



## Interdependence of precision agriculture, smart agriculture and digital agriculture as a means to boost agronomic efficiency in oil palm

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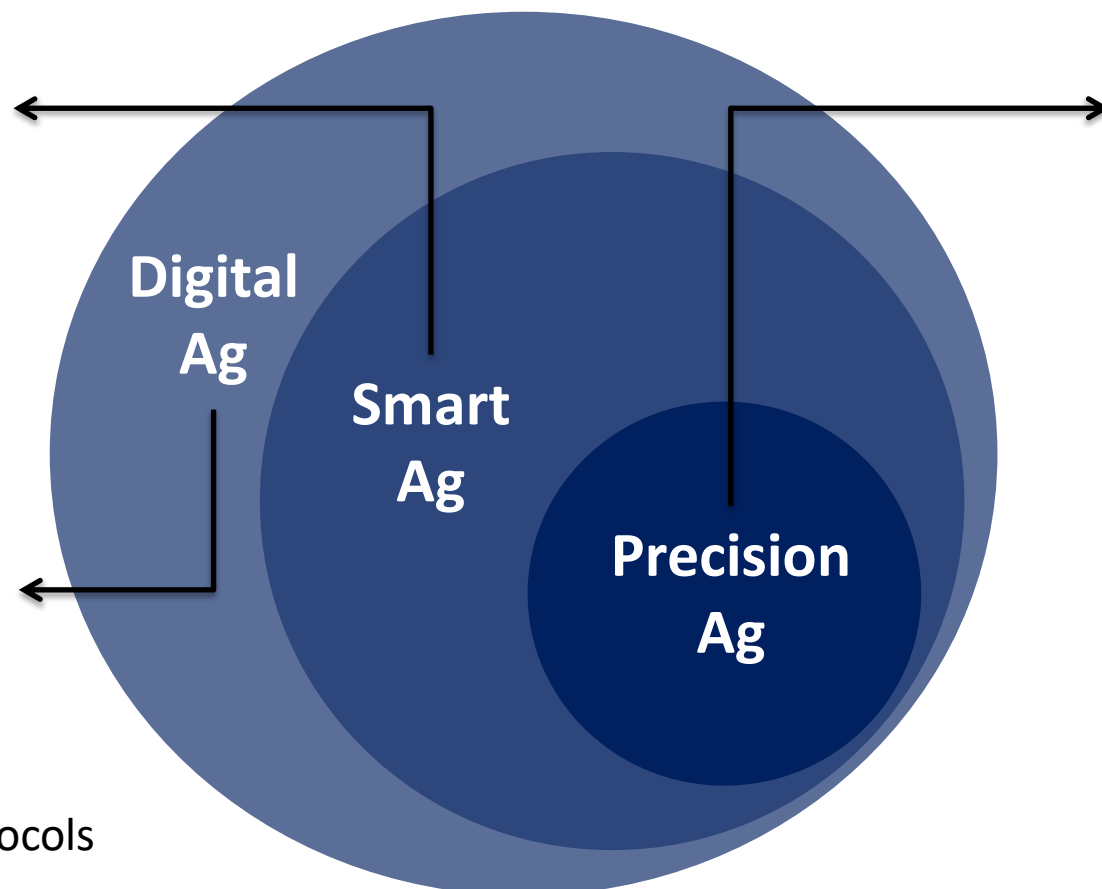
# The 'holy trinity' of modern agriculture

## Real-time

- AI
- IoT
- Robotics
- Sensors
- Telemetry
- Drones

## Connectivity

- AI
- IoT
- Big data analytics
- Communication protocols



## Optimization

- Spatio-temporal modeling
- Remote/proximal sensing
- GPS
- GIS
- AI
- Management zoning
- Decision support systems

**Data-driven**



# How much have we progressed with precision agriculture in oil palm?

S.K Balasundram - Selected Precision Agriculture Studies in Oil Palm: A 10-year Summary.  
18<sup>th</sup> International Oil Palm Conference | Cartagena, Colombia | September 22-25, 2015

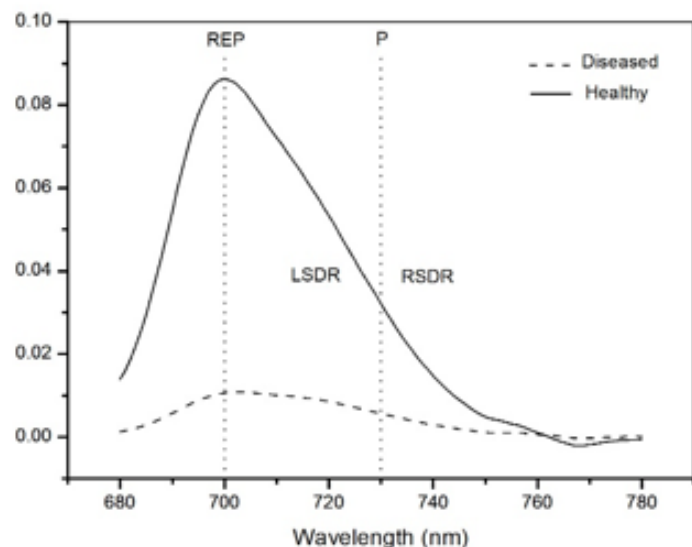
Technological domain	Scope of investigation	Keywords
<b>Geo-spatial modeling</b>	FFB yields Leaf and soil nutrients Fertilizer trials Soil organic carbon	Spatial variability, management zones, nearest-neighbor analysis, operational zones
<b>Decision support system</b>	Oil yield Oil quality	FFB harvesting, image processing, surface color, degree of bleachability index
<b>Remote and proximal sensing</b>	FFB yields Disease detection Oil quality Stand density	Vegetation indices, spectral reflectance, sensor, geographical information system, Google Earth



# How much have we progressed with precision agriculture in oil palm? ... (2)

S.K Balasundram *et al.* - Non-invasive approaches for plant disease assessment and monitoring.  
19<sup>th</sup> International Oil Palm Conference | Cartagena, Colombia | September 26-28, 2018

