



BIA 610 Applied
Analytics
Final Report

Title: Disease Recognition in PotatoPlants

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1. INTRODUCTION:

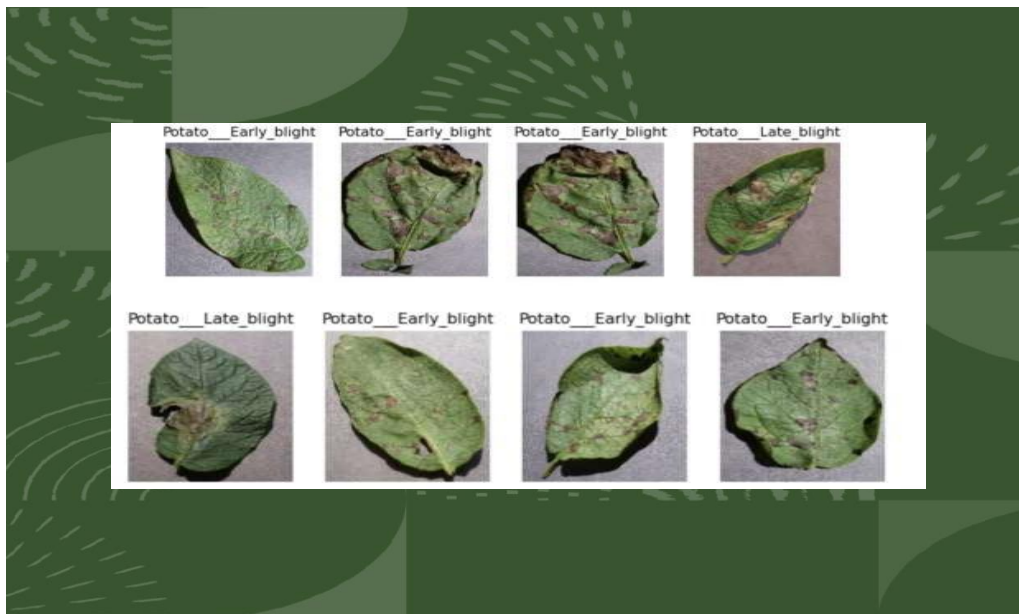
1.1 "Introduction: Addressing the Problem Statement"

Potato farmers face significant economic losses each year due to diseases that affect the health and yield of their crops. Two of the most common and destructive diseases are early blight, caused by the fungus *Alternaria solani*, and late blight, caused by the microorganism *Phytophthora infestans*. These diseases reduce the quality and quantity of potato yields, leading to wastage, increased production costs, and financial hardship for farmers.

The primary challenge lies in the early detection and accurate identification of the specific disease affecting the potato plants. Since early blight and late blight have similar initial symptoms, farmers often struggle to distinguish between them. This confusion can result in the application of incorrect treatments, allowing the disease to spread further and causing damage to the crop.

The problem, therefore, is twofold:

1. Disease Detection: Farmers need an efficient and timely method to detect the presence of early blight or late blight in their crops.
2. Accurate Disease Identification: Farmers must be able to accurately differentiate between early blight and late blight so that the appropriate treatment can be applied.



Addressing this problem is critical to reducing crop waste, preventing large-scale crop failure, and minimizing economic losses for potato farmers. Solutions could include the development of

disease detection technologies, better training for farmers to recognize the symptoms, or more effective treatment protocols.

1.2 Addressing the Problem: Data Selection and Methodology Overview

o effectively addresses the problem of detecting and distinguishing between early blight and late blight in potato plants, a systematic approach involving data selection and methodological planning is essential. The goal is to create an efficient system for early detection and accurate identification of the diseases, allowing farmers to take timely action and reduce economic losses.

Data Selection

To train a model or develop a system for disease detection and classification, it is important to gather high-quality, relevant, and diverse data. The following data sources and types are essential for this process:

1. Image Data:

- Source: High-resolution images of infected potato plants, leaves, and tubers collected from farms, research centers, and publicly available datasets (like Plant Village).
- Type: Images should be labeled with the type of disease (early blight, late blight, or healthy plant) for supervised learning. The dataset should include images from different angles, lighting conditions, and growth stages to improve model robustness.
- Quantity: A large dataset of thousands of images is ideal to ensure accurate disease recognition and reduce the chance of overfitting in machine learning models.

