicited on this particular topic, this too has also been done questioning the relevance, significance of features being used in tumor detection. Above all, we have examined how this system can be part of new technologies like cloud with intelligence.

**Keywords**—MRI scan, Brain Tumor Segmentation, Feature Extraction, Machine Learning, Computer Aided Diagnosis

## I. Introduction

Your Typically, the objective of the study focused on the detection of the brain tumor must involves evaluation of the computer-aided diagnosis systems which use image processing as the main tool for detection, therefore, the performance parameters that agree with the inter observers must be used to find a reliable diagnostic recipe for detection of brain tumor. Since, there are multiple competing algorithms and methods available for detection of the brain tumor, and there is always a need to have detail research on the contemporary state of art technological method, especially in the context of current cloud based intelligence technologies, hence the need for the studies like these. This endeavour is an attempt to do an exhaustive study of all methods that have approached since last year a novel state of the art technology for detection of brain tumor.

Following are the research questions and objectives that being explored for answers in this research paper. Since, the growth of the tumor in the brain tumor may involve classification into malignant or benign or may involve analysis of complex tissue arrangement disturbed due to various reasons like head injury so simply it is a case an urgency take decision for conducting brain surgery based on the MRI scan. Following are the objectives of this paper:

- A. Conduct an exhaustive study of state of art Computer Aided Diagnoses systems used for detection of brain tumor in context of current web /cloud based technologies.
- B. Conduct an exhaustive study of features of the image used and feature selection criteria used for detection of tumor.
- C. Is machine learning to be used? if so , which Machine learning algorithms are most accurate for detection
- D. How is the ground truth is validated against the automated detection especially how is interobserver agreement is made.
- E. How many images dataset are being used to train or validate the system of detection?

## 2. Section A

Conduct an exhaustive study of state of the art computer aided diagnose systems used for detection of brain tumor in context of current web /cloud based technologies.

There are many methods to building completely mechanized computer aided diagnosis framework to help therapeutic experts in recognizing and diagnosing brain tumor. No matter what the approach or the features may be of the system the easy use and the accuracy of the

System is main criteria of considering the computer aided design. Typically the system consists of following integrated parts.

### 2.1 Image Pre –processing component

This part primarily consists of the steps that involve image registration, de-noising, Skull stripping and intensity normalization These days many web based applications are available to do this.

### 2.2 Feature Selection and Extraction Component

Since, the computer aided diagnose essentially work on principles and methods of image processing, the information has to obtain from the image signal which consist of clues in terms of texture, colour, statistical and mathematical information that can help the algorithm involves detecting the brain tumor with deep analysis whether the cancer is benign or malignant. Hence the selection of features is critical and is a tricky as the brain image are amorphous in nature but still have some structure and energy to maintain its form, from where we can extract the hints to find a brain tumor, and the problem is compounded due presence of gray, white and other fluid matter diffused together in the image of the brain due to which the susceptibility of the brain in particular is affected. All the current findings through the image processing show and indicate that differentiation between gray and white matters, as well as other fluids, is essential to determine the presence and absence of the tumor. In fact, many problems are defined by hundreds of input features to be processed by the machine learning algorithms for either classification or clustering which is one of the main methods that help in contributing in building reliable diagnostic systems that help in the detection of brain tumor and helps to build intelligent systems that may also be cloud based. It is also worth noting that capacity of any machine algorithm is determined by the number of features it can handles, sometimes the feature input data may be noise or does not provide a way to discriminate the classes, then it is a waste. Even worse, it may lead to finding false regularities in the input training data and hence waste the potential, next problem is the curse of dimensionality, this also has to be overcome, and finally the problem is of interpretability and efficiency, Therefore, to overcome all these issues for this current context of research work must select few, highly discriminate and significant features that help in getting the efficiency of machine algorithm that detects brain tumor and helps to build intelligence systems that may also be cloud based.

### 2.3 Segmentation

Due to the unpredictable shape the segmentation of tumor in brain MRI images from multi modal imaging data is one of the most difficult jobs in medical image

testing. Although there are many different segmentation approaches have been proposed, but it is very difficult to compare the work of different approaches or methods as the validation dataset which are used can differ in terms of input data, the kind of lesion, and the state of the tumor.

Therefore, In order to gauge the current state-of-the-art (desktop/web based) in automated brain tumor segmentation and comparison between different methods can allude to the Table 1.

