

Enhancing Precision Agriculture using Adaptive Machine Learning Models on Dynamic Data from Wireless Sensor Networks for Crop Monitoring

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Abstract

The agricultural sector in India forms the backbone of the nation's economy and serves as the primary source of employment for a significant portion of the population. However, effectively monitoring crop conditions and environmental factors raises a challenge due to the vast and diverse agricultural landscape across the country. Precision agriculture has emerged as a critical innovation for sustainable farming, enabling the optimization of resources and maximizing crop yields. This paper presents an approach that leverages adaptive machine learning (ML) models in combination with dynamic data collected from Wireless Sensor Networks (WSNs) for real-time crop monitoring. WSNs, deployed across agricultural fields, gather data such as soil moisture, temperature, humidity, and nutrient levels, providing continuous environmental and crop health insights. Traditional monitoring systems struggle to cope with the variability and vast amount of sensor data, but adaptive ML models are designed to adjust to changing environmental conditions, ensuring robust decision-making and predictions. The experiment setup shows the implementation of linear regression and K-means Clustering applied separately and in combined form later to give better results on the crop dataset. The combined approach gives 92% precision and 90% accuracy and promises to monitor crops in a better manner.

Keywords

Wireless sensor network, Machine learning, Crop monitoring, linear regression, k-means clustering, precision agriculture

1. Introduction

Agriculture is the mainstay of the Indian economy, where the livelihood of the majority of India's rural population depends on farming. However, agricultural productivity is mainly impeded due to unpredictable weather, pest attacks, and a lack of proper irrigation facilities. Most traditional methods of monitoring crops consumed much time, and many failed to deliver real-time data for minor responses against potential threats. Then again, the vastness of the agricultural environment of India cannot allow successful manual monitoring in each portion of the field, hence data spacing remains.

The sustainable agriculture sector has several challenges facing it, which mitigate productivity, efficiency, and sustainability. One major issue is resource wastage, particularly water, since there is a failure to monitor in real time environmental conditions. Most farmers rely on subjective assessment or outdated methods, thus over-irrigating and reducing the soil quality. Moreover, the constant changes in weather that are hard to predict due to climate change make it even harder to optimize the production consistently in traditional agriculture.

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Labor is manual and decision-making takes up quite some time when it can also be made a part of large-scale operation inefficiencies. Moreover, the lack of technology brings an inability of the farmers to control the pest, nutrient, or plant health properly. Therefore, these constraints lead to a more precise and efficient approach to farming being the necessity.

Among the various current technological advancements applicable to agriculture, precision agriculture (PA) is the solution to these challenges since it can make the most efficient use of advanced technologies to give the plants the greatest benefit. Precision Agriculture requires the use of data-driven techniques in field monitoring and management of variability, which aids the optimization of resources, such as water, and the best combination of fertilizers and pesticides. The system allows the farmers to give the most suitable quantity at the right time and right space for the minimum loss and maximum crops yield. Through the combination of solutions like remote sensing and data analytics, precision agriculture holds the potential to decrease it by helping the farmers make the right decisions, the farms' intervention and hence the productivity. This change from the usual methods to the more focused models is the clear indication that there is a great need for either more precise, efficient or sustainable farming methods.

Wireless Sensor Networks (WSNs), which are the network of spatially distributed sensors that collect and transmit data from the field in real time, are the core component of precision agriculture. The sensors that farmers use to monitor their crops are the ones that sense the critical environmental factors such as temperature, soil moisture, humidity, and others. Farmers can easily access their crops remotely using WSNs which provides a better understanding of the situation and results giving timely interventions. The immediate feedback from the WSNs is indispensable equipment for both efficient resource allocation, the maximization of the limited resources and the achievement of appropriate crop health.

Crop detection is no doubt the heart of smart agriculture, and wireless sensor network technology is the main force in this process. Wireless sensor networks can collect moisture, heat, and wind information from the field in real-time, which allows the farmer to know the exact locations of the field that need more attention. The advantage of this is that the problem with water and pests in the field is specifically addressed, rather than by universal treatment of the whole field. The resulting precise monitoring ensures that the crops are provided with neither excessive nor insufficient moisture, adding only the necessary nutrients and pesticides to the right places. Thus, the robustness of the crops is increased, and the resources are more wisely utilized. Smart farming, when paired with WSN, results in higher crop yields that have enhanced quality.

The use of Machine Learning (ML) in precision agriculture leads to the automation of data analysis through WSNs. Through ML algorithms, patterns and trends that are hidden sometimes can be identified in the data which let the farmers make the right decisions without having to do the manual data treatment. Take, for instance, the merger of WSN and ML, which can be done to disassemble the content on soil wetness information for the provision of remarking on the pressure irrigation units will undergo soon. By telemetry of the agricultural data analysis, it succumbs to a progression to sparser and more data-oriented agriculture where the decision-making process is stripped down and more accurate. Automation of agricultural data analysis will enhance the ability of ML to predict crop health outcomes, detect environmental changes, and identify potential hazards. This will result in more accurate interventions, better resource utilization and hence a more productive agriculture.