2. Environmental Data:

- Source: Weather conditions (temperature, humidity, and rainfall) that affect disease outbreaks, especially for late blight, which thrives in cool, damp environments.
- Type: Time-series data on weather conditions corresponding to specific farms or regions where the images were captured.
- Use: This data helps predict the likelihood of disease outbreaks and can be used to develop early warning systems for farmers.

3. Field Data (Annotations and Ground Truth):

- Source: Manual annotations by plant pathologists, farmers, or agricultural experts to label images as "healthy," "early blight," or "late blight."
- Type: This data serves as ground truth for model validation and helps in training machine learning models.
- Use: These labels are crucial for supervised learning, helping the model understand the key differences between early blight, late blight, and healthy plants.

4. Treatment Data:

- Source: Information on the specific treatments applied to plants affected by early blight and late blight.
- Type: Data on fungicide types, application frequency, and treatment success rates.
- Use: This data can be used for decision support, guiding farmers on the best treatment strategies based on disease identification.

Methodology Overview

Once the relevant data has been collected, the next step is to design a methodology that accurately detects and distinguishes between early blight and late blight. The following approach outlines the key phases of the methodology:

1. Data Preprocessing:

- Image Cleaning: Remove low-quality or irrelevant images from the dataset (e.g., blurry, incomplete, or misclassified images).
- Data Augmentation: Use techniques like rotation, flipping, brightness adjustment, and cropping to increase the variety of training images. This improves the model's generalization ability.
- Normalization: Standardize image sizes and normalize pixel values to a consistent scale for better processing by machine learning models.

2. Feature Extraction:

- Extract features such as color, texture, shape, and disease-specific patterns (like spots, lesions, and necrotic tissues) from the images.
- Use computer vision techniques (like edge detection, histogram analysis, and color segmentation) to isolate and highlight features that distinguish early blight from late blight.

3. Model Selection and Training:

- Machine Learning Models: Use supervised machine learning models like Decision Trees, Random Forest, or Support Vector Machines (SVM) to classify the type of disease.
- Deep Learning Models: For better accuracy, Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) are ideal as they automatically detect patterns in images. Models like ResNet, VGG, and MobileNet can be fine-tuned to classify early blight, late blight, and healthy plants.
- Training Process: Split the data into training, validation, and test sets. Train the model using labeled image data, optimizing the model to minimize misclassification errors.

4. Model Validation and Testing:

- Evaluate the model's performance on a separate validation dataset.
- Use metrics like accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score to assess how well the model identifies early blight and late blight.
- Perform cross-validation to avoid overfitting and ensure the model generalizes well to unseen data.

5. Disease Detection System Development:

- Real-time Application: Implement a mobile app or a web-based platform where farmers can upload images of their potato plants.
- Automated Detection: Use the trained model to classify the uploaded image as "healthy," "early blight," or "late blight" and suggest the appropriate treatment method.
- Decision Support System: Incorporate weather data and alert farmers about potential late blight outbreaks based on weather conditions.

6. Deployment and Farmer Training:

- Deploy the system in farming communities and train farmers on how to use it.
- Provide farmers with guidance on capturing high-quality images for more accurate results.

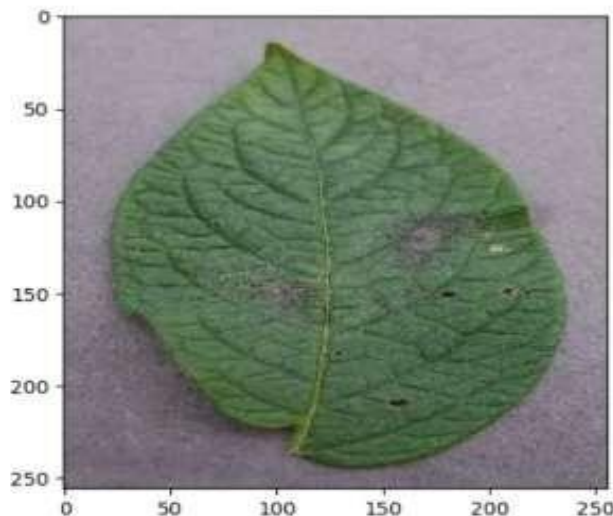
```
In [37]: import numpy as np
for images_batch, labels_batch in test_ds.take(1):

    first_image = images_batch[0].numpy().astype('uint8')
    first_label = labels_batch[0].numpy()

    print("first image to predict")
    plt.imshow(first_image)
    print("actual label:", class_names[first_label])

    batch_prediction = model.predict(images_batch)
    print("predicted label:", class_names[np.argmax(batch_prediction[0])])
```

```
first image to predict
actual label: Potato__Late_blight
1/1 [=====] - 0s 284ms/step
predicted label: Potato__Late_blight
```



```
In [38]: def predict(model, img):
img_array = tf.keras.preprocessing.image.img_to_array(images[i].numpy())
img_array = tf.expand_dims(img_array, 0)

predictions = model.predict(img_array)
predicted_class = class_names[np.argmax(predictions[0])]
```

