



# Lecture 15: Final Logistics

You're almost done!

# Agenda

- **Rest of Year Schedule**
- SEAS R&D Showcase
- Practice Presentation + Final Presentation
- Final Demo
- Final Package Submission
- Mentor Meetings



# Schedule

4/4	Sign up for SEAS R&D Showcase
4/9 (lab)	Practice Presentation
Week of 4/14	Final Demo (code complete)
4/18	SEAS R&D Showcase Poster Submission
4/23 (lab)	Final Presentation
4/25	SEAS R&D Showcase
5/9	Final Package Due



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# SEAS R&D Showcase

- Timeline
  - 4/4: [Student application](#) due (one submission per team)
  - 4/18: [Poster submission](#) due (one submission per team)
  - 4/25: R&D Showcase (full agenda: <https://showcase.engineering.gwu.edu/participate>)
- Poster guidelines
  - 36" x 48"
  - Free printing: <https://library.gwu.edu/3-d-and-large-format-printing>
  - Note: print the poster early – may need up to 5 days notice

<https://showcase.engineering.gwu.edu/participate>

# Example R&D Showcase Poster



**BikeBuddy**  
 Ethan Cohen | Claes Boillot | Matt Gouvin | Adham Popal  
 The George Washington University  
 Department of Computer Science



### The Problem

Despite having some of the best bicycle infrastructure in North America, Washington still sees cars hitting and killing cyclists at an alarming rate. BikeBuddy aims to route cyclists to their destination along safe, efficient, and reliable routes.

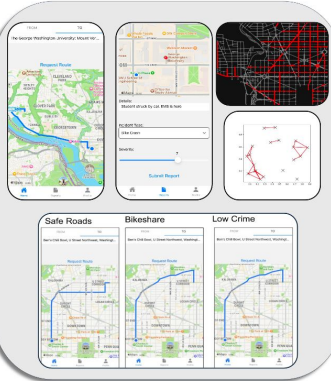
### The Algorithm

Our app pulls from OpenStreetMap as well as Open Data DC, an API provided by city government that contains data about cycling infrastructure, road safety, and crime across the District. The red dots in the map to the bottom left show the majority of data points collected.

### The Architecture

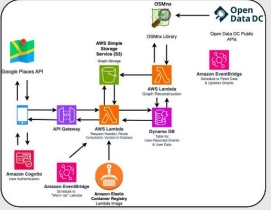
BikeBuddy fundamentally lives in an AWS Lambda function that connects our front and back ends. From the mobile app, users can request routes as well as report unsafe conditions they encounter. An AWS EventBridge scheduler refreshes the data every morning so the map is always up to date. Our graphs and lookup structures are stored in S3.

### The Application



We utilize the OSMnx in Python for graph creation, specialized for maps. Construction of graph data structures works by using our ingested data to add specific bike nodes and their attributes to the base graph for D.C. We utilize a cKDTree (plot on the left) for efficient lookup of bike nodes that will be added.

Routing works by modifying the weights of edges of our custom graphs. Thus, the shortest path from the graph's point of view will generate based on the weight modifications we have put in place. This can include user preferences, user reports, and bike attributes from our data ingest.




Department of Computer Science  
 School of Engineering & Applied Science



Engineering


# Example R&D Showcase Poster



**THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY**  
WASHINGTON, DC

**RTX CAPSTONE COMPETITION**

MAE: *BRENDAN HUMPHREY, IFTAKHAR ALAM, NITHA PAULUS, RYAN RAFATI*  
 CS (UAV): *KARL SIMON, LEO PHAN, JUSTIN PARK*  
 CS (UGV): *MANUE ALAIMO, DANIA ABDALLA, KAYLA BERNE*  
 ADVISORS: *JARICK CAMMARATO, STEVEN SHOOTER, TIMOTHY WOOD*



### Motivation

- The drone competition integrates advanced tech like AI, vision, autonomy, and 3D printing. This year's "Water Blast" mission pushes the boundaries of unmanned vehicle technology
- Real-World Applications: By solving the "Water Blast" challenge, teams contribute to the development of drone tech for tasks like package delivery and firefighting
- The competition is a high-energy event where months of hard work culminate in showcasing creations and competing against other top teams.

