

Solar Cell Position Detector.



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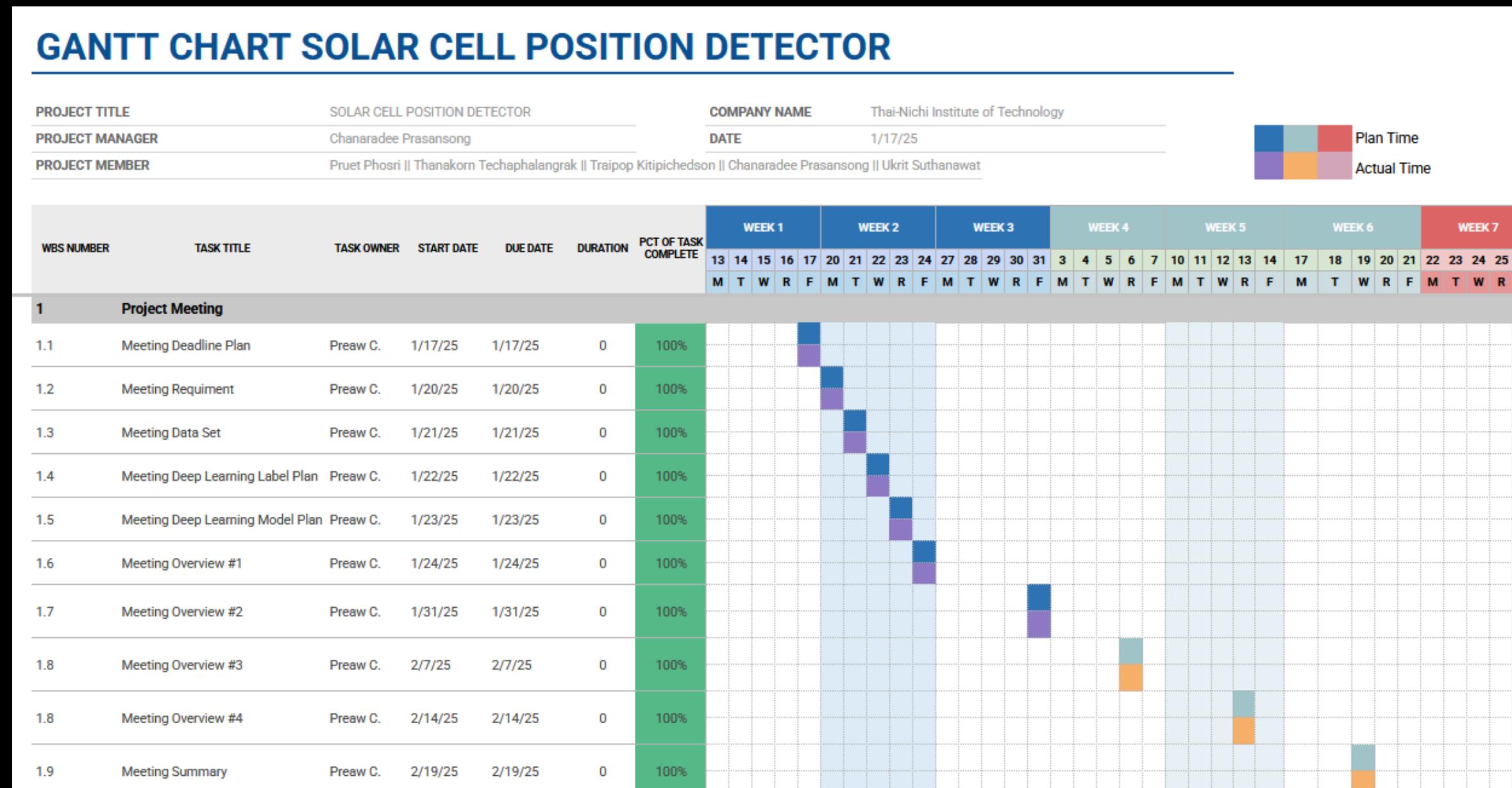


