

Problem Statement No.9

AI Agent for Smart Farming Advice

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OUTLINE

- Problem Statement
- Proposed System/Solution
- System Development Approach
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- Result (Output Image)
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PROBLEM STATEMENT

Example: The Challenge – An AI Agent for Smart Farming Advice, powered by RAG (Retrieval-Augmented Generation), supports small-scale farmers by delivering real-time, localized agricultural guidance.

It retrieves trusted data on weather forecasts, soil conditions, crop recommendations, pest control measures, and current market prices from agricultural departments, meteorological sources, and agri-tech platforms.

Farmers can interact in their local language and ask questions like “What crop is best for this season?” or “What is today’s mandi rate for tomatoes?”

The agent ensures timely, data-driven decisions that reduce risk, increase yield, and boost income.

This AI-driven assistant bridges the knowledge gap and brings smart farming to the grassroots.

PROPOSED SOLUTION

We propose a smart AI Agent, built using Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG), that provides localized and actionable farming advice to small-scale farmers.

- ♦ **Key Features:**

Natural Language Understanding – Accepts user queries in plain language (e.g., “What crop should I grow this month?”).

Document Retrieval – Pulls data from trusted sources like:

- Weather APIs
- Soil condition databases
- Agricultural research documents
- Market price feeds

Contextual Response Generation – Uses IBM Granite LLM to generate accurate and helpful answers.

SYSTEM APPROACH

Technologies Used:

- **IBM Watsonx.ai / Granite LLM:** For language generation
- **IBM Cloud Functions:** For serverless API execution
- **IBM Cloudant / DB2:** For structured data storage
- **Python (Flask):** Backend development
- **LangChain or Haystack:** RAG pipeline integration
- **HTML + JavaScript:** Frontend chatbot interface

RAG Architecture Flow:

- *Query from user → Document Retrieval (weather, soil, etc.) → Prompt formatting → LLM generation → Response to user*

ALGORITHM & DEPLOYMENT

Core Algorithm: Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG)

RAG is a hybrid framework that retrieves external knowledge and combines it with large language model (LLM) capabilities to generate intelligent, grounded answers.

How It Works:

- **User Query Input:** Natural language query from farmer (e.g., “Best crop for loamy soil in July?”)
- **Vector Similarity Search:**
 - The query is encoded into a vector using sentence embeddings.
 - The system searches a vector database (e.g., FAISS) to find semantically similar documents (weather, soil data, crop info).
- **Document Retrieval:**
 - Top relevant documents are retrieved and ranked.
 - These may include recent weather forecasts, soil analysis, and government agricultural advisories.
- **Context Fusion:** Retrieved documents + the original query are combined into a single prompt.
- **LLM Response Generation:**
 - Prompt is passed to IBM Granite (LLM via Watsonx.ai).
 - The model generates a response based on real data, ensuring both fluency and accuracy.

RESULT

The screenshot displays the IBM Watsonx AI Agent interface. The top navigation bar includes the IBM Watsonx logo, an 'Upgrade' button, a user profile for 'Avirup Karmakar's Acco...', and location settings for 'Dallas'. The main interface is divided into two panels: 'Build' and 'Agent preview'.

Build Panel:

- Model:** llama-3-3-70b-instruct
- Framework:** LangGraph
- Architecture:** ReAct
- Instructions:** You are an AI Farming Assistant designed to help small-scale farmers by providing accurate, real-time agricultural advice. Your job is to retrieve relevant and trusted information from available agricultural, meteorological, and market data.
- Advanced configuration:** A link to access more settings.
- Knowledge:** A section for adding relevant information.

Agent preview Panel:

- User (AK):** You: 10:21 PM. Which crop should I grow in clay soil in July? in west bengal
- Agent (watsonx Agent):** 10:21 PM. Based on the search results, it appears that there are several crops that can be grown in clay soil in July in West Bengal. Some options include:
 - Guava: Heavy clay to very light sandy soils having pH between 4.5-8.2 are suitable for cultivation of guava.
 - Canna: Canna spp. Canna. TP. X. Spring. Summer and. Foliage. •. Bengal Tiger. •. Cannova ... Not tolerant of heavy clay soil. •. A favorite of voles. Crocus
 - Cornus capitata: Suitable for: light (sandy), medium (loamy) and heavy (clay) soils and can grow in heavy clay soil.
- Input field:** Type something...

