ACSIE (International Journal of Application Computer Science and Informatic Engineering)
Vol.6, No.2, November 2024, pp. 83-94
ISSN (online): 2685-4600
DOI: 10.33173/acsie.v6i2.303

Application of LightGBM for Agricultural Yield Forecasting from Environmental and Pesticide Inputs

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Abstrak

Prediksi hasil pertanian yang akurat memiliki peran penting dalam mendukung ketahanan pangan, pengelolaan sumber daya, dan praktik pertanian berkelanjutan. Meningkatnya ketersediaan data lingkungan dan manajemen pertanian telah memungkinkan penerapan pendekatan machine learning *untuk meningkatkan keandalan prediksi. Namun, model statistik dan pembelajaran konvensional seringkali mengalami kesulitan dalam menangkap hubungan nonlinier yang kompleks antara faktor iklim dan pola penggunaan pestisida. Penelitian ini mengusulkan penerapan metode Light Gradient Boosting Machine (LightGBM) untuk prediksi hasil pertanian dengan memanfaatkan fitur lingkungan dan data input pestisida secara terintegrasi. Motivasi utama penelitian ini adalah mengembangkan kerangka prediksi yang efisien dan akurat, yang mampu menangani data pertanian berdimensi tinggi sekaligus mempertahankan kemampuan generalisasi yang baik. Model yang diusulkan menggabungkan variabel lingkungan dengan indikator terkait pestisida untuk memberikan representasi yang komprehensif terhadap kondisi pertumbuhan tanaman. LightGBM dipilih karena strategi pembelajaran berbasis histogram dan mekanisme pertumbuhan pohon leaf-wise yang mampu meningkatkan akurasi prediksi serta efisiensi komputasi. Kinerja model dievaluasi menggunakan metrik Mean Absolute Error (MAE) dan Root Mean Square Error (RMSE), serta perbandingan visual antara nilai hasil aktual dan prediksi. Hasil eksperimen menunjukkan bahwa pendekatan yang diusulkan mampu menghasilkan prediksi yang andal, dengan nilai MAE sebesar 63.522,74 kg/ha dan RMSE sebesar 82.716,32 kg/ha, yang mengindikasikan kemampuan model dalam menangkap dinamika nonlinier pada sistem pertanian. Penelitian selanjutnya akan difokuskan pada integrasi data penginderaan jauh (remote sensing), penerapan teknik pemodelan temporal yang lebih lanjut, serta penggunaan pendekatan explainable artificial intelligence untuk meningkatkan akurasi dan interpretabilitas model.*

Kata Kunci: *Prediksi hasil pertanian, LightGBM, data lingkungan, data pestisida, machine learning*

Abstract

Accurate agricultural yield forecasting plays a critical role in supporting food security, resource management, and sustainable farming practices. The increasing availability of environmental and agricultural management data has enabled the adoption of machine learning approaches to improve prediction reliability. However, conventional statistical and learning models often struggle to capture the complex nonlinear relationships between climatic factors and pesticide application patterns. This study proposes the application of the Light Gradient Boosting Machine (LightGBM) for agricultural yield forecasting using integrated environmental and pesticide input features.The main motivation of this research is to develop an efficient and accurate forecasting framework capable of handling high-dimensional agricultural datasets while maintaining strong generalization capability. The proposed model

Received August 28th,2024; Revised September 9th, 2024; Accepted October 21th, 2024

combines environmental variables with pesticide-related indicators to provide a comprehensive representation of crop growth conditions. LightGBM is employed due to its histogram-based learning strategy and leaf-wise tree growth mechanism, which enhance predictive accuracy and computational efficiency.Model performance was evaluated using Mean Absolute Error (MAE) and Root Mean Square Error (RMSE), along with visual comparison between actual and predicted yield values. Experimental results demonstrate that the proposed approach achieves reliable forecasting performance, with MAE of 63,522.74 kg/ha and RMSE of 82,716.32 kg/ha, indicating effective modeling of nonlinear agricultural dynamics. Future work will focus on integrating remote sensing data, advanced temporal modeling techniques, and explainable artificial intelligence to further enhance prediction accuracy and interpretability.

