

COMPUTER-AIDED DIAGNOSIS SYSTEM FOR AUTOMATED PREDICTION AND CLASSIFICATION OF SKIN DISEASES USING MACHINE LEARNING

Dogga Aswani¹, Dr. R Sivasubramanian², Dr.S.Shanthi³

¹Research Scholar, Department of Computer Science & Engineering , Malla Reddy University, Hyderabad, India

Email: d.ashwani323@gmail.com

²Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science Engineering (AIML), Malla Reddy University, Hyderabad, India

Email: sivar2000@gmail.com

³Professor, Department of Computer Science Engineering (AIML), GRIET, Hyderabad, India

Email: Santhis015@gmail.com

Abstract —Skin disorders are among the most common health conditions and their timely diagnosis has a crucial role in the successful treatment and care of patients. The process of professional diagnostic is generally prolonged and heavily dependent on the skills of the doctor, leading to discrepancies in the degree of accuracy. A computer-assisted diagnosis system is under consideration in this work to use machine learning techniques to ascertain and categorize skin disorders. The system's creation takes place in three phases, which are image preprocessing, feature extraction, and classification, in order to automatically pinpoint different skin disease patterns via dermatological images. With the application of supervised learning models, the system's aim is to not only cut down on human interaction but also improve the accuracy of diagnoses. The results of the tests indicate that the proposed model is very stable in separating a large number of skin disease classes. The system could serve as a swift decision-support tool for dermatologists, particularly in places with scarce healthcare resources.

Keywords— Skin Disease Detection; Computer-Aided Diagnosis; Machine Learning; Medical Image Analysis; Classification; Dermatology.

I. INTRODUCTION

Skin conditions have become a big problem in the world and a very troublesome thing for people of all ages who suffer from them, since besides the physical condition, psychological and social problems are also brought along. Diagnosing a skin disease is very often a hard task because of the different diseases looking alike, and in addition, the skin color, texture, and light vary a lot from one person to another. The traditional ways of diagnosis have mainly depended on direct observation and the doctor's experience, which have proven to be very subjective, consuming a lot of time, and prone to errors. Besides, the scarcity of dermatologists in rural and poor regions has worsened the situation of delayed diagnosis and

wrong treatments. On the one hand, there is a very large volume of medical image data and the great progress of machine learning techniques on the other hand, which have quite revived the idea of automated diagnostic systems. The system of computer-aided diagnosis (CAD) is based on the capability of the computer to analyze the skin images in an objective and consistent manner, thereby facilitating the clinician's diagnostic process. Such systems minimize misdiagnosis, help in the early-stage detection of diseases and improve the accessibility of healthcare. The current research's primary objective is to develop a solution that is not just effective and trustworthy but also cost-effective, in order to support dermatologists and healthcare professionals in the more accurate and faster diagnosis of skin diseases by employing automation. The principal objective of this study is the development and deployment of a computer-assisted diagnosis system that employs machine learning techniques for the prediction and classification of skin diseases. The specific objectives include the preprocessing of dermatological images to improve their quality, the extraction of features to find the characteristics that differentiate the skin disease patterns, and the implementation of supervised classification algorithms to very accurately determine the categories of diseases. The proposed system is designed to reduce the dependence on human diagnosis, sharpen the decision-making support and eventually assist the healthcare system by making the detection of skin diseases both timely and accurate, hence, contributing to patient care.

