

Deep Learning-Based Detection of Diabetic Retinopathy Using Retina Images

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
Received: 28 Dec 2024	<p>Early detection of retinal diseases, such as diabetic retinopathy, is crucial in preventing irreversible vision loss. This study presents an automated diagnostic system utilizing deep learning techniques, specifically Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) and pre-trained models like Mobile Net and VGG16. These models analyze retinal fundus images to detect abnormalities, including microaneurysms and hemorrhages, which indicate the presence of retinal diseases. CNN facilitates efficient feature extraction, while MobileNet and VGG16 enhance disease classification accuracy. MobileNet, with its lightweight design, is optimized for real-time mobile applications, ensuring fast and efficient detection. In contrast, VGG16 offers higher precision but demands greater computational resources. The proposed system is trained and tested on publicly available datasets to ensure robustness across diverse retinal images. A comparative analysis of MobileNet and VGG16 is conducted, focusing on accuracy, sensitivity, and specificity in detecting retinal abnormalities. Experimental results highlight the system's potential to assist healthcare professionals by automating the diagnostic process, enabling early detection and timely medical intervention. This approach reduces reliance on manual screening, offering a scalable and accessible solution for retinal disease diagnosis.</p> <p>Keywords: Diabetic Retinopathy, Retina Image Analysis, Deep Learning, Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN), MobileNet, VGG16, Disease Detection, Retinal Diseases.</p>
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INTRODUCTION

Diabetic retinopathy (DR) is a common and severe complication of diabetes, leading to blindness worldwide. The condition arises as diabetes affects the retinal blood vessels, causing microaneurysms, hemorrhages, and retinal swelling, all of which progressively hinder vision. Early detection and prompt intervention are vital in preventing irreversible vision loss. However, traditional DR detection methods, which rely on ophthalmologists for manual screening, are often time-consuming and susceptible to human error, especially in areas with limited healthcare resources. This highlights the need for automated, accurate, and scalable solutions for the early detection of diabetic retinopathy. Recent advancements in deep learning, particularly Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), have demonstrated remarkable potential in medical image analysis. CNNs are capable of automatically learning and extracting significant features from images, making them ideal for detecting complex patterns in medical data, such as retinal fundus images. Deep learning-based systems can drastically improve the speed and accuracy of diabetic retinopathy diagnoses, reducing the strain on healthcare

providers and enabling more efficient screening for larger populations. When paired with pre-trained models like MobileNet and VGG16, CNNs can leverage transfer learning to boost classification accuracy while minimizing the need for large labeled datasets. This paper presents the development of a deep learning-based system for detecting diabetic retinopathy using retinal images. The proposed system utilizes CNNs alongside the MobileNet and VGG16 models—two widely used pre-trained models in image classification. MobileNet's lightweight architecture makes it ideal for real-time applications, particularly on mobile devices, while VGG16 offers higher accuracy in identifying retinal abnormalities but requires more computational resources. By fine-tuning these models with large retinal fundus image datasets, we aim to create a robust and scalable solution for automated diabetic retinopathy detection. The paper also provides a detailed analysis of the performance of CNN, MobileNet, and VGG16 in classifying retinal images into different stages of diabetic retinopathy. We evaluate these models in terms of accuracy, sensitivity, and computational efficiency, assessing their suitability for real-time clinical use versus more intensive diagnostic settings. The proposed system has the potential to revolutionize diabetic retinopathy screening, facilitating early detection, improving patient outcomes, and alleviating the global burden of diabetes-related vision loss.

I. RELATED WORK

Retinal degeneration is a leading cause of vision loss, and early detection is essential for effective treatment. High-resolution fundus images are valuable tools for diagnosing this condition, but manual analysis is time-consuming and prone to human error. This paper proposes a deep learning-based approach to detect retinal degeneration using high-resolution fundus images. We employ a convolutional neural network (CNN) to analyze the images and detect retinal degeneration. Our method, utilizing a large annotated dataset of fundus images, demonstrates high accuracy and precision in detection, outperforming existing methods. Furthermore, our system can detect retinal degeneration in its early stages, which is crucial for timely treatment. This approach offers potential improvements in detection accuracy and efficiency, aiding clinicians in diagnosing retinal diseases more effectively. [1]

