

Enhancing Crop Recommendation Systems Through Advanced Deep Learning Techniques

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ABSTRACT:

Economic development is greatly aided by the agricultural sector, particularly in developing countries. However, farmers face challenges related to crop yield decisions, soil management, and climate change interventions. In order to address these issues and provide a comprehensive strategy that uses a variety of Deep Learning (DL) techniques for crop selection based on soil condition, climate, and historical agricultural data, this study turns to DL. Predicted models and techniques include Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM), Bidirectional LSTM (BiLSTM), and Transformers; precision agriculture through crop prediction; data-driven resource allocation decision-making to increase farm income; and soil management through soil pH prediction and suggested crops. The purpose of this action plan is to assist farmers in choosing the best course of action to improve farming outcomes.

Keywords: Agricultural, Deep Learning (DL), Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM), Bidirectional LSTM (BiLSTM), Transformers, crop recommendation.

INTRODUCTION:

Since most Indians rely on agriculture for their livelihood, it is the backbone of the country's economy. However, some of the factors, such as soil fertility, climate change, and the types of crops that can be grown, may be hard to track, making it challenging to forecast agricultural output. Farmers can employ data mining to find trends and extract valuable information from large data sets, which can aid in crop selection and cultivation techniques. With 6 million square kilometers under agriculture, it is now the world's second-largest agricultural nation. In stark contrast, the majority of farmers continue to rely on rain-fed farming, with crops accounting for only 45% of current water demand. The lack of focus, which lowers the number of active agricultural laborers, and the rising number of farmer suicides are two issues facing agriculture. They have to look for innovative techniques and more yield-enhancing technologies in such a situation. In order to produce high-demand crops that would help farmers overcome these challenges, this specialist agriculture has also gained popularity among farmers. It entails the proper spacing, application, and usage of soil, fertilizers, and other resources. In order to support precision agriculture, the upcoming study will create an excellent crop predicting model with integrated machine learning techniques. Based on performance parameters including NPK, rainfall, moisture content, and ground temperature, this aims to determine the crop variety that should yield the highest returns. These are important considerations for crop development and for choosing cultivable crop varieties. NPK for the soil, rainfall, temperature, and pH level are a few of the factors that were used to get the data. The findings of this study will offer improved and more precise crop forecast using

sophisticated machine learning techniques. Other characteristics that are taken into account while selecting the best crop include the topsoil's depth, acidity or alkalinity, erodibility, permeability, texture, draining capacity, water retention, and color. Additionally, it uses logistic regression, random forest, and support vector machines (SVM) to increase classification accuracy. The study uses logistic regression, random forests, and support vector machines (SVM) as machine learning techniques to increase classification accuracy. Additionally, models like LSTM, BiLSTM, and Transformer networks are used in this study. An innovative machine learning method is proposed here to create a strong, accurate, and trustworthy recommendation system that will support farmers in their work and boost agricultural sustainability and efficiency in India.

Numerous independent factors are included in the study, including temperature, PH level, rainfall intensity, nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium in the soil. However, topsoil depth, acidity/alkalinity, erodibility, permeability, texture, drainage capacity, water-holding capacity, and topsoil color are also significant factors.

A recommendation system to assist farmers in selecting which crop to plant is the suggested crop recommendation model. The model is created to optimize and improve the sustainability of India's agriculture process using environmental datasets and machine learning algorithms. Farmers should find these insights useful in selecting crops based on the existing and anticipated climate conditions, which will increase agricultural sector efficiency. In order to address these new problems among Indian farmers, this study emphasizes the necessity of implementing machine learning solutions in the agricultural sector. Therefore, the crop forecasting model created in the study should be seen as a step toward enhancing current agricultural techniques and practices, better resource utilization, and food and economic security in the Indian context.

LITERATURE REVIEW:

Sivanandam (2023) improves crop forecast for farmers in underdeveloped countries by utilizing K-nearest Neighbor algorithms and Selection Models. In a country like India, where agriculture dominates the economy, these technologies aid in output prediction, allowing people to plan their crop selection strategy. KNN provides real-time forecasts to maximize yield and reduce loss risks in the event of crop failure events, while data mining classifies and analyzes the data.