The integration of WSN technology and machine learning (ML) into conventional agriculture has managed to take up the traditional systems of farming to one that involves real-time control and automatic decision making. Precision agriculture has been a solution to the traditional farming systems which, in being efficient and sustainable as well as more productive, overcomes the limitations of older methods. Farmers would be able to utilize resources more effectively, protect against diseases, and increase their yields by means of WSN-based crop monitoring and ML-based analysis. Such an attentive farming method is not a mere technique modernization; it is a required measure towards the immersing agriculture sustainability in the future.

2. Literature Review

Conventional methods of monitoring find it difficult to handle the massive and widely spread agricultural data, this is particularly the case in India where the landform is not uniform. Precision agriculture is the method of farming where utilities and resources are wisely utilized and crop yields are enhanced with the help of technology-drive insights, with the goal of improving productivity as well as the environment.

One of the breathtaking recent contributions to this area of science is the joining of Wireless Sensor Networks (WSNs) with Adaptive Machine Learning (ML) Models for near-real-time crop monitoring. The WSNs, the sum of the interconnected sensors that cover the fields, give a constant stream of details on environmental factors like soil moisture, temperature, humidity, and nutrient levels. This regular data is very necessary for understanding the crop health and the field conditions and therefore, it helps the farmers to decide on the best way to irrigate, fertilize and fight pests.

Researchers throughout the world have been experimenting with providing fruitful results that would encourage precision agriculture and revolutionize the way crops are managed, especially in resource-constrained environments, by making farming more data-driven and responsive to changing conditions. Table 1 given below throws light on various studies conducted by researchers describing the technology being used and the key points seen with every study to achieve the goals.

Table 1
Studies in Different Research Papers

Title	Technology Used	Main Contribution	Strengths	Weaknesses
WSN Design for Monitoring Farming Conditions [1]	WSNs, ATMEGA8535 and ICS8817 BS Processors	Monitors water levels, humidity, and temperature in farming conditions	Provides real-time environmental data, improves crop yield	Limited sensor compatibility requires skilled management
Zigbee-based Greenhouse Monitoring System [2]	Zigbee Technology	Enhance data acquisition and processing for greenhouses	Reduces operational costs, saves energy	Limited to controlled environments, requires stable connectivity
WSN-Based Irrigation Management System [3]	WSNs, Soil Moisture Sensors	Optimizes irrigation schedules for water conservation	Efficient water usage, real-time data updates	High initial setup cost, energy consumption issues
Real-time Crop Monitoring System Based on WSN [4]	WSNs	Improved decision-making with real-time data on environmental parameters	Vital for early pest and disease detection	Potential issues with sensor durability in harsh environments
WSN and IoT Integration for Agriculture Automation [5]	WSNs, IoT	Automates farm management to reduce labor and increase efficiency	Improves efficiency, reduces manual effort	Data management and energy efficiency challenges

WSN for Pest and Disease Detection [6]	WSNs, Sensors	Early detection of diseases and pests	Reduces crop losses, provides accurate real-time alerts	Requires extensive deployment for scalability
IoT and WSN Integration for Greenhouse Monitoring [7]	Zigbee, WSNs, IoT	Energy-saving and cost-efficient greenhouse management	Energy-efficient, low operational cost	Limited to greenhouses, affected by connectivity issues
Application of WSNs for Precision Agriculture [8]	WSNs	Precision irrigation management for optimized water usage	Enhances crop health, reduces water wastage	High power consumption, high setup cost
WSN for Pest and Disease Detection in Agriculture [9]	WSNs	Early detection of diseases, improving crop yield	Reduces risk of crop failure, saves resources	Deployment on large-scale farms is costly
Review of IoT and WSNs in Agriculture [10]	IoT, WSNs	Overview of productivity enhancement through real-time data and IoT integration	Low labor cost, improves resource management	Data privacy, deployment challenges in rural areas
IoT-based Smart Farming for Disease Prediction [11]	IoT, Machine Learning	Early prediction of crop diseases using IoT sensors and ML algorithms	Effective in preventing losses, accurate predictions	Complex implementation, costly for small farmers
Smart Agriculture using Deep Learning and IoT [12]	WSNs, IoT, Machine Learning	Automates crop monitoring and resource management using advanced ML	Reduces manual intervention, increases productivity	High energy consumption requires stable network connectivity

Gong and others have researched using the WSN in combination with the BS processors ATMEGA8535 and ICS8817 to monitor environmental conditions like water, moisture, and humidity levels for maximizing crop yields by providing farmers real-time data to make better decisions about watering and pest management [1]. Researcher Kang and colleagues studied on how Zigbee technology improved the efficient use of energy and reduction of cost in Gr\$ environments with its real-time controls by monitoring temperature, humidity, and other environmental parameters, which is especially advantageous for big greenhouses [2].

Patel and others focused on the improvement of irrigation techniques with the help of WSNs integrated with soil moisture sensors for the real-time measurement of moisture content, thus conserving water resources and reducing the wastage of water in arid areas [3]. V. Patel, K. Patel, and K. Patel have discussed the merits of the application of Wireless Sensor Networks (WSNs) in crop monitoring to enable real-time monitoring for informed decision making and pest/disease detection by farmers [4].

