

Power-Efficient Long-Range Drone Networking System for UAV Detection

Final Presentation

Team: BTT

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- 2. System Overview**
- 3. Problems & Challenges**
- 4. Experiments**
- 5. Result**

INTRODUCTION



- Team members
- Subject
- Related works

Introduction

Team members



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Introduction

Subject

Russia launches 'kamikaze' drone attack on Kyiv, killing 4 and hitting civilian infrastructure

By Victoria Butenko, Olga Voitovych and Yulia Kesaieva, CNN

Updated 3:09 PM EDT, Mon October 17, 2022

[1]

- UAVs have become more easily accessible to the public, companies, and even terrorists
- This has raised the need of having a Counter Drone System (CDS)



Introduction

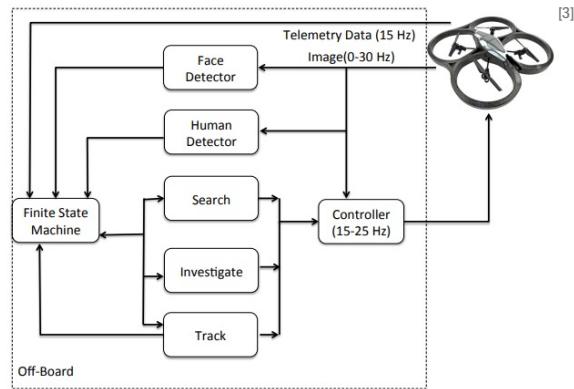
Related Works

Blighter Surveillance Systems, GCDS



[2]

NASA, ACDS



[3]

- Ground Counter Drone Systems (GCDS) have geological restrictions
- Airspace Counter Drone Systems (ACDS) in NASA research uses WiFi mesh network which is fast but consumes high-power

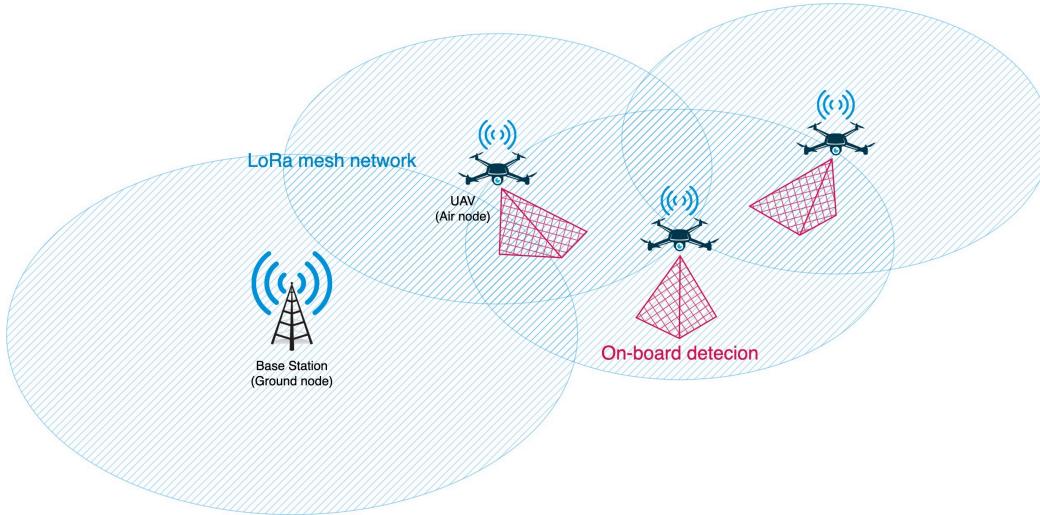
SYSTEM OVERVIEW



- Overview of the system
- Novelty
- Hardware implementation
- Software implementation

System overview

Overview of the system



ACGS using observer drones in LoRa mesh network

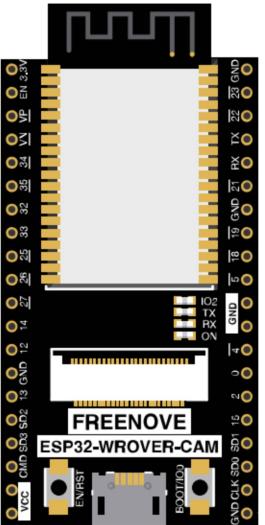
System overview

Novelty

- **Observer drones to detect unidentified aerial object**
 - ➔ Immune to a geological restriction
- **On-board detection**
 - ➔ Low-power and low-cost Machine Learning (ML) detection
 - ➔ Low data-rate and long-range communication technology
- **LoRa Mesh network via multi-hop communication**
 - ➔ Easily buildable, expandable and sustainable network

Hardware implementation

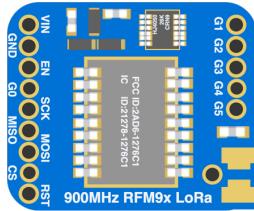
Components



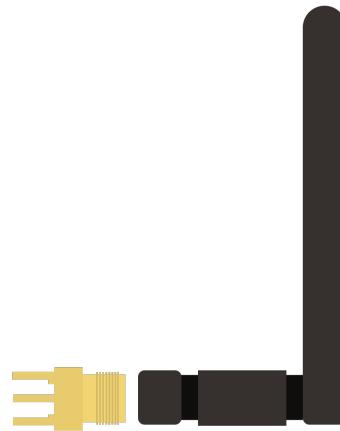
ESP32-WROVER
Microcontroller Unit
(MCU)