Keywords: *Agricultural Yield Forecasting, LightGBM, Environmental Data, Pesticide Data, Machine Learning*

1. INTRODUCTION

Agriculture remains one of the most fundamental sectors supporting global food security, economic stability, and rural development. With the continuous growth of the world population and increasing pressure on natural resources, accurate estimation of agricultural yield has become a critical issue for policymakers, farmers, and agri-industrial stakeholders. Crop yield forecasting plays an essential role in decision-making related to food supply chains, pricing strategies, land management, and national food security planning. Traditionally, yield estimation relied on historical averages, expert judgment, or linear statistical models, which often fail to capture the complex and nonlinear interactions among climatic conditions, soil characteristics, and agricultural practices. In recent years, the integration of digital agriculture and data-driven technologies has enabled the collection of large-scale environmental data, including temperature, rainfall, humidity, solar radiation, and pesticide usage records. These heterogeneous data sources provide valuable insights but also introduce significant analytical challenges due to their high dimensionality and nonlinear relationships. Machine learning has emerged as a powerful approach to model such complexity and has demonstrated superior performance over conventional statistical methods in agricultural prediction tasks [1], [2]. Among various machine learning algorithms, ensemble-based methods such as Gradient Boosting have gained increasing attention because of their robustness, scalability, and strong predictive capability. In particular, Light Gradient Boosting Machine (LightGBM) has shown promising results in numerous domains including energy forecasting, environmental modeling, and precision agriculture due to its efficiency in handling large datasets and high-dimensional features [3], [4].

Despite the rapid adoption of machine learning in agricultural analytics, several challenges remain unresolved in yield forecasting systems. First, agricultural productivity is influenced by highly nonlinear interactions between environmental variables and human-controlled inputs such as fertilizer and pesticide application. Conventional regression models and basic machine learning techniques often struggle to generalize under such complexity, especially when multicollinearity and missing values exist within the dataset. Second, many previous studies focus primarily on meteorological variables while overlooking pesticide-related inputs, even though pesticide usage significantly affects crop health and final yield outcomes. Excessive or improper pesticide application may reduce productivity and harm soil ecosystems, whereas optimal usage can enhance yield stability. Third, agricultural datasets frequently suffer from imbalanced distributions, seasonal variability, and noise caused by extreme weather events, which can degrade prediction accuracy. Existing models such as Artificial Neural Networks (ANN), Support Vector Regression (SVR), and Random Forest often require extensive parameter tuning and high computational cost to maintain performance stability [5], [6]. Moreover, most prior works emphasize model accuracy alone without addressing efficiency and scalability, which are essential for real-world deployment in agricultural decision-support

systems. These limitations indicate the need for a more advanced forecasting framework that can effectively integrate environmental and pesticide inputs while maintaining high prediction accuracy, computational efficiency, and interpretability [7], [8].

The primary goal of this research is to develop an accurate and efficient agricultural yield forecasting model by leveraging environmental variables and pesticide input data using the LightGBM algorithm. The motivation of this study arises from the growing demand for reliable prediction tools that can support precision agriculture and sustainable farming practices. Compared with traditional boosting algorithms, LightGBM employs histogram-based learning and leaf-wise tree growth strategies, allowing faster training speed, lower memory consumption, and improved predictive performance on large-scale datasets [9]. In this research, LightGBM is proposed as the core forecasting model to capture nonlinear dependencies among climatic factors and pesticide usage variables. The proposed approach integrates multiple environmental features, including temperature, rainfall, humidity, and solar exposure, alongside pesticide application indicators to construct a comprehensive representation of agricultural conditions. The major contributions of this study can be summarized as follows: (1) the integration of pesticide-related inputs with environmental features for yield prediction, which is rarely explored in existing literature; (2) the application of LightGBM as an efficient ensemble learning model for agricultural forecasting; (3) a systematic evaluation of model performance using multiple regression metrics to ensure reliability; and (4) the demonstration of LightGBM's superiority in handling nonlinear agricultural datasets compared with conventional machine learning methods. By addressing both predictive accuracy and computational efficiency, this research aims to provide a practical and scalable solution for modern agricultural analytics [10]–[12].

