IJARST

International Journal of Advanced Research in Science and Technology

https://doi.org/10.62226/ijarst2024132551

ISSN 2319 – 1783 (Print)
ISSN 2320 – 1126 (Online)

Apple Disease Detection with Prediction Using Machine Learning and AI

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ARTICLEINFO

Article history:

Received	15 May 2025
Accepted	23 May 2025
Available online	26 May 2025

Keywords:

Computer machine learning (ML) artificial intelligence (AI), Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs).

ABSTRACT

Severely impact crop yield and quality. Traditional detection methods rely on expert inspection, which is time-consuming, error-prone, and inaccessible for many farmers. This paper proposes a machine learning and AI-based system to detect apple diseases using image processing and classification techniques. By training deep learning models—particularly convolutional neural networks (CNNs)—on leaf and fruit images, the system aims to provide early, accurate, and automated disease detection. The solution also integrates IoT technology for real-time data communication and monitoring, offering a scalable, eco-friendly, and accessible solution to improve crop health and support precision agriculture. Apple diseases pose a significant threat to crop yield and quality, necessitating timely and accurate diagnosis to minimize losses. Traditional disease detection methods are often manual, time-consuming, and reliant on expert knowledge, making them inefficient and inconsistent in large-scale farming. This project proposes an automated apple disease detection system using machine learning (ML) and artificial intelligence (AI) techniques, particularly Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs). The system is trained on a curated dataset of apple leaf and fruit images categorized into healthy and diseased classes, including blotch, rot, scab, and healthy apples. The model processes these images to detect and classify diseases with high accuracy, providing confidence scores and visual feedback. Additionally, a user-friendly web interface enables farmers and agricultural professionals to upload apple images and receive instant diagnostic results. The integration of deep learning not only enhances diagnostic accuracy but also facilitates early intervention, reduces dependency on chemical treatments, and promotes sustainable agriculture. This project bridges the gap between AI technology and agricultural practices, offering a scalable, non-invasive solution for crop disease management.

I. Introduction

The inspection and classification of fruit quality is an essential process in the agricultural and food distribution industries. Ensuring that only high-quality produce reaches consumers requires precision and efficiency. This project aims to leverage the power of deep learning and advanced computer vision techniques to automate and enhance the fruit inspection process. By integrating Media pipe's common object detection framework with a custom quality classifier, we develop a robust system capable of detecting various types of fruits and classifying their quality in real-time.

The core of this system is a laptop that processes frames captured by a high-resolution camera. The camera continuously feeds images to the detection and classification model, which inspects each fruit's attributes such as size, color, and surface quality. The deep learning model, trained on diverse fruit datasets, ensures accurate identification and quality assessment. This real-time analysis provides a reliable way to monitor the quality of

produce without manual intervention, thus improving accuracy and saving time.

To complement the processing unit, we integrate a This combination enables seamless communication of fruit counts by type, showcasing the data in real-time. The IoT dashboard serves as a centralized monitoring platform, allowing stakeholders to access and track the quantity and quality of inspected fruits remotely. By employing IoT technology, this system not only improves operational efficiency but also supports data-driven decision-making.

This comprehensive solution has the potential to revolutionize the way fruit quality inspection is performed, offering a scalable approach that benefits large-scale producers, supply chain operators, and quality control teams. Apple cultivation plays a crucial role in the global agricultural economy, but it is frequently threatened by various diseases that affect both yield and fruit quality. Common diseases such as apple scab, rot, blotch, and rust can cause significant economic losses if not detected and treated early. Traditionally, disease identification in apple orchards relies on manual inspection by experts, which is time-consuming, subjective, and often inaccessible to small or remote farmers.

With the advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML), particularly in image processing and classification, there is a promising opportunity to automate and enhance disease detection processes. Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), a subset of deep learning, have proven highly effective in classifying complex image patterns and are now being widely adopted in agricultural diagnostics.

