

# BASE STATION SYSTEM FOR TRACKING POWDER VALLEY NATURE CENTER COPPERHEAD SNAKES

Presented by Josh Peck, Dan  
Rosenburg, and Abbie Wolfe





## PRESENTATION OUTLINE

Background Information

Project Objectives

Technical Approach

Code Logic

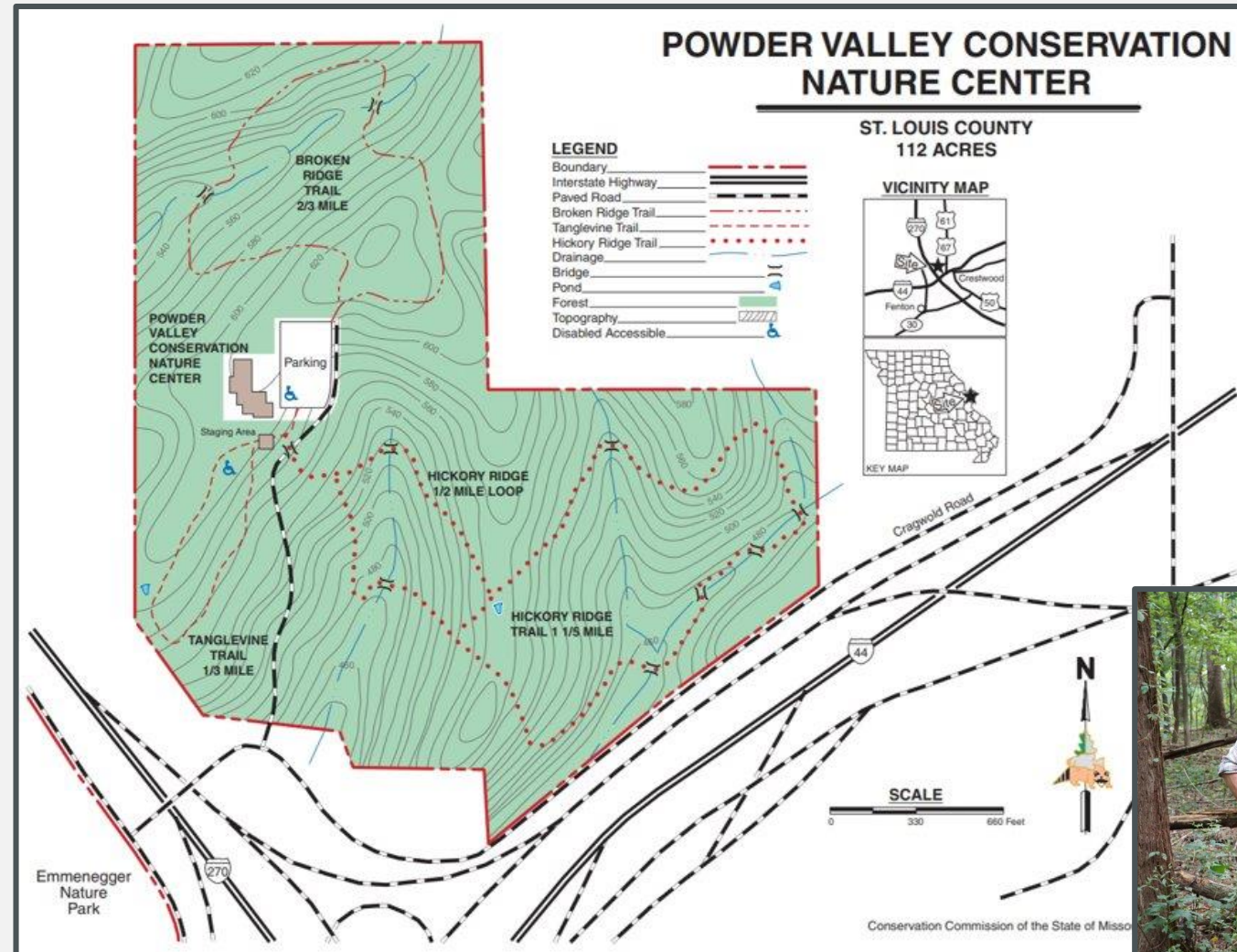
Testing

Results

Future Studies

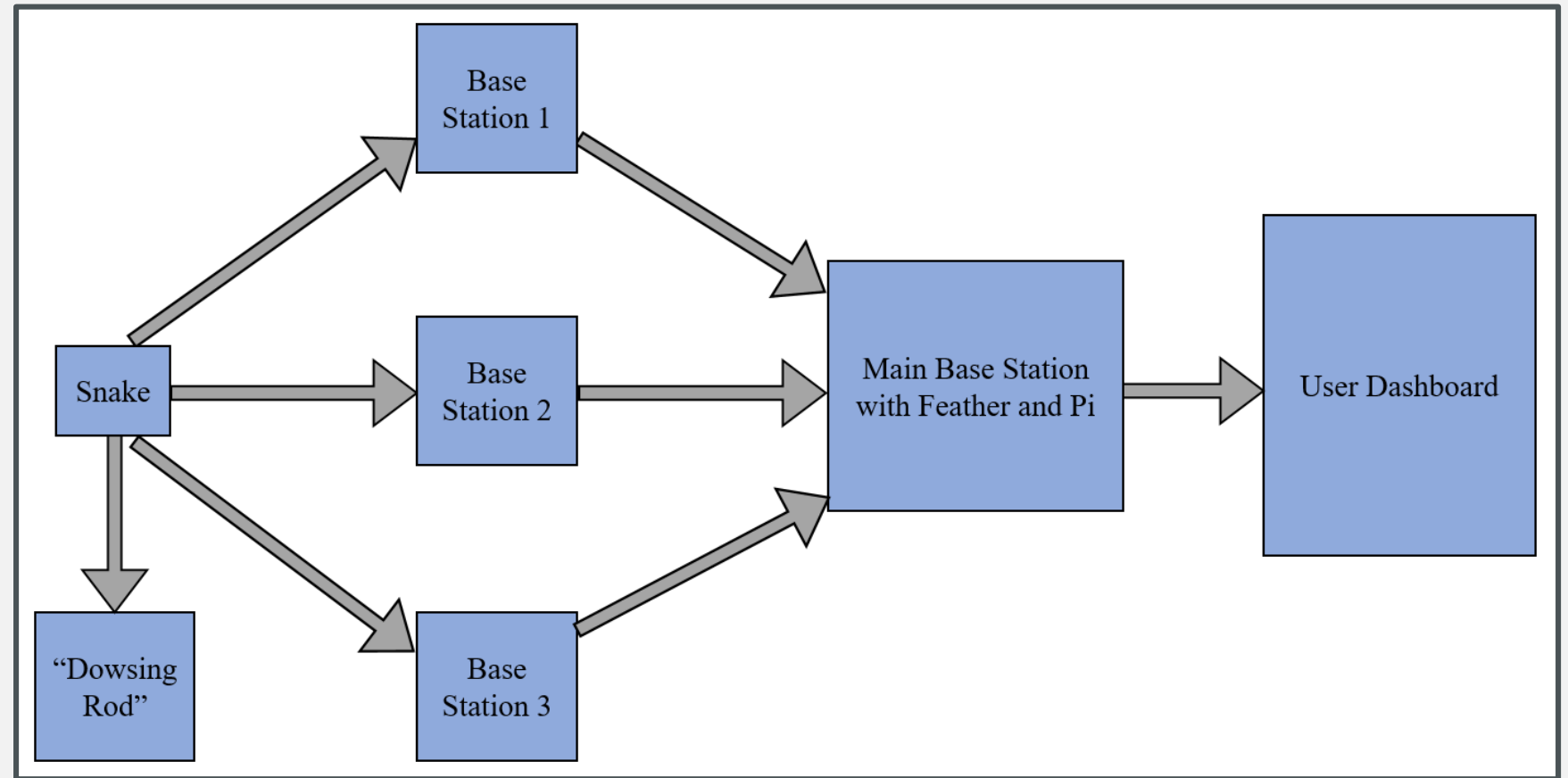


# Background Information

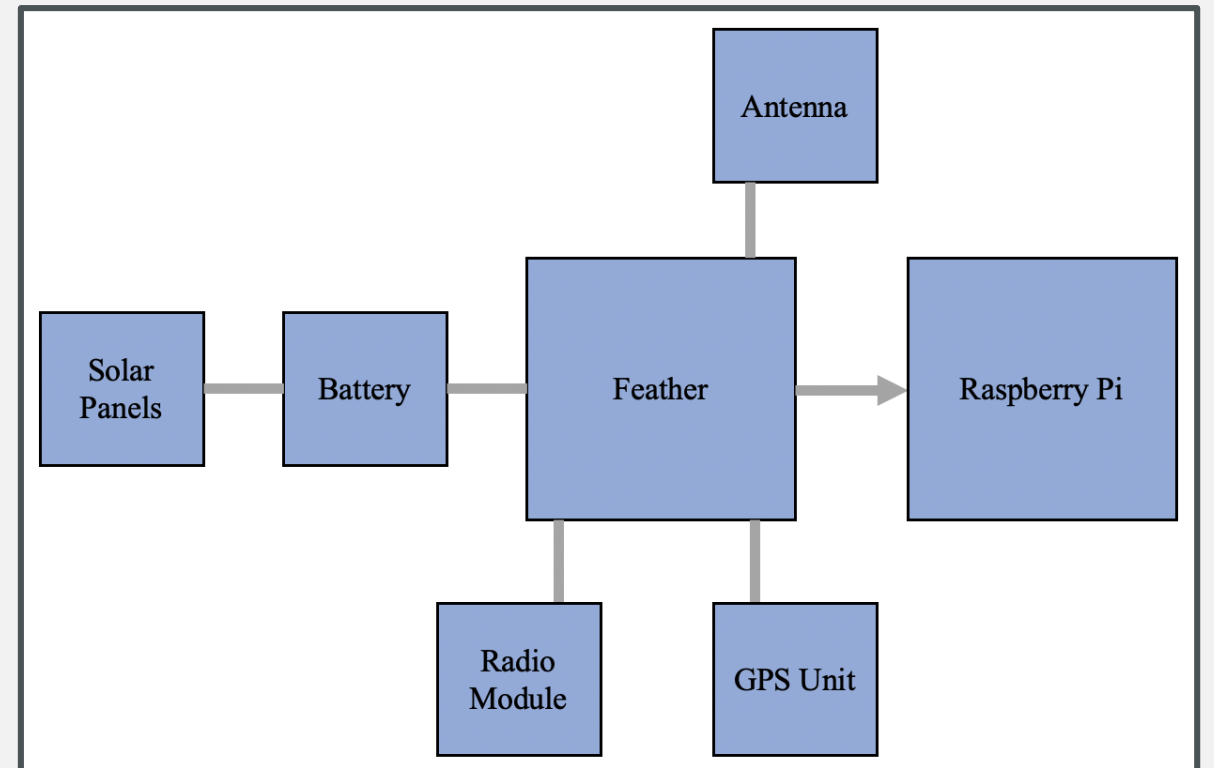
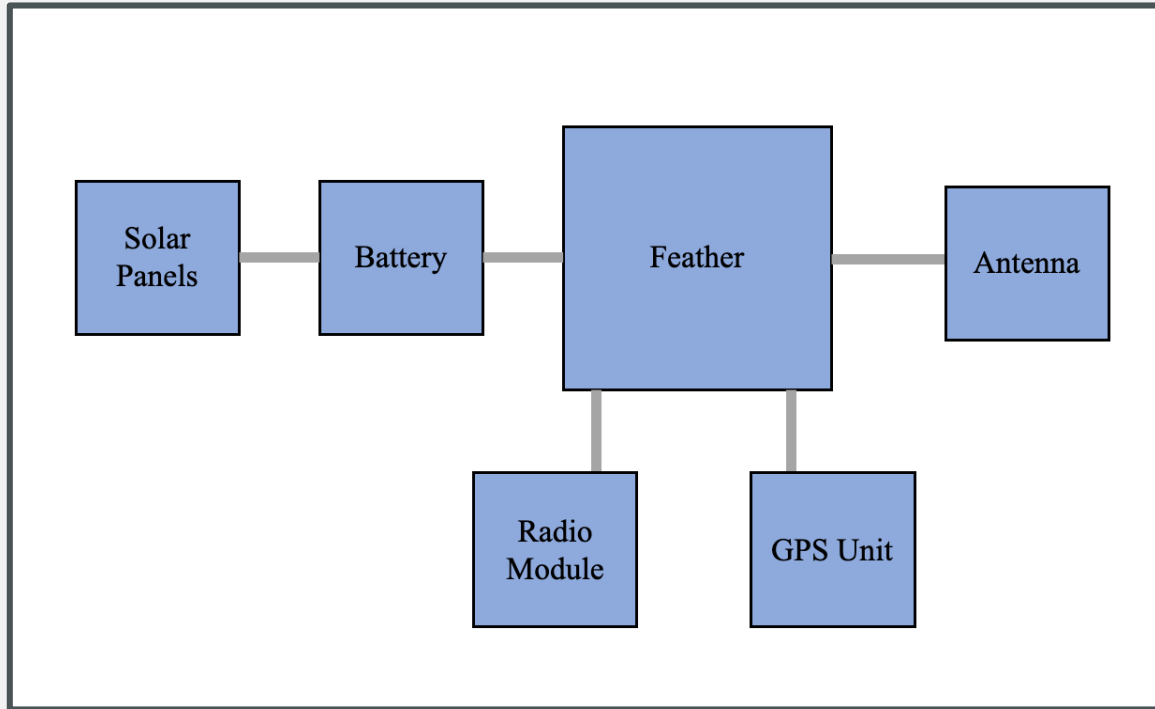


