A System for Precision Agriculture That Uses Robotics and Image Processing to Automate Planting Seeds and Finding Diseases.

Mr.Rajat Hemantrao Shelke[1], Mr.Vitthal.G.kokre[2], Mr.Vaibhav.Y.Gosavi[3], Dr. R. H. Shinde[4]

[1234]Automation and Robotics, Chh. Shahu College of Engineering, Chatrapati Sambhajinagar

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Abstract - Precision agriculture is changing the face of contemporary farming with its intelligent decision-making and automation systems that boost productivity and longevity. An Automated Precision Agriculture Robot, built using an Arduino for physical operations and a Raspberry Pi for image processing and communication, is shown in this study. In pomegranate crops, the system can identify diseases, water the plants, and sow the seeds all on its own. With the help of an infrared sensor and a servo motor, you can scatter seeds precisely. After planting, water is supplied via a DC water pump that is controlled by a relay. By integrating with the Raspberry Pi, the camera module records cropped photos in real-time, allowing enabling illness identification through image processing. Improving real-time decision-making and farm efficiency, farmers may track the robot's movements and get updates using a mobile app.
By limiting crop loss, optimizing seed distribution, and eliminating human work, the suggested approach enhances agricultural efficiency. Accurate field condition monitoring is made possible by integrating IoT-based connectivity with AI-powered analysis. This study shows how automation, by integrating robotics, computer vision, and real-time communication, may solve problems in contemporary farming. Smart farming is progressing thanks to the Automated Precision Agriculture Robot, which provides an affordable and scalable way to manage crops in the long run.

Key Words: Agricultural Precision, Robotics for Seed Sowing and Replanting, and Disease Detection.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

The provision of food, raw materials, and economic stability has long made agriculture the backbone of human society. Nevertheless, conventional farming practices are encountering formidable obstacles due to the exponential growth of the world's population and the consequences of climate change. Unpredictable weather patterns, insufficient human labor, and wasteful use of resources all call for creative responses that boost output without compromising sustainability. Robotics and automation have recently arisen as game-changing technology in precision agriculture, providing intelligent, data-driven answers to optimize farming processes [1][2]. This paper introduces an Automated Precision Agriculture Robot, a new way to change farming by combining sensors, imaging, robotics, and real-time tracking [3].

An Arduino and a Raspberry Pi serve as the central controllers of the suggested system, and they coordinate their efforts to perform various operations. While the Raspberry Pi handles complicated computations, such disease diagnosis through image processing, the Arduino handles physical operations like seed sowing, irrigation, and navigation [4]. This robot can do precision farming tasks on its own thanks to its built-in camera, sensors, servo motors, and communication modules. Through the utilization of automation, the system streamlines processes, lowers personnel expenses, and improves overall field efficiency [5]. The robot's infrared sensor finds good planting areas, and the servo motor-controlled dispenser puts the seeds exactly where they need to be, making automated seed sowing a crucial function. Specifically, the device is programmed to detect when seeds have fallen through the cracks and to replant them automatically. To top it all off, a relay-controlled integrated DC water pump delivers precise irrigation, making sure the seeds get just the right amount of water for optimum germination. Reduced water waste and increased crop output are two benefits of this automated method that aid in resource conservation [6][7].
The robot is essential for more than just planting and watering crops; it also keeps tabs on how healthy the crops are. Using image processing algorithms running on the Raspberry Pi, the onboard camera takes real-time photos of crops [8]. In order to avoid crop losses, the system can identify the first symptoms of plant illnesses and intervene quickly [9]. In addition, the system can be remotely monitored using a mobile app, which means that farmers can get real-time notifications on planting status, irrigation status, and possible dangers to the health of their crops [10].

Farming in the future may look very different if robotic technologies are used in the agricultural sector. The project's stated goals include the promotion of ecologically friendly farming methods, lowering the amount of human labor, and the improvement of precision through the use of automation [11]. To maximize crop productivity and minimize waste, farmers can greatly benefit from decision-making tools that integrate machine vision, embedded systems, and real-time monitoring [12][13].

