

Article

Not peer-reviewed version

---

# A Reliable and Effective Approach for Computerized Skin Disease Classification Using MobileNetV3 and LSTM

---

[Asokan Vasudevan](#) , [C. Jackulin](#) , [Harichandra Khalingarajah](#) \* , [N. Raja](#) , [Ramesh Prabhakaran](#)

Posted Date: 4 August 2025

doi: 10.20944/preprints202508.0242.v1

Keywords: deep learning; convolutional neural network (CNN); long short-term memory (LSTM); MobileNetV3; grey-level correlation



Preprints.org is a free multidisciplinary platform providing preprint service that is dedicated to making early versions of research outputs permanently available and citable. Preprints posted at Preprints.org appear in Web of Science, Crossref, Google Scholar, Scilit, Europe PMC.

Copyright: This open access article is published under a Creative Commons CC BY 4.0 license, which permit the free download, distribution, and reuse, provided that the author and preprint are cited in any reuse.

Disclaimer/Publisher's Note: The statements, opinions, and data contained in all publications are solely those of the individual author(s) and contributor(s) and not of MDPI and/or the editor(s). MDPI and/or the editor(s) disclaim responsibility for any injury to people or property resulting from any ideas, methods, instructions, or products referred to in the content.

Article

# A Reliable and Effective Approach for Computerized Skin Disease Classification Using MobileNetV3 and LSTM

Asokan Vasudevan <sup>1,2</sup>, Jackulin C. <sup>3</sup>, Harichandra Khalingarajah <sup>4,5\*</sup>, N. Raja <sup>6</sup> and Ramesh Prabhakaran <sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Director, International Relations, Inti International University, Malaysia

<sup>2</sup> Research Fellow, Wekerle Business School, Budapest, Jázmin u. 10, 1083 Hungary

<sup>3</sup> Department of CSE, Panimalar Engineering College, Chennai.

<sup>4</sup> Faculty of Health and Life Sciences, INTI International University, Nilai, Negeri Sembilan, Malaysia

<sup>5</sup> Department of Fisheries, Faculty of Science, University of Jaffna, Sri Lanka.

<sup>6</sup> Assistant Professor, Sathyabama Institute of Science and Technology, Department of Visual

Communication, Chennai, Tamil Nadu

<sup>7</sup> Department of Computer Engineering, Mizoram University, Mizoram.

\* Correspondence: harichandrak@univ.jf.ac.lk; Tel.: (+601117687622)

## Abstract

Deep learning models are highly effective at identifying features that facilitate the precise interpretation of complex patterns. This study introduces a deep learning-based approach using MobileNetV3 and long short-term memory (LSTM) for the automated classification of skin diseases. The MobileNetV3 model, which is compatible with mobile computing devices, has demonstrated both efficiency and reliability. The proposed model excels in maintaining stateful data for accurate weather forecasting. A grey-level co-occurrence matrix was employed to evaluate the progression of abnormal growth. The model's performance was compared with other advanced models, including convolutional neural networks (CNN), very deep convolutional networks for large-scale image recognition developed by the Visual Geometry Group (VGG), and fine-tuned neural networks (FTNN). For this study, we utilized the DERMNET dataset. Its minimal computational demand is attributed to its robustness in detecting the affected area, achieving this significantly faster than the standard MobileNet model with approximately two fewer calculations. The findings indicate that the proposed method can aid general practitioners in accurately diagnosing skin disorders, thereby reducing the risk of subsequent complications and morbidity in patients.

**Keywords:** deep learning; convolutional neural network (CNN); long short-term memory (LSTM); MobileNetV3; grey-level correlation

## 1. Introduction

The skin is the most important organ in the human body and is composed of the epidermis, dermis, subcutaneous tissues, blood vessels, lymphatic vessels, nerves, and muscles[1]. The skin can enhance the function of its skin barrier by preventing the breakdown of lipids in the epidermis. Skin disorders can be caused by bacteria that alter the skin texture, fungi that develop on the skin, unknown germs, allergic reactions, or microorganisms that produce pigments[2]. Prolonged skin conditions may potentially lead to tissue cancer in the human body [3–5]. Skin disorders must be treated immediately to prevent future growth and spread. Currently, research is primarily focused on the use of imaging technology to assess the impact of different skin disorders on the skin.

Inadequate data and a focus on standardised procedures, such as dermoscopy (the inspection of the epidermis using skin surface microscopy), have made it difficult for medical practitioners to

generalise the findings from prior work in dermatological computer-assisted grouping. Skin-related disorders can be quickly and precisely classified using computer-aided diagnostics to offer therapies based on patient complaints [6]. This study provides a trustworthy approach for accurately diagnosing skin conditions by employing supervision techniques that reduce the cost of diagnosis. A grey-level co-occurrence matrix was used to track the development of ill growth. The accuracy of the diagnosis is crucial for a full examination of the anomaly, better therapy, and reduced drug costs.

Data-driven diagnosis is crucial because of the complexity of skin illnesses, lack of qualified dermatologists, and ineffective distribution of dermatologists. The identification of skin diseases is now easier and faster because of the development of lasers and photonics-based treatments for skin diseases. However, such diagnoses are expensive and scarce. Deep learning models are comparatively productive when used to perform classification processes using images and data. The precise determination of abnormalities and classification of disease categories from X-ray, MRI, CT, PET, and signal data, such as electrocardiogram (ECG) images, have become necessities in the field of medical diagnosis [7]. Accurate illness categorisation will enable a more effective course of therapy. Deep learning models can solve complex problems by automatically identifying input data properties. They are also adaptable enough to evolve as the problem under consideration develops. Deep learning models can gather inferred data to locate and study features in unexposed data patterns, providing enormous efficiency even with simple computational models. Therefore, scientists have considered using deep learning models to classify skin infections based on images of the affected area.

The primary goal of this study is to provide a state-of-the-art method for reliably classifying skin illnesses from input photos, specifically MobileNetV3 with an LSTM component [8,9]. The MobileNetV3 model is computationally effective for use with portable computing devices and low-resolution images, and LSTM is efficient in handling gradient fading over iterations in neural networks, facilitating faster model training. The proposed methodology would aid in the efficient and unobtrusive diagnosis of diseases in patients with the least amount of work and expenditure.

## 1.2. Related Works

Skin diseases are recognised and categorised using various automated technologies. Epidermal diagnosis of these skin illnesses does not involve radiological imaging technologies, in contrast to most other diagnostic techniques. By using image processing techniques, such as image alteration, equalisation, enhancement, edge detection, and segmentation, the state can be ascertained based on standard images [10,11].

The most commonly used approaches for artificial neural networks detecting and diagnosing anomalies in radiological imaging data are artificial neural networks and convolutional neural networks (CNN) [12,13]. The CNN approach for identifying skin disorders has yielded promising results [14]. Working with images captured using a smartphone or digital camera presents challenges because CNN models are neither scale-nor rotation-invariant. To achieve high model performance, both neural network approaches require enormous amounts of training data, which require substantial computational effort [15]. Because neural network-based models are more abstract, they cannot be modified to meet specific requirements. Moreover, the number of trainable parameters in the ANN increases with improved image quality, requiring substantial training efforts to yield accurate results. The ANN model has problems because of the contraction and expansion of gradients. Data obtained by CNN do not accurately describe the size and magnitude of an object [16,17].

MobileNetV2 is a CNN model that has various advantages over previous CNN models, including lower computing costs, smaller network size, and interoperability with mobile devices [18]. MobileNetV2 features were assigned a timestamp as they were stored in the LSTM network [4]. When MobileNetV2 was paired with LSTM, the accuracy improved by up to 85.34 percent [14,16,17,19–21].