# Project Objectives and Overall Technical Approach

Our goal was to design and implement a system that calculates the coordinates of an implantable tracking device. Specifically, we aimed to track an implant that does not contain a GPS unit.



# Base Station Block Diagrams



# Base Station Code Logic (Arduino Level)

## General Operation

- Transmitter Data
  - Snake ID, Sequence ID, Ping ID, Temperature, Voltage
- Base station Receives Message (passive listening)
- Base station appends GPS data (location, timestamp)
- Base station forwards complete packet to main station
- Results are sent via serial to Raspberry Pi
- Raspberry Pi runs algorithm

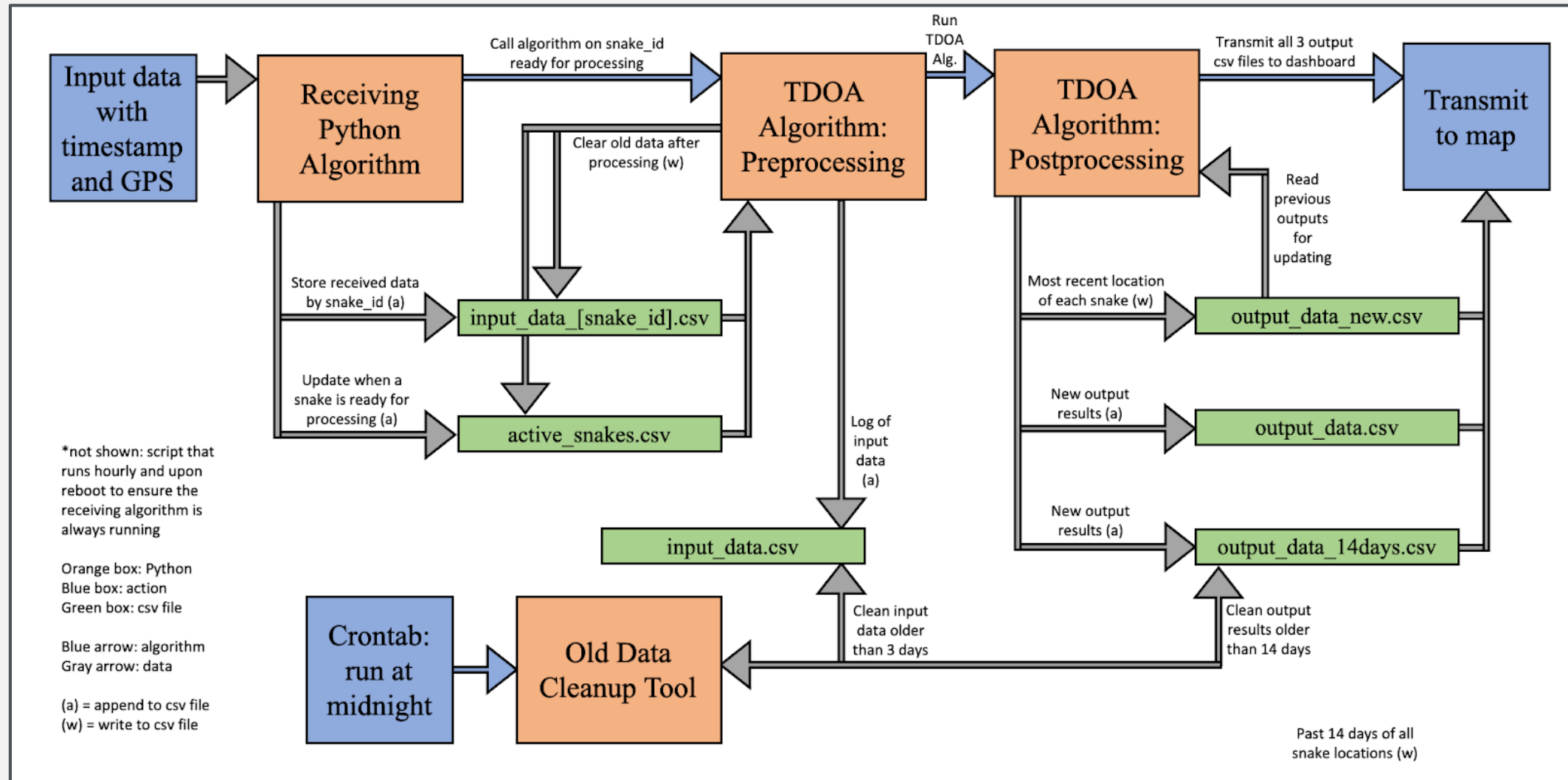
## Timing and Locating

- GPS data acquisition (10 Hz)
- Storage of most recent data
- Extrapolating milliseconds (last received GPS time and Arduino clock)

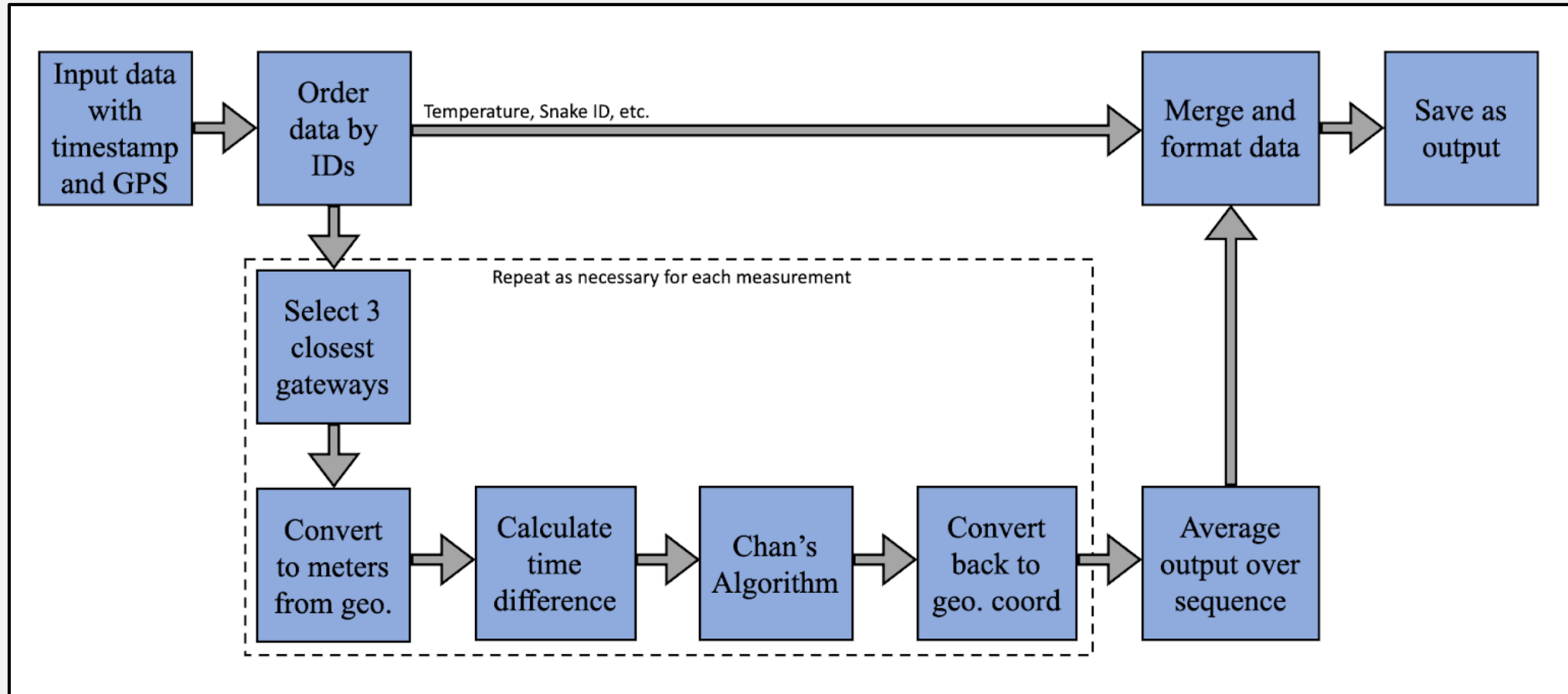
## Addressability

- All secondary stations share address
- Main Base Station and controller each have unique address
- All snake addresses sequentially increase

# Algorithm Logic and Data Flow



# TDoA Algorithm Block Diagram





# Indoor Testing

## Round 1

- GPS accuracy of single station
- Communication between Feathers
- Power consumption calculations

