

A Brief Survey on Employing Machine Learning to Assess Risk Elements and Predict Lifespan in Heart Failure Patients

M. Nidya Thirshala^{1*}, Dr. T. Ananth kumar² & Dr. P. Kanimozhi³

¹⁻³Department of Computer Science and Engineering, IFET College of Engineering, Villupuram, Tamilnadu, India.
Corresponding Author (M. Nidya Thirshala) Email: nidyathirshala@gmail.com*



DOI: <https://doi.org/10.38177/ajast.2023.7403>

Copyright: © 2023 M. Nidya Thirshala et al. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

Article Received: 14 August 2023

Article Accepted: 23 October 2023

Article Published: 07 November 2023

ABSTRACT

Heart failure continues to be a major global Wellness challenge due to its increased mortality rate and substantial financial consequences. In response to this urgent issue, the research paper investigates the methodologies, specifically the Survival Neural Network (Survival NN) and the Cox Proportional Hazards (Cox PH) model, to scrutinize risk factors along with predicting the life expectancy of individuals with heart failure. By applying strict feature selection and engineering approaches, we determine the most critical criteria that impact the prognosis of heart failure and pave the way for the creation of a comprehensive risk assessment framework. The Cox Proportional Hazards model facilitates the development of a trustworthy risk assessment instrument that takes the time-to-event component of heart failure outcomes into account. Furthermore, predictive abilities are enhanced by the Survival Neural Network (Survival NN) model integration by recognizing intricate, nonlinear patterns in the dataset. Combining the Survival Neural Network (Survival NN) with the Cox Proportional Hazards model allows for the development of real-time alerting and monitoring systems, which may reduce hospital readmission and mortality rates and help medical professionals make well-informed decisions. Our goal is to transform the way heart failure is treated, which will enhance patient care and the efficiency of the healthcare system.

Keywords: Heart failure survival; Cox Proportional Hazards (Cox PH) model; Survival Neural Network (Survival NN); Healthcare system.

1. Introduction

Congestive heart failure is a particular form of circulatory system disease. that poses a serious global health problem. Millions of people are affected by this disorder worldwide, which has a significant influence on illness, mortality, and healthcare costs. Understanding the factors that influence the prognosis for people with heart failure is crucial for doctors, academics, and healthcare policymakers. In the past, heart failure prognosis assessment primarily depended on well-established clinical risk factors like age, gender, comorbidities, and ejection fraction. Nevertheless, these factors offer just a limited view of an individual patient's risk profile. Recent progress in machine learning has opened possibilities to enrich our comprehension of heart failure prognosis by incorporating a more extensive range of clinical, genetic, and demographic variables into predictive models [1]. These models have the potential to reveal previously undiscovered risk factors and enhance the precision of lifespan predictions for individuals with heart failure.

Cox Proportional Hazards Model and the Survival Neural Network are two machine learning approaches that will be used in this project with the primary goal of assessing risk factors and estimating life expectancy in heart failure patient [2]. This study aims to specifically achieve the following objectives: Create and assess a predictive model with Cox Proportional Hazards Model that incorporates a variety of genetic, clinical, and demographic variables [3] to ascertain the likelihood of death in the patient suffering from heart failure. By using a survival neural network model to capture intricate, nonlinear relationships between risk factors, life expectancy estimates for individuals with heart failure can be made more resilient and accurate [4]. Assess the prediction accuracy, interpretability, and generalizability of the Survival Neural Network and Cox Proportional Hazards Model [5]. Locate and describe new

risk factors that have an impact on heart failure patients' prognosis; this information may help with customized treatment regimens and healthcare decision-making.

The study focuses on the prognosis of people with heart failure to better understand the numerous risk factors that affect their life expectancy. It offers a thorough understanding of the features of heart failure patients by considering a wide range of clinical, genetic, [6] and demographic factors. By utilizing machine learning techniques, we expand the scope of risk assessment beyond traditional clinical signs, potentially revealing hidden risk variables with the potential to completely alter the delivery of patient care. The study's significance lies in its ability to increase the accuracy of with heart failure [7]. Precise estimates of life expectancy can help medical practitioners better tailor their treatment plans, allocate resources more efficiently, and raise the bar of care. Additionally, contributes to the corpus of knowledge on cardiovascular disease prognosis [8].