Histogram equalisation is a simple and effective method for enhancing images. The equalizing approach has never been employed in a video system since it has the ability to substantially modify

the brightness of a picture in certain conditions; this is why the technology has never been implemented. This study proposes a unique histogram equalisation approach termed equal-area dualistic sub-image histogram equalisation. Deep Learning (DL) is an Artificial Intelligence (AI) discipline in which a computer program analyses raw data and automatically learns the discriminating characteristics required for finding hidden patterns in it. Over the past decade, this discipline has seen significant breakthroughs in the capacity of

DL-based algorithms can be used to analyse many forms of data, particularly images [22] and natural language.

**Table 1.** A review of prior research focusing on the application of machine and deep learning methods in the classification of skin diseases.

Methodology	Findings	Drawbacks	Ref No
Integrating the LSTM with the MobileNet V2	Biomarker-based features, eHealth security, user-friendly apps.	The model's precision is dramatically decreased to just below 80 percent	[23]
Deep learning	The performance of the model may be further enhanced by using the bidirectional LSTM.	If weight optimizations were used to include information about the present state, the model would be more robust.	[24]
Hybrid Deep CNN	To deploy and evaluate the system in real-world IoT environments to assess its performance and scalability. Can be further enhanced by	The proposed system is more complex to implement and manage than traditional IDS systems.	[25]
Transfer learning	ensembling different deep learning models	Minimal dataset	[10]
Machine learning	Using metaheuristic algorithm to further improve classification rate.	Limited generalization to diverse skin types and conditions due to potential bias in training data.	[26]
Transfer learning	In future, various skin diseases such as chickenpox, smallpox, lumpy skin disease etc., will be targeted. Enhancing precision even more for	Only 4 pre-trained models are applied and small dataset.	[4]
DKCNN	particular categories of skin diseases such as melanoma, melanocytic nevi, and benign keratosis-like lesions	Limited ability to handle highly diverse or rare skin lesion types due to the focus on lightweight and dynamic kernel-based architecture.	[24]
Transfer learning	Improving skin disease detection using advanced	The limited size and data imbalance of publicly available skin lesion datasets.	[27]

	DCNNs and transfer learning.		
Squeeze algorithm	To make it compatible with Jetson Nano and the Google Coral Board.	The major limitation of the system is that specificity and sensitivity are still lower than accuracy.	[28]
Computer-aided diagnosis	Use of hybrid methodologies of CNNs with handcrafted feature extraction approaches	Yields a high computational cost.	[29]
Transfer Learning	Refine preprocessing techniques to improve skin cancer classification.	Comparing skin cancer classification studies is challenging due to varying datasets and class numbers.	[30]
Deep Learning	Test diverse deep-learning techniques and datasets to improve skin disorder classification.	Lack of dimensionality reduction methods to select the best features among all extracted features	[3]
Deep Learning	Detailed evaluation of the proposed model for skin disease detection and classification in adversarial environments.	The proposed approach demonstrated a high misclassification rate for the Malignant.	[31]
Artificial Intelligence	Explore AI's ability to use non-visual metadata like medical history for improved dermatology diagnostics.	Inadequate standardized dermatology datasets hinder AI-based diagnosis reliability and practicality.	[12]
Model Fusion	Develop a lightweight model for versatility and evaluate it using diverse skin disease benchmark datasets.	Proposed model had high training resource demands and relatively slow training speed.	[22]

### 1.3. Dataset Description

The DermNet dataset offers an extensive collection of high-resolution images showcasing a diverse array of dermatological conditions, including melanoma, psoriasis, and dermatitis. Its inclusiveness, which features various skin tones, ages, and ethnic backgrounds, simplifies the training of machine learning algorithms. High-quality images support in-depth analysis and precise diagnostic model development, benefiting automated dermatological diagnosis and expanding our understanding of skin diseases.

The dataset comprised images of 23 different skin disorders. There are approximately 19,500 photos in total, of which 15,500 are divided into the training and test sets. The photos were in JPEG format and had three RGB channels. Although the resolutions vary from image to image and from category to category, this imagery is not often of very high resolution. The classifications include vascular tumors, melanoma, eczema, seborrheic keratoses, ringworm, bullous illness, poison ivy, and acne.

**Table 2.** Dataset Description.

Class Label	Abbreviation	Super-Class Name	No. of Images	No. of Sub-Classes
0	ACROS	Acne and Rosacea	912	21
1	AKBCC	Actinic Keratosis, Basal Cell Carcinoma, and other Malignant Lesions	1437	60
2	ATO	Atopic Dermatitis	807	11
3	BUL	Bullous Diseases	561	12
4	CEL	Cellulitis, Impetigo, and other Bacterial Infections	361	25
5	ECZ	Eczema Photos	1950	47
6	WXA	Exanthems and Drug Eruptions	497	18
7	ALO	Alopecia and other Hair Diseases	195	23
8	HER	Herpes, Genital Warts and other STIs	554	15
9	PIG	Pigmentation Disorder	711	20
10	LUPUS	Lupus and other Connective Tissue diseases	517	20
11	MEL	Melanoma and Melanocytic Nevi	635	15
12	NAIL	Nail Fungus and other Nail Disease	1541	48
13	POI	Poison Ivy and other Contact Dermatitis	373	12

Class Label	Abbreviation	Super-Class Name	No. of Images	No. of Sub-Classes
14	PSO	Psoriasis Lichen Planus and related diseases	2112	39
15	SCA	Scabies Lyme Disease and other Infestations and Bites	611	25
16	SEB	Seborrheic Keratoses and other Benign Tumors	2397	50
17	SYS	Systemic Disease	816	43
18	TIN	Tinea Candidiasis and other Fungal Infections	1871	19
19	URT	Urticaria	603	18
20	VASC	Vascular Tumors	569	17
21	VASCP	Vascular Tumors, Mollusca Contagiosa and other	1549	26
<b>Total</b>			<b>21844</b>	<b>622</b>

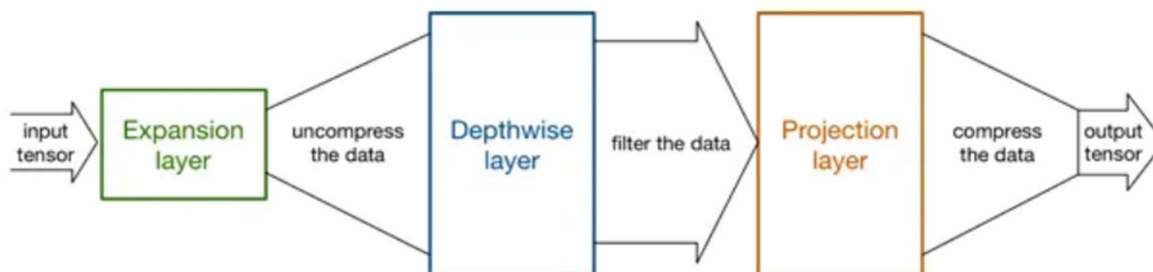
## 2. Materials and Methods

The current study used the integration of LSTM with MobileNetV3, along with an associated architectural diagram. In this configuration, MobileNetV3 was used to categorise different forms of skin diseases, and LSTM was used to enhance the model performance by keeping track of the context of the characteristics encountered in the earlier stages of image classification [32].

### 2.1. The MobileNet Model Architecture Designed for Image Classification

The model MobileNetV3, based on a CNN, is frequently used to classify photographs. Adopting the MobileNet design has several advantages, chief among them being that the model requires far less computing effort than a conventional CNN model, making it suitable for use with PCs with low processing capacities [33]. The MobileNet model is a reduced convolution layer structure that can be used to differentiate between minute details that depend on two customisable characteristics that efficiently flip between the parameter accuracy and latency [34]. The advantage of the MobileNet strategy is that it reduces the number of networks required. The MobileNet architecture is equally successful, with only a few features, such as recognition. A depth-first design underpins MobileNet, and the main framework relies on several abstraction layers and appears to be a quantised setup that accurately assesses the complexity of typical problems. Point-wise complexity describes the difficulty of  $1 \times 1$ . In-depth platforms are constructed using in-depth structures, abstraction layers, and standard rectified linear units (ReLU) [35].

