Identification of Black Pepper, Long Pepper and Ginger from their microscopic images

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APPROVAL OF THE MENTOR

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should be accepted as fulfilling the partial requirements forthe award of Degree

of Bachelor of Technology in Electronics and Communication Engineering.

To the best of my knowledge, the content of this report does not form a basis for

the award of any previous degree to anyone else.

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CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL

This is to certify that the work embodied in this Summer Internship Report entitled:

"Identification of Black Pepper, Long Pepper and Ginger from their microsco-

<u>-pic images</u>", is carried out by Shafin Ali (BTECH/10151/21), Divyanshu Kumar (BTECH/10159/21), Muzamil Anwar (BTECH/10135/21) has been approved for the degree of Bachelor of Technology in Electronics and Communication Engineering of Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra, Ranchi.

Date:

Place:

(Chairman) Head of the Department Dept. of ECE (Panel Coordinator) Examiner Dept. of ECE This project investigates the application of image processing and machine learning techniques to automate the identification of spice powders such as Black Pepper, Long Pepper, and Ginger (Zinger officinale) from microscopic images. The goal is to develop a reliable classification system that can distinguish between these visually similar spices at the microscopic level, thereby enhancing accuracy and efficiency in quality control within the spice industry.

The process begins with the collection of a dataset comprising high-resolution microscopic images for each type of spice powder. These images are processed using the Python programming language, with the OpenCV library utilized for image manipulation and feature extraction. Our feature extraction method focuses primarily on shape-based features derived from binary thresholding and contour detection. These features capture critical morphological characteristics of the spice powders that are crucial for accurate classification.

A machine learning model, specifically a pre-trained classifier labeled *clf* in the script, is then employed to classify each image into one of the three categories: Black Pepper, Long Pepper, or Ginger.

The projected spice category of each image is compared to its labelled category over the project's duration, and an accuracy score is computed by dividing the quantity of precise forecasts by the total quantity of photographs. A thorough report on every forecast as well as the model's overall accuracy are included in the final output.

The significance of this research lies in its potential to streamline the spice verification process, reducing reliance on manual labor and subjective assessments, and paving the way for more advanced applications in food safety and quality assurance. Through this project, we demonstrate the feasibility and effectiveness of using automated systems for the microscopic analysis of spice powders, providing a foundation for future improvements and expansions in similar fields.

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environment of learning and innovation that has allowed us to grow both intellectually and

personally throughout this project.

This project was not only an opportunity to explore complex concepts but also a chance to

learn the value of teamwork and community within the academic setting.

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INTRODUCTION

1.1 IMAGE PROCESSING

The alteration and analysis of digital images through the use of mathematical and computer methods is the broad field of image processing. It is used for a number of tasks, including as morphological operations, compression, geometric modifications, object detection and recognition, segmentation, feature extraction, enhancement, restoration, and classification of images.

Digital images are expressed as grids of pixels, where color and intensity are represented by numerical values found in each pixel. These pictures are obtained from a variety of sources, including medical imaging equipment, digital cameras, satellites, and scanners. Before conducting additional analysis, preprocessing techniques are frequently used to improve quality, eliminate noise, and fix deformities in raw image data.

Enhancement techniques include adjustments to brightness, contrast, sharpness, and color balance to improve the visual quality of photographs. On the other hand, restoration techniques concentrate on eliminating or lessening image degradation that was brought about during image acquisition or transmission, such as compression artifacts, noise, and blurring.

Segmentation uses pixel properties like color, intensity, texture, or motion to separate an image into meaningful areas or objects. Shape, texture, color, and spatial characteristics are among the information or patterns that can be found and extracted from photographs in the process of feature extraction.

In image processing, object detection and recognition are essential because they enable the identification and categorization of certain objects or patterns in pictures. Two popular machine learning algorithms for applications like object detection, recognition, and image categorization are neural networks and support vector machines.

By using image compression algorithms, digital images can be transmitted over networks more effectively or with less storage space usage. These methods, which strike a balance between compression ratio and image quality, can be lossy or lossless.

