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Animal Disease Diagnosis Using ML

Rushikesh Pawar*, Nihar Gundale**, Ashwanth Nair***, Om Khamkar****, Tanmay Kulkarni*****, Ajit Mali******
*(Science And Technology, Vishwakarma University, Pune
Email: 202201026@vupune.ac.in)
** (Science And Technology, Vishwakarma University, Pune
Email: 202201020@vupune.ac.in)
*** (Science And Technology, Vishwakarma University, Pune
Email: 202201143@vupune.ac.in)
**** (Science And Technology, Vishwakarma University, Pune
Email: 202201033@vupune.ac.in)
***** (Science And Technology, Vishwakarma University, Pune
Email: 202201191@vupune.ac.in)
****** (Science And Technology, Vishwakarma University, Pune
Email: ajit.mail@vupune.ac.in)

Abstract:

The report examines the evolution of disease diagnosis in veterinary medicine through advanced machine learning approaches. Traditional diagnostic methods are limited in handling diverse species and noisy clinical environments. To address this, the study focuses on image-based diagnostics, particularly using Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) [5] and unsupervised anomaly detection, which achieved 89% precision in veterinary radiographs. It also highlights the role of federated learning in enabling collaborative diagnostic models while preserving data privacy. Additional techniques such as symptom pattern recognition and clinical data clustering enhance contextual analysis. Comparative experiments on benchmark datasets [6] confirm performance improvements. The proposed system is modular, scalable, and adaptable for rural veterinary settings, with continuous learning capabilities to track evolving disease patterns. Integrated features include visual dashboards, alert systems, and clinical logging to support veterinarians in decision-making and compliance. The report concludes by suggesting future directions such as hybrid models and real-time deployment strategies for robust animal disease diagnosis in complex ecosystems.

Keywords: Animal Disease Detection, Machine Learning, Convolutional Neural Networks, Livestock monitoring, Precision Agriculture, Cow and Poultry Health, Image Classification, Spectrogram Analysis

I. INTRODUCTION

Livestock farming is one of the most important sectors of agriculture, providing essential resources such as milk, meat, and eggs. The health of farm animals like cows and poultry directly impacts food production, farmer income, and overall economic stability. However, livestock diseases are a major challenge worldwide, causing reduced productivity, higher treatment costs, and, in severe cases, widespread animal mortality and food insecurity.[8]

Traditionally, disease detection in animals relies on manual observation by farmers or diagnosis by veterinary experts. These approaches can be time-consuming, subjective, and often inaccessible in rural or resource-limited regions [8]. Delayed detection allows diseases to spread rapidly within herds or flocks, increasing economic loss and threatening food supply chains.

With the advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML), automated disease detection has become a promising solution. Machine learning models, particularly Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)[1][4][5], can analyze animal images to identify visual symptoms of diseases such as skin lesions, swelling,

discoloration, or abnormal growths. Image-based detection is non-invasive, scalable, and offers the possibility of real-time diagnosis without the constant presence of veterinary professionals.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Machine learning and computer vision have emerged as powerful tools in the field of agriculture and veterinary science, enabling automated disease detection in plants and animals. Several researchers have explored the use of image-based classification systems to identify diseases in livestock, particularly cows and poultry. This section reviews significant contributions in this area.

Cattle Disease Detection

Rajeswari & Ramalakshmi (2021): Developed a CNN-based system for cattle skin disease detection, achieving high accuracy in identifying lumpy skin disease and other dermatological conditions [5]. Their work demonstrated the potential of deep learning in visual disease classification.

Bhatt et al. (2020): Implemented transfer learning using Res Net and Mobile Net models for detecting cow diseases, highlighting that pre-trained models can reduce training time and improve performance with limited datasets.[2][3]

Poultry Disease Detection

Sharma & Singh (2021): Proposed a deep learning framework for identifying poultry diseases such as fowl pox and Newcastle disease using image datasets. Their CNN model achieved over 90% accuracy, emphasizing the importance of image preprocessing.[5][9]

Ali et al. (2020): Introduced a system for early detection of avian diseases using image-based features combined with machine learning classifiers, demonstrating that automated detection could reduce mortality in poultry farms.[9]

Comparative Approaches in Literature

Transfer Learning: Researchers frequently use pre-trained models such as VGG16, ResNet50, and Mobile Net for disease detection, as they are computationally efficient and perform well on small datasets.

