Multi-Modal Brain Tumor Segmentation with Attention Mechanisms

MSc Research Project
Data Analytics

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Project Submission Sheet
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Student Name:	Bilal Mustaq Mulani
Student ID:	x22212132
Programme:	Data Analytics
Year:	2024
Module:	MSc Research Project
Supervisor:	Dr. Ahmed Makki
Submission Due Date:	12/08/2024
Project Title:	Multi-Modal Brain Tumor Segmentation with Attention Mechanisms
Word Count:	7429
Page Count:	25

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Multi-Modal Brain Tumor Segmentation with Attention Mechanisms

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Abstract

The study of this research is basically aimed to improve and enhance the brain tumor segmentation in the scope MRI Scans which are integrated with advanced deep learning architectures which include Vanilla U-shaped Network, Residual U-shaped Network and Attention U-shaped Network. The research is specifically focusing on enhancing the segmentation accuracy while keeping and maintaining the computational efficiency, a critical requirement for clinical based applications.The segmentation of LGG dataset was used in the evaluation models where Dice Coefficient and Intersection over Union(IoU) along with precision and recall performance metrics which were employed in assessment of the performance. The output results show that Attention UNet model has outperformed well in comparison with other models very significantly, with the dice Coefficient value of 0.9123 and IoU value of 0.8612. The Attention U Network also showed highest precision at 0.9234 along with recall of 0.8912 by implying that it has the ability to precisely segment the complicated tumor regions. Observation of these performance metrics show and reveal that with integration of attention mechanism in the architecture and focusing on pertinent image areas is the intensified lead towards improvement of segmentation's outcomes. The research shares and offers and optimized model for the application in the clinical cases and develops the program models which have been made openly available for studies. However it shreds and shows hints on further optimization needs when it comes to deal with complexity especially in low settings of computational resource.

Keywords: Brain Tumor Segmentation, Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Deep Learning, UNet (U-Shaped Network), ResUNet (Residual UNet), Attention Universal Network (Attention UNet), Automated Segmentation, Machine Learning in Healthcare.

1 Introduction

One of the very important tasks in the field of medical imaging which is known as Segmentation of brain tumours, as it actually helps in accurate diagnosis along with treatment planning and monitoring of the tumors in brain. The revolution that deep learning has had a very great impact particularly in this mentioned area, as it offers strong and effective automatic image segmentation methods. This research introduces novel integration of advanced deep learning architectures (Vanilla UNet, ResUNet, and Attention

UNet) to address the challenges of accurate and efficient brain tumor segmentation in multi-modal MRI scans. By focusing on attention mechanisms, the study improves segmentation precision, especially in critical regions, offering a more practical solution for clinical deployment. Segmentation of medical image over the decade has an exemplary improvements which were mainly driven by convolutional neural networks(CNNs) and the variants. Designs like UNet, VNet or transformer based models were able to show some promising segmenting of complex anatomical structures. But not least to forget these models are very high in cost association and complexities which limit their application in real world clinical settings. With that perspective this research is endeavouring to addresses these types of problems with the help of deep learning models.

In order to do that this model will deliver an improvisation in the accuracy of the results , with the reduced computation that can include advanced techniques like attention mechanism and dense connections among transformers. Gao et al. (2023) The major aim of study was to develop a scalable yet efficient solution that could be applied in clinical settings in order to enhance the accuracy and speed for the diagnosis.

1.1 Problem Background

These days when there's an increase in incidents of brain tumours, it has highlighted need for precision and effective diagnostics tools. Traditional segmentation methods are time consuming and are subject to inter-observer variability. The automated segmentation which basically uses the deep learning models offer a good alternative , delivering consistent and an accurate results with time Kaur et al. (2022). The Use of CNNs and its variants represent very important milestone in medical image processing. Liu et al. (2021)

1.2 Research Motivation

Accurate brain tumor segmentation in MRI scans is crucial for diagnosis and treatment planning. While deep learning models such as UNet and VNet have shown promising results, they often require significant computational resources, limiting their application in resource-constrained clinical settings Zhang et al. (2021). This creates a barrier to wider clinical adoption, especially in facilities with limited infrastructure.

This research seeks to overcome these challenges by adopting deep learning architectures that incorporate attention mechanisms, with a specific focus on the Attention UNet model. Attention U-Net has been shown to keep the model's focus on key regions of MRI scans to segment better and more efficiently Gao et al. (2023). The originality of this research is in creating a model that improves the accuracy of segmentation but is also designed for low computational capacity environments. Attention UNet is ideal for this situation as it solves the problem in a quick and affordable manner thus improving the availability of advanced medical imaging technologies in different health care environments Mishra et al. (2022).

1.3 Research Question and Objectives

The research question posed in this study is: **"How can integrating attention mechanisms into deep learning models improve segmentation accuracy while making the models suitable for environments with limited computational**

resources?" To address this research question, the following specific research objectives were derived:

1. Investigate the state of the art in medical image segmentation, focusing on deep learning techniques.
2. Designing and implementing Vanilla UNet, ResNeXt UNet, and Attention UNet models for brain tumor segmentation.
3. Evaluate the performance of these models using standard metrics such as Dice coefficient, accuracy, precision, specificity, and IoU
4. Compare the models to determine the most effective architecture for this task .

1.4 Structure of the Report

The study is structured to guide the researcher through the research study systematically. Chapter 2 reviews literature, already available on brain tumor segmentation and identifies gaps filled by this research. Chapter 3 details how the methodology was carried out in respect to data set, preprocessing and model selection. Chapter 4 presents the design specifications of the deep learning models implemented. Chapter 5 describes how to implement this approach in practice, including issues of data preparation and training. Chapter 6 the models are assessed by performance measures such as interprets the output, demonstrates interpretation of results for their meaning and significance. Finally, Chapter 7 ummarizes the review and provides recommendations for further studies.

2 Related Work

Segmentation of brain tumor is important in accurate diagnosis, treatment planning and monitoring of brain tumors as it encompasses complex anatomic features that change in size shape and location. However, manual outlining by radiologists is often used to perform traditional segmentation techniques but it consumes much time with high inter observer variability leading to substantial differences in obtained results. Automated approaches have led to development new methods for segmenting brain tumors that are efficient and reliable in neuronal structure segmentation.

2.1 Evolution of Brain Tumor Segmentation Techniques

In Ronneberger et al. (2015) introduced UNet architecture a biomedical image segmentation algorithm that achieved Dice coefficient of 0.91 in about 2015. Although structures smaller than ten pixels could not be segmented by it, but still the model was able to capture small details which paved way for future improvements on its segmentations models. Later on Milletari et al. (2016) developed V-Net for three-dimensional (3D) medical image segmentation which achieved an MRI Segmentation Dice Coefficient of 0.89 in prostate magnetic resonance images (MRI).Despite being effective, this model had an expensive cost of computational resources, which was pegged at 40 GFLOPs and further hindered by an inability to handle very small structures, especially in situations where there is scarcity.

Cicek et al. (2016) developed U-Net for volumetric segmentation with the Dice's score of 0.88 using sparse annotations. However, this model was quite demanding on memory as it necessitated the use of 128GB RAM that raises some scalability problems: This approach allowed a new architecture like UNet++ to be created as explained by Zhou et al. (2022), resulting in a dice coefficient of up to 0.90 due to iterative steps were applied. However, this resulted in higher computational needs that meant that training time would increase by about 30% and also presented challenges related to scaling and efficiency.

The UNet Architecture has been advanced in the field by Oktay et al. (2018) and Gu et al. (2022) who have introduced attention mechanisms to the architecture. What Oktay et al. (2018) did was that they added gates to UNet so that its pancreas segmentation reached Dice coefficient of 0.84 but with twice as much training time as standard UNet. On the otherhand, Gu and others developed SAR UNet which incorporated segmentation awareness, attention mechanisms leading an increase in memory usage although accuracy increased to a Dice coefficient of 0.90.

The nnU-net framework was developed by Isensee et al. (2021) which is self-configuring UNet and worked well longitudinal across a myriad of datasets 0.93 for the dice score. As for its height dimensions, the spatial domain of the model, as well as the filter domain, have very tall nature structure, now this elevation of complexity together with other problems of hyper-parameters means that its practical execution was much more challenging than such problems and hyper parameters tuning during field work of implementation due to high dimensionality which is the same as that of the spatial domain and the filter space among others aspects that relate directly or indirectly thereto. Further, Chen et al. (2022) advanced on this premise and development of the UNet model was further enhanced by making use of transformer blocks which helped them reach a Dice coefficient of 0.89 by this method but it takes 128 TPU hours meaning that only places with adequate resource can be able to apply it.

