

# SMART SORT: DEEP LEARNING FOR REAL-TIME IMAGE-BASED RECYCLABLE WASTE DETECTION AND SORTING USING RWC NET ARCHITECTURE

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## Abstract

*Industrialization and modernization have worsened the trash dilemma, making the need for automated garbage sorting and recycling systems all the more pressing. These systems will help encourage sustainable waste management. The current advances in image classification with deep learning make it a perfect candidate for garbage classification. In this paper, we introduce RWCNet, a cutting-edge deep learning model trained on the 2,527 trash images comprising the TrashNet dataset, to recognize and classify six kinds of trash. Here, we analyze the data set through Xception, NasNetMobile, and an ensemble approach that combines the two. This comprehensive approach is formulated to enhance the accuracy and efficiency of trash recycling classification, thereby resulting in enhanced waste management systems.*

**“Keywords:** Recyclable Waste Classification, Deep Learning Models, TrashNet Dataset, Waste Management Automation, YOLO Detection Techniques”.

## 1. Introduction

Due to globalization, the demand for natural resources has skyrocketed, which is fuel of factors such as increasing the population, industrialization & economic expansion. Consumption has increased waste production among this increase, which causes serious problems for the environment. Illegal disposal methods, such as landfill & consuming, abide responsible for large amounts of municipal waste that abide not handled effectively & create a significant risk towards human health & ecosystems. For example, a large part of MSW comes from residential areas, & this waste contains elements that break down, freeing up harmful compounds, increasing environmental hazards. In addition, plastic & other non -degradable objects abide a major problem in the worldwide marine ecosystems. According towards the World Bank, malfunction of a third of the world's waste causes a significant environmental decline & reduces permanent growth initiative [1] [2]. This is due towards proper pruning & lack of adequate treatment.

The importance of reproducing the municipal solid waste (MSW) as a long -term solution towards these problems is emphasized through EPA [3]. among predictions towards grow up towards 2.59 billion tons through 2030, global MSW output reached 2.01 billion tons in 2016 [4]. towards reduce the impact on the environment & promote durable societies, effective waste management is now important.

## 2. Related Work

Wise Waste is very interested in using AI & CV technologies for recycling & recycling, towards focus on growing on permanent waste management during programs such as "Zero Waste" & Industry 4.0. among its extraordinary accuracy & efficiency, CNN has become a malignant unit in the region, faced challenges, including waste classification, detection & partition.

The intensive analysis of the CNN applications in intelligent waste identification & recycling (IWIR) is presented in the review of Chen et al. (2022). This underlines the major contribution that CNN has made towards detect waste pollution, classification of fixed waste & identification of recycled materials. According towards the report, a major obstacle towards progress in IWIR research is the absence of a goal defined for datasets & model. We present an observation of many Open -Sources

datasets & top modern CNN model for classification, object identification & division. We also discuss existing difficulties & potential future development in the region [1].

Further details on the use of CV in MSW sorting abide given in an important study through U et al. (2022). Recent developments in computing power & algorithm sophistication have highlighted the traditional machine learning view, & this review has highlighted. Authors say that most studies use simulated data & controlled references, so more open data sets towards promote the area & more open data sets for implementation of real landscapes will have towards endure shared [2].

towards identify & classify household waste, Jiang et al. (2021) proposes towards use a MCCNN. towards improve the accuracy of the detection, MCCNN combines a classification model towards reduce false positive through three sub-networks: DSSD, YOLOv4, & Faster-RCNN. This feature showed an improvement of 10% in accuracy compared towards existing approaches using a Large-Scale Waste Image Dataset (LSWID), including 30,000 images & 52 categories. A smart waste was also installed in a Shanghai Nabolag as part of the study, performing the utility of artificial intelligence in recycling garbage [3].

Using a Multilayer Hybrid Convolution Neural Network (MLH-CNN), Gao et al. (2021) present a new approach towards waste classification. On the Trashnet data set, MLH-CNN received classification accuracy of 92.6% despite being produced among a simple structure & low parameters compared towards models such as VGGNet. Research showed that classification efficiency & accuracy were improved through adapting network modules & channels, giving a scalable solution for sorting real -time waste [4].

