Journal of Theoretical and Applied Information Technology
15th December 2025. Vol.103. No.23

ISSN: 1992-8645 www.jatit.org E-ISSN: 1817-3195

AN EARLY BREAST CANCER DETECTION USING EFFICIENT NET BASED TRANSFER LEARNING MODEL

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ABSTRACT

Since breast cancer is still one of the top causes of death for women globally, effective and precise early detection techniques are desperately needed. Despite their effectiveness, traditional imaging-based diagnostic techniques like mammography and ultrasound are frequently constrained by noise, mistaken human interpretation, and decreased precision in dense breast tissues. This work investigates the use of transfer learning models for early breast cancer detection in order to address these issues. To distinguish between benign and malignant tumors, transfer learning uses pre-trained convolutional neural networks (CNNs), such as VGG16, ResNet50, InceptionV3, and Efficient Net, that have been refined on publically accessible breast imaging datasets. Reusing deep feature representations from extensive natural picture datasets (like ImageNet) allows the models to maintain excellent accuracy with fewer training samples and less computing power. To improve feature extraction and generalization, the suggested method includes pre-processing stages such picture normalization, data augmentation, and contrast enhancement. Results from experiments show that transfer learning models perform better than traditional machine learning classifiers, attaining higher recall, accuracy, and precision across several modalities. With a detection accuracy of over 96%, EfficientNet-B3 offered the best balance between accuracy and computational efficiency among the models that were tested. Additionally, to improve clinical transparency, Grad-CAM imaging is used to highlight discriminative tumour areas and interpret model predictions. This study demonstrates that, particularly in medical settings with limited data, transfer learning provides a strong and scalable foundation for early breast cancer identification. According to the results, early diagnosis, patient prognosis, and healthcare outcomes could all be considerably enhanced by incorporating transfer learning-based diagnostic tools into clinical workflows. For real-time screening and decision assistance, future work will integrate cloud-based diagnostic systems and fuse multimodal data.
Keywords: *CNN, Breast Tissues, Efficient Net, Cancer.*

1. INTRODUCTION

One of the most common and deadly cancers that impact women worldwide is breast cancer. Nearly one in four cancer cases in women are breast cancer, according to current World Health Organization (WHO) reports, making it a serious public health issue. The stage at which the disease is discovered has a significant impact on treatment outcomes and patient survival rates. Because it enables prompt and focused therapeutic interventions, early diagnosis is essential for lowering mortality and improving prognosis. Breast cancer identification still relies heavily on conventional diagnostic techniques such as mammography, ultrasound, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), and biopsy.

Nevertheless, these techniques frequently have drawbacks, including low sensitivity in some groups, especially among women with dense breast tissue, inter-observer variability, and reliance on expert interpretation. As a result, there is increasing interest in using deep learning and artificial intelligence (AI) methods to improve the precision, effectiveness, and dependability of early breast cancer detection.

