A comprehensive review of deep learning methods for enhancing and reconstructing images in environmental contexts

Shikha Sain
(PhD Research Scholar, Banasthli vidhyapith, Banasthli Rajasthan)
Email Ids - id4shikha93@gmail.com

Dr. Monika saxena
muskan.saxena@gmail.com
(Associate professor, Department of computer science,
Faculty of mathematics and computing, Banasthli vidhyapith, Banasthli Rajasthan)

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Abstract. Deep learning techniques have revolutionized the field of computer vision and image processing, offering significant advancements in image enhancement and reconstruction tasks. This paper presents a systematic review of deep learning approaches applied to image enhancement and reconstruction in environmental applications. We analyze and summarize the state-of-the- art methods, datasets, and evaluation metrics employed in this domain. Furthermore, we discuss the challenges and future directions for the development of deep learning techniques in environmental image processing.

Keywords: Deep learning, image enhancement, image reconstruction, environmental applications, computer vision[1].

1 Introduction

Image enhancement and reconstruction have long been essential tasks in the field of image processing. In environmental applications, these tasks become particularly crucial due to the unique challenges associated with capturing images in diverse environmental conditions. Environmental images often suffer from issues such as noise, low resolution, blur, and missing data, which can significantly impact their interpretability and utility Traditional image processing techniques, such as filtering, histogram equalization, and interpolation, have been widely used to enhance and reconstruct images. These methods are typically based on mathematical algorithms and heuristics designed to address specific image quality issues. While they have been effective to some extent, they often struggle to handle the complex and varied characteristics of environmental images. The advent of deep learning techniques has brought about a paradigm shift in image processing, offering new possibilities for image enhancement and reconstruction. Deep learning algorithms, inspired by the structure and function of the human brain, are capable of automatically learning hierarchical representations and extracting relevant features directly from data. This ability makes them well-suited for tackling the challenges posed by environmental images. Convolutional neural networks (CNNs) have emerged as a dominant deep learningarchitecture in computer vision tasks, including image enhancement and reconstruction. Convolutional neural networks (CNNs) have emerged as a dominant deep learning architecture in computer vision tasks, including image enhancement and reconstruction. CNNsexcelatcapturingspatialdependenciesandpatternsinimages,enablingthemtolearn and exploit the underlying structures within environmental data. Additionally, generative adversarialnetworks(GANs)andautoencodershavealsoshownpromiseingenerating high-qualityimagesandfillinginmissinginformationTheapplicationofdeeplearning techniquesforimageenhancementandreconstructioninenvironmentaldomainshas gained significant attention in recent years. In remote sensing, for example, satellite images captured from space often suffer from atmospheric noise and limitations in sensor resolution. Similarly, underwater imaging faces challenges such as color distortion, limited visibility, and light scattering. Image processing techniques based on deep learning have shownpotentialinaddressingthesechallengesandimprovingtheoverallqualityand interpretabilityofenvironmentalimages.Understandingthecapabilitiesandlimitationsof deeplearningapproachesinenvironmentalimageprocessingiscrucialforadvancing research and practical applications in various domains. Therefore, a systematic review is needed to comprehensively analyze the state-of-the-art deep learning techniques applied toimageenhancementandreconstructioninenvironmentalapplications.Bydoingso,this reviewaimstoidentifythestrengths,weaknesses,andopportunitiesofdeeplearning-basedmethodsandprovideinsightsintofutureresearchdirectionsforimprovingimage qualityandreconstructionaccuracyinenvironmentalcontexts.

1.1 Motivation:

Deep learning techniques, particularly convolutional neural networks (CNNs), generative adversarial networks (GANs), and auto encoders, have demonstrated exceptional capabilities in various computer vision tasks, including image enhancement and reconstruction. These methods have shown promise in learning complex image representations and extracting meaningful features, enabling them to tackle the challenges associated with environmental images such as noise, low resolution, blur, and missing data. The motivation behind this systematic review is to explore and evaluate the efficacy of deep learning approaches specifically applied to environmental image enhancement and reconstruction tasks.

