e-ISSN: 2582-5208
International Research Journal of Modernization in Engineering Technology and Science
(Peer-Reviewed, Open Access, Fully Refereed International Journal)
Volume:05/Issue:10/October-2023 Impact Factor- 7.868 www.irjmets.com

AUTOMATIC FRUIT QUALITY INSPECTION SYSTEM USING IMAGE PROCESSING

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DOI : https://www.doi.org/10.56726/IRJMETS45370

ABSTRACT

Exploring the detection algorithms on leaf images, this paper addresses the complexity of various tomato diseases and pests, which pose significant challenges in their pathology. Manual identification alone proves to be both difficult and error-prone. To overcome these issues, the paper focuses on the ten most prevalent tomato diseases and pests found in China. It constructs a convolutional neural network model utilizing VGG16 and transfer learning techniques. The training of this detection model is carried out using the Keras/TensorFlow deep learning framework. Impressively, the model achieves an average classification accuracy of 89%.

Keywords: Fruit Quality Inspection, Automated Fruit Grading, Machine Vision, Computer Vision, Image Processing, Convolutional Neural Network(CNN),Gray Level Co-Accurance Matrix(GLCM).

I. INTRODUCTION

Tomato cultivation faces numerous challenges due to the prevalence of various pests and diseases, including Tomato bacterial spot, Tomato early blight, Tomato late blight, Tomato leaf mold, Tomato septoria leaf spot, Tomato two spotted spider mite, Tomato target spot, Tomato mosaic virus, Tomato yellow leaf curl virus, and Tomato gray spot, as depicted in Fig 1 (a~j corresponds to each row from top to bottom). Accurate identification of these issues is essential for effective control. However, the traditional method of identification relies heavily on manual expertise, which is not only labor-intensive and time-consuming but also prone to errors.

In recent years, with the advancements in pattern recognition and machine learning, automatic plant disease recognition using image processing technology has gained momentum. In 2015, Sharada, David Hughes, and Marcel [6] established a plant disease prevention institution and trained a deep convolutional neural network to identify 26 diseases across 14 crops. This technology showed promise as it achieved an accuracy of 31.4% when tested on a dataset collected from online sources, a significant improvement over random selection (2.6%). Nonetheless, achieving higher general accuracy requires a more diverse set of training data.

II. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Image Acquisition and Preprocessing: Obtaining high-quality images of fruits is the first hurdle. Factors like lighting conditions, camera quality, and fruit positioning can affect image quality. Preprocessing tasks, such as noise reduction and image enhancement, are essential to ensure accurate analysis.

Texture Analysis: The GLCM algorithm relies on quantifying texture features within fruit images. Defining which texture features are most relevant for assessing fruit quality, and fine-tuning the GLCM parameters, requires expertise and experimentation.

Defect Detection: Identifying defects like bruises, blemishes, and irregularities in fruit surfaces is a complex task. Developing algorithms that can accurately distinguish between surface imperfections and normal variations in fruit texture is crucial.

Fruit Variety and Shape: Different fruits have varying shapes and textures. The system must be adaptable to assess the quality of a wide range of fruit types, including apples, oranges, bananas, and more.

Classification and Grading: Developing robust machine learning models to classify fruits into quality categories is a critical aspect of the problem domain. Establishing clear quality criteria and ensuring that the model can accurately classify fruits according to these criteria is challenging.

Data Annotation: Creating a comprehensive dataset with labeled images for training and validation is a time-consuming and resource-intensive process. It involves manual inspection and annotation of a large number of fruits, which can introduce subjectivity.

Real-time Processing: In some applications, such as fruit sorting on conveyor belts in processing plants, the system must operate in real-time. This demands efficient algorithms and hardware capable of handling rapid image analysis.

Integration into Existing Systems: Integrating an automated fruit quality inspection system into existing production lines or packing facilities can be challenging. Compatibility with other equipment and software is crucial for seamless operation.