RESULT

The screenshot displays the IBM Watsonx AI Agent Builder interface. The top navigation bar includes the IBM Watsonx logo, an 'Upgrade' button, a user profile for 'Avirup Karmakar's Acco...', and a location dropdown for 'Dallas'. The main interface is divided into two panels: 'Build' and 'Agent preview'.

Build Panel:

- Model:** llama-3-3-70b-instruct
- LangGraph:** ReAct
- Instructions:** You must assist with questions related to weather forecasts, soil conditions, crop recommendations, pest control, and current mandi prices. Always use the most recent and localized information available.
- Knowledge:** (Empty section)
- Tools:** (Empty section with 'Add a tool' and 'Create custom tool' buttons)

Agent preview Panel:

- User Query:** "जुलाई महीने में मैं दोमट मिट्टी में कौन सी फसल उगाऊं?"
- Agent Response:** जुलाई महीने में दोमट मिट्टी में उगाने के लिए कई फसलें हैं जिनमें से कुछ प्रमुख फसलें हैं: मूली पालक करेला ज्वार बाजरा मक्का मिर्च। इन फसलों की खेती के लिए दोमट मिट्टी उपयुक्त होती है और इन्हें जुलाई महीने में उगाया जा सकता है।
- Follow-up Question:** ► How did I get this answer?

The interface also shows a 'Deploy' button in the top right corner of the Build panel.

RESULT

The screenshot displays the IBM watsonx Agent deployment interface. The top navigation bar shows the deployment is 'Online' and 'Deployed'. The main chat area shows a user query: 'How to apply for a crop insurance scheme?'. The agent's response provides a list of six resources to help with crop insurance:

- 1. Risk Management Agency (RMA):** The RMA provides information on the Federal Crop Insurance Program, including how it works and how to find a policy document. [Visit RMA](#)
- 2. Economic Research Service (ERS):** The ERS offers an overview of the Federal Crop Insurance Program, including its history and evolution. [Visit ERS](#)
- 3. Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC):** The FCIC provides information on crop insurance coverage and how to apply for it. [Visit FCIC](#)
- 4. Crop and Livestock Insurance:** This resource provides information on the crop insurance cycle, from the application process to the claims process. [Visit Crop and Livestock Insurance](#)
- 5. Crop Insurance in America:** This website provides information on crop insurance coverage in America. [Visit Crop Insurance in America](#)
- 6. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY):** PMFBY is a government-sponsored crop insurance scheme in India that

The right-hand sidebar, titled 'About this deployment', contains the following information:

- Name:** watsonx Agent
- Description:** Change this description to reflect your particular agent
- Deployment Details:**
 - Deployment ID: 143343dd-b6be-43...
 - Serving name: No serving name.
 - Software specification: runtime-24.1-py3.11
 - Hardware specification: Extra extra small: 1 CPU and 2 GB RAM
 - Copies: 1
- Tags:** wx-agent
- Associated asset:** watsonx Agent

CONCLUSION

- The AI agent empowers farmers by enabling data-driven decision-making through real-time, localized agricultural insights. It enhances access to expert-level knowledge, even in remote or underserved regions, by delivering context-aware responses in natural language. The system's design is scalable and adaptable to various languages and geographies, making it suitable for widespread use. By integrating Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) with large language models on IBM Cloud, the solution achieves a balance of accuracy, affordability, and scalability, offering a practical path forward for smart and sustainable farming.

FUTURE SCOPE

- The AI agent can be further enhanced to serve a broader range of farmers and agricultural needs. Future improvements include:
 - Expanding to multiple Indian languages to ensure accessibility across diverse regions;
 - Integrating with IoT soil sensors for real-time, data-driven crop recommendations;
 - Using drone imagery to assess crop health and detect diseases early;
 - Adding a voice-based assistant to support illiterate or elderly users; and
 - Implementing real-time alerts for pest outbreaks, extreme weather, or market price changes.
- These advancements will make the system smarter, more inclusive, and aligned with the goals of precision and sustainable farming.

