

DOG BREED CLASSIFICATION USING TRANSFER LEARNING

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Abstract - “Dog Breed Classification using Transfer Learning” the project focus on accurately classifying dog breeds is a challenging computer vision task due to the subtle differences between breeds and the high variability within breeds. This project addresses these complexities using transfer learning with the Inception V3 model, a state-of-the-art convolutional neural network (CNN). Traditional machine learning approaches often struggle with subtle inter-breed differences and require large labeled datasets and significant computational resources. Training deep learning models from scratch is typically infeasible, which makes transfer learning an ideal solution. By using a pre-trained Inception V3 model, this approach leverages learned features from large-scale datasets like ImageNet and fine-tunes them for dog breed classification, reducing training time while enhancing accuracy. The fine-tuned Inception V3 model undergoes transfer learning where initial layers remain frozen to retain general features, and fine-tuning optimizes the later layers for specific breed classification. To make the solution accessible and user-friendly, a Flask web application is developed. Users can upload dog images and receive breed predictions in real time, with the backend integrating the trained model to process the images, extract features, and output predictions. The application is scalable and practical for diverse deployment scenarios, such as pet identification, educational purposes, or veterinary applications. This project not only highlights the efficiency of transfer learning in reducing training time but also demonstrates how AI can be applied effectively in real-world challenges. Combining advanced deep learning with a simple web interface bridges the gap between complex machine learning models and practical applications, emphasizing accuracy, efficiency, and accessibility in pet care and animal research.

Key Words: Inception v3, fine-tuning , CNN , flask

1. INTRODUCTION

In recent years, advancements in computer vision and deep learning have significantly transformed image classification tasks. Among these, the classification of dog breeds has garnered considerable attention due to its diverse applications in veterinary sciences, pet management systems,

and animal welfare. However, distinguishing between dog breeds is challenging due to the visual similarity among some breeds, variations within a single breed, and the large number of recognized breeds globally. To address these challenges, transfer learning has emerged as a powerful technique. Transfer learning involves leveraging pre-trained models, such as those trained on large datasets like ImageNet, to improve performance on specific tasks with limited training data. This approach significantly reduces the computational cost and training time while achieving high accuracy in classification tasks.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Traditional Methods

Traditional methods relied on manually designed features and algorithms such as Support Vector Machines (SVM) for classification. These methods struggled with large datasets and complex images, as they required expert knowledge for feature design and were computationally expensive.

B. Feature Extraction

Feature extraction is crucial for breed classification. Early extracted features like edges and textures but were limited in capturing complex patterns. Deep Learning Features: With CNNs, features are learned automatically from raw images, eliminating the need for manual feature design. Pretrained models like ResNet or VGGNet are often fine-tuned for breed classification tasks, improving accuracy with minimal data.

C. Machine Learning Techniques

Deep learning models have significantly improved breed classification: Optimized CNNs: Models are pruned or simplified to run efficiently on mobile devices. Edge Computing: Instead of using cloud-based processing, real-time systems often use local devices to reduce latency and speed up classification.

3. METHODOLOGY

DATA COLLECTION AND PREPROCESSING

The dataset used consists of labeled dog breed images sourced from public repositories, such as the Stanford Dogs Dataset. The data was analyzed to ensure quality and consistency, followed by preprocessing steps, including resizing all images to pixels to match the input dimensions of pre-trained models. Data augmentation techniques like rotation, flipping, and zooming were applied to improve model robustness. The dataset was divided into training, validation, and testing sets in a 70:20:10 ratio for effective model evaluation.

MODEL DEVELOPMENT

Transfer learning was employed for model training. A pre-trained CNN model (e.g., ResNet50) was chosen due to its ability to extract rich feature representations. The pre-trained weights were used, and the final classification layer was replaced with a fully connected layer corresponding to the number of dog breeds in the dataset. Fine-tuning was performed to adapt the model to the specific task. A softmax activation function was applied to the output layer for breed classification.

TRAINING AND VALIDATION

The model was trained using the Adam optimizer and categorical cross-entropy loss function. Early stopping was implemented to prevent overfitting, and learning rate scheduling was used for faster convergence. The performance was monitored using validation accuracy and loss. Data augmentation ensured that the model generalized well to unseen images.

TESTING AND EVALUATION

The trained model was tested on a holdout test dataset to evaluate its performance. Metrics such as accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score were computed to assess the classification quality. Misclassified images were analyzed to identify potential improvements.

DEPLOYMENT

The model was deployed as part of a user-friendly application. A web-based interface was developed for users to upload dog images, which are then classified into specific breeds. The backend integrated the trained model using a Flask or FastAPI server, and the frontend provided an intuitive user interface.

FLOW DIAGRAM



FIG 3.1

4. RESULTS

The dog breed classification model, utilizing transfer learning with InceptionV3, achieved notable performance, with an accuracy of approximately 90%. Fine-tuned on a diverse dog breed dataset, the model effectively generalized to unseen images. Metrics such as accuracy and loss demonstrated steady improvement during training, reflecting effective learning. The confusion matrix highlighted strong performance for most breeds, though slight inaccuracies were observed for visually similar breeds. Leveraging pre-trained features from ImageNet, the transfer learning approach significantly reduced training time while enhancing accuracy, confirming its effectiveness for real-world tasks like dog breed classification.

5. CONCLUSIONS

In this project, we successfully applied transfer learning with the InceptionV3 model to classify dog breeds. The model, pre-trained on the ImageNet dataset, was fine-tuned on a specific dog breed dataset, leading to impressive classification accuracy. The use of transfer learning significantly reduced the time required for training and improved the overall model performance compared to training from scratch. The model demonstrated strong generalization capabilities and achieved high accuracy in predicting the correct dog breed. However, there were still challenges in classifying similar-looking breeds, indicating the complexity of the task.

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