

ML-Driven Model for Predicting Heart Disease Risk: A Performance Evaluation of SVM and Random Forest Models

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Abstract

The utilization of machine learning algorithms in the diagnosis and treatment of medical diseases has grown more common, especially for heart disease prediction. The increasing incidence of abrupt cardiac deaths necessitates precise prognosis and diagnosis. Data mining techniques and machine learning algorithms significantly contribute to this field by facilitating the creation of software that aids healthcare practitioners in making informed judgments regarding heart disease risk and diagnosis. This study emphasizes the utilization of data mining tools to anticipate cardiac disease for prompt intervention. We utilize multiple algorithms for comparison analysis, and our results demonstrate that the Random Forest approach, in conjunction with Support Vector Machines (SVM), achieves the greatest predictive accuracy. Utilizing a dataset of 303 samples and 14 input features, alongside one output feature, we attained encouraging results. This dataset, obtained from the UCI Machine Learning Repository, is allocated 65% for training and 35% for testing, resulting in a precision of 0.763 and a recall of 0.935 for predicting negative class tuples.

Keywords: Heart disease, Early detection, Machine learning, C4.5 algorithm, J48 Algorithm, Random Forest model.

1. Introduction

Healthcare industry today generates large amounts of complex data about patients, hospitals resources, disease diagnosis, electronic patient records, medical devices etc [1]. The large amounts of data are a key resource to be processed and analyzed for knowledge extraction that enables support for cost-savings and decision making. As per world health organization (WHO) latest statistics the highest mortality rate of people, both in India and as well as in abroad is due to heart disease. So it is vital time to check this death toll by correctly identifying the disease in initial stage. It is really a headache for all doctors both in India and abroad. Now a day's doctors are adopting many scientific technologies and methodology for both identification and diagnosing not only common disease, but also many fatal diseases. The successful treatment is always attributed by right and accurate diagnosis. Doctors may sometimes fail to take accurate decisions while diagnosing the heart disease of a patient, therefore heart disease prediction systems which use machine learning algorithms assist in such cases to get accurate results [2]. In this article, we especially focused on important attributes like, high blood pressure, abnormal blood lipids, use of tobacco, obesity, physical inactivity, diabetes, age, gender, family generation, etc to predict whether person is suffering with heart disease or not. Many heart strokes are happening because of accumulation of cholesterol in blood vessels or blood clot in blood vessels in arteries which supply blood to the heart muscles [3]. Internal and external view of heart is as shown in figure1, figure 2 given below.

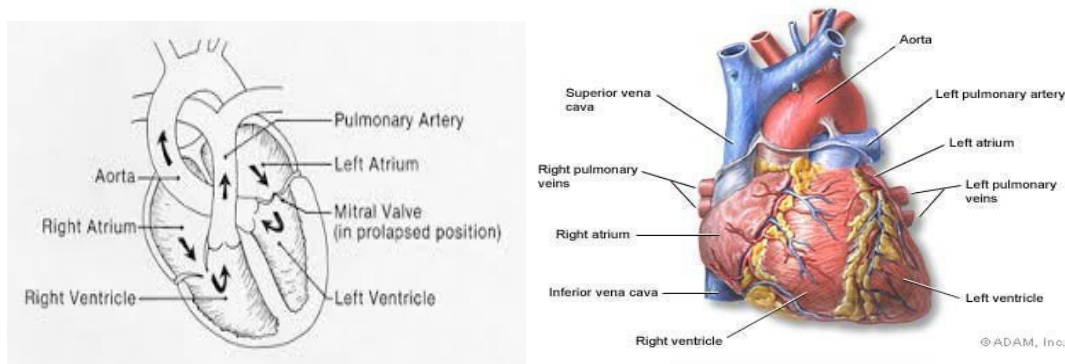


Figure 1. Internal view of the heart (left). external view of the heart (right).