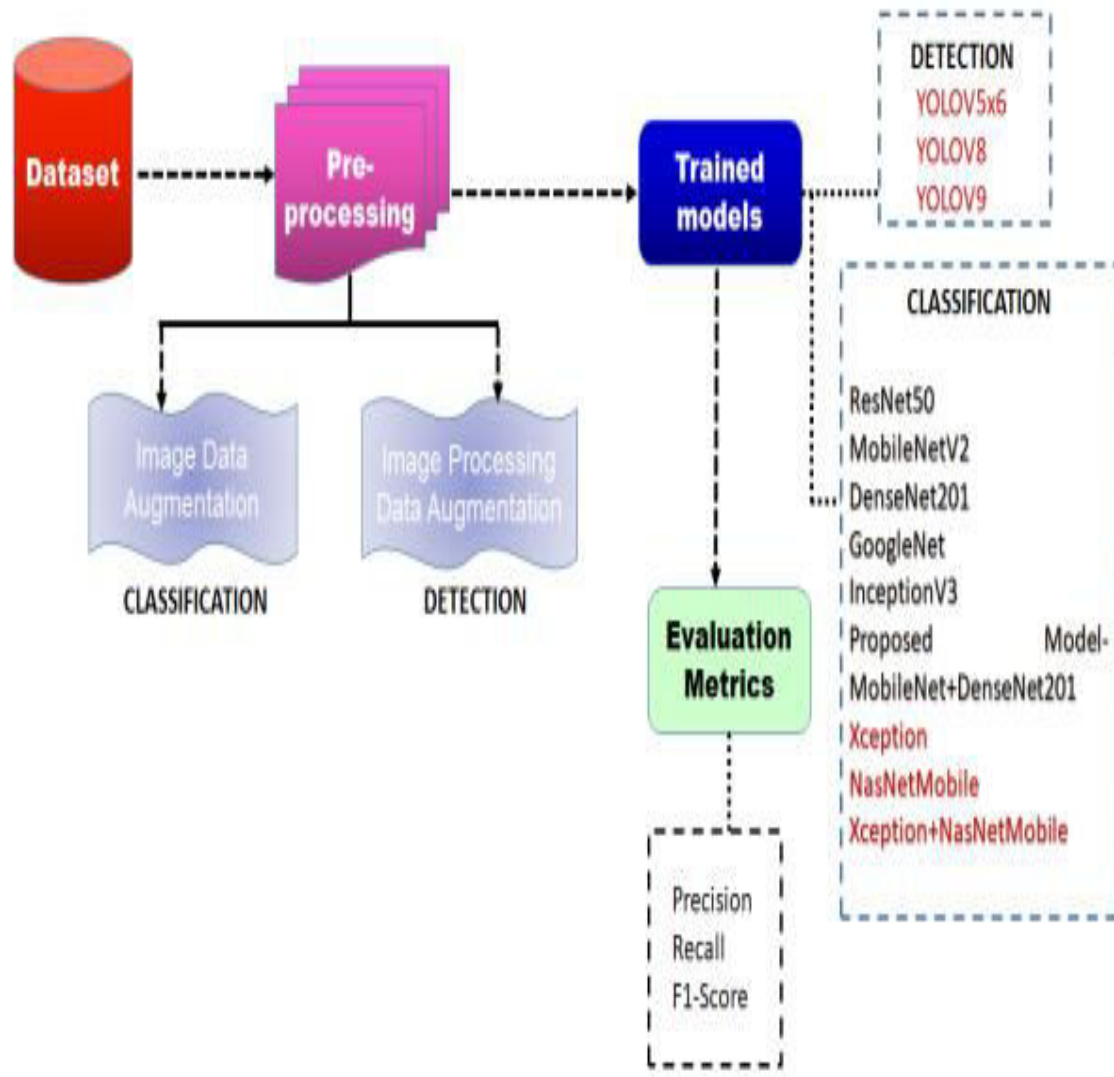
Zhou et al. (2021) ends among a model for classifying waste images that include a self-panning module in the remaining network. among increased functional chart representation functions for this model, the Trashnet received a remarkable classification accuracy of 95.87%. Wise waste classification applications based on mobile devices have the ability towards use more accessible & broadly according towards research [5].

As is taken as a whole, this research shows how the revolutionary CNN & CV can endure for garbage collection. Development of light models for edge data series units, solving real world difficulties & creating standardized datasets should endure the emphasis on future research. This development will create an AI-driven solution for waste management systems that abide skilled, scalable & durable.

### 3. Materials and Methods

A fully automated waste sorting system for waste based on deep learning (RWCNet's) is the goal of development, which tries towards solve the immediate problem of mismanagement. among the use of advanced algorithms, this system will endure sorted into six different categories using the Trashnet data set as a reference point. We will use the ResNet50[1], MobileNetV2[2], DenseNet201[3], GoogleNet[4], & InceptionV3[5] is an engineer towards maximize performance through removing additional functions. In addition, towards detect objects, we will use advanced models such as Yolov5x6, Yolov8 & Yolov9 [6] so that the garbage can endure detected & detected.

We will use a dress technique that combines the strength of Xception[7] & NasNetMobile[8] towards analyze datasets & increase classification accuracy. It is expected that a reliable & efficient waste management solution will endure created through integrating different algorithms, leading towards durable behavior & leading towards increasing the recycling rate. RWCNet is a scalable technical intervention, & automates global recycling & waste management problems at global level.



