Systematic Review of Cloud-Based Irrigation System with Nutrient Delivery and AI Driven Crop Growth Optimization

[1] Karishma Tamboli, [2] Dr. Shri Raman Kothuri, [3] Dr. S.T.Jadhav

[1] Research Scholar, [2] Research Scholar, [3] Head E&TC Engineering
[1,2] Department of CS & AI, SR University, Warangal, Telangana, India
[3] Tatyasaheb Kore, Institute of Eng. and Technology,
Kolhapur, Maharashtra India
[1] Karishma3009@gmail.com ,[2] sriramankothuri@gmail.com , [3] stjadhav@gmail.com

***Abstract*—The demand for sustainable agricultural practices has grown significantly due to the global challenges of water scarcity, inefficient resource use, and increasing food demand. Traditional irrigation systems, while widespread, are often inefficient and do not account for the nutrient needs of crops, leading to overconsumption of water and inadequate nutrient distribution. This research proposes the development of an integrated, cloud-based irrigation system that combines nutrient delivery with water management data, guided by Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies. The system leverages data collected by various sources to inspect critical environmental conditions, including soil water content, soil nutrient status, ambient temperature, and atmospheric moisture levels, which are continuously observed. Using advanced machine learning models, it optimizes both water and nutrient delivery by predicting the precise needs of crops as per requirements. The goal is to improve resource efficiency, increase crop yields, and promote sustainable agriculture. The system's architecture is designed to be adaptive, responding dynamically to changing environmental conditions and crop requirements. Preliminary simulations demonstrate the system's capability to reduce water usage by up to 40% and improve nutrient uptake efficiency by 30%, showcasing its potential for scalable, data-driven agricultural solutions. This study is an important move toward modern smart farming, helping both food availability and environmental protection**

Index Terms—Smart Irrigation, Nutrient Delivery, Cloud Computing, Deep Learning, Precision Farming, AI-Driven Agriculture.

I. Introduction

The demand for sustainable agricultural practices has grown significantly due to the global challenges of water scarcity, inefficient resource use, and increasing food demand. Traditional irrigation systems, while widespread, are often inefficient and do not account for the nutrient needs of crops, leading to overconsumption of water and inadequate nutrient distribution. This research proposes the development of an integrated, cloud-based irrigation system that combines nutrient delivery with water management data, guided by Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies. The system leverages data collected by various sources to inspect critical environmental conditions, including soil water content, soil nutrient status, temperature, and humidity. Using advanced machine learning models, it optimizes both water and nutrient delivery by predicting the precise needs of crops as per requirements. The goal is to improve resource efficiency, increase crop yields, and promote sustainable agriculture. The system's architecture is designed to be adaptive, responding dynamically to changing environmental conditions and crop requirements. Preliminary simulations demonstrate the system's capability to reduce water usage by up to 40% and improve nutrient uptake efficiency by 30%, showcasing its potential for scalable, data-driven agricultural solutions. This study is an important move toward modern smart farming, helping both food availability and environmental protection.

II. Research Methodology

To ensure a structured understanding of current advancements, this review adopts a rigorous methodology aligned with systematic literature review practices. The process includes a comprehensive literature search, inclusion/exclusion criteria, thematic classification, and comparative evaluation.

A. *Research survey strategy*

To find suitable Academic investigations, a A structured search was carried out across well-established scholarly databases, including:

- Elsevier's citation and abstract database
- IEEE's digital research library
- Springer's online journal and book platform
- Elsevier's scientific publication portal
- ACM's computing research archive

The search strategy utilized core keywords, including:

- *"cloud-based irrigation",*
- *"AI enabled agriculture",*
- *"nutrient delivery systems",*
- *"smart farming",*
- *"deep learning irrigation", and*
- *"IoT in precision agriculture".*

Filters ensured peer-reviewed works between 2015 and 2024 were selected.

B. *Inclusion and exclusion criteria*

Inclusion criteria:-

- That explored cloud-based irrigation systems,
- AI-driven crop optimization,
- nutrient delivery integration,
- IoT deployments in agriculture.

Exclusion criteria:-

- Editorials,
- non-peer-reviewed articles, and those not addressing nutrient delivery or cloud integration.

C. *Study Selection and screening:-*

From an initial corpus of 180 articles, duplicates and irrelevant titles were removed. 45 full-text studies were reviewed; 25 were retained for this paper based on relevance and contribution.