OV2460
Camera Module



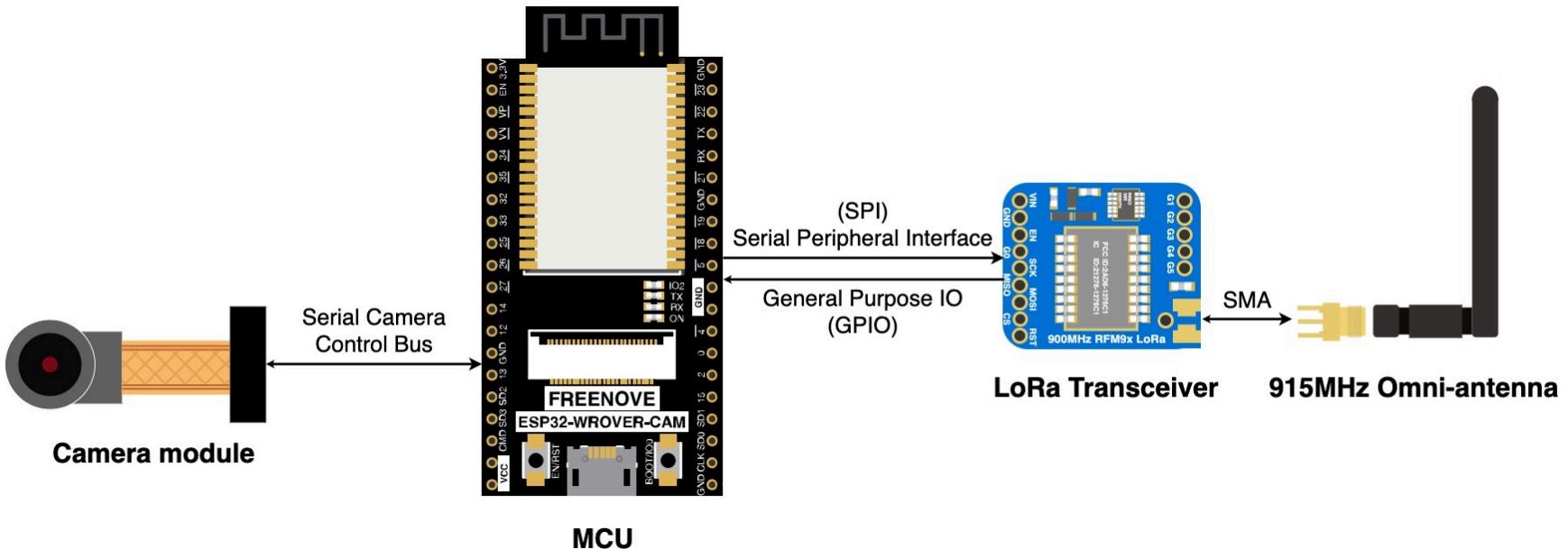
RFM95W
LoRa Transceiver



SMA Adapter &
915MHz Antenna
5dBi Omni-directional antenna

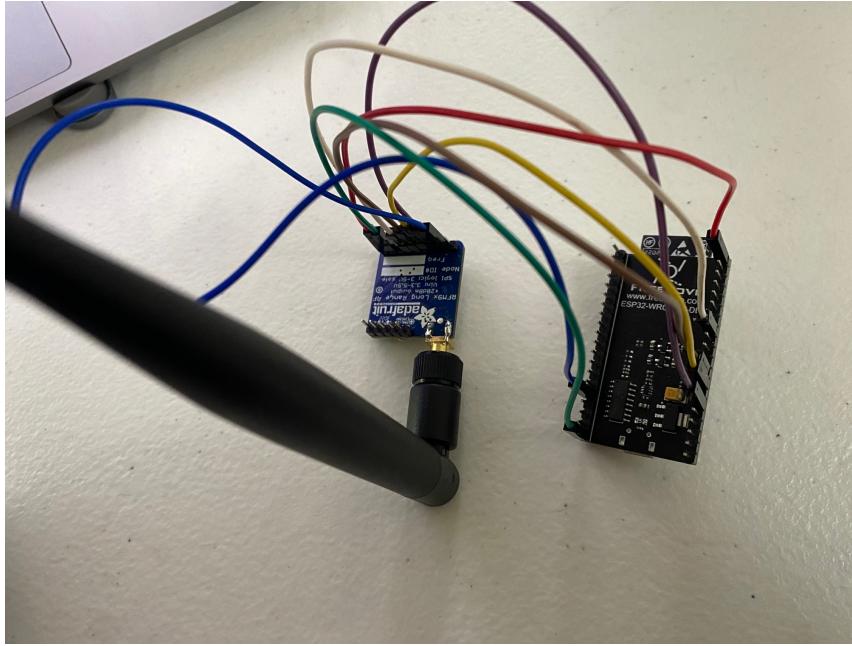
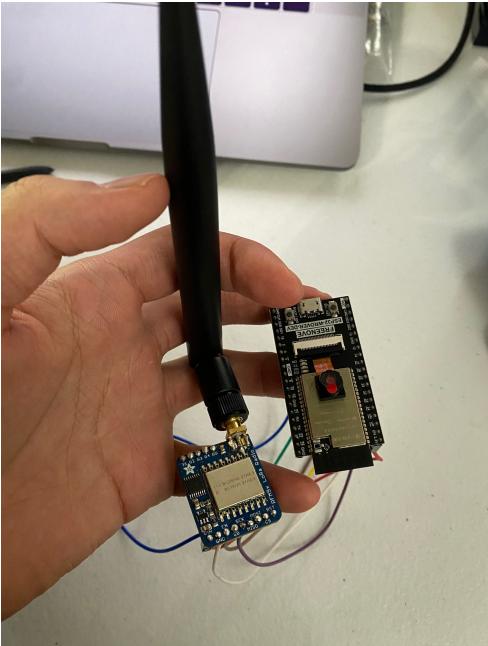
Hardware implementation

