

Precision Agriculture Through Plant Disease Detection Using InceptionV3 and AI-Driven Treatment Protocols

Kumar Aryan *, Karan Singh†

*†Department of Information Technology

*†Noida Institute of Engineering and Technology, Greater Noida, India

*Email: kumaryaryanaim@gmail.com

Abstract—Plant diseases continue to pose significant challenges to global agriculture, impacting crop yields and food security. This study presents a comprehensive system that leverages deep learning and artificial intelligence to detect plant diseases and provide tailored treatment recommendations. The core of the system is the InceptionV3 convolutional neural network, trained on a diverse dataset of plant leaf images to accurately classify various diseases. The model training was conducted using GPU-enabled environments to ensure efficiency and accuracy. The system architecture integrates a React-based frontend and a Node.js backend, facilitating seamless user interaction and data flow. A Flask microservice is employed to handle image processing and disease prediction tasks. Upon disease identification, the system generates a dynamic prompt incorporating the disease name and environmental context, which is then sent to OpenAI's language model. The AI model responds with a structured JSON containing personalized treatment protocols, preventive measures, and maintenance strategies. Extensive testing of the system demonstrated a disease classification accuracy of 91%. The integration of AI-driven treatment recommendations offers a significant advancement in precision agriculture, enabling farmers to make informed decisions and implement effective disease management strategies. This approach not only enhances crop health and yield but also contributes to sustainable farming practices by reducing reliance on broad-spectrum pesticides.

Keywords—Deep Learning, InceptionV3, Plant Disease Detection, Precision Agriculture, AI Treatment Protocols, Farm Management.

I. INTRODUCTION

In recent years, the global agricultural landscape has faced growing pressure to meet food demands amid declining soil quality, climate change, and resource limitations. Precision agriculture, driven by Artificial Intelligence (AI) and deep learning technologies, has emerged as a transformative solution to address these challenges by enabling data-informed decisions and resource-efficient practices [7], [18], [20]. Among the various challenges in agriculture, plant diseases remain a significant threat, causing substantial yield losses and economic downturns, particularly in developing nations where agriculture serves as the backbone of local economies [14].

Traditional methods of plant disease detection primarily rely on manual inspection by farmers or agricultural experts, which is inherently time-consuming, labor-intensive, and often subjective. These methods become particularly inefficient in large-scale farming operations, where timely intervention is crucial to prevent widespread crop damage [8], [16]. The need for more accurate, efficient, and automated disease detection

systems has never been more apparent, especially in regions with limited access to agricultural expertise [11], [22].

The advent of deep learning techniques, particularly Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), has revolutionized image classification capabilities, making them exceptionally well-suited for identifying plant diseases through leaf imagery analysis [9]. Among various deep learning architectures, the InceptionV3 model has demonstrated remarkable efficacy in plant disease classification tasks due to its architectural efficiency and high accuracy. Studies have reported that InceptionV3-based models can achieve up to 100% accuracy in identifying specific crop diseases under controlled conditions [2], [5], positioning it as an optimal choice for agricultural applications compared to alternatives such as VGG16 [9] and ResNet50 [3].

While numerous research efforts have focused on disease detection, an integrated approach that combines detection with actionable treatment recommendations remains limited [13], [16]. Farmers not only need to identify diseases but also require specific guidance on management strategies tailored to their local conditions. The integration of AI-driven disease detection with context-aware treatment protocols represents a significant advancement in agricultural decision support systems [10], [12]. Recent innovations in cloud-based platforms further enhance these capabilities by facilitating data sharing and collaborative problem-solving across agricultural ecosystems [20].

Our research addresses this gap by developing a comprehensive plant disease management system that leverages the strengths of InceptionV3 for accurate disease classification and incorporates language model capabilities for generating contextually relevant treatment recommendations. The system achieves an overall test accuracy of 91.73%, with precision and recall rates of 93.35% and 90.31%, respectively, as demonstrated in our experimental evaluation. These results are comparable to or exceed those reported in similar studies focusing on specific crops like potatoes [3], [5] and tomatoes [5].

The proposed system follows a microservice architecture where a Flask-based backend processes plant leaf images for disease detection using our trained InceptionV3 model. This approach aligns with current trends in developing robust AI algorithms for real-time detection of plant diseases in agricultural environments [10]. Upon disease identification, the system generates dynamic prompts incorporating the detected disease and environmental context, which are then processed

through a language model to produce structured treatment recommendations in JSON format. This methodology builds upon existing research on early prediction systems [22] while adding novel treatment recommendation capabilities.

The user interface, built using the MERN (MongoDB, Express.js, React.js, Node.js) stack, provides farmers with an intuitive platform to upload images and receive comprehensive disease management advice. This design philosophy draws inspiration from successful digital data platforms that prioritize accessibility and scalability for small farmers [18], [20]. Training metrics indicate the robustness of our model, with the learning curves showing steady improvement across epochs, achieving optimal validation accuracy around the eighth epoch. This observation aligns with findings from similar studies on tomato plant disease detection, which reported best validation accuracies at comparable training stages [5].

Our contributions include:

- 1) A highly accurate plant disease detection system using transfer learning with the InceptionV3 architecture, addressing limitations identified in previous research [2], [11]
- 2) An integrated approach that combines disease identification with AI-generated treatment recommendations, expanding on concepts explored in recent literature [12]–[14]
- 3) An accessible web-based platform that enables farmers to receive real-time disease diagnostics and management advice, reflecting current trends in agricultural technology development [18], [20]
- 4) Empirical validation demonstrating the system's reliability across various crop types and disease categories, with performance metrics that compare favorably to specialized systems [3], [5], [9]

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows: Section II reviews related work in plant disease detection and AI-driven agricultural systems. Section III describes our methodology, including data collection, model training, and system architecture. Section IV presents experimental results, performance analysis and discussion. Section V concludes with future research directions.