## Development of Orange Spotting Disease Index (OSDI)



REPRfpi – Red edge position determined from four point linear extrapolation

The ratio of right side-peak area within REPRfpi-780 nm to left side-peak area within 680-REPRfpi nm

$$OSDI = RSDRfpi / LSDRfpi$$

$$OSDI = \int_{REP}^{780} \frac{dR\lambda}{d\lambda} d\lambda / \int_{680}^{REP} \frac{dR\lambda}{d\lambda} d\lambda$$



Available at [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)

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journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/inpa](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/inpa)



## A review of neural networks in plant disease detection using hyperspectral data

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### ABSTRACT

This paper reviews advanced Neural Network (NN) techniques available to process hyperspectral data, with a special emphasis on plant disease detection. Firstly, we provide a review on NN mechanism, types, models, and classifiers that use different algorithms to process hyperspectral data. Then we highlight the current state of imaging and non-imaging hyperspectral data for early disease detection. The hybridization of NN-





# How much have we progressed with precision agriculture in oil palm? ... (3)

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Journal: Asian Journal of Science

Volume 16 (1): 1

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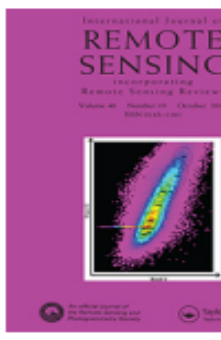
Review Article

Detecting Remote S

Chong Yen Mee, S

Abstract

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Journal of the  
<https://doi.org/>

RESEARCH

Selection  
in Oil P  
Network

Kamlesh G

Received: 4 Jan  
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### Abstract

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agriculture



Article

## Using SPOT-7 for Nitrogen Fertilizer Management in Oil Palm

Mohammad Yadegari<sup>1</sup>, Redmond R. Shamshiri<sup>2,\*</sup> , Abdul Rashid Mohamed Shariff<sup>1</sup>, Siva K. Balasundram<sup>3</sup> and Benjamin Mahns<sup>2</sup> 

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# Hot topics for precision oil palm research

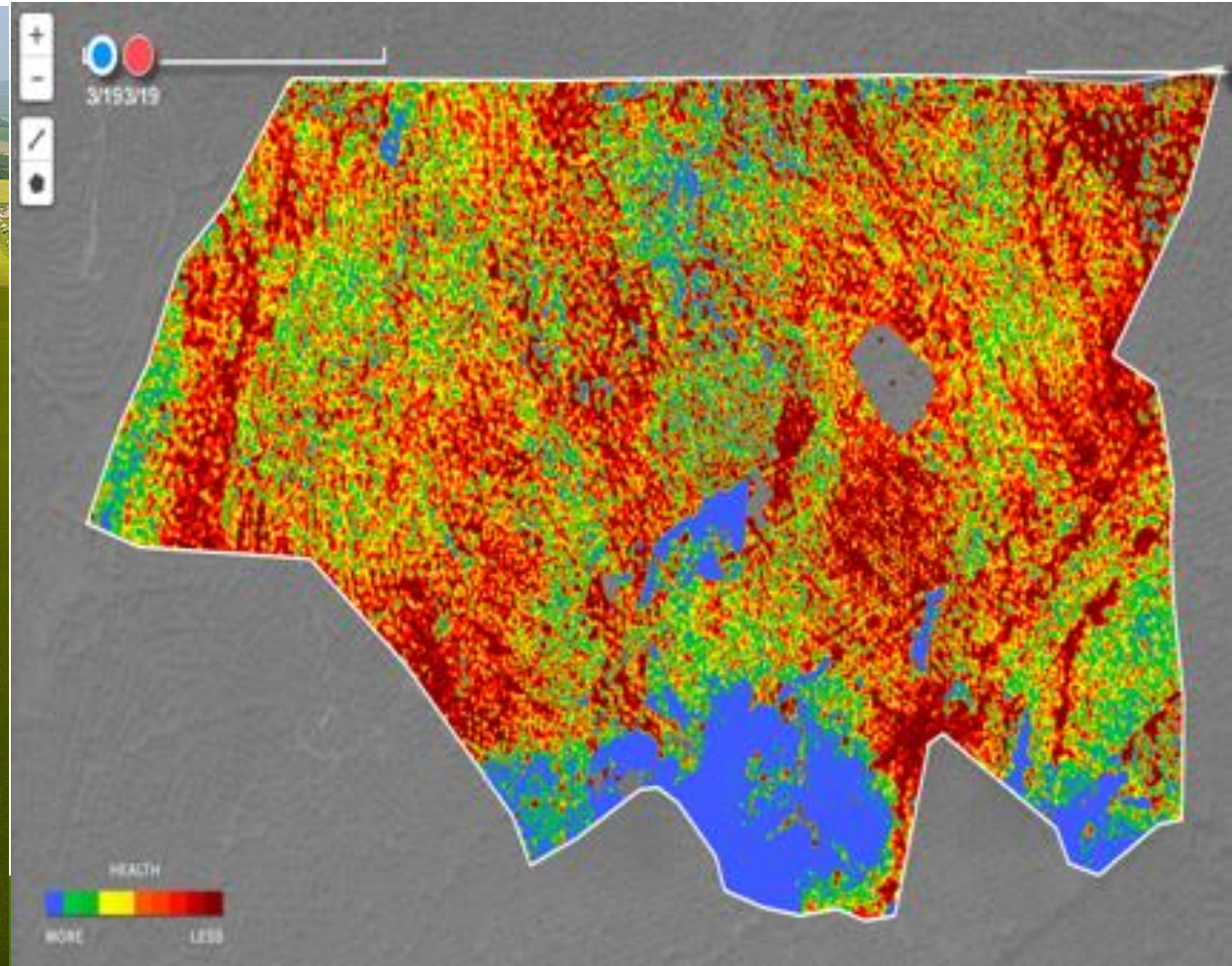
- ▶ **Mapping of carbon sequestration potential in different oil palm ecosystems**
- ▶ **Development of sustainability indicators that accounts for spatial and temporal variability**
- ▶ **Development of appropriate spatial scale to monitor shifts in yield maxima**
- ▶ **Geospatial modeling of water flow in sloping land**
- ▶ **Improvement of data processing methods, e.g. drone data should be in sync with spatio-temporal data**





