

THERMAL GRACE



Comfort-as-a-Service

Perceived Thermal Comfort Sensing & AI-Driven Insights



Vitality HUB

2025-2026

RESEARCH FOUNDATION

PERCEIVED THERMAL COMFORT IOT SYSTEM

Literature Study: Thermal comfort research (TUe, Delft, academic institutions)

Key Parameters: PMV/PPD algorithms from ISO 7730 standards

Sensor Requirements: Derived from PyThermalComfort library research papers

PROJECT EVOLUTION

S6 (SPRING-SUMMER
2025)

UX research with 3Beam AIoT LED Blackboard

S7 (AUTUMN-WINTER
2025-2026)

Rapid prototyping, verification and validation

01

Initial Pivot: From 3Beam to "Beets" modular components

02

Strategic Refocus: Thermal comfort as primary use case

03

Current Stage: Full-stack development with MVP hardware & software

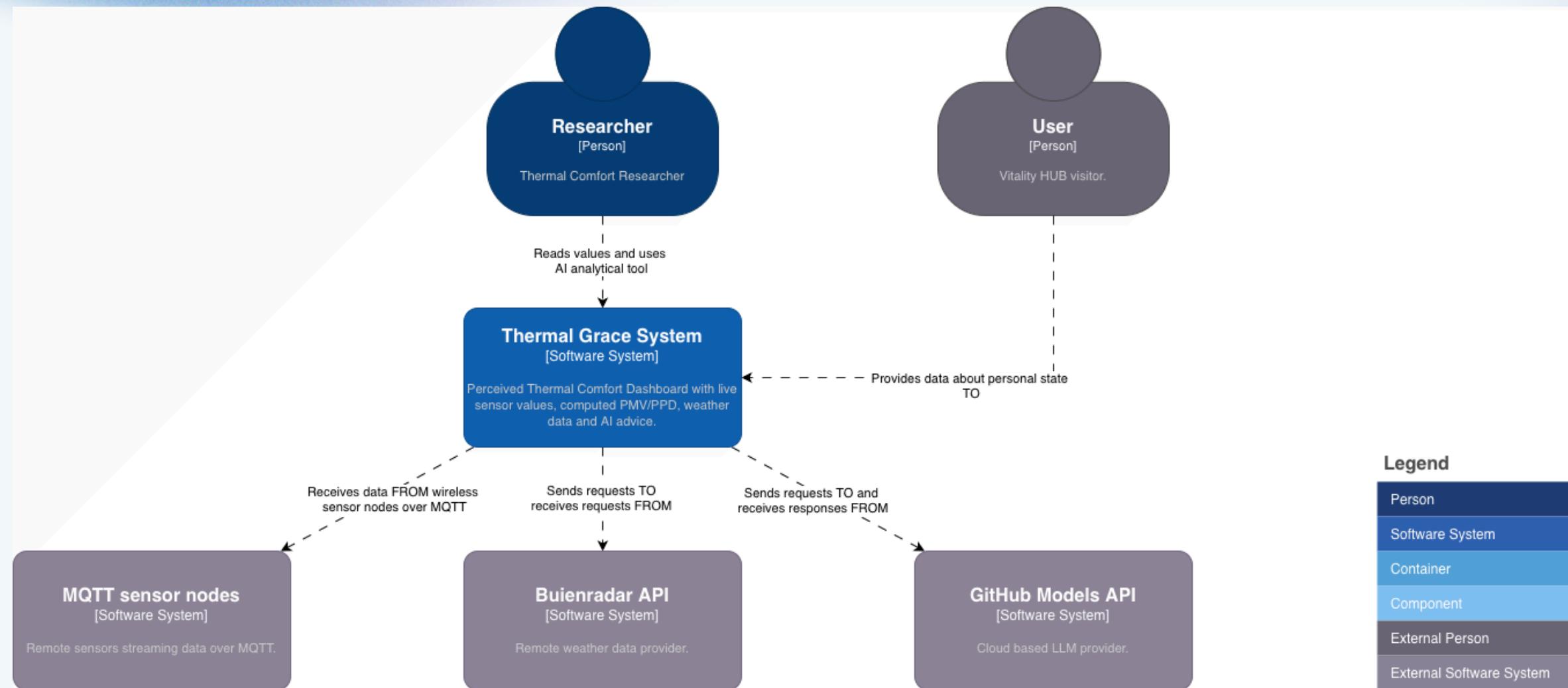
PROBLEM & CONTEXT

LACK OF REAL-TIME, DATA-DRIVEN
THERMAL COMFORT MONITORING IN
COMPLEX ENVIRONMENTS

- No integrated system for environmental sensing + user feedback
- Manual HVAC adjustment without scientific basis
- Limited validation platforms for comfort algorithms
- Gap between academic research & practical implementation

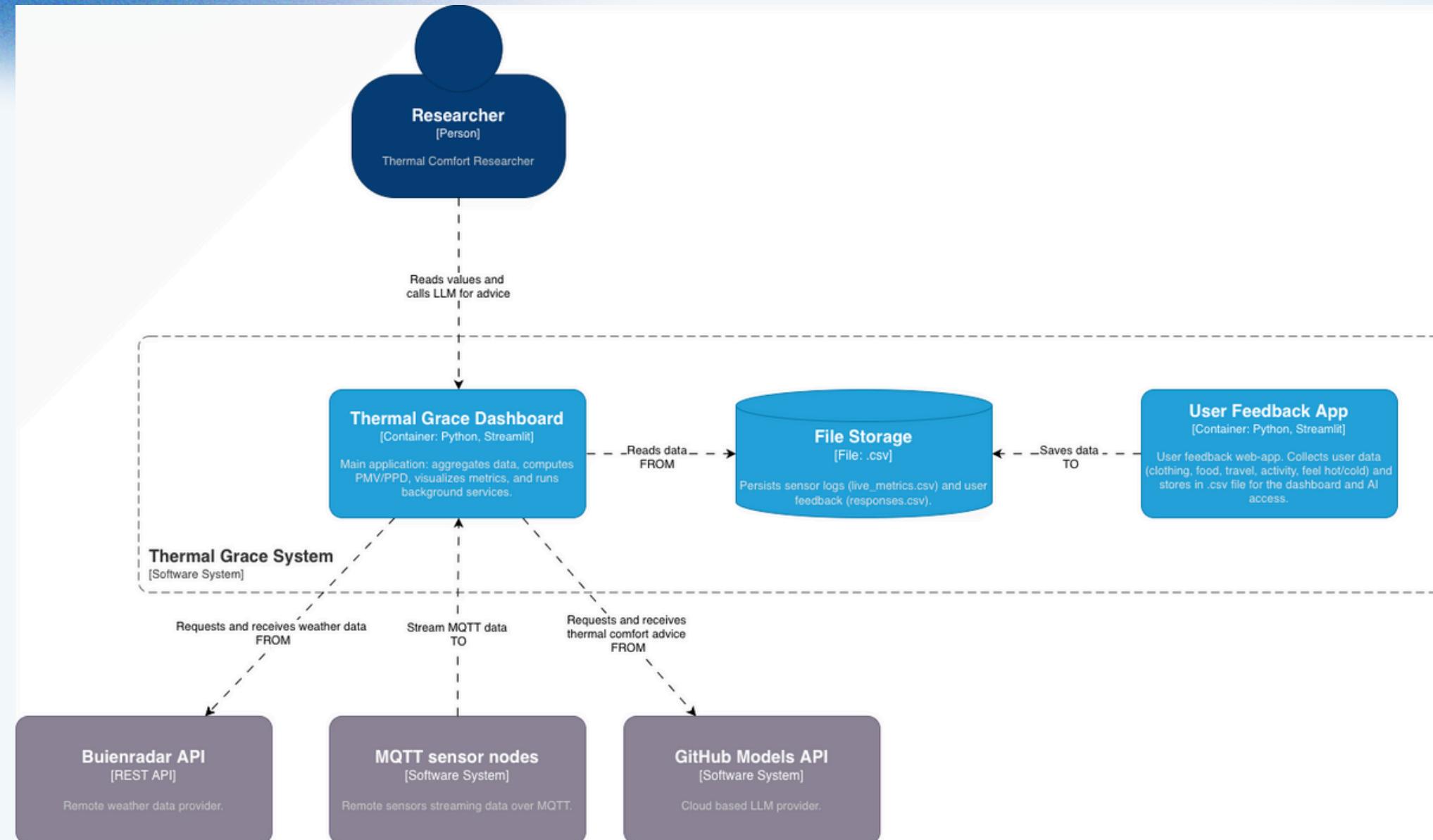


SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE (C4)



