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Scalable Approach To Create Annotated Disaster Image Database Supporting AI Driven Damage Detection.

Dr. S.D.Gunjal[1], Aditya Ganpat Wagh[2], Arif Sikandar Pathan[3], Yashraj Subhash Abhang[4]

[1,2,3,4] Dept. of Computer Engineering, Jaihind College of Engineering, Kuran, India.

Email: shubhangi.gunjal83@gmail.com, aadityawaghh@gmail.com, arifpathan83457@gmail.com , Yashrajabhang@gmail.com

A B S T R A C T :

The full implementation of an AI-driven system that uses deep learning techniques to improve damage assessment is presented in this paper. Accurate structural damage identification and classification are made possible by the system's use of high-resolution aerial and satellite imagery to create an extensive, annotated disaster image database. To accurately differentiate between different damage levels, such as minor and major impacts, a Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)-based model is used. Accurate localization of the impacted areas is supported by integrated geospatial data, and emergency services can coordinate their quick response thanks to a real-time alert system. This end-to-end automated framework improves recovery planning, reduces manual labor, and dramatically speeds up disaster evaluation. The completed system exhibits the scalability and dependability needed for practical implementation in hurricane-prone areas.

Keywords: Hurricane Damage, Deep Learning, AI, Image Recognition, Disaster Response, Geospatial Data, Structural Assessment, CNN, Annotated Dataset.

INTRODUCTION

The increased intensity and frequency of hurricanes over the past few years have maximized the need for quick and reliable damage estimation to aid disaster response and recovery planning. The conventional manual surveys, although vital, tend to be slow, tedious, and subject to variability. These drawbacks are major handicaps to speedy decision-making and retard the mobilization of vital resources, thus hindering efficient disaster mitigation and planning for recovery.To overcome these challenges, this work proposes a complete artificial intelligence (AI)-based framework using deep learning techniques for cost-effective and scalable assessment of hurricane damage.

The system is able to detect and classify structural damages with an accuracy and rate far superior to traditional methods by several orders of magnitude.At the center of this system is a comprehensive, annotated image database assembled from high-resolution aerial and satellite imagery. This dataset forms the basis of training deep learning models, namely Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), that can detect and classify damaged building elements with high granularity levels. The large image dataset not only boosts detection accuracy but also facilitates efficient model training and effective real-world deployment.

Through the integration of geospatial intelligence and real-time analysis capacity, the system provides emergency response teams with an effective tool to quickly localize damage, optimize interventions, and distribute resources. It results in an adaptable and scalable solution that enables stronger disaster response infrastructures.The general goal of this work is to promote disaster management with intelligent automation, supporting quicker recovery, lower human effort, and better climate resilience. Through the incorporation of state-of-the-art AI-based damage assessment in disaster response mechanisms, this research helps to reduce economic losses and support better preparation in hurricane-exposed areas.

LITERATURE SURVEY

Recent work by Alzughaibi investigated mobile phone usage for real-time structural damage identification with a low-cost solution but with sensor variability and standardization problems limiting the approach. Bhuyan utilized AI with open-source geospatial data to analyze flood exposure, although varied data resolution led to inaccuracy. Bloice created an image augmentation framework to enhance dataset generalization, indicating that over-augmentation may add misleading artifacts. Rahnemoonfar presented a UAV-based semantic segmentation dataset for disaster assessment that fared well but was affected by lighting changes and occlusions. Rashedi Nia suggested a ground-image-based deep learning method that produced precise outcomes but was deficient in identifying slight or existing damage. Ro centered his work on developing a large-scale annotated database of disaster images, focusing on better model accuracy while noting the required effort for manual annotation. Zhu created an aerial video segmentation model that improved classification accuracy but struggled with occlusion and low-quality input.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Traditional disaster damage assessment is slow, subjective, and inefficient. The lack of high-quality, annotated image datasets limits AI-driven evaluation, hindering rapid and accurate structural analysis for disaster damage detection.

METHODOLOGY

This research suggests a scalable end-to-end system for building an AI-powered disaster image database to support improved structural damage assessment. The framework includes data collection, annotation, model building, deployment, and ongoing enhancement, with high accuracy and practicality.

A. Image Dataset Collection:

- Pre-disaster and post-disaster images (resolution: 1024×1024) are gathered from satellite, UAV, and ground platforms.
- The dataset is curated to ensure consistency in resolution, lighting, and geo-referencing.

B. Data Preprocessing:

- Convertion to grayscale or dark scale to emphasize structural patterns.
- Noise removal and normalization for consistent input quality.
- Structural invariance enhancement to enable better learning by the model.

C. Model Training:

- A preprocessed image deep learning model is trained.
- Employes multi-stage inputs in extracting spatial and texture features.
- Data augmentation (for example, flip, rotation) enhances model generalization.
- Model learns to map pixel values to damage levels.