# How much are we progressing with smart agriculture in oil palm?

- Use of drone for mapping agronomic variables

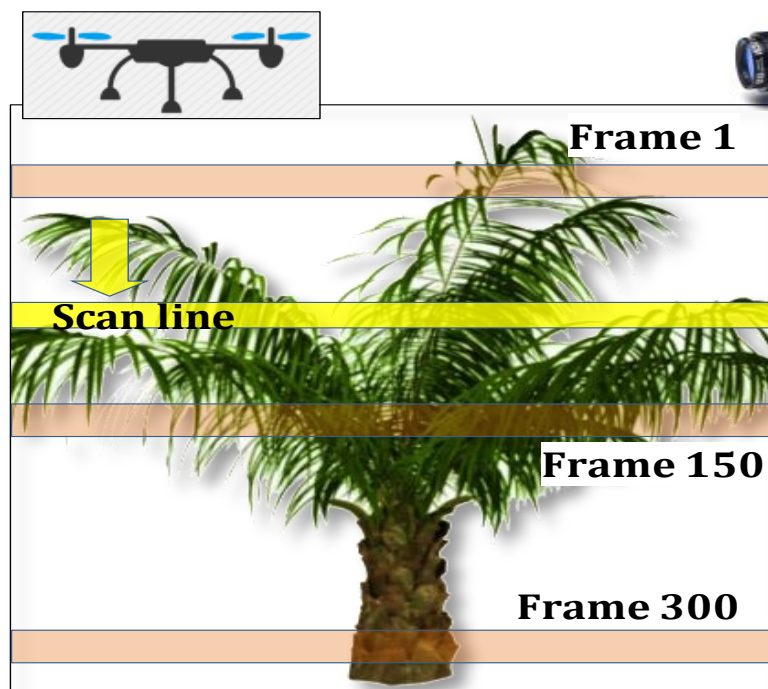




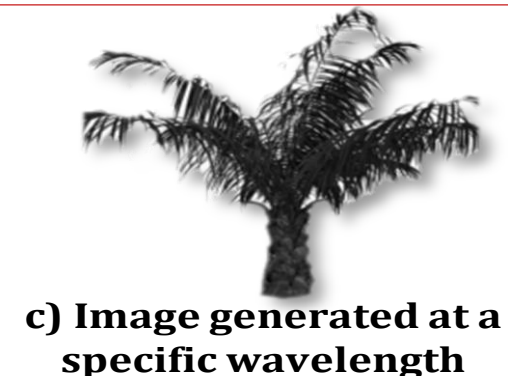
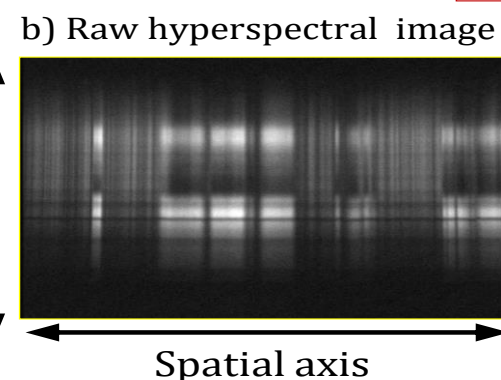
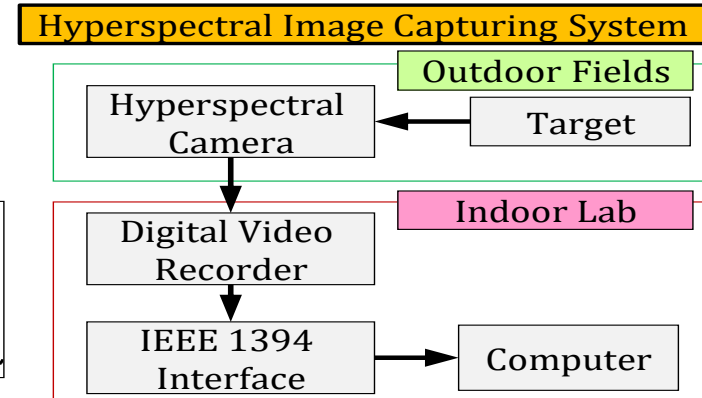
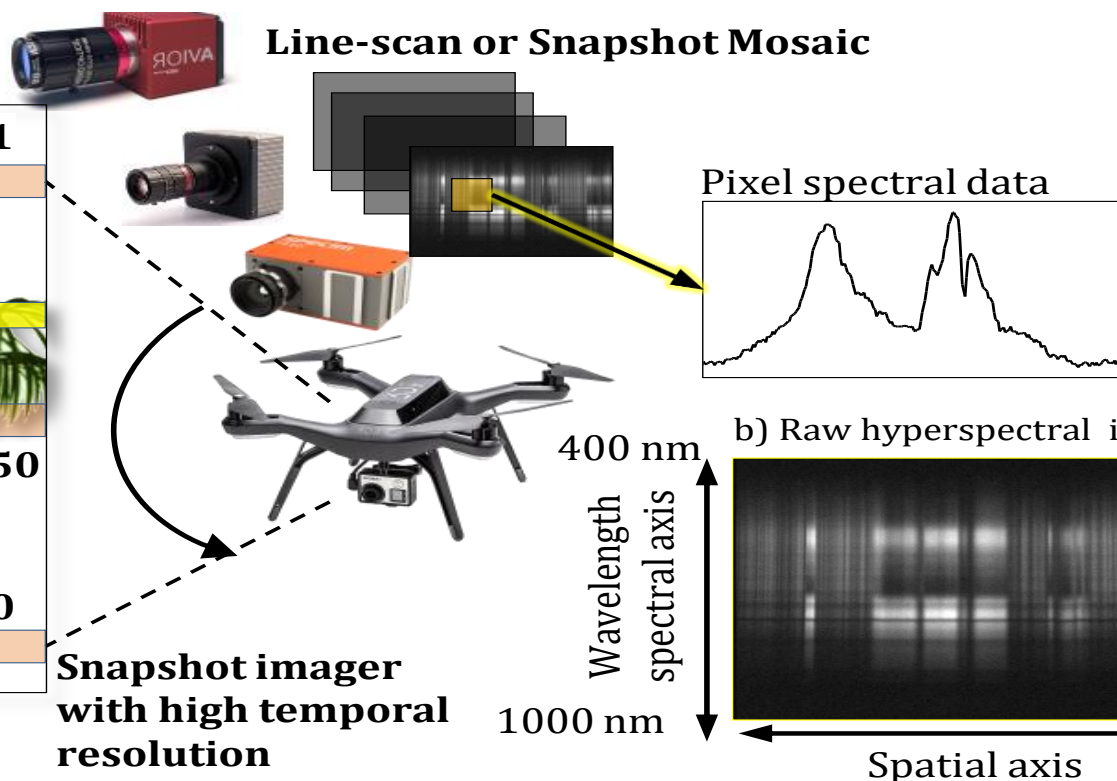


