

AI-Based Plant Disease Detection System

Using Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)

A close-up photograph of a young green plant with two leaves growing out of dark brown soil. The plant is positioned on the left side of the slide, and the soil is in sharp focus. The background is a blurred green, suggesting a natural setting.

Introduction

- ▶ Plant diseases affect agricultural productivity, causing food shortages and financial losses. Traditional detection relies on expert inspection, which is slow and error-prone. This project introduces an AI-based solution using CNNs to detect plant diseases from leaf images.

Objectives

- ▶ To develop an automated system for plant disease identification
- ▶ • To reduce dependency on human experts
- ▶ • To provide early detection and prevent large-scale crop damage
- ▶ • To make disease detection accessible and cost-effective for farmers



Problem Statement

- ▶ Plant diseases cause major losses in agriculture
- ▶ • Traditional inspection is slow and dependent on experts
- ▶ • Experts are not always available in rural areas
- ▶ • Manual inspection is error-prone and costly
- ▶ • Delays in detection cause extensive damage

Project Solution

- ▶ The system uses a CNN to analyze leaf images and identify plant diseases. Users upload an image, and the system quickly returns the predicted disease class. No expert intervention is required.

Benefits

Fast detection (seconds vs. days)

- Cost-effective (no expert needed)

- Accessible via smartphones and computers

- High accuracy with AI

- Early disease prevention

- Scalable to global usage



Dataset Description

- ▶ Source: Kaggle - 'New Plant Diseases Dataset' by vaporous
- ▶ • 87,000 images across 38 classes
- ▶ • Includes healthy and diseased leaves
- ▶ • Structured in folders per class
- ▶ • Format: JPEG

Reason for Dataset Selection



Large size supports deep learning



- Rich diversity of plant species and diseases



- Publicly available and widely used



- Supports reproducibility and benchmarking

Methodology: Algorithm Used

- ▶ A Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) is used for image classification. CNNs are effective for extracting visual features and identifying disease patterns automatically.

CNN Architecture Overview

- ▶ Multiple Convolutional Layers with ReLU activation
- ▶ • Pooling Layers for dimensionality reduction
- ▶ • Dropout Layers to prevent overfitting
- ▶ • Final Dense Layer with SoftMax for classification

Why CNN?



Automatically learns features from images



- Ideal for large image datasets



- Regularization techniques reduce overfitting



- Proven success in various detection tasks

Model Evaluation Metrics

Metric	Precision	Recall	F1-Score
	—	—	0.98
Overall	0.98	0.98	0.98
Average	0.98	0.98	0.98

- Precision: 0.98
- • Recall: 0.98
- • F1-Score: 0.98
- • Total Samples Tested: 1401
- • High reliability across classes

Class-wise Performance

- ▶ Apple Scab: Precision 0.99, Recall 0.96
- ▶ • Corn Healthy: Precision 0.99, Recall 1.00
- ▶ • Peach Healthy: Precision 0.97, Recall 0.99

Class	Precision	Recall	F1-Score	Support
Apple — Apple Scab	0.99	0.96	0.98	504
Corn (Maize) Healthy	0.99	1.00	0.99	465
Peach — Healthy	0.97	0.99	0.98	432

Training Graphs Summary

- ▶ Training Accuracy:
Increased to 98%
- ▶ • Training Loss:
Decreased smoothly
- ▶ • Indicates effective
and stable learning

Using uploaded file: th (3) (1).jpg
1/1 _____ 1s 550ms/step
🔍 Predicted Class: Apple__Apple_scab
Predicted: Apple__Apple_scab



Visual Testing

- ▶ Model tested on unseen leaf images and successfully identified diseases. Demonstrates generalization and real-world applicability.

Simulation Results

- ▶ Software: Python, TensorFlow, Keras
- ▶ • Optimized using Adam optimizer
- ▶ • Learning Rate: 0.001, Epochs: 20, Batch Size: 32
- ▶ • Input Image Size: 224x224

Conclusion

- ▶ CNN-based plant disease detection system provides accurate, fast, and accessible diagnosis. It reduces dependency on experts, prevents large-scale damage, and fits well in smart farming frameworks.

Future Scope

- ▶ Expand dataset to include more plant types
- ▶ • Add environmental data for better prediction
- ▶ • Integrate with IoT and real-time monitoring
- ▶ • Multilingual support for wider accessibility