International Research Journal of Innovations in Engineering and Technology (IRJIET)



ISSN (online): 2581-3048 Volume 9, Issue 4, pp 172-176, April-2025 https://doi.org/10.47001/IRJIET/2025.904026

# Predict XAI

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*Abstract* - Stroke predictors using Explainable Artificial Intelligence (XAI) aim to provide accurate and interpretable stroke risk predictions. This research integrates machine learning models such as Decision Trees, Random Forest, Logistic Regression, and Support Vector Machines, leveraging ensemble learning techniques like stacking and voting to enhance predictive accuracy. The system employs XAI techniques such as SHAP (SHapley Additive Explanations) and LIME (Local Interpretable Model-Agnostic Explanations) to ensure model transparency and interpretability. This paper presents the methodology, implementation, evaluation metrics, and the impact of integrating explainability into stroke prediction systems.

*Keywords:* Machine Learning, Stroke Prediction, Explainable AI, SHAP, LIME, Ensemble Learning.

# I. INTRODUCTION

AI-based decision-making has revolutionized the field of healthcare, offering predictive capabilities that assist in early diagnosis and treatment planning. One of the most critical applications of AI is in the prediction of life-threatening conditions such as strokes. Accurate stroke prediction can potentially save lives by enabling timely intervention. However, despite the power of these models, they often function as "black boxes"—generating outputs without revealing the reasoning behind their predictions.[1-2] This lack of interpretability limits their practical utility in clinical settings, where transparency is essential for informed decision-making by healthcare professionals..

To address these limitations, PredictXAI integrates Explainable Artificial Intelligence (XAI) into the traditional machine learning (ML) pipeline.[3-4] The goal is not just to achieve high prediction accuracy but also to provide clear, understandable insights into how each decision is made. By offering explanations for predictions, the system builds trust among clinicians and promotes the responsible use of AI in healthcare. Techniques like SHAP (SHapley Additive Explanations) and LIME (Local Interpretable Model-Agnostic Explanations) are leveraged to open up the "black box" and provide granular visibility into the model's reasoning process.[3] PredictXAI follows a comprehensive methodology, beginning with the collection of stroke-related healthcare datasets and proceeding through stages of preprocessing, feature selection, model training, and explanation generation. This structured pipeline ensures both the accuracy and interpretability of the predictive model. Feature selection techniques such as Recursive Feature Elimination (RFE) and Forward Selection are used to identify the most impactful variables, helping to reduce data dimensionality and avoid overfitting.[2] These methods improve the clarity and relevance of the model by filtering out noise and retaining only the most critical features.

In conclusion, the motivation behind PredictXAI is to create a system that bridges the gap between accuracy and interpretability in stroke prediction. By combining the predictive power of advanced machine learning models with the clarity provided by XAI techniques, PredictXAI empowers healthcare professionals to make well-informed, data-driven decisions. This dual focus ensures that the model is not only technically robust but also clinically reliable, paving the way for safer and more effective integration of AI in medical diagnostics.

## A. Problem Statement

Stroke remains one of the leading causes of mortality and long-term disability worldwide. Early prediction and timely intervention are critical for reducing the severity of outcomes. However, existing machine learning models, while accurate, often function as "black boxes," offering little to no explanation for their predictions.[5] This lack of transparency hinders clinical adoption, as healthcare professionals require a clear understanding of the reasoning behind each diagnostic suggestion.

Moreover, medical datasets are often complex and imbalanced, containing numerous features that may not all contribute equally to the prediction outcome. Feature redundancy, noise, and irrelevant data can reduce model efficiency and compromise prediction reliability.[6] Without proper feature selection, models risk overfitting and may fail to generalize well to real-world scenarios.[7] Additionally, standalone classifiers often lack the robustness needed for consistent performance across diverse patient profiles



ISSN (online): 2581-3048 Volume 9, Issue 4, pp 172-176, April-2025 https://doi.org/10.47001/IRJIET/2025.904026

To address these limitations, there is a need for an explainable and ensemble-based stroke prediction system. PredictXAI aims to bridge the gap between predictive accuracy and interpretability by integrating advanced feature selection techniques, ensemble learning models, and Explainable AI tools such as SHAP and LIME. This ensures both high accuracy and clinical trustworthiness in real-time stroke risk assessments.[9-10]

#### **B.** Objectives

- 1. Develop an Accurate Stroke Prediction Model.
- 2. Incorporate Feature Selection Techniques.
- 3. Leverage Ensemble Learning for Enhanced Performance.
- 4. Ensure Model Interpretability with Explainable AI.
- 5. Facilitate Clinical Decision Support.

#### **II. LITERATURE REVIEW**

Table 1 presents a summary of existing research on.

