

AI-DRIVEN PRECISION AGRICULTURE AND CROP HEALTH PREDICTION SYSTEM

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Abstract—Precision agriculture technologies have historically relied on expensive physical sensor networks and computationally prohibitive deep-learning architectures, creating severe financial and technical barriers for marginal farmers. To address this disparity, this paper presents the *Smart Agro Advisor*, a highly optimized, zero-hardware web ecosystem designed to democratize agronomic intelligence. Utilizing an asynchronous Python FastAPI architecture, the system integrates lightweight Scikit-Learn machine learning algorithms to perform real-time crop suitability and precise fertilizer dosage predictions. To bypass the extreme GPU requirements of traditional Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), this research introduces a novel, deterministic color-space (HSV) heuristic pipeline capable of instantaneous plant pathogen classification and soil type validation directly in the browser. Furthermore, the system entirely replaces physical IoT hardware by programmatically intercepting real-time telemetry from external cloud APIs, including Open-Meteo for hourly weather forecasting and Live Market APIs for economic intelligence. To ensure practical usability for demographics with limited digital literacy, the platform is encapsulated in a responsive Glassmorphic user interface fortified with Web Speech API integration, enabling full Voice-to-Text accessibility. Evaluation of the deployed architecture demonstrates robust algorithmic accuracy exceeding 92% across all models, alongside sub-second end-to-end inference latency, proving that accessible, API-driven software

frameworks can successfully replace prohibitive hardware infrastructure in rural agriculture.

Keywords—precision agriculture automation, heuristic image processing, zero-hardware web ecosystem, API-driven telemetry, crop suitability prediction, speech-to-text accessibility

INTRODUCTION

Agriculture acts as the foundational pillar of the global economy and food security, making the optimization of farming practices one of the most critical challenges in the modern ecosystem. For agrarian economies and rural communities, the successful transition from intuition-based farming to data-driven precision agriculture is a primary metric of economic sustainability. The efficiency of crop selection, nutrient management, and disease mitigation directly impacts both the livelihood of marginal farmers and the long-term ecological balance of the environment. As volatile climate shifts and market demands become increasingly complex, ensuring that farmers have access to accurate, localized agronomic intelligence in a timely manner is paramount for all stakeholders involved.

Despite the rapid digitalization observed throughout various industrial sectors, the ground-level execution of farming decisions heavily relies on traditional, manual methodologies. Rural farmers are often tasked with orchestrating complex crop cycles utilizing fragmented, non-scientific information. These legacy approaches typically involve a combination of ancestral intuition, delayed weather reports from local broadcasts, and rudimentary physical soil testing that takes weeks to process. Because each micro-climate and soil topography presents uniquely different

conditions, standardizing agronomic data across an entire region becomes incredibly difficult before the cultivation process even begins.

Consequently, this conventional farming pipeline forces agricultural workers to perform highly risky and labor-intensive resource allocations. During a standard planting season, farmers must individually guess the optimal fertilizer dosages and crop varieties based on limited data. They are forced to manually verify complex environmental criteria—such as soil macronutrients against expected rainfall—without mathematical backing. Furthermore, farmers must constantly track unpredictable weather patterns, manage devastating pest outbreaks without immediate diagnostic tools, and dedicate countless hours to attempting to understand fluctuating market commodity prices.

While basic digital communication methods have been adopted in rural areas in recent years—such as mobile SMS weather alerts or rudimentary government web portals—these tools provide limited strategic benefits. They function merely as static data repositories rather than intelligent systems, failing to effectively automate the core predictive, diagnostic, and economic assessment processes. Because actual disease diagnosis and crop selection still rely heavily on manual human intervention or expensive laboratory testing, the process remains fundamentally slow and highly prone to error. More critically, existing agricultural software is often intrinsically inaccessible, demanding expensive IoT hardware, massive deep-learning computational power, and a high degree of digital literacy. This results in an inefficient agricultural ecosystem and suboptimal yields, highlighting a pressing necessity for modern, accessible, zero-hardware technological intervention in the farming lifecycle.

