

Hearing Loss Detection Based on Wavelet Entropy and Genetic Algorithm

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Abstract—In order to develop a new hearing loss detection method, this paper proposed to combine wavelet entropy with feedforward neural network trained by genetic algorithm. The dataset contains 72 subjects—24 healthy controls, 24 left-sided hearing loss patients, and 24 right-sided hearing loss patients. The 10 runs of 8-fold cross validation showed that optimal decomposition level was 4, better than the results using decomposition level of 2, 3, and 5. Our method using 4-level decomposition yielded a sensitivity for healthy controls of $81.25 \pm 4.91\%$, a sensitivity for left-sided hearing loss of $80.42 \pm 5.57\%$, a sensitivity for right-sided hearing loss of $81.67 \pm 6.86\%$, and an overall accuracy of $81.11 \pm 1.34\%$.

Keywords—hearing loss; wavelet entropy; feedforward neural network; genetic algorithm

I. INTRODUCTION

Hearing loss (HL) [1] may occur in one of both ears. The HL problems in children may even destroy his/her spoken ability. It may cause loneliness for adults. Nowadays scholars prefer to use magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) [2-4] method to detect hearing loss.

For example: Li [5] proposed a fractional Fourier transform method. Jia [6] used deep autoencoder method. Liu [7] suggested to use dual-tree complex wavelet transform. Li [8] offered a new method using fitness-scaling adaptive genetic algorithm. Nayak [9] used stationary wavelet transform and Shannon entropy. Chen [10] gave a new method of using generalized eigenvalue proximal support vector machine. Gorriz [11] employed directed acyclic graph support vector machine.

Nevertheless, those methods are too complicated and hard to implement. In addition, their methods may not get accurate results that meet practical requirement. Further, some algorithms are too time-consuming.

Our contribution is we proposed a novel method that combined wavelet entropy, feedforward neural network, and genetic algorithm. Our method shows promising results in identifying hearing loss patients.

II. SUBJECTS

We collected 72 magnetic resonance brain images from local hospitals. The dataset can be divided into three categories, including 24 healthy brain images, 24 left HL brain images, and 24 right HL brain images. Written consents were obtained from

all subjects. Different types of hearing loss images are shown below in Figure 1.

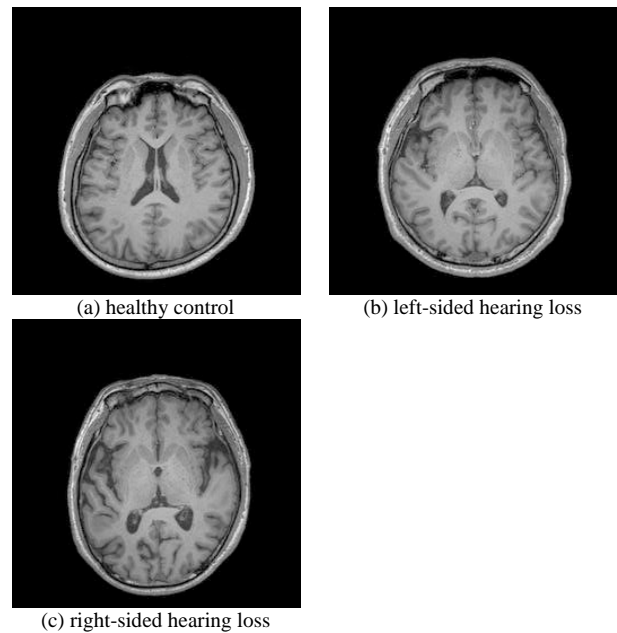


FIGURE I. SAMPLE OF BRAIN IMAGES

III. METHODOLOGY

Wavelet entropy is a novel method to analyze transient features of complicated images. It has already been applied in satellite image processing, brain image processing [12-17], face recognition [18, 19], etc. The pseudocode of wavelet entropy is listed in Table 1.

TABLE I. ALGORITHM OF WAVELET ENTROPY

Algorithm – Wavelet entropy (WE)
Step A Import the magnetic resonance brain image;
Step B Choose the wavelet family;
Step C Choose decomposition level k ;
Step D Perform discrete wavelet transform (DWT) on given brain image;
Step E Generate and record $(3k+1)$ wavelet subbands;
Step F Calculate entropy over each subband;
Step G Vectorize all the entropy results and output it as the feature