Ref	Methodology	Technology Used	Findings				
[1]	Comparative analysis of ensemble methods	Random Forest, Gradient Boosting.	Ensemble methods improve diagnostic accuracy; Gradient Boosting performed best overall.				
[2]	Systematic review of feature selection techniques	Feature selection algorithms (e.g., LASSO, RFE)	Proper feature selection significantly enhances predictive model performance in healthcare				
[3]	Discussion and evaluation of explainable AI models	XAI frameworks (LIME, SHAP)	XAI tool bridge gap for increasing readability				
[4]	Experimental study on patient readmissions prediction	Random Forest, XGBoost, LightGBM	Ensemble model achieve higher accuracy				
[5]	Review on deep learning for medical imaging using ensembles	CNNs, Deep Ensembles	Ensemble model provide better output				
[6]	Evaluation of ensemble models for disease prediction	Random Forest, AdaBoost, Stacking	Stacking models improve chronic disease prediction.				
[7]	Survey on multimodal healthcare analytic	Multimodal machine learning (text + image + clinical data)	Multimodal data improves predictive results				
[8]	Assessment study on feature selection impact	Feature selection techniques (filter, wrapper, embedded)	Good feature selection reduces overfitting.				
[9]	Review of ensemble methods in healthcare	Bagging, Boosting, Stacking method	Ensembles outperform single models in outcomes prediction.				
[10]	Review of ensemble techniques for health outcomes prediction	Machine learning algorithms with clinical insights	ML and clinical insight integration is key				

Table 1: Literature Review Table



#### ISSN (online): 2581-3048

Volume 9, Issue 4, pp 172-176, April-2025

https://doi.org/10.47001/IRJIET/2025.904026

#### III. METHODOLOGY

#### A. System Design

The system follows a structured pipeline:

- Data Collection Healthcare datasets with relevant patient attributes.
- Data Preprocessing Handling missing values, normalization, and feature encoding.
- Feature Selection Using RFE and Forward Selection to select the most relevant features.
- Model Selection Training Support Vector Machines, Logistic Regression, and ensemble models.
- Ensemble Learning Implementing stacking and voting to improve accuracy
- Model Interpretation Applying SHAP and LIME for explainability.
- Evaluation Assessing model performance using accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score.

#### **B.** Technologies Used

- Python: production code and ml libraries.
- Flask: Backend services.
- Ensemble: selecting algorithms and grouping.
- Shap and Lime: Used for counterfactual explainations.
- React: Frontend design

#### C. System Flow

The proposed system follows the flow shown in Fig. 1:

- 1. User inputs data and is sent for processing.
- 2. Feature analysis of data is done.
- 3. ML models learns the provided data.
- 4. Ensemble is introduced to select most accurate model.
- 5. After selecting output is sent to shap and lime for explaination.

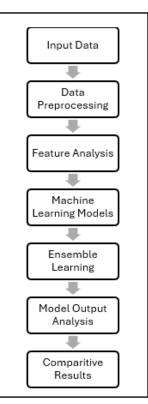


Figure 1: Flow Diagram of System Design

#### **IV. IMPLEMENTATION AND RESULT**

#### A. Visual Representation of the Application

Predict xai interface is designed to be intuitive and userfriendly, ensuring a seamless user experience. The following screenshots illustrate different sections of the application:

1. Home Page (Fig. 2): Displays a clean and minimalistic interface



Figure 2: Home Page

2. Input Page (Fig. 3): The main dashboard where users can enter the input features.



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https://doi.org/10.47001/IRJIET/2025.904026

Age	Sex (0 or 1)
Chest Pain Type (cp)	Resting Blood Pressure (Inistips)
Cholesterol (chol)	Fasting Blood Sugar (fbs)
Resting Electrocardiographic Results	Maximum Heart Rate Achieved (that
Exercise Induced Angina (exang)	Old Peak
Slope of Peak Exercise ST Segment (s	Number of Major Vesseis (ca)
Thalassemia (thai)	Predict

Figure 3: Input Page

3. LIME graph (Fig. 4): giving an accurate insights about how each factor affects the output and influence of each factor in terms of probability.

