

UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO AT MAYAGÜEZ

MAYAGÜEZ, PUERTO RICO

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING



---

# WaveSphere: Final Report

---

A REPORT SUBMITTED AS A PARTIAL REQUIREMENT OF THE MICROPROCESSOR  
INTERFACING COURSE ICOM-5217

by

Adrián Ildefonso - Project Leader

Daniel Santiago

Nelián Colón

Samuel Rodríguez

For: Dr. M. Jiménez

Course: ICOM 5217, Section 088

Date: May 1, 2013

Remove once done, use todo command to add new item to list

# Todo list

---

Remove once done, use todo command to add new item to list . . . . . i

Old timing analysis, copied because it had a good format, however must be updated  
with the new information. Need help from Samuel . . . . . 6

Add Level Shifters and recalculate power. See if we can find a chart of Charge  
vs Voltage to determine the lower level of available charge to get a more real  
estimate. Should re-check MCU pins . . . . . F-2

Needs to be updated with other tasks performed . . . . . H-2

# Table of Contents

**Todo list** . . . . . **i**

**List of Figures** . . . . . **iii**

**List of Tables** . . . . . **iv**

**1 Introduction** . . . . . **1**

**2 Block Diagram** . . . . . **1**

**3 Power Analysis** . . . . . **3**

    3.1 Logic Compatibility . . . . . 4

    3.2 Driving Capability . . . . . 4

    3.3 Power Supply Design . . . . . 5

    3.4 Thermal Analysis . . . . . 6

**4 Timing Analysis** . . . . . **6**

    4.1 Time bases . . . . . 7

    4.2 Point-to-point communication . . . . . 8

4.3	Analog considerations . . . . .	9
<b>5</b>	<b>References</b>	<b>9</b>
	<b>Appendices</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>System Specifications</b>	<b>A-1</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>System Schematics</b>	<b>B-1</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>Component Layout</b>	<b>C-1</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>User Guide</b>	<b>D-1</b>
<b>E</b>	<b>Bill of Materials</b>	<b>E-1</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>Extended Power Analysis</b>	<b>F-1</b>
F.1	Battery Life Estimate . . . . .	F-2
F.2	Thermal Analysis . . . . .	F-3
F.2.1	Microcontroller . . . . .	F-3
F.2.2	Low-Dropout Regulator . . . . .	F-4
F.2.3	Battery Charger . . . . .	F-5
F.2.4	Battery Meter . . . . .	F-6
<b>G</b>	<b>Work Distribution</b>	<b>G-1</b>
<b>H</b>	<b>Work Distribution Table</b>	<b>H-2</b>

**List of Figures**

1	Block Diagram for the Drifter . . . . .	2
2	Block Diagram for the Base Station . . . . .	3

## List of Tables

1	Component Logic Levels and I/O Currents . . . . .	4
2	Worst Case Quiescent Currents for components . . . . .	6
3	Component Operating Frequencies . . . . .	7
4	Component Timing Requirements . . . . .	8
5	Activity Factors Used to Estimate Battery Life . . . . .	F-2
6	Worst Case I/O current for microcontroller pins . . . . .	F-4
7	Work Distribution Table . . . . .	H-2

# 1. Introduction

---

Although waves are abundant at sea and everyone who has been near a shoreline has seen and interacted with a wave, most people don't think about the wave-breaking phenomena when enjoying their time at the beach. However, this topic is very important for the researchers at the Fluid Mechanics and Ocean Engineering Laboratories at the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez, which are directed by Dr. Miguel Canals. The natural physics and motion dynamics of the wave-breaking phenomena have not been thoroughly studied because of the difficulty encountered when trying to measure the characteristics of the waves.

A novel way to study these dynamics is by developing an instrument, also referred to from hereon as drifter, that will ride with the waves and take measurements during the wave-breaking process. This is the approach that the researches have taken as part of the NSF Funded project titled "Lagrangian Observations of Turbulence in Breaking Waves".

This work presents the design of a spherical drifter that will aid the researchers in taking the aforementioned measurements. A thorough explanation of the hardware and software design is presented along with supporting calculations where required.

# 2. Block Diagram

---

Figure 1 shows the block diagram for each of the drifters while Figure 2 shows the block diagram for the base station. Both diagrams contain the model numbers of the components and, in the case of the drifter block diagram, the types of connections required to the microcontroller unit (MCU) and the amount of lines needed for each connection.

