

GAN-Based Approaches for Diagnosis and Imaging of Human Fungal Infections

Author's Name:

1. Miss. Sakshi V Magdum

PG Student PVPIT, Budhgaon, Maharashtra

2. Dr. Madhukar S Chavan

Professor, PVPIT, Budhgaon, Maharashtra

3. Dr. Sonali S Sankpal

Assistant Professor, PVPIT, Budhgaon, Maharashtra

Abstract— Human fungal infections are increasingly affecting people worldwide, especially those with weakened immune systems. These infections can range from mild skin conditions to serious life-threatening diseases involving the lungs, brain, or bloodstream. Diagnosing fungal infections at an early stage is often difficult because their symptoms are similar to other infections and many fungal species appear alike in medical images. In addition, limited availability of well-annotated clinical data further complicates accurate diagnosis.

Recent advances in artificial intelligence have created new opportunities to improve medical diagnosis. Deep learning methods, particularly Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs), have shown strong potential in medical imaging applications. GANs can generate realistic synthetic images, enhance image quality, and help overcome data scarcity problems commonly seen in fungal infection research. By improving image analysis and supporting automated diagnosis, GAN-based approaches offer a promising pathway to enhance clinical decision-making and advance research in human fungal infections.

Keywords: Human fungal infections; Generative Adversarial Networks; Medical imaging; Deep learning; Data augmentation; Artificial intelligence; Diagnostic imaging.

I. INTRODUCTION

Fungal infections are common health problems that affect many parts of the human body,

including the skin, lungs, blood, and brain. While some fungal infections are mild, others can become serious and even life-threatening, especially in people with weak immune systems. Early and accurate diagnosis is important, but it is often difficult because fungal infections show symptoms similar to other diseases and different fungi can look almost the same in medical images. In recent years, computers have been used to help doctors analyze medical images more accurately. Artificial intelligence, especially deep learning, has shown promising results in medical diagnosis. One important deep learning method is the Generative Adversarial Network (GAN). GANs can create realistic medical images, improve image quality, and help computers learn better when only a small number of real images are available. This review explains how GAN-based methods are being used to support the diagnosis and imaging of human fungal infections. By improving image analysis and supporting automated detection, these methods have the potential to assist doctors, reduce diagnostic errors, and improve patient care.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) are becoming an important tool in medical imaging, especially for diagnosing fungal infections in humans. Traditional methods, like looking at samples under a microscope or analyzing standard medical images, can take a long time, sometimes make mistakes, and often don't have enough labeled images for training AI systems. With modern deep learning, AI methods—especially GANs—can create realistic synthetic images, improve image quality, and help automatically detect and classify fungal infections. These tools are very useful when there isn't enough real data, and they can support earlier diagnosis, helping doctors make better decisions. The table below shows important research on how GANs are being used for fungal infection diagnosis. It explains what technology was used, what problems the studies faced, and how the work is relevant to this project. It also points out new trends, like creating synthetic data, improving image quality, and using AI to assist diagnosis.

III Research Gaps

• Limited data and types of fungi:

Most studies using GANs for fungal infection detection use only small sets of images and cover just a few types of fungi. This makes it hard for AI systems to recognize rare or new fungal infections that doctors may see in real life. We need bigger and more diverse datasets so AI can work reliably for all kinds of human fungal infections.

- **Images are not fully realistic or validated:** GANs can create synthetic images to train AI, but these images are not always completely accurate or checked by doctors. If AI learns from unrealistic images, it might make mistakes when diagnosing real patients. Making sure generated images look like real human fungal infections is important for doctors to trust the AI.

- **Single-image focus and “black box” problem:** Most research focuses on only one type of image, like a microscope slide, and does not combine multiple types of images such as CT, MRI, or histology. Also, AI often works like a —black box, so doctors cannot see why it makes certain decisions. Without clear explanations and combined image analysis, AI is harder to use in real clinical practice.

IV. Problem Statement

Human fungal infections are becoming a serious health concern, especially for people with weak immune systems. Diagnosing these infections early is very important, but traditional methods, like looking at samples under a microscope or analyzing medical images, are slow, prone to mistakes, and often rely on a limited number of labeled images. These challenges make it difficult for doctors to detect rare or new fungal infections quickly and accurately. Although Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) can generate realistic images and improve AI-based diagnosis, current research has some gaps. Many studies use small datasets, focus on only a few types of fungi, and produce synthetic images that are not always clinically validated. Additionally, most AI models work as —black boxes, leaving doctors unsure of how decisions are made. There is also little integration of multiple image types, such as microscopy, histology, and CT/MRI scans, which could improve diagnosis. This project aims to address these challenges by using GANs to generate high-quality synthetic images, enhance real medical images, and support automated detection of a wide range of human fungal infections. The goal is to help doctors make faster, more accurate, and reliable diagnoses, even when data is limited.

