

THE ROLE OF AI AND MACHINE LEARNING IN THE EVOLUTION OF PLANT SCIENCE

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Abstract: Within the next few years, breakthroughs in Artificial Intelligence (AI) are going to cause a revolution in the field of botany. AI is already changing how we study green plants, their ecosystem, and how we grow crops. With the use of machine learning, computer vision, and data analysis, scientists are learning to identify species of plants with incredible accuracy, oversee ecosystems down to the finest details, and even maximize yields as never before. Such advancements can transform agriculture as farmers will spend resources efficiently, anticipate harvests accurately, and control diseases and pests more successfully. Without a doubt, such improvements will change the paradigm of agriculture as it is known today and that is why advancements in AI are so thrilling. Nonetheless, a multidisciplinary effort is vital in yielding the full benefits of AI in botany. By uniting instead of dividing, the true essence of this technology is unleashed, creating a better world in the long run.

Keywords: Introduction - intersection of Botany and Technology - Applications of AI – Key Aspects - Adoption - Cellular Measurement - Advantage of AI Adoption - Advantage – Disadvantage of AI.

I. INTRODUCTION

Artificial intelligence (AI) has transformed research methods and broadened the range of possible discoveries by being included in a number of scientific fields. The study of plants, or botany, is one of these fields that is undergoing a revolution thanks to artificial intelligence. AI is changing the way botanists and agricultural scientists tackle age-old problems, from improving plant identification to increasing crop yields. This essay examines the fundamental ideas of artificial intelligence (AI) in botany, its uses, and how it may be applied to urgent global concerns including biodiversity preservation, food security, and climate change. From traditional taxonomic methods to cutting-edge genomic analysis, advances in technology have continually reshaped the field. Today, artificial intelligence (AI) is at the forefront of. This transformation is revolutionizing the way we approach plant science.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

The application of artificial intelligence (AI) in plant biology and agriculture has transformed conventional farming and research practices. Technologies enabled by AI make precision farming, plant disease detection, and phenotyping easier.[1] AI in plant science improves plant research and agriculture efficiency.[1] AI methods such as deep learning, image processing, and predictive modeling assist in plant health evaluation and growth monitoring.[1] AI has revolutionized plant pathology by allowing early and precise identification of disease.[2] AI models can evaluate plant disease symptoms using image recognition to minimize the reliance on manual diagnosis.[2] Developments in AI for plant disease detection, usage, and challenges prove that AI plays a crucial role in disease surveillance systems. [3]

AI-based image processing and computational models have revolutionized plant disease diagnosis, enhancing agricultural productivity.[6] These studies highlight the application of AI in creating intelligent diagnostic tools to prevent plant disease outbreaks.[5] AI-based omics methods in plant defense explain how AI can process genomic and transcriptomic information to enhance plant resistance to environmental stressors.[5] AI's application in Fabaceae crop resistance combines AI with 'omics' technologies to improve abiotic stress resistance.[10] Precision agriculture has been enhanced by AI-integrated technologies, maximizing resource utilization and enhancing crop yields.[8] AI and IoT integration in precision agriculture improves real-time monitoring and decision-making.[8] Machine learning methods in plant phenotyping illustrate AI's application in processing plant traits for enhanced crop breeding and selection.[9].

A multi-omics and artificial intelligence platform for high-level plant phenotyping in horticulture demonstrates the possibilities of AI enhancing agricultural processes through high-throughput phenotyping methodology.[7] Although AI promises exciting uses in plant science, there are data availability issues, model performance questions, and realities of deployment issues.[3] More effective data sets, improvements in AI interpretation, and the adoption of sustainable farm practices are being highlighted.[3] There must be development improvement in AI methods, improved communication with existing crop management systems, and more in-depth study and resolution of moral issues involved in AI applications on farms. The reviewed literature underscores AI's transformative impact on plant science, from disease detection to precision agriculture and omics-based research. While AI presents immense opportunities for advancing plant research, continuous innovation and addressing current challenges are crucial for its widespread adoption in agriculture.

III. THE INTERSECTION OF BOTANY AND TECHNOLOGY

For many years, botany was dependent upon observational studies and fieldwork. These techniques, while effective, typically have high opportunity costs and have a greater chance of falling victim to human error than technology. With the advancement of computation technology, there have been accompanying tools that augment these efforts. With the ability to analyze large datasets, detect patterns, and forecast outcomes, AI has occupied a central position in modern-day botanical research. The subset of AI known as machine learning (ML) has transformed this more than anything else. Patterns can be discerned after training an algorithm ML offers the ability to categorize plants, estimate the effects of human activity on nature, or model the functioning of ecosystems. The incorporation of other technologies, including remote sensing, genomic sequencing, and robotics, increases the prospects of artificial intelligence in botany even further.

