

“Tell us about an achievement
that you are particularly proud
of.”

Cass

Cooking

Well, related...

One thing of annoyance...

Fresh herbs and spices!

Pre-packaged herbs tend to go off fairly quickly...



Issues with growing your own plants

- Outdoor pests
- Constrained by space of accommodation (no garden)
- Cooking frequently requires high yield farming
- Different herbs require different environments for optimal growth
 - Temperature, humidity, moisture, light levels, water pH etc...

Hydroponics!

“The process of growing plants in sand, gravel, or liquid, with added nutrients but without soil.”

....The simplest thing would've been to just put some plants in a pot and waited patiently



§ Gardens

VÄXER Garden 5e21c99fa7b8674f...

§ Plants

Singular plant 5e21c9aea7b8674fb...

Outdoor plant 5e21c9f7a7b8674fb...

§ Recent events

Watered **VÄXER** 8 minutes ago

Refilled tank **VÄXER** 3 hours ago

Watered **Singular plant** 1 day ago

Create an API key



Token name

Password

Created new_plant

```
eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJIUzUxMiJ9.e30.Cm5oI54jbTRypt-wfYwkCcb017q022dq1HZelHdz_mFIIS0Nod9q4--1FvcvCNXdIKEB4WQ18WkdCUZIfwMy0w
```

Device	Created	Identifier	
prototype-singular	Saturday, February 1, 2020 2:21 PM	5e30431f39fa4508beb9fd87	<input type="button" value="Revoke"/>
esp-32 garden	Saturday, February 1, 2020 8:32 AM	5e357812823eb0a0bb06adab	<input type="button" value="Revoke"/>
test	Wednesday, February 12, 2020 7:26 PM	5e44516814328935d85c1472	<input type="button" value="Revoke"/>
new_plant	Wednesday, February 12, 2020 7:47 PM	5e44565714328935d85c1476	<input type="button" value="Revoke"/>