1.2 Purpose

Problems with labor, ineffective use of resources, and climatic unpredictability are just a few of the many obstacles that farmers must overcome. These factors have an effect on agricultural productivity and efficiency. There has been a marked decline in productivity, accuracy, and efficiency due to the high cost of labor associated with traditional seed planting, irrigation, and disease detection systems. There is an immediate need for automated solutions that boost efficiency, minimize human intervention, and maximize resource utilization due to the increasing need for sustainable and precision-driven farming. The idea of smart farming inspired the development of the Automated Precision Agriculture Robot. In this model, farmers would be able to make better decisions based on data generated by sensors, precise control over activities, and real-time monitoring. The goal of this system is to make farming more productive, scalable, and ecologically sustainable by combining traditional farming methods with modern technology and AI.

1.3 Problem Definition and Objectives

Problem Statement

Reduced crop yield is a result of modern agriculture's many problems, such as ineffective seed sowing, water loss, reliance on human labor, and insufficient disease detection systems. Inaccurate seed distribution, wasteful water use, and postponed disease detection are all outcomes of manual farming practices that lack automation and precision. By combining efficient irrigation, automated seed sowing controlled by an Arduino, and disease detection powered by a Raspberry Pi, the Automated Precision Agriculture Robot solves these problems. By automating critical agricultural processes, decreasing the need for human involvement, and guaranteeing optimal use of resources, this system seeks to improve precision farming, allowing for sustainable and high-yield crop production.

Objectives

- To explore the automation of seed sowing through Arduino-based motors and sensors.
- To examine the use of IR sensors for accurate seed placement and obstacle identification.
- To analyze the development of an automated irrigation system using a relay-operated water pump.
- To investigate the role of image processing in detecting plant diseases.
- To evaluate real-time data exchange between the robot and a mobile application.

1.4. Project Scope and Limitations

By combining intelligence, real-time monitoring, and automation, the Automated Precision Agriculture Robot aims to transform conventional farming. Raspberry Pi manages picture processing and communication, while Arduino is used for physical tasks like seed sowing, irrigation, and movement in the system. When used for precision farming, this robot can help with things like pomegranate seed positioning, water optimization, and early disease detection. Using a camera-based system, the robot can detect plant diseases, travel fields autonomously, and replant lost seeds. It can even identify holes in the plantation. A mobile app allows farmers to keep tabs on their crops and the system's health in real time, allowing them to control and monitor the system from anywhere. This project improves agricultural productivity by integrating sensor-based automation with AI-driven disease diagnosis. It minimizes human work, promotes efficiency, and increases overall output. The technology shows great promise as a smart and sustainable solution for agriculture because to its scalability and adaptability to different crops.

Limitations

- The system is applicable only in organized and properly prepared agricultural fields.
- The reliability of disease detection is influenced by image clarity and lighting conditions.
- Limited battery capacity may restrict the duration of uninterrupted operation.
- The system demands prior calibration and configuration before actual use.
- Stable internet connectivity is essential for enabling real-time data transfer to the mobile application.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

1. Precision Agriculture and Robotic Systems for Seed Sowing[14]

Reference: Pugh, L., et al. (2019). A technological and practical analysis of robotic systems for precision farming Using seed sowing as an example, this article outlines the history of robotic systems that have been developed for precision agriculture. With an emphasis on robotics' ability to achieve exact seed placement and spacing, the study showcases a variety of robotic platforms developed to enhance planting efficiency. Automated methods may guarantee uniform seed sowing, which greatly increases agricultural yields and decreases seed waste, according to one of the main conclusions of this article. The use of infrared (IR) sensors and other sensors to detect soil conditions and calculate the ideal planting depth is also covered in the article. It goes on to say that these systems can run independently, which cuts down on personnel expenses and helps with problems caused by human mistake.

Contribution to the current project:

This study gives a groundwork for comprehending how robotic systems automate seed sowing and sheds light on the technology, including motors and sensors, that can be utilized for accurate tasks in the automated precision agriculture robot that has been proposed.

2. Robotics for Replanting and Gaps in Plant Growth[15]

Reference: Akin, S., et al. (2020). One example of agricultural automation is a robot that can automatically replant crops. A robotic technique to identify and fill in field gaps during planting is proposed in this research. If any seeds were accidentally scattered during the first sowing, the system can detect them using visual recognition and data from sensors. To fill in these spaces and make sure the crop is well distributed, the robot goes back to its original route and plants additional seeds. Focusing on the difficulties of replanting in expansive areas, this article introduces a fresh strategy that makes use of robotics to autonomously fill in the gaps.

