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AI Assisted Image Colorizer

Prof. Vindya L[1], Bhanushree N[2], Kavyashree N[3], Nanditha K[4], Navya T[5]
Assistant Professor, Department of Information Science and Engineering[1]
U.G. Students, Department of Information Science and Engineering[2,3,4,5]
S J C Institute of Technology, Chickaballapura, Karnataka, India.
vindyal@sjcit.ac.in, bhanunagraj30@gmail.com, kavyashree3321@gmail.com
knanditha858@gmail.com, navyathimmarju@gmail.com

Abstract: *DeOldify is an advanced deep learning-based AI project designed for automatic colorization and restoration of grayscale images and videos. It utilizes Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) and Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) to generate high- quality, realistic colorizations with minimal user input. A key innovation in DeOldify is the NoGAN training approach, which combines pre-trained neural networks with adversarial learning to improve color accuracy and detail preservation. The model leverages a pre-trained ResNet as a feature extractor, enhancing image sharpness and reducing artifacts. Additionally, a self-attention mechanism refines the distribution of colors, ensuring natural and contextually appropriate results. These advancements make DeOldify highly effective for restoring historical photographs, enhancing old film footage, and improving medical imaging visualization. AI-assisted colorization has broad applications, including the revival of vintage photos, artistic reinterpretation of monochrome imagery, and aiding medical diagnostics by improving grayscale scan contrast. However, challenges such as color ambiguity, hallucination of incorrect colors, and dependence on training datasets remain areas for improvement.*

Keywords: DeOldify, AI colorization, deep learning, GANs, NoGAN, image restoration, historical photo enhancement, CNNs, ResNet, digital image processing

I. INTRODUCTION

AI-based image colorization using deep learning is a revolutionary technique that automatically adds colors to grayscale images. Traditionally, manual colorization required significant effort and artistic expertise. However, deep learning models have made this process automated and highly efficient. These models learn from vast datasets of real-world colored images and apply the learned patterns to grayscale inputs, producing realistic and visually appealing results. The core technology behind AI-based image colorization involves deep learning architectures such as Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs), and Autoencoders. CNNs are commonly used for feature extraction and understanding image structures, while GANs enhance realism by generating colors that mimic real-world distributions. Some models also employ Autoencoders, where a grayscale image is encoded into a latent representation and then decoded into a colorized output

PROBLEM STATEMENT

AI-based image colorization automates the process of adding realistic colors to grayscale images, overcoming the limitations of manual colorization, which is time-consuming and skill-dependent. The challenge is to accurately predict and apply colors while preserving details and ensuring natural-looking results. This project aims to develop an efficient solution for applications in historical photo restoration, film enhancement, and medical imaging.

OBJECTIVES:

- **High-Quality and Realistic Colorization:** Ensure that the generated colors are visually appealing, contextually accurate, and maintain object details.
- **Optimization of Model Performance:** Improve processing speed, accuracy, and efficiency to make the model scalable for different applications.

- **Minimization of Artifacts:** Reduce color bleeding, inconsistencies, and unnatural color distributions to enhance output quality.
- **Adaptability Across Domains:** Test and validate the model on various image types, including historical photographs, artistic visuals, and medical images.
- **User-Friendly Implementation:** If applicable, develop a simple interface where users can upload grayscale images and obtain colorized results effortlessly.

SIGNIFICANCE

AI-based image colorization plays a crucial role in historical preservation by transforming black-and-white photographs and archival footage into visually rich and engaging content. By restoring color to historical images, it enhances public appreciation, aids researchers in analyzing past events, and preserves cultural heritage for future generations. This technology makes history more immersive, bridging the gap between the past and modern audiences. Beyond entertainment and healthcare, AI-driven colorization reduces human effort while maintaining high-quality results. It also has applications in forensic analysis, satellite imaging, and accessibility tools for visually impaired individuals. This technology enhances visual content, making it more dynamic and informative across multiple industries. With its wide range of applications, AI-based image colorization is transforming how we interact with historical, medical, and visual data. As the technology advances, it promises even greater accuracy, efficiency, and creative possibilities

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

1. Author: Zhang, R., Isola, P., & Efros, A. A.
Title: Colorful Image Colorization (2016)
Outcome: This study presents a deep learning approach for automatic image colorization using a convolutional neural network. The model formulates colorization as a classification problem, allowing it to generate multiple plausible colorizations for grayscale images. It successfully produces visually realistic and diverse color outputs.
Disadvantage: The approach sometimes generates unrealistic colors in areas with ambiguous context, leading to incorrect color assignments in some cases.
Author: Iizuka, S., Simo-Serra, E., & Ishikawa, H.
Title: Let There Be Color!: Joint End-to-End Learning of Global and Local Image Priors for Automatic Image Colorization with Simultaneous Classification (2016)
Outcome: The study proposes a model that jointly learns global scene context and local texture details for colorization.
Disadvantage: Requires large-scale labeled datasets for training, making it computationally expensive. The network also struggles with fine-grained textures in some cases.