8



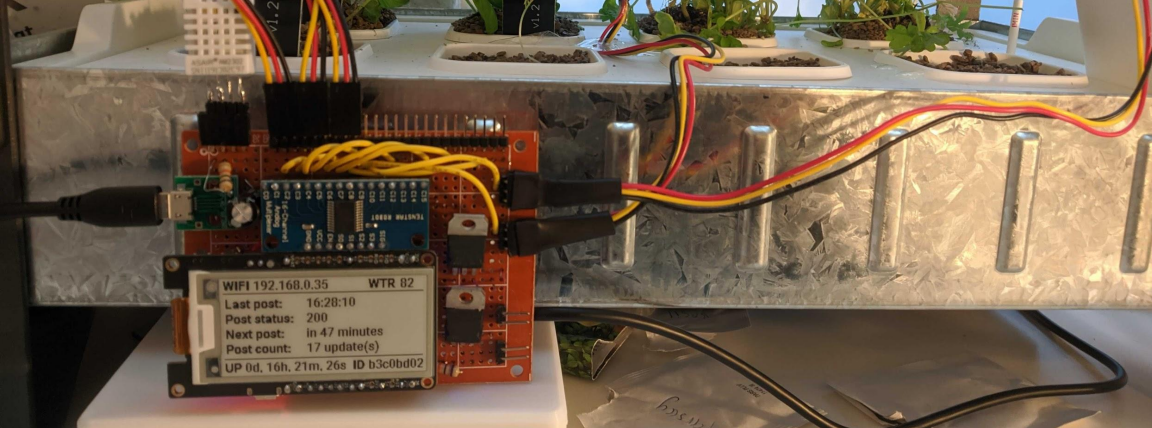
VÄXER Garden

→

→

→





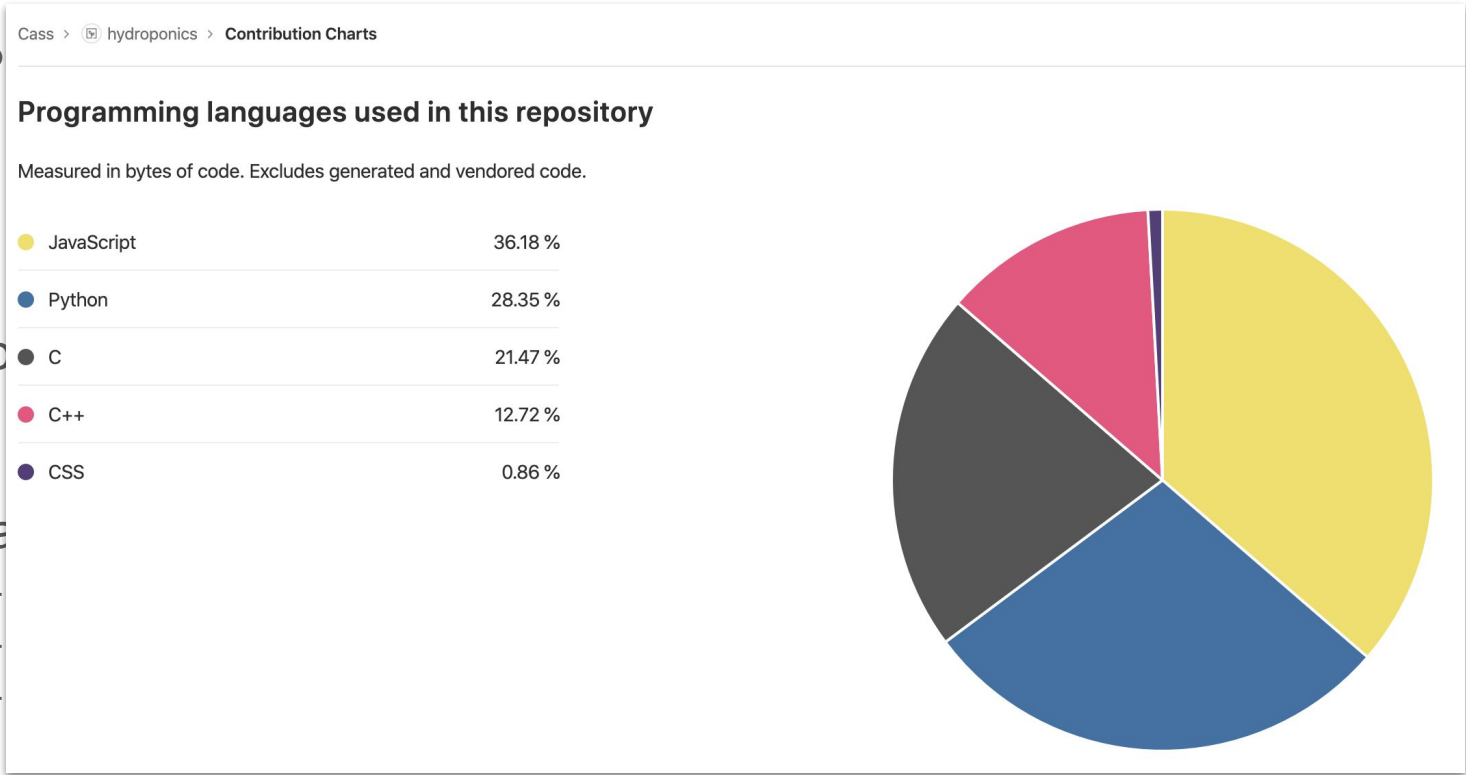
The plan

Internet of Things garden & plant management with dashboard.

- Gardens and Plants, manage entire gardens constituted of sub-plants
- Event based system notifies when an action needs completing / parameters out of range e.g. needs watering, moisture too low, humidity too high
- Remotely trigger events on micro-controllers, e.g. turn on light, open watering valve
- Monitor all metrics on front-end dashboard with graphs
- Code support for different hardware (ESP-32, Wemos D1 Mini & Raspberry Pi)

