

## Base Station Creation for Powder Valley Nature Center Copperhead Snake Tracking



# Joint Project Team

Advisor: Dr. James Feher,  
Washington University in  
St. Louis

Students: Josh Peck, Dan Rosenberg  
and Abbie Wolfe

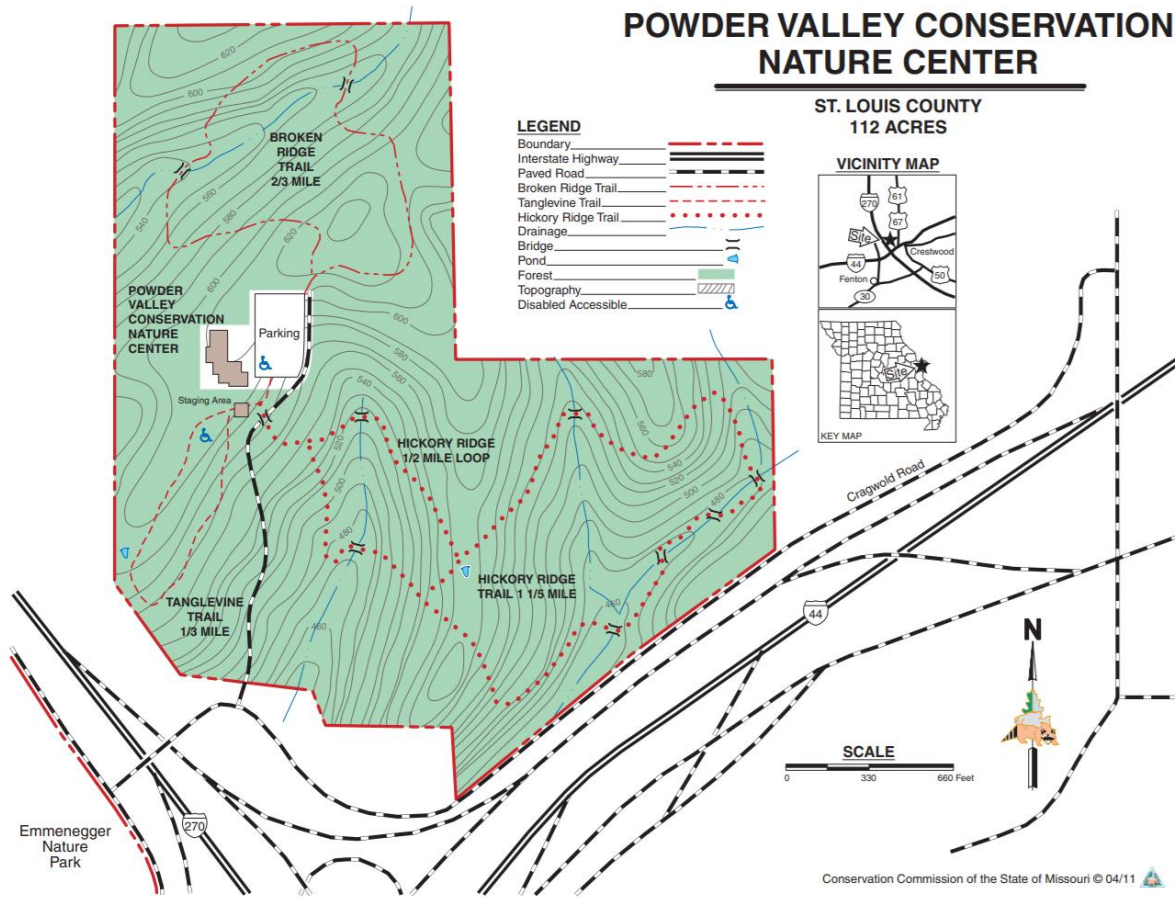
Partnering with: Sethin Burrier and  
Sierra Wang