# How much are we progressing with smart agriculture in oil palm? ... (2)

## ► Use of drone for early disease detection



a) Oil Palm tree scene







# How much are we progressing with smart agriculture in oil palm? ... (3)

## ► Use of drone for yield monitoring

**Fleet of small UAV**

Kmel Robotics      GRASP Lab, U. of. Pennsylvania

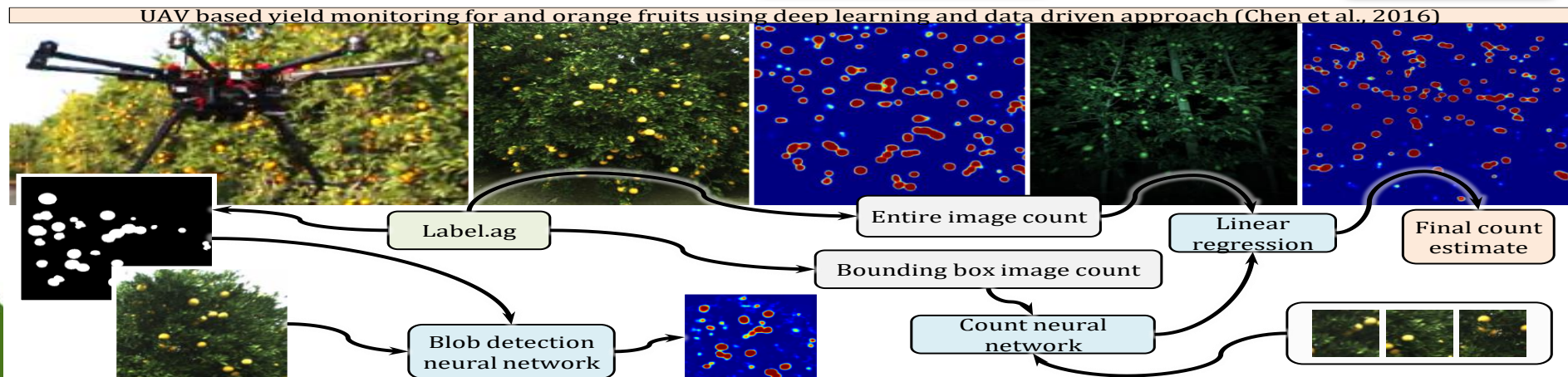
**UAV based yield monitoring of oil palm with affordable RGB camera**

Neural network training

Yield map

Y-Weight (Kg)

X: Image data







# The rise of digital agriculture

- Real-time sensing using long range wireless data acquisition systems
- AI and information processing tools for enhancing data accuracy
- Cloud storage for data sharing
- Mobile applications to make data useful for growers