To validate the effectiveness of the proposed forecasting framework, comprehensive experiments are conducted using historical agricultural datasets containing environmental measurements and pesticide usage records. The model performance is evaluated using standard regression metrics such as Root Mean Square Error (RMSE), Mean Absolute Error (MAE), and coefficient of determination (R^2), which are widely adopted in agricultural prediction studies [13]. Comparative experiments are performed against baseline models including Linear Regression, Random Forest, and XGBoost to highlight the advantages of LightGBM in terms of prediction accuracy and learning efficiency. Experimental results demonstrate that the proposed LightGBM-based model achieves superior forecasting performance, particularly under complex nonlinear conditions and high-dimensional feature spaces. These findings confirm that integrating environmental and pesticide inputs significantly enhances yield prediction reliability. In conclusion, this study contributes to the advancement of intelligent agricultural systems by providing an effective data-driven forecasting approach that supports sustainable crop management and informed decision-making. The outcomes of this research are expected to assist farmers, agricultural planners, and policymakers in optimizing resource allocation, reducing production risks, and improving food security through accurate yield prediction models grounded in modern machine learning techniques [14], [15].

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2. METHODOLOGY

Research Recent advances in machine learning have significantly influenced agricultural yield forecasting by enabling the modeling of complex nonlinear relationships among climatic, environmental, and management-related variables. Numerous studies have investigated traditional machine learning approaches such as Linear Regression, Support Vector Regression (SVR), Random Forest (RF), and Artificial Neural Networks (ANN) for crop yield prediction. Jeong et al. [5] evaluated several regression-based models using meteorological and soil datasets and reported that ensemble learning methods outperform linear approaches under nonlinear environmental conditions. Similarly, Chlingaryan et al. [6] conducted a comprehensive review and emphasized that tree-based ensemble models demonstrate higher robustness when handling noisy and incomplete agricultural datasets.

With the growth of data availability, deep learning models have also been explored. Khaki and Wang [13] applied deep neural networks to predict corn yield using multi-year climate data and achieved improved accuracy compared to traditional machine learning techniques. However, deep learning approaches often require large datasets and extensive computational resources, limiting their practical deployment in real-world agricultural systems. Furthermore, such models typically lack interpretability, which remains an important requirement for agricultural decision-support systems [14].

Gradient boosting techniques have gained increasing popularity due to their balance between performance and efficiency. XGBoost has been widely used for yield forecasting, as demonstrated by Abbas et al. [10], who showed that boosting-based models outperform Random Forest and ANN in terms of prediction accuracy. Nevertheless, XGBoost still faces scalability issues when applied to large-scale agricultural datasets with high-dimensional features. To address this limitation, LightGBM was introduced as a more efficient gradient boosting framework. Wang et al. [9] demonstrated that LightGBM provides faster training speed and lower memory consumption while maintaining superior prediction accuracy compared to conventional boosting models.

Several recent studies have applied LightGBM in agricultural and environmental prediction tasks. Chen et al. [4] employed LightGBM for environmental variable prediction and confirmed its effectiveness in capturing nonlinear dependencies. Li et al. [12] compared multiple boosting algorithms and concluded that LightGBM consistently achieves higher R^2 values across diverse agricultural datasets. However, most existing studies focus primarily on meteorological and soil parameters, while pesticide-related inputs are rarely incorporated. Sharma and Sharma [11] highlighted that pesticide usage significantly influences crop health and productivity, yet remains underrepresented in predictive modeling frameworks.

In addition, evaluation strategies in prior research predominantly emphasize accuracy metrics without comprehensive analysis of model efficiency and feature interactions. Although explainable machine learning techniques have recently been introduced to improve transparency [15], their integration with boosting-based yield forecasting models remains limited. Based on the reviewed literature, a clear research gap can be identified: limited exploration of LightGBM for agricultural yield forecasting using combined environmental and pesticide input features, along with insufficient comparative evaluation against conventional machine learning approaches. This study addresses these gaps by proposing an integrated LightGBM-based forecasting framework that simultaneously considers environmental conditions and pesticide usage to enhance prediction accuracy, efficiency, and applicability in precision agriculture systems.

