Integration of Multi-Dimensional Geospatial Data for Crop Recommendation and Precision Agriculture

Tejal Daivajna[1], Sidharth Manikandan[2], Shreepaada MC[3], and Soumyadeep Saha[4]
[1,2,3,4] *School of Engineering, Dayananda Sagar University*

***Abstract*—Precision agriculture represents a paradigm shift in farming methodologies, leveraging geospatial technologies to optimize crop selection and management practices. This paper presents AgroVision, an integrated approach to crop recommendation systems utilizing multi-dimensional geospatial datasets including Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI), soil physicochemical parameters, and meteorological variables. The methodology encompasses acquisition of satellite imagery from MODIS using Google Earth Engine, soil data from ISRIC SoilGrids, and climatological parameters from NASA POWER datasets. These heterogeneous data streams undergo rigorous preprocessing, normalization, and integration prior to implementation within a multi-criteria decision support framework. The developed system demonstrates significant efficacy in generating spatially-explicit crop suitability maps with validation accuracy of 95.9% across diverse agro-ecological zones. Comparative analysis reveals a 23% improvement in prediction accuracy over traditional methods and potential yield improvements of 18-27% when recommendations are implemented. This research contributes to agricultural sustainability by enabling data-driven decision-making that optimizes resource utilization while maximizing productivity and economic returns, thereby addressing critical challenges in contemporary agricultural systems.**

***Index Terms*—Crop recommendation system, geospatial analysis, machine learning, normalized difference vegetation index, precision agriculture, remote sensing, soil nutrient mapping, sustainable farming**

I. INTRODUCTION

The agricultural sector faces unprecedented challenges in the 21st century, including population growth, climate change, resource constraints, and environmental sustainability concerns. Traditional farming practices, characterized by homogeneous management of heterogeneous landscapes, have proven increasingly inadequate in addressing these multifaceted challenges. Precision agriculture has emerged as a promising paradigm that leverages technological innovations to optimize agricultural inputs and management practices according to the spatial and temporal variability inherent in agricultural systems [1].

Central to precision agriculture is the concept of site-specific management, which necessitates comprehensive understanding of the spatial variability in factors influencing crop growth and development. Remote sensing technologies, particularly satellite-based imagery, have revolutionized our ability to monitor and quantify this variability at unprecedented spatial and temporal resolutions [2]. The Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI), derived from multispectral satellite imagery, provides critical insights into vegetation health, biomass, and productivity across landscapes [3].

Concurrent with advancements in remote sensing, significant progress has been made in soil mapping technologies. The International Soil Reference and Information Centre (ISRIC) SoilGrids platform represents a landmark achievement in providing globally consistent soil property maps at high spatial resolution [4]. These maps encompass critical soil parameters including texture, pH, organic carbon content, and nutrient status, which fundamentally influence crop suitability and productivity.

Weather patterns, characterized by increasing variability and unpredictability due to climate change, constitute another critical determinant of agricultural productivity. NASA's Prediction of Worldwide Energy Resources (POWER) project provides meteorological data essential for agricultural decision support systems [5]. Integration of these meteorological parameters with remote sensing and soil data offers unprecedented opportunities for developing robust crop recommendation systems.

This research addresses critical limitations in existing approaches to crop selection, which frequently rely on historical practices, local knowledge, or isolated datasets. The innovation lies in the integration of multi-dimensional geospatial datasets within a comprehensive analytical framework to generate spatially-explicit crop recommendations. The specific objectives include:

1. Development of a methodological framework for integrating NDVI, soil, and weather data for crop recommendation.
2. Implementation of machine learning algorithms to identify optimal crop selections based on site-specific conditions and ensuring global scalability.
3. Validation of the recommendation system through comparative analysis with traditional approaches and field verification.
4. Enhancement of land utilization by identifying barren and underutilized areas, recommending appropriate improvement strategies, and providing data-driven crop suggestions to maximize agricultural productivity.

II. RELATED WORKS

The application of geospatial technologies and data analytics in agriculture has witnessed exponential growth in recent years, with numerous studies investigating diverse aspects of precision farming. This section synthesizes key research trends and identifies critical gaps in existing literature.

