**A REVIEW ON IMAGING TECHNIQUES IN FOOD SAFETY AND ITS ADVANCEMENTS**

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***Abstract :*** Consumers are the driving force in the food market. They have turned out to be more wellbeing cognizant, requesting and willing to pay for the "great quality." The consumer trust for food industry has been diminished due to food scandals thus making it important to improve the safety monitoring. The "quality" and "security" have distinctive implications and perspectives which rely on upon the nourishment class, target market, criteria, and publication. In some sense, the wellbeing is a piece of the quality yet here we isolate these two in light of the fact that we get a kick out of the chance to underscore the contrast between how a human sees the nourishment and how we can assess dangers of wellbeing. Some risky nourishment can't be distinguished by manual examination. The food quality and safety assessment has turned out to be more vital what's more, the requirement for more extensive appraisal for all nourishment clumps is sufficient.

***Keywords*: Imaging, Food Safety, Techniques**

1. **INTRODUCTION**

Food safety is a matter that influences any individual who eats nourishment. Regardless of whether a man intentionally ponders sustenance wellbeing before eating a dinner, a large group of other individuals have considered the security of that nourishment, from ranchers to researchers to organization presidents to government authorities and general wellbeing authorities. Guaranteeing the wellbeing of sustenance is a mutual obligation among makers, industry, government, and buyers. Safe nourishment is sustenance that is free not just from poisons, pesticides, and concoction and physical contaminants, additionally from microbiological pathogens, for example, microorganisms, parasites, and infections that can bring about sickness. Expanding client requests to have entry to top notch nourishment materials delivered as per wellbeing guidelines requires that snappy, efficient, non-ruinous, and hygienic assessment techniques be executed to supplant customary quality control strategies[[1](#_ENREF_1)]. Picture preparing is one such procedure utilized for giving definite illustrative information in horticulture and nourishment commercial ventures, especially for review and reviewing of products of the soil, investigating the attributes of different oats/grains, and assessing sustenance materials like meat, cheese, and pizza.

In recent years, new various image-processing techniques have been utilized for quality assessment of food materials. The hypothesis of inspection and quality evaluation of food materials by computer.[[2](#_ENREF_2), [3](#_ENREF_3)] For the most part, image examination and preparing includes the accompanying stages: taking images, changing over these images into computerized images, performing pre-handling operations for acquiring an adjusted image with the same measurements as the first picture, arrangement of pictures with the end goal of isolating the advanced picture into disconnected spaces without any interfaces, and measuring the wanted attributes of sustenance materials (size, shape, shading, and composition), and ordering food materials into various groups.[[2](#_ENREF_2), [4](#_ENREF_4)]

In image processing source of radiation was important and the sources were Gamma ray imaging, X-ray imaging, imaging in UV band, imaging in visible band and IR band, imaging in Microwave band and imaging in Radio band.[[5](#_ENREF_5)]

Non-destructive techniques are a piece of value control capacity and integral to other set up strategies. Non-destructive testing is the testing of materials, for surface or inside imperfections or metallurgical condition, without meddling in any capacity with the unwavering quality of the material or its suitability for administration. This strategy is suitable for testing both inspecting units for the people and whole creation units for the quality control focus. [[6](#_ENREF_6)]

Improvement of high innovation and development of types of equipments brings gigantic quality control applications ahead of the pack time of creation divisions. To encourage creation the utilization of this technique requires certain level of aptitudes to acquire more data about the made item and to improvise the item requires subsequent input from the quality control focus.

Non-destructive techniques are not just utilized for dismissing substandard materials furthermore an affirmation given to the materials that are clearly great. There is no single technique around which a black box might be worked to fulfill all prerequisites in all circumstances. [[7](#_ENREF_7)]

**II. DEVELOPING TECHNIQUES**

• X-Ray Imaging and Inspection

Most crude sustenances and fixings begin in an indigenous habitat, for example, a field, plantation, or farm. As the food is harvested, remote protests, for example, stones or glass can be gotten and transported into the preparing plant. Also, questions found in assembling offices, for example, metal and plastic can discover their way into the handling stream as the consequence of apparatus or procedure disappointments. Ultimately, parts of bones, pits or shells uprooted amid preparing can wind up covered up in the last items. These dangers, and related expenses, have driven all the more requesting recognition approaches around the world[[8](#_ENREF_8)].

By incorporating X-ray recognition as a major aspect of a general sustenance security program. A propelled X-ray recognition and investigation framework introduced near the end of the line expands an upstream metal discovery program. With such a framework, With such a system, an X-ray beam passes through the product as it is conveyed through the system. The detector creates a line-by-line image of the product for vision analysis before the product leaves the system.  The computer makes a good/bad decision and automatically rejects any contaminated product. While there are numerous approaches to arrange a X-ray framework, the basic operation is always the same: scan, analyze then pass or reject.

Refined X-ray frameworks can recognize contaminants (like metal, glass, stone, plastic, and other thick remote questions) and bundling materials, (for example, metalized film or thwart).

Discovering contaminants and assessing your items is basic to guaranteeing food security. The most recent advancements in X-ray discovery for food applications can assume a vital part and secure both your image and customer wellbeing and security.