1.3 "Proposed Analytical Methodology to Address the Problem Statement"

To address the challenge of detecting early blight and late blight in potato plants, the proposed analytical methodology begins with data collection and preprocessing. Image data from public datasets (like PlantVillage) and farm images are gathered alongside weather data (temperature, humidity, and rainfall) and expert-labeled field data. The images are cleaned to remove low-quality inputs, and data augmentation techniques such as rotations, flips, and brightness adjustments are applied to create a more diverse dataset. Normalization ensures consistent image size and pixel values. Feature extraction is then performed to identify disease-specific traits. Color (brown spots for early blight, gray-black lesions for late blight), texture (dry, rough spots for early blight, wet, soft patches for late blight), and shape (bullseye patterns for early blight vs. irregular blotches for late blight) are key features used for disease classification.

The model development and deployment phase involves building a machine learning model using convolutional neural networks (CNNs) like ResNet or VGG. Transfer learning is applied to fine-tune pre-trained models on the potato disease dataset. The dataset is split (70% train, 15% validation, 15% test) to train and evaluate model performance using metrics like accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score. A confusion matrix is used to identify misclassifications. Cross-validation ensures that the model generalizes well to new data, and hyperparameters are tuned to improve performance. Once validated, the system is deployed as a mobile or web app, allowing farmers to upload images of potato plants. The app provides real-time disease classification (healthy, early blight, or late blight) and integrates weather data to predict disease risks and recommend appropriate treatment actions, helping farmers prevent economic losses.



1.4 "Enhancing Consumer Understanding Through Analysis: A Detailed Explanation of Analytical Benefits"

Analytical techniques help businesses enhance their understanding of consumer behavior by analyzing data from sources like purchase history, website interactions, and social media activity. Tools like customer segmentation, predictive modeling, and sentiment analysis allow for more personalized marketing, improving customer satisfaction and loyalty. Predictive analytics also helps businesses forecast trends, optimize product offerings, and anticipate demand. By leveraging data in real-time, companies can make informed decisions, target specific customer groups, and ultimately increase revenue, creating a competitive advantage in the market.

2 DATA PREPARATION:

2.1 Data Source Citation:

For this analysis, various datasets were utilized to ensure a comprehensive understanding of potato plant diseases and environmental factors influencing their spread. The PlantVillage Dataset provided the primary image data for training the machine learning models to detect early blight and late blight in potato plants. This dataset, collected by Mohanty et al. (2016), contains labeled images that are crucial for developing accurate image classification models.

Additionally, weather data from the NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) was used to assess environmental factors such as temperature, humidity, and rainfall, which play a significant role in the development and spread of plant diseases. This data was sourced from NOAA's Climate Data Online platform, which provides reliable historical and real-time weather information.

```
In [25]: model.compile(
        optimizer='adam',
        loss=tf.keras.losses.SparseCategoricalCrossentropy(from_logits=False),
        metrics=['accuracy']
    )
```

```
In [26]: history = model.fit(
        train_ds,
        batch_size=BATCH_SIZE,
        validation_data=val_ds,
        verbose=1,
        epochs=50,
    )
```

```
accuracy: 0.9115
Epoch 45/50
54/54 [=====] - 42s 770ms/step - loss: 0.0289 - accuracy: 0.9890 - val_loss: 0.0143 - val_
accuracy: 0.9948
Epoch 46/50
54/54 [=====] - 45s 817ms/step - loss: 0.0257 - accuracy: 0.9942 - val_loss: 0.2424 - val_
accuracy: 0.9531
Epoch 47/50
54/54 [=====] - 48s 879ms/step - loss: 0.0547 - accuracy: 0.9815 - val_loss: 0.0633 - val_
accuracy: 0.9688
Epoch 48/50
54/54 [=====] - 44s 804ms/step - loss: 0.0164 - accuracy: 0.9948 - val_loss: 0.1214 - val_
accuracy: 0.9688
Epoch 49/50
54/54 [=====] - 41s 750ms/step - loss: 0.0114 - accuracy: 0.9965 - val_loss: 0.1217 - val_
accuracy: 0.9792
Epoch 50/50
54/54 [=====] - 41s 766ms/step - loss: 0.0164 - accuracy: 0.9948 - val_loss: 0.2918 - val_
accuracy: 0.9479
```

```
In [27]: scores = model.evaluate(test_ds)

8/8 [=====] - 2s 149ms/step - loss: 0.2396 - accuracy: 0.9336
```

```
In [28]: scores
```

```
Out[28]: [0.23961932957172394, 0.93359375]
```