## Round 2

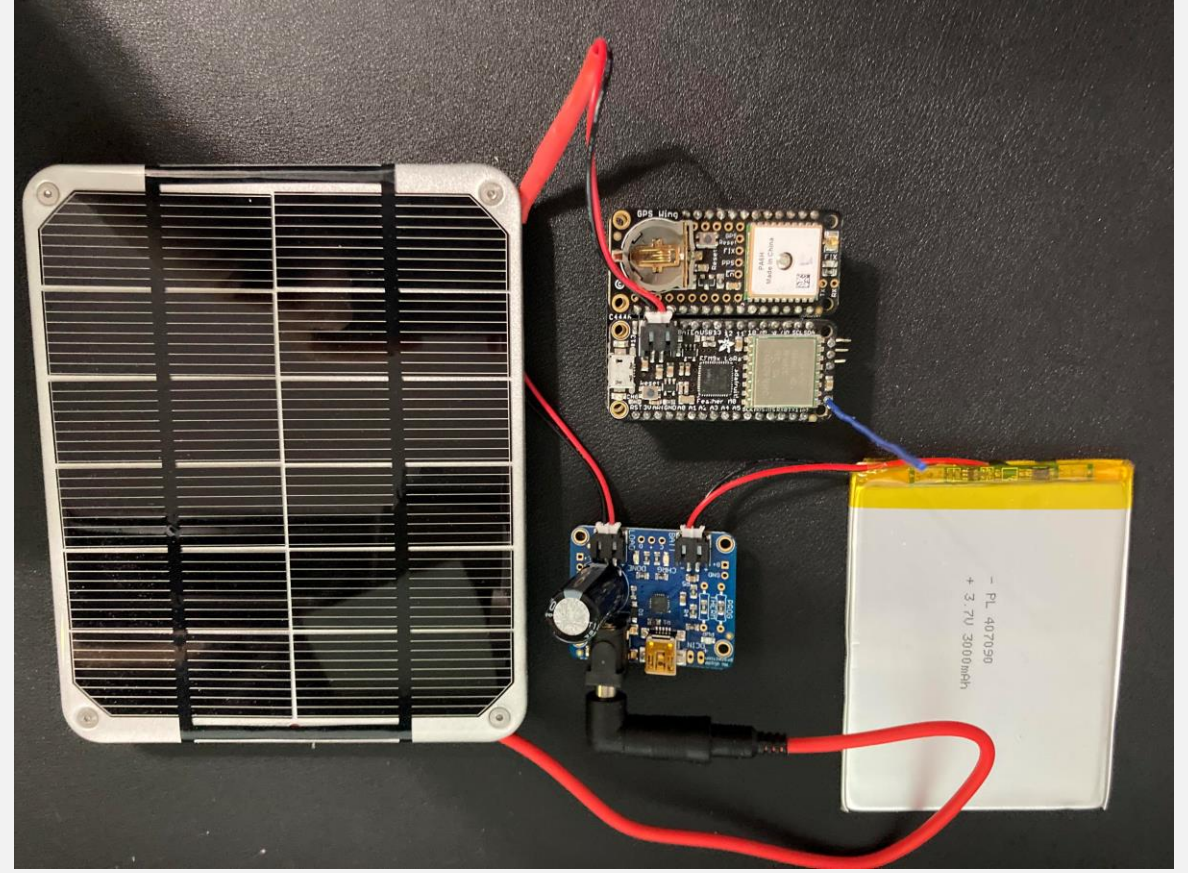
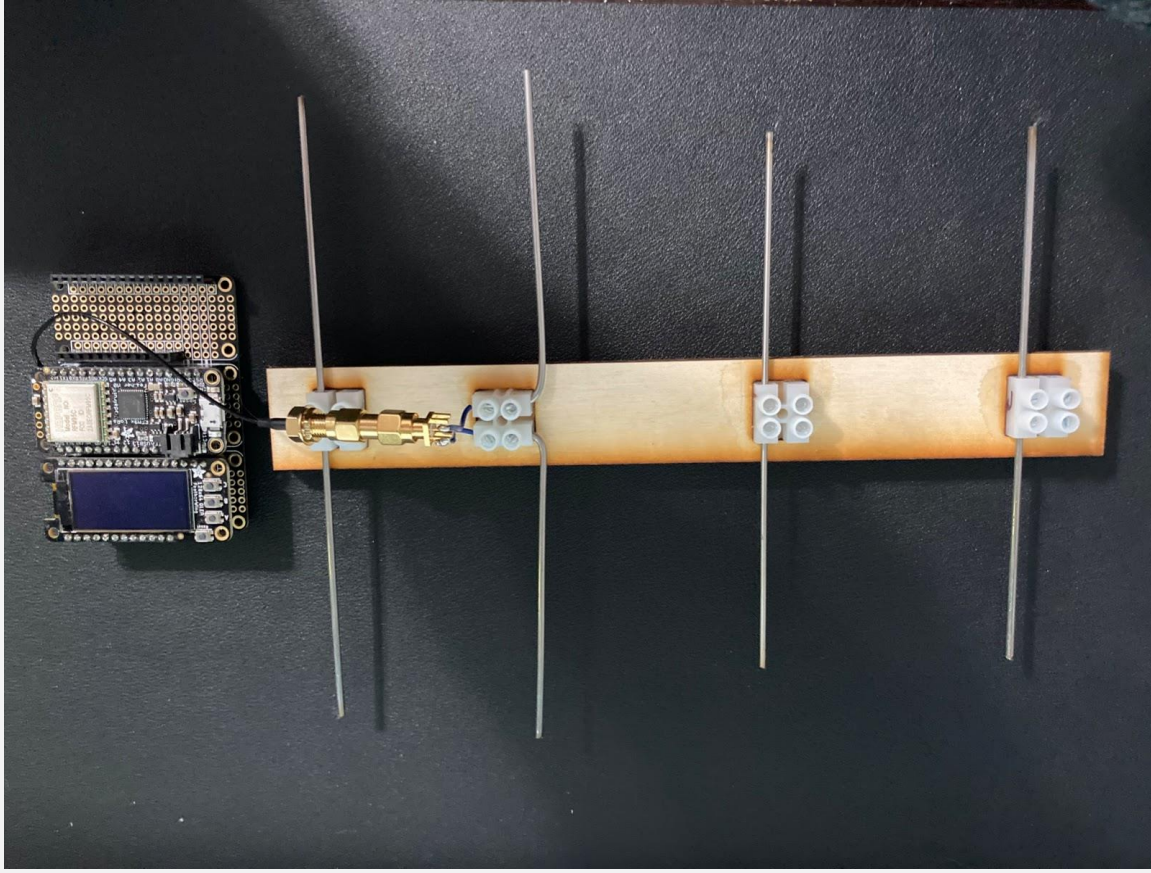
- Addressability between stations
- Control panel menu options
- Enclosure prototyping