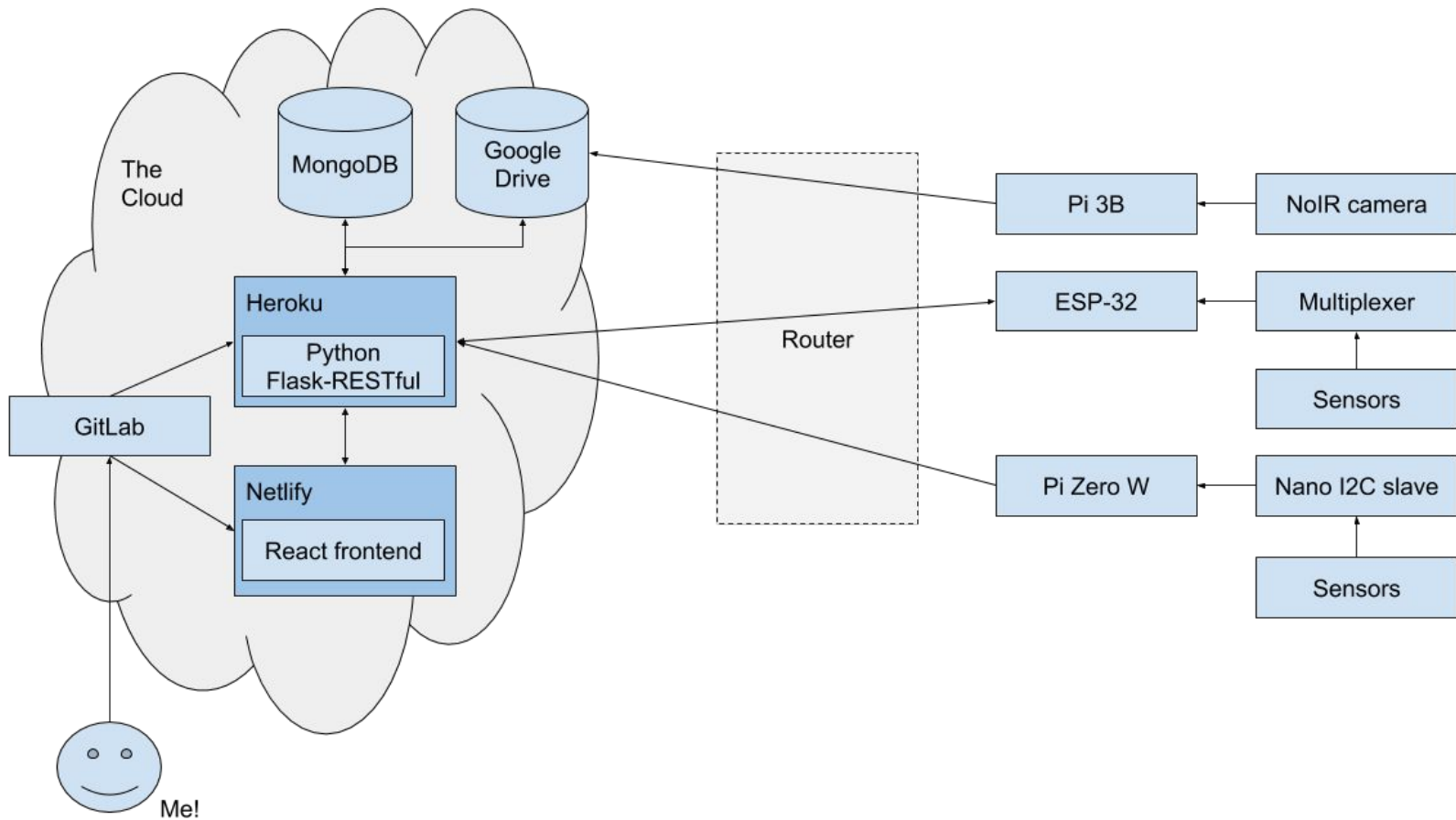
Architecture

- AP



- Fro

- Ha



API

Python Flask-RESTful, extension to Flask Application factory pattern

Fully documented and tested

api.hydroponics.cass.si/gardens/5e21c99fa7b8674fb3c0bd02

```
{
  - data: {
    _id: "5e21c99fa7b8674fb3c0bd02",
    name: "VÄXER Garden",
    image: "https://ftp.cass.si/026420w70.jpeg",
    created_at: 1579272607,
    type: "garden",
    - plants: [
      - {
        _id: "5e21c9a5a7b8674fb3c0bd03"
      },
      - {
        _id: "5e21c9a7a7b8674fb3c0bd04"
      },
      - {
        _id: "5e3832f22160986bbc8d31ad"
      },
      - {
        _id: "5e3832fc2160986bbc8d31ae"
      },
      - {
        _id: "5e3833042160986bbc8d31af"
      },
      - {
        _id: "5e38330f2160986bbc8d31b0"
      },
      - {
        _id: "5e38331c2160986bbc8d31b1"
      },
      - {
        _id: "5e3833272160986bbc8d31b2"
      }
    ],
    - recording: [
      "avg_moisture",
      "light",
      "temperature",
      "humidity",
      "water_level",
      "light_on"
    ]
  }
}
```

```
22
23 def create_app(config_name):
24     app = Flask(__name__)
25     app.config.from_object(app_config[config_name])
26     mongo.init_app(app)
27
28     api = Api(app)
29     api.add_resource(Index, "/")
30     api.add_resource(Auth, "/auth")
31     api.add_resource(Token, "/auth/token")
32     api.add_resource(ApiKey, "/auth/key")
33
34     api.add_resource(Gardens, "/gardens")
35     api.add_resource(Garden, "/gardens/<string:uuid>")
36
37     api.add_resource(Plants, "/plants")
38     api.add_resource(Plant, "/plants/<string:uuid>")
39
40     api.add_resource(Measurements, "/<path:obj_type>/<string:uuid>")
41     api.add_resource(MeasurementsCount, "/<path:obj_type>/count")
42     api.add_resource(Events, "/<path:obj_type>/<string:uuid>")
43     api.add_resource(Feed, "/<path:obj_type>/<string:uuid>/feed")
44
45     api.add_resource(LetsEncrypt, "/.well-known/acme-challenge/")
46     api.add_resource(Time, "/time")
47
48     return app
```

README.md

api

```
pipenv run python3 app.py
```

```
.env
```

- APP_SETTINGS: ["development", "testing", "staging", "production"]
- MONGO_URI: mongo+srv://<user>:<pass>.../db
- AUTH_SECRET_KEY: "mysupersecretloginkey"

Responses returned in JSON, enveloped in `data` and `message` fields.

POST, PUT & DELETE routes require an `x-access-token` OR `x-api-key` JWT token, `Auth-Password` supersecret

e.g.

```
curl --header "x-access-token: 'jwt...'" -X POST "http://localhost:5000/gardens/"
curl --header "Auth-Password: 'supersecretpassword'" -X DELETE "http://localhost:5000/"
```

Routes

/

- GET: Returns README.md as HTML
- DELETE: Delete all gardens and plants
 - Requires `Auth-Password`
- POST: Create base collections
 - Requires `Auth-Password`

/auth/

- GET: Generate a JSON Web Token for use in `x-access-token` header (200)
 - Requires header `Auth-Password`
 - Returns `{ "data": "eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJ1IjoiYm9keS1kaXN0aW9udCJ9.eyJ1IjoiYm9keS1kaXN0aW9udCJ9" }`

/auth/token

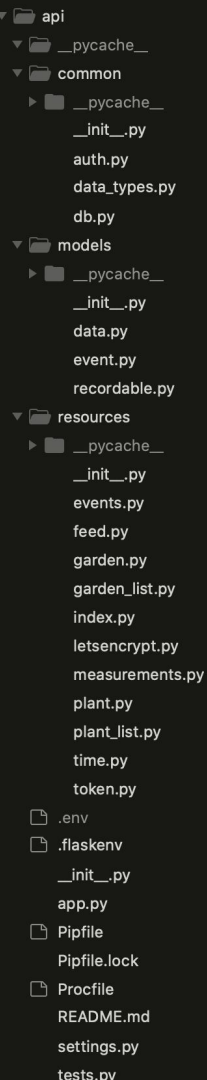
- GET: Verify token works
 - Returns `{ "data": true }`

/auth/key

- GET: Generate an API key that never expires, kept in MongoDB collection `keys`.
 - Requires header `Auth-Password`
 - Returns `{ "data": "api_key" }`
- DELETE: Delete an API key by value (200)
 - Takes body `{ "key": "api_key_to_delete" }`

/gardens/

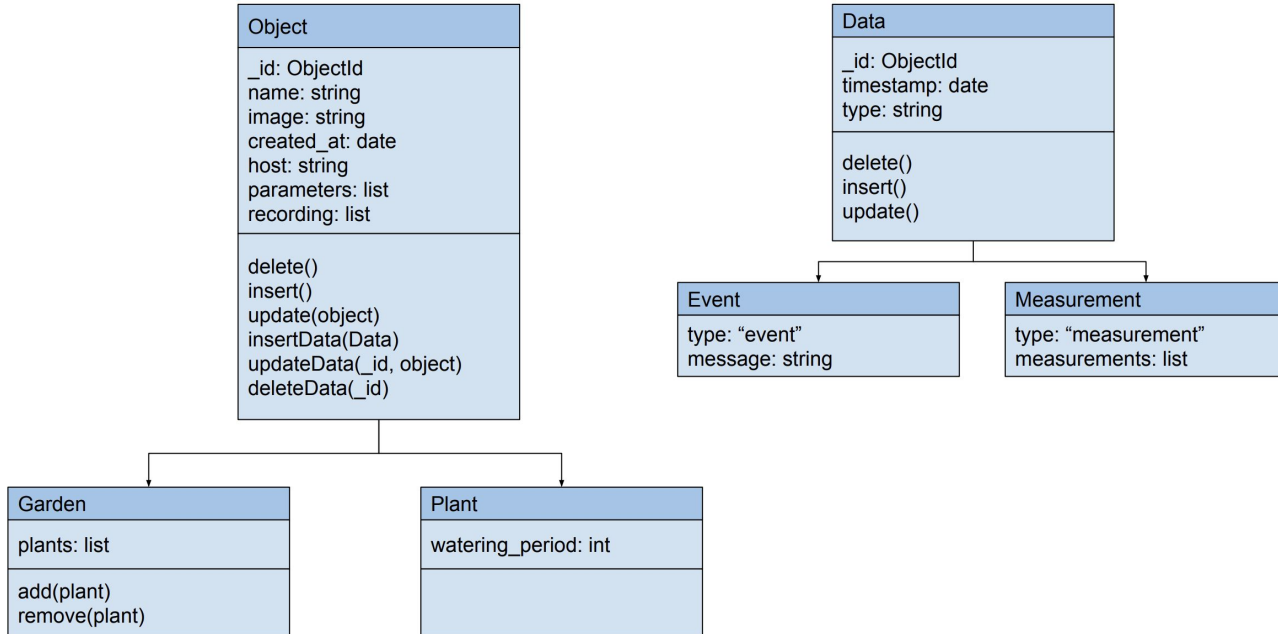
- GET: List all gardens (200)
- POST: Create a new garden (201)