Zhang et al. (2021) and Zhu et al. (2021) presented further improvements on the UNet model. To create the Residual UNet (ResUNet), Zhang et al. (2021)used residual connections in a UNet, which was able to achieve a Dice coefficient of 0.91 for brain MRI segmentation. Nevertheless, this increased training time by 25%. As such, Zhu et al. (2021)'s introduced multi-scale attention mechanisms which resulted in a Dice coefficient of 0.90 and an improved training time by 30%. This again shows that there is always a trade-off between complex models and their performance.

In another study by Xue et al. (2024), who segmented multi-modal images using MRI, CT scans as well as PET scans with convolutional neural networks (CNNs) and hybrid models, dice coefficients ranged from 0.85 to 0.90. It was reported that image quality variability had an impact on generalization while dataset sizes had computational costs increased by approximately 40% and memory usage raised up to about 60%. Similarly, AbdElwareth et al. (2023)'s work examined prominent architectures like UNet, SegNet, DeepLabV3 for brain tumor segmentation where DeepLabV3 proved to be most accurate with a dice coefficient of 0.88 but it incurs more costs to compute with increase of the computational costs by about 35% and memory use rose by half respectively; both studies recommended improving model architectures towards better generalization and efficiency.

In 2023, Al Ruba et al. (2023) presented a deep learning model named JGate-AttResUNet that employs attention mechanisms and residual connections for the segmentation of brain tumors. The model showed a dice coefficient of 0.90 leading to a 45% hike in computation costs with an additional 55 % escalation in memory usage compared to conventional UNet models. They also proposed further studies to refine these techniques and investigate the flexibility of this system concerning various types of tumors.

2.2 Limitations and Gaps in Research

When it comes to deep learning models, the existing research's gaps and limitations are well established in the literature on brain tumor segmentation. Although Ronneberger et al. (2015) and Milletari et al. (2016) have observed that image quality varies a lot and small structures may not be precisely segmented, it is still hard to do so. Using large memory capacity and processing power for resources-constrained environments is still difficult as can be seen in VNet and 3D UNet models Cicek et al. (2016)Zhou et al. (2022). The situation with regard to advanced, nnUNet and transformer-based UNet model's complexity has been highlighted by Isensee et al. (2021) and Chen et al. (2022), respectively, which makes implementation as well as scalability more difficult. Besides that according to Xue et al. (2024), AbdElwareth et al. (2023) and Al Ruba et al. (2023) multi-modal attention-based models significantly increase computational costs as well as memory usage thus making them inefficient for optimization purposes.

Also, the performance of the model and its generalization are affected by data imbalance, more so when dealing with under-represented tumor types or sizes. This brings out the need for bigger and more diverse training data sets as well as advanced data augmentation techniques to improve model robustness and accuracy in real clinical scenarios. Although attention mechanisms and transformer-based models offer potential improvements, they introduce additional challenges related to increased training time and computational resource demands, as reported by Gu et al. (2022) and Zhu et al. (2021). To bridge these gaps, therefore, research studies should be focused on optimizing model efficiency; improving generalizability; and developing more scalable solutions for brain tumor segmentation. Thus, the proposed Attention UNet model can improve segmentation accuracy while keeping computational efficiency high thus making it possible to have robust or more clinically applicable solutions.

3 Methodology

The intention of this research is to improve brain tumor segmentation in multimodal MRI images by using sophisticated deep learning techniques. Techniques used, experimental setup and dataset are presented in this section as shown in Figure 1.

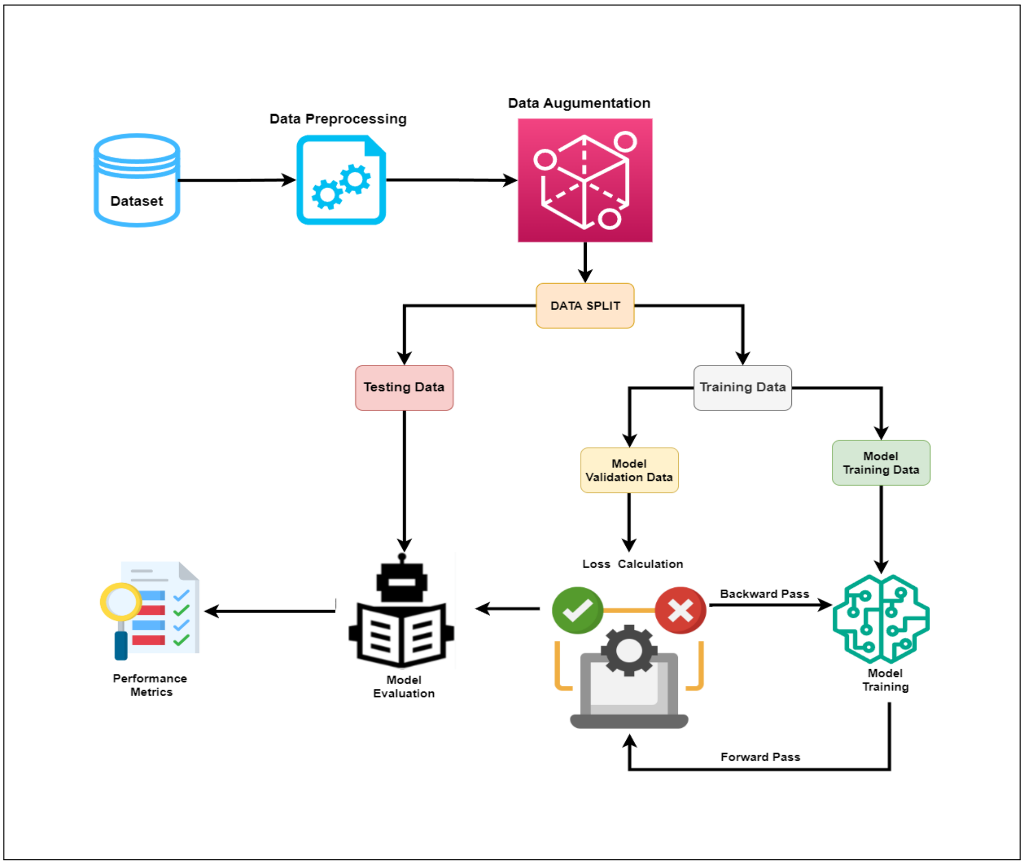

Figure 1: Proposed Methodology Architecture for Brain Tumor Segmentation

3.1 Dataset Description

This study employed lower-grade glioma(LGG) Segmentation Dataset that consists of brain Magnetic Resonance (MR) images and manual fluid-attenuated inversion recovery (FLAIR) abnormality segmentation masks. The Cancer Imaging Archive (TCIA) provided the dataset that was made up of 110 patients contained in 7860 files, formatted as Tagged Image File(TIF), for LGG collection under The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA), which have at least FLAIR sequences and genomic cluster data available. This dataset was chosen because it has a wide range of content areas and high quality imaging data for training our segmentation model with high accuracy without any legal or ethical objection. These slices include MR imaging (MRI) from three modalities T1, T2, and FLAIR combined into an RGB image to enhance the precision of segmentation as shown in the sample below Figure 2.