Client:  
Dr. Benjamin Jellen,  
St. Louis College of Pharmacy



# Dr. Jellen's Research and Purpose for Tracking Snakes



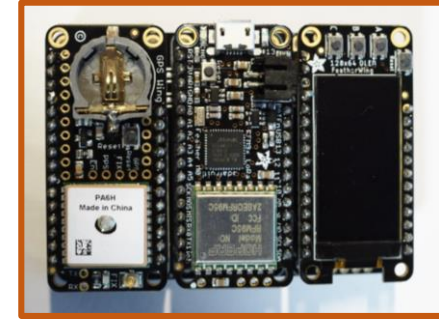
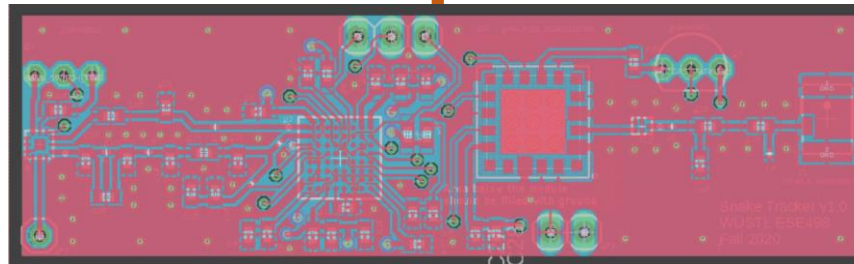
# Past Senior Design Projects