## Round 3

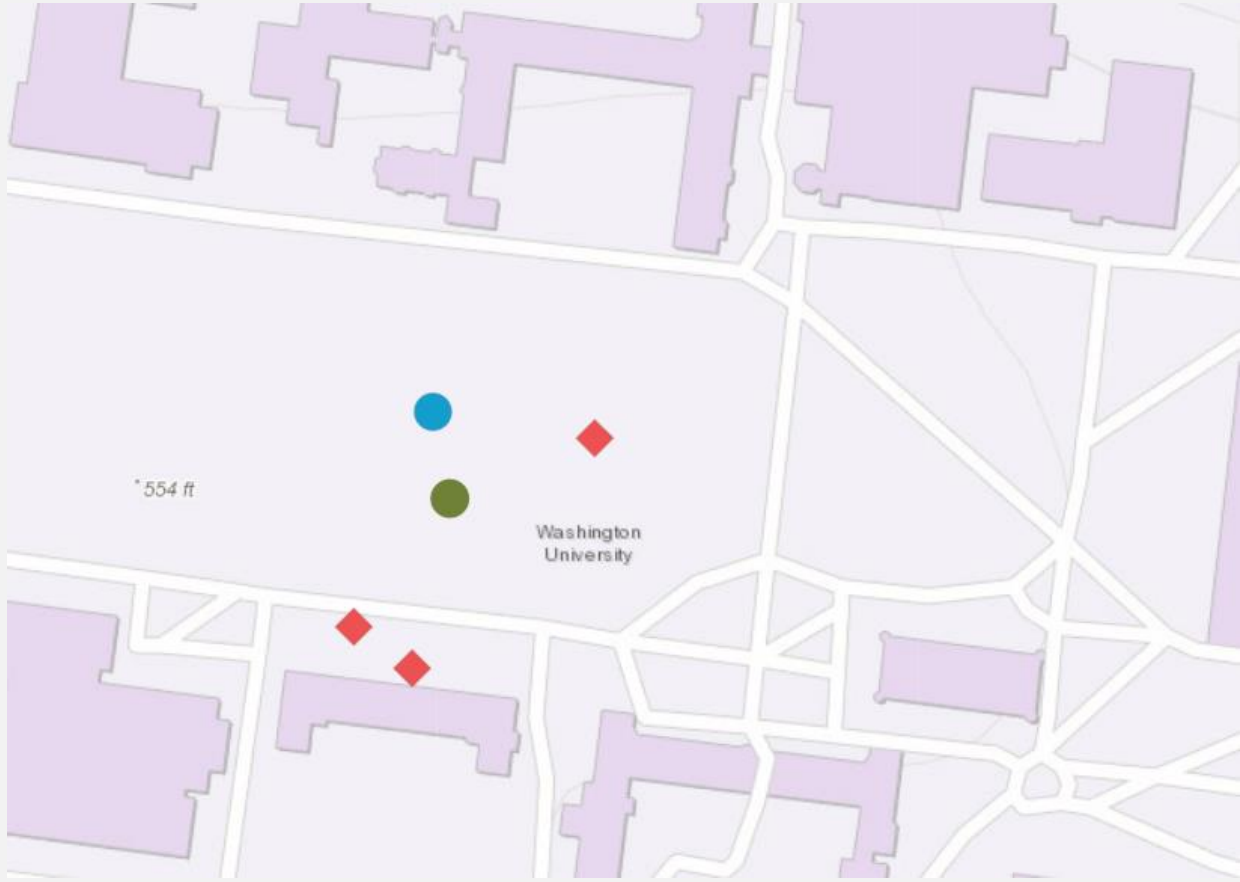
- Power consumption live testing
- "Dowsing Rod" efficacy

```
DATA,20,3,0,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:15.828, 3836.1394,N, 9014.3252,W
LDATA,20,3,0,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:15.534, 3836.1394,N, 9014.3369,W
DATA,20,3,1,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:19.660, 3836.1389,N, 9014.3252,W
DATA,20,3,1,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:19.511, 3836.1421,N, 9014.3291,W
LDATA,20,3,1,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:18.020, 3836.1394,N, 9014.3369,W
DATA,20,3,2,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:22.536, 3836.1389,N, 9014.3262,W
DATA,20,3,2,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:22.536, 3836.1389,N, 9014.3262,W
LDATA,20,3,2,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:21.798, 3836.1394,N, 9014.3369,W
LDATA,20,3,2,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:21.798, 3836.1394,N, 9014.3369,W
LDATA,20,3,2,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:23.894, 3836.1394,N, 9014.3369,W
LDATA,20,3,2,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:23.894, 3836.1394,N, 9014.3369,W
DATA,20,3,3,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:26.852, 3836.1394,N, 9014.3262,W
DATA,20,3,3,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:26.852, 3836.1394,N, 9014.3262,W
LDATA,20,3,3,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:27.233, 3836.1394,N, 9014.3369,W
LDATA,20,3,3,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:27.233, 3836.1394,N, 9014.3369,W
LDATA,20,3,3,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:27.233, 3836.1394,N, 9014.3369,W
LDATA,20,3,3,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:29.290, 3836.1394,N, 9014.3369,W
DATA,20,3,4,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:32.152, 3836.1421,N, 9014.3291,W
DATA,20,3,4,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:33.134, 3836.1394,N, 9014.3262,W
DATA,20,3,4,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:33.134, 3836.1394,N, 9014.3262,W
LDATA,20,3,4,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:31.225, 3836.1394,N, 9014.3369,W
DATA,20,3,5,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:35.687, 3836.1394,N, 9014.3252,W
LDATA,20,3,5,71,10,2021-04-21 01:22:35.053, 3836.1394,N, 9014.3369,W
```