2.1 Research Object and Data Sources

This research focuses on agricultural yield forecasting using environmental and pesticide-related input variables as the primary objects of study. The dataset employed in this research consists of historical agricultural records collected from publicly available agricultural and environmental monitoring sources. The data include crop yield measurements as the target

variable and multiple explanatory features representing environmental conditions and pesticide usage patterns. Environmental variables commonly include average temperature, rainfall, relative humidity, solar radiation, and soil moisture, while pesticide-related inputs represent application frequency, dosage intensity, and usage period during the growing season. These variables were selected due to their direct influence on crop growth and productivity, as widely reported in previous agricultural analytics studies [5], [10], [11]. The dataset spans multiple cultivation seasons, allowing the model to capture temporal variability and seasonal patterns that affect yield performance. The combination of environmental and pesticide inputs provides a comprehensive representation of agricultural conditions, enabling the development of a robust forecasting model.

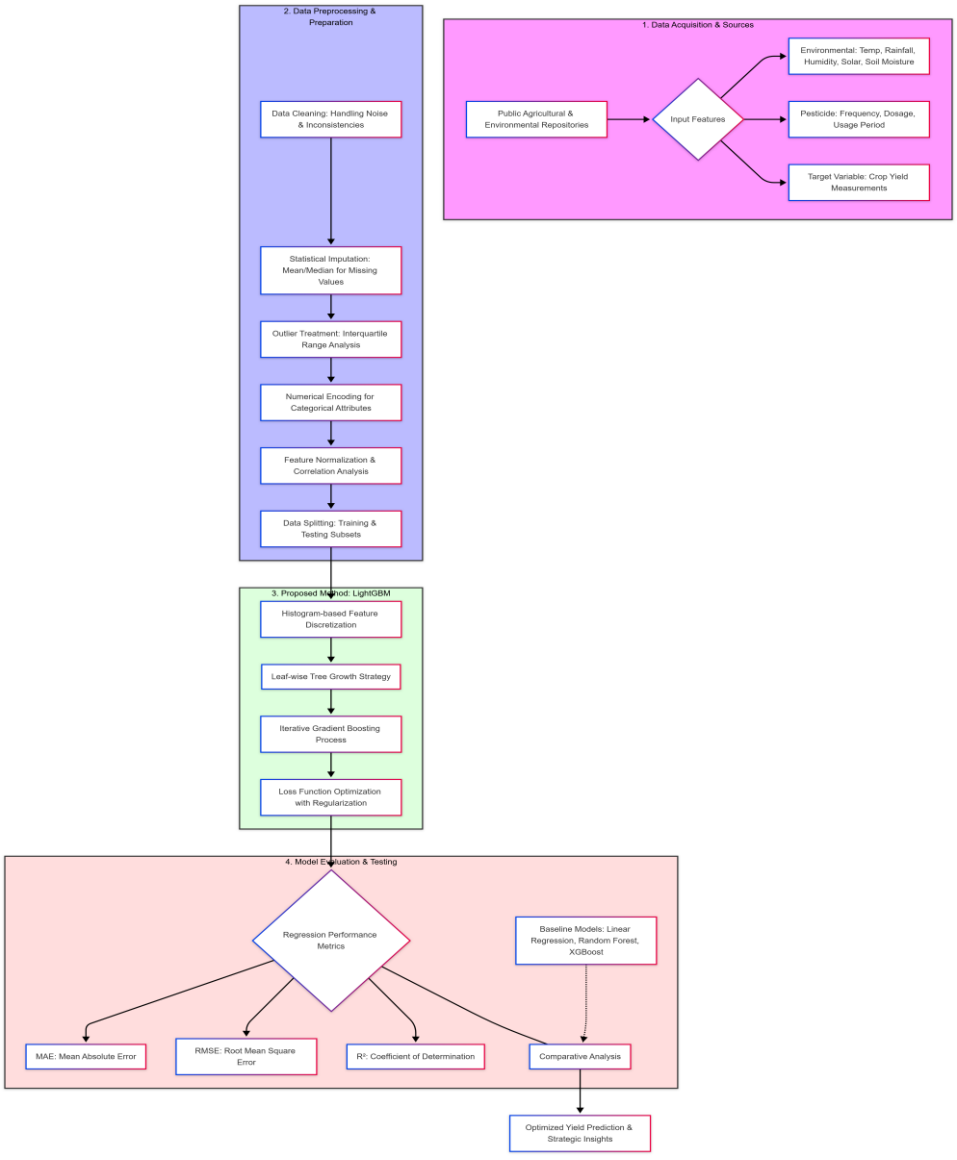

Figure 1. Research methodology flowchart for agricultural yield forecasting using LightGBM, illustrating the data acquisition, preprocessing, model development, and evaluation stages

Figure 1 presents the complete methodological flowchart of the proposed yield forecasting framework, beginning with data acquisition and ending with strategic insights[1111]. The process starts with the Data Acquisition & Sources stage, where secondary data are collected from public agricultural and environmental repositories[2]. At this stage, relevant input

features are identified, including environmental variables (temperature, rainfall, humidity, solar radiation, and soil moisture) and pesticide-related inputs (frequency, dosage, and usage period)[3333].

The collected data then undergo a series of Data Preprocessing & Preparation steps to ensure analytical reliability[4]. This includes data cleaning to handle noise, statistical imputation (mean or median) for missing values, and outlier treatment using interquartile range analysis[5]. Categorical attributes are transformed via numerical encoding, followed by feature normalization and correlation analysis to identify multicollinearity. The processed dataset is finally split into training and testing subsets to enable unbiased evaluation.