Project Detail

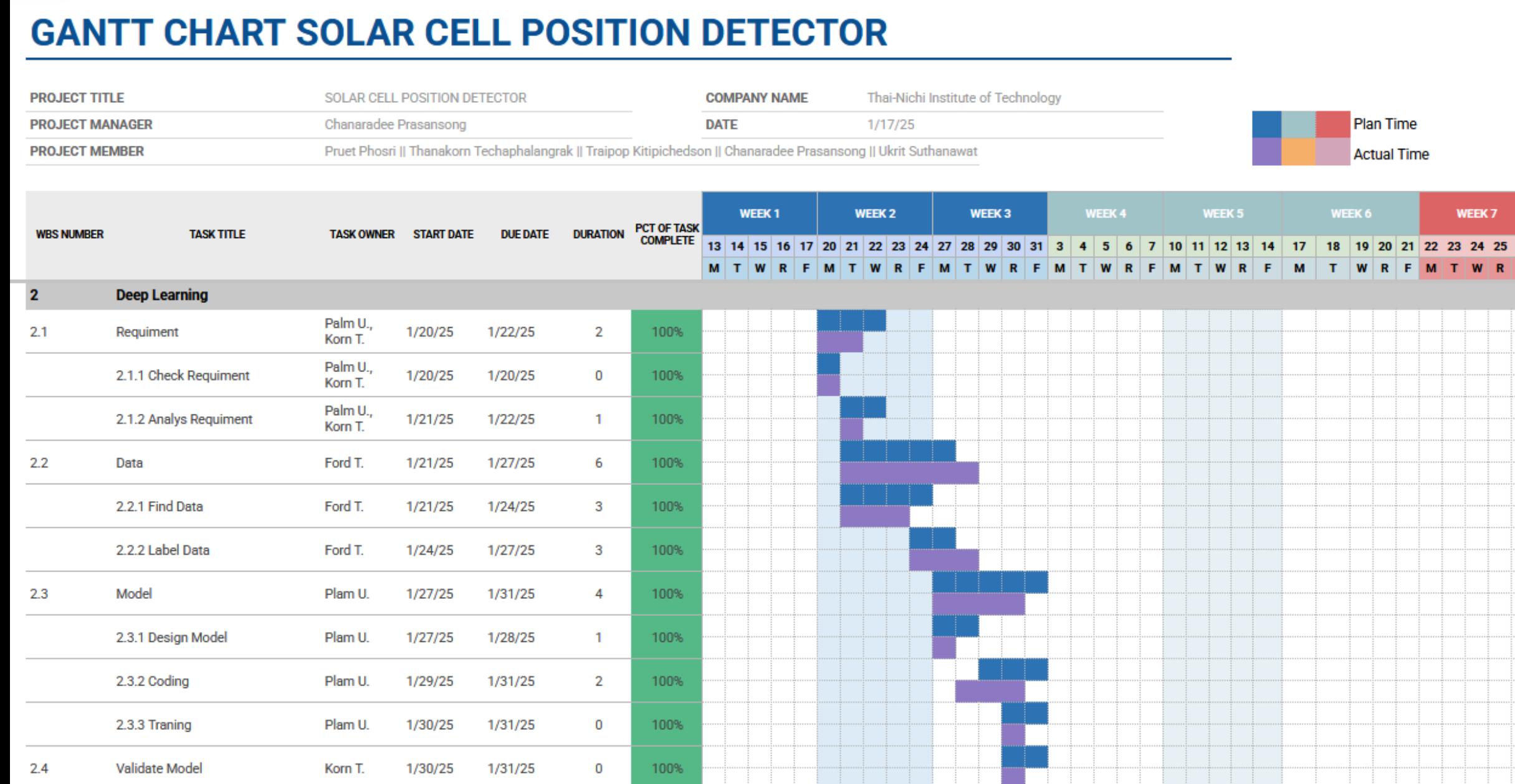
A sun-tracking system that uses YOLOv8 Nano on a Raspberry Pi 5 to detect the sun in real time and automatically adjust a solar panel via dual servos.