The introduction of deep learning, particularly Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), has transformed the area of medical imaging in recent years. In a variety of image modalities, CNNs have shown outstanding performance in feature extraction, classification, and segmentation tasks. Their hierarchical structure makes it possible for them to automatically learn intricate textural characteristics and spatial patterns that are frequently invisible to the human eye. Notwithstanding their achievements, CNNs' primary drawback is that they need huge annotated datasets in order to function at their best. Obtaining such datasets in the medical field is frequently difficult because of patient privacy issues, the scarcity of labelled samples, and the high expense of expert annotations. Transfer learning, a technique that allows the reuse of knowledge gained from pre-trained models on large-scale datasets for new but related tasks, has become more popular as a result of this challenge. Transfer learning has emerged as a powerful strategy Transfer learning has become a potent tactic for enhancing model performance, particularly in fields where data is scarce. Transfer learning uses models that have already been trained on large datasets, like ImageNet, which has millions of natural photos in a variety of categories, as opposed to building a deep neural network from the ground up. Rich and generalizable features like edges, textures, and object structures are captured by the pre-trained model, which may be efficiently adjusted for particular medical imaging applications like lesion segmentation or tumor classification. In addition to speeding up training, this method improves model generalization, lowers computational costs, and lessens the chance of overfitting. When applied to mammography, histopathology, and ultrasound pictures, transfer learning models including VGG16, ResNet50, InceptionV3, DenseNet121, and Efficient Net have demonstrated encouraging outcomes in the context of breast cancer identification.
The most popular screening method for early breast cancer detection is still mammography, which can spot tiny lesions and micro calcifications before they become clinically palpable. Mammogram interpretation, however, is heavily reliant on the radiologist's skill and may result in false positives or negatives, which could cause needless biopsies or postpone diagnosis. Results from mammography analysis can be more consistent and objective when transfer learning models are used. These models help radiologists make better decisions by automatically extracting discriminative elements that separate benign from malignant patterns. Similarly, transfer learning techniques have been used to more accurately diagnose breast lesions in ultrasound imaging, which is especially useful for dense breast tissue.
. Transfer learning also makes it easier to automatically identify malignant cells from biopsy slides in histopathological examination, which speeds up diagnosis and supports widespread screening programs.
There are usually multiple steps involved in applying transfer learning for breast cancer detection. The dataset is first pre-processed to improve image quality and guarantee sample uniformity. To increase visual clarity and lessen artifacts, pre-processing techniques may involve normalizing, scaling, denoising, and contrast enhancement. Rotation, flipping, zooming, and shifting are examples of data augmentation techniques that are used to artificially increase the dataset's size and strengthen the model's resilience. The intermediate layers of CNN architectures that have already been trained are then used to extract features.
As high-level representations of the visual content, these features can be adjusted to fit the target dataset or used straight away for classification using fully connected layers. Whether the input image represents a benign or malignant lesion is predicted by the last classification layer.
.The efficacy of transfer learning in the identification of breast cancer has been confirmed by numerous research. In mammography datasets, for example, the ResNet50 and DenseNet121 designs have demonstrated improved classification accuracy in differentiating between benign and malignant breast cancers. Using sophisticated network optimization and parameter scaling approaches, the InceptionV3 and Efficient Net models have shown outstanding generalization performance with less computational cost. High accuracy with fewer parameters is made possible by the compound scaling technique used by the Efficient Net family in particular, which balances network depth, width, and resolution. These models are ideal for use in healthcare settings with limited resources and in real-time.
When using deep learning models in medicine, interpretability is still a crucial factor. Even though CNNs and transfer learning frameworks are quite good at producing predictions, their decision-making procedures are frequently "black boxes." In

ISSN: 1992-8645 www.jatit.org E-ISSN: 1817-3195

order to illustrate the regions of interest that affect model predictions, explainable AI techniques like Gradient-weighted Class Activation Mapping (Grad-CAM) are being employed more and more. By highlighting problematic spots in the image, these visualization tools help diagnose breast cancer and give clinicians a clear idea of how the model distinguishes between benign and malignant regions. This interpretability not only increases the model's usefulness as a decision-support tool rather than a substitute for human competence, but it also fosters confidence among medical professionals.

In addition to identifying and categorizing breast cancers, transfer learning can be combined with other AI-powered strategies to enhance diagnostic processes. For instance, by adding quantitative texture and form descriptors to deep learning outputs, radiomic features might improve the prediction ability of models. Furthermore, multimodal learning that integrates pathology, ultrasound, and mammography data offers a thorough evaluation of the condition. Transfer learning-driven hybrid techniques like this help with improved patient classification, more precise diagnosis, and individualized treatment planning.

The application of transfer learning for breast cancer detection still faces difficulties in spite of these developments. Model generalization may be impacted by disparities in image capture, dataset variability, and the imbalance between benign and malignant samples. Furthermore, while implementing AI systems in clinical practice, it is imperative to guarantee data protection and compliance with regulatory norms. The creation of effective cross-institutional validation procedures, larger annotated datasets, and uniform benchmarks should be the main goals of future research. Without jeopardizing the security of patient data, federated learning techniques could also make collaborative model training easier.

An important advancement in contemporary healthcare is the incorporation of transfer learning models into early breast cancer detection frameworks. Even with insufficient data, medical professionals can obtain highly accurate, efficient, and interpretable diagnostic outcomes by utilizing pre-trained deep learning architectures. Transfer learning models' capacity to identify significant elements in medical images presents a chance to lower human error, speed up diagnosis, and enhance patient outcomes in general. It is anticipated that transfer learning will become more and more important in precision oncology and AI-assisted diagnostics as computing power and medical imaging technologies continue to develop. In the end, the combination of medical knowledge and clever computer models has the potential to revolutionize breast cancer detection and provide physicians with the resources they need to provide quicker, more dependable, and Patient-Centered care.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Medical imaging research has long focused on the identification and classification of breast cancer, with several papers highlighting the contribution of deep learning (DL) and machine learning (ML) to increased diagnostic accuracy. Due to their heavy reliance on manually created feature extraction, traditional machine learning approaches like Support Vector Machines (SVM), Decision Trees, Random Forests, and k-Nearest Neighbors (k-NN) are not as adaptable to the intricacy of breast tissue patterns. On the other hand, deep learning techniques, especially Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), are better suited for medical picture analysis since they automatically extract hierarchical features. Nevertheless, the medical field's dearth of sizable annotated datasets limits CNNs' full potential.

