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Optimal Fusion-Based Handcrafted with Deep Features for Brain Cancer Classification

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Abstract: Brain cancer detection and classification is done utilizing distinct medical imaging modalities like computed tomography (CT), or magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). An automated brain cancer classification using computer aided diagnosis (CAD) models can be designed to assist radiologists. With the recent advancement in computer vision (CV) and deep learning (DL) models, it is possible to automatically detect the tumor from images using a computer-aided design. This study focuses on the design of automated Henry Gas Solubility Optimization with Fusion of Handcrafted and Deep Features (HGSO-FHDF) technique for brain cancer classification. The proposed HGSO-FHDF technique aims for detecting and classifying different stages of brain tumors. The proposed HGSO-FHDF technique involves Gabor filtering (GF) technique for removing the noise and enhancing the quality of MRI images. In addition, Tsallis entropy based image segmentation approach is applied to determine injured brain regions in the MRI image. Moreover, a fusion of handcrafted with deep features using Residual Network (ResNet) is utilized as feature extractors. Finally, HGSO algorithm with kernel extreme learning machine (KELM) model was utilized for identifying the presence of brain tumors. For examining the enhanced brain tumor classification performance, a comprehensive set of simulations take place on the BRATS 2015 dataset.

Keywords: Brain cancer; medical imaging; deep learning; fusion model; metaheuristics; feature extraction; handcrafted features



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1 Introduction

The death rate because of brain cancer is the maximum in Asia [1]. Brain cancer grows in the spinal cord or brain [2]. The many symptoms of brain cancer involve frequent headaches, coordination issues, changes in speech, mood swings, seizures, memory loss, and difficulty in concentration. Brain cancer is a type of cancer that remains in the central nervous system or brain [3]. It can be classified as to distinct types based on the origin, nature, progression stage, and rate of growth [4]. Either, it is benign or malignant. Benign brain cancer cells hardly attack adjacent healthy cells, have a slower progression rate (for example, pituitary cancers, meningiomas, astrocytoma), and dissimilar boundaries. Malignant brain cancer cells (for example higher-grade astrocytoma, oligodendrogliomas, and so on) willingly invade adjacent cells in the spinal cord or brain, have rapid progression rates and fuzzy borders [5]. Further, it is categorized into two kinds according to the origin: primary and secondary brain cancers.

Primary cancer directly originates in the brain. When cancer develops in the brain because of cancer present in some other body organs like stomach, lungs, and so on, also it is called a metastasis or secondary brain cancer. Furthermore, grading of brain cancer can be performed according to the growth rate of tumorous cells. Also, Brain cancer is considered by the progression phases (Stage-0, 1, 2, 3, and 4). Stage-0 represents tumorous cancer cells that are abnormal, however, it doesn't spread to neighboring cells [6]. Stages-1, 2, and 3 denote cells that are tumorous and spread quickly. Lastly, in Stage-4 cancer spread all over the body. It is certain that a considerable number of people were saved when cancer was identified at an earlier phase via cost-effective and fast diagnoses methods [7]. But it is complex for treating cancer at the highest stage where the survival rate is lower. The imaging modalities like magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), or computed tomography (CT) of the brain are safer and faster methods when compared to biopsy. This imaging modality assists radiotherapists to observe disease progression, discover brain disorders, and in operational procedures [8].

Brain image reading or brain scans to cure disorder is subjected to inter-reader accuracy and variability based on the ability of the doctor [9]. Various studies have been conducted for developing a robust and accurate solution for the automated classification of brain cancer. But, because of higher inter and intra contrast, shape, and texture dissimilarities, it remains a challenge. The conventional machine learning (ML) method is based on hand-engineered features that restrain the strength of the solution. While the deep learning-based approach extracts useful features that provide good results [10]. Deep learning (DL)-based technique requires a huge number of interpreted information for training, and acquiring this information is a difficult process. Kang et al. [11] presented a technique to brain tumor classifier utilizing an ensemble of deep feature and ML techniques. During this presented structure, can be adapted the model of transfer learning utilizes a different pre-trained deep convolutional neural network (DCNN) for extracting deep features in brain MRI. The extracting deep feature is then estimated by different ML techniques.

