# Soil Nutrient Content Classification for Essential Oil Plants using kNN

Yoke Kusuma Arbawa<sup>1</sup> and Candra Dewi<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Informatics Engineering, Faculty of Computer Science, Brawijaya University, Malang, Indonesia,

Keywords: Essential Oils, Soil Image, Soil Nutrient, Image Processing, GLCM, k-NN.

Abstract: Essential oils can grow well and produce good quality of essential oils if planted in an area that has sufficient nutrient content. In this study, the classification of soil nutrient content was carried out using soil images as an alternative to soil testing in the laboratory. The nutrient content identified in this study is Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Potassium (N, P, K). The identification process begins with the extraction of soil texture features using the Gray-Level Cooccurrence Matrix (GLCM) and continues with the classification of nutrient content using k-NN. As a comparison in the calculation, the validation process used data from nutrient testing results in the laboratory. Based on the results of tests on 693 data training and 297 data testing of soil images, test results are obtained accuracy of 90.5724% for Nitrogen, 92.9293% for Phosphorus, and 91.9192% for Potassium. These results indicate that image processing in soil images can be used as an alternative in identifying soil nutrient content.

## **1** INTRODUCTION

Essential oil plant is very useful in the industry of perfume, cosmetics, food, and medical (Elshafie and Camele, 2017). The results of the extraction of essential oil plants are oils that have special contents with different uses. An example is citronella oil that has the advantage of being able to repel mosquitoes (Silva et. Al., 2011). The other is Patchouli oil which has an aroma like wood which is widely used in famous perfumes and others (Van-Beek and Joulain, 2018).

Essential plants require adequate nutrition in the soil to produce high quality and quantity of oil. An example is patchouli plants that need about 25% of NPK nutrients (Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Potassium) from the soil (Singh et al., 2015). Study by El-Sayed, et. al (2018) also found a significant effect of the Nitrogen and phosphorus nutrients on the growth of citronella plants so that it can improve the yield of citronella oil refining (El-Sayed et al., 2018). Therefore, it is necessary to check the nutrient content before the soil is planted with essential plants. Currently, one of the methods used to determine soil nutrient content is through testing soil samples in the laboratory. However, this method requires quite a long time and of course using chemicals that can sometimes be dangerous. This study proposes an

alternative way to identify nutrient levels in soils by utilizing soil image.

The identification of nutrient levels in soils using image processing requires a specified algorithm. In this study, the process of recognition is done by performing classification using k-Nearest Neighbor (kNN). This method works easily by calculating the distance between one data with the whole data. So, it can be done quite fast (Azlah et.al, 2019). In addition, to produce good recognition is needed the appropriate features as input into the classification process. This study uses the texture features that are extracted using Gray-Level Cooccurrence Matrix (GLCM). GLCM has the advantage of providing texture information from an image so that it can represent the texture of the actual object (Yalcin, 2015).

## 2 THEORY

### 2.1 Nutrient Soil Criteria (N, P, and K)

There are various kinds of nutrients, some of the most important are Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Potassium (N, P, and K). This nutrient is found in the soil to help essential plants to develop and produce the amount of oil production and oil yield (Gajbhiye et al., 2013). The criteria levels range from very low to very high, the criteria for Nitrogen are presented in Table 1, the criteria for phosphorus are presented in Table 2 and the criteria for Potassium are presented in Table 3.

N.Total (%)	Criteria
<0.1	Very Low
0.1 - 0.2	Low
0.21 - 0.5	Moderate
0.51 - 0.75	High
>0.75	Very High

Table 2: Criteria for Phosphorus

P.Bray1 (%)	Criteria
<10	Very Low
10 - 15	Low
16 - 25	Moderate
26 - 35	High
>35	Very High

Table 3: Criteria for Potassium

K NH4OAc1N pH 7 (%)	Criteria
<0.1	Very Low
0.1 - 0.29	Low
0.3 - 0.59	Moderate
0.6 - 1.0	High
>1.0	Very High

### 2.2 **Gray-Level Co-occurrence Matrix** (GLCM)

Image processing is a process to get information in an image so that it can be processed to become valuable information. Information that can be used in imagery such as color, texture, and shapes taken from the color values in the image. Implementation of image processing in the classification of nutrients in the soil required information from the soil image. In this study, we use information in the form of textures from soil images. This soil image texture feature represents soil texture which has different soil nutrient criteria. The texture feature that we use is the Gray Level Cooccurrence Matrix.

