

## Context: AHI Overview

# Autonomous at Sea Inspection

Sea Level



Surface

Technology Used



Purpose

Communication  
ROV Dispatch  
ROV Collection

Ocean



AUV



Autonomous Surveillance  
Subsea Cable Monitoring

Seabed



ROV



Subsea Infrastructure  
Repairs  
Oil Platform Inspections

## Context: Pilot Test

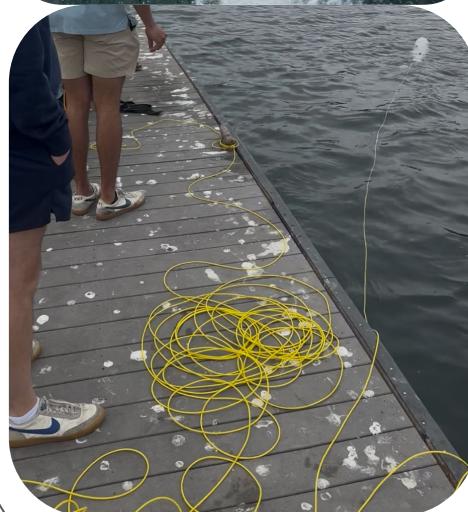
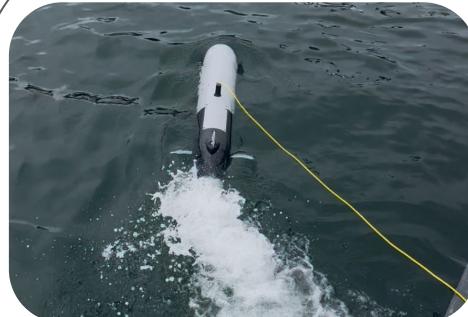
Several Problems related to the tether were noticed:

- 30 meter max distance
- Tether cable constantly tangled
- Bulky Setup
- Knots formed when reeling in Tether
- Not viable for autonomous deployment

Proposed solution

- Build wireless communication to increase range and eliminate tangles

### Tether Photos

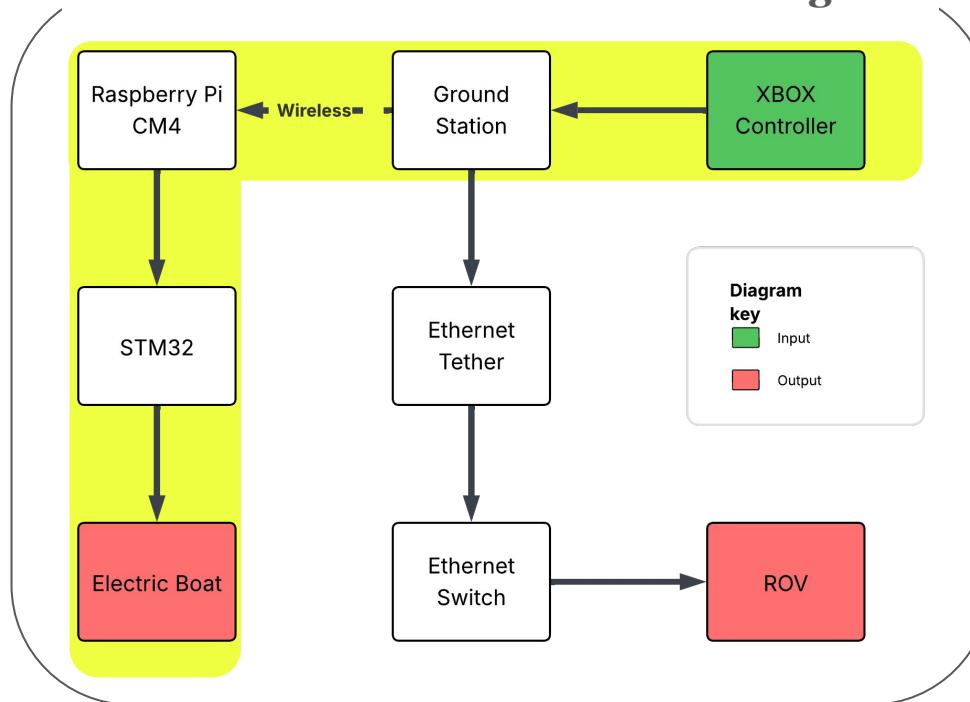


# Communication Network: Goal / Design

High Level Goal:

- Build wireless communication system to enable offshore boat control without a tether

**Communication Network Block Diagram**



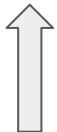
# Communication Network: Steps 1 for Data Transfer

