



Description

- Field Mills are used to predict lightning by measuring the local electric field. While not a guarantee, before lightning strikes there is typically a change in the atmospheric electrostatic field.
- The Field Mill will be battery operated, weather resistant and power efficient as it measures the electrostatic field. This signal will be fed into the microcontroller where a reading is stored every second. These readings will then be saved on an SD card in .csv format and transmitted wirelessly.

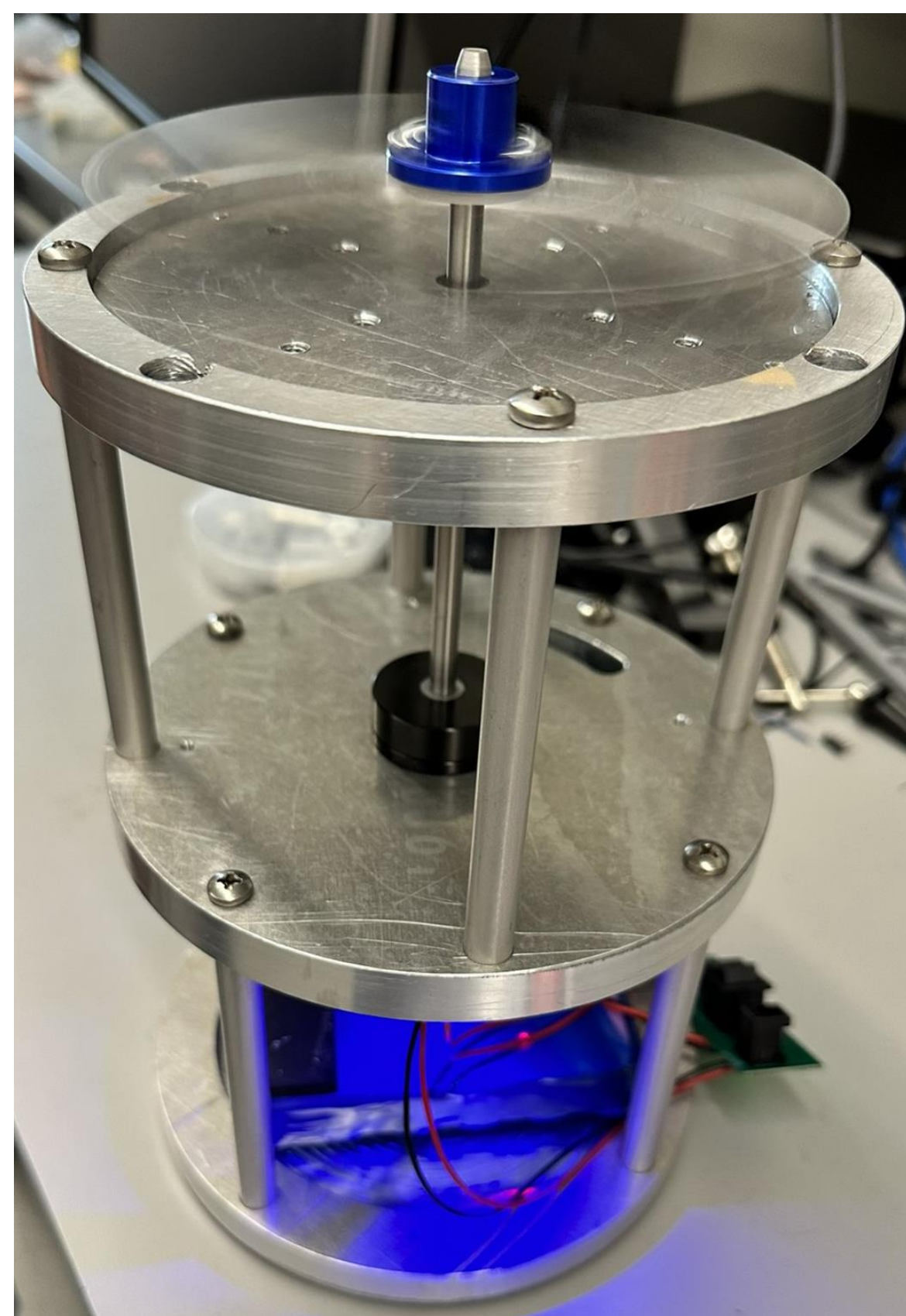
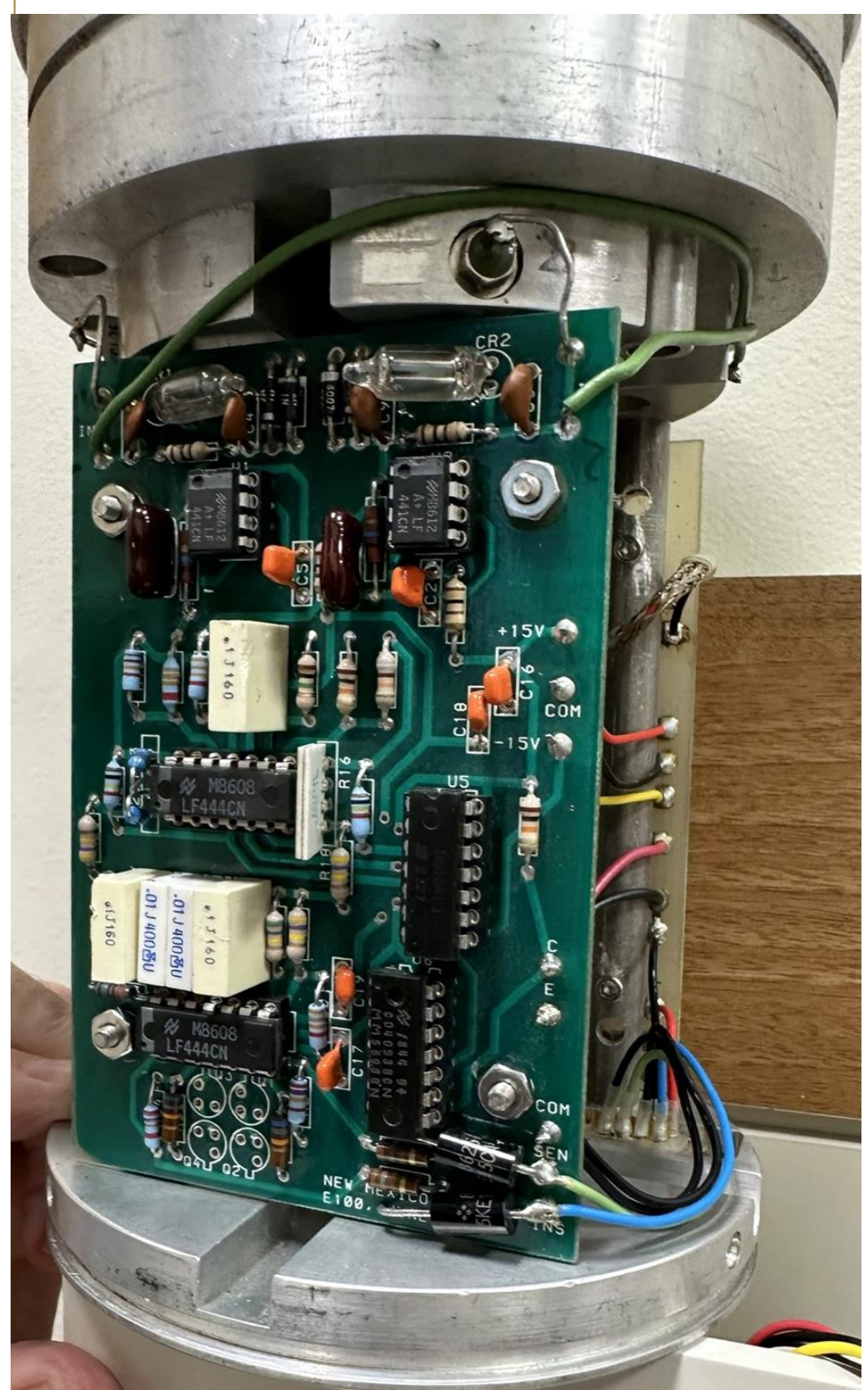
Project Requirements:

