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LOCALIZATION OF MICROCALCIFICATION ON THE MAMMOGRAM USING  
DEEP CONVOLUTIONAL NEURAL NETWORK

BY  
JIEUN JHANG

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the

Master of Science

Major in Computer Science

South Dakota State University

2018

LOCALIZATION OF MICROCALCIFICATION ON THE MAMMOGRAM USING  
DEEP CONVOLUTIONAL NEURAL NETWORK

JIEUN JHANG

This dissertation is approved as a creditable and independent investigation by a candidate for the Master of Science in Computer Science degree and is acceptable for meeting the dissertation requirements for this degree. Acceptance of this does not imply that the conclusions reached by the candidate are necessarily the conclusions of the major department.

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This thesis is dedicated to everyone suffering from breast cancer.

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## ABBREVIATIONS

AI	Artificial Intelligence
Breast CT	Breast Computed Tomography Scan
Breast MRI	Breast Magnetic Resonance Imaging
CC	Craniocaudal
CADe	Computer-Aided Detection
CAM	Class Activation Map
CBIS-DDSM	Curated Breast Imaging Subset of Digital Database for Screening Mammography dataset
CNN	Convolutional Neural Network
DDSM	Digital Database for Screening Mammography
DICOM	Digital Imaging and Communications in Medicine
IoD	Intersection over Detection
IoU	Intersection over Union
ILSVRC	ImageNet Large Scale Visual Recognition Competition
MIAS	Mammographic Image Analysis Society
MLO	Mediolateral oblique
PET	Positron Emission Tomography Scan
PNG	Portable Network Graphics
ROI	Region of interest
SPECT	Single-Photon Emission Computerized Tomography Scan
STA	Stacked Autoencoder
WHO	World Health Organization

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## ABSTRACT

LOCALIZATION OF MICROCALCIFICATION ON THE MAMMOGRAM USING  
DEEP CONVOLUTIONAL NEURAL NETWORK

JIEUN JHANG

2018

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women worldwide, and the mammogram is the most widely used screening technique for breast cancer. To make a diagnosis in the early stage of breast cancer, the appearance of masses and microcalcifications on the mammogram are two crucial indicators. Notably, the early detection of malignant microcalcifications can facilitate the diagnosis and the treatment of breast cancer at the appropriate time. Making an accurate evaluation on microcalcifications is a time-consuming and challenging task for the radiologists due to the small size and the low contrast of microcalcification. Compared to the background and mammogram image with noises, it is tough to be discriminated. Computer-Aided Detection (CADe) have been deployed to support radiologists. However, most of current CAdE systems need to have hand-crafted image features to be implemented. For improvement in the conventional approach, Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) with no hand-crafted image feature is used in this thesis. CNN with Class Activation Map (CAM) is deployed to implement the microcalcification detection in mammograms. GoogLeNet architecture with nine inception modules and one CAM layer is used to improve the localization capability of GoogLeNet in microcalcification detection while maintaining the local information. The network is trained and tested with Curated Breast Imaging Subset of Digital Database for Screening Mammography dataset (CBIS-DDSM). This approach

demonstrates that the localization ability of CAM for abnormal microcalcification regions on the mammogram can be improved by restoring the last two inception modules that were removed in the paper [1] [16]. For the CAM, CAM layer is inserted in the position of the second auxiliary layer that was used in the original GoogLeNet [17] for training. This allowed us to use the intermediate feature at the same location from [1] [16] for localization while maintaining the depth of the GoogLeNet [17].

The experimental result shows that this method achieved about 225.15% better result at localizing microcalcification in mammograms than the existing method.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), cancer is one of the leading causes of death and breast cancer is the most common cancer in women worldwide [2].

Anatomically, the breast is composed primarily of fatty tissue with epithelium, ducts, and lobules connected with nutritional function.

Breast cancer is caused by excessive proliferation of these epithelial cells mainly in ducts and lobules; this proliferation usually causes lesions that can be detected and diagnosed by mammography. Without mammography, the probability of early detection is around only 5%. [11]

Mammography is the breast screening technology that the most commonly used in the world. Accurate abnormality detection plays a crucial role in mammography diagnoses. Early detection of cancer can be a critical factor in the future survival rate of cancer patients. [3] [4].

Moreover, mammography is universally recognized as the primary screening and diagnostic test that can be performed quickly and is the only test method for microcalcification detection, which may be one of the critical early findings of breast cancer [5]. A challenging issue is that it is often difficult and time-consuming for the radiologist to perform an accurate assessment of microcalcifications because of the small size and low contrast of microcalcification compare to the background of the mammogram [6] [7]. Thus, computer-aided detection (CADe) have been introduced in mammography [8] [9].

Until recently, the performance of the CADe system was dependent upon hand-created features, designed and generated by radiologists. These features provide a platform which is task-specific and requires prior knowledge of experts, but they are highly biased towards how humans think and work [10].

Since the first introduction of artificial intelligence (AI) into the field of computer science, the research has seen the transition from rule-based or problem-based solutions to deep learning [11] [12] [13] [14].

Deep learning allows us to optimally exploit the ever-increasing amounts of data and reduce human bias. Its method is to extract information directly from training samples, rather than the extracted features from the domain expert. Many pattern recognition tasks have proven that the system is already reaching or leading to human performance [15].

In this thesis, based on the result from [1], the goal is aimed to improve the localization ability of CNN to detect suspicious microcalcification region in mammograms using Class Activation Mapping (CAM). Using transfer learning, ImageNet pre-trained GoogLeNet is adapted as CNN architecture, and it is fine-tuned with cropped patches from CBIS-DDSM for mass, calcification, normal tissues and background. All the patches are resized into 224×224pixel size before being fed to train the CNN. Since the size of CBIS-DDSM dataset is too small to train the deep CNN, data augmentation is conducted to expand the volume of the dataset. One is elastic distortion, and another is image translation with cropping.

The CAM is used to detect the microcalcification region. Bolei Zhou et al. [16] adapted the CAM into GoogLeNet by removing the last two inception modules and

connect CAM convolution layer with global average pooling after it. By doing this, they maintain the local information from intermediate features with weight map generated after fully connected layer to implement the localization.

Due to the removal of the last two inception modules, the overall network loses its depth. Therefore, the network architecture is modified not to lose the depth while retaining the localization ability. The CAM layer is connected to full nine inception size GoogLeNet at the position of its second auxiliary layer. In this structure, the network can maintain the original depth of the GoogLeNet. The authors of GoogLeNet claimed in the paper [17] that the auxiliary layer compensates for the disappearance of gradients during training. The CAM in this architecture then is expected to prevent the vanishing gradient problem while maintaining its localization capability, and it is assumed that it will enable localization to be more accurate as a deep structure than the CAM GoogLeNet from [16].

In the final step, full-size mammograms are used as input to evaluate the modified GoogLeNet and the GoogLeNet from the reference [1] [16]. Each microcalcification localization displayed as a heatmap. Intersection over union (IoU) and the Intersection over Detection (IoD) will be deployed as evaluation methods.

## 2 RELATED WORK

### 2.1. MAMMOGRAPHY

Breast cancer is one of the major health problems in dealing with primary care. Mammography, Breast Ultrasonography, and Fine Needle Aspiration biopsy have been used to diagnose breast cancer. Digital mammography, Breast Magnetic Resonance Imaging (Breast MRI), Breast Computed Tomography scan (Breast CT), Positron Emission Tomography scan (PET), and early diagnosis using a Single-Photon Emission Computerized Tomography scan (SPECT) have been introduced. Among them, mammography is a primary test for screening and diagnosis, and its effect is universally recognized [14][18]. Mammography is the primary screening and diagnostic test that can be performed very easily and is the only test method for visualizing microcalcification, which can be one of the critical early findings of breast cancer. [5]. Microcalcifications of the breast are commonly found in mammography and are especially common after menopause [35]. Microcalcification is usually benign which means non-cancerous, but certain types of microcalcification or certain patterns of microcalcification may indicate precancerous changes in tissue or the breast cancer. [27] [28]. There are many controversies over the effects of mammography. A false-positive result leads to an unnecessary biopsy, an increase in the mental anxiety of the examinee, and a relatively high false-negative rate of mammography for young women and dense breasts [21] [24]. In this thesis, I report that I have studied using only mammography images with the problems and the limitations of mammography mentioned above.