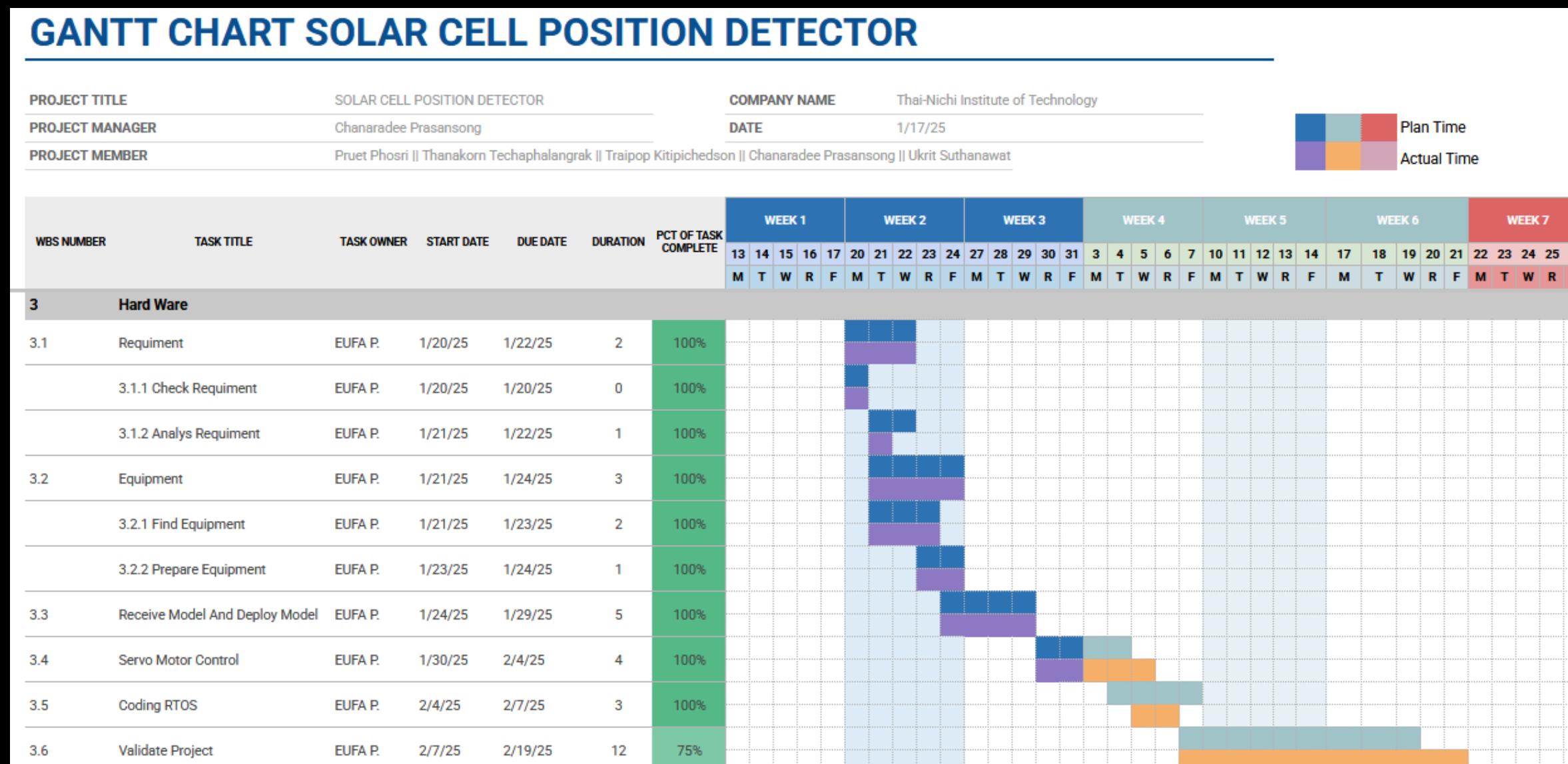
Plan



Plan



Plan



Requirement

Image Processing & Sun Detection

- The system captures real-time images of the sky using a camera module.
- The system detects the sun's position in the image using a trained Deep Learning model (YOLO/SSD) or image processing techniques (OpenCV-based filtering, Hough Transform, etc.).
- The system calculates the offset of the sun from the center of the frame.
- The system continuously updates detection in real-time to track the sun's movement.