IV. APPLICATIONS OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN BOTANY

AI applications in botany can be broadly categorized into plant identification, ecological monitoring, crop management, and conservation efforts. Here are the paraphrased texts, keeping the same meaning and language style, but with a more human-like tone:

A. Figuring Out What Plants Are

Being able to correctly identify plants is super important in the world of botany. AI-powered apps, especially those that use something called convolutional neural networks (CNNs), are really good at telling different plant species apart just from looking at pictures. Tools like PlantNet and iNaturalist use AI to help anyone, whether they're a seasoned researcher or just a plant enthusiast, figure out what kind of plant they're looking at right then and there.

B. Keeping an Eye on Nature

Keeping track of ecosystems and understanding how they work is essential for protecting all the different kinds of life on Earth. AI makes it easier to make sense of all the complicated data that comes from studying nature. It helps researchers follow how plant populations change over time, spot any new invasive species, and get a better idea of how changes in the environment will affect things. By using AI to process satellite images, we can get a clearer picture of things like deforestation and desertification, as well as other environmental problems. And when you combine AI with other cool tech like remote sensing, genomic sequencing, and even robots, it opens up even more possibilities for using AI in botany.

C. Crop Management

Agriculture, which is basically a fingers-on branch of botany, has seen super advancements thanks to AI. With precision agriculture, AI helps farmers best track their irrigation, fertilization, and pest manipulation methods, selling sustainable farming practices. Predictive fashions dive into weather patterns, soil conditions, and crop fitness, empowering farmers to make knowledgeable choices primarily based on facts. This approach now not best boosts crop yields but also minimizes waste of treasured sources.

D. Conservation and Restoration

AI performs a vital role in conservation biology by pinpointing endangered plant species, comparing habitat suitability, and highlighting key areas for recovery efforts. By examining genetic statistics, AI also aids in maintaining the genetic range inside plant populations, which is essential for maintaining the resilience of ecosystems.

V. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ADOPTION IN BOTANY

AI adoption in botany" refers to the process of incorporating artificial intelligence (AI) technologies into botanical research and practices, allowing scientists and farmers to use machine learning and data analysis to improve plant breeding, disease detection, crop yield prediction, and overall understanding of plant biology.

A. Plant disease identification

Using AI to investigate pix of plant leaves to stumble on illnesses at early levels, enabling faster and extra correct prognosis in comparison to standard strategies. Plant disease detection is a critical application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) in agriculture. Diseases can appreciably reduce crop yields, leading to monetary losses and food shortages. AI-powered solutions assist in early disorder detection, accurate analysis, and prevention techniques, enhancing normal plant fitness and farm productivity.

B. Crop yield prediction

Analyzing climate statistics, soil situations, and plant increase patterns with AI to expect future crop yields, bearing in mind higher useful resource management. Crop yield prediction is an important aspect of present-day agriculture that allows farmers to estimate expected harvest portions earlier than the actual harvest season. Machine getting to know (ML) plays an important role in improving the accuracy of those predictions by studying historical data, climate patterns, soil situations, and crop increase factors. By leveraging ML, farmers can make knowledgeable selections about storage, income, resource allocation, and marketplace pricing.

C. Precision agriculture

Optimizing irrigation and fertilizer utility primarily based on AI-generated insights approximately character plant desires inside a subject. Precision agriculture, also called precision farming, is a modern farming method that uses device studying (ML), synthetic intelligence (AI), IoT sensors, drones, and satellite TV for pc imagery to monitor and manage agricultural operations with high accuracy. By using ML, farmers could make records-pushed decisions to optimize planting, irrigation, fertilization, and pest manipulation.

D. Plant phenotyping

Using pc vision to routinely measure diverse plant tendencies like leaf length, form, and color, facilitates large-scale genetic evaluation. The image represents the plant phenotyping pipeline, illustrating how genetic and biochemical factors have an impact on plant development, growth, and production. The manner progresses from genotype to phenotype, showing numerous biological and biochemical tiers.

