

Decoding Pneumonia: Leveraging CNNs for Accurate Chest X-Ray Classification

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Abstract:- Pneumonia is a known potentially fatal lung disease that is frequently referred to as a silent killer since it can lead to lung alveoli filling with pus or fluid, mainly from fungal, viral, or bacterial infections. Chest X-rays are the primary diagnostic tool for pneumonia; however, the diagnosis becomes more complex when other pulmonary disorders such as volume loss, haemorrhage, lung cancer, fluid overload, and consequences from radiation or surgery are taken into account. As a result, the interpretation of chest X-rays becomes complex, which makes the development of computer-aided diagnosis systems necessary to help physicians make decisions that are more accurate. In order to diagnose pneumonia from chest X-ray pictures, the research reported here uses a convolutional neural network (CNN) enhanced with a self-attention mechanism. 'Normal' and 'pneumonia' classes are included in the dataset used in the study methodology, and data augmentation techniques are applied to improve the model's resilience. By means of extensive evaluation metrics and visualizations, the study highlights the potential of the suggested model as a useful instrument to aid clinicians in diagnosing pneumonia, consequently reducing the difficulties linked to the interpretation of chest X-rays in the context of various pulmonary conditions.

Keyword:- X-rays, Pneumonia, Normal, CNN, Self Attention.

I. INTRODUCTION

A major worldwide health concern is pneumonia, a bacterial infection that causes respiratory illness in people, particularly in susceptible groups including the elderly and children under five. Pneumonia was the cause of an astounding 740,180 paediatric deaths in 2019, or 14% of all paediatric deaths globally. Even with the diagnostic value of chest X-rays, radiologists still have difficulty correctly diagnosing pneumonia because of the illness's modest symptoms, which are often overlooked or confused for other illnesses. Sadly, pneumonia is not given the same attention as other illnesses, leading to its sombre nickname, "the silent killer." Furthermore, the frequency of cases increases yearly, especially in areas with poor access to resources and treatment. Inadequate childcare and a lack of education are two factors that increase childhood pneumonia, which is frequently linked to poverty.

Proactive public health actions are necessary to effectively reduce the consequences of adult pneumonia. Thus, to effectively battle this serious health hazard, pneumonia demands not just better diagnostic techniques but also all-encompassing measures that address socioeconomic gaps and increase healthcare accessibility. In recent years, there has been a noticeable surge in the adoption of computer-assisted diagnostic systems leveraging artificial intelligence (AI) solutions within the medical field. This trend can be attributed to the vast availability of healthcare data and the cost-effectiveness associated with training deep learning models.

Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) have become the go-to option for medical image processing applications among the variety of AI algorithms available. CNNs are popular because of their excellent capacity to extract both temporal and spatial data from images, which makes them particularly useful for image classification tasks. CNNs have proven to be effective at automatically extracting pertinent features from data without the need for human intervention.

CNNs are trained by applying gradient descent and backpropagation methods, which allow the network to learn from input data by passing it through a sequence of convolutional, activation, and pooling layers. With the use of convolutional and pooling layers, followed by dropout and dense layers, CNNs can perform remarkably well in a range of medical imaging applications. The integration of dropout layers within CNN architectures plays a pivotal role in mitigating overfitting issues. Moreover, the design of the Penultimate dense layer depends on how many classes are being categorized. New developments in CNN-based algorithms have shown encouraging results in the identification and diagnosis of a wide range of illnesses, including Covid-19, brain tumours, and skin cancer.

Radiologists face particular difficulties when diagnosing pneumonia, chief among them being the often-veiled lower lung borders and partially obscured right lung due to diseased air pockets. Misinterpretations resulting from such situations can impede precise identification and diagnosis. When compared to human evaluations, deep learning techniques show comparable or even better accuracy, making them an attractive solution to many problems. Previous studies have investigated these methods, providing insightful analysis and analogies with traditional diagnostic methods.

In order to overcome the difficulties previously faced, this work presents a unique computational framework that combines deep learning (DL) techniques with attention networks (AN) to achieve accurate and efficient pneumonia recognition. Chest X-ray picture data was used to train and assess this model. Performance indicators were used to evaluate the efficacy of the suggested framework, including accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-measure. This model is expected to assist healthcare professionals in accurately identifying pneumonia.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

The development of deep learning methods has transformed a number of industries, including illness detection and medical image analysis. Applying deep learning models to chest X-ray pictures has shown encouraging results in improving diagnostic efficiency and accuracy, especially in the area of respiratory illnesses like pneumonia. As a common and possibly fatal illness, pneumonia requires quick identification in order to begin treatment and intervention as soon as possible. The effectiveness of deep learning techniques, in particular convolutional neural networks (CNNs), in automating the diagnosis of pneumonia from chest X-ray pictures has been the subject of much research in recent years. The major conclusions from a number of relevant investigations carried out in this field are summarized in this overview of the literature.