## Communication Network Data Flow

TCP Server &  
Client  
(Forwarding  
over WiFi)



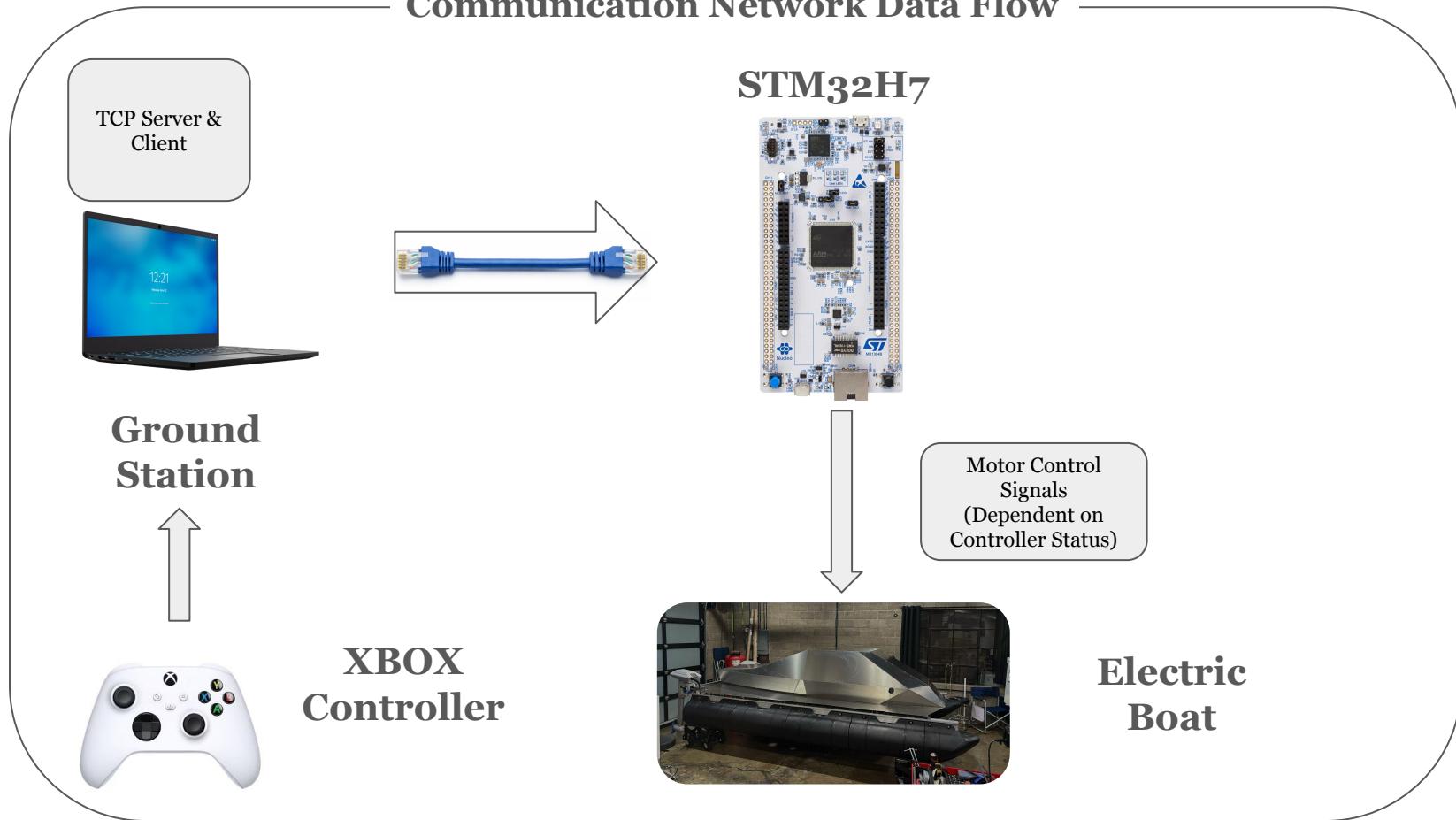