V. Research Objectives

The main goal of this project is to use Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) to improve the diagnosis and imaging of human fungal infections.

To achieve this, the project focuses on the following objectives:

1. **Create realistic synthetic images:** Use GANs to generate high-quality images of different fungal species, especially when real data is limited, to help train AI models.
2. **Enhance medical image quality:** Improve the clarity and resolution of microscopy, histology, and radiology images, making it easier to detect fungal infections accurately.
3. **Support automated detection and classification:** Develop AI models that can automatically identify and classify various fungal infections from medical images.
4. **Integrate multiple image types:** Combine different kinds of images, such as microscopic slides, CT scans, and MRI scans, to improve the accuracy and reliability of diagnosis.
5. **Increase trust and interpretability:** Make AI results more understandable to doctors by providing explainable outputs, so clinicians can confidently use AI as a diagnostic tool.

VI. Proposed Methodology

1. **Data Collection:** Gather medical images of human fungal infections from different sources, including microscopic images, histopathology slides, and radiology scans like CT and MRI. These images will form the dataset for training and testing AI models.
2. **Data Preprocessing:** Prepare the images by cleaning, resizing, and standardizing them. This step ensures that the images are consistent and ready for analysis, and helps improve the performance of GAN models.
3. **GAN-Based Image Generation:** Use GANs to generate realistic synthetic images of fungal infections, especially for rare species or cases where real data is limited. These synthetic images will supplement the real dataset and improve AI training.
4. **Image Enhancement:** Apply GANs to improve the quality of existing medical images by removing noise, enhancing resolution, and correcting color variations in histopathology slides. This helps doctors and AI models detect fungal features more clearly.
5. **Automated Detection and Classification:** Train deep learning models using the combined real and synthetic images to automatically detect and classify different types of fungal infections.
6. **Evaluation and Validation:** Test the models on separate datasets and compare results with expert

diagnoses to measure accuracy, reliability, and usefulness in real clinical settings.

7. **Explainability and Multi-Modal Integration:** Integrate different types of images (microscopy, histology, radiology) and provide explainable AI outputs so clinicians can understand how the model makes its decisions.

This methodology ensures that the system can handle limited data, improve image quality, and provide accurate, trustworthy support for diagnosing human fungal infections.

VII. Summary

Human fungal infections are becoming a serious health concern, especially for people with weak immune systems. Early and accurate diagnosis is very important, but traditional methods, like looking at samples under a microscope or analyzing medical images, can be slow, prone to errors, and limited by the availability of annotated images. This project focuses on using **Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs)** to improve diagnosis and imaging of human fungal infections. GANs can generate realistic synthetic images, enhance image quality, and support automated detection and classification of different fungal species. By combining real and synthetic data, the AI models can perform better, even when real medical images are limited. The methodology includes collecting and preprocessing medical images, generating and enhancing images using GANs, training AI models for detection and classification, and validating the results against expert diagnoses. The project also aims to provide explainable AI outputs and integrate multiple types of images, such as microscopy, histology, and radiology, to make diagnosis more accurate and trustworthy. Overall, this approach can help doctors detect fungal infections faster, more accurately, and reliably, supporting better patient care and advancing research in this field.

Conclusion

Human fungal infections are a growing health concern, and early diagnosis is often difficult due to limited data and the similarity of fungal species. Traditional methods are slow and prone to errors, which can delay treatment.

This project shows that **Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs)** can play an important role in improving diagnosis. GANs can generate realistic synthetic images, enhance image quality, and help AI models detect and classify fungal infections more accurately, even when real data is limited.

By combining different types of images—like microscopy, histology, and radiology—and using explainable AI, the system can support doctors in making faster and more reliable decisions. Overall, GAN-based approaches have the potential to improve diagnostic workflows, assist in early detection of fungal infections, and contribute to better patient care.

FUTURE SCOPE

The use of GANs in diagnosing human fungal infections has shown great promise, but there are still many opportunities to improve and expand this research.

1. **Larger and Diverse Datasets:** In the future, more comprehensive datasets covering a wider range of fungal species and patient cases can make AI models even more accurate and reliable.
2. **Integration of Multi-Modal Data:** Combining different types of medical images, such as microscopy, histology, CT scans, and MRI scans, can improve diagnosis by giving AI a complete view of the infection.
3. **Explainable and Trusted AI:** Developing GAN-based systems that are transparent and explainable will help doctors understand AI decisions, increasing trust and adoption in real clinical settings.
4. **Real-Time and Automated Systems:** Future systems could be designed for real-time analysis in hospitals or clinics, allowing faster diagnosis and timely treatment.
5. **Support for Rare and Emerging Fungal Infections:** GANs can be used to generate synthetic images for rare or new fungal species, helping train AI models when real patient data is scarce.
6. **Global Collaboration and Cloud-Based Solutions:** AI models could be shared securely across hospitals and research centers worldwide, supporting large-scale fungal infection studies and better healthcare delivery.

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