### Objective

- Engage students in the RTX drone competition, comprising seeker and evader challenges
- Develop algorithms for UAV navigation and object detection to meet competition requirements
- Design, prototype, and optimize water deployment and detection systems for UAVs and UGVs
- Execute precise coordination and strategic decision-making to overcome competition challenges
- Enhance students' understanding of engineering principles through hands-on application and experiential learning

### Overall Approach




Figure 1: UAV Circuit Architecture

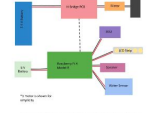


Figure 2: UGV Circuit Architecture

### Implementation of Approach

#### Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)

- UAV is a hexacopter (6 propellers)
- Nvidia Jetson Orin Nano for image processing and route planning
- Flight controller equipped with three IMU sensors and a barometer
- 14.8 V 4000 mAh battery to power all UAV systems, capable of ~12 minutes flight time
- Camera – Full HD, 60 fps, 128° FOV – for ArUco marker detection
- GPS receiver for navigation
- Rangefinder for altitude measurement
- RF receiver for remote control

#### Water Deployment System

- Self-priming pump delivers a consistent flow rate of 8mL/second at 12v, controlled by a normally closed solenoid valve connected to the onboard computer.
- Adjustable nozzle optimizes spray pattern, while quick-connect tubing allows for fast assembly, disassembly, and future modifications.
- Custom-designed 3D-printed structures (ABS plastic) provide secure and reliable component placement on the drone frame

#### Unmanned Ground Vehicle (UGV)

- Basic frame with patterned holes for variable mounting.
- 2 motor drive with 0.69 Nm, 294 RPM motors powered by a 7.4 V 5200 mAh battery
- Raspberry Pi 4 Model B powered by a separate 5 V battery
- ROS workspace with nodes and topics to facilitate communication between all sensors and the Pi

#### Water Detection System

- Hydrophobic-coated ArUco marker placed on an angled (3.5 degrees) funnel allows water to flow seamlessly into the funnel while remaining easily detectable by the sensor
- The water detection chip, angled to prevent water build-up, triggers a dual response upon water contact. First, a signal alerts the team of water detection, and second, LED lights and an alarm on the UGV visually confirm the detection

### Current Design

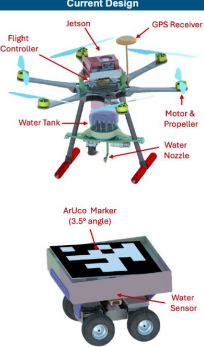


Figure 3: Full CAD Assembly




Figure 4: Photographs of current assembly

### Algorithms and Testing

#### UAV

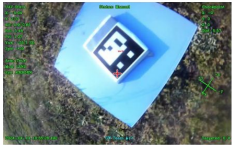


Figure 5: Camera footage from camera on UAV

- We tested our UAV at GW VSTC and UMD campus, outside DC light restricted zone
- Users can view real-time camera footage and sensor readings from the UAV
- The UAV can be controlled remotely via remote controllers and computers
- The UAV flies autonomously 3 meters in the air to scan for ArUco Markers
- Once detected a non-ally marker, the UAV flies toward it and releases water
- When all non-ally markers have been targeted, the UAV flies back to its base

#### UGV

- We tested our UGV following each of the challenges
- Motor controls UGV at 3 constant speeds
- When UGV has been hit, alerts with lights and buzzer and logs the hit with time
- When hit UGV will immediately disable the motors and the UGV will stop traveling
- UGV uses on board IMU sensor to make precise 90 degree turns and stay on a straight linear path

### Acknowledgments

Special thanks to Jarick Cammarato, Professor Steven Shooter, Professor Timothy Wood, the GW 3D Printing Lab, the GW Machine Shop, & the Drone Lab