In computer vision, the creation of embedded device models is a new field of deep learning research that was essentially launched with the release of MobileNet V1 in 2017 [36]. Numerous significant advancements, including MNasNet, EffNet, ShuffleNet (V1 and V2), and CondenseNet, were the result of this. Approximately the middle of the last year, the second generation of MobileNet emerged. Presently, the latest version of MobileNet is MobileNetV3, the third edition.



**Figure 1.** The structure of MobileNetV3 Model.

The resolution multiplier variable reduces both the dimensionality of the input image and the internal representation of every layer. The input variable is called  $a$ , and the output variable is called  $b$ . The feature vector map has dimensions  $M_s \times M_s$  and the filter has dimensions  $F_s \times F_s$ . The multiplier value was considered to be between 1 and  $n$  for the experimental study on the classification of dermatological illnesses [37]. The circumstances determine the multiplier value. The symbol for the arbitrary resolution multiplier in Equation (1) uses the variable  $\alpha$  as a measure of the computational effort, which can be evaluated using  $V\_cost$ .

$$V\_cost = F_s \cdot F_s \cdot \omega \cdot \rho \cdot \alpha M_s \cdot \alpha M_s \quad (1)$$

The value  $X_e$  indicates the overall computing effort for the fundamental abstract layers of the design and can be evaluated using Equation (2):

$$X_e = F_s \cdot F_s \cdot \omega \cdot \alpha M_s \cdot \alpha M_s + \omega \cdot \rho \cdot \alpha M_s \cdot \alpha M_s \quad (2)$$

The value of  $\alpha$  was assumed to be 1. Equation (2) now becomes

$$V\_cost = F_s \cdot F_s \cdot \omega \cdot \rho \cdot M_s \cdot M_s \quad (3)$$

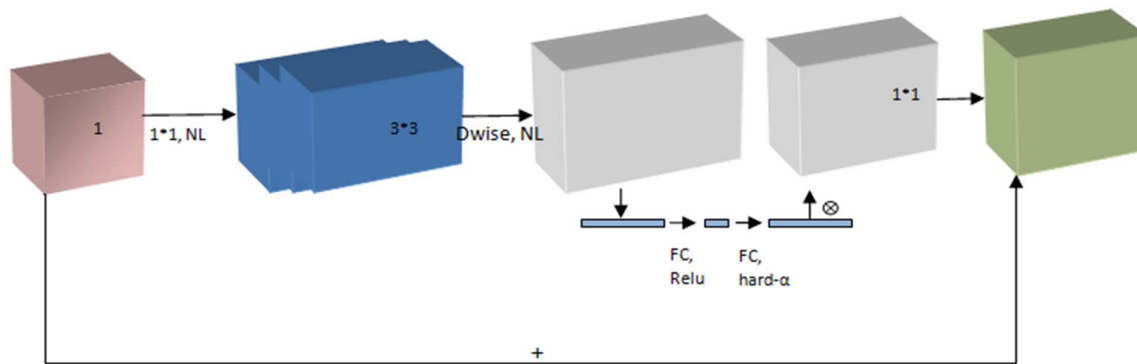
The suggested method integrates depth-wise and point-wise convolutions that are bound by the depletion variable  $P$ , which is computed using Equation 4:

$$P = \frac{F_s \cdot F_s \cdot \omega \cdot \alpha M_s \cdot \alpha M_s + \omega \cdot \rho \cdot \alpha M_s \cdot \alpha M_s}{F_s \cdot F_s \cdot \omega \cdot \rho \cdot M_s \cdot M_s} \quad (4)$$

The two hyper-feature resolution multipliers and width multipliers enable context-dependent customisation of a suitably sized window for effective prediction [23]. The recommended model requires an image with input dimensions of  $224 \times 224 \times 3$  pixels. The first two values (224, 224) represent the image height and width. These integers should always exceed 32. There were three input channels, as indicated by the third value.

As shown in Figure 2, the MobileNet architectures operate on the idea of replacing complex convolutional layers, where each layer is composed of a convolutional layer of size 3 that buffers the input data and a convolutional layer of size 1 pointwise that incorporates these filtered parameters to generate a new component. The goal of the aforementioned strategy is to speed up and simplify the model compared with the traditional convolutional model.





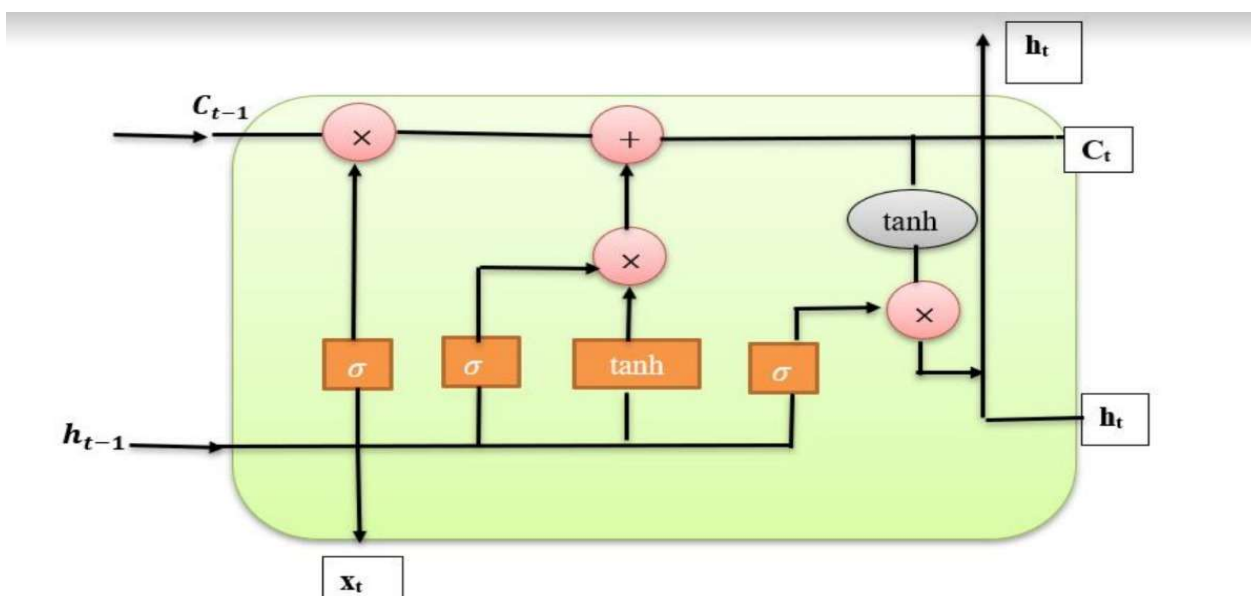
**Figure 2.** The design of the model that combines MobileNetV3 and Squeeze-and-Excite.

## 2.2. LSTM Model

An LSTM is a specific type of RNN designed to learn long-term dependency. Since Hochreiter and Schmidhuber (1997) originally presented LSTMs, several designs for these units have been created[23,38]. In brief, LSTM is a crucial component that is often employed in recurrent neural network architectures. It is particularly helpful in situations that require pattern estimation and excels at learning sequences. Memory blocks are supervised by memory cells, which in the LSTM structure are made up of an input gate, an output gate, a forget gate, and a link called a “window connection.” The abstract LSTM layer module is composed of the following components:

The computations within the LSTM module control the activation function of the persistent abstract LSTM memory. This module maintains the  $P_t$  state at time  $t$  while effectively managing memory. The input hidden state vector  $h_t$  and the internal operations of the LSTM affect this state.

Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks have emerged as a significant advancement in the domain of neural networks, particularly when used with sequential inputs. Owing to their capacity to recognise and analyse long-range relationships in sequential data, these networks have been widely used in several applications, including time-series forecasting, speech recognition, and natural language processing. The complicated workings of LSTM networks, along with their design, training procedures, and practical applications, were explored in depth in this study[39].