The authors in [12] established a multi-level attention process to the task of brain tumor detection. The presented multi-level attention network (MANet) comprises both spatial and cross-channel attention that not only efforts on prioritized tumor region. The authors in [13] presented a novel technique that utilizes DCNNs to classify brain tumors as normal and 3 distinct varieties. The tumor has primarily segmented in the MRI utilizing an improved Independent Component Analysis (ICA) mixture mode method. From the segmentation image, deep feature is extracted and classified. The authors in [14] concentrated on a 3-class classifier problem for distinguishing amongst glioma, meningioma, and pituitary tumors that procedure 3 prominent varieties of brain tumor. The presented classifier method adapts the model of deep transfer learning (TL) and utilizes a pre-trained GoogLeNet for extracting features in brain MRI images.

The authors in [15] presented an intelligent diagnostic model to initial recognition of brain tumor dependent upon radial basis function neural network (RBFNN) and effective deep feature of MRI scan. During the segmentation element, Grab cut approach was executed to segment the tumor region. During the feature extracting component, a CNN was employed to extract of novel deep feature in a segmented image. The extracting deep feature is fed as to RBFNN from the classifier modules. Devnath et al. [16] present a method for automatically detecting pneumoconiosis utilizing a deep features based binary classification. A CNN technique pre-trained with TL in a CheXNet method is primarily utilized for extracting deep features in the X-Ray image, afterward, the deep feature is mapped to high dimension feature space to classifier utilizing SVM and CNN based feature aggregation techniques.

This study focuses on the design of automated Henry Gas Solubility Optimization with Fusion of Handcrafted and Deep Features (HGSO-FHDF) technique for brain cancer classification. The proposed HGSO-FHDF technique involves Gabor filtering (GF) technique for removing the noise and enhancing the quality of the MRI images. In addition, Tsallis entropy based image segmentation approach is applied to determine injured brain regions in the MRI image. Moreover, a fusion of hand-crafted with deep features using Residual Network (ResNet) is utilized as feature extractors. Finally, HGSO algorithm with kernel extreme learning machine (KELM) model was utilized for identifying presence of brain tumors. For examining the enhanced brain tumor classification performance, a comprehensive set of simulations take place on the BRATS 2015 dataset.

2 The Proposed HGSO-FHDF Model

In this study, a new HGSO-FHDF technique has been developed for the identification and classification of brain cancer. The presented HGSO-FHDF technique comprises several steps (as shown in Fig. 1) such as GF based pre-processing, Tsallis segmentation, fusion based feature extraction, KELM classifier, and HGSO based parameter optimization. At the final stage, the HGSO algorithm with KELM model was utilized for identifying presence of brain tumors.



Figure 1: Overall workflow of the proposed model

2.1 Image Pre-processing Using GF Technique

At the primary stage, the input images are preprocessed by the use of GF technique. Gabor transform has a unique biological background. The Gabor filter is the same as the direct representation and frequency of the human visual scheme in terms of direction and frequency, also extracting local data of distinct directions, frequencies, and spatial positions of an image. A main benefit of GF is invariant to translation, scale, and rotation. The purpose why Gabor wavelet is utilized for facial expression detection is that once expression change occurs, the main portions of the face like eyebrows, eyes, and mouth undergoes great change because of muscle change. This part is reflected in the image as grayscale changes. Now, the real and imaginary portions of the wavelet vary, hence the amplitude response of the GF would be very clear, hence it is better suited for extracting local features. In image processing, 2D Gabor filtering is commonly utilized for processing the image. The kernel function of the 2D Gabor wavelet is given as follows:

$$\psi_{uv}(z) = \frac{||k_{uv}||^2}{\sigma^2} \times e^{\frac{||k_{uv}||^2||z||^2}{2\sigma^2}} \times \left(e^{ik_{uv}z} - e^{\frac{\sigma^2}{2}}\right)$$
(1)

Whereas *u* and *v* represents the direction and frequency of Gabor wavelet kernel, z = (x, y) signifies the location of pixel in an image, σ signifies the filter bandwidth, and $|k_{uv}|^2/\sigma^2$ is utilized for compensating the attenuation of energy spectrum defined by the frequency. The Gabor feature of the image is attained by convolving the Gabor wavelet kernel and the facial expression image. Assume that the gray values of (x, y) point in the facial expression image is fixed to *k*, it can be expressed as follows

$$G_{uv}(x, y) = I(x, y) * \psi_{uv}(x, y)$$
⁽²⁾

Whereas $G_{uv}(x, y)$ denotes the Gabor feature of the extracted image, $\psi_{UV}(x, y)$ denotes the kernel function of 2S Gabor wavelet, and * indicates the convolutional process.