Initial Project: Established  
Radio Connection

Spring 2020

Continuation of Project:  
Design PCB and decrease  
implant size

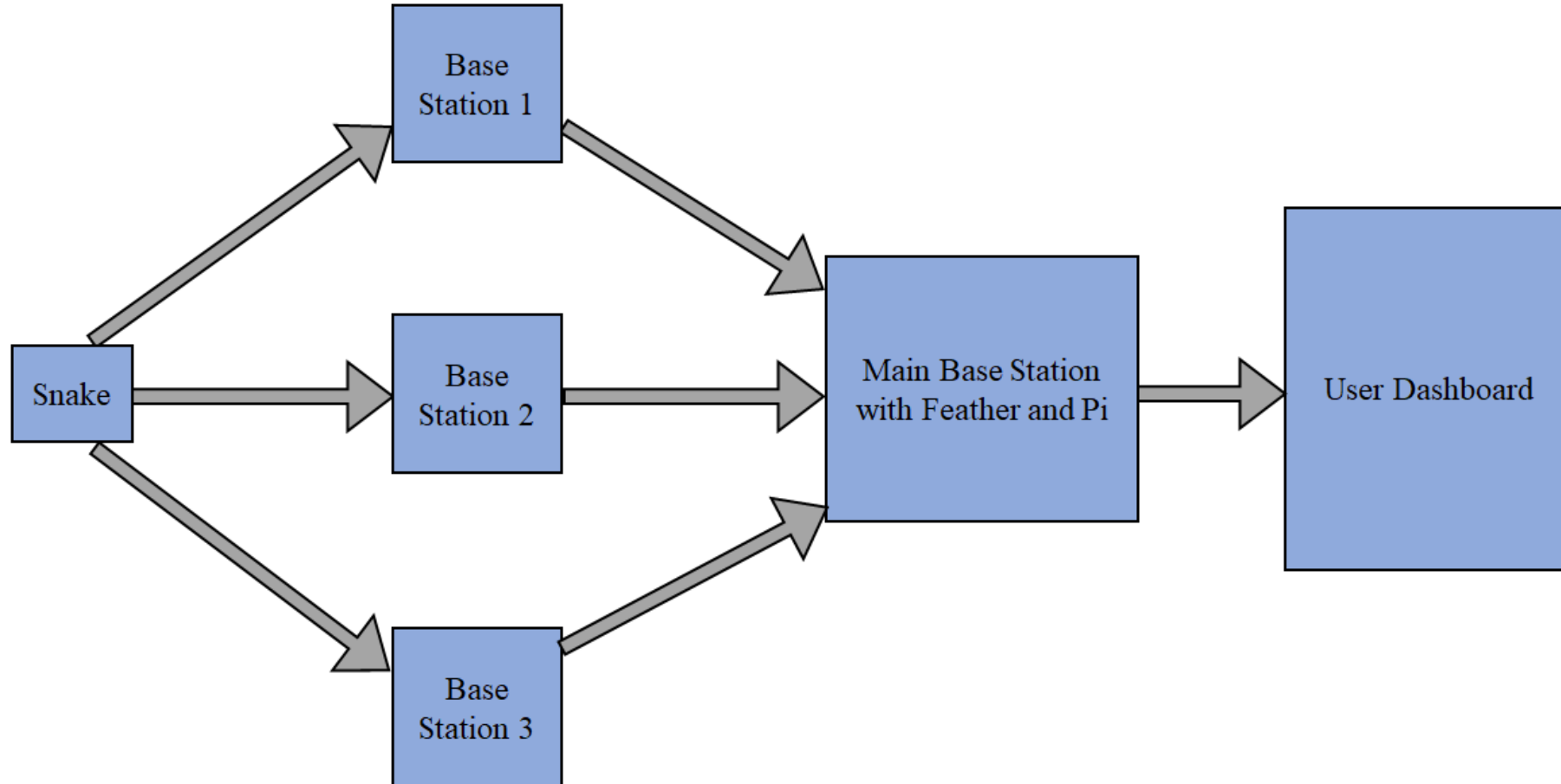
Fall 2020



Spring 2021

Our Goal: To design and  
implement base stations and  
a user interface that allows for  
the implants to be smaller with a  
low power consumption

