

Image Up-sampling for Enhancing Quality Image with Deep Learning

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Abstract

This paper introduces an approach to deep learning for improving quality for single high-definition (H.D) picture. The method immediately acquires an end-to-end map from low- and high definition pictures. High image resolution plays a significant role when enhancing the photo as well as frames for video in gadgets including smartphones as well as computers for Better Resolution. When upscaling the image frame, the image get distorted and blurred. A high-definition image with greater clarity is produced by using a deep convolutional neural network which accepts a low-definition image as input and using Discrete Cosine Transformation to create blurred image from low resolution image and subtracting this blurred image from the result of network model . The experimental result shows that the proposed algorithm works better than the other compared algorithms.

Keywords: Image, upsampling, Super-resolution, Machine-Learning, Low-Resolution, High-Resolution.

1. Introduction

Super-resolution (SR) is the approach that enhances a pictures quality by producing an image with excellent resolution using a low-quality input image or frame. The SR approach does not just calculate unknown pixel intensity values; rather, it determines an appropriate value by considering the data contained within the input.

SR uses the interpolation of the sub-pixel shifts that infer a more precise object location with a sub-pixel resolution between multiple low-resolution images/frames of the same continuous scene. Super-resolution (SR) approach seeks to address the shortcomings of the image acquisition device and its ill-posed; during the process of upscaling, the image becomes distorted and blurry. In order to solve this issue, high resolution is required from low resolution; therefore, higher-resolution image techniques are required.[1].

The goal of image Super-Resolution (SR) is to use software approaches that can be efficiently used for imaging purposes in medicine, camera monitoring, intelligence gathering for producing high-resolution (HR) from low-resolution (LR) images [2]. Over the past years, image SR restoration approaches have garnered a lot of interest.

Using a straightforward upsampling technique, Qi Shan (2008) proposed Fast Image/Video Upsampling that suggest maintaining the necessary structural information while automatically improving the image/video resolution. It consist of design for controlling feedback that accurately brings back the high resolution visual data from a source input without adding new local structural restrictions that have been learned from earlier cases. [3]

Block classification is initially carried out in DCT domain to classify 8×8 picture blocks into different sorts, including smooth regions, edges, and others. This method of block-based upsampling for photos and movies was introduced by Ming-Sui Lee in 2009 [4]. Basic patches are applied to increase the picture size for the smooth surfaces and plain backdrop without lowering the visual quality of the end result. Considering that edges are more perceptible to human sight. To create the picture data at subpixel places appropriately, a facets model is employed. This idea may also be use to videos by considering temporal information. If the residual is bearable, obtaining the enlarged image of the matching block from the reference image frame may be possible to upsample an image block in the current frame. [4]

The ability to see small texture features visually is growing more and more with the advent of high resolution. There is an urgent need for a low-cost technique of image upsampling with good quality. In 2015, Yang Zhao proposed High Resolution Local Structure Constrained Image Upsampling which put out an upsampling technique that uses high-

resolution local structural constraints. A bicubic-interpolated image is divided into a sharp edge and textured area using the average local difference. These two areas are then individually reconstructed using predetermined constraints. High-Resolution gradient maps are estimate as an additional constraint for recovering sharp and natural edges in the sharp edge reconstruction area. High-Resolution local texture structure maps are estimated as an additional constraint for recovering fine texture details in the texture reconstruction area. These two rebuilt areas are combined to create the final high-resolution image. [5]

Deep learning methods have been effectively used in various computer vision applications, including simple restoration of image issues. Recently, several models based on deep neural networks have been presented for image super-resolution, and achieved outstanding performance that surpasses all earlier hand-crafted models. The topic concerns whether large-capacity and data-driven approaches have taken the lead in solving the imprecise super resolution problem then becomes relevant. In 2015, Zhaowen Wang and his team proposed a Deep Networks for Image Super-Resolution with Sparse Prior that the conventional sparse coding model's representation of domain knowledge is still important and can be used in conjunction with the fundamental components of deep learning to get even better results. It demonstrates how a neural network can be a sparse coding model specifically created for super-resolution and trained in a cascaded structure from beginning to finish. A network's interpretation according to sparse coding produces significantly greater effective and efficient training while also resulting in a smaller model [6].