In the most cases, mammograms consist of two views of the breast, the craniocaudal (CC) view and the mediolateral oblique (MLO) view which are the standard

views for screening mammography. The CC view refers to the view from the head towards the breast in the vertical direction, and the MLO view refers to the view that tilt the breast about 45 degrees [20]. Figure 1 shows a mammogram of the same breast taken from MLO and CC views. Images are taken from CBIS-DDSM [19]. Red area indicates the same region of interest for the lesion with microcalcification.

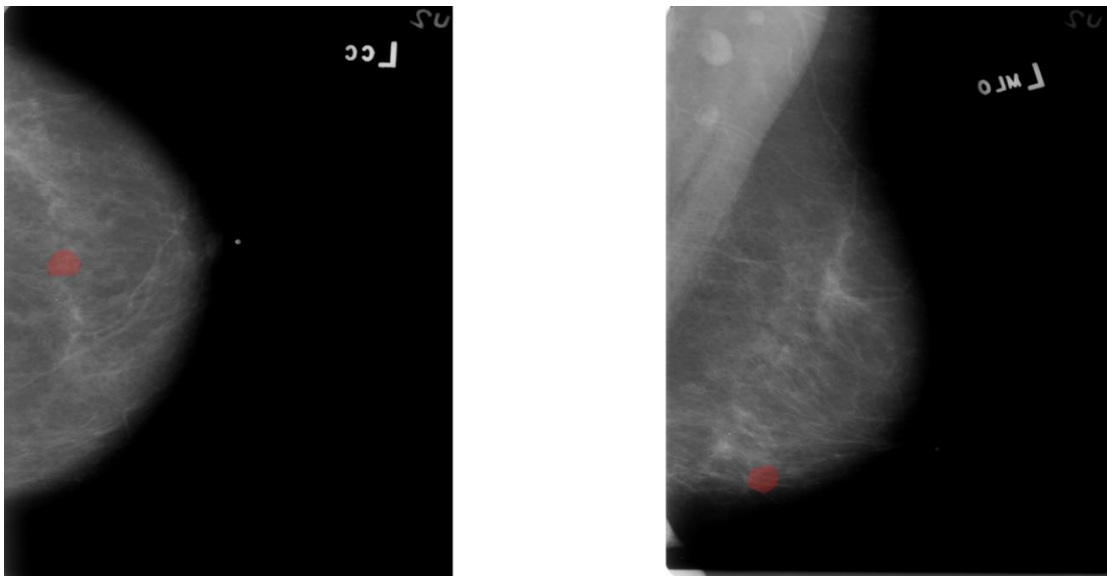


Figure 1: Mammography with two views on the left chest of the same patient.

Mammography is known to be less sensitive if the patient is young and if breast density is dense. [21] However, mammography is still the most representative primary breast cancer screening method.



## 2.2. CBIS-DDSM

In mammography, most researches are evaluated with private dataset due to the sensitivity for the privacy of medical data. With lack of a standard evaluation dataset available to the public, most of the published research results are difficult to replicate.

Digital Database for Screening Mammography (DDSM) [22] and Mammographic Image Analysis Society (MIAS) database [23] were the most commonly used public dataset. DDSM was the most extensive public mammography database which collects more than 2500 mammographic images from Wake Forest University School of Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital, Sacred Heart Hospital, and Washington University of St Louis School of Medicine. In each case, the region of interest (ROI) for microcalcification and mass is annotated with descriptions about mass shape, mass margin, calcification type, calcification distribution, and breast density [19]. In 2017, Lee et al. [19] released a curated, standardized version of the DDSM for the evaluation of CADe systems in mammography, CBIS-DDMS. The database contains 753 calcification cases and 891 mass cases. ROI cropping patches are included in each case with each view with full-size mammography and the resulting ROI mask image. Figure 2 shows full mammograms with its ROI patches. Images are taken from CBIS-DDSM [19]. The blue rectangles on left images are the ground truth bounding boxes that indicate the ROI mask area from CBIS-DDSM.

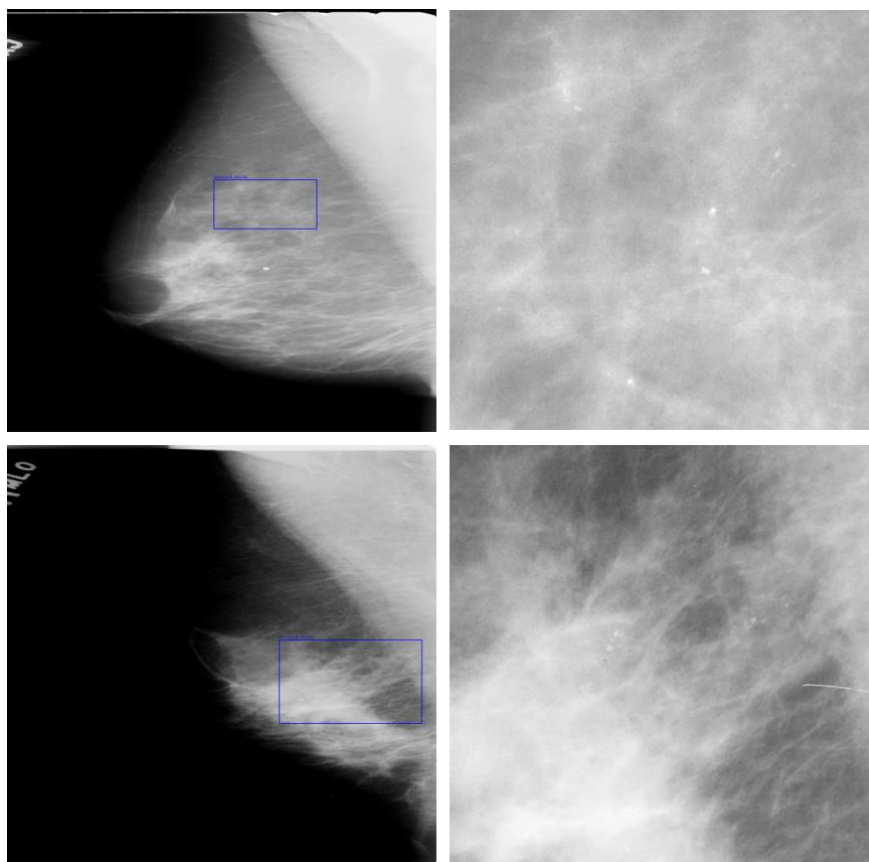


Figure 2. Example of CBIS-DDSM mammography images(left) and ROI patches(right)

### 2.3. COMPUTER-AIDED DETECTIONS

Microcalcifications are one of the most crucial early symptom appearances on mammograms [35]. Their diameter is mostly less than 1mm and constructed with small deposits of calcium that appear as bright little spots on mammograms [25] [26] [27] [36]. Pal et al. [28] introduced a multilevel system that detects microcalcifications using neural networks in mammography. The authors located the candidate calcification area, configured the network output to remove thin, slender structures and used local density for final classification. Wang et al. [29] applied Stacked Autoencoder (STA) constructed

with two convolutional layers after image segmentation to classify the malignancy of microcalcifications and masses. 15 segmented image features used for microcalcifications and 26 for masses. Then they combined all 41 features for classification. Tabar et al. [30] used a learning approach to extract local features for the shape of microcalcifications and then selected the most prominent features for use in the classifier.