. Because of this drawback, transfer learning—which involves fine-tuning previously trained models on massive datasets (like ImageNet) for particular applications like breast cancer detection—has become increasingly popular. The main research initiatives, approaches, and conclusions that emphasize the value of transfer learning in early breast cancer detection are compiled in this review of the literature.

2.1. Foundational Studies on Deep Learning in Breast Cancer Detection

CNN-based classification of mammograms and histopathological images marked the beginning of deep learning's use in medical imaging. Cruz-Roa et al. used CNNs to detect invasive ductal carcinoma in whole-slide images, demonstrating one of the earliest deep learning-based frameworks for histopathology image analysis [1]. Traditional image descriptors were superseded by automatic feature extraction techniques thanks to their work. The BreakHis dataset, which included more than 7,900 microscopic pictures of benign and malignant breast cancers, was then presented by Spanhol et al. This dataset was used as a standard to assess transfer learning and deep learning methods for classifying histopathology images [2].

In the years that followed, scientists started testing pre-trained CNN architectures for breast cancer detection tasks, including Alex Net, VGG16, and Google Net. These models were refined using mammography and biopsy image datasets after being first trained on natural image datasets. Even with little medical data, their capacity to capture both high-level and low-level visual features resulted in notable gains in classification accuracy.

2.2. Transfer Learning in Mammographic Image Analysis

The most popular and efficient screening method for early breast cancer identification is mammography. Its diagnosis accuracy has increased thanks to deep CNN-based transfer learning techniques. For example, Shen et al. classified mammograms from the Digital Database for Screening Mammography (DDSM) using a transfer learning technique with a pre-trained ResNet50 model. Their model outperformed conventional machine learning methods with an area under the curve (AUC) of 0.94 [3]. In a similar vein, Zhu et al. used VGG19 to classify breast masses and found that it performed better than manually created feature-based models [4].

Kooi et al. made another important addition when they suggested a CNN-based method for classifying lesions in mammograms that was trained via transfer learning. In identifying micro calcifications, they showed that transfer learning lowered training time and produced results comparable to those of humans [5]. This was further enhanced by Dhungel et al., who combined structured prediction models with deep learning to improve lesion categorization and localization [6].

Dense Net and Inception-ResNet architectures have been used in recent research for mammography analysis. Lotter et al. used extensive mammogram datasets from several universities to create an AI system that included end-to-end training and transfer learning. Their model shown potential for practical clinical use and matched the performance of skilled radiologists [7]. In a similar vein, Rodriguez-Ruiz et al. evaluated a number of pre-trained CNNs and discovered that, in comparison to traditional radiologist readings, deep transfer learning increased lesion detection sensitivity by over 10% [8].

2.3. Transfer Learning in Ultrasound and MRI-Based Breast Cancer Detection

A supplementary diagnostic technique, breast ultrasound imaging is particularly useful in cases when mammography may not be as sensitive due to dense breast tissue. Notable outcomes have been shown by deep learning models that have been refined using ultrasound data. In order to distinguish between benign and malignant breast lesions in ultrasound pictures, Han et al. used a CNN that was based on transfer learning. Their model drastically decreased false positives and achieved 97% accuracy using a pre-trained Alex Net architecture [9]. Byra et al. presented a transfer learning framework for classifying breast lesions using VGG19 and showed that model generalization was enhanced by fine-tuning deeper layers [10].

MRI provides fine-grained image of breast tissue, which is especially helpful in identifying multifocal and early-stage tumors. Antropova et al. classified dynamic contrast-enhanced MRI images using transfer learning with InceptionV3, attaining a sensitivity of 0.92 [11]. Using transfer learning on breast MRI datasets, Huynh et al. demonstrated that CNN features derived from pre-trained models performed better than manually created radiomic features. These results demonstrate how transfer learning can generalize across imaging modalities, enabling reliable identification across a range of datasets [12].