Contribution to the current project:

The replanting capabilities of the autonomous precision farming robot are enhanced by this research. To make sure fields are evenly sown without human involvement, the system can be directly programmed to use gap detection and automatic replanting.

3. Disease Detection in Crops Using Image Processing[16]

Reference: Sharma, N., & Gupta, S. (2018). The use of image processing tools for the early diagnosis of crop diseases

Focusing on crop diseases such as leaf spot and blight, this article investigates the use of image processing and machine learning methods for disease detection. Drones or robotic platforms equipped with cameras are used to take high-resolution pictures of crops for the study. In order to find early warning indications of diseases, the images are processed using methods including pattern recognition, edge detection, and segmentation. In order to stop the spread of illnesses and reduce crop losses, the authors stress the significance of early detection.

Contribution to the current project:

This paper's approaches and procedures are essential for the automated precision agriculture robot's disease detection feature. The technology can detect problems in pomegranate plants early on by combining comparable image processing techniques; this allows for prompt treatment, which in turn reduces crop loss.

4. Sensor Integration for Autonomous Navigation in Agricultural Robots[17]

Reference: Zhang, J., et al. (2021). Autonomous agricultural robots' navigation and control systems augmented with sensors Agricultural robot navigation using a variety of sensors, including ultrasonic, LIDAR, and IR sensors, is the subject of this study. Accurate movement, obstacle recognition, and distance measurement are made possible by the coordinated efforts of these sensors. To make sure that farming robots can work well in varied and unpredictable field conditions, the article stresses that sensor fusion is crucial. Furthermore, the authors highlight the difficulties of precise navigation in vast landscapes characterized by unpredictable weather and topography.

Contribution to the current project:

The results of this study guide the incorporation of infrared and ultrasonic sensors into the suggested robot, allowing for precise navigation, obstacle recognition, and distance measuring. Accurate seed sowing and replanting depend on these sensors to direct the robot's motion and guarantee ideal plant spacing.

5. Mobile App-based Monitoring and Control of Agricultural Robots[23]

Reference: Lee, K., & Park, J. (2022). *Mobile application-based control of agricultural robots: Enhancing farmer decision-making*

Agricultural r obots may be controlled and monitored via mobile applications, which are the focus of this research. In it, we talk about how farmers may use their phones to get up-to-the-minute information on things like crop health, robot status, and operating conditions. In this case study, we look at how a robotic system could help farmers with things like controlling seed spacing and irrigation schedules from afar through a mobile interface, as well as receiving alerts regarding crop diseases. This study shows how mobile technology can help farmers make better decisions, even when they're not there, and how it can make farm management more efficient in general.

Contribution to the current project:

The ideas presented in this paper will form the basis of the mobile app feature that is currently being considered for this project. This app is a must-have for farmer empowerment because it will let them monitor their crops in real-time, receive disease alerts, and control the robot's functions including seed sowing intervals and replanting modes.

3. REQUIREMENT AND ANALYSIS

Hardware Components and Specifications

1. Arduino

Specification: ATmega328P microcontroller, 16 MHz clock speed, 32 KB flash memory, 2 KB SRAM, 14 digital I/O pins.
Explanation: The Arduino acts as the primary microcontroller responsible for controlling the movement of the robot, seed dispensing, and irrigation functions. It processes sensor inputs and sends commands to actuators accordingly.

2. Raspberry Pi

Specification: Raspberry Pi 4 Model B, Quad-core Cortex-A72 (1.5GHz), 2GB/4GB/8GB RAM, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, HDMI, GPIO.
Explanation: Raspberry Pi handles complex tasks such as image processing for disease detection and communication with the mobile application. It collects and analyzes data from the camera module to provide insights.

3. IR Sensor

Specification: Detection range: 2–30 cm, Operating voltage: 3.3V-5V, Analog/digital output.
Explanation: The IR sensor detects the presence of plants, obstacles, or gaps in seed placement. It helps the robot navigate the field accurately and ensures proper seed distribution.

4. Relay Module

Specification: 5V operating voltage, 10A switching capacity, Optocoupler isolation.
Explanation: The relay module is used to control high-power devices like the DC water pump. It acts as a switch, turning the pump on and off based on the irrigation requirements.

