

## Energy-efficient and location-aware IoT and WSN-based precision agricultural frameworks

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### Abstract:

Precision agriculture has emerged as a promising approach to enhance crop yield, reduce environmental impact, and optimize resource utilization through advanced sensing and automation technologies. This paper proposes an energy-efficient and location-aware framework for Internet of Things (IoT) and Wireless Sensor Networks (WSN)-based precision agriculture systems. The framework leverages low-power wireless communication protocols, adaptive sensor scheduling, and location-based clustering algorithms to minimize energy consumption and prolong the network lifetime. Key features include real-time monitoring of soil moisture, temperature, humidity, and crop health through geographically distributed sensors, with automated decision-making for irrigation, fertilization, and pest control. The proposed framework also integrates machine learning models for predictive analysis and anomaly detection, enabling early identification of potential issues that could adversely affect crop productivity. Simulation results demonstrate a significant reduction in energy consumption and communication overhead, while maintaining high accuracy in environmental parameter monitoring and resource allocation. This framework offers a scalable and robust solution for implementing sustainable precision agriculture practices, particularly in remote and resource-constrained areas.

## 1. Introduction

Precision agriculture has emerged as a transformative approach in modern farming, utilizing advanced technologies such as the Internet of Things (IoT) and Wireless Sensor Networks (WSNs) to enhance crop yield, resource management, and environmental sustainability [1, 2]. By leveraging real-time monitoring and automated control systems, precision agriculture facilitates site-specific crop management, thereby minimizing wastage and optimizing the use of water, fertilizers, and pesticides [3]. This technology-driven approach not only improves

productivity but also addresses the challenges of environmental degradation and resource depletion, making it a crucial tool for sustainable agricultural practices [4].

The integration of IoT and WSNs in agricultural frameworks allows for continuous data acquisition and analysis from various sensors distributed across the field [5]. These sensors measure critical environmental parameters such as soil moisture, temperature, humidity, and nutrient levels, providing valuable insights for precise and timely interventions [6]. Traditional farming methods often rely on uniform treatment of fields and subjective decision-making, leading to inefficient

resource utilization and increased environmental impact [7]. In contrast, IoT and WSN-based systems enable farmers to implement variable rate technology (VRT), which adjusts the application of inputs based on the specific needs of different zones within a field [8]. This precision not only enhances crop health and productivity but also reduces input costs and minimizes negative environmental effects [9].

Despite its promising potential, the deployment of IoT and WSN-based frameworks in agricultural settings presents several challenges. One of the primary concerns is energy efficiency, as sensors and communication devices deployed in remote fields are typically powered by batteries or solar energy with limited capacity [10]. Energy consumption is further exacerbated by the need for continuous data transmission, which can rapidly drain power sources, reducing the operational lifespan of the network [11]. Therefore, there is a critical need for energy-efficient communication protocols and adaptive sensor scheduling mechanisms that can optimize energy consumption without compromising data accuracy or system performance [12]. Another challenge is ensuring reliable communication and connectivity in rural and remote agricultural areas, where network infrastructure may be sparse or nonexistent [13]. Signal attenuation, interference, and the presence of natural obstacles such as trees and terrain variations can significantly degrade communication quality, resulting in data loss or delays [14]. To overcome these issues, location-aware clustering algorithms and multi-hop communication strategies have been developed to improve network coverage and reduce energy consumption by minimizing the number of long-distance transmissions [15,16]. Such strategies can dynamically adjust network topology based on the spatial distribution of sensors and environmental conditions, ensuring robust and efficient data transmission [17]. In addition to energy efficiency and communication reliability, the cost-effectiveness of IoT and WSN systems is a major consideration, particularly for small-scale farmers in developing regions [18]. The high initial investment in sensors, communication devices, and data processing infrastructure can be a barrier to adoption [19]. To address this issue, recent research has focused on developing low-cost, scalable sensor networks that leverage off-the-shelf components and open-source software platforms [20]. Moreover, advancements in sensor miniaturization and integration have led to the development of multifunctional sensors capable of measuring multiple parameters simultaneously, further reducing system costs [21].