Images' perspective, rotation, scale, and spatial orientation can all be altered by geometric changes. For tasks like picture registration, panorama stitching, and geometric rectification, operations including translation, rotation, scaling, and affine transformations are employed.

Morphological operations, which include dilation, erosion, opening, and closing, are used to change the form and structure of objects within images. These operations are useful for tasks including edge identification, image segmentation in binary images, and noise removal.

Applications for image processing can be found in many fields, such as biometrics, entertainment, security, computer vision, remote sensing, and medical imaging. Large-scale dataset management, resolving unpredictability in image content and quality, creating reliable algorithms for practical situations, and maintaining privacy and security in image-based applications are some of the challenges facing the discipline.

Deep learning, computational imaging, real-time processing, and interdisciplinary teamwork to address challenging issues in healthcare, sustainability, and other fields are some of the future trends in image processing.

Some key aspects of image processing are:

1. Image Enhancement Techniques:

- Histogram Equalization: This technique distributes pixel intensities to increase contrast in photographs.
- Filtering: To eliminate noise and sharpen edges, methods such as bilateral, median, and Gaussian filtering are applied.
- Tone Mapping: Used to portray a broad variety of brightness levels in high dynamic range (HDR) imagery.

2. Image Restoration Techniques:

- Blind Deconvolution: Seek to extract the original image from a distorted version while keeping the blur kernel a secret.
- Super-Resolution: Improves image resolution by merging data from several low-quality pictures.
- Inpainting: Uses surrounding information to fill in damaged or absent areas of an image.

3. Image Segmentation Approaches:

- Thresholding: A straightforward technique that divides pixels with values above or below a threshold into foreground and background.
- Region-based Segmentation: This method uses methods such as region growth or splitting to separate an image into regions with comparable features.
- Clustering: Pixels are clustered according to similarity using methods such as K-means or mean shift.

4. Feature Extraction Techniques:

- Edge Detection: Uses operators like Sobel, Prewitt, or Canny to identify abrupt changes in pixel intensity.
- Texture Analysis: Identifies various textures in an image by analyzing the spatial arrangement of pixels.
- Scale-Invariant Feature Transform (SIFT): This technique extracts unique descriptors and keypoints that are unaffected by changes in light, scale, and rotation.

5. Methods for Object Detection and Recognition:

- -Haar Cascade Classifiers: These classifiers, which are frequently employed in face identification, identify objects by using pixel intensity patterns known as Haar-like features.
- -Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs): Deep learning architectures created to categorize objects and automatically extract characteristics from photos.
- -Transfer Learning: Method in which an object identification job is performed by a pretrained model that has been refined on a particular dataset.

6. Algorithms for Image Compression:

- Discrete Cosine Transform (DCT): Used in JPEG compression, this technique transforms spatial image data into frequency components.
- -Wavelet Transform: Provides both spatial and frequency localization by breaking a picture up into sub-bands at various resolutions.
- -Fractal compression: This technique, which works well for natural settings with repeating patterns, achieves high compression ratios by taking use of self-similarity within images.

7. Methods of Geometric Transformation:

- -Affine Transformation: Often utilized for scaling, rotation, translation, and skewing, it maintains parallel lines and distance ratios.
- Perspective transformation: effective for repairing perspective distortions, it maps points in one plane to equivalent positions in another.
- Image Registration: This technique aligns two or more pictures of the same scene that were shot from various angles or at different times.

8. Morphological Operations and Applications:

- -Skeletonization: This method simplifies binary objects into their skeletal representations, which can be applied to pattern recognition and form analysis.
- Top-Hat and Bottom-Hat Transformations: By removing an image's opening or closing from the original, you can draw attention to minute details or structural elements.
- Watershed Segmentation: This technique divides an image into sections according to the gradient's magnitude; it's frequently used to separate objects that overlap.

These strategies and tactics serve as the cornerstone of image processing, opening up a plethora of applications in sectors like healthcare, agriculture, the automobile industry, entertainment, and more. New techniques and algorithms keep expanding the realm of what is feasible in image processing as technology develops.