TABLE 1  
 DIFFERENT METHODS OF BRAIN TUMOR SEGMENTATION

S No.	Segmentation Algorithm	How & Why
1	Watershed	This has been used in combination with active contour [1] or edge detection, methods or with some color space model [2] or distance measure [3] or with Conditioned random field for its simplicity, less computational overhead and accuracy validated. Web based version has also been found in current state of art technologies.
2	Patch-Based	This method basically works on the similarity between images or sub images, represented by a weighted graph or as sparse matrix [4] computed from intensity-based distance between patches or group of pixels or pixel-level groups [5] defined. This methods is used for labelling [6] human brain as it is easy to implement.
3	Bayesian with HMM ,SVM	This method includes building A tumor probability map and then either classifying by using SVM [7] the normal and abnormal part or building Markov Chains [8] or Hidden Markov chains, web based version of algorithm for the same purpose has been found.
4	Random Decision Forests & Density Forest	Due to overlapping tissue intensity distributions [9] and amorphous tumor shape hence there is need for voxel taxonomy by choosing moderately solid peculiarities and disregarding feeble peculiarities [10] and there is need for multi parametric probability map of active tumor [11], this can be done by modifying the traditional random decision forest for tumor detection. The adoption of this RDF [12] methods is mainly due to accuracy and faster implementation
5	Active Contours	There are many segmentation algorithms if used separately experiences poor vigour in opposition to clamour and additionally absence of merging in little scale points of interest and concavities [13] The B-Spline snake is a typical representation of the active contour is used for brain tumor detection due to its capture corners, curves [14] in detail, web based GUI for this algorithm for the
6	Graph Cuts on Markov Random Field	This method of segmentation is also used in conjuncture with other methods that help to reduce the cost of optimization and searching surface problem of tumor detection as it is able to overcome problem of overlap of tissues in an iterative manner with shortest distance [15] with great smoothness.
7	K-Means	This method carries large number of clusters. This method shows extensive us this method for unsupervised method images segmentation which uses intensities in terms of color which

		be gray or some other texture based feature to group the pixels of tumor and non-tumor part .
8	Fuzzy Clustering	The boundary of tumor tissue is highly irregular and non-crispy .Deformable models and Region based methods are extensively used for medical image segmentation, to locate the boundary of the tumor, However , fuzzy clustering which may single or multi criteria based [16] can help in getting better results in terms of accuracy with some computational cost. Some researchers have also used it as combination with other methods like K-Means/C-Means [17]
9	Entropy Based Segmentation	It is well known empirical fact that the tumor part is typically having more energy or entropy with respect to the other parts and if we are able to find sharp edges [18] with this method, this can provide difference of gradient, thus helping in easy segmentation of tumor.
10	Neural Network based	This machine algorithm have been used in both ways in terms of supervised and in unsupervised way to find the tumor part , the accuracy however in both methods depends on right kind of feature selection and right combination of input , hidden and output layers [19]
11	Closely Linked Associated Pixel	This is nothing but another way of grouping the pixels which can represent a closely link properties of the tumor and non -tumor part in terms of either pixels intensity or other texture features[61]
12	Multi-Fractal Texture	There is always a need to build a unique combination of feature row set in such a manner that it can help us to identify the tumor and non-tumor part discriminately to provide accurate with ground truth validation , thus multi factual texture method is one way to do . This method provides multi-criteria texture feature combination to threshold tumor part[60]
13	Geometric Transformation Invariant	The geometric transformation invariant [20] method helps in detecting the tumor in various scales, positions and orientations. The method combines three features (shape, position and texture) to form a feature vector, which is used for detecting the infected parts in the image. Thus helping to get accurate tumor part.
14	Bounding Box and Level Set method	This method allows the segmentation of tumor tissue with precision and consistency in comparison with manual segmentation. Also, it also reduces the time for analysis [21]
15	Support Vector Machine	There have been considerable debate which is surviving till date on whether the Artificial Neural networks are better or SVM are better , However , it can be safely said that it depends on the dataset and application , huge accuracy has also been found by researchers for detecting brain tumor[22] [23] [24] [25]

### 2.4 Post Processing

This component includes the process of marking and labelling definitions, the latest effort these days is to define four types of intra-tumor regions.

tumors still exists, peculiar radiological criteria can be set to define such sub domains. These domains do not reflect strict biological correspondence and homogeneity but are rather place- holders for similarly-looking regions. For instance, the definition of the “active” tumor could only be the high signal intensity regions on T1 Gd images. However, in high grade tumors, there are non- necrotic, non-cystic regions that do not improve but they can be clearly separable from the surrounding edema. Another problem is the definition of the tumor centre in low grades. In such cases, a certain delimitation of the T2 hyper intense surrounding edema and the growing tumor is sometimes possible, but they do not enhance.

### 3. Section B

Conduct an exhaustive study of features of the image used and feature selection criteria used for detection of tumor.