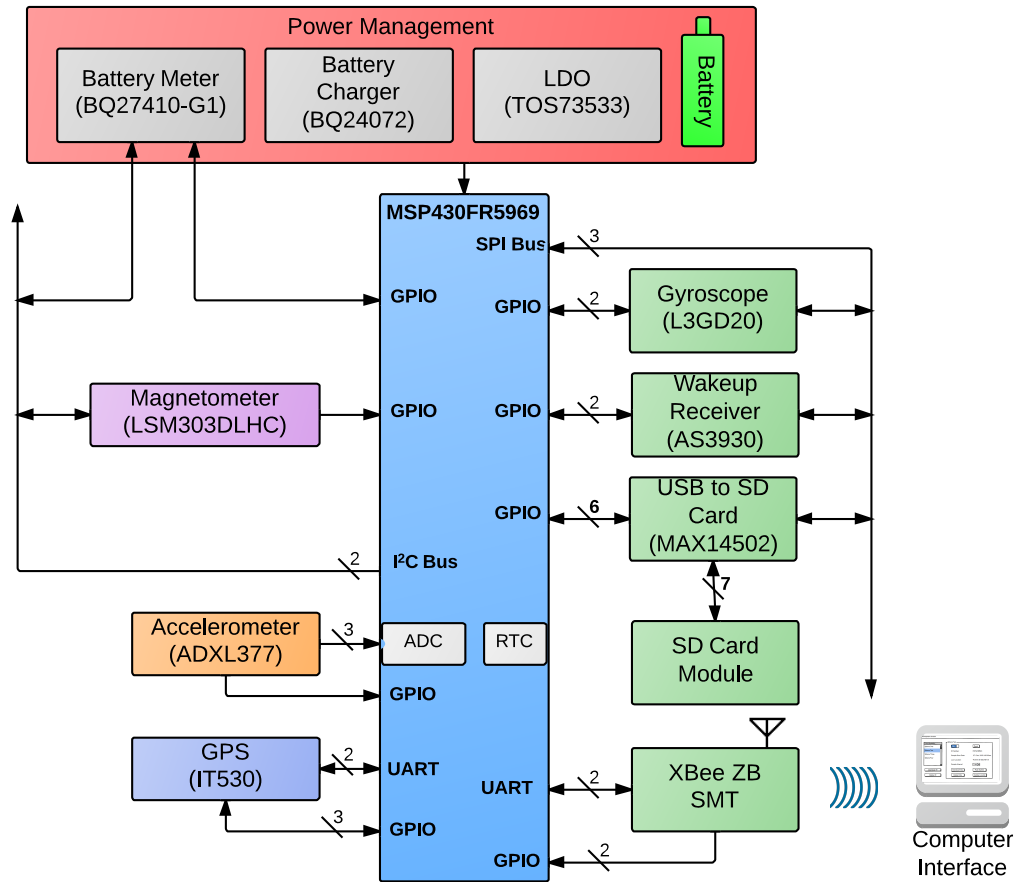


Figure 1: Block Diagram for the Drifter

1. **Microcontroller** - Needed in order to be able to control and establish the communication between components as well as process the output of the sensors.
2. **Battery** - Required to provide the necessary power to the drifters because the electrical components are enclosed by a sphere.
3. **Power Management Circuit** - Composed of an LDO, a battery charger and a battery meter. It is used to regulate the power provided by the battery, re-charge the battery once it has been depleted and to measure the amount of charge left on the battery.
4. **GPS Module** - Needed in order to know the precise location of the drifters when the user has to recover them after they have been thrown at sea for an experiment.
5. **Gyroscope** - Used to determine the rate of change of the orientation of the drifter while being carried by a wave.
6. **Accelerometer** - Used to measure the acceleration of the drifter while being carried by the waves.
7. **Magnetometer** - Used to determine the orientation of the drifter with respect to the Earth's magnetic north while it is being carried by a wave.
8. **Analog to Digital Converter (ADC)** - Needed in order to take the data from the accelerometer, which has an analog output, and convert it to digital signals so that the MCU can read them. It is integrated within the MCU.

9. **SD Card and SD to USB Converter** - The SD Card is used to save the data captured by the sensors during an experiment. The SD to USB converter will be used to allow the drifter to function as a mass storage device when connected to a Host computer via USB.
10. **XBee ZB Module** - Used to connect the spheres with a central base so that data can be retrieved without having to open the spheres.
11. **RF Wakeup Module** - Used to wirelessly wake up the drifter from low power mode via an RF signal.

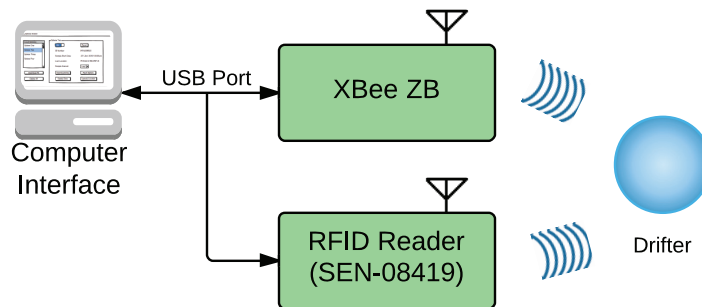


Figure 2: Block Diagram for the Base Station

1. **XBee ZB Module** - Used to communicate with the drifters in order to send commands to switch operating modes and retrieve collected data.
2. **RFID Reader** - Used to generate the 125kHz signal required by the RF Wakeup module in the drifters to wake them up from low power mode.
3. **Computer** - Used to run a custom application that will be used to send commands and data to the drifters through the XBee. A USB port in the computer will power the other devices in the base station.
4. **Power Management Circuit** - Composed of an LDO, a battery charger and a battery meter. It is used to regulate the power provided by the battery, re-charge the battery once it has been depleted and to measure the amount of charge left on the battery.