2.2 Tsallis Entropy Based Segmentation

Here, Tsallis entropy is applied to segment the affected regions. The entropy is related to the chaos metric in the system. Primarily, Shannon indicated that when the physical systems are separated into 2 statistical free subsystem A & B, entropy value can be defined as follows:

$$S(A+B) = S(A) + S(B)$$
(3)

Based on Shannon concept, a non-extensive entropy concept is derived as given below.

$$S_q = \frac{1 - \sum_{i=1}^{I} (p_i)^q}{q - 1} \tag{4}$$

where T signifies the system potential, q designates the entropic index, and p_i denotes likelihood of every state i. The Tsallis entropy S_q satisfies Shannon entropy by $q \rightarrow 1$. The entropy value is defined by the use of pseudo additive rule as given below:

$$S_q(A+B) = S_q(A) + S_q(B) + (1-q) \cdot S_q(A) \cdot S_q(B)$$
(5)

The Tsallis entropy is employed for identifying optimal thresholds of the images. Consider L gray levels in the interval $\{0, 1, ..., L - 1\}$ with probability distribution $p_i = p_0, p_1, ..., p_{L-1}$. So, the Tsallis multilevel thresholding is defined using following equations.

$$f(T) = [t_1, t_2, \dots, t_{k-1}] = argmax$$

$$\left[S_{q}^{A}(T) + S_{q}^{B}(T) + \ldots + S_{q}^{K}(T) + (1-q) \cdot S_{q}^{A}(T) \cdot S_{q}^{B}(T) \cdot \ldots \cdot S_{q}^{K}(T)\right]$$
(6)

whereas

$$S_{q}^{A}(T) = \frac{1 - \sum_{i=0}^{t_{1-1}} \left(\frac{Pi}{P^{A}}\right)^{q}}{q - 1}, P^{A} = \sum_{i=0}^{t_{1-1}} Pi$$
$$S_{q}^{B}(T) = \frac{1 - \sum_{i=t_{1}}^{t_{2-1}} \left(\frac{P}{P^{B}}\right)^{q}}{q - 1}, P^{B} = \sum_{i=t_{1}}^{t_{2-1}} Pi$$
$$S_{q}^{K}(T) = \frac{1 - \sum_{i=t_{k-1}}^{L-1} \left(\frac{Pi}{P^{K}}\right)^{q}}{q - 1}, P^{K} = \sum_{i=t_{k-1}}^{L-1} Pi$$

2.3 Feature Extraction

At the time of feature extraction, a fusion of handcrafted features using LDEP and deep features using ResNet-152 model are fused together to generate feature vectors. The whole procedure of computation of the *LDEP*^{*i*,*j*} for center pixel $I^{i,j}$. Consider $Q_n^{i,j}$ denoted the n^{th} diagonal neighbor of center pixel $Q^{i,j}$ at the distance *D* from a center pixel $Q^{i,j}$, consider $n \in [1, 4]$ and $Q^{i,j}$ indicates the pixel at ith row and jth column of gray-scaled image *M* have m_1 rows and m_2 columns. Where $I_n^{i,j}$ and $I^{i,j}$ denotes the intensity value of $Q_n^{i,j}$ and $Q^{i,j}$, correspondingly [17].

$$\tau_{\max} = \arg\max\left(sign\left(\alpha\right) = 0 \forall \alpha \in [0, 2]\right) \tag{7}$$

$$\tau_{\min} = \arg\min\left(sign\left(\alpha\right) = 0 \forall \alpha \in [0, 2]\right) \tag{8}$$

whereas,

$$sign\left(\alpha\right) = \begin{cases} 1 & \alpha \ge 0\\ 0 & \alpha < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\tag{9}$$

The values of $LDEP_n^{i_j}$ and is determined below.

$$LDEP_{n}^{i,j} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } n = (\tau_{\max} + 8\omega) \text{ or } n = (\tau_{\min} + 4 + 8\omega) \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
(10)