M.F. Hashmi, et al., [2020] This research addresses the effective use of deep transfer learning for pneumonia identification in chest X-ray pictures. The authors investigate how to use pre-trained deep learning models for pneumonia detection by applying transfer learning techniques. The work intends to increase the accuracy and efficiency of pneumonia diagnosis using chest X-ray pictures by modifying and optimizing these models on a particular pneumonia detection assignment. The work is a pertinent resource for this field of study since it probably offers insights on the experimental design, methods, and outcomes of the suggested technique.

Kundu, R., et al. [2019]. Detecting pneumonia in chest X-ray images through an ensemble of deep learning models. An ensemble of deep learning models is used in this paper's investigation to detect pneumonia in chest X-ray pictures. The authors investigate if merging several deep learning models can enhance the accuracy of diagnosing pneumonia. The ensemble technique attempts to improve pneumonia detection from chest X-ray pictures by utilizing the capabilities of various models. Researchers interested in employing deep learning approaches for pneumonia diagnosis will find the publication to be a useful resource as it presumably contains details on the model topologies, performance evaluation, and experimental methodology.

Mabrouk, A., et al. [2022]. Using an ensemble of deep convolutional neural networks (CNNs), this study proposes a method for detecting pneumonia on chest X-ray pictures. The authors look into how well it works to combine several

CNN models in order to increase pneumonia diagnosis accuracy and dependability. The study intends to improve the detection system's performance on chest X-ray pictures and strengthen its robustness by utilizing ensemble learning approaches. The study is a useful resource for scholars studying deep learning and medical picture processing since it probably offers insights on training techniques, ensemble building, performance assessment, and experimental methods.

Kavya, N. S., et al. [2022]. In this paper, deep convolutional neural networks (CNNs) are proposed as a means of detecting pneumonia and COVID-19 from chest X-ray pictures. They study how well features taken from chest X-ray pictures may be used by CNNs to identify between instances of pneumonia, COVID-19, and normal. The project seeks to produce a dependable and effective diagnostic tool for respiratory illness identification from medical photos by utilizing deep learning techniques. The study is a significant contribution to the field of medical image analysis and disease diagnosis because it probably contains information on the experimental setup, CNN architecture, training procedure, and performance evaluation.

Sharma, S., & Guleria, K. [2023]. A deep learning model in this work for the identification of pneumonia from chest X-ray pictures. The VGG-16 architecture and neural networks are utilized by the model to efficiently categorize X-ray pictures as pneumonia-positive or pneumonia-negative. The project intends to promote computer-aided diagnosis of respiratory disorders by developing a reliable and accurate diagnostic tool for pneumonia identification through the use of deep learning techniques. The research probably provides important insights into the use of deep learning for pneumonia diagnosis by outlining the architecture design, training process, experimental outcomes, and possible clinical applications.

Ayan, E., et al. [2022]. This work describes the use of an ensemble of deep convolutional neural networks (CNNs) on chest X-ray images for the diagnosis of juvenile pneumonia. The goal of the project is to increase the precision and dependability of pneumonia diagnosis in pediatric patients by utilizing ensemble learning techniques. The ensemble approach combines many CNN models in order to improve pneumonia identification overall by extracting different information from chest X-ray pictures. The study probably covers training techniques, performance evaluation, ensemble building, experimental methods, and training strategies, offering insightful information about the use of deep learning in pediatric pneumonia diagnosis.

Jaiswal, A.K., et al., [2019]. This work presents a deep learning method for detecting pneumonia in X-rays of the chest. The efficiency of deep learning algorithms in correctly identifying pneumonia from chest X-ray pictures is being studied by the researchers. Convolutional neural networks (CNNs) and other deep learning architectures will be utilized in this project in order to create a reliable and effective pneumonia diagnosis tool. With its discussion of

the training procedure, model architecture, performance evaluation, and experimental methodology, the work probably offers insightful information about the use of deep learning in medical picture processing and disease diagnosis.