### 3. Power Analysis

---

The power analysis consists of four main parts: logic compatibility, driving capability, power supply design and battery life estimate. The purpose of this analysis is to ensure that power requirements for each component are satisfied in order to guarantee their proper functionality. A supporting thermal analysis will be performed on selected ICs.



### 3.1 Logic Compatibility

Table 1 shows all the digital components in the system along with their input and output digital voltage levels. Only two digital components communicate with each other: the SD Card to USB converter IC and the SD Card itself. It is easy to see from Table 1 that the logic voltage levels between these two devices are compatible. In addition to this, all components communicate with the MCU. It can also be seen that all the devices are logically compatible with the MCU except for the battery gauge, which communicates with the MCU through an  $I^2C$  interface and has a  $V_{DD}$  of 2.5V. In order to make them compatible, a bi-directional logic level shifter from Texas Instruments was used and can be found in the schematic. It can be seen in the table that by using the aforementioned level shifter, communication between the battery gauge and the MCU is now possible.

Table 1: Component Logic Levels and I/O Currents

Component	$V_{DD}$	$V_{IH}$	$V_{IL}$	$V_{OH}$	$V_{OL}$	$I_{OUT}$	$I_{IN}$	$I_{LEAK}$
MSP430FR5969 <sup>1</sup>	3.3	2.1	0.75	3.2	0.2	45 mA <sup>2</sup>	50 nA	50 nA
Magnetometer <sup>3</sup>	3.3	2.64	0.66	3.3	0	3 mA	10 $\mu$ A	10 $\mu$ A
XBee	3.3	2.64	0.66	2.706	0.594	4 mA	0.5 $\mu$ A	0.5 $\mu$ A
RF Wakeup	3.3	1.914	0.99	2.9	0.4	21 mA	100 nA	100 nA
Gyroscope	3.3	2.64	0.66	2.64	0.66	100 $\mu$ A	10 $\mu$ A	10 $\mu$ A
GPS	3.3	2	0.8	2.4	0.4	8 mA	10 $\mu$ A	10 $\mu$ A
Battery Gauge <sup>4</sup>	2.5	1.2	0.6	2	0.4	3 mA	10 $\mu$ A	0.3 $\mu$ A
SD Card <sup>5</sup>	3.3	2.06	0.83	2.48	0.41	100 $\mu$ A	10 $\mu$ A	10 $\mu$ A
Power Switch	3.3	2.2	1.1	3.3	0	10 mA	0 mA	0.3 $\mu$ A
SD Card to USB Converter	3.3	2.06	0.83	2.48	0.41	100 $\mu$ A	2 $\mu$ A	1 $\mu$ A
Level Shifter <sup>6</sup>	2.5	1.7	0.7	2.5	0	100 $\mu$ A	20 $\mu$ A	10 $\mu$ A

### 3.2 Driving Capability

In order to ensure that no component draws more current than the one its driver can provide, a weakest driver analysis should be performed. Table 1 shows a list of the available currents found in the data sheets and other sources. The components and their connections are shown in the block diagram depicted in Figure 1.

<sup>1</sup> Values used are for the MSP430FR572x as they are not available for the selected microprocessor.

<sup>2</sup> In full-drive mode

<sup>3</sup> Currents obtained from [1]

<sup>4</sup> Input and output currents obtained from [1]

<sup>5</sup> Voltages obtained from [2]

<sup>6</sup> Values for  $V_{OH}$  and  $V_{OL}$  taken at 100  $\mu$ A since the input and output current of the Battery Gauge does not exceed 10  $\mu$ A.

Since  $I^2C$  is a standard, there would be no problems if the level shifter was not present. However, since this component is the weakest driver, the analysis must be performed. The output current of this component is  $100\ \mu A$  in order to maintain the voltage levels specified in Table 1. It can be seen that this current is greater than the sum of input currents of the components connected to the bus:  $10\ \mu A$  for the Gyroscope and  $50\ nA$  for the MCU.

Since the components connected through UART and Software UART are point to point connections and since the MCU has such a low input and leakage current, the Xbee and GPS modules will not have a problem driving the MCU. Finally, for the SPI Bus, the weakest driver is the Gyroscope with an output current of  $100\ \mu A$ . It can be seen from Table 1, that this current is greater than the sum of input currents for the other components:  $10\ \mu A$  for the SD Card to USB Converter and  $50nA$  for the MCU.

With this analysis, one can conclude that all ICs can drive their respective loads

### 3.3 Power Supply Design

In order to design the power supply that will be used by the system, the worst case quiescent current of each component should be taken into account. Although not all components will be operating at the same time, it is ensured that the system will continue to function properly for the worst possible case by performing the analysis in this manner. To ensure proper operation of the system, the Low-Dropout Regulator (LDO) must supply enough current for the entire system. Table 2 shows a list of components along with the worst case quiescent current of each of them. By adding all the current, a maximum current consumption of  $181\ mA$  was determined. The LDO is rated for a maximum output of  $500\ mA$ , which is well above the determined usage. In order to complete the power supply circuit, a USB Battery Charger and a Battery Meter were added as well. Note that since the level shifters are powered by the  $2.5V$  regulated output of the Battery Meter, they have not been included in these calculations.