# Power Consumption and RSSI Results



# Mudd Field Testing



Signal Bouncing

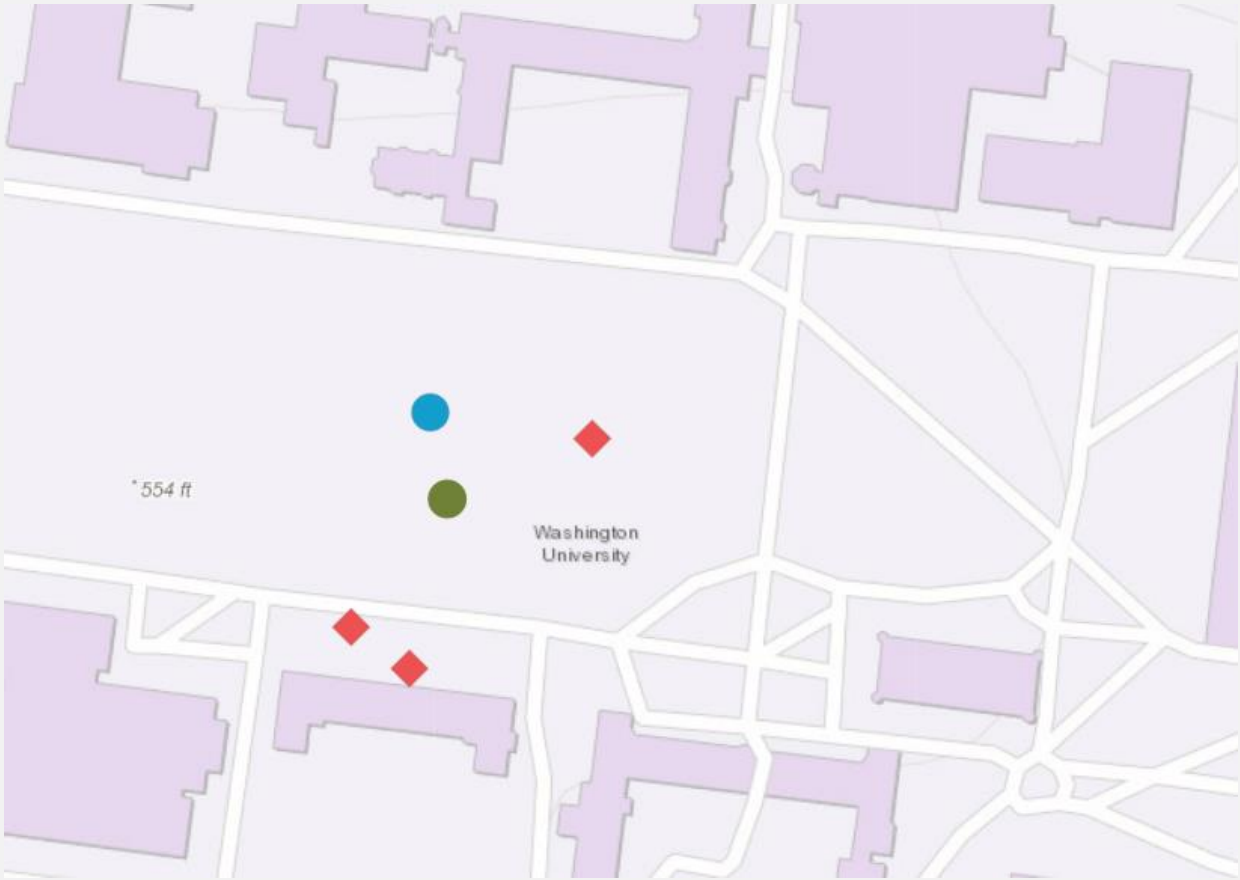
Sample input data from our testing

```
2021-04-25 17:39:53.393,20,11,0,71,10,38.648755,-090.309912
2021-04-25 17:39:55.091,20,11,0,71,10,38.64834,-090.310595
2021-04-25 17:39:53.393,20,11,0,71,10,38.648755,-090.309912
2021-04-25 17:39:55.091,20,11,0,71,10,38.64834,-090.310595
2021-04-25 17:39:53.393,20,11,0,71,10,38.648755,-090.309912
2021-04-25 17:39:55.091,20,11,0,71,10,38.64834,-090.310595
2021-04-25 17:39:56.514,20,11,0,71,10,38.64825,-090.310433
2021-04-25 17:39:57.233,20,11,1,71,10,38.64834,-090.310595
2021-04-25 17:39:57.233,20,11,1,71,10,38.64834,-090.310595
2021-04-25 17:39:56.887,20,11,1,71,10,38.648758,-090.309912
2021-04-25 17:39:58.771,20,11,1,71,10,38.64825,-090.310433
```