- Construct Electrostatic Field Mill
- Operates at 12V
- Measure Every Second and Record to an SD Card
- Calibrate Sensitivity and Characterize Accuracy

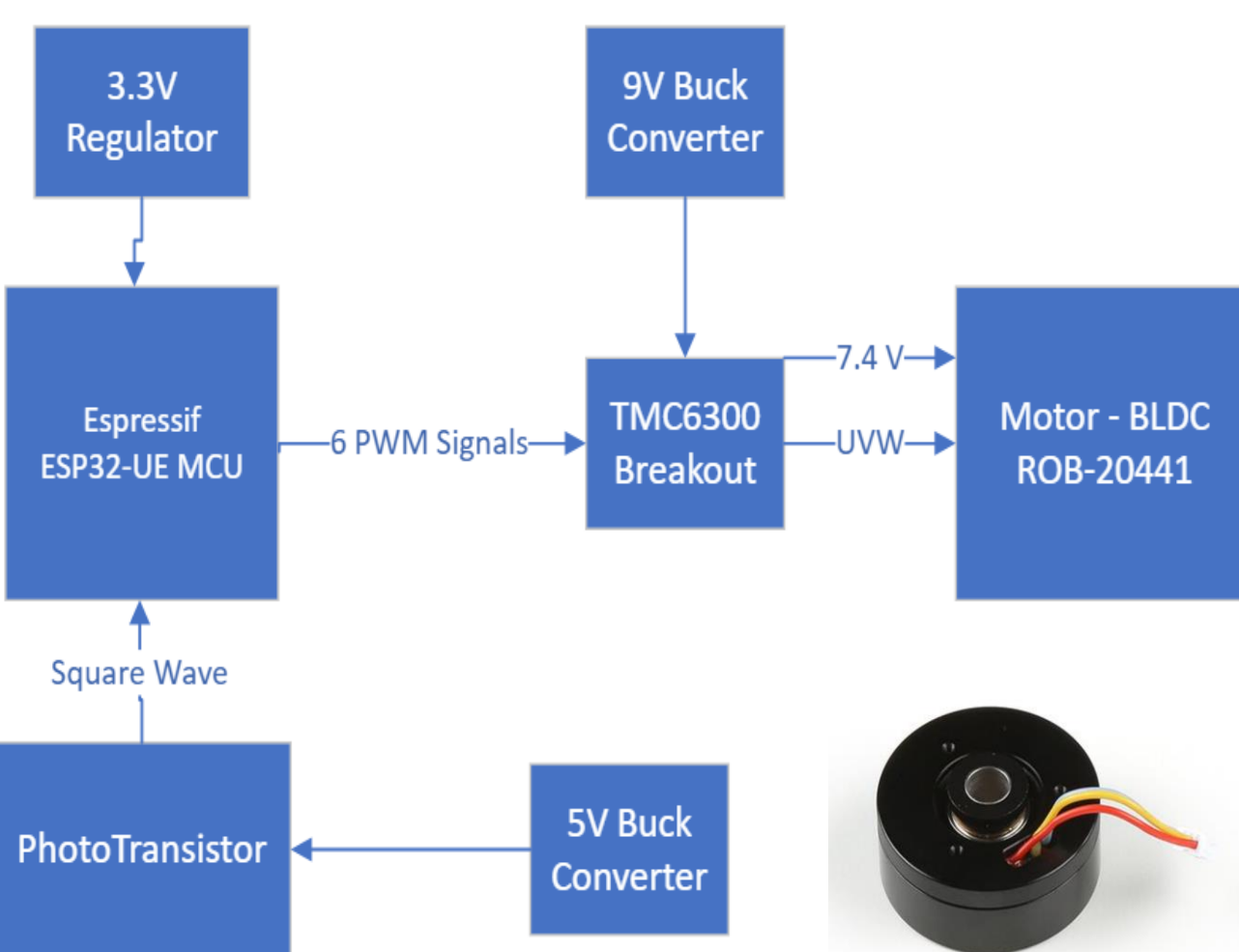
Project Expectations

Professional Product

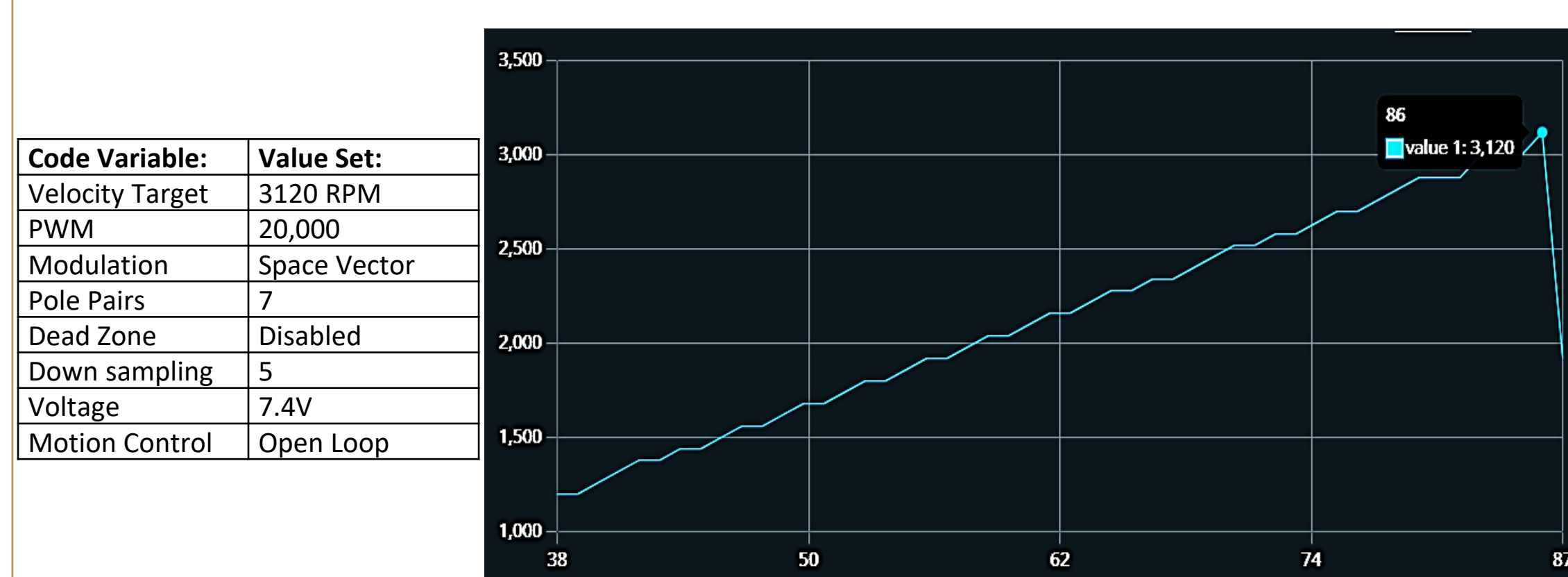
