

# Potato Leaf Disease Classification Using Deep Learning: A Comparative Study of Custom CNN and Transfer Learning Approaches

## Deep Learning

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# Introduction - Background

Plant diseases remain a major challenge for farmers around the world, as they can lead to significant crop losses every year.

Detecting these diseases early and accurately is crucial, yet still difficult to achieve in practice. Traditional methods such as manual inspection by agricultural experts are often slow, costly, and inconsistent.

Potato plants, in particular, are highly vulnerable to severe diseases like Early Blight and Late Blight, which can destroy an entire harvest if not identified and addressed promptly.



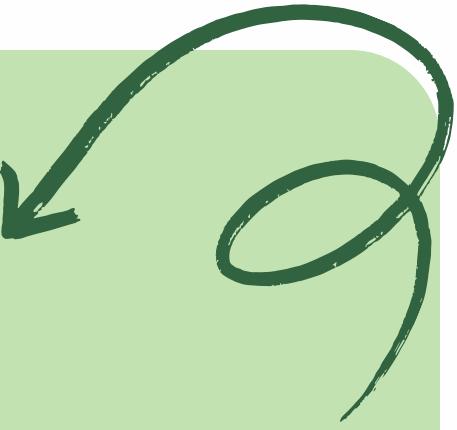
NNVERINE Saitwynth, GlriB, Leven

# Problem Statement

- Limited access
- Field inspections are often labor-intensives
- Human can also be inconsistent
- Early symptoms of disease are frequently difficult to detect
- Existing conventional detection methods lacks the scalability



# Deep Learning



## Dataset, Data Preprocessing, Model Architecture Overview

### Dataset

Total : 4072

- Early Blight : 1628 Images
- Late Blight : 1424 Images
- Healthy : 1020 Images

The dataset was divided as follow :

- Training : 3251 Images
- Validation : 416 Images
- Test : 405 Images

### Data Preprocessing

- Resize 224x224
- Augmentation :
- Horizontal flip
  - Rotation  $\leq 30^\circ$
  - Adjust brightness/contrast/saturation
  - Normalization (ImageNet stats)

### Model Architecture Overview

Custom CNN:

- 4 convolution blocks
- FC layers: 512  $\rightarrow$  256  $\rightarrow$  3 classes
- Total features: 50,176

ResNet50 (Transfer Learning):

- Pretrained on ImageNet
- Freeze first 47 layers
- Custom classifier: 2048  $\rightarrow$  512  $\rightarrow$  3 classes

# Training Setup

- Loss Function : CrossEntropyLoss
- Optimizer : Adam, configured with initial learning rate 0.001
- Early Stopping : Training will be halted if the validation fail to improve for 5 consecutive epochs
- Batch Size : 32
- Epochs : 50 epochs



