AI-BASED WASTE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

PROJECT SYNOPSIS

OF MINOR PROJECT

6th Semester

BACHELOR OF TECHNOLOGY

COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

(AI & ML)

SUBMITTED BY

Shubhra Kumari, 301310922044, 6603211

Anisha Kumari, 301310922077, 6602125

Ragini Raj, 301310922007, 6601967

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RUNGTA COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

BHILAI(C.G)

Rungta College of Engineering and Technology, Bhilai
Department of CSE –AI+ML

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Guide Name

Consent of Guide **Prof. Prabhjeet Kaur**

B.Tech Project Synopsis

Introduction:

Waste management is a critical challenge in modern society due to increasing waste generation and improper disposal practices. Traditional manual waste sorting is time-consuming, inefficient, and error-prone**,** leading to environmental pollution and ineffective recycling. To address this issue, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Deep Learning can be leveraged to automate waste classification, improving efficiency and sustainability.

This project, "AI-Based Waste Classification System," aims to develop a Flask-based web application that classifies waste images into categories such as plastic**,** paper, metal, organic, and other using Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)**.** Users can upload an image, and the system will accurately classify the waste type, promoting proper disposal and recycling. The implementation of AI-driven waste sorting can significantly reduce human effort, minimize waste contamination, and enhance recycling processes. Future enhancements may include real-time mobile waste classification and IoT-based smart waste bins**,** contributing to a more efficient and eco-friendly waste management system**.**

Rationale Behind the Study:

Effective waste management is essential for environmental sustainability, yet traditional manual waste sorting methods are inefficient, labor-intensive, and prone to errors. Improper segregation leads to increased landfill waste, pollution, and missed recycling opportunities**,** contributing to global environmental challenges.

With advancements in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Deep Learning, automated waste classification can provide a faster, more accurate, and scalable solution to this problem. This project explores the use of Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) and image processing techniques to develop an intelligent system capable of classifying waste into categories like plastic, paper, metal, organic, and other.

By integrating AI into waste management, this study aims to: Effective waste management is essential for environmental sustainability, yet traditional manual waste sorting methods are inefficient, labor-intensive, and prone to errors. Improper segregation leads to increased landfill waste, pollution, and missed recycling opportunities, contributing to global environmental challenges.

With advancements in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Deep Learning, automated waste classification can provide a faster, more accurate, and scalable solution to this problem. This project explores the use of Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) and image processing techniques to develop an intelligent system capable of classifying waste into categories like plastic, paper, metal, organic, and other**.**

By integrating AI into waste management, this study aims to:

- Reduce dependency on manual sorting, making waste disposal more efficient.
- Improve recycling rates, ensuring proper waste segregation at the source.
- Minimize environmental impact, lowering landfill waste and pollution.
- Encourage smart waste management solutions, such as IoT-based waste sorting.

This study is significant as it contributes to the development of sustainable waste management practice**s** and aligns with global efforts to promote cleaner and greener environments. The findings can help municipalities, waste management companies, and individuals adopt AI-driven solutions for a smarter, eco-friendly future**.**

Literature Review

S.No	Author(s)	Title	Source	Year	Methodology	Findings	Gaps
1	**Poudel & Poudyal**	Classification of Waste Materials using CNN Based on Transfer Learning	ACM Digital Library	2022	Applied transfer learning on pre-trained CNN models (InceptionV3, InceptionResNetV2, Xception, VGG19, MobileNet, ResNet50, DenseNet201) to classify waste into seven categories: cardboard, glass, metal, organic, paper, plastic, and trash.	InceptionV3 achieved the highest accuracy, effectively distinguishing between biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste.	Did not develop a web-based application; lacked real-time classification capabilities and integration with IoT devices.
2	**Qiao**	Advancing Recycling Efficiency: A Comparative Analysis of Deep Learning Models in Waste Classification	arXiv	2024	Compared various deep learning models, including CNNs, AlexNet, ResNet, ResNet50 combined with Support Vector Machine (SVM), and transformers, across multiple waste categories.	The integration of ResNet50 with SVM significantly improved accuracy in complex waste categories; transformer models demonstrated superior average accuracy.	Absence of a user-friendly web interface; did not address real-time mobile application or IoT-based smart bin integration.
3	**Kanani**	Image Recognition for Garbage Classification Based on Pixel Distribution Learning	arXiv	2024	Proposed a novel approach inspired by pixel distribution learning techniques to enhance automated garbage classification, aiming to reduce computational complexity and	Demonstrated the potential of pixel distribution learning in automated garbage classification	Did not develop a web-based application; lacked real-time classification capabilities and integration

