

IoT – Agriculture,

The iota in the alphabet soup?

Walter Stiers IBM Belgium



The Global Risks Landscape 2017

What is the impact and likelihood of global risks?



How IBM defines 'agribusiness'





Inputs

Seeds, fertilizer, crop protection, animal health, nutrients, equipment

livestock management

Crops,

dairy,

proteins (animal and plant sources)

Trading

Crops, oils, animals, biofuels

and Logistics

Milling, bulk food ingredients, flavours, fragrances

Manufacture

Foodstuffs, beverages, meat products, dairy, supplements

Retailing

Traditional trade, modern trade, retailing

Processing

Recycling, upcycling, disposal



- Market leader in potato storage condition control systems
- Enhancing climate control for agriculture storage systems with energy management and weather forecasting data.



 Providing optimal & economic potato storage conditions using local weather forecasts on an hourly base





Scalable Analytics: Improving crop yield and quality while reducing water consumption in the vineyard

Gallo & IBM:

2014 Vintage Report Innovation Award for prototype system

20 Jan. 2015



The challenge:

- Improve Crop yields and grape quality by precision irrigation solution
- Conserve water due to drought



2013- average NDVI is 0.76 2012- average NDVI was 0.7

Solution:

- Remote Satellite image processing for normalized vegetation index (NDVI)
- Evapo-transpiration modeling & plant modeling to determine irrigation schedule

Table 2. Average yield and water use efficiency of variable rate and conventional irrigation in all four years of the study

Year	Yield (tons/acre)		Gain VRDI/CDI	WUE (tons/acre-foot)		Gain VRDI/CDI
	VRI	CI	(%)	VRI	CI	(%)
2012	8.9	8.9	0.0	5.93	5.93	0.0
2013	7.7	7.4	4.1	5.63	4.93	14.2
2014	10.1	8.7	16.1	7.43	7.08	4.9
2015	5.1	4.6	10.9	4.27	3.6 5	17.1
Average		10.3			12.1	

Results:

- Increased Yield 23%
- Water conservation 20%
- Reduced variability, 10% higher grape quality





Scalable Analytics: Improving crop yield and quality while reducing water consumption in the vineyard

Rn

ET

Rn

Н

G



- Predictive weather model
- Weather station data
- Evapo-transpiration modeling
- Control a smart variable rate irrigation system







Energy Balance model:

Evapo transpiration

Soil heat Flux (W/m²)

 $ET = R_n - H - G$

Net radiation Flux (W/m²)

Sensible heat Flux (W/m²)

"The solution provides a precise and environmentally conscious method of increasing our grape yield and fruit quality while conserving water."

Luis Sanchez, senior research scientist – Gallo

Double drip line with control electronics.







EZ-Farm

IBM Research created EZ-Farm, an Internet of Things (IoT) remote monitoring solution that helps small-scale farmers to better manage water resources. Purpose is to eliminate water supply as an inhibiting factor to crop yields in Africa.

EZ Farms uses

SANFRANCISCOCALIFORNIA

OCTOBER2015

- IBM Bluemix and
- · IBM IoT Foundation

to enable sensors on the field that inform

- the small-scale farmers to better manage water situation
- agricultural aggregators to identify the best prospects for financing.

<u>Kala Fleming:</u> <u>Easing water scarcity by</u> <u>understanding when and where it flows</u>

How Smart, Connected Products Are Transforming Companies



Michael E. Porter James E. Heppelmann Harvard Business Review, November 2014



How Smart, Connected Products Are Transforming Competition

EHEC/STEC 2011 Outbreak in Germany



Can we prepare for investigation of a food-borne disease outbreak ... before it even occurs?





Figure 1: The Farm-to-Fork Road Map¹ including the entire food product supply chain of agriculture, transportation, processing, packaging and consumer.

Likelihood Based Method



 Collaboration with IBM Research and the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)

Comparing Sales Distributions to Outbreak Patterns

J.H. Kaufman et al., "A Likelihood-Based Approach to Identifying Contaminated Food Products Using Sales Data: Performance and Challenges." PLoS computational biology 10.7 (2014): e1003692.