Kernany,D.S., et al. [2018].This paper provides a have a look at on the usage of photograph-based deep mastering strategies for the identity of scientific analysis and treatable disorders. In order to successfully stumble on special diseases based on visible styles visible in medical photographs, the authors check out the utility of deep learning fashions to medical picture analysis. The take a look at indicates how deep mastering might help clinical employees diagnose and deal with sufferers by way of utilizing a giant dataset of assorted clinical photos. The observe probably covers the experimental findings, strategies, and ramifications of applying deep studying to clinical photograph processing, presenting insightful statistics about the nexus among AI and healthcare.

S. V. Militante., et al. [2020] The paper may present a research focusing on the use of convolutional neural networks (CNNs) for the diagnosis of lung disease, acute respiratory condition. CNNs deep learning models are particularly suitable for image recognition tasks, making them ideally suited for analysis of medical images such as chest x-rays The study may develop and evaluate a CNN-based model trained on chest x-ray image data structured so as to identify actual symptoms of pneumonia -Expected to cover the design of the model, the datasets used for training and validation, and performance metrics for evaluating the quality of the model Finally, findings in this study may provide valuable insights into the potential of CNN in helping healthcare professionals diagnose pneumonia

III. MATERIALS AND METHODOLOGY

A. Dataset Description:

There are 5,863 X-ray images (JPEG) in the dataset which are classified into 2 categories (Pneumonia/Normal). All Chest X-ray images (anterior-posterior) were gathered from historical patient retrospective cohorts of children within one to five years of age during the period from Guangzhou Women and Children’s Medical Center, Guangzhou. The chest X-ray images have been selected as part of the clinical routine so that every detail is reflected accurately, for instance, nothing gets left out before any comprehensive analysis begins. Thus, every single radiograph was initially screened in order to make sure that no such low-quality or unreadable scans could be detected. Subsequently, once these two expert physicians agreed upon a diagnosis for each image, they provided this diagnosis to be used for training purposes on our artificial intelligence system. Figure 1 displays the sample images of this dataset. To ensure grading errors are avoided, the third expert also checked the evaluation set.

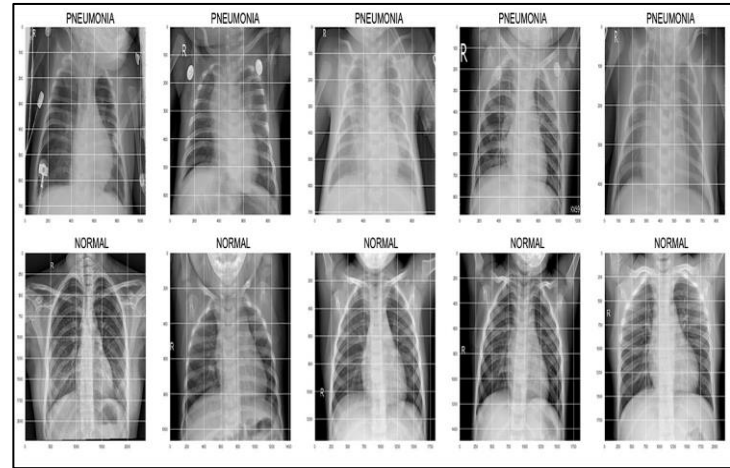


Fig.1. Normal & Pneumonia Images

B. Block Diagram

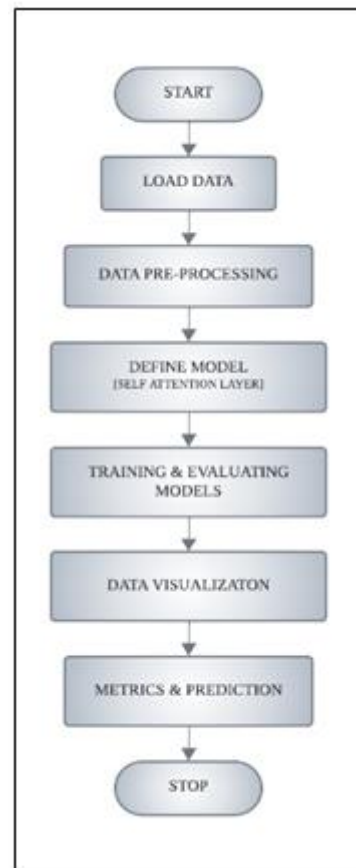


Fig.2. Comparative Analysis of Pneumonia Detection Models from Chest X-ray Images

C. Data Collection and Pre-processing:

A collection of X-ray pictures of the chest is gathered. 'Normal' and 'pneumonia' classes comprise the images in the dataset. Preprocessing procedures are used to get the dataset ready for deep learning model training after it has been collected. In order to load images from a specific folder path, a new function is written. To save computing overhead during training, the photos are then downsized to a smaller target size. After that, labels are applied to the pictures according to their class ('normal' or 'pneumonia'). Parsing

the folder structure or using a different metadata file may be required for this process. The loaded photos and the labels that go with them are then saved separately for later processing, frequently as lists or arrays.