**Ground  
Station**



**XBOX  
Controller**

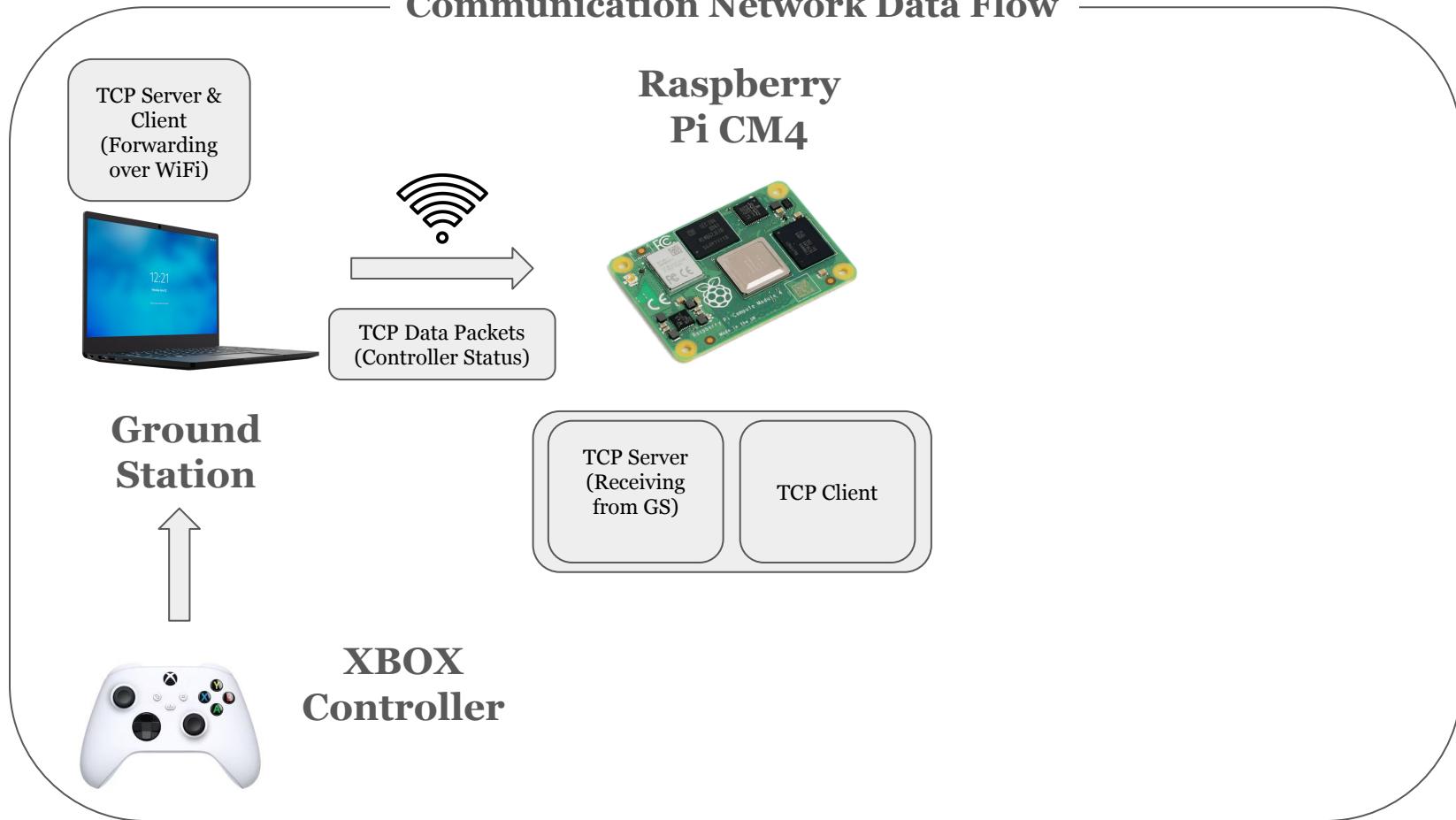
# Communication Network: Step 2 for Data Transfer