1.2 OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

In this project, we used machine learning algorithms and sophisticated image processing techniques to distinguish microscopic images of black pepper, long pepper, and ginger. This initiative addresses a significant challenge in the spice industry: the detection and prevention of adulteration, which can compromise quality and safety. By focusing on microscopic imaging, we can capture detailed morphological features that are unique to each spice type, which are often not visible to the naked eye.

The process begins with the acquisition of high-resolution microscopic images of the spice powders. These images are then processed using the OpenCV library, a powerful tool in image manipulation and analysis. The first step in our image processing pipeline is converting the RGB images to grayscale, simplifying the data while retaining the necessary structural details. We then apply binary thresholding to these grayscale images to create a

clear distinction between the spice particles and the background, facilitating the extraction of contours.

Contours are critical as they outline the shapes present in the images, and from these, we compute several features such as the number of contours, the area of the largest contour, and its perimeter. These features form the basis of our dataset for machine learning classification.

We experiment with a number of machine learning models, including Random Forest, Logistic Regression, Support Vector Machine, and K-Nearest Neighbours, to categorise the spices based on the extracted features. Each model offers different advantages, from the robustness of Random Forest in handling diverse datasets to the precision of Support Vector Machines in boundary-driven classification. We train these models using a labeled dataset, where each set of features is associated with a specific type of spice, allowing the models to learn and differentiate between them.

The effectiveness of our system is measured through accuracy metrics derived from the test sets—portions of the data reserved for evaluating model performance. High accuracy in these tests indicates that the model can reliably identify the spice from new images, ensuring the system's practical applicability in real-world scenarios.

Our aim with this project goes beyond mere academic interest; we seek to provide a tool that enhances the quality control processes within the spice industry. By enabling rapid and accurate identification of spice powders, our system can help prevent adulteration, ensuring that consumers receive pure products. Furthermore, the methodologies and technologies we develop have the potential to be adapted for analyzing other granular substances, potentially transforming quality assurance practices in various sectors of the food industry and beyond.

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT

The Microscopic analysis has long been a cornerstone of spice quality control. However, manual identification is time-consuming, prone to human error, and requires specialized training. This project investigates the potential of microscopic image processing to automate spice powder identification, specifically focusing on Black Pepper, Long Pepper, and Ginger (Zingiber officinale).

Here's a breakdown of the key aspects:

Microscopic Image Acquisition: High-resolution microscopic images are captured for each spice powder type. These images provide detailed information about the morphological characteristics of the spice particles, which are crucial for differentiation.

Image Processing with OpenCV: A prominent Python package called OpenCV is utilised for a number of image processing applications. To increase image quality and feature extraction, this probably entails preprocessing techniques like noise reduction, contrast augmentation, and image filtering.

Shape-Based Feature Extraction: The project focuses on extracting shape-based features from the preprocessed images. This could involve techniques like binary thresholding to convert grayscale images to binary representations and contour detection to identify the shapes of individual spice particles. These features capture the size, shape, and texture information critical for distinguishing between the spices.

Machine Learning for Classification: A pre-trained machine learning model is employed to classify the processed images. This model is likely trained on a large dataset of labeled spice images, allowing it to learn the relationships between features and spice types. During classification, the model analyzes the extracted features from a new image and predicts its corresponding spice category.

Performance Evaluation: The model's performance is evaluated based on its accuracy in correctly classifying images across the dataset. This aids in evaluating the machine learning model's and the features' suitability for this particular task.

Advantages of Microscopic Image Processing:

Objectivity: Image processing algorithms utilize predetermined criteria, diminishing human bias and ensuring more uniform outcomes.

Speed and Automation: Automated analysis can notably enhance processing speed, particularly for tasks like high-throughput screening.

Scalability: Automated systems are adept at handling sizable sample volumes efficiently, enhancing the scalability of quality control processes.

Data-Driven Insights: Image processing can extract quantitative features, facilitating the generation of verifiable records and streamlining data analysis for further exploration.

