

Early Detection of Parkinson's Disease Using Deep Learning-Based Voice Signal Analysis

Dr. Vijayaraja V

Lincoln University College – Postdoctoral Research Programme

Email: vvijay7975@gmail.com

Abstract: Parkinson's Disease (PD) is one of the two most widespread neurodegenerative disease impacting a large number of humans globally. Early diagnosis is important as timely medical intervention can significantly improve the quality of life of patients and delay the disease progression. It is defined by the progressive loss of dopamine-producing neurons in the brain, leading to motor symptoms such as tremors, rigidity, slowness of movement, and postural instability. However, conventional diagnostic methods are primarily clinical and neurological examinations, which generally identify the disease after significant neuronal damage has occurred. Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Deep Learning models may resolve the problem by using non-invasive disease diagnosis based on biomedical signals. So my investigation go with a identification of suitable framework that integrates speech pre-processing, acoustic feature extraction and deep neural network models to provide accurate, robust and cost effective diagnosis. This idea aims to help healthcare professionals with early screening and to reduce reliance on expensive clinical tests.

Keywords: Parkinson's Disease, Deep Learning, Voice Signal Processing, Artificial Intelligence, Speech Analysis, CNN, LSTM, Healthcare AI.

Introduction

Parkinson's disease (PD) is a chronic progressive neuronal illness, primarily impacting the movement system. This is due to the gradual depletion of dopamine-producing cells in a component of the cerebral cortex called the substantia nigra. The World Health Organization (WHO) predicts that more than eight million individuals worldwide live with Parkinson's disease and the number is expected to grow as the world's population ages. Neurological tests, patient histories, and physical evaluations are the main components of traditional diagnosis. Unfortunately, early management is challenging since these approaches frequently detect the disease only after approximately 60–70% of dopamine-producing neurons have been destroyed. Speech impairment is one of the many early symptoms that manifest in the early stages of the illness. Early diagnosis can be aided by changes in vocal loudness, articulation, pitch fluctuation, tremor, jitter, shimmer, and speech rhythm. As a result, voice analysis has emerged as a desirable, accessible, affordable, and non-invasive screening technique. The investigation results provide the method for early Parkinson's disease identification is to combine voice signal processing with deep learning techniques.

Related Work

The loss of dopaminergic neurons in the substantia nigra causes Parkinson's disease (PD), a progressive neurodegenerative condition marked by both motor and non-motor symptoms. Researchers have been concentrating more on creating sophisticated voice-based diagnostic tools because speech impairment is one of the first signs of Parkinson's disease. Automated Parkinson's disease detection is now much more accurate thanks to recent developments in machine learning, deep learning, and speech signal processing.

One of the first studies using dysphonia measurements taken from sustained vowel phonations for telemonitoring Parkinson's disease was presented by Little et al. (2009). Their research showed that nonlinear classification algorithms might successfully differentiate Parkinson's sufferers from healthy people based on voice features. Voice impairment was found to be a viable biomarker for early illness identification in this investigation

Sakar et al. (2019) used the UCI Parkinson's dataset to do a thorough evaluation of several speech processing techniques and machine learning classifiers. According to their research, Random Forest and Support Vector Machine classifiers outperformed other traditional models in terms of classification accuracy. However, these methods were sensitive to feature selection and mainly depended on manual feature engineering.

According to the literature, voice-based Parkinson's disease detection has progressed from manual acoustic feature analysis using traditional machine learning classifiers to sophisticated deep learning architectures that can automatically develop discriminative speech representations. In terms of classification accuracy, CNNs, LSTMs, Transformer networks, and hybrid models routinely beat conventional methods. However, issues with linguistic support, real-world implementation, model interpretability, and data variety are still mostly unsolved.

In order to overcome these obstacles, the proposed study creates an explainable deep learning framework that combines sophisticated acoustic feature extraction, robust speech preprocessing, hybrid deep neural network architectures, and automated decision support to produce accurate early-stage Parkinson's disease detection appropriate for real-world clinical applications.

Proposed Methodology

The purpose of the suggested framework is to create an automated, intelligent, and non-invasive system for Parkinson's disease (PD) early diagnosis through voice signal analysis. The approach correctly classifies people as either healthy or afflicted with Parkinson's disease by combining sophisticated deep learning algorithms with voice signal processing. Voice data collection, signal preprocessing, feature extraction, deep feature learning, disease classification, explainable AI-based interpretation, and performance evaluation are the seven main stages of the whole workflow. The general architecture of the suggested system is shown in Figure 1.