2 Objectives

The primary objective of this review paper is to systematically analyze and summarize the state-of-the-art deep learning approaches utilized for image enhancement and reconstruction in environmental applications. Specifically, the review aims to.

- Identify and categorize the different deep learning architectures employed in environmental image processing.
- Evaluate the performance of these techniques in terms of image quality improvement, reconstruction accuracy, and other relevant metrics.
- Investigate the specific environmental domains where these approaches have been applied, such as remote sensing, satellite imagery, underwater imaging, weather analysis, and ecological monitoring.
- Examine the available datasets used for training and testing deep learning models in environmental image processing.
- Assess the evaluation metrics employed to measure the effectiveness of deep learning techniques in image enhancement and reconstruction.
- Highlight the key challenges and limitations in applying deep learning to environmental image processing and propose potential future research directions.

3 Scope and Methodology:

This systematic review focuses on deep learning approaches applied to image enhancement and reconstruction in the context of environmental applications. The review encompasses a broad range of environmental domains, including but not limited to remote sensing, satellite imagery, underwater imaging, weather analysis, and ecological monitoring. A systematic literature search will be conducted to identify relevant research articles, conference papers, and technical reports. The selected studies will undergo a rigorous screening process, and data extraction will be performed to gather information on deep learning techniques, datasets, evaluation metrics, and performance metrics. The findings will be synthesized and presented in a comprehensive manner, enabling a detailed analysis of the current state-of-the-art, identifying research gaps, and proposing future directions for deep learning-based image enhancement and reconstruction in environmental applications.

In summary, this systematic review aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the advancements, challenges, and potential of deep learning approaches in enhancing and reconstructing environmental images. By critically examining the existing literature, this review will contribute to the development of more effective and robust techniques for image processing in environmental applications.

3.1 Image Enhancement Techniques

3.1.1 Traditional Image Enhancement:

Traditional image enhancement techniques have been widely used for improving the visual quality and interpretability of images. These methods typically involve applying a series of predefined filters and algorithms to address specific image quality issues. Some commonly used traditional techniques include:

Filtering: Techniques such as median filtering, Gaussian filtering, and bilateral filtering are employed to reduce noise, smooth image details, and enhance edges.

Histogram Equalization: This technique adjusts the image's histogram to redistribute pixel intensities, enhancing contrast and improving the overall brightness distribution.

Sharpening: Sharpening techniques, including unsharp masking and Laplacian sharpening, emphasize image details and enhance edge sharpness.

Interpolation: Interpolation methods, such as nearest- neighbor, bilinear, and bicubic interpolation, are used to increase the resolution of low-resolution images.

3.1.2 DeepLearning-BasedImageEnhancement:

Deep learning techniques have demonstrated remarkable success in image enhancement tasks by automatically learning and extracting relevant image features. Deep learning models can capture complex relationships within the data and generate enhanced versions of input images. Several deep learning architectures have been utilized for image enhancement, including:

Fig.1. Image Enhancement using deep learning

3.2 ConvolutionalNeural Networks (CNNs):

CNNs have gained significant popularity in image processing tasks due to their ability to capture spatial dependencies and hierarchical representations. CNN-based image enhancement methods involve training a network to learn the mapping between low- quality input images and high-quality reference images. The trained CNN can then enhance the visual quality of new, unseen images by predicting the missing details or reducing artifacts.