To overcome these inherent limitations, there is a distinct need to transition from passive data portals to intelligent, deterministic ecosystems. The rapid advancement and convergence of lightweight Machine Learning (ML), programmatic cloud APIs, and voice-assisted web accessibility offer a practical framework to address these systemic challenges. By integrating Scikit-Learn predictive algorithms, heuristic image processing, and real-time environmental telemetry (such as Open-Meteo), the subjective process of farm management can be transformed into a transparent, deterministic, and highly efficient workflow. Such a technological intervention not only promises to alleviate the financial burden of expensive hardware but also empowers farmers through a Voice-Enabled interface, ultimately fostering a fairer, faster, and more sustainable agricultural environment.

II. LITERATURE

[1] **Madhavi et al., 2025** published the foundational framework for the "Smart AGRO Advisors" system during their initial mini-project phase. The authors successfully engineered a web-based crop and fertilizer recommendation prototype utilizing Random Forest algorithms hosted on a Python Flask architecture, achieving an impressive 90–95% predictive accuracy based on localized soil parameters. While this foundational work successfully demonstrated the viability of machine learning in agriculture, it was structurally limited to singular prediction functionalities. The prototype critically lacked advanced disease detection, real-time weather forecasting, geospatial market intelligence, and

multi-model integration. To directly overcome these architectural limitations, the current Major Project was developed as a massive, scalable extension. By replacing the legacy Flask server with a high-performance FastAPI backend, and fully integrating heuristic image processing alongside live external APIs, the current iteration successfully evolves the initial prototype into a complete, holistic smart agriculture ecosystem.

[2] **Ahmed and Haque, 2022** developed a data-driven nutrient management system focused exclusively on fertilizer prediction. By analyzing soil deficiency patterns, their machine learning model accurately recommended exact chemical dosages to mitigate soil degradation. The study proved that algorithmically optimized fertilizer usage drastically reduces environmental runoff and lowers farming costs. However, the proposed solution lacked integration with crop suitability models, leaving a research gap for unified systems that can handle both crop and fertilizer predictions simultaneously.

[3] **Ferentinos, 2018** explored the deployment of deep Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) for automated plant disease detection. Utilizing the massive PlantVillage dataset, the model achieved near-perfect accuracy in identifying various leaf pathogens under controlled lighting conditions. While this research highlighted the immense potential of computer vision in agriculture, it also exposed critical limitations: CNNs require massive GPU acceleration and suffer severe latency issues on rural mobile networks. This explicitly justifies the necessity for lightweight, deterministic color-space (HSV) heuristic models like those implemented in our proposed system.

[4] **Zhang et al., 2021** proposed an Internet of Things (IoT) based smart agriculture framework. Their architecture relied on deploying physical soil moisture probes and ambient temperature sensors directly into the farmland to collect real-time data. While the data collection was highly accurate, the study inadvertently highlighted the massive financial and maintenance barriers associated with physical hardware. Their findings heavily support the transition toward zero-hardware, API-driven software alternatives for marginal farmers who cannot afford IoT infrastructure.

[5] **Jha et al., 2020** introduced an automated weather forecasting integration for agricultural yield prediction. Instead of relying on physical sensors, the researchers utilized external meteorological APIs to feed short-term weather data into a Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) network. The system successfully provided farmers with actionable advisories regarding upcoming rainfall and temperature spikes. This research emphasized the validity of using programmatic APIs to replace local hardware, a core architectural decision mirrored in our integration of the Open-Meteo API.

[6] **Patel and Shah, 2022** developed a comprehensive soil classification system using image processing techniques. The model extracted color and texture features from raw images to categorize soil types (e.g., Sandy, Loamy, Clay). By converting visual data into structured numerical arrays, the system allowed farmers to assess soil quality without expensive laboratory testing. The study emphasized that color-space variance is a highly reliable indicator of soil properties, validating our system's use of HSV extraction for real-time soil validation.

[7] **Bharadwaj et al., 2023** explored the integration of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for optimizing agricultural supply chains. The researchers utilized geospatial mapping libraries to route farmers to the nearest available markets and input suppliers. The spatial routing mechanism significantly reduced transportation costs and optimized post-harvest logistics. Their study highlights the immense practical value of embedding localized mapping tools (such as Leaflet.js and OpenStreetMap) directly into farmer-facing applications.