At last, the $LDEP_n^{i,j}$ denotes the pattern calculated over an image of size $m_1 X m_2$ as follows $LDEP_n^{i,j}(m_1 \times m_2) = (LDEP_1^{i,j}, LDEP_2^{i,j}, \cdots, LDEP_{dim}^{i,j})$ (11)

ResNet comprises a residual learning unit in resolving the weakening of DL models. It enables to allow the inclusion of new inputs and outputs [18]. Fig. 2 shows the structure of residual blocks. A major benefit is an improvement in classifier results with no inclusion of model complexities. The ResNet152 model has been developed by the integration of 3-layer blocks, which is less complicated compared to other models. The connections among the residual block are advantages. It helps to maintain the data attained via training and improves model building time.

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Figure 2: Structure of Residual Blocks

2.4 KELM Based Classification

Next to feature extraction process, the KELM model has been developed for the identification of breast cancer [19]. An extreme learning machine (ELM) resultant function under the case of single resultant node is:

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{L} \beta_i G(a_i, b_i, x) = \beta \cdot h(x)$$
(12)

where is the resultant weight amongst the i^{th} node of hidden and output states and $\beta = [\beta_1, \dots, \beta_L]^T$ represents the resultant weight vector. $G(a_i, b_i, x)$ signifies the output of i^{th} hidden state node and the node parameter has arbitrarily created. $h(x) = [G(a_1, b_1, x), \dots, G(a_L, b_L, x)]^T$ signifies the resultant vector of hidden state comparative to input. Then introduced the kernel function, the kernel matrix of KELM is determined as:

$$\Omega_{ELM} = HH^T \colon \Omega_{ELM} = h(x_i) \cdot h(x_j) = K(x_i, x_j)$$
(13)

The resultant function of ELM classification is more expressed as:

$$f(x) = h(x) H^{T} \left(\frac{I}{\lambda} + HH^{T}\right)^{-1} T$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} K(x, x1) \\ \vdots \\ K(x, x_{N}) \end{bmatrix} \left(\frac{I}{\lambda} + \Omega_{ELM}\right)^{-1} T$$
(14)

where *I* refers the identity matrix, λ implies the regularized co-efficient, and *T* stands for the trained set label. Afterward, it can utilize this technique, it does not require knowing the particular method of feature map h(x) then utilizing the kernel function for resultant calculation.

2.5 Optimal Parameter Adjustment Using HGSO Algorithm

At the final stage, the HGSO algorithm has been employed to optimally tune the parameters involved in it [20]. According to Henry's law, it reproduces the huddling performance of gas for balancing exploitation as well as exploration from the searching space and avoiding local optimum. The core functions needed for this work are listed as follows. Henry's co-efficient is computed utilizing in Eq. (15).

$$H_{j}(m+1) = H_{j}(m) \cdot \exp(-C_{j} \cdot (1/T(m) - 1/T^{\theta})).$$
(15)

where T(m) refers the temperature of m^{th} generation. $T(m) = \exp(-m/MaxIter)$. $T^{\theta} = 298.15$. The population has been separated as to equivalent clusters corresponding to the amount of gas types. All the clusters share the similar Henry's constant value (H_j) . A primary generation co-efficient H_j (1) = $0.05 \cdot rand$ (). rand() implies the function which creates an arbitrary number amongst zero and one. Another co-efficient $C_j = 0.01.rand$ (). The solubility has been obtained utilizing Eq. (15).

$$S_{i,j}(m) = Ks \cdot H_j(m+1) \cdot P_{i,j}(m).$$
(16)

where $S_{i,j}(m)$ signifies the solubility of gas *i* from the cluster *j* of m^{th} generation. *Ks* refer the constant. $P_{i,j}(m)$ represents the partial pressure on gas *i* from the cluster *j* of m^{th} generation. The place here relates to the SVR parameter in this work. This function is very serious and upgrades utilizing in Eq. (17).

