

# Insulator Vision Pro

Team: Boulder Dynamics | Sponsor: LineVision, Inc.

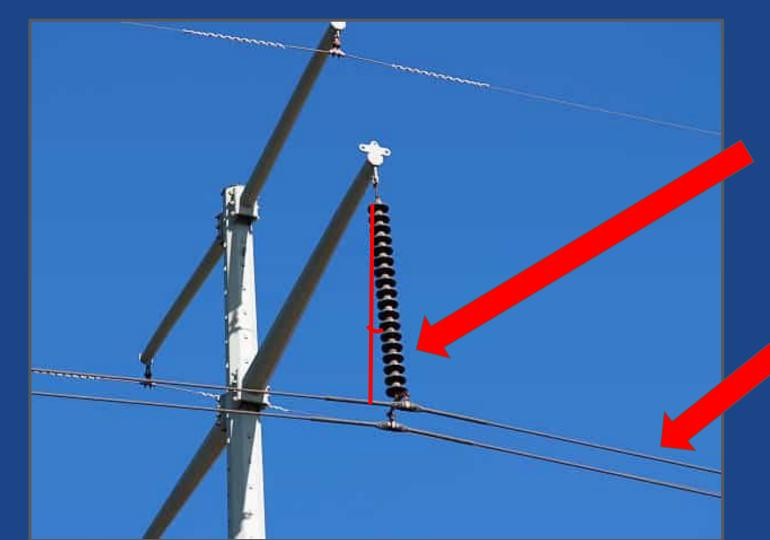
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University of Colorado Boulder, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering 2024