Mass detection algorithms first detect suspicious regions in a mammogram and then classify the malignancy. Petrick et al. [10] used Laplacian Gaussian for edge detection and contrast-emphasis filters using adaptive weights to discriminate the potential mass. Morphological features were extracted to classify normal and mass ROI. Cascio et al. [31] first used the edge-based approach to refine the boundaries of the ROI and then computed the geometric features. Neural networks have been trained to distinguish between mass and normal areas.

Previous classifiers mainly used shallow neural networks as classifiers and used hand-crafted features when performing computer-aided detection, but in recent years, many studies have been done by applying deep learning into CADE.

## 2.4. DEEP CONVOLUTIONAL NEURAL NETWORK ARCHITECTURE

### 2.4.1 CONVOLUTIONAL NEURAL NETWORK

Convolutional neural network (CNN) is a neural network, specialized for processing a grid-like topology data such as the image, which is a 2-dimensional grid of pixels.

Convolution is a linear operation on two functions with some variable  $t$ . Convolution is to reverse and shift one of the functions  $f$  and  $\omega$ , and then to integrate the result of the multiplication with the other function:

$$s(x) = (f * \omega)(x)$$

$$s(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t)\omega(x - t)dt$$

in which,  $f(x)$  is the output of the function  $f$ , and  $\omega(t)$  is a weighting function for convolution in CNN. Convolution is defined for all functions defined by the above integral function for any purposes. [38]

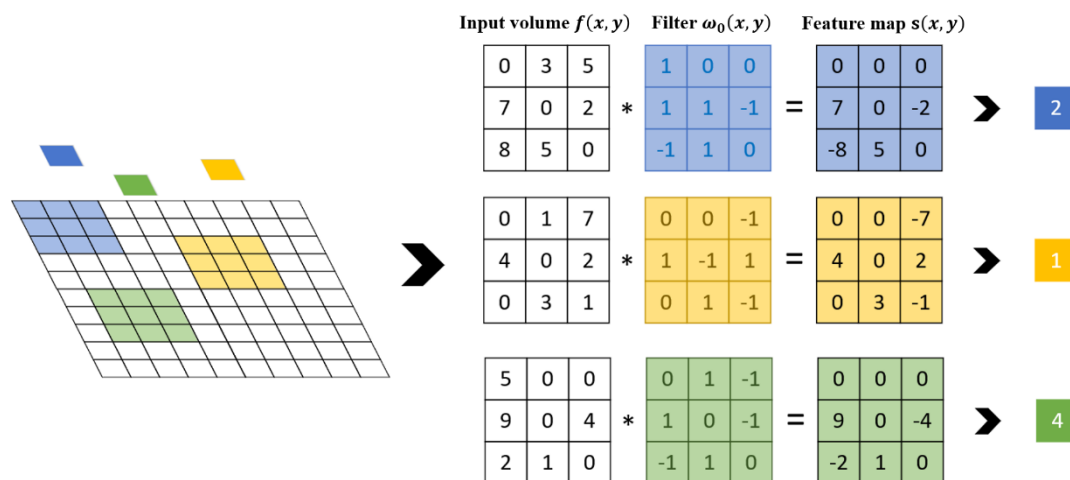


Figure 3. Illustration of the spatial property of kernel in convolution layer

In convolutional neural networks,  $f(x)$  is referred to as the input,  $\omega(t)$  is referred to as the kernel and the output  $s(x)$  is referred to as the feature map. The input is usually a multidimensional array data (e.g., an image), and the kernel is a multidimensional array of parameters that are intended to converge with the learning algorithm. Figure 3 shows this spatial property of convolution layer.

The following three ideas improve the learning algorithm of CNN: Sparse interaction, parameter sharing, equivariant representations [38].

Even if the input could consist of thousands of pixels, we intentionally keep the network's kernel small. The resulting network not only 'sees' the relevant features such as an edge, but also lessen the required computation and ameliorate statistical efficiency. This is the advantage and the attribute of sparse interaction or connectivity from CNN.

The parameter sharing scheme allows CNN to control and reduce the number of parameters. If each convolution layer uses a different weight for each neuron location at all depth, the number of parameters is very high. Rather than using this enormous number of parameters, take the advantage from the simple assumption that if one feature is useful for computation at some spatial location, it should be useful to compute at another location. In other words, the neurons of each depth slice use the same weights and bias by limiting the number of neurons at each depth slice (2-dimensional slice used in 2-dimensional image processing). During backpropagation, every neuron in the input volume computes the gradients for its weights, and then the gradients are summed over each depth slice. Finally, it updates only one set of weights per depth slice. The forward pass of the convolution layer can be computed as the convolution of the weights of the

neurons with input volume at each depth slice. Therefore, we name the set of weights as a filter (or kernel).

A function  $h$  is said to be equivariant to a function  $g$  if  $h$  and  $g$  satisfy the following property:

$$h(g(x)) = g(h(x))$$

Let  $h$  denotes the function that shifts every pixel to the right and  $g$  the function that modifies the brightness of a pixel at coordinates  $(x, y)$ . The parameter sharing enables us to say that if we applied  $h$  to the convolution and we applied the convolution to the result of  $h$ , both computations are equal. In other words, if we move an object in a specific image, its representation does not change. This is particularly interesting in dealing with images, since the equivalence renders CNN invariant to the horizontal/vertical translation. This is the reason that CNN is said to possess a property called ‘equivariant representation’.

The pooling operation renders the network invariant, in a certain way, to small translations of the input. Provided that the underlying assumption is correct, this characteristic gives the network another tool for the statistical efficiency.

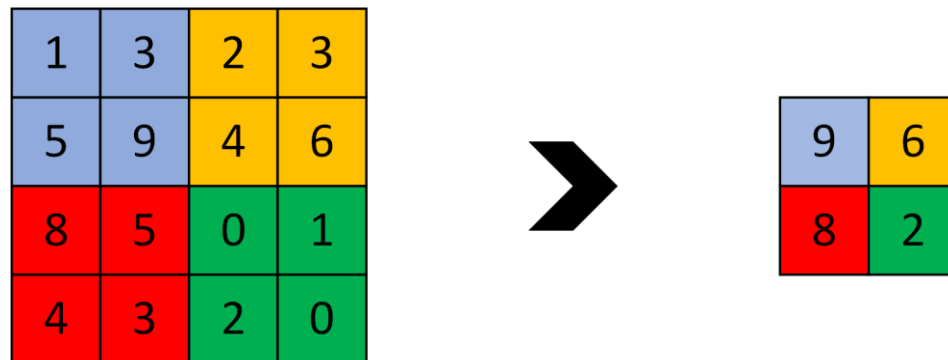


Figure 4. Illustration of Pooling Operation

Figure 4 illustrates how a max pooling (with filter size  $2 \times 2$  and stride 2) works. The operation aims to get the maximum pixel value, 'pool' the value and the resulting image's resolution's 50% reduced.

#### 2.4.2 DEEP LEARNING

The primary function of deep learning aims to approximate a function  $y = f(x; \theta)$ , where the function maps an input  $x$  to a label  $y$  and  $\theta = \cup \theta_i$  is a collection of parameters  $\theta_i$  in a neural network. The main difference of the deep learning lies in the assumption that  $f$  is to be approximated by a set of  $f^{(i)}$  functions:

$$f(x) \approx f^{(n)} \circ f^{(n-1)} \circ \dots \circ f^{(2)} \circ f^{(1)}(x)$$

, where  $\circ$  is the composition operator. In this case,  $f^{(1)}, f^{(2)}, \dots, f^{(n)}$  denote respectively the  $i$ -th ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) layer of a neural network and the overall length of a network, denoted by  $n$ , is the depth of a neural network. During the training of a neural network, we adjust the set of parameters to approximate  $f(x)$ , in a numerical fashion.