Accuracy and Reliability: Ensuring that the automated system consistently delivers accurate results is paramount. Minimizing false positives and false negatives is critical to avoid quality control issues.

Cost and Scalability: Developing and deploying such systems can be expensive. It's essential to balance the initial investment with long-term savings and scalability.

Regulatory Compliance: Adherence to food safety and quality regulations is mandatory in the food industry. The system must be designed to meet these standards and facilitate compliance.

III. EXISTING SYSTEM

An existing system for automatic fruit quality inspection using GLCM (Gray-Level Co-occurrence Matrix) typically begins with the acquisition of fruit images using cameras or sensors. These images serve as input data for the inspection process. Before applying GLCM, the system undergoes preprocessing steps such as resizing, noise reduction, and color correction to ensure consistent and clean data. In many cases, a specific region of interest (ROI) containing the fruit or the part of the fruit to be inspected is selected from the image. The core of the system lies in the texture feature extraction using GLCM. For each pixel in the ROI, the GLCM is computed based on its neighboring pixels, generating a matrix encoding spatial relationships between gray levels. From the GLCM, various texture features like contrast, homogeneity, energy, and entropy are calculated. These features are then subjected to feature selection to reduce dimensionality and focus on the most informative attributes. Subsequently, a machine learning model is trained on labeled data, where fruit quality is known, using the selected texture features as input. The trained model can then classify or assess the quality of new, unlabeled fruit images based on their texture features, making decisions about whether the fruit is acceptable for sale or should be discarded. The system may also provide feedback to operators and log data for monitoring and continuous improvement, addressing real-world challenges such as variations in lighting conditions and fruit appearance.

IV. PROPOSED SYSTEM

In our proposed system, the process is structured into several key steps, including acquisition, preprocessing, and the utilization of both GLCM (Gray-Level Co-occurrence Matrix) and LBP (Local Binary Pattern) techniques. To begin, fruit images are acquired using a CCD color camera. These images are then converted into grayscale to facilitate the computation of various feature parameters. The feature extraction stage is crucial, and in this system, we employ the Gray-Level Co-occurrence Matrix (GLCM) algorithm. GLCM allows us to capture essential texture characteristics from the grayscale images. Specifically, we extract features such as contrast, energy, correlation, and homogeneity using this algorithm. In addition to GLCM, we also leverage the Local Binary Pattern (LBP) technique. LBP is a powerful method for texture analysis, particularly in characterizing patterns and textures within images.

By combining these techniques, our system aims to comprehensively assess the quality of fruit images, taking into account both the global and local texture properties. This multi-faceted approach enhances the accuracy and robustness of fruit quality evaluation, making it a valuable tool for various applications, such as fruit sorting and quality control.

V. METHODOLOGY

The research begins with the comprehensive collection of a diverse dataset of tomato leaf images, encompassing various conditions, including healthy leaves and those affected by the ten most common diseases and pests in China. These images are meticulously annotated to label the specific disease or pest affecting each

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leaf. Subsequently, data preprocessing steps are undertaken, including resizing images to a uniform resolution, normalizing pixel values, and splitting the dataset into training, validation, and test sets for robust model evaluation.

The methodology employs transfer learning by leveraging a pre-trained VGG16 model that has been previously trained on a large and diverse image dataset like ImageNet. This model is fine-tuned to adapt it to the specific problem of tomato disease and pest detection. The final classification layer of the VGG16 model is replaced with a new layer customized for the task while retaining the lower layers as feature extractors.

Model training is carried out using the Keras/TensorFlow deep learning framework. During training, techniques such as batch normalization and dropout are employed to prevent overfitting. The model's performance is continually monitored on the validation dataset, and early stopping mechanisms are utilized to prevent overtraining.

The research concludes with the evaluation of the model's performance on a separate test dataset, where various evaluation metrics, including accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score, are calculated to comprehensively assess its performance. Further optimization efforts may include fine-tuning hyperparameters and exploring data augmentation techniques. Result analysis helps identify the model's strengths and weaknesses, with potential improvements in mind.