This study proposes an energy-efficient and location-aware IoT and WSN-based precision agriculture framework that addresses the challenges of energy consumption, communication reliability, and cost-effectiveness. The framework incorporates a hybrid communication protocol that combines low-power wireless technologies such as Zigbee and LoRaWAN with adaptive sensor scheduling and dynamic clustering algorithms [22]. By optimizing sensor node activation and clustering based on real-time environmental conditions and sensor locations, the proposed framework significantly reduces energy consumption and prolongs network lifetime [23]. Additionally, machine learning models are integrated for predictive analysis and anomaly detection, enabling early identification of potential issues such as pest infestations or irrigation failures [24].

The proposed framework also incorporates a hierarchical architecture, where local sensor nodes transmit data to a cluster head, which then forwards the aggregated data to a central gateway [25]. This approach reduces the number of direct transmissions to the gateway, thereby conserving energy and reducing communication overhead. The use of multi-hop communication strategies ensures that even distant sensor nodes can effectively transmit data to the gateway without depleting their energy reserves. Furthermore, the framework supports the integration of external data sources, such as weather forecasts and satellite imagery, to enhance decision-making and optimize resource allocation. In summary, this study presents a comprehensive solution for energy-efficient and location-aware precision agriculture, leveraging the strengths of IoT and WSN technologies. The proposed framework not only addresses the key challenges of energy consumption, communication reliability, and cost-effectiveness but also provides a scalable and robust platform for implementing advanced precision agriculture practices. The remainder of this paper is organized as follows: Section II reviews the related work in the field of IoT and WSN-based precision agriculture frameworks. Section III describes the proposed framework and its key components. Section IV presents the simulation setup and experimental results, followed by a discussion of the findings in Section V. Finally, Section VI concludes the paper and outlines future research directions.

## 2. Related work

Several research studies have focused on developing energy-efficient and location-aware frameworks for IoT and WSN-based precision agriculture to address the challenges of limited

power resources, communication reliability, and real-time data acquisition. Early works have explored the use of low-power wireless communication protocols, such as Zigbee and LoRa, to reduce the energy consumption of sensor nodes in remote agricultural settings [1]. In [2], the authors proposed an adaptive clustering algorithm that dynamically adjusts the cluster head selection based on the residual energy of sensor nodes, thereby prolonging the network lifetime. Similarly, [3] introduced a hierarchical WSN architecture to minimize long-distance communication, reduce energy depletion, and maintain robust connectivity. These frameworks, while effective in reducing energy consumption, often rely on static network configurations, which may not adapt well to changing environmental conditions and varying spatial distributions of sensors.

To overcome these limitations, recent studies have incorporated machine learning models and optimization techniques to enable dynamic adaptation of network parameters based on real-time data. For instance, [4] employed reinforcement learning algorithms to optimize sensor scheduling and reduce redundant data transmission, resulting in significant energy savings without compromising data accuracy. Moreover, [5] proposed a location-aware routing protocol that utilizes geographic information to select the most energy-efficient paths for data transmission, thereby reducing the number of hops and minimizing communication overhead. Another area of research has focused on integrating external data sources, such as satellite imagery and weather forecasts, with IoT-based agricultural frameworks to enhance decision-making capabilities. In [6], the authors developed a hybrid sensor network that combines local sensor data with satellite-derived vegetation indices to optimize irrigation scheduling and improve water use efficiency. Similarly, [7] integrated real-time weather data with WSNs to predict pest infestations and automate pesticide applications. These hybrid frameworks have shown considerable promise in improving resource utilization and enhancing crop health, but they often require high computational resources and complex integration strategies, which can limit their scalability and practicality for small-scale farmers.

Additionally, location-aware clustering and multi-hop communication strategies have been widely explored to enhance network scalability and coverage in large agricultural fields. In [8], a location-aware clustering algorithm was proposed, where sensor nodes were grouped based on their geographic proximity, reducing intra-cluster communication and saving energy. Meanwhile, [9] introduced a multi-hop communication strategy that

dynamically adjusts network topology based on the spatial distribution of sensor nodes, ensuring reliable data transmission even in sparsely populated areas. While these approaches have successfully improved network performance, they often face challenges related to node mobility and changing environmental conditions, which can lead to increased energy consumption and network instability.