Overall structure of the hardware



Hardware implementation

Hardware implementation



Software implementation

Software platforms



Arduino IDE

- Development platform for MCU
- Compatible with a lot of open-source libraries
- Less time consuming to learn and develop with than ESP-IDF

Software implementation

Software platforms



Arduino-ESP32

- Arduino core for ESP32
- Converts Arduino features for ESP32
- Converts some essential low-level function of ESP32 for Arduino

Software implementation

Software platforms

RadioHead

RadioHead

- Packet radio library based on Arduino
- LoRa transceiver manager class
 - ➔ Easy to configure and control a transceiver
- Mesh network manager class
 - ➔ Easy to build a mesh network

Software implementation

Software platforms

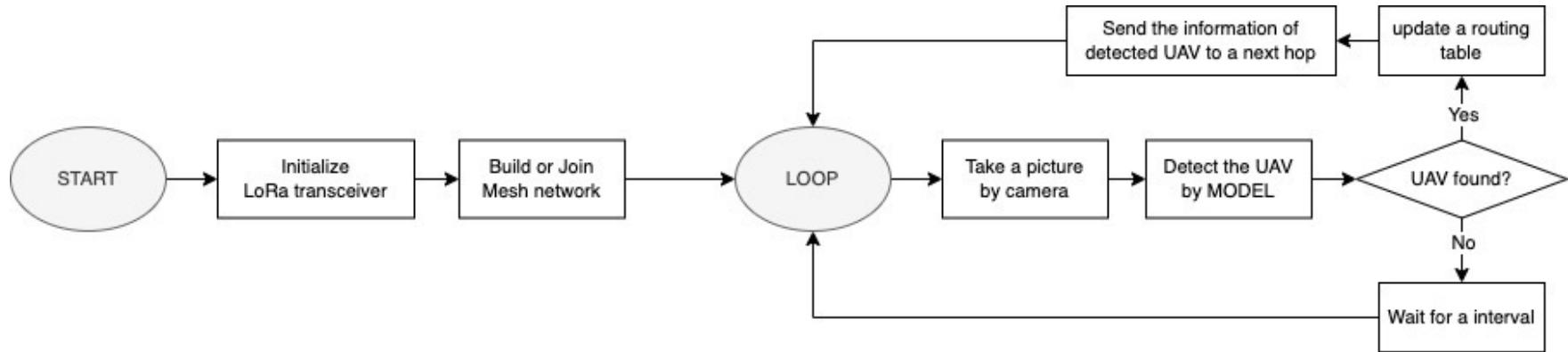


TensorFlow Lite for Microcontrollers

- Open-source framework for running machine learning models on MCU or small memory device
- Supports ESP32 architecture and C++ library