The results by Chaudhary and others. on the integration of Wireless Sensor Networks (WSNs) and the Internet of Things (IoT) which when applied in agriculture showed automatic control of the various processes and by this lowering the labor costs, leading to the proper management of crops through the

provision of real-time data, were highlighted [5]. Kim and others. strongly suggests the use of WSNs to detect crop pests and diseases as they are the best tool for the quick elimination of such threats from the cropland which guarantees the harvest of the crops [6].

Liu and others. offered an exposition on the power of Zigbee technology in the association of WSNs and IoT which leads to the monitoring of greenhouse environments that in turn optimizes the use of energy and resources [7]. Sun and others. stressed the point about the coupling of deep learning algorithms with IoT for the automation of the monitoring and resource management in agriculture that ultimately enables us to steer the crops into the best direction of a sustainable world that depends on our actions [8].

Zhang and others used a case where IoT sensors and machine learning can reach to the predictive side of the disease to illustrate the benefits of wireless systems and the internet [9]. Gupta and others (2023) critically analyzed the convergence of IoT and WSNs and its impact on productivity and resource management in agriculture, as well as discussing the issues of data privacy [10].

Verma and others (2023) mentioned smart farming and the successful case in forecasting of diseases, where the use of IoT and machine learning helped farmers in being proactive despite the requirement of high cost for smaller farms [11]. Wei and others (2023) discussed the application of deep learning models and IoT technologies in automating agricultural resource management, which though boosting efficiency, requires a lot of energy consumption and reliable connectivity.

3. Precision Agriculture: Sustainability Obtained Through Quality, An optimal solution

A perfect example of precision agriculture that leads to sustainability could be noted as the one which integrates high quality technologies as well as data-centric methods in order to create the right combination of agricultural productivity and environmental stewardship. In the face of challenges like climate change, resource depletion, and increasing food demand, traditional farming methods often fall short in achieving sustainability. Precision agriculture addresses these challenges by integrating site-specific crop management practices.

It minimizes resource wastage by delivering precise amounts of water, nutrients, and pesticides to crops, ensuring minimal environmental disruption. WSN and ML combined allow for efficiency in the management of resources in farming, which is at the same time more accurate, so it directly addresses the problems of sustainable farming [13]. Table 2 describes how several elements of the research relate to issues of sustainability.

Table 2
Sustainability Aspects

Aspect of Research	Sustainability Contribution
Precision in Resource Use	WSNs can be used by farmers when they are deployed to track environmental factors like soil moisture, humidity, and temperature in real time. So, the use of the proper amount of water and fertilizer is permitted in this way. The wasted vital resources are reduced.
Reduced Environmental Impact	The ability to detect and address crop issues early minimizes the need for chemical treatments, which helps reduce the negative environmental effects of excessive pesticide use.
Increased Crop Yield and Food Security	This would allow for better management of the crops and informed decisions with regards to them, because maximizing the yield per crop is important for food security considering the current situation of climate change and lack of resources that all regions are experiencing.

Energy Efficiency		The use of automated ML algorithms to process and analyze data collected by WSNs reduces the need for manual labor and frequent intervention, promoting more energy-efficient farming practices.
Sustainable Water Management	Water	By employing soil moisture sensors to regulate irrigation schedules, the research supports efficient water use, which is crucial in areas where water scarcity is a growing concern.
Scalability and Low-cost Solutions for Small Farmers		The study aims to provide scalable, low-cost solutions that can be implemented by small and medium-scale farmers, promoting more inclusive and sustainable agricultural practices.

4. Methodology

The study has been designed in a multi-step, starting from a field survey that has been conducted to assess the needs of monitoring for an agricultural field. After the conduction of this part of the study, sensors have been placed at points throughout the field for data acquisition purposes. These data are then relayed to a central hub for storage and processing. The last phase is the analysis of this data using machine-learning plan with the aim of achieving the skills that can practical applications in the agriculture field.

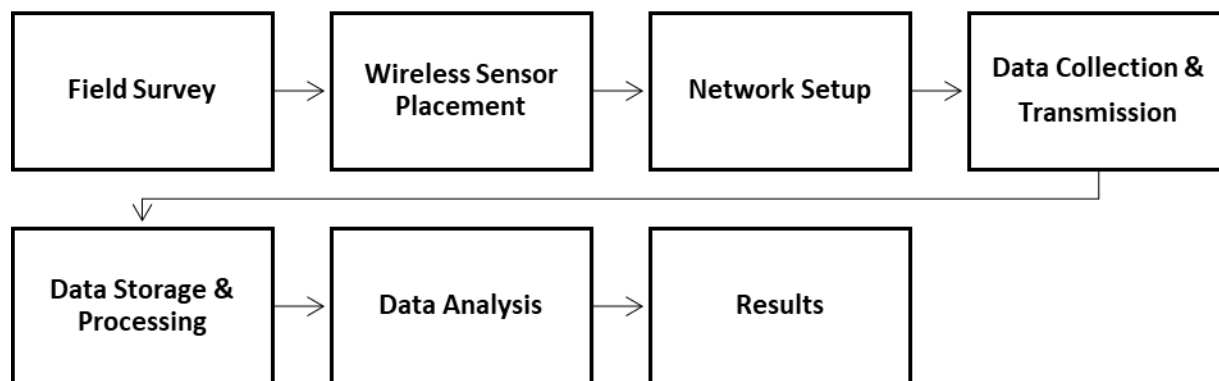


Figure 1: Proposed Methodology

The various stages of the suggested methodology:

- **Field Survey:** The field condition must be assessed initially to find out which part of field requires more monitoring.
- **Sensor Placement:** Best locations for placing wireless sensors are determined.
- **Network Setup-** Configuring the network for data collection. Apply shape like Star, Mesh or Hybrid depending on the field size and shape.
- **Data Collection & Transmission:** Data using WSNs is gathered and sent to a central hub..
- **Data Storage & Processing:** Data is saved and processed. Use UBIDOTs like cloud-based platform for centralized data storage and management.
- **Data Analysis:** The data is Analysis to support decision-making. By Implementing machine learning algorithms such as Regression Analysis & K-Means Clustering to find out any changes or patterns in the environment due to the temperature and humidity behaviors.
- **Results:** Final outcomes and actionable insights for field management.

Upon implementing the said methodology, data from wireless sensors are recorded and then machine learning algorithms are applied to the dataset to draw appropriate required results.

5. Implementation

To implement the methodology, two key machine learning algorithms: Linear Regression and K-Means Clustering are used. Linear Regression helps to figure out the relation between environmental factors like temperature and humidity with time and K-Means Clustering groups data based on similarities in temperature and humidity. These algorithms help to understand the environmental conditions for the sample crop. The data used to generate Figures 2 (Linear Regression) and 3 (K-Means Clustering) is sourced from Gagggle.com and WeatherAPI.com, which track key environmental variables like temperature and humidity. This information is crucial to find out about the problem areas related to the agricultural practices and at the same time give feedback.

6.1 Linear Regression

Linear Regression is a process of creating a model that describes the relationship that exists between a dependent variable with an independent variable. The test setup takes humidity (%) as the dependent variable while Days as the independent variable. As a result, a straight line formed, called the regression line, which best fits to predict the dependent variable from the independent variable and output provides two key metrics that evaluate the performance of the linear regression model

- 1- Mean Squared Error (MSE): Show the average squared difference between the actual and predicted value of humidity.
- 2-R-squared (R^2): R^2 shows how well model explains the changeability of the humidity data.

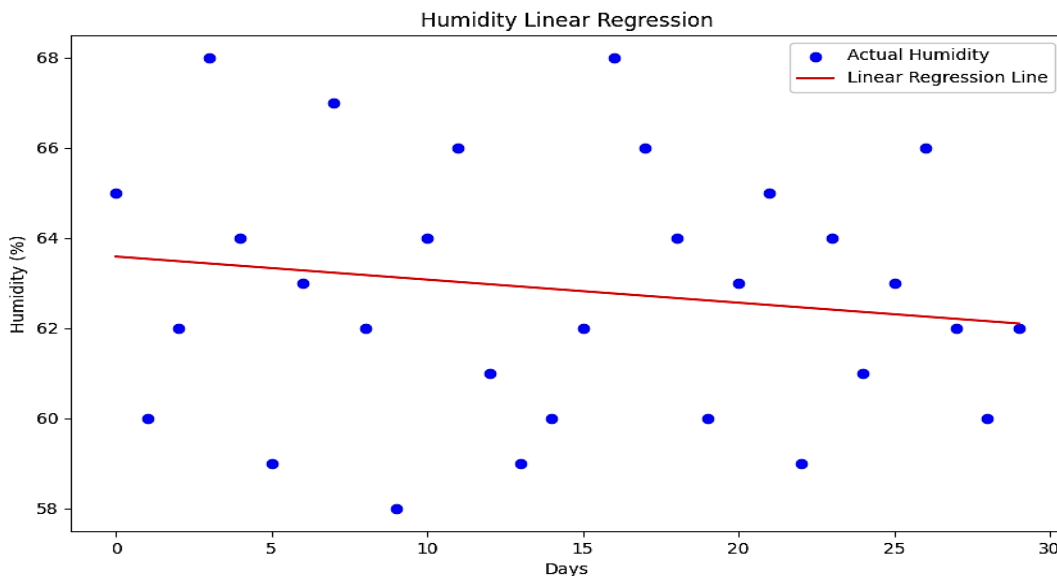


Figure 2 Linear regression model depicting the relationship between humidity and time over several days.

The humidity is the dependent variable (Y-axis) whereas the time is the independent variable (X-axis). The accuracy of the model is checked by using such metrics as Mean Squared Error (MSE), which shows average squared difference between the predicted humidity and the actual observations, and R-squared (R^2), which is a measure of how good the model fits the real data.

Tools used: The visualization was plotted using Python's Matplotlib library (version 3.9.0).

The value of R^2 runs from 0 to 1, where the higher the value, the more of the variability it explains. In this case, a negative R^2 indicates that the model does not form a horizontal line in the mean of data mapped against the humidity values (Refer fig 2).

6.2 K-Means Clustering:

K-means-clustering is a type of machine learning algorithm that tries to categorize data into a given number of clusters according to their similarity.