Texas State E2.06 Field Mill



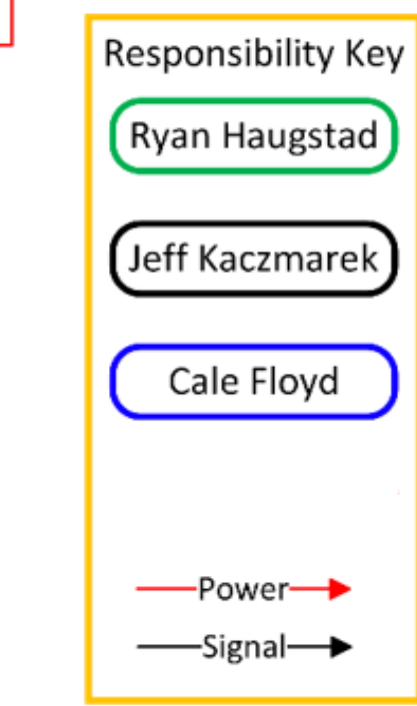
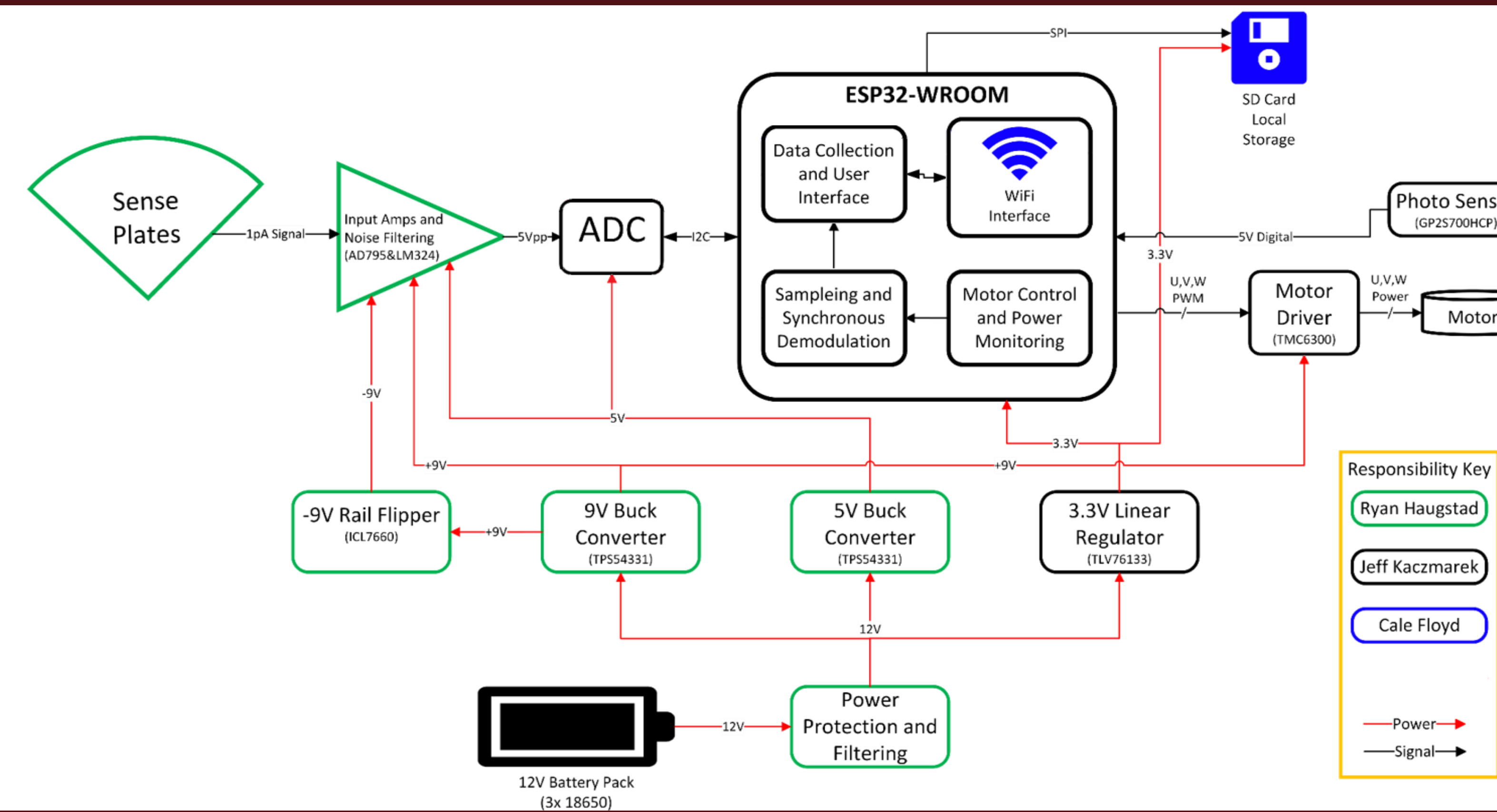
Motor and Phototransistor



- Brushless DC Motor (BLDC)
- Voltage/RPM Controlled Through TMC6300 Motor Driver
- Phototransistor Creates Square Wave Output from Motor Shaft