Timing Discrepancy



# Results

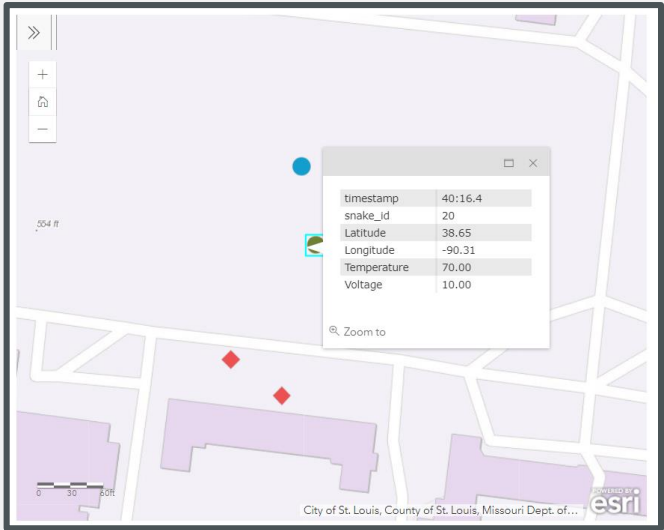
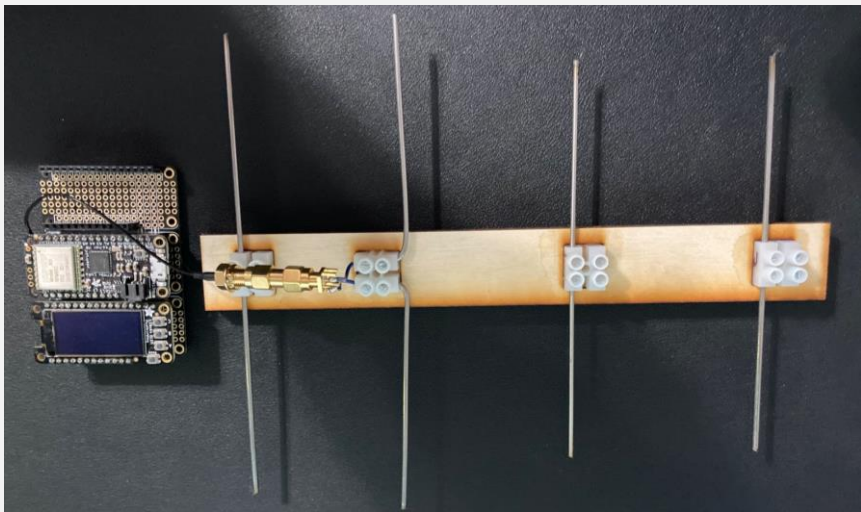
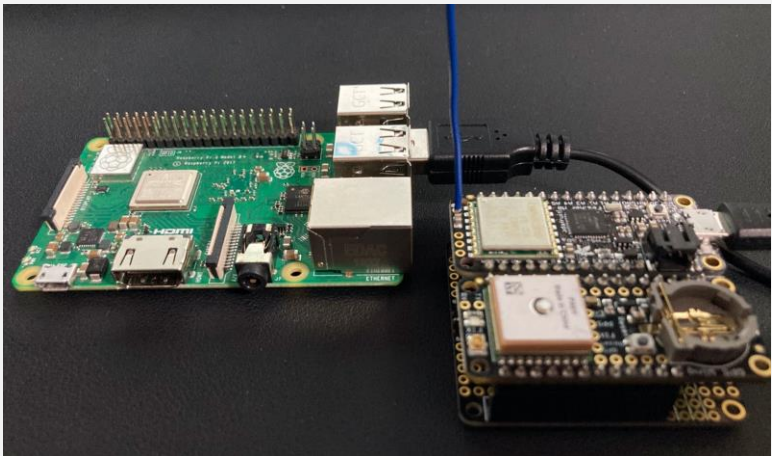
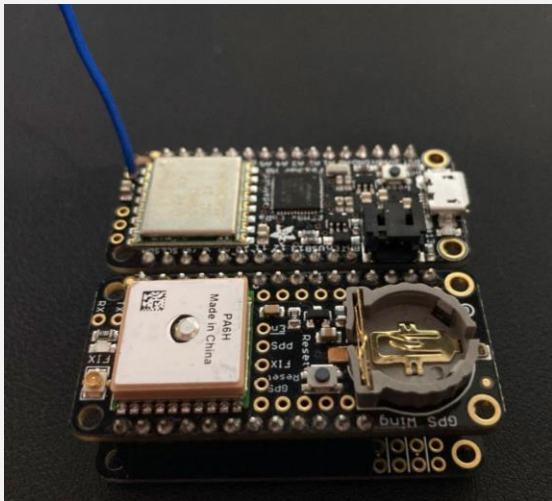


*Mudd Field Testing of Locating the Transmitter*

Point	Latitude	Longitude
Actual Location (blue dot)	38.648823 (N)	-90.310377 (W)
Calculated Location (green dot)	38.648899 (N)	-90.305587 (W)
Base Station 1 (closest to the DUC)	38.648254 (N)	-90.310425 (W)
Base Station 2 (closest to Simon Hall)	38.648342 (N)	-90.310597 (W)
Base Station 3 (closest to Olin Library)	38.648756 (N)	-90.30991 (W)

# Overall Accomplishments

## Trilateration TDoA Algorithm





# Future Endeavors

Timing Accuracy

Signal Bouncing

Upgrade User  
Dashboard



# Questions



# References

- Chan, Y. T., et al.,** "A simple and efficient estimator for Hyperbolic Location," *IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing*, vol. 42, No. 8, **August 1994**
- Choi, W., et. al.,** "Low-Power LoRa Signal-Based Outdoor Positioning Using Fingerprint Algorithm," *International Journal of Geo-Information*, **2018** (11), <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijgi7110440>
- Fargas, B. C., et. al.,** "GPS-free Geolocation using LoRa in Low-Power WANs," *Proceedings of 2017 Global Internet of Things Summit*, **2017**, <https://doi.org/10.1109/GIOTS.2017.8016251>
- Kays, R., et. al.,** "Tracking Animal Location and Activity with an Automated Radio Telemetry System in a Tropical Rainforest," *The Computer Journal*, **2011**, <https://doi.org/10.1093/comjnl/bxr072>
- Podevijn, N., et. al.,** "TDoA-Based Outdoor Positioning with Tracking Algorithm in a Public LoRa Network," *Wireless Communications and Mobile Computing*, **2018**, <https://doi.org/10.1155/2018/1864209>
- Pospisil, J., et. al.,** "Investigation of the Performance of TDoA-Based Localization Over LoRaWAN in Theory and Practice," *Sensors*, **2020** (20), <https://doi.org/10.3390/s20195464>
- Zarlenga, Dan.** "Powder Valley Nature Center Reveals Results of Ongoing Snake Study at a Special Program Aug. 23." *Missouri Department of Conservation*, 12 Aug. 2019, <https://mdc.mo.gov/newsroom/powder-valley-nature-center-reveals-results-ongoing-snake-study-special-program-aug-23>