

A Supervised Machine Learning Approach using Different Feature Selection Techniques on Voice Datasets for Prediction of Parkinson's Disease

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Abstract—Among the neurological diseases, parkinson's disease is the second most common disease, which affect the old age people over the age of 65 year. It is also mentioned that the number of people affected with Parkinson's disease will increase at a higher rate until 2050, and it will be a rising concern to many developed countries because the cost due to the healthcare service of these disease is really high. Parkinson's disease (PD) belongs to the group of neurological disorder, which directly affect the brain cells and the effect is shown in terms of movement, voice and other cognitive disabilities. Past few years researchers are working for detection and monitoring of the Parkinson's disease by using the speech analysis as well as the gait analysis data. Machine learning and artificial intelligence techniques are gaining popularity because these techniques are able to automate the pattern recognition process with high accuracy.

However so far, no body has compared the performance metrics using different feature sets by applying nonlinear and linear classification approaches based on the voice data. So, in this paper we have proposed a new approach by comparing the performance metrics with different feature sets such as genetic algorithm-based feature sets as well as Principal Component Analysis based feature reduction technique for selecting the feature sets. We have used different classification approaches to compare the performance metrics. We have found an accuracy of 97.57% using SVM with RBF by using genetic algorithm-based feature sets. This analysis will help the clinicians to differentiate the PD group from healthy group based on the voice data.

Keywords— Parkinson's disease, machine learning, feature selection, voice data, genetic algorithm

I. INTRODUCTION

Past few years a lot of research has been going on the Parkinson's disease because the healthcare related cost due to this disease is keeping on increasing as the longevity of the population is increasing in the developed countries. Since this disease affect most of the old people, it is become necessary for the developed counties to detect the disease at the early stage. The early detection will help the developed country in economic perspective as well as social perspective because it can be assessed well. Parkinson's disease belongs to one of the category of neurodegenerative disease which directly as well as indirectly affects the brain cells that will affect the movement, speech and other cognitive parts [1, 2, and 3]. The Parkinson's disease is progressive in nature. As the disease progresses more than 90% of the patients has the speech disorder [4]. The symptom related to the vocal impairment of Parkinson's disease patients is called dysphonia. The clinicians measured some indicators related to dysphonia to assess the PD patients. The measures related to dysphonia

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could be treated as an important and most reliable tool to assess the voice related problem and monitor it at different stage [5, 6]. Usually the measures have lot of features which does not helpful for machine learning approaches, so feature selection method has been used for proper assessment. The feature selection method will help to evaluate the important contribution of the features in the assessment of the disease at different stage and also it helps to achieve good accuracy [7, 8].

The traditional diagnosis needs lot of observations related to the daily living activities, motor skills and other neurological parameters to assess the progression of PD, but this process is not suitable for the early detection of the PD. With respect to the past research it is found that artificial intelligence and machine learning techniques have good potential for the classification and it also found that the classification system helps to improve the accuracy and the reliability of the diagnosis and also minimize the errors as well as make the system more efficient [9]. improvement on the prediction of accuracy on the progression of PD is getting lot of attention these days [10, 11].

So in this paper an attempt has been made to check the improvement in the accuracy while classifying the PD group from the healthy control group by using different machine learning algorithm with different feature sets such as the genetic algorithm (GA) based feature set as well as the PCA based feature sets. Finally, a comparison has made in terms of performance metrics using different feature sets. The structure of the paper is organized as follows: Section 2 presents the past work related to classification model used for voice datasets. Section 3 describes about the methodologies used for this research work. Section 4 describes about the result of feature selection as well as the result of classification. Section 5 describes about the conclusion and future work.

II. RELATED WORK

Some of the Past research works are mentioned below to give overall ideas about the amount of work has been done in this field. Shahbaba and Neal used nonlinear based approach for classification of PD. They have used Dirichlet process mixtures and compared the results with other classification model such as decision trees, support vector machine and multinomial logit model and they found Dirichlet process-based method provides best classification approach of 87.7% compared to the other model [12]. Sakar and Kursun used feature selection method as well as machine learning based method for diagnosis of PD. They have used mutual information-based feature selection and support vector machine as the classification approach and they found their approach gives an accuracy of 92.75% [13].

