# Predicting the Tomato Plant Disease Using Deep Learning Techniques

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**Abstract.** Plant Disease refers to the condition when the crop is not capable to yield fully. Plant Disease is the prevailing reason behind the damage of crops. Early prediction of plant diseases can save crops and can prevent the agricultural disasters. Deep Learning (DL) has made a huge contribution to classify the tomato crop with disease from the healthy ones based on the leave condition. This paper proposes VGG16 based model to predict nine types of disease in tomatoes. The publicly available dataset namely PlantVillage is used for experimental study. The proposed model achieves the accuracy of 99.7% and Area Under the Curve (AUC) of 93.3%. It can be concluded that the proposed model has potential to effectively predict the diseases in tomato plants.

**Keywords:** Tomato Plant Disease; Convolution Neural Network (CNN); Plant Village Dataset; Deep Learning; VGG16 and Area Under the Curve (AUC).

### 1 Introduction

Plant Disease is the one of the biggest reasons behind the destruction of the crops all around the world. It causes high economic loss too. In agricultural economy, the situation gets worse with the plant diseases. A survey suggests that 40% of total loss in crop-yield is due to the plant diseases [1]. The early prediction of plant disease can be a potential help in saving crop yield by issuing warning and precautionary measures. The crop production is needed to be increased to satisfy the food requirements of the increasing population [2]. Tomato is the second most popular crop in the

world after potato. The world needs approximately a hundred million tons of tomatoes on daily basis [3]. A wide range of Deep Learning (DL) techniques is available for predicting the tomato plant disease [4]. The leaves of tomato plant possess numerous indicators which are worthy for predicting the disease. Farmers detect diseases in their crops by inspecting the leaves of the plants through their eyes. Image processing using deep learning models revolutionized this detection mechanism [5]. The digital era has revolutionized day-to-day routine activities by deploying IoT, Sensors and ML [24-28]. Feature selection (FS) facilitates to enhance prediction accuracy by removing the non-contributing and irrelevant attributes [6-7]. Convolution Neural Network (CNN) has extensively been used to detect the diseases in tomato plant [8]. This work contributes a novel CNN based VGG16 model to predict the disease in tomato plant effectively.

The paper is organized as follows- the related literature work is discussed. Then, the experimental set-up is explained. Later, the results of experiments are analyzed and finally the conclusion is drawn.

### 2 Literature Work

The survey on the work carried out in the relevant literature applying the deep learning techniques has been summed up in this section. Although traditional ML techniques were also deployed for classification like SVM [9], KNN [10], ANN [11] and Ensembles [12]. Few works implemented feature selection too. [23]. But Deep Learning (DL) based classification models are prevailing in the domain. All the selected studies have deployed models over PlantVillage Dataset. The survey is summarized as Table 1.

Table 1. Related work in literature

S.	Study Reference	Year	Technique	Evaluation
No.			Used	Criteria
1	[8]	2018	CNN + preprocessing	Accuracy
2	[13]	2020	CNN, AlexNet,	Computational
			Lenet	time,
				Accuracy
3	[14]	2020	CNN	ROC
4	[15]	2021	CNN, SVM, En-	AUC, ROC,
			semble	MCC
5	[16]	2018	CNN	Accuracy,
				Precision
6	[17]	2019	CNN	Accuracy,
				Precision
7	[18]	2020	Clustering,	Accuracy,
			RCNN	Precision

8	[19]	2019	CNN	Accuracy, AUC
9	[20]	2020	CNN	Accuracy
10	[21]	2019	CNN	Accuracy

## 3 Research Methodology

The research methodology adopted for this work including the experimental methods, and set-up are briefed in this section.

The dataset used for the experiments is PlantVillage dataset [22]. The dataset has 9 varieties of diseases which are shown with the images of leaves for individual category as in Fig 1. The Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) based VGG16 model is proposed for detection of disease. Fig 2 depicts the proposed experimental model.