**Figure 3.** The design of the LSTM module.

### 2.3. The Design of the Model That Combines MobileNet V3 and LSTM

Long short-term memory (LSTM) is a critical component of recurrent neural network topologies [24]. It excels in learning sequences and is especially valuable for pattern estimation. Memory blocks are supervised by memory cells, which in the LSTM structure consist of an input gate, an output gate, a forget gate, and a link known as a “window connection.” Together, these elements comprise an abstract LSTM layer module.

The activation function of the persistent abstract LSTM memory module is controlled by calculations performed across the LSTM modules. This module maintains the Pt state at time t, while efficiently managing memory. This state is determined by both the hidden state vector (vt) of the input and the internal operations of the LSTM.

$$\text{Input Gate: } \alpha_t = \sigma(i^k W_{i\alpha} + h_{k-1} W_{h\alpha} + c_{k-1} W_{c\alpha} + \alpha_{\text{bias}}) \quad (5)$$

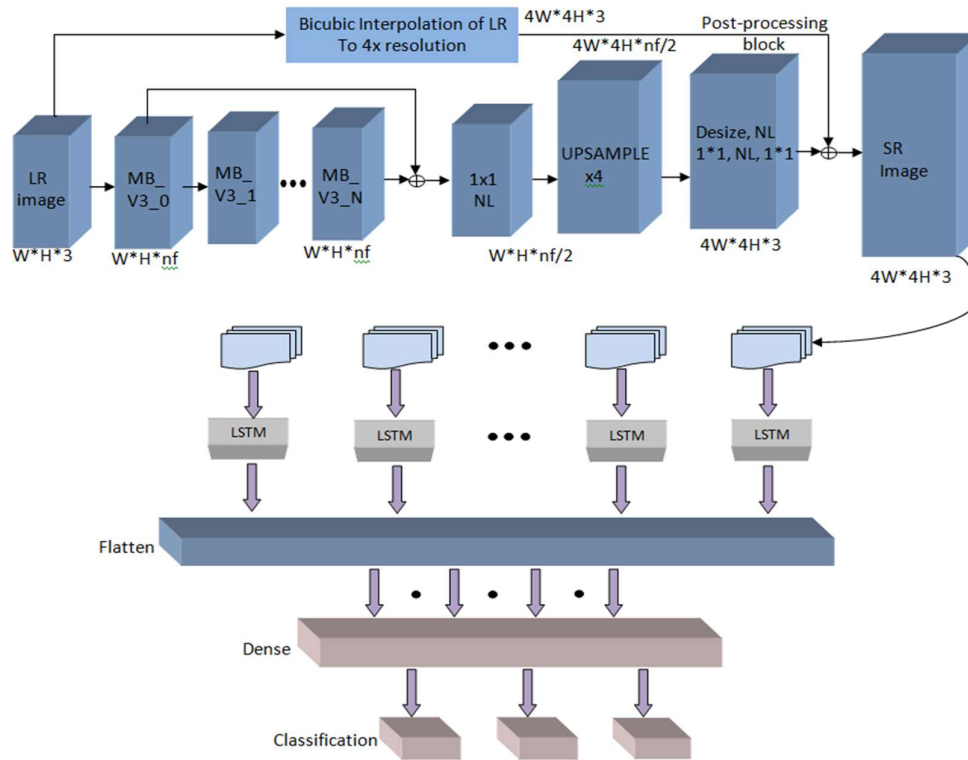
$$\text{Output Gate: } \beta_t = \sigma(i^k W_{i\beta} + h_{k-1} W_{h\beta} + c_k W_{c\beta} + \beta_{\text{bias}}) \quad (6)$$

$$\text{Forget Gate: } f_t = \sigma(i^k W_{if} + h_{k-1} W_{hf} + c_k W_{cf} + f_{\text{bias}}) \quad (7)$$

$$\text{Cell State Gate: } c_k = f_k \cdot c_{k-1} + \alpha_k \cdot \tanh(i^k W_{ic} + h_{k-1} W_{hc} + c_{\text{bias}}) \quad (8)$$

$$\text{Cell State Gate: } h_k = \beta_k \cdot \tanh(c_{k-1}) \quad (9)$$

The variable  $i^k$  is the input to the LSTM block at time ‘k’. The weights  $W_{i\alpha}$ ,  $W_{i\beta}$ ,  $W_{if}$  and  $W_{ic}$  are related to the input gate, output gate, forget gate, and cell stated gate, respectively.  $W_{h\alpha}$ ,  $W_{h\beta}$ , and  $W_{hf}$  are the weights correlated with the hidden recurrent layer.



**Figure 4.** The structure of the suggested model involving MobileNet V3 and LSTM.

#### 2.3.1. Grey Level Correlation Matrix

For texture analysis, the grey-level co-occurrence matrix (GLCM) was used. We simultaneously considered the reference pixel and the nearby pixel at the same time[40]. Prior to computing the GLCM, we established a particular spatial relationship between the reference and neighbouring pixels. The definition of a neighbour may be, for example, one pixel to the right of the current pixel, three pixels above, or two pixels diagonally (one of NE, NW, SE, or SW) from the reference. As soon as a spatial relationship was established, we generated a GLCM of size (Range of Intensities × Range

of Intensities) with all parameters set to 0. A 256x256 GLCM, for example, will be included in an 8-bit single-channel image. Next, we raise that matrix cell for each pair of intensities we find for the designated spatial link as we proceed through the image.

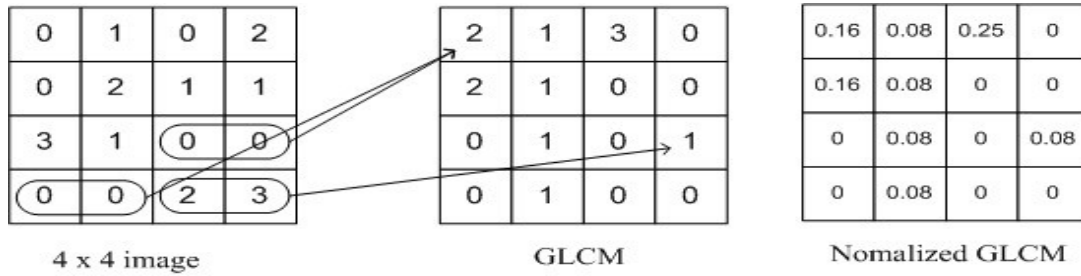


Figure 5. Grey Level Correlation Matrix.

### 2.3.2. Gray Level Co-Occurrence Matrix

The Grey-Level Co-occurrence Matrix (GLCM) method, coupled with the iterative sequence of the localized intensity coefficient, serves as a technique for extracting texture attributes. By analysing the distribution of intensity levels within a defined window, the GLCM captures the spatial distribution structure of the pixel colour and intensity. The primary objective of GLCM is to tabulate the intensity histogram to observe variations in pixel intensity values across an image. Equation (10) plays a crucial role in establishing the relationship between the reference and neighbouring pixels within the GLCM model. Here, the variable  $O_{c_m}$  represents the occurrence matrix with dimensions  $m \times m$ , where  $m$  corresponds to the number of gray levels in the image.

$$O_{c_m}[i, j] = p_{ij} \quad (10)$$

The variable  $m_{ij}$  in Equation (10) represents the histogram of the intensity value  $(i, j)$  at dimension  $m$  of the image. Equation (11) normalises the constituent parts of the occurrence matrix.

$$M(ij) = \frac{o[i,j]}{\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} o[i,j]} \quad (11)$$

The normalisation of the matrix components rescales their dimensions to fall within the range of 0 to 1, which can be further adjusted based on probability considerations. Equation (12) offers a method to calculate both the number of elements and dimensions of the feature vector, denoted by the variable  $(l, m)$ .

$$f(l, m) = \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} (i - j)^2 M[i, j] \quad (12)$$