Li et al used fuzzy based method to extend the classification related information and then they have used principal component analysis-based method for feature selections and the optimal features has been integrated with SVM based method provides a good accuracy of 93.47% [14]. Spadoto et al used evolutionary base techniques for feature selection and they have used Optimum-path Forest Classifier

to detect the Parkinson's disease and they found this approach provides a best accuracy of 84.01% while detecting the PD [15].

Luukka have proposed a feature selection method based on the fuzzy entropy measure and used similarity classifiers to classify PD. The best classification accuracy obtained by that method was 85.03% [16]. AStröm and Koker proposed a method that is used parallel feed-forward neural network-based approach to predict the PD. They have found the model is robust and the best classification accuracy obtained from that approach is 91.20% [17]. Nilashi et al proposed a method for the prediction of PD progression using clustering and prediction methods. They have applied Adaptive Neuro-Fuzzy Inference system (ANFIS) and Support Vector Regression for prediction of PD progression. They found this proposed method helps to improve the accuracy of the progression of PD [18].

Abdulhay et al proposed a method to investigate gait and tremor by using machine learning techniques based on the gait data. They have extracted various gait features using the peak detection and pulse duration and they found accuracy of 92.7% for diagnosis of parkinson's disease [19]. Er et al proposed a method to distinguish dementia patients (AD) from the age-related cognitive decline (ARCD) by using machine learning techniques. They found that these techniques are able to distinguish ARCD and AD at a success rate of 100% based on neurocognitive tests [20]. Zeng et al proposed a method to classify the patients with PD. They have used deterministic learning method to distinguish PD from healthy control group. They found accuracy, sensitivity and specificity of 96.39%, 96.77% and 95.89% respectively [21]. Armañanzas et al proposed a method to find the non-motor related PD severity based on the machine learning approach. They have used Hoehn & Yahr index and clinical impression of severity index as the measure of the severity for the PD patients. They have used classification with feature selection using evolutionary algorithm and found accuracy ranging from 72-92% [22]. Kubota et al. discussed about the benefits of using wearable sensors for measuring the gait parameters and also mentioned about signal processing and machine learning approaches used for extracting meaningful information from data. This kind of information helps to understand the potentials of the technology on PD research and practices [23].

Abós et al proposed a method distinguishing the PD patients based on cognitive status using machine learning technique. They have used randomized logistic regression for feature selection and SVM for machine learning and found accuracy of 82.6%. They found connection-wise patterns of functional connectivity may be helpful for distinguishing the PD patients. [24]. Singh and Samavedham proposed a methodology using machine learning tools as statistical measure for determining most important features to distinguish different neurological disease(ND). They have found accuracy of 99.93% while distinguishing various ND such as HC, PD and SWEDD patients.

The above past works motivated us to try a different approach. In this paper we have tried different feature

selection approach such as principal component analysis (PCA) approach and genetic algorithm-based approach and then the performance measures are compared with different machine learning classifiers.

III. PROPOSED TECHNIQUE

The flow chart of the proposed methodologies is shown in the Fig 1. In this paper we have used the dataset created by Max little University Oxford, in collaboration with the National Centre for Voice and Speech, Denver, Colorado, who recorded the speech signals [26]. The original data collected from the dataset composed of voice measurements from 31 people out of which 23 were diagnosed with PD. We have used Principal Component Analysis (PCA) algorithm on the original feature sets.