					improve robustness to image variations.	technologies.	with IoT devices.
4	**Qiu et al.**	Intelligent Waste Classification Approach Based on Improved Multi-Feature Fusion Convolutional Neural Network	SpringerLink	2023	Developed an improved CNN model using deep learning to classify household waste images, tested on a dataset of 25,077 images.	Achieved an accuracy of 93.28%, with a misclassification detection rate (MDR) of 2.6% and a false detection rate (FDR) of 4.5%.	Did not implement a web-based application; lacked real-time classification capabilities and integration with IoT devices.
5	**Zhang et al.**	Applications of Convolutional Neural Networks for Intelligent Waste Identification and Recycling: A Review	ScienceDirect	2022	Conducted a comprehensive review of 355 articles on CNN applications in intelligent waste identification and recycling (IWIR).	Highlighted the potential of CNNs in IWIR, noting their superior performance over traditional methods.	Identified challenges such as the need for large, diverse datasets and real-time processing capabilities; did not focus on developing web-based applications or integrating with IoT devices.

Objectives:

The main objective of this project is to develop an **AI-Based Waste Classification System** that automates waste sorting using **Deep Learning (CNNs) and Image Processing**. The key objectives are:

- **Develop a Flask-Based Web Application**

  Create a user-friendly web interface where users can upload waste images for classification.

- **Implement Deep Learning (CNN) for Accurate Classification**

  Train a Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) model to classify waste into categories like plastic, paper, metal, organic, and others.

- **Promote Efficient Waste Disposal and Recycling**

  Assist individuals and waste management organizations in sorting waste correctly to enhance recycling efficiency.

- **Enhance Environmental Sustainability**

  Reduce landfill waste and promote eco-friendly waste management practices.

- **Optimize Model Performance for Better Accuracy**

  Use techniques like **data augmentation, hyperparameter tuning, and transfer learning** to improve classification accuracy.

- **Future Enhancements for Real-World Application**

  Extend the system to support **real-time mobile waste classification** and **IoT-based smart waste sorting bins**.

Feasibility Study:

Technical Feasibility:

Use of Deep Learning (CNNs) – The project utilizes Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) for accurate waste classification.

Technology Stack Availability – Frameworks like TensorFlow, Keras, OpenCV, and Flask ensure smooth implementation.

Computational Resources – Requires GPU-based training for faster model processing; can be managed using Google Colab, Jupyter Notebook, or cloud services.

Integration with Web Application – Flask enables easy deployment, making the model accessible through a web-based interface.

Economic Feasibility

Cost-Effective Deployment – The system can be hosted using free-tier cloud platforms like Heroku, AWS Free Tier, or Google Cloud.

Affordable Training Options – Using pre-trained models (Transfer Learning) can reduce computation costs

Potential Revenue & Sustainability – The system can be adopted by municipalities, waste management firms, and recycling industries to improve efficiency.

Operational Feasibility

Ease of Use – Users only need to upload an image, making it user-friendly.

Improves Waste Sorting Efficiency – Reduces manual effort and errors in waste segregation.

Can Be Integrated with Smart Waste Bins – Enhances automated waste management in smart cities.

Legal & Ethical Feasibility

No Privacy Concerns – The project does not collect personal data, ensuring compliance with data protection laws.

Sustainable & Eco-Friendly – Encourages responsible waste disposal and recycling.

Schedule Feasibility

Project Development Timeline – The system can be developed within 8-12 weeks, including dataset preparation, model training, web integration, and testing.

Availability of Resources – Pre-existing datasets, frameworks, and cloud services make development time-efficient.

Methodology/ Planning of work:

Problem Identification & Research

- **Understanding the Problem:**

Analyze challenges in manual waste sorting, its inefficiencies, and environmental impact.

Research AI-driven solutions for automated waste classification.

- **Literature Review:**

Study existing research papers and AI-based waste classification methods.

Identify gaps in current solutions to enhance model performance.