Models

Plants and gardens are very similar in nature, both record data, have names, events etc., as such should have a parent class

Same for events and measurements



```
1 ACCEPTED_MEASUREMENTS = [
2   [ "temperature", float ],
3   [ "moisture", float ],
4   [ "avg_moisture", float ],
5   [ "humidity", float ],
6   [ "light", float ],
7   [ "water_level", float ],
8   [ "light_on", bool ]
9 ]
10
11 ACCEPTED_EVENTS = [
12   [ "WATERED", str ],
13   [ "FILLED_TANK", str ]
14 ]
```

MongoDB

One-to-Many

Points to plant that exists in this garden

```
_id: ObjectId("5e21c99fa7b8674fb3c0bd02")
name: "VAXER Garden"
image: "https://ftp.cass.si/026420w70.jpeg"
created_at: 1579272607
type: "garden"
▼ plants: Array
  0: ObjectId("5e21c9a5a7b8674fb3c0bd03")
  1: ObjectId("5e21c9a7a7b8674fb3c0bd04")
  2: ObjectId("5e3832f22160986bbc8d31ad")
  3: ObjectId("5e3832fc2160986bbc8d31ae")
  4: ObjectId("5e3833042160986bbc8d31af")
  5: ObjectId("5e38330f2160986bbc8d31b0")
  6: ObjectId("5e38331c2160986bbc8d31b1")
  7: ObjectId("5e3833272160986bbc8d31b2")
> recording: Array
```

```
_id: ObjectId("5e415c49b5e2caab35dc06d6")
name: "garden"
image: "placeholder.png"
created_at: 1581341769
type: "garden"
> plants: Array
> recording: Array
```

```
subplants = db["plants"].find({
  _id: {$in : garden.plants}
}).toArray() ;
```

```
garden._id = "ABCDEF"
// return all measurements for garden
db["ABCDEF"].find({type:"measurement"})
```

```
// return all events for garden
db["ABCDEF"].find({type:"event"})
```

One-to-Squillions

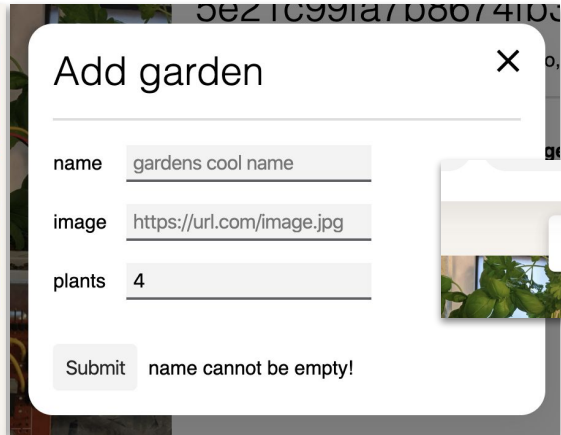
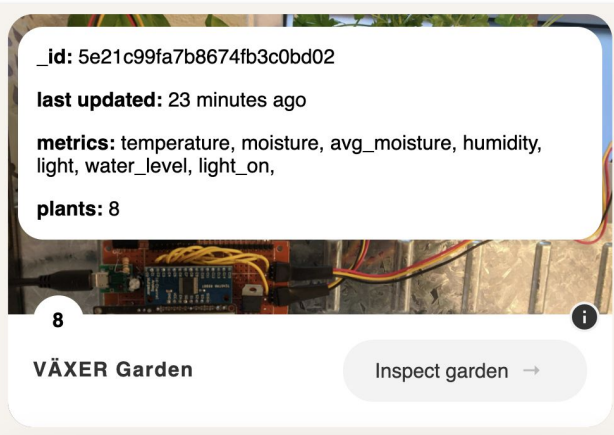
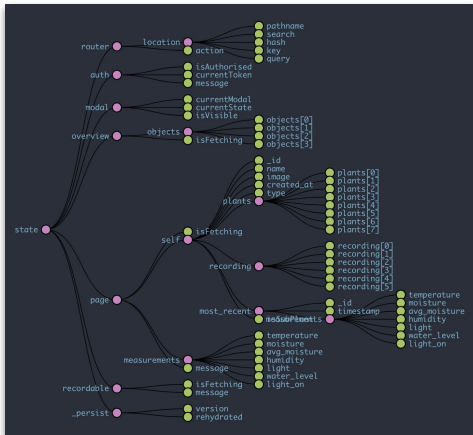
1 update/hr = 180 updates/week
= 8765 updates/year for one plant

Move “measurements” array into own collection because MongoDB access times on very large arrays in documents suffers (+ max 16MB doc size)

The screenshot shows the MongoDB interface. On the left, a list of garden documents is displayed, each with a unique ObjectId and a name. On the right, a detailed view of a measurement document is shown, including fields like timestamp, temperature, moisture, humidity, light, and water_level. The measurement document is linked to a specific garden document via its _id field.

Frontend

React, Redux, redux-persist, styled-components, jwt, redux-thunk, connected-react-router, chart.js, toasted notifications