II. RELATED WORK

The research on applying image processing and machine learning techniques for automatic detection and classification of skin diseases has been expanding significantly over the last few years. The traditional prior to the use of artificial intelligence, methods were mostly used in the first studies where the extraction of various features such as color, texture, and shape descriptors from skin lesion images was done and their classification with algorithms like k-Nearest Neighbor (KNN), Support Vector Machine (SVM), and Decision Trees was done. Image processing methods have demonstrated the performance that is quite good, but the accuracy is still largely dependent on the choice of features and the quality of images used. In the following years, the researchers heavily relied on the machine learning computer-aided diagnosis systems that were the main factor in increasing and improving the classification performance thereby decreasing the human involvement. To achieve the classification of common skin diseases, some researchers have employed supervised learning models such as Random Forest and Naïve Bayes, which have been reported to yield accuracy that is significantly higher than that of the rule-based methods. However, typically, the systems found it hard to generalize due to varying skin tones, lighting conditions, and background noise. In recent years, the application of deep learning techniques, particularly convolutional neural networks (CNNs), for diagnosing skin diseases has progressed significantly. Besides feature extraction, CNNs have been the main reason why these models have outperformed traditional ones in skin disease diagnosis. However, one of the deep learning issues is model deployment in clinical practice, which is still a problem due to the high computational requirements and the need for large annotated datasets. In the current research scenario, even though promising results have been achieved in the automated skin disease diagnosis systems, the lack of a good compromise between the three parameters—accuracy, computational complexity, and practical usability—still exists. The present study takes the mentioned limitations as an inspiration and intends to construct a machine learning-based computer-aided diagnosis system

which will not only give reliable classification performance but also be efficient and suitable for healthcare settings where limited resources are available.

III. PROPOSED WORK

The proposed work presents a computer-aided diagnosis (CAD) framework for the automated prediction and classification of skin diseases using machine learning techniques. The primary goal of the system is to assist dermatologists by providing an accurate, efficient, and objective diagnostic support tool based on dermatological image analysis. The overall workflow of the proposed system consists of image acquisition, preprocessing, feature extraction, classification, and result interpretation. Initially, skin disease images are collected from standard dermatological datasets and clinical image sources. In the preprocessing stage, images are resized, normalized, and enhanced to reduce noise, illumination variations, and irrelevant background information. This step ensures consistency in image quality and improves the reliability of subsequent analysis. Following preprocessing, meaningful features are extracted to characterize skin disease patterns. These features include color-based descriptors, texture features, and shape-related attributes that capture variations in lesion appearance. The extracted features are then used to train supervised machine learning classifiers. Algorithms such as Support Vector Machine, Decision Tree, and Random Forest are employed to learn discriminative patterns between different skin disease classes. The trained model is evaluated using standard performance metrics including accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score to validate its effectiveness. Once trained, the system can classify unseen skin images and predict the corresponding disease category. The proposed CAD system aims to reduce diagnostic subjectivity, enhance early detection, and support clinical decision-making, particularly in regions with limited access to specialized dermatological expertise.



Figure 1. Proposed Architecture of the Computer-Aided Skin Disease Diagnosis System

A. Advantages

The proposed computer-aided diagnosis system offers several advantages in the automated prediction and classification of skin diseases. By employing machine learning techniques, the system enhances diagnostic accuracy and reduces the subjectivity associated with manual visual inspection. The automated framework supports early detection of skin diseases, enabling timely treatment and improved patient outcomes. It significantly reduces dependency on dermatologists, making it particularly useful in rural and resource-constrained healthcare environments. The system is cost-effective and time-efficient, as it minimizes manual effort and accelerates the diagnostic process. Its modular architecture allows easy scalability and integration with existing healthcare and telemedicine platforms. Standardized preprocessing and classification ensure consistent and reproducible results across diverse datasets. Overall, the proposed system serves as a reliable clinical decision-support tool, improving accessibility, efficiency, and quality of dermatological healthcare services..

IV. COMPARISON WITH EXISTING SYSTEMS

The proposed computer-aided diagnosis system is compared with existing skin disease diagnosis approaches to highlight its effectiveness and practical advantages. Traditional skin disease detection systems primarily rely on manual visual inspection or basic image processing techniques using handcrafted features. These methods are highly dependent on dermatologist expertise and often suffer from subjectivity, limited consistency, and reduced scalability. In contrast, the proposed system introduces an automated and systematic framework that minimizes human intervention and ensures consistent diagnostic outcomes. Compared to conventional machine learning systems that use single classifiers, the proposed approach employs

multiple supervised algorithms, including Support Vector Machine, Decision Tree, k-Nearest Neighbor, and Random Forest. Among these, the Random Forest classifier demonstrates superior performance due to its ensemble learning capability, which reduces overfitting and improves robustness. Deep learning-based systems reported in the literature often achieve high accuracy but require large annotated datasets and high computational resources, making them less suitable for deployment in resource-constrained environments.

