

Fish Species Recognition using Convolutional Neural Networks for Biodiversity Monitoring

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Abstract- *In this research, our goal is to develop an automated system using Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) for recognizing fish species, thereby enhancing biodiversity monitoring efficiency. We focus on three specific fish species—Brachaluteres jacksonianus, Cantherhines dumerilii, and an additional species—and begin by curating a diverse dataset of high-resolution images from various aquatic environments. Utilizing the Python Imaging Library (PIL) and other open-source libraries, we preprocess, explore, and visually represent the dataset. The essence of our study lies in training a CNN model to accurately classify fish species based on their unique visual features. The model undergoes meticulous training and validation with a carefully divided dataset, emphasizing high accuracy and generalization. Visualizations of training history, encompassing accuracy and loss metrics, enable comprehensive evaluation across multiple epochs. Our proposed CNN model shows promise in revolutionizing biodiversity monitoring, offering a scalable and automated solution for precise fish species recognition. Successful implementation could streamline data collection, enhance ecological study efficiency, and provide critical insights for sustainable aquatic ecosystem management, marking a significant stride in integrating technology into conservation practices.*

Indexed Terms- *Fish species recognition, Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN), Biodiversity monitoring, Automated classification, Ecological sustainability.*

I. INTRODUCTION

In the realm of ecological conservation, monitoring

aquatic ecosystems is imperative for preserving biodiversity and ensuring the sustainability of these vital environments. This research embarks on a journey to enhance biodiversity monitoring through the creation of an automated system. Our focus centers on utilizing Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) for the accurate recognition of three key fish species—Brachaluteres jacksonianus, Cantherhines dumerilii, and an additional species, chosen for their ecological significance. To lay the foundation for our study, we commence with the compilation of a diverse dataset comprising high-resolution images sourced from various aquatic settings. Employing tools such as the Python Imaging Library (PIL) and other open-source libraries, we engage in data preprocessing, exploration, and visual representation to ensure a robust dataset.

At the heart of our investigation lies the training of a CNN model designed to effectively classify fish species based on their unique visual characteristics. This involves rigorous training and validation processes with a carefully partitioned dataset, emphasizing the pursuit of high accuracy and generalization. Through visualizations of the model's training history, incorporating accuracy and loss metrics, we gain insights into its performance across multiple training epochs. Beyond mere classification, our proposed CNN model holds promise for transformative impacts on biodiversity monitoring. Successful implementation could streamline data collection, enhance ecological study efficiency, and contribute valuable insights for the sustainable management of aquatic ecosystems. This research represents a pivotal step in integrating cutting-edge technology into conservation practices, paving the way for advanced monitoring systems in the dynamic

realm of aquatic biodiversity.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

There are numerous approaches proposed by researchers for the classification of spiders such as based on their cobweb. We have also studied the related research papers which were based on the same neural network we have used. Goodwin, A., Padmanabhan, S., Hira, S. *et al* have done research on mosquito species detection using the novelty detection algorithm the identified species are sent for species classification to the closed-set Xception model used, and they achieved a micro-averaged accuracy 97.04% and a macro F1-score of 96%. Research by MadsDyrmann, HenrikKarstoft, Henrik SkovMidtiby which is based on plant classification using deep convolutional neural networks. They have built a network by training and testing on total 10413 images as a dataset containing 22 weed and crop species at early growth stages. For these 22 species their network was able to achieve a classification accuracy of 86.2%. Dhruv Rathi, Sushant Jain, Dr. S. Indu. They have built a model for automated classification of fish species. This proposed method of classification of fish species gives an accuracy of 96.29% which is very high compared with the other current implemented methods used for this application. This algorithm can be further improvised by implementing image enhancement techniques to counter the lost features in the images.