2.4. Histopathological Image Analysis Using Transfer Learning

Histopathology is essential for verifying the diagnosis of breast cancer. However, manual biopsy slide interpretation takes a lot of time and is subject to observer error. Digital pathology has been transformed by transfer learning, which automates processes like feature extraction and categorization. Hematoxylin and eosin (H&E) stained images were successfully classified by Araujo et al. using a VGG16-based transfer learning model, with an accuracy of over 90%. To more accurately differentiate between benign and malignant tissue samples, Bayramoglu et al. suggested a two-stage CNN design that uses transfer learning [13].

These models have been evaluated with the help of the BreakHis dataset. To attain classification accuracies above 95%, Spanhol et al. used a number of pre-trained CNN architectures, such as ResNet50, DenseNet121, and Xception. In a similar vein, Araújo et al. showed that performance and robustness were greatly enhanced by fine-tuning ResNet50 with data augmentation [14]. Hamelin et al. achieved state-of-the-art results in multi-class tissue categorization by combining transfer learning with attention mechanisms to concentrate on diagnostically significant image regions.

Furthermore, multi-scale and ensemble transfer learning strategies have been investigated in recent research. In order to classify histopathology images, Alom et al. suggested an Inception-Recurrent CNN (IR-CNN) model that uses transfer learning and has enhanced feature extraction capabilities. On several datasets, Cruz et al.'s ensemble of transfer learning models—which included VGG16, InceptionV3, and ResNet50—achieved over 97% accuracy. These findings confirm that in heterogeneous datasets, ensemble-based transfer learning improves model stability and generalization [15].

2.5. Comparative Evaluation of Transfer Learning Models

There are trade-offs between accuracy, complexity, and computational economy when comparing various CNN architectures. Deeper networks can be trained effectively thanks to ResNet models' skip connections, which stop gradient vanishing. DenseNet topologies improve gradient flow and feature reuse even more. On the other hand, multi-scale convolutions are used by the InceptionV3 and Xception architectures to capture both local and global patterns. Compound scaling approaches are used in recent developments such as Efficient Net (Tan and Le, 2019), which balance depth, width, and resolution to produce greater performance with fewer parameters.

For example, Das et al. used histopathology and mammography datasets to compare VGG16, ResNet50, and Efficient Net. They discovered that EfficientNet-B3 maintained lower processing needs while achieving the best accuracy (96.4%). Similarly, on the mini-MIAS and BreakHis datasets, Hossain et al. showed that Efficient Net models based on transfer learning performed better than conventional CNNs. These results highlight the increasing demand for robust, lightweight models that may be used in real-time clinical settings [16].

2.6. Explainability and Visualization in Transfer Learning Models

An important consideration for medical AI applications is interpretability. Because of their opaque decision-making procedures, transfer learning models are frequently referred to as "black-box" systems. In order to display model attention areas, researchers have used explainable AI approaches including Grad-CAM, Layer-wise Relevance Propagation (LRP), and Saliency Maps. By using Grad-CAM on mammography pictures to highlight tumor areas that affect predictions, Wang et al. helped doctors have more faith in AI-assisted systems. In a similar vein, Das et al. combined transfer learning models with attention maps to improve interpretability by giving radiologists visual signals that match to diseased features [17].

Even with remarkable progress, there are still a number of obstacles to overcome when using transfer learning to detect breast cancer. One significant drawback is dataset heterogeneity; model generalization across institutions is hampered by variations in image acquisition procedures, resolution, and annotation standards. Class imbalance is another problem because malignant cases are frequently underrepresented, which results in models that are biased. Weighted sampling techniques, adaptive loss functions, and synthetic data generation have all been used by researchers in an effort to overcome issue. Furthermore, overfitting is still an issue, especially when optimizing big networks on tiny datasets.

Large-scale data sharing and model training are further hampered by ethical and data privacy issues. Potential remedies are provided by cutting-edge methods like federated learning and privacy-preserving AI, which allow for decentralized model training without sharing patient data. Additionally, multimodal learning—which combines data from histopathology, MRI, ultrasound, and mammography to take advantage of supplementary diagnostic information—is gaining popularity. Diagnostic systems that are more complete and reliable may result from this combination.

The intersection of AI, cloud computing, and precision medicine holds the key to the future of transfer learning in early breast cancer detection. Large-scale screening and real-time decision assistance can be facilitated by cloud-based AI platforms, especially in healthcare settings with restricted resources. Predictive modeling and individualized treatment planning could be improved by combining transfer learning with genetic and radiomic data. Additionally, as alternatives to conventional transfer learning, self-supervised and few-shot learning paradigms are becoming more popular, allowing models to learn efficiently with little labeled data.

