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Multi-Crop Disease Detection using CNN

Prof. Priyanka A S [1], Amit Khot [2], Amit Gurav [3], Avadhut Neje [4], Pratik Kudchi [5]

[1] Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Angadi Institute of Technology and Management, Belagavi-590009, India
[2,3,4,5,] Student, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Angadi Institute of Technology and Management, Belagavi-590009, India

A B S T R A C T

The identification of plant diseases has emerged as a critical concern for farmers on a global scale, leading to the adoption of contemporary methodologies such as Deep Learning for comprehensive analysis. Plant diseases often manifest distinct characteristics in leaves, including variations in texture, color, and the presence of specific spots, distinguishing them from healthy foliage. Traditional methods of leaf examination necessitate specialized expertise. By leveraging advanced techniques, notably Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN), we endeavor to extract vital information from images, facilitating the precise identification of a range of illnesses affecting plant leaves. This sophisticated approach ensures a dependable and accurate evaluation of the health status of plants, thereby contributing to more informed and effective agricultural management strategies

Keywords: Leukemia, Machine Learning, Detection, Support Vector Machine, Image processing

1. Introduction

The agricultural sector plays a pivotal role in India's economic development, serving as the backbone of the nation. However, a significant challenge faced by Indian farmers is the timely identification of plant diseases, leading to substantial crop losses. Traditionally, disease identification relied on the expertise of experienced individuals, posing difficulties in remote areas where farmers struggle to access such specialists. Climate change further exacerbates the problem by contributing to the prevalence of plant diseases. In the vast expanse of large farms, delayed recognition of diseases results in substantial agricultural production losses. The current reliance on service centers for diagnosis is flawed, as they may not accurately perceive the issues faced by farmers, potentially leading to incorrect recommendations and the destruction of crops. To address this challenge, there is a pressing need to integrate advanced technologies, such as deep learning and machine learning, into the agriculture sector. These technologies, with their mathematical perceptual capabilities, facilitate the early identification of plant diseases by pinpointing salient features, thus enabling farmers to take timely and informed actions for crop protection and improving overall agricultural productivity.

In the context of Indian farming, the rapid advancements in Machine Learning (ML) algorithms, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and Digital Image Processing (DIP) techniques offer a significant opportunity to assist farmers in identifying plant diseases at an early stage. The integration of these modern technologies into agricultural practices becomes imperative to mitigate the impact of diseases on crop yield. Plant diseases often manifest in changes to plant shape, damage, alterations in leaf color and texture, and effects on fruits. Given the complexities and similarities in the nature of these diseases, it becomes challenging for farmers, especially those with limited experience, to visually identify them accurately. This challenge underscores the need for the development of modern methods that leverage ML and AI to enable early-stage disease detection, providing farmers with timely solutions to address these agricultural threats

Among the various deep learning techniques, Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) stand out as a widely used approach for feature extraction and dimensionality reduction in image data. Leveraging convolutional operations and pooling layers, CNNs can extract salient features crucial for disease identification. In contrast to earlier reliance on statistical models, deep learning models, such as CNNs, offer enhanced reliability and optimization due to their computational potential. Implementing deep learning for plant leaf disease diagnosis requires extensive and diverse datasets, emphasizing the importance of cleaning noise and segmenting images for accurate classification. These advancements hold promise in revolutionizing disease management practices and empowering Indian farmers with effective tools to safeguard their crops.

2. Methodology

There are various approaches to collecting images for the analysis of leaves in multi-crop scenarios, particularly in the context of disease identification. One method involves manual image collection, where pictures are taken using a smartphone or digital camera. Although this approach provides precise control over data collection, it can be time-consuming

Another option is to leverage existing datasets containing images of healthy and diseased leaves across multiple crops for training and evaluation purposes. Notably, datasets like the Plant Village dataset encompass a wide variety of crop leaves, offering a diverse range for analysis.