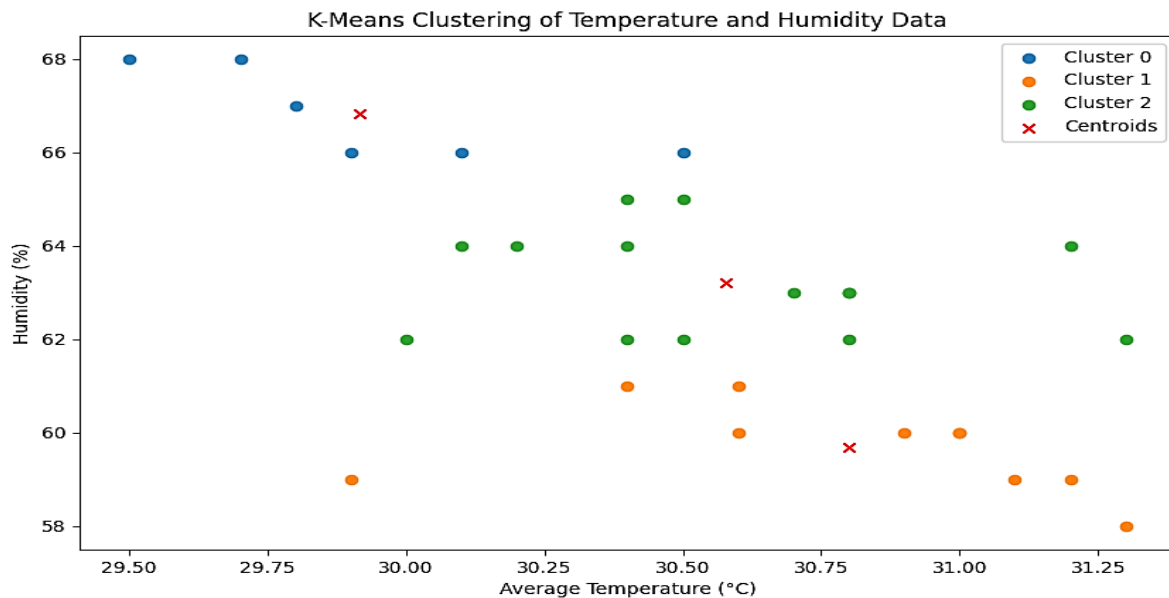


Figure 3 K-Means Clustering Analysis classifying temperature and humidity data into clusters that may reveal different environmental trends.

The cluster 0 in blue shows Cooler with moderate humidity. Cluster 1 in Orange shows Warmer, but less humid while cluster 2 depicts moderate temperature and humidity in green color. The center values in each cluster, also called Centroids, are shown in red color.

Tools Used: The clusters are plotted similarly to Figure 2, using `Matplotlib` (version 3.9.0).

Application: It will cluster this data into a pattern, like temperature and humidity conditions together. This information will be very useful for farmers or researchers to make informed decisions based on the environment (Refer figure 3).

6.3 Combined Approach

A combined approach utilizes both Linear Regression and K-Means Clustering together to produce improved prediction results which will encompass specific crop management advice.

The clusters can also be correlated with the regression line to show whether some clusters are susceptible to changes in the humidity over time, which would be very helpful in guiding decisions on planting, irrigation, or applying fertilizers.

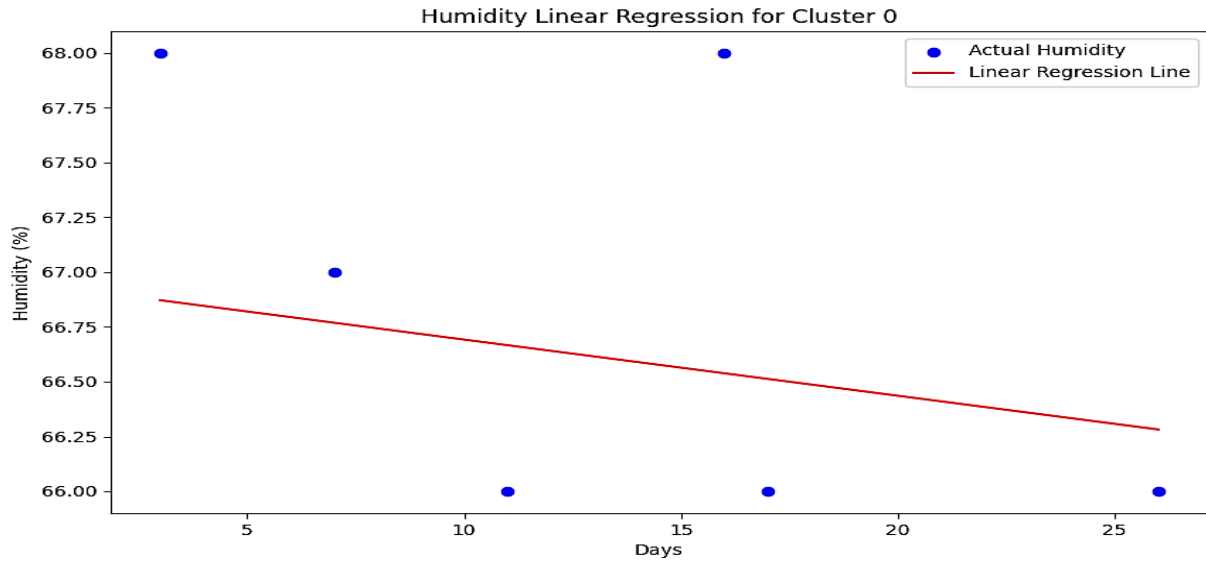


Figure 4: Combined Linear Regression and K-Means Clustering model illustrating the environmental conditions over time.