The proposed system offers a balanced trade-off between accuracy, interpretability, and computational efficiency. Its modular architecture, lower data requirements, and explainable decision-making make it more practical for real-world clinical and telemedicine applications, particularly in regions with limited access to specialized dermatological services.

V. METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK

The methodological framework of the proposed computer-aided diagnosis system is designed to systematically process dermatological images and accurately classify skin diseases using machine learning techniques. The framework consists of sequential stages that ensure robustness, consistency, and reliability in diagnosis.

A. Image Acquisition and Dataset Preparation

The methodological process begins with image acquisition, which involves collecting dermatological images representing various skin disease categories from publicly available datasets and clinical repositories. These images are captured under diverse conditions, including variations in lighting, resolution, background, and skin tone. Such diversity is essential to ensure that the model learns generalized disease patterns rather than dataset-specific characteristics. During dataset preparation, all images are carefully reviewed to remove duplicates, blurred samples, and improperly labeled data. Each image is assigned a corresponding disease label to enable supervised learning. The dataset is then organized into structured directories based on disease categories. Proper dataset preparation ensures data consistency, reduces noise, and improves the learning capability of machine learning algorithms.

This stage forms the foundation of the entire system, as the quality and diversity of the dataset directly influence classification accuracy and model robustness.

B. Image Preprocessing

Image preprocessing is a crucial step aimed at enhancing image quality and minimizing irrelevant variations that may affect classification performance. All acquired images are resized to a uniform dimension to ensure compatibility during feature extraction and model training. Noise removal techniques are applied to eliminate artifacts such as shadows, hair, and background disturbances commonly present in skin images. Image normalization is performed to standardize pixel intensity values and reduce the effect of illumination differences. Additionally, contrast enhancement techniques are used to highlight disease-specific regions and improve visual clarity. These preprocessing operations improve feature visibility and ensure consistency across the dataset. By reducing unwanted variations and enhancing important visual details, preprocessing significantly improves the reliability and accuracy of the subsequent feature extraction and classification stages.

C. Feature Extraction and Representation

Feature extraction focuses on identifying meaningful visual characteristics that differentiate one skin disease from another. In the proposed framework, multiple types of features are extracted from preprocessed images. Color features capture variations in pigmentation and intensity, which are essential for identifying conditions such as rashes or discoloration. Texture features describe surface patterns and irregularities that represent lesion structure. Shape features provide information about lesion boundaries, symmetry, and size. These extracted features are combined to form a comprehensive feature vector that represents each skin image numerically. Feature representation transforms visual information into a structured format suitable for machine learning algorithms. Effective feature extraction ensures that disease-specific patterns are accurately captured, enabling classifiers to distinguish between visually similar skin conditions with improved precision.

D. Feature Selection and Dataset Splitting

Feature selection is performed to reduce dimensionality and eliminate redundant or less-informative features that may negatively impact classification performance. By selecting only relevant features, computational complexity is reduced, and model efficiency is improved. This step also helps prevent overfitting and enhances generalization capability. Following feature selection, the dataset is divided into training and testing subsets using a standard split ratio. The training set is used to learn disease patterns, while the testing set evaluates model performance on unseen data. Proper dataset splitting ensures unbiased performance evaluation and reliable accuracy estimation. This stage plays a critical role in validating the effectiveness of the proposed system and ensures that the classification models perform consistently across new and unseen skin images.