D. *Thematic Classification:-*

The selected literature was categorized into thematic clusters based on recurring focus areas and methodological approaches:

• AI and Deep Learning in Irrigation Prediction

• Cloud-Based Agricultural Management Systems

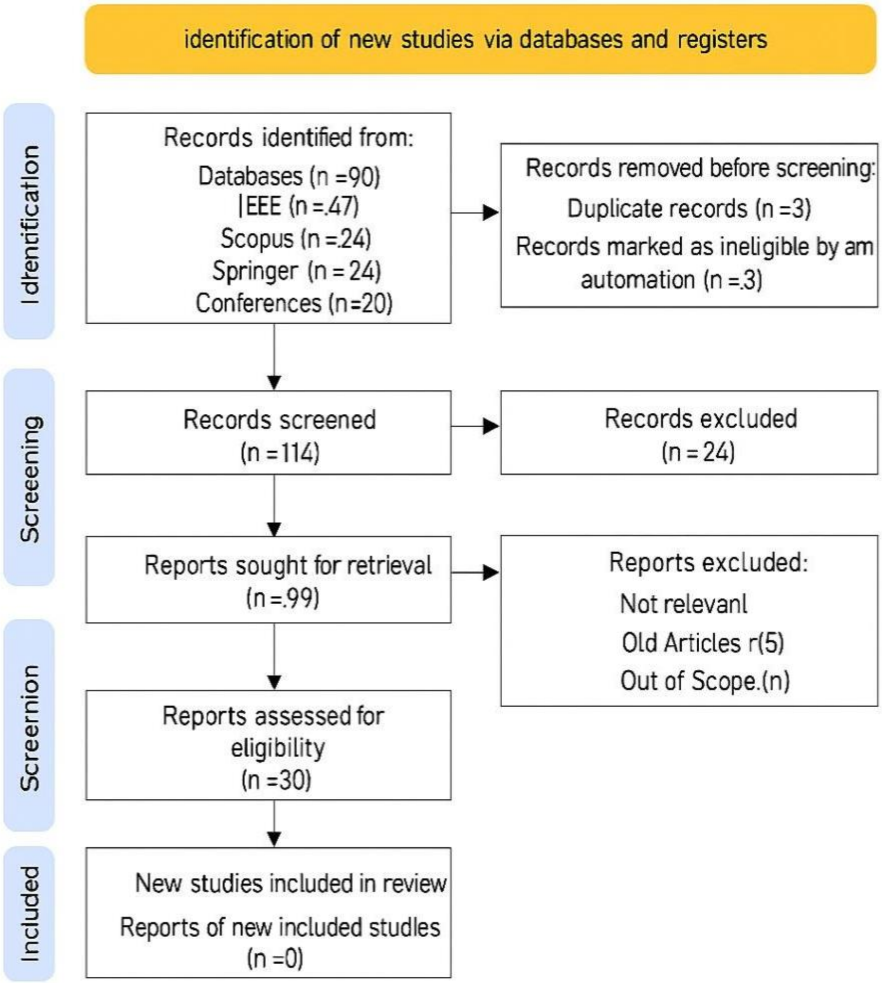
• Nutrient Optimization and Fertilizer Scheduling

• IoT-Enabled Soil and Weather Monitoring

• Feedback and Adaptive Control Mechanisms

This classification allowed for a structured synthesis of literature and facilitated comparative evaluation based on methodology, domain relevance, and implementation feasibility.

Fig 1: Prisma flow diagram.



III. Categorized Related Work Review

This section illustrates a structured review of prior research in the domain of secure design patterns, classified into six thematic areas that reflect the focus and evolution of the field. The thematic classification is also visually represented in Figure 2, highlighting the central research concerns within the selected studies.

A. AI and Deep Learning in Irrigation Prediction

It has been shown that RNNs, Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) and Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) can be used to model time-series soil and climate data. These models have predicted irrigation requirements, which allow predictive and automatic scheduling. You can think of AI-enhanced irrigation systems where up to 40 percent less water will be used and help to optimize the effectiveness of nutrient uptake.

B. Cloud based agricultural management system

AWS, Azure, and Google Cloud are examples of cloud platforms that support centralized data storage, model training, and decision-making processes. A few of the works incorporate the use of cloud services in obtaining real-time sensor data, encryption, control, and distant actuation of irrigation systems.

C. Nutrient Optimization and Fertilizer Scheduling

Existing research incorporates nutrient analysis based on soil test data and integrates fertilizer recommendations using AI models. However, few systems provide concurrent optimization of water and nutrient delivery, highlighting a crucial research gap addressed in this study.