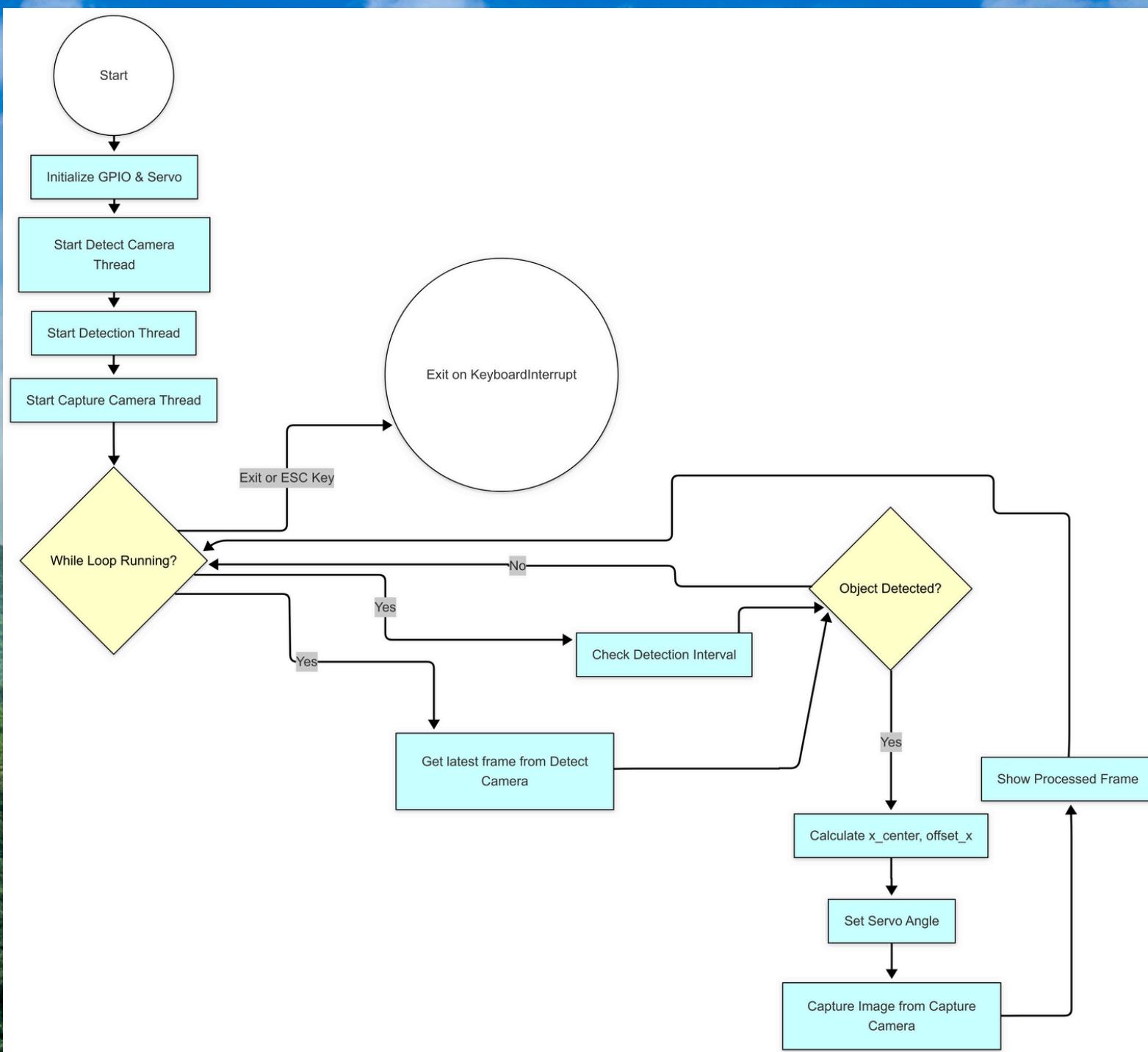
Hardware & Servo Motor Control

- The system sends servo control signals based on the detected sun position.
- The camera module can capture effectively.
- The system calculates the optimal angle for the solar panel based on the camera's orientation.
- The solar panel automatically rotates and tilts to match the detected sun's position.

Video



Flowchart



Technologies Used



- Hardware
 - Raspberry Pi 5 – Main processing unit
 - Camera Module – Captures real-time images
 - Servo Motors – Adjust the camera and solar panel's position
 - Solar Panel – Mounted on an adjustable tracking system
 - ND/Solar Filter – Prevents excessive sunlight damage
- Software & AI
 - Deep Learning (YOLOv5, YOLOv8, SSD-MobileNet) – Sun detection
 - OpenCV – Image processing & tracking
 - Python (RPi.GPIO, pigpio) – Servo motor control