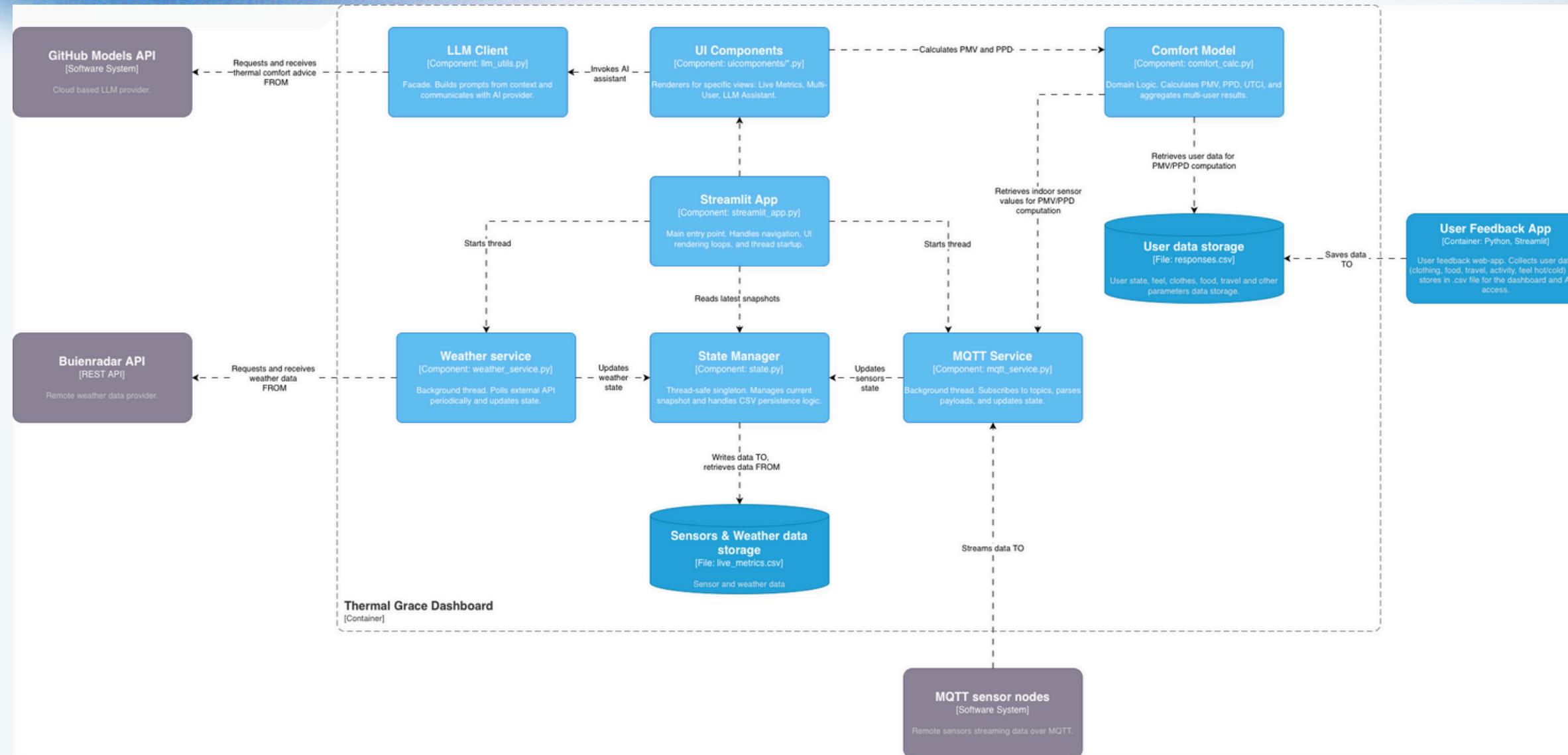
C4 diagram level 1 – context

SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE (C4)