E. Genetic evaluation

AI algorithms can help pick out genes related to desired tendencies in plant life, accelerating the plant breeding procedure. Genetic evaluation in vegetation entails reading their DNA, genes, and inheritance patterns to recognize developments such as growth, resistance to illnesses, pressure tolerance, and yield production. This area performs a crucial role in plant breeding, biotechnology, and precision agriculture, supporting scientists' to increase vegetation with improved traits.

VI. PLANT DISEASE DETECTION

Plant sicknesses are a major danger to international food security, causing big yield losses in agriculture. Early and correct detection of plant illnesses is essential for the effective management and prevention of huge outbreaks. Traditional methods depend upon manual inspection via farmers and agricultural specialists, which may be time-consuming, highly priced, and vulnerable to errors. With advancements in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML), computerized plant disease detection has come to be more efficient, accurate, and scalable. AI-powered solutions make use of photograph processing, deep gaining knowledge of fashions, and laptop vision to detect plant illnesses from leaf snapshots, supplying real-time analysis and hints for ailment management.

A. MECHANISMS OF AI-BASED PLANT DISEASE DETECTION

AI-primarily based plant disorder detection commonly uses machine-gaining knowledge of algorithms and deep learning strategies to categorize plant diseases. The method includes

1) Data Collection and Preprocessing:

- Image Data Acquisition High-decision photos of healthy and diseased plants are gathered from farms, laboratories, and open-supply datasets.
- Image Preprocessing: Noise elimination, assessment enhancement, and resizing are accomplished to standardize photographs before training fashions.
- Data Augmentation: Techniques like rotation, flipping, and zooming are used to enhance model robustness.

2) Feature Extraction:

- AI fashions examine various functions which include leaf color, shape, texture, and vein styles to become aware of disease signs.

- Image processing strategies like Histogram of Oriented Gradients (HOG) and Local Binary Patterns (LBP) assist extract distinguishing features.

3) Model Training Using Deep Learning:

- Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) are widely used for training deep studying fashions to apprehend plant diseases from images.
- Pretrained architectures which includes VGG16, ResNet, and InceptionV3 improve class accuracy.
- Models are educated with labeled datasets containing photographs of different sicknesses.

4) Disease Classification and Diagnosis:

- Once skilled, the version is tested on new plant pix to categorize sicknesses with excessive accuracy.
- AI-powered mobile programs and internet-based total structures permit actual-time disease detection and advisory offerings.

B. APPLICATIONS OF AI IN PLANT DISEASE DETECTION

AI-powered plant sickness detection has severe applications in agriculture and forestry.

- 1) **Mobile Applications:** Farmers can use cell phone-based AI apps to test leaves and receive instant sickness diagnoses.
- 2) **Autonomous Drones:** AI-incorporated drones display massive-scale farms for detecting early-stage infections.
- 3) **Precision Agriculture:** AI-driven disorder prediction models assist farmers take preventive movements before an epidemic.
- 4) **Smart Greenhouses:** AI-based sensors monitor plant fitness and discover sicknesses in actual time.
- 5) **Disease Surveillance Systems:** Government businesses use AI models for large-scale ailment monitoring and manipulation techniques.

C. CHALLENGES AND LIMITATIONS

Despite its advantages, AI-based plant disease detection faces several demanding situations.

- 1) **Limited Data Availability:** AI fashions require massive, classified datasets for education, which aren't always to be had.
- 2) **Variability in Disease Symptoms:** Different sicknesses might also have similar signs and symptoms, making the category complicated.
- 3) **Environmental Factors:** Changes in lighting fixtures, moisture, and historical past noise can affect photo popularity accuracy.
- 4) **Computational Requirements:** Deep gaining knowledge of fashions requires high processing electricity and garage capability.
- 5) **Adoption Barriers:** Farmers in rural regions may additionally lack get right of entry to to AI equipment and schooling.

D. FUTURE PROSPECTS AND INNOVATIONS

The future of AI in plant disease detection looks promising, with advancements such as:

- 1) **Integration with IoT:** Smart sensors and AI-powered devices will enable real-time plant health monitoring.
- 2) **Explainable AI (XAI):** Developing AI models that provide clear reasons for disease classification.
- 3) **Federated Learning:** AI models can be trained on distributed datasets while preserving privacy.
- 4) **Multi-Modal AI Systems:** Combining image recognition with weather, soil, and genomic data for better accuracy.
- 5) **Robotics in Disease Management:** AI-driven robots for automated plant health monitoring and targeted pesticide application.