Block Diagram



Meet the Team



Jeff Kaczmarek



Ryan Haugstad



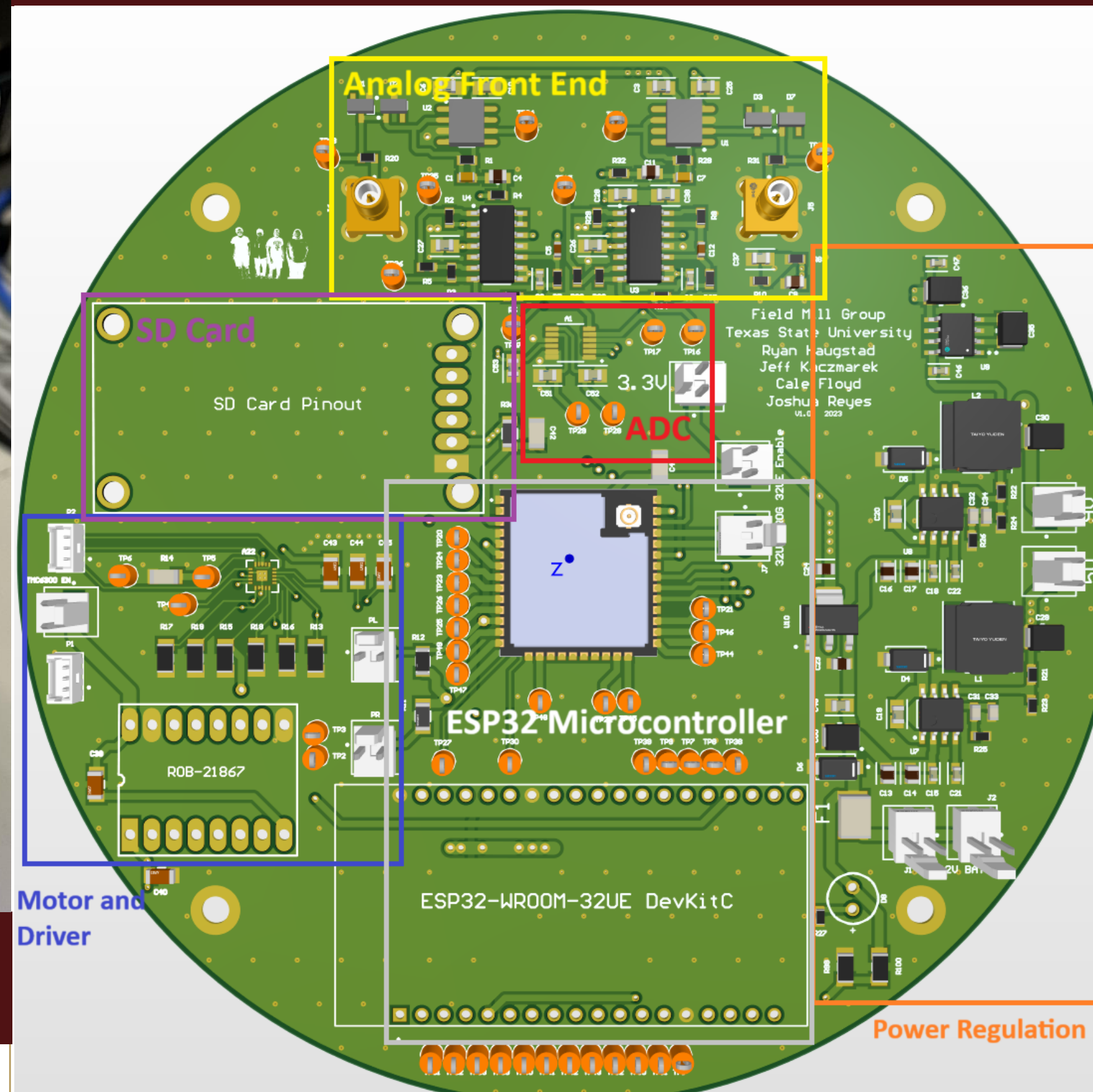
Cale Floyd

Subsystems

Jeff Kaczmarek - Project Manager, Motor and Sensors, PCB, Power, Wireless