The relevance and credibility of the dataset are well-documented, with studies by Buda et al. (2019) and Mazurowski et al. (2017) highlighting its utility and reliability. In addition, the dataset contains several types of data that are frequently used in practice such as computed tomography (CT) and MRI for brain tumor diagnosis, which provide a strong basis for comprehensive analysis and application. This heterogeneity of scanner modalities and acquisition protocols mirrors real-world conditions, thereby enhancing the generalizability of our segmentation model Buda et al. (2019),Mazurowski et al. (2017)

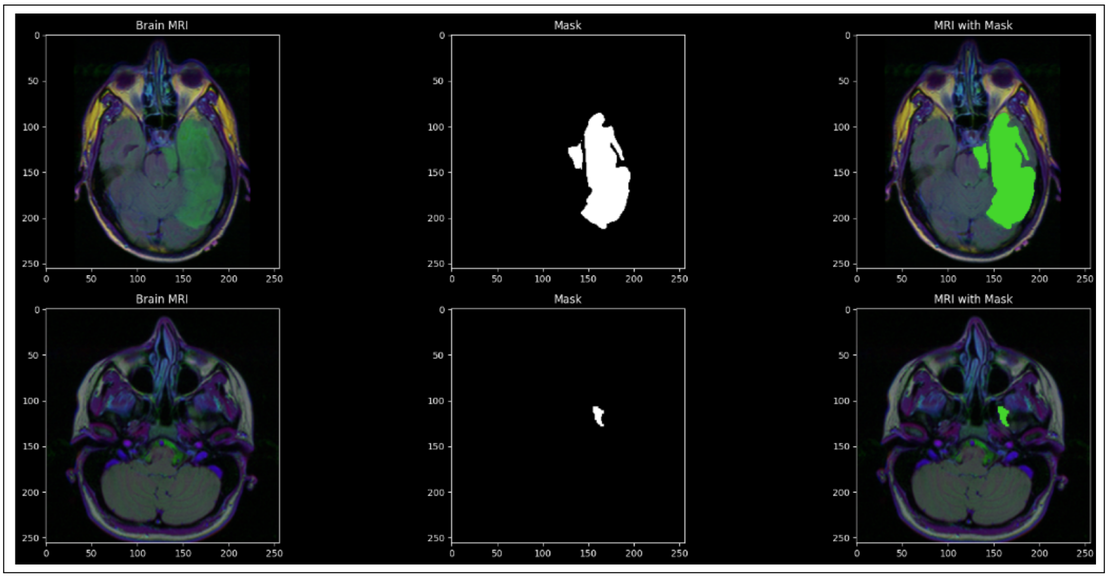

Figure 2: Sample multi-modal brain MRI image (T1, T2, and FLAIR modalities) with their mask

3.2 Data Preparation

A data frame was created to map each image to its corresponding mask file and their respective diagnosis value before reading the image files with their respective masks. To identify the paths for images and corresponding image masks accurately, this data frame encompassed a total of 110 patients and 3,929 records. As seen in Figure 3, patient diagnoses are distributed in the dataset such that cancerous cases constitute 34.9% while non-cancerous ones are 65.1%.

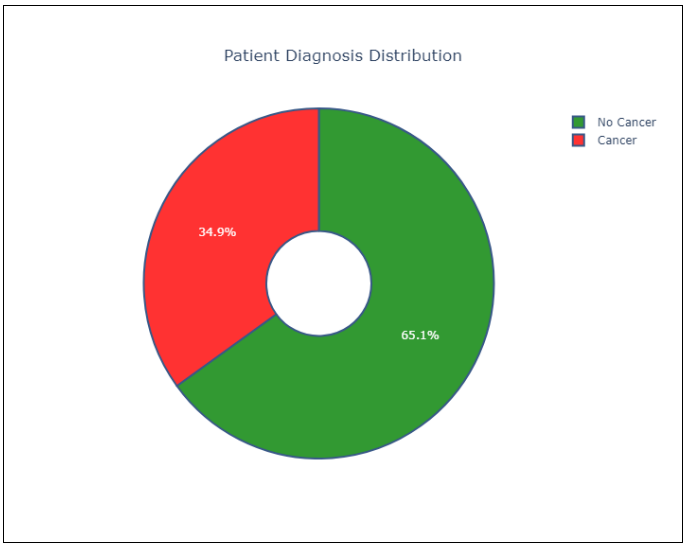

Figure 3: Brain Tumor Diagnosis Distribution in the dataset

3.3 Data Augumentation

This study is limited in some aspects because of the relatively small sample size including potential biases that can arise from the small size and heterogeneity of the dataset. A small number of MRI scans could result in model overfitting, this is when the model does well only on the training data but rather poorly on any other data that it has not been trained on. Also, the variances in the dataset whether in the type of MRI acquisition protocol, the size of the tumor, and the type of imaging will also affect the performance of the models. Therefore, these factors lead to poor training of the models as there are no stable trends that have been captured, and hence bias and low generalizability might occur.

To mitigate these challenges, data augmentation techniques were employed. This study was aimed at developing data augmentation to enhance the resilience of segmentation models. 'Albumentations' library resized, flipped, rotated and normalized for an attention-based model in PyTorch. A generator used rotations, shearing, shifts, flipping and zooming on UNet and ResUNet models in Keras. These changes have made the models more robust in handling intra-patient variations which are crucial for effective brain tumor segmentation in real-world applications where medical images may vary greatly Gu et al. (2022)Al Ruba et al. (2023).

3.4 Data Splitting

Stratified sampling was used to separate the dataset into training, validation and testing subsets to maintain a consistent diagnostic distribution. The first split assigned 18% to validation and 82% to training. After that, the training set was further partitioned with 20% set aside as the test set. This gave 2,576 for training, 708 for validation and 645 for test cases. Stratification preserved a balanced ratio of non-cancerous (65%) and cancerous (35%) cases in all groups which is a fair representation of the entire dataset maintaining data integrity necessary for correct model construction, validation, and evaluation Xue et al. (2024)

3.5 Model Building and Training

3.5.1 Model Selection

Each of the deep learning models chosen in this research for the tasks of medical images segmentation has settled for certain characteristics and thus builds on their pros and cons.

- The **Attention UNet Model** was chosen as it optimizes sensitivity in images by concentrating on essential parts of the image with the focus on accentuating the segmentation. Such attention mechanism helps the model in focusing on important portion which increases the accuracy Zhou et al. (2022). Nevertheless, with the implementation of attention mechanisms, it adds towards the tier of the model which simply means extra time in training when compared to the traditional UNet models. While this possibly improves performance, it also increases the complexity as the processor has to work harder and use more memory.

- The **Vanilla UNet Model** whose structure is encoder-decoder was considered as it is capable of efficiently encompassing the whole picture and some picture parts which positions it as a good starting point in biometric segmentation Ronneberger et al. (2015). In relation to this simpler architecture, due to the lack of complex factors such as the attention architecture, training times are shorter than the Attention UNet which is a good choice for areas of limited processing capabilities. Unfortunately, this comes at a price of subpar segmentation performance, in this case especially for complicated tumor outlines.

- The **ResUNet Model** Since the ResUNet Model has been noted to employ residual connections, which assist in alleviation of the vanishing gradient problem of deeper networks and hence enhance the feature extraction He et al. (2016). Whenever ResUNet seems to be enriching the feature extraction the additional leaves and the residual connections make the training longer. This model is effective but computationally more expensive than Vanilla UNet but not as expensive as Attention U-Net.

In order to solve these computational issues plus to cut down training times, the images were respectively, preprocessed and optimized through the **Adam optimization** technique known to prevent over-fitting by altering the learning rate in the course of training for faster readiness.Chen et al. (2022). Tuning of hyper-parameters like the learning rates, batch size and the dropout rates one intensive and extensive process was done in producing a trade-off between model performance and operational performance. On the other hand, Attention U-Net had the most extended training periods, hyperparameter tuning was the most efficient way to maximize the model convergence. Feedback from the validation dataset after every epoch was aimed to provide an enhancement for the models, addressing problems such as underfitting and overfitting. After every epoch, the validation dataset served as feedback for fine-tuning so that the models could neither underfit nor overfit. The ability of the tools employed which is the splitter to adjust learning rates was the most outstanding feature that promoted reduction in training times in most cases and especially with deeper models like ResUNet or attention unet Chen et al. (2022). It is important also to note that metrics such as accuracy, Dice coefficient and IoU had to be employed in order to analyze the models and improve them eventually for use in real-life conditions reliably.

3.6 Evaluation Metrics

After fine-tuning the models using the validation dataset, the Vanilla UNet, ResUNet, and Attention UNet were evaluated using key metrics as mentioned below. These metrics help to assess model performance in a more comprehensive way as it is stipulated in previous research.AbdElwareth et al. (2023); Al Ruba et al. (2023); Chen et al. (2022)

1. Precision : Precision assesses the positivity prediction accuracy that is important in minimizing false positives in medical imaging Liu et al. (2021)
2. Specificity: It quantifies how well model recognizes non-target areas, reducing false positives Zhou et al. (2022).
3. Sensitivity: Sensitivity measures the ability of the model to effectively identify positive cases, very important in medical diagnostics as it prevents missing real patients with diseases Chen et al. (2022) .
4. F1 Score : F1 Score trades off precision and recall providing a single score that accounts for both false positives and false negatives; this metric is particularly useful when dealing with imbalanced datasets Zhang et al. (2021).
5. Dice Similarity Coefficient(DSC):It combines recall and precision by measuring how much of the predicted masks overlaps with the actual ones, the higher being better.

$$\text{Dice} = \frac{2 \times |A \cap B|}{|A| + |B|}$$

- $|A \cap B|$ refers to the intersecting part between predicted set A and ground truth set B.
- $|A|$ The number of elements in the predicted set
- $|B|$ The number of elements in the ground-truth set "B"

6. Intersection over Union(IoU) / Jaccard Index :Intersection over Union (IoU) which is also called Jaccard Index measures how accurate are results gotten for overlapping areas between the predictive mask and a ground-truth mask.

$$\text{IoU} = \frac{|A \cap B|}{|A \cup B|}$$

- $|A \cap B|$ is the intersection between the predicted set A and the ground truth set B.
- $|A \cup B|$ is the union of the predicted set A and the ground truth set B.