2. Literature survey

In this paper our focus is how we can train the Machine to learn from the medical data so it can predict and treat the disease. Learning can be defined in general as a process of gaining knowledge through experience. We humans start the process of learning new things from the day we are born. This learning process continues throughout our life where we try to gather more knowledge from our surroundings and through our experience [4]. Machine Learning (ML) is a sub-field of AI whose concern is the development, understanding and evaluation of algorithms and techniques to allow a computer to learn [4]. ML intertwines with other disciplines such as statistics, human psychology and brain modeling. Human psychology and neural models obtained from brain modeling help in understanding the workings of the human brain, and especially its learning process, which can be used in the formulation of ML algorithms. Since many ML algorithms use analysis of data for building models, statistics plays a major role in this field [5]. ML algorithms need a dataset, which is collection of records are instances where each instance consist of attributes. The input attributes are the information given to the learning algorithm and the output attribute contains the feedback of the activity on that information. The value of the output attribute is assumed to depend on the values of the input attributes.

Machine learning algorithms are broadly classified as Supervised and unsupervised learning algorithms. In supervised learning instances and its predefined classes are there. The model predicts the class membership of an instance. In unsupervised learning only instance are there based on the similarities between the instances, they are segmented as groups. In this paper we used supervised learning techniques to predict the class label of test instances. Supervised learning algorithms also called as Classification Algorithms [6].

3. Proposed method

Algorithms that classify a given instance into a set of discrete categories are called classification algorithms [4]. These algorithms work on a training set to come up with a model or a set of rules that classify a given input into discrete output values. Most classification algorithms can take inputs in any form, discrete or continuous. Although some of the classification algorithms require all of the inputs also to be discrete. The output is always in the form of a discrete value. Decision trees and Baye's nets are examples of classification algorithms. In this paper we used Random forest classifier for prediction, in the random forest approach; a large number of decision trees are created. Every observation is fed into every decision tree. The most common outcome for each observation is used as the final output. A new observation is fed into all the trees and taking a majority vote for each classification model. Random forest algorithm also works on the principle of decision tree; rest of the section explains how decision tree algorithm works. J48 is a decision tree learner based on C4.5. The C4.5 is an update of the ID3 algorithm. A decision tree classifies a given instance by passing it through the tree starting at the top and moving down until a leaf node is reached [5]. The value at that leaf node gives the predicted output for the instance. At each node an attribute is tested and the branches from the node correspond to the values that

attribute can take. When the instance reaches a node, the branch taken depends on the value it has for the attribute being tested at the node. The ID3 algorithm builds a decision tree based on the set of training instances given to it. It takes a greedy top-down approach for the construction of the tree, starting with the creation of the root node. At each node the attribute that best classifies all the training instances that have reached that node is selected as the test attribute. At a node only those attributes are considered which were not used for classification at other nodes above it in the tree. To select the best attribute at a node, the information gain for each attribute is calculated and the attribute with the highest information gain is selected. Information gain for an attribute is defined as the reduction in entropy caused by splitting the instances based on values taken by the attribute.

Random Forest

In decision tree algorithm of Random Forest, the tree is constructed dynamically with online fitting procedure. A random forest is a substantial modification of bagging. Each tree of Random Forest is grown can be explained as follows: Suppose training data size containing N number of records, then N records are sampled at random but with replacement, from the original data, this is known as bootstrap sample along with M number of attributes. This sample will be used for the training set for growing the tree. If there are N input variables, a number $n \ll N$ is selected such that at each node, n variables are selected at random out of N and the best split on these m attributes is used to split the node. The value of m is held constant during forest growing. The decision tree is grown to the largest extent possible. A tree forms “inbag” dataset by sampling with replacement member from the training set. It is checked whether sample data is correctly classified or not using out of bag error with the help of out of bag data which is normally one third of the “inbag” data. Prediction is made by aggregating (majority vote for classification or averaging for regression) the predictions of the ensemble. Random forests include 3 main tuning parameters. Node Size: unlike in decision trees, the number of observations in the terminal nodes of each tree of the forest can be very small. The goal is to grow trees with as little bias as possible. Number of Trees: in practice, 500 trees is often a good choice. Number of Predictors Sampled: the number of predictors sampled at each split would seem to be a key tuning parameter that should affect how well random forests perform. Sampling 2-5 each time is often adequate.