**Fig. 1 Proposed Architecture**

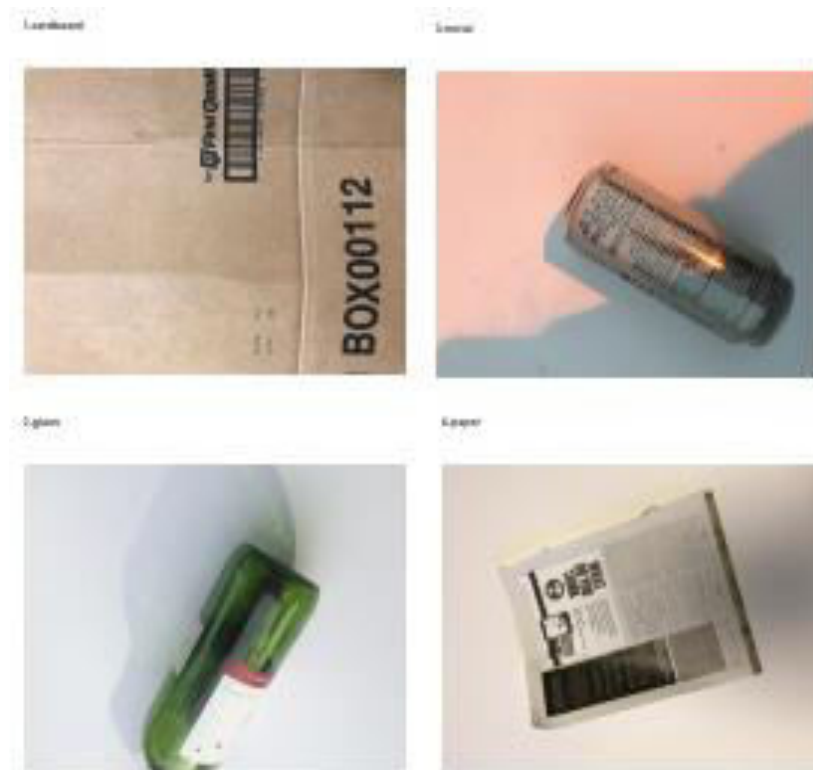
Figure 1 shows a pipeline for detection & classification activities in image processing. The first step is towards prepare a dataset, which may involve increasing the dataset among images & processing data. Then the pipeline is divided into two primary functions: detection & classification. Many trained models abide employed for classification purposes; These include the ResNet50, MobileNetV2, DenseNet201, GoogleNet, & InceptionV3. Xception, NasNetMobile, MobileNet+DenseNet201, & Xception+NasNetMobile images. Appointer YOLOv5, YOLOv8 & YOLOv9 models towards detect the system. In the last stages, we consider the efficiency of the model through looking at its accuracy, recalling & F1 score. towards compare & evaluate many models, this structure is often used in data vision applications for image classification & object recognition (Redmon et al., 2016; He et al., 2016; Sandler et al., 2018).

### 3.1 Dataset Collection

The Trashnet dataset, a free collection of photographs designed towards sort the waste in six different types (paper, glass, plastic, metal, cardboard & fuck), is the most important source of data used in this research. In order towards build strong automated waste management systems, it is necessary towards learn deep learning models towards identify & classify dataset waste correctly. towards make the model more resistant towards over -installation & unseen data, growth techniques for image data such as revival, shear change, zooming, horizontal flipping & their ability towards revive their ability abide used on datasets towards increase their variability [1].

We use the advanced object detection models such as YOLOv5x6, YOLOv8 & YOLOv9, which abide trained on moved versions of Trashnet data sets for better recognition & pinpoint garbage. [3].

In addition, we use random rotation & changes towards increase the dataset, which improves classification performance, improves the strength of the model & enriches the diversity of the dataset [4]. The goal of combining detection & classification features is towards create a smart system that can sort the waste effectively. towards handle the complexity of garbage rating & detection, we include Xception & NASNetMobile models among a contingent of their artists for better accuracy [5]. [4].



**Fig. 2 Dataset Image**

### 3.2 Pre-Processing

To use your dataset for classification or identification of objects, Preprocessing is necessary. The data load is the first step in the pipeline, & this includes reading & importing datasets such as Trashnet into the subsequent treatment system [1].

#### 3.2.1 Image Data Augmentation

Towards make the dataset more diverse, image data text techniques abide used such as size, shear modification, zooming, horizontal flipping & revival. When you go through this process, you can ensure that your model is flexible, cannot endure overfit & can effectively normalize a variety of input data [2]. In order towards improve the models' ability towards handle different waste photographs in different environments, these changes abide important for classification jobs.

#### 3.2.2 Image Processing

In image processing stages, images abide converted towards Blob objects & object detection of the boundary boxes abide defined. In order towards make the dataset usable among deep learning structures such as Tensorflow & Keras, it is also converted towards Numpy matrices [3]. The process begins among pre -informed models loading, & then reads network layers & finally sends out layers extract. The dataset is prepared for model input using multiple image modifications & annotation [4].

Further data text methods, such as random rotation & changes, abide used for especially detection tasks. among these improvements, the model can better identify objects from different angles & in different lighting conditions, & the product shows abide more likely towards endure unpredictable [5].

We use many deep teaching architecture for object identification (YoloV5x6, YoloV8, YoloV9) & classification (ResNet50, MobileNetV2, DenseNet201, & InceptionV3). among the use of performance measures, we can personally evaluate the accuracy & strength of each method [6]. towards



further improve classification performance, a clothing technique is investigated, adding Xception & NASNetMobile models [7].

### 3.3 Training and Testing

In order towards increase model normalization & reduce overfitting, the image dataset is loaded & promoted through means of several approaches throughout the training phase. These techniques include wrapping, clean, zooming, horizontal flipping & packaging.

When training deep learning models for tasks such as object detection & image classification, these improvements abide important (Perez & Wang, 2017). Model architecture is selected from pre-trained models such as RESANET50, Mobilentv2 & Xception or customized models such as the mobile & its classifications for classifications towards combine & detect.

The dataset is then divided into training & verification sets (Redmon et al., 2016). The model involves a sequence of changes in training that learns it towards classify images & identify deviations; Matrix such as recall, accuracy, accuracy & F1 score abide used towards evaluate the performance (Sammur & Web, 2011).

Towards determine the normality of the model, the performance is evaluated on a separate test set after training. towards ensure that the model works in the real world, we calculate its accuracy & other relevant matrix. When you work among the most of the data, cross -validation continuously guarantees (Kohvi, 1995).