C4 diagram level 2 – container

SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE (C4)



C4 diagram level 3 – components

HARDWARE TOPOLOGY

VHUB, Fontys Delta

Thermal Grace



01

Remote Node 1: Raspberry Pi Pico 2 W + CO2 NDIR sensor (air quality)



02

Remote Node 2: Raspberry Pi Pico 2 W + BME680 (temp, humidity, pressure, VOC) + mmWave radar (occupancy)



03

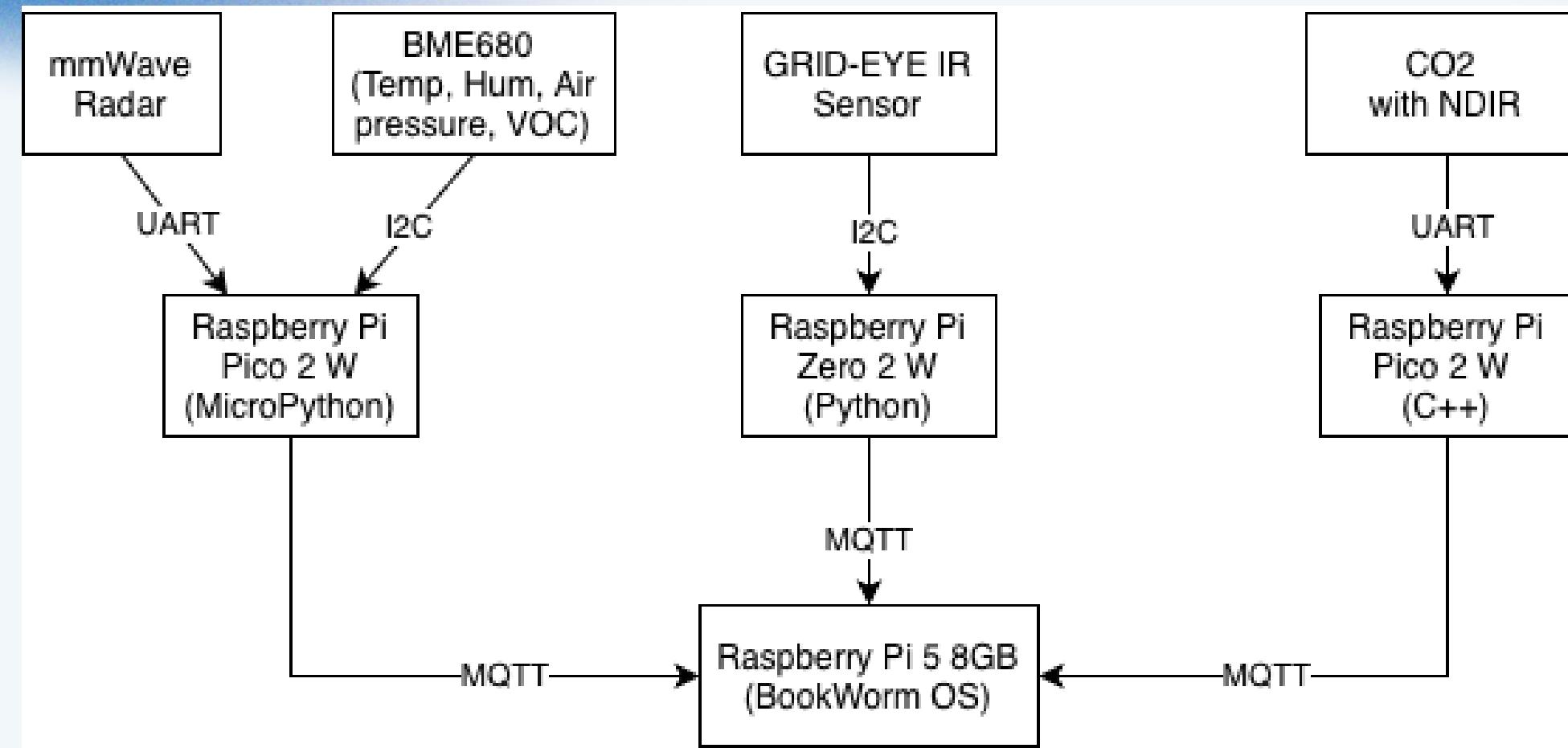
Remote Node 3: Raspberry Pi Zero 2 W + Thermal sensor array (spatial heat mapping)