D. Splitting the Dataset:

With no predefined function, the dataset splitting process splits the loaded images and labels into training and testing sets directly; about 80% of the images and labels are assigned to the training set, and the remaining 20% are assigned to the testing set. This manual splitting guarantees that the data distribution is consistent between sets, which makes it easier to train and evaluate models. The detailed distribution of images aftersplitting the dataset is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Image Distribution

S. No	Class Name	No. of Images	Training images	Testing images
1.	Normal	2456	1964	491
2.	Pneumonia	3407	2725	681

E. Data Augmentation:

Data augmentation is used to feature changes in the images to the training dataset after the dataset has been break up. This is finished by way of using the ImageDataGenerator class from TensorFlow's Keras API. Rotation, shifting, shearing, zooming, and horizontal flipping are a number of the augmentation techniques which can be included on this lesson. These techniques produce quite a few schooling samples through subtly altering the pix. These differences are integrated into the education manner the usage of the datagen. Flow technique, which dynamically generates augmented information batches all through model education. By exposing the version to a larger variety of education examples and sooner or later enhancing its overall performance on unknown information, records augmentation is crucial for boosting version resilience and generalization.

F. Model Architecture:

The Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) structure employed in the furnished code includes several layers designed to extract and procedure functions from enter photographs.

The model starts with an enter layer that gets the input image. The enter shape is determined through the dimensions of the image being fed into the network. Following the input layer, convolutional layers are utilized to perform function extraction. These layers encompass learnable filters that convolve throughout the input image, extracting spatial patterns and capabilities. In the code, convolutional layers are hired, the primary convolutional layer applies 32 filters with a kernel length of (3, three) and ReLU activation function and the second convolutional layer applies sixty four filters with a kernel size of (3, 3) and ReLU activation characteristic.

In order to lessen computational complexity and seize the most salient features, max pooling layers are inserted among convolutional layers and down sample the feature maps. The code applies max pooling layers after every convolutional layer, with a pool length of (2, 2).

Following the convolutional and pooling layers in the layout, self-attention layer takes place. By assigning weights to different areas based on their significance, this residue complements the version's capacity to pick out spatial correlations present inside the enter snap shots. After the self-attention layer, the characteristic maps are flattened right into a 1-dimensional vector so that they'll be fed into the completely related layers.

Dense (fully linked) layers are used for categorization, based on the features that are collected. These levels incorporate complex relationships and patterns from the data. The code contains the ReLU activation function and a dense layer with 128 units. The final layer of the model, the output layer, creates the classification probabilities for the two using the softmax activation function.