Data Collection & Preprocessing

- **Dataset Selection:**

Use publicly available datasets like TrashNet or Kaggle Waste Classification Dataset.

Optionally, collect custom waste images and label them for model training.

- **Data Preprocessing:**

Resize images, normalize pixel values, and apply data augmentation (rotation, flipping, contrast adjustment, etc.).

Convert images to grayscale or RGB format for CNN processing.

Model Development & Training

- **Building the Deep Learning Model:**

Use Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) for image classification.

Implement pre-trained models (ResNet, MobileNet, or VGG16) for better accuracy.

- **Training the Model:**

Split data into training (80%) and testing (20%) sets.

Train the CNN model using TensorFlow/Keras with techniques like:

1. Adam optimizer for efficient weight adjustments.
2. Categorical cross-entropy loss function for multi-class classification.
3. Early stopping & dropout layers to prevent overfitting.

- **Evaluating Performance:**

Use accuracy/loss graphs and confusion matrices to analyze the model's performance.

Tune hyperparameters (batch size, learning rate, epochs) to improve accuracy.

System Development (Flask Web App)

- **Backend Development:**

Integrate the trained CNN model with Flask to handle image uploads and predictions.

- **Frontend Development:**

Develop a **user-friendly interface** using **HTML, CSS, and JavaScript**.

Allow users to **upload waste images** and receive real-time classification results.

- **Testing & Debugging:**

Test the application with different image inputs to ensure accuracy.

Debug errors and improve response time.

Deployment & Integration

- **Hosting the Web App**

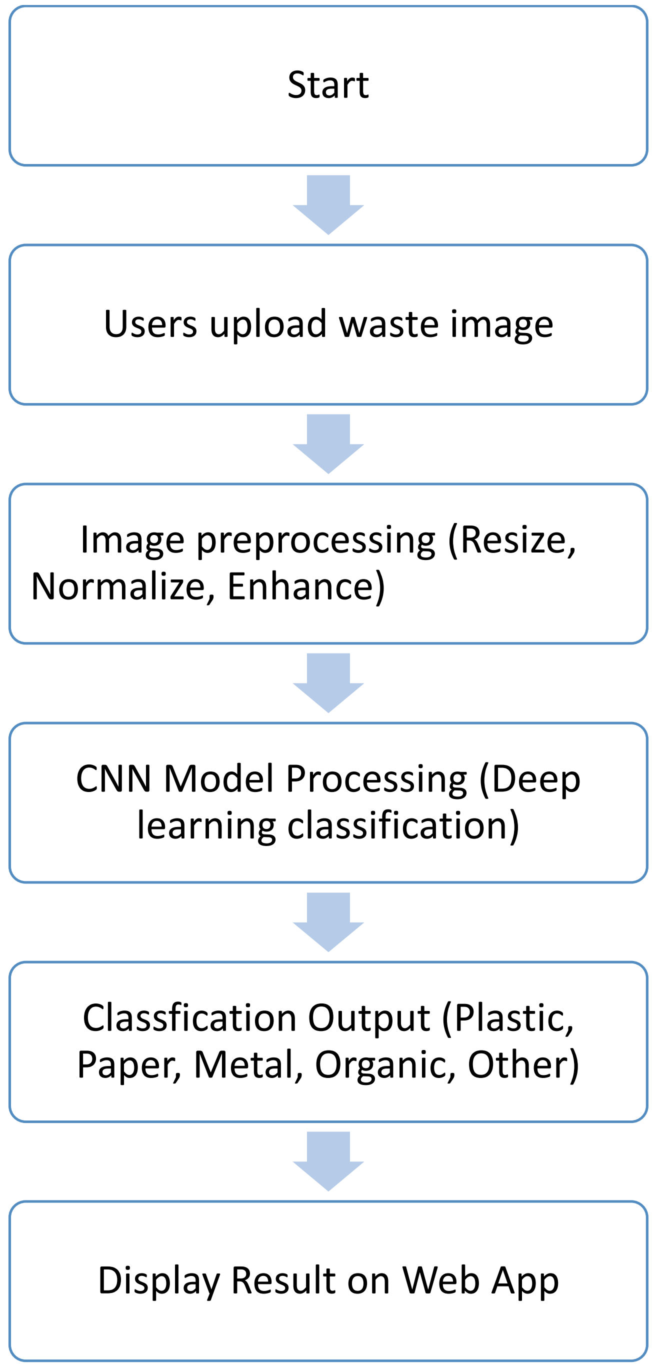
  Deploy on **Heroku, AWS, or PythonAnywhere** for public access.

