Lossless Compression for Volumetric Medical Images Using Deep Neural Network with Local Sampling

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Introduction

- Data compression forms a central role in handling the bottleneck of data storage, transmission and processing.
- Data compression techniques can be divided into two main types: lossy and lossless compression.
- Choosing which type to use relies on the application requirements.
- For medical image compression, the lossless approach is more appropriate since it recovers the original data without any loss in quality.

Related Work

State-of-the-art Classical Methods: (Lossless)

Image Encoder:

JPEG2000 [1], JPEG-LS [2], CALIC [3], MRP [4].

Volumetric Encoder:

JP3D [5], HEVC [6], 3D-CALIC [7], M-CALIC [8], 3D-MRP [9].

Related Work

State-of-the-art **Deep Learning** Methods: (Lossy)

- Dimensionality reduction (Autoencoders) [10].
- Super-resolution images or video reconstruction [11].
- Estimating pixel likelihood (Auto-regressive) [12].
- Generative compression [13].

Related Work

State-of-the-art **Deep Learning** Methods: (Lossless)

- The current deep learning literature for lossless compression usually combine a density estimator model with an arithmetic coder.
- The density estimator can be categorized into various types:
 - Fully connected NN [14].
 - Recurrent Neural Network (LSTM/GRU) (DeepZip) [15].
 - >A recursive bits-back coding with hierarchical latent variables (Bit-Swap) [16].

Motivation

According to Diagnostic Imaging Dataset Statistical Release published by NHS, between September 2018 to September 2019 over 45 million medical images acquired for clinical use including 5.8M CT scans and 3.7M MRI scans [17].



Motivation

Especially for clinical purposes, artefacts that introduced by lossy compression could result in misleading diagnosis and unfavorable treatment.



Motivation

• There is a need for a compression tools that:

- Utilizes deep learning technique for Lossless compression performance.
- Has computationally efficient (parallelized) encoding/decoding performance.
- Achieves a higher compression ratio compared to the state-of-the-art lossless compression methods.

Contributions

- A novel 3D predictor model using neural network that achieves lossless compression for volumetric medical images.
- A computationally efficient model that achieves higher compression ratio when compared to state-of-the-art lossless compression methods.
- Empirically, demonstrate the robustness and generalization of our proposed models on many datasets for higher dynamic range (16 bit-depths).

The regression problem can be solved by learning a mapping function f that predict the output \hat{y} from an input sequence X through the back-propagation process given a training dataset.



- ❖ Given a data distribution defined over $X \in \mathbb{R}^N$, where X contains input samples from the same distribution $X = \{x_1, x_2, ..., x_n\}$ forms a 1D vector of immediately neighboring voxel-intensities.
- ✤ We learn a differentiable mapping function $\hat{y} = f(X)$ that maps the input vector X to a predicted value \hat{y} to minimize the differences with the ground truth voxel value y, where f(X) is represented using a neural network model.
- The residual (prediction) error E:

$$E = y - \hat{y}$$















Network Architecture



Network Architecture

Layer	Number of Neurons	Activation Function Used
Fully Connected	1024	LeakyRelU
Fully Connected	512	LeakyRelU
Fully Connected	256	LeakyRelU
Fully Connected	128	LeakyRelU
Output	1	Linear



z = -3 z =

z = -2 z = -1

 $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{0}$

3D Cube Neighboring Sequence



3D Pyramid Neighboring Sequence





- All volume values are normalized to the range [-1,1] and the volume is padded, as determined by the block size, by its minimum voxel value.
- Padding the volume is crucial in order to include the edge and corner cases in training.
- All the 3D sequences will be flattened to 1D vectors and randomly shuffled before inputting them to the predictor models.

Hyper Parameters

Model ID	Sampling Space	Shapes of the input Neighboring Block	Hyper Parameters		
1	All samples were generated from	3D Cube input	Batch size = 256, learning rate = 2e-4,		
	10 slices extracted from one	sequence	no L2 regularization, no dropout,		
	volume (patient 40)	(11x11x11)	and no batch normalization		
2	All samples were generated from	3D pyramid input	Batch size = 32, learning rate =3e-5,		
	10 slices extracted from one	sequence	no L2 regularization, no dropout,		
	volume (patient 40)	(13x13, 9x9, 5x5, 1x1)	and no batch normalization		

Loss Function

$$L_{Joint} = MAE + \lambda(1 - |PCC|)$$
$$MAE = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} |y - \hat{y}|}{n}$$
$$PCC = \frac{cov(y, \hat{y})}{\sigma_y \sigma_{\hat{y}}}$$

)

Result & Discussion

- We evaluated the compression performance in bits-per-pixel (bpp) of the proposed neural network models in comparison to the stateof-the-art lossless compression methods including JPEG-LS, JPEG2000, JP3D and HEVC.
- Our models were trained on one training set. However, the evaluation was conducted on two different test sets:
 - Testset1 (42 volumes)
 - Festset2 (2 volumes)





Result & Discussion (Testset1)

Comparing the compression ratio in BPP for the proposed models with the state-of-the-art lossless compression methods over 16-bits volumes on Testset1



-JPEG-ls -JPEG2000 -- HEVC -- JP3D -- Model 1 -- Model 2

Result & Discussion (Testset2)

Set Type	Volume ID	Pixel Spacing, Slice Thickness	JPEG-ls	JPEG2000	HEVC	JP3D	Model 1	Model 2
Training Set	40	0.625, 0.625, 0.625	5.387	5.387	5.389	5.23	5.256	5.119
Testset2 [18], [19]	CT Lung R004	0.830, 0.830, 5.00	5.937	6.014	5.739	5.967	6.664	6.715
	CT Lung R013	0.623, 0.623, 5.00	5.747	5.539	5.835	5.623	5.959	5.847

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Resampled Testset2	CT Lung R004	0.625, 0.625, 0.625	5.459	5.243	-	5.195	4.915	4.904
	CT Lung R013	0.623, 0.623, 0.625	5.698	5.485	-	5.375	5.237	5.238

Conclusion

- We proposed a novel lossless compression system using a neural network for volumetric medical images (16 bit).
- Two localized sampling methods were introduced and evaluated on real 3D volumetric medical imaging datasets.
- The comparison study shows that our method outperforms the standard lossless compression methods.
- It also suggests that the proposed method is feasible to generalize to unseen dataset while retains satisfactory performance.

Future Work

- Study of generalization across samples with different pixel spacing or scan quality.
- The effect of model size and weight sparsity on compression ratio from transmitting both the compressed representation and decoder.
- Optimization of the decoder to leverage parallelism over the diagonal leading edge to reduce decode time.

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