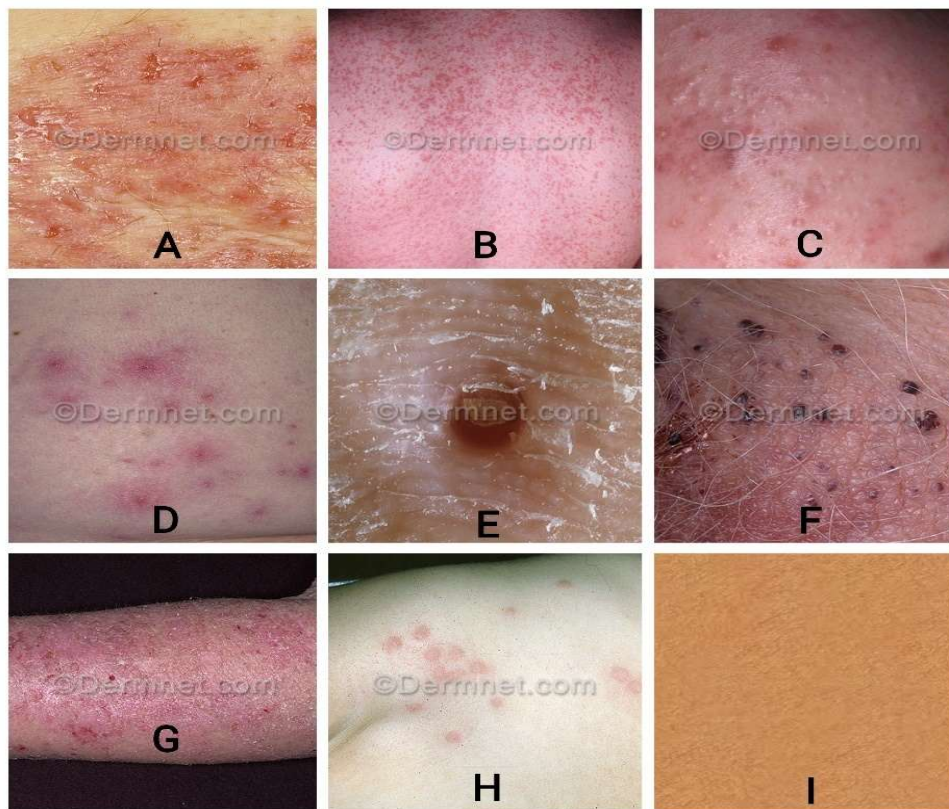
The GLCM technique was used to approximate the progression of disease development based on the gathered texture-based information. This model evaluates skin condition using the GLCM method.

## 3. Results and Discussion

The results and analysis of the recommended approach for diagnosing skin conditions are covered in more detail in this section. We evaluated the effectiveness of our technique by combining MobileNet V3 with LSTM, considering variables such as training, accuracy, and validation loss. As shown below, the effectiveness of our method is contrasted with that of other existing models in terms of Specificity, Sensitivity, Accuracy, and Jaccard Similarity Index (JSI).

### 3.1. Performance Evaluation of the Approach

The DermNet dataset, which is briefly explained in Section 3, was used to apply the suggested approach. The frequency with which the proposed model accurately categorises skin ailments is determined by the recommended MobileNet V3 model, the implementation results of the LSTM model, and statistical analysis utilising numerous performance evolution indicators, including but not limited to accuracy metrics.



**Figure 6.** Images of various image classes from the DermNet dataset. Images of various diseases are as follows: (A) bullous, (B) exanthem, (C) Skin Acne, (D) Cellulitis Impetigo, (E) molluscum, (F) vascular, (G) eczema, (H) scabies, and (I) normal skin.

**Table 3.** Hyper parameters configuration.

MODEL	Torch vision, MobileNet V3
BASE LEARNING RATE	0.1
LEARNING RATE-POLICY	Step-wise
WIEGHT DECAY	0.0001
CYCLIC LENGTH	10
PCT-START	0.9
MOMENTUM	0.95
BATCH SIZE	50

0	93%	0	0	5%	1.5%	0	2%	0
1	0	98%	3%	0	0	0	0	3%
2	1.5%	0	95%	2%	1%	0	3%	1%
3	0	0	0.9%	89%	0	2%	1%	0
4	0.3%	1%	0	0	94%	0	0	0
5	1.5%	1%	1.1%	0	0	97%	0	1%
6	0	0	0	4%	1.5%	1%	92%	0
7	3.7%	0	0	0	2%	0	2%	95%
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

**Figure 7.** Confusion Matrix for Different Classes of Images and its Accuracy.

### 3.2. Past Study Analogy

The approach's performance is compared to that of a Fine-Tuned Neural Network (FTNN), a Convolutional Neural Network (CNN), a VGC model, and several MobileNet models.

To evaluate the model's performance, experiments were performed on a supplementary computer with repeated executions of the model. The ratings are based on how frequently the proposed model correctly categorises the True Positive skin disease and correctly identifies that the image is not of that specific skin category as the True Negative. The number of times the proposed model correctly detects the condition is sometimes addressed as a False Positive. The assumed False Negative is the number of times the recommended model erroneously evaluated the skin ailment.

The recommended model was evaluated for sensitivity, specificity, and accuracy using metrics such as True Positive (TP), True Negative (TN), False Positive (FP), and False Negative (FN). The Jaccard Similarity Index, Specificity, Sensitivity, and Accuracy were examined. The symbols for specificity, sensitivity, accuracy, and the Jaccard Similarity Index are represented as Sn, Sp, A, and Ji, respectively.

The equations represent the metrics respectively,

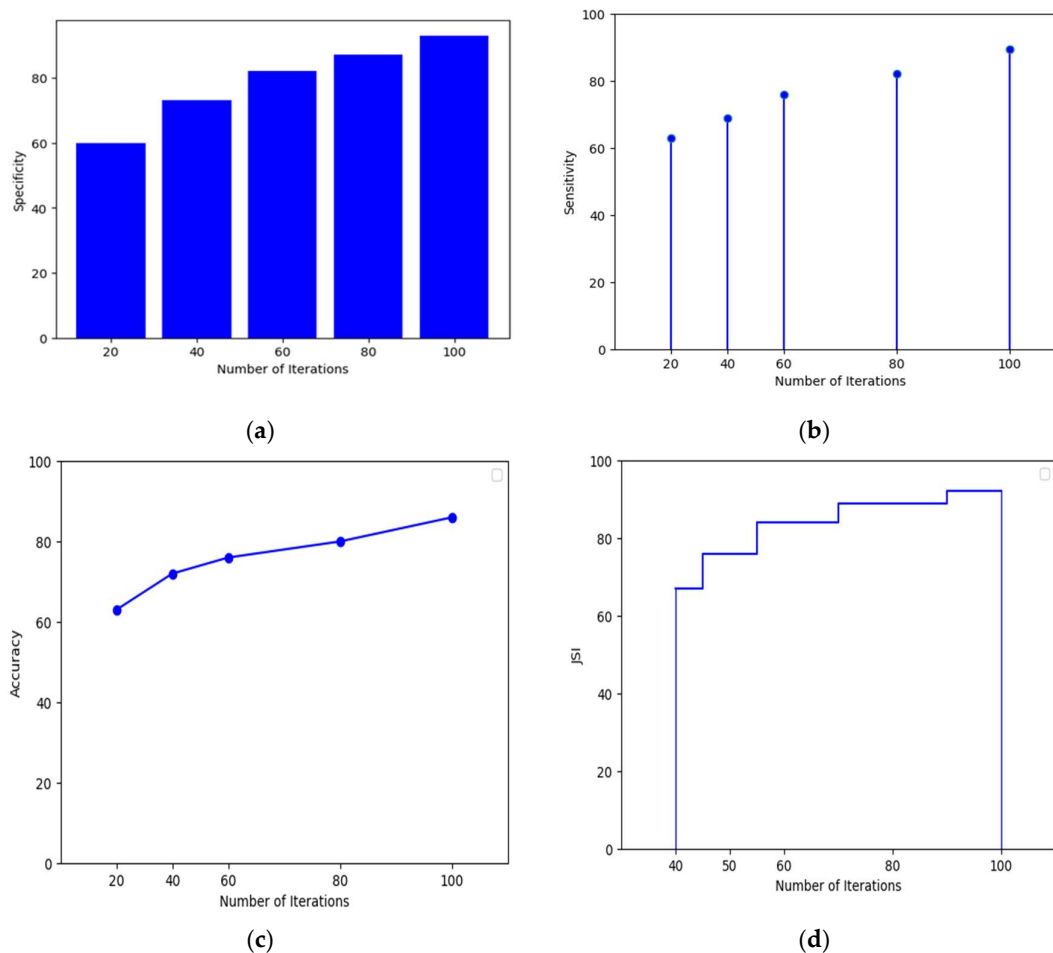
$$\text{Specificity} = \frac{TN}{FP + TN} \quad (13)$$