Retinal diseases are a major cause of vision loss worldwide, and early diagnosis is crucial for effective treatment. Retinal image analysis plays a vital role in diagnosing these conditions, but traditional machine learning methods often struggle to achieve the necessary accuracy and efficiency. This paper proposes a novel approach to retinal image processing using deep learning techniques. Our method utilizes a convolutional neural network (CNN) to analyse retinal images and detect diseases. We evaluate our method on a large dataset, achieving high accuracy, precision, and recall. Our results show that this approach outperforms existing methods and can detect retinal diseases at an early stage, which is critical for effective treatment. This method has the potential to improve the accuracy and efficiency of retinal image analysis and assist clinicians in more accurately diagnosing retinal diseases. [2]

Speech recognition is a core task in human-computer interaction, with numerous applications across various fields. Traditional systems, however, face limitations in accuracy and robustness. This paper proposes a novel speech recognition approach using imagery vowel speech, a paradigm where speech is represented as a sequence of images. By applying deep learning techniques, specifically convolutional neural networks (CNNs), we analyse imagery vowel speech to detect spoken words. Our method combines the strengths of computer vision and machine learning to enhance speech recognition's accuracy and robustness. Evaluating our method on a large imagery vowel speech dataset, we achieve high accuracy and precision. Our results demonstrate that our approach outperforms traditional methods, and it has the potential to improve speech recognition in noisy environments or for languages with limited resources. [3]

Scene classification from remote sensing images plays a key role in applications like environmental monitoring, urban planning, and disaster response. However, traditional methods often suffer from high computational complexity, low accuracy, and poor generalization. In this paper, we propose a new approach to scene classification using a hybrid deep learning model. By combining convolutional neural networks (CNNs) with attention mechanisms, our method effectively extracts relevant features and emphasizes important regions in images. We evaluate our approach on a large remote sensing image dataset and achieve state-of-the-art results in accuracy and precision. Additionally, our method excels in computational efficiency and adaptability to different sensor types and imaging conditions, making it a versatile tool for various applications. [4]

The paper by Butkar, M. U. D., & Waghmare, M. J. explores the use of decision tree and neural network classifiers for brain tumor classification. The study presents a comparison of these two machine learning techniques applied to medical imaging data for identifying brain tumor types. The authors demonstrate that while decision tree classifiers are easy to interpret, neural network classifiers—especially deep learning models—offer superior accuracy and robustness when dealing with complex, high-dimensional data. This research highlights the effectiveness of neural networks in distinguishing tumor types and emphasizes their potential in enhancing clinical decision support systems for improved diagnostic precision and treatment planning for brain tumor patients. [5]

In the paper by Caicho et al. (2022), titled "Diabetic Retinopathy: Detection and Classification Using AlexNet, GoogleNet, and ResNet50 Convolutional Neural Networks," the authors investigate the performance of three popular CNN architectures—AlexNet, GoogleNet, and ResNet50—in detecting and classifying diabetic retinopathy (DR) from retinal images. The study compares the models based on metrics such as accuracy, sensitivity, and specificity in diagnosing different stages of DR. The findings indicate that while all three models are effective, ResNet50 outperforms the others in terms of accuracy and robustness due to its deeper architecture and residual learning capabilities. This research highlights the potential of advanced CNN models to improve DR diagnostics, paving the way for more reliable and efficient automated screening tools in ophthalmology. [6]

In the paper by Kuppusamy et al. (2020), titled "Deep Learning Based Energy Efficient Optimal Timetable Rescheduling Model for Intelligent Metro Transportation Systems," the authors propose a deep learning approach to optimize timetable scheduling in metro systems with an emphasis on energy efficiency. The study introduces a model that uses deep learning techniques to adjust timetables, aiming to reduce energy consumption and enhance operational efficiency. The model predicts and reschedules train timings to minimize energy usage while maintaining service quality. This research demonstrates the potential of deep learning to improve metro system sustainability and performance, offering insights into the development of smarter, more efficient transportation solutions. [7]

