Talk at Prix Technologies Numériques 2025

Smart farms for different agricultural practices?

Philippe Ciblat

Telecom Paris, Institut Polytechnique de Paris



Harvest chair



Goal

Analyze and evaluate digital technologies leading to a more resilient and sustainable food production

PTN 2025 Smart farming? 2 / 8

Chair's activities

- Thoughts on teaching tracks
 - Convince students for digital agriculture
- Help to set up research projects
 - Example: Twinfarms
- Annual research symposium
 - ▶ 2024: "Future sensors: opportunities for next-generation agriculture"
 - ▶ 2025: "Agriculture and data sciences"
 - ▶ 2026: "Strategies for using digital tools"

PTN 2025 Smart farming? 3 / 8

Twinfarms project



- PEPR : "Agroécologie et Numérique" (lead: INRIA)
- Starting date: Feb 1st, 2025 for 48 months
- Budget: 3M€
- Partners: AgroParisTech, Telecom Paris, UniLasalle, Agricultural institutes (for use cases), some start up

Goals: Digital twin for different types of farms

- Design of decision-making algorithms
- Evaluation of different farms' configurations
- Promote agro-ecological transition

PTN 2025 Smart farming? 4 / 8

Some use cases

- Crop irrigation: joint multi-farms irrigation optimization
- Grass management in livestock farm for fertilizer and carbon fingerprint trade off
- Early diseases' detection in vineyards
- Livestock effluent trade off between fertilization and energy production
- Multi-criteria evaluation for farms in transition

Crop irrigation

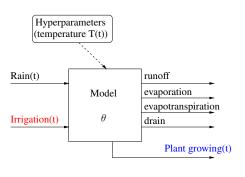
- Many mathematical models
 - Optirrig toolbox
- Few data for training
- Some collected data for monitoring (Sentinel satellite, Weather forecast, Soil properties)

Approaches for optimal irrigation policy

- ullet Model-driven: if stationary o Markov-Decision process
- Data-driven: here, hybrid technique such as Physically-Informed Neural Network (PINN) in Reinforcement Learning setting

PTN 2025 Smart farming? 6 / 8

Crop irrigation (cont'd)



$$\dot{s}(t) = -\phi(t)k_1K_{\rho}(s(t))
- (1-\phi(t))k_1K_{s}(s(t))
+ k_2u(t)
\dot{b}(t) = \phi(t)K_{\rho}(s(t))$$

with s(t) soil moisture, b(t) plant biomass, and K_p plant transpiration, K_s soil evaporation

- Main novelty: multi-plots and even multi-farms
- Additional constraint: equipment management
- Optimization: water management with minimum yield

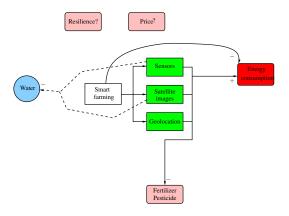
source: R. Chenevat et al., "Optimal structures of crop irrigation strategies with state constraints", Jnl of Optimization Theory and Applications 2025

PTN 2025 Smart farming? 7 / 8

Chart for Smart farming

Today, the reasoning is

- First, increase of yields
- Second, fertilizer/water decrease <u>but</u> failure of Ecophyto plan



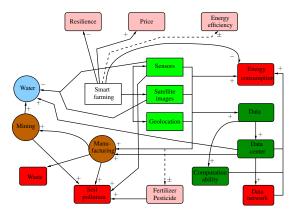
source: http://www.ofb.gouv.fr; J. Oui, "Produire une faute -conforme-. Outils numériques et normes environnementales en agriculture", Sociologies Pratiques, 2024

PTN 2025 Smart farming? 8 / 8

Chart for Smart farming

Today, the reasoning is

- First, increase of yields
- Second, fertilizer/water decrease but failure of Ecophyto plan



source: http://www.ofb.gouv.fr; J. Oui, "Produire une faute -conforme-. Outils numériques et normes environnementales en agriculture", Sociologies Pratiques, 2024