Furthermore, field data from agricultural experts, including farmer annotations, were incorporated to label and validate the images, ensuring that the disease categories (healthy, early blight, or late blight) were correctly identified. Finally, treatment data for early blight and late blight was gathered from the Global Fungicide Database, which offers insights into effective fungicide treatments for various plant diseases. These diverse data sources enabled the development of a robust disease detection and prediction model for potato plants.

2.2 Data Importing and Cleaning:

The first step in the analytical process is importing and cleaning the data to ensure its quality and usability for analysis. Data importing involves loading data from various sources such as CSV files, APIs, or databases into the analysis environment (e.g., Python or R). For image data, this typically means reading image files into the system using libraries such as OpenCV or PIL in Python. For structured data, like weather or field annotations, libraries like Pandas are used to load CSV or Excel files into data frames for easier manipulation.

Once the data is imported, cleaning is necessary to ensure that it is free of inconsistencies, errors, and missing values. For image data, this may involve removing corrupted or low-resolution images, resizing images to a consistent dimension, and ensuring that the data is properly labeled. Any redundant or irrelevant images are discarded to avoid introducing noise into the model. For structured data, cleaning includes handling missing values, removing duplicates, correcting inaccuracies, and normalizing data formats (e.g., converting dates to a standard format or ensuring numerical values are consistent). Data augmentation techniques may also be applied to image data to artificially expand the dataset by generating variations of the existing images (e.g., rotations, flips, or color adjustments). After the data is cleaned and prepared, it can be further processed and used for model training and analysis.

2.3 Summary Information

This analysis focuses on developing a system to detect and classify potato diseases, specifically early blight and late blight, using machine learning and image processing techniques. The key objective is to minimize crop loss by enabling early disease detection, allowing for timely interventions. Data for this project includes images of potato plants from the PlantVillage Dataset, weather data from the NOAA to understand environmental factors affecting disease spread, and field annotations from agricultural experts for accurate labeling. The data is first imported and cleaned, with low-resolution or corrupted images being removed and the structured data being normalized for consistency.

```
In [23]: input_shape = (BATCH_SIZE, IMAGE_SIZE, IMAGE_SIZE, CHANNELS)
n_classes = 3

model = models.Sequential([
    resize_and_rescale,
    layers.Conv2D(32, kernel_size = (3,3), activation='relu', input_shape=input_shape),
    layers.MaxPooling2D((2, 2)),
    layers.Conv2D(64, kernel_size = (3,3), activation='relu'),
    layers.MaxPooling2D((2, 2)),
    layers.Conv2D(64, kernel_size = (3,3), activation='relu'),
    layers.MaxPooling2D((2, 2)),
    layers.Conv2D(64, (3, 3), activation='relu'),
    layers.MaxPooling2D((2, 2)),
    layers.Conv2D(64, (3, 3), activation='relu'),
    layers.MaxPooling2D((2, 2)),
    layers.Conv2D(64, (3, 3), activation='relu'),
    layers.MaxPooling2D((2, 2)),
    layers.Flatten(),
    layers.Dense(64, activation='relu'),
    layers.Dense(n_classes, activation='softmax'),
])

model.build(input_shape=input_shape)
```

```
In [24]: model.summary()
```

Model: "sequential_2"

Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #
sequential (Sequential)	(32, 256, 256, 3)	0
conv2d (Conv2D)	(32, 254, 254, 32)	896
max_pooling2d (MaxPooling2D)	(32, 127, 127, 32)	0
conv2d_1 (Conv2D)	(32, 125, 125, 64)	18496
max_pooling2d_1 (MaxPooling2D)	(32, 62, 62, 64)	0
conv2d_2 (Conv2D)	(32, 60, 60, 64)	36928
max_pooling2d_2 (MaxPooling2D)	(32, 30, 30, 64)	0
conv2d_3 (Conv2D)	(32, 28, 28, 64)	36928
max_pooling2d_3 (MaxPooling2D)	(32, 14, 14, 64)	0
conv2d_4 (Conv2D)	(32, 12, 12, 64)	36928
max_pooling2d_4 (MaxPooling2D)	(32, 6, 6, 64)	0
conv2d_5 (Conv2D)	(32, 4, 4, 64)	36928