Overall, this project explores the potential of using image processing and machine learning to automate spice powder identification from microscopic images. This approach offers increased efficiency and objectivity compared to manual analysis, paving the way for advancements in food safety and quality assurance within the spice industry.

METHODOLOGY

3.1 DATASET COLLECTION

The dataset represents a comprehensive collection of microscopic images that delve into the intricate details of three distinct powdered spices: black pepper, long pepper, and ginger. These images were meticulously acquired through the use of a microscope, revealing the minute structures and intricate patterns that are otherwise invisible to the naked eye.

Multi-Scale Approach: The dataset encompasses a diverse range of magnification levels, specifically 4x, 10x, and 40x, allowing for a thorough exploration of these spices at varying scales. This multi-scale approach provides a comprehensive understanding of the morphological characteristics and textural nuances that distinguish each spice from the others.

4x Magnification: At the lowest magnification of 4x, the images offer a broad overview of the powdered spices, showcasing the overall distribution and arrangement of particles within the sample. This level of magnification provides a holistic perspective on the spice samples, setting the stage for a deeper dive into their microscopic features.

10x Magnification: As the magnification increases to 10x, finer details emerge, enabling the identification of distinct particle shapes, sizes, and surface textures. This intermediate level of magnification allows for a more focused examination of the individual spice particles, revealing their unique characteristics.

40x Magnification: Finally, at the highest magnification of 40x, the images reveal an intricate tapestry of microscopic structures, unveiling the intricate patterns and unique features that are characteristic of each spice. This level of detail provides a profound understanding of the spices' microscopic composition and the subtle differences that set them apart.

Spice-Specific Characteristics: The black pepper images capture the irregular, somewhat wrinkled appearance of the particles, along with their characteristic dark hue. Long pepper, on the other hand, exhibits a more elongated and cylindrical shape, often with distinct ridges or grooves along its surface. Ginger, with its distinctive warm tones, displays a fibrous and

striated texture, reflecting its rhizomatous nature.

Potential Applications: This comprehensive dataset not only serves as a valuable resource for understanding the microscopic characteristics of these spices but also holds potential for applications in various fields, such as food authentication, quality control, and potentially even the development of automated identification systems. The diverse magnification levels and the inclusion of multiple spice varieties create a rich data source for exploring the intricate world of powdered spices through the lens of microscopy.

3.2 DATASET PREPARATION

The code's data preparation stage is essential for assembling the dataset that will be used to test and train the machine learning models. There are multiple crucial steps in this process:

1. Image Loading and Feature Extraction:

- -The functions "load_and_extract_features" and "extract_shape_features" are defined in the code.
- The `load_and_extract_features` function loops through all of the image files in the directory (with the `.JPG} extension) after receiving a label and the directory path as input.
- The `extract_shape_features` function is used for each image to extract shape-based features, including perimeter, area, and number of contours.
- Lists containing the extracted features and their labels—0 for black pepper, 1 for long pepper, and 2 for ginger officinale—are kept apart.

2. Combining Features and Labels:

- The `np.vstack` and `np.hstack` routines are used to combine the features and labels from the three distinct directories (Black Pepper, Long Pepper, and Zinger officinale) into a single dataset.
- As a consequence, a 1D array called labels} and a 2D array called data} with the extracted features and matching class labels are produced.

3. Splitting the Dataset:

- The `train_test_split` function from scikit-learn is used to divide the combined dataset into training and testing sets. - With a value of 0.2 for the `test_size` option, 20% of the data will be used for testing and the remaining 80% for training.

- To guarantee the split's repeatability, the `random_state} parameter is set to 42.

4. Getting Ready for Model Training:

- Variables {X_train}, {X_test}, {y_train}, and `y_test} are assigned to the training and testing sets, respectively.
- In the procedures that follow, these variables will be used to train and assess the machine learning models.

Because it guarantees that the dataset is in the right format for machine learning models to be trained and evaluated efficiently, the data preparation stage is essential. The algorithm prepares the groundwork for the model training and evaluation procedure, which is the next stage in the overall technique, by extracting pertinent features from the powder images and dividing the dataset into training and testing sets.

