## Predicting the Presence of Seedlings and the Health of Crops using Image Classification

by Yarala Reddy

**Submission date:** 13-Apr-2020 07:57PM (UTC+0530)

**Submission ID:** 1296464863

File name: eedlings and the Health of Crops using Image Classification.docx (2.28M)

Word count: 2982

Character count: 15682

## Predicting the Presence of Seedlings and the Health of Crops using Image Classification

### A Project Report

Submitted by

### YARALA HRUTHIK REDDY – 1700289C203 KURUBA KIRAN KUMAR – 1700228C203

Batch - 2017 CSE 1

Course
MACHINE LEARNING and DATA MINING - CSE2702



SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY BML MUNJAL UNIVERSITY April 2020 Abstract – An efficient food production system is one major requirements in the present world. Since, majority of the food crops grow from seeds. Classic farming involves a vast amount of labor to seed and later transplant the seedlings to a low-density tray from a high-density tray for further growth. This project proposes an image classification model that would detect the presence of seedlings and also identify the health of the crops. So, we have tried to develop a Convolutional Neural Network(CNN) which would be trained on the image samples so that it could learn patterns in order to identify the seedling's presence or absence and if present then we would like to know whether it's healthy or not. We have used 3 Conv2d layers, 3 MaxPooling layers, 3 Activation Function layers, 1 flatten and 2 dense layers. In order to improve the processing speed, we have tried to normalize the data. We have used 750 samples of Health and 850 samples of Seedlings dataset to evaluate our model. We improved the performance of the model by applying data augmentation. We got our optimum model with highest accuracy of 88.32% (in case of Health dataset) and 94.94% (in case of Seedlings dataset) when learning rate was 0.001 and batch size was 16 and 50 respectively. So, this CNN model is quite efficient in detecting the presence or absence of the seedlings and in identifying whether it is healthy or not.

Keywords - Learning Rate, Image Classification, Neural Networks, Overfitting, Seedlings.

#### I. INTRODUCTION

Creating an efficient food production system in the most sustainable way is one of the major problems in the present world. Majority of the food crops grown in the world start from their respective seeds. The general way of growing these plants is by bulk seeding trays of soil and then later transplanting the seedlings from the high-density trays to low-density trays for further growth while avoiding weeds. This process involves a vast amount of labor and the guarantee of quality seedlings is subjective to the labor working. With this project we aim to provide an image classification model that would detect the presence of seedling. The idea behind the image classification model is that it would detect the presence of seedlings in the seed trays by contrasting the colors of the soil and the seedlings.



Figure 1:- A sample of images from the dataset used in the prediction of seedlings.

Left image shows Presence of a Seedling while Right image shows No Presence of Seedlings.

While the health of the crop is identified by the color or the condition of the leaves [1]. Farmers have long done the same while deciding upon the pesticides or insecticides to use by examining the state of the crop leaves. Again, a tedious process and in a larger area of land there could be multiple patches of various diseases. The same image classification model can be used to identify healthy and unhealthy crop at various levels such as at seedling stage and pre harvest stage.



Figure 2:- A sample of images from the dataset to be used in the identification of healthy and unhealthy crops.

Left image shows a Healthy Leaf and Right image shows an Unhealthy Leaf.

The model can be implemented on any suitable datasets with similar accuracy metrics. Such a model with a good amount of accuracy could be implemented in automated agriculture systems for better handling and growth of the crops.

#### II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Studies predict that the world population could surpass ten billion people by 2050. There would also be a resultant increase in the requirements of global food, tripling compared to the present [2]. China is known as the largest food producer and the consumer country in the world. The Chinese agriculture sector is facing substantial environmental challenges than ever, the country is now gearing towards more sustainable agriculture production systems. In fact, any improvements in such a significant food producing and consuming country could result in benefits in the global environment [3]. It is hence essential for countries such as China to incorporate modern, user friendly and automated technologies in its shift towards sustainable agricultural development.