Table 2: Worst Case Quiescent Currents for components

Component	$I_{DD(Active)}$ ( $\mu A$ )
MSP430FR5969	1600
3-Axis Accelerometer	300
Magnetometer	110
XBee	45000
RF Wakeup	2.7
Gyroscope	6100
GPS	26140
SD Card	100000
Power switch	1
SD to USB	37
LDO	65
Battery Charger	1500
Battery Meter	103
Total	180958.7

### 3.4 Thermal Analysis

A thorough thermal analysis was performed on the MCU and all the power management ICs to determine whether they would exceed the thermal limits of their package under regular operation in our system. The expected operating junction temperature was calculated using the junction-to-ambient thermal resistance and the power dissipated by each IC. It was determined that no additional heat dissipation technique as needed to guarantee the proper operation of the ICs since all the calculated junction temperatures were well below the maximum operating junction temperature specified in the manufacturer's datasheets. The thorough and detailed analysis can be found in Appendix F.

## 4. Timing Analysis

Old timing analysis, copied because it had a good format, however must be updated with the new information. Need help from Samuel

The timing analysis consists of three main parts: Time bases, Point-to-point communication, and analog considerations. The purpose of this analysis is to ensure that no signal is transmitted at a faster frequency than the one its receiver can read, thus guaranteeing communications functionality and interoperability between all components and the MCU.

## 4.1 Time bases

This section compares the maximum external clock frequencies of all components and their communication ports to make sure that no component will be overclocked by the MCU and that all synchronous communication can be performed at the speed of the MCU's clock. Table 3 shows the frequency specifications for the components. Since the sample frequency will be a relatively low 256Hz, there is complete compatibility between the MCU and all components. The MCU can run at a clock frequency of up to 16MHz. For I<sup>2</sup>C communications, the standard of 10-100kHz will be used, since all components are compatible with it. For SPI communications, a rate of up to 2MHz can be used, since the slowest device, the RF wakeup receiver, operates at this frequency. The only component that will be communicating with the MCU through UART is the GPS receiver, which will be communicating at a 9600 baud rate and tolerates a 10% error.

**Timers** Two timers will be needed for sampling. The first timer will control the sample frequency for all the components. In order to sample at an accurate frequency of 256Hz, an external crystal with a low frequency of 38.400kHz will be used. To achieve this, the crystal will be connected to one of the timers, and the terminal count will be set to 150 with a prescale divider of one. The second timer will control the sampling time of 30 seconds. The prescaler of this timer will be set to 1 and the terminal count will be set to 38,400. 30 counts of the terminal register will produce the interrupt that will conclude the sampling mode.

**Crystal Oscillators** The reason why a 38.400kHz crystal was chosen is because the GPS communicates through UART with a 9600 baud rate. If a standard 32.768kHz crystal is used instead, the frequency divider would be 3.4, which would produce an effective baud rate of 9637.65bps. This translates to a maximum error of 17.19%, which is unacceptable for maintaining a stable communication link with the GPS module. This problem is solved by using a 38.400kHz crystal, which would produce an effective baud rate of 9600bps with 0.00% error with a frequency divider of 4. The use of a 38.400kHz crystal will not affect real time keeping nor sampling rate, because a 256Hz signal can be obtained by counting 150 cycles of the crystal, and a second can be obtained by counting 38400, both of which fit into a 16bit timer compare register.

Additionally, a 12MHz crystal was added to comply with the USB-to-SD card reader specifications. The card reader comes preprogrammed to accept a 12MHz clock input that is used for the USB and SD subsystems.

Table 3: Component Operating Frequencies

Component	Protocol	Frequency
MCU	-	4, 8, or 16 MHz

Component	Protocol	Frequency
Crystal 1	-	38.400kHz
Crystal 2	-	12.000MHz
ADC	-	200ksps
Accelerometer	Analog	500Hz
Battery Gauge	I <sup>2</sup> C	10-100kHz
Magnetometer	I <sup>2</sup> C	0-100kHz
Gyroscope	SPI	0-10MHz
RF Wakeup	SPI	0-2MHz
SD card	SPI	0-25MHz
Xbee	SPI	0-5MHz
GPS	UART	9,600 baud

## 4.2 Point-to-point communication

This section outlines the minimum requirements for timing signals of the devices connected through GPIO. Table 4 shows the timing requirements for the components. These timing signals do not include forms of serial communication, including UART, SPI and I<sup>2</sup>C. If a device requires a specific setup or hold time, the solution would be to set up a timer and count the specific number of clock ticks that the device requires. Unfortunately, many manufacturers do not specify these values in the device data sheets. Experiments on signal timing will be performed on such devices, and a 10% error will be added to ensure compatibility.