# Example R&D Showcase Poster

## CHAT GPT TRAVEL

SIDRA HUSSAIN, EVAN FRIES, COLIN RANCK, SARAH JAGERDEO

<h3>PROBLEM STATEMENT</h3> <p>Our project aims to bridge the gap between knowing where you want to visit and having personal travel preferences, but not knowing what activities align with those preferences or how to optimize your itinerary at your travel destination.</p> <p>Currently, many travel services create itineraries for users based on their preferences. For example, Wonderplan.ai creates itineraries based on factors such as budget, number of travelers, and activities of interest. However, these products often do not optimize their itineraries with objective measures like cost, ratings, or travel time.</p> <p>Our project addresses this gap by generating travel itineraries based on user preferences, using activity suggestions from sources like Yelp and Foursquare. We then filter these suggestions with ChatGPT to align them with personal travel preferences, while also optimizing for objective measures such as cost, ratings, and travel time.</p>	<h3>SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE</h3> <p>Our application is hosted on an AWS EC2 server running an ubuntu operating system. Therefore, the architecture design is all contained within AWS. The purpose of chatGPTTravel is to take a destination, user preferences and an optimization metric from the user and return an itinerary for said destination using generative AI and the corresponding optimization algorithm. First, the user must log in to the application using the system UI. We maintain and update a user database. A logged in user can view their saved itineraries and generate new itineraries through the user interface.</p> <p>The core of our application is the itinerary generation functionality. When the user enters a destination, dates, preferences and optimization metric, we acquire activities in the specified destination city from the Yelp and Foursquare APIs to yield activities with specific information, such as location, phone number, operational hours, rating and cost. We next filter the activities from the APIs based on the user's specified preferences using the openAI API and a set of natural language queries designed to yield the most accurate results. Finally, the system needs to decide which optimization algorithm to apply: fastest, cheapest, or best rated, which was provided during the user input period. The appropriate algorithm is applied to the activities to generate an itinerary for the specified number of days and then the itinerary is returned to the user.</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>The diagram shows the system architecture. It starts with a 'Users Database' and a 'User Interface' (UI) for 'Question, Preferences, &amp; Optimization Metric'. The UI sends a query: 'I want to go to X, I am interested in Y, I will optimize by Z.' This query is processed by 'Activities' and 'Restaurants' (represented by a gear icon). The results are filtered by 'Filter Activities by Preferences' using 'OpenAI'. The filtered results are then processed by 'Activity 1', 'Activity 2', 'Activity 3', and 'Activity 4'. The final output is an itinerary with 'Cheapest', 'Best Rated', and 'Transit Time' metrics. The entire system is hosted on 'AWS'.</p> </div>	<h3>COST OPTIMIZATION</h3> <p>The cost optimization algorithm filters through a list of activities and then sorts them from cheapest to most expensive. The algorithm adopts a greedy strategy, iteratively choosing the cheapest restaurant for each meal: breakfast, lunch, dinner, and non-meal category. The selection process continues until the top five cheapest activities are chosen for the day within their appropriate category. The algorithm continues until there is an itinerary for each day. Cost data is obtained using an approximation of costs, based on the dollar (\$) rating system provided by Yelp and Foursquare.</p>	<h3>COSTS AND RISK</h3> <p>Our project has a few costs associated with it. Particularly, we pay for an API key to use chatGPT, Google Maps directions API, AWS database services and AWS Web hosting services. We also use the free Yelp and Foursquare APIs. Both of these APIs have usage limits, therefore we have created multiple free keys to cycle through in instances when the usage limit is hit.</p>	
	<h3>RATINGS OPTIMIZATION</h3> <p>Initially, the ratings optimization algorithm filters through a list of activities and selects clusters of top-rated restaurants with ratings above 4 stars for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. The algorithm adopts a greedy strategy, iteratively choosing the highest-rated restaurant within the specified cluster for each meal: breakfast, lunch, and dinner and non-meal category. The selection process continues until an itinerary is created for each day. We obtain rating information from the Yelp or Foursquare API when the activity is initially generated.</p>	<h3>FUTURE WORK</h3> <p>In the future, we hope to improve our project in a few ways. First, we would like to improve the runtime of our application because it can sometimes take 5+ minutes to generate an itinerary. Additionally, we would like to add more features to improve our users' experience, such as the ability to customize generated itineraries by adding and removing to it, links to direct booking services, and better filtering of activities. Most importantly, we would like to improve our error handling when the application crashes or an API key limit is hit.</p>		
	<h3>TRANSIT TIME OPTIMIZATION</h3> <p>The transit time optimization algorithm adopts a greedy approach; it iteratively finds the activity that is closest to the hotel, then finds the activity that is closest to the first activity, second activity, and so on until the itinerary is completed to create an itinerary that is optimized based on transit time for each day. The transit time between two locations is found by finding the directions between two locations using the google maps api.</p>			
	<h3>YELP API</h3> <p>Generates restaurants located near the user's hotel address</p>	<h3>FOURSQUARE API</h3> <p>Generates activities near the user's hotel address</p>	<h3>OPENAI API</h3> <p>Filters the restaurants and activities based on users food and activity preferences</p>	<h3>GOOGLE MAPS API</h3> <p>Calculates the amount of time it takes to travel between activities, restaurants and hotels</p>



