GAN-Based Data Augmentation and Anonymization for Skin-Lesion Analysis:

A Critical Review



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GAN-based augmentation is a method to mitigate the lack of data



GAN-based augmentation is a method to mitigate the lack of data



Preliminary experiments did not reliably improve performance

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What are we doing wrong?

- Systematic Literature Review on GAN-based augmentation in the medical context.
- What did we learn?

Skin Lesion Synthesis with Generative Adversarial Networks

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Abstract. Skin cancer is by far the most common type of cancer. Early detection is the key to increase the chances for successful treatment significantly. Currently, Deep Neural Networks are the state-of-the-art results on automated skin cancer classification. To push the results fur-



Choosing hyperparameters directly on the test-set



GAN-augmented models are more thoroughly optimized

Weak Baselines







Baseline



$\phi \bullet \phi = \mu \pm \sigma$

Are the sampling method and the amount of synthetic images key factors for GAN-based augmentation?



Methods

Our work evolved to a critical analysis of GAN-based augmentation

Augmentation vs. Anonymization



We consider different GANs

Both translation and noise-based



Real Pix2pixHD SPADE PGAN StyleGAN2

We evaluate different sampling methods

random







sorted according to CNN scores



oHash-based removal of near duplicates

We sample different ratios of real and synthetic

real

14.805 images from ISIC 2019

synthetic

(14.805 / 2) images generated with a GAN



We sample different ratios of real and synthetic

real

synthetic

14.805 images from ISIC 2019



To select the best training checkpoint for the GAN, we consider both the **time spend on training** and the **FID score**.

GAN Architecture	Epochs	$FID\downarrow$
SPADE	300	16.62
pix2pixHD	400	19.27
PGAN	890	39.57
StyleGAN2	565	15.98

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We perform early stopping based on the validation loss.

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We evaluate our models in 5 different test sets.

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We apply conventional data augmentation to **all experiments** (both during train and test).

We evaluate our models in **5 different test sets.**

For statistical significance, we run our experiments 10 times.

Results

GAN-based augmentation did not reliably improve performance (with some exceptions)

GAN-based augmentation on in-distribution test did not reliably improve performance



GAN-based augmentation on out-of-distribution test improved performance



GAN-based anonymization on in-distribution test did not reliably improve performance



GAN-based anonymization on out-of-distribution test improved performance



Takeaway:

Be cautious about evaluation protocols

Code, Data & Paper:

https://github.com/alceubissoto/gan-critical-review

Thank you!

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