CNN based Image Quality Improvement in Handheld Ultrasound Devices

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Abstract - **Ultrasound technologies have grown popular in the medical field because they are more accurate, however the image quality of hand-held ultrasound devices is comparably low. The suggested method uses Convolutional Neural Networks to improve the image standard in handheld devices to high visuals. The suggested Convolutional Neural Networks to improve the Image standard in handheld devices, leading to High visuals. Through histogram equalization, the median filter is used to reduce undesired disturbance and to keep the details while maintaining a high dynamic range .Histogram equalization approach is used to alter the dynamic value using its histogram. It spreads out the most frequent pixel intensity values or stretches out the image's intensity range to improve the image contrast. Contrary to what its name suggests, unsharp masking is used to sharpen an image. Sharpening is important when post-processing most digital photos since it helps to emphasis detail. To accomplish higher resolution, a Convolutional Neural Network is often used. CNN was created primarily to handle pixel data. It's a hierarchical model that builds a network, similar to a funnel, and then outputs a fully connected layer where all the neurons are connected to one another, and the output is processed. By employing CNN, it can provide more accurate training with high accuracy and produce a high-quality reconstruction image with fine details, structure, and speckle.**

Index Terms - **Portable ultrasound device, CNN, Image quality improvement, Median filter, Histogram Equalisation ,Unsharp masking**

I.INTRODUCTION

Image processing is a technique for applying operations on an image in order to improve it or extract relevant information from it. The two major types of image analysis procedures used are analogue and digital image processing. Analog image processing works with analogue signals and only works with two-dimensional signals. Digital image processing is the technique of utilising a computer program to practice digital pictures using an algorithm. Ultrasound is a type of noninvasive diagnostic imaging. It creates real-time photos or video of internal organs or other tissues, such as blood arteries, using high-frequency sound waves. The transducer emits sound waves into your body, gathers them, and transfers them to a computer, which generates graphics. Laptop-associated devices, hand-carried (HCU), and handheld (HHUSD) systems are the three types of portable ultrasound devices. In this example, the Convolutional Neural Network technique is employed.; it relates to the application of artificial intelligence algorithms to find patterns in data sets with data points that are neither classed,labelled. In the field of image processing, the most crucial duty is image recovery. The image is commonly corrupted, causing noise to appear in the image. The median filter is typically used to reduce the presence of such noise, however it works well for images with roughly 20% noise intensity. So, in order to achieve a better image restoration, we can employ another image restoration approach known as adaptive median filtering, which is effective for noise intensities greater than 20%. The advantage of an adaptive filter over a median filter is that it does not destroy the image's edges or fine features. The adaptive filter works in two steps: first, it finds the kernel's median value, and then it examines if the current pixel value is an impulse or not. If a pixel's value is corrupted, it replaces it with the median value, or it keeps the grey scale pixel's value. The median filter is the most widely employed. It is a nonlinear filtering approach. The core can be $n \times n$ pixels in size

and is intended to interpolate or glide over a mxm distorted image. The median value of the nxn kernel on the image is acquired during this procedure, and then the value of a given pixel is substituted with it. [1].Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) is a medical imaging method that is used to analyse and diagnose disorders like cancer and brain tumours. Physicians need strong contrast scanned images acquired from MRI to examine these diseases for better treatment purposes because it contains the most information about the ailment. Because MRI pictures are low contrast, diagnosing them might be difficult, therefore better image pixel localisation is required. Equalization approaches for histograms aid in the enhancement of images, resulting in increased visual quality and a well-defined problem. The contrast and brightness have been boosted in such a way that the original information has not been lost and the brightness has been kept. We compared the several equalisation strategies that are critically investigated in this research[2][9].Infrared and visible image fusion has been used in a variety of applications, including military, surveillance, imaging. Wavelet transform is used to demonstrate the need of unsharp masking for visual fusion. The decomposition of input photos is done with DWT (infrared, visible). The coefficients are approximated and specified. Unsharp masking was employed to enhance Brightness using estimation factors. After that, the filtering using algorithm is utilized to combine the estimation parameters that were obtained after unsharp masking. To merge detailed parameters, the optimum merger rule is utilised. Finally, IDWT is employed in the creation of a fused image. When compared to the results obtained using the proposed fusion approach, the proposed fusion method provides good contrast as well as higher performance results in terms of mean, entropy, and standard deviation. Unsharp masking is an image enhancing technique that boosts the contrast of edges to improve the details. Whenever the blurry image is deducted from its actual picture, the result could be a crisper image. Allow f(l,k) to be an imagery, fs(l,k) to sharpen variation of f(l,k), & f(l,k) to be a hazy form of f(l,k) to be a hazy edition of f(l,k) (l,k). Using the clustering algorithm, the image pixels method incorporates multiple source data. This approach does not employ any transforms. The fusion rule is directly applied to the pixels of the images[3][6][10].To assess the performance of different types of CNNs, a range