$$X_{ij}(m+1) = X_{ij}(m) + F \cdot r \cdot \eta \left(X_{j}, opt(m) - X_{ij}(m) \right) + F \cdot r \cdot \alpha (S_{ij}(m) \cdot X_{opt}(m) - X_{ij}(m)) \eta = \beta \cdot \exp \left(-\frac{F_{opt}(m) + 0.05}{F_{ij}(m) + 005} \right).$$
(17)

where $X_{i,j}(m)$ denotes the place of gas *i* from the cluster *j* of m^{th} generation. $X_{i,j}(m+1)$ indicates the next place of $X_{i,j}(m)$. *r* stands for the arbitrary value amongst zero and one. $\alpha = 1$. β refers the constant. *F* represents the flag which changes the direction of searching agent and offers diversity $= \pm$. $X_{j,opt}(m)$ defines the optimum gas from the cluster *j* of m^{th} generation. $X_{opt}(m)$ demonstrated the optimum gas of m^{th} generation. $F_{opt}(m)$ signifies the fitness of optimum gas of m^{th} generation. F(m) means the fitness of gas *i* from the cluster *j* of m^{th} generation. The rank and choose the amount of worse individuals (N_w) utilizing in Eq. (18).

$$N_w = n \cdot (rand (0.1) + 0.1). \tag{18}$$

Assume that the worse individual recreates in the numerical range utilized in Eq. (19).

$$G_k = LB + ra.(UB - LB).$$

where G_k refers the place or worse individuals. $1 \le k \le N_w$. ra stands for the arbitrary value amongst zero and one.

3 Results and Discussion

The performance validation of the HGSO-FHDF technique is tested using the Figshare dataset [21]. The dataset includes three class labels with 150 images under Meningioma, 150 images under Glioma, and 150 images under Pituitary classes. Fig. 3 demonstrates the sample set of test images.

Fig. 4 highlights the confusion matrices of the HGSO-FHDF model under different hidden layers (HLs). The figure indicated that the HGSO-FHDF model has effectually recognized all the classes under all HLs.

Tab. 1 reports comprehensive classification outcomes of the HGSO-FHDF model under different numbers of hidden layers (HLs). The experimental values denoted that the HGSO-FHDF model has accomplished maximum outcome under all HLs.

(19)



Figure 3: Sample images



Figure 4: Confusion matrices of HGSO-FHDF model

Methods	Sensitivity	Specificity	Accuracy	F-score	Kappa
	Ι	Hidden layer-5			
Meningioma	92.67	97.67	96.00	93.92	_
Glioma	93.33	96.67	95.56	93.33	_
Pituitary	95.33	96.33	96.00	94.08	_
Average	93.78	96.89	95.85	93.78	90.67
	H	Iidden layer-10			
Meningioma	92.00	95.67	94.44	91.69	_
Glioma	94.67	96.33	95.78	93.73	_
Pituitary	92.67	97.67	96.00	93.92	_
Average	93.11	96.56	95.41	93.11	89.67
	H	Iidden layer-15			
Meningioma	91.33	98.33	96.00	93.84	_
Glioma	95.33	97.00	96.44	94.70	_
Pituitary	98.00	97.00	97.33	96.08	_
Average	94.89	97.44	96.59	94.87	92.33
	H	Hidden layer-20			
Meningioma	95.33	96.67	96.22	94.39	_
Glioma	92.00	97.00	95.33	92.93	_
Pituitary	92.67	96.33	95.11	92.67	_
Average	93.33	96.67	95.56	93.33	90.00

Table 1: Overall classification results of HGSO-FHDF model

Fig. 5 demonstrates the classifier results of the HGSO-FHDF model under HL of 5. The figure indicated that the HGSO-FHDF model has effectually identified all the classes. For instance, with Meningioma class, the HGSO-FHDF model has offered *sens*_y of 92.67%, *spec*_y of 97.67%, *accu*_y of 96%, and F_{score} of 93.92% respectively. Along with that, with Glioma class, the HGSO-FHDF model has provided *sens*_y of 93.33%, *spec*_y of 96.67%, *accu*_y of 95.56%, and F_{score} of 94.08% respectively. Moreover, with Pituitary class, the HGSO-FHDF model has reached *sens*_y of 95.33%, *spec*_y of 96.33%, *accu*_y of 96%, and F_{score} of 94.08% respectively.