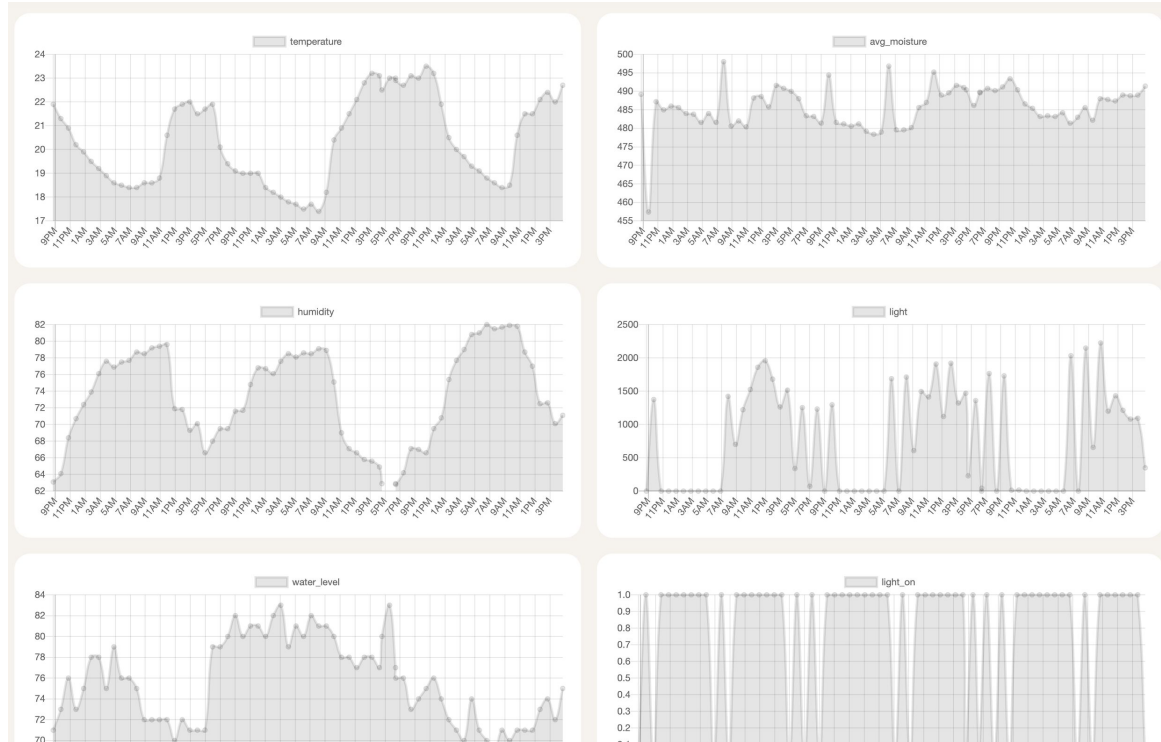


Modals, implemented own modal system with HOCs as opposed to baking in a premade library as a learning exercise - No one way to achieve it.

Netlify *rewrites* requests to `/api/*` in production to Heroku URL using a netlify.toml file

Frontend

- Manage API keys
- Manage plants & gardens
 - Target metrics
 - Events
- Trigger actions on microcontrollers
- View live stats



Create an API key ✕

Token name

Password

Created test

```
eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IWRXbi9e30Cm50Ij54bTRypt-wfYwKCb017q022dQ1HZelHdz_mFIIS0Nod9q4--1FvcvCNxdiKEB4WQ18WkdCUZifwMyOw
```

Device	Created	Identifier	
prototype-singular	Saturday, February 1, 2020 2:21 PM	5e30431f39fa4508beb9fd87	<input type="button" value="Revoke"/>
esp-32 garden	Saturday, February 1, 2020 8:32 AM	5e357812823eb0a0bb06adab	<input type="button" value="Revoke"/>
test	Wednesday, February 12, 2020 7:26 PM	5e44516814328935d85c1472	<input checked="" type="button" value="Revoke"/>



§ Gardens

VÅXER Garden 5e21c99fa7b8674f...

§ Plants

Singular plant 5e21c9aea7b8674fb...

Outdoor plant 5e21c9f7a7b8674fb...

Hello!

This monitor manages 1
with 8 sub-plants & 2 ind

🔒 You're authenticated

Add garden



name

image

plants

Submit



8



VÅXER Garden

Inspect garden →



Singular plant

Inspect plant →



Outdoor plant

Inspect plant →

§ Recent events

Watered VÅXER 8 minutes ago

Refilled tank VÅXER 3 hours ago

Watered Singular plant 1 day ago



CI/CD pipeline

Commit → GitLab Task Runner started using `.gitlab-ci.yml`

Testing stage → Run Newman tests on API

Production → Deploy API on Heroku and FE on Netlify

Production: master@5f572eb **Published**

add api key list + some metadata to key model, refactor measurement getting

Today at 1:28 PM >

Latest activity

[All Activity](#)



dev@cass.si: Deployed 5f572eb0

Today at 1:31 PM · v50



dev@cass.si: Build succeeded

Today at 1:30 PM · [View build log](#)

deleteAll

GET getOverview

GET authGetToken

GET authWithToken

POST authGetApiKey

GET authGetApiKeys

GET authWithApiKey

POST postGarden

GET getGardens

GET getGarden

PUT addDataToGarden

POST postPlantSingular

PUT addDataToPlant

DEL deletePlant

POST postPlantToGarden

GET getPlants

GET getMeasurementFromPlant

DEL deleteGarden

GET getGardenDataCount

DEL deleteApiKey

Hardware

- **ESP32** - Testing gardens composed of several plants
- **Raspberry Pi**
 - NDVI-Camera: Use NoIR camera to capture active photosynthesis
 - prototype-singular: First hardware prototype to interact with API
- **Wemos D1 Mini** - Designed and manufactured a circuit board to monitor individual plants (to eventually sell...)

README.md

hardware

garden (esp32)

Garden operates via a ESP32 (LilyGo TTGO V5), 8 moisture inputs, light level, water tank level, temperature & humidity. Garden has two high-power outputs to control a valve and hydroponics light.

Bill of Materials in directory [README.md](#)

- `secrets.h`
 - `#define WIFI_SSID "wifi_ssid"`
 - `#define WIFI_PASSWORD "wifi_password"`
 - `#define API_KEY "api_key"`

plant (wesmos_d1_mini)

Plant operates via a WEMOS D1 mini with a custom PCB hat, moisture, light level, temperature & humidity.

Bill of Materials in directory [README.md](#)

pi

ndvi-cam

PI NoIR camera to see active photosynthesis via Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI). Data sent to Google Drive image store via PyDrive. Images then used in dashboard through `/feed` api endpoint.

- `mycreds.txt`: Google Drive token to access/upload files, never expires
- `client_secrets.json`: <https://pythonhosted.org/PyDrive/quickstart.html>
- `.env`: Files stored in GDrive in the form `/hydroponics/<UUID>/raw` & `/hydroponics/<UUID>/ndvi`, PyDrive access subfolders via id's which can be listed by running `ListFolder` in `capture.py`
 - `G_DRIVE_RAW_FOLDER_ID`: Id of folder where raw files are
 - `G_DRIVE_NDVI_FOLDER_ID`: Id of folder where NDVI timestamped files are

Info

- https://publiclab.org/notes/petter_mansson1/04-09-2019/low-cost-ndvi-analysis-using-raspberrypi-and-pinoir
- <https://www.richardmudhar.com/blog/2015/07/using-near-ir-to-look-for-photosynthesis-and-plant-health-with-ndvi/>

prototype-singular

Prototype board for testing API & site. Temperature, light level & moisture. 2.2" adafruit TFT display for debugging. Uses Arduino as I²C ADC slave, just because.