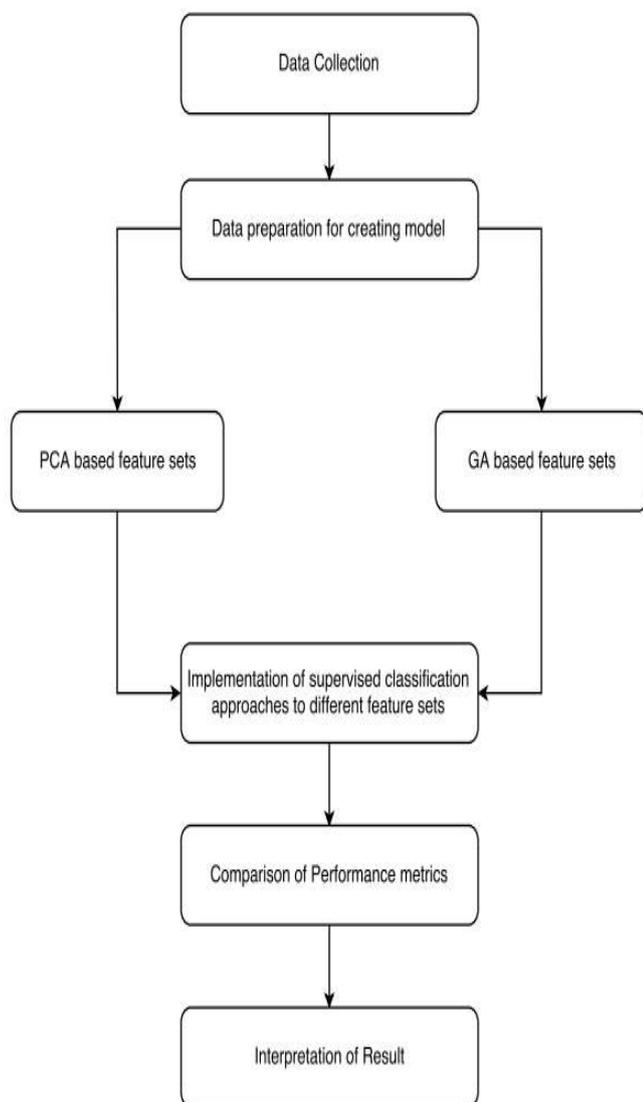


Fig. 1. Flowchart of the proposed method

The most widely applied technique for data reduction and feature selection is done using PCA. In PCA, the principal

components or the latent variables are obtained from the variance of the data by maximizing it. The number of principal components is lesser than the regular variables. PCA reduces the dimensionality of the space so that the data can be visualized in the low dimensional space. The feature selection process is done by removing the redundant variables. [27] We have found 11 features after implementing the algorithm to the original feature sets. We have also used genetic algorithm (GA)-based feature sets for feature selection. Pledsoe first presented an adaptive optimization search methodology is called genetic algorithm and Holland mathematically presented the genetic algorithm-based approach by getting inspiration from Darwin’s theory of evolution. A variable is mentioned as a gene. A chromosome is nothing but a sequence of gene. An initialization is done randomly by using population of chromosome. The quality of the chromosomes is evaluated according to a predefined fitness function. High performance chromosomes are used to produce the offspring. The genetic operators such as mutation and crossover are used to form the offspring. In this process the chromosomes are competing with each other and the fittest one survives at the end. The optimal solution comes after a series of iterative computations. [28, 29].

We have found 10 features using GA based feature sets. We have used different classification approach such as RPART, C4.5, PART, Bagging classification and Regression tree (Bagging CART), Random Forest, Boosted C5.0 and SVM.

Except SVM all other classifiers are belongs to nonlinear decision tree-based classifier. Decision tree-based classifiers are famous for giving good accuracy. SVM is most popular linear classification method. It uses different kernel function while doing classification. In this paper we have used radial basis function kernel function because it is recommended by many well-known data scientists. After implementing different classification approach, we have compared the performance measures such as accuracy, sensitivity, specificity, PPV and NPV.

Performance Metrics

The parameters used to compare the performance and validations of classifier are as follows: accuracy, sensitivity, specificity, positive predictive value (ppv), negative predictive value (npv). The sensitivity is defined as the ratio of true positives to the sum of true positives and false negatives. The specificity is defined as the ratio of true negatives to the sum of false positives and true negatives. In our research we have used the Positive predictive value and negative predictive value to check the present and absent of disease. So, the ppv is the probability that the disease is present given a positive test result and npv is the probability that the disease is absent given a negative test result [30]. Accuracy is defined as the ratio of number of correct predictions made to the total prediction made and the ratio is multiplied by 100 to make it in terms of percentage.