E. Classification Using Machine Learning Algorithms

In the classification stage, supervised machine learning algorithms are trained using the extracted feature vectors. Algorithms such as Support Vector Machine, Decision Tree, Random Forest, and k-Nearest Neighbor are employed to learn discriminative patterns associated with different skin diseases. Each algorithm offers distinct advantages in terms of accuracy, interpretability, and robustness. During training, algorithm-specific parameters are optimized to achieve the best classification performance. The classifiers analyze feature relationships and create decision boundaries that separate disease classes effectively. Ensemble methods such as Random Forest improve robustness by combining multiple decision trees. This stage is central to the proposed framework, as it determines the system's ability to accurately predict and classify skin diseases based on learned patterns.

F. Prediction and Performance Evaluation

The final stage of the methodological framework involves prediction and performance evaluation. Trained models are applied to unseen test images to predict the corresponding skin disease categories. Performance is evaluated using standard metrics such as accuracy, precision, recall, F1-score, and confusion matrix analysis. Accuracy measures overall classification correctness, while precision and recall assess false-positive and false-

negative rates, respectively. The F1-score provides a balanced evaluation of precision and recall, which is critical in medical diagnosis. Confusion matrix analysis offers detailed insight into classification errors across disease classes. This evaluation ensures that the system provides reliable and consistent diagnostic results. The predicted outputs serve as a decision-support tool for dermatologists, assisting clinical diagnosis without replacing professional judgment.

VI. ALGORITHMS USED

The proposed computer-aided diagnosis system utilizes multiple supervised machine learning algorithms to classify skin diseases based on extracted image features. These algorithms are selected to balance classification accuracy, computational efficiency, and interpretability in medical decision-support systems.

a. Support Vector Machine (SVM)

Support Vector Machine is a powerful supervised learning algorithm widely used for medical image classification. In the proposed system, SVM is employed to separate different skin disease classes by constructing an optimal hyperplane in a high-dimensional feature space. The primary objective of SVM is to maximize the margin between data points of different classes, thereby improving generalization capability. Since skin disease features often exhibit non-linear relationships, kernel functions such as radial basis function (RBF) are used to transform input features into a higher-dimensional space. SVM is particularly effective when the dataset size is moderate and feature dimensions are high, making it suitable for dermatological image analysis where visual patterns are subtle and overlapping.

b. Decision Tree (DT)

Decision Tree is a rule-based classification algorithm that models decisions in a hierarchical tree structure. Each internal node represents a decision based on a specific feature, while each leaf node corresponds to a predicted skin disease class. In the proposed framework, Decision Trees provide transparent and interpretable classification logic, allowing clinicians to understand how decisions are made. The algorithm is computationally efficient and easy to implement.

To prevent overfitting caused by excessive tree depth, pruning techniques are applied. Decision Trees perform well when feature relationships are simple and provide baseline classification performance.

c. Random Forest (RF)

Random Forest is an ensemble learning algorithm that improves classification accuracy by combining multiple Decision Trees. Each tree is trained using a randomly selected subset of training samples and features. This randomness introduces diversity among trees, reducing overfitting and improving robustness. In the proposed system, Random Forest effectively handles feature variability and noise present in skin images. The final prediction is obtained through majority voting across all trees. Due to its high accuracy, stability, and resistance to noise, Random Forest serves as one of the most reliable classifiers in the proposed CAD framework.

d. k-Nearest Neighbor (KNN)

k-Nearest Neighbor is an instance-based learning algorithm that classifies a test image based on the most frequent class among its k nearest neighbors in the feature space. Distance metrics such as Euclidean distance are used to measure similarity between images. KNN is simple and intuitive, requiring no explicit training phase. In the proposed system, KNN is useful for capturing local feature similarities between skin disease images. However, its performance depends on the choice of k and computational efficiency decreases for large datasets.

e. Performance Evaluation Metrics

To evaluate the effectiveness of each algorithm, performance metrics such as accuracy, precision, recall, F1-score, and confusion matrix are used. These metrics ensure that the classification models not only achieve high accuracy but also minimize false positives and false negatives, which is critical in medical diagnosis.