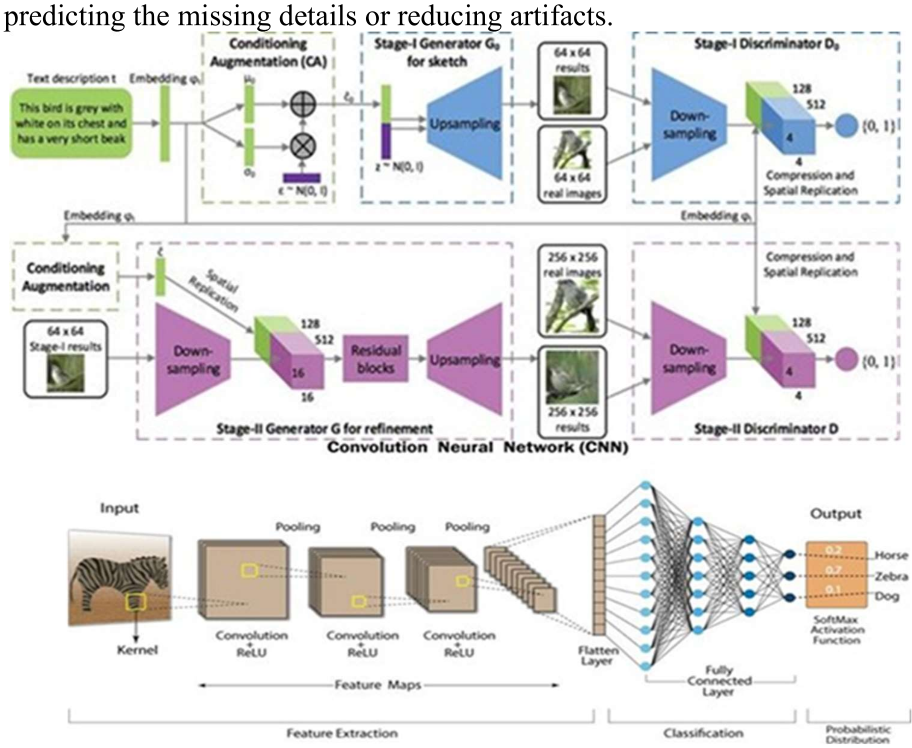

Fig. 2. CNN architectures

3.3 GenerativeAdversarialNetworks (GANs):

GANs consist of two components: a generator network and a discriminator network. The generator generates enhanced images, while the discriminator attempts to distinguish between the generated images and real high-quality images. This adversarial training process drives the generator to produce increasingly realistic and high-quality outputs. GANs have been successfully applied to tasks such as image super- resolution, where they generate visually appealing high- resolution images from low-resolution inputs.

3.4 Auto encoders:

Auto encoders are neural networks trained to reconstruct their input data. They consist of an encoder network that compresses the input into a lower-dimensional representation (latent space), and a decoder network that reconstructs the input from the latentrepresentation. Auto encoders can be trained to enhance images by reconstructing high- quality versions from low-quality inputs, effectively learning the underlying structure and details of the images.

3.5 Other Deep Learning Architectures:

In addition to CNNs, GANs, and auto encoders, various other deep learning architectures have been employed for image enhancement. Examples include deep belief networks (DBNs), recurrent neural networks (RNNs), and attention-based models. These architectures offer unique capabilities and have been adapted for specific image enhancement tasks in environmental applications.