In the field of precision agriculture in India, CH. Rakesh (2023) investigates several machine learning methods, including Naive Bayes, Decision Trees, and Random Forest. To boost productivity, all of these methods recommend crops and their practices based on soil data. It is helpful for web-based data analysis since it performs well in crop categorization and production prediction.

An SVM-based crop recommendation system was created by Daneshwari Modi in 2021 to boost output and lessen India's food problems. The method forecasts the appropriate crop with 97% accuracy after taking into account the soil factors. It makes use of Bayesian networks, random forests, and ensemble approaches. The internet of things may be incorporated into future improvements to enable real-time soil monitoring.

According to [11] P. Parameswari (2021), it promotes competitiveness and economic progress. PART, a machine-learning algorithm with a 99.4% accuracy rate, makes it possible to implement sustainable agriculture practices like crop rotation, harvesting, and soil management. By using real-time data on crops, soil, and weather, all of these technologies advanced precision agriculture. In order to assist farmers in making better planting decisions, researchers concentrated on creating efficient crop

prediction models.

The crop recommendation framework developed by Sujata Chakravarty in 2022 makes use of machine learning techniques to produce crop recommendations with a high percentage—in this example, up to 99.54% using Naive Bayes. It uses data to implement preprocessing, classification, and performance evaluation. Deep neural networks with a cloud-based analysis would be the subject of future research.

PROPOSED SYSTEM:

The end-to-end flow of the intricate yet scalable crop recommendation system, which employs deep learning models and takes in several data inputs, is depicted in Figure (a). The procedure begins at the system's Data Collection Layer, where it retrieves a variety of soil data, such as the pH and soil nutrient status, or NPK levels. Additionally, it retrieves vital meteorological information for the crops, such as temperature, humidity, rainfall, and other weather variables. The system will have a vast and complete data set to manage the complexity of agricultural ecosystems thanks to all these data sources.

Next is the preprocessing layer, which is essential to the usability and quality of the data. This layer preprocesses and cleans the raw data to eliminate problems such as outliers and missing values. Data formatting, or organizing the data in a way that machine learning models can comprehend, is another aspect of this. Because improperly prepared data will always result in poor performance, the preprocessing phase is crucial to enhancing the performance of the subsequent stages.

The data then passes to the Model Training Layer, where the system is composed of several advanced deep learning models, each of which is made to handle a certain kind of data. The first model used is called Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM), and it uses temporal analysis to analyze soil and meteorological data. The capacity of the LSTM to handle data sequence is crucial for comprehending how past context affects future context.

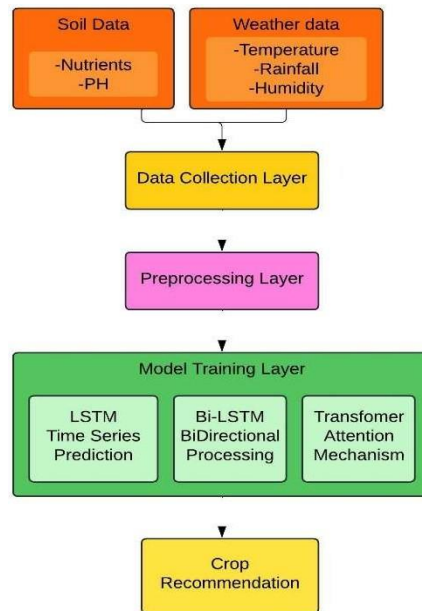
The system then integrates BiLSTM, an enhanced version of LSTM that does both forward and backward data analysis. The model can capture every facet of the data thanks to this two-way approach, which facilitates the analysis of the relationships between different variables. When analyzing sequential data, where certain features may be obscured in the reverse direction but visible in the forward direction from time series analysis, BiLSTM is very helpful.

The Transformer Attention Mechanism is the third model incorporated into the system. It is excellent at modeling the dependence of characteristics at different distances and has the pass-through capability for a variety of data input forms. The Transformer model is quite good at identifying intricate relationships between several kinds of information, which is especially helpful when dealing with data that has several interrelated variables. This model has the advantage of leveraging the attention mechanism to focus on specific portions of the input data, which improves the accuracy of crop suggestions.