In today’s context both supervised (classification) and unsupervised (clustering) methods are used for the detection of brain tumor that make the system more intelligent. Even if the brain cancer finding algorithm is not using machine algorithm for this purpose and only image based method is applied which off course is better in many ways as it leads to a reduction in term of complexity and time in execution the feature need to be highly discriminating to it be able to detect the brain tumor, after all best selection of the brain is more critical as compared to adding more and more input features, now this may be typically done by the researching by add few steps in the pre processing of the images as enhancing the image with a huge contrast and cluster shade features. The focus of the cancer research these days is at molecular level these days which is reflected in MRI scans when treatment therapies and strategies are applied , therefore at each stage of the treatment brain is monitored using non-intrusive techniques like MRI scans.

TABLE II  
 FEATURES FOR BRAIN TUMOR DETECTION

S. No	Feature selected for brain tumor	(s) for	Why use them?
1	Texture , Gray Values , GLCM		It gives spatial arrangement of color or intensities of numerical metrics, since active tumor and non-tumor parts have different spatial arrangement all though it may be fuzzy and overlapping in boundary, there are possible two approaching in distinguishing tumor part either we consider it as structural arrangement or statistical quantitative metric. Both these approaches have been used extensively for detecting brain tumor. [26] [27] [28]
2	Size		There are numerous studies to build the

	/Volume/Density	estimation model of growth and size of the tumor [29] [30], which in include use of fuzzy set theory, Bounding Box, Volume triangulation [31], Convex Hull method. [32] It is an important factor to study as it helps differentiate between malign tumor and benignant tumor.
3	Color	This is an essential feature required for detection of the tumors [33][34]
4	Wavelet packets	Many researchers bring their images into frequency domain from time domain, for this either they convolve or convert the image signal into wavelets, further more into consider multi scale resolution at wave packet level to get more clear and detailed signal.
5	Edge	This is also essential feature required and since the inherent nature of the brain tissues is such it not easy to find the sharp boundaries of the tumor, this nature and pixel arrangement of the edges is considered for detection of the brain tumor.
6	Contrast	Contrast values plays critical role in getting the real discriminant for tumor and non-tumor parts hence it is used major feature in some studies to get the accurate results in identification of tumor [35] [36] [37]
7	Statistical	Many researchers have used the descriptive statistics to take decision on tumor and non-tumor part and at the same time highly complex statistical feature combination have also been used like Eigen [38] values etc.
8	Image Signal , Spectral density	Image is considered as an signal and the spectral density properties are analysis of the tumor and non-tumor part [39]
9	Morphological Features	Shape is essential to differentiate between kinds of tumors and to know its active growth model
10	Location	Brain tumor occurs at the specific location and position, there were active tumor probability tables are made it help in tracking the location of the tumor, and numerous studies have been found . [40]
11	Energy & Entropy	Tumor part normally has high activity and more energy /entropy as compared to the other parts of the brain which does not have tumor, Hence many paper are using this feature for detection.
12	Inhomogeneity	The tumor part becomes less uniform and less homogenous as compared to part which does not have tumor even if it consist of white, gray and other fluids.
13	Independent Component Analysis (ICA)	This methods assumes that source signals [tumor or non-tumor part] are independent of each other the distribution of the values in each source signals are non-Gaussian in nature [41] [42]
14	Weighted Average Of The Intensities	It is either implemented with help of graphs or weighted averages[43]
15	Principal Component Analysis (PCA)	It helps to build uncorrelated dataset there by helping for tumor detection with linear and independent features[44][45]
16	Smoothness	It is one of the texture feature method which helps us to discriminate smooth and non-smooth tissues for detecting tumor [46]

#### 4. Section C

Is machine learning to be used extensively? If so, which machine learning algorithms are most accurate for detection? How these algorithms make the systems more intelligent, whether they are web /cloud based or not?

These days there is huge interplay of optimization and machine learning for solving problems and it is problematical by the fact that machine learning combines modeling and methods which are useful for detection of brain tumor. The algorithms typically involves some combination of data pre processing, optimization, and heuristics which helps to find correct thresholds of the factors that help to differentiate between the tissues. The basic reason why these days optimization, that too bio-inspired optimization algorithms are being used to find the segments that represent the brain is that good generalization, these algorithms can scale up to large problem, secondly they offer good performance in practice in terms of execution times and memory requirements, therefore, we shall solicit the papers which are using these optimization algorithms which are effective in terms of execution time and memory considerations. Other than this the use of these algorithms is high done due to simple and easy implementation methods they have and above all they really have good fast convergence to an approximate solution of design and have robustness and numerical stability for the class of machine learning models. The table below summarizes the usage of the intelligent machine algorithms in brain tumor detection which can be possible one the 120 types of known type of brain tumor till date