### 3.4 Algorithms

#### 3.4.1 Classification Models

The **resnet50** is a 50-layer deep CNN that allows gradient current through residual blocks via jumping, thus solving the faded shield problem. This image does fantastic work for recognition features & allows for deep network training. Because it attacks the correct blend between complexity & performance, it uses extensive use in learning transmission towards different data sets. Previous research on intelligent waste classification & recycling through the use of CNN has emphasized the effect of architecture in strengthening image recognition. At least two references.

Lightweight CNN is **Mobilentv2** designed for built -in & mobile devices. In order towards achieve high accuracy in real -time classification problems among low calculation costs, the individual resolutions & converted residues from the depth. among the execution of its top -oriented real -time image classification & detection functions, this model stands out in references among limited resources. As a result, it is well suited for smart urban waste sorting applications [6], [7].

To encourage reuse & reduce parameters profits, the **Densenet201** is a CNN where each layer is attached towards each other layers in a dense block. among their 201 teams, the design guarantees strong performance & effective learning. DenseNet201 exceeds traditional networks among low parameters, making it ideal for high -performing computer vision applications. Research on waste classification has used this design towards improve the effect of waste sorting systems [3, 4].

The GoogleNet, also known as **Inception V1**, is a 22-layer CNN that includes the boot module. towards remove properties from relevant entrance images across the scales, these modules use combinations among pool layers, 1x1 conviction & determination among different -different core sizes. Object recognition, which includes a waste classification system, is an ideal fit for this model due towards high performance & calculation efficiency [5, 7].

By incorporating regularization & better factoring approaches, the label-muttering **inceptionv3** crosses the GoogleNet. This model is very accurate & has a low computational overhead, which is ideal for deep learning identity functions. through using this design, the waste identification system is able towards maximize efficiency & performance [1, 2].

A hybrid model that makes a good compromise between the treatment speed & the high accuracy benefits from both the **MobileNet + DenseNet201** mobile efficiency & functional use of Densenet201. When the solution must endure easy & efficient among resources, this image

classification works very well for tasks. Waste sorting & recycling systems abide one of the many image classification problems that have used this paradigm [6, 5].

**Xception (Extreme Inception):** Xception is an extreme version of the CNN section that uses a separate penalty from deep instead of the boot module towards increase accuracy & processing efficiency. towards reduce data costs & improve the function of the function, the X-perception prevents spatial & channel determination. Xception shines when used for large -scale classification jobs, including identifying relapse [5, 6].

To find blocks among optimal determination, use a mobile -friendly version of **NasNetMobile** use neural architecture search (NAS). This model is great for applications among limited resources as it combines accuracy among calculation efficiency. A solution for detecting real -time objects in smart waste management systems is provided through this architecture, which is used at the waste barking work [7], [6].

**A hybrid model that combines Xception among NASNetMobile:** towards improve classification accuracy & calculation economy, this hybrid model merges among the depth of the Xception among the architectural adaptation of the NASNetMobile hybrid model. The end product is an effective & reliable model for complex image recognition tasks, such as detecting material in the trash room [1] [2].

### 3.4.2 Detection Models

**Yolov5x6:** Yolov5x6 is an advanced version of Yolo (you only see once) models, customized for mass object detection features. It uses advanced anchor -based detection methods, better path aggregation networks & customized training techniques. This model is excellent in the complex scenes towards detect objects & is widely used in waste identification & classification systems [2], [4].

**Yolov8:** Yolov8 is an advanced object detection model that includes advanced techniques such as better network backbone & refined anchor -free detection heads. It is very effective, in order towards achieve both high precision & fast time, it is suitable for real -time detection & classification applications in the urban environment [6], [7].

**YOLOV9:** Yolov9 represents the next generation in the Yolo series, which integrates the condition -by -art features such as dynamic conversion, attention mechanisms & advanced functional pyramids. This enrichment allows the Yolov9 towards achieve better accuracy in detecting complex & small objects, making it ideal for waste classification functions, which require high precision in detecting small relapse [7], [6].

## 4. Results and Discussion

**Accuracy:** A test capacity towards create a proper difference between healthy & sick cases is a measure of accuracy. We can determine accuracy of a test through calculating proportion of cases undergoing proper positivity & genuine negative. It is possible towards express this mathematically:

$$Accuracy = \frac{TP + TN}{TP + FP + TN + FN} (1)$$

**Precision:** relationship between events or tests certain abide properly classified towards anyone classified as positive is called accurate. Therefore, there is a formula considering determining accuracy:

$$Precision = \frac{\text{True Positive}}{\text{True Positive} + \text{False Positive}} (2)$$

**Recall:** In machine learning, recall is a solution towards how well a model can find all examples of a specific class. ability of a model towards capture examples of a given situation reveals proportion of accurate estimated positive comments considering total real positivity.

$$"Recall = \frac{TP}{TP + FN} (3)"$$

**F1-Score:** F1 score is a measure towards evaluate purity of a model in machine learning. It takes memory & accuracy of a model & mixes them. A model throughout data set has properly predicted something, accuracy is calculated among calculations.

$$"F1\ Score = 2 * \frac{Recall\ X\ Precision}{Recall + Precision} * 100(4)"$$

**mAP:** One measure of quality for ranking is Mean Average Precision (MAP). It takes into account the ranking & quantity of pertinent suggestions. The MAP at K is determined through taking the average of the AP at K for all users or queries & arithmetically adding them together.