Software implementation

Flowchart of the system



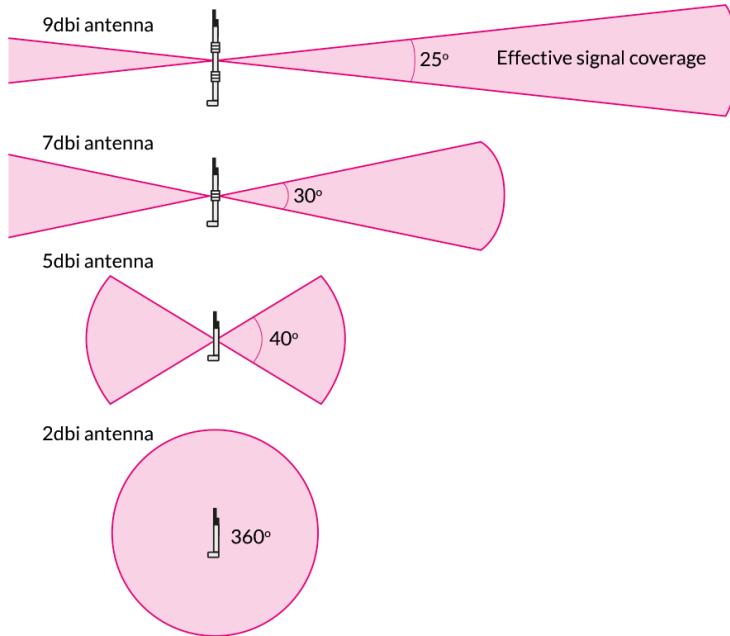
PROBLEMS

CHALLENGES

- Radiation patterns of Omni-directional antenna
- Detection model compression

Problems & Challenges

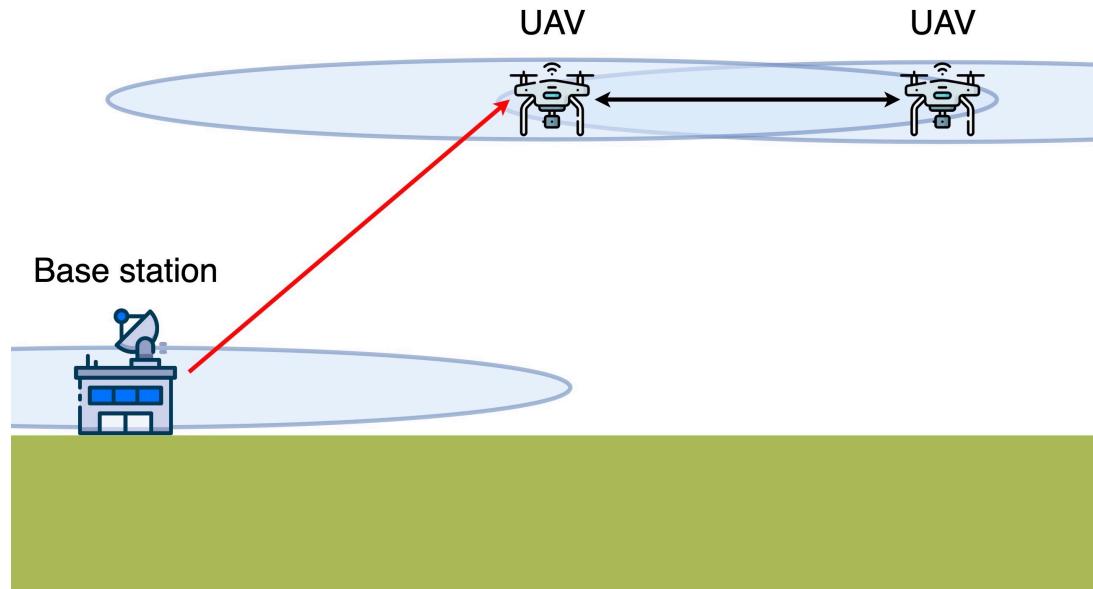
Radiation patterns of Omni-directional antenna



Trade-off
"Angle VS Distance"

Problems & Challenges

UAV-to-Ground (U2G) Communication



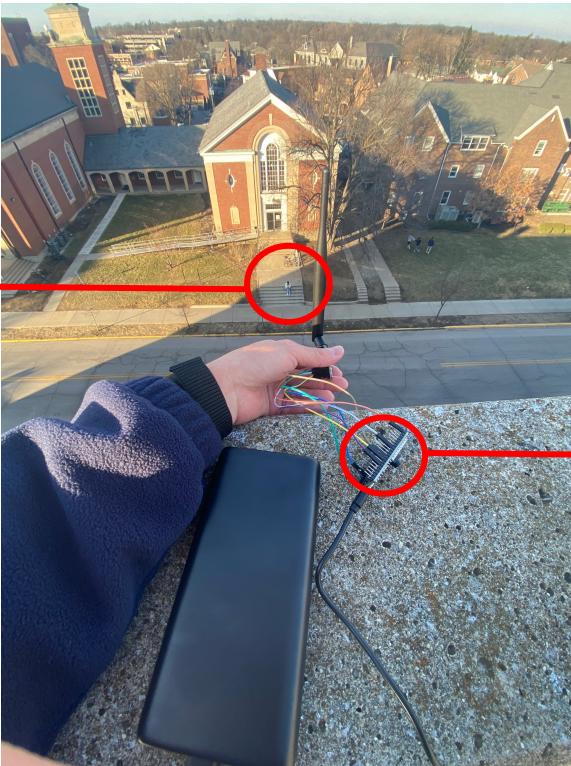
The altitude difference of U2G communication

Problems & Challenges

UAV-to-Ground (U2G) Communication

The role of
Base station

The role of
UAV



Problems & Challenges

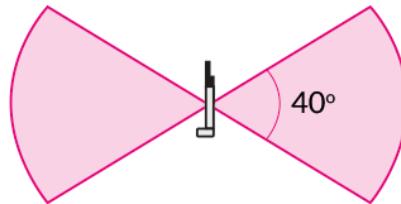
UAV-to-Ground (U2G) Communication

Ground -> Node		for 2m30s		KSW ->	Parking building	
Height	0m	5m	8m	11m	14m	17m
Distance	30m	30m	30m	30m	30m	30m
Where	Ground	2nd	3th	4th	5th	roof
AVG	-78.64865	-74.3043	-70.4681	-70.9744	-78.4545	-79.8542
WORSE	-88	-85	-96	-73	-84	-84
BEST	-73	-69	-67	-69	-76	-75

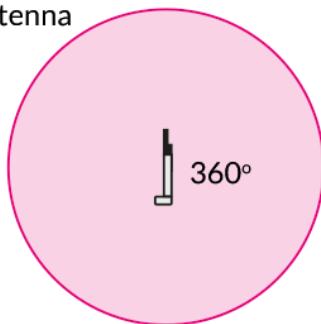
Problems & Challenges

Choosing Omni-directional antenna

5dbi antenna



2dbi antenna



Problems & Challenges

Detection model compression

ESP32-WROVER: small memory

- 4 MB Flash memory, 8 MB PSRAM (technically 4 MB)
- 520 KB on-chip SRAM for data and Instruction

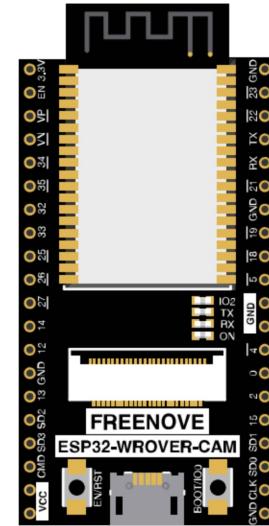
↓
Detection model in TensorFlow Lite is
usually stored as global,
it takes large memory.