GLCM is an extraction that has often been used by researchers to obtain texture features from images. GLCM is a matrix n x n that contains the opportunity value of meeting pairs of pixel values between neighbors (Kekre et al., 2010). Determining the probability of meeting pairs of neighboring pixel

values is determined by the distance value (d = (0,1,2,3,4) and the angle of neighbor orientation ( $\theta =$ 0°, 45°, 90°, and 135°). In this GLCM feature extraction, the color space used is grayscale with a range of pixel values from 0 to 255 (Asery, Sunkaria, Sharma, & Kumar, 2016). The GLCM matrix is then used to calculate the value of the feature to be used. This research uses Contrast, Dissimilarity, Homogeneity, Energy, Correlation and Angular Second Moment (ASM) of GLCM features (Deenadayalan et al., 2019).

#### 2.3 K-Nearest Neighbor (KNN)

Image processing results cannot be directly used for classification. Classification requires a computational algorithm for computers to learn what will be classified. There are several algorithms that can be used as a classification algorithm such as neural networks, kNN, SVM and others. One algorithm that has simple computation is k-Nearest Neighbor (kNN).

kNN is an unsupervised learning classification method wherein directly calculates the value of the distance between the tested data and the training data (Alalousi et al., 2016). Then the tested data are classified according to the data objects that appear the most with the smallest distance value a number of k =3, 5, 7, 9 ... n values. The steps of the KNN algorithm are as follows (Guo et al., 2006):

- Calculate the value of the distance between the 1. 10L tested data and the training data.
  - Sort the smallest distance value to the largest distance value.
  - Determine the value of k and retrieve data from 3. a number of values k value of the top distance
  - 4. Calculate the class frequency from the data taken in step 3.
  - Classification is taken from the class that has the 5. most frequency from step 4.

#### **METHOD** 3

#### **Data Acquisition** 3.1

Data was taken from several different locations, namely Dilem Wilis-Trenggalek, Tulungagung, Kesamben-Blitar, Ngijo-Malang, UB Forest-Malang and Institut Atsiri-Malang. Soil samples taken are land planted with essential oil plants. The sample of soil taken is soil from 20-30 cm depth from surface. Soil images are taken using a DSLR camera on a ministudio that has a stable light. Some soil images samples are presented in Figure 1.

Data validation was carried out by laboratory tests to obtain levels of nutrients and nutrients in the soil. Laboratory tests were conducted at the Soil Chemistry Laboratory of Agriculture Faculty, University of Brawijaya. Laboratory test results are shown in Table 4.

### 3.2 Classification Process

The classification process begins with the input of soil imagery. then the feature extraction process is performed using GLCM which generates the value of GLCM features. These feature values are then normalized so that the data range is not too wide. After that, the classification process using kNN is done using a normalized dataset. Classification results are in the form of class predictions from the tested data and then the accuracy is calculated. The output results are in the form of test data class predictions and accuracy values of the system.