of picture data sets are provided. An ImageNet dataset, as well as CIFAR10, CIFAR100, and MNIST image data sets, are standard benchmark datasets for measuring the performance of a convolutional neural network. The results obtained from well-known networks, Alex Net, Google Net, and ResNet50, is examined in this study. Because assessing a channel's efficiency on a particular dataset does not reveal its whole potential and limits, we chose three of the most prominent data points for our studies: ImageNet, CIFAR10, and CIFAR100. Videos are employed as evaluation samples rather than coaching samples, it should be noted. [4][5][7][8]. CNNs (Convolutional Neural Networks) were developed primarily for pixel data processing. The purpose of image enhancement is to make an image more useful for a certain activity, such as making it more subjectively attractive for human sight. Enhancements are utilised to improve visual interpretation and comprehension of visuals easier. Digital photography has the advantage of allowing us to modify the digital pixel values in an image. Contrast enhancement is a critical component of any subjective image quality assessment that is used to improve the overall quality of a medical picture for feature visibility and clinical measurement.

II. BACKGROUND

A. Plane Wave Imaging

Plane wave imaging, a common ultrafast medical ultrasound imaging modality, achieves a high frame rate by emitting a single plane wave without focusing. However, when compared to the regularly used focused line scan mode, the imaging quality suffers greatly. Adaptive beam formation, as it is known, can improve imaging quality at the expense of additional processing. Deep neural networks are used to accomplish PWI improvement while retaining a high frame rate . The PWI signal from a high precision destination is the connectivity input, meanwhile the output signal is the concentrated scan respond from the same position.

B. Frequency Domain Processing

The frequency domain RF data and responses from the concentrated transmission are utilised training. The input is in the time series, which is transferred to the fourier transform, then DNN itaught, and the frequency and severity is returned to the time domain..

These networks translate PWI RF data into appropriate focused responses, which can then be used to generate a high-resolution B-mode ultrasound image.

III. METHODS

A. Method Overview

CNN is often used to substitute for smart phones' poor quality images. A convolutional neural network (CNN) is used to perform image processing that is specific to pixel value. A Convolutional layer, a Pooling layer, and a Fully linked layer make up the three layer network models.It's a supervised strategy based on machine learning.The median filter is often used in digital image processing to decrease distortion from damaged data. Median filtering, often referred as salt-and-pepper noise reduction, is a regressive strategy to minimize interference. The effect change of the cell being evaluated in a median filter, that travels along the frame, is equal to the average pixel intensity of the images within the frame. To accomplish the luminance and brightness resolution, histogram equalisation is used. Histogram Equalization is a method that alters the intensity of a picture by using the distribution. To boost the image's brightness, it distributes out the most regular pixel value or expands out the image's dynamic range. Sharpening of images Increasing the value results in a sharper image when employing unsharp masking.A moderate (noisy) series of images of a scenario can be merged to form a slightly elevated image or image series, according to the idea underlying super-resolution. As a consequence, it attempts to rebuild the absolute highest scene image from a collection of relatively low observed photos.
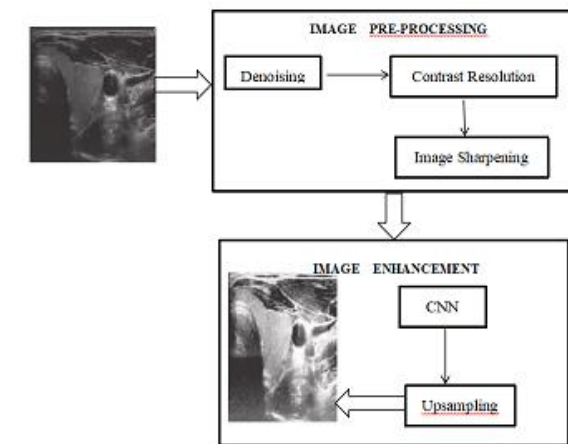