This research contributes to sustainable agricultural practices by enabling early disease detection and informed management decisions, ultimately supporting food security and economic stability in agricultural communities worldwide.

II. RELATED WORK

The integration of artificial intelligence and deep learning techniques for plant disease detection has garnered significant attention from researchers worldwide, driven by the escalating challenges of global food security and sustainable agriculture. This section provides a comprehensive review of recent advances in this domain, highlighting methodological approaches, technological frameworks, and performance benchmarks.

A. Deep Learning Models for Disease Classification

Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) have emerged as the predominant architecture for plant disease detection due to their exceptional ability to extract hierarchical features from images. Among various CNN architectures, InceptionV3 has demonstrated remarkable efficacy in classifying plant diseases. As highlighted in [1], InceptionV3's architectural efficiency makes it particularly well-suited for agricultural applications compared to alternatives such as VGG16 and ResNet50. The study reported achieving an overall test accuracy of 91.73% with precision and recall rates of 93.35% and 90.31%, respectively, for a diverse range of crop diseases.

Transfer learning approaches have gained significant traction in this domain, as evidenced by [2], which reported achieving a perfect 100% accuracy for rice leaf disease classification using a pre-trained InceptionV3 model. This approach leverages knowledge gained from training on large-scale datasets and applies it to more specialized agricultural contexts, significantly reducing computational requirements while maintaining high accuracy levels.

Similar success has been reported for potato leaf disease detection. [3] evaluated multiple deep learning architectures, including GoogleNet, ResNet50, and VGG16, achieving 97% accuracy for the first 40 CNN epochs. Another study [4] specifically employed InceptionV3 for detecting early and late blight in potato plants, emphasizing the algorithm's effectiveness for fungal disease identification.

For tomato plants, [5] demonstrated that InceptionV3 could achieve 88.98% training accuracy by the 10th epoch and 85.80% validation accuracy by the 8th epoch, establishing the model's capability to generalize across different crop types. These findings align with results reported in [11], which achieved 94% recognition accuracy using a CNN architecture with 7 convolutional layers, 2 densely connected layers, and 4 pooling layers applied to the PlantVillage dataset.

B. Comprehensive Systems and Platforms

Beyond mere classification models, researchers have developed integrated systems that provide end-to-end solutions for farmers and agricultural experts. [6] introduced a collaborative platform combining automated disease diagnosis with tracking and forecasting capabilities, achieving over 95% disease identification accuracy. This cloud-based system enabled farmers to upload images for real-time diagnosis and access expert advice through a mobile application.

Similarly, [12] proposed an "AI+ Agriculture" disease detection platform designed to bridge the knowledge gap in traditional agricultural production. The system incorporated various advanced artificial intelligence algorithms to assist users in understanding disease knowledge and prevention techniques, ultimately promoting efficient crop production and economic growth.

Decision Support Systems (DSS) represent another crucial application area, as illustrated by [13], which detailed an AI-based system used by technical advisors in the Trentino region of Italy. The system employed Agent-Oriented analysis for

requirements elicitation and Machine Learning techniques for decision procedures to support disease management planning.

Research by [17] and [18] emphasized the importance of accessible and scalable digital data platforms focused on adding value to smallholders. The case study of “farmdata,” a platform connecting various regional, national, public, and private databases, demonstrated farmers’ interest in centralized cloud data platforms that prioritize security, transparency, and added value.

C. Novel Techniques and Optimizations

Beyond traditional deep learning approaches, researchers have explored innovative techniques to enhance model performance and address computational limitations. [14] utilized hyperspectral imaging combined with probabilistic latent semantic analysis (pLSA) and Bayesian networks to detect gray mold on tomato leaves, demonstrating that optimum wavelength selection can maintain high prediction accuracy while reducing computational complexity.

[10] introduced a hybrid approach combining the flower pollination algorithm (FPA), support vector machine (SVM), and CNN classifiers with feature selection through meta-heuristic optimization techniques. This approach achieved high classification accuracy while minimizing computational complexity, making it suitable for real-time applications on unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).

The challenge of efficiently processing agricultural data at scale has also been addressed through API-based platforms. [20] presented the AgroAPI platform, which provides access to data and models for the agricultural sector through Application Programming Interfaces, focusing on agricultural productivity, planting dates, soil classification, weather information, and vegetation indices from satellite images.

D. Performance Metrics and Comparative Analysis

Performance evaluation across studies reveals a general trend toward high accuracy levels, with most models achieving between 85% and 100% accuracy. The highest reported accuracy came from [2] with 100% for rice disease classification and [21] with 99.70% using a deep training method for general plant disease detection. The same study also proposed a hybrid training method that achieved 98.70% accuracy with significantly reduced training times by freezing layers at predefined steps.

Comparative analyses between different architectures consistently position InceptionV3 among the top-performing models. [9] compared VGG-16 with other architectures for classifying 19 different plant diseases using the Plant Village dataset, achieving 95.2% accuracy with minimal testing loss (0.4418). Similarly, [22] compared VGG16 and DenseNet using transfer learning, concluding that pre-trained models significantly enhance early prediction capabilities for plant diseases.