The crop suggestions that customers can get are a combination of three highly accurate and dependable deep learning models. By ensuring that all of the benefits of the two models are included, this integration procedure improves the recommendation system's formulation. The farmer receives a map of their plot from the company that includes information on the soil type and climate. With the help of the opinions and options offered, farmers are able to make previously unheard-of choices on which plants should be prioritized on their farms, boosting profits while still respecting the environment.

Therefore, the stated crop recommendation system aims to significantly progress the field of precise agriculture with the help of such a sophisticated technique. It can increase the productivity of tasks that need to be completed on the farm. Furthermore, it is environmentally benign because farmers grow them

in a way that is beneficial to both the local climate and the land area. In order to help farmers achieve greater yields and take food security and sustainable farming seriously, the system offers helpful recommendations in precise, effective, and pertinent ways.



Fig(a): Design architecture of Crop Recommendation System.

ADVANCED DEEP LEARNING MODELS FOR CROP RECOMMENDATION:

In this paper, advanced deep learning models— Long Short-Term Memory, Bidirectional Long Short-Term Memory, and Transformer Encoding Models—are going to be applied for crop yield prediction. These models have been trained with time-series data regarding the advanced and complex factors governing the growth of crops and give output to farmers about their future crop yields with a very high degree of accuracy and reliability.

LSTM DEEP LEARNING MODEL:

A subclass of recurrent neural networks (RNNs) known as Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks was developed specifically for the interpretation of sequential data, or data where item order is important. One of the many shortcomings of original RNNs, which belong to a particular type of neural networks, is their inability to pre-train due to issues like vanishing and expanding gradients in the learning process concerning the lengthy data sequences. In order to address these issues, LSTMs integrate particular elements designed to store and analyze data for longer periods of time. They are especially well-suited for any application that needs to handle temporal data, such as speech, time series, and language modeling, to name a few. Nonetheless, a memory cell (Cell State), input gate, forget gate, and output gate are some of the fundamental components of LSTM networks. By controlling the network's information flow, these elements enable it to preserve more valuable information that it has acquired than irrelevant information that it may have received. In other words, long-term memory allows LSTMs to do difficult tasks, like crop suggestions, where the environment and prior conditions have a big impact.

LSTMs can really handle chronic data, including soil conditions, climate changes, past crops, and more, in the context of crop recommendation. They are crucial for simulating the intricate interactions that

determine crop yields and development. Large volumes of data are first gathered from several sources, including satellite data, local weather stations, agricultural census data, and Internet of Things devices on fields and farmlands. These resources include a range of environmental data, such as temperature, precipitation, humidity, soil moisture, and nutrients, all of which are important for recommending crops. To be eligible for analysis, a set of standard data must first go through a process known as data preparation. Before choosing the features that will improve crop development, the first step is to handle missing data in the raw data set and scale and normalize the data. In order to reduce dimensionality and enhance the effectiveness and performance of the LSTM model, feature selection is crucial.

The following factors go into creating a successful LSTM model for crop recommendation: In order to account for the complexity of the data, the model's architecture must first be determined to have the appropriate number of layers and memory units (neurons) for each layer. Since they affect the model's performance, the right parameters—like the learning rate, batch size, and number of epochs to train—must be selected. The problem of overfitting, in which the model gets overly "parochial" with the training data set and performs poorly with fresh data sets, is therefore equally significant. Dropout regularization, early halting to determine the degree of overfitting, and cross-validation are a few techniques used to address overfitting. The ability to set the sequence length, which determines how much the model goes back to the past in order to generate a forecast, is another crucial factor in the model construction. Although this parameter adds a crucial feature—the ability to memorize long-term dependencies—it must be adjusted in relation to the other factors in order to maximize the model's computational complexity.

The LSTM model is trained by feeding it past data and using optimizers like the Adam or RMSprop to lower the loss function, which shows how well the model forecast matches the data. Since the learning rate determines how quickly the model updates, it is one of the other factors that should be taken into account during the learning process. The model may converge too soon if the learning rate is set too high, and it will take a long time for any convergence to happen if it is set too low.