Figure 5: Classification results of HGSO-FHDF model under HL-5

Fig. 6 validates the classifier results of the HGSO-FHDF model under HL of 10. The figure designated that the HGSO-FHDF model has effectively recognized all the classes. For instance, with Meningioma class, the HGSO-FHDF model has presented *sens*_y of 92%, *spec*_y of 95.67%, *accu*_y of 94.44%, and F_{score} of 91.69% respectively. Also, with Glioma class, the HGSO-FHDF model has provided *sens*_y of 94.67%, *spec*_y of 96.33%, *accu*_y of 95.78%, and F_{score} of 93.73% respectively. Also, with Pituitary class, the HGSO-FHDF model has reached *sens*_y of 92.67%, *spec*_y of 97.67%, *accu*_y of 96%, and F_{score} of 93.92% respectively.



Figure 6: Classification results of HGSO-FHDF model under HL-10

Fig. 7 provides the classification outcomes of the HGSO-FHDF model under HL of 10. The figure designated that the HGSO-FHDF model has effectively recognized all the classes. For instance, with Meningioma class, the HGSO-FHDF model has presented *sens_y* of 91.33%, *spec_y* of 98.33%, *accu_y* of 96%, and F_{score} of 93.84% respectively. Likewise, with Glioma class, the HGSO-FHDF model has provided *sens_y* of 95.33%, *spec_y* of 97%, *accu_y* of 96.44%, and F_{score} of 94.70% respectively. Likewise, with Pituitary class, the HGSO-FHDF model has reached *sens_y* of 98%, *spec_y* of 97.00%, *accu_y* of 97.33%, and F_{score} of 96.08% respectively.



Figure 7: Classification results of HGSO-FHDF model under HL-15

Fig. 8 showcases the accuracy and loss graphs offered by the HGSO-FHDF technique on the training and validation datasets under varying numbers of hidden layers. The figure portrayed that the HGSO-FHDF technique has resulted in increased accuracy and reduced loss.



Figure 8: (Continued)



Figure 8: Accuracy and Loss Graph of HGSO-FHDF model

For demonstrating the better outcomes of the HGSO-FHDF technique, a detailed comparison study is made with existing techniques [22] in Tab. 2. Fig. 9 demonstrates the *kappa* examination of the HGSO-FHDF model with existing techniques. The figure represented that the ResNet50, Inc. V3, and M-Net V2 models have attained lesser *kappa* values of 90.52%, 88.67%, and 86.67%. Besides, the DNet201 model has resulted in certainly improved *kappa* value of 90.24%. However, the HGSO-FHDF model has reached better performance with a higher *kappa* of 92.33%.

Methods	Accuracy	Kappa
DNet201 model	94.50	90.24
ResNet50 model	93.16	90.52
Inc. V3 model	93.04	88.67
M-Net V2 model	93.19	86.89
HGSO-FHDF	96.59	92.33

 Table 2: Comparative analysis of HGSO-FHDF model

Fig. 10 illustrates the $accu_y$ investigation of the HGSO-FHDF model with recent methods. The figure portrayed that the ResNet50, Inc. V3, and M-Net V2 models have obtained lower $accu_y$ values of 93.16%, 93.04%, and 93.19%. At the same time, the DNet201 model has gained a slightly increased $accu_y$ value of 94.50%. However, the HGSO-FHDF model has accomplished a superior outcome with

a maximum $accu_y$ of 96.59%. The above mentioned tables and figures reported that the HGSO-FHDF model has resulted in maximum classification outcomes over the other methods.



Figure 9: Comparative classification results of HGSO-FHDF model in terms of $accu_{v}$



Figure 10: Comparative classification results of HGSO-FHDF model in terms of kappa

4 Conclusion

In this study, a new HGSO-FHDF technique has been developed for the identification and classification of brain cancer. The presented HGSO-FHDF technique comprises GF based preprocessing, Tsallis segmentation, fusion based feature extraction, KELM classifier, and HGSO based parameter optimization. At the final stage, the HGSO algorithm with KELM model was utilized for identifying presence of brain tumors. For examining the enhanced brain tumor classification performance, a comprehensive set of simulations occur on BRATS 2015 dataset. The comparative study of the HGSO-FHDF technique can be utilized as a proficient approach for brain cancer classification. Therefore, the HGSO-FHDF approach is employed as an effective tool for brain cancer detection. In future, advanced DL based segmentation models can be introduced to improve classification results.

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