3.3 IMAGE PROCESSING

We initiated the process with a crucial step of data preprocessing. It involves converting the colored microscopic images to grayscale, a decision made to preserve essential shape information while simplifying the images for analysis. By converting to grayscale, we effectively eliminated color variations, focusing solely on the shape and structure of the spice particles. Additionally, we applied various thresholding techniques to binarize the grayscale images, effectively separating the foreground (spice powder) from the background. This step highlighted the contours and edges of the spice particles, which are critical for subsequent feature extraction.

Moving on to feature extraction, our approach primarily focused on extracting contours from the binarized images. Contours provide crucial shape features of the spice particles, allowing us to distinguish between different types based on their size, density, and distribution. We calculated the count of contours in each image to understand the density and distribution of spice particles. Furthermore, we measured the area enclosed by each contour to gain insights into the size of the spice particles. Additionally, we computed the perimeter of each contour to capture the irregularity and complexity of the spice particles.

3.4 IMAGE PROCESSING ALGORITHM

3.4.1 CLASSIFIER SELECTION

We carefully examined a variety of machine learning techniques, each with specific

advantages and applicability to our work, while choosing a classifier.

- **1. Random Forest:** This ensemble learning technique, which makes use of several decision trees to enhance accuracy and manage non-linear correlations in the data, is why we chose it. It is less likely to overfit and is sturdy.
- **2. Logistic Regression:** This technique was selected because it can produce probabilistic predictions and is appropriate for problems involving binary categorization. It provides a straightforward yet efficient method for simulating the likelihood that a given input will fall into a specific class.
- **3. k-Nearest Neighbours (kNN):** Due to its non-parametric nature and simplicity, kNN was our choice. It is appropriate for our picture classification challenge because it classifies data points according to the majority class among their closest neighbours.
- **4. Multilayer Perceptron (MLP):** This kind of neural network was selected due to its capacity to identify intricate patterns in the data. During training, it modifies the network's weights and biases using backpropagation.
- **5. Decision Tree:** Due to its interpretability and simplicity, Decision Tree was chosen. The feature space is recursively divided into regions, which facilitates comprehension and visualisation.
- **6. Gaussian Naive Bayes:** This algorithm was selected for continuous feature spaces due to its assumption that features have a normal distribution. For classification jobs, it is straightforward but efficient.
- **7. Gradient Boosting:** This technique was selected due to its capacity to progressively assemble a group of inexperienced learners. By including new trees that fit the residual errors, it minimises a loss function.
- **8. CatBoost:** Due to its prowess with category features, CatBoost was chosen. For our dataset, this is advantageous because it automatically manages categorical variables and minimises the requirement for preprocessing.
- **9. AdaBoost:** AdaBoost was selected due to its ability to train weak learners sequentially. It improves performance by concentrating more on cases that earlier learners misclassified.

3.4.2 WEIGHTED VOTING

To combine predictions from these classifiers, we implemented a weighted voting system. Instead of relying on the prediction of a single classifier, we assigned weights to each classifier and combined their predictions using these weights. This allowed us to leverage the strengths of each classifier while minimizing the impact of weaker ones. The weights were optimized using a random search algorithm to maximize the overall accuracy of the ensemble model.

3.4.3 EVALUATION METRICS

We evaluated our ensemble model's performance on a different test dataset using a number of industry-standard indicators. These measures offered insightful information about the robustness and generalizability of the model to previously unobserved variables.

The most logical metric, accuracy, shows the percentage of samples that were properly identified out of all the samples. It provides an overall sense of the model's performance but may not be appropriate for datasets that are unbalanced.

Precision gauges how well the model predicts favourable outcomes. It measures the percentage of actual positive predictions among all the model's positive predictions. In this case, precision tells us how many of the detected spice particles were real.

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Recall, which is a synonym for sensitivity, quantifies the model's capacity to accurately distinguish positive samples from all real positive samples. It measures the percentage of real positive samples that are true positive forecasts. Recall in this instance shows how many of the real spice particles the model was able to identify properly.