Validating and assessing the trained LSTM model is just as important as training the model, which is a critical step right before implementation. This procedure seeks to assess the model using fresh data that wasn't utilized during model training. The R-squared statistic, mean absolute error (MAE), and root mean squared error (RMSE) are some of the accuracy metrics that can be used for this. For a model to be employed in real-world scenarios, it must be accurate and able to generalize to different datasets and settings. Additional techniques, such as the k-fold cross-validation, could be employed to further validate the model using the various data splits.

Following validation, LSTM assists in providing crop production forecasts that farmers and other agricultural value chain participants can utilize to inform their choices. These suggestions could be useful for planning planting dates, selecting appropriate crop kinds, and making effective use of available resources. The agricultural sector can benefit greatly from the concept of combining LSTM-based suggestions with other data-driven decision-support systems in order to further improve efficiency, production, and sustainability, among other areas. In addition to improving crop performance recommendations, the implementation of such advanced models is a step toward improving food security because it improves the precision of agricultural methods.

Lastly, a major advancement in precision agriculture results from the use of LSTM networks in crop recommendations. This method makes use of the way LSTMs model intricate temporal connections, making it an effective tool for tackling the more complex issue of agricultural outcome prediction. The

integration of this kind of LSTM model with a large environmental data set offers a potent domain for enhancing plant suggestion, hence promoting long-term sustainable and productive agricultural practices.

BI-LSTM DEEP LEARNING MODEL:

Compared to conventional LSTM networks, Bidirectional Long Short-Term Memory (Bi-LSTM) networks are more sophisticated and have bidirectional processing, which improves sequence prediction job accuracy. In contrast to LSTMs Bi-LSTMs are specifically made for looking at and analyzing data sequences from both the past and the future, in contrast to ordinary LSTMs that deal with data in a single, forward direction. By utilizing both processing modes, Bi-LSTMs are more adept at comprehending the context that surrounds each point. In fact, a Bi-LSTM is made up of two LSTM layers, one processing the input sequence from beginning to end and the other processing it in reverse. The complete representation of the input sequence at each time step is the end result of concatenating or adding the outputs of the two layers. It is how a complete image is obtained, which in turn allows Bi-LSTMs to obtain the complete context of every element in the sequence throughout the prediction process.

One of the primary factors contributing to the effectiveness of BiLSTMs is their suitability for learning the representation at very deep and local levels. Because Bi-LSTMs are especially well-suited to capture the complex dependencies and interactions of the data points in a sequence, they can be incredibly effective in these kinds of settings, leading to more contextual and accurate scenarios.

Because BiLSTMs facilitate the study of sequential data, including weather, soil quality, and past crop yields, they are very helpful for crop recommendations. BiLSTMs identify more subtle patterns or correlations that a unidirectional model would have missed by processing the sequences in both directions. Think about a scenario where a weather event that affects crop growth might be caused by future environmental circumstances rather than past ones. The impact of rainfall from the previous year may be taken into account in addition to the temperature situation for the future. Better crop yield forecasts would come from such a study. Because sequences are processed in two ways so that the BiLSTM may analyze the sequences' past and future states, this representation uses more memory and processing power than a unidirectional LSTM. Because the forward and backward layer contributions must be balanced, especially when transferring information farther down the chain, this model is much more difficult to tune than a uni-LSTM. The deeper context of the BiLSTM model in the field of crop recommendations is undoubtedly advantageous, despite potential drawbacks such as the LSTM's propensity for overfitting.

TRANSFORMER ENCODING MODEL:

With the simple addition of a novel self-attention mechanism, the Transformer Encoding Model-based technique effectively handled the sequential data. In contrast to conventional RNN or LSTM, the current transformer model processes entire sequences in parallel rather than sequentially. This is made possible by constantly evaluating the significance of various sequence segments, a method derived from its self-attention mechanism. In other words, the queries, keys, and values are converted into vectors of the same size for every element in a series. The self-attention mechanism then produces scores that indicate how important each element is in relation to the others in the sequence. I apologize, but a Transformer can only naturally understand dependencies and patterns through this weighted sum. These interactions are

very important when trying to model ordered data, like time series, language, or most other sequence information.

