

Currency AI - Generative AI Fake Currency Detector

Team Name: INKOHANTES

Team Members: M. Nikhil Sai, P. Anil Kumar, N. Rudhra, R. Sasank

CSE 1st Year, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham

1. Problem Statement

The increasing circulation of counterfeit currency presents a significant risk to economic stability, undermining trust in physical financial transactions. This issue affects not only financial institutions but also everyday users, including small business owners, vendors, and the general public. Traditional counterfeit detection methods—often reliant on costly machines or manual inspection—are either inaccessible or inefficient in high-volume settings. Addressing this vulnerability is essential to protect transaction integrity and restore public confidence in cash-based economies.

2. Target Audience & Context

Our primary users include small-scale retailers, independent vendors, public service agents, and individuals in cash-dominant regions. Many of these users operate with limited resources and are vulnerable to accepting counterfeit notes due to a lack of reliable detection tools. As cash continues to be a cornerstone in emerging economies and informal markets, it is critical to introduce a cost-effective, easy-to-use solution tailored to their operational realities.

3. Use of Generative AI

Our innovation leverages generative AI to transform conventional UV currency checks into a smart, scalable solution. By integrating AI with standard webcams and ultraviolet light, we enhance image clarity in low-light conditions, ensuring finer detection of embedded security features. The AI model is trained to recognize authentic and counterfeit patterns using deep learning algorithms capable of evolving with new data. This intelligent enhancement empowers users with real-time, high-confidence verification—without specialized hardware. Generative AI thus serves as the core engine, providing precision, adaptability, and continuous learning in diverse usage scenarios.

4. Solution Framework

The proposed solution is a lightweight web application accessible via standard internet browsers. It combines three core elements: a webcam interface, a UV light module, and a cloud-based AI processing system. Upon scanning a banknote under UV light, the webcam captures high-resolution images, which are then enhanced and analyzed by the AI engine. Key security markers, such as embedded patterns, microtext, and fluorescence, are compared against a trusted database.

The system comprises:

- Frontend user interface for live camera feed and result display
- Backend image enhancement and verification engine
- A machine learning classifier trained on diverse currency datasets
- A secure database for reference and updates

With user feedback mechanisms in place, the model adapts to evolving threats. The app is designed for ease of use, making it deployable even in low-tech environments.

5. Feasibility & Execution

Implementation can begin with open-source computer vision libraries, pretrained neural networks, and standard web development tools. Training datasets can be curated from both genuine and counterfeit currency samples, and cloud services like AWS or Azure can host the model and processing pipeline. A minimum viable product (MVP) could be completed in 10–12 weeks, with initial testing in controlled environments such as educational institutions or local markets. The hardware required—UV lights and webcams—is both affordable and widely available, reducing barriers to early adoption.

6. Scalability & Impact

Once validated, the platform can be expanded to include a broader range of currencies, making it applicable in multiple regions globally. Its modular design supports enterprise-level integration, while its accessibility makes it attractive for NGOs and governments promoting financial literacy. Widespread adoption can substantially reduce the flow of counterfeit currency, enhance transactional security, and foster a more resilient economic ecosystem.

7. Conclusion / Summary & Minimum Lovable Product

Currency AI presents a practical, scalable solution to one of the most pervasive challenges in financial security. Its unique combination of generative AI and affordable hardware empowers users across all socioeconomic levels. Our MVP will include live UV scanning, AI-powered image analysis, and binary classification feedback, laying the foundation for a secure, future-ready currency verification tools.