REFERENCES

- IBM Watsonx.ai Documentation
- IBM Cloud Lite Functions
- LangChain – RAG Framework
- Kaggle, Indian Meteorological Dept. for weather APIs
- Government agriculture portal (e.g., <https://mkisan.gov.in>)

IBM CERTIFICATIONS

- Screenshot/ credly certificate(getting started with AI)



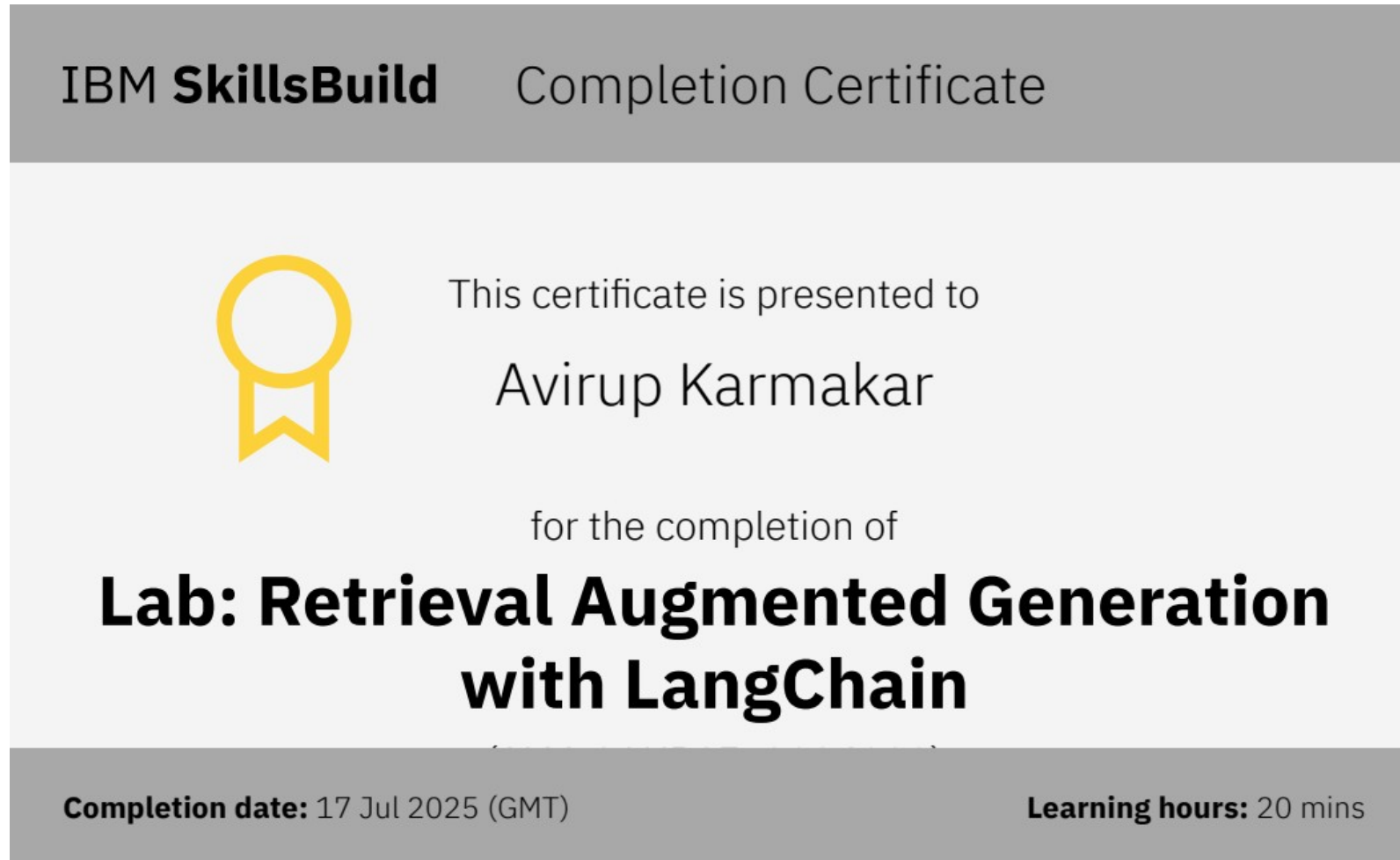
IBM CERTIFICATIONS

- Screenshot/ credly certificate(Journey to Cloud)



IBM CERTIFICATIONS

- Screenshot/ credly certificate(RAG Lab)





THANK YOU