To assist a model handle sequential data more effectively within a Transformer architecture, a few key choices and constructions must be made. Positional encoding, which maintains the sequence's elemental order, is crucial. Since it was evident from the Transformer's design that they were not ordered sequence processors, this has been the case. They do not perceive an order of elements, in contrast to RNN and LSTM. Therefore, to feed the model with the relative and absolute positions of elements within a sequence, these kinds of architectures use positional embeddings added to input embeddings. By doing this, each position will be uniquely identified, maintaining the sequence's order and enabling the model to correctly understand the relationship based on position.

Multi-headed attention is the Transformer model's other key component. It gives the model the ability to fully comprehend the data by allowing it to absorb several aspects of a sequence simultaneously. The various "heads" that make up the attention mechanism are each focused on a separate segment of the sequence. As a result, the model will be able to comprehend intricate correlations and patterns in the data. When a sequence's pieces have intricate and sophisticated interactions—so intricate that a single attention mechanism could never adequately represent them—this proves to be quite helpful. Feed-forward neural networks give the model the much-needed nonlinearity it needs to learn increasingly intricate data representations. To create a prediction or classify, these layers convert the attention mechanism's output into a final sequence embedding. The Transformer model's training is stabilized and accelerated through the use of residual connections and layer normalization, which greatly improves gradient flow during back-propagation. These outcomes are essential for training extremely complex models.

Transformer models' effective learning from massive amounts of data gathered from many sources is one of their advantages when it comes to crop recommendations. Satellite photos, meteorological data, soil moisture content, and past crop yields are examples of agricultural datasets. The Transformer architecture's techniques for embeddings allow for the merging of many distinct data sources, while position encodings allow for temporal and spatial interdependence. The Transformer model's multiheaded attention mechanism, which can identify a wide range of patterns in its data, is one of its most influential features when it comes to crop recommendation. In some respects, feedforward networks will maximize our food production to improve food security by further refining the feature representation and providing an accurate crop yield prediction.

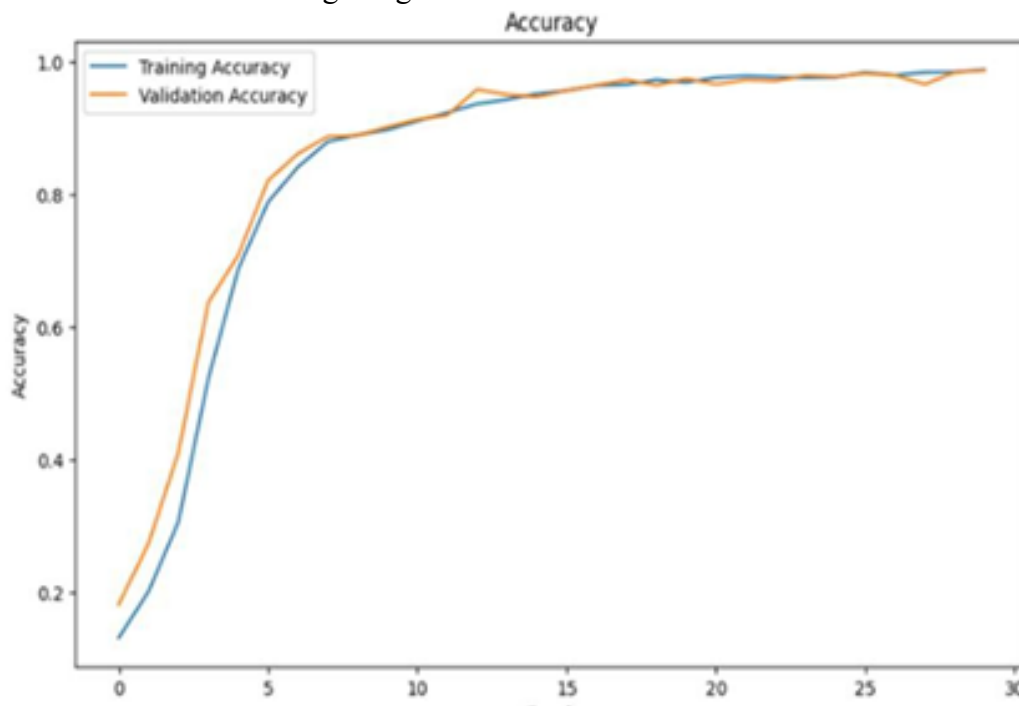
Accuracy, precision, recall, F1 score, and confusion matrices will be the metrics used to evaluate Transformer models when they are used to recommend crops. Accuracy relates to overall correctness; is the model's recommendation accurate? Recall and precision are related to how well a certain crop type is identified. When the dataset is unbalanced, the F1 score provides a comprehensive picture of the model's performance by striking a balance between precision and recall. Confusion matrices can be used to identify places where the model needs to be fine-tuned by delving into the specifics of how the model performs across various classes. Together, these criteria offer a robust assessment methodology that not only makes the greatest production predictions but also identifies pertinent crops—a crucial piece of information for real-world agricultural decision-making. Simplicity is the encoding model's most evident advantage in crop recommendation.