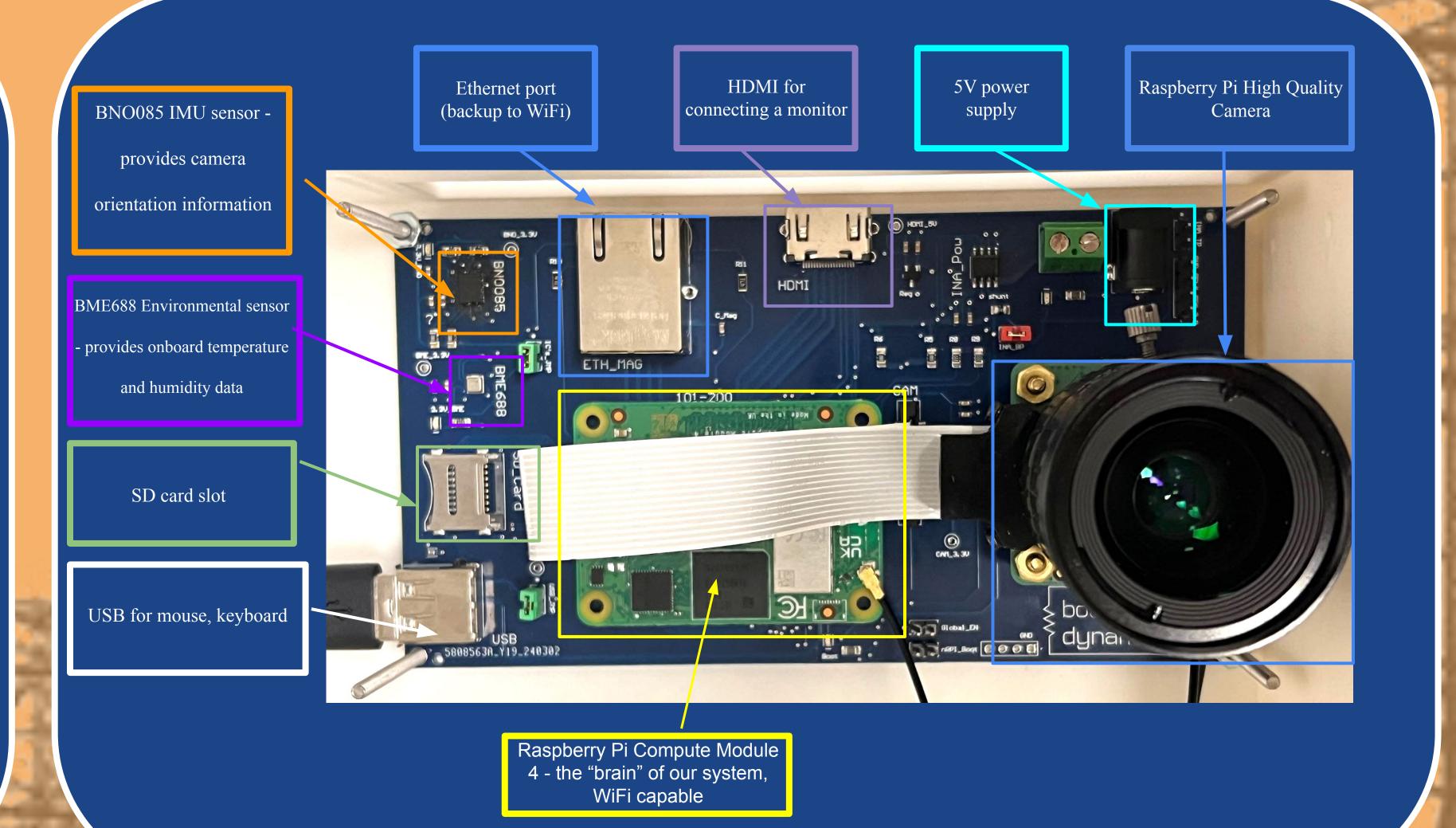
#### The Problem

As the demand on power grids increases, the cost and time required for replacing or building new transmission line towers pose significant challenges. LineVision's Dynamic Line Rating algorithm optimizes power line efficiency by monitoring line temperatures influenced by various factors, including wind.



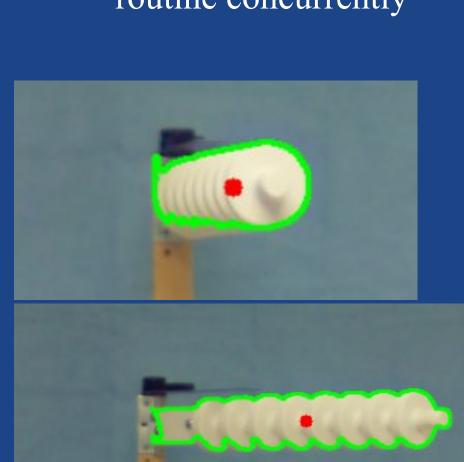
**INSULATOR** 

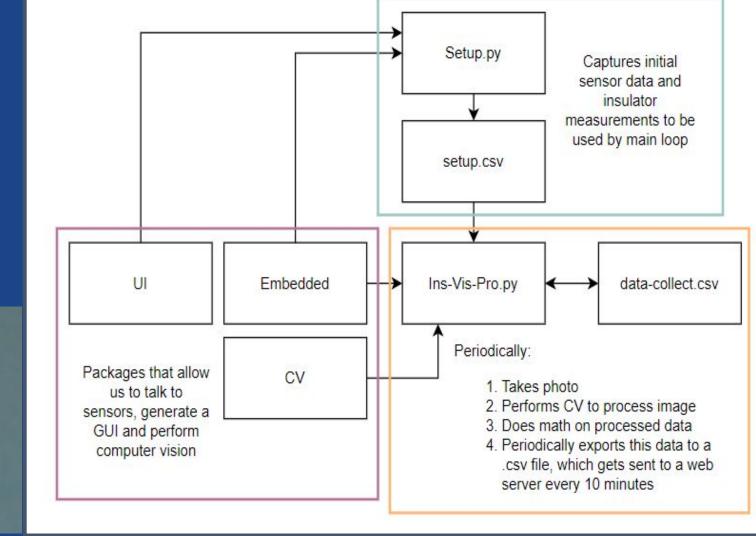
CONDUCTOR



## Software Design

- Using OpenCV for Computer Vision and CustomTkinter for UI Design CV Algorithm utilizes RGB-thresholding and edge-detection
- Multithreaded application to run CV algorithm, math module, and export routine concurrently