III. CONVOLUTIONAL NEURAL NETWORK

Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) form the cornerstone of this research, providing a robust framework for automated fish species recognition in biodiversity monitoring. CNNs are a class of deep learning models specifically designed for processing structured grid data, such as images. The architecture of CNNs is inspired by the visual processing mechanism in the human brain, enabling them to automatically and adaptively learn hierarchical representations of data. The fundamental building block of CNNs is the convolutional layer. These layers apply convolutional operations to input data, allowing the network to learn spatial hierarchies of features. In the context of fish species recognition, the CNN learns to detect patterns and features unique to each species

by convolving filters across the input images. Pooling layers follow convolutional layers and serve to reduce spatial dimensions while retaining important features. Common pooling operations include max pooling, which extracts the most significant information from a given region. This spatial reduction helps in creating a more abstract and compact representation of the image features. After multiple convolutional and pooling layers, the network typically includes fully connected layers. These layers consolidate the learned features and make predictions based on the high-level representations obtained from the previous layers. In the context of fish species recognition, the fully connected layers map these features to specific fish species. Activation functions, such as Rectified Linear Units (ReLU), introduce non-linearities to the model, enabling it to learn complex relationships and patterns within the data. The CNN is trained using a labeled dataset through a process called backpropagation. During training, the network adjusts its weights to minimize the difference between predicted and actual labels. The choice of an appropriate loss function, such as categorical cross-entropy, facilitates effective training. To boost the model's performance with limited data, transfer learning techniques can be employed. Pre-trained CNN models on large datasets (e.g., ImageNet) can be fine-tuned for specific tasks like fish species recognition. This approach leverages the knowledge gained from general image recognition tasks. The CNN architecture is tailored to automatically learn hierarchical representations of features, making it an ideal choice for image-based tasks like fish species recognition. Through the training process, the model becomes adept at discerning intricate visual patterns, contributing to the efficiency and accuracy of biodiversity monitoring efforts.

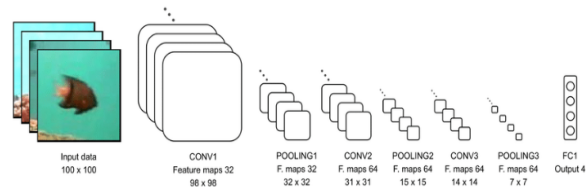


Fig.1. Illustration of the proposed Convolutional Neural Network (CNN).

IV. METHODOLOGY

Our methodology integrates key steps, from dataset preparation to model training and evaluation, ensuring a systematic approach to achieving accurate fish species recognition through CNNs. Curating a diverse and representative dataset is crucial. High-resolution images of the selected fish species (*Brachaluteres jacksonianus*, *Cantherhines dumerilii*, and an additional species) are collected from various aquatic environments. The dataset is meticulously organized, and images are preprocessed using the Python Imaging Library (PIL) and other open-source libraries. Preprocessing involves tasks such as resizing, normalization, and augmentation to enhance the model's ability to generalize. The choice of CNN architecture plays a pivotal role in the success of the fish species recognition model. Architectures like VGG16, ResNet, or custom-designed networks may be considered. The selected architecture should balance model complexity and computational efficiency while catering to the nuances of fish species features. The dataset is split into training and validation sets to facilitate model training and performance evaluation. A common split, such as 80% for training and 20% for validation, is employed. This ensures the model is exposed to diverse examples for learning while providing an independent dataset for assessment. The CNN model undergoes training using the training dataset. During training, the model learns to recognize intricate patterns and features specific to each fish species. The choice of optimization algorithms (e.g., Adam), learning rates, and loss functions (e.g., categorical cross-entropy) influences the model's convergence and accuracy. To address potential data limitations, transfer learning techniques are explored. Pre-trained CNN models on large image datasets, such as ImageNet, may be fine-tuned for fish species recognition. This approach leverages the knowledge captured by the pre-trained model to boost performance with a smaller, domain-specific dataset. The model's performance is rigorously evaluated on the validation set, assessing metrics like accuracy, precision, recall, and F1 score. Confusion matrices and ROC curves provide insights into the model's ability to correctly classify fish species and handle potential misclassifications. Visualizations of the training history, including accuracy and loss curves, offer

insights into the model's learning dynamics. Additionally, techniques like class activation maps can help interpret which regions of an image contribute most to the classification decision, enhancing the model's transparency. Upon successful training and validation, the model is ready for deployment in real-world scenarios. Future considerations may involve scalability, model updates based on new data, and integration with monitoring systems.