#### 2.4.3 GOOGLNET

ImageNet [33] is one of the most extensive, public datasets in image recognition work and plays a significant role in object classification and detection. The project now consists of more than 14 million images, categorized as more than 20,000 classes, with objects in the middle of the image that classify the class. This effort for labeling a massive amount of data has played a crucial role in the revolution in deep learning. Each

year, the ImageNet Large Scale Visual Recognition Challenge (ILSVRC) is held to select the best performing architecture and training strategies of the year [34].

Szegedy et al. [17] introduced a deeper CNN, GoogLeNet to ILSVRC-2014 and winning the competition. Instead of sequential stacking of layers, this network used parallel structure in the architecture using the inception modules.

Inception module is an amalgam of a series of the convolutional filters of different sizes; it concatenates different size filters and dimensions into a single new filter to obtain features of different scales [37]. In addition,  $1 \times 1$  convolution is appropriately used to reduce the dimension and solve the problem of increasing the computation amount when the network is deepened [26]. Each inception unit in GoogLeNet consists of six convolution layers and one pooling layer. GoogLeNet used Global Average Pooling (GAP) at the final convolutional layer. When the network identifies all the discriminating areas of an image, using average pooling rather than maximum pooling is more profitable in terms of feature loss.

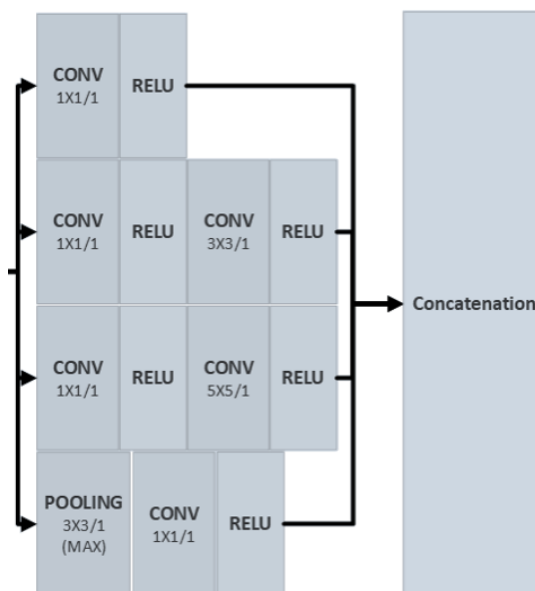


Figure 5. Illustration of an inception module with concatenation layer used in GoogLeNet



During the training period, only the following two inception modules after Class Activation Mapping modules are fine-tuned. Training is done with CBIS - DDSM dataset whose batch size of 16. Each of network iterated 200 epochs with Imagenet pre-trained weights. If the average accuracy for the 50 most recent deployments reaches 99.5%, each network will stop from further training. The learning rate set to  $1e-4$  for the initial state. Each architecture is trained and saved five times, and the average localization result of five models is deployed for the robustness of evaluation

## 2.5. CLASS ACTIVATION MAP

Class Activation Mapping (CAM) is a technology that uses a specific class of CNN to identify regions of an image [16]. The CAM can identify image areas associated with a given class and reuse the classifiers for localization. It shows that CNN has the built-in, detection capability. If CNN classifies the input image with a high degree of accuracy, it can be considered that the classifier has learned to filter for the class. Conversely, by navigating back to the location where the weights of the filter are active, they will indicate the location where the class is in that image.

For a given image, let  $f_i(x, y)$  represent the activation of unit  $i$  in the last convolutional layer at a spatial location  $(x, y)$ . Then, for unit  $k$ , the result of performing global average pooling,  $F_k$  is s

$$\sum_{x,y} f_k(x, y).$$

Therefore, for a given class  $c$ , the input to the softmax,  $S_c$ , is  $\sum_i w_i^c F_i$  where  $w_i^c$  is the weights corresponding to class  $c$  for unit  $i$ . Essentially,  $w_i^c$  indicates the importance of  $F_i$  for class  $c$ .

$$S_c = \sum_k w_k^c \sum_{x,y} f_k(x,y) = \sum_{x,y} \sum_k w_k^c f_k(x,y)$$

Let  $\omega_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) denote weights at the output layer and  $f_i(x, y)$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) the output of the last convolutional layer, computed by the activation mapping  $f_i$ , at the spatial location of certain pixel coordinates  $(x, y)$ . Denote the set of classes by  $\mathcal{C}$ . Then, CAM can be represented as follows:

$$\text{CAM} = \sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i^c f_i(x, y)$$

The resulting CAM is then displayed for visualization and further verification purpose. The authors of [16] claimed that the CNN could learn the importance of the regions by projecting back the weights onto convolutional feature maps.

Xi et al. [1] trained the neural network using image patches from CBIS-DDSM and tested its localization capability on full mammograms with Class Activation Map. They cut out the last two inception modules from GoogLeNet and connect CAM convolutional layer with Global Average Pooling layer (GAP layer) right after it. Global Averaging Pooling is a pooling that performs an entire input volume as a target and generates the average value of the entire input volume as output.



### 3. METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1. PREPROCESSING

Prior to training the machine, since all CBIS-DDSM data are compressed in Digital Imaging and Communications in Medicine (DICOM) format, only mammography images of each patient are extracted as Portable Network Graphics (PNG) files. The DICOM format is an industry-wide, standard format that contains medical imaging data as well as a series of interdependent information entities [27]. Each entity contains data that includes specific aspects of the actual process (e.g., the process of image acquisition, printing) and related physical objects (e.g., patient information, characteristic of the lesion, image format). [32]

Since each mammogram in the dataset can have a wide range of image intensities, mammogram preprocessing is paramount. The intensity of each mammogram can vary greatly depending on the X-ray machine used, the density of the patient's breast tissue, the institution that took the mammograms, and various other peripheral factors.

Therefore, normalization on the entire dataset serves each feature to have a similar intensity range in order to obtain the stable gradients. This normalization is implemented by subtracting the mean value of the entire data set for each image. Figure 7 shows the raw ROI image patches and normalized image patches for microcalcification of CBIS-DDSM dataset. In the case of microcalcifications, many mammograms contain a certain amount of mass, also. To distinguish these two abnormalities, two classes of mass and microcalcification are labeled using the CBIS-DDSM training set. These two classes are used in the reference model for their binary classification scheme [1].