Figure 34: Food Loss in Kenyan Avocado Value Chains (Estimates)



Vertical collaboration

Horizontal collaboration





processing packaged cheese Fresh milk Fresh cheese **Ripened** cheese Land Cooperative shop 13.6 km Local Water Workers On farm Cheese making 7% Forage Chalet direct sales Concentrated feed Regional Feed (hay or mais) Cows Supermarkets National 30% Restaurants and Equipment electricity Cows Starters Cereals electricity workers 1000 km concentrate feed EU shops and Supermarkets Continental Equipment EU Restaurants an workers workers 10'000 km Protein Fuel Fuel concentrat World shops and Machineries feed Supermarkets Global workers packaging World Restaurant and catering 100'000 km fuel, packaging

exemplar entry points for external drivers of change;

Can Organic Farming Reduce Vulnerabilities and Enhance the Resilience of the European

Food System? A Critical Assessment Using System Dynamics Structural Thinking Tools Sustainability 2016, 8, 971

L'Etivaz value chain spreading between

Are Local Food Chains More Sustainable

than Global Food Chains? Considerations

the local and the global scale.

Sustainability 2016, 8, 449;

for Assessment

Environmental impacts of farming

Organic claims to be more environmentally friendly. Swedish Food Administration report shows it falls short in 39 out of 53 reviewed aspects. Conventional farming outperforms organic more often than the reverse.

[O	Equal	Organic better		Conventional better		
	Climate	Over- fertiliz.	Acidifi- cation	Eco- toxicity	Energy use	Land use
Milk	32	6	6	5	9	13
Beef	5	7	3	9	3	4
Pork	4	6	4	4	4	5
hicken	4	6	4	4	2	5
Eggs	2	3	2	1	2	2
Fish	4	3	4	3	3	0
arains	21	11	10	12	18	9
eggies	13	4	4	9	8	2
Fruits	22	4	4	2	9	2
Use of res	ources and othe	r environmenta	l effects compa	red per unit	Ma	

weight of each farming product. Numbers signify nr of studies reviewed. Source: Svenska Livsmedelsverket, Report June 2016, part 2



IBM Research: 5-in-5 Macroscopes will help us understand Earth's complexity in infinite detail







Organize the IoT

New tools like macroscopes will organize all the world's data -whether gathered by microscopes, telescopes or everything in between.



Transform industries

Macroscopes will reveal new insights about some of the most fundamental problems we face, such as the availability of food,

water and energy.



Search data by time and space

Macroscope technology will be built on platforms that collect and curate geospatial data so it can be easily searched.

http://www.research.ibm.com/5-in-5/macroscopes/



Decision Support System for Agrotechnology Transfer (DSSAT)



- DSSAT simulation using PAIRS data:
 - Yield forecast Anthesis date & Maturity date forecast
- Historical wheat yield simulation
 - One point in the county vs. the reported average yield for the county

PAIRS layer

New PAIRS layer

- The sub-objective was to check the general trend
- Seasonal analysis and various scenarios
 - Yield potential, impact of irrigation, N
- Satellite based vegetation index integration
 - NDVI-normalized difference vegetation index



- Kansas, USA (213,000 Km²)
- Elevation: 207 m to 1232m (average ~610m)
- The climate of Kansas can be characterized in terms of three types:
 - humid continental,
 - semi-arid steppe, and
 - humid subtropical
- Kansas has the largest change in weather conditions: west part irrigated - east part rain fed
- 8,800,000 acres harvested in 2014
- Second largest producer of Wheat in the US







CONCLUSIONS:

- Global crop production estimates require the combination of crop models (DSSAT) with big data platforms (PAIRS)
- PAIRS offers unique capabilities include complex cross-layer queries and data discovery
- Geospatial big data platforms to drive this modeling exist and are improving
- Training models on historical data is a challenge:
 - access to reliable data sets
 - domain knowledge integration
 - reusability of the information
- PAIRS can be used to improve forecasts (crop type, production yield, weather, etc.) relevant to commodity trading.
- PAIRS can be used to impact farming operations (optimized irrigation, fertilization, crop protection, etc.)



To conclude ...

Agri-Food Supply Chain benefits from IoT, taken into consideration:

The range, variety and complexity of the eco-system

The benefits from Cloud, Analytics & Shared Data

- Take benefit of different types of IoT data from the eco-system IoT²: IoT outside Technology, e.g. terrain, soil, weather, genetics, satellite info, sales, ...
- An IoT Framework to connect sensors and actuators on a PaaS platform
- Provide Access Rights, including granular security & privacy
- Detailed Analytics & Models, enhanced with cognitive services
 Build on data management, curation, statistics, physics based models, machine learning
- Blockchain for e.g. track & trace, provenance, fraud detection, ...