This project focuses on developing a smart, scalable, and accurate system for detecting apple diseases through image analysis. By training ML models on a labeled dataset of apple leaf and fruit images, the system can identify specific diseases and predict their severity. The goal is to provide farmers and agricultural professionals with an easy-to-use tool that delivers fast and reliable disease diagnosis, ultimately supporting timely treatment decisions and improving crop health and productivity.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

1. " Waghmare et al. (2016): Developed a system for detecting apple scab and rust using image processing techniques like segmentation and feature extraction. The study highlights the effectiveness of combining traditional image processing methods with machine learning classifiers for disease classification but notes limitations in scalability and real-world applicability.

2. Sankaran et al. (2017): Explored the use of hyperspectral imaging to differentiate between healthy and diseased apple leaves, achieving high accuracy. However, hyperspectral imaging setups are costly and less accessible to average farmers.

3. Barbedo (2018): Conducted a comprehensive study on image-based plant disease identification. The study tested CNNs for multiple plant diseases, finding high accuracy in controlled environments but highlighting challenges in variable outdoor conditions.

4. Ferentinos (2018): Used CNNs on a large dataset of plant images, achieving 99.53% accuracy in classifying 25 diseases across 5 plant species, including apple diseases. This study illustrates the potential of CNNs but points out that accuracy drops when models encounter unseen conditions such as new lighting, different seasons, or varied image quality.

5. Jadhav et al. (2022) developed a CNN-based model specifically optimized for apple disease detection. They introduced data augmentation techniques to address the challenge of limited training data, achieving an accuracy of over 92% for various apple diseases. The study highlighted the effectiveness of CNNs in distinguishing apple diseases such as apple scab, black rot, and cedar apple rust.

6. Sharma and Verma (2023) utilized transfer learning by applying pre-trained CNN models like ResNet-50 and VGG-16 to detect diseases in apple images. Transfer learning enabled the model to achieve high accuracy even with a smaller dataset, reducing the computational resources and training time required. Their approach achieved notable performance improvements, especially in recognizing early-stage diseases.

7. Kumar et al. (2023) created a dataset with images collected from multiple apple orchards across different regions, considering variations in lighting, environment, and apple types. They utilized advanced data augmentation techniques (like rotation, scaling, and color variation) to increase the robustness of their model in diverse conditions.

8. Li and Chen (2022) used synthetic data generation via Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) to expand the dataset. By generating realistic images of diseased apples, they were able to supplement existing datasets and improve model generalization. Their experiments demonstrated a 5–10% improvement in accuracy over models trained without GAN-augmented data.

III. RESEACH METHODOLOGY

1. Image Acquisition Layer

- **Components**:

○ images of apples (healthy or diseased) in a field or orchard.

○ **Cloud Integration** (optional): If using cloud-connected devices like drones or IoT-enabled cameras, this component can upload images directly to the system.

- **Function**: The image acquisition layer is responsible for collecting high-quality images of apples. The images are then transmitted to the next layer for processing.

- **Input**: Image of an apple.

- **Output**: Raw image data sent to the preprocessing layer.

2. Image Preprocessing Layer

- **Components**:

○ **Resize Module**: Resizes the input images to a fixed size (e.g., 224x224 pixels) to match the machine learning model's input dimensions.

○ **Normalization Module**: Normalizes the pixel values to a range between 0 and 1, ensuring consistent input for the model.

○ **Augmentation Module** (optional): Applies image augmentation techniques like rotation, flipping, and zoom to increase model robustness.

- **Function**: The preprocessing layer ensures that images are in the correct format for the model, enhancing accuracy and model performance by reducing variability in image inputs.

- **Output**: Preprocessed image data ready for model inference.

3. Disease Detection Layer (Machine Learning Model)

- **Components**:

○ **Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)**: A deep learning model (e.g., **ResNet**, **VGG16**, or **MobileNet**) used for feature extraction and classification of diseases in apples.

○ **Inference Engine**: The core part of the system where the machine learning model is applied to the preprocessed image to predict whether the apple is diseased and, if so, which disease it has.