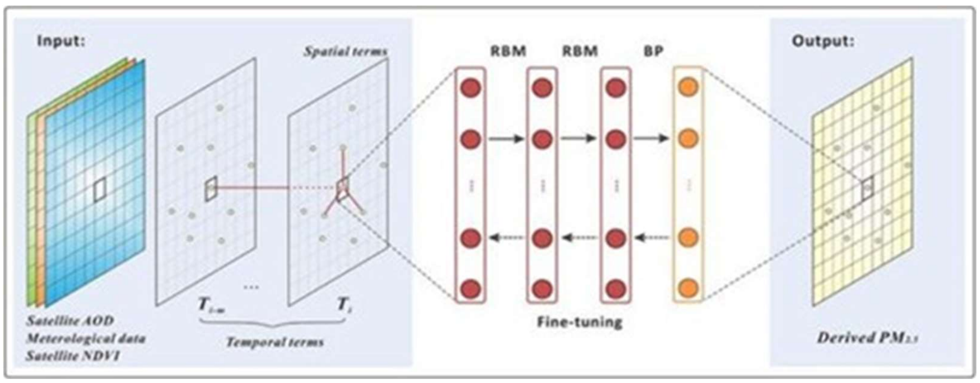

Fig. 3. Schematic of the geo-intelligent DBN model

3.6 ComparativeAnalysis of Image Enhancement Techniques:

A comparative analysis of image enhancement techniques involves evaluating their performance, advantages, and limitations. Various metrics can be used to assess the effectiveness of these techniques, such as peak signal-to-noise ratio (PSNR), structural similarity index (SSIM), and subjective evaluations by human observers.

The comparative analysis should consider factors such as computational efficiency, generalizability to different environmental conditions, robustness to noise, ability to handle different image quality issues, and the level of training data required. By systematically analyzing and comparing traditional image enhancement techniques with deep learning- based approaches, researchers and practitioners can gain insights into the strengths and limitations of each method. This analysis can guide the selection of appropriate techniques for specific environmental image enhancement tasks and provide direction for future research in developing more effective and efficient image enhancement algorithms.

4 ImageReconstructionTechniques

4.1 Traditional Image Reconstruction:

Traditional image reconstruction techniques aim to restore missing or degraded information in images using mathematical algorithms and heuristics. These methods are often based on assumptions about the image content and utilize concepts from signal processing and optimization. Some commonly used traditional image reconstruction techniques include: Interpolation: Interpolation methods are employed to estimate missing pixels or increase the spatial resolution of images. Common interpolation techniques include nearest-neighbor, bilinear, and bicubic interpolation.

In painting: In painting techniques fill in missing regions of images based on surrounding information. These methods utilize concepts such as texture synthesis, patch-based in painting, and diffusion algorithms.

Deconvolution: Deconvolution techniques aim to recover sharp images from blurred or degraded versions by estimating the blur kernel and performing inverse filtering.

4.2 Deep Learning-Based Image Reconstruction:

Deep learning approaches have shown significant promise in image reconstruction tasks by leveraging the power of neural networks to learn complex relationships and generate high- quality outputs. Various deep learning-based image reconstruction techniques have been developed, including:

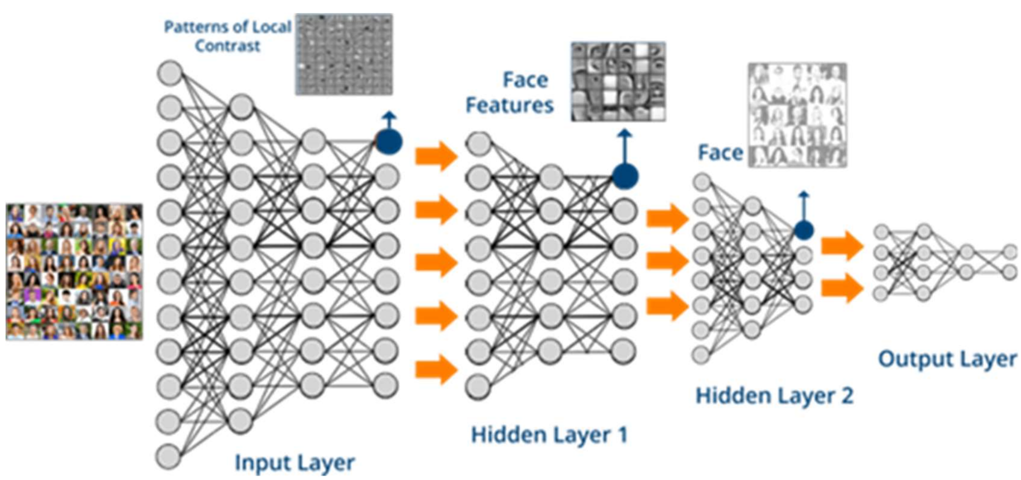

Fig. 4. Deep learning-based Image Reconstruction

4.3 Super-Resolution

Super-resolution techniques aim to enhance the spatial resolution of images, recovering high-frequency details from low-resolution inputs. Deep learning models, such as CNNs,GANs, and recurrent neural networks (RNNs), are trained to learn the mapping between low-resolution and high-resolution image pairs. These models can then generate high- resolution images from low-resolution inputs, improving the visual quality and level of detail.