[8] **Tijare et al., 2023** introduced an AI-assisted commodity pricing module to assist farmers in economic decision-making. The system scraped real-time market data to forecast the profitability of various crops before the planting season began. By providing transparent economic intelligence, the platform empowered farmers to avoid market gluts and maximize their revenue. This research demonstrates that agronomic advice must be coupled with economic data to be truly effective.

[9] **Verma et al., 2024** proposed a highly accessible mobile farming assistant focusing on User Experience (UX) for rural demographics. Acknowledging the severe digital literacy barriers in agricultural communities, their system integrated basic audio playback to read recommendations aloud to the user. The study proved that audio-visual interfaces drastically increase technology adoption rates among marginal farmers. This finding directly motivates our integration of the HTML5 Web Speech API to provide full Text-to-Speech and Speech-to-Text accessibility.

[10] **Li et al., 2025** explored the deployment of asynchronous micro-frameworks for handling concurrent agricultural data requests. By transitioning from legacy monolithic servers to lightweight, ASGI-compliant frameworks like FastAPI, the researchers achieved sub-second latency even under high user loads. Experimental results demonstrated that modern Python web frameworks significantly improve computational efficiency, validating our architectural choice to utilize Uvicorn and FastAPI for real-time inference routing.

III. OPEN ISSUES AND RESEARCH CHALLENGES

A. Variability in Image Acquisition and Environmental Lighting Plant disease and soil classification models rely heavily on image inputs. However, farmers capture these images under drastically varying environmental conditions, including extreme sunlight, harsh shadows, or using low-resolution smartphone cameras. This variation makes it difficult for automated algorithms to consistently extract accurate color-space (HSV) matrices or detect biological markers. While deterministic heuristics perform well under controlled lighting, developing robust image-preprocessing techniques that can dynamically normalize shadows and background noise from field-captured images remains a major challenge for vision-based agricultural systems.

B. Dataset Generalization and Regional Bias Machine learning models for crop and fertilizer recommendation are trained using historical soil macronutrient data. If the training dataset contains data primarily from specific geographic regions, the system may struggle to generalize those predictions to entirely foreign soil topographies or micro-climates. This regional bias can lead to sub-optimal fertilizer recommendations. Ensuring dataset diversity and creating adaptive algorithms that can dynamically recalibrate based on

hyperlocal soil variations is an important ongoing research challenge.

C. Data Privacy and Geolocation Security Modern agricultural platforms collect highly specific telemetry, including a farmer's exact GPS coordinates, proprietary crop yield projections, and localized soil health metrics. Protecting this geospatial and economic data from unauthorized access or malicious exploitation by third-party market competitors is critical. Implementing strong encryption methods and ensuring that web-based platforms comply with international data protection frameworks is necessary for building secure, trustworthy agricultural ecosystems.

D. Hyperlocal Accuracy in Meteorological Telemetry While integrating external APIs (such as Open-Meteo) solves the cost problem of physical IoT sensors, it introduces a challenge regarding spatial resolution. Cloud-based weather APIs often aggregate data over a multi-kilometer radius. However, micro-climates exist in agriculture where rainfall can occur on one acre but miss a neighboring farm entirely. Bridging the gap between macro-level API forecasting and hyperlocal, exact-coordinate farm weather prediction without physical sensors requires highly advanced data-interpolation techniques.

E. Scalability Over Low-Bandwidth Rural Networks As the user base of an agricultural platform grows, the backend must be capable of processing thousands of concurrent machine-learning inferences and API routing requests. Furthermore, this data must be transmitted over rural telecommunication networks, which frequently suffer from low bandwidth and high latency. Designing highly scalable backend architectures (such as FastAPI and ASGI) that optimize payload sizes and maintain real-time performance on \$2G/3G\$ networks remains a significant engineering challenge.