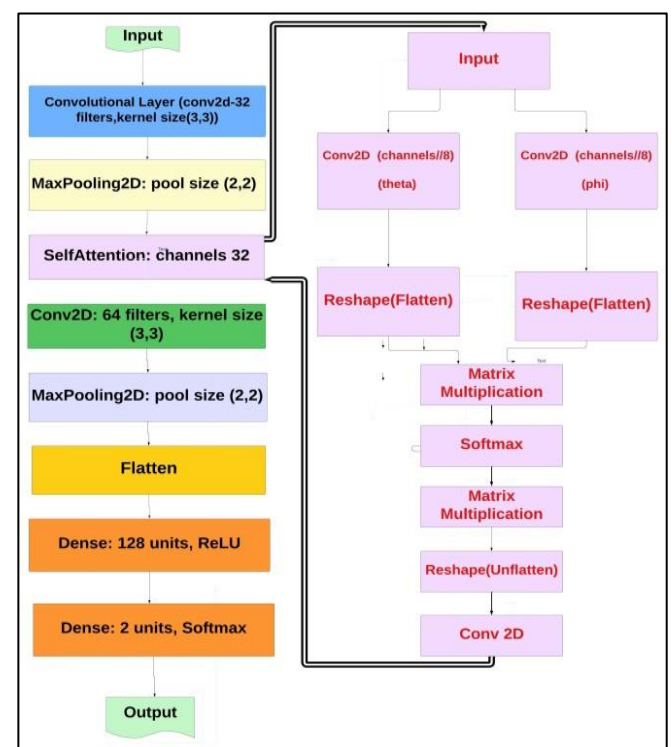


Fig. 3. Architecture of the Proposed Model

G. Model Training:

In tandem with the other layers of the model, the self-attention layer's parameters are optimized by the model during training. To help learn meaningful attention patterns from the training data, back propagation is used to compute the gradients of the loss function with respect to the parameters of the self-attention layer. The fit method is used to train the model, whereby batches of augmented data are created dynamically utilizing the previously described data augmentation strategies. The model learns to minimize the given loss function while making predictions based on the input data during training.

H. Significance of Self-Attention Mechanism in Model Architecture

By incorporating the self-interest mechanism within the model architecture enriches its potential to parent sizable spatial relationships within input image. This enhancement has the capability to elevate the version's efficacy in obligations like photograph category, in particular in pneumonia detection, with the aid of empowering it to prioritize informative areas at the same time as mitigating the affect of extraneous or inconsequential capabilities. Furthermore, the combination of self-attention amplifies the model's potential to awareness on essential spatial positions in the input feature maps, thereby fostering superior feature extraction and illustration studying.

I. Model Evaluation:

The model evaluation metrics employed in this context consist of precision, recall, and F1 score. These metrics are standard in classification tasks and serve to evaluate the model's performance on a designated test dataset.

➤ **Precision**

The precision is calculated as the ratio between the number of Positive samples correctly classified to the total number of samples classified as Positive (either correctly or incorrectly). The precision measures the model's accuracy in classifying a sample as positive.

$$\text{Precision} = \frac{\text{True Positive}}{\text{True Positive} + \text{False Positive}}$$

$$= \frac{\text{True Positive}}{\text{Total Predicted Positive}}$$

When the model makes many incorrect Positive classifications, or few correct Positive classifications, this increases the denominator and makes the precision small. On the other hand, the precision is high when:

The model makes many correct Positive classifications (maximize True Positive).

The model makes fewer incorrect Positive classifications (minimize False Positive).

➤ **Recall**

The recall is calculated as the ratio between the number of Positive samples correctly classified as Positive to the total number of Positive samples. The recall measures the model's ability to detect Positive samples. The higher the recall, the more positive samples detected.

$$\text{Recall} = \frac{\text{True}_{\text{positive}}}{\text{True}_{\text{positive}} + \text{False}_{\text{negative}}}$$

The recall cares only about how the positive samples are classified. This is independent of how the negative samples are classified, e.g. for the precision. When the

model classifies all the positive samples as *Positive*, then the recall will be 100% even if all the negative samples were incorrectly classified as *Positive*.

➤ **F1 Score**

The F1 score is the harmonic mean of precision and recall. It provides a balance between precision and recall, as it takes both false positives and false negatives into account. It is calculated as:

$$\text{F1 Score} = \frac{2}{\left(\frac{1}{\text{Precision}} + \frac{1}{\text{Recall}}\right)}$$

$$\text{F1 Score} = \frac{2 \times \text{Precision} \times \text{Recall}}{\text{Precision} + \text{Recall}}$$

IV. EXPERIMENTAL RESULT

Table 2 : Classification Metrics for 'Normal' and 'Pneumonia' Classes

S. No.	Class	precision	recall	F1-score
1.	normal	0.97	0.98	0.97
2.	pneumonia	0.97	0.96	0.96

Impressive accuracy, recall, and F1 scores are shown in the Table 2 for the "normal" and "pneumonia" classification. This process, which consists of a few key steps, integrates major CNN architectures; current techniques in the prediction of x-ray images for classifying "normal" and "pneumonia" disease surpass with this outstanding result, there is still room for improvement by using complimentary preprocessing methods like padding and square weighting. This change has the potential to improve model performance much more. The Program seeks to enhance diagnostic and classification accuracy in the clinical setting, as well as increase medical image analysis capabilities through ongoing research and reform.

Table 3: Comparison of Model Performance in Pneumonia Detection from Chest X-ray Images with the existing methodology.