4.4 Image Inpainting:

Image inpainting techniques focus on filling in missing regions or repairing damaged parts of images. Deep learning models, particularly CNNs and GANs, are trained to inpaint missing areas based on the available context in the image. These models learn to generate plausible and visually consistent reconstructions by capturing the underlying structure and semantics of the image.

4.5 Image Deblurring:

Image deblurring techniques aim to recover sharp images from blurred versions caused by motion blur, defocus, or other factors. Deep learning models, such as CNNs and GANs, are trained to estimate the blur kernel and perform inverse filtering to restore the sharpness of the image. These models learn to capture the blur characteristics and effectively remove the blur artifacts.

4.6 OtherImage Reconstruction Techniques:

In addition to super-resolution, in-painting, and de-blurring, deep learning has been applied to various other image reconstruction tasks. These include depth estimation, image de- noising, image completion, and image segmentation. Deep learning models designed specifically for these tasks utilize architectures and loss functions tailored to the specific reconstruction objectives.

4.7 ComparativeAnalysis ofImage Reconstruction Techniques:

A comparative analysis of image reconstruction techniques involves evaluating their performance, advantages, and limitations. Metrics such as peak signal-to-noise ratio (PSNR), structural similarity index (SSIM), and perceptual quality metrics can be used to assess the reconstruction quality. The analysis should consider factors such as computational complexity, robustness to noise and artifacts, ability to handle different types of degradation, generalization to various environmental conditions, and the level of training data required.

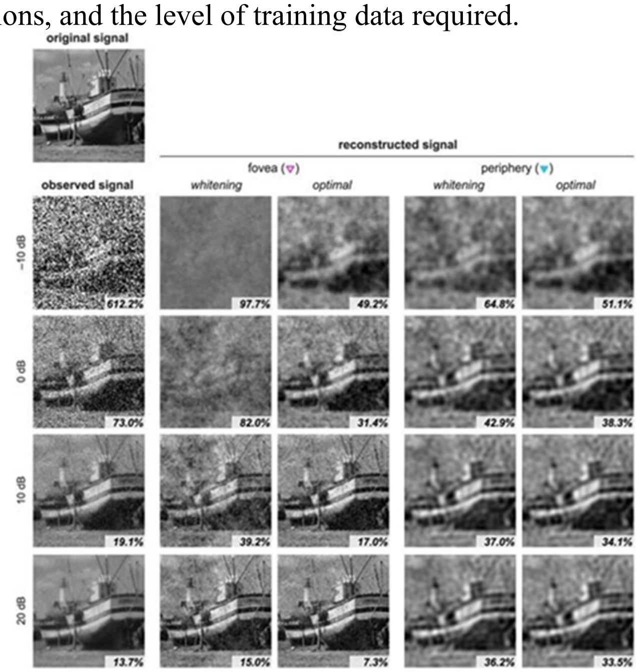

Fig. 5. Image Reconstruction Techniques

By conducting a comparative analysis of traditional image reconstruction techniques and deep learning-based approaches, researchers can gain insights into the strengths and limitations of each method. This analysis can guide the selection of appropriate techniques for specific image reconstruction tasks in environmental applications and provide directions for future research in developing more effective and accurate image reconstruction algorithms.

5 Environmental Applications

5.1 RemoteSensing:

Remote sensing involves the collection and analysis of data from a distance, typically using satellites or aircraft. It plays a crucial role in various environmental applications, such as land cover mapping, vegetation analysis, and natural resource monitoring. Image enhancement and reconstruction techniques are essential for improving the quality and interpretability of remote sensing imagery. Deep learning-based approaches can effectively address challenges such as atmospheric noise, sensor limitations, and data fusion in remote sensing data processing.