All these metrics taken together allow us for direct comparison of models in order to identify their strengths as well as weaknesses rather than individual limitations Xue et al. (2024)

4 Design Specification

The design of the project concentrated on selecting techniques, frameworks and architectures that could effectively meet the requirements for medical image segmentation. Core models consisted of Vanilla UNet, ResUNet, and Attention UNet, which were chosen because of their strengths in dealing with medical images. The implementation involved PyTorch for attention based models and Keras for UNet variations to ensure flexibility and strong performance.

4.1 Initial Requirements

This project was done in Google Colab Pro using pay-as-you-go subscription with an NVIDIA 'L4 GPU' having a memory capacity of 23GB and an Intel Xeon CPU with 12 cores clocked at 2.20GHz. This configuration offered enough computing power needed for efficient model training and data processing. For this software environment included Python 3.10.12, CUDA 12.2, TensorFlow 2.17.0, Keras 3.4.1, albumentations 0.4.6, OpenCV, scikit-learn and NumPy were used. These tools were selected for compatibility with deep learning workflows and hence facilitated data augmentation, model training as well as performance optimization because they are efficient in such operations.

4.2 Base Model Architecture : Vanilla UNet

This investigation applies a base UNet model in finding correct boundaries for medical images, which, due to its symmetrical structure, has been widely recognized as an effective biomedical application Ronneberger et al. (2015). As shown in figure 4,the UNet consists of two paths: the contracting path that is called the encoder and expansive path or

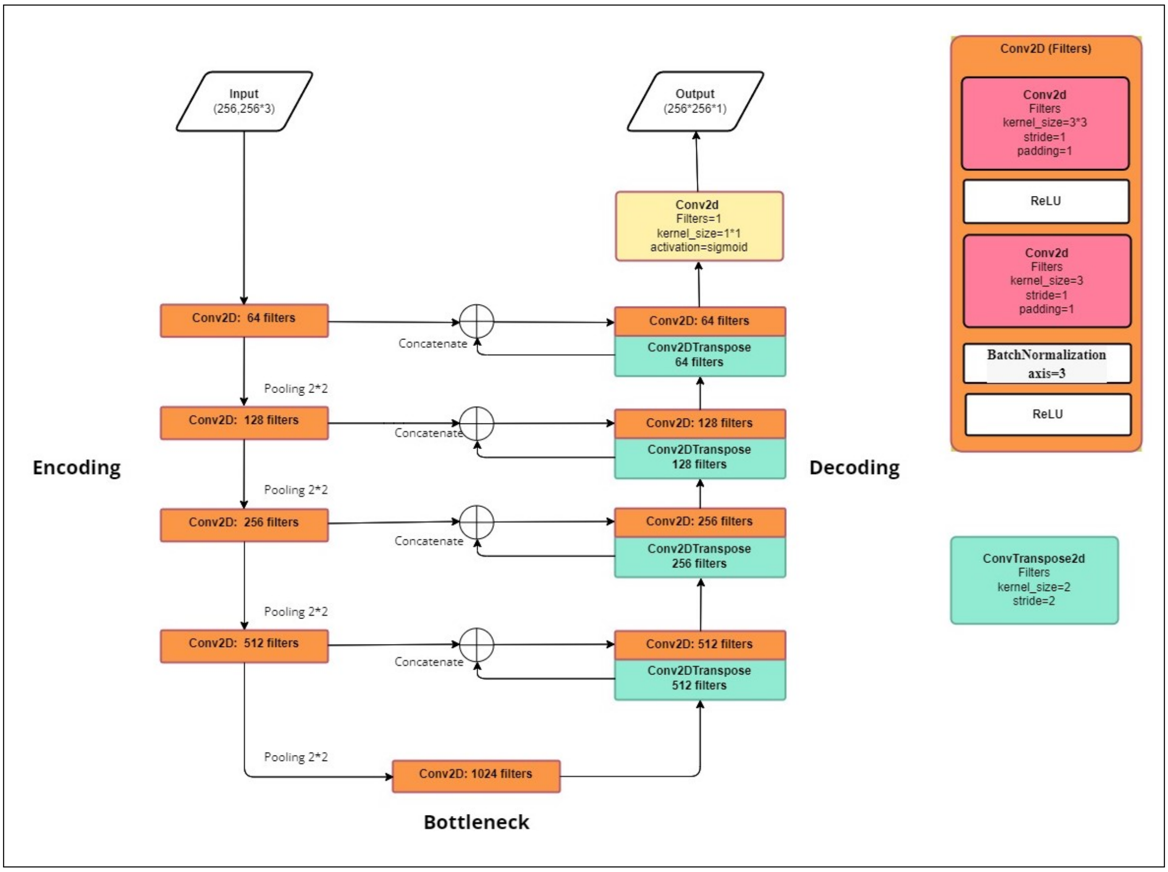

Figure 4: UNet Model Architecture

decoder that are connected through skip connections allowing the model to learn from both high-level abstract and low-level detailed features. Convolutional layers with filters detect features such as edges and textures whilst batch normalization ensures faster and more stable training . ReLU activation brings about non-linearity in the handling of complex data. Max-pooling reduces map sizes while maintaining important attributes.

The multiplication commences with an input sized at 256x256x3,while filters are progressively increased to 64, 128, 256, and then to 512, the highest point being at1024 in order to capture more complicated patterns Zhou et al. (2022). The deepest part of the network called bottleneck layer uses most filters of all sizes that are equal to 1024 for capturing the most general features in between encoder and decoder Ronneberger et al. (2015) The last process of image reconstruction is composed of numerous upsampling layers and skip connections that are able to keep both important details and high level structures . This helps produce a binary segmentation map with each pixel classified as either foreground or background by using sigmoid activation followed by final one-by-one convolutional layer Huang et al. (2022). For medical image segmentation tasks, this architecture is very strong Zhang et al. (2021)

4.3 Proposed Model Architecture : Attention UNet

The current research proposes an Attention UNet model which is made by introducing attention mechanisms into the classical UNet architecture to improve segmentation accuracy. By doing so, this mechanism helps the neural network in focusing on significant parts of the information while ignoring less important ones thus mimicking human selectivity Gao et al. (2023) of selective attention is implemented via attention gates, which provide coefficients for deciding on the significance of various image regions Liu et al. (2021) The architecture is visually represented shown in figure 5.The encoder path