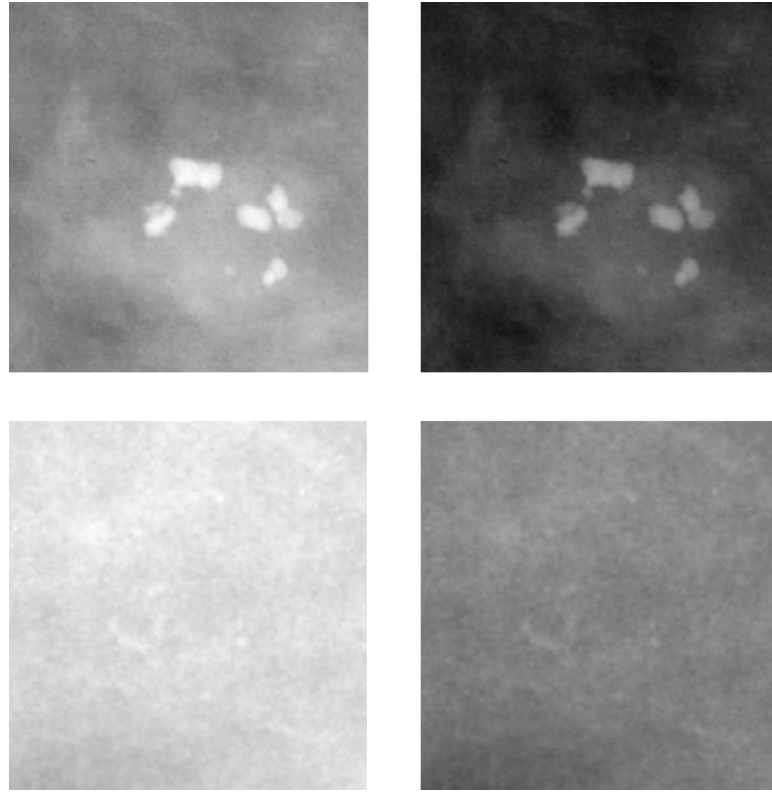


Figure 7. Raw image patches (left) and normalized image patches (right)

In addition to mass and microcalcification, two classes of normal tissue and background were added to allow the network to learn more specific localization. Table 1 shows the quantitative composition of image patches from CBIS-DDSM with four classes.

Class	Training	Testing	Overall
Microcalcification	1546	326	1872
Mass	1318	378	1696
Normal tissue	1502	380	1882
Background	1444	352	1796

Table 1. Size of training and testing image patches

### 3.2. DATA AUGMENTATION

To avoid the overfitting during training, several data augmentation is applied to cropped images from CBIS-DDSM such as elastic augmentation and image translation.

Elastic distortion is a method developed by Microsoft® for effective training data generation. It is patented by Microsoft. This method produces a displacement vector in various directions and produces a more complex form of augmented data through it.

However, elastic deformation has been discarded because it was found that it deformed the image features of mass and calcification too much. Particularly in the case of microcalcification, due to its small size (the diameter of microcalcification is mostly less than 1 mm), the features may change too much even with very weak elastic distortion magnitude. Even for the case of mass, since the outline of mass is one of the crucial factors to determine the malignancy of mass on mammography, elastic distortion is not a proper way to augment data. Figure 8 and Figure 9 show the sample images that show the effect of elastic distortion for mass and calcification features.

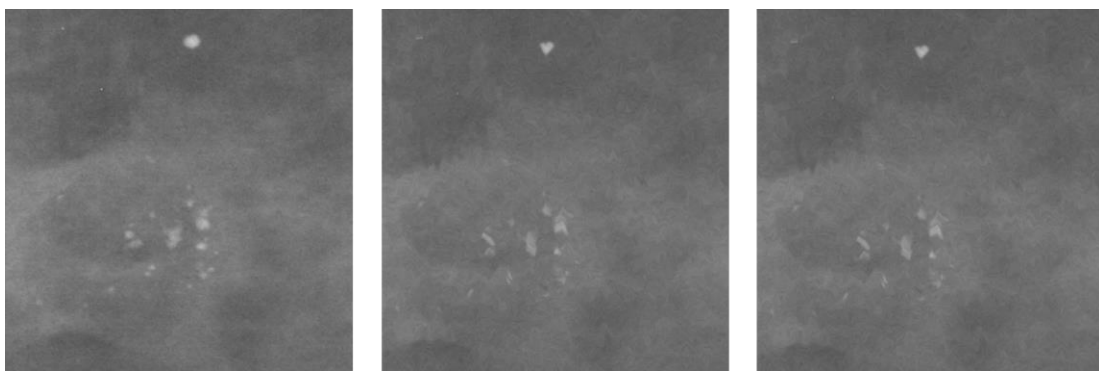


Figure 8. The raw microcalcification image patch (left), image with 2-magnitude elastic distortion(middle), image with 4-magnitude elastic distortion(right)



Figure 9. The raw mass image patch(left), image with 2-magnitude elastic distortion(middle), image with 4-magnitude elastic distortion(right)

For the machine to learn all the image properties in the kernel window, image translation is conducted.

Image translation is adapted to allow the network to learn the images with a lesion in various directions besides the image where the object is located at the center of the image patch. For this purpose, CBIS-DDSM full-size mammography images and corresponding mask images used to create ROI locations for entire training data, resulting in new image patches with ROIs in the northwest, northeast, southeast, and southwest side of each image. The sample image patches of microcalcification for image translation with cropping are shown in Figure 10.

Moreover, due to the vast size difference exists in image patches of CBIS-DDSM, for image patches that the image size is less than  $224 \text{ pixels} \times 224 \text{ pixels}$ , I created the larger image patches containing the surrounding area by loosening the ROI boundaries.

Additional normal tissue and background image patches are added to the training data to maintain the data ratio of each class. The number of training dataset after data augmentation are listed in table 2.

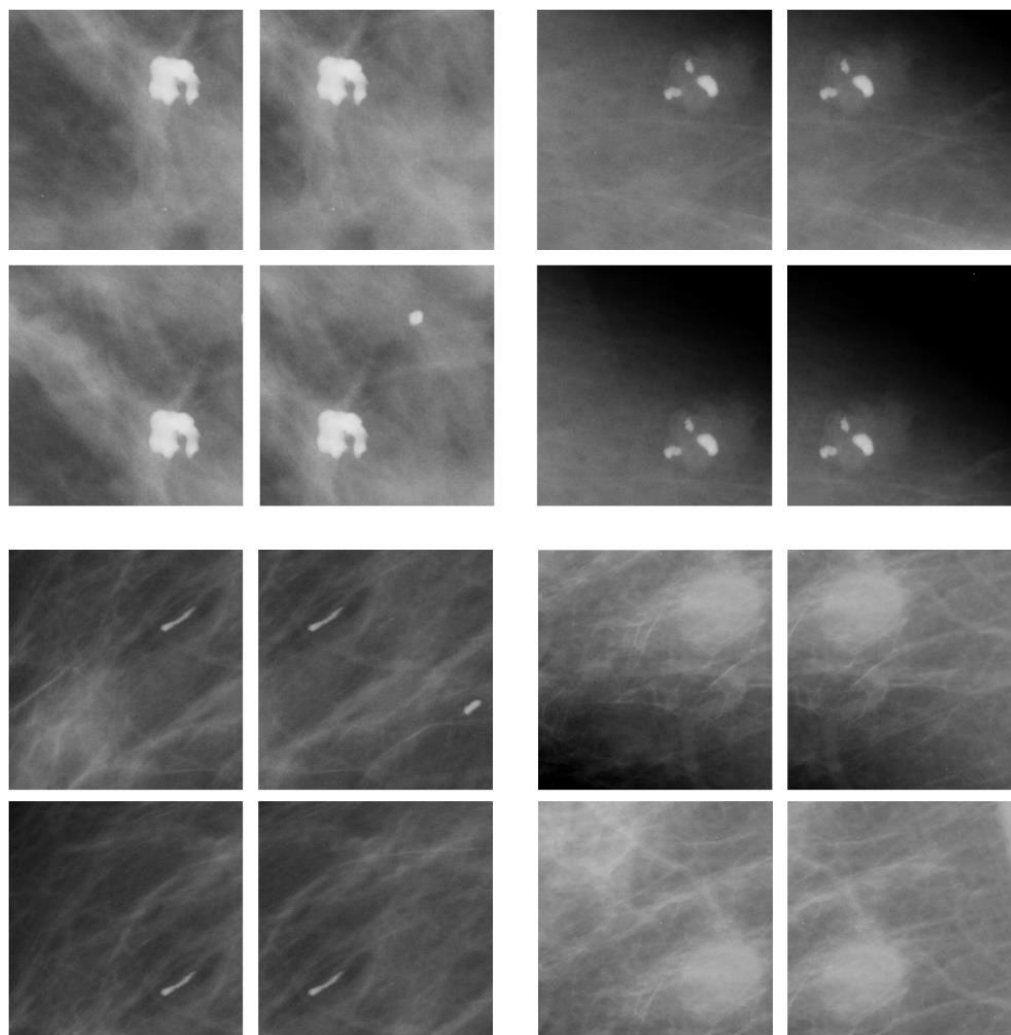


Figure 10. Illustration of image tranclastion with cropping; augmented microcalcification image patches