The F1-score is the harmonic mean of recall and precision. It offers an overall assessment of a model's correctness by striking a balance between recall and precision. Since the F1-score takes into account both false positives and false negatives, it is very helpful when working with imbalanced datasets.

We were able to learn more about the accuracy with which our ensemble model classified spice particles by using these criteria. While precision, recall, and F1-score offered specific details regarding the model's capacity to accurately categorise positive cases and its resilience against false positives and false negatives, accuracy offered a broad overview of its performance. We were able to make well-informed conclusions regarding our model's efficacy and dependability in practical applications because of this thorough evaluation.

3.5 INFORMATION

Our initial step involves preprocessing the input images to prepare them for analysis. This preprocessing includes operations such as gray scaling, feature extraction, contour detection, and other techniques. These steps are akin to the preprocessing typically associated with Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), which prepare the data for efficient learning.

Following preprocessing, we introduce a Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) block. CNNs are renowned for their ability to autonomously learn hierarchical patterns and features directly from images. However, in our workflow, we also include manual engineering of features after the CNN stage to complement the automatically extracted features. This manual engineering allows us to incorporate domain-specific knowledge and fine-tune the feature representation, enhancing the model's ability to discern subtle differences between classes.

The retrieved features are integrated into a full feature set after preprocessing and human feature engineering. Many classifiers, such as Random Forest, Support Vector Machine (SVM), k-Nearest Neighbours (kNN), Multilayer Perceptron (MLP), Decision Tree, Gaussian Naive Bayes, Gradient Boosting, CatBoost, and AdaBoost, use this concatenated feature set as input. To classify the photos according to the collected features, each of these classifiers uses a different set of algorithms and techniques.

The classification results from each classifier are then combined using weighted voting, where the importance of each classifier is determined based on its performance and

relevance. We optimize these weights using random search to maximize classification accuracy.

Lastly, we assess the ensemble model's performance using a range of criteria, including accuracy, recall, precision, and others. These measurements provide us information on how well our model classifies the photos. The assessment and examination assist us in comprehending the advantages and disadvantages of our model and direct future developments.