Large datasets, long-range dependencies, and the fusion of disparate data sources are all intrinsic capabilities of this architecture. Consequently, the most important encoding paradigm for increasing

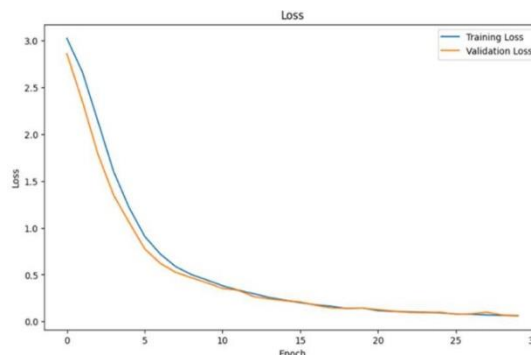
decision-making authority in agriculture is this one. Through precise crop suggestions and improved crop management, the transformer optimizes resources to attain greater sustainability in agricultural activities. Adoption of improved models, such as Transformers, is crucial for significant gains in predictive power over future innovations pertaining to global food security, given that, among other productivity-boosting developments, resource scarcity and climate change continue to pose challenges to the agricultural sector.

RESULTS:

Figure (i) shows the accuracy of the LSTM training model regarding epochs. Figure (ii) depicts the loss value per epoch. The error rate for the LSTM training model is in the decreasing stage for these plots. These show that the LSTM model is getting trained and learned on the data set.



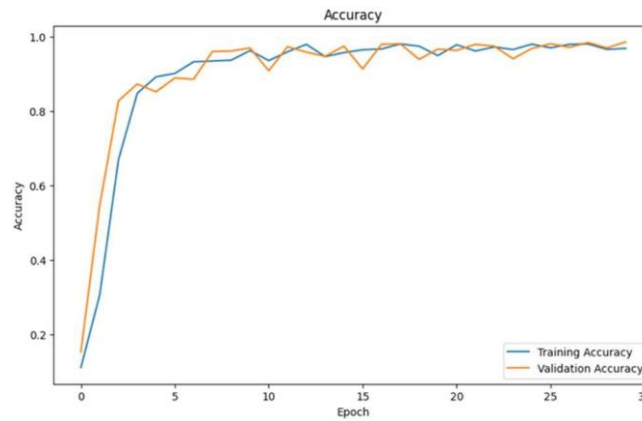
Fig(i): LSTM Training Model Accuracy.



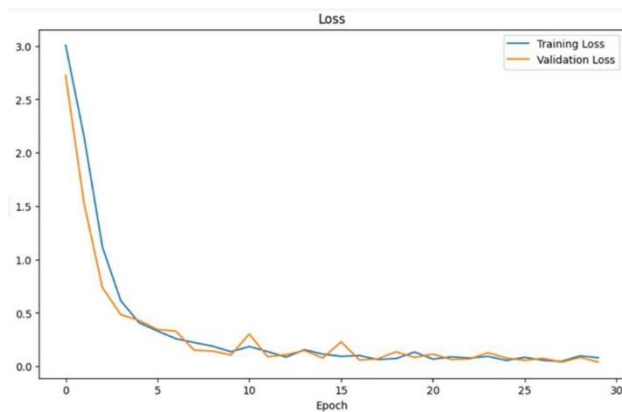
Fig(ii): LSTM Training Model Loss.