Random forest Algorithm Input: Dataset Output: Predicted class label

Step 1 : Set Number of classes = N , Number of features = M

Step 2 : Let ‘ m ’ determine the number of features at a node of decision tree, ($m < M$)

Step 3 : For each decision tree do Select randomly: a subset (with replacement) of training data that represents the N classes and use the rest of data to measure the error of the tree

Step 4 : For Each node of this tree do Select randomly: m features to determine the decision at this node and calculate the best split accordingly.

Step 5: End For

Step 6 : End For

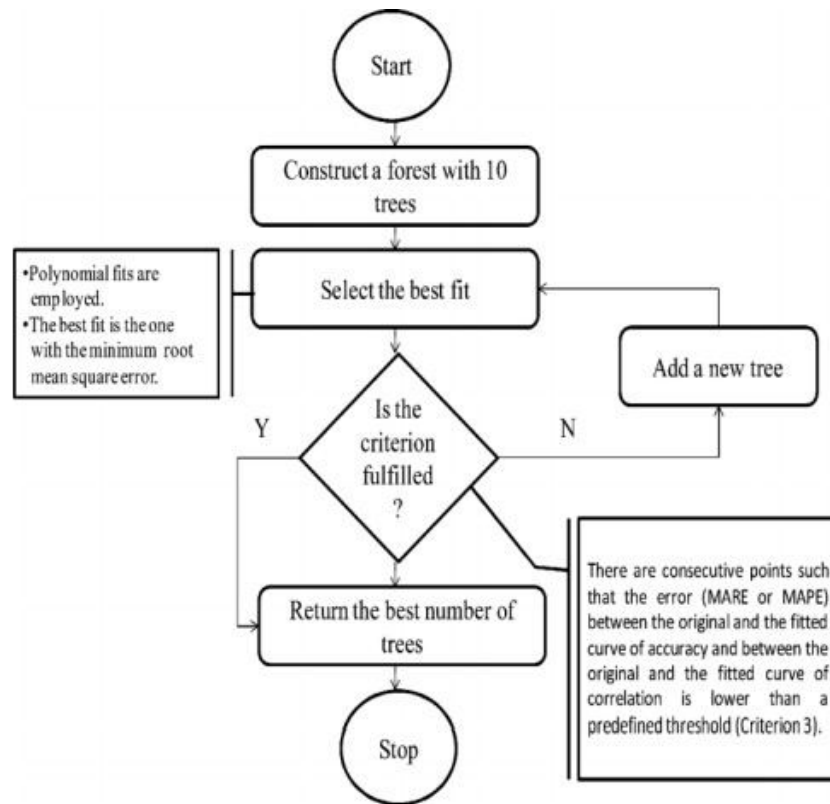


Figure 2: Schematic representation of the proposed method

Fig 2 shows Schematic representation of the proposed method. Random Forest is a collection of decision trees. From the training data the Random Forest is constructed. In each step the tree is constructed with other data which has been selected as a best split. The forest is constructed without pruning. Forest construction is based on three step process. i) Forest construction ii) the polynomial fitting procedure ii) the termination criteria.

Performance measures used for classifier evaluation

The classifier's evaluation is most often based on prediction accuracy (the percentage of correct prediction divided by the total number of predictions). If the error rate evaluation is unsatisfactory, we must return to a previous stage of the supervised Machine learning process. A variety of factors must be observed, perhaps relevant features for the problem are not being considered, may need a larger training set is required, the dimensionality of the problem is too high, the selected algorithm may not suitable or parameter tuning is needed [7].