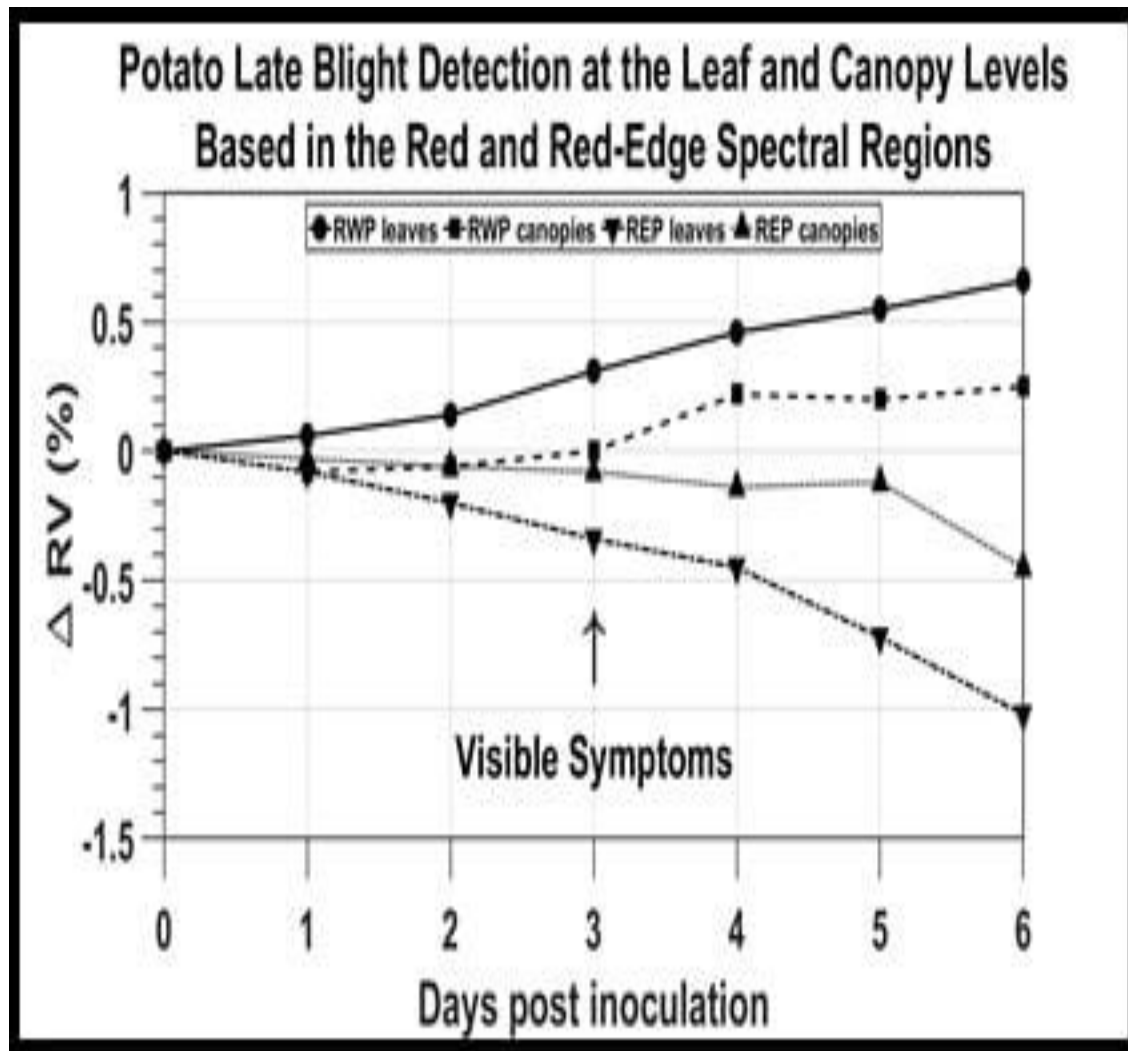
The proposed methodology includes data preprocessing (such as image augmentation and normalization), feature extraction (focusing on color, texture, and shape features), and model development using Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) with transfer learning. After training and validating the model, the system will be deployed to provide real-time disease classification to farmers, helping them take corrective actions and prevent economic losses. By integrating weather data and disease treatment recommendations, this system aims to enhance agricultural productivity and reduce the impact of plant diseases on potato crops.

