

Predict XAI

¹Prof. Ankush Hutke, ²Kiran Sahu, ³Ameet Mishra, ⁴Aniruddha Sawant, ⁵Ruchitha Gowda

^{1,2,3,4,5}Information Technology, MCT'S Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Technology, Mumbai, India

E-mail: ¹ankush.hutke@mctrgit.ac.in, ²kiransahu2909@gmail.com, ³ameetmishra127@gmail.com,
⁴aniruddhasawant08112003@gmail.com, ⁵ruchithagowda242@gmail.com

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

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.

Table 1: Literature Review Table

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

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 explanations.
- 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 explanation.

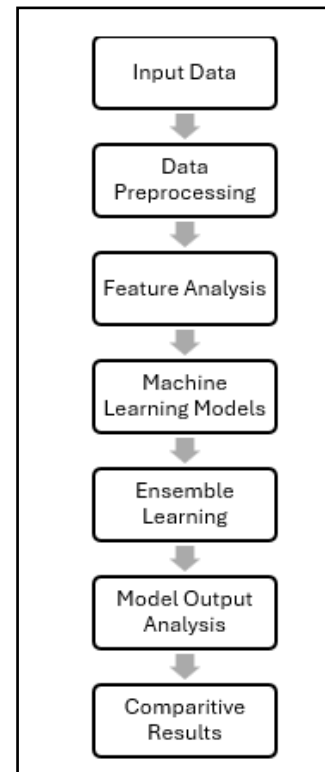


Figure 1: Flow Diagram of System Design

IV. IMPLEMENTATION AND RESULT

A. Visual Representation of the Application

Predict xai interface is designed to be intuitive and user-friendly, 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

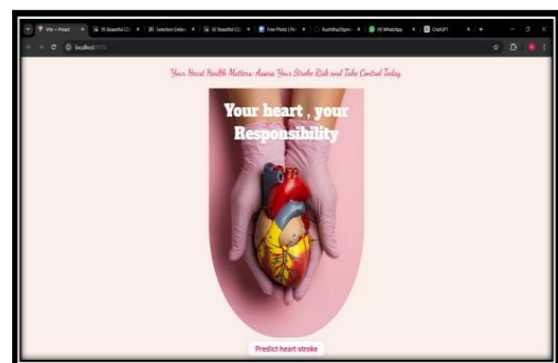


Figure 2: Home Page

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

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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.

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