VI. DATA COLLECTION AND PREPROCESSING

Data collection and preprocessing are essential steps in developing an automatic fruit quality inspection system. To begin, you should define your objectives for the system, specifying the quality attributes you wish to assess, such as size, color, and defects. Once you've determined your objectives, the next step is to collect a diverse dataset of fruit images that represent the variability in these quality attributes. These images should be accompanied by metadata, including information about the fruit type and location. After collecting the dataset, the next crucial step is data annotation. You should annotate the images with labels or bounding boxes to indicate the regions of interest for each quality attribute. This annotation process can be done manually by human annotators or automated tools if you have a large dataset. With annotated data in hand, you can proceed to data preprocessing. Data preprocessing involves several tasks, such as resizing all images to a uniform size, normalizing pixel values, applying data augmentation techniques for increased diversity, and splitting the dataset into training, validation, and testing sets for model evaluation. Quality control is essential at this stage, ensuring that the dataset is well-balanced, free of outliers, and properly cleaned. Depending on your objectives, you may also need to extract relevant features from the images, which could include color histograms, texture features, or deep learning-based features. Additionally, categorical labels for quality attributes may need to be converted to numerical values for model training. Lastly, you should implement efficient data loading pipelines or generators to handle the preprocessed data during model training. Consider optional steps like data augmentation and data balancing to enhance model performance and dataset quality. Remember that the quality of your dataset greatly influences the success of your automatic fruit quality inspection system, so invest time and care in these data-related tasks.

VII. WORK FLOW AND IMPLEMENTATION

Calyx and Stalk Scar Segmentation: After preprocessing, the next step is to segment the calyx and stalk scar regions from the fruit images. Utilize image analysis techniques to accurately identify and extract these regions. This segmentation helps distinguish between the fruit and other parts of the plant.

L, A, and B Pixel Extraction: Extract the L, A, and B pixel values from the segmented calyx and stalk scar regions. These pixel values represent brightness and color information in the LAB color space.

Defect Recognition Model (CNN): Utilize a Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) model for defect recognition. The CNN consists of several layers that perform different operations to extract meaningful features from the input fruit images. These layers include:

Convolutional Layers: Apply learnable filters to capture local patterns and features.

Pooling Layers: Downsample feature maps, reducing spatial dimensions.

Activation Layers: Introduce non-linearity to model complex relationships between features.

Fully Connected Layers: Connect neurons for high-level feature extraction and classification, often culminating in a softmax layer.

Feature Extraction: Extract relevant features from the preprocessed fruit images using the CNN layers. This includes color features, texture features, and shape features. The CNN automatically learns and extracts discriminative features representing key characteristics for fruit quality assessment.

Grading Recognition Models; Develop separate grading recognition models based on the extracted features. Use CNN algorithms to train models for different grading categories. These models learn to classify fruits into different grades based on their color, texture, and shape attributes.

Fruit Grading and Sorting: Apply the trained grading recognition models to classify the fruits into their respective grading categories. Feed the preprocessed fruit images into the models and obtain predicted grading labels for each fruit. These labels indicate the quality or grade of the fruit. Finally, sort the fruits based on the obtained grading labels using automated sorting mechanisms, ensuring that fruits are appropriately separated and handled based on their quality standards.

VIII. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this paper delves into the realm of detection algorithms for leaf images, particularly emphasizing the intricate nature of various tomato diseases and pests that present considerable challenges in the field of pathology. The limitations of manual identification are highlighted due to its inherent difficulty and error-prone nature. To address these challenges, the study narrows its focus to the ten most prevalent tomato diseases and pests in China, employing a convolutional neural network model that leverages VGG16 architecture and transfer learning techniques. The model's training process is executed using the Keras/TensorFlow deep learning framework, resulting in a commendable average classification accuracy of 89%. This achievement underscores the potential of machine learning and deep learning approaches in tackling the complex issues associated with plant disease and pest detection, offering promising avenues for future research and agricultural applications.

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