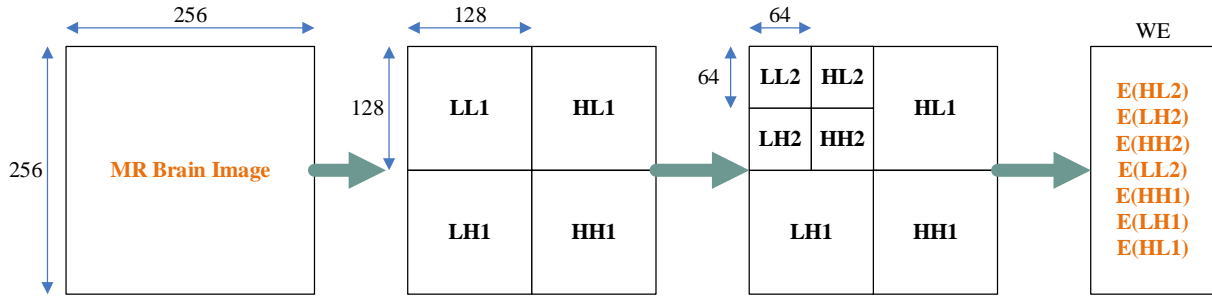


FIGURE II. DIAGRAM OF CARRYING OUT WAVELET ENTROPY

Figure 2 shows a diagram of carrying out a 2-level wavelet entropy. Here we first decompose 1-level discrete wavelet transform (DWT) over the magnetic resonance (MR) brain image, and obtained four subbands (LL1, LH1, HL1, and HH1) [20]. Then, we used DWT to decompose the LL1, and obtained four new subbands (LL2, LH2, HL2, and HH2). In total, we get 7 subbands altogether. Finally, entropy was performed over these seven subbands.

In this study, we chose bior5.5 wavelet as suggested in Ref. [11]. Here a “bior $x.y$ ” means a B-spline biorthogonal compactly supported wavelet with reconstruction order of x and decomposition order of y . The decomposition functions and filters of bior5.5 wavelet are shown in Figure 3.

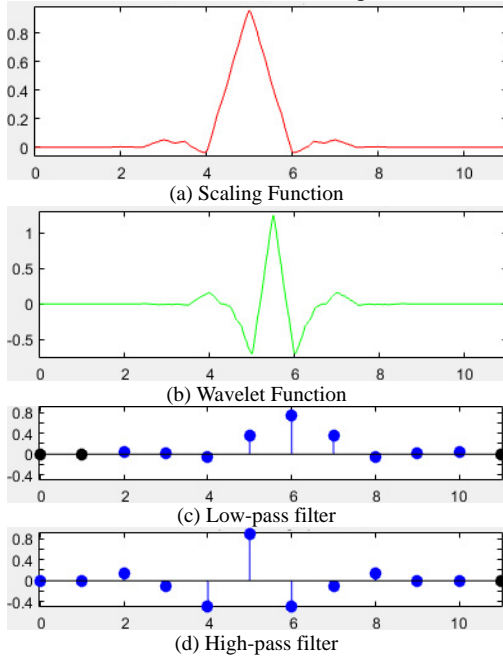


FIGURE III. DECOMPOSITION FOR BIOR5.5

The features extracted by WE was submitted to a feedforward neural network (FNN), also named multilayer perceptron [21]. It does not need any *a priori* information about the data distribution. Scholars have reported that FNN gained remarkable success compared to traditional classifiers [22-26]. Suppose it contains N_I input nodes, N_H hidden nodes, and N_O output nodes. We can draw its fully-connected structure in Figure 4. We did not use deep learning methods, such as

convolutional neural network [27-30] and autoencoder [31, 32], because our dataset in this study is relatively small.

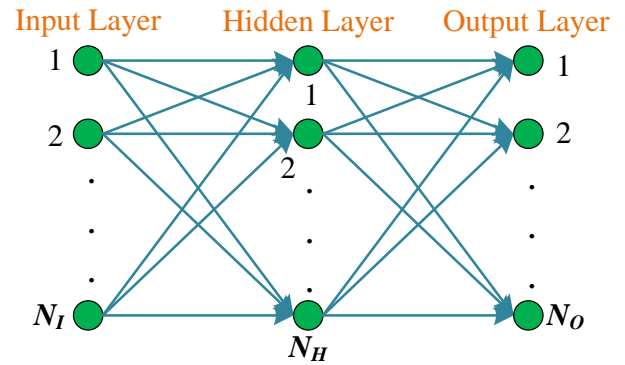


FIGURE IV. STRUCTURE OF FNN

Finally, traditional back propagation algorithm was an FNN training method. Nevertheless, it may fall into local optimum. Hence, to avoid this problem, we used genetic algorithm (GA) to train the FNN. We first transform the training to an optimization problem using mean squared error (MSE) [33-36] as fitness function.