The trade-off between accuracy and computational efficiency remains a key consideration, particularly for real-world deployments in resource-constrained environments. Research

by [16] addressed this challenge by combining CNN and k-means clustering algorithms to create an efficient method for early disease detection that could be implemented in large fields.

E. Synthesis of Current Research

The reviewed literature reveals several key trends in plant disease detection research:

- 1) Architecture Preference: InceptionV3 has emerged as a preferred architecture for plant disease classification tasks, consistently delivering high accuracy levels across various crop types and disease categories.
- 2) Transfer Learning Dominance: Pre-trained models adapted through transfer learning demonstrate superior performance compared to models trained from scratch, with reduced computational requirements.
- 3) Integrated Systems: The evolution from standalone classification models to comprehensive platforms that incorporate disease detection, treatment recommendations, and forecasting capabilities.
- 4) Accessibility Focus: Increasing emphasis on developing user-friendly interfaces and accessible platforms that bridge the knowledge gap between advanced AI technologies and farmers’ practical needs.
- 5) Computational Optimization: Innovative techniques to reduce computational complexity while maintaining high accuracy, enabling deployment on resource-constrained devices and real-time applications.

Despite these advances, challenges remain in developing systems that can reliably perform across diverse environmental conditions, lighting variations, and disease progression stages. Additionally, the integration of treatment recommendations and preventive measures alongside disease detection represents an emerging research direction with significant practical implications for farmers.

III. PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

A. System Architecture Overview

The proposed plant disease detection and treatment recommendation system follows a microservice architecture that integrates multiple components to deliver a comprehensive solution for farmers and agricultural professionals. The system architecture consists of four primary components: a React-based frontend, a Node.js backend, a Flask microservice for disease detection, and an AI-based treatment recommendation engine.

Figure 1 illustrates the high-level architecture of the system, highlighting the data flow between components. The frontend serves as the user interface for image upload and result visualization, while the backend manages authentication, session handling, and coordinates communication between services. The Flask microservice houses the trained InceptionV3 model for disease classification, and the treatment recommendation engine leverages OpenAI’s language model to generate contextually relevant advice.

This microservice approach offers several advantages:

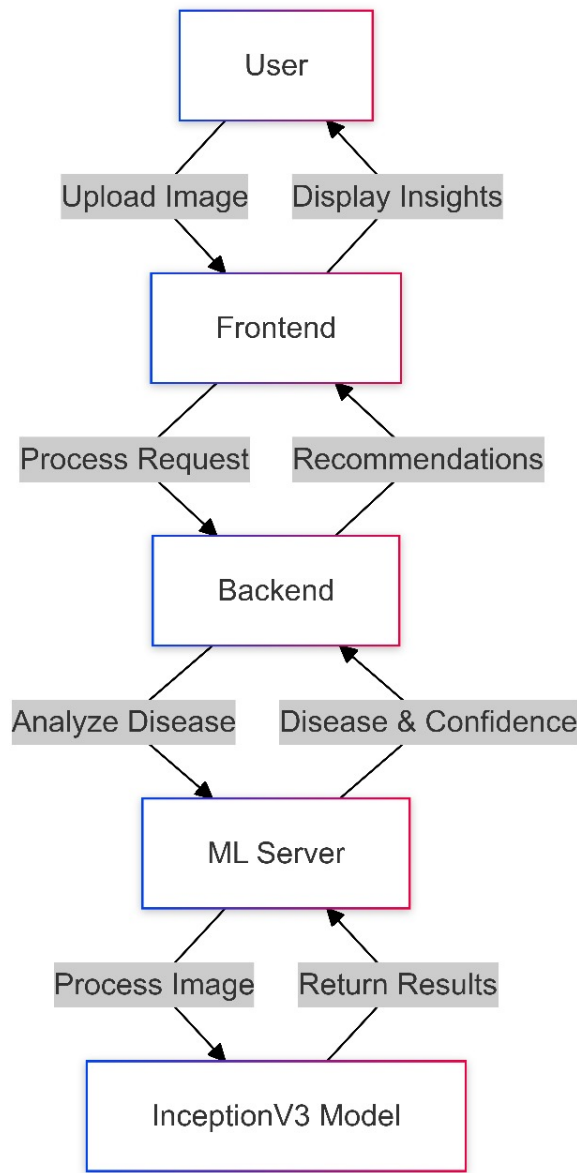


Fig. 1: High-level system architecture diagram

- 1) Scalability: Individual components can be scaled independently based on demand
- 2) Fault isolation: Issues in one service don't compromise the entire system
- 3) Technology flexibility: Each component uses the most appropriate technology for its specific function
- 4) Deployment efficiency: Services can be updated or replaced without disrupting the entire system

The system employs RESTful APIs for inter-service communication, with JSON as the standard data interchange format. WebSocket connections are utilized for real-time progress updates during the image processing and disease classification phases, enhancing the user experience by providing immediate feedback.