The computer-generated image as well as video frame's High-definition technology improves the imaging system's ability to extract high definition resolution from low-definition resolution data. The difficulties in achieving high definition resolution are video/image denoising, blur detection, computing effectiveness, as well as performance constraints. S. Muthuselvan in 2019 recommended a method called Super Interpolation(SI)[7] for achieving the low complex upscaling of frames of video with High definition (HD) Resolution. This was done to address the issues of information lost during restoration as well as computational cost resulting from repeated steps in the existing high-definition resolution strategies Upscaling Phase and Training Phase are the two steps of the SI technique During the training stage, edge alignment orientation assessment is performed on a significant collection of external training pictures and video frames. In the initial upscaling stage, the LR video frame is upsampled and interpolated using the bicubic interpolation technique. After that, a canny edge detector performs edge detection on the interpolated frame in order to smooth it out. The HR video frame is sharpened using a local laplacian filter and an edge preservation approach. The Real-Time (RT) - India dataset and the YT dataset were used to test the suggested technique.

Because of the incorporation of deep learning methods as well as the expanding accessibility of training data, the area of licence plate recognition (LPR) has seen considerable improvements in recent years. However, it is still difficult to rebuild licence plates (LPs) from low-quality resolution (LR) video. To resolve this problem, In 2023, Valfride Nascimento introduces the Single-Image Super-Resolution (SISR) method, which integrates attention and transformer components to improve the recognition of structural and textural information in LR pictures[9]. The method employs a loss function and sub-pixel convolution layers (sometimes called PixelShuffle) to extract features from an optical character recognition (OCR) model. They used synthetic pictures generated through heavily gaussian-noise high-definition resolution Licence Plate images from two open datasets, bicubic down sampling is then used, to train the suggested architecture.

This paper demonstrates how the previously mentioned workflow compares favourably to a deep convolutional neural network. This feature prompts us to consider a convolutional neural network that systematically generates an end-to-end transforming among low- definition resolution and high-definition resolution pictures. We name the proposed model Image up-sampling for enhancing quality image with Deep Learning. The suggested approach offers a number of desirable qualities. First off, compared to modern example-based approaches, its structure is purposely simple while still offering higher accuracy. Second, even on a CPU, our solution delivers fast performance for useful online usage with a reasonable amount of filters and layers. And thirdly, its use the Iterative process to generate an end-result image with more clarity.

2. Related Work

Factor that can affect image quality is the resolution. More specifically, low-resolution (LR) images contain a low number of pixels representing an object of interest, making it hard to make out the details. This can be either because the image itself is small, or because an object is far away from the camera thereby causing it to occupy a small area within the image. Super-Resolution (SR) is a branch of Artificial Intelligence (AI) that aims to tackle this problem, in which an existing LR picture may be upscaled to provide a greater high definition resolution image with more detectable features, which can then be applied to subsequent tasks like objects categorization, facial recognition, and so on. Sources of LR images include cameras that may output low-quality images, such as mobile phones and surveillance cameras[10].

The need of high definition-resolution images is to enhance the image's quality for example, while modern mobile phone cameras do capture fairly good quality images, they still yield several imperfections caused primarily by the need to use lenses and image sensors that are compact enough to fit on the phone without making it too bulky, while also being relatively cheap.

The majority of SR algorithms emphasize high-resolution of single-channel or grayscale images, when dealing with color pictures, the aforementioned techniques first convert the image into a separate color space (YCbCr or YUV), and then only apply SR to the luminance channel. There are also works that try to super-resolve every channel at once. As an illustration, Kim, Kwon, and Dai et al. used their model to analyze each RGB channel and then merged the data to arrive at their conclusions. [11]

The nearest neighbor interpolation method is the most straightforward interpolation method. This method uses the closest pixel to fill up any missing pixels. In these situations, it copies the pixel values rather than changing them. It is less efficient since it duplicates the pixel to fix the missing pixel of the image [12][13]; It would appear as shown in image in figure 1. It is the simplest version since the pixel value is constant, therefore it is crucial to preserve its grey level.

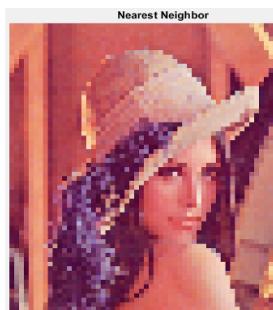


Fig 1: Image form using Nearest Neighbour

111	123	145	179	196	199
111	123	146	180	196	199
113	123	143	184	196	206
113	123	144	184	196	207
112	122	144	185	197	207
112	122	145	185	198	208
111	121	146	186	198	209
111	122	144	184	196	205
112	122	145	184	196	206
113	123	145	185	197	206
114	124	146	185	197	207

Fig 2: Pixel values obtained using Nearest Neighbor

Using Nearest Neighbour Interpolation, the pixel values is shown in figure 2.

