

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم





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جامعة عين شمس

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Diagnosis of Brain Disorders Employing Brain Biomedical Data

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Abstract

Brain disorders have been widely detected in recent years; however, their diagnosis is based on symptom reports performed by patients or professionals without clinical or quantified judgments. Hence, it is prone to human mistakes. There is an urge for an objective computer assisted diagnosing system. One of the challenging brain disorders is the autism spectrum disorder (ASD) which is a neuro-developmental disorder associated with impairments in social and lingual abilities. Failure in language development is variable in the ASD population and follows a wide spectrum. The autism diagnostic observation schedule (ADOS) is the current gold standard for diagnosing, supported by expert clinical judgment. Early diagnosis allows for early intervention to reduce the severity of autism. Brain scanning technologies have been widely developing and acquired extensively to understand brain functionality and structure. Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) is a medical scanning technique that uses strong magnetic fields to form images of the anatomy and the physiological functionality of the brain. Main types of MRI include structural, resting-state functional MRI and task-based functional MRI (TfMRI). TfMRI demonstrates the functional activation in the brain by measuring blood oxygen level-dependent (BOLD) variations in response to certain tasks. The aim of this thesis is to develop a personalized computer-aided diagnosis (CAD) and grading system to classify autistic subjects against typically developed peers. A novel computer-aided ASD grading framework, dependent on the analysis of brain activation in a response to speech experiment, is proposed. Increased hypoactivation of the superior

temporal cortex, angular gyrus, primary auditory cortex and cingulate gyri is detected with increasing autism spectrum severity. Less lateralization of the left hemisphere regions is also detected. For further local and global feature extraction in the proposed ASD grading system, only the region of interest (ROI) areas are examined. A comprehensive, two stage system is developed using different classifiers. Four-fold cross-validation is adopted for testing. The first stage discriminates between moderate and the other two groups with an average accuracy of 83%. Subsequently, a second stage classifies subjects as mild or severe autism with an average accuracy of 81%. The validation results prove the robustness of the proposed framework for early CAD system to place subjects on the autism spectrum. Recently, deep learning methods have been gaining more attention for fMRI classification. However, relatively few studies have applied deep learning techniques to TfmRI for diagnosing autism. For global diagnosis of ASD, a convolutional neural network (CNN) based framework and discriminant TfmRI feature extraction techniques are developed. FMRI is considered big data with four dimensions. Dimensionality reduction is required to achieve better performance. Therefore, a three-stage pipeline for both temporal and spatial feature extraction and reduction is built. Preliminary results on 100 TfmRI dataset (50 ASD, 50 TD) obtain 80% correct global classification using 10-fold cross validation. The experimental results show the improved accuracy of the proposed framework and hold promise for the presented framework as a helpful adjunct to currently used ASD diagnostic tools. As an early autism local and global CAD tool, A CNN deep local and global ASD classification approach with continuous wavelet transform (CWT) is developed. In order to provide a detailed frequency and scale representation, CWT is applied on selected BOLD signals. CWT produces scalograms that provide a detailed representation on these BOLD signals. These scalogram images are used as input images to multi-channel 2D-CNNs for each area. The achieved global accuracy is 86%. Finally, brain maps that indicate level of ASD severity for each ROI are provided for each subject. The proposed framework works towards creating personalized diagnosis and treatment plans that handle the specific case of each individual.

List of Publications

Peer-reviewed Journals

1. Reem Haweel, Noha Seada, Said Ghoniemy, and Ayman El-Baz. "A CNN Deep Local and Global ASD Classification Approach with Continuous Wavelet Transform using Task-based fMRI", SENSORS, 2nd revision.
2. Reem Haweel, Noha Seada, Said Ghoniemy, and Ayman El-Baz "A Re-view on Autism Spectrum Disorder Diagnosis using Task-Based Functional MRI", IJICIS (2021).
3. Reem Haweel, Ahmed Shalaby, Ali Mahmoud, Noha Seada, Said Ghoniemy et al. "A robust DWT{CNN-based CAD system for early diagnosis of autism using task-based fMRI." Medical Physics (2020).
4. Reem Haweel, Ahmed Shalaby, Ali Mahmoud, Noha Seada, Said Ghoniemy, et al. "A Novel Grading System for Autism Severity Level Using Task-based Functional MRI: A Response to Speech Study" IEEE ACCESS (2021).
5. Dekhil, Omar, Mohamed Ali, Reem Haweel, et al. "A Comprehensive Framework for Differentiating Autism Spectrum Disorder from Neurotypicals by Fusing Structural MRI and Resting State Functional MRI." In Seminars in Pediatric Neurology, p. 100805. WB Saunders, 2020.

Conference proceedings and abstracts

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2. Reem Haweel, Omar Dekhil, Ahmed Shalaby, et al. "A Novel Frame-work for Grading Autism Severity Using Task-Based FMRI." In 2020 IEEE 17th International Symposium on Biomedical Imaging (ISBI), pp. 1404-1407. IEEE, 2020.
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Book Chapters

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2. Reem Haweel, Ahmed Shalaby, Aly Mahmoud, Mohammed Ghazal, Ahmed Kheli, Robert Keynton, Gregory Barnes, and Ayman El-Baz, "Autism Diagnosis Using Task-Based Functional MRI," in *Neurological Disorders and Imaging Physics*, Volume 3: Application to Autism Spectrum Disorders and Alzheimer's, Chapter 17, pp. 17-1 to 17-21, IOP Publisher, November 2019. DOI: 10.1088/978-0-7503-1793-1ch

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