Crop Monitoring and Smart Farming Through Mobile App

Krishnamoorthy M[1], Sakthisanjay K[2], P. Nagajothi[3], Sanjai G[4]

[1,2,4]Students, Computer Science and Engineering (CSE), Sethu Institute of Technology (Anna University) Madurai, India.

[3]Assistant Professor, Computer Science and Engineering (CSE), Sethu Institute of Technology (Anna University) Madurai, India.

E-mail: [1]krishnamoorthy5603@gmail.com, [2]sakthisanjay292002@gmail.com, [3]nagajothinj@sethu.ac.in, [4]sanjai171020@gmail.com

Abstract

This study presents the development and implementation of a mobile application aimed at revolutionizing crop monitoring and smart farming practices. The application integrates advanced technologies such as remote sensing and the Internet of Things (IoT) and provides real-time data analysis and decision-making support for farmers. By leveraging the ubiquity and accessibility of mobile devices, this solution enables farmers to remotely monitor crop health, soil conditions, and environmental parameters. Through intuitive interfaces and data visualization tools, the application empowers farmers to make informed decisions, optimize resource utilization, and enhance productivity in agricultural operations. This research highlights the potential of mobile technology to drive innovation and sustainability in modern farming practices.

Keywords: Real Time Monitoring, Mobile Application, Agricultural Innovation.

1. Introduction

In recent years, agriculture has changed significantly with the advent of digital technology [1]. Among these advancements, mobile applications have emerged as powerful tools for revolutionizing traditional farming practices [2]. With the increasing availability and affordability of smartphones, coupled with the expansion of mobile networks, farmers now

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have unprecedented access to information and decision-making support right at their fingertips. This introduction sets the stage for exploring the innovative realm of crop monitoring and smart farming facilitated by mobile applications. The title of this paper, "Crop Monitoring and Smart Farming through Mobile Application," encapsulates the essence of leveraging mobile technology to enhance agricultural productivity, efficiency, and sustainability. In this introduction, we delve into the motivations behind the development of such applications, the challenges faced by modern farmers, and the potential impact of integrating mobile solutions into farming practices. Historically, agriculture has been heavily reliant on manual labor, traditional techniques, and subjective decision-making processes. However, the growing demand for food security, coupled with environmental concerns and the need for resource optimization, has prompted a paradigm shift towards precision agriculture and smart farming methodologies. These approaches emphasize the use of data-driven insights, automation, and real-time monitoring to optimize crop yields, minimize inputs, and mitigate risks. The widespread adoption of mobile technology presents a unique opportunity to democratize access to agricultural information and empower farmers of all scales with tools for informed decision-making [4-7]. Mobile applications designed for crop monitoring and smart farming offer functionalities ranging from remote sensing and data analytics to weather forecasting and market intelligence. By harnessing the power of smartphones and leveraging built-in sensors and connectivity features, these applications enable farmers to monitor crop health, track environmental conditions, and manage resources more effectively. Moreover, mobile applications for crop monitoring and smart farming are not only beneficial to individual farmers but also contribute to larger agricultural ecosystems. They facilitate data sharing, collaboration, and knowledge exchange among stakeholders such as agricultural extension services, researchers, and policymakers. This interconnectedness fosters innovation, promotes best practices dissemination, and ultimately leads to more resilient and sustainable agricultural systems. In the subsequent sections of this research, we will explore in-depth the functionalities, capabilities, and impacts of mobile applications in crop monitoring and smart farming. By examining case studies, discussing challenges, and highlighting future directions, we aim to provide insights into how mobile technology can drive positive change in agriculture and contribute to global food security and environmental sustainability [8-10].

1.1 Objectives

The objective of this study is to explore the role and effectiveness of mobile applications in facilitating crop monitoring and smart farming practices. Specifically, the study aims to evaluate the functionalities and features of existing mobile applications designed for crop monitoring and smart farming. Assess the impact of mobile applications on agricultural productivity, resource utilization, and environmental sustainability.