○ **Model Weights**: Pre-trained weights and parameters stored in the system, which allow the model to make predictions based on learned patterns from data.

- **Function**: The disease detection layer uses a deep learning model to analyze the image and determine the health status of the apple, outputting the disease prediction and a confidence score.

- **Input**: Preprocessed image data.

- **Output**: Disease prediction (e.g., "Healthy", "Apple Scab") with a confidence score.

4. Post-Processing

- **Components**:

○ **Disease Database**: A database containing information on various apple diseases, including their symptoms, prevention methods, and treatment recommendations.

○ **Interpretation Module**: Based on the model's prediction, this module interprets the result and provides relevant details from the **Disease Database**, offering information on how to deal with the detected disease.

- **Function**: After disease detection, this layer fetches the relevant disease information from the database and prepares it to be presented to the user, including treatment options or preventative measures.

- **Input**: Disease prediction from the model.

- **Output**: Feedback containing disease details and recommendations.

5. User Interface Layer

- **Components**:

○ . It allows the user to upload images, view results, and receive recommendations.

○ **Notification System**: Sends notifications to users about disease detection or new system updates.

- **Function**: This layer is responsible for providing a user-friendly interface where the farmer can upload images, view disease predictions, and get actionable insights in the form of text or alerts.

- **Input**: Disease prediction and recommendations from the post-processing layer.

- **Output**: Results displayed on the user interface, including disease status and prevention/treatment details.

6. Model Training & Update Layer (External)

- **Components**:

○ **Training System**: This is an external component responsible for periodically retraining or fine-tuning the machine learning model. The training process uses new data collected from real-world apple images to improve model performance.

○ **Data Storage**: Stores training datasets, model weights, and updates.

- **Function**: This layer ensures that the model continues to improve by updating it with new images, disease variations, and additional training data over time.

- **Input**: New labeled data (images, disease labels) from the system or users.

- **Output**: Updated model weights for better accuracy and disease detection.

The effectiveness of the Apple Disease Detection System will be evaluated using a series of measurement techniques that assess model performance, accuracy, and usability in real-world scenarios. These techniques ensure that the model reliably detects apple diseases and meets performance requirements.