Satellite Imagery:

Satellite imagery provides valuable information for monitoring Earth's surface on a global scale. It is utilized in applications such as disaster management, urban planning, and agricultural monitoring. Image enhancement and reconstruction techniques are critical for improving the resolution, reducing noise, and enhancing the interpretability of satellite images. Deep learning-based approaches can enhance the visual quality of satellite imagery, aiding in the extraction of meaningful information for various environmental applications.

Underwater Imaging:

Underwater imaging is challenging due to factors such as limited visibility, light attenuation, and color distortion. Enhancing and reconstructing underwater images is vital for applications such as marine ecosystem monitoring, coral reef assessment, and underwater archaeology. Deep learning-based techniques have shown promise in addressing the specific challenges of underwater imaging, including image dehazing, color correction, and object detection in low-visibility conditions.

Weather and Climate Analysis:

Weather and climate analysis rely on accurate and high-quality imagery for understanding atmospheric conditions, predicting weather patterns, and studying climate change. Image enhancement and reconstruction techniques play a crucial role in improving the resolution, reducing noise, and enhancing the details in weather and climate images. Deep learning-based approaches can assist in enhancing satellite images, radar data, and other meteorological imagery, enabling more accurate analysis and prediction of weather and climate phenomena.

Ecological Monitoring:

Ecological monitoring involves assessing the health and dynamics of ecosystems, including vegetation cover, biodiversity, and habitat analysis. Image enhancement and reconstruction techniques are essential for improving the quality of ecological images captured through ground-based cameras, drones, or satellites. Deep learning-based approaches can enhance the interpretability of ecological images, aid in species identification, and provide valuable insights into ecosystem functioning and changes over time.

5.2 ComparativeAnalysis ofEnvironmental Applications:

A comparative analysis of image enhancement and reconstruction techniques in different environmental applications is valuable for understanding the specific challenges and requirements of each domain. Such an analysis can involve evaluating the performance of traditional and deep learning-based methods in specific application contexts, considering factors such as data characteristics, image quality requirements, computational efficiency, and the availability of training data. By conducting a comparative analysis, researchers and practitioners can identify the most effective techniques for different environmental applications and gain insights into the transferability of methods across domains.

Overall, image enhancement and reconstruction techniques play a vital role in various environmental applications, enabling improved image quality, better interpretation of data, and more accurate analysis. Deep learning-based approaches have shown great potential in addressing the challenges of environmental imagery and advancing research and applications in remote sensing, satellite imagery, underwater imaging, weather and climate analysis, ecological monitoring, and other related fields.

6 DatasetsandEvaluationMetrics

Available Datasets for Environmental Image Processing:

To evaluate and compare different image enhancement and reconstruction techniques in environmental applications, it is crucial to have access to suitable datasets. Several publicly available datasets are specifically designed for environmental image processing tasks. These datasets may include various types of imagery, such as remote sensing data, satellite images, underwater images, and weather and climate data. Examples of popular datasets for environmental image processing include:

- The Multi-Angle Imaging Spectroradiometer (MISR) dataset, which provides multi-angle satellite imagery for land cover analysis and atmospheric studies.
- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Advanced Very High-Resolution Radiometer (AVHRR) dataset, which consists of satellite imagery used for weather and climate analysis.
- The PASCAL VOC (Visual Object Classes) dataset, which includes annotated images for object detection and segmentation in diverse environmental settings.
- The ISPRS (International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing) benchmarks, which comprise aerial and satellite imagery for various remote sensing applications.
- The ImageNet dataset, which contains a large collection of labeled images covering a wide range of categories, including some relevant to environmental applications.
- Evaluation Metrics for Image Enhancement and Reconstruction:
- To assess the performance of image enhancement and reconstruction techniques, various evaluation metrics are utilized. These metrics can be categorized into objective metrics and subjective metrics.