Figure (iii) displays BiLSTM model accuracy as a function of the training epoch, where there is performance improvement. Figure (iv) displays graphically how the BiLSTM model loss and epoch are depicted to realize the error reduction rate. These are descriptive in showing the rate at which error

reduction has been realized. The epochs traverse in the x-axis, and the desired changes in the values of the two parameters are plotted regarding their values/amounts on the y- axis. These figures show the details of the BiLSTM model training processes in relation to accuracy and loss in the course of training.



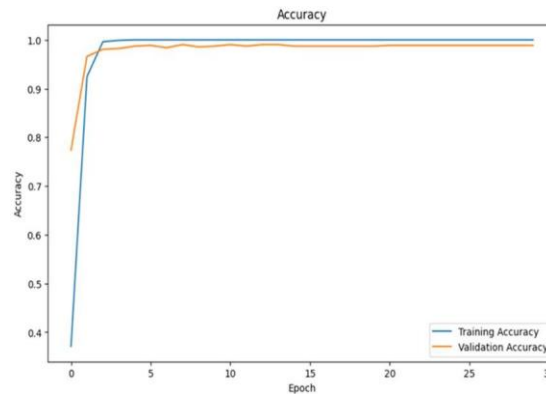
Fig(iii): BiLSTM Training Model Accuracy.



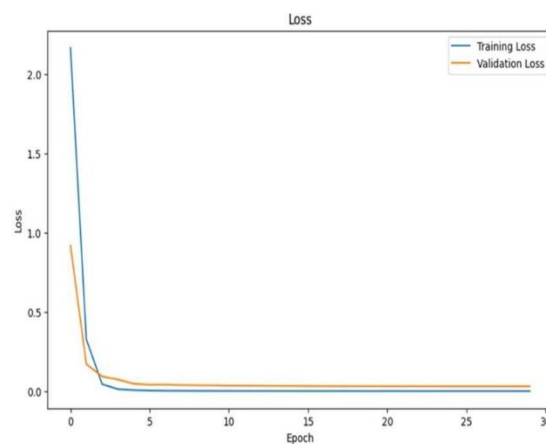
Fig(iv): BiLSTM Training Model Loss.

Figure (v) Measure of Accuracy of the Transformer Encoding Model at each Epoch Figure (vi) Loss per epoch which the model has for training

A view of improvements of the Training Process on the Transformer Encoding Model is shown in Figure v., which presents values of Measure of Accuracy at each Epoch. In Figure (vi), one can get a loss per epoch that the model has for training, and can notice it is decreasing; therefore, an error rate is reduced. These historical metrics will help in understanding the model's training rate and performance gain.



Fig(v): Transformer Encoding Model for Accuracy.



Fig(vi): Transformer Encoding Model for Loss.

The study's strengths include the use of advanced deep learning models like Transformers and Bi-LSTM, robust data integration, and alignment with precision agriculture goals. Weaknesses involve computational complexity, limited real-time data integration, regional specificity, and challenges in scaling to larger datasets or broader applications.

CONCLUSION:

This study shows that important issues in agriculture can be greatly addressed by deep learning. The suggested framework uses cutting-edge algorithms like LSTM, BiLSTM, and Transformers to improve crop selection based on soil properties, weather trends, and historical agricultural data. With 100% training accuracy and 98.87% test accuracy, the Transformer model outperforms both LSTM and BiLSTM as well as conventional machine learning methods.

The Transformer Encoding Model enhances the management of huge datasets and improves predicted accuracy by filling in gaps in the handling of complicated agricultural data. Our system maximizes resource allocation, boosts farm profitability, and facilitates data-driven decision-making. It offers accurate crop suggestions that support sustainable farming methods, increase output, and guarantee the model's performance in actual agricultural settings. The agriculture sector will be significantly impacted in practice by this research. It helps the advancement of digital farming tools, maximizes resource use, and improves crop recommendation accuracy. It also provides scalable AI solutions and aids insurers in managing crop failure risks. The increasing need for sustainable agricultural methods and precision

farming is in line with these developments.

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