Class	Training	Testing	Overall
Microcalcification	7872	326	8198
Mass	6636	378	7014
Normal tissue	7510	380	7890
Background	7220	352	7572

Table 2. Size of training and testing image patches after data augmentation



### 3.3. NETWORK ARCHITECTURE

The training is conducted on the following setting: Intel® i7-3700 @ 3.40 GHz, 24 Gb Ram, a single Nvidia® GTX 1080, Ubuntu 16.04 and Caffe framework. Each training takes about 60-80 minutes to be completed. For training, the learning rate set to  $1e-4$  and the weight decay rate set to 0.0005. For both reference and modified model, the iteration for training is set to 200 epochs. If the average accuracy for the 50 most recent deployments reaches 99.5%, each network will stop from further training. These settings are identical to the experimental conditions of the reference model, which allowed me to simulate the reference model in an identical environment. All the results and models are examined 5 times to get the statistic robustness. The entire preprocessed image patches are resized to 224x224 pixels for training, and the entire full-size mammography images are resized to 3000x3000 pixels for testing. However, since the testing image is vast, Global Average Pooling (GAP) loses too much information to maintain local information in the intermediate feature with the referenced CNN model [1] [16].

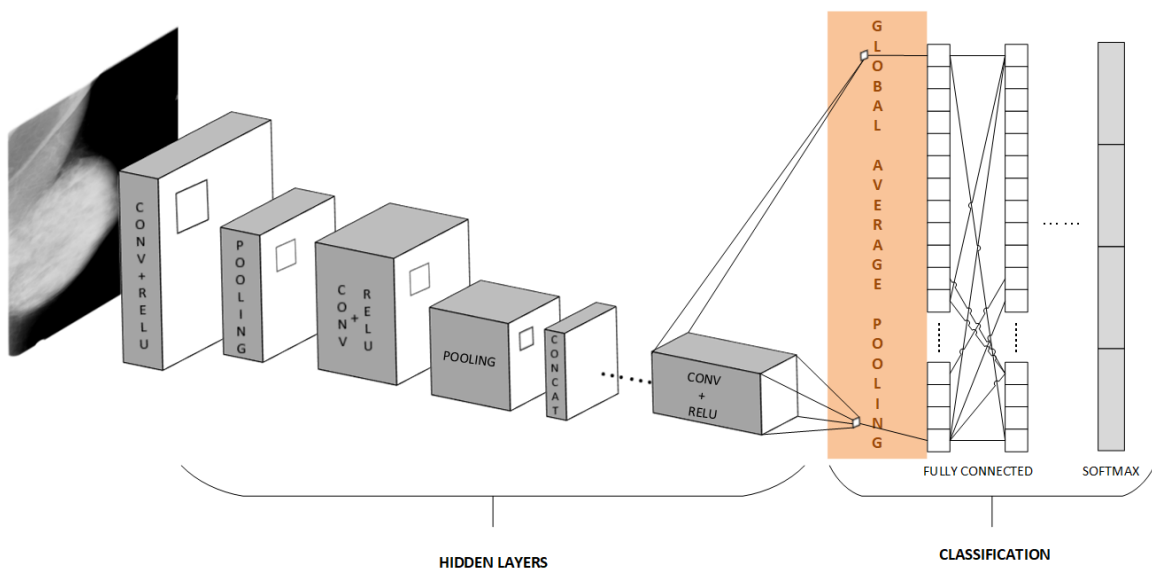


Figure 11. Reference model of GoogLeNet cutted out for Class Activation Mapping

In my methodology, the 187x187 pixel sized 1024 features are flattened into 1x1 size at once with test images. To overcome this issue, removed 2 inception modules are connected after Class Activation Mapping (CAM) occurred. CAM then inserted in the way that the *auxiliary layer* of GoogLeNet was inserted.

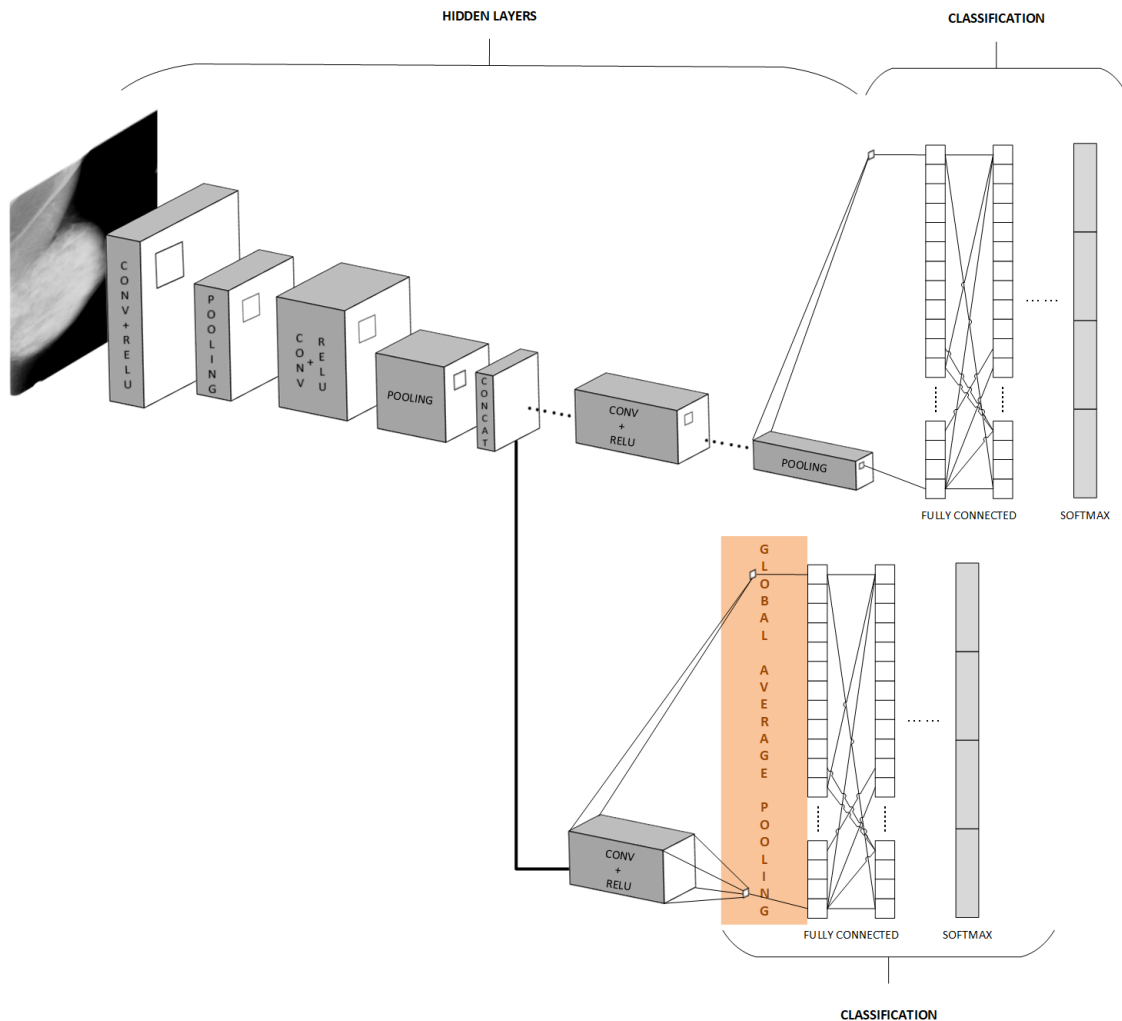


Figure 12. Illustration of modified GoogLeNet with Class Activation Map

The authors of Google Net claimed in the paper [17] that the auxiliary layer compensates for the disappearance of gradients during training. With this modified network architecture, the class activation map is expected to play this role with its localization capability, and it is assumed that the following two inception modules will enable

localization to be more accurate as a deep structure. The threshold value for the bounding box is set to 0.9. This means that the boundary is selected by the position of the most active weight of the top 10%. The modified map is constructed with nine inception modules.