**Figure 1: System Block Diagram**



# Base Stations

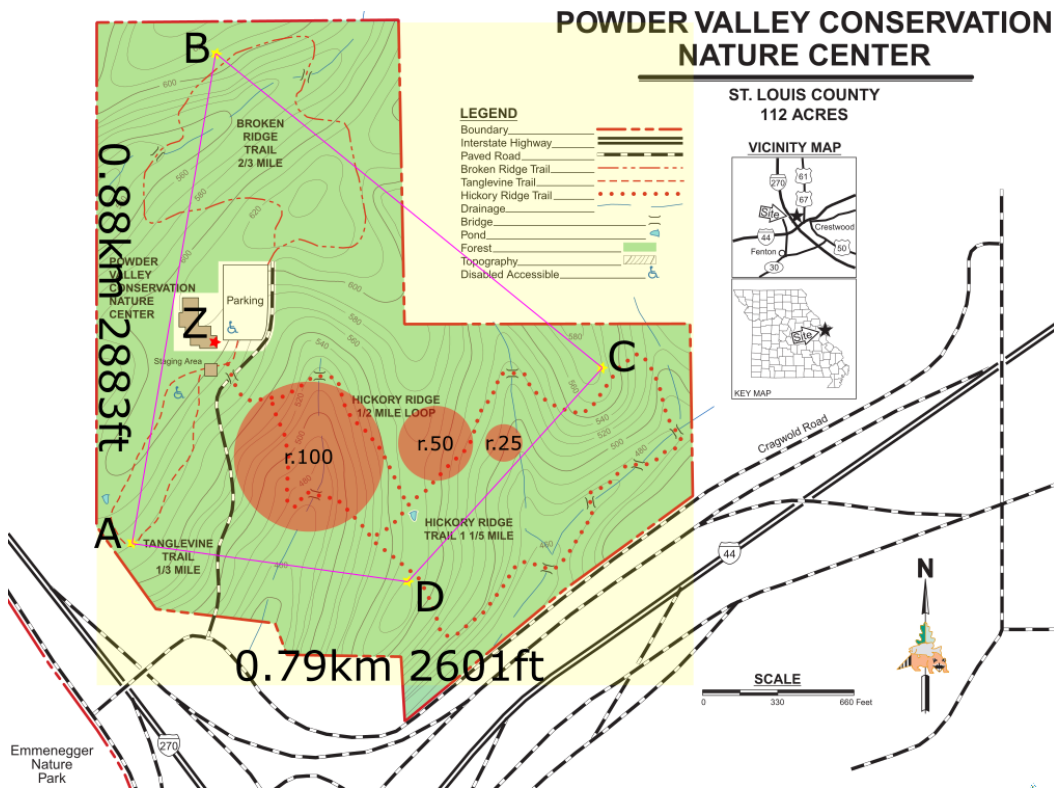