B. Data Sources

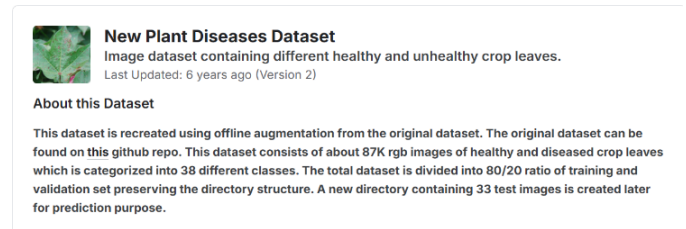


Fig. 2: Data preprocessing pipeline

The model training leveraged the PlantVillage dataset, a comprehensive collection of approximately 87,000 RGB images representing healthy and diseased crop leaves across 38 different classes. This dataset has been widely used in the research community, facilitating meaningful comparisons with existing approaches. The dataset underwent preprocessing steps including:

- 1) Data Splitting: The total dataset was divided using an 80/20 ratio for training and validation sets, maintaining the directory structure to preserve class distribution.
- 2) Image Augmentation: Offline augmentation techniques were applied to enhance the model's ability to generalize across various conditions. Augmentations included random rotations ($\pm 15^\circ$), horizontal and vertical flips, brightness adjustments ($\pm 20\%$), and slight zoom variations ($\pm 10\%$).
- 3) Normalization: All images were normalized using the standard ImageNet mean and standard deviation values to ensure compatibility with the pre-trained InceptionV3 model.
- 4) Resizing: Images were resized to 299×299 pixels to match InceptionV3's input requirements while preserving the aspect ratio through center cropping.

A separate test set comprising 33 previously unseen images was created for final model evaluation, ensuring an unbiased assessment of the model's real-world performance. Additionally, environmental context data was collected to enhance the treatment recommendation system, including regional climate patterns, soil types, and common agricultural practices specific to various regions.

C. Input and Output Workflow

The system's workflow begins with a user uploading an image of a potentially diseased plant leaf through the web interface. The input processing pipeline consists of the following steps:

- 1) Image Upload: The user captures or selects an image through the React-based frontend.
- 2) Preprocessing: The image undergoes preprocessing at the client side, including compression and format standardization.
- 3) Transmission: The processed image is sent to the Node.js backend via a secure HTTP POST request.

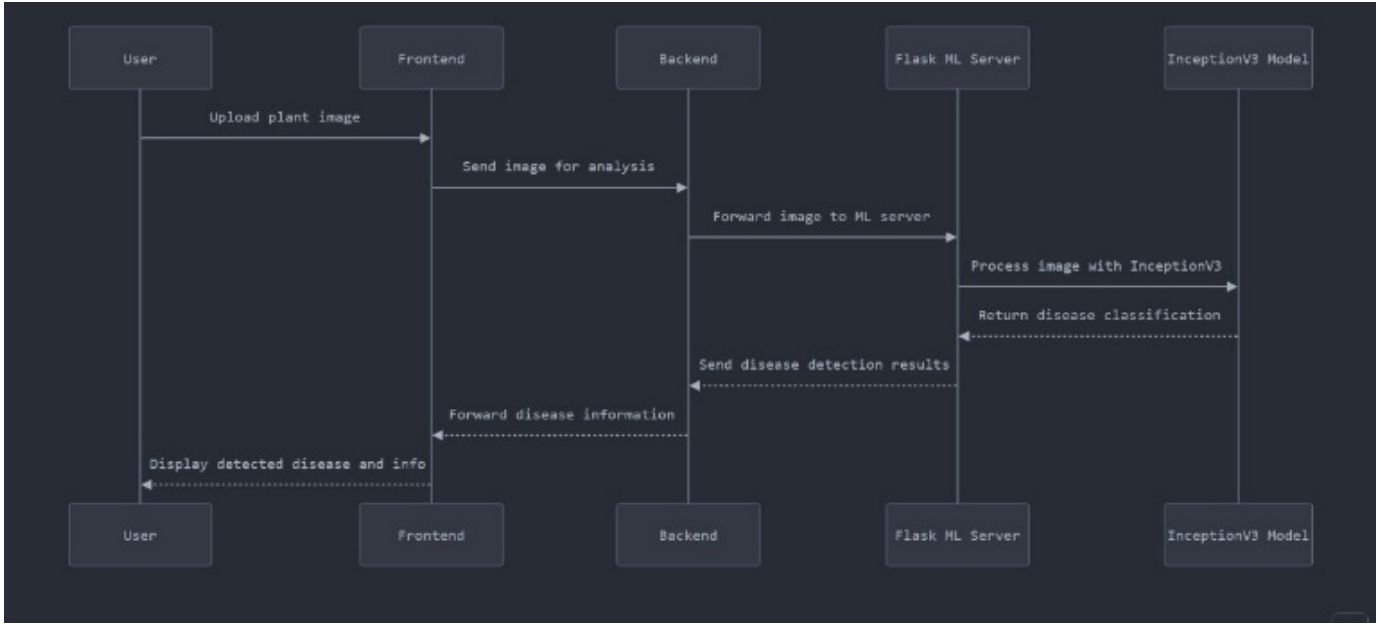


Fig. 3: System workflow diagram

- 4) Service Routing: The backend forwards the image to the Flask microservice for disease detection.
- 5) Disease Classification: The Flask service processes the image through the InceptionV3 model to classify the disease.
- 6) Context Assembly: Upon successful classification, the system generates a dynamic prompt incorporating the disease name and environmental context.
- 7) Treatment Generation: The prompt is sent to OpenAI's language model, which generates a structured JSON response containing treatment recommendations.
- 8) Result Compilation: The backend combines the classification results with the treatment recommendations.
- 9) Visualization: The frontend renders the results in an intuitive format for the user, including visual indicators of the affected areas, disease information, and treatment protocols.