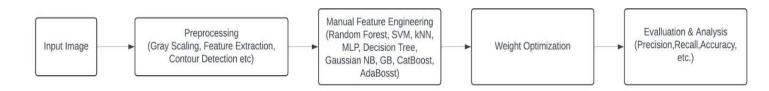


Figure 3.1 Block Diagram

EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 RESULTS

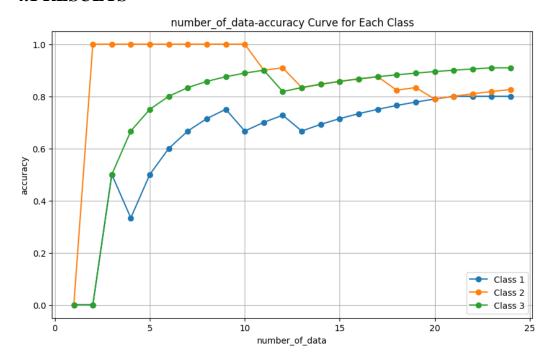


Figure 4.1a Accuracy v/s Data curve of 4x

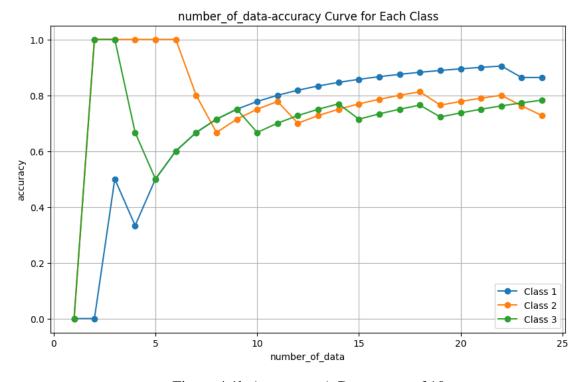


Figure 4.1b Accuracy v/s Data curve of 10x

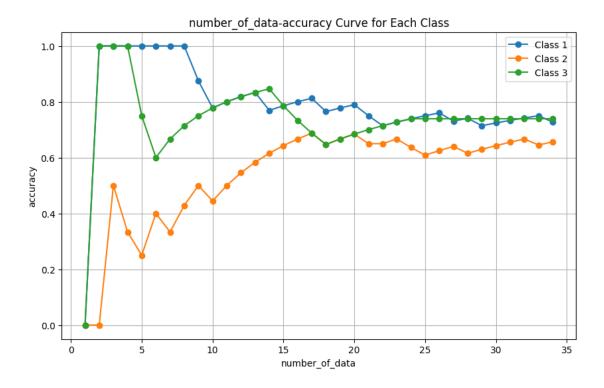


Figure 4.1c Accuracy v/s Data curve of 40x

In the above graphs:

Class 1: Black Pepper

Class 2: Long Pepper

Class 3: Ginger

Classifier Accuracy Assessment: The bar plot below showcases the accuracy of each classifier, elucidating the performance distribution across the classification task. The analysis reveals varying degrees of accuracy among the classifiers, providing insights into their effectiveness in categorizing different classes of data.

Performance Distribution: The accuracy of each classifier is measured based on its ability to correctly classify samples into their respective classes. The classifiers are evaluated across different numbers of samples, allowing us to observe how their performance evolves with increasing data.

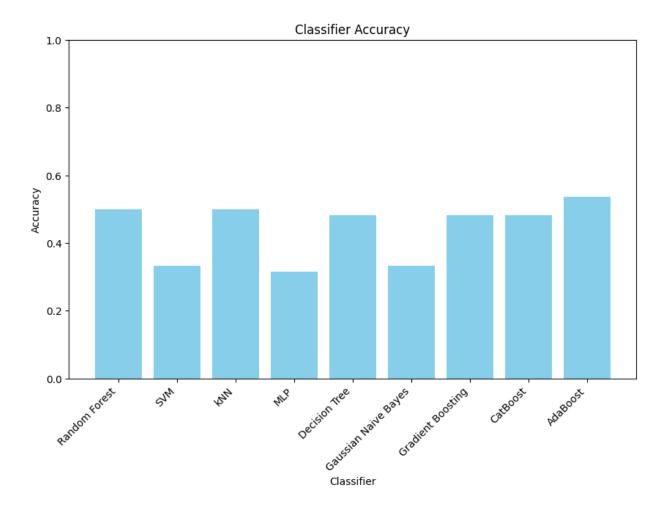


Figure 4.1d Classifier Accuracy

These accuracy values provide a comparative assessment of the classifiers' performance, guiding model selection, and ensemble strategies.

CONCLUSION

5.1 SUMMARY AND FUTURE SCOPES

The study concludes with support for the effectiveness of the proposed approach in powder microscopy image classification. Through the utilization of advanced deep learning architectures, specifically tailored for microscopy image classification tasks, and the integration of domain-specific expertise, the study demonstrates promising results in accurately classifying powder microscopy images.

Identification of Avenues for Future Research and Refinement:

- 1. Ensuring a More Robust and Generalizable Model: Despite the promising results, there's a recognition of the need to further refine the model to ensure robustness and generalizability across diverse datasets and conditions. This could involve investigating techniques for data augmentation, regularization, and transfer learning to enhance model performance across different microscopy datasets.
- 2. **Real-World Applicability Focus:** To make the developed model more applicable in real-world scenarios, future research could focus on addressing practical challenges such as handling variations in image quality, scalability to large datasets, and integration with existing microscopy workflows. Additionally, exploring the deployment of the model in practical settings and evaluating its performance in real-world applications would be crucial for assessing its utility and effectiveness beyond research settings.

3. To correctly determine different components from the mixture of ginger, black pepper and long pepper

In summary, the study not only provides insightful information about the efficient application of deep learning for powder microscopy image classification but also sets the stage for further research aimed at refining the model for real-world applications and ensuring its broader impact in the field.

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