TABLE III  
 USE OF MACHINE LEARNING ALGORITHMS FOR TUMOR DETECTION

S. No	Machine Learning Algorithm	Why Use for Brain Tumor Detection?
1	Artificial Networks	Analyzing MRIs to detect tumors is a time-consuming process. Having it automated has the advantage of speeding it up , and the faster we can be, the more efficient we can be and treat more patients in an efficient manner, this is possible by taking advantage of I-H-O model of artificial networks , which accepts “n” number of inputs ( I ), hidden layer (H) and give “n” number of (O) outputs , which means it can scale for inputs , processing power as well as for outputs for detecting tumor with large set of input features .
2	Bayesian, Naïve Bayes, Hidden Markov Models / Deep belief networks	Probability based learning algorithms to predict how and where a tumor will grow once it is established in the brain needs the use theorems like Bayesian, highly accurate classifier like Naïve Bayes to map the active tumor path and growth[7][8]

3	Case Based Reasoning	Computer program that can detect brain tumors all by itself, without the help of humans but there are about 120 types of brain tumors which poses a huge challenge. The program, which is called an automated segmentation program (ASP), is based on a learning algorithm that has learned how to find tumors but may need also case Based Reasoning approach as medical historical cases also need to be consulted to finally take a difficult decision.
4	Ensembles of Classifications /Decision Tree/ Random Forest	Tumor cells frequently lurk outside the two-centimeter radius and its type is found by analyzing the cell type characteristics which means that each tumor cells in image content will show some different visual texture ,shape etc. , decision trees help to make such array of factors predictable for detection with ease by using if then else analysis at every threshold calculated by decision tree or ensemble method based algorithms [9] [10] [11] [12]
5	Support Vector Machine	Non-Linear ,Non-separable data, Non-parameterized classification method which is extensively used in medical field due large number of advantages over regression methods , but debatable advantage as compared to neural networks , since this method provides locally operable with kernel implicitly that makes information straightly distinct (which is typical characteristic of brain tumor feature sets).. The changes happens certainly on a heavy hypothetical basis and human ability judgment in advance is not required [21] [22] [23] [24]
6	Fuzzy/ K-Means Clustering / Fuzzy networks / KNN Clustering	After reading and analyzing material on tumor detection using clustering, it can be safely said that the delicate figuring gives a foreseeable, more amazing and better result in the field of computerizing a methodology of recognition like tumor. However ,the differentiation of different unsupervised calculations like Fuzzy/ K- means and self-organized peculiarities maps of neural networks delineates that they have their own particular preference and hindrance attributes and subsequently a Neuro-hybrid based framework is given that gets the playing point of both the strategy. Coordinating both fuzzy with neural networks has gotten more famous. However this ought not be seen as the inadequacy of the techniques. Rather it ought to be seen as the versatility of an effective system to bring the best of both strategies into one and to take care of the issues [58]

		[59]
7	Monte Carlo Methods	Monte Carlo Simulation is a generalized technique for evaluating a set of scenarios based on configurable multiple parameters controlled within confidence interval with which tumor may be detected.

### 5. Section D

How is the ground truth is validated against the automated detection & especially how is interobserver agreement is made?

When dimensional aspects of the tumor are considered and questions come on agreeing or disagreeing on tumor size, tumor labelling and marking of the progress of the tumor under observation using digital imaging. Many researchers have been taking the hypothesis that there is substantial indication, there for high true positive rate of a stable tumor, based on the which the interpretation of images with their methods is accepted, which is an essential step for any research work to be approved and accepted by the medical and computer fraternity. Hence, in this research work we solicit paper that consider interobserver agreement as one the way to get validated their theory, algorithm and frameworks. It provides no information about accuracy or reliability. Furthermore, we also seek the papers which have used the methods for estimating the reliability of tumor observation systems using the coefficient of agreements is calculated by comparing scores obtain.