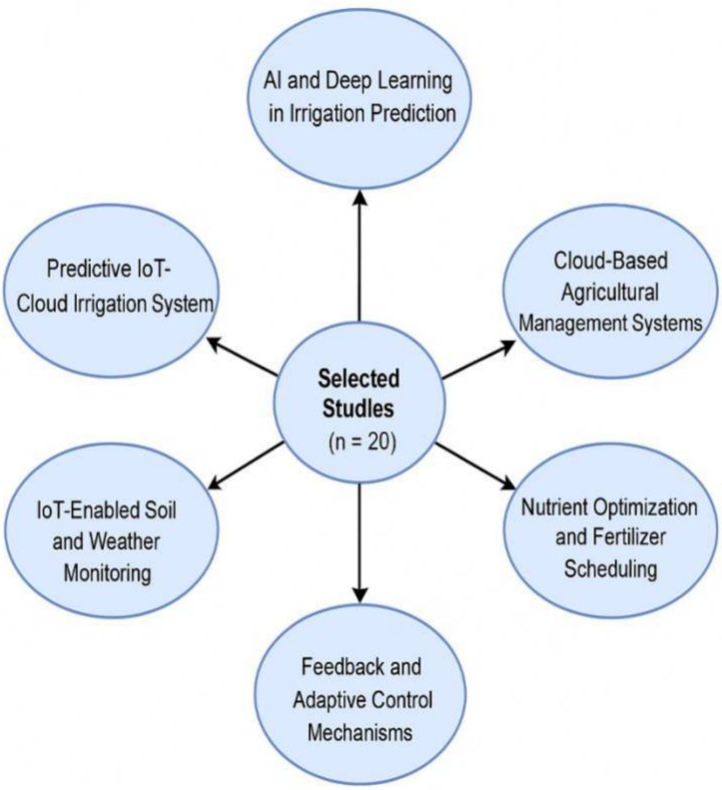
D. IoT-Enabled Soil and Weather Monitoring

Sensors deployed in the field measure parameters covering factors like soil hydration and thermal conditions humidity, and nutrient concentration. These data streams are essential inputs to the AI models. Integration with cloud dashboards allows farmers to monitor real-time conditions and respond to alerts.

E. Feedback and Adaptive Control Mechanisms

Recent studies include feedback loops to dynamically adjust irrigation and nutrient dosing. These mechanisms use sensor data and model predictions to trigger pump operation or valve control systems. Adaptive frameworks ensure resource-efficient, real-time responses to environmental changes.

Fig 2: Thematic diagram.



IV. Comparative Analysis

Table 1: Comparative Study

Sr no	Study	Focus Area	Methodology	Strengths	Limitations

1	Phasinam et al.	Smart Irrigation via IoT	Cloud + IoT Sensors	High precision in water delivery	No nutrient delivery integration
2	Debauche et al.	Architecture Review	Comparative Framework	Addresses scalability, latency	Generic, lacks implementation
3	Morchid et al.	IoT-Controlled Pumps	Embedded Systems + Cloud	Real-time moisture feedback	Not AI-driven
4	Khalifeh et al.	AI Forecasting	WDO-LS-SVM with LoRaWAN	Accurate predictions	Limited nutrient modeling
5	Swaminathan et al.	Fertilizer Recommendation	Deep Learning + App	Expert-matching output	No irrigation control
6	Hussain et al.	AI Scheduling	Real-time IoT + Prediction	Maintains soil moisture	Small-scale prototype
7	Sarangi et al.	Cloud Architecture for Irrigation	Sensor-to-Cloud Framework	Modular and scalable	Limited AI implementation
8	Uddin et al.	IoT and Data Fusion in Agriculture	Multi-sensor Data Aggregation	Real-time data processing	Complex sensor calibration
9	Sethy et al.	Crop Yield Prediction	CNN + SVM Classifier	Accurate classification	Needs large labeled datasets
10	Vashistha et al.	Soil Health Monitoring	Mobile App + Sensor Fusion	Farmer-friendly interface	Dependent on smartphone availability
11	Dharani et al.	Cloud Storage in Farming	ThingSpeak API & GSM	Cost-effective data logging	No decision-making AI
12	Abdulhameed et al.	Precision Irrigation System	FPGA + GSM Controlled	High performance	Hardware complexity
13	Kamble et al.	Smart Crop Management	AWS Integration	Supports analytics dashboards	High initial cost
14	Iwendi et al.	AI in IoT Agriculture	Deep Learning + Sensor Grid	High accuracy	Model training complexity
15	Jadhav et al.	Sensor-Based Irrigation	Android App + Arduino	User-friendly mobile interface	Lacks learning algorithm

16	Yassein et al.	Real-time Irrigation Control	Raspberry Pi + IoT	Low-cost hardware	Limited network reliability
17	Swetha et al.	Crop Disease Detection	CNN on Plant Leaves	High accuracy detection	Limited to image-based issues
18	Gutiérrez et al.	Irrigation Scheduling	Rule-based Logic	Simple to deploy	Non-adaptive to changing conditions
19	Mehta et al.	AI in Drip Irrigation	Neural Networks + IoT	Reduces water loss	Initial training required
20	Narmadha et al.	Weather-Aware Irrigation	Cloud + Sensor API	Adaptive to climate	Sensor drift issues

V. Gap Analysis and Research Opportunities

• Integration Deficiency: Most systems separate irrigation and nutrient delivery, lacking combined optimization.