04

Central Hub: Raspberry Pi 5 (data processing, aggregation, dashboard hosting)

HWADWARE ARCHITECTURE



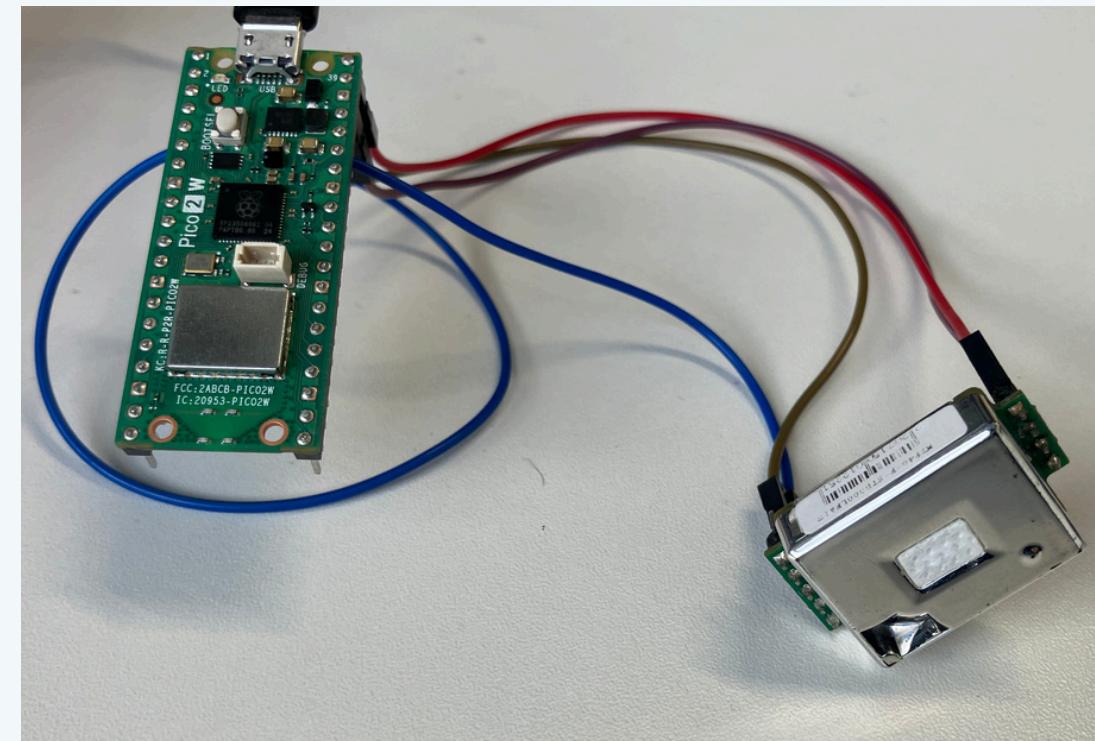
Hardware architecture diagram