Table 4: Component Timing Requirements

Signal	Time Required
GPS_DR (DR_INT)	Needs to be toggled by low-high-low with >10ms pulse length
GPS_FIX (UI_FIX)	Signal outputs 1s pulse every 2s during valid fix condition
GYR_CS (CS)	Setup time: 5ns, Hold time: 8ns
GYR_DR (DRDY/INT2)	Interrupt: enabled until acknowledged by the MCU
MAG_DR (DRDY)	Interrupt: enabled when a new set of measurements are available
RF_WK (WAKE)	Not specified
RFWK_CS (CS)	Needs to be high as long as data needs to be read. 65 clock cycles to calibrate
SD_CD (HCRD_PRST)	Active when card present
SD_CS (CS)	Asserted 74 clock cycles
SU_BERR (!BERR/INT)	Low when error occurs, stays until error is cleared

Signal	Time Required
SU_BUSY (!BUSY)	>100ms to complete enumeration/de-enumeration
SU_MODE (MODE)	Active during simple control
XB_CS (SPI!SSEL)	Not specified
XB_DR (!DTR/SLEEP)	Not specified
XB_SLEEP (ON!/SLEEP)	Not specified

### 4.3 Analog considerations

There is only one analog component in the system, the ADXL377 accelerometer. Care must be taken to ensure that the sampling rate of the MCU's ADC can be set to twice the frequency of the analog signal and that the input voltage range of the ADC is enough to allow for the output voltage swing of the ADXL377. The ADXL377 can output data at a maximum of 1000Hz. This means that the MCU's ADC must be capable of sampling at a rate of at least 2ksps. The MSP430FR5969's ADC is capable of sampling at 200ksps, which is well above the required value. The acceptable input voltage range is specified to be from 0V to +Vcc. Since the ADXL377 output voltage swing ranges from 0.1V to 2.8V, the accelerometer's output can be sampled without suffering from clipping distortion. This makes the ADXL377 compatible with the MCU.

A second consideration should be made when interfacing with an analog component: slew rate compatibility. There is no documented specification of the ADC's slew rate in the MSP430FR5969's data sheet. However, since the output of the accelerometer varies around 6.5 mV/g, the change in amplitude in the input signal should be small enough so that there will not be any slew rate distortion.

## 5. References

---

- [1] "The I<sup>2</sup>C-Bus Specification." <http://www.nxp.com/documents/other/39340011.pdf>.
- [2] D. Ibrahim, *SD Card Projects Using the PIC Microcontroller*. IT Pro, Elsevier Science, 2010.
- [3] M. Jiménez, R. Palomera, and I. Couvertier, *Introduction to Embedded Systems: Using Microcontrollers and the MSP430*. Springer London, Limited, 2013.

---

# Appendix A: System Specifications

---

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Ut purus elit, vestibulum ut, placerat ac, adipiscing vitae, felis. Curabitur dictum gravida mauris. Nam arcu libero, nonummy eget, consectetur id, vulputate a, magna. Donec vehicula augue eu neque. Pellentesque habitant morbi tristique senectus et netus et malesuada fames ac turpis egestas. Mauris ut leo. Cras viverra metus rhoncus sem. Nulla et lectus vestibulum urna fringilla ultrices. Phasellus eu tellus sit amet tortor gravida placerat. Integer sapien est, iaculis in, pretium quis, viverra ac, nunc. Praesent eget sem vel leo ultrices bibendum. Aenean faucibus. Morbi dolor nulla, malesuada eu, pulvinar at, mollis ac, nulla. Curabitur auctor semper nulla. Donec varius orci eget risus. Duis nibh mi, congue eu, accumsan eleifend, sagittis quis, diam. Duis eget orci sit amet orci dignissim rutrum.

---

## Appendix B: System Schematics

---

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Ut purus elit, vestibulum ut, placerat ac, adipiscing vitae, felis. Curabitur dictum gravida mauris. Nam arcu libero, nonummy eget, consectetur id, vulputate a, magna. Donec vehicula augue eu neque. Pellentesque habitant morbi tristique senectus et netus et malesuada fames ac turpis egestas. Mauris ut leo. Cras viverra metus rhoncus sem. Nulla et lectus vestibulum urna fringilla ultrices. Phasellus eu tellus sit amet tortor gravida placerat. Integer sapien est, iaculis in, pretium quis, viverra ac, nunc. Praesent eget sem vel leo ultrices bibendum. Aenean faucibus. Morbi dolor nulla, malesuada eu, pulvinar at, mollis ac, nulla. Curabitur auctor semper nulla. Donec varius orci eget risus. Duis nibh mi, congue eu, accumsan eleifend, sagittis quis, diam. Duis eget orci sit amet orci dignissim rutrum.