IV. RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS

We have used R programming language to write the code. We have reduced the original feature sets by feature selection techniques. We have chosen the PCA and GA as feature selection technique because these techniques are more widely used for feature selection without affecting the performance. As we have already discussed about the PCA method, after implementing it removes some redundant features and the reduced features are able to provide 99% variance, without affecting the performance. The GA method is different, which needs lot of iteration to reach the optimal result. With lot of iteration we have found optimized result with fewer features compared to the original features. We have trained each classifier based on the trained data and predict the power of classifier on the test data. The ratio of train data to test data is 70:30. In case of SVM we have used different Kernel function such as linear, polynomial, and radial basis function. So, each classifier able to show all the performance metrics based on the test data. We have plot the graphs shown below.

A. Comparison of Accuracy

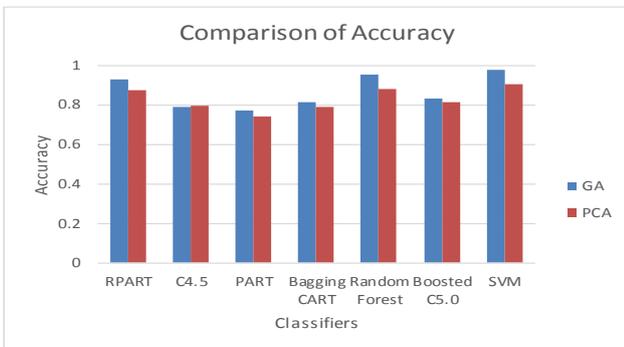


Fig. 2. Accuracy of different classifiers

Fig. 2 shows that SVM with RBF has highest accuracy of 97.57% with GA based feature sets followed by random forest and RPART classifiers with the same feature sets. Even though the other classifiers have less accuracy than SVM, but the difference in accuracy is not much.

B. Comparison of Sensitivity

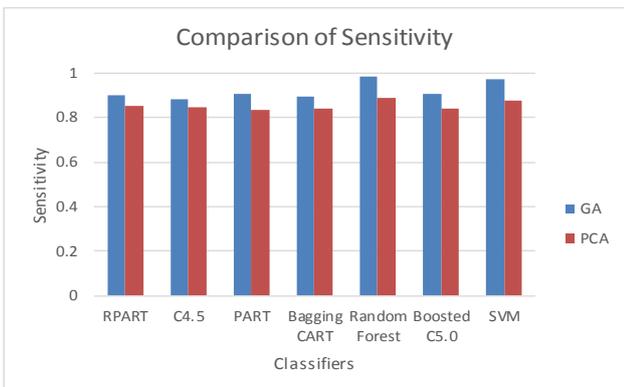


Fig. 3. Sensitivity of different classifiers

Fig .3 shows that random forest has highest sensitivity of 0.9985 with GA based feature sets followed by SVM with RBF classifiers with the same feature sets. The SVM classifier has a sensitivity of 0.9756.

C. Comparison of Specificity

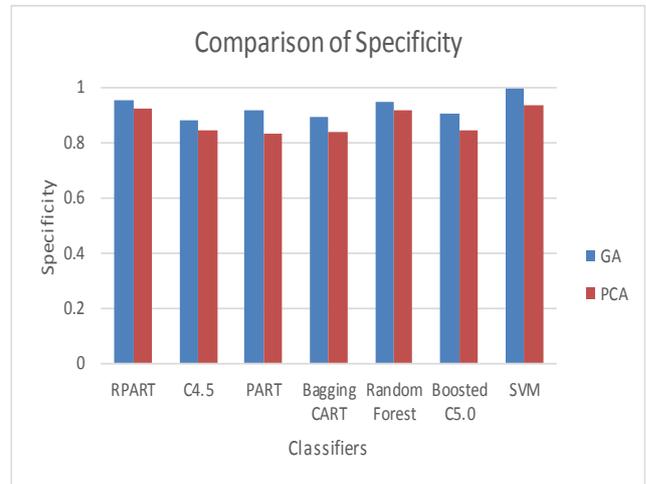


Fig. 4. Specificity of different classifiers

Fig. 4 shows that SVM with GA based feature set has highest specificity of 0.9987. RPART and random forest also follows SVM with good specificity with the same feature sets.