PROTOTYPE

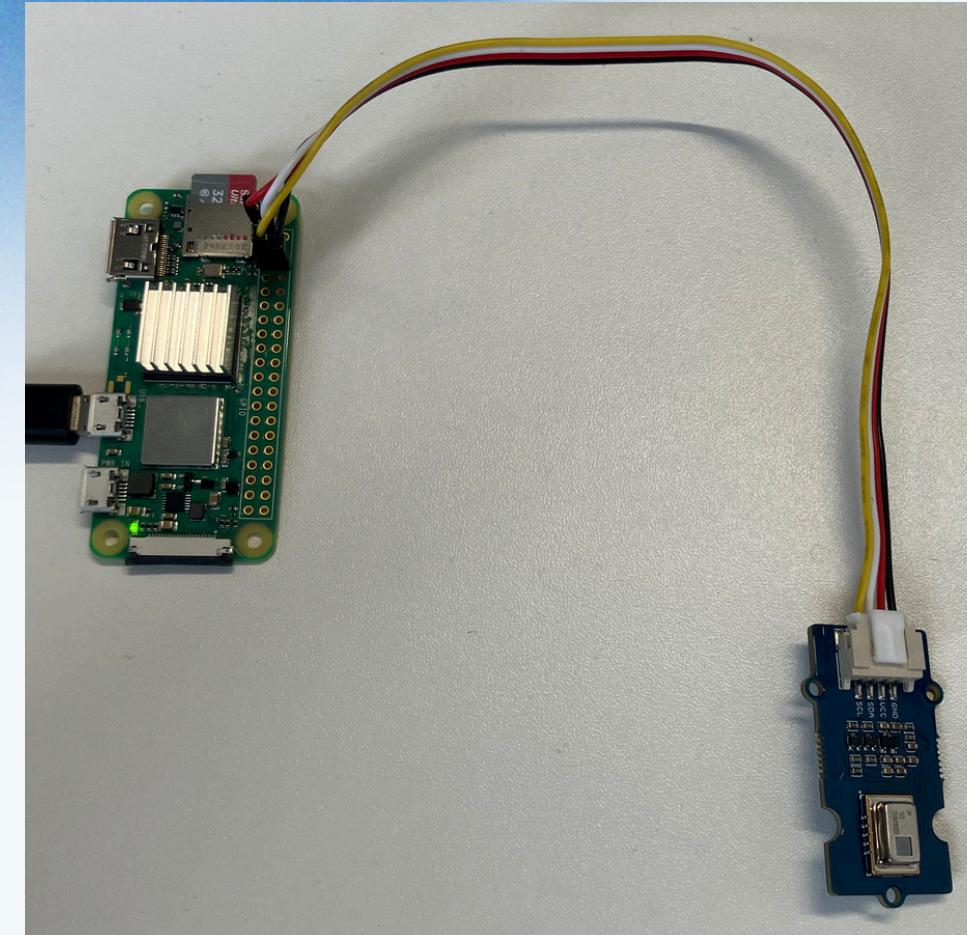
v.1



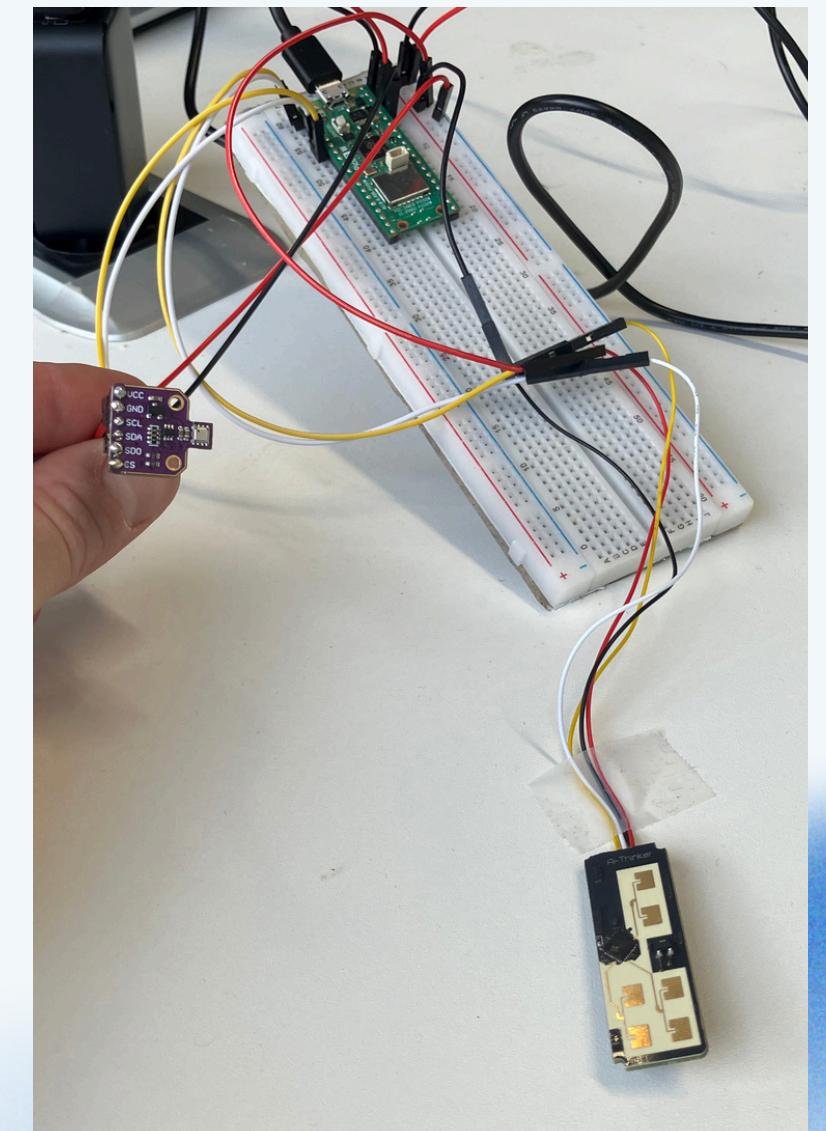
Raspberry Pi 5 Central computer,
Server with Thermal Grace
Dashboard