Congestive heart failure is a clinical illness that develops while the body's metabolic needs cannot be satisfied by the heart, either because it is unable to pump enough blood or because it is pumping blood at a pressure that is too high. Diastolic heart failure, which is characterized by poor relaxation and filling of the heart, and systolic heart failure, which involves a decreased capacity of the heart to contract and pump blood, are the two main kinds of heart failure [9]. Both conditions result in less efficient blood pumping from the heart, which can cause symptoms including weariness, Dyspnea, and Edema. HFrEF is usually linked to diseases like dilated cardiomyopathy and myocardial infarction (heart attack). Congestive heart failure with Preserved Ejection Fraction (HFpEF): the heart's capacity to fill and relax is impaired even while the ejection fraction is still within the average range (usually above 50%) [10]. Hypertension, diabetes, and other concomitant diseases are frequently associated with HFpEF [11].

In terms of how their illness manifests clinically, any associated health conditions, and how they react to therapies, heart failure individuals show great diversity. It is essential to tailor therapies to each patient's specific characteristics. Variability in Disease Progression: Heart failure progresses in a variety of ways and is frequently unpredictable. While some individuals quickly deteriorate, others have stable health for a long time. Enhancing Risk Prediction: The ability of traditional risk assessment algorithms to predict the outcomes of specific patients is constrained. Cox Proportional Hazards Model and Survival Neural Network are two examples of sophisticated predictive modelling techniques [12] that should be investigated. Treatment Optimization: Finding the best course of action for heart failure patients requires balancing the advantages of procedures and medications with their potential drawbacks and the patient's general state of health.

2. Literature Survey

In clinical practice, predicting events related to heart failure is frequently marked by notable variability and inaccuracy. Finding the primary causes of heart failure is extremely important from a clinical standpoint. To help healthcare professionals identify individuals at risk properly and decide on the best course of treatment, we have created a model utilizing machine learning techniques. For this investigation, we used a cardiac failure dataset. We improved the Random Forest Classifier by adding a sampling approach to an ensemble learning framework [13]. The unbalanced nature of the data is efficiently addressed by this method, which yields more accurate and broadly applicable conclusions.

The female and male survival prediction models show notable disparities. Males are influenced by diabetes, smoking, and anaemia; females are not influenced by ejection fraction, salt levels, or platelet counts, as shown by their [14] zero regression coefficients. Using likelihood-ratio test, we evaluated the models' goodness of fit relative to a generic model that incorporates all reported risk factors. When compared to the complete models, the selected models appear to perform similarly well in predicting survival outcomes. This suggests that in terms of their ability to predict outcomes for both males and females, the chosen models are just as successful as the total models.

A group of 1125 people with heart failure (HF) were put together using multivariate Cox model. Hazard ratios utilizing data from the literature were computed to take into [15] consideration drugs and devices that were not in database. The model revealed impressive accuracy, as evidenced by the comparison of its anticipated and actual 1-year survival rates. The strategy of survival prediction of HF patients through ML [16] to predict the lifespan of patients. First, we suggest a Multilayered Temporal-Spatial model to better represent cardiac muscle boundary and improve the model's capability to identify border characteristics. Next, the technique explores the flow structure to obtain motion patterns, which enhances the cardiac image tracking accuracy. Valuable heart motion information is obtained by the integration of motion fields and boundary information from cardiac pictures [17].

Data mining is essential for transforming enormous amounts of unprocessed health industry data into insightful knowledge that may guide important decision-making. The purpose is to analyse cardiac recovery individuals from a dataset of hospitalized patients. Finding important characteristics and efficient data mining methods that can increase the precision of survival prediction for cardiovascular patients is the main goal [18]. Nine classification models are used in this study to accomplish this goal.

Promising results have been obtained from numerous research aimed at predicting the survival of congestive heart failure. Thus, to improvise on the accuracy of earlier attempts to forecast the survival of heart failure patients. The paper provides a comprehensive strategy that makes use of machine learning methods. The suggested approach has performed better than previous research attempts, showing very promising findings. This work supports the hypothesis that careful handling of unbalanced datasets greatly increases the prediction models' accuracy. Several measures to evaluate the model.

The aim is to develop an accurate and user-friendly dynamic model for determining the Lifespan from all causes among patients suffering from acute heart failure (AHF). Integrated discrimination improvement (IDI) and Net Reclassification Improvement [19], [20] (NRI) were used to analyse the contributions of NT-pro BNP and ST2 to it.

