

XXXVII Cycle

Development of Low-Power and Low-Cost devices for Smart Agriculture **Calvo Stefano**

Supervisor: Prof. Demarchi Danilo

Research context and motivation



Food Production is responsible for **30%** of global greenhouse gases emission and 70% of freshwater withdrawals

Recent studies state that world population will reach **10 billion** by the end of this century

Novel contributions

- In-Vivo and real-time stem electrical impedance analysis over time used to assess plants health status.
- Development of a **device**:
 - Cheap
 - Small
 - **Energetically Autonomous**
 - **Relying on Renewable** Ο Resources
 - Able to implement the approach of 'Deploy and Forget'



ecek (2018): UN FAO: UN AOUASTAT: Bar-On et al. (2018

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Smart Agriculture will have a major role in the next decades to **increase** food production and, at the same time, **reduce** its environmental impact

World population growth, 1700-2100 10.9 Billion Annual growth rate of the world population World population 5 Billio in 198 2000 2019 2050

Addressed research questions/problems

- Until recently, smart agriculture focused on inspecting crops environmnent rather crops themselves
- Bulky, expensive, and hard-to-use instruments
- Unexeperienced users





ww.netsens.it/en/products/agricultural-weather-stations-1

Focus on the plant itself

Adopted methodologies

- **24/7** electrical impedance analysis sampled once per hour
- The first step is to understand how the **impedance varies** with respect to external stimuli to estimate correlation
- Correlation assessed with **Pearson's** test

Correlation Coefficients	Impedance Modulus	Soil Moisture
Impedance Modulus	1	-0,91
Soil Moisture	-0,91	1



- Spectroscopy performed in a **200 Hz – 1 MHz** range
- High-passing filter behavior
- **10 kHz** chosen to perform statistical tests

Future work

- Design of a **custom PCB** to • read plant stem impedance
- Exploit **soil** and **plant** \bullet conductivity to carry the signal towards the base station
- Internet of Plants: crops as nodes in a WSN



Pictures taken from: «Ask the Plants Directly: Understanding Plant Needs using Electrical Impedance Measurements», Garlando, U. et al., 2022

Although soil water potential level (S.W.P.) did not significantly **L**-100 ≥₋₁₅₀. change, the **plant dried**... ... And the **impedance noticed** it

- Plants seen as a 'patience'
- Low-power, low-cost, autonomous, light-weighted, and easy-to-use devices
- **Deploy and Forget**



Submitted and published works

-50

-200 -

- Garlando, U., Bar-On, L., Motto Ros, P., Sanginario, A., Calvo, S., Martina, M., Avni, A., Shacham-Diamand, Y., and Demarchi, D., "Analysis of In-Vivo Plant Stem Impedance Variation with External Condition Daily Cycle", IEEE Internal Symposium on Circuits and Systems (ISCAS), Daedu, Korea, 2021, pp. 1-5
- Garlando, U., Calvo, S., and Barezzi, M., Sanginario, A., Motto Ros, P., and Demarchi, D. "Ask the Plants Directly: Understanding Plant Needs Using Electrical Impedance Measurements", Computers and Electronics in Agriculture, Vol., no. 193, 2022, pp. 106707

List of attended classes

- 02LWHRV Communication (08-01-2022, 1)
- 01SHMRV Entrepreneurial Finance (10-01-2022, 1)
- 01UIZRV Microwave Sensing and Imaging for Innovative Application in Health and Food Industry (01-01-2022, 4)
- 01UNYRV Personal Branding (16-12-2021, 1)
- 02SFURV Advanced MATLAB Programming (21-04-2022, 6)
- 08IXTRV Project Management (06-01-2022, 1)
- 01RISRV Public Speaking (08-01-2022, 1)
- 01SYBRV Research Integrity (23-12-2021, 1)
- 01SWQRV Responsible Research and Innovation, The Impact on Social Challenges (09-01-2022, 1)
- 01QRTRV Satellite Navigation Signal Exploitation For Atmospheric and Environmental Monitoring (30-06-2022, 3)
- 01DNHRV System Level Low Power Technique for IoT (15-07-2022, 4)
- 01QEZRV Sviluppo e Gestione di Sistemi di Acquisizione Dati (05-09-2022, 5)
- 02RHORV The New Internet Society: Entering the Black-Box of Digital Innovations (07-01-2022, 1)
- 01UNXRV Thinking Out of the Box (16-12-2021, 1)•
- 01SWPRV Time Management (16-12-2021, 1)



Electrical, Electronics and

Communications Engineering