Fig: System Architecture

B. Denoising

Denoising is a term used to describe image filtering procedures in which both the input and output images are intensity images at the lowest level of abstraction. Remove noise is a method to increase image data by removing unwanted deformities or increasing a component of the image that is important for post processing. Image pre-processing methods take advantage of the substantial repetition in images. One of the pre-processing approaches is image cleaning. Filters are used to alter or amplify visual characteristics and/or derive insights from photographs, such as boundaries, edges, and masses. A filter is defined by a core, which is a small matrix treated to each neighboring pixels within a picture. Median filters are useful for reducing ambient noise when the disturbance magnitude probability density function has large extremities and repetitive trends. The median filtering process is finished by gliding a frame over the image. The processed image is formed by choosing the midpoint of the input window's data and placing it in the centre of the source images. The midpoint is the maximum likelihood assessment of position in an Interpolation audio signal. The median filter works well in the long term compared noise because it estimates the colour for related to the right sections. When an edge is crossed, one side of the window takes over, and the output abruptly flips between the values. As a result, the edge does not distorted. Using the pixel replication approach, each row and column of the image is copied, and an empty median mask is circulated across each row and column.It is denoted as,

$g(x,y)=h(x,y)+n(x,y)$

A sort of digital picture sampling that involves increasing the number of pixels in an image without adding any data or detail.Typically, the source images are being used to estimate the unknown the new coloured cells. When photos are magnified in this way, the visual quality is frequently compromised.

C. Contrast Resolution

The ability of any imaging modalities to discriminate between differences in picture intensity is referred to as contrast resolution in radiology. The intrinsic contrast quality of a digital image is defined by the amount of distinct neighboring pixels, which would be calculated as the amount of bits per data point. Excessive brightness degrades image quality. The

graphical representation of an image's pixel intensity values is called a histogram. It's the data structure that keeps track of the frequencies of all the image's pixel intensity levels. This is accomplished using statistical matching, which allows the image's reduced areas to reach greater intensity. Histogram equalisation is used to calculate the scale factor while maintaining picture quality. The methods described can be used to change the luminance:

$G(x,y)=h'(x,y)+b$

$G(x,y)=h'(x,y)-b$

In a histogram balancing, the x axis indicates the gray scale pixel intensity, whereas the y axis reflects the effect of various levels. The density of a cell is its luminance. In contrast to the others, the chart illustrates number of times image pixels are at a certain level of intensity. Images are stored in a computer as an array of numbers, which are alluded to as adjacent pixels. These panel values indicate the luminance of each panel. Black and white are represented by the integers 0 and 255, accordingly.

D. Image Sharpening

It's a method for enhancing an image's apparent sharpness. Photoshop can't magically repair any more details once an image has been captured; the real resolution remains fixed. In other words, increasing acutance is the only method to improve apparent sharpness. You should increase edge contrast to your image if you want it to look sharper. Fine detail is achieved by emphasising the image's corners and technical aspects. To detect any edges, it subtracts a blurred (unsharp) copy from the original image. This edge detail is used to create a mask. The effect is then applied to the original image, with the contrast increased at the edges. Sharpening removes material from the blade to create a new, sharp edge, whereas honing maintains the sharpness of the blade by bringing the knife's edge back to the Centre. Unsharp masking (USM) is a digital image enhancing method first used in negative imaging and now commonly used in image processing technique. The technique's name comes from the fact that it creates a mask of the original image using a blurred, or "unsharp," negative image. After that, the unsharp mask is applied to the input strong picture, producing in a quite unclear image. Even though the image appears clearer, this may not be a true representation of the item.

$G(unsharp)=h'(x,y)+Gmask(x,y)$

$Gmask(x,y)=h'(x,y)-g(x,y)$

Unsharp Mask creates a distorted representation of the image that is then deducted from the actual picture using an Image filter.