Remote CO₂ with NDIR sensor node



Thermal image heatmap sensor node



Environmental data and mmWave

DEMO

VIDEO:

General demo:
<https://youtu.be/vrhQb1QjbCg>

Multi-user functionality:
<https://youtu.be/Dp8xyD23VpI>

TECHNICAL DECISION RATIONALE

THE MAKING PROCESS

Streamlit vs. Home Assistant

- HA: OS-level OS bloats dev; custom UI needs JS cards; indirect log parsing
- ✓ Streamlit: Python integration, fast iteration, native UI features, direct data forwarding

Raspberry Pi vs. ESP32

- ESP32: Sensor compatibility issues, debugging delays (hours)
- ✓ Pi Ecosystem: Stable sensor integration, reduced debugging to minutes

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THERMAL COMFORT MODEL

PMV (Predicted Mean Vote): ISO 7730 standard comfort scale (-3 to +3)

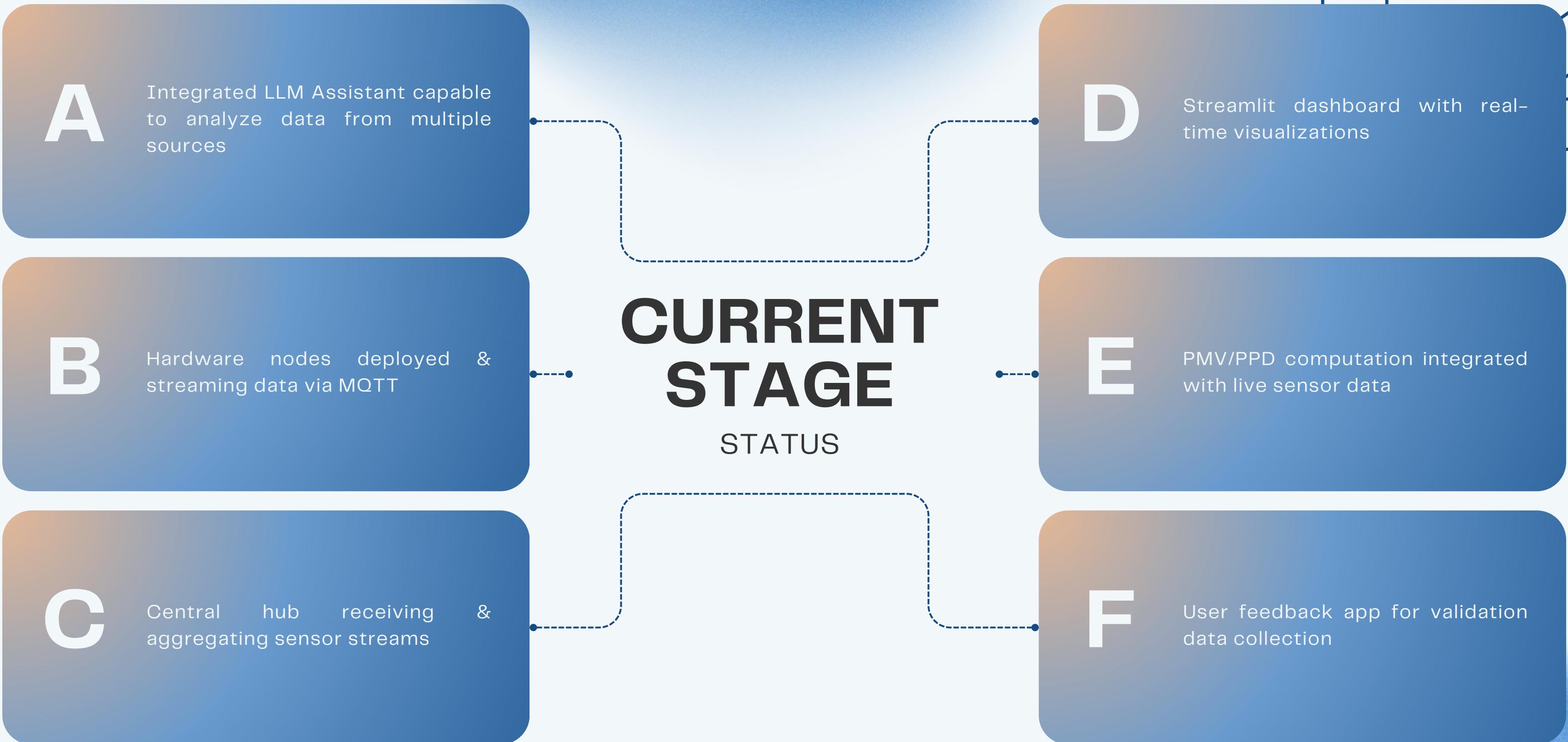
PPD (Predicted % Dissatisfied): Percentage of population dissatisfied at given PMV