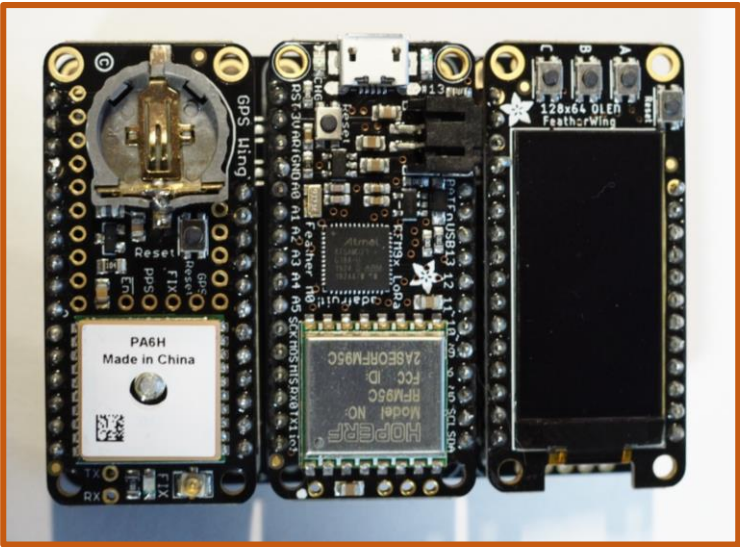
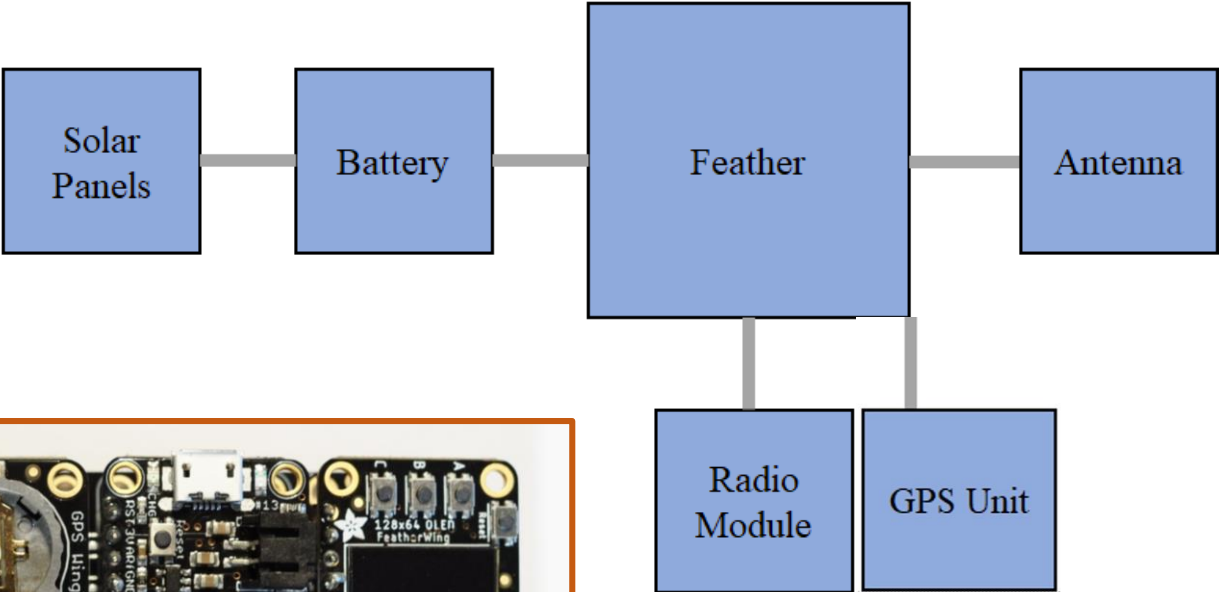