E. Image Enhancement

Quality of an image is the technique of strengthening the ability of better viewing to comprehend or important considering in images while simultaneously providing 'superior' data for those other computerized image analysis procedures. The fundamental goal of image improvement is to modify the qualities of an image to make it more acceptable for a specified purpose and spectator. As a consequence of this technique, one or many picture attributes are altered. The attributes chosen and the manner in which they are adjusted are task specific. CNN was created with pixel data in mind. The CNN uses a hierarchical model that builds a network in the shape of a funnel and then outputs a fully connected layer.Typically, a CNN has three layers: Convolutional layer , Pooling layer, Fully connected layer.
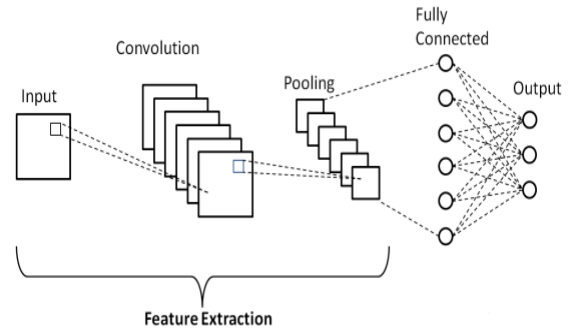
Fig: CNN layer Classification

1) Convolutional layer

A matrix with the following components is fed into a CNN: (amount of inputs) x (source height) x (source width) x (source channels). The image is abstracted to a feature map, also known as an activation map, after passing through a convolutional layer, with the following shape: (amount of inputs) x (feature map height) x (feature map width) x (feature map channels).The input is convolved by convolutional layers, The output is subsequently passed on to the next tier. This is analogous to a neuron's response to a single stimulus in the visual cortex. Each convolutional neuron only processes data for the receptive field it is assigned to. Although fully linked feedforward neural networks can be used to detect

faces and categorize data, this architecture is unsuitable for bigger inputs like high-resolution photos. Due to the vast size of the input of images, where each pixel is an important input characteristic, it would require a very large number of hidden neurons, even in a superficial architecture. For example, each cell in the second layer of a convolution layer for a (small) sample image 100 by 100 has 10,000 weights. Convolution, on the other hand, reduces the amount of data points, allowing for a deeper network. Furthermore, since spatial interactions between different features, convolutional neural networks are appropriate for data with a grid-like architecture.

2) Pooling layer

The feature maps' dimensions are reduced by using pooling layers. As a result, the set of variables to learn is reduced, as is the number of computation done in the network. The features contained in an area of the dataset produced by a convolution layer are summed up by the pooling layer. As a result, rather than precisely positioned features created by the convolution layer, following actions are conducted on summarised features. As a result, the model is more resistant to changes in the position of elements in the source images. Pooling that selects the highest component from the area of the dataset covered by the filter is known as max pooling. As a result, following max-pooling layer, the output would be a feature map comprising the most important features from the preceding layer.

3) Fully Connected layer

In a neural network, fully linked layers are those where all of the output from one tier are interconnected to every activation block of the next layer. The final few layers in most typical machine learning models are full connected layers that compile the data retrieved by preceding layers to generate the final output. The outcome of the fully connected layers illustrates the potential features of the data. Although the hidden layers could be flattened and connected to the output neuron, including a comprehensively layer allows you to learn non-linear mixtures of these characteristics for a (usually) low cost. The final layers of a Convolutional NN are completely connected layers. A layer is connected layer's neurons are completely related to the stimulation of the subsequent layer's neurons. On the other hand, these completely connected layers can only accept one set of data. To convert our 3D data to 1D, we use Python's flatter function Our muti volume is effectively reduced to the one vector.

IV. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Image quality in mobile devices is improved by employing CNN to attain higher accuracy with less pre-processing. It is possible to achieve a result that takes less time than huge ultrasound images. The image is boosted via median filtering, and then the contrast is changed to give the image more detail. Sharpening the image results in a high-resolution image with hidden details exposed. As a result, the visual quality of a handheld device is improved. Because it takes less time to train, CNN is more powerful than any other algorithm. A CNN employs a technology similar to a multilayer perceptron that is optimised for low processing requirements. Each layer in a Convolutional Neural Network performs its own function in image processing in order to get better results. Ultrasound handheld device processing is viable and can be employed in inaccessible or rural places.

V. CONCLUSION

The use of a convolutional neural network to enhance the quality of the image of hand-held ultrasound devices with a faster response time has been proposed. By reducing noise and altering contrast in the image, the proposed method seeks to provide more accurate training with high accuracy and create a high-resolution restoration image with postprocessing structure and speckle. Additionally, the image is improved by adding more pixels and boosting the image's resolution. The denoising process can be completed using an adaptive median filter over a median filter. Traditional digital filters are unable to accomplish some signal processing tasks, whereas adaptive filters can. Convolutional neural networks (R-CNN) regions can be proposed for concentrating more on the afflicted area and processing.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Dr.K.Vasudevan College of Engineering and Technology, ponmar.

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