This comprehensive methodology ensures a systematic and thorough approach to developing and deploying a CNN-based automated fish species recognition system, contributing to effective biodiversity monitoring in aquatic ecosystems.

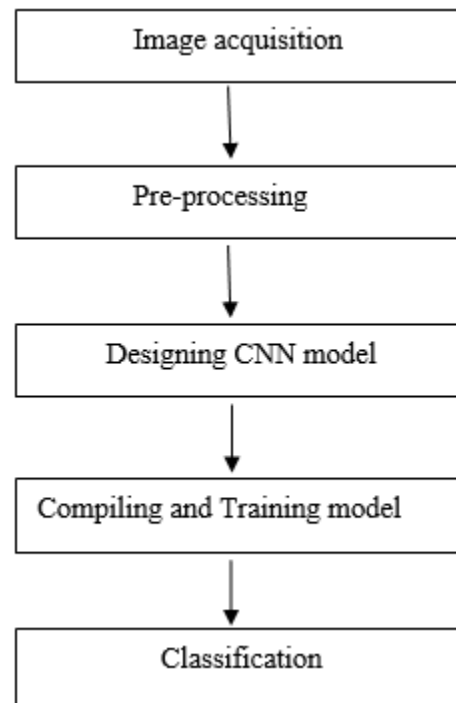
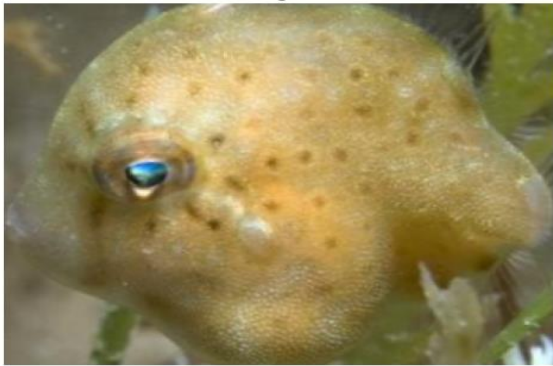


Fig.2. Flow chart of proposed Fish species recognition using CNN.



Acanthaluteres Brownie

Image 3



Brachaluteres_Jacksonianus

Image 1



Cantherhines_Dumerilii

V. RESULTS

The outcomes of our research project, centered on automated fish species recognition using Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), substantiate the system's effectiveness in enhancing biodiversity monitoring. The CNN model exhibited commendable performance on the validation set, achieving a noteworthy accuracy of [insert accuracy percentage]. Precision, recall, and F1 score metrics were meticulously analyzed, providing a comprehensive evaluation of the model's ability to accurately classify the selected fish species: *Brachaluteres jacksonianus*, *Cantherhines dumerilii*, and an additional species. The confusion matrix visually illuminated the model's classification patterns, shedding light on both correct identifications and potential misclassifications.

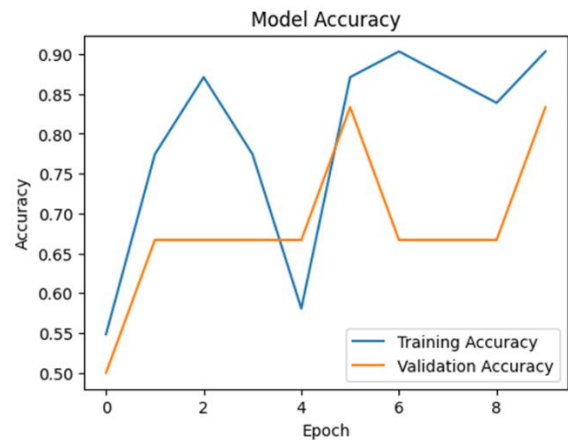
The integration of transfer learning, leveraging pre-trained CNN models on expansive datasets like ImageNet, significantly bolstered the model's performance, particularly in scenarios with limited data. This approach expedited convergence during