# Evaluation Metrics

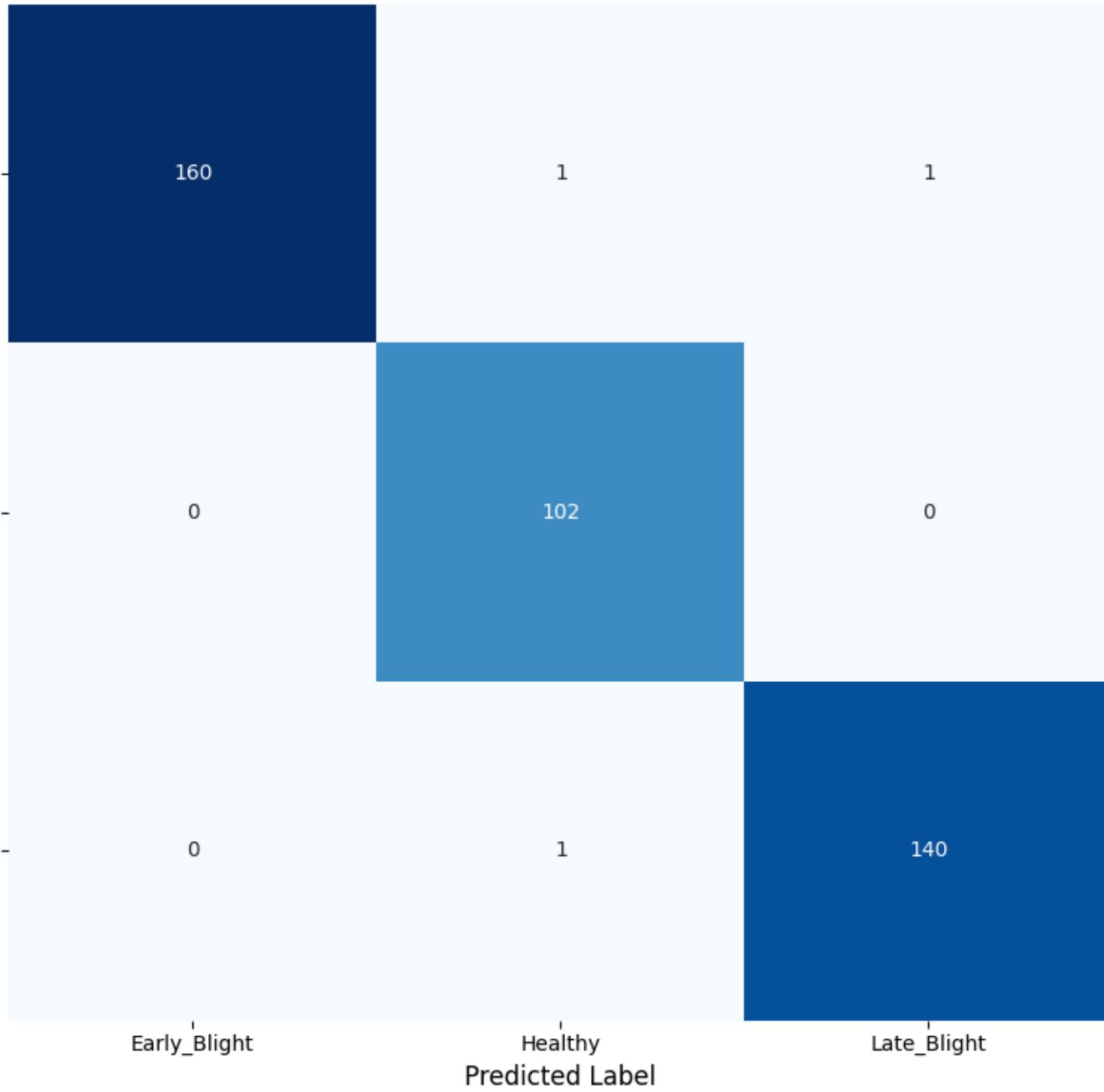
Accuracy      Precision      Recall      F1-score      Inference time      Model size



Metrics	Custom CNN	ResNet50
Accuracy	9.926%	9.877%
Precision (Avg)	9.927%	9.878%
Recall (Avg)	9.926%	9.877%
F1-Score (Avg)	9.926%	9.877%
Inference time	9.51 Second	8.83 Second
Model Size	26.49 MB	93.68 MB