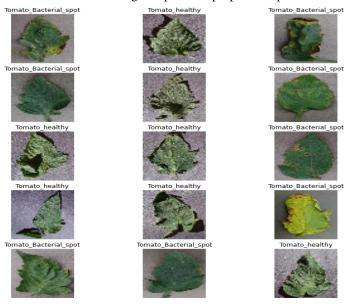


Fig. 1. Varieties of Leaves in PlantVillage Dataset

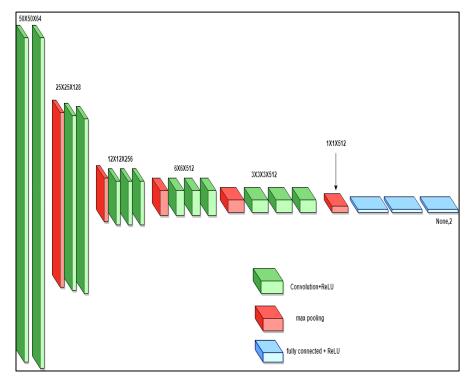


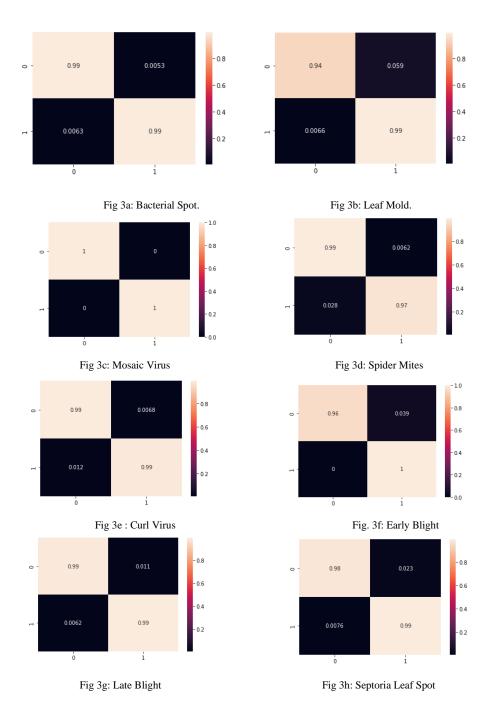
Fig. 2. Proposed VGG16 Model for Disease Detection

The disease detection is formulated as a binary classification problem. The dataset is split into nine sub-datasets corresponding to the nine diseases. For the performance evaluation, Confusion Matrix [10], ROC [11], AUC [12] and accuracy are considered [16-19].

### 4 Results

The experimental results are reported in this section along with the inferences drawn after analysis.

First up, the Confusion Matrix are recorded datasets for all the categories of plant disease and reported as in Fig 3. Next, the author records the accuracy measure (see Table 2).



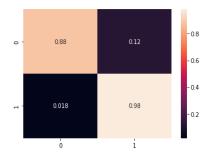


Fig 3i: Target Spot

Table 2. Results for Accuracy of Model over Varity of Diseases.

S. No.	Disease	Accuracy
1	Early Blight	98.53%
2	Bacterial Spot	99.76%
3	Leaf Mold	99.0%
4	Late Blight	98.57%
5	Mosaic Virus	99.45%
6	Spider Mites	98.05%
7	Curl Virus	99.45%
8	Target Spot	94.46%
9	Septoria Leaf Spot	98.35%

Next, ROC is considered for performance evaluation. The corresponding ROC plot are reported as Fig 4.

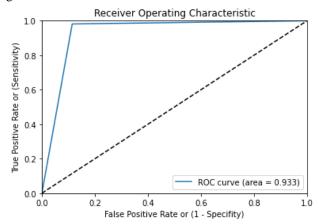


Fig 4. ROC Curve for Proposed Model over PlantVillage Dataset

Further, a comparison is made of the proposed model with the existing models in literature. The comparison is made over Accuracy criteria and reported as in Table 3.

Table 3. Comparison with the models from literature

S. No.	Study	Reported Accuracy (in %)
1	Tm et al. [8]	94.8
2	Ashok et al. [13]	98.0
3	Karthik et al. [14]	98.0
4	Kibriya et al. [15]	99.23
5	Sardogan et al. [16]	86.0
6	Proposed VGG16 Model	99.7

From the experimental results, it is seen that Proposed model shows the best accuracy for predicting the plant disease in tomato crop.

### 5 Conclusion

Plant disease is the biggest reason of loss of crop in the entire world. If it is predicted well in advance and the patient is fore alarmed, then the crops can be saved. ML classification algorithms are being used for predicting the tomato plant disease. In this paper, a novel CNN based VGG16 model has been proposed and implemented. The comparison is made among the performance of the proposed method and existing models. The authors conclude the work that the proposed VGG16 model performs best for tomato plant disease prediction.

In future, the authors propose to replicate the work with latest datasets to contribute more accurate plant disease prediction for multiple crops.

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