Table 1. Measures and Formula

Classifier Accuracy	$\frac{TP + TN}{P + N}$
Classifier Error rate	$\frac{FP + FN}{P + N}$
Recall	$\frac{TP}{P}$
Precision	$\frac{TP}{TP + FP}$

	(TP +FP)
F-Measure	$\frac{(2 \times \text{precision} \times \text{recall})}{(\text{precision} + \text{recall})}$

Where P is total number of positive records, N is total number of negative records, TP refers to the positive records which are correctly labeled by the classifier, TN is the negative records which are correctly labeled by the classifier, FP is the negative records which are improperly labeled as positive, and FN is the positive records which are incorrectly labeled as negative.

4. Experimental setup and Results

In this paper we used a decision tree based Random Forest classification algorithm which is implemented in SVM. SVM is a collection of various ML algorithms, implemented in Java, which can be used for data mining problems. Apart from applying ML algorithms on datasets and analyzing the results generated, SVM also provides options for pre-processing and visualization of the dataset. It can be extended by the user to implement new algorithms. The details of the attributes considered for experimental analyses are represented in Table 1. We have taken heart disease Cleveland data set of 303 diagnostic records. Each record is classified to one of the Five class labels, whose values are {0,1,2,3,4}, if predicted class label value is zero means arteries are narrowed below 50%, if predicted value is greater than or equal to 1, arteries narrowed more than 50%, based on the value predicted we can say person is victim of heart disease or not. Each record consists of 14 attributes. Data set is available online at <https://archive.ics.uci.edu/ml/datasets/Heart+Disease>. Here 65% records are used to train the model remaining 35% records are used to test the model. Table 2 gives the performance details of Random Forest algorithm used for classifying BP patient records.

Table 2. Class wise accuracy.

Class	TP Rate	FP Rate	Precision	Recall	F-Measure
0	0.935	0.300	0.763	0.935	0.841
1	0.111	0.192	0.091	0.111	0.100
2	0.250	0.113	0.250	0.250	0.250
3	0.077	0.042	0.333	0.077	0.125
4	0.000	0.016	0.000	0.000	0.000

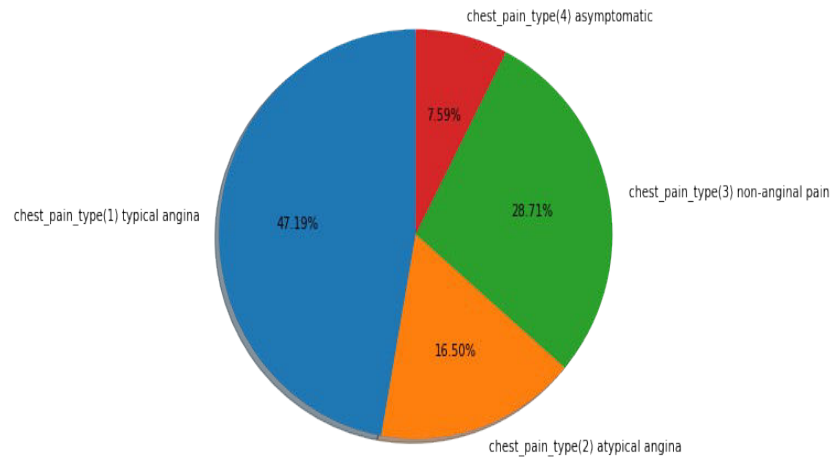


Fig. 3: Graphical representation of classes.

5. Conclusion

In this paper we used random forest classifier to predict whether the patient is suffering with heart disease or not. The algorithm has shown 53.7736 % accuracy in predicting the class label of unknown records. But in predicting the class label of records whose class label value is zero, means people with less than 50% narrowed arteries the algorithm has shown 0.763 precision and 0.930 accuracy, the evaluation criteria proved that, random forest algorithms are more effective and efficient classification techniques for the prediction of heart disease risk among patients. The considerable point about the algorithm used is, it out performs in accuracy while predicting the zero class labels. These machine learning algorithms can be used to predict many diseases like heart attack, asthma, diabetes and high blood pressure etc.

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