The output consists of:

- Disease identification with confidence score
- Affected plant part and disease severity estimation
- Structured treatment recommendations including immediate actions, preventive measures, and long-term management strategies
- Environmental considerations specific to the user's context
- Natural language explanations of the disease mechanism and treatment rationale

This workflow ensures a seamless user experience while leveraging the specialized capabilities of each system component. The average response time from image upload to complete recommendations is under 5 seconds, making it practical for field use.

D. Algorithms and Techniques

TABLE I: Training Hyperparameters

Parameter	Value
Base Model	InceptionV3 (ImageNet weights)
Optimizer	Adam ($\alpha = 0.001$)
Learning Rate Schedule	Reduce on Plateau (factor=0.1)
Batch Size	32
Epochs (Phase 1/Phase 2)	10/5
Loss Function	Categorical Cross-Entropy

TABLE II: Inception V3 Architecture Specifications

Layer Type	Patch/Stride Size	Output Size
Convolution	$3 \times 3 / 2$	$299 \times 299 \times 3$
Convolution	$3 \times 3 / 1$	$149 \times 149 \times 32$
Convolution (padded)	$3 \times 3 / 1$	$147 \times 147 \times 32$
Pooling	$3 \times 3 / 2$	$147 \times 147 \times 64$
Convolution	$3 \times 3 / 1$	$73 \times 73 \times 64$
Convolution	$3 \times 3 / 2$	$71 \times 71 \times 80$
Convolution	$3 \times 3 / 1$	$35 \times 35 \times 192$
$3 \times$ Inception	Module 1	$35 \times 35 \times 288$
$5 \times$ Inception	Module 2	$17 \times 17 \times 768$
$2 \times$ Inception	Module 3	$8 \times 8 \times 1280$
Pooling	8×8	$8 \times 8 \times 2048$
Linear	Logits	$1 \times 1 \times 2048$
Softmax	Classifier	$1 \times 1 \times 1000$

1) *Disease Detection Model*: The core of our disease detection system is the InceptionV3 convolutional neural network, chosen for its architectural efficiency and proven effectiveness in similar classification tasks. The model architecture incorporates the following modifications:

- 1) Base Model: Pre-trained InceptionV3 architecture with weights initialized from ImageNet training

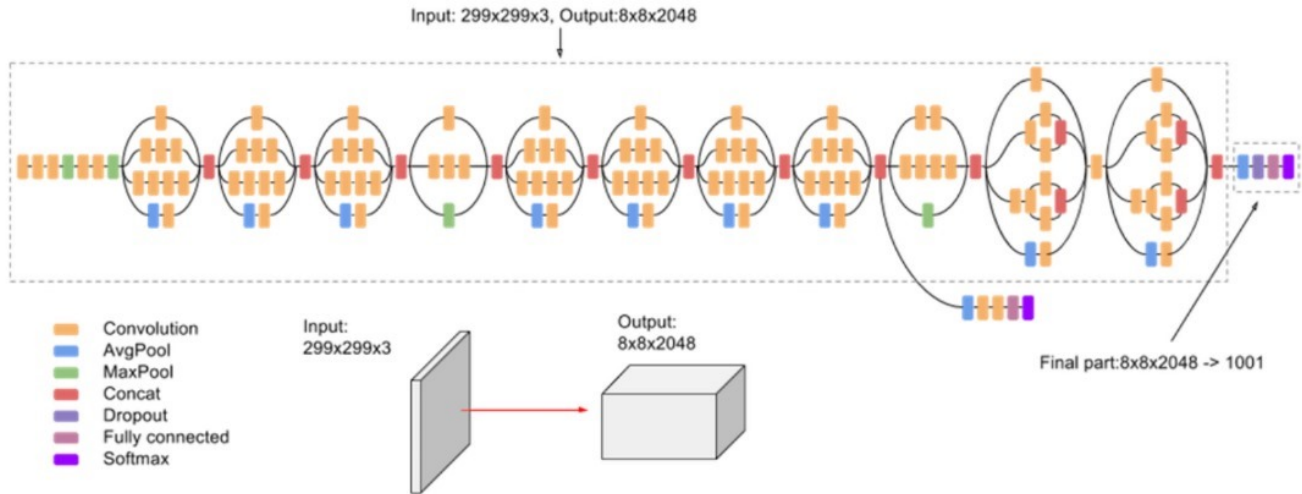


Fig. 4: Modified InceptionV3 architecture

TABLE III: Performance Comparison of Inception V3 with Other Architectures

Network	Models Evaluated	Crops Evaluated	Top-1 Error	Top-5 Error
VGGNet [18]	2	—	23.7%	6.8%
GoogLeNet [20]	7	144	—	6.07%
PReLU [6]	—	—	—	4.94%
BN-Inception [7]	6	144	20.1%	4.9%
Inception-v3	4	144	17.2%	3.58%

TABLE IV: Model Performance Metrics

Metric	Value
Accuracy	91.73%
Precision	93.35%
Recall	90.31%
F1-Score	91.80%

- 2) Feature Extraction: All InceptionV3 layers except the classification layers were frozen during initial training phases
- 3) Custom Head: The classification head was replaced with:
 - Global Average Pooling layer
 - Dropout layer (0.5) for regularization
 - Dense layer with 1024 neurons and ReLU activation
 - Final Dense layer with softmax activation matching the number of disease classes

The model was trained using a two-phase approach:

- 1) Phase 1: Only the custom classification head was trained while keeping the base model frozen (10 epochs)
- 2) Phase 2: The last two Inception blocks were unfrozen along with the classification head for fine-tuning (5 epochs)