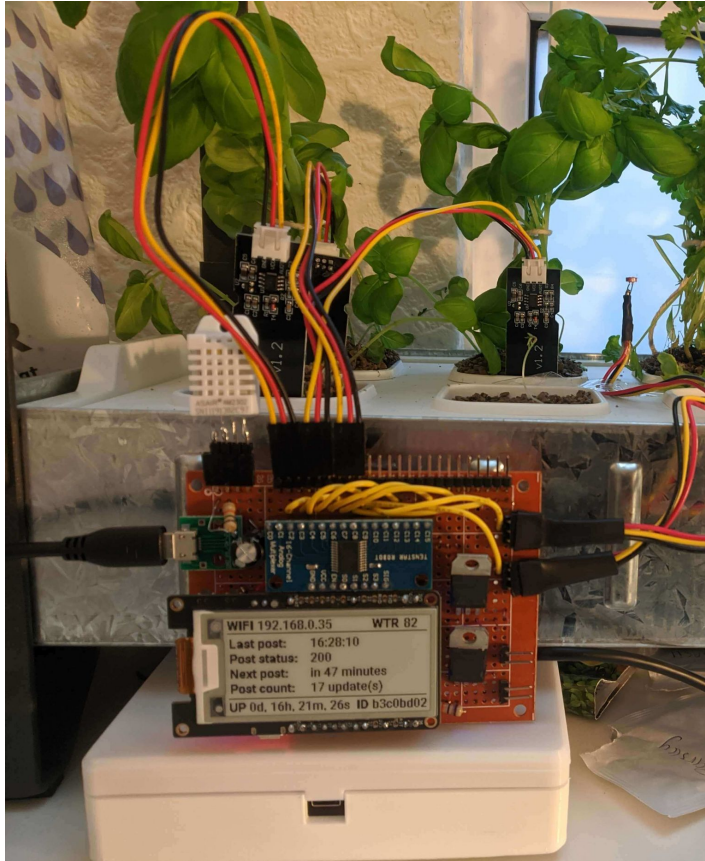
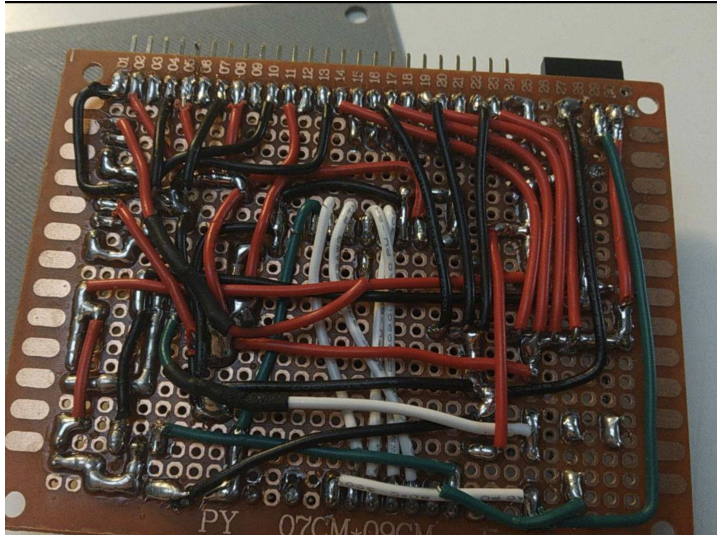
- `.env`
 - `API_KEY=my_api_key`
 - `API_URL=https://api.hydroponics.cass.si/`
 - `PLANT_UUID=plant_uuid`

```
sudo apt-get install python3-pip ttf-dejavu python3-pil
git clone https://gitlab.com/cxss/moisture.track.git
pipenv install
pipenv run python3 main.py
```


ESP32

Written in C++, queries Python API

16 channel multiplexer supports up to 8 plants alongside temperature, humidity light level, water tank level & grow light switch



```
int sendGardenDataToApi(  
    float *temperature,  
    float *humidity,  
    float *light_level,  
    float *water_level,  
    int *light_status,  
    float *avg_moisture)  
{  
    Serial.println("Attempting to send to API...");  
    StaticJsonDocument<200> doc;  
    doc["temperature"] = *temperature;  
    doc["humidity"] = *humidity;  
    doc["light"] = *light_level;  
    doc["water_level"] = *water_level;  
    doc["light_on"] = *light_status;  
    doc["avg_moisture"] = *avg_moisture;  
    serializeJsonPretty(doc, Serial);  
    Serial.println("");  
  
    char json_body[200];  
    serializeJson(doc, json_body);  
  
    http.begin("http://\"API_URL\"/gardens/\"GARDEN_UUID\"");  
    http.addHeader("Content-Type", "application/json");  
    http.addHeader("x-api-key", API_KEY);  
    int httpResponseCode = http.PUT(json_body);  
  
    if (httpResponseCode == 200) {  
        String response = http.getString();  
        Serial.print(httpResponseCode); Serial.print(" ");  
        Serial.println(response);  
    } else {  
        Serial.print("Error on sending POST: ");  
        Serial.println(httpResponseCode);  
    }  
  
    http.end();  
    return httpResponseCode;  
}
```

ESP32

Expose micro-controller to API by port-forwarding through router,

Call routes on the microcontroller (IP not exposed):