# Building blocks of digital agriculture

Classic response to higher yield was larger machinery

Smart Sensors

Artificial Intelligence

Virtual Farms

Automation & Control

Internet of Things

Big Data

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles

Agricultural Robotics

Deep Learning

Wireless Sensors

Precision Management

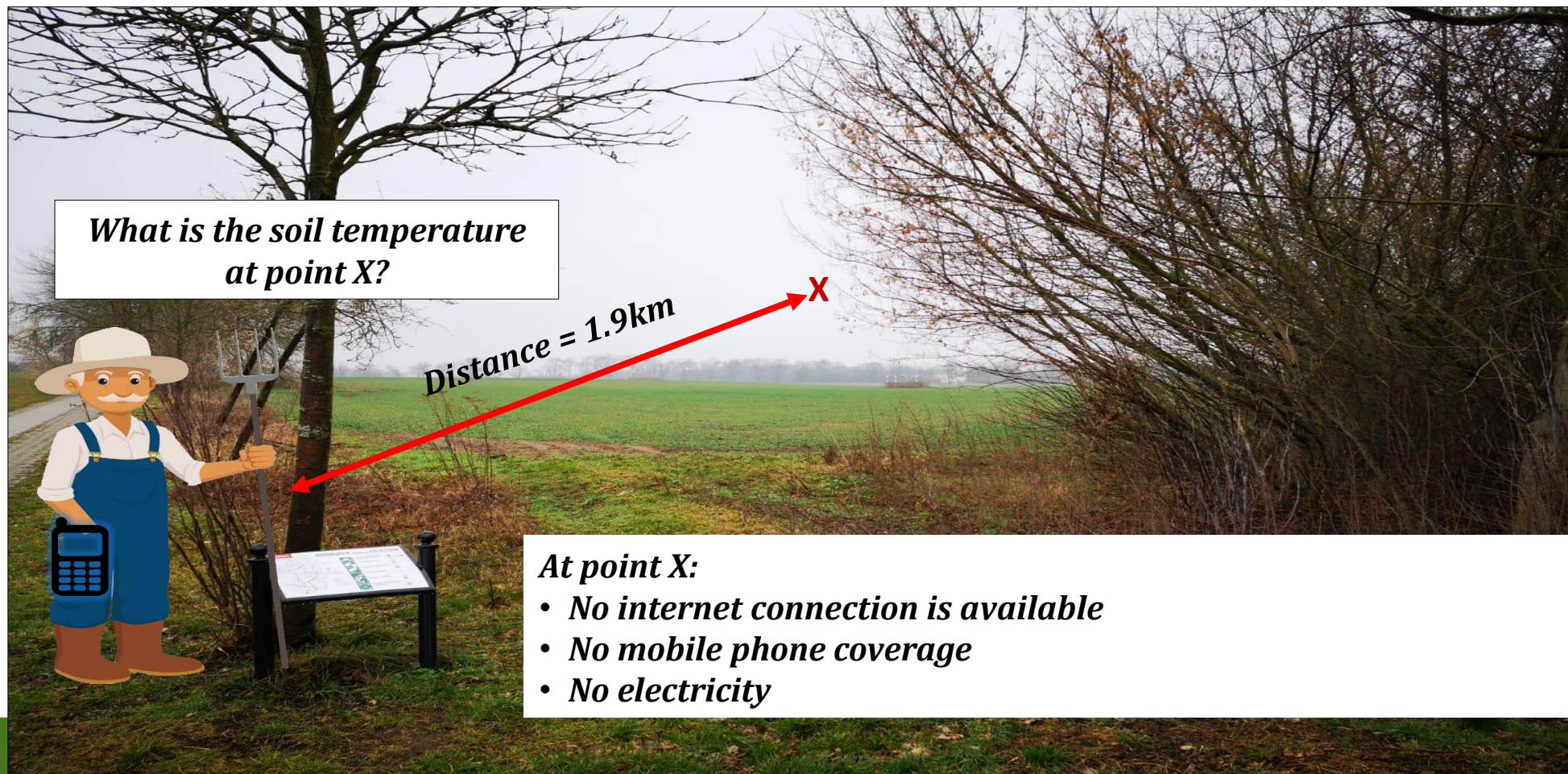


Modern response to higher yield is smarter machinery





# The problem in simple words ...

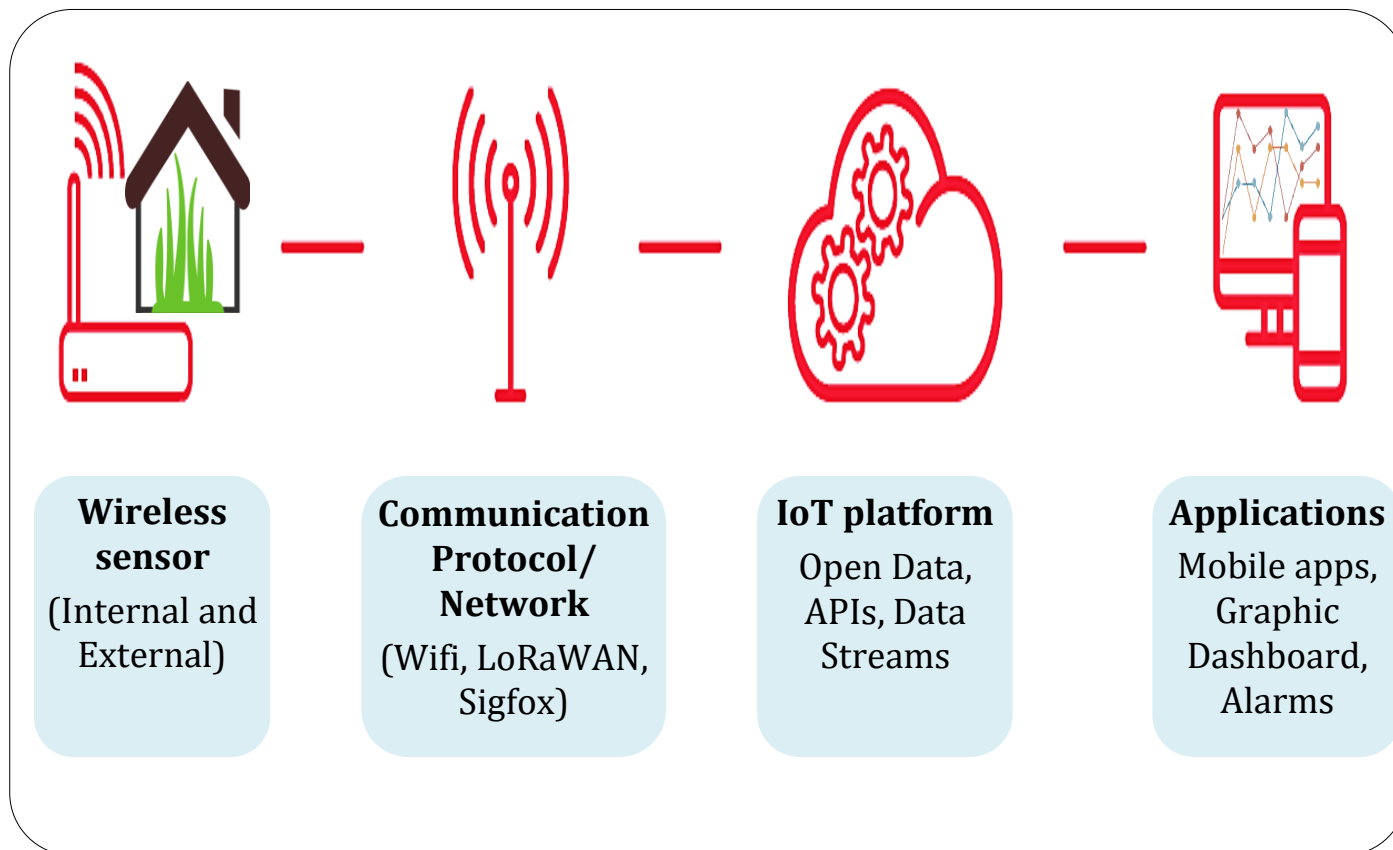






# The solution: Real-time measurement

- **Wireless Sensors Network (WSN)**
- **Low power wide area networks (LPWAN)**
- **Internet of Things (IoT) platform**
- **Application software (mobile apps, web-based apps, dashboards)**