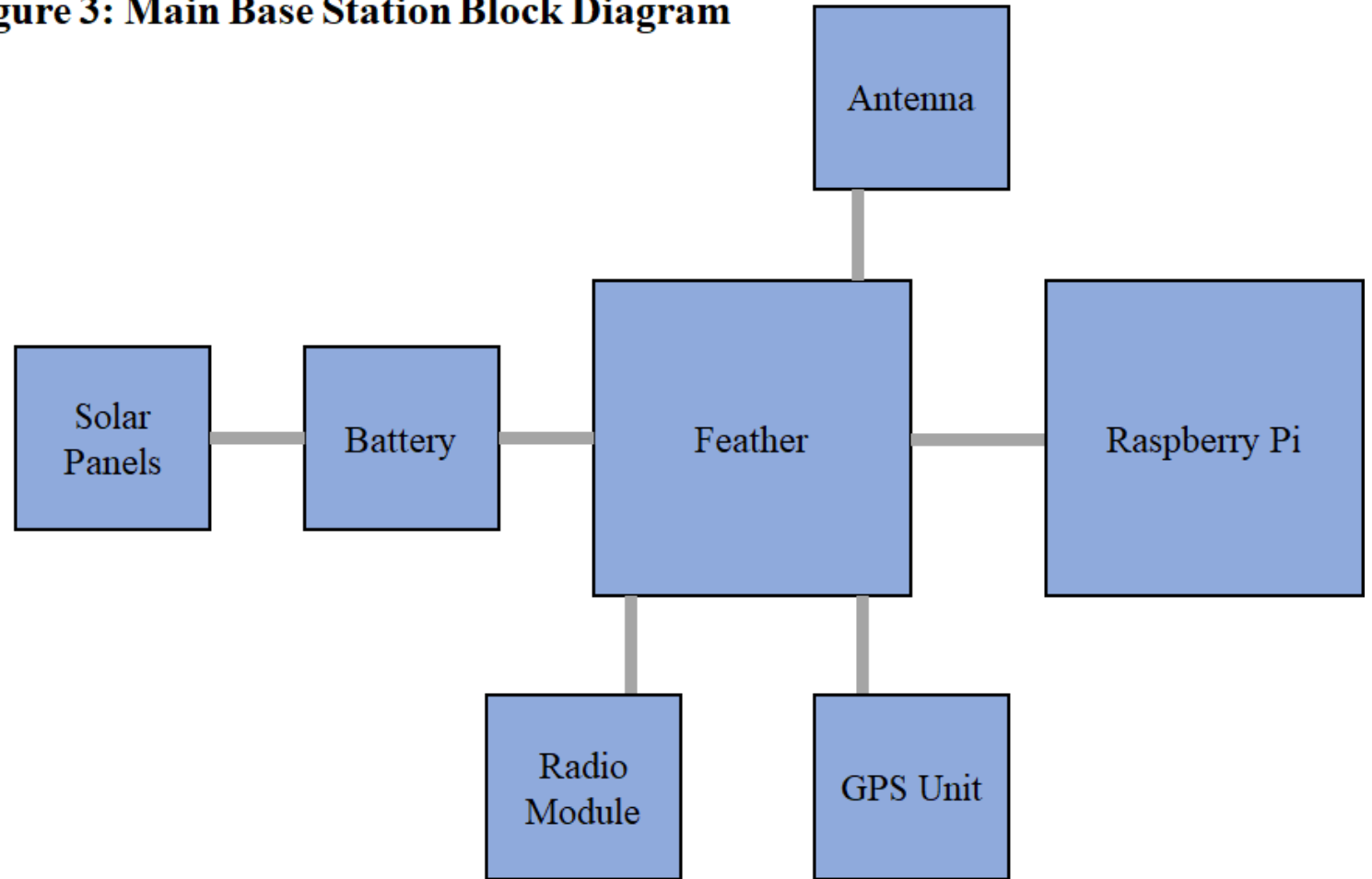
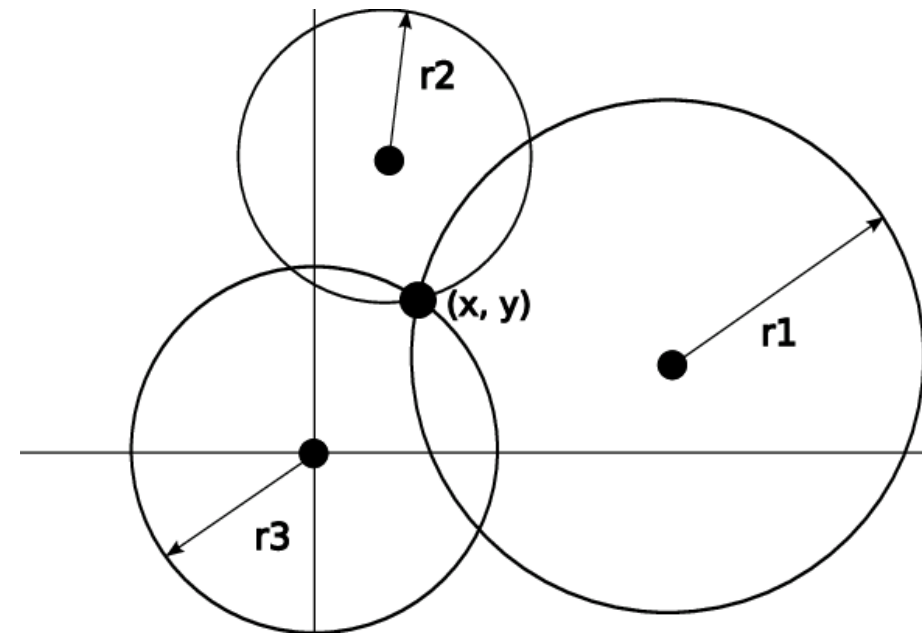