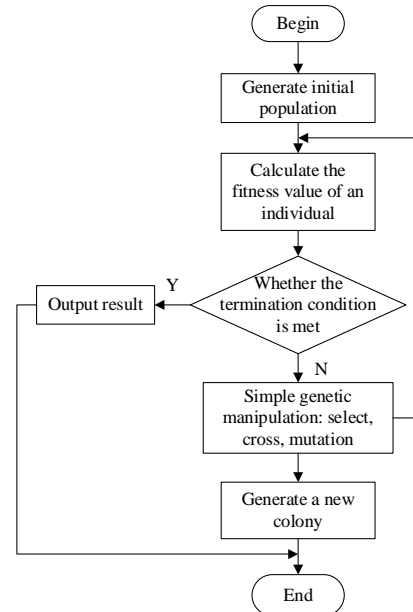


FIGURE V. DIAGRAM OF GENETIC ALGORITHM

Then in a standard GA, each candidate solution is named as the chromosome [37, 38], and the whole population evolved towards better solution by three implementations: crossover, mutation, and selection. Figure 5 shows the diagram of a standard GA. Detailed description can be found in Ref. [39-41].

IV. EXPERIMENTS AND RESULTS

Eight-fold cross validation was used. In each fold, we contains three healthy controls, three left-sided HL brain images, and three right-sided HL brain images. The optimal decomposition level was found to be 4. The statistical results of 10 runs of eight-fold cross validation are listed in Table 2.

TABLE II. CORRECTLY IDENTIFIED RESULTS (F = FOLD; R = RUN)

	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	F6	F7	F8	Total
R 1	3+3	3+2	2+2	2+3	3+2	2+2	2+3	3+3	20+20
	+3	+2	+3	+2	+3	+2	+3	+0	+18
	=9	=7	=7	=7	=8	=6	=8	=6	=58
R 2	3+2	3+2	1+3	3+2	2+2	3+2	2+2	2+3	19+18
	+3	+3	+3	+3	+1	+3	+3	+3	+22
	=8	=8	=7	=8	=5	=8	=7	=8	=59
R 3	3+3	3+3	2+3	1+2	3+3	2+3	3+1	3+3	20+21
	+2	+1	+3	+3	+3	+2	+2	+3	+19
	=8	=7	=8	=6	=9	=7	=6	=9	=60
R 4	3+1	3+3	2+3	3+2	2+3	0+3	3+1	2+3	18+19
	+3	+2	+2	+3	+3	+3	+3	+3	+22
	=7	=8	=7	=8	=8	=6	=7	=8	=59
R 5	1+2	3+3	3+2	2+2	3+2	3+3	2+3	3+3	20+20
	+3	+2	+2	+2	+1	+3	+3	+3	+19
	=6	=8	=7	=6	=6	=9	=8	=9	=59
R 6	3+3	3+1	1+3	2+3	3+1	3+2	3+3	3+3	21+19
	+2	+3	+3	+3	+3	+3	+0	+2	+19
	=8	=7	=7	=8	=7	=8	=6	=8	=59
R 7	3+3	2+2	2+3	3+1	2+2	1+3	2+3	2+3	17+20
	+3	+3	+2	+2	+3	+2	+3	+2	+20
	=9	=7	=7	=6	=7	=6	=8	=7	=57
R 8	3+2	1+3	3+2	3+3	3+1	2+1	3+3	2+3	20+18
	+2	+3	+2	+2	+1	+3	+3	+3	+19
	=7	=7	=7	=8	=5	=6	=9	=8	=57
R 9	3+3	3+2	3+3	2+3	2+3	3+3	1+2	3+2	20+21
	+2	+2	+3	+2	+1	+3	+2	+2	+17
	=8	=7	=9	=7	=6	=9	=5	=7	=58
R 10	2+2	2+2	2+2	3+2	2+3	3+3	3+2	3+1	20+17
	+3	+3	+3	+1	+3	+3	+3	+2	+21
	=7	=7	=7	=6	=8	=9	=8	=6	=58

Here $(a+b+c) = z$ means a healthy controls, b left-sided, and c right-sided were correctly identified. In total z brains were identified.