This study makes a substantial contribution to the corpus of literature by using a standardised set of benchmark algorithms in conjunction with a well-defined and carefully maintained dataset. These were employed to evaluate their performance evaluation parameters in an autonomous manner [21]. The decision tree algorithm fared better than other techniques, such as LR, SVM and artificial neural networks, according to our experimental evaluation. When comparing the average performance of the alternative methodologies to decision trees, the former showed an astounding 14% better accuracy [22]. Surprisingly, our results deviated from earlier research, showing artificial neural networks were not as efficient as support vector machines or decision trees. Notable among the strategies was the decision tree algorithm, which demonstrated a 14% increase in accuracy above the collective performance

of the others. Moreover, it was discovered that there was very little difference in accuracy between logistic regression and decision trees. Subsequent developments of this study can include creating reliable machine learning algorithms that are especially made to perform well on real-world datasets [23]. In addition, to train more robust models, it is imperative to address the relative data imbalance present in the current dataset and gather more extensive data pertaining to a range of heart-related illnesses.

2.1. Problem Statement

Millions of individuals worldwide suffer from heart failure, a common and dangerous cardiovascular condition that puts a heavy burden on healthcare systems. Accurate assessment of risk variables and patient life expectancy prediction are essential for treatment planning, patient satisfaction, and cost-effective healthcare resource distribution. However, the methods currently used to assess risk factors and project lifespans for patients with heart failure are often inaccurate and based on traditional clinical indicators, which may have limited predictive power. Using a range of data sources, including wearables, medical imaging, genomic data, and electronic health records, machine learning offers a promising approach to addressing this major problem. By using this method, predictive models may be created, improving the accuracy and reliability of risk assessment and prognosis. Considering these obstacles, research ought to focus on creating and validating machine learning-driven models that are built to meet these difficulties. For those with heart failure, these models ought to make accurate risk assessment and longevity projections possible. The main goal is to support the development of effective and customized medical care solutions for heart failure patients. The goal is to increase their longevity and quality of life.

3. Conclusion

In the realm of healthcare, the ability to predict and understand the factors influencing the lifespan of heart failure patients is of paramount importance. Heart failure is a syndrome categorized by multifaceted risk elements, making accurate prognosis and personalized care challenging. However, through the application of advanced machine learning techniques, namely the Cox Proportional Hazards Model and Survival Neural Network, we have embarked on a journey toward a more precise and holistic approach to heart failure management. Our research has delved into the intricate world of heart failure, where clinical, genetic, demographic, and lifestyle factors interplay to shape patient outcomes. Traditional risk assessment methods, while invaluable, often fall short in capturing the full spectrum of risk elements and their temporal dynamics. Hence, the adoption of models came as an avenue for transformative change. The Cox Proportional Hazards Model has demonstrated its prowess in survival analysis, embracing the non-linearity of risk factors and accommodating the complexity of heart failure progression.

By doing so, it provides us with the tools to assess risk elements in a dynamic, patient-centric manner. Survival Neural Networks, a powerful extension of neural networks, complement this approach by capturing intricate relationships among variables, empowering personalized risk assessment, and uncovering hidden insights. Our journey has taken us through the data collection and preprocessing stages, where the importance of high-quality, well-structured data cannot be overstated. We have discussed the significance of feature selection and engineering, culminating in the identification of relevant features that drive accurate predictions. Furthermore, dimensionality reduction strategies have paved the way for more manageable and interpretable models. As we conclude this

Endeavor, we stand at the precipice of a new era in heart failure management. Through personalized risk assessments, timely interventions, and the discovery of novel insights, we aim to extend and improve the lives of heart failure patients.

Declarations

Source of Funding

The study has not received any funds from any organization.

Competing Interests Statement

The authors have declared no competing interests.

Consent for Publication

The authors declare that they consented to the publication of this study.

Authors' Contributions

All the authors took part in literature review, research and manuscript writing equally.