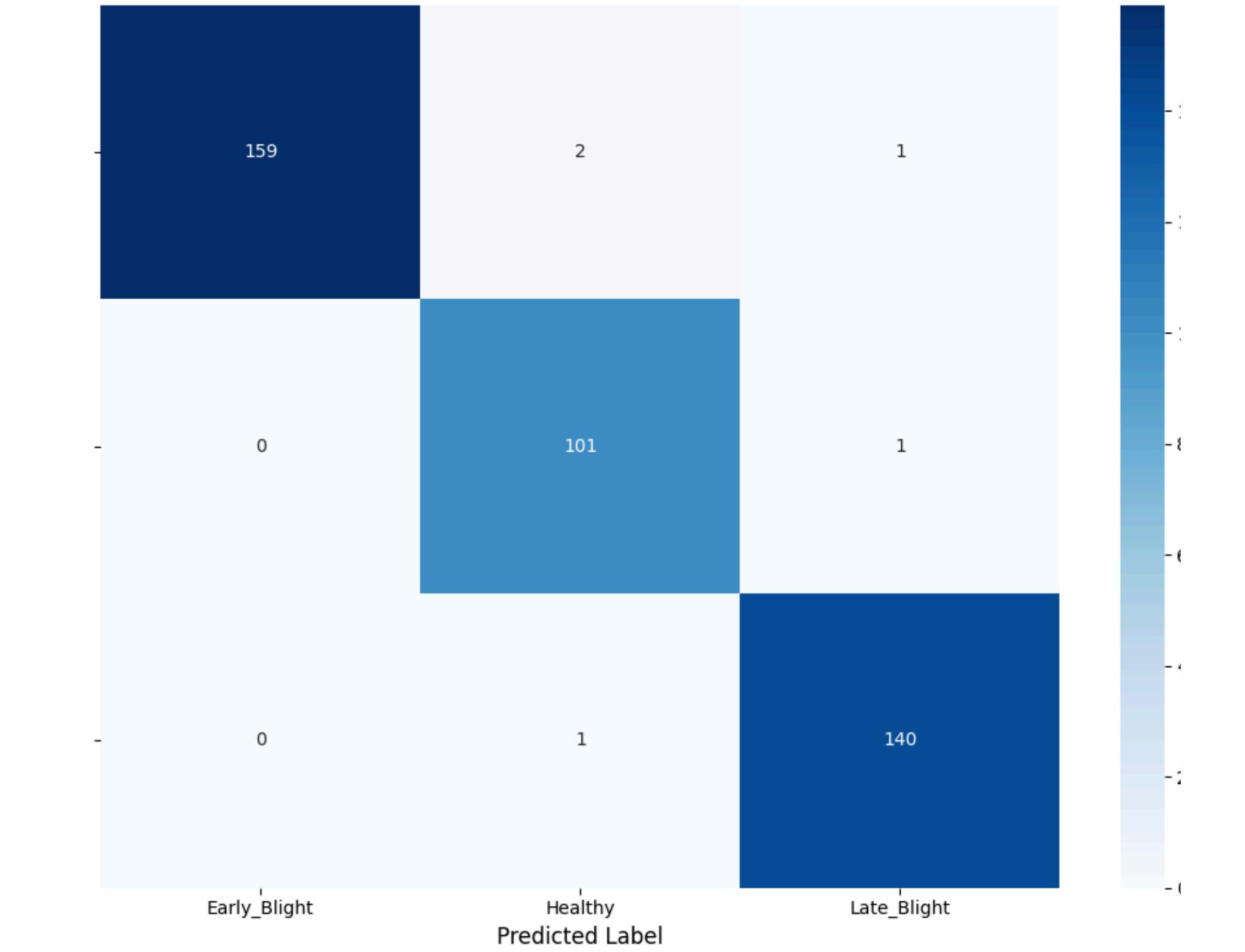
# Confusion Matrix

**Custom CNN - Confusion Matrix**



**Custom CNN**

**ResNet50 - Confusion Matrix**



**ResNet50**

# Visualization Samples



Late-Blight



Healthy



Early-Blight

# Web Application

**Potatoes Disease Classification**

Upload a potatoes plant leaf image to detect diseases. This model can classify three conditions: Early Blight, Healthy, and Late Blight.

[Upload & Predict](#) [Sample Images](#)

**Upload Potatoes Plant Leaf Image**

Choose an image...

Drag and drop file here  
Limit 200MB per file • JPG, JPEG, PNG

Healthy\_813.jpg 12.8KB

**Original Image**



**Prediction Results**

Healthy  
99.72%

**Class Probabilities:**

Disease	Probability
Early_Blight	0.06%
Healthy	99.72%
Late_Blight	0.21%

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**Sample Training Images by Class**

Early\_Blight  Healthy  Late\_Blight 

**Settings**

Select Model [ResNet50 \(Transfer ...\)](#)

**About**

This application uses deep learning to classify plant diseases from leaf images. It can detect:

- ● Healthy plants
- ● Early Blight
- ● Late Blight

Upload a clear image of a plant leaf for analysis.