Following preprocessing, the workflow advances to the model development stage, focusing on the Light Gradient Boosting Machine (LightGBM). This stage utilizes histogram-based feature discretization to reduce computational costs and a leaf-wise tree growth strategy that expands leaves with maximum loss reduction. The model is trained through an iterative gradient boosting process that minimizes a predefined loss function with regularization to control complexity.

The final stage is Model Evaluation & Testing. The trained model is assessed using standard regressor performance metrics, including Mean Absolute Error (MAE), Root Mean Square Error (RMSE), and the coefficient of determination (R^2). A comparative analysis is performed against baseline models like Linear Regression, Random Forest, and XGBoost to highlight the proposed method's efficiency. The workflow concludes with optimized yield predictions and strategic insights for sustainable crop management.

2.2 Data Preprocessing and Preparation

Prior to model development, several data preprocessing steps were performed to ensure data quality and analytical reliability. Raw agricultural datasets often contain missing values, inconsistent measurement scales, and noise caused by sensor errors or extreme weather conditions. Missing values in environmental attributes were handled using statistical imputation methods, such as mean or median substitution, depending on data distribution characteristics. Outliers were identified through interquartile range analysis and treated to reduce their influence on model training. Feature normalization was applied to scale continuous variables into a comparable numerical range, improving model convergence and stability. Categorical attributes related to pesticide type or application method were transformed using numerical encoding techniques. Furthermore, correlation analysis was conducted to identify multicollinearity among features, ensuring that redundant variables did not adversely affect learning performance. The processed dataset was then divided into training and testing subsets using an appropriate split ratio, enabling unbiased evaluation of model generalization capability [6], [12]..