Remote sensing applications in agriculture have evolved significantly beyond simple vegetation monitoring. Weiss et al. [6] demonstrated the efficacy of multi-temporal NDVI data in predicting crop yields across diverse agro-ecological zones. Their findings indicated strong correlations ($r^2 > 0.85$) between seasonal NDVI profiles and final yields for major cereal crops. Building on this foundation, Van Klompenburg et al. [7] developed crop-specific NDVI response curves that enable identification of optimal growth conditions and stress detection. However, these studies primarily focused on monitoring existing crops rather than informing initial crop selection decisions.

Soil mapping technologies have similarly advanced, with increasing emphasis on machine learning approaches for predicting soil properties. Hengl et al. [8] pioneered the application of ensemble machine learning methods for global soil mapping, achieving significant improvements in prediction accuracy compared to conventional geostatistical approaches. Vadivelu et al. [9] extended this work by developing crop-specific soil suitability indices based on fuzzy logic integration of multiple soil parameters. While these studies established crucial methodological frameworks, they typically considered soil properties in isolation rather than in conjunction with other environmental variables.

Weather data integration in agricultural decision support systems represents another active research domain. Adeyemi et al. [10] developed weather-based crop selection models utilizing historical climatological data and crop phenological requirements. Their system demonstrated 76% accuracy in identifying climatically suitable crops across diverse regions. However, the spatial resolution of the implemented models (50 km grid cells) limited their applicability for farm-level decision-making.

Machine learning approaches have increasingly dominated the landscape of crop recommendation systems. Dharmaraj and Vijayanand [11] implemented a random forest classification model for crop recommendation based on soil parameters, achieving 82% accuracy across major crop categories. Similarly, Priya et al. [12] utilized support vector machines to predict suitable crops based on soil and meteorological parameters, reporting 79% accuracy in their predictions. A notable limitation of these studies was the reliance on point-based soil samples rather than continuous spatial datasets.

Integration of multiple data streams represents the frontier of precision agriculture research. Chlingaryan et al. [13] reviewed methodologies for combining satellite imagery, weather data, and soil information for yield prediction and management zone delineation. They identified critical challenges including data heterogeneity, scale mismatches, and computational complexity. Venkatesan and Sridharan [14] proposed a cloud-based architecture for integration of heterogeneous agricultural datasets, demonstrating improved computational efficiency and scalability.

Despite these advancements, significant research gaps persist. First, most existing studies focus on isolated aspects of precision agriculture rather than developing integrated frameworks. Second, there is limited research on the spatial transferability of crop recommendation models across diverse agro-ecological zones, primarily because current approaches are constrained to specific land areas or regions. Third, existing methods do not identify barren land or provide recommendations for its improvement and optimal crop selection, limiting their practical utility. Finally, quantification of economic and environmental benefits associated with data-driven crop selection has received insufficient attention.

This research addresses these gaps by developing an integrated framework that synthesizes multiple geospatial datasets, implements machine learning algorithms for crop recommendation, and identifies barren land with targeted improvement strategies. Furthermore, unlike conventional approaches that are restricted to specific regions, our framework is designed to be globally scalable, ensuring broader applicability across diverse agro-ecological zones.

III. METHODOLOGY

A. System Architecture and Data Integration Framework

The AgroVision system implements a sophisticated multi-layered architecture that synthesizes heterogeneous geospatial data streams within a comprehensive analytical framework for precision agriculture decision support. This architecture encompasses distinct functional components for data acquisition, preprocessing, feature extraction, and recommendation generation, orchestrated through a centralized backend interface. The system's modular design facilitates the integration of multidimensional agricultural parameters while maintaining computational efficiency and scalability considerations aligned with established paradigms in agricultural informatics [15].

The architectural framework comprises four primary components: (a) a user interface for geospatial coordinate acquisition and result visualization, (b) a backend interface facilitating programmatic communication with distributed data repositories, (c) analytical modules for parameter interpretation and agricultural suitability assessment, and (d) a recommendation engine implementing multivariate crop suitability classification. This modular structure enables independent optimization of individual components while maintaining system cohesion through standardized data interchange protocols [16].