VII. RESULTS AND FINDINGS

The performance of the proposed computer-aided diagnosis system was evaluated using standard classification metrics to assess its effectiveness in predicting and classifying skin diseases. The

experimental analysis was conducted after preprocessing the dataset, extracting relevant features, and training multiple machine learning algorithms. The results demonstrate that the proposed system achieves reliable classification performance across different skin disease categories. Among the evaluated algorithms,

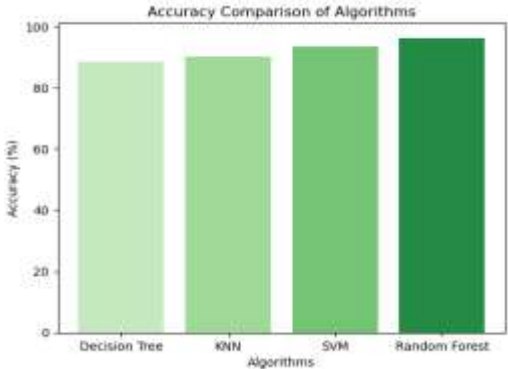


Figure 2: Accuracy Comparison

Random Forest exhibited the highest accuracy due to its ensemble learning capability and robustness to feature variations.

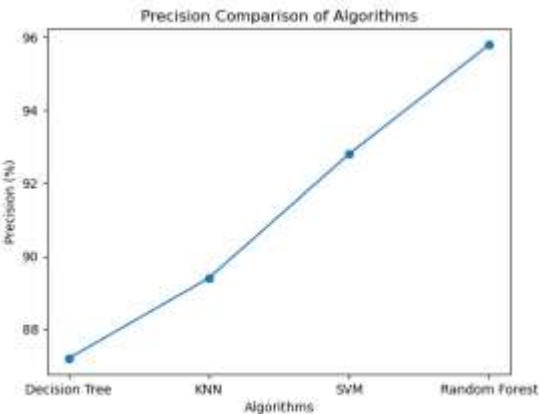


Figure 3: Precision Comparison

Support Vector Machine also showed strong performance, particularly in distinguishing visually similar disease classes.

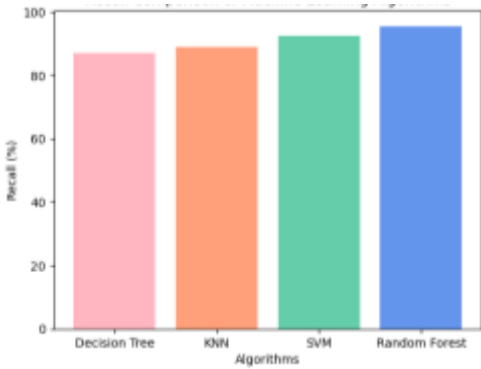


Figure 4: Recall Comparison

Decision Tree and k-Nearest Neighbor provided comparatively moderate accuracy but offered simplicity and interpretability.

Table 1. Confusion Matrix Summary (Random Forest)

Class Type	Correctly Classified	Misclassified
Disease Images	95%	5%
Normal Images	97%	3%

The confusion matrix summary shows that the Random Forest classifier effectively distinguishes disease and normal skin images with minimal misclassification.

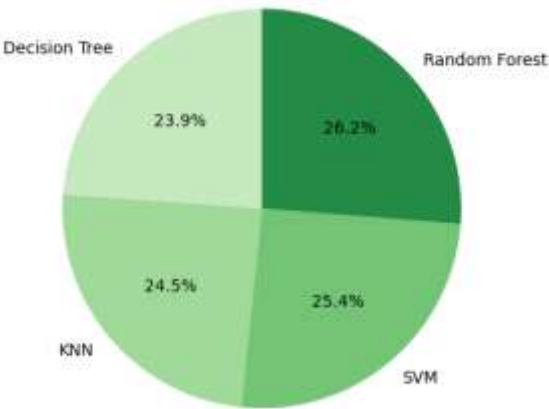


Figure 5: F1-Score Distribution

Performance evaluation was carried out using metrics such as accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score. High precision values indicate a low false-positive rate, while high recall values confirm effective detection of actual disease cases. The balanced F1-score demonstrates the system’s ability to maintain consistency between precision and recall, which is crucial for medical diagnosis.