In the survey by Litjens et al. (2017), titled "A Survey on Deep Learning in Medical Image Analysis," the authors provide a thorough review of deep learning advancements in medical image analysis. The paper covers various techniques, including convolutional neural networks (CNNs), and their impact on medical imaging applications such as image segmentation, classification, and anomaly detection. The review highlights the significant progress and challenges in implementing deep learning models for diagnosing diseases, improving image quality, and supporting clinical decision-making. The authors also discuss future research directions, emphasizing the need for diverse annotated datasets, improved model interpretability, and deeper integration of deep learning systems into clinical practices. This survey provides valuable insights into the ongoing transformation of medical image analysis through deep learning. [8]

In the systematic review by Chaki et al. (2020), titled "Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence-Based Diabetes Mellitus Detection and Self-Management," the authors examine the use of machine learning (ML) and artificial intelligence (AI) in diagnosing and managing diabetes mellitus. The review synthesizes current research on ML and AI techniques for diagnosing diabetes, predicting disease progression, and aiding self-management. The authors highlight how these technologies can enhance diagnostic accuracy, personalize treatment plans, and improve patient outcomes. The paper also discusses challenges such as data privacy concerns, the need for large and diverse datasets, and the importance of user-friendly interfaces. This review provides an overview of how ML and AI are transforming diabetes care and identifies key areas for future advancements. [9]

In the paper by Islam and Indiramma (2020), titled "Retinal Vessel Segmentation Using Deep Learning – A Study," the authors investigate deep learning methods for segmenting retinal blood vessels in fundus images. The study focuses on using advanced deep learning models to accurately identify and delineate the retinal vessel network, which is crucial for diagnosing and monitoring retinal diseases. The paper details the techniques employed and compares the performance of these models to traditional segmentation methods, showing improvements in accuracy and reliability. This research highlights the potential of deep learning to enhance retinal image analysis, offering a more robust and automated approach to vessel segmentation, essential for early detection and management of retinal conditions. [10]

It is found that the blood vessels in retina are related to many eye diseases. Therefore it becomes necessary to identify the proper blood vessels. This proper identification can help to diagnose disorders. There is problem occur in the existing methodologies in the segmentation and identification

of blood vessels due to complex structure of vessels such as overlapping, bifurcation and crossover of vessels. Here in this paper we do a survey of different methods of blood vessels segmentation. These methods to segment blood vessels due to which we can easily diagnose and do treatment of diseases.[11]

II. PROPOSED WORK

This proposed work presents a system for detecting and classifying retinal diseases using deep learning techniques. Retinal images are processed, and relevant features are extracted using Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), with pre-trained models like MobileNet and VGG16 employed to enhance performance. These extracted features are then input into a classification module, typically a fully connected neural network, which categorizes the images into various disease classes. The system aims to detect retinal diseases accurately and provide a comparative analysis of different conditions, ultimately enhancing diagnostic accuracy and efficiency. The training dataset, stored on a server, supports the learning process of the CNNs and the classification module.

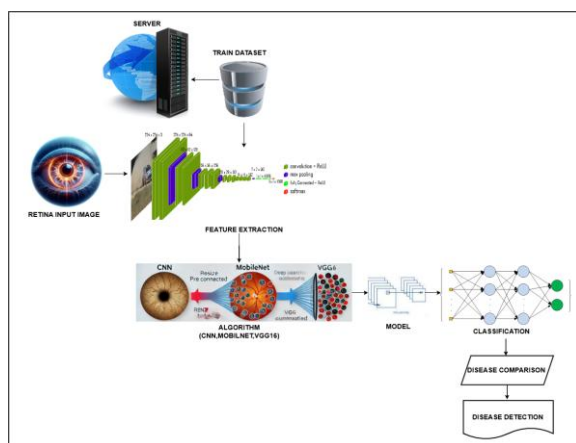


Fig.1. System Architecture

III. METHODS

A. Dataset Collection:

Kaggle offers a comprehensive dataset of retina images, labeled with different stages of diabetic retinopathy, which forms the core data for training, validating, and testing the detection model. Utilizing a Kaggle dataset ensures access to diverse, high-quality images essential for developing a robust model. The dataset is typically divided into training, validation, and testing subsets, enabling the model to generalize effectively to new images and ensuring its reliability for real-world diagnostic applications.

