

# SHEEP\_LINK

## TEAM 1034A

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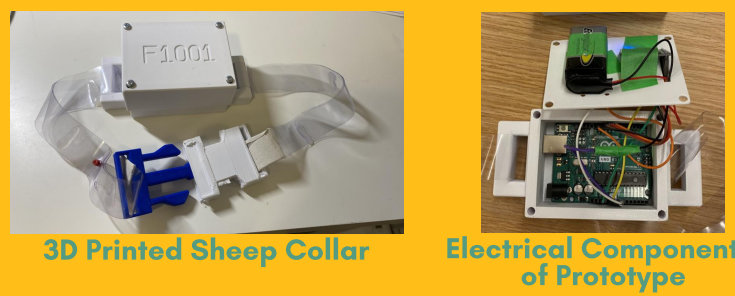
Our team's aim is to address the issue of **locating wandering sheep** in the town of Mthatha, South Africa.

## I. STAKEHOLDERS

Sheep owners of Mthatha, shepherds, sheep, and us!

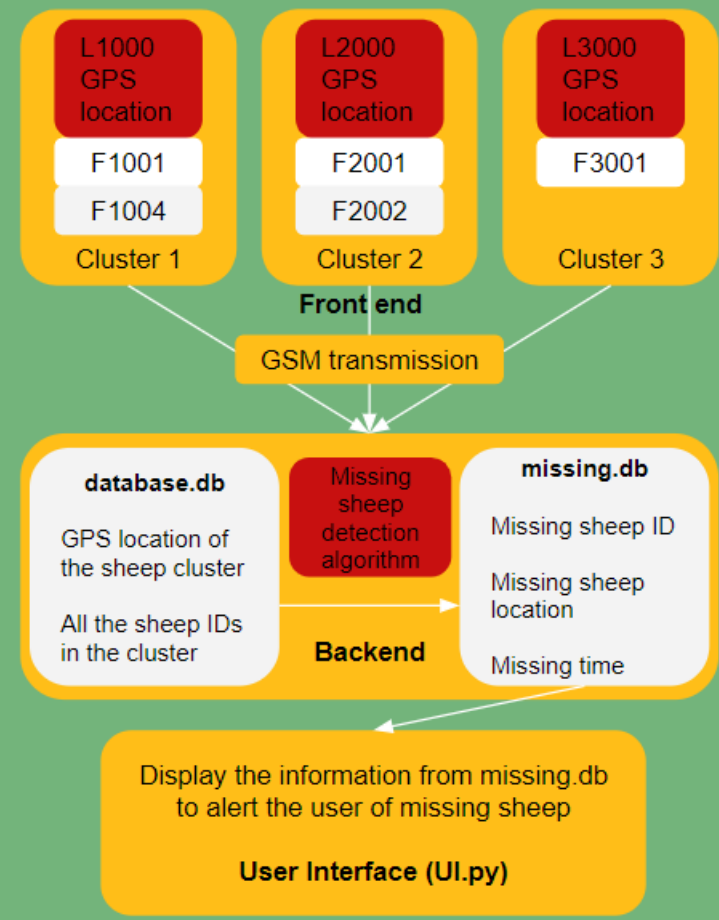


## II. PROTOTYPE PROGRESS



- One fully functional **follower tracker**: a **case**, an **adjustable belt strap**, and **concealed electronics**.
- Bluefruit Microcontroller (**follower tracker**) sends the stored sheep IDs to **Bluefruit app (leader tracker)** via UART when it receives a request message from the leader.
- Use the Bluefruit app to check the **GPS location** and send a string containing all the follower IDs and the GPS location to the backend database using Bluefruit Microcontroller.
- The database uses a mixture of **python** and **SQL**.
- Algorithm detects missing sheep in all edge cases and interacts with the user through a user interface available in both **English** and **Xhosa** localizations.
- **Cost** of the **prototype**: Arduino UNO R3 (\$24.95) + Adafruit Bluetooth (\$17.50) + Battery (\$3.7) + 3D printed tracker case and collar strap(\$3.50) = **\$49.65**

## III. DESIGN CONCEPTS



1. Each tracker stores a **unique sheep ID**
2. Two types of sheep trackers: **leader** and **follower**
  - a. **Leader**: ID starts with **L**, has **GPS + Bluetooth** transceiver
  - b. **Follower**: ID starts with **F**, only has **Bluetooth** transceiver
3. Sheep information update:
  - a. Leaders "**ping**" nearest followers based on the **Received Signal Strength Indicator** (RSSI), and followers respond by **sending their ID** to the leader, then leader **stores all IDs**.
  - b. All leaders **send** their **current cluster GPS location** + stored **follower IDs** to the backend database.
  - c. Backend **Clustering algorithm** will send **missing sheep alerts** through User Interface **whenever missing sheep is detected**.



## IV. HIGHLIGHTED FEATURES

### ACCESSIBILITY

Uses **inexpensive** Global Systems for Mobile Communication (**GSM**) for transmission.

Flexibility in balancing between location accuracy and cost: allows users to choose # of leaders (Global Positioning System (GPS)).

Offered in both **English** and **Xhosa**.

### EFFECTIVENESS

**Locates the sheep** and **notifies** the shepherds once they go **missing**.

Prototype **battery life** is **24 hours**, which can be made **rechargeable and longer lasting**.

### DURABILITY

**Waterproof, dustproof, and dropproof.**

Withstands the harsh conditions in the use case.

### SAFETY

**Safe** for both the **sheep** and **human** users, **electrical hazards** are taken care of by enclosing the components in a case

### PORTABILITY

Physical prototype is **small, lightweight and uses battery power**.

## V. FUNCTIONALITY EVALUATION

### ✓ Detecting and Notifying When Sheep is Missing

When a follower leaves their cluster, the leader no longer finds it. 20% missed alert due to bluetooth connectivity issue. The Clustering algorithm detects both missing leaders and followers. 0% missed alert based on the testing results.

### ✓ Accuracy of Leader and Follower

GPS Location accuracy of the leader is within 1m, follower location uncertainty depends on number of leaders:

% of leader sheep	16%	20%	30%	40%	50%
Cluster radius	14.5m	12m	8.7m	7m	6m

### ✓ Differentiating Sheep

Sheep can be differentiated from different owners' by looking at their customized collar color and the engraved unique sheep ID.