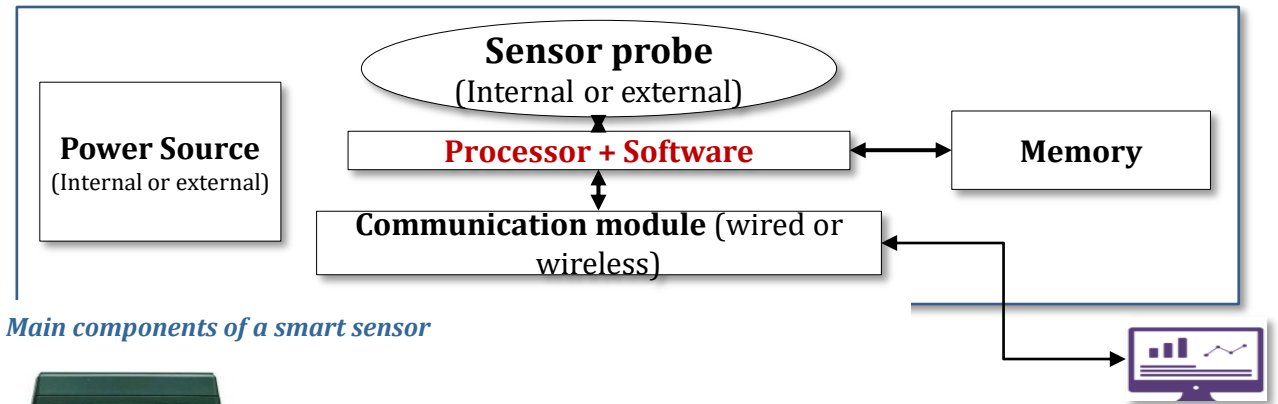


# Key concepts

## Smart sensor?

A device that can:

- sense changes in the physical world using different sensor probes
- perform data conversion, data processing and data logging
- communicate with external devices via wired or wireless protocols



*Main components of a smart sensor*

## Datalogger?

A device that:

- logs data on an onboard memory (e.g. SD card)
- uses wired communication (e.g. Serial or CANBUS) to send out information



*1-channel datalogger with internal battery and sensor probe*

## Wireless sensor?

A device that:

- saves data on an onboard memory (e.g. SD card) or cloud storage
- uses wireless communication modules such as Bluetooth, WiFi or LoRa to send out information



*5-channel wireless sensor with external battery and different sensor probes*

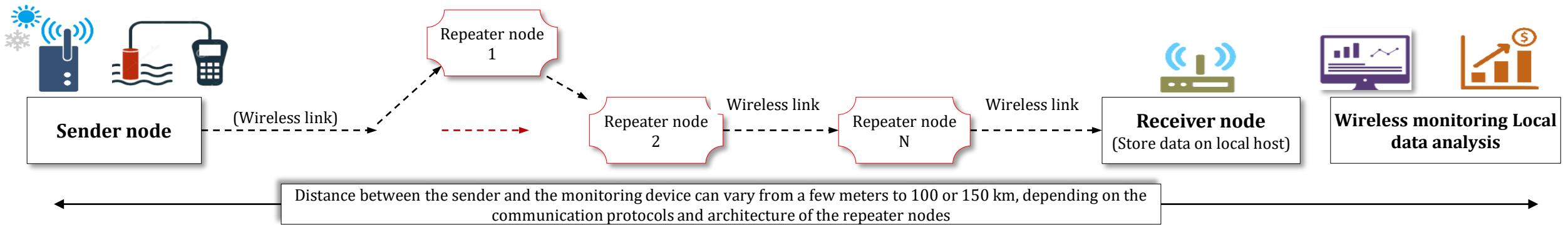




# Real-time monitoring ( $\leq 1$ min): Wireless vs. IoT

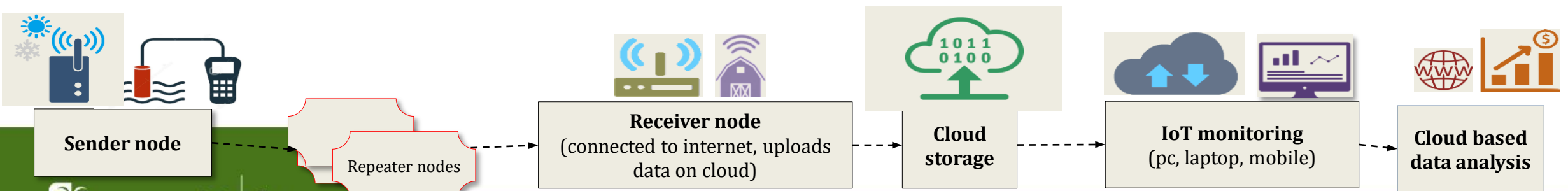
## Wireless monitoring:

In a wireless monitoring system, the receiver node stores data on a local host, therefore data access is limited



## (Internet-of-Things) IoT monitoring:

In an IoT monitoring system, the receiver node uploads data on a web-server, so data is accessible by any device that is connected to the world-wide-web





# Advantages of IoT over wireless

1. IoT monitoring provides real-time information about the field and crop even in isolated locations. Data can be downloaded from any location
2. Data can be shared with unlimited number of users
3. Sensor data can be used for adjusting parameters of IoT-control devices (e.g. smart irrigation control over the internet)