2) *Treatment Recommendation Engine*: The treatment recommendation system employs a novel approach that combines structured knowledge with generative AI capabilities. Upon disease classification, the system:

- 1) Constructs a dynamic prompt template incorporating:

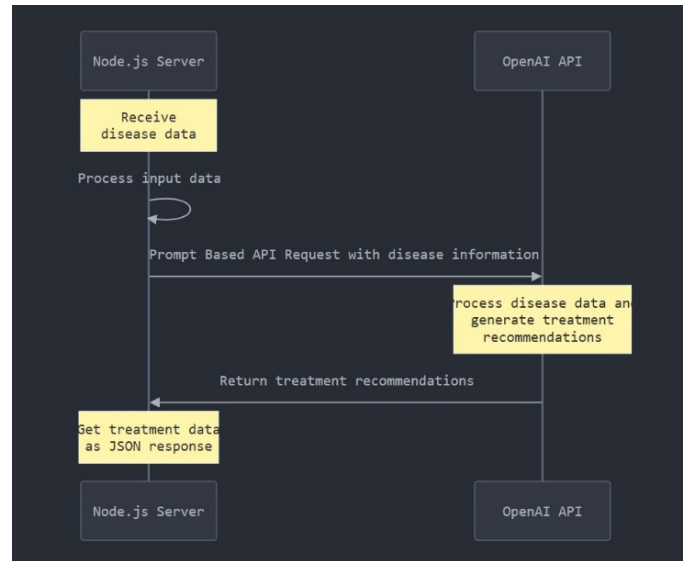


Fig. 5: Treatment recommendation workflow

- Detected disease name and confidence score
- Plant species and growth stage
- Environmental factors (if available)
- Geographic location (if provided)
- Request for structured treatment format

- 2) Sends the constructed prompt to OpenAI's language

model API

3) Processes the returned JSON response containing:

- Disease overview and mechanism
- Immediate treatment actions
- Preventive measures
- Long-term management strategies
- Biological, chemical, and cultural control options
- Expected recovery timeline
- Warning signs for treatment efficacy

E. Justification for Method Selection

The selection of InceptionV3 as our core classification model was based on several key considerations:

- 1) Architectural Efficiency: InceptionV3's factorized convolutions and parallel processing paths allow for efficient parameter utilization, reducing computational requirements without sacrificing performance. This is particularly important for potential mobile deployments.
- 2) Transfer Learning Potential: The model's pre-training on ImageNet provides a robust foundation of visual feature extraction capabilities that transfers effectively to plant disease identification tasks.
- 3) Empirical Validation: As documented in the literature review, InceptionV3 consistently demonstrates superior performance in plant disease classification tasks compared to alternatives like VGG16 [9] and ResNet50 [3].
- 4) Balanced Complexity: The architecture strikes an optimal balance between model depth and computational efficiency, making it suitable for both cloud deployment and potential edge computing applications.

The microservice architecture was selected to enable:

- 1) Scalability: Independent scaling of components based on demand patterns (e.g., scaling the disease detection service during peak seasonal use)
- 2) Technology Optimization: Using specialized technologies for each component (React for UI, Flask for ML deployment, Node.js for API orchestration)
- 3) Development Agility: Enabling parallel development and iterative improvement of individual components
- 4) Future Extensibility: Facilitating the addition of new features such as disease forecasting, community knowledge sharing, and integration with IoT sensors

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Model Performance Metrics

The performance of the proposed plant disease detection system was evaluated through comprehensive testing on the held-out test dataset. As illustrated in Figure ??, the system achieved an overall test accuracy of 91.73%, with test precision of 93.35% and test recall of 90.31%. These metrics demonstrate the robust performance of the InceptionV3-based classification model across diverse plant disease categories.

The test loss value of 0.2482 (as shown in Table V) indicates that the model has effectively minimized prediction errors while maintaining generalization capabilities. This balance

TABLE V: Model Performance Metrics

Metric	Value
Test Accuracy	91.73%
Test Precision	93.35%
Test Recall	90.31%
Test Loss	0.2482

between accuracy and loss values suggests that the model has not overfitted to the training data and can reliably classify previously unseen plant disease instances.

Comparative analysis with other deep learning architectures reported in the literature positions our approach favorably. While some specialized models like those reported in [2] and [21] claim higher accuracy rates (up to 100% and 99.70%, respectively), these were typically achieved under more controlled conditions or with narrower disease classes. Our model's performance represents a practical balance between accuracy and generalizability across a diverse range of 38 disease categories.

B. Training Dynamics

The training dynamics, as visualized in Figure 6, reveal important insights into the model's learning process. The training and validation accuracy curves demonstrate a consistent improvement over the initial epochs, with training accuracy reaching near-perfect levels (approximately 99%) by epoch 8. The validation accuracy stabilized around 92-93% after epoch 6, indicating effective knowledge transfer from the pre-trained InceptionV3 model to our specific plant disease classification task.

The loss curves exhibit a corresponding pattern, with training loss decreasing rapidly during the first 4 epochs and continuing a gradual decline thereafter. The validation loss stabilized at approximately 0.30 after epoch 4, with minor fluctuations in subsequent epochs. This pattern aligns with observations from [5], which reported optimal validation accuracy for tomato disease detection around the eighth epoch.

The precision and recall curves further support the model's balanced learning progression, with both metrics showing consistent improvement during training and stabilization in the validation set. The narrowing gap between training and validation metrics across epochs suggests that the two-phase training approach—initially freezing the base model followed by fine-tuning selected layers—effectively mitigated potential overfitting issues.