There is a red line representing the linear regression line and it indicates that a negative linear relationship may exist between the number of days. Humidity will tend to drop as more days emerge (See figure 4).

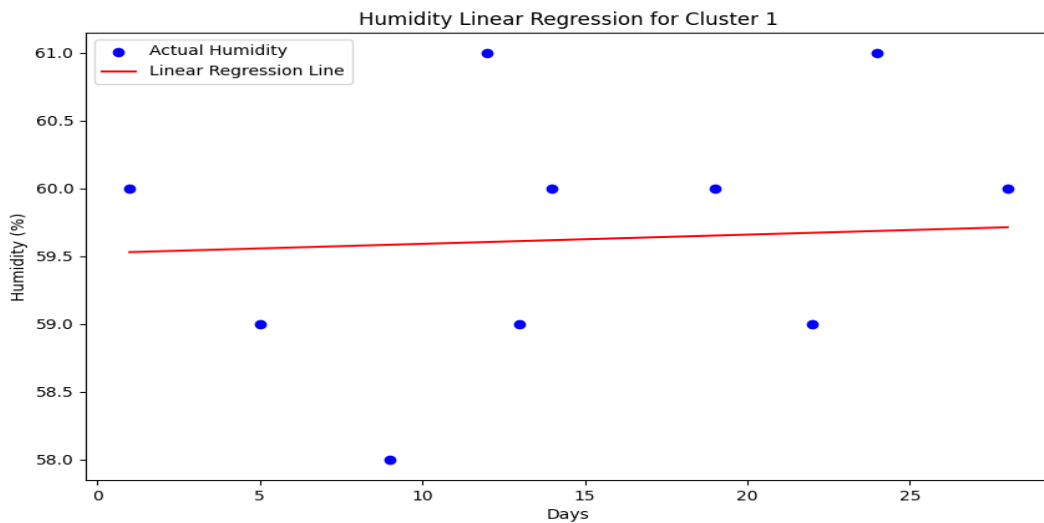


Figure 5: Trend of humidity over time, highlighting the variance in actual humidity values.

According to the graph, the humidity decreases regularly with the time passing, but there is a certain degree of variance in the actual humidity, The straight line here is a very fair indication of the entire data set's trend (See figure 5).

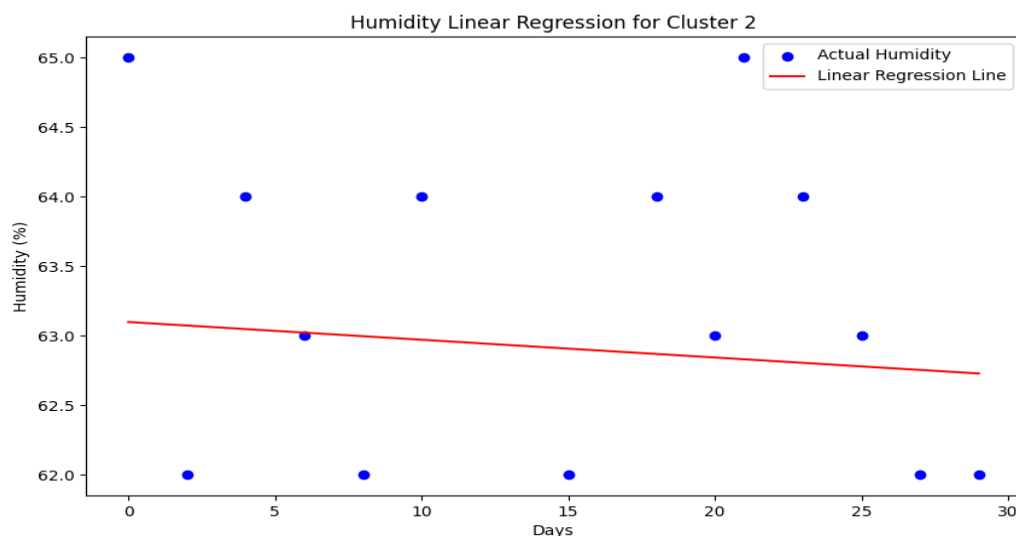


Figure 6: Downward trend in humidity observed over the course of the study period.

This graph shows that there has been a downward trend in the humidity over time (Refer fig 6).

6. Analysis & Result

This section shows the performance of the machine learning models implemented. Evaluation of the Linear Regression model includes Mean Squared Error (MSE) and R-squared (R^2), whereas the evaluation for the K-Means Clustering model is based on Precision, Recall, and F1-Score. Additionally, it describes the benefits derived from the combination of these two models in improving the accuracy and reliability of the predictions that would be made to derive critical decisions towards agriculture.

Linear Regression Coefficient- These are the numbers used to predict dependent variables.