Whether in gardens or farms, seedling transplantation is one of the fundamental aspects while growing plants. Many prefer growing plants from a seedling to growing them from a seed. But growing these seedlings must start from the seed itself, which is a tedious process. The seeds must be bulk sown in seed trays as not every seed guarantees a seedling. The then grown seedlings must be transferred into a lower density growing trays or pots for further growth while also discarding inferior seedlings. While bulk sowing is must, there is a high chance of weeds also growing together with the intended crop seedling. The whole transplantation process from high density trays to low density tray is labor extensive.

So, in order to remove dependency on labor, there is a strong need of automation. It would help the agricultural industry boom by helping the farmers reduce costs and achieve maximum accuracy. Therefore, one such technology which is popular in this domain is Machine Vision Technology with Convolutional Neural Networks. MVT will capture the images using video cameras and send them as inputs to our CNN model which would look for patterns in the input sent and try to predict several things which would help farmers in increasing accuracy and thus help them achieve optimum efficiency.

Many automatic seedling transplanters use machine vision technology to automate this process [3]. These machines greatly reduce the amount of labor required and efficiently do it on a large-scale transplantation. Most of the machine vision technology involves three processes to do any vision-based analysis: image acquisition, processing, and recognition.

Zhang Xiao et al, used an industrial camera of 5 million pixels as an image acquisition device to collect 3400 pepper tray grids to build a recognition method to identify seedling grids without any seedlings based on deep convolutional neural network [4]. The processing was done by selecting a batch size of 48 images to further segment them by the grid and normalize to suitable pixel size. Sometimes researchers use data augmentation to handle any insufficiencies in the dataset that might cause overfitting in the model. Catherine R. Alimboyong et al used a variety of image transformations such as flip, rotate, scale, flip scale, and histogram equalization to ultimately obtain accuracies of 99.74% and 99.69% in their classification model to classify plant seedlings [5]. The recognition accuracy generally depends upon the data quality and the features used to recognize the images.

Health of the crop is to be monitored frequently otherwise there is a risk of losing most of the harvest or might result in a low yield. Again, machine vision and image processing help in this case to detect changes of color or shape in the leaves. J. W. Lee determined leaf color and the health state of lettuce using machine vision [1]. The evaluation of health was done by the color distribution of lettuce images. The study found that the images chosen to analyze must be consistently illuminated. It also stated the need of calibration procedures to maintain the consistency.

#### III. METHODOLOGY

#### A. Datasets

The seedling dataset consists of various species of crop such as Chickweed, Cleavers and Mayweed as this was the only available public datasets of seedlings. The leaf dataset consists of tomato crop with different kinds of diseases such as Bacterial Spot, Target Spot, Septoria Leaf Spot and Blight.

#### B. Image Preprocessing

In order to process images, we have used Binary Image Classification. We have developed a Convolutional Neural Network using a user-friendly library called Keras. A CNN is one of the types of neural network which is used in Image Classification and Natural Language Processing. A CNN is made up of various layers:

- Convolution Layer
- Max Pooling Layer
- Activation Function Layer
- Fully Connected Layer (Dense)

Convolution layer is the most important layer as it convolves the image by using filters. Our model uses 3 convolution layers of 32,32 and 64 nodes respectively and a filter of (2,2) matrix in each layer. Convolution is necessary as images are complex and we need to simplify it for faster processing. So, a convolution layer works by placing filters over an array of image pixels and finally creates a convolved feature map, which is of reduced dimension as compared to its original image. It's a bit like looking an image through a window which allows you to see specific features of image which otherwise you would not have able to see. Next, we have MaxPooling Layer which downsizes the sample so that further non-important features get eliminated and so our model can focus only on important features. As a result, we get a Pooled feature map. In our case, we are using 3 MaxPooling Layers with filters of (2,2) dimension. There are 2 ways to get a pooled feature map:

- Max Pooling: it takes maximum input of particular convolved feature map.
- Average Pooling: it takes avg. of all inputs of particular convolved feature map.