The closest 2x2 known pixel values surrounding the unknown pixel are used in bilinear interpolation. A weighted average of these 4 pixels is utilised to determine the final interpolated value in order to determine the unidentified pixel.

To fill in the image's missing pixel

$$\text{Differences of neighbouring pixel} = (d_2 - d_1)/(n + 1)$$

where $d_2 - d_1$ represents the difference between the adjacent pixel.

n represents the number of lost pixels.

$$\text{Missing Pixel} = d_1 + \text{Differences of neighbouring pixel}$$

2	4
6	9

a) 2x2 Image pixel value

2	0	0	4
0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0

b) 4x4 Upsampled image pixel with missing pixel values

2	2.666667	3.333334	4
3.33333	4.111111	4.888889	5.666667
4.666667	5.555555	6.444445	7.333334

c) Upsampled Image Pixel

Fig 3: Interpolation using Bilinear upscaling

This results in smoother visuals when compared to the nearest neighbor. The image produced by using Bilinear is shown in figure 4.

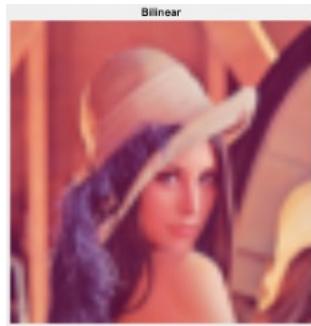


Fig 4: Image form by using Bilinear Interpolation

In image processing, bi-cubic up-scaling is commonly preferred over nearest neighbour up-scaling or bilinear up-scaling when the expedition is prohibited or considered less important. [13]. Bi-cubic up-scaling considers 16 pixels (4x4) as opposed to the standard 4 pixels (2x2). Pictures produced by bi-cubic interpolation are smoother as well as containing lower interpolation noise [13]. The method used most frequently for image processing is bi-cubic interpolation. Figure 5 displays the result of bi-cubic interpolation as a picture.

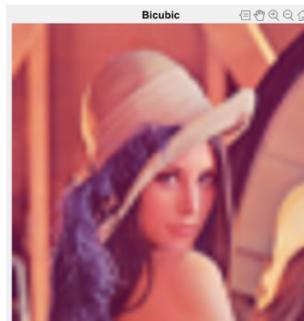


Fig 5: Image form by Bi-cubic Interpolation

The Lanczos upscale function uses the Lanczos filter and interpolation to alter the size of a picture. Depending on the final picture size, the image size may be enlarged or shrunk in each direction. The three-lobed Lanczos window function serves as the foundation for this interpolation technique. A mathematical formula has two applications: Lanczos filtering and Lanczos resampling. It has two applications: one is for low-pass filtering, and the other is for smoothly interpolating a digital signal's value between samples. In the latter scenario, each sample of the input signal is mapped to a translated and scaled copy of the Lanczos kernel, which is a longer, sinc function with its centre lobe serving as a window. At the required positions, the total of these translated and scaled kernels is subsequently assessed. Lanczos resampling is commonly employed to enhance a digital signal's sampling rate or modify it by a portion of the sampling interval. In order to rotate or resize a digital image, for instance, it is frequently utilised for multivariate interpolation. Among a number of straightforward filters, it has been deemed the "best compromise". Image obtained using lanczos function have been shown in the figure 6.

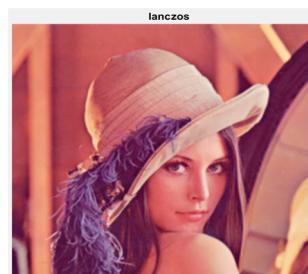


Fig 6: Lanczos Interpolation

3. The Proposed Method

In this study, we present a Image Up-sampling for Enhancing Quality Image with Deep Learning to develop for enhancing of image with upsampled image. The proposed system preprocess the image from dataset, image low resolution $m \times n$ color image is read to get High Resolution Image.

By employing a convolutional neural network architecture, we are able to obtain picture super-resolution as well as Discrete Cosine Transformation (DCT). The conversion between low to high-resolution pictures is learned by the network. Since high-resolution and low-resolution photos differ mostly in high-frequency features and have similar image content, this mapping is achievable. By using a residual learning method, our technique teaches the network to determine a residual picture. The discrepancy between a low-resolution picture that has been upscaled using Lanczos interpolation to match the size of the reference image and a high-resolution reference image is known as a residual image in the context of super-resolution. A residual image contains a picture's high-frequency characteristics.