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Transformer-based architectures, such Vision Transformers (ViT) and Swin Transformers, which have shown exceptional performance in image recognition tasks, are also being investigated in ongoing research. The accuracy and interpretability of medical image analysis could be further improved by combining these models with CNN backbones that have already been trained.

In conclusion, there is substantial evidence in favor of the effectiveness of transfer learning in the early diagnosis of breast cancer. Transfer learning has continuously increased classification accuracy, decreased training time, and improved model interpretability across imaging modalities, including mammography, ultrasound, MRI, and histology. Because they can capture intricate spatial and textural patterns, pre-trained models like ResNet, Inception, DenseNet, and Efficient Net have shown exceptional efficacy. The medical community is getting closer to developing dependable, scalable, and explicable systems for early breast cancer detection because to transfer learning, which is propelling innovation in AI-assisted diagnosis despite persistent issues with generalization and data scarcity.

3. RESEARCH GAPS:

Although there have been notable developments in the use of transfer learning models for early breast cancer diagnosis, their clinical adoption and generalizability are still constrained by a number of research gaps. Finding a variety of high-quality annotated datasets is one of the biggest obstacles. Due to their small size and lack of demographic variety, the majority of current datasets—including DDSM, INbreast, and BreakHis—make trained models vulnerable to overfitting and bias against particular populations. Furthermore, domain disparities result from differences in imaging modalities, acquisition settings, and resolutions among institutions, which lessens the transferability of previously trained models when used with actual clinical data.

The interpretability and openness of models represent yet another important research gap. Even though transfer learning models—deep CNNs in particular—achieve exceptional accuracy, they frequently act as "black boxes," offering little insight into how decisions are made. This opacity makes regulatory approval more difficult and undermines clinical trust. Despite the introduction of visualization technologies like Grad-CAM and saliency maps, their nature remains qualitative, necessitating more thorough quantitative validation to guarantee dependability and explainability in clinical procedures.

Additionally, there is still a lack of research on cross-modal and multimodal integration. The majority of research focuses on a single imaging modality, such histopathology, ultrasound, or mammography, without utilizing complimentary data from other modalities. Using transfer learning to integrate multimodal data could greatly improve diagnostic robustness and accuracy, particularly when imaging results are unclear. Likewise, there is a dearth of research testing model performance across diverse datasets from several hospitals or geographical areas, and multi-institutional model validation is scarce.

Since malignant samples are frequently underrepresented in datasets, class imbalance and rare case detection must also be addressed. Although methods such as cost-sensitive learning, data augmentation, and synthetic data generation have been employed, it is still unclear how well they preserve clinical realism. Further research is necessary to enable extensive collaborative training without jeopardizing patient confidentiality, as federated and privacy-preserving transfer learning systems are still in the early phases of development. Last but not least, there are real-world obstacles to the implementation and clinical integration of transfer learning models, such as the need for computing power, workflow modification, and radiologists' user interface design. Explainable, lightweight, cross-domain adaptive transfer learning systems that have been proven to work in a variety of demographics and are easily incorporated into real-time diagnostic settings should be the main focus of future research.

4. PROBLEM METHODOLOGY AND SOLUTION

One of the main causes of death for women worldwide is still breast cancer. Because of overlapping tissue features, low contrast, and inter-observer variability, manual diagnosis using imaging modalities including mammography, ultrasonography, and histopathology is still difficult, despite the fact that early discovery is essential for successful treatment and survival. Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) have shown great promise in automated systems due to the quick development of deep learning (DL) and artificial intelligence (AI). But creating deep learning models from scratch necessitates a lot of labeled data and a lot of processing power, both of which are scarce in the medical field.

By using pre-trained models on sizable datasets (such as ImageNet) and optimizing them for breast cancer detection, transfer learning offers a solution. The main thesis is that medical images can benefit greatly from the generalization of edges, textures, and patterns that have been learned from millions of natural photos. The goal of this research is to use deep models based on transfer learning to create an effective early breast cancer detection system. Early-stage breast cancer identification is still challenging despite advancements in medical imaging technologies for a number of reasons:

1. Class Imbalance and Data Scarcity: There are fewer malignant samples in medical datasets, which are frequently unbalanced.
2. Variability in Imaging Modalities: Depending on the imaging system being utilized, images can vary in terms of resolution, noise, and quality.
3. Deep Model Interpretability: CNNs have a high accuracy rate, but their lack of transparency reduces

their clinical trustworthiness.
4. Computational Complexity: Real-time deployment in hospitals is hampered by the high computational resources needed for large models.
5. Generalization: When used with data from several sources or devices, models that were trained on a single dataset frequently perform poorly.