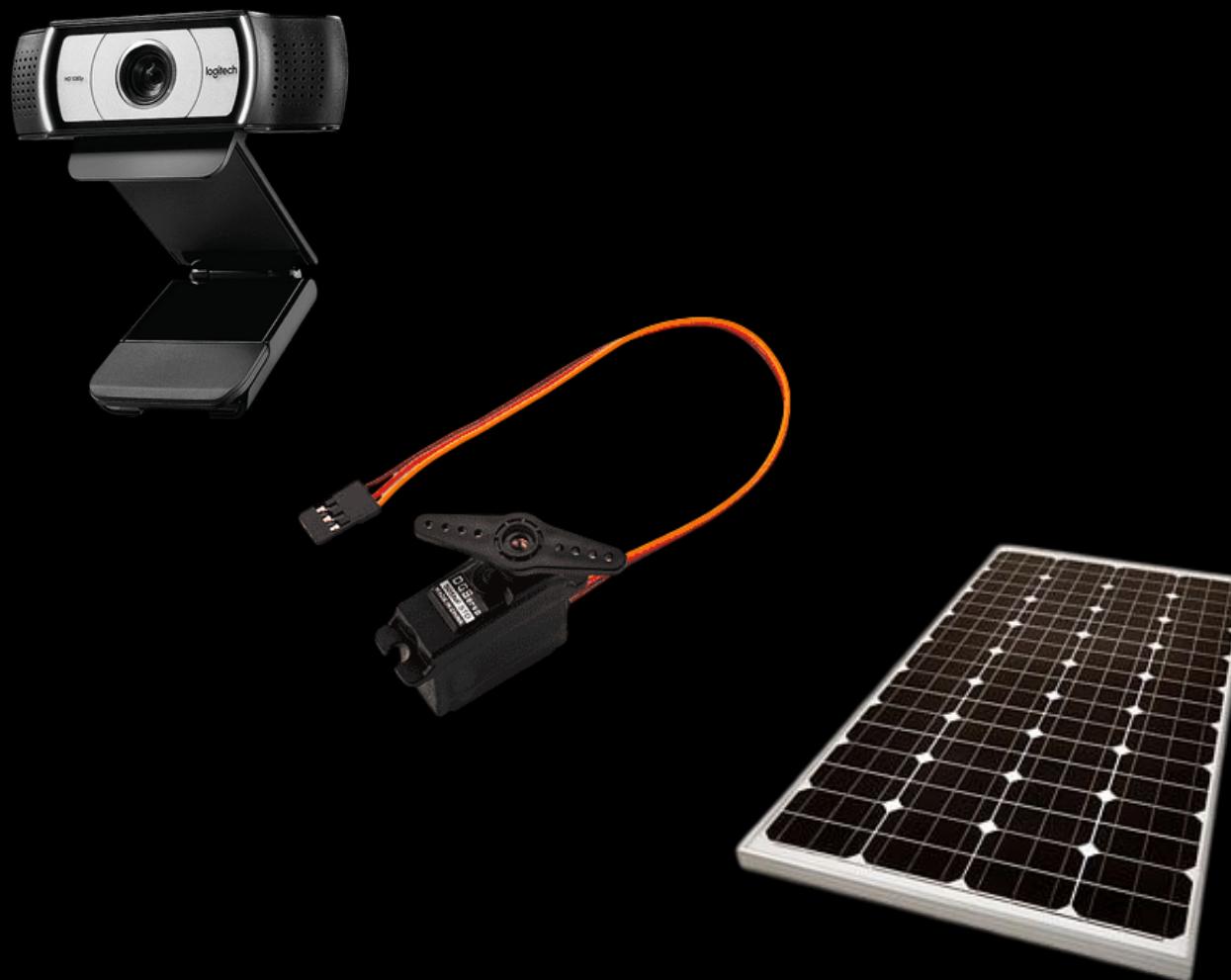
Model Selection



For sun detection, we utilized YOLOv8 Nano, a lightweight yet powerful model optimized for real-time object detection on edge devices like the Raspberry Pi 5. This model was selected due to its:

- High detection accuracy even in varied lighting conditions.
- Fast inference time suitable for real-time applications.
- Compatibility with resource-constrained hardware.

Hardware Connections



1. Connecting the Camera:

- Attach the camera module to the CSI port on the Raspberry Pi or connect a USB camera

2. Servo Motor Connections:

- Signal Wire (Orange/White): Connect to GPIO12, 13 (PWM) on Raspberry Pi.
- Power Wire (Red): Connect to a 5V power source.
- Ground Wire (Brown/Black): Connect to the GND pin on Raspberry Pi.