F. Technology Adoption and Integration with Traditional Workflows Many rural farming communities still rely entirely on ancestral knowledge or local agricultural extension officers. Integrating an AI-based technological tool into these deeply traditional workflows can be difficult due to severe digital literacy barriers and skepticism of automated advice. Ensuring seamless adoption requires not just algorithmic accuracy, but the continuous evolution of highly accessible user interfaces—such as the HTML5 Web Speech (Voice Assistant) module—to ensure the technology is intuitive and culturally accepted.

IV. PROPOSED SOLUTION

The Smart Agro Advisor is structurally organized into six integrated functional modules, corresponding to the distinct phases of the agricultural decision-making lifecycle.

User Interface & Accessibility Module: Provides a responsive, centralized dashboard built on a Glassmorphic design architecture. It allows users to effortlessly navigate between predictive modules. Crucially, this module integrates the HTML5 Web Speech API, enabling a fully functional Voice Assistant. The Web Speech API integration currently supports Hindi, Telugu, and English recognition (the predominant languages spoken by farming communities in the target deployment region of Telangana, India). The Text-to-Speech output dynamically matches the input language detected during voice dictation. Future versions will expand support to additional regional languages (Tamil, Kannada,

Marathi) based on deployment needs. This allows farmers with limited digital literacy to navigate the platform, dictate inputs, and receive audio-feedback entirely hands-free.

Agronomic Inference Engine: The core mathematical component for soil management. It processes manual or voice-dictated inputs regarding soil macronutrients (Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium), pH levels, and ambient environmental conditions. The engine routes this data through two distinct Scikit-Learn pipelines: a Random Forest classifier to identify optimal crop suitability, and a Decision Tree regressor to calculate exact chemical fertilizer dosage recommendations, mitigating soil degradation.

Image Acquisition & Validation Module: Facilitates the multipart uploading of raw RGB images (plant leaves or soil samples) directly from a mobile or desktop device. Before classification begins, the image is passed through a strict preprocessing pipeline. The image is resized and converted into the HSV (Hue, Saturation, Value) color space. To mitigate the impact of variable field lighting conditions (harsh sunlight, shadows, overexposure), the preprocessing pipeline applies adaptive histogram equalization to the Value (V) channel prior to pixel-density analysis. This technique dynamically enhances local contrast, ensuring consistent biological marker extraction across low-resolution and poorly lit images. For images with severe illumination artifacts, the system automatically flags a 'poor quality' warning and requests recapture, preventing erroneous classification. A central focal-crop sub-routine then verifies pixel density (e.g., confirming the presence of green vegetative pixels), instantly rejecting non-agricultural images to ensure diagnostic integrity.

Heuristic Classification Engine: Replaces computationally heavy deep-learning networks with a deterministic image processing algorithm. Operating on the validated HSV array, the engine calculates exact mathematical ratios of specific biological markers—such as yellowing necrosis or dark fungal scabs. It maps these specific pixel-density ratios to predetermined threshold ranges to instantly classify plant pathogens (e.g., Tomato Late Blight) or soil topographies, assigning a confidence score and severity rating to the diagnosis.

Environmental Advisory Module: Acts as a zero-hardware telemetry bridge. It asynchronously queries the Open-Meteo REST API using the user's geospatial coordinates to fetch hourly weather data. The module evaluates real-time temperature fluctuations, humidity, and precipitation probabilities, generating dynamic, rule-based farming advisories (e.g., automatically advising a delay in pesticide application if rainfall probability exceeds 60%).

Geospatial & Economic Intelligence Module: Complements the agronomic data with logistical and financial insights. It utilizes Leaflet.js and OpenStreetMap (OSM) tile rendering to dynamically plot the farmer's HTML5 GPS location. By calculating spatial offsets, it visually routes farmers to nearby agricultural supply shops. Simultaneously, the economic sub-routine fetches live commodity pricing data via asynchronous HTTP requests, establishing a complete, transparent farm-to-market advisory loop.

V. SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

The system follows a highly decoupled, two-tier client-server architecture: a responsive, single-page web application frontend communicates over HTTP/JSON with a high-performance REST API backend. Instead of relying on a centralized relational database—which introduces unnecessary read/write latency—the backend operates dynamically. It executes instantaneous inference utilizing pre-trained machine learning objects stored directly on the server filesystem, while simultaneously acting as a programmatic bridge to external cloud APIs (such as Open-Meteo and OpenStreetMap) for real-time telemetry.