Small detection model

: resize input data,

design small model,

quantization



**ESP32-WROVER
MCU**

Problems & Challenges

Detection model compression

Input data: Visual data

- Supports limited image types

Image resolution	Sharpness	Image resolution	Sharpness
FRAMESIZE_96X96	96x96	FRAMESIZE_HVGA	480x320
FRAMESIZE_QQVGA	160x120	FRAMESIZE_VGA	640x480
FRAMESIZE_QCIF	176x144	FRAMESIZE_SVGA	800x600
FRAMESIZE_HQVGA	240x176	FRAMESIZE_XGA	1024x768
FRAMESIZE_240X240	240x240	FRAMESIZE_HD	1280x720
FRAMESIZE_QVGA	320x240	FRAMESIZE_SXGA	1280x1024
FRAMESIZE_CIF	400x296	FRAMESIZE_UXGA	1600x1200

- Resizes image resolution and channel

(width, height, channel): (98 x 98 x 3) → (48 x 48 x 1)

Downsize: 12x

Problems & Challenges

Detection model compression

Simple and small detection model

- structure

Convolution layer

Batch normalization

Average pooling

Flatten

Dropout

Dense

Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param
conv2d_34 (Conv2D)	(None, 48, 48, 2)	52
conv2d_35 (Conv2D)	(None, 48, 48, 3)	297
batch_normalization_17 (Batch Normalization)	(None, 48, 48, 3)	12
average_pooling2d_17 (Average Pooling)	(None, 8, 8, 3)	0
flatten_19 (Flatten)	(None, 192)	0
dropout_34 (Dropout)	(None, 192)	0
dense_38 (Dense)	(None, 1)	193
dropout_35 (Dropout)	(None, 1)	0
dense_39 (Dense)	(None, 4)	8

Total params: 562
Trainable params: 556
Non-trainable params: 6

Problems & Challenges

Detection model compression

Quantization

- Usually data type of TensorFlow models: 32-bit floating point numbers.
- Perform model compression before converting TF Lite model to C style array



Quantization:
Converting float 32-bit types of model weight to 16-bit float

EXPERIMENTS



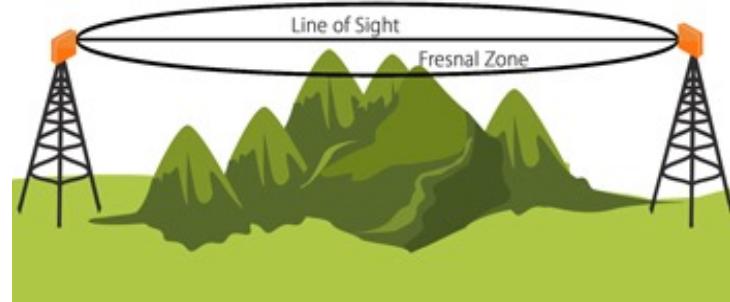
- Communication quality
- Drone detection test

Communication quality

Purpose: Calculating the maximum distance of communication



Long range communication
technology



Secure a Fresnel Zone
by drone



Make hard to measure the
maximum distance

Communication quality

Calculating the maximum distance of communication

Two measures for calculating

**Receiver
Sensitivity**

The minimum signal strength that a receiver can detect



**Link
Budget**

A measurement of the received power, including all gains and losses

Communication quality

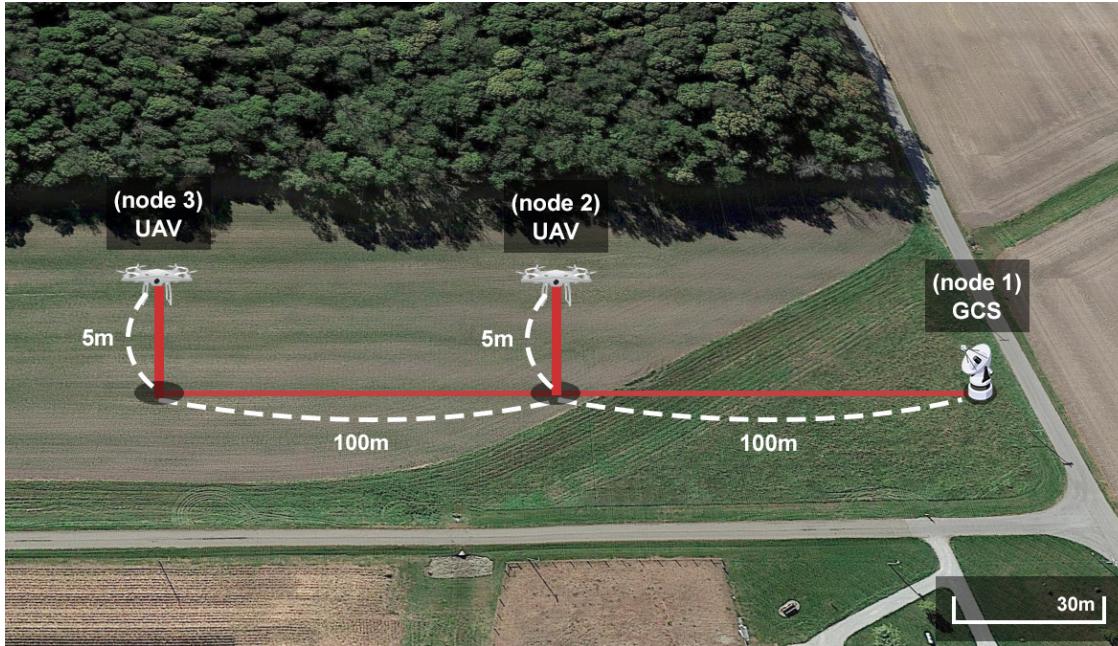
Calculating the maximum distance of communication