VII. MACHINE LEARNING IN PLANTING

Machine mastering (ML) is revolutionizing the rural region by means of presenting farmers with data-driven insights that enhance efficiency and crop yield. ML structures accumulate and examine huge volumes of agricultural facts, helping farmers make knowledgeable choices about planting schedules, seed choice, and irrigation management.

This technology uses satellite imagery, sensor information, and climate forecasts to optimize farming operations. By leveraging ML, farmers can display soil situations, stumble on illnesses, and automate equipment for precise planting. This results in improved productivity, reduced fees, and a more sustainable method of farming.

A. Precision Agriculture

Precision agriculture refers to using ML, IoT gadgets, and AI to screen and manipulate farming operations with excessive accuracy.

ML models system facts from soil sensors, drones, and weather stations to determine the fine time and region for planting plants. This allows for lowering waste, optimizing fertilizer use, and increasing yield. For example, ML can analyze soil nutrients and advocate particular fertilizers tailor-made to every phase of the farm, preventing over-fertilization and soil degradation.

B. Seed Selection & Germination Prediction

Machine learning algorithms analyze seed genetic data and environmental conditions to identify the best-performing seed varieties for specific climates and soil types. By studying historical planting data, ML can predict the germination rate of different seeds, ensuring only the best-quality seeds are used. This reduces the risk of crop failure and improves overall productivity. Some ML systems can even suggest hybrid seed varieties that can withstand pests, diseases, or extreme weather conditions, leading to more resilient crops.

C. Automated Farming Equipment

Autonomous farming machines, including self-riding tractors and robotic planters, use ML to navigate fields and sow seeds with precision. These machines are prepared with sensors and cameras that allow them to modify their movements based totally on actual-time information. For instance, robotic seeders can plant seeds at the most fulfilling depth and spacing, ensuring uniform growth and minimizing resource wastage. Additionally, ML-powered irrigation systems analyze climate information and soil moisture stages to provide the exact quantity of water wanted, lowering water intake and stopping overwatering.

D. Weed and Pest Detection

ML algorithms method excessive-decision pics taken by means of drones or on-discipline cameras to differentiate among vegetation and weeds. By educating models on large datasets, AI-powered systems can pick out and classify weeds and pests with excessive accuracy. Once detected, focused herbicide spraying can be implemented most effectively in the affected areas, decreasing the immoderate use of chemical substances. This is now not the most effective save cash however also minimizes environmental pollution. In pest management, ML facilitates in early detection of infestations, permitting farmers to take preventive measures earlier than massive harm takes place.

E. Yield Prediction

Machines getting to know plays a crucial position in predicting crop yields through reading historical statistics, weather patterns, soil situations, and plant growth metrics. ML fashions use predictive analytics to forecast harvest quantities, assisting farmers to plan garage, transportation, and marketplace sales in advance. This reduces put-up-harvest losses and improves delivery chain efficiency. For instance, ML-powered yield prediction models assist policymakers and agricultural agencies assume meals delivery traits, making sure of better distribution and decreased wastage.

VIII. ADVANTAGES OF MACHINE LEARNING IN PLANTING

A. Increased Efficiency

Machine learning automates labor-intensive agricultural processes such as soil monitoring, irrigation control, and disease detection. This reduces human intervention and increases the efficiency of farming operations. Farmers can focus more on strategic planning while machines handle repetitive tasks.

B. Resource Optimization

By analyzing large datasets, ML helps farmers use resources such as water, fertilizers, and pesticides more efficiently. For example, precision irrigation systems powered by ML provide the exact amount of water required by each plant, reducing water wastage and preventing over-irrigation. This leads to cost savings and environmental benefits.

C. Higher Yields

ML-driven analytics enable farmers to make data-backed decisions that improve crop health and productivity. Early detection of plant diseases, optimized fertilization schedules, and smart irrigation lead to healthier plants and increased yields. By using predictive analytics, farmers can take timely actions to mitigate risks, such as sudden weather changes or pest outbreaks.

D. Reduced Costs

Automated systems powered by ML reduce the dependency on manual labor, lowering labor costs significantly. Additionally, targeted use of fertilizers and pesticides minimizes input costs while maximizing output. The long-term cost savings outweigh the initial investment in ML-based farming technology.

E. Sustainability

ML promotes sustainable agriculture by reducing chemical usage, preventing soil degradation, and conserving water resources. By optimizing resource allocation, ML helps farmers adopt environmentally friendly farming practices that support long-term agricultural sustainability.