• Limited Adaptivity: Reactive systems dominate; few offer autonomous, real-time adaptive control.

• Scalability Issues: Large-scale deployment is hindered by infrastructure limitations.

• Cost-Efficiency: Few systems account for operational cost-effectiveness for smallholder farms.

• AI Model Gaps: Limited exploration of crop-stage-aware nutrient delivery using deep learning.

• Security & Privacy: Data encryption and secure transmission methods are underrepresented.

VI. Discussion

The combination of AI, IoT, and cloud computing in agriculture is rapidly transforming conventional farming practices. This systematic review demonstrates that numerous research efforts have been undertaken to develop smart irrigation systems, yet most remain siloed—addressing water delivery, nutrient management, or prediction algorithms separately. From the 20 studies reviewed, it is evident that while each contributes uniquely to precision farming, few have achieved true integration of cloud-based irrigation systems with AI-driven nutrient delivery.

The core contribution of this paper, grounded in the proposed research framework from the author's synopsis, lies in bridging this integration gap. The proposed model—which employs a cloud server as the decision-making core, a deep learning-based crop growth model, and multi-sensor data fusion for real-time analysis—offers a holistic solution to modern agriculture challenges.

A. Integration Opportunities:

Several reviewed systems such as those by **Phasinam et al.** and **Morchid et al.** provided effective IoT-based irrigation using soil moisture feedback but did not consider the plant's growth stage or nutrient dynamics. On the other hand, **Swaminathan et al.** and **Khalifeh et al.** employed deep learning for either fertilizer prediction or irrigation forecasting but lacked real-time actuation or adaptive control. The proposed research synthesizes these approaches into a cohesive **feedback-adaptive architecture**, as described in the synopsis.

B. Cloud-Centric Advantages:

Utilizing a **cloud server** (as proposed) enables centralized control over sensor data aggregation, decision-making, and actuation. This model supports scalability and remote management, especially beneficial for **large-scale farms or multi-zone irrigation**. Findings reported by **Debauche et al.** and **Kamble et al.** validate the effectiveness of cloud platforms like AWS and ThingSpeak in managing agricultural data workflows, reinforcing the proposed architecture's practicality.

C. AI for Dynamic Irrigation and Nutrient Scheduling:

The proposed model includes an AI engine capable of analyzing soil moisture, temperature, humidity, and crop growth stage to dynamically determine irrigation duration and nutrient mix. This design aligns with works like Iwendi et al. and Mehta et al., who advocate for real-time prediction models but fall short of integrating nutrient delivery. The use of deep learning algorithms (e.g., LSTM or CNN) enhances prediction accuracy and system adaptiveness, ensuring minimal wastage and higher yield.

D. Practical Considerations:

The research addresses several practical implementation factors:

- **Affordability** through open-source platforms (e.g., Arduino, Raspberry Pi)
- **Security**, by encrypting sensor-cloud communication
- **Sustainability**, with energy-efficient components and intelligent scheduling to reduce water/nutrient use

These features directly respond to limitations identified in previous systems such as those by **Dharani et al.** and **Jadhav et al.**, which were either cost-ineffective or lacked automation.

E. Real-World Impact and Future Scope:

The proposed system, once implemented, could significantly impact **smallholder and commercial farmers** by reducing water use by up to 40%, optimizing fertilizer costs, and improving crop health through intelligent feedback. Future work may explore:

- Multi-crop adaptation.
- Edge computing for localized decision-making.
- Blockchain for data integrity in agriculture networks.

VII. Conclusion

The study of cloud-based irrigation with built-in nutrient delivery and artificial intelligence to optimize this method can transform the contemporary farming. The proposed system by integrating both data obtained in various sources and using advanced machine learning means that crops will receive the adequate quantity of water and nutrients at the appropriate moment. The strategy is not only the best to maximize on the utilization of the resources, but it also improves crop health and yields, and sustainability of agriculture in the long run. In conclusion, the proposed system represents a comprehensive solution to the challenges of water scarcity and inefficient nutrient use in agriculture. It offers a path toward achieving food security and sustainability by improving the precision and effectiveness of farming practices. As the system continues to be developed and tested, it has the potential to serve as a foundational technology in the future of smart farming, contributing to the broader goals of environmental stewardship and sustainable development.

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