Server, Digital Conversion and Synchronous Demodulation

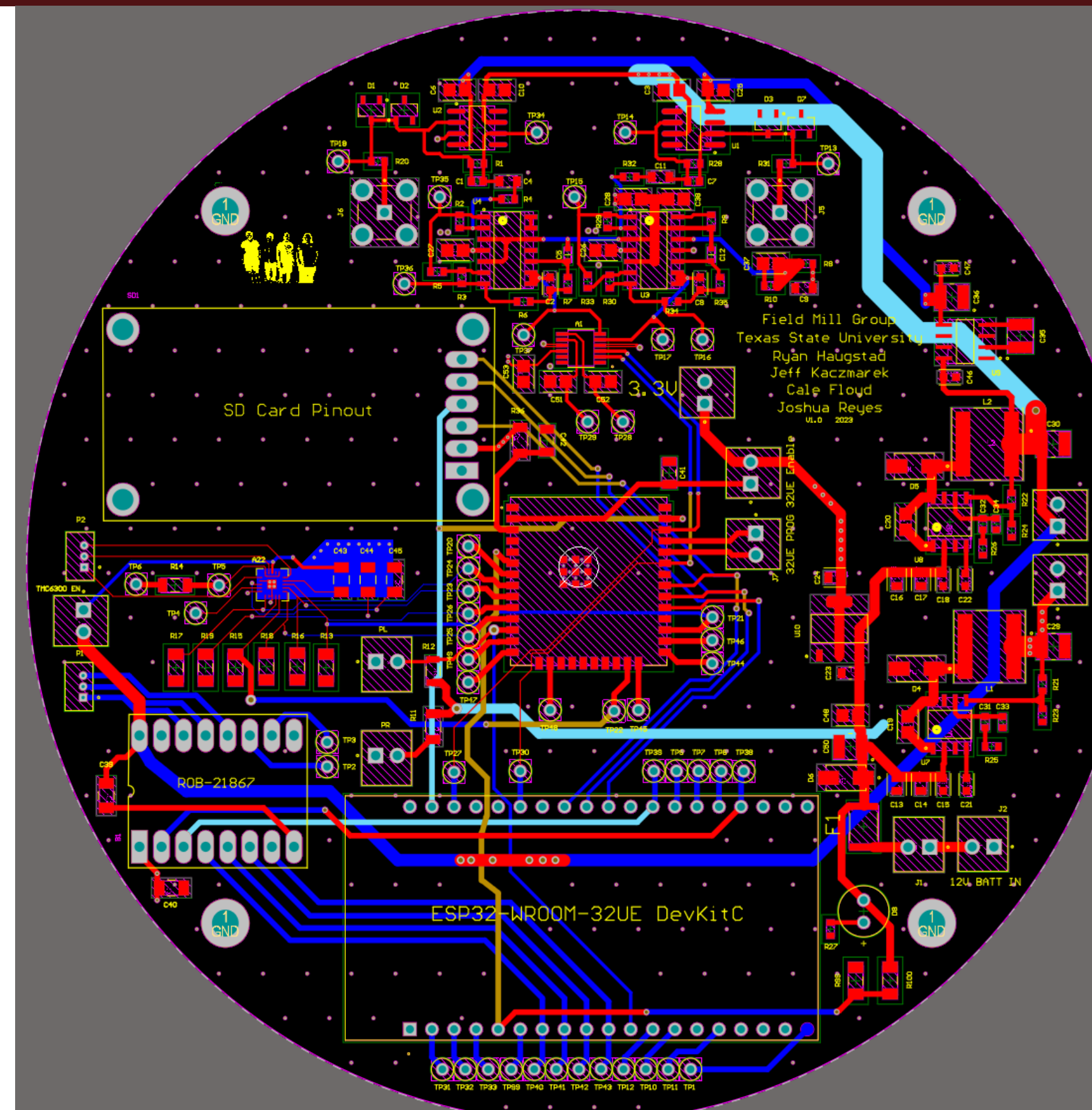
Ryan Haugstad - Analog Front End, PCB and Power, Structure
Cale Floyd - Data Output and Storage