TABLE IV  
GROUND TRUTH VALIDATION

S No.	How is Ground Truth Validated	Why use it for evaluating the performance of the system
1	Kappa Statistics	The point of kappa, as opposed to say a simple percent agreement, is that it takes into account agreement that would occur by chance alone when a method or person give judgment on tumor for example. Thus, as disagreement increases kappa will decline more quickly than a proportion of agreement will, because of the penalty for chance agreement. Another statistic sometimes used for agreement between two raters is called intra class correlation. Not to be confused with intra class correlation that has to do with how much variation might be between individuals in groups as

		between groups. The intraclass correlation unlike other correlation considers the exact rating. So if you had two raters and rater A always gave a performance a score exactly 1 point lower than rater B, they would have a perfect correlation by most measures; with the intraclass correlation they would correlate 0, because only exact agreements count. [47] [48] [49]
2	Recall & Precision	In detail, if the invalid speculation is that all and just the applicable things [tumor and non-tumor part ] are recovered from MRI image, nonappearance of type I and type II implies to greater accuracy and greater the review. Thus, fundamentally, more the exactness means the calculation returned significantly more applicable results and from the greater value of review implies that a calculation give the vast majority of the significant output . [50] [51]
3	True Positive Rate in relation to recall and precision	when arrangement of task is done for example finding tumor and non-tumor part, the accuracy of a class is done on the bases of the amount of genuine positives which means the amount of things accurately marked as having a place to the positive class e.g positive class may be non-tumor, partitioned by the aggregate number of components marked as having a place with the positive class. Review in this setting is characterized as the amount of genuine positives partitioned by the aggregate number of elements that really have a place to the positive class .
4	F-Score (importance to recall as precision)	This measures the effectiveness of recovery (tumor/non-tumor part) concerning a client who appends $\beta$ time as much criticalness to recall as exactness. [52]
5	Dice Index	It is a fact utilized for looking at the comparability of two tests. [53]
6	Jaccard Index	The Jaccard coefficient finds comparability between limited test sets, characterized as the division b/ the extent of the intersection by the span of the union of the test sets. [54]
7	Specificity & Sensitivity	Sensitivity and specificity are terms which are used to estimate the workdone. Prescient values calculated are valuable when considering the estimation of workdone. The sensitivity and specificity of a quantitative test are reliant on the cut-off quality above or underneath which the work is positive prescient value. As a rule, when one will be the greater, then other will go bring down. [55]
8	Descriptive Statistics	It is a very usefull word or term used to investigate the information that collected of specific task and helps to abridge information in a very significance.

		manner [56]
9	K-Fold Validation	A method for estimating the performance of a predictive model. [57]

## 6. Section E

How many images dataset are being used to train or validate the system of detection?

In research studies the importance of the dataset cannot be ignored for a research is to be remain reproducible and to remain relevant in context of state of art technologies .There in this survey we have considered this important factor also. but before we check the table below showing the quality of images used by the authors in their respective research, we must first know what is typically expected in terms of image quality for brain tumor detection process. Typically for building brain tumor detection system, the information require to prepare the system may comprises of different shades of the brain MRI images and specialist's interpretation about active tumor region and endema should also be present in the training data. For every one patient, T1, T2, FLAIR, and post-Gadolinium T1 MR images may be used. No attempt can be done to put the individual patients in a basic reference space. Then , the MR scans, as well as the corresponding reference segmentations, may be dispersed or used in the ITK and VTK compatible MetaIO file format may be used for research work .

## 7. Conclusion

In this paper, we can safely conclude that the landscape of tumor detection technology is dynamic and is going all the way through many changes in the current context of its usage and applicability in the field. Based on the observations and finding the following remarks can be concluded:

- The segmentation algorithm used for brain tumor detection need not belong to specific category of algorithm, it may be very diverse and belongs to multiple approaches have been found. Some researchers are using probability based methods and some are using statistical approach to get the tumor part to be segmented. Probability methods are freely used when everything is observable or at least partially observable. However, some of these techniques are not immune to noise. The most frequent segmentation algorithm is active contour method, Neural Networks and SVM .

- However, it is known fact that the accuracy of the machine algorithm depends upon the features that used. In this context found that the most of the researchers are using combinational approach, where color and texture feature are the main set of feature used for the detection of tumor as it has advantage of being distinctive in nature.
- However, for evaluation purpose for their system we found that very few or less number of authors are considering inter-rater agreement based on parameters which can help to validate their work against the ground truth.

## Future Scope

In the survey work it has been observed that use both supervised and unsupervised learning techniques for the detection of brain tumor and for learning about the feature of the tumor part is done on the basis of neural network and that works on the texture features. Later on, it uses machine algorithms like K-means clustering to segment the tumor part that seems to account for very large computation time and complexity and at the same time resources are also consumed while pre-processing is done on the image data. There is ample chance that studied algorithms in terms of time, computational complexity and accuracy in detection of brain tumor. This can be done during pre-processing itself so that the tumor part later on itself gets marked out of all texture of brain faster and with ease. For, future we suggest that a method which include image matrix transformations may be used which would reduces complexity and time even while extraction of features which may include combination of multiple factors including intensity , entropy and energy with contrast.

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