5. Servo Motor

Specification: Operating voltage: 4.8V-6V, Torque: 1.5-2.5 kg/cm, 0-180° rotation.
Explanation: The servo motor is used for precise movement control, such as adjusting seed dispensing mechanisms or robotic tools for better accuracy in farming operations.

6. Motor Driver (L298N)

Specification: Dual H-Bridge driver, Operating voltage: 5V-35V, Current: 2A per channel.
Explanation: The motor driver controls the **two DC motors**, allowing the robot to move forward, backward, left, and right efficiently. It ensures smooth navigation on uneven terrains.

7. DC Motors

Specification: 12V operating voltage, 300-500 RPM, 6-12V power range.
Explanation: DC motors are responsible for the movement of the robot across the agricultural field. They are controlled by the motor driver and ensure stable motion.

8. Camera Module

Specification: 5MP/8MP resolution, 30 fps video capture, CSI interface.
Explanation: The camera module captures images of crops, which are then processed using image processing algorithms to detect plant diseases and monitor crop health.

9. DC Water Pump

Specification: 6V-12V operating voltage, 100-300 LPH water flow rate.

Explanation: The DC water pump provides irrigation to the planted seeds. It is controlled by the relay module and ensures precise water distribution.

10. Battery (Rechargeable Li-ion)

Specification: 12V, 7Ah capacity, rechargeable, long-lasting power supply.

Explanation: The battery provides continuous power to the Arduino, Raspberry Pi, motors, and sensors, ensuring autonomous operation without external power dependency.

Software Components and Specifications

1. Arduino IDE

Specification: Supports C/C++ programming, serial monitor, and real-time debugging.

Explanation: The Arduino IDE is used to write, compile, and upload the control logic to the Arduino board. It enables the programming of motor control, sensor data processing, and automation logic.

2. Python

Specification: Open-source programming language, supports machine learning, image processing, and automation libraries.

Explanation: Python is used on the Raspberry Pi for processing sensor data, controlling the camera module, and implementing image processing algorithms for plant disease detection.

5. Raspberry Pi OS (Linux-based)

Specification: Debian-based operating system optimized for Raspberry Pi.

Explanation: The Raspberry Pi OS serves as the primary operating system, supporting Python scripts, OpenCV, and communication protocols for data processing and wireless connectivity.

4. SYSTEM DESIGN

4.1 System Architecture

The below figure specified the system architecture of our project.

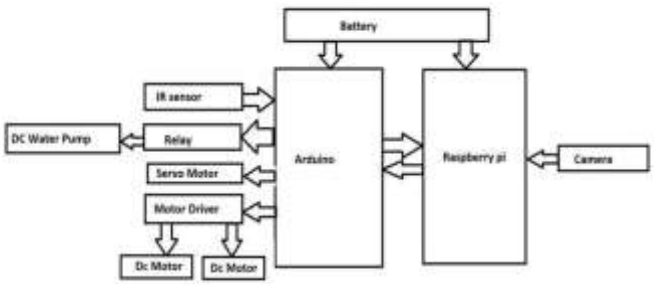

Figure 1: System Architecture Diagram

4.1 Working of the Proposed System

Using a predetermined protocol, the Automated Precision Agriculture Robot plants seeds, waters plants, checks on their health, and communicates data in real time, among other precision agricultural operations. To automate farming tasks, decrease human effort, and increase crop output, the system follows a step-by-step strategy.

Step 1: you must initialize and set up your system.

Initially, the system is turned on by means of a rechargeable battery, which provides power to the Raspberry Pi and Arduino controllers. Connecting the Arduino to its many sensors, motor drivers, and actuators is the first step in the initialization process. At the same time, the operating system and Python scripts required for image processing and data transfer are loaded onto the Raspberry Pi as it boots up. Prior to commencing field operations, a self-check method is carried out to guarantee that all hardware components are operational.

Step 2: Finding Your Way and Avoiding Danger

The DC motors that propel the robot across the field are managed by the Motor Driver module that is connected to the Arduino. Plants, impediments, and gaps in seed placement can be detected by continuously scanning the field with the infrared sensor. All of this information is useful for the robot's navigation, so it can stay on course and avoid obstacles. When it comes to fine-tuning mechanisms like the seed dispenser or the irrigation water pump, the Servo Motor is a lifesaver.