IX. DISADVANTAGES OF MACHINE LEARNING IN PLANTING**A. High Initial Cost**

Implementing ML-based agricultural solutions requires significant investment in infrastructure, software, and training. Small-scale farmers may struggle to afford these technologies, creating a digital divide in the farming industry.

B. Data Dependence

ML models require large amounts of accurate and high-quality data to make reliable predictions. In rural or underdeveloped regions where data collection is limited, ML applications may not be as effective.

C. Technical Complexity Many farmers lack the technical knowledge required to operate ML-based systems. Extensive training and support are needed to help farmers understand and utilize these technologies efficiently.

D. Dependence on Technology

Heavy reliance on ML-based systems can be risky in cases of technical failures, system errors, or power outages. If the technology malfunctions, farming operations could be disrupted, leading to potential losses.

E. Privacy Concerns

ML-powered farming systems collect vast amounts of data about soil conditions, crop health, and farm management. If this data falls into the wrong hands, it could be exploited by large corporations or competitors, raising concerns about data privacy and security.

X. APPLICATIONS OF MACHINE LEARNING IN BOTANY

Machine learning is not only transforming agriculture but is also making significant contributions to botany. It helps scientists, researchers, and conservationists study plant species, detect diseases, and understand plant behavior under different environmental conditions.

A. Plant Disease Detection

ML algorithms analyze high-resolution images of plant leaves, stems, and flowers to detect early signs of disease. By comparing new images with a database of healthy and diseased plants, ML models can diagnose infections with high accuracy. This helps in taking preventive actions before the disease spreads, reducing crop losses. Some AI-powered mobile applications allow farmers to take a picture of a plant and instantly receive disease diagnosis and treatment recommendations.

B. Species Classification

ML is widely used in botanical research to classify plant species based on morphological, genetic, and environmental characteristics. AI-powered image recognition tools can identify plant species from photos, making plant identification easier for researchers and botanists. This technology is particularly useful in biodiversity conservation, where rapid identification of rare or endangered species is crucial.

C. Soil Analysis

Soil health plays a vital role in plant growth. ML models analyze soil samples and predict nutrient content, pH levels, and moisture retention capacity. This helps farmers and researchers understand which plants will thrive in specific soil conditions. AI-powered soil testing kits provide real-time soil analysis, enabling farmers to make informed decisions about crop selection and fertilization strategies.

D. Climate Adaptation Research

Climate change poses a serious threat to plant ecosystems. ML models help scientists study how plants respond to changing climatic conditions, such as temperature fluctuations, rainfall patterns, and CO₂ levels. This research aids in developing climate-resilient plant varieties that can withstand extreme environmental conditions. By understanding plant adaptation mechanisms, researchers can recommend suitable crops for future agricultural landscapes.

E. Automated Greenhouse Management

AI-powered greenhouses use ML to monitor and control environmental factors such as temperature, humidity, and light exposure. Sensors collect real-time data, and ML algorithms adjust conditions to ensure optimal plant growth. These smart greenhouses reduce manual labor and improve efficiency, leading to higher crop yields with minimal resource consumption.

XI. CONCLUSION

Botany and agriculture are undergoing a revolution because of machine learning (ML), which offers clever solutions that improve sustainability, production, and profitability. ML algorithms can reliably categorize plant species, detect plant illnesses early, optimize planting schedules, and promote climate adaptation studies through the use of massive volumes of data. These developments aid in the decision-making of farmers, botanists, and researchers, which eventually results in improved agricultural yields and better conservation initiatives. Although it has many benefits, the application of ML in agriculture and botany has its drawbacks. Exorbitant costs related to sophisticated technology, privacy of data, and the requirement of large datasets for training ML models are some of the challenges to universal application. Yet, ongoing development in artificial intelligence, cloud computing, and data collection methods is likely to render ML more affordable and accessible in the future. As technology advances, ML use in agriculture and botany will grow, paving the way for a more sustainable and productive future. By adopting these technologies, agriculture can become more climate-resilient, and botany can gain more research capabilities, ultimately leading to global food security and environmental conservation. In botany, ML is instrumental in species classification and biodiversity conservation. Advanced image recognition models can identify plant species with high accuracy, aiding researchers and conservationists in cataloging flora. Furthermore, ML-driven climate models help predict how different plant species will respond to changing environmental conditions, supporting efforts to develop climate-resilient crops and protect endangered species.

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