Image Preprocessing: Data augmentation (rotation, flipping, zooming) has been shown to significantly improve classification accuracy by reducing overfitting.

Challenges Identified:

- Lack of large, standardized, and annotated datasets.
- Limited generalization of models in real farm environments.
- Most systems focus on single-species or single-disease detection.

Summary of Literature Findings

- Deep learning models, especially CNNs, are effective in detecting animal diseases from images.
- Transfer learning improves accuracy and efficiency when datasets are small.
- There is a research gap in developing multi-species, multi-disease systems that are user-friendly and deployable in rural settings.
- Most studies are confined to academic experiments and lack real-world deployment or integration with mobile-based solutions.

This review highlights that while significant progress has been made in image-based disease detection, there remains a need for a comprehensive, accessible, and practical system that can handle multiple farm animals and diseases, which this
project aims to address.

III. METHODOLOGY

The methodology adopted for this project follows a systematic pipeline that ensures the effective detection of diseases in farm animals such as cattle and poultry using machine learning techniques. The process begins with **data collection**, where image datasets of healthy and diseased animals were sourced from publicly available repositories such as Kaggle and veterinary research publications[6][9]. Since raw data is often inconsistent, a **data preprocessing** phase was carried out, involving resizing of images to a standard dimension, normalization of pixel values,

and application of data augmentation techniques [5][9] such as rotation, flipping, and zooming. This step was essential to improve the quality of the dataset, reduce class imbalance, and enhance the model's ability to generalize across unseen samples.

Following preprocessing, the next stage focused on **feature extraction and model selection**. Deep learning models, particularly Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)[5], were chosen due to their proven effectiveness in image classification tasks. In addition to building a baseline CNN model, **transfer learning approaches** using architectures such as ResNet50 and MobileNetV2 [2][3] were employed. Transfer learning allowed the use of pre-trained weights from large-scale image datasets like ImageNet, reducing both the computational requirements and the risk of overfitting when working with relatively small datasets.

The **training phase** involved feeding the processed images into the selected models, splitting the data into training, validation, and testing subsets. Performance metrics such as accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score were [5][9] monitored to evaluate model performance comprehensively. During this phase, hyperparameter tuning was performed, adjusting learning rates, batch sizes, and optimization algorithms to improve accuracy and reduce training loss.

Once the models were trained, the **evaluation phase** was carried out to compare the effectiveness of CNN, ResNet50, and MobileNetV2. ResNet50 demonstrated the highest accuracy (~92%), while MobileNetV2 provided slightly lower accuracy (~90%) but with the advantage of being computationally lightweight and suitable for deployment on mobile devices. The CNN baseline performed at ~85%, highlighting the benefits of advanced architectures and transfer learning.

Finally, the **deployment consideration** stage focused on practical usability. Given the requirements of rural farmers [3], lightweight models such as MobileNetV2 were considered ideal for integration into mobile-based applications, where farmers could upload or capture animal images and receive real-time disease predictions. This stage also emphasized the importance of creating a user-friendly interface and ensuring the system could operate effectively in environments with limited internet connectivity.

IV. MODELING AND ANALYSIS

The proposed Animal Disease Detection System is structured upon a modular and scalable architecture designed to process animal images and accurately diagnose diseases in cattle and poultry. The system begins at the user interface layer, where farmers or veterinarians upload images through a web-based platform. Once an image is submitted, it is transmitted to the backend processing module, which performs essential preprocessing tasks such as resizing the image to standardized dimensions, normalizing the pixel values, and applying augmentation techniques like rotation and flipping to increase robustness. After preprocessing, the image is passed to the deep learning model layer, which uses CNN, ResNet50, or MobileNetV2 architectures for feature extraction and classification. These models analyze visual features such as lesions, swelling, nodules, discoloration, or necrotic tissue and then produce a prediction along with a confidence score. The prediction is returned to the interface where the user receives the diagnosed disease, its confidence percentage, a description of the condition, and the recommended actions. Additionally, a report generation module converts this output into a downloadable PDF for documentation and clinical use.