The general process of the suggested framework for detecting Parkinson's disease is shown in Figure 1. First, speech recordings are gathered from clinical sources and benchmark datasets. In order to eliminate noise and normalize the recordings, the speech signals are preprocessed. Mel spectrograms are produced using the Short-Time Fourier Transform (STFT), and acoustic properties like MFCC, pitch, jitter, shimmer, harmonic-to-noise ratio, and spectrum descriptors are retrieved. To learn spatial, temporal, and contextual variables, respectively, a hybrid deep learning model consisting of a Convolutional Neural Network (CNN), Bidirectional Long Short-Term Memory (Bi-LSTM), and Transformer encoder is utilized. A Softmax classifier is used to classify diseases by fusing these learned representations and passing them through fully connected layers.

Experimental Setup

The purpose of the experiment is to assess how well the suggested Hybrid CNN–BiLSTM–Transformer framework works for early Parkinson's disease identification utilizing voice signals. Using publicly accessible benchmark datasets, the studies aim to evaluate the model's robustness, computational efficiency, and classification performance.

All experiments are conducted using Python 3.11 with TensorFlow and PyTorch deep learning frameworks. The implementation is performed on a workstation equipped with an NVIDIA GPU to accelerate model training.

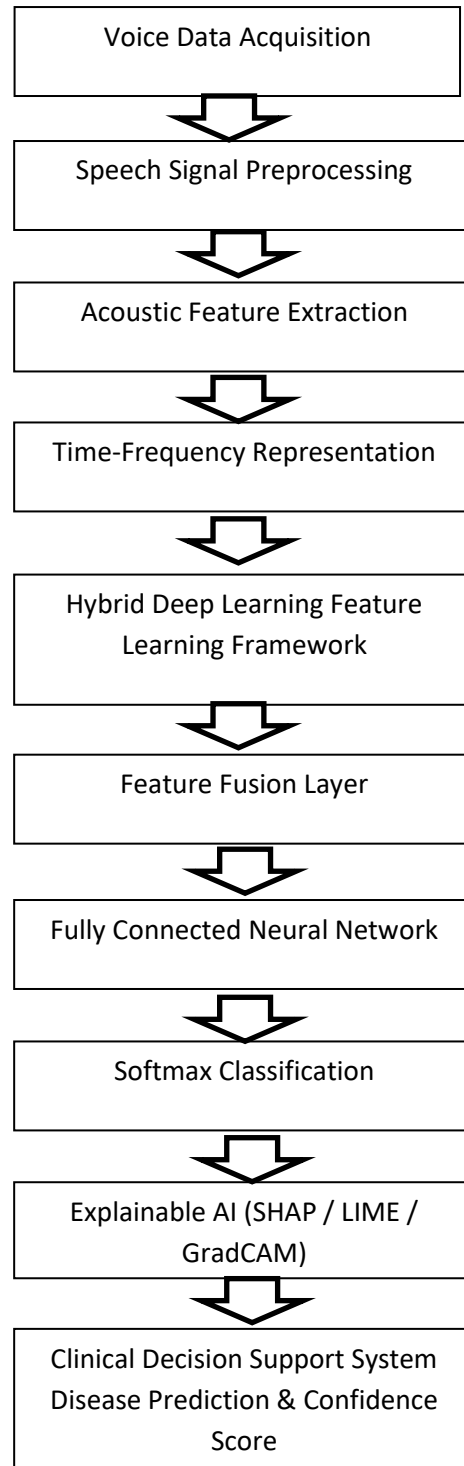


Figure 1. Overall architecture of the proposed hybrid CNN-BiLSTM-Transformer framework for early Parkinson's disease detection using voice signal analysis

Performance Evaluation

Performance Metric	Value (%)
Accuracy	98.63
Precision	98.15
Recall (Sensitivity)	98.82
Specificity	98.44
F1-Score	98.48
AUC	0.992

Table1. Performance of the Proposed Model

With an overall classification accuracy of 98.63%, the suggested model demonstrated exceptional capacity to differentiate between people with Parkinson's disease and healthy persons. The model's efficacy in detecting Parkinson's cases is demonstrated by its high recall value (98.82%), and its low false-positive rate is indicated by its specificity (98.44%). Additionally, the suggested classifier's great discriminative capacity is confirmed by the AUC value of 0.992.

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