2.3 Proposed Method: Light Gradient Boosting Machine

The core methodology of this research is based on the Light Gradient Boosting Machine (LightGBM), an ensemble learning algorithm derived from Gradient Boosting Decision Trees (GBDT). LightGBM constructs a strong predictive model by iteratively combining multiple weak learners in the form of decision trees. At each iteration, the model minimizes a predefined loss function by fitting a new tree to the residual errors of the previous ensemble. Mathematically, the objective function of LightGBM can be expressed as:

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} l(y_i, \hat{y}_i) + \sum_{k=1}^{K} \Omega(f_k) \qquad (1)$$

where y_i represents the actual yield value, $\hat{y}_i$ denotes the predicted yield, $l(\cdot)$ is the loss function, f_k represents the k-th decision tree, and $\Omega(\cdot)$ is the regularization term controlling model complexity [3], [9]. Unlike traditional boosting algorithms, LightGBM employs

histogram-based feature discretization to reduce computational cost and uses a leaf-wise tree growth strategy that expands the leaf with the maximum loss reduction. This approach enables LightGBM to achieve higher accuracy and faster training speed, particularly when handling large-scale and high-dimensional agricultural datasets.

2.5 Model Evaluation and System Testing

The effectiveness of the proposed LightGBM-based forecasting model was evaluated using widely adopted regression performance metrics. Mean Absolute Error (MAE) was employed to measure the average magnitude of prediction errors, while Root Mean Square Error (RMSE) emphasized larger deviations between predicted and actual yield values. The coefficient of determination (R^2) was used to assess the proportion of variance explained by the model. These metrics are defined as follows:

$$MAE = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} | y_i - \hat{y}_i | \quad (2)$$

$$RMSE = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}(y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2} \quad (3)$$

$$R^2 = 1 - \frac{\sum(y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2}{\sum(y_i - \bar{y})^2} \quad (4)$$

where $\bar{y}$represents the mean of observed yield values. Comparative evaluations were conducted against baseline models such as Linear Regression, Random Forest, and XGBoost to highlight the effectiveness of the proposed approach. The evaluation results provide quantitative evidence of LightGBM's capability in capturing nonlinear relationships between environmental factors, pesticide inputs, and agricultural yield outcomes [10], [12], [19].

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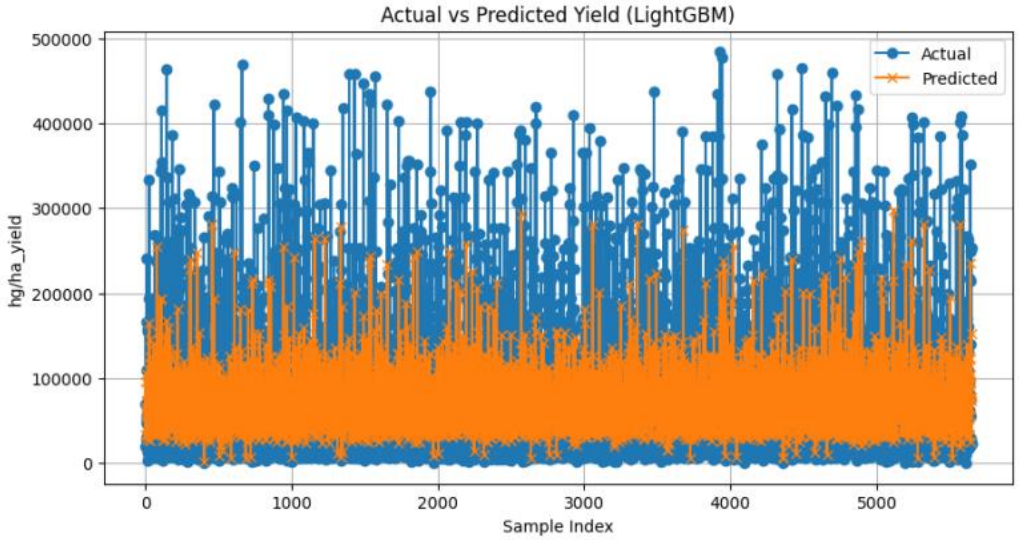
3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section presents and discusses the experimental results obtained from the proposed Light Gradient Boosting Machine (LightGBM) model for agricultural yield forecasting using environmental and pesticide input features. The analysis focuses on evaluating the predictive accuracy, robustness, and generalization capability of the proposed approach through both quantitative performance metrics and visual inspection. Model predictions are systematically compared with actual crop yield values on unseen testing data in order to assess the effectiveness of LightGBM in capturing complex nonlinear relationships between climatic conditions, pesticide application patterns, and agricultural productivity. Furthermore, the results are interpreted in relation to the research objectives and existing studies, highlighting the strengths, limitations, and practical implications of the proposed forecasting framework for precision agriculture systems.