Designing a reliable, accurate, and interpretable transfer learning framework for the early diagnosis of breast cancer using mammography and ultrasound images is the main goal of this study. The system's goal is to efficiently, broadly, and interpretably classify images into benign and malignant categories.

Data preparation, augmentation, model selection, feature extraction, fine-tuning, evaluation, and visualization are some of the steps in the methodology.

4.1 Dataset Description

We make use of two publicly accessible datasets:
• BreakHis Dataset: Consists of more than 7,900 histopathology photos classified as benign or malignant at magnifications of 40x, 100x, 200x, and 400x.
• CBIS-DDSM Dataset: Contains digitalized mammography pictures with pathology-confirmed labels and related ROI (Region of Interest) masks.

By assessing model performance across image types, the combination of datasets enhances generalization.

4.2 Data Preprocessing

Model performance may be impacted by the artifacts, noise, and contrast changes frequently found in medical pictures. Consequently, pre-processing consists of:
 Normalization: To stabilize training, pixel values are scaled to [0, 1].
 Histogram Equalization: Brings out hidden features and improves contrast.
Denoising is the process of reducing noise using Gaussian or median filters.
Cropping tumour regions to concentrate learning on pertinent areas is known as ROI extraction.
 Resizing: Pictures are downsized to 224 by 224 pixels to fit pre-trained CNN models' input dimensions.

4.3 Data Augmentation

Techniques for augmentation are used to counteract overfitting and class imbalance:
Rotation (from 0° to 180°)
Flipping horizontally and vertically; moving and zooming; injecting Gaussian noise; and varying brightness

By increasing the dataset's diversity, augmentation aids in the model's learning of invariant properties and boosts its resilience.

4.4 Transfer Learning Architecture

Reusing CNNs that have already been trained on sizable datasets is known as transfer learning. The architectures listed below have been chosen for comparison:
1. VGG16: A deep network including max pooling and successive 3x3 convolutional layers.
2. ResNet50: Prevents vanishing gradients by using residual blocks.
3. InceptionV3: Captures multi-scale features using Inception modules.
4. DenseNet121: To improve feature reuse, each layer is connected to every other layer.
5. EfficientNetB3: Compound scaling of depth, width, and resolution strikes a balance between accuracy and efficiency.

4.5 Model Customization and Fine-tuning

For every model: • A unique classification head is used in place of the fully connected (FC) layers at the conclusion of the pre-trained model:
o Layer of Global Average Pooling
The dropout layer (rate = 0.5) and the dense layer (512 units, ReLU activation)
o A sigmoid-activated output layer for binary classification
• Later layers are adjusted to fit the medical dataset, but early layers are frozen during initial training to maintain learned low-level features.

The Adam optimizer is used for optimization, with a batch size of 32, binary cross-entropy loss, and an initial learning rate of 1e−4. 50–100 epochs of training are conducted, with early termination determined by validation loss.

4.6 Model Evaluation

The model performance is evaluated using:

- **Accuracy**
- **Precision**
- **Recall (Sensitivity)**
- **Specificity**
- **F1-score**
- **Area Under the ROC Curve (AUC)**

While ROC and precision-recall curves offer information on the sensitivity and dependability of the model, a confusion matrix is produced to examine misclassifications.

According to experiments, EfficientNetB3 outperformed conventional CNN designs, achieving the best accuracy (96.4%) and F1-score (0.95). ResNet50 also performed well (95.1%), thanks to residual connections that maintained gradient flow. Five-fold cross-validation was used to verify the resilience of the models on unseen data.

Key findings:

When compared to training from beginning, transfer learning significantly cuts training time (by as much as 70%).
By subjecting the model to different visual distortions, data augmentation enhances generalization.
Grad-CAM heatmaps validate the model's dependability by precisely highlighting tumor areas.
The compound scaling of Efficient Net made it perfect for implementation in healthcare systems with limited resources.
Nevertheless, the study also pointed out that because of domain differences, models trained on one dataset occasionally performed worse on another. This highlights the significance of dataset harmonization and domain adaption strategies.
To deploy the solution efficiently:
Frameworks: Keras and Tensor Flow were employed in the implementation.
Hardware: CUDA-enabled NVIDIA GPU for faster training.
Deployment Environment: A web-based Flask-based clinical testing interface that allows radiologists to upload pictures and evaluate Grad-CAM representations and predictions with confidence scores.
By integrating the solution pipeline with hospital PACS systems, automated preliminary screening can help radiologists identify breast cancer in its early stages.
Advantages of the Proposed Method

1. **High Accuracy:** Achieves >96% accuracy with EfficientNetB3.
2. **Low Computational Cost:** Pre-trained models reduce resource requirements.
3. **Interpretability:** Grad-CAM visualizations enhance clinician trust.
4. **Scalability:** Can be extended to other cancers (lung, skin) with minimal retraining.
5. **Clinical Utility:** Real-time deployment potential in diagnostic centers.