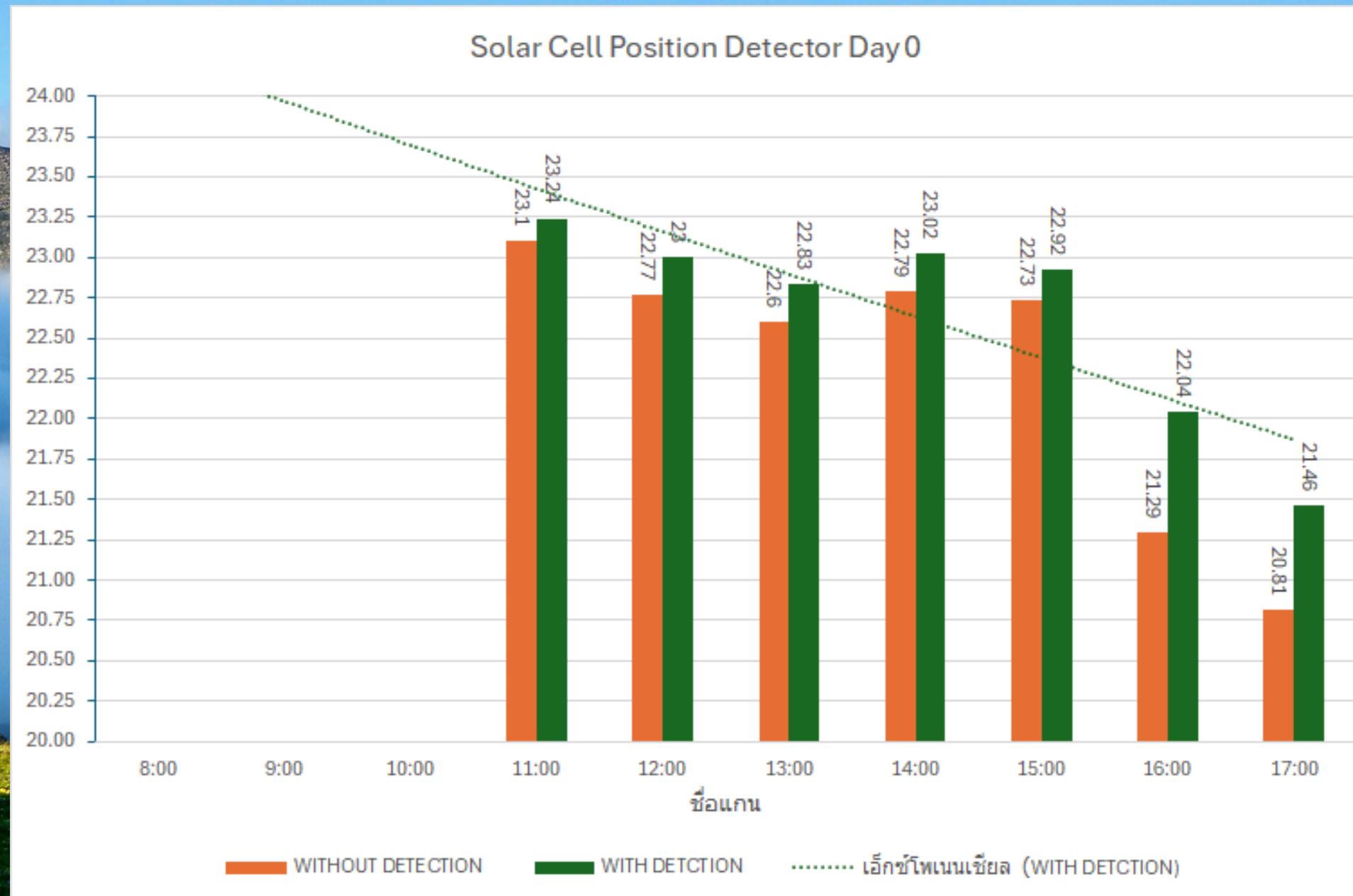
3. Solar Panel Mounting:

- Mount the solar panel onto the servo-controlled frame.
- Ensure the servo motors are calibrated for full 180° rotation.