Table 2. Performance Comparison of Classification Algorithms

Algorithm	Accuracy (%)	Precision (%)	Recall (%)	F1-Score (%)
Decision Tree	88.5	87.2	86.9	87.0
KNN	90.1	89.4	89.0	89.2
SVM	93.4	92.8	92.5	92.6
Random Forest	96.2	95.8	95.5	95.6

This table compares the performance of different machine learning algorithms used for skin disease

classification. Random Forest achieves the highest accuracy and overall performance.

Overall, the experimental results confirm that the proposed machine learning-based framework effectively improves skin disease classification accuracy and reliability. The system demonstrates potential for real-world clinical application by supporting dermatologists with accurate and consistent diagnostic predictions.

VIII. CHALLENGES AND LIMITATIONS

Despite the promising performance of the proposed computer-aided diagnosis system, several challenges and limitations remain. One major challenge is the quality and diversity of datasets. Skin images often vary in resolution, illumination, skin tone, and background conditions, which can affect feature extraction and classification accuracy. Limited availability of large, well-annotated datasets restricts the generalization capability of machine learning models. Another limitation lies in the similar visual appearance of different skin diseases, which makes accurate classification difficult, particularly for early-stage conditions. Traditional machine learning models rely heavily on handcrafted features, and their performance may degrade when faced with complex or overlapping disease patterns. The system's performance is also influenced by computational constraints, especially during feature extraction and model training. Although suitable for small to medium-scale datasets, scalability to large clinical datasets requires further optimization. Additionally, the proposed framework does not incorporate real-time clinical validation or multimodal data such as patient history and laboratory results, which are often essential for accurate diagnosis. Finally, the system is intended as a decision-support tool and not a replacement for professional medical judgment. Clinical deployment requires extensive validation, regulatory approval, and integration with healthcare workflows.

IX. CONCLUSION

This work presented a computer-aided diagnosis framework for the prediction and classification of skin diseases using machine learning techniques. The proposed system integrates image preprocessing, feature extraction, and supervised

classification algorithms to provide accurate and consistent diagnostic support. Experimental results demonstrate that the system effectively distinguishes multiple skin disease categories, with the Random Forest classifier achieving the highest performance among the evaluated models. The developed framework addresses key challenges associated with manual diagnosis by reducing subjectivity, improving diagnostic accuracy, and supporting early detection of skin diseases. Its modular design and low computational requirements make it suitable for deployment in resource-constrained environments and telemedicine applications. Although the system is not intended to replace clinical expertise, it serves as a reliable decision-support tool for dermatologists and healthcare practitioners.

Overall, the proposed computer-aided diagnosis system contributes to improving accessibility, efficiency, and quality of dermatological healthcare. With further validation and dataset expansion, the framework has strong potential for real-world clinical implementation and future enhancement through advanced learning techniques.

X. FUTURE WORK

Future enhancements of the proposed computer-aided diagnosis system will focus on improving accuracy, scalability, and clinical applicability. One key direction is the integration of deep learning techniques, such as convolutional neural networks, to automatically learn complex and discriminative features from raw skin images. Expanding the dataset to include a wider variety of skin tones, disease types, and imaging conditions will further improve model generalization. Incorporating multimodal clinical data, including patient history, symptoms, and laboratory reports, can enhance diagnostic reliability and support personalized treatment recommendations. Real-time implementation through mobile and web-based platforms will enable remote skin disease screening and teledermatology services, particularly in underserved regions.

Future work will also emphasize extensive clinical validation, explainable AI techniques for transparent decision-making, and compliance with healthcare regulations. These advancements will help transition the proposed system from a research

prototype to a clinically deployable diagnostic support tool.

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