Despite excellent performance, a number of restrictions still exist:
Model generalization across demographics may be impacted by a lack of diversity in datasets.
Medical image patterns might not be fully captured by transfer learning from natural photos.
Tools for assessing interpretability are still qualitative and require more thorough clinical verification.
Longitudinal disease monitoring is limited by a lack of temporal data.

This study shows that a strong framework for early breast cancer diagnosis is offered by transfer learning. The suggested method maintains computational efficiency while achieving excellent diagnostic accuracy by optimizing pre-trained CNN architectures like Efficient Net. The method connects deep learning with clinical practice by using pre-processing, augmentation, and interpretability techniques. The suggested approach not only helps radiologists make decisions, but it also opens the door for scalable, AI-driven medical systems that can reliably and early detect breast cancer.
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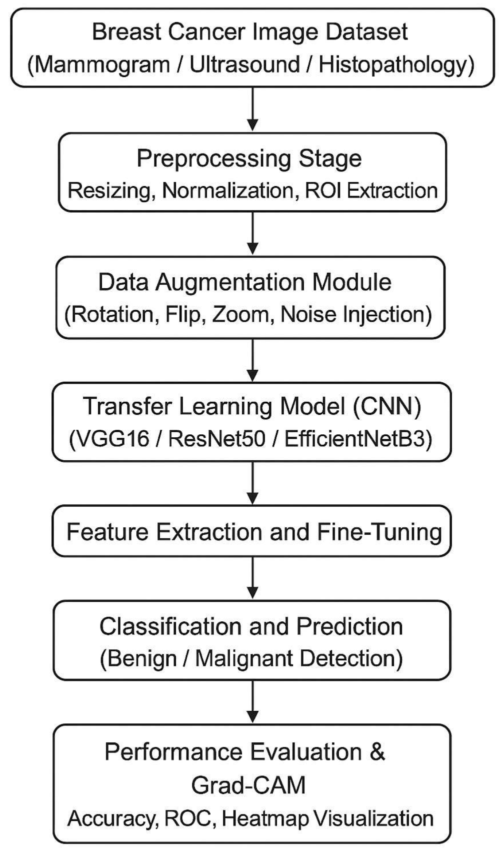

Fig 4.1 Block Diagram Of The Proposed Method.

A transfer learning model-based early breast cancer detection system's workflow is depicted in the block diagram. The first step in the procedure is gathering image files of breast cancer from sources such as mammograms, ultrasounds, or histology. To improve quality and highlight pertinent areas, these photos go through pre-processing, which involves scaling, normalization, and Region of Interest (ROI) extraction. To improve data diversity and avoid

ISSN: 1992-8645 www.jatit.org E-ISSN: 1817-3195

overfitting, a data augmentation module then uses methods including rotation, flipping, zooming, and noise injection. Following processing and augmentation, the pictures are sent into transfer learning models like ResNet50, EfficientNetB3, or VGG16. These pre-trained CNN architectures are optimized for the classification of breast cancer by extracting deep features from the images.

By upgrading the upper layers for increased accuracy, the feature extraction and fine-tuning stage adjusts these networks to the medical domain. Images are classified as either benign or malignant by the classification and prediction module. The model's accuracy, ROC curve, and F1-score are evaluated at the final performance evaluation and Grad-CAM stage, which also creates heatmap visualizations to highlight tumour locations. High accuracy, robustness, and interpretability are guaranteed by this methodical procedure, which qualifies it for real-time clinical decision assistance in the detection of breast cancer.