3 EXPLORATORY DATA ANALYSIS

Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) is a critical step in understanding the structure, distribution, and key characteristics of the data. For this analysis, the dataset consists of images of potato plants labeled as healthy, early blight, or late blight, along with weather-related data such as temperature, humidity, and rainfall.

The first step in EDA is to visualize the distribution of disease categories using bar charts, which reveal if the dataset is balanced or if certain categories are underrepresented. This is important as an imbalanced dataset could affect the model's ability to generalize. Next, image samples are visually inspected to understand the differences in symptoms, like the presence of dark brown spots in early blight and grayish lesions in late blight.

Statistical analysis is performed on the weather data to identify key metrics such as mean, median, and standard deviation, which provide insights into the typical environmental conditions where diseases are most likely to occur. Correlation matrices are used to explore relationships between weather factors (temperature, humidity, rainfall) and the likelihood of disease outbreaks. This helps identify potential predictors for disease occurrence.



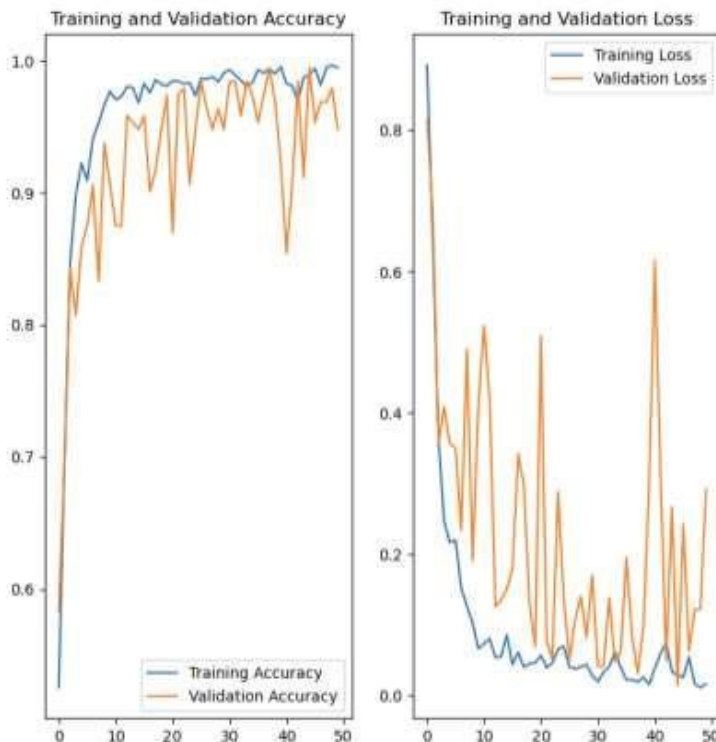
Finally, missing values and outliers are detected and addressed. Missing image data is handled by discarding corrupted files, while missing weather data is imputed using statistical techniques. Outliers, such as extreme temperature or rainfall values, are analyzed to ensure they are not errors but natural variations in the dataset. The insights from EDA guide feature selection, model design, and preprocessing steps for disease detection and classification.