By addressing these objectives, this study seeks to provide valuable insights and practical recommendations for stakeholders involved in agricultural development, technology innovation, and sustainable farming practices.

2. Proposed Design

- **System Architecture:** The crop monitoring and smart farming comprises multiple modules including sensor interfacing, data processing, alert generation, and control ability, integrated under a mobile application.
- **Module Design and Organization:** Each module is designed to function seamlessly with others, ensuring accurate speed detection, distance monitoring, live action, and timely response mechanisms.
- **Hardware and Software Specifications:** The system hardware includes high-quality sensors, Servo Motors, Wi-Fi modules and connecting wires. Software components encompass embedded programming for sensor data processing, mobile application and firebase technology.
- **Cost Analysis:** A detailed cost analysis was conducted considering the components' procurement costs, assembly expenses, and maintenance requirements, ensuring the system's affordability and scalability.

3. Flowchart

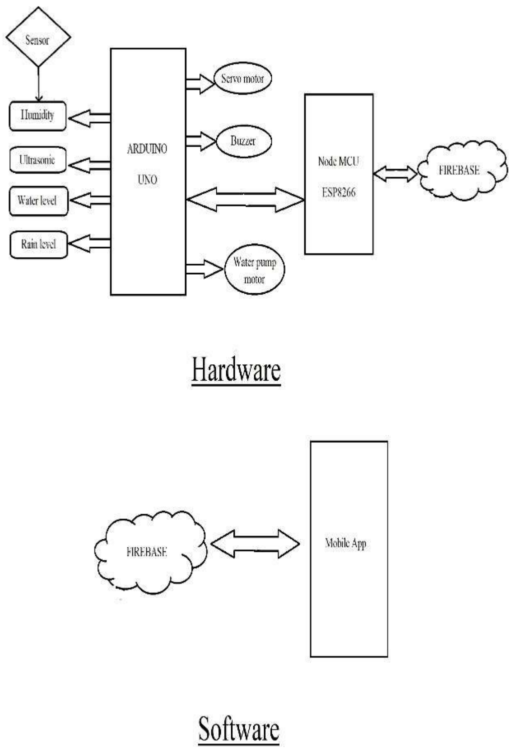

Figure 3.1. Flowchart of Overall Working

4. Hardware and Software Specifications

Hardware

Table 4.1. Hardware Specification

	Component	Technical Specification	Threshold limit
1	Soil moisture sensor	Used to monitor the moisture level of the soil.	Above 800

2	Water level sensor	Used to monitor water level present on the field.	Above 500
3	Rain sensor	Used to detect the rain.	Below 800
4	Ultrasonic sensor	Used to detect the motion of an object.	Below 50cm
5	Arduino UNO	Used to control the sensors and actuators.	-
6	Node MCU	Used to transmit the data through Wi-Fi.	-
7	Servo motor	Used to rotate at particular angle(0-360o).	-
8	Buzzer	Used to produce a sound alarm.	-
9	Water pump motor	Used to pump up the water.	-

Software

Table 4.2. Software Specification

	Software	**Specification**
1	Operating System	Windows
2	Mobile app development software	Android Studio
3	IDE	Arduino
4	App software	Android
5	Database	Firebase

5. Modules

Soil Moisture Level Sensor: It is used to monitor the moisture level of the soil.

Water Level Sensor: It is used to monitor the water level present on the field.

Rain Sensor: This sensor is used for detecting the rain and used to classify the rain level like low, medium and high.

Ultrasonic Sensor: It is used to detect the motion of the intruders like birds.

Arduino UNO: It is used to control all the sensors and actuators. This is the controller we used in our project.

Buzzer: It is here to produce the alarm sound when it receives the signal from the controller to avoid the birds in our field.

Water Pump Motor: It is used to irrigate the crops when it receives the signal from controller.

NodeMCU: It acts as a mediator between controller and firebase.

