**Example: Adding the Camera Module**

This is a reflection on how the camera screens were added to the software (GitHub commit: [153a3611583ae599b12dd20bf0e2d1b27eac2ee1](https://github.com/byu-crop-biomechanics-lab/FIELDAQ/commit/153a3611583ae599b12dd20bf0e2d1b27eac2ee1)). The emphasis on how the screens were managed rather than introducing the picamera python library. See appendix for resources about implementing the picamera library.

The first thing done to add the camera module was to draw a new flowchart depicting navigation between the screens. This is depicted in Figure 1.

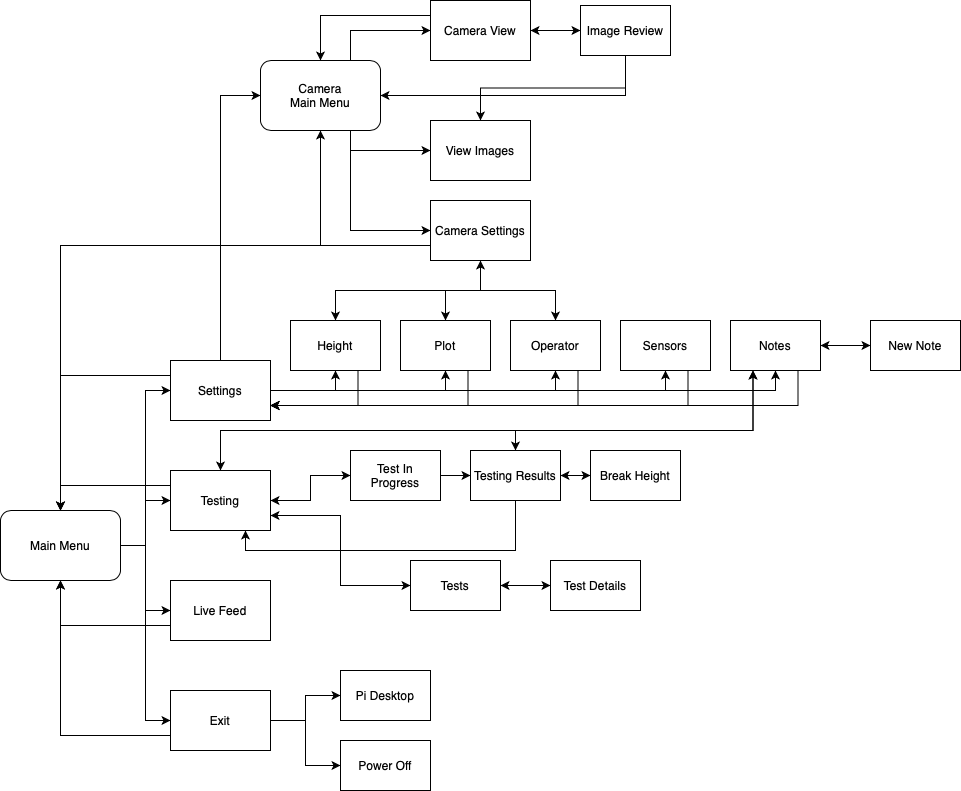


Figure . Screen shot of the updated flowchart featuring the Camera Main menu and 4 additional screens.

5 screens would be created, a main menu for the Camera interface, a screen for viewing the camera feed, an image review screen, a screen to see all images, and a settings screen. Once the flowchart had been thought through, several screens were identified that could be duplicated and modified in a simple way to achieve the new screen layout. The following pairs were identified:

• Camera Main Menu – Main Menu

• Camera View – Main Menu (looking back, the Exit Screen would be more appropriate due to the simple layout of the Exit Screen)

• Image Review – Main Menu (Exit Screen would also be more appropriate here as well for the same reasons as the Camera View Screen)

• View Images – Main Menu (Tests Screen would have been more appropriate here because of the use of a list)

• Camera Settings – Settings

The identified screen layout source files were duplicated and renamed. In addition, the 10 new files created (5 screens with a python and kivy file each) were moved into a new directory under view/screens/ in order to help separate the camera screens from the rest of the software.

The steps to add a new screen, found in the Kivy Screen Management document were closely followed. Step 1 had been completed and it was time to proceed with the rest of the steps. Step 2 was completed by default of duplicating files that already had the necessary libraries imported.

The next step was to ensure a consistent naming convention was used for each of the new files (Adding New Screens: Steps 3-6).