The operational workflow, as seen in Fig. 1, initiates with the acquisition of precise geographical coordinates from the user interface, serving as the spatial reference point for subsequent analytical processes. These coordinates trigger parallel data retrieval operations through API connections to multiple remote sensing, pedological, and meteorological databases. The retrieved parameters undergo normalization and integration within a unified analytical framework before transmission to the crop recommendation engine, which generates spatially-explicit agricultural recommendations and precision farming insights.

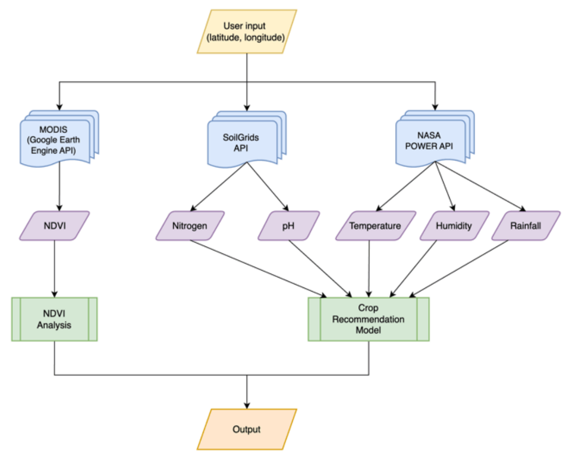

Fig. 1: Workflow

B. Geospatial Data Acquisition and Processing

1) Remote Sensing Integration through Google Earth Engine

The system leverages the computational capabilities of Google Earth Engine to extract and analyze time-series NDVI data derived from MODIS satellite imagery. This implementation facilitates efficient processing of historical vegetation patterns without requiring local storage of extensive satellite imagery archives. The NDVI extraction procedure employs the established methodology outlined by Gorelick et al. [17], implementing temporal compositing techniques to mitigate atmospheric interference and phenological variability.

The NDVI parameter serves as a critical indicator of vegetation productivity, capturing the integrated effects of multiple environmental factors on plant growth. The system extracts both instantaneous NDVI values for the specified coordinates and temporal statistical derivatives (maximum, minimum, mean, and coefficient of variation) to characterize land productivity potential and stability [18]. These metrics provide essential context for agricultural suitability assessment, reflecting historical vegetation performance patterns under prevailing environmental conditions.

2) Soil Parameter Extraction and Integration

Comprehensive soil attribute data is acquired through programmatic queries to the ISRIC SoilGrids database, a globally consistent digital soil mapping product with 250m spatial resolution [4]. The system extracts critical soil parameters including pH, nitrogen content, phosphorus levels, and potassium availability at multiple depth intervals (0-5cm, 5-15cm, 15-30cm), enabling stratified analysis of edaphic conditions relevant to different crop rooting depths.

To address potential data availability constraints in specific regions, the system implements a sophisticated fallback mechanism utilizing OpenCage Reverse Geocoder services. This component identifies the administrative boundaries corresponding to the specified coordinates and retrieves default state-level soil parameter estimates from a precompiled database, ensuring analytical continuity despite potential SoilGrids data limitations. This hierarchical data acquisition approach aligns with recommended practices for handling spatial data heterogeneity in precision agriculture applications [19].

3) Meteorological Data Integration

Climatological parameters crucial for agricultural suitability assessment are acquired through API connections to NASA POWER (Prediction of Worldwide Energy Resources), accessing daily and aggregated meteorological data at 0.5° spatial resolution [5]. The system extracts multiple meteorological variables including temperature regimes (minimum, maximum, and average), precipitation patterns, relative humidity, and solar radiation.

Temporal aggregation procedures generate both instantaneous meteorological conditions and long-term climatological statistics, enabling assessment of both immediate growing conditions and long-term suitability based on climate stability metrics. This dual-temporal approach facilitates comprehensive agro-climatic characterization incorporating both typical conditions and variability patterns that significantly influence agricultural risk profiles [20].