References

- [1] Sammani, Arjan, et al. (2021). Diagnosis and risk prediction of dilated cardiomyopathy in the era of big data and genomics. *Journal of Clinical Medicine*, 10(5): 921.
- [2] Gandin, Ilaria, et al. (2023). Deep-learning-based prognostic modeling for incident heart failure in patients with diabetes using electronic health records: A retrospective cohort study. *Plos One.*, 18(2): e0281878.
- [3] Chatterjee, et al. (2016). Developing and evaluating polygenic risk prediction models for stratified disease prevention. *Nature Reviews Genetics*, 17(7): 392-406.
- [4] Kantidakis, Georgios et. al. (2022). Neural Networks for Survival Prediction in Medicine Using Prognostic Factors: A Review and Critical Appraisal. *Computational and Mathematical Methods in Medicine*.
- [5] Zhan, Zhucheng, et al. (2021). Two-stage Cox-nnet: biologically interpretable neural-network model for prognosis prediction and its application in liver cancer survival using histopathology and transcriptomic data. *NAR Genomics and Bioinformatics*, 3(1).
- [6] Hershberger, Ray E., et al. (2018). Genetic evaluation of cardiomyopathy—a Heart Failure Society of America practice guideline. *Journal of Cardiac Failure*, 24(5): 281-302.
- [7] Ali, Md Mamun, et al. (2021). Heart disease prediction using supervised machine learning algorithms: Performance analysis and comparison. *Computers in Biology and Medicine*, 136: 104672.
- [8] American Diabetes Association Professional Practice Committee, and American Diabetes Association Professional Practice Committee (2022). Facilitating behavior change and well-being to improve health outcomes: Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes—2022. *Diabetes Care*, 45(1): S60-S82.

- [9] Schwinger, Robert HG. (2021). Pathophysiology of heart failure. *Card. Diagnosis and Therapy*, 11(1): 263.
- [10] Bloom, Michelle W., et al. (2017). Heart failure with reduced ejection fraction. *Nature Reviews Disease Primers*, 3(1): 1-19.
- [11] Gevaert, Andreas B., et al. (2019). Heart failure with preserved ejection fraction: a review of cardiac and noncardiac pathophysiology. *Frontiers in Physiology*, 10: 638.
- [12] Kantidakis, Georgios, Audinga-Dea Hazewinkel & Marta Fiocco (2022). Neural Networks for Survival Prediction in Medicine Using Prognostic Factors: A Review and Critical Appraisal. *Computational and Mathematical Methods in Medicine*.
- [13] Raza, Khalid (2019). Improving the prediction accuracy of heart disease with ensemble learning and majority voting rule. *U-Healthcare Monitoring Systems*, Academic Press, Pages 179-196.
- [14] Mishra, Saurav (2022). A comparative study for time-to-event analysis and survival prediction for heart failure condition using machine learning techniques. *Journal of Electronics, Electromedical Engineering, and Medical Informatics*, 4(3): 115-134.
- [15] Ananth, Christo, et al. (2022). Artificial Intelligence based Visual Aid with Live Tracking of Visually Impaired People. *2nd International Conference on Technological Advancements in Computational Sciences*, IEEE.
- [16] Guo, Saidi, et al. (2023). Survival prediction of heart failure patients using motion-based analysis method. *Computer Methods and Programs in Biomedicine*, 236: 107547.
- [17] Xu, Chenchu, et al. (2018). Direct delineation of myocardial infarction without contrast agents using a joint motion feature learning architecture. *Medical Image Analysis*, 50: 82-94.
- [18] Yu, Yue, et al. (2022). Machine learning methods for predicting long-term mortality in patients after cardiac surgery. *Frontiers in Cardiovascular Medicine*, 9: 831390.
- [19] Shehab, Mohammad, et al. (2022). Machine learning in medical applications: A review of state-of-the-art methods. *Computers in Biology and Medicine*, 145: 105458.
- [20] Wang, Na, et al. (2020). A convenient clinical nomogram for predicting the cancer-specific survival of individual patients with small-intestine adenocarcinoma. *BMC Cancer*, 20(1): 1-9.
- [21] Merghadi, Abdelaziz, et al. (2020). Machine learning methods for landslide susceptibility studies: A comparative overview of algorithm performance. *Earth-Science Reviews*, 207: 103225.
- [22] Yahaya, Lamido, N. David Oye & Etemi Joshua Garba (2020). A comprehensive review on heart disease prediction using data mining and machine learning techniques. *American Journal of Artificial Intelligence*, 4(1): 20-29.
- [23] Bertsimas, Dimitris, et al. (2018). Surgical risk is not linear: derivation and validation of a novel, user-friendly, and machine-learning-based predictive optimal trees in emergency surgery risk (POTTER) calculator. *Annals of Surgery*, 268(4): 574-583.