

## Abstract

Conventional Expert systems, especially those used in diagnosing diseases in agricultural domain, depend only on textual input. Usually abnormalities for a given crop are manifested as symptoms on various plant parts. In order for the expert system to produce correct results, end users must be capable of mapping what they see in the form of abnormal symptoms, to answer the questions asked by the expert system. This mapping may be inconsistent if a full understanding of the abnormalities on the plant or in the questions being asked does not exist.

This thesis explores the idea of augmenting a traditional diagnostic expert system model, with an image analyzer. The goal of this augmentation is to automatically detect, extract, and classify abnormal features on a plant leaf, thus reducing the need of human interaction and increasing the accuracy of the diagnosis. The result of applying this approach is presented through the use of cucumber diseases as a test case.

The first contribution of this research was building an automatic image analysis system for detecting and understanding leaves symptoms in the cucumber crop. We have suggested a classification for these leaves symptoms into four categories in addition to the normal category. These categories are Yellow Spotted category (*YS*), White Spotted category (*WS*), Red Spotted category (*RS*) and Discolored category (*D*).

This system includes a segmentation technique for isolating abnormal symptoms from an infected leaf. The system allows computation of various shapes and color features of these symptoms. An Artificial Neural Network (ANN) is also part of this system to distinguish between different categories of symptoms.

The second contribution was integrating an image analyzer to a diagnostic expert system to automatically detect and diagnose leaves abnormalities and consequently more accurate diagnosis is reached and the number of question to the user is reduced.

## Chapter 1: Introduction

1.1. Introduction.....	2
1.2. Motivation.....	3
1.3 Aim of The Work.....	5
1.4 Thesis Structures.....	5

## Chapter 2: Expert System: An Overview

2.1 Introduction.....	8
2.2 Historical Account.....	9
2.2.1 First Generation Expert Systems.....	9
2.2.2 Hybrid Systems.....	10
2.2.3 Second Generation Expert Systems.....	12
2.2.3.1 Generic Task Approach.....	12
2.2.3.2 KADS Methodology.....	14
2.3 Expert System User Interface.....	16
2.3.1 The Role of User Interface.....	17
2.3.2 Knowledge Engineer's interface and user interface.....	18
2.3.3 Input and output devices for expert system.....	19
2.3.4 Human Interaction Styles for Expert Systems.....	19
2.3.5 User Modeling and Adaptive User Interface.....	20
2.3.6 Intelligent Interface.....	21
2.4 Diagnostic Expert System.....	22
2.4.1 Heuristic Based Approach.....	23
2.4.2 Model-Based Approach.....	23
2.5 Agricultural Expert Systems.....	24
2.6 Summary.....	28

## Chapter 3: Review of Image Processing

3.1 Introduction.....	31
3.2 Image Preprocessing.....	32
3.2.1 Histogram Processing.....	32
3.2.2 Color Spaces Conversion.....	35
3.3 Image Segmentation.....	38
3.3.1 Histogram Thresholding Approach.....	39
3.3.2 Region Based Approach.....	40
3.3.3 Edge Detection Approach.....	41
3.3.4 Fuzzy Approach.....	42
3.4 Feature Extraction.....	46
3.4.1 Color Extraction.....	46
3.4.2 Shape Extraction.....	47
3.4.3 Texture Extraction.....	48
3.5-Object Recognition.....	48
3.5.1 Statistical Based Approach.....	49
3.5.2 Artificial Neural Networks.....	50
3.6-Image Processing in Agriculture.....	51
3.6.1 Automatic Evaluation of Seeds Germination Quality.....	52
3.6.2 Automatic identification and classification of weed seeds.....	53
3.6.3 Automatic weed control guidance.....	53
3.6.4 Automatic sorting system on cherries.....	54
3.6.5 Detecting the defect in apples.....	54
3.6.6 Outdoor Field Plant Detection.....	54
3.7-Summary.....	55

**Chapter 4: A Proposed Segmentation Technique for  
Detecting Plant Leaves Abnormalities**

4.1-Introduction.....	57
4.2-Data Gathering.....	58
4.3-Comparative Study.....	59
4.4-Architecture of Segmentation System.....	62
4.4.1 Preprocessing Phase.....	63
4.4.1.1 HSI Transformation.....	64
4.4.1.2 Histogram Processing.....	64
4.4.1.3 Intensity Adjustment.....	64
4.4.2 Fuzzy Clustering Phase.....	66
4.4.2.1 FCM Algorithm.....	66
4.4.2.2 Adaptation of FCM.....	68
4.4.2.2.1 Feature of Data Set.....	68
4.4.2.2.2 Optimal Cluster Number.....	68
4.4.2.2.3 Degree of Fuzziness.....	71
4.4.2.3 FCM Segmentation Method.....	73
4.4.2.3.1 FCM Output.....	73
4.4.2.3.2 Defuzzification Method.....	74
4.5 System Implementation.....	75
4.6 Segmentation Results & Evaluation.....	76
4.7 Summary.....	77

**Chapter 5: An Image Processing System for the Identification  
of Plant Leaves Abnormalities**

5.1 Introduction.....	79
5.2 Architecture of the System.....	79
5.3 Image Analyzer.....	80
5.3.1 Segmentor.....	80
5.3.2 Feature Extraction.....	80
5.3.2.1 Spot Isolation.....	81
5.3.2.2 Spot Extraction.....	82
5.4 Feature Repository.....	83
5.5 Feature Recognition.....	84
5.5.1 Classifier Objective.....	84
5.5.2 Classifier Configuration.....	86
5.5.3 Classifier Evaluation.....	89
5.6 System Implementation.....	91
5.7 Summary.....	94

<b>Chapter 6: Integrating The Image Processing System with an Expert System for Plant Diseases Diagnosis: A Case Study</b>	
6.1 Introduction.....	97
6.2 CLAES Diagnostic Model.....	98
6.2.1 Task Knowledge.....	98
6.2.2 Inference Knowledge.....	99
6.2.3 Domain Knowledge.....	101
6.3 Cucumber Expert Systems (CUPTEX).....	102
6.3.1 Brief Overview.....	102
6.3.2 Diagnosis Expert System.....	103
6.3.3 Images Role in CUPTEX.....	106
6.3.3.1 Images Identification.....	106
6.3.3.2 Collection and scanning of images.....	106
6.3.3.3 Knowledge Base Modification.....	107
6.3.4 Diagnostic User Interface.....	107
6.4 Diagnostic Expert System Via Image Processing.....	112
6.4.1 Proposed Diagnostic Model.....	112
6.4.2 Diagnostic Interface Design.....	114
6.4.3 Running Test Cases .....	115
6.4.3.1 Case A.....	115
6.4.3.2 Case B.....	117
6.4.3.3 Case C.....	118
6.4.3.4 Results & Discussion.....	119
6.5 Summary.....	120
<b>Chapter 7: Conclusions and Future Research</b>	
7.1 Conclusions.....	122
7.2 Future Research.....	124
<b>Appendix A: Original and Segmented Images</b>	<b>125</b>