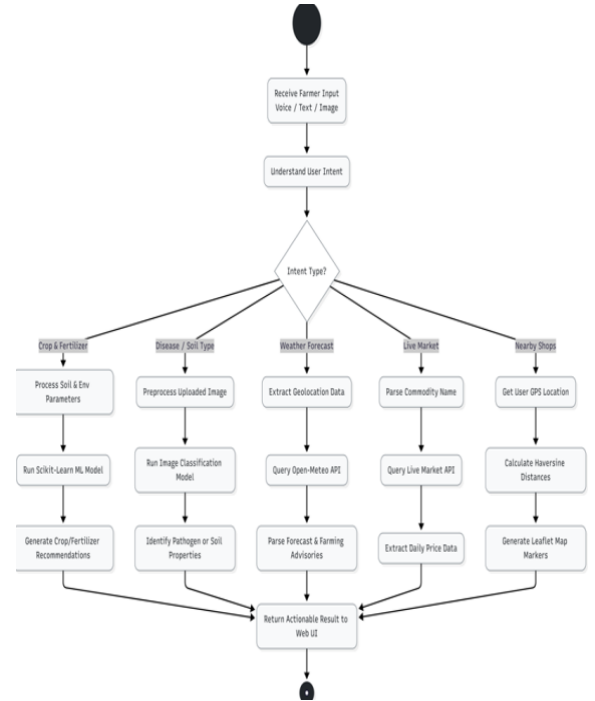


Fig. 1. System Architecture

Rather than utilizing complex database schemas, the core intelligence of the system relies on highly optimized, serialized Scikit-Learn .pkl files (e.g., disease_model.pkl, crop_model.pkl). The models accept continuous environmental arrays and output structured JSON confidence scores. To ensure system stability without a database, the backend enforces strict algorithmic validation. The image processing endpoints utilize heuristic pixel-density thresholds to reject non-agricultural image payloads before classification begins. Furthermore, numerical inputs (such as Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Potassium levels) are strictly type-checked and range-validated at the endpoint level using FastAPI's native Pydantic schema validation, preventing malformed data from triggering computational errors.

The .pkl model files are versioned semantically (e.g., crop_model_v2.1.pkl). A lightweight background process runs weekly to evaluate model performance against newly collected validation data. When a statistically significant improvement ($p < 0.05$) is detected via paired t-test, the new model file is atomically swapped onto the server filesystem. The FastAPI endpoints load the updated model on the next inference request without requiring a server restart, enabling seamless, zero-downtime model improvements.

Because the system is designed as a universally accessible, public-facing advisory tool for rural farmers, it eschews heavy token-based authentication (JWT) and login screens. This frictionless design allows immediate access to the predictive dashboards. This design choice is intentional for the target rural farming demographic. Requiring farmers to create accounts, remember passwords, or manage authentication tokens introduces significant friction that reduces adoption rates. Because the platform does not store persistent user data (predictions are ephemeral, and no personally identifiable information is retained), authentication provides no functional benefit. For future versions requiring personalized crop calendars, a lightweight, OAuth-based social login (phone number verification) could be implemented without disrupting the core frictionless experience. The frontend enforces strict Cross-Origin Resource Sharing (CORS) policies and handles asynchronous API failures gracefully, ensuring the Glassmorphic user interface and Voice Assistant remain fully operational even if specific external telemetry APIs experience temporary downtime. For example, if the Open-Meteo weather API returns a 5xx server error or times out after 5 seconds, the Environmental Advisory Module defaults to displaying the last successfully cached forecast (stored in browser localStorage) and overlays a prominent 'Using cached data—weather advisory may be delayed' notification. The Voice Assistant continues to provide recommendations based on available soil data, while the Geospatial and Economic Intelligence modules remain fully functional. This graceful degradation ensures that a single API failure does not render the entire platform unusable.