The residual picture is identified by the network based on the luminance image. In the luminance channel of a picture, the brightness of each pixel is indicated by a linear combination of the red, green, and blue pixel values.

. And the two chrominance channels in a picture, are the distinct linear combinations of the values of the red, green, and blue pixels that indicate information about color differences. Because variations in brightness are more perceptible to humans than changes in color, the model is trained exclusively on the luminance channel.

Once the network has learned to predict the residual picture it is rebuild high-resolution photos by first adding it to the low-resolution upsampled image and then transforming it into RGB. To get enhanced image DCT is apply to the source low resolution image for generating blurred image with resizing by padding zero's and generating IDCT that is subtracted from the previous high resolution image to get the final up sampled super resolution image.

The Inverse Discrete Cosine Transform (IDCT) is a mathematical operation that converts data from a domain wavelength into another. The Discrete Cosine Transform (DCT) is a technique widely used in signal processing and image compression, e.g. JPEG to express data as sum of frequency components. This step is reversed in the IDCT to reconstruct a time-domain signal from its frequency representation.

The transformation for a 1D IDCT is shown mathematically as the following:

$$X_n = \frac{1}{2} C(0)X_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} C(k)X_k \cos \left[\frac{\pi k(2n+1)}{2N} \right]$$

for $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N - 1$, where:

X_n is the reconstructed data point at position n ,

X_k is the $k - th$ DCT coefficient,

N is the number of data points,

$C(k)$ is a normalization factor defined as

$$C(k) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} & \text{for } k = 0 \\ \sqrt{\frac{2}{N}} & \text{for } k > 0 \end{cases}$$

For a 2-dimensional IDCT, which is commonly used in image processing, the formula is:

$$X_{m,n} = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{u=0}^{N-1} \sum_{v=0}^{M-1} C(u)C(v)X_{u,v} \cos \left[\frac{\pi u(2m+1)}{2N} \right] \cos \left[\frac{\pi v(2n+1)}{2M} \right]$$

For $m = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N - 1$ and $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, M - 1$, where:

$X_{m,n}$ is the reconstructed pixel value at position (m, n)

$X_{u,v}$ is the DCT coefficient at position (u, v)

N and M are the dimensions of the data (e.g., the width and height of an image).

we propose the following algorithm to gain better results for processing images. The figure 9 depicts the suggested architecture.

Proposed algorithm

1. Read low resolution color image $m \times n$.
2. Upsampled the low resolution image to $p \times q$. using lanczos interpolation.

3. Transformed the image into luminance and two chrominance channel using `rgb2ycbcr` function.
4. Passed the luminance image to the network framework to produced the residual image (residual picture contains an image's high-frequency features)
5. Using the estimated residual image and combining with upsampled luminance image, high-resolution images is rebuilt.
6. The output of the step 5 is concatenated with the upsampled chrominance channel image to get the color component of the image using `ycbcr2rgb` function.
7. To get more enhance in the image, Discrete Cosine Transformation (DCT) is applied to the source low resolution image for generating Blurred image.
- i) Use DCT Function for generating DCT Coefficient.
- ii) Resizing DCT to $p \times q$ by padding zero's.
- iii) Use Power law to modify DCT coefficient.
- iv) Use Inverse Discrete Cosine Transformation function (IDCT) to get Blurred Image.
8. The output from step 7. is subtracted from the result of step 6. To obtain the final super resolution upsampled image.



Fig7: Input Source

By examining a small section of the image, compared to the original source image, the recommended super-resolution image has finer edges as well as greater clarity.