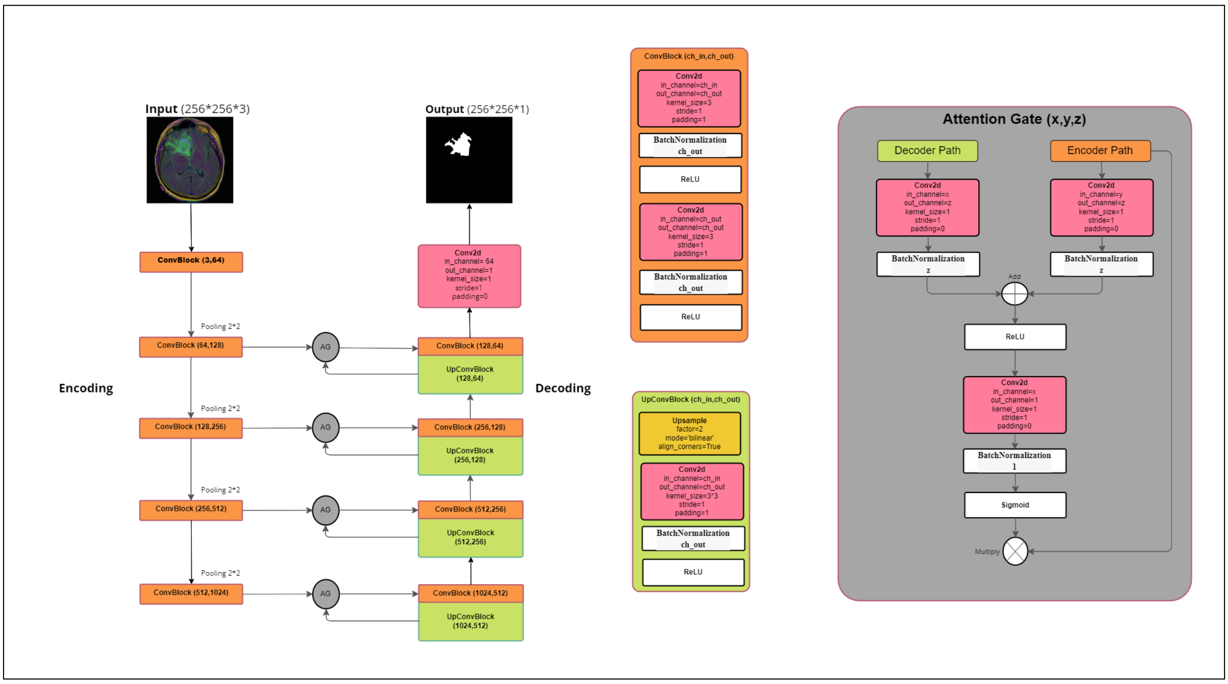

Figure 5: Attention UNet Model Architecture

of Attention UNet involves ConvBlocks that are used to extract features from the input image starting from size 256x256x3. The encoder consists of convolutional layers with increasing filters; beginning with 64, then 128, 256, moving to 512 and finally finishing off with 1024 after each batch normalization and ReLU activation. The spatial dimensions are reduced by max-pooling layers following every ConvBlock. At its deepest point, the bottleneck layer captures abstract features using 1024 filters. In contrast to max-pooling operation, up-sampling blocks (UpConvBlocks) based on transposed convolution can also be adopted for reconstructing images starting with 1024 filters that reduce to 64 at the end of the process.The skip connections combine the up-sampled feature maps and corresponding encoder maps that have been refined by attention gates, focusing on important areas of the image.

Starting with upsampled version of encoder's high resolution encoder feature maps. The coefficients generated by attention gate provides weight to these features for enhancing the significant regions while suppressing irrelevant ones. At each skip connection point, this improved map is added to the encoder features preserving both detailed information and high-level semantics. These include ConvBlocks, up-sampling operations, as well as attention gates that create a strong basis for image segmentation in which case they perform better than any other method by highlighting relevant regions while maintaining detailed features Liu et al. (2021).

4.4 Model Architecture - ResUNet

A UNet-like architecture with ResNeXt50 backbone comes in the form of a ResUNet model that improves image segmentation. On the other hand, the encoder based on ResNeXt50 uses aggregated residual transformations instead of doubling filters at each stage, which highly enhances its performance in capturing complex patterns Liu et al. (2021)Mishra et al. (2022). The use of residual connections to improve learning and gradient flow enhances the vanishing gradients issue. It consists of an input layer for RGB images of size 256x256x3 followed by scaling for normalization. In order to speed up convergence, He-normal initialization is used with ReLU activation Conv2D layers as well as Dropout layers to reduce overfitting problems He et al. (2016). MaxPooling2D layers reduce spatial dimensions while keeping important features intact on feature maps He et al. (2016). Another major difference from traditional UNet is that it has a bottleneck layer which captures abstract features using ResNeXt50's advanced architecture before passing them through the decoder. Conv2DTranspose increases the size or resolution of features, which are then concatenated with corresponding ones in encoders via skip connections for aiding in recovering spatial information.To additionally enhance feature reconstruction and provide smooth gradient flow, residual connections are also employed in the decoder. The last layer is Conv2D with sigmoid activation that gives a segmentation map. For complex segmentation tasks, this hybrid approach effectively combines the feature extraction abilities of ResNeXt50 with the up-sampling processes of UNet Huang et al. (2022).

Overall, integrating ResNeXt50 into the UNet architecture provides a more powerful feature extraction process, offering a robust solution for image segmentation tasks. This hybrid approach combines ResNeXt50's strengths with UNet's effective up-sampling and refinement processes, making it particularly suitable for complex segmentation tasks.

5 Implementation

The implementation section details the practical application of the proposed methodology, including the development environment, tools used, and the step-by-step process of coding, testing, and validating the solution to achieve the desired outcomes.

5.1 Data Handling and Preprocessing

The first step involves manual upload of the dataset, which is in a zip file, into Google Drive. Then, on Google Colab Pro platform they choose L4 runtime and open a notebook. By drive.mount('/content/drive') command Google Drive is mounted to make the dataset available. The files should be unzipped and placed in order within the working directory after this. Some of these libraries that need to be set up include "albumentations", tensorflow, keras among others. For reproducibility and consistent image formatting global variables are given. !nvidia-smi command can be used to verify GPU information like NVIDIA L4 23GB memory. A data frame is created listing directories and files in the dataset. Using 'mask' as a filter keyword two more data frames will be obtained separating MRI images from their corresponding masks. Actually they have been sorted so as to match images with masks.

Finally, three final columns are generated namely; patient number, image path and mask path for that particular patient. OpenCV is then employed to assess pixel values through the use of "diagnosis" column which indicates the presence or absence of a tumor. Finally it checks for total number of patients and records by Plotly followed by plotting for patient diagnosis distribution while visually checking sample images with their masks ensuring proper preparation before training the model.

5.2 Data Augumentation

In the implementation, data augmentation was tailored differently for the Attention U-Net model compared to the Vanilla U-Net and ResUNet models due to their varying input and output tensor shapes.

5.2.1 Attention U-Net Data Augmentation

The Attention U-Net model was processed using albumentations library to undergo resizing, random flipping of images in batches, 90-degree rotation of images as well as transpositioning of image axes along with shift-scale-rotate transformations. This resulted in image batches with a tensor shape: torch.Size([26, 3, 128, 128]) and labels with: torch.Size([26, 1, 1, 128, 128]) that are optimal for its architecture.

5.2.2 Vanilla U-Net and ResUNet Data Augmentation

These were done alongside other standard augmentations such as rotations, shear, shifts, zooms, horizontal flips, etc., using the ImageDataGenerator class in Keras (`flow_from_dataframe()` method) for these models. Hence, we have images shaped `(32, 256, 256, 3)` with corresponding masks being `(32, 256, 256, 1)`. As shown by Table 1 below these tailor made augmentation schemes were consistent with their respective architectures to make them generalize better on various datasets without compromising on their accuracy levels.

Model	Library Used	Output Shape (Images)	Output Shape (Masks)	Augmentation Techniques
Attention U-Net	albumentations	torch.Size([32, 3, 128, 128])	torch.Size([32, 1, 1, 128, 128])	Resize: 128*128, Flip p=0.5, Rotate p=0.5, Shift Scale Rotate p=0.25, shift_limit=0.01, scale_limit=0.04, rotate_limit=0, To_Tensor, additional_targets= {'mask': 'mask'}
Vanilla Unet and ResUNet	Keras ImageDataGenerator	(32, 256, 256, 3)	(32, 256, 256, 1)	Rotation: 0.2, Width Shift: 0.05, Height Shift: 0.05, Shear: 0.05, Zoom: 0.05, Horizontal Flip: True, Fill Mode: nearest

Table 1: Summary of Data Augmentation Techniques

Compared to discussing the methods solely based on the ImageDataGenerator library, in this study the research team utilized model specific advanced data augmentation methods incorporating the Albumentations library as they were more beneficial. It enriched the transformations by alternating and concurrently including flips and shear rotations which also multiplied the training data and therefore enhanced the model's performance as observed with the dice coefficient. These techniques made the models reproduce features more than their training set and made it possible for the models to learn important features from unseen test set improving performance. Moreover, where relevant, stratified sampling was used in dividing the dataset so that there was an even distribution of tumor and non-tumor samples in all three data sets categories: training, validation and testing. This strategy of distribution made it impossible for the model to be biased towards the majority class which reduced overfitting and improved the ability of several representatives to work with the model. These additional approaches were considered unnecessary since the existing strategies for data augmentation were appropriate and effective in maintaining the balance and generalization of the model.