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# Practice Presentation (4/7)

## - Logistics

- 7-8 minutes long
- Very similar to presentation 3 – use slides as a starting point
- Everyone should be in-person
- Everyone should stay for the full duration (will likely run past 8pm, reschedule mentor meetings if needed)
- Upload slides [here](#)

## - Goals

- Describe the problem & motivate the project
- Show an overview of the technical components
- Explain the full scope of the project
- Include a comprehensive demo to illustrate your work (can be pre-recorded)



# Presentation Template (similar to presentation 3)

III

## INTRO

### **Problem to be solved**

- Key Concepts from Writing 1

### **Users**

- User Personas: 1-2 key users max

### **Impact**

- How is this different from other apps?

## TECH

### **Implementation**

- Technical Designs: Diagrams, Algorithms, APIs, etc.
- If using Diagram, use a shortened version with the fewest components max (*No more than 5 is recommended*)

### **Algorithmic Components**

- Explain the algorithmic complexity

## DEMO

### **Final Deliverable**

- Describe all implemented functionality
- Recorded demo or screenshots (brief demo ~ 1-2 min)
- Can be a small portion of the presentation or interspersed throughout

# Final Presentation (4/23)

- Same as practice presentation, refined based on instructor feedback
- Will be held in Lehman Auditorium



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# Final Demo (Week of 4/14)

- Logistics
  - Signup for a demo slot [here](#) ; reach out ASAP if none of those times work
  - Demo will be over Zoom
- Pre-read Submissions
  - 48 hours before your demo, you must share a team pre-read with instructors (send it over slack)
  - Each team member must prepare at least one slide highlighting their top contributions throughout the year, including github links to key code
  - These contributions should describe what was done technically, as well as how the work ties back to the project as a whole
- Expectations
  - Show end to end working system (can be recorded)
  - Present the complete project, not just the work done after Demo 4
  - Each individual should showcase their main contributions, which do not necessarily need to be the most recent work
  - Come prepared to make efficient use of the time – 30 minutes is not a lot!



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# Final Package Submission (5/9)

- Team Website (update to include the following)
  - Project description
  - Bio of team members
  - Writing 4 (from the fall semester)
  - Final presentation slides (PDF)
  - SEAS R&D Showcase poster (PDF)
  - Link to GitHub repo(s) with all code
- Google Drive (upload the following to your team folder [here](#))
  - README.md including project description + link to team website
  - Writing 4
  - Final presentation slides (PDF)
  - SEAS R&D Showcase poster (PDF)
  - Zipfile of GitHub repo(s) with all code





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# Mentor Meetings

- Please practice your demos & presentations with your mentors and ask them to review your slides
- Your last required meeting with your mentor is next week (4/7), but feel free to coordinate with them if you want to meet the week of 4/14
- We've invited your mentors to your final presentations (in-person or over zoom) so they can see all the great progress you all have made!

