

Link to video: <https://youtu.be/7sHHVERLgNw>

1. In general, yes, it was effective at detecting potential violations. However, I would not recommend it be used for official purposes as actual distances were not accurately portrayed.
2. I think that this approach as a concept sounds more useful than it really is. As mentioned under the “Limitations and future improvements” section, the detector and camera calibration are not perfectly coordinated. This difference causes a gap between distances in real life, and the distance that is detected in the output video. Other factors, such as wind would also affect potential infections. Though most experts agree that Covid spreads through tiny droplets, they are still debating whether it is airborne. This is something that can be recorded (direction and mph), but is very hard to incorporate into the computer's calculations since wind is so uncontrollable and unpredictable. Who is to say what a certain gust would do? I think this approach would be helpful for cities. Many are attempting to reopen, and by using this camera and detector, officials could see general trends about whether people are following social distancing rules or not. This could help them predict the number of hospitalizations in the next few weeks, as well as decide if their citizens are responsible enough to handle a reopening.
3. I would apply all ideas in the “Limitations and future improvements” section. For privacy reasons, I would probably try to blur out any detected faces. Based on the US's response thus far, the government will not be tracking down specific people who were caught violating social distancing on such cameras. As mentioned in class, it is slightly disturbing to realize after the fact that you were being recorded -- this would help clear away any privacy concerns.