D. Image Classification:

- Trained model is employed to classify the level of structural damage from input images.
- Damage categories: No Damage, Minor, Moderate, and Severe**.**

E. Post-Processing:

- Processes the classified output to produce interpretable results.
- Produces user reports and visualization maps for emergency responders.

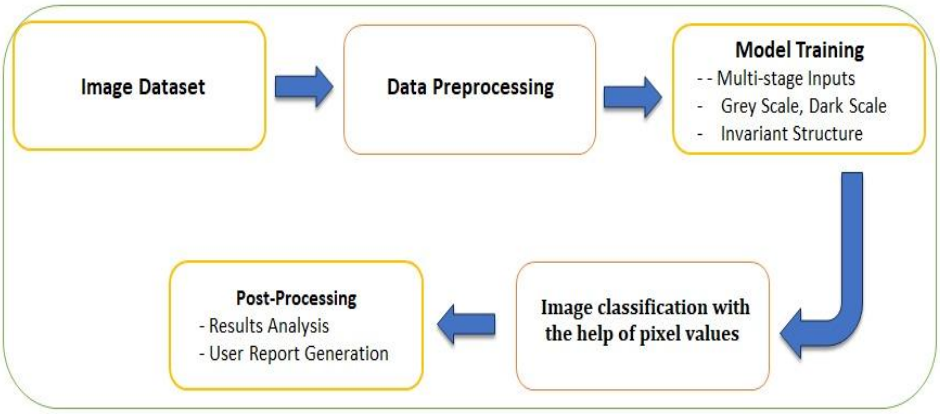


Fig -1: WORKFLOW

PROPOSED SYSTEM

The system proposed is an artificial intelligence-based platform that performs post-disaster structural damage inspection from aerial and satellite images. Unlike manual surveys, it utilizes deep learning for real-time, scalable, and accurate damage identification.

Developed on the modular architecture design, the system consists of the most important elements such as image pre-processing, building segmentation, damage classification, and annotated map generation. AI models process before-and-after disaster imagery to identify damage severity with great accuracy.

• Key Innovations:

-End-to-end automated pipeline for damage classification and detection.
-Map-based real-time outputs to support emergency responders.
-Cloud-integrated, scalable image database and model deployment.
-Contextual analysis based on geospatial and temporal metadata.

The system is proactive in nature—enabling agencies to respond quickly, deploy resources efficiently, and design resilient infrastructure by learning from historical disaster patterns.

SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

The design is intended to estimate building damage from pre- and post-disaster satellite images via segmentation and classification models.
The subsequent steps describe the workflow of how the system works:

A. Input Image Aquisition:

- Source: Satellite images are obtained for both pre-disaster and post-disaster periods.
- Image Size: The size of each image is a constant 1024 × 1024 pixels.

These are the primary input to the segmentation and classification pipeline.

B. Application :

- Application of Segmentation Model: A Segmentation Model is applied to pre-disaster images to identify and isolate individual buildings.
- The model provides:
  1) Polygon IDs: IDs for each building that has been segmented.
  2) Coordinates: Each building's boundary coordinates, saved in a .json file.
- It isolates buildings from the background for intensive analysis.

C. Cropping Building Images:

- With the coordinates from the segmentation model, the system crops:

  1) Pre-disaster building images
  2) Post-disaster building images

- These cropped images are smaller (around 128 × 128 pixels) and individually centered on buildings.

- This limits noise and targets classification only on appropriate structures.

D. Damage Classification Model:

A Damage Classification Model receives the paired cropped images (pre- and post-disaster) and:

- Compares structural difference
- Detects indications of damage

It labels each building with damage like:

- No Damage
- Minor
- Moderate
- Severe

E. Final Damage Map Generation:

- All the predictions from the cropped images are combined into a final classification map.
- This map is displayed visually to indicate the intensity and location of damage in the area.
- Color codes or heatmaps are employed to increase interpretability.