5.3 Model Training

5.3.1 Hyperparameter Tuning

An initial learning schedule which commences at a rate between 1e-4 and 1e-2 and reduces at a decay rate of 0.96 was employed in Hyperparameter Tuning. A 16 – 64 range of batch sizes was made and dropout rates within the range of 0.2 – 0.5 were employed to curb overfitting. The images that were enhanced were restored on a resolution of 256 – 32 in pixel a format. For the Attention U-Net, in addition, fine tuning was also done on the attention gate thershold values ranging between 0.1 and 0.9. Likewise, number of epochs were also experimented upon from 10 – 100 and since there was a criterion of total exeuction time taken and model performance , the number of epochs run finally was settled at 25. However, the parameters deemed most suitable were a learning rate of 1e-4, a batch of 32, a dropout of 0.3, and an input image of 128*128 pixels. As GPU usage reduction without affecting performance is a crucial challenge, many of the key values were determined after thorough testing to fine-tune performance.

5.3.2 Vanilla UNet Implementation

A basic vanilla style U-Net model was developed for brain MRI segmentation and tumor detection. However, this dataset needs to be stratified into train, validation and test sets in order to ensure an even distribution of classes Cicek et al. (2016). In training, data augmentation was done using Keras' ImageDataGenerator along with its custom generator for matching augmented images with their masks. The optimizer used when the model was compiled is Adam with an exponentially decaying learning rate that starts at 1e-4 and decreases by 4% after each decay step . Since a smooth variable has been incorporated into this loss function it will prevent division by zero hence the custom loss function based on Dice coefficient i.e `dice_coef_loss` can be optimized using this method. After generating fifty batches of images during training using a batch size of thirty two, the best model was saved with a checkpoint callback which uses early stopping to save overfitting from happening. These are some of the key performance metrics that were accounted for; IoU, Dice Coefficient, Precision, Recall F1 score and Specificity Zhou et al. (2022). Finally the matplotlib visualization of trn's history saved as .pkl file shows how well our model performed throughout its build up process. On this dataset Vanilla U-Net architecture achieved very good segmentation performance on held-out set

5.3.3 Attention UNet Implementation

After the preprocessing steps outlined in Sections 5.1 and 5.2, the dataset was split into training, validation, and test sets using a stratified approach to ensure an even distribution of classes based on diagnosis labels Cicek et al. (2016). After the preprocessing steps, the dataset was divided into training, validation and test sets so that there is an even distribution of diagnosis labels Cicek et al. (2016). Data augmentation was done using albumentations library in a custom dataset class called DataCustomise for correct pairing of augmented images with their corresponding masks in training. The model was compiled with Adam optimizer at learning rate 1e-4. Optimization employed DiceLoss function which used the Dice coefficient with a smooth variable to prevent dividing by zero.

The proposed model had customized parameters and architectural enhancements including different values of ch_in and ch_out such as 64, 128, 256, 512 and 1024 respectively which enabled efficient feature extraction. The attention mechanism enhanced segmentation accuracy through focusing on relevant features controlled by f_g, f_l and f_int parameters. Convolutional layers with kernels of size 3x3 were implemented to maintain the spatial information that is crucial for accurate tumor delineation. Batch normalization along with ReLU activation served to stabilize as well as speed up the training process whereas final sigmoid activation preceded by 1x1 convolution ensures exact binary segmentation.

The attention mechanism was optimized across resolutions, epochs, learning rates and batch sizes. IoU, Dice coefficient, precision, recall, F1 score, and specificity were used as measures of the effectiveness of model. During training early stopping and model checkpointing were employed to save the best model a .pth file. The test dataset included several visualizations of MRI images alongside masks and predicted segmentations; the latter allowed for an improvement in segmentation performance thanks to the attention mechanisms used by this model. The trained models (both architecture and weights) along with their training history files were saved for further analysis.

5.3.4 ResUNet Implementation

The ResUNet model was implemented to perform brain MRI segmentation, specifically targeting tumor detection. The ResUNet model integrates residual connections into the UNet architecture, facilitating deeper network training by mitigating the vanishing gradient problem. The implementation is identical to the Vanilla UNet, except for the model architecture, as mentioned above in 5.3.2.

5.4 Model Evaluation

After training, the models are evaluated on a separate test dataset to confirm their generalization capability , and its performance metrics were printed. The final outputs include the trained models, which are now capable of segmenting brain tumors in new MRI images, and the corresponding code used to implement, train, and evaluate these models., Test predictions were visualized by comparing the original MRI images, true segmentation masks, and predicted masks using OpenCV and matplot Xue et al. (2024).

6 Evaluation

Results from experiments in three different deep learning models: Vanilla UNet, Attention UNet, and ResUNet for the purpose of segmenting MRI images are provided in this section. Optimal results were achieved after 25 epochs and these are based on evaluations of model using key performance metrics.

6.1 Performance of Vanilla UNet

These values kept increasing demonstrating that it learnt well during training.As shown in Table 2, Dice coefficient improved to 0.8451 by the last epoch, F1-score reached to 0.8757, IoU became equal to 0.7340.The initial learning rate of the model was set at 1 x10-4 with a decay rate of 0.96 that let it slowly decrease throughout training.These findings underline how precise this model is when it comes to segmenting regions of interest.Training loss as well as validation loss decreased indicating that not only did our model learn well but also generalized properly on validation data as shown in figure one below (loss curve). The training Dice coefficient steadily increased, with the validation Dice coefficient following a similar trend, despite some fluctuations, as depicted in Figure 6.

Epoch	Dice Coefficient (0 to 1)	F1 Score (0 to 1)	IoU (0 to 1)	Precision (0 to 1)	Recall (0 to 1)
1st	0.1284	0.3382	0.0699	0.2385	0.8421
5th	0.3646	0.7183	0.2258	0.6454	0.8337
10th	0.6334	0.8091	0.4683	0.7896	0.8397
15th	0.7586	0.8421	0.6162	0.8426	0.8479
20th	0.8077	0.8565	0.6816	0.862	0.857
25th	0.8451	0.8757	0.734	0.8786	0.8774

Table 2: Performance Metrics of Vanilla UNet

Unlike other intricate architectures, Vanilla UNet needed a lot of epochs to attain the best performance due to its slow convergence. But, within each epoch, this model kept on improving such that by the end of the training process it had accurate and high recall values. Then again, validation results showed that the F1 score and Dice coefficient stood at 0.8275 and 0.8590 respectively when they were finally achieved. The model has strong generalization power across different segmentation tasks which is evident in the decrease of Figure 6, validation loss over time .

Figure 6: Training and Validation Trends (Losses, Dice Coefficient and IoU) of the Vanilla UNet model over 25 epochs

Ultimately, even though it took a lot longer to converge than the Simplified and Original models, Vanilla UNet still offered a respectable degree of performance. This means that it could be a viable option for segmentation in design, particularly in cases where the use case only calls for a more straightforward network architecture.More findings, however, suggest that some of the sophisticated models could help improve their accuracy, at least when learning boundary detection tasks and when successfully identifying and segmenting borders ,which in some cases require human judgment,for certain area boundaries.

6.2 Performance of Attention UNet

The UNet architecture can be improved by incorporating attention mechanisms in it, and this will help in focusing effectively on the regions of interest during segmentation thus leading to enhanced accuracy and robustness.The Attention UNet model was evaluated over 25 epochs, using a batch size of 32 and a adaptive learning rate schedule.

6.2.1 Training Performance

There were ignificant improvements were recorded by the Attention UNet model throughout training for all main metrics. The training loss reduced from 0.9143 to 0.3127, which means that learning was effective. The Dice coefficient increased from 0.6536 to 0.8550 indicating better segmentation accuracy. Also, F1 score and IoU increased to 0.6812 and 0.5771 from 0.3393 and 0.2208 respectively.The precision rate increased up to 0.7982 from the previous value of 0.2315 while recall decreased slightly from its original state (0.8411 till 0.6365). With consistently high specificity, the model ensured that false positive rates fell below 0.9987 at all times.

6.2.2 Validation Performance

As seen in the figure 6, the validation performance closely matched the training progress. Over the course of the 25 epochs, the validation loss dropped suggesting strong generalisation to new data. The validation F1 score went from 0.3216 to 0.6895, while the validation Dice coefficient improved. There were notable improvements in the IoU as well, going from 0.2058 to 0.5978.As seen by the steady increases in Dice coefficient and IoU scores, the overall trend in validation measures,figure 6, despite irregular instability, particularly in the mid-training epochs, shows that the Attention UNet model was able to learn and generalise well. The strong validation specificity, which stayed above 0.9983, adds more evidence to support the model's dependability in precisely and moderately segmenting the regions of interest.