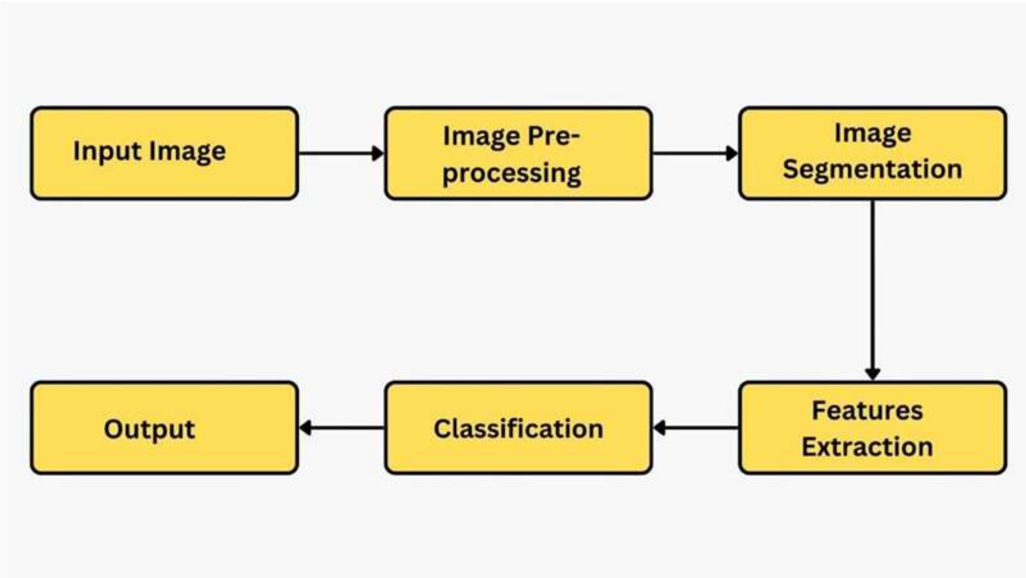

Fig. 1 – Block diagram of multi crop disease detection using ML

2.1 IMAGE PRE-PROCESSING

In the image preprocessing phase, various steps can be undertaken to enhance the uniformity and quality of the dataset. These steps may involve resizing the images to a consistent dimension, converting them to grayscale, and adjusting contrast and brightness levels. Resizing ensures uniformity in image dimensions, facilitating effective model training, while converting to grayscale simplifies the data by removing color variations. Additionally, adjustments to contrast and brightness contribute to improved visibility of features within the images, enhancing the overall quality of the dataset for subsequent analysis and machine learning model development.

2.2 IMAGE SEGMENTATION

Image segmentation serves as a pivotal method for breaking down a digital image into distinct subgroups, known as image segments, thereby simplifying the image's complexity for subsequent processing and analysis. In the context of cotton leaf analysis, this technique involves the separation of cotton leaves from the background within the images. The segmentation process can be executed manually or through image processing techniques, such as thresholding or edge detection. In the proposed system, non-contextual thresholding is employed, wherein the thresholding process transforms a color or grayscale image into a binary image. Binary images, characterized by only two colors (black and white) on their pixels, facilitate the identification of objects of interest, contributing to further processing tasks such as recognition and detection within the images.

2.3 FEATURE EXTRACTION

Feature extraction is a crucial process involving the derivation of valuable characteristics from existing data, often referred to as extracting, and is particularly significant in the context of distinguishing healthy leaves from diseased ones. In the realm of image analysis for cotton leaves, this entails identifying and extracting pertinent features from the images. These features could encompass attributes such as the shape and color of the leaf or the detection of specific patterns or abnormalities. By isolating and emphasizing these distinctive features, the feature extraction stage facilitates the creation of a dataset that enables effective classification, aiding in the accurate differentiation between healthy and diseased leaves in the subsequent stages of analysis and decision-making.

2.5 CLASSIFICATION

Classification stands as a fundamental task in the realm of machine learning, and it holds particular relevance in the context of multi-crop leaf disease detection. The objective in classification tasks is to predict the class or category of a given input, where, in the context of this application, the input might constitute an image of a leaf from various crops, and the classes could be delineated as "healthy" or "diseased." Numerous algorithms, such as convolutional neural networks (CNNs), support vector machines (SVMs), random forests, and k-nearest neighbors (KNN), can be employed for classification purposes. These algorithms undergo training on a dataset comprising labeled examples, encompassing images representing both healthy and diseased leaves across diverse crops, enabling them to subsequently classify new, unlabeled examples effectively.

3. Comparison Table

The comparative analysis table offers an in-depth examination of machine learning algorithms applied to the detection of diseases across various crops. Diseases affecting plant health can significantly compromise crop yields and quality, resulting in substantial economic setbacks for farmers. Timely and accurate identification of these diseases is crucial for implementing effective management strategies. Machine learning algorithms demonstrate notable potential in precisely detecting and diagnosing plant diseases through the analysis of images capturing affected leaves. However, the multitude of proposed algorithms complicates the selection process for the most effective one. The comparison table aims to furnish a comprehensive assessment of the accuracy, precision, and recall of four widely utilized machine learning algorithms - SVM, DT, ANN, and CNN - in the context of detecting diseases across multiple crops. Employing the publicly accessible Plant Village dataset for training and testing, the table evaluates the performance of these algorithms. Notably, the CNN algorithm emerges with the highest accuracy, precision, and recall rates among the algorithms assessed. The comparison table serves as a valuable resource for researchers and practitioners, aiding them in making informed decisions regarding algorithm selection for disease detection and management across various crops. This knowledge contributes to the development of more efficient and effective strategies for plant disease control.

ALGORITHM	STUDY	DATASET	TRAINING /TESTING	ACCURACY	OTHER DETAILS
CNN	G. Madhulatha (2020)	54,323 Images	80-20	96.50%	Deep CNN used
CNN	Zubair Saeed (2022)	6,358 Images	80-20	97.48%	color images used
ANN	Galina V. (2021)	87,848 Images	80-20	95%	RGB Images
SVM	A. Hussein (2018)	799 Images	80-20	88.1%	N/A
Decision Tree	Priyanka S. (2014)	N/A	80-20	72-93%	N/A
KNN	Rupali Kale (2022)	2,598 Images	80-20	70%	N/A

Fig. 2 – Comparison Table

4. Conclusion

The comparative analysis table sheds light on the efficacy of four machine learning algorithms in the detection of diseases across various crops. The findings underscore the superior performance of the CNN algorithm, surpassing others in terms of accuracy, precision, and recall rates. This study offers valuable insights into the diverse effectiveness of machine learning algorithms for identifying plant diseases, aiding researchers and practitioners in making well- informed decisions during the algorithm selection process for disease detection and management in multiple crops. It is crucial to acknowledge that the algorithm performances may be subject to variations based on factors like dataset size and quality, choice of evaluation metrics, and algorithm complexity. Future research endeavors in this domain hold the potential to refine the accuracy, precision, and recall rates of these algorithms, contributing to the development of more efficient and effective strategies for controlling diseases across a variety of crops.

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