## Wireless Monitoring: Bluetooth

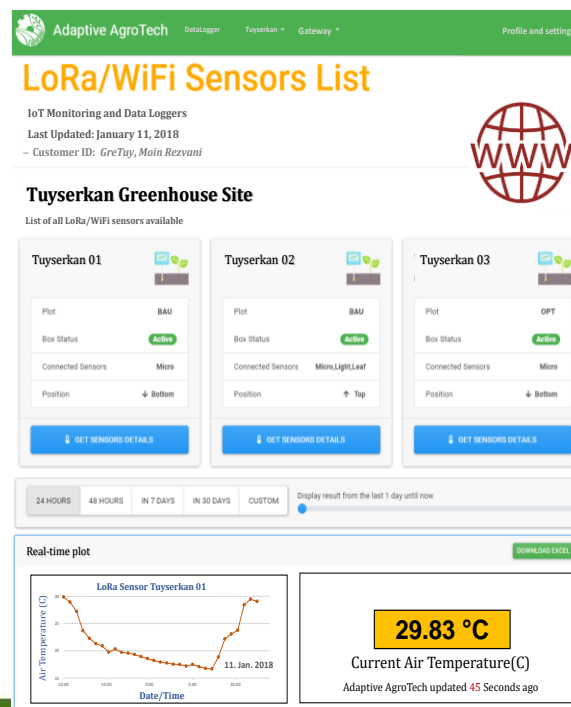


**Cannot be accessed via WWW**

## IoT monitoring of Greenhouse in Iran with LoRa connectivity



**Can be accessed via WWW**

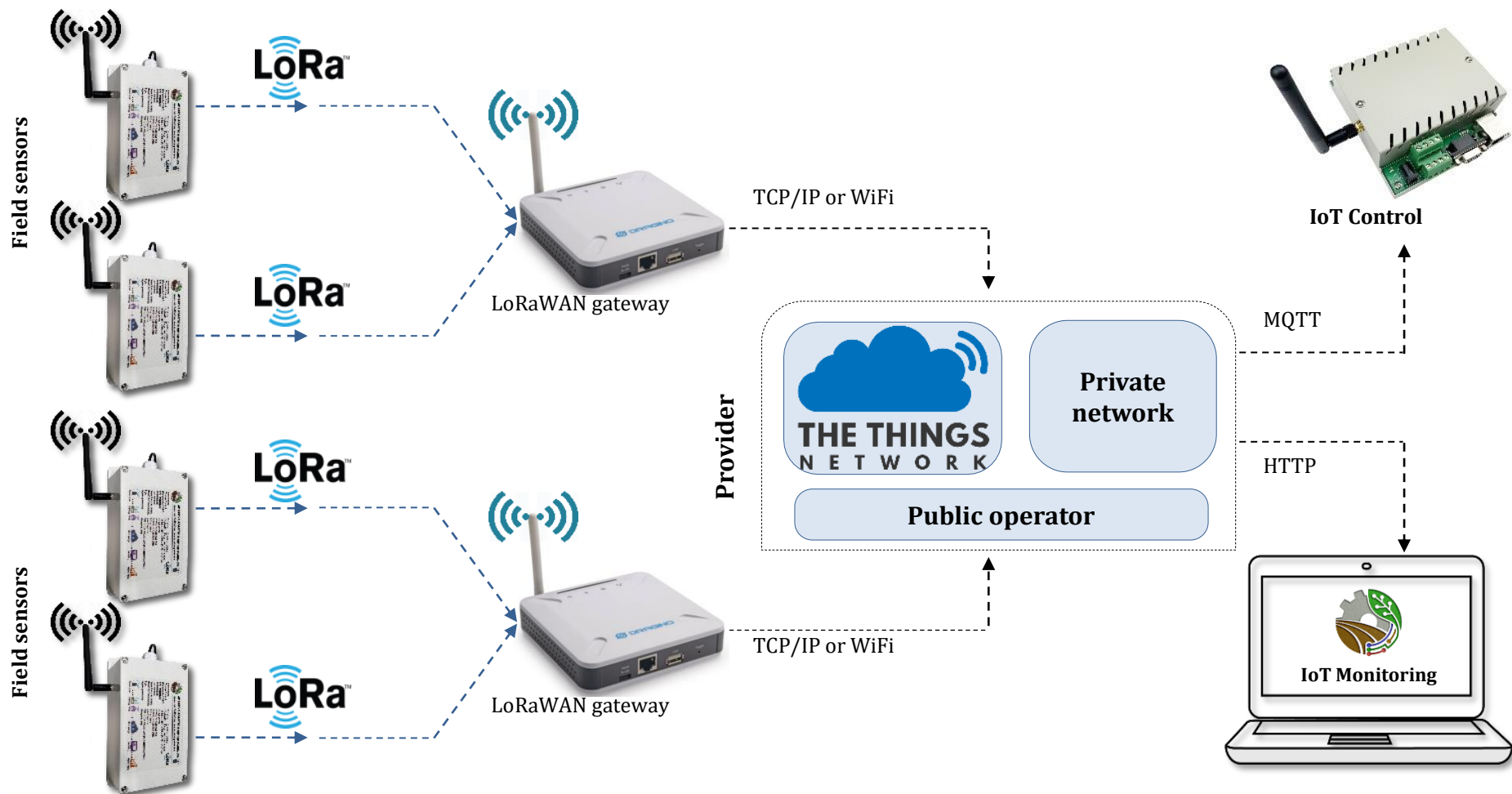


Rezvani SME, HZ Abyaneh, RR Shamshiri, **SK Balasundram**, V Dworak, M Goodarzi, ... & B Mahns (2020) IoT-based Sensor Data Fusion for Determining Optimality Degrees of Microclimate Parameters in Commercial Greenhouse Production of Tomato. *Sensors*, 20(22): 6474.



# IoT for oil palm: A work in progress

LoRaWAN not suitable for delivering data with high bandwidth







# IoT for oil palm: A work in progress ... (2)

5G Solution for high-bandwidth limitation (using LoRaWAN)

Project: Evaluation of RPi for 5G connectivity with **Telit FN980** for Agriculture  
(A collaborative project)

HAT: SixFab, based on Quectel RM50xQ OR Telit FN980



HAT: Waveshare SIM8200EA-M2 5G, based on SimCOM SIM8200EA



**Will they work in oil palm fields?**



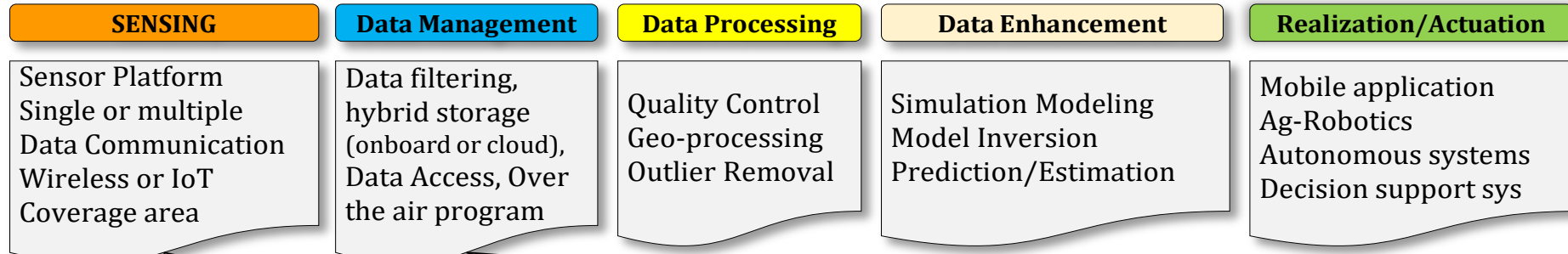
✓ Data throughput of up to 5.0 Gbps (download) and 1.0 Gbps (upload), Can be used in IoT gateways, high bitrate video streaming, real-time sensor data broadcasting, high-speed mobile 5G hotspot



# IoT for oil palm: A work in progress ... (3)

IoT monitoring technology needs evaluation ...