GET https://api.hydroponics.cass.si/plants/<uuid>/events/WATER_PLANT

calls ↓

GET http://83.9.93.103:8080/events/WATER_PLANT

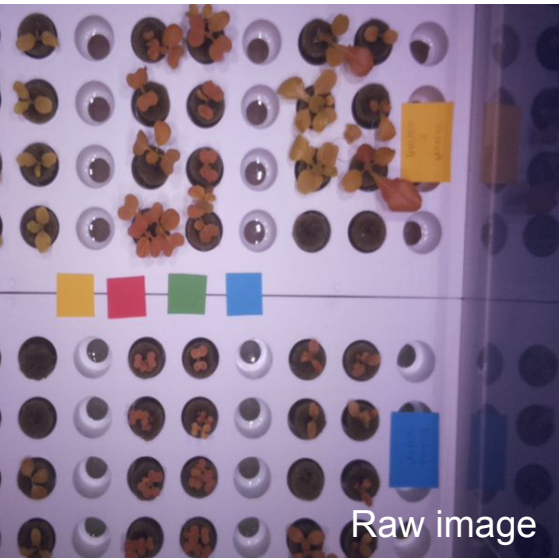
runs ↓

```
void waterPlant(int current_level) { ... } //open water valve for n seconds
```

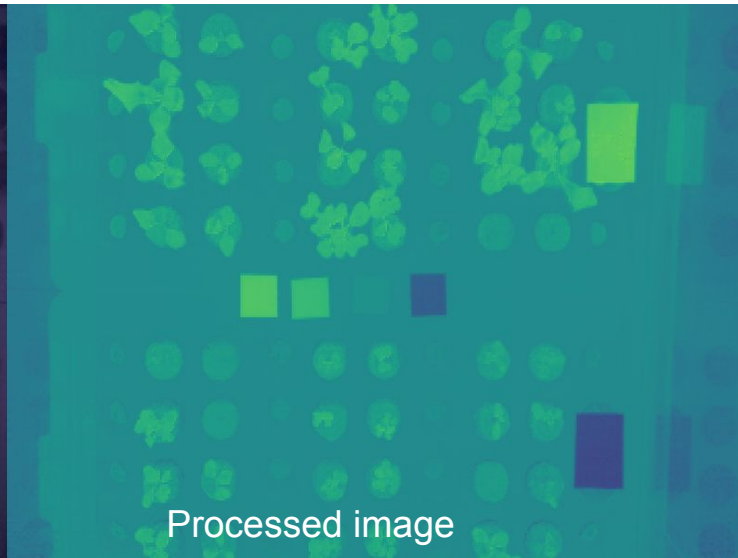
Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) Cam

No Infrared Camera + Python + Matlab + PyDrive

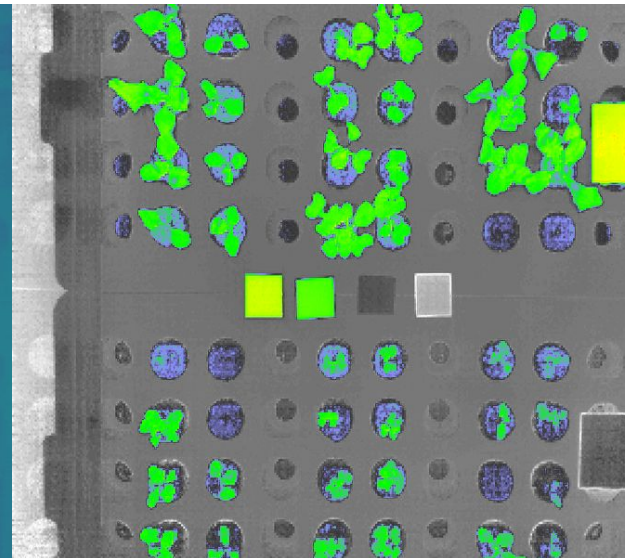
Uses Google Drive as a image store to be later served by API for a live feed



Raw image

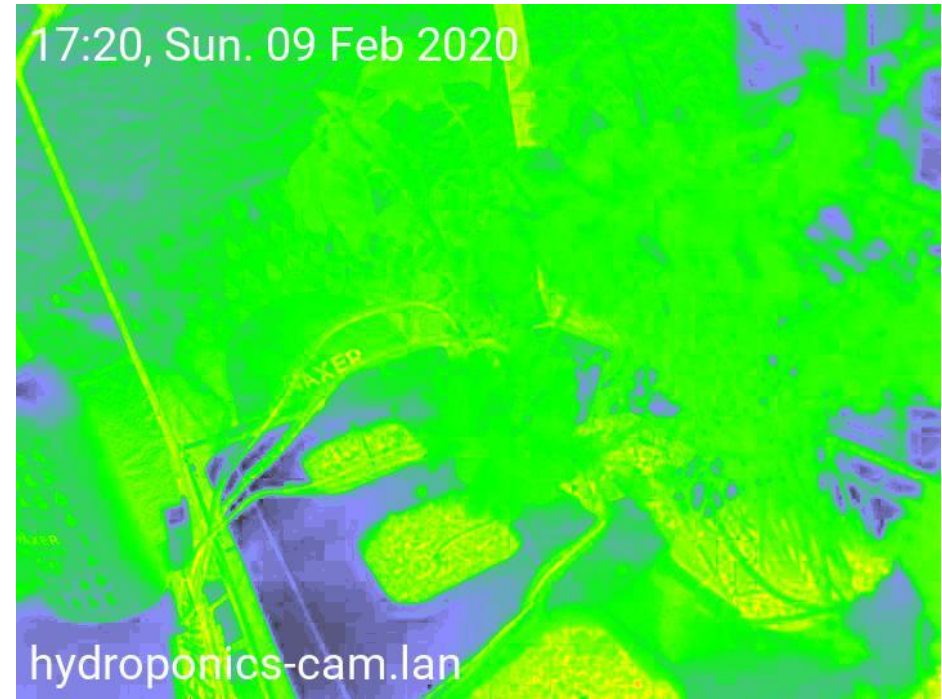


Processed image



Custom colour map

NDVI



Needs a blue light filter...

