

My Climate Copilot: An Application of NLP in Climate Adaptation for Agriculture¹

Vincent Nguyen, Sarvnaz Karimi, Willow Hallgren, Ashley Harkin (BOM), Mahesh Prakesh

21 November 2024

[1] Vincent Nguyen, Sarvnaz Karimi, Willow Hallgren, Ashley Harkin, and Mahesh Prakash. 2024. My Climate Advisor: An Application of NLP in Climate Adaptation for Agriculture. In Proceedings of the 1st Workshop on Natural Language Processing Meets Climate Change (Climate NLP 2024), pages 27–45, Bangkok, Thailand. Association for Computational Linguistics.

Australia's National Science Agency

Climate Change & Agriculture



- The IPCC states that climate will change regardless of mitigation efforts¹
 - Climate change will inevitably affect agriculture
 - Temperature and rainfall variability
 - Extreme climate events²



[1] Climate change means Australia may have to abandon much of its farming. https://cbe.anu.edu.au/news/2021/climate-change-means-australia-may-have-abandon-much-its-farming [2] Peter Stott, How climate change affects extreme weather events. *Science* **352**,1517-1518(2016).DOI:<u>10.1126/science.aaf7271</u>

How do we mitigate adapt climate impacts for *Australian* agriculture?



My Climate Copilot Prototype



[1] Vincent Nguyen, Sarvnaz Karimi, Willow Hallgren, Ashley Harkin, and Mahesh Prakash. 2024. <u>My Climate Advisor: An Application of NLP in Climate Adaptation for Agriculture</u>. In *Proceedings of the 1st Workshop on Natural Language Processing Meets Climate Change (ClimateNLP 2024)*, pages 27–45, Bangkok, Thailand. Association for Computational Linguistics.



Scientifically robust RAG

- Open-source model: Llama-3
 8b
 - user privacy
 - reduce greenhouse emissions
- Generate responses given to a user's question with:
 - Climate data
 - Conversation history
 - Relevant literature (~2m documents)



Evaluation: How do we measure quality?

• 15 sample questions provided by domain experts

Will my rainfall continue to increase in variability in Northern NSW? How will climate change impact cherry production in Young?

- Domain experts designed 7 metrics
 - Style and Substance
- Compared against proprietary models



Pitfalls, preference and hallucination

- Competitive against proprietary offerings (GPT-4, Claude)
 - Falls behind flagships, but beats public offering ChatGPT, Gemini
- Stylistic preferences
 - Answers are **accurate**, but not well-presented
- Location names are ambiguous

Will my rainfall continue to increase in variability in <u>Northern NSW</u>? How will climate change impact cherry production in <u>Young</u>?

• Hallucinations

What varieties of apples are more tolerant to sunburn? Gemini 1.0 pro: "Apples do not get sunburned" GPT-40: The response was filtered due to the prompt triggering Azure OpenAI's content management policy. Please modify your prompt and retry.





My Climate Copilot

- Accessible Australian climate adaptation information
- An evaluation framework for climate adaptation questionanswering

myclimateview.au

Australia's National Science Agency

• Contact:

- Vincent Nguyen (Vincent.Nguyen@csiro.au)
- o Sarvnaz Karimi (Sarvnaz.Karimi@csiro.au)