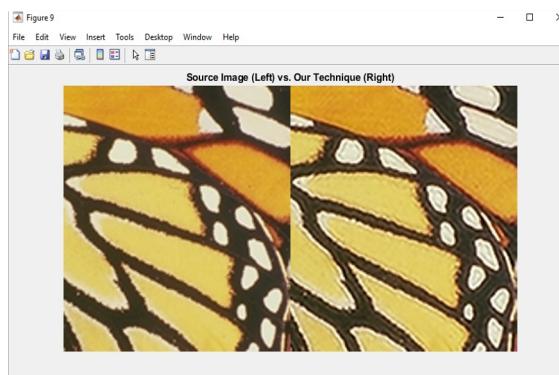


Fig 8: Examination of output image with source image using small section of the image

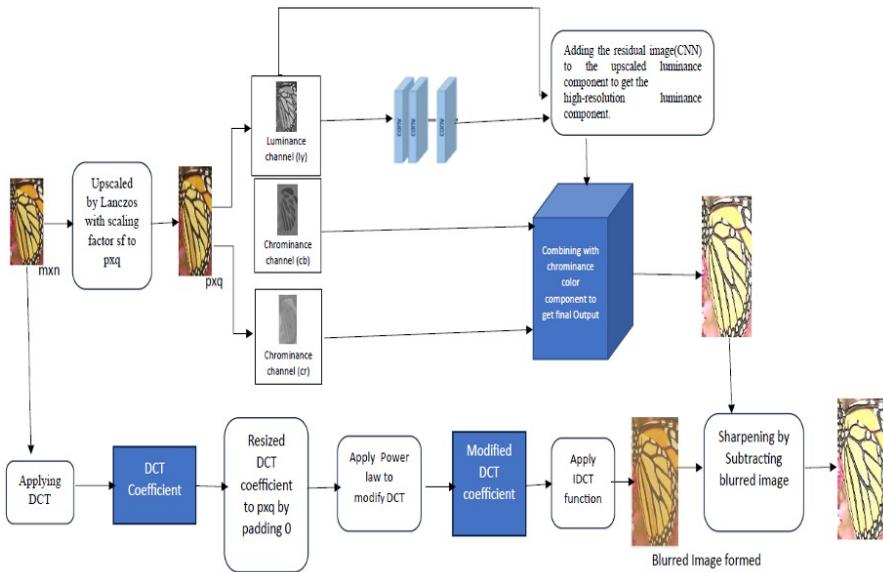


Fig 9: Framework diagram of the experimental Design

4. Experimental Analysis and Discussion

4.1 Datasets

Datasets for testing: In this study, we use well-known SR datasets, including Set5 [29], Set14 [30], and the test dataset of DIV2K [28], to equitably assess the SR performance of our architecture.

4.2 Analysis of PSNR and SSIM

The **peak signal to noise ratio** is often utilized to assess reconstruction standard-quality for pictures and videos subject to lossy compression.

$$PSNR = 20 \log_{10} \left(\frac{Max_f}{\sqrt{MSE}} \right)$$

In which the MSE (mean square error) is:

$$MSE = \frac{1}{mn} \sum_0^m \sum_0^{n-1} ||f(i,j) - g(i,j)||^2$$

The highest possible signal value in the image is indicated with **Max_f**.

Matrix representing the original image data is indicated by **f**.

The image's degraded matrix data is represented by **g**.

The row's pixels number for the pictures is denoted by **m**. and the number that represents the index of that row is represented by **i**.

The number of pixel columns within the image is **n**, and that column's index is **j**.

The Structural Similarity Index Measure (SSIM) is used to estimate how good a picture or video is evaluated to be. It is also employed to ascertain how comparable the two pictures are.

Table.1: PSNR and SSIM Analysis of different Technique for different images

PSNR/SSIM ANALYSIS													
Method	Scale	Images											
		Lena		Butterfly		Sherlock		Lighthouse		Vegetables		Skin Cancer (ISIC_00154 83)	
		PSNR R	SSI M	PSNR R	SSI M	PSNR R	SSI M	PSNR R	SSIM	PSNR R	SSI M	PSNR R	SSI M
Nearest neighbor	0.5	22.4 1509	0.96 6621	21.1 2572	0.90 0339	37.8 1064	0.79 3931	25.1 3208	0.892 996	24.79 02	0.80 5071	33.58 91	0.80 7821