$$\text{Sensitivity} = \frac{TP}{TP + FN} \quad (14)$$

$$\text{Accuracy} = \frac{TP + TN}{TP + FP + TN + FN} \quad (15)$$

$$\text{Jaccard Similarity Index} = \frac{Tp}{Tp + Tn + Fn} \quad (16)$$

The table shows how well our recommended technique performs in terms of JSI, Sensitivity, Specificity, and Accuracy compared to other pertinent approaches.

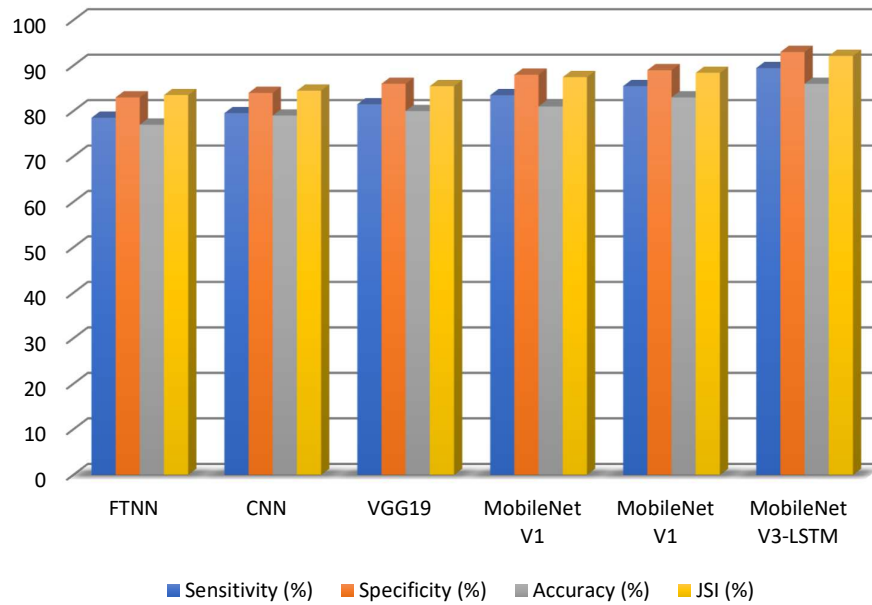


**Figure 8.** (a) shows the Specificity of MobileNetV3-LSTM with respect to total number of iterations (b) illustrates the Sensitivity of MobileNetV3-LSTM with respect to number of iterations. (c) shows the MobileNetV3-LSTM's accuracy in terms of iterations. (d) showcases the JSI of MobileNetV3-LSTM in terms of iterations.

**Table 4.** The evaluation criteria used to measure the effectiveness of different methods.

Algorithms	Sensitivity(%)	Specificity(%)	Accuracy(%)	JSI(%)
MobileNet V3-LSTM	89.46	93.00	86.00	92.14
FTNN	78.52	83.00	77.00	83.51
CNN	79.54	84.00	79.00	84.49
VGG19	81.49	86.00	80.00	85.48
MobileNet V1	83.49	88.00	81.00	87.46
MobileNet V2	85.49	89.00	83.00	88.41

The Results Achieved by Comparing Existing Models with MobileNetV3-LSTM illustrates in Figure 9. The performance of the proposed model was compared with that of several approaches, including the Lesion Index Calculation Unit (LICU) approach, Fuzzy Support Vector Machine with Probabilistic Boosting for Segmentation, the Compact Deep Neural Network, the SegNet model, U-Net model, Decision Tree and Random Forest approaches.

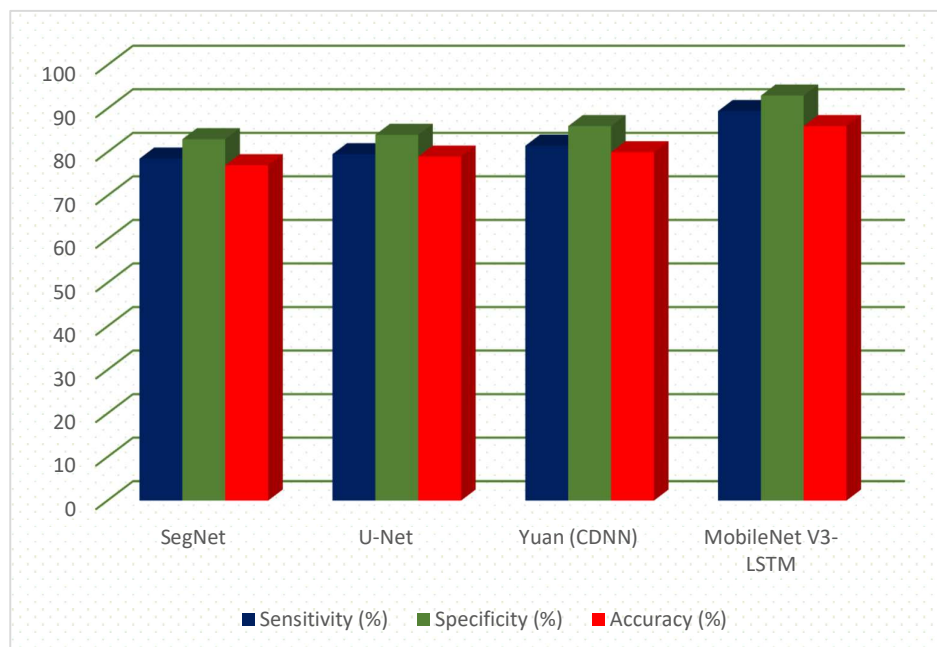


**Figure 9.** Comparing existing models with MobileNetV3-LSTM.

**Table 5.** The progress of the disease's growth of different methods.

Algorithms	Sensitivity (%)	Specificity (%)	Accuracy (%)
SegNet	78.52	83.00	77.00
U-Net	79.54	84.00	79.00
Yuan (CDNN)	81.49	86.00	80.00
MobileNet V3-LSTM	89.46	93.00	86.00

Figure 10. shows the results obtained by comparing existing models with MobileNetV3-LSTM for monitoring the progression of disease growth.



**Figure 10.** Comparison of existing models with MobileNetV3-LSTM.

## 4. Conclusion

In this study, we present MobileNet V3-LSTM, a unique technique for automated skin disease classification that combines MobileNet V3 and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks. This novel solution uses the computational efficiency of MobileNet V3 for lightweight computing devices and LSTM's sequence modelling capabilities of LSTM to extract critical contextual information from picture characteristics.

The application of the grey-level co-occurrence matrix, which enabled us to monitor the progression of skin conditions, was one of the key advancements of our method. This matrix provides vital insights into the progression of skin disorders, considerably improving diagnostic accuracy and speed. By including this matrix in our model, we not only increased its capacity to diagnose and categorise skin illnesses but also opened the door for more complete disease knowledge.