Can calculate PathLoss and maximum distance

1. **PathLoss in 100m** = (Link budget in 200m) - (Link budget in 100m)
 2. **PathLoss in 10m** = (**PathLoss in 100m**) / 10
- The (Link budget) in **N** meter
where **N** represents **the distance that you want to calculate**
- The maximum distance, **(M) meter**, which makes (Link budget) equal to (Receiver sensitivity)
where **(M)** represents **the maximum distance of communication**

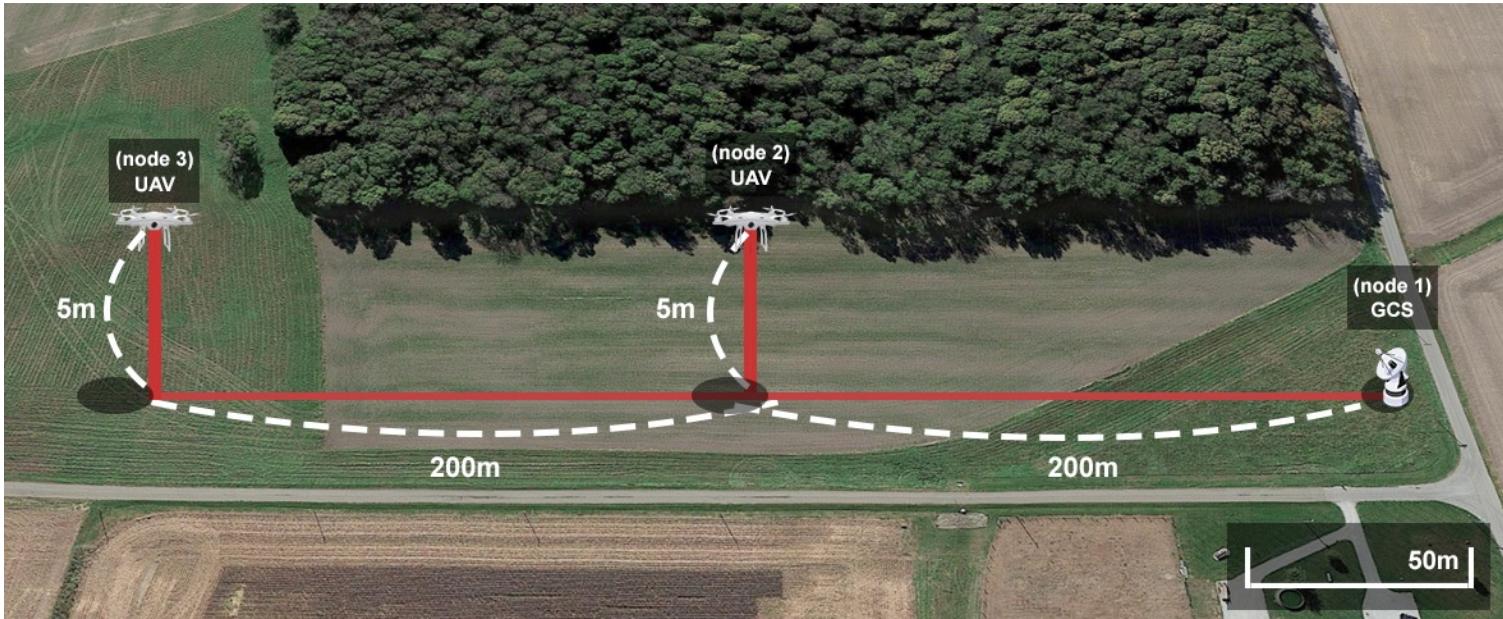
Communication quality

Environment – 100m distance



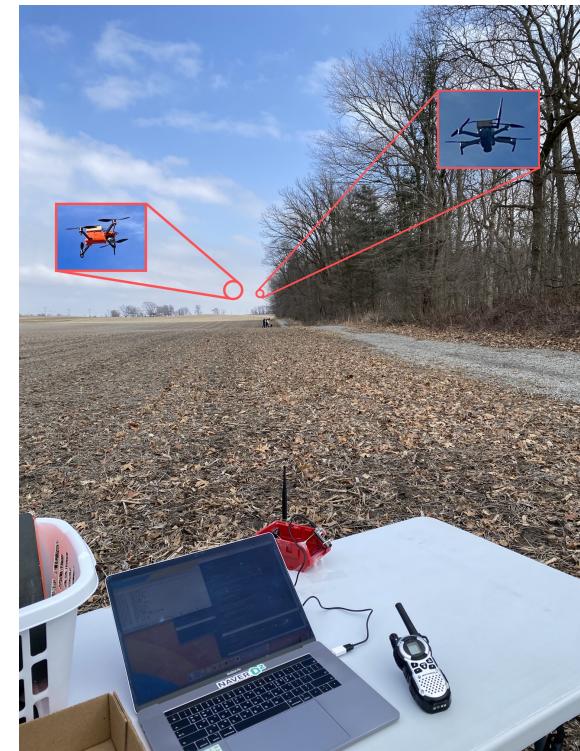
Communication quality

Environment – 200m distance



Communication quality

Experiment setting



Communication quality

Experiment result

Link Budget between two nodes

100m communication		
Destination	Ground -> Node 2	Node 2 -> Ground
AVG	-80.96296296	-86
WORSE	-84	-96
BEST	-72	-74