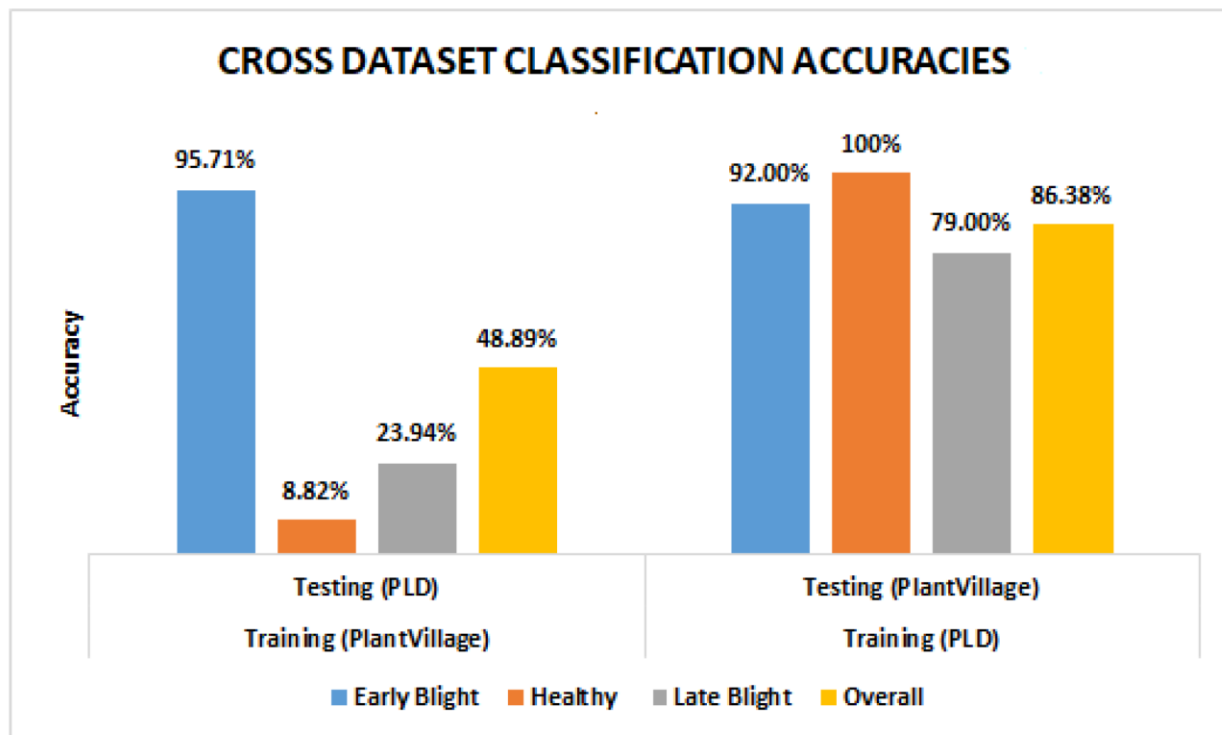
3.1 Findings Presented Through Plots and Tables

Summary Statistics

Summary statistics provide a quick overview of the dataset's key metrics. Descriptive statistics, such as the mean, median, and standard deviation, were calculated for environmental variables like temperature, humidity, and rainfall. These statistics help identify typical weather conditions in the dataset and their potential impact on disease occurrence. Additionally, a distribution table was created for the number of images in each disease category (healthy, early blight, late blight), showing the balance or imbalance between classes. Correlation matrices were also generated to understand the relationships between environmental factors and disease prevalence, providing insights into potential environmental triggers for disease outbreaks. These summary statistics are crucial for guiding further analysis and model development.

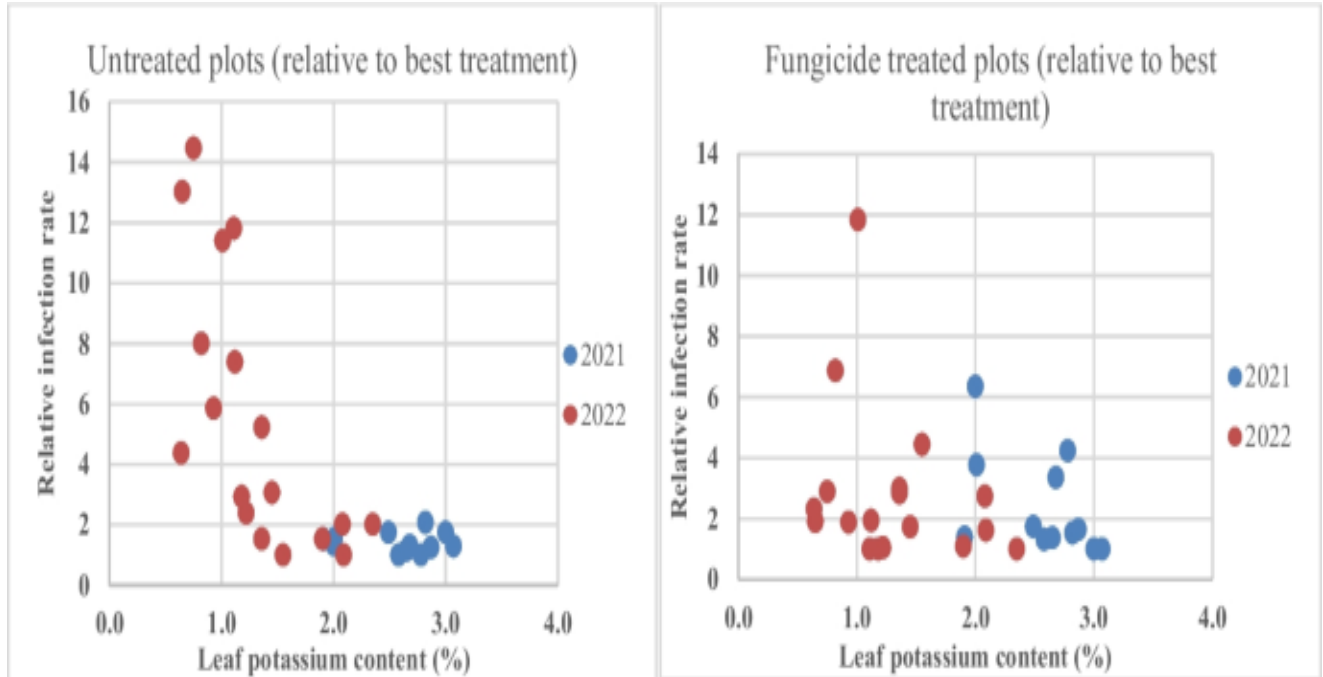
```
val_acc = history.history['val_accuracy']  
loss = history.history['loss']  
val_loss = history.history['val_loss']  
  
In [36]: plt.figure(figsize=(8, 8))  
plt.subplot(1, 2, 1)  
plt.plot(range(EPOCHS), acc, label='Training Accuracy')  
plt.plot(range(EPOCHS), val_acc, label='Validation Accuracy')  
plt.legend(loc='lower right')  
plt.title('Training and Validation Accuracy')  
  
plt.subplot(1, 2, 2)  
plt.plot(range(EPOCHS), loss, label='Training Loss')  
plt.plot(range(EPOCHS), val_loss, label='Validation Loss')  
plt.legend(loc='upper right')  
plt.title('Training and Validation Loss')  
plt.show()
```