MobileNet V3-LSTM outperformed other state-of-the-art models, such as convolutional neural networks (CNN) and very deep convolutional networks (VGG), according to our experimental results on the Dermnet dataset. The model's remarkable sensitivity, specificity, accuracy, and Jaccard Similarity Index (JSI) proved its utility in precisely classifying illnesses.

The invention of the MobileNet V3-LSTM method represents a major advancement in computer-assisted dermatological diagnosis, and we have created a reliable and effective approach for the automated classification of skin illnesses by combining deep learning, sequence modelling, and the grey-level co-occurrence matrix. This technology has the potential to significantly improve patient outcomes and reduce healthcare costs by assisting medical practitioners in making early and accurate diagnoses. Our strategy acts as a stepping stone for the creation of more advanced and useful technologies in dermatology and other fields as we continue to improve in the fields of medical imaging and artificial intelligence.

## 5. Future Directions

Future studies on computerised skin disease classification should focus on integrating various data sources, creating real-time diagnostics for portable devices, enhancing model interpretability, and diversifying datasets for improved generalisation. Other crucial research topics include scalability, continuous learning, clinical validation and privacy-preserving AI. These initiatives show the potential for developing dermatology and other healthcare-related fields.

**Author Contributions:** Conceptualization, H.K. and J.C; methodology, H.K, J.C, N.R and R.P; software, H.K, J.C and N.R; validation, H.K, J.C and N.R; formal analysis, H.K, J.C, N.R and R.P; investigation, H.K, J.C, N.R and R.P; resources, H.K, A.V, J.C, N.R and R.P; data curation, H.K, A.V and J.C; writing—original draft preparation, H.K, A.V, J.C, N.R and R.P; writing—review and editing, H.K, A.V; visualization, H.K, A.V, J.C, N.R and R.P; supervision, A.V, N.R and R.P; project administration, A.V and N.R; All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

**Funding:** This research received no external funding

**Institutional Review Board Statement:** Not applicable

**Informed Consent Statement:** Not applicable.

**Data Availability Statement:** Data that used this study can be download from the following link; <http://www.dermnet.com/dermatology-pictures-skin-disease-pictures>.

**Acknowledgments:** The third author, Harichandra Khalingarajah, is a recipient of the INTI International University Graduate Research Scholarship Scheme 2.

**Conflicts of Interest:** The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

## Abbreviations



The following abbreviations are used in this manuscript:

<b>AI</b>	Artificial Intelligence
<b>ANN</b>	Artificial Neural Network
<b>CNN</b>	Convolutional Neural Network
<b>DNN</b>	Deep Neural Network
<b>DL</b>	Deep Learning
<b>ECG</b>	Electrocardiogram
<b>EffNet</b>	EfficientNet
<b>FTNN</b>	Fine-Tuned Neural Network
<b>GLCM</b>	Grey-Level Co-Occurrence Matrix
<b>IoT</b>	Internet of Things
<b>JSI</b>	Jaccard Similarity Index
<b>LICU</b>	Lesion Index Calculation Unit
<b>LSTM</b>	Long Short-Term Memory
<b>MN</b>	MnasNet
<b>ReLU</b>	Rectified Linear Unit
<b>RGB</b>	Red Green Blue
<b>SVM</b>	Support Vector Machine
<b>SqueezeNet</b>	A smaller neural network architecture designed for efficient use
<b>U-Net</b>	A type of convolutional neural network for image segmentation
<b>V1/V2/V3</b>	MobileNet Versions 1, 2, and 3
<b>VGG</b>	Visual Geometry Group

## References

- [1] J. Salazar et al., "The Human Dermis as a Target of Nanoparticles for Treating Skin Conditions," *Pharmaceutics*, vol. 15, no. 1, Art. no. 1, Jan. 2023, doi: 10.3390/pharmaceutics15010010.
- [2] T. D. Pop and Z. Diaconeasa, "Recent Advances in Phenolic Metabolites and Skin Cancer," *International Journal of Molecular Sciences*, vol. 22, no. 18, Art. no. 18, Jan. 2021, doi: 10.3390/ijms22189707.
- [3] S. N. Almuayqil, S. Abd El-Ghany, and M. Elmogy, "Computer-Aided Diagnosis for Early Signs of Skin Diseases Using Multi Types Feature Fusion Based on a Hybrid Deep Learning Model," *Electronics*, vol. 11, no. 23, Art. no. 23, Jan. 2022, doi: 10.3390/electronics11234009.
- [4] G. Z. Khan and I. Ullah, "Efficient Technique for Monkeypox Skin Disease Classification with Clinical Data using Pre-Trained Models," *Journal of Innovative Image Processing*, vol. 5, no. 2, pp. 192–213, Jun. 2023.
- [5] J. D. Strickley et al., "Immunity to commensal papillomaviruses protects against skin cancer," *Nature*, vol. 575, no. 7783, pp. 519–522, Nov. 2019, doi: 10.1038/s41586-019-1719-9.
- [6] T. G. Debelee, "Skin Lesion Classification and Detection Using Machine Learning Techniques: A Systematic Review," *Diagnostics*, vol. 13, no. 19, Art. no. 19, Jan. 2023, doi: 10.3390/diagnostics13193147.
- [7] I. D. Mienye, T. G. Swart, G. Obaido, M. Jordan, and P. Ilono, "Deep Convolutional Neural Networks in Medical Image Analysis: A Review," *Information*, vol. 16, no. 3, Art. no. 3, Mar. 2025, doi: 10.3390/info16030195.
- [8] J. Hu, L. Shen, and G. Sun, "Squeeze-and-Excitation Networks," in *2018 IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*, Jun. 2018, pp. 7132–7141. doi: 10.1109/CVPR.2018.00745.
- [9] W. Ai, "Intelligent Fault Diagnosis Framework for Bearings Based on a Hybrid CNN-LSTM-GRU Network," *Scientific Innovation in Asia*, vol. 3, no. 3, pp. 1–7, Jun. 2025, doi: 10.12410/sia0303002.