Model	Accuracy(%)	F1score(%)
Sharma.S ., et al,2023	92.15%	93.70%
Bhatt.H ., et al ,2023	84.12%	88.56%
Goyal.S., et al. 2023	94.31%	92.03%
Mabrouk.A., et al ,2022	93.91%	93.43%
Wang.K., et al ,2022	92.80%	94.30%
Proposed Model	98.22%	97.57%

The comparison of this proposed model with the existing model is shown in Table 3. Comparing the overall performance of our proposed version with the referenced fashions, it famous advanced accuracy and precision, specially inside the correct prognosis of pneumonia cases. With an accuracy of 98.22% and an F1 score of 97.57%, our model successfully reduces false positives even as retaining a high degree of sensitivity. This stability is pondered in the

dazzling accuracy of 98.38%, which means that a big percentage of effectively detected nice cases are most of the overall anticipated instances It is worth noting that our model achieves such results with this distinctiveness in a short training duration, demonstrates its effectiveness and utility.

The training and testing accuracy graph is shown in figure 4. It shows the training rate of the model for each epoch. It can be seen from the figure that there is a steady increase in the learning rate of the training and the testing set. From the figure 4 it is confirmed that the testing set overcomes the training set. There is a steady decrement in the training and the testing loss and it is shown in figure 5.

In end, our proposed version not simplest presents tremendous accuracy and precision but also achieves those consequences efficiently with minimum education time. This performance, blended with amazing metrics, positions our version as a relatively aggressive answer for the prognosis of pneumonia from chest X-ray snap shots.

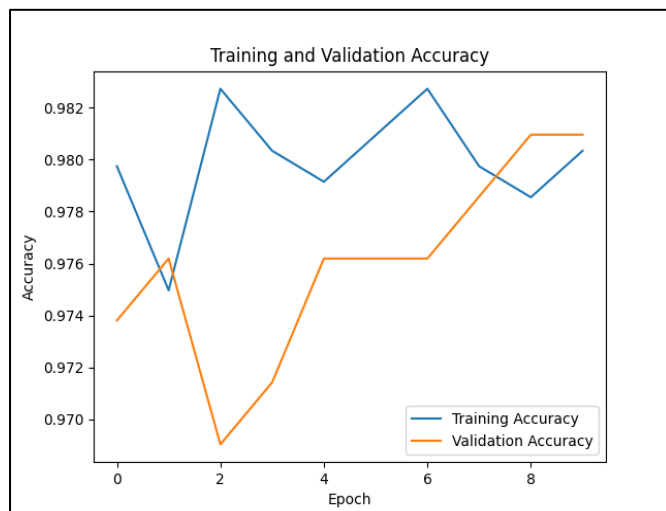


Fig. 3. Training and Validation Accuracy Graph

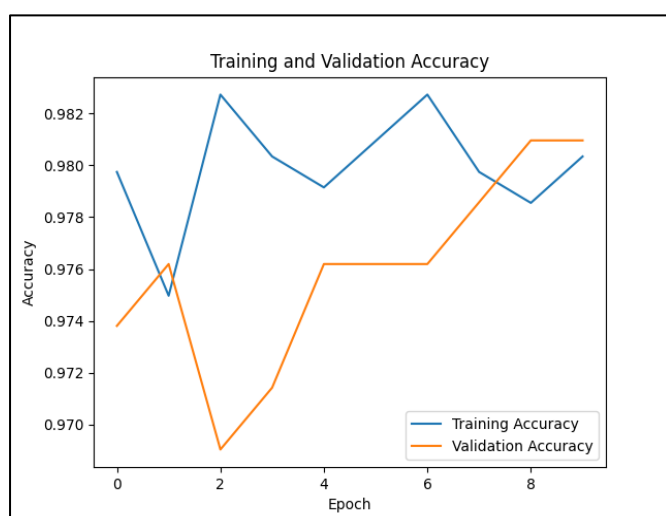


Fig. 4. Training and Validation Loss Graph

V. CONCLUSION

When it comes to determining between "normal" and "pneumonia" in chest x-ray images, specimen delivery does an admirable job. It efficiently collects features and measures outliers from the data using CNN and auto-focusing techniques. Data augmentation techniques expand the dataset during training, improving the flexibility of the model. The model exhibits remarkable learning improvements, as evidenced by its high accuracy, even after only two training periods. With accuracy rates of 0.71 and 0.78 for "normal" and "pneumonia" respectively, it is evident that the truly positive cases have been correctly identified. The recall ratings of 0.82 and 0.66 again reflect how many of these are truly good examples. Section successful. The balanced performance of the model is further confirmed by the F1-score of the harmonic mean of recall and accuracy. All factors considered, as exemplified, when combined with careful training and assessment, highlight the potential benefits for accurate diagnosis in clinical settings.

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