100m communication		
Destination	Node 2 -> Node 3	Node 3 -> Node 2
AVG	-87.09090909	-82.16666667
WORSE	-96	-87
BEST	-74	-77

200m communication		
Destination	Ground -> Node 2	Node 2 -> Ground
AVG	-97.78095238	-90.11764706
WORSE	-105	-97
BEST	-89	-82

200m communication		
Destination	Node 2 -> Node 3	Node 3 -> Node 2
AVG	-90.85526316	-90.97435897
WORSE	-98	-98
BEST	-82	-83

Communication quality

Calculating a maximum distance of communication

Calculating maximum distances

UAV-to-Ground

- PathLoss in 10m of U2G communication = -1.051 dBm

UAV-to-UAV

- PathLoss in 10m of U2U communication = -0.628 dBm

➡ Maximum distance of U2G communication = 676m

➡ Maximum distance of U2U communication = 1044m

Drone detection test

Purpose & Field experiment

- **Major purpose**

Most important thing in this experiment is verifying that detection model is running on the system.

- **Field experiment**

Outdoor experiment

Drone detection test

Experiment setting

- Experiment location: next to the K-SW building
- Dataset for training

"Drone Dataset for Amateur Drone Detection and Tracking Project" in 2019

1100 drone images

Labeled XML file

Information about pixel location of bounding box in drone image

- Take a photo and compute drone detection inference every 100ms



Bounding box



Detection device

Drone detection test

Experiment setting

- Optimizer: Adam

Improves learning rate and training stability

- Loss function: Mean Squared Error

Minimizes difference between the predicted value and the real value for updating model weights

Predicted Value & Real Value ?

: pixel location of bounding box surrounding the drone in the image

Detection performance

Experiment result

Experiment figure



Experiment log: for 5 min

Time	Result
07:56:56	YES
07:57:02	YES
07:57:13	YES
07:58:48	YES
07:58:54	YES
07:59:11	NO
07:59:16	YES
07:59:22	YES
07:59:27	YES

Experiment result

- Could confirmed TensorFlow detection model is running on the system
- Can't guarantee detection accuracy
The number of trained data set is too small
Train data of drone images are not various