TABLE III. SENSITIVITY OF THREE CLASSES OF 10 RUNS (DECOMPOSITION LEVEL = 4)

Run	Healthy	Left	Right	Overall
R1	83.33	83.33	75.00	80.56
R2	79.17	75.00	91.67	81.94
R3	83.33	87.50	79.17	83.33
R4	75.00	79.17	91.67	81.94
R5	83.33	83.33	79.17	81.94
R6	87.50	79.17	79.17	81.94
R7	70.83	83.33	83.33	79.17
R8	83.33	75.00	79.17	79.17
R9	83.33	87.50	70.83	80.56
R10	83.33	70.83	87.50	80.56
Avr	81.25±4.91	80.42±5.57	81.67±6.86	81.11±1.34

The sensitivities of each classes are shown in Table 3. Here our method yields a sensitivity for healthy controls of 81.25±4.91%, a sensitivity for left-sided hearing loss of 80.42±5.57%, a sensitivity for right-sided hearing loss of 81.67±6.86%, and an overall accuracy of 81.11±1.34%.

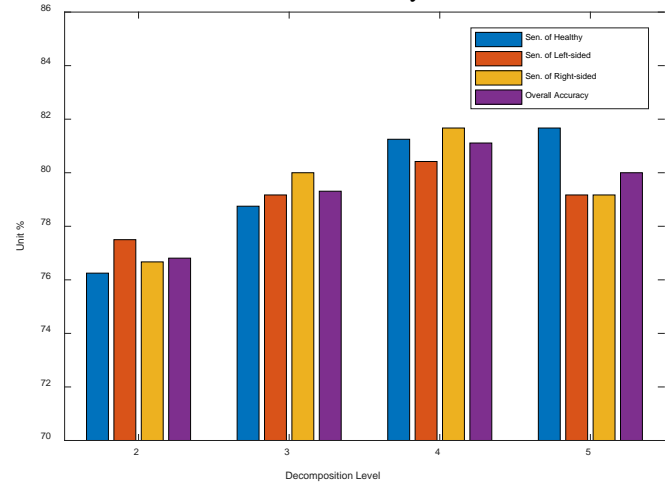


FIGURE VI. OPTIMAL LEVEL

TABLE IV. SENSITIVITY OF THREE CLASSES OF 10 RUNS (DECOMPOSITION LEVEL = 2, 3, AND 5)

Run	Decomposition Level = 2				Decomposition Level = 3				Decomposition Level = 5			
	Healthy	Left	Right	Overall	Healthy	Left	Right	Overall	Healthy	Left	Right	Overall
R1	70.83	83.33	75.00	76.39	79.17	83.33	83.33	81.94	83.33	87.50	75.00	81.94
R2	75.00	79.17	70.83	75.00	79.17	87.50	75.00	80.56	79.17	83.33	75.00	79.17
R3	79.17	75.00	79.17	77.78	75.00	75.00	83.33	77.78	91.67	87.50	66.67	81.94
R4	70.83	83.33	70.83	75.00	75.00	79.17	87.50	80.56	87.50	75.00	87.50	83.33
R5	79.17	79.17	79.17	79.17	83.33	75.00	83.33	80.56	70.83	79.17	75.00	75.00
R6	79.17	75.00	75.00	76.39	83.33	79.17	75.00	79.17	83.33	79.17	83.33	81.94
R7	87.50	66.67	75.00	76.39	83.33	75.00	66.67	75.00	87.50	75.00	75.00	79.17
R8	75.00	75.00	83.33	77.78	79.17	79.17	79.17	79.17	87.50	62.50	83.33	77.78
R9	79.17	79.17	75.00	77.78	79.17	79.17	75.00	77.78	66.67	83.33	87.50	79.17
R10	66.67	79.17	83.33	76.39	70.83	79.17	91.67	80.56	79.17	79.17	83.33	80.56
Avr	76.25±5.91	77.50±4.89	76.67±4.48	76.81±1.32	78.75±4.14	79.17±3.93	80.00±7.30	79.31±2.01	81.67±7.91	79.17±7.35	79.17±6.80	80.00±2.47

In order to validate why we chose 4-level as the optimal decomposition level, we showed the results using 2, 3, and 5 levels in Table 4. Here it shows the overall accuracy of 2-level decomposition was $76.81 \pm 1.32\%$, the overall accuracy of 3-level decomposition was $79.31 \pm 2.01\%$, and the overall accuracy of 5-level decomposition was $80.00 \pm 2.47\%$. Compared to the results of 4-level decomposition, we can see that 4-level obtained the better result than 2-level, 3-level, and 5-level did, as shown in Figure 6.

V. CONCLUSION

This study give a new method for hearing loss detection based on wavelet entropy, feedforward neural network, and genetic algorithm. In the future, we shall test our method on a larger dataset of hearing loss diseases.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The paper is financially supported by Postgraduate Research & Practice Innovation Program of Jiangsu Province (SJCX17_0342).

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