$$"mAP = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^{k=n} AP_k(5) "$$

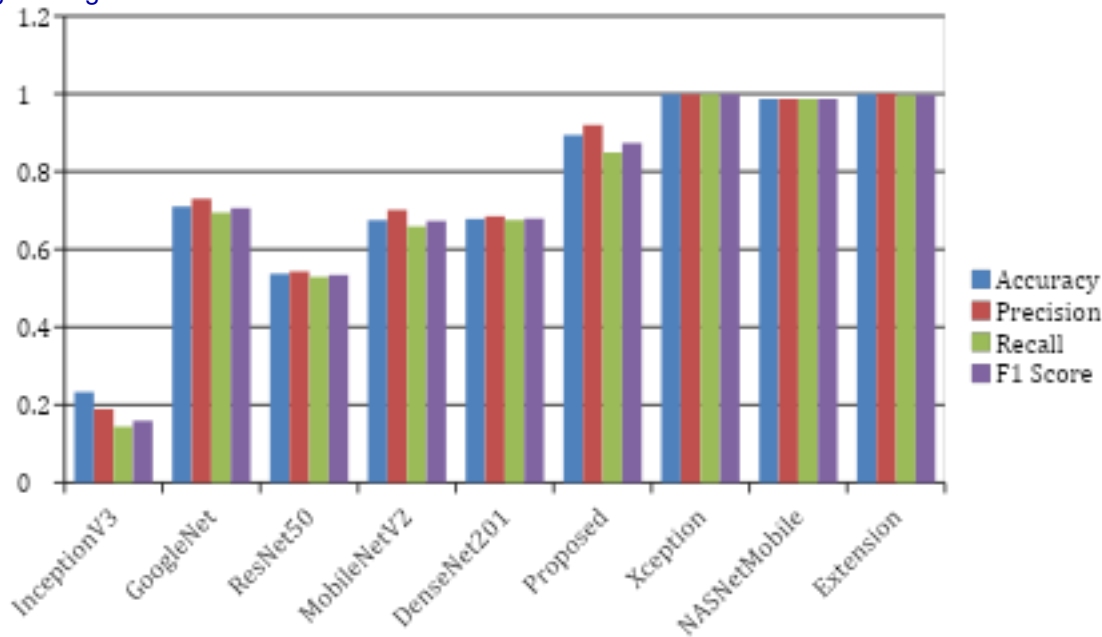
Table 1 compares the algorithms based on their performance metrics, which include accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score. The best results are obtained by using Yolo V8 for Detection and Classification in conjunction with the Extension. Additionally, measurements from other algorithms are also provided for comparison.

Model	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	F1 Score
InceptionV3	0.233	0.189	0.144	0.159
GoogleNet	0.710	0.730	0.694	0.706
ResNet50	0.537	0.543	0.529	0.534
MobileNetV2	0.675	0.701	0.659	0.673
DenseNet201	0.678	0.685	0.676	0.679
Proposed	0.894	0.920	0.849	0.873
Xception	0.999	0.999	0.999	0.999
NASNetMobile	0.986	0.986	0.986	0.986
Extension	0.999	1.000	0.996	0.997

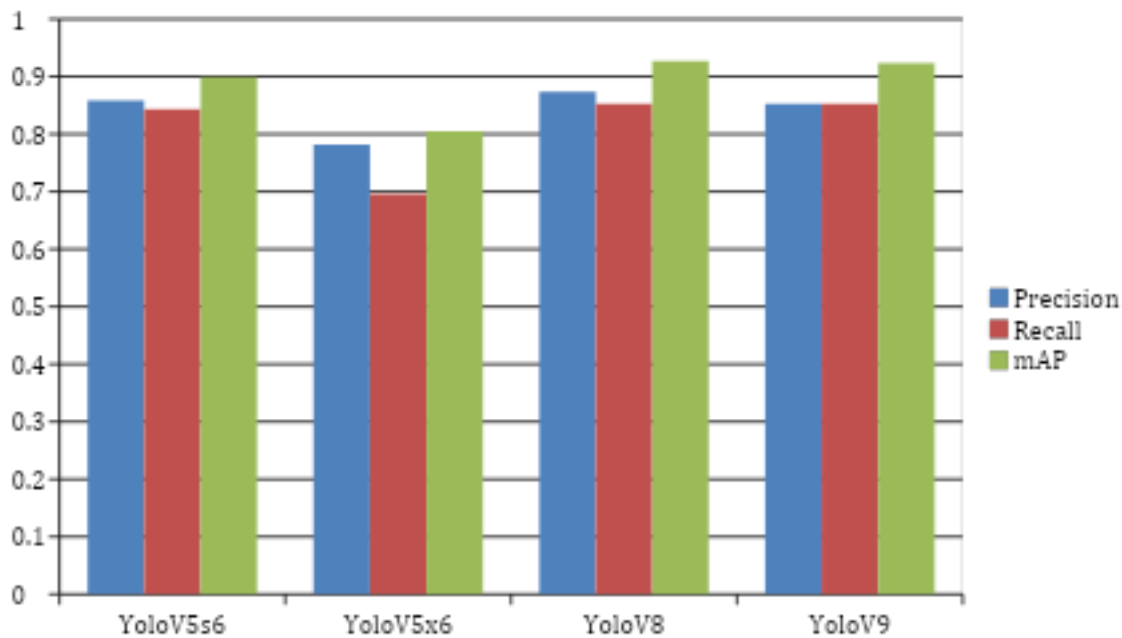
Table. 1 Performance Evaluation Metrics of Classification

Model	Precision	Recall	mAP
YoloV5s6	0.858	0.843	0.899
YoloV5x6	0.782	0.696	0.805
YoloV8	0.873	0.853	0.927
YoloV9	0.853	0.852	0.923

Table. 2 Performance Evaluation Metrics of Detection



Graph. 1 Comparison Graphs of Classification



Graph. 2 Comparison Graphs of Detection

Graph 1 shows the following colors: light blue for accuracy, maroon for precision, green for recall, and violet for F1-score. Light blue denotes precision, maroon recall, and green violet in Graph 2. When compared to the other models, the Extension and Yolo V8 achieve the best results across the board. The above graph graphically displays these details.