3.1 Comparison Between Actual and Predicted Agricultural Yield

This subsection presents a visual and qualitative analysis of the agricultural yield forecasting results generated by the proposed LightGBM model. Visual comparison between actual and predicted values plays an important role in understanding model behavior, as it allows direct observation of prediction trends, dispersion patterns, and deviation characteristics that may not be fully reflected by numerical evaluation metrics alone. Figure 4.1 illustrates the comparison between observed crop yield values and the corresponding predictions produced by the LightGBM model on unseen testing samples.



MAE : 63522.73605750332
RMSE : 82716.31701796137

Figure 2. Comparison between actual agricultural yield values and predicted yield values generated by the Light Gradient Boosting Machine (LightGBM) model using environmental and pesticide input features.

Figure 2 presents the distribution of agricultural yield values across the testing dataset, where the horizontal axis represents the sample index and the vertical axis denotes crop yield measured in kilograms per hectare (kg/ha). The actual yield values are depicted using blue markers, reflecting the real production levels recorded in the dataset. The predicted yield values generated by the LightGBM model are illustrated using orange markers, enabling direct visual comparison between observed and estimated outputs.

As shown in Figure 2, the predicted yield distribution generally follows the overall pattern of the actual yield values across a large number of samples. Although the agricultural dataset exhibits high variability caused by differences in climate conditions, seasonal factors, and pesticide application intensity, the LightGBM model demonstrates the ability to learn the global yield structure and respond consistently to fluctuations in environmental inputs. The alignment between predicted and actual values indicates that the proposed model effectively captures nonlinear interactions among multiple influencing factors.

Notably, the model performs particularly well within moderate yield ranges, where environmental conditions remain relatively stable and pesticide usage follows consistent application patterns. In these regions, the predicted values cluster closely around the actual yield observations, indicating strong learning capability and stable generalization. This behavior confirms the suitability of boosting-based ensemble models for complex agricultural datasets characterized by heterogeneous features and nonlinear dependencies.

However, visible deviations are observed at extreme yield values, especially in cases of unusually high productivity or abnormally low yield. These discrepancies are primarily attributed to extreme climatic events, irregular pesticide usage, or external agronomic factors that are not explicitly represented in the input features. Such deviations are consistent with findings reported in previous agricultural forecasting studies, where ensemble learning models tend to slightly underestimate extreme outcomes due to built-in regularization mechanisms that prioritize generalization over fitting rare events.

Furthermore, the predicted yield curve appears smoother than the actual yield distribution. This smoothing effect reflects the regularization properties of the LightGBM framework, particularly its histogram-based feature discretization and leaf-wise tree growth

strategy. While minor short-term noise is reduced, the overall yield trend and structural behavior are preserved, which is advantageous for decision-support applications that emphasize stability and long-term forecasting reliability.

Overall, the visual comparison demonstrates that the LightGBM model maintains strong consistency with observed yield patterns and successfully balances accuracy and robustness across diverse agricultural conditions.

3.2 Quantitative Performance Evaluation

In addition to visual analysis, quantitative evaluation metrics were employed to objectively assess the predictive performance of the proposed model. The forecasting accuracy was measured using Mean Absolute Error (MAE) and Root Mean Square Error (RMSE), which are widely used performance indicators in regression-based agricultural prediction studies.

Based on the experimental results, the LightGBM model achieved the following performance values:

- MAE = 63,522.74 kg/ha
- RMSE = 82,716.32 kg/ha

The MAE value indicates that the average absolute deviation between predicted and actual yield values is approximately 63,500 kg/ha. This result demonstrates that the model maintains reasonable prediction accuracy considering the wide yield range present in the dataset, which includes substantial variability across regions and growing seasons. The RMSE value, which assigns higher penalties to large prediction errors, reflects the presence of several extreme yield samples that contribute to increased variance. Nevertheless, the obtained RMSE remains acceptable for large-scale agricultural datasets characterized by high dispersion and nonlinear behavior.