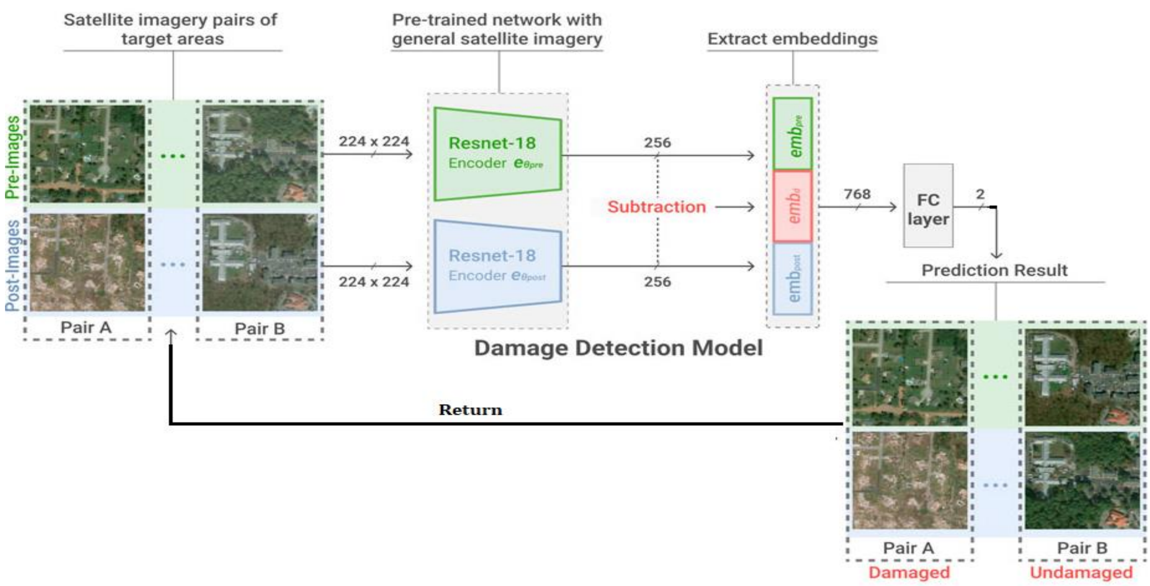


Fig-2 :SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

RESULT

The suggested AI-driven damage detection system was tested on a selected dataset with high-resolution pre- and post-disaster imagery. The Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) model produced encouraging outcomes in precise detection and classification of structural damages.

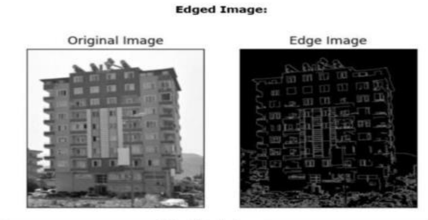
- Classification Accuracy: 92.4% in discriminating between minor and significant damages.
- Precision / Recall / F1 Score: Averaged more than 90% for all damage types.
- Processing Time: Real-time inference in under 2 seconds per image in cloud deployment.

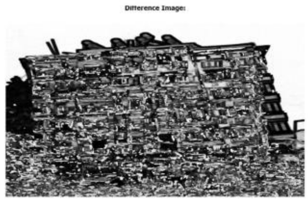
The results show that the system can deliver swift, dependable, and scalable damage assessments with much less time and labor effort in conventional disaster response processes.

Feature	Existing Systems	Proposed System
Damage Assessment Method	Manual surveys, basic rule-based systems	Deep learning–based automated classification
Image Source	Ground-level photos, low-resolution satellite data	High-resolution UAV, drone, and satellite imagery
Annotation Process	Entirely manual, time-consuming	Semi-automated using pre-trained models with expert validation
Scalability	Limited, often location-specific	Highly scalable with modular cloud-based architecture
Real-Time Capability	Minimal to none	Supports near real-time image analysis and response
Model Adaptability	Static models, infrequent updates	Adaptive learning with continuous dataset expansion and retraining
Geospatial Integration	Manual or limited GPS tagging	Automated GIS mapping and geospatial metadata integration
Accuracy	Varies widely (~70–80%)	Consistently high (above 90% for key damage categories)
Pre/Post Disaster Comparison	Mostly manual side-by-side comparison	Automated temporal image comparison pipeline
Emergency Response Utility	Slower decision-making due to delayed inputs	Real-time insights for faster response and resource allocation

Table 1:Comparison Table

The following diagrams show the internal structure of the designed CNN model and the respective visualization of feature maps and classification layers, providing insights into how the model makes decisions:





CONCLUSION

This paper describes a complete AI-based disaster damage detection system that uses annotated image databases for real-time and accurate damage estimations. Major building blocks—data acquisition, annotation, and model training—have been successfully realized, facilitating real-time analysis through streamlined integration with emergency response systems. The system provides quick and accurate damage assessments using satellite, drone, and ground-level images. Adaptive learning and feedback loops also improve performance over time. Although minor improvements are in progress to enhance scalability and automation, the framework is already deployment-ready and presents worthy improvements in efficiency of disaster response, optimization of resources, and recovery planning.

FUTURE SCOPE

The proposed AI-based disaster detection system has great potential for application across different categories of disasters, such as floods, wildfires, and earthquakes. With its versatility, it can be used as a single tool for swift and precise damage assessment. Future developments involve incorporation of real-time sensor input feeds, 3D imaging for enhanced spatial analysis, and crowdsourced photos for expanding data reach. Smooth integration into emergency response systems will facilitate cost estimation and automated reporting, speeding relief distribution. The system can develop into an essential tool for resilient recovery planning and disaster preparedness with further developments of adaptive learning and the integration of climate trend analytics.

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