Type	Patch size/stride	Output size	Output of convolution layers in the inception module					
			#1x1 (1x1)	#3x3 reduce (1x1)	#3x3 (3x3)	#5x5 reduce (1x1)	#5x5 (5x5)	pooling
Convolution	$7 \times 7/2$	$112 \times 112 \times 64$						
Max pooling	$3 \times 3/2$	$56 \times 56 \times 64$						
Convolution	$3 \times 3/1$	$56 \times 56 \times 192$		64	192			
Max pooling	$3 \times 3/2$	$28 \times 28 \times 192$						
Inception 1		$28 \times 28 \times 256$	64	96	128	16	32	32
Inception 2		$28 \times 28 \times 480$	128	128	192	32	96	64
Max pooling	$3 \times 3/2$	$14 \times 14 \times 480$						
Inception 3		$14 \times 14 \times 512$	192	96	208	16	48	64
Inception 4		$14 \times 14 \times 512$	160	112	224	24	64	64
Inception 5		$14 \times 14 \times 512$	128	128	256	24	64	64
Inception 6		$14 \times 14 \times 528$	112	144	288	32	64	64
Inception 7		$14 \times 14 \times 832$	256	160	320	32	128	128
CAM convolution	$3 \times 3/1$	$1 \times 1 \times 1024$						
Global Average Pooling	$187 \times 187/2$	$1 \times 1 \times 1024$						
Linear		$1 \times 1 \times 1024$						
Softmax		$1 \times 1 \times 4$						
Max pooling	$3 \times 3/2$	$7 \times 7 \times 832$						
Inception 8		$7 \times 7 \times 832$	256	160	320	32	128	128
Inception 9		$7 \times 7 \times 1024$	384	192	384	48	128	128
Global Average Pooling	$7 \times 7/1$	$1 \times 1 \times 1024$						
Dropout (40%)		$1 \times 1 \times 1024$						
Linear		$1 \times 1 \times 4$						
Softmax		$1 \times 1 \times 4$						

Table 3. Modified GoogLeNet structure on 224x224 training patches

#### 4. RESULTS AND EVALUATION

Evaluation of localization is done by the Intersection over Union (IoU). This metric computes the ratio of the intersection of two bounding boxes over the union, one given by the classifier and the other the ground truth. The more its value is close to 1, the more accurate the classifier is. Given two bounding boxes A and B, we have:

$$\text{IoU}(A, B) = \frac{|A \cap B|}{|A \cup B|} = \frac{|A \cap B|}{|A| + |B| - |A \cap B|}$$

, where  $|\cdot|$  denotes the area bounded by the box.

The bounding box will cover the

Model	Average IoU for microcalcification detection
Modified GoogLeNet with CAM	0.146
Reference GoogLeNet with CAM	0.136

Table 4. IoU results for reference GoogLeNet and Modified GoogLeNet

As shown in Table 4, the average IoU value is very low for both the main reference network and the modified network, although the value of the modified network shows slightly better results. The reason for this low IoU value is because the ROI ground truth for CBIS-DDSM is sometimes too large and too roughly held. Lee et al. claims [19] that the ROI annotations for DDSM anomalies are provided to indicate the general location of the lesion, but not the accurate location. Therefore, many researchers need to implement a segmentation algorithm for accurate feature extraction with domain

experts. Direct comparison of the performance of methods or replicate previous results are not possible. This issue reduced the average of IoU value from the modified model which try to achieve more precise localization. Figure 13 shows the example of roughly held ROI masks. As you can see, some of the masks are very large enough to cover the outer part of the breast, and others are huge enough to cover the entire breast.

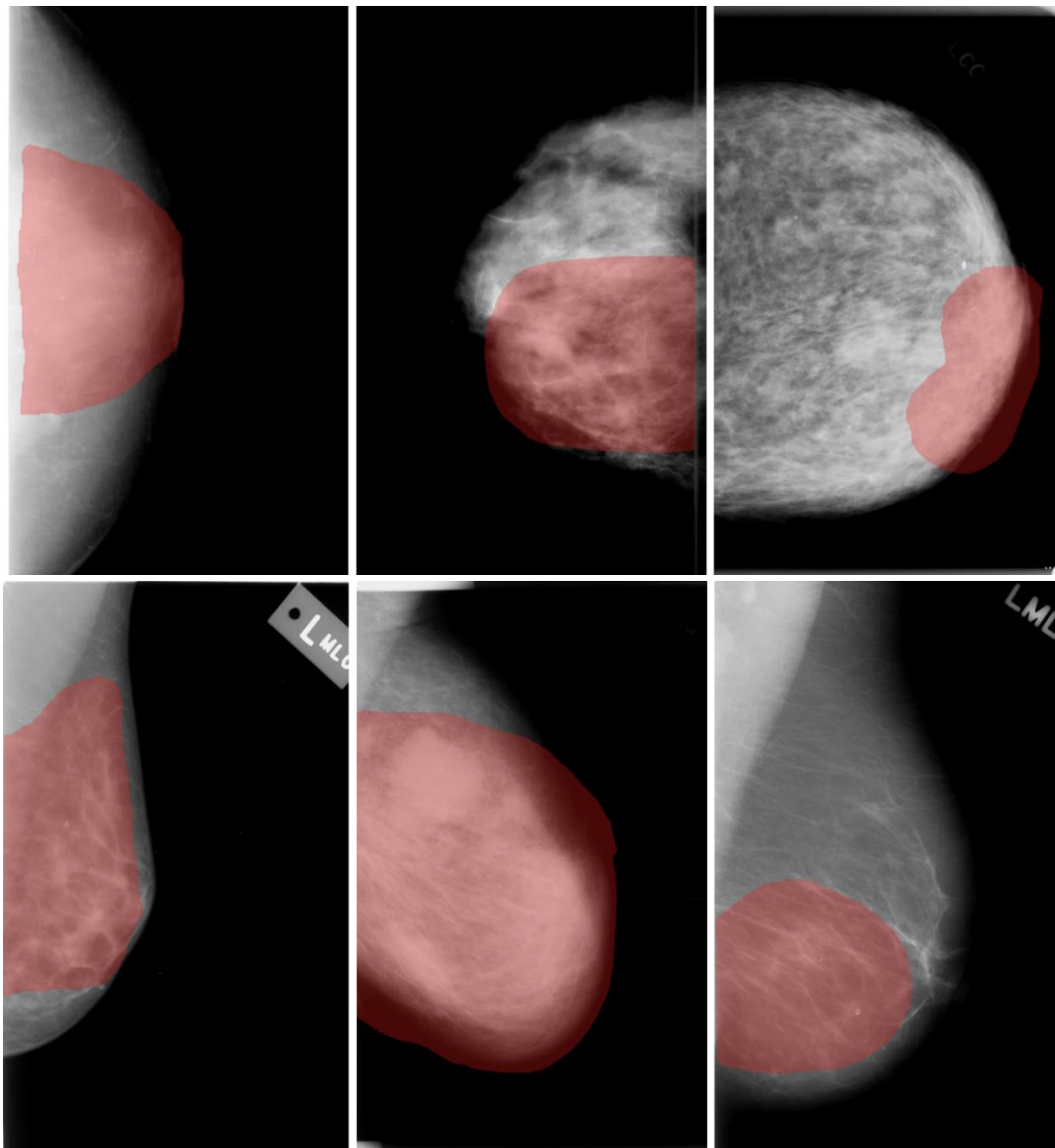


Figure 13. Example of mammograms with roughly held ROI masks

Since the IoU value is not the best way to evaluate localization with these roughly measured ground truths, this thesis focuses on the most strongly activated regions among all the ROI candidates that estimated by the network.