---

## Appendix C: Component Layout

---

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Ut purus elit, vestibulum ut, placerat ac, adipiscing vitae, felis. Curabitur dictum gravida mauris. Nam arcu libero, nonummy eget, consectetur id, vulputate a, magna. Donec vehicula augue eu neque. Pellentesque habitant morbi tristique senectus et netus et malesuada fames ac turpis egestas. Mauris ut leo. Cras viverra metus rhoncus sem. Nulla et lectus vestibulum urna fringilla ultrices. Phasellus eu tellus sit amet tortor gravida placerat. Integer sapien est, iaculis in, pretium quis, viverra ac, nunc. Praesent eget sem vel leo ultrices bibendum. Aenean faucibus. Morbi dolor nulla, malesuada eu, pulvinar at, mollis ac, nulla. Curabitur auctor semper nulla. Donec varius orci eget risus. Duis nibh mi, congue eu, accumsan eleifend, sagittis quis, diam. Duis eget orci sit amet orci dignissim rutrum.

---

## Appendix D: User Guide

---

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Ut purus elit, vestibulum ut, placerat ac, adipiscing vitae, felis. Curabitur dictum gravida mauris. Nam arcu libero, nonummy eget, consectetur id, vulputate a, magna. Donec vehicula augue eu neque. Pellentesque habitant morbi tristique senectus et netus et malesuada fames ac turpis egestas. Mauris ut leo. Cras viverra metus rhoncus sem. Nulla et lectus vestibulum urna fringilla ultrices. Phasellus eu tellus sit amet tortor gravida placerat. Integer sapien est, iaculis in, pretium quis, viverra ac, nunc. Praesent eget sem vel leo ultrices bibendum. Aenean faucibus. Morbi dolor nulla, malesuada eu, pulvinar at, mollis ac, nulla. Curabitur auctor semper nulla. Donec varius orci eget risus. Duis nibh mi, congue eu, accumsan eleifend, sagittis quis, diam. Duis eget orci sit amet orci dignissim rutrum.

---

## Appendix E: Bill of Materials

---

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Ut purus elit, vestibulum ut, placerat ac, adipiscing vitae, felis. Curabitur dictum gravida mauris. Nam arcu libero, nonummy eget, consectetur id, vulputate a, magna. Donec vehicula augue eu neque. Pellentesque habitant morbi tristique senectus et netus et malesuada fames ac turpis egestas. Mauris ut leo. Cras viverra metus rhoncus sem. Nulla et lectus vestibulum urna fringilla ultrices. Phasellus eu tellus sit amet tortor gravida placerat. Integer sapien est, iaculis in, pretium quis, viverra ac, nunc. Praesent eget sem vel leo ultrices bibendum. Aenean faucibus. Morbi dolor nulla, malesuada eu, pulvinar at, mollis ac, nulla. Curabitur auctor semper nulla. Donec varius orci eget risus. Duis nibh mi, congue eu, accumsan eleifend, sagittis quis, diam. Duis eget orci sit amet orci dignissim rutrum.

---

## **Appendix F: Extended Power Analysis**

---

This section contains a more detailed explanation of how the battery life was estimated. It includes the assumptions made to generate the activity factors. In addition, it includes a thorough description of the calculations made in the thermal analysis.

Add Level Shifters and recalculate power. See if we can find a chart of Charge vs Voltage to determine the lower level of available charge to get a more real estimate. Should re-check MCU pins

## F.1 Battery Life Estimate

In order to estimate the battery life, the average supply current was determined by using a weighted average based on the fraction of time each component is active. The weighted average formula used was:  $I_{avg} = \alpha * I_{active} + (1 - \alpha) * I_{LPM}$ , where  $\alpha$  is the activity factor or the fraction of time the component is active. The following assumptions were made when determining the activity factor.

- The drifters will spend 10 minutes in “Locate Mode” before they are retrieved from the water.
- The drifters will spend 30 seconds in sampling mode.
- The drifters will spend 3 minutes in stand-by mode before they are deployed.
- The drifters will spend about 10 seconds transferring a single data file. The following assumptions were made to determine this time:
  - File Size: 200 kB \* 8 = 16,000 kbits.
  - 80% of XBee maximum Speed: 250 kbps \* 80% = 200 kbps.
  - 16,000 kbits / 200 kbps = 8 seconds, which can be rounded up to 10 seconds.

Table 5 shows a list of the components along with their active and low power mode supply current, determined activity factor, and weighted average supply current. It also shows the total average current consumption of the system which was determined to be around 70 mA. This means that a chosen 500 mAh battery will last for about 7.23 hours. Based on the current assumptions, a single throw or experiment will last for about 13.66 minutes, which means that the drifters will be able to perform at least 30 experiment trials under the current assumptions.