Epoch	Dice Coefficient (0 to 1)	F1 Score (0 to 1)	IoU (0 to 1)	Precision (0 to 1)	Recall (0 to 1)
1st	0.6536	0.3382	0.3208	0.2315	0.8411
5th	0.8174	0.6038	0.6857	0.5892	0.6857
10th	0.8747	0.6484	0.7904	0.7879	0.6462
15th	0.8743	0.6976	0.7873	0.805	0.6517
20th	0.9123	0.7114	0.8612	0.7856	0.6765
25th	0.855	0.6812	0.7771	0.7982	0.6365

Table 3: Performance Metrics of Attention UNet

Table 3 presents an overview of the most important performance measures from various epochs. All things considered, the Attention UNet model performed admirably on both in the course of validation and training.UNet's architecture has been greatly improved by including attention mechanisms in it, which made the model better at focusing on relevant areas and as a result its segmentation accuracy was increased. Figure 7 shows that more complex segmentation tasks have resulted in improved model performance as indicated by increasing Dice coefficient, IoU, and lowering loss.

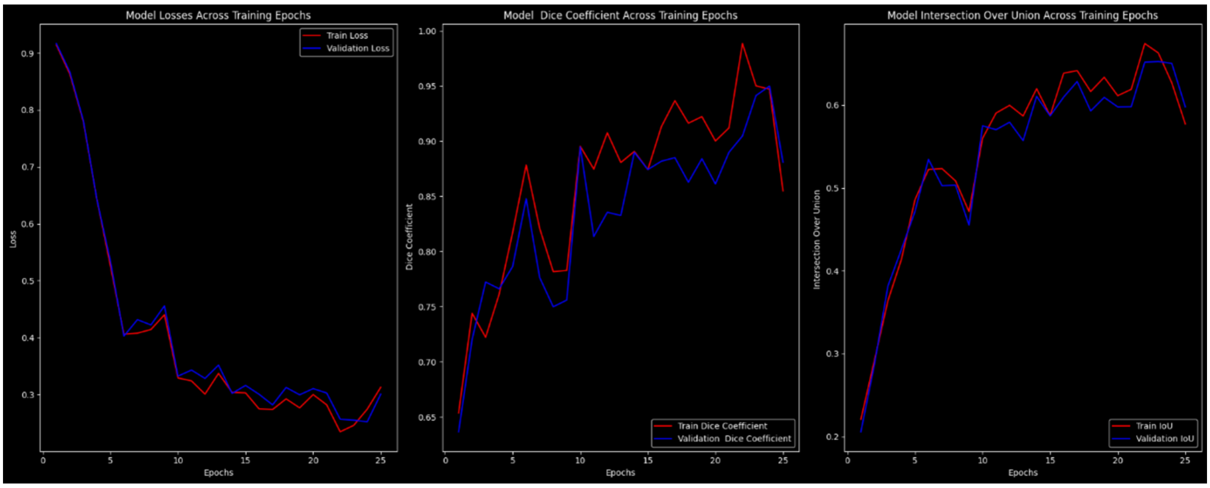

Figure 7: Training and Validation Trends (Losses, Dice Coefficient and IoU) of the Attention UNet model over 25 epochs

Further works could include fine-tuning attention layers or learning rates toward better results for high-precision and high-recall needs. Furthermore, experimenting with various methods of data augmentation or even more sophisticated attention mechanisms might bring about additional enhancements. In the same vein, Figure 7 visualizations provide a holistic overview of how well the Attention UNet model performed over 25 epochs during different segmentation tasks.

6.3 Performance of ResUNet

The ResNet-UNet model was evaluated over 25 epochs, with a batch size of 32 and an initial learning rate managed through an exponential decay schedule. This model architecture leverages ResNet's deep residual learning capabilities combined with UNet's symmetric encoder-decoder structure, enhancing both feature extraction and spatial accuracy in segmentation tasks.

Massive performance gains were observed with ResNet-UNet model in the course of training. In the beginning, the model recorded low results at a Dice coefficient of 0.0710, F1 score of 0.1151 and Intersection over Union (IoU) score of 0.0387. As shown in the table 4, by epoch number 25 all these metrics have changed significantly: Dice coefficient reached to 0.7103, F1 score increased to 0.7106 while IoU score climbed up to 0.5606. The model's loss function which measures predicted segmentation error from ground truth reduced consistently from -0.0707 to -0.7114 indicating that the model was learning useful information from the data effectively; thus able to predict better segmentation maps during testing than those produced by a random guessing algorithm. At last precision and recall improved with final values of 0.7477 and 0.6960 correspondingly showing balanced accuracy in detection of relevant regions while minimizing false positives.

Epoch	Dice Coefficient (0 to 1)	F1 Score (0 to 1)	IoU (0 to 1)	Precision (0 to 1)	Recall (0 to 1)
1st	0.071	0.1151	0.0387	0.1015	0.6013
5th	0.5554	0.5561	0.3956	0.6224	0.5466
10th	0.6241	0.6245	0.4668	0.6606	0.6212
15th	0.6567	0.6572	0.4999	0.7038	0.6418
20th	0.6798	0.68	0.5227	0.7205	0.6641
25th	0.7103	0.7106	0.5606	0.7477	0.696

Table 4: Performance Metrics of ResUNet

Validation metrics showed similar improvements. The validation Dice coefficient increased by 0.50 approx, the F1 score from 0.1777 to 0.6510, and the IoU score from 0.0841 to 0.4907 by the 25th epoch. The validation loss consistently decreased as it has good generalization for unseen data. Although there were minor fluctuations, the model kept a high specificity of more than 99% . It means that model can be used for non-target regions identification with less false positives. The ResNet-UNet model generally had better outcomes across all major indices during its training phase as depicted in Figure 8.

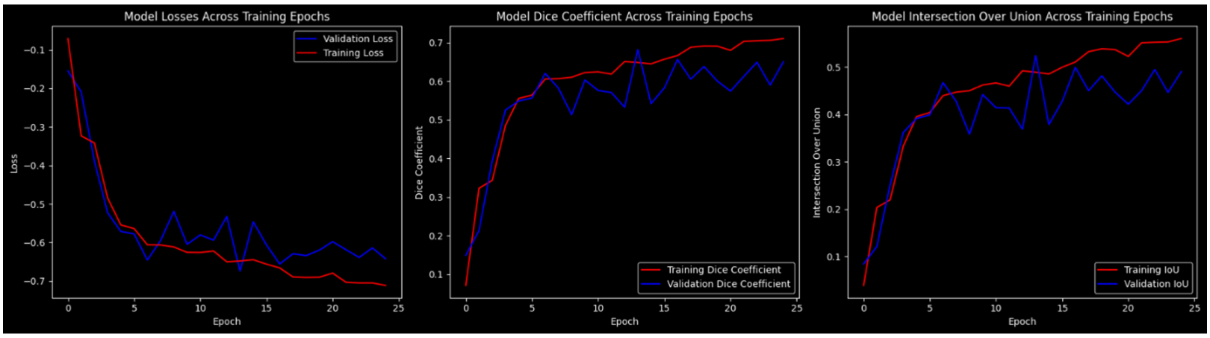

Figure 8: Training and Validation Trends (Losses, Dice Coefficient and IoU) of the ResUNet model over 25 epochs

Deep residual connections in ResNet allowed for the learning of complicated picture characteristics without a substantial loss of spatial precision when paired with UNet's segmentation technique. Future works could involve fine-tuning learning rate, exploring different initializer methods or increasing complexity of ResNet backbone to improve segmentation accuracy much further.

Overall, the ResNet UNet model showed significant improvements across all key metrics throughout its training phases.The integration of the deep residual connections in ResNet and UNet's segmentation approach enabled this model to capture complicated features while still maintaining spatial precision.Perhaps another line of inquiry would include adjusting the learning rate slightly or changing how initialization is done or even adding other components that will make ResNet backbone more complicated in order to increase accuracy of segmentation even further.

6.4 Discussion

By comparing the three prepared models, it is evident that the proposed Attention UNet yielded better results than Vanilla UNet and ResUNet in virtually all the metrics. Due to the utilization of the attention mechanisms, Attention UNet was able to provide more precise attention toward the regions of interests of the MRI images and this is testified by higher Dice coefficients, F1 scores and IoU as shown in Table 5 Gu et al. (2022)Chen et al. (2022). The Vanilla UNet, although a strong base model, did not contain the robust mechanisms to capture complex patterns.