Bilinear	0.5	26.7 2327	0.97 8737	23.4 1443	0.92 502	40.9 2665	0.81 1604	27.5 0107	0.905 068	29.61 136	0.82 0448	36.65 9576	0.83 1741	
Bicubic	0.5	27.6 8655	0.98 2687	26.1 3144	0.94 2566	41.3 4272	0.81 319	29.4 9213	0.913 604	30.25 6955	0.83 3511	38.15 9222	0.77 9327	
Lanczos	0.5	32.3 4502	0.85 6375	25.2 7535	0.92 9122	41.7 7971	0.89 372	28.8 7067	0.921 74	30.54 9143	0.85 1842	38.76 3337	0.98 115	
SRCNN	0.5	11.0 2688	0.63 8978	11.7 9293	0.64 0176	11.5 4285	0.60 6487	11.8 6828	0.633 012	11.64 4546	0.71 481	10.44 5581	0.47 291	
FSRCNN	0.5	32.6 9329	0.64 1723	26.0 7253	0.64 8254	40.5 6414	0.61 3095	29.3 4515	0.638 286	29.40 8866	0.72 0167	38.23 4852	0.47 8639	
Joint Learning of Multiple Regressors for Single Image Super-Resolution (2024)	0.5	32.9 2691	0.84 9857	26.1 8327	0.83 1059	40.6 2391	0.90 6189	29.4 1806	0.802 6793	30.19 2755	0.95 3919	38.34 8198	0.47 9956	
VDSR	0.5	33.0 2351	0.97 1582	26.7 3044	0.94 9293	42.4 5703	0.98 7573	29.4 4751	0.966 795	30.49 723	0.98 4646	39.35 5506	0.99 0195	
DSRNet (2024)	0.5	33.3 8192	0.98 4266	26.5 2917	0.86 2374	43.0 1703	0.97 1925	29.5 1403	0.884 952	30.35 9163	0.89 1786	39.92 6405	0.98 7341	
Our Technique	0.5	33.4 1801	0.98 5982	26.7 381	0.95 6798	43.9 6635	0.99 3681	30.1 1337	0.970 107	30.92 8521	0.98 5417	40.74 5417	0.99 2807	0.99 1609
Nearest neighbor	2	33.0 1219	0.89 1927	24.0 1639	0.61 951	23.9 1274	0.62 0647	22.7 5618	0.601 27	25.52 9106	0.61 276	21.69 1402	0.60 2891	
Bilinear	2	36.4 9622	0.91 4002	30.1 6685	0.98 4409	46.1 4247	0.99 7541	33.6 1356	0.989 487	37.68 0556	0.99 6389	43.22 5314	0.99 6831	
Bicubic	2	38.7 0167	0.93 6328	32.9 7881	0.99 1767	48.3 52	0.99 8436	36.1 1594	0.994 08	40.35 8671	0.99 7948	45.63 6546	0.99 8002	
Lanczos	2	39.6 3814	0.93 7043	34.2 4523	0.99 3895	49.4 0642	0.99 8789	37.2 7924	0.995 544	41.58 4452	0.99 8468	46.92 758	0.99 8529	
SRCNN	2	11.0 3744	0.63 5947	11.7 7873	0.63 0082	11.5 4851	0.60 5857	11.8 7904	0.631 816	11.73 3099	0.71 1998	10.47 7095	0.47 1851	
FSRCNN	2	13.5 3819	0.65 0281	11.8 0968	0.65 1826	12.3 9103	0.61 0274	11.9 3482	0.641 392	11.73 9245	0.71 0128	11.02 3849	0.48 3193	
Joint Learning of Multiple Regressors for Single Image Super-	2	33.5 111	0.83 9001	26.8 7001	0.88 312	28.5 6381	0.89 2813	27.2 3912	0.889 124	26.19 234	0.87 4913	27.94 3921	0.89 1901	

Resolution (2024)													
VDSR	2	41.7 0584	0.98 1045	37.6 7246	0.99 6942	48.9 7783	0.98 951	40.0 1751	0.983 195	43.90 9733	0.98 5701	47.27 9857	0.98 23
DSRNet (2024)	2	38.2 9	0.94 2639	37.6 1	0.95 84	48.4 3501	0.98 4012	40.6 3105	0.986 192	43.98 532	0.98 723	47.41 93	0.98 5391
Our Technique	2	42.9 571	0.99 8089	64.9 8411	0.86 7738	49.1 6511	0.99 8457	42.5 0148	0.996 852	44.19 125	0.99 8797	47.92 31	0.99 8374

The comparison analysis is done using two methods, firstly downsampling and secondly upsampling. Firstly, we downsampled with scaling factor 0.5 and restored it back, the psnr and ssim values compared with other method, our method has gain more and produce excellence result compared to others. Secondly Upsampling with scaling factor 2, the psnr and ssim values of our method produce higher value compared with others methods.



Figure: Comparison of car2.jpg image region of interest using different technique.