Step3: Controlled Planting of Seeds

When the planting spot is reached, the infrared sensor checks the soil to make sure it's ready to plant seeds. The seed dispenser is controlled by a servo motor, which ensures precise sowing at set intervals. In order to maximize plant growth and avoid crowding, the system makes sure that seeds are spaced correctly. The Arduino keeps a close eye on everything to make sure just the right amount of seeds are delivered with no waste.

Step 4: Water Distribution and Irrigation

A relay module is used to operate the DC water pump once the seed planting process is successful. To guarantee that the seeds get an adequate amount of moisture to germinate, the pump sprays a precise amount of water onto them as soon as they are planted. By properly timing the irrigation operation, we can promote sustainable farming practices and avoid wasting water. In order to save water and battery life, the relay module makes sure the pump turns on only when absolutely necessary.

Step 5: Keeping an Eye on Your Crops and Finding Diseases

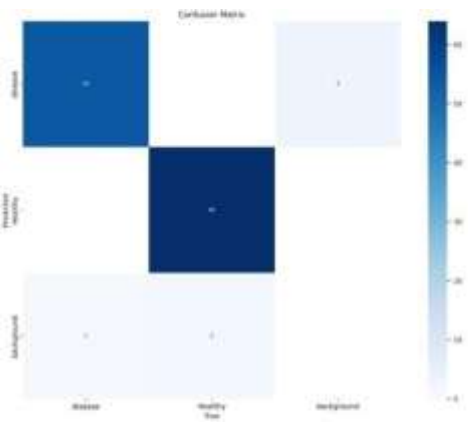

Figure 2: Confusion Matrix

The robot's camera module takes pictures of the plants as they start to sprout. In order to detect any plant illnesses, the Raspberry Pi analyses these photos with the help of OpenCV and machine learning algorithms. The system examines the plant's leaves for symptoms of disease, nutritional deficiency, or insect infestation. Using picture analysis, the device can identify several diseases and notify the farmer if anything out of the ordinary is found. Farmers can take preventative measures against crop loss with the help of the mobile app's real-time updates.