Figure 2: Base Station Block Diagram



# Primary Base Station (Algorithm Processing Unit)

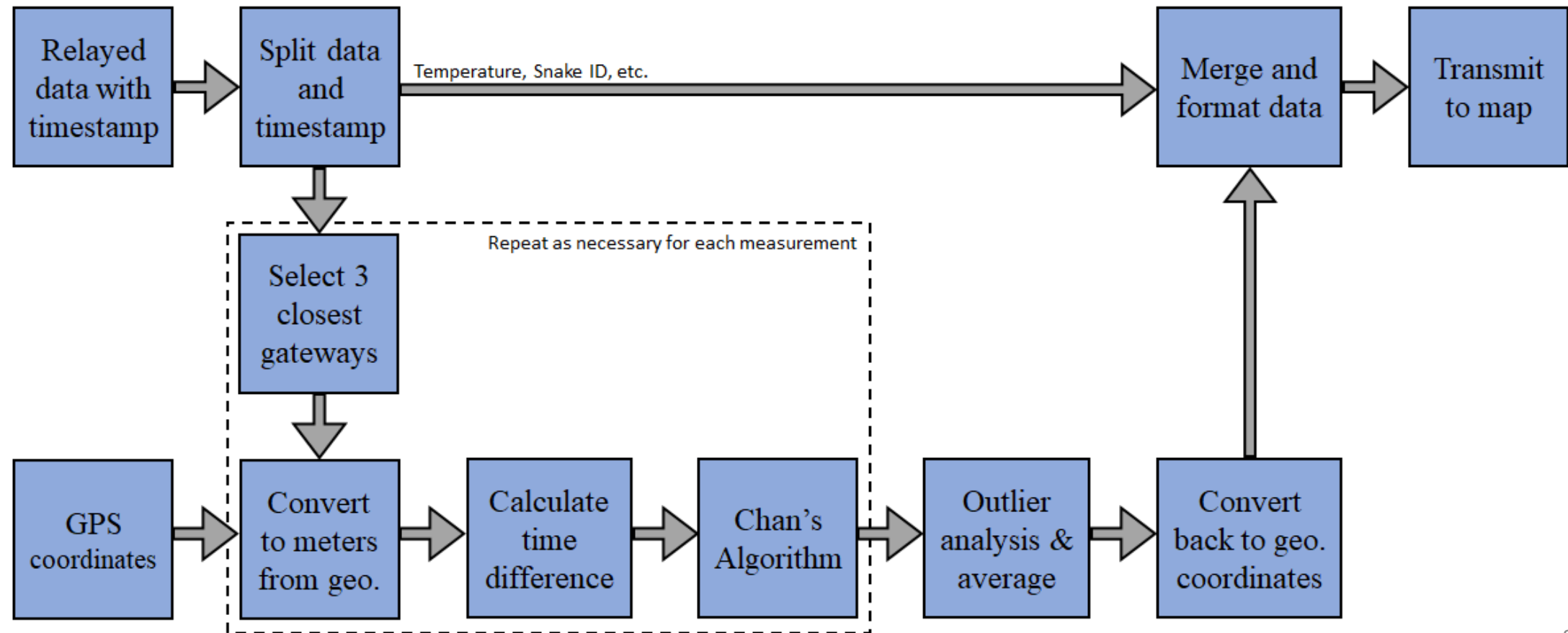
**Figure 3: Main Base Station Block Diagram**