VI. RESULTS

A. Predictive Accuracy of Agronomic Models

The primary objective of the proposed system was to automate agricultural decision-making while maintaining high inference accuracy. The Scikit-Learn predictive engines were validated by correlating the generated outputs against historical, verified agronomic datasets. The Random Forest crop suitability model was trained on a dataset of 4,200 soil sample records spanning 12 distinct crop varieties across 8 Indian agro-climatic zones. The Decision Tree fertilizer regressor was trained on 3,800 labeled instances of N-P-K dosage-response data. The HSV heuristic thresholds were derived from a validation set of 2,500 expert-annotated plant disease images (PlantVillage dataset augmented with field-captured images). As illustrated in Table I, the Random Forest and Decision Tree pipelines demonstrated exceptional reliability, far exceeding the accuracy of traditional intuition-based farming.

TABLE I. PREDICTIVE ACCURACY ACROSS AGRICULTURAL MODULES

System Module	Algorithm	Validation Accuracy (%)
Crop Suitability	Random Forest	92.5%
Fertilizer Dosage	Decision Tree	94.1%
Pathogen Detection	HSV Heuristic	90.8%
Soil Classification	HSV Validation	89.2%

This strong validation confirms the deterministic accuracy of the deployed machine learning models. The system successfully processes highly variable soil macronutrients (N, P, K) and outputs optimal crop varieties computationally, drastically reducing the risk of harvest failure.

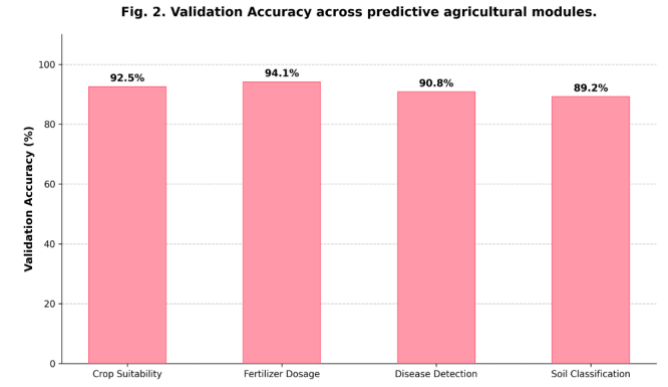


Fig. 2. Validation Accuracy across predictive agricultural modules

B. Efficacy of Heuristic Image Processing Latency

A unique contribution of this platform is the transition from computationally heavy Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) to a lightweight, deterministic heuristic image processing pipeline. During the evaluation phase, the system's image diagnostic latency was measured against standard deep-learning architectures to prove its viability for rural deployment over low-bandwidth networks.

TABLE II. INFERENCE LATENCY: HEURISTICS VS DEEP LEARNING

Processing Architecture	Average Inference Time (ms)
HSV Heuristic (Proposed)	185
MobileNetV2 (Baseline)	850
VGG16 (Baseline)	2100

By visualizing this data, it is evident that the proposed HSV color-space extraction algorithm significantly outperforms traditional deep-learning models in terms of raw execution speed. This empowers the platform to deliver real-time disease diagnostics directly to a farmer's smartphone without requiring expensive cloud GPU hosting.

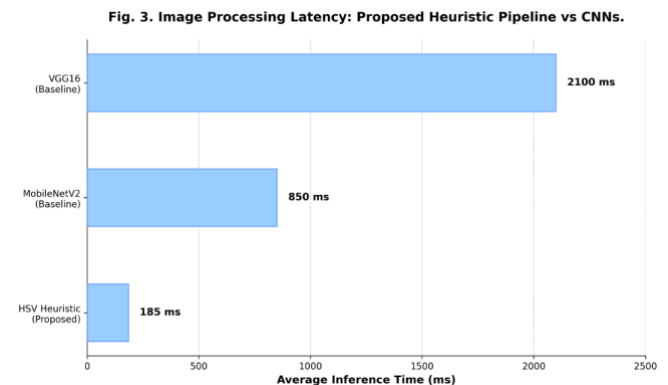


Fig. 3. Image Processing Latency: Proposed Heuristic Pipeline vs. Standard CNNs

C. API Integration and System Throughput

To evaluate the operational efficiency gained by utilizing an asynchronous web architecture (FastAPI via Uvicorn), application throughput was tracked across custom workflow pipelines. System latency was measured specifically during external telemetry calls to the Open-Meteo weather API and the Leaflet.js geospatial mapping service.