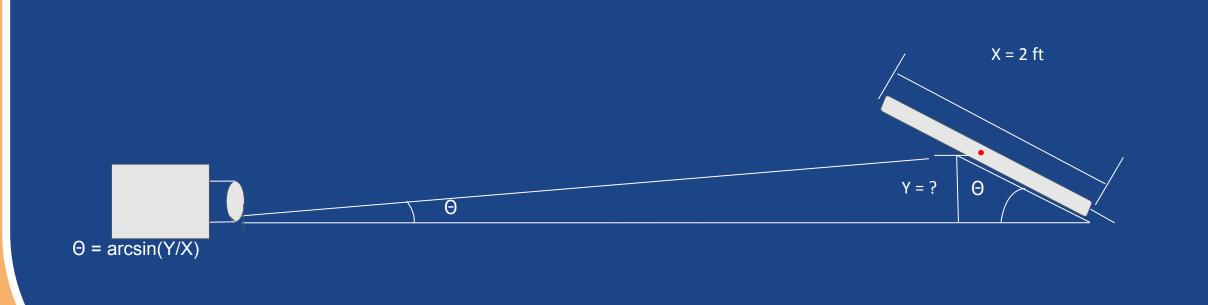




## The Solution

Utilizing computer vision, our product is meant to provide a cost-effective alternative to LineVision's current LiDAR system to monitor transmission line insulators in real-time. This process can be described with the following steps:

- Gather Image Data (Take Photos)
- Perform Computer Vision Algorithm to Isolate Insulator
- Determine Relative Angle Changes of Target Insulator Using Trigonometry
- Export Angle Data to LineVision to Dynamically Allocate Power



#### Hardware Design

- Ethernet
- $\circ$  Four differential pairs, each  $100\Omega$
- Gigabit data rate
- On board phy corrects frequency for SI
- o Intra-pair skew within 4 ps
- Intra-pair skew within 30 ps
- HDMI
  - $\circ$  Four differential pairs, each  $100\Omega$
  - 4k60p, max data rate 4.95 Gb/s
  - Intra-pair skew within 1 ps
  - Intra-pair skew within 2 ps
- Camera
- $\circ$  Three differential pairs, each  $100\Omega$
- Data Rate = Resolution (pixels) × Frame Rate × Bits per Pixel
- Data Rate  $\approx 887.04$  Mbps (megabits per second)
- Intra-pair skew within 4 ps

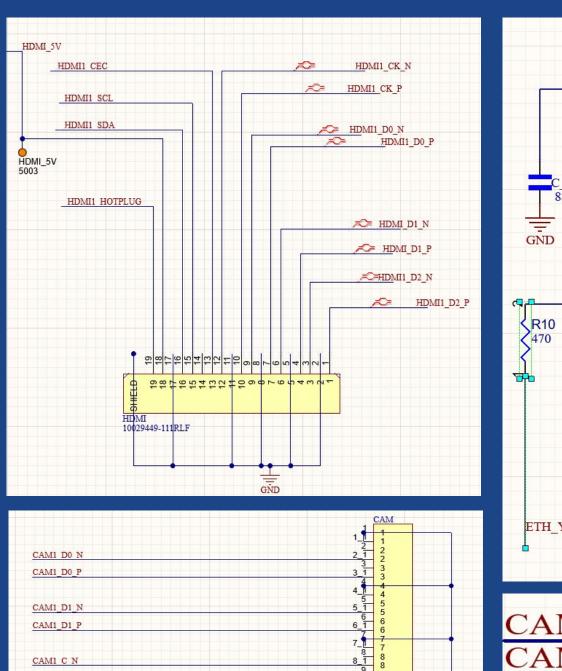
Status Monitoring:

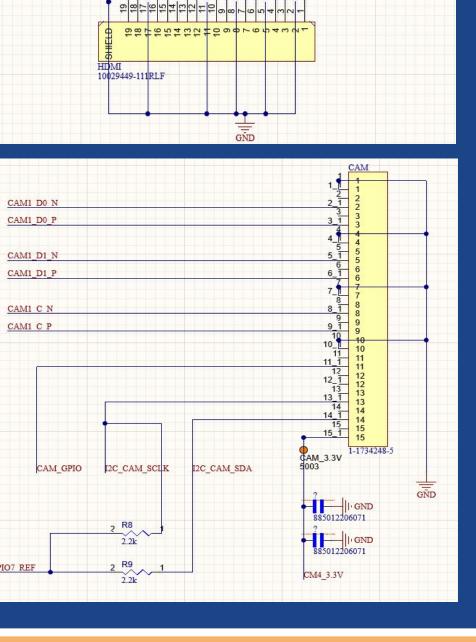
Humidity Sensors

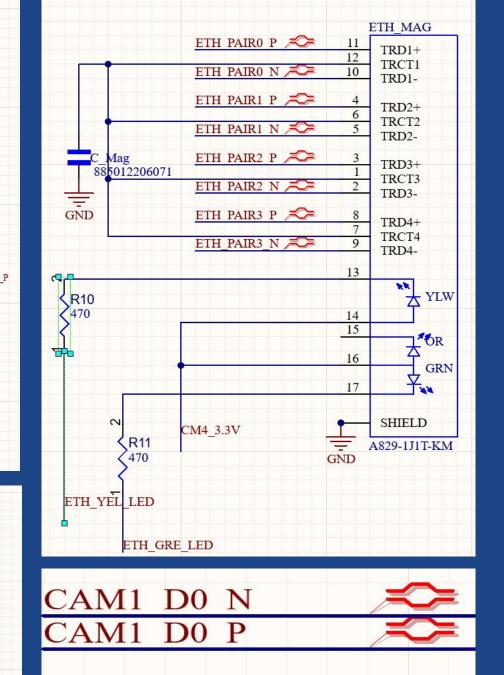
Camera Orientation

• Temperature &

Intra-pair skew within 20 ps

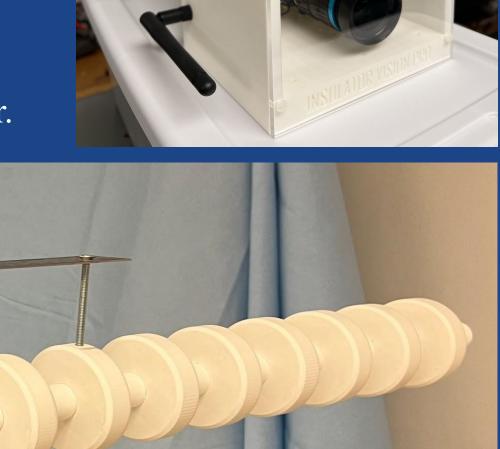


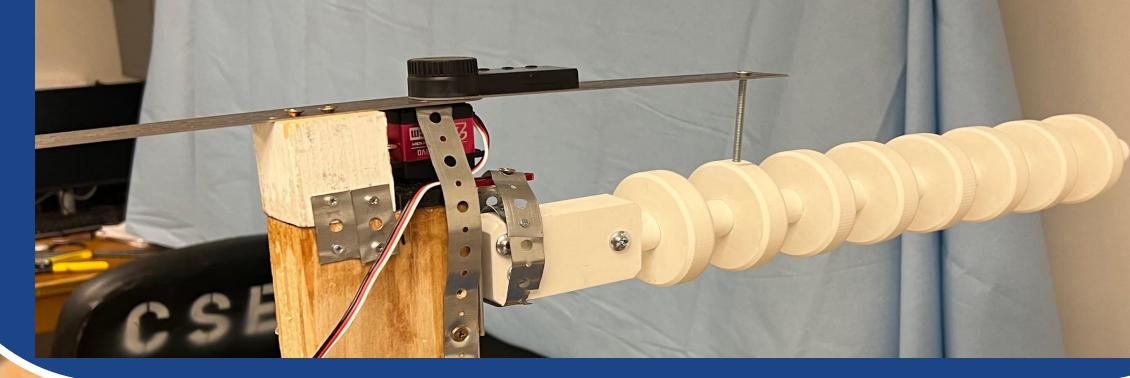




#### Mechanical Design

- 3D-printed enclosure custom-made holes for antenna and cable management.
- Acrylic panel for camera to look out of.
- Insulator arm is also 3D-printed. The arm is set to specific angles using a servo motor, which are verified using a digital protractor.





#### Acknowledgments:

- LineVision, for commissioning and sponsoring our project.
- Hendrik Gilmer, Brian Leist, and Rachael Grudt
- CU Faculty, for providing funding for the project.
- Professor Bogatin, Rylan Moore, Tyler Davidson, John Lettang, and Gabe Altman for advising and assisting in our project's development.

#### Key Features:

Computer Vision:

- RGB-thresholding
- Edge-detection
- LiDAR alternative

Visualization:

- Thingspeak
- CV Algorithm Output