LDE Explanation:				top fee	
Prediction probabilities	Class 0 - No Stroke Class 1	- Strokć	Feature Valu	e	- i
Class 0 - No S 0.75	φ ⊂ 495 tid				- 11
Class 1 - Stroke 0.15	437 < fml <	1.22	φ 3	25	- 11
	a = -1.7		<b>1</b> 1 - 1	18	- 11
	10 profips>0.47		a 4	ži.	- 11
	No.		main 1	<b>N</b>	- 11
	exang <= 40.70 total		The second s	**	- 11
	slope > 0.65			22	- 11
	olipenk>0.45		dige 2	21	- 11
	-1.45 < sex <==	142	sidenal I	6	- 11
	10m		100 C	67	
	-0.66 < fasiach 0.02	cell)			
	age > 0.73	4			
Griginal Model Prediction: [0]					
Rodel Probability Prediction: [[0.	75415571.0.24584429]]				
Counterfactual Analysis:					
Original Prediction: No Stroke					
Rost Influential Feature: slope					
Counterfactual Prediction: No Stro	ke.				
Original Sample Features:    2.274 -0.2649003 0.021219733 0.17622	57861 0.75752584 -0.69663855 0.828 495 0.94872647 -0.7111313911	52939 0.58630344 -2.35127456			
	-2.27457861 0.75752584 -0.69663855	0.82852539 0.66620244 -2.251	77456		
Feature Changed: slope					

Figure 4: LIME graph

4. Risk meter and explainations (Fig. 5): Demonstrates the probability of getting heart stroke and its explaination.

Heart Stroke Prediction
Potential risk of heart stroke
9/%
Explanation The model predicts a high rais of heart strate: Top contributing factors that (volue 8), or (value 0), op (value 3)

Figure 5: Risk meter and explanations

5. SHAP feature importance (Fig. 6): Demonstrates contribution of each feature towards the final prediction.

						1	10116-01	
3 - that						122		
0 - 08				+0.85				
3 <b>cp</b>			+0.62					
3 – oldprak		110						
1 = exang	10.43							
155 - thalach	6015							
1 - see	-12							
140 - trestbps	+0.71							
2 - slope	+8.59							
2 other features	0							
-	0.0 0.5	1.0	1.5	2.0	25	3.0	3.5	

Figure 6: SHAP feature importance

6. LIME feature importance (Fig. 7) : Explains which feature impacts positively and negatively towards stroke prediction.

1			LIME Featu	ire Impo	ortance		
	thalach :96/92 -	1					
	-0.70 < exang <= 1.44 -						0.060
	trestbps > 0.47 -						0.057
	oldpeak > 0.48 -					0.04	4
Ires	slope > 0.65 -					0.042	
Features	chol > 0.60 -					0.030	
£.	thal > 1.22 -				0.012		
	cp > 0.88 -				0.012		
	sex > 0.69 -				0.012		
	age > 0.73 -		-0.009				
		-0.06	-0.04 -0.02 Contributio	0.00 on to Pre		0.04 0.06	1

Figure 7: LIME feature importance

7. Counterfactual explanations (Fig. 8): Represent how a smallest change in value can affect overall result of prediction by making minor changes in values.

		Counterfactual Explanations	
		These show the minimal changes needed to get a different prediction:	
		Scenario t	
chot	203 → 108		
exang	<b>1</b> → 0		
oldpeak:	3 → 5		
slope	<b>2</b> → 1		
trestbps:	140 <b>-</b> 96		
		This change would result in: Low risk of heart disease	
		Back to Prediction Page	

Figure 8: Counterfactual explanations

#### V. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE SCOPE

PredictXAI introduces an innovative approach to stroke prediction by integrating Explainable AI techniques with ensemble learning models. The system not only enhances



predictive accuracy but also provides transparent and interpretable insights, addressing a critical gap in traditional healthcare AI solutions. The implementation results demonstrate the effectiveness of this method, highlighting improved model performance and increased clinician trust through clear explanation of decisions.

#### **Future Enhancements**

- Integration with Electronic Health Records (EHRs)
- Federated Learning for Data Privacy.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We express our sincere gratitude to MCT'S Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Technology for providing the necessary resources and support for the successful completion of this research. We extend our special thanks to our mentors, Dr. Anushree Deshmukh and Prof. Ankush Hutke, for their valuable guidance, constructive feedback, and continuous encouragement throughout the research process.

Additionally, we acknowledge the contributions of our peers and colleagues, whose insightful discussions and suggestions helped refine our approach. We also appreciate the support of various open-source communities and developers whose contributions to Flutter, Node.js, and Firebase have been instrumental in building Secure.inc.

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# Volume 9, Issue 4, pp 172-176, April-2025 https://doi.org/10.47001/IRJIET/2025.904026

ISSN (online): 2581-3048

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## Citation of this Article:

Prof. Ankush Hutke, Kiran Sahu, Ameet Mishra, Aniruddha Sawant, & Ruchitha Gowda. (2025). Predict XAI. International Research Journal of Innovations in Engineering and Technology - IRJIET, 9(4), 172-176. Article DOI <a href="https://doi.org/10.47001/IRJIET/2025.904026">https://doi.org/10.47001/IRJIET/2025.904026</a>

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