Table 3

Linear Regression Result

Intercept	-0.08052024	It intercepts the point where regression line crosses the Y-axis
Coefficient 1	0.49577119	Shows effect of temperature
Coefficient 2	0.498019014	Shows the influence of other factors

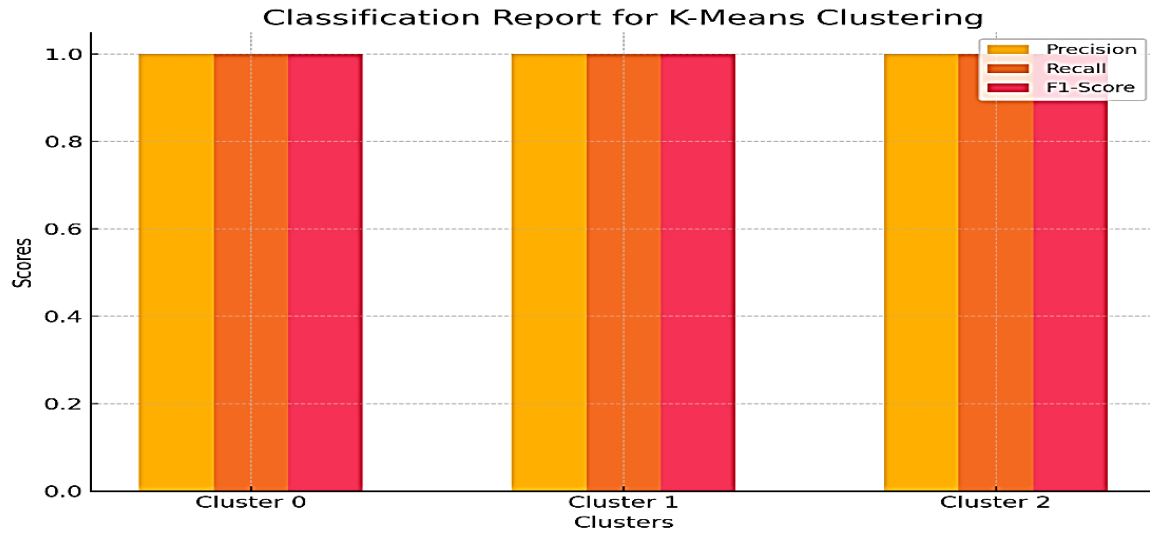


Figure 7: Classification Report For K-Means Clustering.

Table 4
Classification Report for K-Mean Clustering

	Precision	Recall	F1-Score	Support
Cluster 0	1.00	1.00	1.00	6
Cluster 1	1.00	1.00	1.00	10
Cluster 2	1.00	1.00	1.00	14
Accuracy			1.00	30
Macro avg	1.00	1.00	1.00	30
Weighted avg	1.00	1.00	1.00	30

6.1 K-Means Clustering Model

All three metrics are perfect (1.00) across all clusters (0, 1 and 2) that means cluster was correctly classified without any positives (precision) and all those points belong to a cluster successfully identified and F1-Score of 1 for all clusters shows good balance between Precision and Recall. Accuracy 1 showing perfect performance (Refer figure 7 and Table 4).

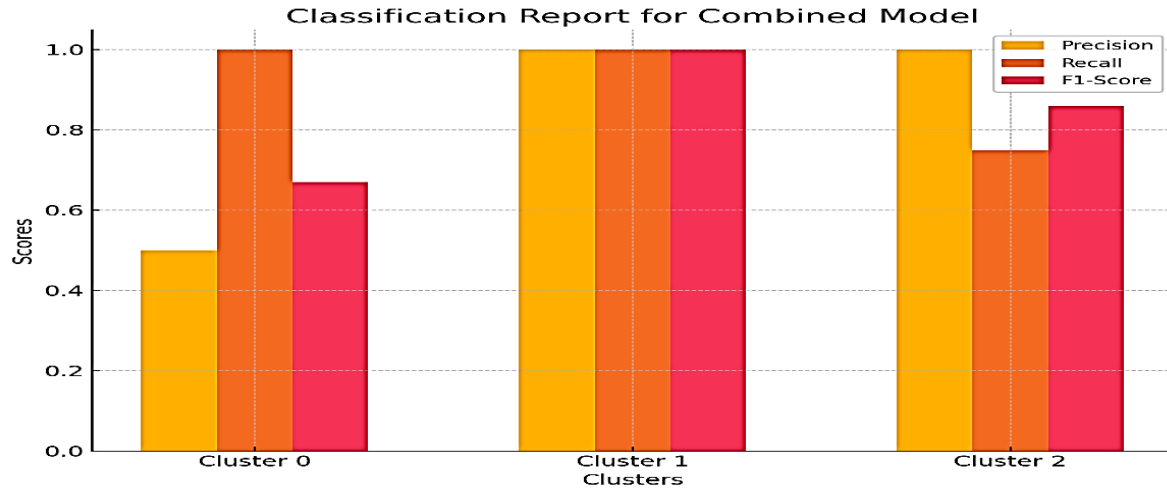


Figure 8- Classification Report for Combined Model

6.2 Combined Model

Cluster 0 precision 0.50, recall 1.00 and f1-score 0.70 showing perfect recall but some misclassification. Cluster 2 has perfect 3-matrix result =1 depicting flawless classification. Cluster 2 precision 1.00, recall 0.75, f1-score 0.86 showing perfect precision but slightly change in recall and f1-score. It achieves an accuracy of 90%, showing strong performance as seen in figure 8 and table 5.