4.3 Output Image Analysis

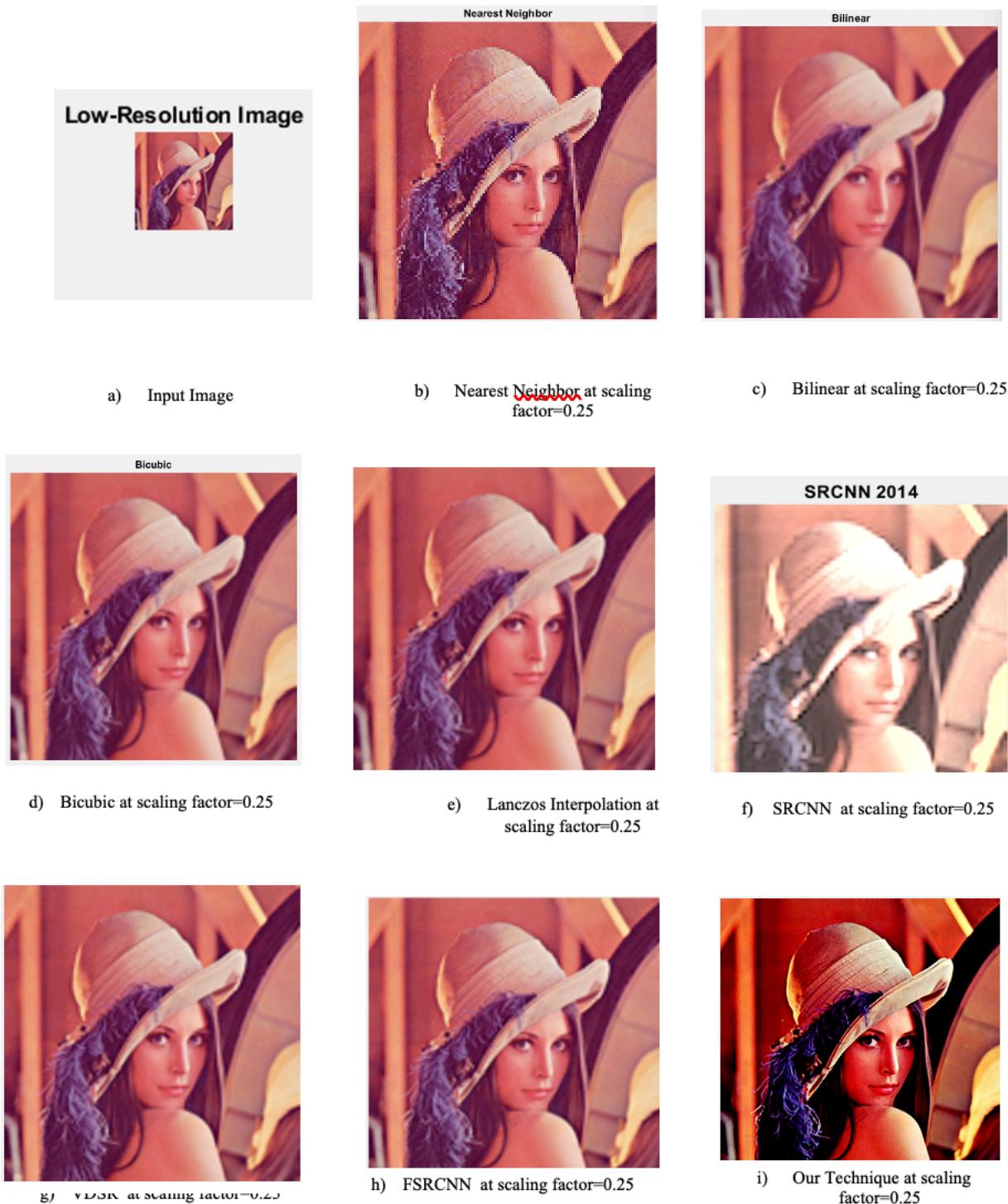


Fig 11: Image Result Analysis for Lena at scaling factor 0.25



Fig 12: Image Result Analysis for Butterfly at scaling factor 0.50

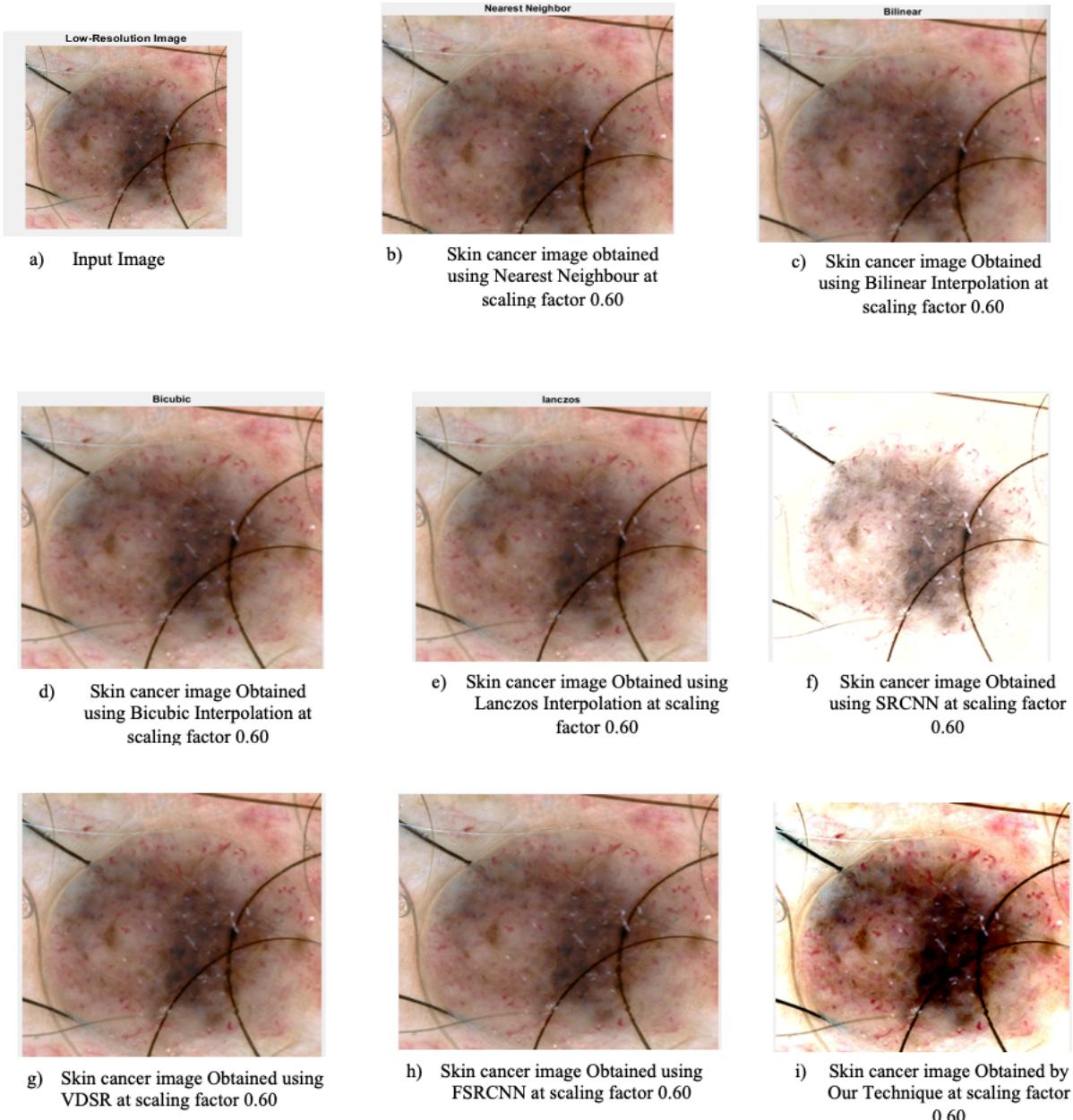


Fig 13: Image Result Analysis for Skin Cancer at scaling factor 0.60

From the above experimental analysis our method gain better than the compare algorithm.

5. Conclusion

Although state-of-the-art non-machine learning algorithms for image denoising exist, we are constantly wondering if we can achieve better performance with deep learning. This paper proposes a deep learning denoising network of super-resolution images that achieves statistically significant improvements over traditional benchmark algorithms. Significant advancements have been achieved in super-resolution image processing, which now offers better image quality and reveals finer details. In certain situations, real-time implementation of super resolution methods might be difficult since they require computationally demanding operations. There are still issues, though, and current study is aimed at finding solutions and breaking new ground in this ever-evolving sector.

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Data availability The dataset analysed during the current study available in web links https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Sample-image-Lena-image-size-512-512-pixels-clustered-by-the-original-SLIC-middle_fig1_262916451, <https://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/answers/54439-list-of-builtin-demo-images>, <https://challenge.isic-archive.com/data/>

Declaration

Conflict of interest: The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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