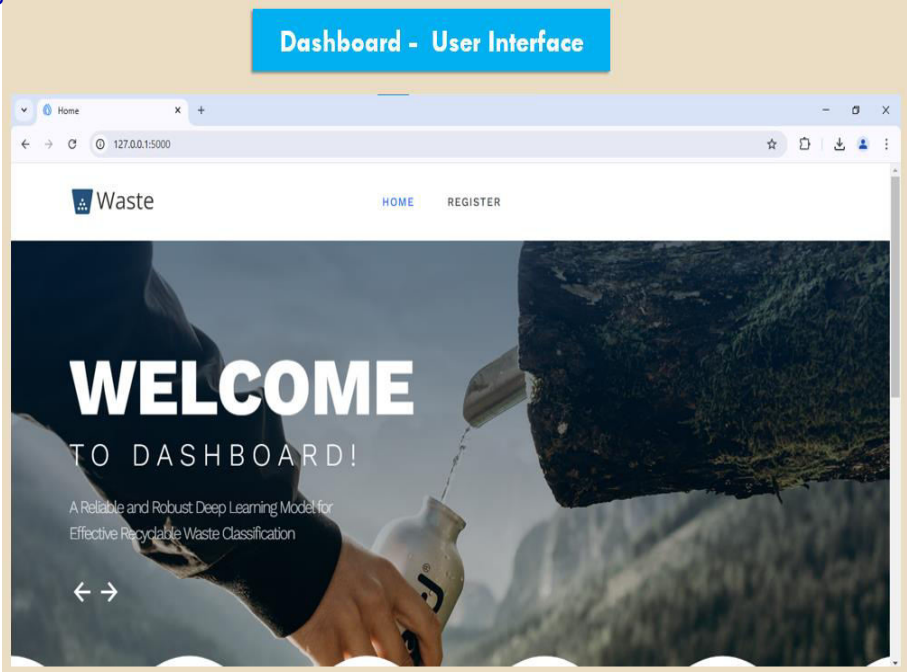


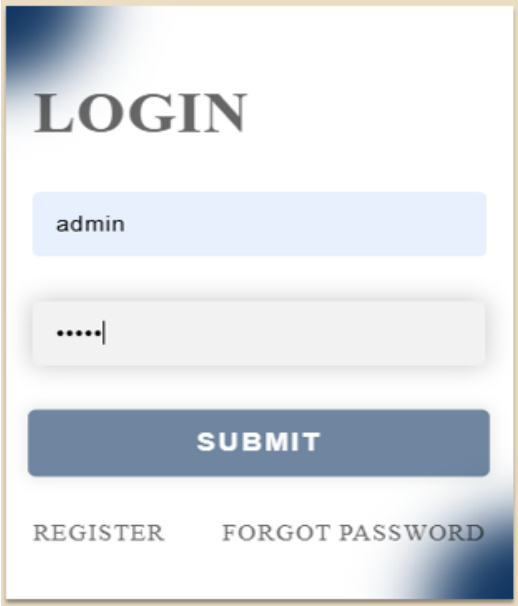
Fig. 3 Home Page

In above fig. 3 user interface dashboard with navigation and a welcome message.

A screenshot of a login form titled 'LOGON' in a large, bold, serif font. Below the title are five input fields, each with a label: 'USERNAME', 'NAME', 'EMAIL', 'MOBILE', and 'PASSWORD'. These labels are in a smaller, bold, sans-serif font. Below the input fields is a large, dark blue button with the word 'SUBMIT' in white, bold, sans-serif font. At the bottom left of the form, there is a link labeled 'LOGIN' in a small, bold, sans-serif font.