D. Comparison of PPV

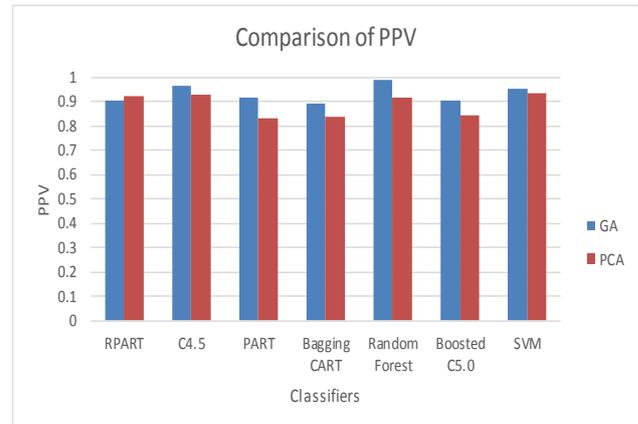


Fig. 5. PPV of different classifiers

Fig. 5 shows that the GA based feature set perform better compared to the PCA based feature set with random forest classifier. The maximum specificity achieved with this combination is 0.9934.

E. Comparison of NPV

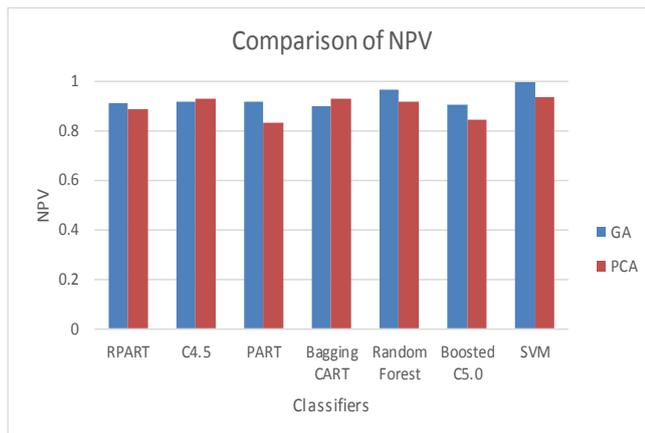


Fig. 6. NPV of different classifiers

Fig. 6 shows that SVM with GA based feature sets performs better compared to the PCA based feature sets. GA based feature sets shows maximum npv of 0.9995.

From the above plots we have seen that most of the classifiers are performing better while distinguishing between the Parkinson's patients to the control group. Basically, the feature selection processes help to save the time and space by removing the redundant sets, which has almost no impact on the performance. In our case we have seen the SVM and random forest are doing well in terms of the performance metric comparison with the GA based feature sets. We have seen that the GA based feature sets are performing well compared to PCA based feature sets. In theoretical case we may give a suggestion based on the accuracy while choosing the classifier, however in practical case lot of other performance measures is also come into picture. In our case we can suggest SVM is the best classifier and GA is best for feature selection, however it may provide different result with bigger dataset. This result actually gives an idea about the performance comparison and also gives an impression to analyze more deeply for implementing in practical life.

V. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

This paper outlined some of the new feature selection technique as well as some of the supervised machine learning approach for distinguishing Parkinson's patient from the control group. We have seen the capability of the PCA based feature selection technique and GA based feature selection technique. We have also seen the performance of different classification approach when combined with different feature sets. We have found that GA based feature selection technique performs better when combined with SVM classifier in terms of all performance measure compared to the PCA based feature set. Mostly while looking for performance measure we usually concentrate on accuracy, in that respect our SVM

classifiers provides highest accuracy of 97.57% with GA based feature sets. This type of analysis will save the time and efficiency while doing pattern classification comprising two groups such as PD and control groups. This will help the clinician to distinguish PD and control groups. This research can be further improvised by adding more features and trying other classification techniques.

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