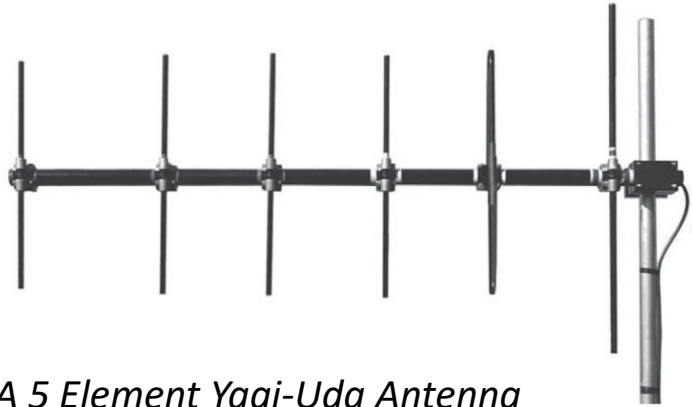
# Time Difference of Arrival (TDoA) Algorithm

**Figure 4: Algorithm Block Diagram**

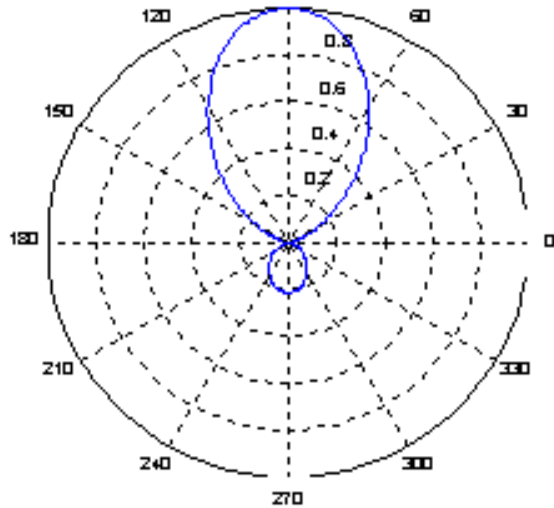




# Portable Locating Unit "Dowsing Rod"

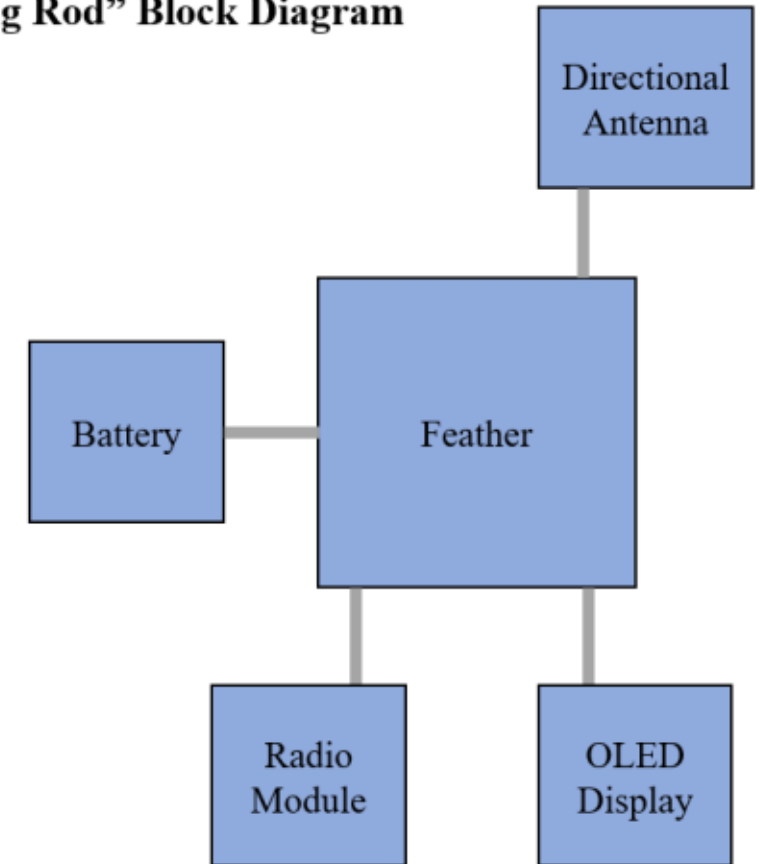


*A 5 Element Yagi-Uda Antenna*



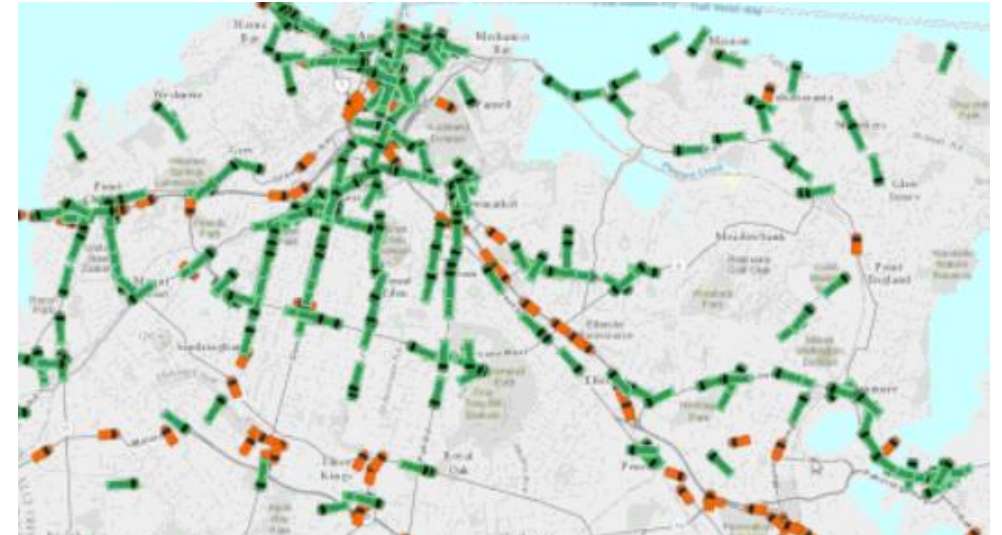
*Yagi-Uda Radiation Pattern*

**Figure 5: "Dowsing Rod" Block Diagram**



# User Dashboard

- Online, autonomously updating last reported location
  - Download raw data/time history
- Control Panel:
  - Location Update Frequency
  - Enable Active Tracking
  - Monitor Base Station Status



*Concept for Tracking Dashboard*

# Next Steps

Finish Physical Construction of  
Base Stations and Portable Units

Test combination of proven  
subsystems

Field testing of solution

# Deliverables

1 Main Base  
Station

3 Peripheral  
Base  
Stations

Trilateration  
TDoA  
Algorithm

User  
Dashboard

Portable  
Locating  
Unit



# Questions



# References

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- 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>
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