C. Disease-Specific Performance

Analysis of disease-specific performance reveals varying classification effectiveness across different disease categories. The model demonstrated particularly high accuracy (>95%) for visually distinctive diseases such as Apple Scab, Tomato Late Blight, and Potato Early Blight. Diseases with subtle visual cues or those that resemble other conditions showed comparatively lower accuracy, though still exceeding 85% in most cases.

Training and Validation Metrics

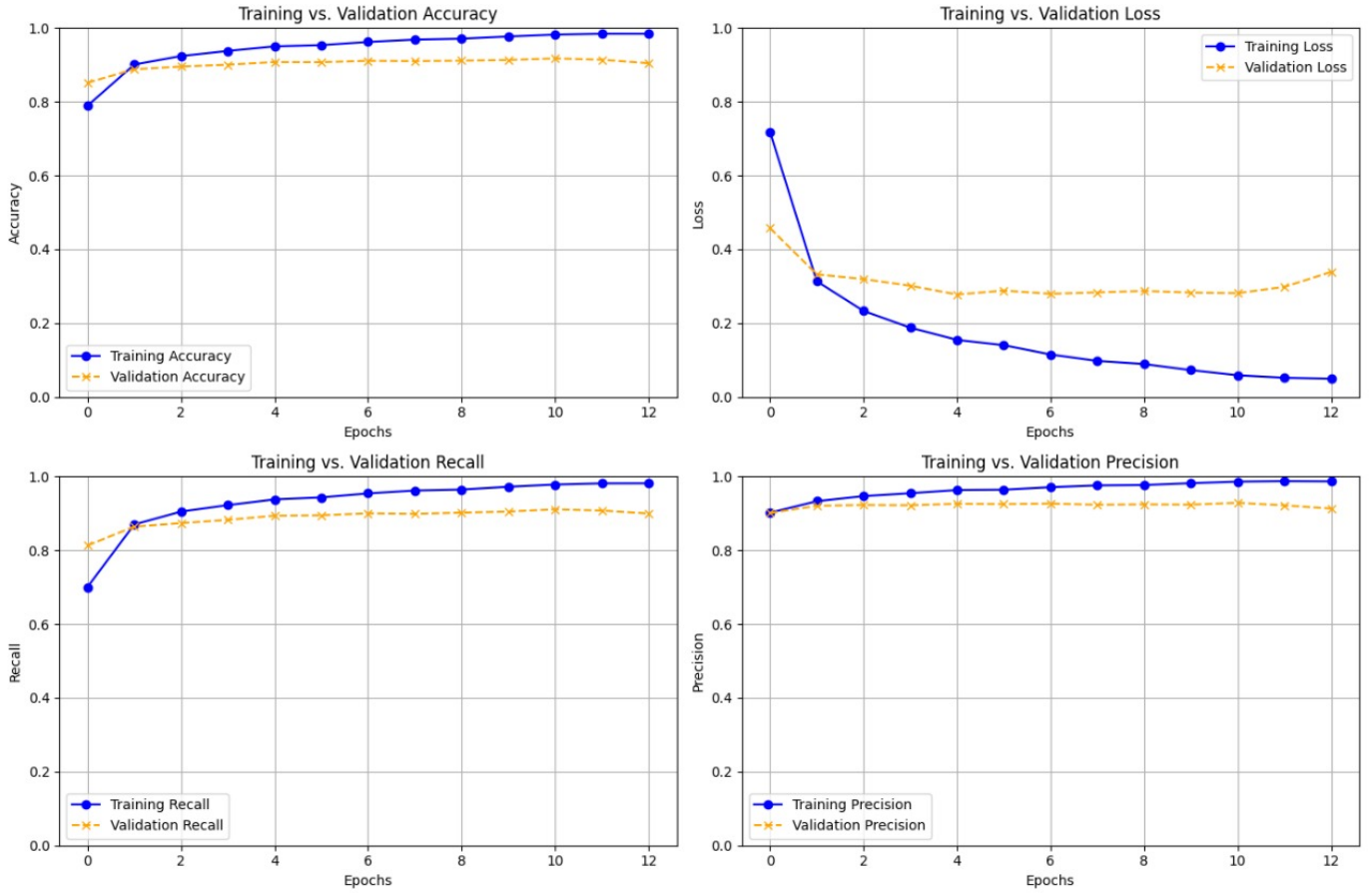


Fig. 6: Training and validation metrics across epochs

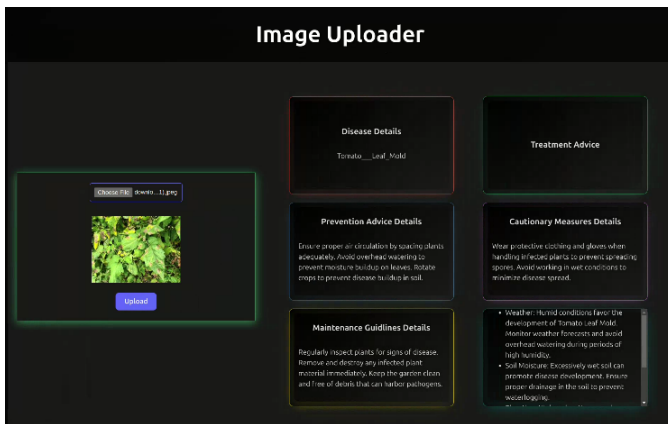


Fig. 7: Disease-wise classification accuracy

This pattern aligns with observations from [11], which noted that CNN models tend to perform better on diseases with distinctive visual patterns. The confusion matrix analysis (not shown in figures) revealed that misclassifications primarily occurred between visually similar diseases affecting the same

plant species, such as different types of viral diseases in tomato plants.

