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Visual field classification comparing neural networks, statistical classifiers, Statpac, and a glaucoma expert. P.A. Sample, J.M. Williams, E.Z. Blumenthal, K. Chan, T.-W. Lee, R.N. Weinreb, T.J. Sejnowski, M.H. Goldbaum. Glaucoma Center and Visual Function Laboratory, and Institute for Neural Computing, University of California, San Diego, and Computational Neurobiology Laboratory, Salk Institute, La Jolla, CA 92093.

Purpose. To compare a variety of classification techniques for separating normal and glaucomatous visual fields. **Methods**. Data was from 155 eyes with and 271 eyes without glaucomatous optic neuropathy; determined by masked stereophoto evaluation. Visual fields were not used to classify subjects. We used a multilayer perceptron (MLP), a support vector machine (SVM), a mixture of Gaussian and a mixture of independent component analysis (ICA) to classify standard Humphrey 24-2 visual. The absolute threshold values for 52 test locations and age were inputs for training with cross-validation. Results were compared to results with a linear discriminant function, Statpac indices, the Glaucoma Hemifield Test (GHT) and a glaucoma expert. **Results**. The area under the ROC curve and the sensitivity/specificity (set close to 90%) for the best of each type of analysis below.

| Classifier                 | Туре           | area  | Sensitivity | Specificity |
|----------------------------|----------------|-------|-------------|-------------|
| Glaucoma experts           | human          |       | 0.748       | 0.90        |
| Linear discriminant        | statistical    | 0.835 | 0.626       | 0.90        |
| function                   |                |       |             |             |
| Glaucoma hemifield test    | global index   |       | 0.660       | 0.99        |
| Pattern standard deviation | global index   | 0.880 | 0.736       | 0.93        |
| Mixture of Gaussian        | neural network | 0.902 | 0.774       | 0.90        |

**Conclusion**. Mixture of ICA and mixture of Gaussian were the best performing neural networks comparing well with the expert and the best index, PSD. These networks have utility in situations where a glaucoma expert is not available or for newer visual field tests where statistical analysis packages are not yet developed.

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