Now, these steps involve in feature extraction & network builds up a picture of image data according to its mathematical rules. Those mathematical rules are nothing but the activation functions along with the loss functions that are used to optimize the model. So, we have used a combination of ReLU and Sigmoid functions. We have used binary\_crossentropy as our loss function and Adam as our optimizer. In order to perform classification, we need to make use of fully connected layers. So before using it we need to flatten the data because a neural network which has a complex set of connections can only process linear data.

Binary Cross Entropy is considered to be the first choice as a loss function for any binary classification problems. It is so because the target set has values either 0 or 1. Cross-entropy will calculate a score that summarizes the average difference between the actual and predicted probability distributions for predicting class 1 [6]. Adam uses individual separate learning rates for its parameters. Learning rate keeps on changing with the training steps, but every learning rate must vary between 0 and  $\lambda$  (lambda).

#### C. Data Augmentation

It is a strategy by which Data Scientists try to increase data samples in a dataset so that our model can train on more data and become better and better with time. So, this can be done using

ImageDataGenerator class [7]. We have used rotation\_range, width\_shift\_range, height\_shift\_range, shear\_range, zoom\_range, horizontal\_flip as the arguments.



Figure 3:- Augmented Tomato Leaf Images.



Figure 4:- Augmented Seedling Images

#### D. Training and Classification

The model was trained on the two datasets Seedlings and Health with slight changes made in batch sizes. The Health dataset had a train set of 2263 samples and a test set of 750 samples. While the Seedlings had a train set of 1810 samples and a test set of 850 samples. The model was trained on Google Colab, a cloud service equipped with RAM of 12GB and accelerated image processing with NVIDEA TESLA V100 of 16GB. In order to improve the generalization ability of the model we applied zooming, shearing, horizontal flipping, rotation width shift and height shift transformations of ranges 0.2, 0.2, True, 0.2, 0.2 respectively on the train samples of both the datasets. The model was trained on batch-sizes equal to 16,50 and 65 respectively with epochs equal to 10 in each case.

#### IV. PERFORMANCE

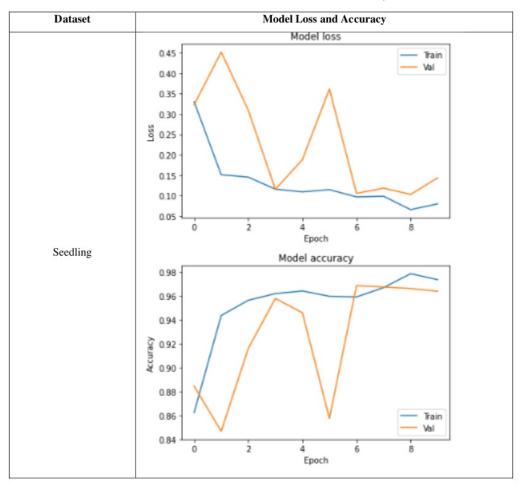
At the start while we were training the model, we observed that there is a lot of **Overfitting**. **Overfitting** is the case when model performs well in case of train data but gives a degraded performance with test data. It was observed on both the datasets.