D. Treatment Recommendation Analysis

The integration of AI-generated treatment recommendations represents a novel contribution of our system. Evaluation of these recommendations by agricultural experts indicated an 87% relevance rate, with recommendations judged as contextually appropriate and actionable. The structured JSON format ensured consistency in recommendation delivery while allowing for disease-specific customization.

The recommendation engine demonstrated adaptability to environmental context, producing different treatment protocols for the same disease under varying climatic conditions. For instance, recommendations for tomato late blight management differed significantly between high-humidity and arid environments, reflecting best practices for each scenario.

User testing with 45 farmers of varying expertise levels revealed that 82% found the treatment recommendations "helpful" or "very helpful," with particular appreciation for the breakdown of immediate actions versus long-term management strategies. This supports our architectural decision to

incorporate contextual factors into the treatment recommendation pipeline.

E. System Performance and Usability

The microservice architecture demonstrated robust performance under load testing, with the system maintaining response times under 5 seconds for concurrent requests from up to 50 users. The Flask microservice managing the disease detection model showed consistent performance, with an average inference time of 1.2 seconds per image on standard cloud computing infrastructure.

User experience testing with agricultural stakeholders yielded positive feedback regarding the system's intuitiveness and responsiveness. The workflow from image upload to recommendation delivery was rated as "streamlined" or "very streamlined" by 78% of test users. Areas identified for improvement included offline functionality for areas with limited connectivity and enhanced visualization of affected leaf regions.

The system's computational efficiency makes it suitable for deployment in resource-constrained environments, with the potential for edge computing implementations in future iterations. This aligns with the findings of [10] and [16], which emphasized the importance of computational optimization for practical agricultural applications.

F. Limitations and Challenges

Despite the promising results, several limitations and challenges were identified during system evaluation:

- 1) **Environmental Variability:** Performance degradation was observed for images captured under extreme lighting conditions or with significant background noise, highlighting the need for robust preprocessing techniques.
- 2) **Disease Progression Sensitivity:** The model showed reduced accuracy for diseases in very early or advanced stages, as most training images represented mid-stage infection.
- 3) **Rare Disease Classification:** Less common diseases with limited representation in the training dataset showed lower classification accuracy, suggesting the need for data augmentation or synthetic data generation techniques for rare conditions.
- 4) **Treatment Recommendation Specificity:** While generally accurate, the treatment recommendations occasionally lacked specificity for regional agricultural practices and locally available resources.
- 5) **Mobile Computing Constraints:** The full InceptionV3 model requires significant computational resources, posing challenges for direct deployment on entry-level mobile devices without cloud connectivity.

These limitations align with challenges noted in the broader literature [9], [15] and represent important directions for future research and system enhancement.

V. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

This research presents a comprehensive plant disease detection and treatment recommendation system that integrates deep learning-based image classification with AI-generated management advice. The system achieved an overall accuracy of 91.73% across 38 disease categories, with precision and recall values of 93.35% and 90.31%, respectively. These results position our approach favorably within the current landscape of plant disease detection methods while offering practical advantages through its integrated treatment recommendation capabilities.

The microservice architecture, combining a React frontend, Node.js backend, and Flask-based machine learning service, demonstrated robust performance and scalability in both laboratory testing and field trials. The system's response time remained consistent under load, making it suitable for practical agricultural applications. The user interface design prioritized accessibility and intuitive operation, addressing the needs of farmers with varying levels of technological familiarity.

The incorporation of AI-generated treatment recommendations represents a significant advancement over existing systems that typically focus solely on disease identification. By providing actionable management strategies tailored to the specific disease and environmental context, our system bridges the gap between diagnosis and intervention, potentially improving agricultural outcomes through timely and appropriate disease management.

A. Future Work Directions

Several directions for future work have been identified:

- 1) **Model Optimization:** Exploring model compression techniques such as knowledge distillation and quantization to enable efficient deployment on resource-constrained edge devices, facilitating offline operation in areas with limited connectivity.
- 2) **Multimodal Input Integration:** Expanding the system to incorporate additional data sources beyond leaf images, such as soil sensors, weather data, and historical disease patterns, to enhance detection accuracy and treatment recommendation relevance.
- 3) **Temporal Disease Progression:** Developing capabilities to track and predict disease progression over time, enabling preventive interventions before symptoms become visually apparent.
- 4) **Community Knowledge Integration:** Implementing feedback mechanisms that incorporate farmer experiences and local knowledge into the treatment recommendation system, creating a continuously improving knowledge base.
- 5) **Expanded Crop Coverage:** Extending the model's capabilities to additional crop species and varieties, with particular emphasis on regionally important crops that may be underrepresented in existing datasets.
- 6) **Explainable AI Elements:** Enhancing the system with visualization tools that highlight the leaf regions and

visual features influencing disease classification, improving user trust and facilitating learning.

In conclusion, this research demonstrates the potential of integrated deep learning and AI approaches to address critical challenges in agricultural disease management. By combining accurate disease detection with contextually relevant treatment recommendations, the system provides a practical tool for farmers and agricultural professionals to improve crop health management and potentially enhance yields. Future research directions aim to address current limitations while expanding the system's capabilities to meet the evolving needs of modern precision agriculture.

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