RESULT

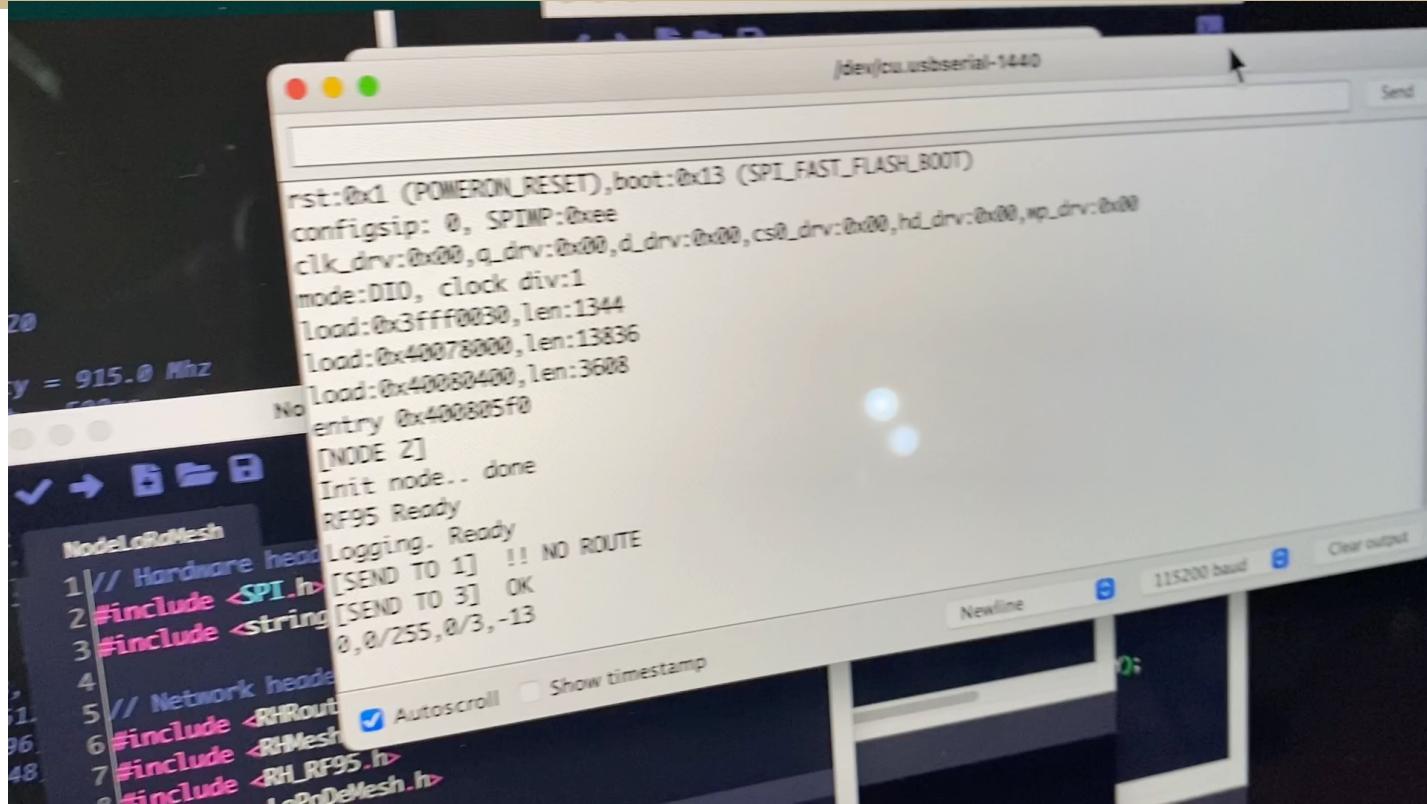


- Demo
- Conclusion

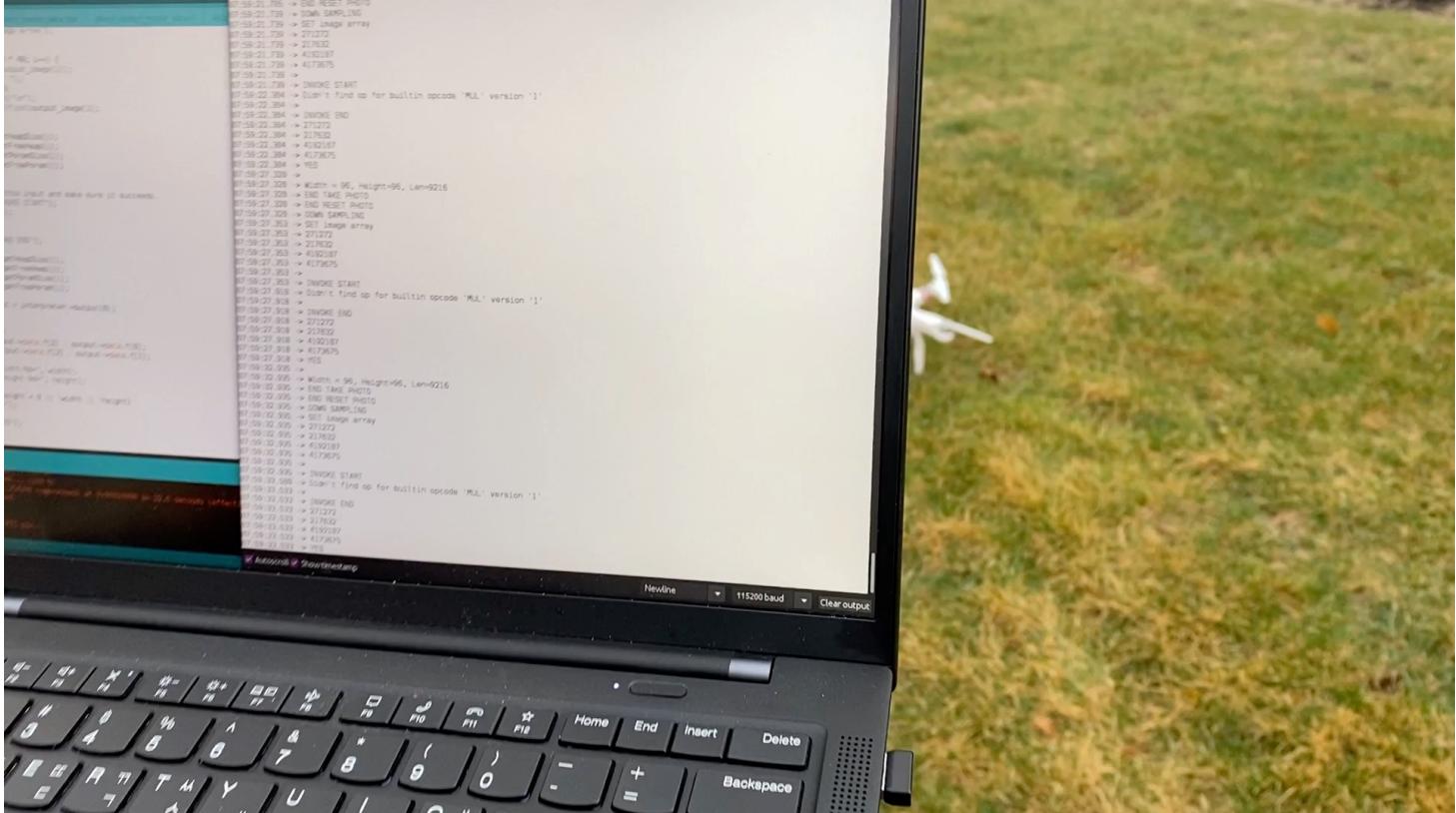
DEMO



DEMO



DEMO



Result

Conclusion

- TensorFlow Lite Model can be run successfully on ESP32
- LoRa Mesh network is implemented by the system
- Failed to integrate all these components for running at the same time

Q&A



Thank You

Team. BTT

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polytechnic.purdue.edu



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