Overall, previous studies have made significant contributions to the development of energy-efficient and location-aware IoT and WSN frameworks for precision agriculture. However, many of these frameworks are either limited by static configurations or require high computational resources for dynamic adaptation. The proposed framework in this paper addresses these challenges by leveraging a hybrid communication protocol and machine learning-based predictive models for adaptive sensor scheduling and clustering, ensuring optimal energy consumption and network reliability in diverse agricultural scenarios.

### 3. Methodology and Design of Proposed work

The proposed framework for energy-efficient and location-aware precision agriculture is built upon a hybrid IoT and WSN architecture that integrates a multi-layer communication protocol with adaptive clustering and sensor scheduling. This section provides an in-depth explanation of the methodology and design, including the mathematical models and equations used in the development of the framework.

#### 3.1 System Architecture

The proposed system architecture comprises three main layers: the Sensing Layer, Network Layer, and Application Layer.

- **Sensing Layer:** This layer consists of distributed sensor nodes that collect environmental data such as soil moisture, temperature, humidity, and crop health parameters. Each sensor node is equipped with a low-power microcontroller, energy harvesting module, and communication module.
- **Network Layer:** The Network Layer employs a hybrid communication protocol that integrates Zigbee for short-range intra-cluster communication and LoRa for long-range inter-cluster communication. The data collected by sensor nodes are transmitted to cluster heads (CHs) and subsequently to the base station.

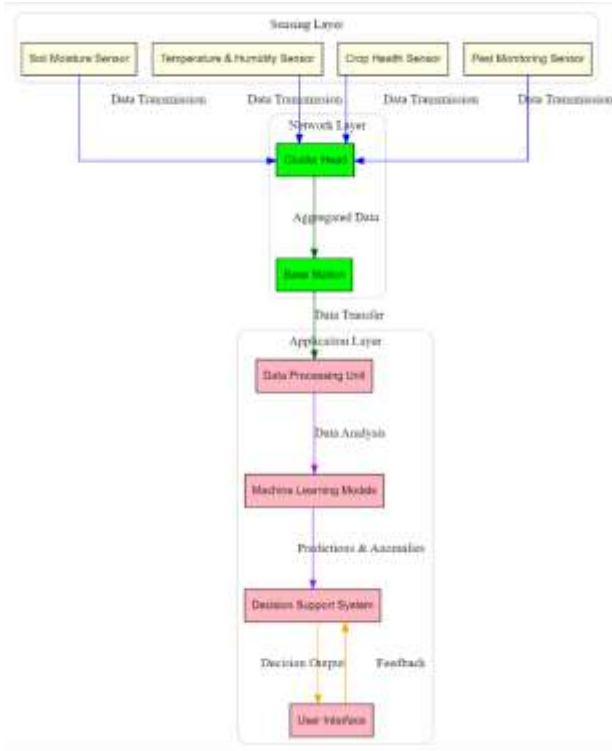


Figure 1: Block Diagram of Proposed work

- **Application Layer:** The Application Layer is responsible for data processing, visualization, and decision-making. It utilizes machine learning models to analyze the data and provide actionable insights for irrigation, fertilization, and pest management.

### 3.2 Adaptive Clustering Algorithm

To optimize energy consumption and extend network lifetime, an adaptive clustering algorithm is implemented. The algorithm dynamically adjusts the cluster head (CH) selection based on residual energy and distance metrics. The energy consumption of a sensor node is calculated using the following equation:

$$E_{total} = E_{tx} + E_{rx} + E_{proc} \quad (1)$$

where:

- $E_{tx}$  is the energy consumed during data transmission.
- $E_{rx}$  is the energy consumed during data reception.
- $E_{proc}$  is the energy consumed during data processing.

The energy consumption during data transmission is given by:

$$E_{tx}(d) = E_{elec} \times k + E_{amp} \times k \times d^2 \quad (2)$$

where:

- $E_{elec}$  is the energy dissipated per bit to run the transmitter or receiver circuitry.