For example: The Camera Main Menu Screen had the following naming convention:

Python Filename: CameraMainScreen.py

Kivy Filename: CameraMainScreen.kv

Python file class (Step 3):

1. class CameraMainScreen(BaseScreen):

Python builder line of code (Step 4):

1. Builder.load\_file('view/screens/camera/CameraMainScreen.kv')

Outermost kivy node (Step 5):

1. <CameraMainScreen>:

Kivy node name attribute (Step 6):

1. name: 'cam\_main\_screen'

Now that the naming was consistent across each file, the next step is to tell the kivy screen manager (src/main.kv) where each file was and what it was named (Adding New Screens: Steps 7-8).

In order to import the new screen files, the folloing lines of code were added to src/main.kv (Step 7):

1. #:import CameraMainScreen view.screens.camera.CameraMainScreen
2. #:import CameraFeedScreen view.screens.camera.CameraFeedScreen
3. #:import ImageReviewScreen view.screens.camera.ImageReviewScreen
4. #:import ImagesViewScreen view.screens.camera.ImagesViewScreen
5. #:import CameraSettingsScreen view.screens.camera.CameraSettingsScreen

Note that these lines of code use a hash-colon notation, the kivy interpreter sees this as an instruction and ***not*** a comment.

The following lines were appended to the end of the file under the GranuScreenManager node (Step 8):

1. # Camera Interface
2. CameraMainScreen:
3. CameraFeedScreen:
4. ImageReviewScreen:
5. ImagesViewScreen:
6. CameraSettingsScreen:

Together, Steps 7 and 8 import the new screens into the screen manager and allow the GUI to navigate throughout these files as they are referenced in other places of the GUI (not yet completed as of this step).

The next step is to adjust the layout of the new screens so the navigation can resemble the outlined flowchart. Most of the changes for this step are cosmetic and will be made almost completely in the kivy files for each of the new screens.

Beginning with the Main screen:

Rather than navigating to the Settings, Testing, Live Feed and Exit Screens; the new Camera Main Menu should navigate to the Camera Settings, Camera View, View Images and the Exit Screens. These changes are made by editing the text and on\_release attributes of the GranuSideButton elements.

The new code contained nested under the GranuSideArea looks like:

1. GranuSideArea:
2. GranuSideButton:
3. text: 'Settings'
4. on\_release:
5. root.move\_to('cam\_settings\_screen') # Move to camera settings screen
6. GranuSideButton:
7. text: 'Camera'
8. on\_release:
9. root.move\_to('cam\_feed\_screen') # Move to camera feed screen
10. GranuSideButton:
11. text: 'View\nImages'
12. on\_release:
13. root.move\_to('img\_viewer\_screen') # Move to image view screen
14. GranuSideButton:
15. text: 'Exit'
16. on\_release:
17. root.move\_to('exit\_screen') # Move to exit screen

Note that the root.move\_to() commands utilize the names of the screens created in Step 6 of adding the new screens.

A new title for this screen should also be used. This was changed by editing line 23 from ‘Main Menu’ to ‘Camera Main Menu’

1. GranuContent:
2. GranuTitle:
3. text: 'Camera Main Menu'

Similar processes were followed for the remaining 4 screens. If not all 4 side buttons were needed, a GranuNone element can be used instead of a GranuSideButton. An example is shown in CameraFeedScreen.kv:

1. GranuSideArea:
2. GranuSideButton:
3. text: 'Take\nPhoto'
4. on\_release:
5. root.captureImage() # Call the function captureImage in the CameraFeedScreen python class
6. GranuNone:
7. GranuNone:
8. GranuSideButton:
9. text: 'Back'
10. on\_release:
11. root.move\_to('cam\_main\_screen') # Move to main camera screen

Once all the navigation commands were adjusted, the next step was to add a way to navigate to this new software from the original software. This was done by adding a SettingsButton widget to the main settings screen. This would place a button on the settings screen

**Appendix – GitHub Commits**

The following GitHub commit reference numbers are from the entire process of adding a camera interface to the GUI. Most commits correspond to introducing and adjusting settings in the picamera library. A few relate to the steps necessary to creating the screen layout for the camera GUI.

b94b3e2037045a361c083bacdd1c3b91ab8b49b5

**153a3611583ae599b12dd20bf0e2d1b27eac2ee1**

42d0f48efe83b1ba048048f84d4e9ce625446242

8c97848f8bfd95a503a01183c90860add473db36

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