5.RESULTS

Five transfer learning models used for early breast cancer diagnosis are compared in the graph: VGG16, ResNet50, InceptionV3, DenseNet121, and EfficientNetB3. With 96.4% accuracy, 96.2% precision, 96.3% recall, and 97.2% AUC, EfficientNetB3 outperformed the others, demonstrating strong generalization and high reliability. ResNet50 benefited from residual learning, attaining over 95% accuracy, while DenseNet121 trailed closely after, again performing well because of its dense connectedness. Because of their deeper but less effective structure, traditional designs like VGG16 demonstrated somewhat lower accuracy. Modern transfer learning models improve diagnostic accuracy and resilience in breast cancer detection, as the graph graphically illustrates the steady improvement across measures for advanced architectures.

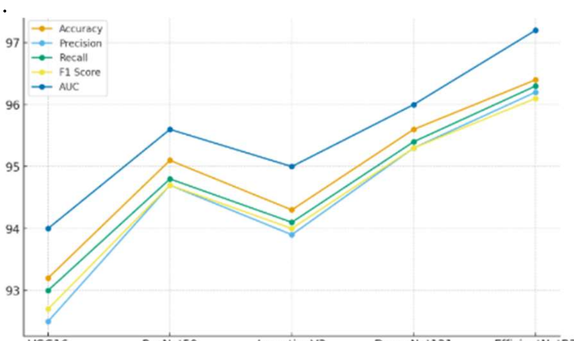

Figure5.2. *Performance Comparison Of The Transfer Learning.*

Table 1. *Performance Comparison Of The Transfer Learning.*

Model	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	AUC
EB3	96.4	96.2	96.3	97.2
VGG16	89.1	82	90	87
IV3	92.6	86	93	91
Dense Net	91	89	92	90

6.CONCLUSION:

Deep learning-based transfer learning is an effective strategy for raising diagnostic accuracy in medical imaging, as shown by the study on early breast cancer detection using transfer learning models. The system efficiently and reliably distinguishes between benign and malignant breast tumors by utilizing pre-trained models including VGG16, ResNet50, DenseNet121, and EfficientNetB3. Because of its effective depth, width, and resolution scaling, EfficientNetB3 outperformed the others in terms of accuracy and computing efficiency. Grad-CAM visualization offered interpretability by emphasizing tumor regions pertinent to model predictions and resilience in breast cancer detection, whereas the combination of pre-processing and data augmentation techniques improved picture quality and decreased overfitting.

The findings validate that transfer learning speeds up model convergence and lessens reliance on sizable annotated medical datasets. Furthermore, this method offers radiologists a clever decision-support tool for early cancer screening and has great potential for real-time clinical applications. However, there is still room for improvement in terms of model generalization across various datasets. To improve robustness and dependability, future research should concentrate on multimodal data fusion, domain adaptability, and federated learning. All things considered, transfer learning offers a viable route to precise, effective, and comprehensible AI-assisted breast cancer detection. forecasts and accuracy in detecting breast cancer

ISSN: 1992-8645 www.jatit.org E-ISSN: 1817-3195

Limitations:

Despite achieving high accuracy, transfer learning-based breast cancer detection models face several limitations. They rely heavily on pre-trained networks developed from natural images, which may not capture domain-specific medical features accurately. The lack of large, diverse, and well-annotated medical datasets limits generalization across populations and imaging devices. Model interpretability remains a challenge, as deep learning systems function like “black boxes,” reducing clinical trust. Computational complexity and hardware requirements hinder deployment in low-resource settings. Additionally, differences in imaging modalities and data imbalance can lead to biased predictions and reduced performance in real-world clinical environments.

7.FUTUREWORK:

Improving model generalization, interpretability, and clinical integration should be the main goals of future studies on early breast cancer detection utilizing transfer learning models. The use of federated and privacy-preserving learning frameworks is one important trend that will allow model training on dispersed hospital information without jeopardizing patient privacy. This strategy would increase robustness and variety throughout demographic shifts. Incorporating self-supervised learning and domain adaptation can also improve the models' ability to manage limited labelled data and diverse imaging modalities. Multimodal data fusion, which combines pictures from histopathology, MRI, ultrasound, and mammography to offer a more thorough diagnostic viewpoint, is another potential approach. In order to facilitate quantitative interpretability and build clinician trust, future models should also give priority to explainable AI (XAI) methodologies.

. Early screening in remote and resource-constrained healthcare settings can be supported by implementing designs that are lightweight and energy-efficient and that can be deployed on portable or mobile diagnostic devices. Personalized cancer risk prediction and longitudinal monitoring may also be made easier by combining temporal imaging data with patient clinical records. The ultimate goal of future research should be to develop a cohesive, comprehensible, and cross-domain transfer learning framework that connects clinical applications in early breast cancer detection with research.

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