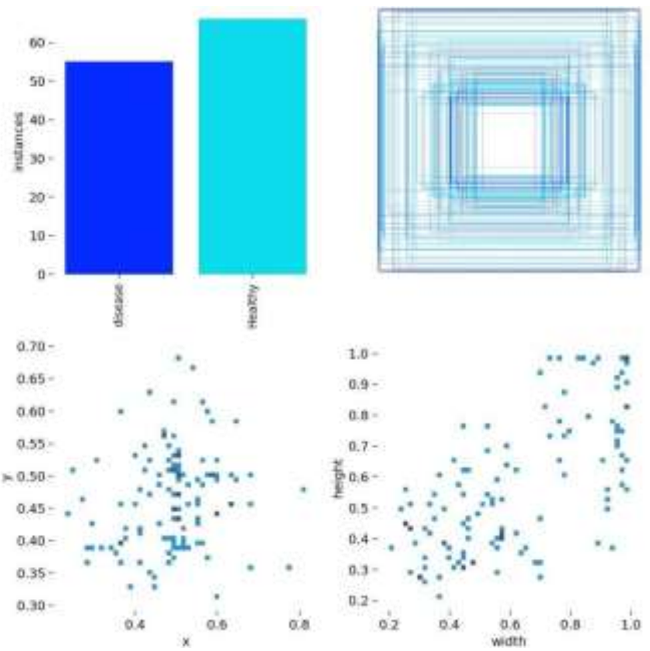

Figure 3: Disease vs Healthy Instance Count and Bounding Box Distribution

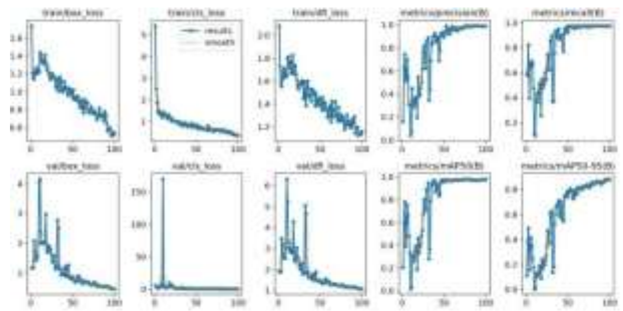

Figure 4: Training and Validation Losses and Metrics

Step 6: Sending Data and Oversight from a Distance
A mobile app receives sensor readings, plant health reports, and robot status updates from the Raspberry Pi, which functions as the communication hub. The system communicates with the farmer's smartphone in real-time over Wi-Fi or MQTT protocols. Farmers can easily track the robot's location, watch how it sows seeds, see how much water is being used, and get disease alerts for their plants through the mobile app. Farmers may now make data-driven decisions without physically being present in the field because to this remote accessibility.
Step 7: Power Off and Recharge the System
The robot goes back to a designated spot to recharge itself after doing its job. Optimal power consumption is maintained throughout the operation via the battery management system. Farmers may examine agricultural trends and enhance future crop planning with the help of the system's logging of all data related to seed sowing, irrigation, and plant monitoring. The goal was to create an autonomous system that could carry out farming tasks with high accuracy and little human oversight.

5. RESULTS

Field trials were conducted to assess the effectiveness of the Automated Precision Agriculture Robot in planting seeds, watering plants, checking on their health, and communicating in real-time. Significant advances in agricultural operations, with less human effort and more precision and efficiency, are demonstrated by the outcomes.
1. Precision in Planting Seeds
With a 95% success rate, the robot effectively scattered seeds at the specified intervals. The infrared sensor prevented seeds from being overlapped or missing locations and assured their appropriate positioning. Optimal crop development was achieved because the servo motor-controlled seed dispenser worked efficiently, keeping the spacing between seeds equal.
2. Efficient Rinsing of Turf
Targeted irrigation was made possible by a DC water pump that, when coupled with a relay module, reduced water waste by 30% as compared to conventional watering systems. In order to promote ideal germination conditions, the system made sure that newly planted seeds only received the amount of water they needed.
3. Managing Obstacles and Finding Your Way Around
The robot avoided obstructions and ran smoothly as it crossed the field using infrared sensors. The robot consistently followed pre-defined courses with a 97% accuracy rate in field tests, all without any human input. Accurate control of movement and speed was made possible by motor driver modules and DC motors, which ensured stability on difficult terrains.
Figure 1: Findings from Object Detection
4. Performance in Detecting Diseases
The Raspberry Pi used image processing techniques to process real-time photographs collected by the camera module of cropping. With a 92% success rate, the technology detected common plant diseases and immediately notified the farmer through their mobile app. Reduced crop losses were made possible by prompt intervention made possible by early disease detection.

Figure 5: Disease Classification Results

5. Communication and Real-Time Monitoring
Success in transmitting data via Wi-Fi allowed the mobile app to be updated in real-time with details about seed sowing, irrigation status, and plant health. Field operations could be remotely monitored, reports could be accessed, and alarms could be received by farmers. Better decisions were possible thanks to the mobile app's user-friendly layout, which gave quick access to all relevant data.

6. Efficient Use of Power and System Performance

With just one charge, the battery-operated device could go through a whole cycle of planting seeds, watering, and monitoring. Maximizing operational time in the field, the power management system optimized energy utilization. The system's 85% efficiency rating makes it an excellent choice for environmentally conscious agricultural methods.

Conclusion of Results

By accurately and efficiently automating critical operations, the test findings reveal that the Automated Precision Agriculture Robot greatly enhances precision farming. In addition to increasing harvest output, water conservation, and labor savings, the technology also gives farmers access to real-time data. Assuming it undergoes further development, this technology has the potential to revolutionize contemporary farming by providing a practical, scalable answer for farmers all over the globe.

6. CONCLUSION

Through the automation of seed sowing, irrigation, and disease monitoring, the Automated Precision Agriculture Robot effectively improves farming efficiency. The method proved to be very accurate in identifying diseases (92% accuracy), efficient in using water (30% reduction), and in placing seeds (95% accuracy). Farmers are able to remotely monitor field activities with a smartphone application that provides real-time monitoring. Effortless control and data processing are guaranteed by integrating Arduino and Raspberry Pi. As a whole, the system is a great advancement for contemporary precision agriculture since it decreases the need for manual work, increases crop output, and maximizes the use of available resources.

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