## Communication Network Data Flow



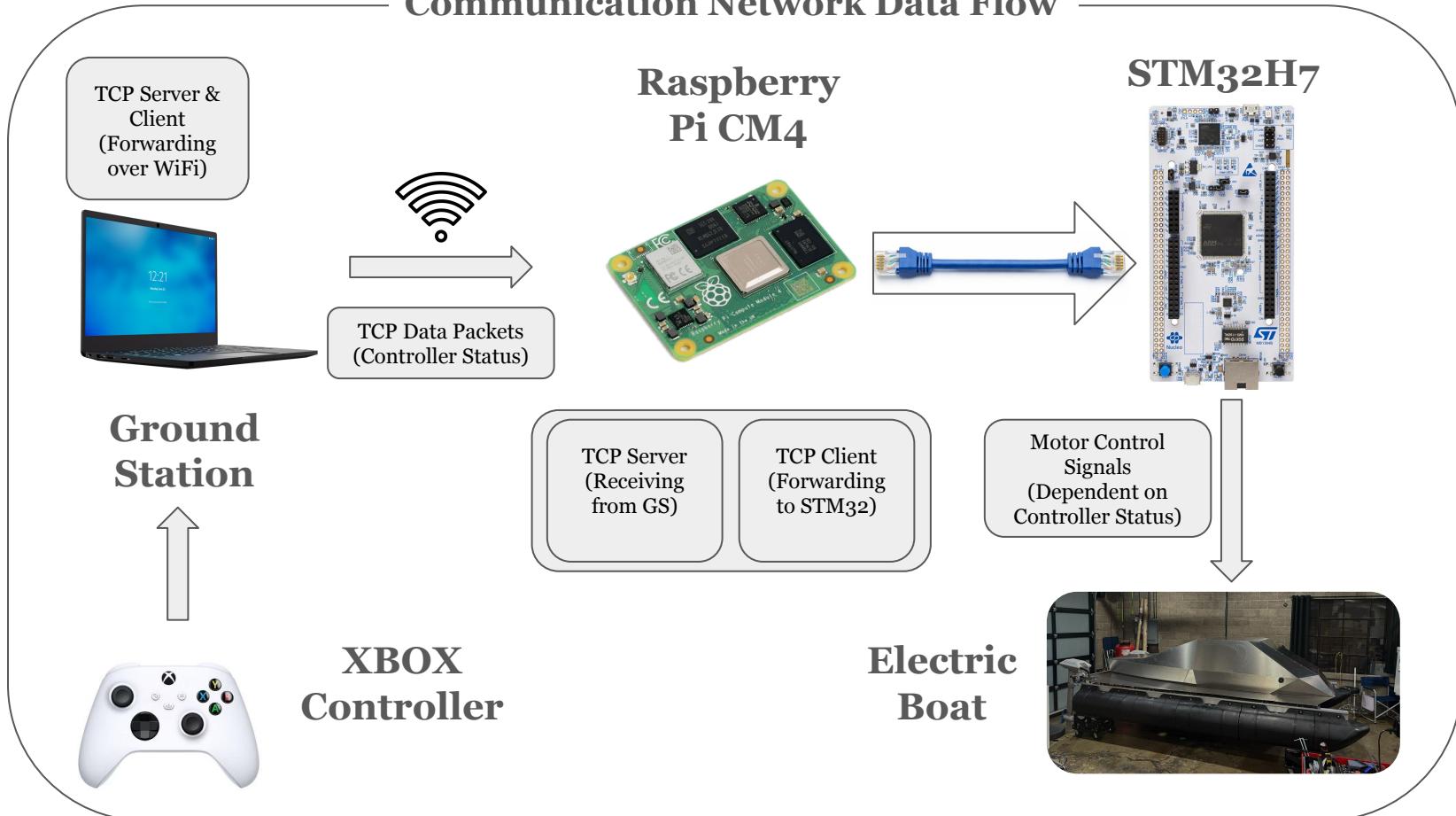
# Communication Network: Step 3 for Data Transfer

## Communication Network Data Flow



# Communication Network: Step 4 for Data Transfer

## Communication Network Data Flow



# Communication Network: Building WiFi Gateway

## **Problem #1**

Ping from ground station to STM32 over wifi not working

## **Approaches for #1**

Used Wireshark to sniff signals aiding in testing communication

## **Problem #2**

Had to constantly reconfigure the ip address whenever I disconnected the ethernet cable

## **Approaches for #2**

Changed static IP address, also wrote a script automating configuring the ip address

# Communication Network: Ethernet/ MPU Configuration

## Problem #1

Xbox TCP server didn't work when integrated into the main codebase due to MPU memory configuration

## Approaches for #1

Reconfigured MPU with LWIP

- a. Heap, Rx buffer, and DMA descriptors are in SRAM
- b. Set the region to non-cacheable region (prevents cache coherency CPU & DMA)

## Problem #2

There was a pre-established pin configuration and thread priority in the main codebase

## Approaches for #2

Consulted with the other software engineer to agree on pins and determine thread priority for operations

# Technical Dive: Outcome & Impact

## Communication Network Impacts

- Plausible Operating Range increase from 30m to 300m (assuming 15 dB signal)
  - No range limiting knotts
  - Increased maneuverability
- Large decrease in operation cycle time
  - Increase in viability for long distance autonomous system