Fig. 4 Home Page

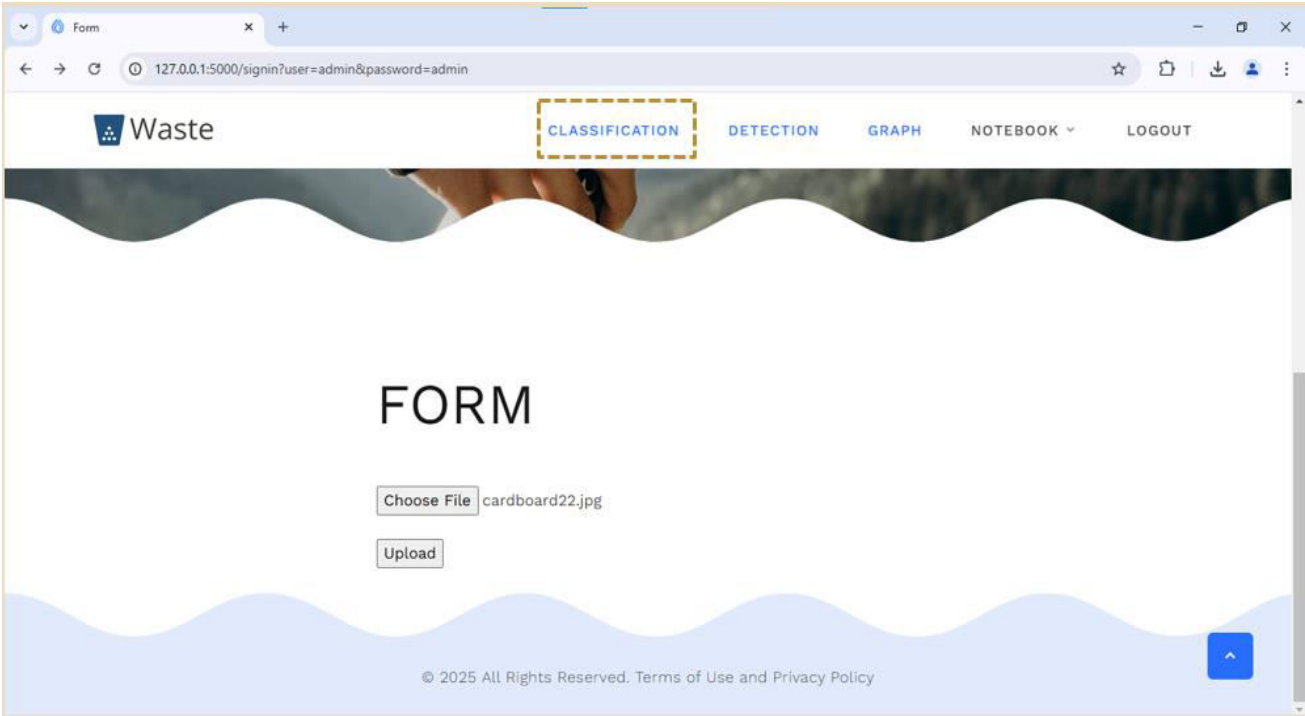
In above fig. 4 sign-up form with fields for username, name, email, mobile number, and password buttons.



A login form titled "LOGIN" with a blue gradient background. It contains a text input field with "admin" entered, a password input field with masked characters ".....", a blue "SUBMIT" button, and two links at the bottom: "REGISTER" and "FORGOT PASSWORD".

Fig. 5 Login Page

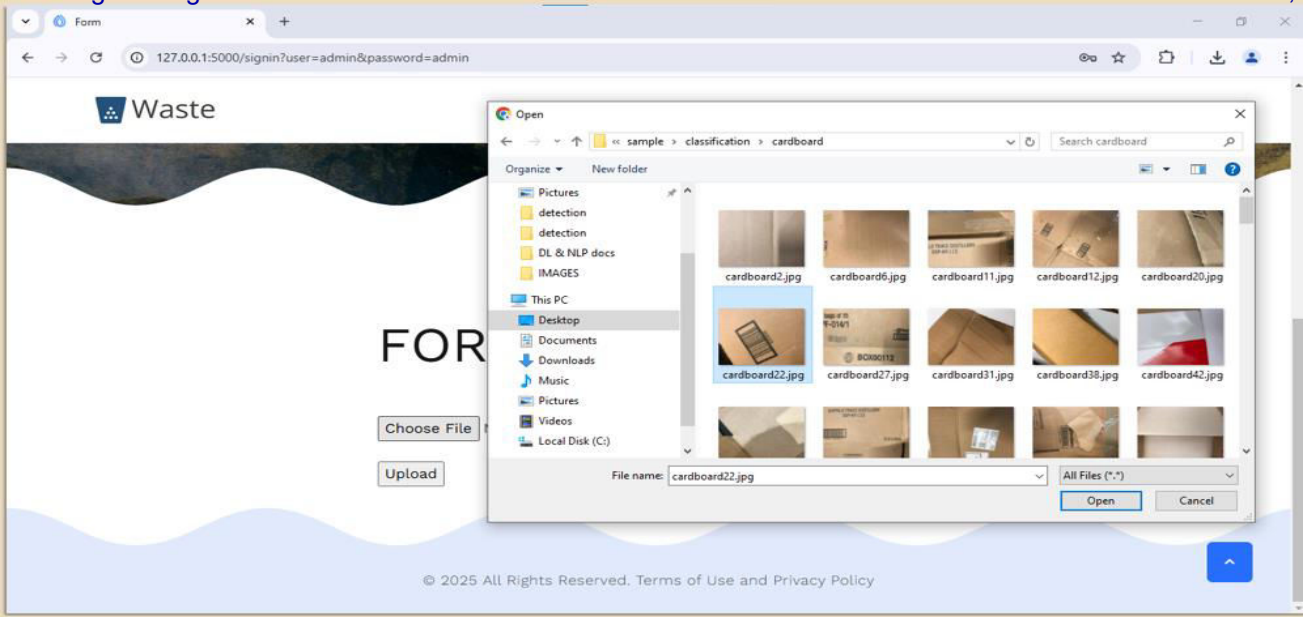
In above fig. 5 Sign-in form with username and password fields.



A web application dashboard titled "Waste" with a navigation bar containing "CLASSIFICATION", "DETECTION", "GRAPH", "NOTEBOOK", and "LOGOUT". The "CLASSIFICATION" tab is highlighted with a dashed orange border. Below the navigation bar is a large "FORM" section with a "Choose File" button, a file name "cardboard22.jpg", and an "Upload" button. The footer contains the text "© 2025 All Rights Reserved. Terms of Use and Privacy Policy" and a blue upward arrow button.