Printed Circuit Assembly



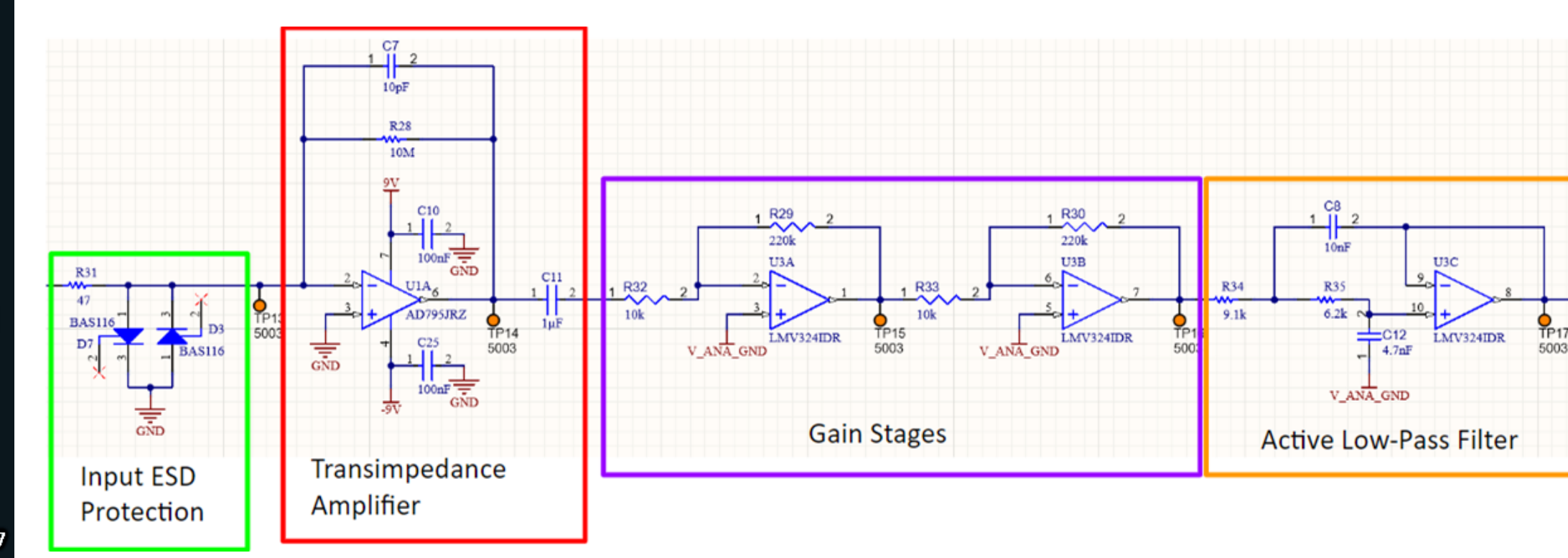
- Full Surface Mount Design
- Flexible Build Options
- Efficient Power Supply Enables Longer Battery Life
- Dual Input Stages For Increased Sensitivity
- SD Card Data Storage
- WiFi Server Enabled