  Ensure smooth model execution and cloud storage integration.

- **Mobile & IoT Integration (Future Enhancements)**

  Plan for mobile-based image classification and **IoT-enabled smart waste bins**.

FLOW CHART:


Start
Users upload waste image
Image preprocessing (Resize, Normalize, Enhance)
CNN Model Processing (Deep learning classification)
Classfication Output (Plastic, Paper, Metal, Organic, Other)
Display Result on Web App

Facilities required for proposed work:

Hardware Requirements:

Computer with GPU Support – Required for deep learning model training (Minimum: NVIDIA GTX 1650 / Recommended: RTX 3060 or higher**).**

High-Performance CPU – At least Intel i5/i7 or AMD Ryzen 5/7 for faster computations.

RAM – Minimum 8GB (Recommended: 16GB or more) for smooth processing.

Storage – SSD (256GB or more) to handle large datasets and model checkpoints.

Camera/Sensors (Future Enhancements) – For real-time waste classification via IoT-based smart bins.

Software & Tools:

Operating System – Windows, macOS, or Linux.

Programming Languages – Python (for AI model development & web app).

Libraries & Frameworks:

- **TensorFlow/Keras** – Deep learning model development.
- **OpenCV** – Image preprocessing and enhancement.
- **Flask** – Web application backend.
- **Matplotlib/Seaborn** – Data visualization (graphs & accuracy charts).

IDE & Development Tools

- **Jupyter Notebook / Google Colab** – Model training.
- **VS Code / PyCharm** – Web app development.

Deployment & Hosting

- **Heroku / AWS / PythonAnywhere** – Web app hosting.
- **Docker (Optional)** – Containerization for efficient deployment.

Dataset & Training Resources:

Waste Classification Dataset – Datasets from TrashNet, Kaggle, or custom-labeled images.

Cloud Computing (Optional) – Google Colab (Free GPU) or AWS/GCP for large-scale training.

Networking & Storage:

Internet Connection – High-speed internet for model training and dataset downloading.

Cloud Storage – Google Drive, AWS S3, or Firebase for storing large datasets.

Research & Documentation Resources:

Access to Research Papers & Articles – For literature review and model improvements.

Collaboration Tools – GitHub/GitLab for version control and teamwork.

Presentation & Report Writing – MS PowerPoint, LaTeX, or Google Docs for documentation.

Expected outcomes:

1.Accurate Waste Classification

- The system will correctly classify waste into categories such as **Plastic, Paper, Metal, Organic, and Other** using **deep learning (CNNs)**.
- Achieve **high accuracy (85-95%)** in classification based on dataset quality and model training.

2. Improved Waste Management & Recycling

- Encourages **proper waste disposal**, reducing landfill waste.
- Helps in **recycling efforts** by segregating waste more effectively.

3.User-Friendly Web Application

- A **Flask-based web app** where users can **upload waste images** and get instant classification results.
- Simple, interactive **UI/UX** for easy accessibility.

4. Reduction in Manual Labor & Inefficiency

- Automates the sorting process, minimizing **human effort** in waste management.
- Reduces sorting errors in **municipal waste handling**.

5.Environmental Benefits

- Helps in reducing **plastic pollution** by identifying recyclable materials.
- Contributes to **sustainable waste management practices**.

6. Future Scalability & Enhancements

- Can be **expanded to mobile applications** for real-time waste classification.
- Potential integration with **IoT-based smart bins** for **automated waste disposal systems**.

References:

- **Research Papers & Journals**

  - (IJACSA) International Journal of Advanced Computer Science and Applications, – Search for **"AI Based Classification using CNN and Image Processing".**

- **Related Projects & Articles**

  - Kaggle – Search for **"Garbage Classification Dataset"**
  - Towards Data Science – Articles on **AI in waste management**
  - GitHub – Find open-source projects related to **waste classification**

- **Government & Environmental Reports**

  - United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
  - World Bank Report on Waste Management