Raspberry Pi

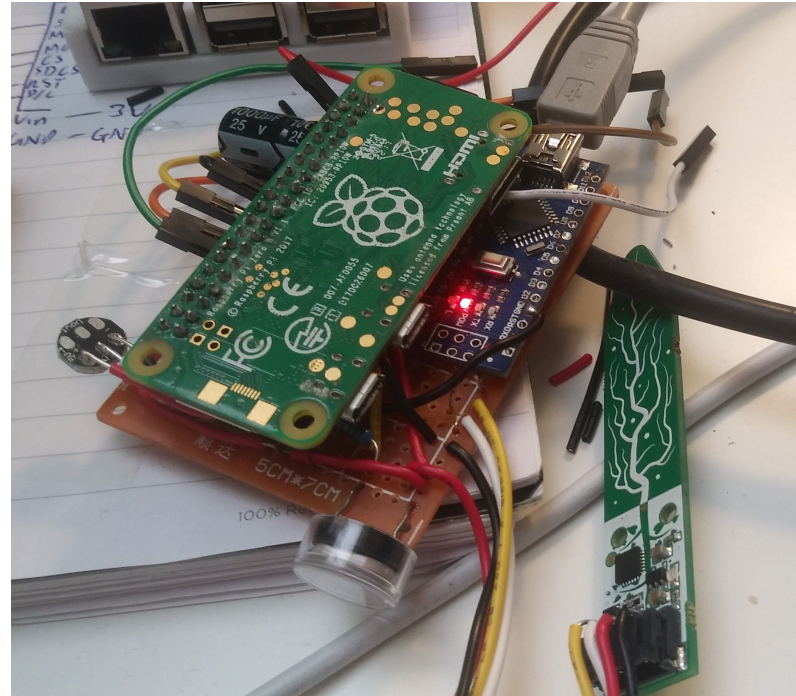
First prototype to send real data to the API, tracked:

- Light level
- Moisture
- Temperature

Realised pretty quickly I'd need non-expiring

API authentication keys... added that

Learned how to use an Arduino Nano as
an I2C slave to communicate data between
Pi and Nano

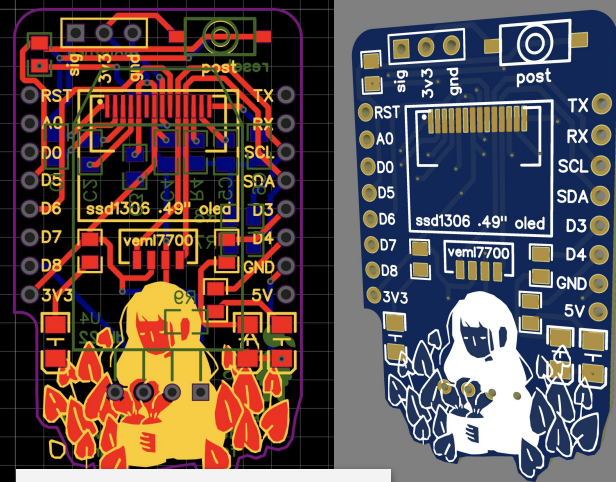


Wemos D1 Mini

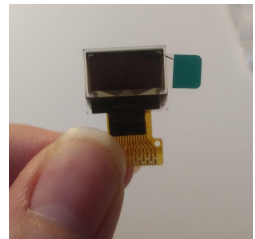
MicroPython, 0.49" display (tiny!!)

Designed circuit and PCB layout on EasyEDA

End goal is to sell on my website



<https://daughter.systems/>



powerboost
A high-power all-in-one Li-Po charger and boost converter.

- USB-C input, 1A charge current using an MCP73837 with a cut-off voltage of 4.2V
- TPS61088 provides a stable 5V @ 3A output via 10A internal switch
- Implements load-sharing when charging

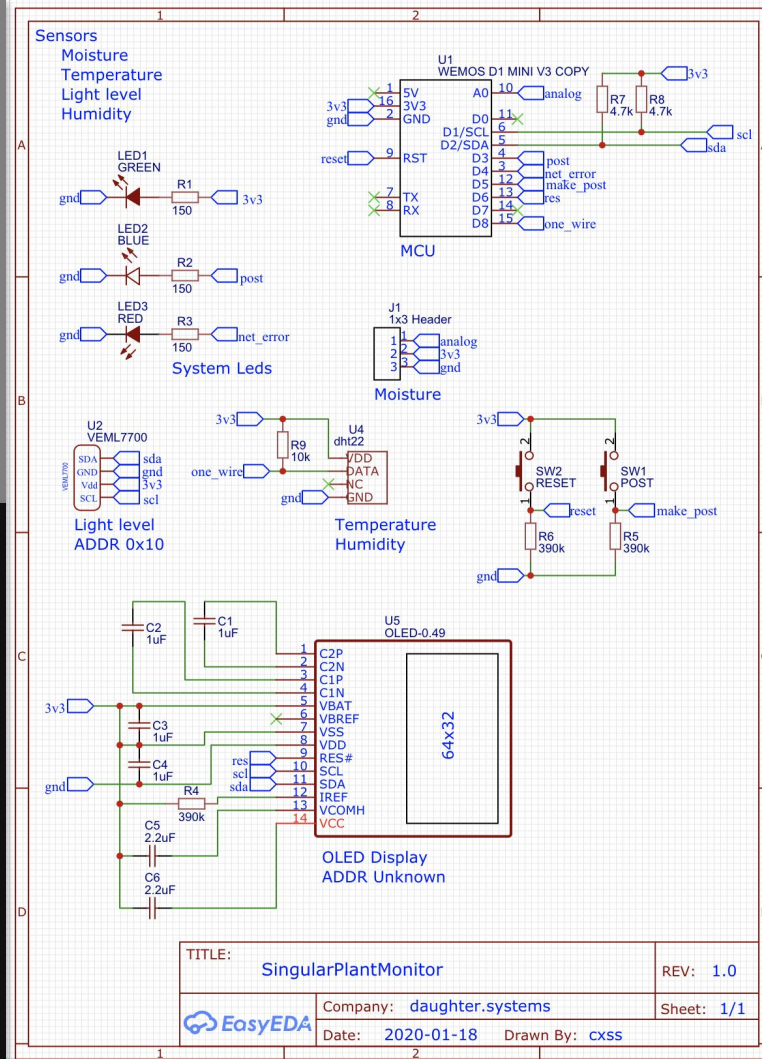
5 in stock £14.99 Buy on Tindie →

micro:bit breakout
SMT straight-edge-connector to DIL-40 breakout

- Uses: <https://thepihut.com/products/adafruit-smt-straight-connector-for-micro-bit-ada3888>

10 in stock £5.99 Buy on Tindie →

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The future

Extending usability of system through Google Home/Alexa.

“Hey Google, water the plants”

PCB to manage gardens of N plants

Identifying plants through Pl@ntNet API (<https://my-api.plantnet.org/>)

...Social network for tracking plants and gardens?