Loss (0 to 1)	Dice Coefficient (0 to 1)	F1 Score (0 to 1)	IoU (0 to 1)	Precision (0 to 1)	Recall (0 to 1)
0.34	0.83	0.6384	0.6	0.774	0.584

Table 5: Performance Metrics of Attention UNet on test data

Figure 9 shows that model could recognize as intricate features as the other models or manually generated segmentation mask. ResUNet has a relatively small time of execution and has a good accuracy in segmentation, but it is still worse than Attention UNet.

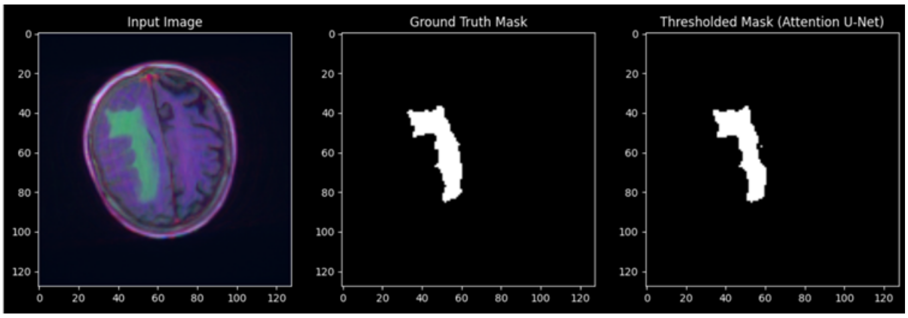

Figure 9: Segmentation Output of Attention UNet Model on test MRI data

6.4.1 Model Limitations

Several limitations arise about the assessment of Vanilla UNet, ResUNet, and Attention UNet models in MRI image segmentation where they point out some drawbacks on their performance especially for segmentation of brain tumors.

- **Model Complexity and Feature Extraction:** Vanilla UNet lacks in ability to identify the complicated characteristics of the tissues mainly when the tissues have an irregular shape such as in the irregular shape of tumours. It might not detect suspicious regions within minor tumour volumes because of the sparse structure and a 256 × 256 matrix as a prerequisite for diagnosis. It becomes a problem, particularly when the programmes are small particularly when small data sets are used, and other complex processes like batch normalization or dropout are not applied.
- **Computational Complexity:**ResUNet improves feature extraction due to recurrent connections; but it increases computational expenditure, making training longer and inference time longer as well. This is somewhat of a problem when it comes to deploying it to connected resource-scarce devices. Attention UNet

likewise brings in more depth with attention gates thus longer times for training and increased computational needs that make it incompatible in the current state for identifying smaller regions of the tumour which are crucial in diagnosis.

- **Sampling and Data Set Limitations:** It is noteworthy that the work performed supposes the sampling of MRI images Although, the study sample can hardly be said to be random, or even a representative sample, it points to the possibility of a bias. restricting the generalizations that can be made about unseen data by a model. This matter finds support in studies promulgating the idea about the need for a more encompassing and varied data pool as tools and means to enhance the stability of a model.

6.4.2 Practical Implications and Scalability in Clinical Settings

Effective segmentation of brain tumors is very critical in the diagnosis and treatment of patients with tumors in clinical practices. Attention UNets are able to capture all the fine details very accurately and effectively. However, this model encounters deployment problems because of its high computational intensity. This unit probably is appropriate for those advanced clinical settings that possess powerful hardware resources. However, it also has some disadvantages, for instance, longer inference times and larger memory requirements make it more difficult for deployment in applications that require real-time processing such as during surgery or in small hospitals with limited resources. The other way around the Vanilla UNet, which employs faster training and inference and requires lower computing power, can be implemented in limited resource environments. This selfishness has also its downside, which mainly is the lesser segmentation accuracy making it unfit for applications where fine separation of complex tumor anatomy is necessary. ResUNet, on the other hand, is expected to be more feature efficient than Vanilla UNet.

Attention UNet is an effective model however in the absence of sufficient data resources such architectures may become problematic due to their complexity and therefore might necessitate the use of cloud computing resources or techniques aimed at making the models more optimal such as pruning, quantization or model distillation. In comparison, Vanilla UNet is very scalable because of the fact that it is very simple and does not require complex hardware hence can be used in a variety of clinical environments. Nevertheless, its comparative lower segmentation accuracy may lead to its disuse in situations where marked out segmentation is necessary. ResUNet would be in between the two in the sense of performance and its complexity.

In order for these models to be therapeutically applicable, it is crucial to evolve data sampling techniques, increase the amount of gathered data, and redesign models in order to address their computational expense without sacrificing performance. Also, additional regularization techniques can be utilized to improve the efficiency of attention mechanisms on accurate detection of the tumor region. The prospects of this project should also include cloud deployment approaches. Such incorporation could yield more relevant results which improve the precision and applicability of medical image segmentation across various clinical factors.

7 Conclusion and Future Work

This study fully investigated and compared Attention UNet, Vanilla UNet, ResUNet models for brain tumor segmentation in MRI images supporting the claim that the Attention UNet works best because it has the attention gates in its design. The architecture is similar to that of the Vanilla UNet but more advanced in that it includes attention gates which enable the use of computational resources on the key tumor portion only. Such a concentration not only contributes to better segmentation results but also optimizes the computational burden by providing attention on the essential areas of the MRI images. For that reason, the relatively weak focus on attention gates does not restrict accurate tumor boundary delineation. It decreases noise, and the occurrence of errors is less on Attention UNet compared to Vanilla and ResUNet in spotting complicated tumor regions.

The Attention UNet model showcased the best Dice coefficient of 0.9121, which was better than ResUNet's 0.7103 and Vanilla UNet's 0.8451 in lesser epoch run. This further explains the advantages of the attention gates by showing how a model can concentrate on important features for better detection of basic and high-level tumor structures in lesser time. Moreover, the model's precision increased with the more focused approach taken to reduce the number of false positives – Attention UNet achieving a precision of 0.7856 at the 20th epoch compared to ResUNet's 0.7477 precision at the 25th epoch. Furthermore, the attention gates also assisted in localization of the tumor region boundaries whereby more defined boundaries were produced in the predicted tumor regions hence increasing segmentation efficiency. However, while Vanilla UNet and ResUNet treat all parts of the image with either equal or no bias, Attention UNet focuses on different regions of the tumor image depending on the average shape, size and possibly the position of the tumor. The enhanced efficiency is aided by data augmentation strategies that make use of albumentations among other libraries, improving the models' ability to generalize. All in all, Attention UNet turns out to be the most efficient in the clinical setting involving brain tumor segmentation with high confounding margins and effective utilization of resources.The study demonstrated the importance of Attention UNet in increasing the accuracy of segmentation, illustrating its usefulness in potential clinical usage, where accurate outlining of tumors is required, and efficiently met the research goals of clearly demonstrating comparison between the models in terms of their effectiveness.

Among the issues mentioned above, it is suggested that the subject of the investigation should consider enhancing Attention UNet model focusing on improving Deployment Optimization, removing computing requirements for places with fewer resources. This can be done through various types of model compression. For instance, pruning basically involves reducing the number of parameters towards the model by removing the connections in the model that is not so important, while quantization goes down by burning highly precision weights to low precision figures like 32bit to normally an 8bit. Furthermore, the evaluation took into account that there is a high tendency to reduce attention mechanisms by using smaller attention blocks or squeeze and excitation methods where moderate parameters are employed. Alternatively, investigations of the combination of transformers and Attention UNet models, for example, Swin-UNet could promote attention based image segmentation and scaling in devices due to transformers' efficiency in modeling long range relationships in images. Future aim would be to enhance the dataset with additional CT and PET scans, and imaging data from patients with different backgrounds. Similarly, one potential alternative would be multi-stream architectures, such as Modality-Pairing

Network (MPNet) where each modality stream is taken care of separately. In order to enhance the generalizability of the model, various methods, including GANs, might be employed to generate novel MRI images that would further enhance the database and treat different levels of the model in measure. Implementation of cloud-computing such as AWS SageMaker and Google Cloud AI would be able to relieve the computational demands that may strain the local systems and hence the model would be available to clinics with less infrastructure. This exposes hospitals with insufficient resources to deploy highly intensive computational models like Attention UNet since such models shall be deployed in the cloud away from the hospitals. Models need to be easily integrated into radiology software or PACS (Picture Archiving and Communication Systems) to streamline the process for clinicians.

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