Printed Circuit Board

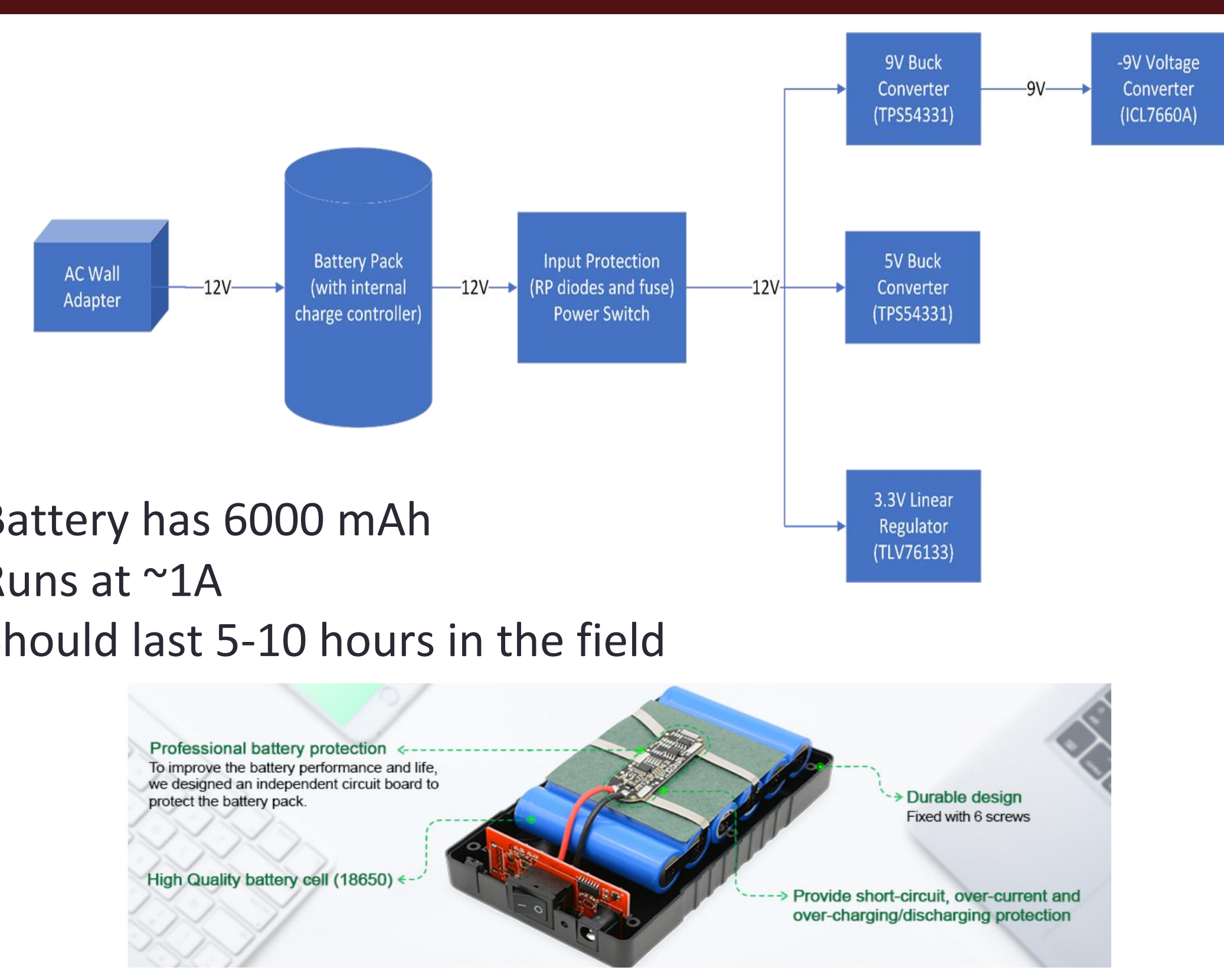


Analog Front End

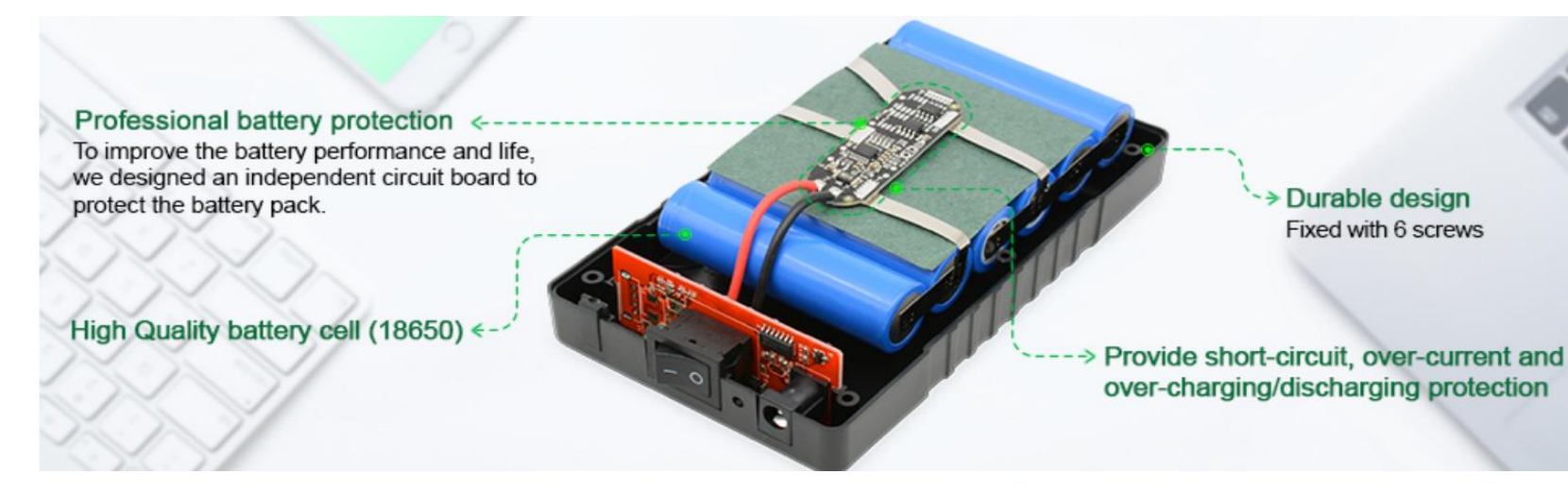
- Extremely Low Leakage ESD Input Protection Diodes
- Low Noise Signal Amplification, 1pA Input Bias Current For Maximum Sensitivity.
- 70dBΩ + 54dB Overall Gain Enables Fair Weather Field Measurement
- 2 Pole Low Pass Filter For Greater Noise Rejection