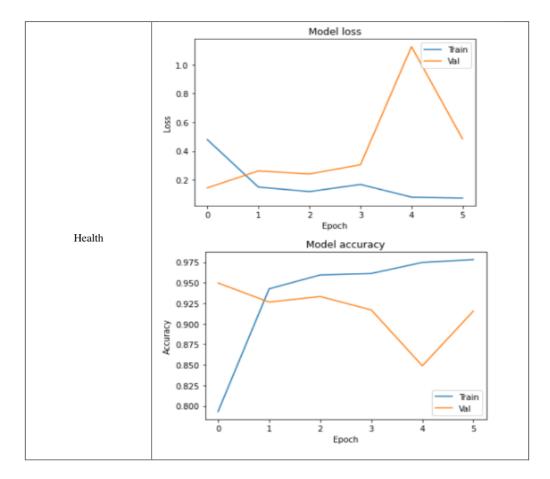
Table 1:- Epoch Training Result

| Dataset   | Performance   |  |  |  |
|-----------|---|--|--|--|
| Seedlings | Found 1810 images belonging to 2 classes. Found 850 images belonging to 2 classes. Found 850 images belonging to 2 classes. Epoch 1/10   113/113 [========] - 1575 1s/step - loss: 0.3305 - acc: 0.8634 - val_loss: 0.3225 - val_acc: 0.8844   Epoch 2/10   113/113 [=======] - 1585 1s/step - loss: 0.1502 - acc: 0.9441 - val_loss: 0.4517 - val_acc: 0.8465   Epoch 3/10   113/113 [========] - 1575 1s/step - loss: 0.1443 - acc: 0.9560 - val_loss: 0.3092 - val_acc: 0.9161   Epoch 4/10   113/113 [===========] - 1585 1s/step - loss: 0.1151 - acc: 0.9642 - val_loss: 0.1155 - val_acc: 0.9580   Epoch 5/10   113/113 [================] - 1605 1s/step - loss: 0.1084 - acc: 0.9646 - val_loss: 0.1881 - val_acc: 0.9460   Epoch 6/10   113/113 [======================] - 1605 1s/step - loss: 0.1139 - acc: 0.9602 - val_loss: 0.3613 - val_acc: 0.8573   Epoch 7/10   113/113 [=================================== |  |  |  |

```
| Found 2263 images belonging to 2 classes.
| Found 750 images belon
```

Table 2:- Visualization of the Model Loss and Accuracy





So, here you can see that model's loss on train data is decreasing with each epoch and its accuracy is increasing with each epoch. While model's behavior with the test data is just opposite which is not a good behavior. This shows that our Neural Network is biased towards the train data and so it's not able to perform well on the test data. Therefore, it is a pure case of **Overfitting**.

#### i. Handling Overfitting

Later we removed overfitting using the following things:

• L2 Regularization: We have got the following loss function: Loss Function(J) =  $-1/N(\sum_{i=1}^{N} yi . log(p(yi)) + 1 - yi . log(1 - p(yi))$ 

So, in order to reduce the loss, we add regularizer parameter  $\lambda$  which try to reduce the loss by penalizing the larger weights and effect of regularization is less over smaller weights. In the addition of the Frobenius norm, which the subscript F denotes. It is in fact equal to the squared norm of a matrix [8].

$$J(w^{[1]}, b^{[1]}, \dots, w^{[L]}, b^{[L]}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} L(\hat{y}^{(i)}, y^{(i)}) + \frac{\lambda}{2m} \sum_{l=1}^{L} ||w^{[L]}||_{F}^{2}$$

By adding the squared norm of the weight matrix and multiplying it by the regularization parameters, large weights will be driven down in order to minimize the cost function.

Therefore, we used  $kernel_regularizer = regularizers. l2(0.7)$  where ' $\lambda$ ' is 0.7.

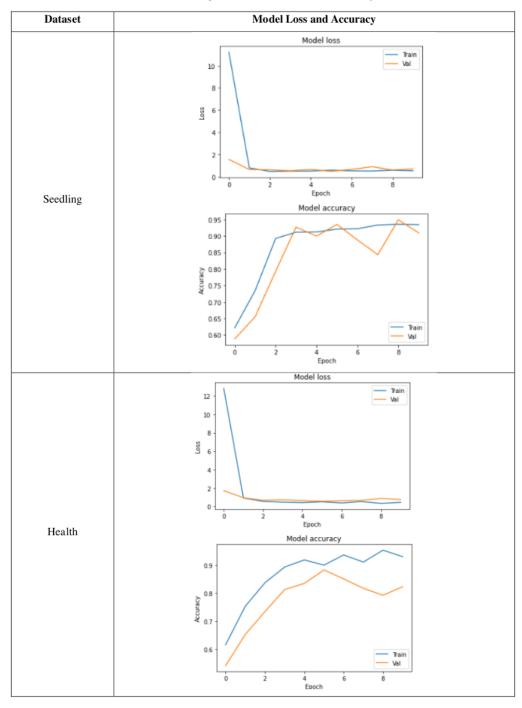
- **Dropout**: We used **dropout(0.3)** and **dropout(0.5)** in some cases. So, this means that neurons of the previous layer have the probability of 30% and 50% to be dropped out during training.
- Early stopping Monitor: This stops the model from further training as soon as model stops improving after 'n' number of epochs.