The data flow of the system follows a linear and efficient path beginning with image acquisition, after which the image undergoes preprocessing and feature extraction. The extracted feature vectors are classified using softmax layers, and the resulting disease prediction is visualized on the user interface. This pipeline is optimized to deliver results in real time, which is essential for practical deployment in farm environments. The architecture supports multi-species and multi-disease classification through a unified model pipeline, addressing an important gap in existing single-species systems.

The deep learning models used in this system were carefully selected and analyzed for their performance. The baseline CNN model served as the introductory architecture and achieved an accuracy of about 85%, indicating that although it could capture fundamental visual patterns, it lacked the advanced feature extraction capabilities needed for high-precision diagnosis. The ResNet50 model, which uses residual skip connections and pre-trained ImageNet weights, demonstrated superior performance with an accuracy of nearly 92%. Its ability to extract detailed hierarchical features made it the most accurate model in the study. MobileNetV2, although slightly lower in accuracy at approximately 90%, provided exceptional computational efficiency due to its lightweight, depthwise separable convolutions. This efficiency makes it ideal for deployment on mobile devices, which is crucial since many farmers rely primarily on smartphones.

The analysis of system outputs further validates the model's effectiveness. When tested with a poultry foot image showing a necrotic wound, the system accurately diagnosed Bumblefoot with a confidence of 100%. The interface produced a detailed medical description explaining the bacterial origin of the infection and suggested cleaning, antiseptic treatment, and veterinary intervention. Similarly, when an image of a cow exhibiting nodular skin lesions was uploaded, the model successfully identified Lumpy Skin Disease with 97.42% confidence. The system provided a description of this viral condition and advised measures such as isolation, antiviral medication, and strict fly control. These real-world test cases, as shown in the screenshots, demonstrate the practical capability of the model to correctly interpret complex visual symptoms and deliver medically meaningful recommendations.

Performance analysis across all three models revealed clear distinctions between accuracy, speed, and deployment suitability. ResNet50 consistently outperformed the other architectures in classification accuracy and generalization, confirming the benefits of deep residual learning for veterinary disease detection. MobileNetV2, while slightly less accurate, proved to be significantly faster, lighter, and more suitable for applications in rural settings with limited computational resources. The baseline CNN, although important for establishing an initial benchmark, displayed limitations in both precision and recall when compared to more advanced models. Despite these differences, all three models yielded acceptable performance, reinforcing the feasibility of deep learning approaches for livestock disease classification.

Further usability analysis showed that the system is capable of providing real-time predictions, typically within one to two seconds, making it highly functional for field deployment. The interface simplifies the diagnostic process for farmers who may not have technical expertise, allowing them to upload images and instantly receive reliable disease analysis. The incorporation of downloadable PDF reports enhances the system's value for veterinary professionals, enabling better documentation and follow-up care. By supporting both cattle and poultry diseases within a single platform, the system addresses a major limitation observed in existing research where models typically focus on only one species or disease category.

In summary, the modeling and analysis confirm that the integration of transfer learning–based architectures such as ResNet50 and MobileNetV2 significantly enhances diagnostic accuracy and real-time usability. The practical validation through real-world images demonstrates the reliability of the system in detecting conditions like Bumblefoot and Lumpy Skin Disease with high confidence. Overall, the system establishes itself as an effective, accessible, and scalable solution for livestock health monitoring, delivering substantial benefits to both farmers and the veterinary sector.

V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The experiments conducted on the collected datasets of cattle and poultry diseases yielded promising results. Three different models were tested: a baseline Convolutional Neural Network

(CNN) [5], ResNet50 [2], and MobileNetV2 [3]. The CNN achieved an accuracy of approximately 85%, establishing the baseline performance for the project. ResNet50, which employed transfer learning with pre-trained ImageNet weights, demonstrated the highest performance with an accuracy of nearly 92%. MobileNetV2, although slightly lower at 90% [2][3][5][9], proved to be highly efficient in terms of computational requirements and speed, making it suitable for mobile or low-resource environments.