Power

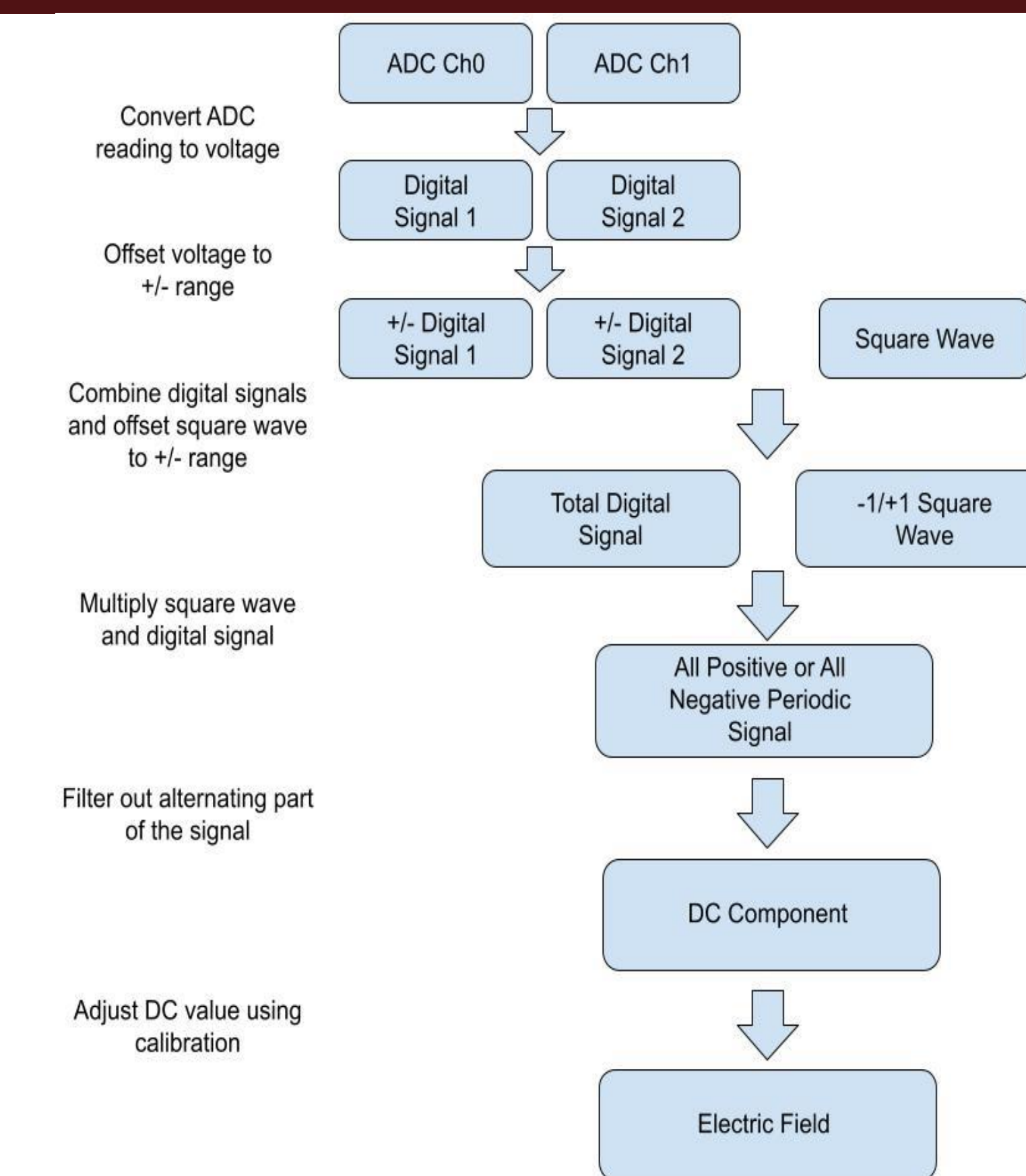


- Battery has 6000 mAh
- Runs at ~1A
- Should last 5-10 hours in the field



Synchronous Demodulation

- 12-bit resolution
- Dual Channel
- Chopper blades create square wave
- Square wave fully rectifies sine wave inputs
- Rectified output then changes with polarity of input



Data Storage

- 32GB MicroSD
- MicroSD Card Adapter Breakout Board
- Stored as a .csv timestamped file