Does the board work under harsh field conditions?



Sensor transmitter



Multi-sensor platform with redundant storage



Over the air programming



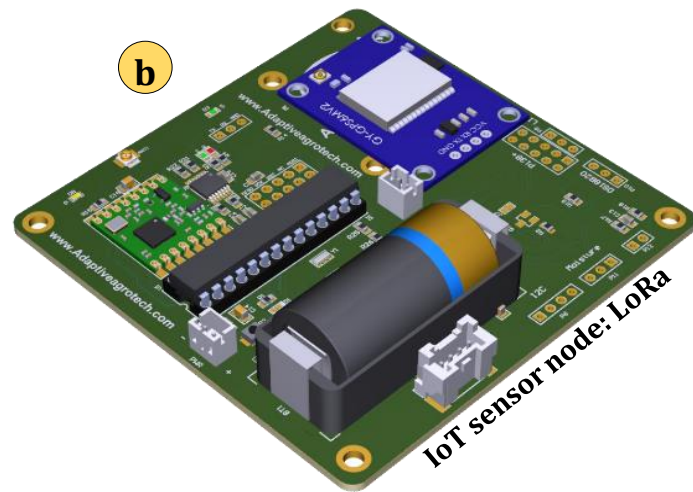
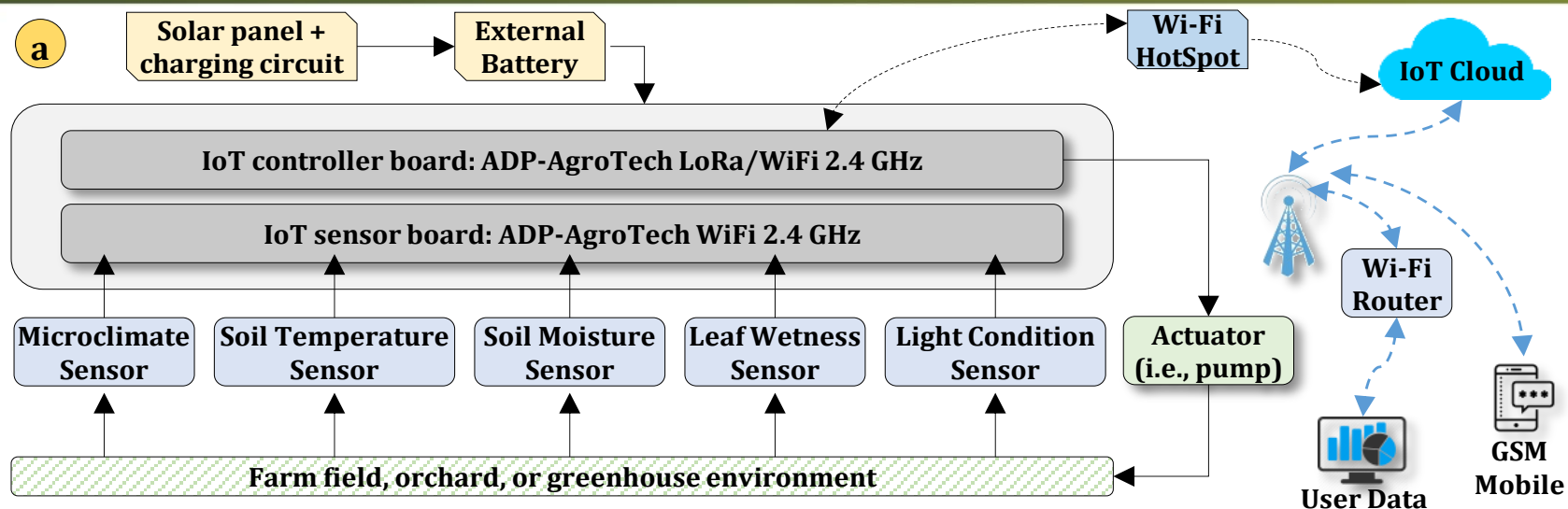




# IoT for oil palm: A work in progress ... (4)

## IoT controller scheme for smart irrigation

### Is it reliable?







# IoT for oil palm: A work in progress ... (5)

## Lessons learnt?

- ✓ Hybrid: datalogger+LoRa+WiFi
- ✓ Modular
- ✓ Plug and sense
- ✓ High quality battery







# IoT for oil palm: A work in progress ... (6)

IoT needs custom-designed software and mobile app

eg. customized dashboard and private cloud for users



**ADAPTIVE**  
Agrotech

## Member Login

**LOGIN**

**DOWNLOAD APP**

No Account? Contact to Admin

**Adaptive Agrotech**  
Port Manager (v2.2)

Scanning ports for online devices:

COM1    COM2    COM6    COM8

COM9    COM10

Serial Settings

Port Name: /dev/ttyS0

Baud Rate: 115200

Data Bits: 8

Parity Bit: Odd

Stop Bit: 1

Flow Control: None

Connection Status: ttyUSB0 Connected

Console:

```
$ listen /dev/ttyS1
...
Port: [COM02] Time:08:12:53 Data: `2928,1612752866,2021/2/8,2:54:26,29
Port: [COM02] Time:08:12:53 Data: `1946,1606749514,2020/11/30,15:18:34
Port: [COM02] Time:08:12:53 Data: `1946,1606749299,2020/11/30,15:14:59
Port: [COM02] Time:08:12:53 Data: `1946,1606749155,2020/11/30,15:12:39
Port: [COM02] Time:08:12:53 Data: `1946,1606748939,2020/11/30,15:8:59
Port: [COM02] Time:08:12:53 Data: `1946,1606748796,2020/11/30,15:6:36
Port: [COM02] Time:08:12:53 Data: `1946,1606748652,2020/11/30,15:4:12
Port: [COM02] Time:08:12:53 Data: `1946,1606748509,2020/11/30,15:1:49
```

Clear   Disconnect   Connect



# Good things take time !

From our multidisciplinary  
team of 15


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Thank you very much

**Muchas gracias**