- [10] R. Sadik, A. Majumder, A. A. Biswas, B. Ahammad, and Md. M. Rahman, "An in-depth analysis of Convolutional Neural Network architectures with transfer learning for skin disease diagnosis," *Healthcare Analytics*, vol. 3, p. 100143, Nov. 2023, doi: 10.1016/j.health.2023.100143.
- [11] M. Liu, M. Zhu, M. White, Y. Li, and D. Kalenichenko, "Looking Fast and Slow: Memory-Guided Mobile Video Object Detection," Mar. 25, 2019, *arXiv*: arXiv:1903.10172. doi: 10.48550/arXiv.1903.10172.
- [12] M. N. Bajwa et al., "Computer-Aided Diagnosis of Skin Diseases Using Deep Neural Networks," *Applied Sciences*, vol. 10, no. 7, Art. no. 7, Jan. 2020, doi: 10.3390/app10072488.
- [13] Z. Ji, L. Li, and H. Bi, "Deep Learning-Based Approximated Observation Sparse SAR Imaging via Complex-Valued Convolutional Neural Network," *Remote Sensing*, vol. 16, no. 20, Art. no. 20, Jan. 2024, doi: 10.3390/rs16203850.
- [14] M. Sandler, A. Howard, M. Zhu, A. Zhmoginov, and L. -C. Chen, "MobileNetV2: Inverted Residuals and Linear Bottlenecks," in *2018 IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition*, Jun. 2018, pp. 4510–4520. doi: 10.1109/CVPR.2018.00474.
- [15] S. L. Rabano, M. K. Cabatuan, E. Sybingco, E. P. Dadios, and E. J. Calilung, "Common Garbage Classification Using MobileNet," in *2018 IEEE 10th International Conference on Humanoid, Nanotechnology, Information Technology, Communication and Control, Environment and Management (HNICEM)*, Dec. 2018, pp. 1–4. doi: 10.1109/HNICEM.2018.8666300.
- [16] M. A. M. Almeida and I. A. X. Santos, "Classification Models for Skin Tumor Detection Using Texture Analysis in Medical Images," *Journal of Imaging*, vol. 6, no. 6, Art. no. 6, Jun. 2020, doi: 10.3390/jimaging6060051.
- [17] V. Anand, S. Gupta, S. R. Nayak, D. Koundal, D. Prakash, and K. D. Verma, "An automated deep learning models for classification of skin disease using Dermoscopy images: a comprehensive study," *Multimed Tools Appl*, vol. 81, no. 26, pp. 37379–37401, Nov. 2022, doi: 10.1007/s11042-021-11628-y.
- [18] T. Brosch, L. Y. W. Tang, Y. Yoo, D. K. B. Li, A. Traboulsee, and R. Tam, "Deep 3D Convolutional Encoder Networks With Shortcuts for Multiscale Feature Integration Applied to Multiple Sclerosis Lesion Segmentation," *IEEE Transactions on Medical Imaging*, vol. 35, no. 5, pp. 1229–1239, May 2016, doi: 10.1109/TMI.2016.2528821.
- [19] A. S. Alphonse and M. S. Starvin, "A novel maximum and minimum response-based Gabor (MMRG) feature extraction method for facial expression recognition," *Multimed Tools Appl*, vol. 78, no. 16, pp. 23369–23397, Aug. 2019, doi: 10.1007/s11042-019-7646-9.
- [20] C. Bi, J. Wang, Y. Duan, B. Fu, J.-R. Kang, and Y. Shi, "MobileNet Based Apple Leaf Diseases Identification," *Mobile Netw Appl*, vol. 27, no. 1, pp. 172–180, Feb. 2022, doi: 10.1007/s11036-020-01640-1.
- [21] D. S. Rigel, R. J. Friedman, A. W. Kopf, and D. Polsky, "ABCDE - An evolving concept in the early detection of melanoma," *JAMA dermatology*, vol. 141, no. 8, pp. 1032–1034, Aug. 2005, doi: 10.1001/archderm.141.8.1032.
- [22] M. Wei et al., "A Skin Disease Classification Model Based on DenseNet and ConvNeXt Fusion," *Electronics*, vol. 12, no. 2, Art. no. 2, Jan. 2023, doi: 10.3390/electronics12020438.
- [23] P. N. Srinivasu, J. G. SivaSai, M. F. Ijaz, A. K. Bhoi, W. Kim, and J. J. Kang, "Classification of Skin Disease Using Deep Learning Neural Networks with MobileNet V2 and LSTM," *Sensors*, vol. 21, no. 8, Art. no. 8, Jan. 2021, doi: 10.3390/s21082852.
- [24] P. R. Kshirsagar, H. Manoharan, S. Shitharth, A. M. Alshareef, N. Albishry, and P. K. Balachandran, "Deep Learning Approaches for Prognosis of Automated Skin Disease," *Life (Basel)*, vol. 12, no. 3, p. 426, Mar. 2022, doi: 10.3390/life12030426.
- [25] N. Hameed, A. M. Shabut, and M. A. Hossain, "Multi-Class Skin Diseases Classification Using Deep Convolutional Neural Network and Support Vector Machine," in *2018 12th International Conference on Software, Knowledge, Information Management & Applications (SKIMA)*, Dec. 2018, pp. 1–7. doi: 10.1109/SKIMA.2018.8631525.
- [26] C.-Y. Zhu et al., "A Deep Learning Based Framework for Diagnosing Multiple Skin Diseases in a Clinical Environment," *Front. Med.*, vol. 8, Apr. 2021, doi: 10.3389/fmed.2021.626369.

- [27] K. P. Arjun and K. S. Kumar, "A combined approach of VGG 16 and LSTM transfer learning technique for skin melanoma classification," *International journal of health sciences*, vol. 6, no. S1, Art. no. S1, Jun. 2022, doi: 10.53730/ijhs.v6nS1.8378.
- [28] R. K. Shinde et al., "Squeeze-MNet: Precise Skin Cancer Detection Model for Low Computing IoT Devices Using Transfer Learning," *Cancers*, vol. 15, no. 1, Art. no. 1, Jan. 2023, doi: 10.3390/cancers15010012.
- [29] E. O. Molina-Molina, S. Solorza-Calderón, and J. Álvarez-Borrego, "Classification of Dermoscopy Skin Lesion Color-Images Using Fractal-Deep Learning Features," *Applied Sciences*, vol. 10, no. 17, Art. no. 17, Jan. 2020, doi: 10.3390/app10175954.
- [30] M. A. Arshed, S. Mumtaz, M. Ibrahim, S. Ahmed, M. Tahir, and M. Shafi, "Multi-Class Skin Cancer Classification Using Vision Transformer Networks and Convolutional Neural Network-Based Pre-Trained Models," *Information*, vol. 14, no. 7, Art. no. 7, Jul. 2023, doi: 10.3390/info14070415.
- [31] V. Ravi, "Attention Cost-Sensitive Deep Learning-Based Approach for Skin Cancer Detection and Classification," *Cancers*, vol. 14, no. 23, Art. no. 23, Jan. 2022, doi: 10.3390/cancers14235872.
- [32] R. Vardasca, J. G. Mendes, and C. Magalhaes, "Skin Cancer Image Classification Using Artificial Intelligence Strategies: A Systematic Review," *Journal of Imaging*, vol. 10, no. 11, Art. no. 11, Nov. 2024, doi: 10.3390/jimaging10110265.
- [33] Z. Nie, M. Xu, Z. Wang, X. Lu, and W. Song, "A Review of Application of Deep Learning in Endoscopic Image Processing," *Journal of Imaging*, vol. 10, no. 11, Art. no. 11, Nov. 2024, doi: 10.3390/jimaging10110275.
- [34] Y. Yuan, J. Sun, and Q. Zhang, "An Enhanced Deep Learning Model for Effective Crop Pest and Disease Detection," *Journal of Imaging*, vol. 10, no. 11, Art. no. 11, Nov. 2024, doi: 10.3390/jimaging10110279.
- [35] I. D. Mienye and T. G. Swart, "A Comprehensive Review of Deep Learning: Architectures, Recent Advances, and Applications," *Information*, vol. 15, no. 12, Art. no. 12, Dec. 2024, doi: 10.3390/info15120755.
- [36] A. Wang, H. Wu, and Y. Iwahori, "Advances in Computer Vision and Deep Learning and Its Applications," *Electronics*, vol. 14, no. 8, Art. no. 8, Jan. 2025, doi: 10.3390/electronics14081551.
- [37] K. Behara, E. Bhero, and J. T. Agee, "Skin Lesion Synthesis and Classification Using an Improved DCGAN Classifier," *Diagnostics*, vol. 13, no. 16, Art. no. 16, Jan. 2023, doi: 10.3390/diagnostics13162635.
- [38] S. Hochreiter and J. Schmidhuber, "Long Short-Term Memory," *Neural Computation*, vol. 9, no. 8, pp. 1735–1780, Nov. 1997, doi: 10.1162/neco.1997.9.8.1735.
- [39] J. Huang and V. Chouvatut, "Video-Based Sign Language Recognition via ResNet and LSTM Network," *Journal of Imaging*, vol. 10, no. 6, Art. no. 6, Jun. 2024, doi: 10.3390/jimaging10060149.
- [40] X. Huang, X. Liu, and L. Zhang, "A Multichannel Gray Level Co-Occurrence Matrix for Multi/Hyperspectral Image Texture Representation," *Remote Sensing*, vol. 6, no. 9, Art. no. 9, Sep. 2014, doi: 10.3390/rs6098424.

**Disclaimer/Publisher's Note:** The statements, opinions and data contained in all publications are solely those of the individual author(s) and contributor(s) and not of MDPI and/or the editor(s). MDPI and/or the editor(s) disclaim responsibility for any injury to people or property resulting from any ideas, methods, instructions or products referred to in the content.