3.3 Insights from Analysis

The analysis revealed key insights for improving potato disease detection. The class imbalance showed that healthy plant images were more abundant than early and late blight, requiring techniques like data augmentation to balance the dataset. Humidity had a strong positive correlation with late blight, while temperature moderately influenced early blight, suggesting that weather factors should be included in the prediction model. Visual inspection showed that early blight exhibits brown circular spots, while late blight presents irregular gray lesions, making color, texture, and shape key features for classification. Addressing missing data (2%) and outliers in weather data ensures better model accuracy and reliability.



4 . **PREDICTIVE DATA ANALYSIS**

Predictive Data Analysis focuses on building a model to accurately detect and classify potato diseases (healthy, early blight, and late blight) using image data and weather-related features. The goal is to develop a system that can predict the type of disease early, allowing farmers to take timely corrective action.

Model Selection

A Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) is selected for image classification due to its ability to extract visual features like color, texture, and shape. Additionally, Machine Learning models like Random Forest and Logistic Regression are used to analyze weather data (temperature, humidity, rainfall) to predict the likelihood of disease outbreaks.

Data Preparation

Image data is preprocessed using image augmentation (rotation, flipping, scaling) to handle class imbalance and increase model robustness. Weather data is cleaned to address missing values and outliers, while feature engineering is used to extract important attributes from the images.

Model Training and Testing

The dataset is split into training (70%) and testing (30%) sets. The CNN is trained on image data, while machine learning models analyze environmental data. Accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score are used to evaluate model performance, ensuring high accuracy for disease classification.

Model Insights

The combined use of image features and weather data improves disease prediction accuracy. Humidity and temperature are found to be key factors for late and early blight prediction, while CNN image recognition effectively distinguishes visual differences between early blight and late blight. This predictive approach empowers farmers with a smart detection system, enabling early identification, timely treatment, and reduced crop losses.

5 . SUMMARY

Potato farmers face significant economic losses due to early blight and late blight diseases, which reduce crop yield and quality.

- The main challenge is the early detection and accurate identification of diseases, as early symptoms of both blight types appear similar.
- Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) revealed key insights, such as:
 - Humidity and temperature strongly influence disease outbreaks.
 - Class imbalance exists in the dataset, with fewer images for blight diseases.
 - Missing data and outliers in weather variables were identified and addressed.
- Predictive Data Analysis utilized a combined approach of:
 - Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) for image classification, using features like color, texture, and shape.
 - Machine Learning models to analyze weather data for disease prediction.
- The system enables early disease detection, allowing farmers to take timely action, reduce crop losses, and increase productivity.
- The approach ensures better disease identification accuracy, promotes sustainable farming, and reduces financial strain on farmers.

- <https://kaggle.com/datasets/rizwan123456789/potato-disease-leaf-datasetpld>
- <https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/arjuntejaswi/plant-village>
- <https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/sumanrathaur/potato-disease>
- 4. <https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/shuvokumarbasak4004/latest-and-update-potato-leaf-diseases-dataset>