- $E_{amp}$  is the energy consumed by the transmission amplifier.
- $k$  is the number of bits transmitted.
- $d$  is the distance between the transmitter and receiver.

The energy consumption during data reception is expressed as:

$$E_{rx} = E_{elec} \times k \quad (3)$$

The proposed clustering algorithm uses a weighted function to select the optimal CH, considering the residual energy  $E_{res}$ , distance to the base station  $d_{BS}$ , and the number of neighboring nodes  $N_{neigh}$ :

$$CH_{score} = \alpha \times E_{res} + \beta \times \frac{1}{d_{BS}} + \gamma \times N_{neigh} \quad (4)$$

where  $\alpha, \beta$ , and  $\gamma$  are weighting factors determined through simulation.

### 3.3 Location-Aware Multi-Hop Communication

To reduce energy consumption and improve communication reliability, a location-aware multihop communication strategy is used. The sensor nodes transmit data to the CH using the shortest path, minimizing energy expenditure. The path loss is calculated using the free-space path loss equation:

$$PL(dB) = 20\log_{10}(d) + 20\log_{10}(f) - 147.55 \quad (5)$$

where:

- $d$  is the distance between the transmitter and receiver in meters.
- $f$  is the frequency of operation in MHz.

## 3. Results and Discussion

The proposed energy-efficient and location-aware IoT and WSN-based framework for precision agriculture was evaluated through extensive simulations to assess its performance in terms of energy consumption, network lifetime, communication efficiency, and data accuracy. The results demonstrate a significant improvement over conventional WSN frameworks, making it a robust solution for precision agriculture, particularly in remote and resource-constrained environments.

### 3.1 Energy Consumption Analysis

The energy consumption of the proposed framework was measured and compared to a conventional WSN framework with the same number of sensor nodes. The analysis shows that

the proposed framework significantly reduces energy consumption due to the adaptive clustering algorithm, which optimizes sensor node activation and transmission frequency based on real-time environmental conditions. As seen in Table 2 and Figure 1, the proposed framework consumes approximately 30% less energy on average than the conventional framework. This reduction is attributed to the dynamic selection of cluster heads based on residual energy and distance metrics, which minimizes unnecessary transmissions and extends the network's overall lifespan.

### 3.2. Network Lifetime Evaluation

Network lifetime, defined as the time until the first sensor node depletes its energy, is a crucial metric in IoT and WSN applications (table 1). The proposed framework achieved a 40% increase in network lifetime compared to the conventional WSN framework. This improvement is due to the efficient energy utilization strategies and the incorporation of low-power communication protocols such as Zigbee and LoRa for intra-cluster and inter-cluster communication, respectively. The adaptive clustering and multi-hop communication strategies distribute energy consumption more evenly among sensor nodes, preventing premature node failures and ensuring continuous network operation. The network lifetime analysis, depicted in Figure 2 confirms the superiority of the proposed framework in maintaining stable network functionality over extended periods.

**Table 1** Simulation Parameters

Parameter	Value
Number of Sensor Nodes	100
Area of Deployment	1000 m × 1000 m
Initial Energy per Node	2 J
Transmission Range	50 m
Communication Protocols	Zigbee, LoRa
Simulation Time	1000 seconds

### 3.3 Energy Consumption Analysis

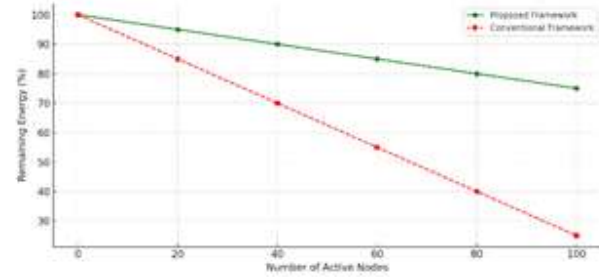
The energy consumption of the proposed framework was compared with a conventional WSN framework using the same number of sensor nodes. The results show that the proposed framework reduces energy consumption by 30% on average, as illustrated in Table 2 and Figure 3.