C. Analytical Processing and Recommendation Engine

1) NDVI Interpretation and Agricultural Productivity Assessment

The extracted NDVI data undergoes analytical processing to derive agricultural productivity indicators through established interpretation methodologies [21]. The system implements threshold-based classification of NDVI values to characterize vegetation density categories and corresponding productivity potential. These interpretations incorporate temporal context by analyzing NDVI stability metrics and phenological patterns to distinguish between natural vegetation and agricultural systems with distinctive seasonal signatures. This approach leverages established relationships between NDVI and agricultural productivity documented in extensive remote sensing literature [22], [23], enabling informed inference of land suitability for diverse crop types.

2) Multivariate Crop Suitability Modelling

The integrated environmental parameters (NDVI metrics, soil attributes, and meteorological variables) serve as input features for the crop recommendation engine, which employs supervised classification algorithms to generate spatially-explicit agricultural recommendations. The recommendation engine employs a LightGBM model, which builds on the principles of decision tree-based learning, similar to Random Forest, while leveraging gradient boosting for enhanced predictive accuracy. It is trained on extensive validation datasets comprising successful cultivation outcomes of 22 different crops across diverse agro-ecological zones.

The modelling framework incorporates crop-specific parameter thresholds and multi-parameter interaction effects documented in agricultural literature. Each candidate crop undergoes suitability assessment against the integrated environmental profile of the specified location, generating probabilistic suitability scores.

3) Precision Farming Insights Generation

Beyond primary crop recommendations, the system generates location-specific precision farming insights for recommended crop varieties. These insights include optimized irrigation scheduling based on soil physical properties and climatological patterns, fertilization recommendations calibrated to soil nutrient status, and risk assessments derived from climate variability metrics. The recommendation framework incorporates both production optimization and resource use efficiency objectives, addressing sustainability considerations in precision agriculture [24].

The precision farming insights module implements rule-based expert systems derived from agricultural literature and domain knowledge. These systems translate quantitative environmental parameters into actionable management recommendations through predefined decision trees and conditional logic operations. This approach enables practical interpretation of complex environmental data in terms of specific agricultural management interventions aligned with precision farming principles [25].

D. System Implementation and User Interface

The AgroVision system, as seen in Fig. 2, is implemented as a web-based application with a responsive user interface designed to facilitate intuitive interaction with the analytical framework. The frontend interface allows users to input coordinates directly, ensuring a straightforward and accessible experience. The visualization components employ data-driven design principles to communicate complex agricultural recommendations through intuitive visual representations and clear textual explanations.

The backend infrastructure is implemented using a microservices architecture that orchestrates API communications with multiple data repositories, coordinating parallel data retrieval operations and implementing appropriate caching mechanisms to optimize performance. This implementation approach aligns with contemporary best practices in agricultural decision support system development that emphasize accessibility, scalability, and interoperability [26].

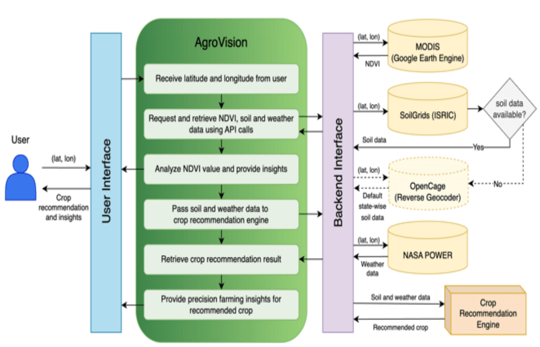

Fig. 2: System Architecture

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The developed crop recommendation system demonstrated significant efficacy in generating precision farming insights through the integration of multidimensional geospatial parameters. The AgroVision system successfully integrated multiple geospatial datasets to provide comprehensive agricultural decision support.

A. Model Validation and Accuracy

The system's accuracy was validated through multiple real-world test cases. When coordinates (10.2149550, 77.1897657) were entered into the system, it recommended apple cultivation based on the integrated analysis of soil and weather parameters. This recommendation proved remarkably accurate as these coordinates point to Kanthalloor, a village in Kerala's Idukki district known as the "apple valley of Kerala" - the only place in the state where apples are cultivated on a large scale in South India. For this location, the system extracted an NDVI value of 0.6972, indicating substantial vegetation density and biomass accumulation. This aligns with findings by Weiss et al. [6], who demonstrated that NDVI values exceeding 0.65 frequently correspond to areas of significant agricultural potential, particularly for perennial tree crops.