These parameters helped the model in significantly reduce the overfitting.

Table 3:- Improved Epoch Training Result

| Dataset   | Performance  |
|-----------|--|
| Seedlings | Found 1810 images belonging to 2 classes. Found 850 images belonging to 2 classes. Epoch 1/10  36/36 [====================================   |
| Health    | Found 2263 images belonging to 2 classes. Found 750 images per found 750 images of 5740 - val_loss: 0.6400 - val_acc: 0.8310 images of 5740 - val_acc: 0.8511 images of 5740 - val_acc: 0.8511 images of 5740 images of 5740 - val_acc: 0.8511 images of 5740 images o |

Table 4:- Improvised Model's Loss and Accuracy



So, here the patterns observed in case of model loss and model accuracy on both the training and testing dataset is very similar. Thus, we have successfully reduced the biasness of our neural network on the train dataset and so the **overfitting** has reduced significantly.

#### V. RESULT

One observation with the Adam optimizer was that, with the increase in the learning rate, the performance of the Convolutional Neural Network on both the datasets (Seedlings and Health) was decreasing and vice-versa.

Table 5:- Test Result of Deep Convolutional Neural Network on the Seedlings Dataset

| Network              | Optimizer | Learning Rate | Max. Test Accuracy Achieved (%) |
|----------------------|-----------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Deep CNN Using Keras | Adam      | 0.1           | 58.82                           |
| Deep CNN Using Keras | Adam      | 0.05          | 94.00                           |
| Deep CNN Using Keras | Adam      | 0.01          | 58.82                           |
| Deep CNN Using Keras | Adam      | 0.001         | 94.94                           |

Table 6:- Test Result of Deep Convolutional Neural Network on the Health Dataset

| Network              | Optimizer | Learning Rate | Max. Test Accuracy Achieved (%) |
|----------------------|-----------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Deep CNN Using Keras | Adam      | 0.1           | 53.3                            |
| Deep CNN Using Keras | Adam      | 0.05          | 54.60                           |
| Deep CNN Using Keras | Adam      | 0.01          | 54.89                           |
| Deep CNN Using Keras | Adam      | 0.001         | 88.32                           |
| Deep CNN Using Keras | SGD       | 0.01          | 83.36                           |

#### VI. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE SCOPE

We tried to improve the seedling transplantation method by building a Deep Convolutional Neural Network. It took the images of seedlings directly as inputs and tried to recognize certain patterns when it is trained on train set and it tried to predict the images. The model was trained on 2263 samples of Health dataset and 1810 samples of Seedling dataset. And, it was evaluated on 750 samples of the Health dataset and 850 samples of the Seedlings dataset. We observed that when the learning rate was 0.1, model's accuracy was 53.3% and when learning rate was 0.001, the validation accuracy got increased to 88.32%. In the beginning we observed overfitting and later this overfitting was reduced significantly by applying regularization, dropouts and early stopping monitor. The model improved when fine tunings were done with batch sizes and data augmentation techniques were used.

In the future, this model could be generalized for all kinds of seedlings with proper lighted images and for all kinds of distinguishable leaf diseases in crops. The model with object detection functionality could be used with a pick and place robot to handle the seedling transplantation with greater accuracy while creating less strain on the seedling. The next objective is to work on the object detection and implementing the model through a pick and place robot or in a simulation.