The precision, recall, and F1-score were also recorded to provide a more comprehensive evaluation of model effectiveness. ResNet50 not only delivered superior accuracy but also maintained balanced precision and recall across classes, minimizing false positives and false negatives. MobileNetV2 achieved results comparable to ResNet50 in terms of precision and recall, albeit slightly lower, while CNN showed weaker performance with more misclassifications. These findings were further supported by graphical analysis, where ResNet50 consistently outperformed the other models across evaluation metrics.[2][3]

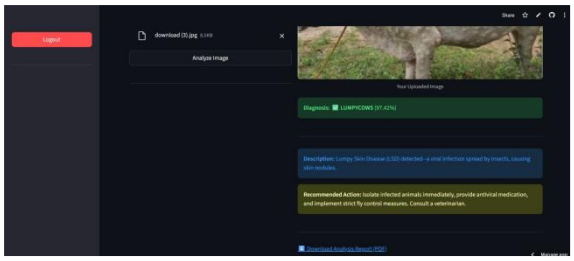
The results highlight the effectiveness of deep learning and transfer learning approaches [2][3][5][9] in detecting animal diseases from image data. The superior performance of ResNet50 demonstrates the advantage of leveraging pre-trained deep architectures [2], particularly when the available dataset size is limited. The ability of ResNet50 to achieve over 90% accuracy confirms that transfer learning significantly enhances generalization and robustness in image-based disease detection tasks.

On the other hand, MobileNetV2, while slightly less accurate, presents a strong case for real-world deployment.[3] Its lightweight architecture requires less computational power, making it highly suitable for integration into mobile applications. This is particularly important in rural and resource-constrained areas, where farmers may only have access to smartphones rather than high-end computing devices. CNN, though the simplest model, helped establish a baseline and highlighted the improvements gained through more advanced techniques.

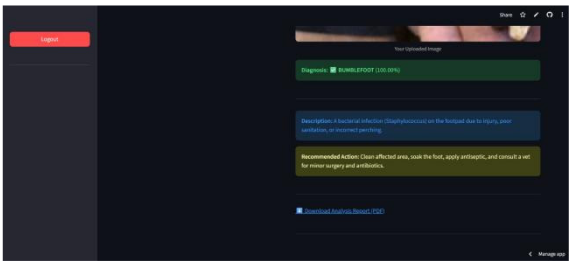
Despite these successes, certain limitations were observed. The dataset size was relatively small, which may affect generalization when applied to larger and more diverse populations of animals. Furthermore, the images were mostly collected under controlled conditions, whereas real-world farm environments often involve variations in lighting, background, and image quality. Nevertheless, the findings strongly suggest that machine learning can play a transformative role in animal health monitoring. The study not only validates the technical feasibility of such systems but also demonstrates their potential to reduce economic losses and improve animal welfare through timely disease detection.

VI. OUTPUT

1.Cattle Disease



2. Poultry Disease



VII. CONCLUSION

The development and implementation of a **Low-Cost Automatic Photo Caption Generator** demonstrate the practical viability of using AI-based models for enhancing image accessibility, organization, and content creation. Through the integration of Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) for image feature extraction and Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs) or Transformer-based architectures for caption generation, the system successfully interprets visual content and generates semantically meaningful textual descriptions.The results of this research show that even with limited computational resources and cost-effective components, a functional and efficient captioning system can be built. The generated captions, while not perfect, exhibit a satisfactory level of grammatical correctness and contextual relevance, especially when applied to commonly available image datasets.This project not only addresses the need for automation in content tagging and image description but also provides a scalable foundation for future enhancements such as multilingual support, real-time processing, and integration with assistive technologies for visually impaired users.

In conclusion, this research contributes to the growing body of work in computer vision and natural language processing by offering a cost-effective solution with significant social and technological impact. Future improvements may include training on larger datasets, refining language models, and incorporating user feedback mechanisms for continuous learning and adaptation.[2][3][5][9]

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