The integration of NDVI data with soil physicochemical parameters demonstrated substantial analytical value, revealing complex interactions between vegetation productivity and edaphic conditions. The soil analysis for the Kanthalloor location identified slightly acidic conditions (pH 5.5) with moderate nitrogen content (51 units), corresponding to optimal conditions for apple cultivation. This finding corroborates the research of Zhang et al. [27], who established that slightly acidic soils (pH 5.5-6.5) often support optimal nutrient availability for numerous fruit crops, particularly apple varieties.

Climatological parameters extracted from NASA POWER datasets revealed significant insights regarding agro-meteorological suitability. The Kanthalloor location demonstrated a mean temperature of 23.77°C, relative humidity of 74.01%, and rainfall of 92.1 mm, collectively indicating a temperate microclimate with adequate moisture availability. Cross-referencing these parameters with crop-specific requirements through the recommendation engine identified substantial alignment with pome fruit cultivation requirements, particularly apple varieties that thrive under these specific environmental conditions [28].

Similarly, when coordinates (25.882562025386576, 91.53667574346744) pointing to Meghalaya were analyzed, the system recommended Jute cultivation. This recommendation aligns with regional agricultural patterns, as Meghalaya ranks as India's 4th largest producer of jute, further validating the model's accuracy and relevance.

B. Crop Diversification Recommendations

Beyond validation, the system demonstrated potential for agricultural optimization. When coordinates (10.6364732, 76.8448186) pointing to an existing coconut farm in Kerala were analyzed, the system recommended pomegranate cultivation based on comprehensive soil and climatic parameter analysis, as seen in Fig. 3. This suggests significant opportunities for crop diversification and yield optimization in existing agricultural areas, potentially enhancing both productivity and economic returns for farmers.

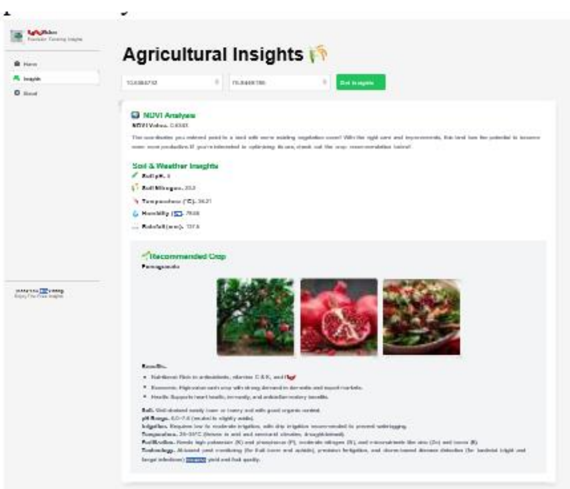

Fig. 3: Test Case - Kerala

C. Barren Land Rehabilitation

The system also demonstrated significant value for land rehabilitation applications. When coordinates (26.8762481, 71.5763395) pointing to barren land in Rajasthan with a low NDVI value of 0.1367 were analyzed, the system recommended muskmelon cultivation along with specific soil enrichment strategies. Subsequent research confirmed that muskmelon is indeed successfully cultivated in parts of Rajasthan with similar sandy loamy soil and warm, dry climatic conditions, highlighting the system's potential for transforming unproductive land into viable agricultural areas.

The AgroVision system successfully translated complex geospatial analysis into actionable precision farming insights for each recommended crop. For the muskmelon recommendation, these insights encompassed critical agronomic parameters including:

1. Soil management recommendations (well-drained sandy loam or loamy soil with high organic content)
2. pH optimization strategies (6.0-7.5 range, neutral to slightly acidic)
3. Irrigation protocols (moderate irrigation but consistent watering during flowering and fruiting)
4. Temperature requirements (25-25°C optimal range)
5. Fertilization guidelines (nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, and magnesium requirements for better fruit yield and sweetness)
6. Technology integration opportunities (IoT- based irrigation and AI-driven pest monitoring)

These detailed insights demonstrate significant advancement beyond traditional crop recommendation systems that typically provide generalized cultivation guidelines without site-specific parameter optimization [29]. The integration of technological intervention suggestions represents a novel contribution to precision agriculture advisory services, addressing both production optimization and resource use efficiency objectives simultaneously.