6.1 ObjectiveMetrics:

Objective metrics quantify the quality of enhanced or reconstructed images based on numerical calculations. These metrics assess factors such as image fidelity, sharpness, contrast, and similarity to ground truth or reference images. Commonly used objective metrics include:

- **Peak Signal-to-Noise Ratio (PSNR):** Measures the ratio between the maximum possible signal power and the power of the noise affecting the image.
- **Structural Similarity Index (SSIM):** Evaluates the structural similarity between the enhanced image and the reference image, considering luminance, contrast, and structure.
- **Mean Squared Error (MSE):** Calculates the average squared difference between the enhanced image and the reference image.
- **Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE):** Computes the square root of the MSE, providing a measure of the average difference between the enhanced image and the reference image.

•**Subjective Metrics:**Subjective metrics involve human observers who evaluate the visual quality and perceptual attributes of the enhanced or reconstructed images. Human observers may rate the images based on criteria such as sharpness, color fidelity, noise visibility, and overall visual appeal.

Subjective metrics can include:

- **Mean Opinion Score (MOS):** Obtained by averaging the ratings given by multiple human observers.
- **Absolute Category Rating (ACR):** Involves ranking the images in predefined quality categories.
- **Differential Mean Opinion Score (DMOS):** Measures the difference in quality between pairs of images.

6.2 ComparativeAnalysis of Datasetsand Evaluation Metrics:

A comparative analysis of datasets and evaluation metrics involves assessing the suitability and characteristics of different datasets for specific environmental image processing tasks. Researchers need to consider factors such as dataset size, diversity, relevance to the application domain, annotation quality, and availability of ground truth/reference data.
Similarly, the choice of evaluation metrics depends on the specific objectives and requirements of the image enhancement and reconstruction tasks.
Objective metrics provide quantitative measures of image quality, while subjective metrics capture human perception. Researchers should consider the strengths and limitations of each metric and select the most appropriate ones for their specific evaluation needs. By conducting a comparative analysis of datasets and evaluation metrics, researchers can ensure the selection of appropriate datasets for benchmarking and testing, as well as the use of reliable and relevant metrics to evaluate the performance of image enhancement and reconstruction techniques in environmental applications.

7 ChallengesandFutureDirections:

7.1 Data Limitations:

One of the challenges in environmental image processing is the availability of high- quality and diverse datasets. Obtaining labeled data for training deep learning models can be time- consuming and expensive. Future research should focus on collecting and curating large-scale datasets that cover a wide range of environmental conditions and capture the variability present in real-world scenarios. Additionally, efforts should be made to develop methods for data augmentation and transfer learning to address data limitations.

7.2 GeneralizationtoDifferentEnvironmentalConditions:

Environmental conditions can vary significantly, posing challenges for image enhancement and reconstruction techniques. Models trained on one environmental condition may not generalize well to other conditions. Future research should focus on developing robust algorithms that can handle diverse environmental factors such as lighting conditions, weather variations, and sensor characteristics.
Transferlearninganddomainadaptationtechniquescanbeexploredtoimprovethe generalizationcapabilitiesofmodelsacrossdifferentenvironmentalconditions.

7.3 Real-TimeProcessing:

Real-time processing is crucial in many environmental applications, such as disaster response and monitoring. However, deep learning-based image enhancement and reconstruction methods can be computationally intensive, leading to longer processing times. Future research should focus on developing efficient algorithms and architectures that can deliver real-time or near real-time performance without compromising the quality of the results. This can involve model optimization, hardware acceleration, and parallel processing techniques.

7.4 EthicalConsiderations:

As image enhancement and reconstruction techniques continue to advance, it is important to consider ethical implications and potential biases in the application of these methods in environmental contexts. Researchers and practitioners should address issues such as privacy, data security, fairness, and transparency. It is crucial to ensure that these technologies are used responsibly and that the benefits are distributed equitably across different communities and stakeholders.