Figure 5.1. Components Used

6. Architecture

Hardware:

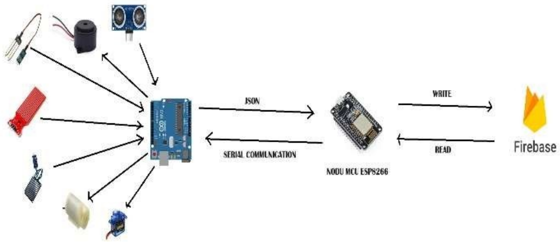

Figure 6.1. Hardware Architecture

Software:

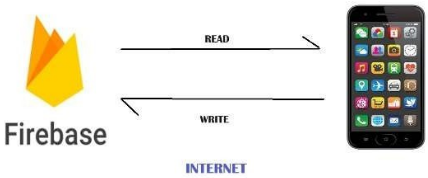

Figure 6.2. Software Architecture

7. Proposed Working Method

All the sensors and actuators are connected to the Arduino UNO. NodeMCU (ESP8266) is also connected with the same Arduino to communicate with firebase.

Figure 7.1. Working Model of Hardware

This is the image of our working model. The actuators have completed their work as per the signal from Arduino. The NodeMCU acts as an intermediary between the Arduino and Firebase. Next, we will proceed to observe the functionality of the mobile application.

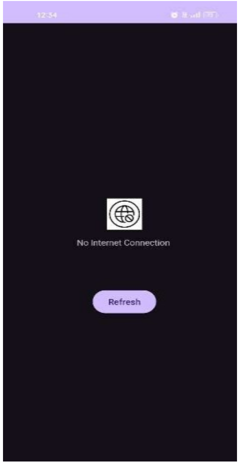

Figure 7.2. Connection Lost Page

This page displays a 'connection lost' message. Once the connection is regained, it will redirect to the home page

Figure 7.3. Monitor Page of the Application

This is the home page of the application. It has two options to the user. They are monitor and operate.

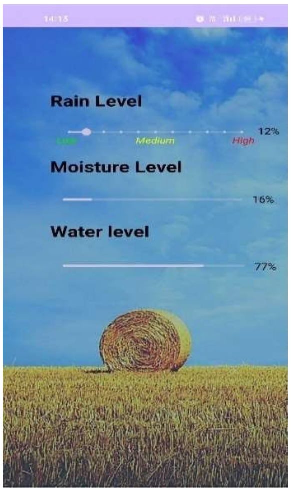

Figure 7.4. Monitor Page of the Application

This page will appear when the 'monitor' button on the home page is selected. Here, we can monitor the sensor values live through Firebase

Figure 7.5. Operate Page of the Application

This page appears when the 'operate' button on the home page is clicked. Here, we can dynamically control the irrigation motor and drain-out motor, switching them on or off. If we click either button, the app will update the corresponding value in Firebase, which will then be received by Arduino through NodeMCU.

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8. Use Case Diagram

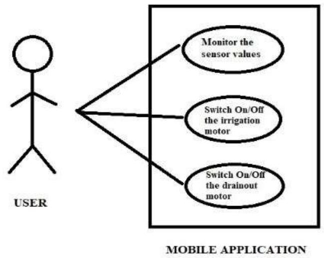

Figure 8.1. Use Case Diagram

9. Conclusion

In conclusion, the integration of mobile applications in crop monitoring and smart farming represents a significant advancement in modern agriculture. Throughout this study, we have explored the functionalities, impacts, and challenges associated with mobile application adoption in agricultural practices. Mobile applications offer farmers unprecedented access to real-time data, decision support tools, and resource management capabilities. By harnessing technologies such as remote sensing, IoT, and data analytics, these applications empower farmers to make informed decisions, optimize resource utilization, and enhance productivity while minimizing environmental impact. In conclusion, mobile applications have emerged as powerful tools for transforming agriculture, and their integration in crop monitoring and smart farming holds promise for shaping a more resilient, productive, and sustainable future for global food systems.

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