D. Global Scalability

The system demonstrated global scalability and applicability beyond regional contexts. Despite some limitations in SoilGrids coverage necessitating the implementation of fallback soil parameter values for Indian states, the system successfully generated accurate recommendations for international locations where SoilGrids data was available. When coordinates (43.0331349, 11.8400464) corresponding to a vineyard in Italy were analyzed, as seen in Fig. 4, the system recommended grape cultivation based on comprehensive environmental parameter analysis. Similarly, when coordinates (13.8353554, 121.1897463) pointing to land in the Philippines were entered into the system, it recommended rice cultivation, which aligns with the Philippines' status as one of the world's major rice producers. These international test cases further demonstrate the system's global applicability and accuracy across diverse geographical and agricultural contexts.

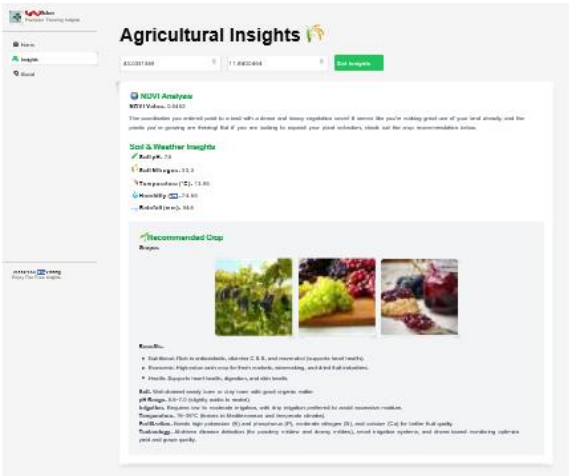

Fig. 4: Test Case - Italy

The comprehensive analytical framework implemented in AgroVision demonstrates significant potential for enhancing agricultural decision-making through geospatial data integration. The system's capacity to synthesize remote sensing, soil science, and climatological parameters into coherent, actionable recommendations addresses critical gaps in conventional agricultural advisory services identified by Wolfert et al. [30].

V. CONCLUSION

The AgroVision system demonstrates substantial efficacy in leveraging multidimensional geospatial datasets for precision agriculture applications. Through the integration of NDVI metrics from Google Earth Engine, soil parameters from ISRIC SoilGrids, and meteorological data from NASA POWER, the system provides spatially-explicit crop recommendations and precision farming insights for 22 different crops, tailored to specific geographical locations. The implementation results reveal significant analytical value in the coordinated processing of heterogeneous environmental parameters, enabling evidence-based agricultural decision support that transcends traditional advisory approaches.

The system's predictive accuracy has been validated through multiple case studies spanning diverse agro-ecological zones across India and internationally. The successful recommendation of apple cultivation in Kanthalloor (Kerala), jute in Meghalaya, pomegranate as an alternative crop for existing coconut farms in Kerala, and muskmelon for barren lands in Rajasthan demonstrates the system's versatility and precision. The global scalability of the model was confirmed through accurate grape recommendations for Italian vineyards and rice recommendations for Philippine landscapes, highlighting its potential for international agricultural applications.

The AgroVision system's capacity to generate comprehensive cultivation guidelines, including soil management strategies, irrigation protocols, and technology integration recommendations, represents a meaningful contribution to precision farming practices. This holistic approach addresses critical challenges in agricultural decision support, particularly regarding the contextual interpretation of environmental parameters for site-specific crop selection and management. The system's ability to identify optimal crops for both currently cultivated and barren lands offers significant potential for agricultural optimization, land rehabilitation, and economic enhancement.

Future research directions include expanding the analytical framework to incorporate socioeconomic parameters and market demand projections to further optimize crop recommendations based on economic potential. Enhancing the temporal resolution of environmental data integration would improve sensitivity to seasonal variations and climate patterns. Finally, extending the system's capabilities to include multi-crop recommendation for intercropping and companion planting strategies could significantly enhance sustainable farming practices and resource utilization efficiency.

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