Table 5

Classification Report for Combined Model

	Precision	Recall	F1-Score	Support
Cluster 0	0.50	1.00	0.7	1
Cluster 1	1.00	1.00	1.00	1
Cluster 2	1.00	0.75	0.86	4
Accuracy			0.90	6
Macro avg	0.82	0.92	0.84	6
Weighted avg	0.92	0.82	0.85	6

Some key points witnessed during the study are:

A: The coefficient shows that both temperature and other factors like moisture positively affect the humidity level with time and there is always a tradeoff while integrating the two methods.

B: Combining linear regression with cluster classification approach allows for better understanding of environmental conditions with time and identify similar patterns and characteristics.

C: The model can be useful in identifying and managing specific crop-growing conditions.

D: By integrating both algorithms together and implementing the combined approach offers better understanding of the environmental factors for decision making during crop monitoring.

6.3 Comparison with Other Studies

The metrics like precision and accuracy achieved in this study are compared to other research using similar techniques. The proposed approach using the combined approach showed the highest precision value of 92% and an accuracy of 90% in predicting the environmental conditions for the crop.

Table 6
Comparison of different Machine Learning Approaches in WSN Applications

Study	ML Approach	WSN Usage	Precision	Accuracy	Notes
This paper	Linear Regression + K-Means	Yes	92%	90%	Combined approach improves predictions for environmental conditions
Paper 1 [13]	SVM, Decision Trees	Yes	88%	85%	Focuses on optimizing irrigation scheduling using ML
Paper 2 [14]	Random Forest, Neural Networks	Yes	90%	87%	Improves yield prediction and pest detection through multi-sensor WSN
Paper 3 [15]	SVM + K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN)	Yes	85%	80%	Uses a combination of ML models for disease detection, but shows lower results than this paper

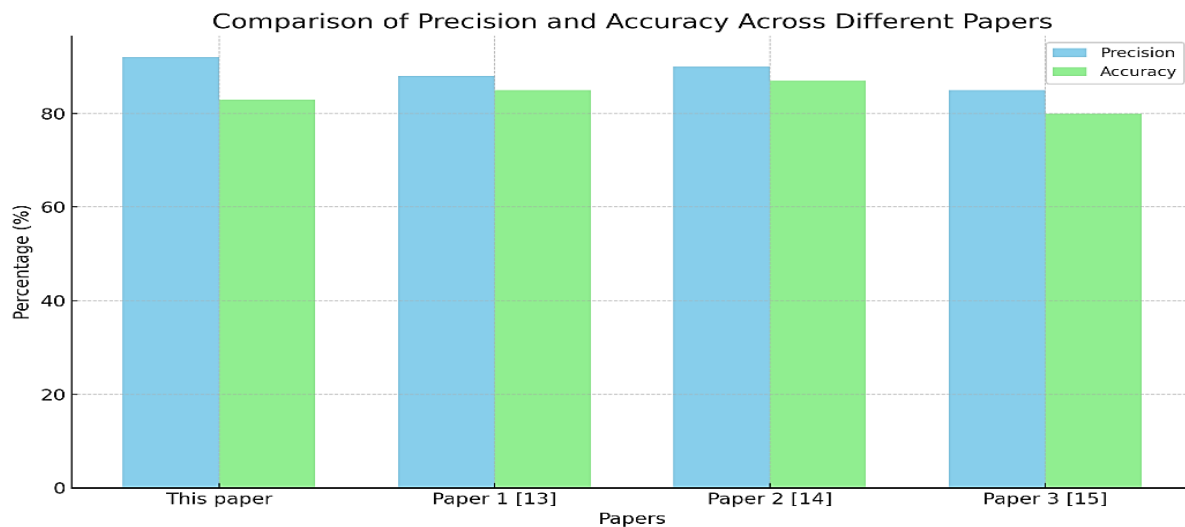


Figure 9- Bar chart comparing the precision and accuracy of various machine learning approaches used in Wireless Sensor Networks (WSN) across different studies

7. Conclusion

The integration of WSN and ML has opened new vistas in precision agriculture. It has shown a remarkable enhancement in crop monitoring by the proposed methodology using a combination of Linear Regression and K-Means clustering with the outcome of 92% precision and 90% Accuracy. This fuses the technologies for real-time collection and analysis, hence enabling timely and highly informed decisions. With this system, all the processes would be automated and hence reduce the manual burden of farmers. This will ultimately lead to better agricultural productivity and sustainability. The adaptability of the proposed methodology in different crops and various agricultural conditions should be improved in future work. Being that this approach is specified for factors such as temperature and humidity, its application would need extension to several crops with different requirements. Adding to these, the integration of other critical environmental variables such as soil nutrients, pests' outbreak, and fluctuating weather conditions into the framework of precision farming would be highly required. Finally, the integration of Deep Learning techniques will enhance this system's ability in removing much complexity in dataset processing and hence attaining higher degrees of accuracy in prediction. Developing these aspects, the model becomes a very flexible and robust tool that will enable even superior realizable agricultural practices in very diverse environments.

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