Inputs: Temperature, humidity, air velocity, clothing, metabolic rate, occupancy

Implementation: PyThermalComfort library methods

CURRENT STAGE

STATUS



A BALANCED PERSPECTIVE

BUILDING IT RIGHT & BUILDING RIGHT SYSTEMS

■ VERIFICATION

- **Design Conformance:** Hardware architecture matches specification document
- **Implementation Compliance:** Code meets requirements (sensor accuracy, MQTT reliability, data pipeline)
- **System Behavior:** Does delivered prototype perform as specified?
- **Data Quality:** Sensor calibration, MQTT message integrity, CSV logging consistency

■ VALIDATION

- **Stakeholder Needs:** Does system address Vitality HUB requirements?
- **Algorithm Accuracy:** PMV/PPD calculations vs. ground truth thermal comfort surveys
- **Use Case Testing:** Real-world deployment at Fontys facility
- **User Acceptance:** Researcher satisfaction with dashboard & recommendations

V&V TESTING planning

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FOUR PHASES:

UNIT TESTS

Sensor calibration, PMV function accuracy, MQTT delivery, LLM accuracy

SYSTEM TESTS

Multi-node deployment, concurrent users, 48-hour stability, battery powered

INTEGRATION TESTS

End-to-end data flow, dashboard updates, API calls, new sensors & access points

ACCEPTANCE TEST

User comfort surveys, stakeholder interviews, feedback validation

PATH FORWARD

NEXT STEP: FORMAL V&V TEST PLAN
DOCUMENTATION (ALIGNED WITH V-MODEL)



01

Sensor calibration & unit test execution



02

Integration & system testing (multi-environment)



03

User acceptance testing at Vitality HUB



04

Comprehensive V&V report with metrics & recommendations

16

TECHNICAL DELIVERABLES

Hardware Specification: Architecture design document with diagrams

Software Specification: C4 context/container diagrams, API documentation

V&V Plan: Test cases, success criteria, traceability matrix

Validation Report: Test results, discovered issues, recommendations

RESEARCH APPLICATIONS

- Validation platform for thermal comfort algorithms (academic collaboration)
- Real-world data collection for comfort model refinement
- Modular architecture extensible to other environmental sensing domains
- Bridge between theoretical research (TUe, Delft) and operational systems

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THANK YOU

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