Table 5: Activity Factors Used to Estimate Battery Life

Component	$I_{DD(Active)} (\mu A)$	$I_{DD(LPM)} (\mu A)$	Activity Factor	$I_{DD(AVG)} (\mu A)$
Connected To LDO				
MSP430FR5969	1600	0.5	78.05%	1248.91
3-Axis Accelerometer	300	0	3.66%	10.98
Magnetometer	110	1	3.66%	4.9894
XBee	45000	0.5	96.34%	43353.02
RF Wakeup	2.7	0.4	0.00%	0.4
Gyroscope	6100	5	3.66%	228.077

Component	$I_{DD(Active)} (\mu A)$	$I_{DD(LPM)} (\mu A)$	Activity Factor	$I_{DD(AVG)} (\mu A)$
GPS	26140	5	73.17%	19127.98
SD Card	100000	10	4.88%	4889.512
Power switch	1	0.3	3.66%	0.32562
SD to USB	37	1	100.00%	37
Connected Directly to Battery				
LDO	65	1	100.00%	65
Battery Charger	1500	6.5	0.00%	6.5
Battery Meter	103	4	100.00%	103
Total	180958.7	35.2	-	69075.69
Battery Capacity	500 mAh	Hours of Use per battery charge		7.238436
Est. time per throw (min)	13.66 mins	Throws per charged battery		31.7785

## F.2 Thermal Analysis

Performing a thermal analysis on the system will reveal whether the operating temperature of the individual ICs is below their maximum rating. In order to perform this analysis, the junction temperature  $T_J$  will be calculated for the MCU and the power management ICs. The junction temperature is given by [3, 419]:

$$T_J = T_A + \theta_{JA} \cdot P_{diss}$$

where  $T_J$  is the estimated junction temperature,  $T_A$  is the ambient temperature (taken here to be  $27^\circ C$ ),  $\theta_{JA}$  is the junction-to-ambient thermal resistance and  $P_{diss}$  is the estimated power consumption of the device.

This formula is applied throughout the following sections to determine whether the MCU and the power ICs will be operating at a safe temperature or if they require additional heat dissipation mechanisms such as heat syncs, fans, etc.

### F.2.1 Microcontroller

In order to estimate the average operating junction temperature for the MCU the power dissipated by the IC will first be calculated. The following formula, which was taken from [3, 419], will be used:

$$P_{diss} = V_{DD} \cdot \left( I_{DD(avg)} + \sum_{all\ pins} |I_{IO(avg)}| \right)$$

Although no information is available for the  $\theta_{JA}$  of the MSP430FR5969, since this value depends on the package and the area exposed to the air, a device with the same package (48-pin QFN), the MSP430F5510, was found to have  $\theta_{JA} = 28.6^{\circ}C/W$  and this value was instead used. In the same manner, although no information on the IO currents is available, the ones for the MSP430F5510 will be used instead.

In full drive mode, the MSP430F5510 can output upto 45mA through its IO pins while still maintaining a valid  $V_{OL}$ . Table 6 shows the assumed IO currents for each components.

Table 6: Worst Case I/O current for microcontroller pins

Pin	$I_{DD(Active)}$ ( $\mu A$ )	Qty	Total Current ( $\mu A$ )
SPI	100	3	300
$I^2C$	10	2	20
UART	1000	2	2000
GPIO	1000	21	21000
Total			23320

Assuming an IO current of 23.32mA and an average supply current of 1.6mA, the total power dissipation can then be calculated to be:

$$P_{diss} = V_{DD} \cdot (1.6m + 23.32m)$$

$$P_{diss} = 82.24mW$$

Using  $\theta_{JA} = 47.8^{\circ}C/W$ , the total junction temperature is then given by:

$$T_J = 27 + 26.8 \cdot 0.08224$$

$$T_J = 29.20^{\circ}C$$

The datasheet states that the maximum junction temperature is  $95^{\circ}C$ , which means that in this application, the device is well under the maximum operating temperature rating and no additional heat dissipation mechanism is needed.

## F.2.2 Low-Dropout Regulator

The datasheet for the TPS73501 contains a section on power dissipation and provides the following formula for calculating the power dissipation across the device:

$$P_{diss} = (V_{IN} - V_{OUT}) \cdot I_{OUT}$$

The voltage provided by the battery charger circuit is 3.925 V and the required output voltage is 3.3 V. The estimated output current required is 180.96 mA. In order to leave a margin of error, a rounded value of 200 mA will be used in this calculation. Thus, the power dissipated by the device is given by:

$$P_{diss} = (3.925 - 3.3) \cdot 200m$$

$$P_{diss} = 125mW = 0.125W$$

Since for this device,  $\theta_{JA} = 47.8^{\circ}C/W$ , the total junction temperature is then given by:

$$T_J = 27 + 47.8 \cdot 0.125$$

$$T_J = 32.98^{\circ}C$$

The datasheet states that the maximum junction temperature is  $150^{\circ}C$ , which means that in this application, the device is well under the maximum operating temperature rating and no additional heat dissipation mechanism is needed.