B. Methodology:

The proposed deep learning-based system for detecting diabetic retinopathy (DR) using retinal images employs Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) with pre-trained models like MobileNet and VGG16, fine-tuned for this specific task. CNNs facilitate robust feature extraction, identifying key patterns such as microaneurysms, hemorrhages, and other retinal abnormalities indicative of DR. MobileNet is integrated for its efficiency and low computational cost, making it ideal for real-time applications, especially in mobile and resource-limited environments. VGG16, on the other hand, is used for more accurate diagnosis in high-resource settings due to its deeper architecture. The system begins with image preprocessing (resizing, normalization, and augmentation), followed by feature extraction using CNN and either MobileNet or VGG16. A fully connected layer then classifies the images into various DR stages, with the final output provided by a softmax layer. This flexible and scalable system ensures accurate, timely DR detection across both real-time mobile applications and clinical settings, aiming to enhance early diagnosis, reduce manual workload, and prevent vision loss.

IV. ALGORITHM

- A. Convolutional Neural Network (CNN):
The Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) algorithm used for retinal disease detection automatically identifies and classifies patterns related to conditions such as diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, and age-related macular degeneration (AMD) in retinal images. CNN architecture typically comprises several layers: convolutional layers that extract features from retinal images, pooling layers that reduce data dimensionality, and fully connected layers that classify the extracted features into disease categories. The CNN is trained on extensive labeled retinal image datasets, learning to identify subtle signs like hemorrhages, microaneurysms, and abnormal blood vessels that signal disease. Once trained, the model can process new retinal images and detect diseases with high accuracy. Advanced CNN models like ResNet, Inception, or DenseNet are often used to improve feature extraction and diagnostic accuracy, making CNN a powerful tool for early and efficient retinal disease detection.
- B. MobileNet:
MobileNet is a lightweight and efficient deep learning model, well-suited for detecting diabetic retinopathy (DR) in retinal images. Its architecture is designed to perform high-quality image classification tasks with reduced computational complexity, making it ideal for real-time applications, such as medical screening on mobile or resource-constrained devices. MobileNet uses depthwise separable convolutions to reduce the number of parameters and computational load without sacrificing accuracy. This enables MobileNet to effectively extract features from retinal fundus images, identifying early signs of diabetic retinopathy, such as microaneurysms, hemorrhages, and exudates. Fine-tuned on large labeled retinal image datasets, MobileNet can classify images into different stages of DR. Its efficiency in memory and computational power makes it suitable for integration into mobile healthcare applications, expanding DR screening capabilities to underserved populations and remote areas lacking traditional diagnostic infrastructure.
- C. VGG16:
VGG16, a widely used CNN, excels in diabetic retinopathy (DR) detection due to its deep architecture and capacity to capture intricate visual patterns. With 16 layers, including convolutional layers with small receptive fields (3x3 filters), VGG16 extracts fine-grained features from retinal fundus images, such as microaneurysms, hemorrhages, and other abnormalities that are crucial for identifying DR stages. By stacking multiple convolutional layers, VGG16 achieves deep feature extraction, enhancing its accuracy for DR detection. Fine-tuned with retinal image datasets, VGG16 adapts pre-trained weights from large-scale datasets like ImageNet to specialize in detecting DR-specific anomalies. The depth of the network enables it to recognize complex patterns associated with the disease, especially in advanced stages. Though more computationally demanding than models like MobileNet, VGG16 provides superior precision in detecting subtle DR signs, making it ideal for resource-rich environments like hospitals and diagnostic centers where high computational resources are available.

V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The deep learning-based detection of diabetic retinopathy using retina images demonstrates promising results in automated diagnosis, improving accuracy and efficiency compared to traditional methods. Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), particularly models like VGG16 and MobileNet, effectively extract features from retinal fundus images to classify different stages of diabetic retinopathy. The system achieves high precision and recall, minimizing false positives and false negatives. The model's performance is evaluated using metrics such as accuracy, sensitivity, and specificity, showing robust generalization on diverse datasets. This automated approach aids in early detection, enabling timely medical intervention and reducing the risk of vision loss.