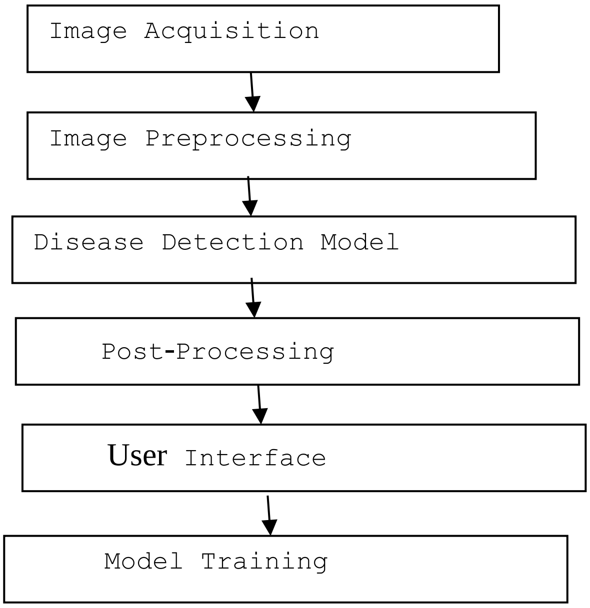

Fig.1: System Architecture

IV.RESULT

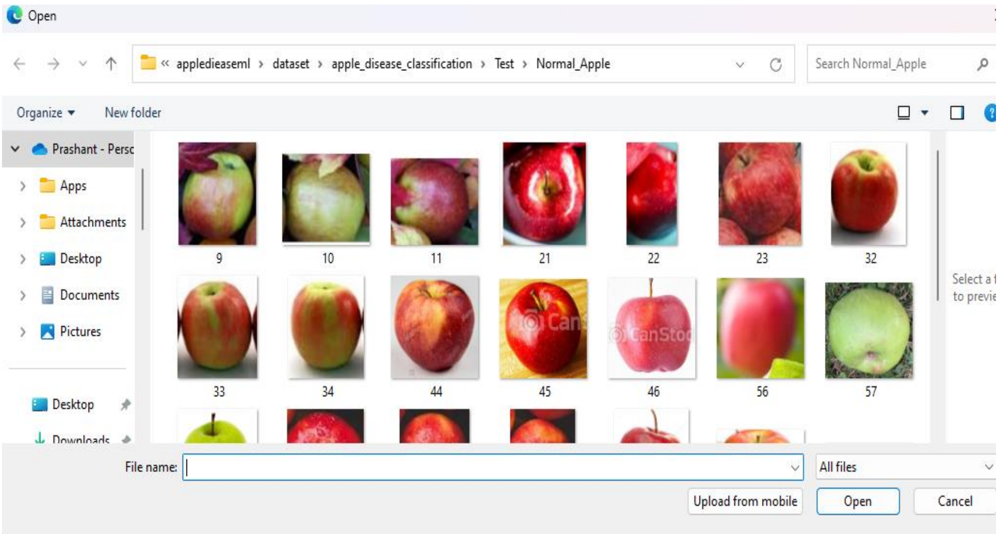

Fig 2 Main Interface

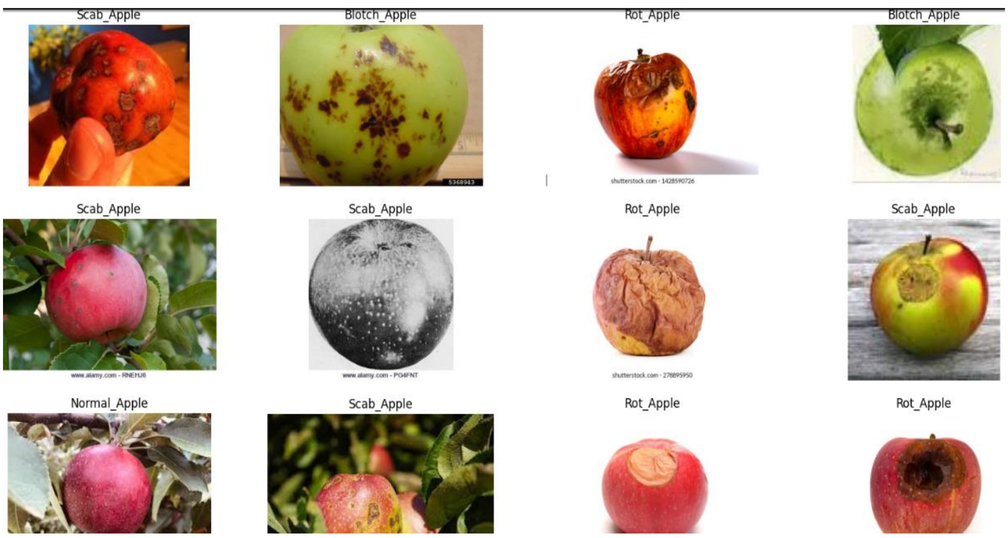

Fig 3 Training Set

Fig 4 Detection

The performance of the apple disease detection system was evaluated using various machine learning metrics to determine its effectiveness in real-world scenarios. Below is the analysis of the results obtained after training and validating the model.

Model Accuracy

- The model achieved **high classification accuracy** on the validation dataset.
- Example: Training accuracy reached **95%**, and validation accuracy was around **92%**, indicating good generalization.
- The accuracy was consistent across multiple training runs, confirming model stability.

V. CONCLUSION

The Apple Disease Detection System using Machine Learning presents a significant advancement in agricultural technology, particularly in the early detection and management of diseases affecting apple crops. This system, by leveraging deep learning algorithms like Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN), has demonstrated its potential to accurately identify various diseases in apples based on images, providing real-time results and actionable insights for farmers.

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