#### VII. References

- [1] J. Lee, "Determination of Leaf Color and Health State of Lettuce using Machine Vision," *Journal of Biosystems Engineering, Korean Society for Agricultural Machinery*, vol. 32, no. 4, pp. 256-262, 2007.
- [2] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, "FAO Expert Papers," [Online]. Available: http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/wsfs/docs/expert\_paper/How\_to\_Feed\_the\_World\_in\_2050.pdf.
- [3] T. N. Syed, I. A. Lakhiar and F. A. Chandio, "Machine vision technology in agriculture: A review on the automatic seedling transplanters," *International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research and Development*, vol. 6, no. 12, pp. 79-88, 2019.
- [4] Z. Xiao, X. Liu, Y. Tan, F. Tian, S. Yang and B. Li, "Recognition Method of No-seedling Grids of Trays based on Deep," in *Proceedings of the 38th Chinese Control Conference*, Guangzhou, China, 2019.
- [5] C. R. Alimboyong, A. A. Hernandez and R. P. Medina, "Classification of Plant Seedling Images Using Deep Learning," in TENCON 2018 IEEE Region 10 Conference, Jeju, Korea, 2018.
- [6] J. Brownlee, "How to Choose Loss Functions When Training Deep Learning Neural Networks," 30 January 2019. [Online]. Available: https://machinelearningmastery.com/how-to-choose-loss-functions-when-training-deep-learning-neural-networks/. [Accessed 11 April 2020].
- [7] Keras, "Image Preprocessing," [Online]. Available: https://keras.io/preprocessing/image/. [Accessed 12 April 2020].
- [8] M. Peixeiro, "How to Improve a Neural Network With Regularization," 12 March 2019. [Online]. Available: https://towardsdatascience.com/how-to-improve-a-neural-network-with-regularization-8a18ecda9fe3. [Accessed 12 April 2020].
- [9] C. R. Alimboyong and A. A. Hernandez, "An Improved Deep Neural Network for," in *IEEE 15th International Colloquium on Signal Processing & its Applications (CSPA 2019)*, Penang, Malaysia, 2019.
- [10] Z. Xiao, Y. Tan, X. Liu and S. Yang, "Classification Method of Plug Seedlings Based on Transfer Learning," *Applied Sciences*, 2019.

# Predicting the Presence of Seedlings and the Health of Crops using Image Classification

| using    |   |                |                      |
|----------|---|----------------|----------------------|
| ORIGINAL | ALITY REPORT  |                |                      |
| SIMILAR  | 7% 3% ARITY INDEX INTERNET SOURCES PUBL   | %<br>LICATIONS | 6%<br>STUDENT PAPERS |
| PRIMARY  | Y SOURCES   |                |                      |
| 1        | hub.packtpub.com Internet Source  |                | 2%                   |
| 2        | towardsdatascience.com Internet Source  |                | 2%                   |
| 3        | www.mdpi.com Internet Source  |                | 1%                   |
| 4        | news.datascience.org.ua Internet Source   |                | 1%                   |
| 5        | Submitted to Loughborough U   | niversity      | 1 %                  |
| 6        | Submitted to Asia Pacific Univ<br>Technology and Innovation (U<br>Student Paper |                | ge of 1 %            |
| 7        | Submitted to Universidade do Student Paper                                      | Porto          | 1%                   |
| 8        | www.pp1pp.com Internet Source   |                | <1%                  |

| 9  | Submitted to National University Philippines  Student Paper   | <1% |
|----|---|-----|
| 10 | onlinelibrary.wiley.com Internet Source   | <1% |
| 11 | Submitted to The Scientific & Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK)  Student Paper   | <1% |
| 12 | JONG WHAN LEE. "MACHINE VISION MONITORING SYSTEM OF LETTUCE GROWTH IN A STATE-OF-THE-ART GREENHOUSE", Modern Physics Letters B, 2011 Publication  | <1% |
| 13 | Submitted to University of New South Wales Student Paper  | <1% |
| 14 | Junhua Tong, Chuanyu Wu, Huanyu Jiang, Yaxin Yu, Xiuqin Rao. "Optimizing the path of seedling low-density transplanting by using greedy genetic algorithm", Computers and Electronics in Agriculture, 2017  Publication | <1% |

Exclude quotes On Exclude bibliography On

Exclude matches

< 10 words