• NIR Imaging

NIR is a modeling tool and predictive technology that uses infrared spectral region. Various spectral characteristics are used to detect different food components such as starch and protein. This can be used to build a model to detect aflatoxin in maize. It would be challenging to apply NIR to build a calibration for liquid, mainly because of level of particulate matter in liquid and light scattering.[[9](#_ENREF_9)]

NIR is a rapid, non-destructive, predictive technology that has long been used routinely in plant breeding and in industrial applications to simultaneously predict multiple parameters. NIR can be used with solid or milled material and on liquids such as milk. NIR has identified correlation with aflatoxin levels and could possibly be used in the screening of high levels of aflatoxins (above 200–500 parts per billion or ppb) in milled grains.[[9-11](#_ENREF_9)]

Near-infrared transmittance (NIRT) and near-infrared reflectance (NIRR) spectroscopy have been used to evaluate internal quality on many whole nuts and grains but it can be applied to optimizing the filter selection for bi-chromatic sorters and have shown that only a few absorbance bands in the visible and near infrared spectrum can detect whole yellow corn kernels highly contaminated in the field with aflatoxin. Additionally, the present scenario of grain quality assessment involves manual labour for visual inspection of individual food grains using standard measuring tools for measurements. This process is subjective and time consuming. Hence infield and effective technology for evaluation of aflatoxin and its level is highly desirable to assist the food inspectors and farmers for getting fair results. NIR is a demonstrating instrument and prescient innovation that uses infrared phantom district. Different otherworldly qualities are utilized to recognize distinctive nourishment parts, for example, starch and protein. This can be utilized to construct a model to recognize aflatoxin in maize. It is trying to apply. NIR to manufacture an alignment for fluid, principally due to level of particulate matter in fluid and light dispersing. Henceforth infield and compelling innovation for assessment of aflatoxin and its level is profoundly alluring to help the nourishment overseers and ranchers for getting reasonable results.

• Thermal Imaging

Thermal imaging (TI) is a rising, non intrusive process analytical method suitable for the food business. While TI was initially produced for military applications, it has as of late developed as an effective non-destructive estimation procedure in different commercial enterprises. Recent advances and potential utilizations of TI for food safety and quality appraisal such as temperature approval, bruise and foreign body recognition and grain quality assessment are explored.[[12](#_ENREF_12)]

Thermal Image processing is carried out to improve the contrast in the TI to highlight areas of interest in the image. Greyscale or colour mapping with intensity scaling is commonly used to display compositional contrast between pixels in an image. Many commercially available thermal imaging cameras are bundled with pre-programmed algorithms to estimate the temperature of objects within the field of view of the camera. However, it may be desirable to further process thermal images obtained, especially in many active thermography applications. The dynamic nature of active thermography increases the data load and therefore computational requirements of the image processing methodology chosen. As is the case with conventional image processing, there are multitude of tools available for TI analysis. It is important to evaluate the relative merits of available image processing techniques when developing a thermal imaging system for a particular end use. Some common performance indices include: classification accuracy, precision, processing time, model complexity and ease of transfer to new TI systems. The relative importance of each performance attribute will generally be application specific. Processing of thermal images is usually an iterative process; the following are typical steps that may be followed: Image pre-processing, Image analysis, Image classification.

* Machine Vision

Machine vision is the technology of preparing and analyzing computer images obtained from a real scene for the purpose of obtaining information or controlling a process. It is a non-destructive method for inspecting production lines in food processing industries. Today, image processing, a branch of computer science, is mostly used for processing digital images, and deals with processing digital signals representing the pictures taken with a digital camera or scanned by a scanner. Image processing is divided into two main branches, namely, enhancing images and machine vision.[[13](#_ENREF_13), [14](#_ENREF_14)]

Upgrading images incorporates such strategies as utilizing blurring channels and expanding contrast for enhancing the visual nature of images and guaranteeing their right display in the destination environment (e.g., printer or PC screen), though machine vision includes techniques through which the importance and substance of pictures can be comprehended for such purposes as mechanical applications and image orientation.

During the past few decades, image processing has improved significantly, both theoretically and practically. The progress in this field has been so fast that currently, image processing can be traced in many scientific and industrial applications. These applications are so dependent on image processing that they are basically useless without it. According to experts, manual quality control methods have the following disadvantages:

• Low accuracy due to such factors as poor lighting, personnel fatigue, etc.

• Lack of consistency due to earlier factors,

• Lack of integrity as a result of earlier problems.

Using artificial (machine) vision in the grading process not only reduces the identification time, but also coordinates the grading operation as well. This leads to more uniform quality assessments. In recent years, numerous studies have been conducted on using machine vision techniques for quality assessment of agricultural.

**III CONCLUSION**

Image processing technique has been proved as effective machine vision system for food and agriculture domain. Imaging techniques with various spectrum such as Infrared, thermal, NIR, hyper spectral imaging, X-ray were useful in determining the vegetation indices, canopy measurement, irrigated land mapping etc with greater accuracies. The accuracy of classification varies from 85%- 96% depending on the algorithms and limitations of image acquisition. This approach helps to save the environment as well as the cost. In case of fruit grading systems the segmentation and classification can also be achieved with great accuracy. In this case also the classification accuracy can be obtained up to 96% with correct imaging techniques and algorithms.

Thus we can conclude that image processing was the non-invasive and effective tool that can be applied for the agriculture domain with great accuracy for analysis of agronomic parameters.

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