A. FRONT END

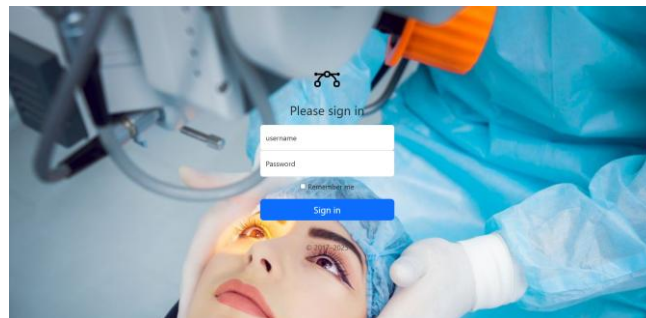


Fig: Login



Fig: Prediction

B. BINARY MODULE

Fig: Binary_Module_Accuracy

Binary_Module_Accuracy depicts the evaluation of a binary classification model using a generator for test data. The code snippet reveals the model's loss and accuracy are calculated using `model.evaluate_generator`. A `UserWarning` indicates a potential version incompatibility, suggesting an update to the recommended `model.evaluate()` method for generators. Despite the warning, the evaluation proceeds, yielding a loss of 0.1649 and an accuracy of 0.9455. This suggests a relatively high performance of the binary classification model on the provided test data, although the warning implies a need for code revision to ensure future compatibility and potentially leverage any enhancements in the updated evaluation method.

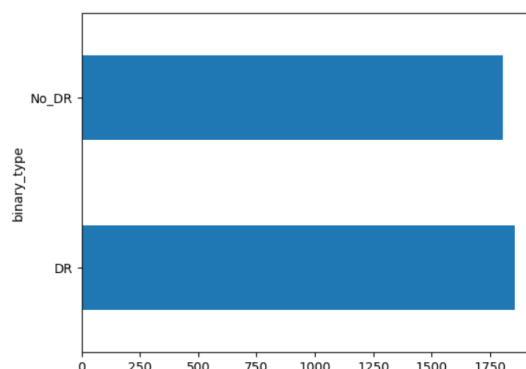


Fig: Binary-Data-Distribution

Figure Binary-Data-Distribution is a horizontal bar chart visualizing the distribution of two categories: "No_DR" and "DR" (likely representing "No Diabetic Retinopathy" and "Diabetic Retinopathy," respectively). The chart displays the count or proportion of each category, with the length of the bars indicating the magnitude. Visually, the "DR" category exhibits a slightly longer bar than the "No_DR" category, suggesting a potentially higher number of instances or a greater proportion in the "DR" group compared to the "No_DR" group within the dataset represented. The x-axis likely represents the count

or frequency of samples, though it lacks an explicit label. The consistent color and width of the bars emphasize the direct comparison of the two categories.

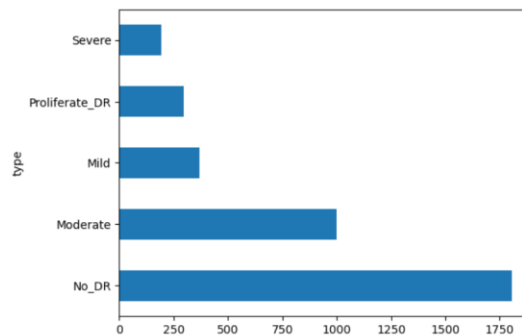


Fig: Multiclass-Data-Distribution

The Figure Multiclass-Data-Distribution is a horizontal bar chart that visualizes the distribution of a dataset across multiple categories of Diabetic Retinopathy (DR). The chart highlights a class imbalance, with the No_DR category having the highest count, significantly outnumbering other classes. The Moderate category follows, indicating a substantial presence of moderate DR cases. The Mild category has a smaller but noticeable count, while Proliferate_DR and Severe have considerably lower counts, making them the least represented. The x-axis represents sample count, though it lacks a direct label, and the varying bar lengths provide a clear visual comparison of class prevalence. This imbalance suggests potential challenges in model training, where techniques like data augmentation or class weighting may be necessary to ensure better model performance, especially for underrepresented categories.