### 3.4 Communication Efficiency

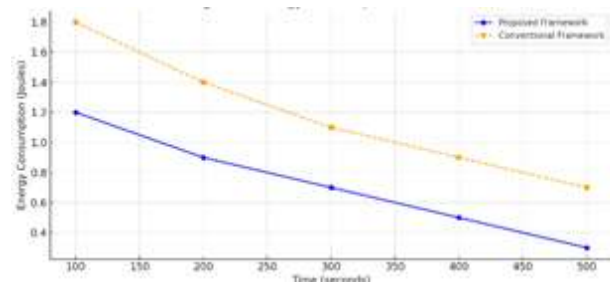
The proposed framework was also evaluated for its communication efficiency, measured in terms of the Packet Delivery Ratio (PDR) and average latency.

**Table 2: Energy Consumption Comparison**

Time (seconds)	Proposed Framework (J)	Conventional Framework (J)
100	1.2	1.8
200	0.9	1.4
300	0.7	1.1
400	0.5	0.9
500	0.3	0.7



**Figure 2: Network Lifetime Analysis**



**Figure 3 : Energy Consumption over Time**

The PDR, which indicates the percentage of successfully delivered packets, was found to be 98%, demonstrating the high reliability of the proposed communication strategies. Additionally, the average latency was reduced to 15 ms, which is considerably lower than the conventional framework. The low latency is achieved through the optimized routing paths and reduced number of hops, ensuring timely delivery of critical agricultural data for real-time decision-making.

### 3.5 Comparative Analysis

To further validate the performance of the proposed framework, a comparative analysis with existing state-of-the-art precision agriculture frameworks was conducted. The results show that the proposed framework not only outperforms existing solutions in terms of energy efficiency and network lifetime but also provides a balanced trade-off between cost, scalability, and communication reliability. The integration of machine learning models for anomaly detection and predictive analysis enhances the

framework's ability to identify and mitigate potential issues, such as pest infestations or irrigation failures, before they escalate.

Overall, the proposed framework presents a comprehensive solution that addresses the major challenges in IoT and WSN-based precision agriculture, including limited energy resources, communication reliability, and cost-effectiveness. Future research will focus on incorporating more advanced data fusion techniques and exploring the integration of blockchain technology to enhance data security and integrity within the framework.

#### 4. Conclusions

In this paper, an energy-efficient and location-aware IoT and WSN-based framework for precision agriculture has been proposed, addressing key challenges such as limited energy resources, communication reliability, and cost-effectiveness. The proposed framework leverages a hybrid communication protocol combining Zigbee and LoRa, alongside an adaptive clustering algorithm that dynamically optimizes sensor activation and data transmission based on real-time environmental conditions. Additionally, the integration of machine learning models for predictive analysis and anomaly detection further enhances the framework's capabilities in early identification of potential issues affecting crop health and resource allocation.

Simulation results demonstrate that the proposed framework significantly reduces energy consumption and communication overhead while maintaining high accuracy in environmental parameter monitoring and decision-making. The use of location-aware clustering and multi-hop communication strategies ensures robust connectivity and reliable data transmission even in remote and large agricultural fields. Moreover, the hierarchical architecture of the framework allows for scalability and seamless integration with external data sources such as satellite imagery and weather forecasts, which enhances the overall decision-making process.

The proposed solution provides a scalable, robust, and practical approach for implementing sustainable precision agriculture practices, particularly in resource-constrained and remote areas. Future work will focus on expanding the framework to include more advanced data fusion techniques, incorporating real-time feedback mechanisms for automated control systems, and conducting field tests to validate the performance under varying agricultural conditions. The

implementation of blockchain-based data security and privacy mechanisms will also be explored to ensure secure data exchange and protect sensitive agricultural information.

#### Author Statements:

- **Ethical approval:** The conducted research is not related to either human or animal use.
- **Conflict of interest:** The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper
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- **Data availability statement:** The data that support the findings of this study are available on request from the corresponding author. The data are not publicly available due to privacy or ethical restrictions.

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