How to Validate

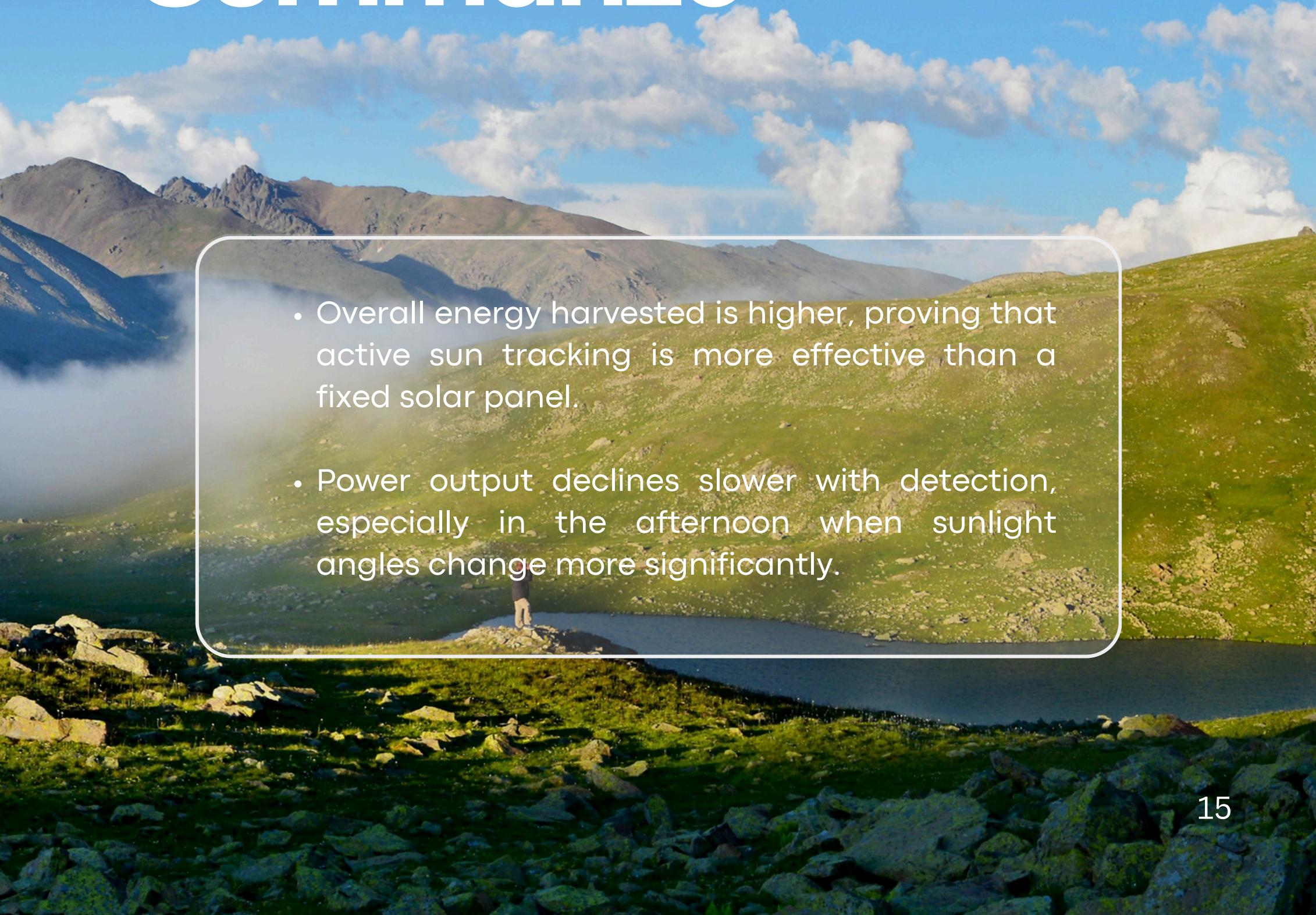


Validate Project



DAY 0		
TIME HOURS	WITH DETCTION (V)	WITHOUT DETCTION (V)
8:00	-	-
9:00	-	-
10:00	-	-
11:00	23.24	23.1
12:00	23	22.77
13:00	22.83	22.6
14:00	23.02	22.79
15:00	22.92	22.73
16:00	22.04	21.29
17:00	21.46	20.81

Summarize



Solar Cell Position Detector.