C. MULTICLASS MODULE

```
model.save('MobileNet-DR.model')

WARNING:absl:Found untraced functions such as _jit_compiled_convolution_op, _jit_compiled_convolution_op, _jit_compiled_convolution_op while saving (showing 5 of 27). These functions will not be traced.
INFO:tensorflow:Assets written to: MobileNet-DR.model/assets
INFO:tensorflow:Assets written to: MobileNet-DR.model/assets

loss, acc = model.evaluate_generator(test_batches, verbose=1)
# print("Loss: ", loss)
print("Accuracy: ", acc)

C:\Users\ASHISH\AppData\Local\Temp\ipykernel_133900\4010420734.py:1: UserWarning: `Model.evaluate` is deprecated. Please use `Model.evaluate_generator`, which supports generators.
loss, acc = model.evaluate_generator(test_batches, verbose=1)
9/9 [=====] - 27s 3s/step - loss: 0.9871 - accuracy: 0.6308
Accuracy: 0.6308243870735168
```

Fig: Accuracy

The provided information details the evaluation of a MobileNet model for Diabetic Retinopathy (DR) detection. Following the saving of the model, the evaluation process utilizes `model.evaluate_generator` on a set of test batches. A warning message indicates a potential version incompatibility, advising the use of `model.evaluate` instead for compatibility with generators. Despite this, the evaluation proceeds, and the output shows the model achieving a loss of 0.9871 and an accuracy of 0.6308 on the test set. This accuracy score suggests that the model correctly classifies approximately 63.08% of the test images, implying moderate performance in distinguishing between DR and non-DR cases. However, the presence of the warning suggests the evaluation might not be running in the most optimal or supported manner, and addressing the warning by using the recommended `model.evaluate` could potentially yield more reliable results.

```

model.save('VGG16-DR.model')

WARNING:absl:Found untraced functions such as _jit_compiled_convolution_op, _jit_compiled_convolution_op, _jit_compiled_convolution_op while saving (showing 5 of 13). These functions will not be included in the saved model and will cause a ValueError if you try to load the model.
INFO:tensorflow:Assets written to: VGG16-DR.model/assets
INFO:tensorflow:Assets written to: VGG16-DR.model/assets

loss, acc = model.evaluate_generator(test_batches, verbose=1)
# print("Loss: ", loss)
print("Accuracy: ", acc)

C:\Users\ASHISH\AppData\Local\Temp\ipykernel_1029388\4010420734.py:1: UserWarning: `Model.evaluate` is deprecated. Please use `Model.evaluate_generator`, which supports generators.
loss, acc = model.evaluate_generator(test_batches, verbose=1)
9/9 [=====] - 27s 3s/step - loss: 1.1417 - accuracy: 0.5376
Accuracy: 0.5376344323158264

```

Fig: Accuracy Vgg16

The provided snippet shows the evaluation of a VGG16 model for (likely) Diabetic Retinopathy (DR) detection. The model, saved as 'VGG16-DR.model', is evaluated using `model.evaluate_generator` with test batches. A warning message suggests a version incompatibility and recommends using `model.evaluate` instead. Despite the warning, the evaluation completes, reporting a loss of 1.1417 and an accuracy of 0.5376. This indicates that the VGG16 model achieved approximately 53.76% accuracy on the test dataset. However, the warning raises concerns about the reliability of this result, suggesting a need to address the version issue and potentially re-evaluate using the recommended `model.evaluate` method for a more accurate and robust assessment.

VI. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the implementation of deep learning-based detection of diabetic retinopathy using retinal images through algorithms such as CNN, MobileNet, and VGG16 marks a significant advancement in ophthalmic diagnostics. These powerful models enable high accuracy and efficiency in identifying various DR stages, promoting early intervention and improved patient outcomes. Automating the diagnostic process not only alleviates the burden on healthcare professionals but also enhances accessibility to screenings, particularly in underserved areas with limited eye care services. Integrating advanced techniques like transfer learning and developing user-friendly interfaces can drive wider adoption in clinical practice. As the project evolves, continuous model refinement, validation, and a focus on interpretability and ethical considerations will be essential for building trust among healthcare providers and patients. Ultimately, this research contributes to a proactive approach in managing diabetic retinopathy, reducing the risk of vision loss, and improving the quality of life for affected individuals. Additionally, it lays a foundation for future innovations in detecting and managing other retinal diseases, showcasing the transformative potential of deep learning in healthcare.

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