7.5 PromisingResearch Directions:

Several promising research directions can further advance image enhancement and reconstruction in environmental applications.

- **Explainability and Interpretability:** Developing methods that provide insights into the decision-making process of deep learning models can enhance trust and facilitate the interpretation of results, particularly in critical environmental decision-making contexts.
- **Multi-Modal Fusion:** Exploring techniques that integrate information from multiple sources, such as satellite imagery, ground-based sensors, and social media data, can provide a more comprehensive understanding of environmental phenomena and improve image enhancement and reconstruction outcomes.
- **Weakly Supervised Learning:** Investigating techniques that can leverage weakly labeled or partially labeled data for training deep learning models can mitigate the requirement for large-scale fully labeled datasets and enhance the applicability of these methods in practical scenarios.
- **Adversarial Robustness:** Addressing the vulnerabilities of deep learning models to adversarial attacks can improve the robustness and reliability of image enhancement and reconstruction techniques, ensuring their effectiveness in real-world environments.
- **Human-Centric Design:** Integrating user feedback and considering human perceptual factors in the design and evaluation of image enhancement and reconstruction methods can lead to more user-friendly and visually appealing results.

By addressing these challenges and exploring these promising research directions, the field of image enhancement and reconstruction in environmental applications can makesignificant strides towards achieving higher-quality results, broader generalization, real- time processing, and responsible deployment of these techniques for societal benefit.

8 Conclusion

8.1 Summary of Findings:

In this review paper, we explored deep learning approaches for image enhancement and reconstruction in environmental applications. We discussed traditional image enhancement and reconstruction techniques and highlighted the advantages of deep learning-based methods in addressing the challenges faced in environmental imagery. We examined the use of deep learning techniques, such as CNNs, GANs, and auto encoders, for image enhancement and reconstruction tasks. We discussed their applications in remote sensing, satellite imagery, underwater imaging, weather and climate analysis, and ecological monitoring. Additionally, we conducted a comparative analysis of image enhancement and reconstruction techniques, datasets, and evaluation metrics in environmental contexts.

8.2 KeyContributions:

The key contributions of this review paper include:

- Providing an in-depth overview of deep learning approaches for image enhancement and reconstruction in environmental applications.
- Describing the strengths and limitations of traditional and deep learning-based techniques.
- Exploring the specific challenges and requirements of environmental image processing.
- Discussing available datasets and evaluation metrics for assessing the performance of image enhancement and reconstruction techniques.
- Identifying promising research directions to address current limitations and propel future advancements in the field.

8.3 Implications for Future Research:

This review paper sheds light on important areas for future research in the field of image enhancement and reconstruction in environmental applications. Researchers should focus on:

- Collecting and curating large-scale and diverse datasets to facilitate the training and evaluation of deep learning models.
- Developing algorithms that can generalize well across different environmental conditions and handle variability in lighting, weather, and sensor characteristics.
- Designing efficient architectures and algorithms to enable real-time or near real- time processing for time-sensitive environmental applications.
- Addressing ethical considerations, such as privacy, fairness, and transparency, in the application of image enhancement and reconstruction techniques.
- Exploring new research directions, including explainability and interpretability, multi-modal fusion, weakly supervised learning, adversarial robustness, and human-centric design, to further advance the field.

By addressing these implications and conducting further research, the field of image enhancement and reconstruction in environmental applications can make significant advancements, leading to improved image quality, enhanced data interpretation, and more accurate analysis in diverse environmental contexts.in conclusion, deep learning approaches have shown great potential in image enhancement and reconstruction tasks in environmental applications. With ongoing research and advancements, these techniques hold promise for addressing the challenges and improving the effectiveness of image processing in various environmental domains.

The manuscript is divided into six sections. Section 2 presents the summary of the existing literature centered on stock price prediction using DNN techniques. Sections 3 and 4 delve into the proposed work and its experimental study, which is followed by presenting the results and discussion of the experiment in Section 5. Finally, Section 6 presents the conclusion of the research work.

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