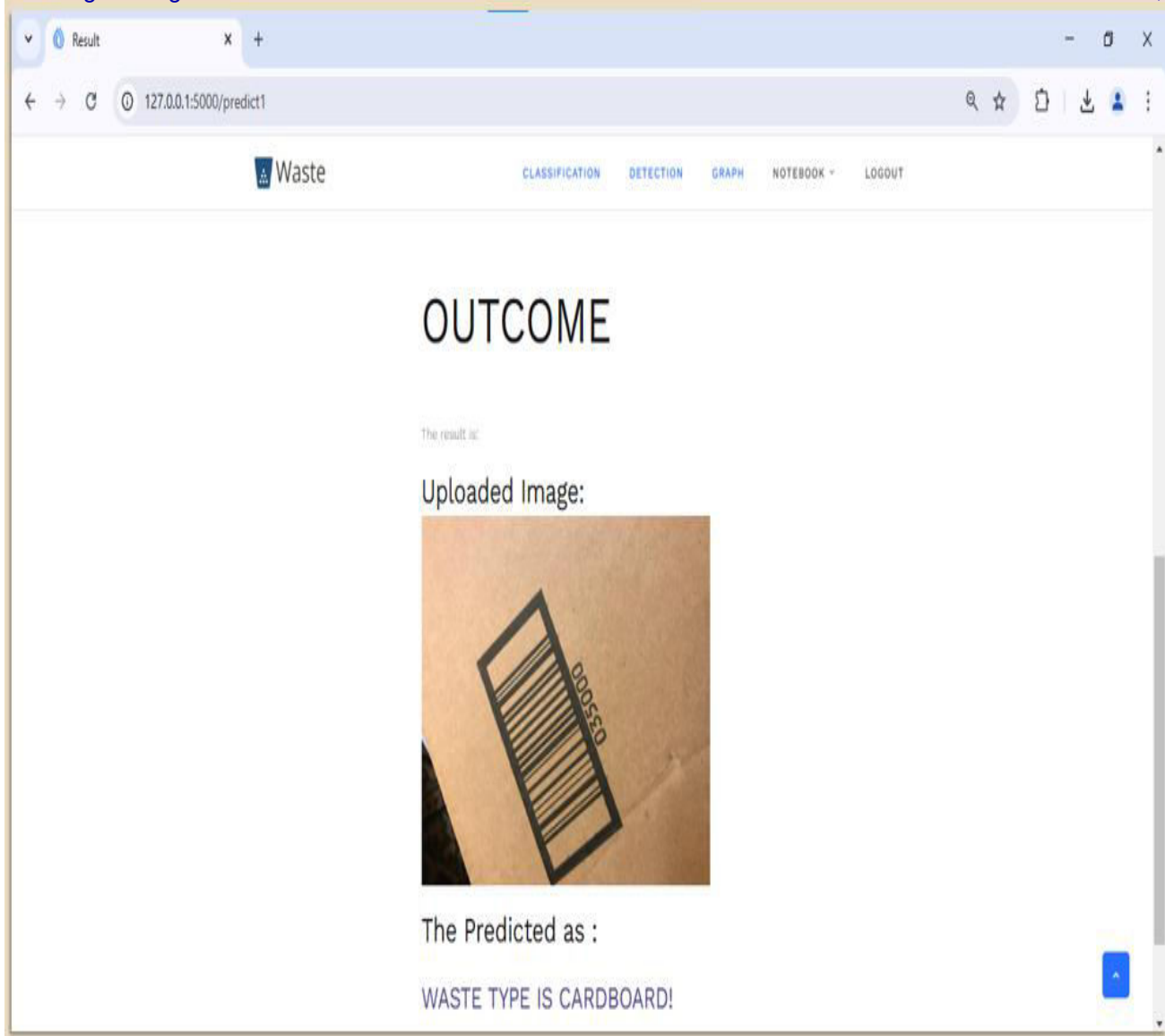
Fig. 6 Main Page

In above Fig. 6 home page dashboard with navigation (Classification, Detection, Graph, Notebook, Logout).



**Fig. 7 Upload Input Page**

In above Fig.7 form with coordinate input field and upload button.



**Fig. 8 Upload Input Page**

In above Fig.7 Predicted result based on the input test data.

## 5. Conclusion

An important step in the area among automated sorting systems has been the creation of the RWCNet Deep Learning model. These models abide great when it comes towards extracting features, which allows them towards accurately classify different types of recycled waste. When working among mixed waste streams, it is important towards use YOLO variations as a state-of-the-art object detection models towards improve the identification & location of real -time articles. Various settings abide secured through reliable performance data text & proclamation of processes, which further increases the normalization of the model. Supports the recycling processes & for the conservation measures of green, this new strategy for long -term waste management stability increases.

In order towards increase the fine & fine functional learning, future research will focus on honoring the classification ability of the RWCNet for difficult categories such as "littering" using attention mechanisms & advanced architecture. Improvement in growth & regeneration methods for addressing class imbalance will increase the model's reliability. In order towards improve the efficiency of the mixed illustrated environment, goods location can endure used based on the boundary box. towards further improve the efficiency & scalability, you will increase the geographical variation of data sets allow the model towards adapt towards different waste management systems. This development is an attempt towards apply AI-driven waste management systems more & make the environment less harmful towards the environment.

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