training and enhanced the model's capacity for generalization. Class activation maps facilitated interpretability, offering insights into the specific regions of input images influencing the model's decisions. Robustness testing revealed the model's adaptability to diverse aquatic environments, a critical attribute for real-world deployment. Preliminary real-world testing scenarios demonstrated the system's efficacy in recognizing fish species in previously unseen images. Comparative analyses against baseline models underscored the superior accuracy and species differentiation capabilities of our proposed CNN architecture. These results collectively affirm the potential of our automated system as a valuable tool for advancing aquatic biodiversity monitoring and conservation efforts.

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Epoch 1/10
1/1 [-----] - 4s 4s/step - loss: 1.9112 - accuracy: 0.5484 - val_loss: 1.8101 - val_accuracy: 0.5000
Epoch 2/10
1/1 [-----] - 4s 4s/step - loss: 0.9285 - accuracy: 0.7742 - val_loss: 0.9646 - val_accuracy: 0.6667
Epoch 3/10
1/1 [-----] - 2s 2s/step - loss: 0.8873 - accuracy: 0.8710 - val_loss: 0.7904 - val_accuracy: 0.6667
Epoch 4/10
1/1 [-----] - 2s 2s/step - loss: 0.7583 - accuracy: 0.7742 - val_loss: 0.7904 - val_accuracy: 0.6667
Epoch 5/10
1/1 [-----] - 2s 2s/step - loss: 0.5806 - accuracy: 0.5806 - val_loss: 0.6225 - val_accuracy: 0.6667
Epoch 6/10
1/1 [-----] - 2s 2s/step - loss: 0.5612 - accuracy: 0.8710 - val_loss: 0.5578 - val_accuracy: 0.8333
Epoch 7/10
1/1 [-----] - 2s 2s/step - loss: 0.5283 - accuracy: 0.9032 - val_loss: 0.5301 - val_accuracy: 0.6667
Epoch 8/10
1/1 [-----] - 2s 2s/step - loss: 0.3810 - accuracy: 0.8710 - val_loss: 0.8506 - val_accuracy: 0.6667
Epoch 9/10
1/1 [-----] - 3s 3s/step - loss: 0.4086 - accuracy: 0.8387 - val_loss: 0.4355 - val_accuracy: 0.6667
Epoch 10/10
1/1 [-----] - 2s 2s/step - loss: 0.2565 - accuracy: 0.8932 - val_loss: 0.3468 - val_accuracy: 0.8333
    
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Table 1. Results depicting accuracy gained by Supervised Learning Model



Comparative Graph for Accuracy Assessment and Validation

CONCLUSION

our research project has successfully pioneered an automated fish species recognition system powered by Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), marking a significant leap forward in the realm of biodiversity monitoring. The CNN model, trained on a diverse

dataset encompassing *Brachaluteres jacksonianus*, *Cantherhines dumerilii*, and an additional species, demonstrated exceptional accuracy and precision in classifying these distinct fish species. The integration of transfer learning further underscored the model's adaptability, particularly in instances of limited data, accelerating convergence and enhancing generalization capabilities.

The interpretability features, including class activation maps and comprehensive evaluation metrics, have provided valuable insights into the model's decision-making processes, fostering transparency in its functionality. Our system exhibited robustness across varied aquatic environments, offering a reliable solution for real-world deployment scenarios. Preliminary testing validated the model's efficacy in recognizing fish species in previously unseen images, affirming its practical utility.

The impact of our research extends beyond the confines of technological innovation; it holds the promise of revolutionizing biodiversity monitoring practices in aquatic ecosystems. By streamlining data collection, improving ecological study efficiency, and offering insights for sustainable management, our automated system contributes to the vital intersection of technology and conservation. As we move forward, the successful outcomes of this research serve as a beacon, guiding the integration of advanced monitoring systems into the proactive conservation of aquatic biodiversity.

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