2. Author: Larsson, G., Maire, M., & Shakhnarovich, G.
Title: Learning Representations for Automatic Colorization (2016)
Outcome: This research utilizes deep feature representations from a pre-trained convolutional network to guide automatic colorization. The model improves semantic understanding, ensuring that colors align more accurately with object properties.
Disadvantage: The reliance on pre-trained models limits adaptability to new datasets.

3. Author: Vondrick, C., Pirsiavash, H., & Torralba, A.
Title: Tracking Emerges by Colorizing Videos (2018)
Outcome: The study explores video colorization as a self-supervised learning task, where tracking objects naturally emerges as a byproduct of the colorization process. It demonstrates how colorization networks can learn motion patterns and object relationships in videos.
Disadvantage: The method struggles with fast-moving objects and occlusions, leading to inconsistencies in colorization

4. Author: He, K., Zhang, X., Ren, S., & Sun, J.
Title: Deep Residual Learning for Image Recognition (2015)

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Outcome: Introduces ResNet, a deep learning architecture that improves image recognition and enhances colorization models by addressing vanishing gradient issues. The deeper architecture enables better feature extraction for more accurate color assignments.
Disadvantage: Requires significant computational power, making training expensive. Deeper networks also introduce risks of overfitting if not properly regularized.

5. Author: Kingma, D. P., & Ba, J.
Title: Adam: A Method for Stochastic Optimization (2014)
Outcome: Proposes the Adam optimization algorithm, which improves the efficiency of training deep learning models, including those used for image colorization. Adam enables faster convergence and stable learning.
Disadvantage: Tends to accumulate large moment estimates, which can slow convergence in some scenarios. It may require fine-tuning for optimal performance in different applications.

6. Author: Ronneberger, O., Fischer, P., & Brox, T.
Title: U-Net: Convolutional Networks for Biomedical Image Segmentation (2015)
Outcome: Introduces the U-Net architecture, which has been adapted for image colorization due to its encoder-decoder structure. The model preserves fine details and generates sharp, high-quality colorized images.
Disadvantage: U-Net requires extensive memory for training, making it less feasible for low-resource environments. The model may also struggle with complex, highly textured images.

III. METHODOLOGY

HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS

HARDWARE REQUIREMENTS:

- Processor (CPU): Intel Core i7/i9 or AMD Ryzen 7/9
- RAM: Minimum 16GB
- Storage: 500GB SSD
- Power Supply: Standard power supply

SOFTWARE SYSTEM CONFIGURATION:

- Operating System: Windows 10/11
- Programming Language: Python 3.x
- IDE: Jupyter Notebook
- Deep Learning Framework: PyTorch
- Image Processing Libraries: OpenCV, PIL
- Additional Libraries: NumPy, Matplotlib, Scikit-learn

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Work flow of Proposed System