The intersection between ground truth areas and detected areas are divided by the areas of detection.

$$\text{Intersection over Detection (IoD)} \left( \bigcup_{i=1}^m R_i, \bigcup_{j=1}^n G_j \right) = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{|\sum_{i=1}^m R_i \cap G_j|}{|\sum_{i=1}^m R_i|}$$

, where  $|\cdot|$  denotes the area bounded by the box,  $n$  is the number of ROI candidate bounding boxes with a threshold,  $R_i$  is the area of each  $n$  ROI candidates,  $m$  is the number of all the ground truth bounding boxes and  $G_j$  is each ground truth bounding box area.

The more its value is close to 1, the more detection areas intersect with the ground truth. In other words, the more its value is close to 0, the more the occurrence of the false positive detection increases. The network fails to detect the ROI area when the intersection over detection value reached 0.

Model	Average IoD for microcalcification detection
Modified GoogLeNet with CAM	0.367
Reference GoogLeNet with CAM	0.163

Table 5. The intersection of detection results for reference GoogLeNet and Modified GoogLeNet

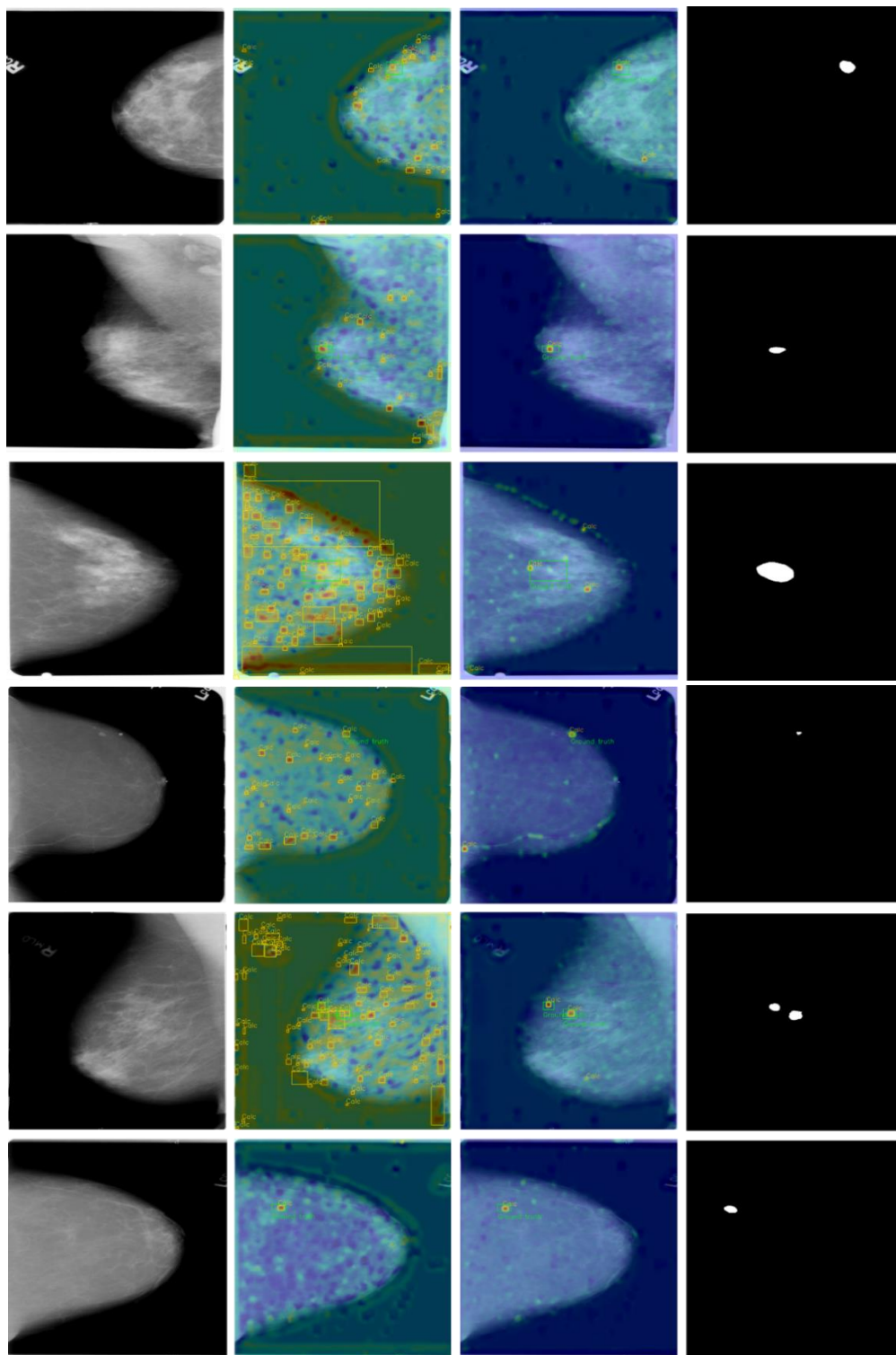


Figure 14. Full mammogram for microcalcification (first column), localization heatmap from reference model (second column), localization heatmap for the modified model (third column) and corresponding ROI mask images (last column)

Figure 14 shows the results of microcalcification localization from the referenced model and the modified model. The first column of Figure 14 shows the original mammograms from CBIS-DDSM, resized to  $3000 \times 3000$  pixel size. The second column is the images of the localization results of the reference model converted into the heatmap images, and the third column shows the localization results of the modified model as the heatmap images. The closer the color of the heatmap is blue, the more weights are not activated, and the closer the heatmap color is red, the more weights are activated. Thus, the area marked in red indicates the location of the specified class object. Finally, the last column is the mask images from CBIS-DDSM corresponds to each image from the first column. As you can see, a large number of false positive areas are detected in the reference model. However, in the resulting heatmap of the modified model, it performs more elaborate localization, which intersects to the ground truth region with much less false positive alarms.



## 5. CONCLUSION

Due to the absence of the supervision of experts for image segmentation, this thesis could not yield highly sophisticated evaluation results. However, the inspection of visual images and various numerical indicators (e.g., IoU and IoD) confirmed that the modified model has a better localization ability for microcalcification than the existing GoogleNet with CAM. The evaluation results are generally lower than the average of image localization ( $\geq 50\%$ ), which is considered a general threshold, but it can be easily improved if more sophisticated ROI ranges can be obtained under the supervision of the domain expert as described above. In numerical terms, the modified model showed about 225.15% better localization result than the reference model for an average of Intersection of Detection value for the entire testing data, and about 7.4% better in the average of the Intersection of Union value.

Computer-Aided Detection (CADe) have been deployed to support radiologists for mammography diagnosis. However, most of current CADe systems need to have hand-crafted image features that generated from domain experts. In this thesis, no hand-crafted image features were used. CNN with Class Activation Map (CAM) shows that the localization of microcalcification can be implemented with much less human effort. These results show that a network which can localize the sophisticated area of microcalcifications can be implemented to support the radiologists.

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