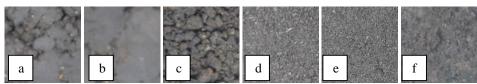


Figure 1: a. Trenggalek, b. Institut Atsiri, c. Kesamben, d. Ngijo, e. Tulungagung, f. UB Forest

Table 4: Test Result of Soil Nutrient (N, P, and K)

Soil Sample	Location	N.Total	P.Bray1	K NH4OAc1N pH 7	N Class	P Class	K Class
DW1	Dilem Wilis	0.08	1.57	0.77	Very Low	Very Low	High
DW2	Dilem Wilis	0.07	0.08	0.32	Very Low	Very Low	Moderate
DW3	Dilem Wilis	0.07	0.76	0.24	Very Low	Very Low	Moderate
DW4	Dilem Wilis	0.08	0.78	0.1	Very Low	Very Low	Low
DW5	Dilem Wilis	0.09	0.79	0.1	Very Low	Very Low	Low
DW6	Dilem Wilis	0.09	2.26	0.14	Very Low	Very Low	Low
IA1	Institut Atsiri	0.14	9.04	0.72	Low	Very Low	High
IA2	Institut Atsiri	0.16	7026	0.27	Low	Very Low	Low
KS1	Kesamben	0.12	24.54	1.3	Low	Moderate	Very High
KS2	Kesamben	0.1	0.84	0.06	Low	Very Low	Very Low
KS3	Kesamben	0.13	2.39	0.17	Low	Very Low	Low
NGIJO1	Ngijo	0.09	2.5	1.06	Very Low	Very Low	Very High
NGIJO2	Ngijo	0.06	0.82	0.5	Very Low	Very Low	Moderate
TA1	Tulungagung	0.05	10.31	0.07	Very Low	Low	Very Low
TA2	Tulungagung	0.03	2.18	0.05	Very Low	Very Low	Very Low
TA3	Tulungagung	0.05	133.74	0.28	Very Low	Very High	Low
UBF1	UB Forest	0.34	1.61	0.45	Moderate	Very Low	Moderate
UBF2	UB Forest	0.46	0.81	0.39	Moderate	Very Low	Moderate

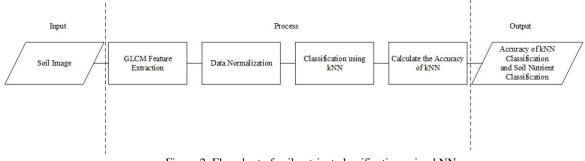


Figure 2: Flowchart of soil nutrient classification using kNN

### 4 **RESULTS**

The data used in this study were 990 data from 6 data collection locations. The data is divided into 70% for training data and 30% for test data. Each of the N, P, and K nutrition categories was carried out equally. Class labeling (very low, low, medium, high and very high) in accordance with the dataset that has been tested for nutrient content in the soil in the methodology. The Nitrogen dataset from data acquisition only consists of 3 classes, namely very low, low and medium. The Phosphorus dataset from data acquisition consists of 4 classes without "high" classes. While the Potassium dataset from data acquisition consists of 5 classes.

Testing is done using variations in the value of k. the variation in k values used are 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15 and 17. The results of the Nitrogen nutrient classification test in the soil are presented in Table 5. The results of the Phosphorus nutrition test in the soil are presented in Table 6, while the results of the Potassium nutrition test in the soil are presented in Table 7.

Nitrogen nutrient classification in the soil gets the highest accuracy value of 90.5724%. These results are obtained by using the value k = 3. other than that each k value increases accuracy decreases, but the accuracy obtained is still above 85%. The average value obtained using the value k = 3 to k = 17 is equal to 89.2256%.

Other test results from Phosphorus nutrients in the soil obtained an average accuracy of 91.8350%. The highest accuracy value obtained is 92.9293% at k = 3. Accuracy values obtained from values k = 3 to k = 17 are stable at an accuracy of 90% to 92%. These results are better than in nitrogen nutrient testing in soils there are still some accuracy below 90%. In this test all uses of k values get accuracy above 90%.

Table 5: The results of testing the accuracy of nitrogen nutrients in the soil

k	Accuracy (%)
3	90.5724%
5	89.8990%
7	89.2256%
9	89.5623%
11	88.8889%
13	88.8889%
15	88.5522%
17	88.2155%
Average	89.2256%

Table 6: The results of testing the accuracy of phosphorus nutrients in the soil

k	Accuracy (%)
3	92.9293%
5	91.9192%
7	90.9091%
9	91.2458%
11	92.2559%
13	91.9192%
15	91.5825%
17	91.9192%
Average	91.8350%

17 is 89.1835%. This result is very good because the accuracy value obtained is still above 85%.