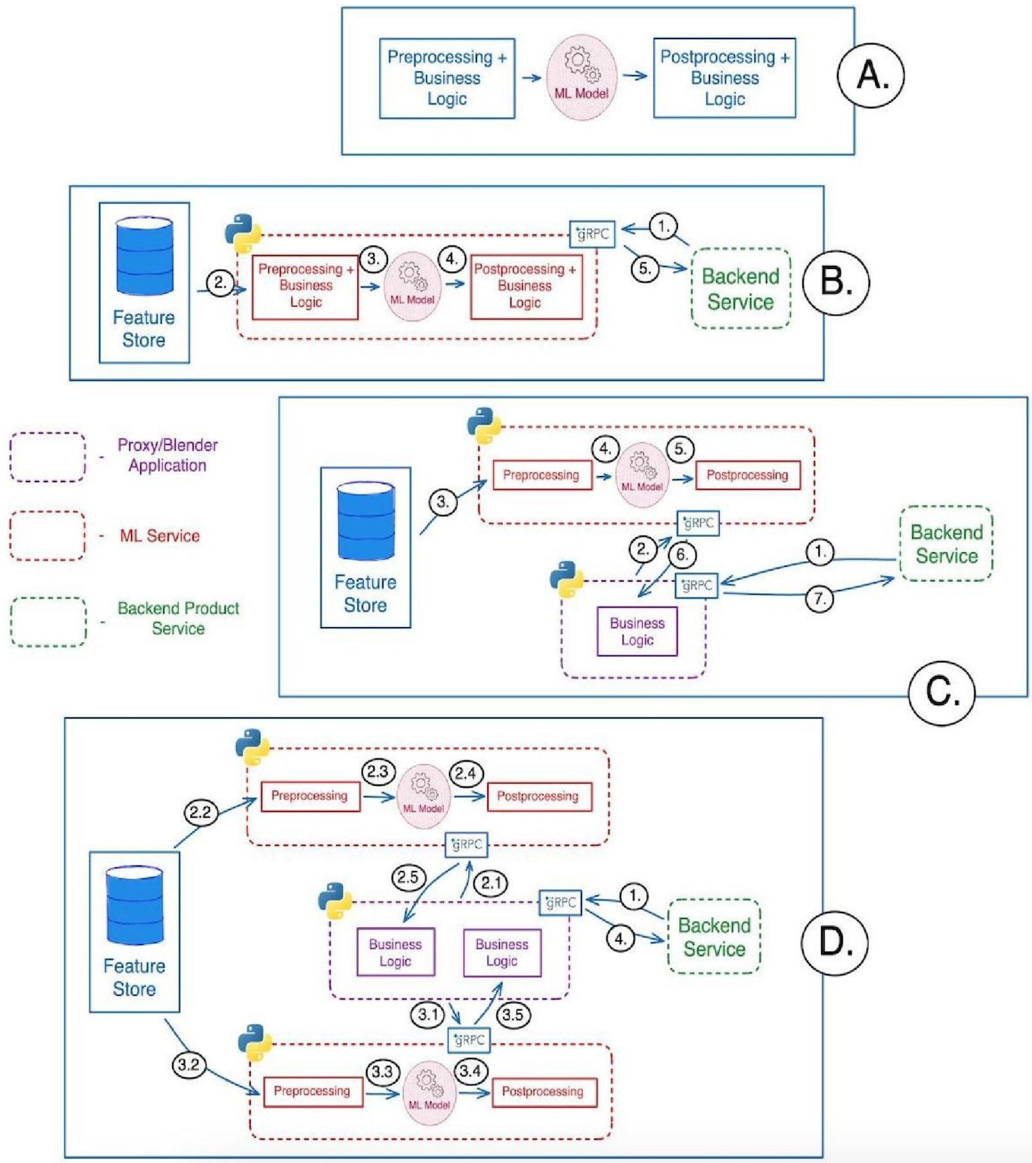

Figure 1: Work Flow

IV. RESULTS

Colorization of the image using address from web

- **Fetching the Image:** The system accesses the image directly from the web URL using libraries like OpenCV, PIL, or requests without saving it locally.
- **Pre-processing:** The image is converted into a compatible format, resized, and normalized for deep learning model input.
- **Colorization Using AI:** The deep learning model processes the grayscale image in memory, predicting colors and generating a realistic colorized version.
- **Displaying the Output:** The colorized image is rendered directly on the interface or returned as a response, avoiding file storage

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Figure 2: Colorization of the image using address from web

Colorization of the Downloaded Image

- **Downloading the Image:** The system fetches the grayscale image from the provided web URL using libraries like requests or urllib and saves it temporarily.
- **Pre-processing:** The downloaded image is loaded into memory, resized, and normalized to match the AI model's input requirements.
- **Colorization Using AI:** The deep learning model processes the stored image, predicting realistic colors and generating a vibrant output.
- **Saving and Displaying the Output:** The final colorized image is saved locally or in cloud storage, and optionally displayed to the user.

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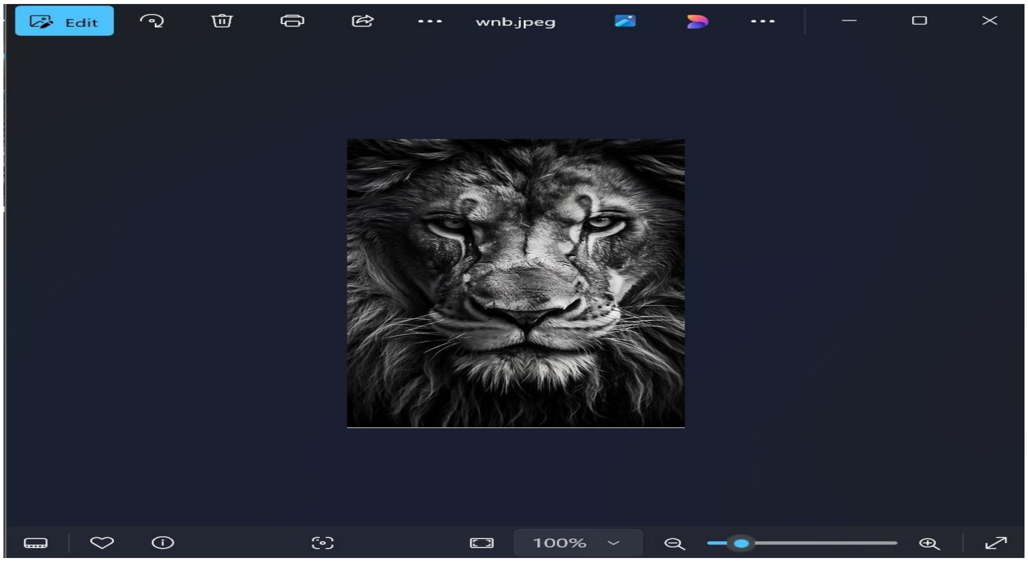

Figure 3: downloaded black and white Image

Figure 4: Colorization of the Downloaded Image

V. CONCLUSION

The AI-based image colorization system is an innovative deep learning solution that automates the process of converting grayscale images into colored ones. It eliminates the need for manual colorization by utilizing feature extraction and contextual learning to predict and apply realistic colors. This makes the process fast, efficient, and accessible for various applications.

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Key advantages of this system include:

- Automation: Eliminates manual effort and speeds up the colorization process.
- High Accuracy: Uses deep learning to predict realistic colors based on training data.
- User-Friendly Interface: Implemented in Jupyter Notebook for easy usability.
- Efficient Processing: Optimized

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