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Please upload an image to get started

© Potatoes Disease Classification System | Built with PyTorch & Streamlit

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Select Model [ResNet50 \(Transfer ...\)](#)

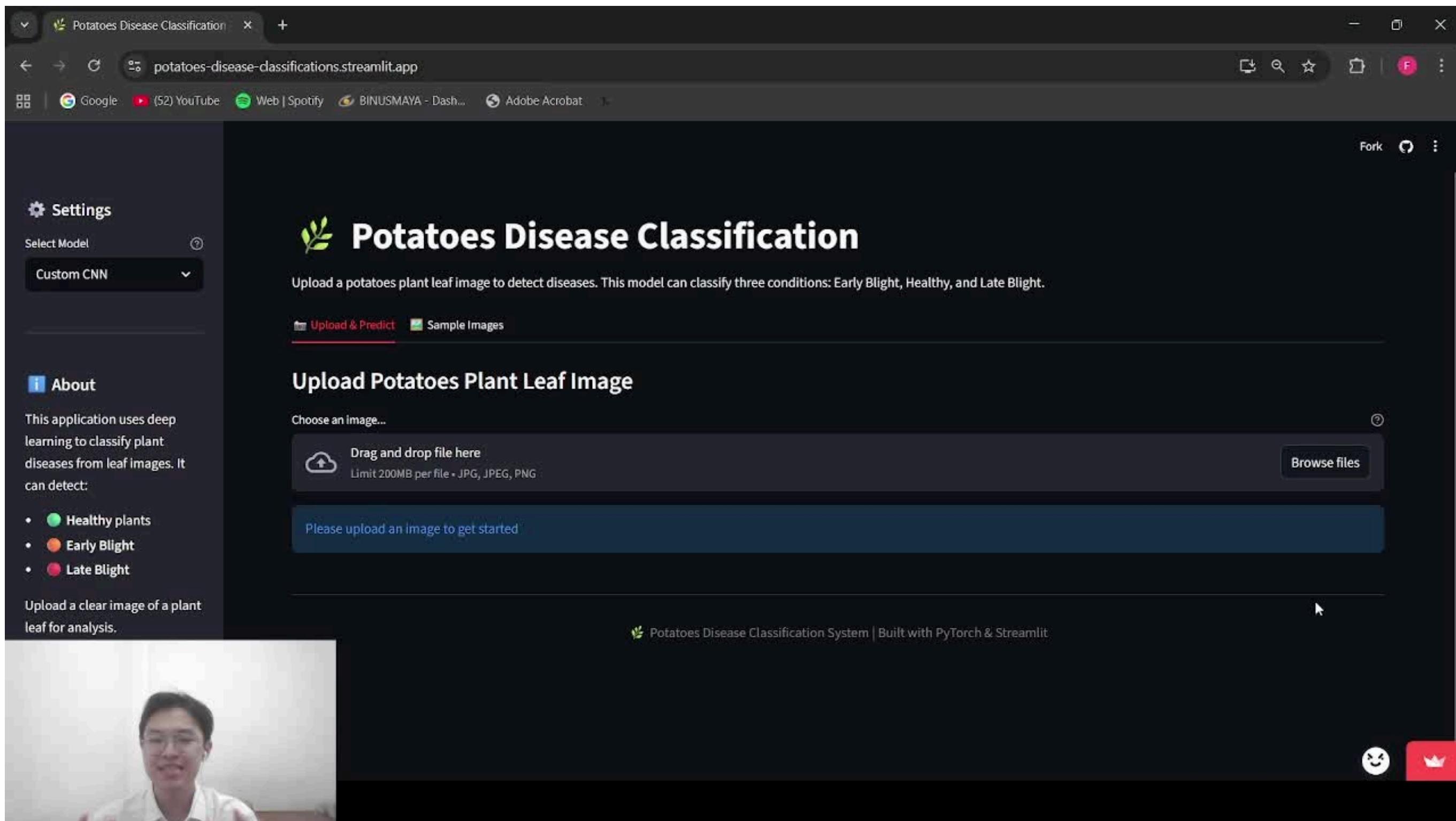
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# Web Demo



# Reflection

## Performance Analysis

The CNN model shows a more superior overall performance (99.26% vs 98.77% Accuracy).

## Challenges

1. GPU Memory Constraint
2. Dataset Scale
3. Class Imbalance



# Future Work

- Integration with external weather and environmental data for predictive disease risk modelling
- Development of a dedicated native mobile application for field usage
- Expansion of the model's scope to include several crops or disease



# Conclusion

The project has successfully established a highly accurate plant disease classification system for potato leaves.

The custom CNN model achieved the highest accuracy of 99.26%. On the other hand, ResNet50 were slightly less accurate (98.77%), but this model offers advantages in speed, making it a viable candidate as well.



# Thank You