Table 7: The results of testing the accuracy of potassium	
nutrients in the soil	

k	Accuracy (%)
3	91.9192%
5	90.9091%
7	88.8889%
9	89.5623%
11	88.5522%
13	88.2155%
15	87.8788%
17	87.5421%
Average	89.1835%

From the above results, the kNN classification can classify NPK nutrients in the soil using images with an average of 90%. These results can be concluded that the use of image processing can be used as an alternative classification of NPK nutrients in the soil. In addition, the texture feature values in GLCM can represent textures from soil imagery.

## 5 CONCLUSIONS

Referring to the test result, obtained an accuracy value of identification of nutrient N in the soil is 90.5724%, an accuracy value of identification of nutrient P in the soil is 92.9293%, and an accuracy value of identification of nutrient K in the soil is 91.9192%. These results indicate that image processing soil images can be used as an alternative way of identifying soil nutrient content.

### REFERENCES

- Alalousi, A., Razif, R., AbuAlhaj, M., Anbar, M., and Nizam, S., 2016. A Preliminary Performance Evaluation of K-means, KNN and EM Unsupervised Machine Learning Methods for Network Flow Classification. *International Journal of Electrical* and Computer Engineering (IJECE), 6(2), 778.
- Asery, R., Sunkaria, R. K., Sharma, L. D., and Kumar, A., 2016. Fog detection using GLCM based features and SVM. Conference on Advances in Signal Processing, CASP 2016, 72–76.
- Azlah, M. A. F., Chua, L. S., Rahmad, F. R., Abdullah, F. I., and Alwi, S. R. W., 2019. Review on techniques

for plant leaf classification and recognition. *Computers*, 8(4).

- Deenadayalan, D., Kangaiammal, A., and Poornima, B. K., 2019. Integrated Intelligent Computing, Communication and Security.
- El-Sayed, A., El-Leithy, A., Swaefy, H., and Senossi, Z., 2018. Effect of NPK, Bio and Organic Fertilizers on Growth, Herb Yield, Oil Production and Anatomical Structure of (Cymbopogon citratus, Stapf) Plant. Annual Research & Review in Biology, 26(2), 1–15.
- Elshafie, H. S., and Camele, I., 2017. An overview of the biological effects of some mediterranean essential oils on human health. *BioMed Research International*, 2017.
- Gajbhiye, B. R., Momin, Y. D., and Puri, A. N., 2013. Effect of FYM and NPK Fertilization on Growth and Quality Parameters of Lemongrass (Cymbopogon flexuosus). Agricultural Science Research Journals, 3(4), 115–120.
- Guo, G., Wang, H., Bell, D., Bi, Y., and Greer, K., 2006. Using kNN model for automatic text categorization. *Soft Computing*, 10(5), 423–430.
- Kekre, H. B., Thepade, S. D., Sarode, anuja K., and Suryawanshi, V., 2010. Image Retrieval using Texture Features extracted from GLCM, LBG and KPE. International Journal of Computer Theory and Engineering, 2(5), 695–700.
- Singh, R., Singh, M., Srinivas, A., Rao, E. V. S. P., and Puttanna, K., 2015. Assessment of organic and inorganic fertilizers for growth, yield and essential oil quality of industrially important plant patchouli (Pogostemon cablin) (blanco) benth. *Journal of Essential Oil-Bearing Plants*, 18(1), 1–10.
- Van-Beek, T. A., & Joulain, D., 2018. The essential oil of patchouli, Pogostemon cablin: A review. *Flavour* and Fragrance Journal, 33(1), 6–51.
- Yalcin, H., 2015. Phenology monitoring of agricultural plants using texture analysis. 2015 4th International Conference on Agro-Geoinformatics, Agro-Geoinformatics 2015, 338–342.