### F.2.3 Battery Charger

The datasheet for the BQ24072 provides the following formula for estimating the power dissipation across the device.

$$P_{diss} = (V_{IN} - V_{OUT}) \cdot I_{OUT} + (V_{OUT} - V_{BAT}) \cdot I_{BAT}$$

The output voltage of the device is 5.5 V, while the input voltage is 5 V as dictated by the USB standard. The output current can be estimated to be 50mA by taking into account the two LEDs connected to this pin (at about 20mA per LED) and the LDO input (46  $\mu A$ ) and rounding up to leave a margin for safety. The circuit was designed for a battery voltage of 3.7 V and a current of 800 mA.

$$P_{diss} = (5 - 3.925) \cdot 50m + (3.925 - 3.7) \cdot 500m$$

$$P_{diss} = 166mW$$

Since for this device,  $\theta_{JA} = 39.47^{\circ}C/W$ , the total junction temperature is then given by:



$$T_J = 27 + 39.47 \cdot 0.166$$

$$T_J = 33.55^{\circ}\text{C}$$

The datasheet states that the maximum junction temperature is  $125^{\circ}\text{C}$ , which means that in this application, the device is well under the maximum operating temperature rating and no additional heat dissipation mechanism is needed.

## F.2.4 Battery Meter

Although the datasheet for the BQ27410 does not provide a direct formula for power dissipation and because the battery meter has an internal LDO, the formula used for the MCU IO pins will be combined with the power dissipation formula of the LDO to obtain a more robust estimate for the power dissipated.

$$P_{diss} = V_{DD} \cdot \left( \sum_{all\ pins} |I_{IO(avg)}| \right) + (V_{IN} - V_{OUT}) \cdot I_{OUT}$$

The IO pin output current for this device is between 0.5 and 1 mA. 1 mA will be used for the two  $I^2C$  pins, which gives a total IO current of 2 mA. The maximum supply current is  $103\ \mu\text{A}$  and this will be used instead of the average supply current to leave a margin of safety. The input voltage is 5.5 V and the regulated output voltage is 2.5 V.

$$P_{diss} = 2.5 \cdot (2m) + (3.7 - 2.5) \cdot 0.103m$$

$$P_{diss} = 5.12mW$$

Since for this device,  $\theta_{JA} = 64.17^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{W}$ , the total junction temperature is then given by:

$$T_J = 27 + 64.1 \cdot 0.00512$$

$$T_J = 27.33^{\circ}\text{C}$$

The datasheet states that the maximum junction temperature is  $100^{\circ}\text{C}$ , which means that in this application, the device is well under the maximum operating temperature rating and no additional heat dissipation mechanism is needed.

---

## **Appendix G: Work Distribution**

---

This appendix contains a table showing a list of tasks performed for this project and the people assigned to each of them. Several tasks were assigned to two people because the pair-programming strategy was used for most software and hardware components so that the second person could validate the work of the first person and minimize errors in both software and hardware.

Needs to be updated with other tasks performed

Table 7: Work Distribution Table

Task Title	Adrian	Daniel	Nelian	Samuel
Topic Research	✓	✓	✓	✓
Define System Requirements and Specifications	✓	✓	✓	✓
Define Essential Hardware and Software	✓	✓	✓	✓
Create System Block Diagram			✓	
Set up Project Website		✓		
Cover Page, Table of Contents, Report Format	✓			
Specifications: Requirements and Features	✓	✓	✓	✓
Specifications: Limitations				✓
Market Description		✓		
Specifications: Essential HW/SW			✓	
Block Diagram			✓	
System Conception: Global System View	✓			
System Conception: UI Level			✓	
Design Criteria		✓		✓
Expert Opinion			✓	
Introduction		✓		
Abstract				✓
Proof Reading	✓	✓	✓	✓
Project Journal				✓
Project and Work Distribution Table	✓			
MCU Research	✓	✓	✓	✓
Other Components Research	✓	✓	✓	✓
Brainstorm: Discussion and Selection of MCU	✓	✓	✓	✓
Design Team Logo and Poster			✓	
Set up Git Repository		✓		
Component Selection	✓	✓	✓	✓
Update Block Diagram	✓			
Brainstorm: Software Plan (Operating Chart)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Build System Schematics				✓
Cost Analysis				✓
Timing Analysis and Diagrams			✓	
Power Analysis	✓			

Task Title	Adrian	Daniel	Nelian	Samuel
Software Brainstorm Requirement Definition and Verification	✓	✓	✓	✓
Use Case Diagrams			✓	
Design User Interface		✓		
Flow Charts, Module and Interface Design for MCU Software			✓	
Connect and Work with Accelerometer and Gyroscope	✓			
Connect and Work with Magnetic Field and Light Sensor			✓	
Connect and Work with GPS Software and Hardware Module		✓		
Connect and Work with SD Card Software and Hardware Module				✓
Connect and Work with Power Supply and Management	✓			
Connect and Work with Xbees		✓		
Implement Sampling Mode Software Module	✓			✓
Implement Transfer Mode Software Module		✓		
Implement Diagnostic Mode Software Module				✓
Implement LED Controller Module			✓	
Software and Hardware Testing and Debugging	✓	✓	✓	✓
Implement Out of Memory Alert Software Module				✓
Implement Low Power State Software Module	✓			
Implement User Interface			✓	
Design and Make PCBs		✓		
Connect, Solder, Test	✓			
Field Testing (Water Tank)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Software Testing and Debugging	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hardware Testing and Debugging	✓	✓	✓	✓