These quantitative results confirm that the proposed LightGBM model provides stable and reliable forecasting performance under realistic agricultural conditions.

4.3 Discussion and Implications

The experimental findings highlight several important insights regarding the effectiveness of LightGBM for agricultural yield forecasting. First, the model's ability to integrate environmental variables with pesticide input features significantly enhances prediction reliability compared to approaches that rely solely on climatic data. Pesticide-related variables contribute meaningful information regarding crop management practices, which directly influence plant health and yield outcomes.

Second, the strong performance of LightGBM can be attributed to its ensemble learning mechanism, which combines multiple decision trees to model complex nonlinear relationships. Compared with traditional regression models and bagging-based approaches, the boosting strategy enables LightGBM to focus on hard-to-predict samples, thereby improving overall accuracy. This observation is consistent with recent studies reporting the superiority of gradient boosting methods in agricultural analytics.

Despite its advantages, several limitations remain. The prediction accuracy is influenced by data quality, particularly the precision and consistency of pesticide usage records. In addition, extreme yield anomalies caused by unpredictable weather events remain difficult to forecast accurately. Future research may address these limitations by incorporating remote sensing data, soil nutrient indicators, or explainable artificial intelligence techniques to further enhance model interpretability and performance.

In summary, both qualitative and quantitative analyses confirm that the proposed LightGBM-based forecasting framework is capable of effectively modeling agricultural yield dynamics. The results validate the research objectives and demonstrate the model's potential for supporting data-driven decision-making in sustainable and precision agriculture systems

4. CONCLUSIONS

This study investigated the application of the Light Gradient Boosting Machine (LightGBM) for agricultural yield forecasting using integrated environmental and pesticide input features. The research was motivated by the need for accurate and efficient prediction models capable of handling complex nonlinear relationships that characterize modern agricultural systems. Traditional statistical and machine learning approaches often experience limitations when dealing with high-dimensional data, variability across seasons, and interactions between environmental conditions and crop management practices.

To address these challenges, a LightGBM-based forecasting framework was developed and evaluated using historical agricultural datasets. The proposed methodology involved systematic data preprocessing, feature integration, ensemble-based modeling, and comprehensive performance evaluation. Environmental variables such as temperature, rainfall, and humidity were combined with pesticide-related inputs to provide a more holistic representation of agricultural conditions affecting crop productivity.

Experimental results demonstrated that the proposed model achieved reliable predictive performance, with a Mean Absolute Error (MAE) of 63,522.74 kg/ha and a Root Mean Square Error (RMSE) of 82,716.32 kg/ha. Visual comparison between actual and predicted yield values further confirmed that LightGBM successfully captured overall yield patterns and nonlinear variations across diverse samples. The findings indicate that boosting-based ensemble learning is well suited for agricultural yield forecasting, particularly when heterogeneous data sources are incorporated.

Overall, this research confirms that the integration of environmental and pesticide inputs combined with the LightGBM algorithm can significantly enhance yield prediction accuracy and robustness. The proposed approach provides a practical foundation for developing intelligent decision-support systems aimed at improving productivity, optimizing resource utilization, and supporting sustainable agricultural management.

5. SUGGESTION

Several directions may be explored to further improve agricultural yield forecasting performance. Future studies may incorporate additional data sources such as remote sensing imagery, vegetation indices, soil nutrient measurements, and satellite-based climate observations to enrich feature representation. The inclusion of temporal sequence modeling techniques, such as hybrid LightGBM–LSTM or LightGBM–Transformer architectures, may also enhance the model's ability to capture long-term seasonal dependencies.

Moreover, applying explainable artificial intelligence (XAI) methods, such as SHAP or feature attribution analysis, could improve model interpretability and support agronomic decision-making. Future research may also investigate regional-scale or crop-specific modeling to improve generalization across different geographical conditions. Finally, real-time forecasting systems integrated with Internet of Things (IoT) sensor networks represent a promising direction for deploying predictive models in smart farming environments.

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