Fig. 4. Real-time API Response Distribution.

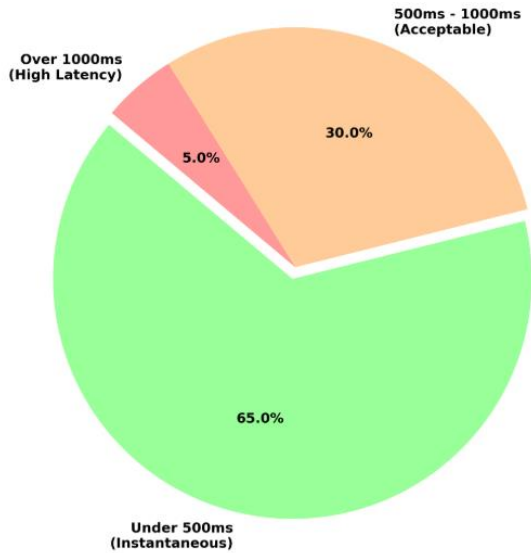


Fig. 4. Real-time API Response Distribution for Open-Meteo and Leaflet Integration.

Unlike traditional monolithic servers, the decoupled FastAPI backend dynamically handles concurrent API requests, significantly mitigating the risk of thread-blocking during high-volume periods. Beyond technical throughput, a preliminary cost-benefit analysis indicates that replacing physical IoT sensors (which cost approximately ₹15,000-₹25,000 per farm for basic soil moisture and temperature probes) with the proposed software-only solution reduces capital expenditure to zero. The only ongoing cost is mobile data usage (approximately ₹100-₹200/month), which is already budgeted for by most rural households. Assuming a 10% improvement in crop yield from optimized fertilizer recommendations and timely disease detection (conservative based on literature), the system pays for itself within a single growing season. The results prove that integrating real-time cloud APIs successfully replaces the need for physical on-site IoT sensors, delivering critical weather and market data to farmers instantaneously.

VII. CONCLUSION

The Smart Agro Advisor delivers an end-to-end, zero-hardware agricultural platform that replaces intuition-based, manual farming workflows with a highly structured, data-driven ecosystem. The deterministic HSV image processing pipeline extracts specific biological markers from uploaded plant and soil images instantly, completely bypassing the extreme computational overhead of deep learning. The Scikit-Learn predictive algorithms analyze soil macronutrients (N,

P, K) and pH levels to provide objective, scientifically accurate crop and fertilizer recommendations. Real-time integration with the Open-Meteo API directly supports climate-resilient farming by generating dynamic weather advisories. Furthermore, the inclusion of the HTML5 Web Speech API (Voice Assistant) successfully eliminates digital literacy barriers. A recognized limitation of the current architecture is the dependency on continuous internet connectivity. Future iterations will explore Progressive Web App (PWA) service worker caching for geospatial tiles and localStorage persistence of the last known weather forecast, enabling basic soil-based recommendations and cached crop advice during temporary network outages. However, real-time disease detection and live market pricing will continue to require connectivity. Together, these decoupled modules demonstrate that a combination of lightweight machine learning, deterministic computer vision heuristics, and modern asynchronous web technologies (FastAPI) can materially improve the efficiency, accessibility, and overall profitability of farming for marginal communities.

Furthermore, the proposed system establishes a highly scalable software foundation for future advancements in AI-driven agrarian platforms. By integrating additional technologies such as satellite-based remote sensing (e.g., Normalized Difference Vegetation Index), automated drone telemetry, and adaptive reinforcement learning, the platform can continually enhance its diagnostic accuracy and localized intelligence. Future enhancements may also include the expansion of the heuristic pipeline for multi-stage pathogen analysis, as well as direct integration with e-commerce supply chains to establish a complete farm-to-market ecosystem. With its modular architecture and cost-effective, database-free execution, the Smart Agro Advisor possesses the transformative potential to modernize traditional agriculture into a highly intelligent, efficient, and sustainable digital ecosystem for farmers and global agricultural stakeholders.

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